

The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2019

New York Key Findings

Performance of 2019 Graduates

- In the 2019 New York graduating class, 45,342 graduates (an estimated 22 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 24.5. This compares to 58,136 (an estimated 28 percent) with an average of 23.7 in 2015. Nationally, an estimated 52 percent of 2019 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.7.
 - There were 2,968 African American graduates from New York who took the ACT (7 percent) with an average Composite score of 20.1. This compares to 3,717 (7 percent) with an average of 20.3, and 4,088 (7 percent) with an average of 19.3, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 26,030 White graduates from New York who took the ACT (57 percent) with an average Composite score of 25.0. This compares to 32,732 (58 percent) with an average of 25.0, and 35,270 (61 percent) with an average of 24.3, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 5,543 Hispanic graduates from New York who took the ACT (12 percent) with an average Composite score of 22.4. This compares to 6,805 (12 percent) with an average of 22.2, and 6,629 (11 percent) with an average of 21.0, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - There were 3,748 Asian graduates from New York who took the ACT (8 percent) with an average Composite score of 27.2. This compares to 5,045 (9 percent) with an average of 26.8, and 4,975 (9 percent) with an average of 25.6, for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
- In 2019, 50 percent of New York graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 49 and 46 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 13 percent of New York graduates met zero ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 12 and 15 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 81 percent of New York graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 83 and 79 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 67 percent of New York graduates met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 67 and 66 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 69 percent of New York graduates met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 68 and 63 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 63 percent of New York graduates met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 62 and 59 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.
 - In 2019, 29,391 (65 percent) of New York graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 36,662 and 35,568 (65 and 61 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, 10 percent of New York graduates took the ACT with extended time. This compares to 8 and 5 percent of 2018 and 2015 graduates, respectively.

STEM

- In 2019, 22,624 New York graduates (50 percent) indicated having an interest in STEM majors and/or careers.
 - Nationally, 43 percent of graduates indicated having an interest in STEM.
- Compared to a 2019 New York graduating class average ACT STEM score of 24.5, graduates in 2018 and 2015 had STEM averages of 24.4 and 23.9, respectively.
 - In 2019, 31,878 New York graduates (70 percent) indicated taking physics. This compares to 71 and 72 percent for the 2018 and 2015 graduating classes, respectively.
 - 2019 graduates taking physics had an average science score of 25.5, compared to 21.4 for students not taking physics.

Career Readiness Indicator

- In 2019, 30,974 New York graduates (68 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.
 - 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 New York 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:
 - 90 more students enrolling in college.
 - 106 more students persisting to year two.
 - 66 fewer students needing remedial English.
 - 104 fewer students needing remedial math.
 - 125 more students persisting to year four.
 - 137 more students earning a postsecondary degree within six years.

Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In New York, 16,912 of the 2019 graduates (37.3 percent) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 26.4, compared to an average of 23.5 for 28,430 of the 2019 graduates (62.7 percent) who took the ACT only once.
- 29,993 score reports were sent to colleges by 2019 New York ACT-tested graduates.
 - 10,647 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2019 New York ACT-tested graduates.
 - For New York’s 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were SUNY-Stony Brook, SUNY-Buffalo, SUNY-Binghamton, New York University, and SUNY-Albany.
 - For New York’s 2019 ACT-tested graduates, the top three out-of-state schools to which scores were sent were Boston University, Pennsylvania State University, and Northeastern University.

- Compared to 66 percent of 2019 graduates nationally, 61 percent of New York 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.
- In the 2018-2019 academic year, ACT issued 9,895 ACT fee waivers to qualified New York students across all grades. However, 2,984 students (30.2 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. This represents a great opportunity for high schools within the state to increase the socioeconomic diversity of its students tested.

