

USING DATA TO IMPROVE DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION

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Developmental Education Initiative Kickoff

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Research that Matters

Purposes

- Review the Achieving the Dream Database
- Identify some ways that DEI colleges can use the database
- Discuss plans for additional data elements to help track outcomes resulting from efforts to improve developmental education



A Culture of Inquiry and Evidence

The Database is Designed Around 5 Goals

- ❑ Complete remedial courses and move on to credit-bearing courses
- ❑ Enroll in and complete “gatekeeper” courses such as Introductory Math and English
- ❑ Complete courses with a grade of “C” or higher
- ❑ Re-enroll from one semester to the next
- ❑ Earn certificates and/or degrees

Database Design

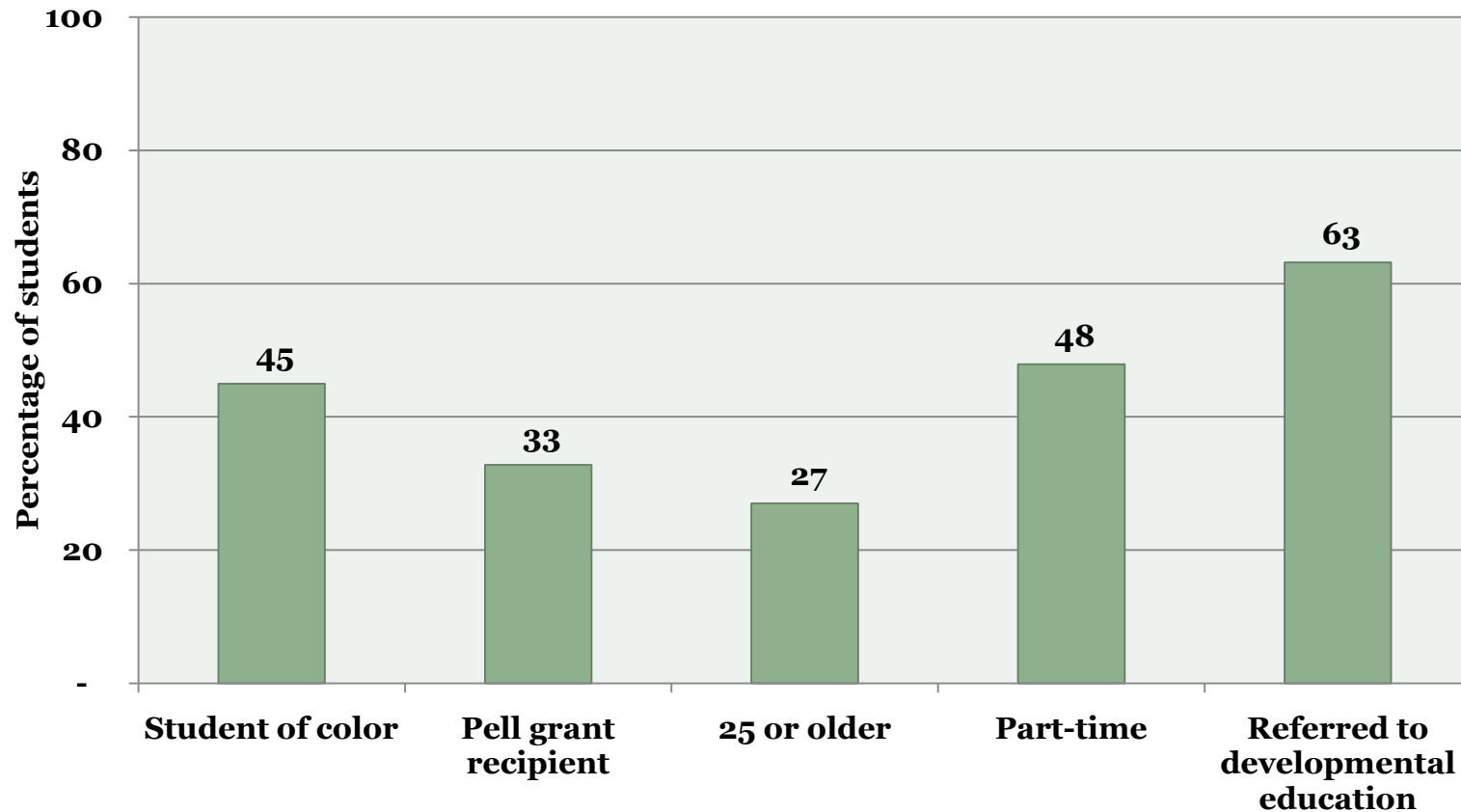


- Longitudinal
- All first-time students entering the institution in the fall
- Includes full- and part-time students
- Data collected annually for the previous year
- Designed to use existing administrative data

