2022 Report
Georgia State University
Complete College Georgia

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1. Student Body and Institutional Mission

"Georgia State has been reimagined, amid a moral awakening and a raft of data-driven experimentation, as one of the South's most innovative engines of social mobility."

-- The New York Times, May 15, 2018

"It's hard to exaggerate the magnitude—and the national implications—of what Georgia State University has accomplished….By dramatically boosting its graduation rate and wiping out its achievement gap, Georgia State has demolished the excuses that college have generated to rationalize their abysmal track records."

-- David Kirp, The College Dropout Scandal, 2019

"No other institution has accomplished what Georgia State has over the past decade."

-- Bill Gates, October 2017

"Georgia State is a national example of how higher education institutions can support the success of all students, no matter their backgrounds or the challenges they may face in college."

---Sara Levy, Michael & Susan Dell
Foundation, 2022

When it comes to higher education, the vision of the United States as a land of equal opportunity is far from a reality. Today, it is eight times more likely that an individual in the top quartile of Americans by annual household income will hold a college degree than an individual in the lowest quartile.[1] Nationally, white students graduate from college at rates more than 10 points higher than Hispanic students and are more than twice as likely to graduate with a 4-year college degree when compared to black students.[2] According to the United States Department of Education, Pell-eligible students nationally have a six-year graduation-rate of 39%,[3] a rate that is 20 points lower than the national average.[4] Sadly, the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated inequities in higher education and may serve to make reducing these differences even more difficult for colleges and schools across the nation.

Certainly, these challenges are faced at Georgia State University. In 2003, Georgia State was the embodiment of these national failings. The institutional 6-year graduation rate for bachelor's students stood at 32% and underserved populations were foundering. Graduation rates were 22% for Hispanics, 29% for African Americans, and 18% for African American males. Pell students were graduating at a rates more than 10 percentage points lower than non-Pell students.

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[1] The Pell Institute (2015) Indicators of Higher Education Equity in the United States: 45 Year Trend Report (2015 Revised Edition). Retrieved from http://www.pellinstitute.org/downloads/publications-Indicators_of_Higher_Education_Equity_in_the_US_45_Year_Trend_Report.pdf

[2] U.S. Department of Education. Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics (2014) Table 326.10: Graduation rate from first institution attended for first-time, full-time bachelor's-degree- seeking students at 4-year postsecondary institutions, by race/ethnicity, time to completion, sex, control of institution, and acceptance rate: Selected cohort entry years, 1996 through 2007. Retrieved from https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d14/tables/dt14_326.10.asp.

[3] Horwich, Lloyd (25 November 2015) Report on the Federal Pell Grant Program. Retrieved from http://www.nasfaa.org/uploads/documents/Pell0212.pdf.

[4] U.S. Department of Education. Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics (2014) Table 326.10.

Rising Graduation Rates

Today, thanks to a campus-wide commitment to student success and more than a dozen strategic initiatives implemented over the past several years, Georgia State's equity gaps based on race, ethnicity and income are largely gone. The institutional graduation rate for bachelor-degree seeking students has improved by more than 20 points—among the largest increases in the nation over this period (See Appendix, Chart 1).[5] Rates are up 36 points for Hispanics (to 58%), and 31 points for African Americans (to 55%). In fact, for seven consecutive years African-American and Hispanic students, have graduated from Georgia State at or above the rates of the student body overall—an all-but unprecedented accomplishment for a large public university. Pell eligible students currently represent 55% of Georgia State University's undergraduate population—more than 26,000 students. The vagaries of the pandemic are reflected in a slightly lower graduation rate for low-income students this year (55% compared to 53%). However, on average since 2010, the graduation for Pell eligible students has outperformed that of non-Pell students at Georgia State though the Pell population has nearly doubled during this period (Chart 2). Even with the challenges associated with teaching and learning over the last couple of years, Georgia State University tied its 2nd highest graduation rate for both its bachelor's and associate's level students. (Chart 2) Tracking these cohorts using National Student Clearinghouse data, **70% of Baccalaureate students had graduated and 78% had graduated or were retained after six years.** As positively, time to degree has decreased by almost 11 hours at Georgia State University in a little more than a decade. Estimates are this saved the class of 2022 more than $21 million compared to the class of 2010. (See Chart 3)

Numbers of Degrees Awarded

For the fourth consecutive year, Georgia State University awarded more than 10,000 degrees in the academic year. This includes 7,424 undergraduate degrees (representing an 75% increase since 2010), awarded more than 5300 bachelor's degrees including a record number of degrees to Hispanic students (740, up 151% since 2010) and to Asian students (990, up 81% since 2010) (Charts 4 and 5). Georgia State now awards more bachelor's degrees annually to African American, Hispanic, first generation, and Pell students than any other university in Georgia. In fact, six years ago Georgia State University became the first institution in U.S. history to award more than 2,000 Bachelor's degrees to African American students in a single year, a metric it has matched every year since (with 2,089 awarded this past year). No other college or university in the U.S. has done so even once. (Chart 6) According to *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, for the eighth consecutive year Georgia State conferred more bachelor's degrees to African Americans than any other non-profit college or university in the United States.[6] Georgia State is also ranked first nationally in the number of bachelor's degrees conferred to African Americans in a number of specific disciplines: biology, finance, foreign languages, history, marketing, psychology, and the social sciences.

Importantly, students are succeeding in some of the most challenging majors at Georgia State. Over the past decade, the number of bachelor's degrees awarded in STEM fields has increased by 179% overall, 166% for African American students, 210% for African American males, and 411% for Hispanic students, far outpacing their enrollment growth over this time period (Chart 7).

