



# **Following the Illinois High School Class of 2002: Three Years into College**

**Yuqin Gong and Jennifer Presley**

**Illinois Education Research Council**

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# The Study

- All 113,660 public high school students in the Illinois Class of 2002.
- Enrollments in institutions of higher education, public and private, in state and out of state, from the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) each year.
- Certificates and degrees from ICCB (and NSC in the future).
- Following the Class for six years. We are about to get the fourth year's enrollments and completions data (AY 2005-2006) from NSC.





# Overview of the Presentation

- **College participation status of the Class of 2002 by the third year after high school graduation**
- **Completion status of community college students**
- **Persistence and mobility of college students**
- **The difference in persistence between students attending different types of institutions**





# Illinois College Readiness Index

	Self-Reported High School GPA				
	<=2.4	2.5-2.9	3.0-3.4	3.5-4.0	Missing
ACT < 20	20%	8%	7%	2%	15%
20-22	3%	4%	5%	3%	4%
23-25	1%	2%	4%	5%	3%
26+	0%	1%	3%	10%	3%



# IERC College Readiness Index

Distribution of the Class of 2002		Percentage Expecting Bachelor's Degree or More
<b>Not/Least Ready</b>	34%	72%
<b>Minimally Ready</b>	11%	84%
<b>Somewhat Ready</b>	17%	
<b>More Ready</b>	17%	96%
<b>Most Ready</b>	20%	

- Roughly a third of the Class of 2002 are not/least ready for college, about a third are partially ready, and about a third are college ready.*
- Majority expect to earn a bachelor's degree.*



# Class of 2002's College-Going Rate in AY 2002-2003, by Readiness

Readiness Index	% to College In 2002/03
Not/Least Ready	43%
Minimally Ready	58%
Somewhat Ready	69%
More Ready	79%
Most Ready	84%
Total	64%

- *College-going is strongly related to readiness.*
- *More than two in five not/least-ready students continue immediately into postsecondary education.*



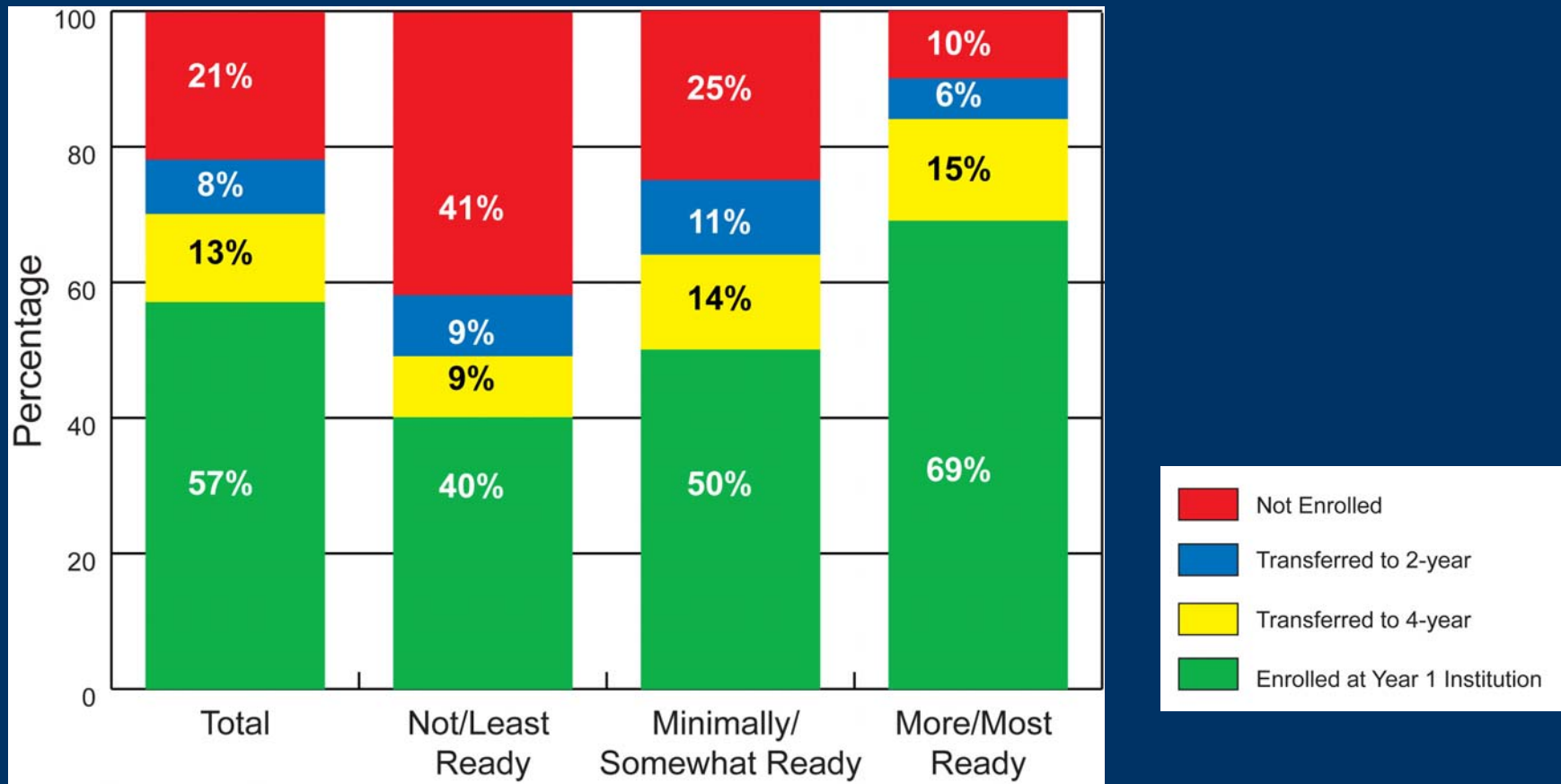
# Participation Status of the Class of 2002 by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Year After High School Graduation, by College Readiness (%)

