

**Carteret Public School
District
Assessment
Presentation
NJGPA-A
Spring 2026 Administration**

**September 30, 2026
Mrs. Rosa Diaz, Superintendent
Dr. Melissa Jones, Assistant Superintendent**



RAMBLERS RISE

2026-2027 Instructional Administrative Team

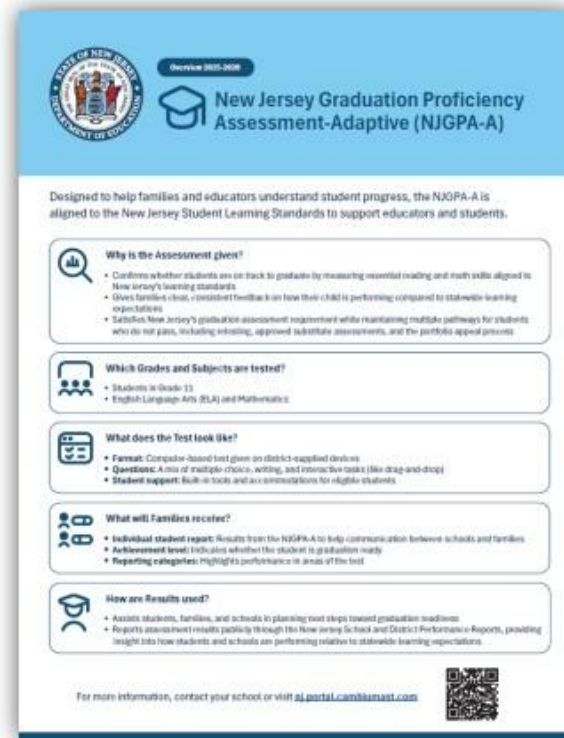
Mrs. Josephine Wilson, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Christian Zimmer, Director of Data, Evaluation, and Assessment
Mr. Sean Powers, Director of STEM
Mrs. Sue Cherney, Director of Special Services
Mrs. Michelle Jonte, Director of ESL, Bilingual, WL
Mrs. Grace Cunha, Director of Athletics, Supervisor PE/Health

Carteret High School

Mrs. Joanna Joaquin, Principal
Mrs. Jackie DePasquale, Assistant Principal
Mr. Byron Hamby, Assistant Principal

Why is the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment-Adaptive (NJGPA-A) given?

- Confirms whether students are on track to graduate by measuring essential reading and math skills aligned to New Jersey's learning standards
- Gives families clear, consistent feedback on how their child is performing compared to statewide learning expectations
- Satisfies New Jersey's graduation assessment requirement while maintaining multiple pathways for students who do not pass, including retesting, approved substitute assessments, and the portfolio appeal process



The graphic is a blue and white informational sheet. At the top left is the New Jersey Department of Education logo. To its right is the text 'Revised 2025-2026' and 'New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment-Adaptive (NJGPA-A)'. Below this is a paragraph: 'Designed to help families and educators understand student progress, the NJGPA-A is aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards to support educators and students.' The sheet contains five sections, each with an icon and a title: 1. 'Why is the Assessment given?' with a magnifying glass icon, listing that it confirms student progress, gives families feedback, and satisfies the assessment requirement. 2. 'Which Grades and Subjects are tested?' with a group of people icon, listing students in Grade 11 and English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. 3. 'What does the Test look like?' with a document icon, listing the format (computer-based), question types (multiple choice, writing, etc.), and student support tools. 4. 'What will Families receive?' with a family icon, listing an individual student report, an achievement level, and reporting categories. 5. 'How are Results used?' with a graduation cap icon, listing that results are used to assess students, inform planning, and are reported publicly. At the bottom, it says 'For more information, contact your school or visit ajportal.cambiumast.com' and includes a QR code.

Why is the Assessment given?

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- Gives families clear, consistent feedback on how their child is performing compared to statewide learning expectations
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Which Grades and Subjects are tested?

- Students in Grade 11
- English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics

What does the Test look like?

- **Format:** Computer-based test given on district-supplied devices
- **Questions:** A mix of multiple choice, writing, and interactive tasks (like drag-and-drop)
- **Student support:** Built-in tools and accommodations for eligible students

What will Families receive?

- **Individual student report:** Results from the NJGPA-A to help communication between schools and families
- **Achievement level:** Indicates whether the student is graduation ready
- **Reporting categories:** Highlights performance in areas of the test

How are Results used?

- Assess students, families, and schools in planning next steps toward graduation readiness
- Reports assessment results publicly through the New Jersey School and District Performance Reports, providing insight into how students and schools are performing relative to statewide learning expectations

For more information, contact your school or visit ajportal.cambiumast.com



From Field Test to Standard Setting

Fall 2025

Field Test

Items from the vendor's bank were administered to students to gather real data on how each item performs.

Establishes the item-level evidence needed to judge quality.



Winter 2026

Educator Data Review

New Jersey educators reviewed content quality and flagged items that did not perform consistently across student groups.