Perimeter College

The news is also encouraging at Perimeter College, Georgia State's associate-degree-granting college that enrolls nearly 16,000 students. Consolidation between Georgia State University and Perimeter College was finalized in 2016, only about six years ago. We are making exceptional progress. While there is still more work to be done, since consolidation, the Perimeter 3-year graduation rate **has almost quadrupled**, rising from 6.5% to 23% (Chart 8).   Significant progress has been made increasing success outcomes for all students. Since the year before consolidation was announced, graduation

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[5] All charts can be found in the Appendix.

[6] Diverse Issues in Higher Education, August 2018. http://diverseeducation.com/top100/pages/BachelorsDegreeProducers2017.php?dtsearch=&dtrace=&dtmajor=&dtschool=Georgia State University&dtstate=&dtpage=0

rates for Hispanic students have increase by 20 points. They have increased by 17 points for white students, 14 points for black students and 16 points for students who are Pell eligible. Just like on the Atlanta campus, equity gaps have narrowed significantly. In 2020 for the first time, African American, Hispanic and Pell students all graduated from Perimeter College at rates at or above those of the student body overall. As recently as 2015, white students were graduating from Perimeter at rates more than two-and-a-half times the rate of African American students. In 2020, both white and African American students graduated at the same rate—exceptional progress in such a short period of time. While the pandemic has disproportionately impacted Perimeter's low-income and African American students, reopening some gaps in 2021, the fact is that Pell students and African Americans are graduating at rates more than four **times higher** than they were prior to consolidation. The elimination of equity gaps based on race, ethnicity and income level has been a distinctive and much-discussed accomplishment of Georgia State's Atlanta campus, and the rapid progress in this area at Perimeter College lends credence to the view that Georgia State's unique data-based, proactive and systematic approach to student success—an approach now being implemented at Perimeter—helps level the playing field for students from diverse backgrounds (Chart 9).

According to *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (January 2020), 83% of Perimeter students now graduate, are retained, and/or successfully transfer to four-year institutions within three years of first enrollment, ranking Perimeter College 20th in the nation (among 2,000+ community colleges ranked). Despite steep declines in Perimeter College overall enrollments in the years leading up to consolidation and new declines brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, associate degree conferrals also have still increased, with 2100 degrees awarded in 2021-22. This number was down from a high of 2336 in 2020-2021, but it still represents a more than an 11% increase since consolidation (Chart 10). Perimeter College now ranks 15th in the nation for the number of associate degrees awarded to African Americans annually.[7] There is more to be done at Perimeter College, but early results have been transformative.

A National Model

A core part of Georgia State's mission is to serve all students in Georgia. As such, the most foundational principle guiding our student-success efforts has been a pledge to improve student outcomes through *inclusion* rather *exclusion*. In the 2011 Georgia State University Strategic Plan, we committed to increasing the number of underrepresented, first-generation and Pell students enrolled *and* to significantly improving graduation rates for all groups while eliminating equity gaps. The consolidation with Perimeter College, with its thousands of students who fall into federal at-risk categories, is one example of this deep commitment to inclusion. We also committed to achieving improved outcomes for our students not merely while they are at Georgia State but in their lives and careers after graduation. This year Georgia State is formulating a new strategic plan around foundational pillars articulated by GSU President, Dr. M. Brian Blake. These pillars include both student success and college to career, (as well as research and innovation and identify and placemaking) and reaffirm Georgia State University's commitment to ensuring that students for all backgrounds can achieve academic *and* career success at high rates.

Over the past six years, Georgia State University's student-success accomplishments have been the subject of growing levels of national attention. Highlights include:

- In December 2014, former President Barack Obama highlighted the exemplary work being done at Georgia State University to assist students through its Panther Retention Grant program in his address at White House College Opportunity Day.[8]
- In 2014, Georgia State received the inaugural national Award for Student Success from the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU), and in 2015 it received the second-ever Institutional Transformation Award

[7] Diverse Issues in Higher Education, August 2018. diverseeducation.com/top100/pages/AssociatesDegreeProducers2017.php?dtsearch=&dtrace=&dtmajor=&dtschool=Georgia State University\-Perimeter College&dtstate=&dtpage=0

[8] President Barack Obama (4 December 2014) Remarks by the President at College Opportunity Summit. Retrieved from https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/12/04/remarks-president-college-opportunity-summit.

from the American Council on Education (ACE). Both awards highlighted Georgia State's exceptional progress in student success and its elimination of all equity gaps.

- In August 2015, Georgia State was invited to provide expert testimony on strategies for helping low-income students succeed before the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pension of the U. S. Senate.
- In July 2017, Bill Gates made a half-day visit to campus specifically to learn more about Georgia State's innovative use of data and technology to transform outcomes for low-income students.
- Between 2018 and 2020, the Brookings Institution, Harvard's CLIMB initiative, and *US News and World Report* released reports placing Georgia State among the top 1% of institutions in the nation for "social mobility"— helping students move from low-income status at matriculation to upper-income status as alumni.
- In spring 2018, *The New York Times*, in a feature article, highlighted Georgia State's status as conferring the most degrees to African Americans in the country and labeled the university "an engine of social mobility," while the *Harvard Business Review* and NPR's "The Hidden Brain" both chronicled the impact of Georgia State's groundbreaking work using an A.I.-enhanced chatbot to reduce summer melt.
- Georgia State's student-success efforts became the subject of a feature-length documentary, *Unlikely* (2018), and an award-winning book, *Won't Lose This Dream: How An Upstart Urban University Changed the Rules of a Broken System* (2020) by Andrew Gumbel
- In fall 2022, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked Georgia State 1st in the nation for its Commitment to Undergraduate Teaching among all public universities (just behind Princeton, Rice, Boston College and Dartmouth) and as the 2nd Most Innovative University in the nation (behind only ASU). Georgia State ranked among the top 25 performers on Social Mobility and 8th in the country for Diversity. Georgia State's Learning Communities and First-Year Experience were ranked 5th and 6th in the nation respectively.

