



Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
DATE: February 26, 2019
SUBJECT: 2018 Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Results

PURPOSE:

To provide requested information to the State Board of Education regarding the demographics of Advanced Placement exams taken in 2018.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Data include:

- A description of the number of exams taken by Maryland public school students in 2018, including number of exams taken by students in each race/ethnicity, service, and gender student group
- A comparison of the share of exams taken by students in each student group to each group's enrollment share
- A description of the percent of exams passed in 2018, overall and by student group
- A comparison of the percent of exams passed and the percent of the graduating class passing at least one exam, over the past five years

ACTION:

No action is necessary, for discussion only.

2018 Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Results



STATE BOARD MEETING

February 26, 2019

2018 Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Results

1. Description of available data
2. 2018 AP exam overview—participation and pass rate
3. Overall AP exam participation by student group
4. AP exam participation by student group and test subject
5. AP exam pass rates by student group

Description of Available Data: “2018 Exams” Taken/Passed

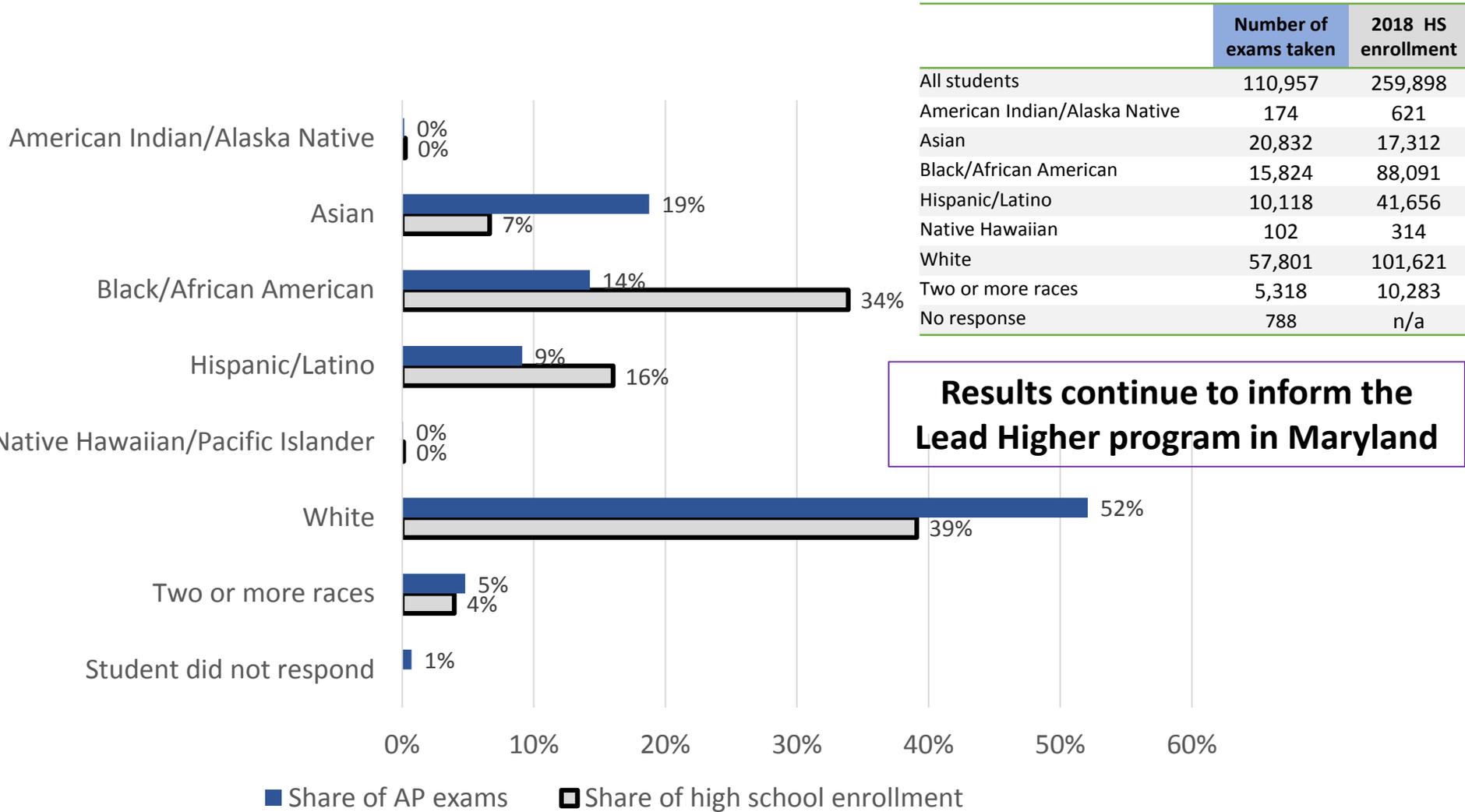
- The following “2018 Exams” data are the *exams* that were taken and passed in 2018 by Maryland public school students, in *all grades*.
- A *student* may appear in the “2018 Exams” data more than once, if he or she took more than one exam.
- The “2018 Exams” data are *not* participation and pass rates of the *Class of 2018* (as reported by the College Board, February 2019)