Confirms fairness and validity; weak items are removed.



Spring 2026

Operational Administration

The first operational administration of NJGPA-A and NJSLA-A used only field-tested, educator-approved items.

Delivers a test built from proven, reliable items.



Summer 2026

Standard Setting

Educators set performance levels and cut scores using nationally recognized practices, defining what each score means.

Produces valid results, reporting can begin.



Considerations for the change in Graduation Ready rates



Transition from fixed-form to adaptive testing



Alignment to new academic standards



Updated performance level descriptors



Redesigned test blueprints



Transition from fixed-form to adaptive testing

- Increased precision
 - Adaptive tests target item difficulty to the student's ability level, producing more information and lower measurement error around the student's achievement level.
- Changes to the assessment platform and item structure
 - The way questions were phrased and how the student interacts with the testing platform can impact their performance until they become familiar with the new formats.



Alignment to New Academic Standards



- Test is now directly aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for English language Arts and Mathematics (NJSLS-ELA/M)
 - The prior NJGPA was aligned to the PARCC evidence statements
- Shift Toward Higher-Order Thinking Skills
 - The standards require deeper conceptual understanding, more complex problem-solving, and enhanced application of knowledge.
- The revised NJSLS-ELA/M have shifted focus on some aspects of the standards and students are still adjusting to the newly implemented standards.



Redesigned test blueprints

- Changes to the ELA assessment include:
 - Moving from two extended writing tasks to a single writing task,
 - Greater emphasis on reading standards, and
 - There are more passages for students to read and process on this assessment than the prior.
- Changes to the Mathematics assessment include:
 - Extended response items are no longer used on the assessment, and
 - Reporting categories have been redesigned to provide more meaningful results at the student and LEA levels.



What is Standard Setting?

- Process that takes the written descriptions from the Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs) and applies them to determine a numeric value represented by the scale score.
- Standard setting involves determining the “cut points” (or where to “draw the lines”) that separate scores into those Performance Levels.
- New Jersey educators then make a recommendation to indicate where students demonstrated knowledge, skills, and abilities reflect graduation ready proficiencies as indicated by the PLDs.



Cut off score is 450 for both tests



Class of 2027 NJGPA-A District Spring Administration Results



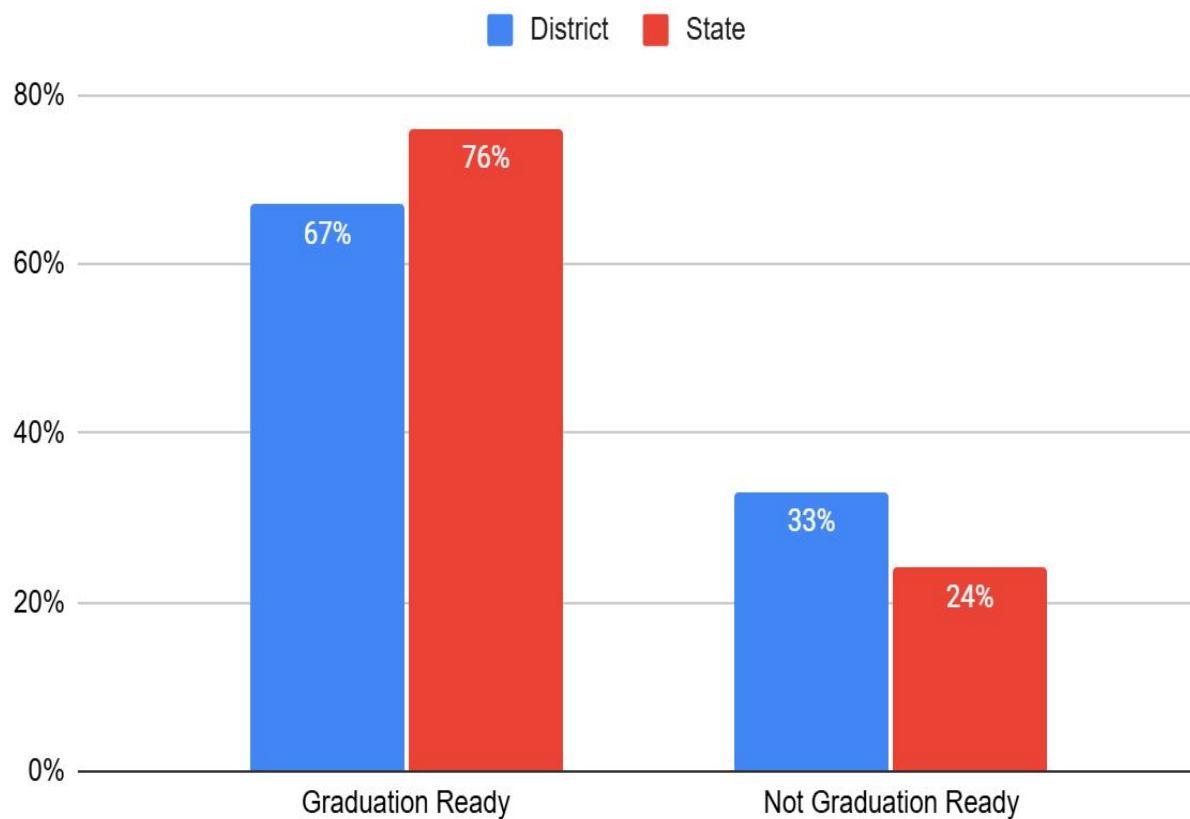
New Test in 2025-2026

- Test results cannot be compared to previous years
- This is a new baseline for testing data

