

The Children & Youth Community Plan 2025

Appendix A: Data Profile of Children, Youth, and Families



Introduction

This Data Profile, a comprehensive statistical snapshot that undergirds the Plan, tells the unique story about Alexandria's children and youth. Most of these data come from public records, including the 2010 U.S. Census, City of Alexandria Departments, the Virginia Department of Health, the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), the Alexandria Resident Survey, the Alexandria City Public Schools, and the Search Institute's Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors.

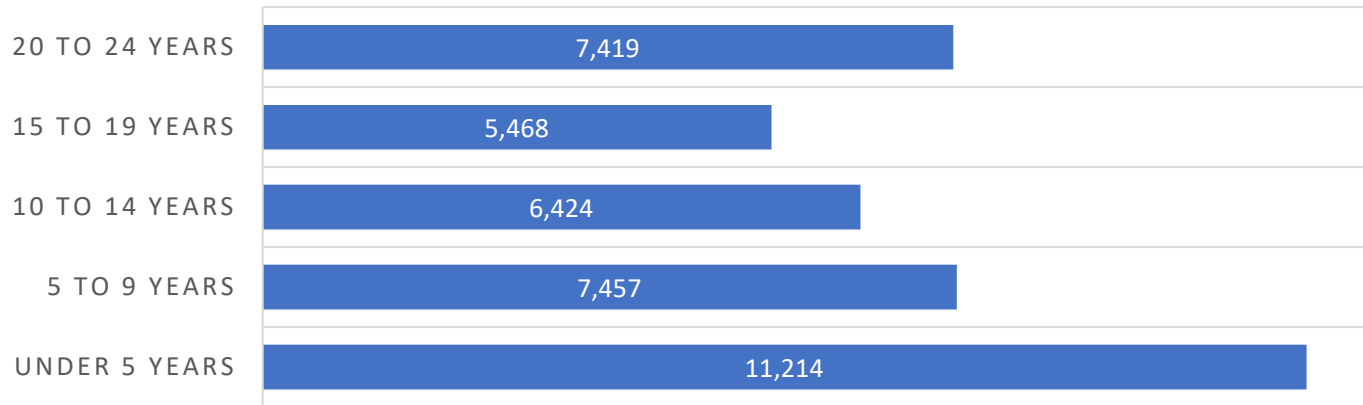




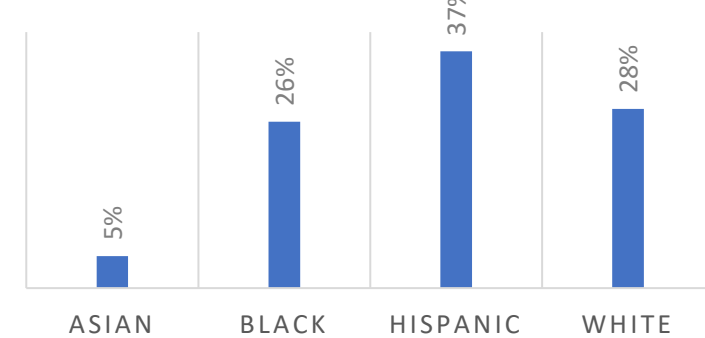
Background Demographics

In 2019, the total population of Alexandria was 159,428, and nearly a quarter of Alexandria's population was under 25 years old. Of the population under 25, half of youths are younger than 10.

NUMBER OF RESIDENTS BY AGE GROUP, 0-24
SOURCE: 2019: ACS 5 YEAR ESTIMATES DATA PROFILES
TOTAL POPULATION: 37,982

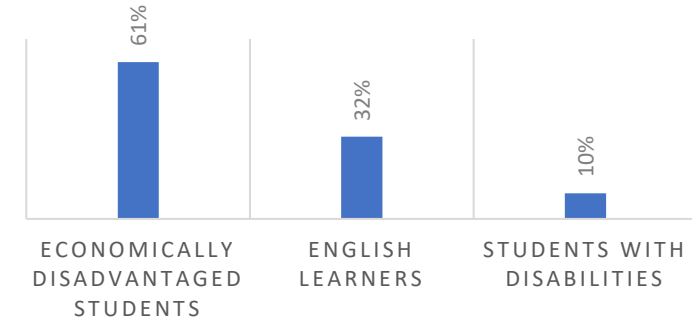


2019 ACPS STUDENT ENROLLMENT BY RACE/ETHNICITY



Source: ACPS, 2025 Strategic Plan Committee Data Workbook, November 2019

2019 ACPS STUDENT ENROLLMENT BY SUB-GROUP



Source: ACPS, 2025 Strategic Plan Committee Data Workbook, November 2019

Goal 1: All children, youth, and families are physically safe and healthy

Safety and health are at the heart of a successful life for any child. A healthy life starts in the womb, and conditions surrounding the mother can have a lasting impact on the life of her newborn. Safety and health must be nurtured in early childhood so that children can flourish as young adults.



Data Sources & Indicators

Data Source	Indicators
Health Matters Dashboard	Prenatal Care, Infant Mortality, Teen Pregnancy, Childhood Poverty, Family Poverty, Free/Reduced Lunch Program Enrollment
Alexandria City Public Schools Strategic Planning Data Workbook, Nov. 2019	Kindergarten Readiness
City Dashboard	Transportation, Housing, Income, Open Space, Tree Canopy, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and Diverted Waste
Developmental Assets: A Profile of Your Youth for Alexandria City Public Schools© 2013, 2016, 2019 by Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN	Maintains Good Health, Youth Substance Use, Sexual Intercourse, Depression and Suicidal Ideation, Safety
Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2017	Medical Home/Healthcare Provider Usage

Data Trends: Areas of Progress



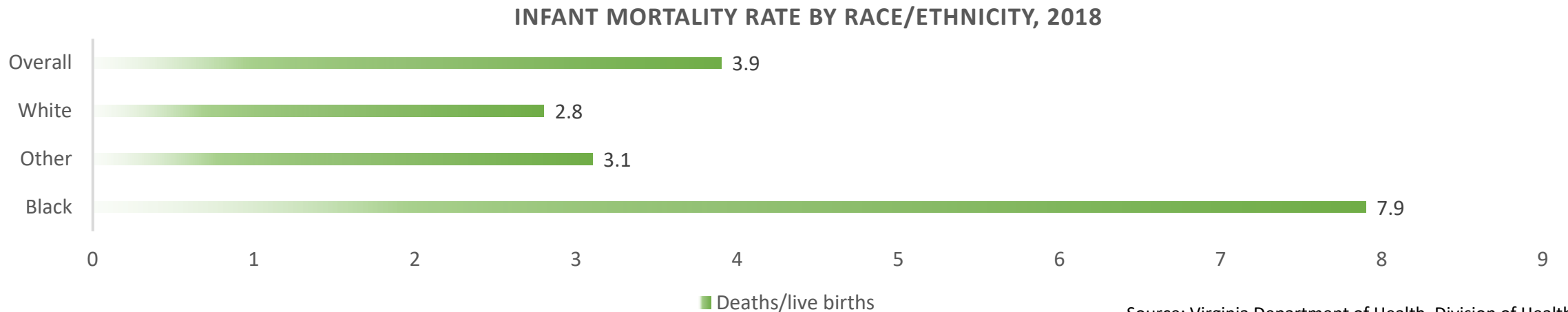
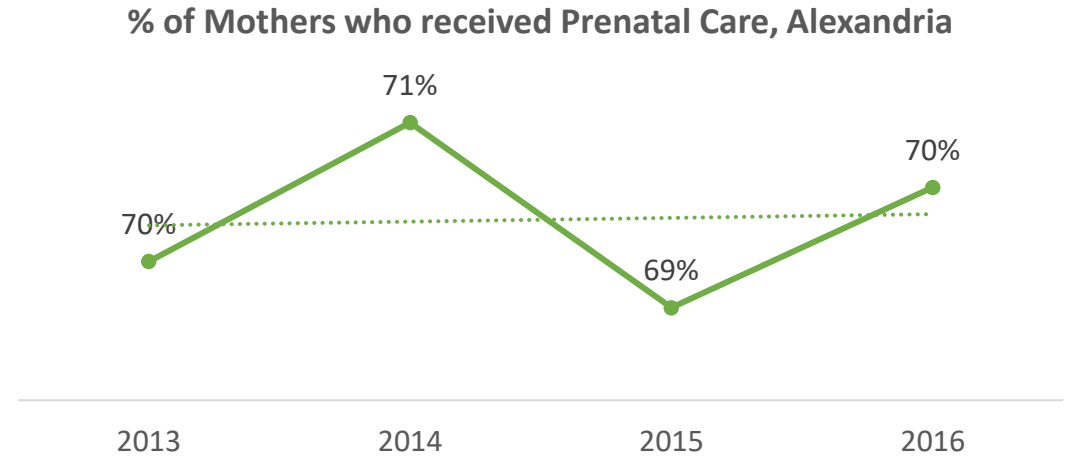
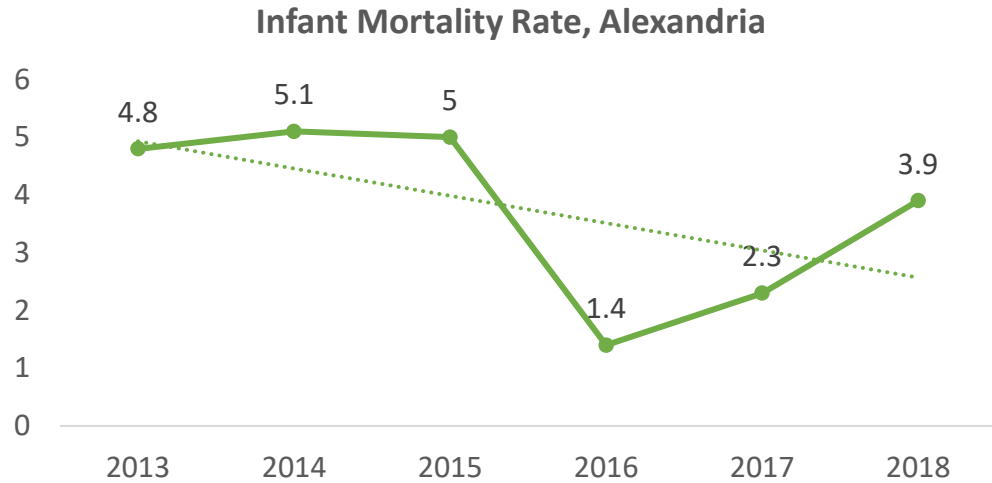
- **Trends in Early Childhood:** About three-fourths of students enter kindergarten with Pre-K experiences (2018) and about four in five kindergarten students met benchmarks in self-regulation and social skills (2017). Overall, the infant mortality rate in Alexandria has been decreasing since 2013.
- **Trends in Risk Taking Behaviors and Patterns (2019):** The number of youth report having sexual intercourse one or more times has decreased. The use of all substances, except e-cigarettes, has decreased among students since 2013. The rate of teen pregnancies has decreased by 77% in last decade. The percentage of youth who report engaging in violence has decreased.
- **Trends in Health and Wellness:** Four out of five youth have a medical home (2016) and approximately 94% of children have had health insurance since 2011. Over half of youth report paying attention to healthy nutrition and exercise (2019).
- **Trends in Family Resources:** The rate of commuters using alternative transportation options has increased.
- **Trends in Natural Resources:** Over a third of Alexandria's land is covered by tree canopy and the City has planted about 800 trees per year over the last several years (2016). The City also exceeded the 2009 goal of acquiring 100 new acres of open space and maintained a ratio of 7.3 acres of open space per 1,000 residents. Half of Alexandrians' waste was diverted through recycling, reuse, and composting (2017). Greenhouse Gas Emissions per capita have reduced by 22% over the last decade.

Data Trends: Areas of Improvement



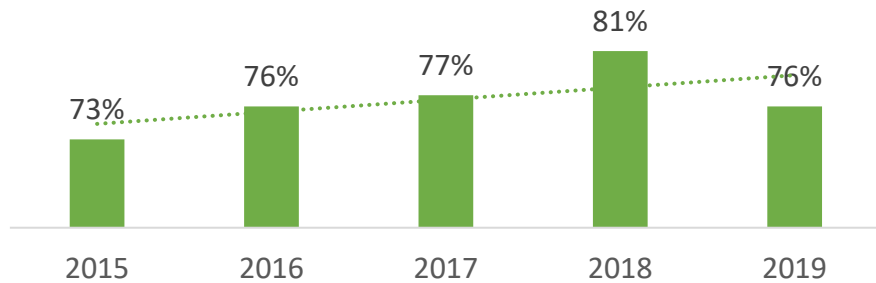
- **Trends in Early Childhood:** Large gaps remain between White Kindergarten students (90%) and Hispanic Kindergarten students (58%) who meet PALS benchmarks (2017). It is evident that the rate of infant deaths from black mothers is disproportionately high compared to Alexandria's rate for all mothers. The 2018 rate for African American babies, 7.9, is almost triple the rate for white babies, 2.8.
- **Trends in Risk Taking Behaviors and Patterns (2019):** More than one third of females (36%) and one in five males report feeling frequently depressed or has attempted suicide. While the overall rate of teen pregnancies has decreased in last decade, racial disparities remain among Black and Hispanic females. More males (27%) engage in violent behavior than females (16%).
- **Trends in Family Resources:** Large gaps remain between White, non-Hispanic households and all other households in median household income. Over a third of Alexandrians surveyed worry about paying rent or mortgage (2018). The rates of children and families living in poverty has been steadily increasing, as has the percentage of ACPS students eligible for free/reduced meals.

