

High School Graduation, Dropout, and Retention

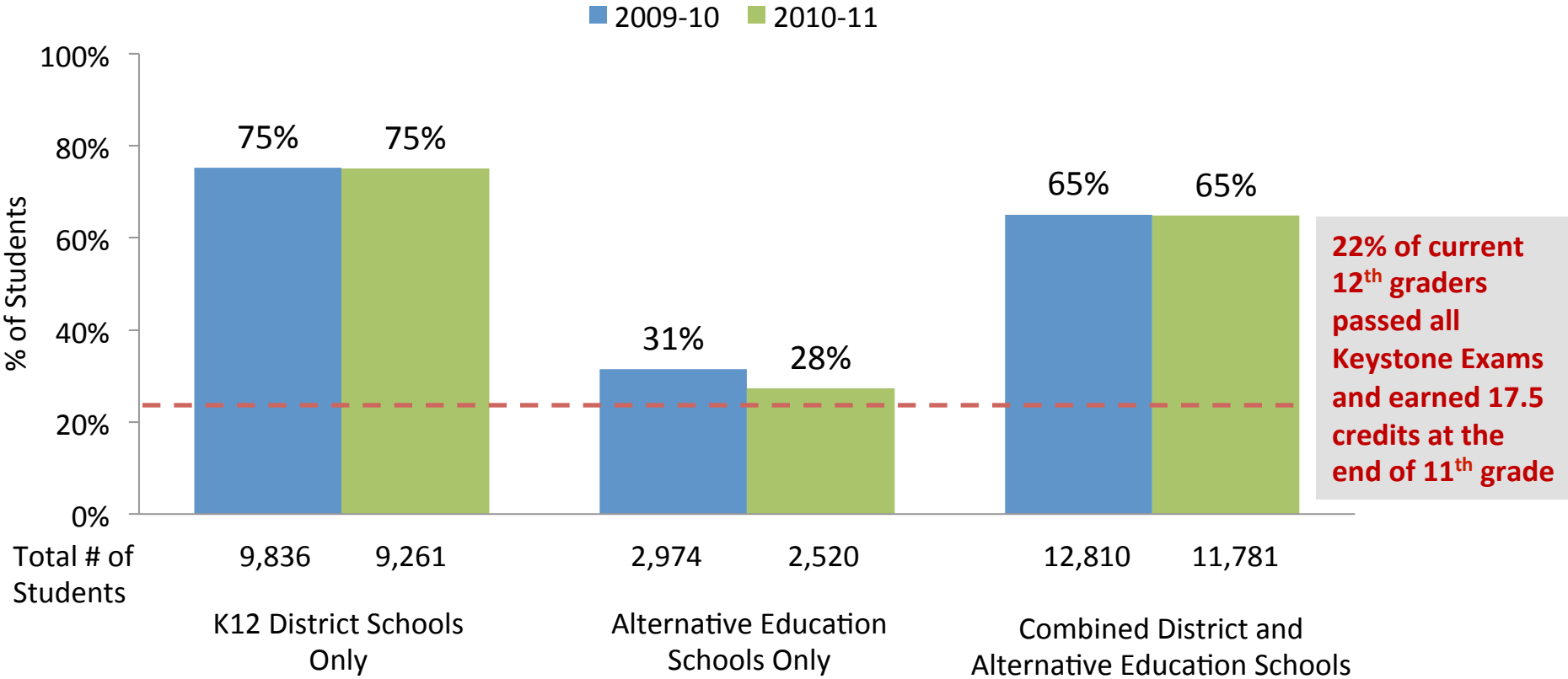
January 6, 2015

Objectives for Today

- Overview of graduation rate methodology
- Discussion of graduation, dropout, and continuing student data
- Solutions and next steps

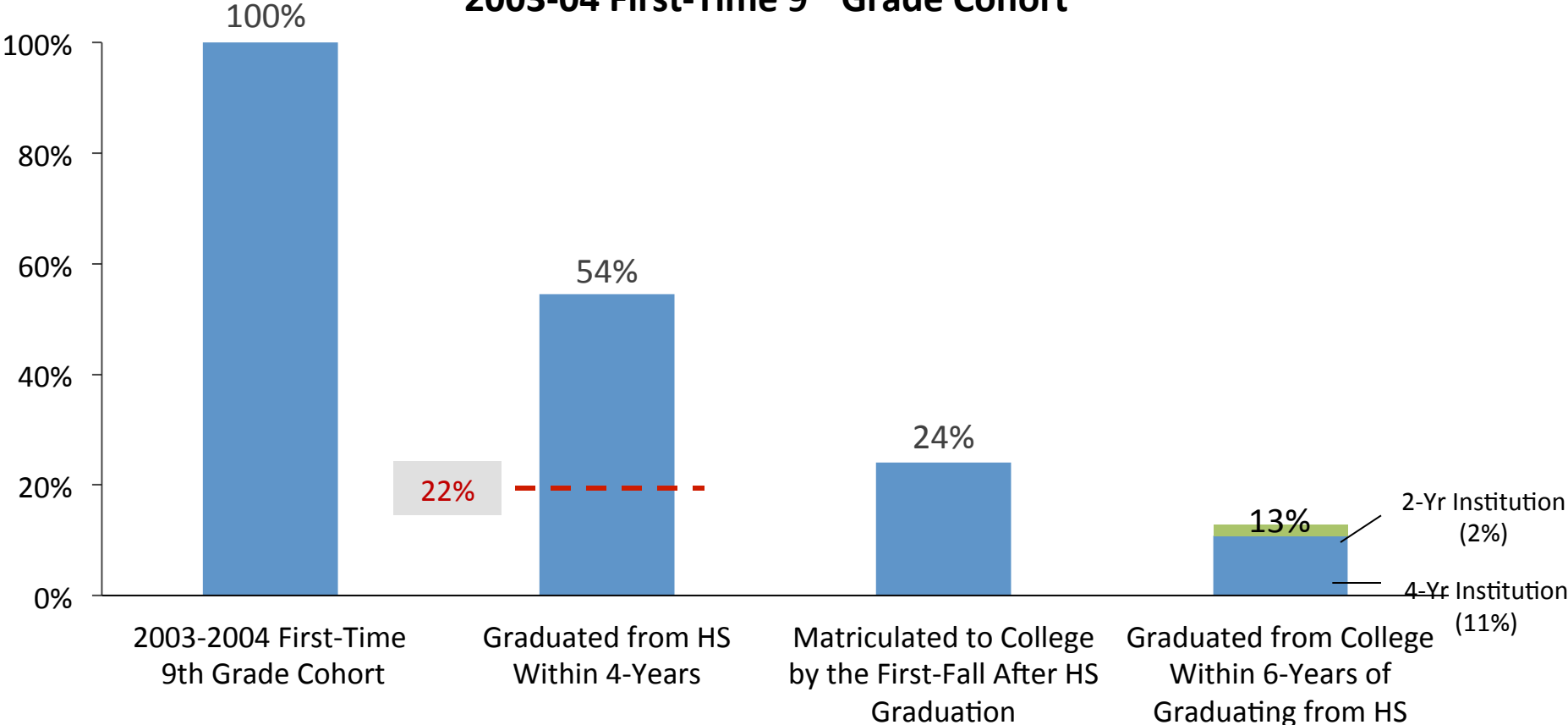
While our graduation rate remained steady last year, extrapolating from current seniors, only 22% of the Class of 2017 will graduate on time.

