

Six-year Graduation Rate Study

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The six-year graduation rate research table has records for all LaGuardia students entering since Fall 1991, except those who have entered within the last six years and cannot be counted in the six-year graduation rate calculation. Every student in this table who graduated within six or fewer years was flagged. Students were then selected from this table for the characteristics shown below and the graduation rate for that selection was tabulated and compared against an average six-year graduation rate.

Findings

All

- The six-year graduation rate for all 44,753 degree-students entering from Fall 1991 through Spring 2001 was **26.7%**. 11,952 students graduated in six-years or less from these cohorts (Table One).

New Freshmen vs. New Transfers

- New transfer students were 30% more likely to graduate than new freshmen students: **New freshmen students: 24.7% graduated; and New transfer students: 32.1% graduated** (Table One).

Gender

- Women were 44% more likely to graduate than men: **Women: 30.3%; and Men: 21.0%**(Table One).

Initial Enrollment Load

- Students who began in part-time status were much less likely to graduate: **Full-time: 28.6%; and Part-time: 15.0%** (Table One).

Residence

- Queens students were slightly more likely to graduate than other students: **Queens: 27.4%; and Non-Queens: 25.5%** (Table One).

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Age

- Students who enrolled between the ages of 30 and 50 were more likely to graduate than students in other age groups (Table One):
 - Younger than 20 years = 25.1%;
 - 20 or greater, but less than 30 years = 25.5%;
 - 30 or greater, but less than 40 years = 32.7%;
 - 40 or greater, but less than 50 years = 31.2%; and
 - Greater than 50 years = 23.5%.

Tuition Residency Status

- International students were more likely to graduate than US students, while NYC students were the least likely to graduate: **Foreign (non-resident tuition): 40.0%; Foreign (resident tuition): 36.3%; NY State (not NYC): 30.1%; Out-of-state US: 29.6%; and NYC (all others): 24.9%** (Table Two).

Degree Type

- Students in AA degree programs were less likely to graduate than those in either AS or AAS programs: **AA: 22.5%; AS: 28.5%; and AAS: 28.2%** (Table Three).

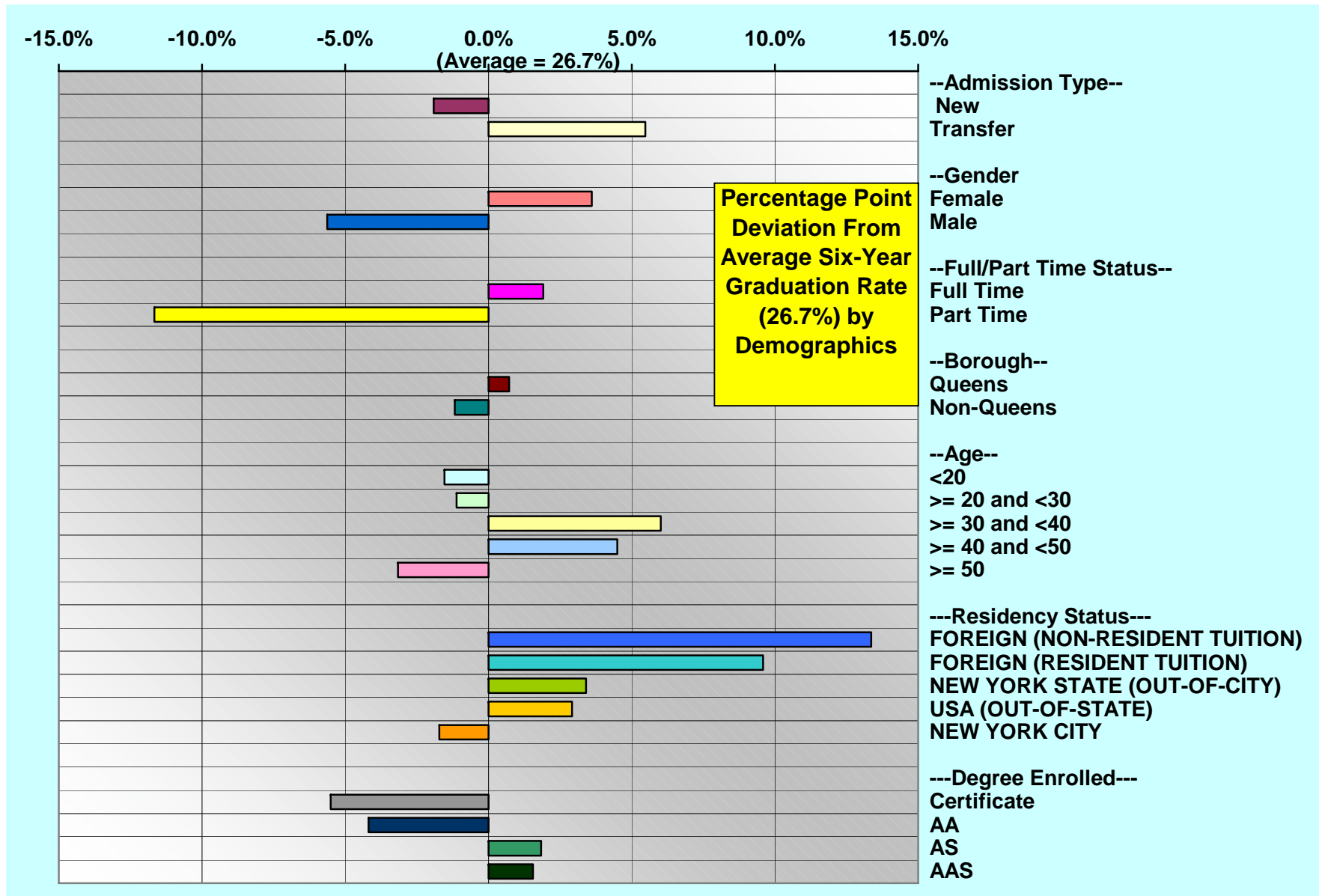


Figure One

Ethnicity

The graduation rate variance by ethnicity follows known patterns as shown below (Table Four).

