

The Condition of College & Career Readiness 2018

Oklahoma Key Findings

Performance

- In the 2018 Oklahoma graduating class, 42,388 graduates took the ACT test with a Composite score average of 19.3. This compares to 28,682 with an average of 20.7 in 2014. Nationally, 55% of 2018 graduates took the ACT with an average Composite score of 20.8.
 - ~ There were 2,635 African American graduates from Oklahoma who took the ACT (6 percent) with an average Composite score of 16.6. This compares to 2,806 (7 percent) with an average of 16.6, and 1,992 (7 percent) with an average of 17.5, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
 - ~ There were 2,724 American Indian graduates from Oklahoma who took the ACT (6 percent) with an average Composite score of 18.2. This compares to 2,958 (7 percent) with an average of 18.0, and 2,242 (8 percent) with an average of 19.3, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
 - ~ There were 19,532 White graduates from Oklahoma who took the ACT (46 percent) with an average Composite score of 20.5. This compares to 20,842 (49 percent) with an average of 20.5, and 16,008 (56 percent) with an average of 21.7, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
 - ~ There were 5,589 Hispanic graduates from Oklahoma who took the ACT (13 percent) with an average Composite score of 17.8. This compares to 5,616 (13 percent) with an average of 17.7, and 3,066 (11 percent) with an average of 18.9, for the 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
- The 2018 Oklahoma graduating class average English score was 18.4. This compares to 18.5 and 20.3 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Oklahoma graduating class average math score was 18.8. This compares to 18.8 and 19.9 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Oklahoma graduating class average reading score was 20.1. This compares to 20.1 and 21.5 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- The 2018 Oklahoma graduating class average science score was 19.4. This compares to 19.6 and 20.8 in 2017 and 2014, respectively.
- In 2018, 16 percent of Oklahoma graduates met all four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 16 and 22 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - ~ In 2018, 43 percent of Oklahoma graduates met zero ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 42 and 30 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - ~ In 2018, 50 percent of Oklahoma graduates met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 52 and 66 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - 2018 Oklahoma graduates taking more advanced English coursework demonstrated markedly higher average English scores than those who did not. In fact, 56 percent of Oklahoma 2018 graduates taking four or more years of English met the ACT English College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 29 percent of students taking less than four years of English meeting the benchmark.

- ~ In 2018, 26 percent of Oklahoma graduates met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 26 and 35 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - 2018 Oklahoma graduates taking more advanced math coursework demonstrated markedly higher average math scores than those who did not. In fact, 30 percent of Oklahoma 2018 graduates taking three or more years of math met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 5 percent of students taking less than three years of math meeting the benchmark.
- ~ In 2018, 39 percent of Oklahoma graduates met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 39 and 45 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - 2018 Oklahoma graduates taking more advanced social studies coursework demonstrated markedly higher average reading scores than those who did not. In fact, 44 percent of Oklahoma 2018 graduates taking three or more years of social studies met the ACT Reading College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 28 percent of students taking less than three years of social studies meeting the benchmark.
- ~ In 2018, 26 percent of Oklahoma graduates met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 26 and 35 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
 - 2018 Oklahoma graduates taking more advanced science coursework demonstrated markedly higher average science scores than those who did not. In fact, 35 percent of Oklahoma 2018 graduates taking three or more years of science met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark. This compares to 16 percent of students taking less than three years of science meeting the benchmark.
- In 2018, 11,285 (27 percent) of Oklahoma graduates met three or four ACT College Readiness Benchmarks. This compares to 11,568 and 10,203 (27 and 36 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, 5 percent of Oklahoma graduates took the ACT with extended time. This compares to 4 and 3 percent of 2017 and 2014 graduates, respectively.
- 60 percent of 2018 Oklahoma graduates were Below Proficient in understanding complex texts.

