

PARENTING STUDENTS - STUDENT SUCCESS & COMPLETION COMMITTEE - OCT 2023

DATA SNAPSHOT



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

SINGLE MOTHERS IN HIGHER ED – POSITIVE ROI

In Indiana, 22% of all undergraduates (~82k) are parents; of those nearly half (~39K) are single mothers

Table 1. Lifetime Public Assistance Savings When Single Mothers in Indiana Earn Associate and Bachelor's Degrees

Public Assistance Program	Savings from an A.A.	Savings from a B.A.
TANF	\$2,433	\$2,685
SNAP	\$14,611	\$24,082
Section 8 Housing	\$5,366	\$10,801
Total	\$22,410	\$37,569

Note: Public assistance savings figures are in comparison to public assistance receipt among single mothers whose highest level of educational attainment is high school.

Table 2. Investments in Supportive Services for Single Mother Students in Indiana Result in a Significant Economic Return

Average per Student Cost for Total Time Enrolled in College	
Child Care for Children 0-4	\$9,267
Case Management	\$6,609
Additional Financial Aid	\$6,975
Estimated Graduation Effect	
Child Care	21.0%
Case Management	47.1%
Financial Aid	2.8%
Average Lifetime Economic Gains per Student	
Increase in Lifetime Tax Payments	\$24,081
Reduction in Lifetime Public Assistance Receipt	\$10,795
State Returns on Investment in All Enrolled Single Mothers	
Returns to Child Care	\$2.61
Returns to Case Management	\$3.81
Returns to Financial Aid	\$3.50

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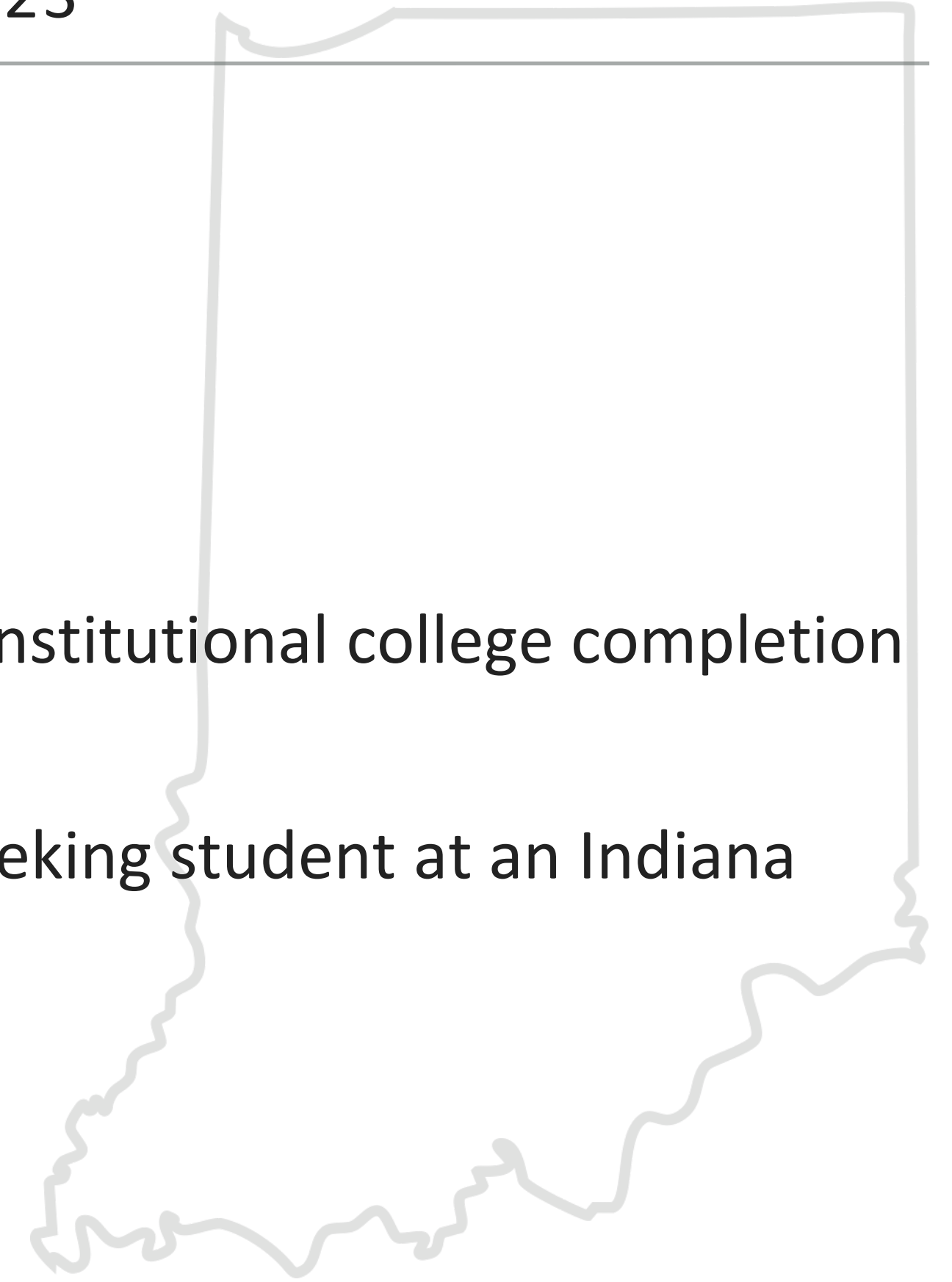
CHE DATA ANALYSIS



