

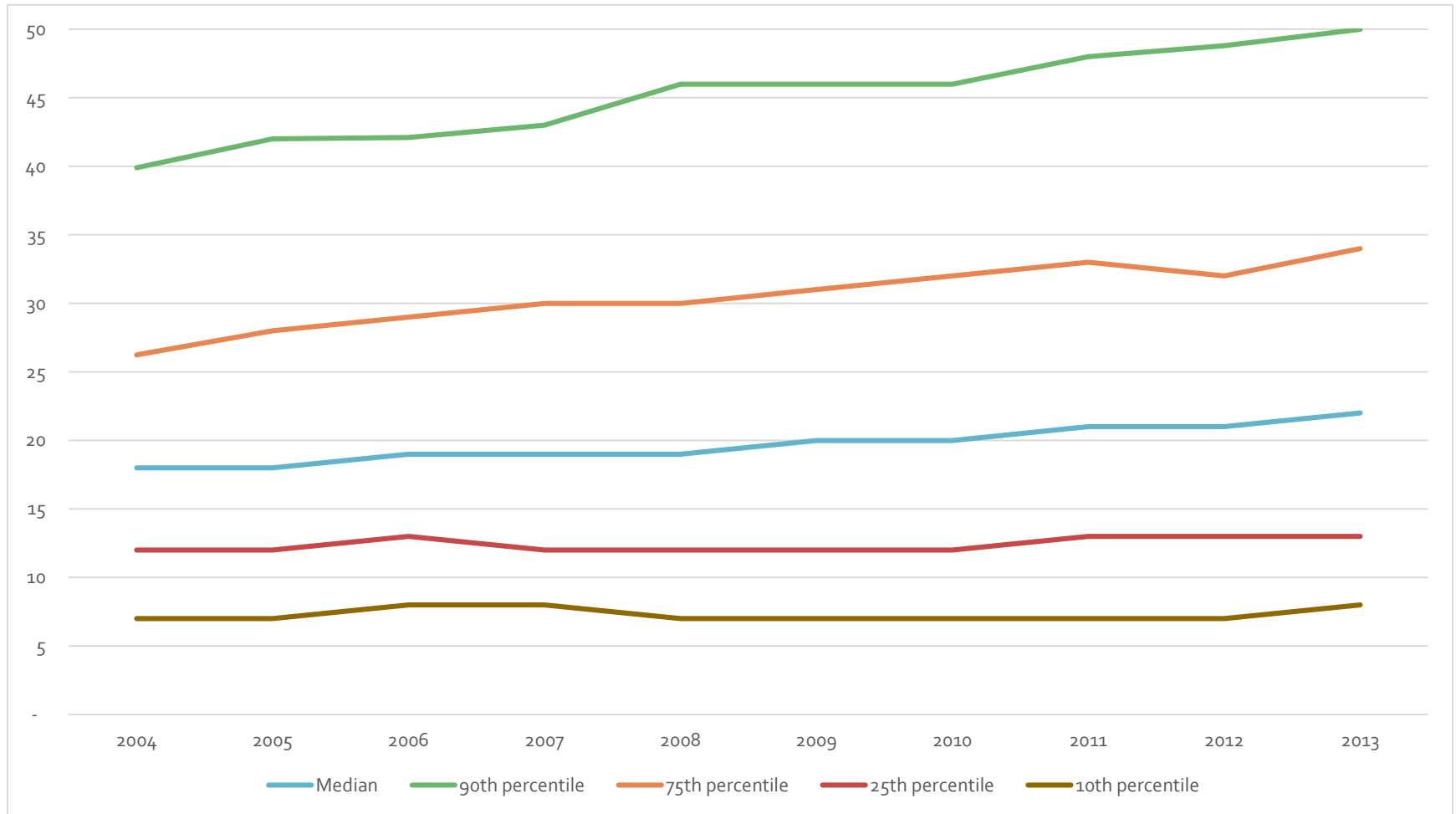
# Alternative Approaches to Quality Assurance in U.S. Higher Education

# Problems

- Quality isn't assured
- Consumers are harmed
- Barrier
  - To innovation
  - To entry
- Different types of institutions but one (or two) type of accreditation
- Binary nature of accreditation

