



New York State
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

Graduation Rates for 2016 Cohort

January 14, 2021



2020: A Year Like No Other

- **March 16, 2020: Executive Order 202.4 Directs Schools to Close No Later Than March 18, 2020**
 - Subsequent EO's require schools to be closed for the remainder of the school year
- **March 16-18, 2020: In an unprecedented transformation, overnight schools had to shift instruction from in-person to completely remote.**
- **April 2020: Department Cancels June & August 2020 Regents Exams to ensure progressed academically.**
- **May 4, 2020: Board of Regents promulgates regulatory changes to allow exemptions to the June and August 2020 Regents Exams.**
 - Parents could decline Regents Exams exemption so their child would remain in school.

Regulatory Actions That May Impact Graduation Rates for 2016 Cohort

Background

Generally, to earn a NYS high school diploma (Regents or Local), a student must:

- pass 4 Regents Exams and
- choose a graduation pathway, which may include a 5th Regents Exam.

Regents Actions

- Cancelled June and August 2020 Regents Exams
- Certain students exempted from Regents Exam requirements

Potential Effects of Regulatory Actions on Graduation Rates for 2016 Cohort

Regulations exempted the Regents Exam requirement for:

- Students who successfully completed courses leading to required Regents examinations.
 - Includes students who previously did not pass a Regents Exam and were preparing to retake the exam in June or August 2020
- Students with a disability who otherwise may have earned a local diploma through a Superintendent's Determination but met criteria for an exemption.
- Students who sought appeals to graduate with a lower score on a Regents Exam leading to a diploma.

Regents Exam exemptions were a factor in the increase in the 2016 Cohort graduation rate over last year; however, we cannot say to what extent.

- 2020 exemptions will affect future Cohorts of students as well
- The Department is reviewing the data to determine full effects

Graduation Rate Highlights – 2016 Cohort

- **2016 Cohort graduation rates increased from 83.4% to 84.8% over last year**
- **Continues the upward trend and is 8.0 percentage points higher than it was for the 2007 cohort (76.8%)**
- **Graduation rates increased most in Large City High Needs schools by 5.0 percentage points from last year**
- **Achievement gaps narrowing among Black and Hispanic students to 12.8% and 14.1% respectively, a decrease of 4.5 and 4.4 percentage points since 2013 cohort, and 11.0 and 9.8 percentage points respectively since 2007 cohort**
- **Current ELLs and Students with Disabilities went up 7.1 percentage points and 1.6 percentage points respectively over last year**
- **More work remains to be done to further close achievement gaps by focusing on educational equity for all students**

2016 Cohort 4-Year Statewide Outcomes through June and August

2016 Cohort Size: 208,449 students 2015 Cohort Size: 207,826 students 2014 Cohort Size: 210,602 students		June	August
Diploma Earned	Regents Diploma	42.3%	43.4%
	Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation	38.6%	38.7%
	Local Diploma	2.7%	2.7%
	Total Graduation Rate	83.6%	84.8%
Non-Diploma Credentials	Career Development & Occupational Studies (not pathway)	0.3%	0.3%
	Skills and Achievement	0.2%	0.2%
Still Enrolled		10.0%	8.8%
Dropped out		5.1%	5.1%
Transferred to an Approved High School Equivalency Program		0.7%	0.7%
Superintendents' Determination School Year 2019-20: 290 Local Diplomas Awarded (based on school year when local diploma awarded, not tied to cohort)			

- Beginning with the 2013-14 school year, IEP diplomas were no longer available. Students with disabilities may become members of a graduation cohort based upon their date of birth and these students earned IEP diplomas prior to the 2013-14 school year.
- Due to rounding, numbers may not add up to 100%.

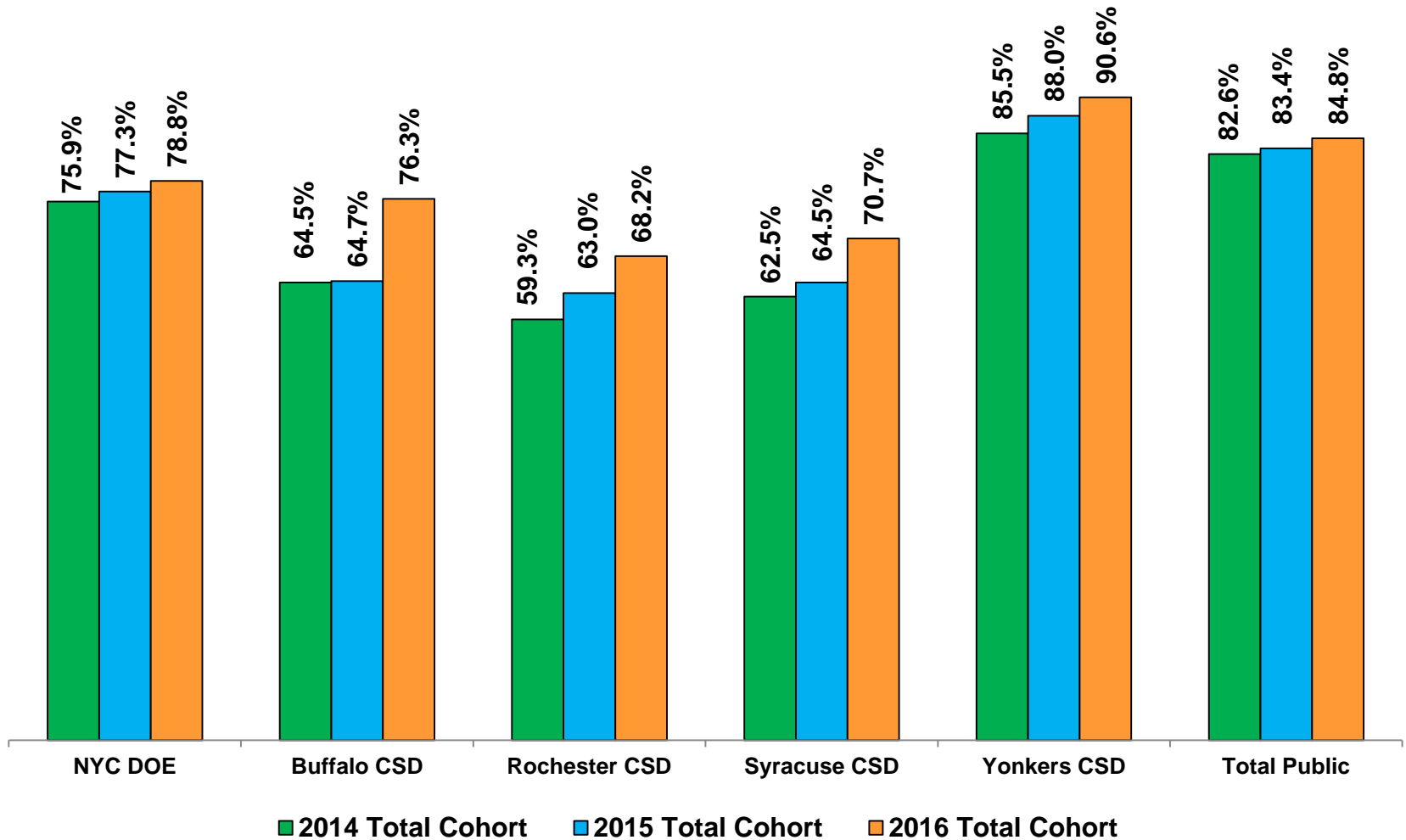
2016 Cohort Sizes at the Big 5 City School Districts



	All Students	English Language Learners	Students with Disabilities	Economically Disadvantaged
Statewide	208,449	12,910	35,227	110,202
NYC DOE	74,523	7,430	14,593	54,497
Buffalo CSD	2,477	268	477	1,775
Rochester CSD	1,984	280	405	1,678
Syracuse CSD	1,476	222	273	1,116
Yonkers CSD	1,889	159	344	1,615

Big 5 Graduation Rates

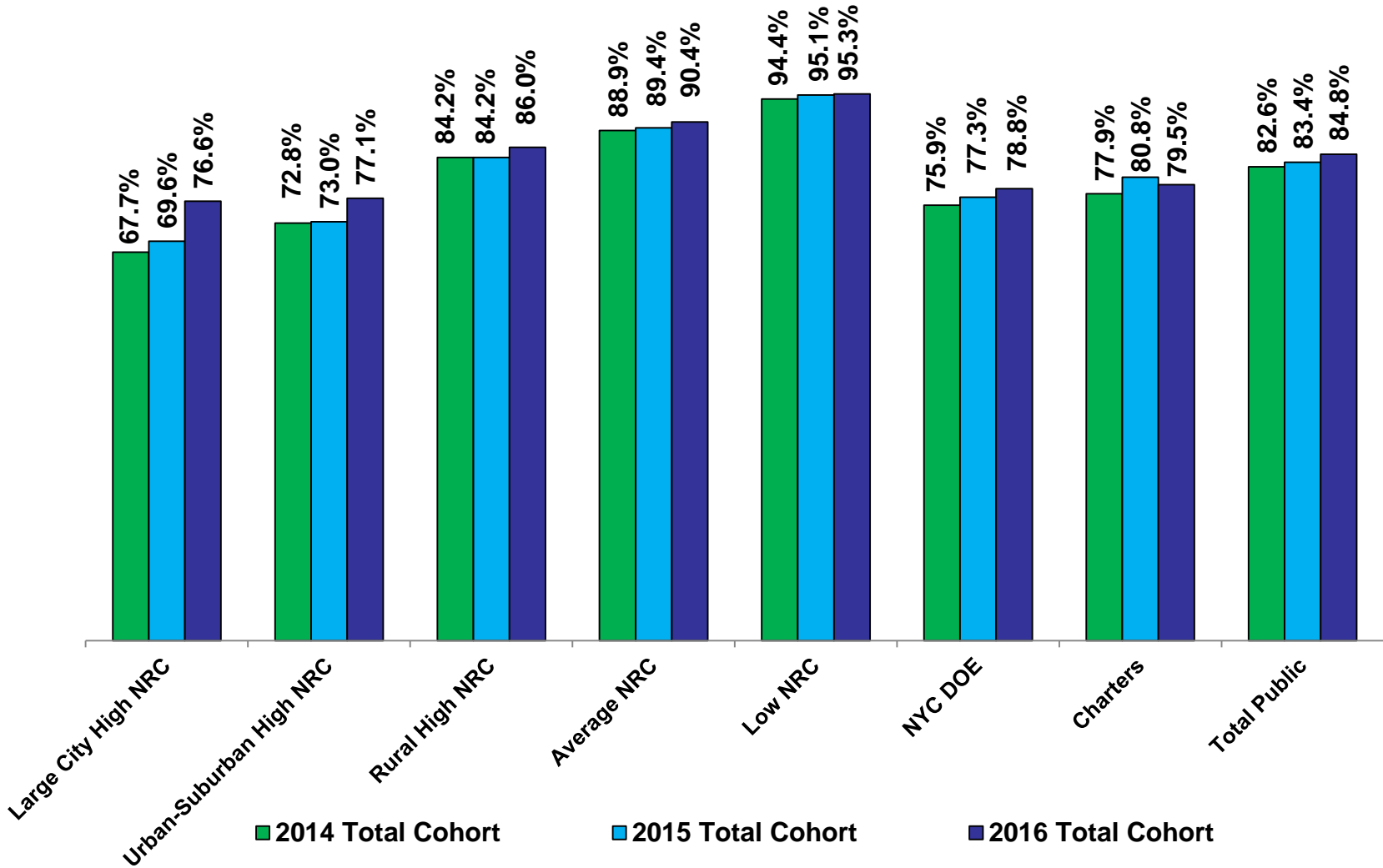
Percentage of Graduates After 4 Years Through August, All Students



