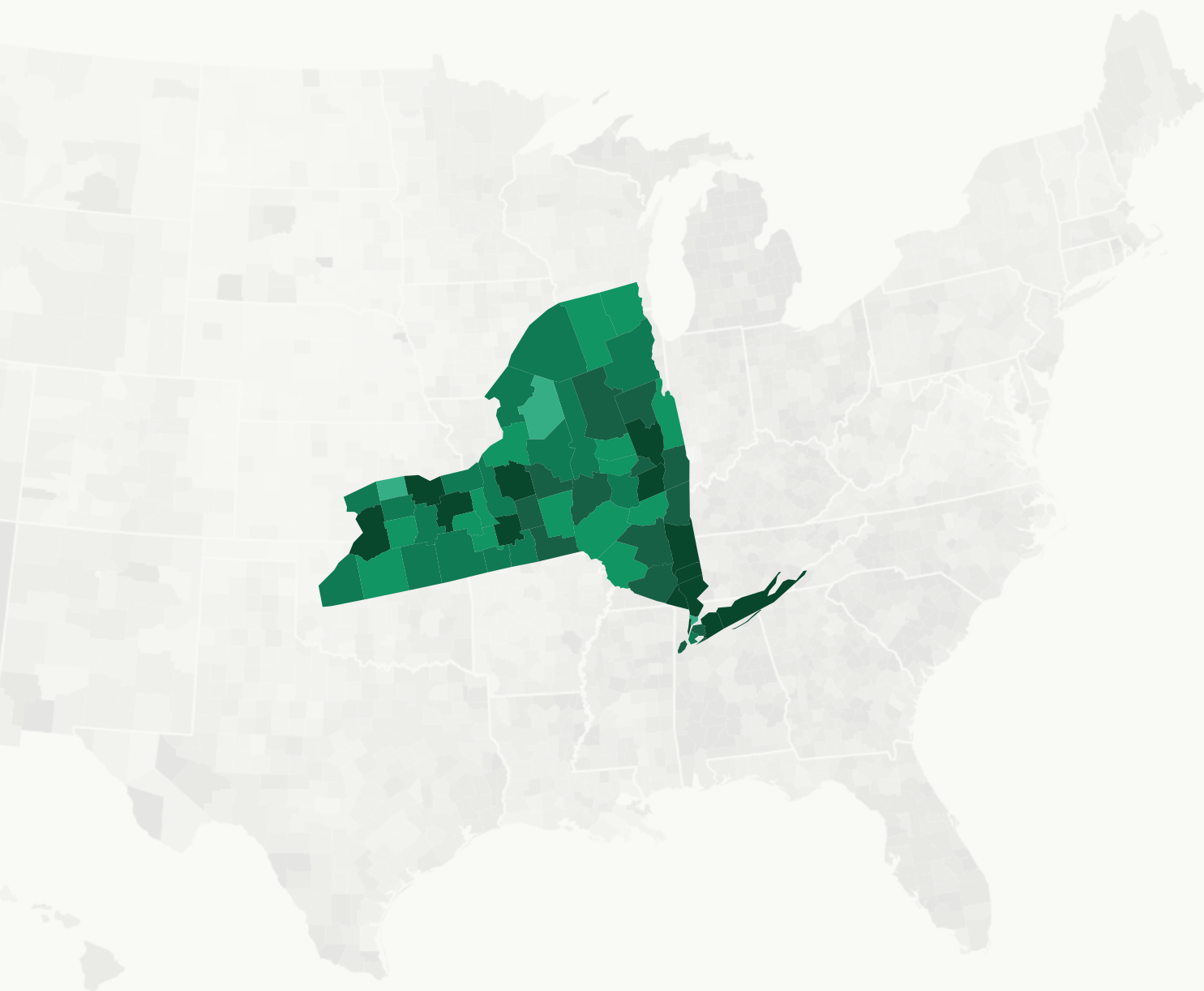


A STRONGER **NEW YORK** *through* HIGHER EDUCATION



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

In New York, 44.6 percent of the state's 10.5 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. New York's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 44.1 percent. New York's rate of higher education attainment is 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 New York. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In New York, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 50 percent — higher than that of the adult population as a whole, and well above the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Despite its relative success, there is room for improvement in New York. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, 52.5 percent of New York's adult population — 5.2 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 9,871,429, New York will need to add more than 740,000 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, 1.8 million of the expected 2.8 million

