

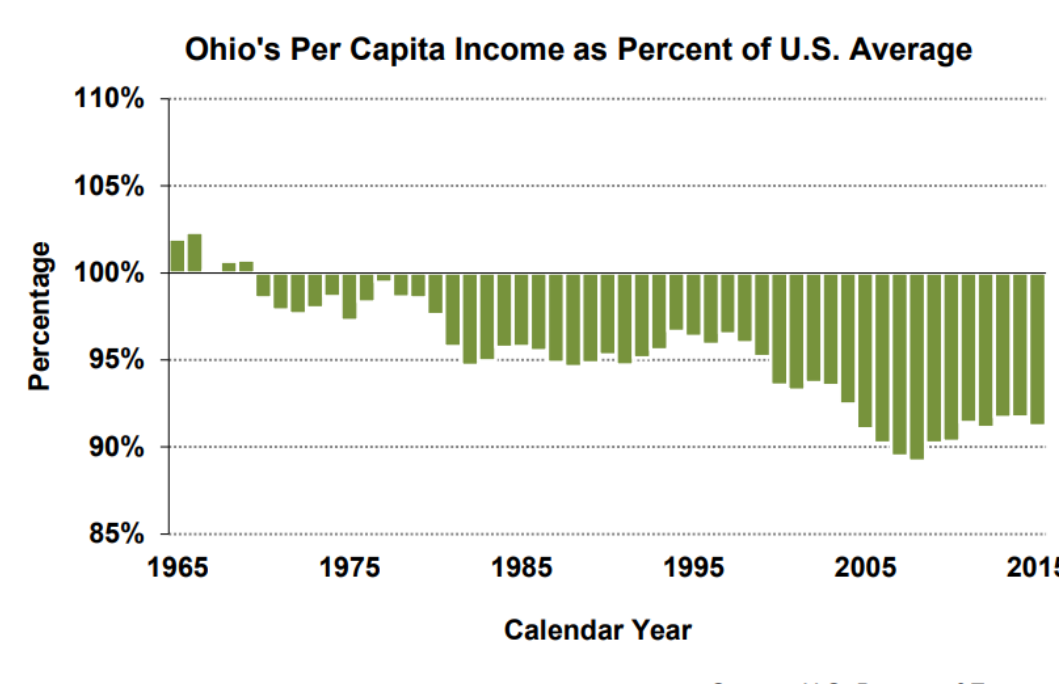
Increasing postsecondary attainment in Ohio through advanced high school programs – a comparison of AP and College Credit Plus