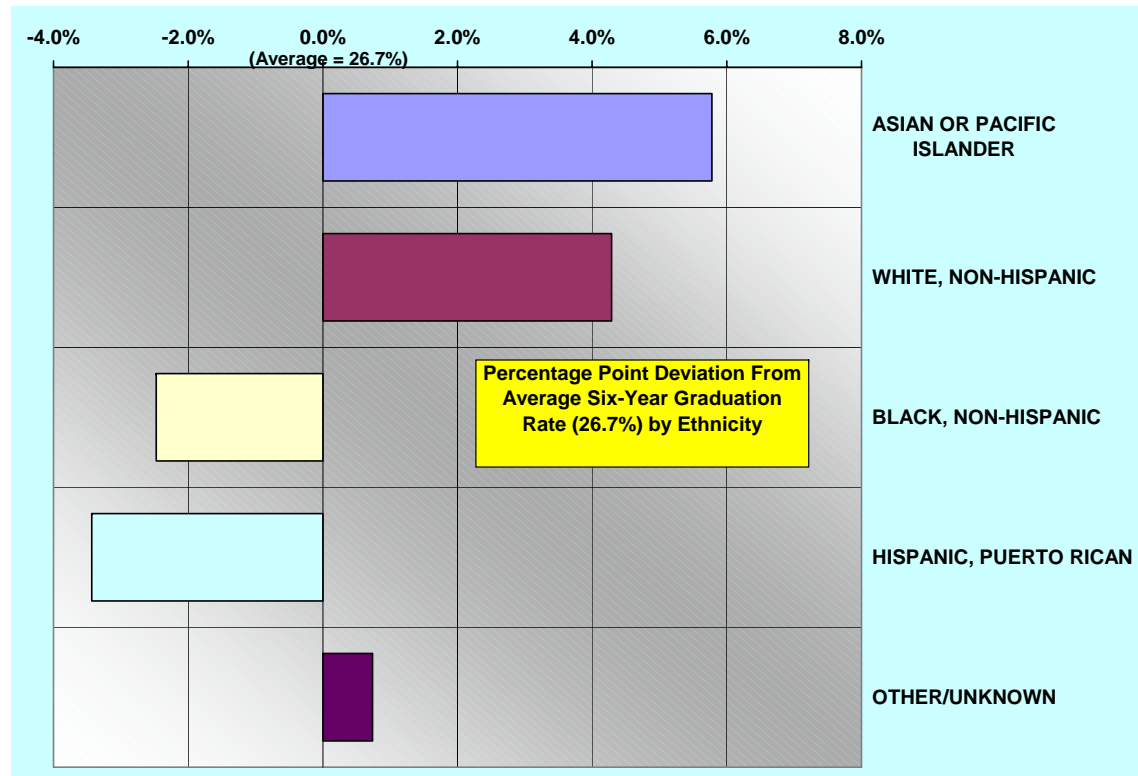


Figure Two

Country of Origin (Table Five)

- There can be a great deal of variance within a region, for example, Asia: **Japan = 49.0%**; and **South Korea = 23.9%**.
- Some clusters do appear: **Poland/Russia/Romania: 40.1% to 46.2%**; **Barbados/Jamaica: 32.2% to 36.8%**; **Mexico/Guatemala/Ecuador/El Salvador/Honduras/Columbia: 24.8% to 30.5%**.

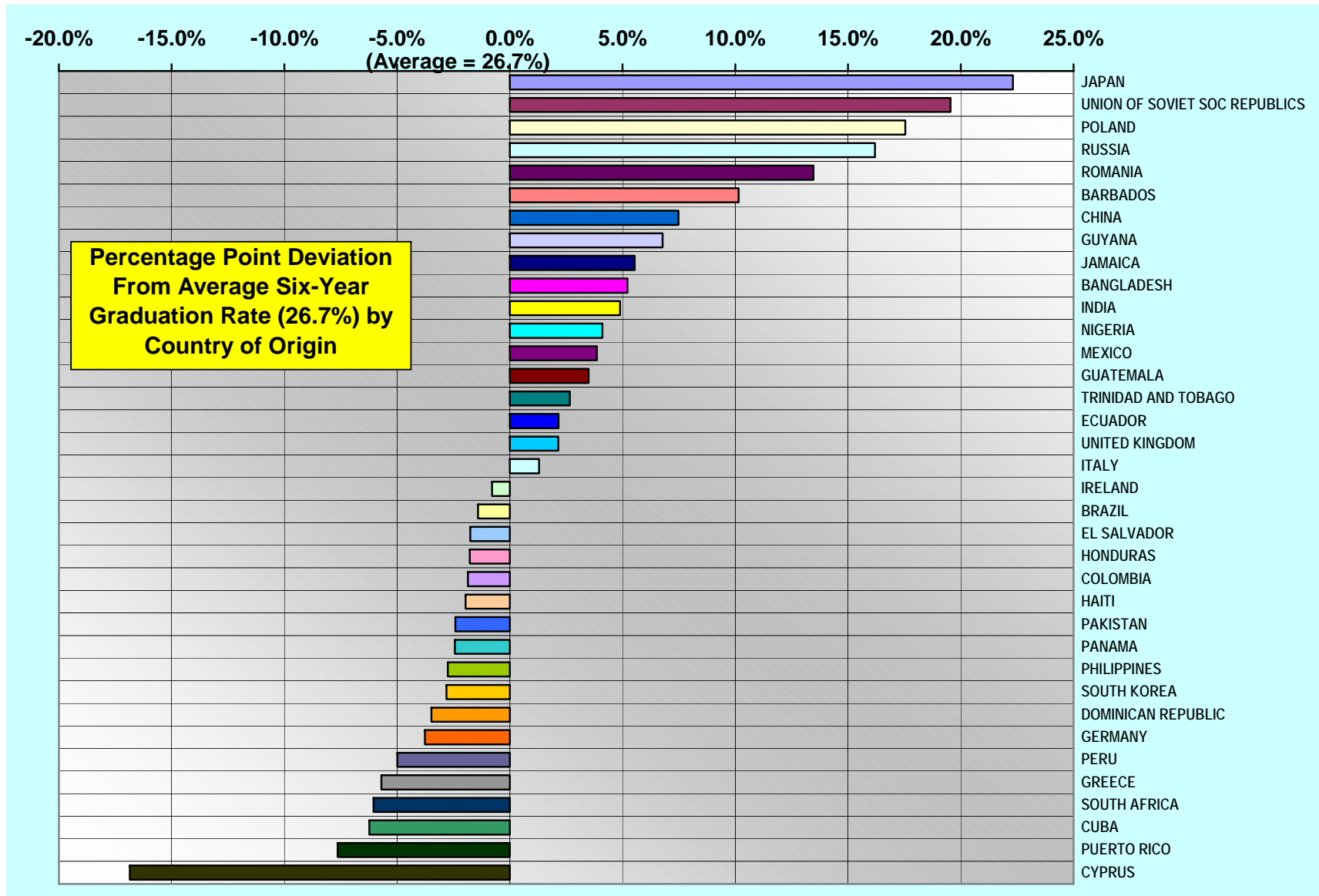


Figure Three

GED v. High School Backgrounds (Table Six)

