



# 2022 Common Data Project Excerpt Gender

Improving the Quality and Comparability of State Educational Data across New England



NEW ENGLAND  
SECONDARY SCHOOL  
CONSORTIUM

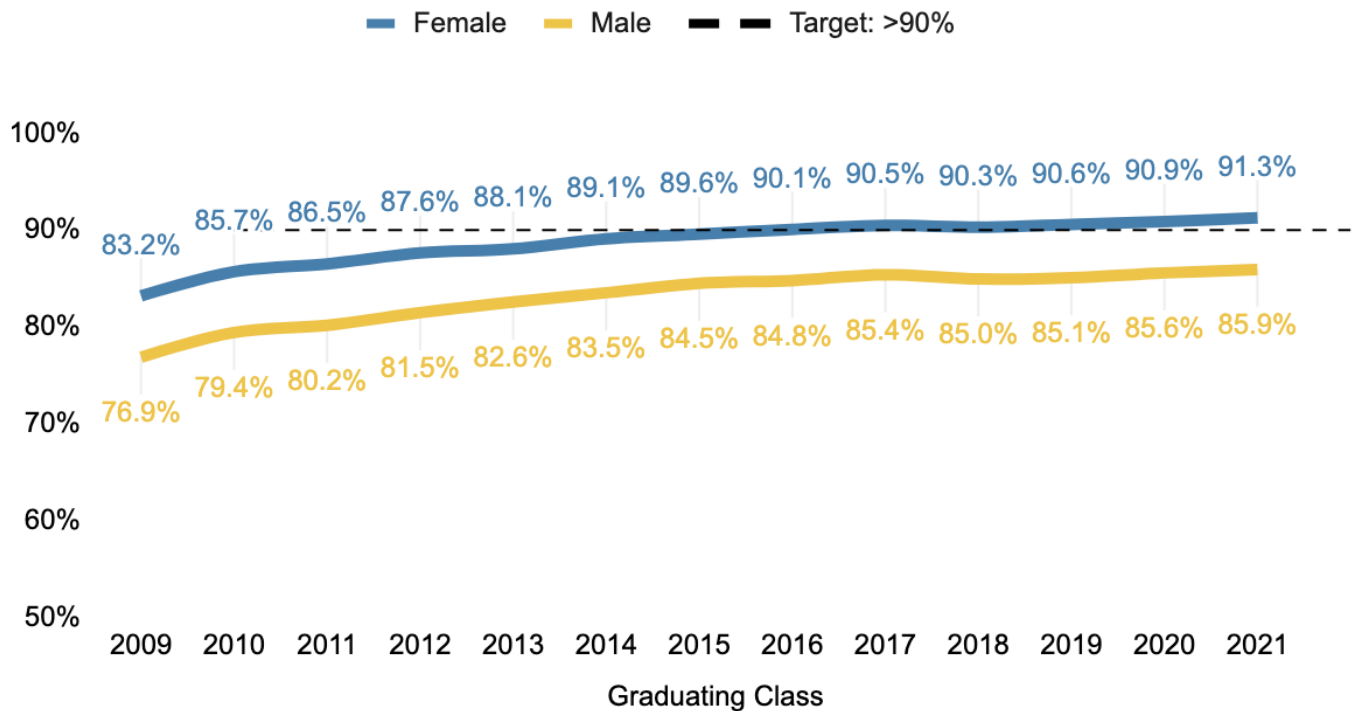
## Section I: High School Graduation (4-Year)

### Gender

Across New England, female students graduate from high school in four years at a higher rate than male students.

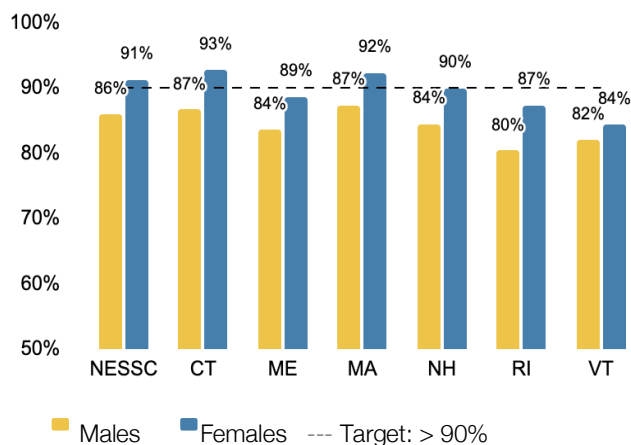
While graduation rates have increased for both groups since 2009, the graduation rate gap between female and male students has remained steady at 5 to 6 percentage points over time.