Natalie Sioux Hurst

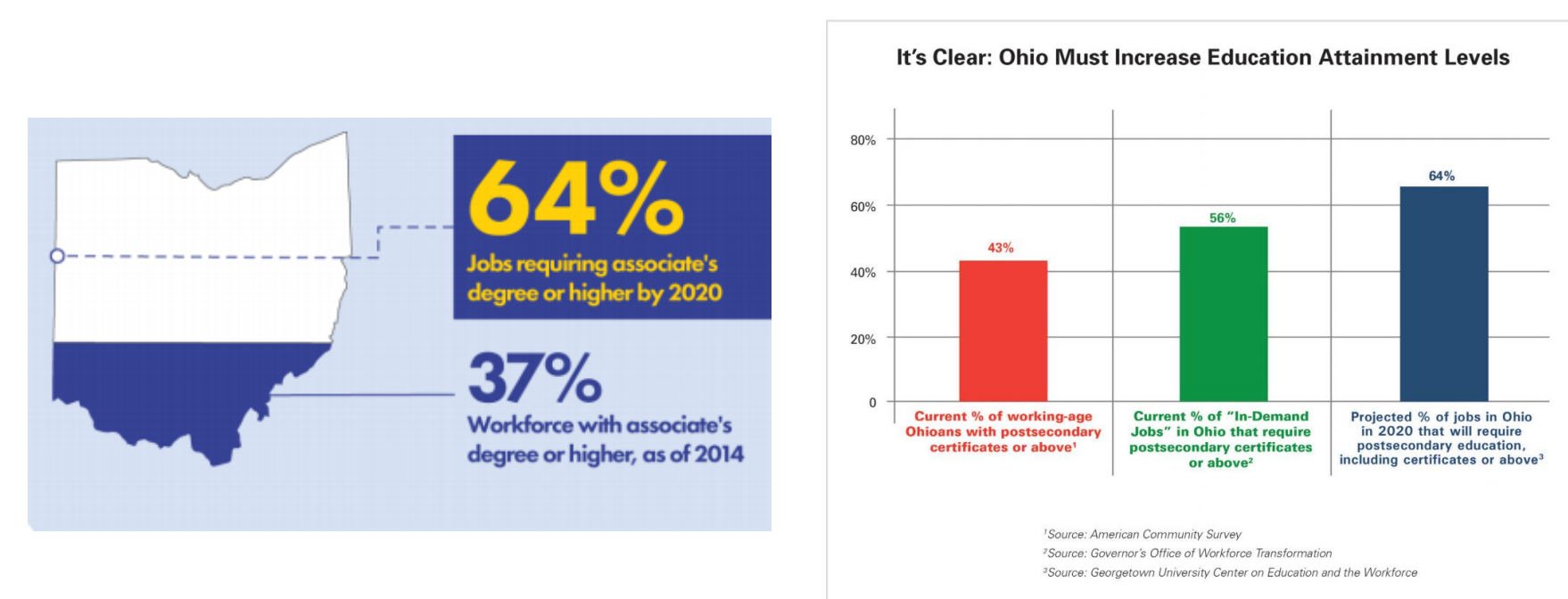


Context

Ohio's per capita income has remained below the US average since 1969



Increasing postsecondary attainment has been cited as a potential source of economic growth for the state

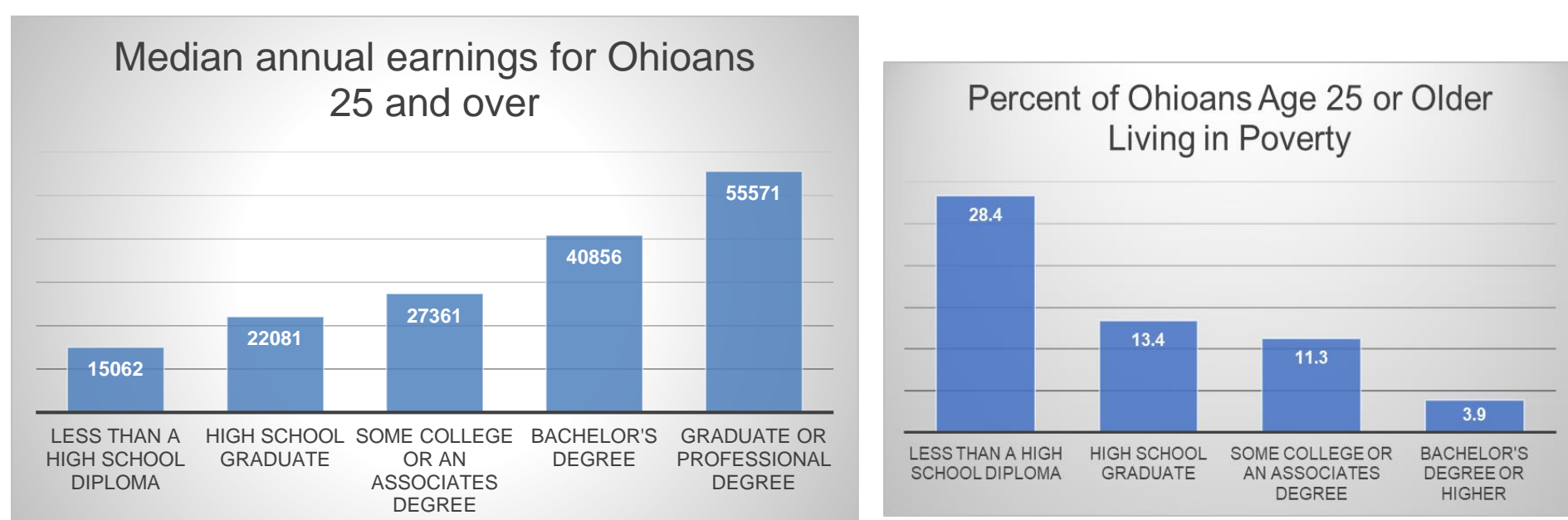


"While it's true that Ohio's economy is rebounding and gaining momentum, a severe and well documented "talent gap" threatens our state's continued economic competitiveness and growth. Simply put, Ohio has a substantial shortage of working-age adults (ages 25-64) with the postsecondary-level credentials required to fill and succeed in current, evolving and future jobs. The gap exists now and will only grow in coming years." – The Case for Ohio Attainment Goals

Ohio Attainment Goal – 2025

65 percent of Ohioans, ages 25-64, will have a degree, certificate or other postsecondary workforce credential of value in the workplace by 2025.

Ohio residents with more education experience higher median annual earnings as well as lower poverty rates



EFFORTS TO INCREASE DEGREE ATTAINMENT

Advanced programs allow high school students to take college courses and earn college credits while still in high school. These programs are intended to increase degree attainment by exposing high school students to college-level coursework at a free or discounted price. Students who accumulate college credits while still in high school have been previously found to enroll and persist in college at higher rates as compared to their peers(1). In Ohio, the Advanced Placement Courses and College Credit Plus allow students to earn college credit as a high school student.

