Comprehensive Supports for College-Bound Students

April 24, 2018

REL MIDWEST
Regional Educational Laboratory

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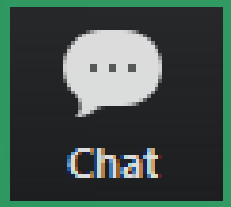


- Click on the **Chat** box to introduce yourself, ask questions for the presenters, or let us know about any technical issues.

- We have live closed captioning available during the webinar – to see the captions, click on **Closed Caption**.

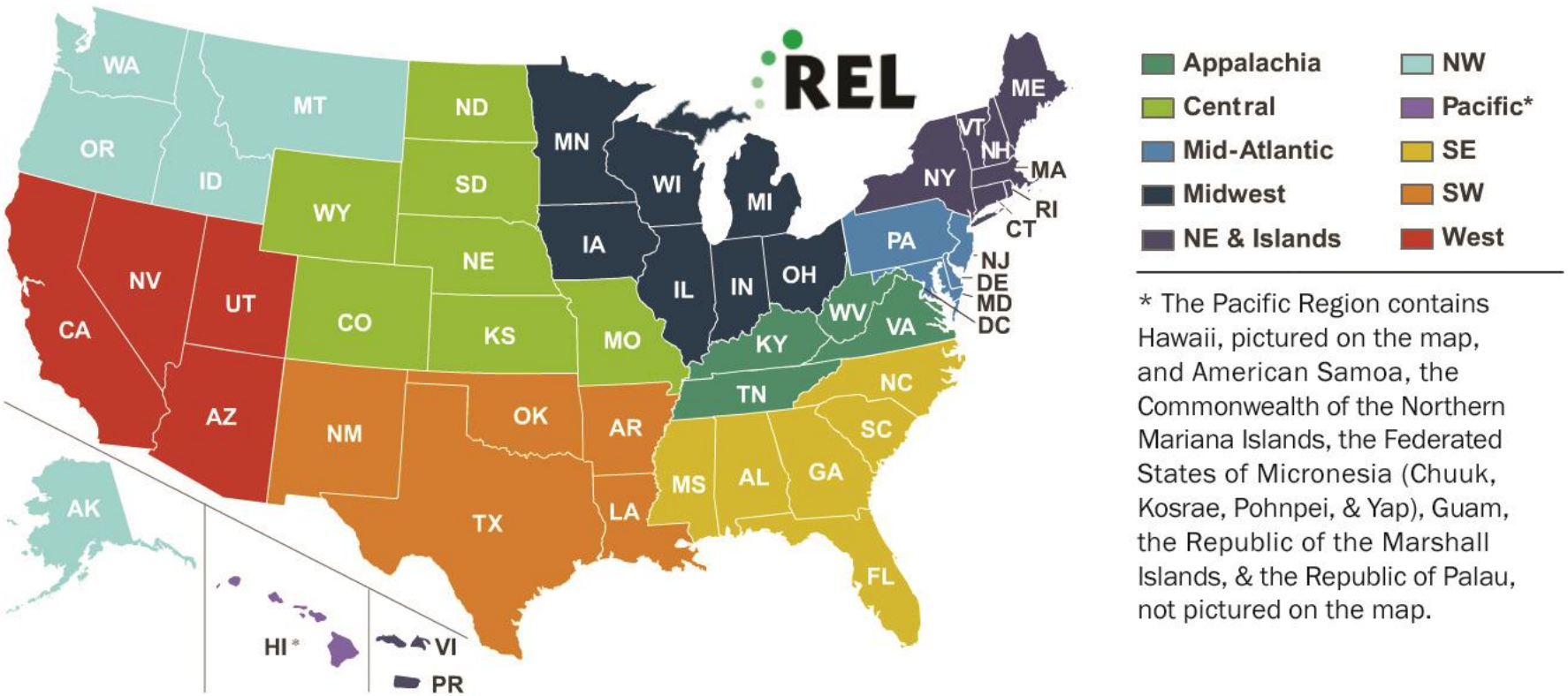
Meet the Presenters

- **Lyzz Davis, Ph.D.**, Senior Researcher, REL Midwest
- **Gina Deom**, Director for Research and Analytics, Indiana Commission for Higher Education
- **Barbie Martin**, Director of School and Community Outreach, Indiana Commission for Higher Education
- **Jarod Wilson**, Director of Postsecondary Outreach and Career Transitions, Indiana Commission for Higher Education
- **Bryce Fair**, Associate Vice Chancellor for State Grants and Scholarships, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
- **Billie Jo Day, Ph.D.**, Researcher, REL Midwest

Agenda

1. Predicting early college success for Indiana's high school class of 2014
2. Indiana's 21st Century Scholars Program
3. Oklahoma's Promise Program
4. Q&A Session

Regional Educational Laboratories



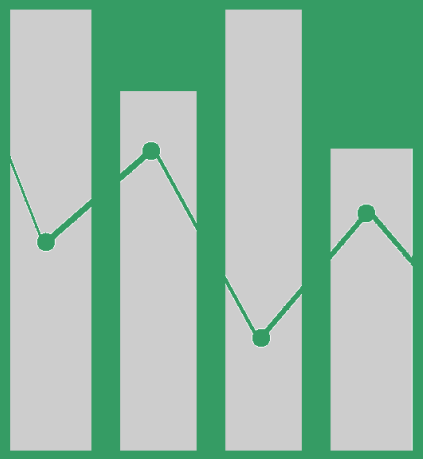
The RELs are funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences (IES).

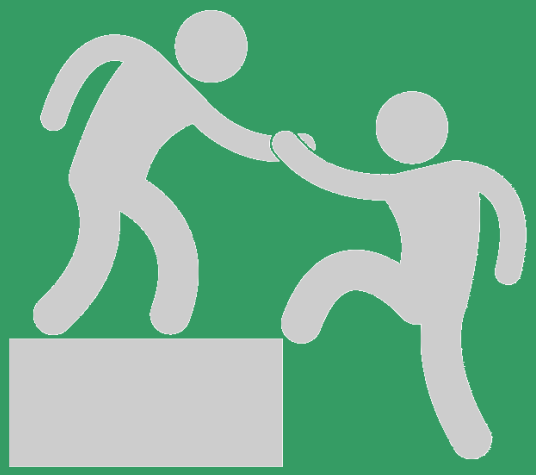
With whom does Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Midwest work?

School districts, state education agencies, and other education organizations in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin

What does REL Midwest do?

Applied research, technical assistance, and engagement activities to help partners understand research and evidence.





Collaborative Research Partnerships

Five research alliances:

- Midwest Alliance to Improve Teacher Preparation
- Midwest Achievement Gap Research Alliance
- Midwest Career Readiness Research Alliance
- Midwest Early Childhood Education Research Alliance
- Midwest Alliance to Improve Knowledge Utilization

One networked improvement community:

- Iowa Learning and Technology Networked Improvement Community

Predicting early college success for Indiana's high school class of 2014

Lyzz Davis, Ph.D. | Senior Researcher | REL Midwest

4/24/2018

REL MIDWEST
Regional Educational Laboratory
at American Institutes for Research

College Aspirations

- College aspirations do not necessarily translate to attainment
- The majority of high school students plan to attend college (Ingels, Planty, & Bozick, 2005; Molefe, Burke, Collins, Sparks, & Hoyer, 2017)

College Success

However, only **59 percent of 4-year college students** and **28 percent of 2-year college students** eventually earned degrees (National Center for Education Statistics [NCES], 2016, table 326)

Indiana Efforts

Indiana policymakers have enacted several initiatives to encourage college enrollment and completion:

- Implementing the Core 40 curriculum
- Requiring high schools to offer dual enrollment and Advanced Placement (AP) courses
- Revising the requirements for placing students into remedial education
- Updating high schools on their graduates' success in college

Financial Aid and College Success

In addition, Indiana policymakers wanted to know if financial aid was associated with student success, particularly in the early years of college.

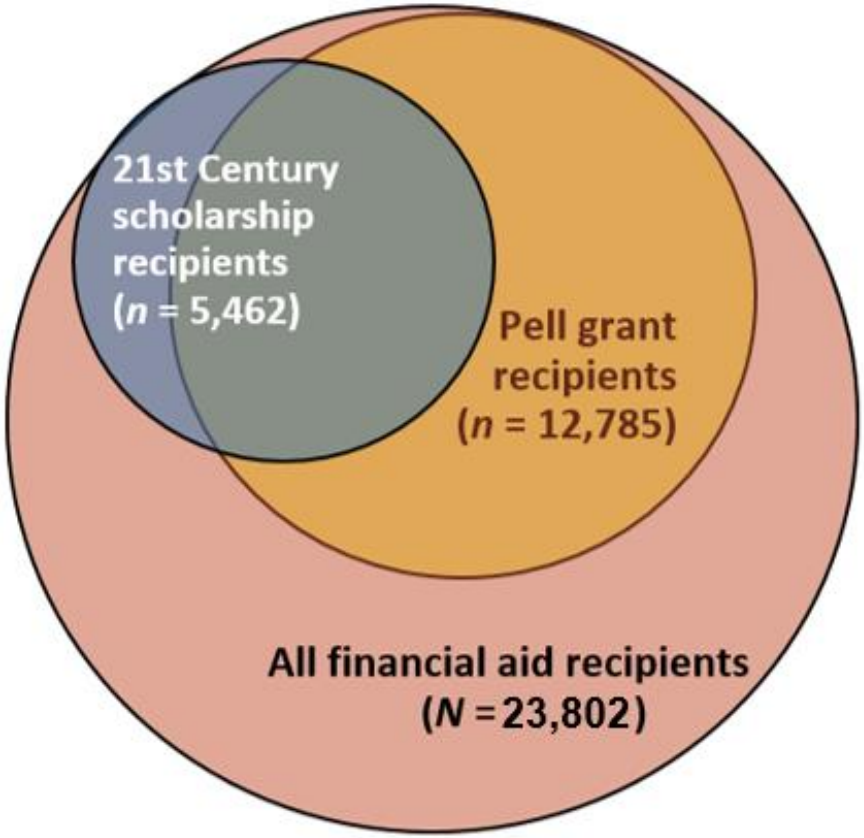
Pell Grant

- National program
- Awarded to income-eligible students
- Students must meet federal financial aid requirements and complete application
- Provides approximately $3,700/year to help with tuition and other college costs

21st Century Scholarship

- State program open to Indiana residents
- Awarded to income-eligible students
- Students must apply in grades 7 or 8 and meet annual academic goals from grades 9 through 12 to receive funding
- Provides college readiness supports during high school and covers full tuition at public Indiana colleges

In Indiana, 37% of Pell Grant recipients also receive 21st Century Scholarships



Research Question #1

Among the 2014 cohort of Indiana high school graduates enrolling in Indiana public two- or four-year colleges:

- What percentage of students **achieved early college success**?
- How do those percentages vary by **student** demographic and academic characteristics; **school-level** demographic and academic characteristics; and whether students received Pell Grants, 21st Century Scholarships, or other forms of **financial aid**?

Research Question #2

What is **the relationship between receiving aid and early college success**, controlling for other student- and school-level characteristics?

How do we define “early college success”?

For this study, the REL Midwest team used **three individual measures** and a **composite measure**:

- Taking only nonremedial courses during the first semester
- Earning all of the credits attempted during the first semester
- Persisting to a second year of college

Sample

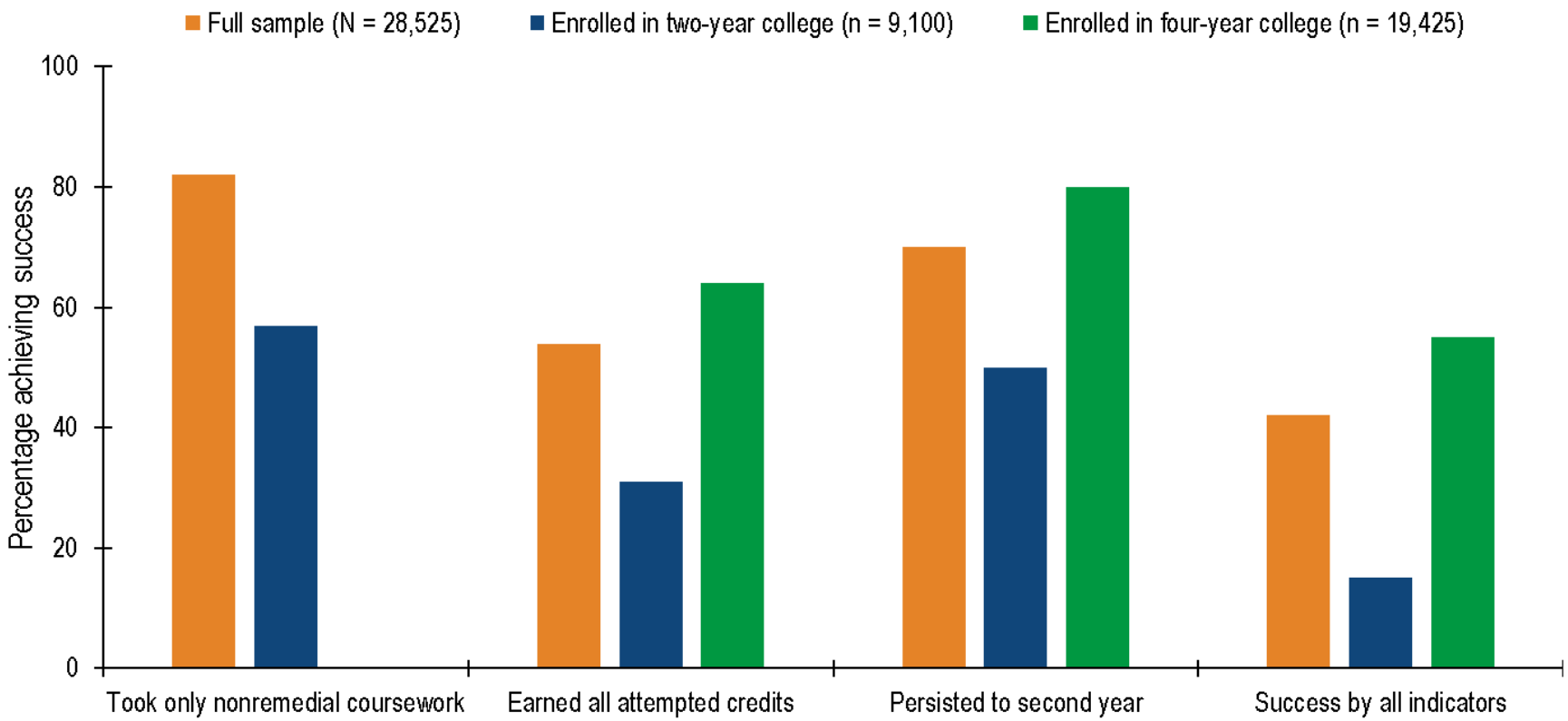
28,525 students who graduated from Indiana high schools in spring 2014 and enrolled in a public Indiana college in fall 2014

Methods

- Calculated early college success percentages using data from the Indiana Management Performance Hub
- Conducted stepwise hierarchical general linear models (HGLMs) to estimate the relationships between financial aid variables and early college success outcomes

