

# **20 Years of Optional SATs at Bates**

(1984-2004)

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Presented to  
The Trotter Group  
The Nieman Foundation/Kennedy School of Government  
Harvard University  
Nov. 8, 2004

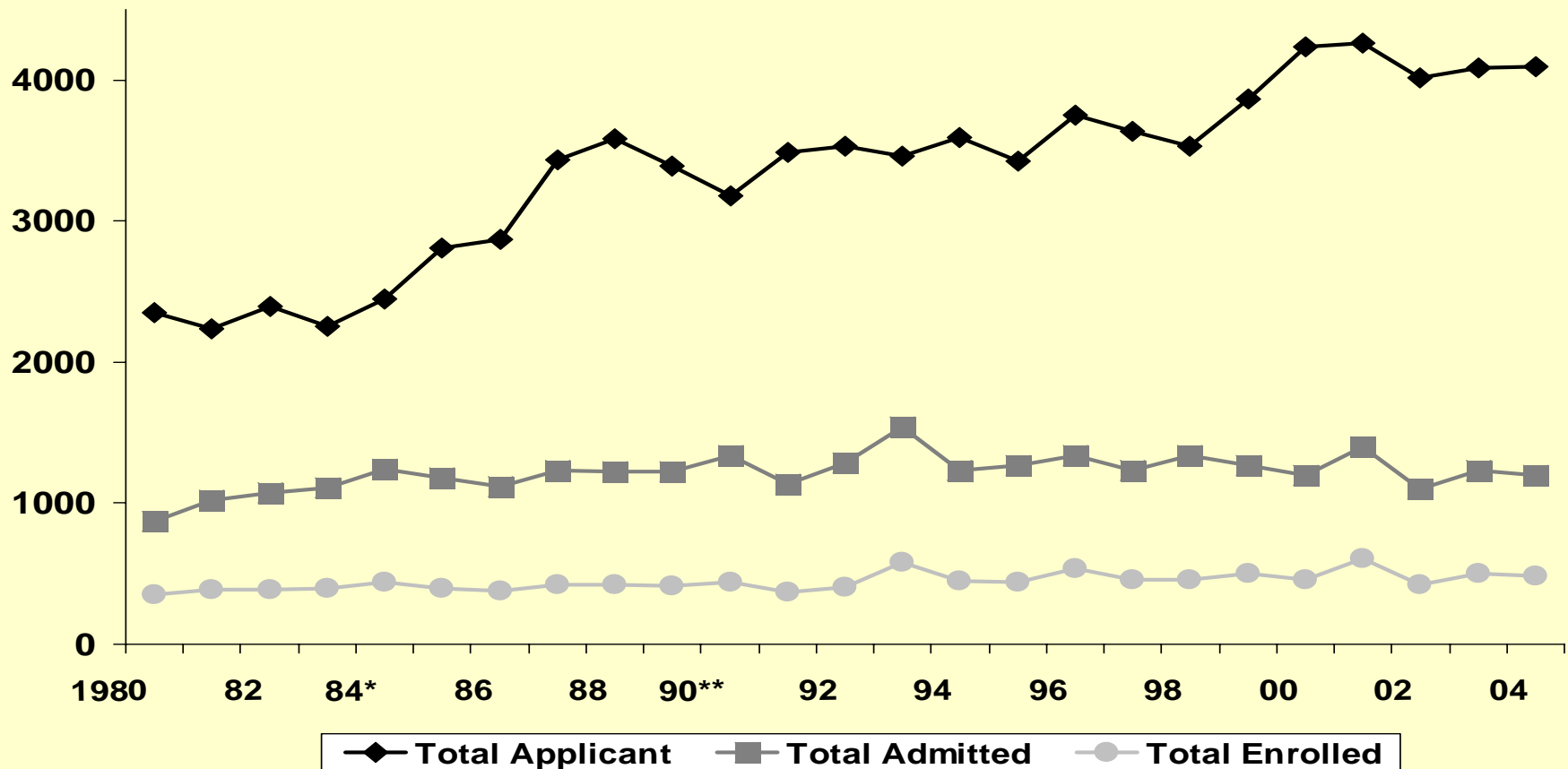
- You know there is a story about this guy who thought he was a chicken. People talked to his relatives, and they said, “Gee, why don’t you get this guy into some counseling or some therapy and try and help him get through this obsession about being a chicken.” And the relatives said, “We would, but we need the eggs.”

*Woody Allen in “Annie Hall”*

- “Now that my barn has burned, I can see the moon.”

*Japanese Haiku*

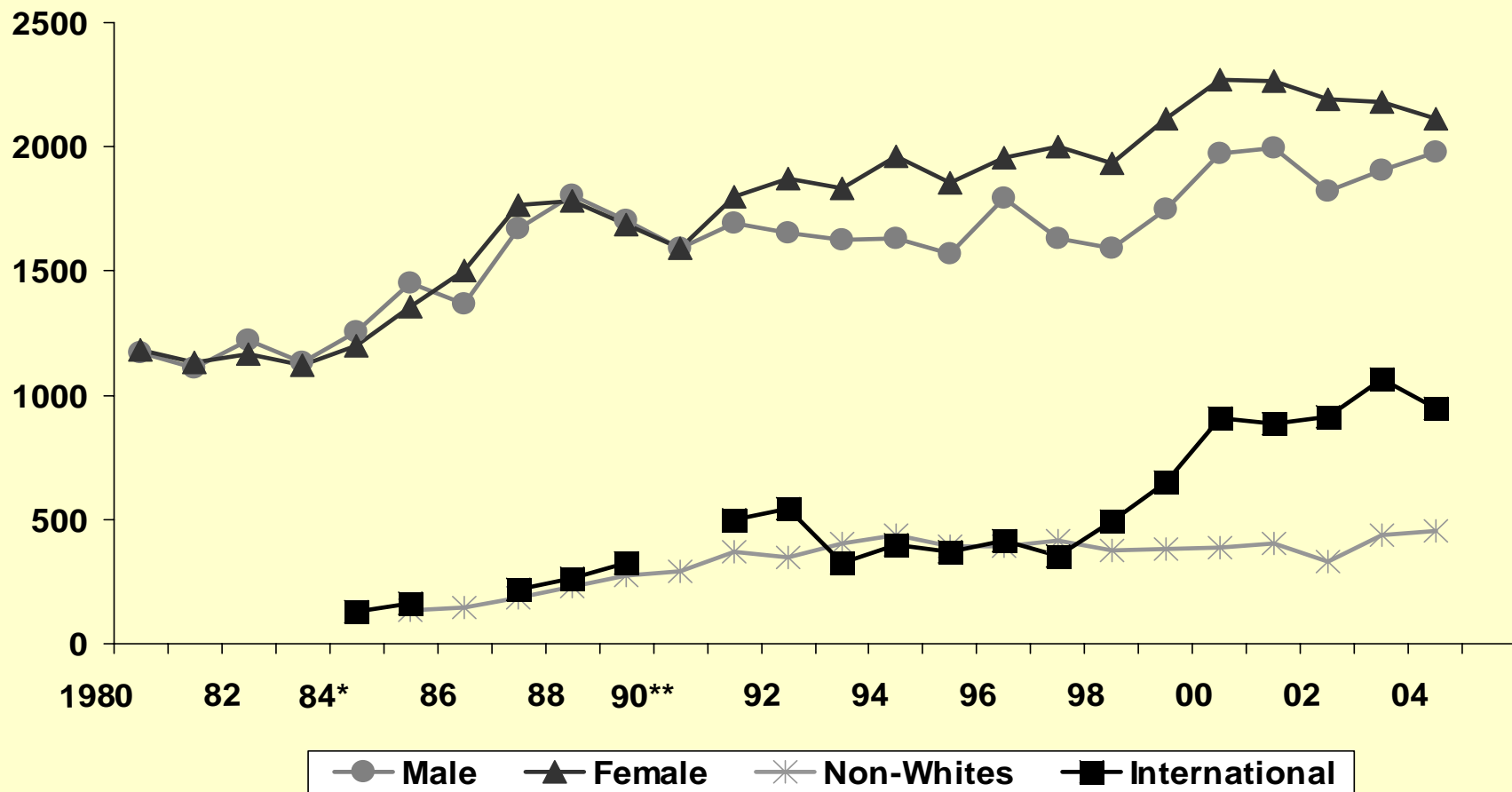
## Applications, Admits and Enrollees at Bates College (Entering Classes of 1980 to 1999)



1984\* : SAT I made optional for admission

1990\*\* : All standardized tests made optional for admission

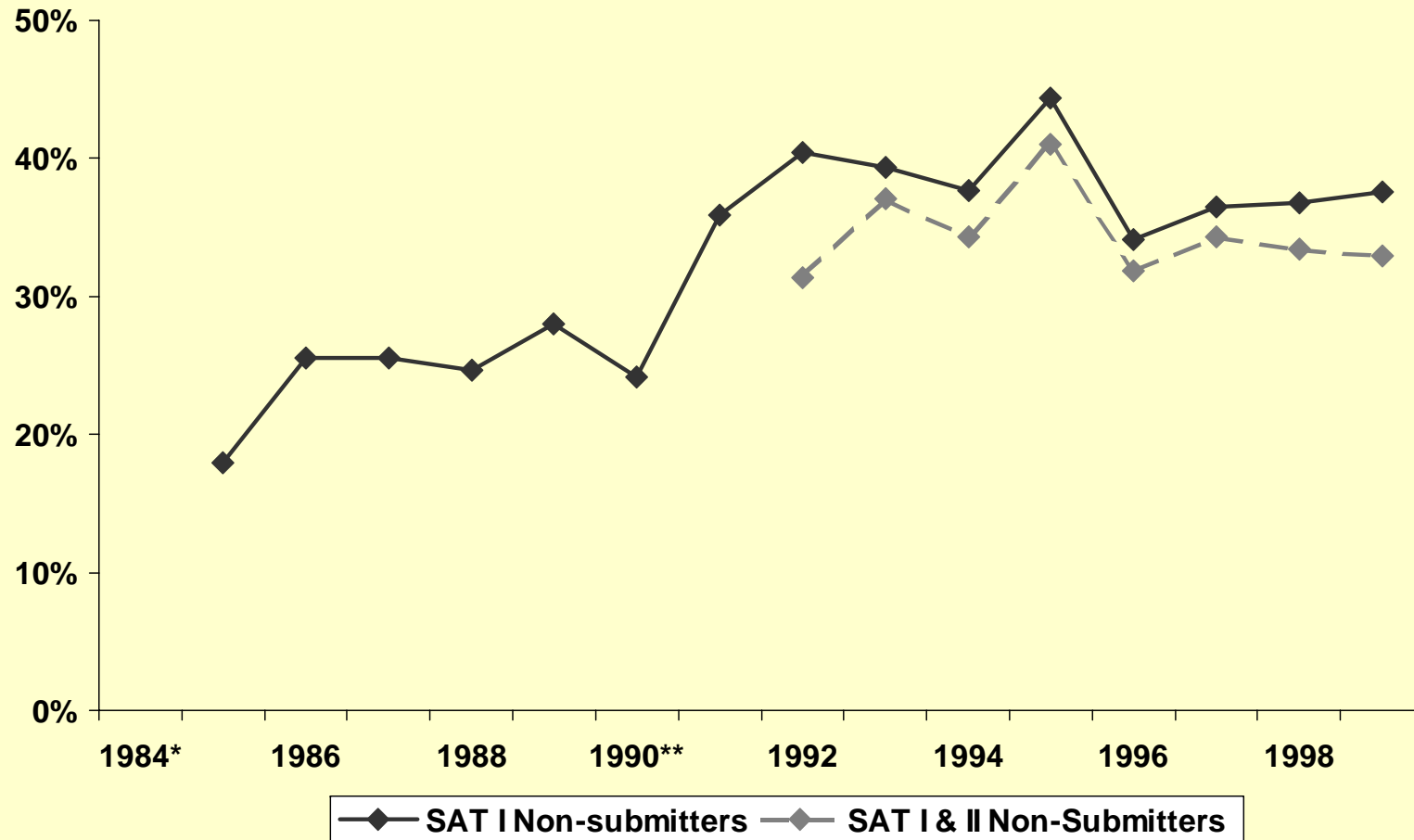
## Gender and Minority Groups in Bates FY Applicants Pool (Entering Class of 1980 to 1999)



