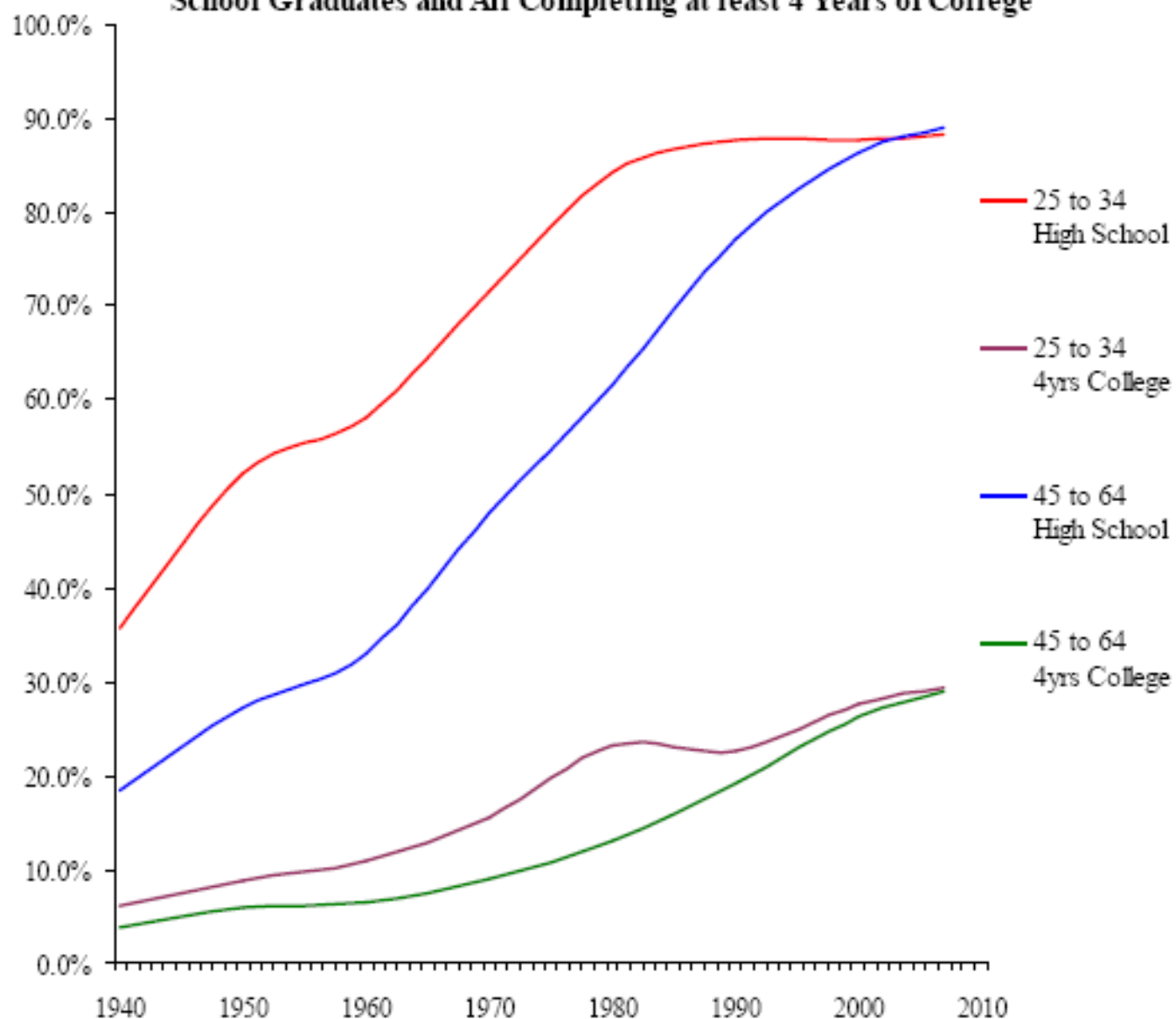


# Career Outcomes for STEM Degree Recipients

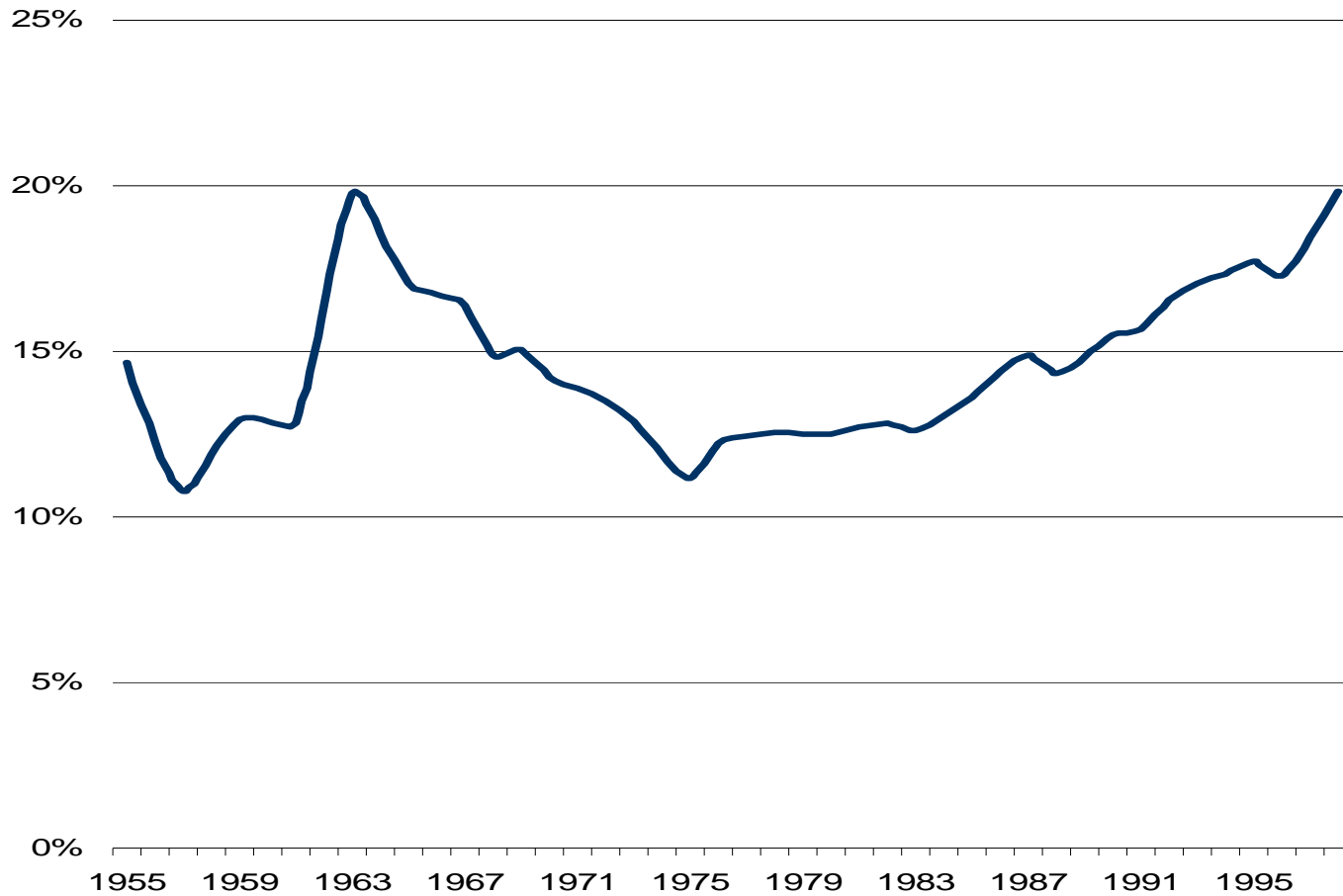
**B. Lindsay Lowell**  
**Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM)**  
**Georgetown University**  
**Tel: (202) 687-2602, -2258**  
**Email: [lowellbl@georgetown.edu](mailto:lowellbl@georgetown.edu)**

- **Presentation to a Conference on 'The Role and Status of the Master's Degree in STEM,' Council of Graduate Schools and the National Science Foundation, May 18, 2010.**

**Figure 3. Educational Attainment by Age Group 1940 to 2007: All High School Graduates and All Completing at least 4 Years of College**



