



THE COLLEGE SYSTEM
of TENNESSEE

Making Good on a Promise: Student Success and Equity of Tennessee Promise

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SHEEO Policy Conference

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Statewide mission to equip **55%** of Tennesseans with a college credential **by 2025.**



Last dollar scholarship for recent high school graduates in associate degree or certificate programs.



13 community colleges and **27 technical colleges** across Tennessee.

In 2015, 83% of Promise students were at TBR community colleges.

- **TBR--The College System of Tennessee**
 - 13 community colleges and 27 technical colleges
 - 87,000+ community college students in fall 2017

- **Statewide Financial Context**
 - Tennessee Higher Education Commission & Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation
 - Funding for Tennessee Promise
 - Fully mature program estimated to cost \$35 million

Student Success & Equity of Tennessee Promise

The Inaugural Promise Cohort

Success after Five Semesters

Equity in Participation

Equity in Student Success

Addressing Gaps in Success

The Inaugural Promise Cohort

13,287

Promise students
enrolled at
community
colleges in fall
2015.

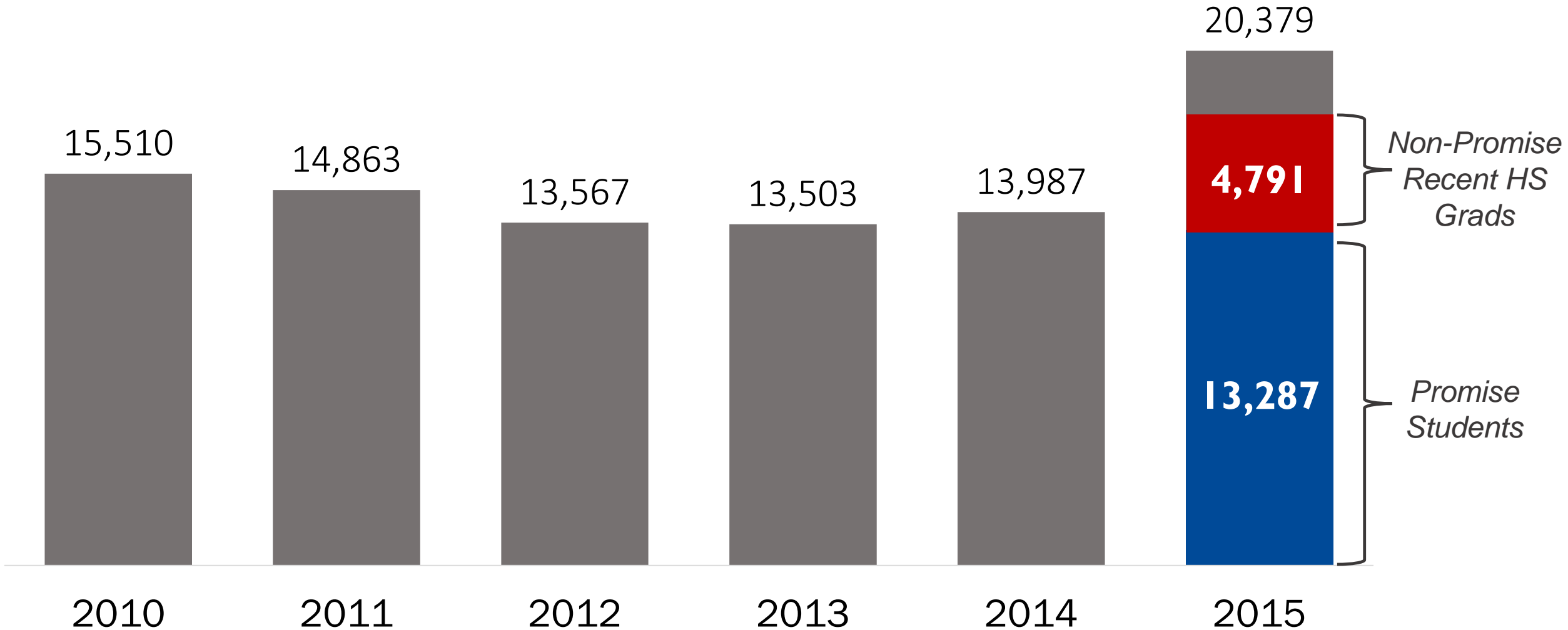
\$588

Average Promise
award in fall
2015.