Advanced Placement Courses

- Advanced classes offered in high school or online
- Students who score at least a 3 on an AP exam are guaranteed college credit at any Ohio public institution
- The fee for each AP course exam (required to earn credit) is \$87 with an option for a reduced fee for low-income students

College Credit Plus

- Advanced courses offered in high school, online, or on college campus
- Students who earn a passing grade are guaranteed college credit at any Ohio public institution
- Free for all Ohio students in a public high school – no cost to family for tuition, books, or fees at public universities(2)

International Baccalaureate (IB) courses are another means of earning post-secondary credit, although not included in this study

Aim

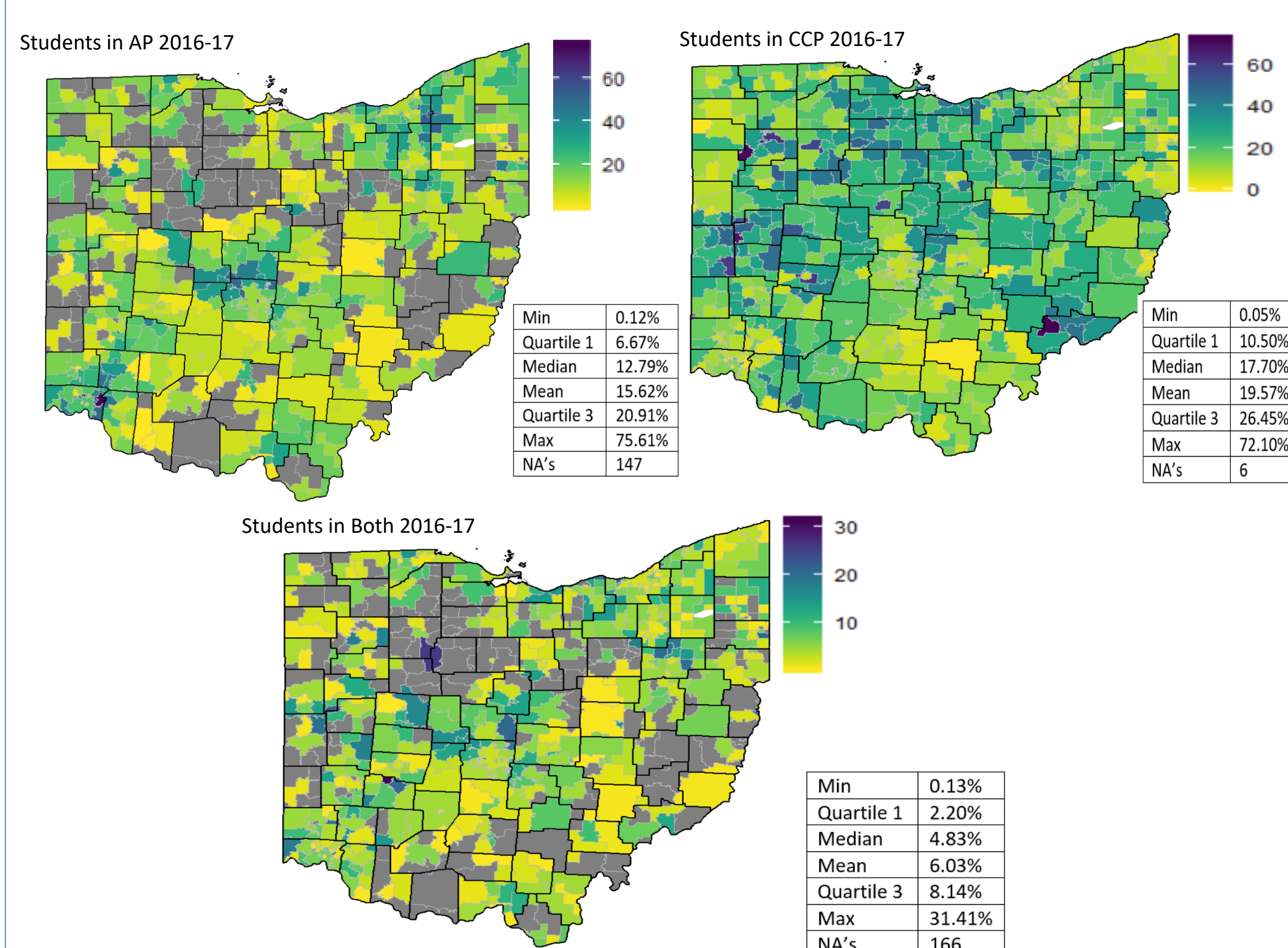
The purpose of this exploratory analysis was to understand district level participation trends for advanced programs in Ohio as well as how district performance, poverty, and typology impact access. On a statewide scale, this analysis aimed to test for relationships between advanced program participation and college enrollment/persistence.

