

# The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2018

## New Hampshire Key Findings

### Performance

- In the 2018 New Hampshire graduating class, 2,440 graduates (16 percent) took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 25.1. This compares to 3,179 (20 percent) with an average of 24.2 in 2014. Nationally, 55% of 2018 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.8.
  - ~ There were 40 African American graduates from New Hampshire who took the ACT (2 percent) with an average Composite score of 22.8. This compares to 61 (2 percent) with an average of 24.0, and 51 (2 percent) with an average of 22.4, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
  - ~ There were 1,799 White graduates from New Hampshire who took the ACT (74 percent) with an average Composite score of 24.9. This compares to 2,134 (75 percent) with an average of 25.4, and 2,459 (77 percent) with an average of 24.1, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
  - ~ There were 106 Hispanic graduates from New Hampshire who took the ACT (4 percent) with an average Composite score of 25.1. This compares to 105 (4 percent) with an average of 25.1, and 124 (4 percent) with an average of 23.3, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
  - ~ There were 179 Asian graduates from New Hampshire who took the ACT (7 percent) with an average Composite score of 26.1. This compares to 220 (8 percent) with an average of 26.6, and 184 (6 percent) with an average of 25.0, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
- The 2018 New Hampshire graduating class average English score was 25.1. This compares to 25.4 and 23.9 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 New Hampshire graduating class average math score was 24.7. This compares to 25.1 and 24.2 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 New Hampshire graduating class average reading score was 25.6. This compares to 26.0 and 24.5 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 New Hampshire graduating class average science score was 24.4. This compares to 24.9 and 23.6 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- In 2018, 52 percent of New Hampshire graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 56 and 47 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 88 percent of New Hampshire graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 89 and 86 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 72 percent of New Hampshire graduates met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 74 and 69 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 73 percent of New Hampshire graduates met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 75 and 66 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
  - ~ In 2018, 64 percent of New Hampshire graduates met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 66 and 59 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.

- In 2018, 1,692 (69 percent) of New Hampshire graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 2,048 and 2,040 (72 and 64 percent) out of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively. For reference, the national percentage of 2018 graduates meeting three or four benchmarks was 38%.
- In 2018, 7 percent of New Hampshire graduates took the ACT with extended time. This compares to 6 and 4 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- 73 percent of 2018 New Hampshire graduates were Proficient or Above Proficient in understanding complex texts.

## STEM

- The ACT is the only college admissions exam with a dedicated Science assessment. The ACT is a great fit for the New Hampshire STEM Robotics and Computer Science Programs.
- In 2018, 1,330 New Hampshire graduates (55 percent) indicated having an interest in STEM majors and/or careers.
  - ~ Nationally, 45 percent of graduates indicated having an interest in STEM.
- Compared to a 2018 New Hampshire graduating class average ACT STEM score of 24.8, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM averages of 25.3 and 24.1, respectively.
- Compared to 44 percent of 2018 New Hampshire graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM Benchmark percentages of 48 and 39, respectively.
- 2018 graduates taking physics had an average science score of 25.1, compared to 22.4 for students not taking physics.

## Career Readiness

- The ACT WorkKeys® National Career Readiness Certificate® is a High School Career Readiness Indicator in the New Hampshire Every Student Succeeds Act Plan.
- In 2018, 2,327 New Hampshire graduates (95 percent) were likely to attain the Silver NCRC® or higher based upon ACT Composite score, compared to 1,393,517 (73 percent) nationally.
  - ~ The ACT Composite scores associated with a 50% chance of earning each NCRC level or higher are: 13 for Bronze, 17 for Silver, 25 for Gold, and 35 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 24 as “Silver,” and 25 or above as “Gold or Higher.”

## Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In New Hampshire, 781 of the 2018 graduates (32.0%) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 26.8, compared to an average of 24.3 for 1,659 of the 2018 graduates (68.0%) who took the ACT only once.
- 2,406 score reports were sent to colleges by 2018 New Hampshire ACT-tested graduates.
  - ~ 286 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2018 New Hampshire ACT-tested graduates.
  - ~ Nationwide, 847,940 of the 2018 graduates (44.3%) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 22.7, compared to an average of 19.3 for 1,066,877 of the 2018 graduates (55.7%) who took the ACT only once.
  - ~ For New Hampshire’s 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were University of New Hampshire, Northeastern University, Boston University, University of Massachusetts Amherst, and University of Vermont.
- Compared to 68 percent of 2018 graduates nationally, 55 percent of New Hampshire 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 2017-2018 academic year, ACT issued 122 ACT fee waivers to qualified New Hampshire students. However, 20 students (16.4 percent) did not take advantage of this opportunity to test for free. This compares to 542,506 waivers issued nationally, of which 152,227 (28.1 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. Note: this is the number of fee waivers issued for the state, not specific to this graduating class.

## Pipeline

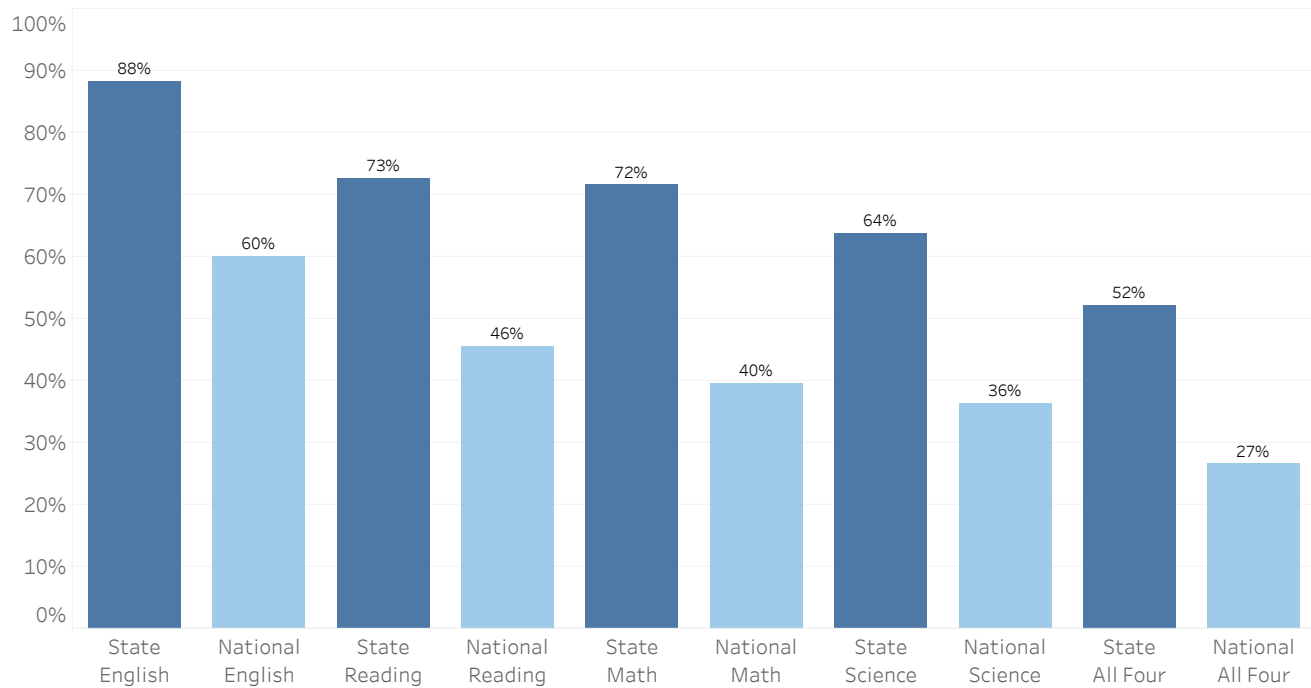
- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
  - ~ 1,264 students (52 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 26.5.
  - ~ 723 students (30 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 23.2.
- In the New Hampshire graduating class of 2018, 81 students (3 percent) had parents who did not attend college.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2018 New Hampshire graduates were: Undecided; Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Nursing, Registered (BS/RN); Biology, General; and Business Administration and Management, General.
  - ~ In the New Hampshire graduating class of 2018, 54 (2 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 22.6.
- There is good news in that 82% of New Hampshire's 2018 ACT-tested graduates aspired to postsecondary education. Interestingly enough, 81% of New Hampshire's 2017 ACT-tested graduating class aspired to enroll in postsecondary education, compared to 82% who actually did enroll. A positive note is that more 2017 New Hampshire ACT-tested graduates enrolled in postsecondary education than initially aspired to do so.