**High School Graduation (4-Year) Rates by Gender**



For the class of 2021, male students trailed the NESSC target for high school graduation by about 4 percentage points on average. In three NESSC states, female students met the NESSC target of 90% or higher.

Distance from target by state (Class of 2021)



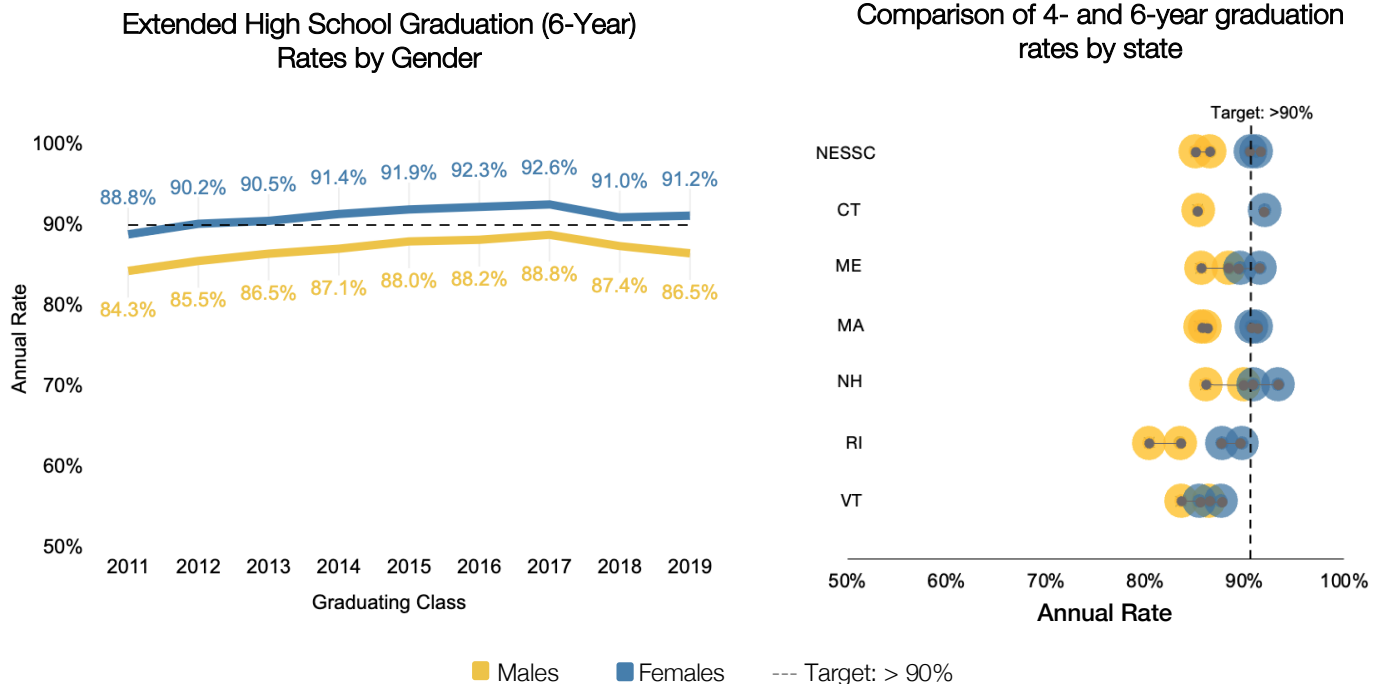
**Graduation rate & number of graduates by state (2021)**

