

**Table 143.—Percent of public high school graduates earning minimum credits in selected combinations of academic courses, by sex and race/ethnicity: 1982 to 1998**

Year of graduation and course combinations taken <sup>1</sup>	All students	Sex		Race/ethnicity				
		Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian/ Alaskan Native
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>1982 graduates</b>								
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math, .5 Comp., and 2 F.L. <sup>2</sup> .....	2.0	2.3	1.8	2.4	0.7	0.6	5.8	1.1
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math, and 2 F.L. ....	9.5	9.1	9.9	10.9	5.2	3.9	17.0	3.3
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math .....	14.3	15.2	13.4	15.9	11.0	6.7	21.1	8.1
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 2 Sci., 2 Math .....	31.5	31.7	31.3	32.4	30.8	25.6	32.0	23.6
<b>1987 graduates</b>								
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math, .5 Comp., and 2 F.L. <sup>2</sup> .....	10.6	11.5	9.8	11.3	6.6	5.5	20.5	2.5
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math, and 2 F.L. ....	18.1	18.0	18.3	19.0	12.7	10.8	35.7	4.9
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math .....	24.8	25.9	23.7	26.1	19.6	14.5	39.8	24.3
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 2 Sci., 2 Math .....	48.1	48.0	48.4	48.1	48.3	43.9	57.9	61.8
<b>1990 graduates</b>								
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math, .5 Comp., and 2 F.L. <sup>2</sup> .....	18.0	17.8	18.2	18.6	15.1	17.8	23.3	7.8
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math, and 2 F.L. ....	29.9	28.8	31.0	31.7	22.9	25.4	42.6	9.9
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math .....	38.2	38.5	37.9	39.2	39.0	29.8	47.4	19.2
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 2 Sci., 2 Math .....	65.5	64.3	66.4	64.9	71.3	63.7	69.1	46.3
<b>1994 graduates</b>								
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math, .5 Comp., and 2 F.L. <sup>2</sup> .....	25.1	23.4	26.8	26.4	19.0	27.1	35.5	12.9
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math, and 2 F.L. ....	39.0	35.0	42.7	41.6	29.6	35.6	50.1	22.5
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math .....	49.3	47.0	51.5	52.4	43.7	40.3	54.9	46.0
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 2 Sci., 2 Math .....	73.9	71.2	76.4	75.1	74.5	74.7	72.3	76.3
<b>1998 graduates</b>								
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math, .5 Comp., and 2 F.L. <sup>2</sup> .....	28.6	27.6	30.1	29.6	27.9	20.4	38.6	16.5
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math, and 2 F.L. ....	44.2	40.5	48.2	46.2	40.0	32.0	57.8	28.3
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 3 Sci., 3 Math .....	55.0	52.9	57.8	56.8	55.6	40.0	66.1	40.0
4 Eng., 3 S.S., 2 Sci., 2 Math .....	74.5	72.8	77.0	74.7	76.0	70.1	79.5	76.4

<sup>1</sup> Eng. = English; S.S. = social studies; Sci. = science; Comp. = computer science; and F.L. = foreign language.

<sup>2</sup>The National Commission on Excellence in Education recommended that all college-bound high school students take these courses as a minimum.

NOTE: Data differ slightly from figures appearing in other NCES reports because of differences in taxonomies and case exclusion criteria.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, "High School and Beyond," First Followup survey; "1990 High School Transcript Study," "National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988," Second Followup survey; "1994 High School Transcript Study;" and "1998 High School Transcript Study." (This table was prepared February 2000.)