

Data on Enrollment Trends and Impact of COVID-19

June 24, 2021



The mission of Merritt College is to enhance the quality of life in the communities we serve by helping students to attain knowledge, master skills, and develop the appreciation, attitudes and values needed to succeed and participate responsibly in a democratic society and a global economy.



Data Source:

All data is from Peralta CCD Data System (ODS).

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Data/Research Requests:

<https://www.merritt.edu/institutional-research/research-and-data-request-form/>



Highlights

- Headcount enrollment has declined each year since 2018-19; COVID-19 exacerbated an overall trend (Figure 1).
- AY 2020-21 saw the lowest enrollment in the last ten years (11,218). The next to lowest enrollment was in AY 2013-14 (11,330); a difference of 112 (Figure 1).
- In AY 2020-21, headcount enrollment was 5.5% less than the average of the preceding nine years (11,869).
- Enrollment of Asian, Black/African-American and Hispanic/LatinX students declined significantly each year since 2018-19 (Figures 4, 6, 7, 8) .
- From AY 2019-20 to AY 2020-21, the largest declines in enrollment were among Hispanic/LatinX Males (-19%), Black/African American Males (-18%) and Asian Males (-10%).
- Enrollment of White students fell from AY 2018-19 to AY 2019-20, then increased in AY 2020-21 (Figure 10).
- Hispanic/LatinX enrollment increased each year starting in AY 2011-12 and peaked in AY 2018-19 (Figure 4).
- Black/African-American enrollment has declined steadily over the last ten years (Figure 4).
- Enrollment of first-time students dropped dramatically in AY 2020-21 (-19%, Figure 13).
- The number of Returning students has declined each year since AY 2017-18 (Figure 14).
- Enrollment in Non- Career Education courses fell by over 25% from AY 2019-20 to AY 2020-21 (Figure 17)



Annual Headcount Enrollment (2011/12 to 2020/21)

Figure 1 Headcount

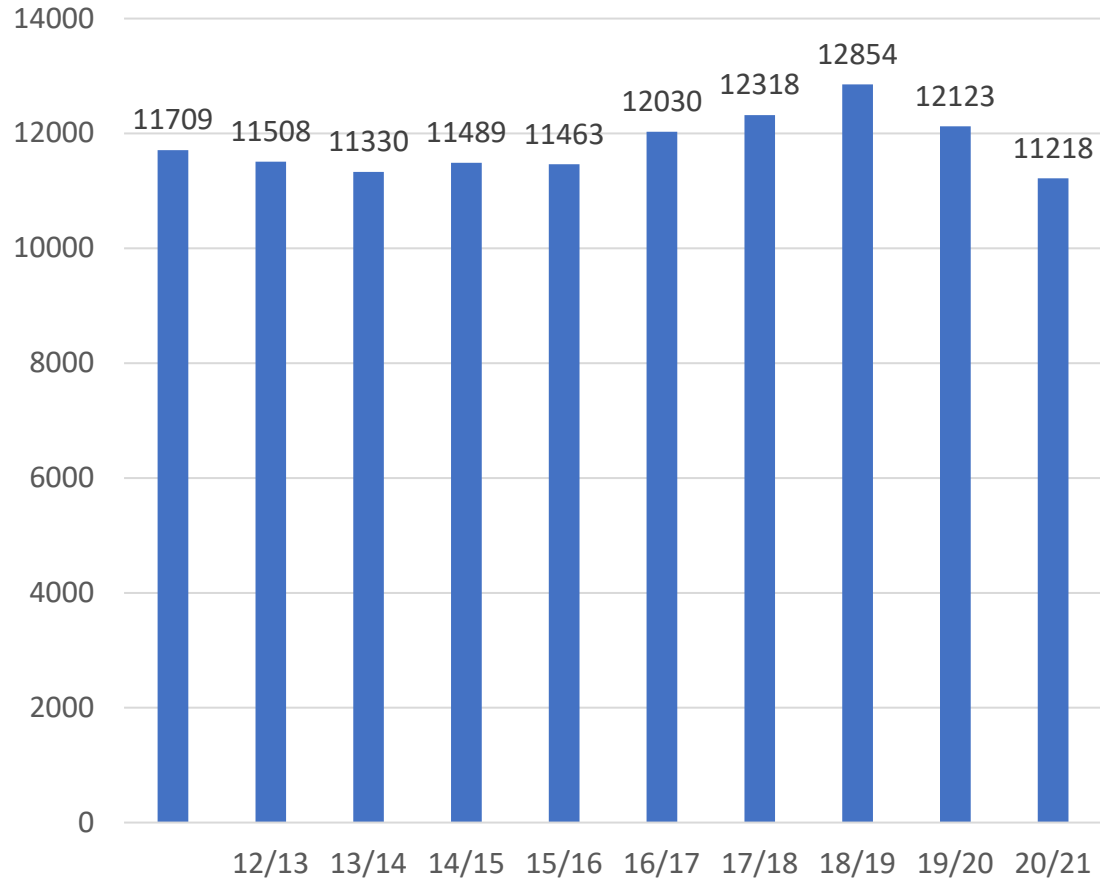
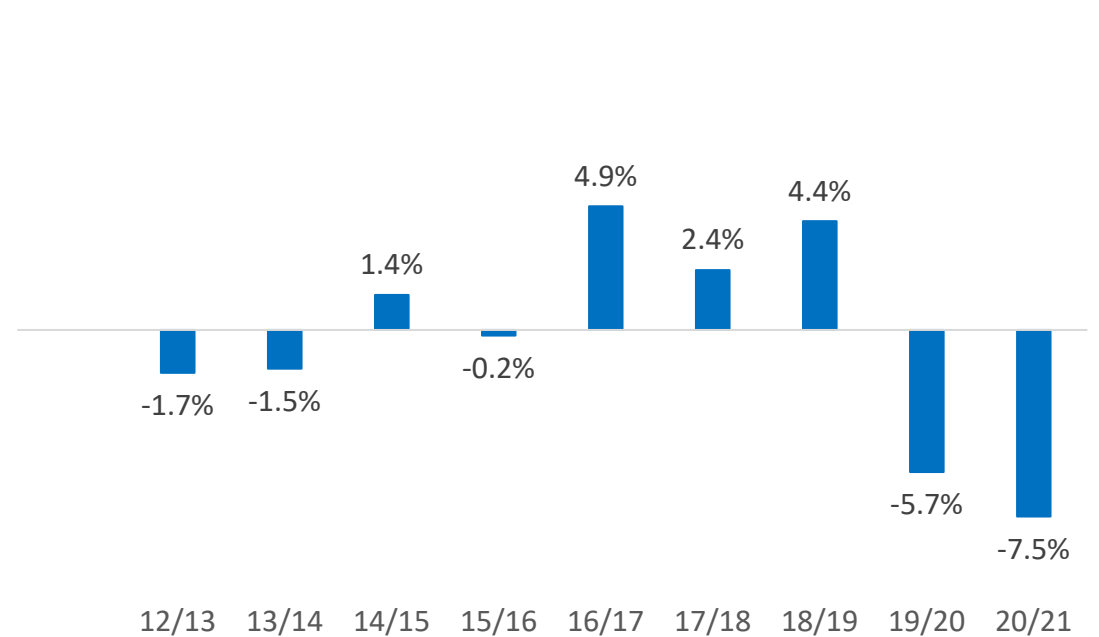