Key Indicators for Early Childhood

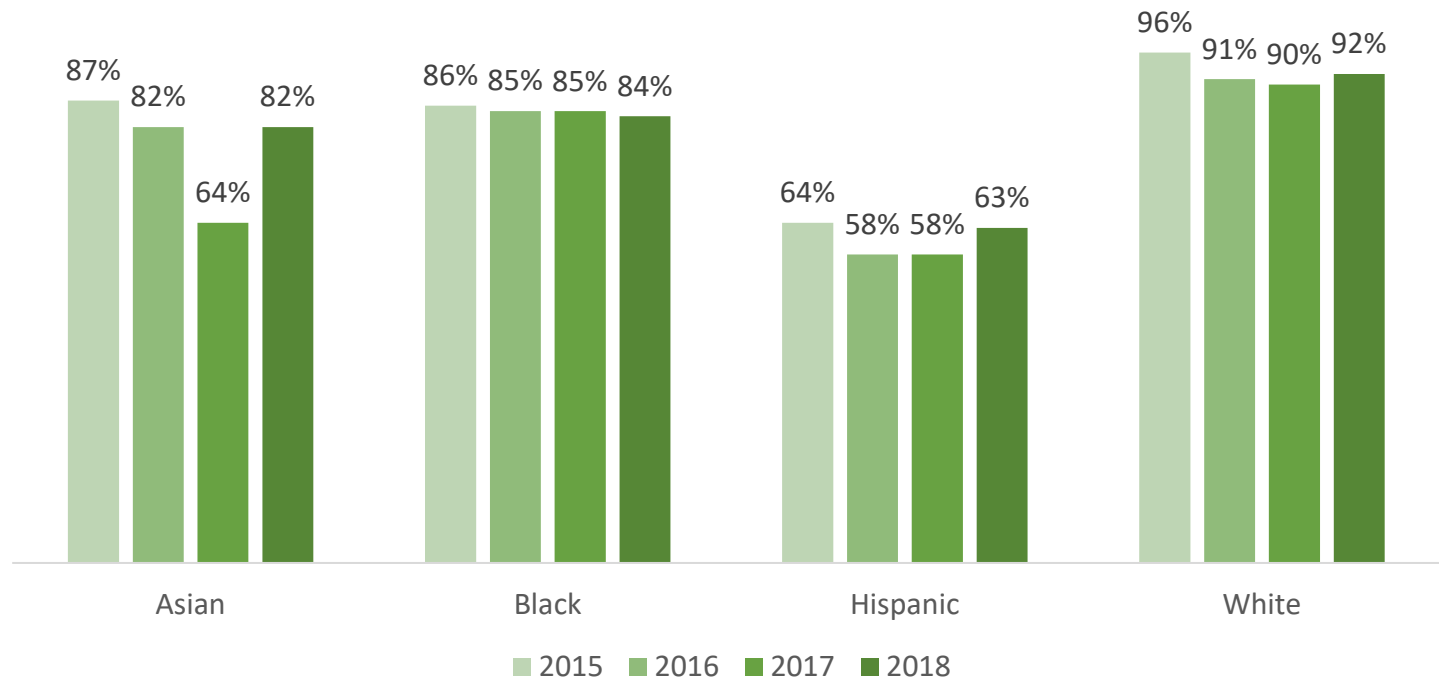


Key Indicators for Early Childhood

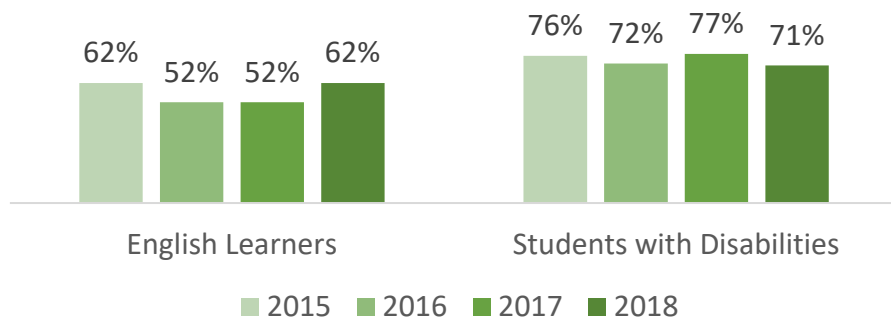
Kindergarten Students with Pre-K Experience – All Students



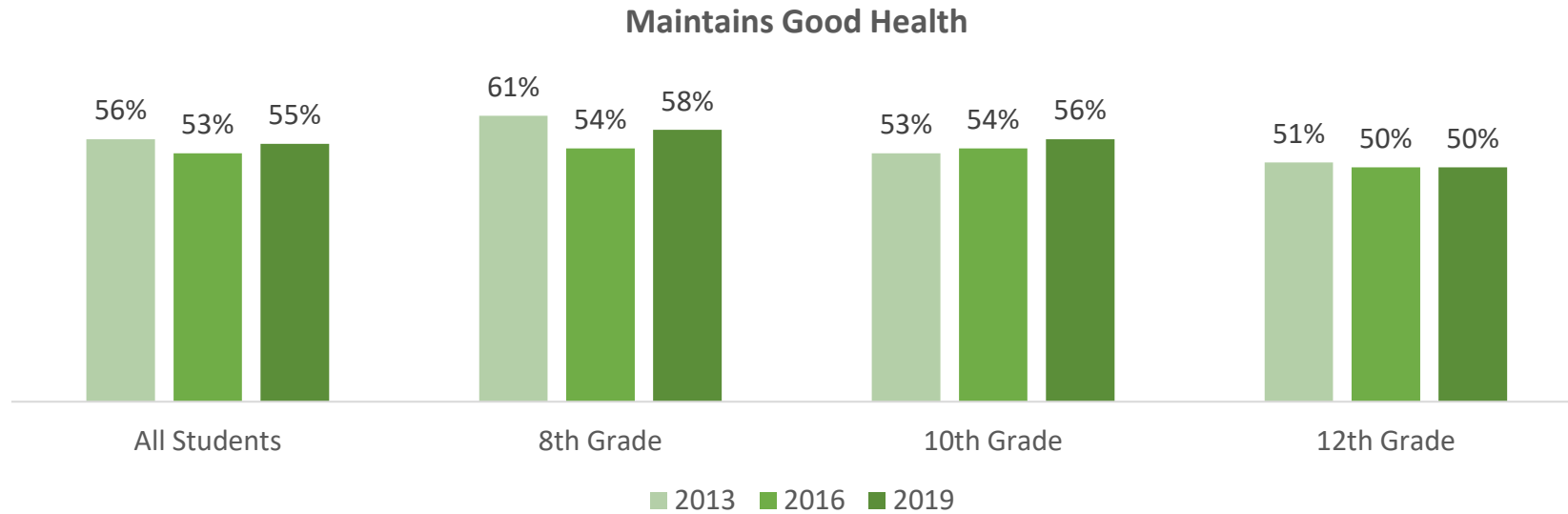
Students Meeting Kindergarten Readiness Standards in Fall – By Race/Ethnicity



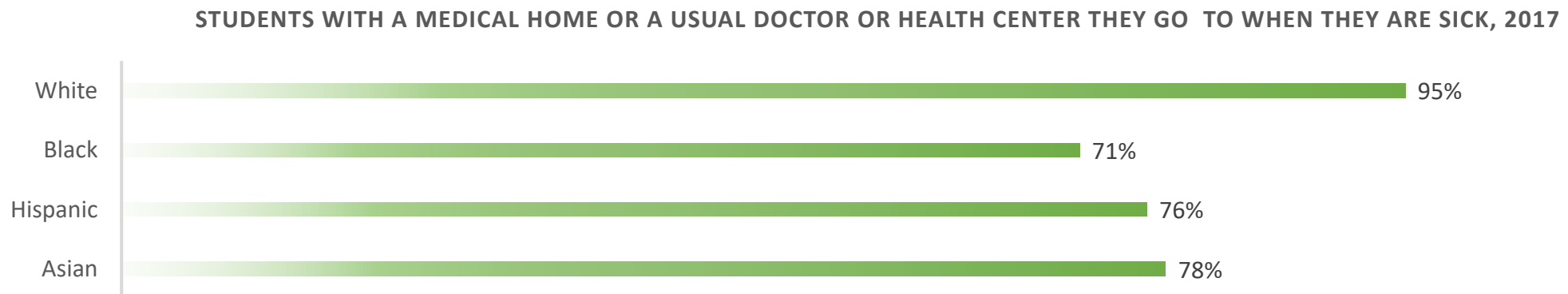
Students Meeting Kindergarten Readiness Standards in Fall – By Sub-Group



Key Indicators for Health & Wellness

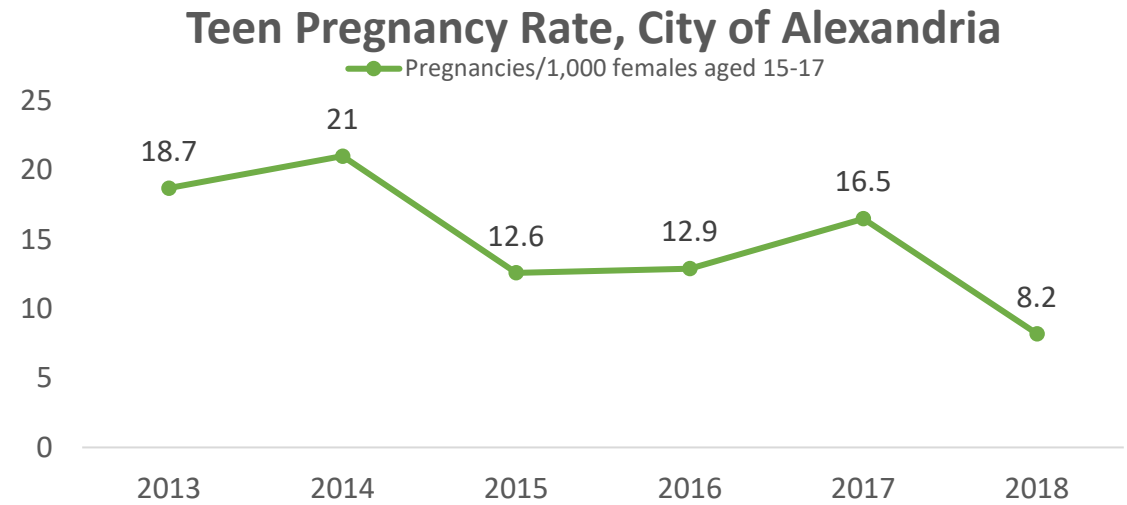
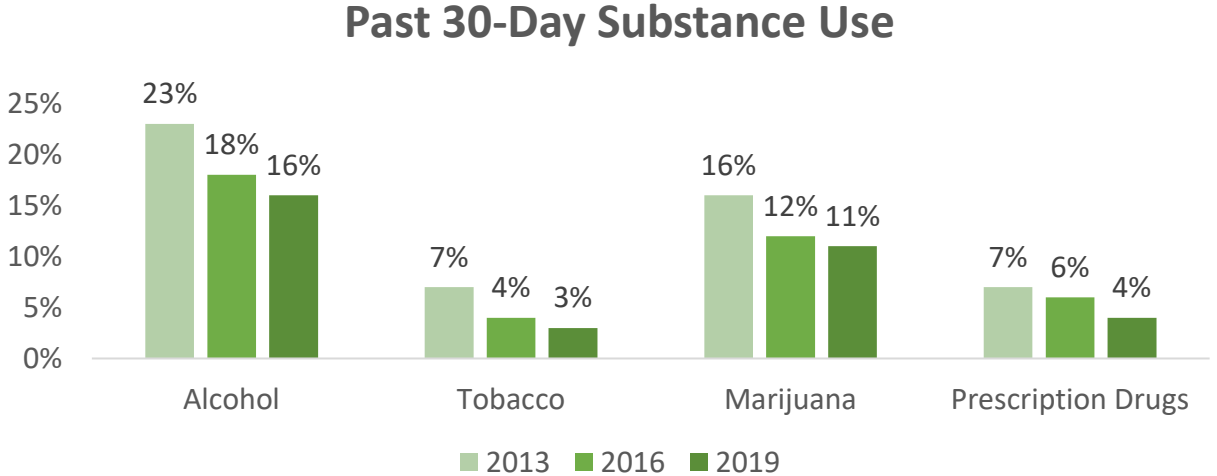
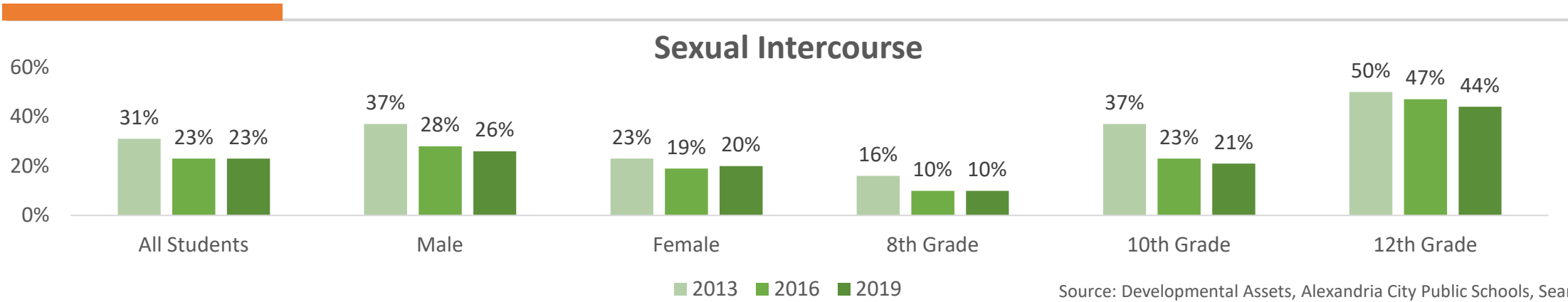


