

***Staying the Course:***  
**Six-Year College Enrollment and**  
**Completion Experiences of**  
**BPS Class of 2011 Graduates**

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***April 2018***

## BPS postsecondary tracking studies

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- **BPS Class of 2000:** *Getting to the Finish Line (2008)*, prepared by the Center for Labor Market Studies (CLMS) and the PIC
- **BPS Classes of 2000, 2003, 2005-2009:** *Getting Closer to the Finish Line (2013)*, prepared by CLMS
- **BPS Class of 2009:** *Reaching for the Cap and Gown (2016)*, a joint report prepared by PIC and Abt Associates, finding that 51.3% of first-year enrollees completed within six years, just shy of the 52% goal
- **BPS Class of 2011:** *Staying the Course (2018)*

# Data sources

National Student Clearinghouse (NSC)	Boston Public Schools (BPS)
<p>Student-level enrollment records reported by colleges nationwide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Semester of enrollment</li><li>• Level of college (2yr/4yr)</li><li>• Type of college (public, private, and for-profit colleges)</li><li>• Students' full-time / part-time statuses and graduation status</li><li>• Degrees and fields of study</li></ul>	<p>Student-level data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gender</li><li>• Race/ethnic group</li><li>• Graduating high school</li><li>• Students with disabilities</li></ul>
<p><b>Link BPS student-level information with NSC college enrollment records to track college enrollment and completion.</b></p>	

# Definitions

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- BPS Class of 2011: graduates from the 2010-2011 school year are tracked for six years (through August 2017)

- **College enrollment**

First-year enrollees: start college within a year of high school graduation

- Immediate fall semester enrollees: start college in the fall semester immediately after high school.

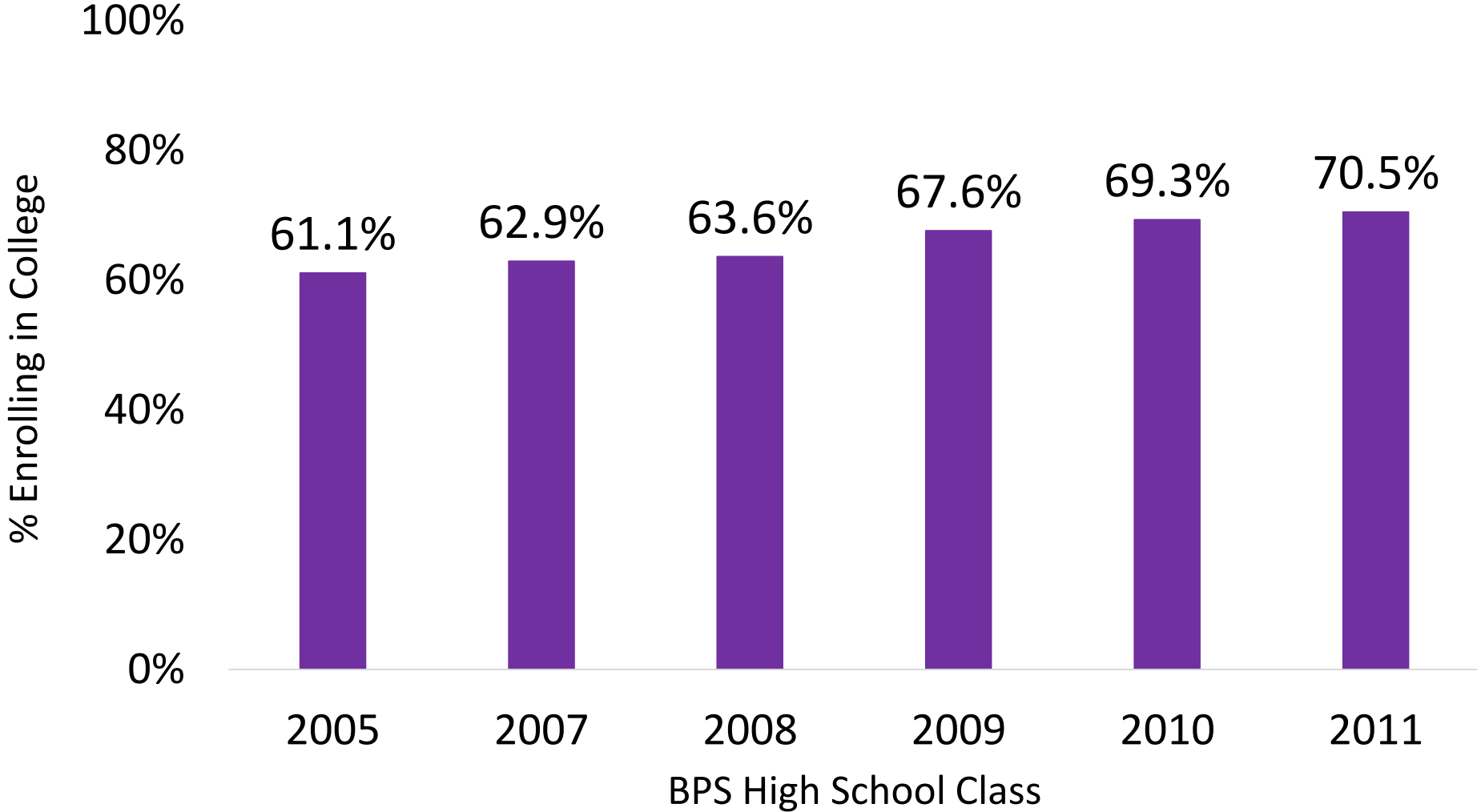
- **College completion**

BPS graduates who earn a certificate, Associate degree, or Bachelor's degree within six years

