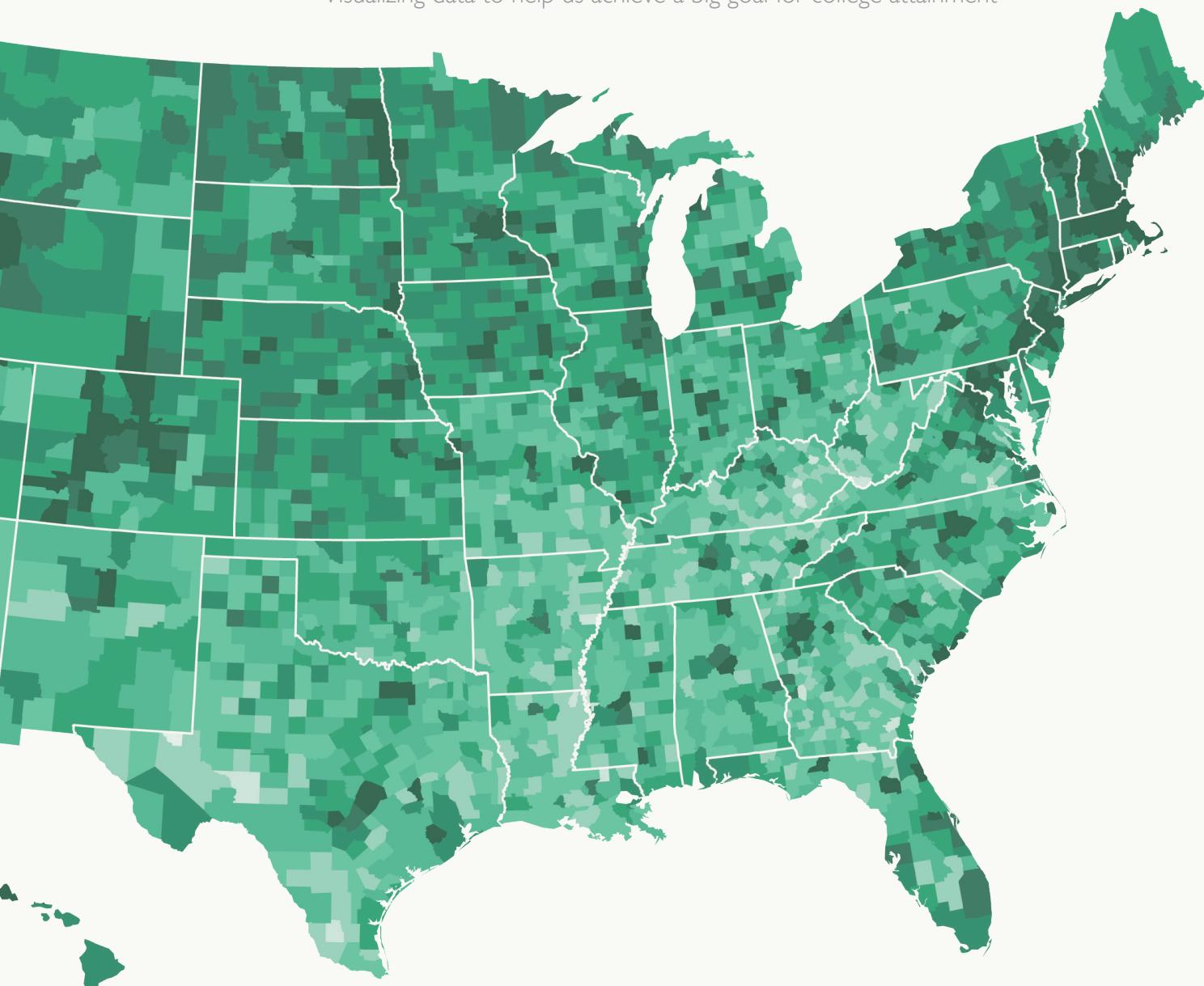


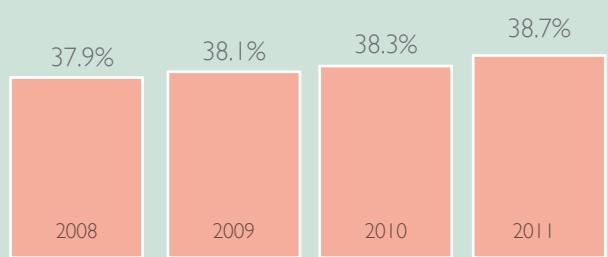
A STRONGER NATION *through* HIGHER EDUCATION
Visualizing data to help us achieve a big goal for college attainment



An annual report from Lumina Foundation

Tracking the trend

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



In this report:

- The higher education attainment rate of the U.S. and every state, showing how rates have changed since last year's report.
- The attainment rate for every county and the 100 largest metropolitan areas in the U.S.
- Breakdowns of the attainment data, including by race and ethnicity.
- One scenario for how to reach Goal 2025.
- A description of other metrics Lumina uses to track progress toward increasing college attainment.

