

Promise, Potential, and Possibilities:

A Collaborative Conversation about Urban Education



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School of
Education

**CRITICAL CONVERSATIONS
IN URBAN EDUCATION**

Mayor's Office of Education

- **Understand and support education institution in the city**
- **Change the way city departments and agencies operate so education is a priority**
- **Build public will in the city for education**
- **Advise the Mayor**



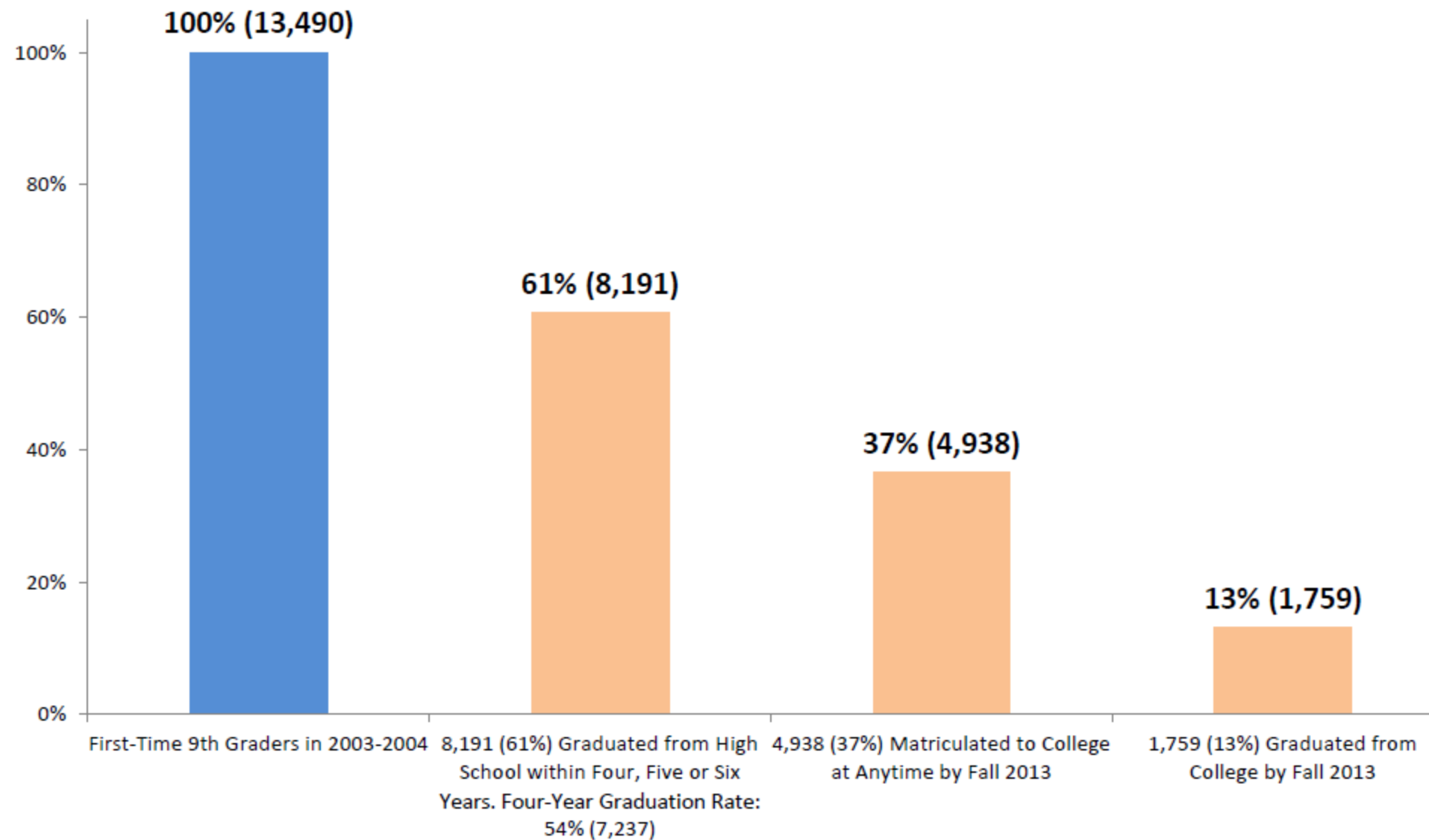
What is Urban Education?



