



Student Transitions Information Project

Transitions from 9th Grade to College

January 2017

Rural Alliance for College Success

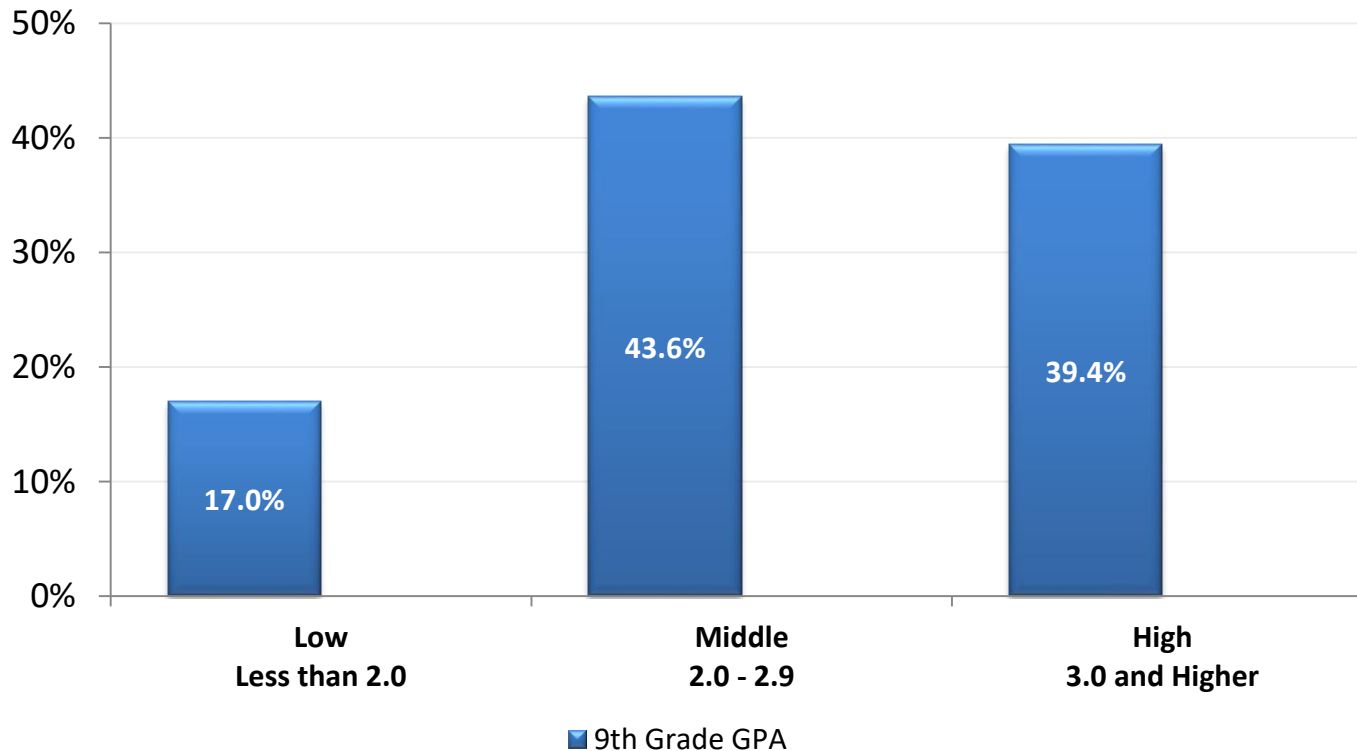
Mark Macias, CCS Managing Dir. Of Institutional Research
MaryAnne Winniford, CCS IR Special Projects Manager

Comparing 9th Grade to HS Cum. GPAs

- Observations by some high school staff:
 - 9th grade academic performance sets the tenor for high school academic performance
 - High school cumulative GPA mirrors what students earned as 9th graders

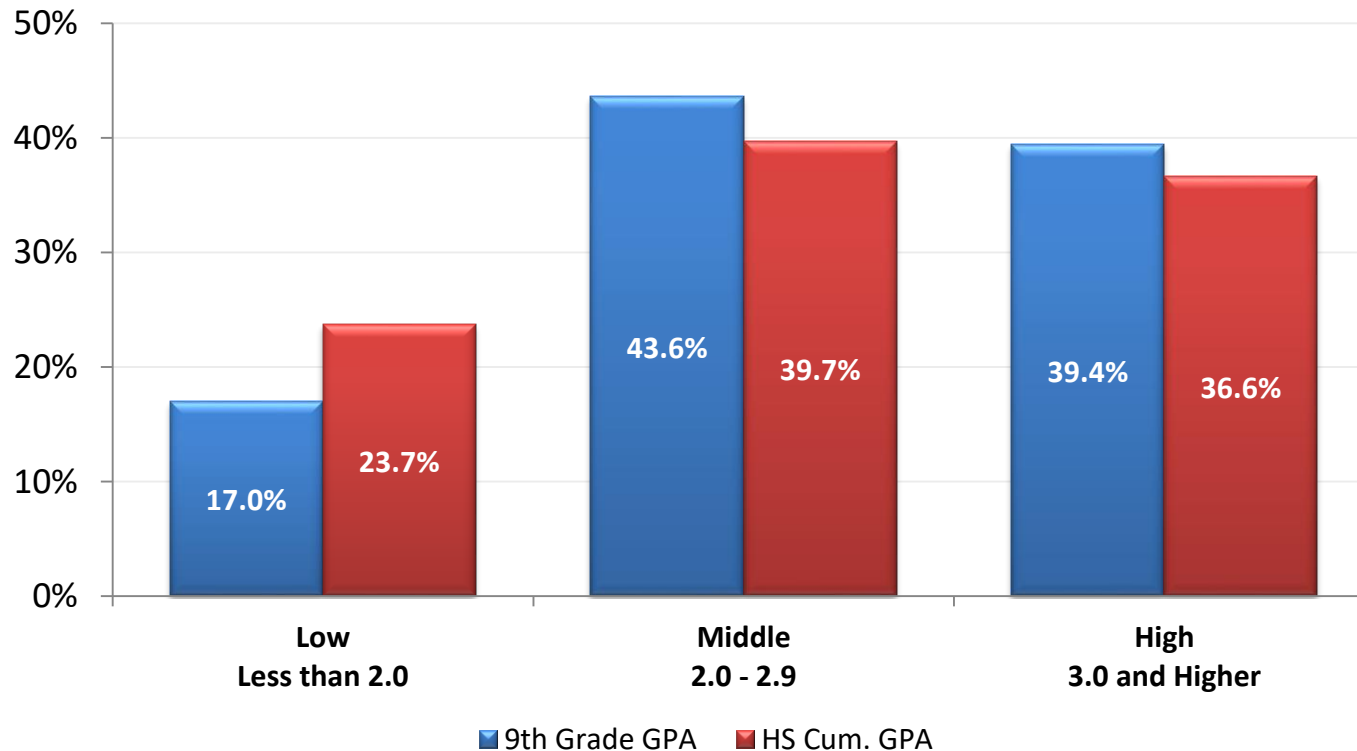
Comparing 9th Grade to HS Cum. GPAs

Rural Student GPA Distributions



Comparing 9th Grade to HS Cum. GPAs

Rural Student GPA Distributions



Finding: Overall, 3 out of 4 students leave high school in the same GPA bin as they were when they left the 9th grade.