	Male Students		Female Students	
NESSC	85.9%	70,509	91.3%	70,820
CT	86.6%	18,491	92.8%	18,343
ME	83.7%	5,943	88.6%	5,952
MA	87.4%	33,015	92.3%	33,536
NH	84.5%	5,990	90.0%	5,913
RI	80.3%	4,618	87.4%	4,759
VT	82.0%	2,452	84.4%	2,317

## Section II: Extended High School Graduation (6-Year)

### Gender

Across the region, the extended graduation rate for male students demonstrates slightly higher gains than that for female students. For the class of 2019, female students across the region improved their graduation rate by less than one percentage point when taking an additional two years, compared to 1.4 percentage points for male students. Female students in three of the five reporting NESSC states have extended graduation rates at or above the NESSC 90% target, while male students do not meet the target in any state.



4-year graduation rate, extended 6-year graduation rate, and number of graduates by state (Class of 2019)

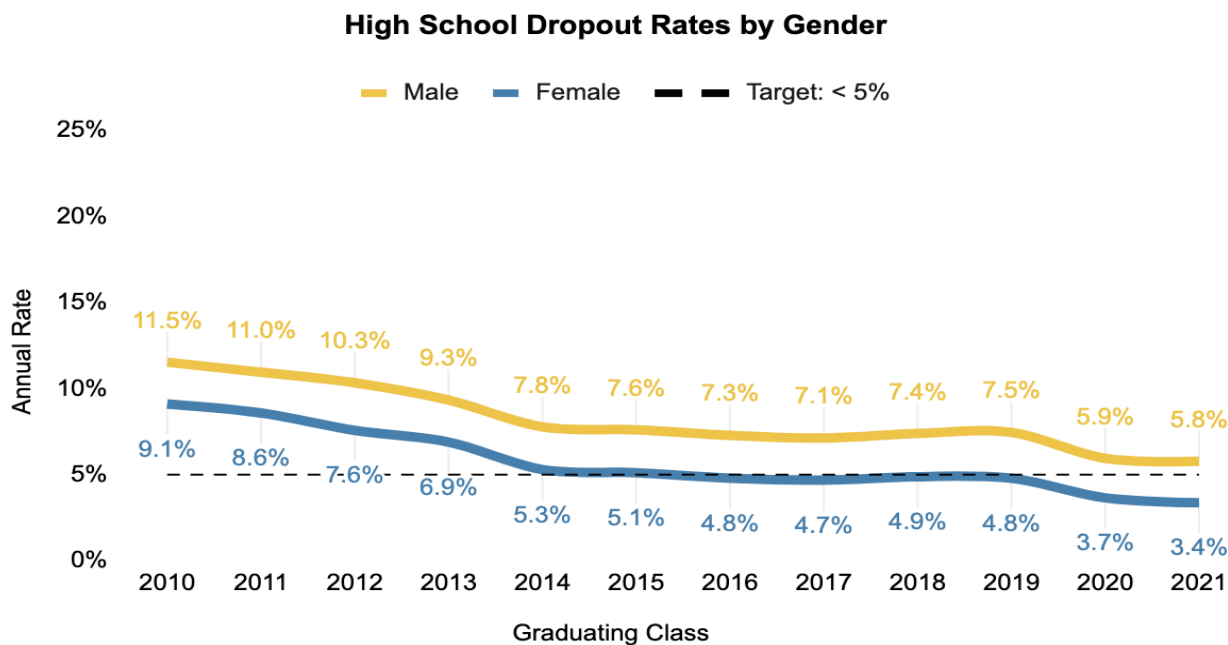
	Males			Females		
	4-year rate	6-year rate	6-year # of grads	4-year rate	6-year rate	6-year # of grads
NESSC	85.1%	86.5%	53,295	90.6%	91.2%	53,280
CT	85.3%	-	-	92.0%	-	-
ME	85.6%	88.4%	6,507	89.5%	91.6%	6,204
MA	85.5%	86.0%	32,935	90.7%	91.2%	33,485
NH	86.1%	89.9%	6,445	90.9%	93.4%	6,293
RI	80.4%	83.5%	4,847	87.7%	89.7%	4,888
VT	83.6%	86.4%	2,561	85.4%	87.6%	2,410

# Section III: High School Dropouts

## Gender

Dropout rates for female students in the region have fallen from 9% in 2010 to nearly 3% in 2021, compared with a decline of 12% to 6% among male students.

