



BOSTON PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL

College Enrollment and Completion Rates Trends for Boston Public School (BPS) Graduates

Prepared for:

Boston Public Schools and Success Boston

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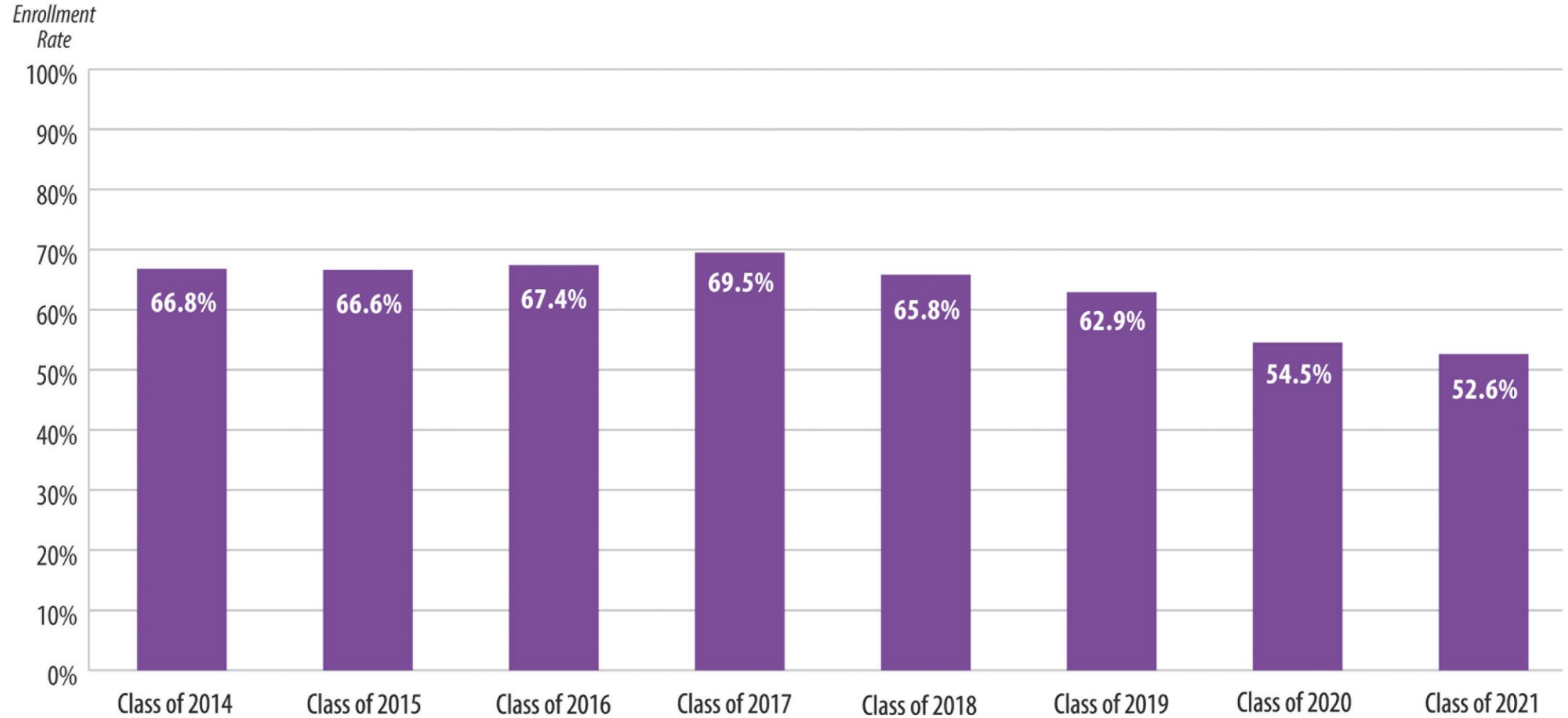
March 23, 2023



- This report uses National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) data to track the college enrollment of BPS graduates at public and private colleges or universities in the U.S. (97% coverage rate).
- For each high school class, the college enrollment rate tracks enrollment through March of the year following high school graduation (e.g., Class of 2021 is followed through March 2022).
- We refer to this as first-year college enrollment because it includes the immediate fall and spring semester following high school graduation.
- To measure college completion, BPS graduates are followed for up to 6-years following high school in this analysis using NSC records. The college completion rate is the percentage of first-year enrollees who earn a certificate, 2-year, or 4-year degree within six years.