Postsecondary Aspirations

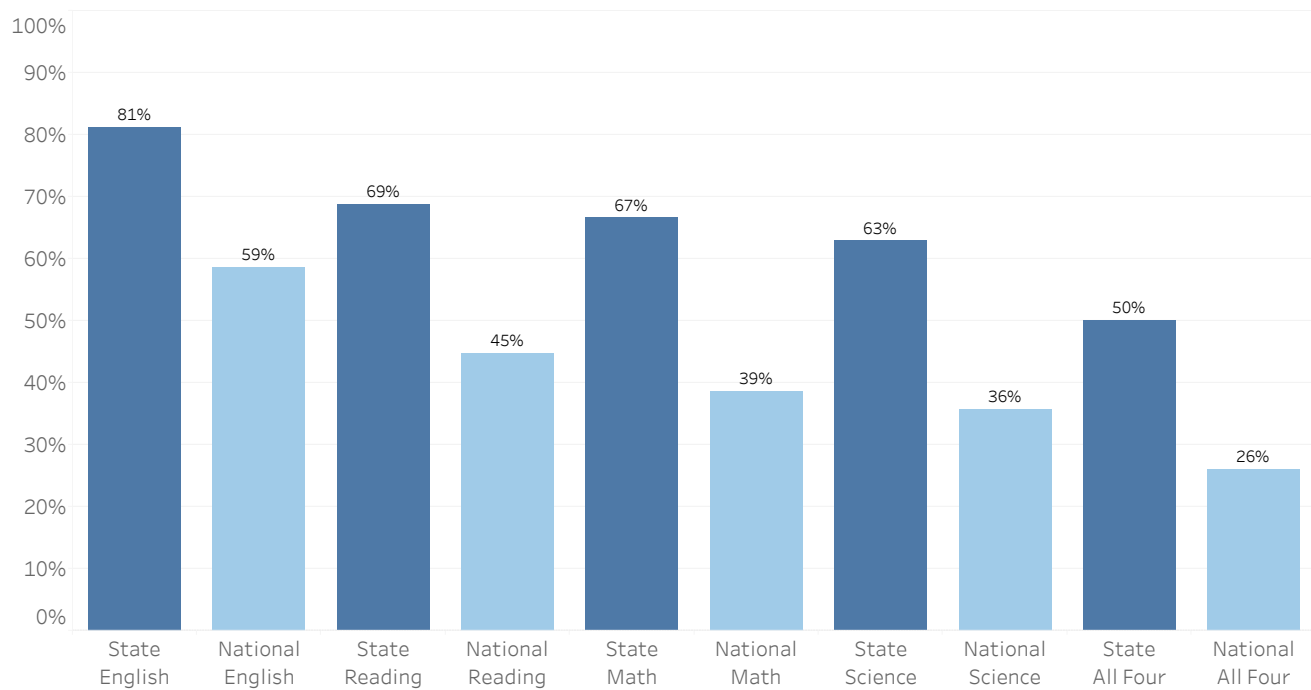
- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
 - 22,339 students (49 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 25.9.
 - 14,640 students (32 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 22.7.
 - 412 students (1 percent) aspired to attain a vocational/technical or associate's degree. They had an average Composite score of 19.6.
- In the New York graduating class of 2019, 3,948 students (9 percent) had parents who did not attend college.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2019 New York graduates were: Undecided; Biology, General; Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Business Administration and Management, General; and Nursing, Registered (BS/RN).
 - In the New York graduating class of 2019, 9,230 students (20 percent) indicated being undecided about their college major. They had an average Composite score of 25.0. Decision making regarding college major can be facilitated through activities included in ACT Aspire and PreACT testing experiences. In addition, the Student Score Report is a valuable tool for conversations using the College and Career Planning and Interest-Major Fit sections.
 - In the New York graduating class of 2019, 1,979 (4 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 21.9.

Additional Points

- The New York ACT State Organization continues to grow in membership and in diversity, with more than 250 members from across the state. The membership includes educators from K-12, access, and postsecondary institutions, as well as members involved in workforce development. Member input contributed to the addition of a sixth ACT test date in New York in 2018-19.
- In 2019, ACT State Organizations honored College and Career Readiness Champions across the country. The New York honorees were:
 - Zianna Beltran, high school senior, Bethpage High School; Melissa Morrin, teacher, Seneca Falls CSD; and Parker Prajec, director of student success, Metropolitan College of New York.
- According to the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the fastest-growing careers in New York requiring education beyond high school are: physician assistants, nurse practitioners, software developers, medical assistants, and physical therapy assistants.