College Readiness	Enrolled All Three Years	Enrolled Two of the Three Years	Enrolled One of the Three Years	Not Enrolled Any Time	N
Not/Least Ready	23.5	14.2	17.1	45.2	39,015
Minimally Ready	37.3	16.5	15.8	30.4	12,569
Somewhat Ready	52.3	14.4	11.8	21.5	19,691
More Ready	66.4	12.9	8.2	12.5	19,879
Most Ready	78.1	8.3	4.2	9.3	22,506
Total	48.3	13.1	11.9	26.6	113,660

- About one in four students overall and one in 10 most-ready students have never enrolled in college by the third year after high school graduation.*



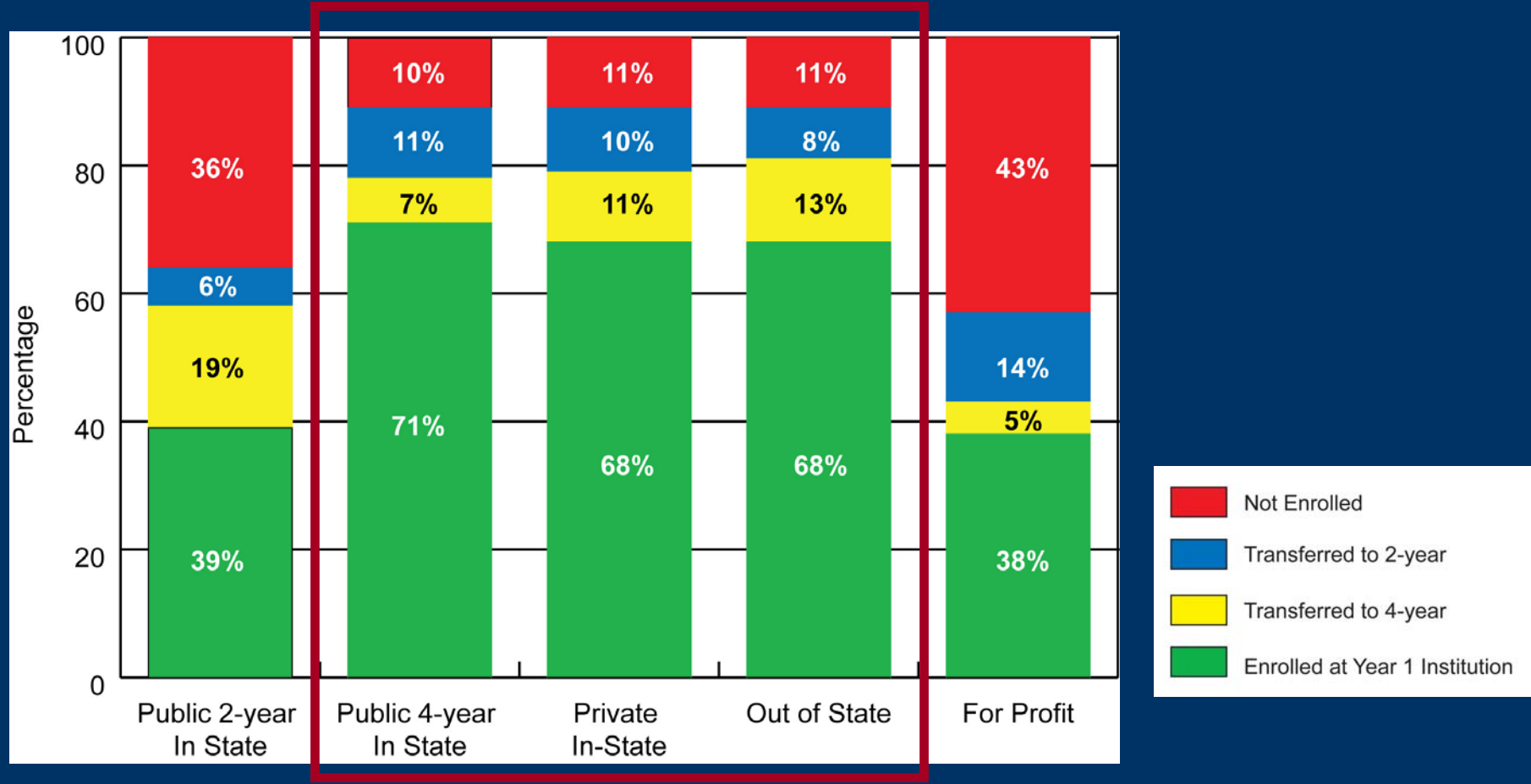
# Third Year Status (AY 2004-2005) of Those Who Went to College in AY 2002-2003, by College Readiness







