

# Trends in Freshman Retention & Graduation

Autumn XRG Meeting

*November 2018*

## Executive Summary

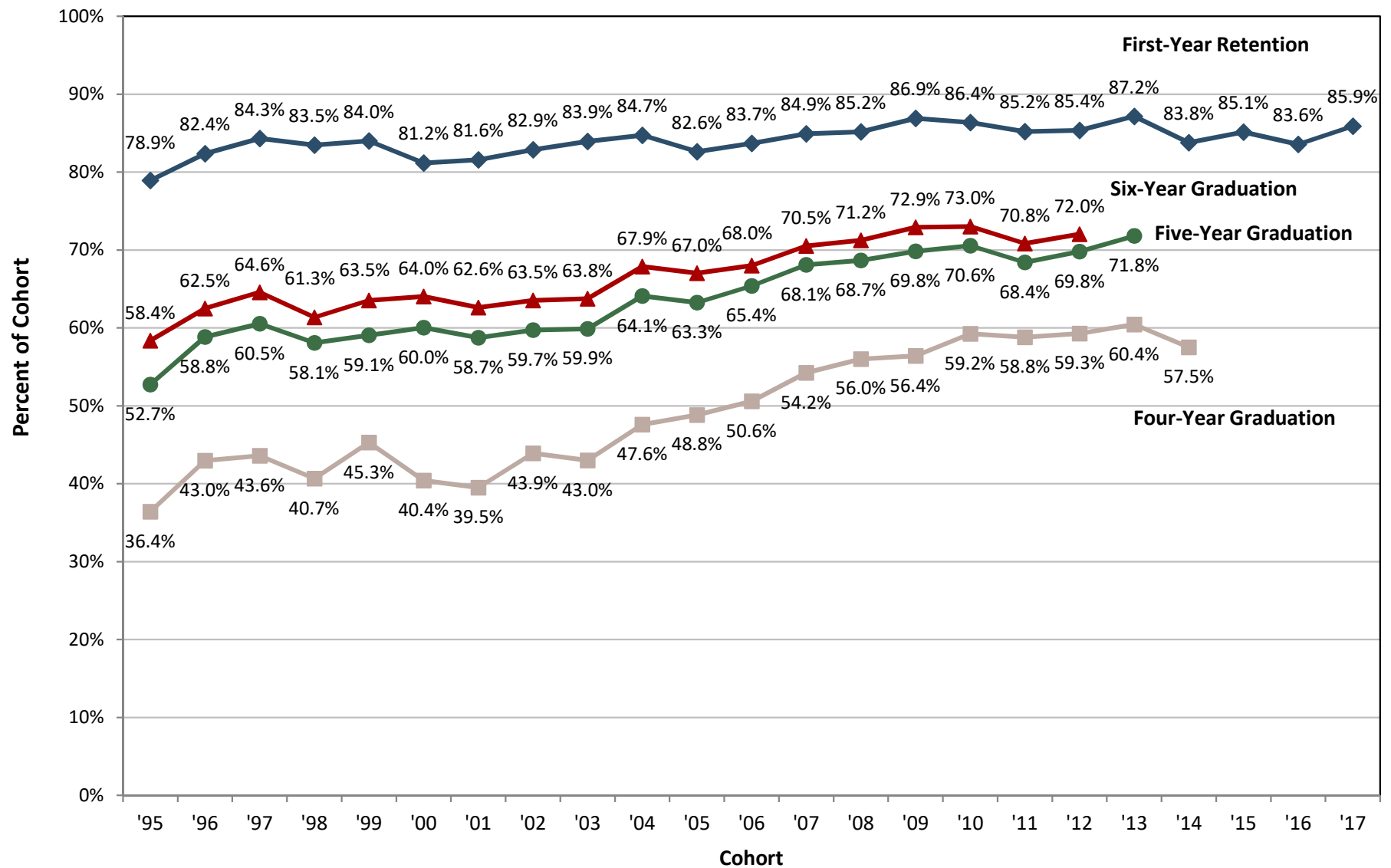
### Overall Trends

- The first-year retention rate of the 2017 cohort is 85.9%, a 2.3% point increase from 2016. Almost all of the freshmen (96%) who completed the first year in the high performance group (earning a 2.5 or higher GPA and 48 or more credit hours) persisted to the second year.
- The four-year graduation rate of the 2014 cohort is 57.5%, a decline of 2.7% points from 2013, which was expected given the lower retention rate of the 2014 cohort.
- The five-year graduation rate is 71.8%, which is a new all-time high, and the six-year graduation rate increased to 72%.
- DePaul continues to outperform national, 4-year private institutions in terms of first-year retention, four- and six-year graduation rates.

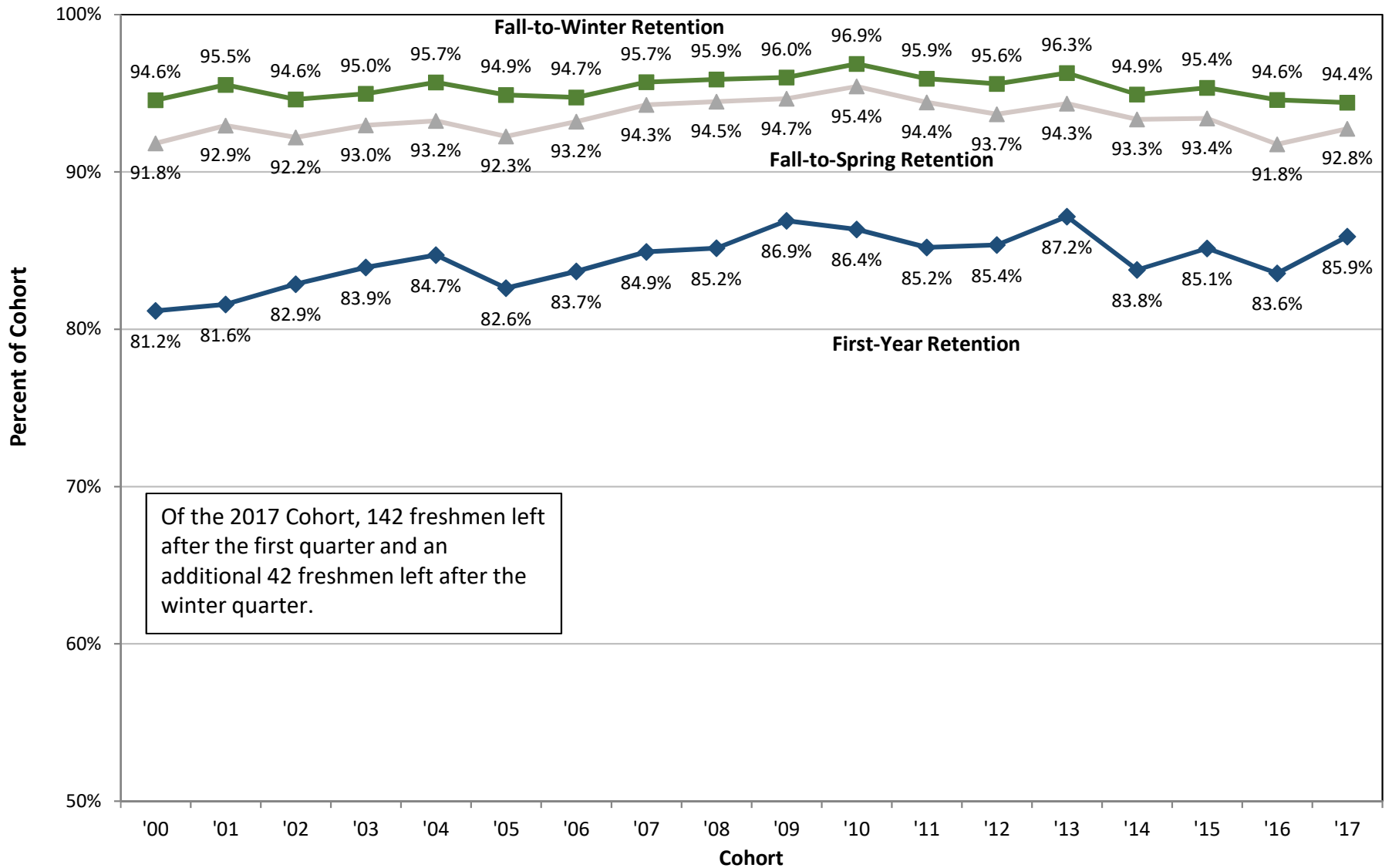
### Academic & Demographic Trends

- Freshmen who came to DePaul less prepared than their peers graduated at 61% within six years, similar to the national, 4-year private rate of 60%.
- The proportion of freshmen with “high need” increased in 2017 to 41%, a 5% point increase, and they have a lower graduation rates than their “low need” peers.
- The first quarter academic success is critical at DePaul. Only 3% of freshmen in the 2017 cohort were able to increase their performance standing from their 1<sup>st</sup> term and 19% of the cohort is not on track to graduate within four years.
- The second cohort of Health Science Pathway Honors freshmen have graduated within four years at a rate of 77.2%, an increase of 4.3% points, which also exceeds the overall freshman cohort by 19.7% points.

