Remedial Education in the UW System

MARK NOOK

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

PRESENTATION TO THE UW SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS

DECEMBER 5, 2013

Overview

- Regent Policy 4-8
- Remediation in the National Context
- The Triennial Report
- Challenges with the Triennial Report
- Our Opportunity
- UW-Eau Claire Basic Writing
- UW-Milwaukee Developmental Math Reform

RPD 4-8, Remedial Education Policy

- Last updated November 1991
- Five major studies of remedial education within the UW System
  - 1976 – 1979, Basic Skills Taskforce
  - 1980 – 1982, College Skills Council
  - 1988, Taskforce on Remedial Education, establishes Regent Policy
  - 1993 – 1994 UWS Remedial Education Placement Working Group in Mathematics and UWS Remedial Education Placement Working Group in English
  - 2001 UWS Audit of Remedial Education

- Remedial courses in English and mathematics shall not generate credit toward a degree
- Appropriate credit load for all students enrolled in remedial courses will be determined by the institution
- All remedial courses shall be offered on a **fee recovery basis**
- There is to be a statement of minimal college-level skills and competencies in mathematics and English that is **widely circulated and periodically updated** (created in 1994)
- System established ACT score for math and English sub-scores that may exempt students from further testing
- UW System Institutions will cooperate with DPI in developing a **plan for assessing English and mathematics skills of high school students throughout the state**

National Context

Complete College America

Mission

Work with states to significantly increase the number of Americans with quality career certificates or college degrees and to close attainment gaps for traditionally underrepresented populations.

Reports on Remedial Education

- *Transforming Remedial Education: Essential Steps for States* (Sept. 2011)
- *Core Principles for Transforming Remedial Education* (Dec. 2012)
- *Remedial Education: Higher Education's Bridge to Nowhere* (2012)

National Context

Complete College America Reports

CCA Conclusions

- Too many students are placed into the broken system of remediation
- Too few students complete remediation
- Too few students complete credit-bearing gateway courses
- Too few students graduate

Best Practices

- Divert students from traditional remedial programs into customized approaches
- Align requirements for entry-level college courses with requirements for high school graduation - *
- Administering early college-ready anchor assessments in high school -*

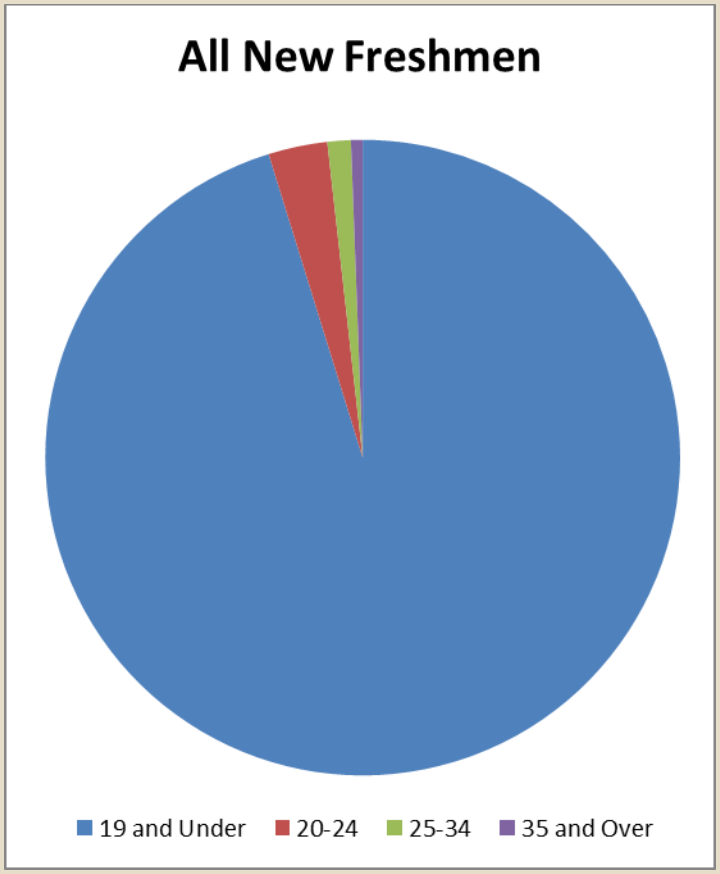
Are their findings and conclusions applicable to our institutions and programs?

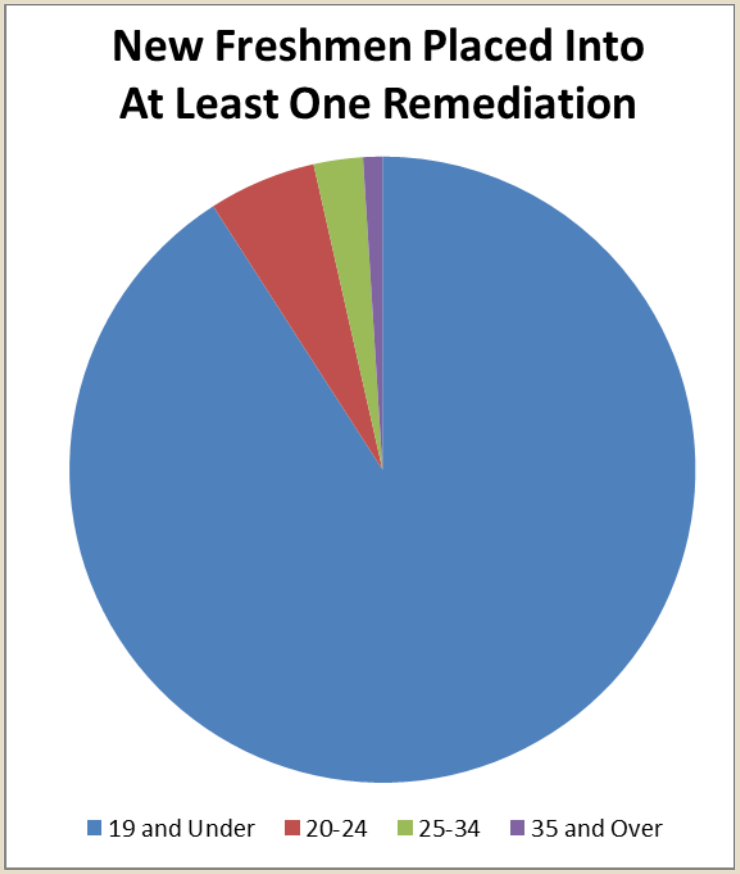
Remedial Education In the UW System

- **Academic Preparation**
- **Admissions Requirements**
- **College Readiness Exam**
- **Cut-off Scores on CRE**