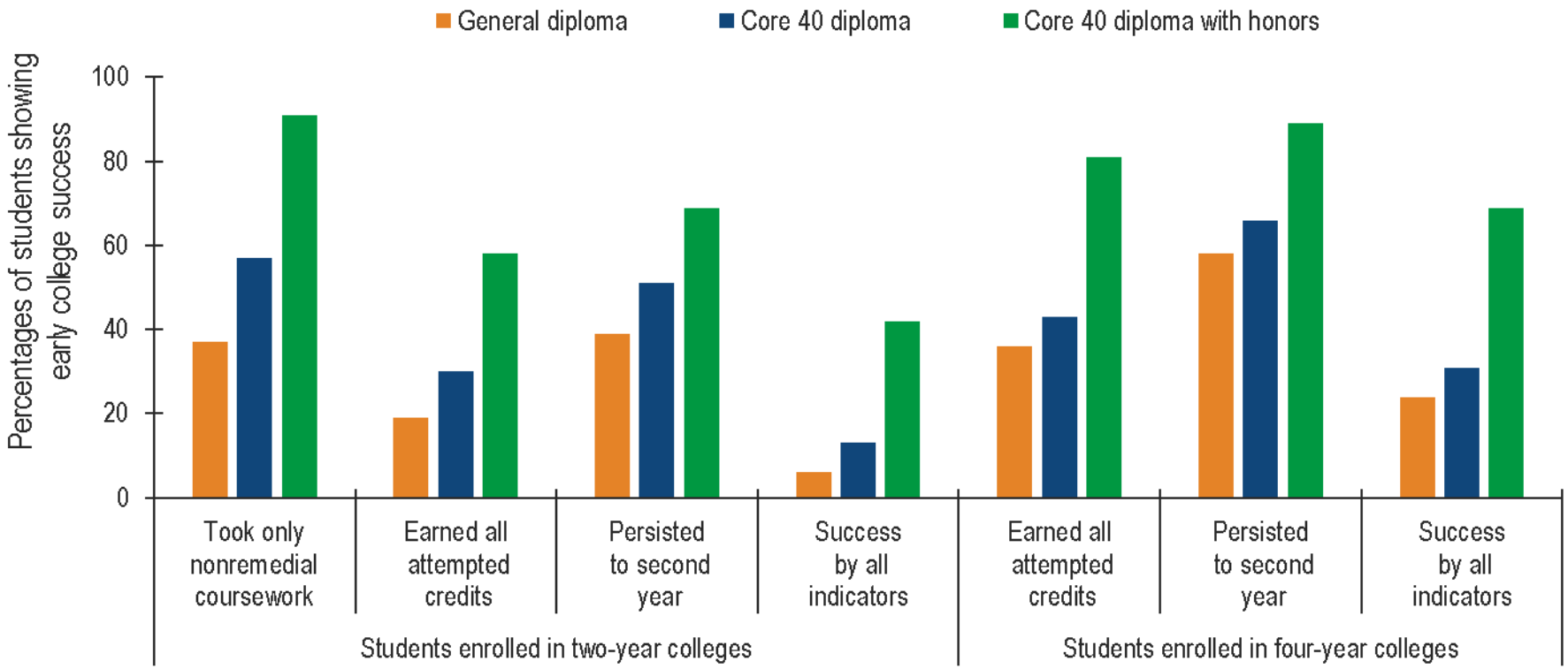
Findings

Students who entered 4-year colleges saw more early college success than those who entered 2-year colleges

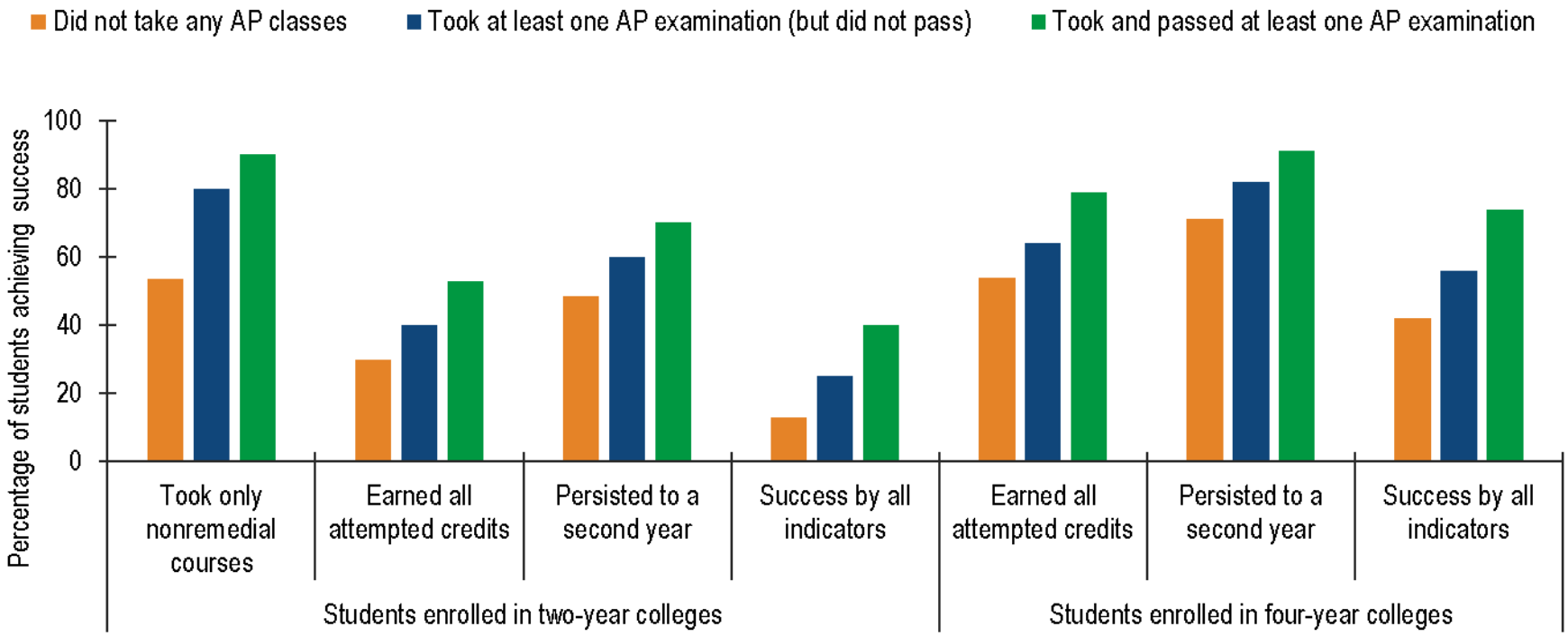


Early college success varied by students' demographic characteristics.

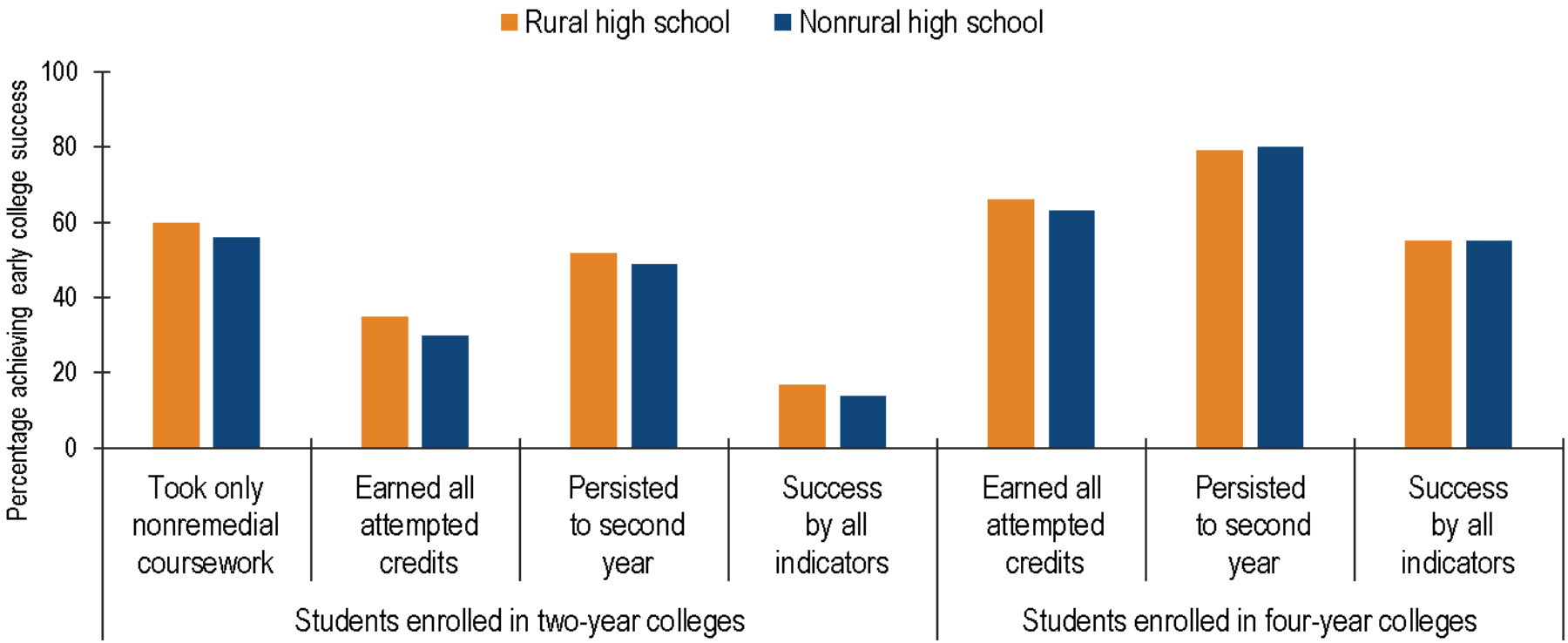
Students who graduated with Core 40 diplomas with honors achieved greater early college success



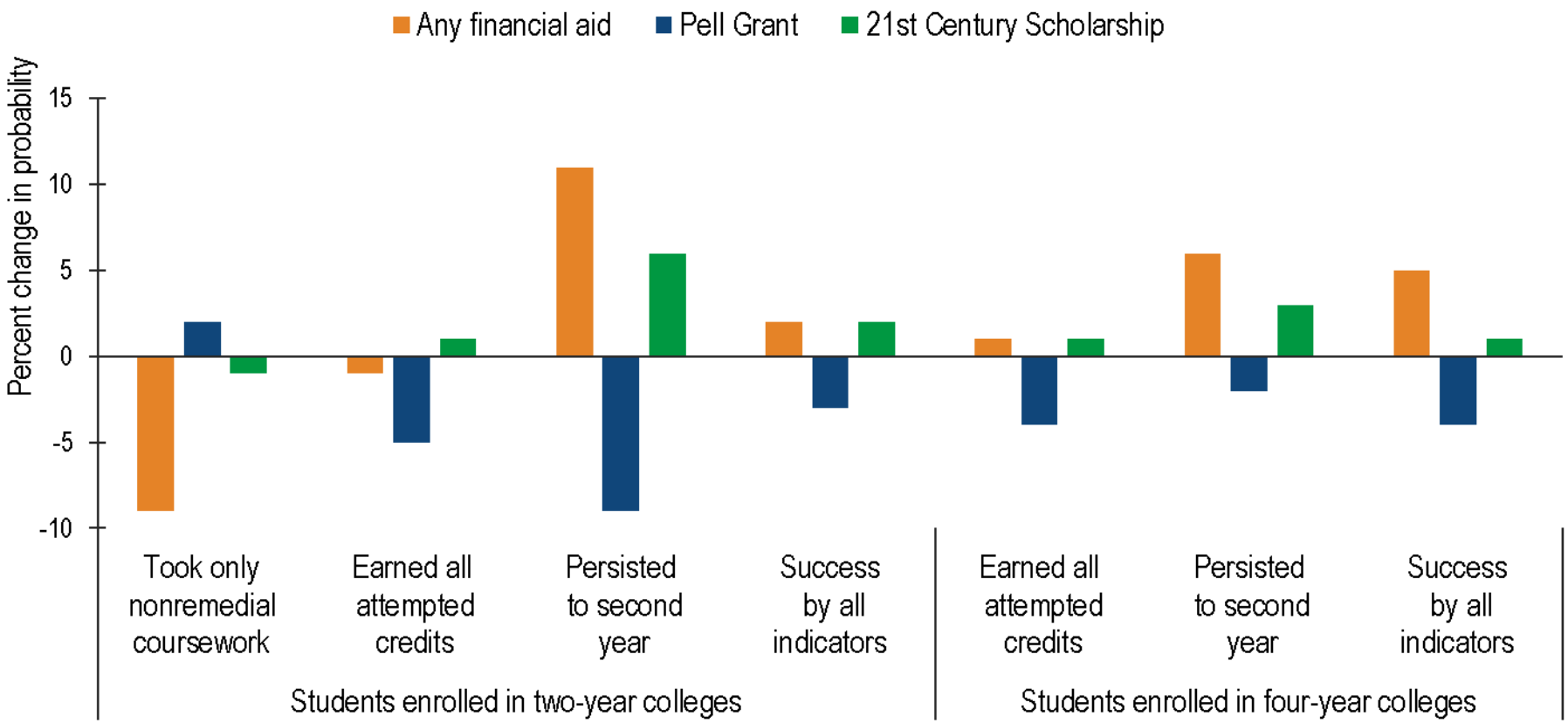
Students who took at least one AP exam were more likely to achieve early college success, regardless of whether they passed the exam



Among students entering two-year colleges, students who graduated from rural high schools achieved early college success at a slightly higher rate than their peers



The types of financial aid that students received were related to differences in the probability of achieving early college success

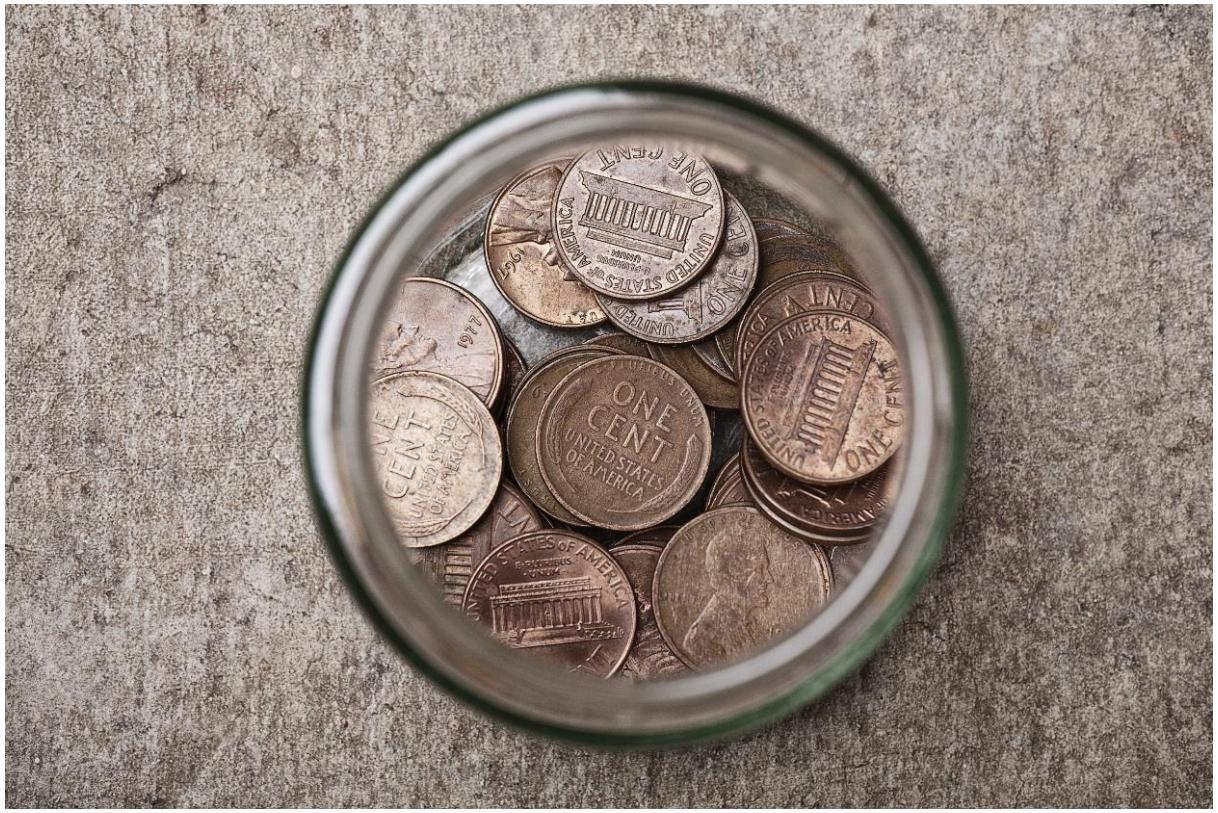


Implications

Students from disadvantaged backgrounds and those entering two-year colleges have a lower rate of early college success than their peers.