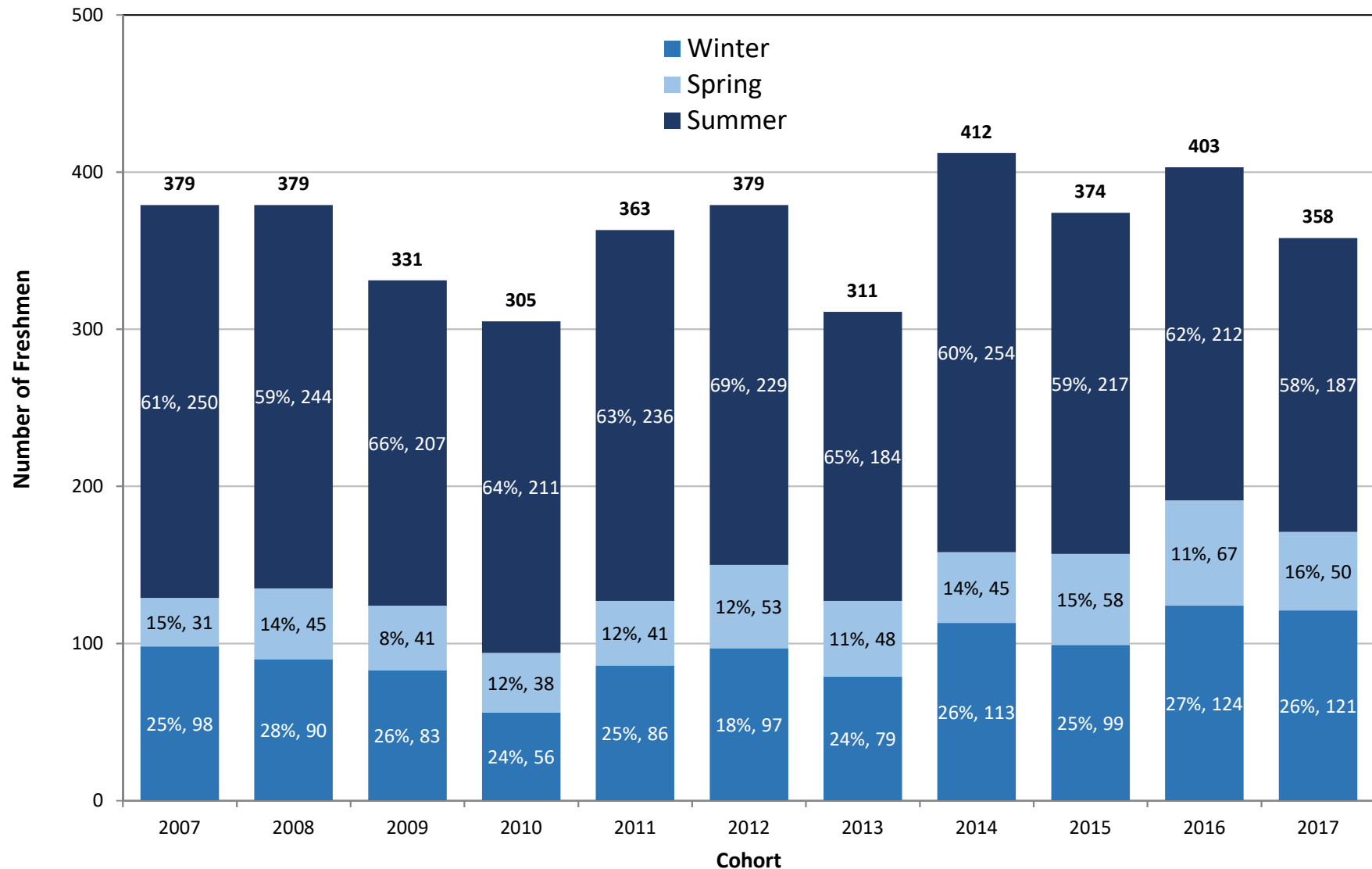
## First-Year Retention, Four-, Five- and Six-Year Graduation Rates 1995-2017



## First-Year Retention Rates 1995-2017

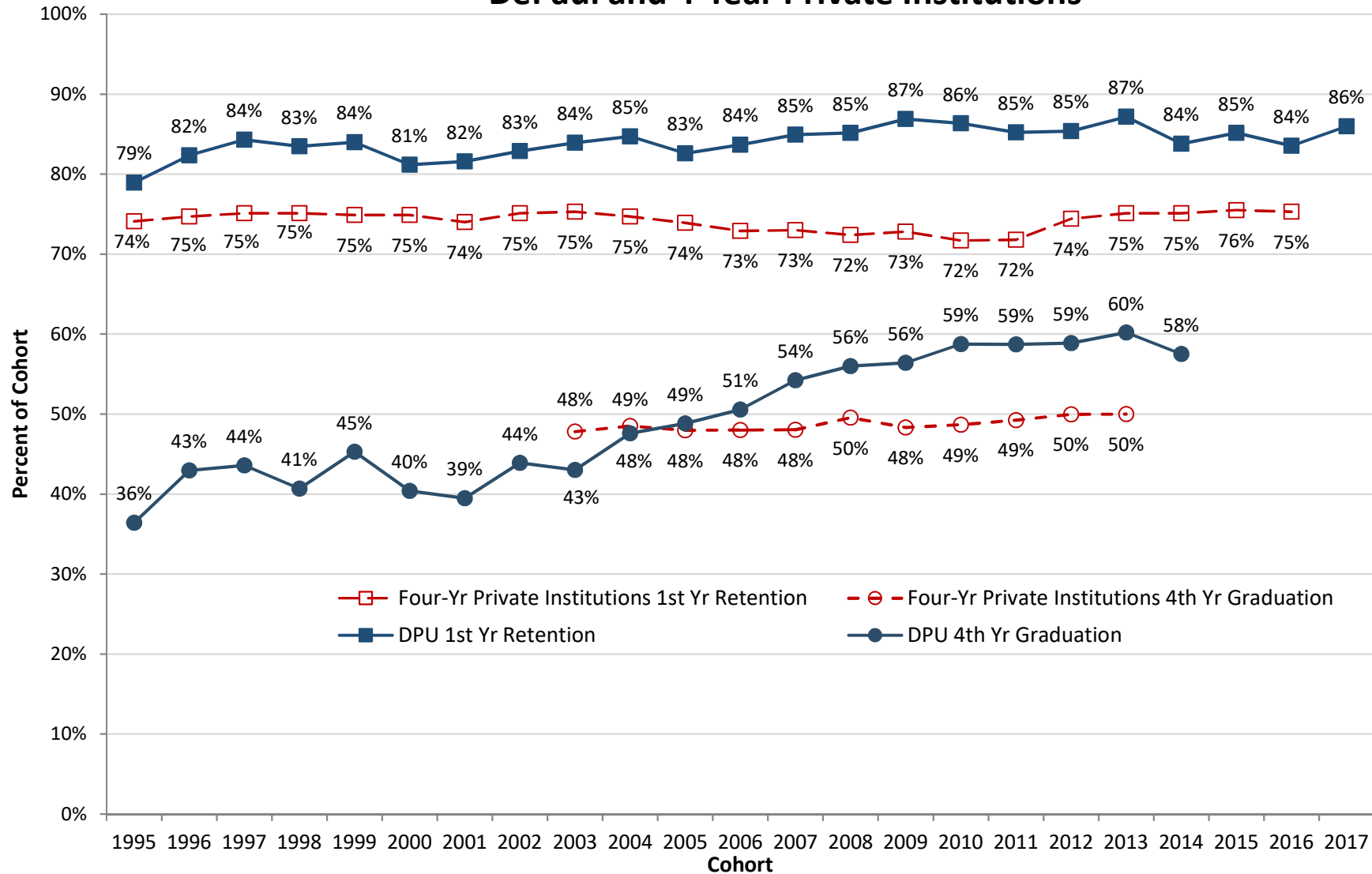


## What Quarter Freshmen Stop Enrolling



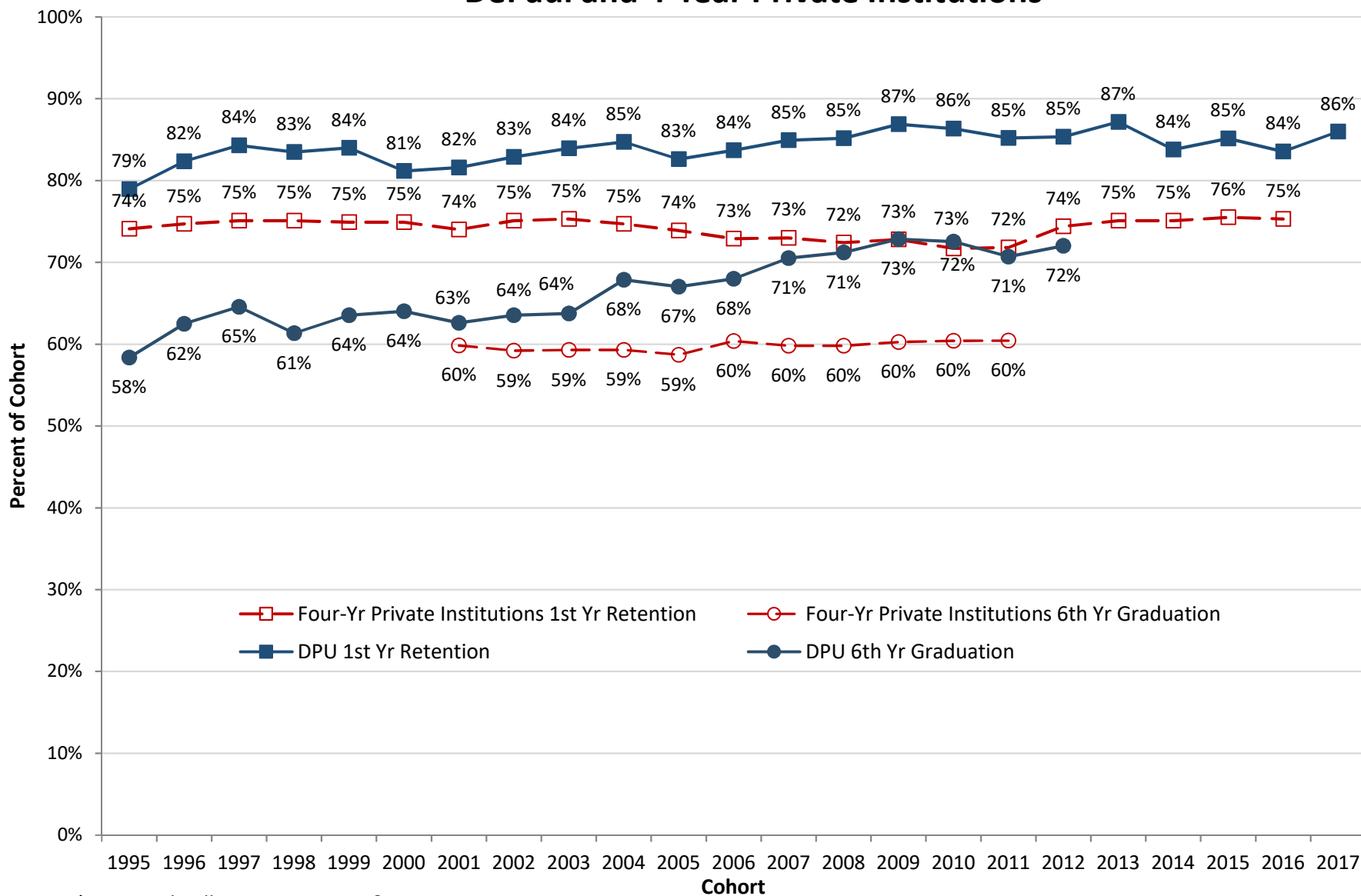
\*If a student was not enrolled in winter but re-enrolled in the spring, the freshman is considered a summer drop-out.