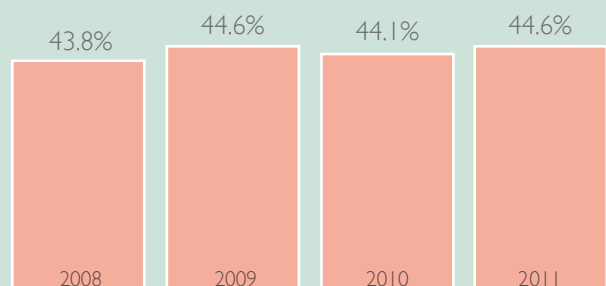
job vacancies in New York will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 63 percent of all New York jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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, nearly 1.8 million New York adults — 17 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 New York reach the 60 percent goal.

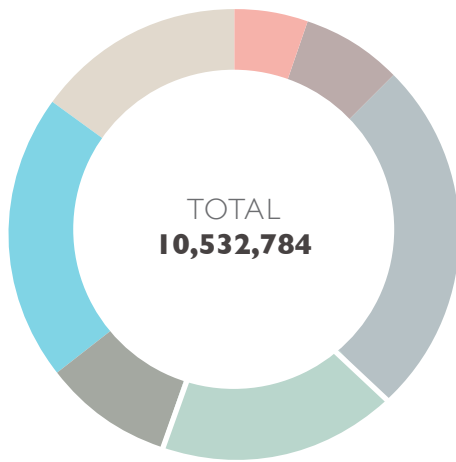
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each New York county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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

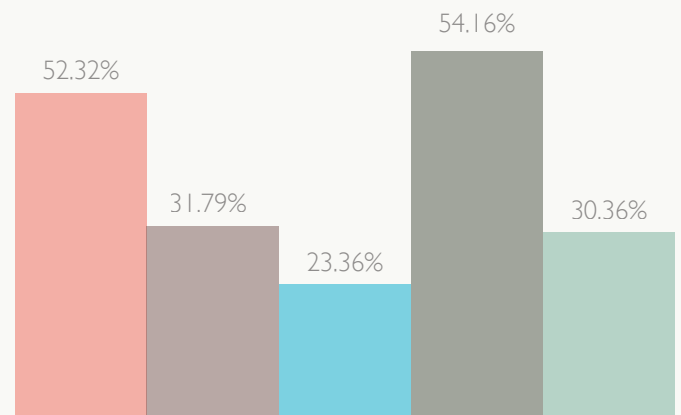


Less than ninth grade	558,308	<b>5.30%</b>
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	779,835	<b>7.40%</b>
High school graduate (including equivalency)	2,706,364	<b>25.69%</b>
Some college, no degree	1,792,905	<b>17.02%</b>
Associate degree	969,790	<b>9.21%</b>
Bachelor's degree	2,168,317	<b>20.59%</b>
Graduate or professional degree	1,557,265	<b>14.78%</b>