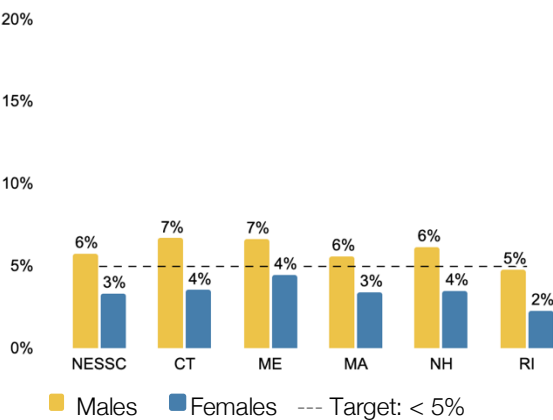
Dropout rates for female and male students have declined at similar rates since 2010. The regional average gender gap in dropout rates has remained stable at 2 percentage points.



Four states—Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire—reported dropout rates for female students in the class of 2021 at or below the NESSC’s target of 5%. For the second year in a row, the dropout rate for male students has been within 1 percentage point of the NESSC target.

*Note: In the dropout rate bar graph below, the aim is to be below the 5% target. For all other indicators discussed in this report (e.g., graduation rate, college enrollment) the aim is to be above the target.*

Distance from target by state (Class of 2021)



Dropout rate & number of dropouts by state (2021)

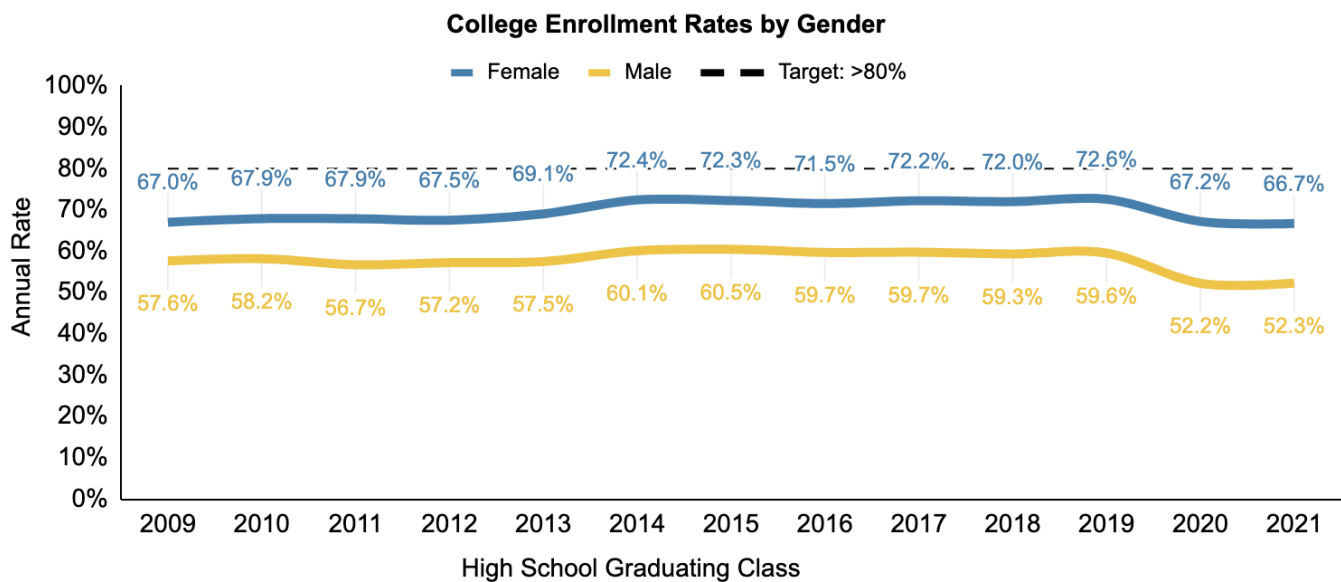
	Male Students		Female Students	
NESSC	5.8%	4,741	3.4%	2,612
CT	6.7%	1,432	3.6%	702
ME	6.7%	473	4.5%	301
MA	5.6%	2,121	3.4%	1,252
NH	6.2%	439	3.5%	232
RI	4.8%	276	2.3%	125
VT	-	-	-	-

