



**CENTER FOR NEW YORK CITY AFFAIRS**  
**THE NEW SCHOOL**

Research.  
Investigation.  
Action.

**CREATING COLLEGE READY COMMUNITIES**  
Preparing NYC's Precarious New Generation of College Students

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## THE NEW SCHOOL

### QUESTION TO 10TH GRADERS: WHAT JOB OR CAREER DO YOU THINK YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IN THE FUTURE?

	# Students	Percent
Medical, Law or Other Profession	139	30%
Technology or Computers	21	5%
Teaching or Education	21	5%
Law Enforcement or Military	25	5%
Arts or Entertainment	37	8%
Service or Hospitality	11	2%
Professional Athlete	31	7%
Business	52	11%
Don't Know	30	6%
Other	44	9%
Multiple Answer	35	8%
No Answer	10	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>100%</b>

**SOURCE:** Survey conducted by the Center for New York City Affairs in May 2011. Students were chosen from seven low-income high schools in various parts of the city. The schools were participating in an evaluation of community-based college readiness efforts.

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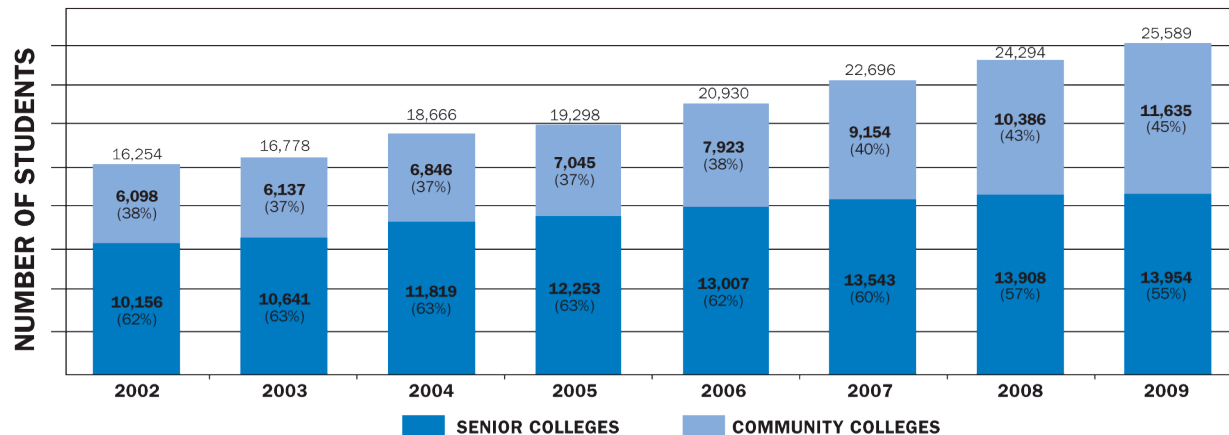
## THE NEW SCHOOL

### NYC STUDENT ENROLLMENT AT CUNY HAS SKYROCKETED SINCE 2002, REFLECTING HIGHER HIGH SCHOOL GRAD RATES AND INCREASED INTEREST IN COLLEGE

The City University of New York is colloquially called “13th grade” for New York City public school students because it is such a popular destination. Seventy percent of CUNY freshmen come from NYC public high schools. As the city’s graduation rate has increased, so has CUNY’s freshmen enrollment. The number of NYC students going to CUNY has increased 57 percent since 2002.

The increase in students enrolling in two-year community colleges (versus CUNY’s more selective senior colleges) has been particularly dramatic. The number of NYC freshmen has nearly doubled, up 91 percent since 2002. This is an important trend to watch because CUNY’s community college graduation rates are quite low. Only 12 percent of students entering in 2008 earned a degree within three years. While more students are going to college, many still fail to get a college degree.