Advanced Placement in Maryland Overview: 2018 Participation and Pass Rate

- Maryland public school students took a total of 110,164 AP exams in 2018.
 - Students took about 1,500 less exams than in 2017.
 - 58,542 students took at least one AP exam, an average of 1.9 exams each.
- The most popular subject areas are social studies (36,277 exams), science (31,127), and English (21,096).
- The AP exam pass rate for Maryland public school students was 65.4 percent, an increase of 2.5 percentage points from 2017.
 - National 2018 exam pass rate: 57.5 percent*
 - Other state 2018 exam pass rates: 67.6% (MA), 69.4% (CT), 52.6% (FL)*

*Comparisons are based on available data, which include all students (not just public school students)

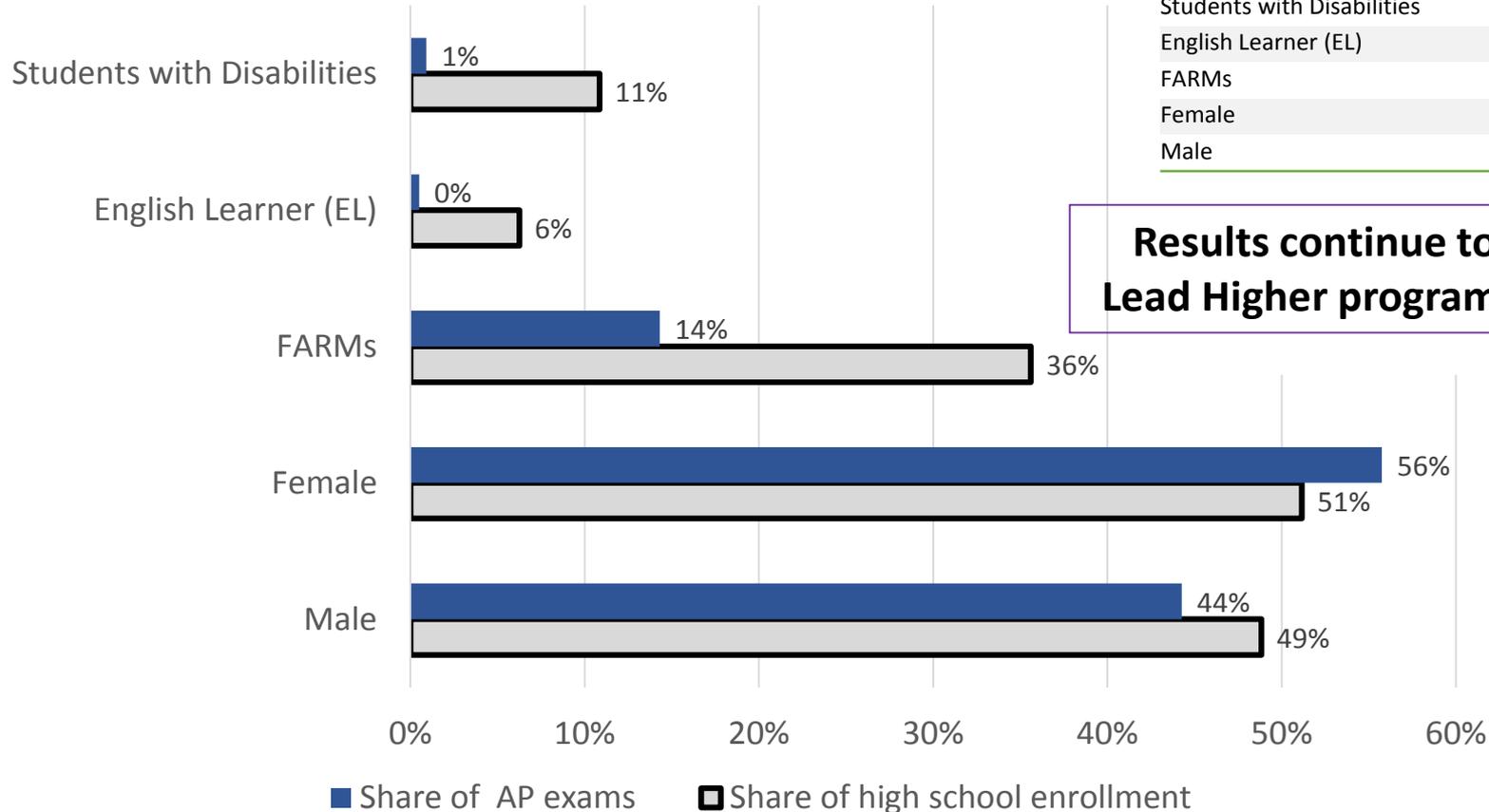
Share of 2018 AP exams taken by student group, compared to share of high school total enrollment.