## Additional Points

- The New Hampshire ACT State Organization continues to grow in membership and in diversity, with more than 24 members from across the state. The membership includes educators from state agencies, K-12, access, and postsecondary institutions, as well as members involved in workforce development.
- According to the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the fastest-growing careers in New Hampshire requiring education beyond high school are: Statisticians, Atmospheric and Space Scientists, Personal Financial Advisors and Nurse Practitioners.
- The ACT College and Career Readiness Champions are individuals across the country who support ACT's mission of education and workplace success. They are high school seniors, K-12, postsecondary, and workforce professionals who have demonstrated exemplary behavior and contributions in support of college and career readiness in their respective communities. Congratulations to the New Hampshire Champions: Meredith Gauthier (High School Senior) and Jan Coville (Postsecondary Professional).

# NEW HAMPSHIRE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks\* by Subject



Data From Graph Above

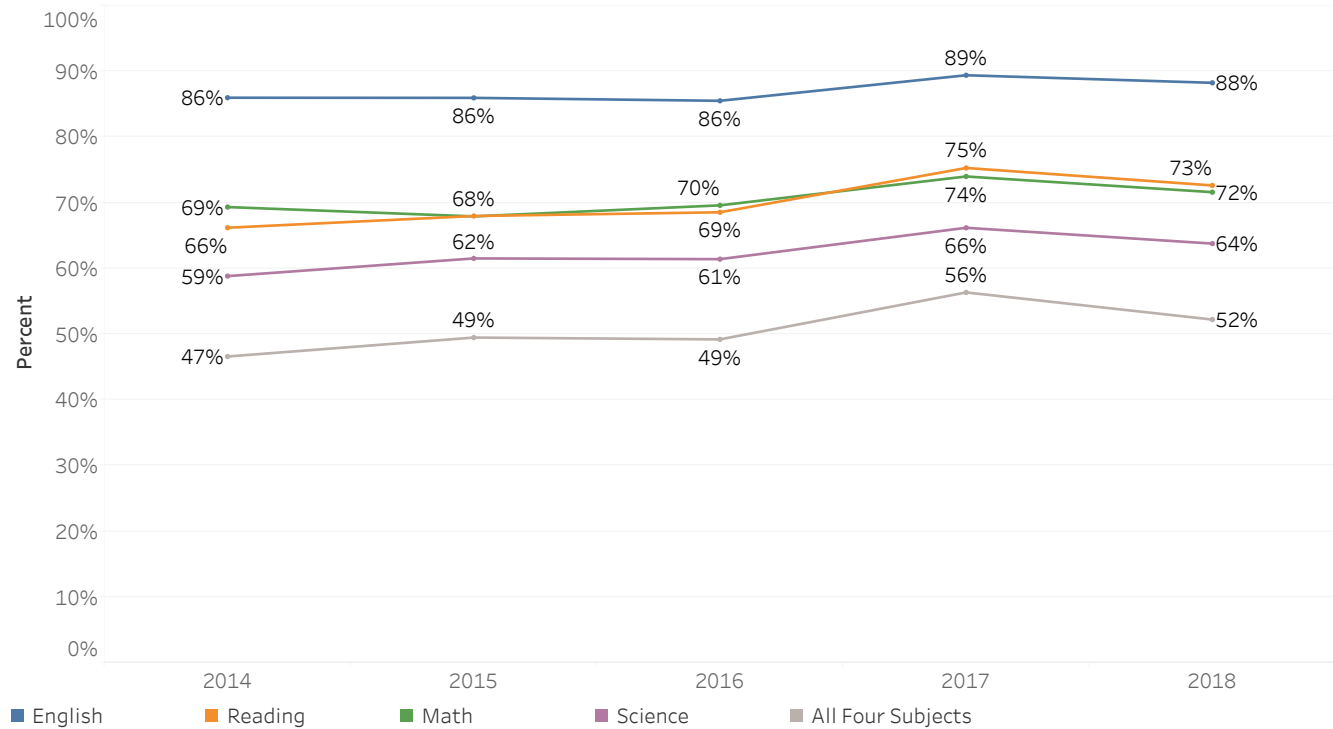
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
88%	60%	73%	46%	72%	40%	64%	36%	52%	27%

