



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

TO: Members of the Maryland State Board of Education

FROM: Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.

DATE: February 26, 2019

SUBJECT: Maryland 4-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation and Dropout Rates

The following confidential information is provided for your personal information. The data are embargoed until the State Board meeting on Tuesday, February 26, 2019.

The 2018 4-year Cohort Graduation and Dropout Rate results will be provided to you at the State Board meeting on February 26, 2019. This confidential memorandum provides you with information and highlights of the 2018 graduation rate.

The Cohort Graduation Rate

The 4-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) provides a measure of the percent of students that successfully complete high school in 4 years with a regular high school diploma. A 4-year ACGR is defined as the number of students who graduate in 4 years with a regular high school diploma divided by the number of students who form the adjusted cohort for that graduating class. The term “adjusted cohort” means the students who enter grade 9 plus any students who transfer into the cohort in grades 9-12 minus any students who are removed from the cohort because they transferred out, moved out of the country, or were deceased.

In Maryland the 2018 4-year cohort includes students that were first time ninth graders in 2014-2015 and graduated by and including the summer of 2018. The 4-year cohort graduation rate was first calculated for the class of 2010.

The Cohort Dropout Rate

With the capacity to calculate the cohort graduation rate we also have the ability to calculate a dropout rate for each cohort. This rate includes as dropouts those students who did not graduate after four years but did not return for a fifth year. The 4-year adjusted cohort dropout rate is defined as the number of students who leave school, for any reason other than death, within the four year period divided by the number of students in the adjusted cohort. The 4-year cohort dropout rate was first calculated for the class of 2010.

Results

The 4-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate for the Class of 2018 was 87.12 percent, which amounts to a 0.55 percentage point decrease from the 2017 rate of 87.67 percent. The Class of 2018 4-year Cohort Dropout Rate has increased 0.17 percentage points from 2017 to 8.38 percent.

Below in Table 1 is Cohort Graduation Rate information for the Class of 2017 and 2018 by student group populations. For the class of 2017 both the 4-Year and 5-year Cohort Graduation Rates are provided. The 5-year Cohort Graduation Rate for 2018 will be calculated fall 2019.

Table 1. Cohort Graduation Rate information for the Class of 2017 and 2018 by student group populations

	Class of 2018	Class of 2017	
	4-Year Rate	4-Year Rate	5-Year Rate
All Students	87.12	87.67	89.21
Hispanic	72.24	73.98	77.20
American Indian	89.94	86.00	89.12
Asian	96.46	96.28	97.04
African American	84.76	85.44	87.51
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	83.78	89.23	93.75
White	93.16	92.66	93.34
Two or More Races	90.17	90.75	91.75
Students with Disabilities	66.84	67.48	71.31
FARMS	78.77	79.30	82.26
English Learners	50.96	45.31	52.96

CONCLUSION:

Data will be reported on the Maryland Report Card website at 12:00 p.m. on February 26, 2019. School and central office staff will review, analyze, and interpret this information, share it with their school communities, and use it as a planning tool to guide actions to improve the learning of all students.

ACTION:

For information only. No action required.

Attachments (4)

- Cohort01_Grad_Rate_Four_Year
- Cohort02_Grad_Rate_Four_Year_by_Subgroup
- Cohort04_Dropout_Rate
- Cohort05_Dropout_Rate_by_Subgroup

Cohort Graduation and Dropout Rates



STATE BOARD MEETING
February 26, 2019

What is a “Cohort”?

❑ **Graduation Cohort**

- A group of students who begin as first-time ninth graders in a particular school year
 - Adjusted by student transfers or death

