



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

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Agenda

1. Overview of 21st Century Scholars Program
2. Why college readiness matters
3. Findings from the 2014 cohort
4. Implications of the results
5. Questions & discussion

Overview of the 21st Century Scholars Program



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

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

Pre-College Requirements

- 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

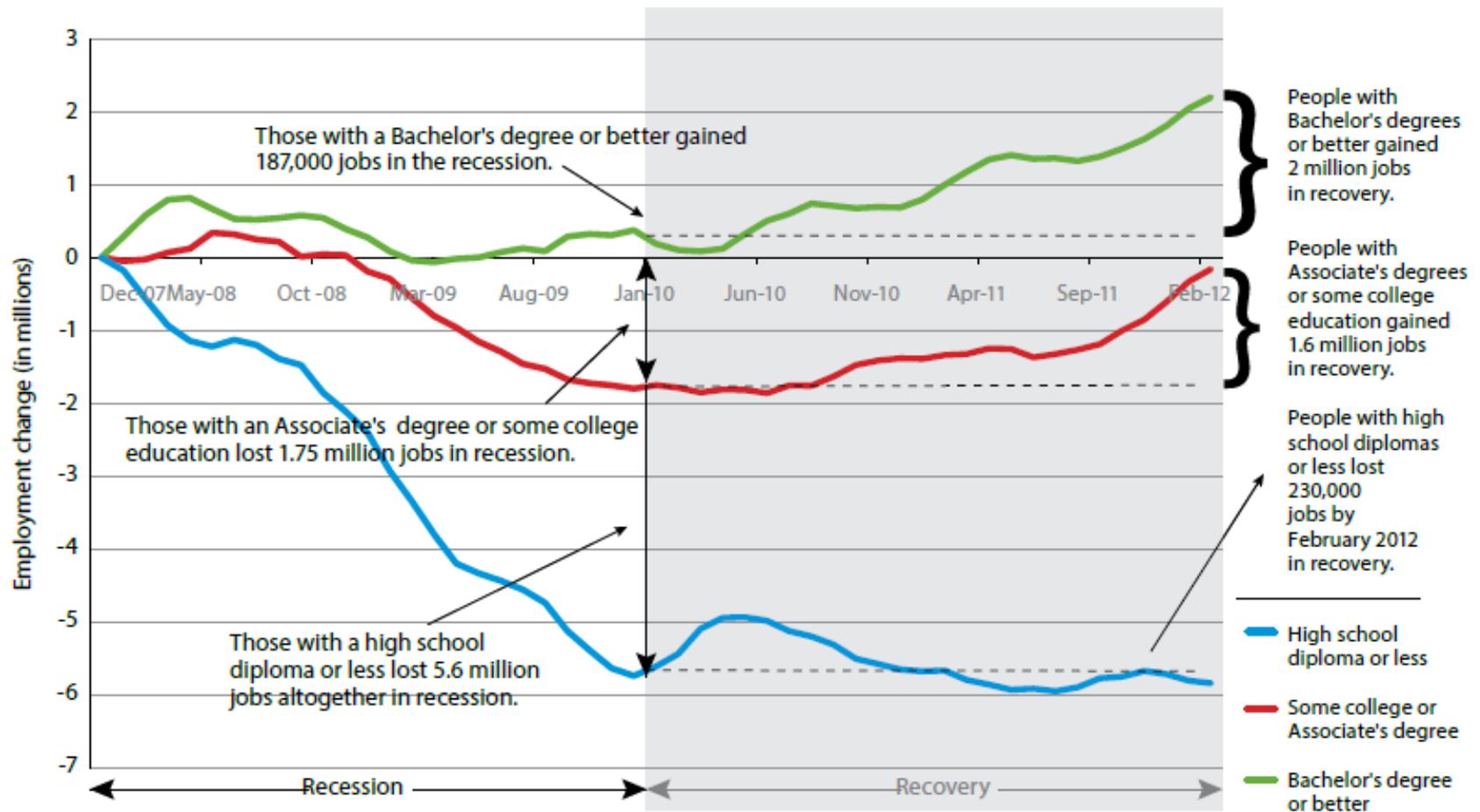
Program statistics

- 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

Why college readiness and success matters

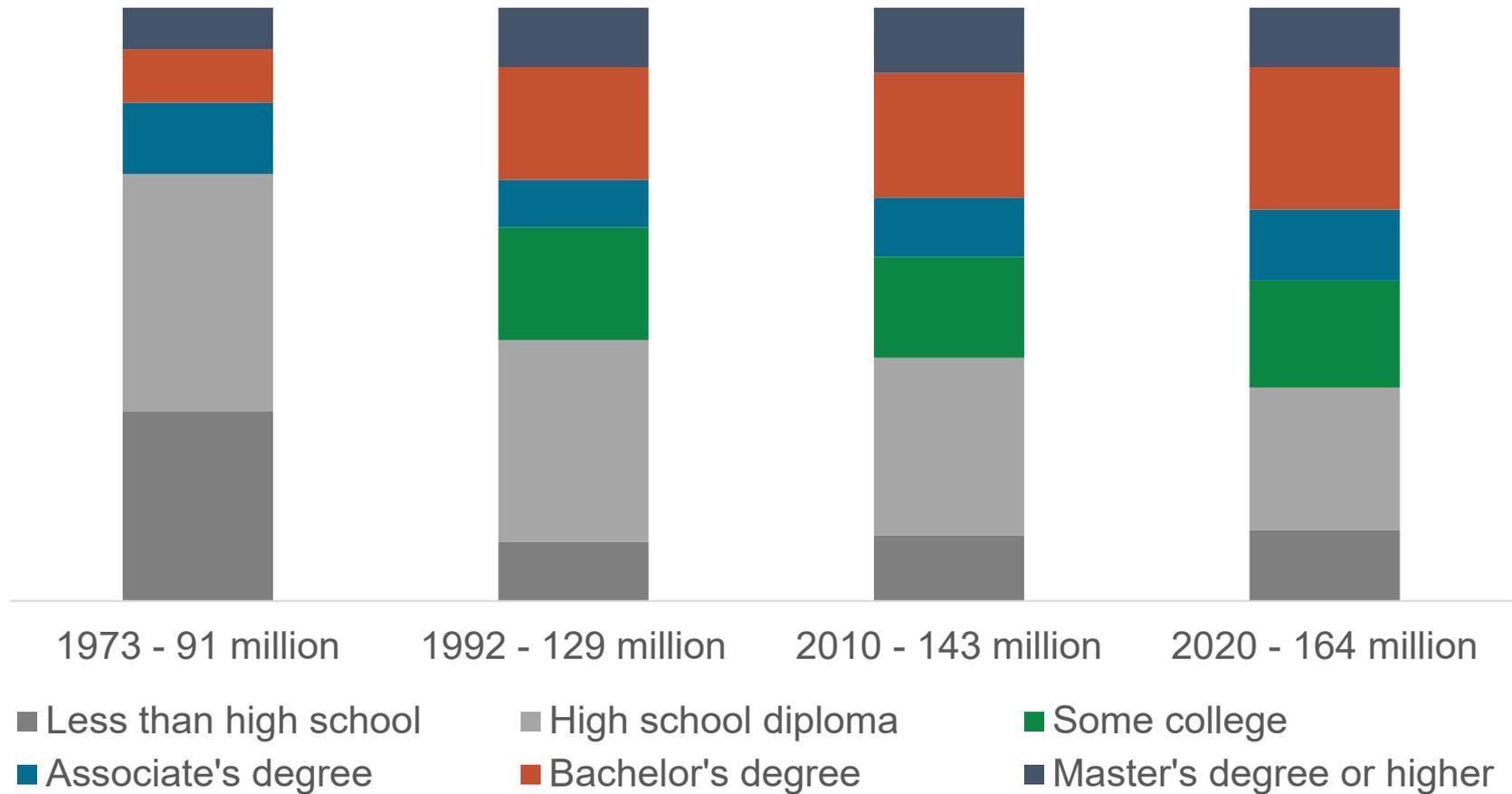


Postsecondary degrees: Fewer losses, greater gains

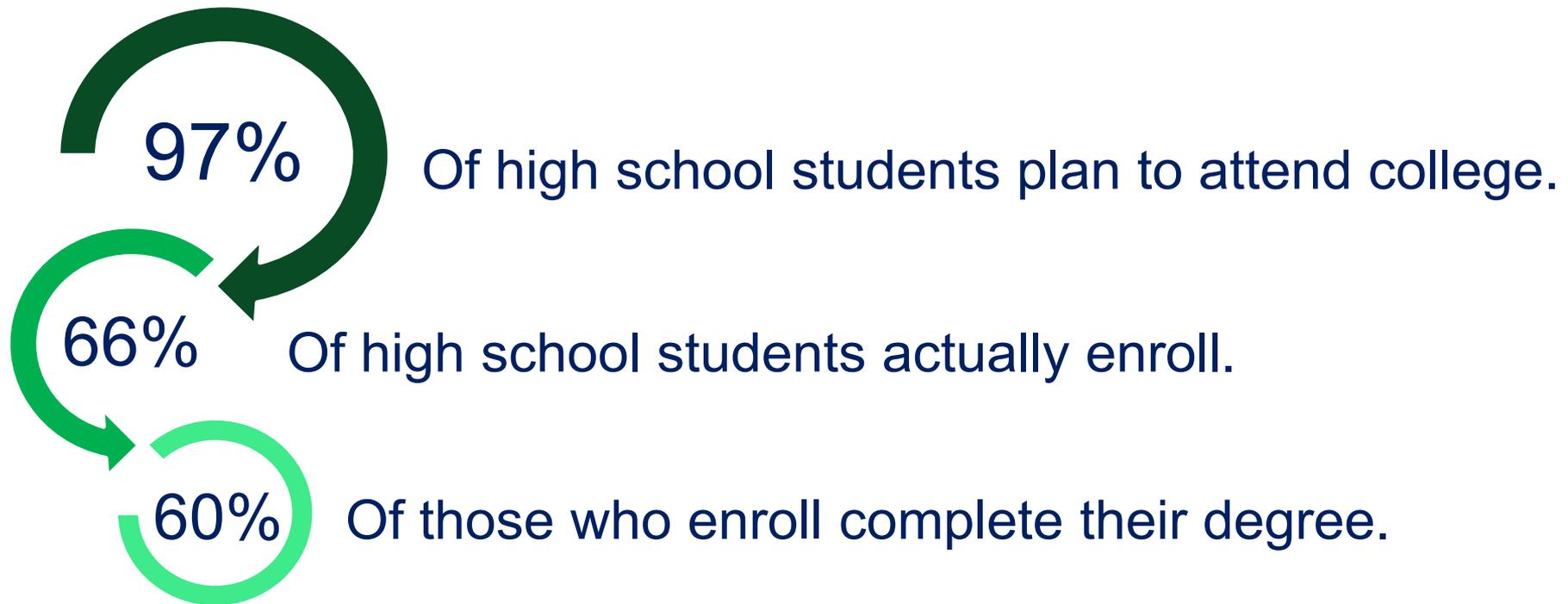


Source: Carnevale, A.P., Jayasundera, T., & Cheah, B. (2012). *The college advantage: Weathering the