NEW YORK 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

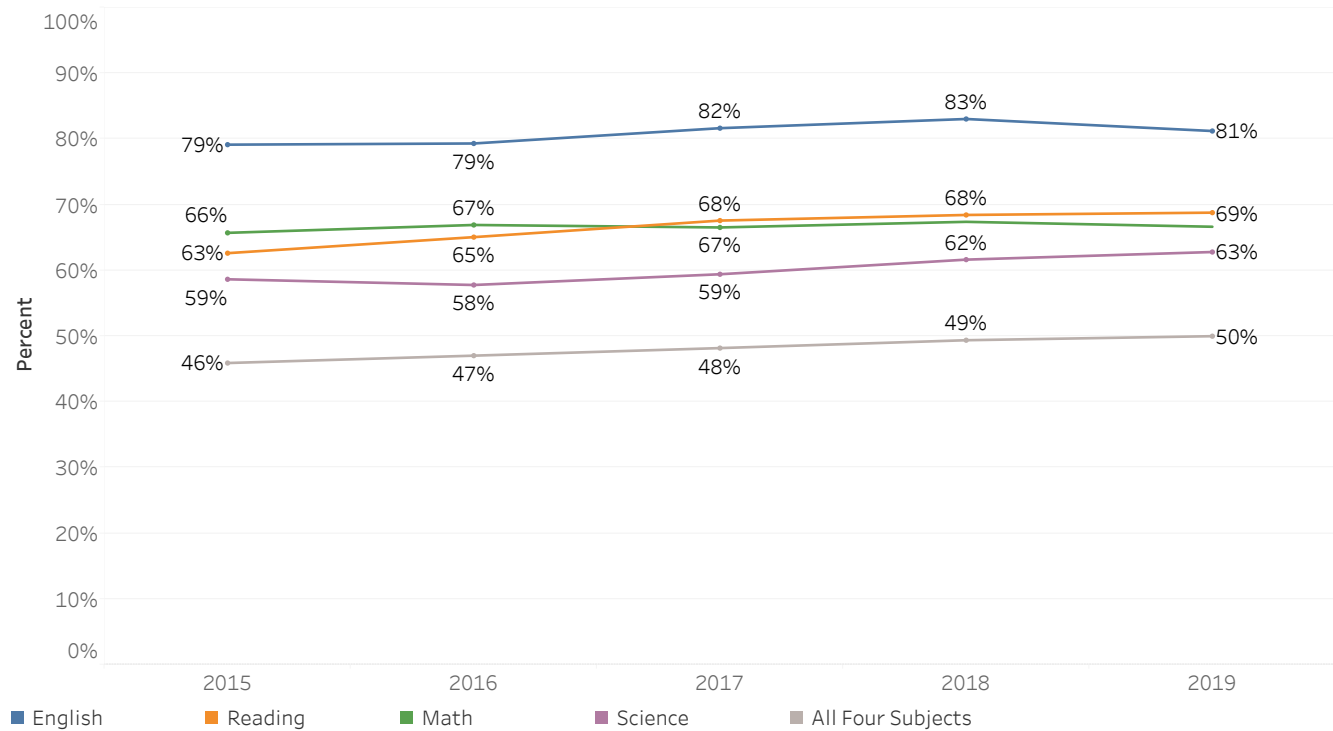
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
81%	59%	69%	45%	67%	39%	63%	36%	50%	26%

* 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.