\* 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 HAMPSHIRE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2014–2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks\*



## Data From Graph Above

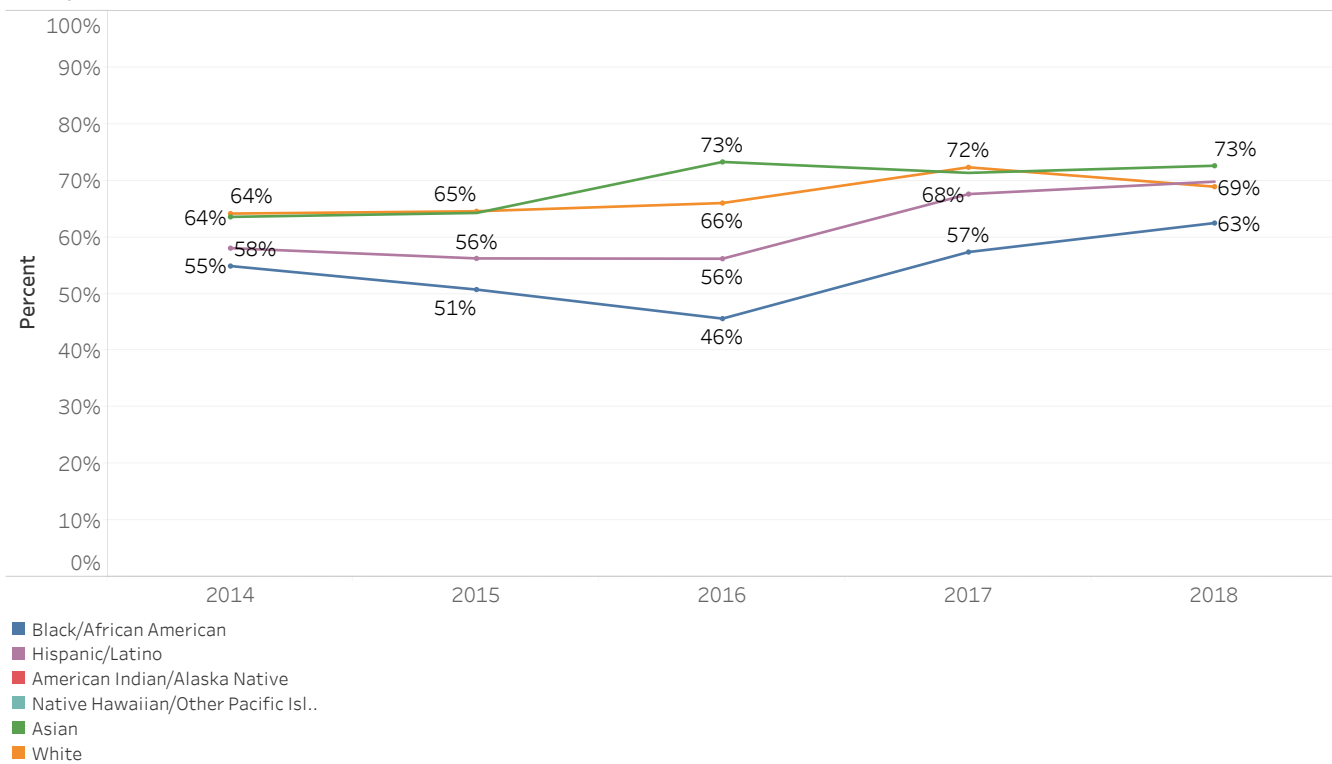
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2014	86%	66%	69%	59%	47%
2015	86%	68%	68%	62%	49%
2016	86%	69%	70%	61%	49%
2017	89%	75%	74%	66%	56%
2018	88%	73%	72%	64%	52%

