

An Improved Measure of CTE Student Success: New Perkins Completion Measure

ACOP
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Updated, June 2009

What is Perkins?

- Carl D. Perkins Program
 - Enacted in 1984
 - Focused on improving career and technical (CTE) programs and serving special populations
- In 2006, Congress passed fourth iteration of Perkins legislation (Perkins IV)
 - Stronger focus on career pathways, credentials, and accountability

Three Areas of Emphasis - Perkins IV Legislation

1. Career Pathways Development

- Focuses on development of programs of study
- Enables students' advancement to successively higher levels of education or employment

2. Credentials

- Growing interest in the success of students completing third-party exams (certifications and licensures)

Three Areas of Emphasis - Perkins IV Legislation

3. Accountability

- Uses new set of metrics for all performance measures
 - Extensive input from states
 - Greater consistency in definitions
- Includes repercussions
 - Technical assistance after two years not meeting a measure
 - Potential loss of funding after three years

Perkins Performance Measures

- Technical skills attainment
- **Completion**
- Retention/transfer
- Employment/placement
- Nontraditional participation
- Nontraditional completion

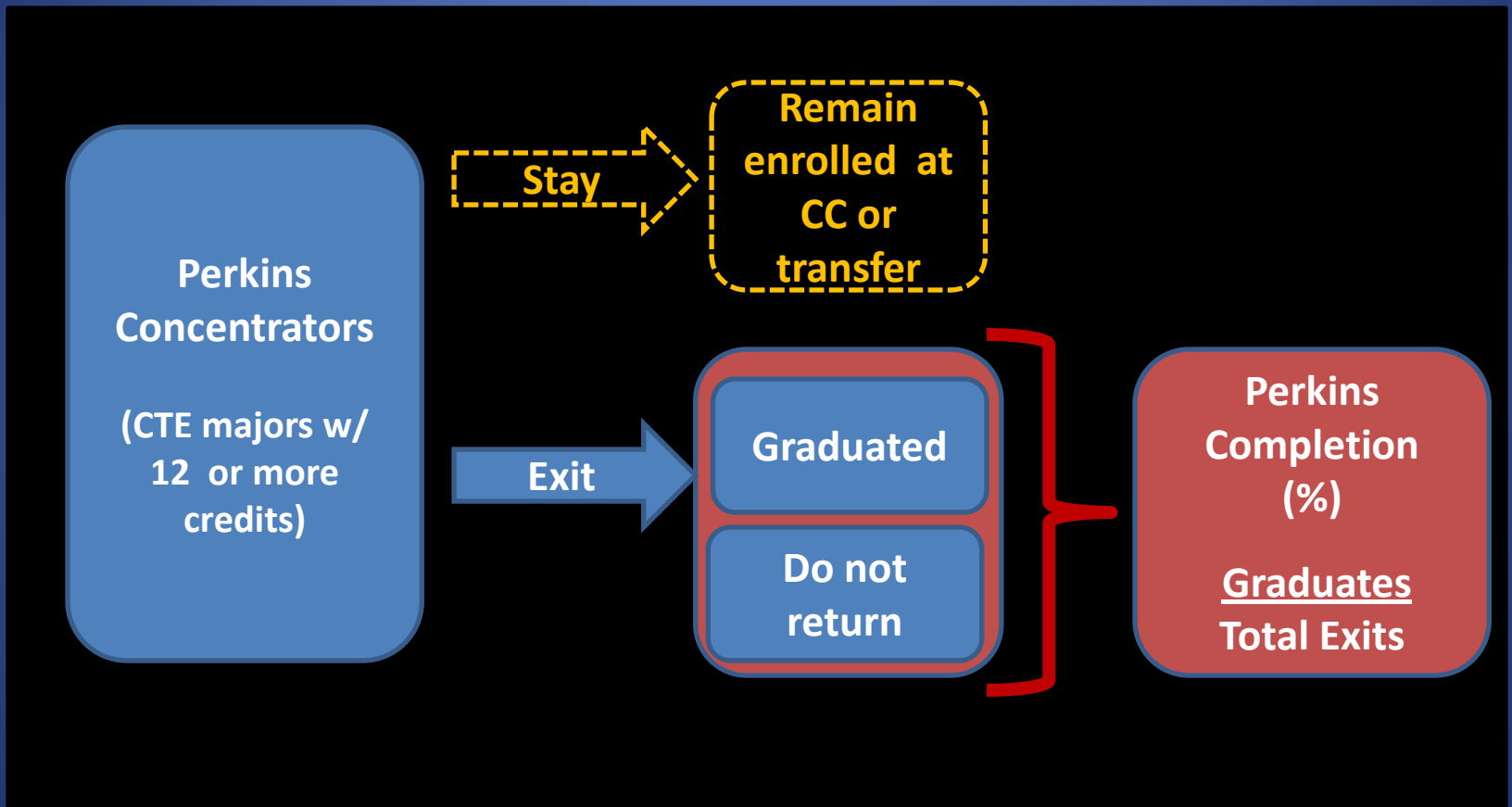
Who is a Perkins Student at a Community College?