Boosting strength means building talent, and college is key

As we at Lumina Foundation prepared to release this, the fourth edition of our signature report, *A Stronger Nation through Higher Education*, I found myself pondering a fundamental question, a query embedded in the title itself: Just what do we mean by "stronger?" How does one properly define a nation's strength, and what's the best way to increase it?

These are important questions — ones that we've addressed intuitively, I think, but perhaps not explicitly. So let's be clear: At its core, the strength of this nation — or any nation — is its *people*, the sum total of talents, skills and abilities inherent in its citizenry. Only with sufficient talent, and the right *kinds* of talent, can a nation truly succeed.

Talent development, then, must be America's prime objective, and it's not a task we can tackle by conducting business as usual. We can't expect our citizens to meet the demands of the 21st century economy and society without a 21st century education. Americans need an education that imparts rigorous, relevant learning — an education that provides the tools that are necessary to thrive in the face of rapid, inevitable change. In short, our citizens need high-quality, credentialed, college-level learning — and they need it in greater numbers than ever before.

Lumina's embrace of Goal 2025 succinctly expresses this need: By 2025, we want 60 percent of Americans to hold high-quality degrees, certificates or other postsecondary credentials. We've worked toward this goal for several years now, and each year brings more evidence of its validity and urgency.

For example, the most recent figures from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development show that, among young adults (ages 25-34), the U.S. college-attainment rate is just 42 percent. This ranks us 13th among developed nations — not an enviable position in today's increasingly competitive global economy.

But we needn't look beyond our own borders to find compelling arguments for boosting postsecondary attainment. For instance, experts point out that four out of every five American jobs lost during the recent recession required a high school education or less. Clearly, those low-skill jobs are gone for good, and the future belongs to those with college-level learning.

In fact, the essay featured on the next several pages of this report fairly bristles with facts and statistics that demonstrate the growing value of increased college attainment. It offers evidence of employers' growing need for highly skilled workers. It points out the increasing worth of high-value postsecondary certificates. It cites the experts' projection that, by 2020, two-thirds of all jobs will require postsecondary credentials.

What's more, the essay makes clear that the benefits of higher education go beyond economics. It shows that

increased college attainment not only generates economic prosperity, but also helps us address social inequities and improve society. There are huge gaps in educational achievement in this country linked to race, income and class — persistent inequities that have dogged us for decades. And there are other gaps as well, attainment challenges associated with first-generation status, with military service, with age and employment and family responsibilities. We can't allow these attainment gaps to continue. The stakes are just too high — not merely for the people who are directly affected, but for all of us as Americans.

For us to develop true strength as a nation, we have to do much better. We must provide high-quality, college-level learning to millions more Americans; in other words, we must work together to reach Goal 2025.

Lumina is fully committed to that task. We have pledged all of our resources toward it and, as reflected in our recently released Strategic Plan, we have organized all of our work around it. The plan calls for us to pursue several strands of work supporting two basic aims: 1.) mobilizing others at the local, state and national levels to reach the 60 percent goal, and 2.) designing and helping to build the student-centered, learning-based system necessary to produce that result.

Of course, the key to executing this plan — and to the achievement of Goal 2025 — is a close and consistent focus on the data related to college attainment. And that's what *Stronger Nation* is all about: assembling and providing the data we all need to drive our decisions and actions.

The data offered in these pages can be a powerful tool that can help you understand and address the college attainment challenges in your state, county or metropolitan area. It can help you identify the student populations facing the toughest road to success. It can pinpoint geographic areas of opportunity and suggest possible partnerships or coalitions that can make a real difference.

We urge you to use this report — and the additional interactive Web tools available at www.luminafoundation.org/stronger_nation — as you join the many organizations and individuals now embracing the challenge of Goal 2025. Truly, there is strength in numbers.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.P. Merisotis".

Jamie P. Merisotis
President and CEO
Lumina Foundation

Steady progress in increasing college attainment — but much more to do

This is the fourth year that Lumina Foundation has released a report on progress toward the goal that 60 percent of Americans obtain a high-quality postsecondary degree or credential by 2025 — an objective we call Goal 2025. In these now-annual reports, we set the metric for measuring progress as the **higher education attainment rate** — the percentage of the nation's adult, working-age population holding a two- or four-year college degree.

This year, we report data for 2011 — the most recent year for which data are available. In 2011, the percentage of Americans between the ages of 25 and 64 with a two- or four-year college degree was 38.7 percent. This is an increase from last year's report; in 2010, the attainment rate was 38.3 percent. Overall, the U.S. attainment rate has been increasing slowly but steadily; in 2008, it was 37.9 percent, and in 2009 it was 38.1 percent.

