



# Legal Education Data Deck

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Key trends on access,  
affordability, and value

# Foreword

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The 2025 Legal Education Data Deck utilizes datasets made publicly available by third parties to offer a snapshot of certain trends organized around the three guiding principles of AccessLex Institute’s research agenda: access, affordability, and value in legal education. This is a living document that is updated periodically — AccessLex welcomes comments, criticisms, and suggestions in order to make this as useful a tool as possible for all those we serve.

The data contained herein exists thanks to the work of the Law School Admission Council, the National Conference of Bar Examiners, the National Association for Law Placement, the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Department of Labor. We thank these and other organizations for making such data available.

AccessLex Institute uses these data as the basis for the presentation, analysis, and commentary contained herein and takes sole responsibility for the quality and accuracy of such presentation, analysis, and commentary.



# About AccessLex Institute®

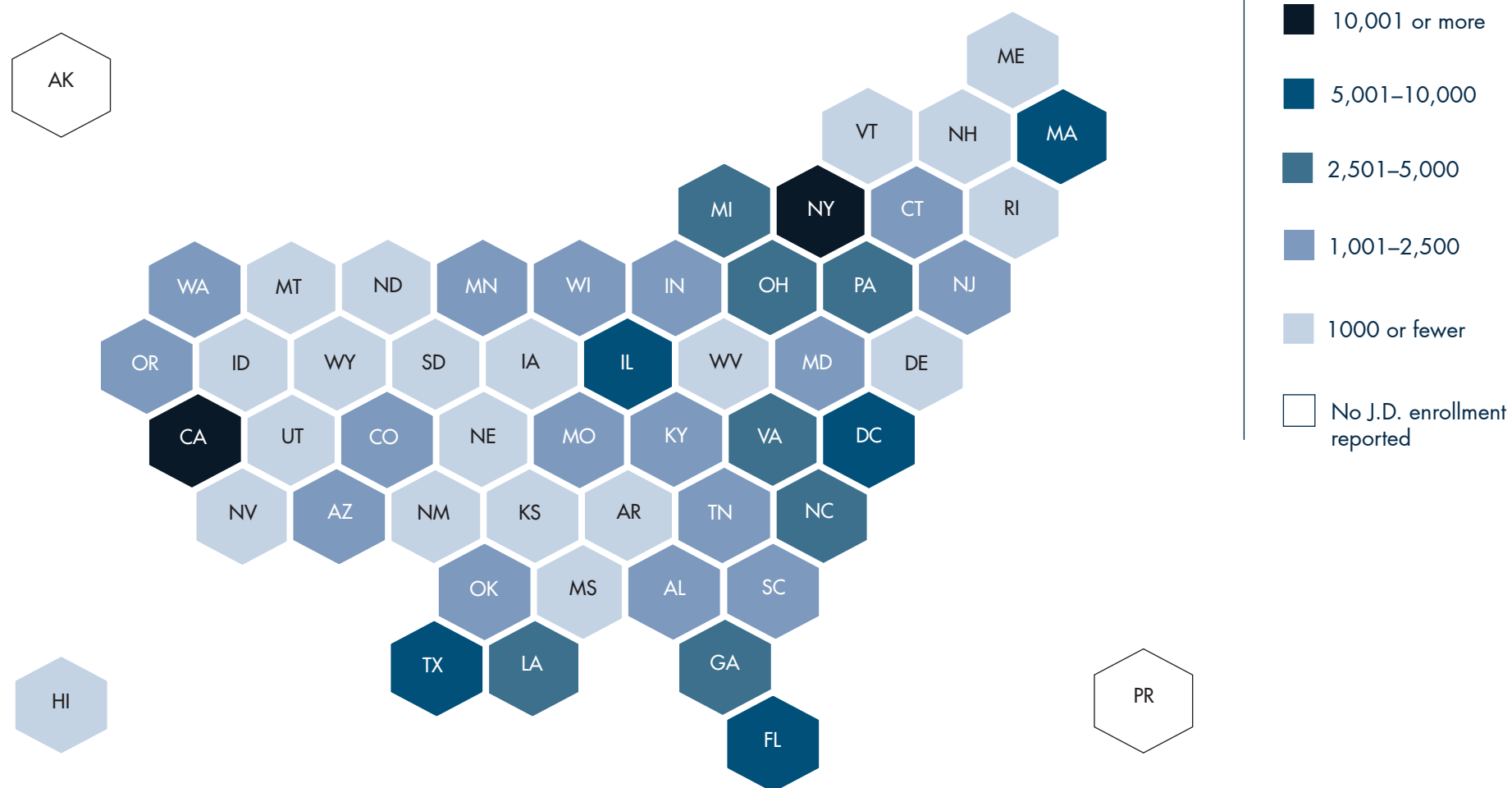
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AccessLex Institute, in partnership with its nearly 200 nonprofit and state-affiliated ABA-approved member law schools, has been committed to improving access to legal education and to maximizing the affordability and value of a law degree since 1983. The AccessLex Center for Legal Education Excellence® advocates for policies that make legal education work better for students and society alike and conducts research on the most critical issues facing legal education today. The AccessLex Center for Education and Financial Capability® offers on-campus and online financial education programming and resources to help students confidently manage their finances on their way to achieving personal and professional success. AccessLex Institute is a nonprofit organization headquartered in West Chester, PA.



# Law Students in the United States

Fall 2024 J.D. Enrollment, by State.



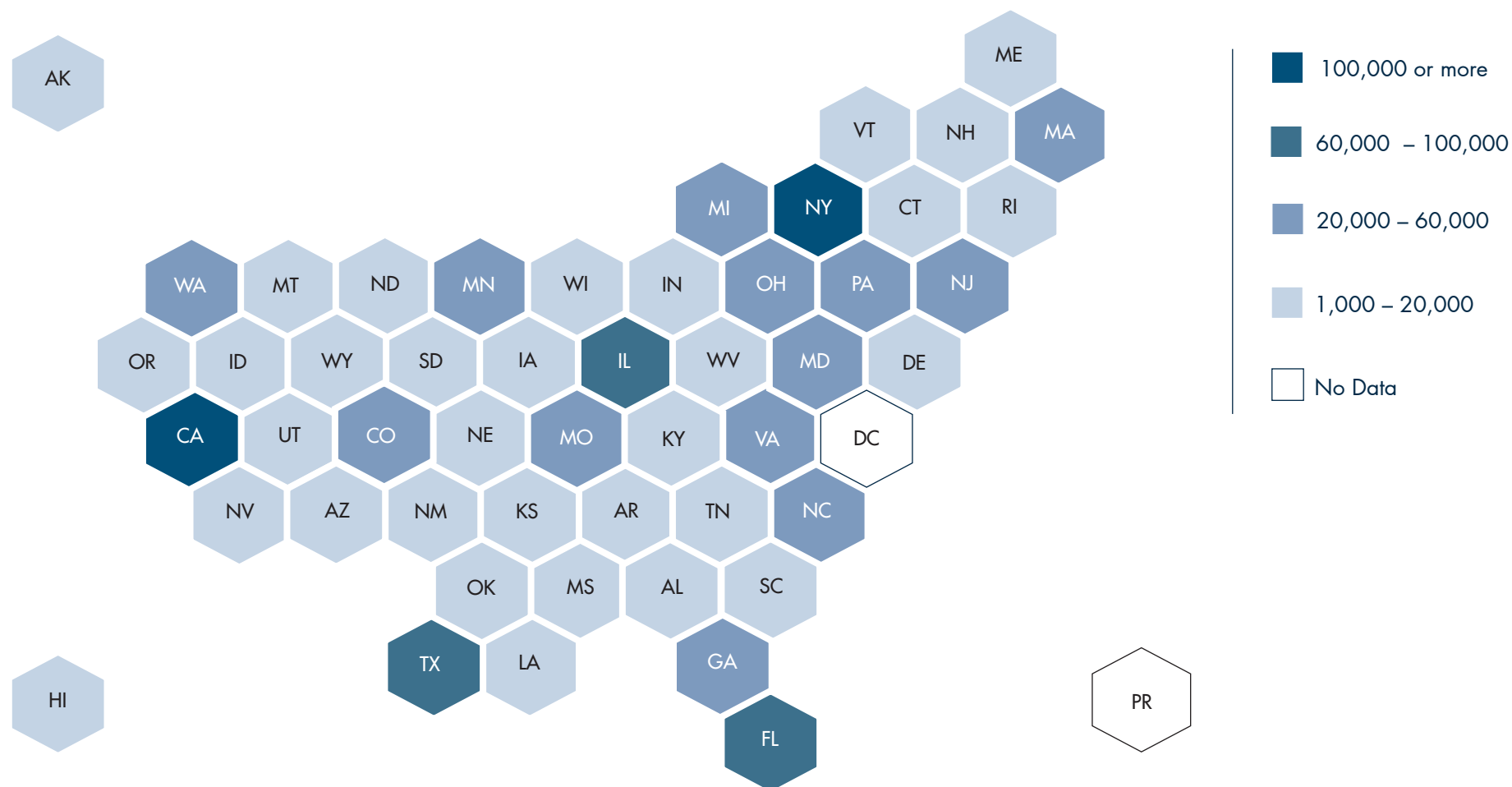
**Note:** This map includes the 196 ABA-approved AccessLex Institute member schools reporting enrollment as of 2024.

**Data Source:** American Bar Association, 2024a. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on December 20, 2024.





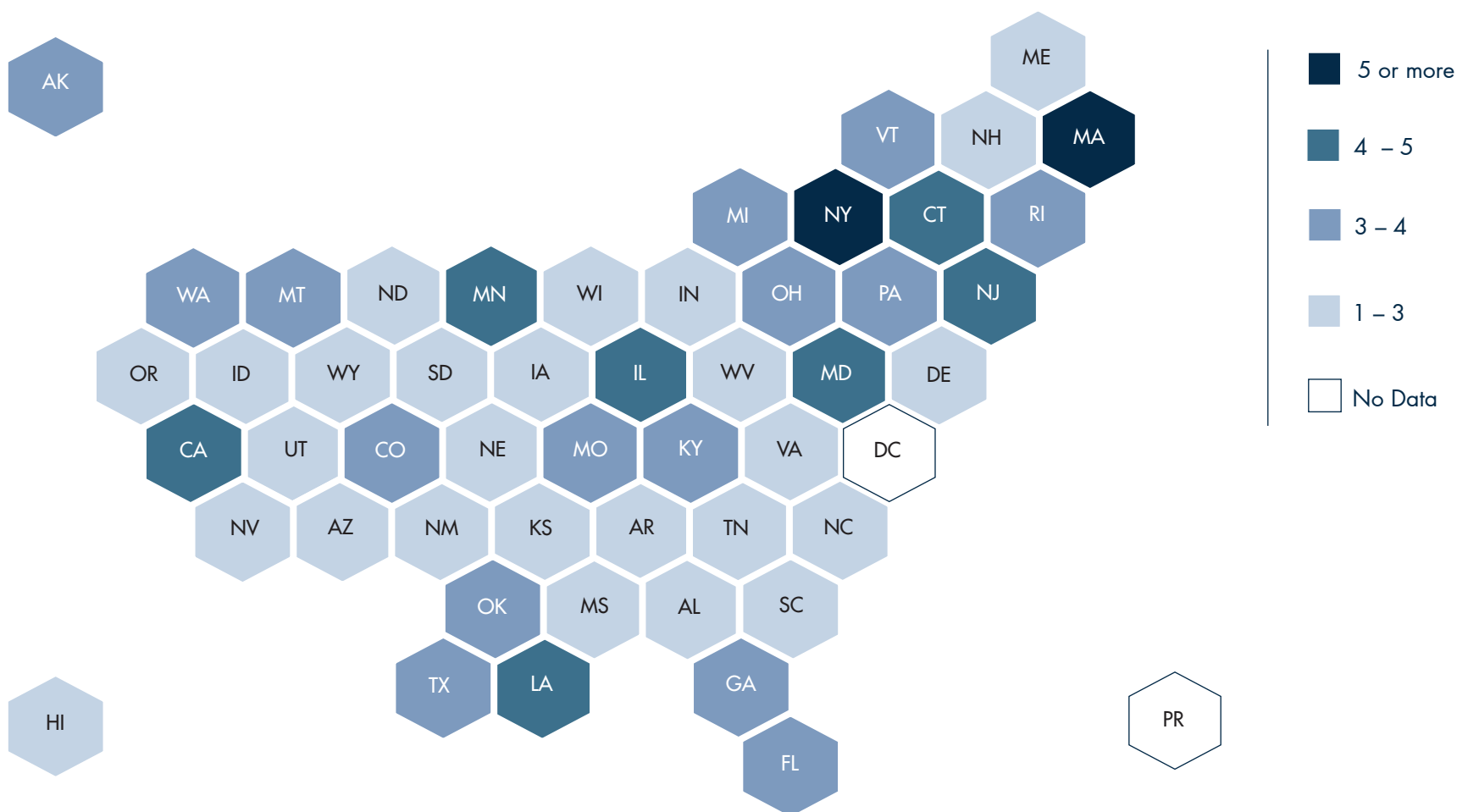
# Total Lawyers by Jurisdiction, 2024



**Note:** The ABA did not provide data for the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or other U.S. territories.

**Data Source:** American Bar Association, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on January 10, 2025.

# Lawyers Per Capita by Jurisdiction, 2024



**Note:** The ABA did not provide data for the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or other U.S. territories.

**Data Source:** American Bar Association, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on January 10, 2025.



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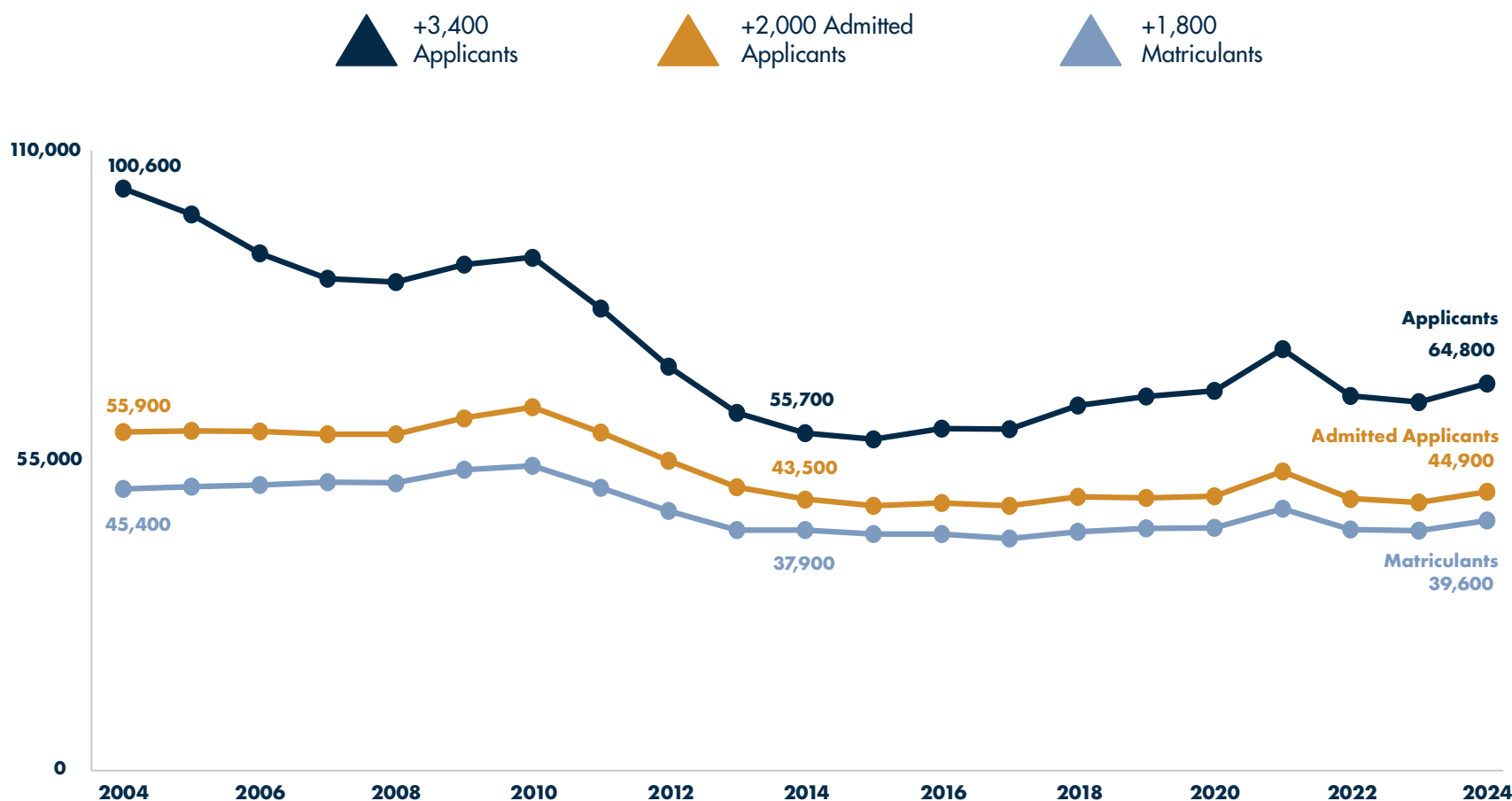




Access

# Law School Applicants, Admits, and Matriculants, 2004-2024

Although the number of applicants, admitted applicants, and matriculants all increased between 2023 and 2024, the number of applicants increased by a wider margin than the numbers of admitted applicants and matriculants. The number of applications increased by 3,400 whereas the number of admitted applicants and matriculants increased by approximately 2,000.



*Note:* Data from 2004-2015 is from the fall term only; from 2016 on, data reflects all terms.

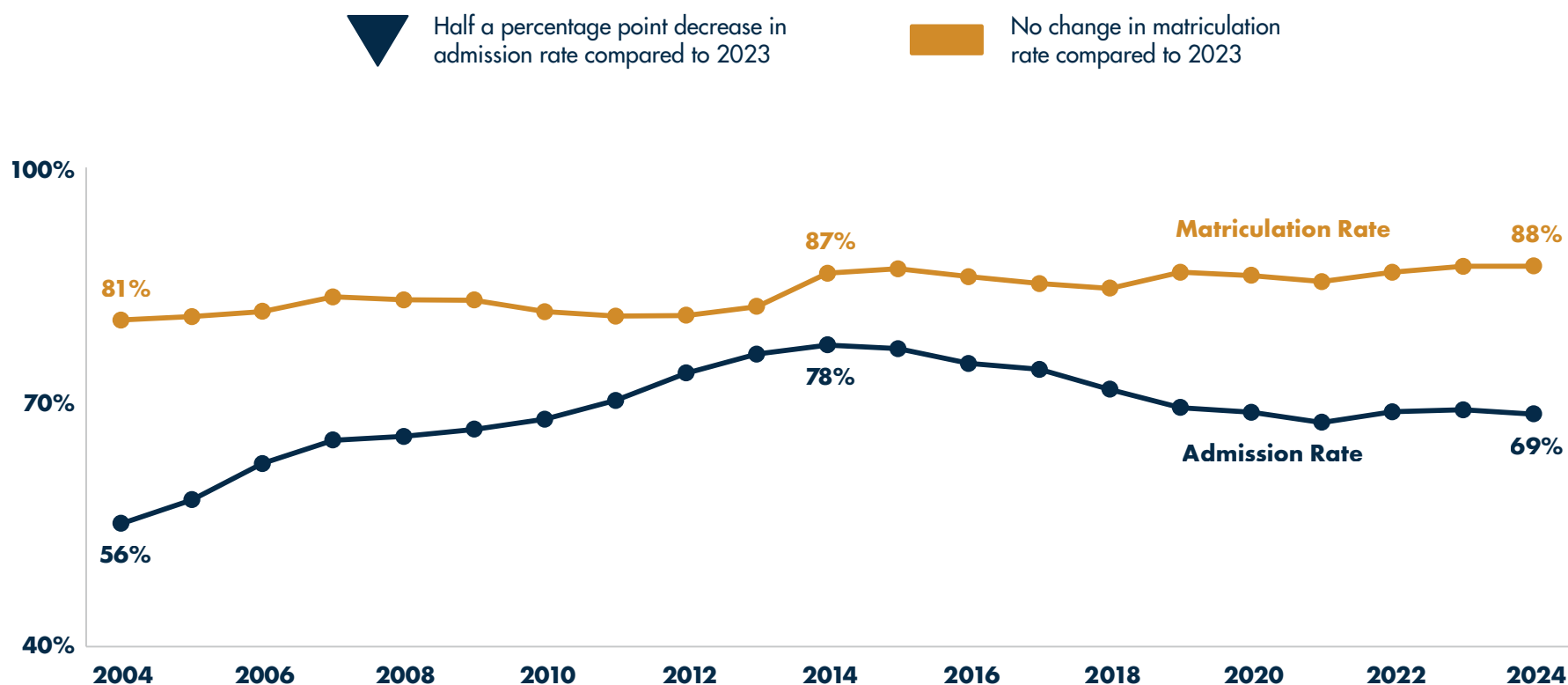
*Data Source:* Law School Admission Council, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on December 20, 2024.