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# NEW HAMPSHIRE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2014-2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting Three or More Benchmarks by Race/Ethnicity



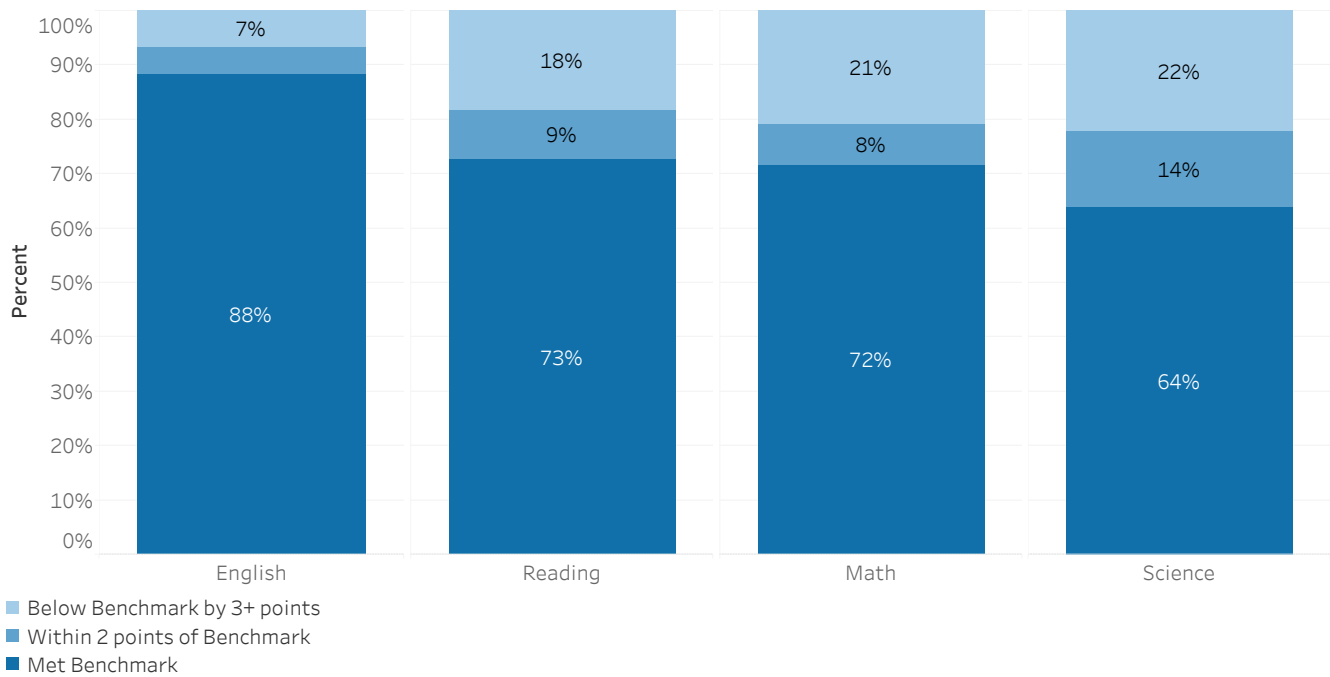
## Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2014	55%	58%	64%	64%	64%	64%
2015	51%	56%	65%	65%	65%	65%
2016	46%	56%	66%	66%	73%	66%
2017	57%	68%	72%	72%	72%	72%
2018	63%	69%	69%	69%	73%	69%

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# NEW HAMPSHIRE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates by ACT College Readiness Benchmark Attainment and Subject



