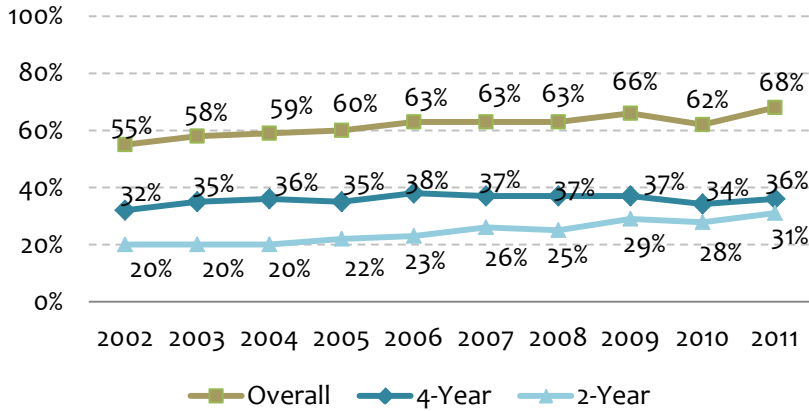


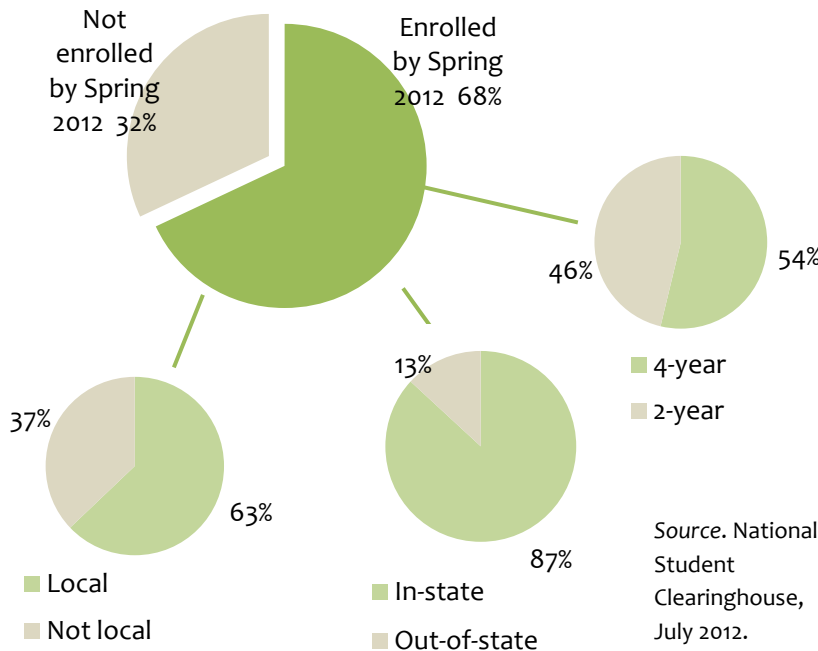
How many AISD graduates enrolled in postsecondary education?

Longitudinal trends. Since 2002, Austin Independent School District's (AISD) postsecondary enrollment has increased incrementally. Over the years, the percentages of students enrolling in 2-year institutions appear to account for the overall increase in postsecondary enrollment. After a dip in enrollment for the Class of 2010, the upward trend in postsecondary enrollment continued with the Class of 2011.



Source. National Student Clearinghouse, July 2012.

2011 graduates. Most 2011 graduates (N=4,095) were enrolled in a postsecondary institution by Spring 2012. Nine percent of graduates did not enroll for the first time until the spring semester. Most of them attended in-state institutions, and more than half attended a local university (i.e., defined as within 60 miles of downtown Austin).



Source. National Student Clearinghouse, July 2012.

Understanding the data. This summary presents postsecondary enrollment for AISD's Class of 2011 during the Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 semesters based on [National Student Clearinghouse](#) (NSC) data. The NSC database contains 96% of nationwide enrollment in both public and private postsecondary institutions. In accordance with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) regulations, data from NSC were linked to the 2011 AISD graduate records submitted to the Texas Education Agency's (TEA) Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) on the following variables: student first and last name, date of birth, and zip code. Please refer to the supplemental [report](#) on the Department of Research and Evaluation (DRE) website for technical documentation.