## First-Year Retention and Four-Year Graduation Rate Comparisons: DePaul and 4-Year Private Institutions



Source: ACT's National Collegiate Retention & Persistence to Degree Rates Report

## First-Year Retention and Six-Year Graduation Rate Comparisons: DePaul and 4-Year Private Institutions

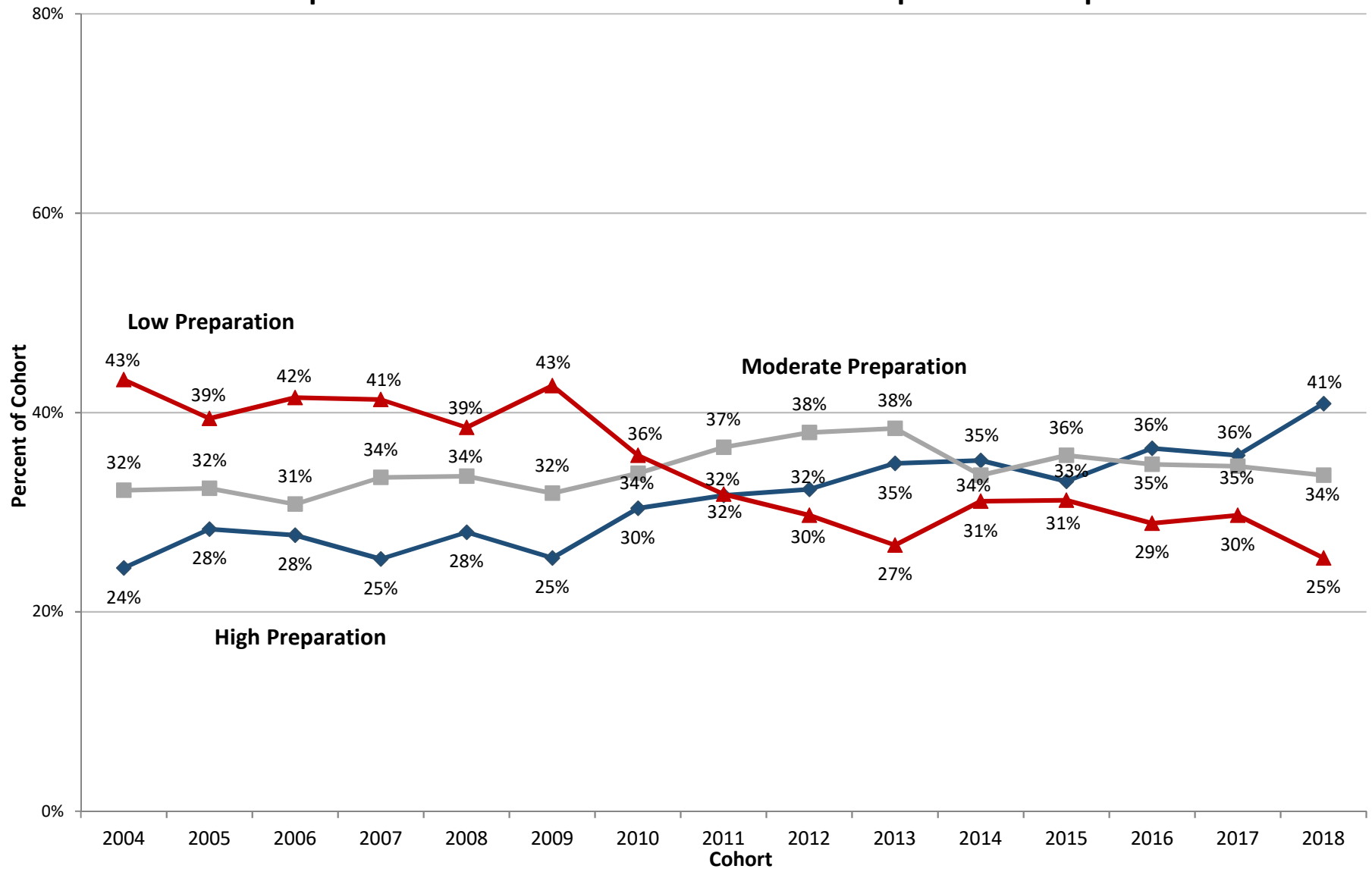


Source: ACT's National Collegiate Retention & Persistence to Degree Rates Report

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Freshman Retention & Graduation

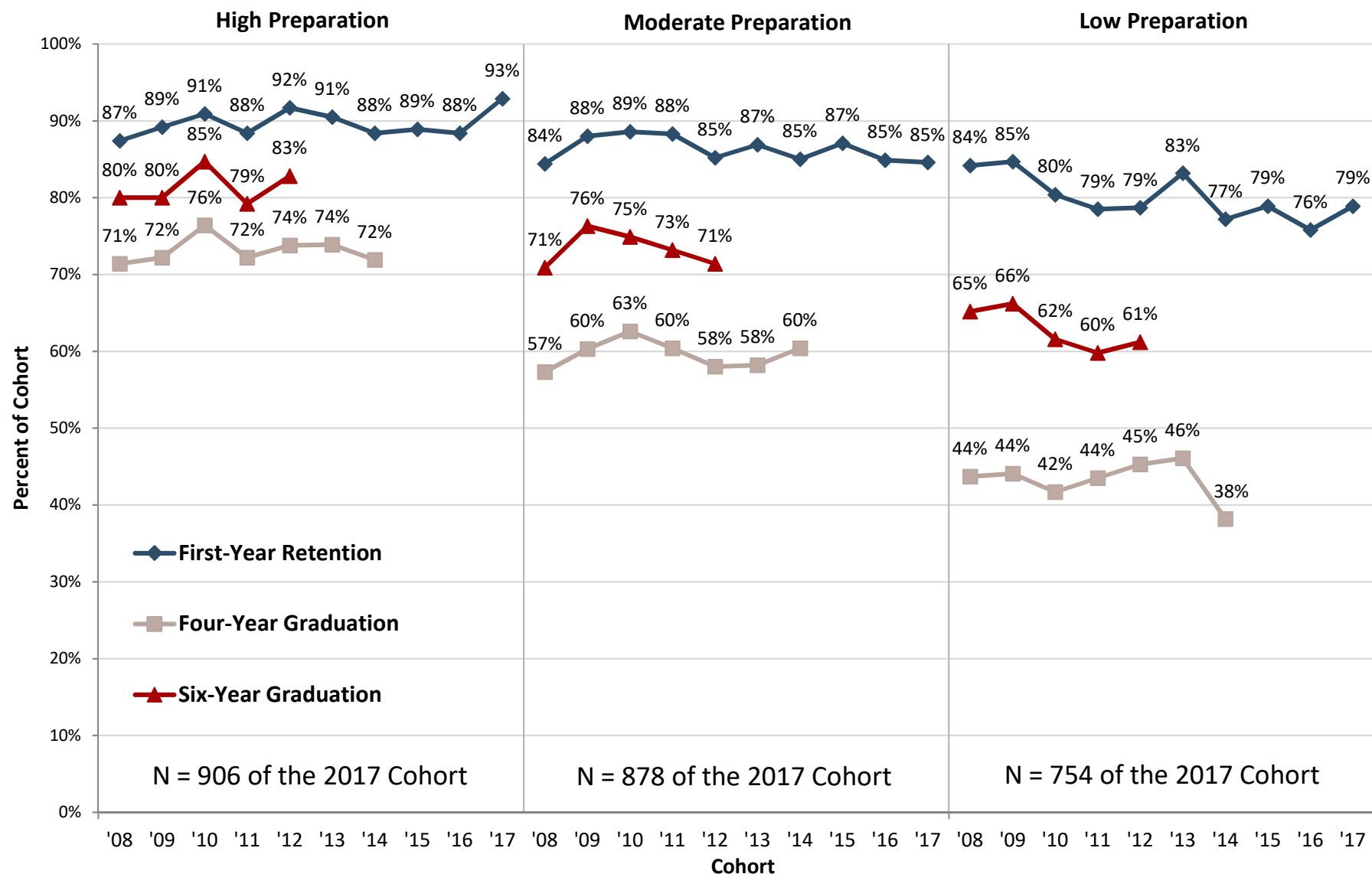
## Proportion of Cohort within each Academic Preparation Group



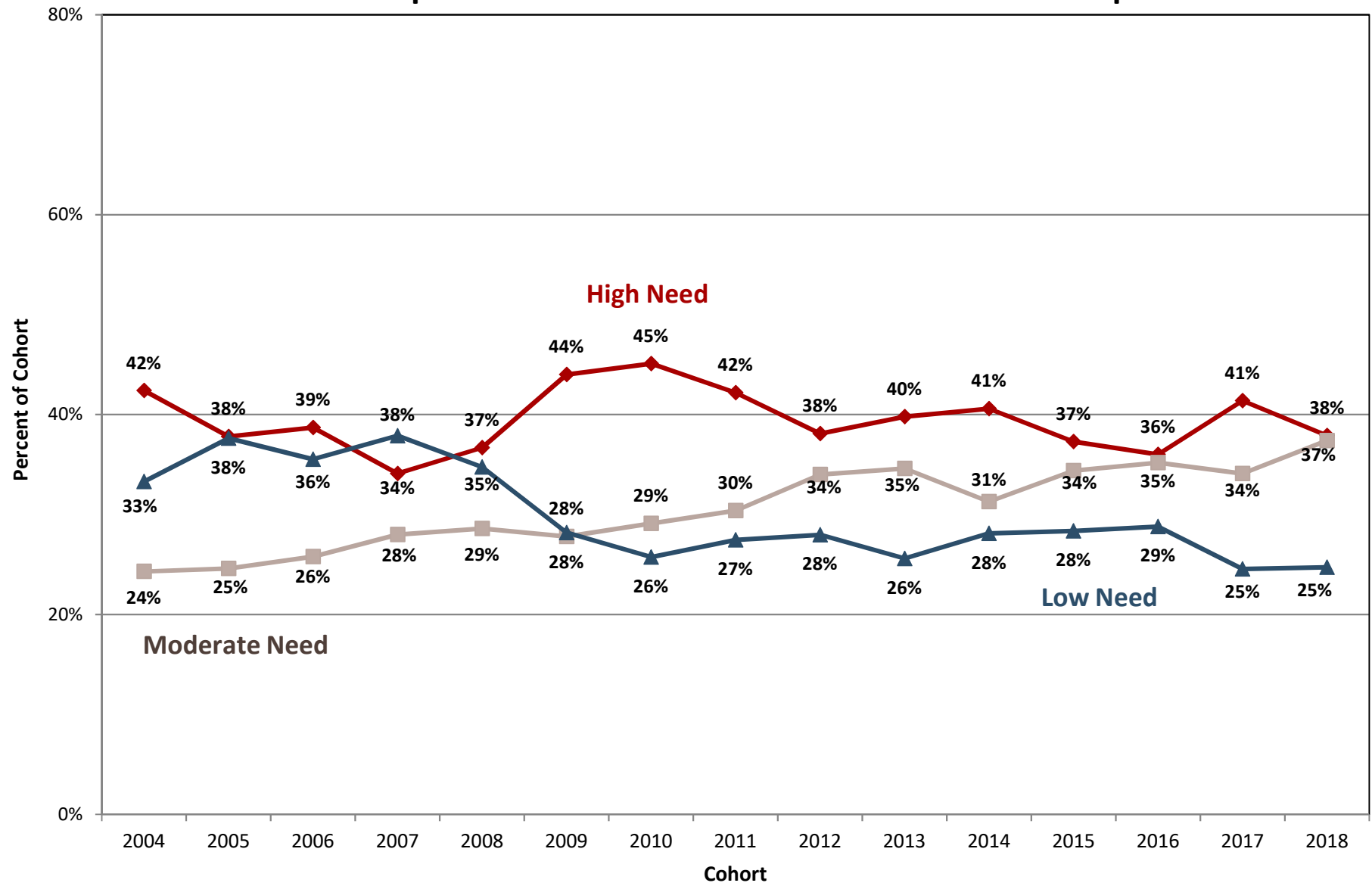
\*Academic preparation index is a weighted composite of pre-collegiate academic characteristics including (but not limited to) high school GPA, ACT/SAT test scores, and high school quality rating. Academic preparation was revised in the 2018 academic year, therefore we have applied the current formula working backwards to 2004.