- GED students had six-year graduation rates below that of HS graduates: **GED—20.7%; and HS—28.0%.**
- The difference in graduation rates between GED students and HS students narrows with age.
- Older six-year or less graduates are more likely to have begun with a GED than younger students. The overall proportion of graduates who **began with a GED is 14.4%**, but increases with age group. **GED students made up 28.2% of graduates over the age of 50.**

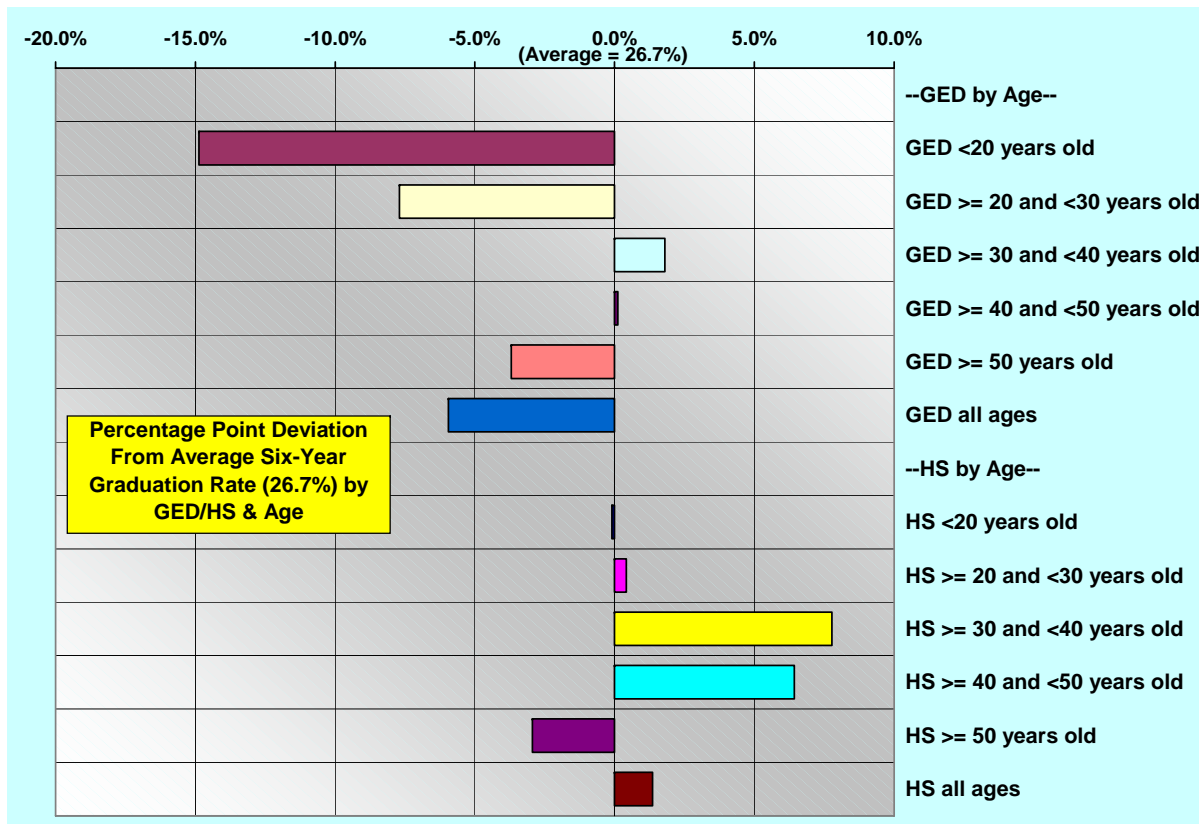


Figure Four

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- For students who passed the Math Placement Test, the graduation rate difference is smaller than for the whole population: 3.1 percentage points as opposed to 7.3 percentage points. Unfortunately, GED students were more likely not to pass the Math Placement Test. Math pass rates: GED—13.3%; and HS—29.8%.

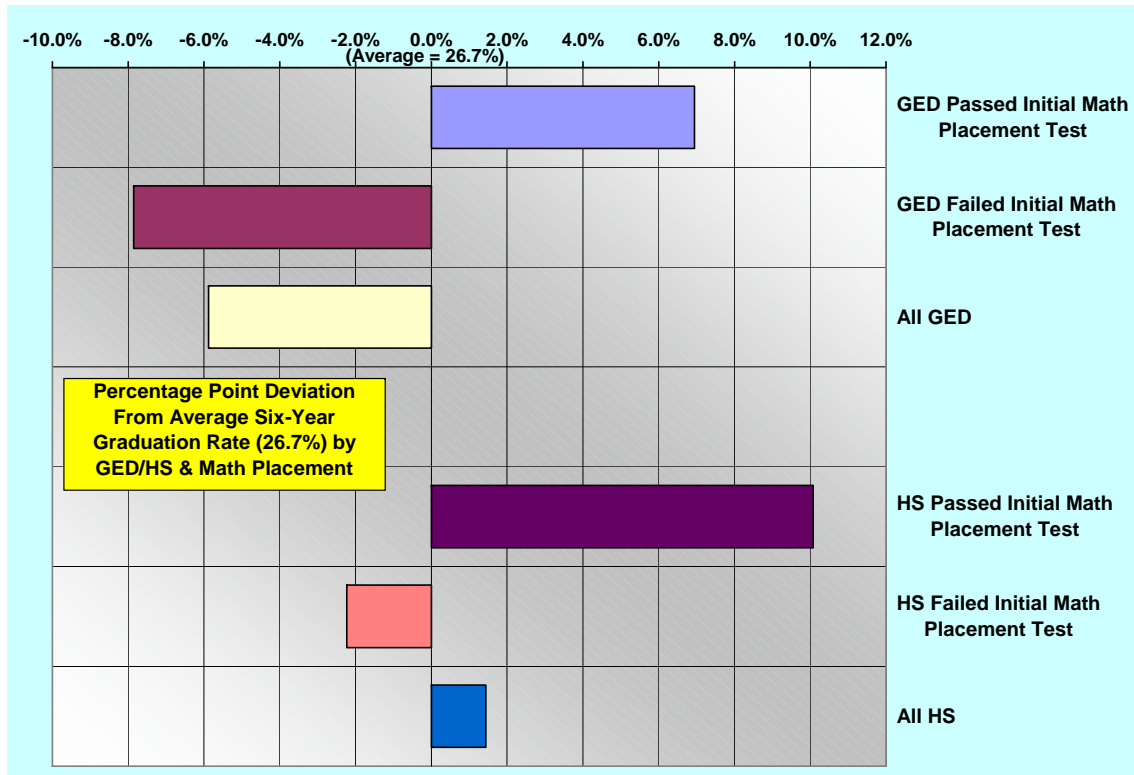


Figure Five

Full-time v. Part-time Attendance (Table Seven)