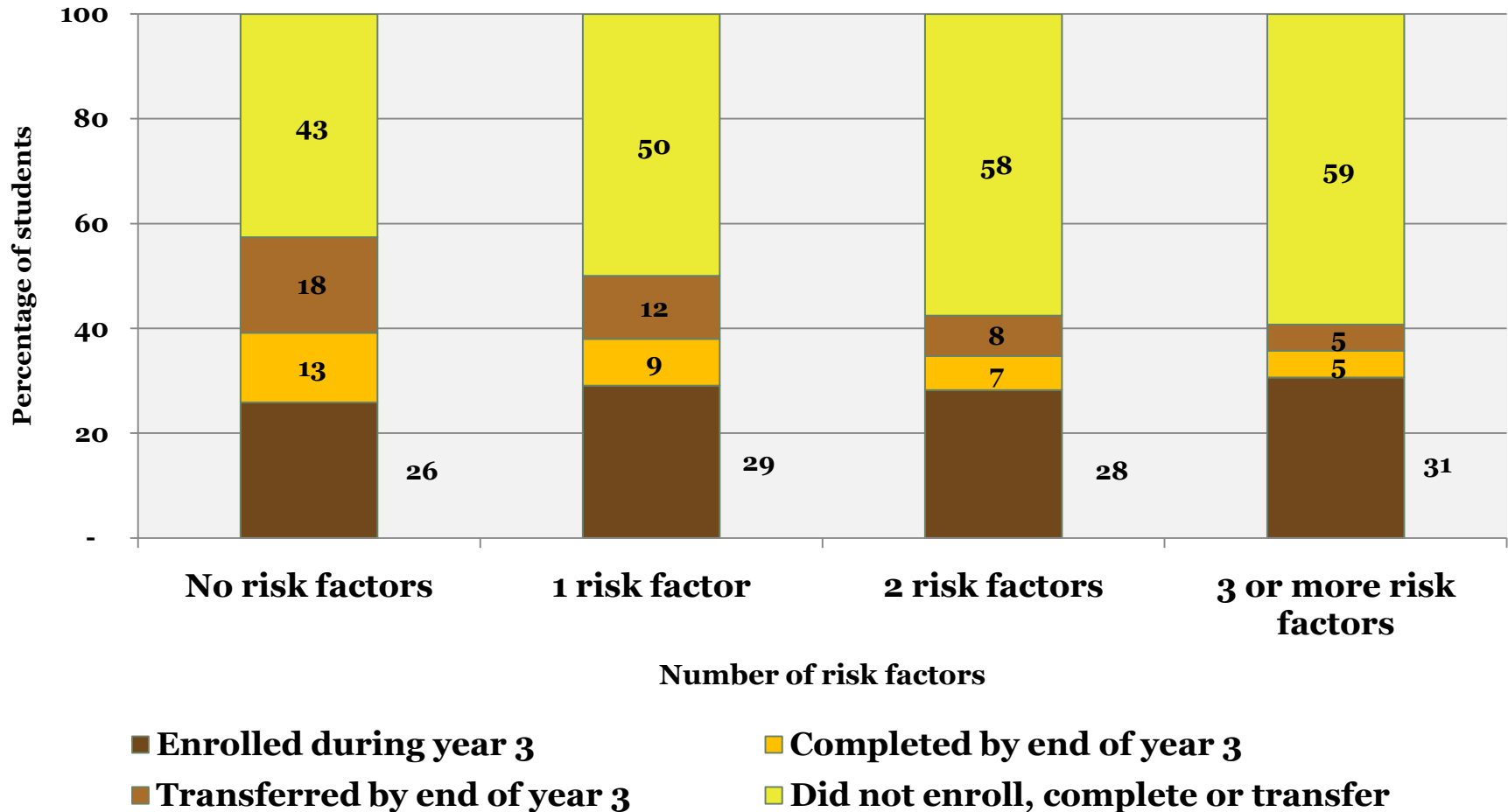
Some Results

The pure and simple truth is rarely pure and never simple.

