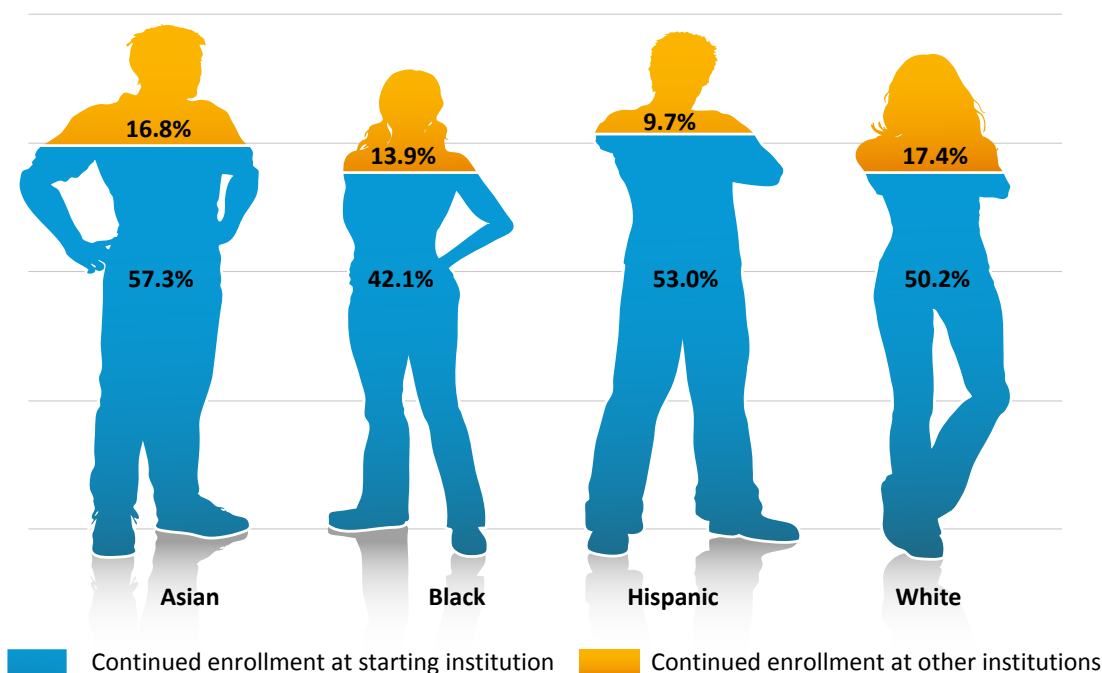


Keep them coming back

First-year persistence is a key leading indicator of postsecondary student success.

Fall-to-fall persistence and retention by race and ethnicity at public two-year institutions (fall 2016 entering cohort)



Source: National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, "Snapshot Report, First Year Persistence and Retention, Overall Persistence and Retention," Summer 2018.

Data Note: Retention is defined in the report as continued enrollment or degree completion at the same college in the fall semester of student's first and second year.



Fall-to-fall retention and persistence are important early indicators for students working toward degrees and certificates. Data examined by the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center indicated that the overall rate for students who began at a community college in fall 2016 and persisted the next fall (enrolled in the same college or transferred to another college) was 62.2 percent. Overall, Asian students followed by Hispanic students had the highest persistence rate. Asians who persisted were also most likely to stay at the college where they started, followed by Hispanics. White students had higher retention than blacks, and they were most likely to have transferred by the second fall. Community colleges should use campus-level data such as these to drive and monitor student success initiatives.

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