

The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2019

Nevada Key Findings

Performance of 2019 Graduates

- In the 2019 Nevada graduating class, 35,554 graduates (an estimated 100 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 17.9. This compares to 9,308 (an estimated 40 percent) with an average of 21.0 in 2015. Nationally, an estimated 52 percent of 2019 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.7.
 - There were 2,662 African American graduates from Nevada who took the ACT (7 percent) with an average Composite score of 15.5. This compares to 2,836 (8 percent) with an average of 15.3, and 587 (6 percent) with an average of 18.1, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 9,810 White graduates from Nevada who took the ACT (28 percent) with an average Composite score of 20.1. This compares to 10,282 (29 percent) with an average of 19.9, and 4,229 (45 percent) with an average of 22.3, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 13,193 Hispanic graduates from Nevada who took the ACT (37 percent) with an average Composite score of 16.7. This compares to 13,192 (37 percent) with an average of 16.4, and 2,557 (27 percent) with an average of 19.2, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - The 2019 Nevada graduating class average English score was 16.8. This compares to 16.6 and 20.1 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.
 - The 2019 Nevada graduating class average math score was 18.0. This compares to 17.8 and 21.0 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.
 - The 2019 Nevada graduating class average reading score was 18.2. This compares to 18.0 and 21.4 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.
 - The 2019 Nevada graduating class average science score was 17.9. This compares to 17.9 and 20.9 in 2018 and 2015, respectively.

- In 2019, 12 percent of Nevada graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 12 and 26 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 57 percent of Nevada graduates met zero ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 57 and 30 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 38 percent of Nevada graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 38 and 64 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 22 percent of Nevada graduates met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 21 and 44 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 27 percent of Nevada graduates met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 27 and 46 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 19 percent of Nevada graduates met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 18 and 37 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 7,170 (20 percent) of Nevada graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 6,864 and 3,669 (19 and 39 percent) out of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively. For reference, the national percentage of 2019 graduates meeting three or four benchmarks was 37 percent.
- In 2019, 4 percent of Nevada graduates took the ACT with extended time. This compares to 3 and 1 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
- 69 percent of 2019 Nevada graduates were Below Proficient in understanding complex texts.

STEM

- In 2019, 11,414 Nevada graduates (32 percent) indicated having an interest in STEM majors and/or careers.
- Compared to a 2019 Nevada graduating class average ACT STEM score of 18.2, graduates in 2018 and 2015 had STEM averages of 18.1 and 21.2, respectively.
- Compared to 8 percent of 2019 Nevada graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark, graduates in 2018 and 2015 had STEM Benchmark percentages of 8 and 19, respectively.
 - 2019 Nevada graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average science score of 28.3. This compares to 27.8 in 2015.
 - 2019 Nevada graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average math score of 28.4. This compares to 28.4 in 2015.

Career Readiness Indicator

- In 2019, 8,033 Nevada graduates (23 percent) were likely to attain the Gold ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate or higher based upon ACT Composite score, compared to 726,923 (41 percent) nationally.
- In 2019, 18,404 Nevada graduates (52 percent) were likely to attain the Silver ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate or higher based upon ACT Composite score, compared to 1,273,362 (71 percent) nationally.
 - The ACT Composite scores associated with a 50% chance of earning each ACT WorkKeys NCRC level or higher are: 13 for Bronze, 17 for Silver, 22 for Gold, and 27 for Platinum. Based on those cut scores, students who earned an ACT Composite score of less than 13 would be classified as “Needs Improvement,” 13 to 16 as “Bronze,” 17 to 21 as “Silver,” and 22 or above as “Gold or Higher.”

Impact

- Based on the actual test volume and ACT score distributions of 2019 ACT-tested Nevada high school graduates, ACT research estimates that an increase of 0.1 in state average ACT Composite score for the 2019 graduating class would result in:
 - 95 more students enrolling in college.
 - 103 more students persisting to year two.
 - 78 fewer students needing remedial English.
 - 112 fewer students needing remedial math.
 - 104 more students persisting to year four.
 - 106 more students earning a postsecondary degree within six years.

Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In Nevada, 6,665 of the 2019 graduates (18.7 percent) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 21.8, compared to an average of 16.9 for 28,889 of the 2019 graduates (81.3 percent) who took the ACT only once.
 - Nationwide, 765,568 of the 2019 graduates (42.9 percent) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 22.7, compared to an average of 19.2 for 1,017,252 of the 2019 graduates (57.1 percent) who took the ACT only once.
- 74,708 score reports were sent to colleges by 2019 Nevada ACT-tested graduates.
 - 35,436 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2019 Nevada ACT-tested graduates.
 - For Nevada's 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were the University of Nevada - Las Vegas, the University of Nevada - Reno, the College of Southern Nevada, Nevada State College, and Truckee Meadows Community College.
 - For Nevada's 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top three out-of-state schools to which scores were sent were Arizona State University, the University of California - Los Angeles, and the University of Southern California.
- Compared to 66 percent of 2019 graduates nationally, 66 percent of Nevada graduates opted into the ACT Educational Opportunity Service (EOS). EOS is a free service that allows students to gain exposure to recruitment, scholarship agencies, colleges, and universities that students may not have accessed on their own. The ACT Get Your Name in the Game initiative encourages colleges and universities to recruit underserved EOS participants to increase access and opportunity for all.
 - Compared to 75 percent of African American students nationally, 67 percent of Nevada African American 2019 graduates opted into EOS.
 - Compared to 64 percent of White students nationally, 72 percent of Nevada White 2019 graduates opted into EOS.
 - Compared to 76 percent of Hispanic students nationally, 71 percent of Nevada Hispanic 2019 graduates opted into EOS.

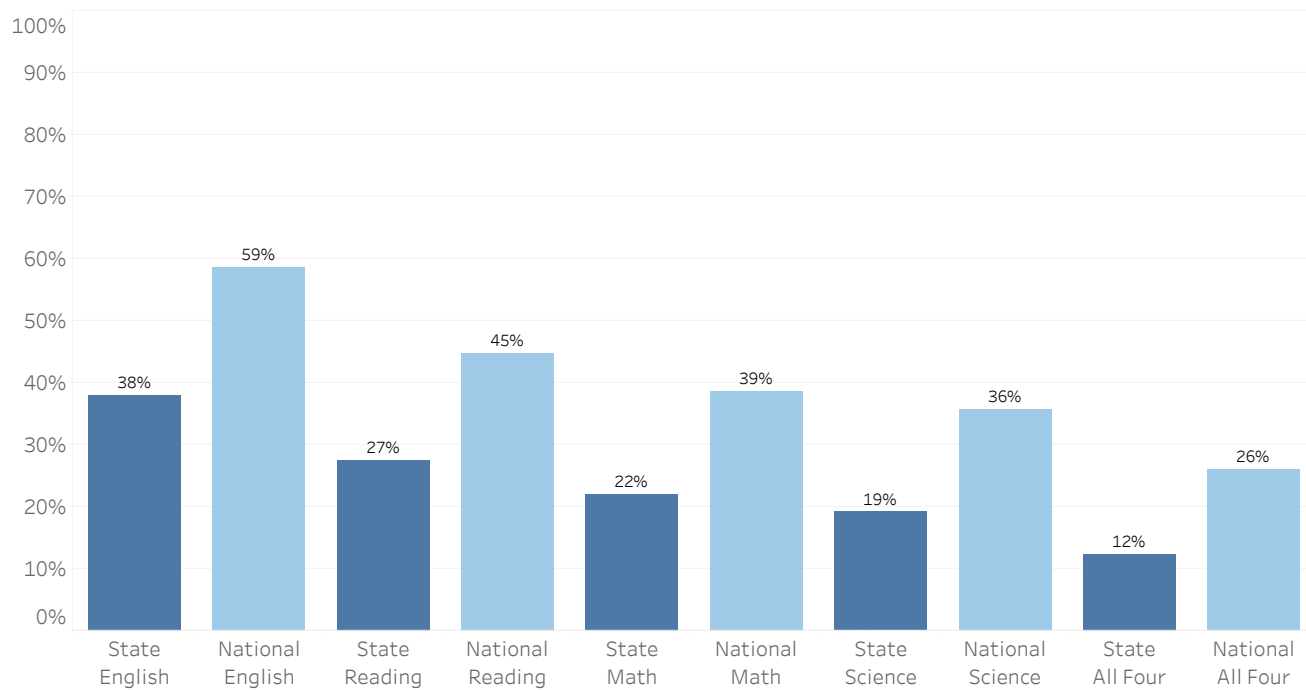
- In the 2018-2019 academic year, ACT issued 2,864 ACT fee waivers to qualified Nevada students across all grades. However, 782 students (27.3 percent) did not take advantage of this opportunity to test for free. This compares to 487,749 waivers issued nationally, of which 135,569 (27.8 percent) students did not take advantage. Fee waivers represent a great opportunity for students of low socioeconomic status to retake without incurring any fees.
 - While African American Nevada students represent 17 percent of fee waivers issued, they account for 19 percent of unused fee waivers. This compares to 32 and 34 nationally.
 - While White Nevada students represent 11 percent of fee waivers issued, they account for 9 percent of unused fee waivers. This compares to 19 and 17 nationally.
 - While Hispanic Nevada students represent 53 percent of fee waivers issued, they account for 55 percent of unused fee waivers. This compares to 35 and 36 nationally.

