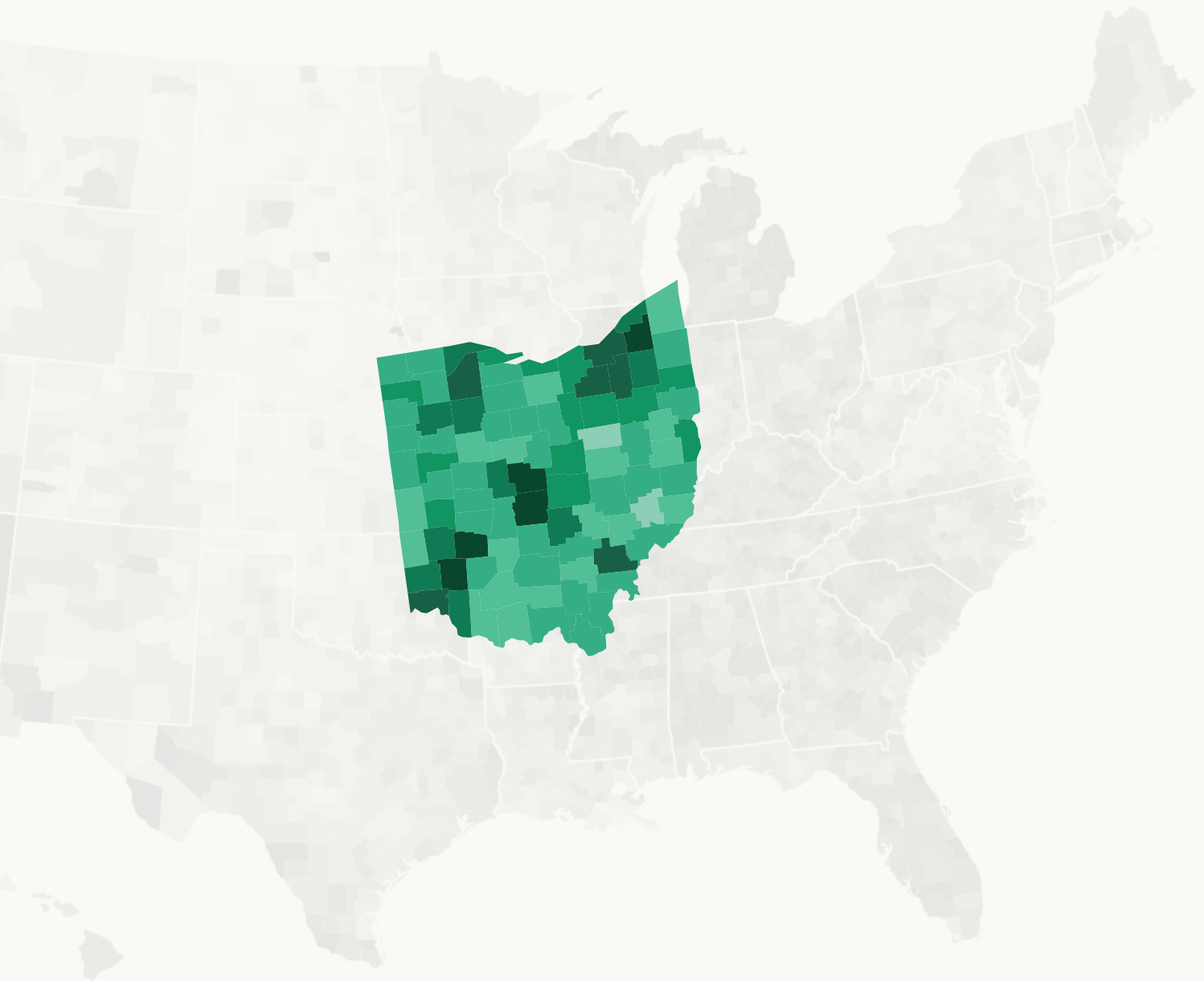


A STRONGER **OHIO** *through* HIGHER EDUCATION



# Efforts to boost college attainment in Ohio are key to achieving Goal 2025

In Ohio, 35.5 percent of the state's 6.1 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Ohio's attainment rate is actually declining; last year, the rate was 35.8 percent. Ohio's rate of higher education attainment is also below the national average. This year, the percentage of Americans between age 25 and 64 who hold a two- or four-year degree is 38.7 percent. This rate is rising, but only slowly. In 2010, the rate was 38.3 percent; in 2009, it was 38.1.

