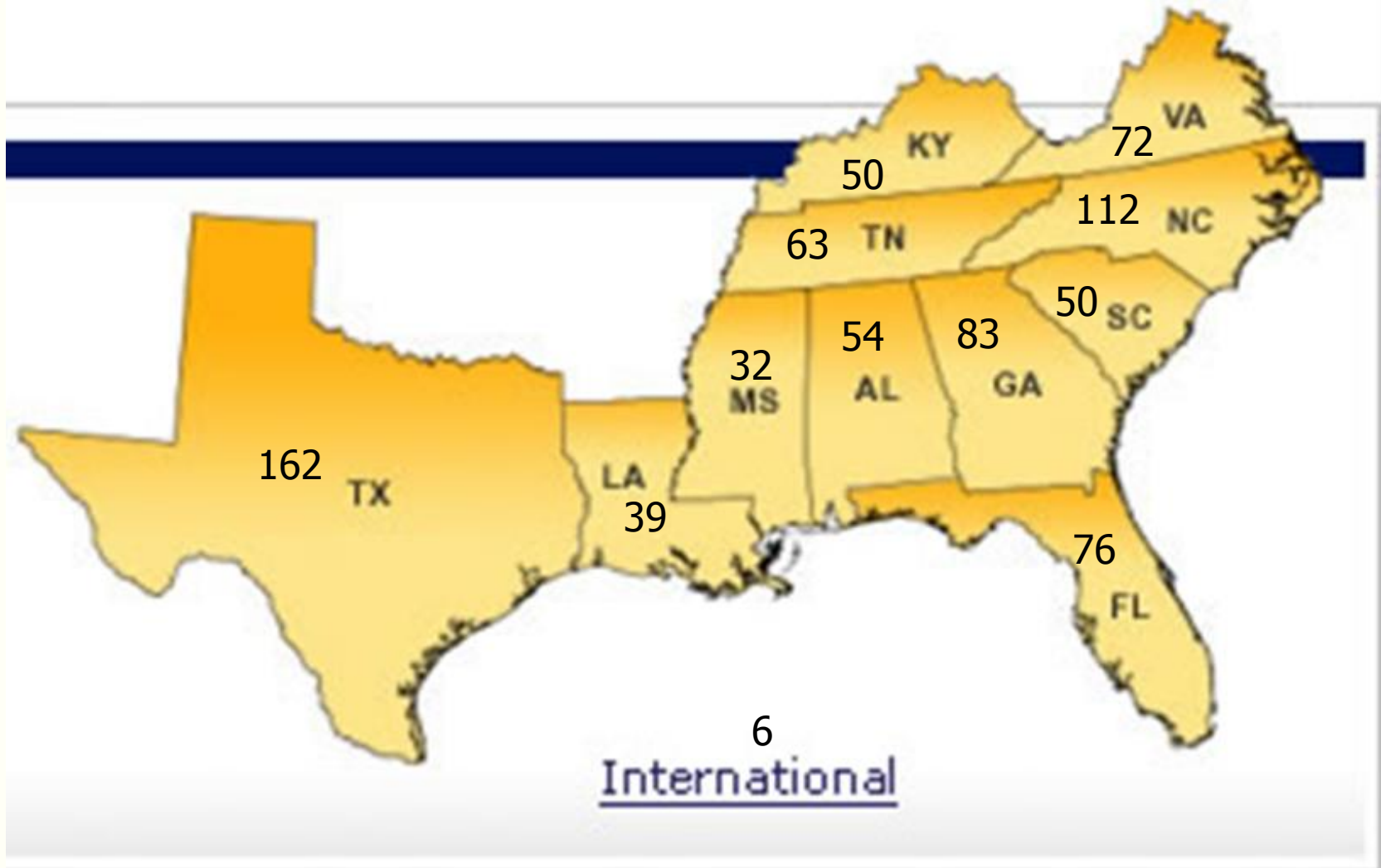




**NATIONAL STUDENT CLEARINGHOUSE (NSC)
COMPLETION RATES:
4-YEAR SACSCOC INSTITUTIONS
(2007 Cohort)**

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

NUMBER OF ACCREDITED INSTITUTIONS BY STATE (AS OF JANUARY 2016)



Accreditation and “Student Achievement”

- SACS
 - Students Are at the Center of Success
- Increasing Pressures
 - Uniform Measurement and Public Reporting (“regulation by revelation”)
 - Pre-Set Quantitative Benchmarks
- Measures
 - ~~Traditional IPEDS Graduation Rate~~
 - ?

Purpose

- National Student Clearinghouse (NSC)
Completion Rate data for *4-Year* SACSCOC
Institutions
 - Outline overall contextual factors
 - Inform discussion and decision-making

AGB Statement on Board Responsibility for the Oversight of College Completion

(2016)

- Principle 1
 - Boards should declare college completion among their priorities, **regularly reviewing metrics about student enrollment, retention, and completion**, and using these data for related decision making. (emphasis added)

http://agb.org/sites/default/files/agb-statements/statement_2016_completion_0_0.pdf

Outline

I. Concept of NSC “Completion Rate”

II. SELECTED COMPARISONS

- SACSCOC vs National
- **SACSCOC INSTITUTIONAL SEGMENTS**

III. Setting “Benchmarks”

I. CONCEPT OF COMPLETION

WHAT IS THE NSC COMPLETION RATE?

*HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM THE TRADITIONAL
IPEDS GRADUATION RATE METRIC?*

National Student Clearinghouse (NSC)

- Participants
 - >3,600 public and private institutions
 - 98% of all U.S. student
- Focus
 - Enrollment and degree records
 - ~237 million

www.studentclearinghouse.org

Sample | Fall 2007 Cohort

- 4-Year institutions
 - National*
 - 1,216 institutions
 - 1,444,617 student cohort
 - **SACSCOC** sample (de-identified institutions)
 - **321** institutions (~78% of all SACSCOC Track B (4-year) institutions)
 - **387,489** student cohort

Student Cohort

- Student record data
 - Tracking **individual students** across different institutions
- **FALL 2007 COHORT**
 - **MAY 2013**
- First-time-in-college degree-seeking students
 - *Full-Time + **Part-Time***

Completion Metric

- **Completion** - having obtained a post-secondary credential (degree *or* certificate)
- Tracking Completion
 - **Place of Completion**
 - Same school
 - ***Another school*** - 2-year | 4-year
 - **Enrollment Status**
 - COMPLETED (“SUCCESS”)
 - ***Still enrolled*** (“*Hope*”)
 - Not enrolled (“Lost”)