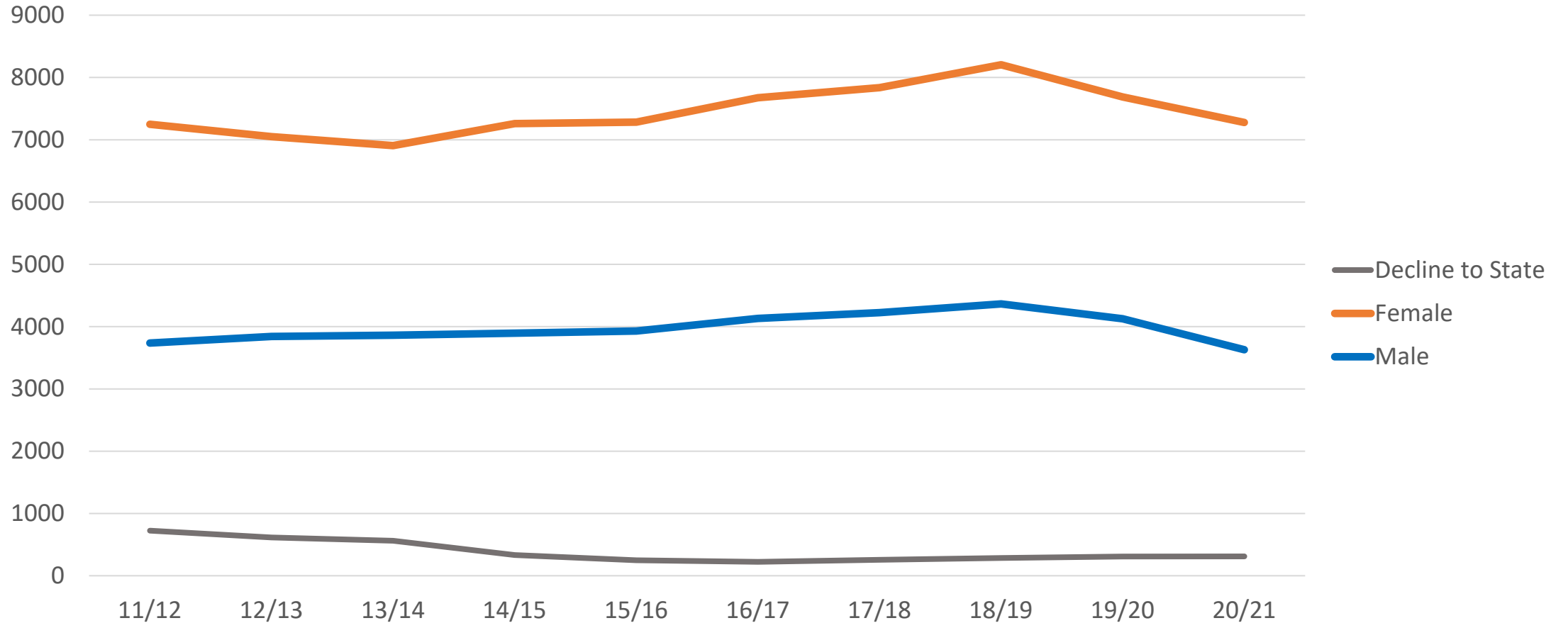
Figure 2 Year-over-Year Percent Change





Annual Headcount Enrollment Trend by Gender

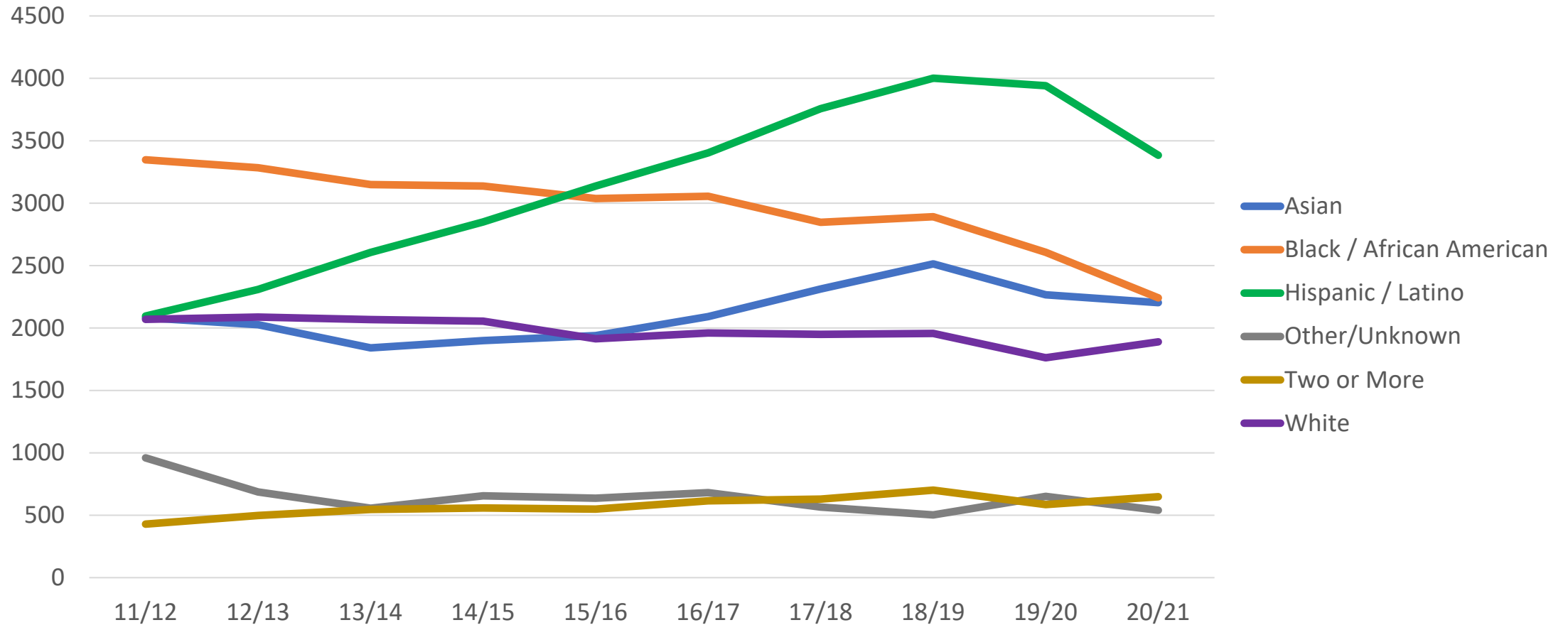
Figure 3





Annual Headcount Enrollment Trend by Race/Ethnicity