4-Year High School Graduation Rates for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 First-Time 9th Grade Cohorts by School Type



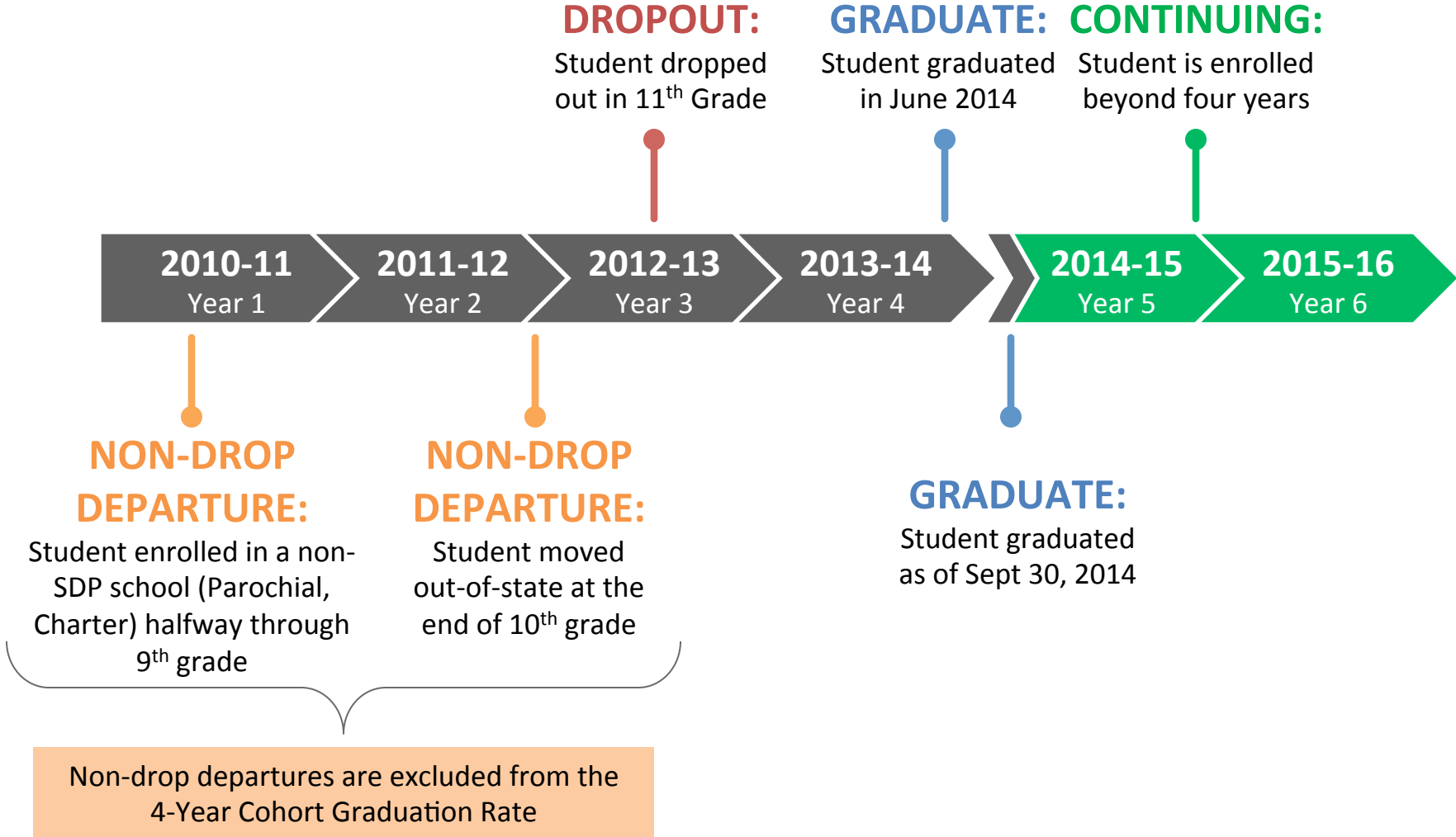
A decline in high school graduation rates would result in even fewer students matriculating to and completing college.

High School and College Outcomes for the 2003-04 First-Time 9th Grade Cohort



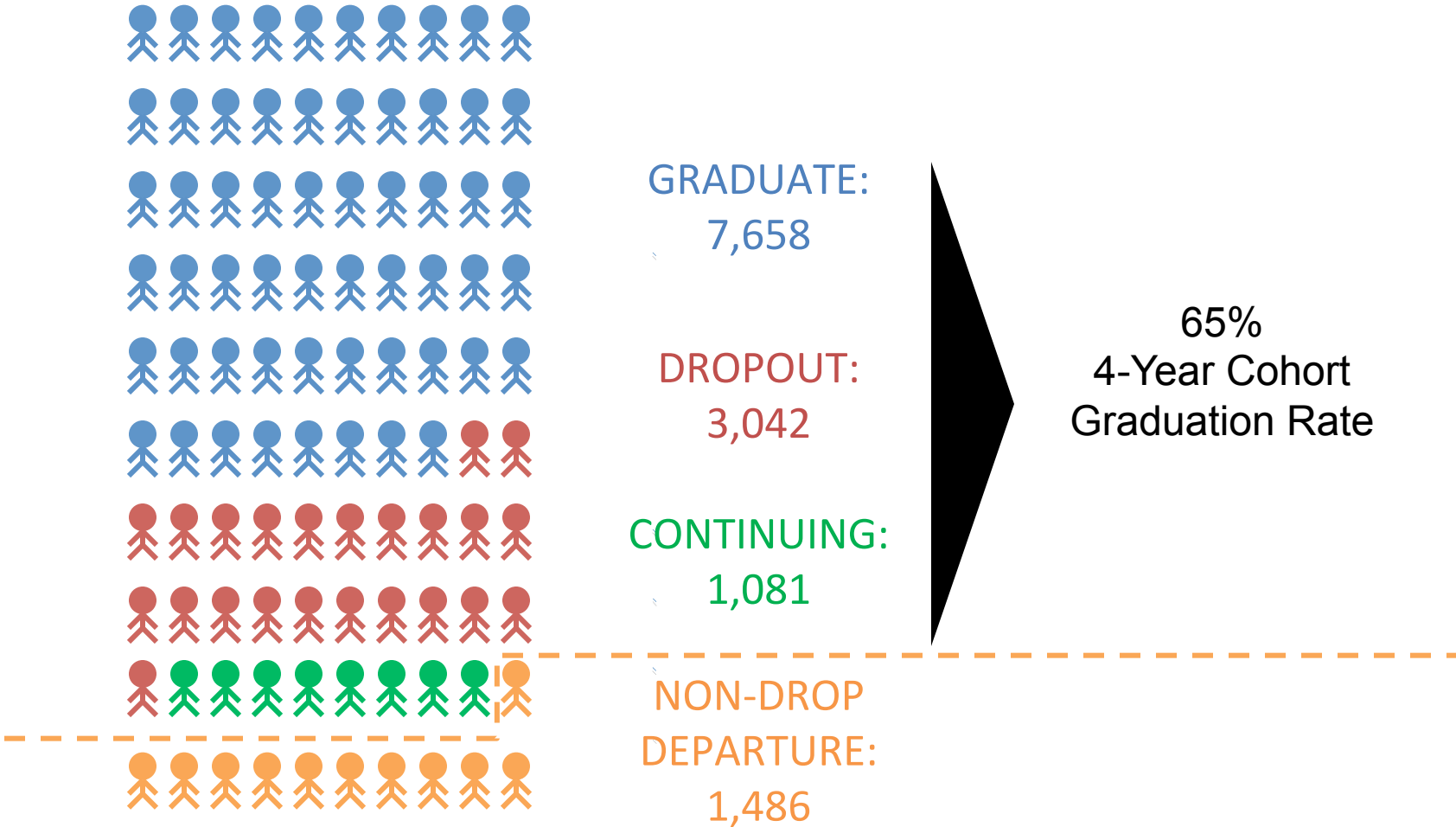
Note: College Matriculation and Graduation Data provided by the National Student Clearinghouse. College graduation rates are reflective of students' post-secondary success 6 years after the closure of their high school graduation window.

There are four possible graduation status outcomes.