- These data points reflect the data submitted, verified and certified by schools and districts. Any Data discrepancies at the local level must first be resolved locally and then resubmitted to the NYSED.

Graduation Rates by Need/Resource Group

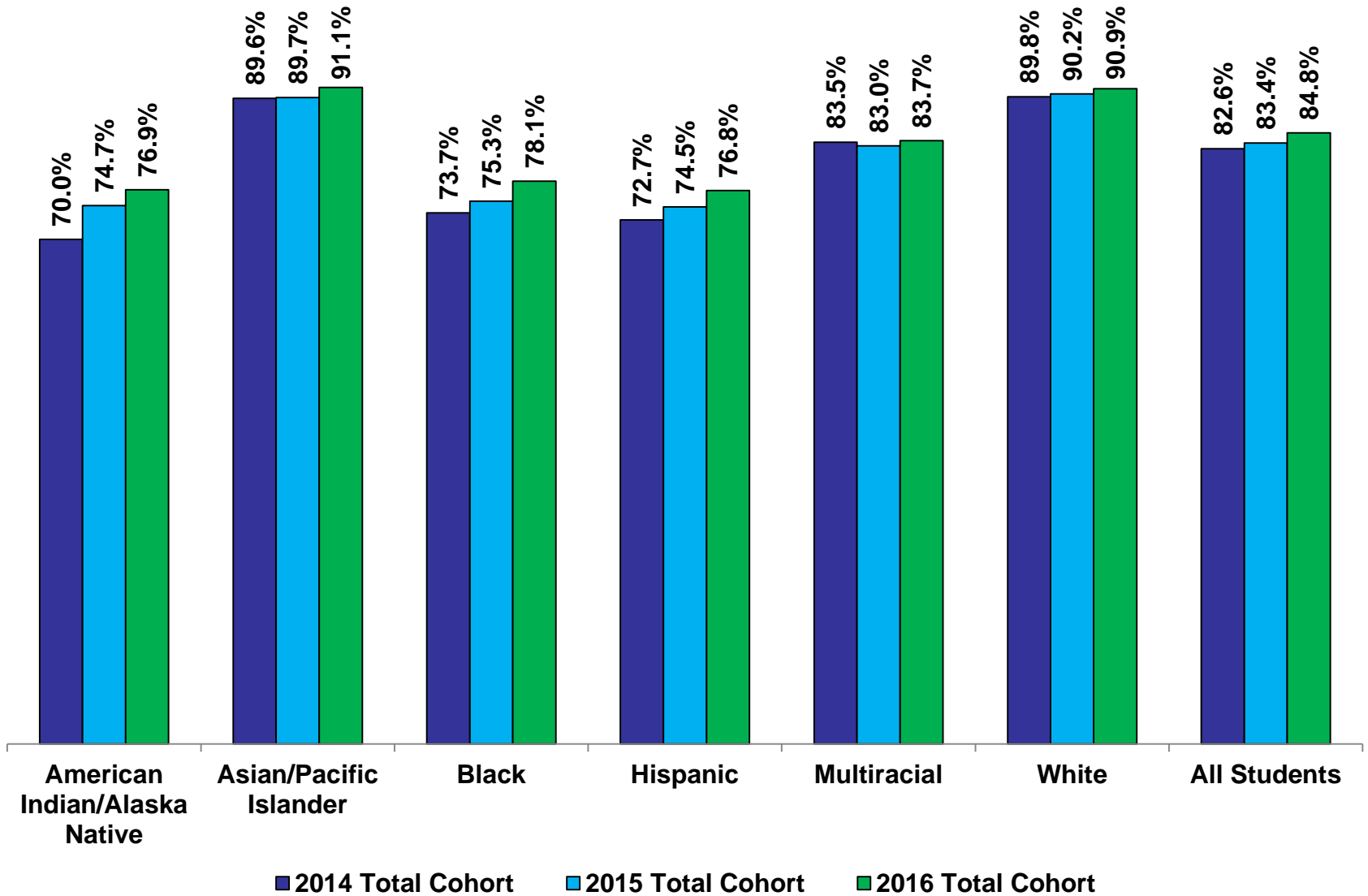
Percentage of Graduates After 4 Years Through August, All Students



• Large City High NRC = Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and Yonkers combined.

• These data points reflect the data submitted, verified and certified by schools and districts. Any Data discrepancies at the local level must first be resolved locally and then resubmitted to the NYSED.

2014, 2015 and 2016 4-Year Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity – August



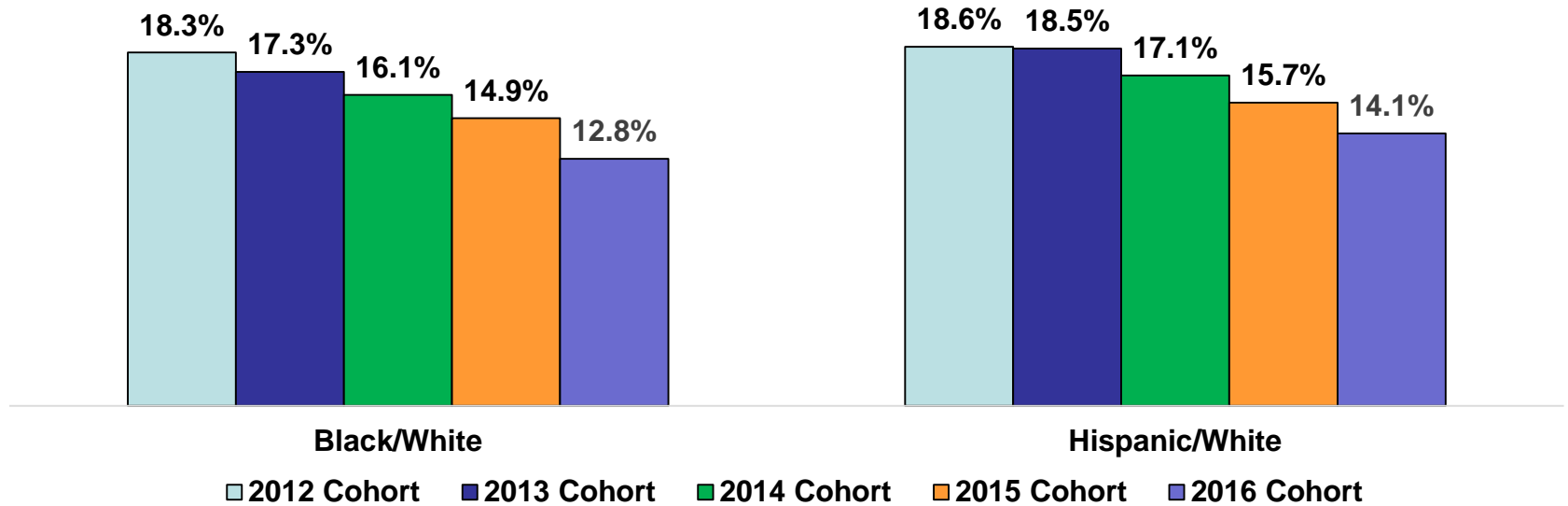
Statewide, the graduation rate achievement gap by racial/ethnic group persists, particularly for the Advanced Designation Diploma

All Students in Public Schools After 4 Years Results Through August

	Black Cohort Members	Hispanic Cohort Members	White Cohort Members
Regents Diploma	56.0%	50.5%	37.3%
Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation	18.6%	24.0%	50.5%
Local Diploma	3.5%	2.3%	3.1%
Total Graduates	78.1%	76.8%	90.9%
Still Enrolled	14.1%	13.5%	4.8%
Non-Diploma Credentials (stand-alone CDOS, Skills & Achievement)	0.6%	0.4%	0.6%
Dropped out	6.0%	8.2%	3.2%
Transferred to an Approved High School Equivalency Program	1.1%	1.1%	0.5%