Comparing 9th Grade to HS Cum. GPAs

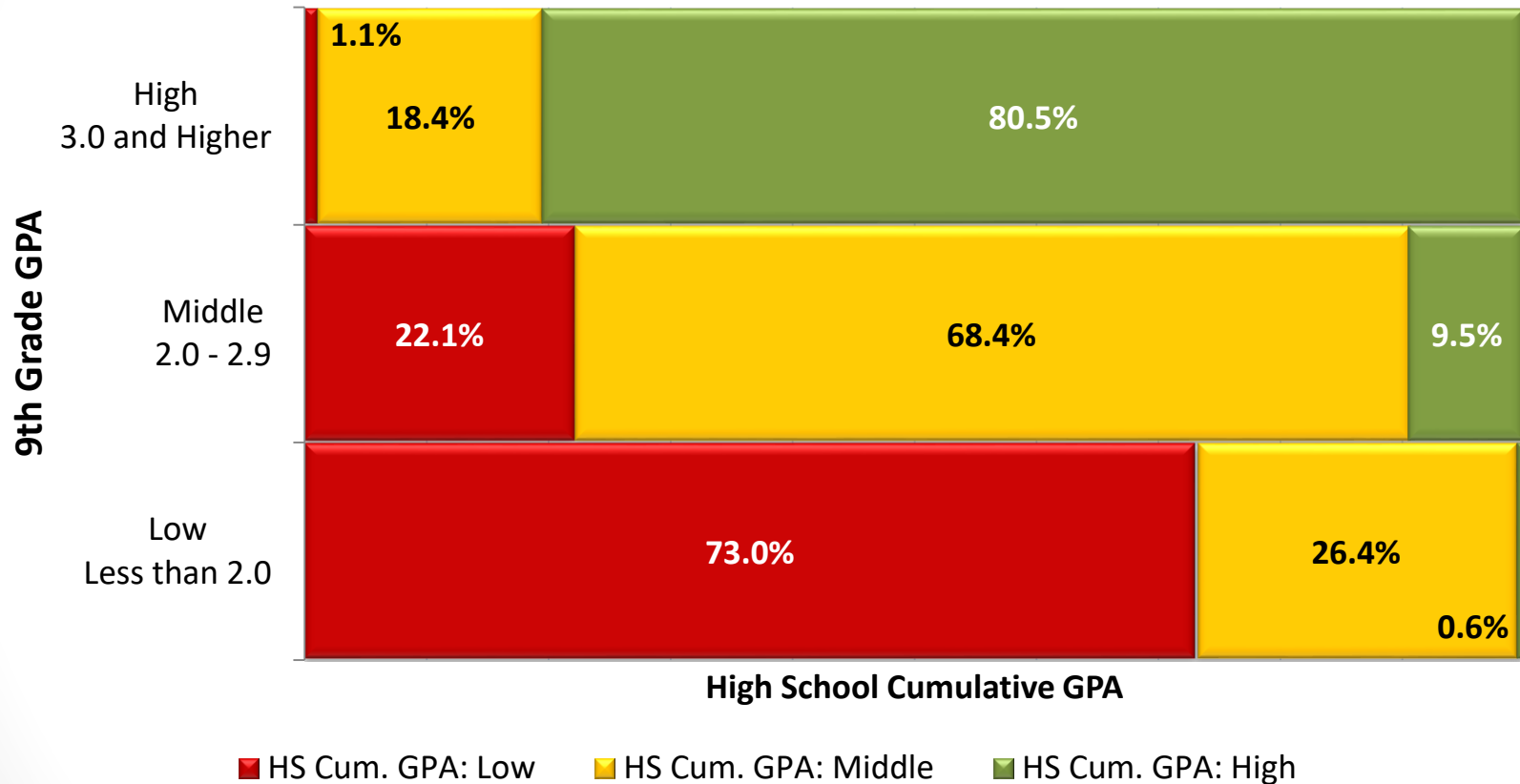
Let's dig a little deeper

and look at each GPA bin ...