### TOTAL NUMBER OF NYC PUBLIC SCHOOL GRADUATES ENROLLING IN CUNY AS FIRST-TIME FRESHMEN

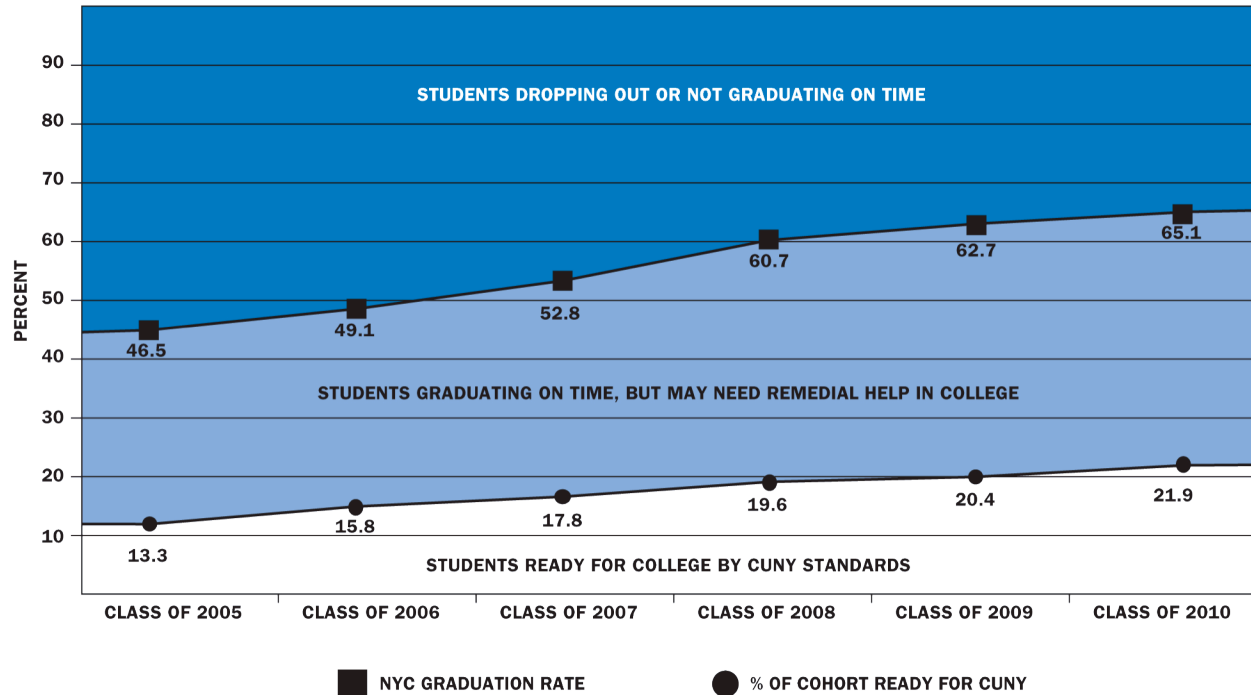


**SOURCE:** New York City Department of Education graduation rate report for the class of 2010; data provided by CUNY’s Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, CUNY graduation rate data provided by CUNY’s Office of Collaborative Programs Research and Evaluation, report generated April 2012.

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**MORE STUDENTS ARE GRADUATING ON TIME AND READY FOR COLLEGE,  
BUT FOUR OUT OF FIVE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS STILL LAG BEHIND**