The percentage of students taking remedial coursework at two-year colleges has substantially decreased.

Pell Grant recipients who did not also receive 21st Century Scholarships were less likely to achieve early college success.



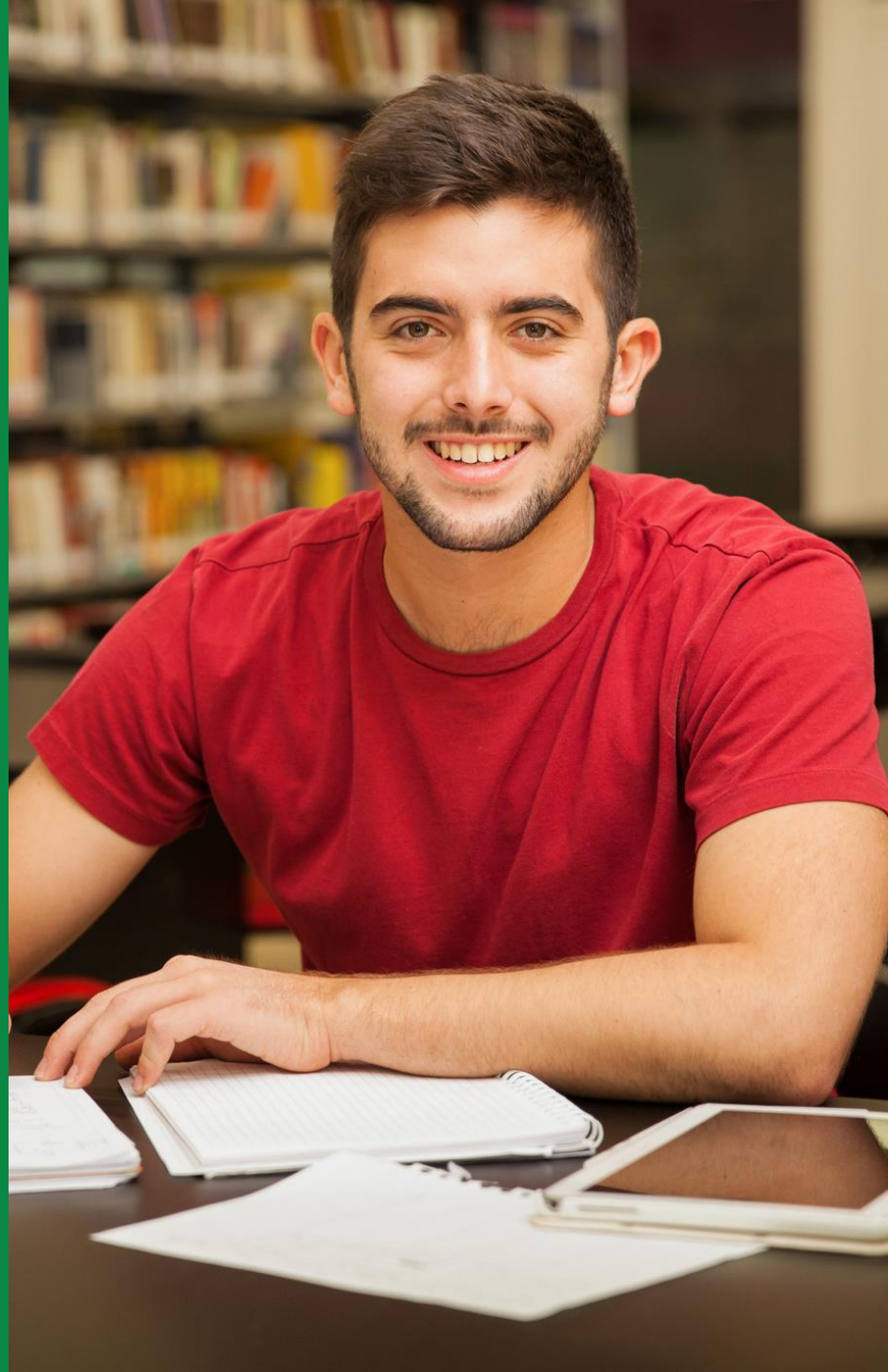
Household income is associated with educational success. (McFarland et al., 2017; Ross et al, 2012).

Therefore, the relationship between receiving a Pell Grant and early college success is not surprising.

However, students may benefit from programs like 21st Century Scholars, which include college readiness activities and academic support during college.

Colleges can support Pell grant recipients in several ways:

- Promoting a culture of inclusion and belonging
- Requiring students to participate in academic advising
- Exploring and mitigating the barriers to success that students from disadvantaged backgrounds face



Limitations

- Sample only includes students who enrolled in Indiana public colleges
- The measure of “persisting to a second year” may not capture students who transfer out of an Indiana public college
- Sample only includes students who enrolled in college in fall 2014 (immediately after high school graduation)

Limitations

- Data does not measure all of the factors that determine early college success
- This is a correlational study and cannot detect causal relationships

References

Davis, E., Guarino, N., & Lindsay, J. (2018). Predicting early college success for Indiana's high school class of 2014. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, Regional Educational Laboratory Midwest. https://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED580821.

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21st Century Scholars Program

Indiana Commission for Higher Education:
Barbie Martin, Director of School & Community Outreach
Jarod Wilson, Director of Postsecondary Outreach and Career Transitions
Gina Deom, Director for Research and Analytics

April 2018

21st Century Scholarship

- **Indiana's Early Promise Program**
  - Established in 1990
  - Offers income-eligible Hoosier students up to four years of paid tuition at eligible Indiana institutions

21st Century Scholarship

- **Enrollment Requirements:**
  - Indiana residents
  - Be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens
  - Enrolled in the 7th or 8th grade by a public or private school accredited by the Indiana Department of Education.
  - Meet income eligibility requirements (Guidelines for qualifying for Free and Reduced Lunch Program – 185% poverty level)

Scholarship Requirements

<u>Pre-College Requirements</u>

- At least 2.5 Cumulative High School GPA
- File a FAFSA by April 15th
- Earn a Minimum of a Core 40 High School Diploma
- Complete the Scholar Success Program

Scholarship Requirements

College Requirements

- File FAFSA by April 15th each year
- Earn at least 30 Credits Per Year
- Maintain SAP Standards Established by College

Historical Program Milestones

1990	Indiana creates 21st Century Scholars program
1995	First 21st Century Scholars enroll in college
2011	Indiana creates **Scholar Success Program**
2012	**ScholarCorps** launches at 10 college campuses (17 currently)

Historical Program Milestones

2013 — Indiana creates **credit completion requirements** for all state financial aid recipients, including 21st Century Scholars

2014 — State deploys **College Success Coaches** at 25 Indiana campuses

2015 — First Scholars required to graduate high school with a **2.5 GPA**. AmeriCorps **VISTA** launches in 6 communities

2017 — First high school class required to complete **Scholar Success Program**

Scholar Success Program

The Scholar Success Program includes activities that help students stay on track for college and career success.

GRADE	REQUIRED ACTIVITIES		
09	Create a Graduation Plan	Participate in an Extracurricular or Service Activity	Watch "Paying for College 101"
10	Take a Career Interests Assessment	Get Workplace Experience	Estimate the Costs of College
11	Visit a College Campus	Take a College Entrance Exam (ACT or SAT)	Search for Scholarships
12	Submit Your College Application	Watch "College Success 101"	File Your FAFSA

Scholars by the Numbers

Program Impact Statistics

- More than **100,000** students are enrolled in the program today
- About **20,000** students use the scholarship each year
- Over **$161 million** dollars were disbursed to 21st Century Scholars in Fiscal Year 2017 to cover tuition and fees.
- Since the program has been implemented…
  - **Over 85,000** total students have received the scholarship
  - **Over $1.3 billion** dollars have been distributed to cover tuition and fee expenses for students

Scholar Success Program in Pilot Year

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21st Century SCHOLARS

21st CENTURY SCHOLAR PROGRESS REPORT

High School Class of 2017

Statewide

As of 9/7/2017, 89% of 16093 enrolled class of 2017 Scholars have ScholarTrack accounts and 67% of these students are on track to earn their 21st Century Scholarship. 2362 members of school staff have activated a ScholarTrack staff or administrator account.

ATTENTION: Beginning with the graduating class of 2017, 21st Century Scholars must verify completion of the Scholar Success Program using their online ScholarTrack account (Scholars.IN.gov/ScholarTrack). **Students who fail to complete these required activities before June 30th of their senior year will lose up to four years of paid college tuition.**

NEED HELP? Call 1-888-528-4719 or email Scholars@che.in.gov for assistance.

The **Scholar Success Program** includes required activities that will help your students stay on track for college and career success.

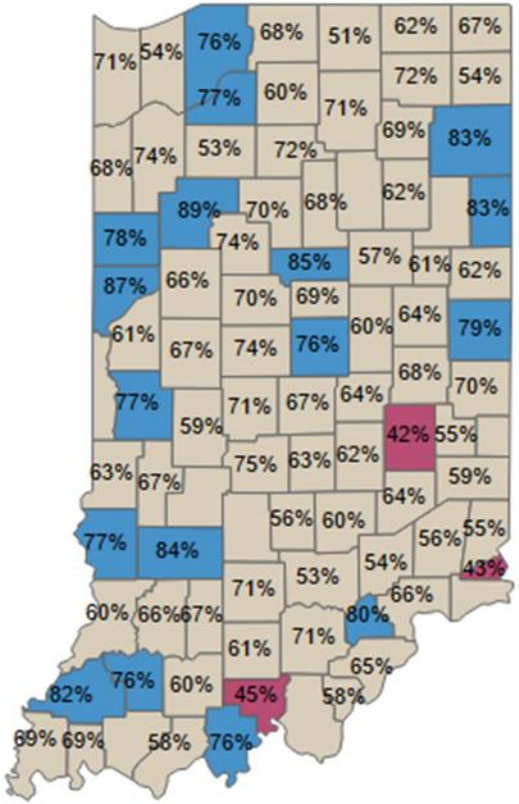
GRADE	REQUIRED ACTIVITIES		
09	Create a Graduation Plan[1] 84%	Participate in an Extracurricular or Service Activity 83%	Watch "Paying for College 101" 82%
10	Take a Career Interests Assessment 81%	Get Workplace Experience[2] 80%	Estimate the Costs of College 79%
11	Visit a College Campus 76%	Take a College Entrance Exam (ACT or SAT) 72%	Search for Scholarships[3] 75%
12	Submit Your College Application 71%	Watch "College Success 101" 72%	File Your FAFSA 76%

1. Plan should be updated annually to keep students on track to meet school requirements and college admission.
2. Includes job shadowing, internships, part-time employment, internships or apprenticeships, or related experience taken by a student's current school district.
3. Students may add financial aid opportunities as they are in the 21st Century Scholarship.

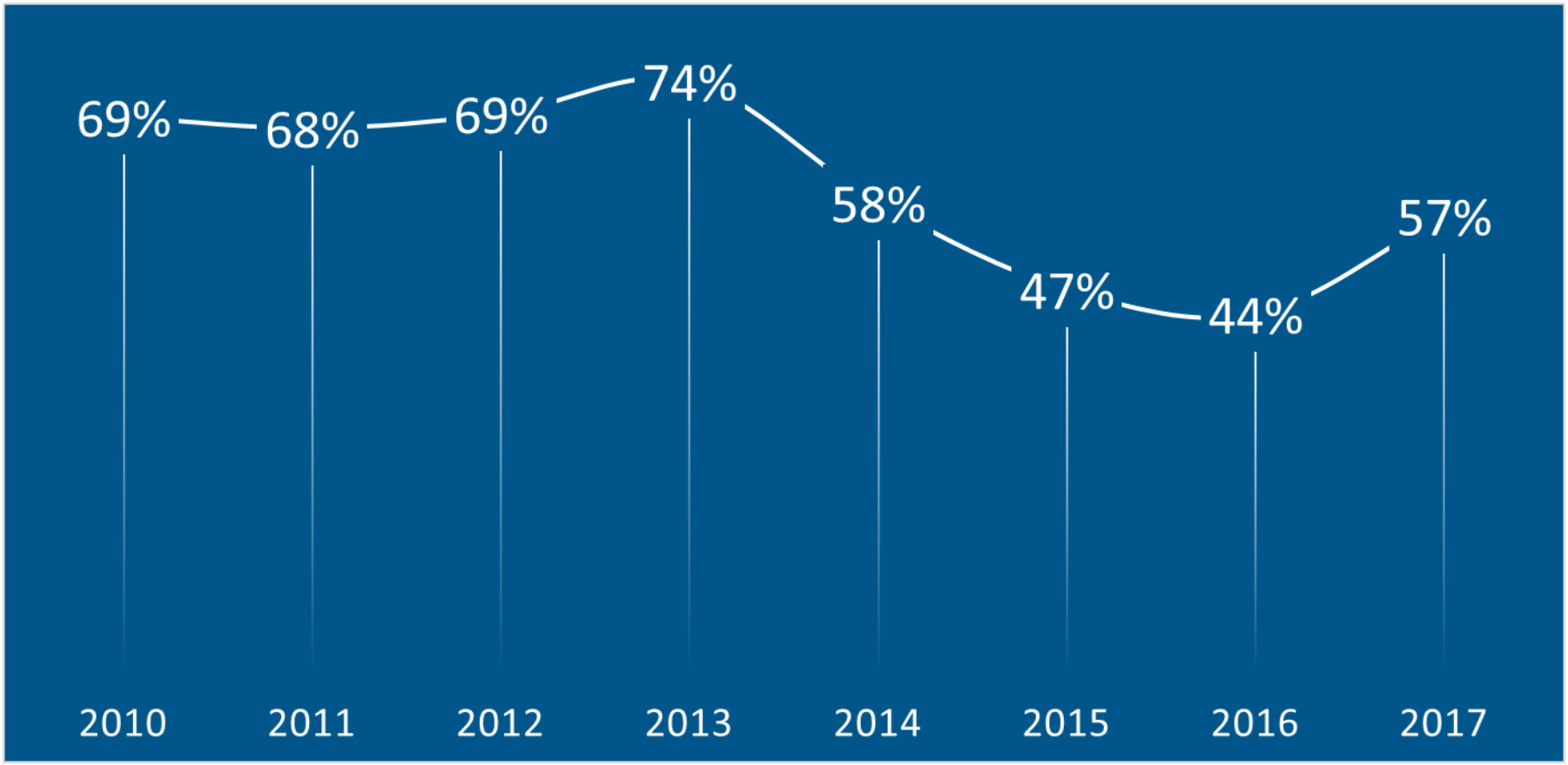
www.scholars.in.gov

2017 67% Statewide

% completing all activities



Eligibility: Historical Context



% of Scholars Maintaining Eligibility

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College-Level Performance

- **Compared to other low-income students,** Scholars:
  - Are about **2x** as likely to go to college
  - Earn **higher GPAs** during their first year
  - Are **more likely to persist** to their second year
  - And are **more likely to complete on time**

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*includes credit earned in fall/spring semesters

College-Level Performance

- **Ongoing challenge:** college completion rates for Scholars are below rates of Indiana students overall

- However, **significant recent improvement:**
  - **+15** percentage point increase in rate of completing 30+ credit hours in first year* (2013 to 2016)
  - **+7** percentage point increase in on-time completion rates of Scholars in last two years at both 2-year and 4-year institutions.