economic storm, executive summary*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Public Policy Institute Center on Education and the Workforce.

Postsecondary degrees: Increasingly required by workforce



Background



Are students ready for college-level coursework?

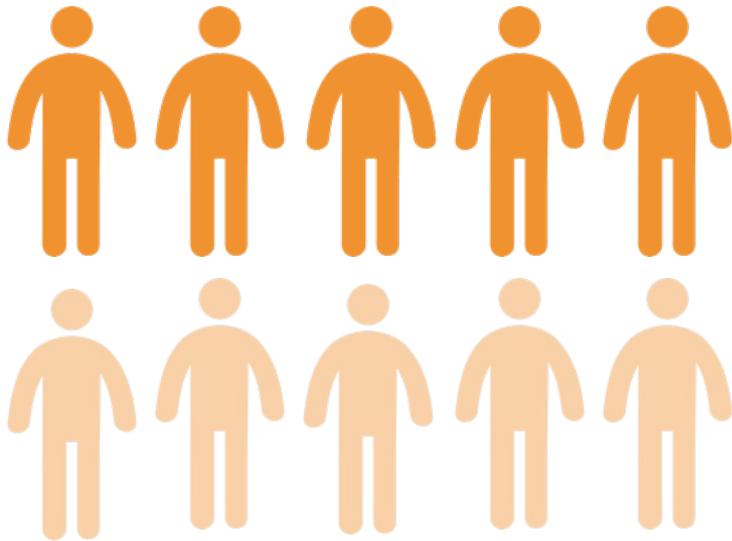
One-third of students take at least one remedial course in their freshman year of college



33% take remedial courses

Do students earn course credit?