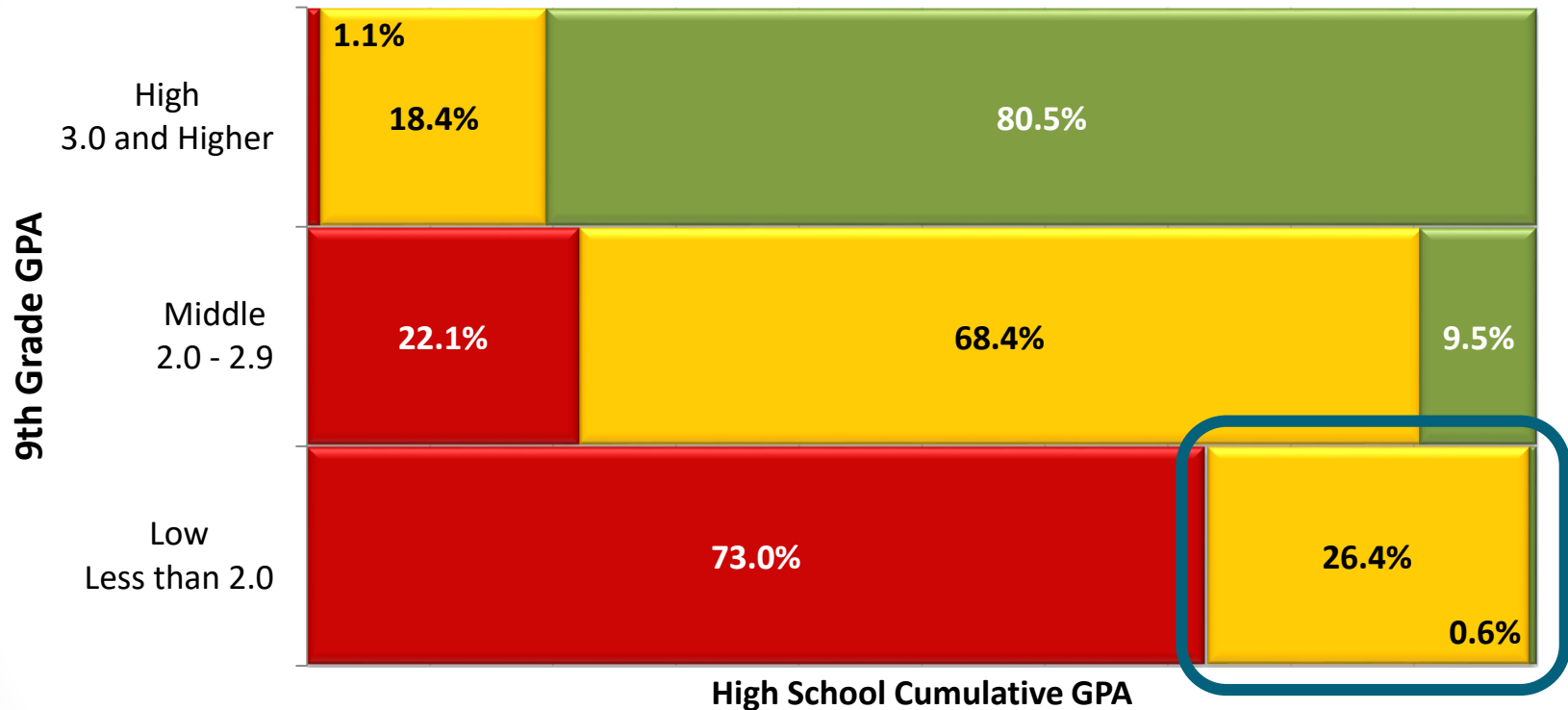
Comparing 9th Grade to HS Cum. GPAs

Relationship of 9th Grade GPA to High School Cumulative GPA



Comparing 9th Grade to HS Cum. GPAs

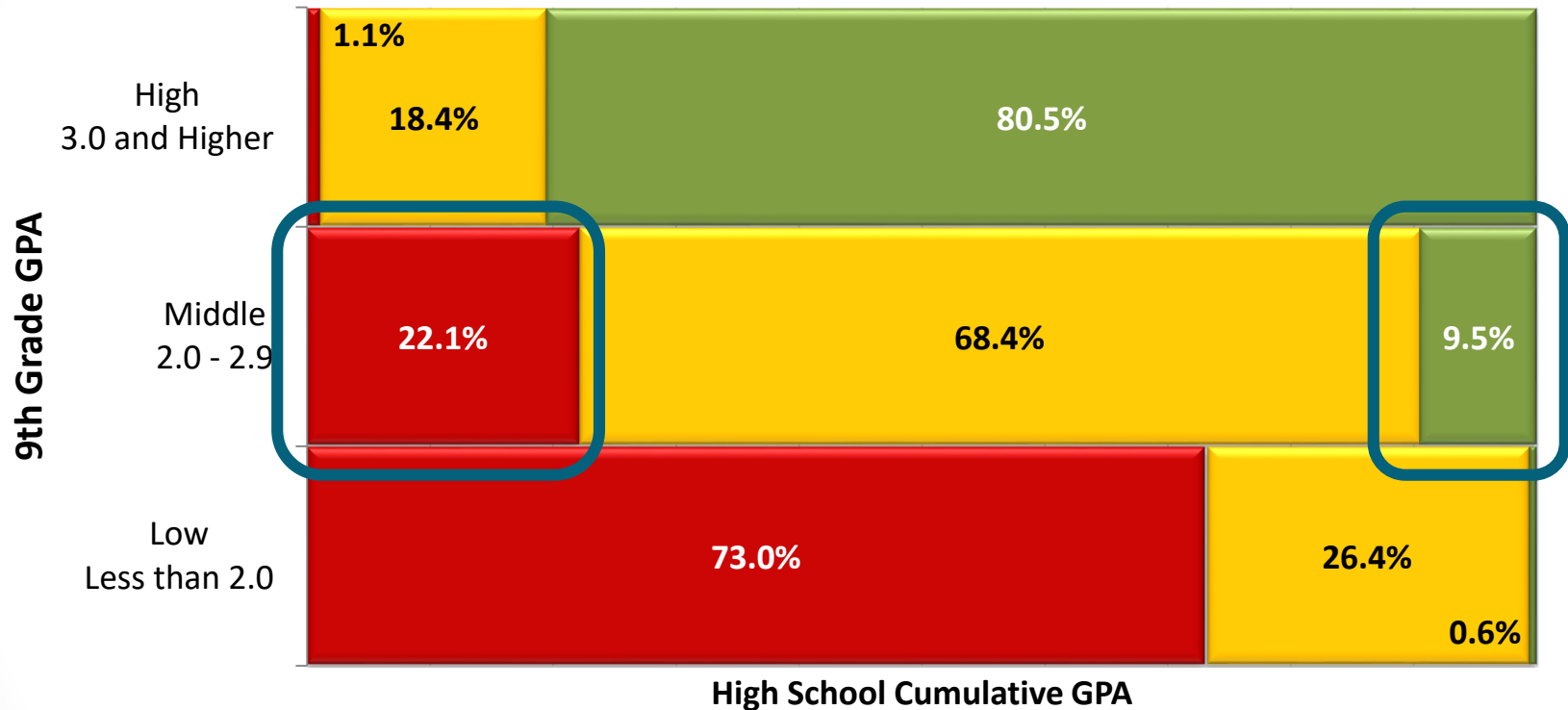
Relationship of 9th Grade GPA to High School Cumulative GPA



Finding: Over one-quarter of low performing 9th graders move to higher GPA band by the time they leave high school.