## Section IV: College Enrollment

### Gender

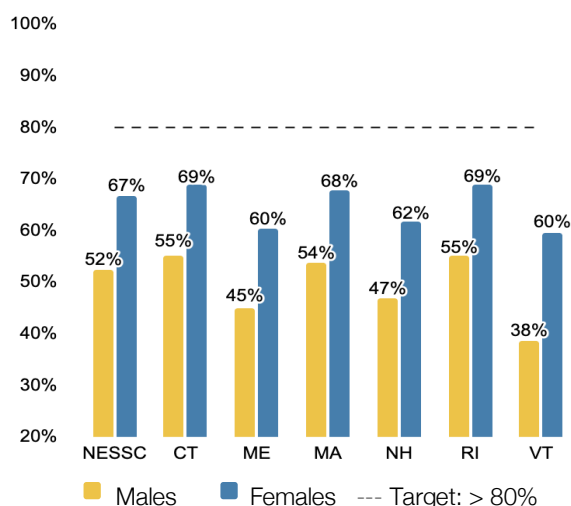
Since data were first collected in 2009, the college enrollment rate of female students across the region has consistently been higher than that of male students. It has also increased faster, from 67% to 73% compared with 58% to 60% for males. Both groups saw a decline in rates in 2020, by 5 percentage points for females and 7 percentage points for males, and both rates held fairly steady in 2021.

The gap in college enrollment rates between female and male students has increased from 9 to 15 percentage points between 2009 and 2021.



Female and male students from the high school graduating class of 2021 fell short of 80% NESSC college enrollment target. The group of students in the 2021 graduating class that were closest to meeting 80% college enrollment, were females from Rhode Island and Connecticut, both at 11 percentage points below the target. Female students come closer to meeting the target in all six New England states, though enrollment rates vary considerably across states.

Distance from target by state (Class of 2021)



Enrollment rate & number of students by state (2021)

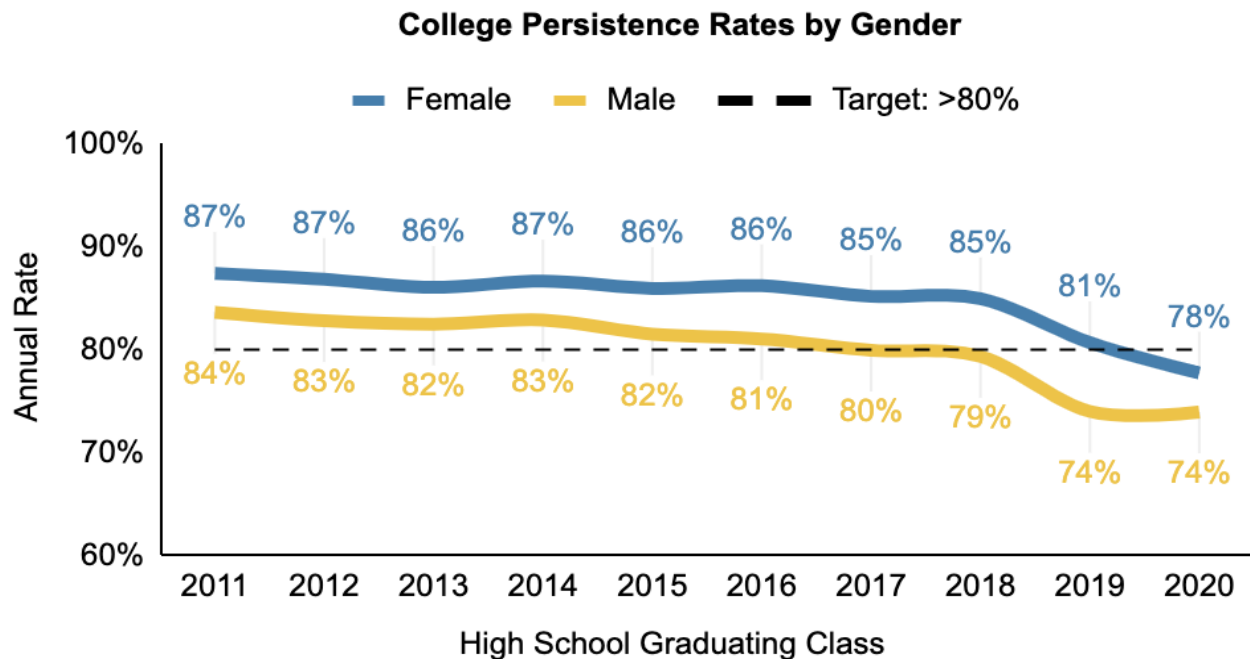
	Males		Females	
NESSC	52.3%	38,373	66.7%	48,568
CT	55.0%	10,535	68.8%	12,978
ME	45.1%	2,783	60.4%	3,668
MA	53.7%	18,456	67.8%	23,355
NH	46.8%	2,922	61.8%	3,723
RI	55.2%	2,662	68.8%	3,373
VT	38.5%	1,015	59.5%	1,471