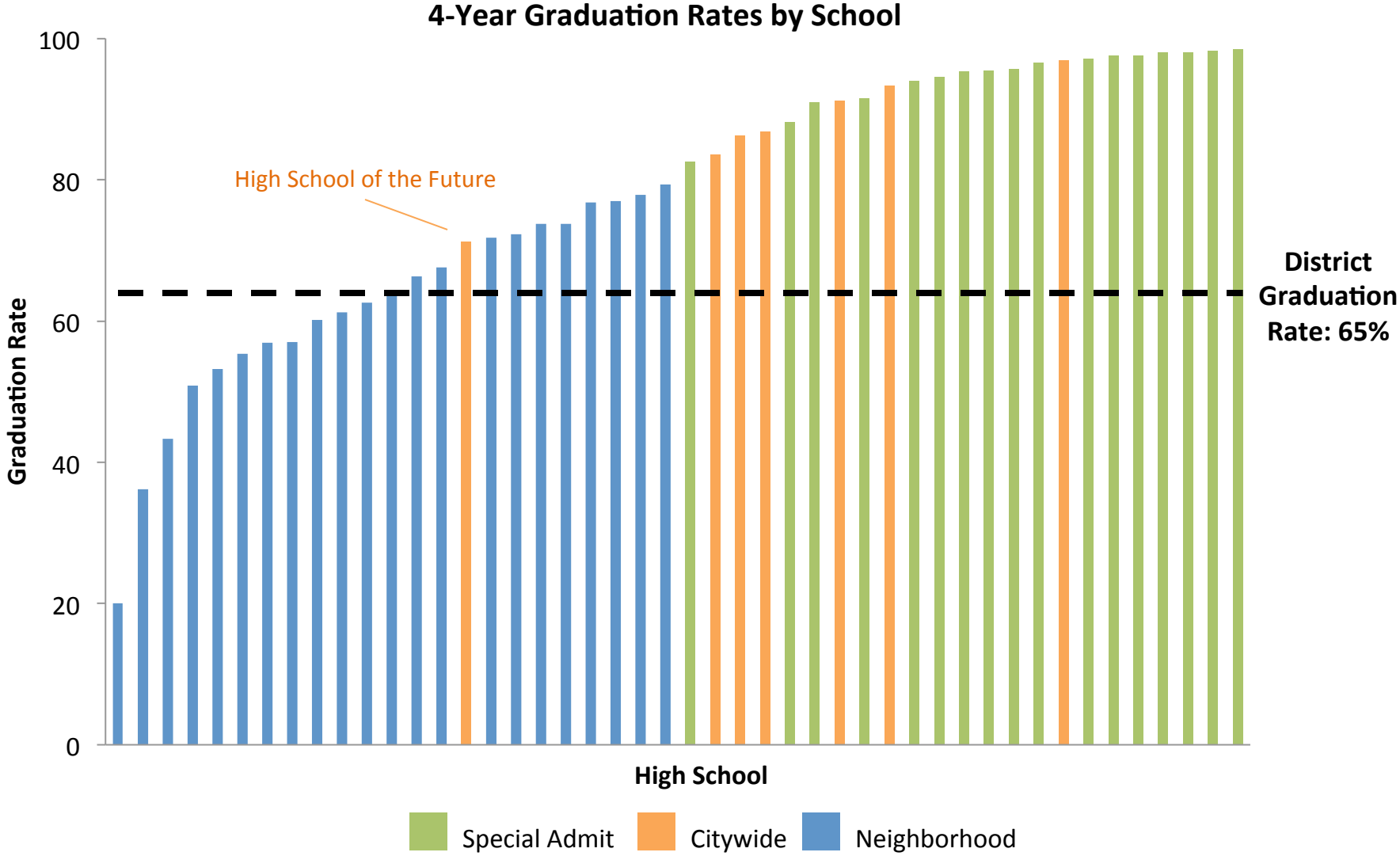


About 6 of 10 first-time 9th graders in 2010-11 graduated on time with the Class of 2014.

2010-2011 First-time 9th Grade Cohort



Nearly a third of our students are in the 10 schools with the lowest graduation rates, all of which are neighborhood high schools.



Graduation rates changed significantly for some schools last year; four of our receiving schools made double-digit gains.

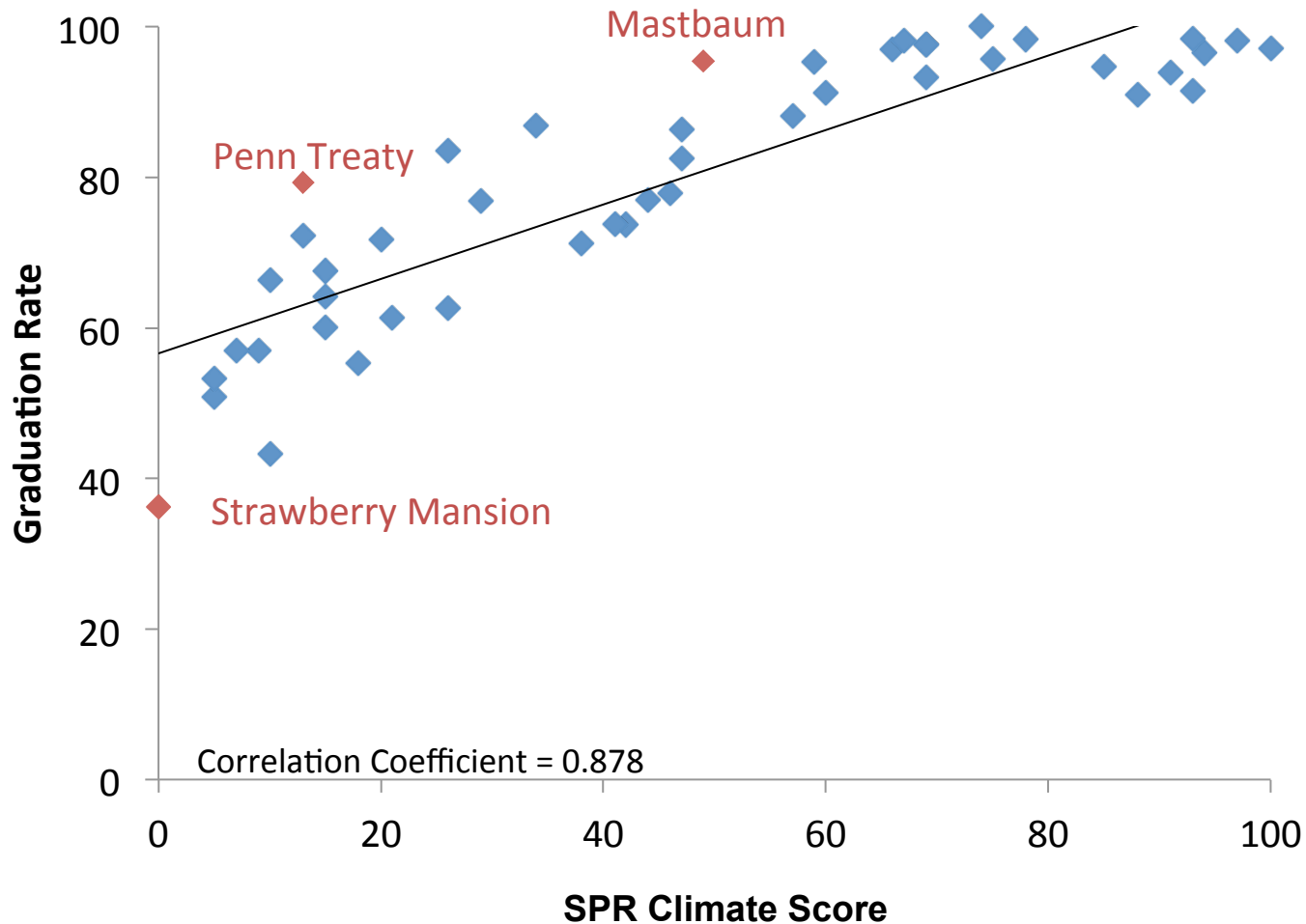
Percentage Point Change in Graduation Rate from 2009-10 to 2010-11 Cohort

Most Improved	% Pt Change	Grad Rate	Most Declined	% Pt Change	Grad Rate
Kensington Health Sciences Academy	+21.5%	62.6%	Strawberry Mansion High School	-12.7%	36.2%
South Philadelphia High School	+20.6%	64.2%	Kensington Int'l Bus, Finance & Entrep.	-11.1%	43.3%
Roxborough High School	+16.5%	76.8%	High School of the Future	-10.8%	71.2%
Martin Luther King High School	+12.7%	56.9%	George Washington High School	-10.7%	73.8%
William L. Sayre High School	+12.7%	57.0%	Overbrook High School	-10.0%	50.8%
Benjamin Franklin High School	+12.0%	60.1%	Franklin Learning Center	-8.3%	88.2%
Parkway Center City High School	+8.1%	97.6%	A. Philip Randolph Career & Technical	-6.3%	86.3%
West Philadelphia High School	+6.5%	67.6%	Frankford High School	-6.1%	55.4%
Furness High School	+5.6%	77.8%	Abraham Lincoln High School	-4.6%	61.3%
Philadelphia High School for Girls	+5.3%	95.7%	Parkway West High School	-4.6%	95.5%