Limitations. This summary may be an underestimate of actual enrollment. An enrollment match only occurs if each variable matches exactly. Discrepancies in a student's name or a change in zip code are common reasons an enrollment record might not be found. Also, the NSC data do not include all postsecondary institutions in the United States or report on student enrollment outside of the states. Plus, students may choose to opt out of sharing their enrollment data with external agencies, in which case their postsecondary enrollment is not reported to the NSC and is not included in the summary. Even with these limitations, the NSC database is still the most comprehensive source available and is commonly used by universities, the education finance industry, government agencies, high schools, and educational researchers.

Where did most 2011 graduates enroll after high school graduation?

Top ten colleges.

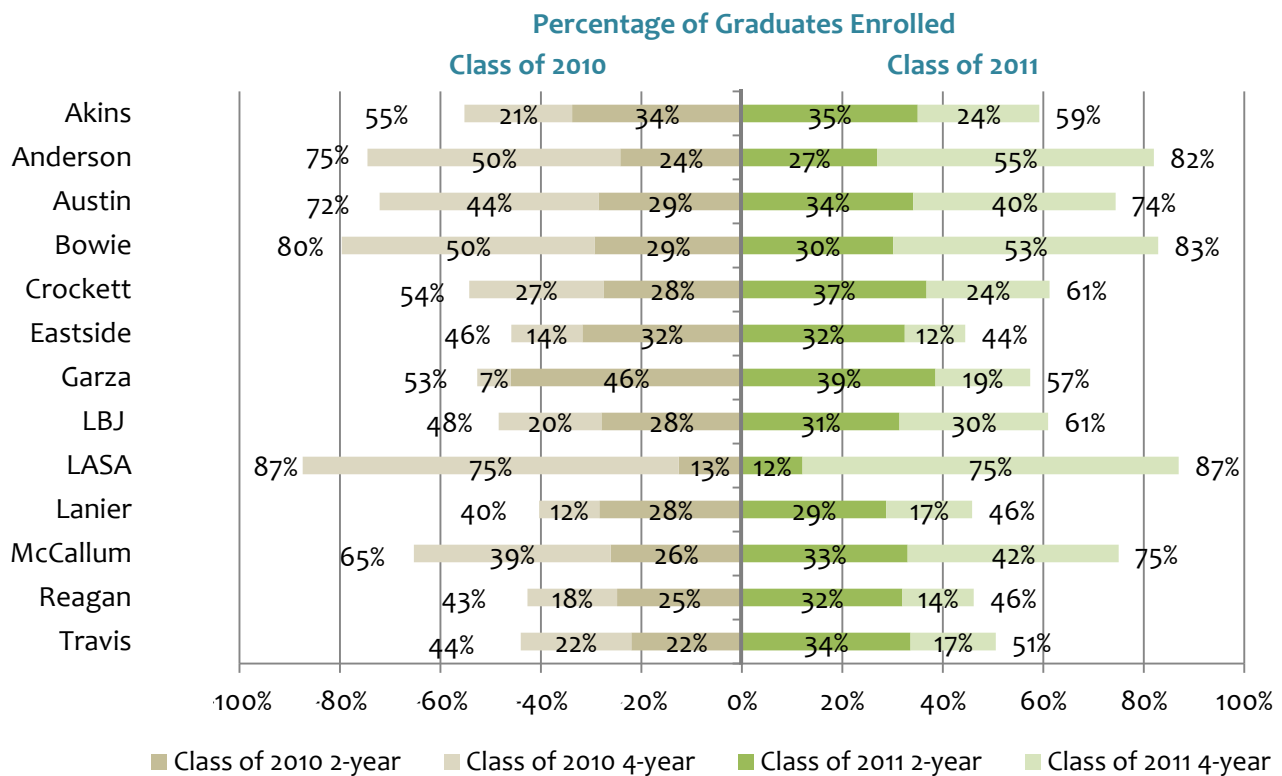
Forty-one percent of AISD graduates enrolled in college were enrolled in Austin Community College (ACC) the year after graduation. In 2011, Texas Tech University and Everest Institute replaced the University of Houston and Texas Christian University on the “Top 10 List” of colleges for AISD graduates.