CHART 1

FIRST-YEAR COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATE OF BPS CLASSES OF 2014–2021



Source: PIC analysis of NSC records

TABLE 1

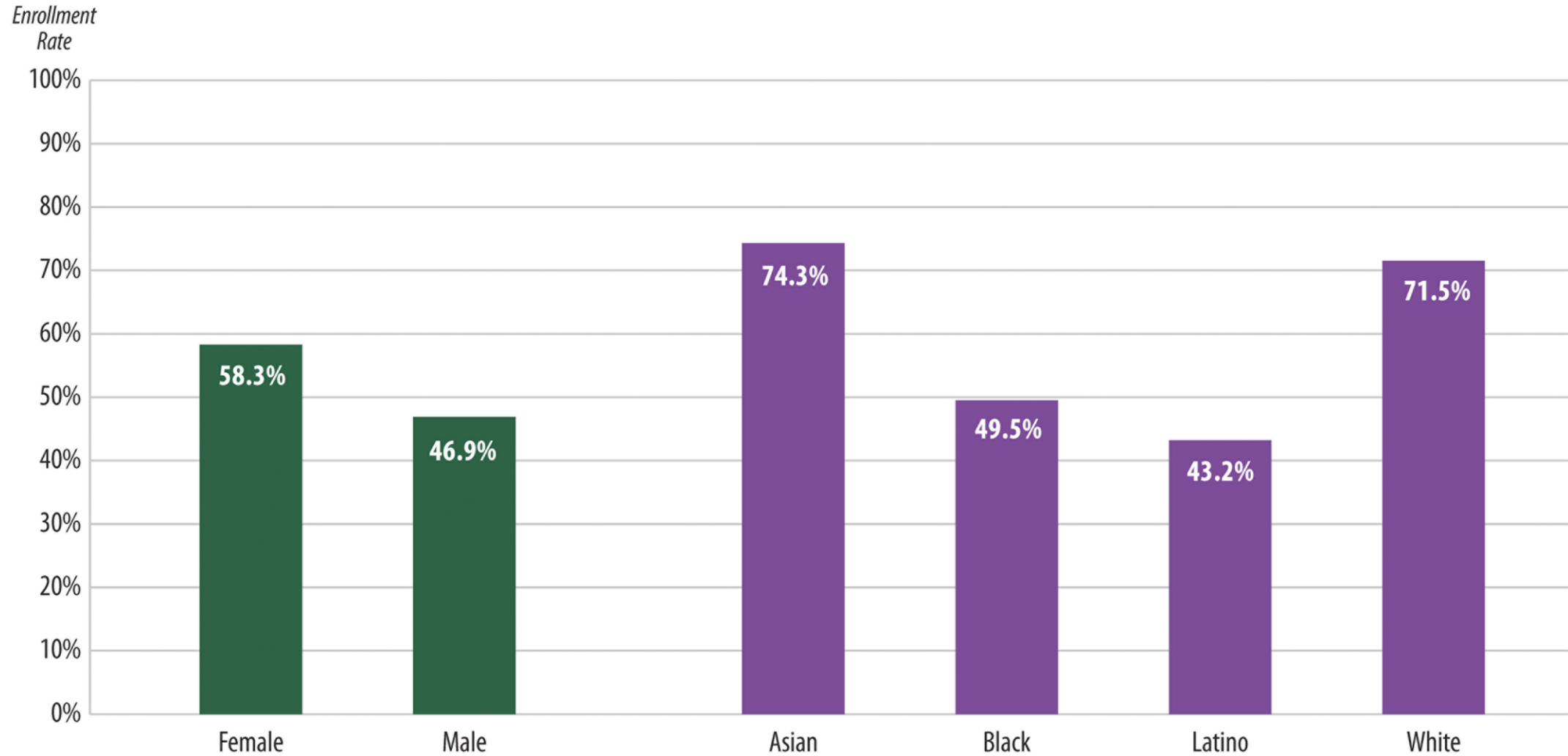
CHANGE IN FIRST-YEAR COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATES BY GENDER AND RACE-ETHNICITY, BPS CLASS OF 2017 AND CLASS OF 2021

Group	BPS Class of 2017	BPS Class of 2021	Percentage Point Change
Female	74.9%	58.3%	-16.5
Male	63.6%	46.9%	-16.7
Asian	86.3%	74.3%	-12.0
Black	67.9%	49.5%	-18.4
Latino	62.0%	43.2%	-18.8
White	76.7%	71.5%	-5.2