❑ **Drop-out Cohort**

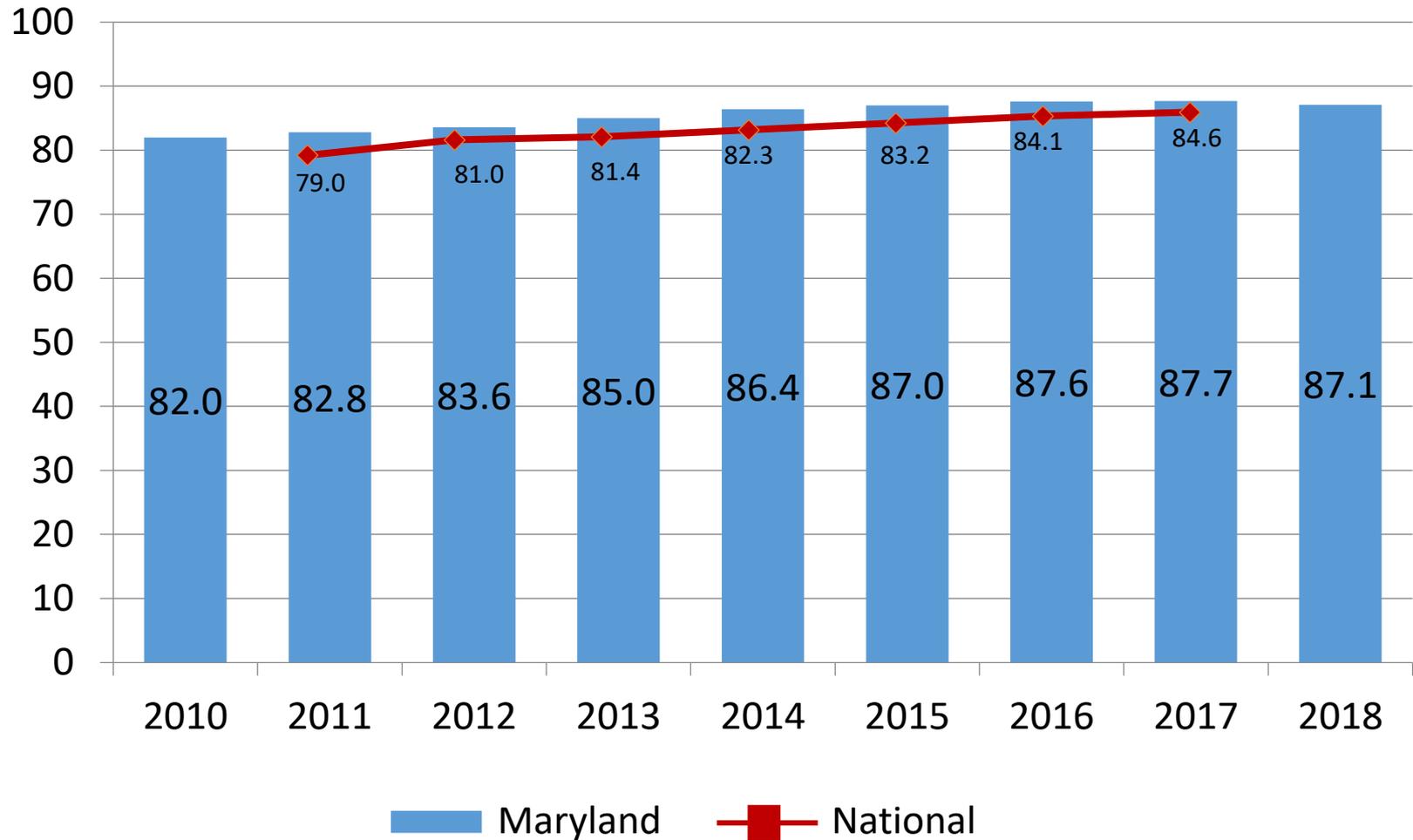
- Students who terminate formal education during high school