| Postsecondary institution | Number | Percentage |
|-------------------------------------|--------|------------|
| Austin Community College | 1168 | 41% |
| Texas State University - San Marcos | 255 | 9% |
| University Of Texas - Austin | 224 | 8% |
| University Of Texas - San Antonio | 136 | 5% |
| Texas A&M University | 86 | 3% |
| St Edwards University | 64 | 2% |
| Blinn College | 48 | 2% |
| University of North Texas | 35 | 1% |
| Texas Tech University | 33 | 1% |
| Everest Institute - Austin | 28 | 1% |

Source. National Student Clearinghouse, July 2012

How did postsecondary enrollment compare for 2011 and 2010 graduates of high schools?

Comparison by high school. Almost every AISD high school experienced an increase in postsecondary enrollment for its graduates, compared with enrollment the prior year. Seven high schools had an increase of 5 percentage points or more. Postsecondary enrollment in 4-year institutions for the 2011 graduates of Garza High School increased 12 percentage points, from 7% to 19%.

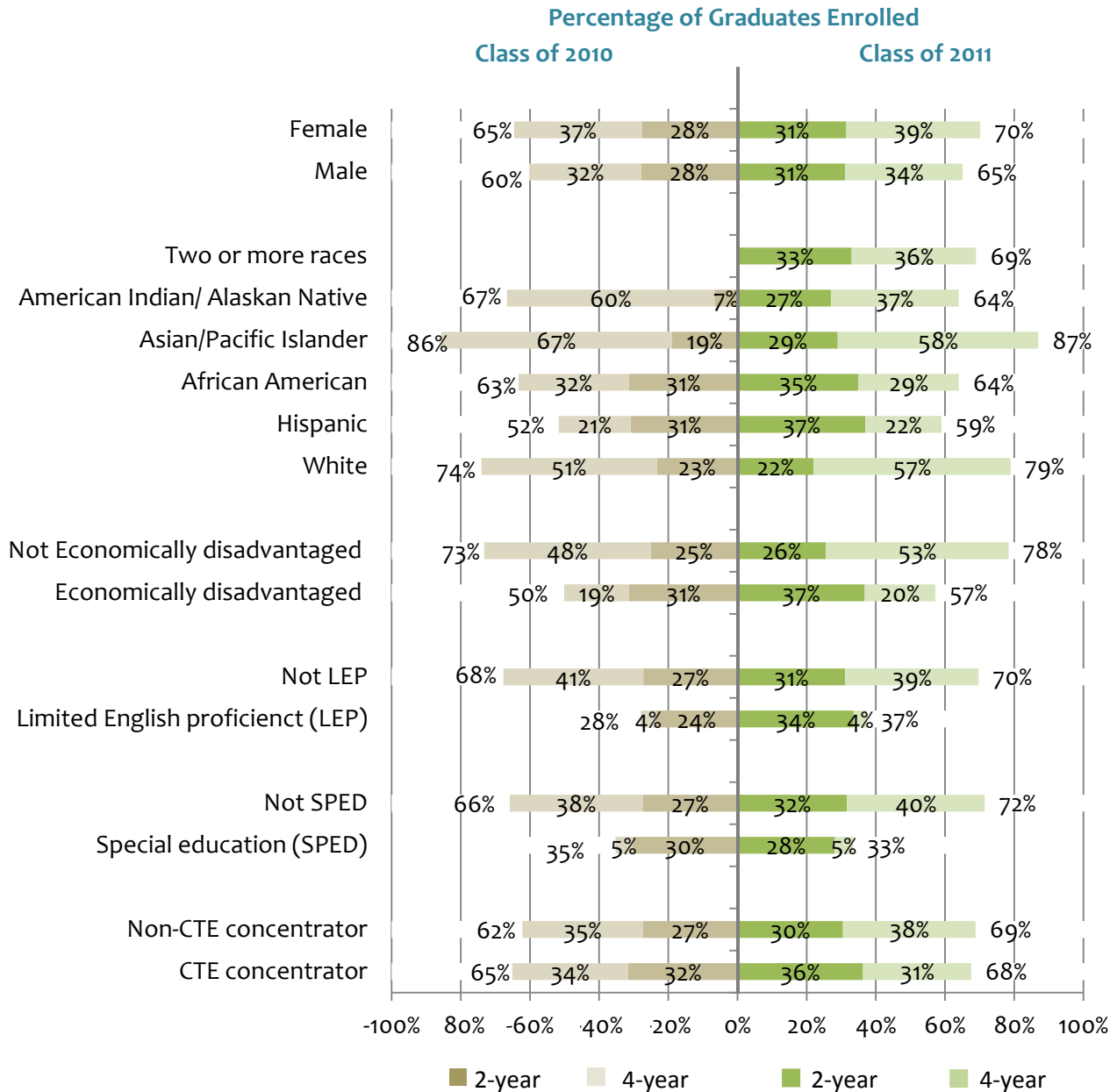


Source. National Student Clearinghouse, July 2012.

Note. Each enrollment percentage was rounded to the nearest whole number, and the total percentage enrolled may differ from the sum of 2- and 4- year enrollment percentages.