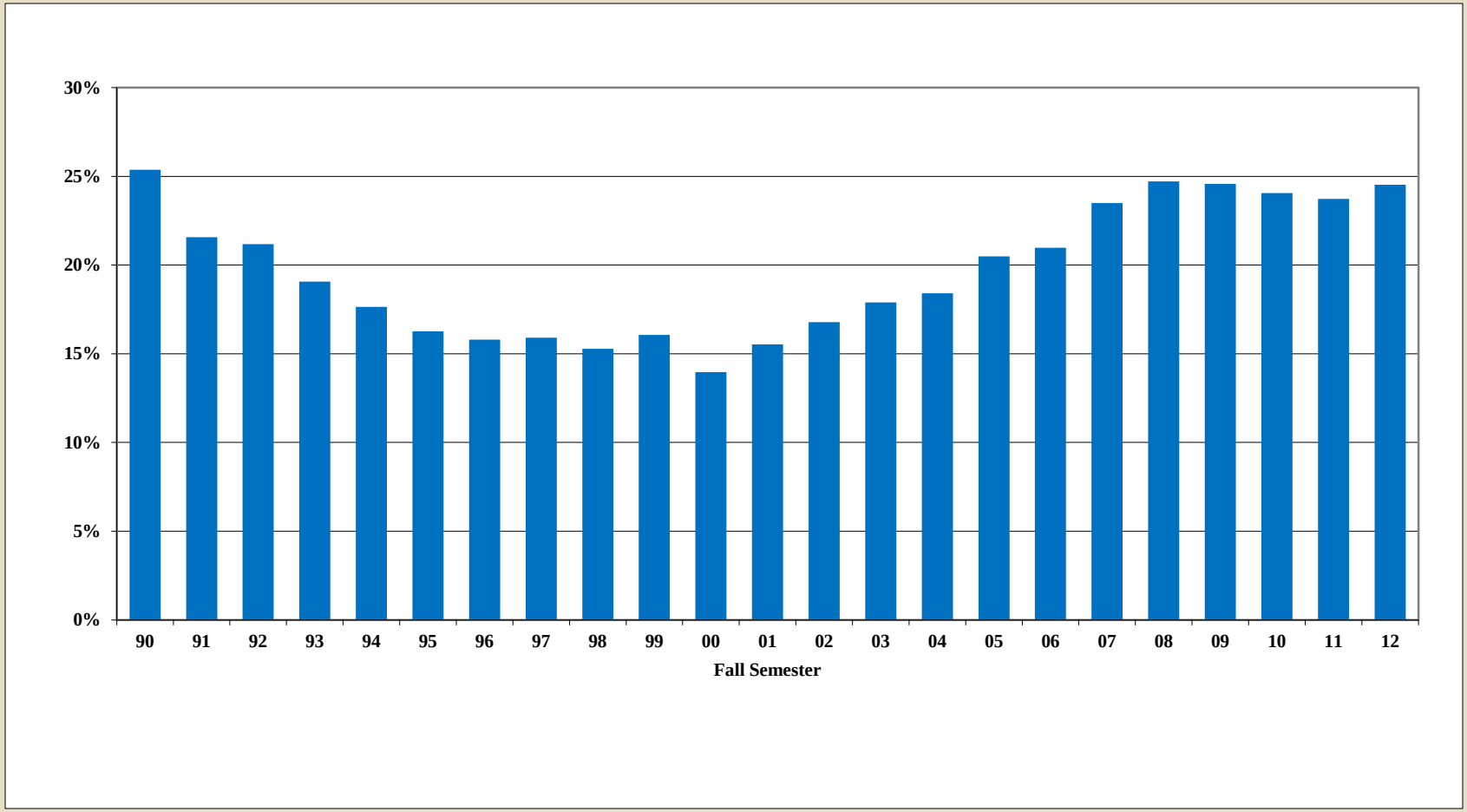
Remediation by Age Group

Fall 2012

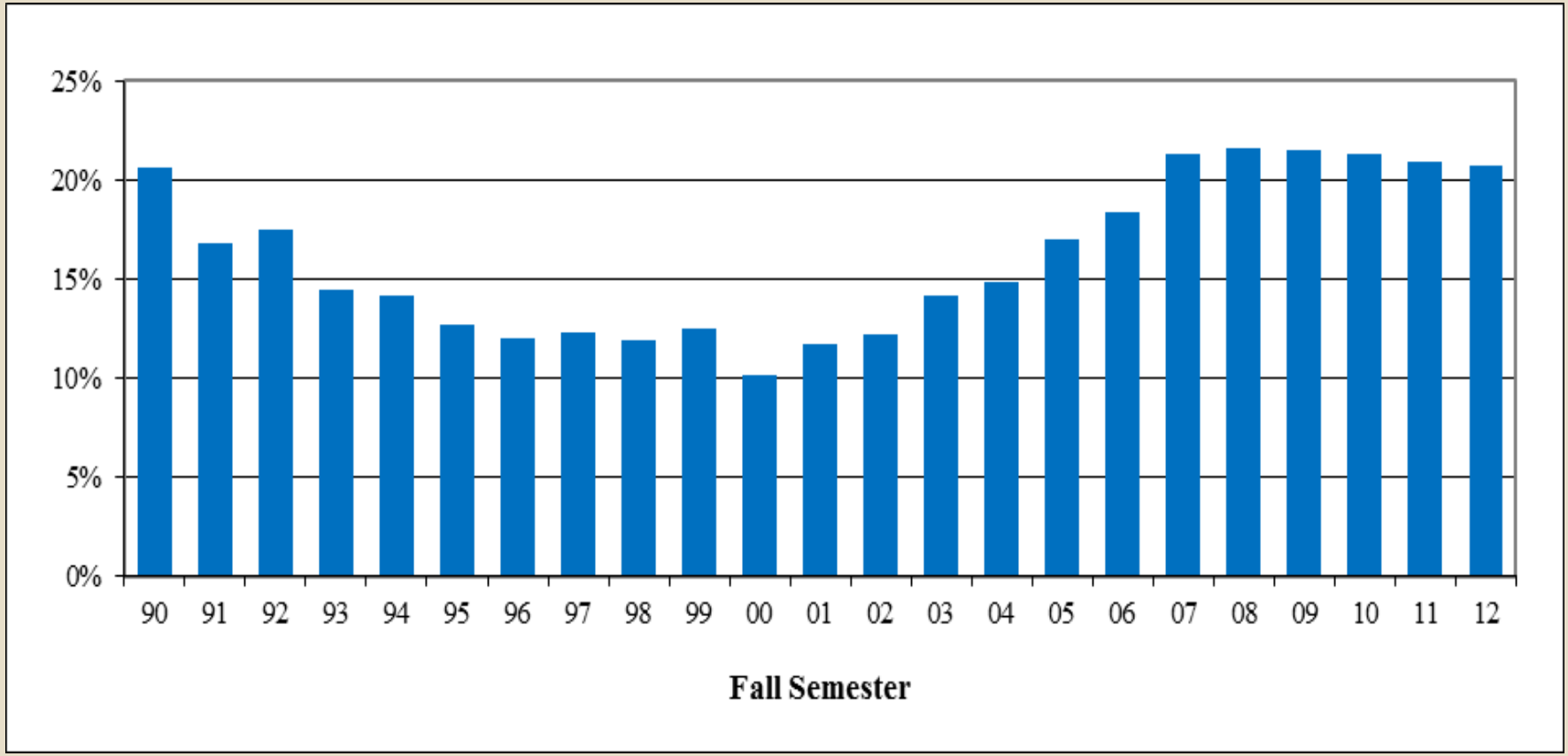




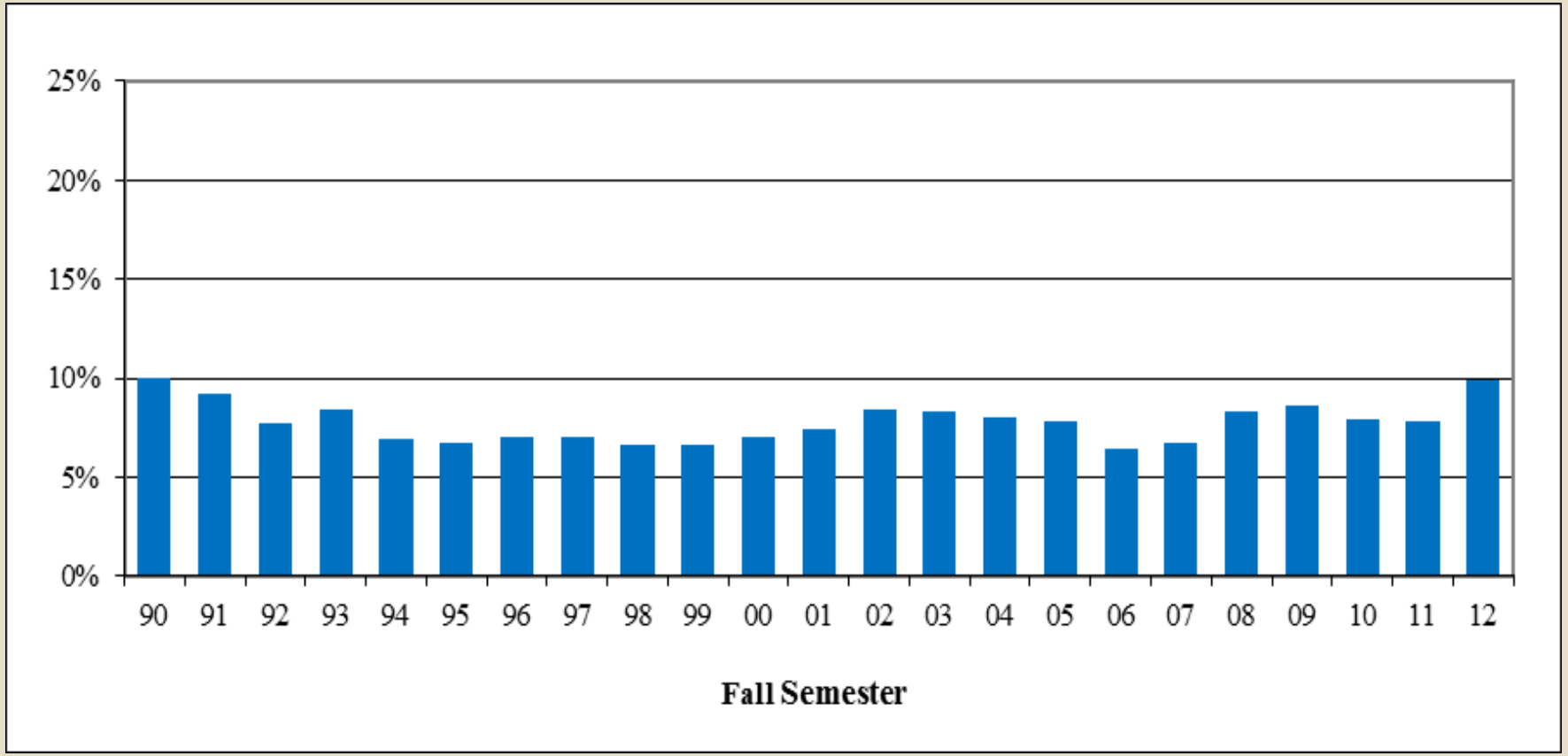
UW System New Freshmen Placed into Remedial Education, 1990-2012



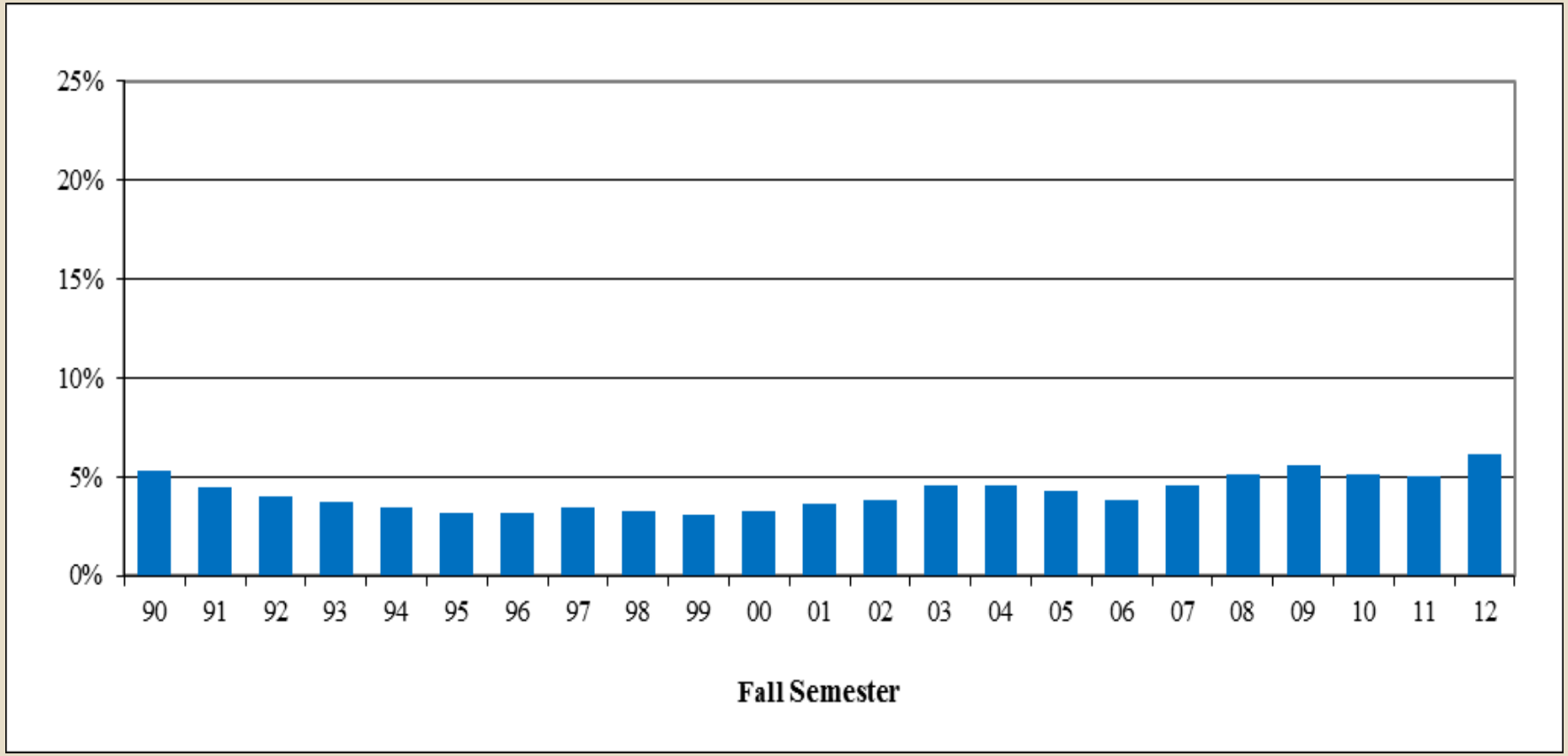
UW System New Freshmen Placed into Math Remediation, 1990-2012