❑ **Class of 2018 Cohort**

- First-time 9th graders in 2014 - 2015

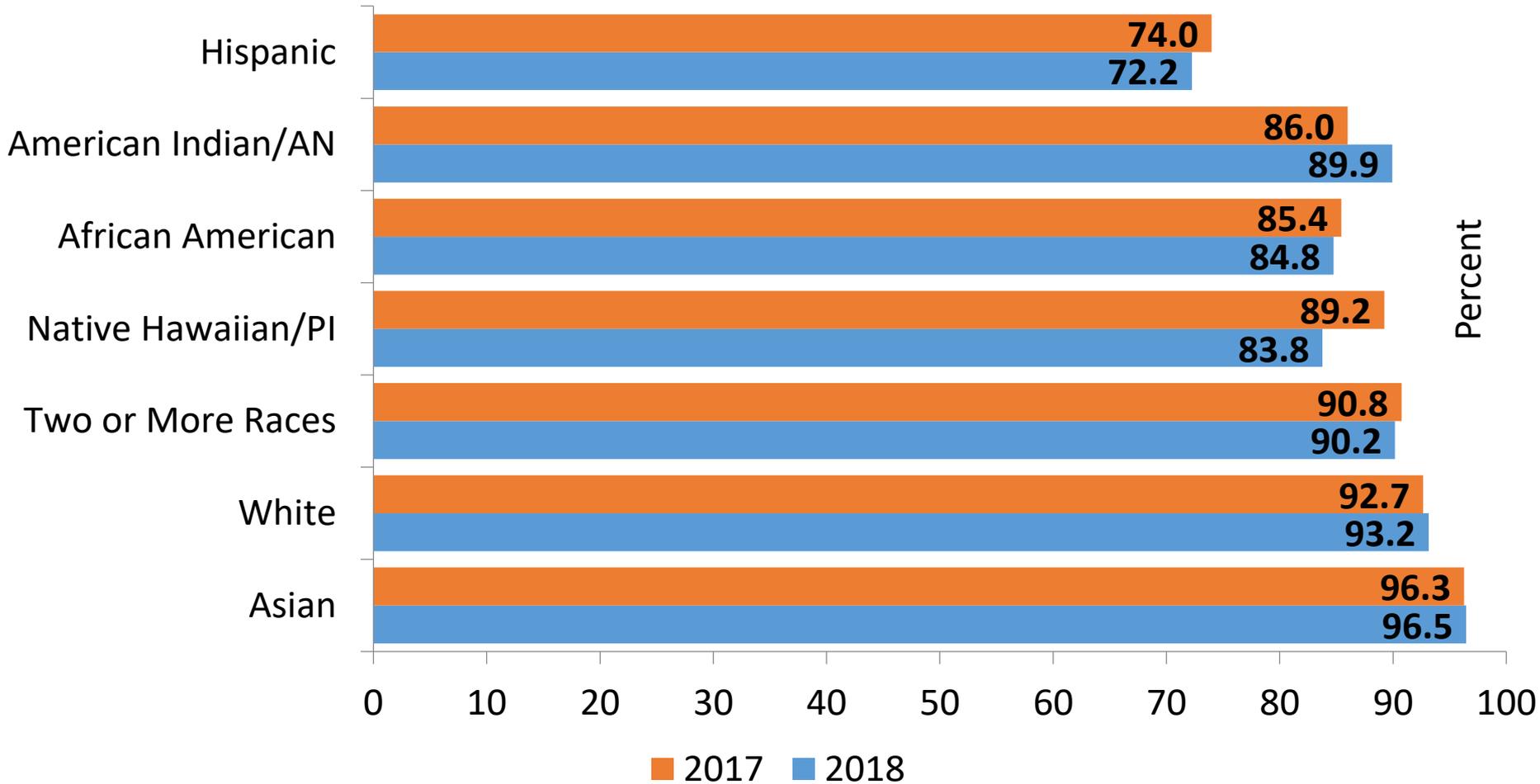


Percent of Students Graduating on Time Each Year

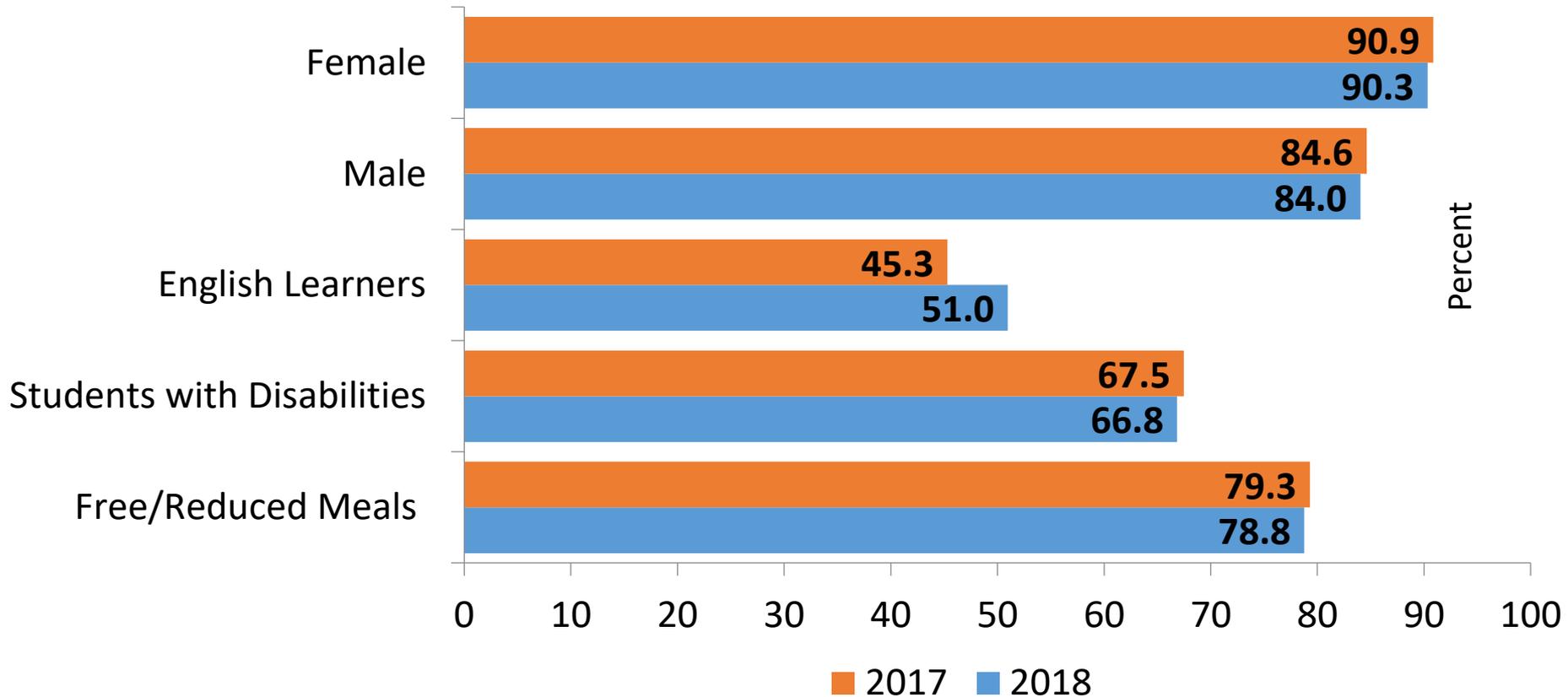


Note: 2018 national public high school 4-year cohort graduation data not available