# COLLEGE ENROLLMENT

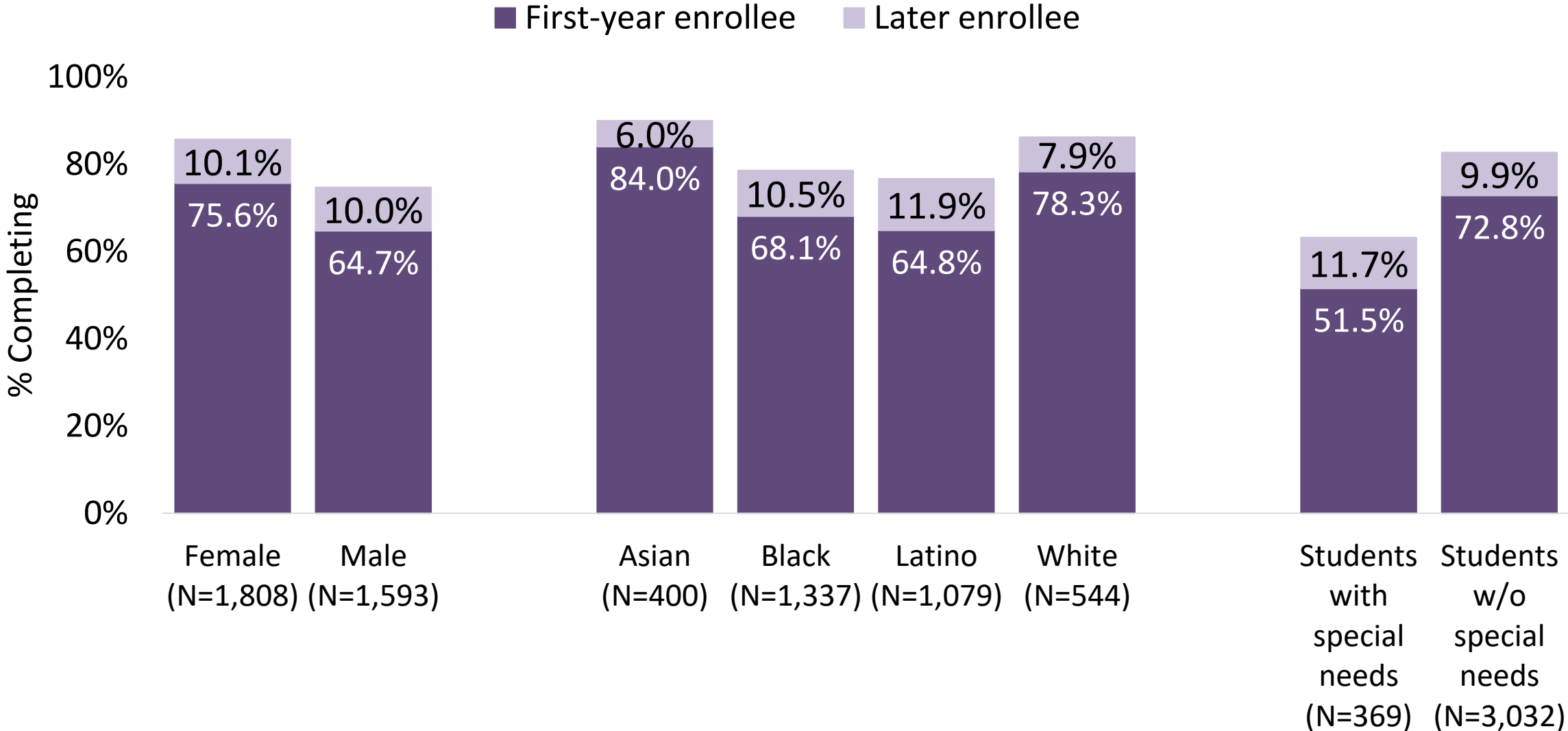
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# First-year college enrollment rates for BPS classes, selected years, 2005-2011



Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data

# Class of 2011 college enrollment, by student group and time of enrollment



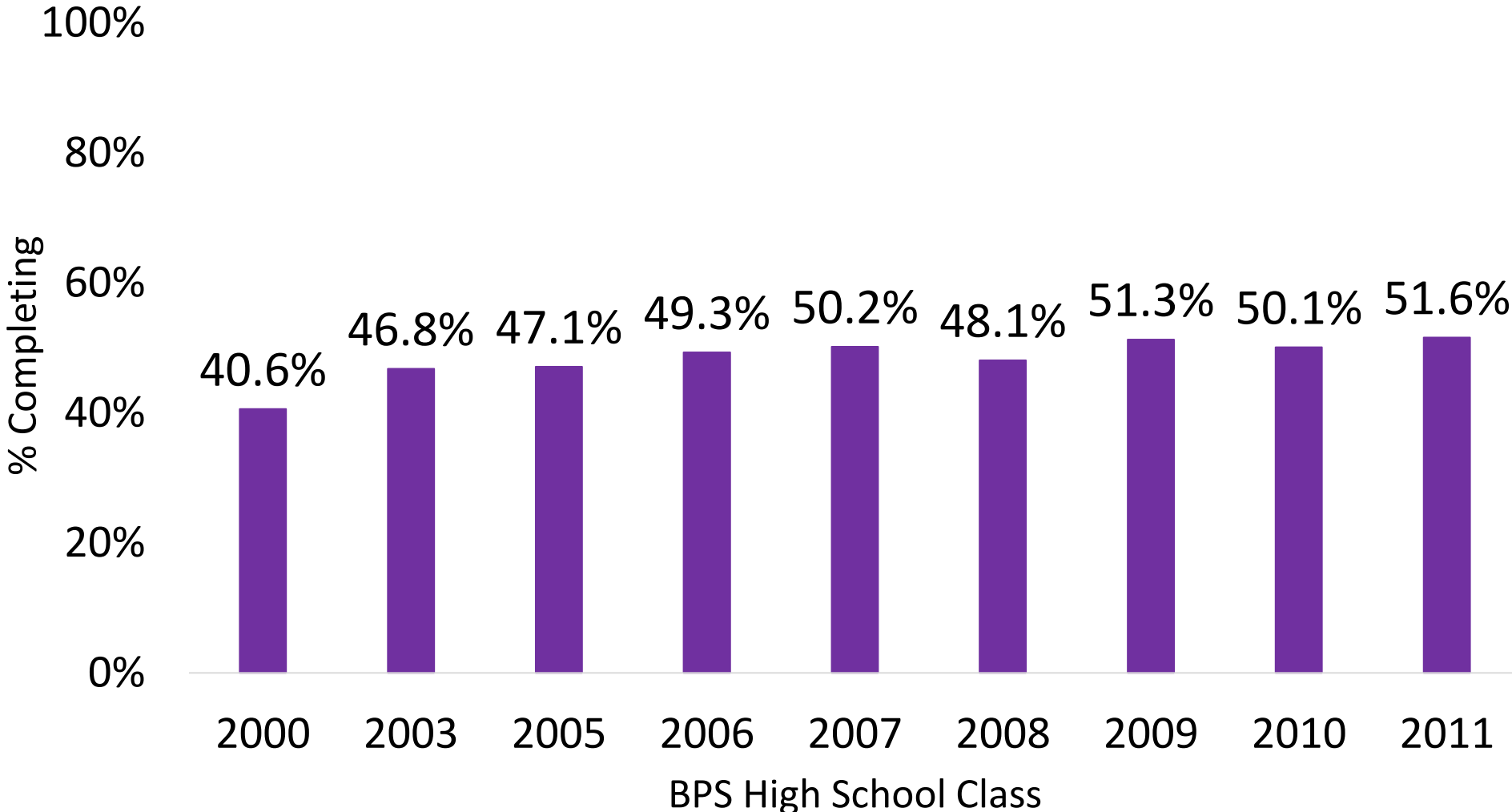
Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data