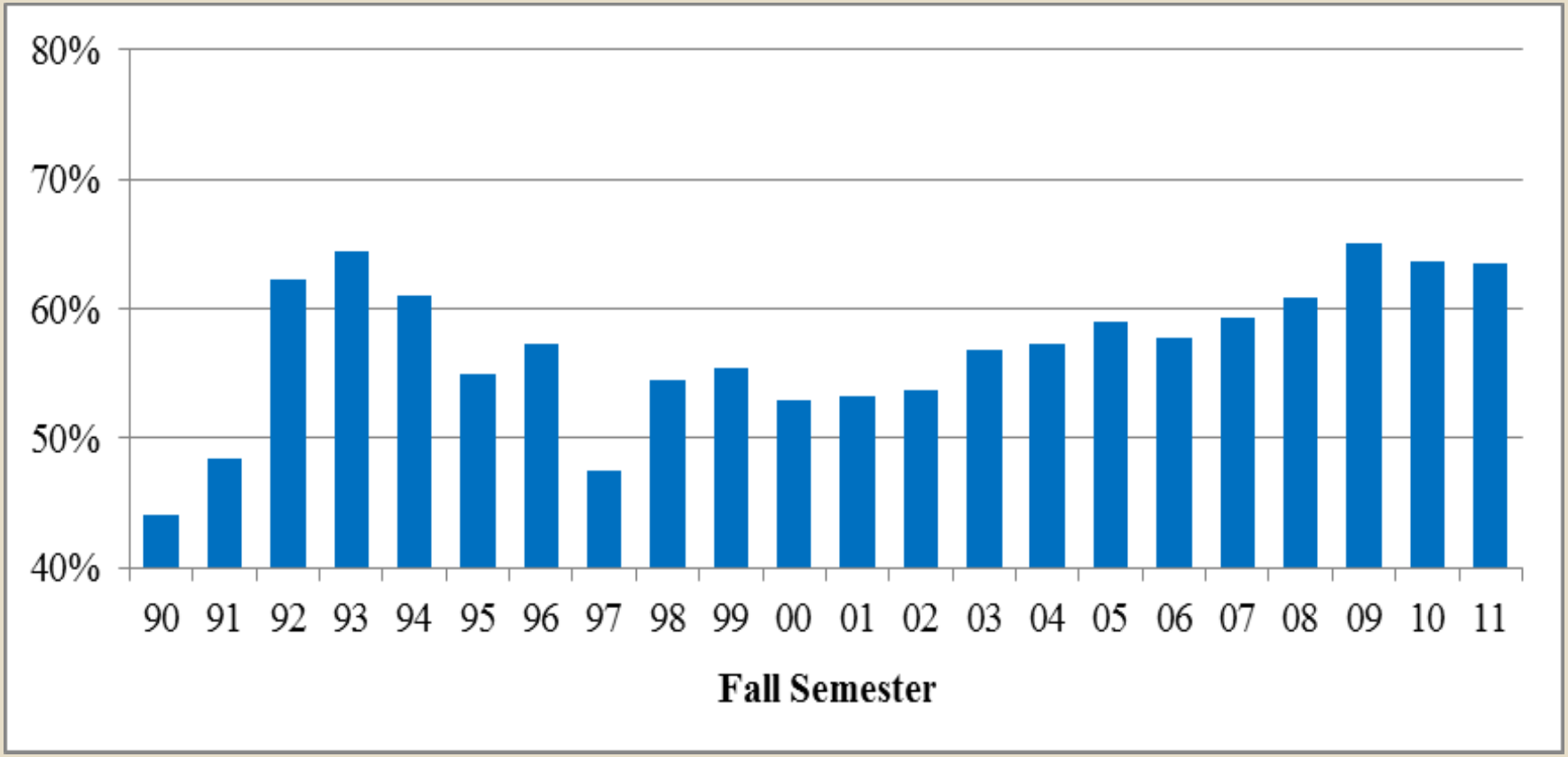
UW System New Freshmen Placed into English Remediation, 1990-2012



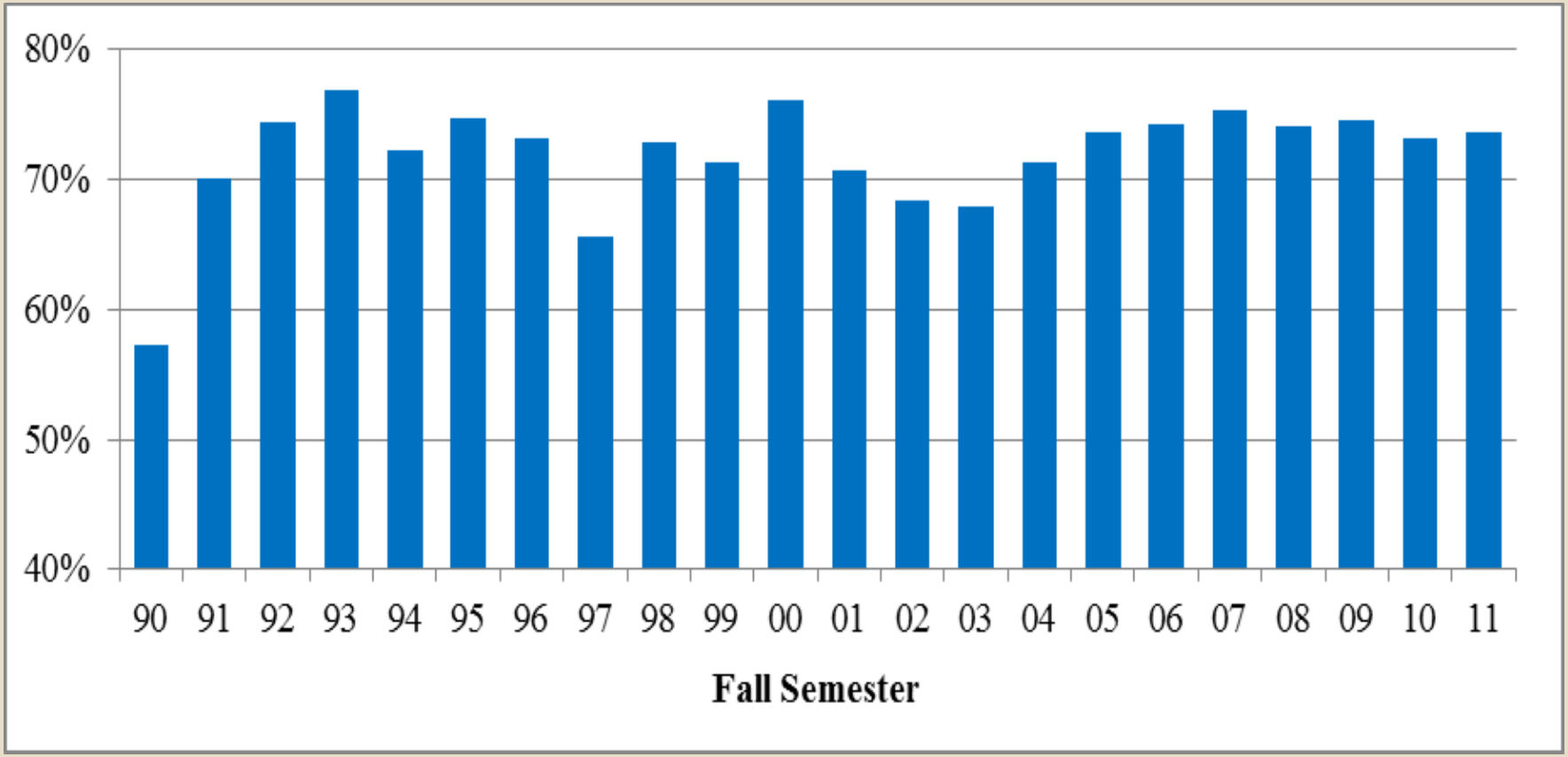
UW System New Freshmen Placed into Both Math and English Remediation, 1990-2012



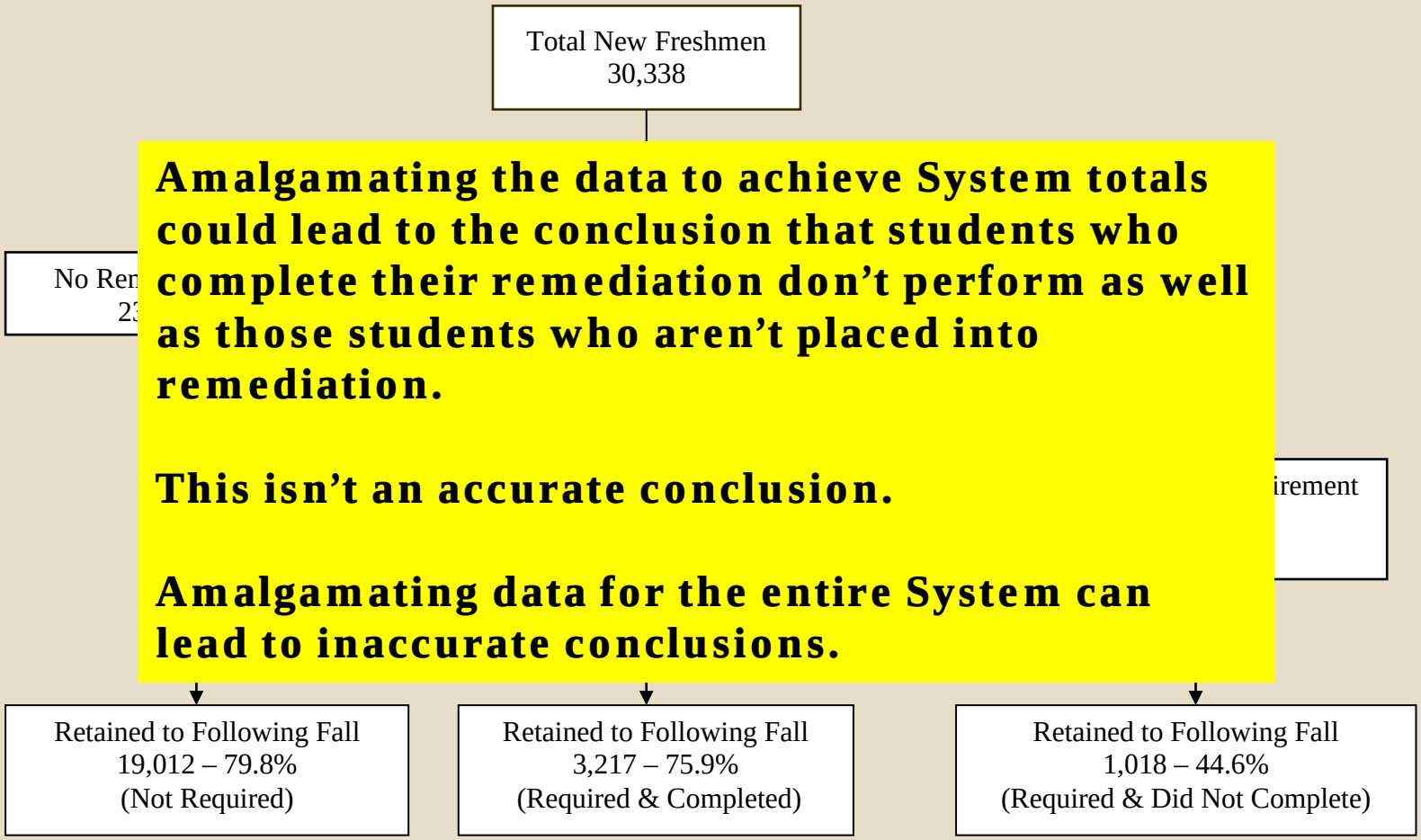
Math Remediation Completed in the First Year 1990-2011