1984\* : SAT I made optional for admission

1990\*\* : All standardized tests made optional for admission

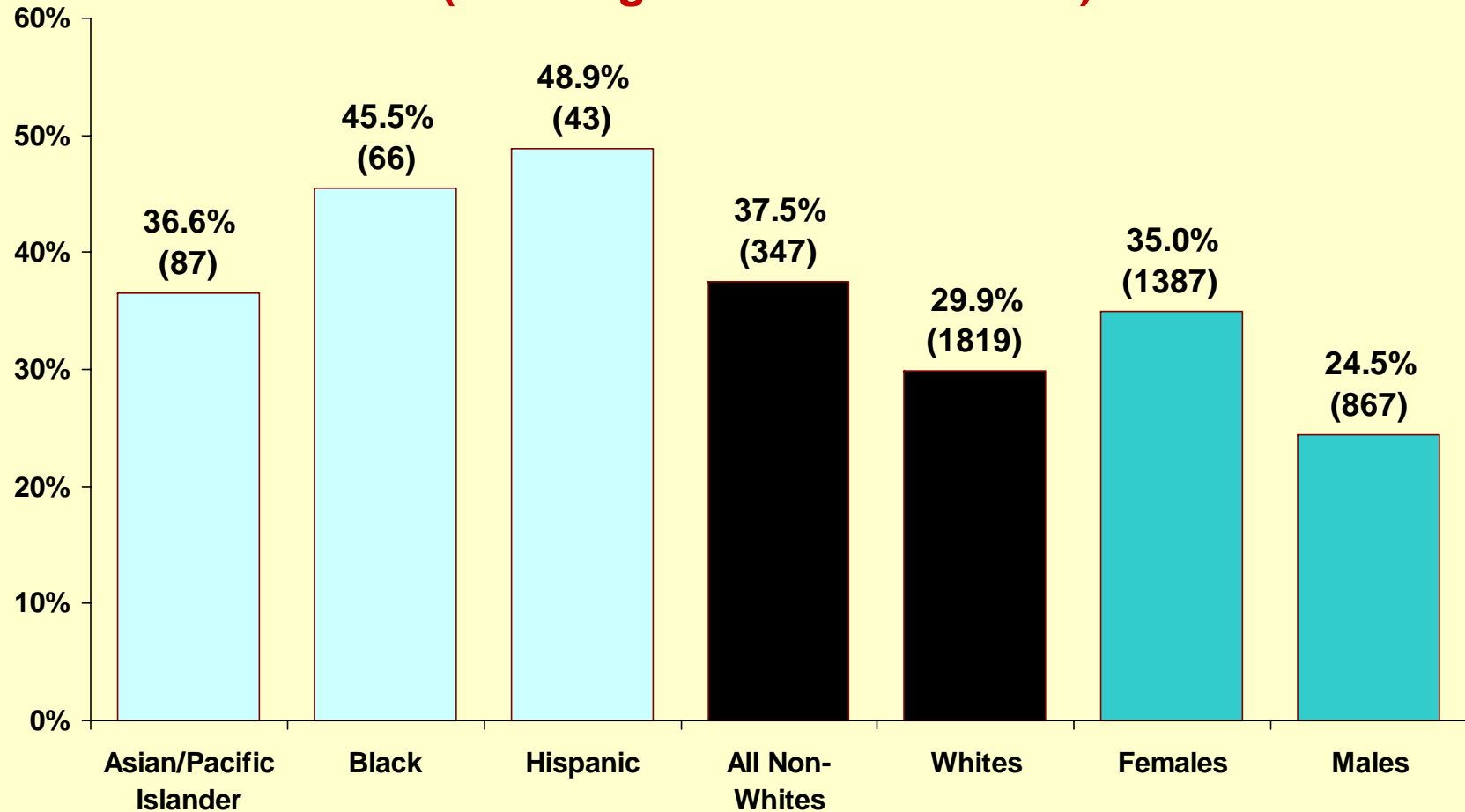
## SAT Non-Submitters as Percentage of the Entering Class (Entering Class of 1985 to 1999)



1984\* : SAT I made optional for admission

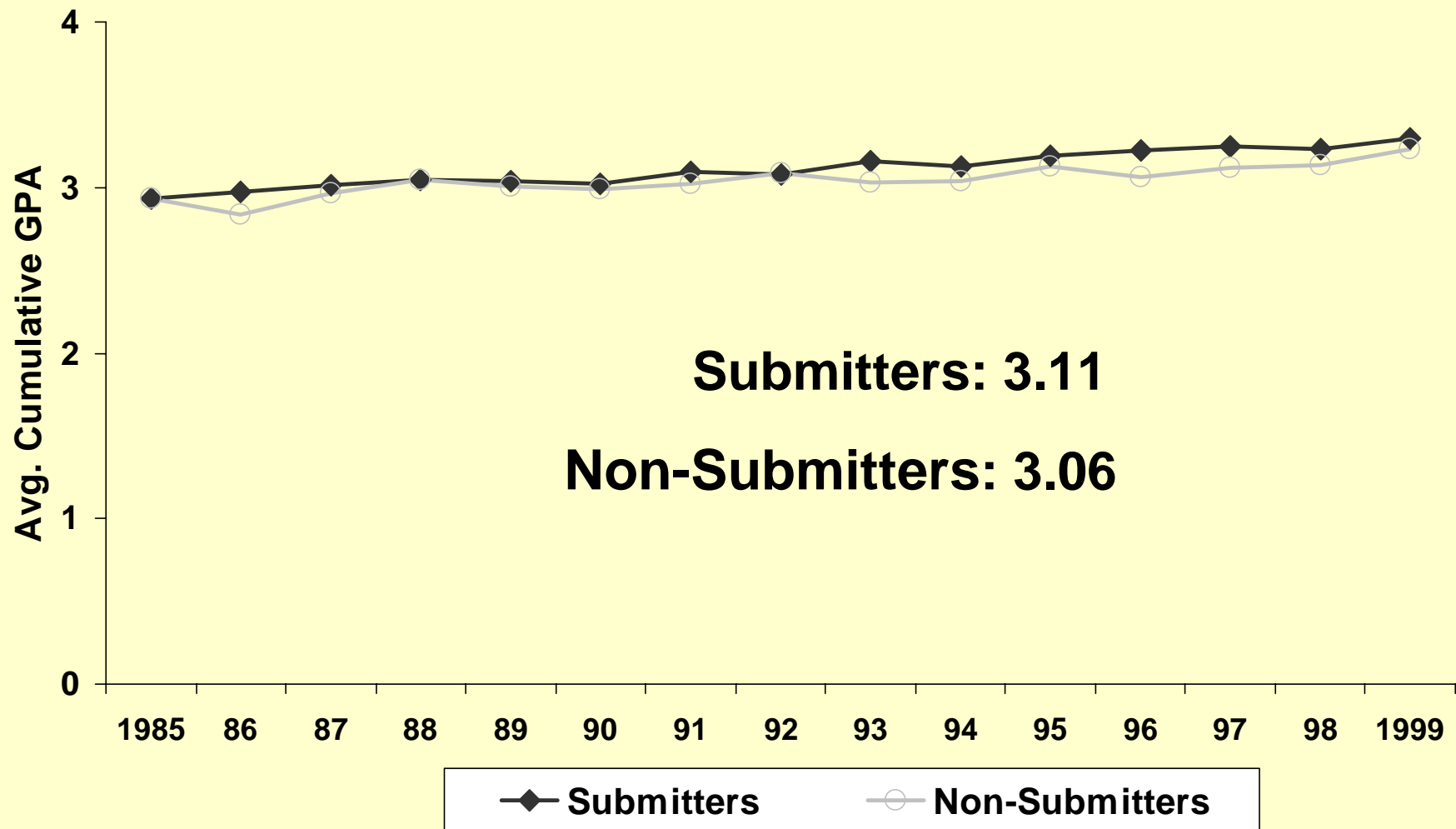
1990\*\* : All standardized tests made optional for admission