Methods

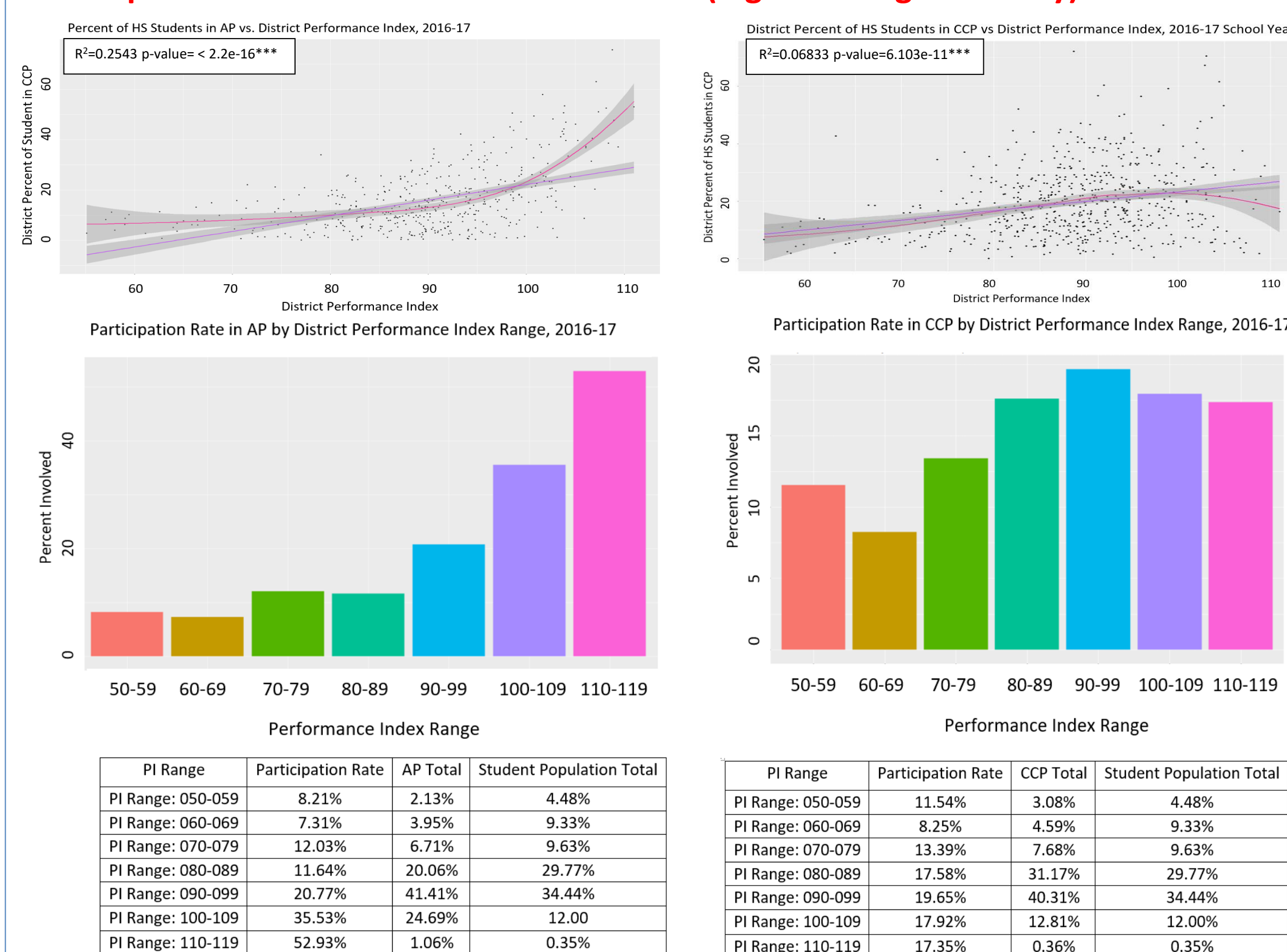
R statistical programming software was used to manipulate data, calculate totals, and produce data visualizations.