Comparing 9th Grade to HS Cum. GPAs

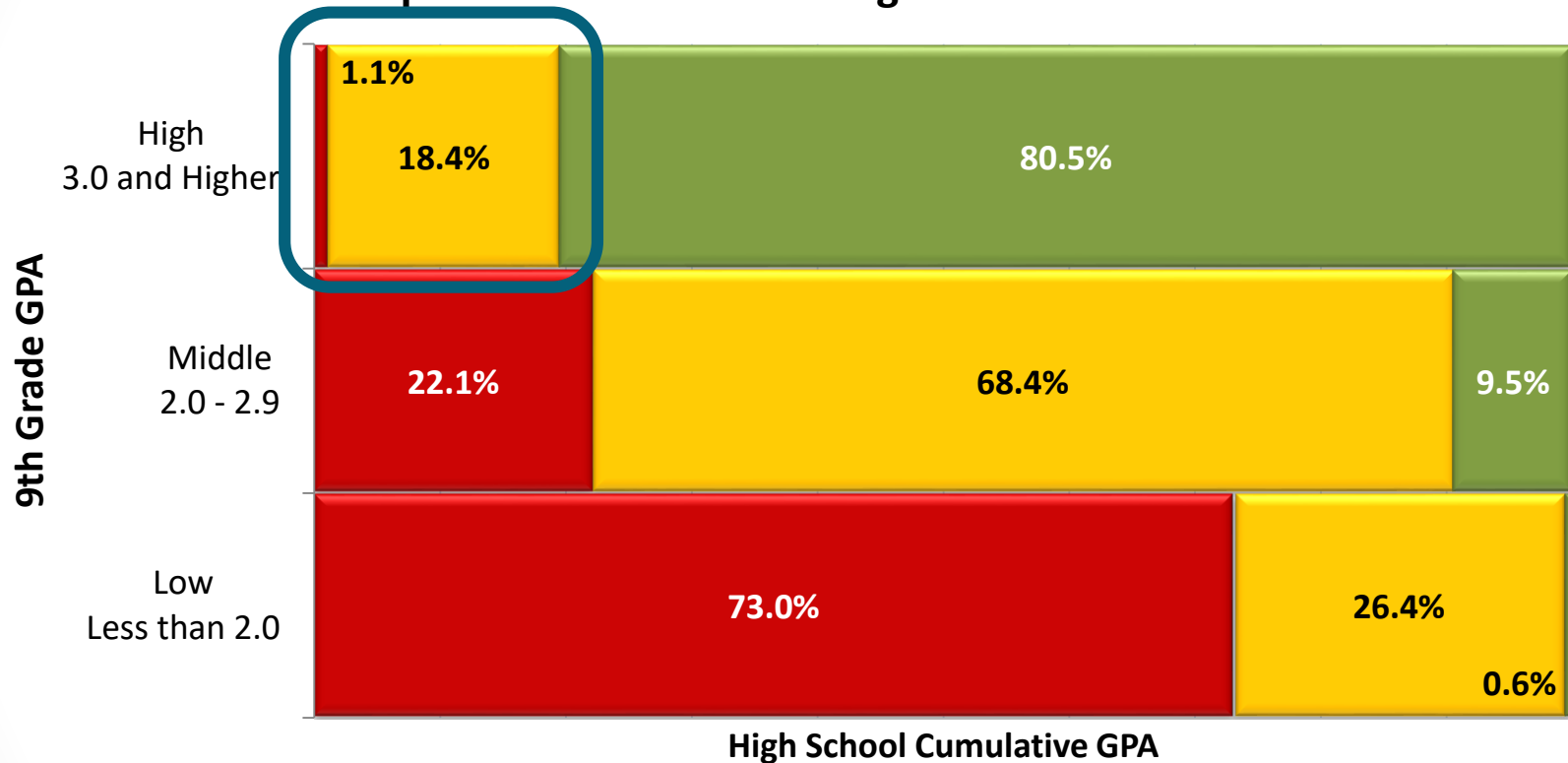
Relationship of 9th Grade GPA to High School Cumulative GPA



Finding: 10 % of middle-performing 9th graders move to high GPA band, but over 20% move to the low-performing band by the time they leave high school.

Comparing 9th Grade to HS Cum. GPAs

Relationship of 9th Grade GPA to High School Cumulative GPA



Finding: 20 % of high-performing 9th graders move to a lower GPA band by the time they leave high school.

Comparing 9th Grade to HS Cum. GPAs

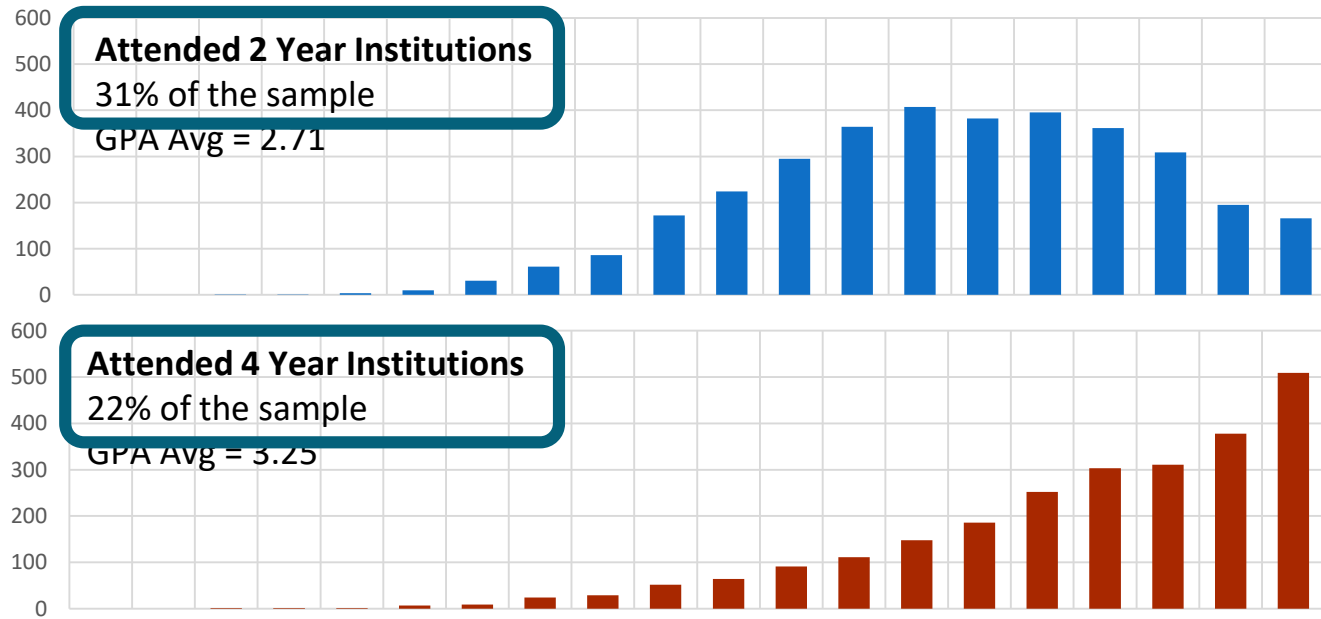
HS GPA and college-going ...



Rural College-Going and HS GPAs

Sample includes over 11,600 rural students.