## SAT I Non-Submitters as Percentage of Ethnic Group and Gender (Entering Class of 1985-1999)

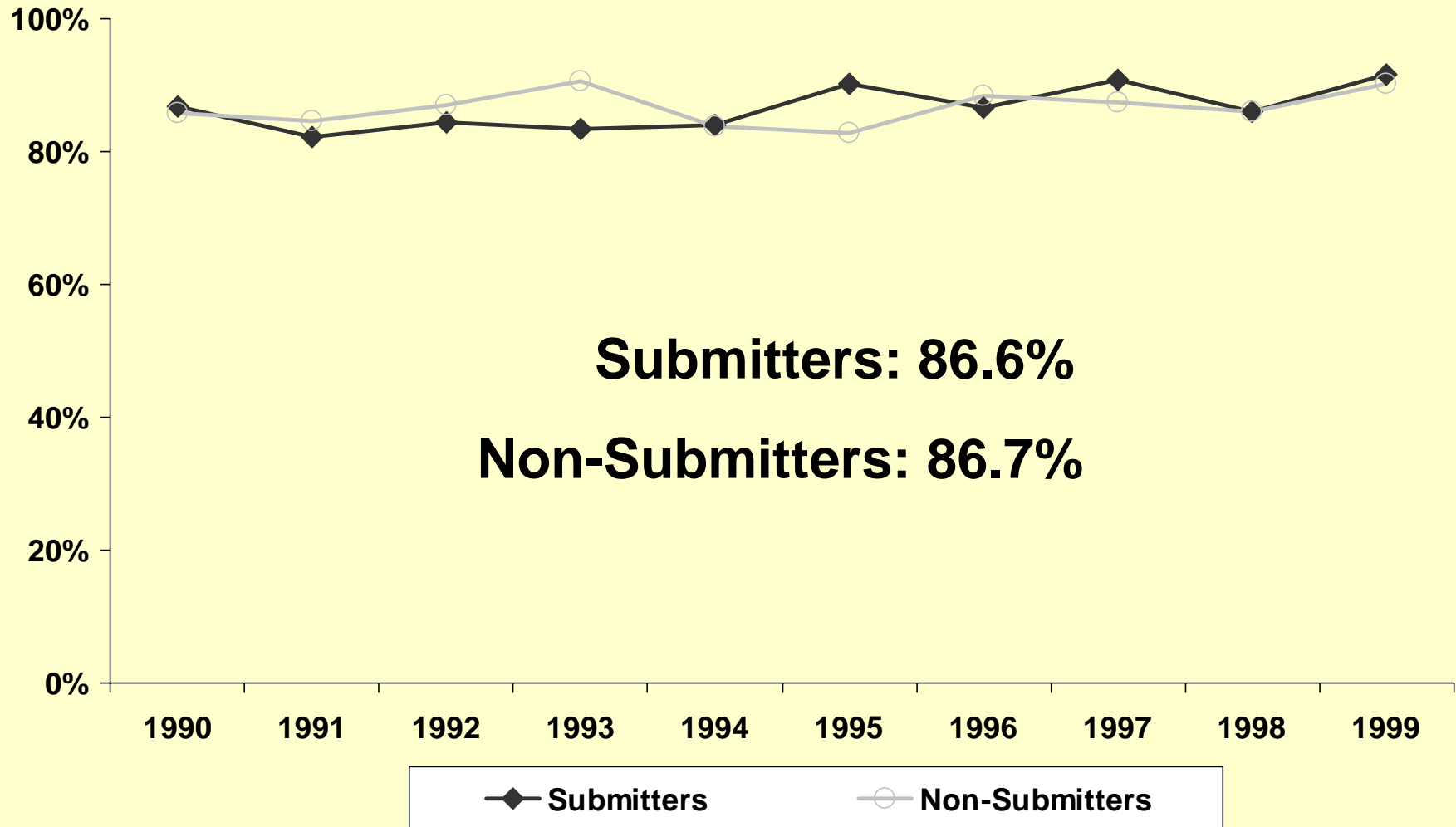


Note: The figure inside the bracket is the number of students the percentage figure represents.

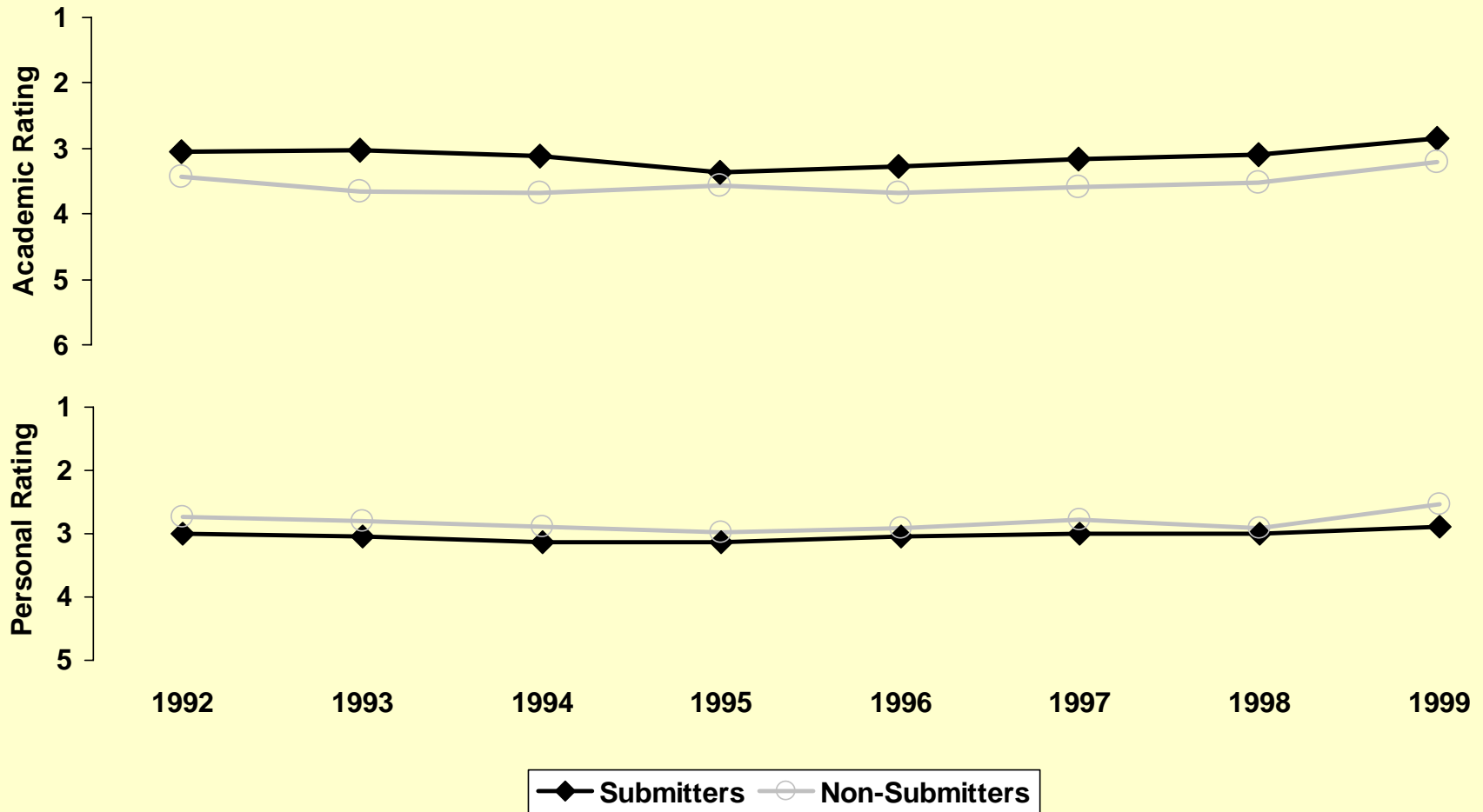
## Average Cumulative GPA for Submitters and Non-Submitters (Entering Class of 1985 to 1999)



## Graduation Rates for Submitters and Non-Submitters (Entering Class of 1990 to 1999)



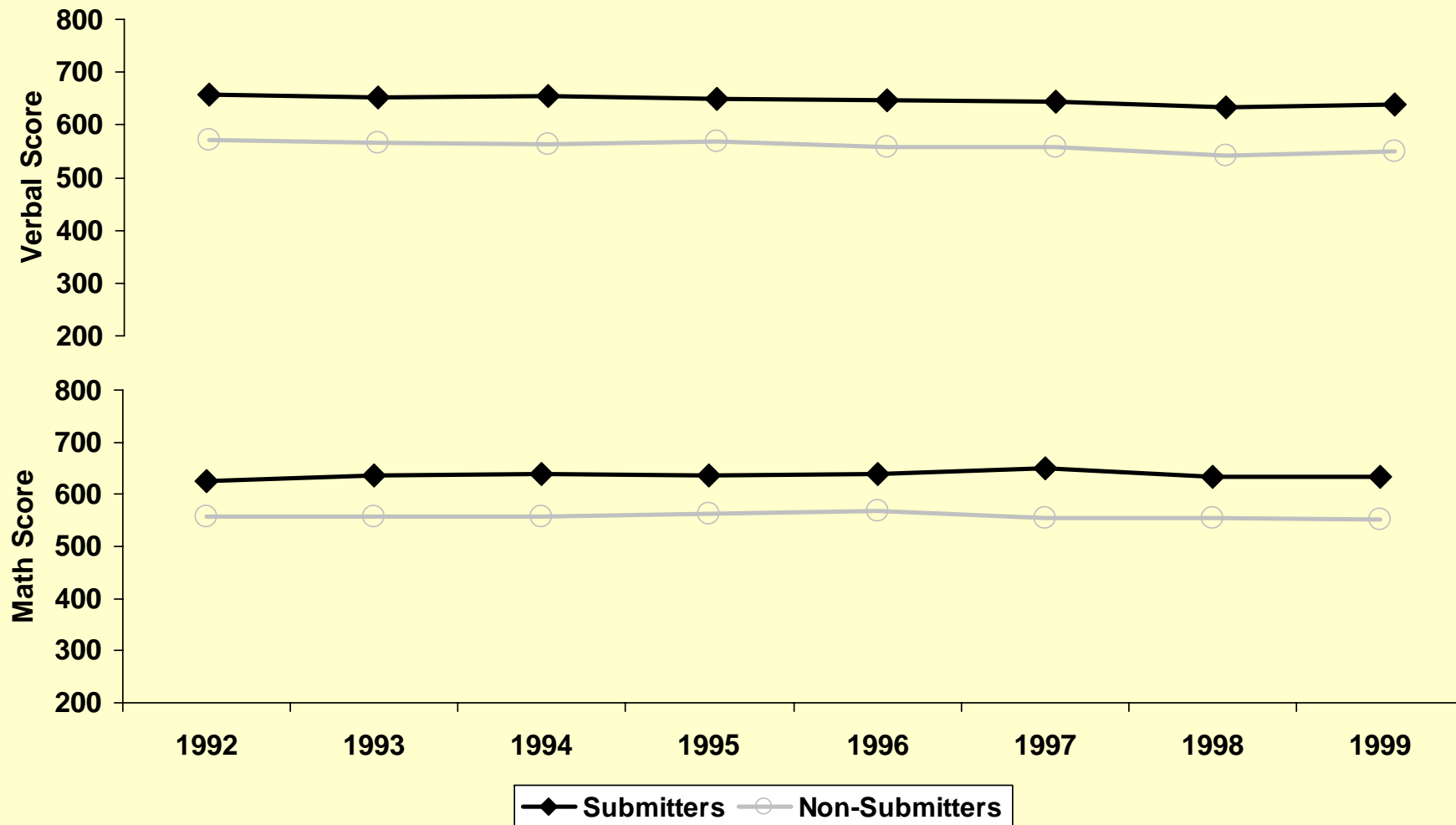
### Average Academic & Personal Ratings for Submitters and Non-Submitters (Entering Class of 1992 to 1999)