Source: Developmental Assets: A Profile of Your Youth for Alexandria City Public Schools, Search Institute

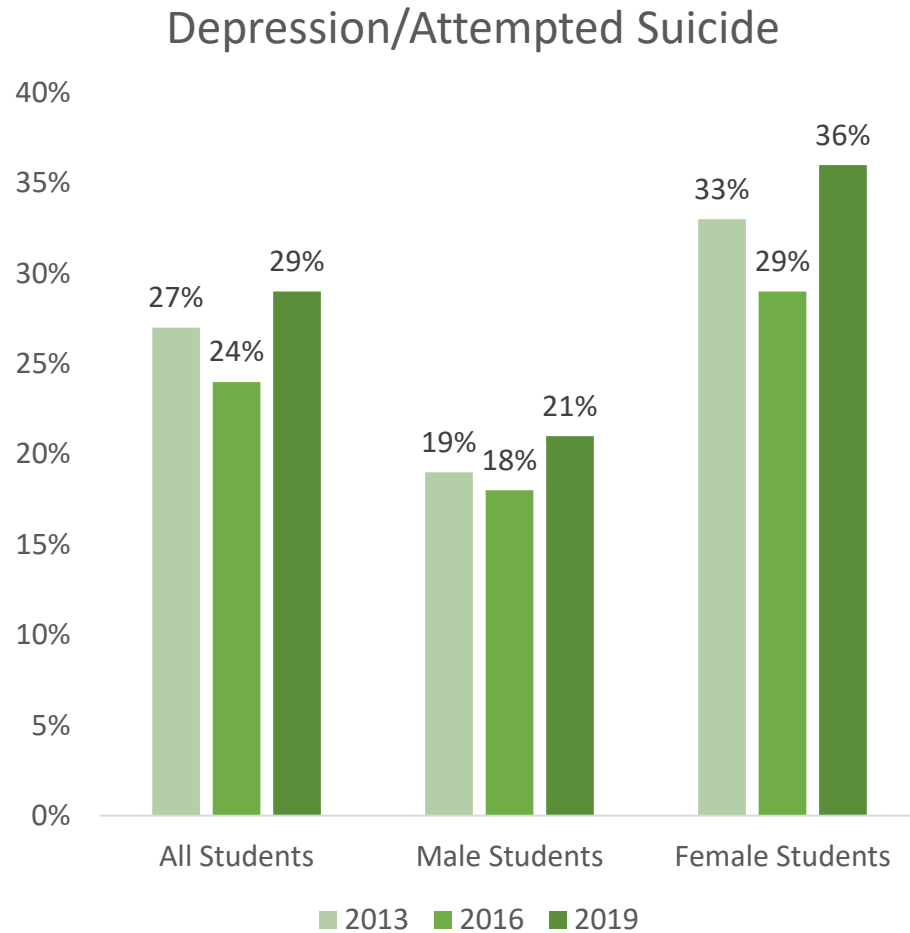


Source: Virginia Department of Health, Division of Health Statistics

Key Indicators for Risk Taking Behaviors

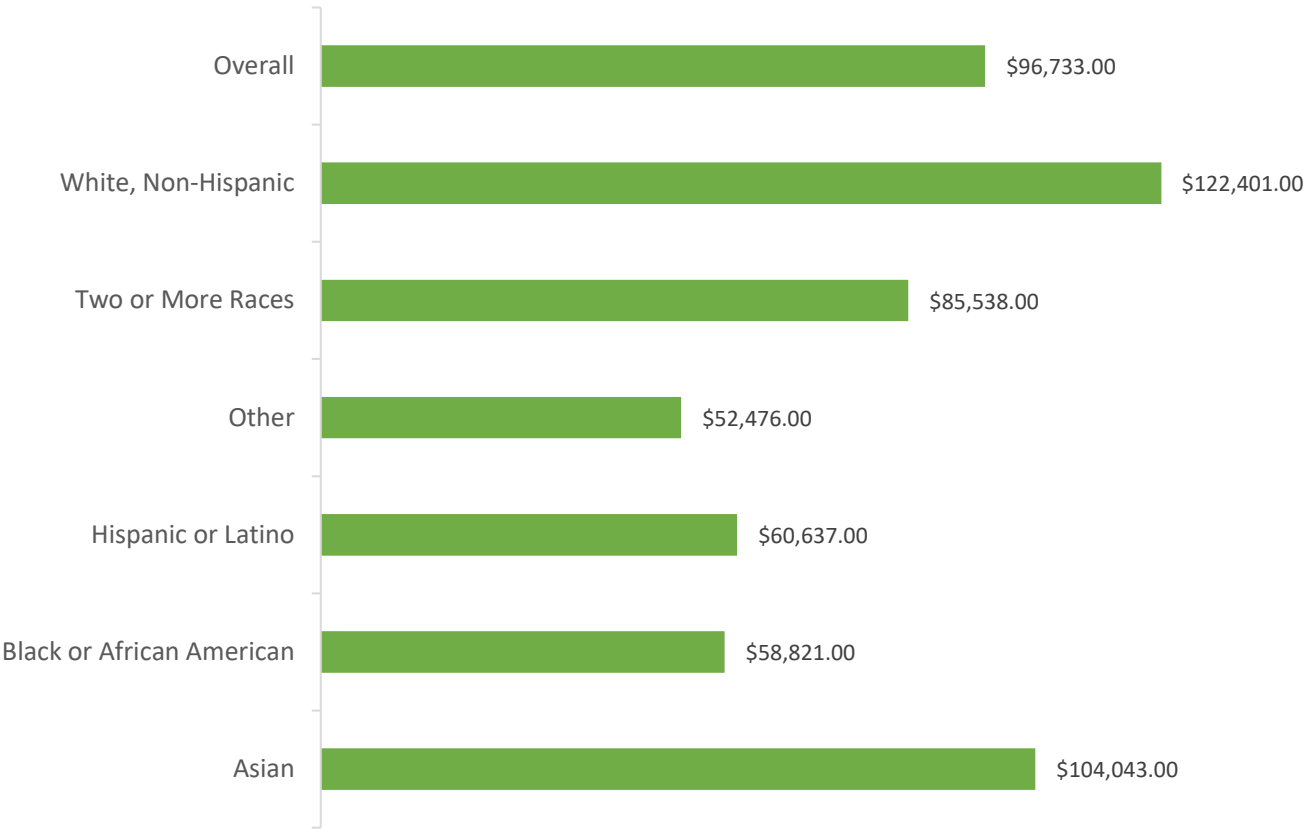


Key Indicators for Risk Taking Behaviors



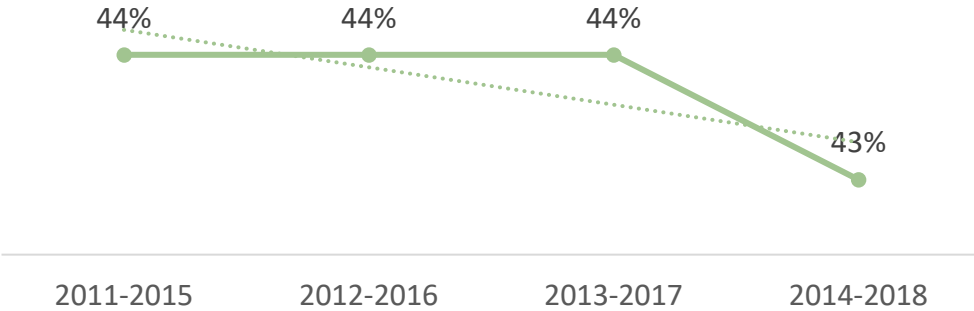
Key Indicators for Family Resources

Median Household Income by Race/Ethnicity, Alexandria



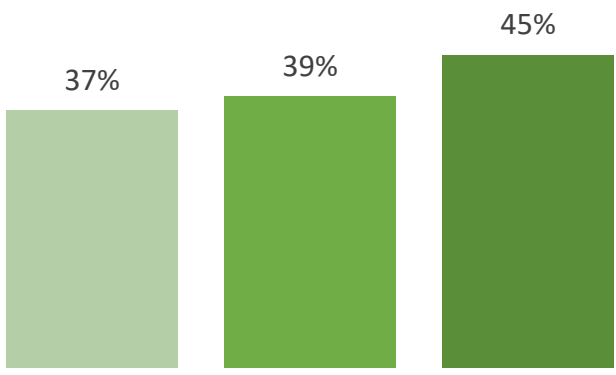
Source: American Community Survey (2014-2018)

Renters Spending 30% or More of Household Income on Rent, Alexandria



Source: American Community Survey (2014-2018)

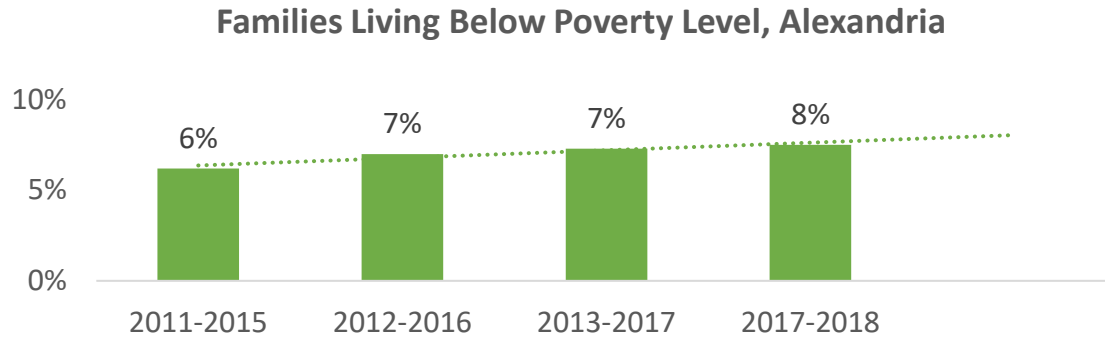
% of Commuters Using Alternative Transportation Options



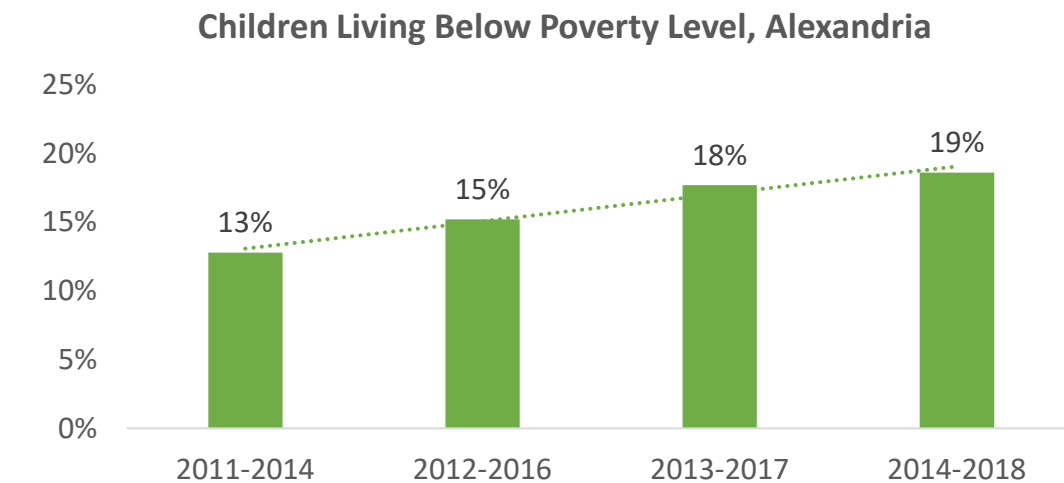
Legend: 2013 (light green), 2016 (medium green), 2019 (dark green)

Source: Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's State of the Commute Survey