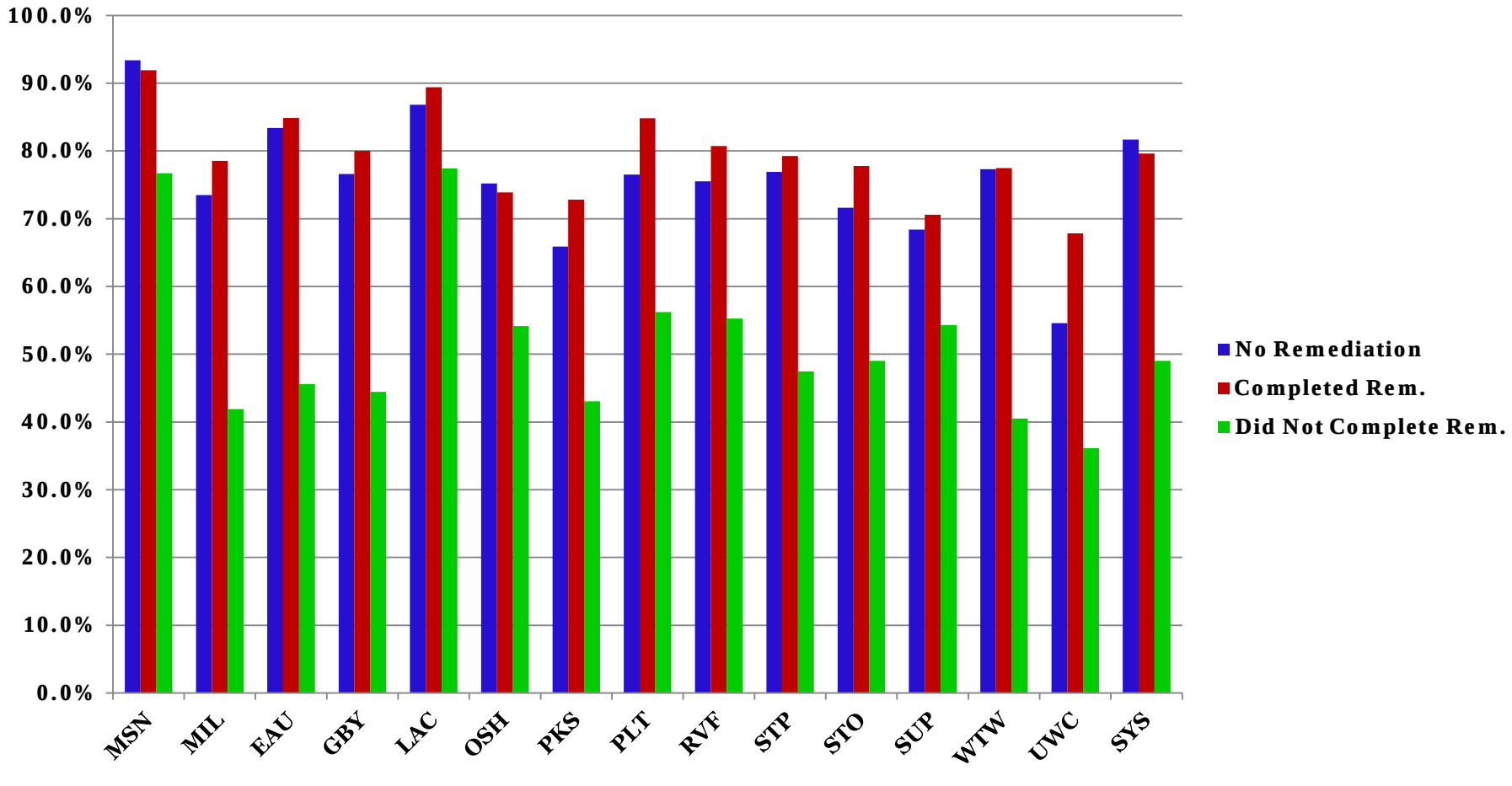
English Remediation Completed in the First Year 1990-2011



Second Year Retention of Fall 2009 New Freshmen by Math Remediation Requirement and Completion

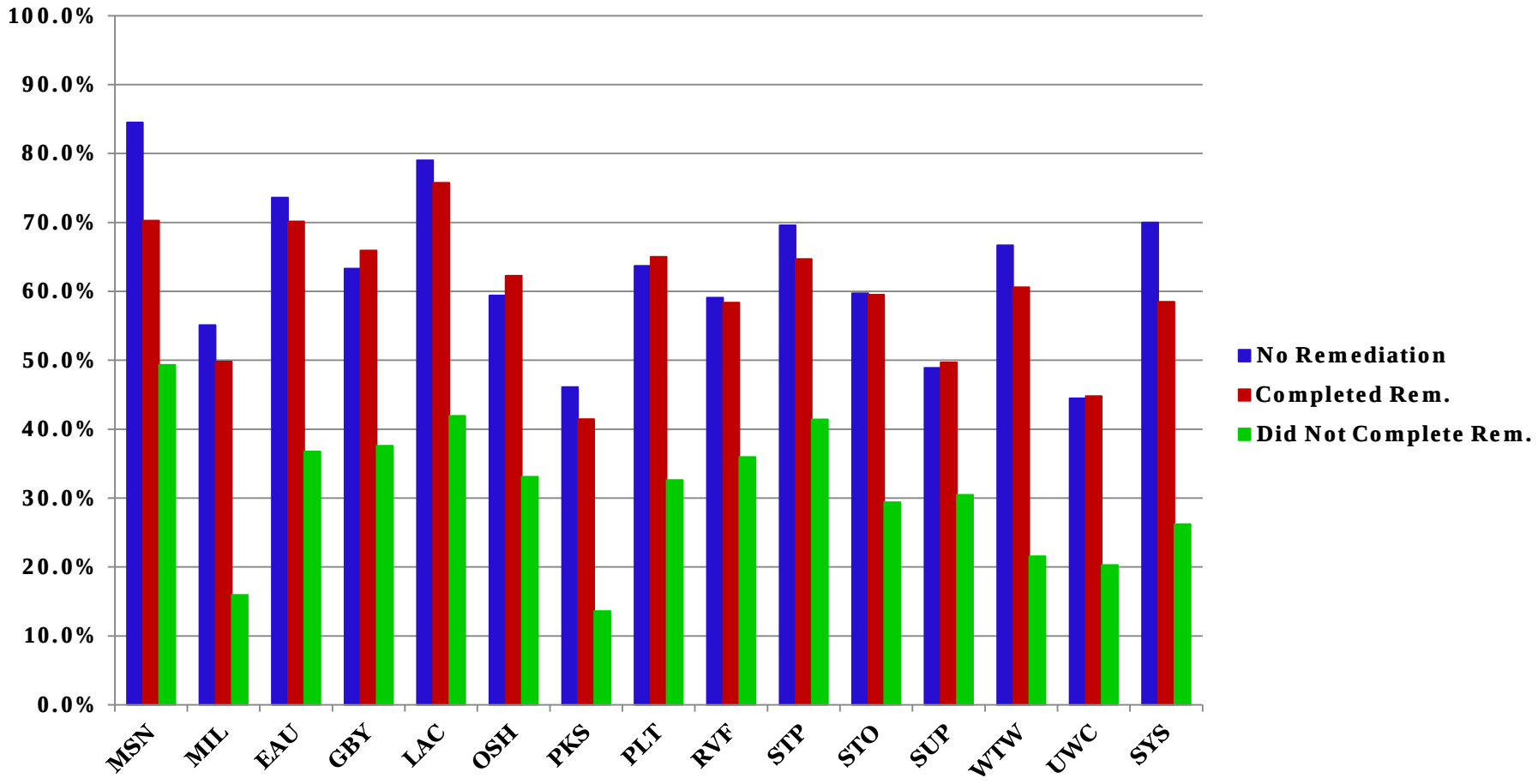


Retention Rates of Students Required to Only Take Math Remediation



New Freshmen from Fall 2004 through 2006 combined.

6-Yr Graduation Rates of Students Required to Only Take Math Remediation



New Freshmen from Fall 2004 through 2006 combined.

Placement in Math Remediation

Math Test(s) Used	Math Cut-off Scores
ACT-M	ACT-M ≤ 19
ACT-M and SAT-M	ACT-M ≤ 18 or SAT-M ≤ 450
MPT	ALG < 460
MPT	ALG ≤ 395
MPT and ACT-M	MBSC ≤ 395 and ACT-M ≤ 20
MPT	MBSC ≤ 445 or ALG ≤ 415 or TRG ≤ 850
MPT	MBSC < 346 or (MBSC < 446 & ALG < 346 & TRG < 850)
MPT	Formula using MBSC, ALG, & TRG
ACT-M and MPT	ACT-M ≤ 16, formula using MBSC, ALG, & TRG

- **MPT**
  UW's Math Placement Test, it consists of three parts; **MBSC, ALG, & TRG**
- **ACT-M**
  Math section of the ACT
- **SAT-M**
  Math section of the SAT

Placement in English Remediation

English Test(s) Used	English Cut-off Scores
EPT and ACT-E	EPT ≤ 374 & ACT-E ≤ 17
EPT and ACT-E	EPT ≤ 355 & ACT-E ≤ 19
ACT-E and EPT	EPT ≤ 360 & ACT-E ≤ 16
EPT	EPT < 355
EPT	EPT ≤ 314
ACT-E	ACT-E ≤ 18
ACT-E or SAT-E	ACT-E ≤ 16 or SAT-E ≤ 420
EPT & Writing sample	N/A

- **EPT**
  UW's English Placement Test
- **ACT-E**
  English section of the ACT
- **SAT-E**
  English section of the SAT

Our Opportunity

- Tremendous data related to academic preparation
  - HS Rank
  - ACT composite, math, English scores
  - UW English Placement Test Score
  - UW Math Placement Test Score
- Multiple Remediation Approaches and Programs
- Achievement Data
  - Pass rates of first college-bearing courses
  - Retention rates
  - Graduation rates
- The Common Core

Remedial Education Working Group Charge

- Review current Regent, System, and Institutional policies relating to remedial education
- Review the national literature on remedial education to identify national best practices that might be implemented at UW institutions
- Develop a set of recommendations to include
  - Revisions to Regent policy
  - Revisions to UW System guidelines
  - Best practices in measuring a student's readiness for college-level work
  - Best practices in serving students who are below the necessary level of academic preparation in English and/or Mathematics to be successful in their first college-level courses in these subjects
  - Revisions to the Remedial Education Report to the Regents

Questions?