NEW YORK 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

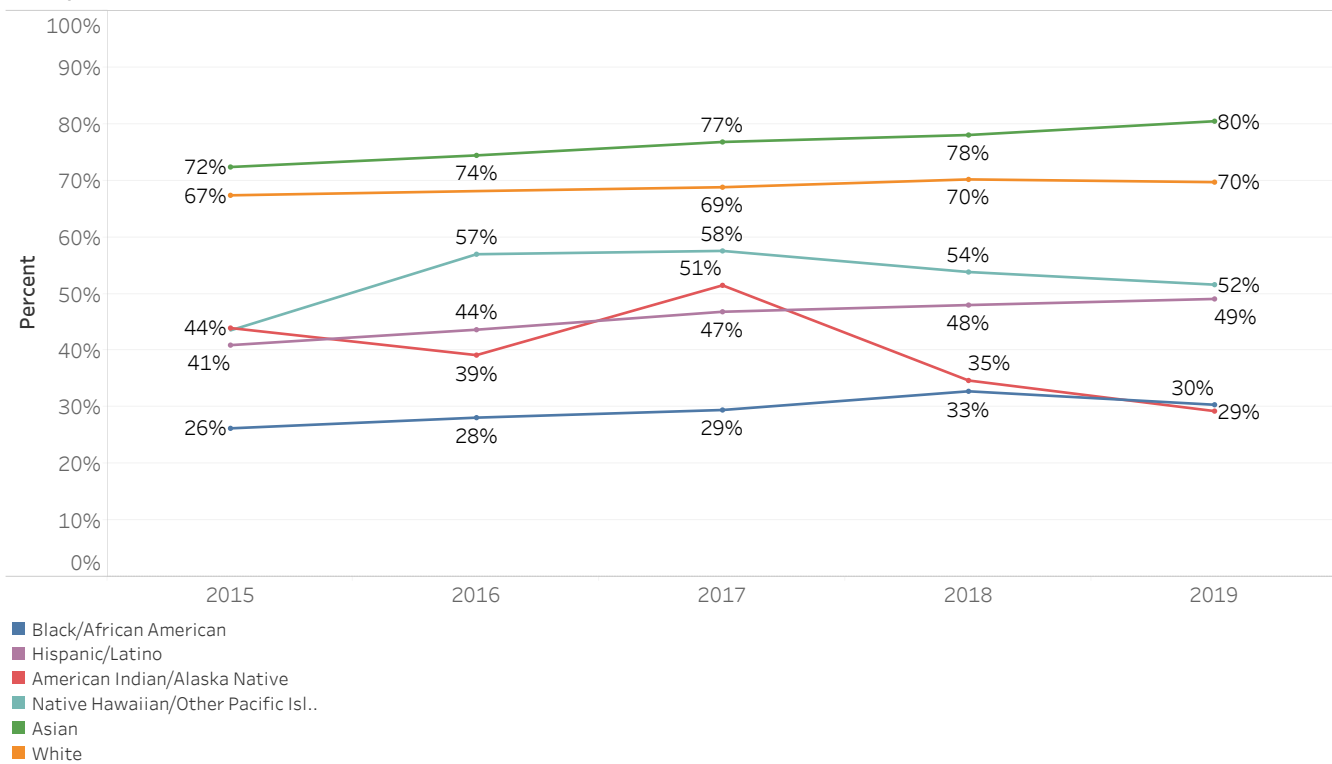
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2015	79%	63%	66%	59%	46%
2016	79%	65%	67%	58%	47%
2017	82%	68%	67%	59%	48%
2018	83%	68%	67%	62%	49%
2019	81%	69%	67%	63%	50%

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NEW YORK 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



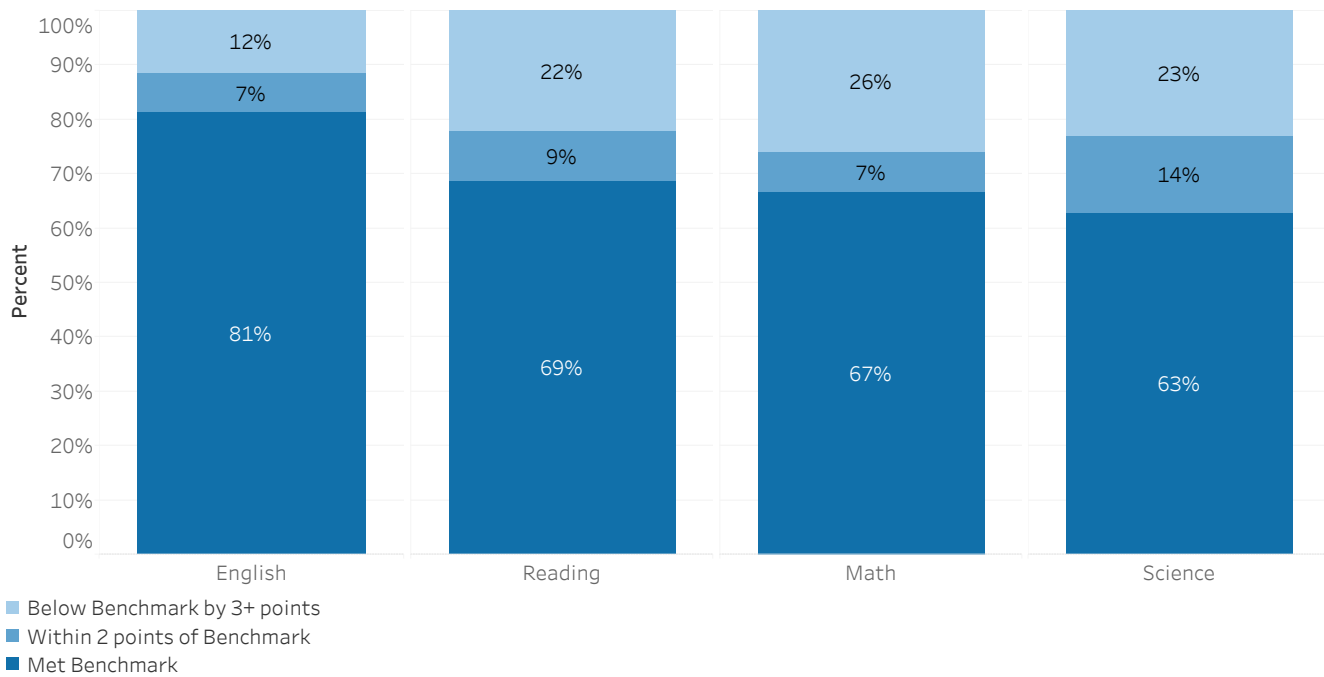
Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2015	26%	41%	44%	44%	72%	67%
2016	28%	44%	39%	57%	74%	68%
2017	29%	47%	51%	58%	77%	69%
2018	33%	48%	35%	54%	78%	70%
2019	30%	49%	29%	52%	80%	70%