 Receiving School

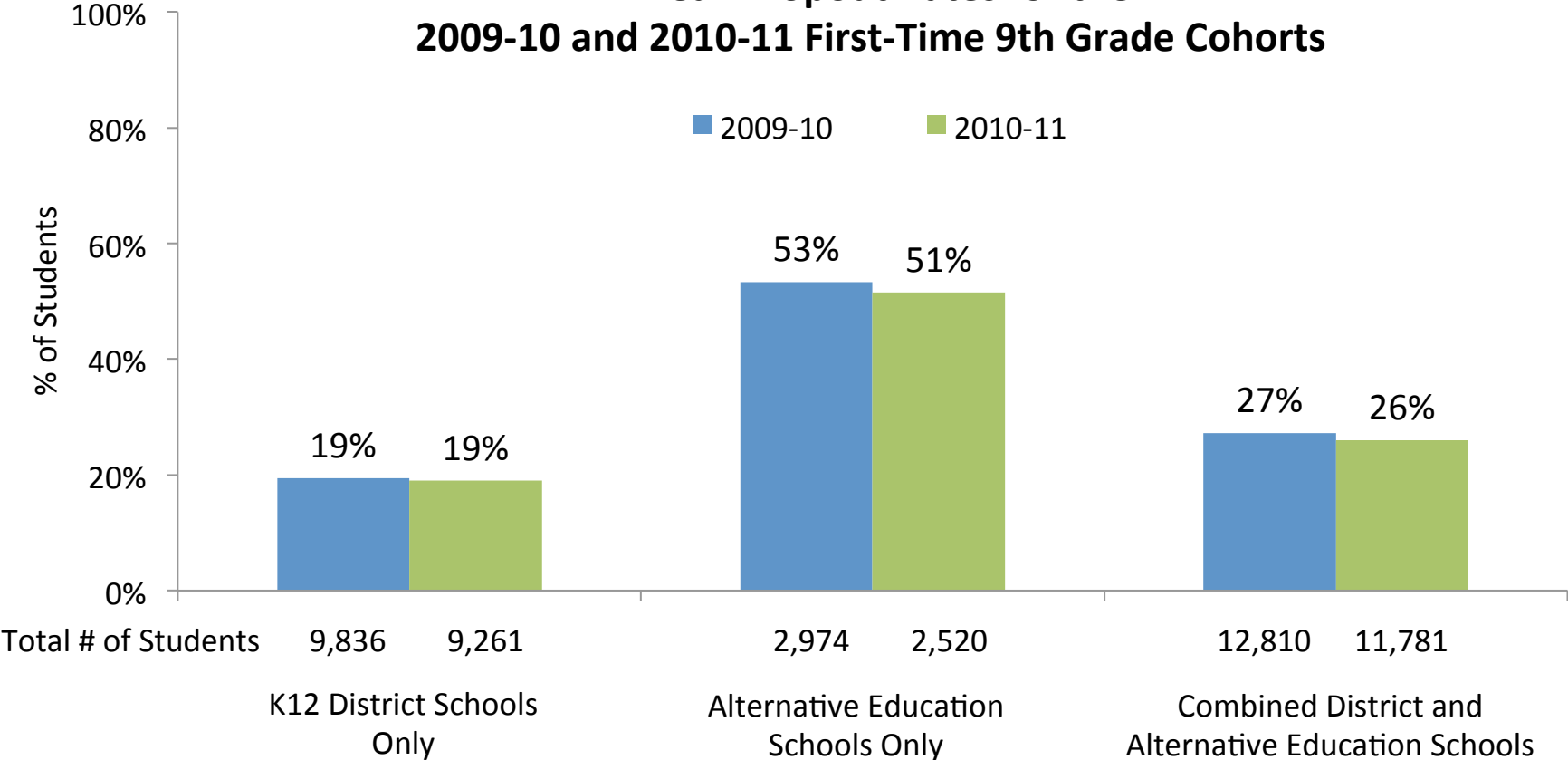
Graduation rates are highly correlated with school climate.

Graduation Rate and Preliminary 2013-14 SPR Climate Score



Of our students who do not graduate on time, the majority drop out. The dropout rate for our alternative education schools exceeds 50%.

4-Year Dropout Rates for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 First-Time 9th Grade Cohorts



What do we know about our students who drop out of high school?

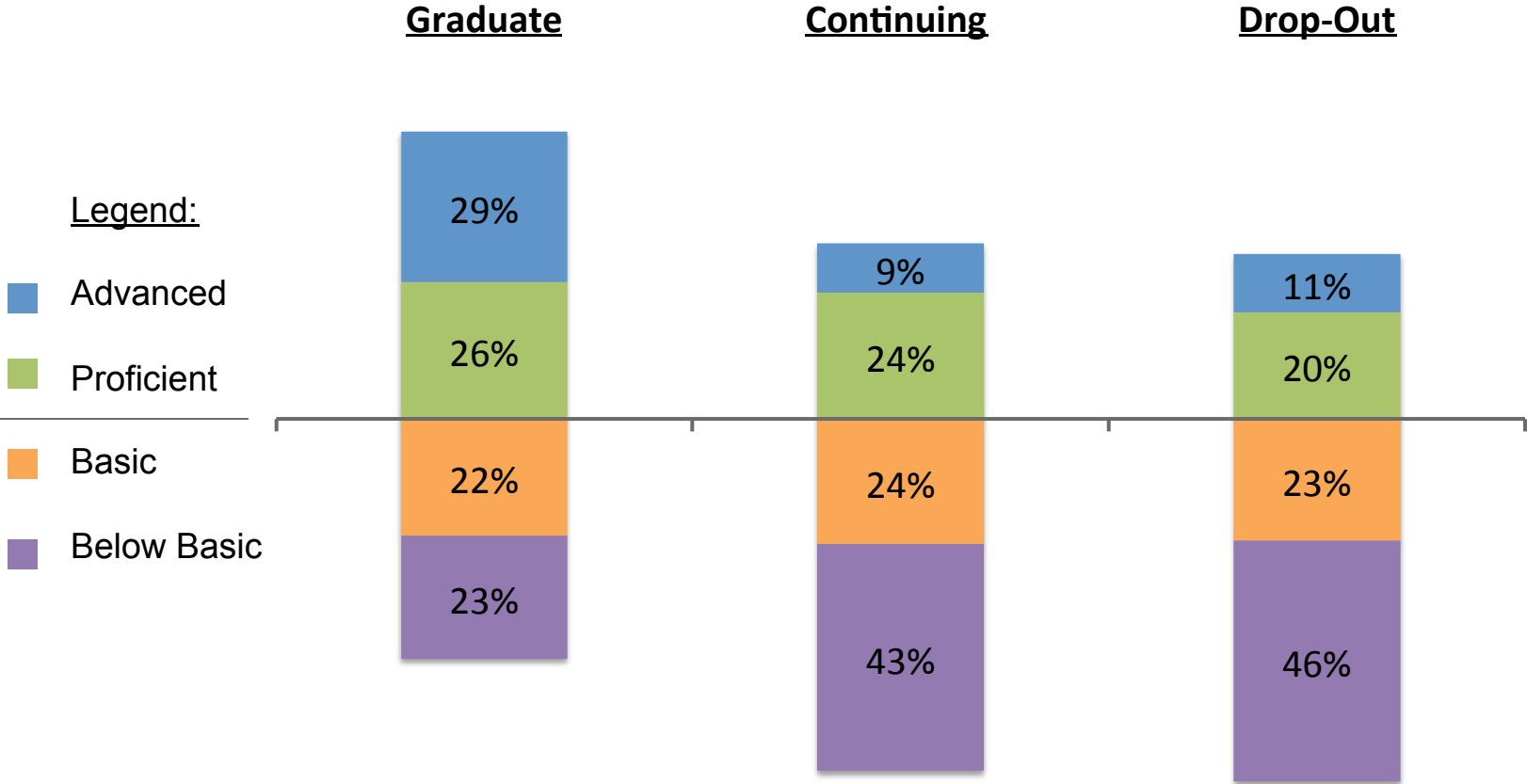
Of the 3,042 students from the 2010-11 First-Time 9th Grade Cohort who dropped out:

- **67%** were Economically Disadvantaged
- **59%** were Male
- **58%** were Black/African American
- **21%** were Hispanic/Latino
- **35%** were Black/African American Males
- **8%** were English Language Learners
- **20%** had an IEP (Special Ed status)

Note: Students considered to be English Language Learners or to have an IEP were those who received corresponding services during at least one of their high school years.