48%

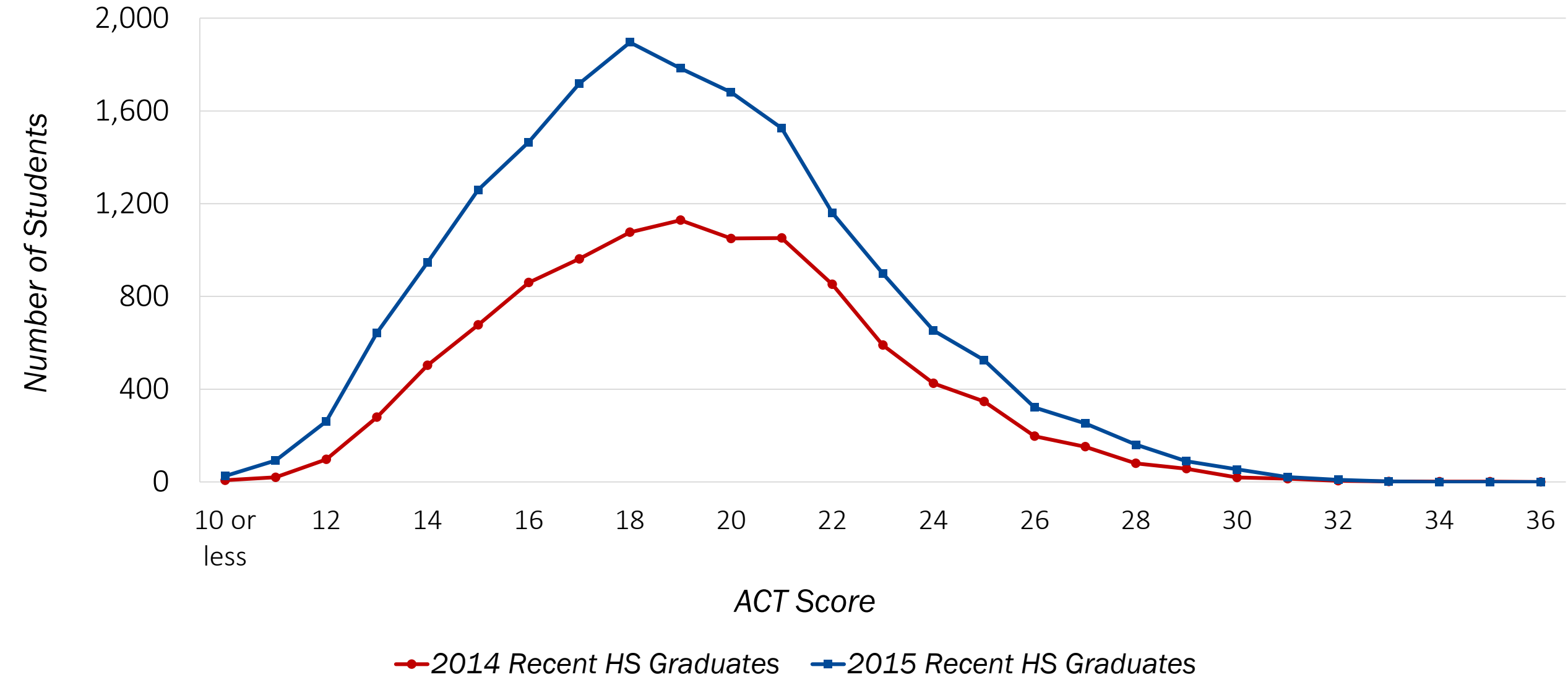
Percent of
Promise students
in fall 2015 who
were also Pell
grant recipients.

Accelerating First-Time, Full-Time Enrollment



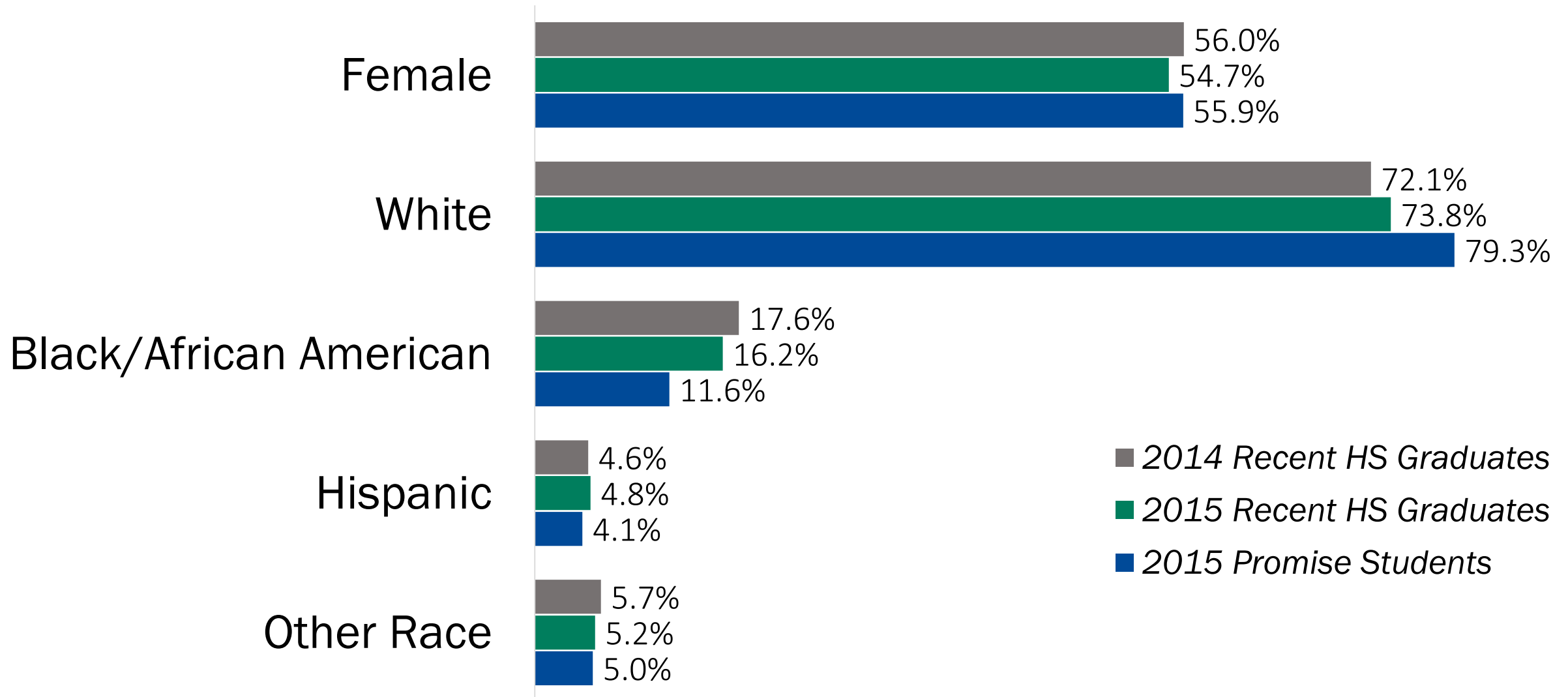
Note: Includes first-time, full-time freshmen at community colleges.