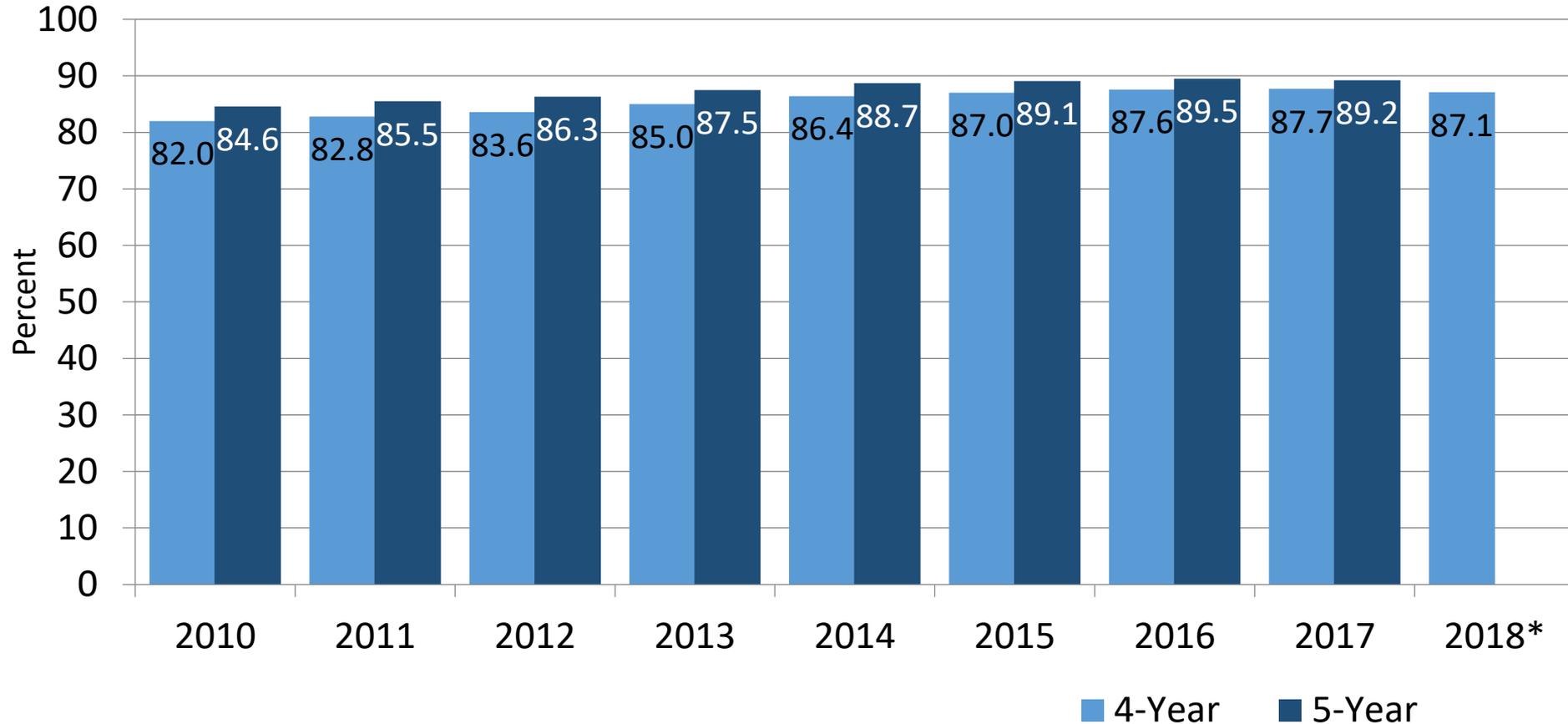
Cohort Graduation Rate for Racial Groups



Cohort Graduation Rate for Student Groups



4-Year vs. 5-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates



*2018 5-Year Cohort Graduation Rate Available Fall of 2019

4-Year Cohort Dropout Rates