# COLLEGE COMPLETION TRENDS

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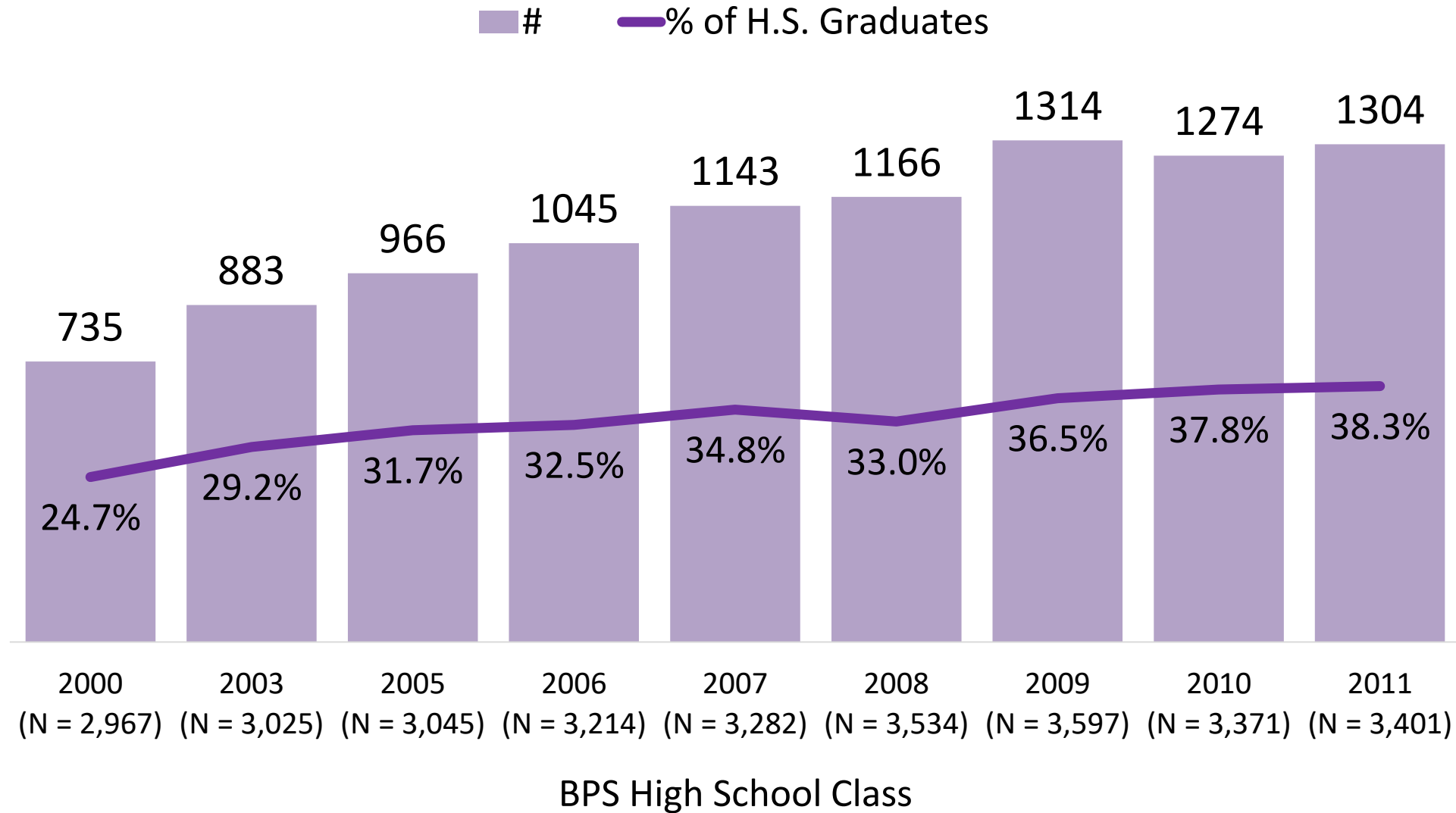