How did postsecondary enrollment vary by student demographic groups?

Comparison by student groups. Postsecondary enrollment increased for all race/ethnicity groups in the Class of 2011, compared with comparable data for Class of 2010. Postsecondary enrollment rates increased the most for Hispanic and African American graduates (i.e., by 19 and 15 percentage points, respectively). The postsecondary enrollment of limited English proficient (LEP) graduates increased by 9 percentage points for the Class of 2011, compared with postsecondary enrollment of LEP graduates in the Class of 2010. Postsecondary enrollment for Career and Technical Education (CTE) students and non-CTE students was similar for the Class of 2011. Economically disadvantaged students were more likely to be enrolled in a postsecondary institution if they also were categorized as a CTE concentrator ([Pazera, 2011](#)).

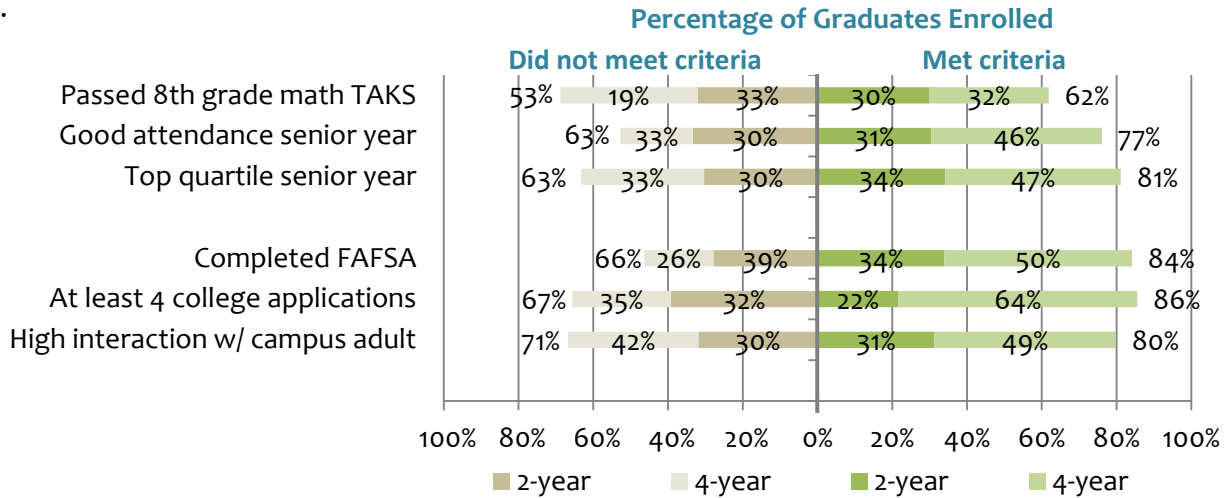


Source. National Student Clearinghouse, July 2012.

Notes. Two or more races was reported for the first time for the Class of 2011. CTE concentrators are students who have taken a sequence of career and technical education courses. For more information about CTE, refer to this [report](#).

Did enrollment vary according to “predictors of postsecondary enrollment?”