Results

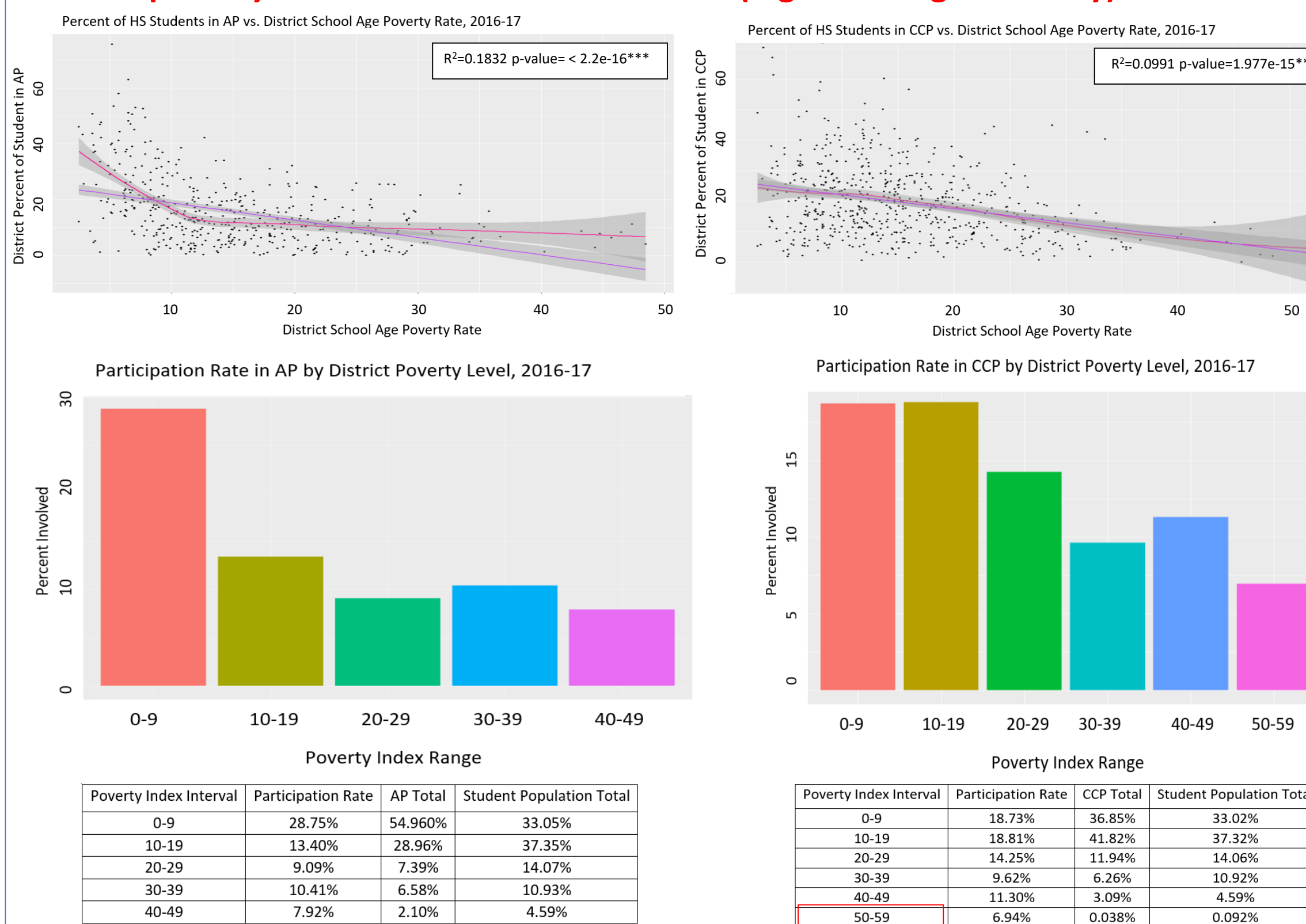
For SY2016-17, College Credit Plus represented the most common advanced program involvement in Ohio districts



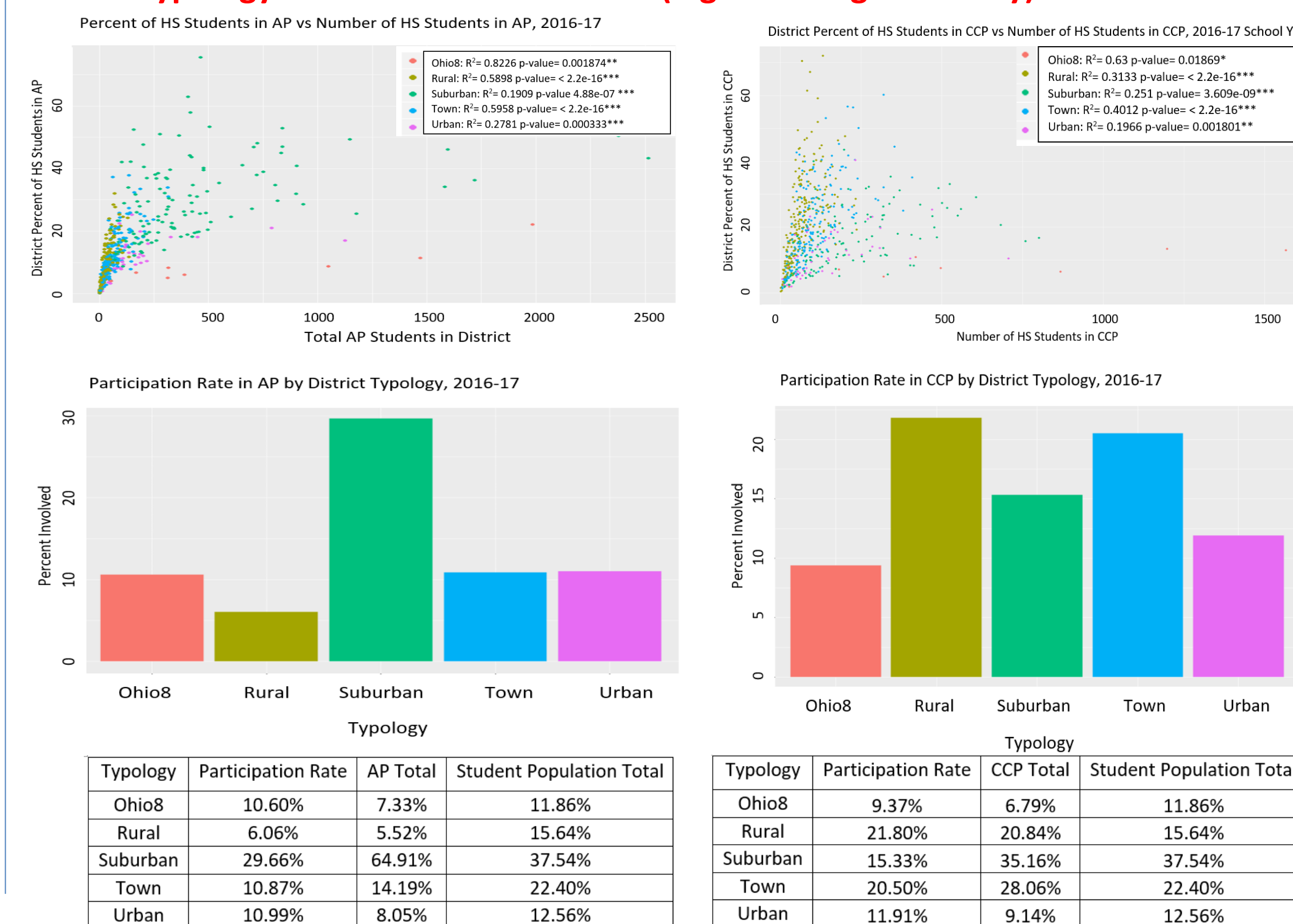
For SY2016-17, district level involvement in AP was more strongly related with district performance than involvement in CCP (high school grades only)