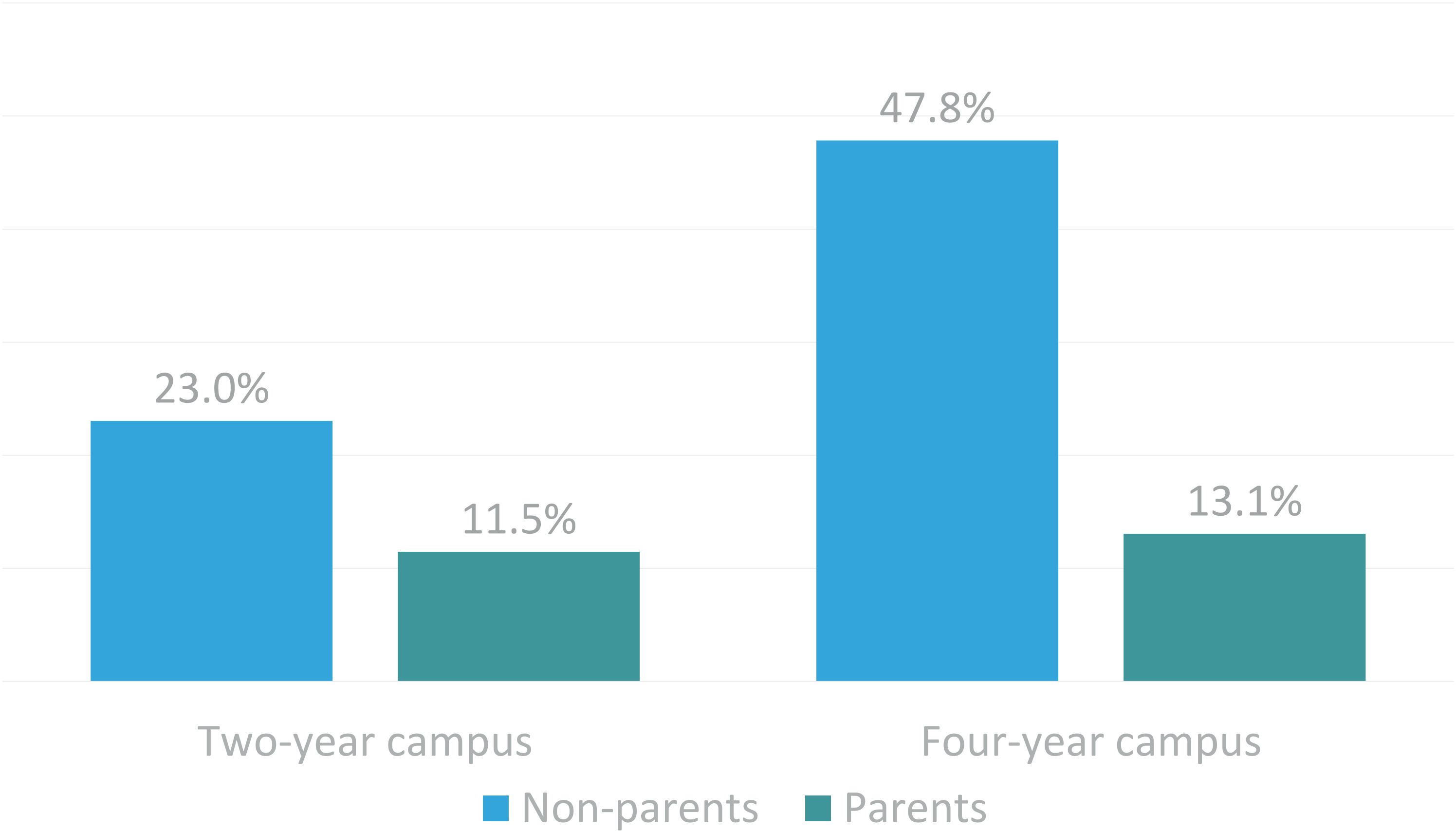
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ABOUT THE DATA