Institutional Presentations

New Approaches to Basic Writing

UW-Eau Claire

- Dr. Carmen Manning
  Chair, Department of English
- Dr. Shevaun Watson
  Director, First-Year Writing Program

Developmental Math Reform

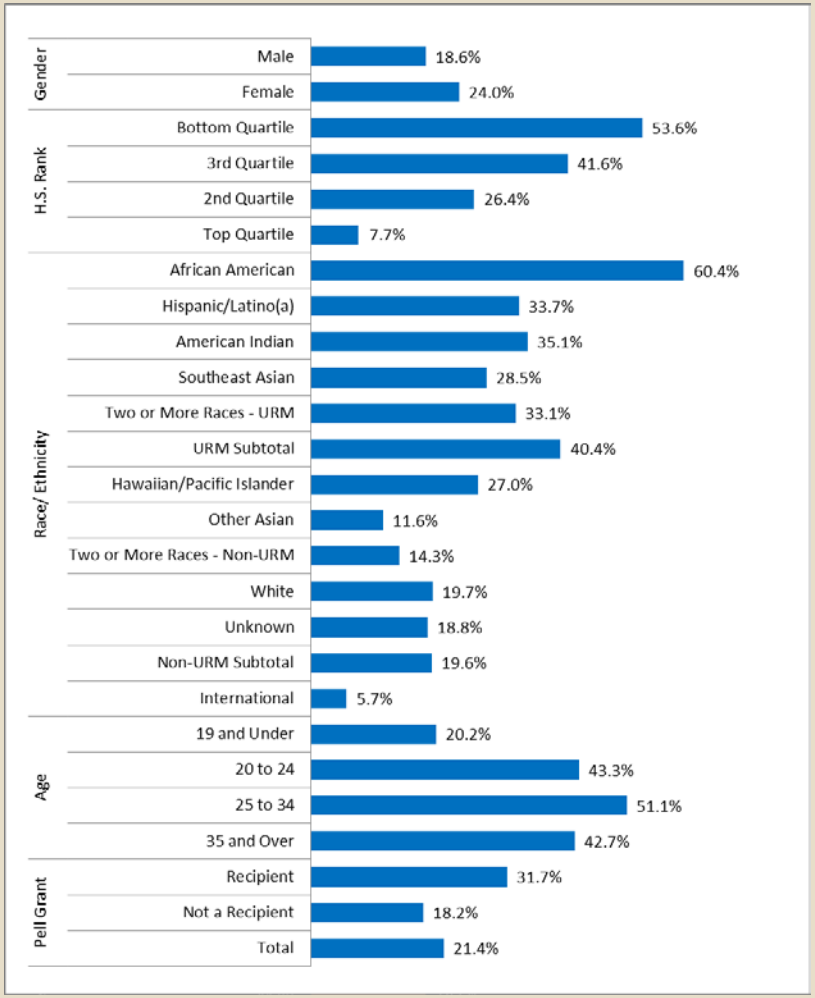
UW-Milwaukee

- Dr. Phyllis King
  Associate Vice Chancellor
- Dr. Kyle Swanson
  Chair, Department of Mathematical Sciences