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

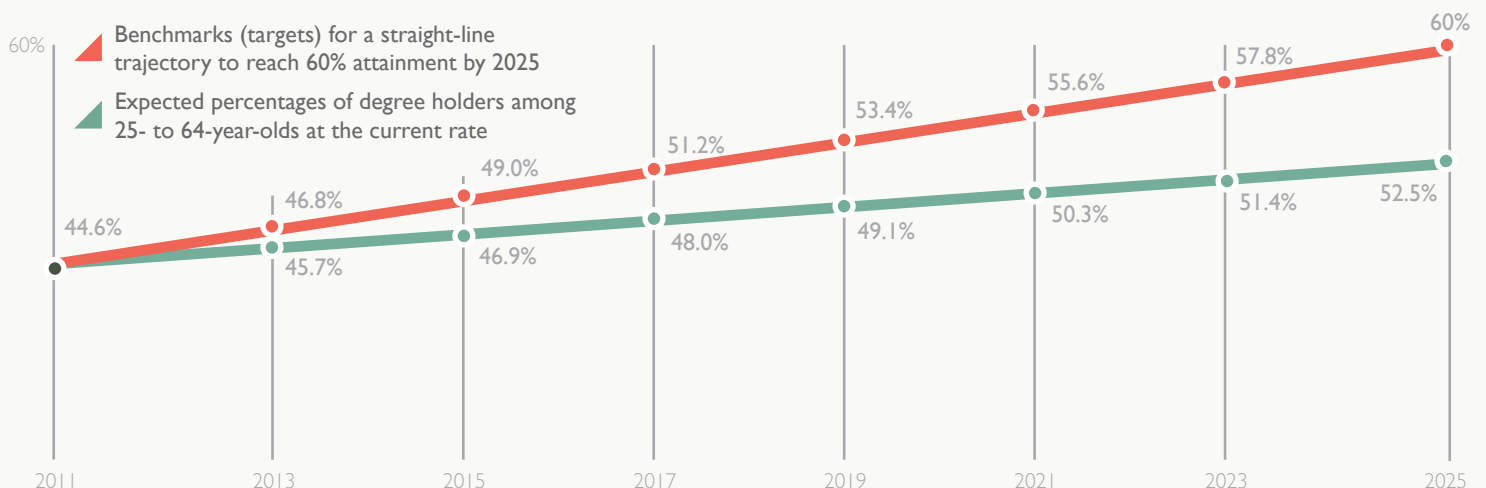
## Degree-attainment rates among New York adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	<b>52.32%</b>
Black	<b>31.79%</b>
Hispanic	<b>23.36%</b>
Asian	<b>54.16%</b>
Native American	<b>30.36%</b>



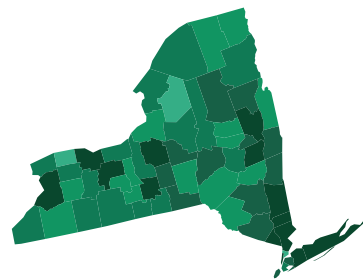
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

## The path to 60% degree attainment in New York



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

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



Albany	52.34	Cortland	39.91	Jefferson	34.24	Onondaga	47.96	St. Lawrence	34.13	Ulster	41.73
Allegany	33.66	Delaware	31.99	Kings	38.84	Ontario	47.99	Saratoga	51.67	Warren	42.57
Bronx	26.66	Dutchess	45.42	Lewis	26.65	Orange	40.33	Schenectady	44.42	Washington	28.64
Broome	42.25	Erie	46.19	Livingston	38.64	Orleans	26.98	Schoharie	36.46	Wayne	36.78
Cattaraugus	30.98	Essex	37.32	Madison	41.19	Oswego	28.51	Schuyler	31.91	Westchester	54.56
Cayuga	34.19	Franklin	30.55	Monroe	50.09	Otsego	39.34	Seneca	32.83	Wyoming	29.23
Chautauqua	36.53	Fulton	29.08	Montgomery	32.91	Putnam	49.70	Steuben	36.70	Yates	33.13
Chemung	34.79	Genesee	37.38	Nassau	54.08	Queens	40.26	Suffolk	44.69		
Chenango	32.01	Greene	30.71	New York	65.52	Rensselaer	44.32	Sullivan	32.83		
Clinton	32.65	Hamilton	39.18	Niagara	36.57	Richmond	39.98	Tioga	38.18		
Columbia	43.31	Herkimer	35.50	Oneida	37.44	Rockland	51.45	Tompkins	60.74		

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