Source: PIC analysis of NSC records

CHART 2

FIRST-YEAR COLLEGE ENROLLMENT RATE OF BPS CLASS OF 2021 BY GENDER AND RACE-ETHNICITY



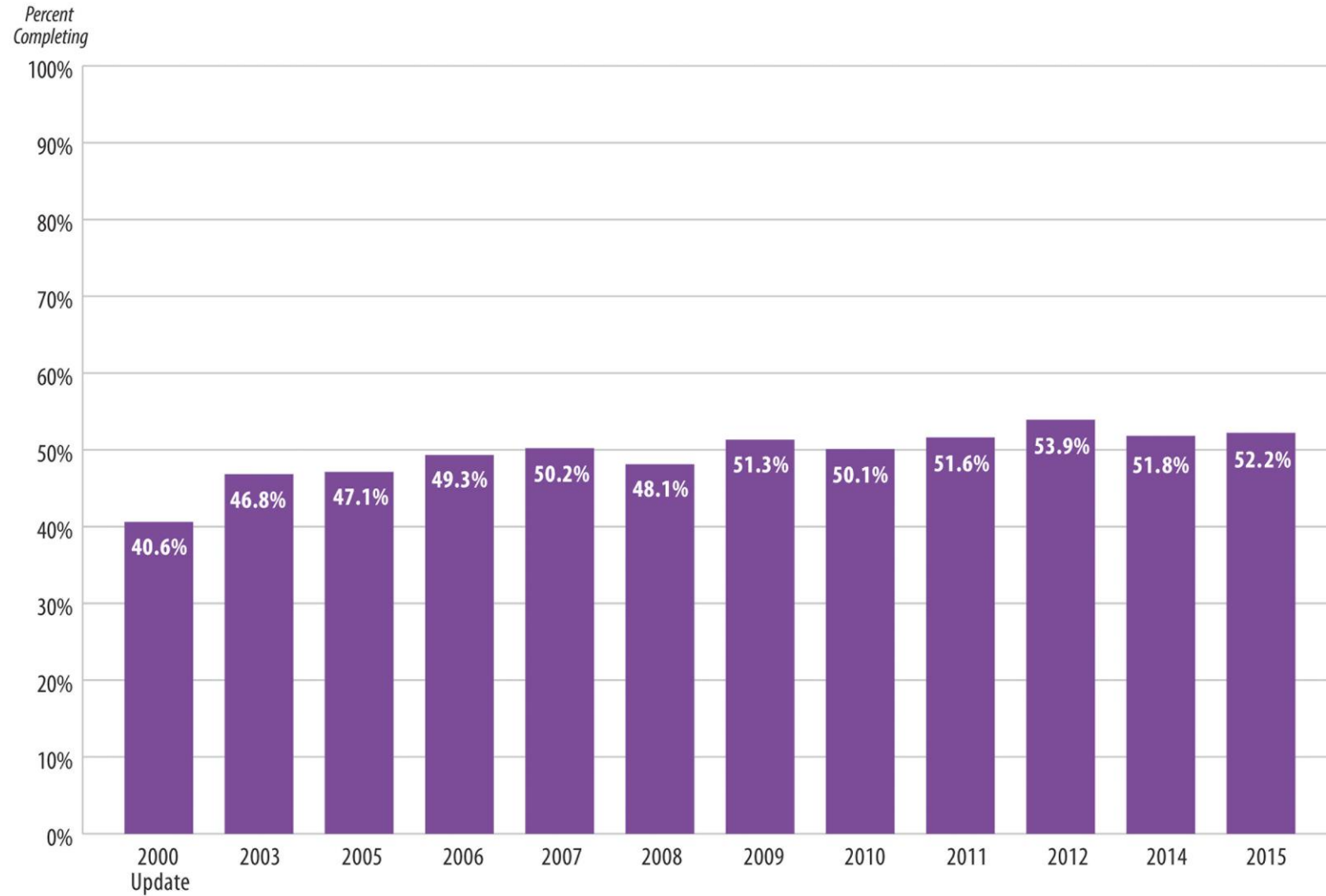
Source: PIC analysis of NSC records



Six-year College Completion Rate Trends for BPS Classes

CHART 4

TRENDS IN THE SIX-YEAR COLLEGE COMPLETION RATE OF FIRST-YEAR ENROLLEES, SELECTED BPS CLASSES, 2000–2015



Sources: (i) Getting Closer to the Finish Line (2013);
(ii) PIC analysis of NSC data for the Classes of 2007-2015