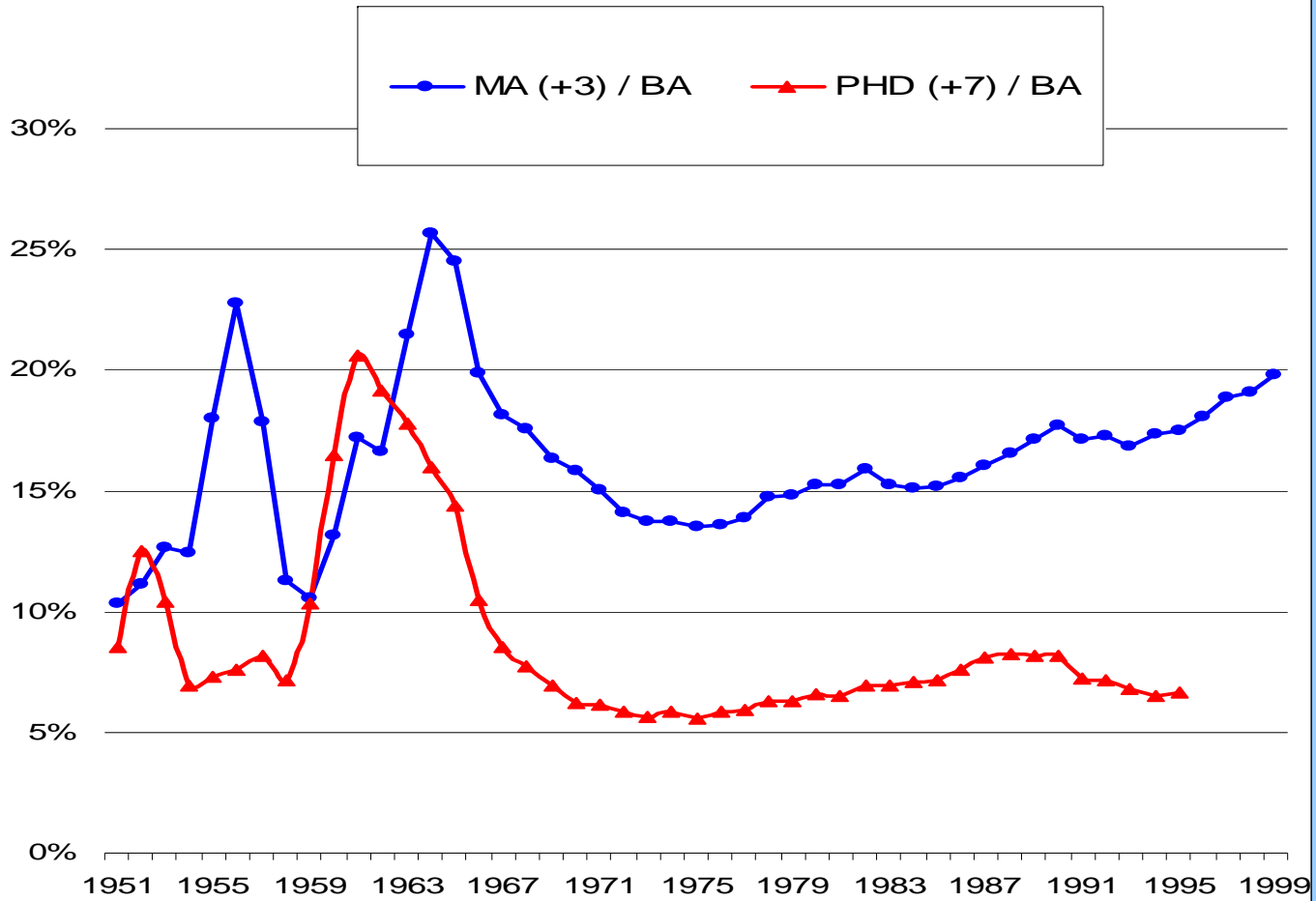
## Estimated High School Yield: Percent of Freshman Intending to Enroll in Science and Engineering Receiving BA Degrees



Note: BA graduates divided by intending students 5 years earlier

- Estimated retention of entering freshman shows space-race boom and a bust in the 1960s

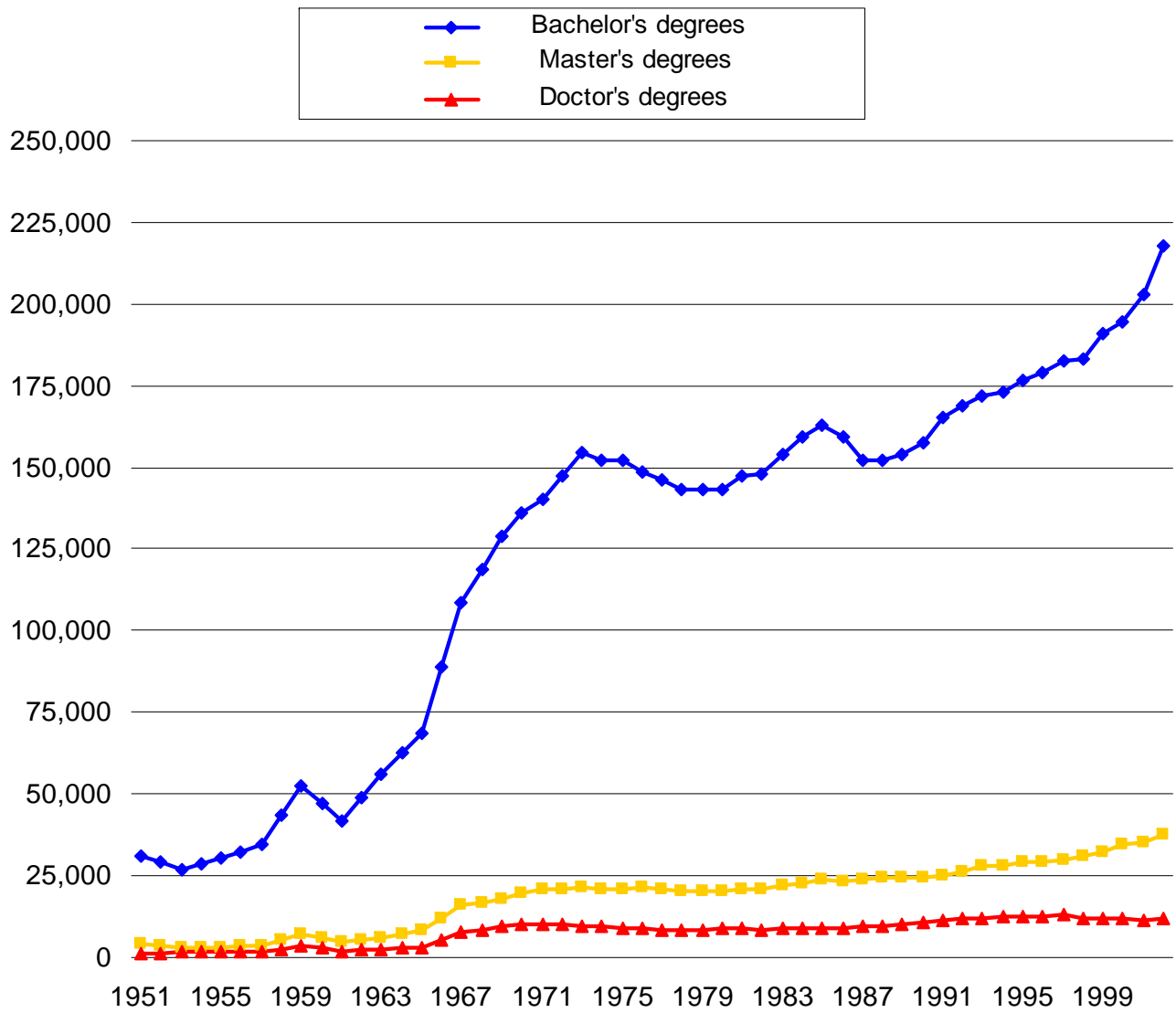
### Estimated College Yield: Estimated Percent of S&E Baccalaureates Receiving S&E MA and PhD Degrees