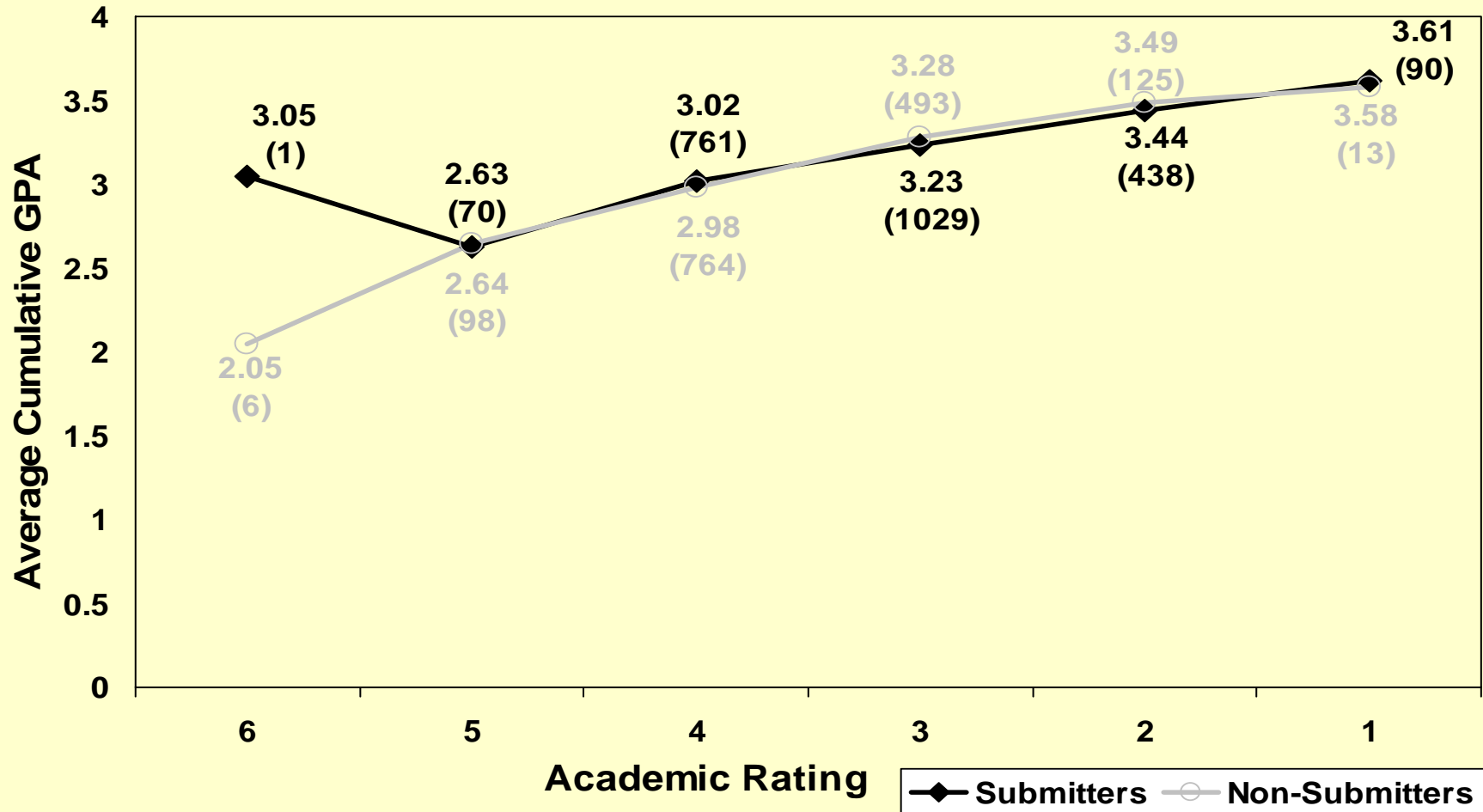
Note: Academic Rating of 1 is the highest and 6 is the lowest.

Personal Rating of 1 is the highest and 5 is the lowest.

### Average SAT I Verbal & Math Score for Submitters and Non-Submitters (Entering Class of 1992 to 1999)



## AR and Cumulative GPA of Submitters and Non-Submitters (Entering Class of 1992 to 1999)



Note: The number inside the parenthesis is the "N" for each category.

## Slide 11

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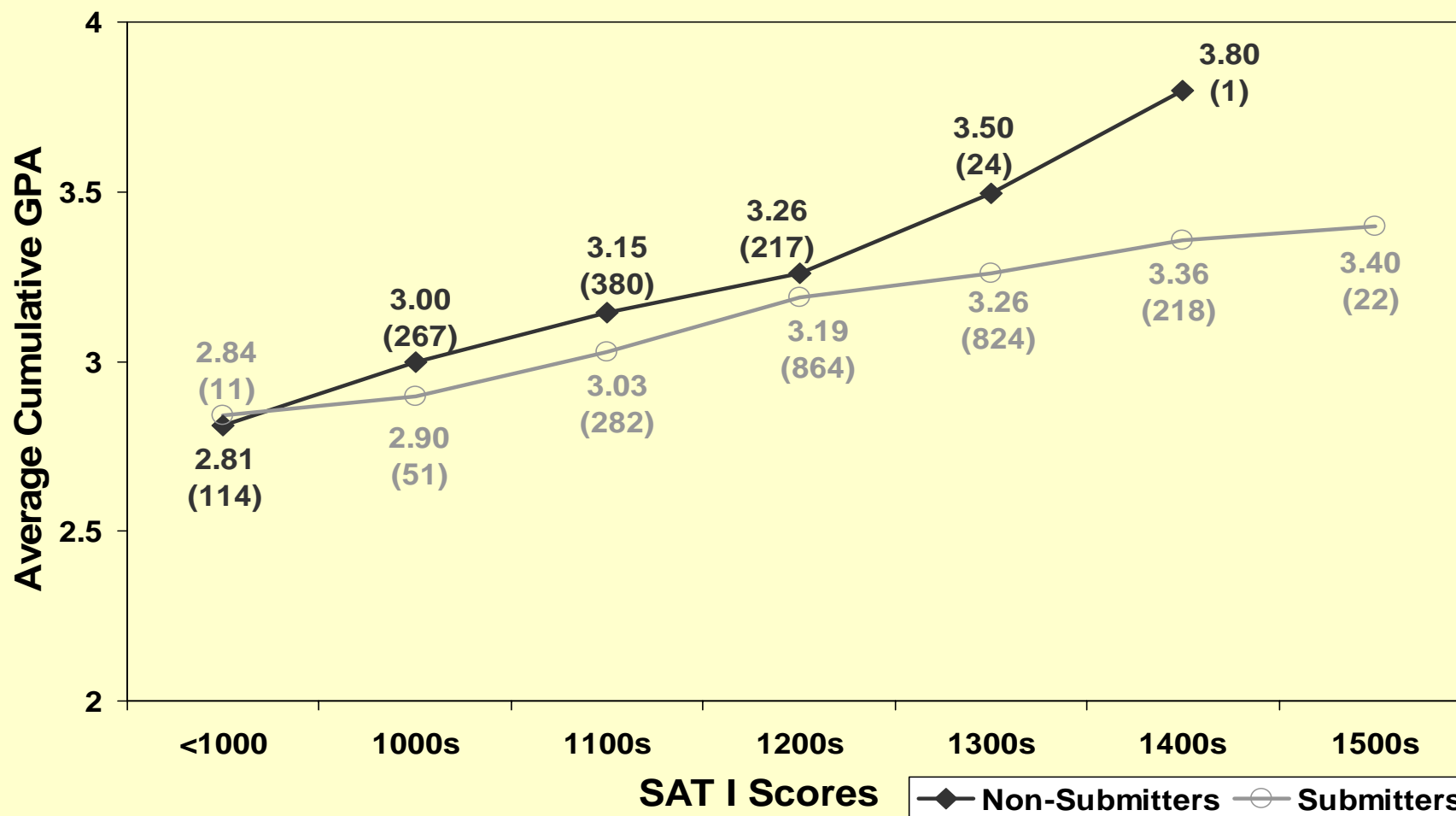
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Yet for both submitters and non-submitters, the Admissions Office is able to read folders accurately and make quite accurate predictions of success at Bates.

It is sometimes said that an optional testing policy will only work at a small college able to read applicants individually and thoughtfully. But lots of large research universities read folders just as we do. A national policy and social ethics question: What are the public costs of not admitting students who would succeed, in order to run a simple, inexpensive admissions process driven by class ranks and testing?