The higher education attainment rate of young adults (ages 25-34) is a good leading indicator of where higher education attainment rates are headed. In 2011, the rate was 40.1 percent — almost one-and-a-half percentage points higher than that among all adults, and two-and-a-half percentage points higher than in 2008.

Lumina's attainment goal has always included high-value postsecondary certificates, but data on the number of adults holding certificates is not readily available.¹ This year, however, the first solid estimates of the number of high-value postsecondary certificates have been produced. They suggest that an additional 5 percent of the U.S. adult population between the ages of 25 and 64 hold a postsecondary certificate with significant economic value.²

The recent increase in attainment rates — especially among young adults — is a step in the right direction, but we must increase attainment much more to reach Goal 2025.

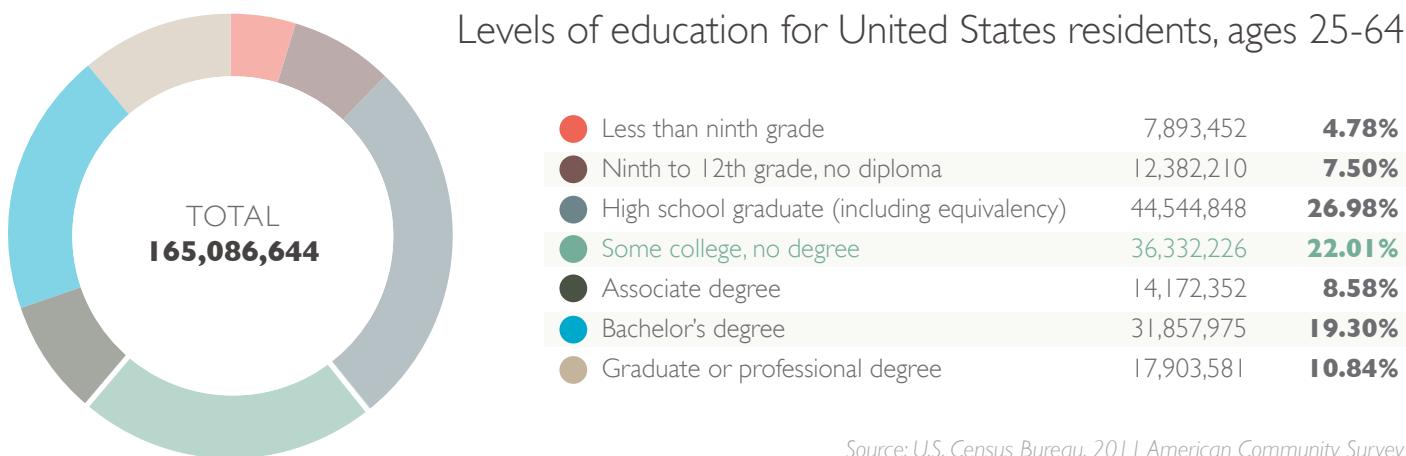
Attainment and the economy

Nationally, the rationale for increasing higher education attainment has become more widely understood, and most now agree that, as a nation, we desperately need more citizens with postsecondary credentials. Much of this awareness is driven by the realization that 65 percent of U.S. jobs — almost two-thirds — will require some form of postsecondary education by 2020.³

For individual Americans, the consequences of not completing postsecondary education are increasingly dire. For many years, the main reason many people went to college was to gain access to better-paying jobs that allowed them to earn more throughout their lives. But earnings potential is no longer the only driver. In this economy, without postsecondary skills, you may not even *have* a job.

The Great Recession made this relationship painfully clear. Between the beginning of the recession in December 2007 and its official end in January 2010, the economy lost 5.6 million jobs for Americans with a high school education or less. Jobs requiring an associate degree or some college declined by 1.75 million, while the number of jobs for Americans with a bachelor's degree or above actually grew by 187,000. That's right — the growth in jobs for bachelor's degree holders slowed during the recession but never actually declined, and the economy continued to create jobs for them throughout the recession.

Since the end of the recession, jobs requiring an associate degree or some college have grown by 1.6 million and almost recovered to pre-recession levels. Jobs for bachelor's degree holders actually have *accelerated* their growth — adding 2 million new jobs during the recovery. In contrast, the recovery never came to those whose highest level of education is a high school diploma or below. Since January 2010, the economy has



lost an additional 230,000 jobs for people with no more than a high school education.⁴

In spite of these numbers, some try to make the case that the value of college degrees is diminishing, citing the unemployment rates of recent college graduates as evidence. But even a cursory look at the actual data shows how spurious these arguments are. As is now well-known, the overall employment rates are much higher for college graduates. And that is certainly true among recent graduates. In 2010, at the peak of U.S. unemployment rates, around 88 percent of 23- and 24-year-old college graduates were employed. No one is saying that the job market for college graduates is easy, but the situation for those with less education is far worse. For high school graduates in the same age group, the rate of employment was only 65 percent; for high school dropouts it was a crushing 42 percent.⁵

Some suggest that many college graduates are underemployed in jobs that don't require postsecondary credentials. Again, the facts speak otherwise. The wage premium — the gap between what employers are willing to pay for graduates vs. those who don't have a postsecondary credential — is actually growing, and has continued to grow throughout the recession and its aftermath. Employers need more college graduates, and they are paying an increasing premium to get them.