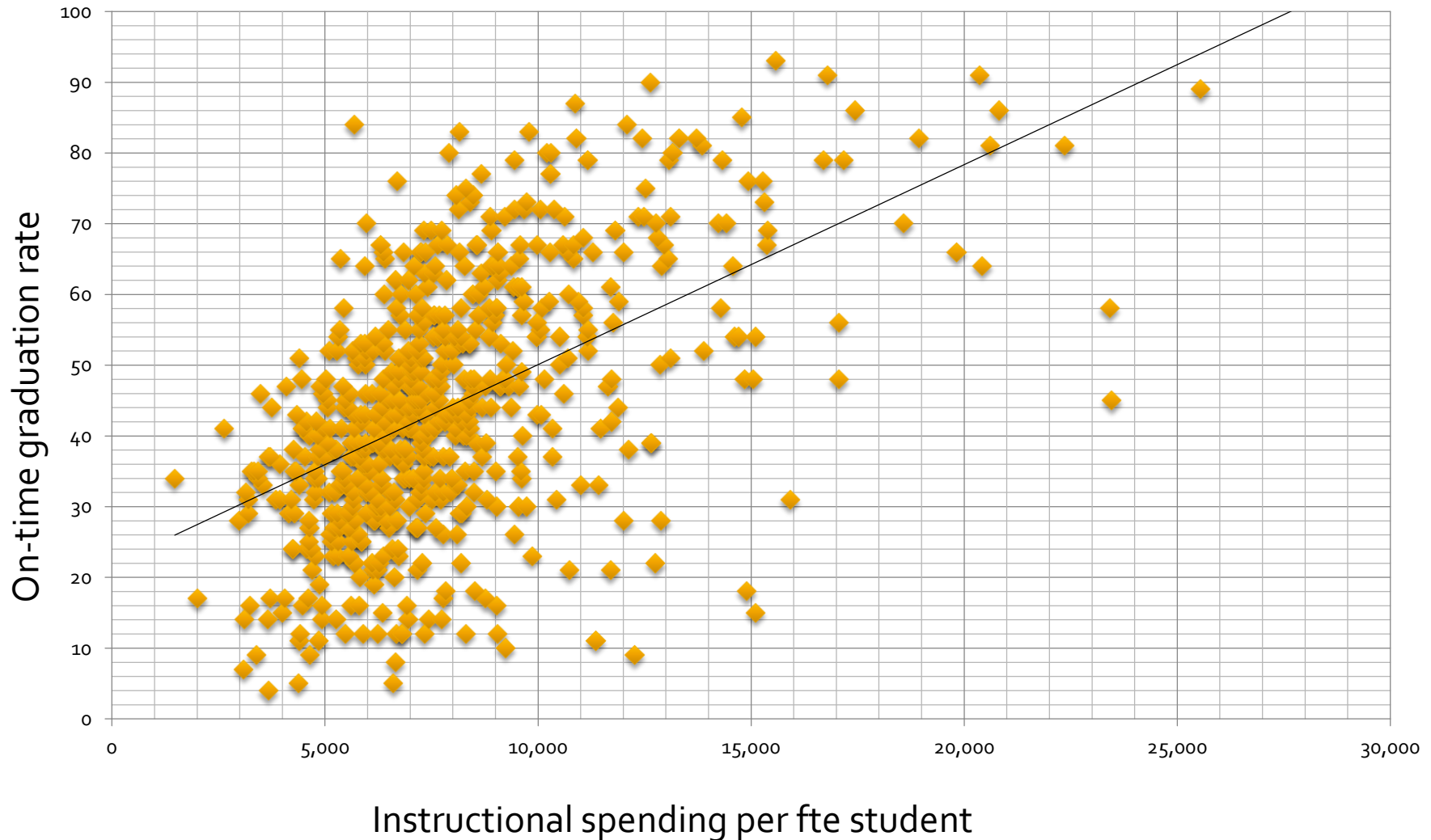
# Problem: Outcomes aren't improving

## On-time graduation rates at public 4-year colleges



# Resources matter but not enough

On-time graduation rate at public 4-year colleges & instructional spending per student



# Alternatives

- Be more explicit in law and regulations about what accreditors must do
- Encourage the development of an alternative accreditor that focuses on outcomes
- Permit institutions to receive aid while bypassing accreditation:
  - New entrants
  - Existing providers
- Use a rating system like mechanism to determine institutional eligibility and decouple
- Require adequate skin in the game

# What Does Value Look Like in Higher Education?

Base institutional eligibility on performance using a rating system that considers:

- access,
- affordability,
- retention & graduation, and
- employment outcomes.



Illustrative Example