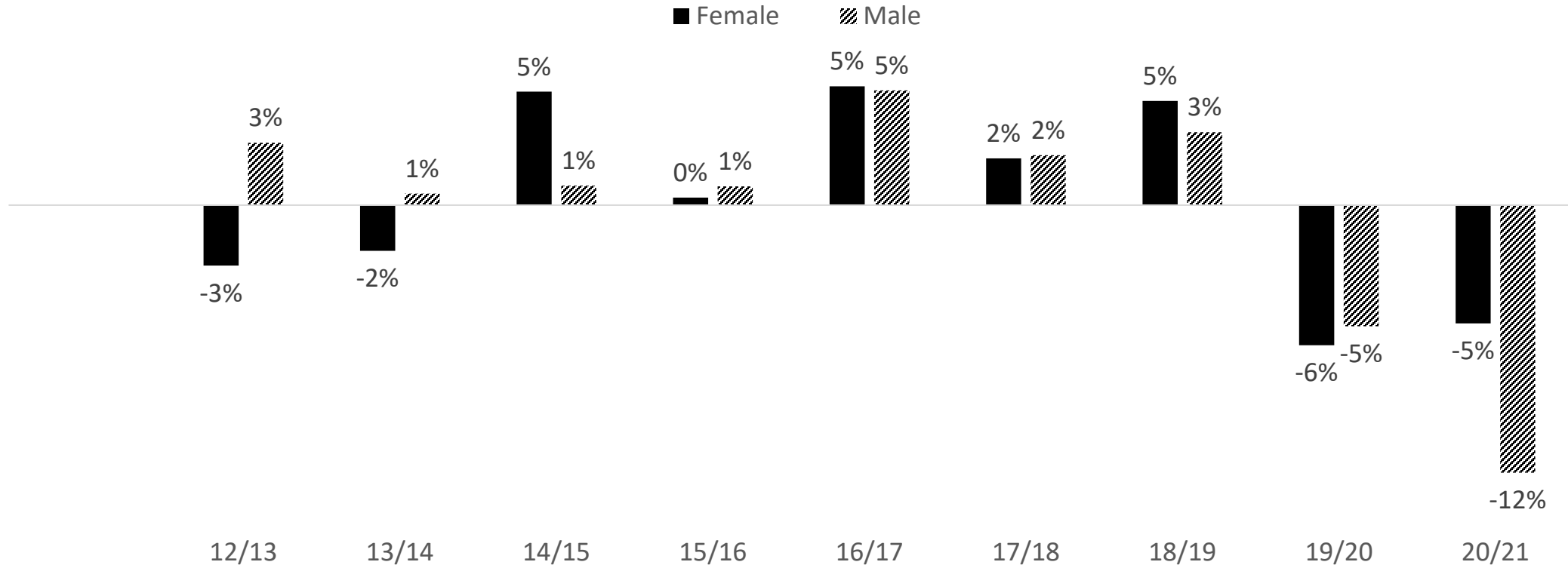
Figure 4





ALL Race/Ethnicities: Year-over-Year Pct. Change in Headcount Enrollment, by Gender*

Figure 5

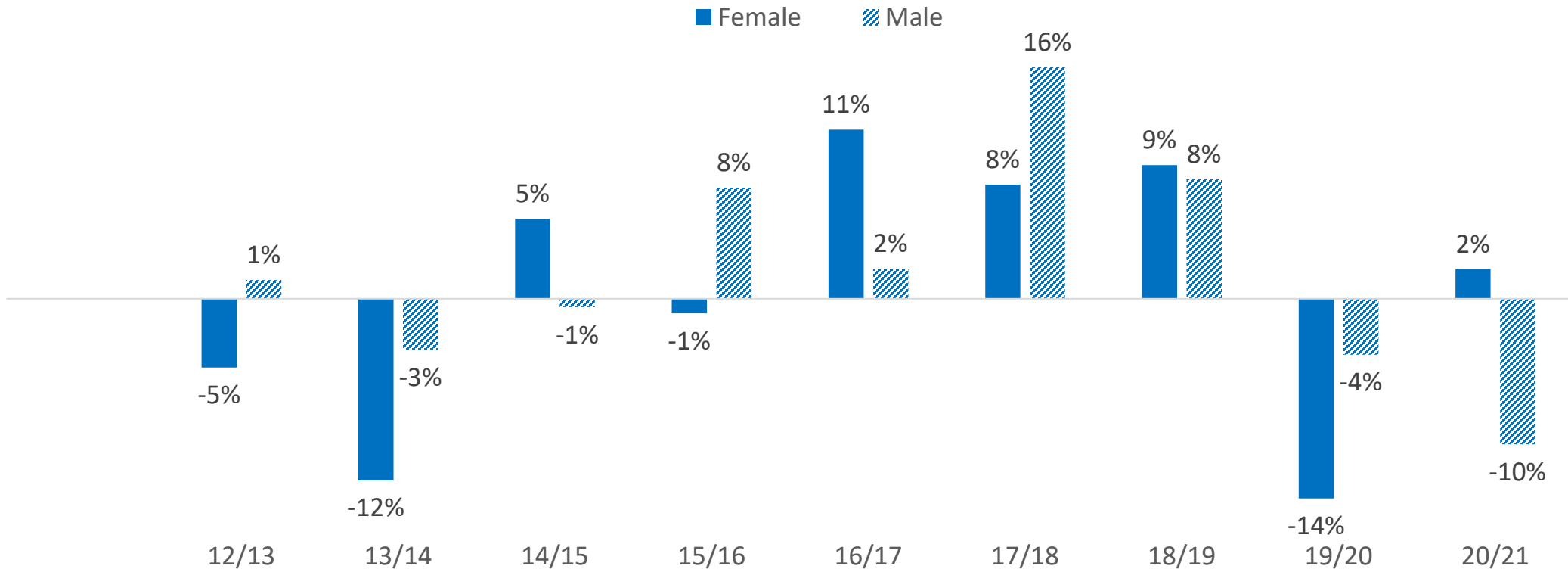


* Data in the "Decline to State" category are not shown.