## First-Year Retention, Four-Year Graduation, Six-Year Graduation - By High School Academic Preparation

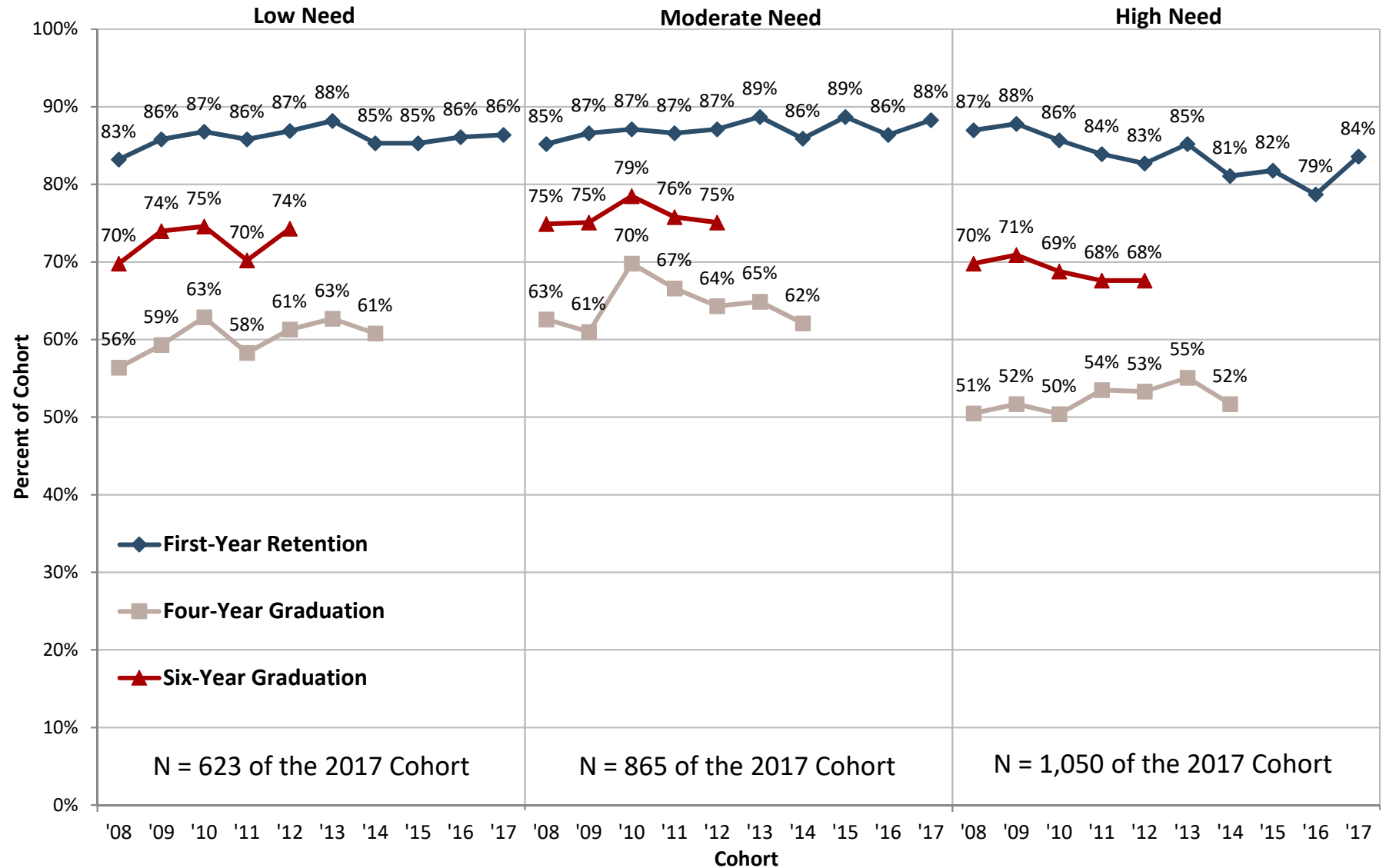


## Proportion of Cohort within Each Need Rank Group

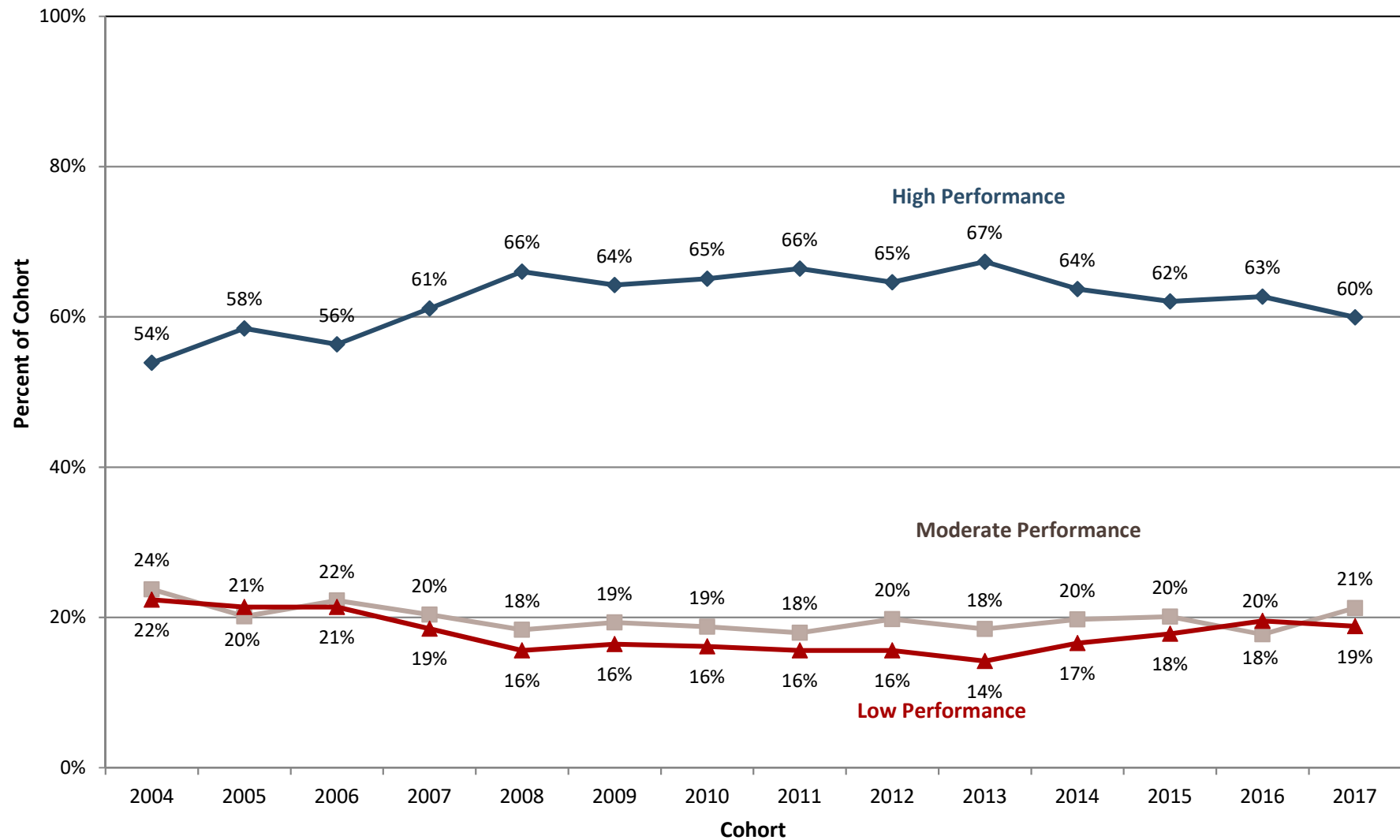


\*Need Rank has been revised in the 2018/19 academic year, therefore we have applied the current formula working backwards to 2004.

