

Conditional Students in COB

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Research Questions

In comparison to regular admitted transfer students, how successful are transfer students that are conditionally admitted?

Introduction

Description

Growing number of conditionally admitted students (i.e., outstanding required course/s) in which anecdotal evidence suggests students are purposefully delaying enrollment (e.g., business calculus).

Motivation

If performance gaps do not exist, this brings to question the necessity of such required courses; if performance gaps do exist, this poses implications for imposing stricter scheduling requirements.

Methods

Data Source

Our Data was obtained from two sources. We were able to pull student information from the Student Success Dashboard & Beach Connect.

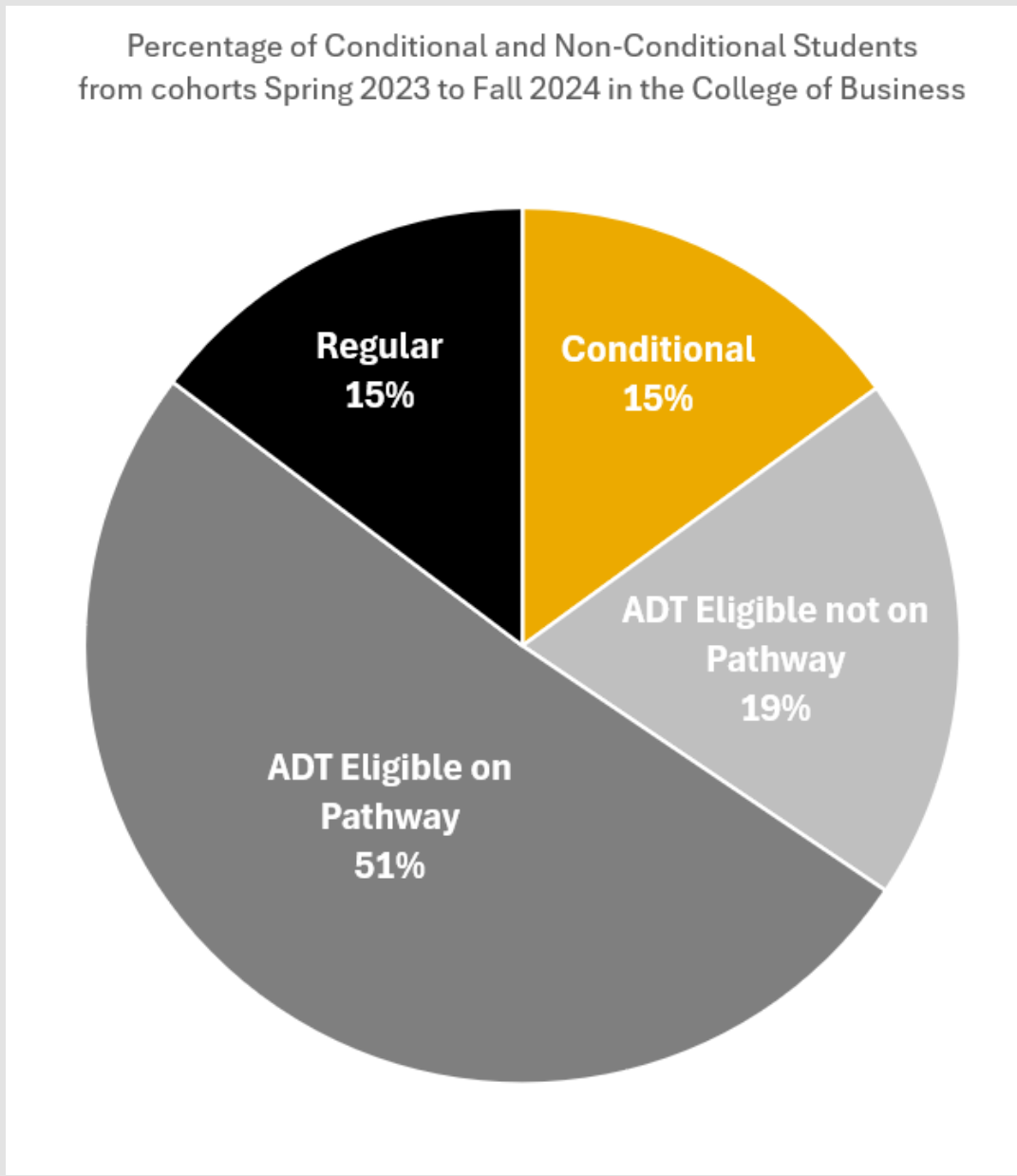
Data Analysis

We looked at student GPA amongst different transfer types and course Pass, Fail, & Withdrawal numbers to see how Conditional students compared to Regular and ADT transfer students.

Results

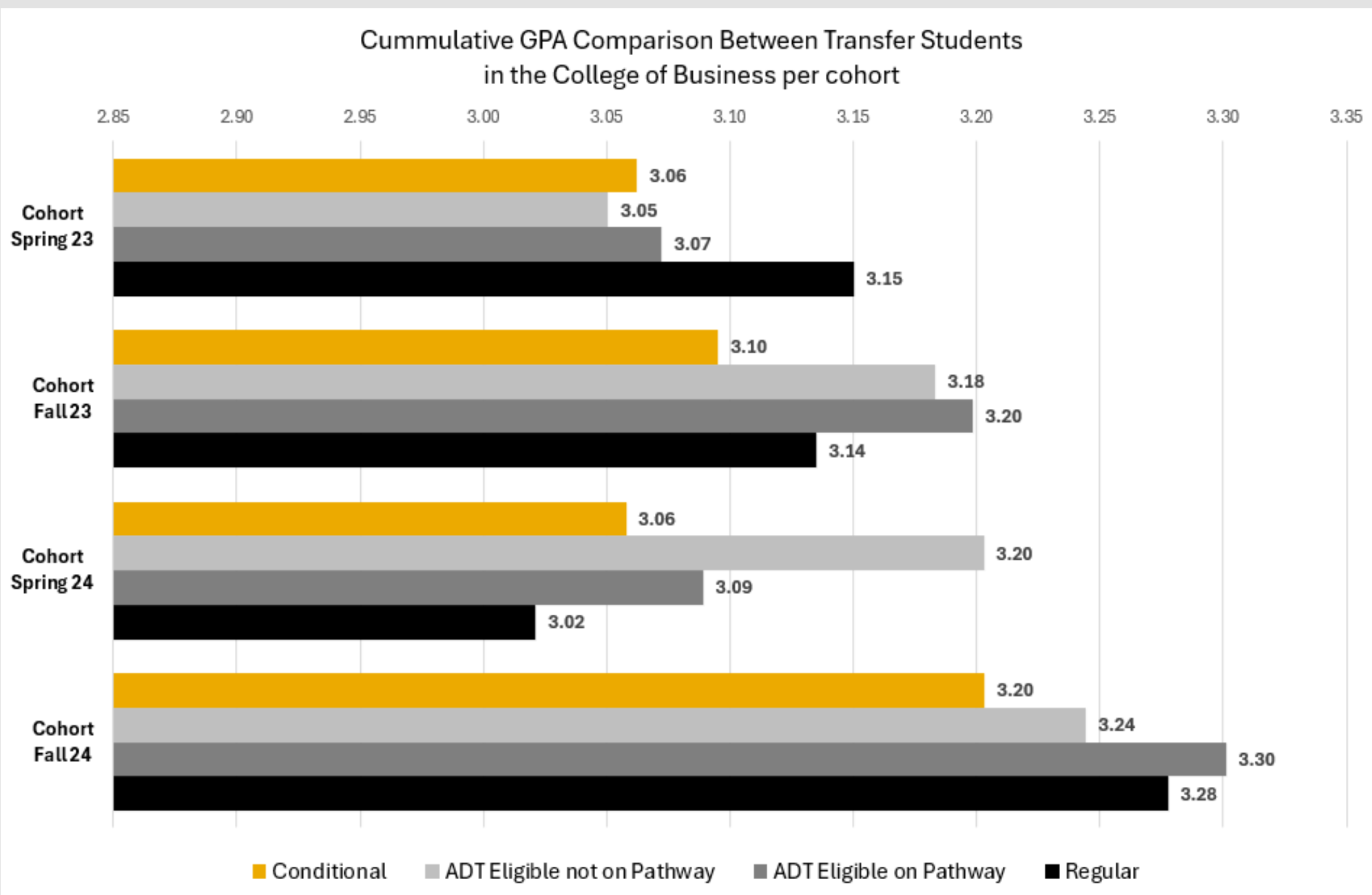
Transfer Types

In our research, we split the transfer students into four groups. Only 15% of transfer students have been conditional since we started accepting conditional students.