Students who repeat more than 1 in 5 classes in college cut their likelihood of graduation in half

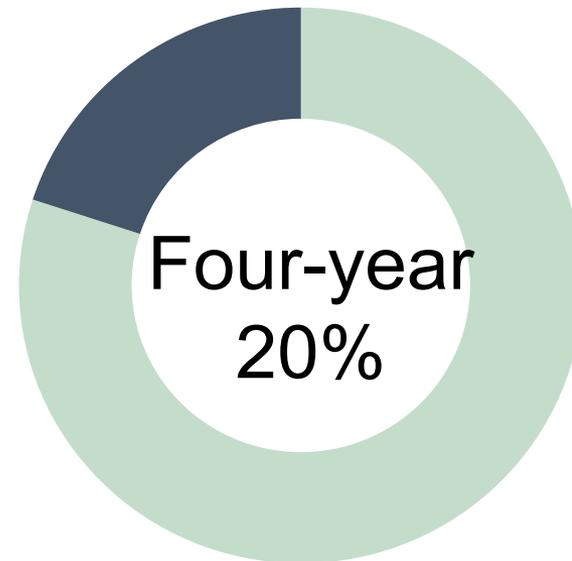
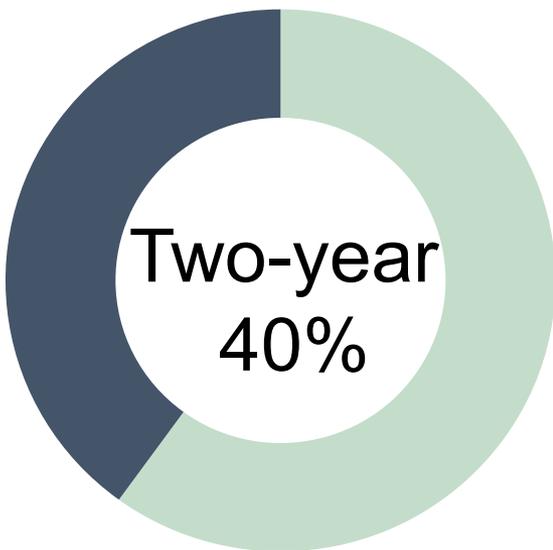


50%

Less likely to graduate

Are students returning to their second year of college?

Dropout is **most common** in freshman year





**Postsecondary
reform is a major
priority**

Initiatives in Indiana

College Preparation
Curriculum Act (2006)

Core 40 Graduation
Requirements (2007)

American Diploma Project

Remedial Education Reform
(2013)



The Current Study



Measuring college success

Taking only nonremedial coursework.

Earning all attempted credits.

Persisting to second year.

Achieving success by all three measures.

Research questions

What percentage of students achieved early college success, and how do these percentages vary by student subgroup?