# Six-year college completion rates of first-year enrollees



Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data

# Number and percent of college completers within six years of high school graduation, selected class years, 2000-2011

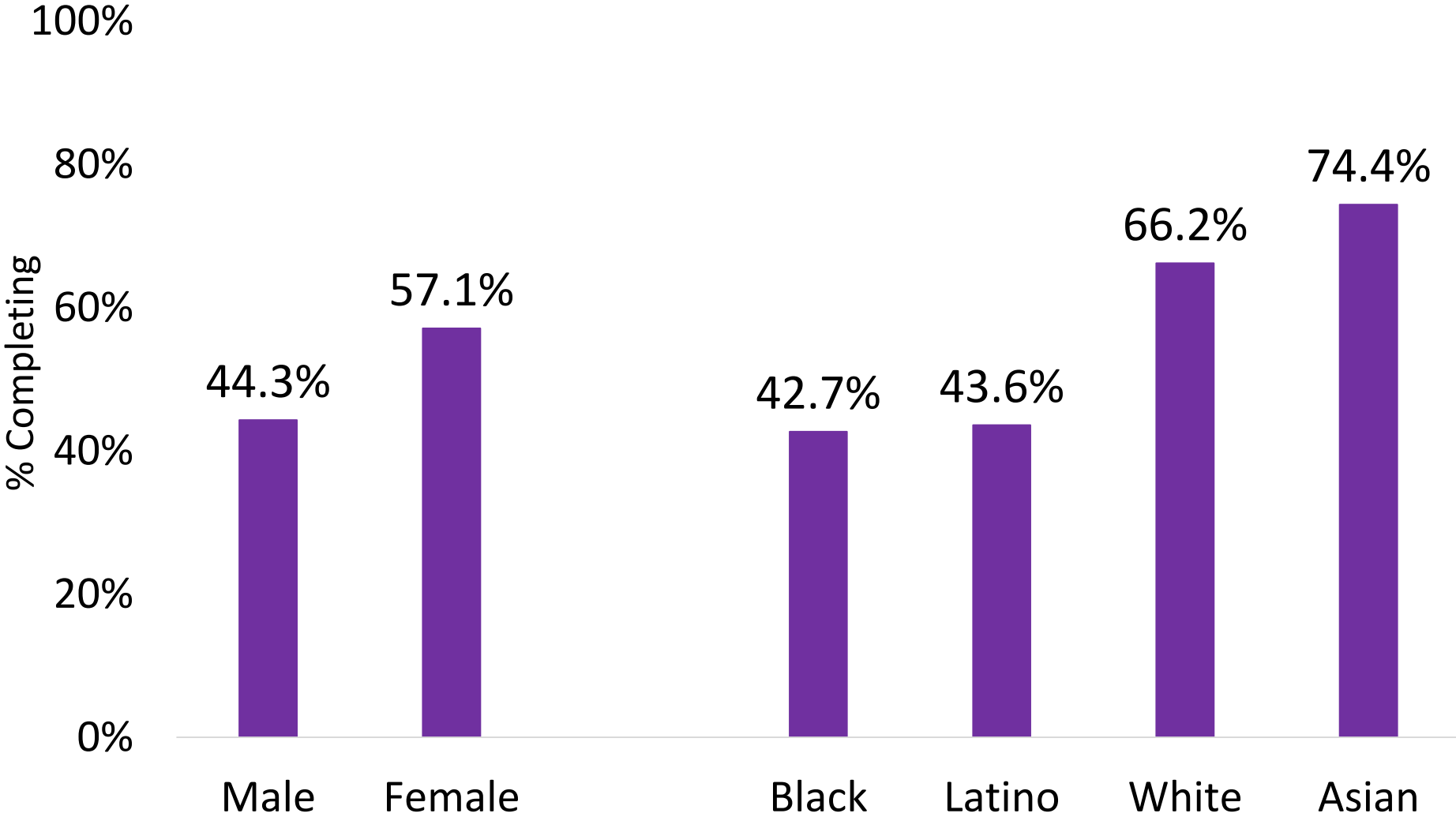


Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data

# DISAGGREGATED COMPLETION RATES OF CLASS OF 2011 COLLEGE ENROLLEES

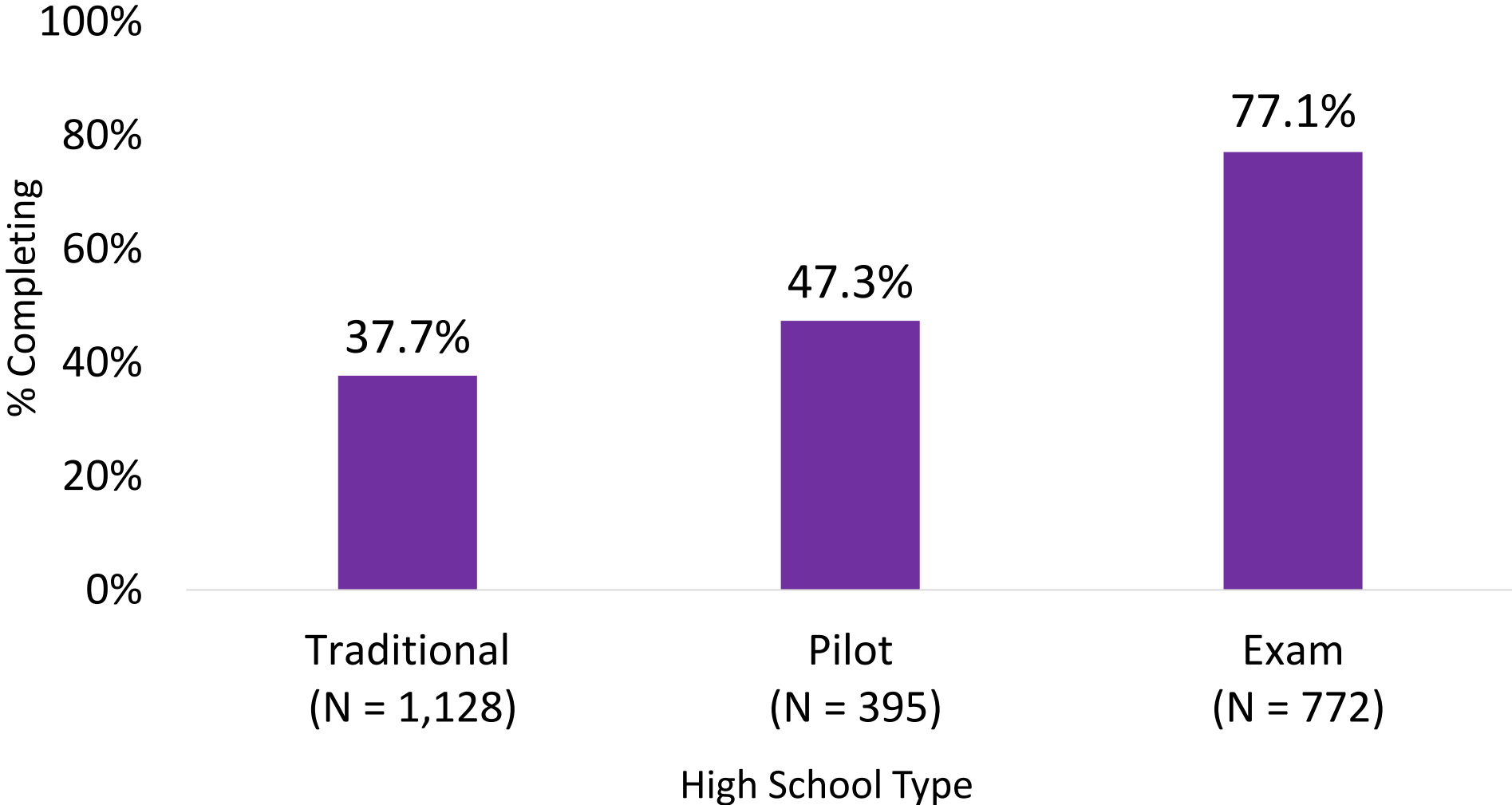
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# Six-year college completion rates of first-year enrollees by student subgroups



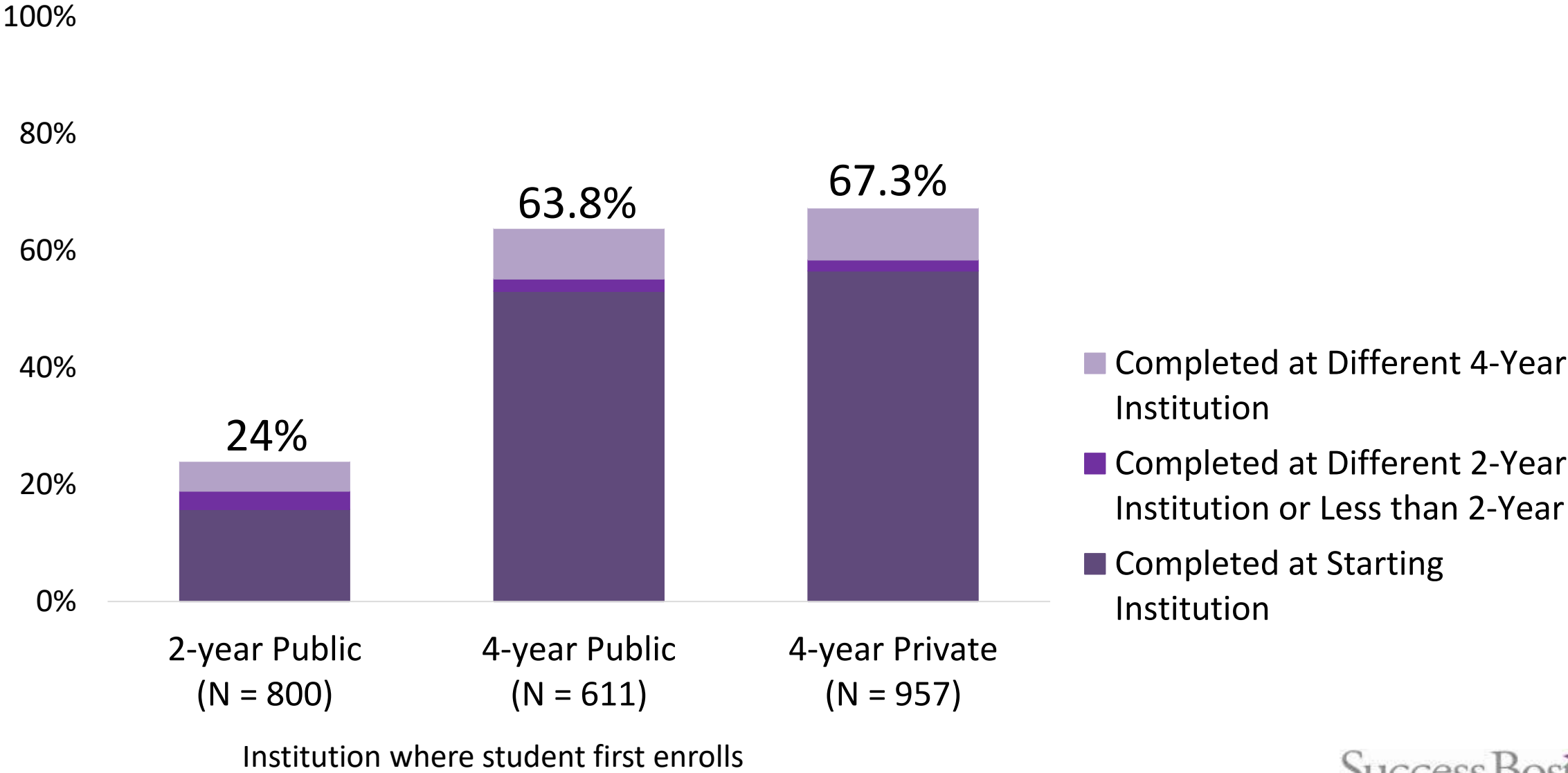
Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data