There is, however, some reason for optimism. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Ohio, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 38.6 percent, considerably higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Ohio are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. Still, Ohio's attainment rate among young adults is below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, Ohio has a long way to go. In the state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase more rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 42 percent of Ohio's adult population — 2.4 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 5,742,008, Ohio will need to add more than 1 million degrees to that total.

By now, most people understand why increasing attainment is so important — both to themselves and their communities. Experts from the Center on Education and the Workforce at Georgetown University say that, by 2018, 967,000 of the expected 1.7 million

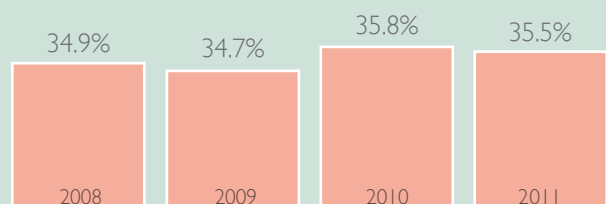
job vacancies in Ohio will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 57 percent of all Ohio jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, nearly 1.4 million Ohio adults — 22.4 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Ohio reach the 60 percent goal.

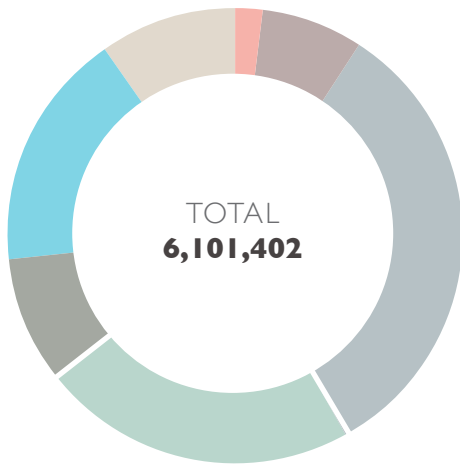
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Ohio county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, so assuring that all communities have access to high-quality higher education is essential. Ohio must also increase college success among the fast-growing groups that will account for a growing proportion of the state's population, including working adults, low-income and first-generation students, and students of color. Meeting the educational needs of these 21st century students will help build Ohio's economy and ensure a bright future for the state.

## Tracking the trend

Percentage of the state's working-age population (25-64) with at least an associate degree



## Levels of education for Ohio adults (ages 25-64)

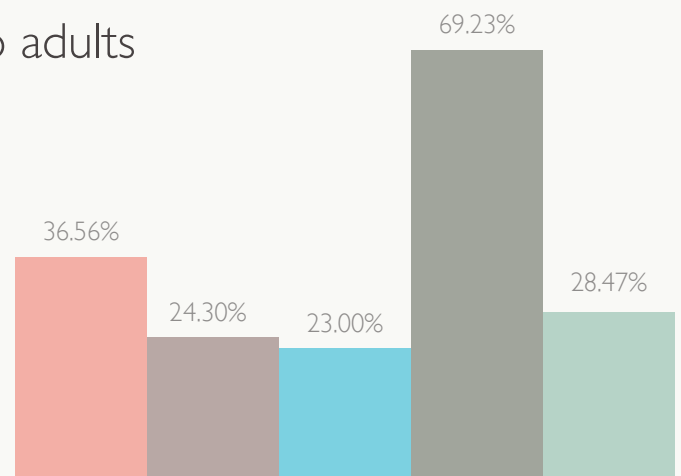


Less than ninth grade	134,413	<b>2.20%</b>
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	434,699	<b>7.12%</b>
High school graduate (including equivalency)	1,997,875	<b>32.74%</b>
Some college, no degree	1,367,933	<b>22.42%</b>
Associate degree	542,758	<b>8.90%</b>
Bachelor's degree	1,032,777	<b>16.93%</b>
Graduate or professional degree	590,947	<b>9.69%</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey

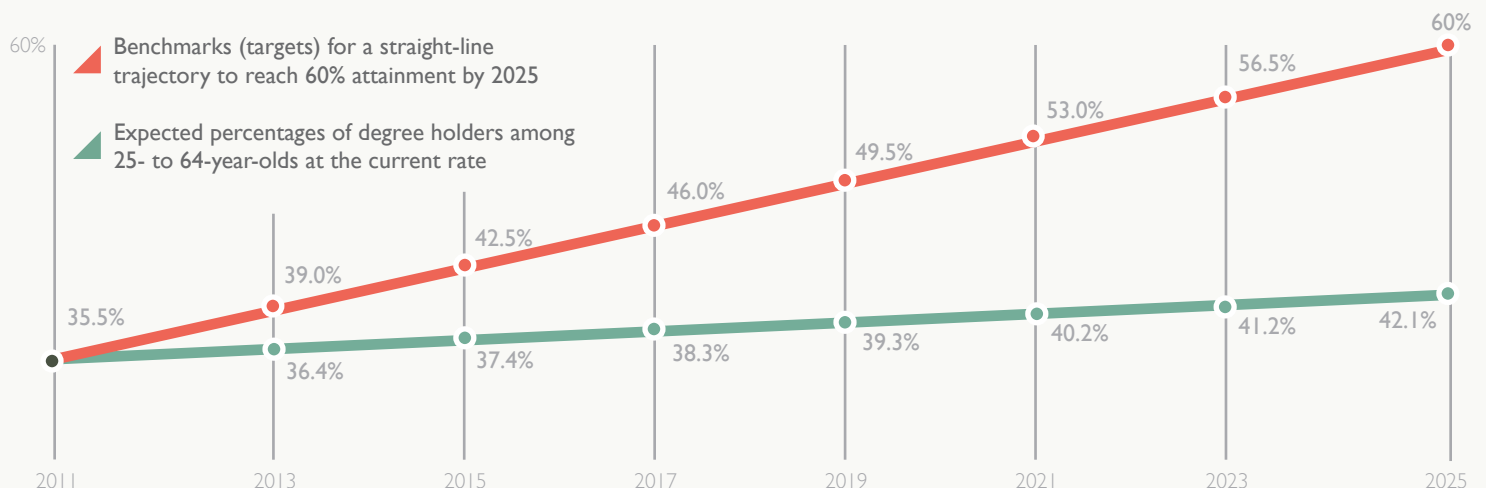
## Degree-attainment rates among Ohio adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	<b>36.56%</b>
Black	<b>24.30%</b>
Hispanic	<b>23.00%</b>
Asian	<b>69.23%</b>
Native American	<b>28.47%</b>



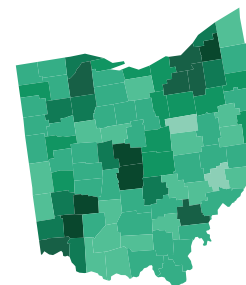
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

## The path to 60% degree attainment in Ohio



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

# Percentage of Ohio adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county



Adams	18.64	Coshocton	21.32	Hamilton	43.48	Logan	22.46	Noble	16.00	Stark	31.81
Allen	27.49	Crawford	22.68	Hancock	36.41	Lorain	32.83	Ottawa	31.94	Summit	41.00
Ashland	29.33	Cuyahoga	39.19	Hardin	21.66	Lucas	34.22	Paulding	22.42	Trumbull	26.16
Ashtabula	21.65	Darke	21.79	Harrison	19.73	Madison	27.12	Perry	18.88	Tuscarawas	24.16
Athens	39.35	Defiance	27.92	Henry	26.65	Mahoning	30.94	Pickaway	22.29	Union	37.29
Auglaize	28.92	Delaware	60.84	Highland	20.00	Marion	21.35	Pike	19.88	Van Wert	24.46
Belmont	26.20	Erie	31.16	Hocking	23.93	Medina	42.19	Portage	33.47	Vinton	16.84
Brown	19.27	Fairfield	36.90	Holmes	15.15	Meigs	23.89	Preble	19.72	Warren	48.13
Butler	36.41	Fayette	21.12	Huron	21.21	Mercer	26.77	Putnam	35.42	Washington	26.83
Carroll	20.29	Franklin	44.91	Jackson	23.87	Miami	30.86	Richland	26.03	Wayne	27.84
Champaign	22.81	Fulton	26.84	Jefferson	28.22	Monroe	20.00	Ross	23.86	Williams	24.93
Clark	27.61	Gallia	25.90	Knox	28.56	Montgomery	35.85	Sandusky	26.51	Wood	43.46
Clermont	35.79	Geauga	46.47	Lake	37.10	Morgan	18.21	Scioto	23.70	Wyandot	26.32
Clinton	24.04	Greene	47.83	Lawrence	23.28	Morrow	23.24	Seneca	27.31		
Columbiana	24.06	Guernsey	22.56	Licking	32.72	Muskingum	24.40	Shelby	24.78		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-11 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates



Lumina Foundation is an independent, private foundation committed to increasing the proportion of Americans with high-quality degrees, certificates and other credentials to 60 percent by 2025. Lumina's outcomes-based approach focuses on helping to design and build an accessible, responsive and accountable higher education system while fostering a national sense of urgency for action to achieve Goal 2025.

