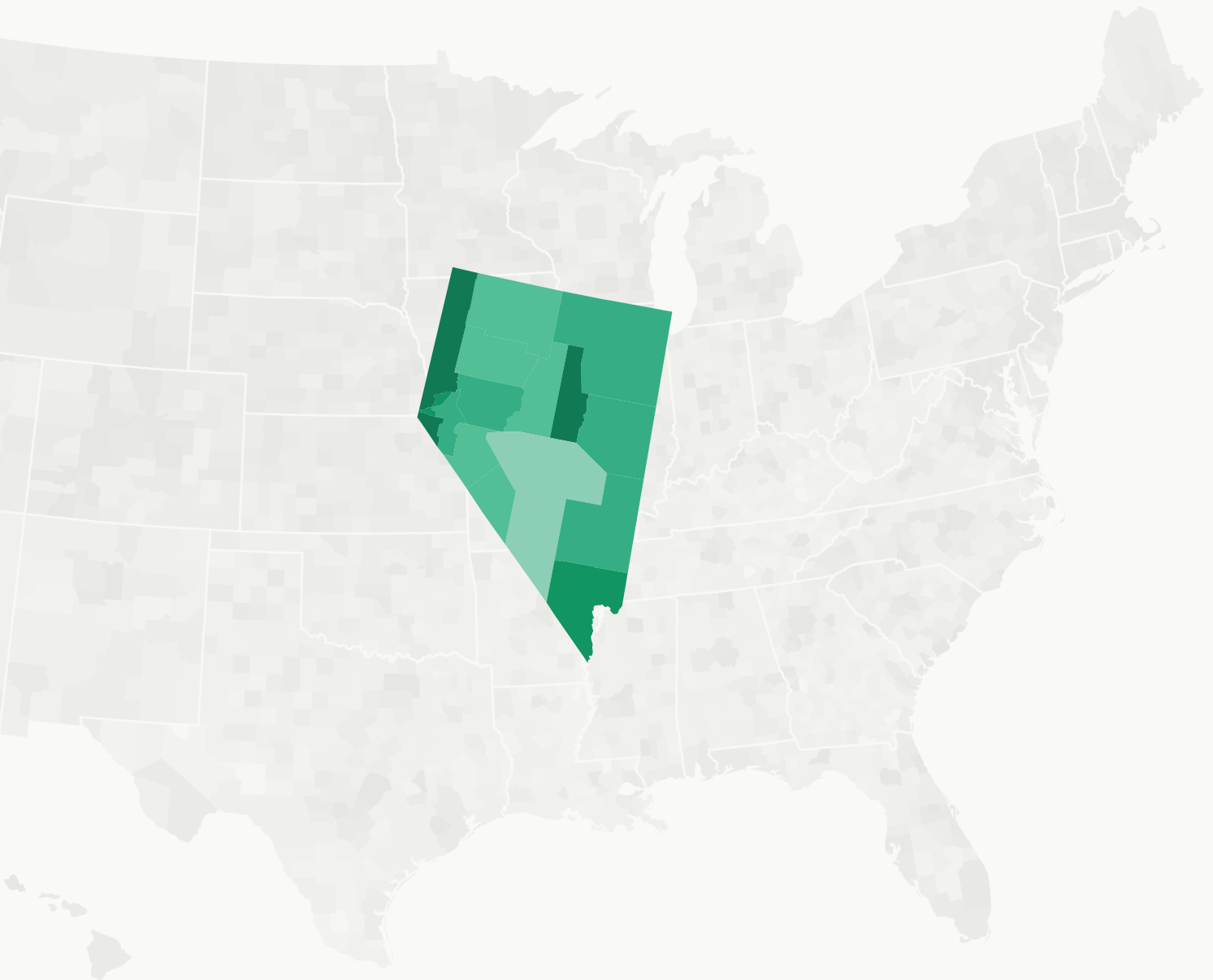


A STRONGER **NEVADA** *through* HIGHER EDUCATION



Efforts to boost college attainment in Nevada are key to achieving Goal 2025

In Nevada, 30 percent of the state's 1.5 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Nevada's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 29.5 percent. Also, Nevada's rate of higher education attainment is well 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 also reason for concern about the educational trends in Nevada. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Nevada, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at just 28.3 percent, lower than that of the adult population as a whole. What's more, Nevada's attainment rate among young adults is well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Nevada clearly has a long way to go. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase rapidly and steadily to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, 35.5 percent of Nevada's adult population — 683,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 1,922,566, Nevada will need to add more than 471,000 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, 272,000 of the expected 511,000 job vacancies in Nevada will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed,

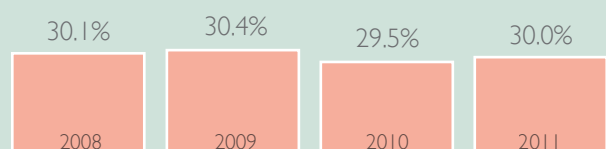
54 percent of all Nevada jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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 378,000 Nevada adults — 25.7 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 Nevada reach the 60 percent goal.