# Six-year college completion rates of first-year enrollees by high school type



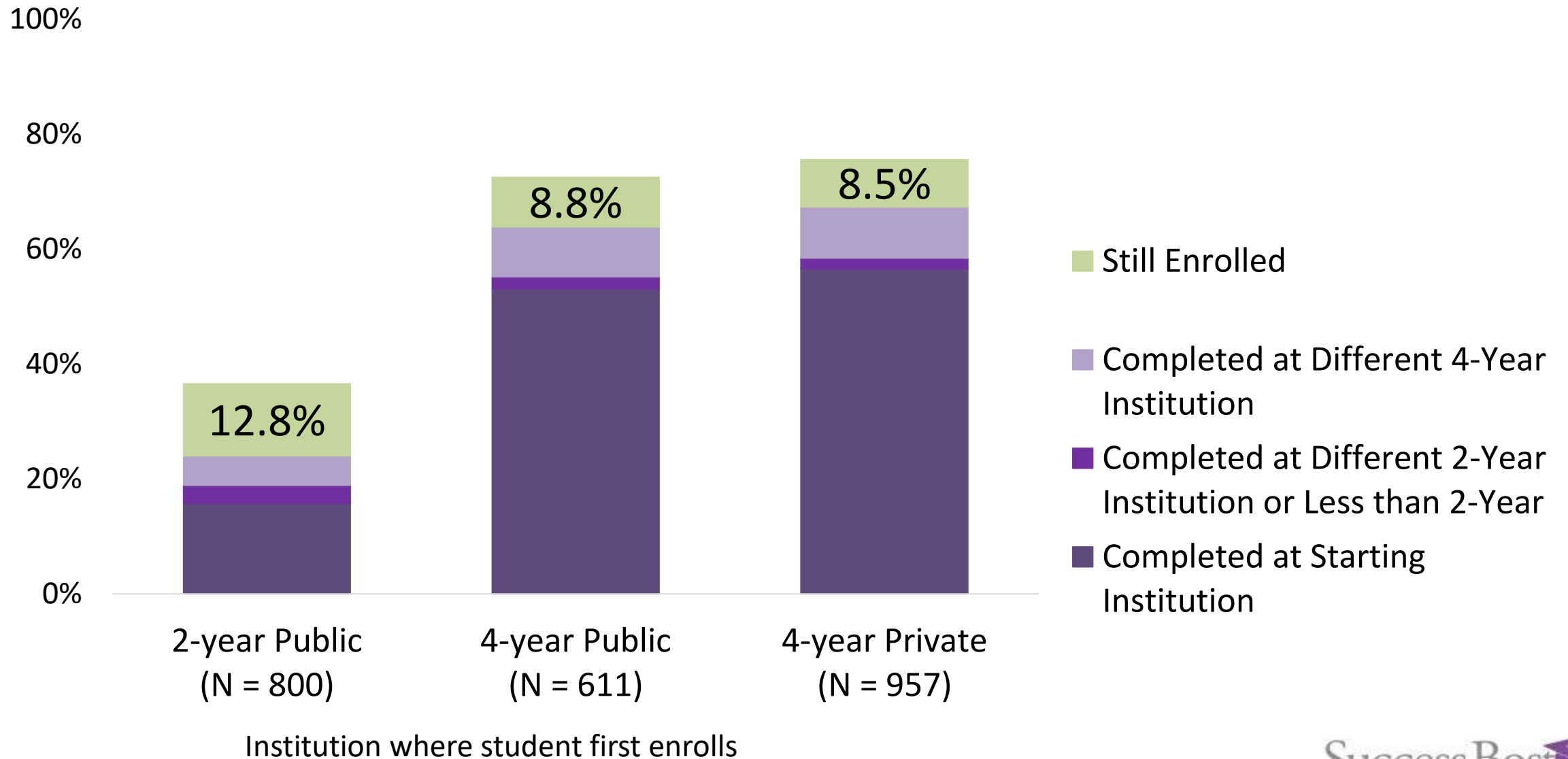
Note: Alternative and special population schools are not displayed  
Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data