Asian Students: Year-over-Year Pct. Change in Headcount Enrollment, by Gender*

Figure 6

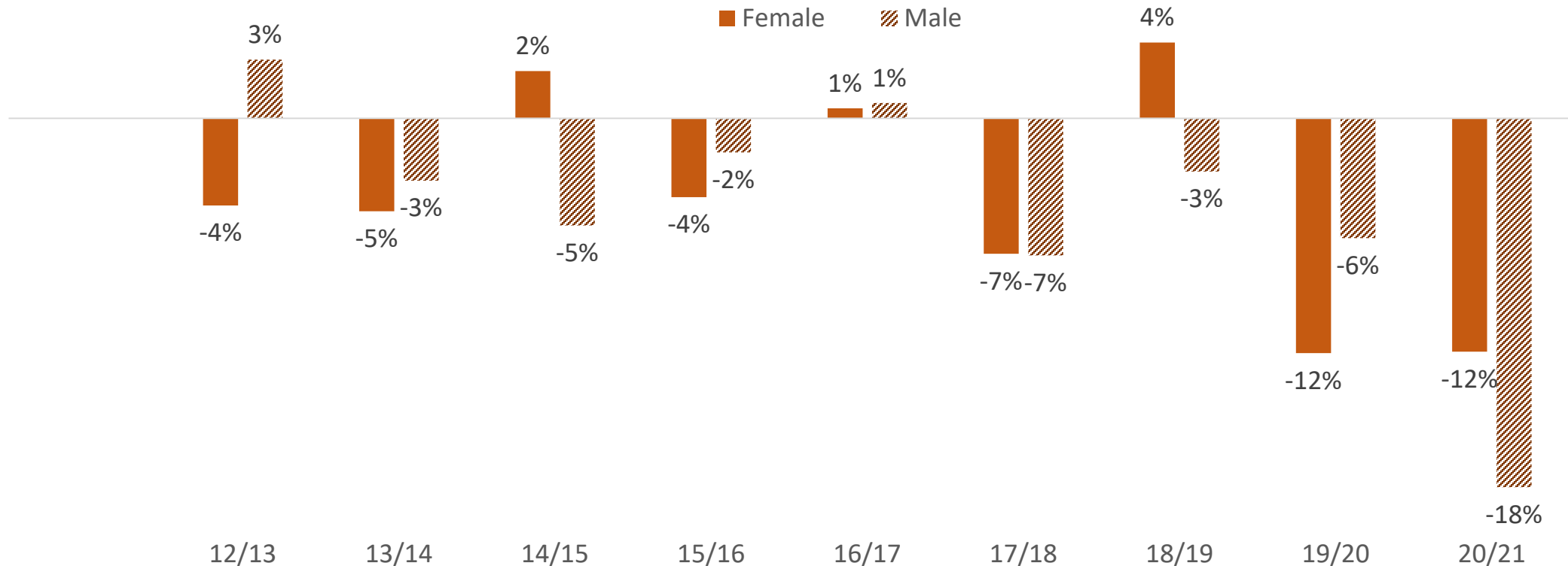


* Data in the "Decline to State" category are not shown.



Black/African-American Students: Year-over-Year Pct. Change in Headcount Enrollment, by Gender*

Figure 7

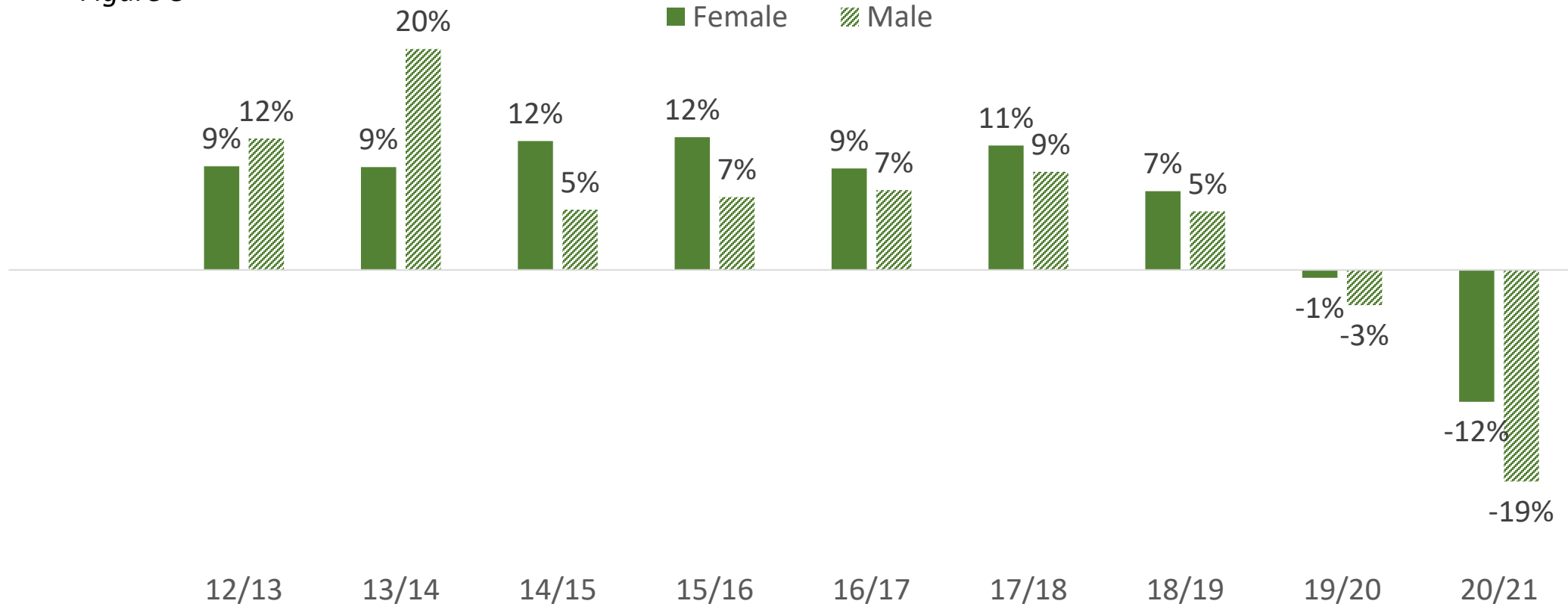


* Data in the "Decline to State" category are not shown.



Hispanic/LatinX Students: Year-over-Year Pct. Change in Headcount Enrollment, by Gender*