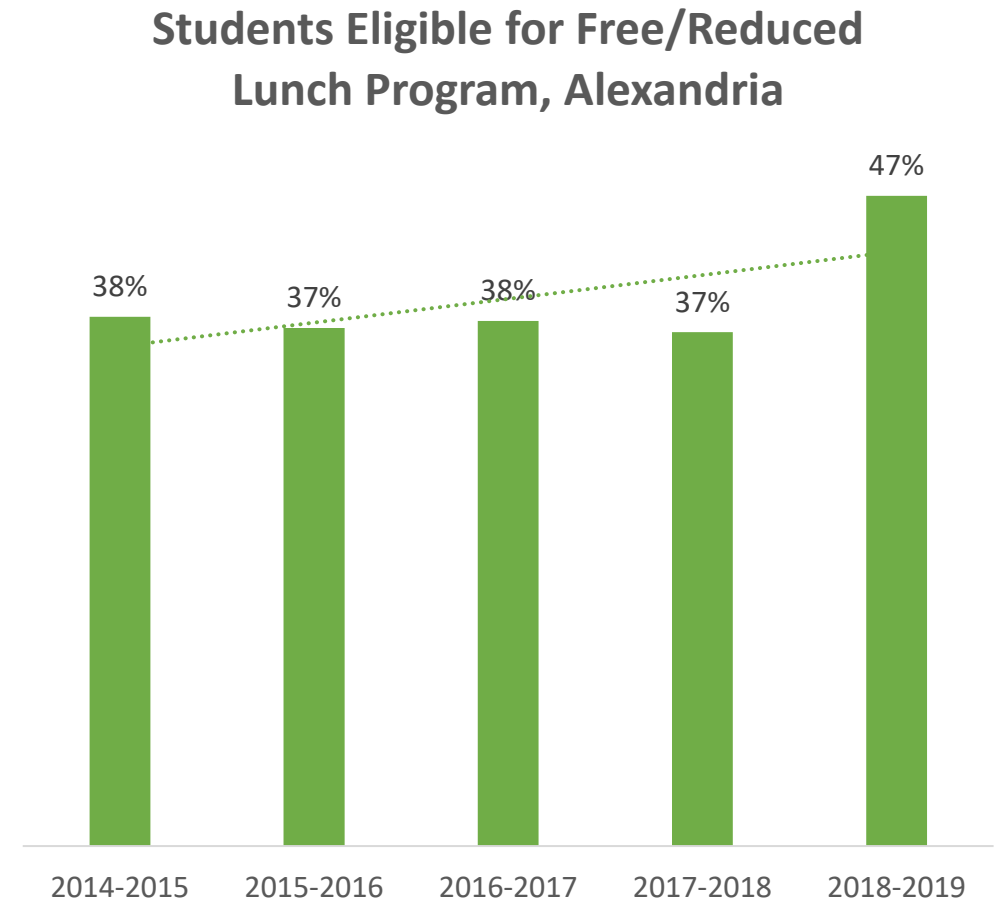
Key Indicators for Family Resources



Source: American Community Survey (2014-2018)



Source: American Community Survey (2014-2018)



Source: National Center for Education Statistics (2018-2019)

Goal 2: All children and youth are academically successful and career ready

Alexandria has a commitment to ensuring that all students succeed in school, and a commitment towards promoting career and workforce development for all youth.

Data Sources & Indicators

Data Source	Indicator
Alexandria City Public Schools Strategic Planning Data Workbook, November 2019	Reading and Math Proficiency, Suspensions, Chronic Absenteeism
Developmental Assets: A Profile of Your Youth for Alexandria City Public Schools© 2013, 2016, 2019 by Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN	School Engagement and Caring School Climate

Data Trends: Areas of Progress



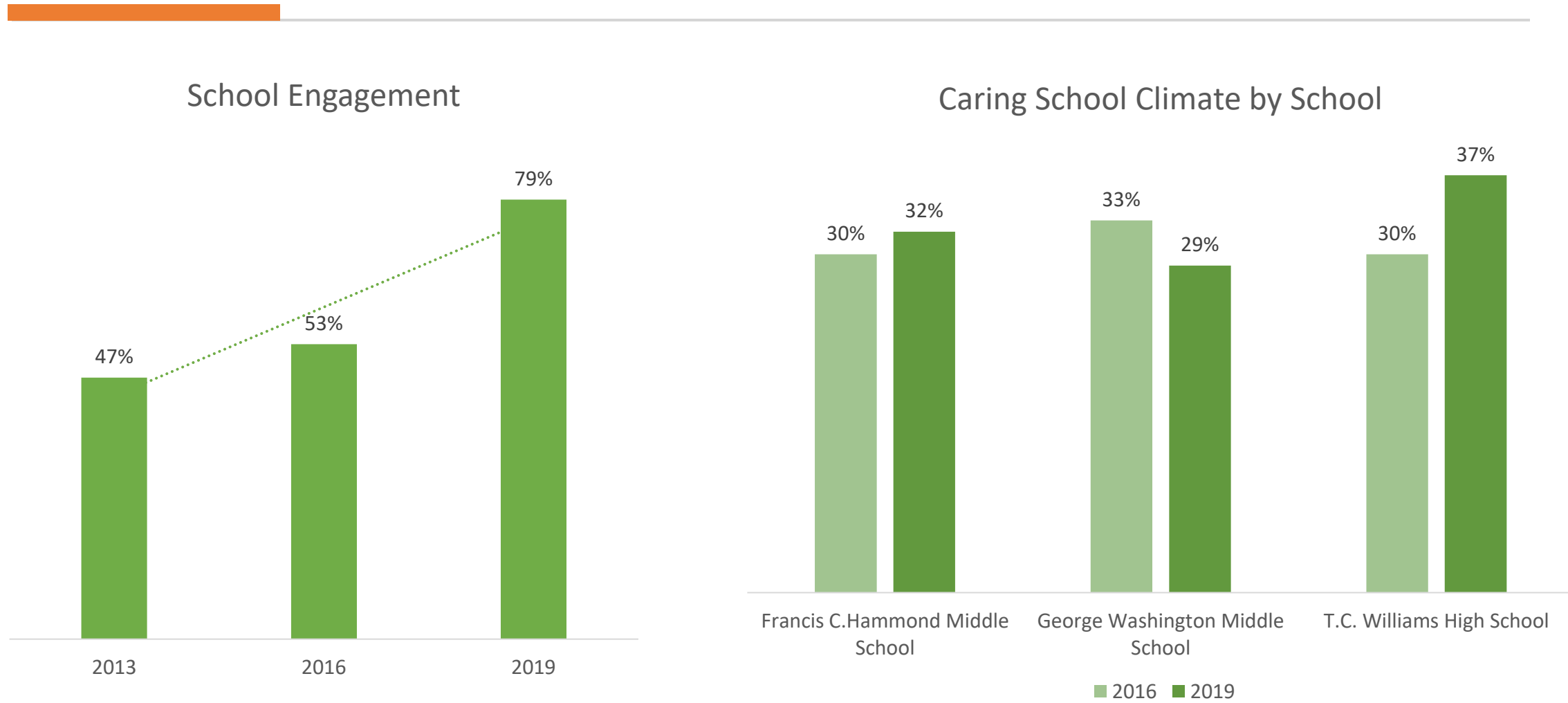
- **Trends in School Engagement:** Four out of five ACPS students report active engagement in their learning, a dramatic increase of 50% between 2016 and 2019.
- **Trends in Reading and Math:** On average, 61% of students met benchmarks in 3rd grade reading and math.
- **Trends in Graduation Rates:** Four out of five ACPS students graduate on-time. White and Asian students have consistently high graduation rates, and the graduation rate among Black students has steadily increased, meeting the target of 90% since 2017. Students with disabilities exceeded the target in 2019.
- **Trends in Drop Out Rates:** All subgroups, except for Asian students, saw declining drop-out rates between 2015 and 2019; Black and White students had a dropout rate of less than 1% in 2019.

Data Trends: Areas of Improvement



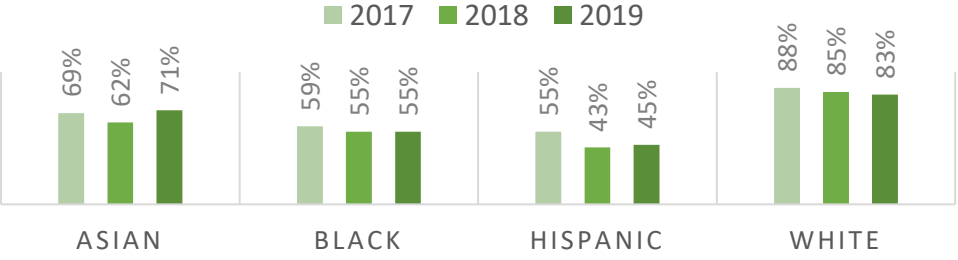
- **Trends in Reading and Math:** While White students have consistently met the ACPS target of 81% proficiency in 3rd grade reading, none of the other student groups have met the target since 2016.
- **Trends in Suspension Rates:** Between 2016 and 2019, the number of suspensions that occur at elementary schools and high school increased by 91% and 57% respectively while the number that occur at middle schools remained relatively the same. There are multiple instances of disproportionality in suspensions at ACPS. For example, while Black males comprise 14% of all ACPS student enrollment, they comprise 32% of suspensions (2018).
- **Trends in Truancy:** High school students have the highest rate of chronic absenteeism (11% in 2018-19), followed by elementary school students (8% in 2018-19). About half of all students that are chronically absent are Hispanic (52%) and nearly half are English Learners (47%) (2018).
- **Trends in Graduation Rates:** The gaps in graduation rates between White and Hispanic and English Learner students' have widened.