- Enrolled in any career and technical program - associate, diploma, certificate, or career studies certificate
 - Traditional CTE programs
 - Also such transfer curricula as business administration, engineering, and computer science
 - Population includes part-time, transfer (in), and continuing students (expands upon IPEDS cohort)
- In 2007-08,
 - 59% of program placed students were enrolled in Perkins CTE programs
 - 70% of awards issued were in Perkins CTE programs

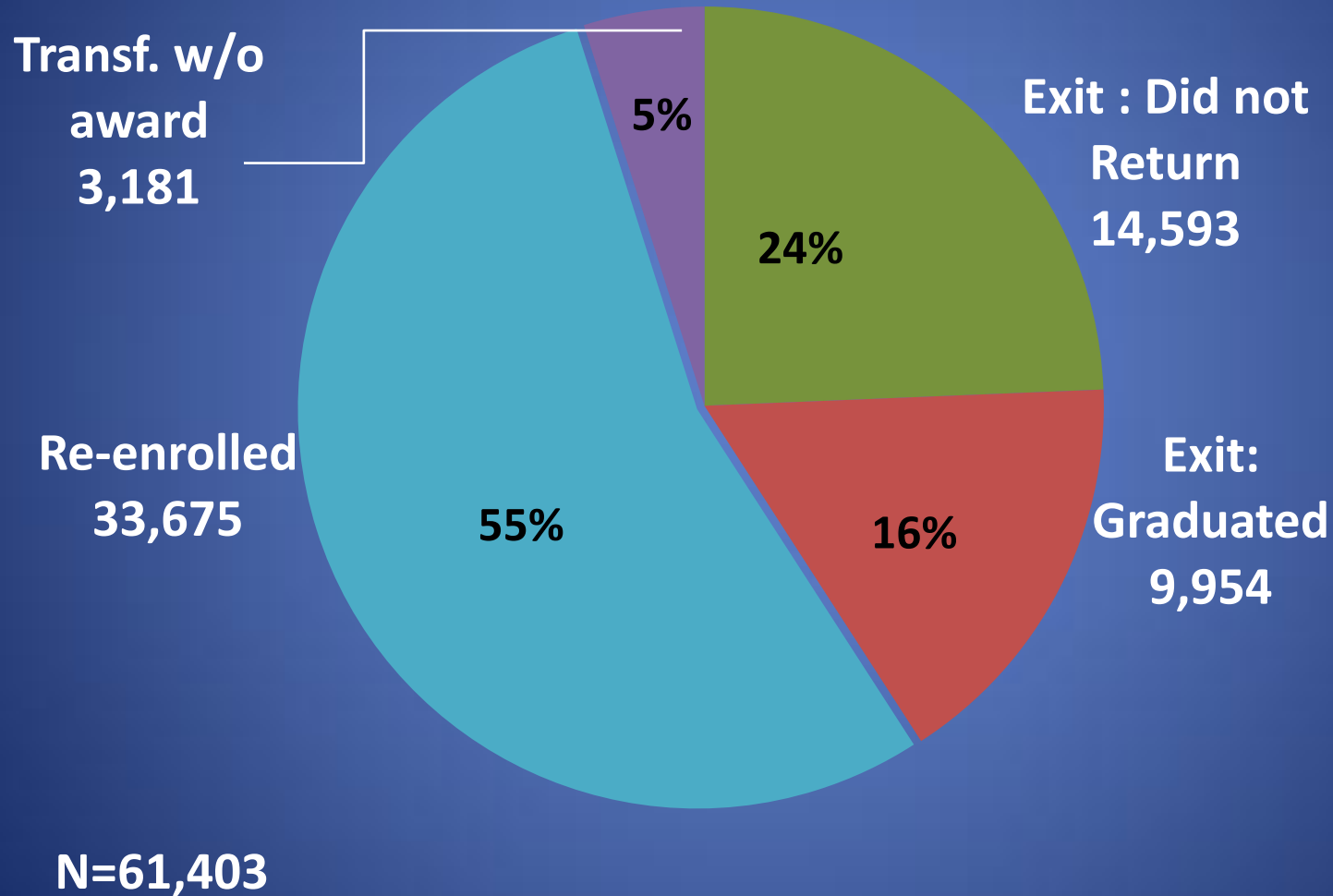
Perkins Completion Measure

- Measure Answers: What percentage of concentrators leaving postsecondary are **graduates**?
- Definition: Concentrators
 - Enrolled in a CTE program during the academic year
 - Have 12 or more college credits during the academic year
- Definition: Leaving Postsecondary
 - Complete an award – graduate within that academic year
 - Non-returners—did not return to any postsecondary during following academic year
- Completion Performance Measure
 - Ratio of graduates to all leaving postsecondary education