# Law School Admission and Matriculation Rates, 2005-2024

The overall law school admission rate fell by half a percentage point between 2023 and 2024, with 69% of applicants receiving offers of admission. This marks the fifth consecutive year in which less than 70% of applicants were offered admission. In 2024, the matriculation rate remained at 88%, marking the eleventh consecutive year in which 85-88% of admitted applicants matriculated.



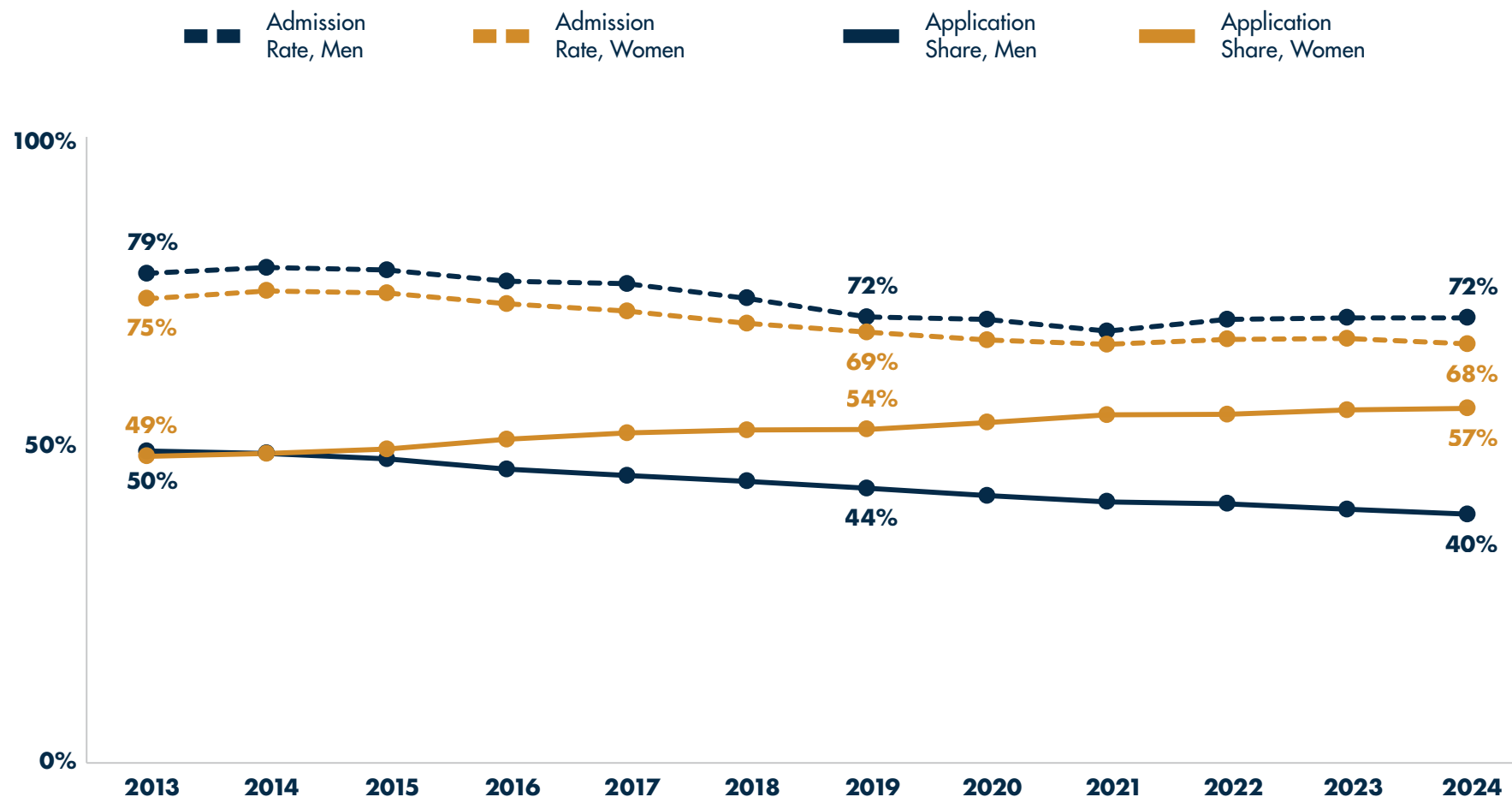
*Note:* Data from 2004-2015 is from the fall term only; from 2016 on, data reflects all terms.

*Data Source:* Law School Admission Council, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on December 20, 2024.



# Application Share and Admission Rate by Gender, 2013-2024

Women have comprised a growing majority of law school applicants for the past ten years. However, during the same period, the admission rate among men has remained higher than that for women. As a result, in 2024, women comprised 56% of admitted applicants compared to 57% of applicants.



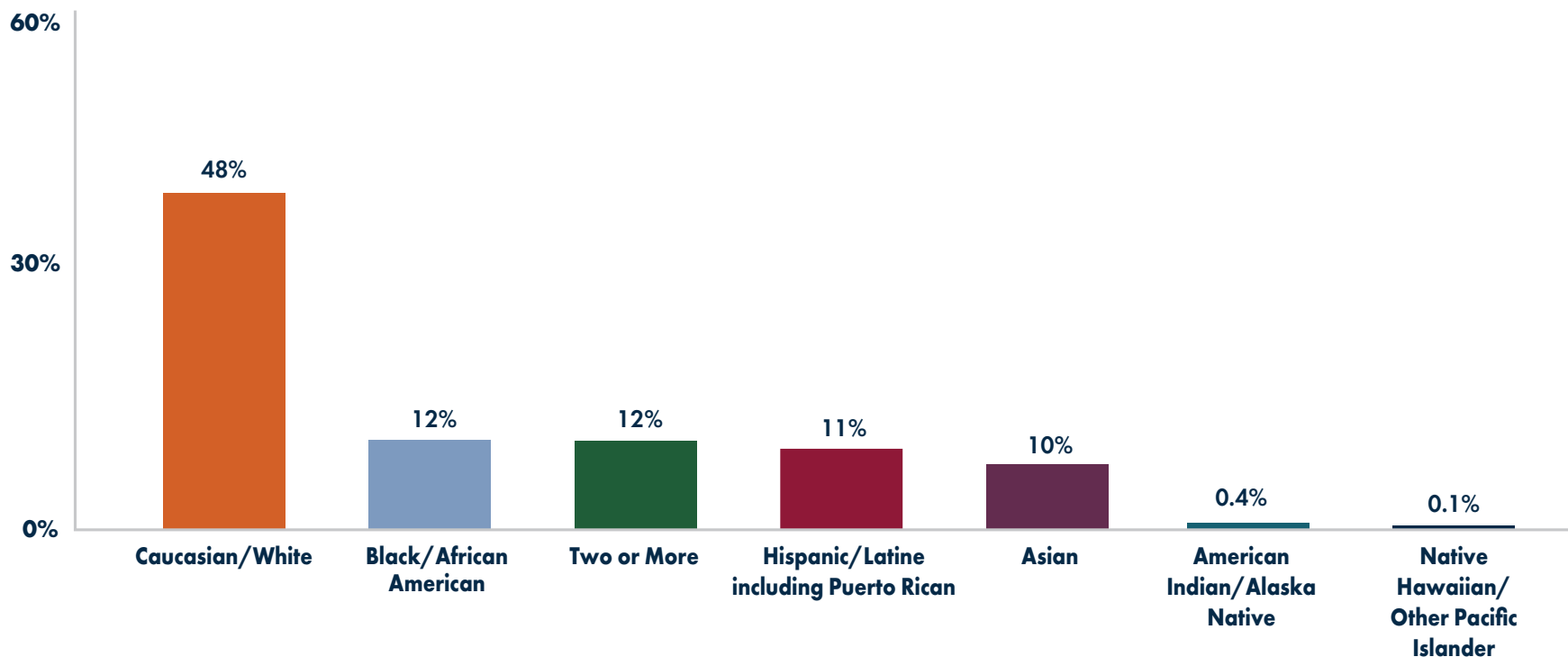
**Note:** Publicly available data on law school applicants and admitted applicants do not report the percentage of applicants who prefer not to disclose their gender or who self-identify as transgender, gender nonbinary, or genderqueer/gender fluid. As a result, data for these applicants cannot be displayed and percentages of applicants by gender do not sum to 100%.

**Data Source:** Law School Admission Council, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on December 20, 2024.



# Racial and Ethnic Diversity of Law School Applicants, 2024

The racial and ethnic composition of law school applicants has remained relatively steady in recent years. In 2024, White applicants comprised roughly half of the applicant pool, while Black, Asian, and Hispanic/Latine applicants collectively comprised one-third.



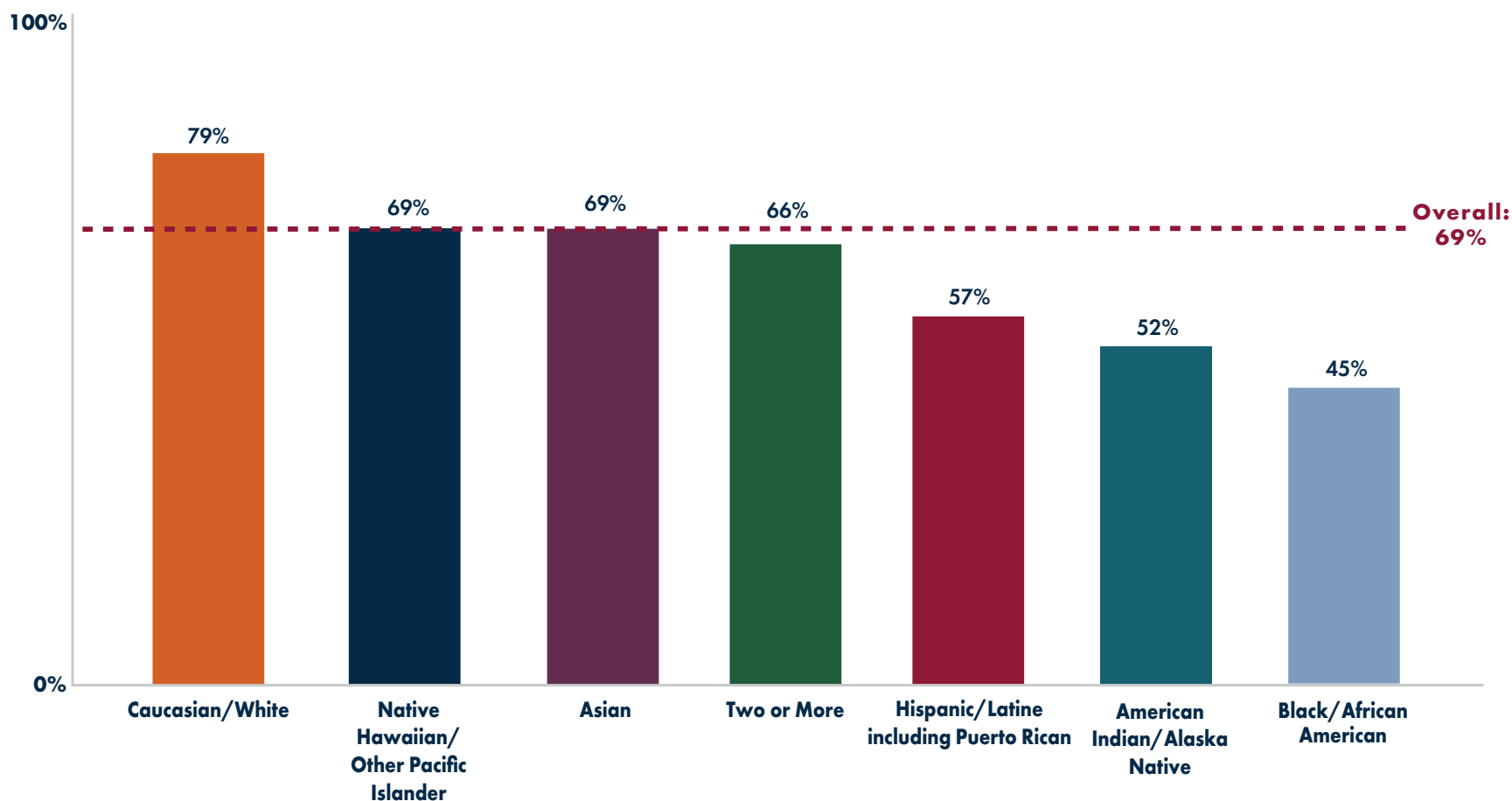
**Note:** Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian applicants represent less than 0.1% of all law school applicants and are not displayed. Percentages do not sum to 100% because students whose race is not indicated are omitted from figure.

**Data Source:** Law School Admission Council, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on December 20, 2024.



# Admission Rates by Race/Ethnicity and Overall, 2024

Admissions rates differ markedly by applicants' race and ethnicity. Seventy-nine percent of White applicants received at least one law school admission offer compared to 45% of Black applicants.



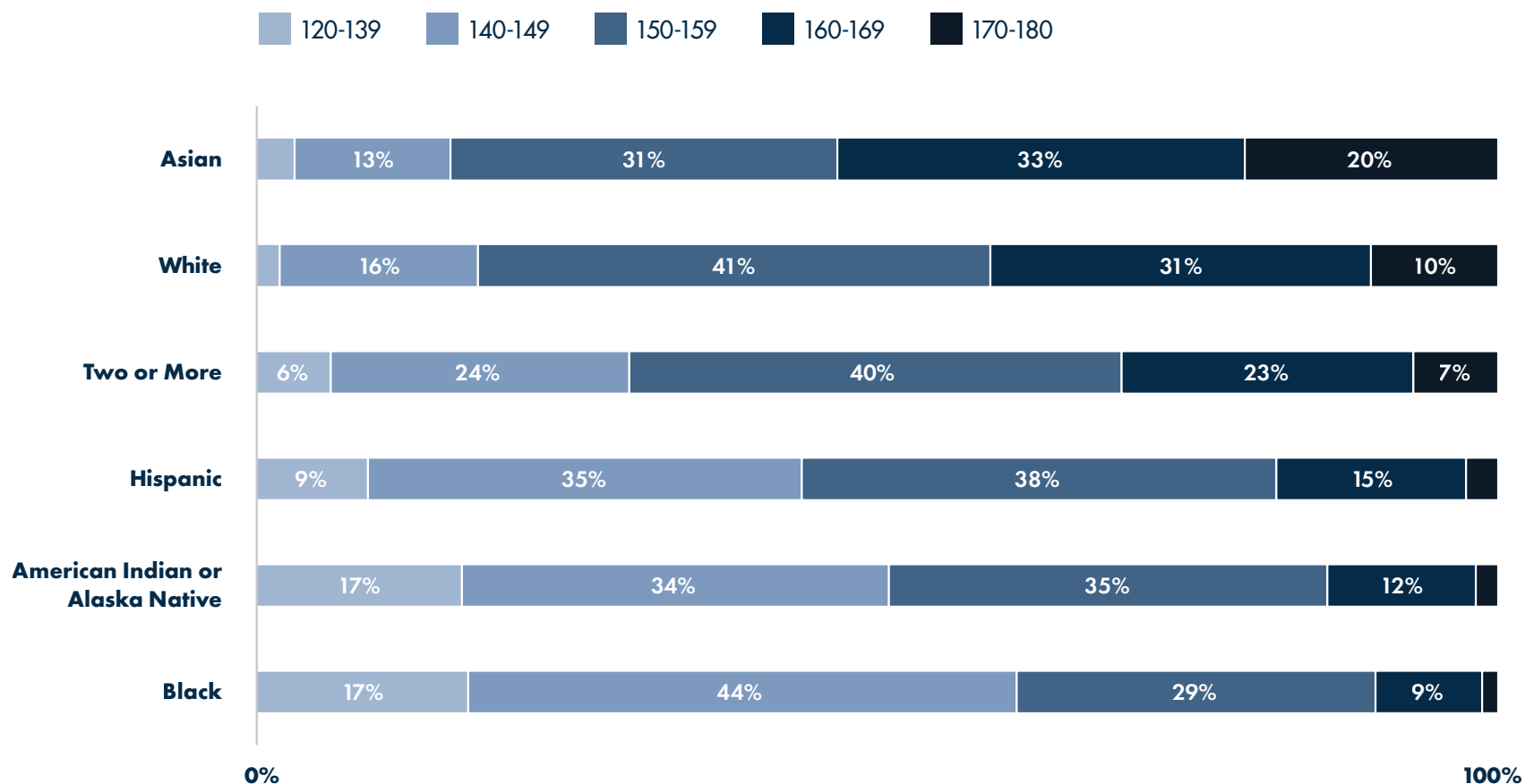
*Note:* Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Australian applicants represent less than 0.1% of all law school applicants and are not displayed.

*Data Source:* Law School Admission Council, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on December 20, 2024.



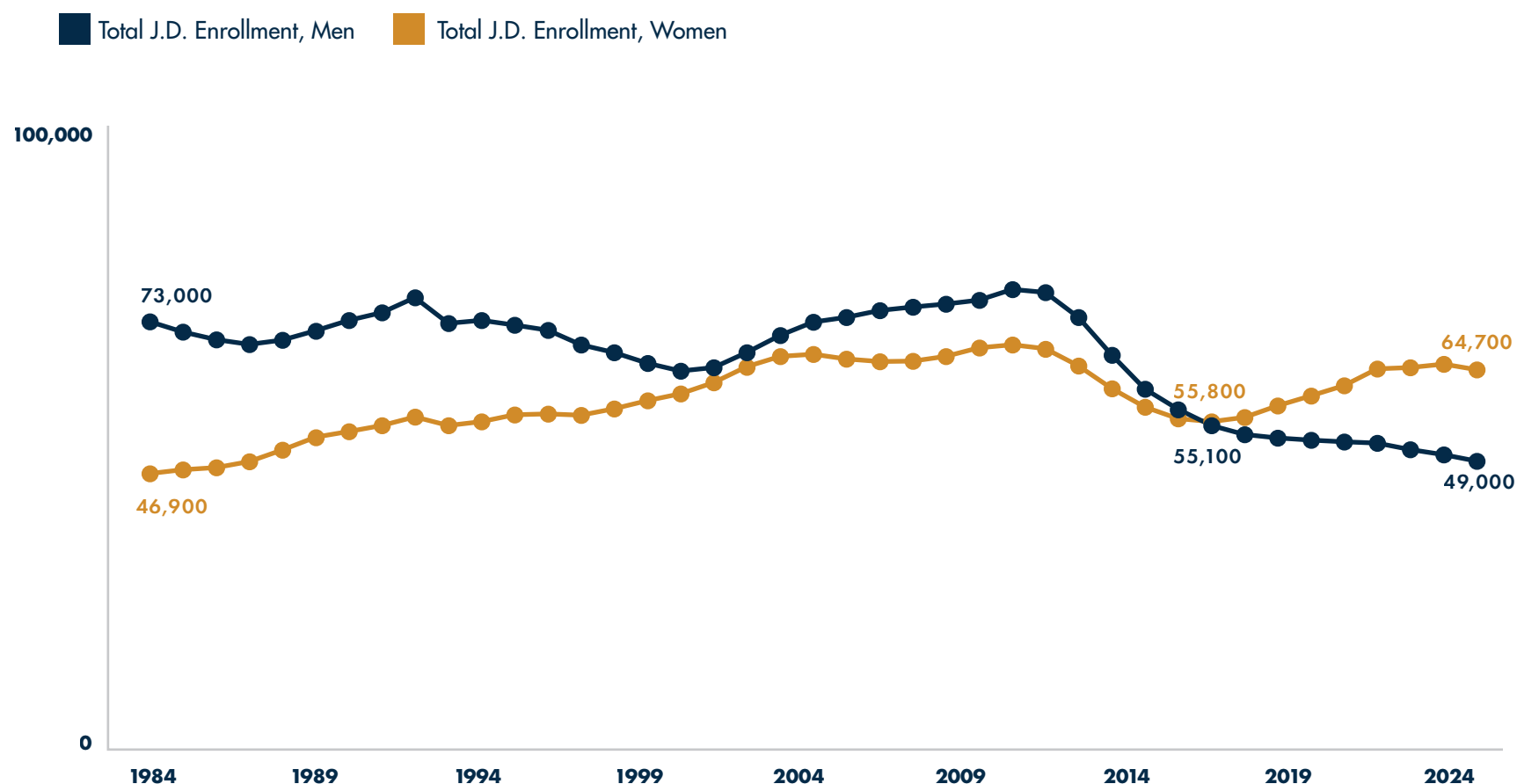
# LSAT Score Distribution by Race/Ethnicity, 2023

While more than 40% of White and Asian applicants attain LSAT scores of 160 or higher, less than 20% of Black, Hispanic, and American Indian or Alaska Native applicants do the same. Overreliance on LSAT score in admissions may exacerbate the underrepresentation of these students in law school.