## First-Year Retention, Four-Year Graduation, Six-Year Graduation - By Need Rank



## Proportion of Cohort within Each Academic Performance Group

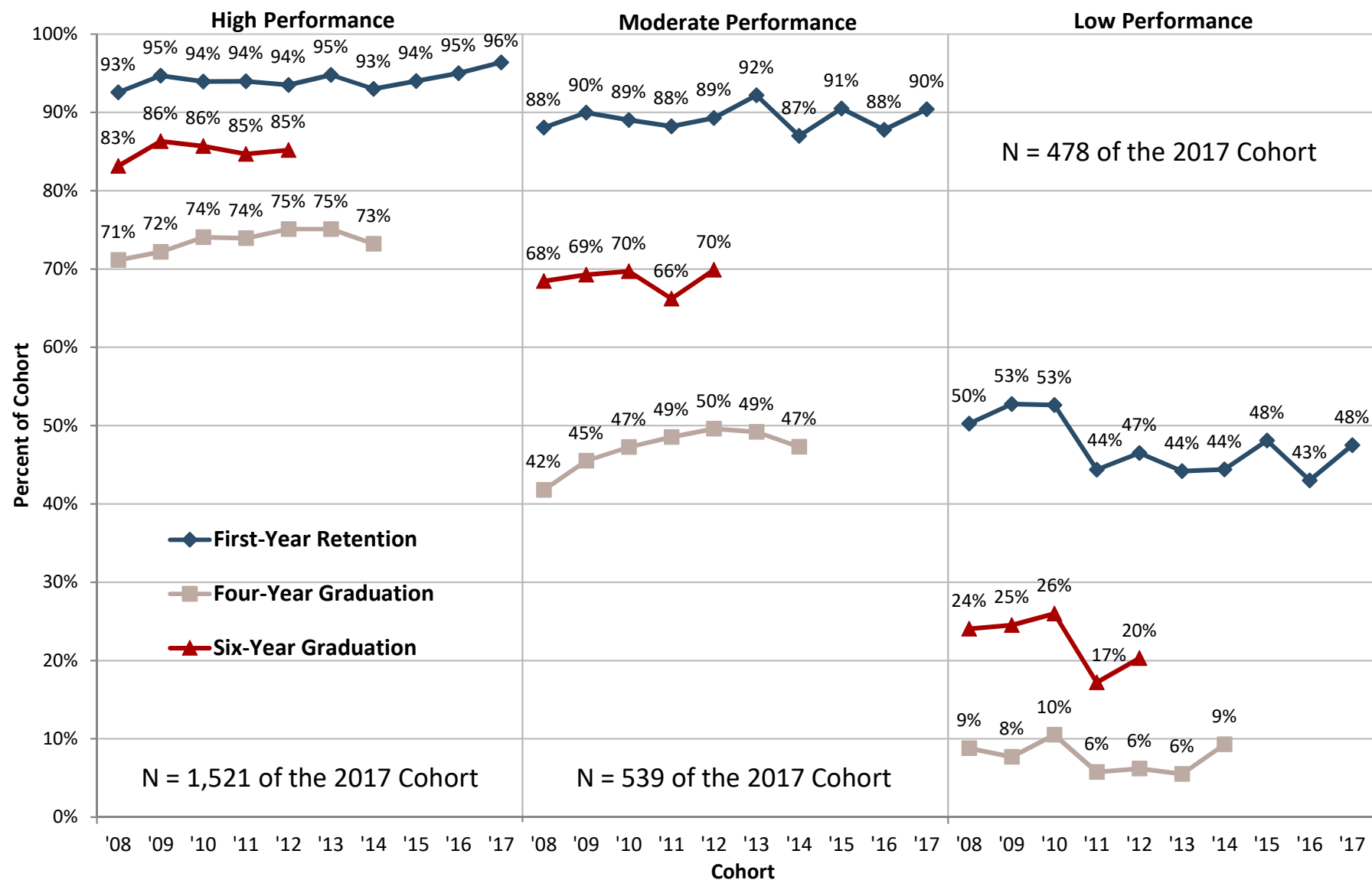


Low Performance: < 2.50 GPA with <48 hours earned or >= 2.50 GPA with <37 hours earned

Moderate Performance: < 2.50 GPA with >=48 hours earned or >= 2.50 GPA with 37-47 hours earned

High Performance: >= 2.50 GPA with >=48 hours earned

## First-Year Retention, Four-Year Graduation, Six-Year Graduation - By First Year Academic Performance



## First-Year Retention and Four-Year Graduation By Academic Preparation & First Year Academic Performance

Size of the 2017 Cohort

	1st Year Performance			
	High	Moderate	Low	Subtotal
Academic Prep				
High	690	152	64	906
Moderate	525	190	163	878
Low	306	197	251	754
Subtotal	1,521	539	478	2,538

Size of the 2014 Cohort

	1st Year Performance			
	High	Moderate	Low	Subtotal
Academic Prep				
High	706	123	64	893
Moderate	563	172	121	856
Low	349	206	236	791
Subtotal	1,618	501	421	2,540

% of 1<sup>st</sup> Year Performance within Acad. Prep Groups

	1st Year Performance, 2017 Cohort			
	High	Moderate	Low	Subtotal
Academic Prep				
High	76%	17%	7%	100%
Moderate	60%	22%	19%	100%
Low	41%	26%	33%	100%
Subtotal	60%	21%	19%	100%

% of 1<sup>st</sup> Year Performance within Acad. Prep Groups

	1st Year Performance, 2014 Cohort			
	High	Moderate	Low	Subtotal
Academic Prep				
High	79%	14%	7%	100%
Moderate	66%	20%	14%	100%
Low	44%	26%	30%	100%
Subtotal	64%	20%	17%	100%