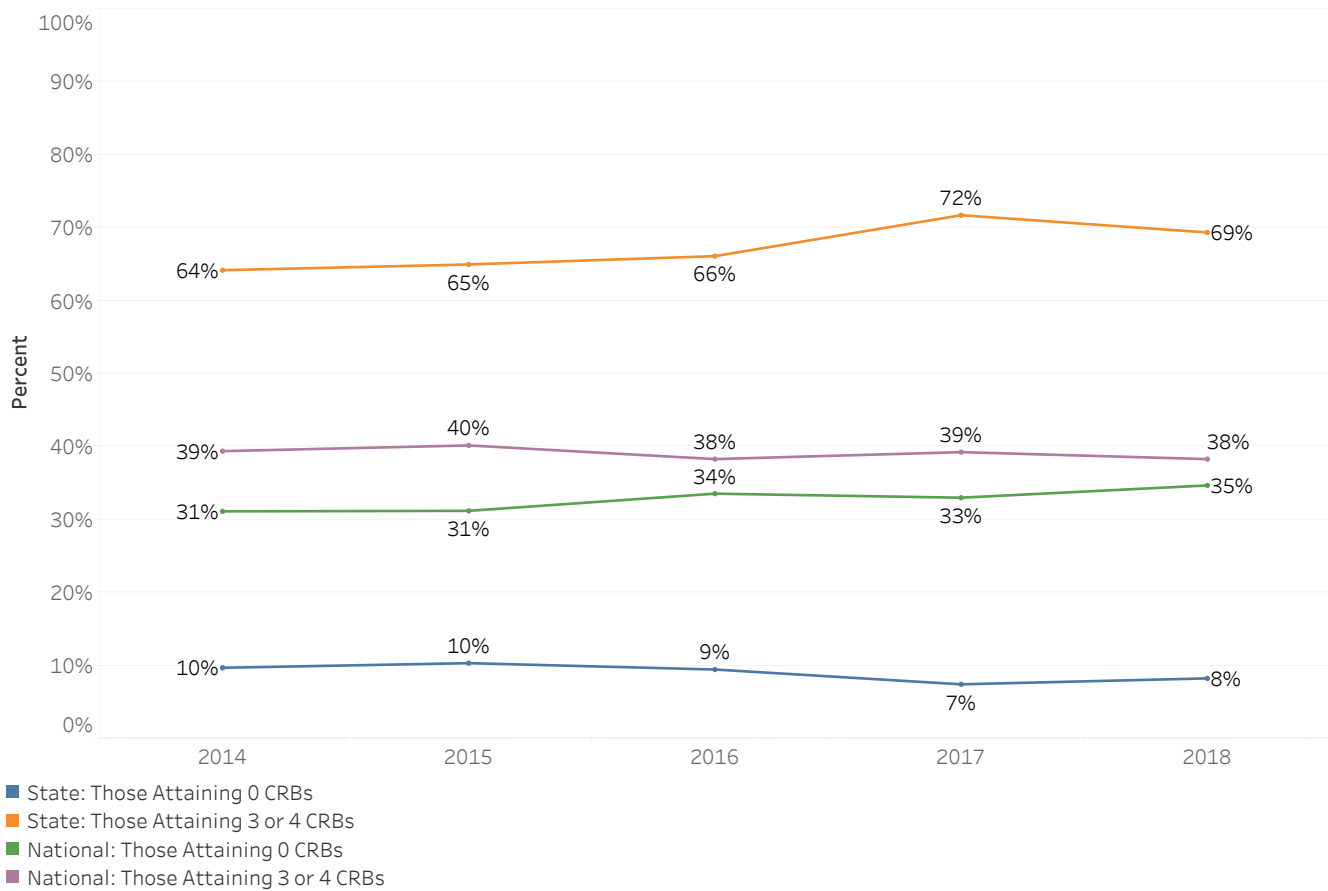
## Data From Graph Above

	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	7%	5%	88%
Math	21%	8%	72%
Reading	18%	9%	73%
Science	22%	14%	64%

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# NEW HAMPSHIRE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2014–2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates Meeting ACT College Readiness Benchmarks\*