- New students who switched from full-time to part-time rather than remaining full-time in their second semester had a lower rate of six-year graduation: **Remained full-time: 38.5% graduated; Switched to part-time: 21.4% graduated.**
- The lower the first semester grade point of a full-time freshman student, the more likely it is that the student will switch to part time: **GPA below 1.00: 22.0% switched; GPA above 3.00: 9.3% switched.**
- Controlling for GPA does not change the outcome that a freshman student switching to part-time in his or her first semester will have a lower probability of graduating within six years: **Freshman, remained full-time and had a GPA above 3.0: 47.9% graduated; freshman, switched to part-time and had a GPA above 3.0: 29.9% graduated.**
- The higher the first semester GPA, the more probable is graduation in six or fewer years, whether full-time in second semester or part-time: **GPA below 1.00 and were part-time in second semester: 0.5% graduated; and GPA above 3.00 and were also part-time second semester: 34.5% graduated.**

These findings are at odds with an earlier study that showed that students who switched to part-time at anytime in their first five semesters were as likely to graduate in or remain enrolled for those five semesters. These two success measures are different. Part-time students tend to persist longer before any outcome is achieved: graduation, transfer or dropping out.

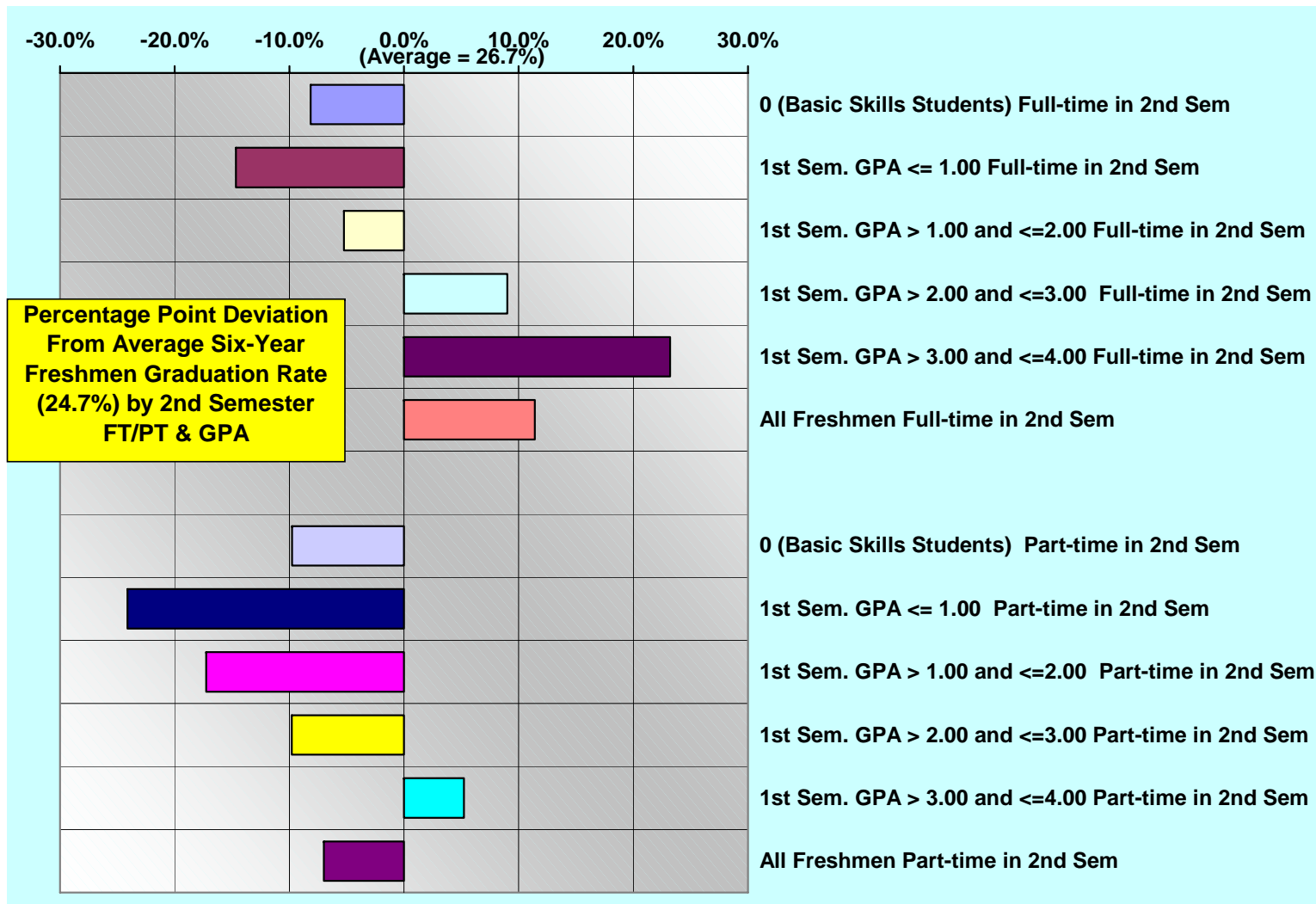


Figure Six

Majors (Table Eight)

- School Food Services Management had the highest six-year graduation rate: **59.6%**.
- Occupational Therapy Assistant and Physical Therapist Assistant also had high rates: **OTA: 39.1%; PTA: 38.4%**.
- Rates below 20% were computed in three programs: **Liberal Arts-AA: 19.6%; EMT/Paramedic AS: 15.2%; and Mortuary Science: 9.1%**.