Postsecondary Aspirations

- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
 - 7,038 students (20 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 21.6.
 - 10,492 students (30 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 18.9.
- In the Nevada graduating class of 2019, 7,624 students (21 percent) had parents who did not attend college.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2019 Nevada graduates were: Undecided; Nursing, Registered (BS/RN); Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Business Administration and Management, General; and Criminology.
 - In the Nevada graduating class of 2019, 727 (2 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 18.9.

NEVADA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks* by Subject



Data From Graph Above

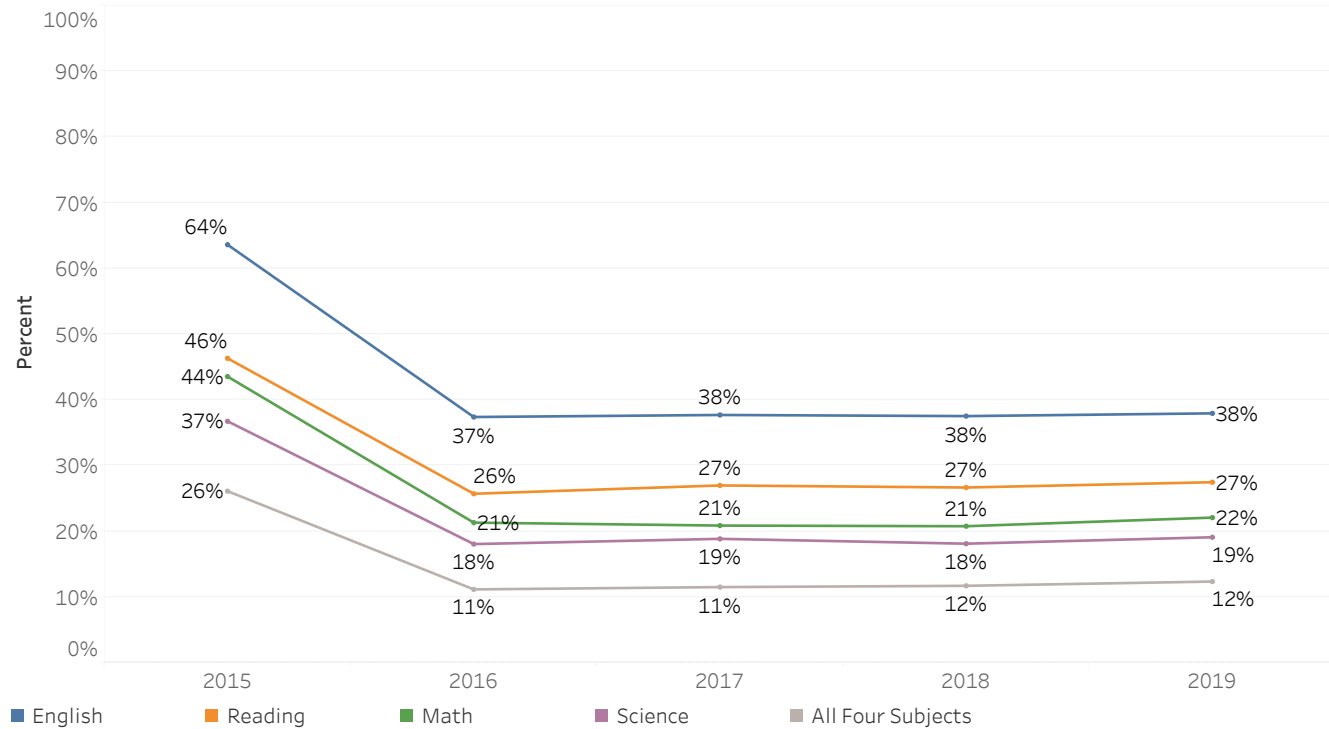
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
38%	59%	27%	45%	22%	39%	19%	36%	12%	26%