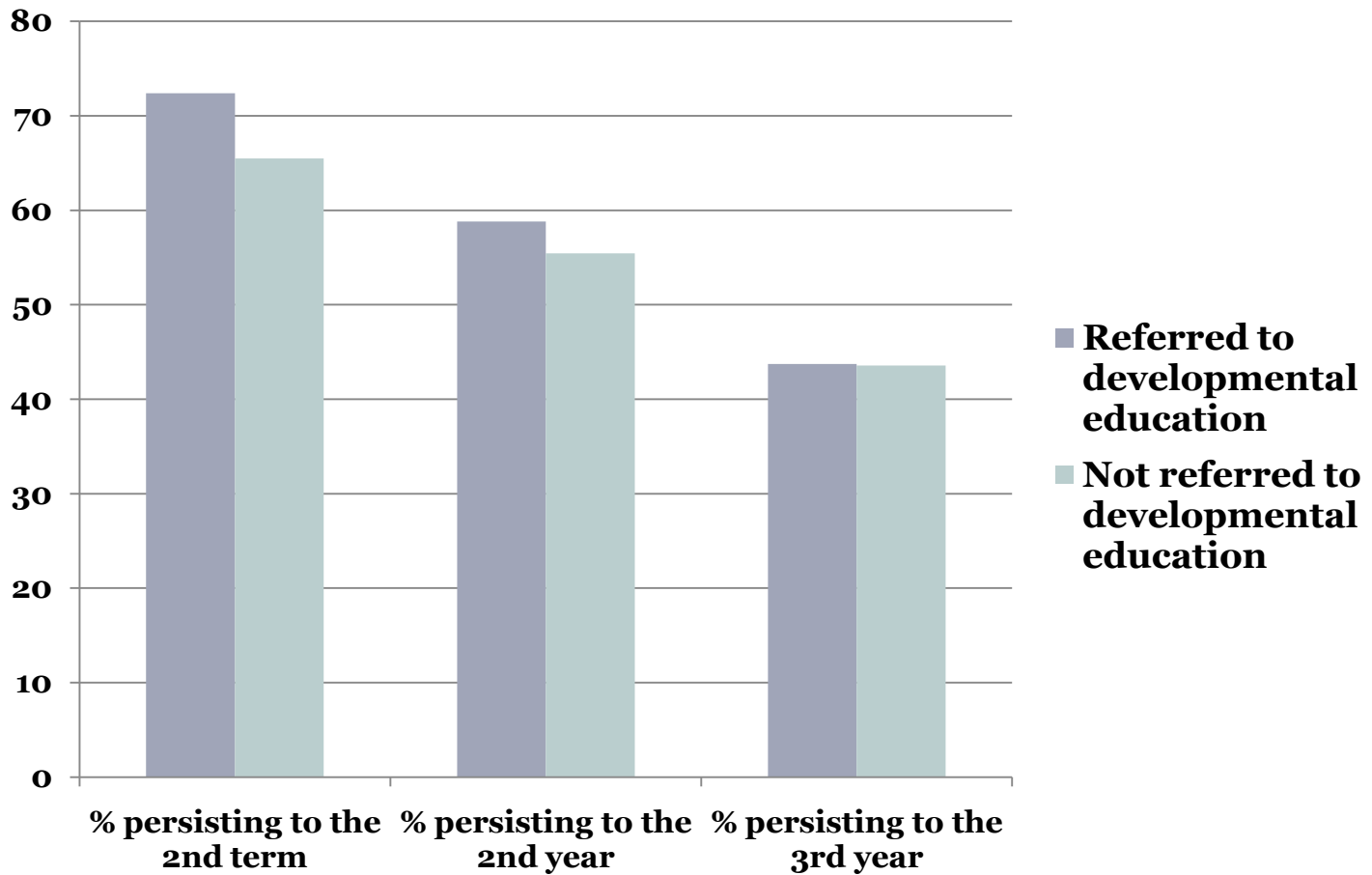
Student Risk Factors