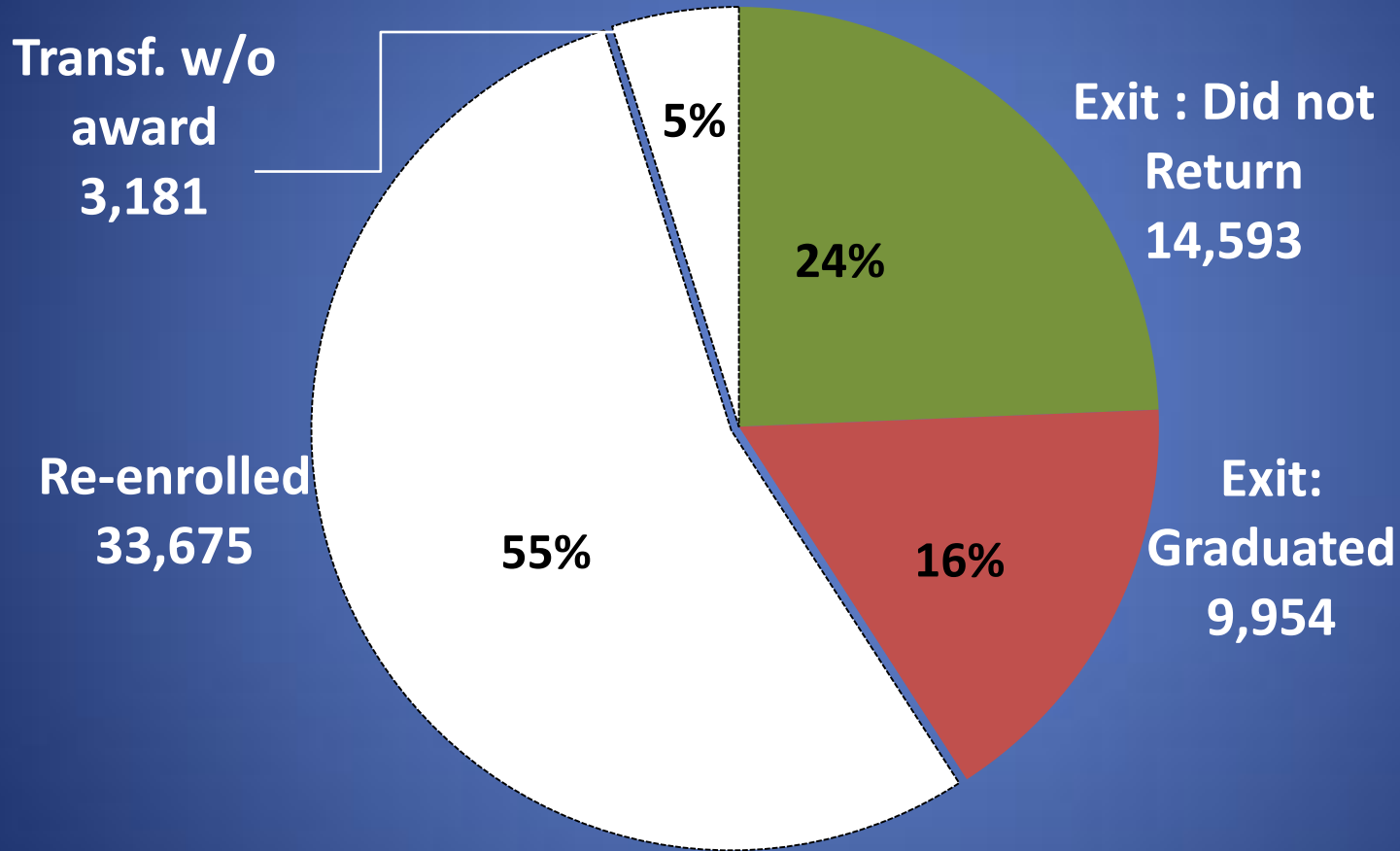
Perkins Completion Measure