* The ACT College Readiness Benchmarks are scores on the ACT subject area tests that represent the level of achievement required for students to have a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in corresponding credit-bearing first-year college courses. Throughout this report, benchmark attainment corresponds with students meeting or exceeding 18 in English, 22 in Reading, 22 in Math and 23 in Science.

Note, missing data points in tables and graphs reflect insufficient data for reporting.

NEVADA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2015–2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks*



Data From Graph Above

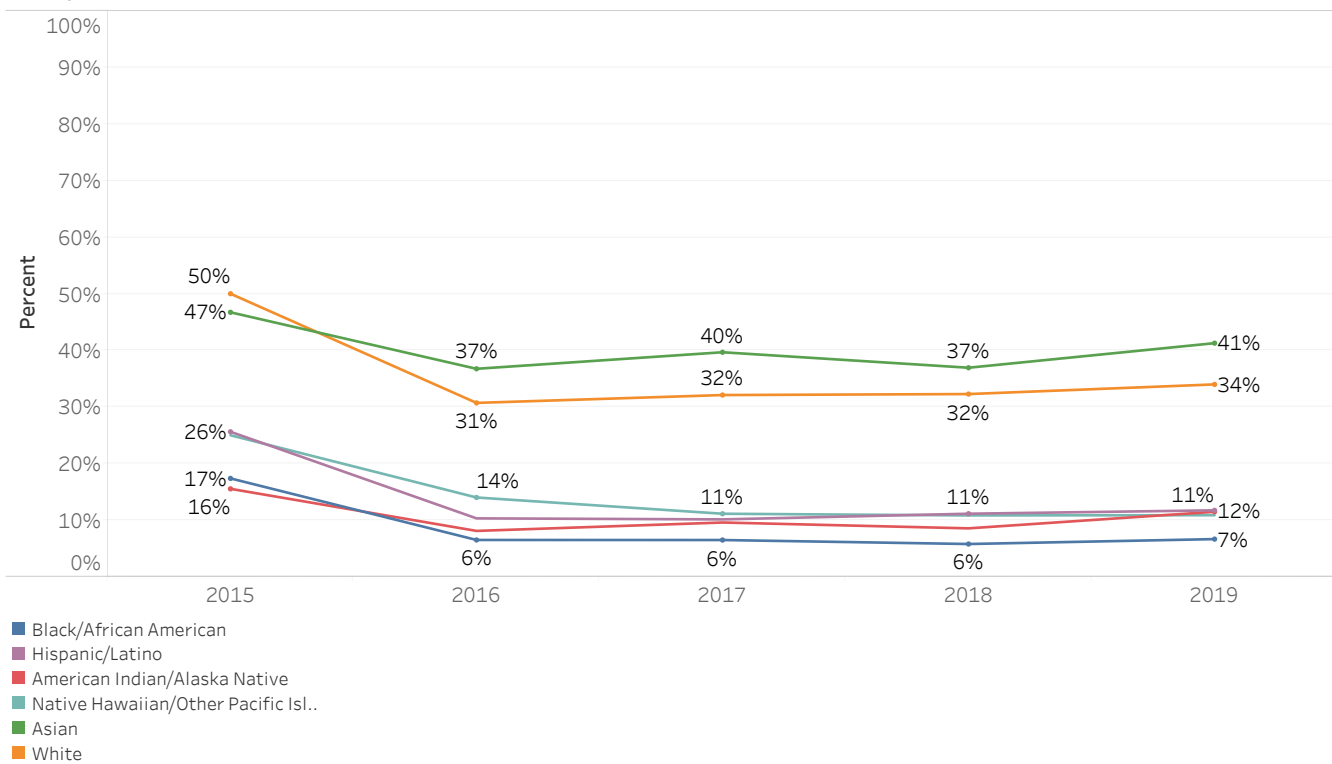
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2015	64%	46%	44%	37%	26%
2016	37%	26%	21%	18%	11%
2017	38%	27%	21%	19%	11%
2018	38%	27%	21%	18%	12%
2019	38%	27%	22%	19%	12%

