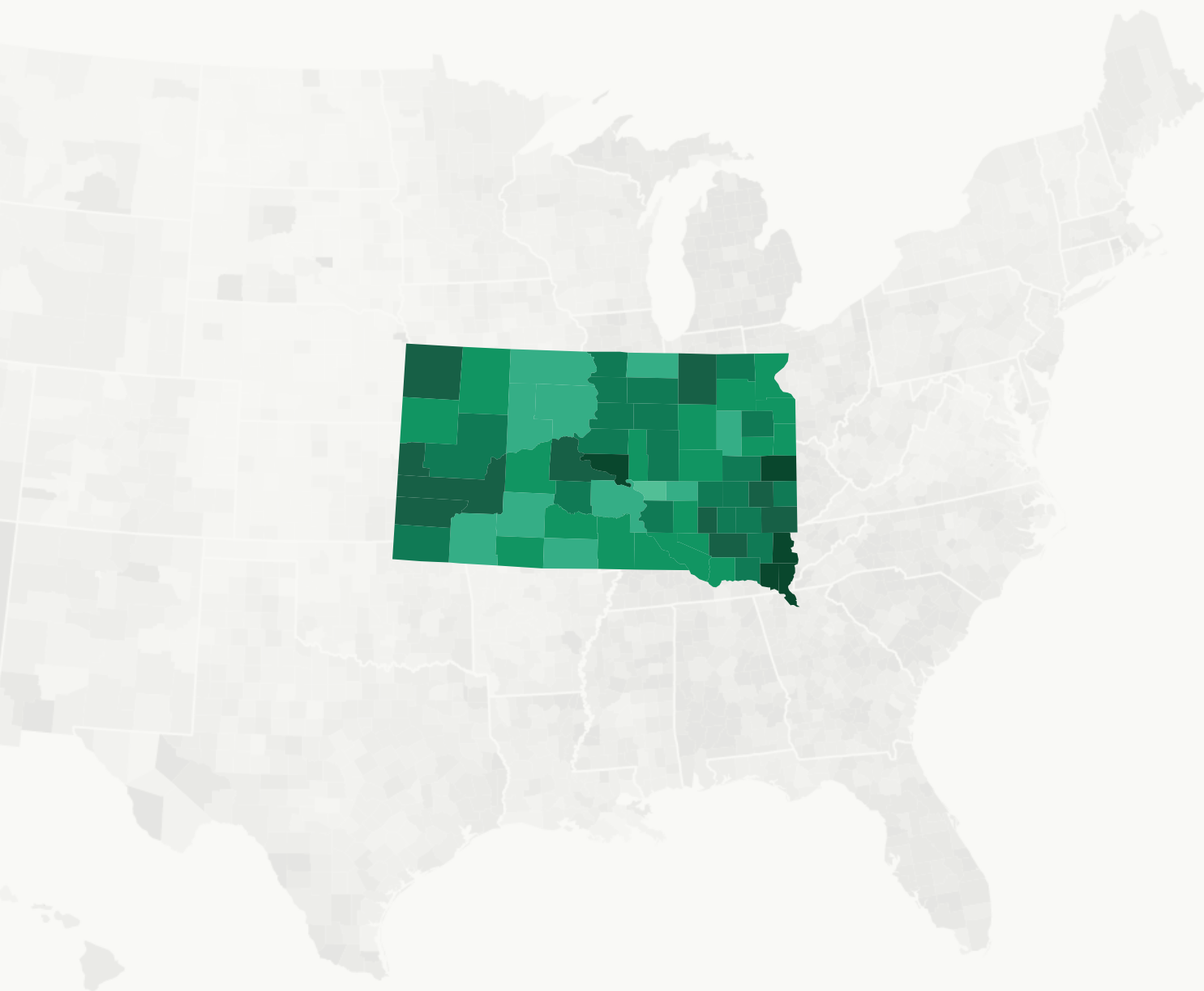


A STRONGER **SOUTH DAKOTA** *through* HIGHER EDUCATION



Efforts to boost college attainment in South Dakota are key to achieving Goal 2025