Academic Profile of First-Time Freshmen



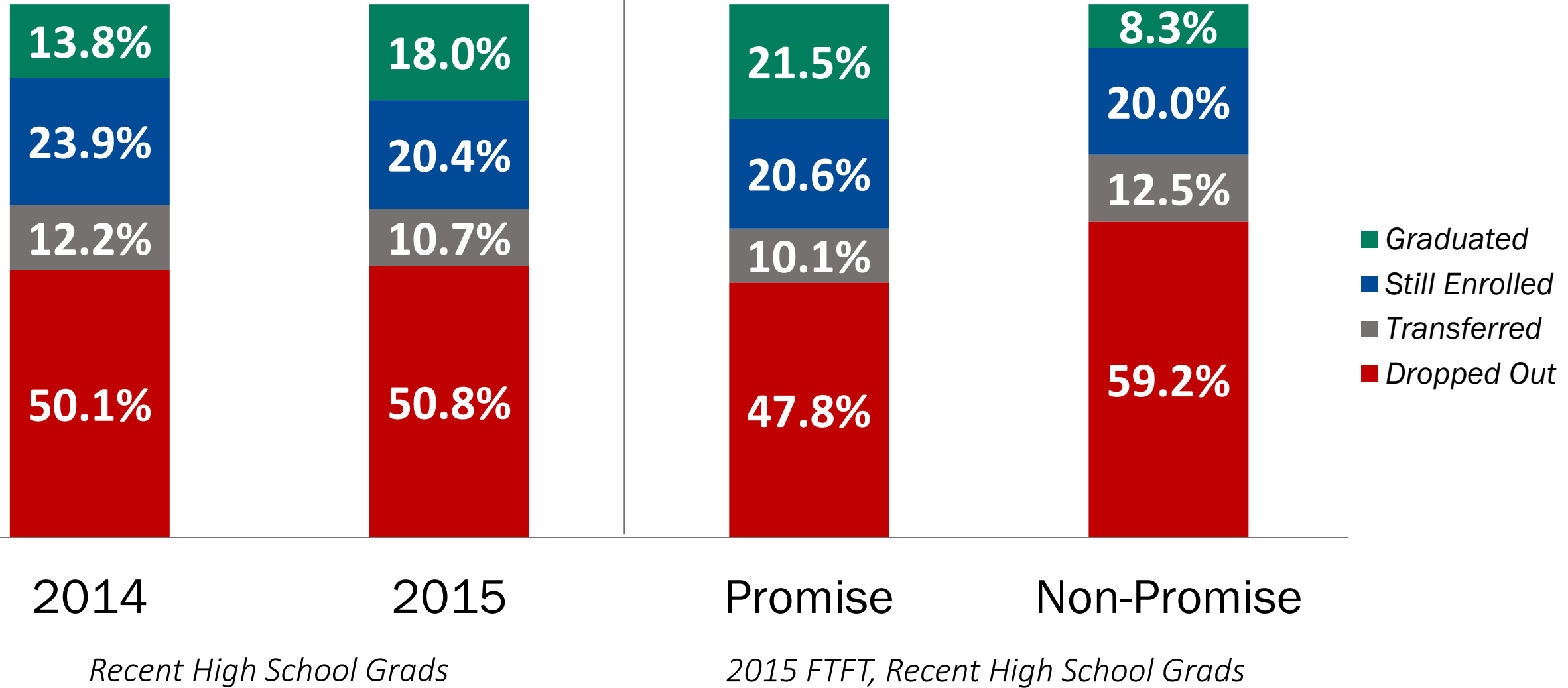
Note: Includes ACT composite scores for recent high school graduates enrolled as first-time, full-time freshmen.