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NEVADA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2015-2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting Three or More Benchmarks by Race/Ethnicity



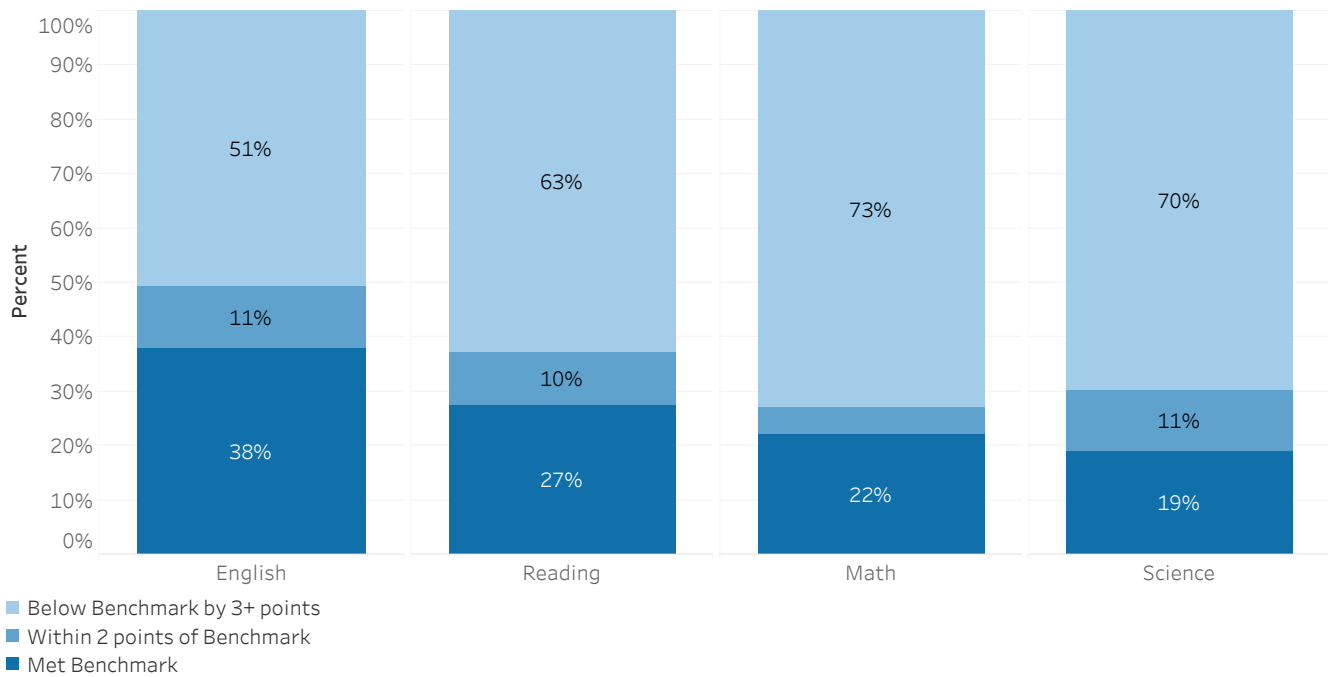
Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2015	17%	26%	16%	25%	47%	50%
2016	6%	10%	8%	14%	37%	31%
2017	6%	10%	10%	11%	40%	32%
2018	6%	11%	9%	11%	37%	32%
2019	7%	12%	11%	11%	41%	34%