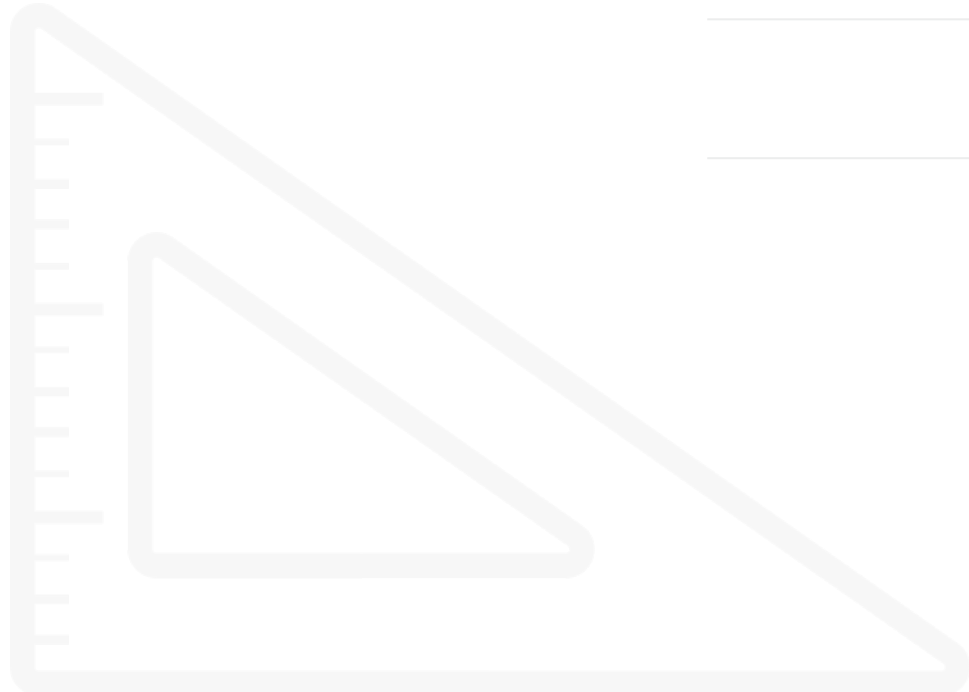
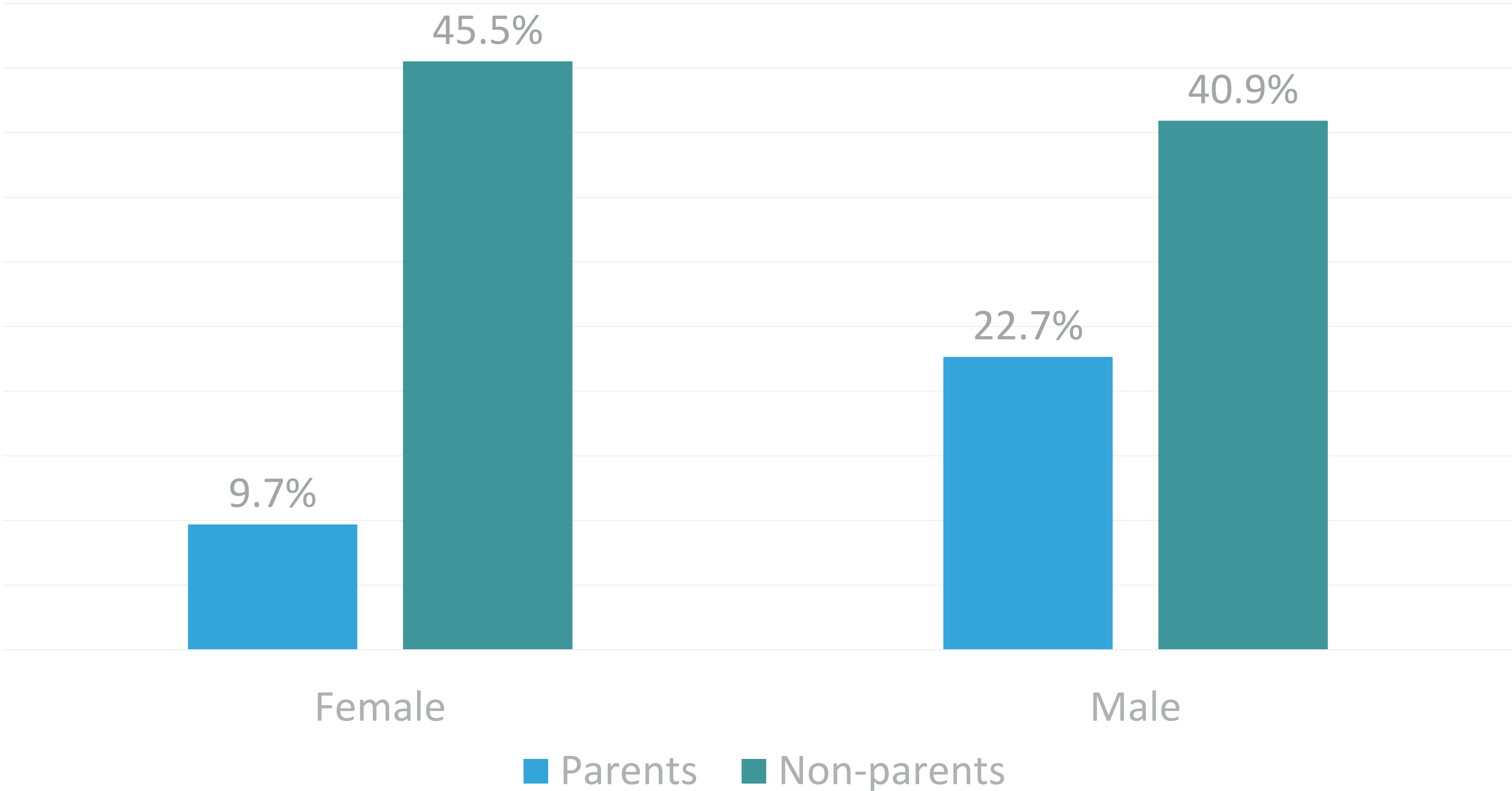
- ▶ Base student population
 - ▶ Limitation: Data only includes students who filed the FAFSA and matched to our institutional college completion cohort records
 - ▶ College completion cohort criteria: First-time, full time, undergraduate degree-seeking student at an Indiana public institution who started in the fall semester
- ▶ “Parent student”
 - ▶ Student indicated that they financially support children on the FAFSA
- ▶ Cohorts
 - ▶ Extended Time -> Fall 2015 Cohort
 - ▶ On Time -> Fall 2017/Fall 2019 Cohorts (Four-year institutions/two-year institutions)