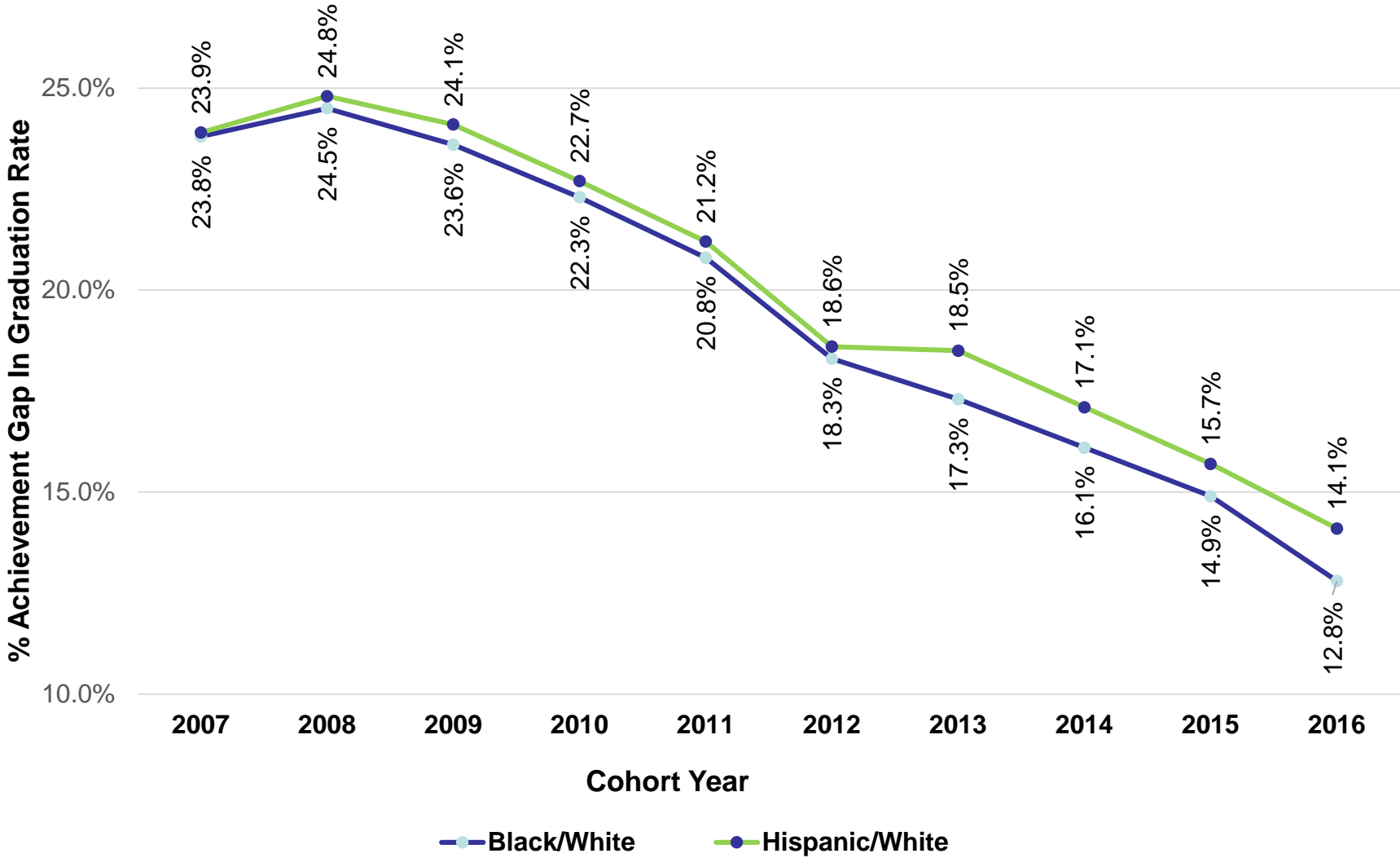
Closing Achievement Gaps

Difference in Graduation Rate between Black and Hispanic subgroups compared to White subgroup



10-Year Achievement Gaps by Cohort

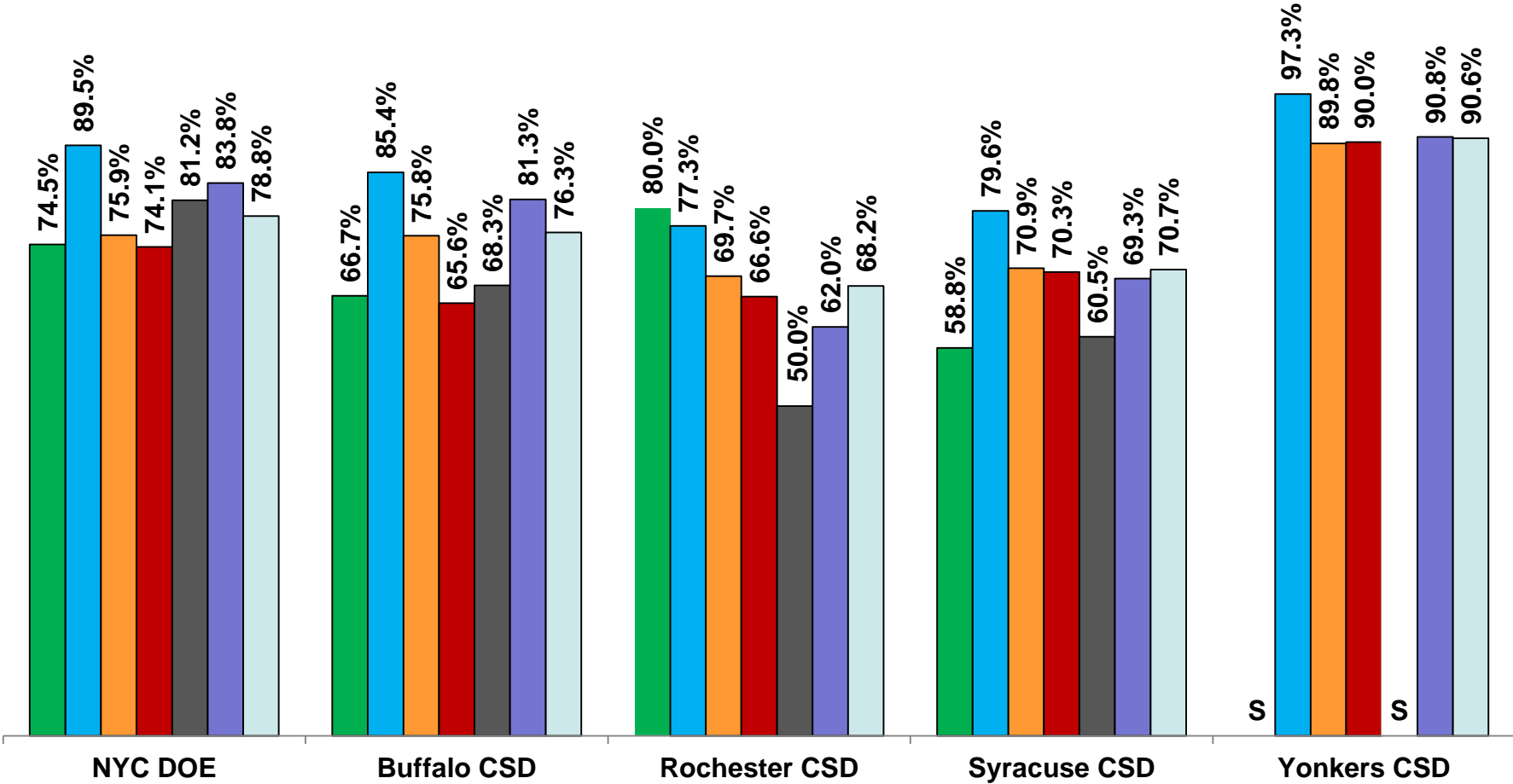
Difference in Graduation Rate between Black and Hispanic students compared to White students, August Outcomes



Big 5 Graduation Rates by Race/Ethnicity, 2016 Cohort -

August

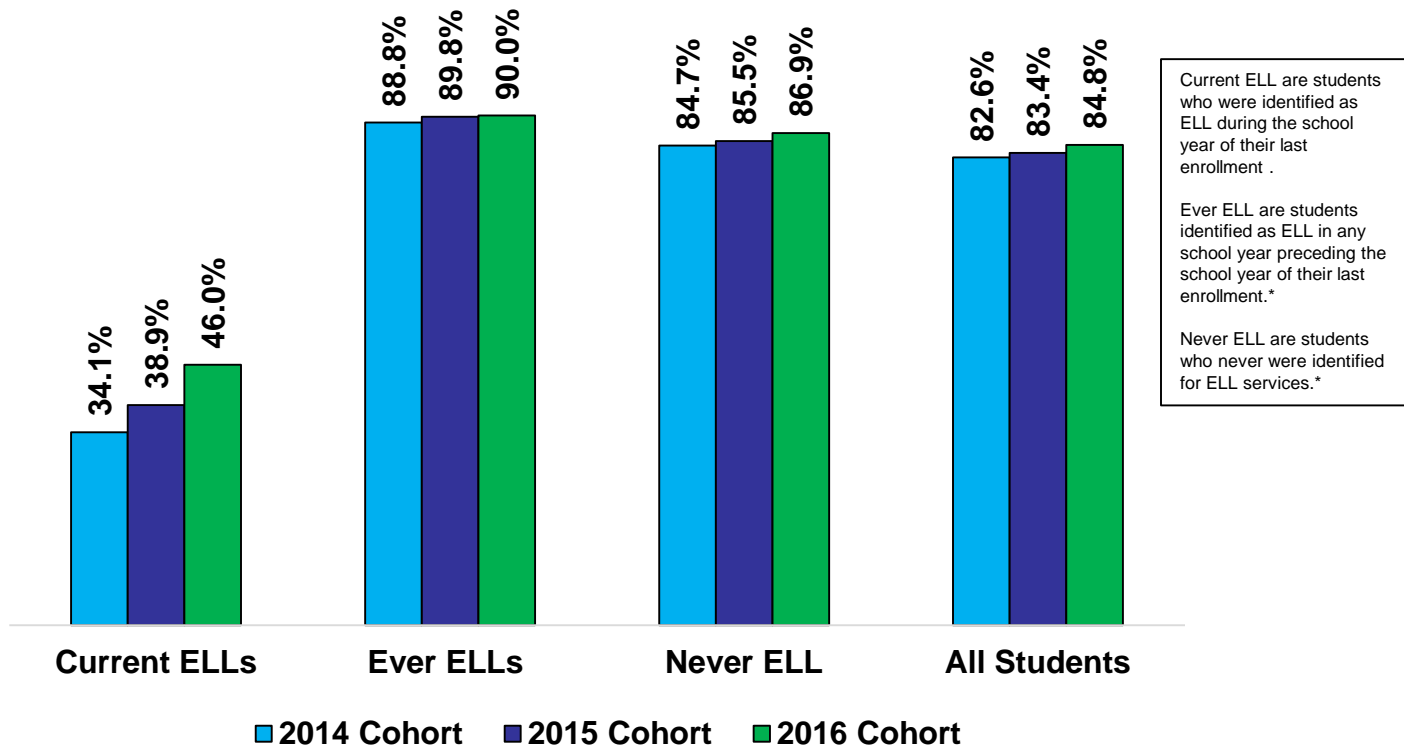
S = Suppressed data*



■ American Indian/Alaska Native
 ■ Asian/Pacific Islander
 ■ Black
 ■ Hispanic
 ■ Multiracial
 ■ White
 ■ All Students