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*includes credit earned in fall/spring semesters

Outreach to 21st Century Scholars
&
Data Resources

Outreach Efforts

Outreach Staff

- Regional Outreach Coordinators (8)
- Main Office Outreach (4)
- ScholarCorps Members (17)
- AmeriCorps VISTA Members (5)
- Scholar Ambassadors & Alumni
- College Success Coaching

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Outreach Efforts

Outreach Partners

- K-12 Schools and Colleges
- Community Partner Agencies
- College Success Coalitions
- State Agency Partnerships

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Success Program Promising Practices

- **ScholarTrack Labs:** Access to computer labs to assist students with ScholarTrack account creation and activity completion
- **Scholar Success Days:** Weekend events for students and families in partnership with colleges
- **Dedicated Staff:** Scholar Coordinators, Interns, etc.
- **Peer-to-Peer Support:** Upperclassmen help underclassmen
- **Accountability:** Scholar Success Program completion incorporated into staff performance goals

Scholar Success Day

- **WHAT:** Northeast Scholar Success Day Event in April 2017
- **WHO:** Engaged 15 local College Success Coalition partners, employers, ScholarCorps and VISTA
- **RESULTS:** 81% of 2017 Scholars Completed all 9-12 SSP Activities in Allen County

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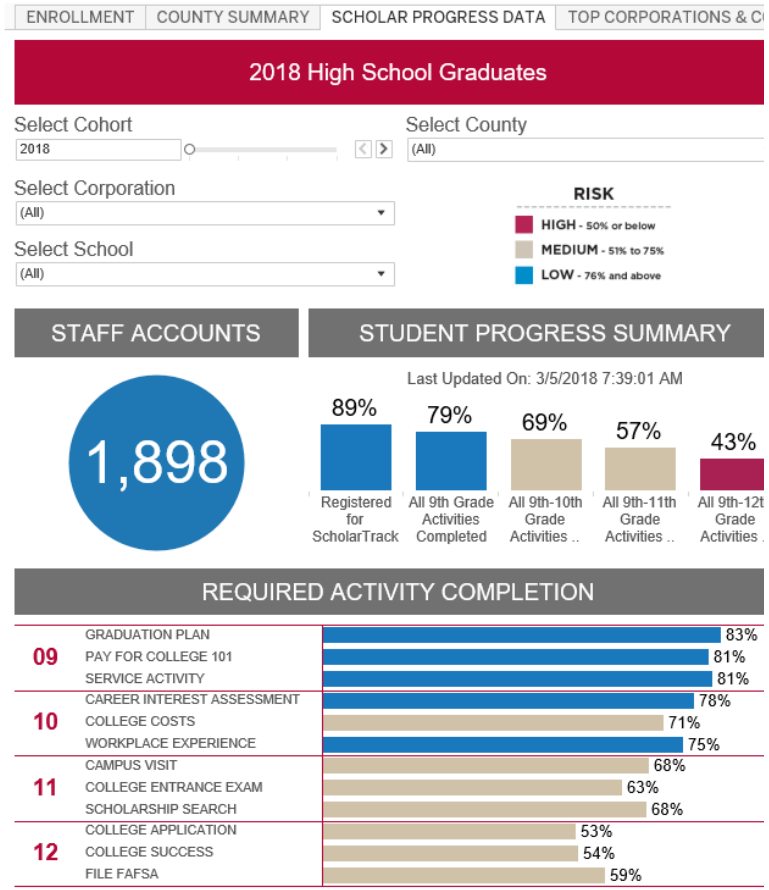
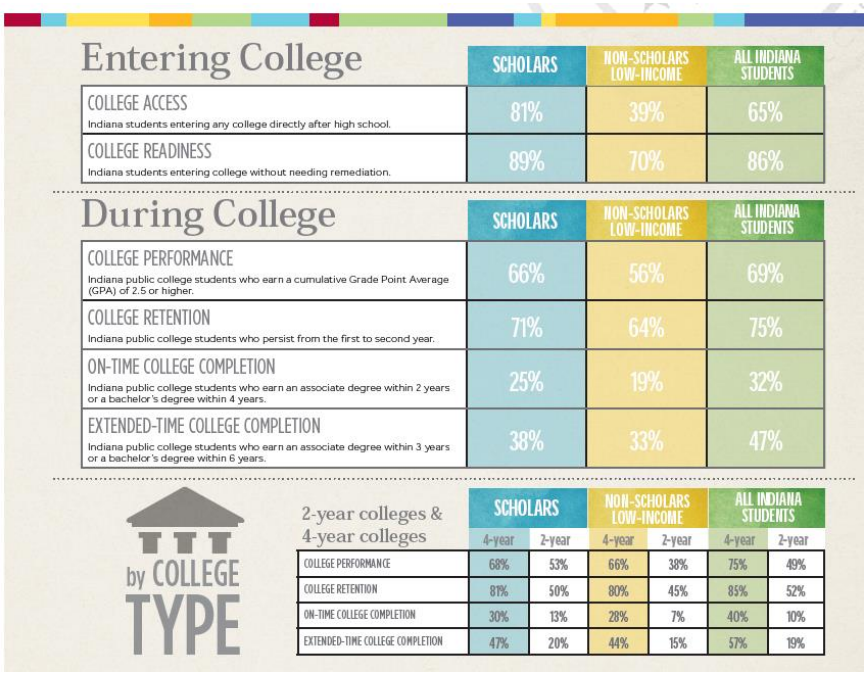
Scholar-Specific Data Examples

Scholar Success Program Dashboard



Annual Scholar Scorecards



Entering College

	SCHOLARS	NON-SCHOLARS LOW-INCOME	ALL INDIANA STUDENTS
COLLEGE ACCESS Indiana students entering any college directly after high school.	81%	39%	65%
COLLEGE READINESS Indiana students entering college without needing remediation.	89%	70%	86%

During College

	SCHOLARS	NON-SCHOLARS LOW-INCOME	ALL INDIANA STUDENTS
COLLEGE PERFORMANCE Indiana public college students who earn a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher.	66%	56%	69%
COLLEGE RETENTION Indiana public college students who persist from the first to second year.	71%	64%	75%
ON-TIME COLLEGE COMPLETION Indiana public college students who earn an associate degree within 2 years or a bachelor's degree within 4 years.	25%	19%	32%
EXTENDED-TIME COLLEGE COMPLETION Indiana public college students who earn an associate degree within 3 years or a bachelor's degree within 6 years.	38%	33%	47%

by COLLEGE TYPE

2-year colleges & 4-year colleges	SCHOLARS		NON-SCHOLARS LOW-INCOME		ALL INDIANA STUDENTS	
	4-year	2-year	4-year	2-year	4-year	2-year
COLLEGE PERFORMANCE	68%	53%	66%	38%	75%	49%
COLLEGE RETENTION	81%	50%	80%	45%	85%	52%
ON-TIME COLLEGE COMPLETION	30%	13%	28%	7%	40%	10%
EXTENDED-TIME COLLEGE COMPLETION	47%	20%	44%	15%	57%	19%

ICHE DATA RESOURCES

- COLLEGE READINESS REPORTS
- RETURN ON INVESTMENT REPORTS
- SCHOLAR SUCCESS REPORTS
- FAFSA COMPLETION RANKINGS
- LEARN MORE INDIANA
- SCHOLARTRACK FINANCIAL AID PORTAL

- ALL CHE DASHBOARDS
- ALL CHE REPORTS
- DATA REQUESTS

and more at: www.*che.in.gov*

INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

Bryce Fair

Associate Vice Chancellor for
Scholarships and Grants

April 24, 2018

OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

Requirements

High School

- Enroll during the 8th, 9th, or 10th grade
- Income less than $55,000 AGI at time of application
- 17-course core curriculum
- 2.50 cumulative GPA in core and overall
- 22 ACT - only for homeschool/non-accredited schools
- Conduct standards (attendance, delinquent acts)

College

- Must begin college within 3 years of HS graduation
- Income may not exceed $100,000 AGI
- Meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

Scholarship

- Pays the equivalent of public college tuition (not fees); can be used at private colleges and for career technology programs.
- Pays only for the actual hours enrolled; no minimum enrollment required.
- Good for up to five years or the completion of a baccalaureate degree.
- Implementing 129 credit hour cap (with exceptions for degrees requiring more hours).

OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

History

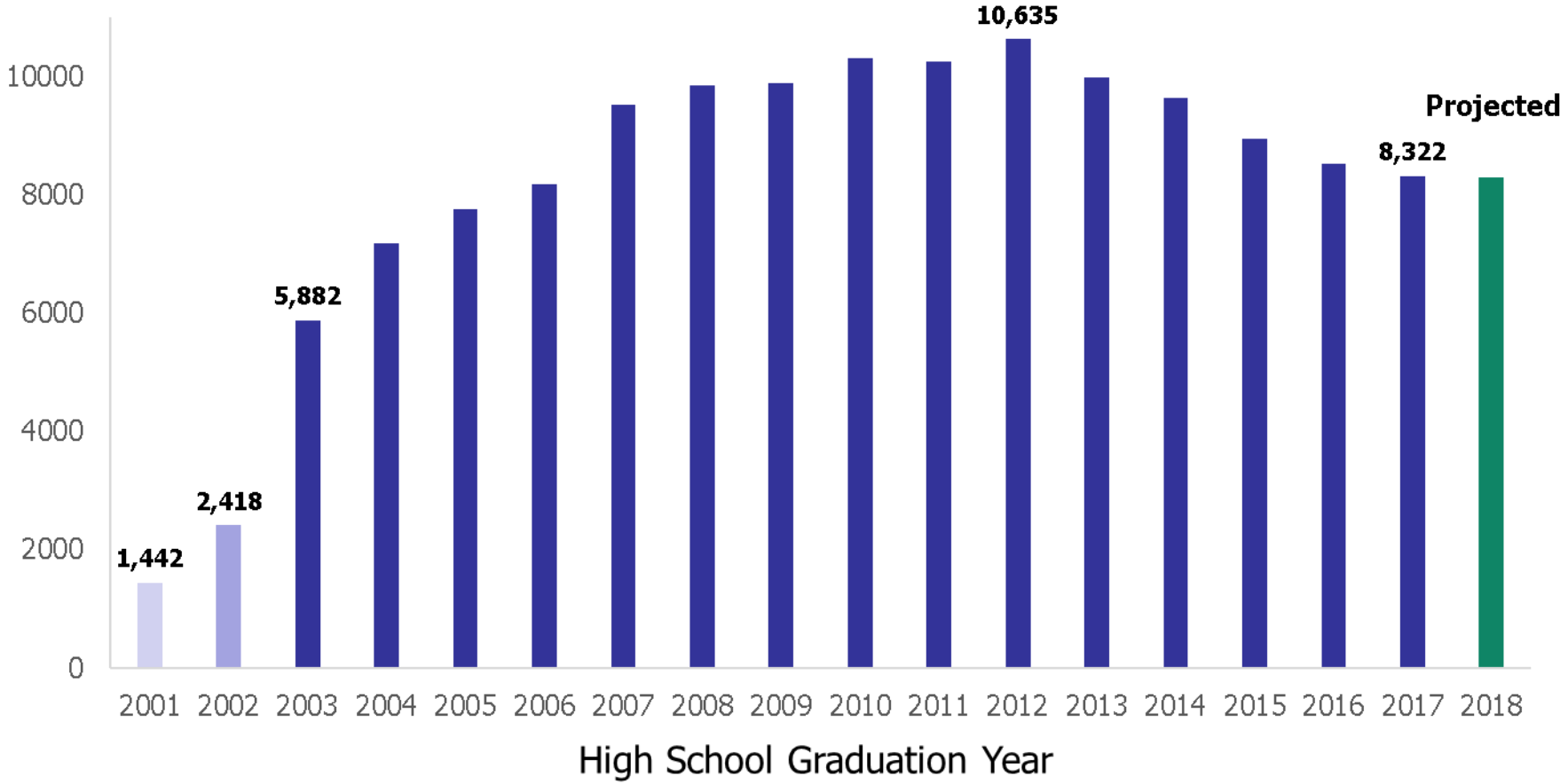
- 1992 – Legislation passed; income limit at $24,000
- 1999 – income limit to $32,000
- 2000 – income limit to $50,000
- 2007 – statutory dedicated funding process
- 2017 – income limit to $55,000 (and to $60,000 in 2021)

High School Enrollment and Academic Trends

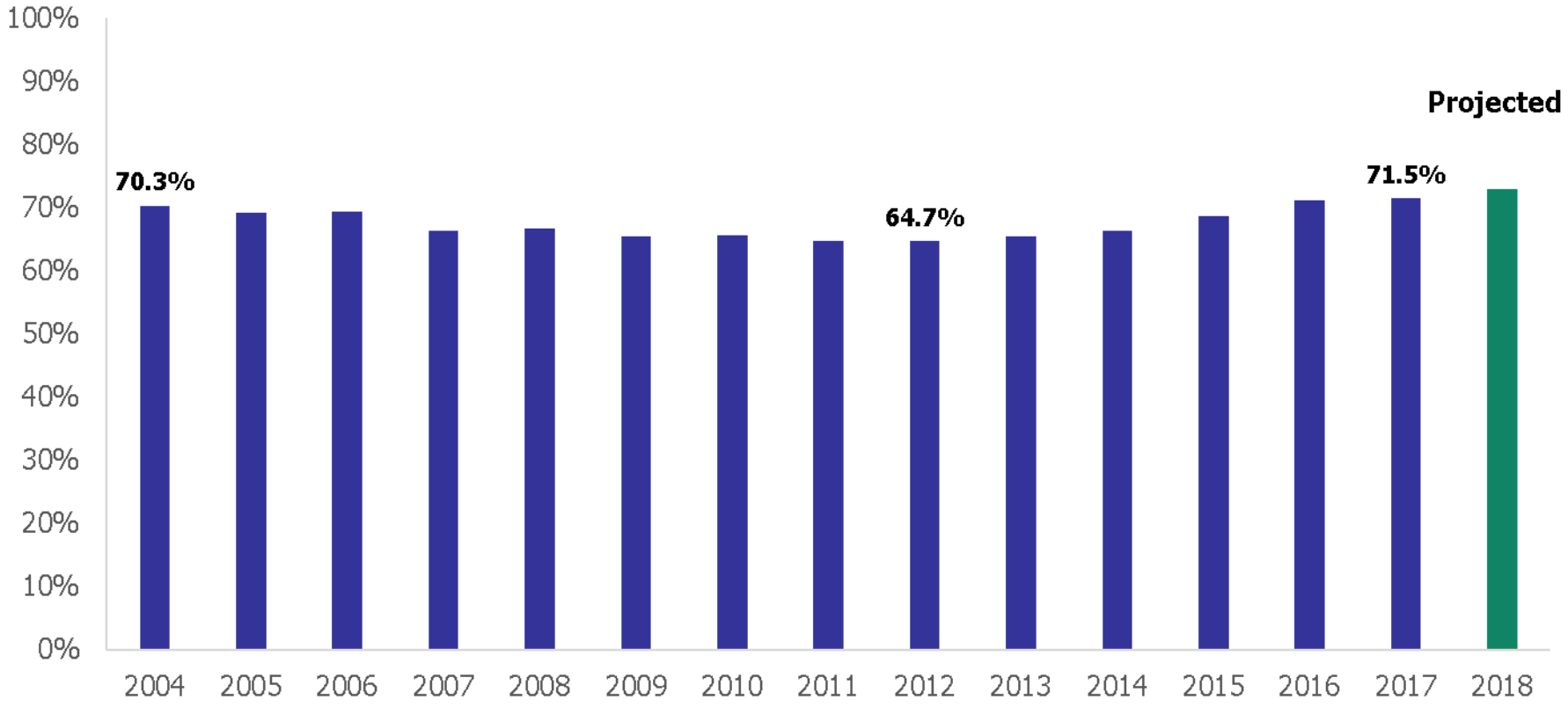
OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

- eligible family income ≤ $24,000
- eligible family income ≤ $32,000
- eligible family income ≤ $50,000

Oklahoma's Promise high school enrollment peaked in 2012 and has since declined. Growth is expected again by 2020.