Motivated by a desire to make an impact not only in the lives of its own students but also in the lives of students nation-wide, Georgia State University has made a conscious and significant commitment of time and resources to sharing with others the lessons that we have learned. Over the past several years, Georgia State has hosted teams of administrators and faculty members from more than 500 colleges and universities enrolling 3 million students, all seeking to learn more about our student-success programs. Visiting campuses have included almost every university in the University System of Georgia (USG), institutions from forty-seven U.S. states, as well as universities and national governing boards from the Netherlands, Great Britain, Bavaria, Georgia, Australia, Colombia, Hong Kong, South Korea, China, New Zealand, and South Africa. Major national organizations—including Achieving the Dream, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU), the American Council on Education (ACE), Complete College America, and the U.S. Department of Education—have also turned to Georgia State for its expertise in the area.

In order to better support this dissemination work, as well as to incubate the next-generation of student-success innovations, Georgia State University established the National Institute of Student Success (NISS) in October 2020. In its first two years, the NISS is already delivering diagnostic and coaching services to more than two-dozen campuses nationally, including six in the state of Georgia. In addition to the diagnostic and coaching services that allow NISS staff to work with individual campuses, the NISS has also developed a self-service online teaching and research portal (the Accelerator) that has accessible content for anyone wanting to learn more about best practices to increase student outcomes. To further disseminate best practices in student success, the NISS includes a research team focused on evaluating innovative programs in a manner that continues to advance the data-informed strategies that have been successful in this work.

2. Student Success Goals and Practices

Completion Goals

The central goal that we have set for our undergraduate success efforts is highly ambitious, but the words were chosen carefully: Georgia State will *"become a national model for undergraduate education by demonstrating that students from all backgrounds can achieve academic and career success at high rates."[9]*

In 2011, Georgia State University committed to reach a graduation rate for bachelor-degree-seeking students of 52% by 2016 and 60% by 2021.[10] We also committed to conferring 2,500 more degrees annually than we did in 2010 and to eliminating all significant equity gaps between student populations. More recently, we committed to doubling the graduation rate of our new associate-degree seeking students from the 2014 baseline over a five-year period. This year, President Blake challenged the University community to reach a bachelor's graduation rate of 66%.

On the surface, attaining these goals seems implausible. Georgia State's demographic trends—characterized in recent years by huge increases in the enrollments of students from underserved populations—typically would project a steep decline in student outcomes. Georgia State University, though, has been able to make dramatic gains towards its success targets even as the student body has become far more diverse and less financially secure.

The 2011 Strategic Plan also outlined key strategies to achieve these goals. We made a commitment to overhaul our advising system, to track every student daily with the use of predictive analytics and to intervene with students who are at risk in a proactive fashion, to expand existing high-impact programs such as freshman learning communities and Keep Hope Alive, to raise more scholarship dollars, to pilot and scale innovative new types of financial interventions, and to open a new Student Success Center. After the launch of the strategic plan, we introduced additional programs such as the Success Academy, meta-majors, Panther Retention Grants, College to Career, and an AI-enhanced chatbot to guide students through administrative and academic processes

The strategies have worked. Since the launch of Georgia State University's 2011 Strategic Plan, each of the new programs outlined in the Strategic Plan has been successfully launched—and the new Student Success Center building will open in 2024. Our institutional six-year graduation rate for bachelor-degree-seeking students has increased by 7 percentage points from 48% to 55%, while **Georgia State's cross-institutional six-year graduation rate this year reached 70**% (Chart 11**).** It is important to note that, due to frequent changes in jobs and economic circumstances, low-income and first-generation students and their families transfer frequently than do middle- and upper-income college students. This phenomenon significantly impacts Georgia State's institutional graduation rate. When including Georgia State students who transfer to and graduate from other institutions (with the vast majority doing so from other schools within the University System of Georgia), the six-year bachelor's graduation rate reached 70% in 2021; and the percent of students who either earned a degree or were still actively enrolled reached 78%. The four-year graduation rate has improved even more dramatically, with a 14-percentage-point increase, from 21% to 35%, between 2010 and 2022 (Chart 2).

The news is equally positive for Perimeter College. In the six years since consolidation was announced, the graduation rate for associate-degree-seeking students at Perimeter College has more than tripled, moving from 6.5% in 2015 to 23% in 2022—far exceeding the strategic goal of doubling the rate by 2021. Just as impressively, as previously happened at the Atlanta campus, equity gaps based on race, ethnicity and income level have been narrowed significantly at Perimeter College. The year prior to consolidation, white students were graduating from Perimeter at rates two-and-a-half times those for African Americans. By 2020, white and African American students are graduating at the same rates. Although following the pandemic some equity gaps began to emerge, 83% of Perimeter students are now graduating, successfully

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[9] Georgia State University (2012). Strategic Plan 2011-2016/21. Retrieved from http://strategic.gsu.edu/files/2012/09/GSU_Strategic_Plan_2016-2.pdf

[10] Georgia State University (2012) College Completion Plan 2012: A University-wide Plan for Student Success (The Implementation of Goal 1 of the GSU Strategic Plan). Retrieved from http://enrollment.gsu.edu/wp-content/blogs.dir/57/files/2013/09/GSU_College_Completion_Plan_09-06-12.pdf

transferring, or are still enrolled after three years—a rate that ranks Perimeter College 20th among more than 2,000 community colleges nationally according to *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (January 2020).[11]
Georgia State University conferred more than 7400 undergraduate degrees during the 2020-2021 academic year, representing a 3202-degree increase (75%) over the baseline year of 2011 (Chart 4). The total now far exceeds the Strategic Plan's target to increase undergraduate degrees awarded by 2,500 annually by 2021. Perimeter College awarded 2100 degrees in the 2021-2022 academic year (Chart 12).

