



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA

From Ninth Grade On-Track to College Matriculation: The Path of the 2015-16 SDP Ninth-Grade Cohort

Key Findings

- A higher percentage of students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade matriculated into college four years later compared to students who were On-Track But At Risk or Off-Track.
- A higher percentage of female students matriculated into both two- and four-year colleges across all On-Track subgroups.
- A higher percentage of Hispanic/Latino students were Off-Track in ninth grade and a lower percentage matriculated into a four-year college compared to students of other races/ethnicities.
- Students with IEPs had similar Ninth Grade On-Track rates as students without IEPs, but a lower percentage of students with IEPs matriculated into college following their high school graduation.
- A higher percentage of economically disadvantaged students did not matriculate into college compared to non-economically disadvantaged students across all On-Track subgroups.
- Overall, GPA was highly predictive of whether students matriculated, with higher GPAs indicating higher rates of matriculation, particularly at four-year colleges.

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Introduction

The School District of Philadelphia's (SDP's) Ninth Grade On-Track metric is an established and validated tool for early identification of students who are not likely to graduate on time. Research has shown that the School District of Philadelphia's (SDP) Ninth Grade On-Track metric is directly linked to on-time high school graduation.¹ For example, in three recent first-time ninth-grade cohorts (2011-12 through 2013-14), four-year graduation rates were much higher for On-Track students (87.8 - 89.2%) than for Off-Track students (43.3 - 48.8%). However, no research in Philadelphia to date has focused on how On-Track status is related to college matriculation among students who graduate.

This report builds on previous findings by examining first-fall matriculation outcomes of the 2015-16 first-time ninth-grade cohort who graduated on-time (Class of 2019) by their Ninth Grade On-Track status (Firmly On-Track, On-Track But At Risk, and Off-Track). This Report will further compare matriculation outcomes across demographic characteristics.

Box 1. On-Track Definitions used in SDP

On-Track: A first-time ninth-grader in SDP is considered “On-Track” by earning at least one credit in each of four core areas (**English, math, science and social studies**), plus one additional credit from any source. Additional credits can be in any subject, including subjects in which the requirement is already fulfilled. For example, a ninth-grader with one credit each in English, math, and science, and two credits in social studies is considered to be “On-Track.” Credit totals shown for individual subject areas are not necessary for promotion at the end of 9th, 10th, and 11th grades. There are two categories within the “On-Track” category:

- **Firmly On-Track:** A student who is “Firmly On-Track” meets the On-Track criteria above AND has earned an A or B in all courses.
- **On-Track But At Risk:** A student who is “On-Track But At Risk” meets the On-Track criteria above AND has earned at least one C or D in any course.

Off-Track: A student is considered “Off-Track” if the above criteria for “On-Track” are not met.

¹ Wills, T. (2018). *Defining 9th Grade Success: A New 9th Grade On-Track Definition*. Philadelphia: The School District of Philadelphia.

Research Questions

Among SDP students who were first-time ninth-graders in 2015-16 and graduated on time in 2019 (within four years):

1. What percentage of students matriculated into a two- and a four-year college in the fall following their high school graduation based on their Ninth Grade On-Track status? For example, did a higher percentage of students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade matriculate into a two-year college compared to students who were On-Track But At Risk or Off-Track?
2. Did the percentage of students who matriculated into two- and four-year colleges differ by subgroup (gender, race/ethnicity, English Learner [EL] status, special education status, economic disadvantage, or GPA at graduation)? For example, did a higher percentage of female students matriculate into a two-year college compared to male students?
3. Among Ninth Grade On-Track and demographic subgroups, what percentage of students matriculated into two- and four-year colleges? For example, did a higher percentage of female students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade matriculate into a two-year college compared to male students who were Firmly On-Track?

Sample Characteristics and Methods

All data used for this analysis were obtained from the QlikBam graduation application, Ninth Grade On-Track though College Matriculation sheet. The sample includes 5,587 District students who were first-time ninth-graders in the 2015-16 school year, graduated within four years, and for whom Ninth Grade On-Track status,² GPA, and first-fall matriculation status could be determined.³

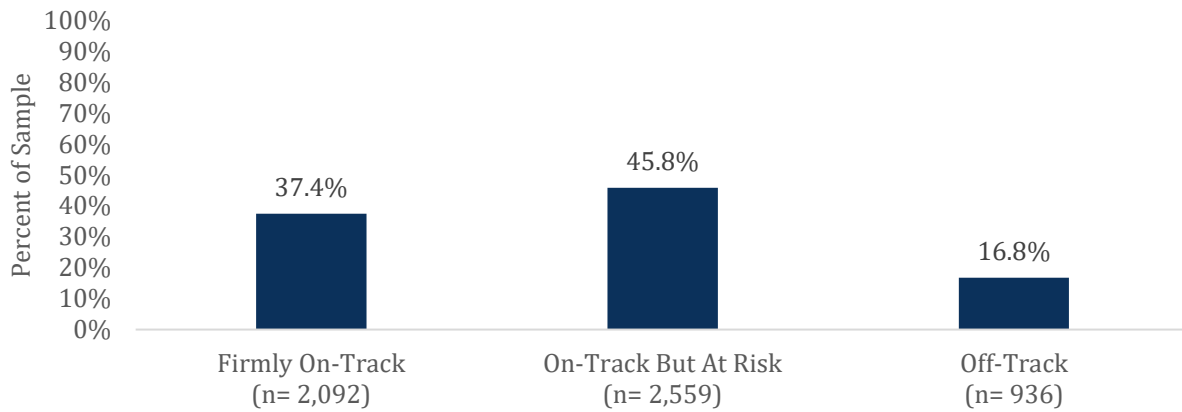
Of the 5,587 students in the sample, 37.4% were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade (n=2,092), 45.8% were On-Track But At Risk (n=2,559), and 16.8% were Off-Track (n=936) (Figure 1). Of the total sample, 14.9% matriculated into a two-year college (n=833), 41.3% matriculated into a four-year college (n=2,306), and 43.8% did not matriculate (n=2,448) in the first fall following their high school graduation (Figure 2).⁴

² Students' 9th Grade On-Track Status is "Not Available" if they were not enrolled in an SDP run school in ninth grade. Students enrolled in charter, private, or non-Philadelphia schools do not have a 9th Grade On-Track Status and are not included in the analysis. Students who moved out of SDP schools after ninth grade and came back before/during twelfth grade whose final graduation status could be attributed to the School District of Philadelphia are included in the analysis.

³ Matriculation data are obtained from the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC).

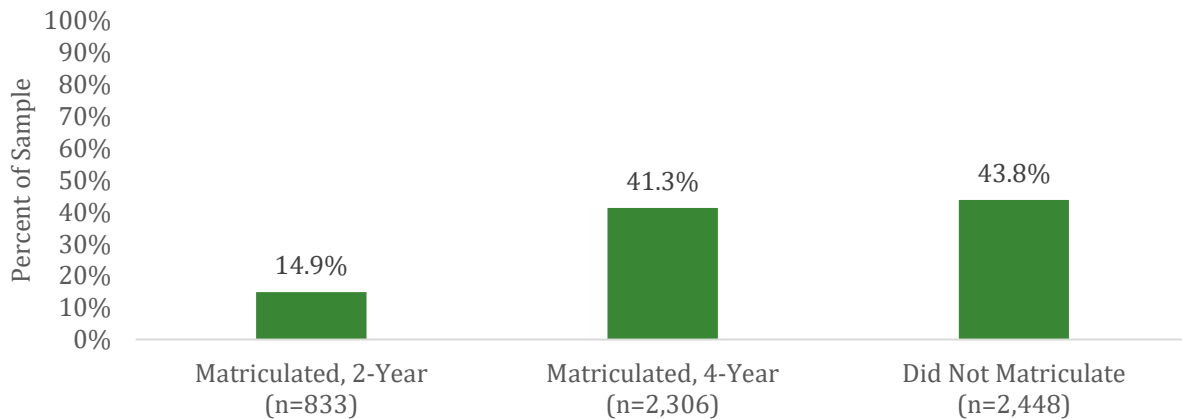
⁴ For n counts of the overall number of students in each category, see Appendix, Table 1.

Figure 1. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-graders who were Firmly On-Track, On Track But At Risk, and Off-Track



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

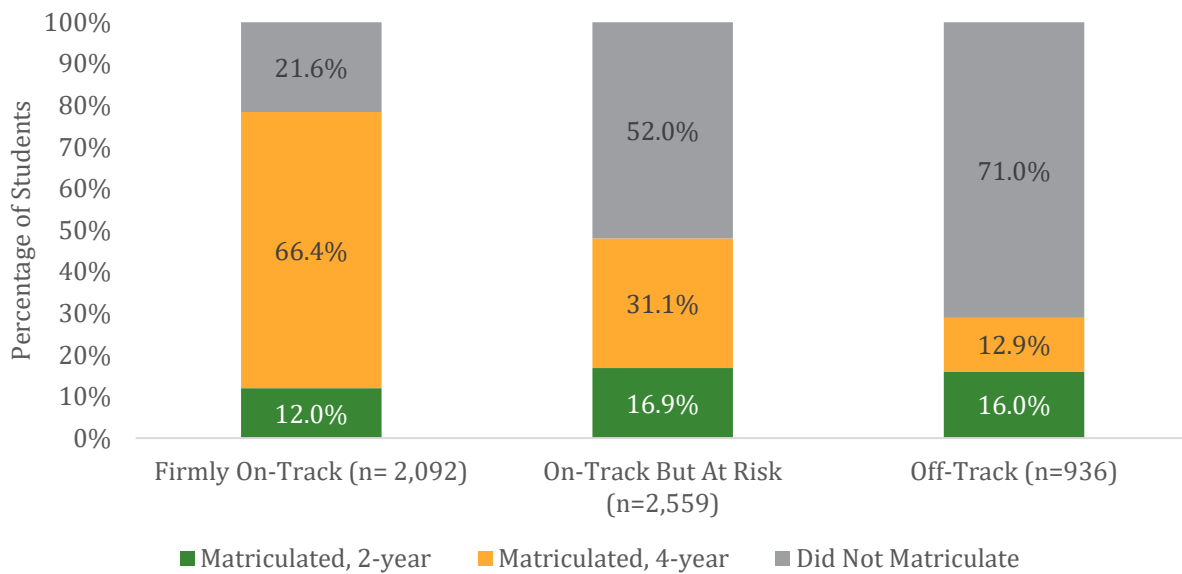
Figure 2. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-graders who matriculated into two- and four-year colleges in 2019



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

First-fall matriculation rates also differed based on Ninth Grade On-Track status. Of students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 12.0% matriculated into a two-year college four years later compared to 16.9% of students who were On-Track But At Risk and 16.0% of students who were Off-Track. Of students who were Firmly On-Track, 66.4% later matriculated into a four-year college compared to 31.1% of students who were On-Track But At Risk and 12.9% of students who were Off-Track. Among Firmly On-Track students, 21.6% did not matriculate four years later compared to 52% of On-Track But At Risk students and 71.0% of Off-Track students (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-graders who were Firmly On-Track, On-Track But At Risk, and Off-Track who matriculated into two- and four-year colleges in 2019



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of each On-Track subgroup. For example, among the 2,092 students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 12% matriculated into a two-year college, 66.4% matriculated into a four-year college, and 21.6% did not matriculate.

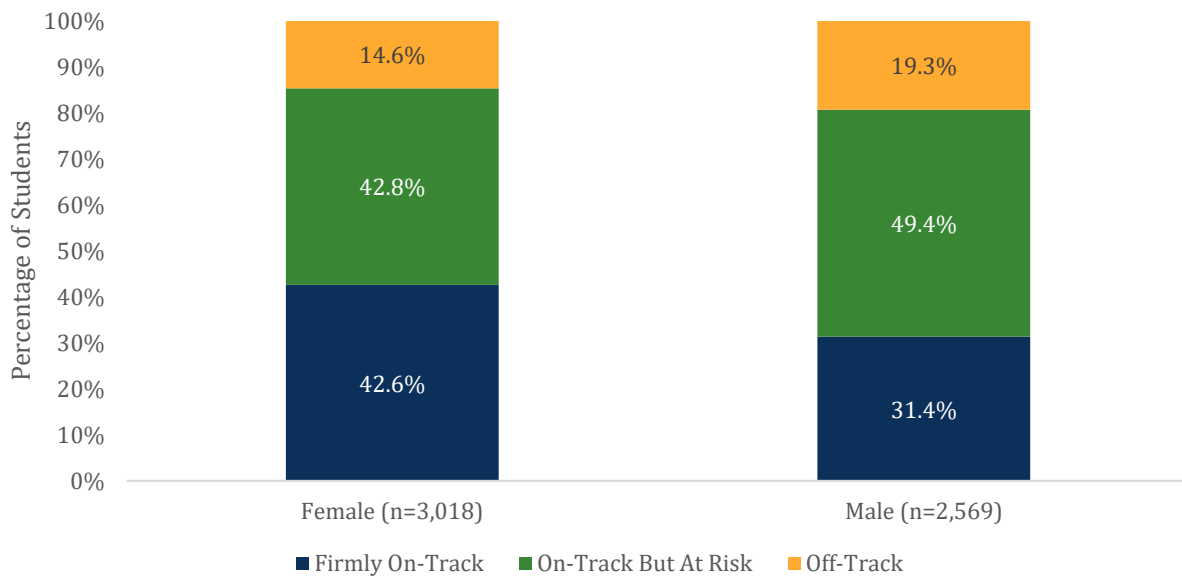
Analysis and Findings

Ninth Grade On-Track and College Matriculation by Gender

A higher percentage of female students were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade compared to male students (Figure 4).

A higher percentage of female students were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade compared to male students. Of 3,018 female students in the sample, 42.6% were Firmly On-Track compared to 31.4% of the 2,569 male students in the sample. Among female students, 42.8% were On-Track But At Risk compared to 49.4% of male students who were On-Track But At Risk, and 14.6% were Off-Track compared to 19.3% of male students who were Off-Track (Figure 4).⁵

Figure 4. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who were Firmly On-Track, On-Track But At Risk, and Off-Track by gender



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

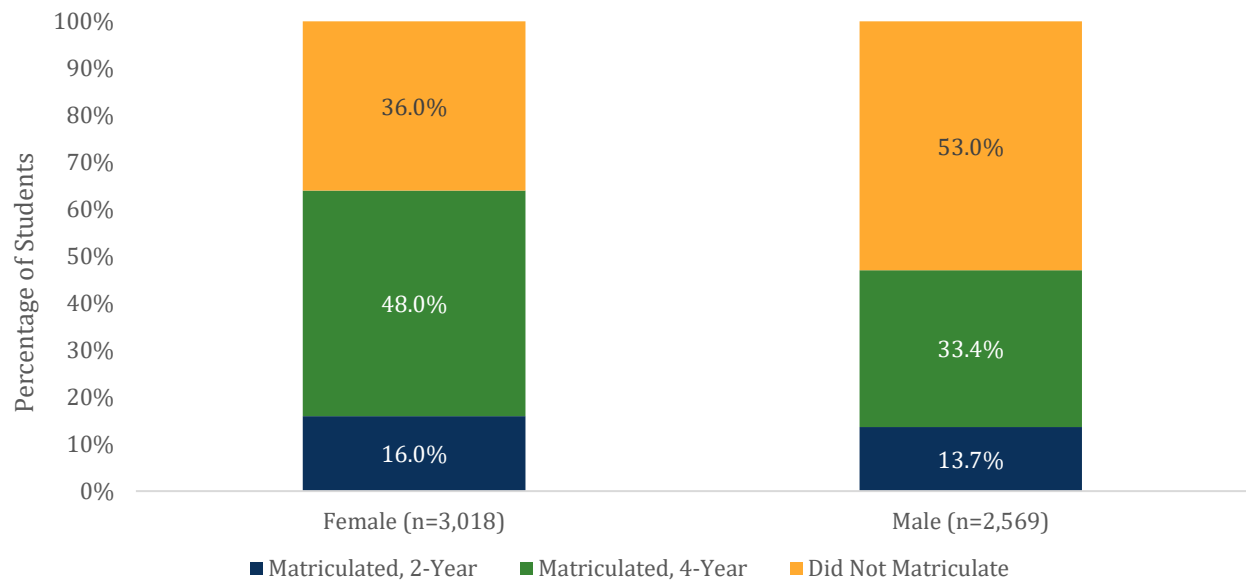
How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of students in each gender subgroup. For example, among the 3,018 female students in the sample, 42.6% were Firmly On-Track, 42.8% were On-Track But At Risk, and 14.6% were Off-Track in ninth grade.