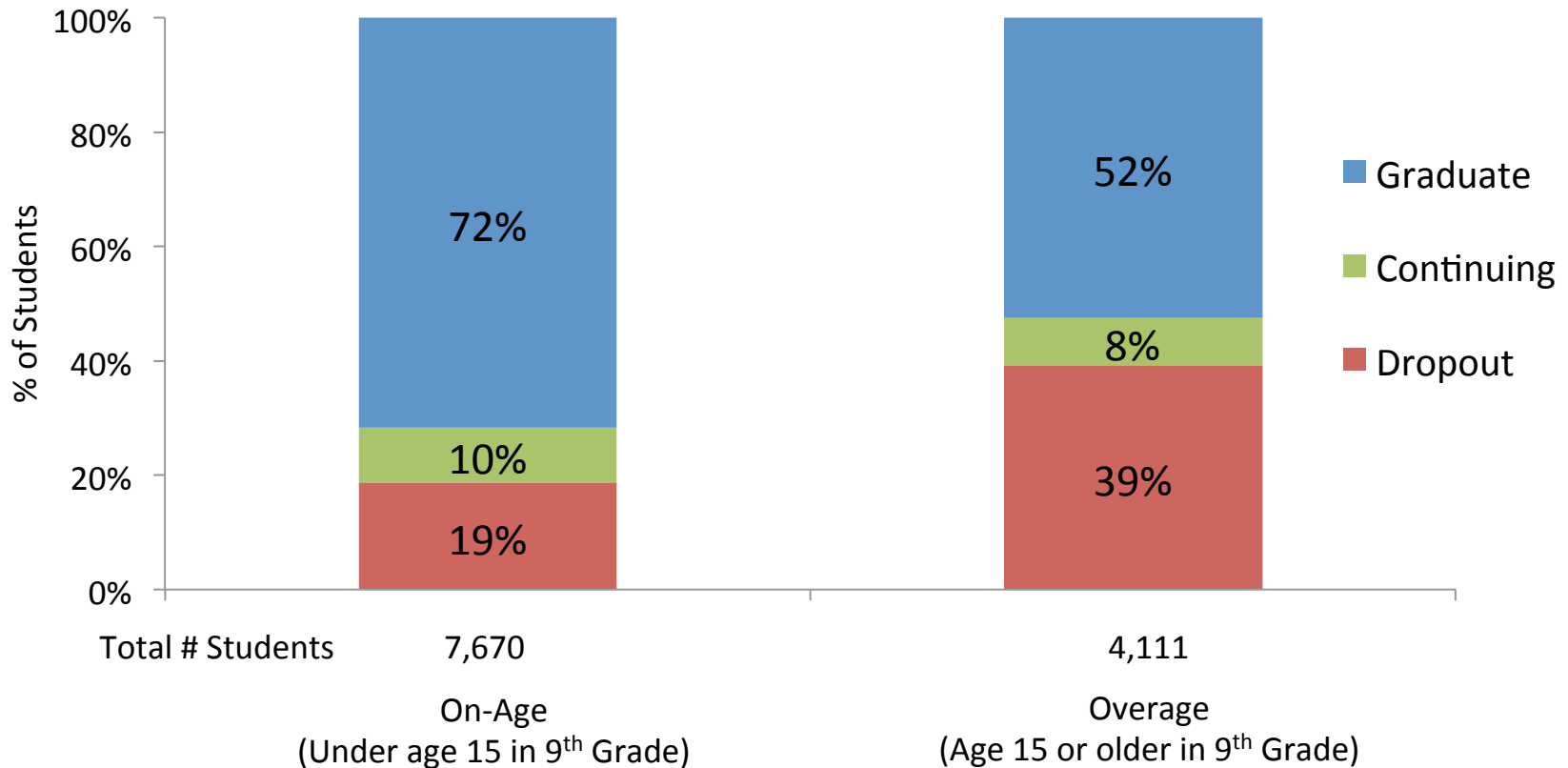
Dropout Risk Factor 1: The majority of students who drop out scored basic or below basic on the 8th Grade Math PSSA.

8th Grade PSSA Math Performance by Graduation Status



Dropout Risk Factor 2: Students who enter 9th grade overage (age 15 or older) are significantly more likely to drop out than their peers.

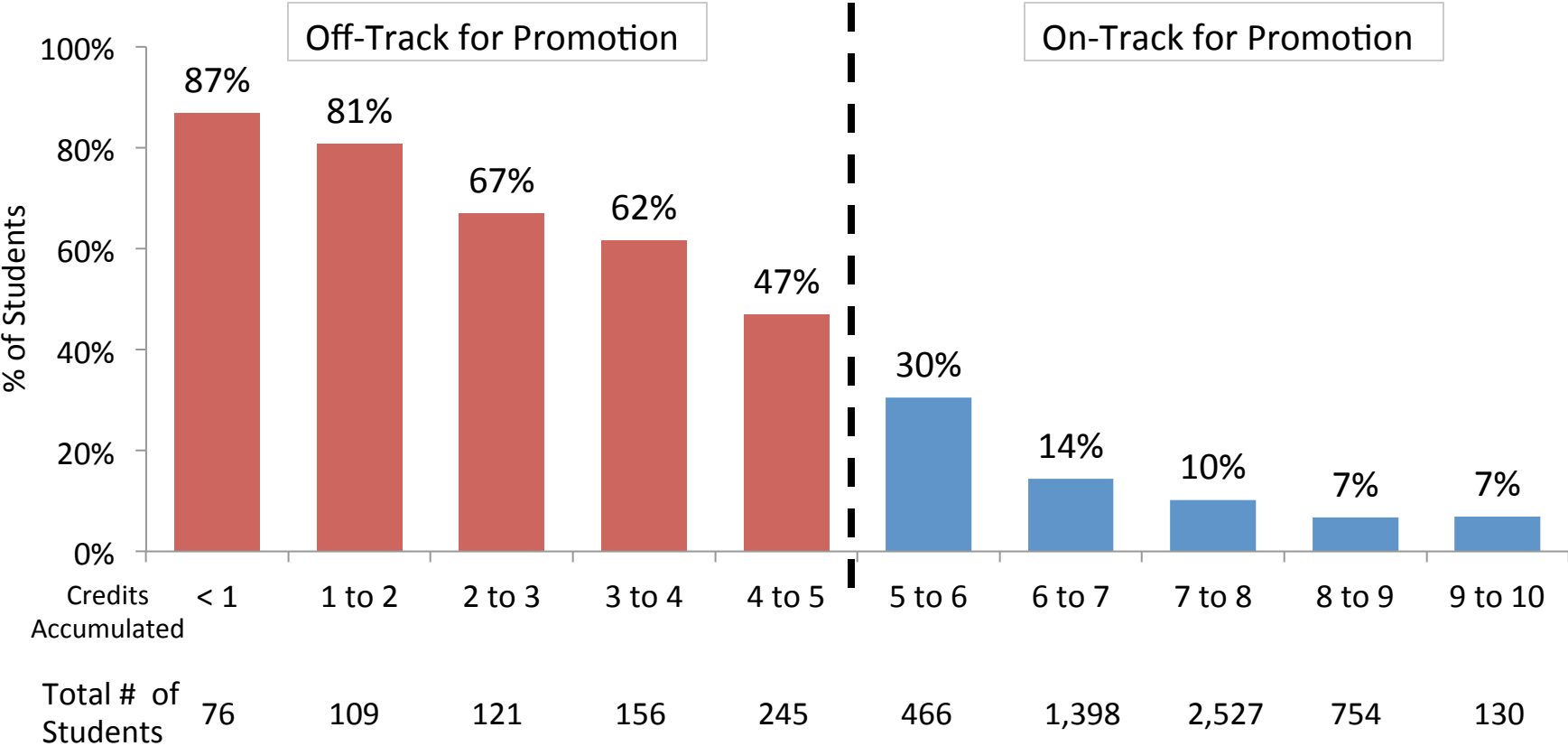
4-Year Graduation Outcomes for the 2010-11 First-Time 9th Grade Cohort by Grade 9 Overage Status



Note: Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Dropout Risk Factor 3: Students who are off-track at the end of 9th grade are significantly more likely to drop out.

Percentage of Dropouts by Number of Credits Accumulated at end of 9th Grade
 2010-11 First-Time 9th Grade Cohort



Some of our schools are making significant progress in reducing their dropout rates.