Promise Students: Demographic Profile

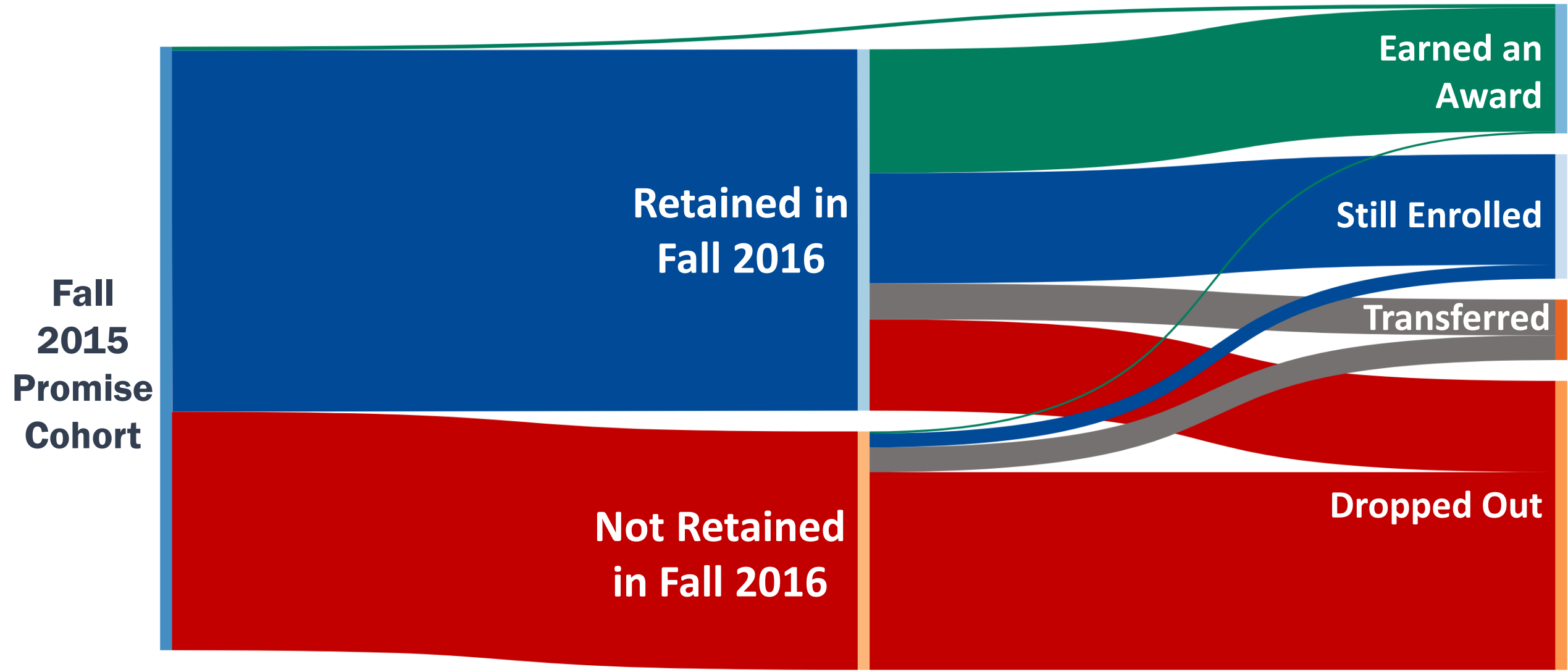


Success after Five Semesters

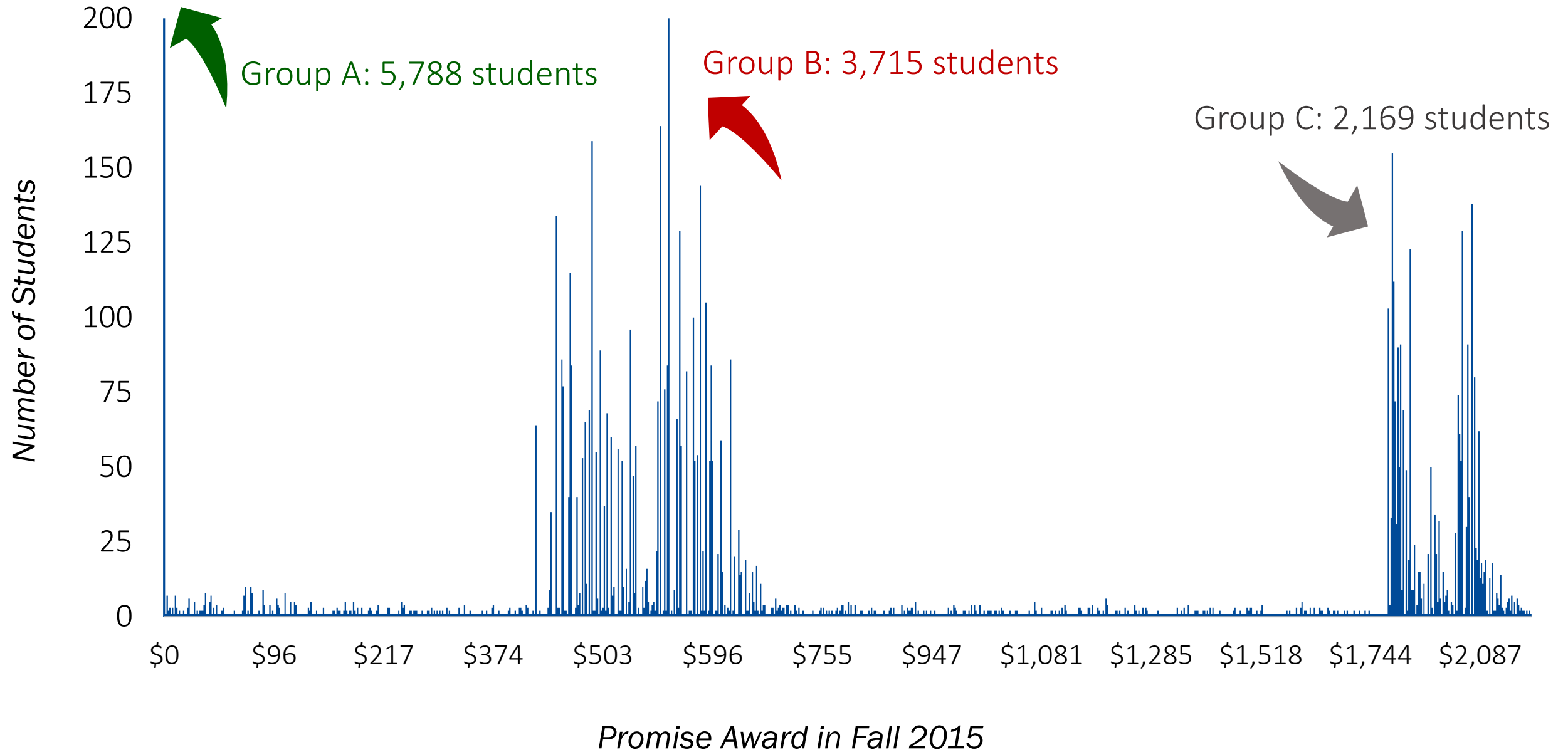
Success after Five Semesters



Promise Students after Five Semesters



Distribution of Promise Awards in Fall 2015



Success by Promise Award

Group	Number of Students	Average Promise Award	Average ACT Score	Overall Success Rate	Received Credential
A	5,788	\$0	18.7	45.8%	16.9%
B	3,715	\$532	21.1	66.8%	32.3%
C	2,169	\$2,015	17.4	40.7%	11.3%

- **52.2% overall success rate**
 - 2,857 students have earned a degree or certificate as of fall 2017.
 - Includes 2,578 Associate degrees and 433 technical certificates.