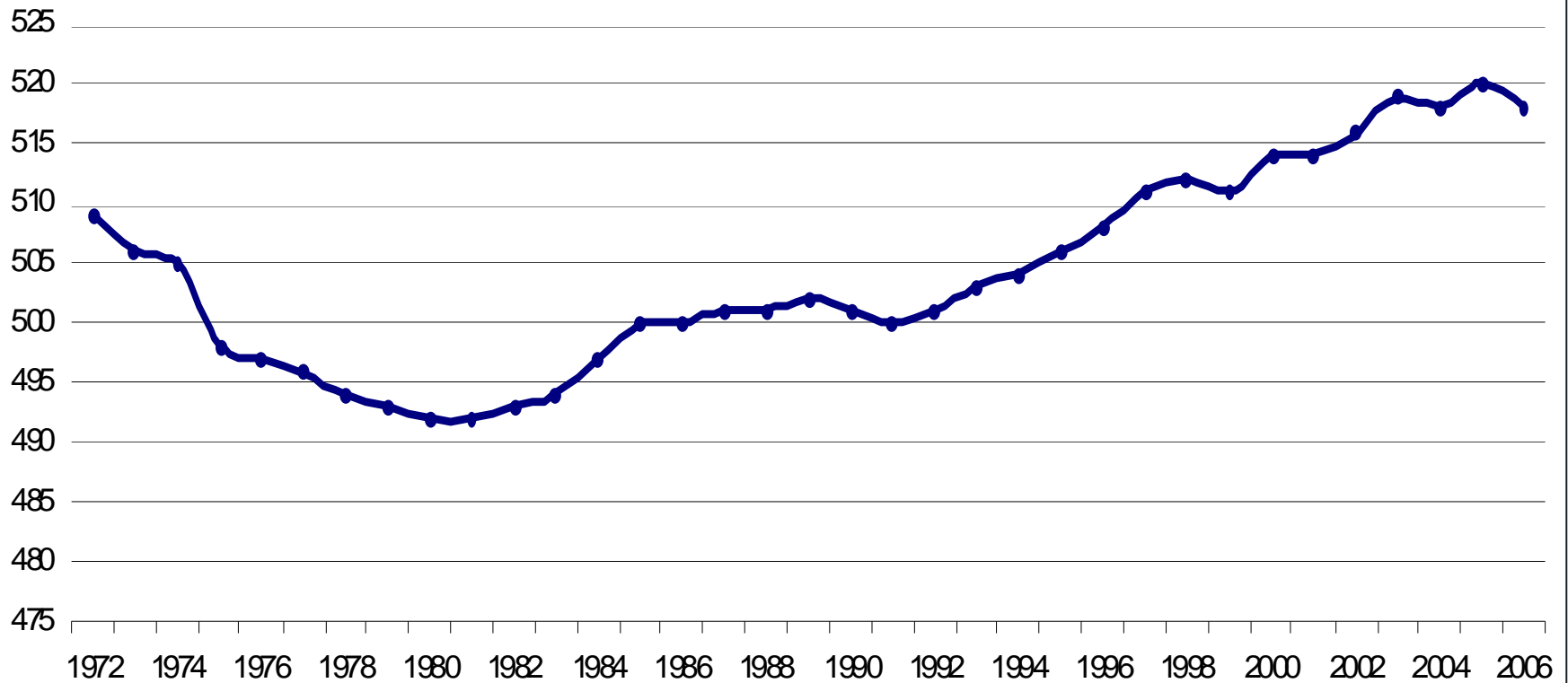
Note: MAs divided by BAs 3 years earlier, and PhDs by BAs 7 years earlier

- Continuation BA to graduate STEM degrees, space-race boom, 1960s bust, recovery 1980s for MAs, PhD flatline