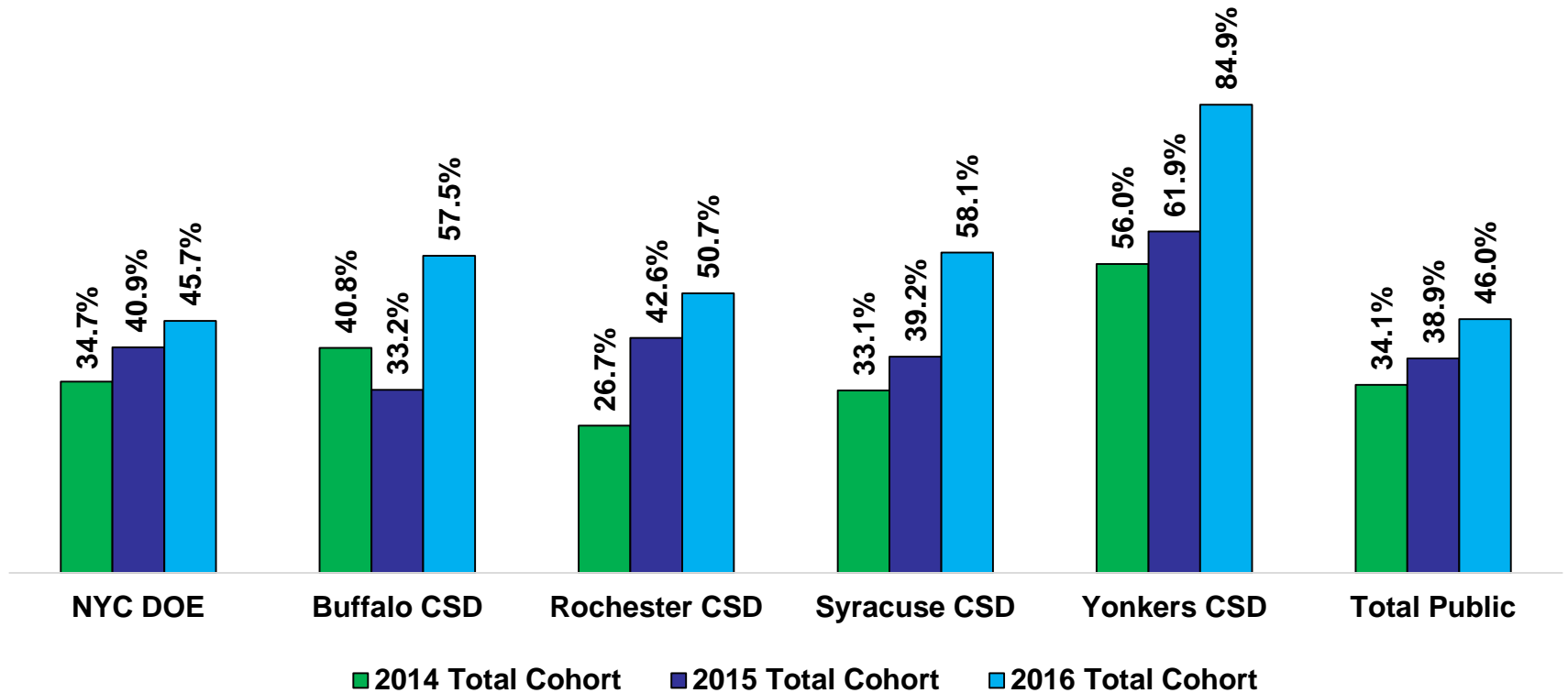
*For groups with fewer than five students, the Department does not publish data. Percentages of tested students scoring at various levels are suppressed for that group and the next smallest group.

English Language Learner Graduation Rates



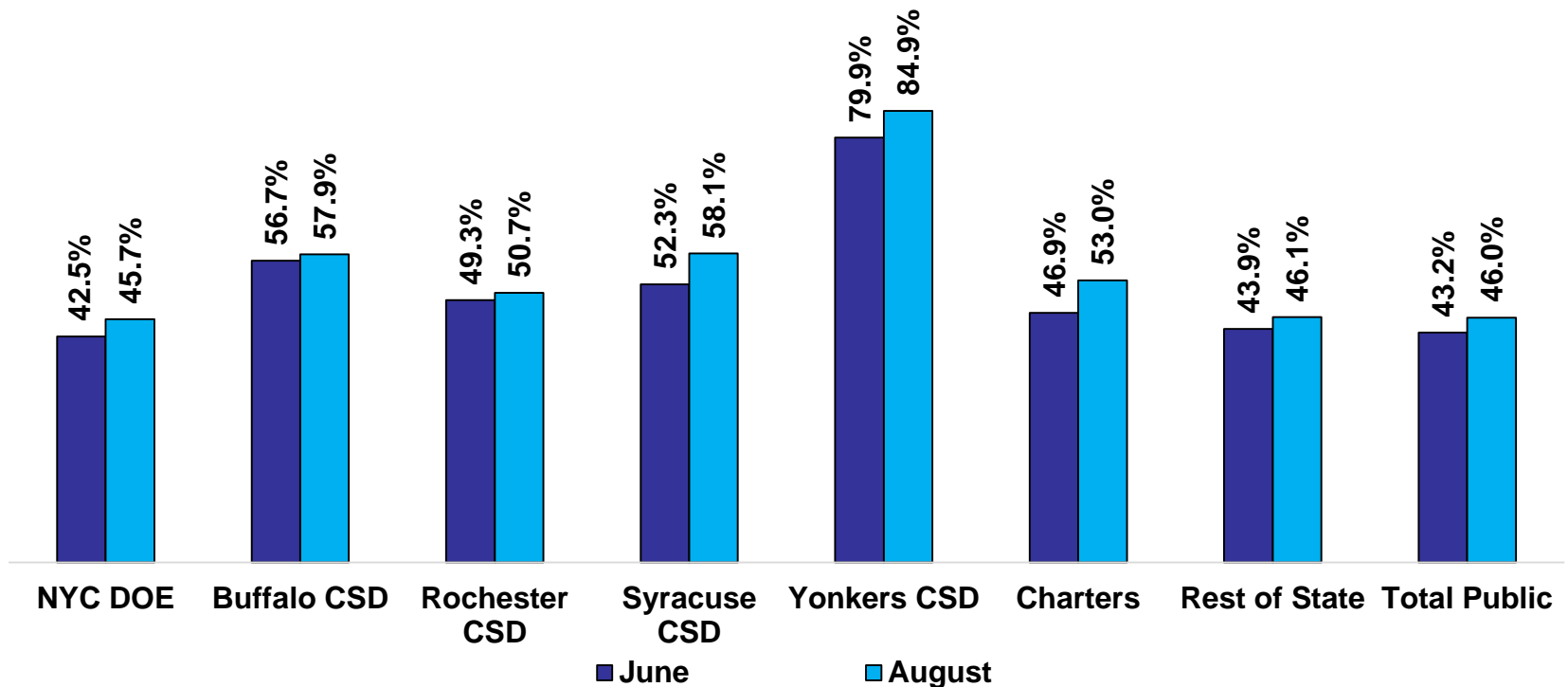
* Data are available for the 2005-06 to 2019-20 school years only. Therefore, students who received ELL services prior to 2005-06 are not identified as Ever ELL.

English Language Learners: Big 5 2014, 2015 and 2016 Total Cohort, Graduation Rate after 4 years – August



Given the relatively small size of this subgroup in these districts, with the exception of NYC, there will be greater fluctuations in the data from year to year.

