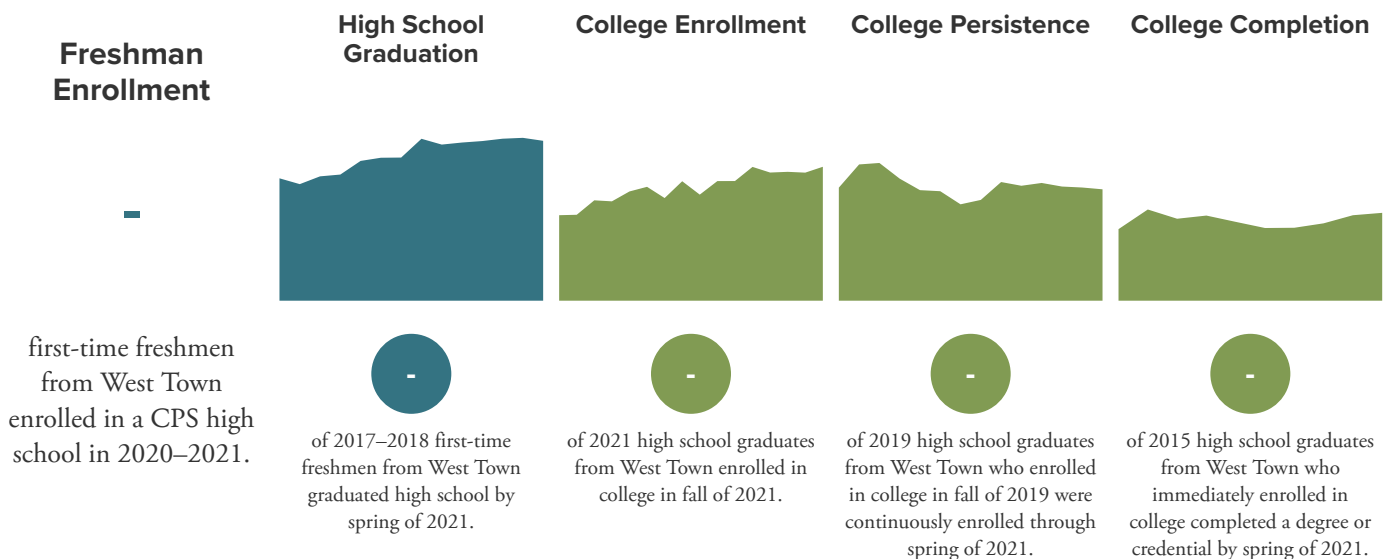


Educational Attainment in West Town

This report provides an overview of historic trends among Chicago Public Schools students from West Town on five milestones along the path to and through college. The data in this report is designed to give community stakeholders actionable information to inform their efforts to propel more students to and through high school and college. While the data shown here can start conversations about how to meaningfully invest in students from West Town, it only begins to tell the full story. Explore in-depth data on high school outcomes and post-secondary experiences in West Town through the [To&Through online tool](#).

Using data to guide school improvement means that the conversation around the data is just as important as the data itself. Using accompanying discussion guides alongside this report and the To&Through online tool can help your community or team socialize foundational knowledge on research-based indicators, form consensus around goals and strategies for improvement, and build an imperative for your collective work supporting equitable outcomes.



The data displayed in this report may differ from data provided directly from CPS. [Read](#) about how we define student groups and calculate rates.

Putting Data in Context

This report focuses on educational outcomes for Chicago Public Schools students from West Town. This data cannot be understood in a vacuum, however. Student attainment data must be analyzed through a critical lens which situates outcomes within the historical, political, and social context of a community. Only then can student data be part of a collaborative dialogue about the inequitable policies, systems, and practices that prevent CPS students, and particularly Black and Brown students, from reaching their academic potential.

Below is a brief snapshot of some metrics about the population of West Town. This data is designed to spur thinking about what historical and contemporary factors in a community sculpt the educational experiences of the young people who live in it as you engage with the data in this report.

	West Town	Chicago
Total Population	84,437	2,699,347
Race and Ethnic Breakdown of Total Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21% Latino • 63% White • 6% Black • 5% Asian/Pacific Islander • 4% Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29% Latino • 33% White • 29% Black • 7% Asian/Pacific Islander • 2% Other
Household Annual Income Breakdown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% below \$25,000 • 15% \$25,000 - \$59,999 • 20% \$60,000 - \$99,999 • 55% \$100,000 or above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23% below \$25,000 • 26% \$25,000 - \$59,999 • 20% \$60,000 - \$99,999 • 31% \$100,000 or above
Percentage of High Schoolers in Chicago Public Schools	85%	86%
Highest Education Level of Population Age 25 and Over	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6% high school or less • 9% high school diploma • 9% some college, no degree • 76% college degree 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14% high school or less • 22% high school diploma • 17% some college, no degree • 47% college degree

Source: Data in the table comes from the 2016–2020 [American Community Survey five-year estimates](#).