Figure 8

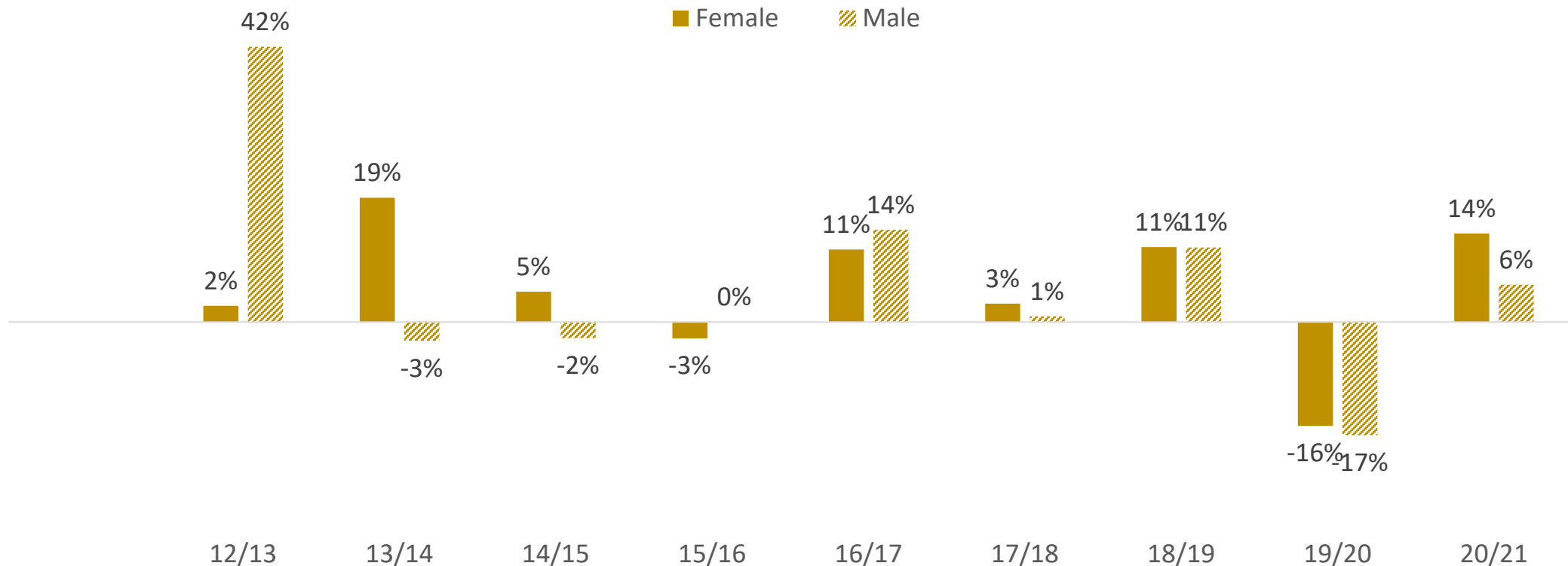


* Data in the "Decline to State" category are not shown.



Students Claiming Multiple Race/Ethnicities: Year-over-Year Pct. Change in Headcount Enrollment, by Gender*

Figure 9

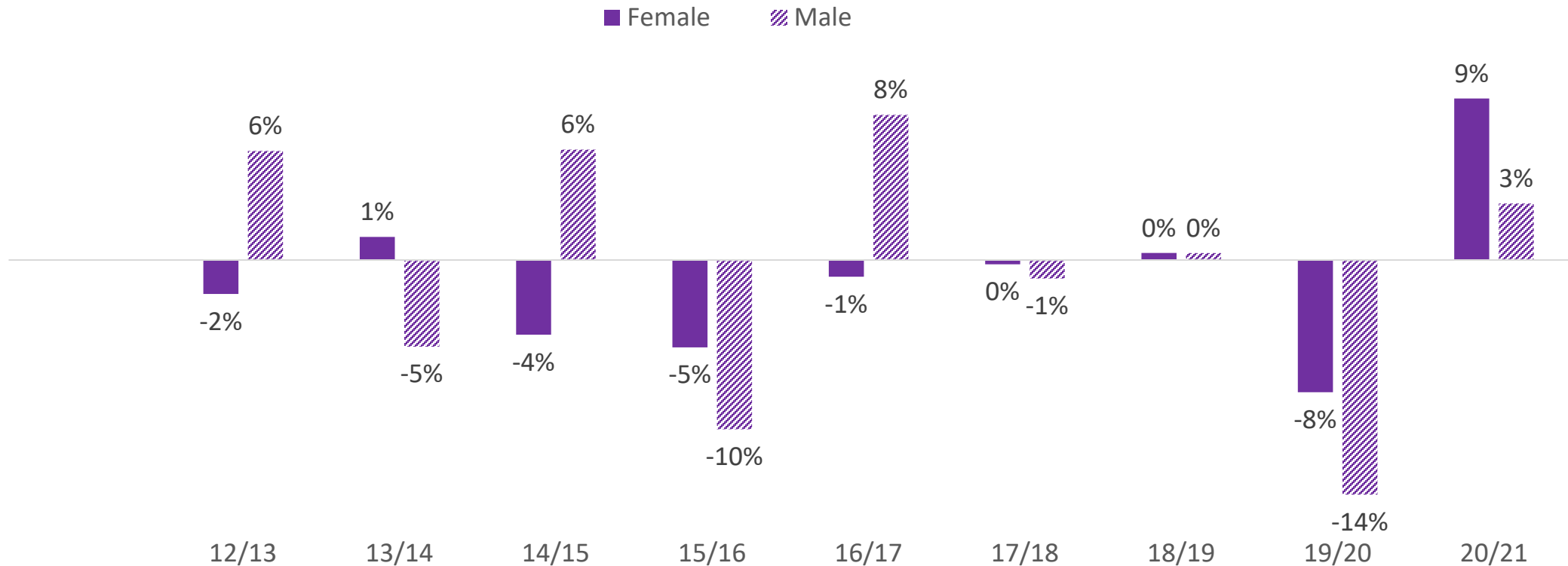


* Data in the "Decline to State" category are not shown.



White Students: Year-over-Year Pct. Change in Headcount Enrollment, by Gender*

Figure 10

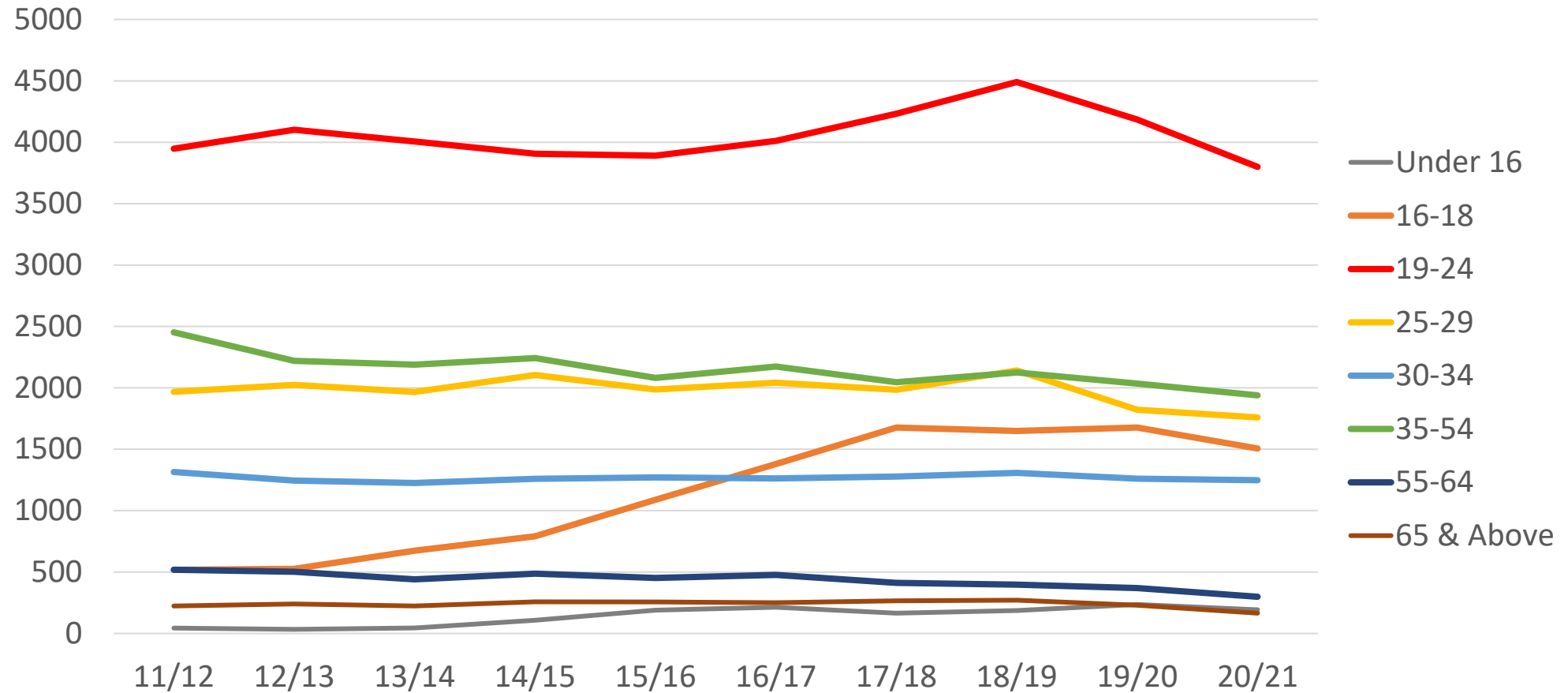


* Data in the "Decline to State" category are not shown.