Even though no major Georgia State initiative is targeted by race, ethnicity or income level, the gains have been greatest for students from underserved backgrounds. In recent years, Georgia State University has conferred record numbers of bachelor's degrees to Pell-eligible, first generation, African American, and Hispanic students (Chart 4). Since the 2010-2011 academic year, the number of bachelor's degrees conferred to Pell students has grown by 50%, conferrals to African American students have increased by 56%, and degrees awarded to Hispanic students have grown by 151% [12] (Chart 5).

Georgia State's combination of large enrollment increases of students from underserved backgrounds and significantly rising graduation rates confounds the conventional wisdom. How has Georgia State accomplished these unprecedented gains?

Strategies for Student Success

Georgia State's student-success strategy has been consistent and unconventional. We have not created programs targeted at students by their race, ethnicity, first-generation status, or income level. Rather, we have used data to identity problems impacting large numbers of Georgia State students, and we have changed the institution for *all* students. Georgia State University has consistently asked the question, "Are we the Problem" and worked to remove administrative obstacles to student success. In the process, the University has redesigned outreach and onboarding, 1st-year support, guided student pathways, career readiness, academic support, academic advising, financial wellness and cohort resources, in a manner that significantly lowers bureaucratic barriers to college completion for students. Though well intentioned, institutions inadvertently hinder student success. Changing these practices has resulted in significant, positive results at Georgia State. One of GSU's successful high impact strategies, the Panther Retention Grant, was recently used as a model to expand a completion grant program to all the school in the University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia. In May 2022, Governor Brian Kemp signed House Bill 1435, to remove the financial aid gaps that impede degree completion for senior students.

Georgia State University continues to innovate and develop strategies to increase student success. Georgia State was one of the first four institutions in the country to utilize an A.I. enhanced chatbot in admissions, reducing "summer melt" by more than 30% since its launch in 2015. In 2018-20219, GSU expanded the use of the Chatbot to support the enrollment needs of continuing bachelors and associates-level students. Students with access to the chatbot completed key tasks such as removing holds from their accounts, addressing account balances and meeting with advisors when prompted to so at rates 30-40% higher than their counterparts not using the chatbot. Building on these successes, GSU recently launched an academic chabot to support student learning in the classroom. Beginning with a pilot in an American Government course, half the students in the class received specialized chat bot messages and half did not. American Government was selected because it is a large class known for its high DFW rates. Students who got the messages were reminded about assignments and exams and received messages reviewing course content as well as sample test questions where students could evaluate their readiness. The results were remarkable. Chatbot students were 16% more likely to earn a B or higher. First generation students earned grades 11 points higher than those not receiving chatbot

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[11] The metric used by *The Chronicle of Higher Education* here includes students who successfully transfer from Perimeter College within three years, whether or not they are actively enrolled in the transfer institution for the fall term three years after first matriculation. As reported elsewhere in this document, 68% of Perimeter's 2018 freshmen had earned an Associate degree *or were actively enrolled during the Fall 2021 semester.* This is a more rigorous metric.

[12] Actual percent increases were much higher in these two categories, but we have controlled for the effects of the University implementing more rigorous processes encouraging students to self-report their race and ethnicity.

support. The Chatbot represents another example of removing bureaucratic barriers to success. This pilot is being expanded other classes this fall as we begin to scale the benefit of this intervention to more students.[13]

5. Conclusion

Georgia State University is testimony to the fact that students from all backgrounds can succeed at high rates. Moreover, our efforts over the past few years demonstrate that dramatic gains are possible not through changing the nature of the students served but through changing the nature of the institution that serves them. How has Georgia State University made the gains outlined above? How do we propose to reach our ambitious future targets? In one sense, the answer is simple. We employ a consistent, evidenced-based strategy. Our general approach can be summarized as follows:

- Use data systematically and daily in order to identify and to understand the most pervasive obstacles to our students' progressions and completion.
- Be willing to address the problems by becoming an early adopter. This means piloting new strategies and experimenting with new technologies. After all, we will not solve decades-old problems by the same old means.
- Track the impacts of the new interventions via data and make adjustments as necessary to improve results.
- Scale the initiatives that prove effective to have maximal impact. In fact, almost all of the initiatives outlined benefit thousands of students annually.

Our work to promote student success at Georgia State has steadily increased graduation rates among students from all backgrounds, but it has also served to foster a culture of student success among faculty, staff, and administration. As the story of Georgia State University demonstrates, institutional transformation in the service of student success does not come about from a single program or office but grows from a series of changes throughout the university that undergo continual evaluation and refinement. It also shows how a series of initially small initiatives, when scaled over time, can significantly transform an institution's culture. Student-success planning must be flexible since the removal of each impediment to student progress reveals a new challenge that was previously invisible. When retention rates improved and thousands of additional students began progressing through their academic programs, for instance, we faced a growing problem of students running out of financial aid just short of the finish line, prompting the creation of the Panther Retention Grant program. It also led to a new analytics-based initiative to better predict and address student demand in upper-level courses. Problems we faced with Summer Melt, seniors stopping out for financial reasons, and pandemic-related struggles for incoming students have each led to significant, new innovations—all of which have been adopted by other universities nationally. For a timeline of where we have been and where we are going next, please see **Chart 13.**

Georgia State still has much work to do, but our progress in recent years demonstrates that significant improvements in student success outcomes can come through embracing inclusion rather than exclusion, and that such gains can be made even amid a context of constrained resources. It shows that, even at very large public universities, we can provide students with systematic, personalized supports that have transformative impacts. Perhaps most importantly, the example of Georgia State shows that, despite the conventional wisdom, demographics are not destiny and equity gaps are not inevitable. Low-income and underrepresented students can succeed at the same levels as their peers—if we support students by systemic and proven approaches. We owe our students no less.