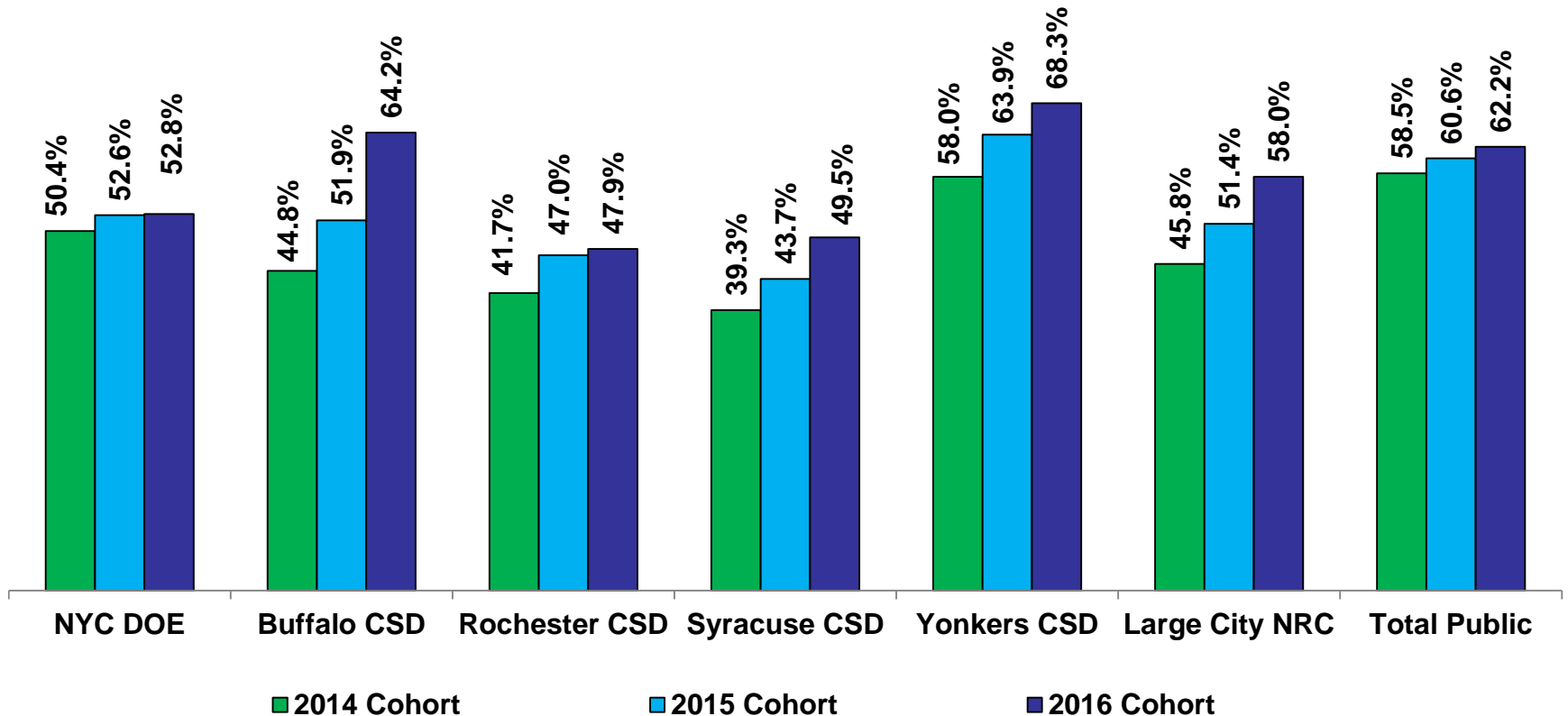
Current English Language Learners: 2016 Total Cohort, June and August Graduates after 4 Years



Rest of State excludes NYC and Charters

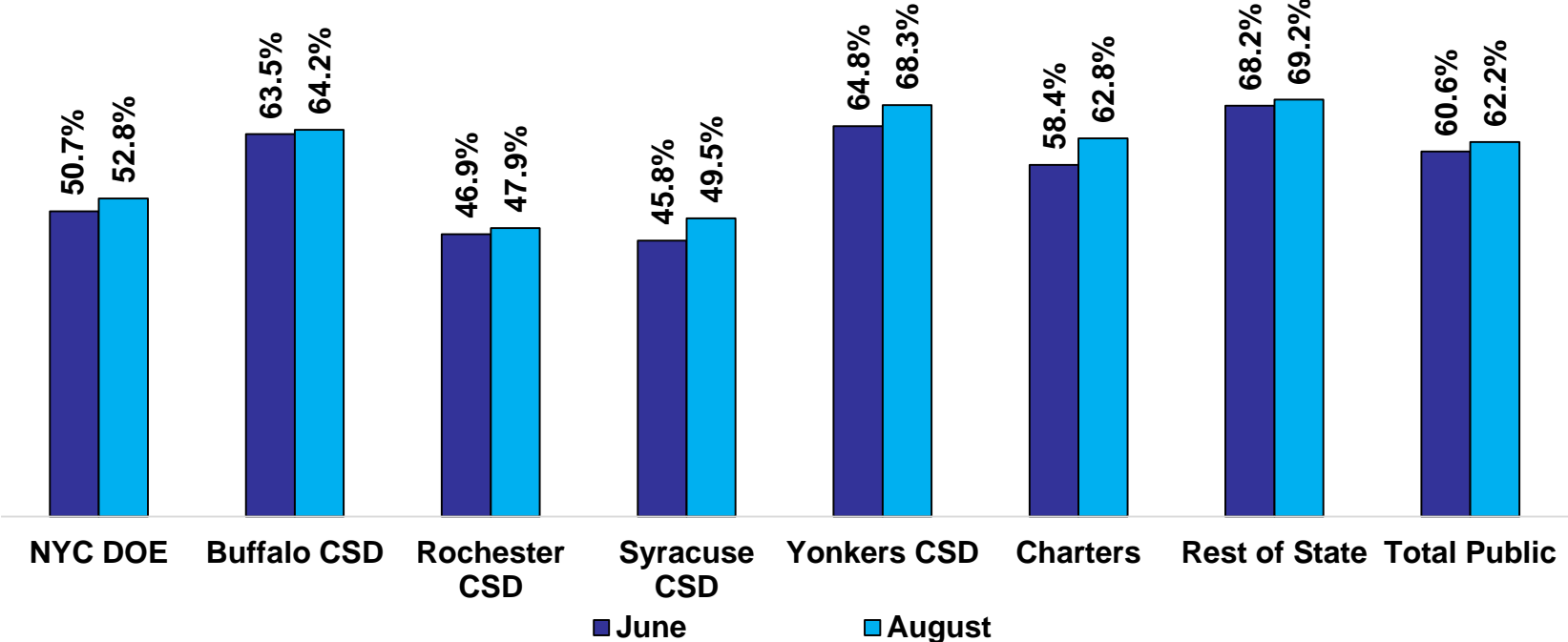
Graduation Rate for Students with Disabilities

Percentage of Graduates After 4 Years Through August, Students with Disabilities



Given the relatively small size of this subgroup in these districts, with the exception of NYC, there will be greater fluctuations in the data from year to year.

Current Students with Disabilities: 2016 Total Cohort, June and August Graduates after 4 Years



Rest of State excludes NYC and Charters

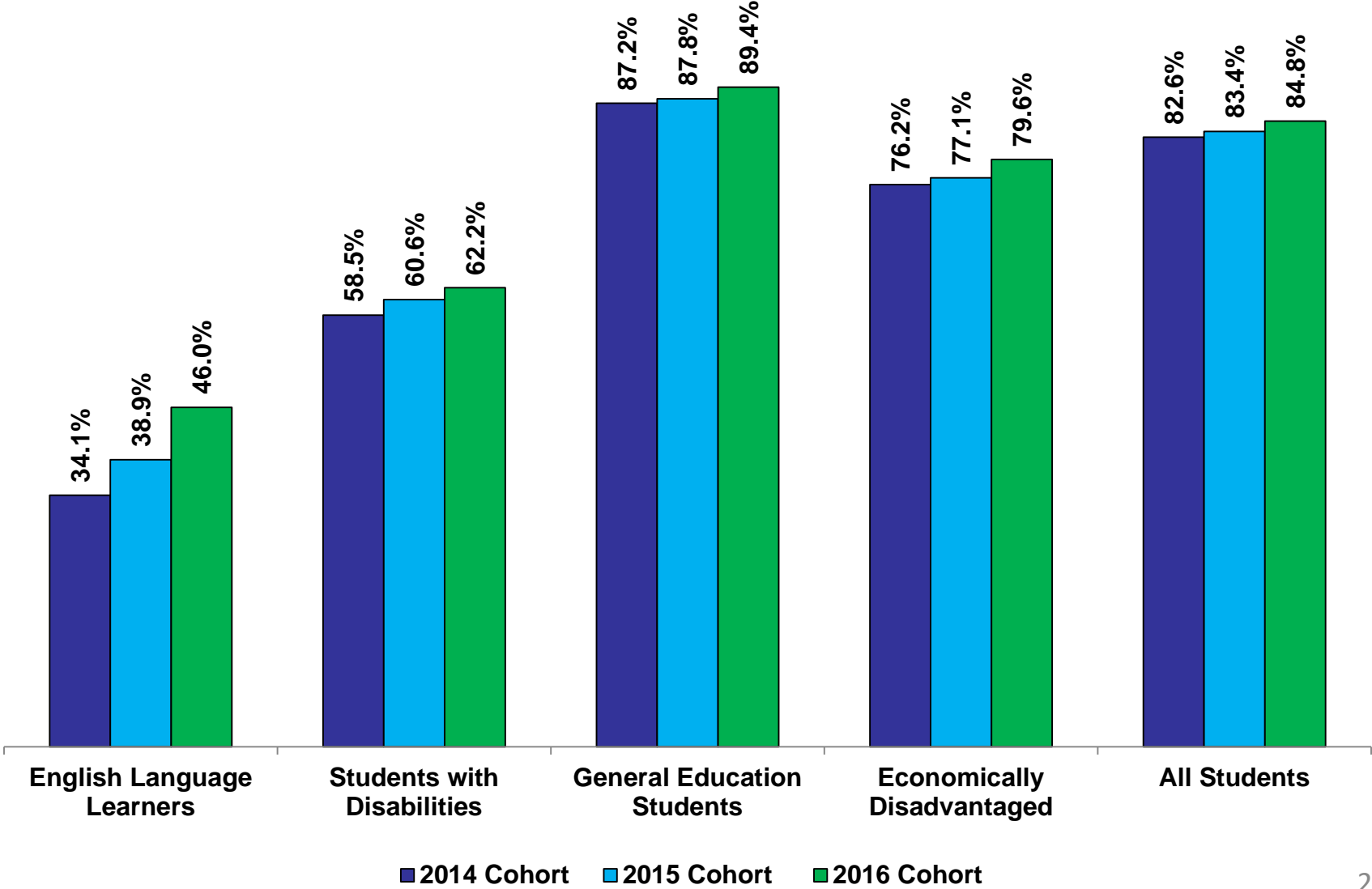
Students with Disabilities: 2014, 2015 and 2016 Cohorts – August