# Total J.D. Enrollment by Gender, 1984-2024

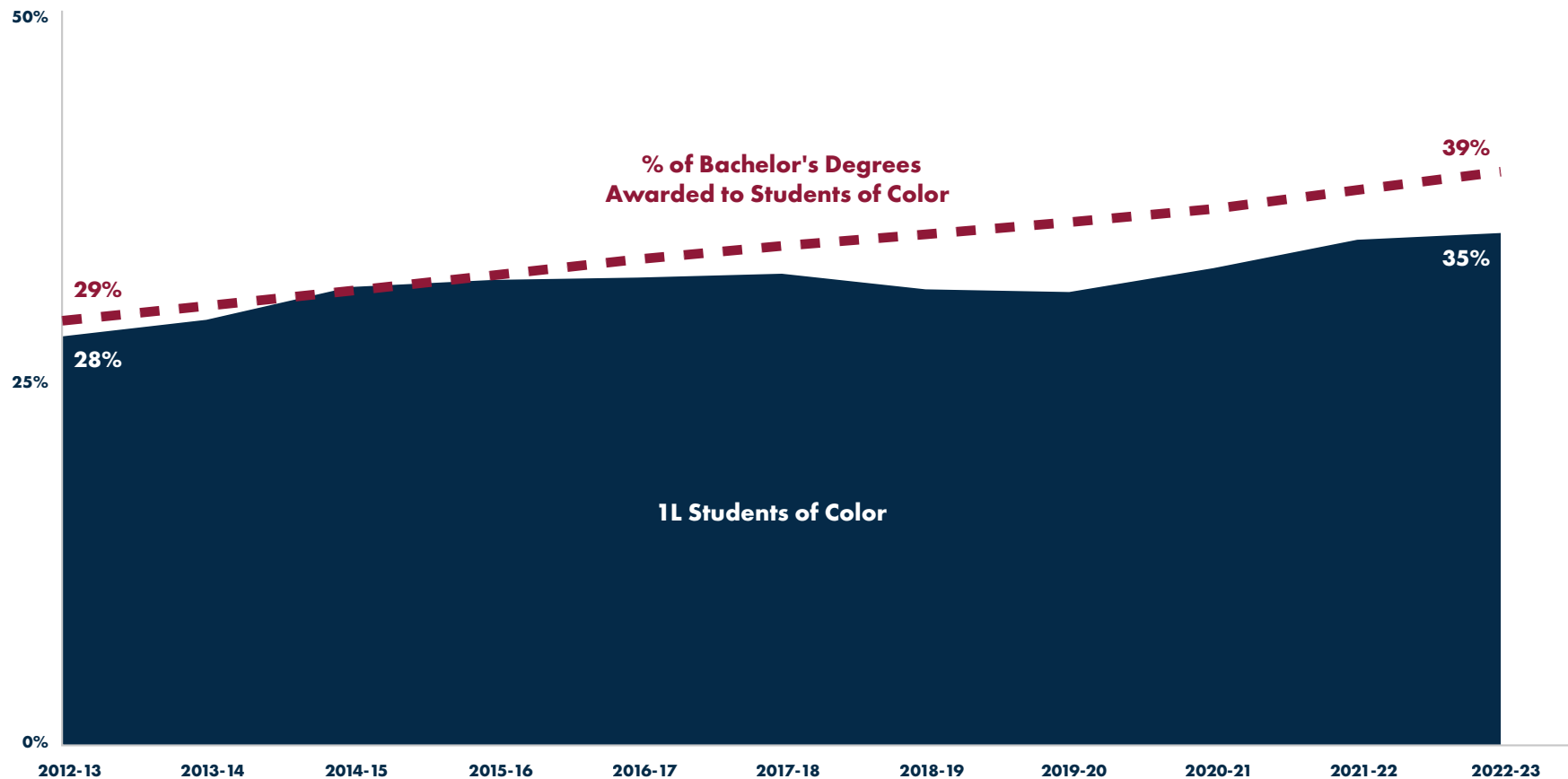
Since 2016, female enrollment has exceeded male enrollment. In 2024, the proportion of female enrollees remained unchanged from the prior year at 56%. Meanwhile, 2024 marks the 15th consecutive year in which the number of male enrollees declined.





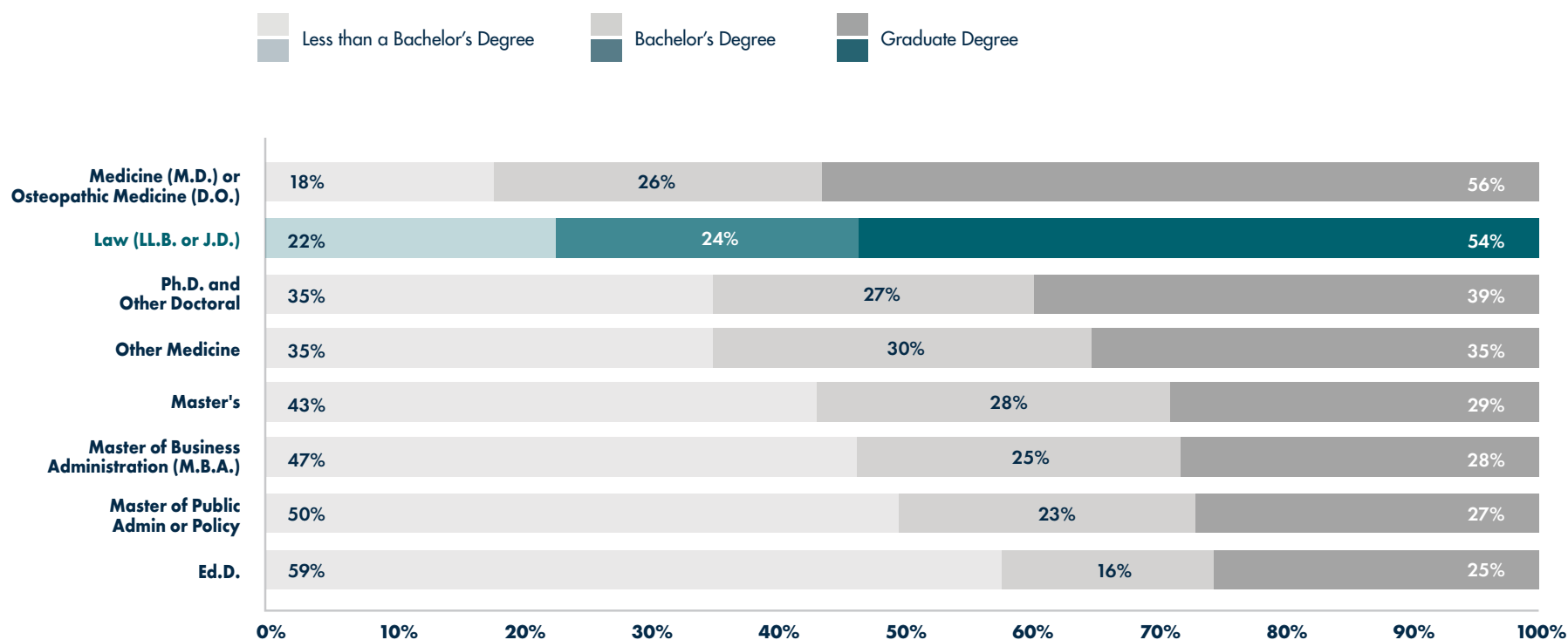
# Percentage of First-Year Enrolled J.D. Students of Color Relative to Percentage of Bachelor's Degrees Awarded to Students of Color in Prior Year, 2013-2023

The increase in the proportion of students of color among first-year law school students mirrors the change in the proportion among bachelor's degree recipients over the period shown.



# Highest Level of Parent Education Among Graduate Students by Program Type, 2019-2020

Among law students in 2019-2020, 22% had a parent whose highest educational attainment was less than a bachelor's degree. Relative to other graduate programs, only medical school students were less likely to have a parent who had not attained a bachelor's degree.



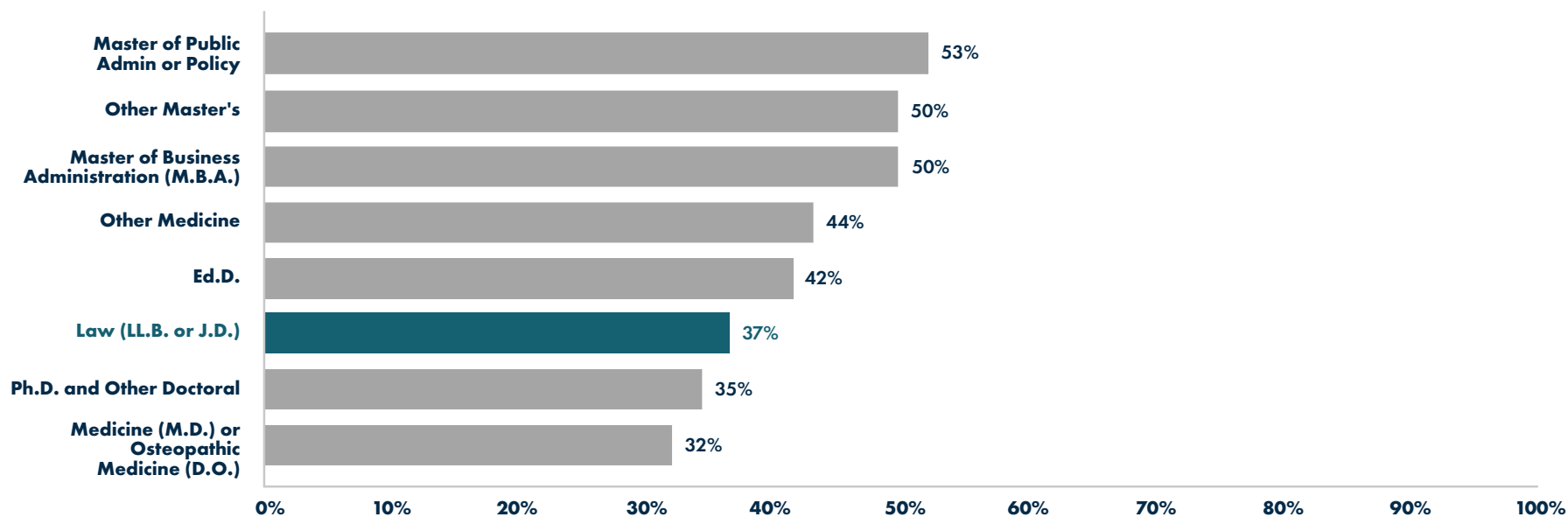
**Note:** Data presented reflects only U.S. citizens and permanent residents. International students are excluded from analysis due to differences in financial eligibility. "Other Master's" includes any master's credential other than an M.B.A. or an M.P.P./M.P.A. "Ph.D. and Other Doctoral" includes all nonmedical doctorates other than a Doctor of Education. "Other Medicine" includes medical doctoral degrees other than an M.D. or a D.O., in disciplines like dentistry (D.D.S.), pharmacy (Pharm.D.), and veterinary medicine (D.V.M.).

**Data Source:** U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2019-20 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:20). Data presentation, analysis, and commentary provided by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on January 28, 2025.



# Percentage of Students Enrolled in Graduate and Professional Programs Who Received Pell Grants as Undergrads, 2019-2020

The proportion of students enrolled in graduate and professional programs who received Pell Grants as undergraduate students varies by discipline. Among law students in 2019-2020, 37% received a Pell Grant during their undergraduate studies. Relative to other graduate programs, this proportion was only higher than M.D., D.O., and non-Ed.D. doctoral students.



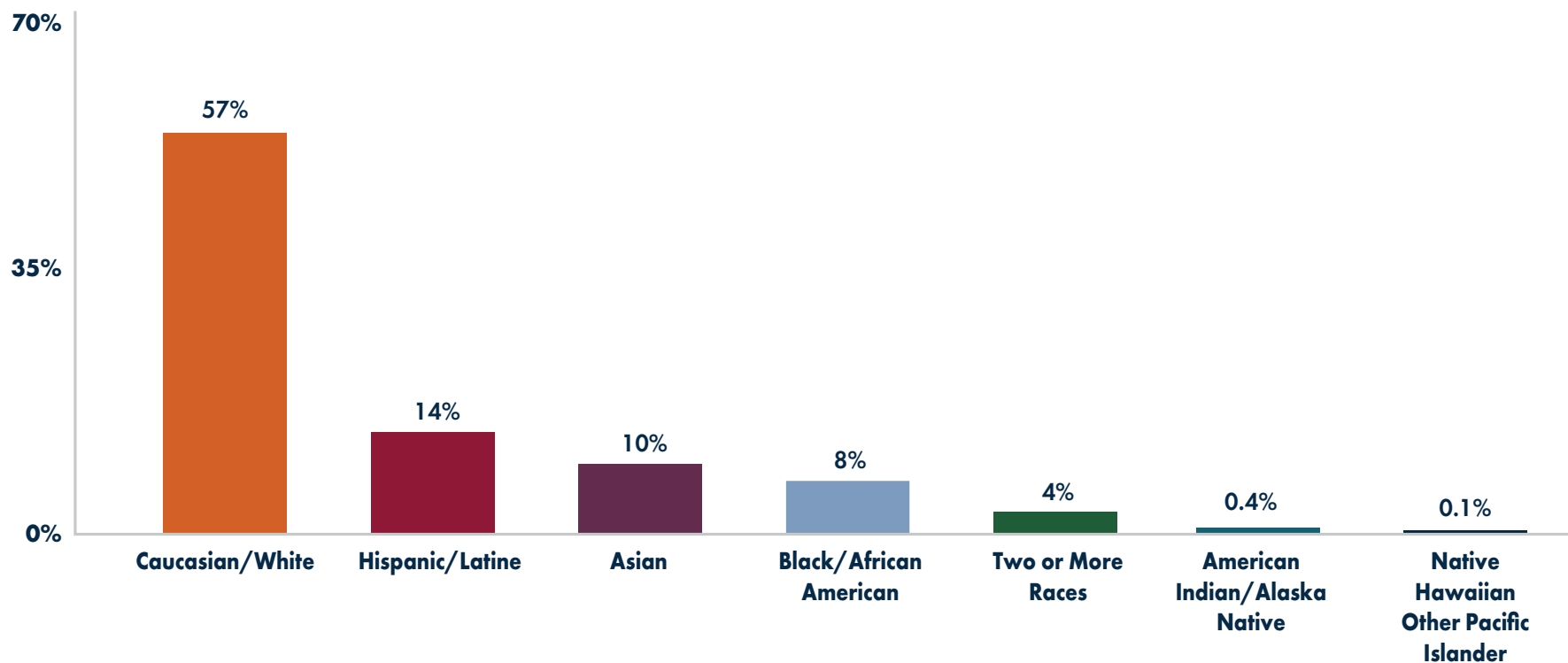
**Note:** "Other Master's" includes any master's credential other than an M.B.A. or an M.P.P./M.P.A. "Ph.D. and Other Doctoral" includes all nonmedical doctorates other than a Doctor of Education. "Other Medicine" includes medical doctoral degrees other than an M.D. or a D.O., in disciplines like dentistry (D.D.S.), pharmacy (Pharm.D.), and veterinary medicine (D.V.M.).

**Data Source:** U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2019-20 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:20). Data presentation, analysis, and commentary provided by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on January 28, 2025.



# 1L Enrollment Share by Race and Ethnicity, 2024

In 2024, White students comprised over 55% of first-year law students. Meanwhile, Hispanic, Asian, and Black students collectively comprised about one-third of first-year students.



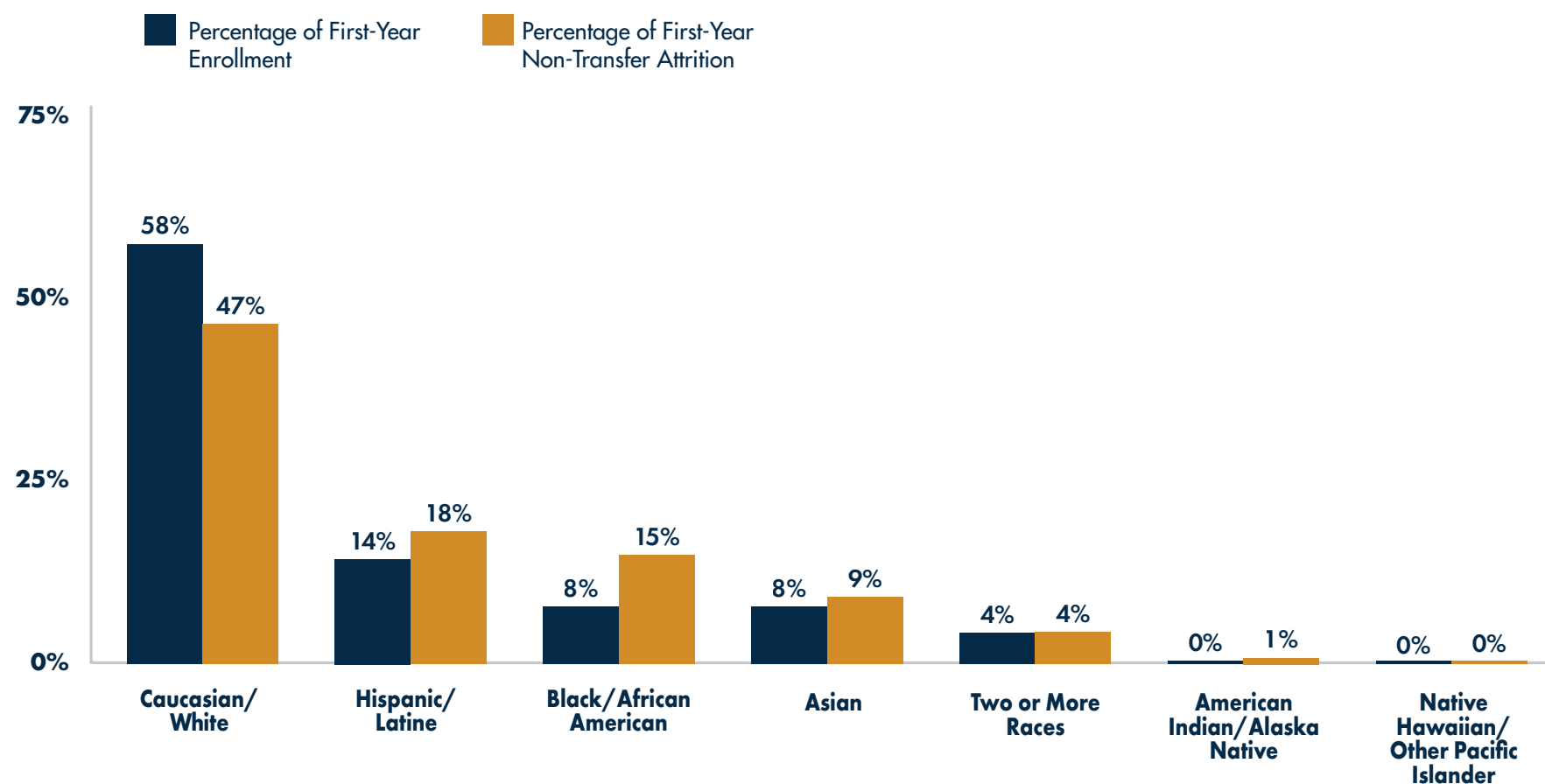
*Note:* Percentages do not sum to 100% because students whose race is unknown are omitted from figure.

*Data Source:* American Bar Association, 2024a. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on December 20, 2024.



# First-Year Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity Compared to First-Year Non-Transfer Attrition by Race/Ethnicity, 2023-2024

In the entering class of 2023-2024, students of color comprised 35% of first-year enrollees and 48% of non-transfer withdrawals after the 1L year. In contrast, White students comprised 58% of first-year enrollees but only 47% of non-transfer withdrawals.



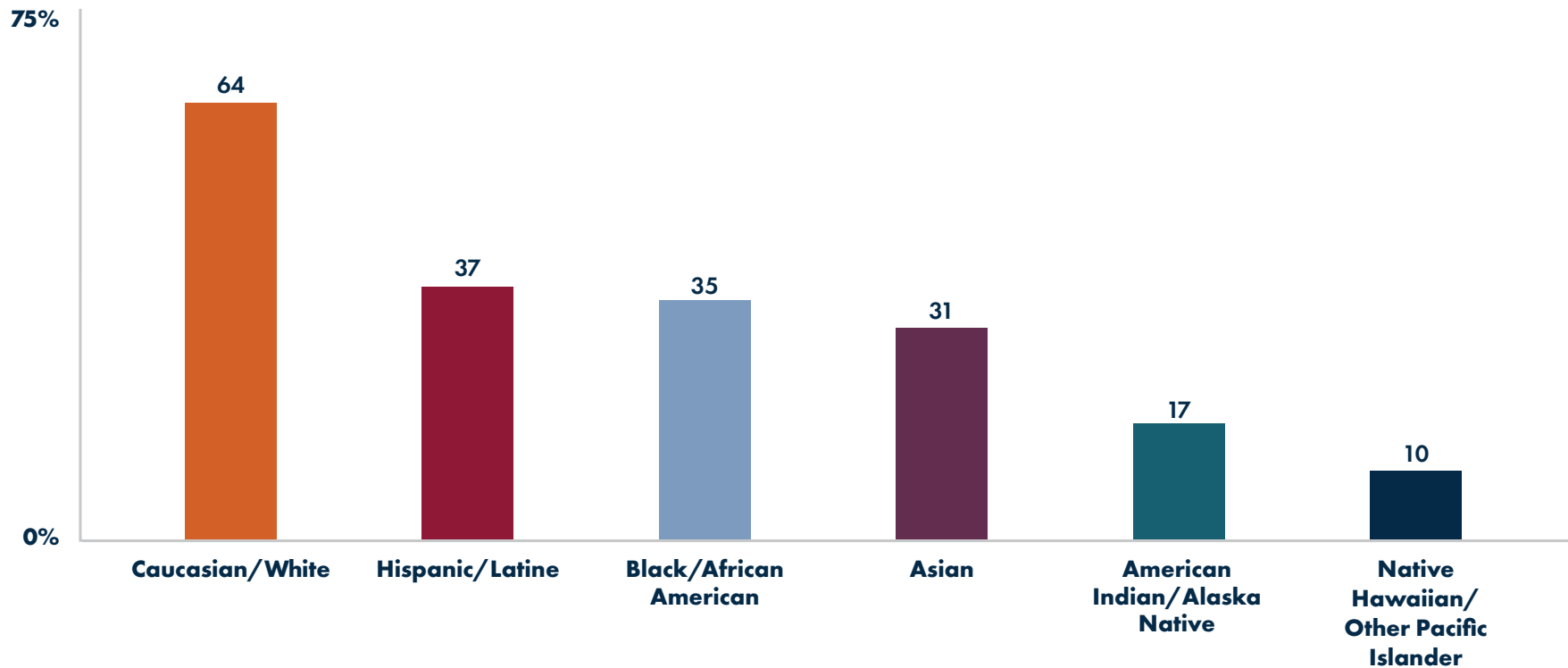
*Note:* Percentages do not sum to 100% because students whose race is unknown are omitted from figure.