## Data from Graph Above

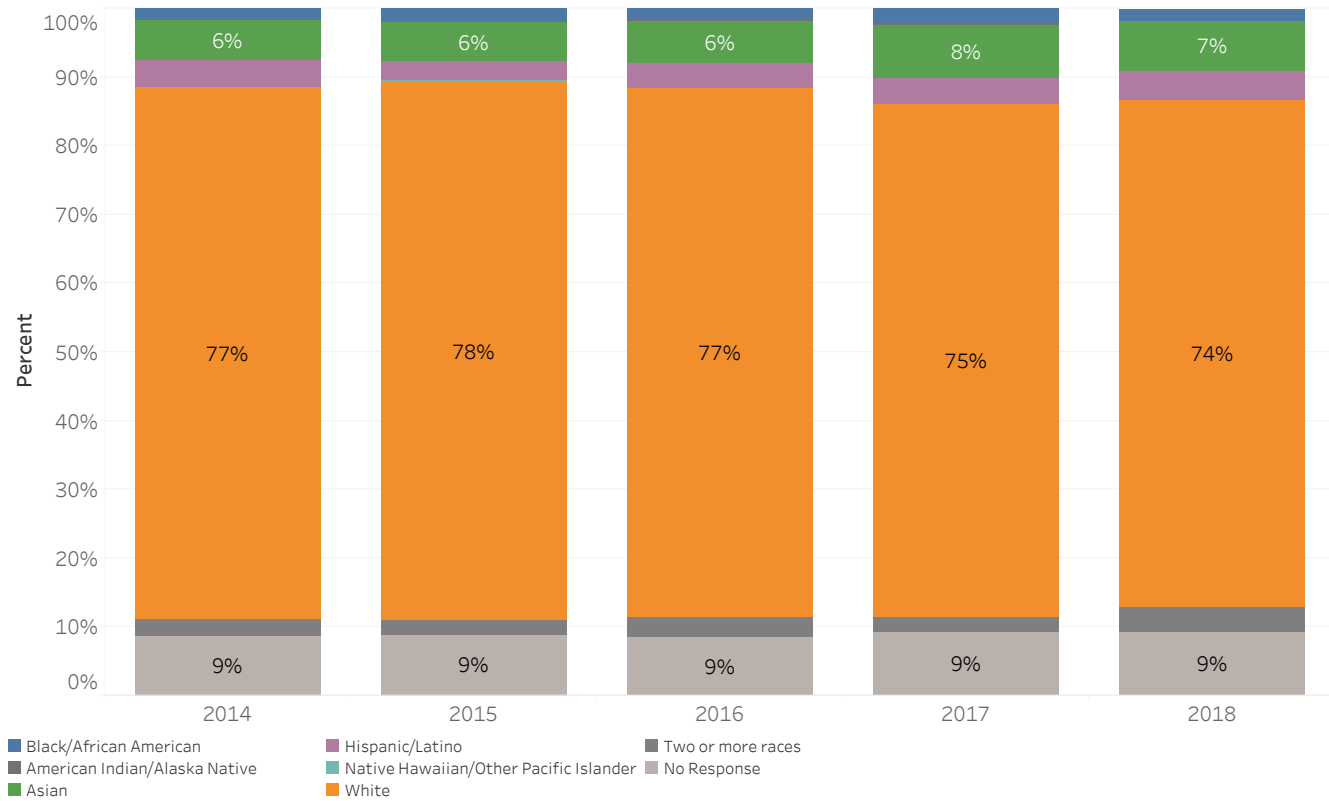
	State: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	State: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 0 CRBs	National: Those Attaining 3 or 4 CRBs
2014	10%	64%	31%	39%
2015	10%	65%	31%	40%
2016	9%	66%	34%	38%
2017	7%	72%	33%	39%
2018	8%	69%	35%	38%

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# NEW HAMPSHIRE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

Percent of 2014-2018 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
2014	2%	0%	6%	4%	0%	77%	2%	9%
2015	2%	0%	6%	3%	0%	78%	2%	9%
2016	2%	0%	6%	4%	0%	77%	3%	9%
2017	2%	0%	8%	4%	0%	75%	2%	9%
2018	2%	0%	7%	4%	0%	74%	4%	9%