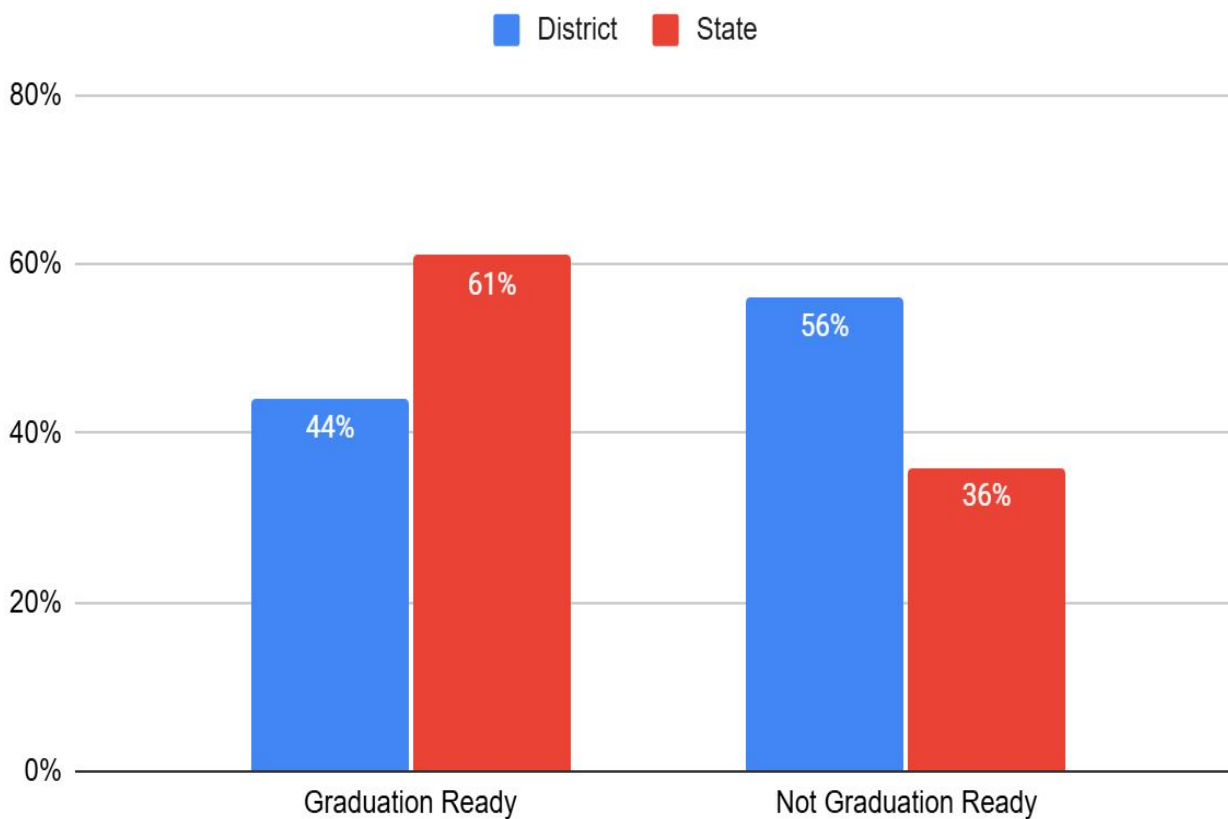
The word "NEW" is rendered in large, bold, 3D gold letters with a metallic sheen and shadows. It sits on a blue rectangular pedestal. The background consists of light blue and medium blue geometric shapes, including rectangles and triangles, creating a modern, abstract look.