For SY2016-17, district level involvement in AP was more strongly related with district poverty level than involvement in CCP (high school grades only)

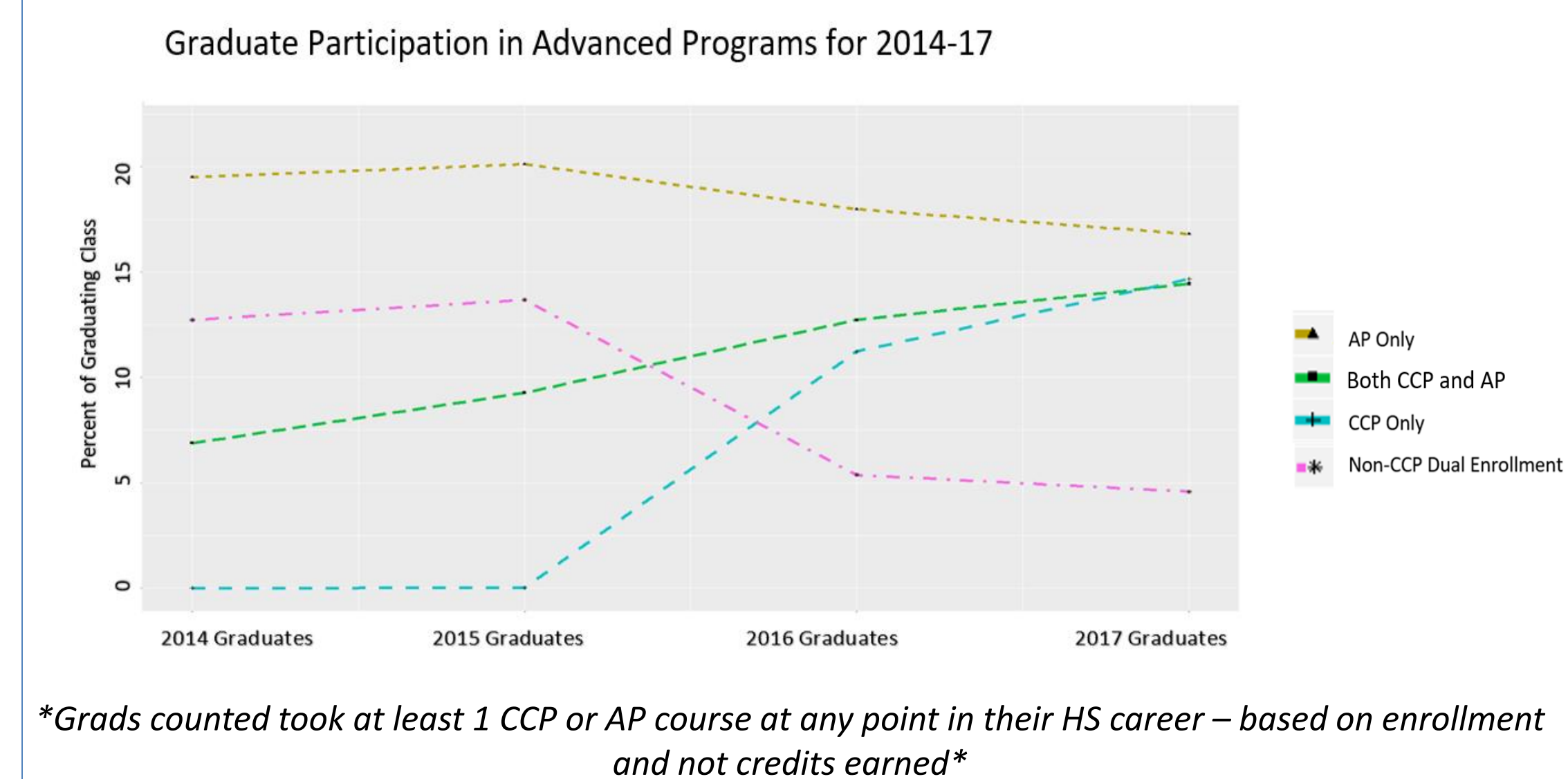


For SY2016-17, district level involvement in AP was more strongly related with district typology than involvement in CCP (high school grades only)