Perhaps the clearest evidence of the need to increase higher education attainment comes from the fact that employers cannot find people with the skills they need to fill all of their current job openings, much less those that will be created in the future. In a recent survey, a third of employers cited "lack of technical competencies/hard skills" as their main difficulty in filling jobs — up from just 22 percent in 2011.⁶ For example, in the manufacturing sector, where advanced manufacturing techniques are dramatically increasing the demand for postsecondary skills, fully two-thirds of manufacturers reported "moderate to severe" shortages of qualified workers in 2011.⁷ The same issue is a growing problem in the healthcare industry.

What happens when employers can't find people with the skills and credentials they need? The answer is that the economy as a whole suffers. Available evidence suggests that our nation's inability to match jobs to people with the right skills is a major factor in explaining why employment rates have not improved as quickly as they should have in the economic recovery.⁸

Attainment and our society

Increasing the number of college graduates will not only bolster our economy, it will also strengthen our democracy and communities throughout the nation. These social and cultural reasons for increasing educational attainment are, at times,

undervalued. There is a wealth of evidence that increased attainment improves health, lowers crime rates, and yields citizens who are both globally aware and participate more in civic and democratic processes such as voting and volunteering. All of these factors have enormous implications for our democracy.⁹

While the evidence about the social benefits of increasing higher education attainment is as clear as ever, there is a new urgency about it in today's environment. Many factors are contributing to the need to increase attainment, including the increasing complexity of society, the growing role that information and information technology play in people's lives, and the fact that people from different countries and cultures live and work together more than ever. The U.S. — like the rest of the world — is becoming a *knowledge society*, not just a knowledge economy. The essential

skills for success in today's economy are critical thinking skills — abstract reasoning, problem solving, communication and teamwork. These are precisely the skills that are needed to build strong communities and societies wherever one lives.

Unfortunately, it is a long-standing reality that educational success is very uneven. In particular, low-income and first-generation students, racial and ethnic minorities, immigrants and adults have traditionally been underrepresented among college students and graduates. As a result, these Americans

¹ All forms of high-quality postsecondary credentials, including degrees and certificates, have value and should count. Often, we refer to all of these credentials as "degrees" and the public and private institutions and other organizations that produce them as "college." Likewise, the distinction between "postsecondary education" and "higher education" is of little value, especially if used to suggest a hierarchy of institutions and programs. We use the terms interchangeably.

² Certificates: *Gateway to Gainful Employment and College Degrees*. Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, 2012. The study estimates the number of Americans who hold a postsecondary certificate with "clear and demonstrable economic value" as their highest credential.

³ *A Decade Behind*. Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, 2012

⁴ Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, 2012

⁵ Hamilton Project at the Brookings Institution, 2011

⁶ 2012 Talent Shortage Survey Research Results, Manpower Group

⁷ Boiling point? The skills gap in U.S. manufacturing. Deloitte and the Manufacturing Institute, 2011.

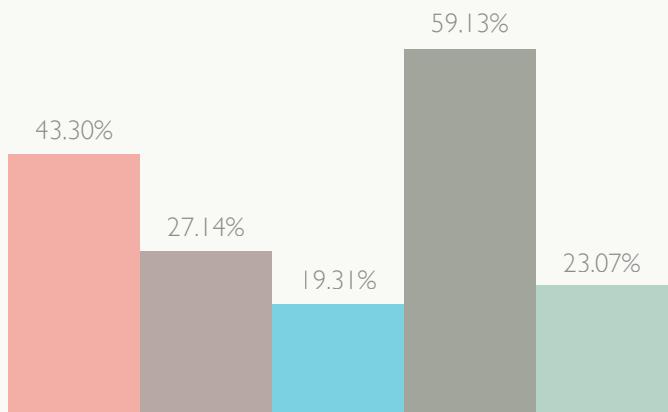
⁸ Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta (<http://macroblog.typepad.com/macroblog/2010/07/a-curious-unemployment-picture-gets-more-curious.html>), 2011.

⁹ In the 2008 elections, among adults between the ages of 25 and 44, there was a stunning 32 percentage point gap between the voting rates of four-year college graduates and high school graduates. College Board, *Education Pays*, 2011.