Overall NJGPA-A Results

Carteret Compared to State - ELA



Carteret Compared to State - Math



NJGPA-A

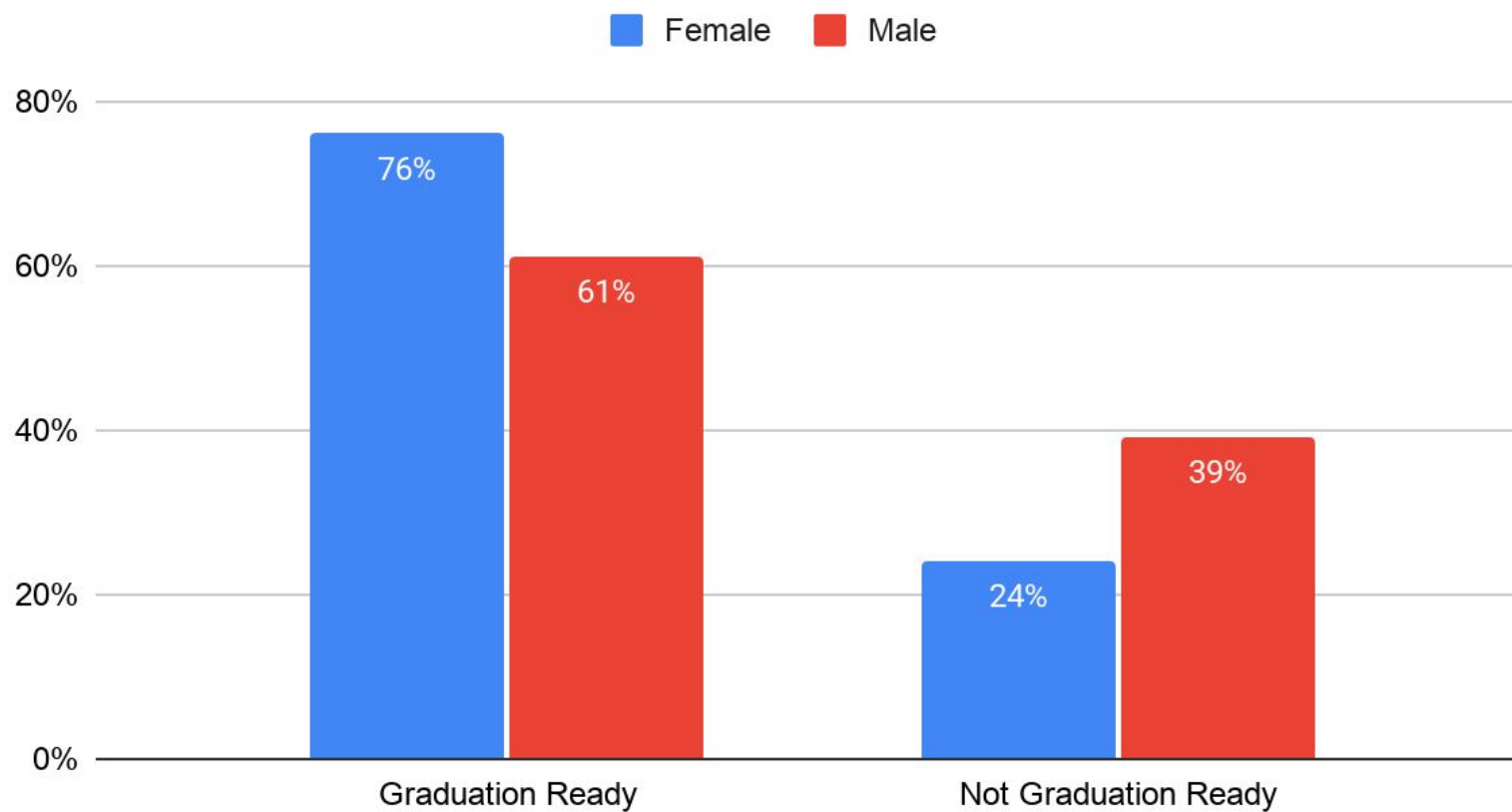
Data Analysis

ELA Subgroup Data



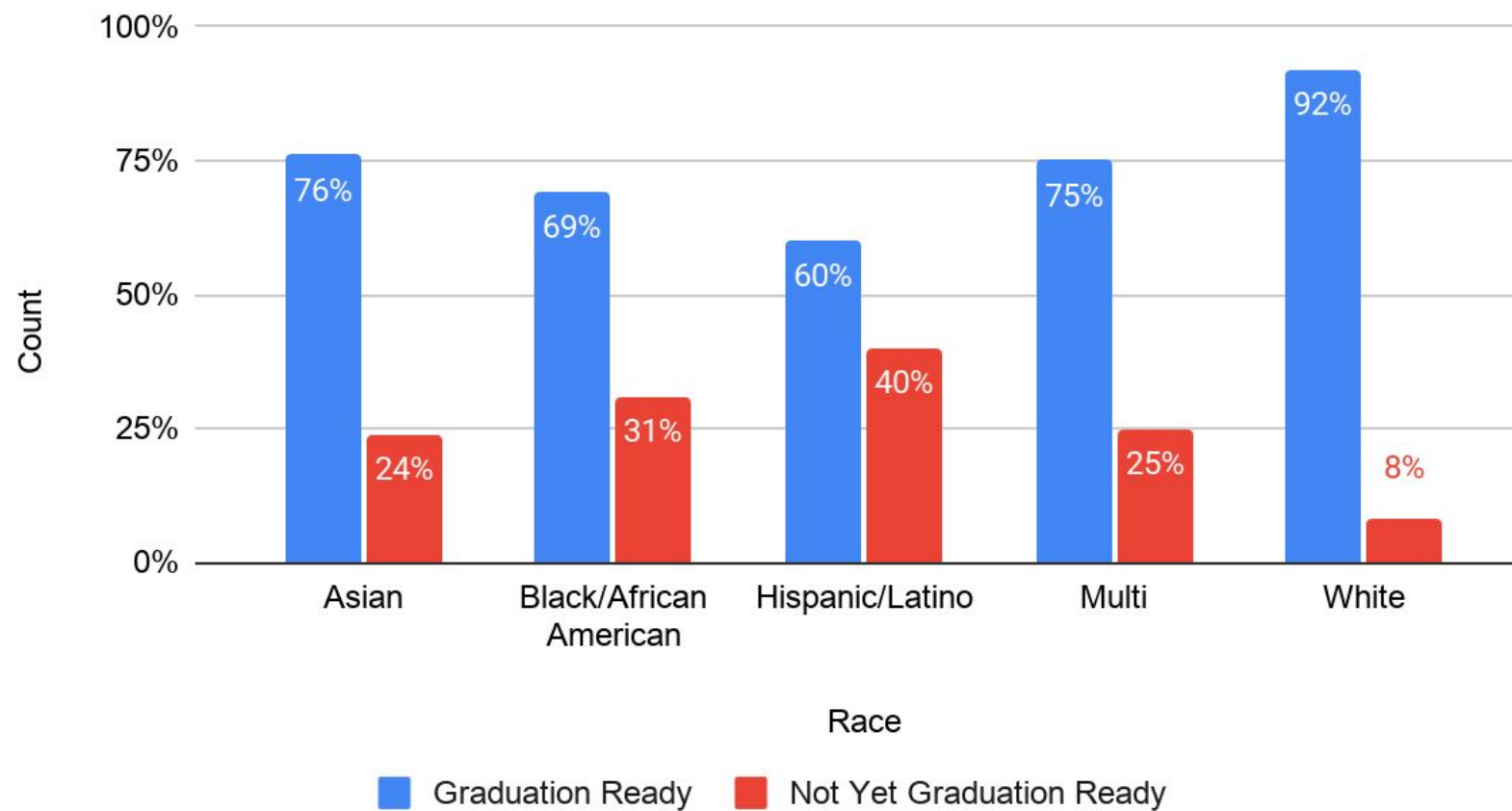