Equity in Participation

Student Success & Equity of Tennessee Promise

Barriers to Promise Participation

Regional Differences

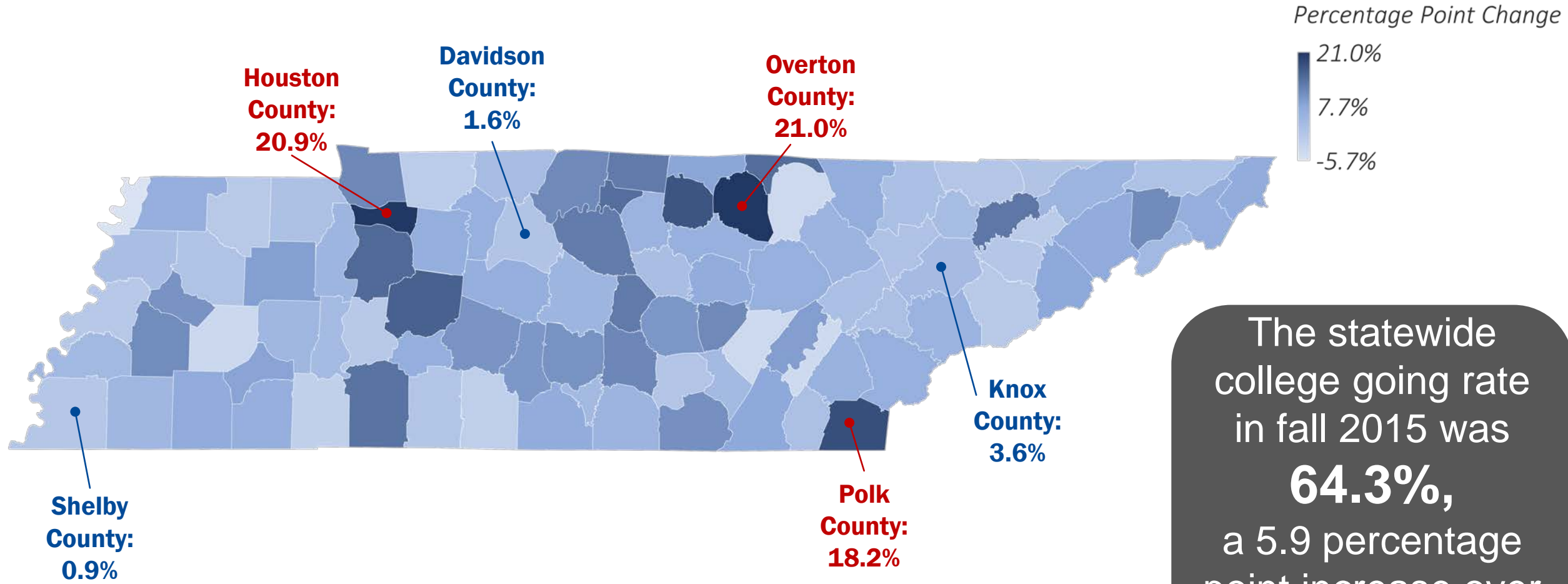
Income Gaps

Gaps in Academic Preparation

Demographic Differences

Statewide College-Going Rate

Changes to the College Going Rate:
Fall 2014 to Fall 2015

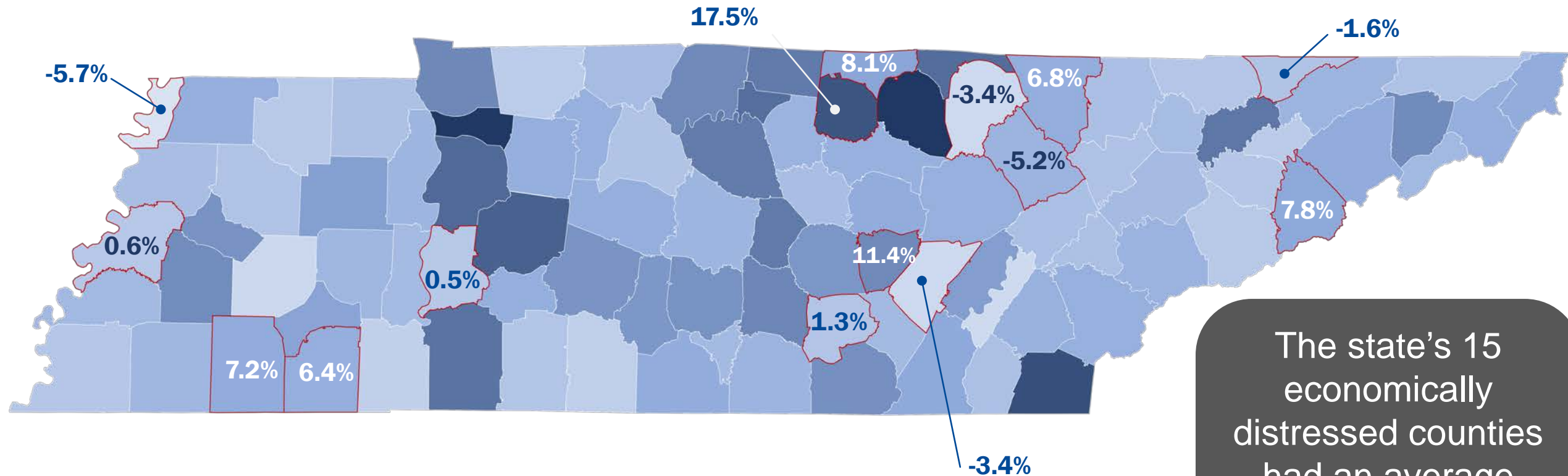


The statewide college going rate in fall 2015 was **64.3%**, a 5.9 percentage point increase over fall 2014.

Data Source: THEC College Going Rate by County; numbers represent the percentage point change from fall 2014 to fall 2015.