PARENTS STRUGGLE TO COMPLETE COLLEGE ON-TIME

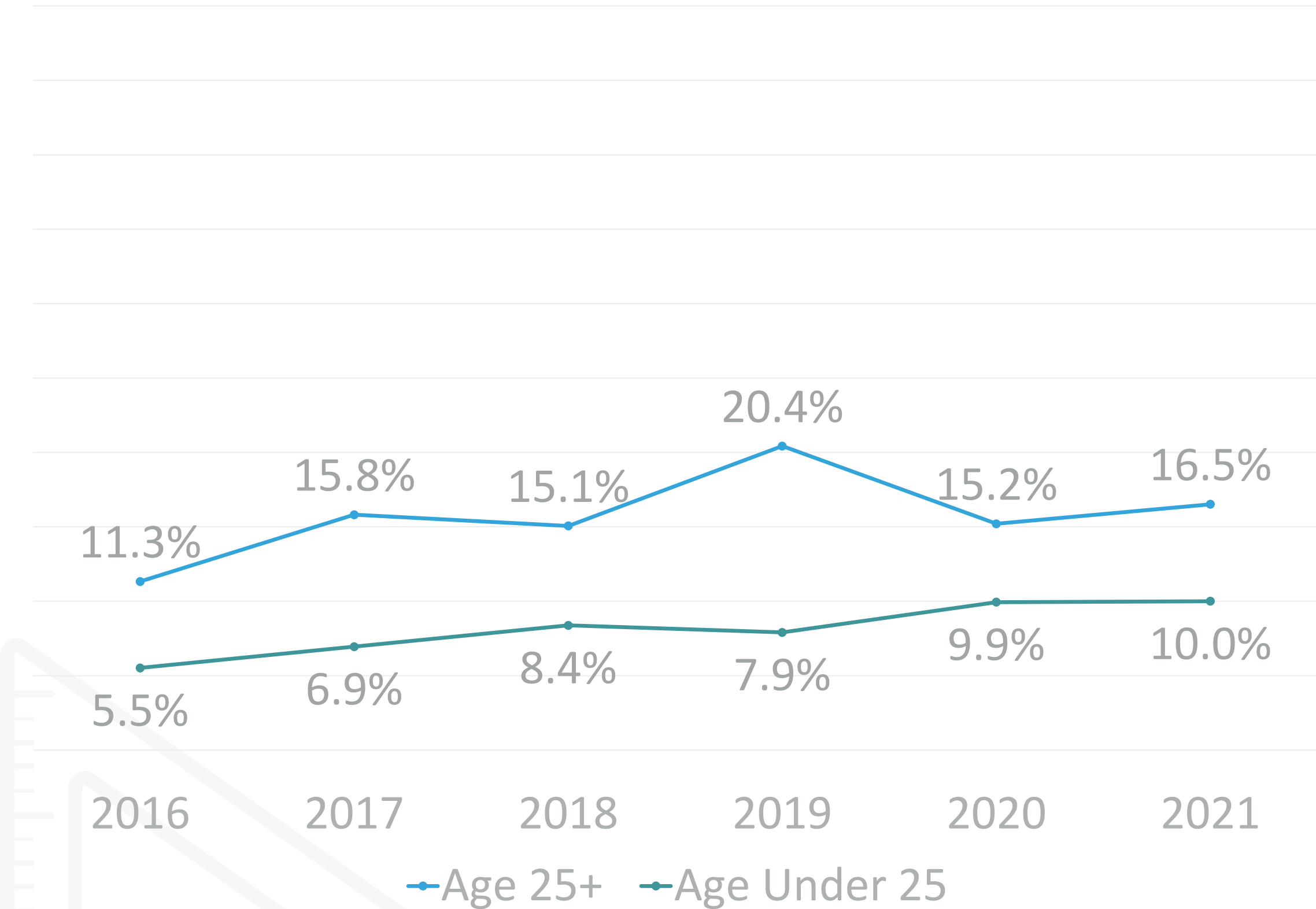


COMPLETION GAP LARGER FOR FEMALE PARENTS

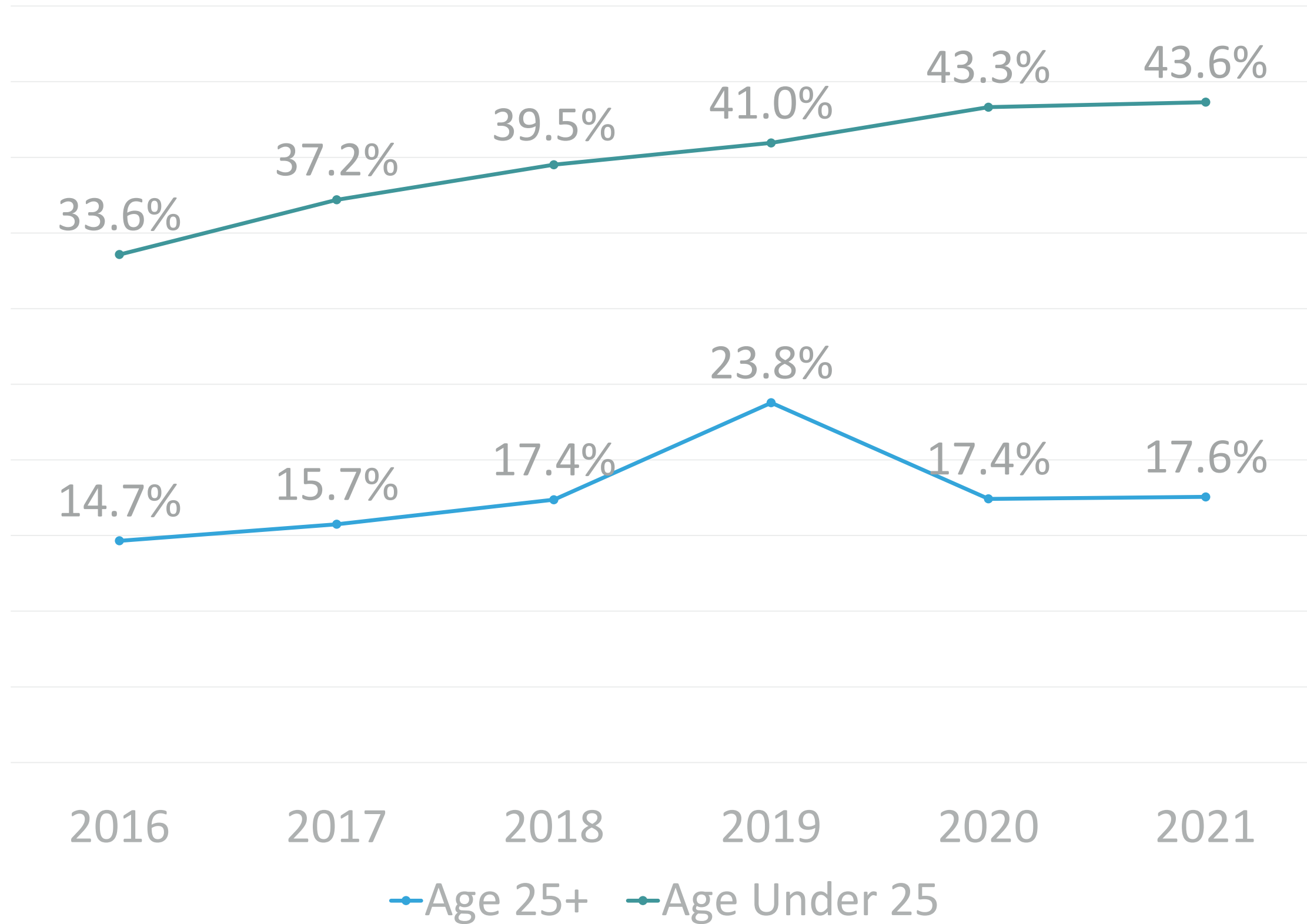