# Third Year Status (AY 2004-2005) of Those Who Went to College in AY 2002-2003, by College Category



Students attending 4-year institutions are similar in their persistence

90% of 4-Year starters are still enrolled the third year



# Third Year Enrollment and Completion Status of Illinois Public Two-Year College Starters, by College Readiness

	Enrolled at Year 1 Institution		Not Enrolled		Transferred to 2-Year Institution		Transferred to 4-Year Institution		N
	Without Degree or Certificate	With Degree or Certificate**	Without Degree or Certificate	With Degree or Certificate	Without Degree or Certificate	With Degree or Certificate	Without Degree or Certificate	With Degree or Certificate	
Not/Least Ready	34%	4%	45%	2%	6%	<0.5%	7%	2%	11,798
Minimally Ready	34%	7%	36%	2%	6%	<0.5%	10%	4%	4,529
Somewhat Ready	35%	9%	27%	2%	5%	1%	15%	6%	6,391
More Ready	28%	11%	23%	3%	3%	1%	19%	12%	4,730
Most Ready	21%	10%	16%	3%	2%	1%	27%	20%	2,287
<b>Total</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>29,735*</b>

- Overall 16% of two-year starters have completed some program.
- Leavers are not completing any type of program

\*Information on level of third year institutions was missing for 26 students. \*\* Includes degree/certificates awarded in FY2005.