STEM

- In 2018, 17,896 Oklahoma graduates (42 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 Oklahoma graduating class average ACT STEM score of 19.4, graduates in 2017 and 2014 had STEM averages of 19.5 and 20.6, respectively.
- 2018 Oklahoma graduates meeting the ACT STEM College Readiness Benchmark had an average science score of 28.6. This compares to 28.5 in 2014.
 - ~ 2018 graduates taking physics had an average science score of 21.4, compared to 19.0 for students not taking physics.
 - ~ 41 percent of 2018 Oklahoma graduates taking physics met the ACT Science College Readiness Benchmark, compared to 22 for students not taking physics.
- In 2018, 32,533 Oklahoma graduates (77 percent) indicated taking three or more years of math. This compares to 82 and 93 percent for 2017 and 2014 graduating classes, respectively.
 - ~ 2018 graduates taking three or more years of math had an average math score of 19.4, compared to 15.8 for students taking less than three years of math.
 - ~ 30 percent of 2018 graduates taking three or more years of math met the ACT Math College Readiness Benchmark, compared to 5 percent for students taking less than three years of math.

Career Readiness

- In 2018, 6,754 Oklahoma graduates (16 percent) were likely to attain the Gold ACT WorkKeys® National Career Readiness Certificate® or higher based upon ACT Composite score, compared to 499,653 (26 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.”
- NCRC recipients with just a high school diploma/GED can expect earnings above those with a similar level of education and geographic location.

Impact

- Based on the actual test volume and ACT score distributions of 2018 ACT-tested Oklahoma high school graduates, ACT research estimates that an increase of 0.1 in state average ACT Composite score for the 2018 graduating class would result in:
 - ~ 109 more students enrolling in college.
 - ~ 120 more students persisting to year two.
 - ~ 92 fewer students needing remedial English.
 - ~ 154 fewer students needing remedial math.
 - ~ 126 more students persisting to year four.
 - ~ 132 more students earning a postsecondary degree within six years.

Behaviors that Impact Access and Opportunity

- In Oklahoma, 23,658 of the 2018 graduates (55.8%) taking the ACT two or more times had an average Composite score of 21.1, compared to an average of 17.1 for 18,730 of the 2018 graduates (44.2%) who took the ACT only once.
- 84,771 score reports were sent to colleges by 2018 Oklahoma ACT-tested graduates.
 - ~ 52,361 score reports were sent to in-state public colleges by 2018 Oklahoma ACT-tested graduates.
 - ~ For Oklahoma’s 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top five schools to which scores were sent were University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, University of Central Oklahoma, Northeastern State University, and University of Tulsa.
 - ~ For Oklahoma’s 2018 ACT-tested graduates, the top three out-of-state schools to which scores were sent were University of Arkansas, Baylor University, and University of Kansas.
- In the 2017-2018 academic year, ACT issued 10,261 ACT fee waivers to qualified Oklahoma students. However, 2,822 students (27.5 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. Fee waivers represent a great opportunity for students of low socioeconomic status to retest without incurring any fees. Note: this is the number of fee waivers issued for the state, not specific to this graduating class.