### Number of STEM Graduates, 1951-2002

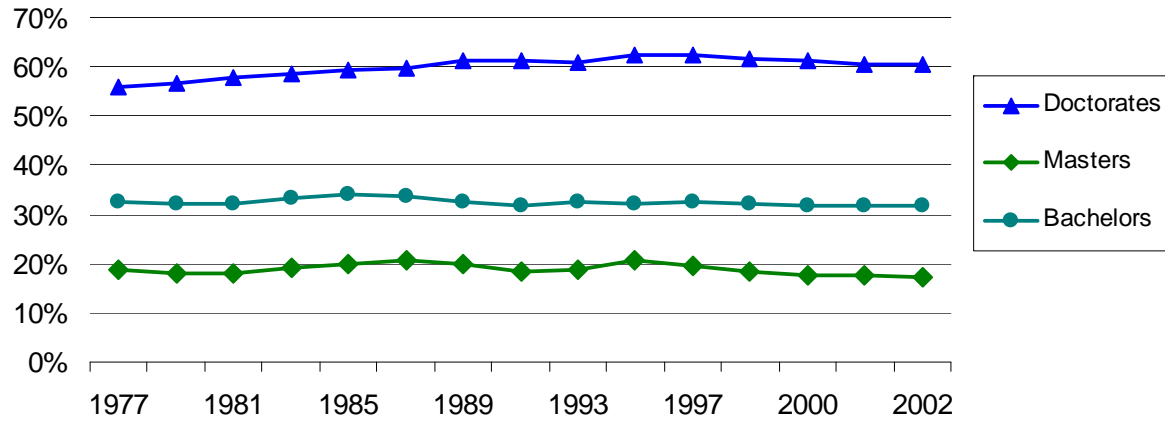


**Figure 2 College-Bound Seniors Total SAT Math Scores, 1972 to 2006**



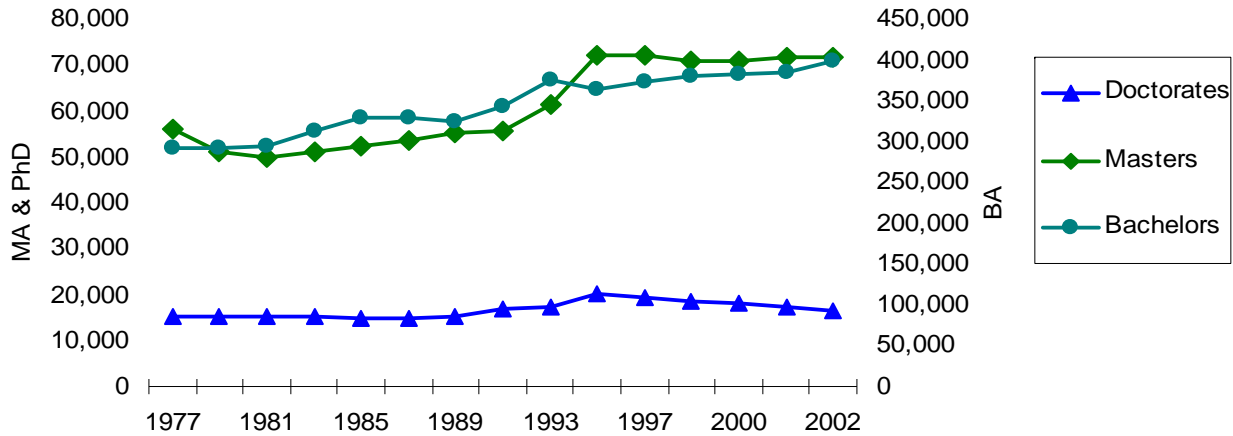
Source: College Board, 2006 ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com))