In South Dakota, 39.4 percent of the state's 418,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. South Dakota's attainment rate is declining; last year, the rate was 40.8 percent. Still, South Dakota's rate of higher education attainment is slightly above 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 also reason for optimism about the educational trends in South Dakota. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In South Dakota, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 45.5 percent — considerably higher than that of the adult population as a whole, and also above the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Despite this encouraging trend, there is much room for improvement in South Dakota. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, just 47 percent of South Dakota's adult population — 176,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 370,562, South Dakota will need to add nearly 47,000 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, 85,000 of the expected

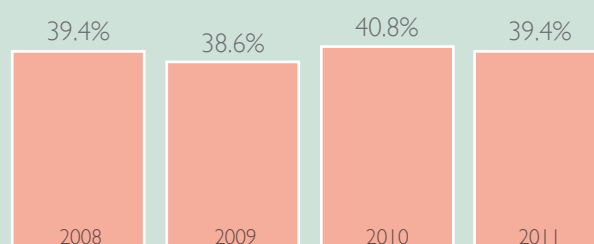
141,000 job vacancies in South Dakota will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 62 percent of all South Dakota jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

The state's economic future can surely be bolstered by producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 99,000 South Dakota adults — 23.8 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 South Dakota reach the 60 percent goal.

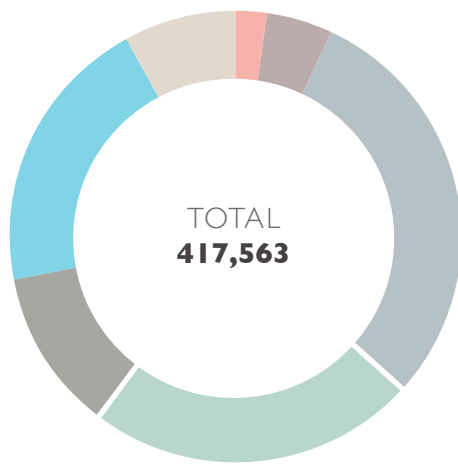
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each South Dakota county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, so assuring that all communities have access to high-quality higher education is essential. South Dakota 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 South Dakota'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 South Dakota adults (ages 25-64)

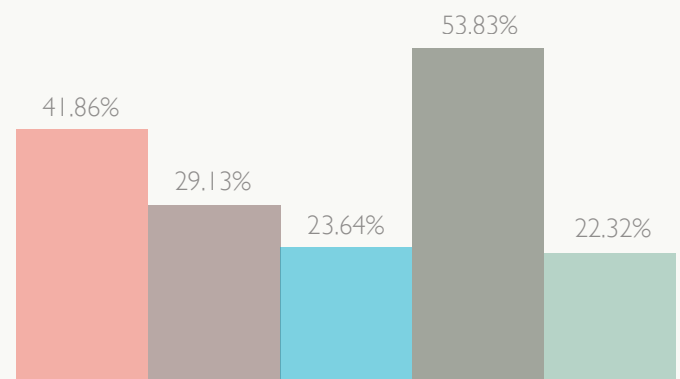


Less than ninth grade	10,049	2.41%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	19,690	4.72%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	123,946	29.68%
Some college, no degree	99,257	23.77%
Associate degree	48,061	11.51%
Bachelor's degree	83,607	20.02%
Graduate or professional degree	32,953	7.89%