In Economically Distressed Counties

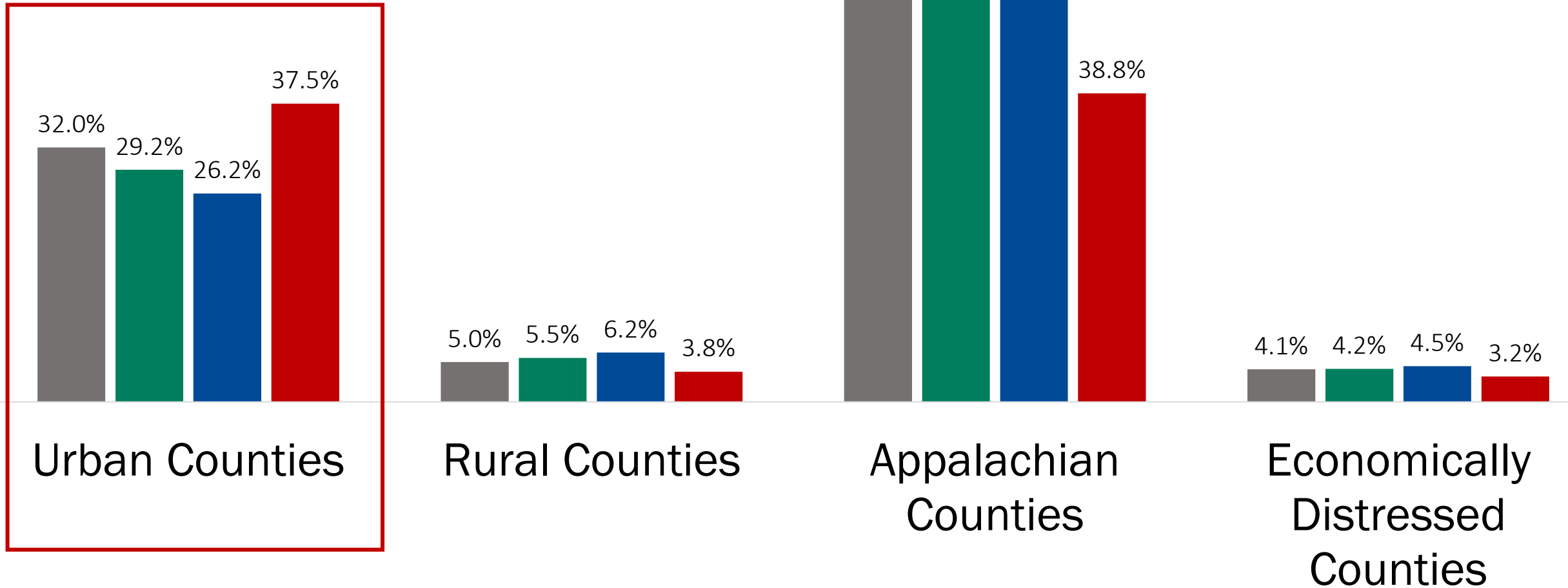
Changes to the College Going Rate:
Fall 2014 to Fall 2015



The state's 15 economically distressed counties had an average college going rate of **57%** in fall 2015.

Data Source: THEC College Going Rate by County, TNECD County Economic Status; numbers represent the percentage point change from fall 2014 to fall 2015.

First-Time Freshmen & Regional Differences



■ 2014 Recent HS Grads

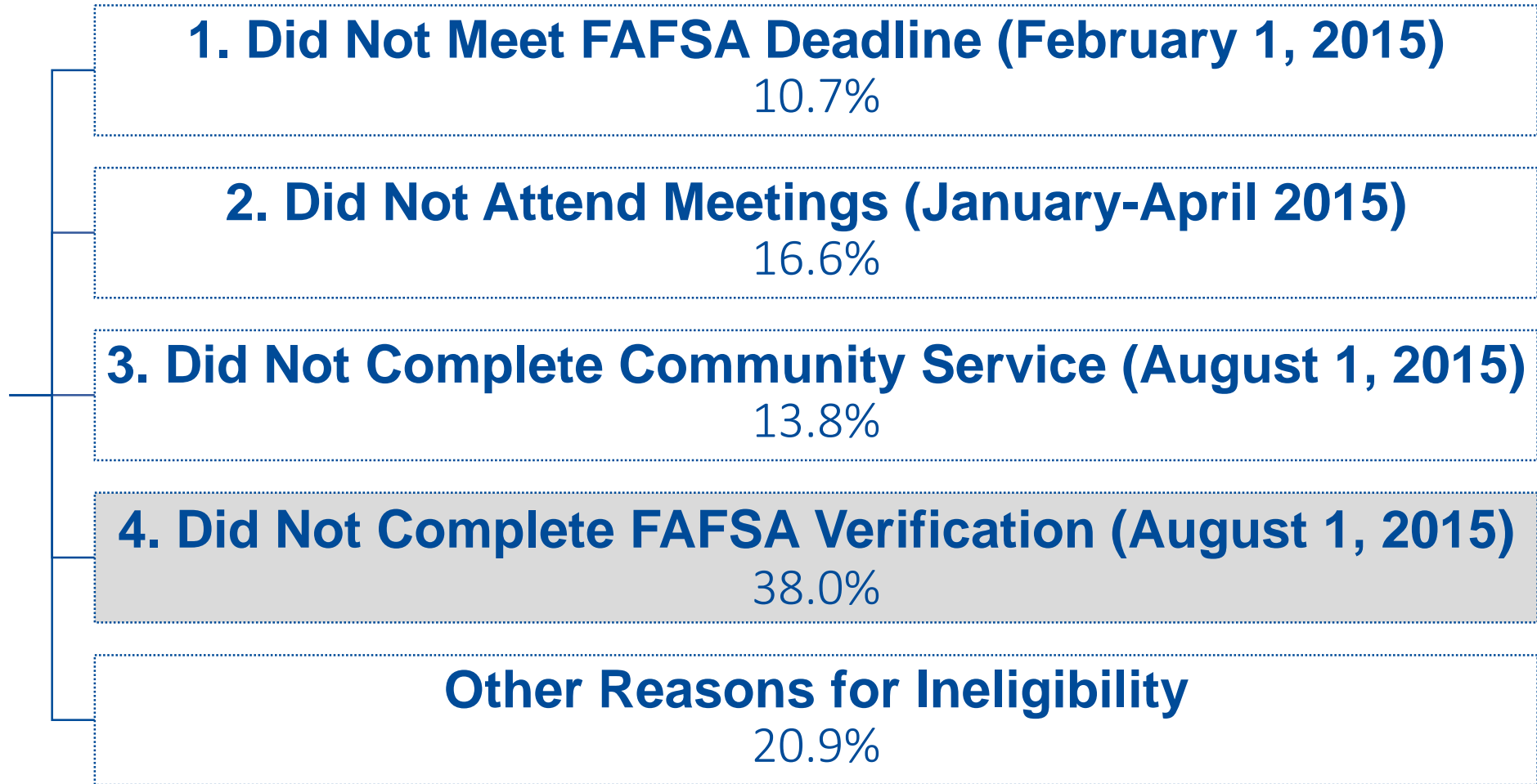
■ 2015 Recent HS Grads

■ Promise (2015)

■ Non-Promise (2015)