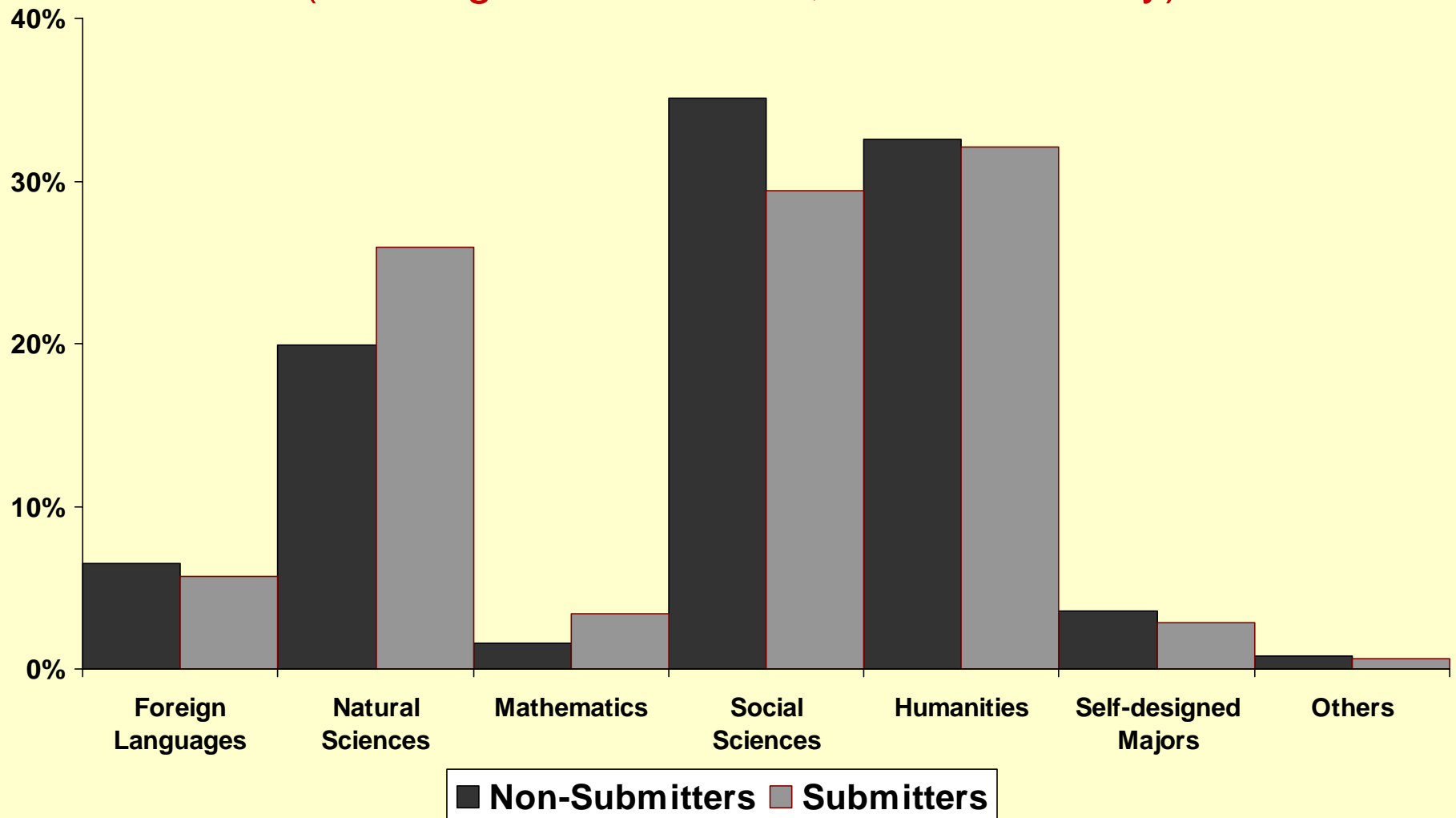
Information + Library Services, 9/10/2004

## SAT I Score and Cumulative GPA of Submitters and Non-Submitters (Entering Class of 1992 to 1999)

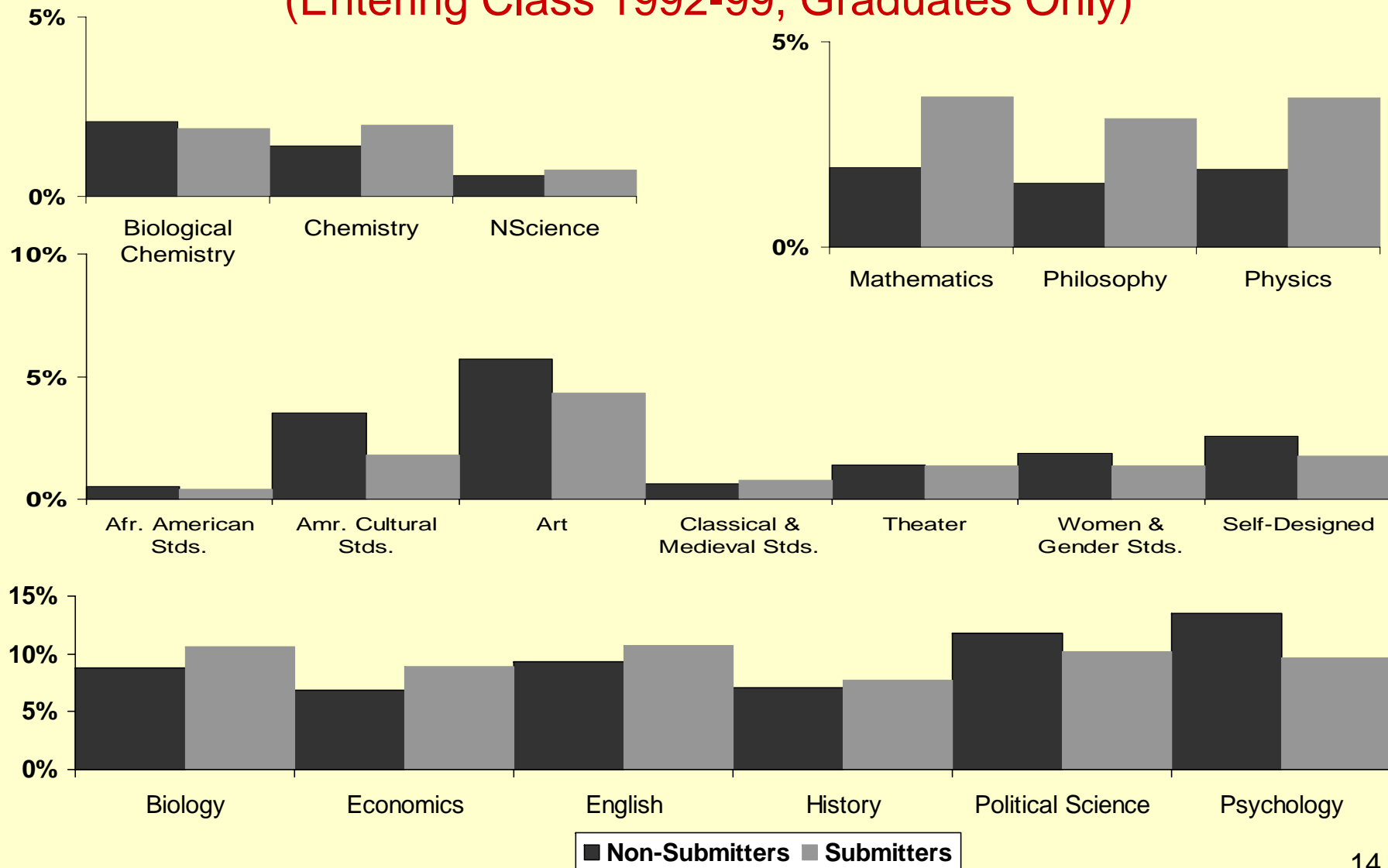


Note: The number inside the parenthesis is the "N" for each category.

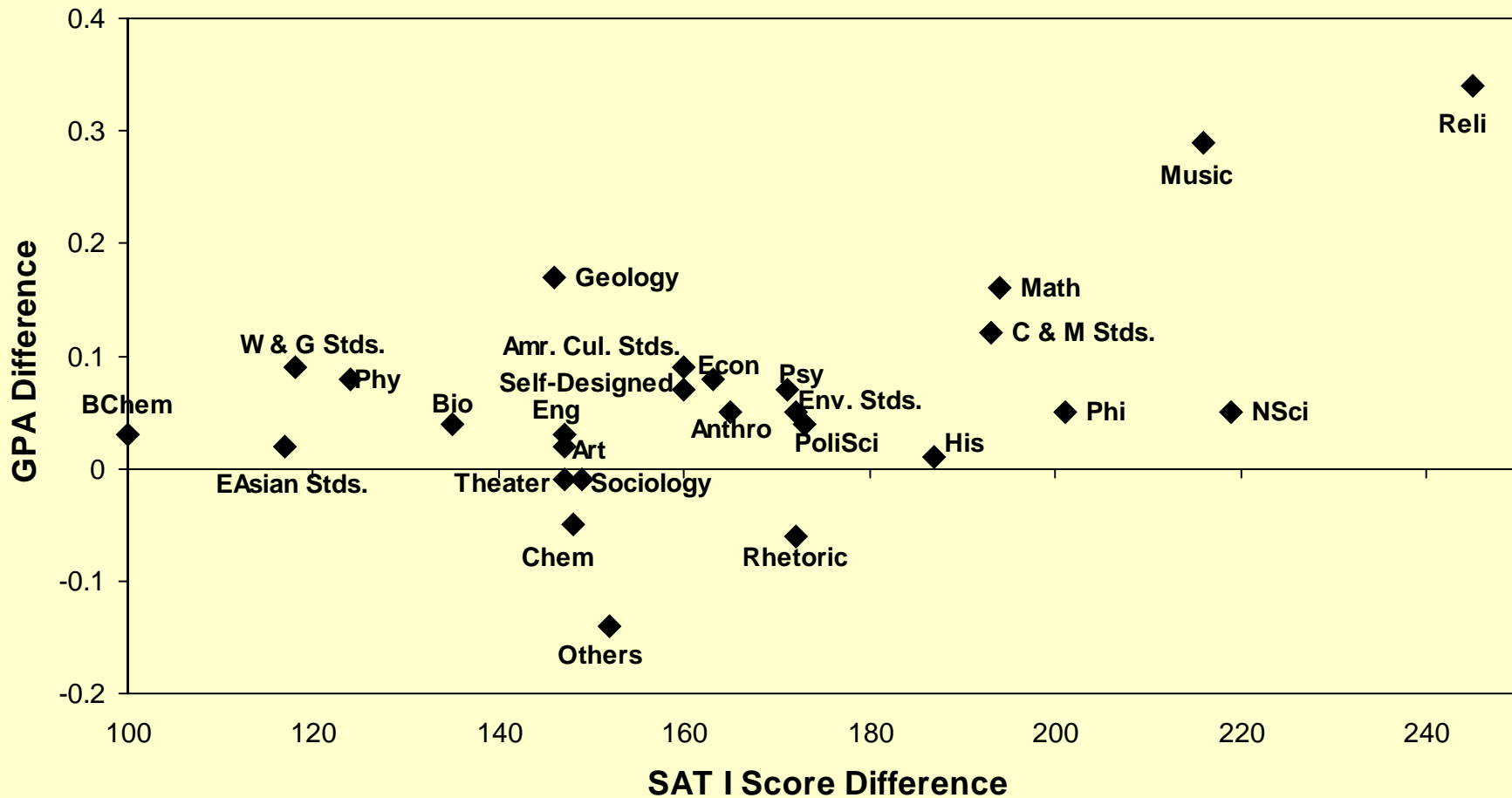
Distribution of Submitters and Non-Submitters by Disciplines  
(Entering Class 1992-99, Graduates Only)