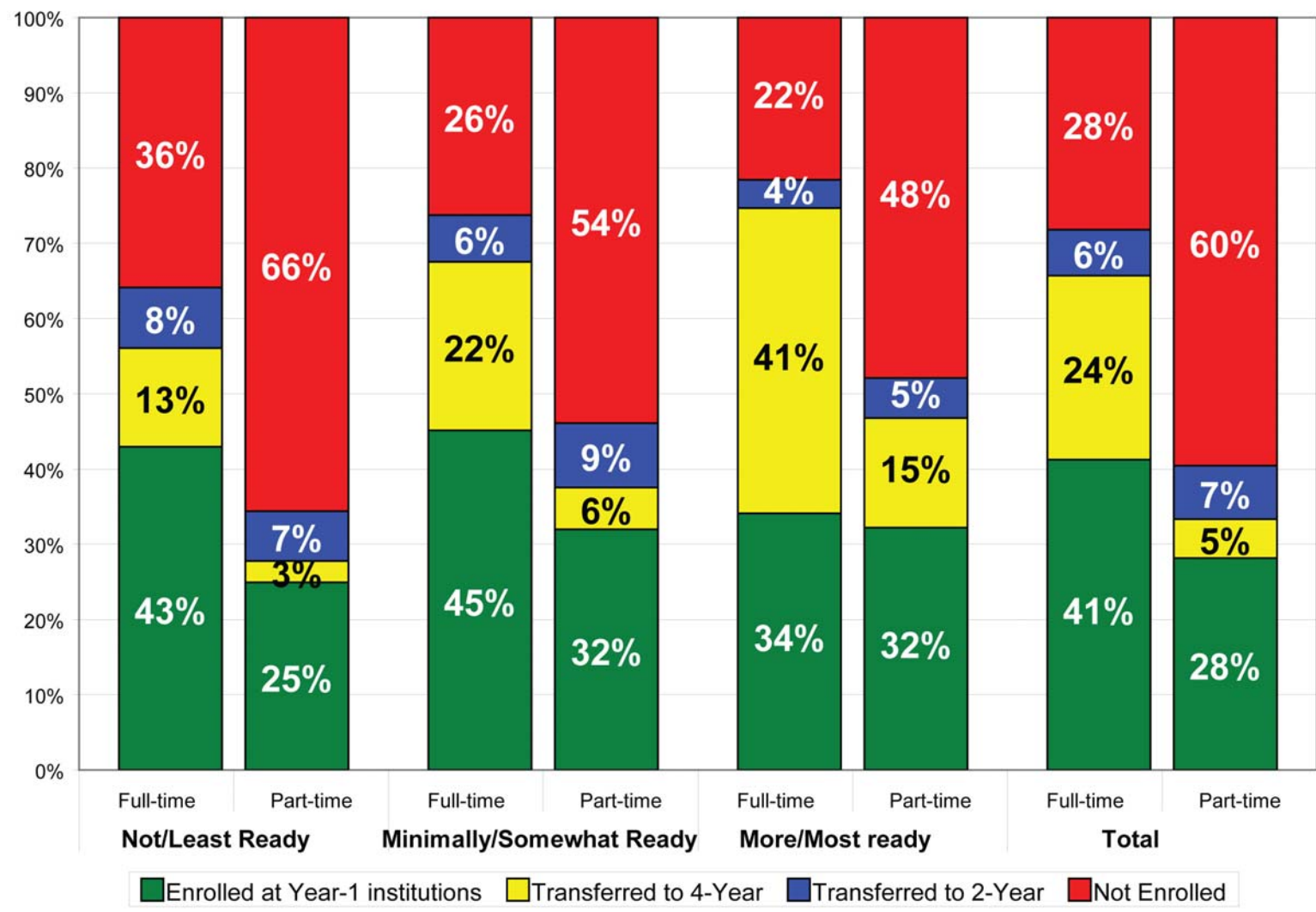


# The Relationship between Parents' Income and Enrollment Status

	Two-Year Starters				Four-Year Starters			
	Full-time	Part-time	Unknown	N	Full-time	Part-time	Unknown	N
Low Income	46%	13%	41%	5957	78%	1%	20%	4903
Lower Middle Income	51%	9%	40%	6895	79%	1%	20%	6706
Upper Middle Income	52%	8%	40%	5581	81%	1%	19%	8280
High Income	45%	7%	48%	3235	82%	1%	17%	10235
Income Unknown	46%	10%	43%	9096	80%	1%	19%	11337
<b>Total</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>30764</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>41461</b>