Results continue to inform the Lead Higher program in Maryland

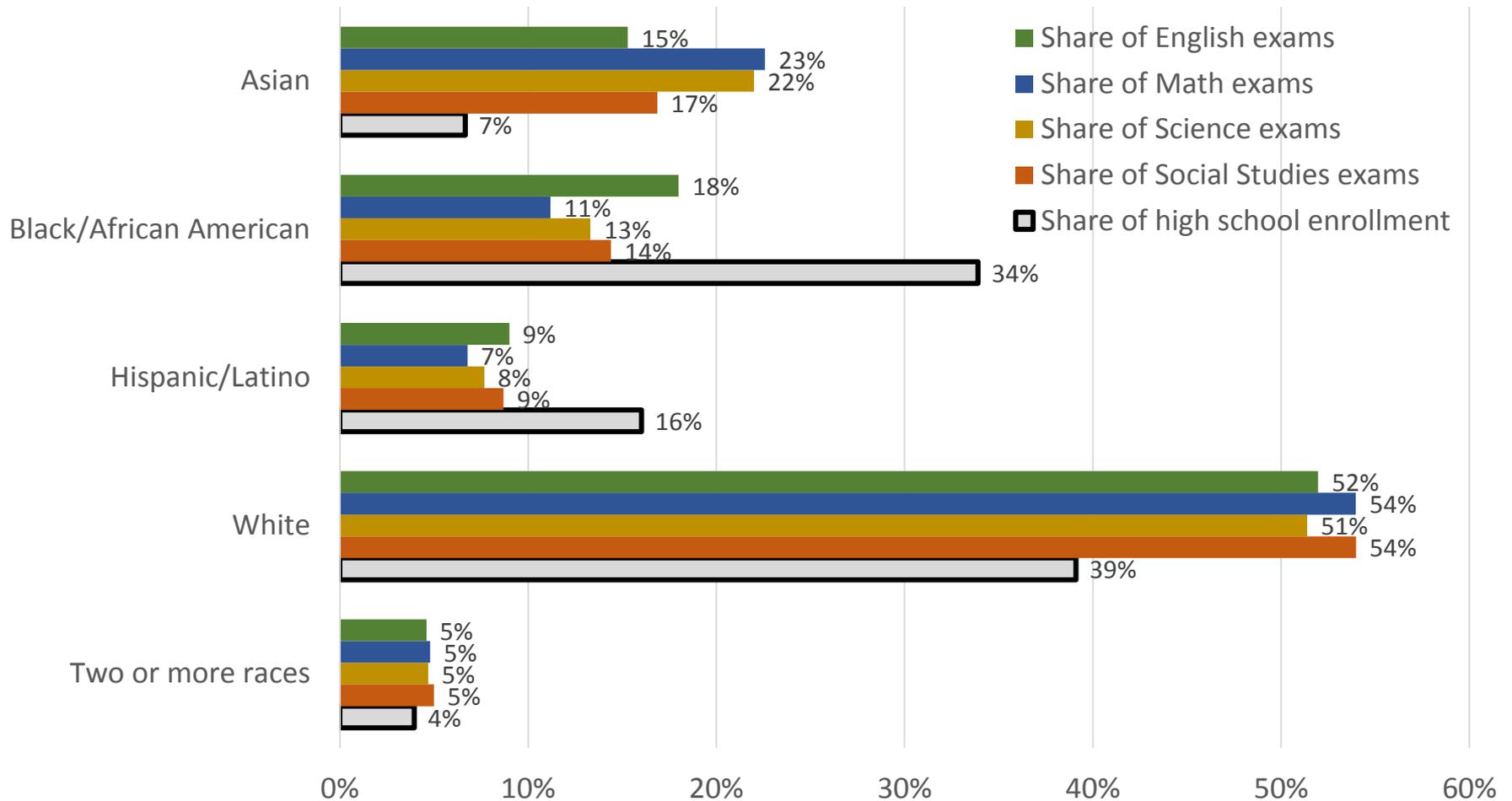
Share of 2018 AP exams taken by student group, compared to share of high school total enrollment.