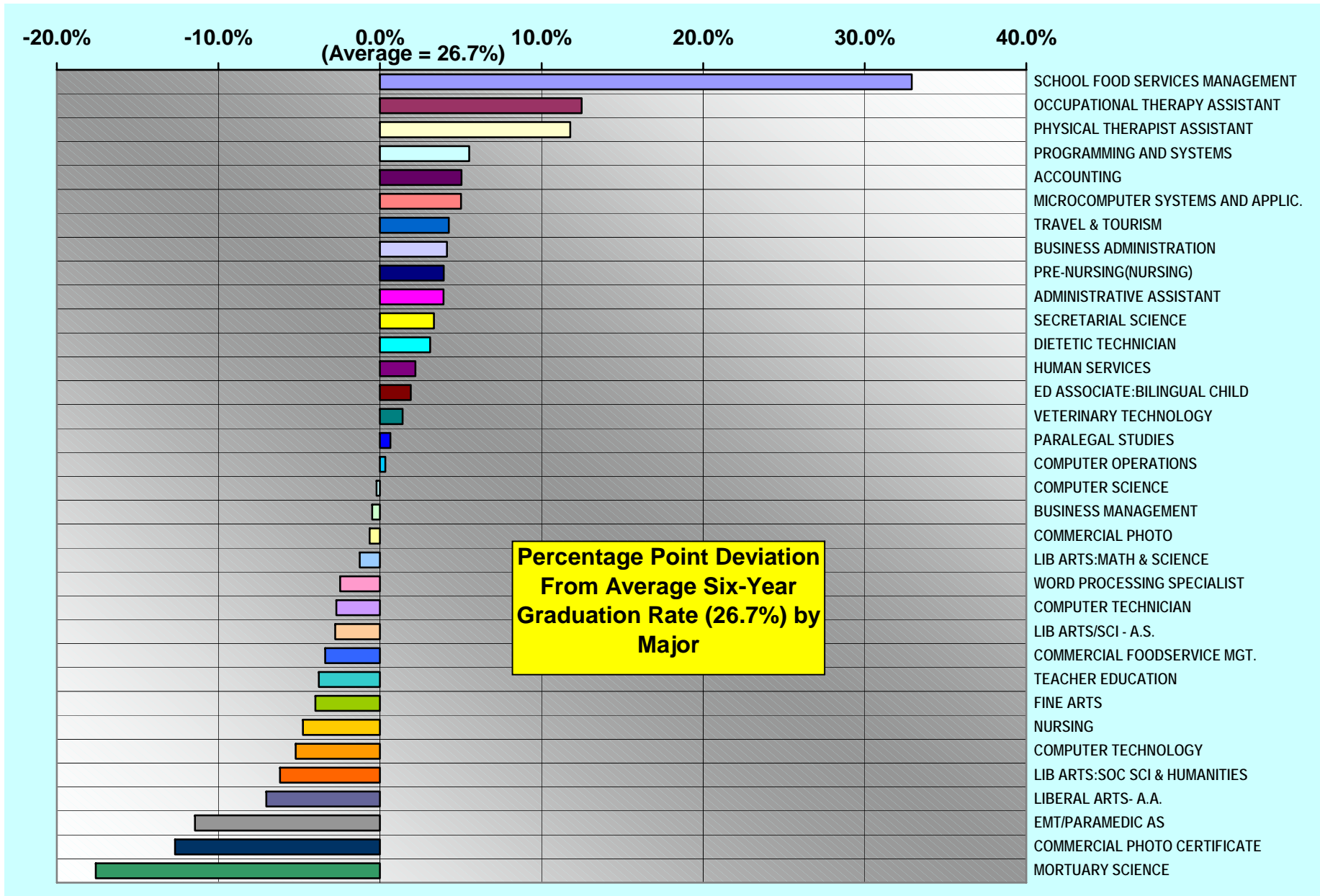


Figure Seven

Attendance Patterns (Table Nine)

- The proportion of students graduating in six years or less increases with each additional full-time semester in a row starting with entry: **For at least one semester full-time: 32.9% graduated; for at least two semesters full-time in a row: 35.0% graduated; for at least three semesters full-time in a row: 44.1% graduated; and for at least four semesters in a row: 53.8% graduated.**
- The more semesters a student goes full-time before attending part-time, the higher the six-year graduation rate: **Attending only the first semester full-time: 16.8% graduated; attending only the first two semesters full-time: 24.8% graduated; and attending only the first three semesters full-time: 31.5% graduated.**

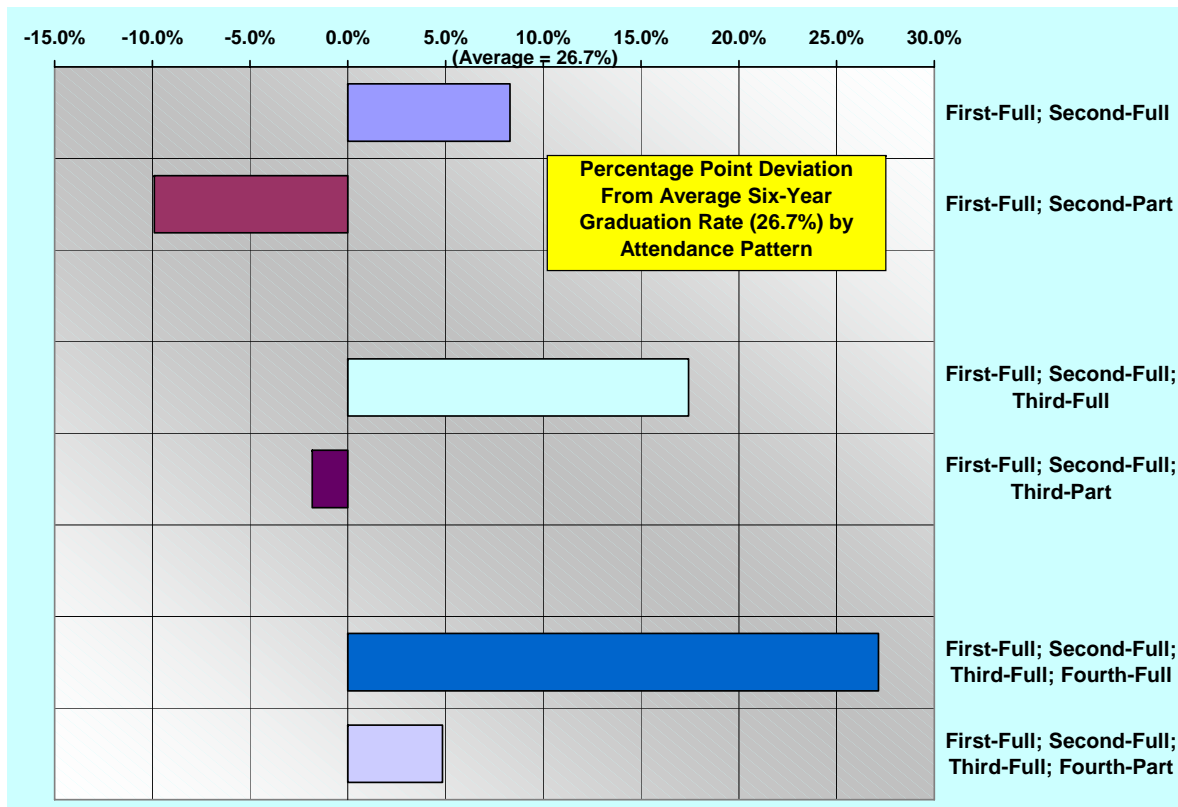


Figure Eight

First-semester Credits Attempted (Table Ten)