Annual Headcount Enrollment Trend by Age Range

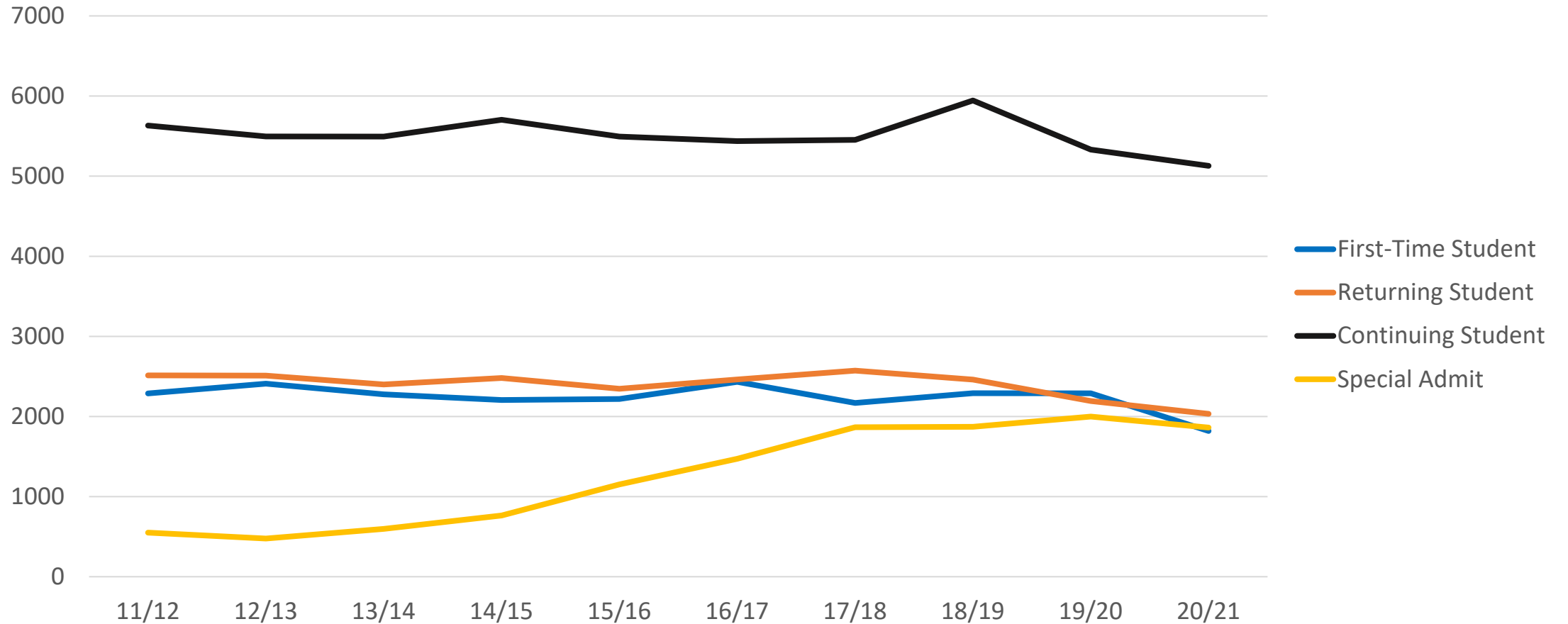
Figure 11





Annual Headcount Enrollment Trend by Student Type

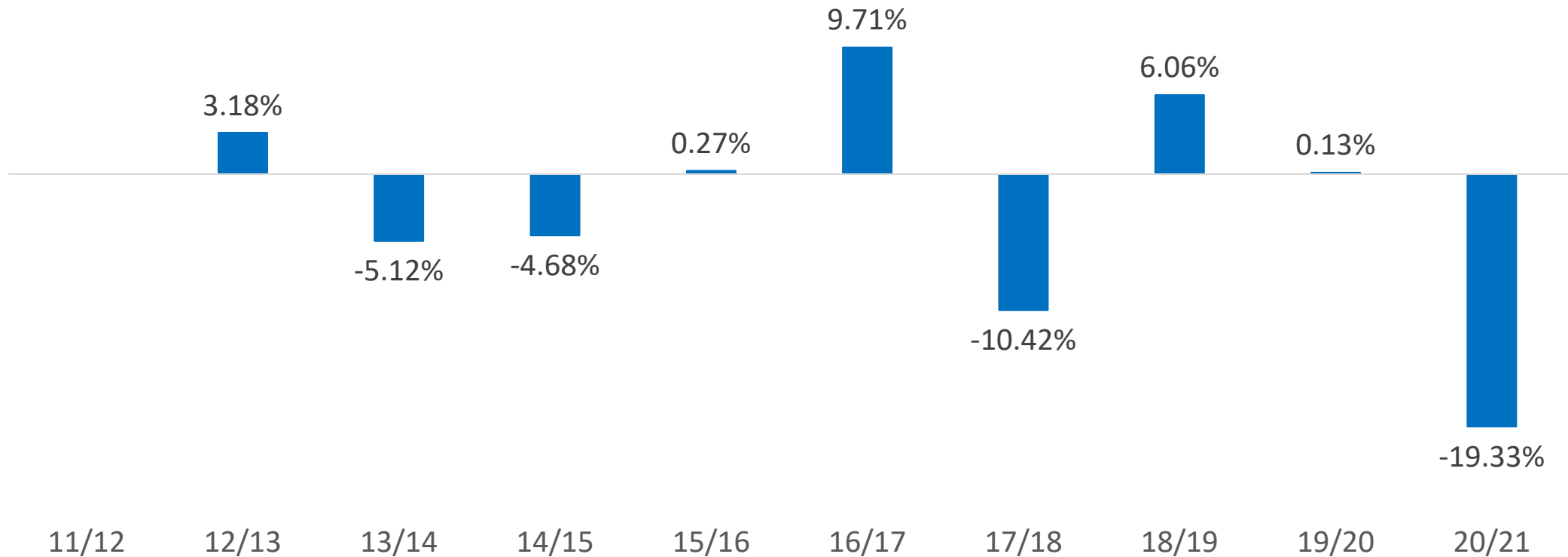
Figure 12





First-Time* Students: Year-over-Year Pct. Change in Headcount Enrollment

Figure 13

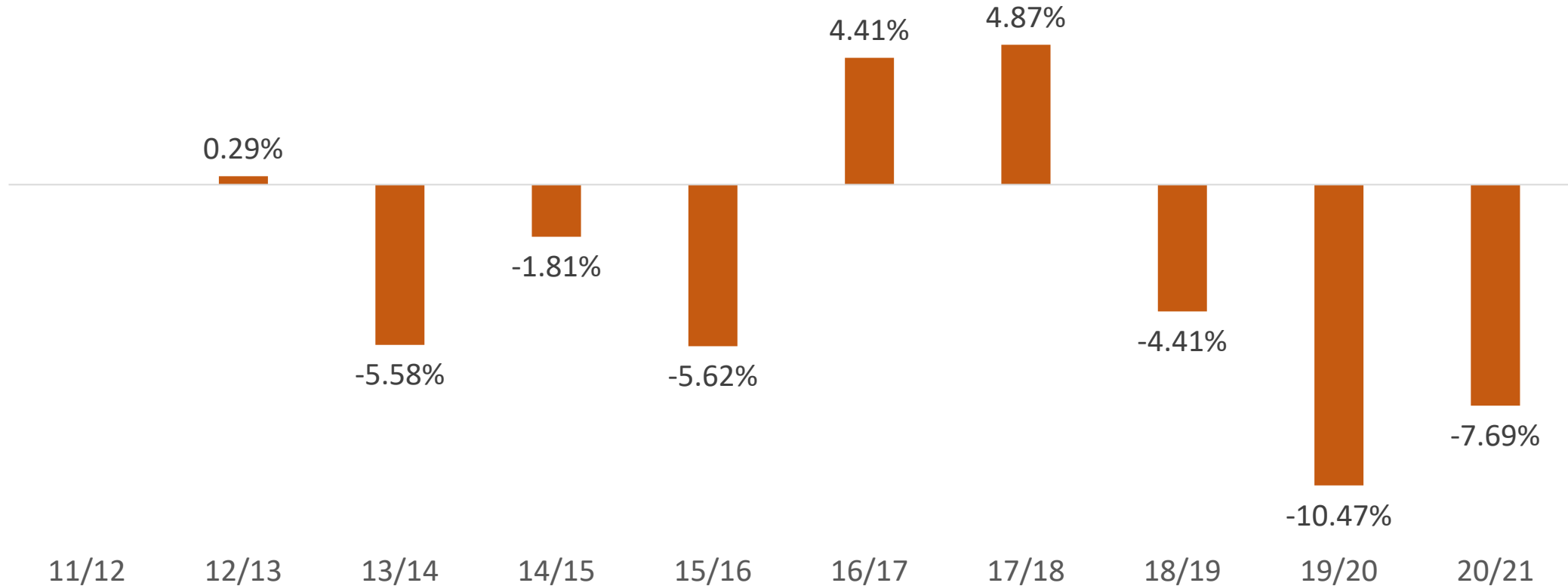