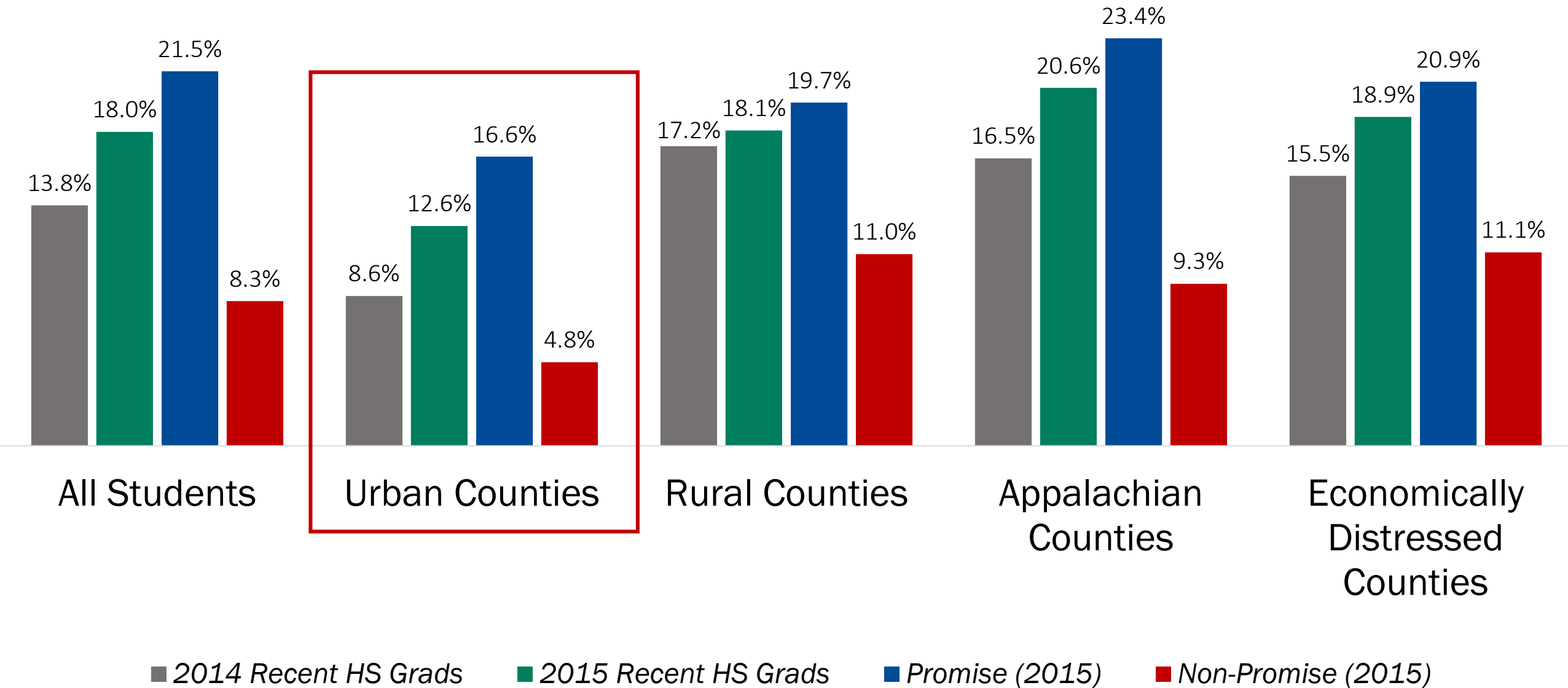
Barriers to Promise Participation

Non-Promise
Students at
Community
Colleges

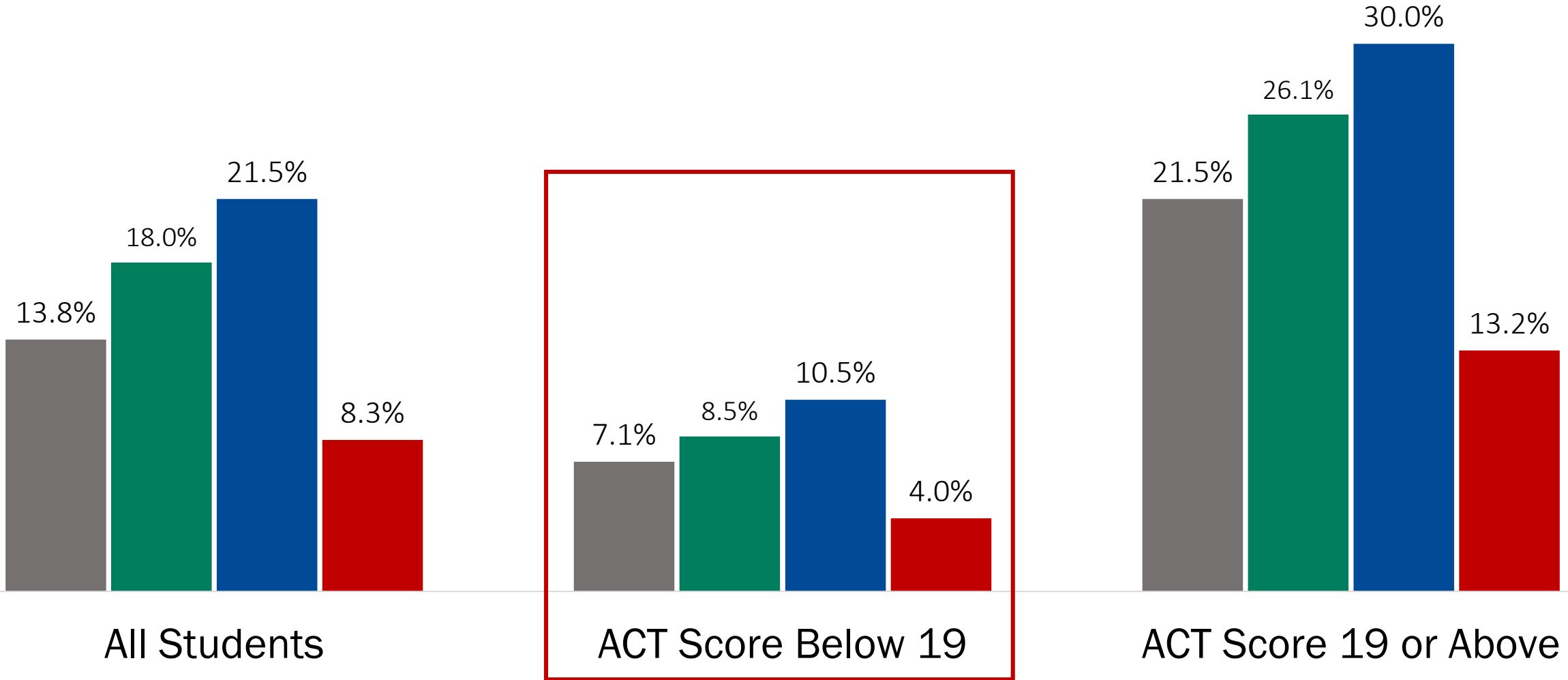


Equity in Student Success

Graduation after Five Semesters: By County



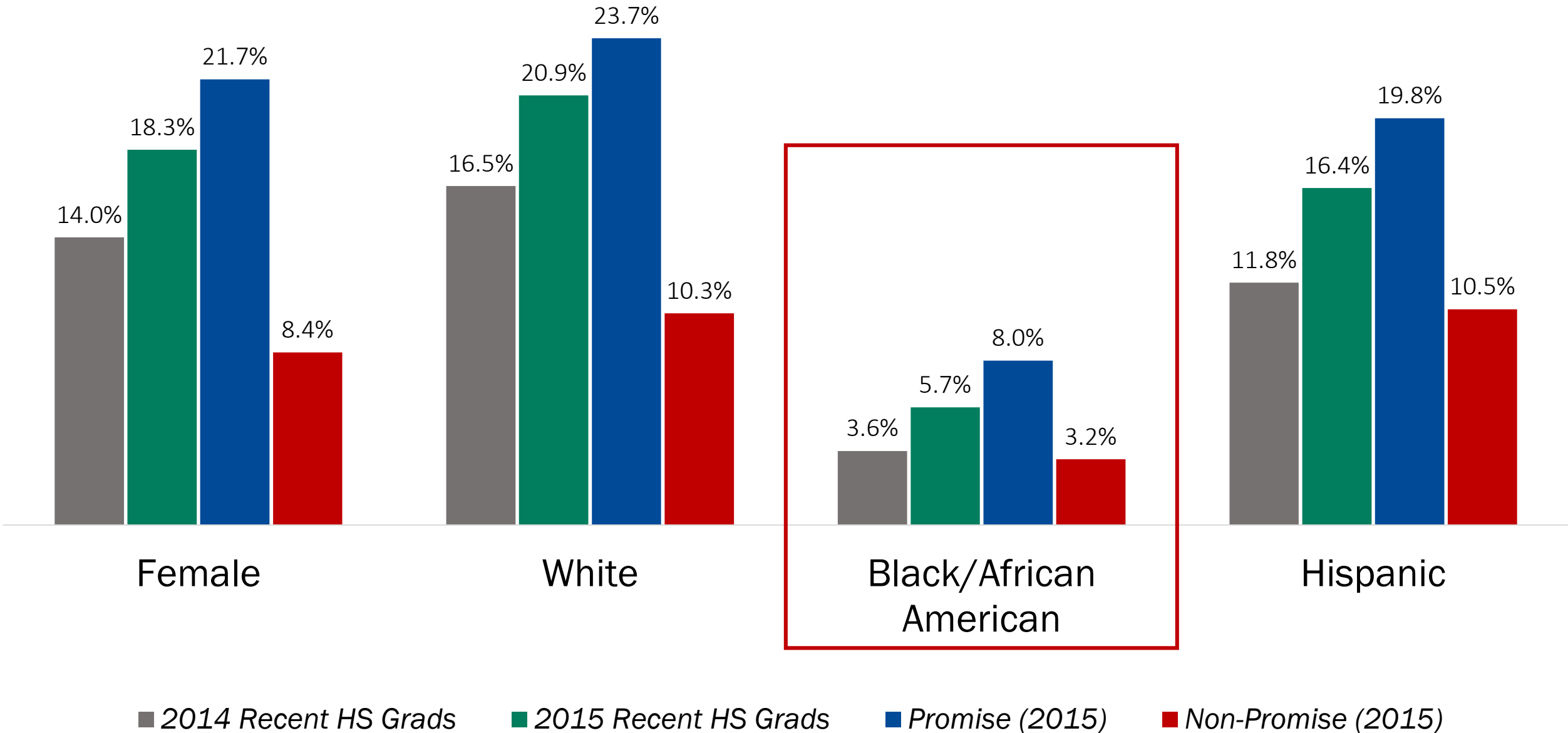
Graduation after Five Semesters: By ACT Score



■ 2014 Recent HS Grads ■ 2015 Recent HS Grads ■ Promise (2015) ■ Non-Promise (2015)

	Promise Students (2015)	Non-Promise Students (2015)
All Students	21.5%	8.3%
Pell Recipients	16.3%	7.2%
EFC = \$0	13.2%	5.4%
First Generation	18.3%	6.5%

Graduation after Five Semesters



Addressing Equity Gaps

- **Ongoing Initiatives**

- Relational Advising
- Achieving the Dream/AACC Pathways Project
- Corequisite Remediation
- Tennessee Transfer Pathways

- **Work with State Partners**

- Tennessee Higher Education Commission & TNAchieves
- Tennessee Promise Forward Grants
- High-Touch Interventions and Early Alert Systems

- **Key Differences**

- 4% increase in the size of the Promise cohort.
- 28% decrease in the number of non-Promise students.

- **Promise versus Non-Promise Students**

- Widening gap in retention rates.
- Narrowing demographic differences.
- Declining number affected by FAFSA verification.

- **Increased College-Going Rate**
- **Accelerated Degree Production**
 - Overall Success Rate of 52.2%
- **Equity Gaps**
 - Urban versus Rural Counties
 - Need for further research about equity gaps based on socioeconomic status.
- **Effects of Ongoing Interventions**



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