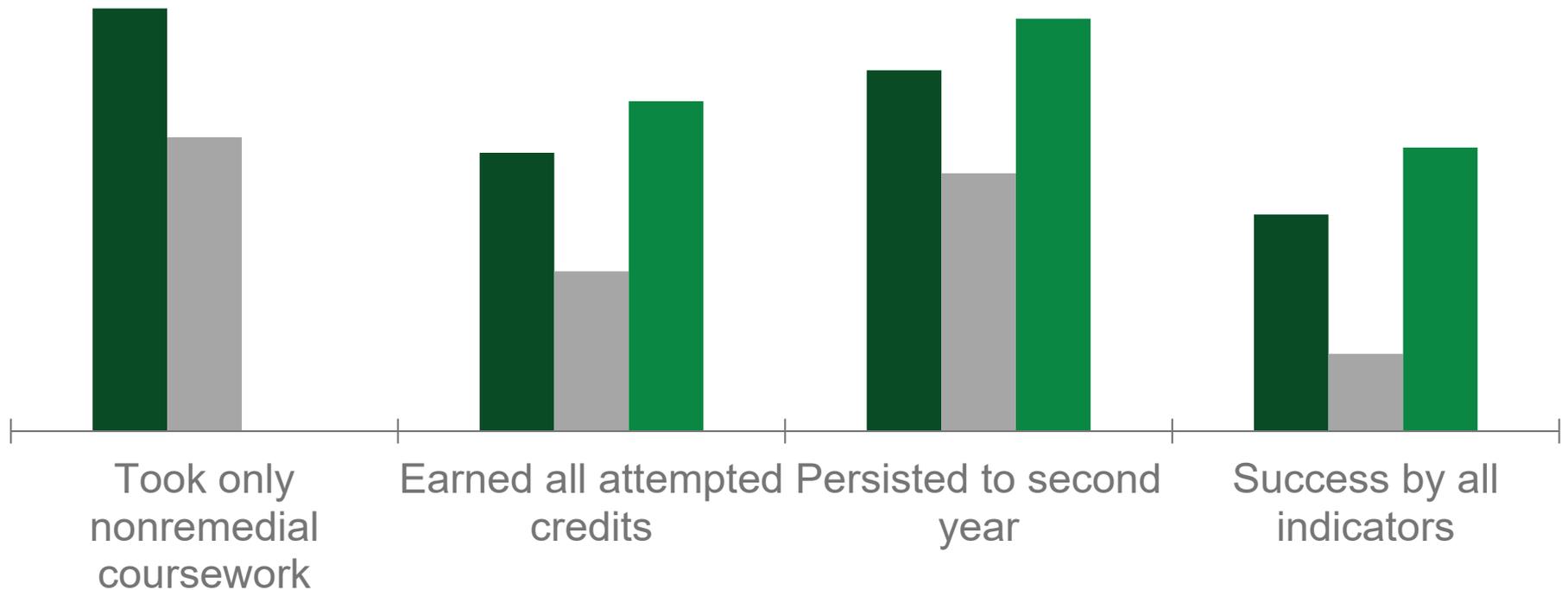
What is the relationship between receiving financial aid and early college success after controlling for other variables?

Findings



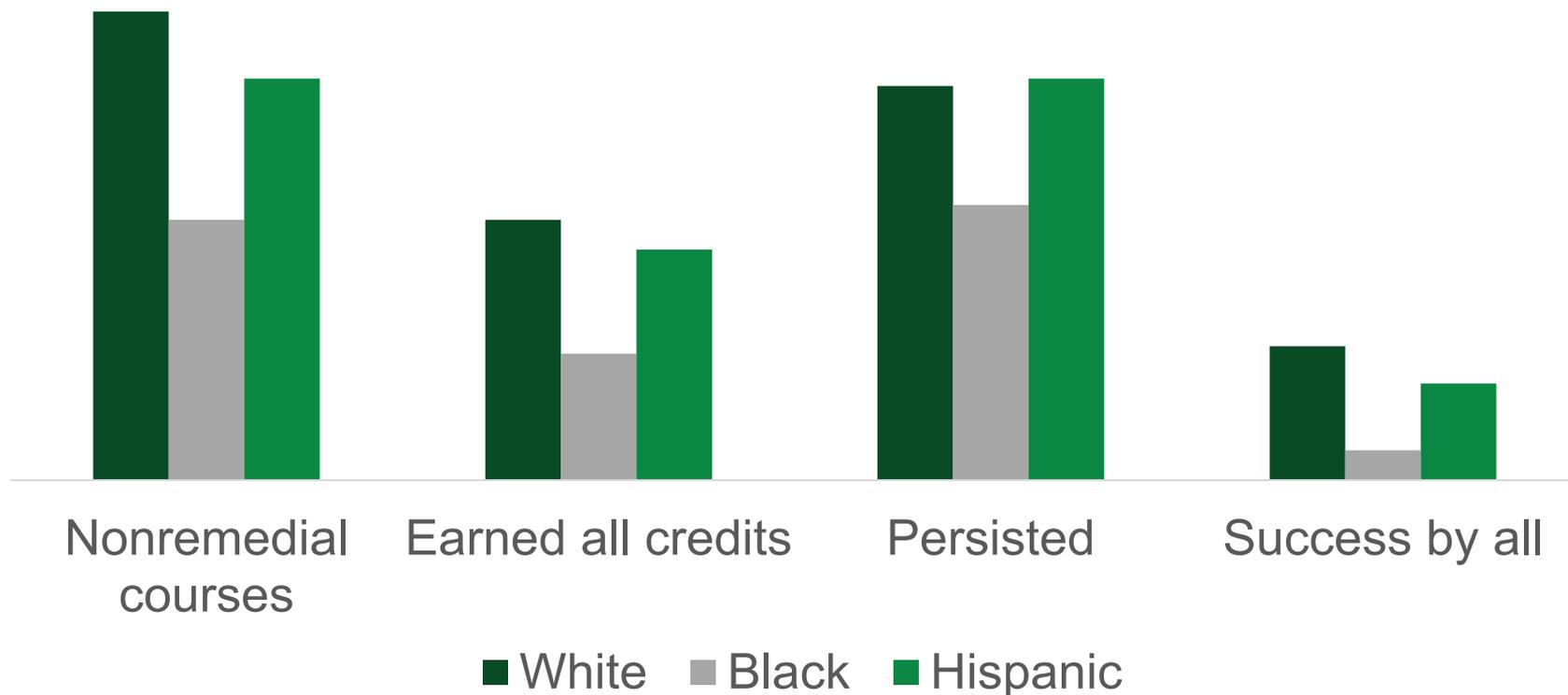
College success varied by two- and four-year college-goers