Pipeline

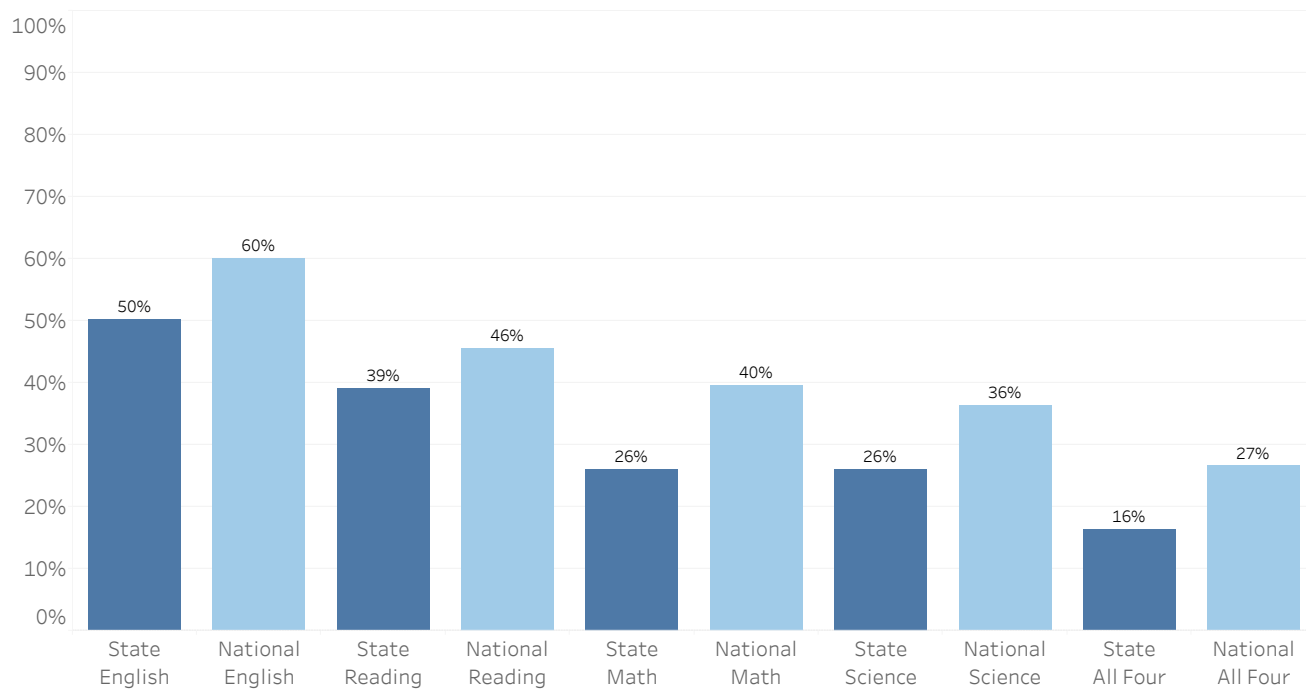
- Aspirations matter. Students who aspire to a higher level of postsecondary education typically achieve higher ACT Composite scores.
 - ~ 10,870 students (26 percent) aspired to attain a graduate or professional degree. They had an average Composite score of 22.3.
 - ~ 16,428 students (39 percent) aspired to attain a bachelor's degree. They had an average Composite score of 19.6.
- In the Oklahoma graduating class of 2018, 8,225 students (19 percent) had parents who did not attend college.
- In order of prevalence, the five most commonly indicated college majors of interest for 2018 Oklahoma graduates were: Undecided; Nursing, Registered (BS/RN); Medicine (Pre-Medicine); Business Administration and Management, General; and Mechanical Engineering.
 - ~ In the Oklahoma graduating class of 2018, 1,332 (3 percent) indicated planning on majoring in education. They had an average Composite score of 19.6.

Additional Points

- According to the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, the fastest-growing careers in Oklahoma requiring education beyond high school are: Computer Numerically Controlled Machine Tool Programmers (Metal and Plastic), Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators (Metal and Plastic), Operations Research Analysts, Cartographers and Photogrammetrists, Statisticians.