## Section V: College Persistence

### Gender

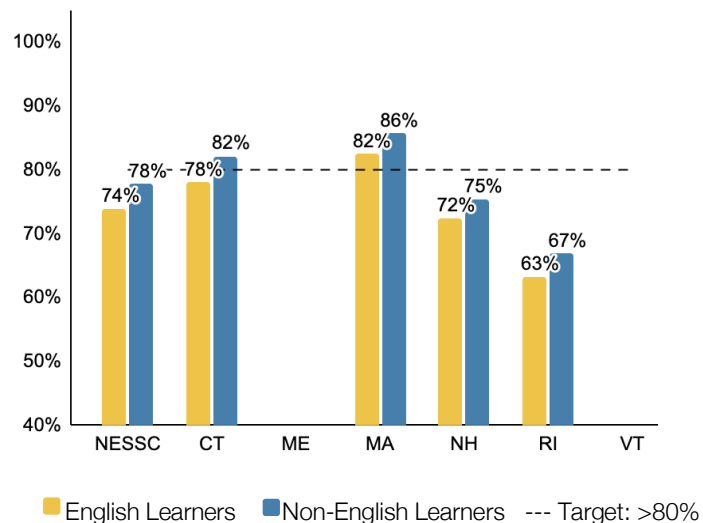
Across New England, female students persist in college at rates 4 percentage points higher than male students. This is the narrowest gap for college persistence rates by gender since 2015.

College persistence among female students across the region has declined 9 percentage points since 2011, including a decline of 3 percentage points since last year. Meanwhile, persistence among male students fell by 10 percentage points between 2011 and 2020, and stayed steady in the last year.



Female students who entered college in 2020 met the NESSC college persistence target in Massachusetts and Connecticut; male students met the target in Massachusetts.

Distance from target by state (College Entry Year 2020)



Persistence rate & number of students by state (2020)