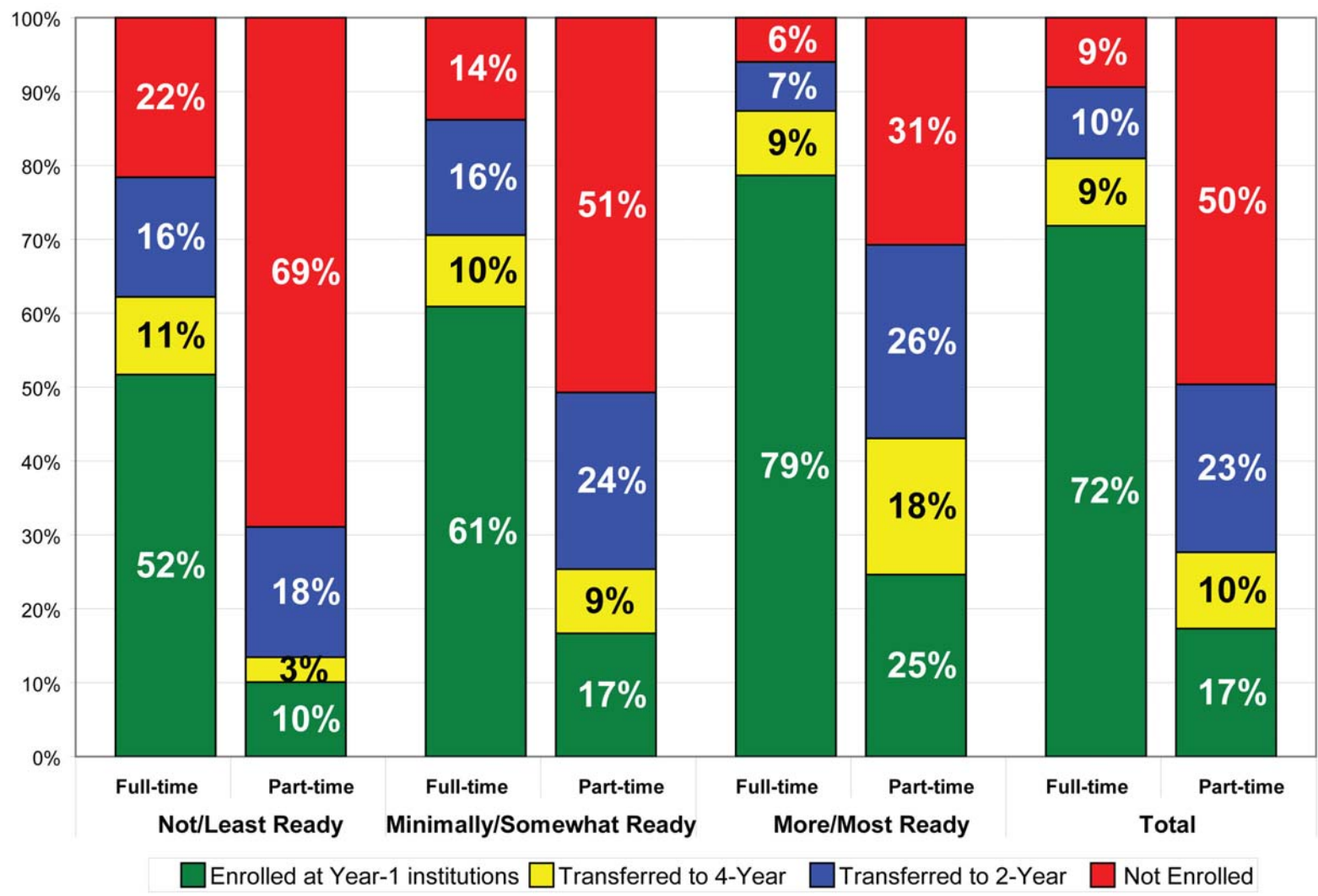


# Full-time vs. Part-Time Enrollment and Persistence — 2-Year Starters





# Full-time vs. Part-Time Enrollment and Persistence — 4 -Year Starters





# Full-Time vs. Part-Time Enrollment and Persistence – *Regression Analyses*

Variables	Effect	4-Year Starters		2-Year Starters <sup>1</sup>	
		Estimate	Delta-p	Estimate	Delta-p
Enrolled Part-time	Vs. Full-time	<b>-1.7924***</b>	<b>-0.307</b>	<b>-1.2017***</b>	<b>-0.291</b>
Enrollment Status Unknown	Vs. Full-Time	<b>-0.331***</b>	<b>-0.035</b>	<b>-0.6346***</b>	<b>-0.153</b>

Control variables include gender, race/ethnicity, family income, college readiness, math courses taken in high school, core, high school region and locale, highest degree expected to receive, certainty about major, expected hours to work during college.