- The more credits attempted in the first semester, the higher the proportion of students graduating in six years or less:
 - **Less than six credits attempted:** **19.6%**
 - **Six or more, but less than nine credits attempted:** **25.6%**
 - **Nine or more, but less than twelve credits attempted:** **28.5%**
 - **Twelve or more but less than sixteen credits attempted:** **29.6%**
 - **Sixteen or more credits attempted:** **35.4%**

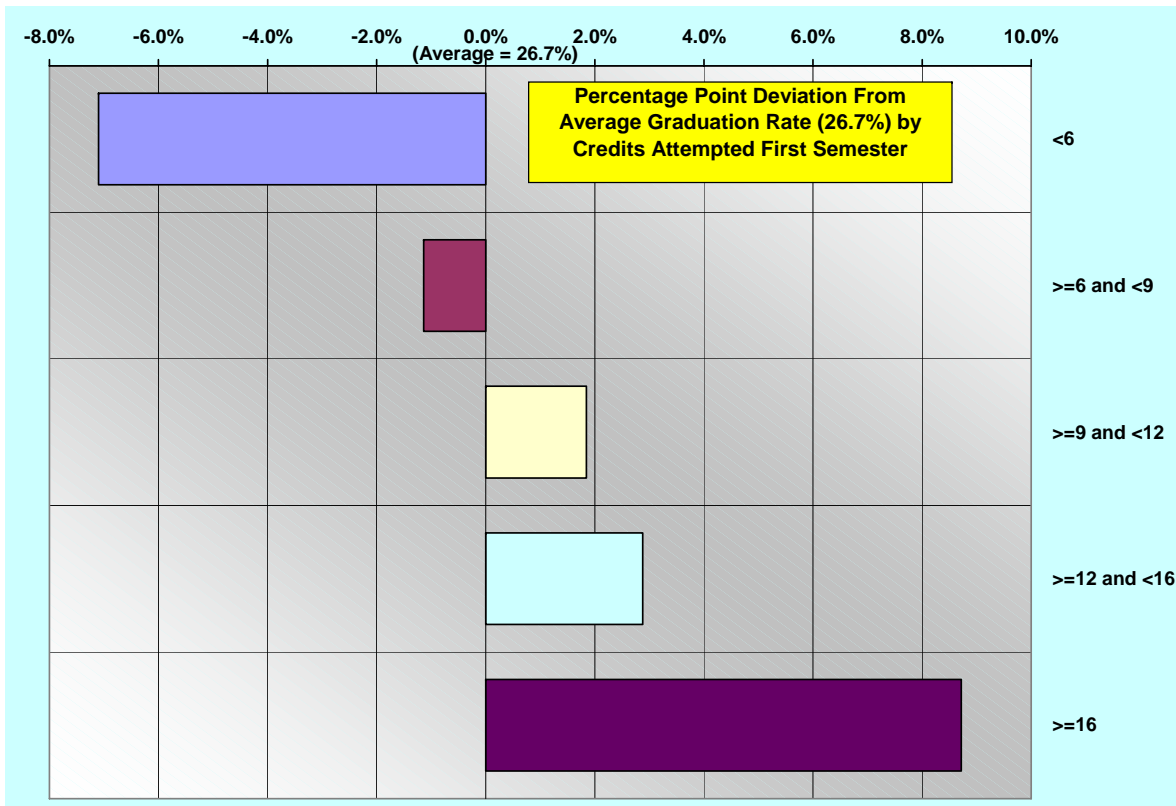


Figure Nine

Developmental Need (Table Eleven)

- Students requiring only the ESL developmental courses graduate at a higher rate than students requiring no developmental courses: **38.3% of freshmen and transfers testing into ESL graduated; 36.2% of freshmen and transfers with no developmental need graduated.**
- Students requiring math developmental courses or math and any other combination of developmental courses graduated below the average for freshmen and below the average for transfers: **24.7% of freshmen and transfers needing only Math graduated; 37.7% of freshmen and transfers needing both Reading and either ESL or writing graduated.**