PARENTS UNDER AGE 25 HAVE LOWEST RATES

Parents

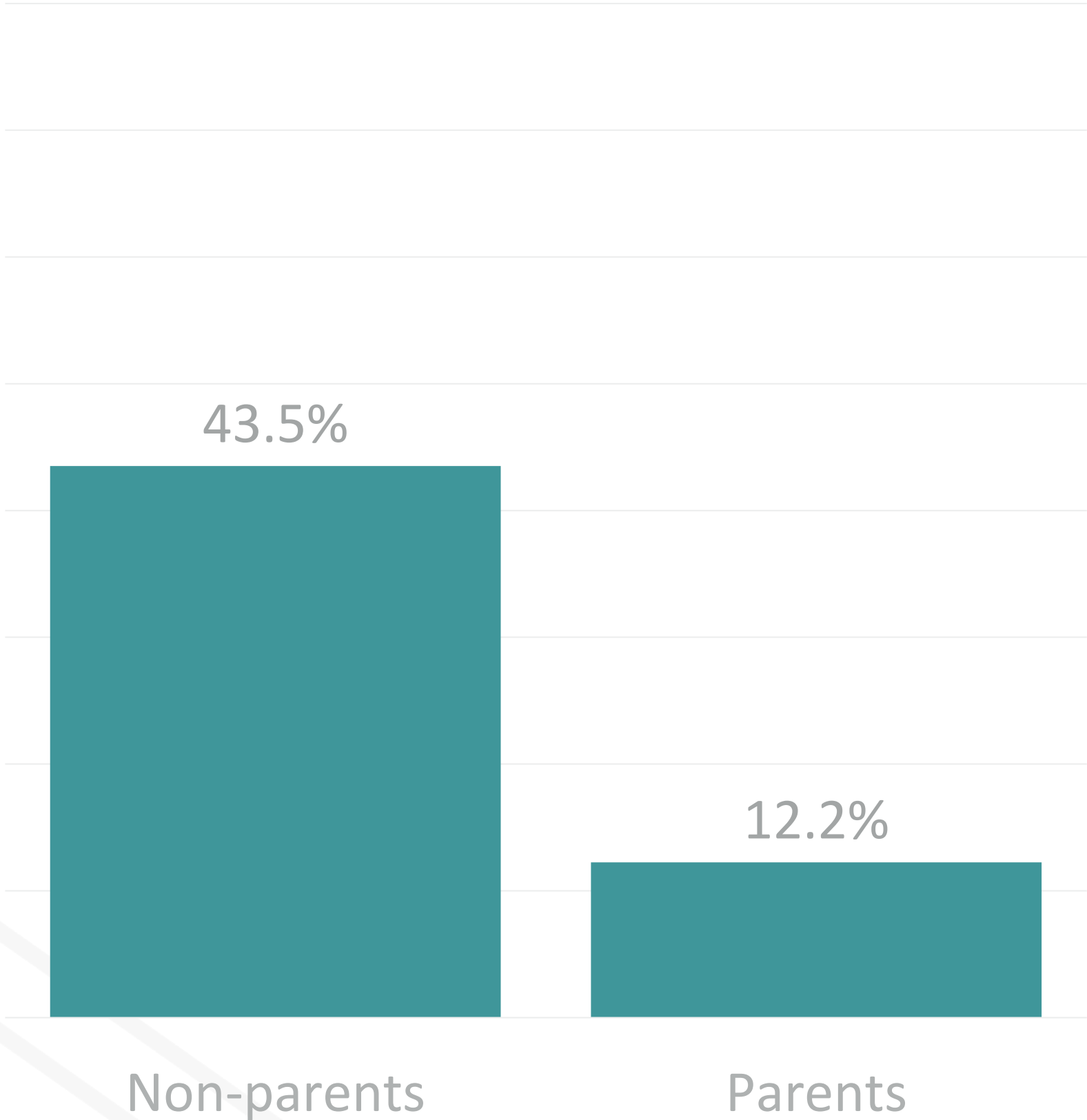


Non-parents

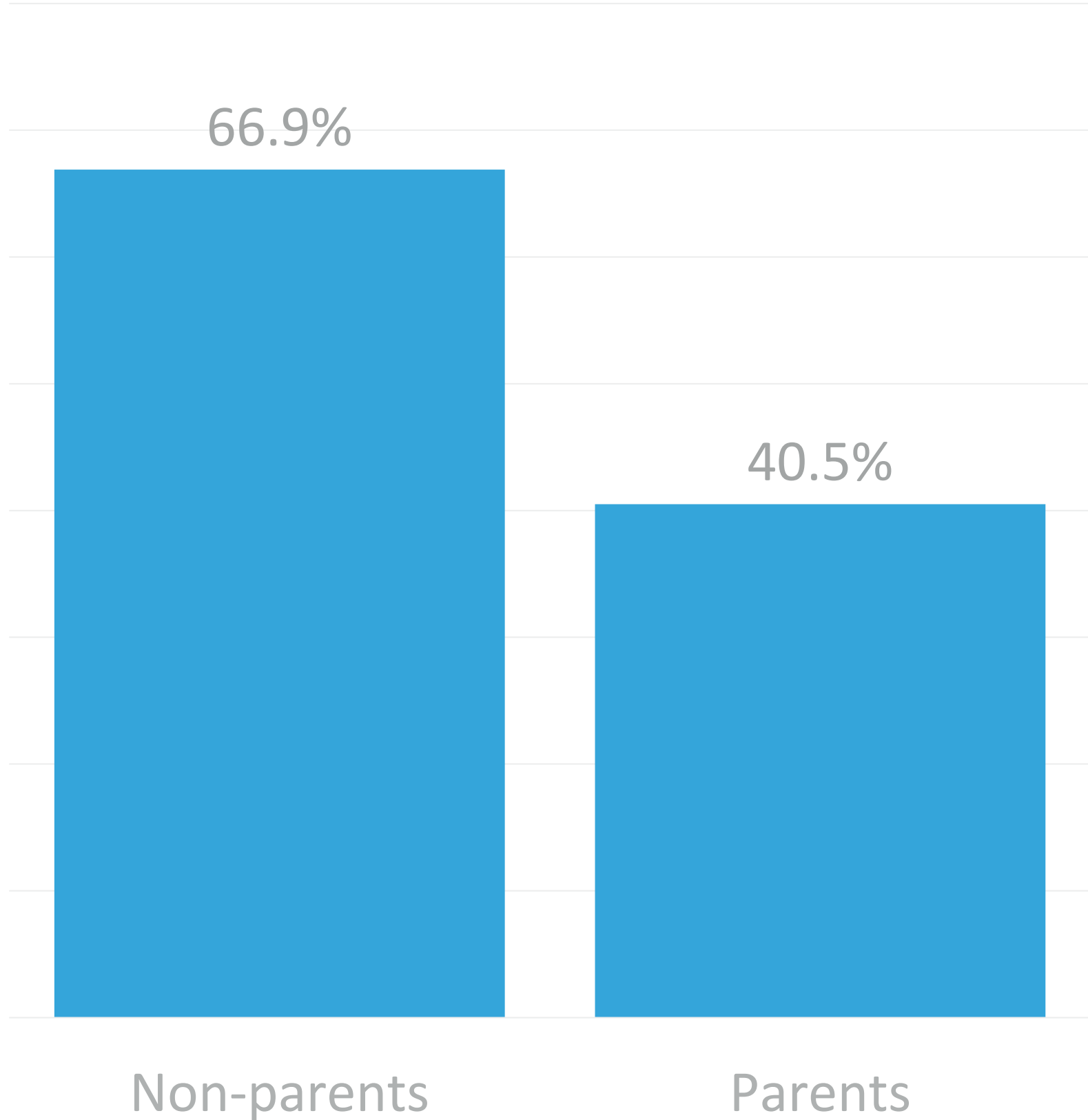


EXTENDED-TIME COMPLETION GAP SMALLER