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NEW YORK College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



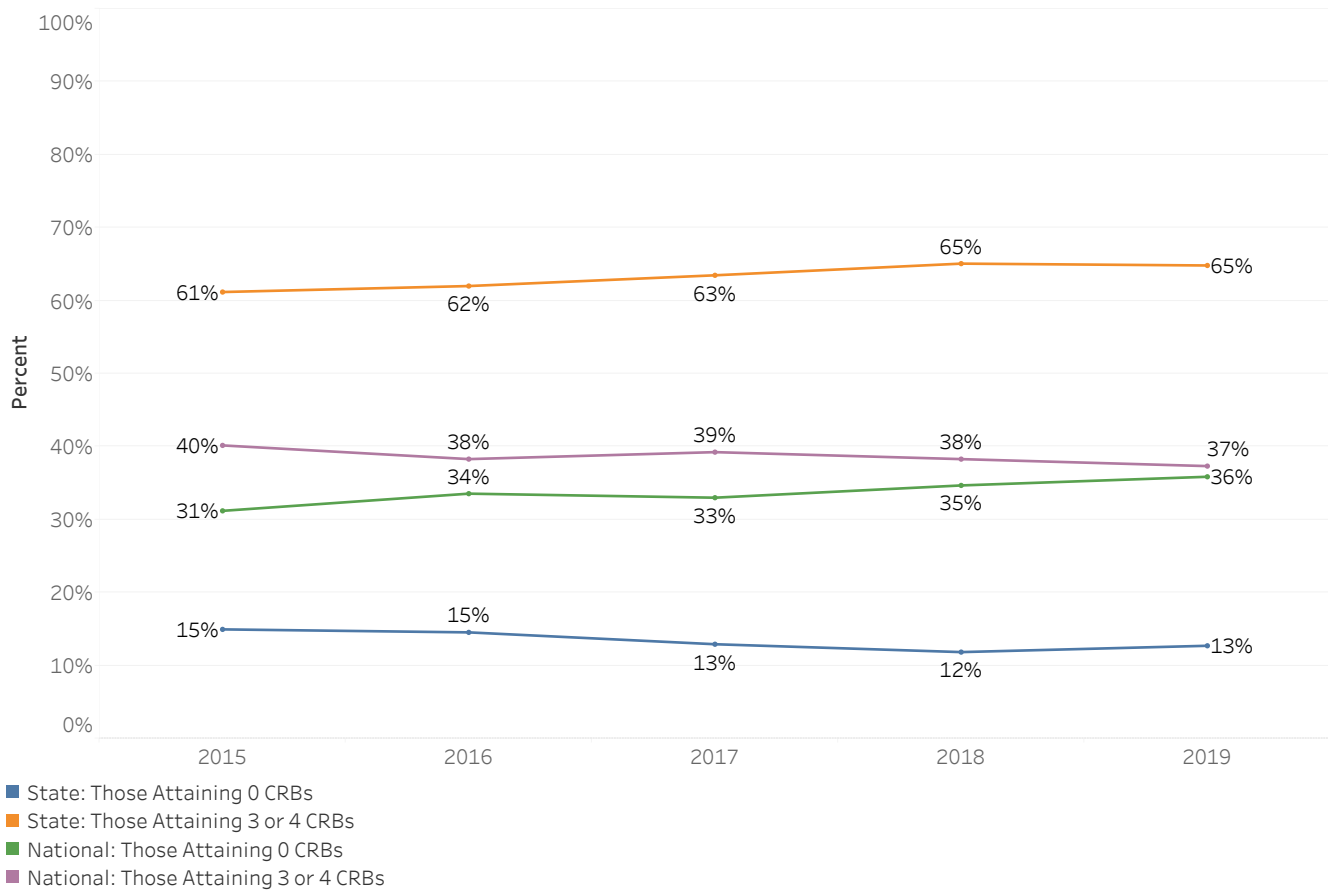
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	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	12%	7%	81%
Math	26%	7%	67%
Reading	22%	9%	69%
Science	23%	14%	63%