ELA by Gender

ELA % by Gender



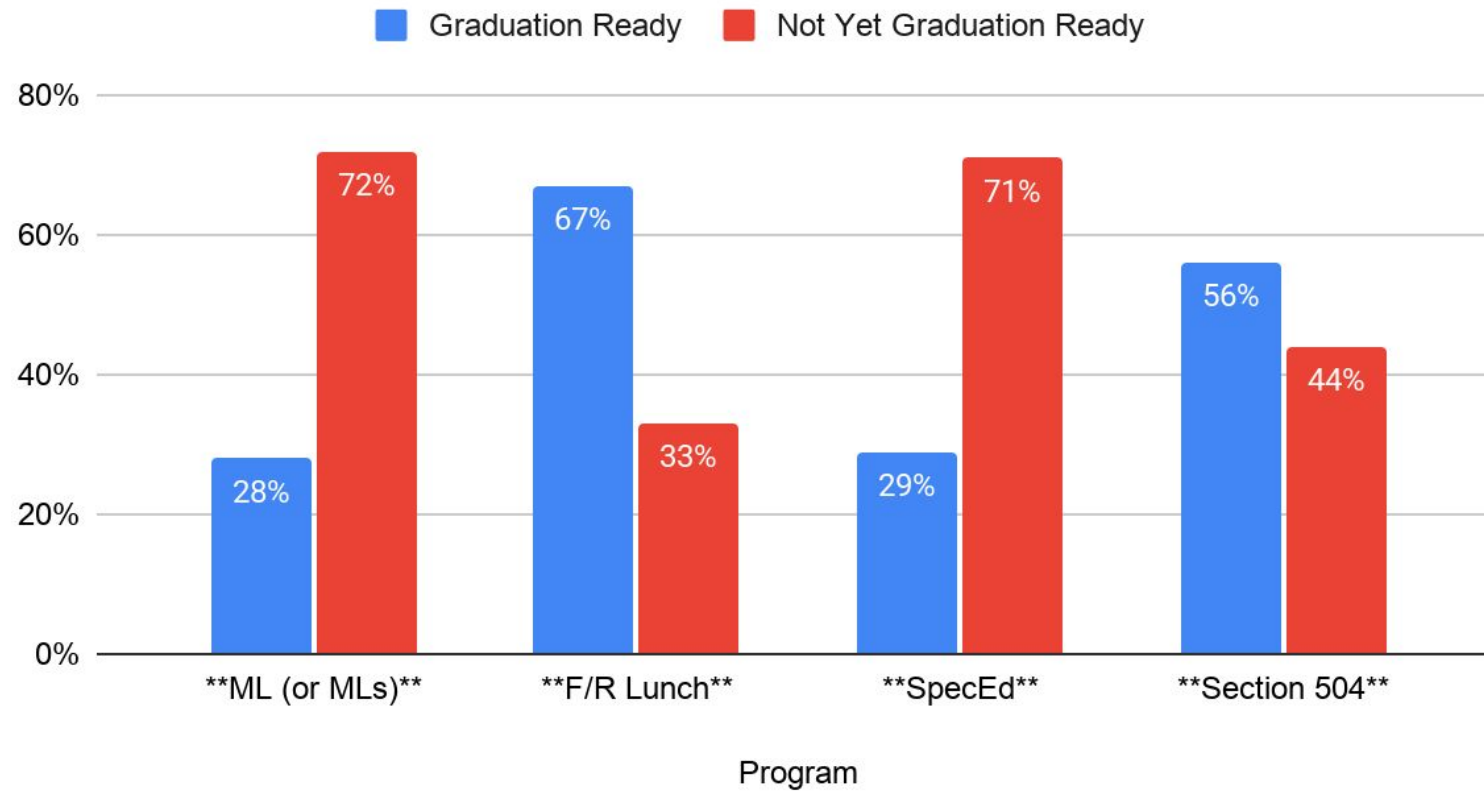
ELA by Race

Graduation Readiness by Race



ELA by Program

Graduation Ready and Not Yet Graduation Ready



English Next Steps

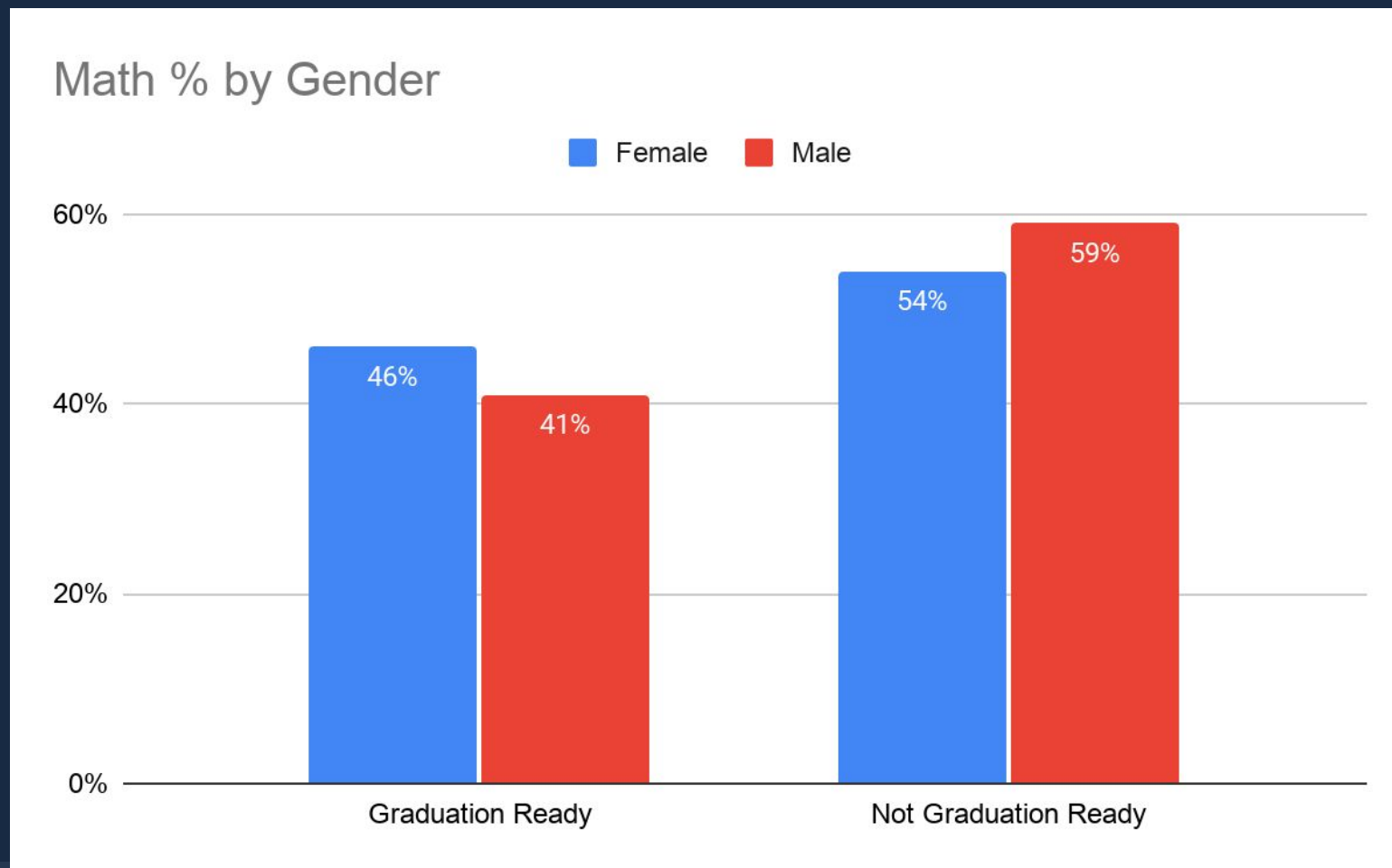
- NJGPA LinkIt Benchmark Testing
- LinkIt Navi Assisted Writing Benchmark Scoring
- NJSLA-A rubric for writing prompts
- Evaluating schedule to include more writing
- Implement sustained professional development