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

White	43.30%
Black	27.14%
Hispanic	19.31%
Asian	59.13%
Native American	23.07%

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



are bearing a disproportionate share of the increasingly severe consequences of not completing postsecondary education. Since increasing higher education attainment is critical to a strong economy and a strong society, the fact that educational success is denied to so many in our nation can fairly and accurately be described as a crisis.

Since the first *Stronger Nation* report, Lumina has tracked and reported higher education attainment by race and ethnicity. These data paint an alarming and underappreciated picture. Unless significant progress is made to close gaps in attainment, we cannot reach the 60 percent goal and will not reap the resulting benefits. A closer look at 25- to 29-year-old Americans tells the story. Their overall higher education attainment rate was 37.8 percent in 2009. However, the rates vary significantly by race and ethnicity. The highest attainment rate in this young adult population is for Asians, at 65.6 percent, followed by non-Hispanic whites at 44.9 percent. The attainment rate for African-Americans is 24.7 percent, for Hispanics it is 17.9 percent, and for American Indians it is 16.9 percent.¹⁰

As worrisome as these attainment rate differentials are, there is an even more troubling trend in the data. Attainment rates for both Asians and whites between the ages of 25 and 29 are significantly higher than for the 30-and-above population, but the same is not true for African-Americans, Hispanics and American Indians. Attainment rates for young adult African-Americans are actually slightly less than for older African-Americans (24.7 percent vs. 25.0 percent), and for

young American Indian adults they are substantially lower (16.9 percent vs. 21.6 percent).

These gaps in higher education attainment are complicated by growing gaps in attainment between women and men. In 2011, 45 percent of women between the ages of 25 and 64 held a two- or four-year college degree, compared to 40 percent of men. Among young adults between the ages of 25 and 29, the gap is twice as wide — 47 percent of women compared to 37 percent of men.¹¹ The attainment rate for African-American men aged 25 to 34 (28 percent) was lower than that for African-

American women (32 percent) in 2009, as it was for Hispanic men (16 percent) compared to Hispanic women (24 percent).¹² When coupled with the loss of middle-skill jobs in occupations traditionally held by men, closing gender gaps in higher education attainment is increasingly urgent.¹³

**Unless significant progress is
made to close gaps in attainment,
we cannot reach the 60 percent
goal and will not reap the
resulting benefits.**

students — those whose parents did not attend or complete college. These students are less likely to attend college and are more likely to drop out prior to completion, in part due to their choices regarding courses, attending part-time, and other academic factors that have been shown to influence degree completion.¹⁴ Since first-generation students are an increasing proportion of the pool of potential students, increasing their success rates is essential to increasing higher education attainment.¹⁵

The attainment patterns for immigrants and low-income Americans tell the same story. Fifty-four percent of immigrants

¹⁰ Minorities in Higher Education, American Council on Education, 2011

¹¹ U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS), March 2011. Attainment rates reported by the CPS are generally slightly higher than those derived from the American Community Survey (ACS), as used in Lumina's *Stronger Nation* reports.

¹² *The Educational Experience of Young Men of Color: A Review of Research, Pathways and Progress*. Lee and Ransom. The College Board, 2011.

¹³ *The Polarization of Job Opportunities in the U.S. Labor Market: Implications for Employment and Earnings*. Autor, David, Community Investments, Volume 23, Issue 2, Fall 2011

¹⁴ *First-Generation Students in Postsecondary Education: A Look at their College Transcripts*, Xianglei Chen, National Center for Educational Statistics, 2005.

¹⁵ Ibid.

between the ages of 25 and 34 have completed high school or less as their highest level of education, compared to 36 percent of young adults whose parents were both born in the U.S.¹⁶ Helping these immigrant Americans to complete postsecondary education would greatly facilitate their full participation in the economy and society, to the benefit of all.

In 2008, 55 percent of high school graduates from the lowest income quintile enrolled in college directly from high school, compared to 80 percent of those from the top quintile.¹⁷ Low-income students are more likely to attend institutions with lower graduation rates and to attend part-time.¹⁸ As a result of these and other factors, four of five 24-year-olds in the upper income quartile hold four-year college degrees; this compares to only one of 10 in the lowest income quartile.¹⁹

Because people who complete postsecondary education earn more throughout their lives, these gaps in attainment increase income inequality. As in most advanced economies around the world, unequal success rates in postsecondary education are a major contributor to income inequality.²⁰

Put bluntly, this is an intolerable situation. We are all diminished as Americans by an education system that effectively rations postsecondary opportunity based on people's skin color, income or family status. Not only will the nation fall short of the attainment levels it needs unless these gaps are closed, the fact that the gaps exist must be rejected on moral

grounds, given the increasingly severe consequences of not obtaining a postsecondary credential. America's democracy and its economy are ill-served by a system that fails to tap all of our talent. At Lumina, we will redouble our efforts to close these gaps through our work, and we call upon all of our partners and stakeholders to do the same.