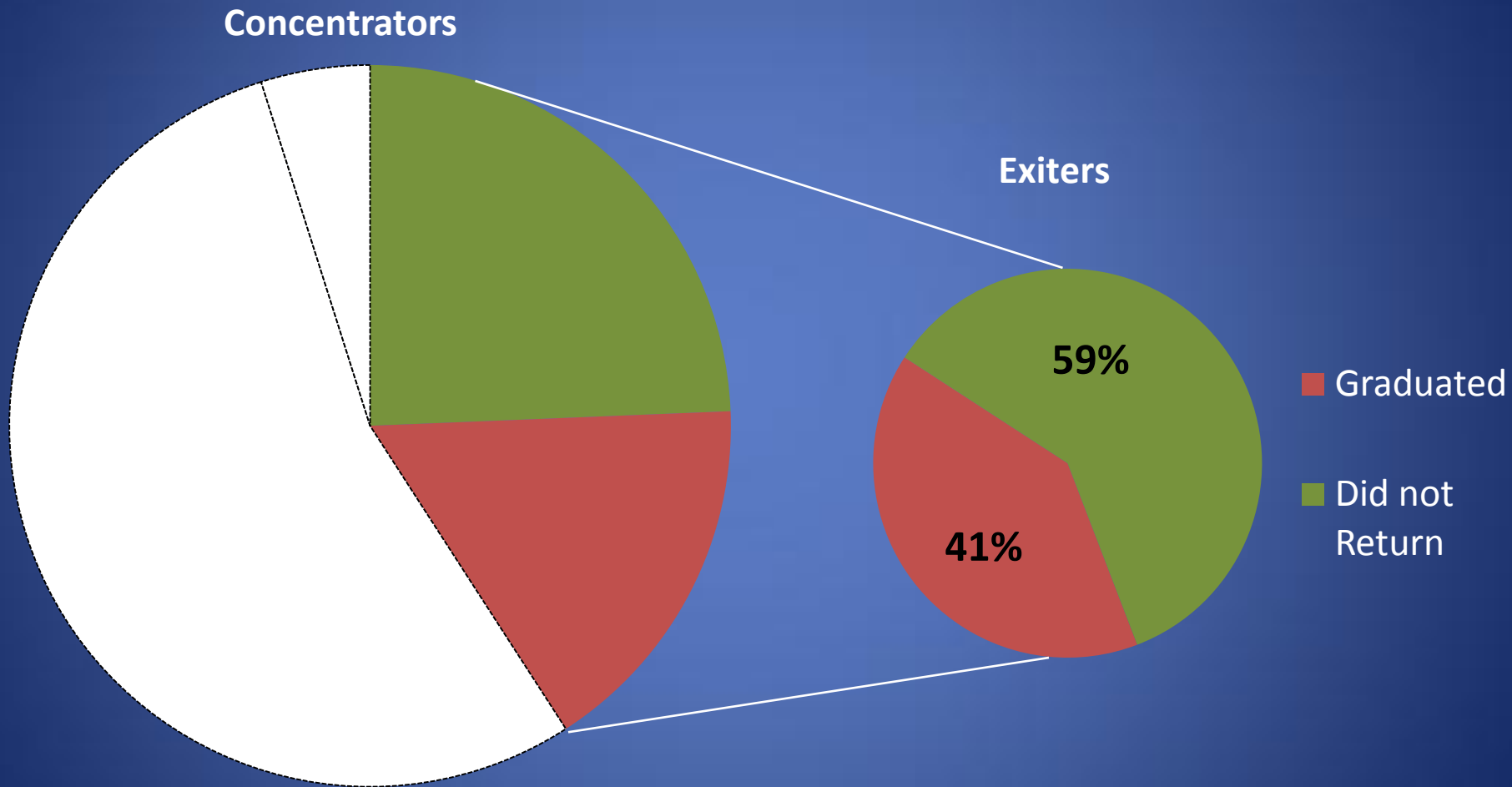
Outcomes of Concentrators, 2006-07