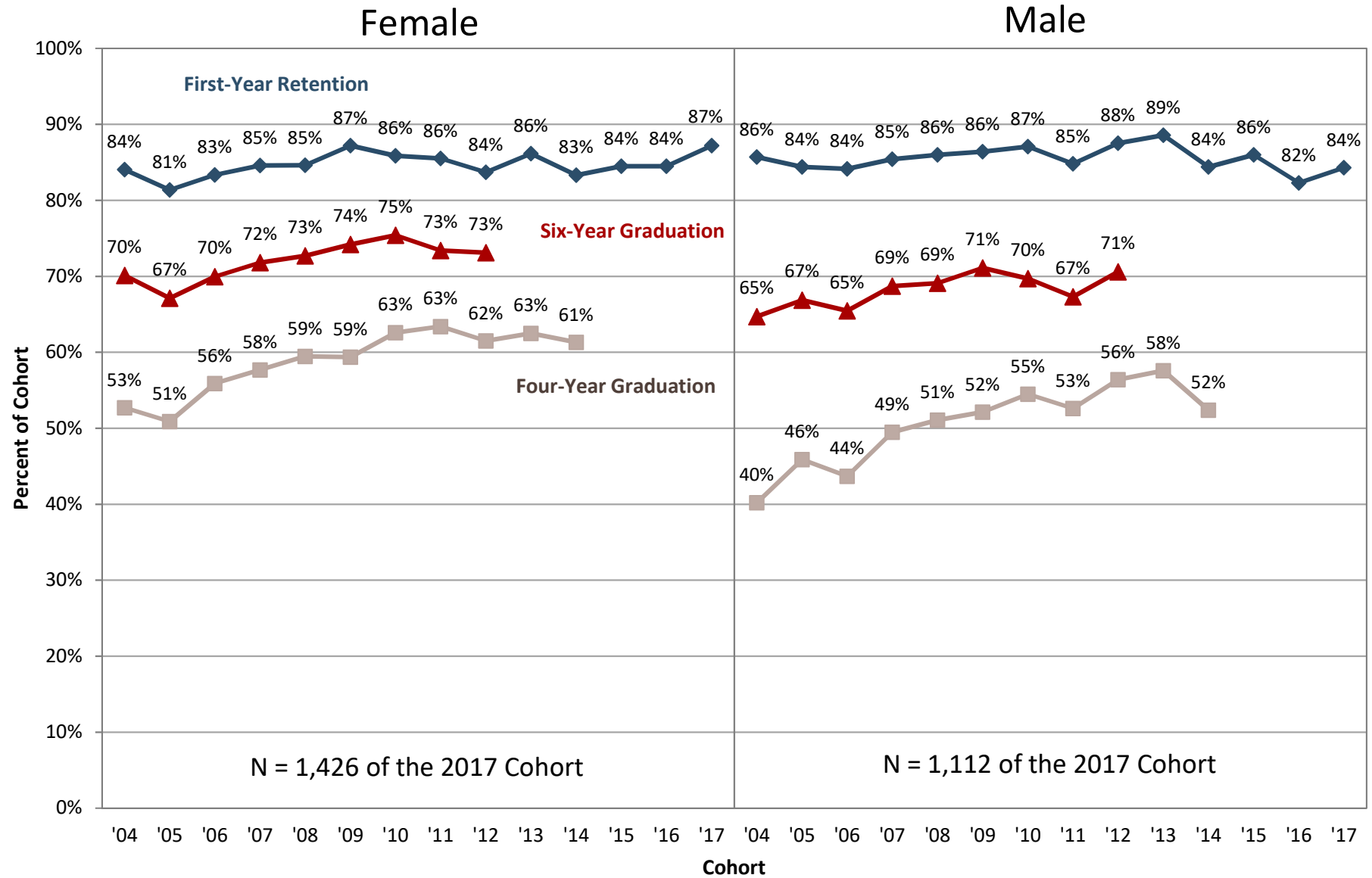
First-Year Retention Rates, 2017 Cohort

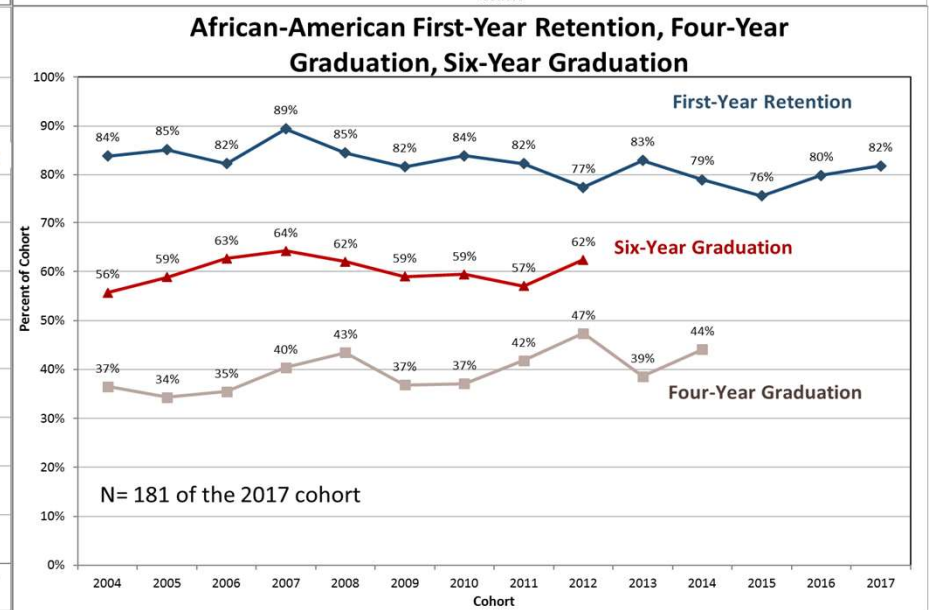
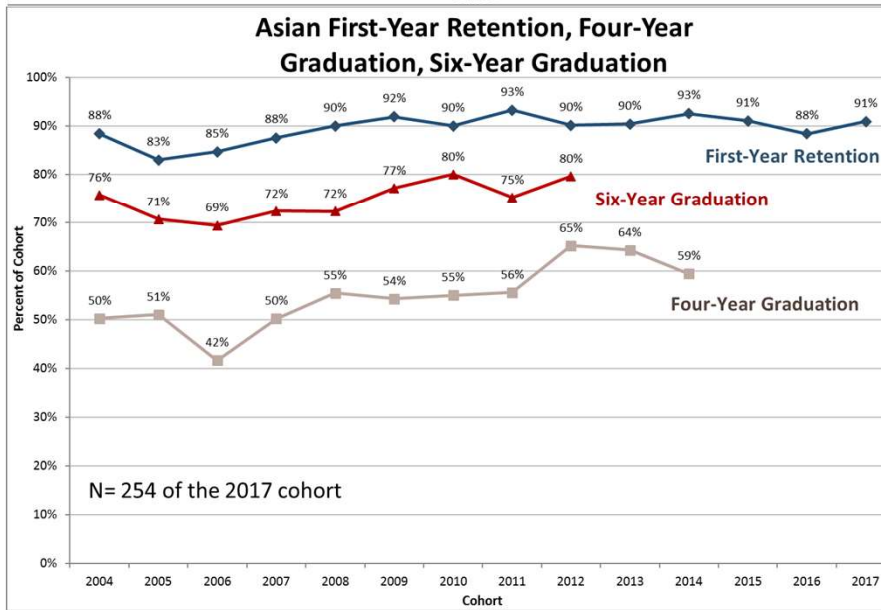
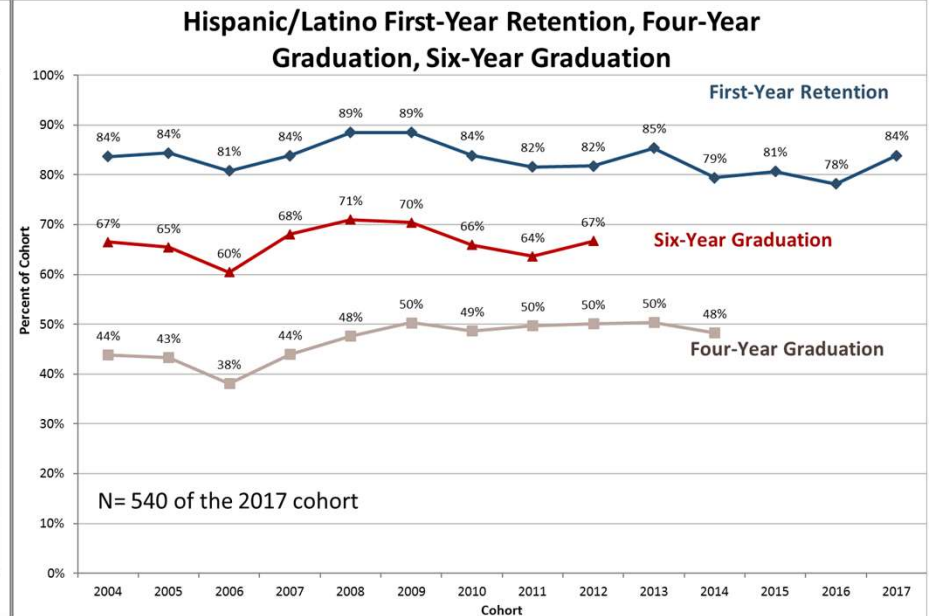
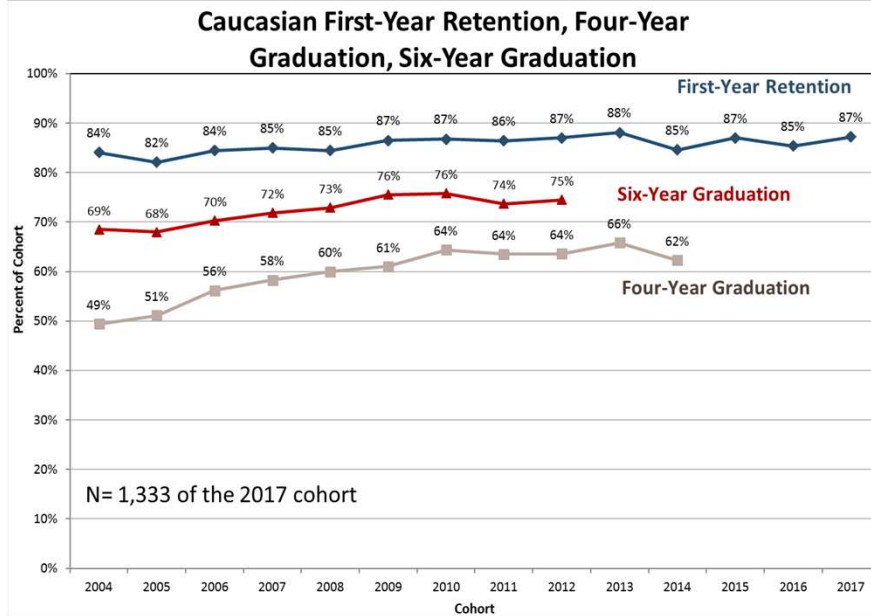
	1st Year Performance			
	High	Moderate	Low	Subtotal
Academic Prep				
High	98%	91%	41%	93%
Moderate	96%	92%	41%	85%
Low	93%	89%	53%	79%
Subtotal	96%	90%	47%	86%

Four-Year Graduation Rates, 2014 Cohort

	1st Year Performance			
	High	Moderate	Low	Subtotal
Academic Prep				
High	80%	55%	9%	72%
Moderate	75%	49%	11%	60%
Low	56%	41%	8%	38%
Subtotal	73%	47%	9%	58%

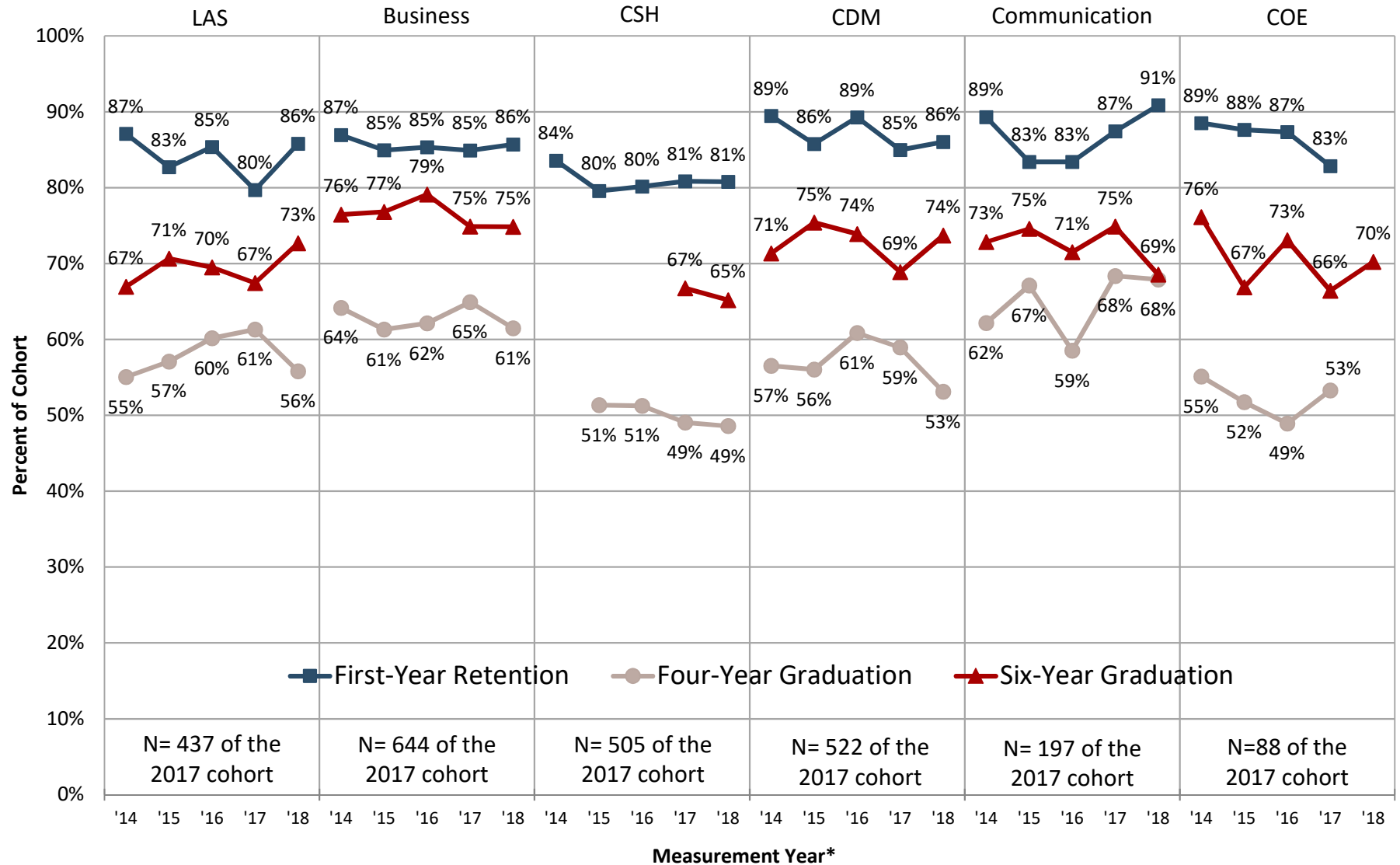
## First-Year Retention, Four- and Six-Year Graduation Rates by Gender