⁵ For counts of the number of students by gender in each category, see Appendix, Table 2.

A higher percentage of male students did not matriculate compared to female students.

First fall-matriculation rates also varied by gender. More female students matriculated into two- and four-year colleges compared to male students (16.0% vs. 13.7% and 48% vs. 33.4%, respectively). Overall, 53.0% of male students did not matriculate compared to 36.0% of female students (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-graders who matriculated to a two- or four-year college in 2019 by gender



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

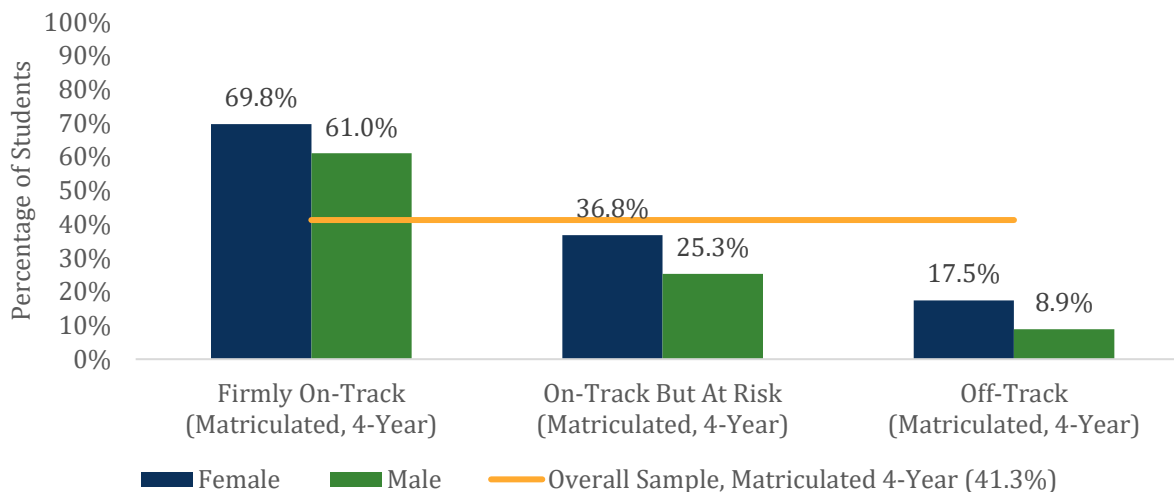
How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of students in each gender subgroup. For example, among the 3,018 female students in the sample, 16% matriculated into two-year colleges, 48% matriculated into four-year colleges, and 36% did not matriculate in the fall following their high school graduation.

A higher percentage of female students matriculated into four-year colleges compared to male students across all On-Track subgroups (Figure 6).

Across the entire sample of 2015-16 ninth-graders who graduated high school within four years, 41.3% of students matriculated into four-year colleges. Female students were more likely than male students to matriculate into four-year colleges across all On-Track subgroups. For example, among all female students who were Firmly On-Track, 69.8% matriculated into four-year colleges compared to 61.0% of male students who were Firmly On-Track (a difference of 8.8 percentage points). Among female students who were On-Track But At Risk, 36.8% matriculated into four-year colleges compared to 25.3% of male students (a difference of 11.5 percentage points). Female

students who were Off-Track matriculated at a rate of 17.5% compared to 8.9% for male students who were Off-Track (a difference of 8.6 percentage points) (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Percentage of male and female students who matriculated into a four-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



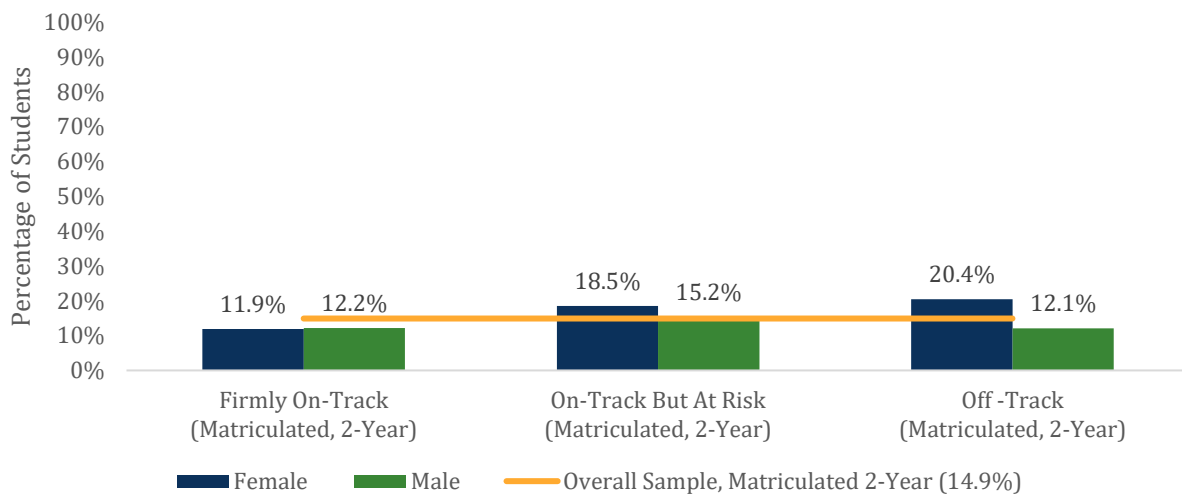
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/gender subgroup who matriculated into a four-year college. For example, of all female students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 69.8% matriculated into a four-year college in the fall following their high school graduation, compared to 61% of male students who were Firmly On-Track.

A higher percentage of female than male students who were On-Track But At Risk and Off-Track in ninth grade matriculated into a two-year college in 2019.

Across the entire sample of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who graduated high school within four years, 14.9% of students matriculated into two-year colleges. Differences in matriculation rates into two-year colleges between male and female students in each On-Track subgroup were less pronounced than at four-year colleges. For example, among all female students who were Firmly On-Track in 2015-16, 11.9% matriculated into a two-year college in 2019 compared to 12.2% of male students who were Firmly On-Track (a difference of 0.3 percentage points). Among female students who were On-Track But At Risk, 18.5% matriculated into a two-year college compared to 15.2% of male students (a difference of 3.3 percentage points). Off-Track female students matriculated at a rate of 20.4% compared to 12.1% for male students who were Off-Track (a difference of 8.3 percentage points) (Figure 7).

Figure 7. Percentage of male and female students who matriculated into a two-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



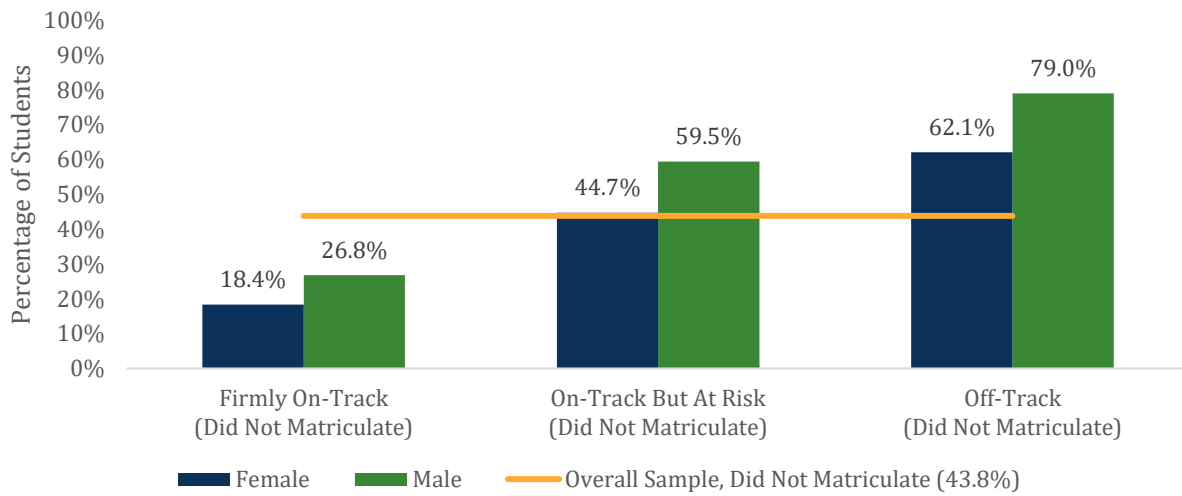
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/gender subgroup who matriculated into a two-year college. For example, of all female students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 11.9% matriculated into a two-year college in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 12.2% of male students who were Firmly On-Track.

A higher percentage of male students did not matriculate compared to female students across all On-Track subgroups.

Across the entire sample of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who graduated high school within four years, 43.8% did not matriculate into any college in 2019. This rate was higher for male students in all On-Track categories than for female students. Among all female students who were Firmly On-Track, 18.4% did not matriculate compared to 26.8% of male students who were Firmly On-Track (a difference of 8.4 percentage points). Similarly, 44.7% of female students who were On-Track But At Risk did not matriculate compared to 59.5% of male students (a difference of 14.8 percentage points). Finally, female students who were Off-Track matriculated at a rate of 62.1% compared to 79.0% for male students who were Off-Track (a difference of 16.9 percentage points) (Figure 8).

Figure 8. Percentage of male and female students who did not matriculate in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/Gender subgroup who did not matriculate. For example, of all female students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 18.4% did not matriculate in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 26.8% of male students who were Firmly On-Track.

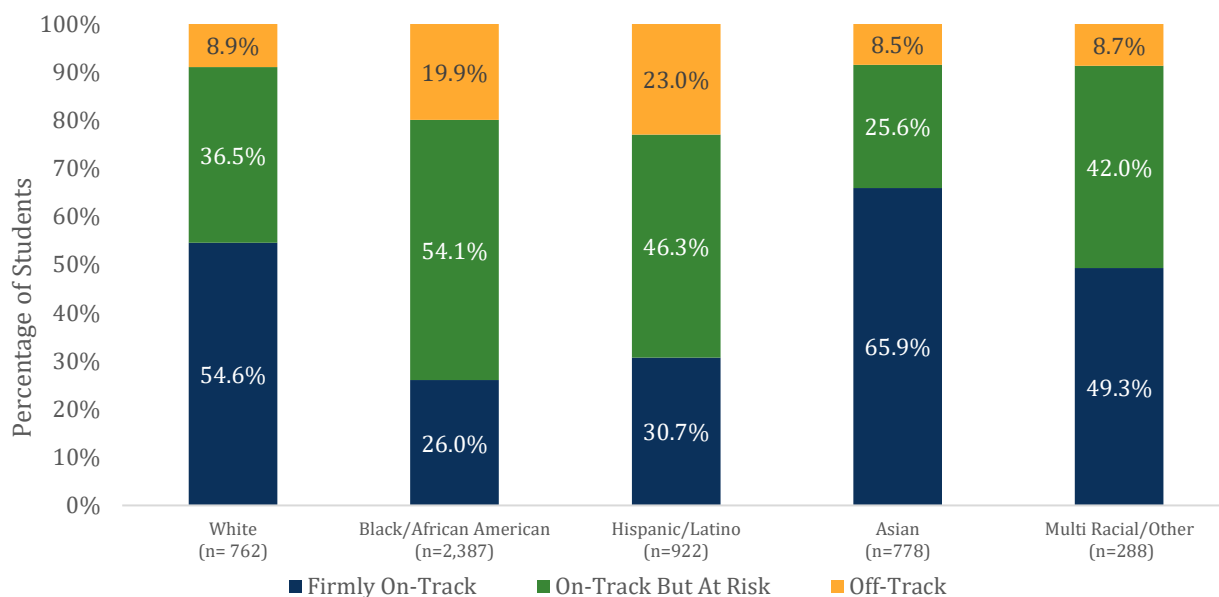
Ninth Grade On-Track and College Matriculation by Race/Ethnicity

Higher percentages of Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino students were On-Track But At Risk or Off-Track in ninth grade compared to students of other races/ethnicities (Figure 9).

The percentage of students who were On-Track in ninth grade varied for students of different races/ethnicities.⁶ Asian students had the highest percentage of Firmly On-Track students (65.9%) followed by White (54.6%), Multi-Racial/Other (49.3%), Hispanic/Latino (30.7%) and Black/African American (26%) students. Asian, White, and Multi Racial/Other students had a similar percentage of students who were Off-Track (less than 9%) while the percentage of Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino students who were Off-Track was more than double that of other races/ethnicities (19.9% and 23%, respectively) (Figure 9).

⁶ For counts of the number of students in each race/ethnicity group in each category, see Appendix, Table 3.

Figure 9. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who were Firmly On-Track, On-Track But At Risk, and Off-Track in 2015-16 by race/ethnicity



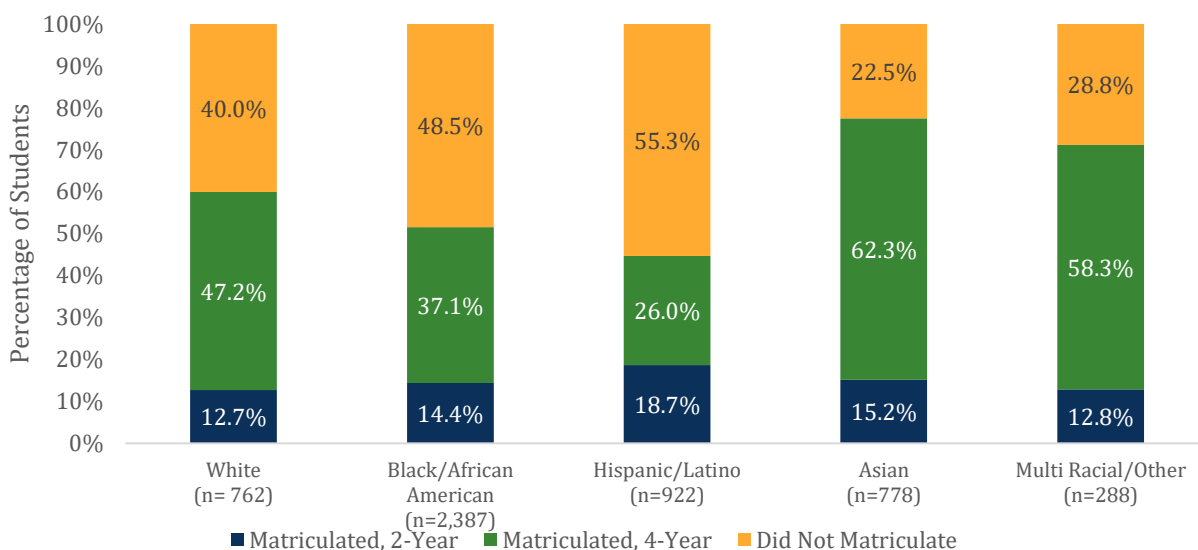
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of students in each race/ethnicity subgroup. For example, among the 762 White students in the sample, 54.6% were Firmly On-Track, 36.5% were On-Track but At Risk, and 8.9% were Off-Track in ninth grade.