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[13] For more information please see: Page, Lindsay C. , Katharine Meyer, Jeonghyun Lee, and Hunter Gehlbach. (2022). Conditions under which college students can be responsive to nudging. (EdWorkingPaper: 20-242). Retrieved from Annenberg Institute at Brown University: https://doi.org/10.26300/vjfs-kv29

Appendix

Chart 1 : Graduation Rates by Year and Programs Launched: Bachelor's Degrees 2003 to the Present

GSU Bachelors 6-Year Graduation Rates by Year
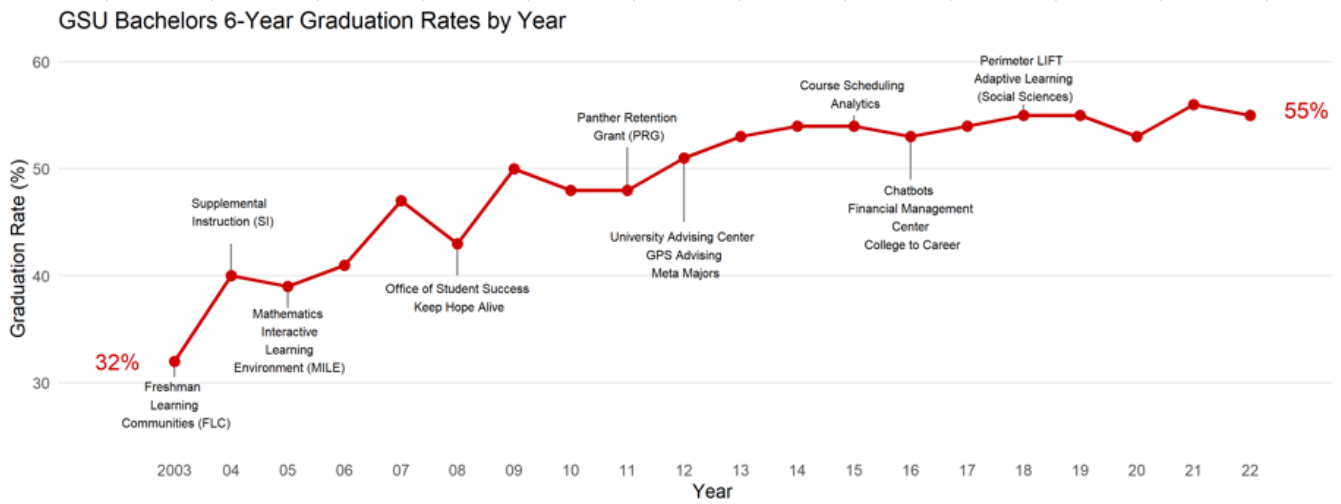
Chart 2: Bachelors-Seeking Graduation Rates by Population

Bachelors-Seeking Graduation Rates by Population
2010 to Present

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
6-Year Graduation Rate	48%	48%	51%	53%	54%	54%	53%	54%	55%	55%	53%	56%	55%
6-Year: African American	51%	52%	54%	57%	55%	58%	56%	58%	58%	59%	54%	57%	55%
6-Year: White	46%	45%	49%	52%	53%	50%	52%	50%	49%	50%	51%	54%	55%
6-Year: Hispanic	58%	48%	53%	54%	56%	58%	52%	55%	57%	59%	59%	57%	58%
6-Year: Pell	51%	49%	51%	53%	51%	55%	52%	54%	55%	55%	53%	54%	53%
5-Year Graduation Rate	40%	43%	44%	46%	46%	46%	47%	47%	48%	47%	51%	51%	51%
4-Year Graduation Rate	21%	22%	22%	24%	23%	23%	27%	23%	29%	34%	35%	34%	35%

Chart 3: Credit Hours at Completion

Credit Hours at Completion: Bachelor's Students
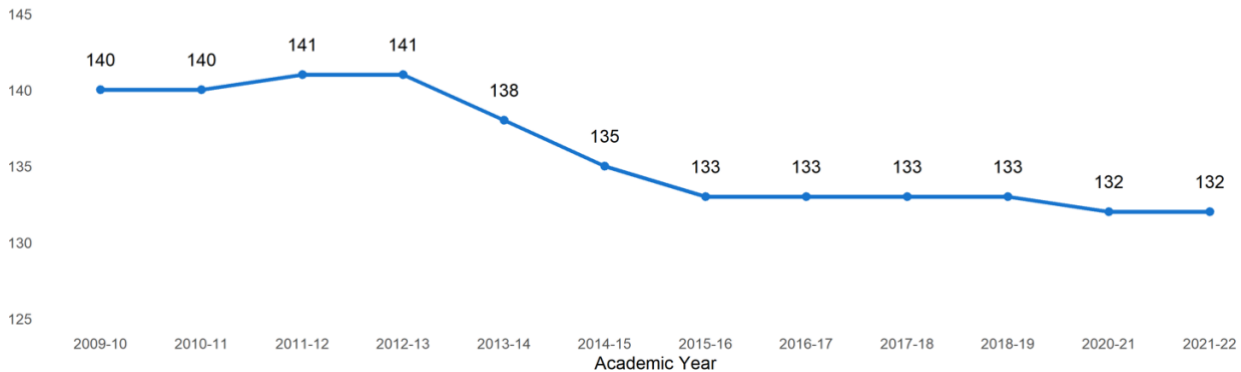
Chart 4: Total Undergraduate Degrees Conferred

Georgia State University Undergraduate Degree Conferrals by Year
Since Launch of Strategic Plan