Data Presentation Structure

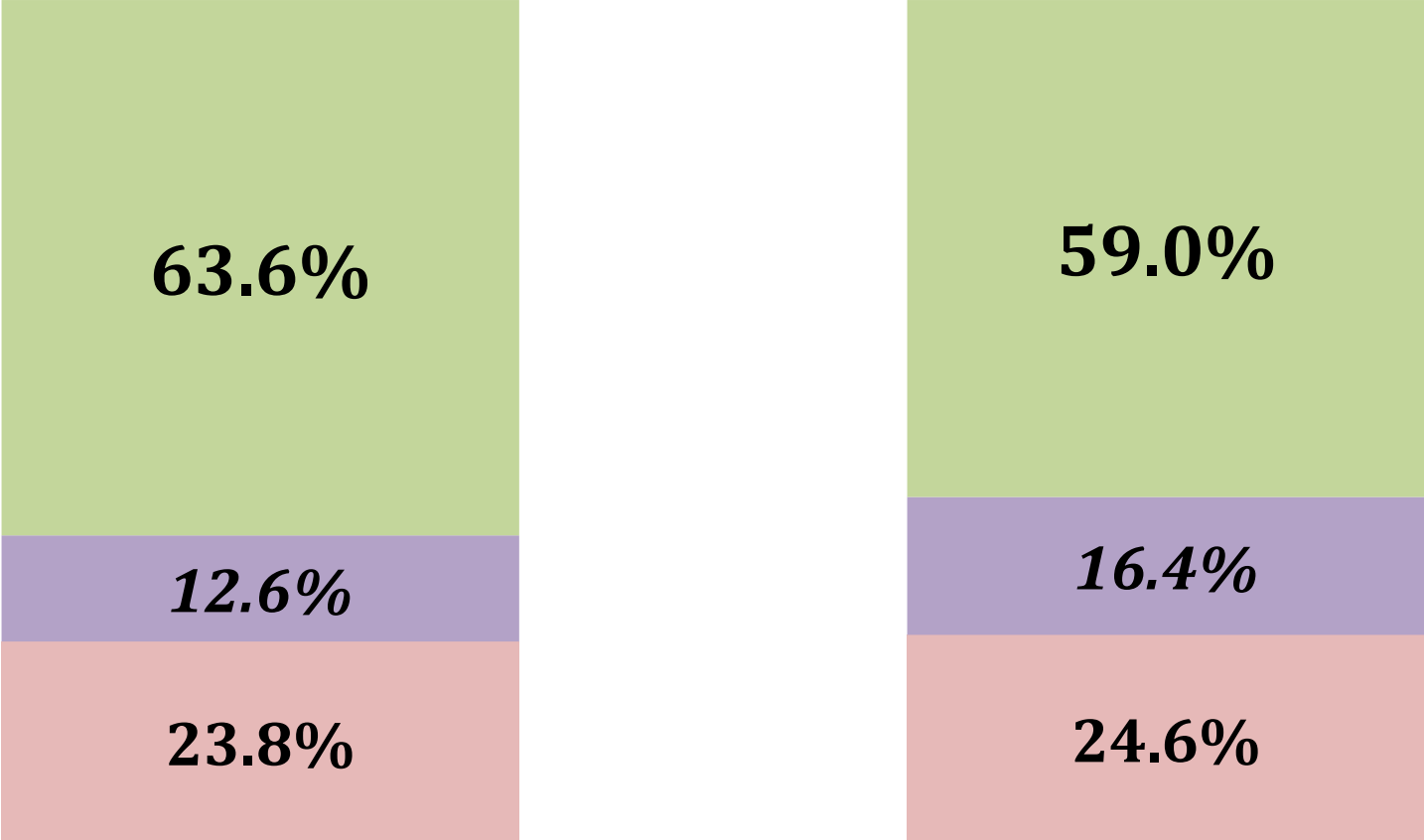
- *Public*

- **6-Year Completion Rate (150%)**

- *Private*

- **6-Year Completion Rate (150%)**

Six Year Completion Rate

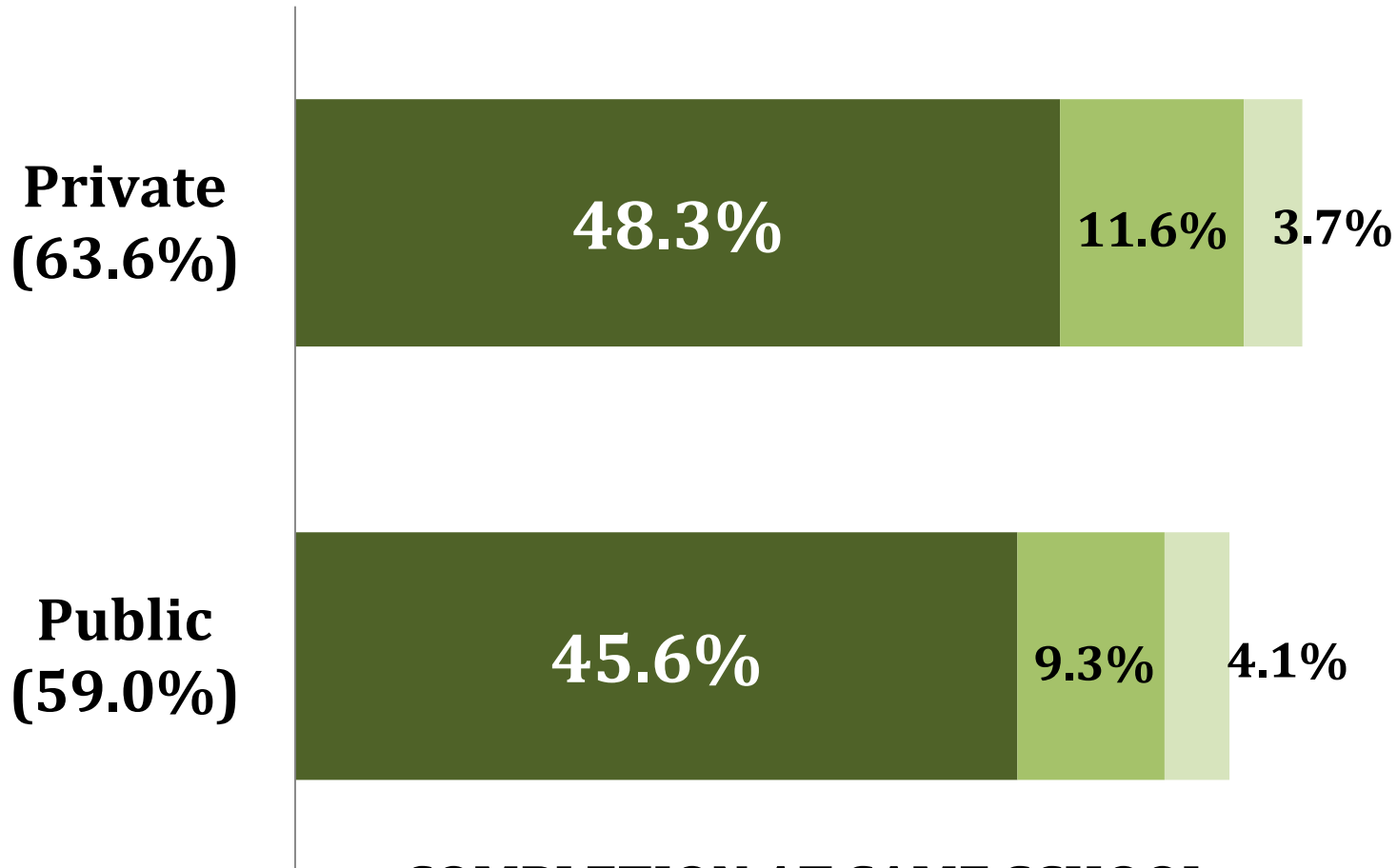


Private

Public

■ Not Enrolled ("Lost") ■ *Still Enrolled ("Hope")* ■ **COMPLETED ("Success")**

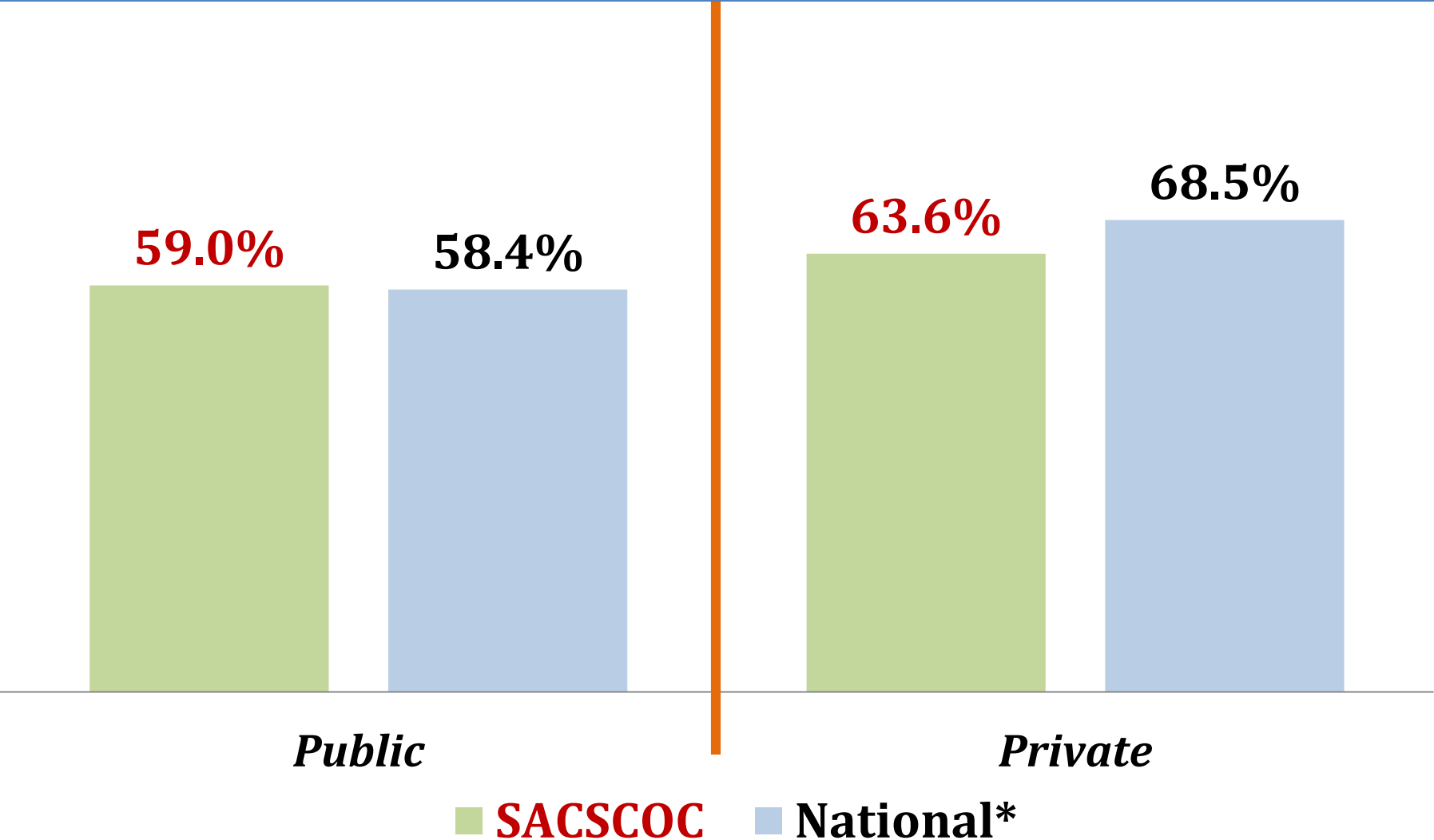
COMPLETERS (SIX-YEARS)



- **COMPLETION AT SAME SCHOOL**