Students with Disabilities in Public Schools After 4 Years

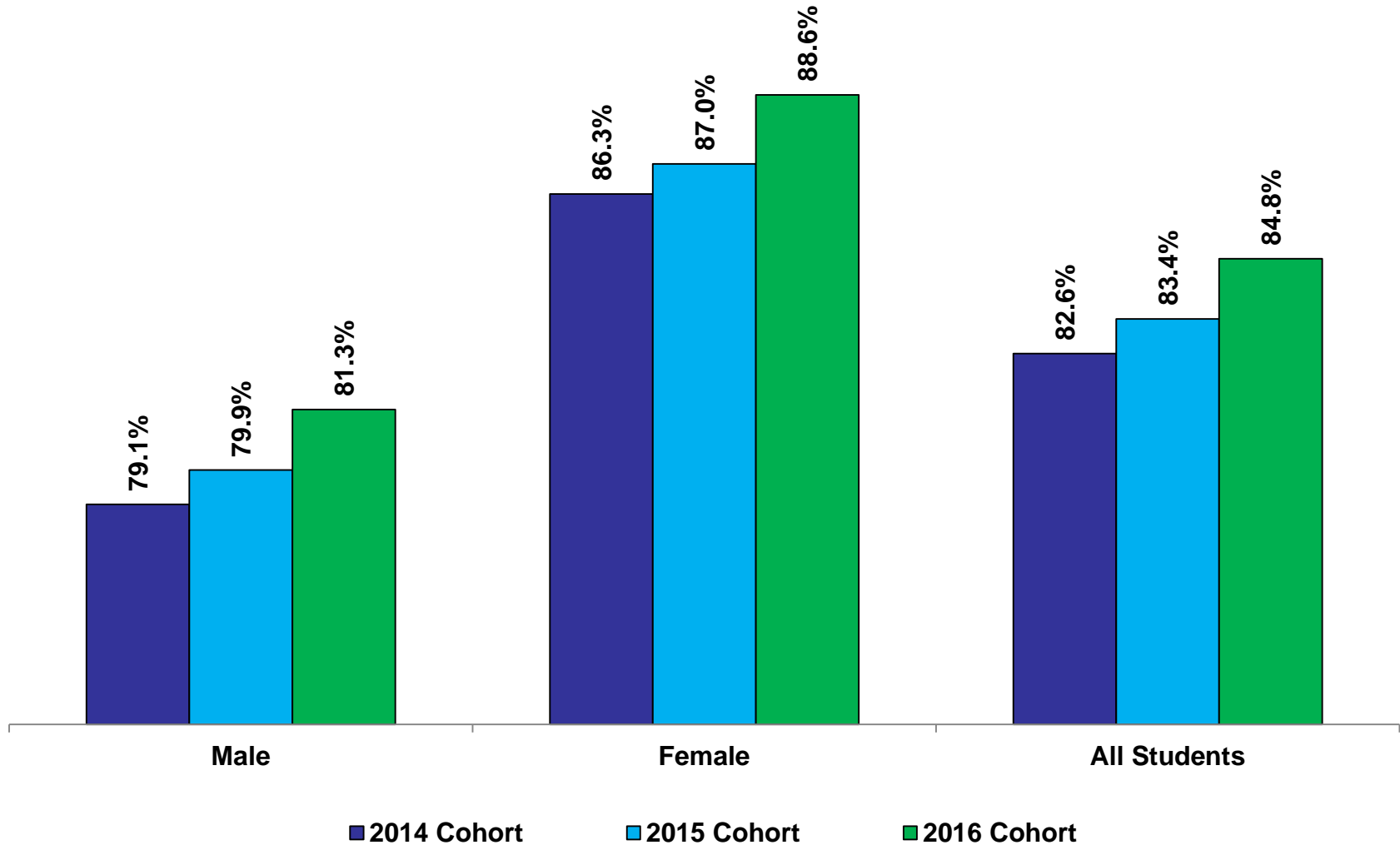
Results Through August

	2014 Total Cohort	2015 Total Cohort	2016 Total Cohort
Regents Diploma	29.7%	30.3%	43.6%
Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation	3.5%	3.5%	5.6%
Local Diploma	25.3%	26.7%	12.9%
Total Graduates	58.5%	60.6%	62.2%
Still Enrolled	25.3%	23.7%	25.3%
Non-Diploma Credentials (CDOS, Skills & Achievement)	4.0%	3.4%	3.1%
Dropped out	11.1%	11.1%	8.2%
Transferred to an Approved High School Equivalency Program	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%
Local Diplomas Awarded Through Superintendents' Determination (based on school year when local diploma awarded, not tied to cohort)	School Year 2017-18	School Year 2018-19	School Year 2019-20
	961	1,255	290

2014, 2015 and 2016 4-Year Graduation Rates by Subgroup – August

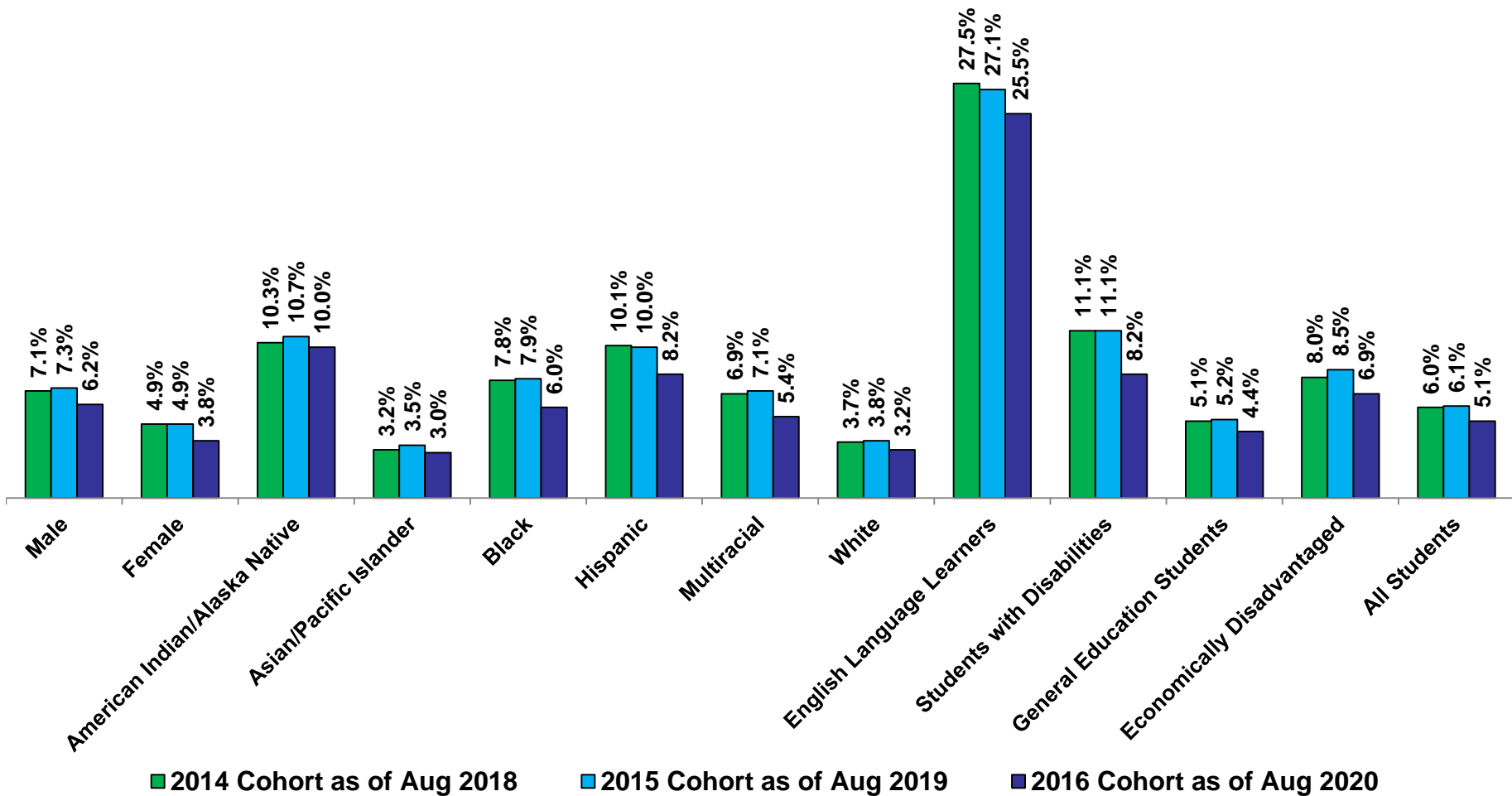


2014, 2015 and 2016 4-Year Graduation Rates by Gender – August



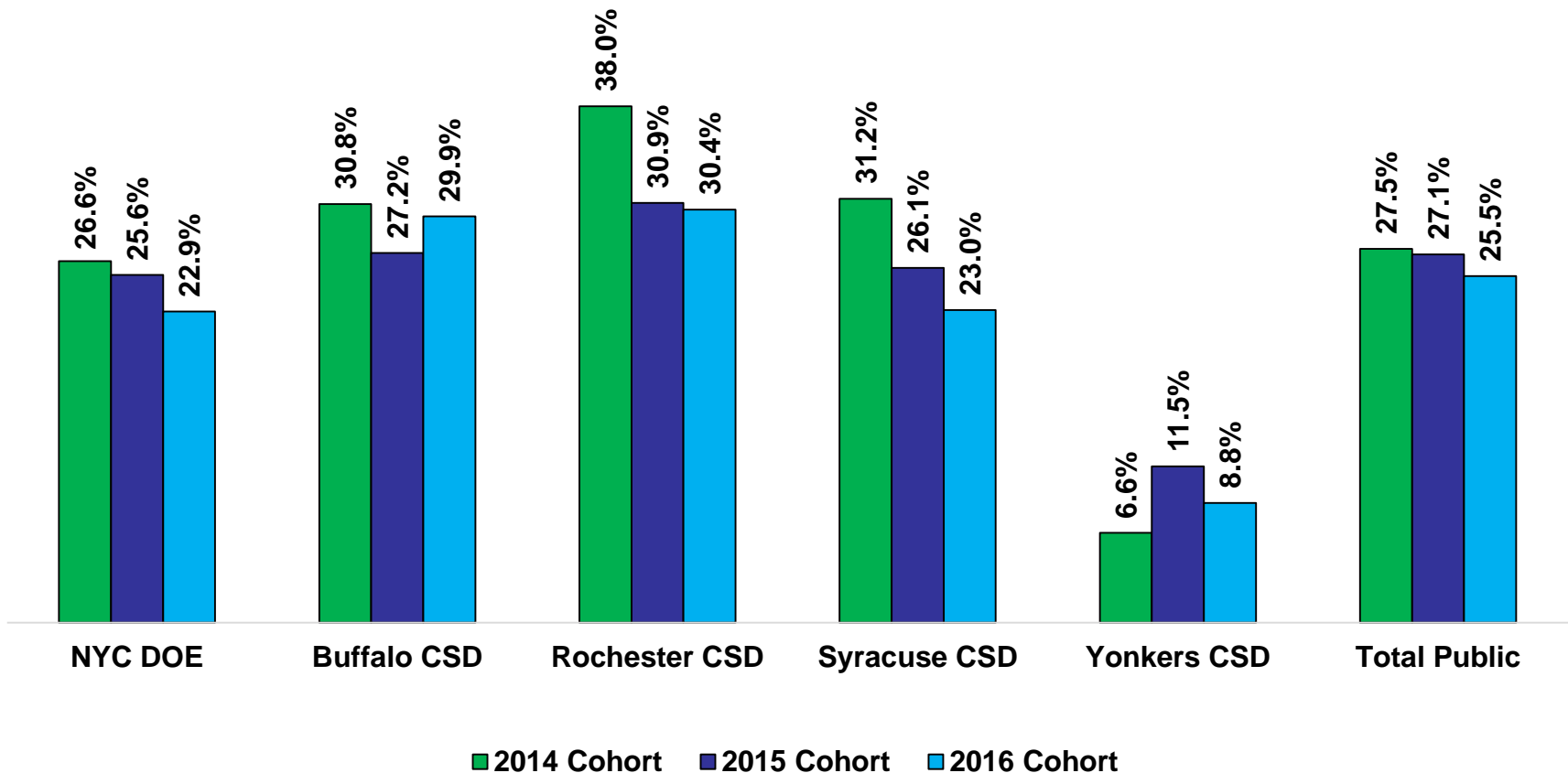
Dropout Rates after 4 Years by Subgroup, as of August