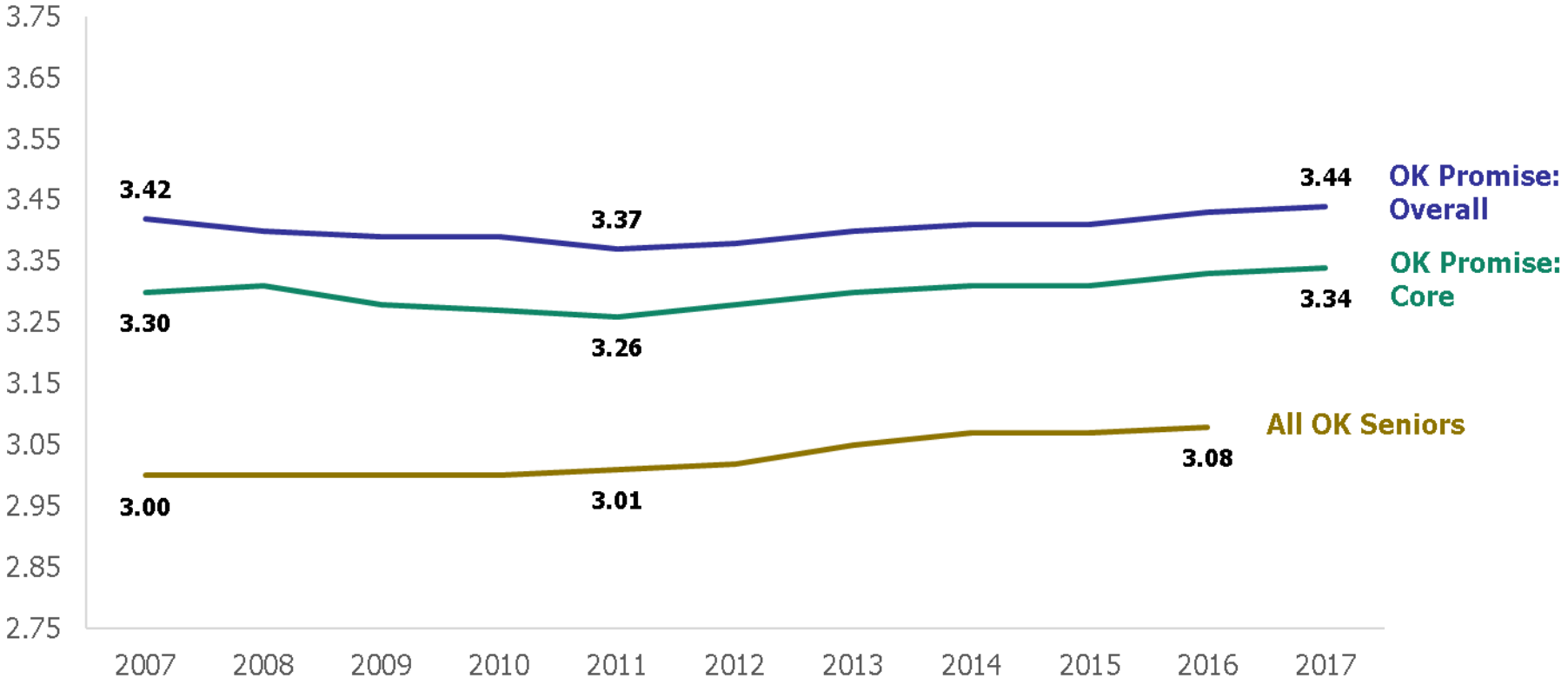


Oklahoma's Promise high school requirement completion rates have increased in each of the past five years.



OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

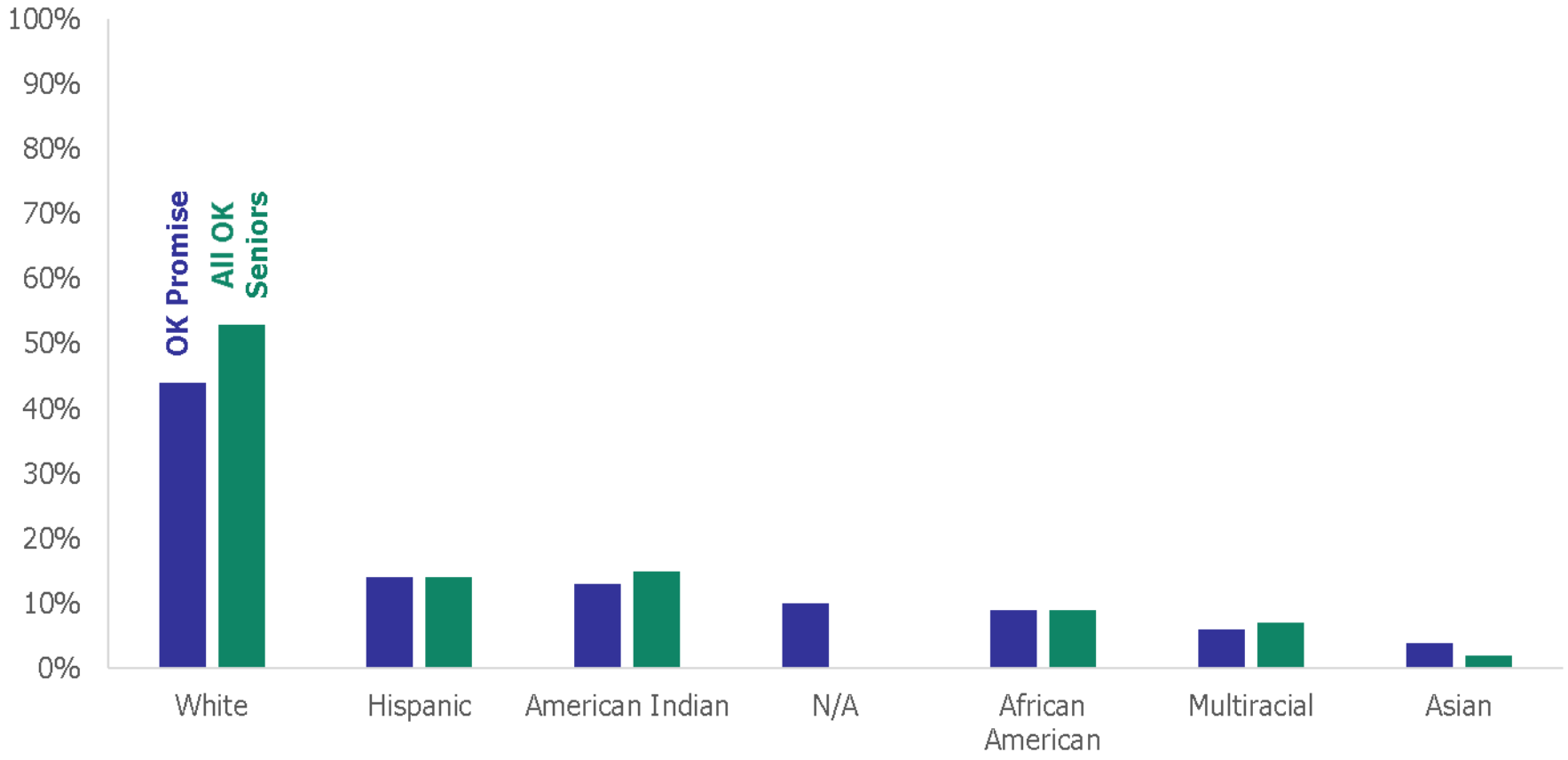
The average high school GPA for OK Promise students completing the high school requirements has remained at about 3.4.



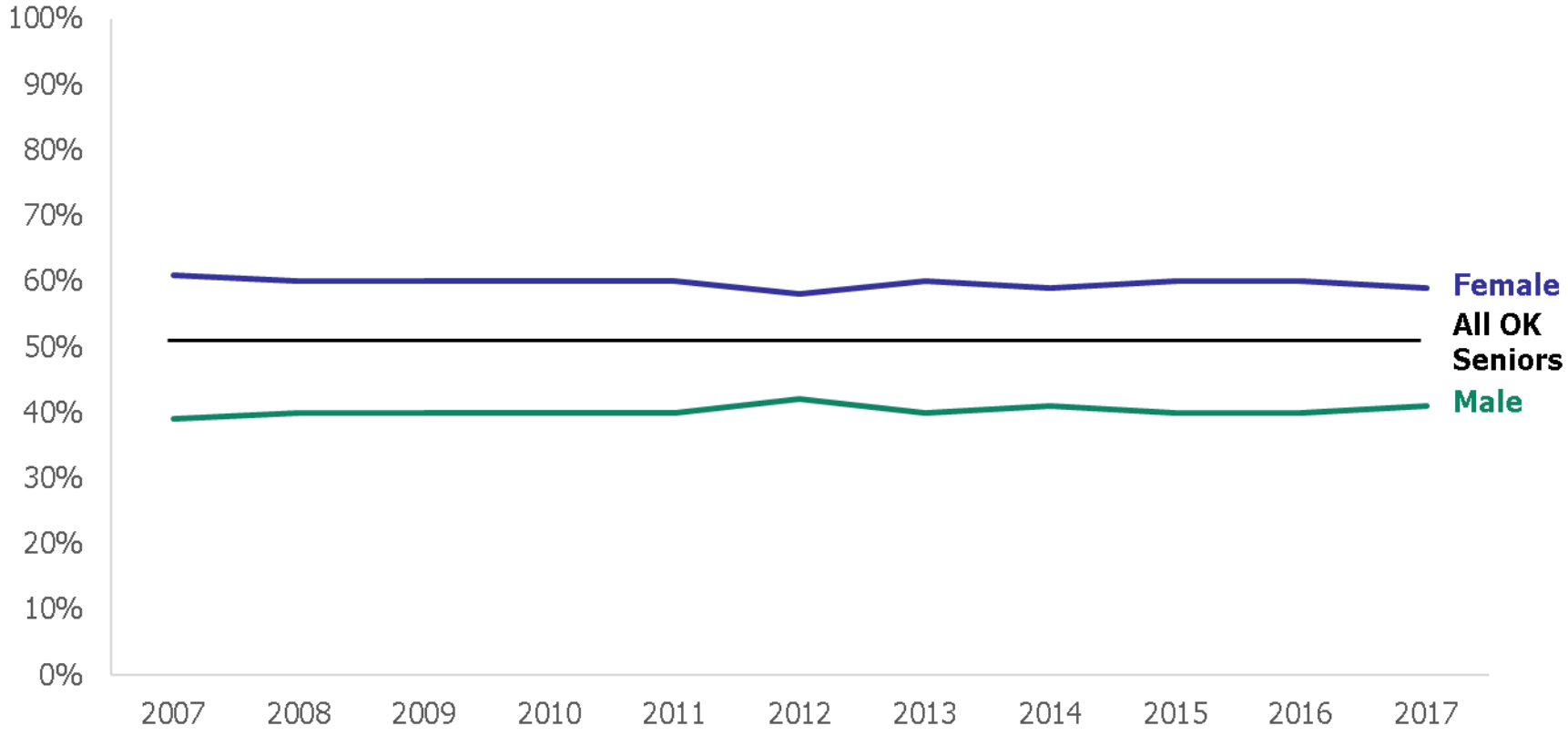
Student Demographics

OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

The ethnicity of students qualifying for the OK Promise scholarship reflects the diversity of all Oklahoma high school seniors.

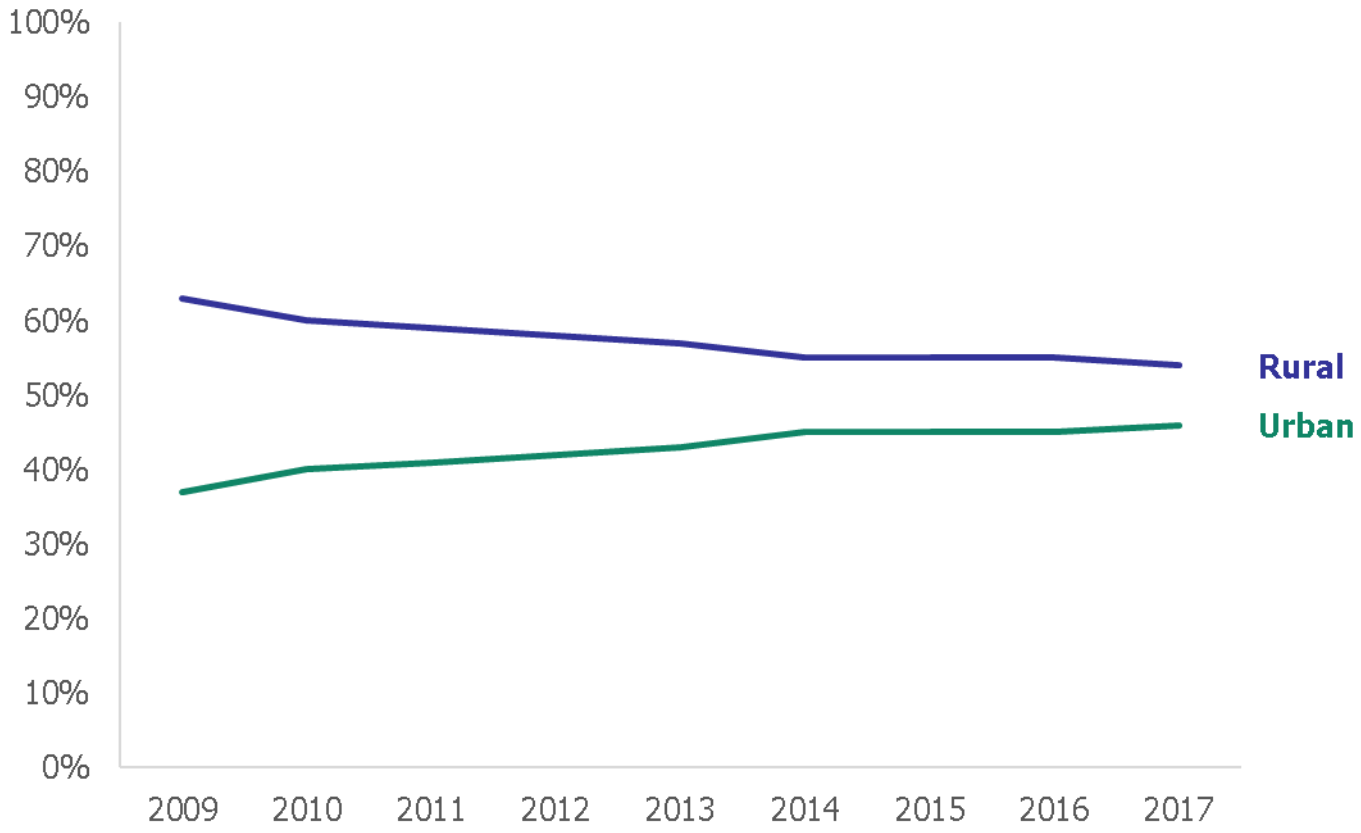


Females consistently account for about 60% of the students qualifying for the OK Promise scholarship.



OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

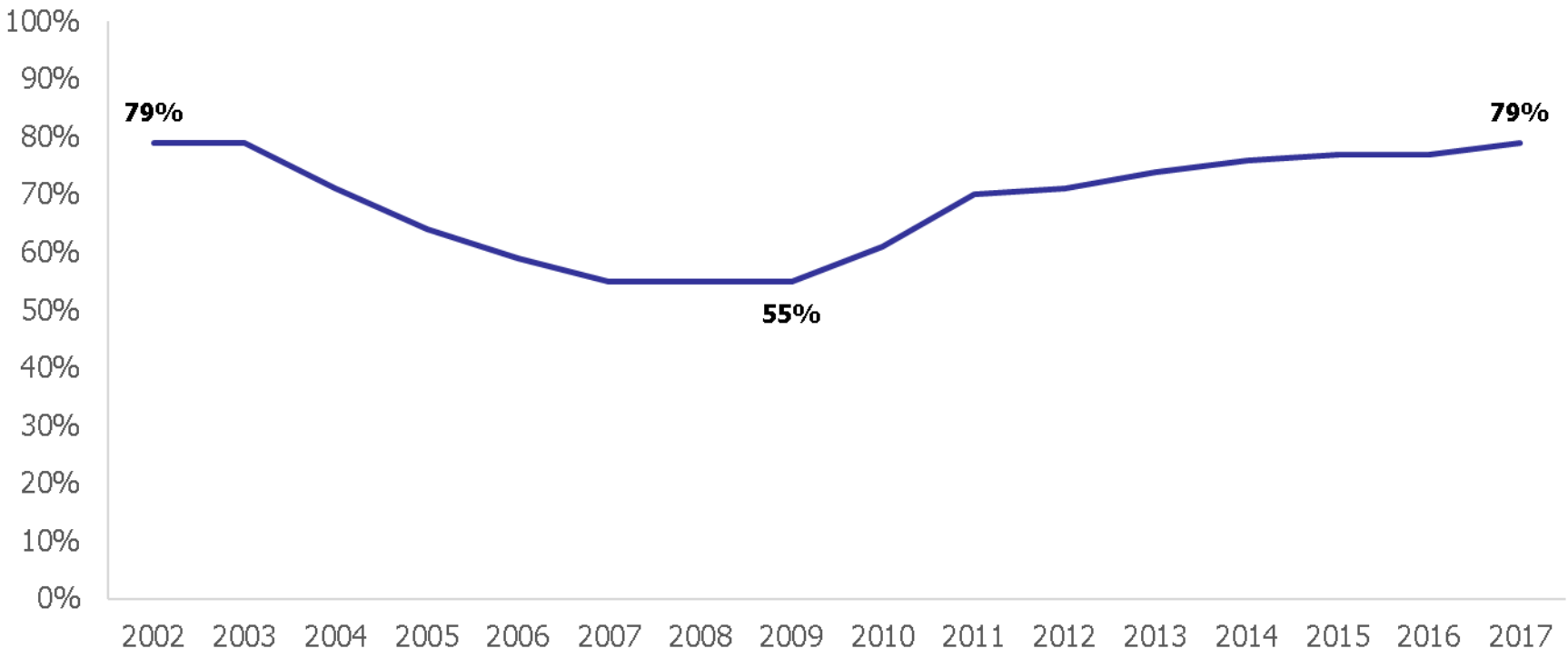
Geographically, rural students have made up a disproportionate share of OK Promise scholarship qualifiers, but the gap is narrowing.



"Urban" is defined as the 5 most populous counties – Oklahoma, Tulsa, Cleveland, Canadian, and Comanche.

OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

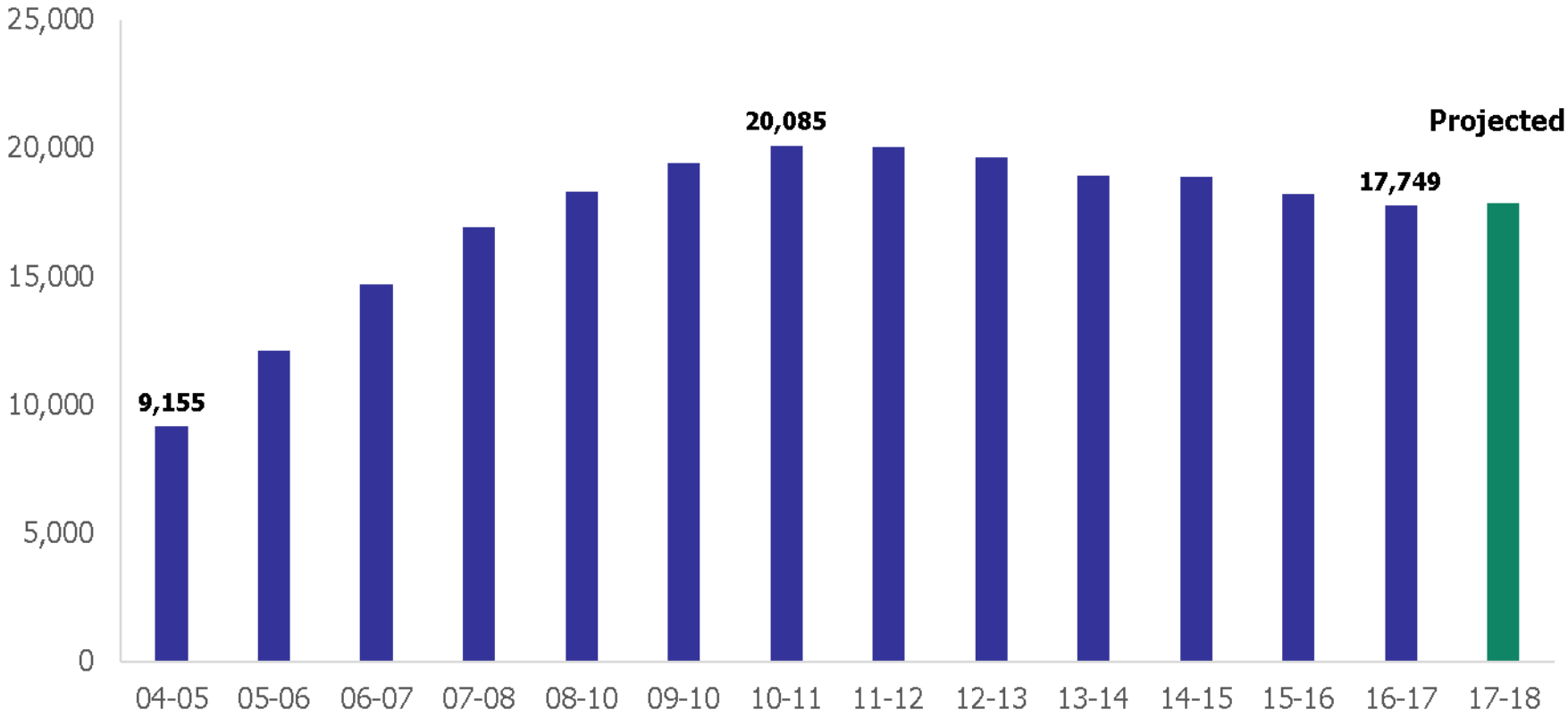
The percentage of OK Promise scholarship recipients eligible for the federal Pell Grant has risen from 55% to 79% since 2009.



Scholarship Program Information

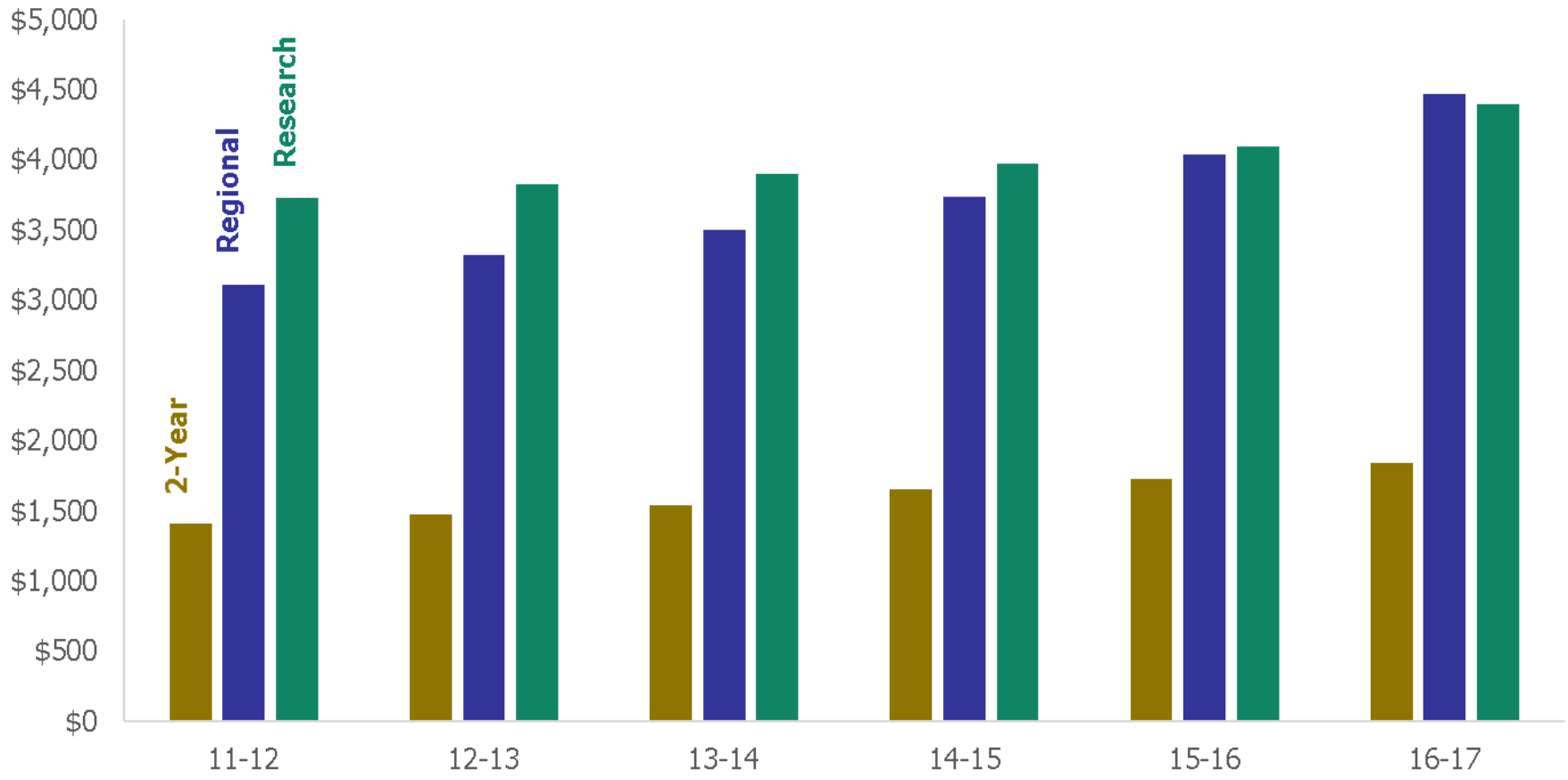
OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

The number of OK Promise scholarship recipients has declined about 12% since 2010-11.

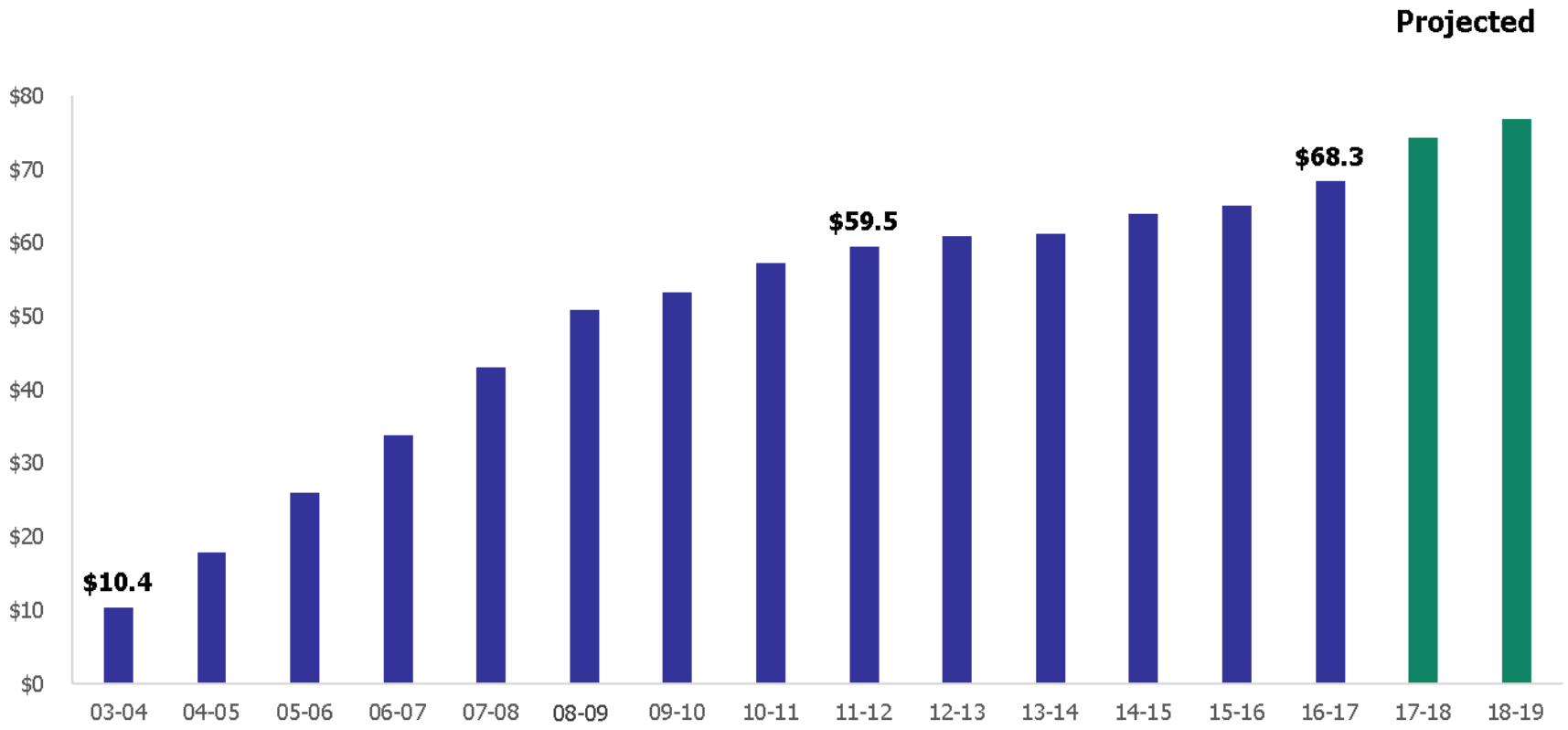


OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

Between 2011-12 and 2016-17, the average OK Promise scholarship increased about 5.3% per year.