	Number of exams taken	2018 HS enrollment
All students	110,957	259,898
Students with Disabilities	1,012	28,211
English Learner (EL)	554	16,258
FARMs	15,872	92,530
Female	61,849	132,978
Male	49,108	126,920

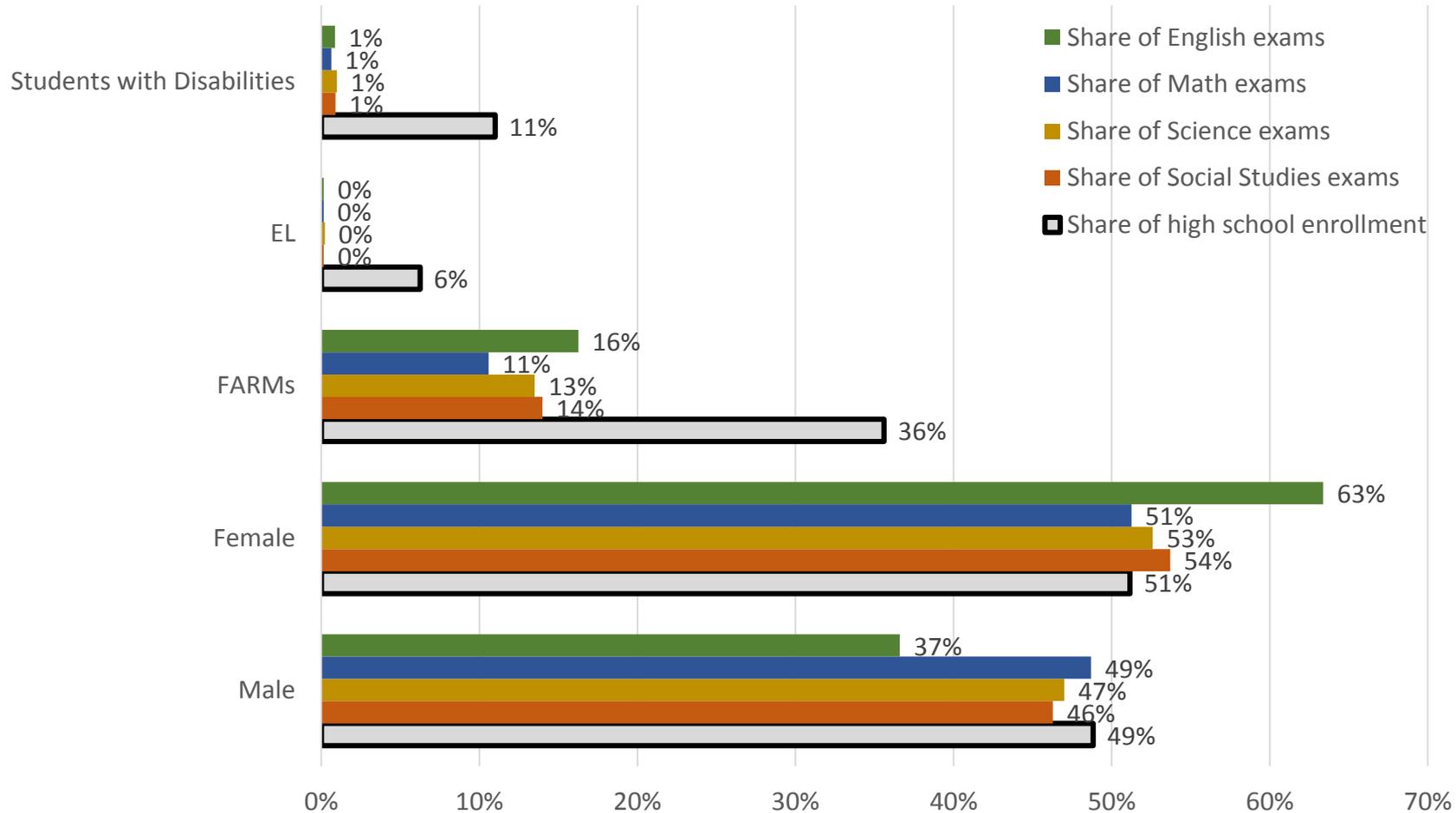


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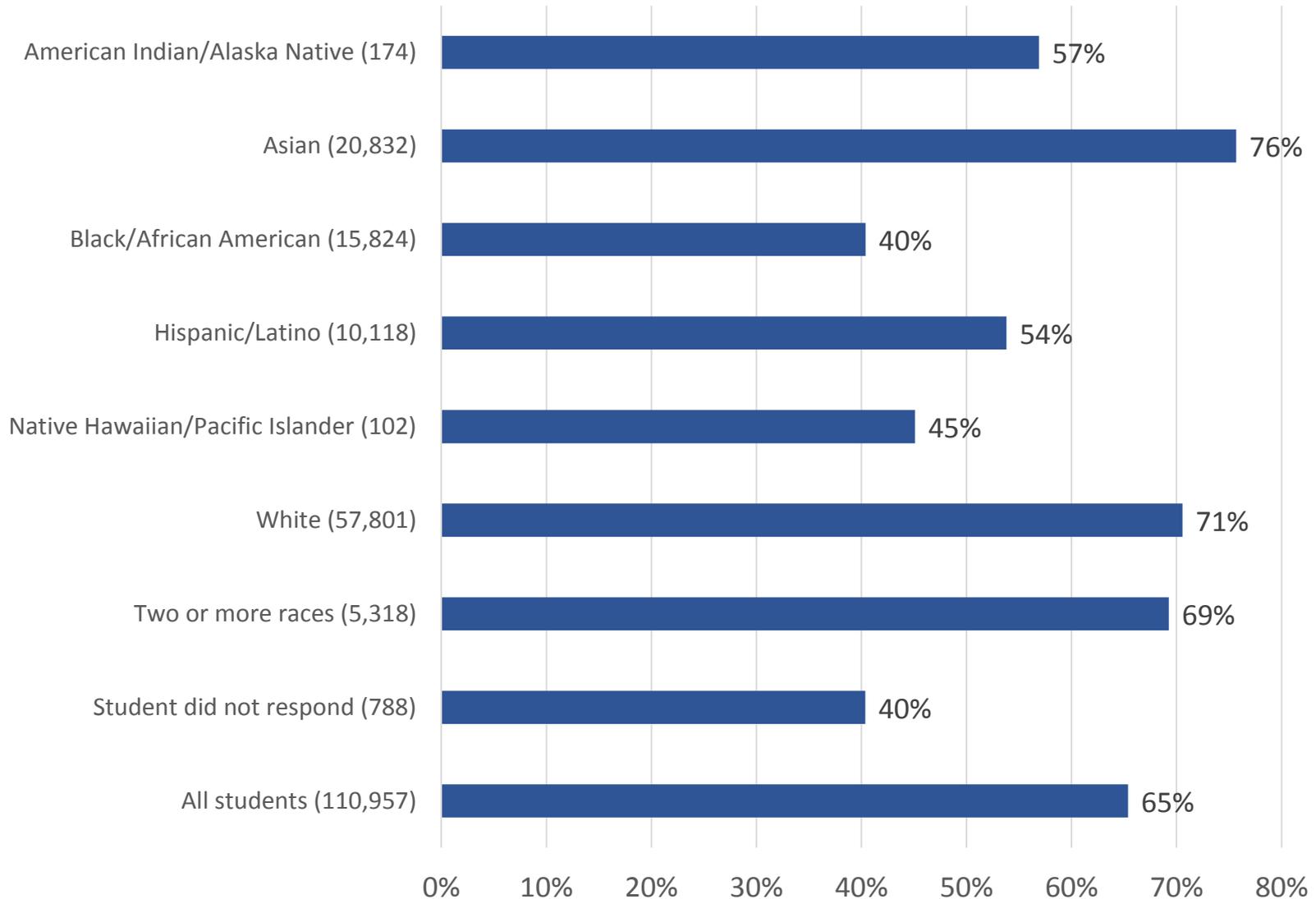
Share of 2018 AP exams by subject, taken by student group, compared to share of total enrollment.