53% attended college

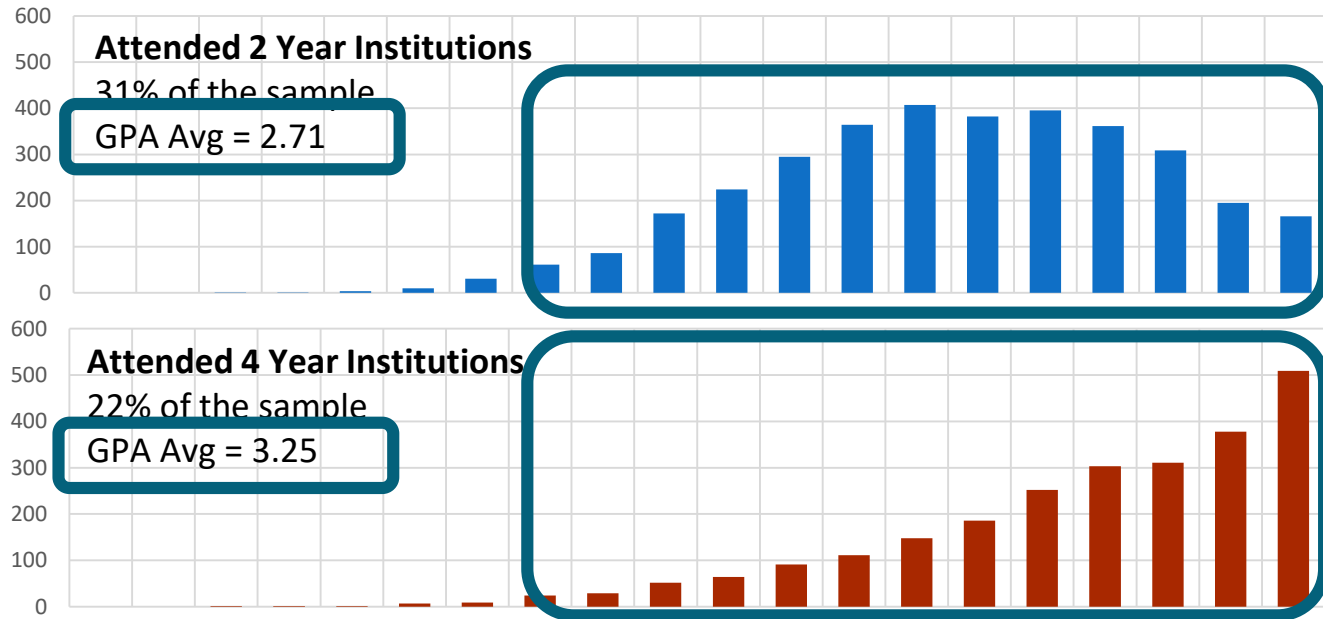


Rural College-Going and HS GPAs

Sample includes over 11,600 rural students.

53% attended college

GPA differences are as expected



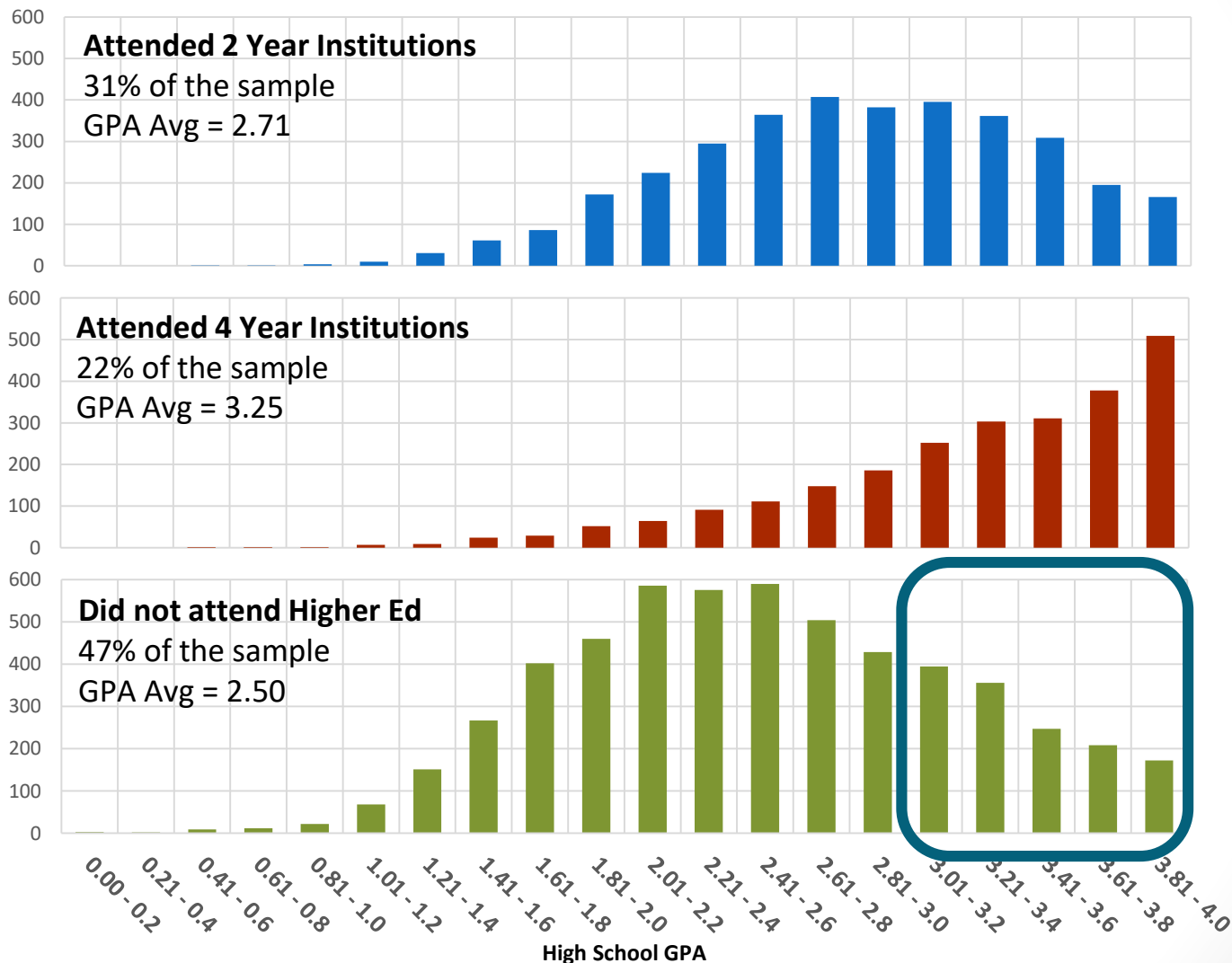
Rural College-Going and HS GPAs

Sample includes over 11,600 rural students.