A higher percentage of Asian and White students matriculated into a four-year college compared to students of other races/ethnicities, while matriculation rates at a two-year college were similar among race/ethnicity subgroups (Figure 10).

First-fall matriculation rates also varied for students of different races/ethnicities. The percentage of students matriculating into two-year colleges ranged from 12.7% (White students) to 18.7% (Hispanic/Latino students). Greater variation was observed for four-year matriculation. Asian students were the most likely to matriculate into four-year colleges (62.3%) followed by Multi Racial/Other (58.3%), White (47.2%), Black/African American (37.1%) and Hispanic/Latino students (26.0%), a range of 36.3 percentage points. A higher percentage of Hispanic/Latino students did not matriculate (55.3%) followed by Black/African American (48.5%), White (40.0%), Multi/Racial Other (28.8%) and Asian students (22.5%) (Figure 10).

Figure 10. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who matriculated into a two- or four-year college in 2019 by race/ethnicity



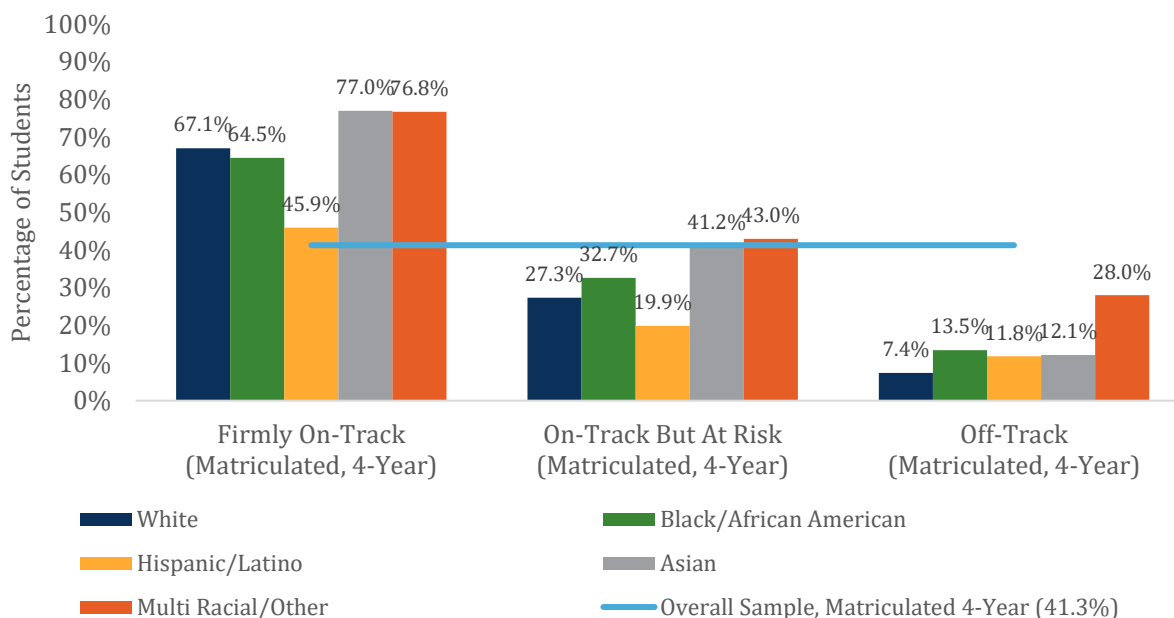
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of students in each race/ethnicity subgroup. For example, among the 762 White students in the sample, 12.7% matriculated into a two-year college, 47.2% matriculated into a four-year college, and 40% did not matriculate.

Hispanic/Latino students who were Firmly On-Track matriculated into four-year colleges at notably lower rates than their peers who were Firmly On-Track.

Across the entire sample of 2015-16 ninth-graders who graduated high school within four years, 41.3% of students matriculated into four-year colleges. Similar percentages of Asian and Multi-Racial/Other students who were Firmly On-Track matriculated into four-year colleges (77% and 76.8% respectively) followed by White (67.1%), Black/African American (64.5%), and Hispanic/Latino students (45.9%). Asian students and Multi-Racial/Other students who were On-Track But At Risk also matriculated into four-year colleges at approximately the same rate (41.2% and 43% respectively) followed by Black/African American (32.7%), White (27.3%), and Hispanic/Latino (19.9%) students. Off-Track Multi-Racial/Other students were the most likely to matriculate to four-year colleges (28%) followed by Black (13.5%), Asian (12.1%), Hispanic/Latino (11.8%), and White (7.4%) students (Figure 11).

Figure 11. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who matriculated into a four-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status and race/ethnicity



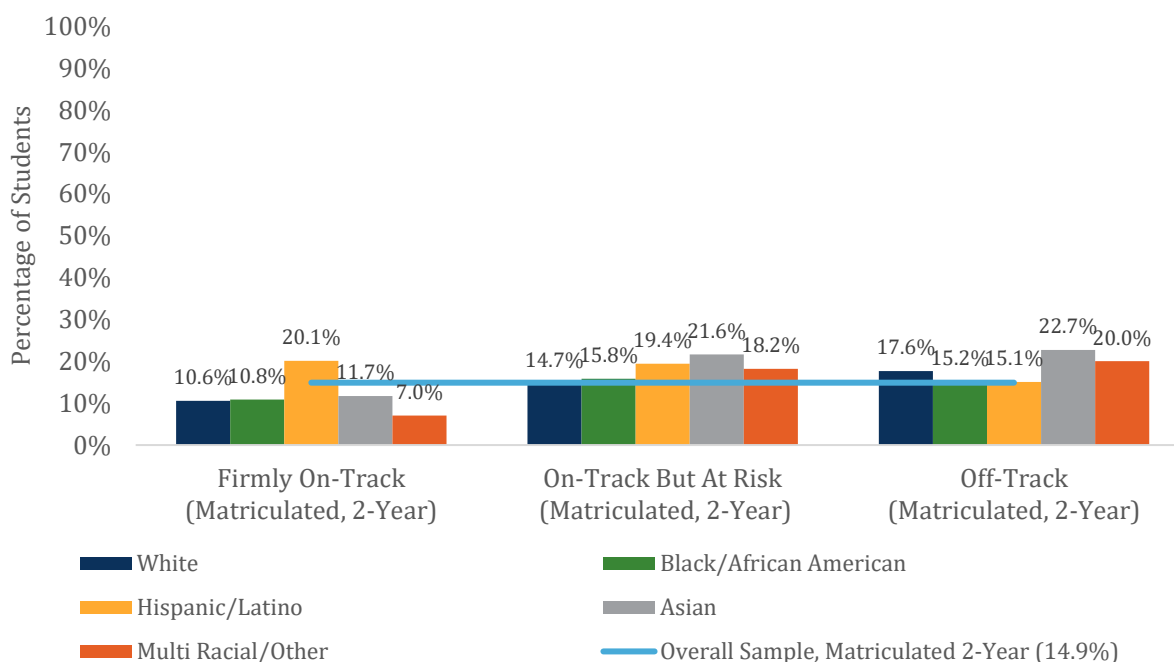
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/Race/Ethnicity subgroup who matriculated into a four-year college. For example, of all White students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 67.1% matriculated into a four-year college in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 64.5% of Black/African American students who were Firmly On-Track.

Hispanic/Latino students who were Firmly On-Track matriculated into two-year colleges at notably higher rates than their peers who were Firmly On-Track.

Across the entire sample, 14.9% of students matriculated into two-year colleges. Differences in two-year matriculation rates between students of different races/ethnicities in each On-Track subgroup were less pronounced than at four-year colleges. A higher percentage of Hispanic students who were Firmly On-Track matriculated into two-year colleges (20.1%) compared to students of other races. Students who were On-Track But At Risk and Off-Track matriculated into two-year colleges at relatively similar rates (a range of 14.7% to 22.7% for all groups).

Figure 12. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who matriculated into a two-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status and race/ethnicity



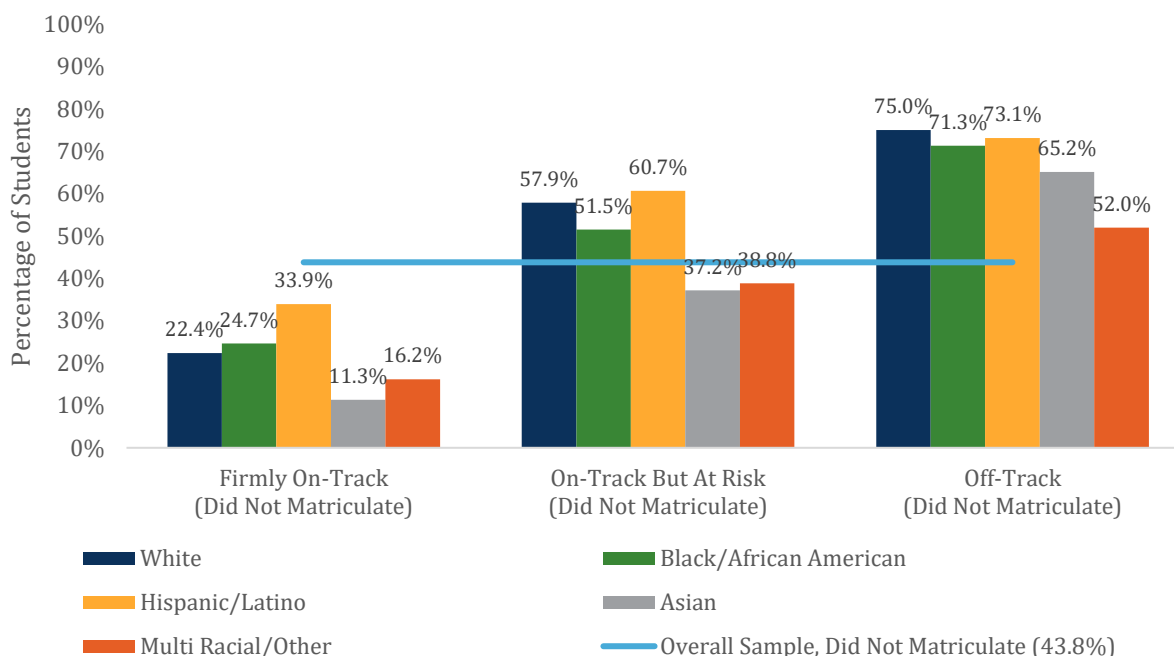
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/Race/Ethnicity subgroup who matriculated into a two-year college. For example, of all White students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 10.6% matriculated into a two-year college in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 10.8% of Black/African American students who were Firmly On-Track.

White students who were Off-Track had the highest rate of non-matriculation of any On-Track/race/ethnicity subgroup.

Across the entire sample, 43.8% of students did not matriculate, or enroll in two-year or a four-year college the first fall after high college graduation. Among students who were Firmly On-Track, Hispanic/Latino students were the most likely to not matriculate (33.9%) followed by Black/African American (24.7%), White (22.4%), Multi-Racial/Other (16.2%) and Asian (11.3%) students. Hispanic/Latino students were also the least likely to matriculate among On-Track But At Risk students (60.7%) compared to Black/African American (57.9%), White (51.5%), Multi-Racial/Other, (38.8%) and Asian (37.2%) students. Among students who were Off-Track, rates of non-matriculation were relatively similar for Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino and White students (range 71.3% to 75%). Non-matriculation rates were lower for Off-Track Asian students (65.2%) and Multi-Racial/Other students (52%).

Figure 13. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who did not matriculate in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status and race/ethnicity



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/Race/Ethnicity subgroup who did not matriculate. For example, of all White students who were Firmly On-Track in Ninth-grade, 22.4% did not matriculate in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 24.7% of Black/African American students who were Firmly On-Track.

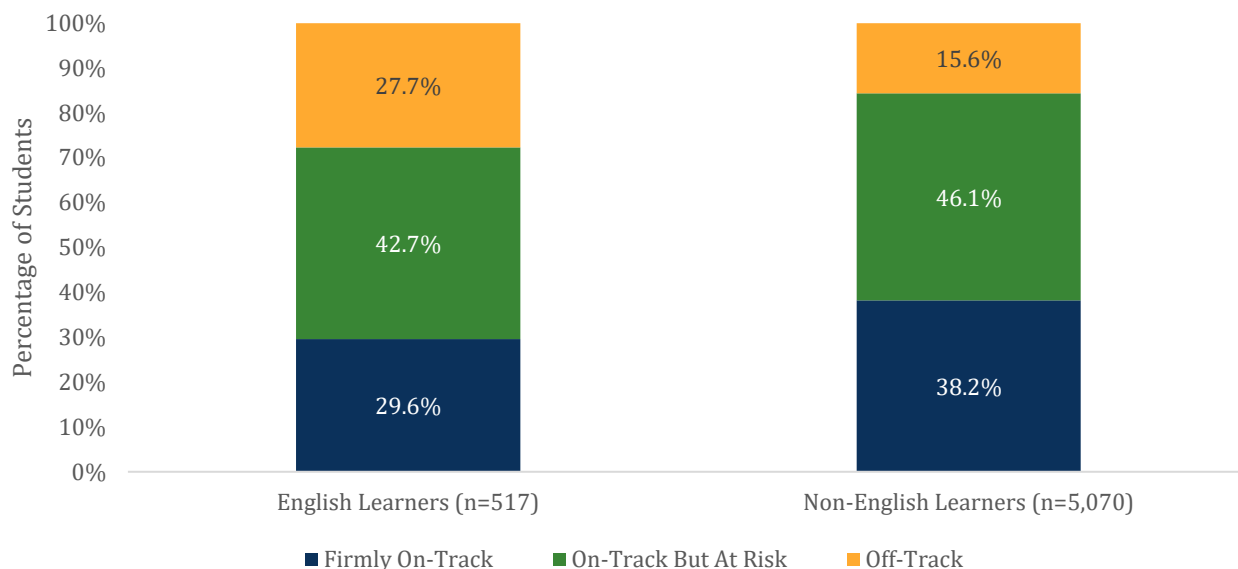
Ninth Grade On-Track and College Matriculation by English Learner (EL) Status

A lower percentage of English Learners were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade compared to non-English Learners.

The percentage of students who were On-Track in ninth grade was higher for English Learners (ELs) than non-ELs.⁷ Of 517 ELs in the sample, 29.6% were Firmly On-Track compared to 38.2% of the 5,070 non-ELs in the sample. 42.7% of ELs were On-Track But At Risk and 46.1 percent of non-ELs were On-Track But At Risk. 27.7% of ELs were Off-Track compared to 15.6% of non-ELs (Figure 14).