Key Indicators for Educational Equity

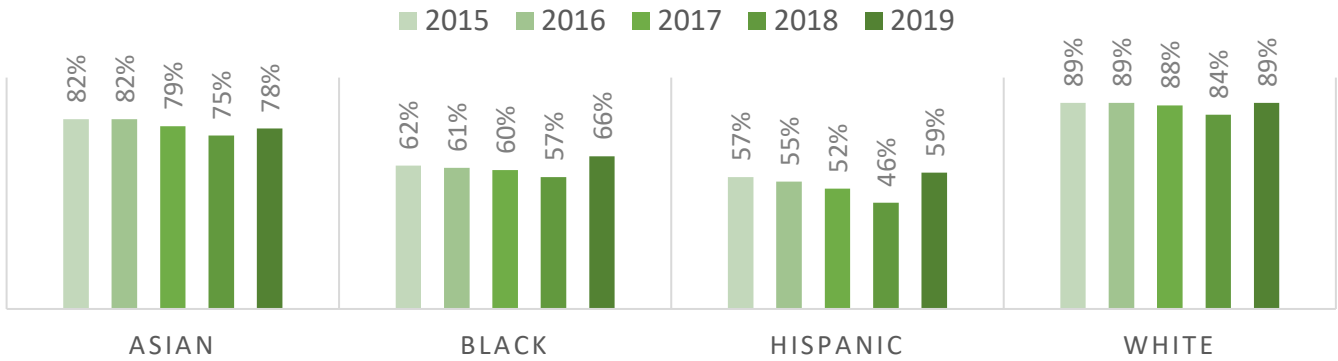


Key Indicators for Educational Equity

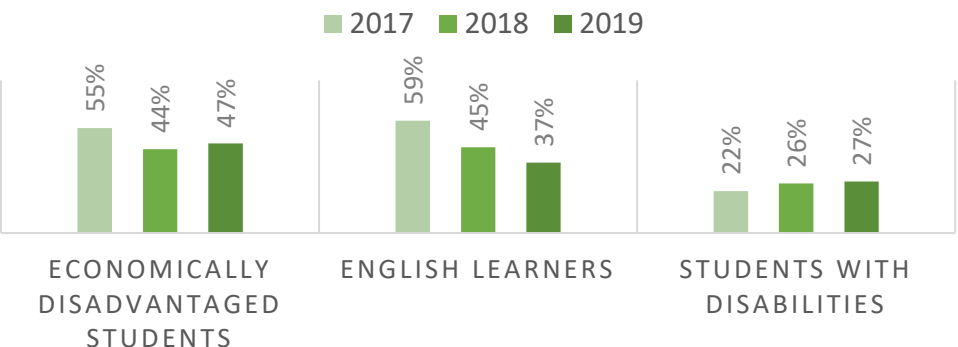
3RD GRADE READING BY RACE/ETHNICITY



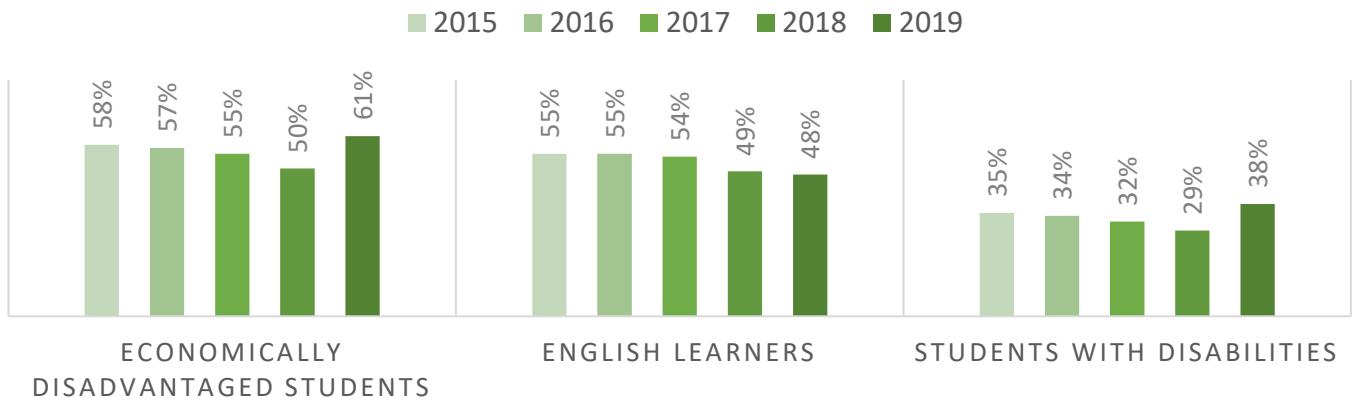
MATH PROFICIENCY BY RACE/ETHNICITY



3RD GRADE READING BY SUB-GROUP



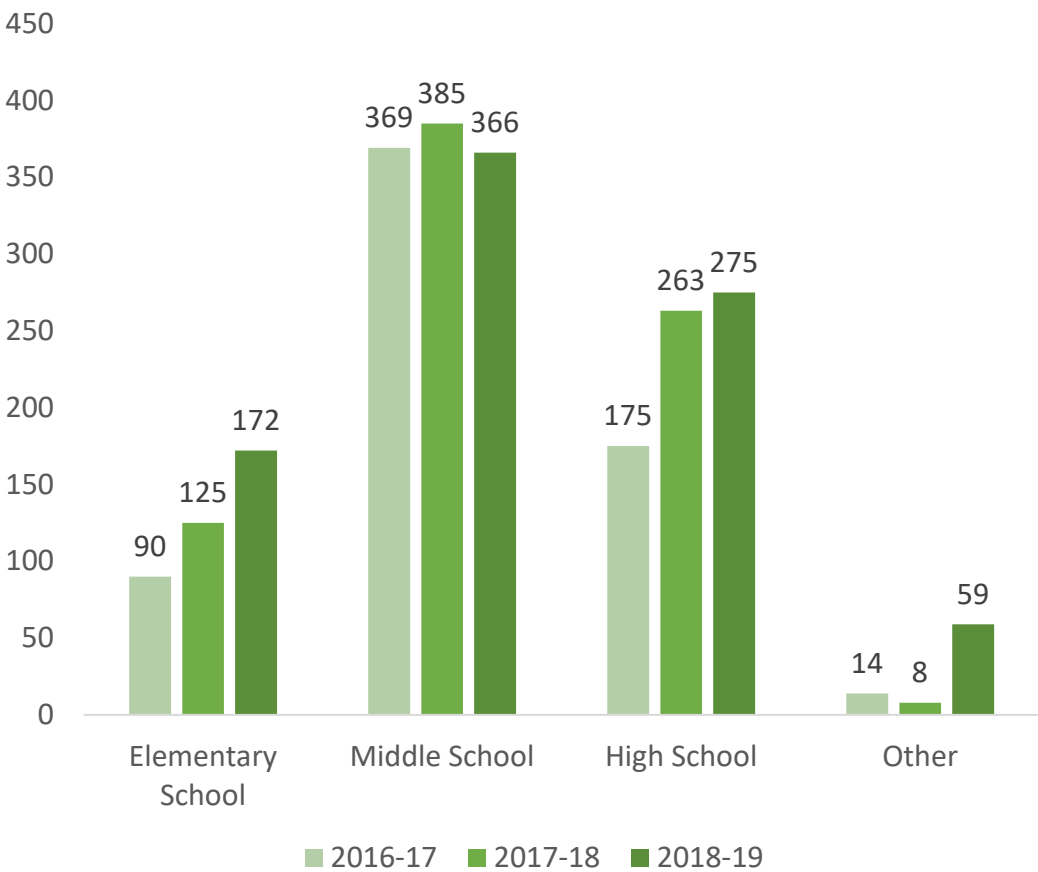
MATH PROFICIENCY BY SUB-GROUP



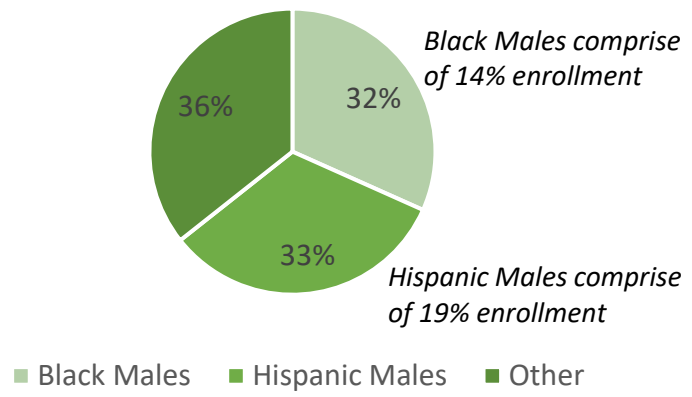
Source: Alexandria City Public Schools Strategic Planning Data Workbook, November 2019

Key Indicators for Educational Equity

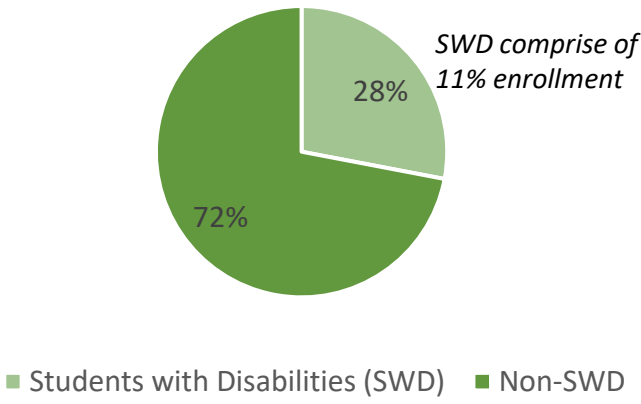
Suspensions by Grade Level



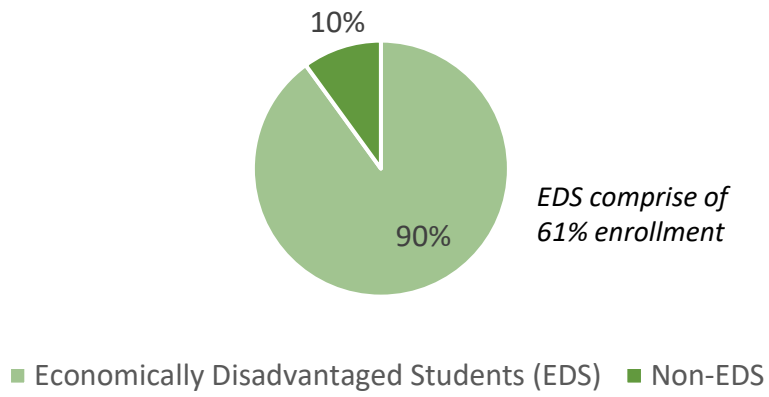
Suspensions by Race/Ethnicity



Suspensions by Disability Status



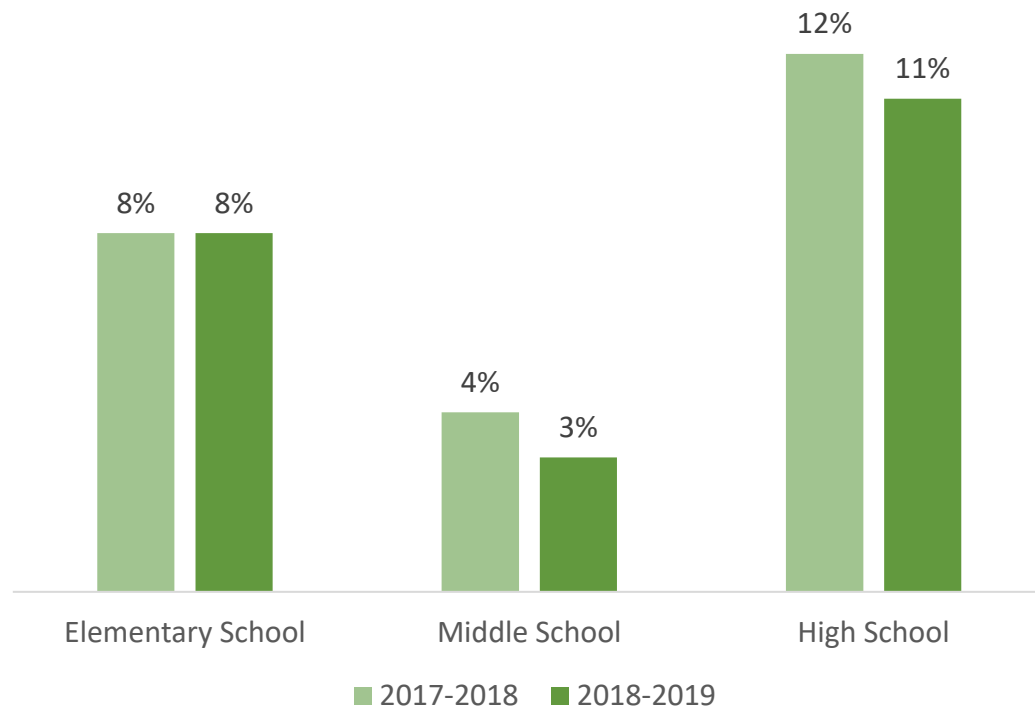
Economically Disadvantaged Students (EDS)



Source: Alexandria City Public Schools Strategic Planning Data Workbook, November 2019