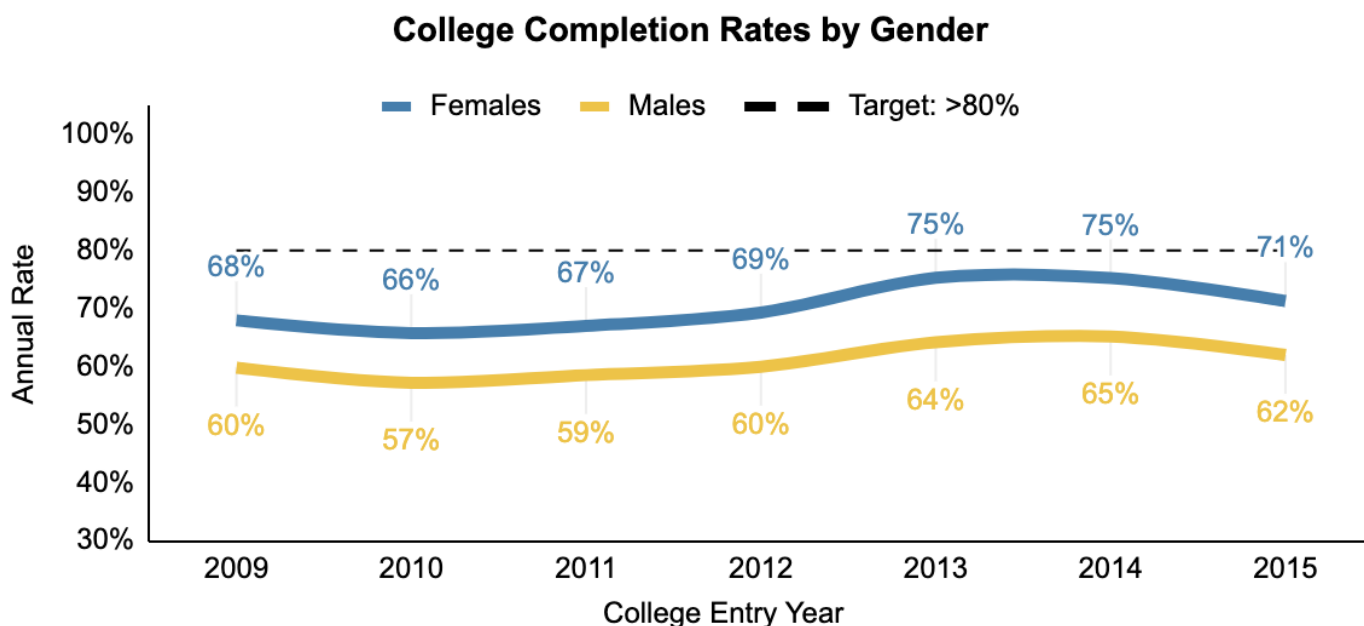
	Males		Females	
NESSC	73.9%	30,128	77.7%	39,882
CT	78.0%	8,861	82.2%	11,579
ME	-	-	-	-
MA	82.4%	15,470	85.7%	20,591
NH	72.4%	2,668	75.4%	3,423
RI	63.3%	2,186	66.8%	2,898
VT	-	-	-	-

## Section VI: College Completion

### Gender

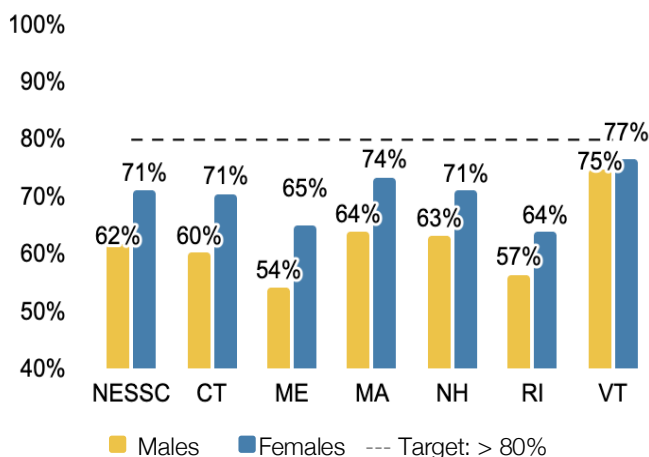
There is a 9 percentage point gap in college completion by gender across the NESSC region, with 71% of female students and 62% of male students who entered college in 2015 completing a college degree by 2021.

The emerging trend lines of college completion rates for female and male students depict similar changes over time, with both males and females having experienced a decline for the college entry class of 2015 for the first time in five years.



For students entering college in 2015, Vermont reported the smallest gender gap in college completion at 2 percentage points. Maine and Connecticut both have the largest gap at 11 percentage points.

Distance from target by state (College Entry Year 2015)



Completion rate & number of graduates by state (2015)

	Males		Females	
NESSC	62.0%	28,846	71.3%	38,976
CT	60.2%	7,825	70.6%	10,418
ME	54.2%	2,114	64.9%	2,915
MA	64.1%	13,364	73.5%	18,357
NH	63.2%	2,508	71.1%	3,280
RI	56.5%	1,799	63.9%	2,410
VT	75.0%	1,236	76.5%	1,596