<sup>1</sup>The 622 stop-outs with completion were counted as persisters. \*\*\*  $p < .001$



# Where Students Start Matters in Persistence

## – *Full-time Enrollees Only*

	Third Year Status				N
	Enrolled at Year 1 Institution	Not Enrolled	Transferred to 2-Year	Transferred to 4-Year	
	<b>Not/Least Ready</b>				
Two-Year Institutions	43%	36%	8%	13%	5,025
Non/Less Competitive 4Y	52%	26%	16%	7%	1,004
Competitive 4Y	56%	17%	17%	11%	1,578
Very Competitive 4Y	59%	17%	17%	7%	394
Most/Highly Competitive 4Y	73%	11%	8%	7%	83
	<b>More Ready</b>				
Two-Year Institutions	38%	23%	4%	35%	2,770
Non/Less Competitive 4Y	61%	16%	12%	12%	815
Competitive 4Y	70%	8%	11%	11%	4,903
Very Competitive 4Y	72%	8%	9%	10%	2,183
Most/Highly Competitive 4Y	84%	4%	5%	7%	896
	<b>Most Ready</b>				
Two-Year Institutions	27%	19%	3%	50%	1,441
Non/Less Competitive 4Y	75%	9%	7%	10%	578
Competitive 4Y	78%	6%	6%	10%	3,720
Very Competitive 4Y	82%	4%	5%	9%	3,169
Most/Highly Competitive 4Y	90%	3%	2%	5%	5,760



# Where Students Start Matters in Persistence – *Regression Analyses*

## Estimate of the Difference in Persistence Between Two-Year Starters and Four-Year Starters

Model <sup>1</sup>	Estimate	Delta-p
All Students	-0.6123***	-0.1177
More/Most Ready Students	-0.8488***	-0.1010

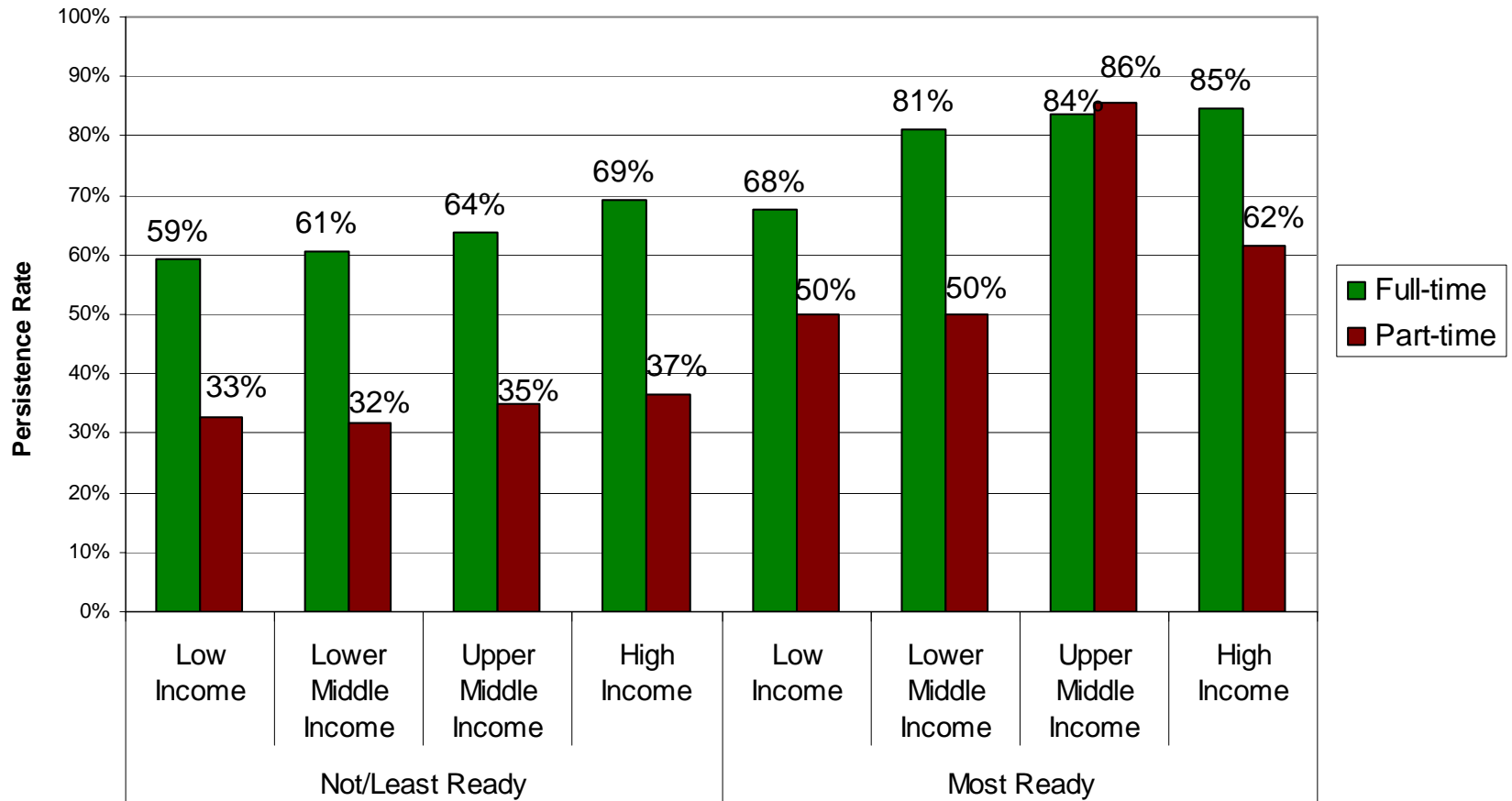
<sup>1</sup> all models include as control variables gender, race/ethnicity, family income, college readiness, math courses taken in high school, core, high school region and locale, highest degree expected to receive, certainty about major, enrolled full-time or part-time, expected hours to work during college. \*\*\* p < .001