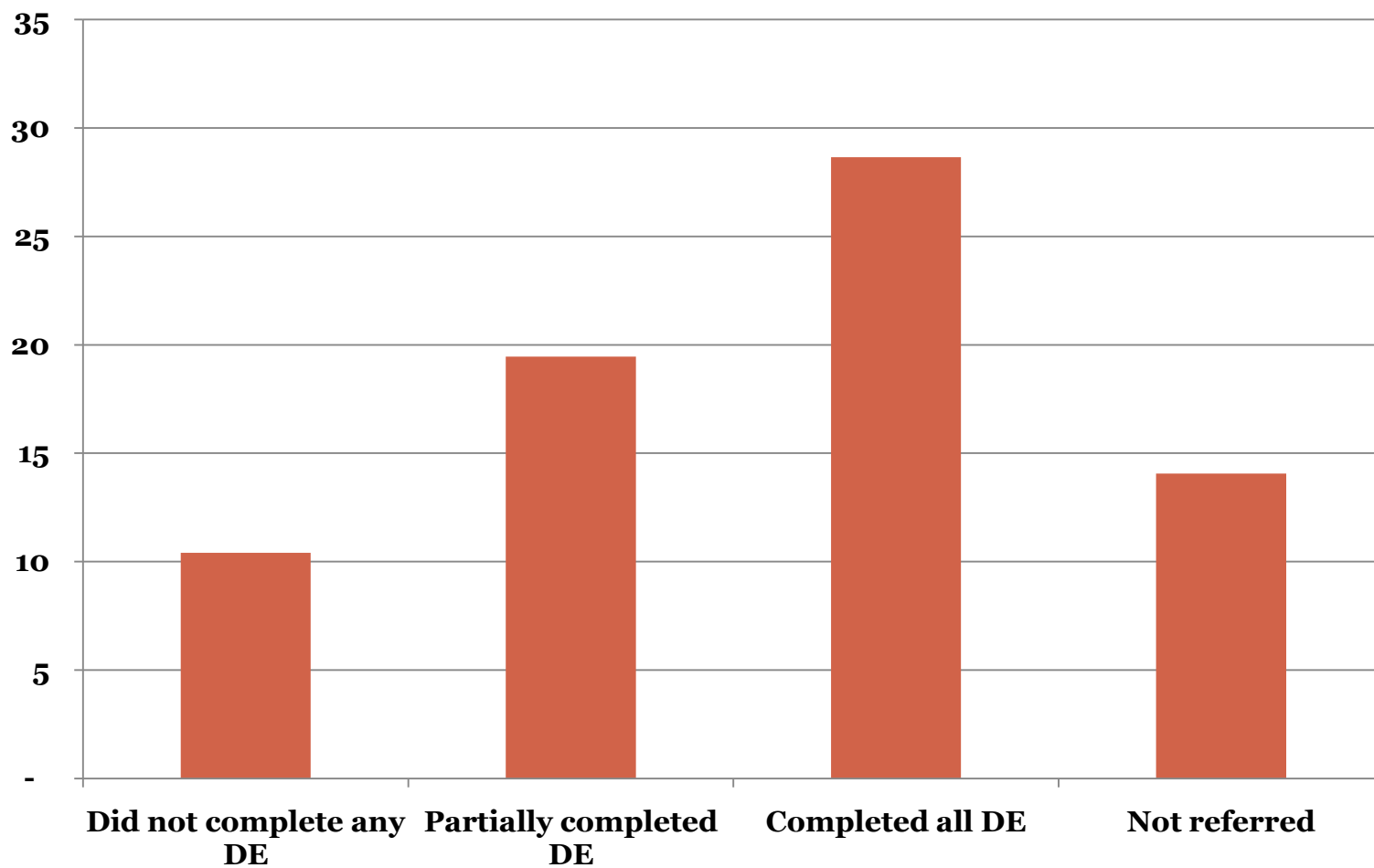
Year 3 Student Outcomes by Risk Level