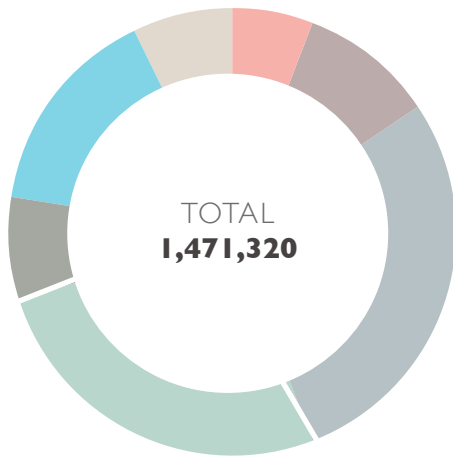
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Nevada borough. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, so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

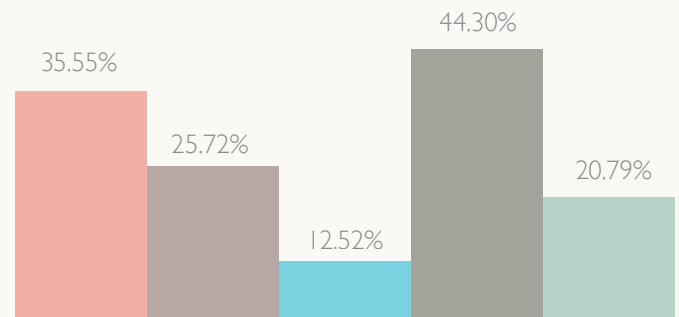


Less than ninth grade	89,517	6.08%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	142,787	9.71%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	420,529	28.58%
Some college, no degree	377,714	25.67%
Associate degree	111,535	7.58%
Bachelor's degree	225,073	15.30%
Graduate or professional degree	104,165	7.08%

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

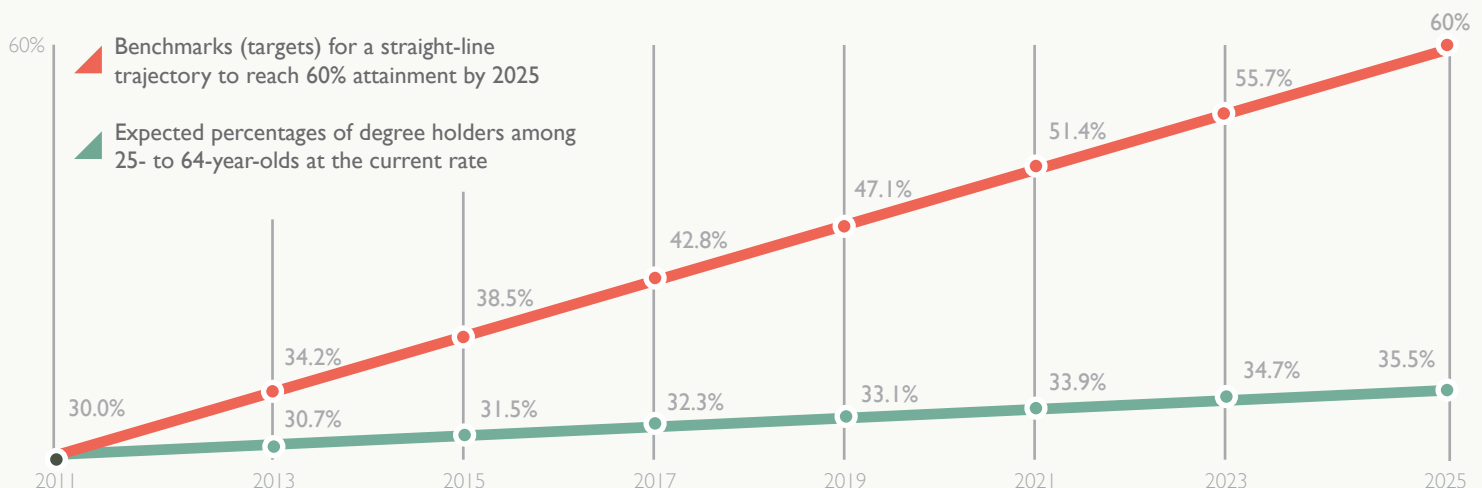
Degree-attainment rates among Nevada adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	35.55%
Black	25.72%
Hispanic	12.52%
Asian	44.30%
Native American	20.79%



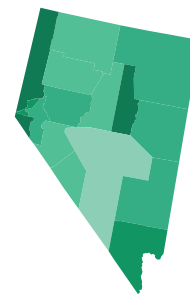
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Nevada



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

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



Churchill	26.60	Elko	26.44	Humboldt	21.26	Lyon	23.05	Pershing	18.01	White Pine	23.44
Clark	29.75	Esmeralda	21.15	Lander	18.14	Mineral	18.53	Storey	28.47	Carson City	29.08
Douglas	36.96	Eureka	33.92	Lincoln	22.28	Nye	16.33	Washoe	35.50		

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.

