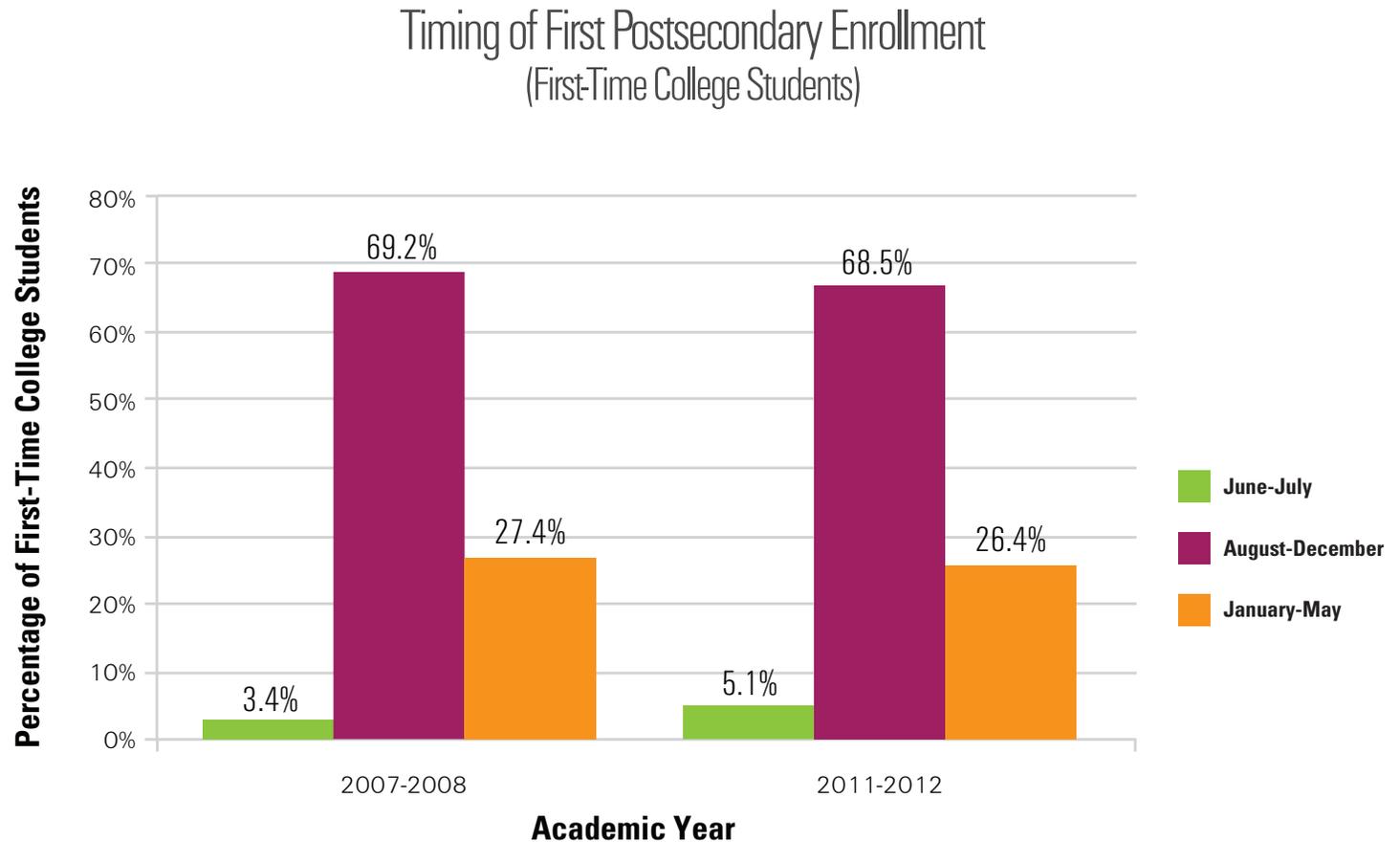


Starting College in the Spring Term

Over a quarter of all first-time college students enter postsecondary institutions in January or later months. These students are often excluded from conventional reporting, which is usually focused on students who begin college in a fall term.

The proportion of students starting college in the spring has been very consistent since 2007-08.

With data current through August 2012



Note: Academic Year defined as June 1 through May 31 of a given year. First-time students are those students having no postsecondary enrollments or degrees for terms that began prior to June 1 of a given year.