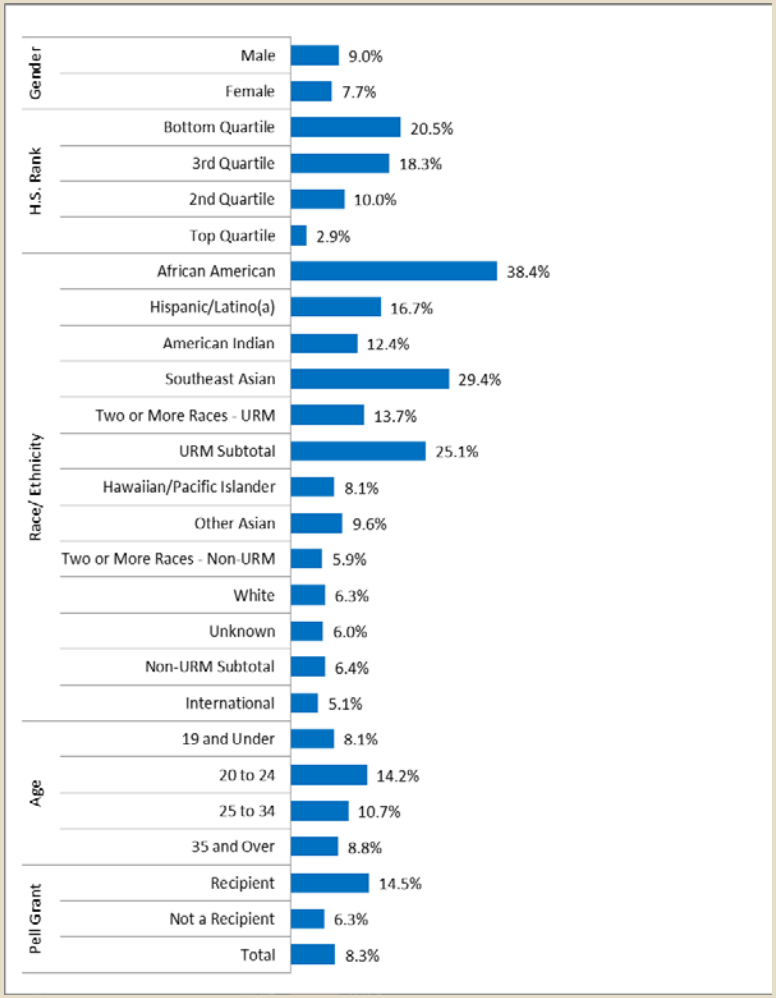
Thank You

New Freshmen Placed into Remediation

Math

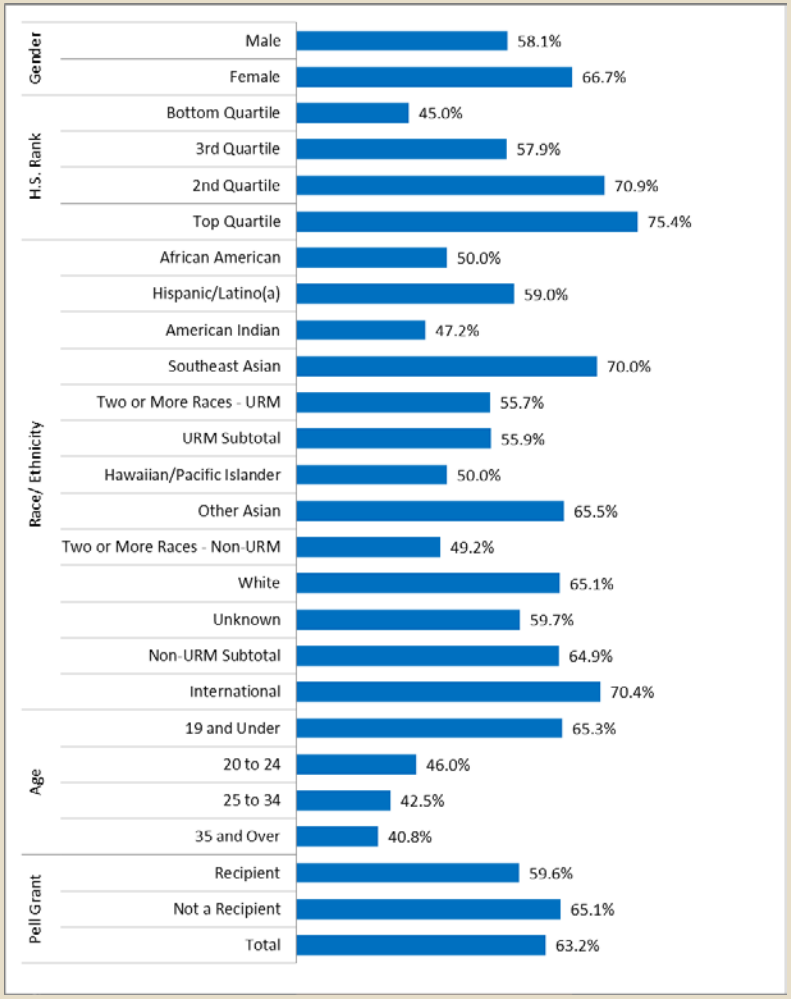


English

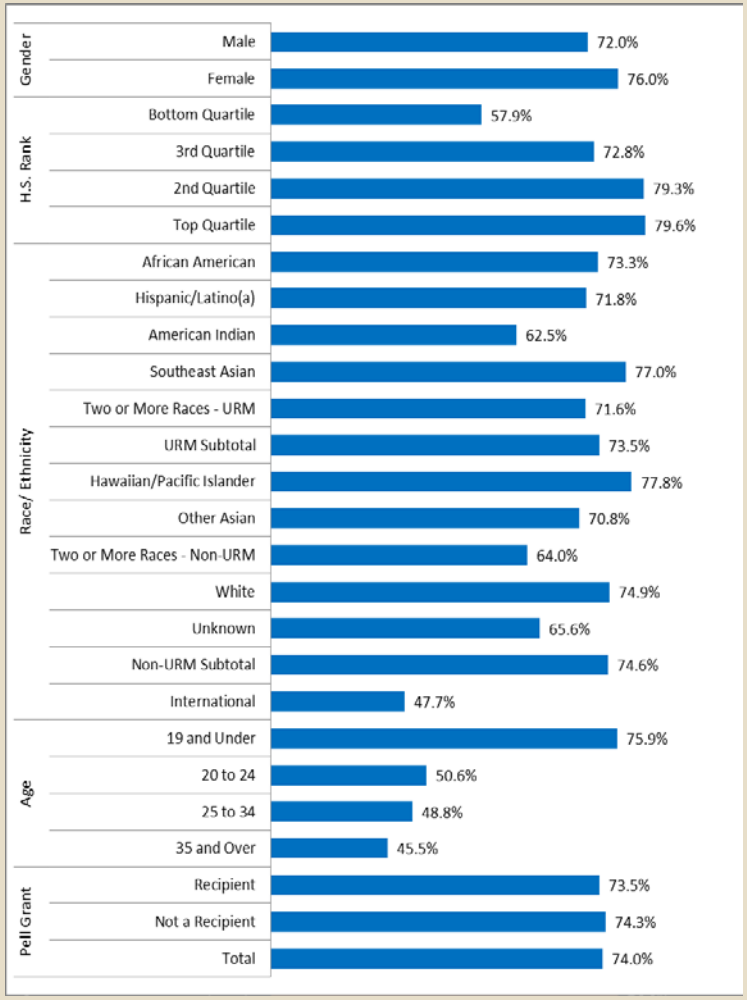


Students Completing Remediation During First Year

Math



English

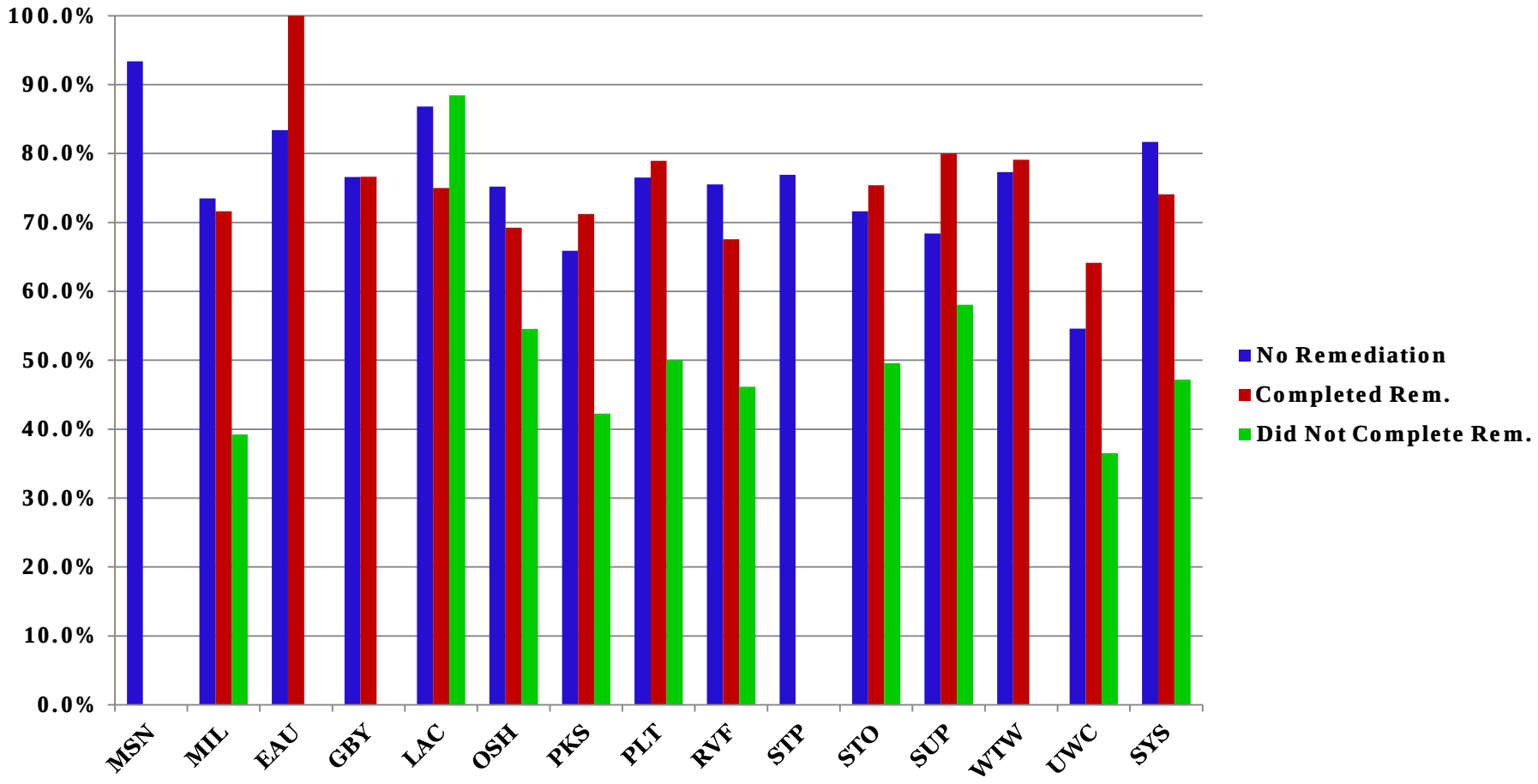


Three Big Questions

- Are students appropriately placed into remediation?
- Does remediation work? That is, do students who complete their required remediation go on to complete gateway courses and their degrees?
- Is our system of remedial education worth the investment?

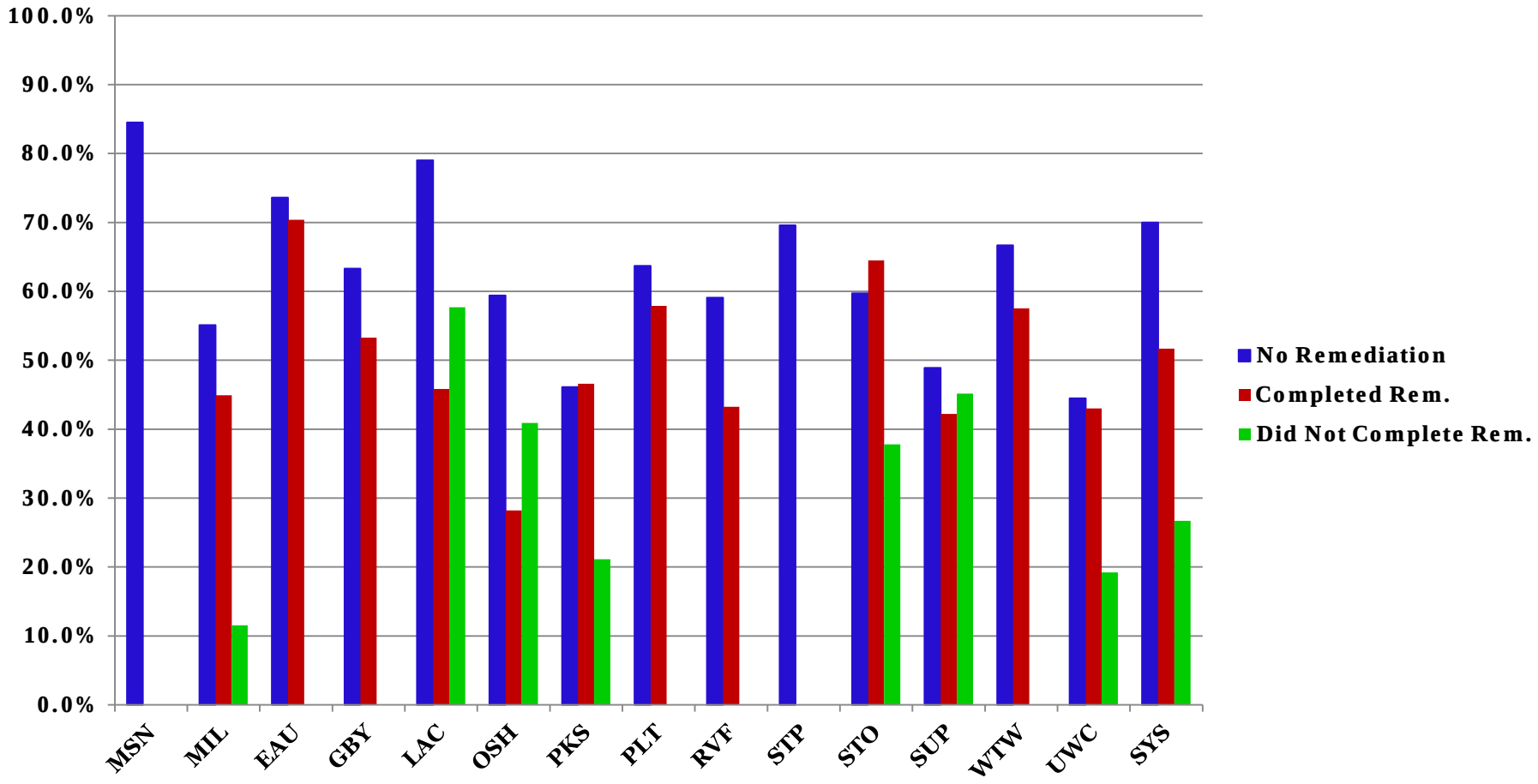
Note: The current Remedial Education Report does not allow these questions to be addressed.

Retention Rates of Students Required to Only Take English Remediation



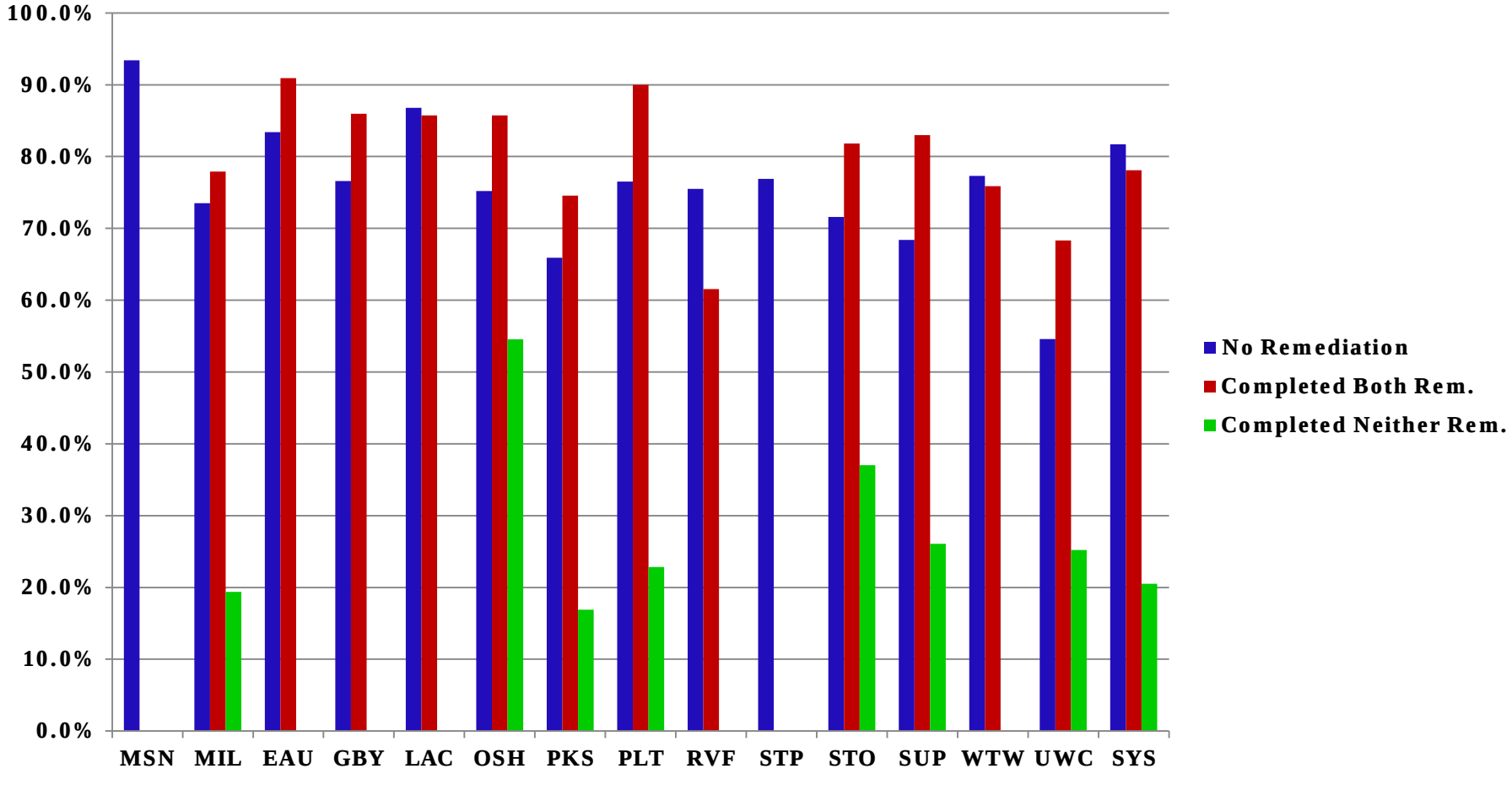
New Freshmen from Fall 2004 through 2006 combined.