Freshman Enrollment in West Town



first-time freshmen from West Town enrolled in a CPS high school in 2020–2021.

Where do freshmen from West Town enroll in school?

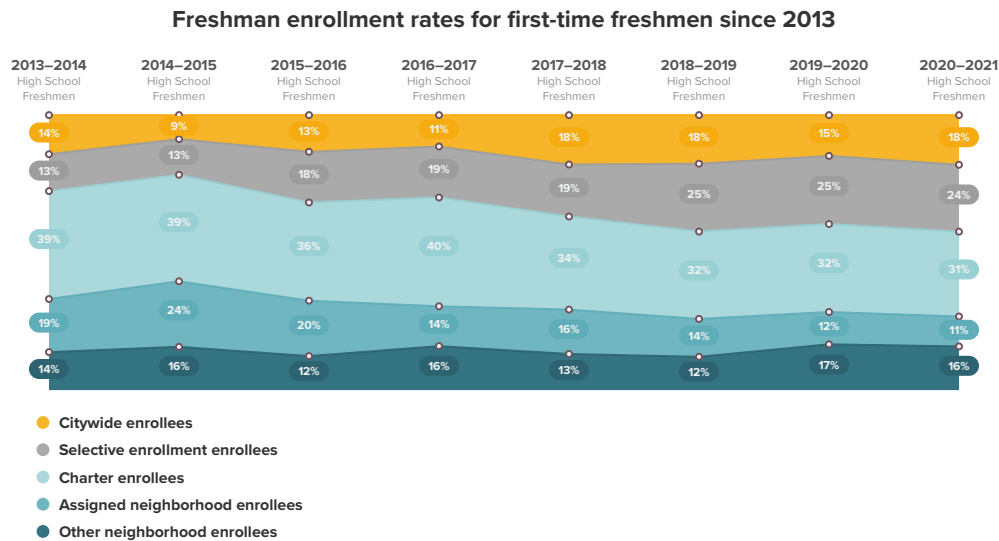
2020–2021 enrollment of freshmen from West Town by the 5 most commonly attended high schools

High School	Number of Freshmen	Percentage of Freshmen	High School Type
Clemente	36	9%	Neighborhood High School
Noble St	32	8%	Charter High School
Noble St - Rauner	28	7%	Charter High School
Noble St - Golder	27	7%	Charter High School
Whitney Young	26	6%	Selective Enrollment School
Other	208	58%	

Putting Data in Context

- Does the proportion of students attending each school type align with your expectations? Why or why not?
- What social, historical and political factors may shape the changes in attendance to different kinds of schools over time?

How has the enrollment of freshmen from West Town in different types of high schools changed over time?



What do outcomes at the CPS high schools most commonly attended by freshmen from West Town look like?

Explore [High School outcomes data](#) about the schools most commonly attended by freshmen from West Town including where they are located, and how outcomes at each individual school relate to outcomes in the community area as a whole.

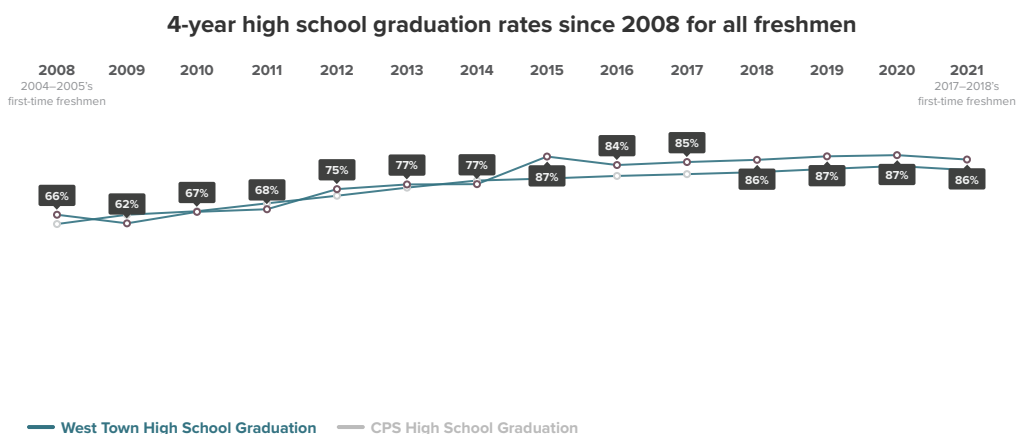
Have more questions about Freshman Enrollment from West Town? Take a deeper dive into the data at <https://toandthrough.uchicago.edu/tool/cps/>

High School Graduation in West Town



of 2017–2018 first-time freshmen from West Town graduated high school by spring of 2021. Graduating high school with a high level of academic achievement is among the most important markers along the road to college success. Students who graduate from high school with a GPA of 3.0 or above have at least a 50 percent probability of graduating from a four-year college within six years. In order to graduate from high school on time, students must earn a minimum of 24 credits.