- **Completion at Another 4-Year School**
- **Completion at 2-Year School**

SELECTED COMPARISONS

*SACSCOC vs National** (*six-year completion rate*)



Variables: 4-YEAR Schools

Institutional Categories

- Carnegie Classification (3)
- Campus Setting (2)
- Enrollment Size (5)
- Endowment Size (4)

Student Population Categories

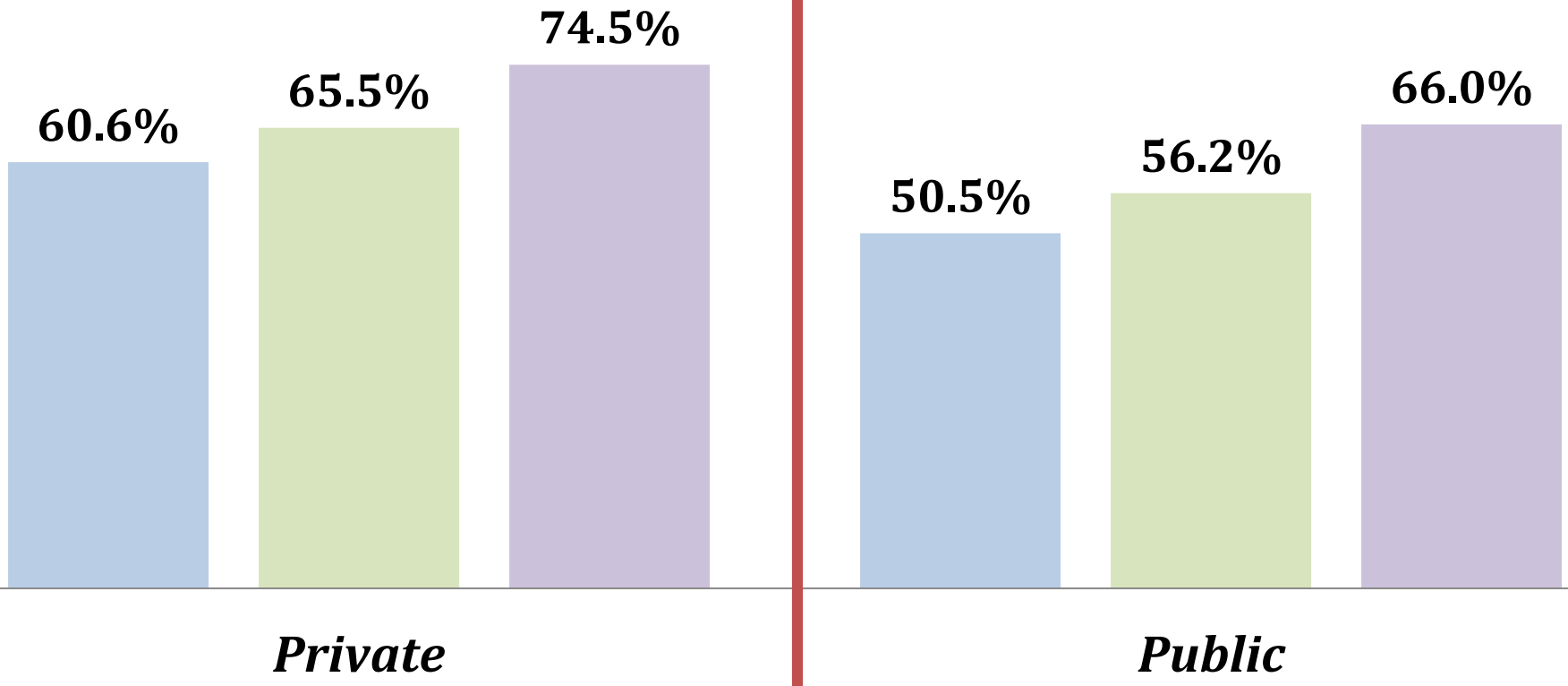
- Selectivity (3)
- % of Pell Recipients (4)
- % of Minorities (4)