53% attended college

GPA differences are as expected

1/3 of non-attenders have GPA > 3.0



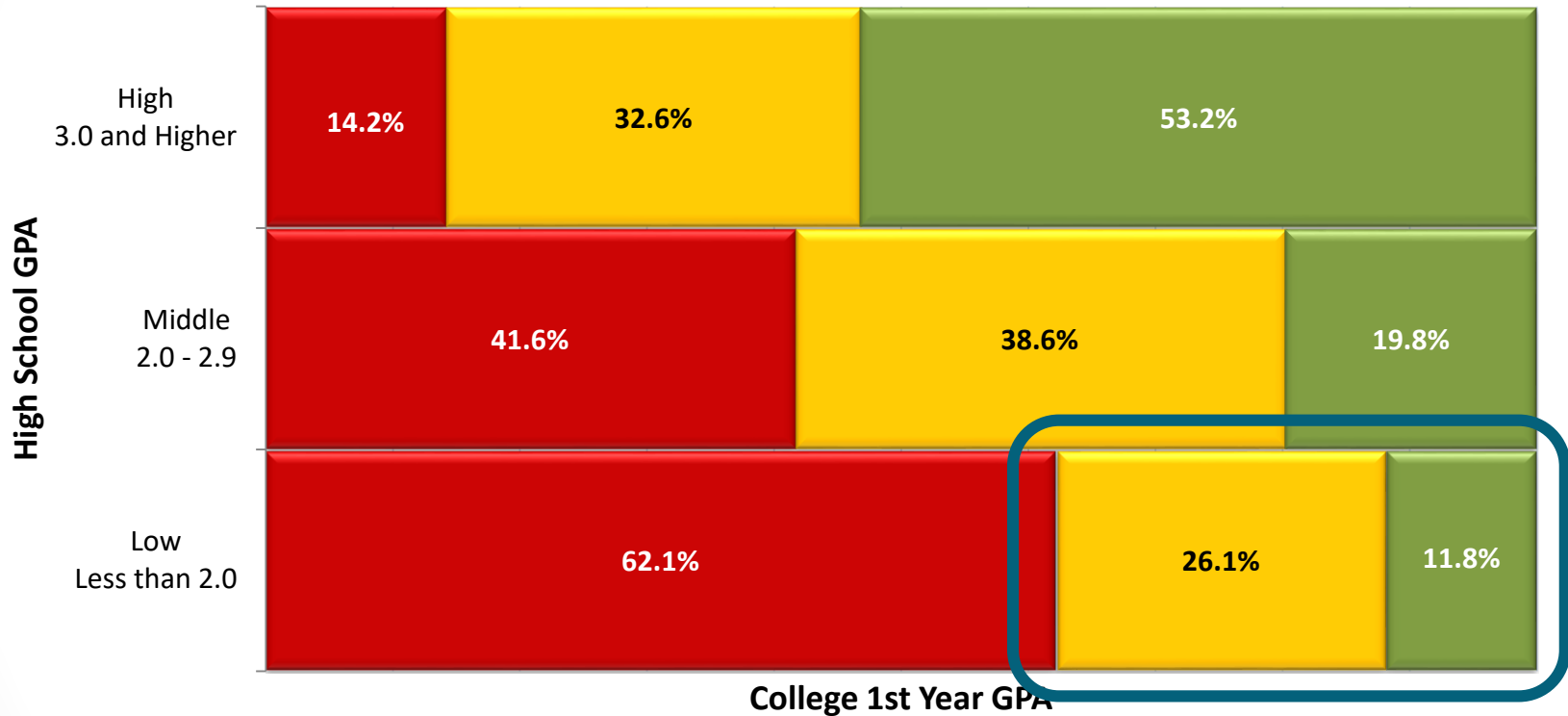
Rural College-Going and HS GPAs

What happens when these students attend college?
(Limited to students who attended CCS institutions)



HS GPAs and College 1st Year GPA

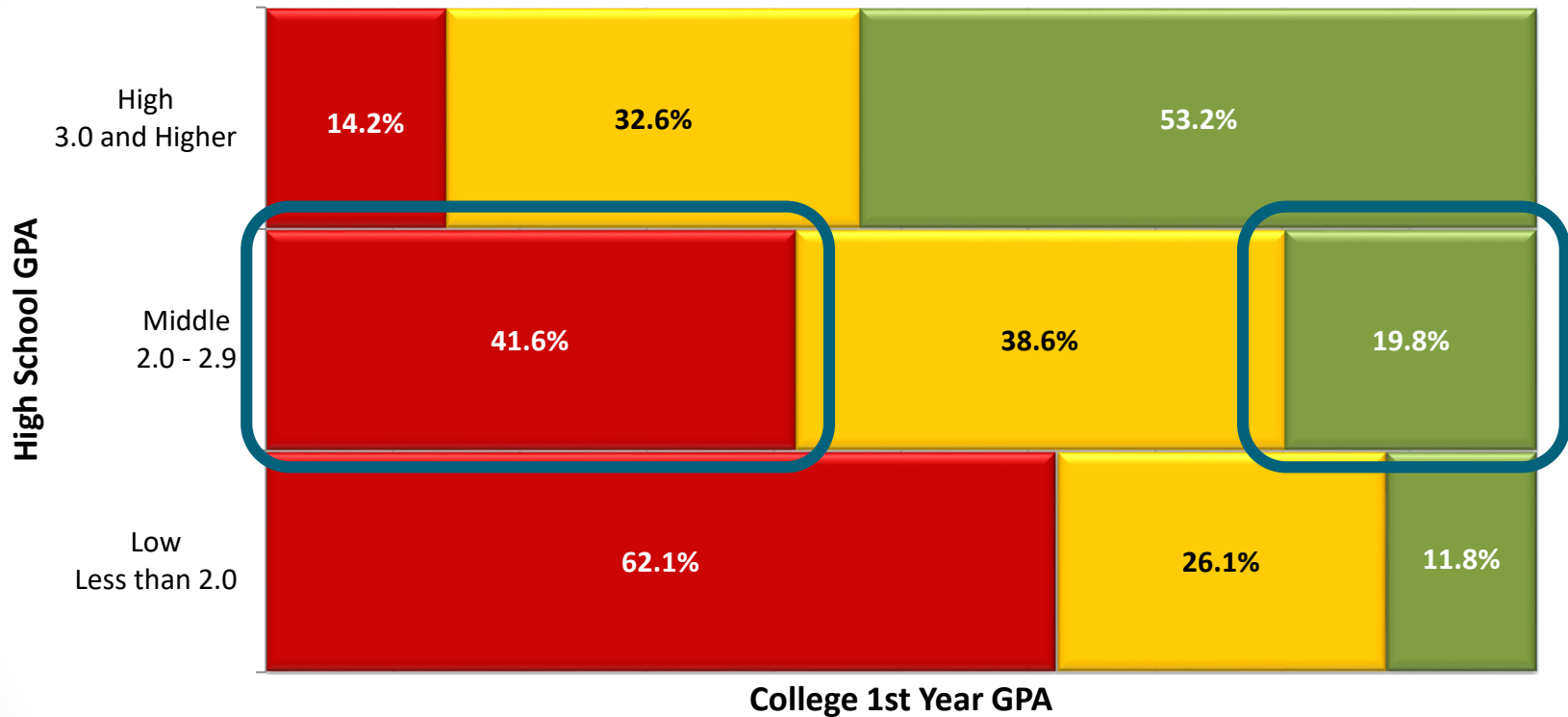
Relationship of High School GPA to 1st Year College GPA



Finding: Over one-third of low-performing high school students move to a higher GPA band their first year in college.