OKLAHOMA 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

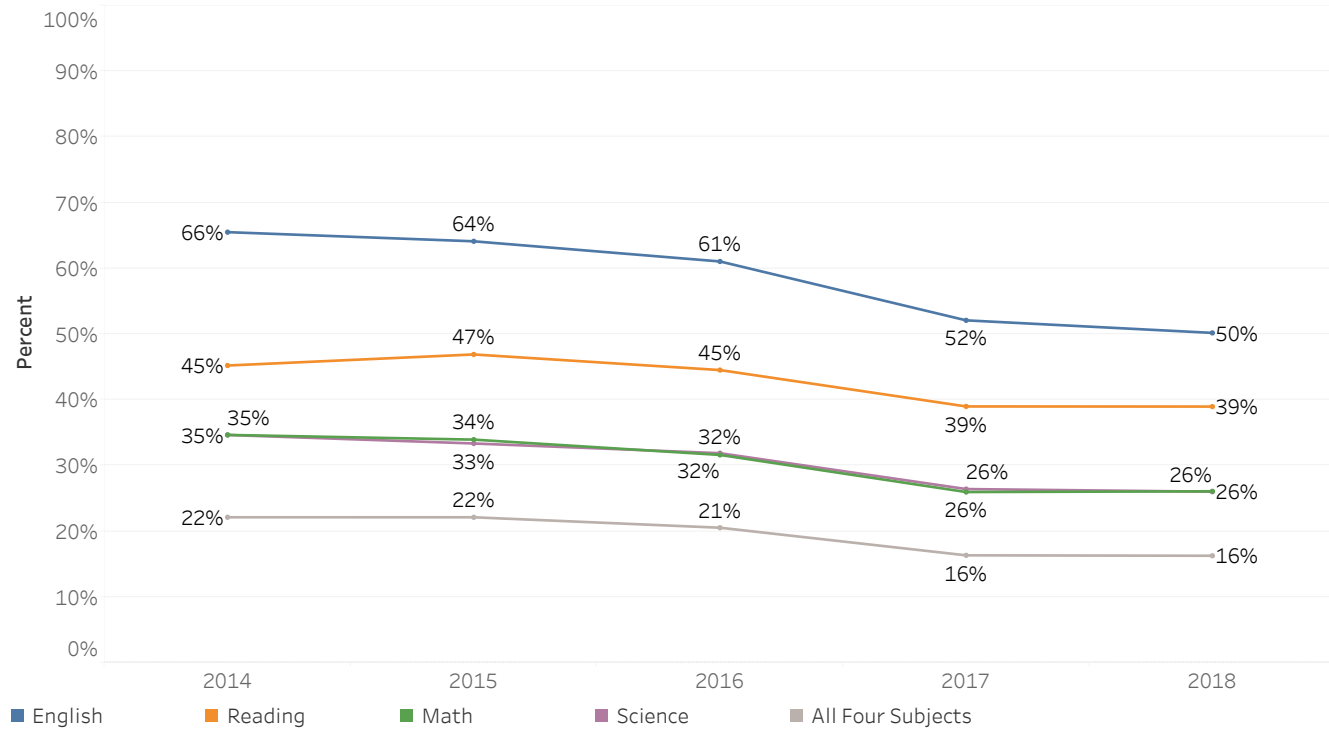
State English	National English	State Reading	National Reading	State Math	National Math	State Science	National Science	State All Four	National All Four
50%	60%	39%	46%	26%	40%	26%	36%	16%	27%

* 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.

OKLAHOMA 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

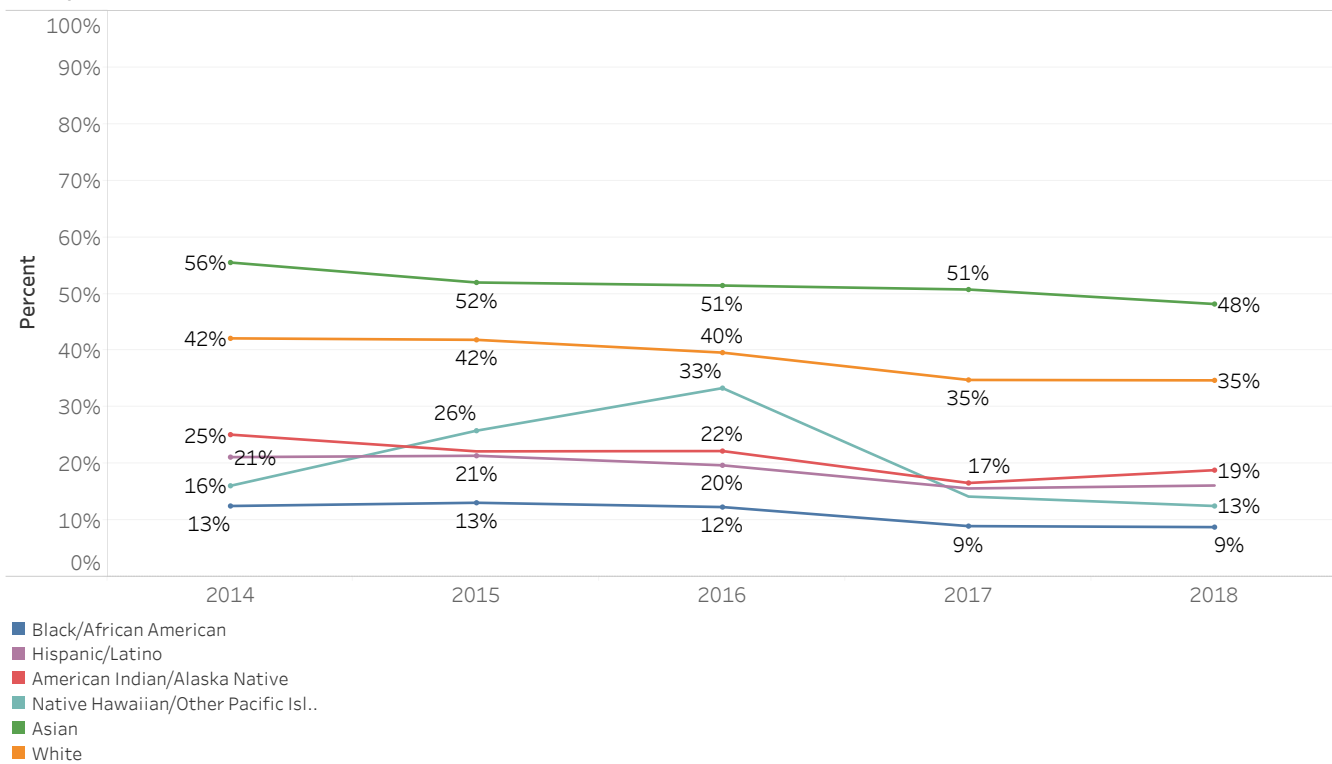
	English	Reading	Math	Science	All Four Subjects
2014	66%	45%	35%	35%	22%
2015	64%	47%	34%	33%	22%
2016	61%	45%	32%	32%	21%
2017	52%	39%	26%	26%	16%
2018	50%	39%	26%	26%	16%