**Figure 4. Percent of All Degrees that are S&E Degrees Earned by Citizens and Permanent Residents**



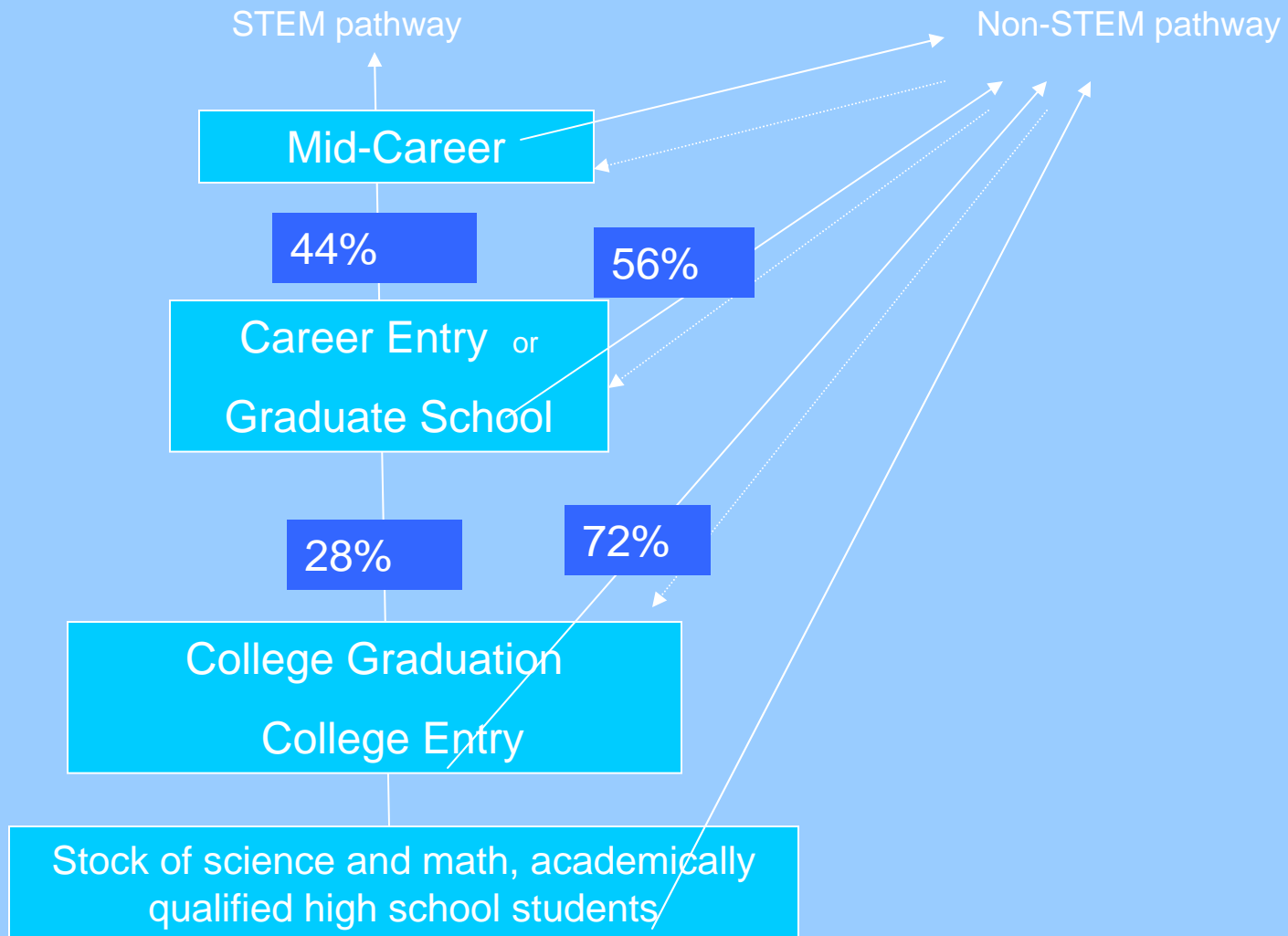
Source: S&E Indicators, [http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/seind06/pdf\\_v2.htm](http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/seind06/pdf_v2.htm)

**Figure 5. Number of All Degrees Earned by Citizens and Permanent Residents in S&E**



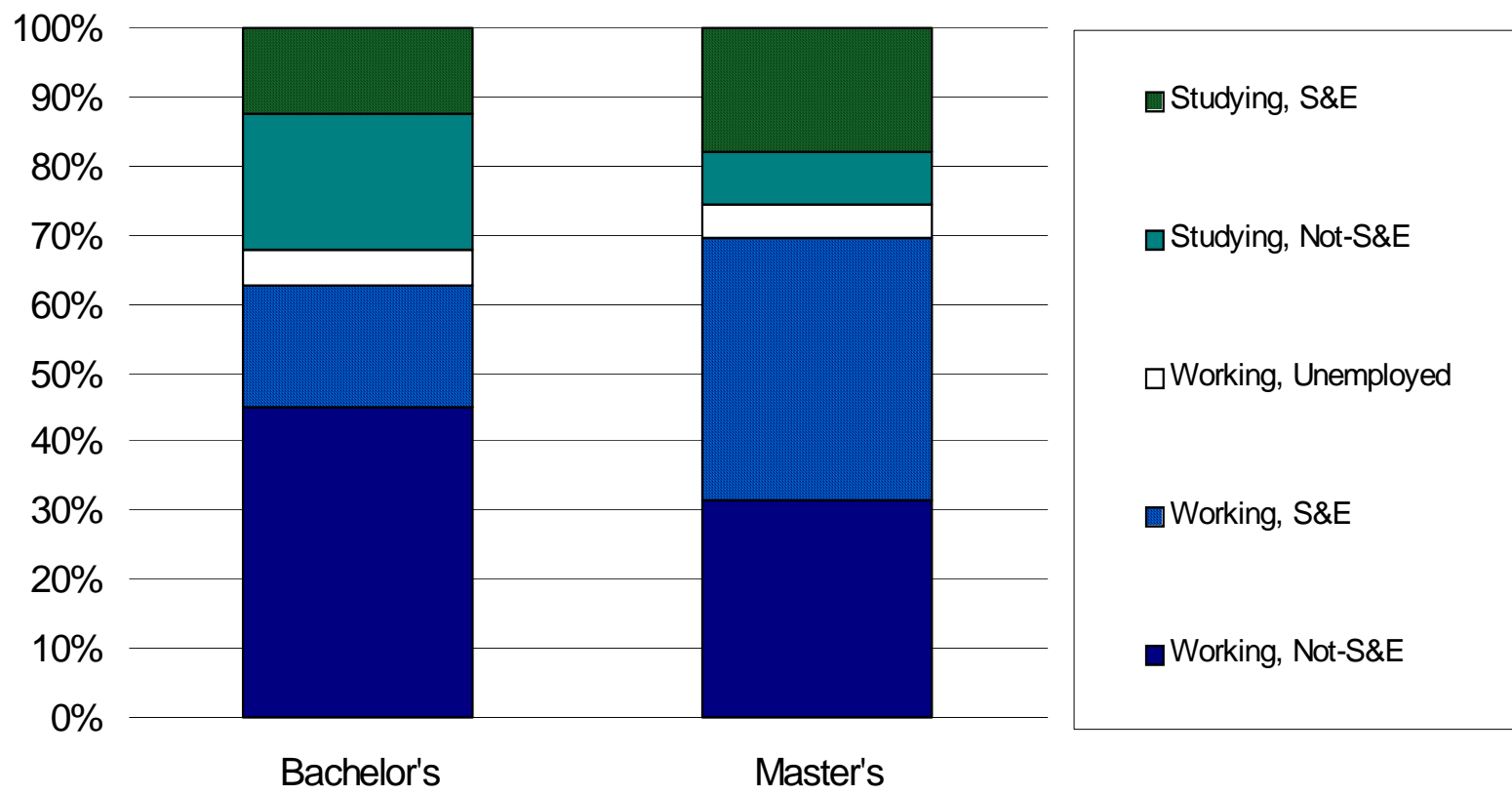
Source: S&E Indicators, 2006.