HS GPAs and College 1st Year GPA

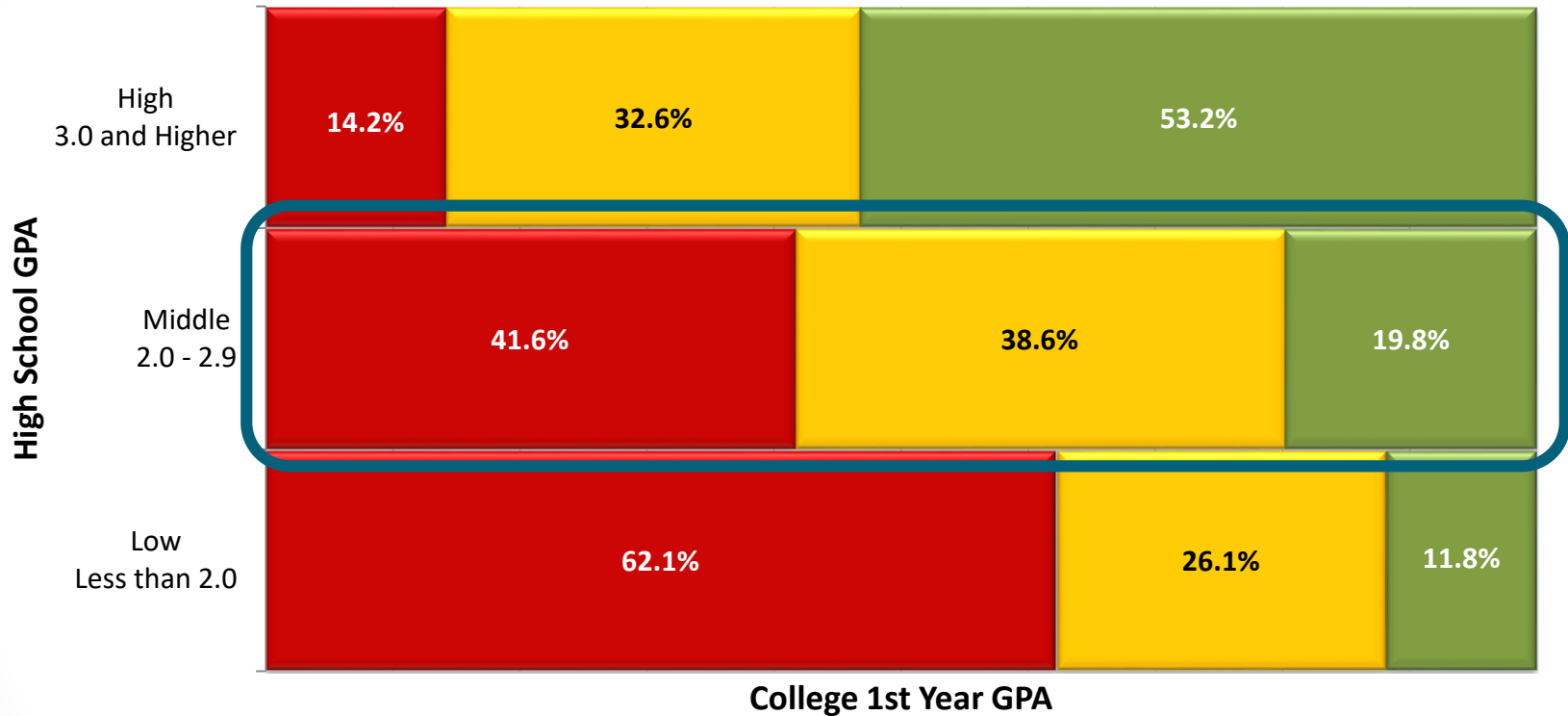
Relationship of High School GPA to 1st Year College GPA



Finding: Nearly 20% of middle-performing high school students move to the high GPA band, but over 40% move to low-performing band their first year in college.

HS GPAs and College 1st Year GPA

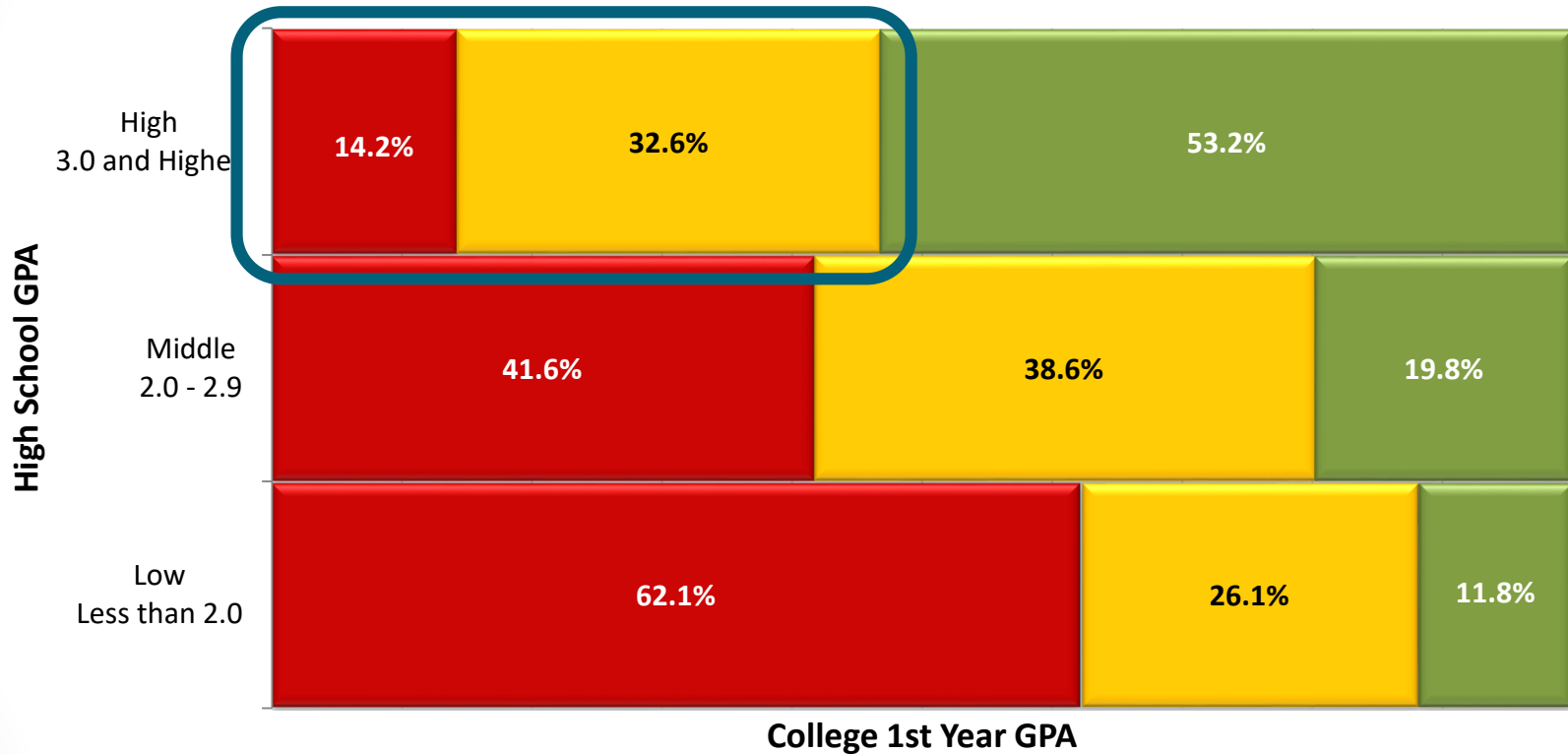
Relationship of High School GPA to 1st Year College GPA