Individual Student Categories

- Age (3)
- Gender (2)
- Enrollment Intensity (3)

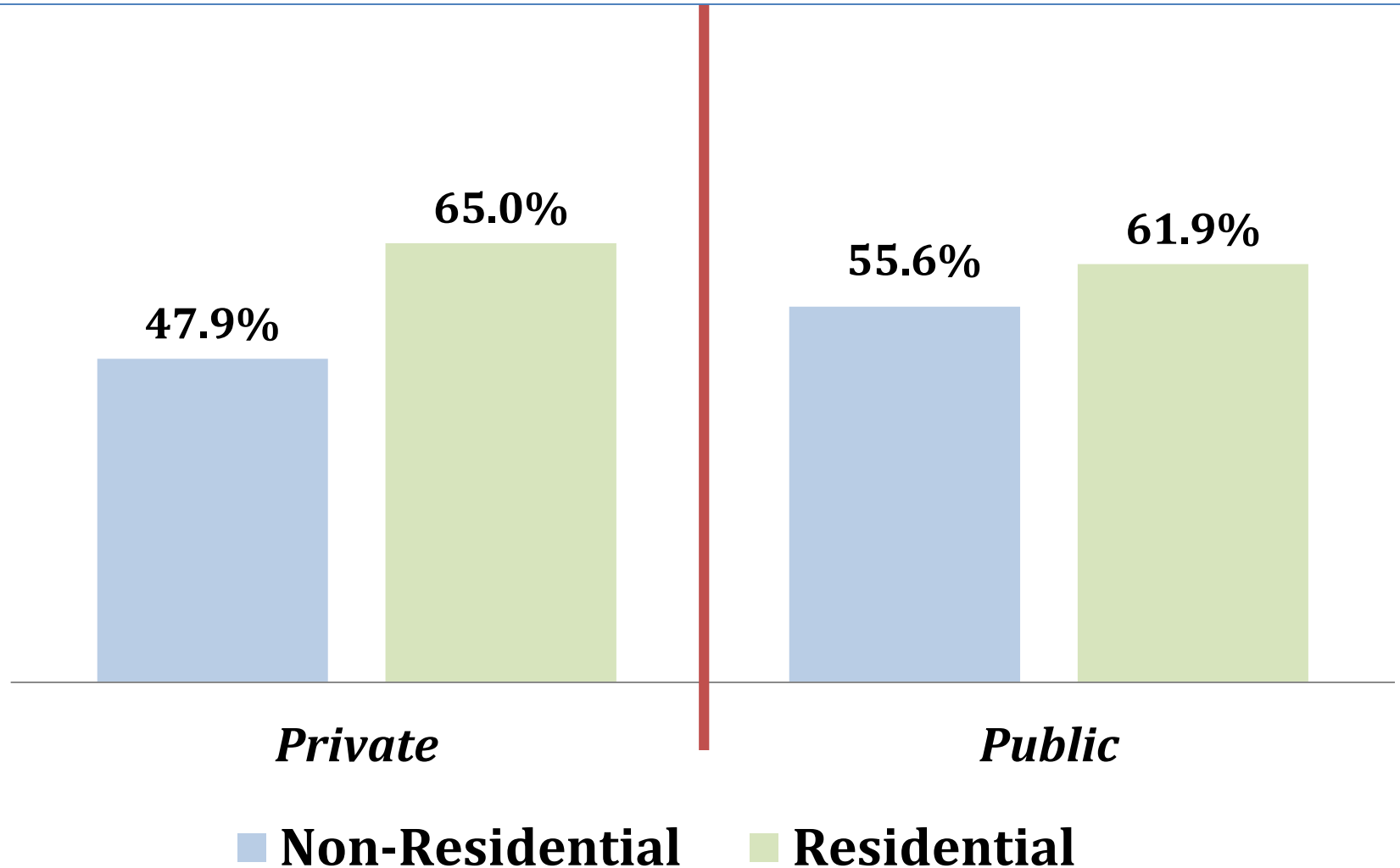
***Institutional* Categories**

Carnegie Classification

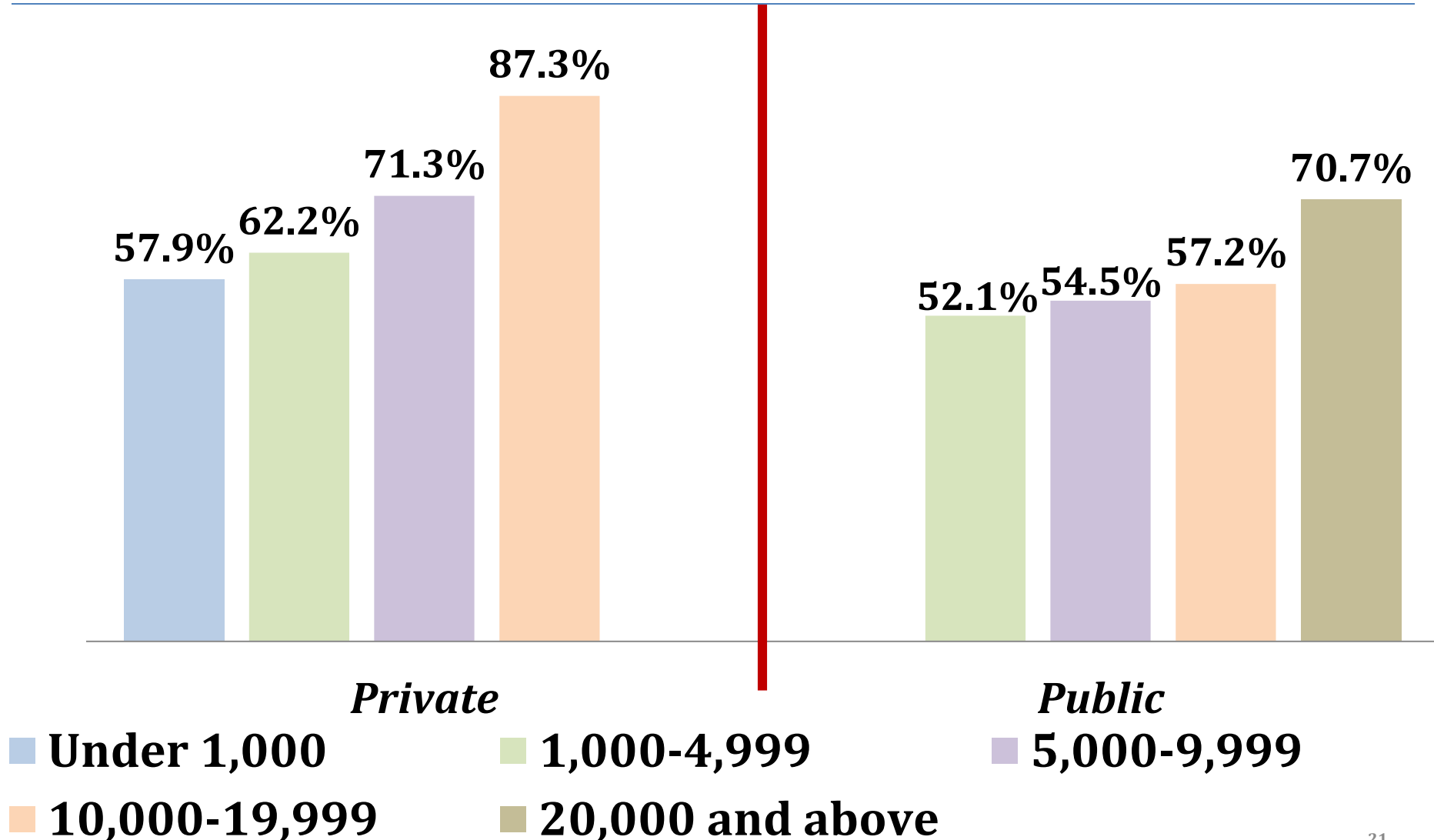


■ Baccalaureate ■ Master's ■ Research/Doctoral

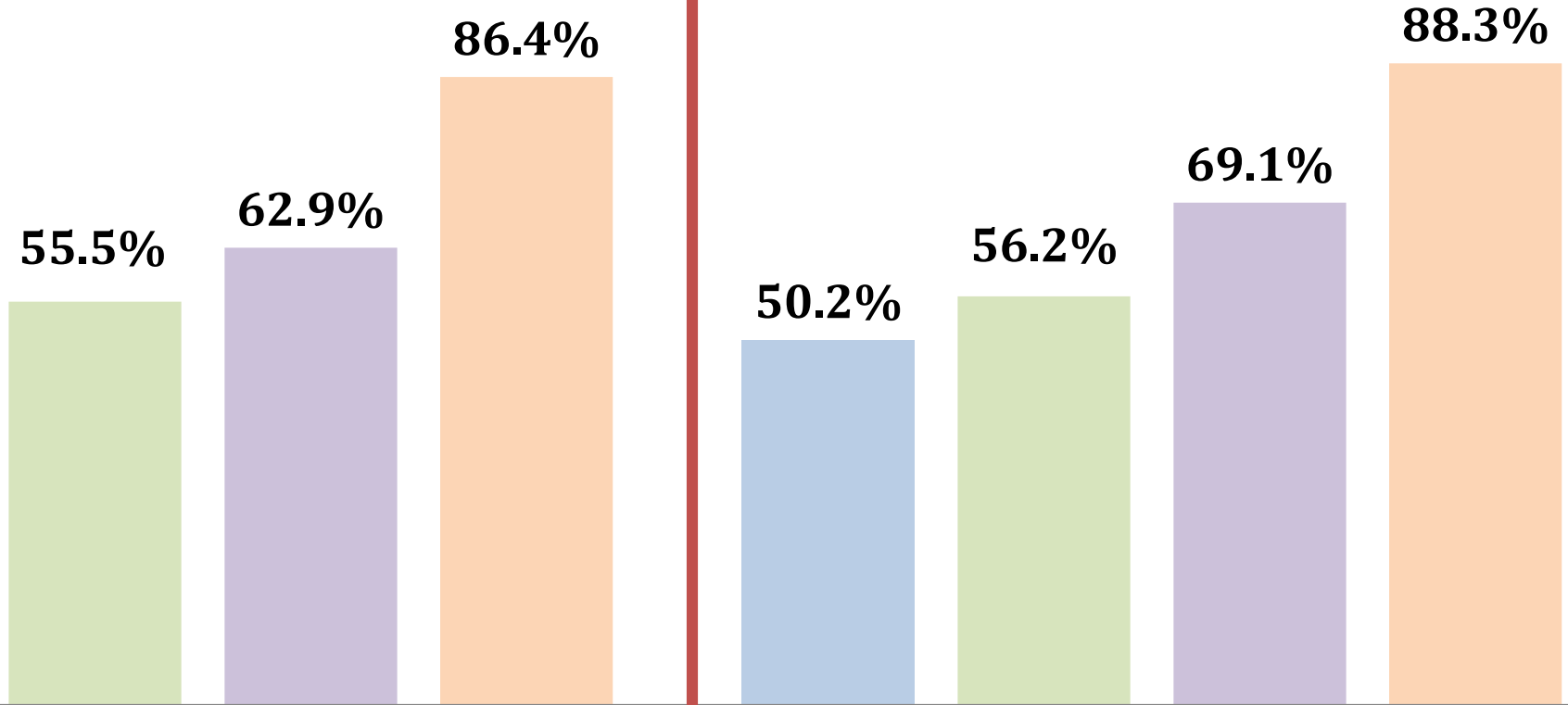
Campus Settings



Enrollment Size



Endowment Size *(per student FTE)*



Private

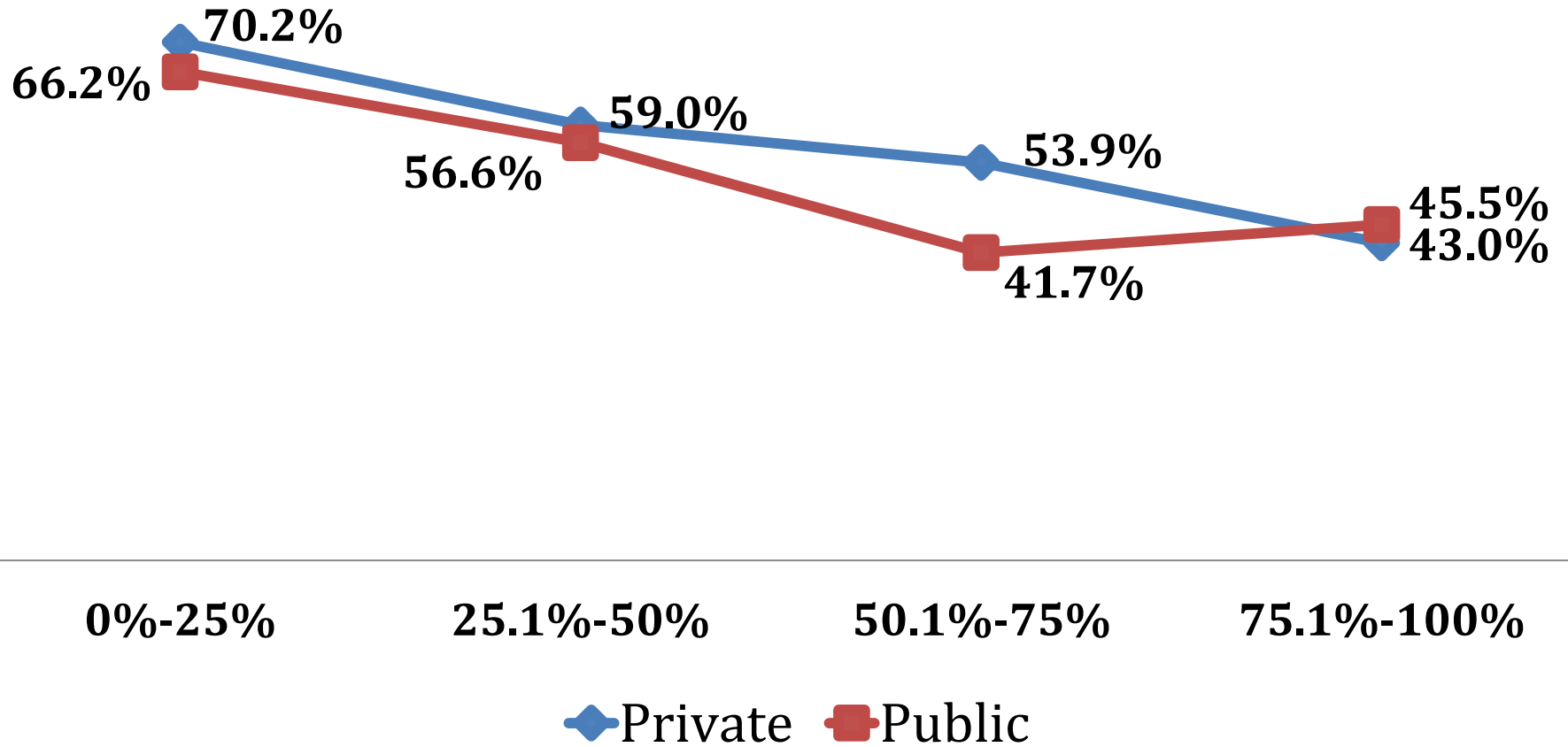
Public

- Less than \$1,000
- \$10,000-\$100,000

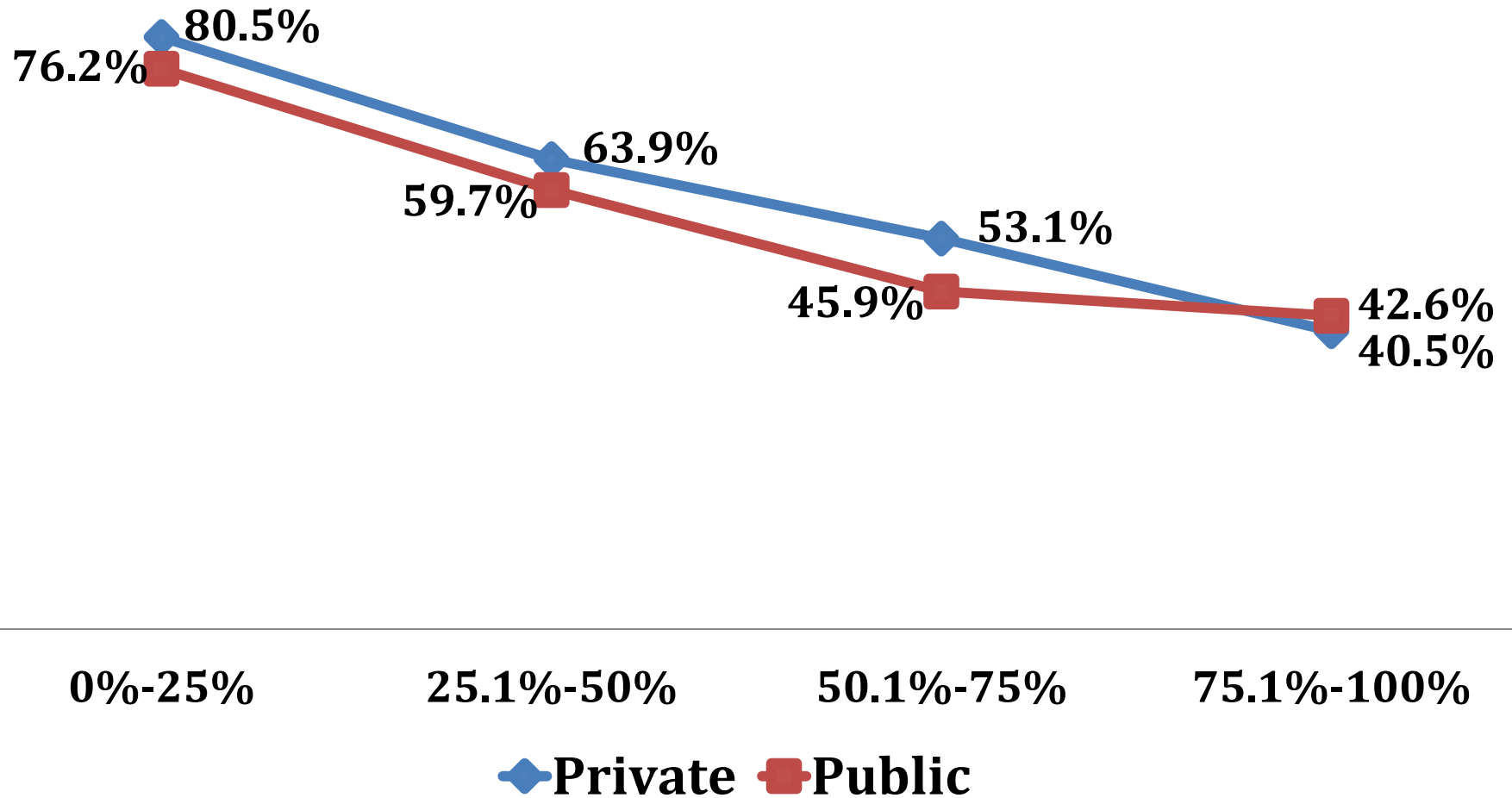
- \$1,000-\$9,999
- More than \$100,000

Student *Population* Categories