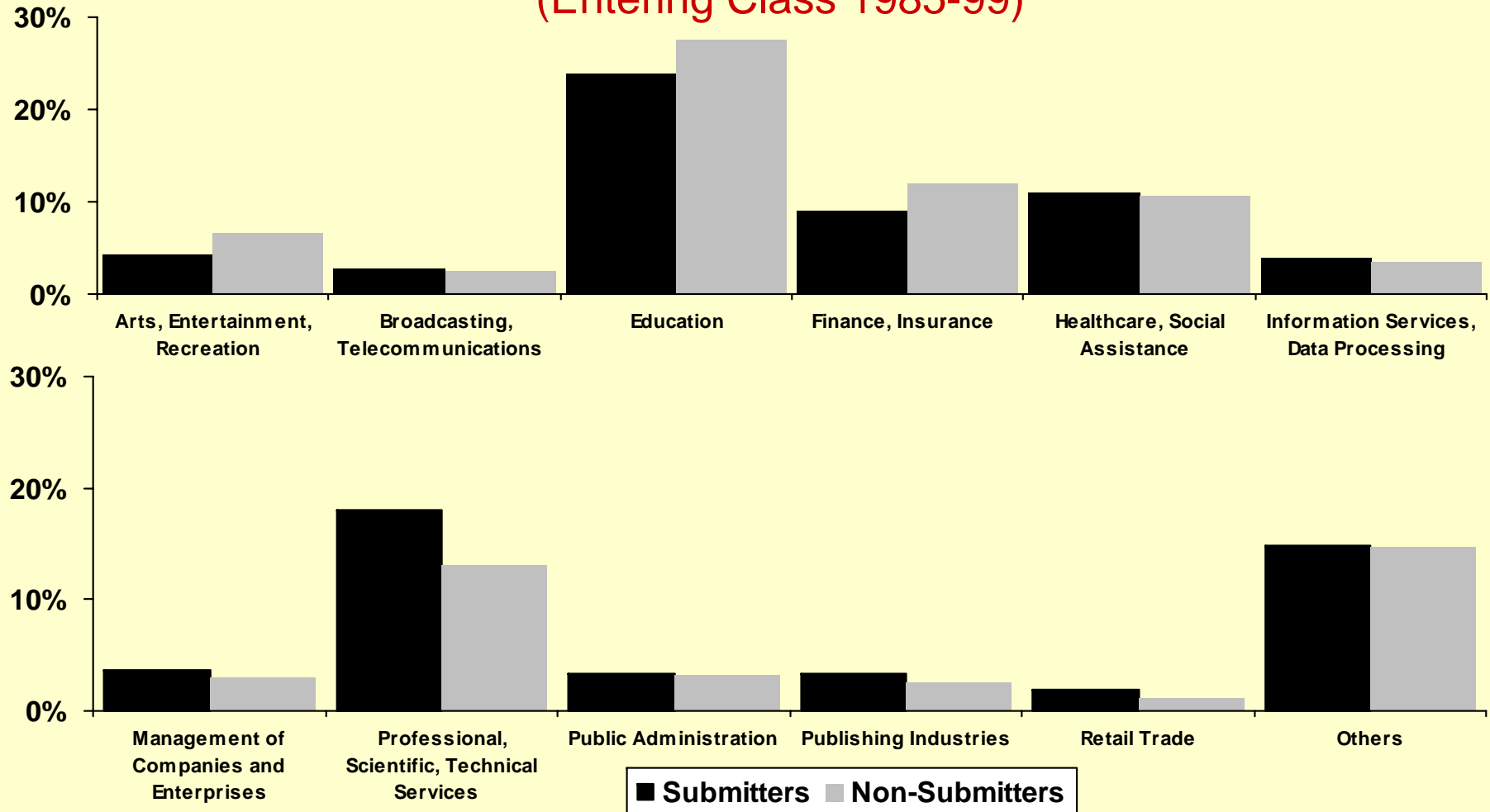
## Distribution of Submitters and Non-Submitters by Major (Entering Class 1992-99, Graduates Only)



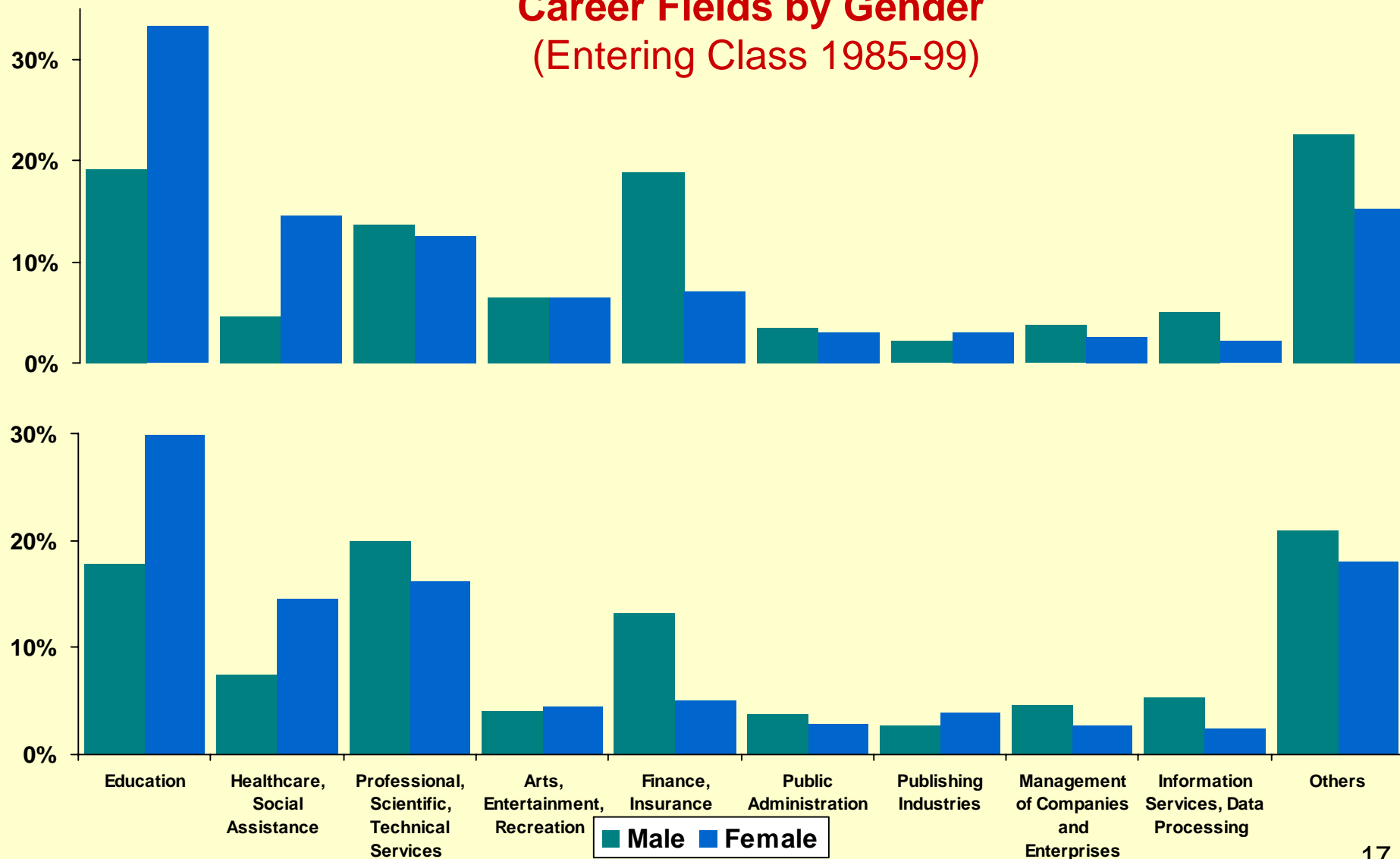
**Scatter plot of Average SAT I Score Difference vs. Average GPA Difference between Submitters and Non-Submitters by Major (Entering Class of 1992 to 1999)**



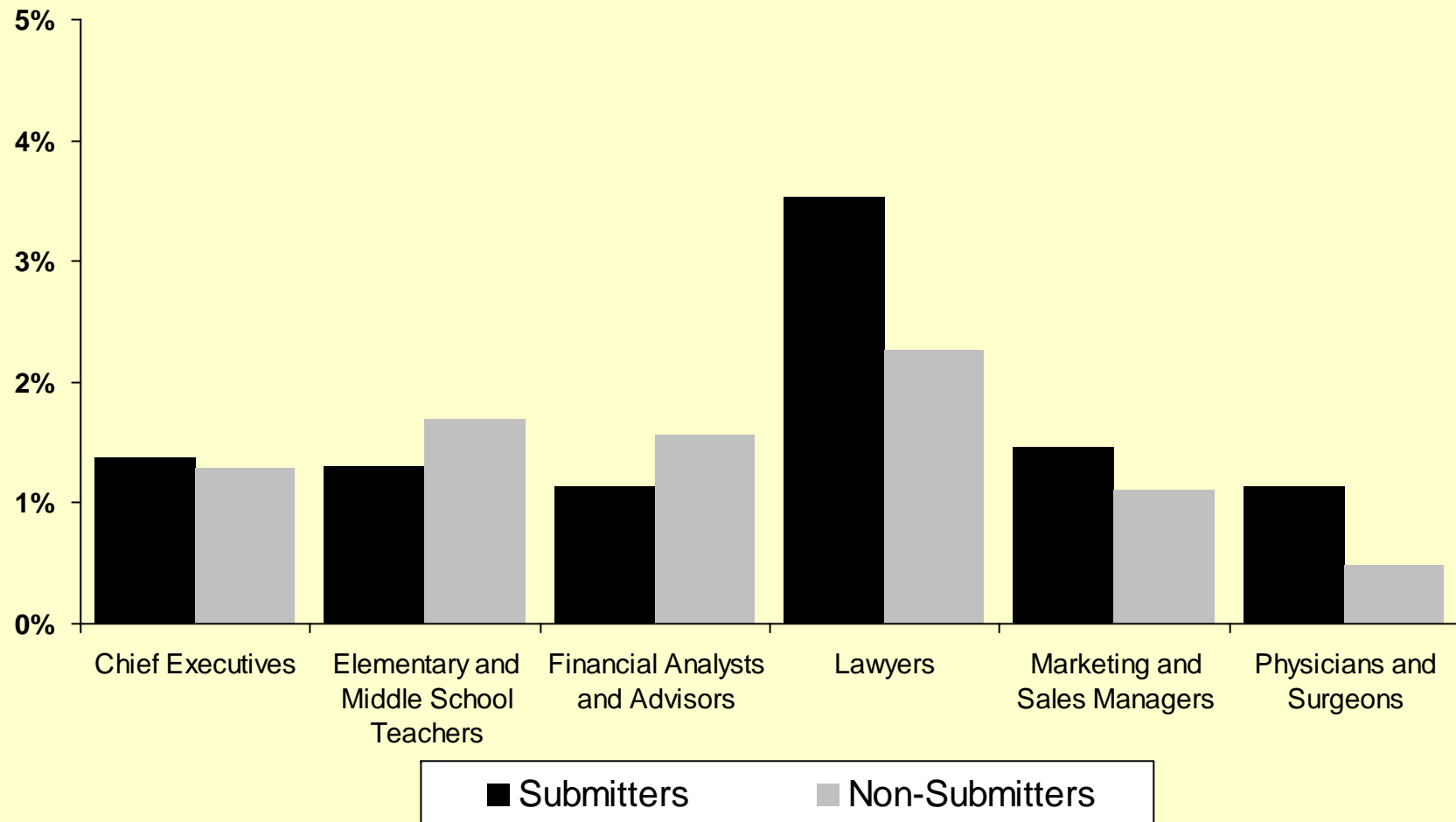
**Percentage of Submitters and Non-Submitters in different Career Fields  
(Entering Class 1985-99)**