# Parents' Income and Persistence Rate, by College Readiness and Enrollment Status (Two-Year Starters)





# Family Income and Persistence (4-Year Starters)

	Enrolled at Year 1 Institute	Not Enrolled	Transferred to 2-Year	Transferred to 4-Year	N
<b>Not/Least Ready</b>					
Low Income	40%	34%	18%	8%	666
Lower Middle Income	41%	29%	19%	10%	492
Upper Middle Income	44%	24%	18%	14%	332
High Income	51%	18%	18%	14%	300
<b>Most Ready</b>					
Low Income	77%	9%	6%	8%	1,109
Lower Middle Income	80%	6%	6%	8%	2,502
Upper Middle Income	82%	4%	5%	9%	3,880
High Income	85%	3%	4%	8%	5,490



# Student Migration—Where Did the Transfer Students Go ? – Four-Year Starters

First Year Out-of-State Enrollees				First Year In-State Enrollees			
Returned to Illinois	To 4-Year Institutions	40%	937	Stayed in Illinois	To 4-Year Institutions	35%	1,946
	To 2-Year Institutions	31%	719		To 2-Year Institutions	54%	3,025
Remained Out-of-State	To 4-Year Institutions	22%	511	Went Out-of-State	To 4-Year Institutions	9%	533
	To 2-Year Institutions	7%	167		To 2-Year Institutions	2%	115
<b>Total</b>		100%	2,334			100%	5,619
Net Return = (937 + 719) – (533 + 115) = 1,008							
<b>Remained at Yr 1 Inst</b>			8,432				20,216
<b>Not Enrolled</b>			978				3,023



# Student Migration—Where Did the Transfer Students Go ? – Two -Year Starters

First Year Out-of-State Enrollees				First Year In-State Enrollees			
Returned to Illinois	To 4-Year Institutions	17%	54	Stayed in Illinois	To 4-Year Institutions	63%	4,633
	To 2-Year Institutions	26%	82		To 2-Year Institutions	20%	1,434
Remained Out-of-State	To 4-Year Institutions	43%	134	Went Out-of-State	To 4-Year Institutions	13%	964
	To 2-Year Institutions	13%	42		To 2-Year Institutions	4%	280
<b>Total</b>		100%	312			100%	7,311
Net Return = (54 + 82) – (964 + 280) = -1,108							
<b>Remained at Yr 1 Inst</b>			214				11,719
<b>Not Enrolled</b>			418				10,705



# Final Observations

- **Academic preparedness** is the major critical component to college access.
- It is even more strongly related to the **type of institution attended, and to continuation.**
- Persistence increases for all readiness groups as they attend more competitive institutions as compared to less competitive four-year and two-year institutions.
- Starting part-time is negatively related to persistence, both at two-year institutions and at four-year institutions.
- Our findings on persistence provide a **very different (and more positive) picture** of college-retention than looking at individual college persistence rates.



# Policy Variables

- Where students enter the college pipeline – two-year or four year; competitive versus less-competitive four year
  - High school counseling
  - Understanding financial aid resources
  - Parent discussions
- Full-time versus part-time
  - Understanding financial aid resources
- College readiness
  - High school rigor
  - Understanding what is needed to succeed in college -- students, teachers and counselors