*Data Source:* American Bar Association, 2024a. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on December 20, 2024.



# Number of ABA-approved Law Schools Accounting for Half or More of Law Students of Each Race/Ethnicity, 2024

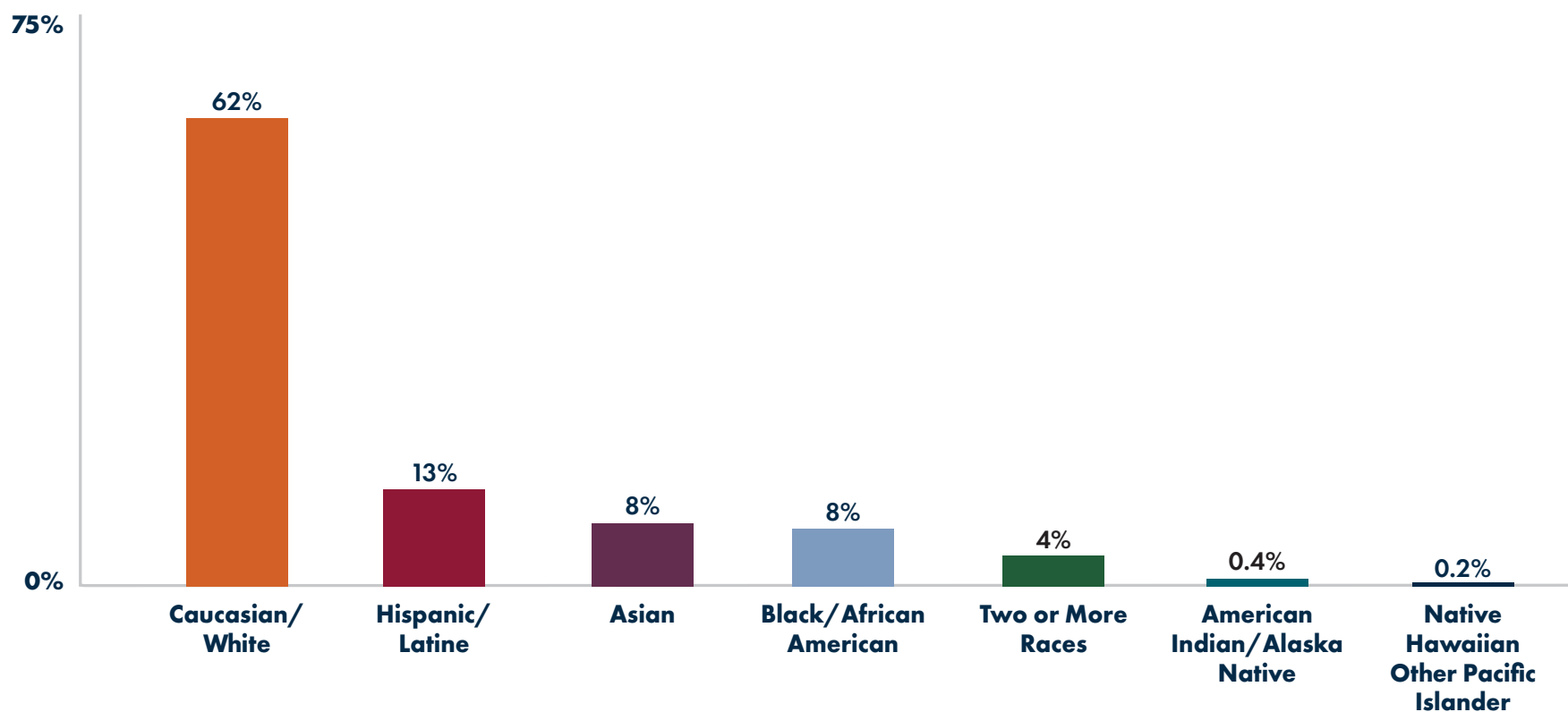
The chart displays the minimum number of ABA-approved schools whose combined enrollments make up half or more of each racial/ethnic group. For instance, half of all Hispanic/Latine law students are enrolled at just 37 of the 196 ABA-approved law schools. Overall, this chart indicates that students of color are concentrated within a relatively small number of law schools.





# Share of J.D. Degrees Awarded by Race and Ethnicity, 2024

In 2024, White students comprised nearly two-thirds of law school graduates, while Asian, Black, and Hispanic/Latine applicants collectively comprised roughly one-quarter.



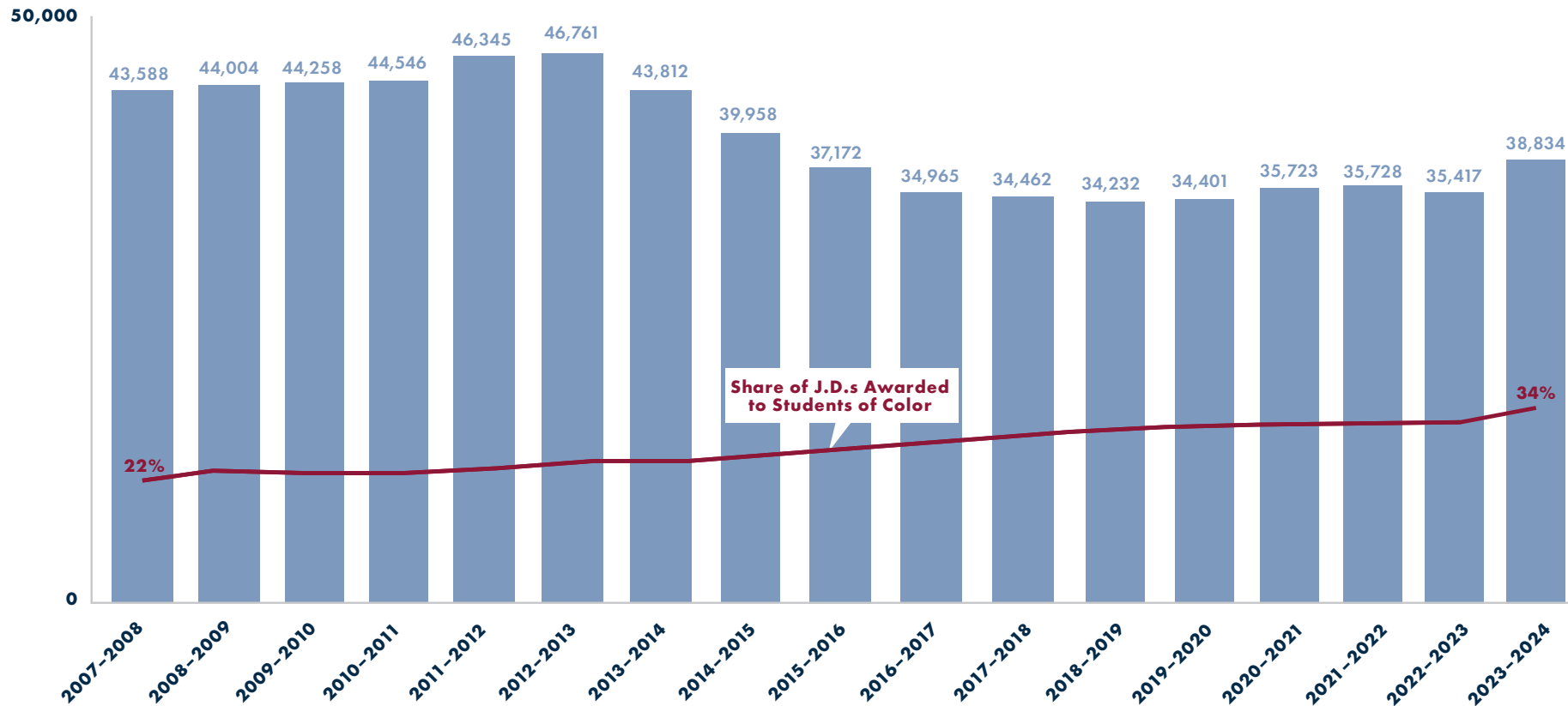
*Note:* Percentages do not sum to 100% because students whose race is unknown are omitted from figure.

*Data Source:* American Bar Association, 2024a. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on January 22, 2025.



# Total J.D. Degrees Awarded and Percentage of J.D. Degrees Awarded to Students of Color at ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2007-2024

The number of J.D. degrees awarded from ABA-approved law schools increased by over 3,000 in 2024. At 38,834 degrees, this represents the greatest number awarded in nearly a decade.



**Note:** "Students of color" includes students who identified as American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic/Latine, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, or Two or More Races.

**Data Source:** American Bar Association, 2024a and 2024b. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on January 22, 2025.

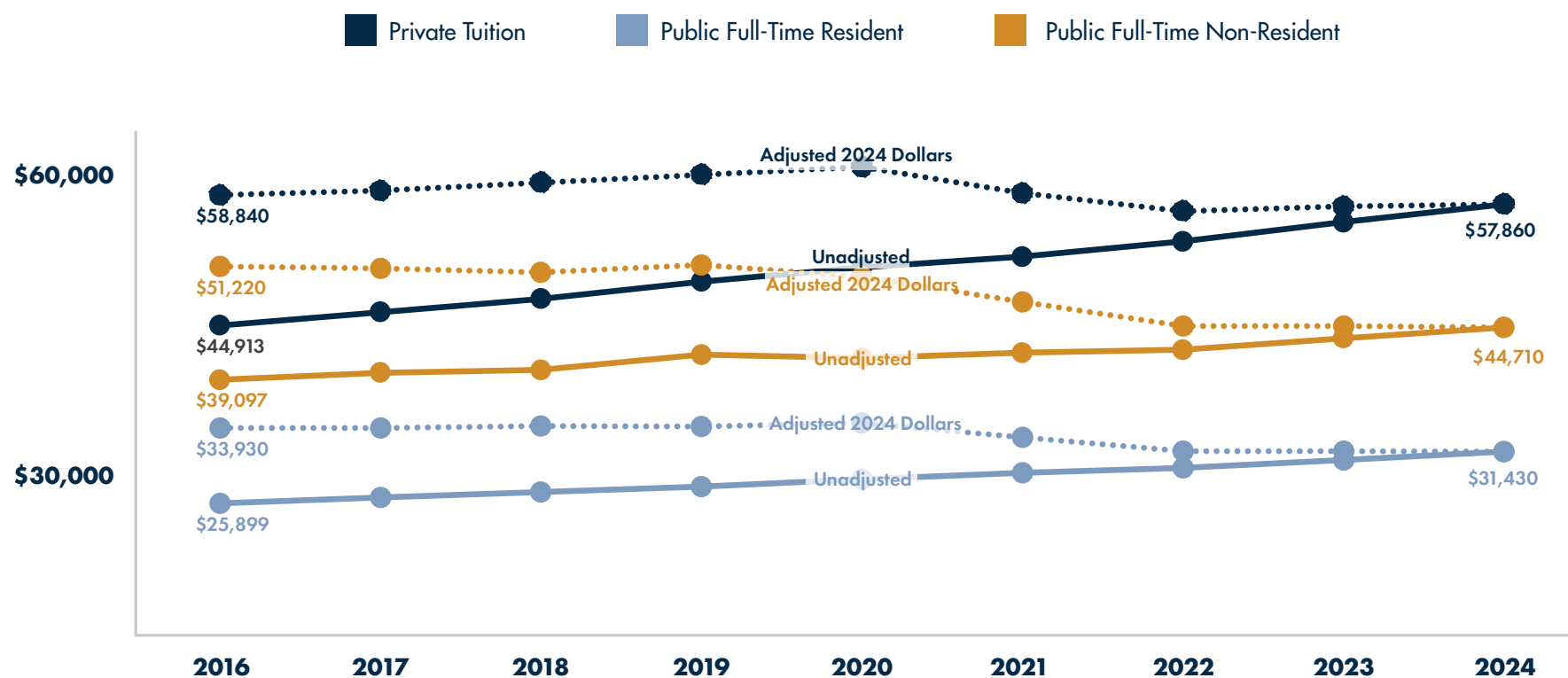


A photograph of a diverse group of students sitting at a wooden table in a classroom or study hall, smiling and looking towards the left. A large, stylized letter 'A' is overlaid on the left side of the image, composed of geometric shapes in teal, yellow, and light purple. The word 'Affordability' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle of the image, with a yellow rectangular block to its right.

# Affordability

# Average Full-Time Tuition and Fees (in 2024 Dollars) by School Type and Residency, 2016-2024

Although average law school tuition and fees have increased in nominal dollars since 2016, these costs have decreased or remained relatively unchanged when accounting for high inflation rates observed in recent years.



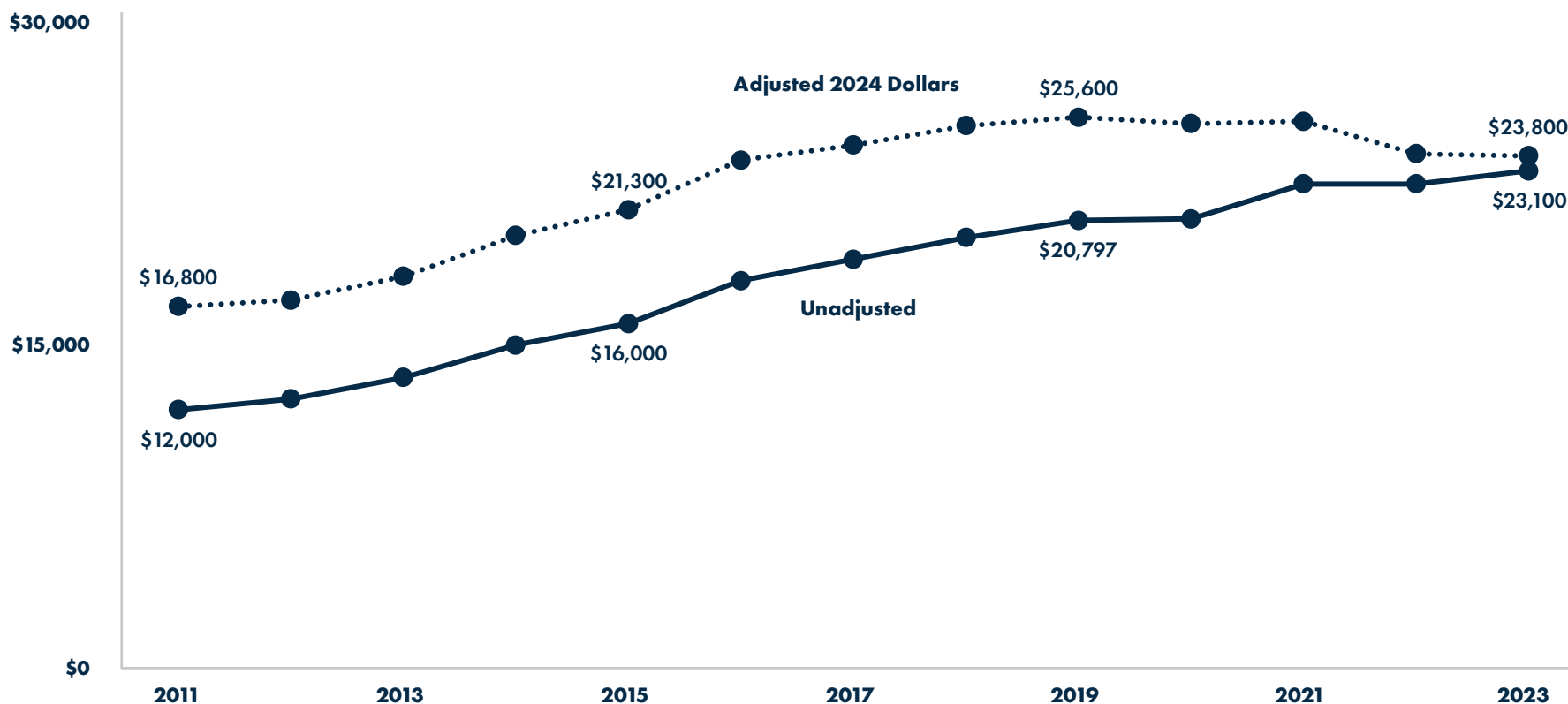
**Note:** The following schools are excluded due to missing tuition data during the period shown: Creighton University, Florida State University, Inter American University of Puerto Rico, and Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. Schools that closed or lost accreditation during the period shown are included in the annual averages for the years they were open and accredited.

**Data Source:** American Bar Association, 2024a. Data presentation, including conversion to real dollars, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on January 24, 2025.



# Median Grant Amount Awarded to Full-Time Students, 2011-2023

The nominal median grant amount awarded to full-time students receiving aid has more than doubled since 2011, increasing steadily each year. Adjusting for inflation, however, the median grant award remained relatively unchanged from 2018 to 2021 and decreased slightly between 2021 and 2023.



**Note:** The median value displayed here is the median of all school level median grant amounts.

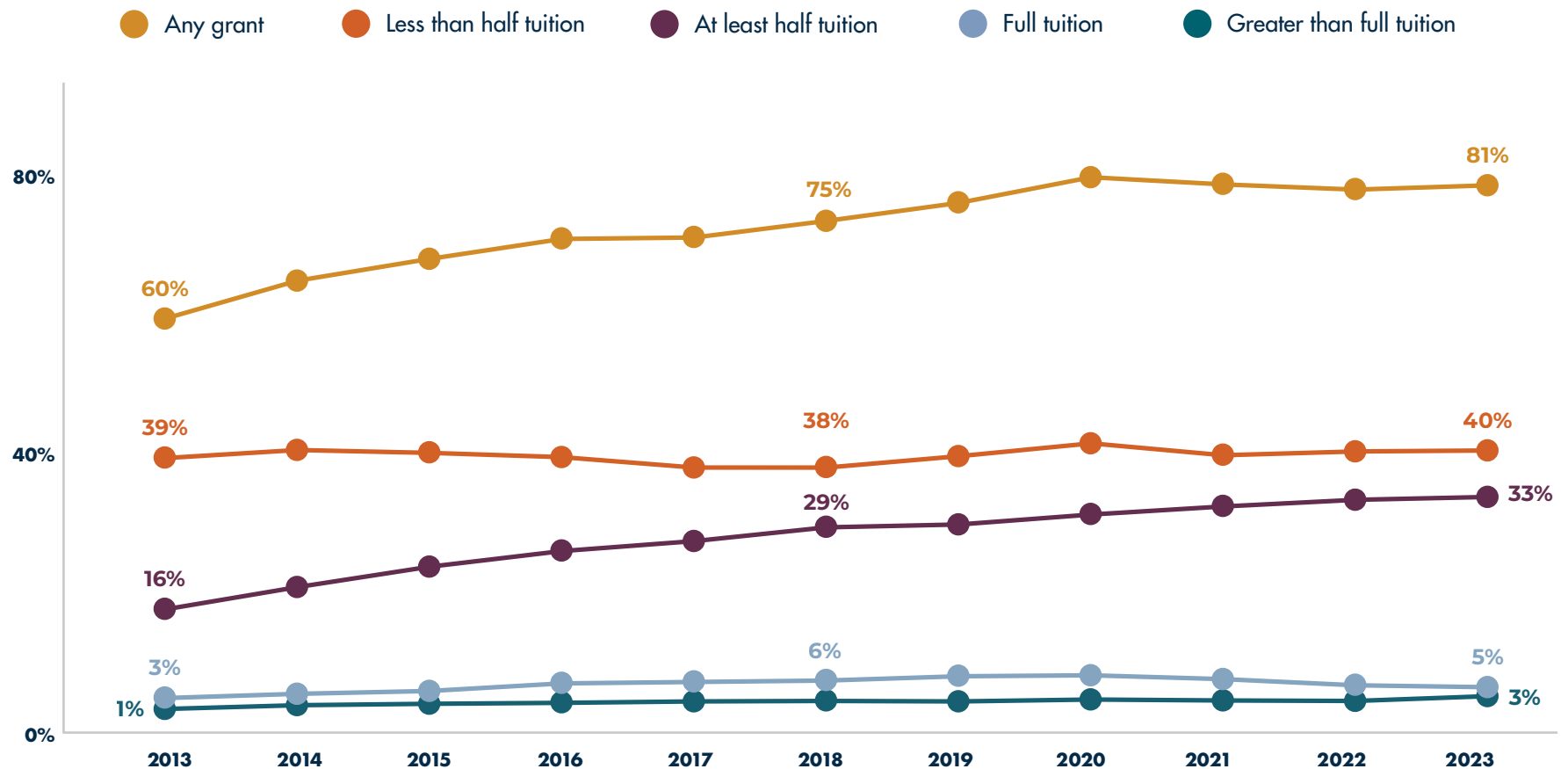
**Data Source:** American Bar Association, 2024a. Data presentation, including conversion to real dollars, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute.