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School District of Philadelphia "Pipeline" to College Graduation for First-Time 9th Graders in 2003-2004



Notes: The values in this chart are inclusive of students enrolled in District and Alternative schools at the start of 9th grade. Students enrolled in charter schools at the start of 9th grade are included. Graduation rates are based upon the District's former methodology used throughout the current Mayoral administration. All numbers therefore exclude students that transferred or out of the District in between their 9th and 12th grade years. The reported four-year graduation rate is based upon the students included in the sample for the 6-year graduation rate.

Values for students that matriculated and/or graduated from college by Fall 2013 include those achieving the corresponding outcome prior to December 31, 2013.

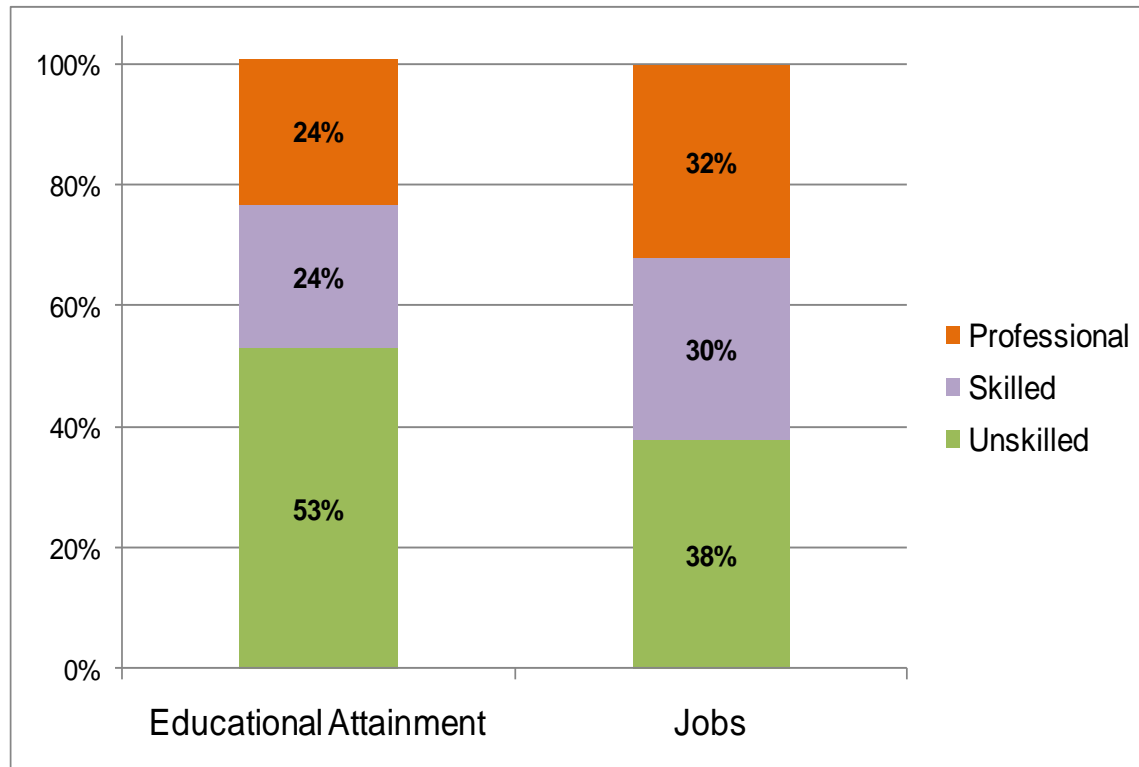
Demands of Educational Systems have changed



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Jobs vs. Education Level



Pressure for Changing School's Practices

- The means of knowledge production and duplication have dramatically changed
- International benchmarking – political pressure



Some Current Avenues of Reform

- **Increased accountability**
- **New modes of delivery**
- **New governance structure**



Increased Pressure for Reform in Urban Districts

- **Schools are agents of change for greater socio-economic and racial inequalities**



Stakeholder Involvement

- **Set goals together**
- **Organize and deliver supportive services**
- **Increase parent, family and community involvement in the life of schools**
- **Provide crucial expertise/reality check about how education efforts are working or not and why**
- **Communicate urgency and hope**