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OKLAHOMA 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



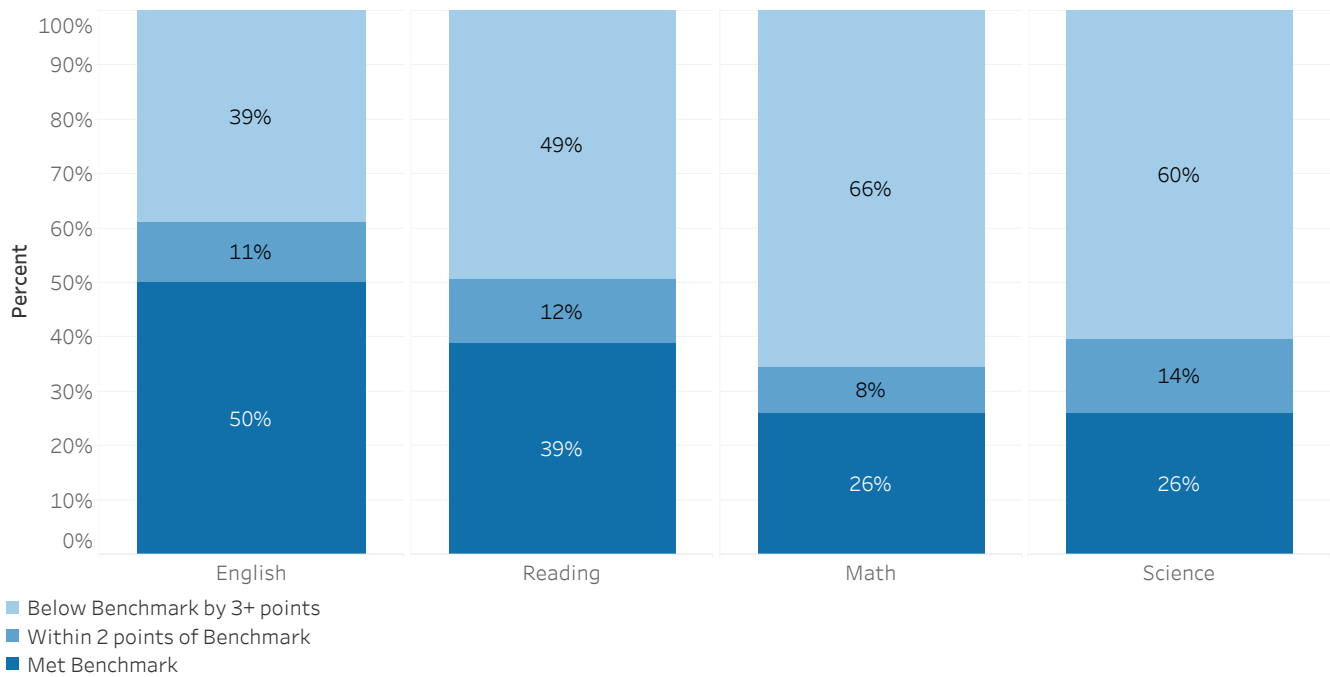
Data From Graph Above

	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Asian	White
2014	13%	21%	25%	16%	56%	42%
2015	13%	21%	22%	26%	52%	42%
2016	12%	20%	22%	33%	51%	40%
2017	9%	16%	17%	14%	51%	35%
2018	9%	16%	19%	13%	48%	35%

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OKLAHOMA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



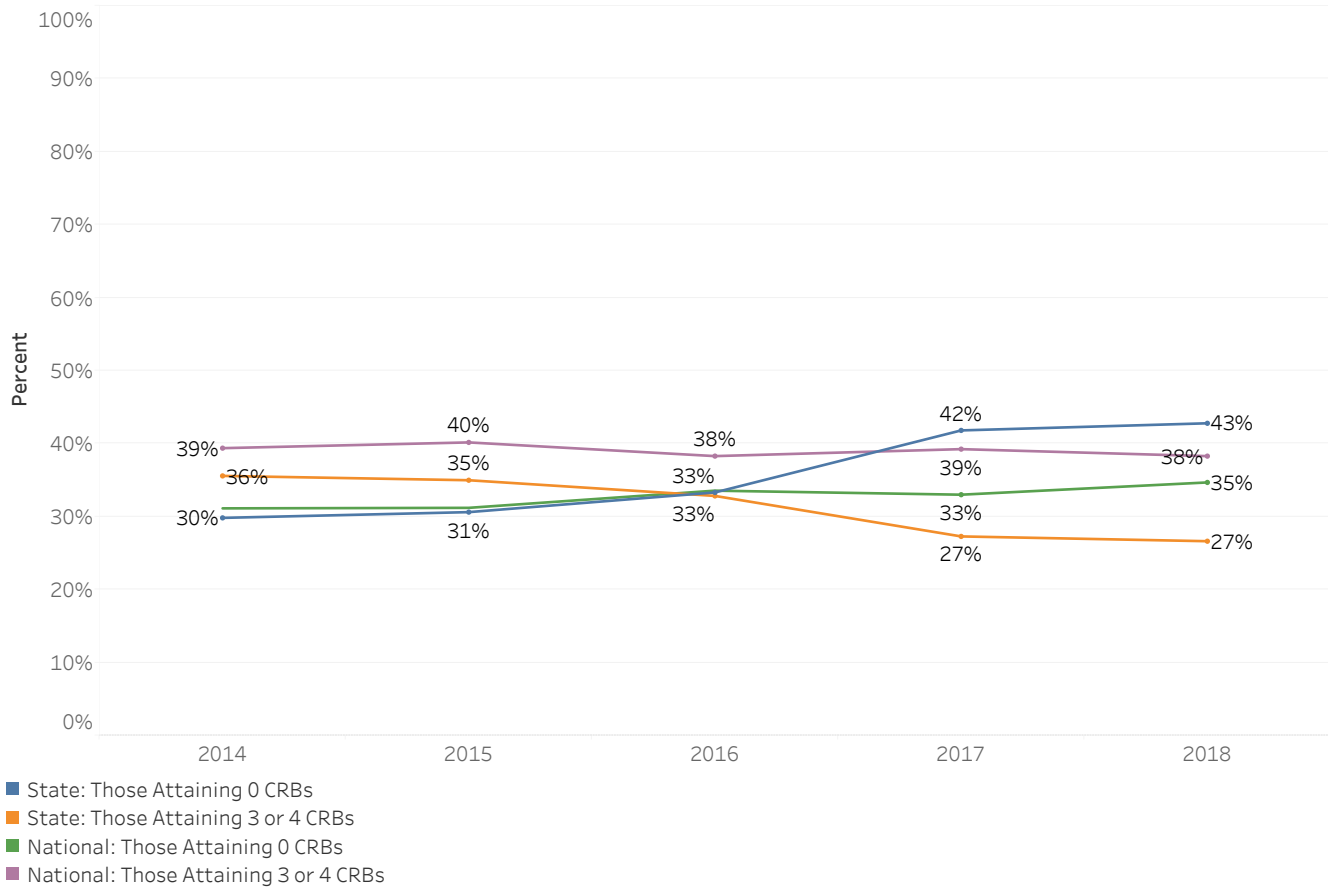
Data From Graph Above

	Below Benchmark by 3+ points	Within 2 points of Benchmark	Met Benchmark
English	39%	11%	50%
Math	66%	8%	26%
Reading	49%	12%	39%
Science	60%	14%	26%