Retrieved on December 20, 2024.



# Share of Full-Time Students Receiving Institutional Grants, 2013-2023

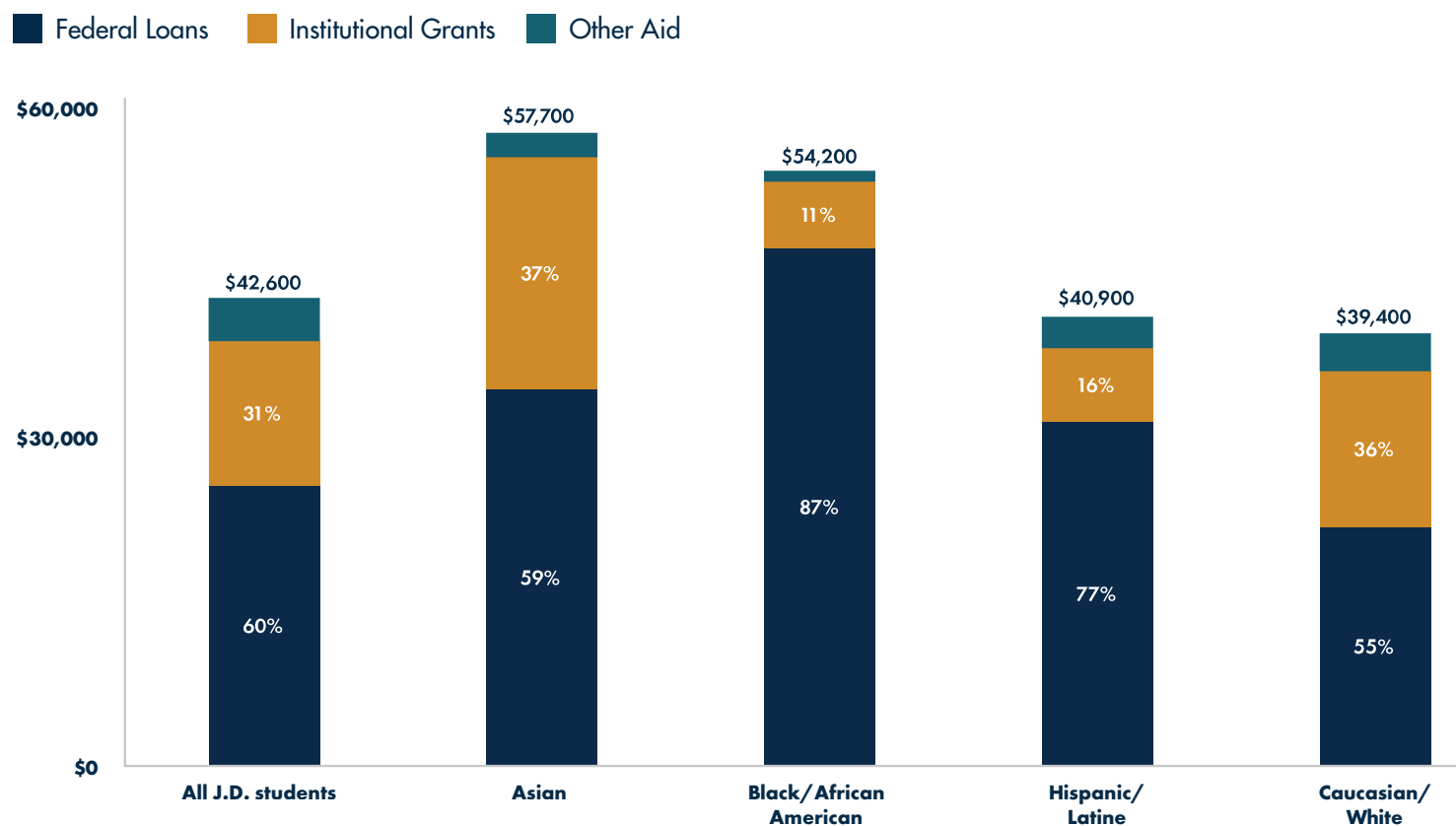
The share of full-time students who received a grant of any amount increased from 60% in 2013 to 81% in 2023. This increase is largely driven by a 17-percentage-point increase in the proportion of students who received a grant totaling at least half their tuition and fees over the same period. The proportion of students who received a grant totaling less than half their tuition, full tuition, or greater than full tuition has remained largely unchanged since 2013.





# Average Financial Aid Packages by Race/Ethnicity, 2020

Black and Hispanic/Latine law students are awarded aid packages with higher proportions of loans and lower proportions of grants than their White and Asian peers. Although Black students receive higher average aid amounts than law students overall, 87% of the average financial aid package awarded to a typical Black law student comprises federal loans, compared to the overall average of 60%.



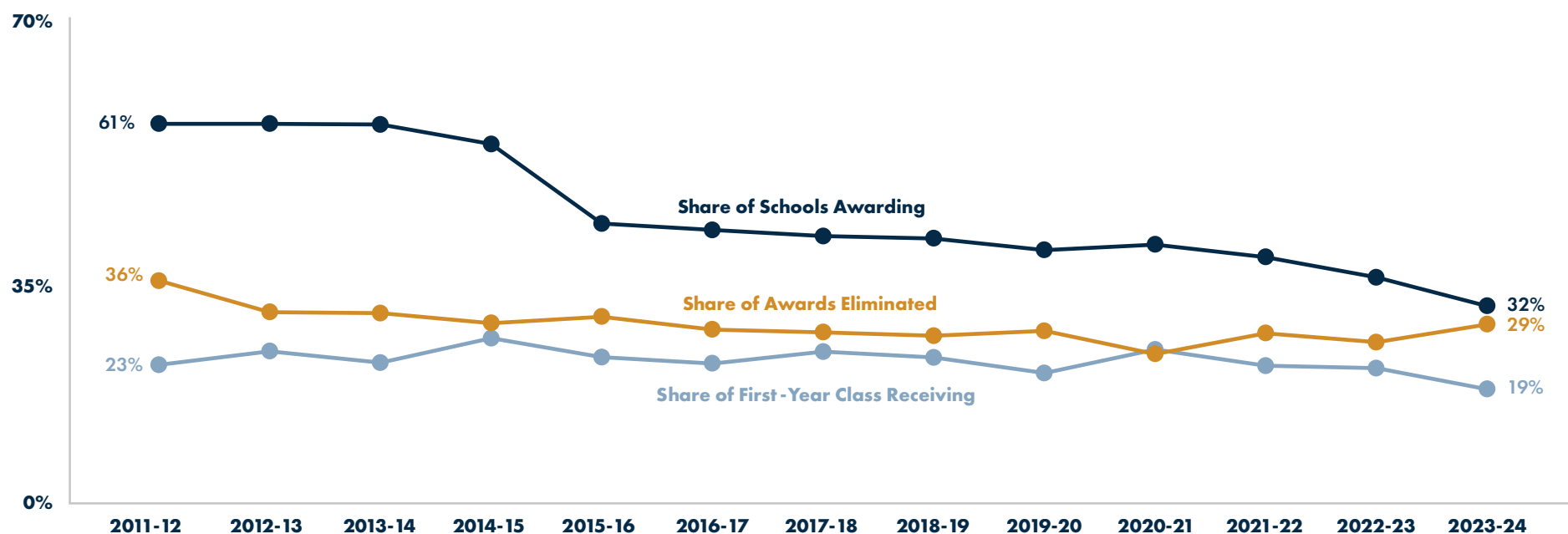
**Note:** Other racial/ethnic categories did not meet reporting standards. "Other Aid" refers to all aid types other than federal loans and institutional grants. This includes federal grants, institutional loans, state grants and loans, private grants and loans, work-study opportunities, assistantships, federal Veterans' education benefits and Department of Defense military tuition grants, and Direct PLUS Loans.

**Data Source:** U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Postsecondary Aid Study, NPSAS:20. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved September 6, 2024.



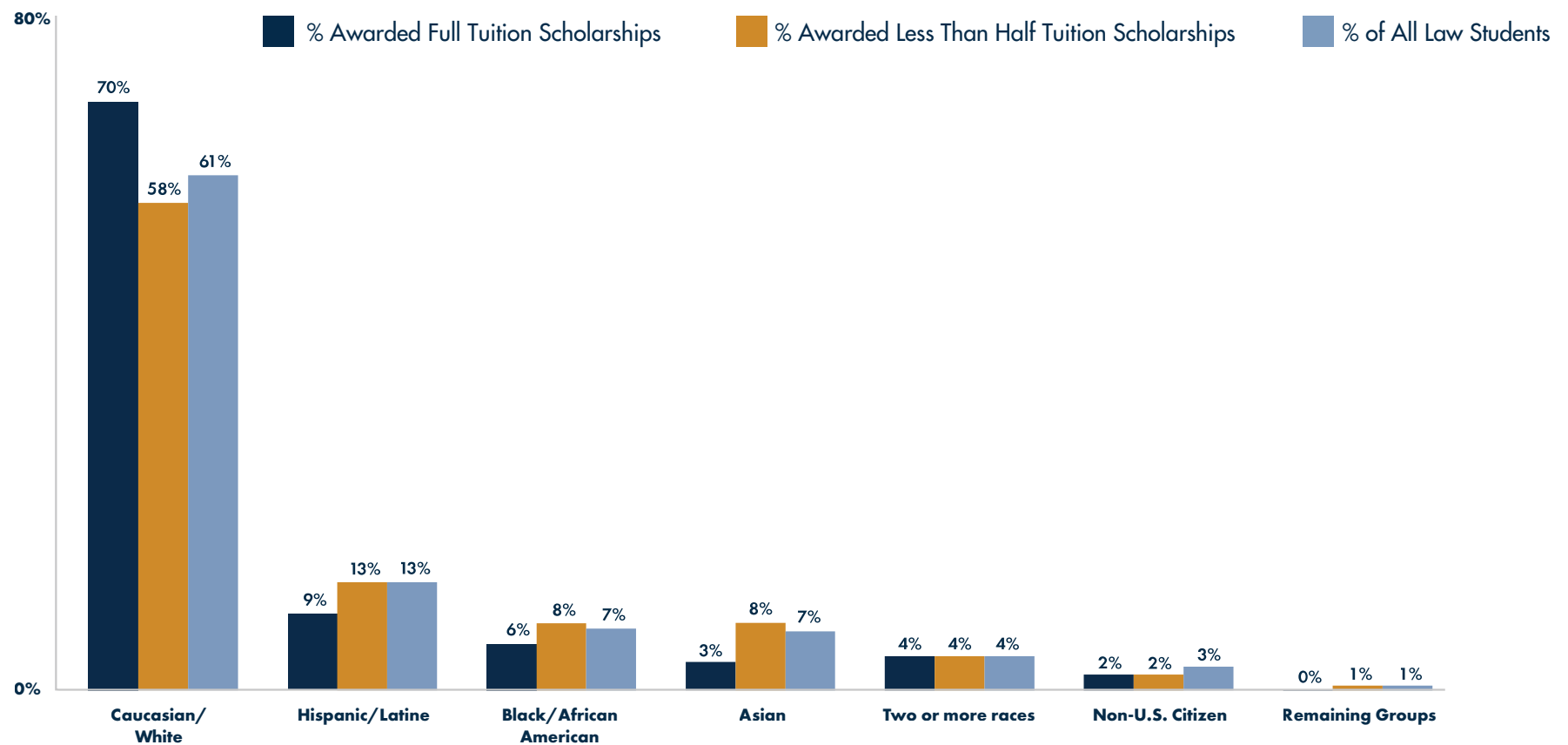
# Trends in Awarding and Eliminating Conditional Scholarships at ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2011-2023

From 2011 to 2023, the share of schools awarding conditional scholarships decreased from 61% to 32%, with nearly half of that change occurring between 2014 and 2015. In 2023, the proportion of all entering law students who received conditional scholarships also reached its lowest point since 2011, at 19%.



# Percentage of Scholarships Awarded by ABA-Approved Law Schools by Race, 2023

Students of color receive a slightly higher percentage of scholarships covering less than half of the cost of law school tuition (yellow) compared to their percentage of the overall law school population (light blue). However, students of color also consistently receive a disproportionately lower percentage of full-tuition scholarships (dark blue). Overall, students of color receive 23% of full-tuition scholarships despite representing 32% of the law student population.



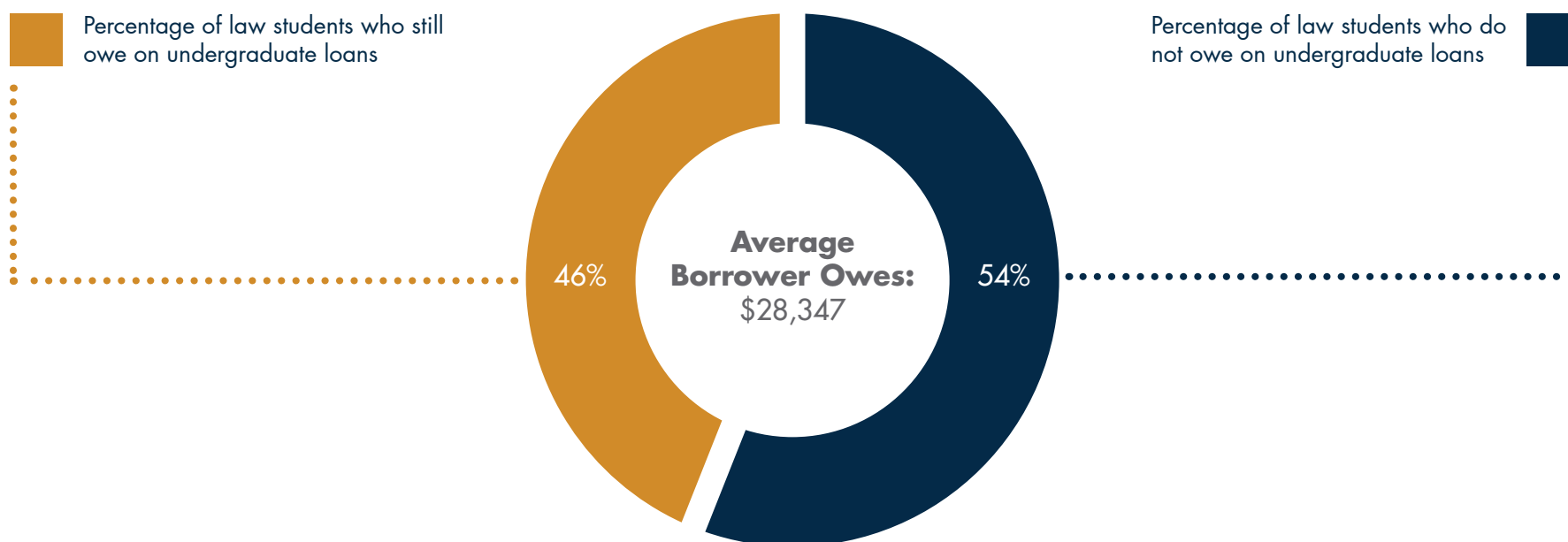
**Note:** "Students of color" includes students who identified as Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latine, Two or More Races, or Remaining Groups. "Remaining Groups" includes students who identified as American Indian or Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Percentages do not sum to 100% because students whose race is unknown are omitted from figure.

**Data Source:** American Bar Association, 2024c. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on June 14, 2024.



# Percentage of Law Students Who Still Owe on Undergraduate Loans, 2019-2020

Nearly half of enrolled law school students are carrying undergraduate debt. Of those who still owe balances on their undergraduate loans, the average amount of debt owed is more than \$28,000.



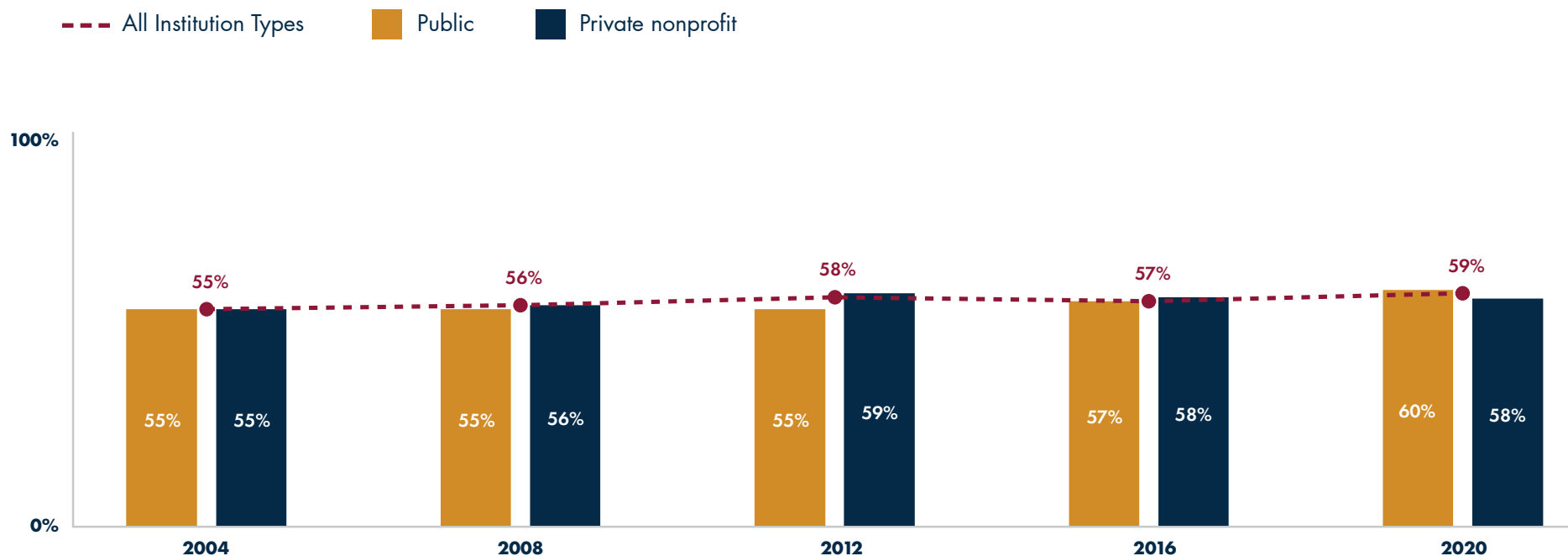
**Note:** Data presented reflects only U.S. citizens and permanent residents. International students are excluded from analysis due to differences in financial eligibility.

**Data Source:** U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2019-20 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:20). Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on February 27, 2024.



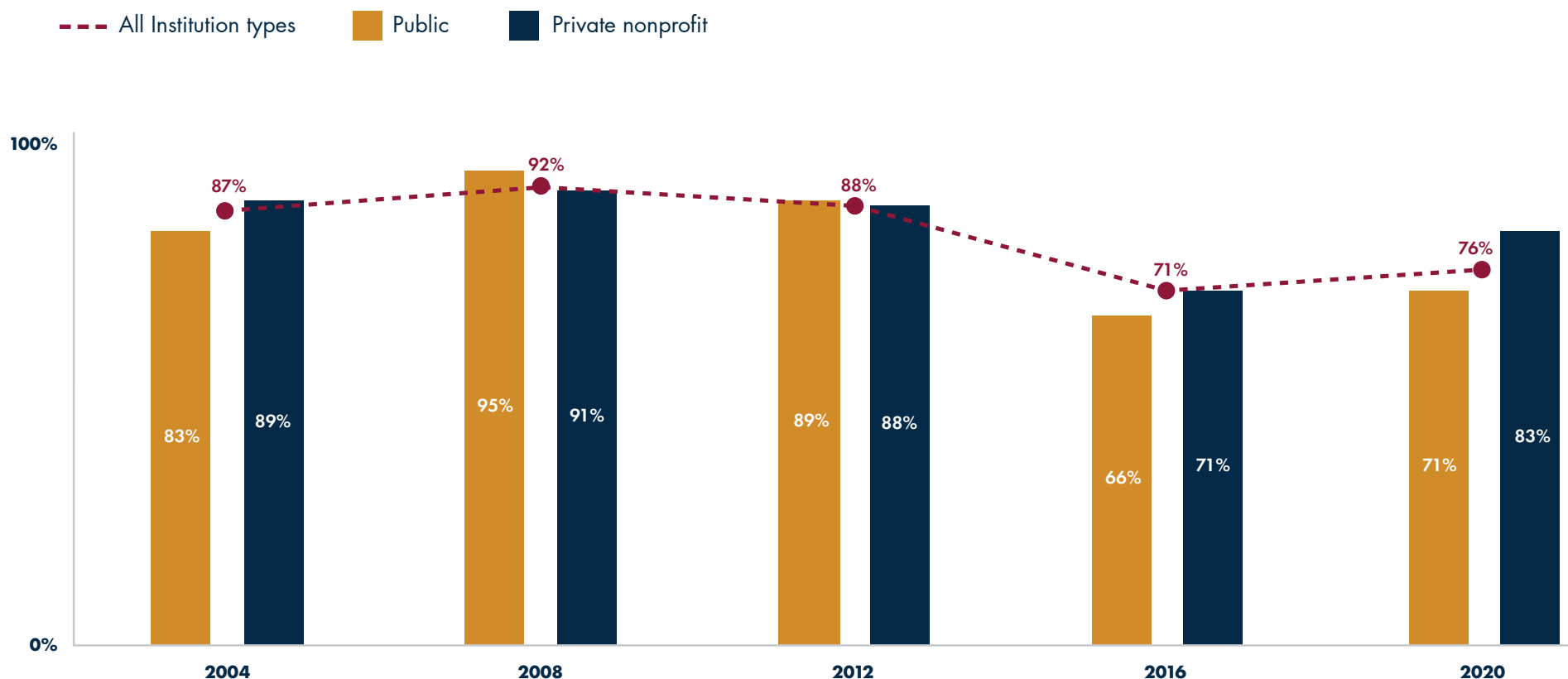
# Percentage of Law Students Who Worked While Enrolled, by Year and Institution Type, 2004-2020

More than half of enrolled law students reported earnings from off-campus employment at both public and private nonprofit schools.