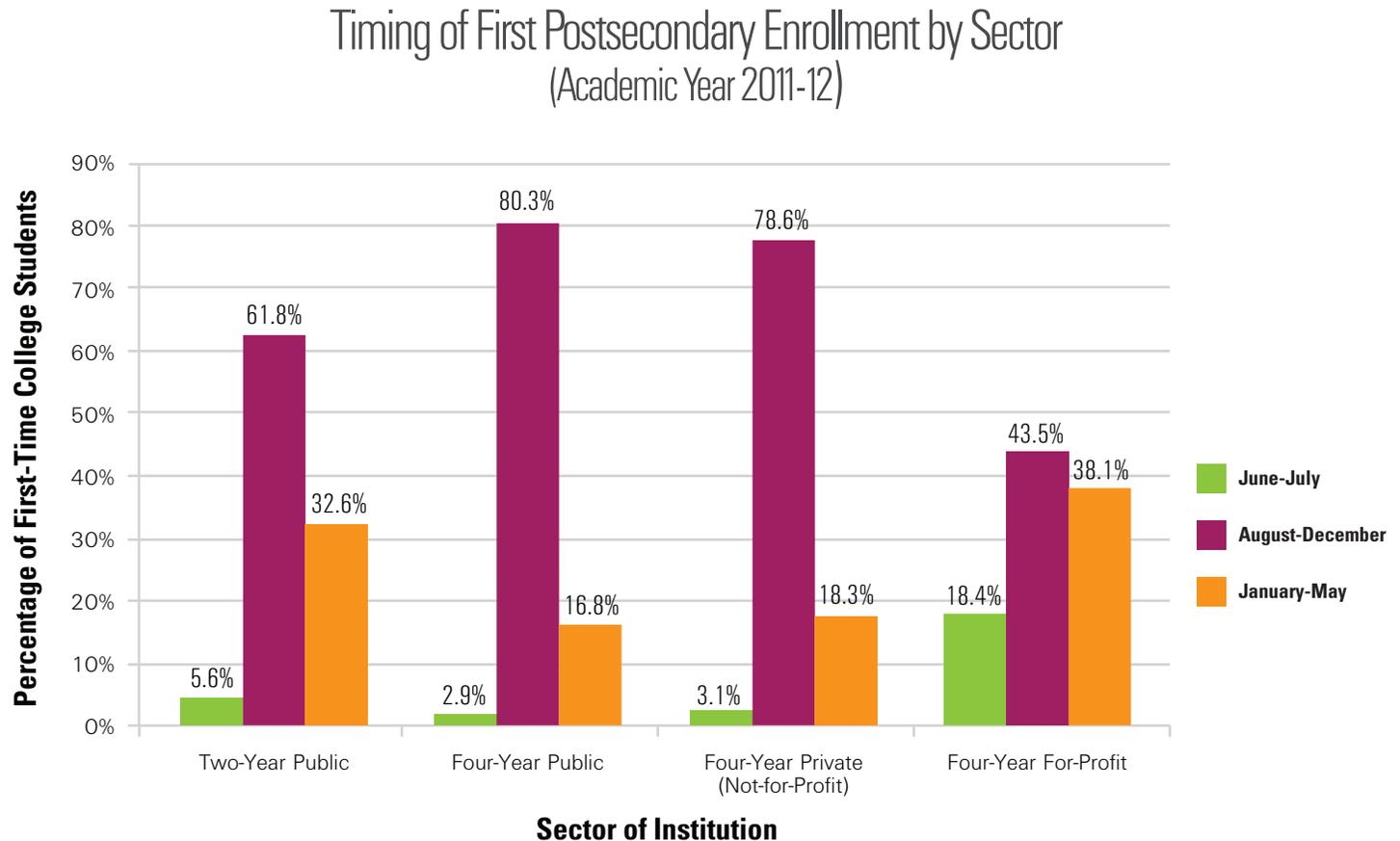
Timing Varies by Institutional Sector

In academic year 2011-12, nearly a third of the first-time college students in two-year public institutions began college in January or later months.

The distributions for four-year publics and four-year privates (non-profit) were very similar to one another, with less than a fifth of their first-time students beginning college in January or later.

In the for-profit sector, where terms often begin on a rolling basis, 38 percent of new students started college in January or later months.

With data current through August 2012



Note: Academic year defined as June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2012. The institutional level is based on IPEDS institutional characteristics, with the Florida College System being the only exception. The twenty-eight schools in that system offer some four-year degrees, but all are categorized as two-year institutions for this analysis.