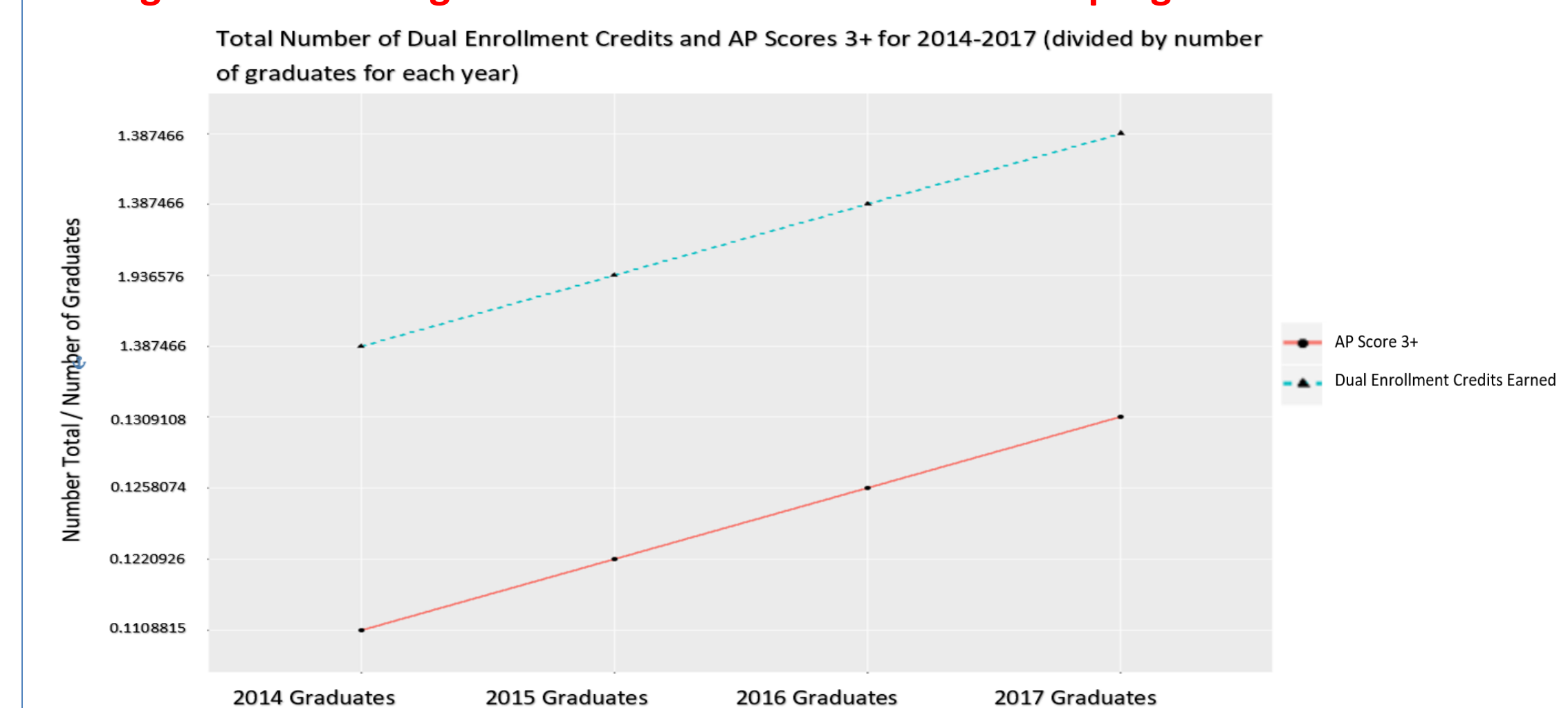
Results

Since 2014, more students are graduating with experience in either AP, CCP, or Both