6-Yr Graduation Rates of Students Required to Only Take English Remediation



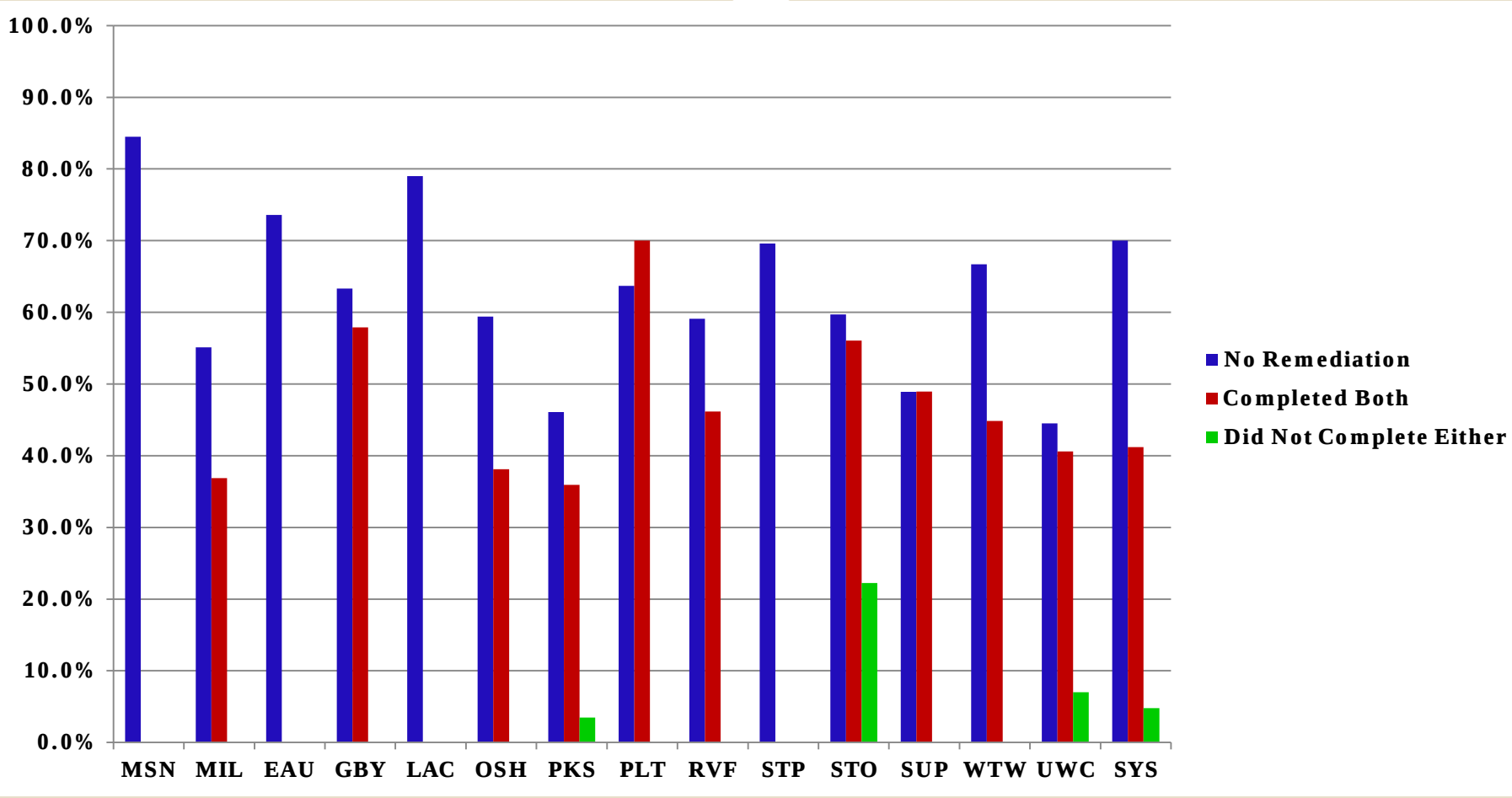
New Freshmen from Fall 2004 through 2006 combined.

Retention Rates of Students Required to Take English and Math Remediation



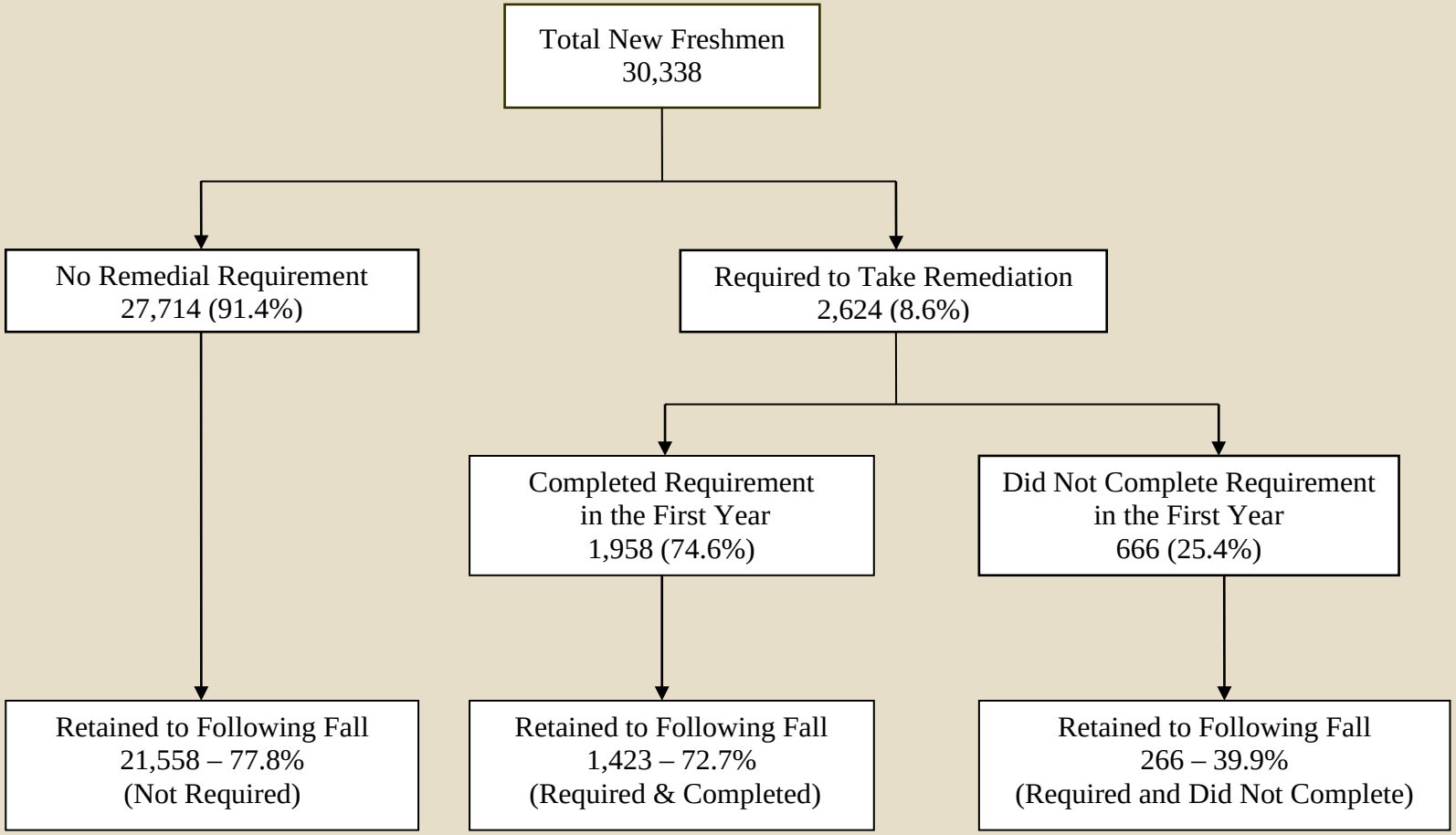
New Freshmen from Fall 2004 through 2006 combined.

6-Yr Graduation Rates of Students Required to Take English and Math Remediation

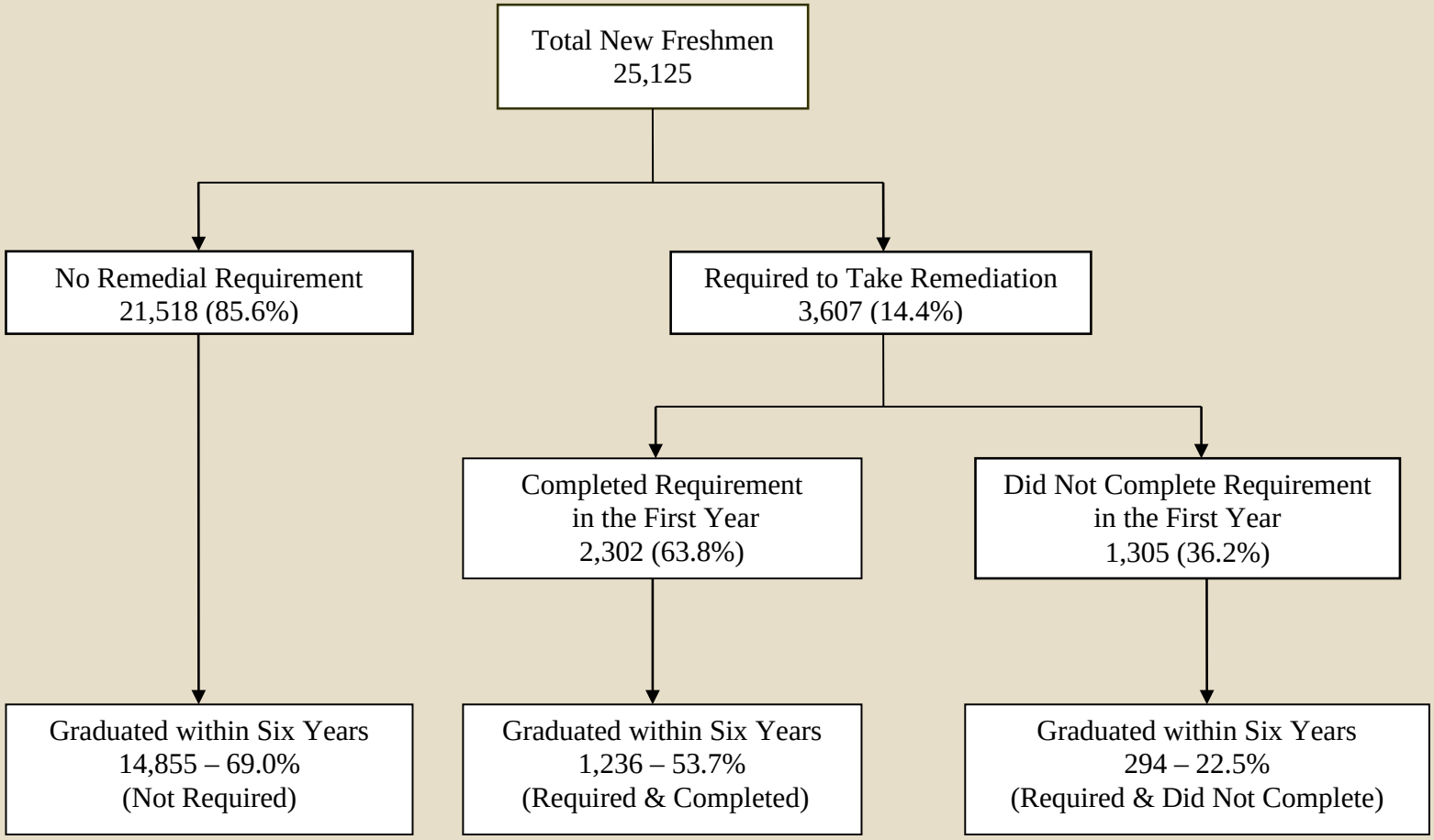


New Freshmen from Fall 2004 through 2006 combined.

