



The Importance of Data in Higher Education: A Look at How UROC and Research Serves At-Promise Scholars



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Introduction

This project focused on the data management and assessment of UROC programs. This project supports uploading all existing UROC data sets into the Airtable platform and customizing and maintaining the data system for accuracy and integrity.

In addition, **this project aimed to streamline data analysis and report development across all UROC Programs;** specifically, assessments on participants skill development from SURI as well as the impact of UROC programs on participant's degree completion rates and graduate school pathways.

Lastly this project worked to **effectively communicate these assessments** by creating effective visualizations of data.

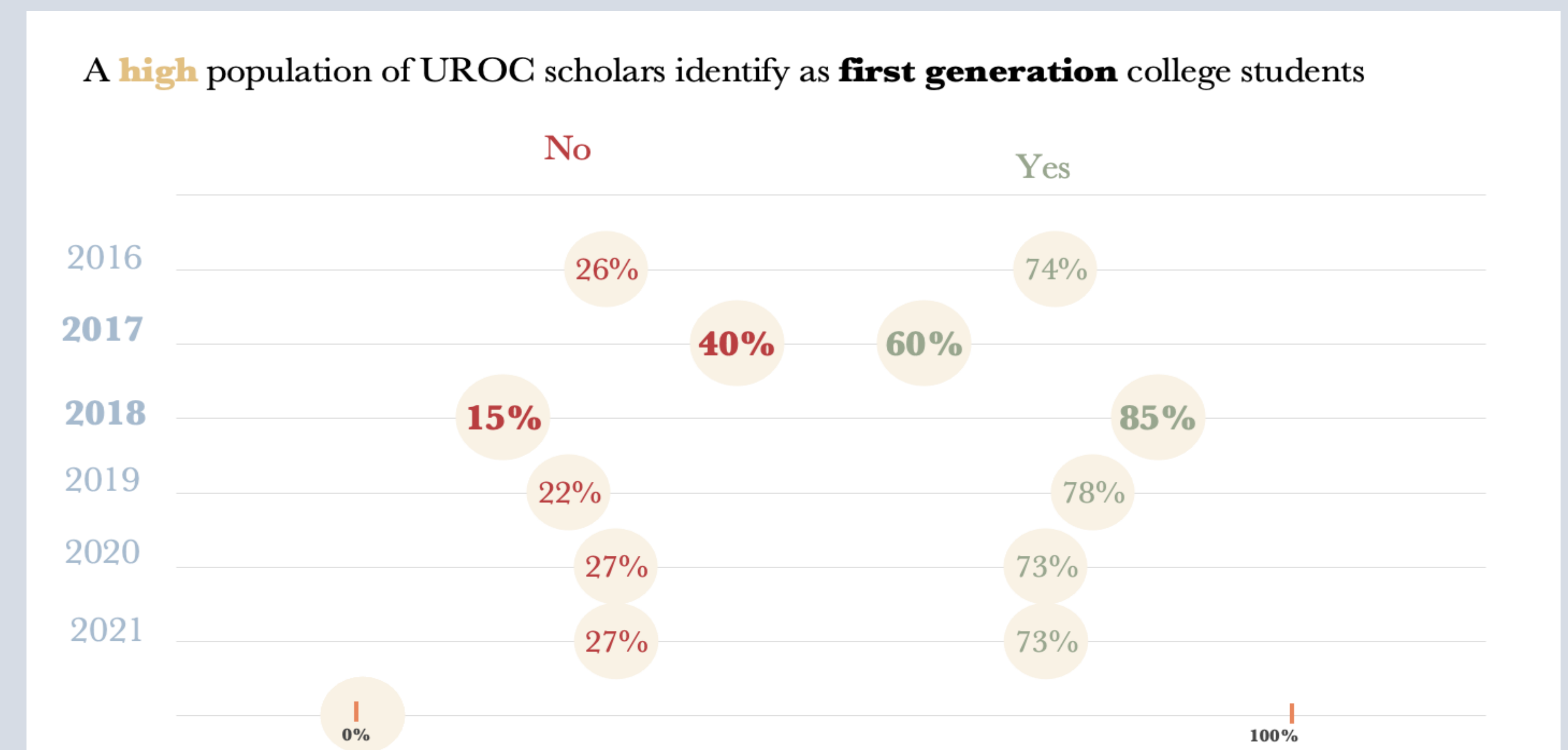
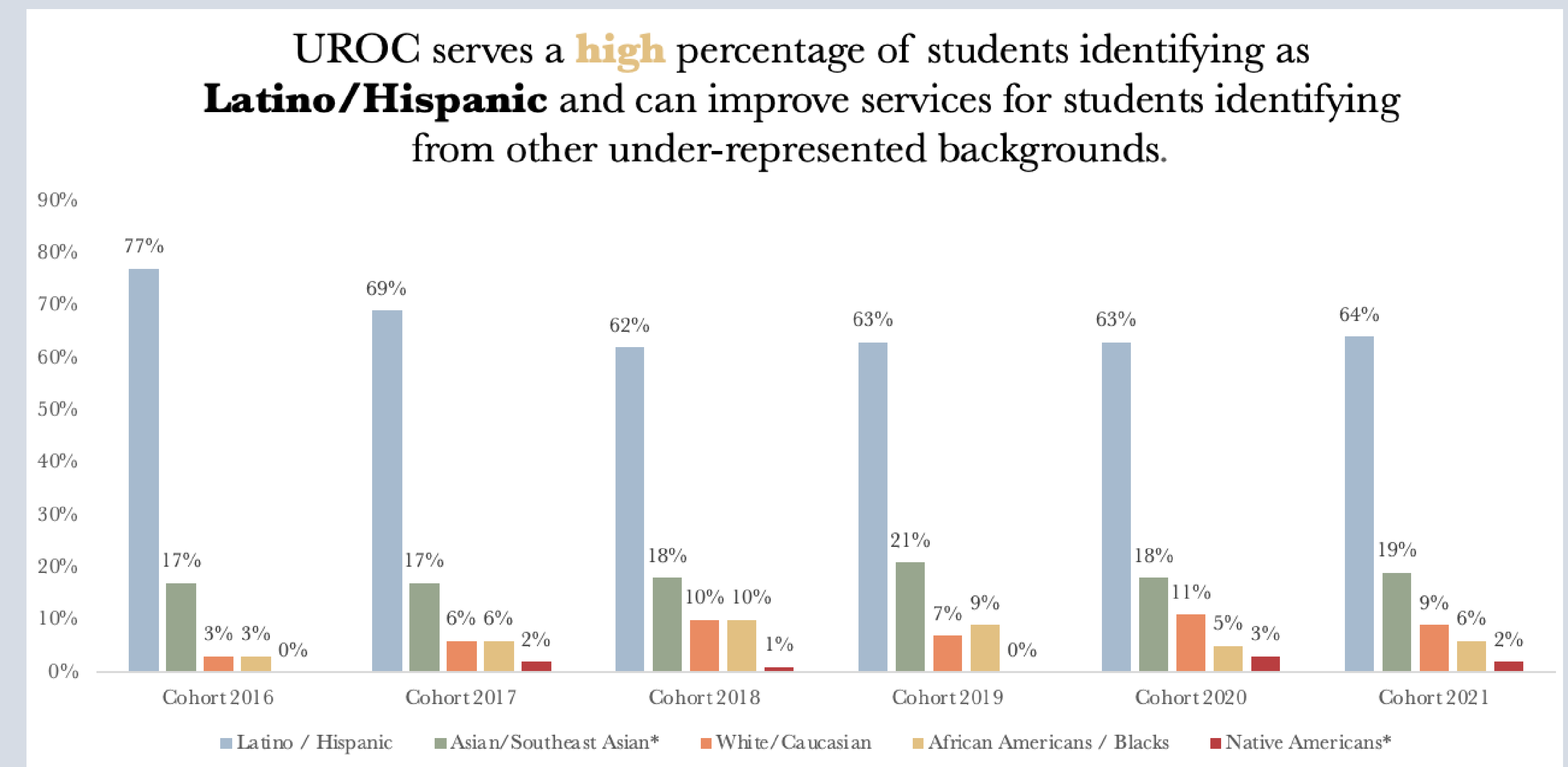
Objectives and Methodology