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NEVADA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates by ACT College Readiness Benchmark Attainment and Subject



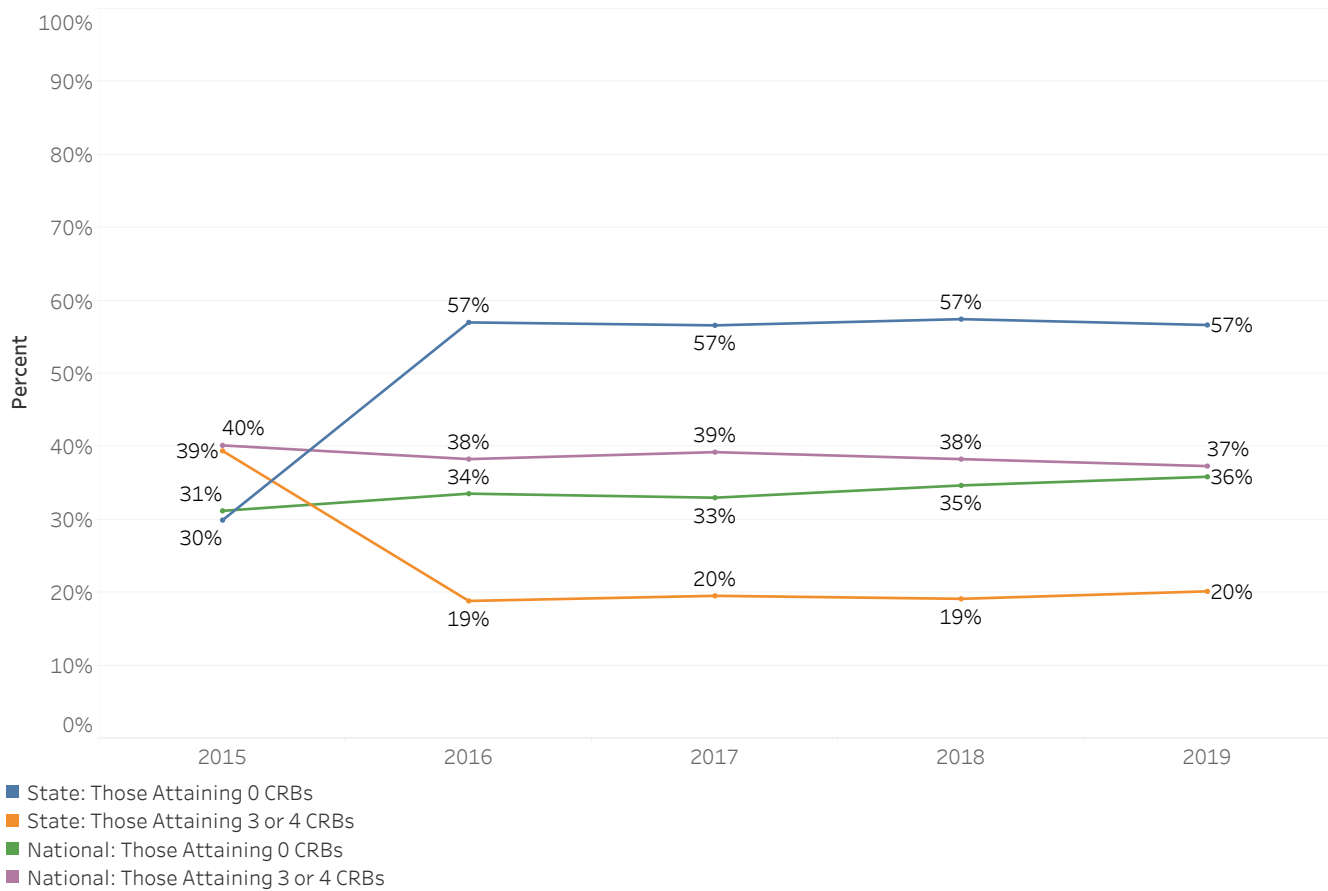
Data From Graph Above

	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	51%	11%	38%
Math	73%	5%	22%
Reading	63%	10%	27%
Science	70%	11%	19%