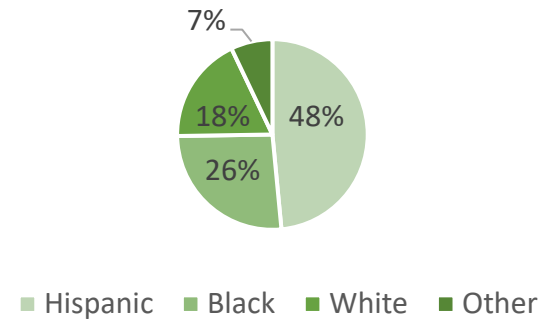
Key Indicators for Educational Equity

% of Students Chronically Absent

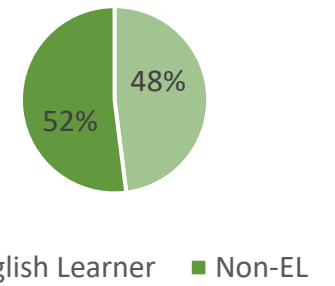


Distribution of Chronically Absent Students in 2018-2019

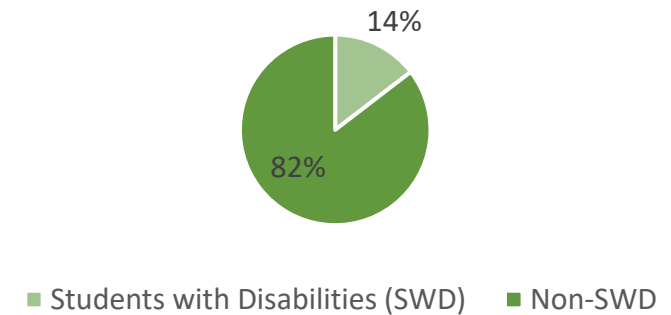
By Race/Ethnicity



By EL Status

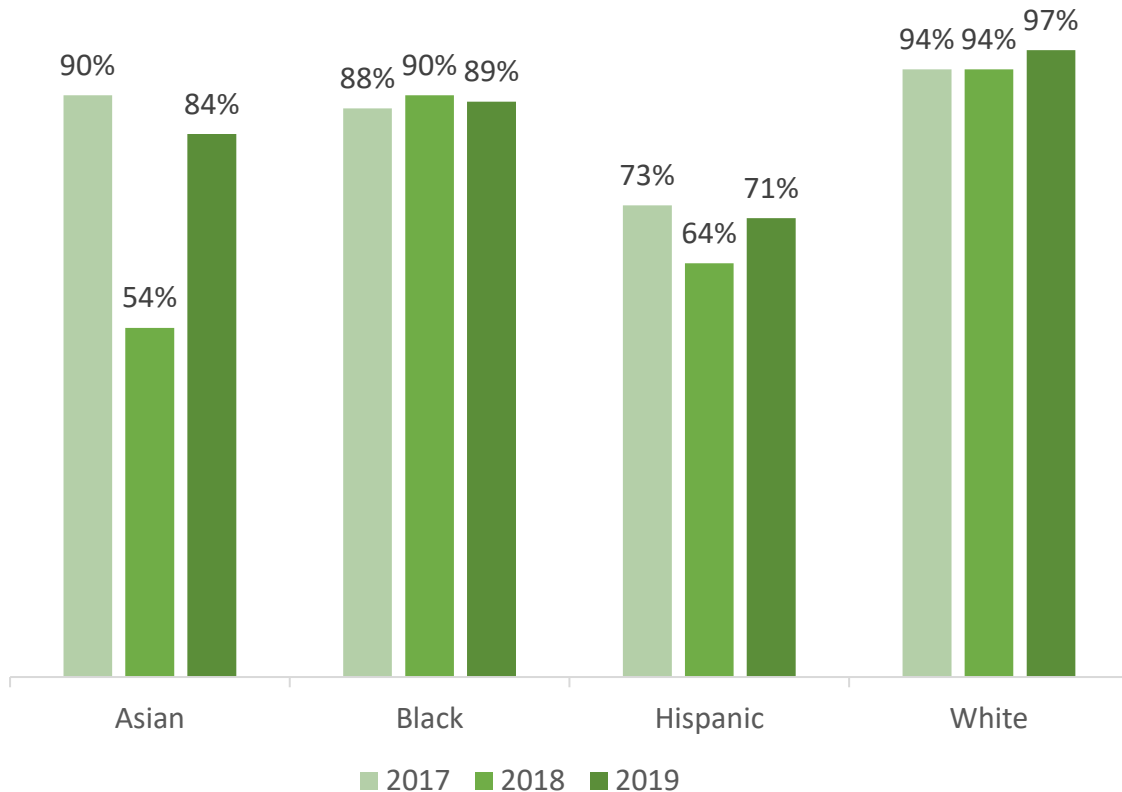


By Disability Status

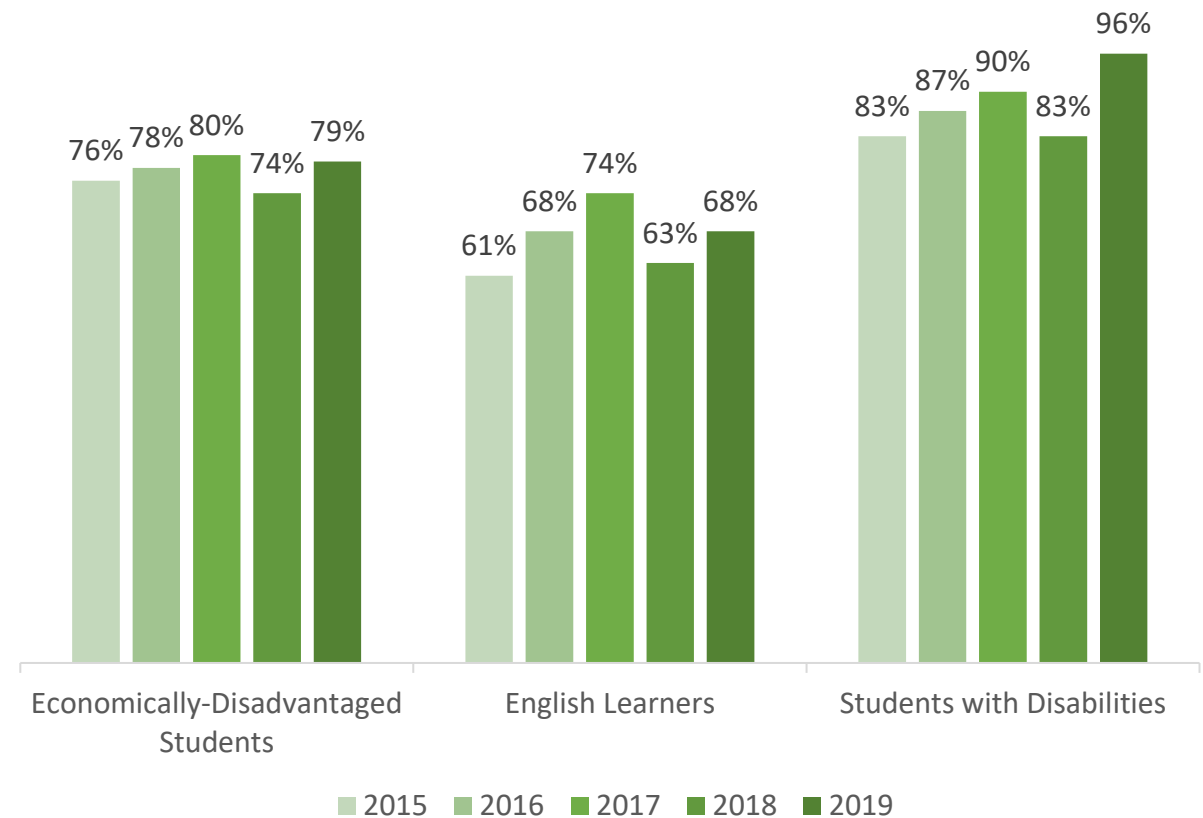


Key Indicators for College & Career Readiness

Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity

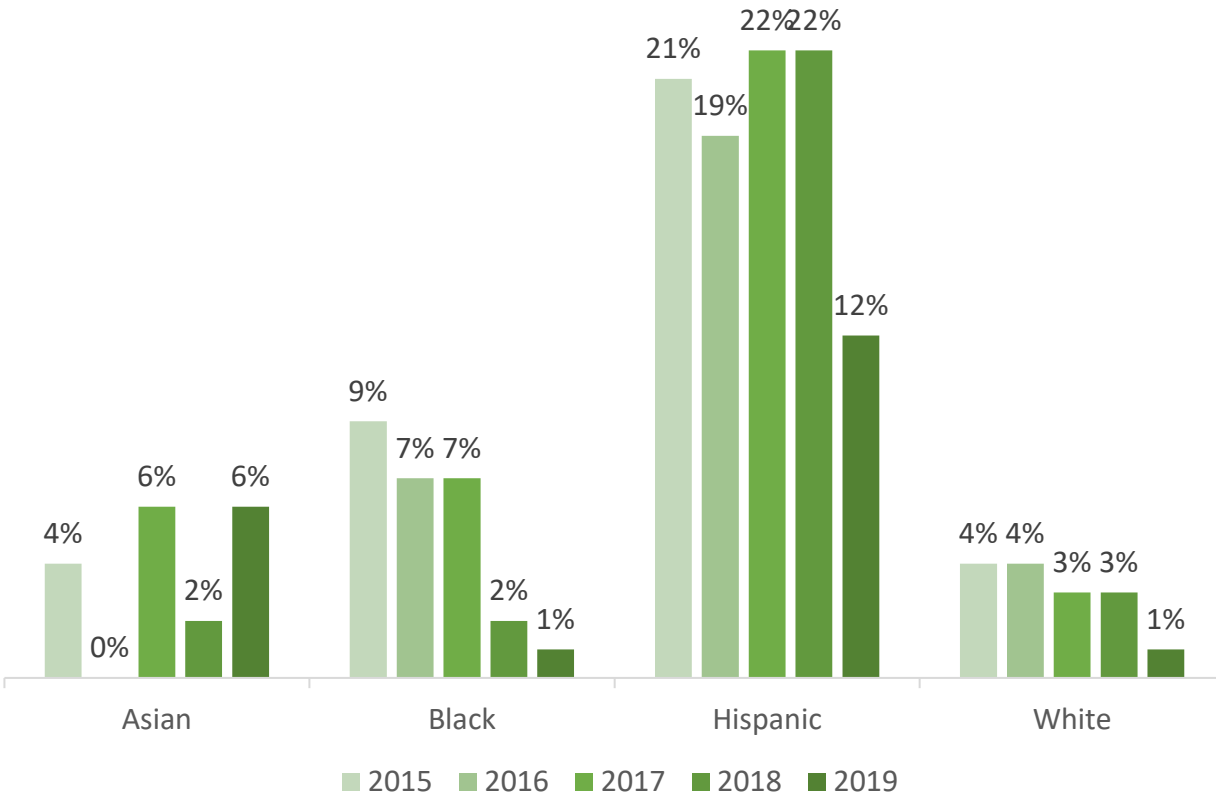


Graduation Rates by Sub-Group

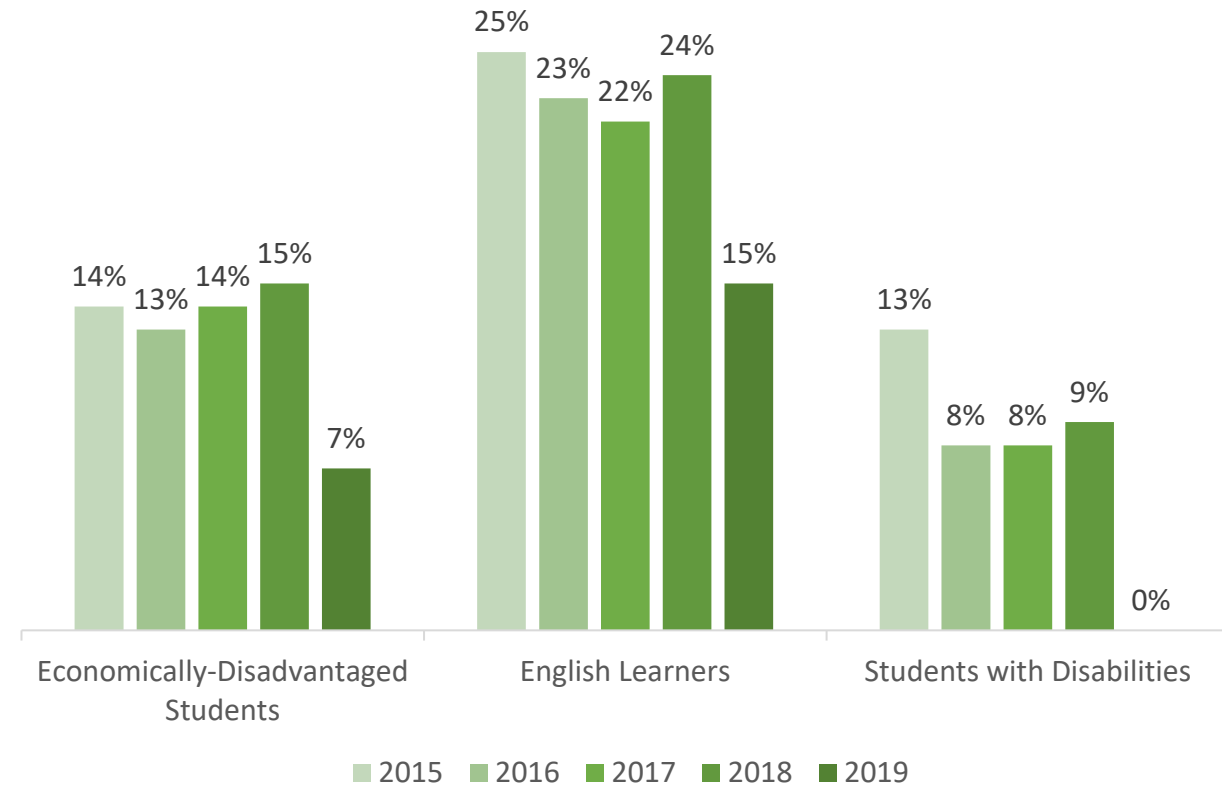


Key Indicators for College & Career Readiness

Drop Out Rates by Race/Ethnicity



Drop Out Rates by Sub-Group



Goal 3: All children, youth, and families have positive experiences

Early experiences in life matter. Trauma and adversity early in life can lead to lifelong negative health outcomes in adults, such as poor mental health, substance abuse, and violence. Positive childhood experiences, on the other hand, support child development and enable them to grow up healthy, caring and responsible.



Data Sources & Indicators

Data Source	Indicator
The National Community Survey, “Community Livability Survey,” Alexandria, VA, 2020	Adult Mental Health and Alcoholic Consumption
Department of Community and Human Services	Foster Care and Child Welfare
Developmental Assets: A Profile of Your Youth for Alexandria City Public Schools© 2013, 2016, 2019 by Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN.	Physical Abuse, Victim of Violence, Engaged in Violence, Ideal Number of Assets, Youth Programs, Other Adult Relationships, Community Values Youth, Youth as Resources, and Service to Others
Virginia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (VBRFSS)	Adverse Childhood Experiences among Northern Virginian Adults

Data Trends: Areas of Progress



- **Trends in Exposure to Childhood Trauma:** Overall, the percentage of youth reporting violence in the home has decreased over time.
- **Trends in Developmental Assets®:** Youth report an increase in spending unstructured time with their friends.