TABLE 2
**GENDER GAPS IN SIX-YEAR COLLEGE COMPLETION RATES
 OF FIRST-YEAR ENROLLEES, BPS CLASSES OF 2014 AND 2015**

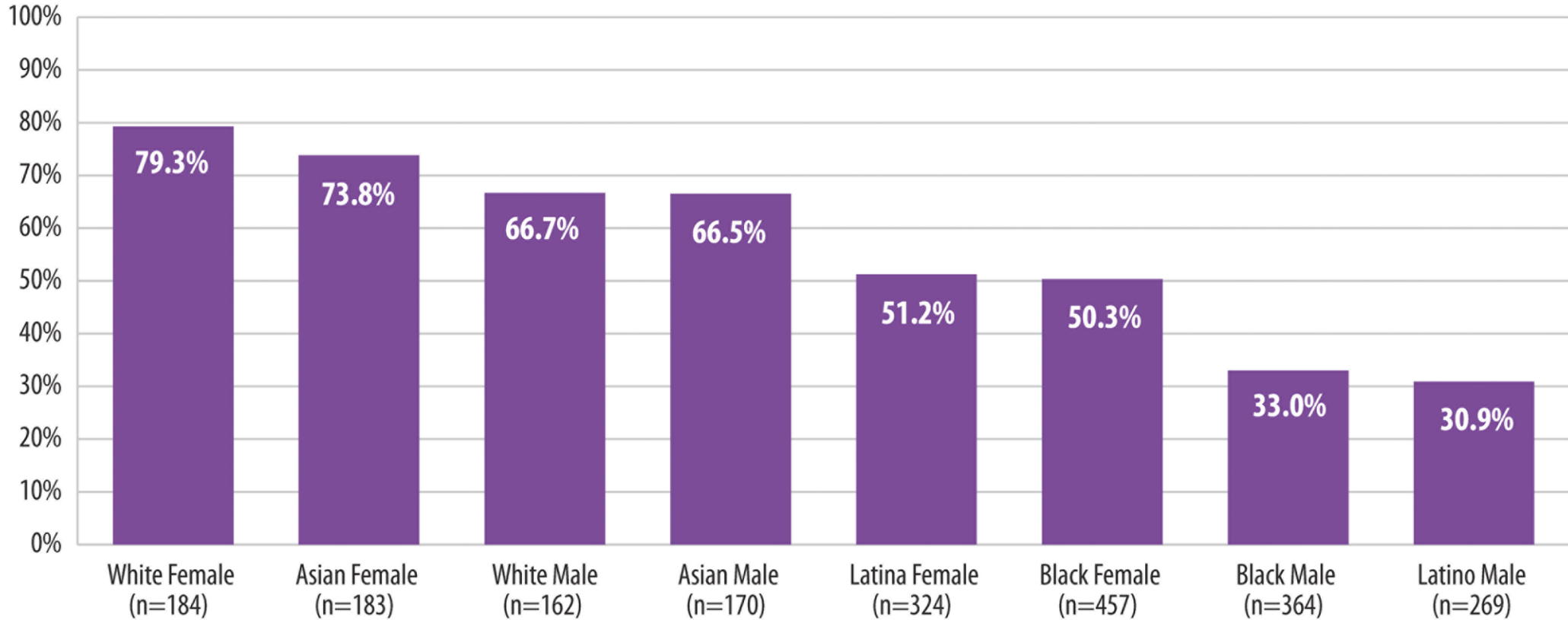
BPS Class/ Gender	Total First-Year Enrollees	College Completers	College Completion Rate
Class of 2014			
Female	1,234	721	58%
Male	938	405	43%
Class of 2015			
Female	1,167	686	59%
Male	981	435	44%

Source: PIC analysis of NSC records

CHART 6

SIX-YEAR COLLEGE COMPLETION RATES BY GENDER AND RACE-ETHNIC SUBGROUP, BPS CLASS OF 2015

6-Year
Completion Rate



Source: PIC analysis of NSC records



Six-year College Completion Rates by Type of High School

TABLE 3

SIX-YEAR COLLEGE COMPLETION RATES BY HIGH SCHOOL TYPE, BPS CLASSES OF 2014 AND 2015

BPS high school type	BPS Class of 2014	BPS Class of 2015
Exam	80.1%	76.7%
Non-exam	36.8%	38.1%
Percentage Point Difference	+43.3	+38.6

Source: PIC analysis of NSC records



Six-year College Completion Rates by Type of College First Attended

TABLE 4

SIX-YEAR COLLEGE COMPLETION RATES OF BPS CLASSES OF 2014 AND 2015 FIRST-YEAR ENROLLEES BY TYPE OF COLLEGE FIRST ATTENDED

Type of College	BPS Class of 2014	BPS Class of 2015
2-year Public (n=562)	20.8%	20.6%
4-year Public (n=726)	65.8%	62.1%
4-year Private (n=858)	66.8%	64.6%

Source: PIC analysis of NSC data

Note: n= # of BPS Class of 2015 first-year enrollees.



- College enrollment rates were declining just prior to the pandemic and fell sharply for the Classes of 2020 and 2021. The district's efforts to improve supports for students as they plan for college, career, and life, as well as to boost dual enrollment, innovation and early college pathways are timely. Local and state policies to make college more affordable are needed as well.
- Gender and race-ethnic disparities persist and remain wide in both college enrollment and completion. College enrollment rate disparities widened during the pandemic. The data clearly show the need for targeted efforts to boost rates for Black and Latino graduates.
- There are hundreds of BPS college enrollees from the Classes of 2014 and 2015 that were enrolled as recently as the 2021-22 academic year, who have not graduated yet. Many in this group are close to completing college and could benefit from outreach efforts and other supports to reenroll them.