Share of 2018 AP exams by subject, taken by student group, compared to share of total enrollment.

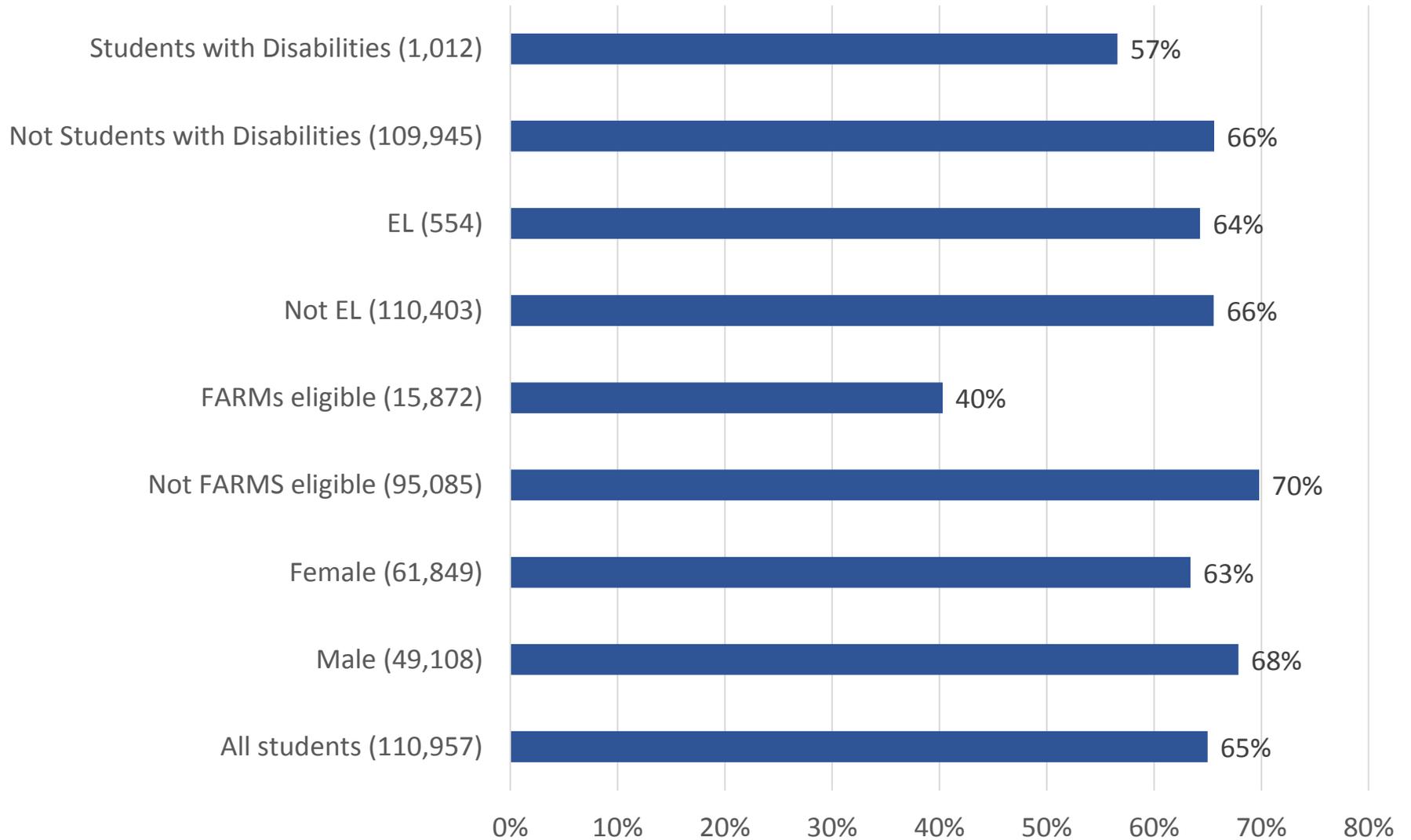


2018 AP exam pass rates (and exams taken) by student group



NOTE: Demographics of AP exam test takers are self-reported.

2018 AP exam pass rates (and exams taken) by student group



AP exam pass rate by year, compared to “Class of” data as reported by College Board

Exam year*	Percent of exams passed*	Student-reported graduating class**	Percent of graduating class passing at least one exam in high school**
Exams taken in 2018	65.4%	Class of 2018	31.6%
Exams taken in 2017	63.0%	Class of 2017	31.2%
Exams taken in 2016	62.0%	Class of 2016	30.4%
Exams taken in 2015	61.0%	Class of 2015	30.6%
Exams taken in 2014	61.0%	Class of 2014	27.7%

*Source: Calculated from MSDE data

**Source: College Board AP Cohort Data Reports. Numbers are an estimate of the pass rate of the graduating class, since the College Board relies on self-reported data from students at the time the exam is taken. In future years, MSDE can calculate this rate internally using data compiled for accountability.

2018 AP exam pass rate by year and “Class of 2018” data

	2018 EXAMS*								CLASS OF 2018**	
	TOTAL	Average Score	3+	1	2	3	4	5	Class of 2018 Participation Rate	Class of 2018 Pass Rate
Nation	5,090,324	2.89	59.0%	17.9%	23.1%	24.9%	19.9%	14.2%	25.1%	23.5%
Maryland	127,155	3.10	65.7%	13.1%	21.2%	25.6%	22.3%	17.7%	36.9%	31.6%
Massachusetts	124,064	3.17	67.6%	12.4%	20.0%	25.2%	23.3%	19.1%	27.8%	32.9%
Connecticut	69,640	3.21	69.4%	11.8%	18.9%	25.6%	24.5%	19.3%	27.5%	32.2%
Florida	398,873	2.69	52.6%	22.4%	25.0%	24.3%	17.5%	10.7%	36.1%	31.7%

*Source: College Board AP Program Participation and Performance Data 2018

**Source: College Board AP Cohort Data Reports. Numbers are an estimate of the pass rate of the graduating class, since the College Board relies on self-reported data from students at the time the exam is taken. In future years, MSDE can calculate this rate internally using data compiled for accountability.

NOTE: Data represents all students in the state/nation