How has the high school graduation rate and the proportion of students graduating with a 3.0 or above from West Town changed over time?



Putting Data in Context

- What community-based factors contribute to a student's ability to graduate?
- How might historical changes in the community relate to trends in high school graduation shown here?
- What community-based resources and investments might be leveraged to increase individual students' chances of graduating?
- What resources are available to different student groups outside of school?

How do High School Graduation rates for different student groups from West Town compare to each other?

Students' identities inform their high school experiences in meaningful ways which can result in variation in high school graduation rates. Explore [high school graduation data](#) for different student groups, including students of different races and genders.

Have more questions about High School Graduation from West Town?
Take a deeper dive into the data at <https://toandthrough.uchicago.edu/tool/cps/>

College Enrollment in West Town



of 2021 high school graduates from West Town enrolled in college in fall of 2021. Students' choice of college influences their likelihood of earning a college degree. Students who choose a college with a strong track record of graduating its students, and which fits their unique financial, geographic, and cultural needs, are more likely to earn a college degree or credential. College may not be the best path for every student, but due to data limitations, we are not currently able to track outcomes for non-college pathways.

Where do high school graduates from West Town enroll in college?

Students' choice of college influences their likelihood of earning a college degree. Students who choose a college with a strong track record of graduating its students are more likely to earn a college degree or credential.

2021 enrollment of CPS graduates from West Town by the 5 most commonly attended colleges

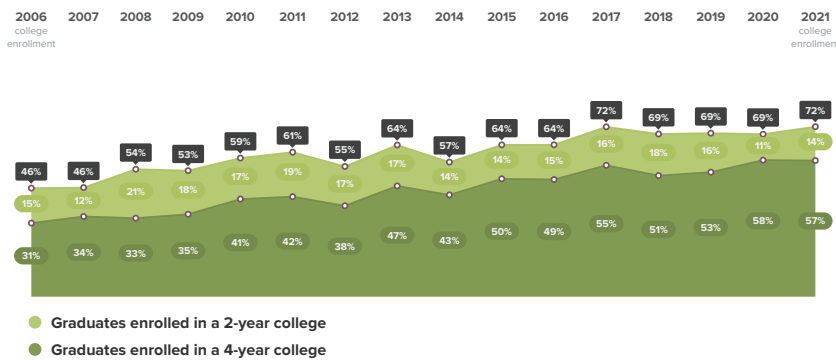
	Graduates Enrolled	URM Grad Rate	Institutional Grad Rate	Institution Type
University of Illinois at Chicago	26	53%	62%	4 year
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	20	75%	85%	4 year
City Colleges of Chicago-Malcolm X College	18	21%	21%	2 year
DePaul University	13	59%	70%	4 year
National Louis University	11	32%	34%	4 year

Putting Data in Context

- How homogenous or heterogenous are the college enrollment choices of students from West Town?
- What community-based factors might contribute to students' enrollment decisions?

How have two-year and four-year college enrollment rates for graduates from West Town changed over time?

College enrollment rates since 2006



Putting Data in Context

- How have college enrollment patterns changed over time for students from West Town?
- Do these changes align with your expectations? Why or why not?
- How might historical changes in the community relate to trends in college enrollment?

How do enrollment rates for 2-year and 4-year colleges vary by gender from West Town?

Use West Town's [college enrollment data](#) to examine differences in post-secondary experiences across genders. What choices are students of different genders making around college enrollment?

Have more questions about College Enrollment from West Town? Take a deeper dive into the data at <https://toandthrough.uchicago.edu/tool/cps/>

College Persistence in West Town

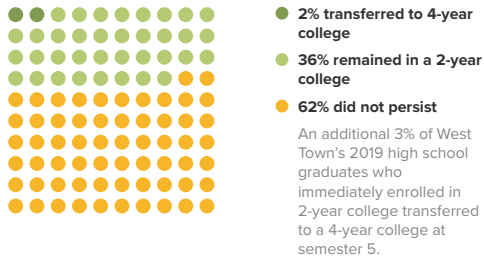


of 2019 high school graduates from West Town who enrolled in college in fall of 2019 were continuously enrolled through spring of 2021. Students who remain continuously enrolled through the first two years of college are more likely to complete a degree or credential.