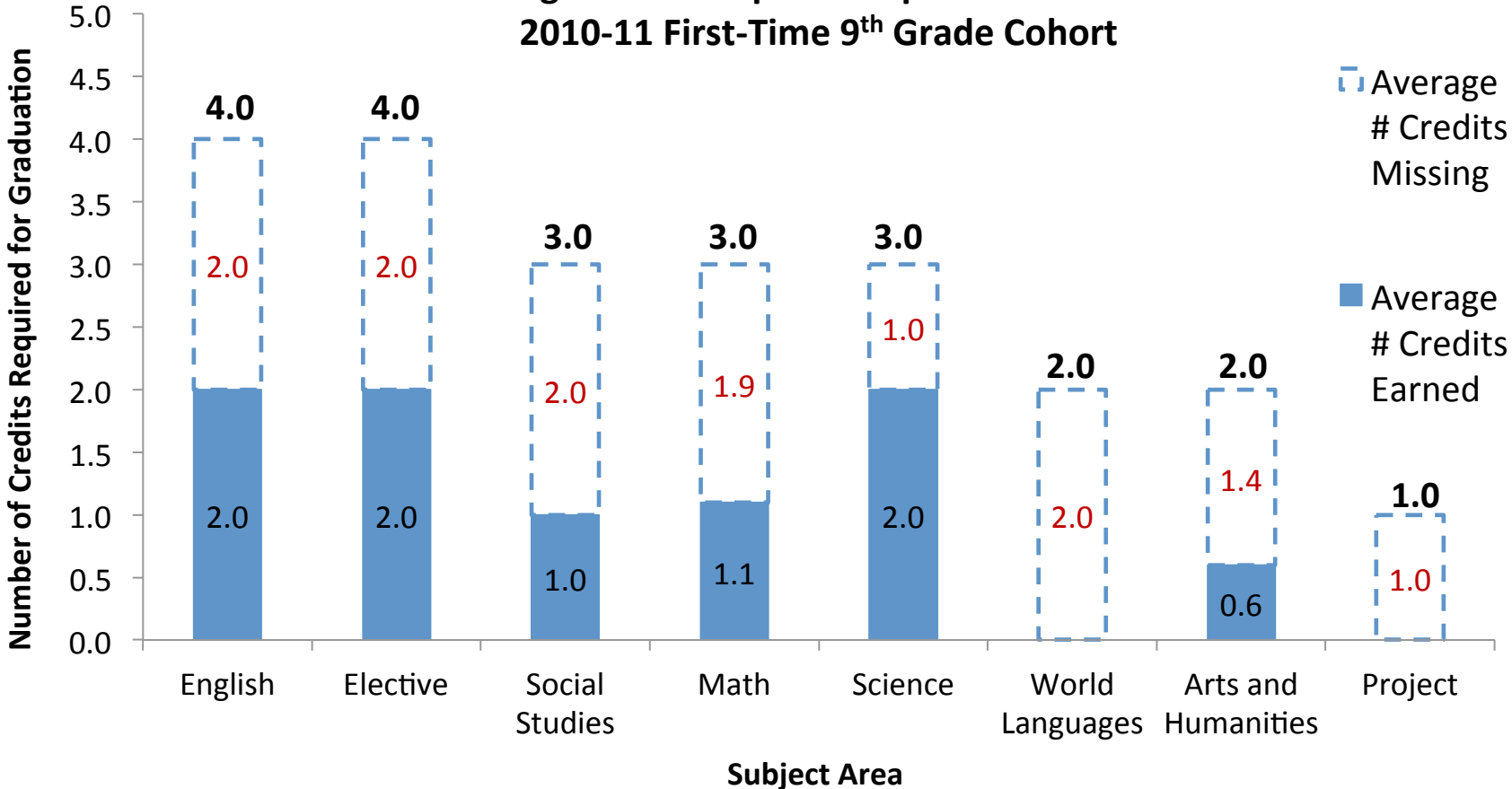
Percentage Point Change in 4-Year Dropout Rate from 2009-10 to 2010-11 Cohort

Most Improved	% Change	Drop Rate	Most Declined	% Change	Drop Rate
Philadelphia Military Academy	-11%	0%	Strawberry Mansion High School*	+17%	43%
William L. Sayre High School*	-11%	26%	George Washington High School*	+9%	21%
South Philadelphia High School*	-10%	27%	Franklin Learning Center*	+8%	12%
Kensington Health Sciences Academy	-9%	31%	Parkway West High School*	+7%	14%
Parkway Center City High School*	-7%	2%	Overbrook High School	+5%	40%
Samuel Fels High School	-6%	22%	John Bartram High School	+5%	23%
High School of the Future	-6%	9%	Academy at Palumbo	+4%	8%
Constitution High School	-5%	1%	Randolph Career and Technical HS*	+3%	9%
Philadelphia High School for Girls	-5%	4%	Northeast High School	+3%	20%
Walter B. Saul High School	-4%	2%	Kensington Business	+2%	42%

*School was also a Top or Bottom 10 School for their Percentage Point Change in 4-Year Graduation Rates.

On average, our students who neither graduate nor drop out are under-credited by at least one credit in each subject area required for graduation.

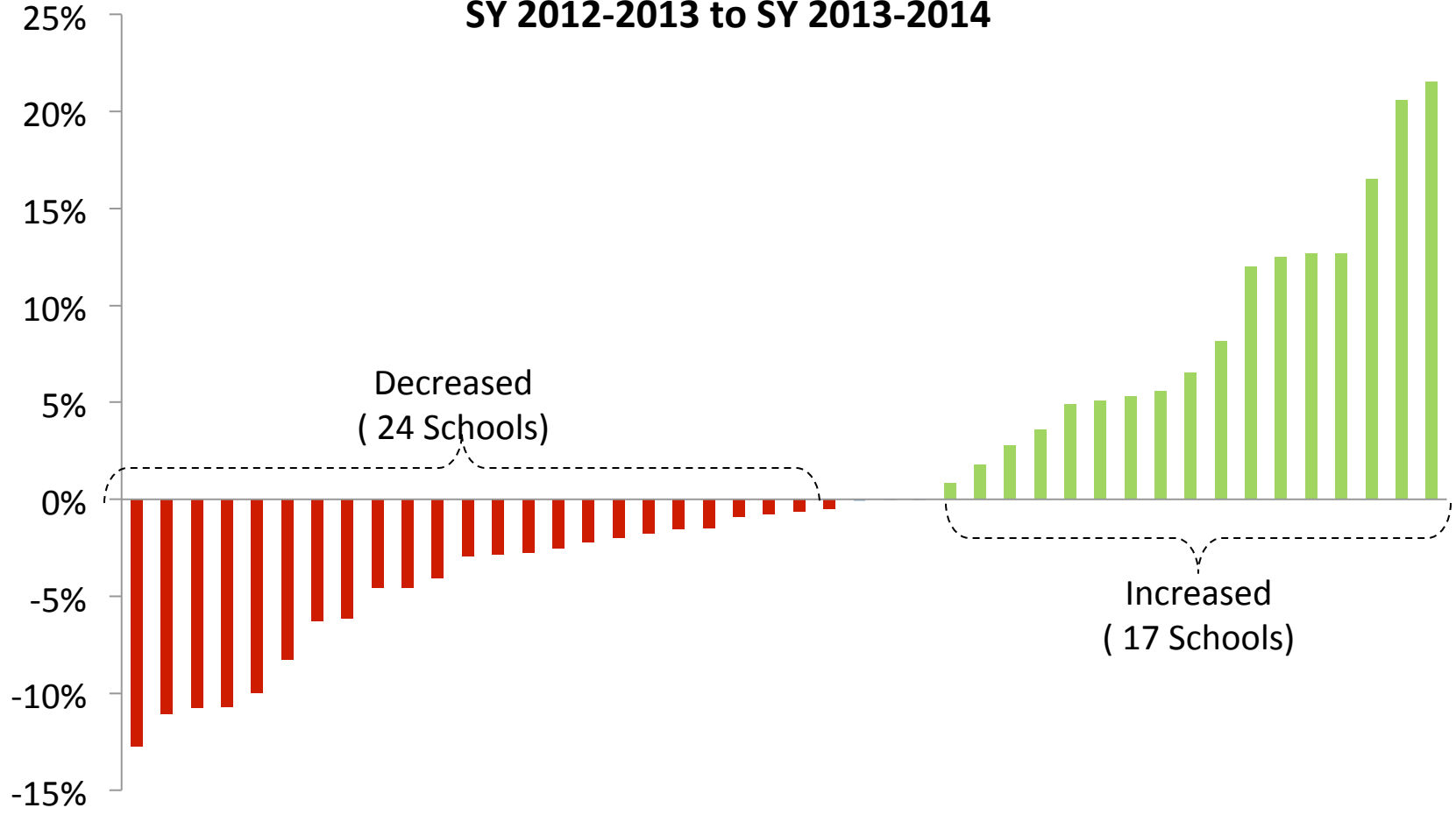
**Average Number of Credits Earned and Missing Among Continuing Students Upon Completion of 12th Grade
2010-11 First-Time 9th Grade Cohort**



Appendix

Last year, graduation rates decreased in more than half of our high schools.