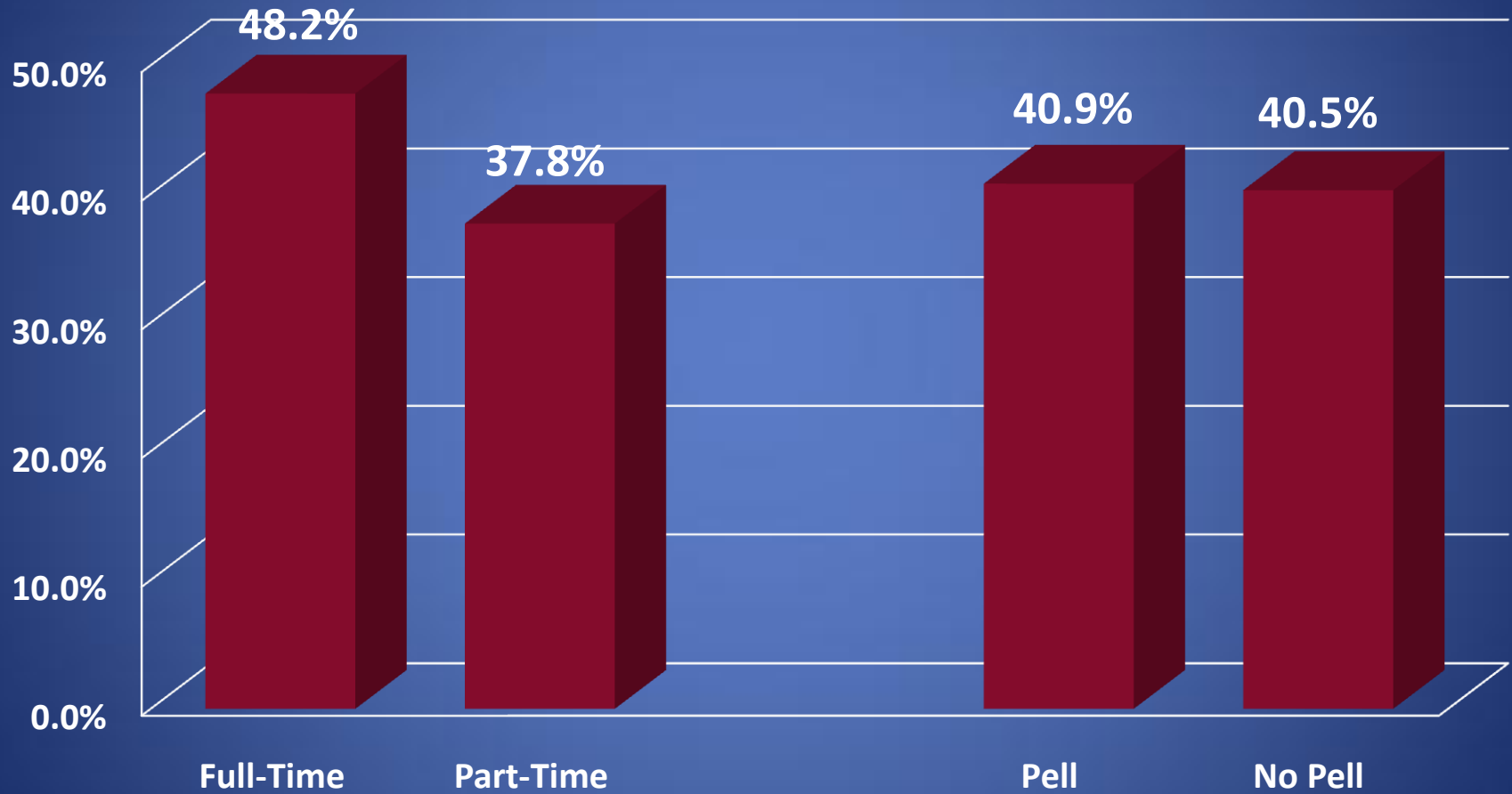
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