On Time

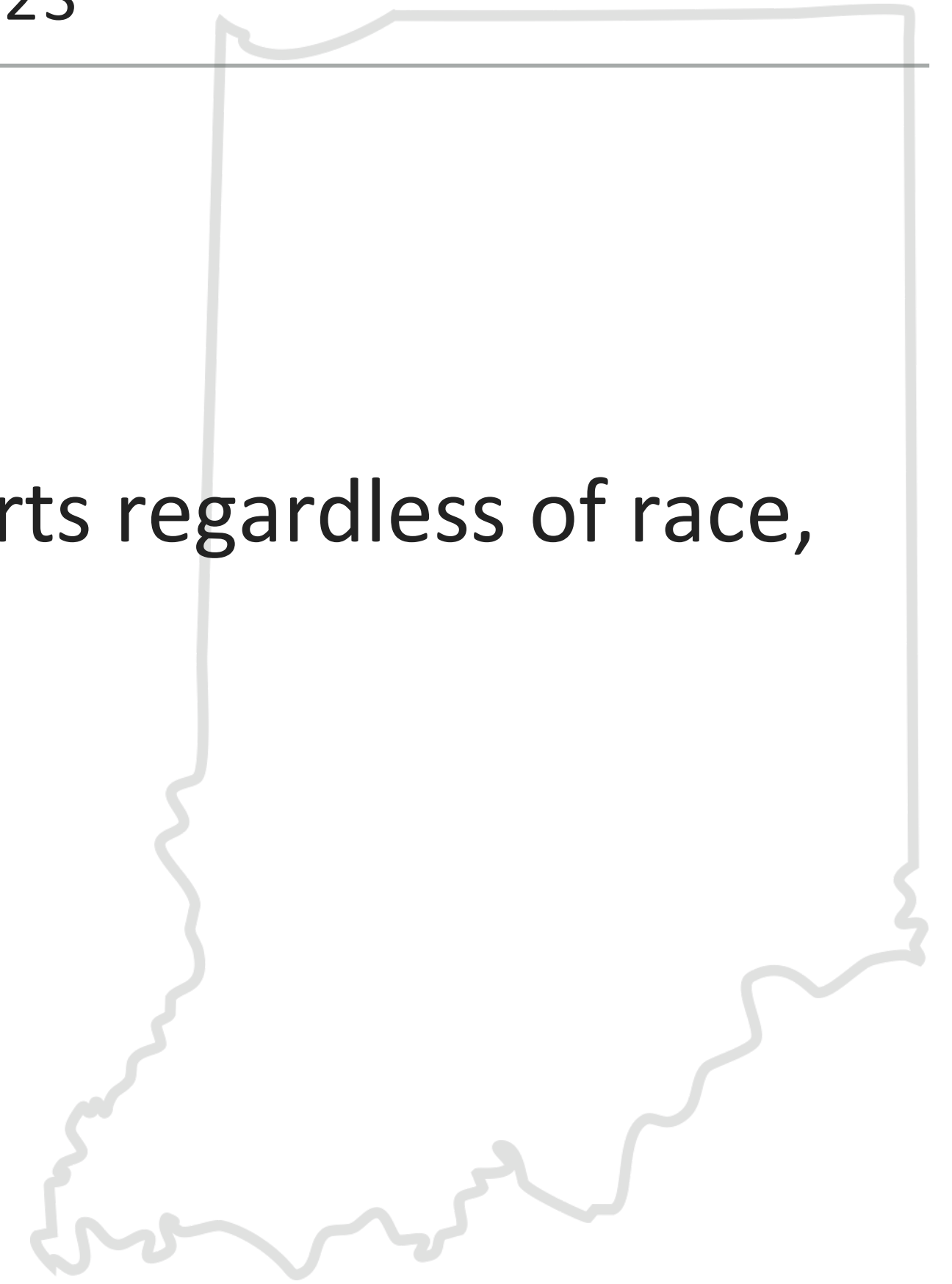


Extended Time



ADDITIONAL NOTES

- ▶ Parents' completion rates fall behind their non-parent counterparts regardless of race, socioeconomic status, gender



FUTURE RESEARCH & QUESTIONS

- ▶ Explore the differences in students who received financial aid vs those who did not receive financial aid