Chart 5: Bachelor's degrees Conferred by Academic Year

GSU Bachelors Degrees Conferred By Academic Year
2010 to Present

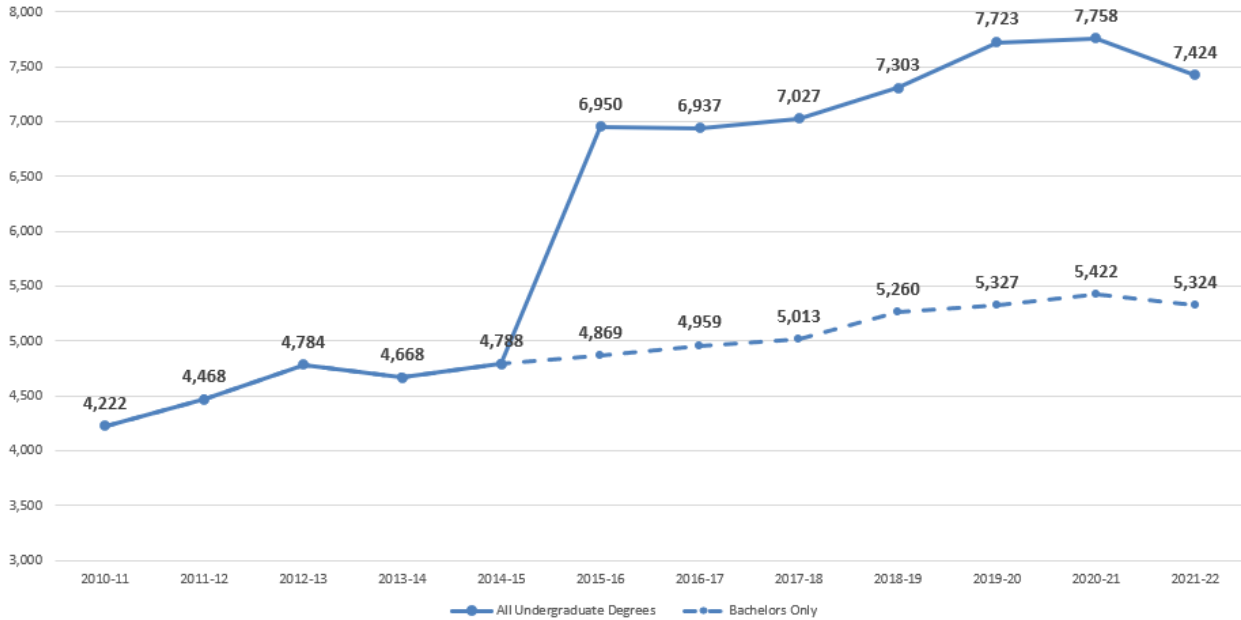|		2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
	Adult Learners	1,566	1,627	1,810	1,769	1,700	1,699	1,543	1,568	1,589	1,613	1,490	1,367
	Pell-eligible Students	2,403	2,765	3,140	3,132	3,280	3,379	3,428	3,510	3,711	3,554	3,626	3,604
Status	First Generation Students	1,117	1,280	1,328	1,364	1,360	1,398	1,390	1,375	1,444	1,415	1,339	1,313
	White	1,890	2,007	2,013	1,924	1,856	1,779	1,662	1,587	1,645	1,671	1,658	1,603
	Black or African American	1,388	1,552	1,666	1,727	1,829	1,977	2,017	2,035	2,241	2,199	2,213	2,171
	Asian	548	507	633	541	536	568	699	735	813	820	913	990
	More Than One Race	170	153	167	176	184	276	320	355	358	412	424	398
	American Indian or Alaska Native	13	9	18	12	19	11	13	17	11	14	24	28
	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	19	14	9	10	8	0	2	5	1	11	8	9
Race	Not Reported	194	226	278	278	356	258	246	256	191	200	182	125
	Non-Hispanic	3,690	3,926	4,132	4,017	4,107	4,235	4,263	4,244	4,538	4,483	4,550	4,454
	Hispanic	294	339	394	409	435	443	501	557	567	632	654	740
Ethnicity	Not Reported	238	203	258	242	246	191	195	189	155	212	218	130
	Total Bachelors Degrees Conferred	**4,222**	**4,468**	**4,784**	**4,668**	**4,788**	**4,869**	**4,959**	**4,990**	**5,260**	**5,327**	**5,422**	**5,324**

*Used graduation date to calculate age. Age at graduation is used to calculate Adult Learner status
*AY evaluated as Fall-Spring-Summer

Chart 6: Top Producers of Degrees to African Americans

	2020-2021						2019-2020						2019-2019			
			2020-2021		**% Changed Compared to AY**				**2019-2020**		**% Changed Compared to AY**				**2018-2019**		**% Change Compared to AY**
Rank	Institution	State	Total	% Grads	2019-20	Rank	Institution	State	Total	% Grads	2018-19	Rank	Institution	State	Total	% Grads	2017-18
1	Georgia State University	GA	2,089	22%	2%	1	Georgia State University	GA	2,052	38%	-1%	1	Georgia State University	GA	2,079	40%	9%
2	North Carolina A & T State University	NC	1,711	42%	11%	2	University of Central Florida	FL	1,556	11%	-1%	2	University of Central Florida	FL	1,565	11%	7%
3	University of Central Florida	FL	1,579	7%	1%	3	North Carolina A & T State University	NC	1,544	80%	19%	3	Florida International University	FL	1,365	12%	12%
4	Florida International University	FL	1,515	7%	11%	4	Florida International University	FL	1,370	12%	0%	4	Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University	FL	1,301	90%	11%
5	Florida Agriculture and Mechanical University	FL	1,310	46%	-3%	5	Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University	FL	1,355	89%	4%	5	North Carolina A & T State University	NC	1,300	78%	-1%
6	Chamberlain University - Illinois	IL	1,299	12%	18%	6	Florida Atlantic University	FL	1,172	20%	-5%	6	Florida Atlantic University	FL	1,229	21%	1%
7	Kennesaw State University	GA	1,288	15%	13%	7	The University of Texas at Arlington	TX	1,164	14%	-3%	7	The University of Texas at Arlington	TX	1,202	13%	5%
8	Howard University	DC	1,199	41%	56%	8	Kennesaw State University	GA	1,142	20%	11%	8	Howard University	DC	1,177	87%	8%
9	Prairie View A & M University	TX	1,191	42%	23%	9	Chamberlain University-Illinois	IL	1,098	14%	14%	9	Georgia Southern University	GA	1,052	24%	-1%
10	The University of Texas at Arlington	TX	1,181	8%	1%	10	University of South Florida-Main Campus	FL	1,033	10%	17%	10	Jackson State University	MS	1,043	90%	5%