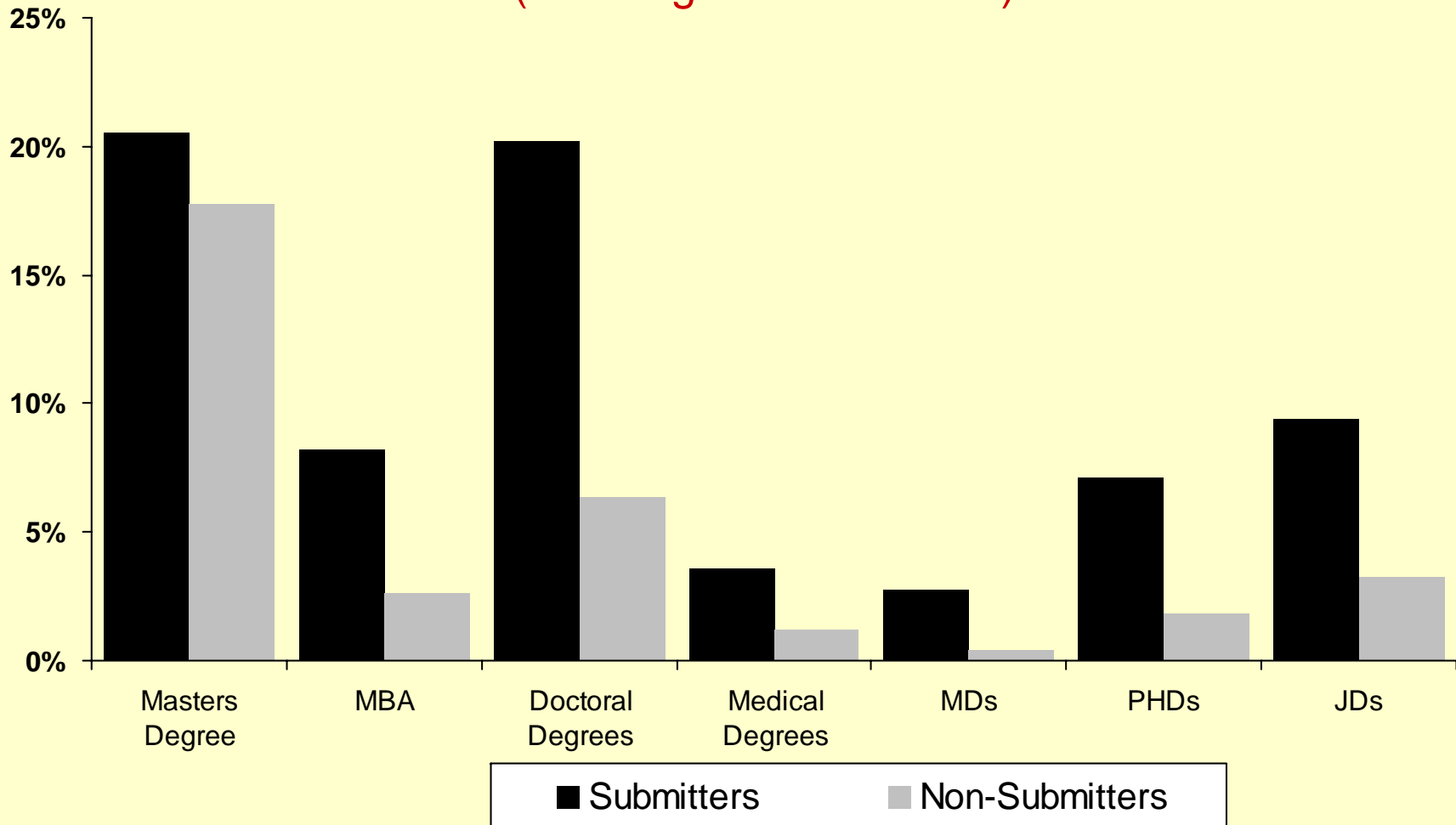
## Percentage of Submitters (top) and Non-Submitters (bottom) in Major Career Fields by Gender (Entering Class 1985-99)



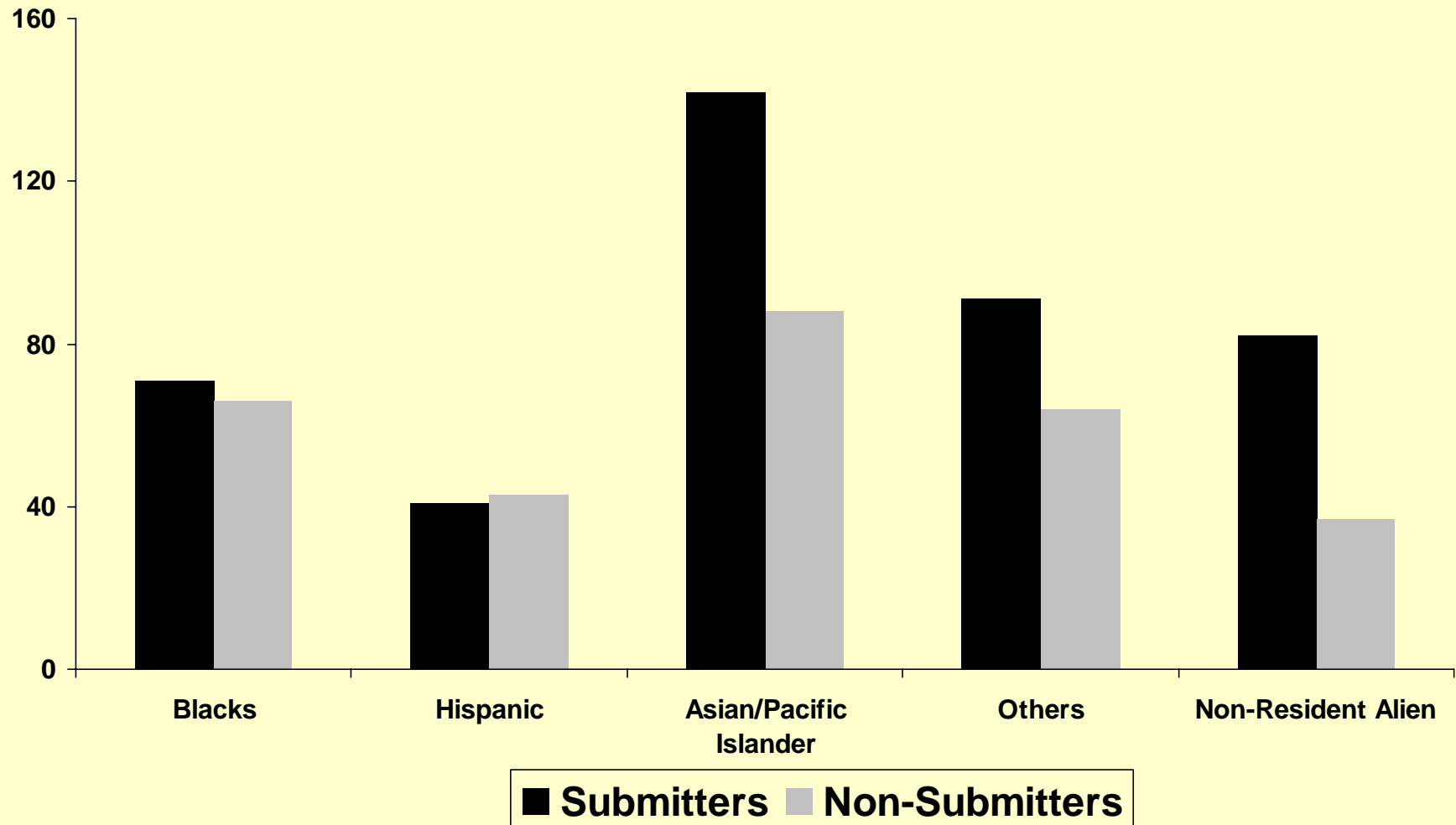
## Percentage of Submitters and Non-Submitters in selected Occupations (Entering Class 1985-99)