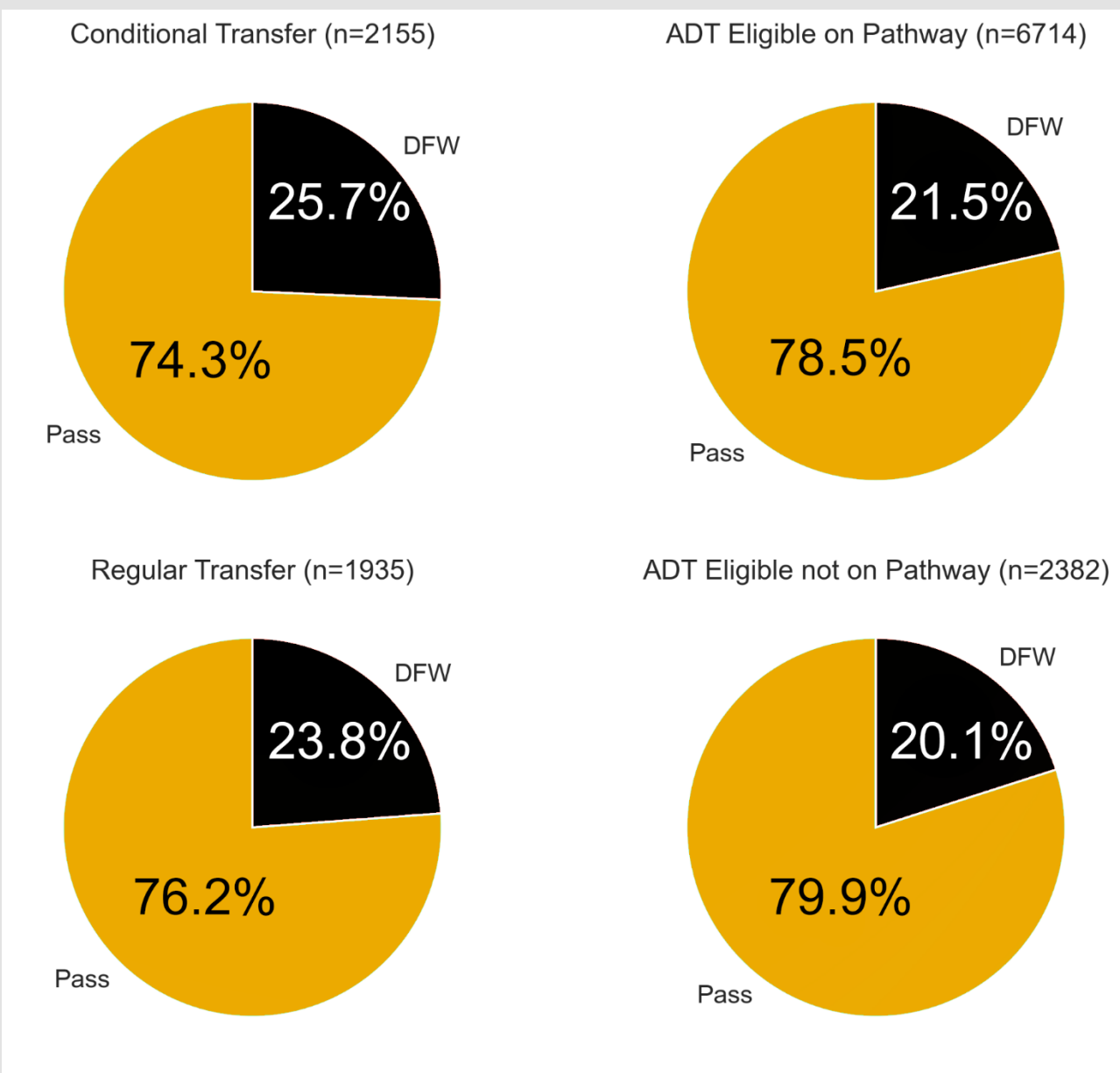
Measure Success - GPA

To measure success, we decided to use the student's average GPA to see how conditional students did compared to the other transfer students. The fall cohorts experienced the lowest GPA's and second lowest in the spring cohorts. In the end, all transfer types averaged above a 3.0 in all cohorts.



