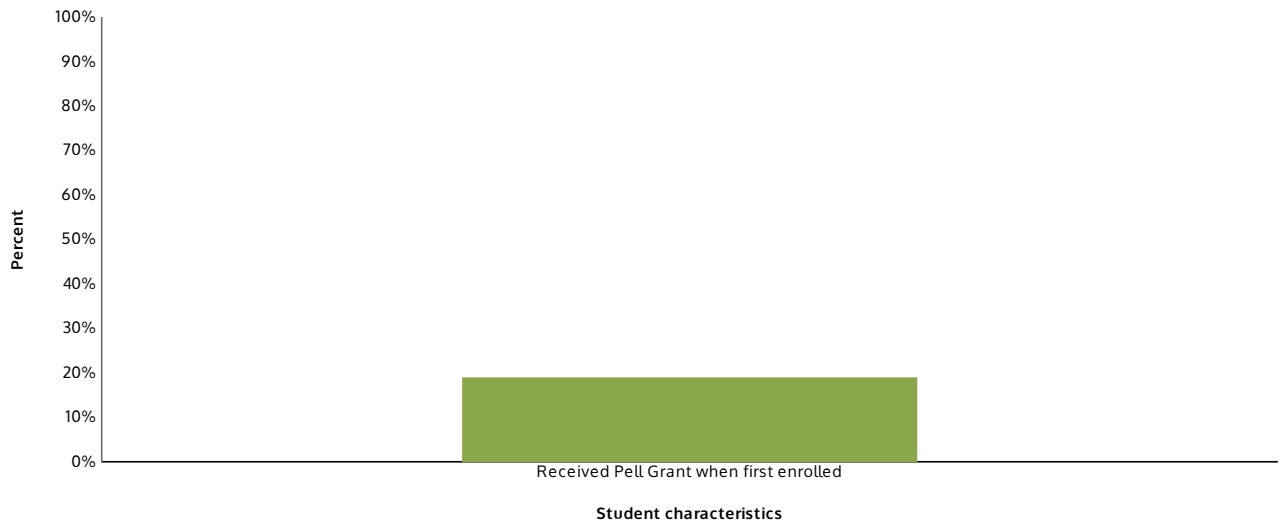


COLLEGE MILESTONES

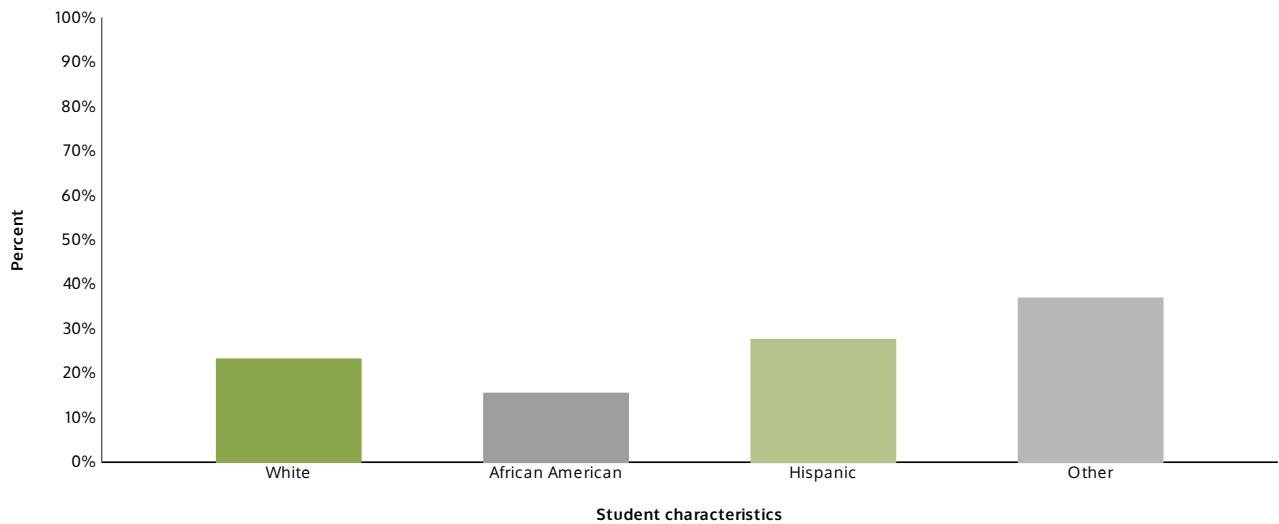
COMPLETION OF GATEKEEPER COURSES: VIRGINIA

Percentage of Virginia Community College students completing gatekeeper English/reading and mathematics courses during their first two academic years, by race/ethnicity, age, and Pell grant status: 2006

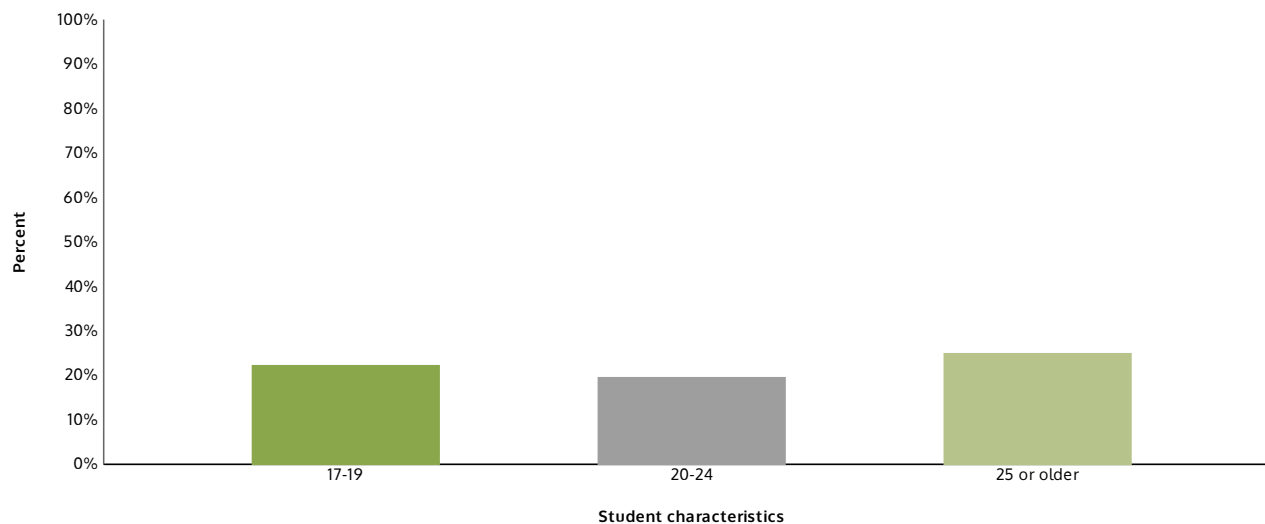
PELL GRANT RECIPIENTS



RACE/ETHNICITY



AGE



What Is Measured?

Percentage of Virginia Community College students enrolled in developmental English/reading and mathematics who completed gatekeeper courses in the same subject within their first two academic years

Who Is Counted?

Students entering Virginia Community Colleges for the first time in fall 2006 who took at least one developmental English/reading and mathematics course in their first year

What It Tells Us

Some 19 percent of first-time Pell grant students in Virginia Community Colleges who took developmental English/reading and mathematics courses in their first year completed corresponding gatekeeper courses during their first two academic years.

Why It's Important

There is general consensus that timely completion of gatekeeper courses, the lowest-level college-level courses in the core subjects of mathematics, reading, and writing, positively affects student outcomes such as attainment of certificates and degrees and transfer to a four-year institution. Completion of gatekeeper courses fulfills requirements for graduation and transfer as well as prerequisites for more advanced courses in various fields.

ABOUT THE DATA

First-time students: include students with no prior postsecondary experience except for college credits earned during high school or in the summer before enrolling in the fall.

Pell Grant recipient: a student who received a Pell Grant within the first year of entry at a given institution of higher education.

Race/ethnicity: Other includes Asian; American Indian or Alaska Native; and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Racial categories exclude persons of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity, who are presented separately.

DATA SOURCE

Complete College America. (2012, April). *Remediation: Higher Education's Bridge to Nowhere*. Washington, DC: Author.

Complete College America and the National Governors Association. (2011, March). *Common college completion metrics technical guide*. Washington, DC: Author.