# Percentage of Law Graduates Who Borrowed for Graduate Education, by Year and Institution Type, 2004-2020

A majority of law graduates use loans to fund their graduate education, and the overall proportion who borrowed increased by five percentage points between 2016 and 2020.

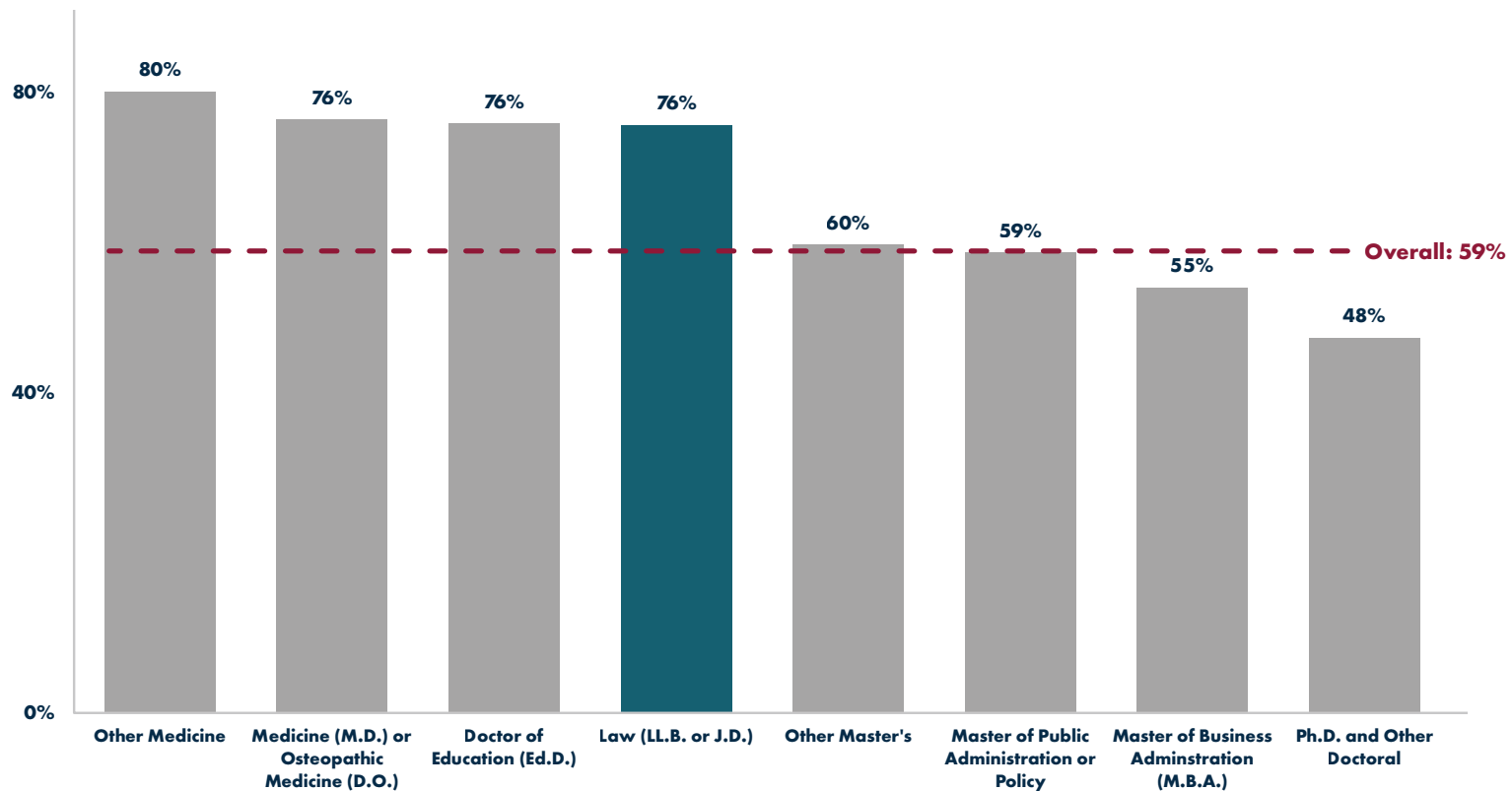


**Data Source:** U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Postsecondary Student Aid Study, NPSAS:04, NPSAS:08, NPSAS:12, NPSAS:16, and NPSAS:20. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary provided by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on August 6, 2023.



# Percentage of Graduate or Professional Program Students Who Borrowed While Enrolled by Program Type, 2020

A higher percentage of law students used loans to finance their legal education compared to students in other graduate and professional education programs. Fifty-nine percent of all 2020 graduate or professional program students borrowed to pay for their education, a markedly lower proportion than the 76% of law students who borrowed.

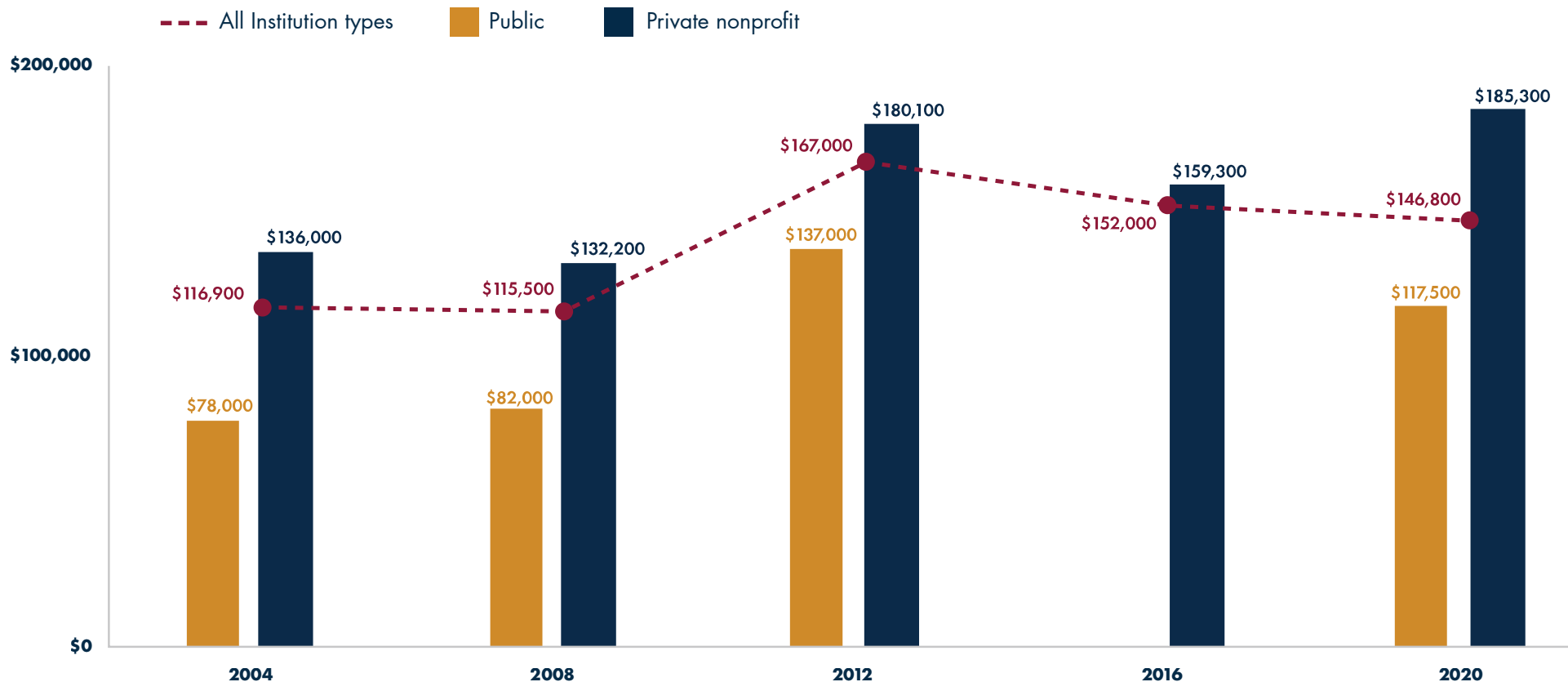


**Note:** "Other Master's" includes any master's credential other than an M.B.A. or an M.P.P./M.P.A. "Ph.D. and Other Doctoral" includes all nonmedical doctorates other than a Doctor of Education. "Other Medicine" includes medical doctoral degrees other than an M.D. or a D.O., in disciplines like dentistry (D.D.S.), pharmacy (Pharm.D.), and veterinary medicine (D.V.M.).  
**Data Source:** U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Postsecondary Aid Study, NPSAS:20. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on January 28, 2025.



# Cumulative Amount Borrowed (in 2024 Dollars) Among Law Students Who Borrowed While Enrolled, by Year and Institution Type, 2004-2020

Although the percentage of law graduates who borrowed **increased** between 2016 and 2020, the average cumulative amount of graduate debt among those who borrowed decreased by more than \$5,000.



**Note:** Minimum reporting standards were not met for law school graduates who attended public institutions in 2016. Data presented reflects only U.S. citizens and permanent residents. Foreign/international students are excluded from analysis due to differences in financial aid eligibility.

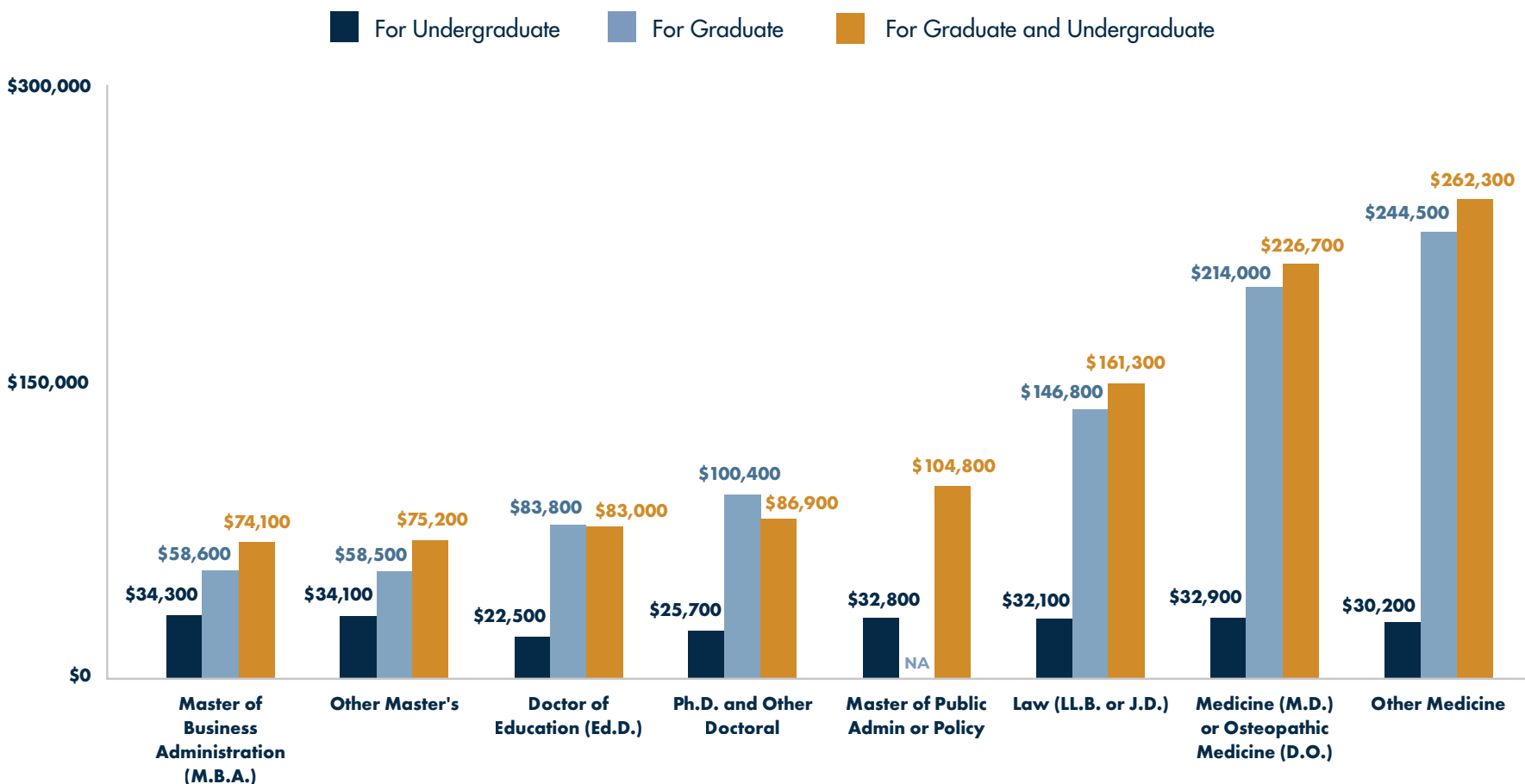
**Data Source:** U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Postsecondary Student Aid Study, NPSAS:04, NPSAS:08, NPSAS:12, NPSAS:16, and NPSAS:20. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on August 2, 2024.





# Average Amounts Borrowed by 2020 Graduates by Graduate Degree Type (in 2024 Dollars) Among Those Who Borrowed

On average, 2020 law graduates borrowed more for their graduate education than all other graduate and professional degree recipients who borrowed, except those in medicine and other health professions.



**Note:** Cumulative amount borrowed for graduate education is unavailable for Master of Public Administration or Policy degree recipients in 2020. Data presented reflects only U.S. citizens and permanent residents. International students are excluded from analysis due to differences in financial eligibility. "Other Master's" includes any master's credential other than an M.B.A. or an M.P.P./M.P.A. "Ph.D. and Other Doctoral" includes all nonmedical doctorates other than a Doctor of Education. "Other Medicine" includes medical doctoral degrees other than an M.D. or a D.O., in disciplines like dentistry (D.D.S.), pharmacy (Pharm.D.), and veterinary medicine (D.V.M.).

**Data Source:** U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Postsecondary Student Aid Study, NPSAS:04, NPSAS:08, NPSAS:12, NPSAS:16, and NPSAS:20. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on January 28, 2025.



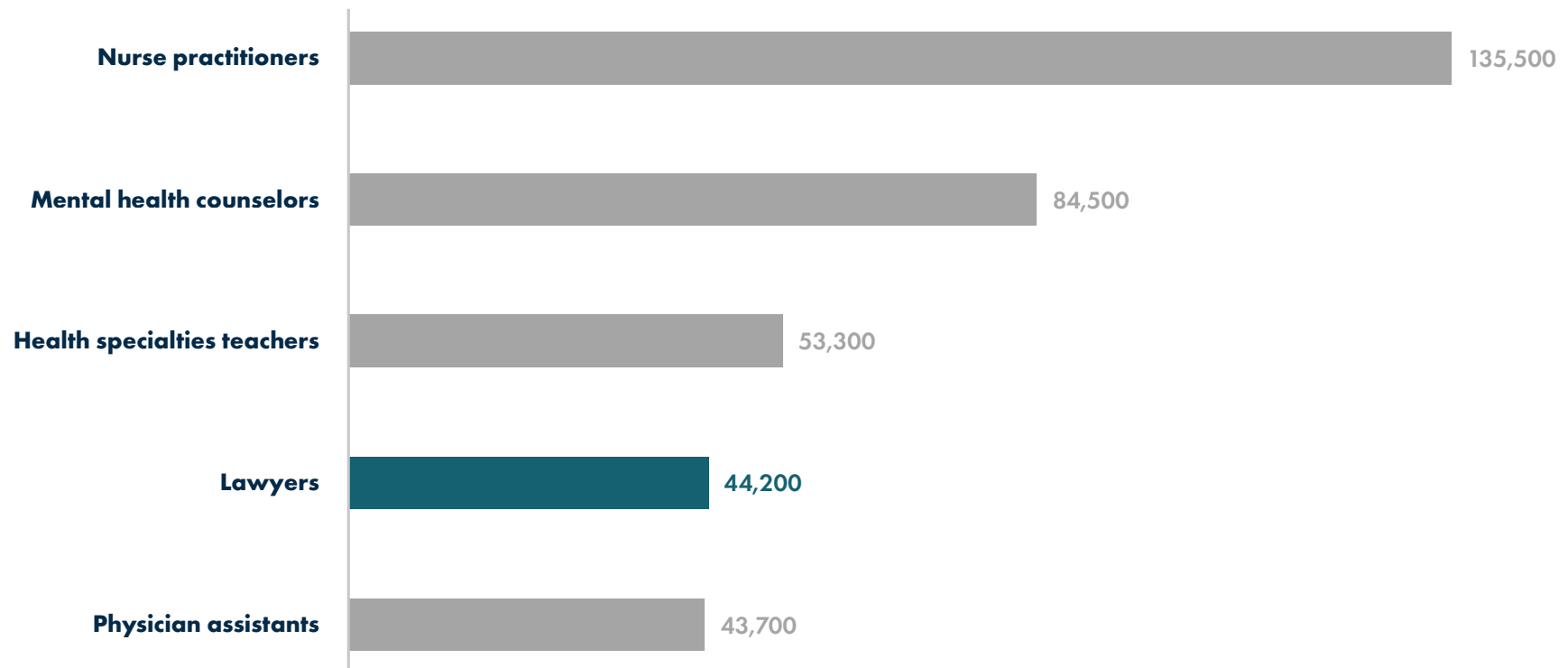


**Value**

# Occupations Requiring a Graduate or Professional Degree with Largest Projected Increase in Employment, 2023-2033

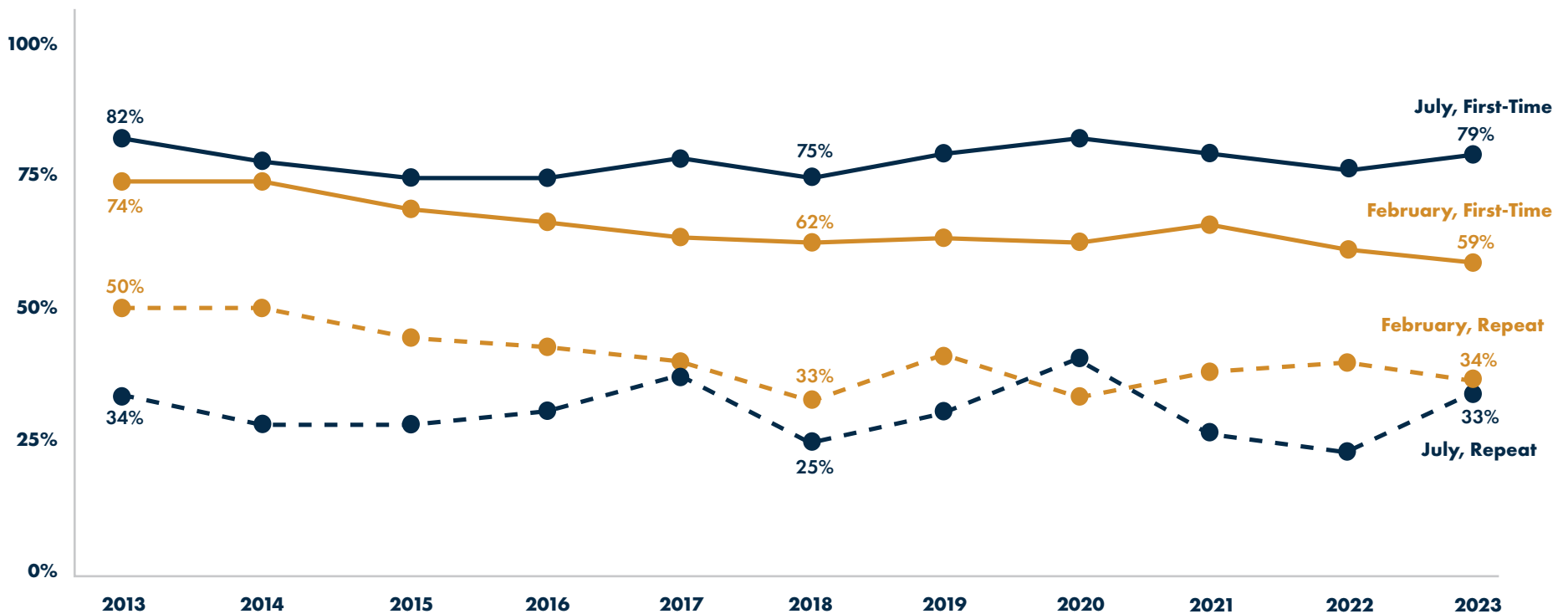
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The latest occupational outlook from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects lawyer positions will have the fourth largest increase in openings among positions requiring a graduate or professional degree.