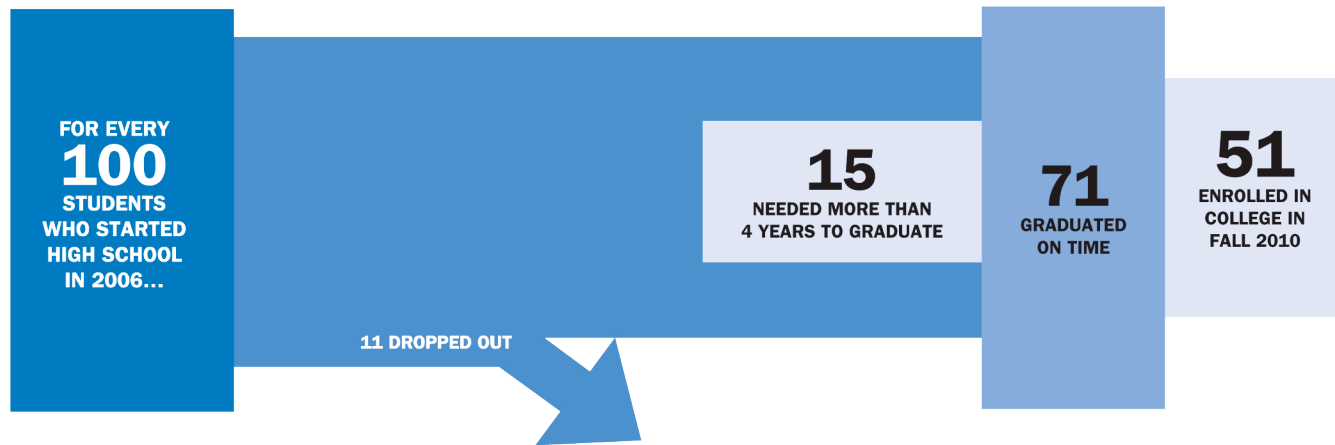
**NOTES:** The college-ready trend line on the bottom of the chart is based on a New York State calculation introduced in 2011 called the "Aspirational Performance Measure" (APM). The English/Math APM includes students who scored 80 or higher on a Regents exam in math and 75 or higher on the English Regents exam. Students with scores at this level on both tests can immediately begin coursework at CUNY. APM rates include June graduates only. The full graduation rate includes August graduates.

**SOURCE:** New York City Department of Education graduation rate report for the Class of 2010. Data provided in a June 14, 2011, presentation.

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### THE COLLEGE PATH FOR NYC STUDENTS WHO BEGAN HIGH SCHOOL IN 2006 ONLY HALF FOLLOWED A STANDARD PATH TO COLLEGE



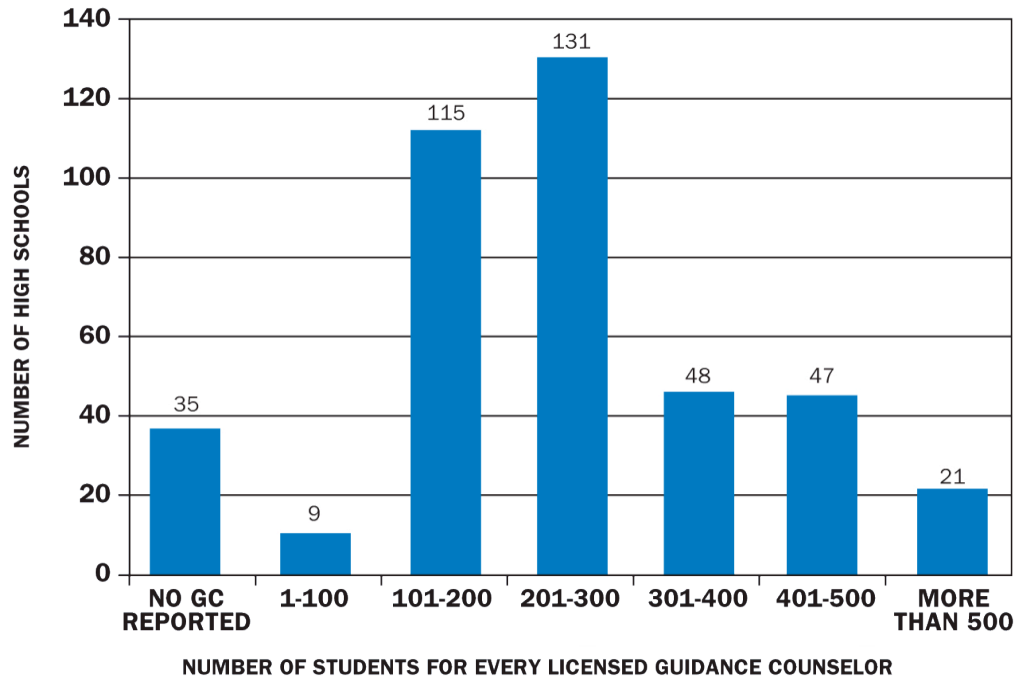
**NOTE:** These numbers were calculated using data from general education schools only. Special needs schools in D79, D75, and charter schools, were excluded. This is why the four-year graduation rate in this illustration is higher than the citywide graduation rate. Numbers may not add up to 100 due to rounding errors.