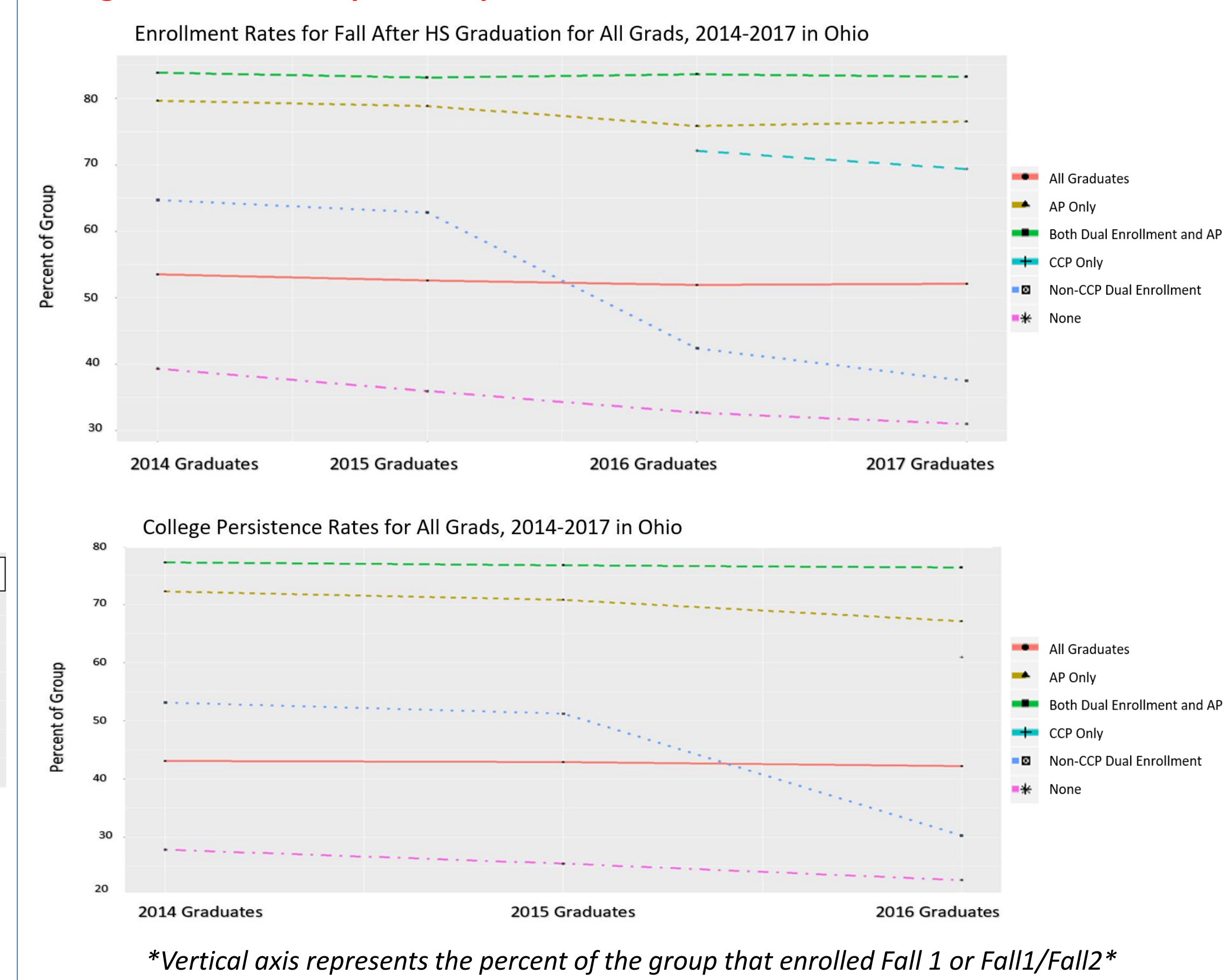
Grads counted took at least 1 CCP or AP course at any point in their HS career – based on enrollment and not credits earned

Ohio graduates have gained more credits from advanced programs since 2014



High school graduates who earn a 3 or above on an AP exam are guaranteed credit at Ohio public universities. However, the number and type of credits are determined by the undergraduate institution. While AP tests do not have a direct translation to credit hours, a greater number of 3's on AP test indicates a higher number of credits earned by high school students. Dual enrollment credits are primarily earned through CCP after 2015. The total test scores 3 or above and the total number of credit hours are divided by the total number of graduates for each year to control for population differences.

Ohio graduates who participated in advanced programs enroll in college and persist at higher rates as compared to peers



Conclusions

- Advanced program participation has increased in Ohio from 2014-2017
- Graduates with experience in advanced programs enroll in college and persist at higher rates
- College Credit Plus is the most common form of advanced program participation for districts
- AP participation is overrepresented in higher performing districts, while CCP participation has a more even distribution within lower and higher performing districts
- AP and CCP participation are higher in districts with lower poverty, yet CCP has a more even distribution among poverty ranges
- AP courses are most common in suburban districts while CCP courses are most common in rural and town districts

Future Directions

While the current study finds that students in Ohio are increasing their participation in advanced programs over time, there seems to be a disparity in access between AP and CCP. Subsequent analyses will aim to understand the implications of these disparities with a specific focus on racial minority groups and low-income students.

Bibliography

Thank you to the following data sources for allowing me to create these visualizations: CCP Portal as reported by higher edu institutions, ODE data warehouse attendance and graduate files, ODE school report card, US Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimate, ODE EMIS Student Course, Grad Core, and AP Assessment, National Student Clearinghouse. 1-A Comparison of the College Outcomes of AP and Dual Enrollment Students. College Board 2015. 2-College Credit Plus Website. Ohio Department of Higher Education. Found in CCP Overview.

Acknowledgements

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