* Includes First-time college students and first-time transfer students



Returning* Students: Year-over-Year Pct. Change in Headcount Enrollment

Figure 14

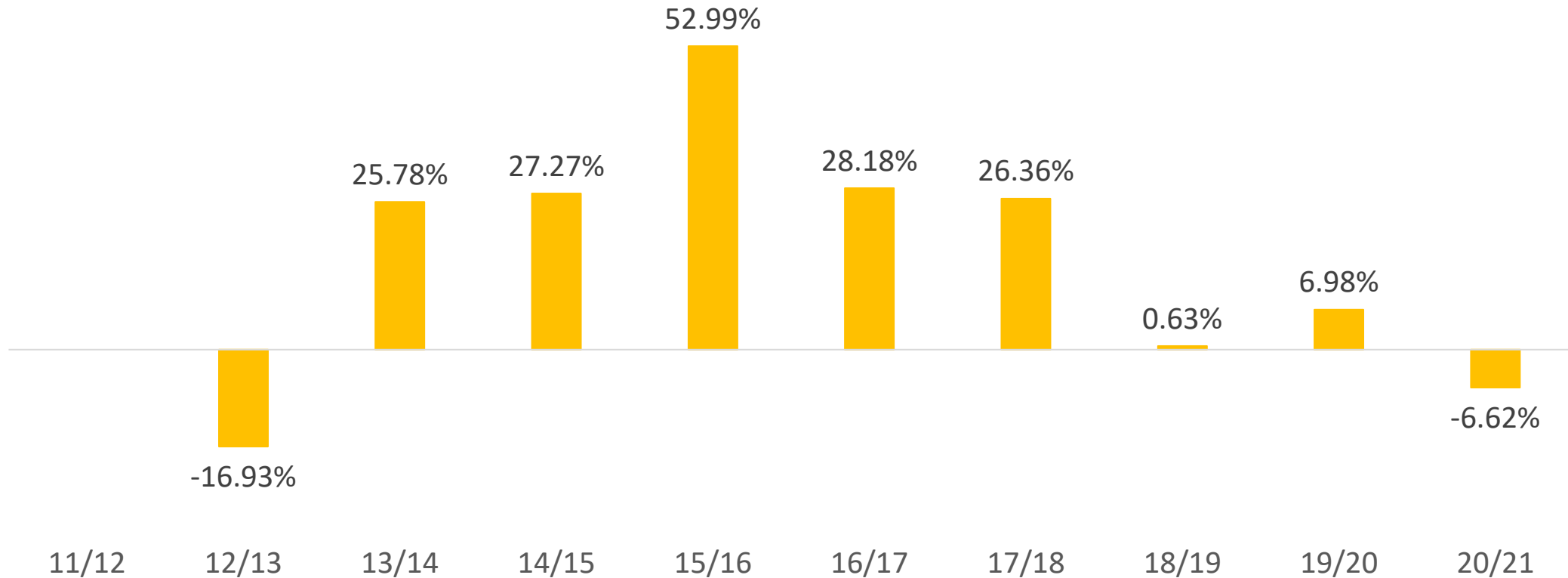


*A student enrolled at the reporting college after an absence of one or more primary terms.