**SOURCES:** New York City Department of Education Graduation Results: 4-Year Outcome Cohort for 2006; NYC DOE 2010-11 Progress Report dataset, college enrollment data.

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### HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELOR CASELOADS



**SOURCE:** New York City Department of Education, 2010-11 Progress Report database for list of high schools. United Federation of Teachers, Membership Benefits System database, current numbers of licensed guidance counselors for all high schools on DOE's 2010-11 list.

**NOTE:** D75, D79, charter schools and transfer schools excluded.

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## THE NEW SCHOOL

### FILLING NYC'S COLLEGE GUIDANCE GAPS

The chart below lists college guidance services that NYC public schools try to provide—and those areas where families, nonprofits or volunteers must fill the gap. The level and quality of college guidance varies greatly among schools. Many schools provide a rich array of college supports that families are often unable to provide. Alternatively, nonprofits, community groups and volunteers often provide guidance services that are underfunded or missing in schools. Low-income students rely on this fragile mix of partnerships to get the college support they need.

**WHITE BAR:** College access work done primarily by families, nonprofit groups or volunteers (or not done at all)

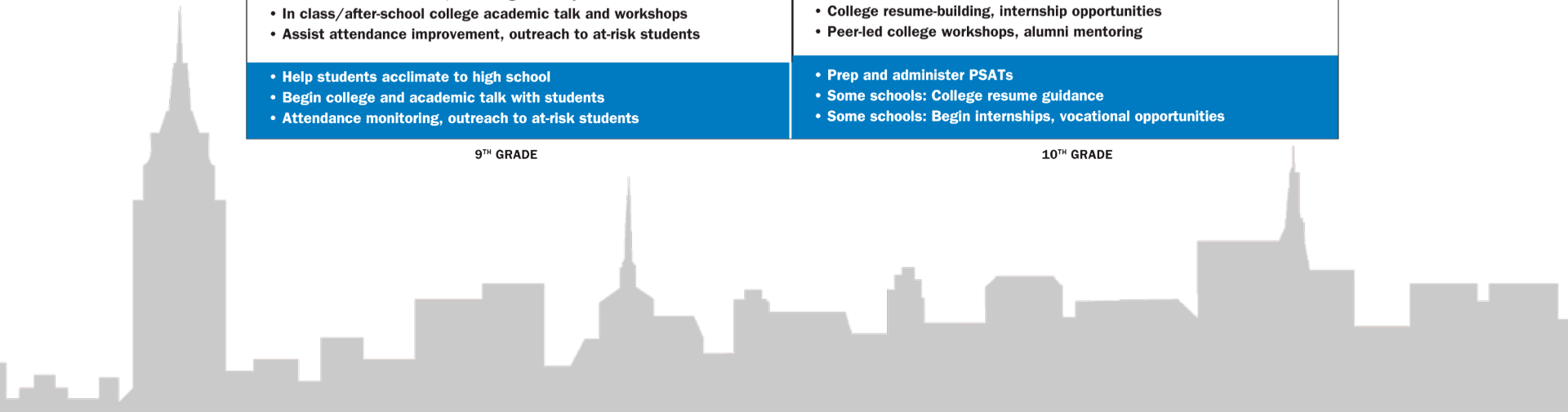
**BLUE BAR:** College access work done primarily by schools