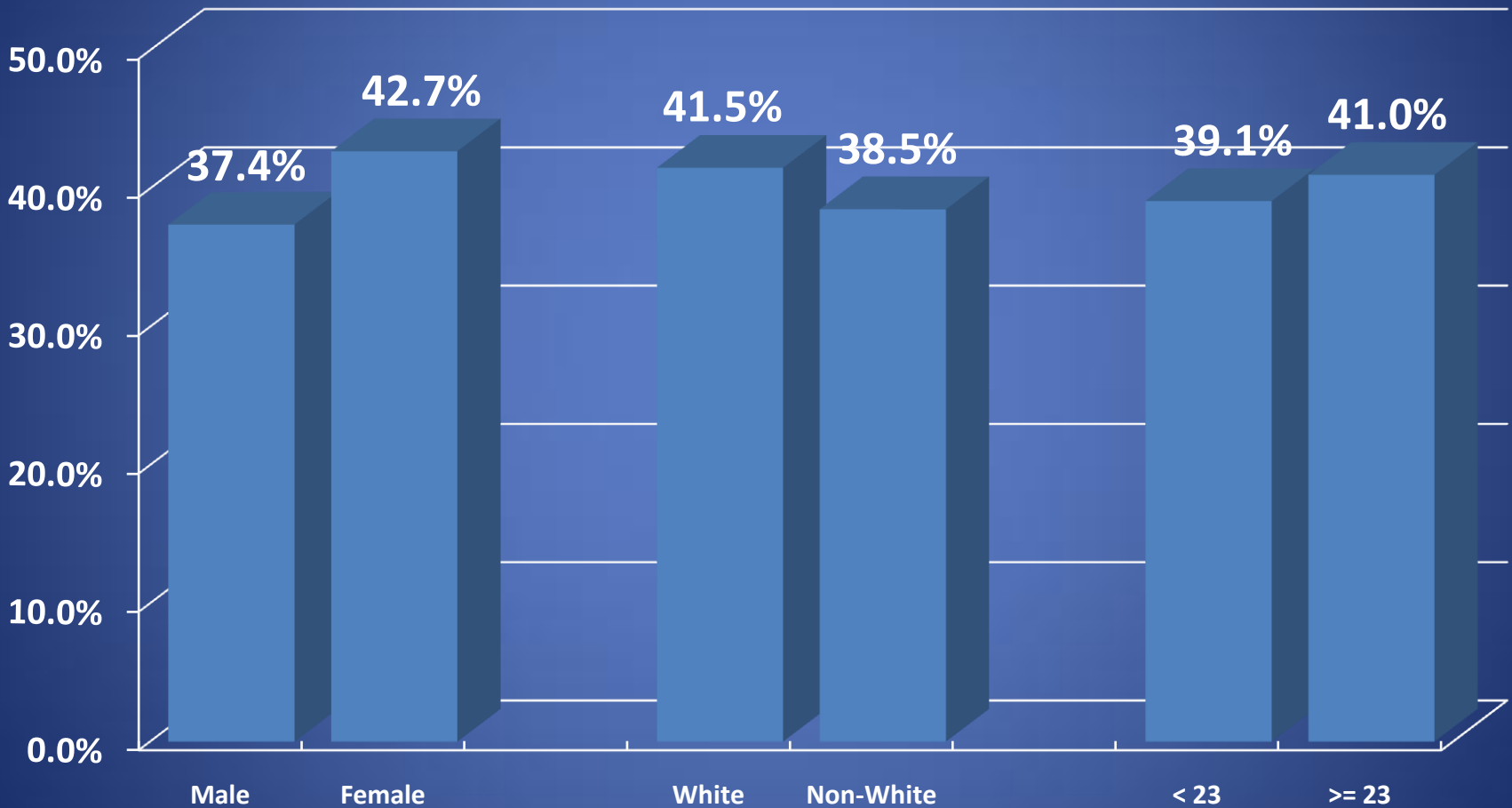
Outcomes of Exiters, 2006-07