# Percentage of ABA-Approved Law School Graduates Passing the Bar by Attempt and Administration, 2013-2023

July first-time and repeat bar passage rates improved by two and seven percentage points, respectively, from 2022 to 2023. Meanwhile, February first-time and repeat bar passage rates declined by four and three percentage points, respectively, over the same period. As a result of the diverging trends, the gap in first-time bar passage rates between July and February takers grew from 14 to 20 percentage points. On the other hand, the gap in bar passage rates between July and February repeat takers shrank from 10 to one percentage points.



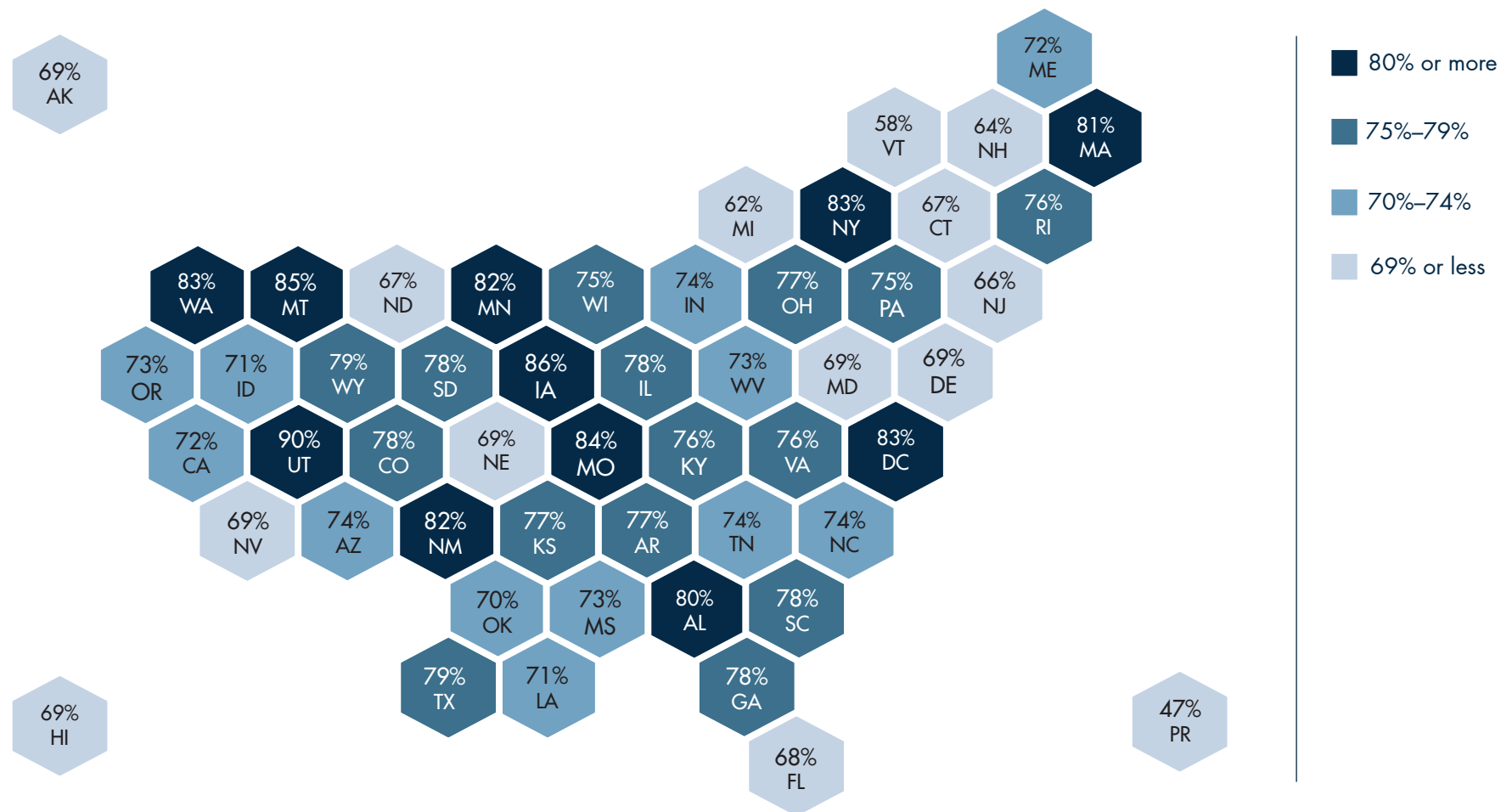
**Note:** 2020 bar passage rates include data from states which adopted the use of diploma privilege in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Those graduating with diploma privilege are counted as successfully passing the bar exam.

**Data Source:** National Conference of Bar Examiners, 2014-2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on May 30, 2024.



# First-Time Bar Passage Rates for Graduates of ABA-Approved Law Schools by State, 2023

In 2023, 76% of all first-time exam takers from ABA-approved law schools passed the bar. However, bar passage rates vary among jurisdictions, generally ranging from 62% to 90%.



**Note:** Bar passage is shown by the state of bar administration, not the location of the exam taker's law school.

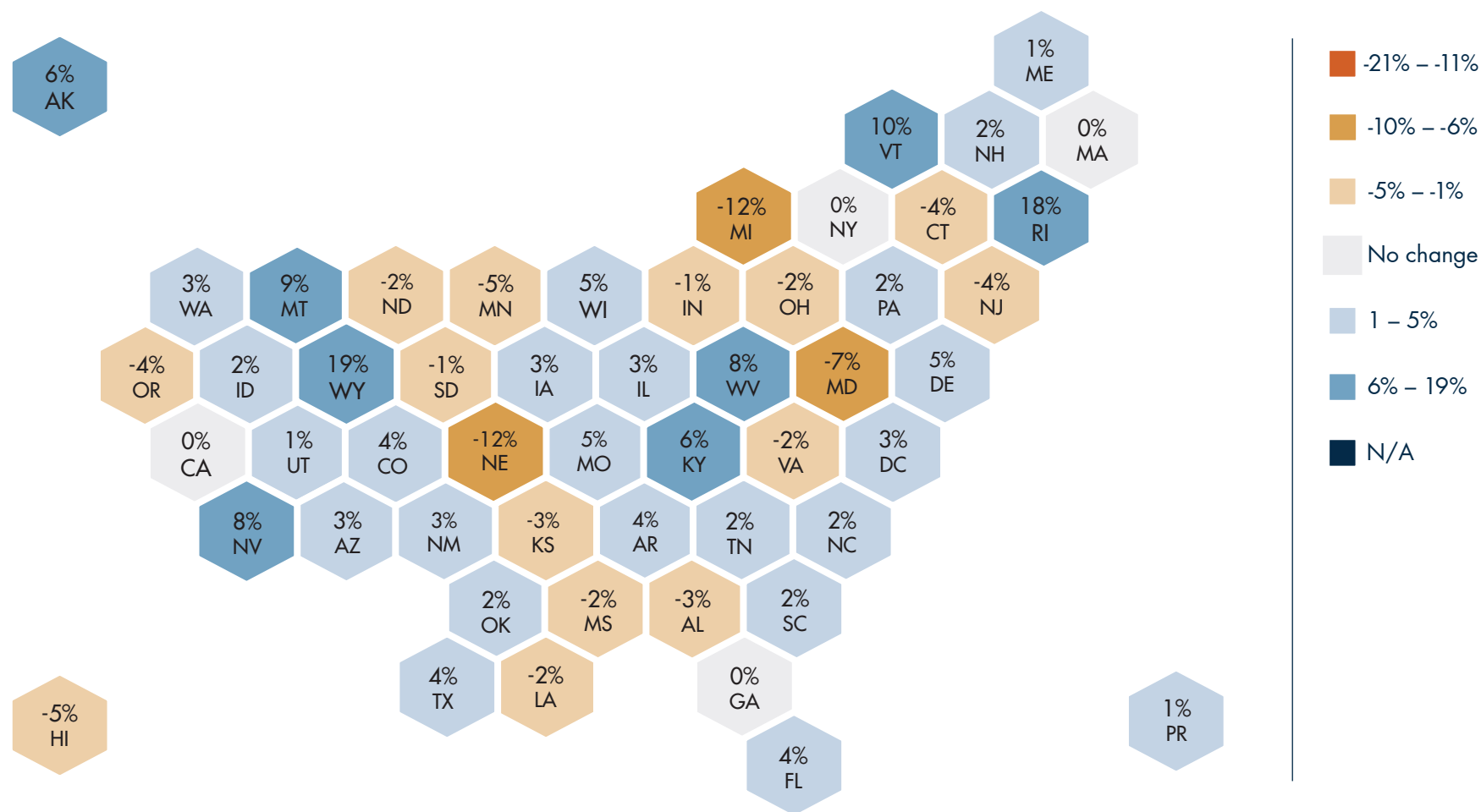
**Data Source:** National Conference of Bar Examiners, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on May 30, 2024.





# Change in First-Time Bar Passage Rates for Graduates of ABA-Approved Law Schools, by Exam Jurisdiction, 2022-2023

Between 2022 and 2023, a majority of states reported increases in first-time bar passage rates among graduates of ABA-approved law schools. Of the 31 jurisdictions where pass rates increased, eight reported increases greater than five percentage points.



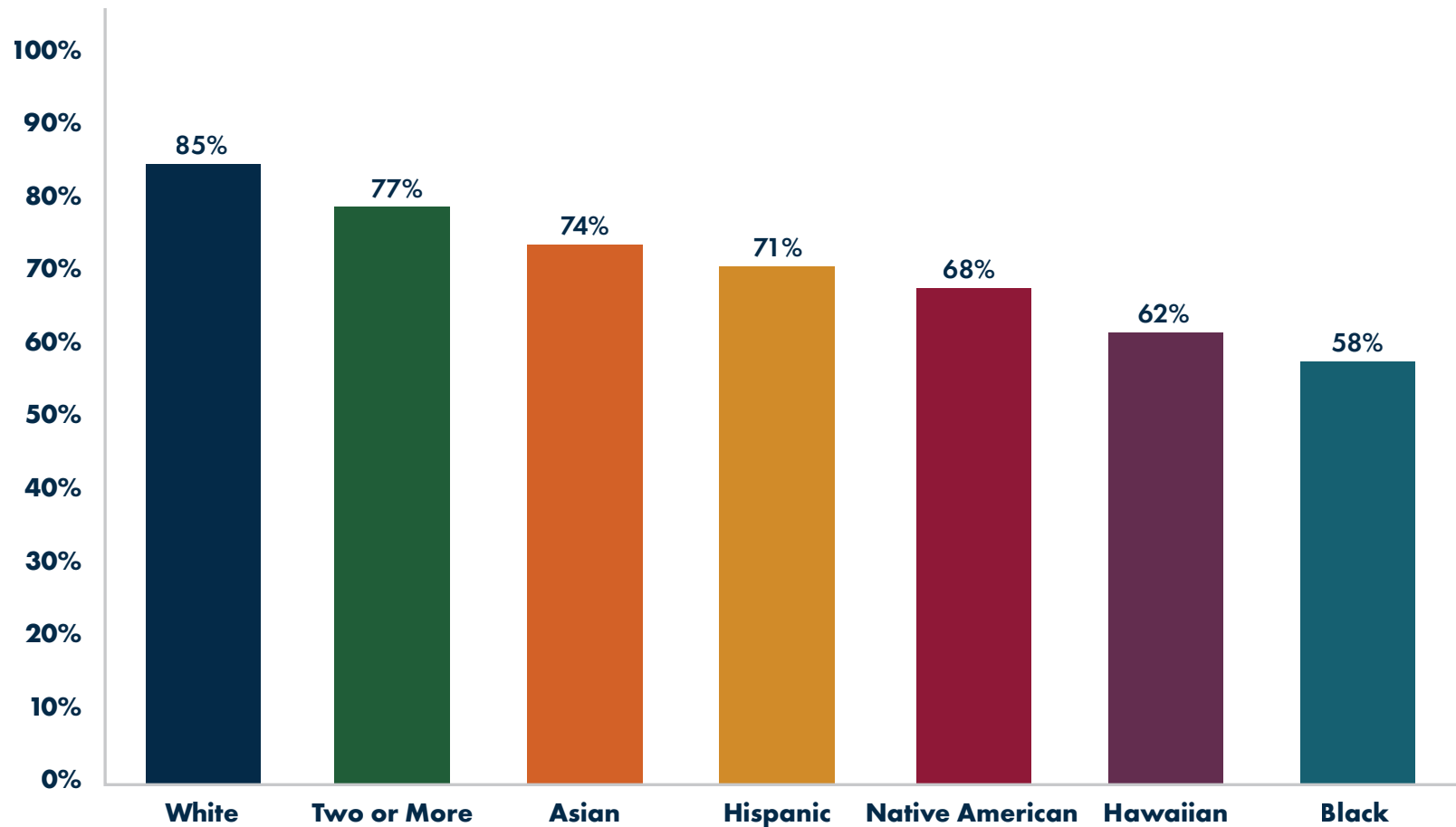
**Note:** Bar passage is shown by the state of bar administration, not the location of the exam taker's law school.

**Data Source:** National Conference of Bar Examiners, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on May 30, 2024.



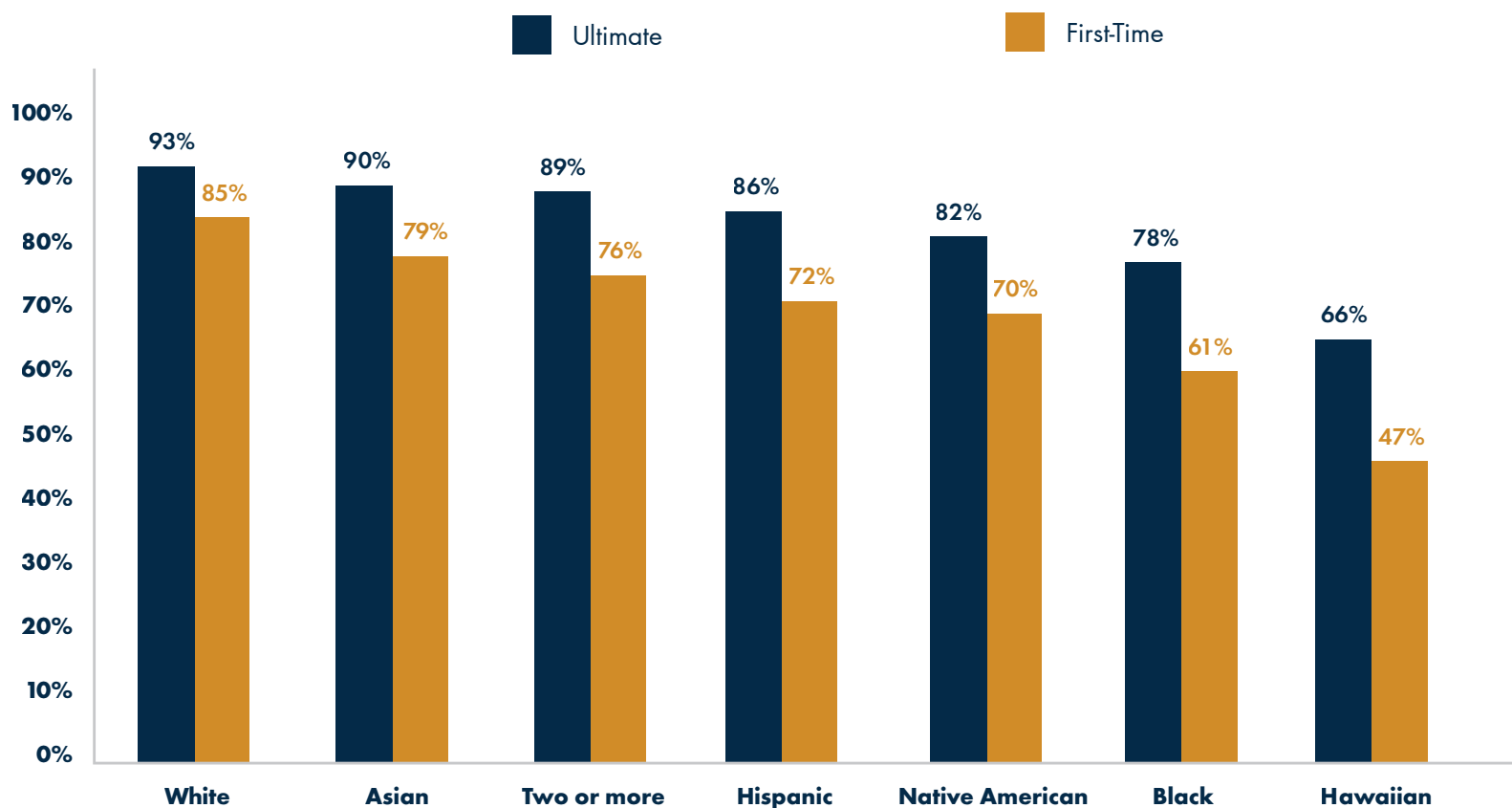
# First-Time Bar Passage by Race and Ethnicity, 2023

In 2023, 85% of White graduates passed the bar exam on their first attempt, whereas only 58% of Black graduates and 71% of Hispanic/Latine graduates passed on their first attempt.



# First-Time and Ultimate Bar Passage by Race and Ethnicity, 2021

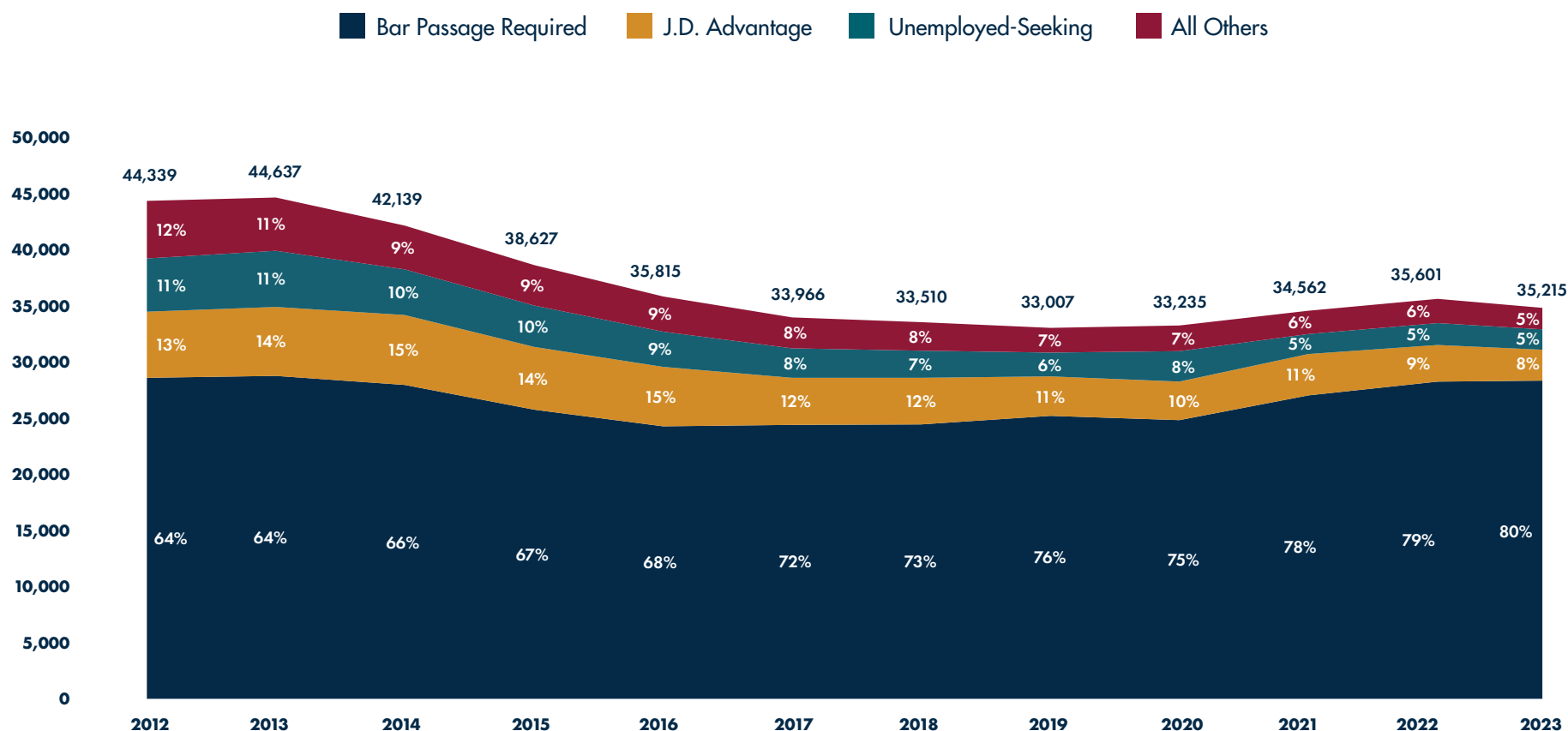
Disparities in ultimate bar passage rates by race/ethnicity are less pronounced than first-time bar passage. Over 70% of all 2021 graduates passed the bar exam within two years, and there is only a 15-percentage point difference in ultimate bar passage between White and Black graduates, compared to a 24-percentage point difference in first-time passage.