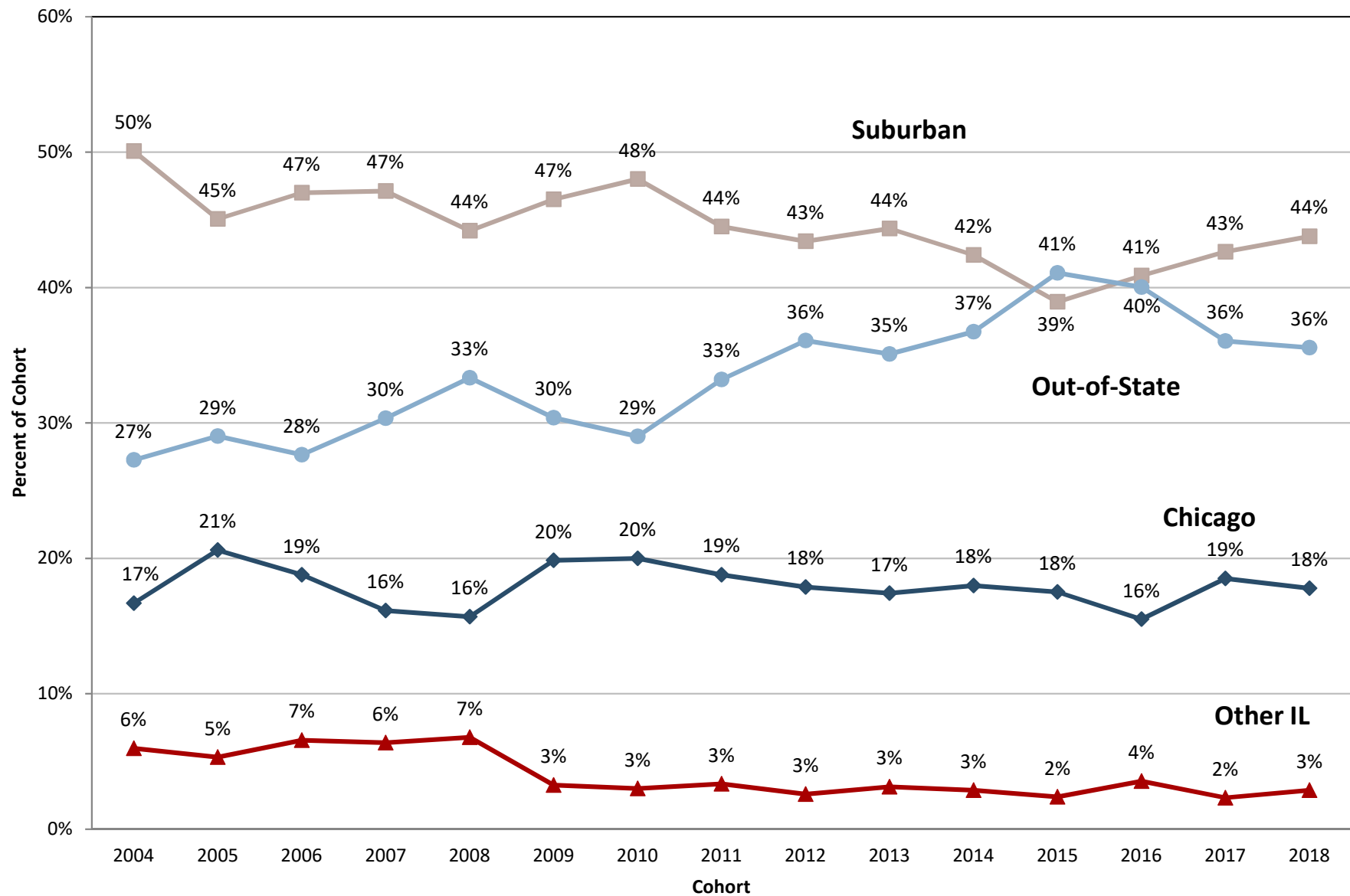


## First-Year Retention, Four-Year, and Six-Year Graduation Rates - By Entry College

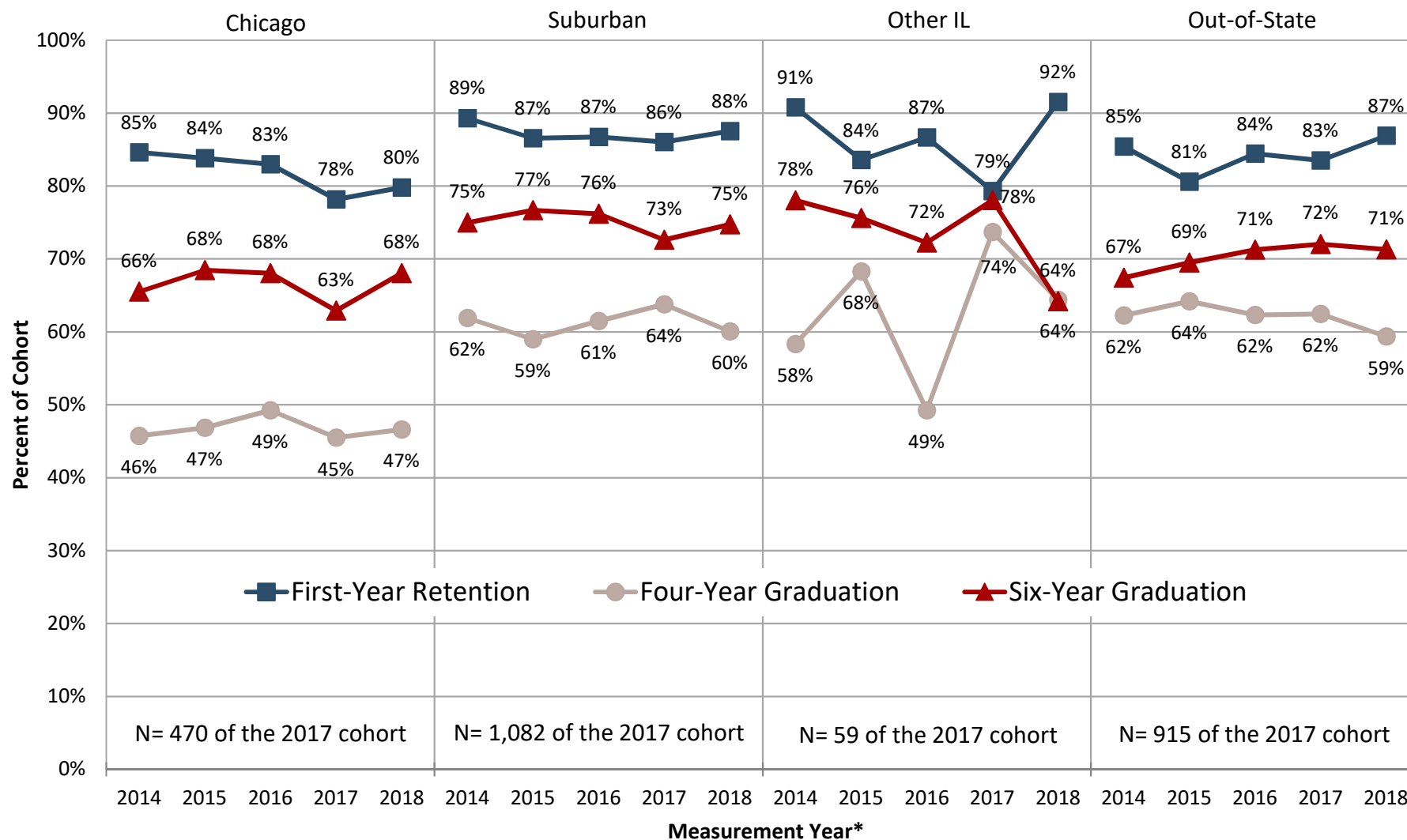


\*Measurement year translates into cohort by subtracting one year for 1st year retention, 4 years for 4th year graduation and 6 years for 6th year graduation (i.e. 2018 measurement year = 2017 cohort 1st year retention rate, 2014 cohort 4th year grad rate, and 2012 cohort 6th year grad rate).