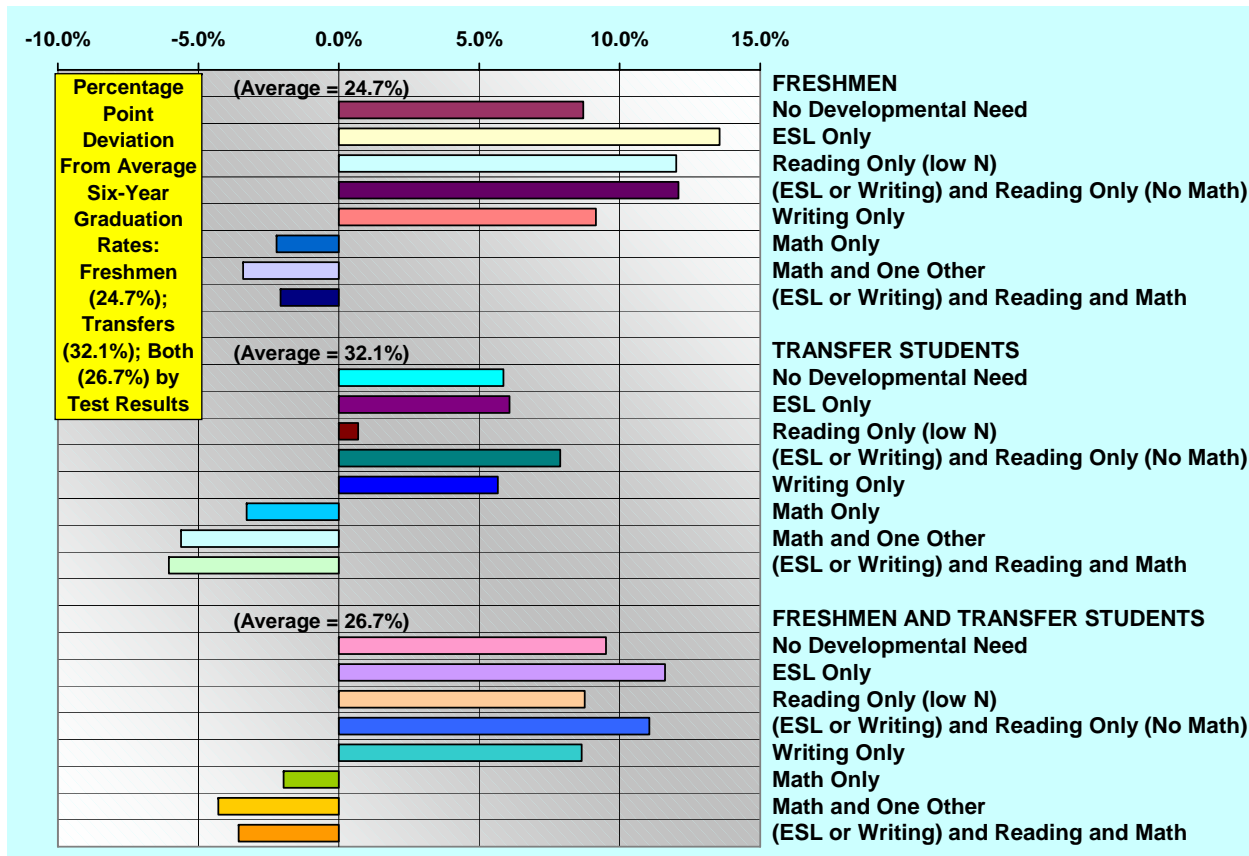


Figure Ten

**Appendix
Tables**

	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	44753	11932	26.7%
Admission Type			
New	33158	8206	24.7%
Transfer	11595	3726	32.1%
Gender			
Female	27261	8253	30.3%
Male	17492	3679	21.0%
Full/Part Time Status			
Full Time	38440	10985	28.6%
Part Time	6313	947	15.0%
Admission Agency			
Direct Admit	12368	3247	26.3%
UAPC/OAS	32272	8666	26.9%
Other	113	19	16.8%
Borough			
Queens	27726	7593	27.4%
Non-Queens	17027	4339	25.5%
Age			
<20	11986	3011	25.1%
>= 20 and <30	24024	6138	25.5%
>= 30 and <40	6253	2043	32.7%
>= 40 and <50	2022	630	31.2%
>= 50	468	110	23.5%

Table One

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Office of Institutional Research & Assessment

Residency Status	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
FOREIGN (NON-RESIDENT TUITION)	3828	1532	40.0%
FOREIGN (RESIDENT TUITION)	1211	439	36.3%
NEW YORK STATE (OUT-OF-CITY)	306	92	30.1%
USA (OUT-OF-STATE)	940	278	29.6%
NEW YORK CITY	38490	9603	24.9%

Table Two

Degree Enrolled	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Certificate	312	66	21.2%
AA	12302	2765	22.5%
AS	11627	3314	28.5%
AAS	20508	5787	28.2%

Table Three

LaGuardia Community College

Office of Institutional Research & Assessment

Ethnicity	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	44753	11932	26.7%
ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER	6021	1973	32.8%
WHITE, NON-HISPANIC	6218	1945	31.3%
BLACK, NON-HISPANIC	9515	2333	24.5%
HISPANIC, PUERTO RICAN	16596	3910	23.6%
AMERICAN INDIAN OR NA. ALSK	81	18	22.2%
OTHER/UNKNOWN	6322	1753	27.7%

Table Four

LaGuardia Community College

Office of Institutional Research & Assessment for Students who

Country Affiliation	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
JAPAN	490	240	49.0%
UNION OF SOVIET SOC REPUBLICS	316	146	46.2%
POLAND	742	328	44.2%
RUSSIA	259	111	42.9%
ROMANIA	162	65	40.1%
BARBADOS	144	53	36.8%
CHINA	1192	407	34.1%
GUYANA	966	323	33.4%
JAMAICA	1242	400	32.2%
BANGLADESH	781	249	31.9%
INDIA	596	188	31.5%
NIGERIA	195	60	30.8%
MEXICO	249	76	30.5%
GUATEMALA	126	38	30.2%
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	658	193	29.3%
ECUADOR	1700	490	28.8%
UNITED KINGDOM	177	51	28.8%
ITALY	626	175	28.0%
IRELAND	541	140	25.9%
BRAZIL	198	50	25.3%
EL SALVADOR	265	66	24.9%
HONDURAS	225	56	24.9%
COLOMBIA	1758	436	24.8%
HAITI	1101	272	24.7%
PAKISTAN	231	56	24.2%
PANAMA	194	47	24.2%
PHILIPPINES	485	116	23.9%
SOUTH KOREA	524	125	23.9%
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	4226	980	23.2%
GERMANY	249	57	22.9%
PERU	683	148	21.7%
GREECE	391	82	21.0%
SOUTH AFRICA	131	27	20.6%
CUBA	186	38	20.4%
PUERTO RICO	3190	607	19.0%
CYPRUS	102	10	9.8%

Table Five

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GED vs. High School by Age and Math Test Scores

Type	Age	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	% of Graduates	6-Year Graduation Rate	Graduation Rate Difference Against HS Students
GED	<20	1171	138	4.6%	11.8%	14.8%
	>= 20 and <30	4534	860	14.0%	19.0%	8.1%
	>= 30 and <40	1848	526	25.7%	28.5%	6.0%
	>= 40 and <50	620	166	26.3%	26.8%	6.3%
	>= 50	135	31	28.2%	23.0%	0.8%
	Sub-Total	8308	1721	14.4%	20.7%	7.3%
HS	<20	10815	2873	95.4%	26.6%	
	>= 20 and <30	19490	5278	86.0%	27.1%	
	>= 30 and <40	4405	1517	74.3%	34.4%	
	>= 40 and <50	1402	464	73.7%	33.1%	
	>= 50	333	79	71.8%	23.7%	
	Sub-Total	36445	10211	85.6%	28.0%	
Total	44753	11932	100.0%	26.7%		

Type	Math Test Result	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	% of Sub-Total	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate	Graduation Rate Difference Against HS Students
GED	Passed Initial Placement Test	1104	13.3%	371	33.6%	3.1%
	Failed Initial Placement Test	7173	86.7%	1349	18.8%	5.6%
	Sub-Total	8277		1720	20.8%	7.3%
HS	Passed Initial Placement Test	10795	29.8%	3966	36.7%	
	Failed Initial Placement Test	25461	70.2%	6221	24.4%	
	Sub-Total	36256		10187	28.1%	
Total Students Tested		44533		11907	26.7%	