Predictors of enrollment. DRE staff conducted a [study](#) (2008) using data from the AISD Class of 2007 to learn which student characteristics predicted enrollment in a postsecondary institution. This study was modeled after research from the [Chicago Consortium of School Research](#). Overall, the percentages of graduates who met predictive criteria and enrolled in a postsecondary institution the following year were greater than those who did not meet predictive criteria. This figure lists the predictors from the AISD predictive study that continued to be strong influences on postsecondary enrollment applied to the Class of 2011.



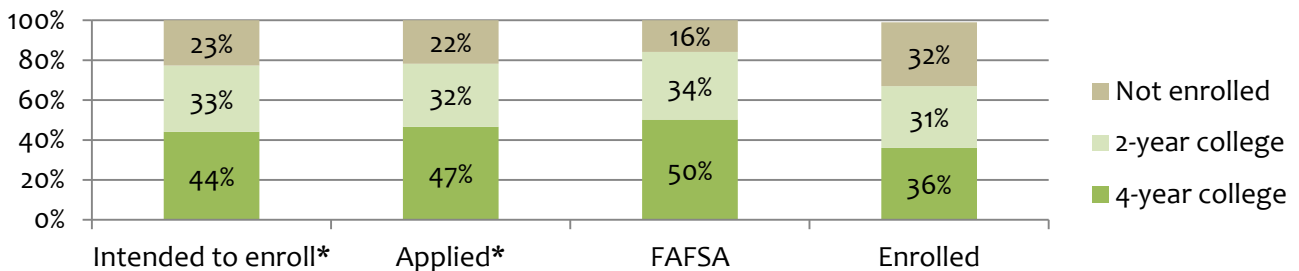
Sources. AISD academic, NSC enrollment, federal FAFSA completion, and AISD High School Exit Survey records, 2012.

What was the “aspiration gap” for the Class of 2011?

Aspiration gap. Aspiring to go to college requires students to complete preparation milestones. Assuming students have been preparing academically, district staff make concerted efforts to help seniors complete college admissions and financial aid applications. On the [district’s senior exit survey*](#), most seniors reported making college enrollment plans and applying to college. However, the percentages of students who completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or enrolled in a postsecondary institution were lower than those who planned to enroll or filled out a college application.

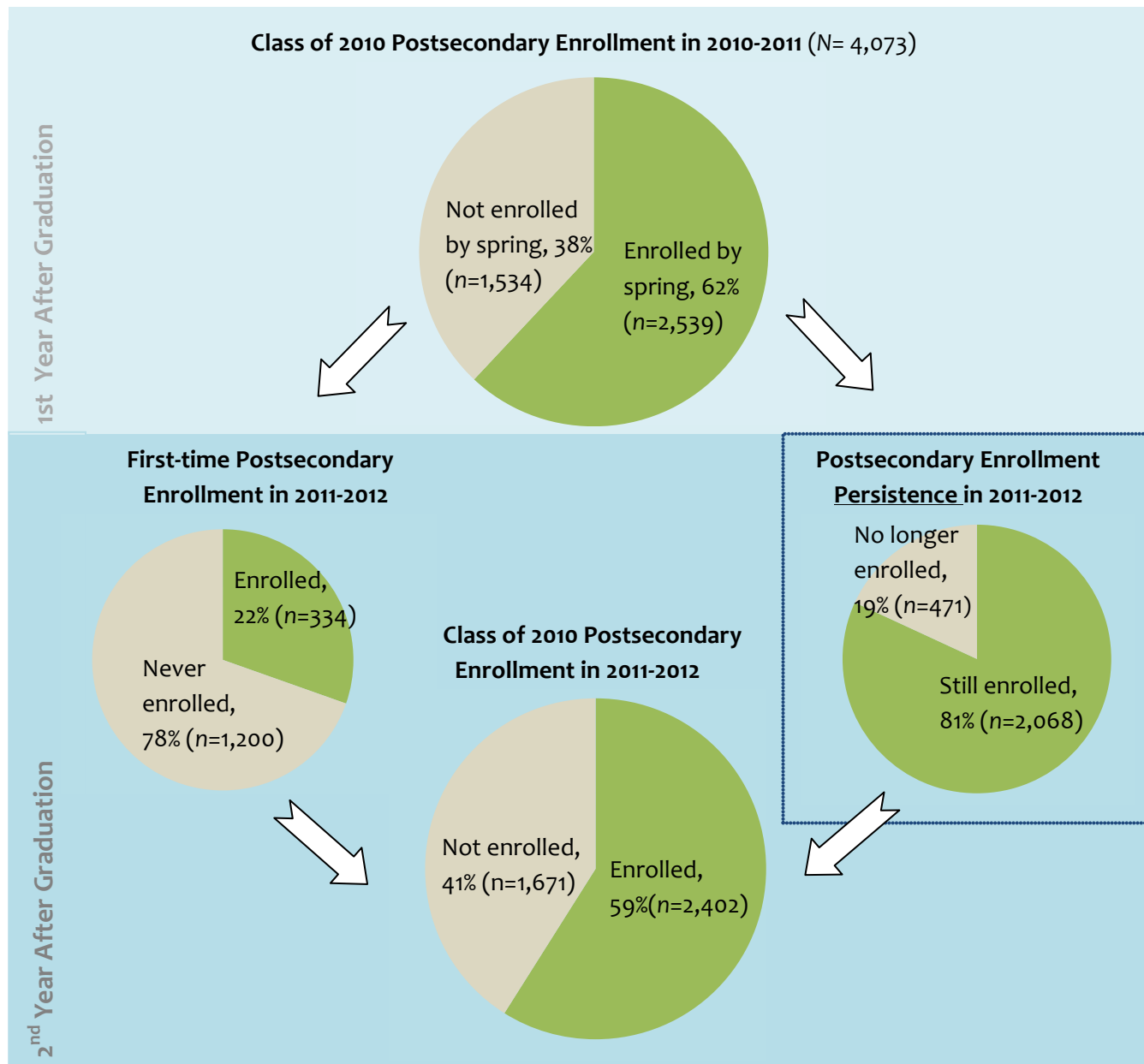
| | Intended to enroll* | Applied* | Completed FAFSA | Enrolled |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| Class of 2011 | 92% | 90% | 54% | 68% |
| Class of 2010 | 92% | 87% | 54% | 62% |