- Full sample (N = 28,525)
- Enrolled in two-year college (n = 9,100)
- Enrolled in four-year college (n = 19,425)



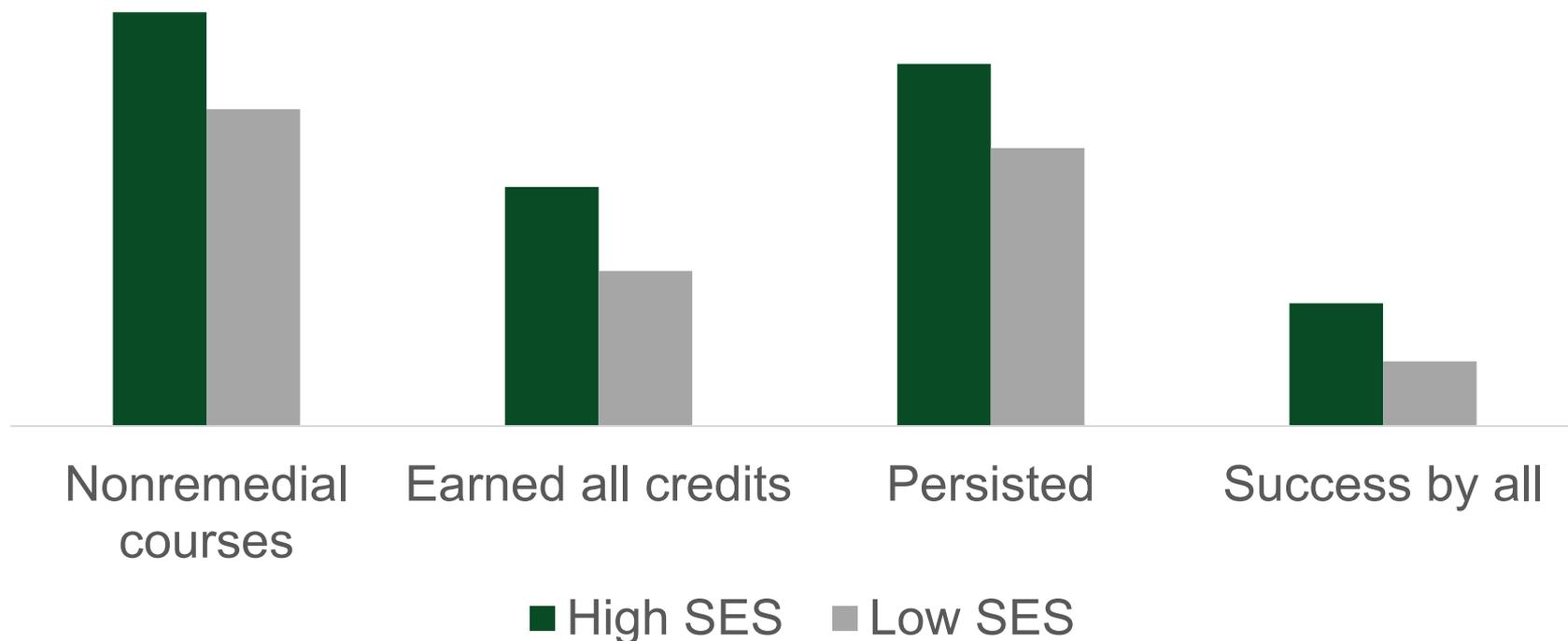
College success varied by student demographics