A national imperative

Throughout the nation, there is a much broader and deeper understanding of the need to increase postsecondary attainment. In recent years, some version of Goal 2025 has been adopted by or has become a major influence on the federal government, a majority of states, national higher education associations, many individual colleges and universities, and communities throughout the U.S. — including several large metropolitan regions.

We know we cannot reach the goal solely through our own efforts. Reaching Goal 2025 depends on the mobilization of thousands of educators (including faculty and administrators), elected officials, community leaders, business leaders, and other citizens — all of whom must understand the need to increase attainment and be willing to act to make it happen. It is our sincere hope that *Stronger Nation* and the data it presents will help guide and support those efforts to increase attainment throughout the nation.

¹⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2009.

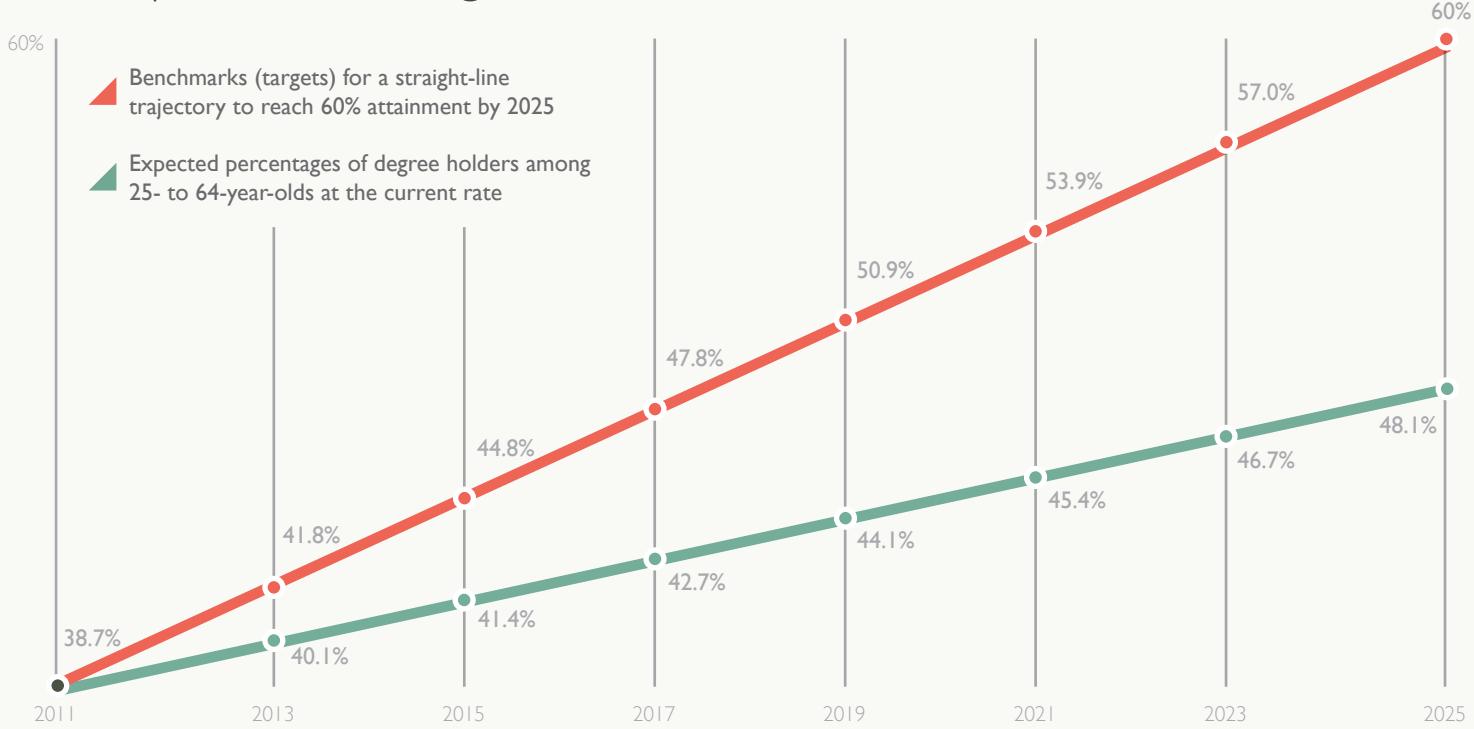
¹⁷ National Center for Education Statistics, 2010

¹⁸ *Education Pays 2010*, The College Board

¹⁹ Postsecondary Education Opportunity, Bachelor's Degree Attainment by Age 24 by Family Income Quartiles, 1970 to 2008.