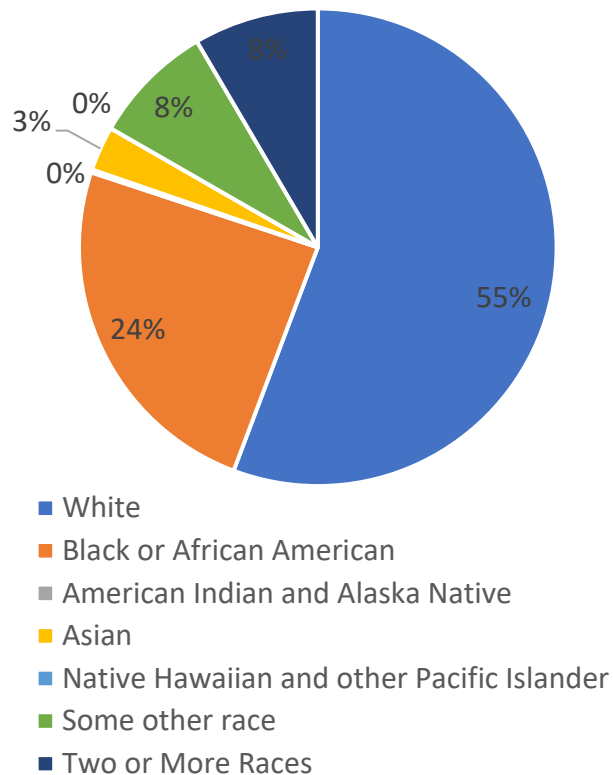
Data Trends: Areas of Improvement



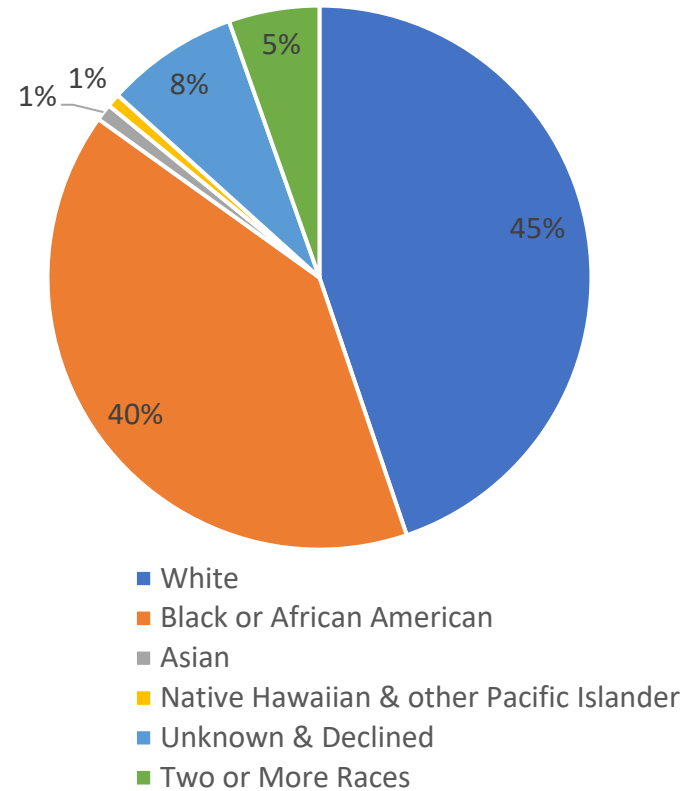
- **Trends in Exposure to Childhood Trauma:** Despite only making up 26% of the population, children of Hispanic or Latino origin make up 40% of the children referred to Childhood Protective Services.
- **Trends in Developmental Assets® (2019):** Only eight percent of youth surveyed have the ideal number of assets. Only one in five youth feel valued by adults in the community and less than half of youth report feeling safe, with significantly more males (58%) feeling safer than females (38%). The rate of students volunteering one or more hours per week has decreased over time.

Key Indicators for Exposure to Childhood Trauma

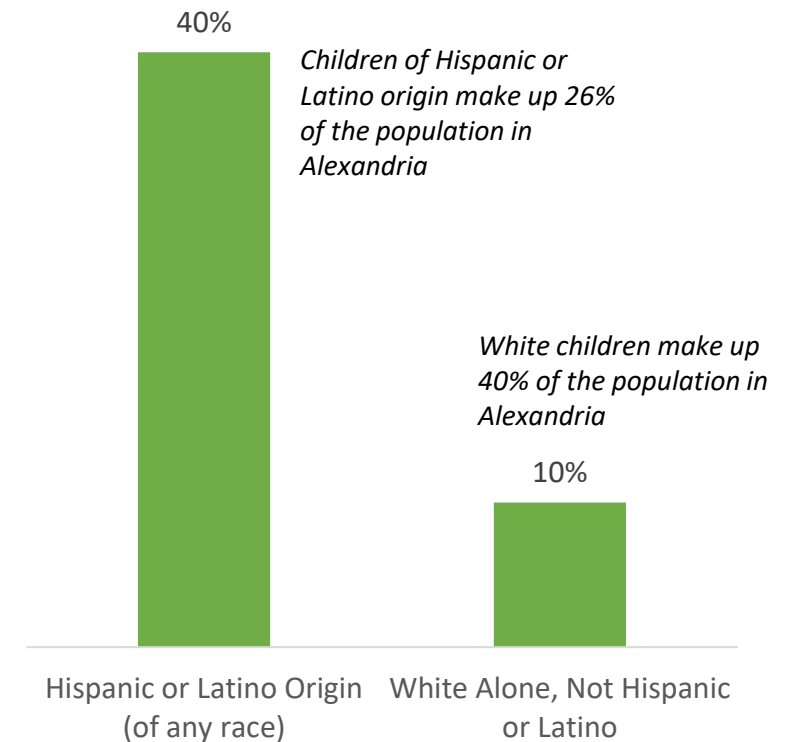
City of Alexandria Child Population by Race (27,889 children under 18)



Child Protective Service (CPS) Referrals by Race



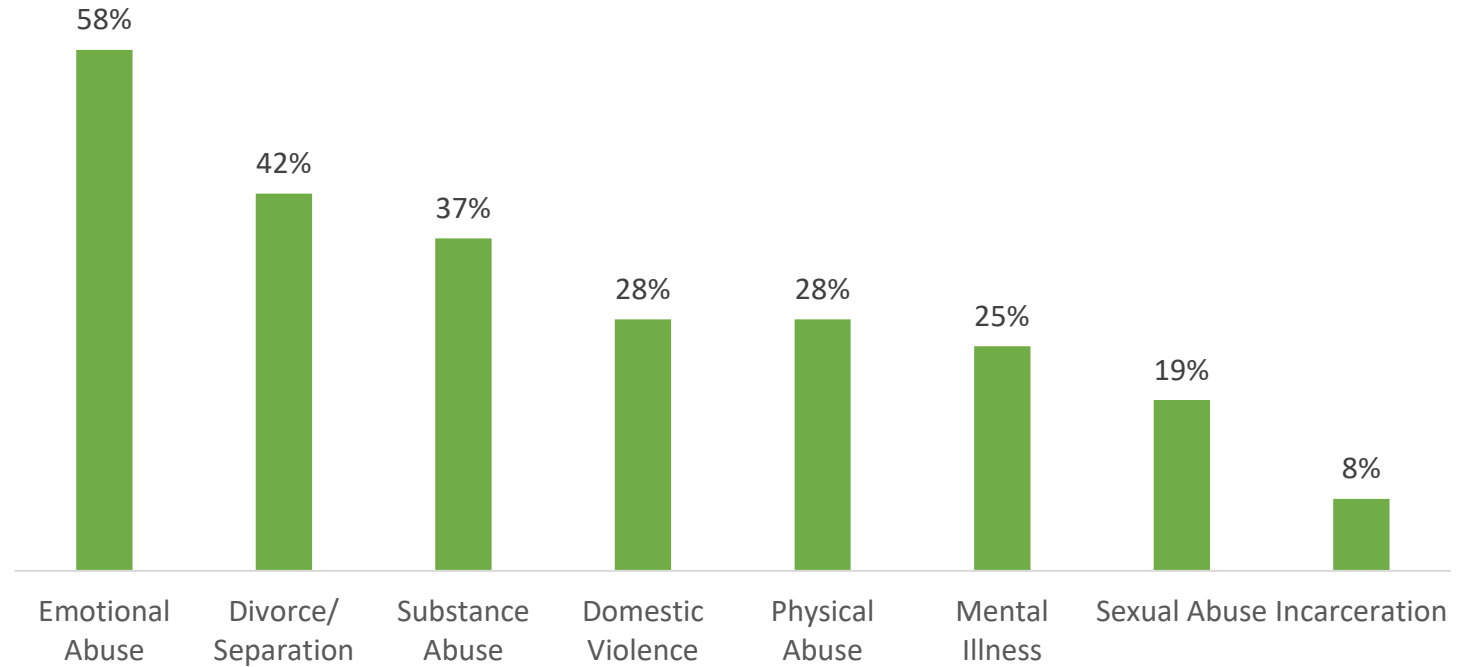
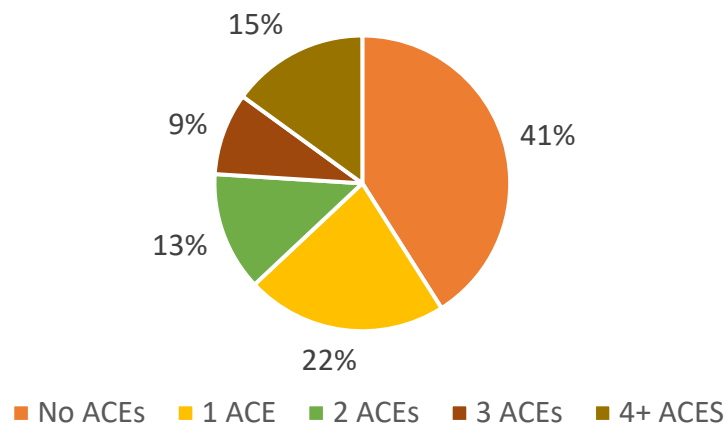
CPS Referrals by Ethnicity



Key Indicators for Exposure to Childhood Trauma

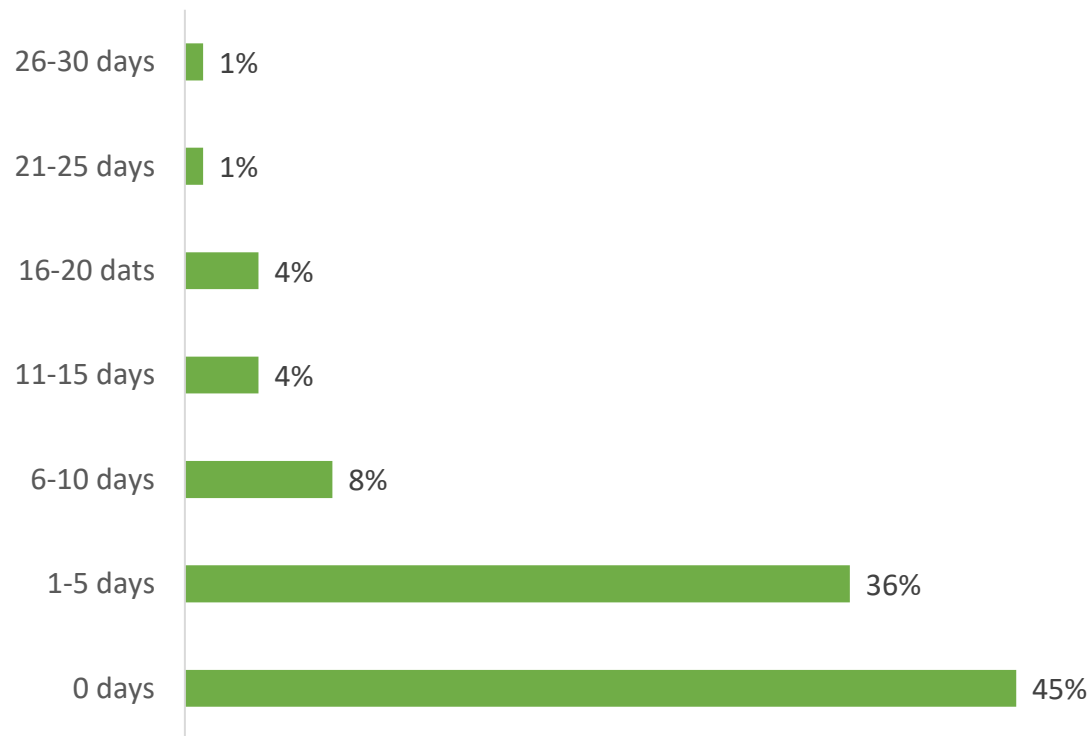
% of adults reporting they experienced each of eight ACEs

% of adults reporting one or more Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) during their childhood

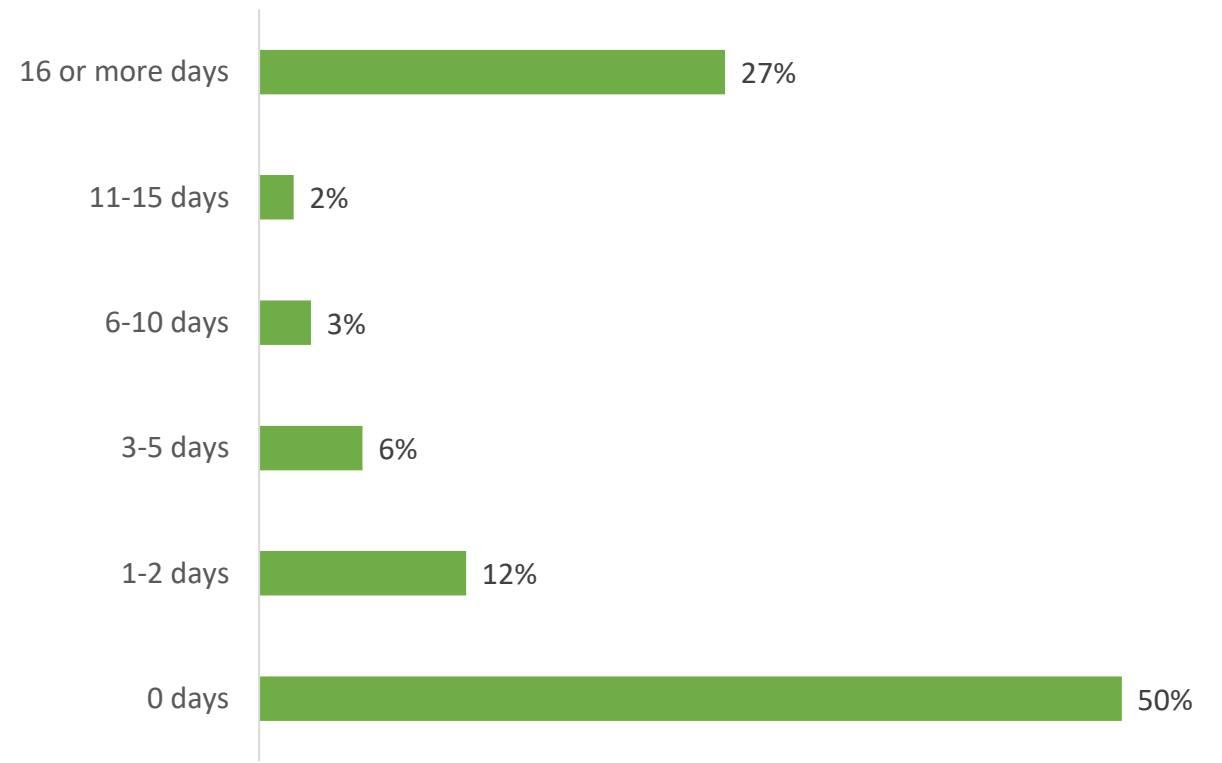


Key Indicators for Exposure to Childhood Trauma

In the past 30 days, how many days would you consider your mental health (including stress, depression, and issues with emotion) to be not good?