Two-year college students: Race/ethnicity



College success varied by student demographics

Two-year college students: Socioeconomic status

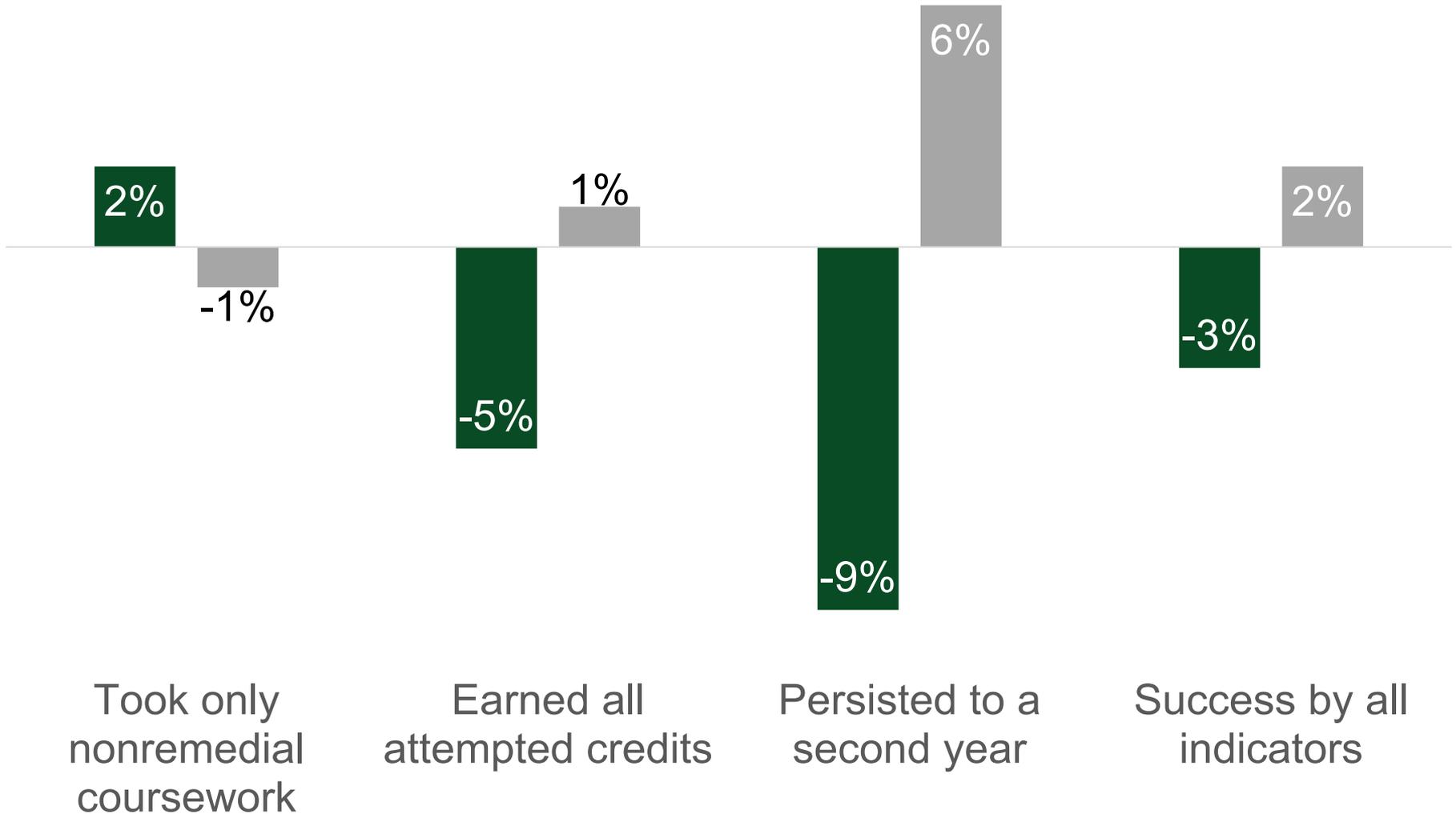


After controlling for other variables...