- Experience and learn how to create data visuals and why it is important to know how to work with data
- Professionally prepare and grow for future positions within Higher Education
- Provide perspectives of improvements as an intern and a previous scholar
- Advocate for improvements for programs that support students
- Learn how funding works within higher education programs and how reporting relates back to it
- Organize data on Airtable based off cohort years, categories, and notice ways to improve data base

First Generation Students in Research

- **Being part of undergraduate research has proven to increase GPAs among undergraduate researchers, especially among African Americans (Kim, 2008)**
- It has also helped with career interest and has taught students about graduate school, the benefits of pursuing a higher degree (Ishiyama, 2002).
- First generation students have a difficult time finding a faculty mentor on their own. UROC provides assistance and connects students to an opportunity for research with a mentor
- **After participating in SURI:**
 - **97.73% of scholars between 2019-2021 felt moderately to extremely confident in applying to graduate school**
 - **98.11% of scholars between 2019-2021 felt moderately to extremely confident in asking for recommendation letters**
- Consistent trends have shown that **first generation and low-income students are more likely to participate in undergraduate research if pay is offered vs volunteer class credit**
 - UROC provides stipends for scholars to conduct research alongside faculty

Results



Conclusion

- **Achievements:** Increasing student research opportunities and advising students towards graduate school and work pathways
- **Improvements:** Increasing participation of different ethnicities and focus on increasing participation of transfer students within UROC programs
- Data visualization is a key aspect when it comes to reporting for funding and showcasing accomplishments within programs
- Professional development opportunity within this internship relating back to my interest in Higher Education

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