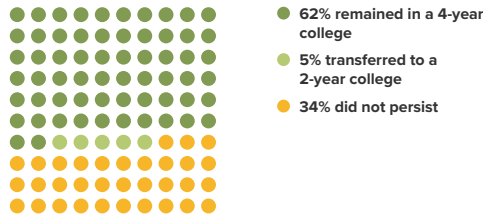
Where are 2019 CPS graduates from West Town after 4 semesters?

Students follow myriad pathways in their post-secondary career, with many choosing to transfer between 2-year and 4-year institutions.

2-year enrollees 2019 Immediate Enrollees from West Town



4-year enrollees 2019 Immediate Enrollees from West Town

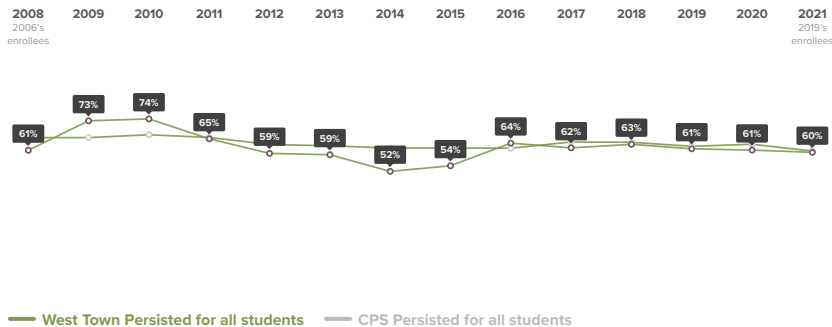


Putting Data in Context

- What post-secondary pathways do students from West Town take?
- How do schools and communities support students through transitions between institutions?

How have persistence rates for college enrollees changed from West Town over time?

College persistence rates for college enrollees since 2008



Putting Data in Context

- Are students who enroll in college remaining enrolled after two or more semesters?
- What factors might affect a student's ability to persist in college?
- How does or how could the West Town community provide resources to support students through their transition from high school to college?

How has College Persistence changed over time for 2-year and 4-year enrollees respectively?

Explore [West Town's college persistence data](#) across 2- and 4-year colleges to understand what supports might be needed by students enrolling in different kinds of institutions.

Have more questions about College Persistence from West Town?

Take a deeper dive into the data at <https://toandthrough.uchicago.edu/tool/cps/>

College Completion in West Town



of 2015 high school graduates from West Town who immediately enrolled in college completed a degree or credential by spring of 2021. Completing a college degree or certificate is increasingly a prerequisite for social and economic stability in the 21st century. The college completion rate is the critical benchmark for thinking about the ultimate success of a high school's efforts to increase the educational attainment of its students.

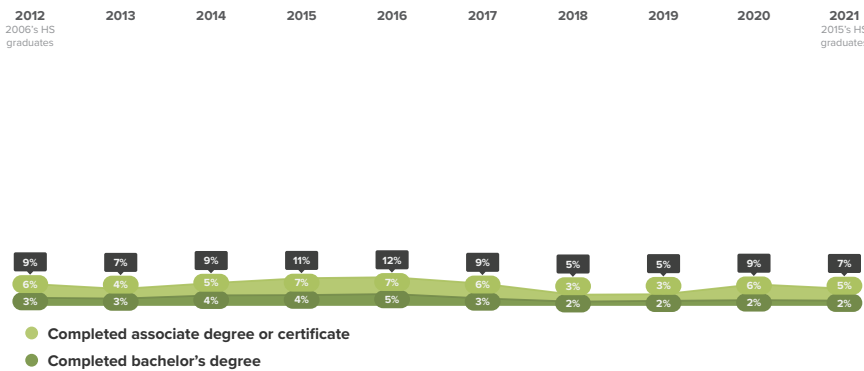
How have college completion rates for CPS graduates from West Town who immediately enrolled in a 2-year or 4-year college changed over time?

College completion rates since 2012 for graduates who immediately enrolled in a 2-year or 4-year college



How have college completion rates for CPS graduates from West Town who did not immediately enroll in a 2-year or 4-year college changed over time?

College completion rates since 2012 for graduates who did not immediately enroll in a 2-year or 4-year college



Putting Data in Context

- Are these trends consistent with your expectations? Why or why not?
- What story comes out about post-secondary education in West Town when examining data across college enrollment, persistence, and completion?

How does College Completion from West Town compare to College Completion across CPS?

Explore [district-level data](#) across college enrollment, persistence, and completion to understand how students from West Town compare to the broader CPS population. How might different community-level public and private investments contribute to differences in achievement for students in West Town?

Have more questions about College Completion from West Town? Take a deeper dive into the data at <https://toandthrough.uchicago.edu/tool/cps/>