²⁰ *The Race between Education and Technology*, Claudia Goldin and Lawrence F. Katz, 2008

The path to 60% degree attainment in the United States



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

Measuring progress toward Goal 2025: Lumina's metrics

Lumina believes the first step in reaching Goal 2025 is for individuals and groups to commit to a specific and challenging goal to increase higher education attainment. We also believe data and metrics are essential to measure progress, to keep people engaged and on track, and to modify and refine approaches. This commitment to evidence-based decisions and action is reflected in our Strategic Plan, which is meant to guide Lumina's work through 2016.

Clearly, the gains we expect to make during the plan's relatively brief period won't amount to full achievement of Goal 2025.

Still, significant progress must be made in those years, and that progress must be measurable. For this reason, Lumina has identified a set of metrics — 10 contributing goals or aims, 10 quantifiable targets, if you will — that we expect to hit by 2016. We're convinced that, by hitting these interim targets, we'll stay on track to achieve Goal 2025.

Those 10 metrics — all targets for achievement by 2016 — are:

1. Increase the percentage of Americans who believe increasing higher education attainment is necessary to the nation to 55 percent.
2. Increase the percentage of students who pursue postsecondary education directly from high school to 67.8 percent.
3. Increase the first-time participation rates of older adults to 1.3 percent.
4. Increase higher education enrollment among Hispanic students to 3.3 million.
5. Increase higher education enrollment among African-American students to 3.25 million.
6. Increase total higher education enrollment by 4 million students to 22 million.
7. Reduce by 800,000 the number of working-age adults (25-64 years old) with some college and no degree.
8. Increase the overall higher education completion rate (first-time/full-time, within 6 years) to 60 percent.
9. Increase the higher education completion rate to 48 percent for adult learners (ages 25-64).
10. Increase the number of associate and bachelor's degrees awarded annually to 3 million.

The first step in reaching Goal 2025 is for individuals and groups to commit to a specific and challenging goal to increase higher education attainment. Data and metrics are also essential to measure progress, keep people engaged and on track, and to modify and refine approaches.

The illustration on the following page shows how we will gauge our performance against those metrics. For each target, we use 2012 as the baseline year, and we've also established an interim target for 2014. Finally, to better understand trends, we offer, when possible, a measure of past performance (2009) on each metric.

In addition to the performance-measurement efforts described here, we also plan to develop several new indicators between now and 2016. Those new indicators include:

- A data-collection source for developmental education (academic preparedness) to measure the increase in the percentage of students who are academically prepared to enter postsecondary education. The proposed target is to increase the number of students not requiring developmental education by 20 percent.
- A standardized way to collect data on prior learning assessment. The proposed target is to increase the number of students receiving credit based on assessment of prior learning to 40 percent (from a current rate of 24 percent, based on a 2010 study by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning [CAEL]).
- A data-collection source for "transparent pathways" based on the adoption of Lumina-developed approaches. The proposed target is that 10.3 million postsecondary certificate holders gain transparent pathways to associate and baccalaureate degrees.
- A method to count and capture high-quality certificates. The proposed target is 8 percent in 2025.

We strive to use all of our metrics to accurately gauge and improve our own work. We also are seeing an increased interest in and use of metrics among our grantees, our partner organizations and throughout the field. We believe it is important and necessary to improve metrics and data use throughout postsecondary education, and we will continue to support such efforts.

Ten targets the nation must hit by 2016

55%

55% of Americans believe increasing college attainment is necessary to the nation.

Data source: Gallup Poll

2012 baseline — 43%
2014 target — 48%

22 million

In total, 22 million students are enrolled in college.

Data source: NCES

2009 — 17.6 million
2012 baseline — 18.1 million
2014 target — 20 million

67.8%

67.8% of students pursue postsecondary education directly from high school.

Data source: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)

2009 — 63.3%
2012 baseline — 62.5%
2014 target — 66.2%

800,000 fewer

800,000 fewer working-age adults (ages 25-64) have some college but no degree.

Data source: US Census, American Community Survey

2009 — 36.1 million
2012 baseline — 36.3 million
2014 target — 36 million

1.3%

1.3% of older adults are first-time participants in higher education.

Data source: NCES, American Community Survey

2009 — 0.9%
2012 baseline — 1.1%
2014 target — 1.2%

60%

60% of first-time, full-time students complete college within six years.

Data source: National Student Clearinghouse

2012 baseline — 54%
2014 target — 56%

3.3 million

3.3 million Hispanic students are enrolled in college.

Data source: NCES

2009 — 2.4 million
2012 baseline — 2.5 million
2014 target — 2.9 million

48%

48% of adult learners (ages 25-64) complete higher education.

Data source: National Student Clearinghouse

2012 baseline — 42%
2014 target — 45%

3.25 million

3.25 million African-American students are enrolled.