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OKLAHOMA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

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



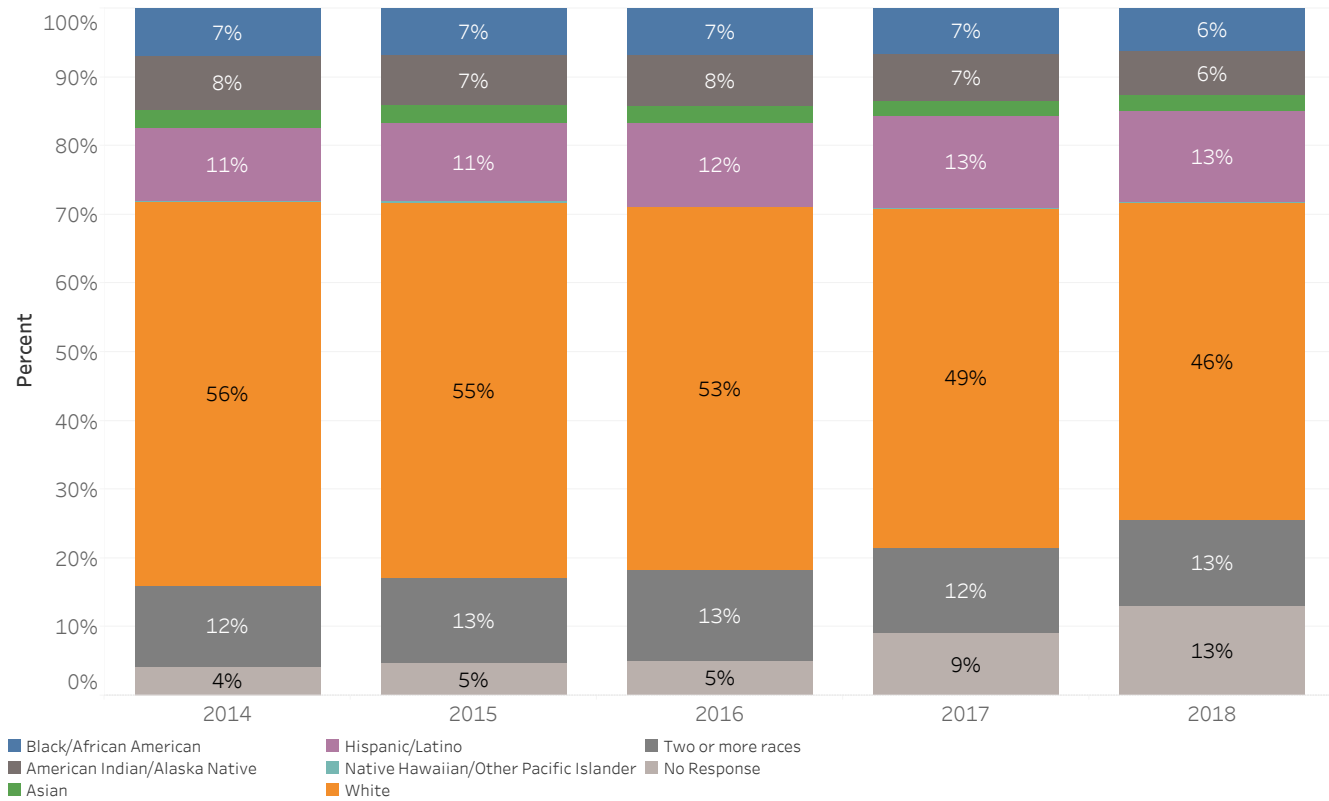
Data from Graph Above

	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	30%	36%	31%	39%
2015	31%	35%	31%	40%
2016	33%	33%	34%	38%
2017	42%	27%	33%	39%
2018	43%	27%	35%	38%

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OKLAHOMA 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	7%	8%	3%	11%	0%	56%	12%	4%
2015	7%	7%	3%	11%	0%	55%	13%	5%
2016	7%	8%	3%	12%	0%	53%	13%	5%
2017	7%	7%	2%	13%	0%	49%	12%	9%
2018	6%	6%	2%	13%	0%	46%	13%	13%