⁷ For n counts for EL/non-EL students in each category, see Appendix, Table 4.

Figure 14. Percentage of ninth-graders who were Firmly On-Track, On-Track But At Risk, and Off-Track in 2015-16 by EL status



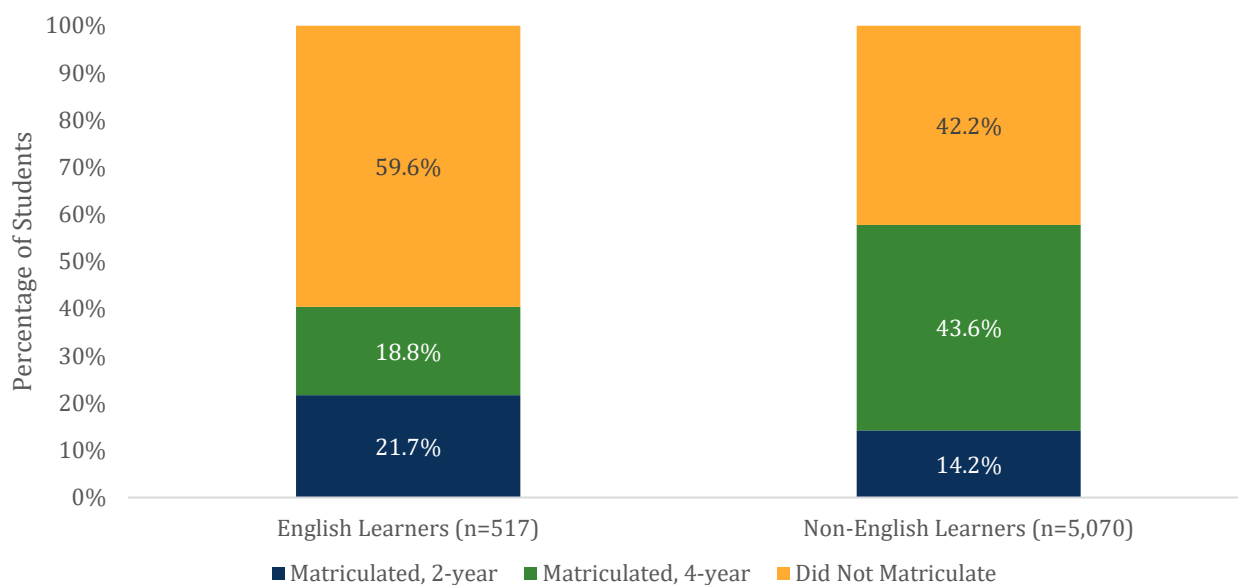
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of EL and non-ELs. For example, among the 517 EL students in the sample, 29.6% were Firmly On-Track, 42.7% were On Track But At Risk, and 27.7% were Off Track in ninth grade.

A higher percentage of ELs matriculated into two-year colleges and a lower percentage matriculated into four-year colleges compared to non-ELs (Figure 15).

First-fall matriculation rates were also higher for ELs compared to non-ELs. A higher percentage of ELs matriculated into two-year colleges compared to non-ELs, but a lower percentage matriculated into four-year colleges (18.8% vs. 43.6% respectively). Overall, 59.6% of ELs did not matriculate compared to 42.2% of non-ELs (Figure 15).

Figure 15. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who matriculated into a two- or four-year college in 2019 by EL status



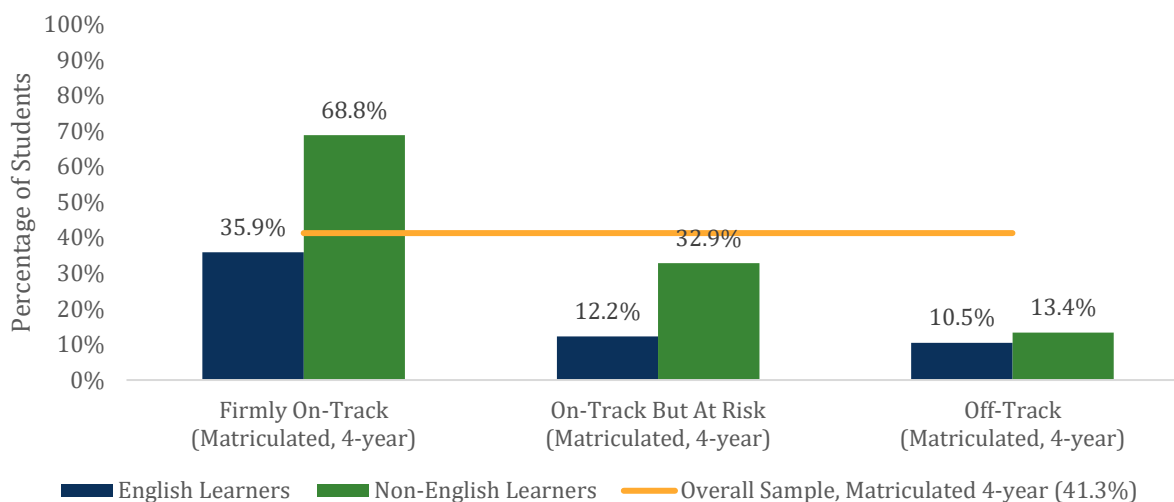
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of EL and non-ELs. For example, among the 517 ELs in the sample, 21.7% matriculated into two-year colleges, 18.8% matriculated into four-year colleges, and 59.6% did not matriculate the fall following their high school graduation.

Non-ELs matriculated into a four-year college at higher rates than ELs across all On-Track subgroups.

Across the entire sample of 2015-16 ninth-graders who graduated high school within four years, 41.3% of students matriculated into four-year colleges. Among all ELs who were Firmly On-Track, 35.9% matriculated into four-year colleges compared to 68.8% of non-ELs who were Firmly On-Track (a difference of 32.9 percentage points). 12.2% of EL students who were On-Track But At Risk matriculated into four-year colleges compared to 35.9% of non-ELs (a difference of 23.7 percentage points). EL students who were Off-Track matriculated at a rate of 10.5% compared to 13.4% for non-ELs who were Off-Track (a difference of 2.9 percentage points) (Figure 16). ELs and non-ELs who were Firmly On-Track had the widest disparities in four-year matriculation rates, whereas four-year matriculation rates for Off-Track ELs and Off-Track non-ELs were similar.

Figure 16. Percentage of 2015-16 9th grade EL and non-EL students who matriculated into a four-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



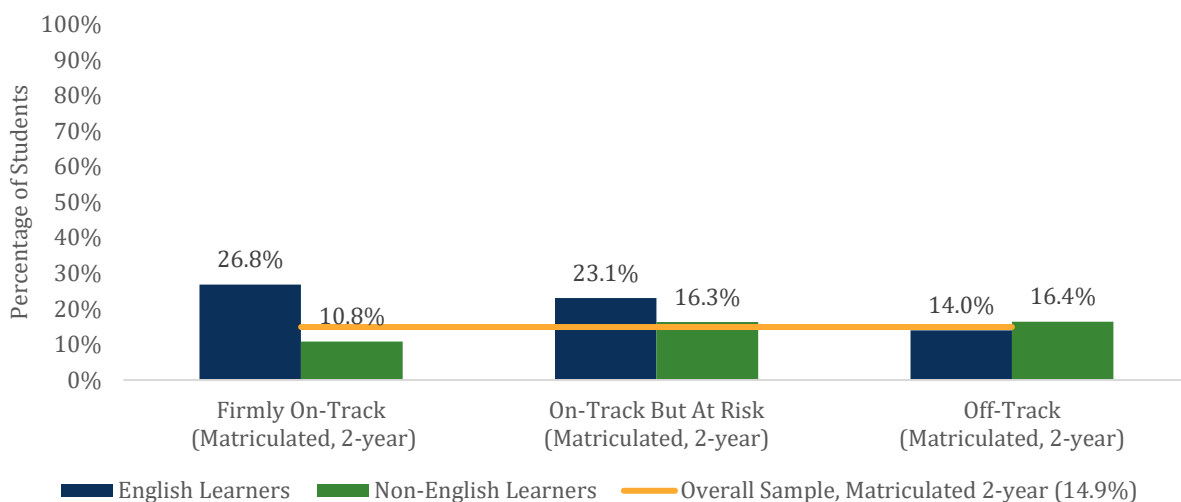
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/EL subgroup who matriculated into a four-year college. For example, of all ELs who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 35.9% matriculated into a four-year college the fall following their high school graduation, compared to 68.8% of non-ELs who were Firmly On-Track.

Firmly On-Track and On-Track But At Risk ELs matriculated into a two-year college at higher rates than non-ELs. Two-year matriculation rates for Off-Track EL students were slightly lower than for non-ELs.

Across the entire sample, 14.9% of students matriculated into two-year colleges. Differences in matriculation rates into two-year colleges between EL and non-ELs in each On-Track subgroup were less pronounced than matriculation to four-year colleges. Among all EL students who were Firmly On-Track, 26.8% matriculated into two-year colleges compared to 10.8% of non-EL students who were Firmly On-Track (a difference of 16 percentage points). Among ELs who were On-Track But At Risk, 23.1% matriculated into two-year colleges compared to 16.3% of non-ELs (6.8 percentage points). ELs who were Off-Track matriculated at a rate of 14.0% compared to 16.4% for non-ELs who were Off-Track (a difference of 2.4 percentage points). ELs and non-ELs who were more Firmly On-Track had the widest disparities in two-year matriculation rates, whereas two-year matriculation rates for Off-Track ELs and Off-Track non-ELs were similar (Figure 17).

Figure 17. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade EL and non-EL students who matriculated into a two-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



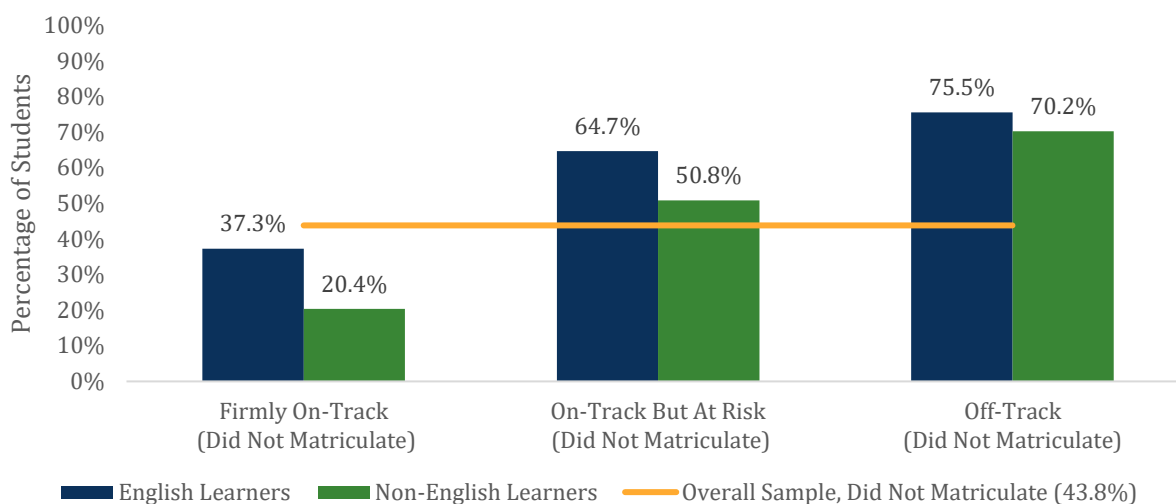
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/EL subgroup who matriculated into a two-year college. For example, of all ELs who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 26.8% matriculated into a two-year college in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 10.8% of non-ELs who were Firmly On-Track.

A higher percentage of ELs did not matriculate compared to non-ELs across all On-Track subgroups.

Across the entire sample, 43.8% of English Learners did not matriculate (that is, enroll in a two- or four-year college the first fall after high school graduation). Among all EL students who were Firmly On-Track, 37.4% did not matriculate compared to 20.4% of non-EL students who were Firmly On-Track (a difference of 17 percentage points). Of all ELs who were On-Track But At Risk, 64.7% did not matriculate compared to 50.8% of non-ELs (a difference of 13.9 percentage points). EL students who were Off-Track did not matriculate at a rate of 75.5% compared to 70.2% for non-EL students who were Off-Track (a difference of 5.3 percentage points). ELs and non-ELs who were more Firmly On-Track had the widest disparities in non-matriculation rates, whereas non-matriculation rates for Off-Track ELs and Off-Track non-ELs were similar (Figure 18).

Figure 18. Percentage of 2015-16 EL and non-EL ninth-grade students who did not matriculate in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/EL subgroup who did not matriculate. For example, of all ELs who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 37.3% did not matriculate in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 20.4% of non-ELs who were Firmly On-Track.

Ninth Grade On-Track and College Matriculation by IEP (Individualized Education Program) Status

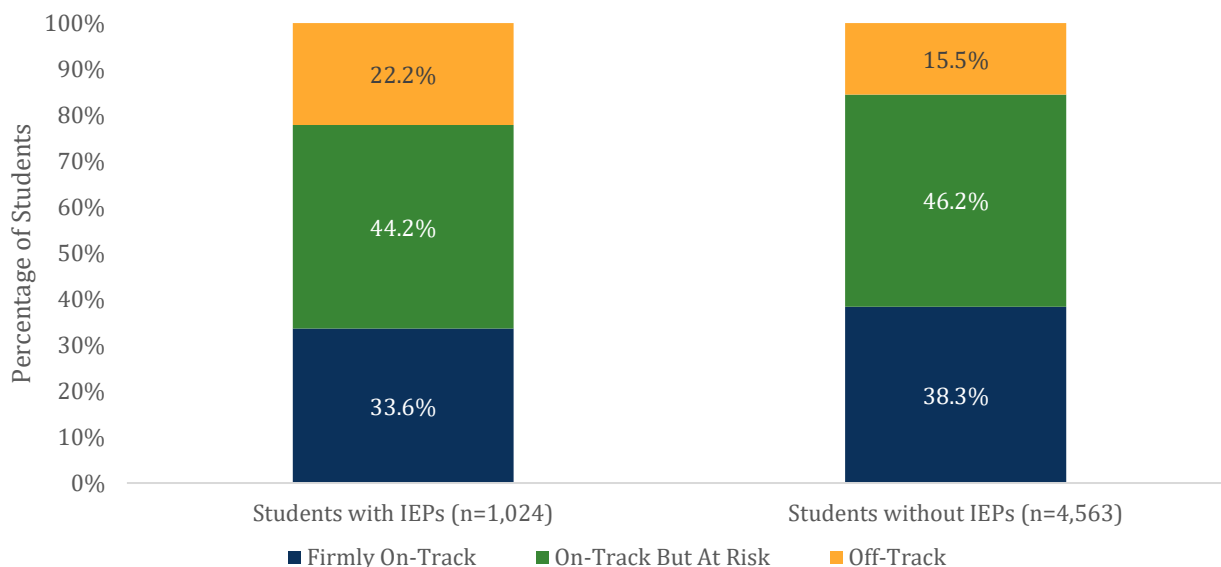
A lower percentage of students with IEPs were Firmly On-Track compared to their peers.