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

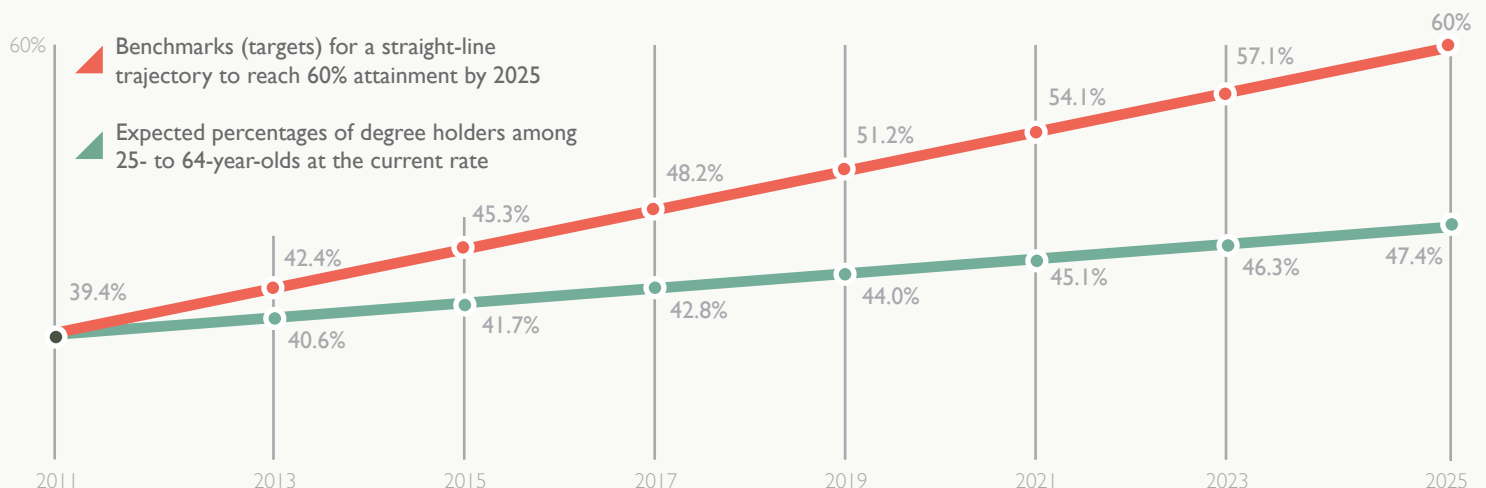
Degree-attainment rates among South Dakota adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	41.86%
Black	29.13%
Hispanic	23.64%
Asian	53.83%
Native American	22.32%



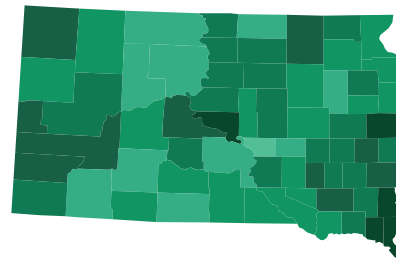
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in South Dakota



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

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



Aurora	32.79	Clark	27.36	Fall River	33.78	Hyde	27.84	Marshall	34.61	Shannon	22.74
Beadle	31.32	Clay	53.57	Faulk	36.56	Jackson	27.09	Meade	34.55	Spink	32.69
Bennett	32.75	Codington	37.76	Grant	30.90	Jerauld	23.70	Mellette	28.38	Stanley	40.96
Bon Homme	29.15	Corson	26.43	Gregory	30.53	Jones	36.84	Miner	38.56	Sully	37.74
Brookings	51.51	Custer	43.27	Haakon	31.96	Kingsbury	36.27	Minnehaha	42.90	Todd	23.32
Brown	40.66	Davison	42.21	Hamlin	31.21	Lake	40.53	Moody	36.09	Tripp	32.89
Brule	36.13	Day	29.88	Hand	33.98	Lawrence	40.38	Pennington	40.30	Turner	36.89
Buffalo	18.54	Deuel	28.94	Hanson	37.53	Lincoln	52.40	Perkins	30.02	Union	45.40
Butte	29.71	Dewey	22.52	Harding	39.50	Lyman	27.76	Potter	38.04	Walworth	36.29
Campbell	36.21	Douglas	30.67	Hughes	48.62	McCook	35.61	Roberts	31.46	Yankton	35.52
Charles Mix	29.20	Edmunds	37.73	Hutchinson	41.35	McPherson	27.56	Sanborn	34.50	Ziebach	24.55

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.