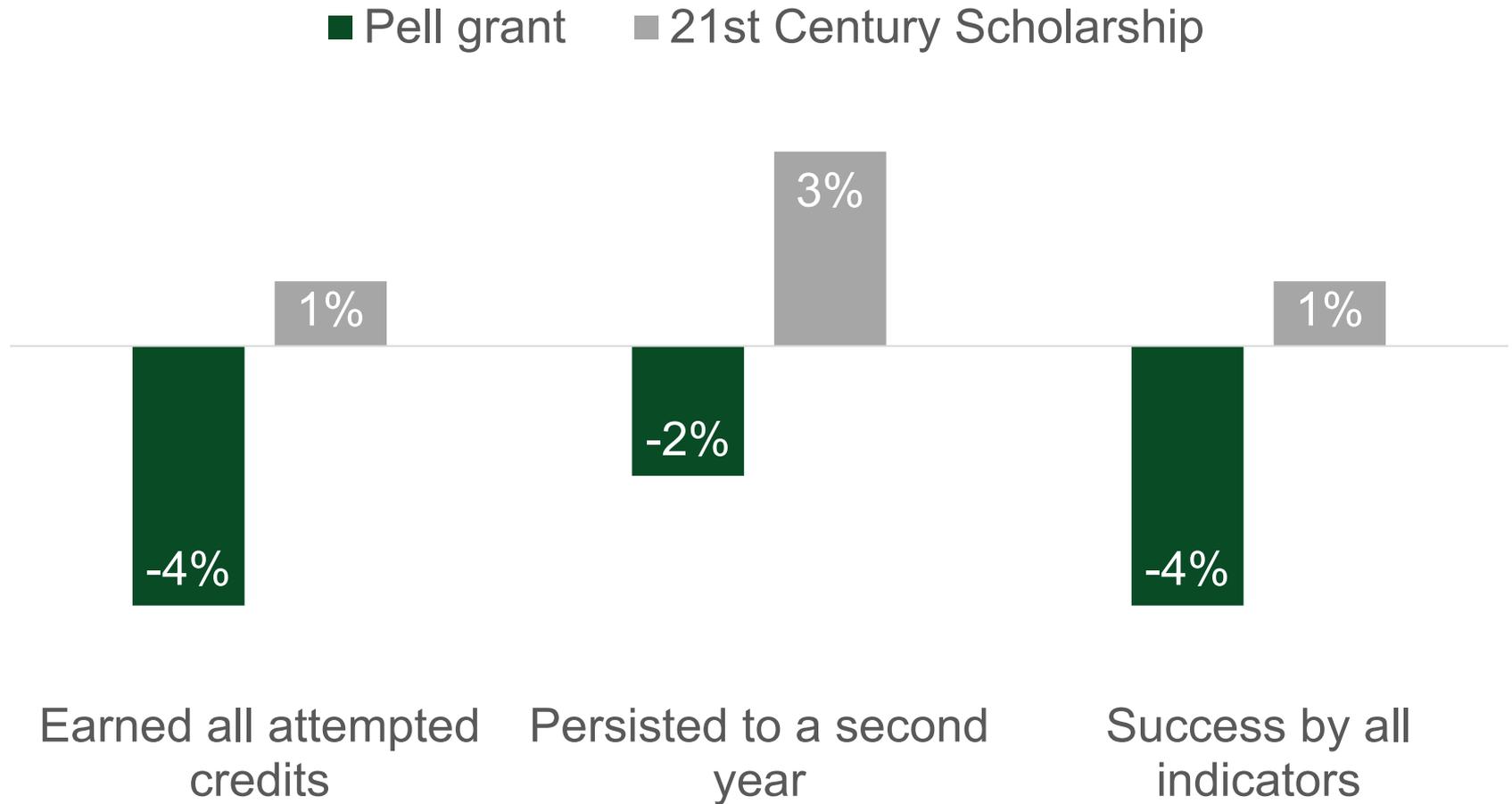
21st Century Scholars had greater success than students who received only a Pell Grant on most measures of success.

Two-year colleges

■ Pell grant ■ 21st Century Scholarship



Four-year colleges



Discussion and Implications



Students from disadvantaged backgrounds and those entering two year colleges have lower rates of success than their peers.



The rate of students taking remedial coursework has dropped substantially, which may be more a reflection of the policy change than higher rates of college ready students.



Pell recipients who do not also receive 21st Century Scholarships are less likely to achieve success.



**21st Century Scholarships
may be one strategy for
closing achievement gaps.**

**Increasing access to 21st
Century Scholarships is key**



Questions?



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