Source:
https://top100.diverseeducation.com/

¹Not including online universities (i.e. University of Phoenix - Online Campus, Ashford University, University of Maryland-Global Campus)

²Top for degrees conferred to Black/African American students, for all majors

Chart 7: STEM Degrees Conferred at the Bachelor's Level

STEM* Degrees Awarded: Bachelor's Level			
STEM Degrees Conferred	**2010-11**	**2021-22**	**Increase Of**
All Students	345	964	179%
African American Students	112	298	166%
African American Male Students	38	118	210%
Hispanic Students	17	87	411%

*STEM majors are defined as one of the following: Biological Science, Chemistry, Computer Science, Geography, Geology, Geosciences, Mathematics, Neuroscience, and Physics

Chart 8: GSU Perimeter College 3-Year Graduation Rates

GSU Perimeter College 3-Year Graduation Rates
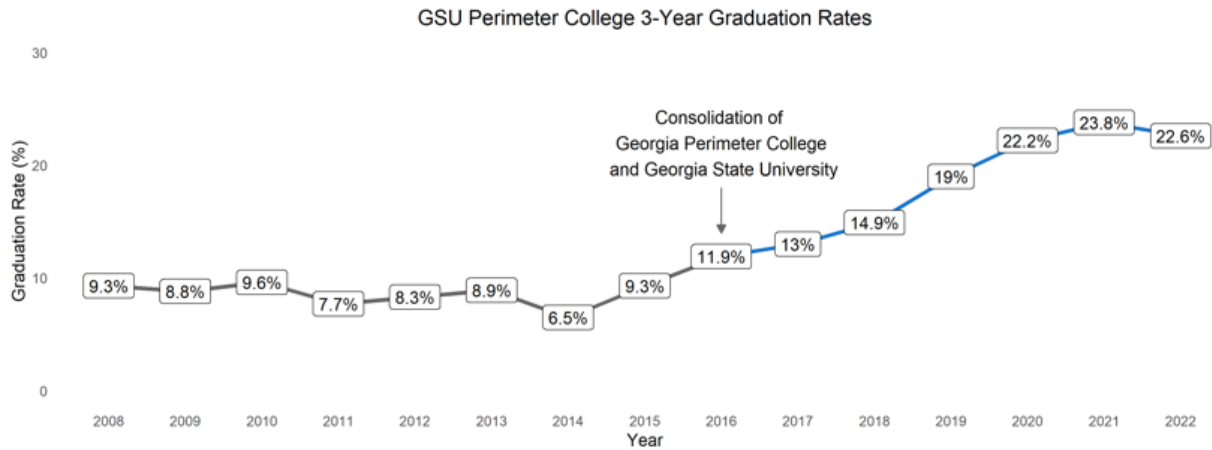
Chart 9: Associates-Seeking Graduation Rates by Population

Associates-Seeking Graduation Rates by Population
2011 to Present

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change
3-Year Graduation Rate	7%	9%	12%	13%	15%	19%	22%	24%	23%	+17
3-Year: African American	4%	7%	10%	10%	12%	16%	22%	20%	18%	+14
3-Year: White	10%	11%	13%	16%	15%	20%	22%	27%	25%	+15
3-Year: Hispanic	6%	11%	13%	13%	15%	23%	25%	27%	26%	+20
3-Year: Pell	5%	8%	10%	11%	14%	19%	22%	22%	22%	+16

Chart 10: Perimeter College Degrees Conferred by Academic Year: Associate Degrees

	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22
Total Associates Degrees Conferred	1,895	2,081	1,978	2,014	2,043	2,396	2,336	2,100

Chart 11: 6 Year Graduation Rate for First Year Freshmen at GSU and Cross Institutionally

6 Year Graduation Rate for First Time First Year Freshmen
Starting at Georgia State University

■ Seventeen Years Ago (2003) ■ Today (2021) ■ Today, with National Student Clearinghouse Added
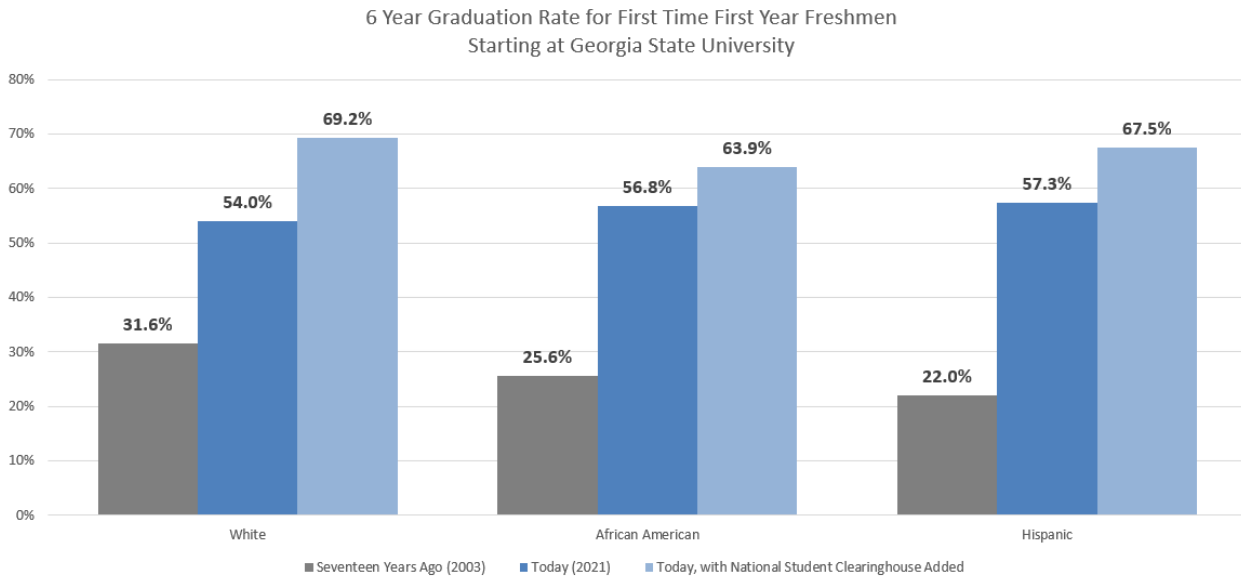
Chart 12: Perimeter College Degree Conferred By Student Demographic Group