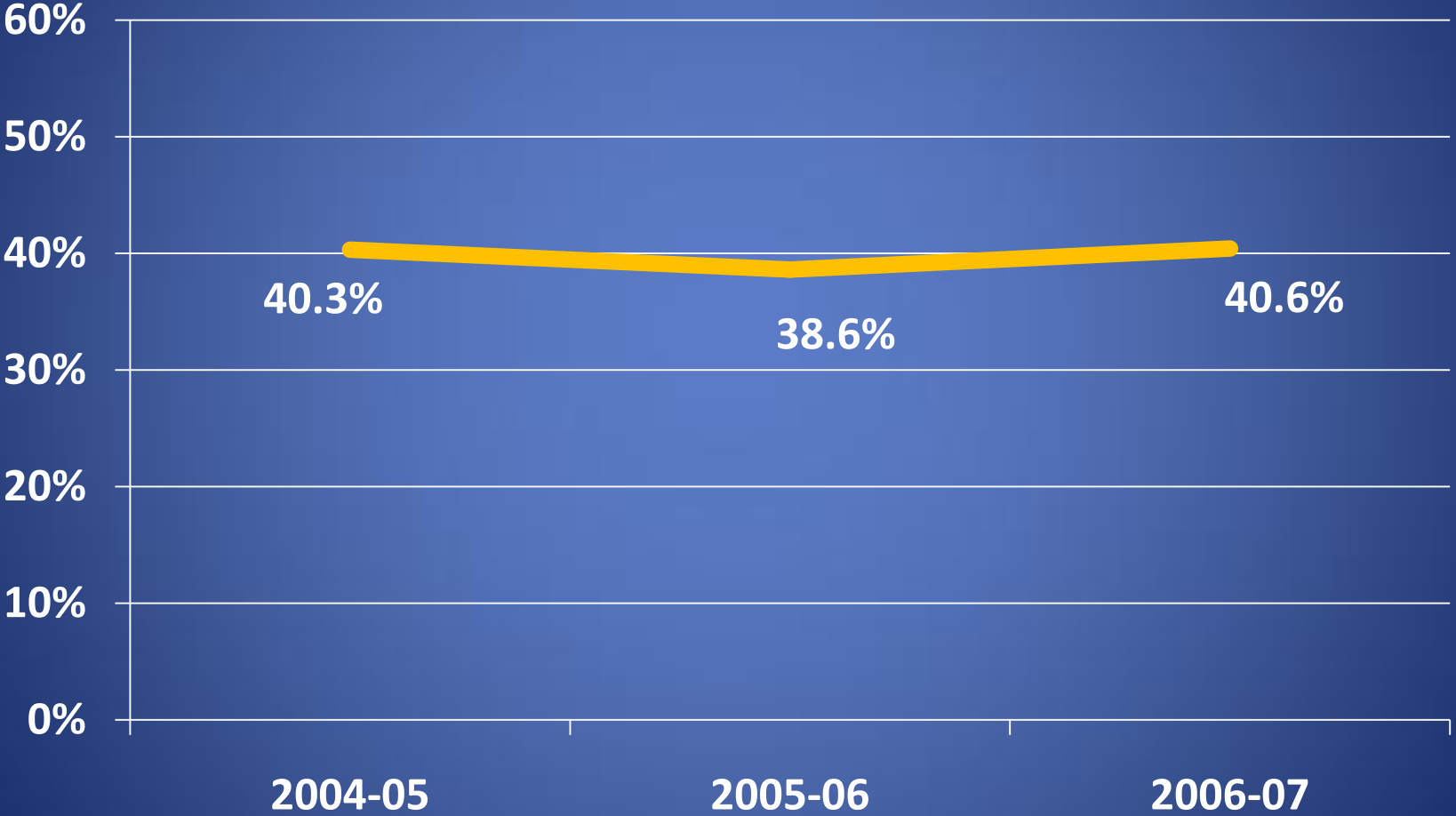
Perkins Completion Rates by Full-Time/Part-Time and Pell Status



Perkins Completion Rates by Gender, Race, and Age



Perkins Completion Three-Year Trend



Findings for 2006-07

- Of concentrators leaving postsecondary education
 - Two out of five (40%) earn an award (Perkins completion measure)
 - Three out of five (60%) do not attend a postsecondary institution the following year

Successful Completers

- Who is more likely to complete?
 - Full-time students more likely than part-time students
 - Females more likely than males
 - Older students more likely than younger
 - Non-White students nearly as likely as White students
 - Students receiving Pell equally likely as students not receiving Pell

Next Steps

- VCCS negotiates state level baselines and targets with USDOE (April 2009)
- VCCS works with colleges to establish college-specific targets (Summer 2009)
- Colleges implement strategies to
 - Increase number of graduates
 - Decrease number leaving postsecondary

Another integral
component
of VCCS's
commitment
to student success