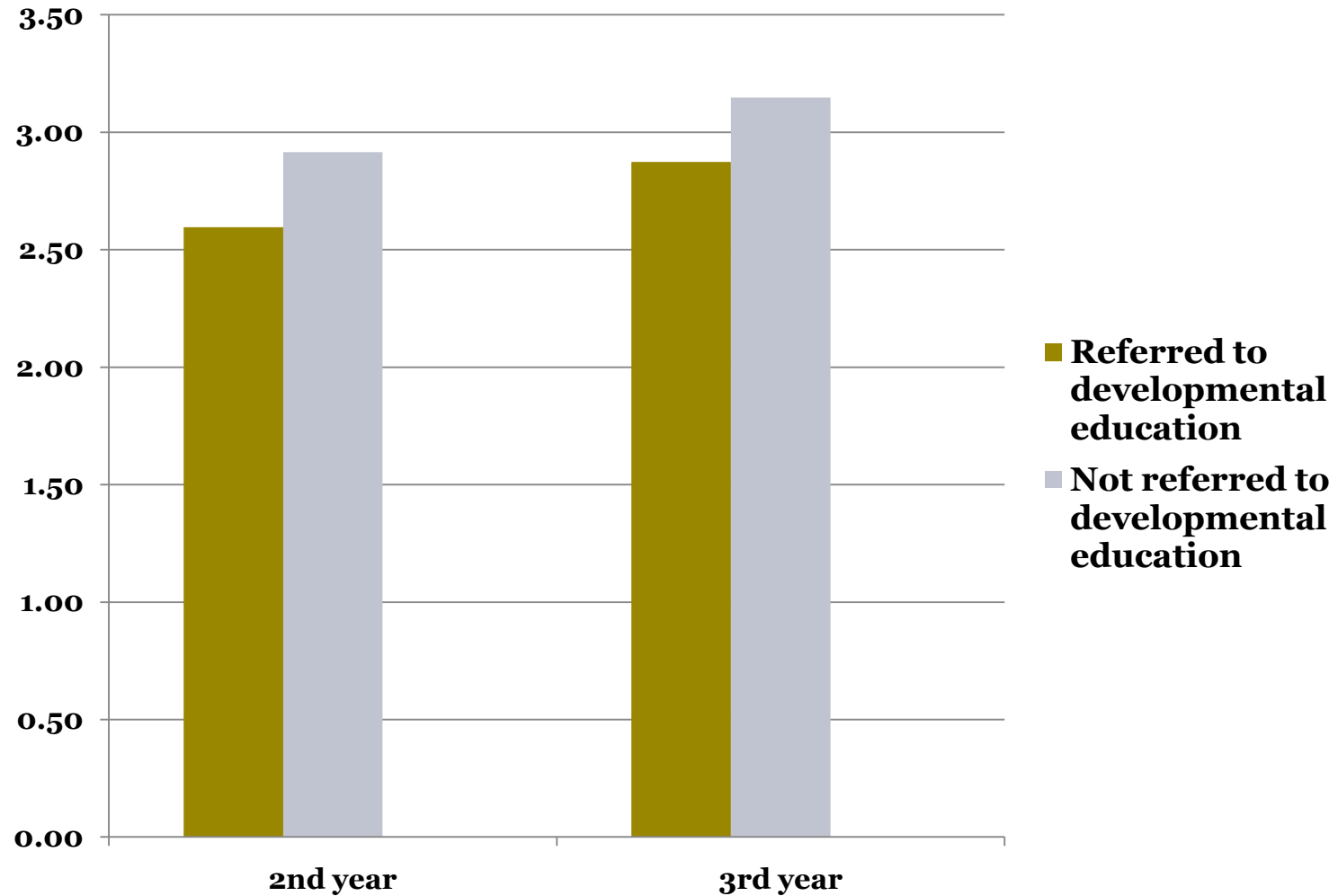
Student Persistence by Developmental Ed Status



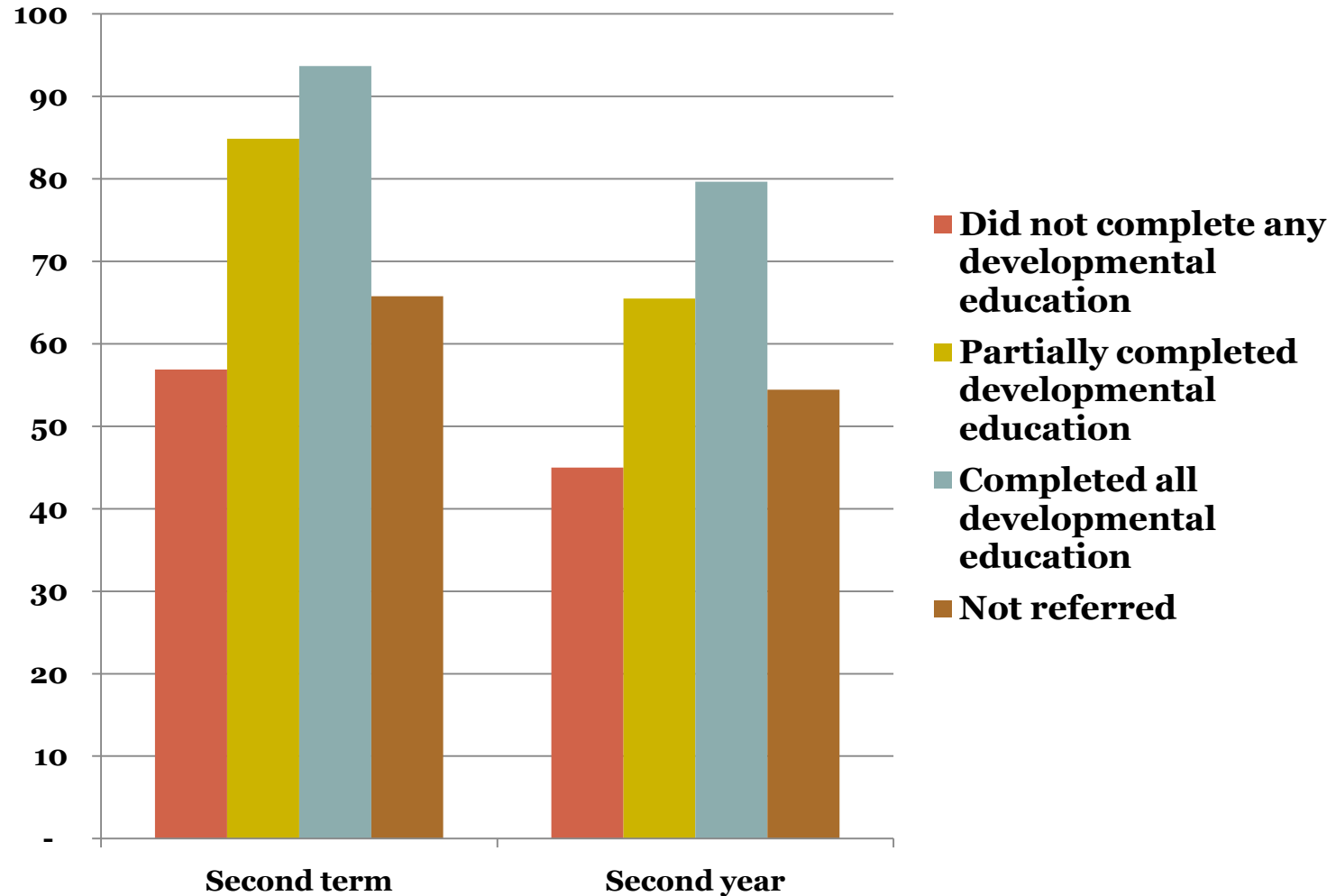
Units Completed for Students Persisting to the Second Year



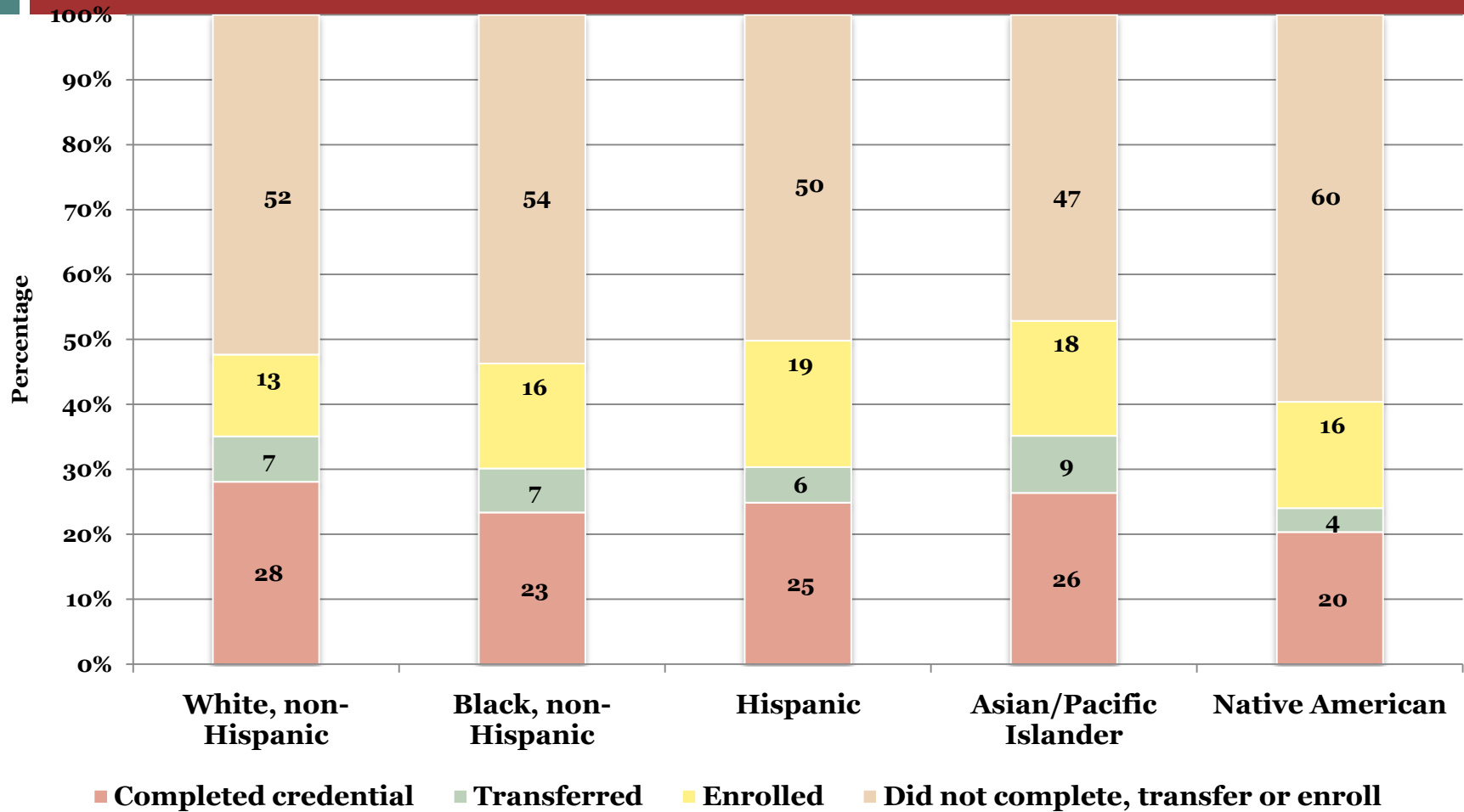
GPA by Developmental Ed Status



% Persisting by Developmental Ed Status



Fifth Year outcomes for students with 30 credits by the end of their 2nd year



How Can You Use the Deming

“It is not enough to do your best; you must know what to do, and then do your best.”

W. Edwards Deming

Data Don't Talk

- Applied experiment
- Use data on student outcomes to diagnose areas that need improvement
- Theory about what works is converted into programs
- Assess the impact of the changes on students
- Repeat

Issues



- Think about who will use the results to make a decision
- You never have exactly the data you want when you want them—no single data system will provide everything you want
- Know when to stop analyzing and start doing
- Results are incremental and often hard to measure

How Difficult?

The trouble with doing something right the first time is that nobody appreciates how difficult it was.

Additional Data to be Collected

- Scores used to assign students to developmental education
- Indicator of participation in a specific developmental education program
- Include all students enrolling in developmental education classes

Implications

- The database will allow you to benchmark your college against its own history, and also against other colleges
- The results will help keep your college focused on the key outcomes you are trying to achieve
- Longitudinal data are only part of the answer

