



# TEXAS OnCourse

DATA NOTE NO. 03

## WHAT ARE THE ENDORSEMENT CHOICES OF 9TH GRADERS ENROLLED IN TEXAS SCHOOLS IN 2015-16?

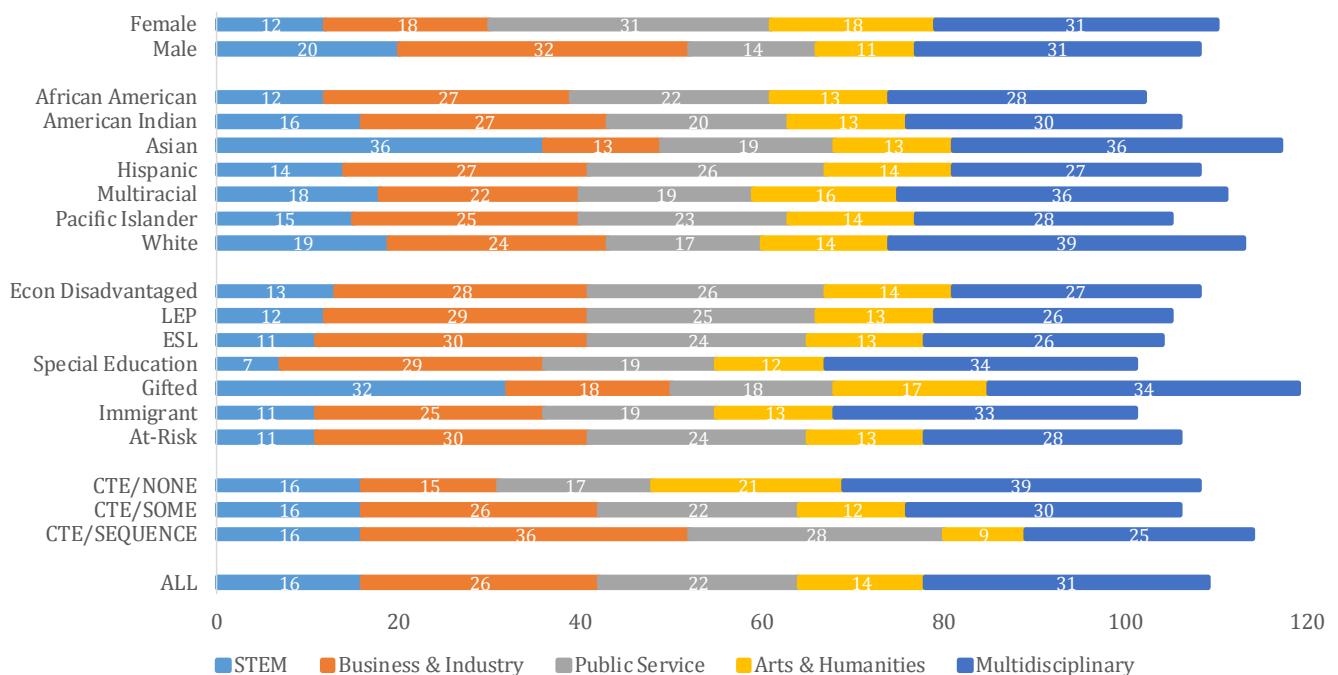
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House Bill 5 (HB5), passed by the Texas Legislature in 2013, established new graduation requirements for high school students. In addition to 22 core credits, the Foundation High School Program gives students the option to take 4 more credits of related courses and graduate with one or more endorsements in STEM, Business & Industry, Public Service, Arts & Humanities, and Multidisciplinary Studies. The figure below shows the percentage of Grade 9 students who chose specific endorsements by socio-demographic and instructional program characteristics. STEM endorsement choices are the second least popular among all students (16%), and percentages vary from 7% among Special Education students to 36% among Asian students. Business & Industry endorsement choices are the second most popular among all students (26%), and percentages vary from 13% among Asian students to 36% among CTE coherent sequence takers. Public Service endorsement choices have an average popularity among all students (22%), and percentages vary from 14% among Male students to 31% among Female students. Arts & Humanities endorsement choices are the least popular among all students (14%), and percentages vary from 9% among students taking some CTE to 31% among those taking no CTE courses. Finally, the Multi-disciplinary Studies endorsement choices are the most popular among all students (31%), and percentages vary from 25% among CTE coherent sequence takers to 39% among White students and those taking no CTE courses.

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### PERCENT OF 9TH GRADERS PURSUING ENDORSEMENTS, BY DEMOGRAPHICS

FIGURE 1.



Note: Figures do not sum to 100% as students can select multiple endorsements.