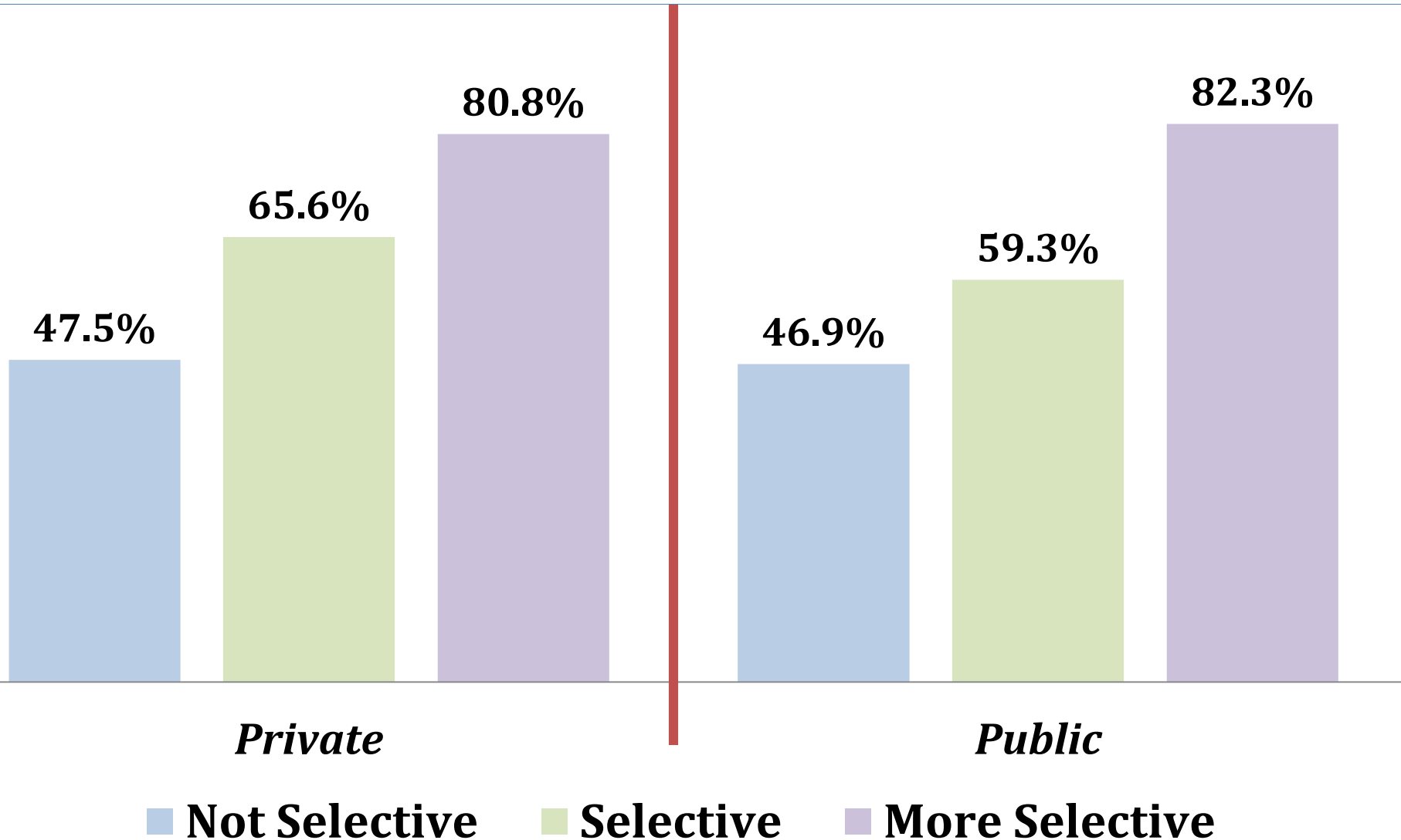
% of Minorities



% of Pell Grant Recipients

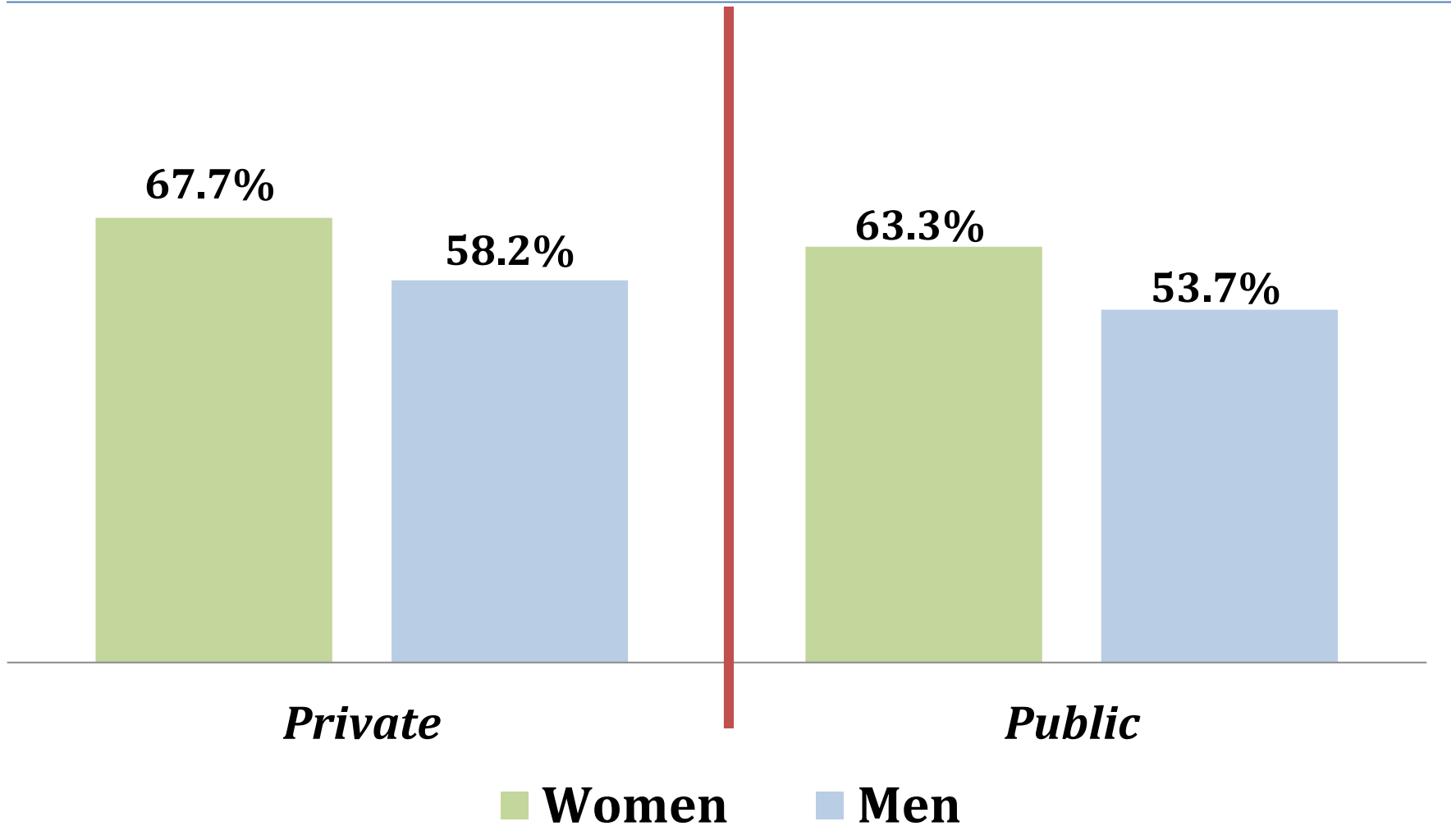


Selectivity

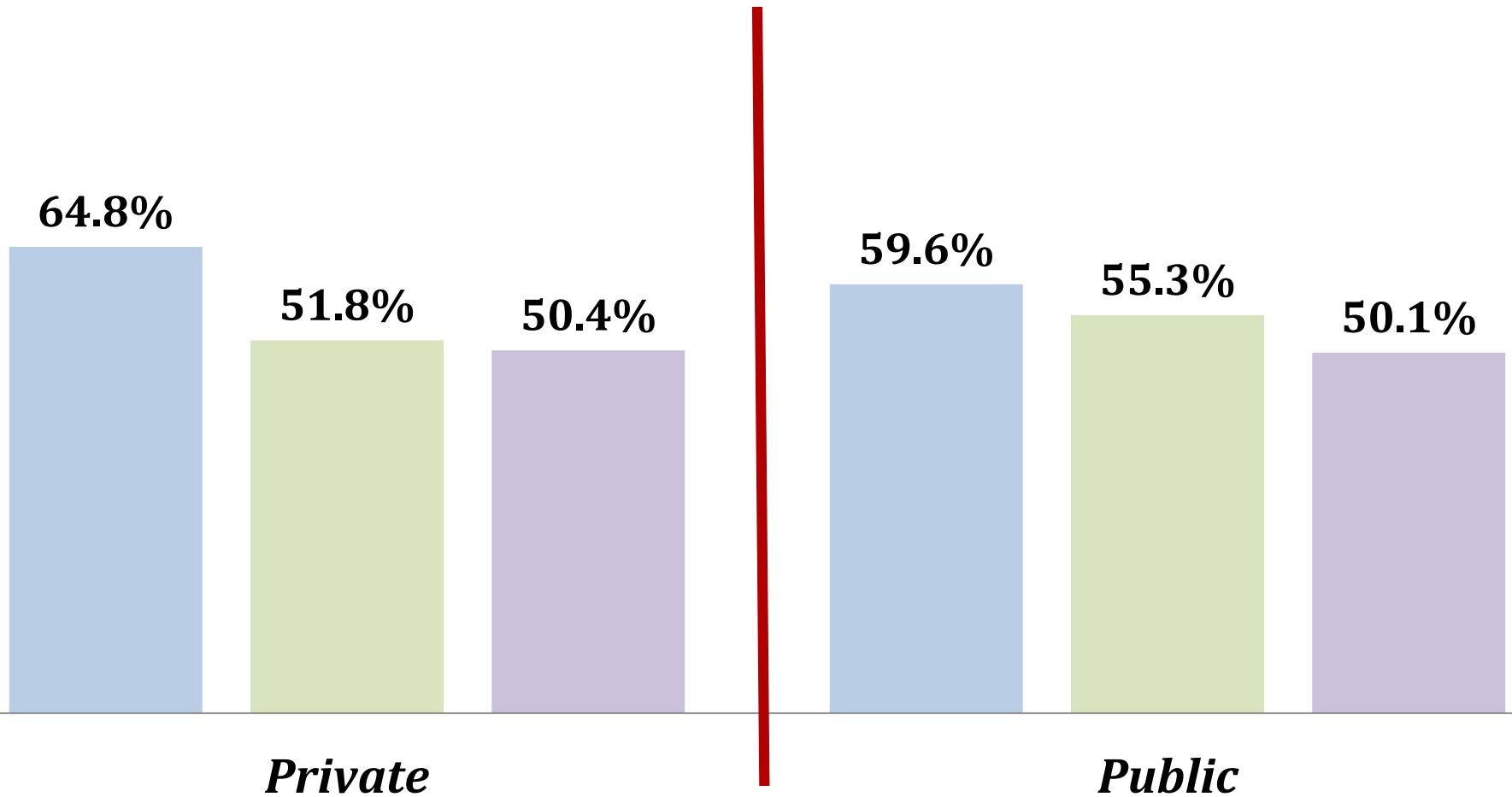


Individual Student Categories

Gender

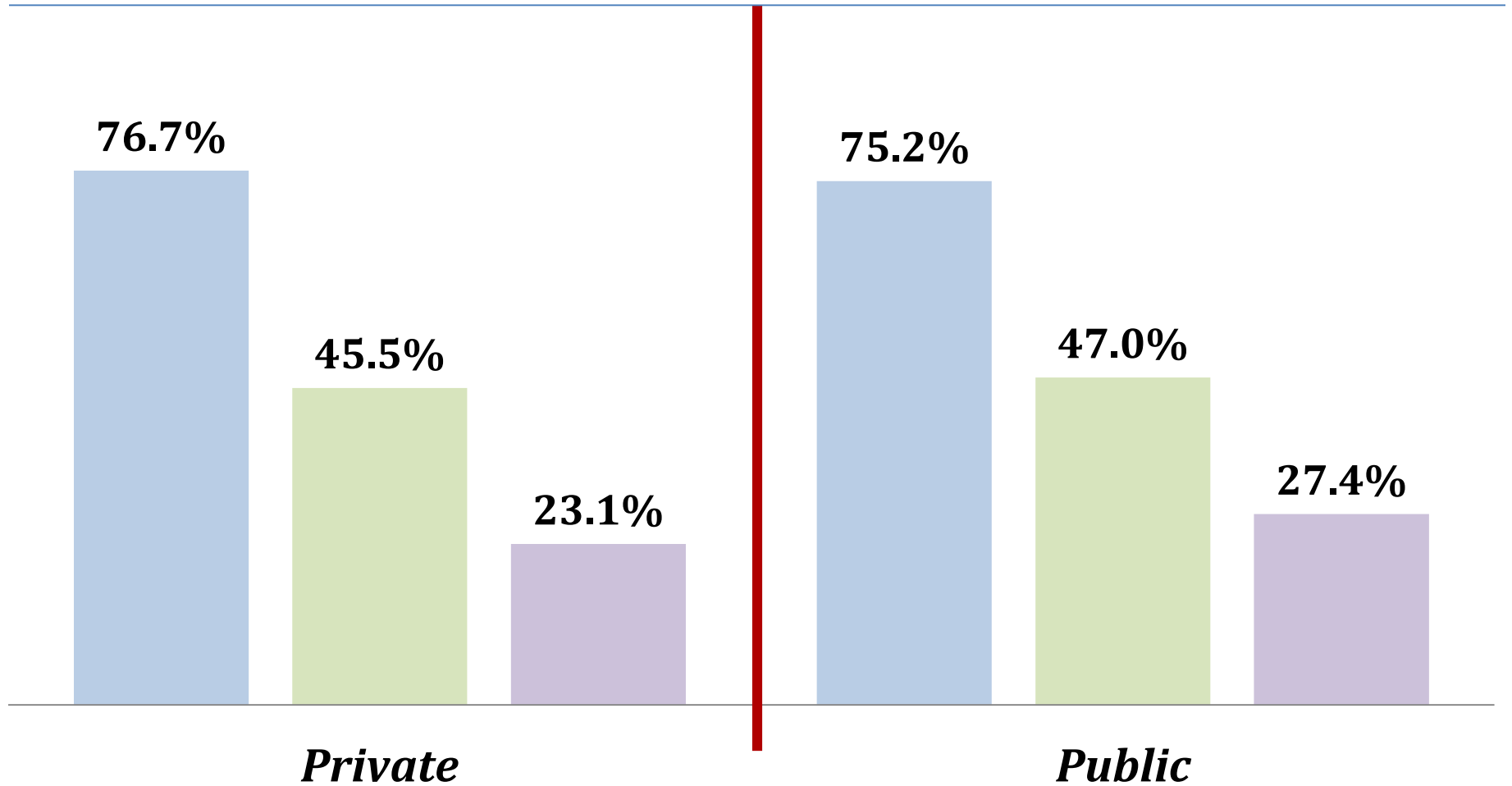


Age



■ 20 and younger ■ 21-24 ■ Older than 24

Enrollment Intensity



■ Exclusively Full-Time ■ Mixed Enrollement ■ Exclusively Part-Time

Summary: “*Predictor*” Variables?

- Enrollment Size (+)
- Endowment Size (+)
- Carnegie Class (+)
- Selectivity (+)
- % Pell Grant Recipients (-)
- % Minorities (-)
- Part-Time Enrollment (-)

General Observations