# Supply vs. Attrition: Where lies the problem? Where lies efficient & effective public policy?



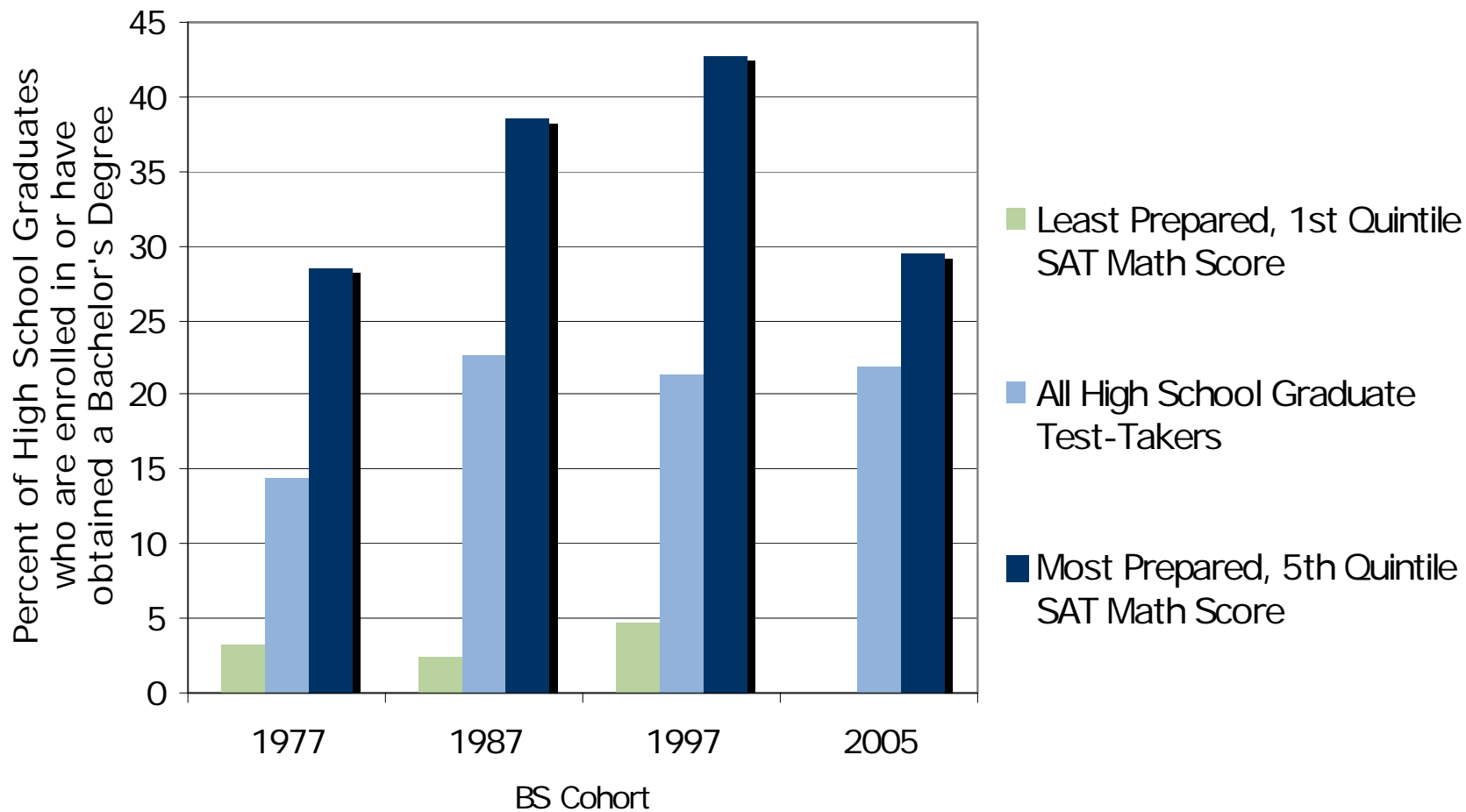


**Figure X. Percent of Degree Recipients by S&E Status One to Two Years After Graduation, Average of Cohorts 1993 to 2001**