The percentage of students who were On-Track in ninth grade was similar for students with IEPs and students without IEPs.^{8,9} Of 1,024 students with IEPs in the sample, 33.6% were Firmly On-Track compared to 38.3% of the 4,563 students without IEPs in the sample; 44.2% of students with IEPs were On-Track But At Risk and 46.2 percent of students without IEPs were On-Track But At Risk; and 22.2% of students with IEPs were Off-Track compared to 15.5% of students without IEPs (Figure 19).

⁸ For n counts for students with and without IEPs in each category, see Appendix, Table 5.

⁹ For this analysis, students with an Individual Education Program (IEP) do not include Gifted/Talented.

Figure 19. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who were Firmly On-Track, On-Track But At Risk, and Off-Track by IEP Status



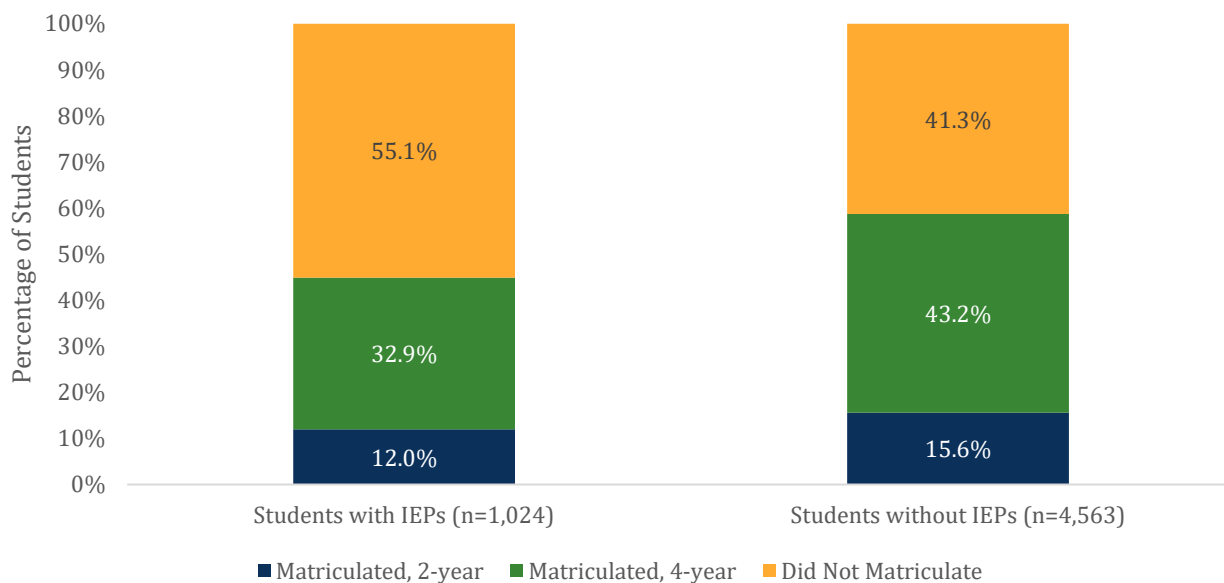
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of students with and without IEPs. For example, among the 1,024 students in the sample with IEPs, 33.6% were Firmly On-Track, 44.2% were On Track but At Risk, and 22.2% were Off Track in ninth grade.

A lower percentage of students with IEPs matriculated into both two-year and four-year colleges compared to students without IEPs.

First-fall matriculation rates varied by whether or not students had an IEP. Compared to students without IEPs, a lower percentage of students with IEPs matriculated into two-year colleges (12% vs. 15.6%) and four-year colleges (32.9% vs. 43.2%). Overall, 55.1% of students with IEPs did not matriculate compared to 41.3% of students without IEPs (Figure 20).

Figure 20. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who matriculated into a two- or four-year college in 2019 by IEP status



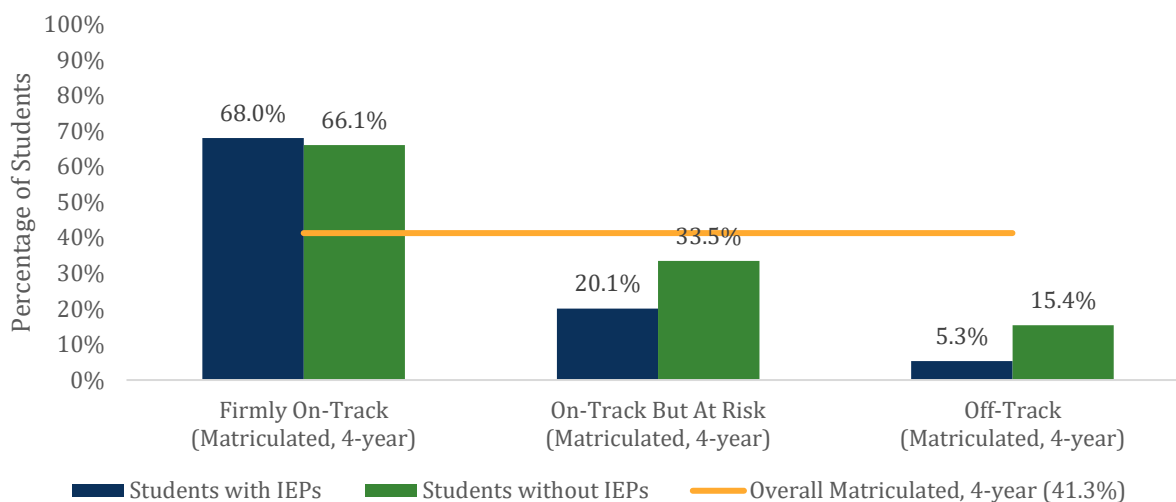
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of students with and without IEPs. For example, among the 1,024 students in the sample with IEPs, 12% matriculated into two-year colleges, 32.9% matriculated into four-year colleges, and 55.1% did not matriculate in the fall following their high school graduation.

Students with IEPs who were Firmly On-Track matriculated into four-year colleges at slightly higher rates than students who were Firmly On-Track without IEPs.

Across the entire sample of 2015-16 ninth-graders who graduated high school within four years, 41.3% of students matriculated into four-year colleges. Students with IEPs and students without IEPs who were Firmly On-Track matriculated into four-year colleges at similar rates (68% and 66.1% respectively). Disparities in four-year matriculation were more pronounced for On-Track But At Risk and Off-Track subgroups. Of students with IEPs who were On-Track But At Risk, 20.1% matriculated into four-year colleges compared to 33.5% of students without IEPs (13.4 percentage points). Students with IEPs who were Off-Track matriculated at a rate of 5.3% compared to 15.4% for students without IEPs who were Off-Track (a difference of 10.1 percentage points) (Figure 21).

Figure 21. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students with and without IEPs who matriculated into a four-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



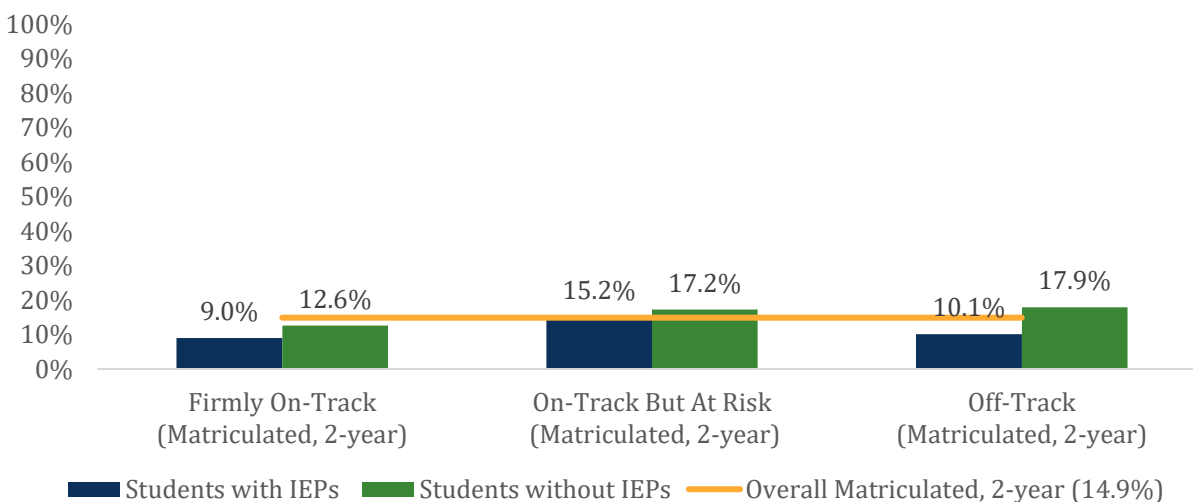
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students with and without IEPs who matriculated into a four-year college. For example, of all students with IEPs who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 68% matriculated into a four-year college in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 66.1% of students without IEPs who were Firmly On-Track.

A higher percentage of students with IEPs matriculated into a two-year college compared to students without IEPs across all On-Track subgroups.

Across the entire sample, 14.9% of students matriculated into two-year colleges. Students without IEPs matriculated into two-year colleges at slightly higher rates across On-Track subgroups, with the greatest disparity being for Off-Track students (a difference of 7.8 percentage points). Among all students with IEPs who were Firmly On-Track, 9% matriculated into two-year colleges compared to 12.6% of students without IEPs who were Firmly On-Track (a difference of 3.6 percentage points). Of students with IEPs who were On-Track But At Risk, 15.2% matriculated into two-year colleges compared to 17.2% of students without IEPs (a difference of 2 percentage points). Students with IEPs who were Off-Track matriculated at a rate of 10.1% compared to 17.9% of students without an IEP who were Off-Track (a difference of 7.8 percentage points) (Figure 22).

Figure 22. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students with and without IEPs who matriculated into a two-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



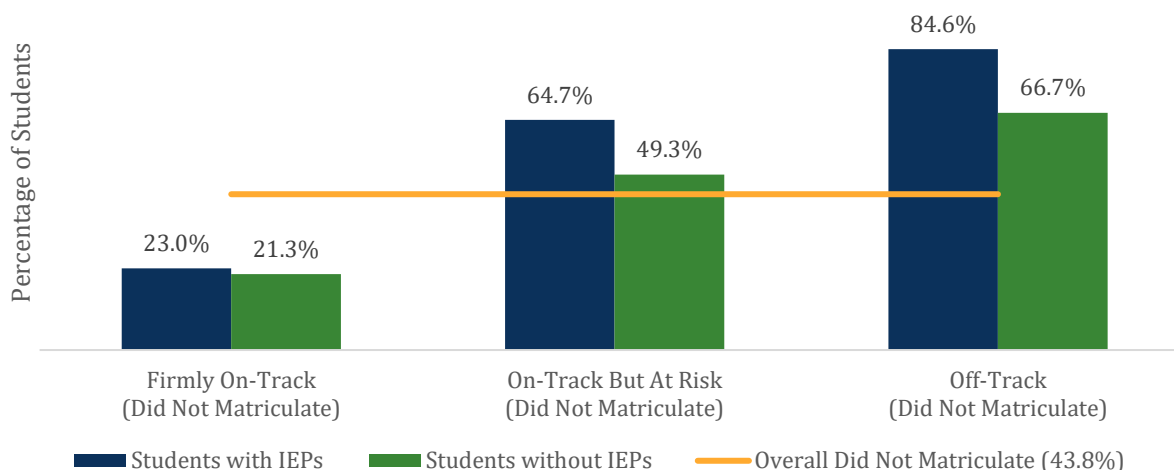
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/IEP subgroup who matriculated into a two-year college. For example, of all students with IEPs who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 9% matriculated into a two-year college in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 12.6% of students without IEPs who were Firmly On-Track.

Across all On-Track subgroups, a higher percentage of students with IEPs did not matriculate compared to students without IEPs.

Across the entire sample, 43.8% of students did not matriculate. Among all students with IEPs who were Firmly On-Track, 23% did not matriculate compared to 21.4% of students without IEPs who were Firmly On-Track (a difference of 1.7 percentage points). 64.7% of students with IEPs who were On-Track But At Risk did not matriculate compared to 49.3% of students without IEPs (a difference of 15.4 percentage points). Students with IEPs who were Off-Track did not matriculate at a rate of 84.6% compared to 66.7% for students without IEPs who were Off-Track (a difference of 17.9 percentage points). Disparities in non-matriculation between students with IEPs and students without IEPs were narrower for students who were more Firmly On-Track compared to students who were Off-Track (Figure 23).

Figure 23. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students with and without IEPs who did not matriculate in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/IEP subgroup who did not matriculate. For example, of all students with IEPs who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 23% did not matriculate in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 21.3% of students without IEPs who were Firmly On-Track.

Ninth Grade On-Track and College Matriculation by Economic Disadvantage Status

The percentage of economically disadvantaged students who were Off-Track in ninth grade was double the percentage of non-economically disadvantaged students who were Off-Track (Figure 24).

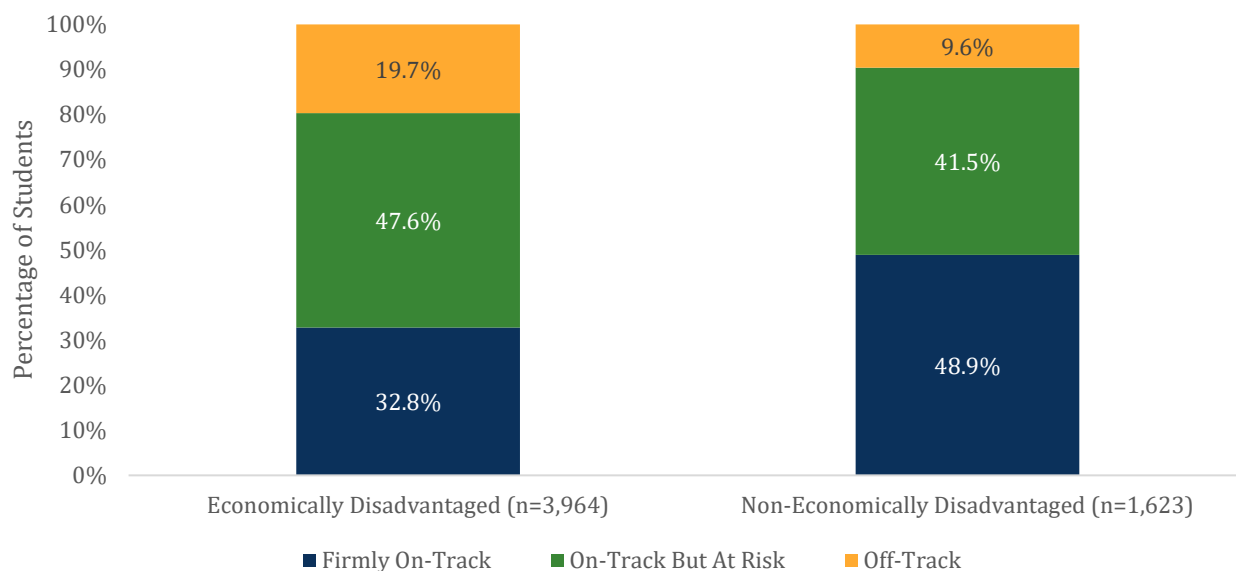
The percentage of students who were On-Track in ninth grade was lower for economically disadvantaged students compared to non-economically disadvantaged students.^{10, 11} Of 3,924 economically disadvantaged students in the sample, 32.8% were Firmly On-Track compared to 48.9% of the 1,623 non-economically disadvantaged students; 47.6% of economically disadvantaged students were On-Track But At Risk and 41.5 percent of non-economically disadvantaged students were On-Track But At Risk; and 19.7% of economically disadvantaged

¹⁰ For n counts for economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged students in each category, see Appendix, Table 6.