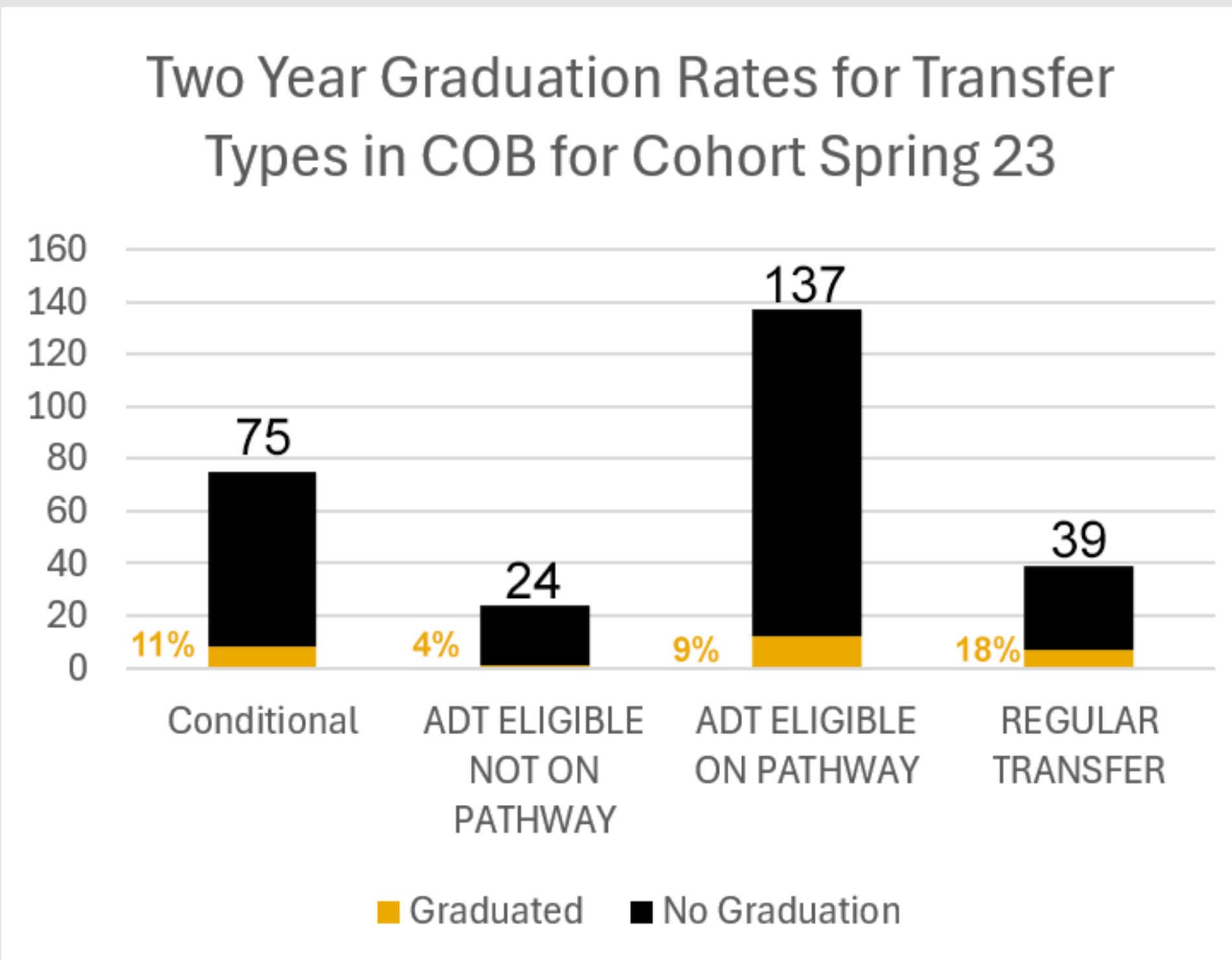
Measure Success – Core Courses

COB's core courses were used to measure the students Pass Rates.



Measure Success – Graduation Rates

We were able to pull the two-year graduation rates for the Spring 2023 cohort. Conditional students scored second to regular transfers.



Regression Analysis – Final Grades

Impact of Transfer Type on Final Grades in Core Courses: OLS Regression Controlling for Demographic and Socioeconomic Factors

DV = Final Grades of Core Courses		
Variable	Coefficient	T-stat
TransferType		
Conditional Transfer	-0.107**	(-2.79)
ADT Eligible not on Pathway	0.049	-1.32
ADT Eligible on Pathway	0.054*	-1.88
Controls		
Course FE	Yes	
Major FE	Yes	
Adjusted R-squared	0.065	
N	11,177	

* p<0.10, ** p<0.05, *** p<0.01

Reference group: Regular Transfer for TransferType
Final Grade is coded as 4 for A, 3 for B, 2 for C, 1 for D, and 0 for F.
Control variables include gender, minority status, PELL eligibility and first-generation status.
Course and Major fixed effects are included.

Conclusion / Discussion

Conditional students show no major differences to the other transfer types. When it comes to our Measures of Success, they score relatively close to all the other transfer groups in terms of GPA, pass rates, and graduation rates.

Due to the recent change allowing conditional students to enroll, the data is not large enough to make a clear distinction. Based on our current data, we can see that the differences are marginal, but we would like to continue observing this to confirm our information is accurate.

Implications for Action

With Conditional students doing about the same as the other transfer types, this does bring to question the required courses that may be an obstacle to students trying to major in the College of Business (Business Calculus).

Next Steps / Future Directions

Next Steps

Continue to monitor COB Transfer Cohorts performance.

Future Direction

We would like to investigate Graduation rates because currently only one of the COB Transfer Cohorts has graduated.