Most students who completed postsecondary enrollment milestones enrolled in a postsecondary institution. FAFSA completion appears to be an important factor in their enrollment, given that 84% of graduates who enrolled had completed a FAFSA.



Did college-goers from the Class of 2010 persist in their postsecondary enrollment for a second year?

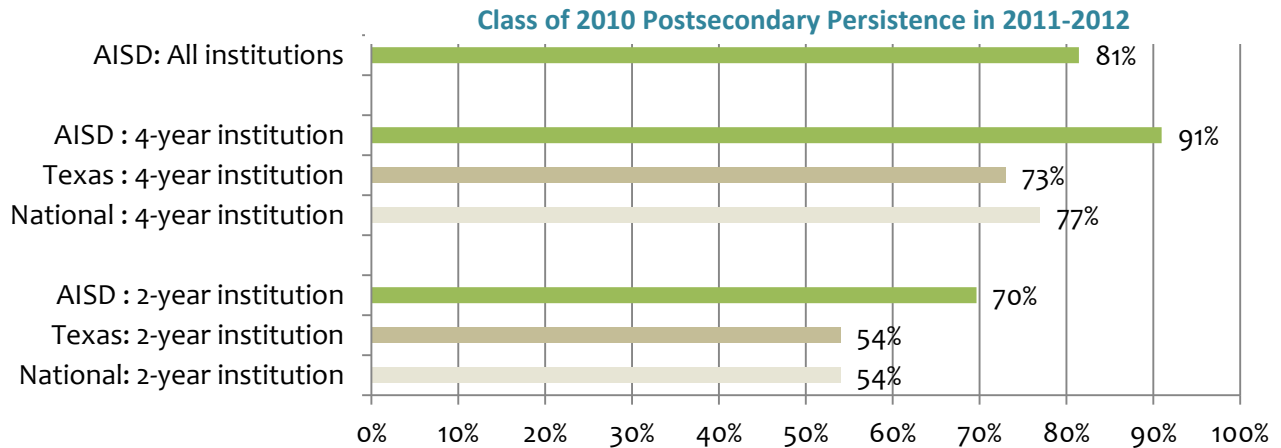
College freshman persistence rate. Eighty-one percent of graduates from the Class of 2010 who enrolled in a postsecondary institution the year after high school enrolled for a second year. Of the AISD graduates who did not enroll in a postsecondary institution the year after high school graduation, 22% were found enrolled for the first time in the second year. Including both returning and first-time enrolling students from the Class of 2010, 59% were enrolled in a postsecondary institution in the second year after high school graduation, an overall decrease of 3% from the previous year.