Change in High School Graduation Rates from SY 2012-2013 to SY 2013-2014



Graduation rates for our neighborhood high schools range from 20% to 79%.

Top and Bottom Ten Schools 4-Year Graduation Rates for 2010-11 Cohort (Graduating Class of 2014)

Top Ten Neighborhood High Schools		Bottom Ten Neighborhood High Schools	
Penn Treaty High School	79.3%	Philadelphia Virtual Academy	20.0%
Furness High School	77.8%	Strawberry Mansion High School	36.2%
Kensington CAPA	77.0%	Kensington Int'l Bus, Finance, and Entrep.	43.3%
Roxborough High School	76.8%	Overbrook High School	50.8%
George Washington High School	73.8%	Thomas A. Edison High School	53.2%
Northeast High School	73.7%	Frankford High School	55.3%
John Bartram High School	72.2%	Martin Luther King High School	56.9%
Samuel Fels High School	71.8%	William L. Sayre High School	57.0%
West Philadelphia High School	67.6%	Benjamin Franklin High School	60.1%
Kensington Urban Education Academy	66.3%	Abraham Lincoln High School	61.3%

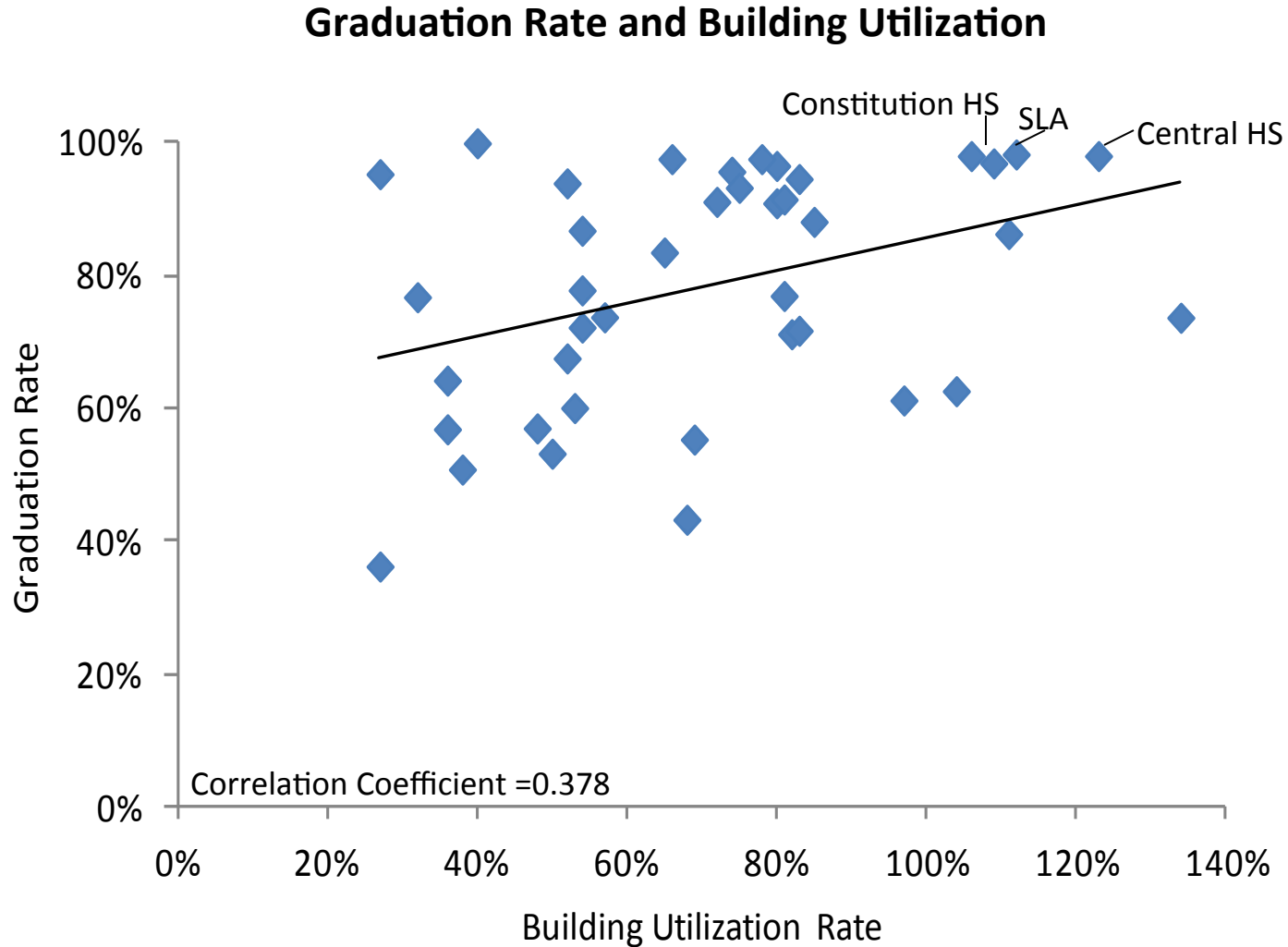
Special Admission and Citywide schools have higher graduation rates than neighborhood schools.

Top and Bottom Ten Schools 4-Yr Graduation Rates for 2010-11 Cohort (Graduating Class of 2014)

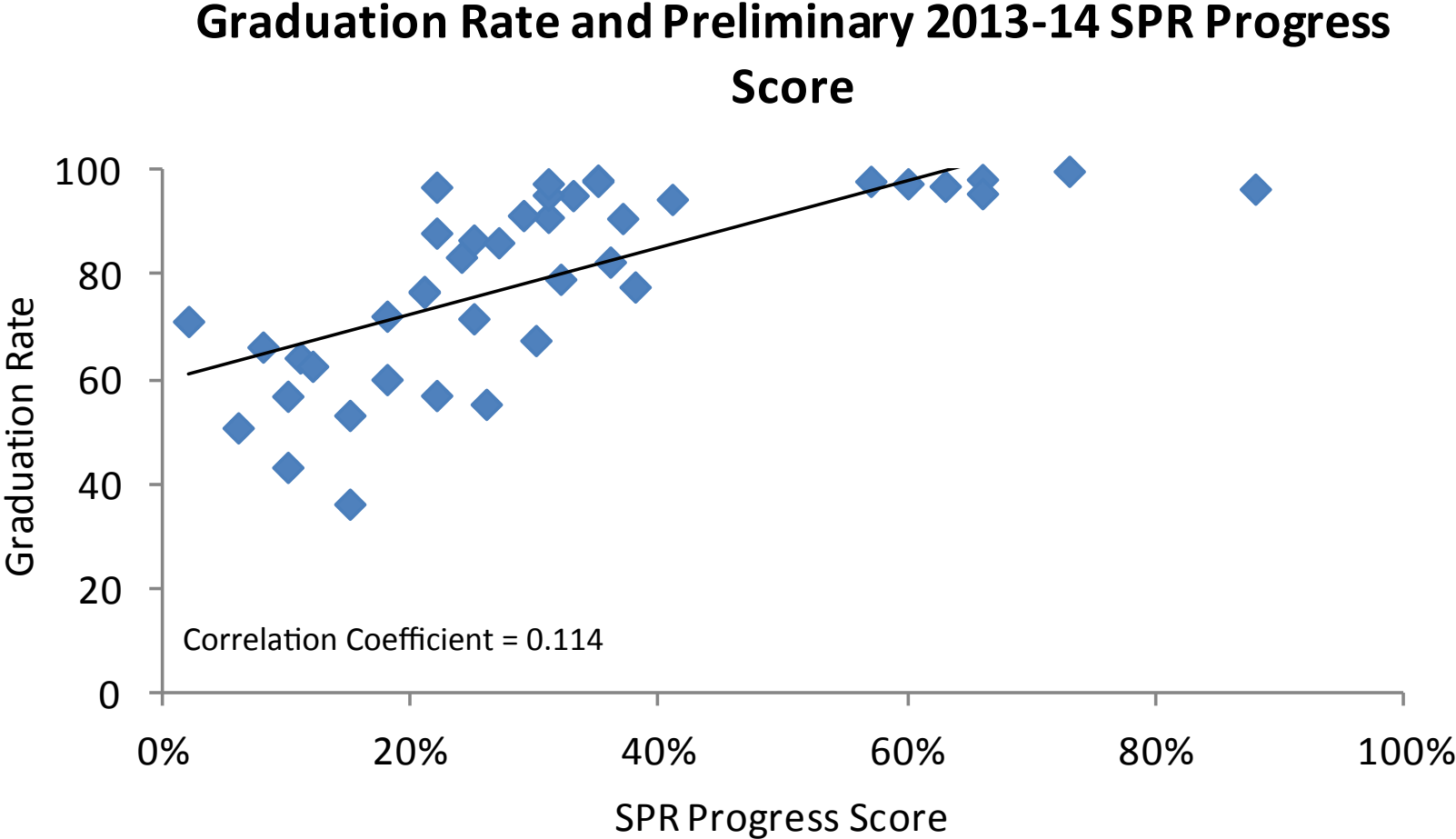
Top Ten Schools		Bottom Ten Schools	
Girard Academic Music Program (GAMP)	98.4%	Philadelphia Virtual Academy	20.0%
Science Leadership Academy (SLA)	98.3%	Strawberry Mansion High School	36.2%
Central High School	98.1%	Kensington Int'l Bus, Finance, and Entrep.	43.3%
Lankenau High School	98.1%	Overbrook High School	50.8%
Walter B. Saul High School	97.6%	Thomas A. Edison High School	53.2%
Parkway Center City High School	97.6%	Frankford High School	55.3%
Julia R. Masterman School	97.1%	Martin Luther King High School	56.9%
Constitution High School	97.0%	William L. Sayre High School	57.0%
High School of Engineering and Science	96.6%	Benjamin Franklin High School	60.1%
Philadelphia High School for Girls	95.7%	Abraham Lincoln High School	61.3%