2014 Cohort Size	210,602
2015 Cohort Size	207,826
2016 Cohort Size	208,449



Current English Language Learners: Big 5 2014, 2015 and 2016

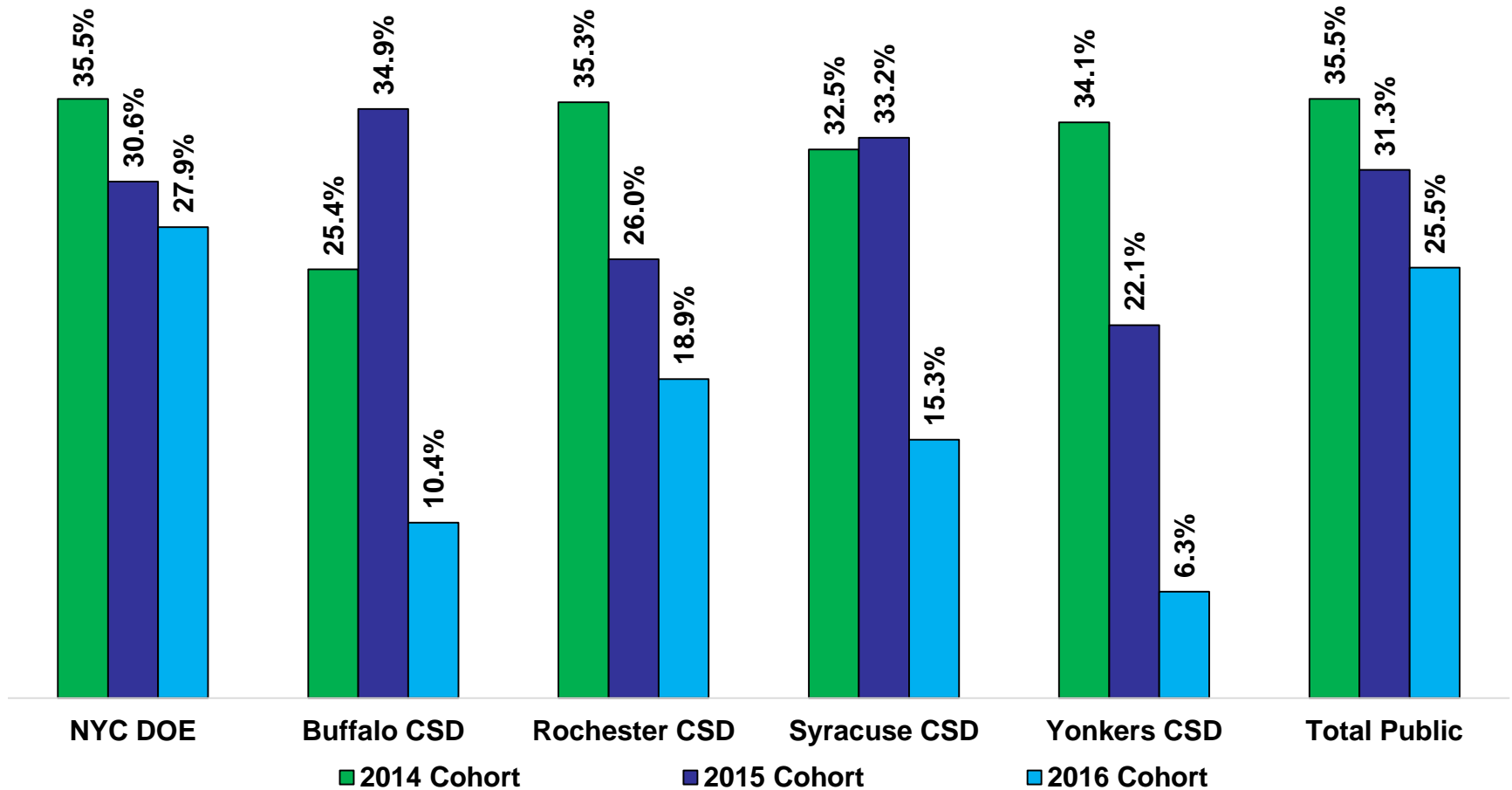
Total Cohort, Dropout Rate after 4 years – August



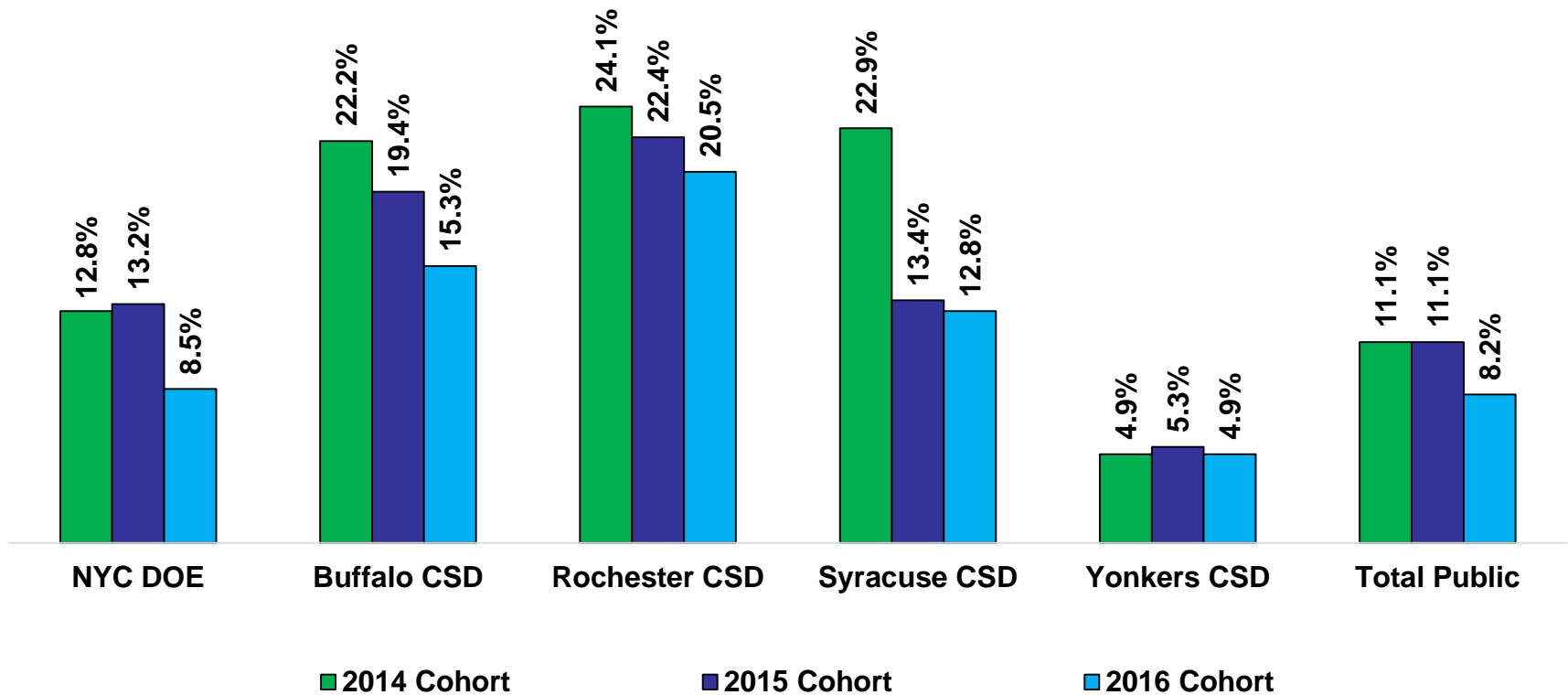
Given the relatively small size of this subgroup in these districts, with the exception of NYC, there will be greater fluctuations in the data from year to year.