NJGPA-A Data Analysis Math Subgroup Data

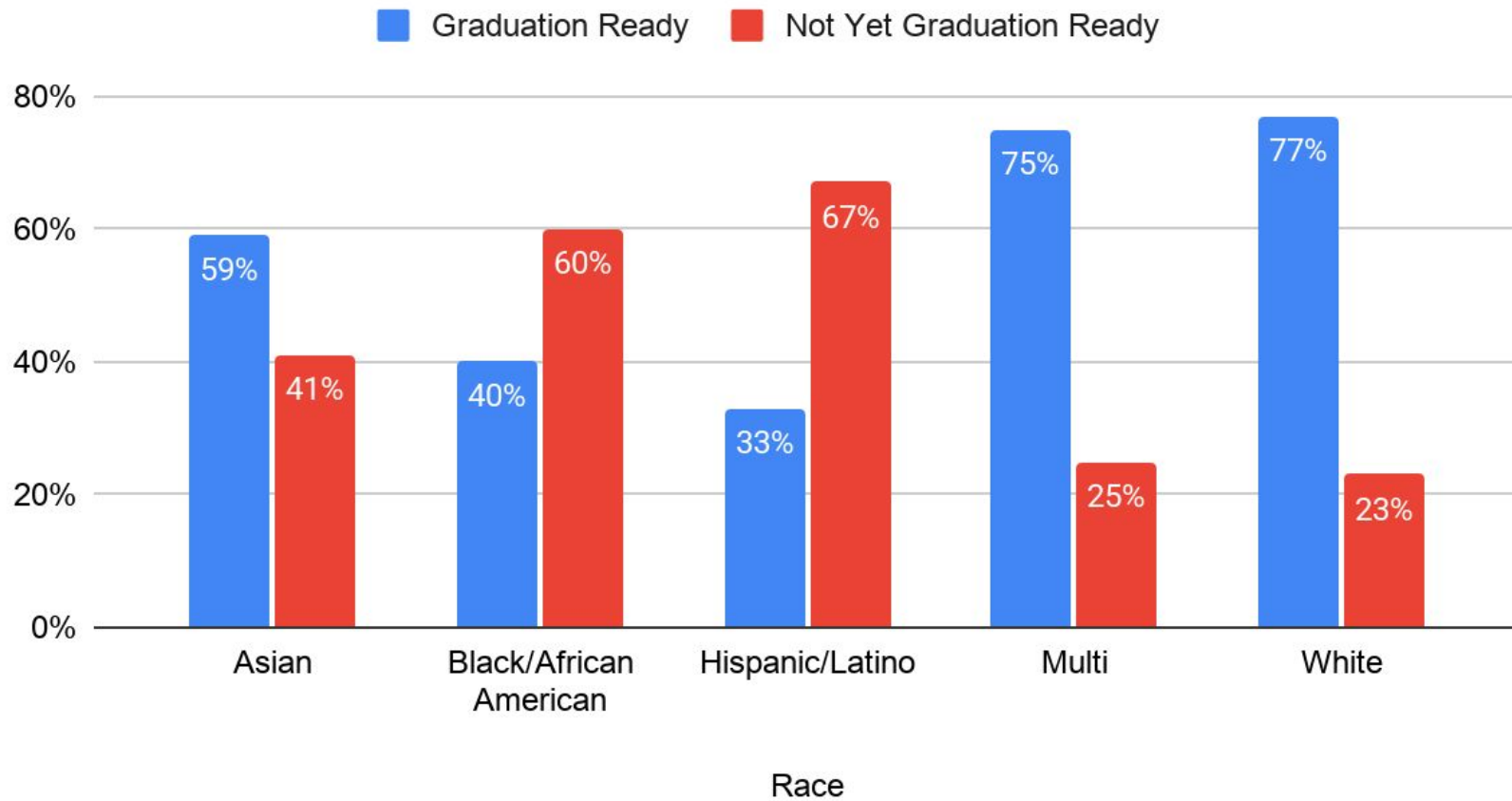


Math by Gender



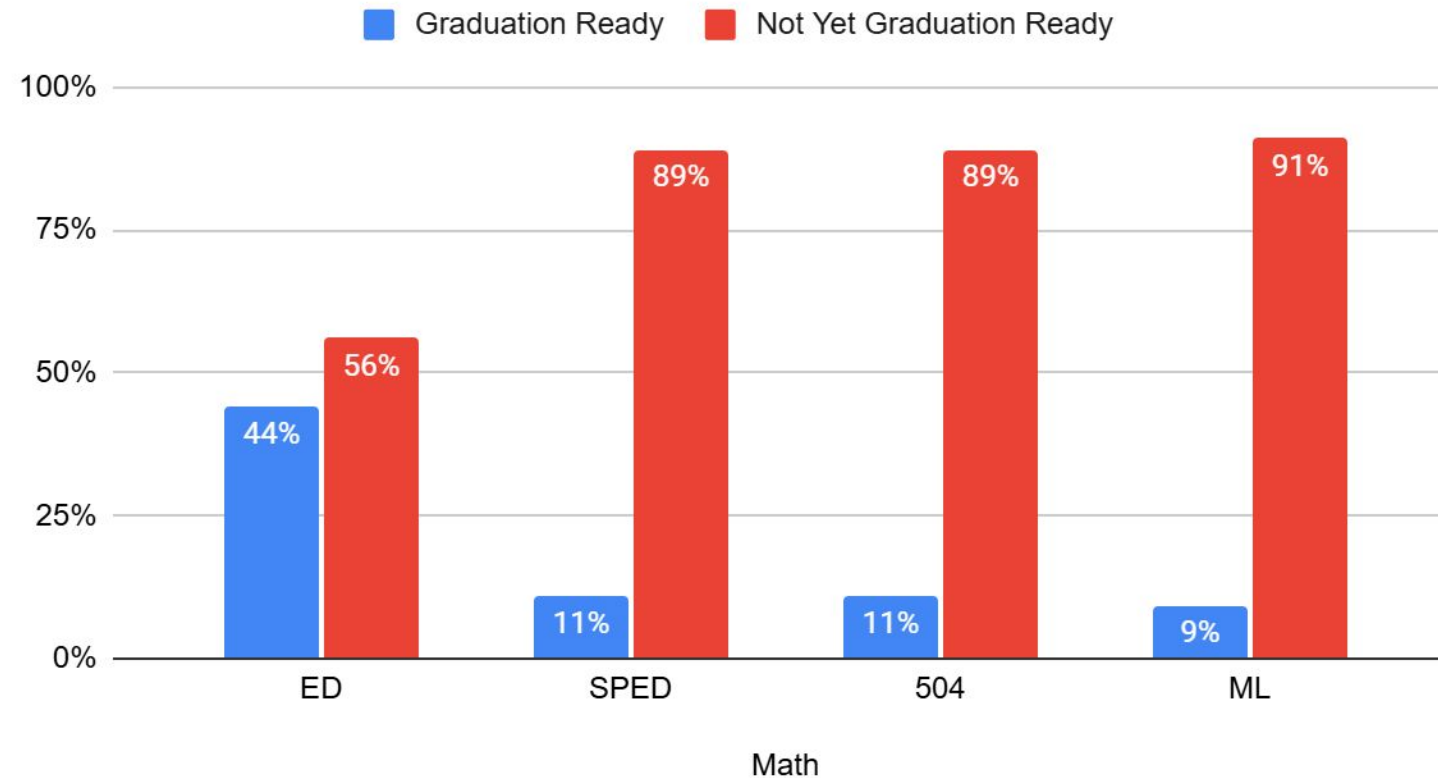
Math by Race

Math by Race



Math by Program

Graduation and Not Graduation Ready



Math Next Steps



NJGPA-A Link It
Benchmark
Assessment



Conduct analysis of
math curriculum and
programs



Implement sustained
professional
development

Class of 2026 Graduation Pathways

Number of students who graduated	301
Number of students who met the graduation requirement through passing a substitute assessment	24
Number of students who met the graduation requirement through the appeals process for English	17
Number of students who met the graduation requirement through the appeals process for Math	37
Number of students receiving State-endorsed high school diplomas as a result of meeting any alternate requirements for graduation as specified in their IEPs	9
Number of students who were denied graduation from the 12th grade class	2
Number of students denied graduation from the 12th grade class solely due to failure to pass the State graduation proficiency test, substitute competency tests, or portfolio appeals process	0

Current class of 2027

- Have fewer students deemed “Not Graduation Ready” this year than August 2025
 - Due to Accuplacer testing in August

Graduation Pathways – Class of 2027

Students who took but did not demonstrate “Graduation Ready” performance can use the following pathways:

- Retest NJGPA-A
 - The next administration of the NJGPA-A will occur October 13-28, 2026.
- Menu of Alternate Assessments
 - The cut scores for the assessments will remain the same as they were for the class of 2026.
- Portfolio Appeals
 - Submissions for the class of 2027 opens January 4, 2027.



**Questions?
Comments?**

**THANK
YOU**