## Proportion of Cohort from Each Geographic Location, at Time of Entry

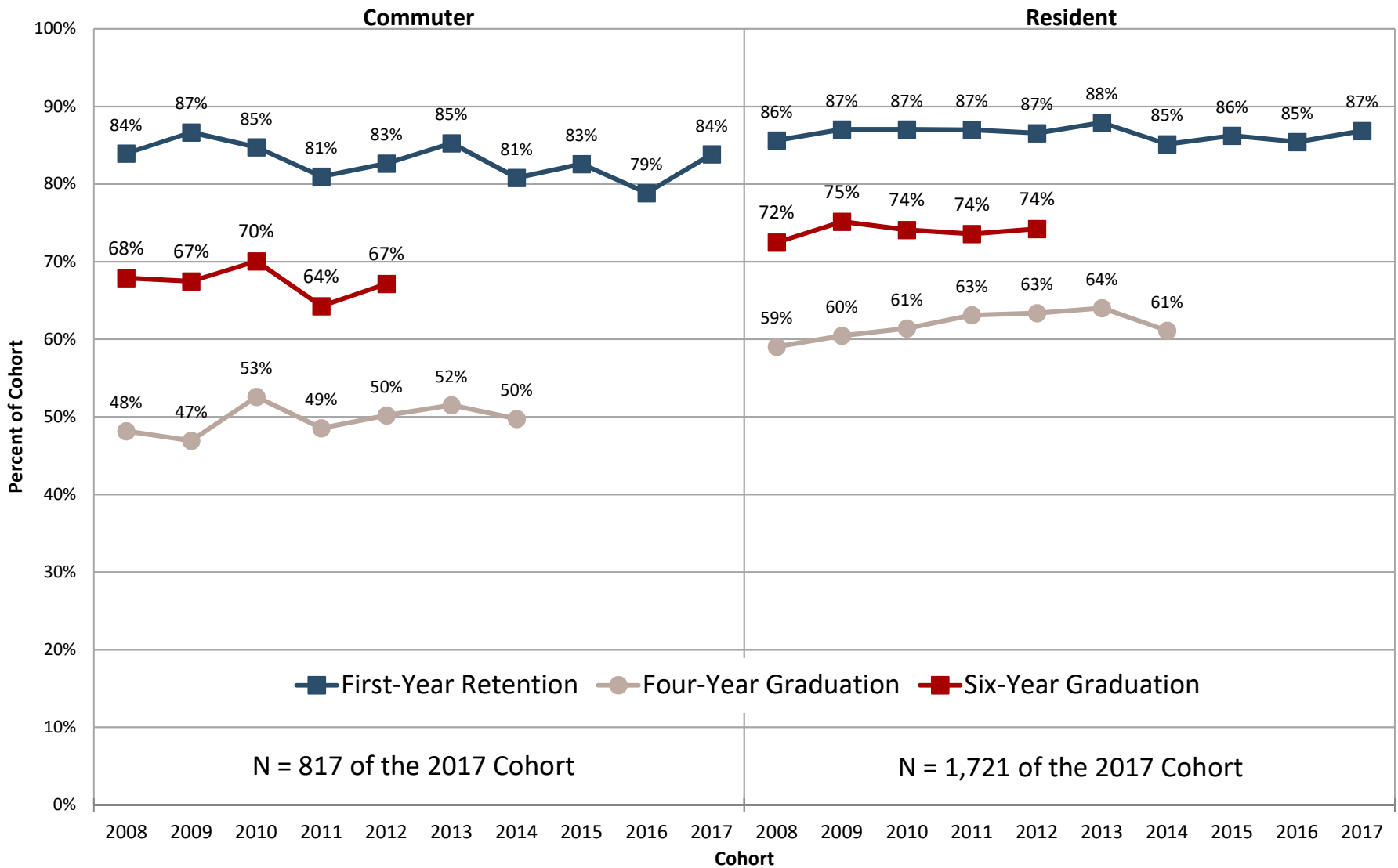


## First-Year Retention, Four-Year Graduation, Six-Year Graduation - By Geographic Origin, at Time of Entry

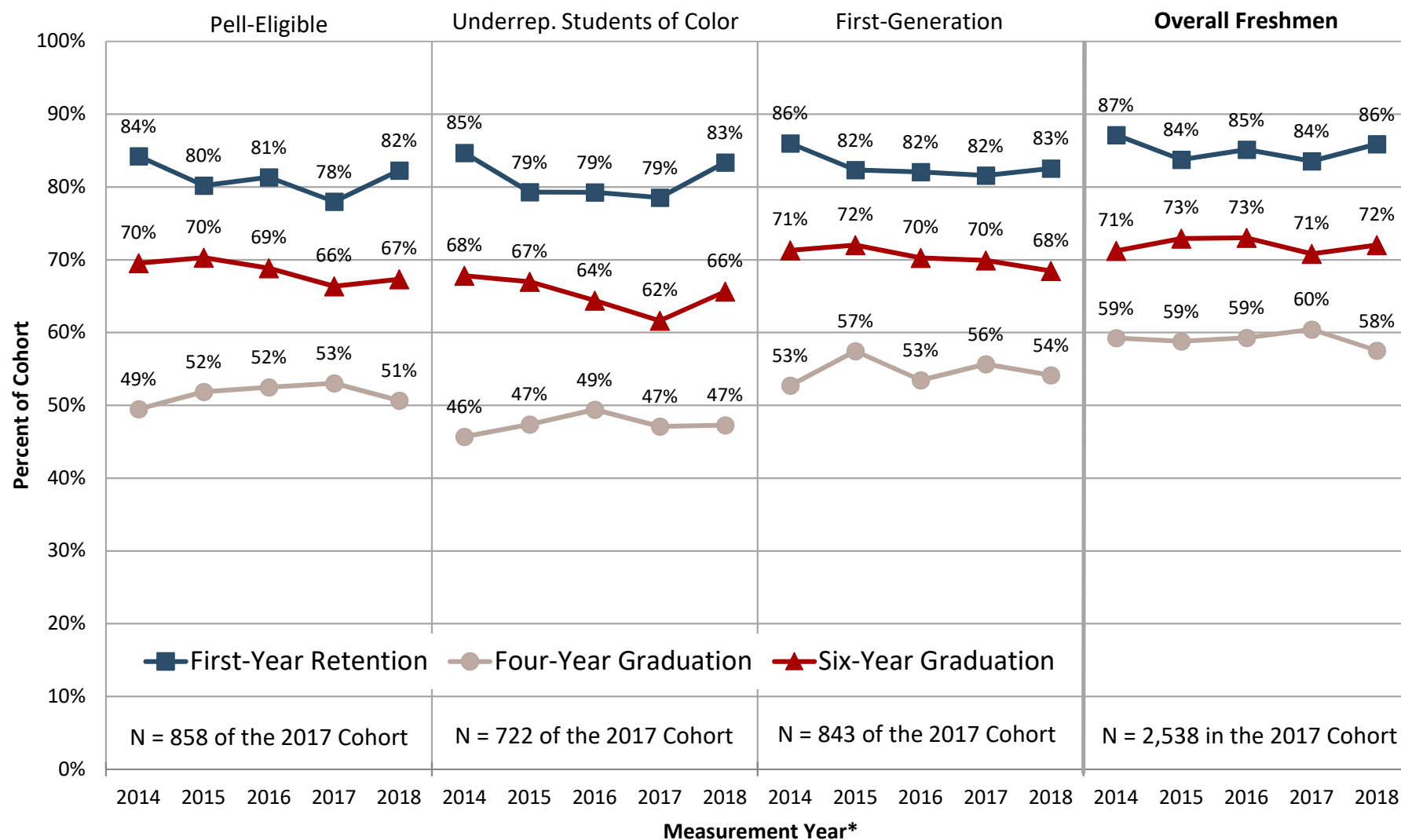


\*Measurement year translates into cohort by subtracting one year for 1st year retention, 4 years for 4th year graduation and 6 years for 6th year graduation (i.e. 2018 measurement year = 2017 cohort 1st year retention rate, 2014 cohort 4th year grad rate, and 2012 cohort 6th year grad rate).

## First-Year Retention, Four-Year Graduation, Six-Year Graduation - By Campus Residence During their 1<sup>st</sup> Year



## First-Year Retention, Four-Year Graduation, Six-Year Graduation - By Mission Characteristics



\*Measurement year translates into cohort by subtracting one year for 1st year retention, 4 years for 4th year graduation and 6 years for 6th year graduation (i.e. 2018 measurement year = 2017 cohort 1st year retention rate, 2014 cohort 4th year grad rate, and 2012 cohort 6th year grad rate).

## Retention Rates & Four- and Six-Year Graduation Rate by Special Populations

Population of Interest	Size of 2017 Cohort	% in High Performance of 2017 Cohort	1 <sup>st</sup> Yr Retention 2015	1 <sup>st</sup> Yr Retention 2016	1 <sup>st</sup> Yr Retention 2017	4 <sup>th</sup> Year Graduation 2014	6 <sup>th</sup> Year Graduation 2012
Univer. Honors	N=247	78.5%	92.4%	89.8%	95.1%	73.6%	88.5%
CPS-IB (self rep.)	N=37	75.7%	85.8%	85.3%	89.2%	57.7%	81.0%
AP Credit	N=1,439	65.6%	86.7%	84.9%	88.2%	63.1%	75.2%
<b>Overall Freshmen</b>	<b>N=2,538</b>	<b>59.9%</b>	<b>85.1%</b>	<b>83.6%</b>	<b>85.9%</b>	<b>57.5%</b>	<b>72.0%</b>
EDGE Program	N=183	75.9%	94.6%	94.2%	91.9%	71.0%	71.9%
TOPP	N=229	51.1%	86.1%	84.2%	84.7%	55.8%	69.4%
CPS	N=332	47.6%	81.1%	73.7%	79.5%	46.2%	67.9%
Catholic HS	N=171	53.8%	89.8%	84.7%	88.9%	54.9%	67.1%
FYAS	N=120	39.2%	84.7%	76.5%	86.7%	44.5%	63.0%
Probation – in 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	N=259	.4%	52.5%	50.0%	49.0%	6.7%	22.8%
Pathway Honors	N=120	61.7%	92.5%	90.3%	90.0%	77.2%	n/a



# Appendix

Number Entered during Fall Term

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Overall</b>	2,553	2,526	2,235	2,454	2,589	2,422	2,540	2,517	2,451	2,538	2,570
<b>Race</b>											
African-American	129	190	143	158	133	158	143	177	179	181	164
Asian/Pacific Islander/Alaska Native	220	197	120	133	181	157	212	199	189	254	245
Caucasian	1,574	1,416	1,337	1,501	1,554	1,433	1,528	1,481	1,367	1,333	1,339
Hispanic/Latino	321	443	411	396	451	411	466	436	445	540	555
Multiracial	14	78	98	93	103	117	90	101	114	111	168
Other/Unknown	295	202	126	173	167	146	101	123	157	119	99
<b>Gender</b>											
Female	1,502	1,494	1,307	1,408	1,459	1,408	1,469	1,417	1,417	1,426	1,511
Male	1,051	1,032	928	1,046	1,130	1,014	1,071	1,100	1,034	1,112	1,059
<b>Race and Gender</b>											
African-American Male	50	58	65	55	44	63	50	68	74	78	64
African-American Female	79	132	78	103	89	95	93	109	105	103	100
Asian/Pac. Isl./Alaska Native Male	97	98	60	61	82	76	104	96	93	124	119
Asian/Pac. Isl./Alaska Native Female	123	99	60	72	99	81	108	98	96	130	126
Caucasian Male	657	601	564	653	709	607	644	642	574	582	574
Caucasian Female	917	815	773	848	845	826	884	839	793	751	765
Hispanic/Latino Male	122	162	146	161	174	150	183	194	177	230	202
Hispanic/Latino Female	199	281	265	235	277	261	283	242	268	310	353
Multiracial Male	6	24	43	38	40	45	35	36	37	39	55
Multiracial Female	8	54	55	55	63	72	55	65	77	72	113



Number Entered during Fall Term

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Overall</b>	2,553	2,526	2,235	2,454	2,589	2,422	2,540	2,517	2,451	2,538	2,570
<b>Geographic Origin</b>											
Chicago	400	501	435	461	463	422	457	441	380	470	457
Elsewhere in IL	173	82	72	82	67	83	87	75	87	59	74
Out of State / Out of Country	850	767	654	815	934	843	919	1,021	981	915	907
Suburban	1,127	1,174	1,071	1,092	1,124	1,074	1,077	980	1,002	1,082	1,125
<b>College</b>											
Business	765	621	522	641	668	644	711	668	629	644	631
Communication	210	248	214	231	229	234	271	217	239	197	168
Computing & Digital Media	199	248	230	257	327	285	386	494	506	522	554
Education	134	163	156	143	141	122	97	79	70	88	72
Liberal Arts & Soc. Sci.	1,114	1,094	972	676	615	512	457	451	424	437	495
Music	54	61	56	65	63	61	48	59	44	66	59
Science & Health				370	474	481	494	479	465	505	503
Theatre	77	81	85	71	72	83	76	70	74	79	88
<b>First Year Performance</b>											
High Performance	1,685	1,622	1,454	1,630	1,673	1,627	1,618	1,562	1,537	1,521	n/a
Moderate Performance	469	488	419	441	512	460	501	506	435	539	n/a
Low Performance	398	415	361	383	404	335	421	449	479	478	n/a
<b>Academic Preparation</b>											
High Preparation	688	680	684	786	835	846	893	824	863	906	1,052
Moderate Preparation	846	827	767	911	985	929	856	893	861	878	865
Low Preparation	1,019	1,019	784	757	769	647	791	800	726	754	652

# Methodology

- All data is based on first-time, full-time, degree-seeking freshman students.
- FYAS students are included with the cohort entering in the subsequent fall quarter.
- Measurement year translates into cohort by subtracting one year for 1st year retention, 4 years for 4th year graduation and 6 years for 6th year graduation (i.e. 2018 measurement year = 2017 cohort 1st year retention rate, 2014 cohort 4th year grad rate, and 2012 cohort 6th year grad rate).
- Academic preparation index is a weighted composite of pre-collegiate academic characteristics including (but not limited to) high school GPA, ACT/SAT test scores, high school quality ratings.
- Retention by Entry college does not track the students' movements into other colleges at DePaul. The rates are based on if the student persisted or graduated DePaul on the whole, and are measured by the college in which they first entered DePaul in their first fall entry term.
  - 2011 cohort marks the first year with 1<sup>st</sup> year retention rates after the CSH and LAS split. All prior cohorts' graduation rates represent the prior college of LA&S.