¹¹ Economically Disadvantaged refers to students who are eligible for income tested federal assistance programs such as SNAP, TANF, or Medicaid but it underestimates the percent of students who are living in poverty or close to poverty because not all eligible families are identified.

students were Off-Track compared to 9.6% of non-economically disadvantaged students (Figure 24).

Figure 24. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who were Firmly On-Track, On-Track But At Risk, and Off-Track in 2015-16 by economic disadvantage status



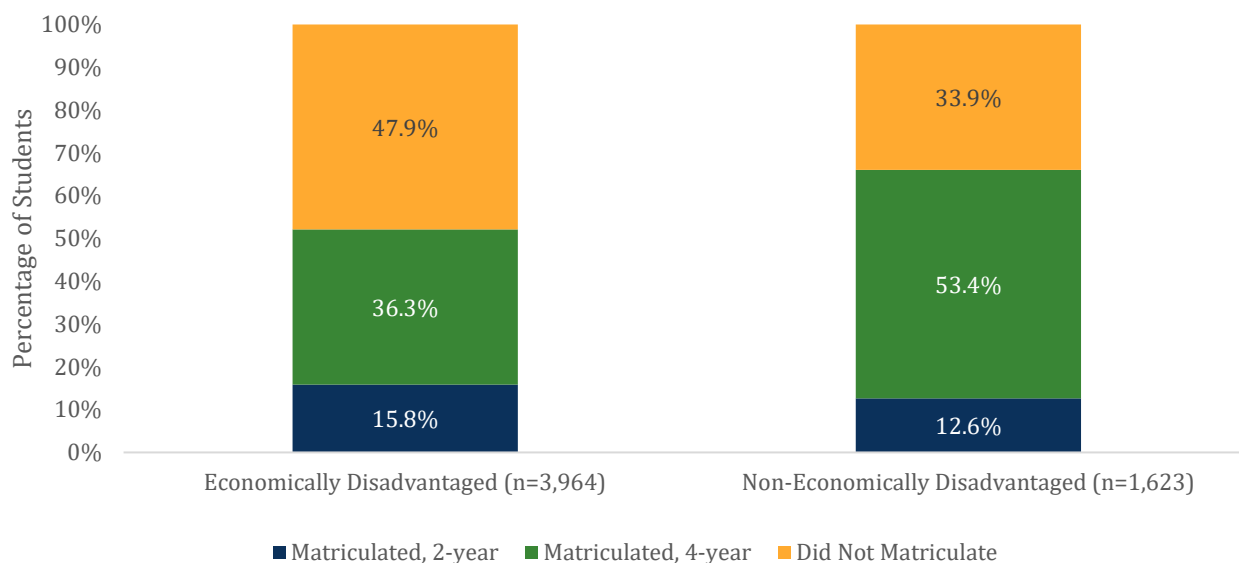
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of Economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged students. For example, among the 3,964 economically disadvantaged students in the sample, 32.8% were Firmly On-Track, 47.6% were On Track but At Risk, and 19.7% were Off Track in ninth grade.

A higher percentage of economically disadvantaged students matriculated into a two-year college, and a lower percentage matriculated into a four-year college, compared to non-economically disadvantaged students.

Overall, first-fall matriculation rates were lower for economically disadvantaged students: 47.9% of economically disadvantaged students did not matriculate compared to 33.9% of non-economically disadvantaged students. A higher percentage of economically disadvantaged students matriculated into two-year colleges (15.8% vs. 12.6%) and a lower percentage matriculated into four-year colleges (36.3% vs. 53.4%) compared to non-economically disadvantaged students (Figure 25).

Figure 25. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who matriculated into a two- or four-year college in 2019 by economically disadvantaged status



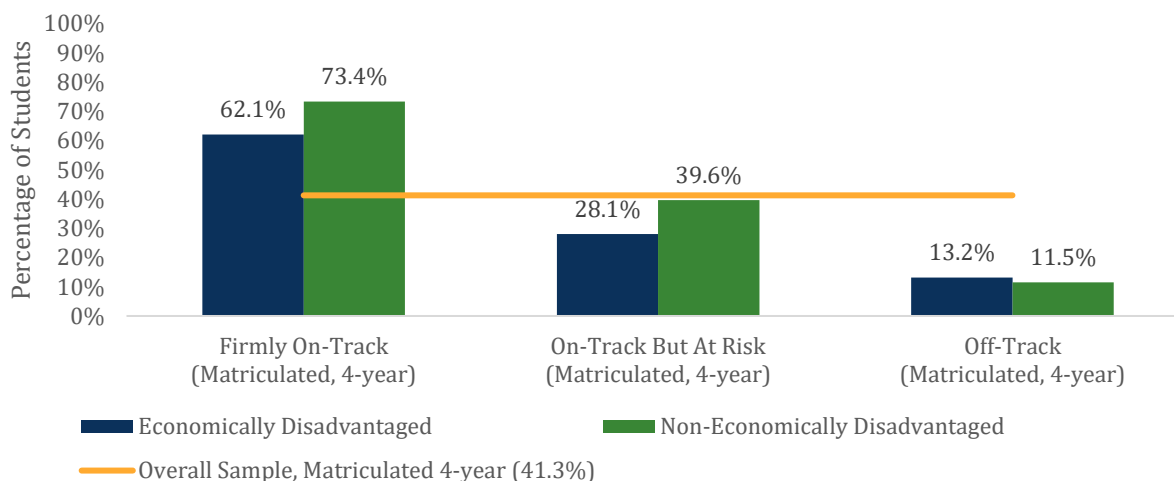
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged students. For example, among the 3,964 economically disadvantaged students in the sample, 15.8% matriculated into two-year colleges, 36.3% matriculated into four-year colleges, and 47.9% did not matriculate in the fall following their high school graduation.

A lower percentage of Firmly On-Track and On-Track But At Risk students who were economically disadvantaged matriculated into four-year colleges compared to their peers.

Across the entire sample of 2015-16 ninth-graders who graduated high school within four years, 41.3% of students matriculated into four-year colleges. Among all economically disadvantaged students who were Firmly On-Track, 62.1% matriculated into four-year colleges compared to 73.4% of non-economically disadvantaged students who were Firmly On-Track (a difference of 11.3 percentage points). Of economically disadvantaged students who were On-Track But At Risk, 28.1% matriculated into four-year Colleges compared to 39.6% of non-economically disadvantaged students (a difference of 11.5 percentage points). Economically disadvantaged students who were Off-Track matriculated into four-year colleges at a rate of 13.2% compared to 11.5% for non-economically disadvantaged students who were Off-Track (a difference of 1.7 percentage points) (Figure 26).

Figure 26. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged students who matriculated into a four-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



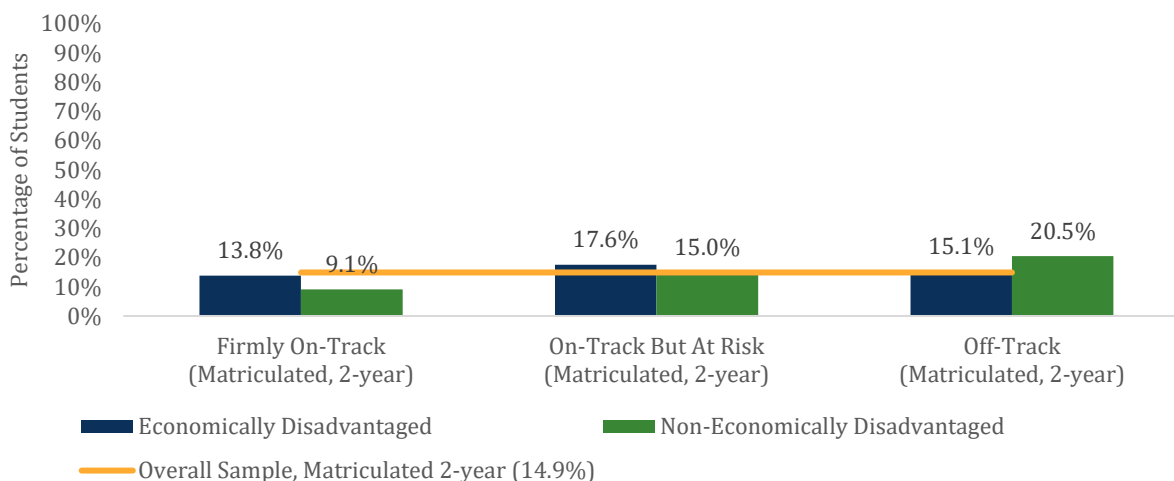
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/economically disadvantaged subgroup who matriculated into a four-year college. For example, of all economically disadvantaged students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 62.1% matriculated into a four-year college in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 73.4% of non-economically disadvantaged students who were Firmly On-Track.

A higher percentage of Firmly On-Track and On-Track But At Risk students who were economically disadvantaged matriculated into a two-year college compared to non-economically disadvantaged students.

Across the entire sample, 14.9% of students matriculated into two-year colleges. With the exception of Off-Track students, economically disadvantaged students matriculated into two-year colleges at higher rates than non-economically disadvantaged students. Among all economically disadvantaged students who were Firmly On-Track, 13.8% matriculated into two-year colleges compared to 9.1% of non-economically disadvantaged students who were Firmly On-Track (a difference of 4.7 percentage points). Of economically disadvantaged students who were On-Track But At Risk, 17.6% matriculated into two-year colleges compared to 15% of non-economically disadvantaged students (a difference of 2.6 percentage points). Economically disadvantaged students who were Off-Track matriculated at a rate of 15.1% compared to 20.5% for non-economically disadvantaged students who were Off-Track (a difference of 5.4 percentage points) (Figure 27).

Figure 27. Percentage of 2015-16 economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged ninth-grade students who matriculated into a two-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



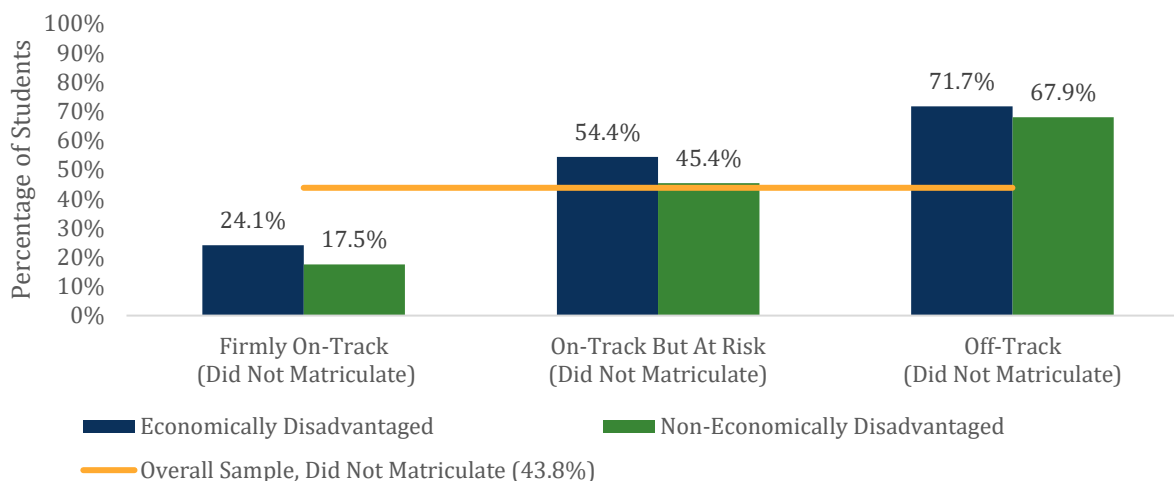
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/Economic Disadvantage subgroup who matriculated into a two-year college. For example, of all economically disadvantaged students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 13.8% matriculated into a two-year college in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 9.1% of non-economically disadvantaged students who were Firmly On-Track.

Across all On-Track subgroups, a higher percentage of economically disadvantaged students did not matriculate compared to their peers.

Across the entire sample, 43.8% of students did not matriculate. More economically disadvantaged students did not matriculate than non-economically disadvantaged students and the difference was greatest among students who were On-Track But At Risk (a difference of 9 percentage points). Among all economically disadvantaged students who were Firmly On-Track, 24.1% did not matriculate compared to 17.5% of non-economically disadvantaged students who were Firmly On-Track (a difference of 6.6 percentage points). Of economically disadvantaged students who were On-Track But At Risk, 54.4% did not matriculate compared to 45.4% of non-economically disadvantaged students (a difference of 9 percentage points). Economically disadvantaged students who were Off-Track did not matriculate at a rate of 71.7% compared to 67.9% for non-economically disadvantaged students who were Off-Track (a difference of 3.8 percentage points) (Figure 23).

Figure 28. Percentage of 2015-16 economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged ninth-grade students who did not matriculate into any college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/Gender subgroup who did not matriculate. For example, of all female students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 18.4% did not matriculate in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 26.8% of male students who were Firmly On-Track.

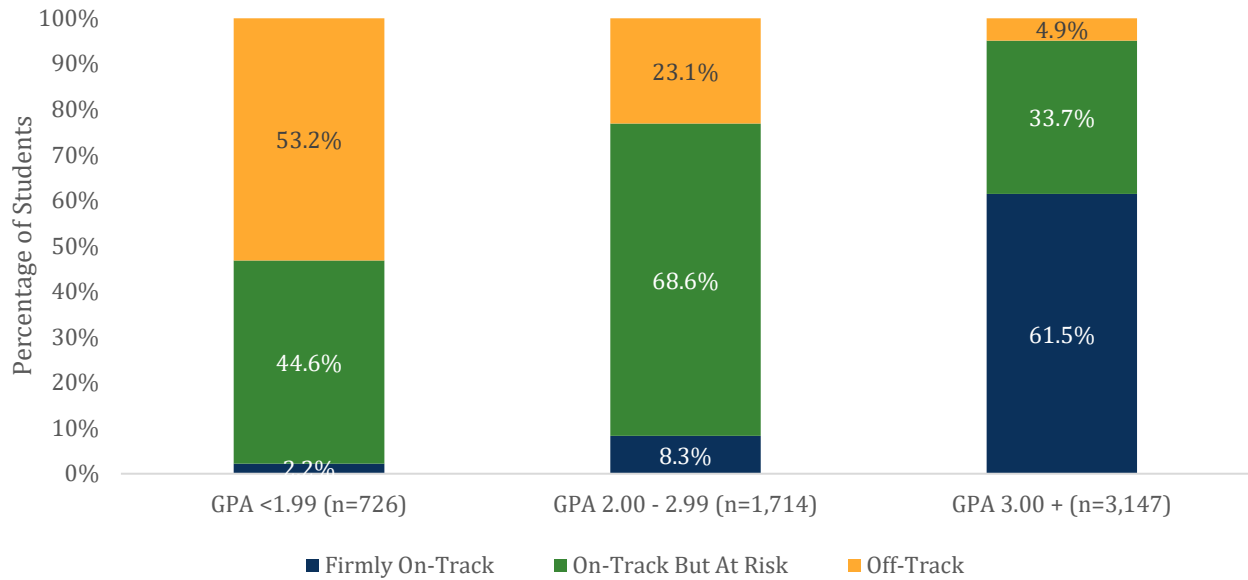
Ninth Grade On-Track and College Matriculation by GPA at Graduation

Students with higher GPAs at graduation were more likely to have been Firmly On-Track in ninth grade.