#### 6-8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early college talk and inspiration</li> <li>• Discuss importance of grades &amp; attendance re high school choices</li> <li>• Assist attendance improvement, outreach</li> <li>• After-school enrichment or remedial help</li> <li>• Help parents set up IDAs, college savings plans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist research on best-fit high schools</li> <li>• Help make critical choice among 440+ high schools</li> <li>• Ninth grade summer bridge preparation</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Middle school academic planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offer specialized high school exams</li> <li>• Administer high school choice process</li> <li>• Some schools: Ninth grade bridge preparation</li> </ul>
6-7 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE

#### 9-10<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After-school enrichment, coaching on study habits</li> <li>• In class/after-school college academic talk and workshops</li> <li>• Assist attendance improvement, outreach to at-risk students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After-school activities, leadership opportunities</li> <li>• College resume-building, internship opportunities</li> <li>• Peer-led college workshops, alumni mentoring</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help students acclimate to high school</li> <li>• Begin college and academic talk with students</li> <li>• Attendance monitoring, outreach to at-risk students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prep and administer PSATs</li> <li>• Some schools: College resume guidance</li> <li>• Some schools: Begin internships, vocational opportunities</li> </ul>
9 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE	10 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE



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**WHITE BAR:** College access work done primarily by families, nonprofit groups or volunteers (or not done at all)

**BLUE BAR:** College access work done primarily by schools

#### 11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAT/ACT prep</li> <li>• College visits and college exploration</li> <li>• After-school Regents tutoring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College visits and college exploration</li> <li>• Organize college alumni visits, mentoring</li> <li>• Assist with college resume and essays</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peer-led outreach, workshops</li> <li>• College visits</li> <li>• College alumni mentoring</li> <li>• Peer supports and college workshops</li> <li>• College fairs</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAT/ACT prep for top students</li> <li>• CUNY/SUNY exploration</li> <li>• Academic and Regents supports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administer SATs/ACTs</li> <li>• Some schools: Career exploring, college visits</li> <li>• Some schools: College admissions recruitment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft, finalize college resumes</li> <li>• Organize or send students to college fairs</li> </ul>
FALL	WINTER	SPRING

#### 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAT/ACT prep and support</li> <li>• College research, application support</li> <li>• College essay writing, editing support</li> <li>• Financing, scholarship research support</li> <li>• Junior and senior year summer jobs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist CUNY, SUNY, private school applications</li> <li>• Peer or CBO college application support</li> <li>• Assist initial FAFSA form submission</li> <li>• Advise, support undocumented students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist final FAFSA form submission</li> <li>• Assist in FAFSA verification, state, local aid</li> <li>• Assist family, college, financing problems</li> <li>• Assist undocumented students: financing, legal issues</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administer SATs/ACTs</li> <li>• Introduce CUNY application process in class</li> <li>• Assist SUNY, private school applications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete CUNY applications, often in class</li> <li>• CUNY, SUNY, private school applications completed and sent</li> <li>• Transcripts sent to colleges</li> <li>• Some schools: Assist FAFSA process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some schools: Assist FAFSA completion, verification</li> <li>• Assist and log final college choice, post-HS plans</li> <li>• Help students successfully complete Regents, coursework</li> <li>• Graduation</li> </ul>
FALL	WINTER	SPRING

#### SUCCESSFUL COLLEGE ARRIVAL

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist in FAFSA verification process</li> <li>• Assist CUNY entrance exams, if lacking needed Regents scores</li> <li>• Financial aid, scholarship assistance</li> <li>• Assist last-minute family, college, financing problems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help navigate financial, scheduling, academic problems at college</li> <li>• Academic supports and help navigating remedial class issues</li> <li>• FAFSA, financial aid and scholarship assistance</li> <li>• Financial assistance for undocumented students</li> <li>• Support dealing with family and job conflicts</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No role unless school has dedicated guidance or volunteers</li> <li>• Graduate August graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No role unless school has dedicated guidance or volunteers</li> </ul>
SUMMER BRIDGE	FALL ARRIVAL