Special Admit* Students: Year-over-Year Pct. Change in Headcount Enrollment

Figure 15

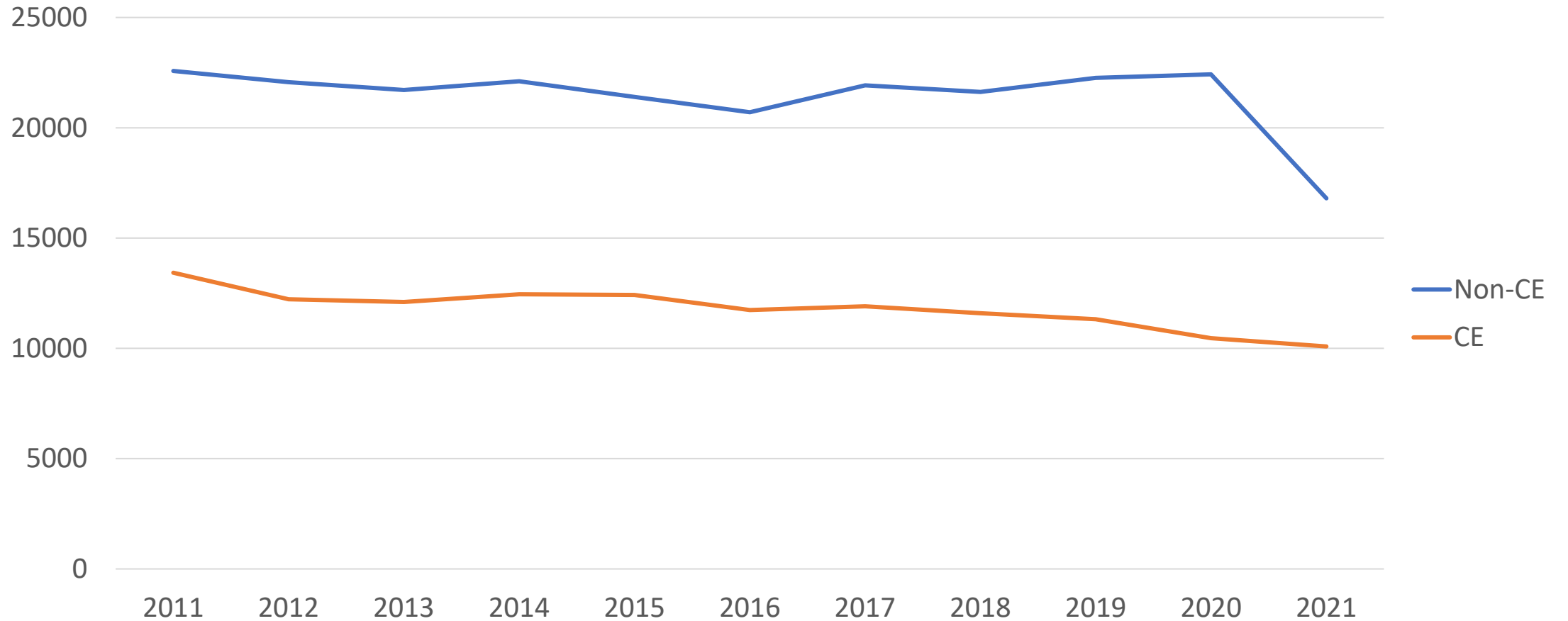


*Includes high school students and non-credit students.



Annual Course Enrollment Trend by Career Education (CE) Status

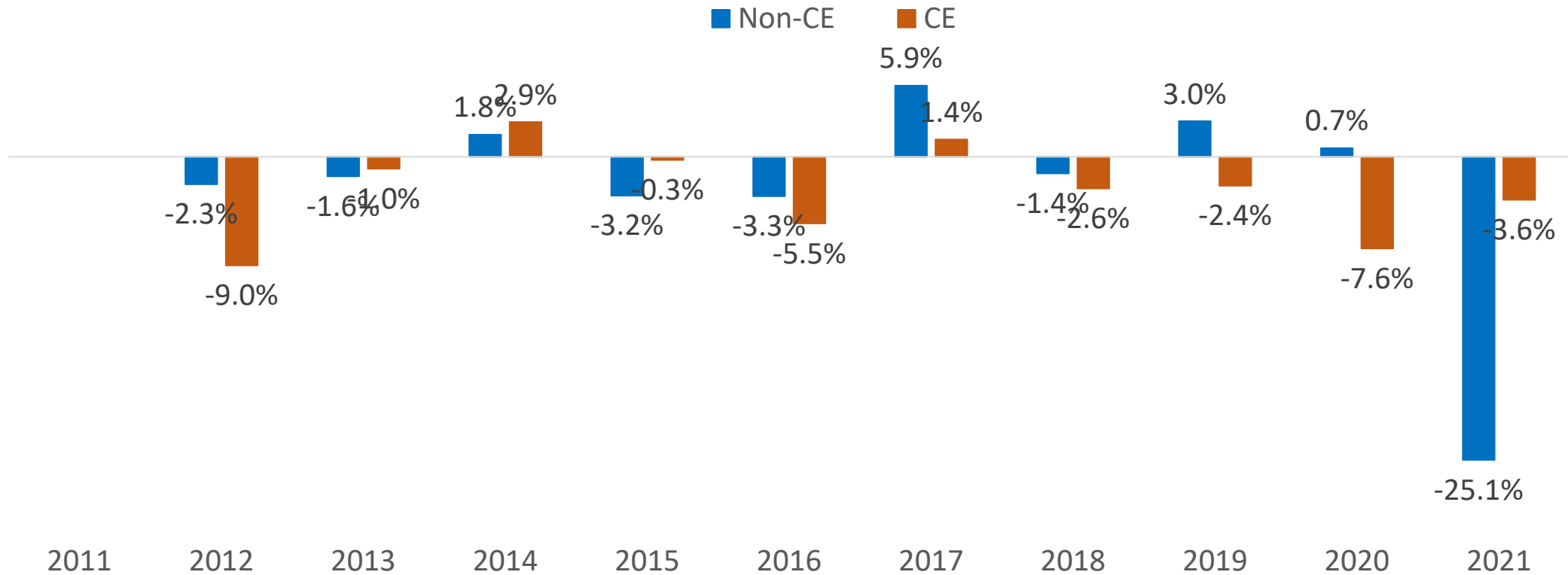
Figure 16





Annual Course Enrollment Trend by Career Education (CE) Status

Figure 17





Change in Annual Course Enrollment (19/20 to 20/21) by TOP-2 Subject Area*

Figure 18

Subject Area (TOP-2)	19/20 Course Enrollment	20/21 Course Enrollment	Absolute Change	Percent Change
Agriculture and Natural Resources	1384	1623	239	17.3%
Biological Sciences	2644	2527	-117	-4.4%
Business and Management	2003	1766	-237	-11.8%
Education	1792	1120	-672	-37.5%
Environmental Sciences and Technologies	182	132	-50	-27.5%
Family and Consumer Sciences	1865	1877	12	0.6%
Fine and Applied Arts	1701	1299	-402	-23.6%
Foreign Language	137	116	-21	-15.3%
Health	1448	1410	-38	-2.6%
Humanities (Letters)	5439	3763	-1676	-30.8%
Information Technology	1086	1059	-27	-2.5%
Interdisciplinary Studies	2903	1863	-1040	-35.8%
Law	663	565	-98	-14.8%
Mathematics	2206	1968	-238	-10.8%
Physical Sciences	875	686	-189	-21.6%
Psychology	1480	1459	-21	-1.4%
Public and Protective Services	1442	1128	-314	-21.8%
Social Sciences	3265	2240	-1025	-31.4%
Total of Areas Shown	32515	26601	-5914	-18.2%

* TOP = Taxonomy of Programs. Does not include areas with fewer than 30 enrollment.