# Recent J.D. Graduates by Employment Status, 2012-2023

Employment outcomes for the class of 2023 were stable compared to recent cohorts. Between 2022 and 2023, the proportion of J.D. graduates obtaining bar-passage required employment increased by one percentage point, while the percentage of unemployed recent graduates remained unchanged at five percent.



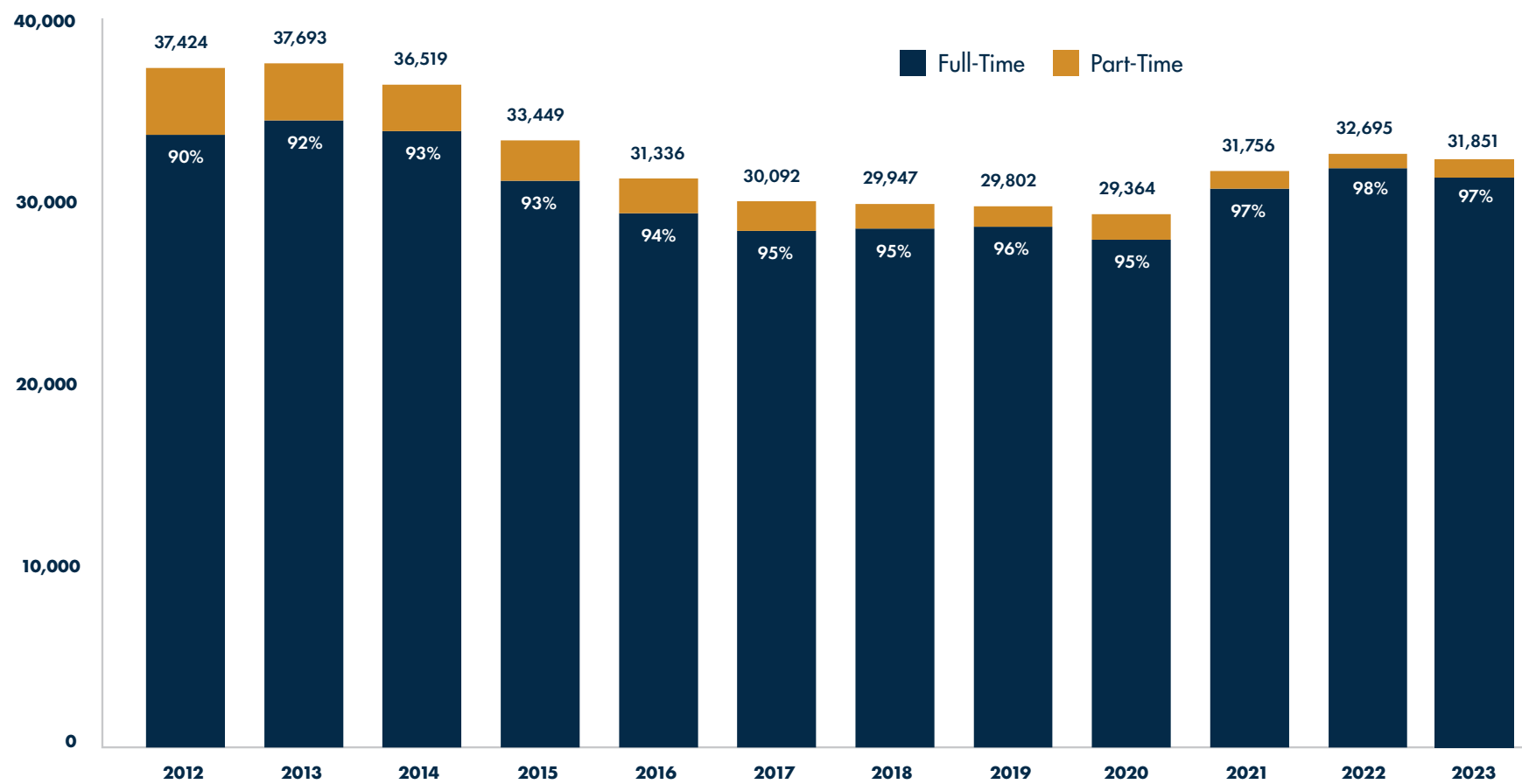
**Note:** "All Others" includes the following employment categories: Other Professional, Non-Professional, Employed - Job Type Unknown, Pursuing Degree Full-Time, Start Date After 3/18, and Unemployed - Not Seeking. These data are based on law school graduates whose employment status was reported to NALP and may not be fully representative of the total law school graduating class indicated. In 2014, NALP changed the timing of the survey administration from nine months post-graduation. Use caution when interpreting data and comparing from year to year.

**Data Source:** National Association for Law Placement, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on August 2, 2024.



# Full-Time and Part-Time Status of Employed Recent J.D. Graduates, 2012-2023

The percentage of employed recent J.D. graduates who had a full-time job has remained relatively unchanged since 2021, hovering from 97% to 98%.



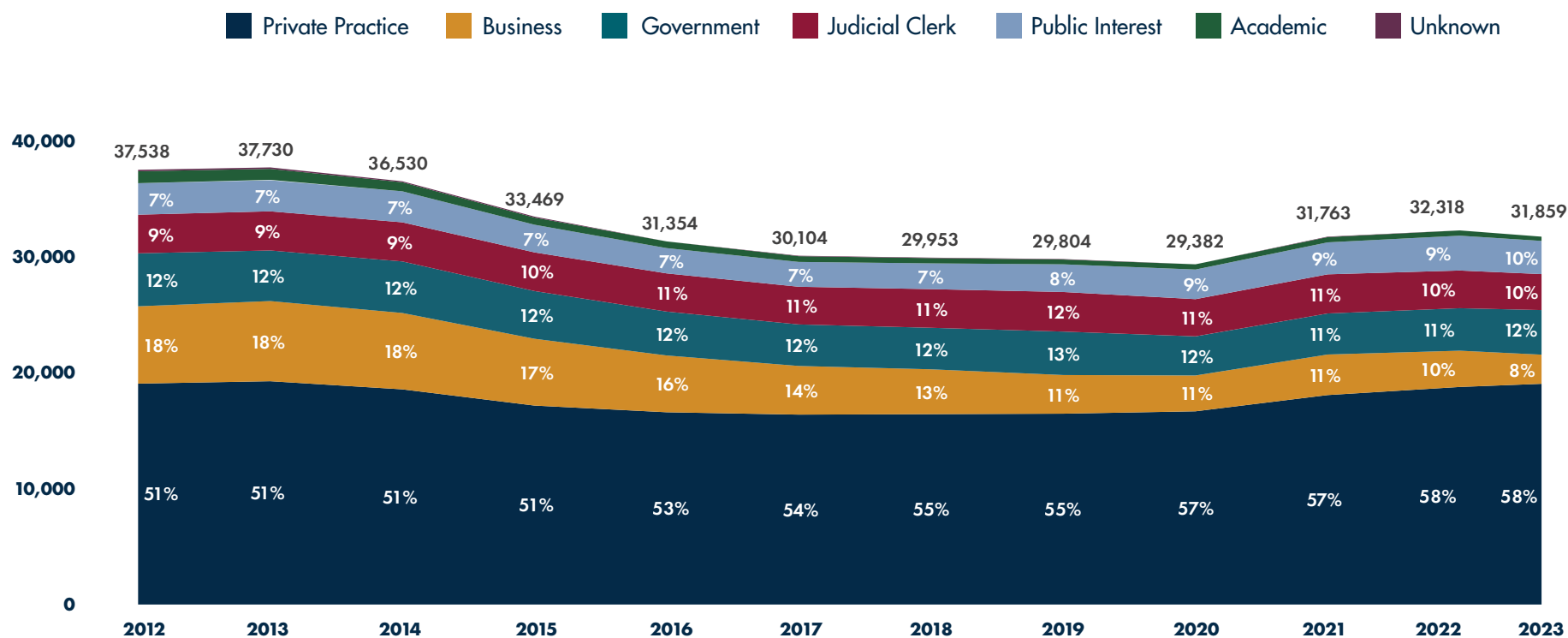
**Note:** These data are based on law school graduates whose employment status was reported to NALP and may not be fully representative of the total law school graduating class indicated. In 2014, NALP changed the timing of the survey administration from nine months post-graduation to 10 months post-graduation. Use caution when interpreting data and comparing from year to year.

**Data Source:** National Association for Law Placement, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on August 2, 2024.



# Recent J.D. Graduate Employment by Sector, 2012-2023

The distribution of employment across sectors remained relatively unchanged between 2022 and 2023, with single percentage point increases in the share of graduates entering government and public interest employment, and a two-percentage point decrease in the share of graduates entering the business sector.



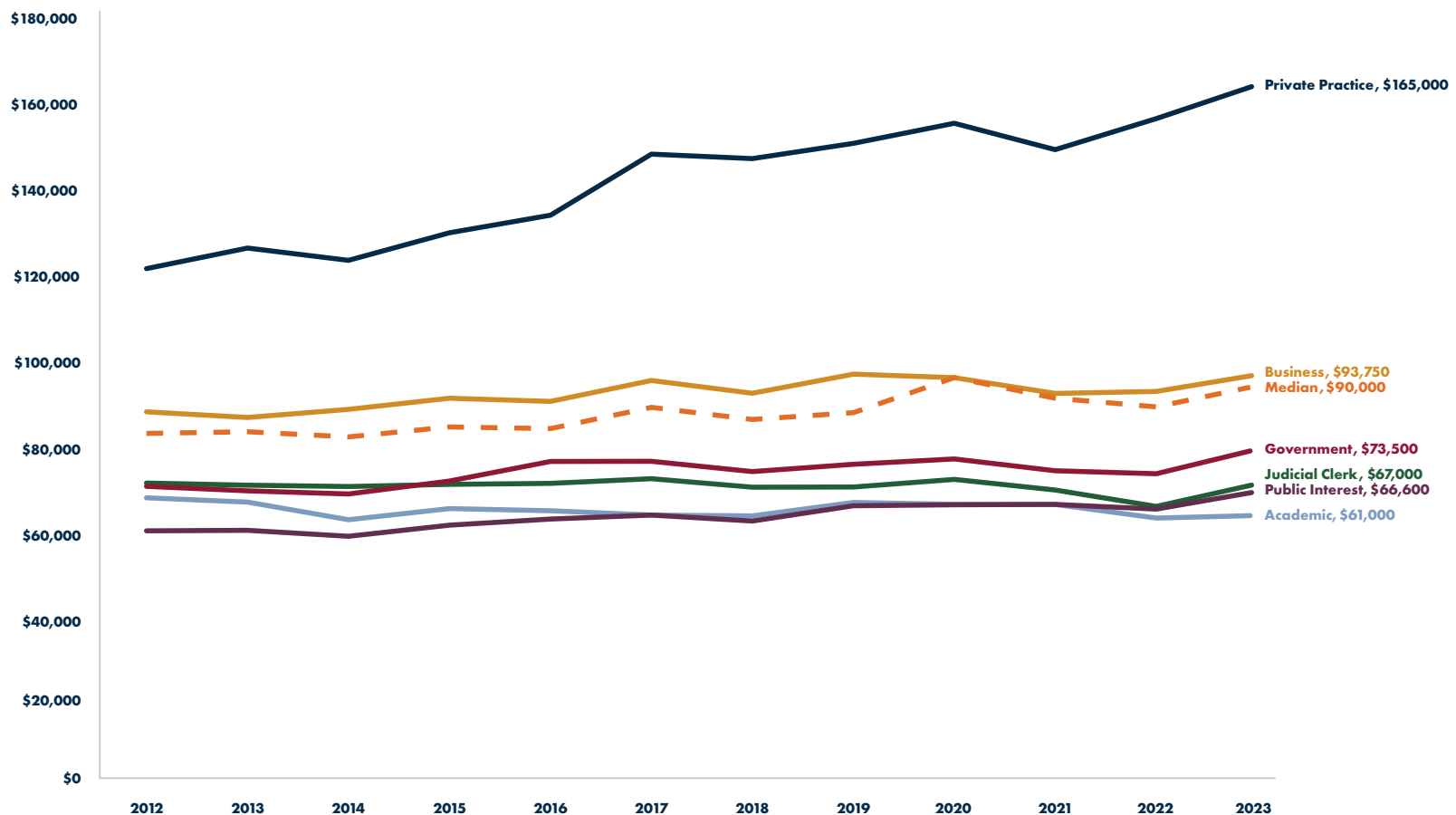
**Note:** These data are based on law school graduates whose employment status was reported to NALP and may not be fully representative of the total law school graduating class indicated. In 2014, NALP changed the timing of the survey administration from nine months post-graduation to 10 months post-graduation. Use caution when interpreting data and comparing from year to year.

**Data Source:** National Association for Law Placement, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on August 2, 2024.



# Median Salary (in 2024 Dollars) of Recent J.D. Graduates by Sector, 2012-2023

Adjusting for inflation, the median salary for those in private practice increased by \$6,000 from 2022 to 2023. The median salaries remained relatively unchanged in other sectors.



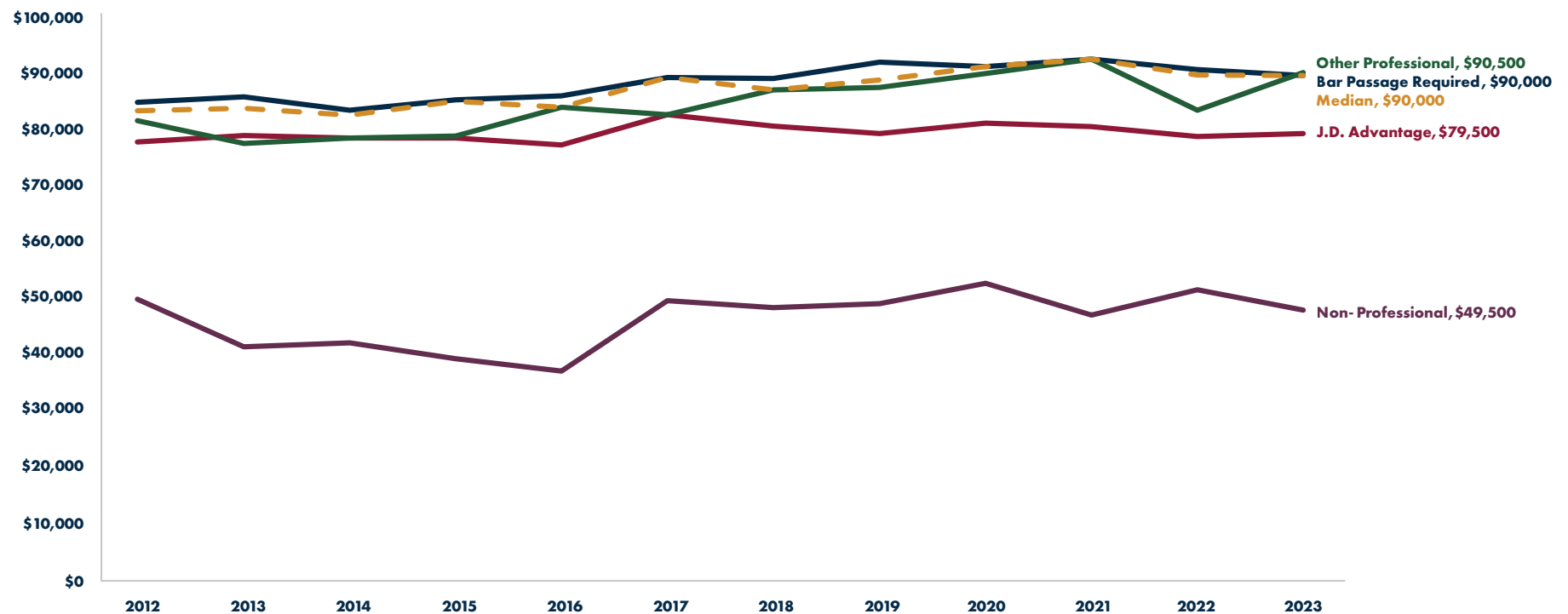
**Note:** These data are based on law school graduates whose employment status was reported to NALP and may not be fully representative of the total law school graduating class indicated. In 2014, NALP changed the timing of the survey administration from nine months post-graduation to 10 months post-graduation. Use caution when interpreting data and comparing from year to year.

**Data Source:** National Association for Law Placement, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on August 2, 2024



# Median Salary (in 2024 Dollars) of Recent J.D. Graduates by Employment Type, 2012-2023

Although the unadjusted salaries for overall, bar-passage required, and non-professional employment increased from the class of 2022 to the class of 2023, these gains have not kept pace with the rate of inflation.



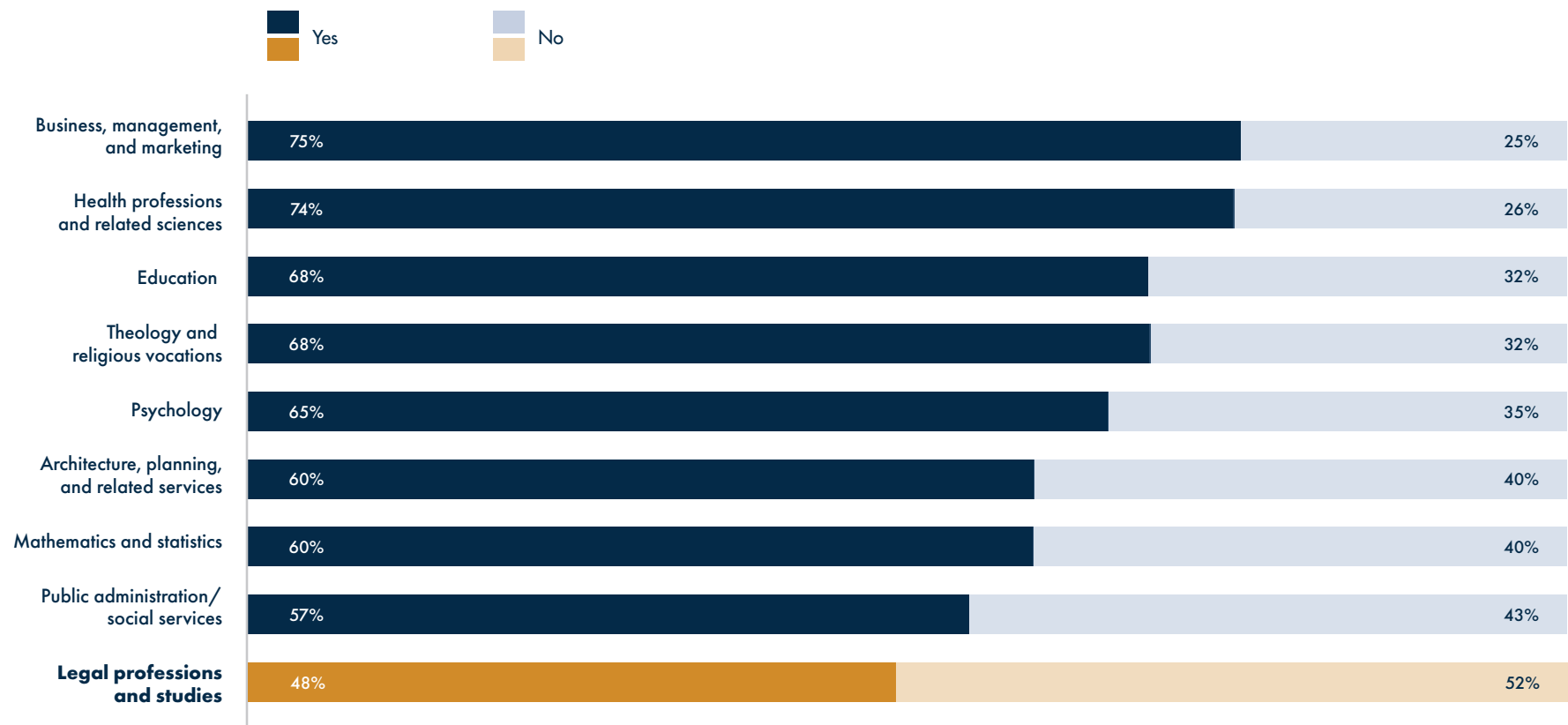
**Note:** These data are based on law school graduates whose employment status was reported to NALP and may not be fully representative of the total law school graduating class indicated. In 2014, NALP changed the timing of the survey administration from nine months post-graduation to 10 months post-graduation. Use caution when interpreting data and comparing from year to year.

**Data Source:** National Association for Law Placement, 2024. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute. Retrieved on August 2, 2024.



# Percentage of Advanced Degree Recipients Who Believe Their Graduate Degree Was Worth the Cost

A longitudinal study of class of 2008 college graduates found that, among those who earned an advanced degree, a majority agreed their graduate education was worth the cost. However, those who earned an advanced degree in legal professions and studies (including J.D. recipients) were the exception — just under half (48%) agreed their graduate education was worth the cost.



**Data Source:** U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Baccalaureate and Beyond (B&B:08/18): First Look at the 2018 Employment and Educational Experiences of 2007–08 College Graduates. Data presentation, analysis, and commentary by AccessLex Institute.



# Detailed Data Sources

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