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OKLAHOMA College and Career Readiness Attainment, Participation, and Opportunity

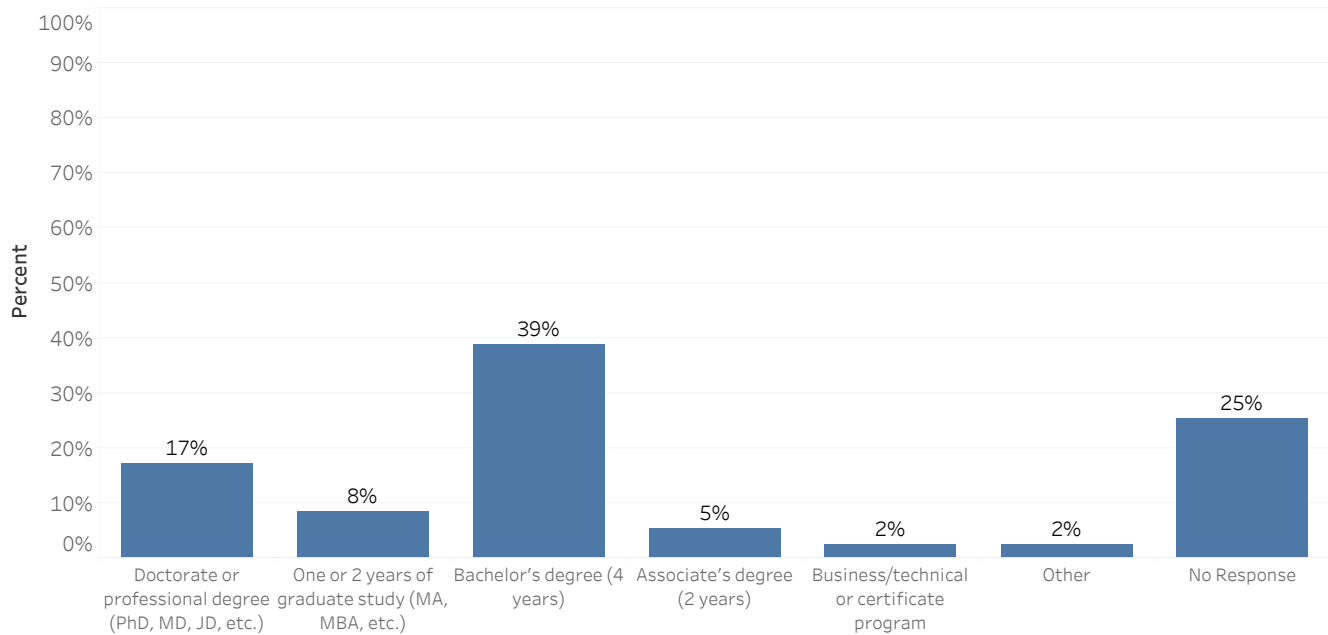
Student Data Trends: 2014-2018, State vs. Nation

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
State N-count	28,682	30,844	32,854	42,405	42,388
National N-count	1,845,787	1,924,436	2,090,342	2,030,038	1,914,817
Average ACT English Score - State	20.3	20.1	19.8	18.5	18.4
Average ACT English Score - National	20.3	20.4	20.1	20.3	20.2
Average ACT Reading Score - State	21.5	21.5	21.3	20.1	20.1
Average ACT Reading Score - National	21.3	21.4	21.3	21.4	21.3
Average ACT Math Score - State	19.9	19.8	19.5	18.8	18.8
Average ACT Math Score - National	20.9	20.8	20.6	20.7	20.5
Average ACT Science Score - State	20.8	20.7	20.5	19.6	19.4
Average ACT Science Score - National	20.8	20.9	20.8	21.0	20.7
Average ACT Composite Score - State	20.7	20.7	20.4	19.4	19.3
Average ACT Composite Score - National	21.0	21.0	20.8	21.0	20.8

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OKLAHOMA 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.)	17%
One or 2 years of graduate study (MA, MBA, etc.)	8%
Bachelor's degree (4 years)	39%
Associate's degree (2 years)	5%
Business/technical or certificate program	2%
Other	2%
No Response	25%

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