OK Promise scholarship expenditures grew dramatically from 2003-04 to 2011-12. Growth since has been more moderate.

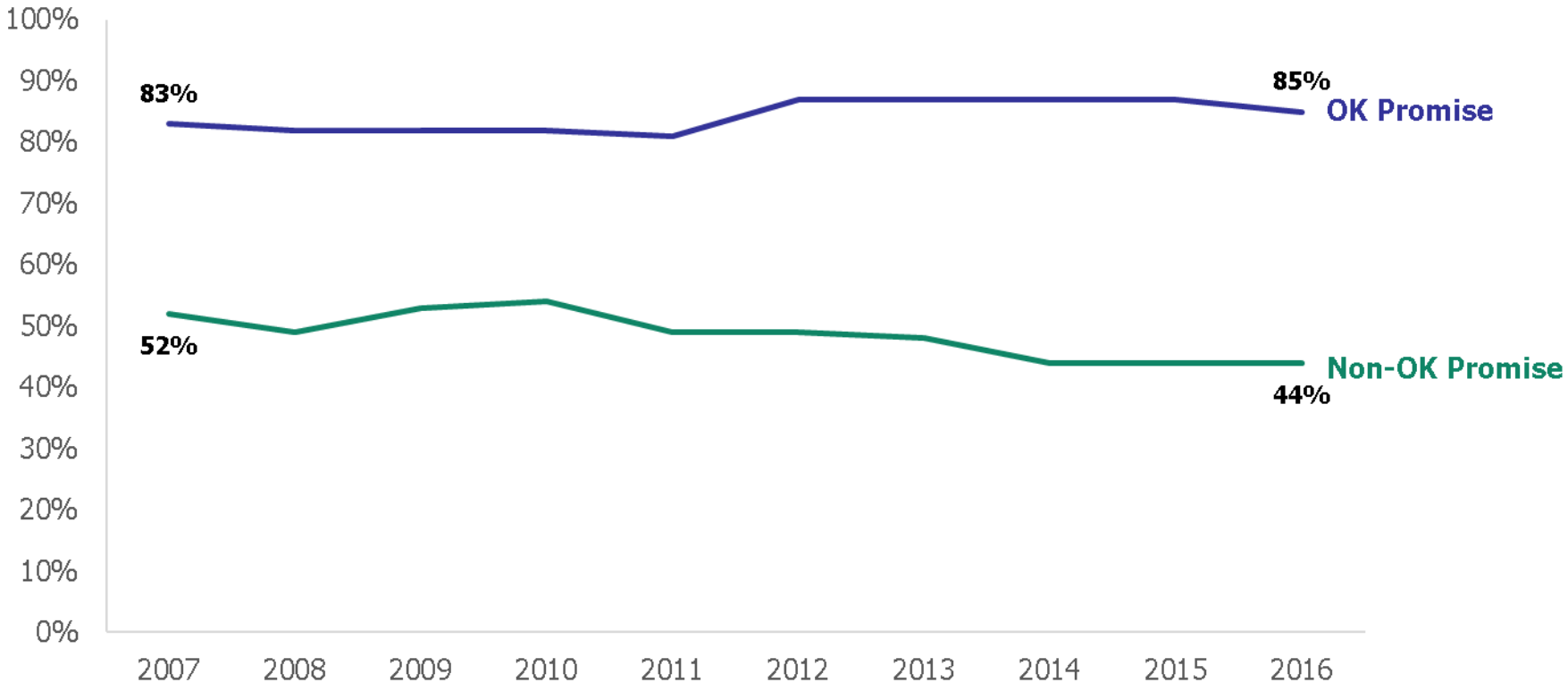


(in $ millions, by academic year)

College Enrollment and Success Trends

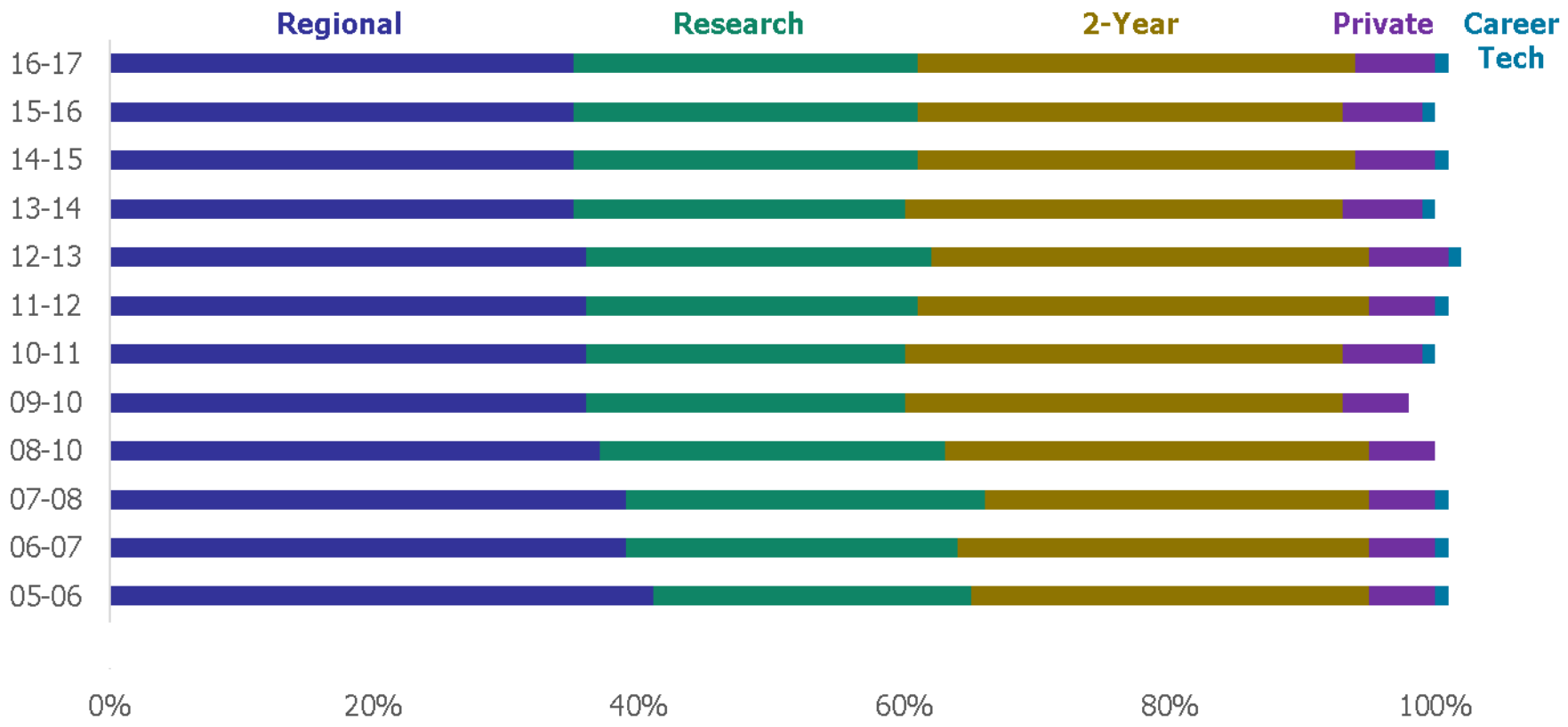
OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

Students qualifying for the OK Promise scholarship have much higher college-going rates than non-OK Promise students.

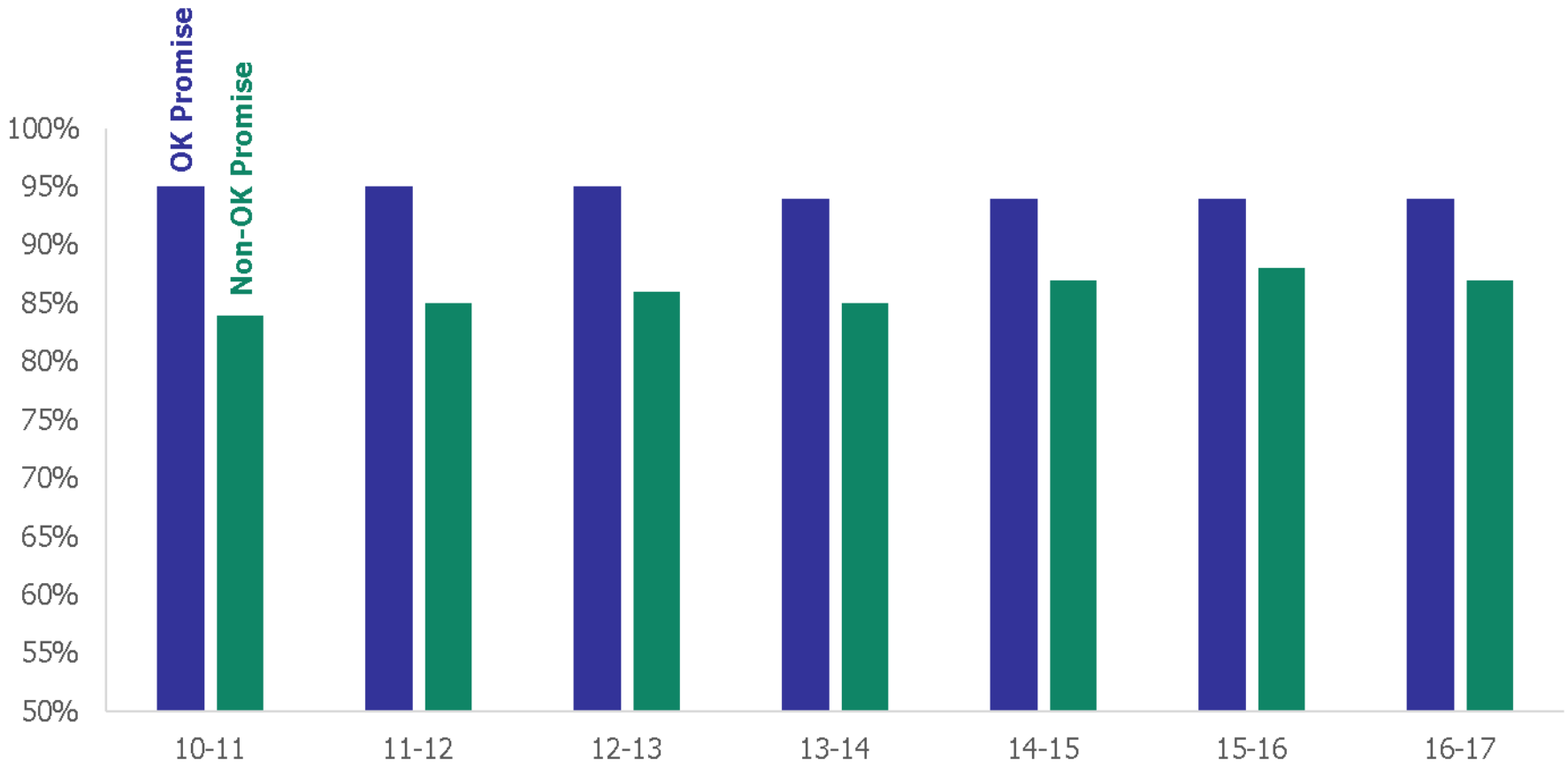


OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

About 70% of OK Promise scholarship recipients enroll at either a public regional university or public two-year college.



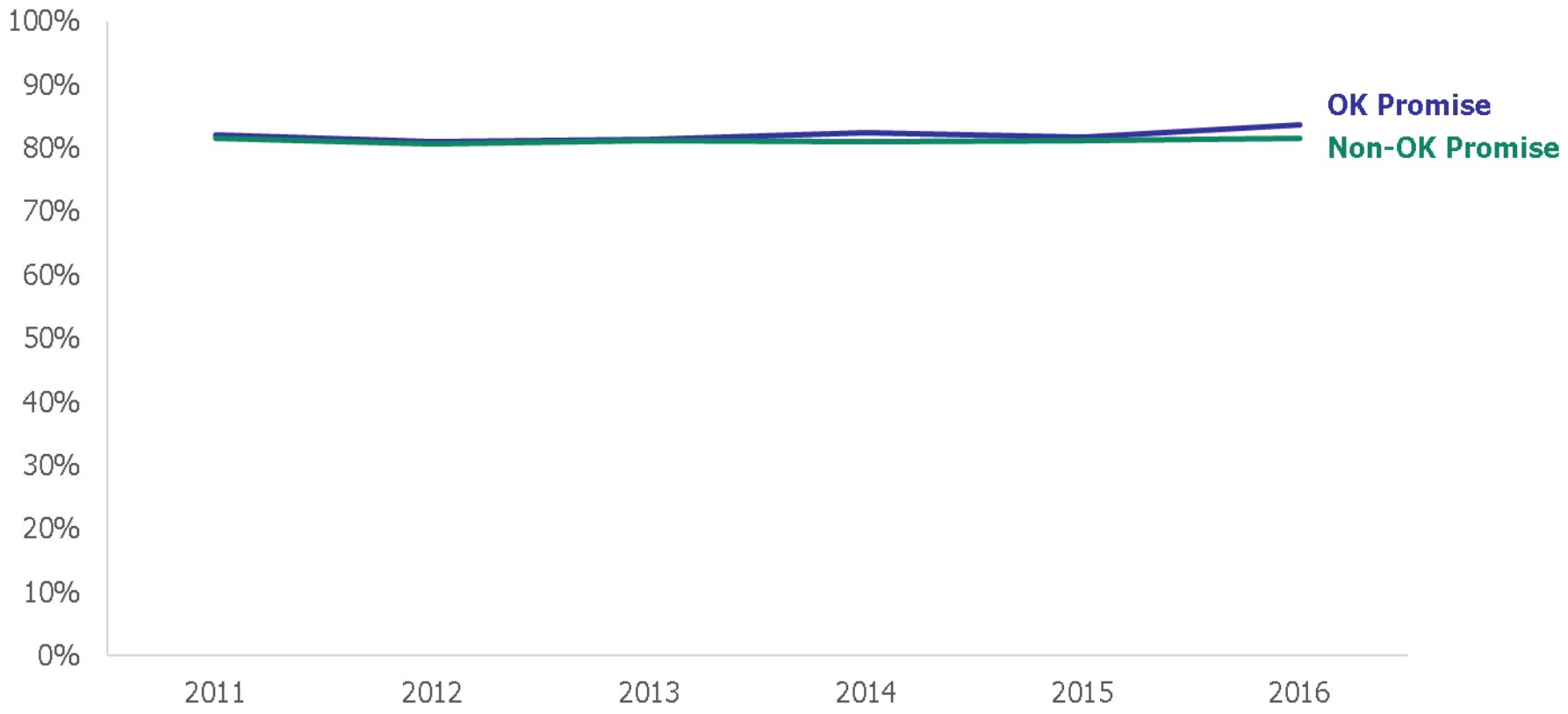
OK Promise scholarship recipients consistently enroll full-time at higher rates than non-OK Promise students.