On-Track Status in ninth grade was highly predictive of GPA at graduation, and GPA at graduation was highly predictive of matriculation.¹² Of 726 students in the sample who graduated with a GPA less than 1.99, 2.2% were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade compared to 8.3% of the 1,714 students with a GPA that ranged from 2.00–2.99 and 61.5% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00. Nearly 45% of students with a GPA less than 1.99, 68.6 percent of students with a GPA 2.00–2.99, and 33.7% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00 were On-Track But At Risk. 53.2% of students with a GPA less than 1.99 were Off-Track compared to 23.1% of students with a GPA 2.00–2.99 and 4.9% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00.

¹² For n counts for students in each GPA category, see Appendix, Table 7.

Figure 29. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who were Firmly On-Track, On-Track But At Risk, and Off-Track in 2015-16 by GPA at graduation



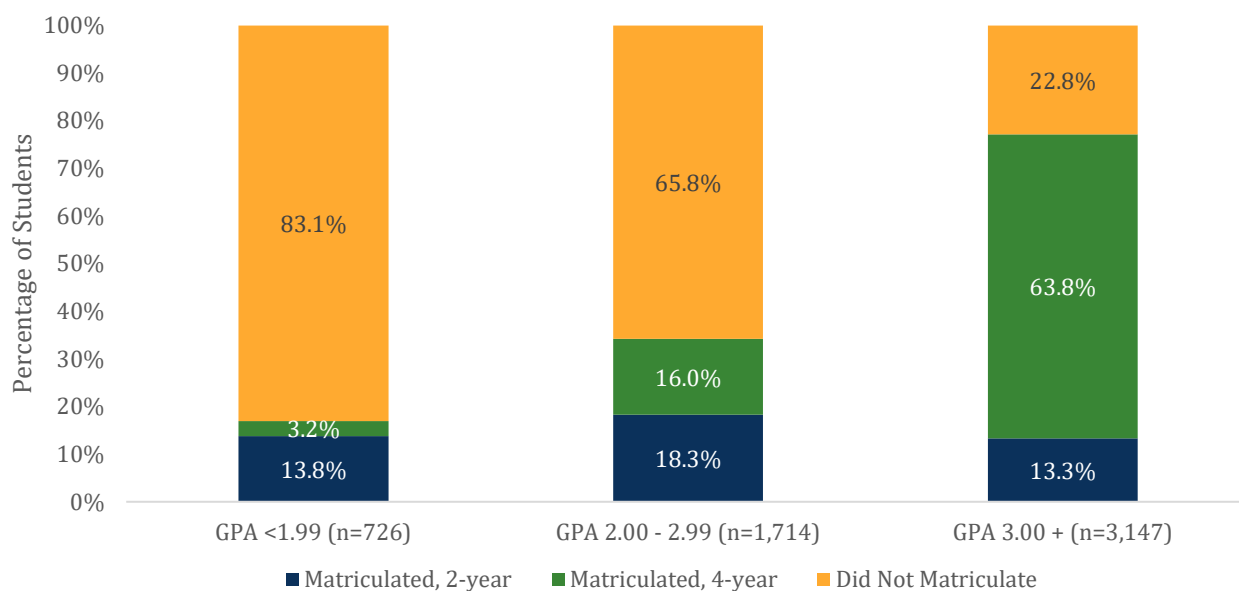
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of students in each GPA category. For example, among the 726 students in the sample who graduated with a GPA less than 1.99, 2.2% were Firmly On-Track, 44.6% were On Track But At Risk, and 53.2% were Off-Track in ninth grade.

Students in all GPA categories matriculated into two-year colleges at similar rates, whereas students with higher GPAs matriculated into four-year schools at higher rates.

Overall, 12th grade GPA was highly predictive of whether or not students matriculated, with higher GPAs indicating higher rates of matriculation, particularly at four-year colleges. 13.8% of students with a GPA less than 1.99 matriculated into two-year colleges compared to 18.3% of students with a GPA of 2.00–2.99 and 13.3% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00. Only 3.2% of students with a GPA less than 1.99 matriculated into four-year colleges, compared to 16% of students with a GPA of 2.00-2.99 and 63.8% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00. 83.1% of students with a GPA less than 1.99 did not matriculate compared to 65.8% of students with a GPA of 2.00-2.99 and 22.8% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00 (Figure 30).

Figure 30. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who matriculated into a two- or four-year college in 2019 by GPA at graduation



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

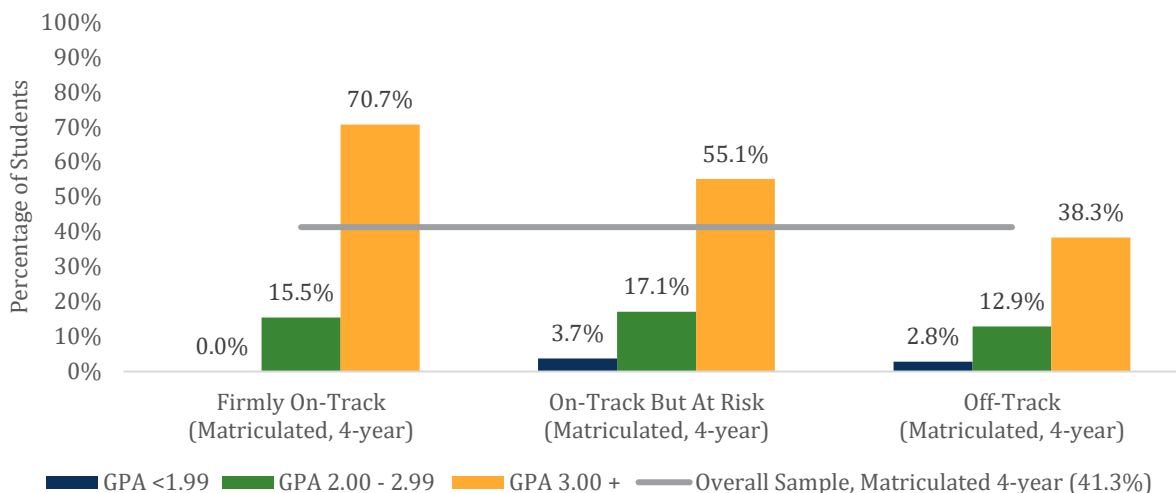
How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the total population of students in each GPA bucket. For example, among the 726 students in the sample with a GPA less than 1.99 at graduation, 13.8% matriculated into two-year colleges, 3.2% matriculated into four-year colleges, and 83.1% did not matriculate in the fall following their high school graduation.

Students with higher GPAs matriculated into four-year colleges at higher rates across all On-Track subgroups. Four-year college matriculation was highest among students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade.

While GPA at graduation is strongly related to four-year college matriculation, being On-Track in ninth grade may have some influence in the likelihood of a student matriculating into four-year colleges. This is particularly true for students with higher GPAs at graduation, where four-year matriculation was highest among Firmly On-Track Students; in other words, those who received the highest marks (A's and B's in all courses) in their ninth-grade year. Across the entire sample, 41.3% of students matriculated into four-year colleges. Among all students with a GPA less than 1.99 who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, none matriculated into four-year colleges, compared to 15.5% of students with a GPA of 2.00–2.99 and 70.7% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00. Of students who were On-Track But At Risk, 3.7% matriculated into four-year colleges compared to 17.1% of students with a GPA of 2.00–2.99. Students with a GPA less than 1.99 who were Off-Track matriculated into four-year colleges at a rate of 2.8% compared to 12.9% of students with a GPA of 2.0–2.99 and 38.3% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00 who were Off-Track (Figure 31). A higher percentage of students with a GPA greater than 3.00 and who were Firmly On-Track matriculated into four-year colleges compared to students with a GPA greater than

3.00 who were On-Track But At Risk and students with a GPA greater than 3.00 who were Off-Track (Figure 31).

Figure 31. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who matriculated into a four-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status and 12th grade GPA



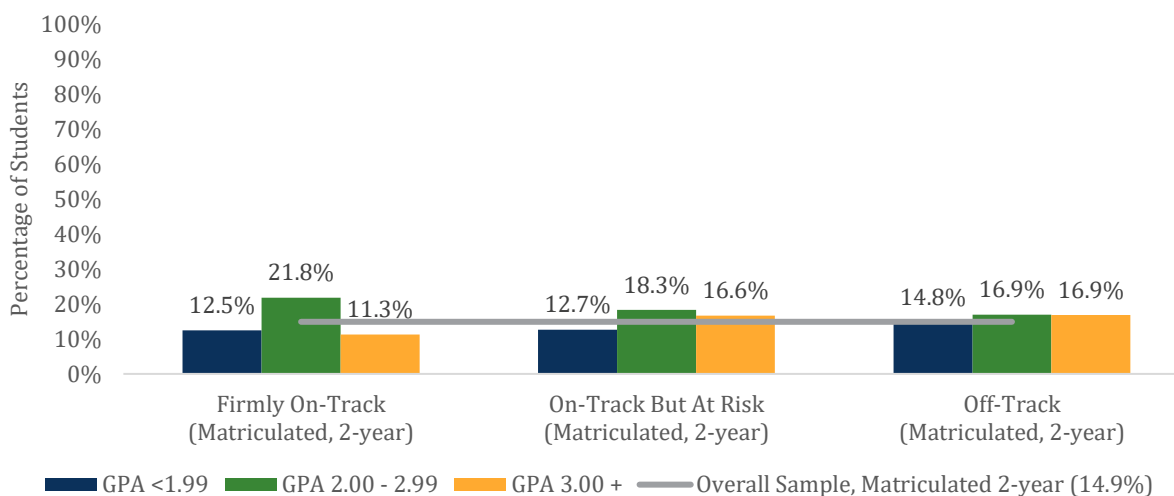
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/GPA subgroup who matriculated into a four-year college. For example, of all students who graduated with a GPA less than 1.99 who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, none matriculated into a four-year college in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 15.5% of students with a GPA of 2.00–2.99 and 70.7% of students with a GPA greater than 3.0 who were Firmly On-Track.

Students matriculated into two-year colleges at relatively similar rates, regardless of GPA.

There was less variability in students matriculating into two-year colleges than at four-year colleges, with students in all On-Track/GPA groups matriculating into two-year colleges at rates between 12.5% and 21.8%. Students with mid-range GPAs generally matriculated at two-year colleges at slightly higher rates than other GPA groups. Across the entire sample, 14.9% of students matriculated into two-year colleges. Among all students with a GPA less than 1.99 who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 12.5% matriculated into two-year colleges compared to 21.8% of percent of students with a GPA of 2.00–2.99 and 11.3% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00. Of students who were On-Track But At Risk, 12.7% matriculated into two-year colleges compared to 18.3% of students with a GPA of 2.00–2.99 and 16.6% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00. Students with a GPA less than 1.99 who were Off-Track matriculated into two-year colleges at a rate of 14.8%, compared to 16.6% of students with a GPA 2.00–2.99 and 16.9% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00 who were Off-Track (Figure 32).

Figure 32. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who matriculated into a two-year college in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status and 12th grade GPA



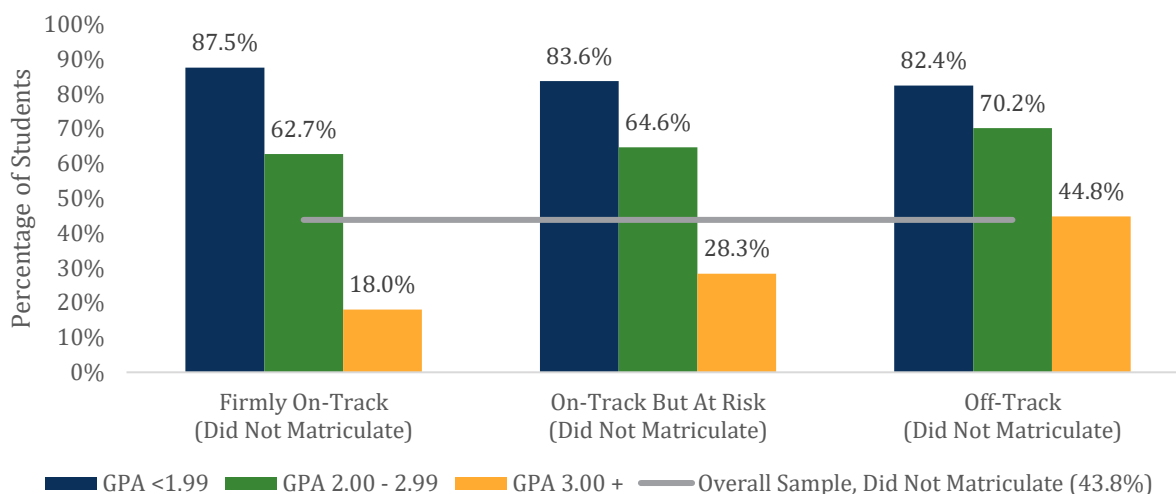
Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/GPA subgroup who matriculated into a two-year college. For example, of all students with a GPA less than 1.99 who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 12.5% matriculated into a two-year college in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 21.8% of students with a GPA of 2.00–2.99 and 11.3% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00 who were Firmly On-Track.

Among students in the highest GPA bucket, non-matriculation rates were higher for students who were On-Track But At Risk or Off-Track in ninth grade.

Across the entire sample, 43.8% of students did not matriculate. Among all students with a 12th grade GPA less than 1.99 who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 87.5% did not matriculate, compared to 62.7% of percent of students with a GPA 2.00–2.99 and 18% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00. Among students who were On-Track But At Risk, 83.6% did not matriculate, compared to 64.6% of students with a GPA of 2.00–2.99 and 28.3% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00. Students with a GPA less than 1.99 who were Off-Track did not matriculate at a rate of 82.4% compared to 70.2% of students with a GPA 2.00–2.99 and 44.8% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00 who were Off-Track (Figure 32). Again, there is a notable relationship between being On-Track in 9th grade and future matriculation, particularly among students with higher GPAs where variation in non-matriculation rates were greatest.

Figure 33. Percentage of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who did not matriculate in 2019 by Ninth Grade On-Track status and 12th grade GPA



Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this figure: Each bar in this graph represents the percentage (out of 100%) of students in each On-Track/GPA subgroup who did not matriculate. For example, of all students with a GPA less than 1.99 who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, 87.5% did not matriculate in the fall following their high school graduation compared to 62.7% of students with a GPA of 2.00 – 2.99 and 18% of students with a GPA greater than 3.00 who were Firmly On-Track.

Summary of Main Findings

Although previous research has demonstrated that being On-Track in ninth grade is strongly related to on-time high school graduation, no research to date has focused on how On-Track status is related to college matriculation among SDP students who graduate. This report expanded on previous findings by examining first-fall matriculation outcomes of the 2015-16 first-time ninth-grade cohort who graduated on-time (Class of 2019) by their Ninth Grade On-Track status (Firmly On-Track, On-Track But At Risk, and Off-Track) and further compared matriculation outcomes across demographic subgroups.