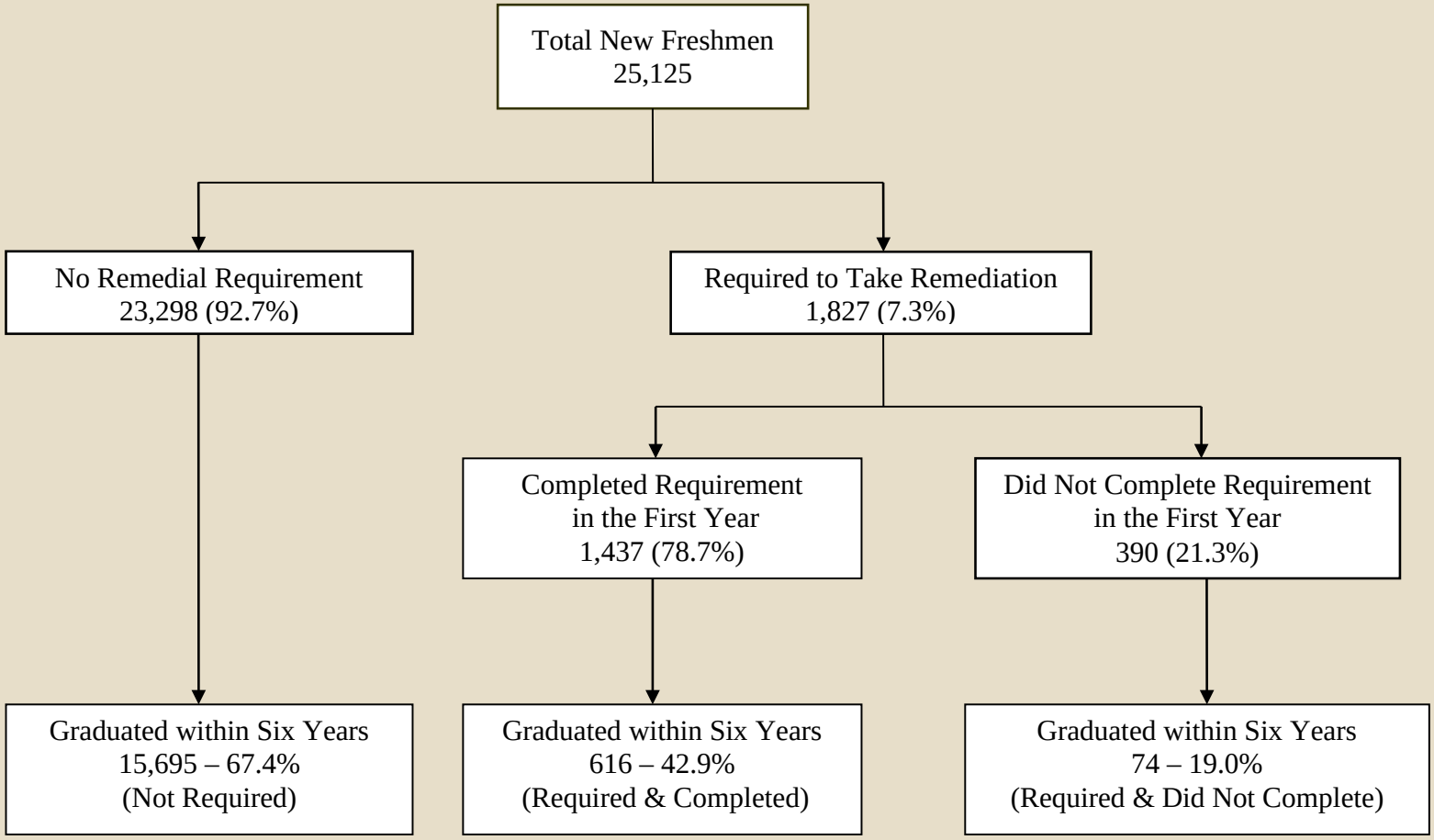
Second Year Retention of Fall 2009 New Freshmen by English Remediation Requirement & Completion



Six-Year Graduation of Fall 2005 New Freshmen by Math Remediation Requirement and Completion



Six-Year Graduation of Fall 2005 New Freshmen by English Remediation Requirement and Completion



Placement in Remediation

Institution	Math Test(s) Used	Math Cutoff scores	English Test(s)	English Cutoff scores
MIL	MPT	MBSC <=445 or ALG <= 415 or TRG <= 850	EPT	EPT <= 314
EAU	MPT	ALG <= 395	EPT and ACT-E	EPT <= 374 and ACT-E <= 17
GBY	MPT	ALG <= 385 or MBSC <= 375	ACT-E or SAT-E	ACT-E <= 16 or SAT-E <= 440
LAX	MPT and ACT-M	MBSC <= 395 and ACT-M <= 20	EPT and ACT-E	EPT <= 355 and ACT-E <= 19
OSH	MPT	MBSC <= 375 or ALG <= 445	EPT	EPT <= 320
PRK	ACT-M	ACT-M <= 19	ACT-E	ACT-E <= 18
PLT	MPT	ALG < 460	EPT	EPT <= 345
RVF	MPT	Formula combining MBSC, ALG and TRG	EPT	EPT < 355
STP	MPT	MBSC < 346 or (MBSC < 446 and ALG < 346 and TRG < 850)	EPT plus a Writing sample	N/A
STO	ACT-M and MPT	ACT-M <= 16, use a formula combining MBSC, ALG and TRG	ACT-E and EPT	ACT-E <= 16 and EPT <= 360
SUP	MPT	MBSC <= 415 or ALG <= 375	EPT or ACT-E or SAT-E	EPT <= 365 or ACT-E <= 18 or SAT-E < 489
WTW	ACT-M or SAT-M	ACT-M <= 18 or SAT-M <= 450	ACT-E or SAT-E	ACT-E <= 16 or SAT-E <= 420
UWC	MPT	MBSC <= 395 and ALG <= 850 and TRG <= 850	EPT	(EPT + EPT-Read) < 700

MPT UW's Math Placement Test, consisting of three parts; MBSC, ALG, and TRG

EPT UW's English Placement Test

ACT-M Math section of the ACT

ACT-E English section of the ACT

SAT-M Math section of the SAT

SAT-E English section of the SAT

New Freshmen at UW Four-Year Institutions from Fall 2004, Fall 2005, & Fall 2006 Combined

	Headcount	% of New Fresh	% of Rem	2nd Yr Ret at Inst Where Started	4-Yr Grad at Any UW Inst	6-Yr Grad at Any UW Inst
Total New Freshmen	74,845	100.0%		79.1%	29.1%	65.1%
No Remediation	61,443	82.1%		81.7%	32.9%	70.0%
Only Math Rem	8,118	10.8%		69.1%	13.7%	47.4%
Completed Rem	5,327		65.6%	79.6%	17.5%	58.5%
Did not Complete Rem	2,791		34.4%	49.0%	6.4%	26.2%
Only English Rem	2,339	3.1%		68.9%	12.5%	46.9%
Completed Rem	1,886		80.6%	74.1%	13.6%	51.7%
Did not Complete Rem	453		19.4%	47.2%	7.9%	26.7%
Both Math and English Rem	2,945	3.9%		60.7%	5.2%	27.0%
Completed Both	1,372		46.6%	78.1%	8.5%	41.2%
Completed Only Math	144		4.9%	68.8%	8.3%	29.9%
Completed Only English	844		28.7%	58.8%	2.3%	18.8%
Completed Neither	585		19.9%	20.5%	1.0%	4.8%

New Freshmen at One UW Four-Year Institution from Fall 2004, Fall 2005, & Fall 2006 Combined

	Headcount	% of New Fresh	% of Rem	2nd Yr Ret at Inst Where Started	4-Yr Grad at Any UW Inst	6-Yr Grad at Any UW Inst
Total New Freshmen	3,887	100.0%		74.4%	18.8%	58.6%
No Remediation	2,473	63.6%		76.5%	20.2%	63.7%
Only Math Rem	1,227	31.6%		71.9%	17.3%	50.4%
Completed Rem	672		54.8%	84.8%	23.8%	65.0%
Did not Complete Rem	555		45.2%	56.2%	9.4%	32.6%
Only English Rem	56	1.4%		69.6%	12.5%	48.2%
Completed Rem	38		67.9%	78.9%	15.8%	57.9%
Did not Complete Rem	18		32.1%	50.0%	*	*
Both Math and English Rem	131	3.4%		61.1%	7.6%	42.0%
Completed Both	50		38.2%	90.0%	12.0%	70.0%
Completed Only Math	9		6.9%	*	*	*
Completed Only English	37		28.2%	59.5%	*	32.4%
Completed Neither	35		26.7%	22.9%	*	*

New Freshmen at UW Four-Year Institutions from Fall 2004, Fall 2005, & Fall 2006 Combined

	Headcount	% of New Fresh	% of Rem	2nd Yr Ret at Inst Where Started	4-Yr Grad at Any UW Inst	6-Yr Grad at Any UW Inst
Total New Freshmen	74,845	100.0%		79.1%	29.1%	65.1%
No Remediation	61,443	82.1%		81.7%	32.9%	70.0%
Only Math Remediation	8,118	10.8%		69.1%	13.7%	47.4%
Completed Rem	5,327		65.6%	79.6%	17.5%	58.5%
Did not Complete Rem	2,791		34.4%	49.0%	6.4%	26.2%
Only English Remediation	2,339	3.1%		68.9%	12.5%	46.9%
Completed Rem	1,886		80.6%	74.1%	13.6%	51.7%
Did not Complete Rem	453		19.4%	47.2%	7.9%	26.7%
Both Math and English Remediation	2,945	3.9%		60.7%	5.2%	27.0%
Completed Both	1,372		46.6%	78.1%	8.5%	41.2%
Completed Only Math	144		4.9%	68.8%	8.3%	29.9%
Completed Only English	844		28.7%	58.8%	2.3%	18.8%
Completed Neither	585		19.9%	20.5%	1.0%	4.8%

New Freshmen at UW Four-Year Institutions from Fall 2004, Fall 2005, & Fall 2006 Combined

	Headcount	% of New Fresh	% of Rem	2nd Yr Ret at Inst Where Started	4-Yr Grad at Any UW Inst	6-Yr Grad at Any UW Inst
Total New Freshmen	74,845	100.0%		79.1%	29.1%	65.1%
No Remediation	61,443	82.1%		81.7%	32.9%	70.0%
Only Math Remediation	8,118	10.8%		69.1%	13.7%	47.4%
Completed Rem	5,327		65.6%	79.6%	17.5%	58.5%
Only English Remediation	2,339	3.1%		68.9%	12.5%	46.9%
Completed Rem	1,886		80.6%	74.1%	13.6%	51.7%
Both Math and English Remediation	2,945	3.9%		60.7%	5.2%	27.0%
Completed Both	1,372		46.6%	78.1%	8.5%	41.2%
Completed Only Math	144		4.9%	68.8%	8.3%	29.9%
Completed Only English	844		28.7%	58.8%	2.3%	18.8%
Completed Neither	585		19.9%	20.5%	1.0%	4.8%