In the past 30 days, how many times have you had four or more alcoholic drinks in one occasion?



Key Indicators for Exposure to Childhood Trauma

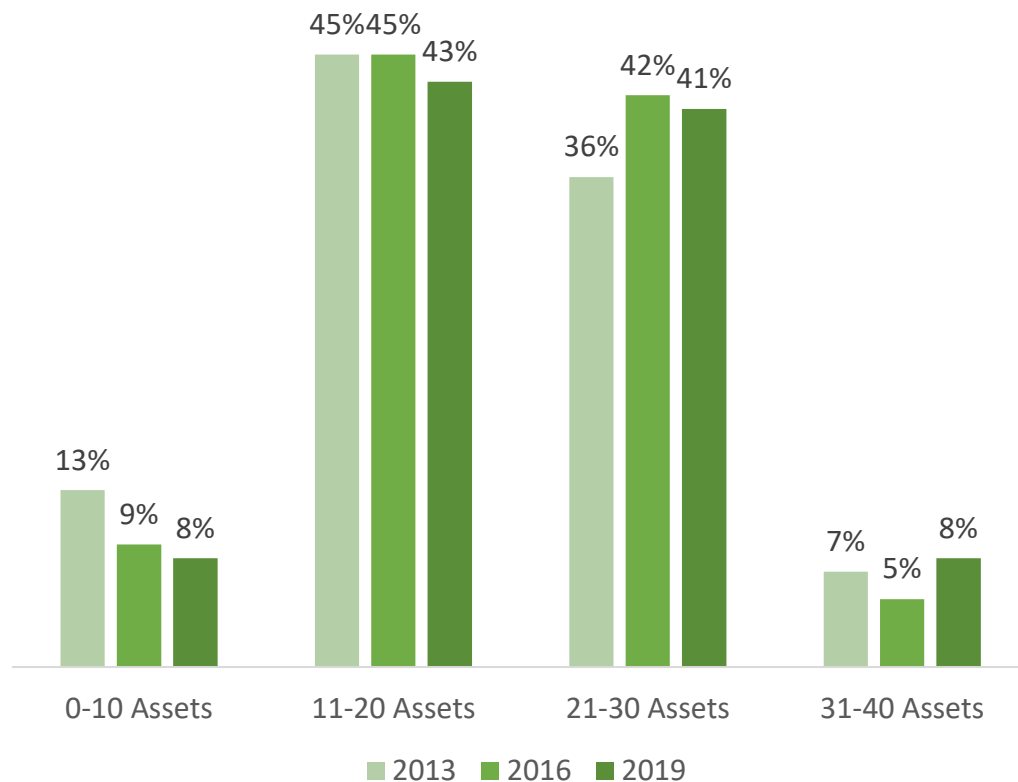
% of Students Reporting Physical Abuse in the Home



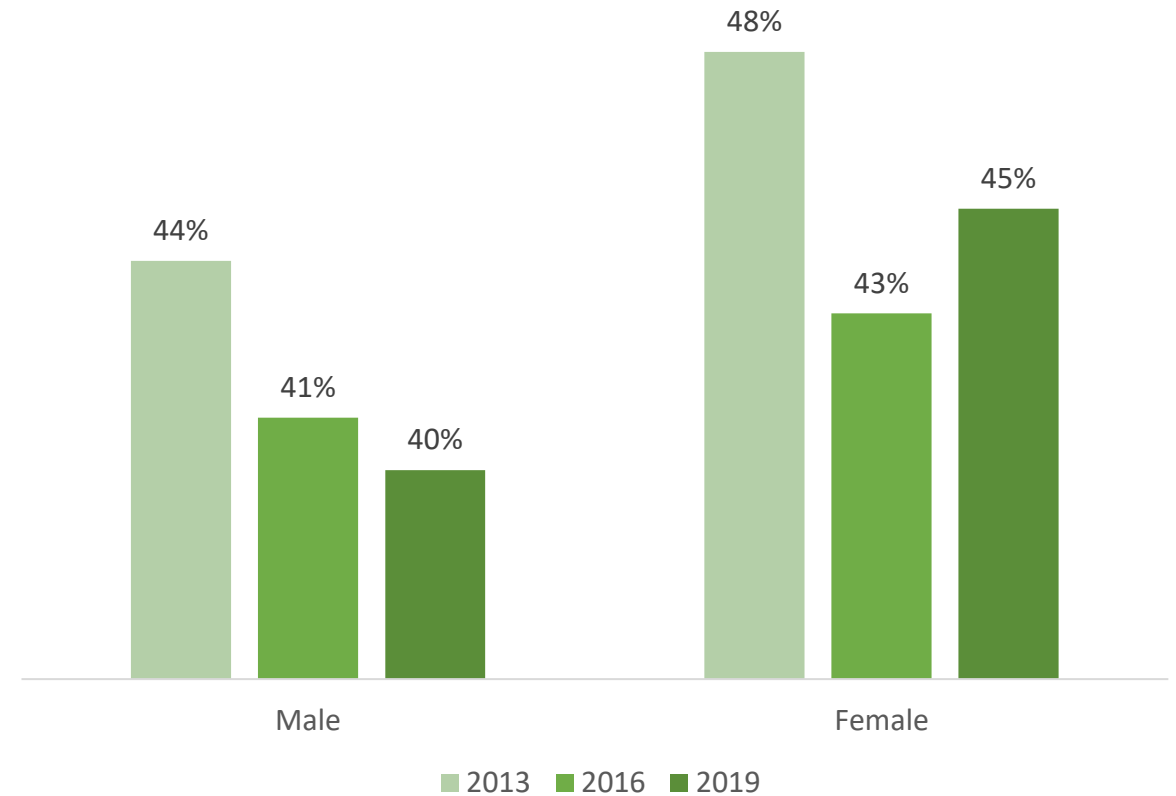
Source: Developmental Assets, Alexandria City Public Schools, Search Institute

Key Indicators for Developmental Assets

Students who Report Having the Ideal Number of Assets (31+ Assets)



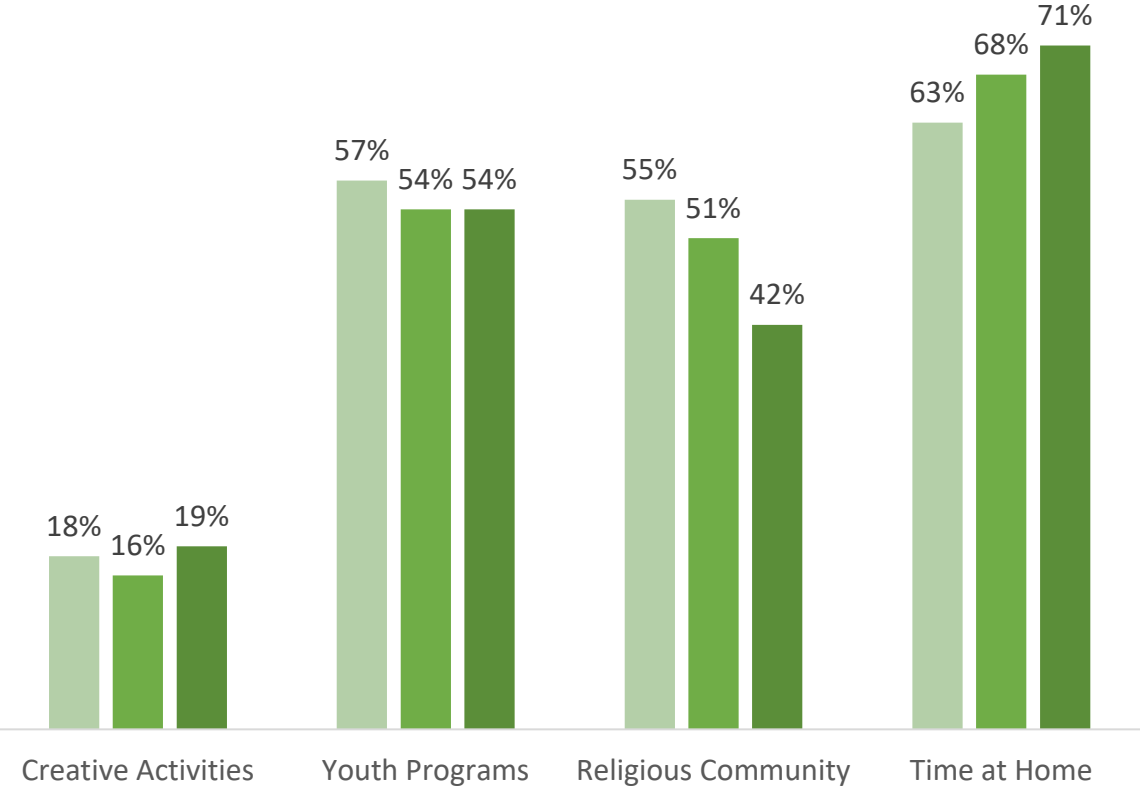
Caring Adults by Gender



Key Indicators for Developmental Assets

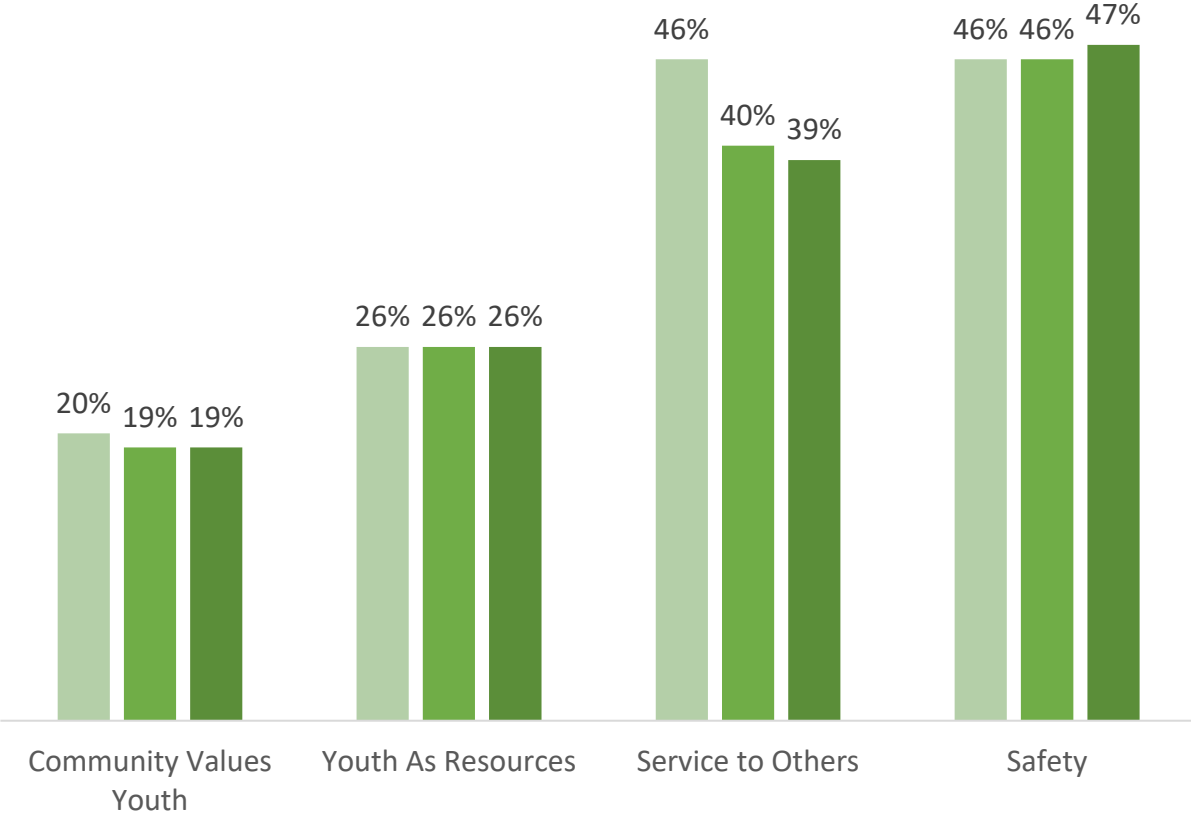
Constructive Use of Time Assets

2013 2016 2019



Empowerment Assets

2013 2016 2019



Source: Developmental Assets, Alexandria City Public Schools, Search Institute