# Six-year college completion outcomes of first-year enrollees, by college first attended



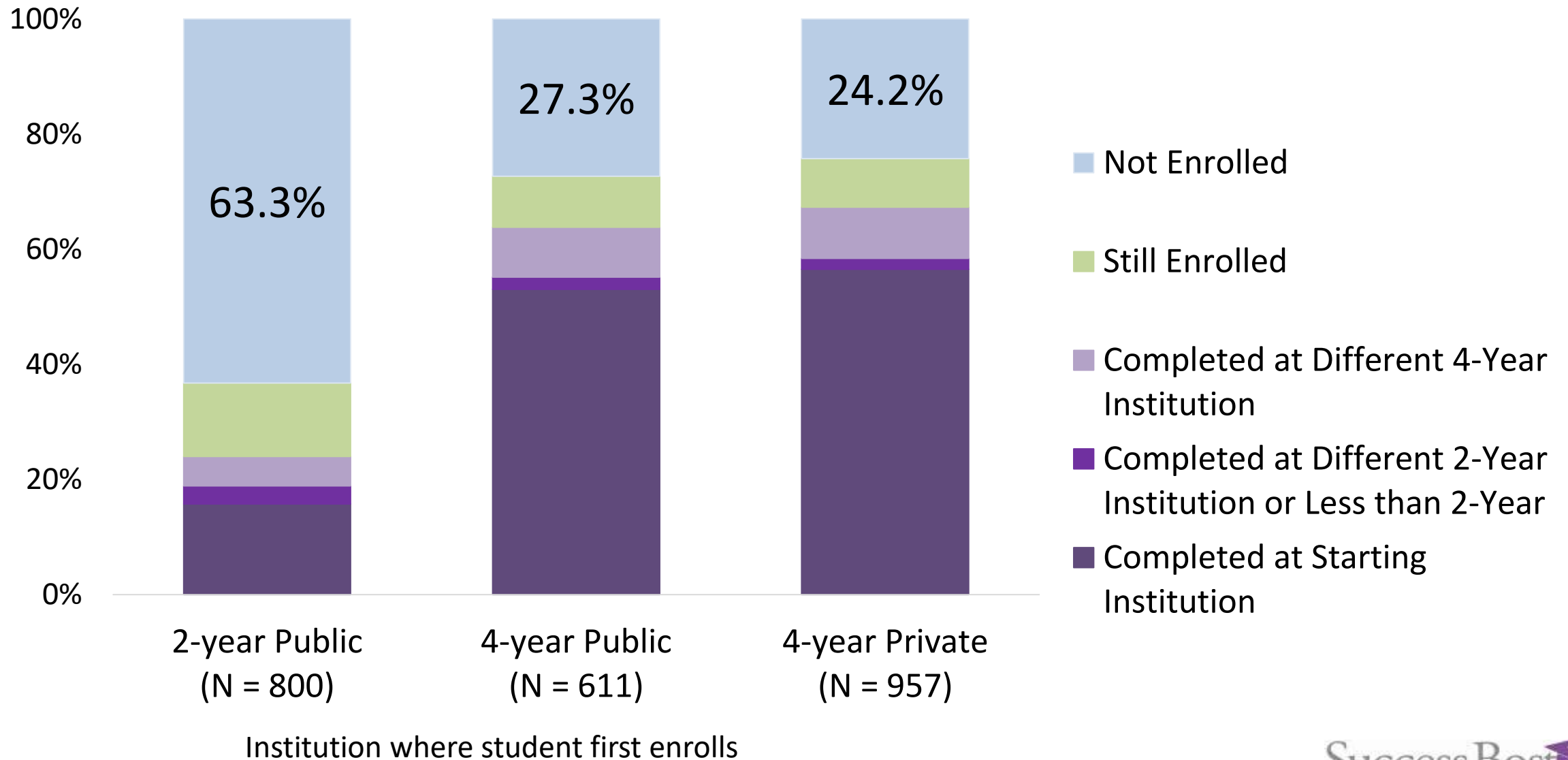
Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data

# Shares of first-year enrollee non-completers still enrolled as of spring/summer 2017, by first institution attended



Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data

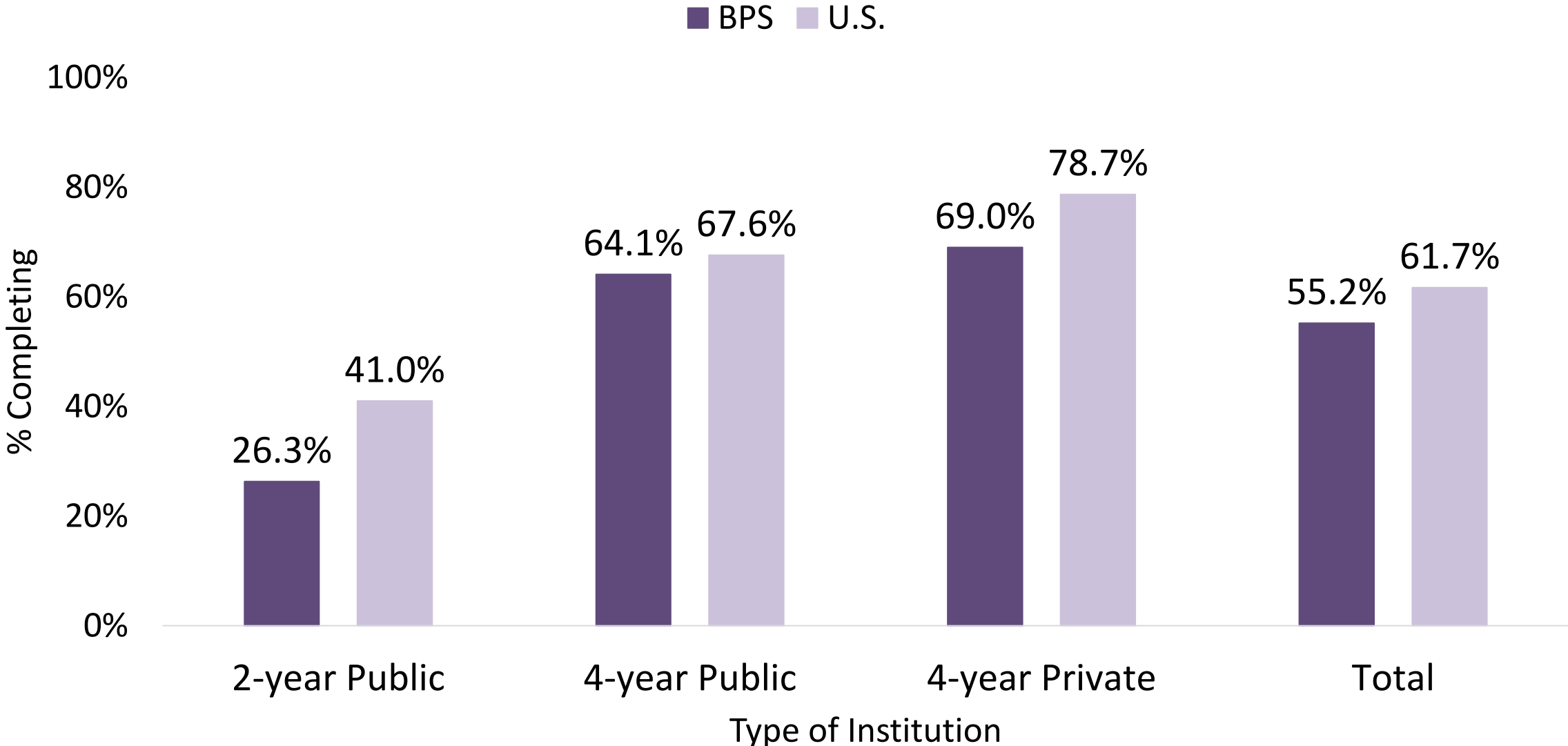
# Share of first-year enrollee non-completers unenrolled as of spring/summer 2017, by first institution attended



Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data



# National comparison: six-year completion rates of fall enrollees



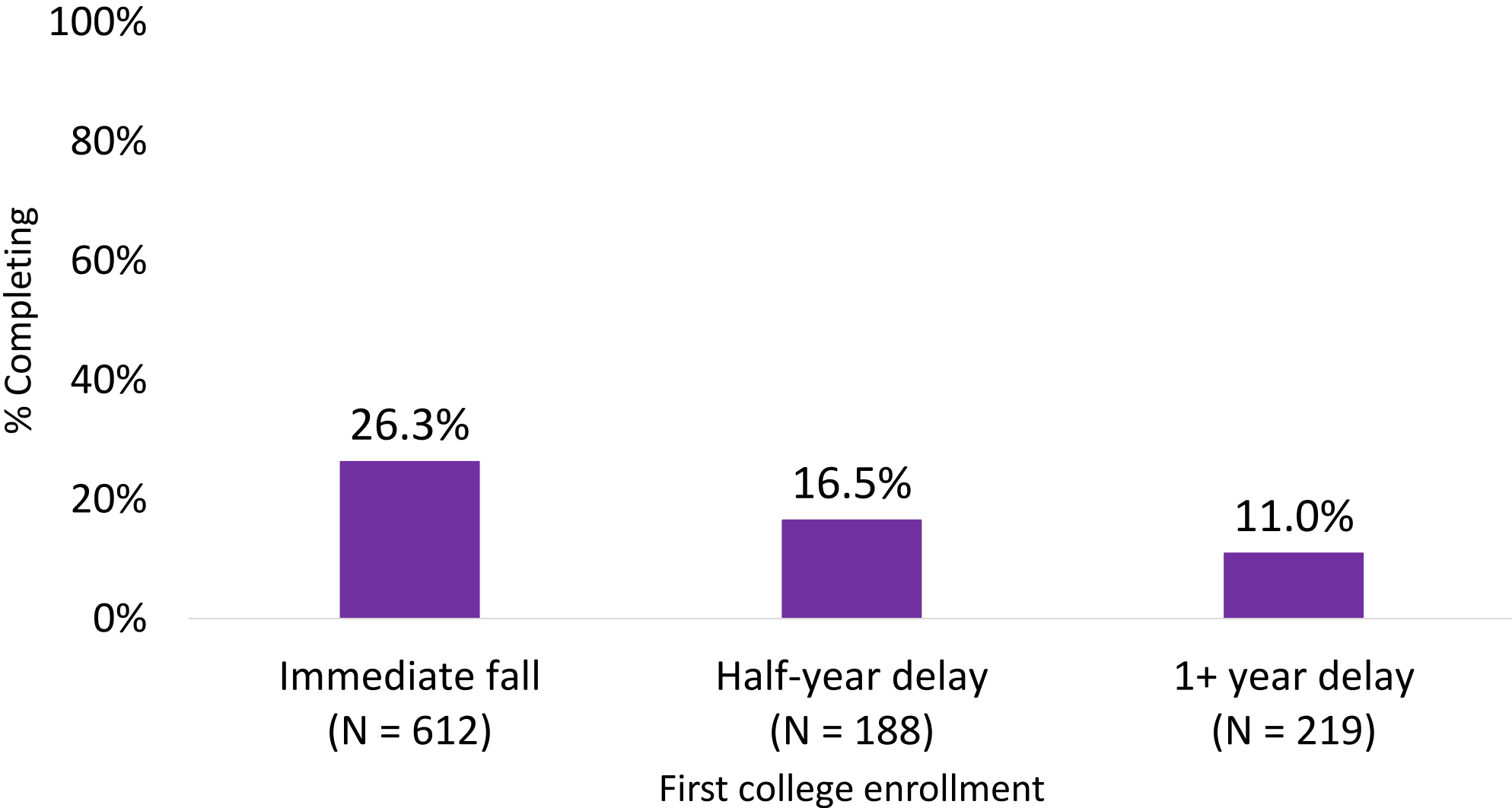
Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data;  
National Student Clearinghouse Fall 2011 Completing College Report  
Note: U.S. rates are for the national cohort of first time fall enrollees under 21 years old



# TWO-YEAR COLLEGE ENROLLMENT PATTERNS

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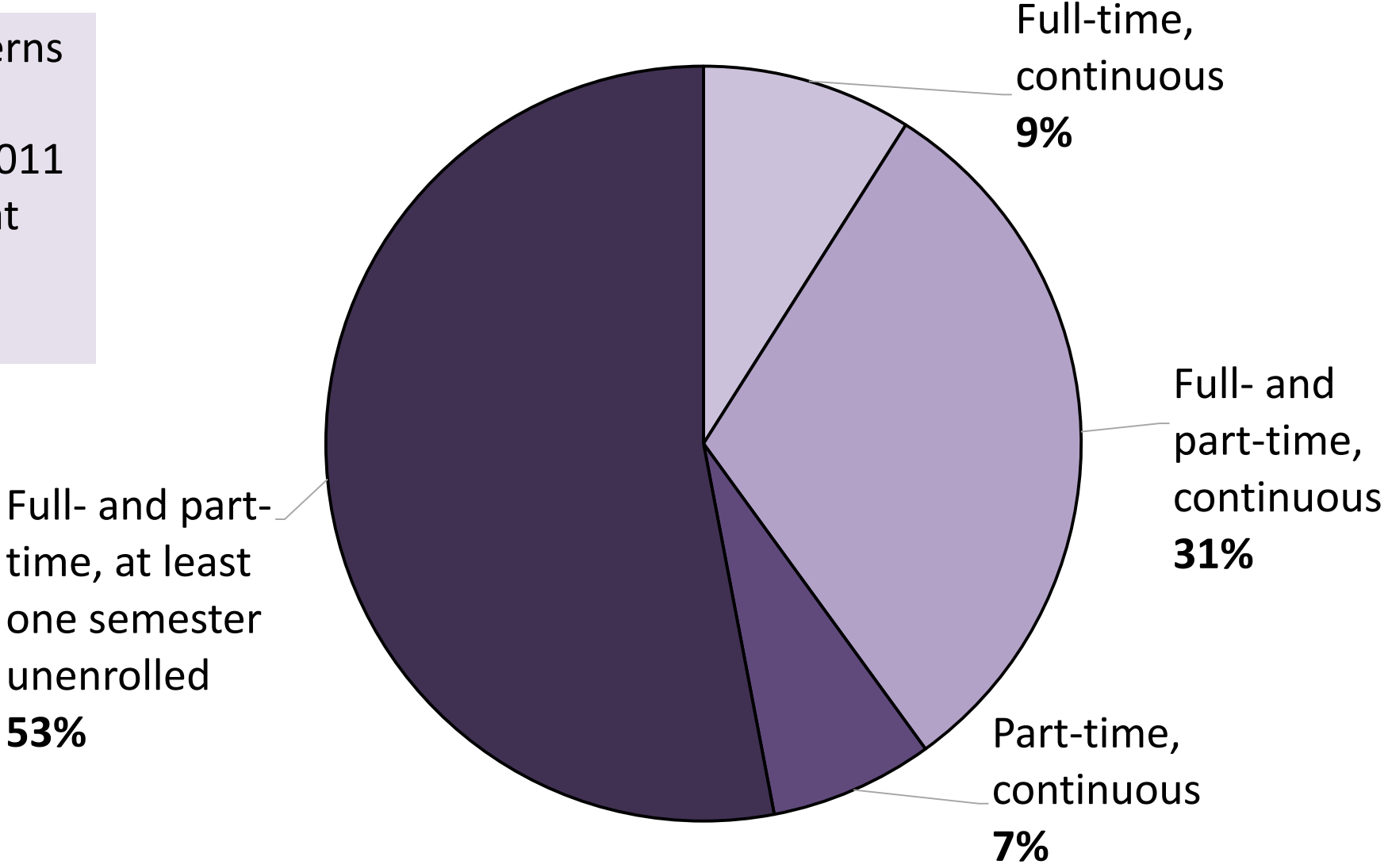
# Completion rates are higher for immediate fall enrollees



Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data

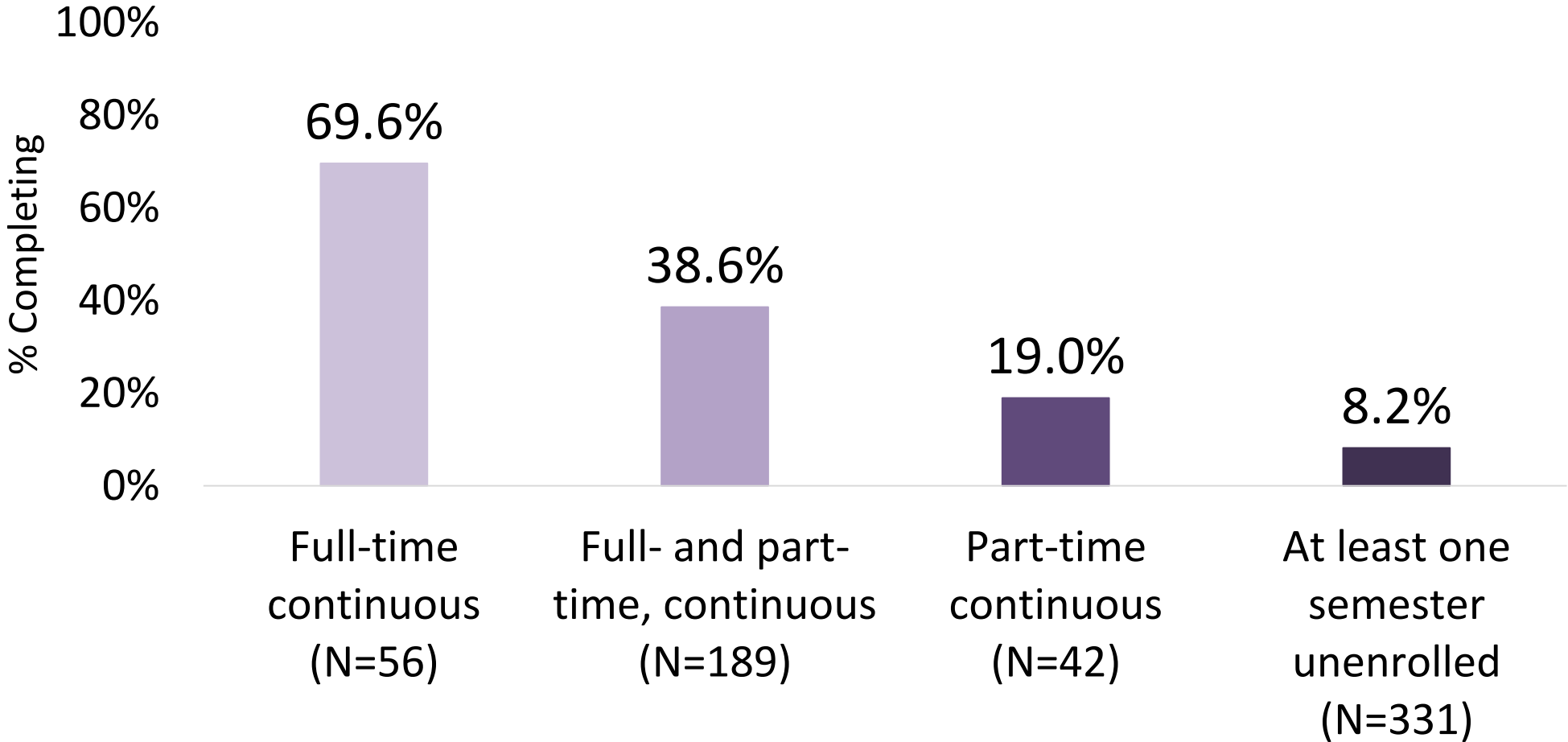
# Most BPS grads who start in a two-year college have varied enrollment

Enrollment patterns for the first four semesters (fall 2011 to spring 2013) at 2-year colleges (N=618)



Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data

# 6-year completion rates vary by enrollment patterns



Enrollment pattern for first four semesters, students starting in two-year colleges

Source: PIC analysis of National Student Clearinghouse data

# TYPE OF DEGREE AND FIELD OF STUDY

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## Class of 2011, type of first degree earned

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Type of degree	# Earned	% of total
Bachelor's	960	80%
Associate	179	15%
Certificate	60	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,199</b>	

- **62 (7.8%) of the 800 BPS first-year enrollees who started in a two-year college obtained a Bachelor's degree within six years**

# Overview of fields of study of first degrees earned by BPS Class of 2011 college completers

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- **Associate degrees (N=179)**
  - 52% are in arts, humanities, English, or business
  - 11% are in STEM (engineering, science, math, or computer and information sciences)
  - BPS graduates are overrepresented in academic fields and underrepresented in health professions and clinical sciences, relative to Greater Boston
- **Bachelor's degrees (N=960)**
  - 44% are in social and behavioral sciences, arts, humanities, or English
  - 20% are in STEM
  - BPS graduates are mostly in line with Greater Boston degree earners, though they are overrepresented in social sciences and psychology, and underrepresented in health professions and engineering.



## Summary Findings: BPS Class of 2011

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- The six-year college completion rate is 51.6%, the highest since tracking began.
- Due to higher college enrollment and completion rates, the share of all high school graduates completing college reached 38%, a 14 percentage point increase from the Class of 2000.
- Gender and race-ethnic disparities in college enrollment and completion persist.
- College completion rates for immediate fall enrollees ranged from 26.3% at two-year public colleges to 64.1% at four-year public colleges, and 69.0% at four-year private colleges.
- College completion rates are higher for two-year enrollees who start in the immediate fall, enroll in consecutive semesters, and maintain full-time enrollment.