First-time entering students enrolled full-time (12 hours or more) in fall or spring semester

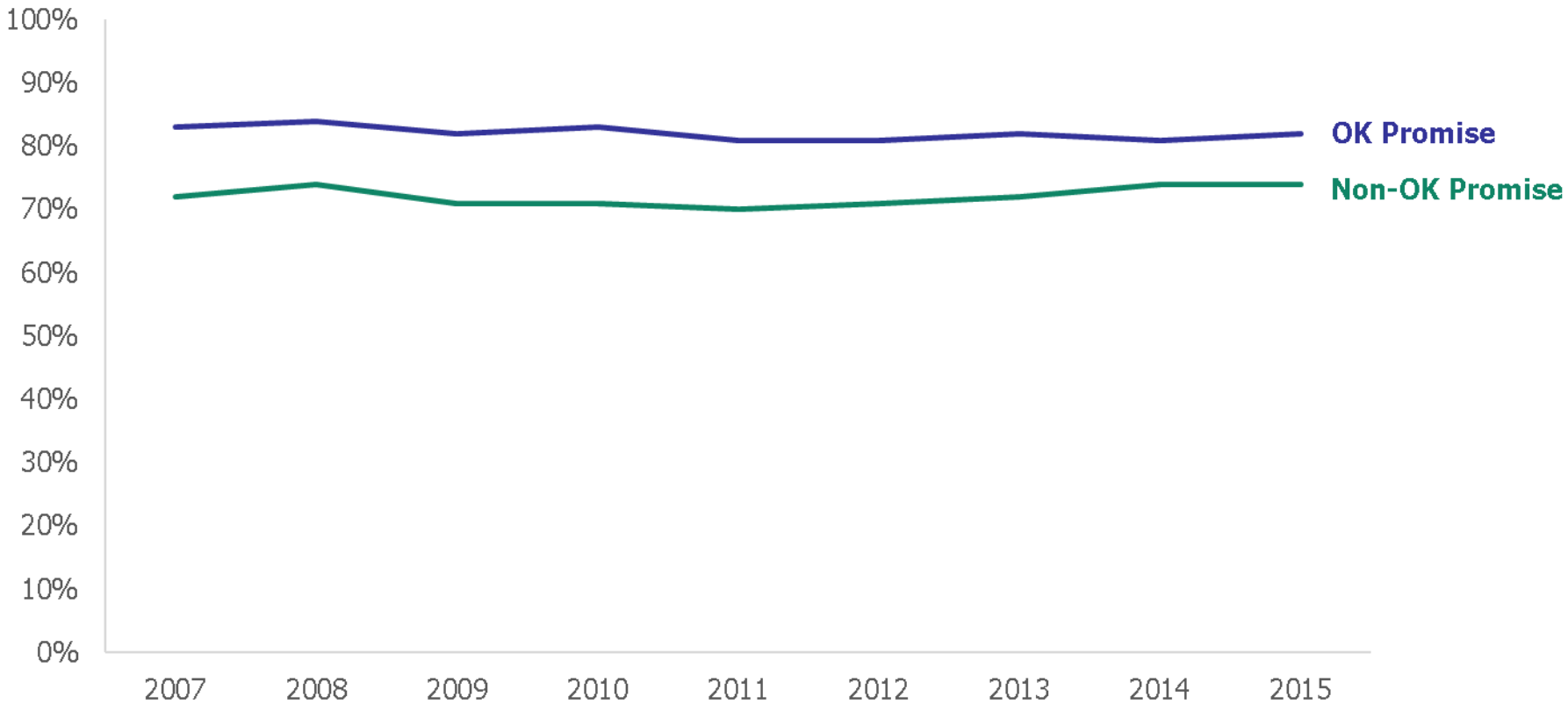
OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

The percentage of OK Promise scholarship recipients earning a freshmen GPA of at least 2.0 is slightly higher than non-OK Promise students.

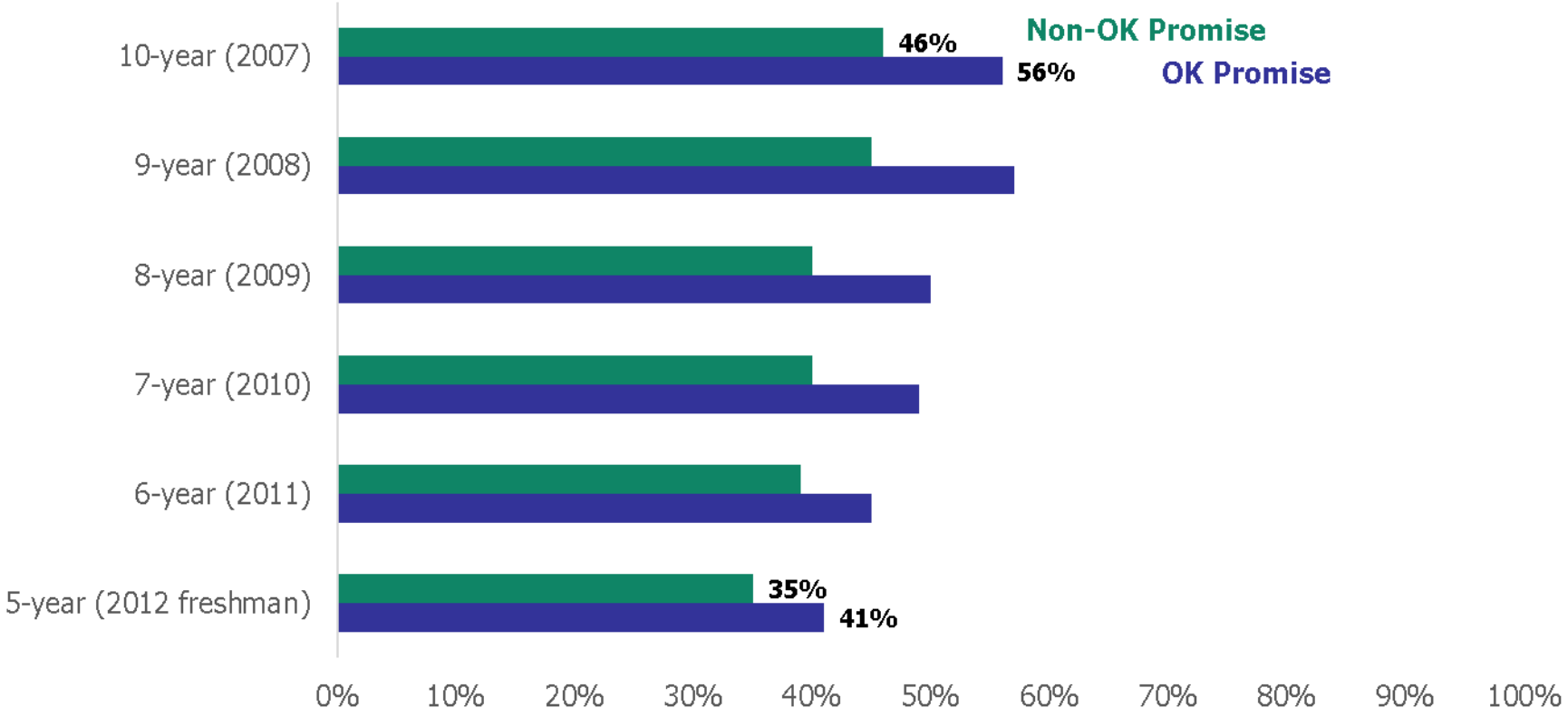


OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

The 1st-year to 2nd-year persistence rates of OK Promise scholarship recipients is consistently higher than non-OK Promise students.



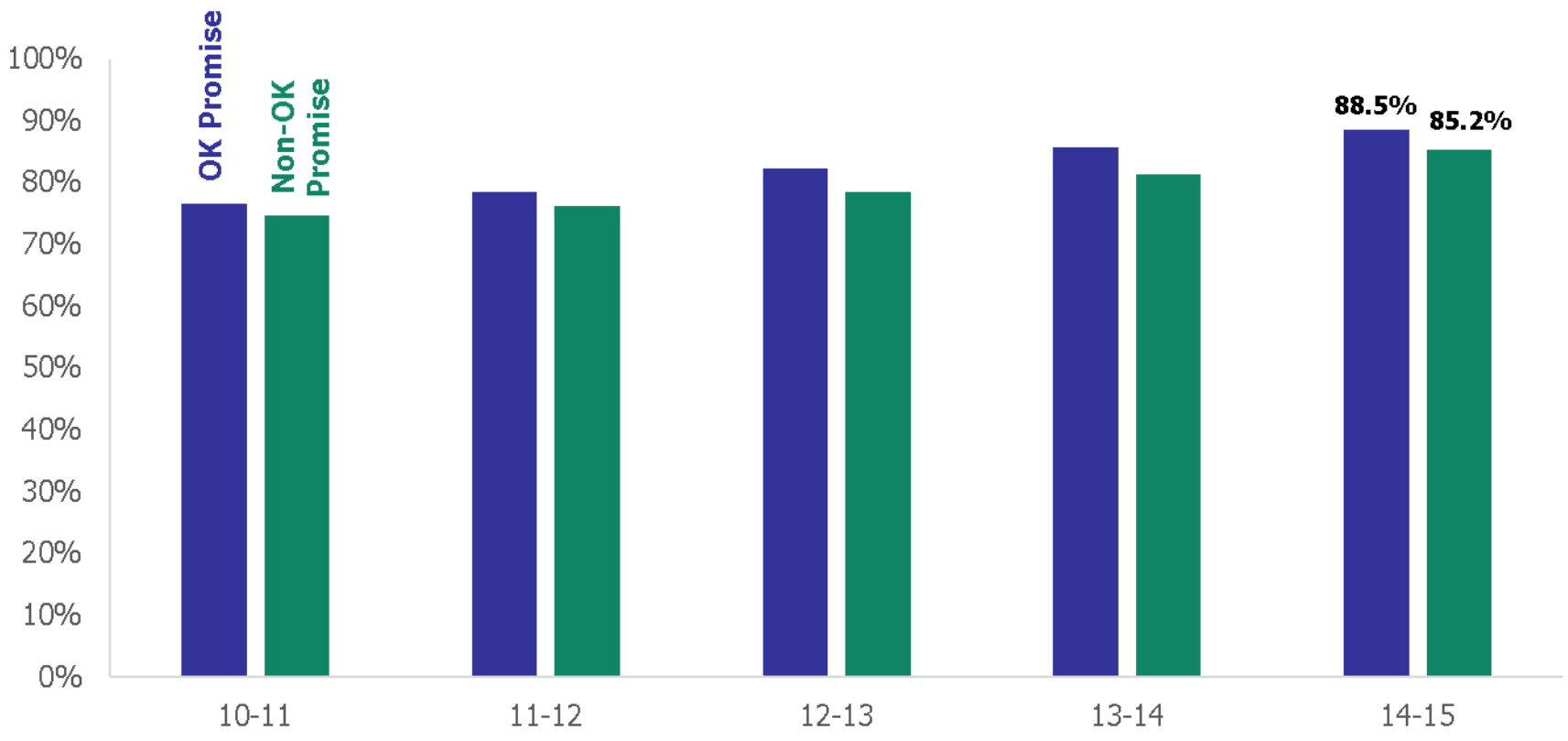
OK Promise students complete degrees at higher rates than non-OK Promise students



(first associate or bachelor degree earned through 2016-17)

OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE
OKLAHOMA HIGHER LEARNING ACCESS PROGRAM

OK Promise college graduates stay in Oklahoma at slightly higher rates than resident non-OK Promise college graduates.



(employed in Oklahoma between April 2015 and June 2016)

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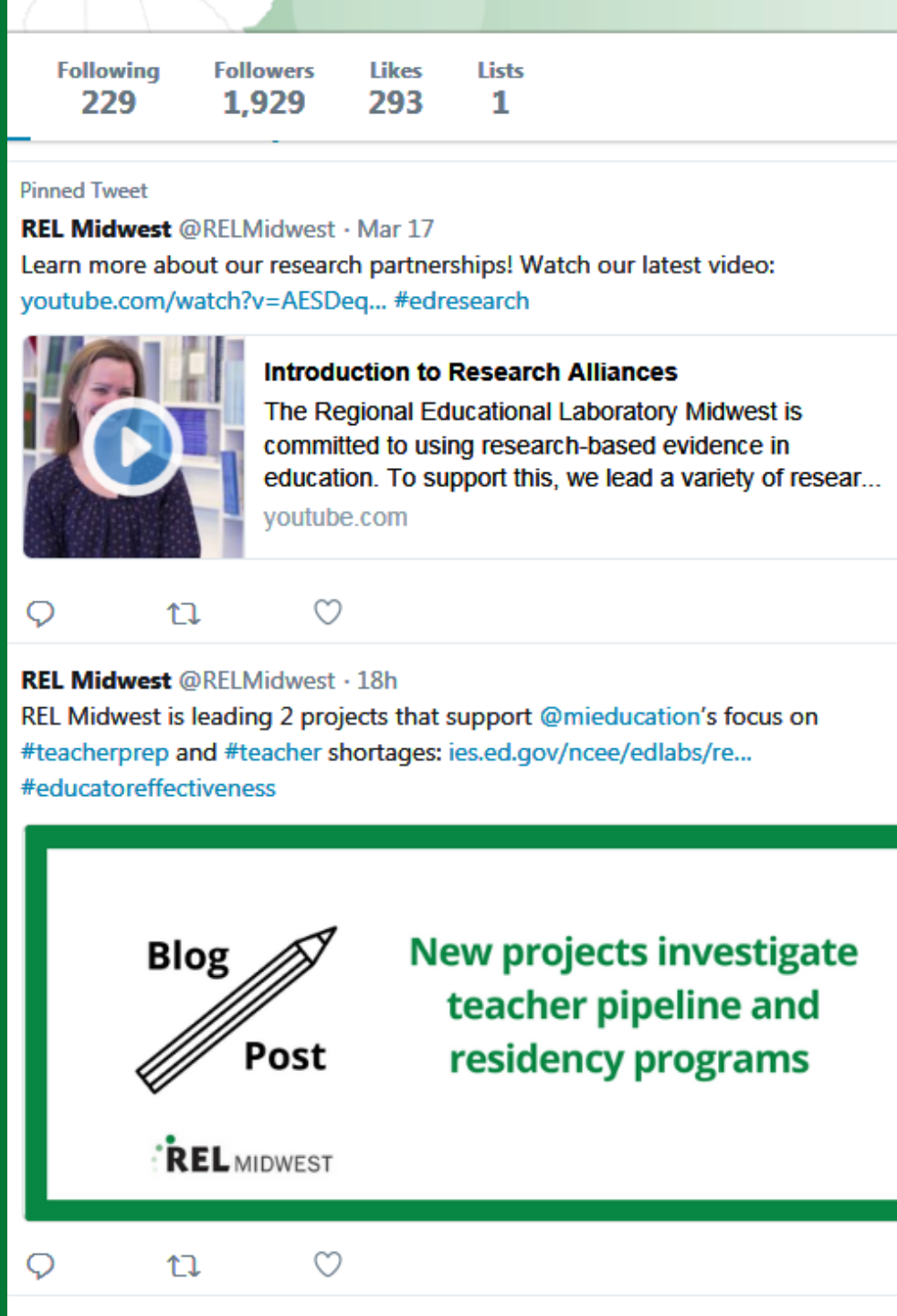

Billie Jo Day:
bday@air.org

Lyzz Davis:
edavis@air.org

Gina Deom:
gdeom@che.in.gov

Barbie Martin:
bmartin@che.in.gov

Jarod Wilson:
jwilson@che.in.gov

Bryce Fair:
bfair@osrhe.edu