Of the 5,587 students in the sample of 2015-16 ninth-grade students who graduated on-time in 2019, 37.4% were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade (n=2,092), 45.8% were On-Track But At Risk (n=2,559), and 16.8% were Off-Track (n=936). Of the total sample, 14.9% matriculated into two-year colleges (n=833), 41.3% matriculated into four-year colleges (n=2,306), and 43.8% did not matriculate (n=2,448) in the first fall following their high school graduation. A higher percentage of students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade matriculated into college four years later compared to students who were On-Track But At Risk or Off-Track and a lower percentage matriculated into two-year colleges.

Gender

A higher percentage of female students were On-Track and Firmly On-Track in ninth grade compared to male students. Additionally, a higher percentage of female students matriculated into both two- and four-year colleges compared to male students across all On-Track subgroups, with the exception of Firmly On-Track male students who matriculated into two-year colleges at a slightly higher rate compared to Firmly On-Track female students.

Race/Ethnicity

Differences were also noted for race/ethnicity subgroups. For example, higher percentages of Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino students were On-Track But At Risk and Off-Track in ninth grade. Overall, a lower percentage of Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino students matriculated into a four-year college compared to students of other races/ethnicities. Among students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade, a notably higher percentage of Hispanic/Latino students matriculated into a two-year college compared to students of other races/ethnicities, and a lower percentage matriculated into four-year colleges. White students who were Off-Track had the highest rate of non-matriculation of any On-Track/race/ethnicity subgroup.

English Learner (EL) Status

A lower percentage of English Learners (ELs) were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade compared to non-English Learners. Additionally, a lower percentage of English Learners who were Firmly On-Track or On-Track But At Risk in ninth grade matriculated into a four-year college, but a higher percentage matriculated into a two-year college compared to non-ELs. A higher percentage of ELs did not matriculate compared to non-EL students across all On-Track subgroups.

IEP Status

A lower percentage of students with IEPs were Firmly On-Track compared to their peers. A lower percentage of students with IEPs matriculated into both two- and four-year colleges following their high school graduation. However, students with IEPs who were Firmly On-Track matriculated into four-year colleges at slightly higher rates than students who were Firmly On Track without IEPs. A higher percentage of students with IEPs matriculated into two-year colleges compared to students without IEPs across all On-Track subgroups.

Economic Disadvantage Status

The percentage of economically disadvantaged students who were Off-Track in ninth grade was double the percentage of non-economically disadvantaged students who were Off-Track. A higher percentage of economically disadvantaged students matriculated into two-year colleges and a lower percentage matriculated into four-year colleges compared to non-economically

disadvantaged students. Additionally, a lower percentage of Firmly On-Track and On-Track But At Risk students who were economically disadvantaged matriculated into four-year colleges but a higher percentage of Firmly On-Track and On-Track But At Risk students who were economically disadvantaged matriculated into two-year colleges compared to students who were not economically disadvantaged.

GPA at Graduation

Overall, 12th-grade GPA was highly predictive of whether or not students matriculated, with higher GPAs indicating higher rates of matriculation, particularly at four-year colleges. Students with higher GPAs matriculated into four-year colleges at higher rates across all On-Track subgroups, and four-year college matriculation was highest among students who were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade. Students in all GPA subgroups matriculated into two-year colleges at similar rates, regardless of GPA at graduation.

Appendix

Table 1. Overall Ninth Grade On-Track and matriculation rates

Ninth Grade On-Track status			Matriculation Status					
	n	%	Matriculated, two-year		Matriculated, four-year		Did Not Matriculate	
			n	%	n	%	n	%
Firmly On-Track	2,092	37.4%	251	12.0%	1,389	66.4%	452	21.6%
On-Track But At Risk	2,559	45.8%	432	16.9%	796	31.1%	1,331	52.0%
Off-Track	936	16.8%	150	16.0%	121	12.9%	665	71.0%
Total (Overall)	5,587	100.0%	833	14.9%	2,306	41.3%	2,448	43.8%

Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this table: There are 5,587 students in the sample. Of all students in the sample, 14.9% (n=833) matriculated into a two-year college. Of all students in the sample, 37.4% (n=2,092) were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade. Of all students who were Firmly On-Track, 12.0% (n=251) matriculated into a two-year college.

Table 2. Ninth Grade On-Track status and matriculation by gender

Ninth Grade On-Track status				Matriculation Status		
		n	%	Matriculated, two-year	Matriculated, four-year	Did Not Matriculate
Firmly On-Track	Female	1,286	61.5%	11.9%	69.8%	18.4%
	Male	806	38.5%	12.2%	61.0%	26.8%
	Total (Firmly On-Track)	2,092	37.4%	12.0%	66.4%	21.6%
On-Track But At Risk	Female	1,291	50.4%	18.5%	36.8%	44.7%
	Male	1,268	49.6%	15.2%	25.3%	59.5%
	Total (On-Track But At Risk)	2,559	45.8%	16.9%	31.1%	52.0%
Off-Track	Female	441	47.1%	20.4%	17.5%	62.1%
	Male	495	52.9%	12.1%	8.9%	79.0%
	Total (Off-Track)	936	16.8%	16.0%	12.9%	71.0%
Overall	Female	3,018	54.0%	16.0%	48.0%	36.0%
	Male	2,569	46.0%	13.7%	33.4%	53.0%
	Total (Overall)	5,587	100.0%	14.9%	41.3%	43.8%

Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this table: There are 5,587 students in the sample. Of all students in the sample, 54.0% (n=3,018) were female. Of all female students, 16% matriculated into a two-year college. Of all students in the sample, 37.4% (n=2,092) were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade. Of all students who were Firmly On-Track, 61.5% (n=1,286) were female. Of all female students who were Firmly On-Track, 11.9% matriculated into a two-year college.

Table 3. Ninth Grade On-Track status and matriculation by race/ethnicity

Ninth Grade On-Track status				Matriculation Status		
		n	%	Matriculated, two-year	Matriculated, four-year	Did Not Matriculate
Firmly On-Track	White	416	19.9%	10.6%	67.1%	22.4%
	Black/African American	738	35.3%	10.8%	64.5%	24.7%
	Hispanic/Latino	283	13.5%	20.1%	45.9%	33.9%
	Asian	513	24.5%	11.7%	77.0%	11.3%
	Multi Racial/Other	142	6.8%	7.0%	76.8%	16.2%
	Total (Firmly On-Track)	2,092	37.4%	12.0%	66.4%	21.6%
On-Track But At Risk	White	278	10.9%	14.7%	27.3%	57.9%
	Black/African American	1,534	59.9%	15.8%	32.7%	51.5%
	Hispanic/Latino	427	16.7%	19.4%	19.9%	60.7%
	Asian	199	7.8%	21.6%	41.2%	37.2%
	Multi Racial/Other	121	4.7%	18.2%	43.0%	38.8%
	Total (On-Track But At Risk)	2,559	45.8%	16.9%	31.1%	52.0%
Off-Track	White	68	7.3%	17.6%	7.4%	75.0%
	Black/African American	565	60.4%	15.2%	13.5%	71.3%
	Hispanic/Latino	212	22.6%	15.1%	11.8%	73.1%
	Asian	66	7.1%	22.7%	12.1%	65.2%
	Multi Racial/Other	25	2.7%	20.0%	28.0%	52.0%
	Total (Off-Track)	936	16.8%	16.0%	12.9%	71.0%
Overall	White	762	13.6%	12.7%	47.2%	40.0%
	Black/African American	2,837	50.8%	14.4%	37.1%	48.5%
	Hispanic/Latino	922	16.5%	18.7%	26.0%	55.3%
	Asian	778	13.9%	15.2%	62.3%	22.5%
	Multi Racial/Other	288	5.2%	12.8%	58.3%	28.8%
	Total (Overall)	5,587	100.0%	14.9%	41.3%	43.8%

Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

Note: Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and American Indian/Alaskan Native combined with Multi Racial/Other

How to read this table: There are 5,587 students in the sample. Of all students in the sample, 13.6% (n=762) were White. Of all White students, 12.7% matriculated into a two-year college. Of all students in the sample, 37.4% (n=2,092) were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade. 19.9% (n=416) of all students who were Firmly On-Track were White. 10.6% of all White students who were Firmly On-Track matriculated into a two-year college.

Table 4. Ninth Grade On-Track status and matriculation by English Learner (EL) Status

Ninth Grade On-Track status				Matriculation Status		
		n	%	Matriculated, two-year	Matriculated, four-year	Did Not Matriculate
Firmly On-Track	English Learner	153	7.3%	26.8%	35.9%	37.3%
	Non-English Learner	1,939	92.7%	10.8%	68.8%	20.4%
	Total (Firmly On-Track)	2,092	37.4%	12.0%	66.4%	21.6%
On-Track But At Risk	English Learner	221	8.6%	23.1%	12.2%	64.7%
	Non-English Learner	2,338	91.4%	16.3%	32.9%	50.8%
	Total (On-Track But At Risk)	2,559	45.8%	16.9%	31.1%	52.0%
Off-Track	English Learner	143	15.3%	14.0%	10.5%	75.5%
	Non-English Learner	793	84.7%	16.4%	13.4%	70.2%
	Total (Off-Track)	936	16.8%	16.0%	12.9%	71.0%
Overall	English Learner	517	9.3%	21.7%	18.8%	59.6%
	Non-English Learner	5,070	90.7%	14.2%	43.6%	42.2%
	Total (Overall)	5,587	100.0%	14.9%	41.3%	43.8%

Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this table: There are 5,587 students in the sample. Of all students in the sample, 9.3% (n=517) of were English Learners (ELs). Of all ELs, 21.7% matriculated into a two-year college. Of all students in the sample, 37.4% (n=2,092) were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade. Of all students who were Firmly On-Track, 7.3% (n=153) were English Learners. Of all EL students who were Firmly On-Track, 26.8% matriculated into a two-year college.

Table 5. Ninth Grade On-Track status and matriculation by IEP Status

Ninth Grade On-Track status				Matriculation Status		
		n	%	Matriculated, two-year	Matriculated, four-year	Did Not Matriculate
Firmly On-Track	Students with IEPs	344	16.4%	9.0%	68.0%	23.0%
	Students without IEPs	1,748	83.6%	12.6%	66.1%	21.3%
	Total (Firmly On- Track)	2,092	37.4%	12.0%	66.4%	21.6%
On-Track But At Risk	Students with IEPs	453	17.7%	15.2%	20.1%	64.7%
	Students without IEPs	2,106	82.3%	17.2%	33.5%	49.3%
	Total (On-Track But At Risk)	2,559	45.8%	16.9%	31.1%	52.0%
Off-Track	Students with IEPs	227	24.3%	10.1%	5.3%	84.6%
	Students without IEPs	709	75.7%	17.9%	15.4%	66.7%
	Total (Off-Track)	936	16.8%	16.0%	12.9%	71.0%
Overall	Students with IEPs	1,024	18.3%	12.0%	32.9%	55.1%
	Students without IEPs	4,563	81.7%	15.6%	43.2%	41.3%
	Total (Overall)	5,587	100.0 %	14.9%	41.3%	43.8%

Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this table: There are 5,587 students in the sample. Of all students in the sample, 18.3% (n=1,025) had an IEP. Of all students with an IEP, 12.0% matriculated into a two-year college. Of all students in the sample, 37.4% (n=2,092) were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade. Of all students who were Firmly On-Track, 16.4% (n=344) had an IEP. Of all students with an IEP who were Firmly On-Track, 9.0% matriculated into a two-year college.

Table 6. Ninth Grade On-Track status and matriculation by economically disadvantaged status

Ninth Grade On-Track status				Matriculation Status		
		n	%	Matriculated, two-year	Matriculated, four-year	Did Not Matriculate
Firmly On-Track	Economically Disadvantaged	1,299	62.1%	13.8%	62.1%	24.1%
	Non-Economically Disadvantaged	793	37.9%	9.1%	73.4%	17.5%
	Total (Firmly On-Track)	2,092	37.4%	12.0%	66.4%	21.6%
On-Track But At Risk	Economically Disadvantaged	1,885	73.7%	17.6%	28.1%	54.4%
	Non-Economically Disadvantaged	674	26.3%	15.0%	39.6%	45.4%
	Total (On-Track But At Risk)	2,559	45.8%	16.9%	31.1%	52.0%
Off-Track	Economically Disadvantaged	780	83.3%	15.1%	13.2%	71.7%
	Non-Economically Disadvantaged	156	16.7%	20.5%	11.5%	67.9%
	Total (Off-Track)	936	16.8%	16.0%	12.9%	71.0%
Overall	Economically Disadvantaged	3,964	71.0%	15.8%	36.3%	47.9%
	Non-Economically Disadvantaged	1,623	29.0%	12.6%	53.4%	33.9%
	Total (Overall)	5,587	100.0%	14.9%	41.3%	43.8%

Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this table: There are 5,587 students in the sample. Of all students in the sample, 71.0% (n=3,964) were economically disadvantaged. Of all economically disadvantaged students, 15.8% matriculated into a two-year college. Of all students in the sample, 37.4% (n=2,092) were Firmly On-Track in ninth grade. Of all students who were Firmly On-Track, 62.1% (n=1,299) were economically disadvantaged. Of all economically disadvantaged students who were Firmly On-Track, 13.8% matriculated into a two-year college.

Table 7. Ninth Grade On-Track status and matriculation by GPA at graduation

Ninth Grade On-Track status				Matriculation Status		
		n	%	Matriculated, two-year	Matriculated, four-year	Did Not Matriculate
Firmly On-Track	GPA <1.99	16	0.8%	12.5%	0.0%	87.5%
	GPA 2.00 - 2.99	142	6.8%	21.8%	15.5%	62.7%
	GPA 3.00 +	1,934	92.4%	11.3%	70.7%	18.0%
	Total (Firmly On- Track)	2,092	37.4%	12.0%	66.4%	21.6%
On-Track But At Risk	GPA <1.99	324	12.7%	12.7%	3.7%	83.6%
	GPA 2.00 - 2.99	1,176	46.0%	18.3%	17.1%	64.6%
	GPA 3.00 +	1,059	41.4%	16.6%	55.1%	28.3%
	Total (On-Track But At Risk)	2,559	45.8%	16.9%	31.1%	52.0%
Off-Track	GPA <1.99	386	41.2%	14.8%	2.8%	82.4%
	GPA 2.00 - 2.99	396	42.3%	16.9%	12.9%	70.2%
	GPA 3.00 +	154	16.5%	16.9%	38.3%	44.8%
	Total (Off-Track)	936	16.8%	16.0%	12.9%	71.0%
Overall	GPA <1.99	726	13.0%	13.8%	3.2%	83.1%
	GPA 2.00 - 2.99	1,714	30.7%	18.3%	16.0%	65.8%
	GPA 3.00 +	3,147	56.3%	13.3%	63.8%	22.8%
	Total (Overall)	5,587	100.0 %	14.9%	41.3%	43.8%

Source: QlikBam Graduation Application, Ninth Grade On-Track through College Matriculation sheet. Data downloaded February 19, 2020.

How to read this table: There are 5,587 students in the sample. Of all students in the sample, 13.0% (n=726) had a GPA <1.99 at graduation. Of all students with a GPA <1.99, 13.8% matriculated into a two-year college. Of all students in the sample, 37.4% (n=2,092) were Firmly On-Track in Ninth-grade. Only 0.8% (n=16) of all students who were Firmly On-Track graduated with a GPA <1.99. Of all students who graduated with a GPA <1.99 who were Firmly On-Track, 12.5% matriculated into a two-year college.