Special Admit
 Citywide

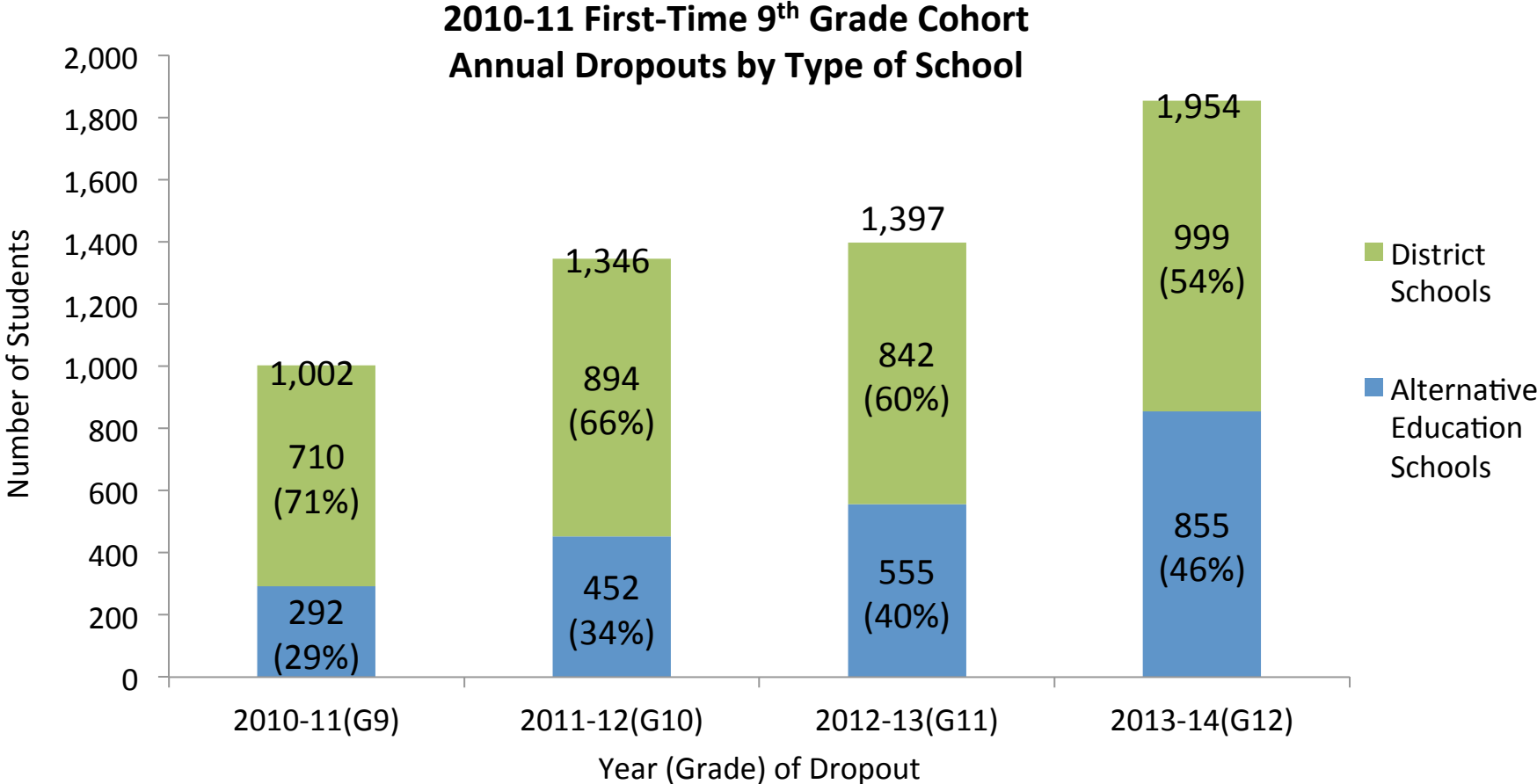
Building utilization is weakly correlated with graduation rates.



There is a very weak correlation between the Progress score on the SPR and graduation rates.



Dropout activity increases at each grade level starting in 9th grade; the proportion of dropouts from Alternative Ed. schools increases from 9th to 12th grade.



Note: Reported counts of students dropping out each year include unique counts of students by school year. Students may therefore be included in the count of dropouts across multiple school years.

Dropout rates are highest among our neighborhood high schools.

Top and Bottom Ten Schools 4-Yr Dropout Rates for 2010-11 Cohort (Graduating Class of 2014)

Top Ten Schools		Bottom Ten Schools	
Julia R. Masterman School	0%	Strawberry Mansion High School	43%
Philadelphia Military Academy	0%	Kensington Int'l Bus, Finance, Entrep.	42%
Constitution High School	1%	Overbrook High School	40%
Girard Academic Music Program (GAMP)	2%	Thomas A. Edison High School	39%
Walter B. Saul High School	2%	Martin Luther King High School	33%
Science Leadership Academy (SLA)	2%	Philadelphia Virtual Academy (PVA)	32%
Central High School	2%	Frankford High School	32%
Lankenau High School	2%	Kensington Health Sciences Academy	31%
Parkway Center City High School	2%	Benjamin Franklin High School	31%
High School of Engineering and Science	3%	Kensington Urban Education Academy	31%

Special Admit
 Citywide

The vast majority of students who have dropped out or are continuing school four years after starting 9th grade do not graduate within the next two years.

4- and 6-Year Status for 2008-09 First-Time 9th Grade Cohort

Graduated within two years of 4-year window

Maintained same status two years after 4-year window

6-Year Graduation School Type of Attribution and Outcome

		District School			Alt Ed School			Total
		Cont.	Drop	Grad	Cont.	Drop	Grad	
4-Year Graduation School Type of Attribution and Outcome	District School	339 (59%)	0 (0%)	65 (11%)	140 (24%)	0 (0%)	30 (5%)	574
	Alt Ed School	33 (2%)	1,882 (91%)	0 (0%)	136 (7%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2,057
	Cont.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0.2%)	417 (85%)	1 (0.2%)	72 (15%)	491
	Drop	9 (0.5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	167 (10%)	1,487 (89%)	2 (0.1%)	1,665