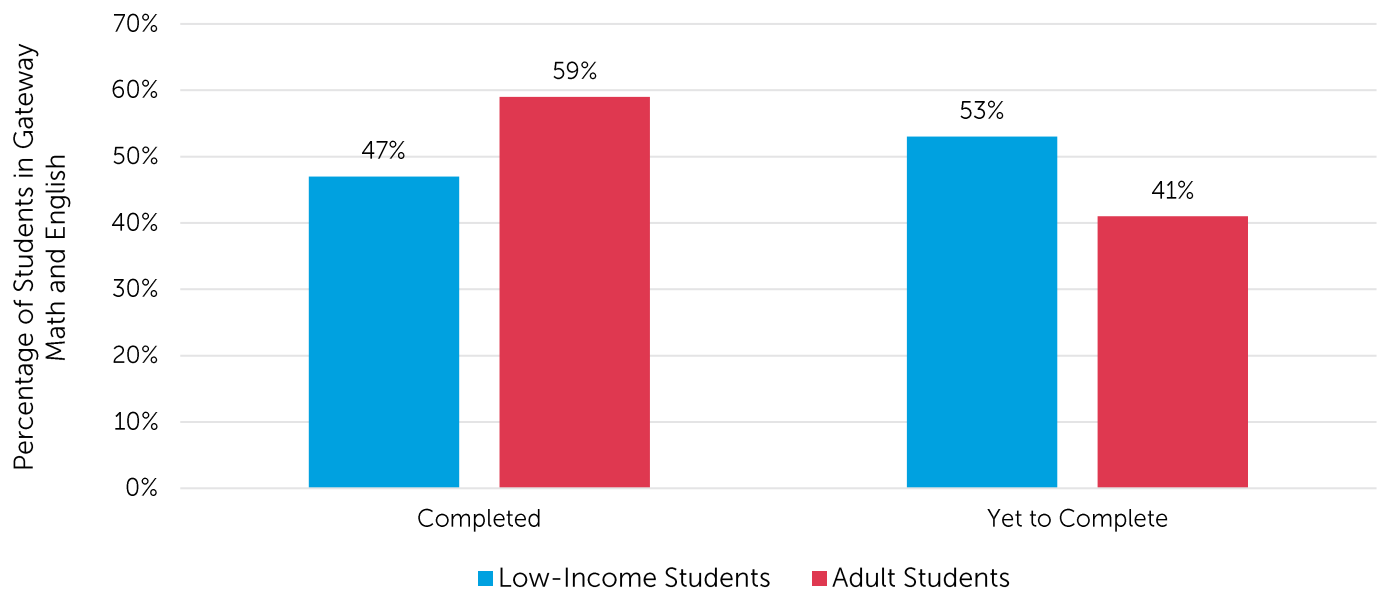


# First-Year Gateway Completion Rates

*In the first year of Ohio's participation in SSTF, over 40% of low-income and adult students completed gateway English and math courses.*



Source: Strong Start to Finish (2020, August). [Ohio Strong Start to Finish: Early Progress](#) (Learning from the Reform series). Denver, CO: Education Commission of the States. Notes: The data used to create this chart came from Figure 1 of the report and serve as a baseline for the progress to be made on the Ohio-SSTF grant.

In spring of 2018, the Ohio Department of Higher Education, the Ohio Association of Community Colleges, and the Inter-University Council of Ohio were awarded a grant to increase student college completion and decrease attainment gaps for historically underserved students. The initiative, known as Ohio Strong Start to Finish (Ohio-SSTF), has four priority action areas including the implementation of corequisite support at scale in English and math. Ohio-SSTF began implementing the action areas in the fall semester of 2018.

A recent study on Ohio's efforts shows a promising start to the reforms. For low-income and adult students who started in the fall of 2018, over 40% completed gateway math and English courses. For low-income students, the completion rate was 47% and for adult students it was 59%. Given that Ohio's initial data (before the Ohio-SSTF initiative) suggested that only a third of first-time students completed gateway courses, the fall 2018 data suggests that the reforms are working. This Points of Interest shows that over 40% of low-income and adult students completed gateway courses in the first year of study of the Ohio-SSTF initiative.

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