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Percent of 2015–2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks*



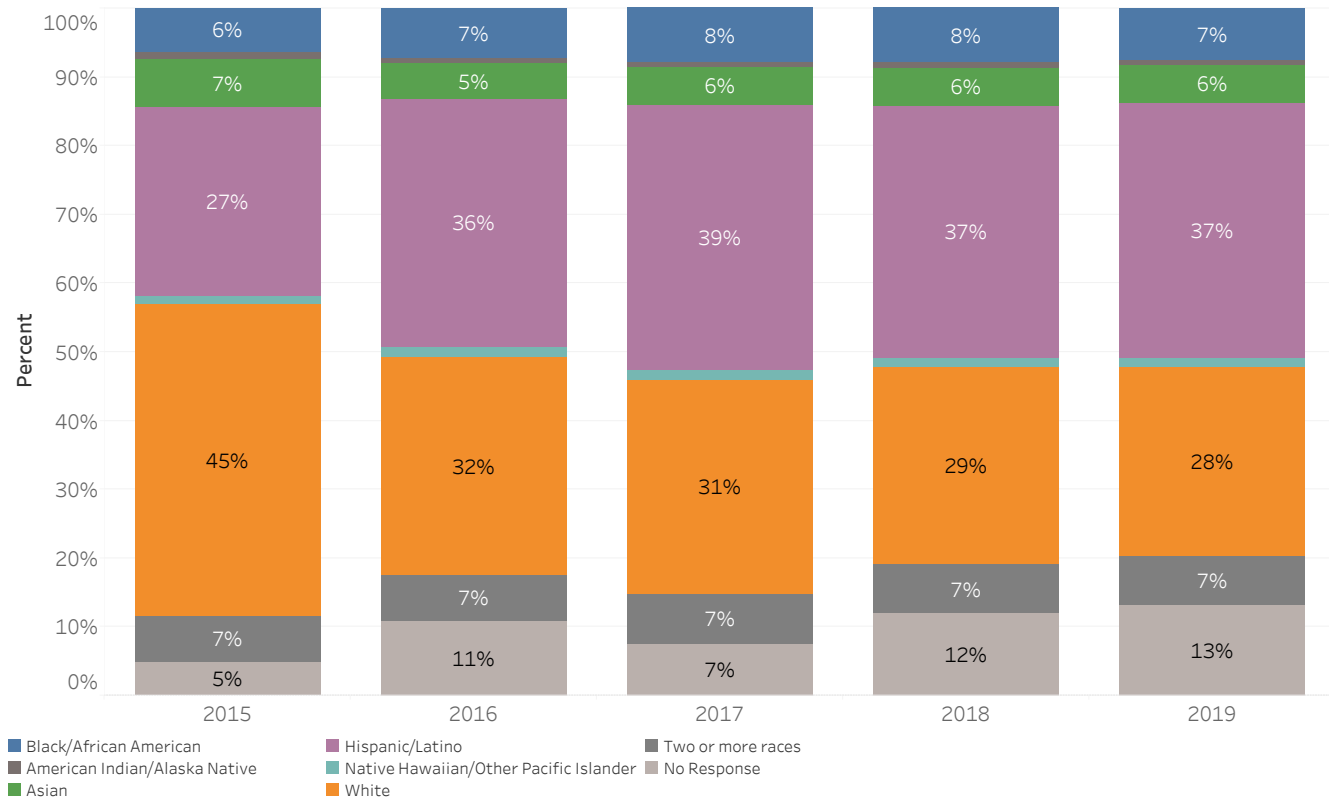
Data from Graph Above

	State: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	State: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs
2015	30%	39%	31%	40%
2016	57%	19%	34%	38%
2017	57%	20%	33%	39%
2018	57%	19%	35%	38%
2019	57%	20%	36%	37%

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NEVADA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2015-2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates by Race/Ethnicity



Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	American Indian/Alaska Native	Asian	Hispanic/Latino	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	White	Two or more races	No Response
2015	6%	1%	7%	27%	1%	45%	7%	5%
2016	7%	1%	5%	36%	1%	32%	7%	11%
2017	8%	1%	6%	39%	1%	31%	7%	7%
2018	8%	1%	6%	37%	1%	29%	7%	12%
2019	7%	1%	6%	37%	1%	28%	7%	13%

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NEVADA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

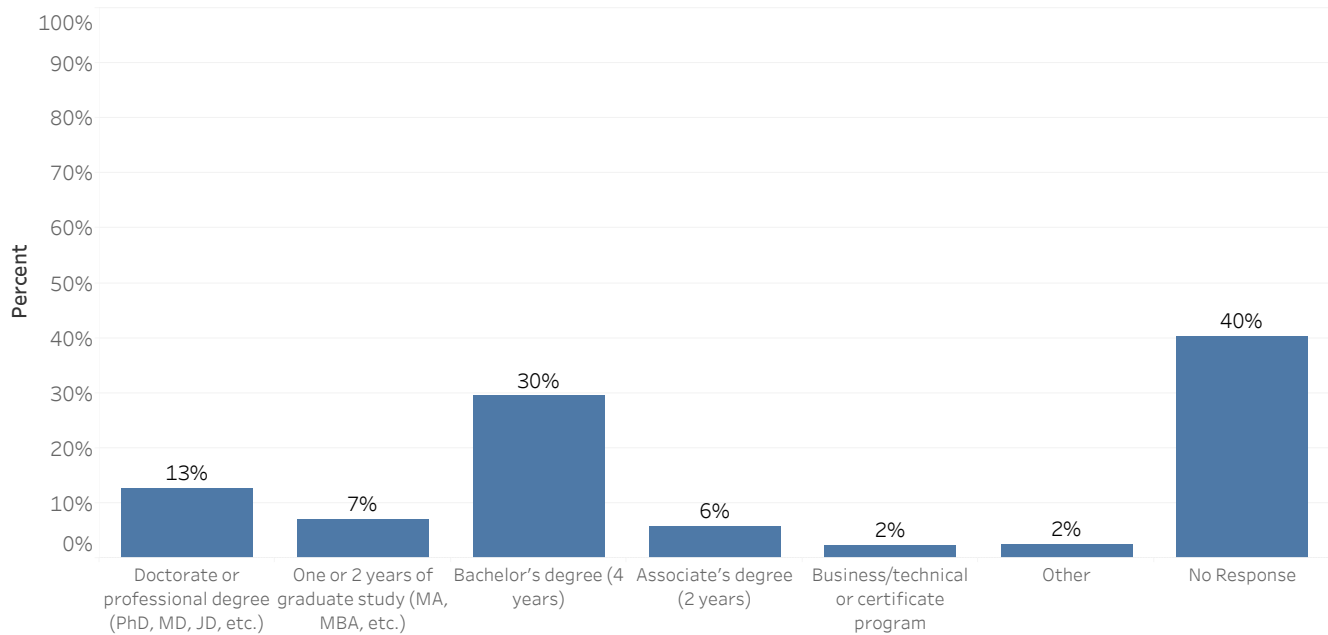
Student Data Trends: 2015-2019, State vs. Nation

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
State N-count	9,308	32,261	33,634	35,865	35,554
National N-count	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817	1,782,820
Average ACT English Score - State	20.1	16.2	16.3	16.6	16.8
Average ACT English Score - National	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2	20.1
Average ACT Reading Score - State	21.4	18.1	18.1	18.0	18.2
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.2
Average ACT Math Score - State	21.0	18.0	18.0	17.8	18.0
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5	20.4
Average ACT Science Score - State	20.9	18.1	18.2	17.9	17.9
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7	20.6
Average ACT Composite Score - State	21.0	17.7	17.8	17.7	17.9
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8	20.7

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NEVADA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2019 ACT-Tested High School Graduates by Educational Aspirations



Data From Graph Above

	% of Graduates
Doctorate or professional degree (PhD, MD, JD, etc.)	13%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	7%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	30%
Associate's degree (2 years)	6%
Business/technical or certificate program	2%
Other	2%
No Response	40%

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