- Complex **interplay** among multiple completion rate predictor variables
 - Institutional missions
- Variation of completion rates *within* institutional segments
 - And *within* individual institutions

III. “BENCHMARKS” – FOR WHOM?

*COMPLEX INTERPLAY OF
INSTITUTIONAL AND STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS*

College Group	Pell Grant Percentage
Private, More Selective, \$100,000+ Endowment, <25% Minority, <25% Pell	92.3%
Private, Not Selective, <\$10,000 Endowment, >75% Minority, >75% Pell	40.9%

92.3%

Private, More Selective, \$100,000+
Endowment, <25% Minority, <25%
Pell

40.9%

Private, Not Selective, <\$10,000
Endowment, >75% Minority, >75%
Pell

A bar chart comparing the percentage of Pell + Exclusively FT and Pell + Exclusively PT for two types of private colleges. The left bar, representing 'Private, More Selective, \$100,000+ Endowment, <25% Minority, <25% Pell + Exclusively FT', is significantly taller and labeled with 96.9%. The right bar, representing 'Private, Not Selective, <\$10,000 Endowment, >75% Minority, >75% Pell + Exclusively PT', is very short and labeled with 1.8%.

College Type	Percentage
Private, More Selective, \$100,000+ Endowment, <25% Minority, <25% Pell + Exclusively FT	96.9%
Private, Not Selective, <\$10,000 Endowment, >75% Minority, >75% Pell + Exclusively PT	1.8%

Private, More Selective, \$100,000+
Endowment, <25% Minority, <25%
Pell + Exclusively FT

1.8%

Private, Not Selective, <\$10,000
Endowment, >75% Minority, >75%
Pell + Exclusively PT

Concluding Observations

- Careful analysis and extreme caution should be exercised if/when setting completion rate benchmarks for “institutional segments”
- Benchmarks set by *individual* institutions are likely to be more meaningful than benchmarks set by “*institutional segments*”
 - Explanation *and* Justification of Appropriateness

