

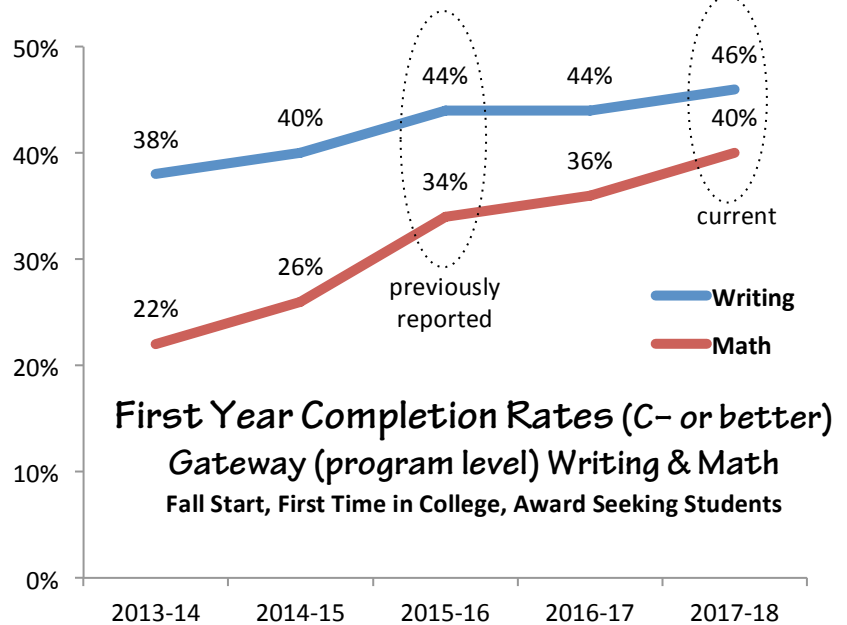
# Early Momentum Metrics

The rates at which new students complete gateway writing and math within one year are **early momentum metrics** predictive of overall college success (*Early Momentum Metrics: Why They Matter for College Improvement*, Davis Jenkins & Thomas Bailey, <https://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/media/k2/attachments/early-momentum-metrics-college-improvement.pdf>). We previously reported these rates as key progress indicators under Lane’s Achieving the Dream work (TIPSS #17). Two years of new data are added here.

On February 5, when **Rob Johnstone** visited Lane and presented on **Guided Pathways**, he emphasized findings in the research linked above on the importance of first year gateway writing and math completion and other early momentum metrics such as persistence to a second term, completion rate of credits attempted in the first year, completion of at least 12 credits in the first term, and completion of at least 36 credits in the first year. Lane data for these additional metrics are shown at right.

- Positive trends in first year gateway math and writing completion appear ongoing.
- Persistence to a second term has been flat at around 80%—1 in 5 do not persist.
- First year credit completion rates around 68% mean 1/3 of instruction students pay for and the college provides results in unsuccessful outcomes.
- Although the proportion of new students completing 36 credits in the first year rose from 8% to 15%, this still means that in the first year 85% of students have *not* completed 40% of the 90 credits required for a “2-year” award.

**What steps can we take to further improve first year outcomes and success rates?**



## Additional Early Momentum Metrics

Fall Start, First Time in College, Award Seeking Students