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



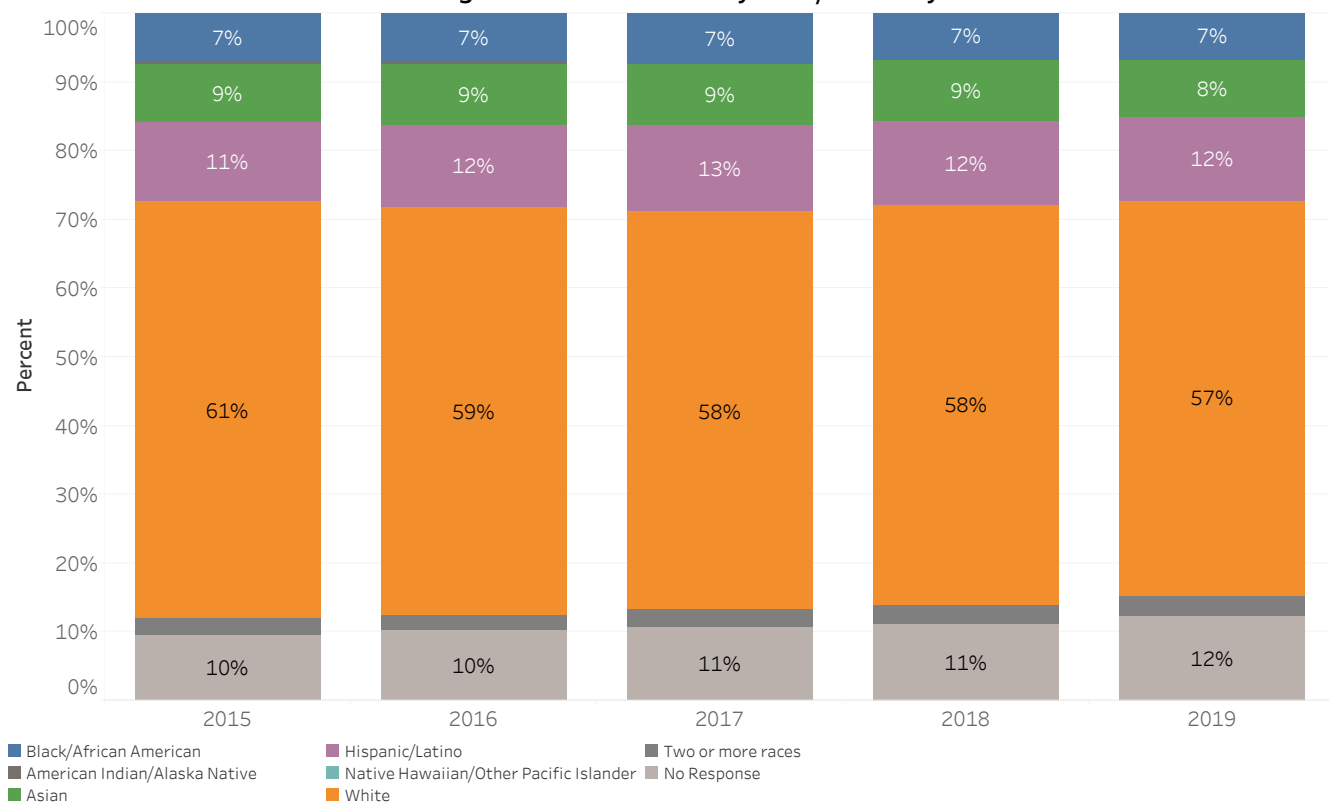
Data from Graph Above

	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	15%	61%	31%	40%
2016	15%	62%	34%	38%
2017	13%	63%	33%	39%
2018	12%	65%	35%	38%
2019	13%	65%	36%	37%