Finding: Only half will complete a certificate or degree program = “Murky Middle”

HS GPAs and College 1st Year GPA

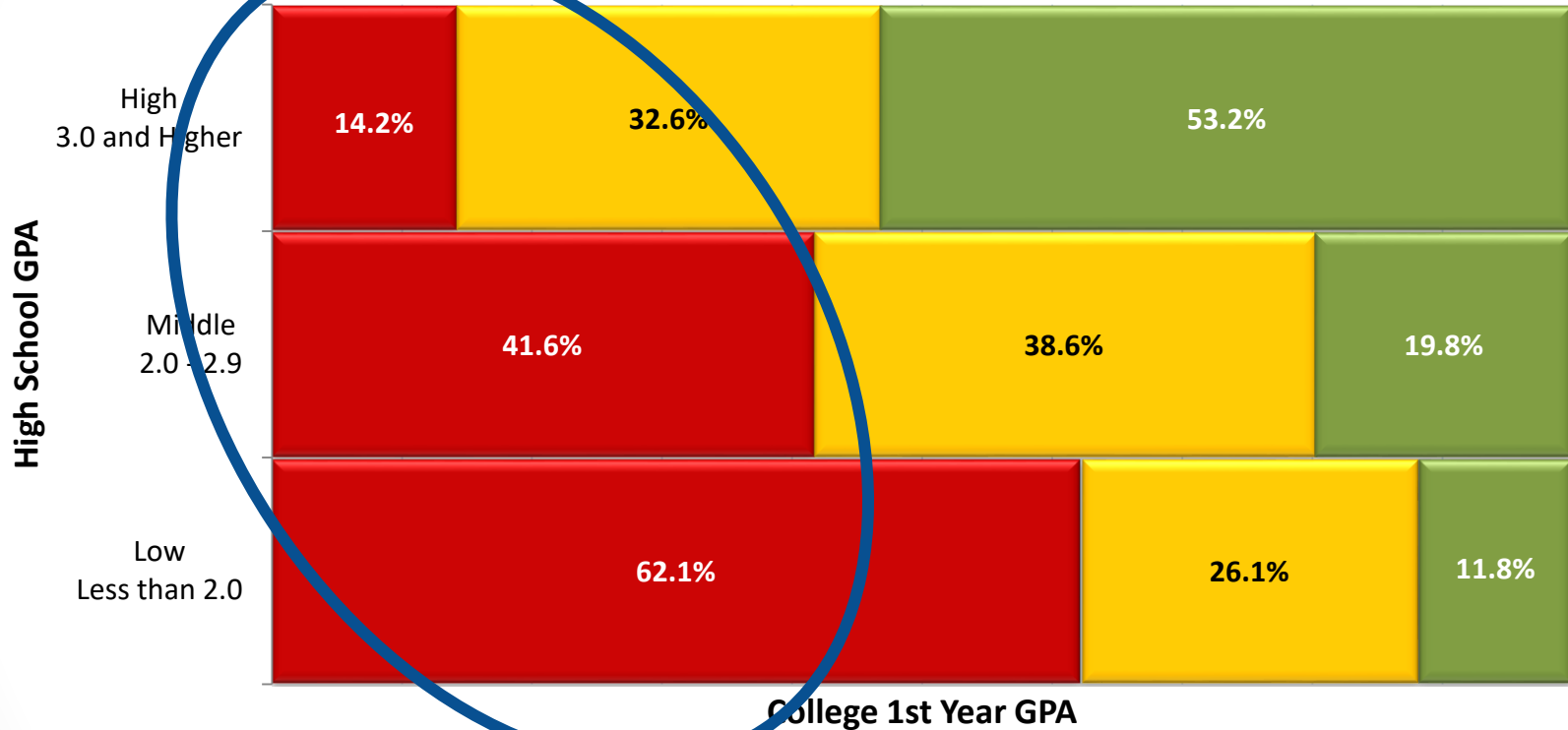
Relationship of High School GPA to 1st Year College GPA



Finding: Nearly half of high-performing high school students move to a lower GPA band their first year in college.

HS GPAs and College 1st Year GPA

Relationship of High School GPA to 1st Year College GPA



1st Year college students in the low-performing band have very low probability of completing a degree or certificate.

Rural College-Going and HS GPAs

We're just getting started investigating these relationships.

Also looking at demographic and economic factors pertaining to rural college-going.

Take-ways for Rural Alliance

- 9th Grade performance is an early indicator of likely overall high school performance.
 - In what ways can we move more low- and middle-performing student into higher GPA bins?
 - In what ways can we keep middle- and high-performing students from slipping in to lower GPA bins?
- More attention needs to be focused on middle achieving students, both in high school and higher education.
- What is preventing high-achieving high school students from attending college?
 - Cultural / Economic issues? → Rural Culture Study

Question and Comments

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Download a copy of this presentation:

www.ccs.spokane.edu/STIP/RAWinter2017



Student Transitions Information Project

Key Topics from Padlet and Conversations

- Soft skills / 21st Century Skills
- Mentoring
- Mindset / Grit / Self-advocacy
- Family engagement
- Community / Business engagement
- Academics: Dual credit (keeping this option open!)
- Student Voice (What matters to them?)
- Technology: capacity to expand students' sense of possibilities
- Engagement: personalization / enrichment both curricular and non-curricular
- Pathways: postsecondary education options that lead to careers in rural communities