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# NEW HAMPSHIRE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

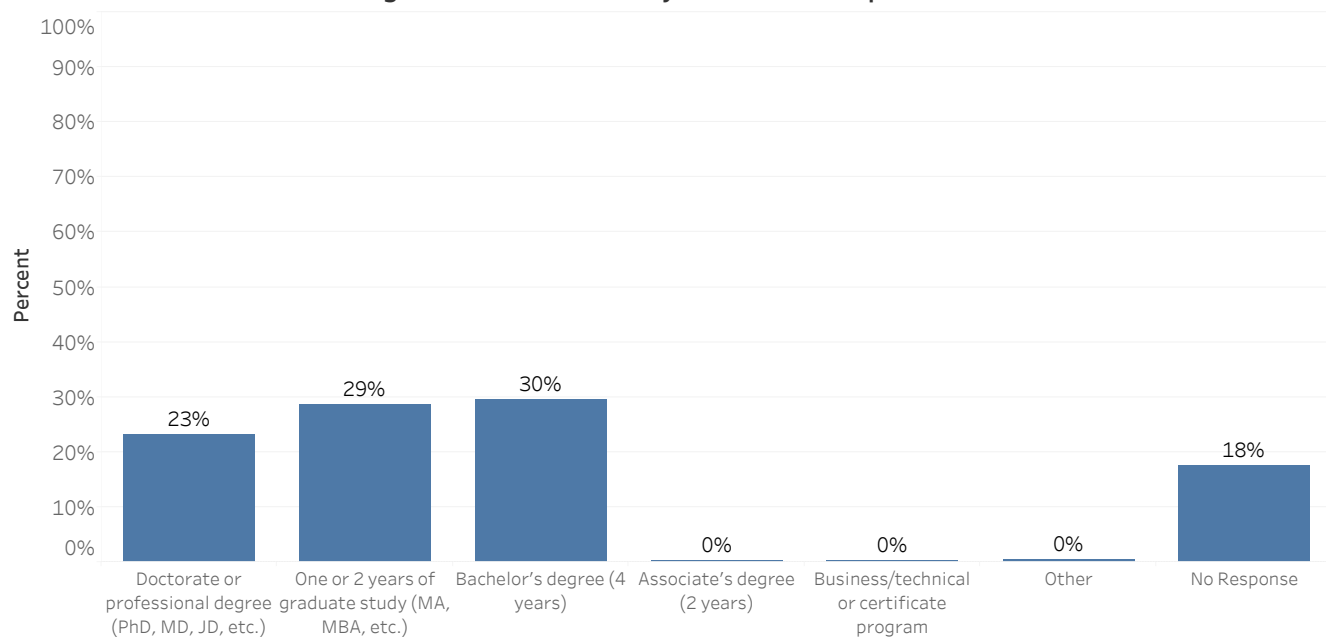
## Student Data Trends: 2014-2018, State vs. Nation

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
State N-count	3,179	3,487	3,407	2,856	2,440
National N-count	1,845,787	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817
Average ACT English Score - State	23.9	24.1	24.0	25.4	25.1
Average ACT English Score - National	20.3	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2
Average ACT Reading Score - State	24.5	24.7	25.1	26.0	25.6
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3
Average ACT Math Score - State	24.2	24.1	24.4	25.1	24.7
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.9	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5
Average ACT Science Score - State	23.6	23.9	24.1	24.9	24.4
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.8	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7
Average ACT Composite Score - State	24.2	24.3	24.5	25.5	25.1
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8

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# NEW HAMPSHIRE College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

## Percent of 2018 ACT-Tested High School Graduates by Educational Aspirations



### Data From Graph Above

	% of Graduates
Doctorate or professional degree (PhD, MD, JD, etc.)	23%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	29%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	30%
Associate's degree (2 years)	0%
Business/technical or certificate program	0%
Other	0%
No Response	18%

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