Source. National Student Clearinghouse, July 2012.

Did postsecondary persistence differ among 2010 graduates at the local, state, and national levels?

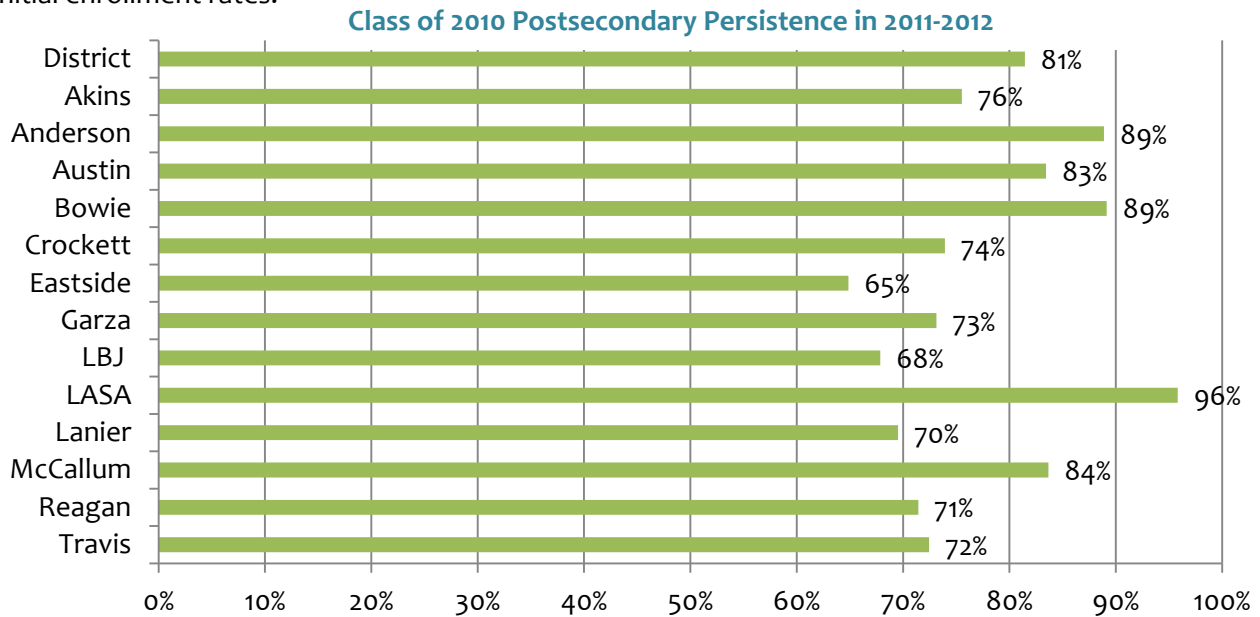
Local, state, and national persistence rates. AISD’s college persistence rate exceeded state and national persistence rates of college freshmen. The [National Center for Higher Education Management Systems](#) reported 77% of first-year college students from the Class of 2010 across the nation returned to college for a second year, and in Texas, 73% of first-year college students from the Class of 2010 returned to college for a second year. Overall, students enrolled in 4-year institutions had higher return rates the following year than did students who were enrolled in 2-year institutions.



Source. National Student Clearinghouse. July 2012.

Did postsecondary persistence differ for 2010 graduates from various high schools?