GSU Perimeter College Associates Degrees Conferred by Academic Year

2014-15 to Present

		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
	Adult Learners*	1,058	1,169	1,069	1,023	1,076	1,030	993	821
	Pell-eligible Students	1,314	1,477	1,397	1,422	1,438	1,655	1,655	1,591
Status	First Generation Students	681	729	699	663	689	748	693	589
	White	659	706	677	607	547	671	622	568
	Black or African American	825	935	895	970	999	1,190	1,139	980
	Asian	173	220	224	239	252	271	287	306
	More Than One Race	77	90	106	111	181	189	198	163
	American Indian or Alaska Native	9	9	4	6	8	14	19	15
	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	5	1	3	3	3	3	6	4
Race	Not Reported	147	120	69	78	53	58	65	64
	Non-Hispanic	1,606	1,776	1,693	1,726	1,716	2,005	1,918	1,744
	Hispanic	156	187	218	256	268	351	367	325
Ethnicity	Not Reported	133	118	67	32	59	40	51	31
Total Associates Degrees Conferred		**1,895**	**2,081**	**1,978**	**2,014**	**2,043**	**2,396**	**2,336**	**2,100**

Chart 13

Timeline of Student Success Initiatives at Georgia State University

INITIATIVE	YEAR STARTED	SUMMARY	SCALE
Freshman Learning Communities	1999	First-year students sorted into cohorts of 25 based on meta-major; take all courses together in block schedule. Expanded to Perimeter in 2018.	90% of non-honors first-year students
Supplemental Instruction	2005	Students who are most successful in courses hired as peer tutors for other students in the course; many tutors eligible for work-study.	1,000+ course sections; 10,000+ students annually
Mathematics Interactive Learning Environment	2006	Redesign of introductory math courses (algebra, statistics, and pre-calculus) using a hybrid, emporium model of face-to-face and machine-guided instruction. Expanded to Perimeter in 2020.	8,500 students annually
Keep HOPE Alive Scholarship	2008	Small grants to students who lose eligibility for Georgia's HOPE merit scholarship, combined with academic and financial counseling.	2,000+ students since 2009
Panther Retention Grants	2011	Small grants (combined with academic and financial counseling) to juniors and seniors who are on-track academically but are required by a state of Georgia rule to be dropped from classes because they have small outstanding balances on tuition or fees.	19,000 students since 2011
Graduation and Progression System	2012	Sophisticated dashboard for advisers that displays real-time analyses of student academic progress and raises alerts calling for intervention; coupled with consolidating undergraduate advising and more than doubling the number of advisers.	100,000+ student-advisor meetings in per year
Summer Success Academy	2012	Opportunity for the most academically at-risk 10 percent of incoming freshmen to take 7 credit hours and receive intensive academic advisement and financial literacy training during the summer before their first year. Expanded to Perimeter in 2018 as the Perimeter Academy.	500 students annually today.
Meta Majors	2013	Onboarding program that enrolls new students according to broad areas of academic interests and then delivers programming to help students understand the differences between majors within each area; has significantly reduced the number of students changing majors after their freshman years. Expanded to PC in 2018.	Approximately 8,000 freshmen per year
Course Scheduling Analytics	2015	Predictive Analytics deployed to determine the number of course sections and seats needed each semester; establishment of a university Strategic Courser Scheduling Committee	Capacity added in 800 courses per year
Admissions Chat Bots	2016	Artificial-intelligence-enhanced automatic texting platform that has been developed to answer thousands of common freshman questions immediately via texts.	8,000 freshmen annually
Truist Student Financial Management Center	2016	Office using predictive financial analytics to proactively identify students who are at financial risk and reach out to them with help. Delivers financial literacy programming and holistic evaluations of students' financial situation.	70,000 student visits annually
College to Career	2016	Undergraduate curriculum that promotes career readiness throughout the student experience from pre-enrollment to graduation often leveraging technology (e-portfolios, online modules) to scale.	700,000 student postings to e-portfolios in 2016-17

INITIATIVE	YEAR STARTED	SUMMARY	SCALE
Perimeter LIFT	2017	Integrated suite of 16 different student support programs to take students from high school to graduation in cooperation with DeKalb Public Schools and supported by State Farm	300 Perimeter College students annually
Adaptive Learning in the Social Sciences	2017	A collaborative, funded project in which faculty members in Psychology, Economics, and Political Science are converting 20,000 seats of introductory courses to hybrid, flipped classes assisted by adaptive-learning technology.	20,000 students a year
Career Analytics	2018	Through a partnership with Steppingblocks, Georgia State shares with current students live data about career outcomes for Georgia State alumni by academic field using "web scarping" technologies.	40,000 students annually
Retention Bot	2019	Chatbot expanded from a summer melt tool for incoming freshmen to a support for all enrolled undergraduates throughout their academic careers.	35,000 students annually
National Institute for Student Success	2020	Through an "Incubator" to pilot, refine and scale the next-generation of Georgia State student-success innovations and an "Accelerator" and coaching to help disseminate proven student-success strategies, the Institute catalyzes improved and more equitable student outcomes in Georgia and nationally.	750,000 students nationally by 2024
Accelerator Academy	2021	Summer program to allow First-Year Students to re-take critical freshman-year courses that they failed during the Fall and Spring Terms	700 students