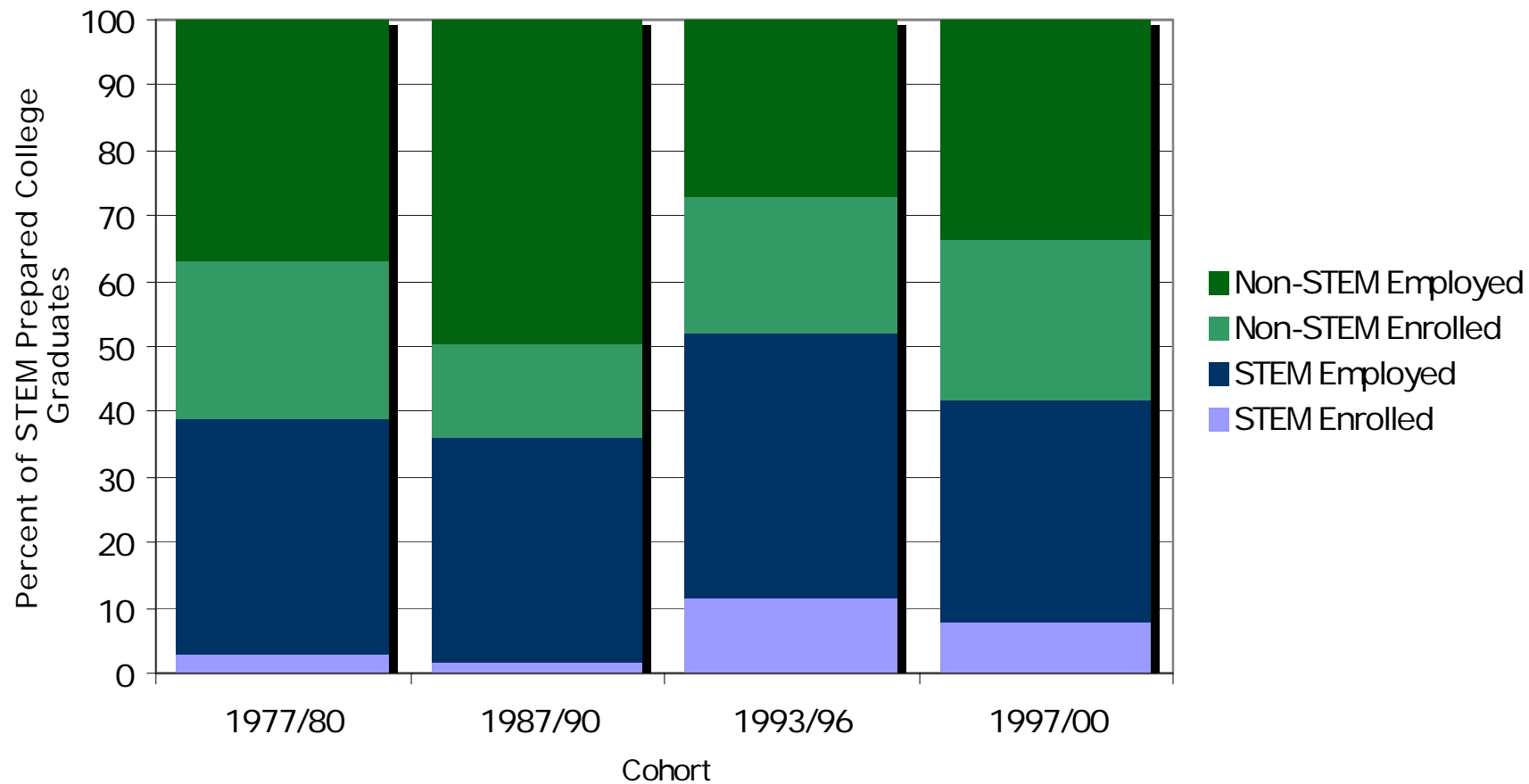


Source: S&E Indicators 2006, Appendix table 2-12  
 ([http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/seind06/pdf\\_v2.htm](http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/seind06/pdf_v2.htm)).

**Figure 3. Percent of STEM Majors among High School Graduates who are enrolled in or have obtained a Bachelor's Degree Five Years after Graduation**



## BA to First Job Transitions of Top Achieving STEM College Graduates (Top Quintile GPA)



**Figure 10. Advanced Degree Graduates Across Fields, 2003**