Current English Language Learners: Big 5 2014, 2015 and 2016

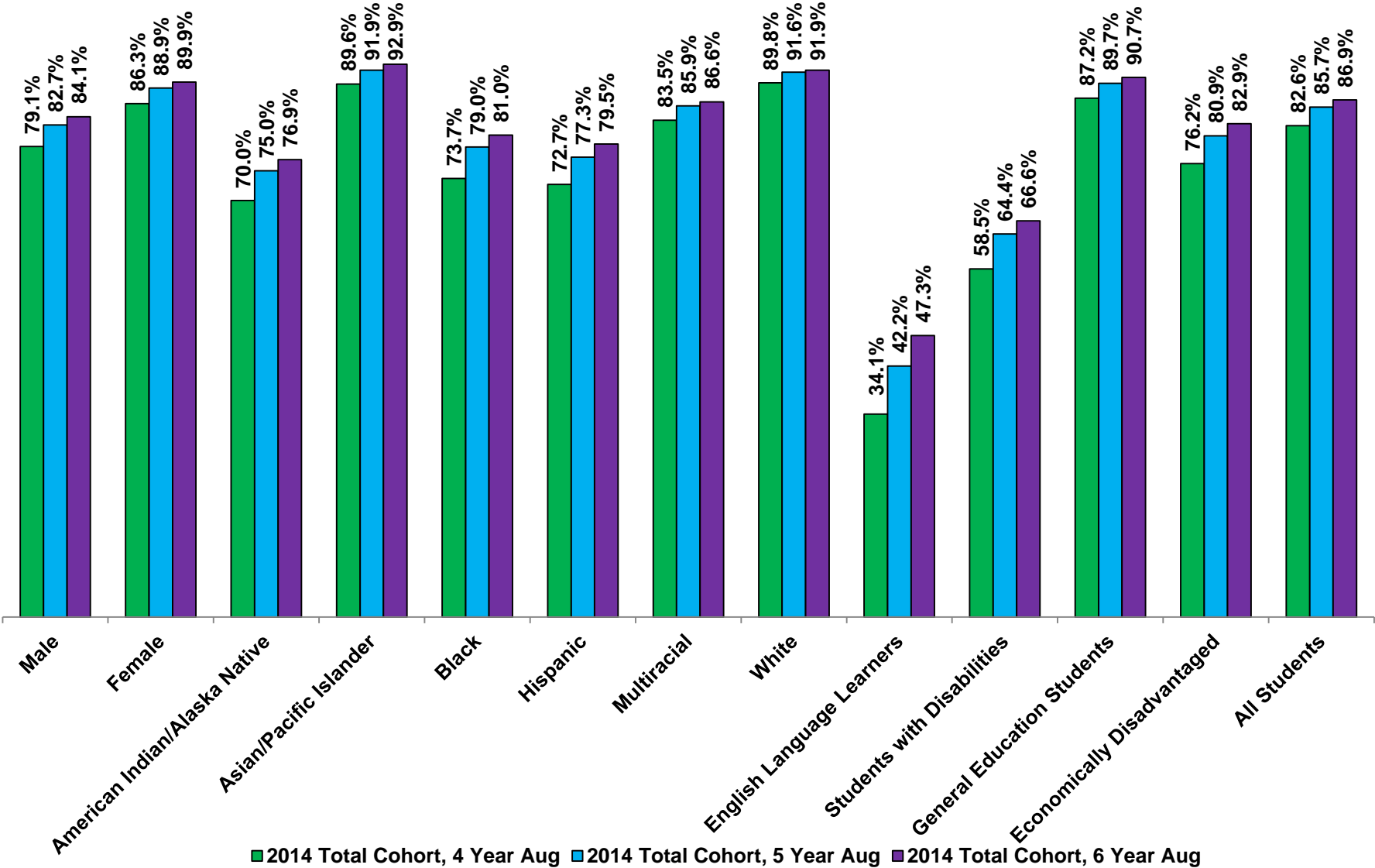
Total Cohort, Still Enrolled after 4 years – August



Students with Disabilities: Big 5 2014, 2015 and 2016 Total Cohort, Dropout Rate after 4 years – August

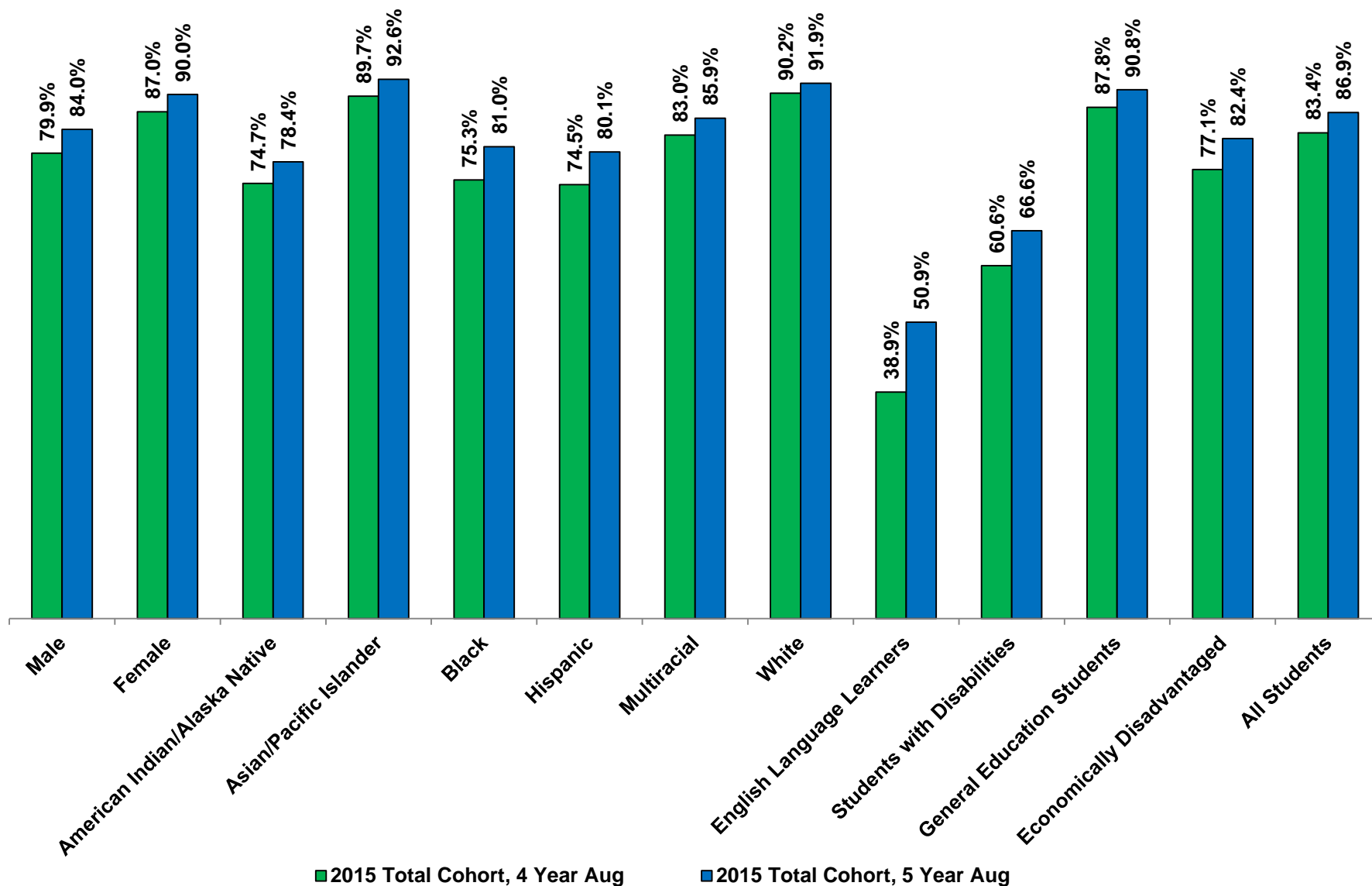


2014 Cohort Graduation Rate after 4, 5 and 6 Years August by Subgroup



5-year outcomes include cumulative data, including those students in the same cohort who graduated in previous years.

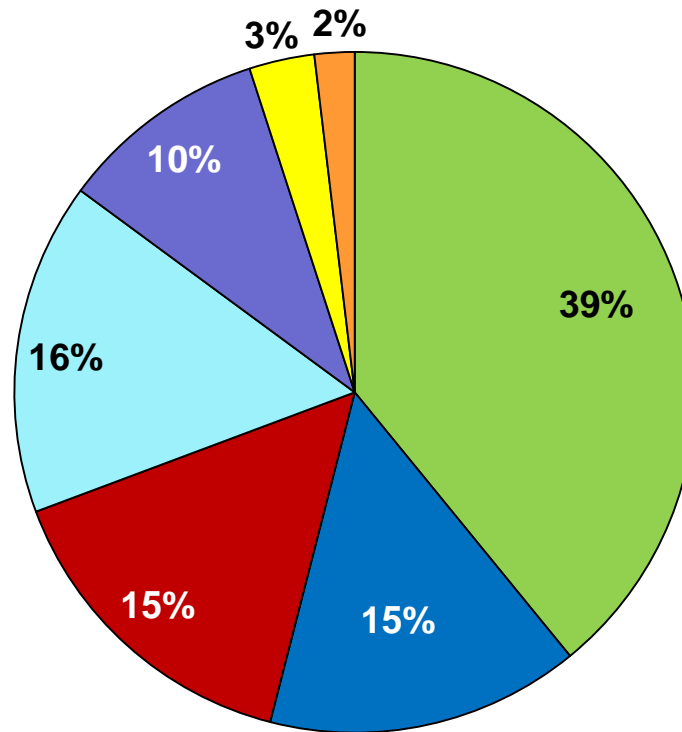
2015 Cohort Graduation Rate after 4 and 5 Years August by Subgroup



5 year outcomes include cumulative data, including those students in the same cohort who graduated in previous years.

Graduation Pathways – 2016 Cohort, August Graduates after 4 years Statewide

Districts Reported 11,173 Students Earned a Diploma Through a New Pathway;
Decrease of 15 Percent From Last Year



■ STEM Science ■ CDOS ■ STEM Math ■ CTE ■ LOTE ■ Arts ■ Humanities Alternative

Conclusion

- **2020 was a year like no other with unprecedented effects on P-12 instruction.**
 - Schools forced to transform in-person instruction to all remote learning almost overnight with little preparation.
- **While we have long known inequities exist throughout New York's education system, which the Board and Department are working to address, the pandemic highlighted yet another inequity: a digital divide exists across the state.**
- **The Board and Department remain focused on bringing educational equity to all New York students.**