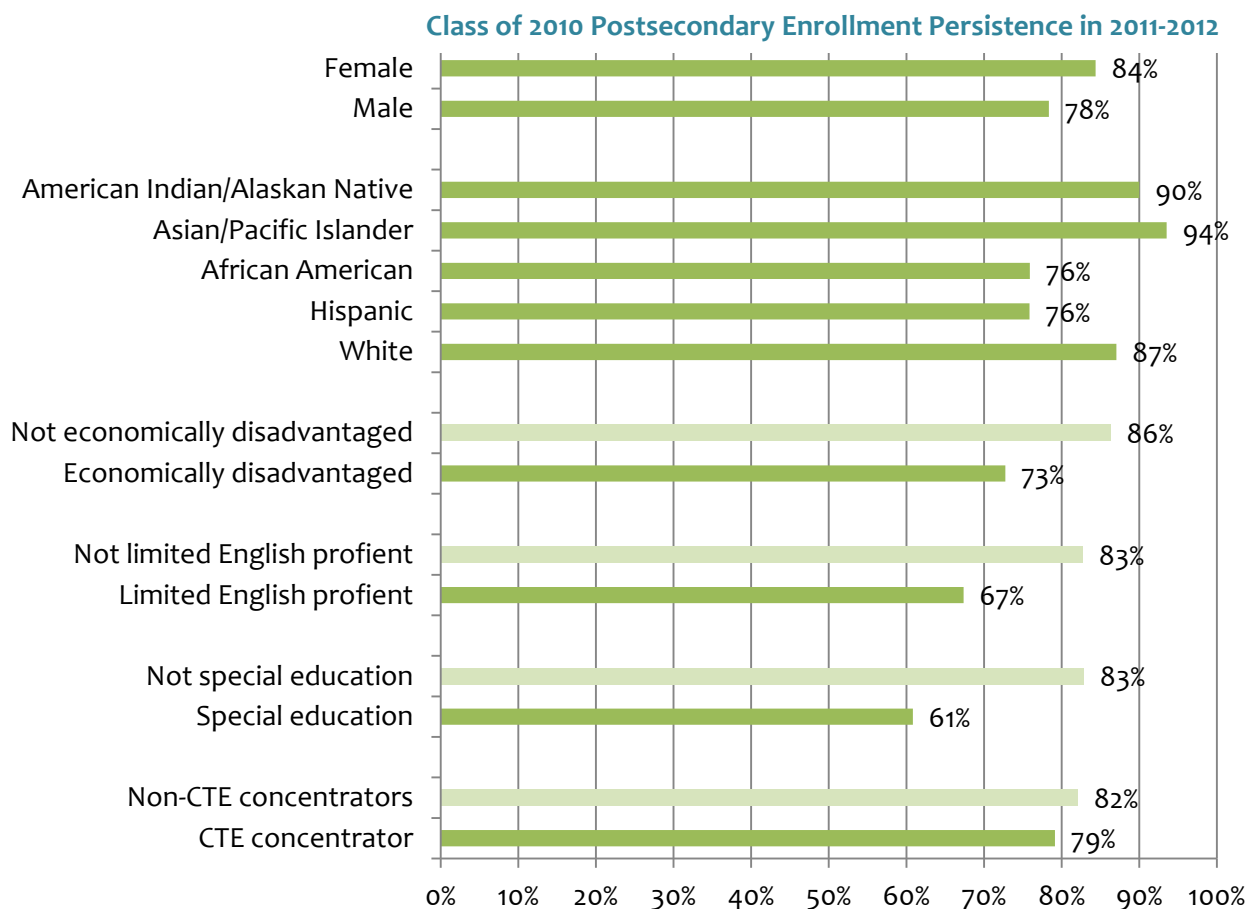
Campus persistence rates. Postsecondary persistence rates varied for the 2010 graduates according to the high school they attended. The high schools with the highest persistence rates also had the highest initial enrollment rates.



Source. National Student Clearinghouse, July 2012.

Did postsecondary persistence differ among student groups?

Persistence by student groups. Rates of enrollment in a postsecondary institution in the second year after high school graduation varied among student groups within the Class of 2010. White, Asian/Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaskan Native students had higher persistence rates than did African American and Hispanic students. Persistence rates among economically-disadvantaged, limited English proficient (LEP), and special education (SPED) students were lower than for students not meeting those criteria. While the relationship is not clearly understood at this time, it should be noted that greater percentages of Hispanic, economically disadvantaged, CTE concentrator, and LEP graduates enrolled in 2-year institutions than did their counterparts, and the persistence rates of all students who attended 2-year institutions were lower than for those attending 4-year institutions.



Source. National Student Clearinghouse, July 2012.

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