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NEW YORK 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	7%	0%	9%	11%	0%	61%	2%	10%
2016	7%	0%	9%	12%	0%	59%	2%	10%
2017	7%	0%	9%	13%	0%	58%	3%	11%
2018	7%	0%	9%	12%	0%	58%	3%	11%
2019	7%	0%	8%	12%	0%	57%	3%	12%

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NEW YORK College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

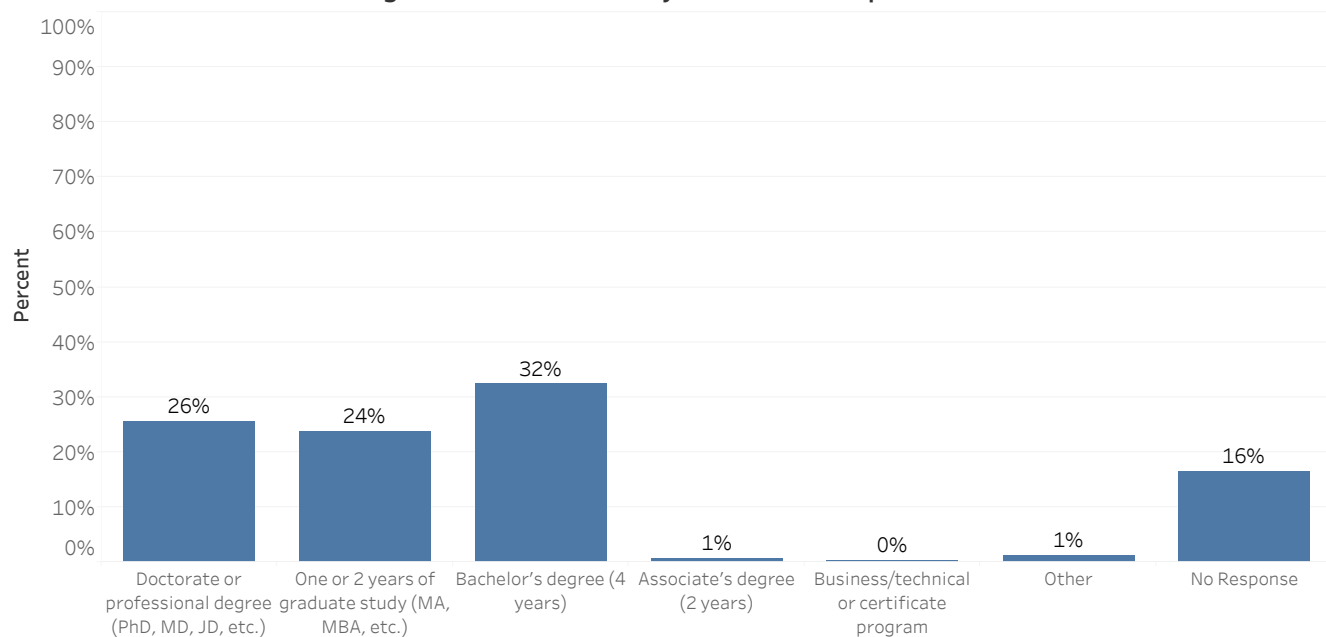
Student Data Trends: 2015-2019, State vs. Nation

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
State N-count	58,136	60,628	63,322	56,340	45,342
National N-count	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817	1,782,820
Average ACT English Score - State	23.0	23.2	23.8	24.2	24.1
Average ACT English Score - National	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2	20.1
Average ACT Reading Score - State	23.9	24.4	24.6	24.9	25.0
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.2
Average ACT Math Score - State	23.8	23.9	24.0	24.2	24.1
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5	20.4
Average ACT Science Score - State	23.5	23.7	23.9	24.2	24.4
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7	20.6
Average ACT Composite Score - State	23.7	23.9	24.2	24.5	24.5
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8	20.7

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NEW YORK 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.)	26%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	24%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	32%
Associate's degree (2 years)	1%
Business/technical or certificate program	0%
Other	1%
No Response	16%

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