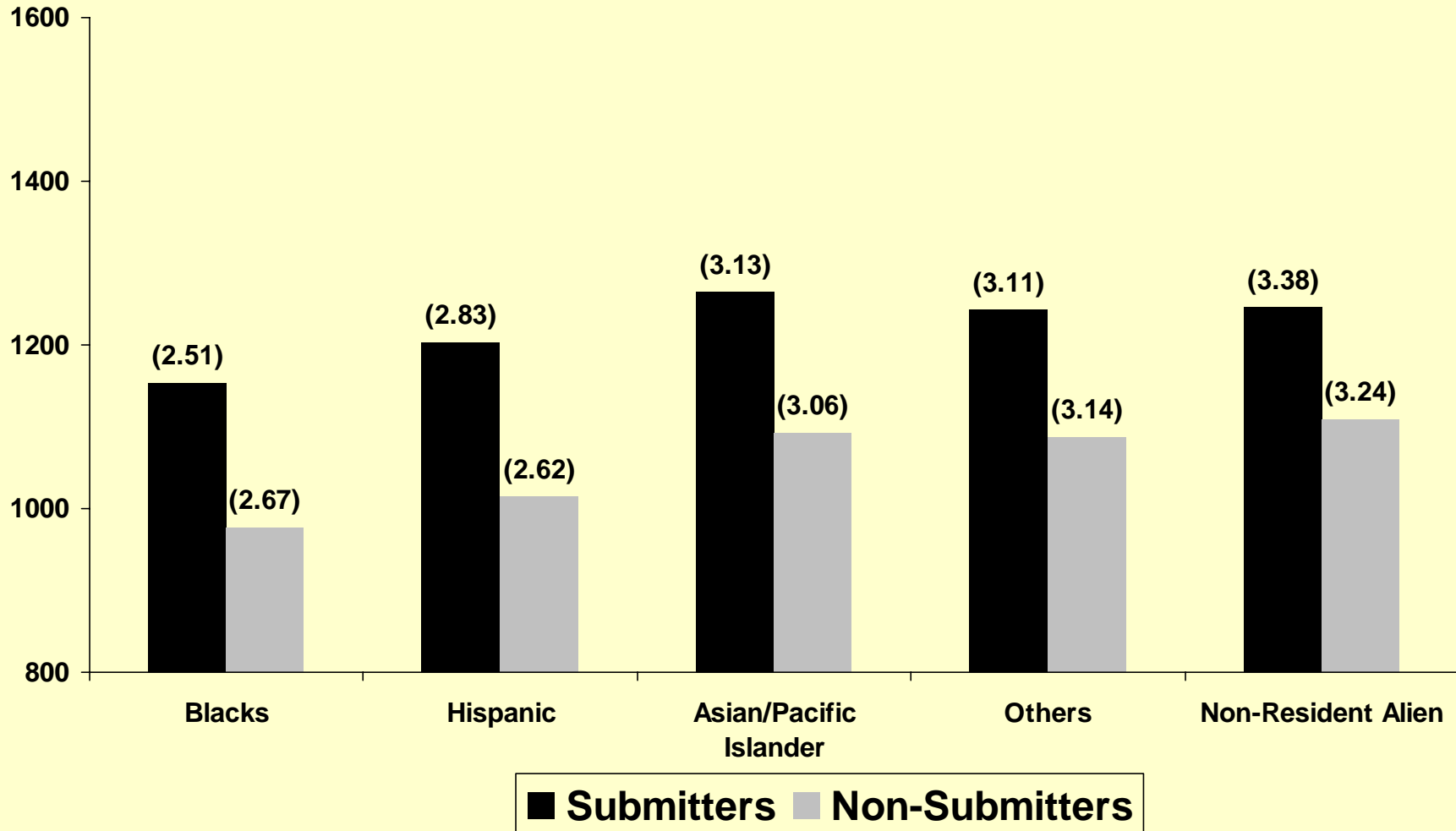
**Percentage of Submitters and Non-Submitters who hold Masters or Doctoral Degrees  
(Entering Class 1985-99)**



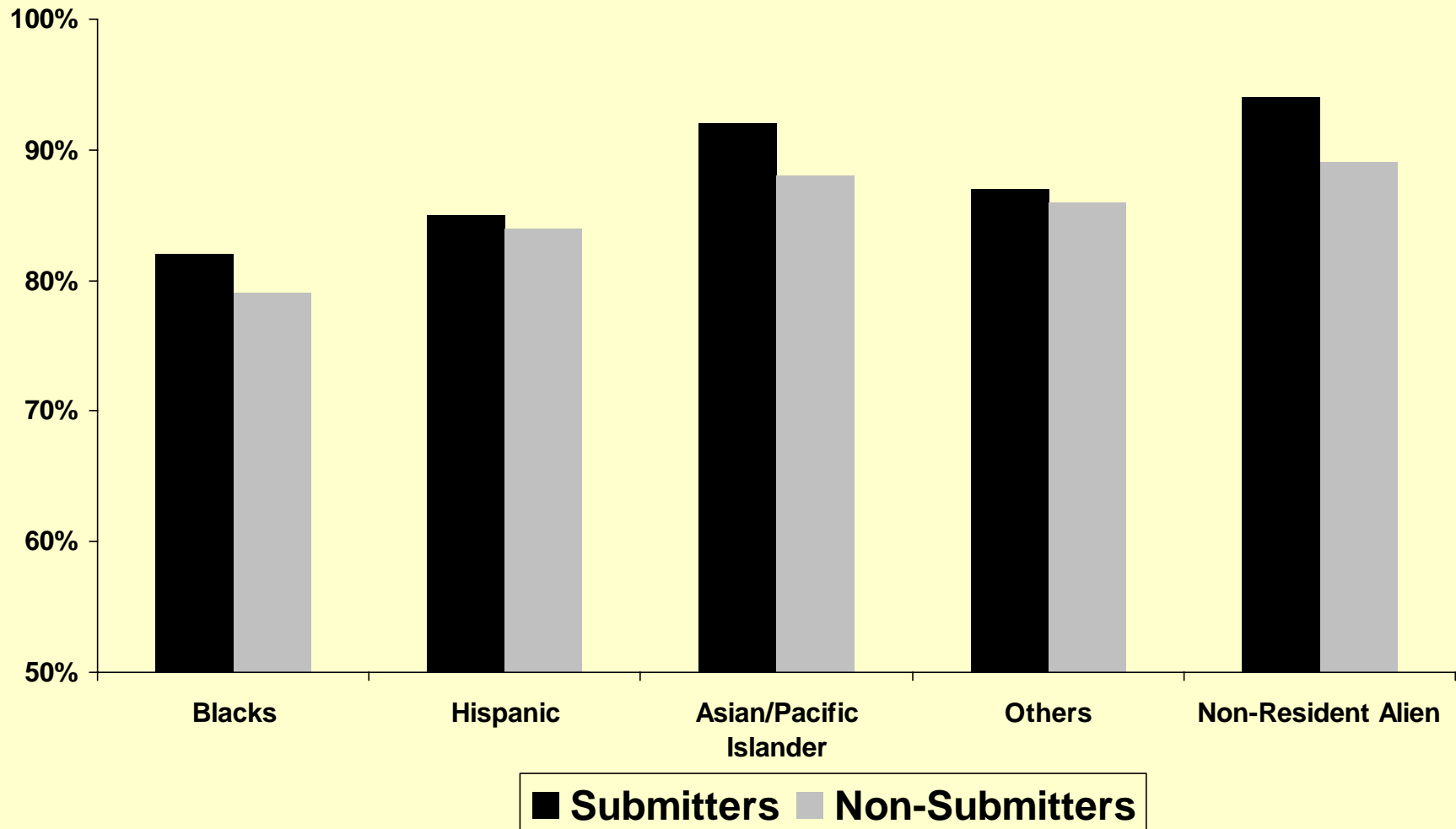
## Numbers of Submitters and Non-Submitters by Ethnicity/Citizenship (1985-99)



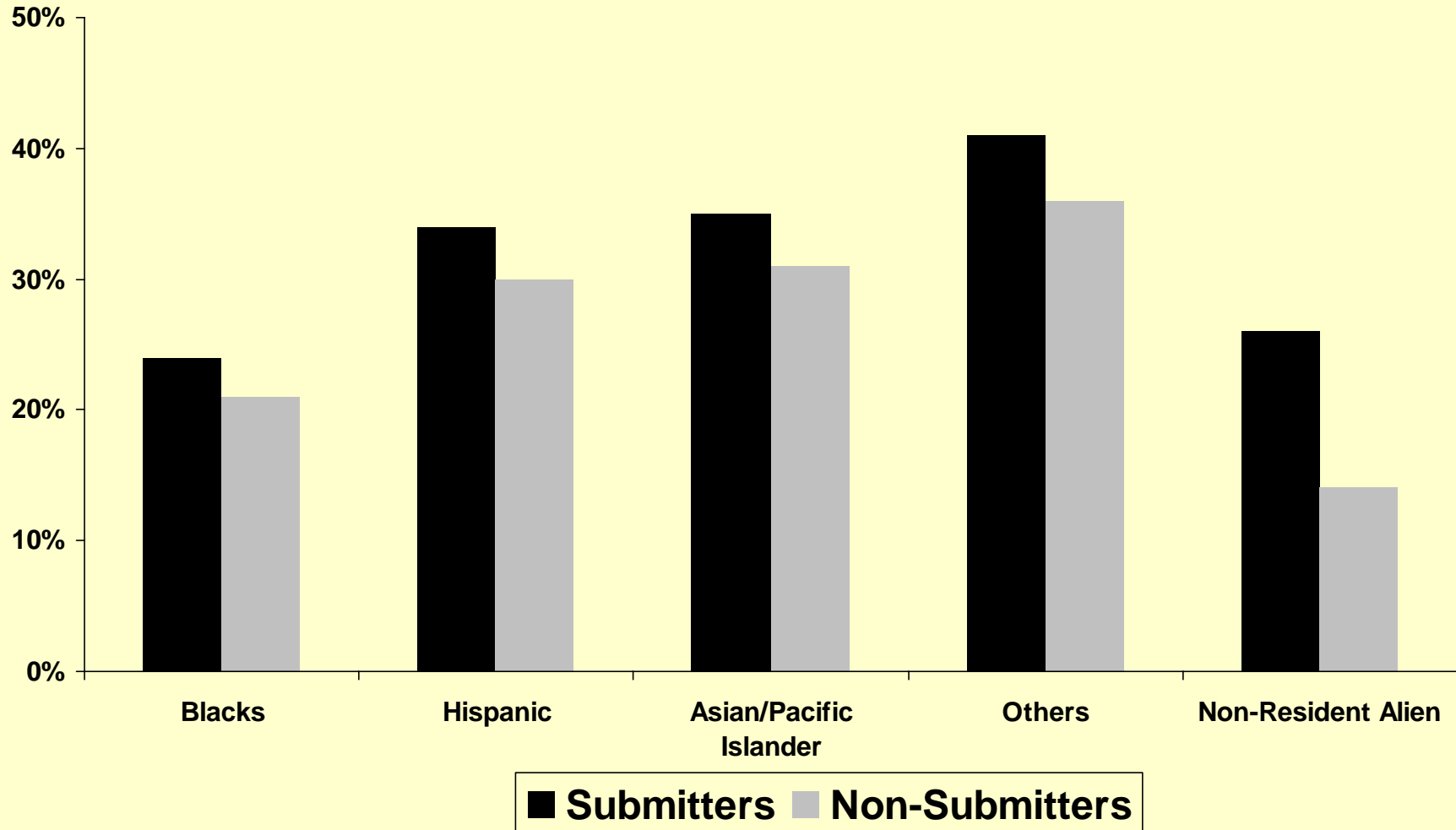
**Avg. SAT Scores and (GPAs) for Submitters and Non-Submitters by Ethnicity/Citizenship (1992-99)**



**Graduation Rate for Submitters and Non-Submitters by Ethnicity/Citizenship  
(1985-99)**



**Percent of Submitters and Non-Submitters who attended Graduate School  
by Ethnicity/Citizenship  
(1985-99)**



# **QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION**