

UNDERSTANDING PERSISTENCE

Office of Institutional
Effectiveness – 8.22.22



WHAT IS PERSISTENCE AND WHO PERSISTS?

- Persistence is a measure of continued enrollment across semesters
- This metric is only measured for Degree/Transfer or Certificate Seeking students, a.k.a. completion seeking students.
- Completion Seeking Students represent about 85-90% of student body in a given term.
- Other student types for whom persistence is not measured include: Guests (students co-enrolled at a 4-year who take a few classes with LBCC), Physical Education students, Skills Builders, Basic Adult Education students, and Dual Enrolled Students

WHAT ARE SOME MEASURES OF PERSISTENCE?

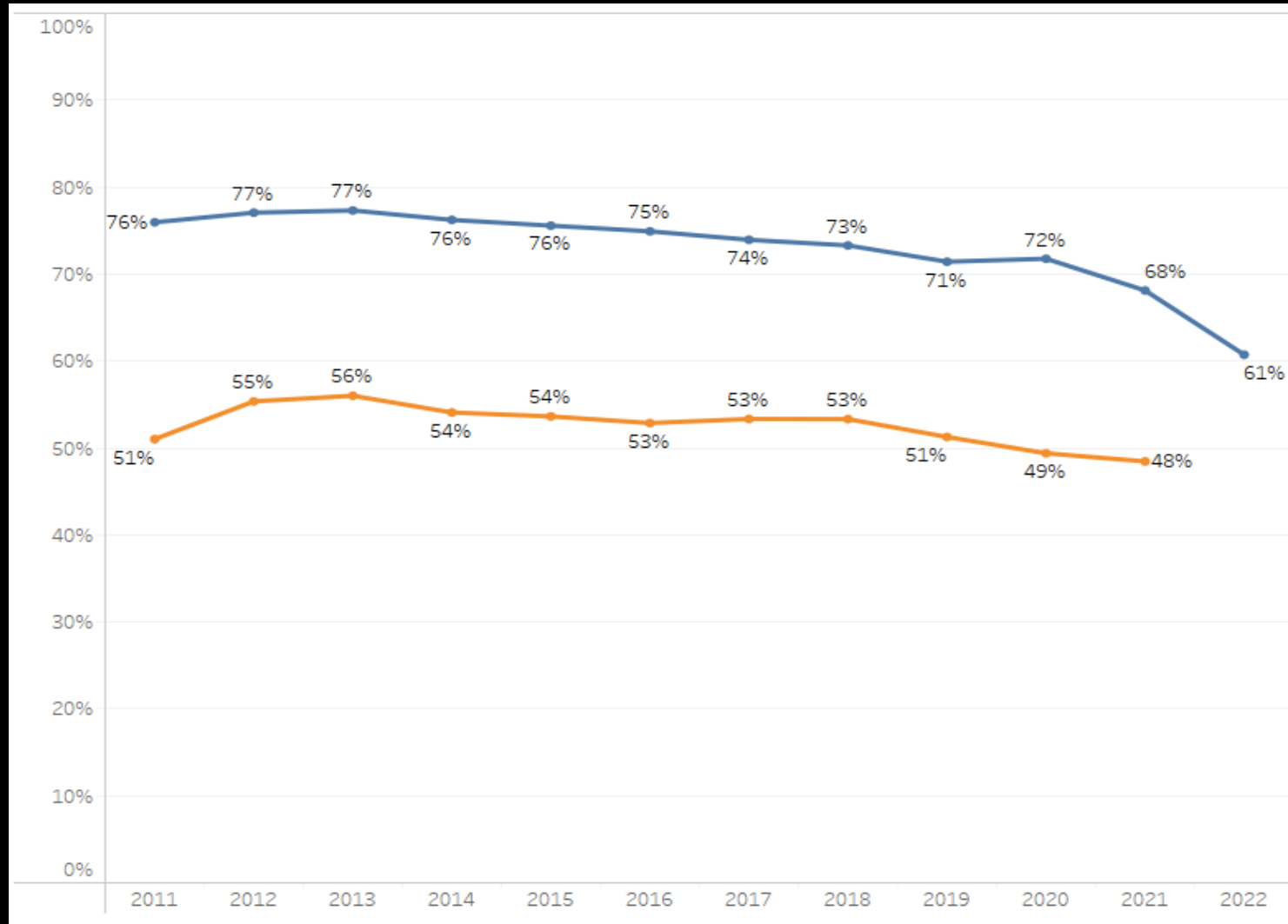
- Common persistence metrics you'll see from IE are:
 - *Fall to Spring Persistence*: Of all completion seeking students who started in the fall, the percentage who were still enrolled in the following Spring.
 - *Fall to Fall Persistence*: Of all completion seeking students who started in the Fall, the percentage who were still enrolled in the following Fall.
- But there are many, many more that might be calculated based on the need at hand.



**KNOW YOUR
BASELINES**

- What is the historical Fall to Spring persistence rate? (previous 5 years) 72%
- What is the current trend in Fall to Spring persistence rates? Downward towards 61%
- What is the historical Fall to Fall persistence rate? (previous 5 years) 53%
- Trend: Downward to 48%
- Are there equity gaps on this metric: Yes.
Black/AA have consistently had persistence rates 5-10 percentage points below White, Latinx, and Asian students.

PERSISTENCE RATES OVER TIME



**WHAT FACTORS
CONTRIBUTE TO
PERSISTENCE?**





**CONSIDER SOME
REAL STUDENTS**

Student 1

GPA: 3.429

Term: Fall 2020, Units Completed: 14,
Units Failed: 0

Status: First Term, Direct Matriculant

Financial Aid Status: Pell Recipient

Ed Plan Status: Comprehensive

Goal: Degree/Transfer Seeking

Affiliation: Viking Advantage

Age: 18

Student 2

GPA: 2.636

Term: Fall 2019, Units Completed: 11, Units Failed: 5

Status: First Term, Direct Matriculant

Financial Aid Status: Pell Recipient

Ed Plan Status: Abbreviated

Goal: Degree/Transfer Seeking

Affiliation: College Promise

Age: 18

WHAT FACTORS COME OUT ON TOP?

1. Units completed that term
2. Overall GPA (related to Course Success)
3. Age
4. Student Status (e.g. First Term, Returning, Continuing)
5. Counseling Contact (e.g.. Ed Plans, General Couns Appointments)