Table Six

LaGuardia Community College

Office of Institutional Research & Assessment

New Students First Semester GPA	Full Time in 2nd Semester	Graduated in 6 Years	Grad Rate	Part Time in 2nd Semester	Graduated in 6 Years	Grad Rate	% PT in 2nd Sem.
0 (Basic Skills Students)	1068	194	18.2%	323	52	16.1%	23.2%
>0 and <= 1.00	715	72	10.1%	217	1	0.5%	23.3%
> 1.00 and <=2.00	3091	637	20.6%	529	50	9.5%	14.6%
Sub-Total	4874	903	18.5%	1069	103	9.6%	18.0%
> 2.00 and <=3.00	8129	2895	35.6%	1008	185	18.4%	11.0%
> 3.00 and <=4.00	10562	5276	50.0%	1271	438	34.5%	10.7%
Sub-Total	18691	8171	43.7%	2279	623	27.3%	10.9%
Total	23565	9074	38.5%	3348	726	21.7%	12.4%

Freshmen First Semester GPA	Full Time in 2nd Semester	Graduated in 6 Years	Grad Rate	Part Time in 2nd Semester	Graduated in 6 Years	Grad Rate	% PT in 2nd Sem.
0 (Basic Skills Students)	888	147	16.6%	241	36	14.9%	21.3%
>0 and <= 1.00	607	61	10.0%	171	1	0.6%	22.0%
> 1.00 and <=2.00	2610	508	19.5%	403	30	7.4%	13.4%
Sub-Total	4105	716	17.4%	815	67	8.2%	16.6%
> 2.00 and <=3.00	6597	2223	33.7%	738	110	14.9%	10.1%
> 3.00 and <=4.00	7856	3764	47.9%	802	240	29.9%	9.3%
Sub-Total	14453	5987	41.4%	1540	350	22.7%	9.6%
Total	18558	6703	36.1%	2355	417	17.7%	11.3%

First Semester GPA

Table Seven

LaGuardia Community College

Office of Institutional Research & Assessment

	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	44753	11932	26.7%
SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES MANAGEMENT	94	56	59.6%
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT	1359	532	39.1%
PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT	1150	442	38.4%
PROGRAMMING AND SYSTEMS	1774	571	32.2%
ACCOUNTING	2860	907	31.7%
MICROCOMPUTER SYSTEMS AND APPLIC.	505	160	31.7%
TRAVEL & TOURISM	2406	744	30.9%
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	2811	866	30.8%
PRE-NURSING(NURSING)	1245	381	30.6%
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	134	41	30.6%
SECRETARIAL SCIENCE	450	135	30.0%
DIETETIC TECHNICIAN	420	125	29.8%
HUMAN SERVICES	2408	695	28.9%
ED ASSOCIATE:BILINGUAL CHILD	630	180	28.6%
VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY	1315	369	28.1%
PARALEGAL STUDIES	901	246	27.3%
COMPUTER OPERATIONS	1230	332	27.0%
COMPUTER SCIENCE	3428	907	26.5%
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT	1918	502	26.2%
COMMERCIAL PHOTO	392	102	26.0%
LIB ARTS:MATH & SCIENCE	1086	276	25.4%
WORD PROCESSING SPECIALIST	219	53	24.2%
COMPUTER TECHNICIAN	1289	309	24.0%
LIB ARTS/SCI - A.S.	1946	465	23.9%
COMMERCIAL FOODSERVICE MGT.	116	27	23.3%
TEACHER EDUCATION	1272	291	22.9%
FINE ARTS	278	63	22.7%
NURSING	904	198	21.9%
COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY	1063	228	21.4%
LIB ARTS:SOC SCI & HUMANITIES	3422	701	20.5%
LIBERAL ARTS- A.A.	4569	897	19.6%
EMT/PARAMEDIC AS	355	54	15.2%
COMMERCIAL PHOTO CERTIFICATE	93	13	14.0%
MORTUARY SCIENCE	705	64	9.1%

Table Eight

Attendance Patterns

Degree Seeking Freshmen Enrolled as Fulltime in First and Enrolled in the Second Semester			
	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	23344	7670	32.9%
Enrolled as Full Time in Second Semester	20647	7218	35.0%
Enrolled as Part Time in Second Semester	2697	452	16.8%

Degree Seeking Freshmen Enrolled as Fulltime in First and Second Semester and Enrolled in the Third Semester			
	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	16595	6983	42.1%
Enrolled as Full Time in Third Semester	14864	6553	44.1%
Enrolled as Part Time in Third Semester	1731	430	24.8%

Degree Seeking Freshmen Enrolled as Fulltime in First, Second and Third Semester and Enrolled in the Fourth Semester			
	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	12362	6366	51.5%
Enrolled as Full Time in Fourth Semester	11083	5963	53.8%
Enrolled as Part Time in Fourth Semester	1279	403	31.5%

Table Nine

Credits Attempted

Equated Credits Attempted in First Semester	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	44632	11915	26.7%
<6	12925	2533	19.6%
>=6 and <9	10847	2772	25.6%
>=9 and <12	5757	1643	28.5%
>=12 and <16	6530	1931	29.6%
>=16	8573	3036	35.4%

Table Ten

Degree Seeking Students Developmental Need

Students Without Any Developmental Need			
	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	4221	1527	36.2%
Freshmen	1689	565	33.5%
Transfer Students	2532	962	38.0%

ESL Only			
	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	682	261	38.3%
Freshmen	436	167	38.3%
Transfer Students	246	94	38.2%

Math Only			
	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	6913	1707	24.7%
Freshmen	4553	1026	22.5%
Transfer Students	2360	681	28.9%

Writing Only			
	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	2198	776	35.3%
Freshmen	1407	477	33.9%
Transfer Students	791	299	37.8%

Degree Seeking Students Developmental Need

Reading Only			
	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	384	136	35.4%
Freshmen	253	93	36.8%
Transfer Students	131	43	32.8%

Mat h and One Ot her			
	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	8435	1887	22.4%
Freshmen	6753	1441	21.3%
Transfer Students	1682	446	26.5%

(ESL or Writ ing) and Reading Only (No Mat h)			
	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	3982	1502	37.7%
Freshmen	2880	1061	36.8%
Transfer Students	1102	441	40.0%

Writ ing and Reading and Mat h			
	# of New Students Since Fall 1991	# of Students Who Graduated in 6 Years	6-Year Graduation Rate
Total	15688	3631	23.1%
Freshmen	13534	3069	22.7%
Transfer Students	2154	562	26.1%

Table Eleven