Data source: NCES

2009 — 2.6 million
2012 baseline — 2.7 million
2014 target — 3 million

3 million

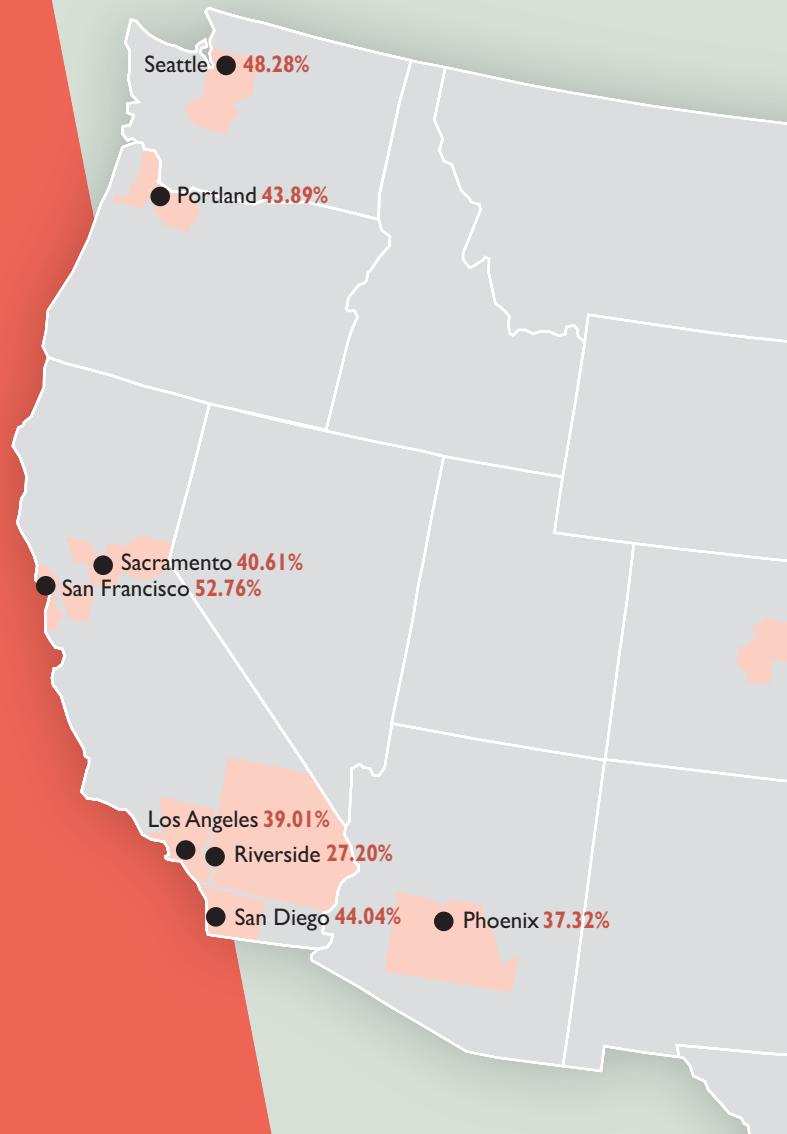
3 million associate and bachelor's degrees are awarded annually.

Data source: NCES

2009 — 2.4 million
2012 baseline — 2.5 million
2014 target — 2.7 million

Rank by population

1	New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.	19.0 million
2	Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif.	12.9 million
3	Chicago-Joliet-Naperville, Ill.	9.5 million
4	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, Texas	6.5 million
5	Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, Texas	6.1 million
6	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, Pa.	6.0 million
7	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, D.C.	5.7 million
8	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, Fla.	5.7 million
9	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, Ga.	5.4 million
10	Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, Mass.	4.6 million
11	San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, Calif.	4.4 million
13	Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, Calif.	4.3 million
12	Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Mich.	4.3 million
14	Phoenix-Mesa-Glendale, Ariz.	4.3 million
15	Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, Wash.	3.5 million
16	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, Minn.	3.3 million
17	San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, Calif.	3.1 million
18	Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, Fla.	2.8 million
19	St. Louis, Mo.	2.8 million
20	Baltimore-Towson, Md.	2.7 million
21	Denver-Aurora-Broomfield, Colo.	2.6 million
22	Pittsburgh, Pa.	2.4 million
23	Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, Ore.	2.3 million
24	San Antonio-New Braunfels, Texas	2.2 million
25	Sacramento/Arden-Arcade/Roseville, Calif.	2.2 million



Rank by degree attainment

1	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, D.C.	54.73%
2	Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, Ga.	54.25%
3	San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, Calif.	52.76%
4	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, Minn.	50.65%
5	Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, Wash.	48.28%
6	Denver-Aurora-Broomfield, Colo.	47.69%
7	New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.	46.01%
8	Baltimore-Towson, Md.	44.52%
9	San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, Calif.	44.04%
10	Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, Ore.	43.89%
11	Chicago-Joliet-Naperville, Ill.	43.74%
12	Pittsburgh, Pa.	43.58%
13	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, Ga.	43.32%
14	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, Pa.	42.72%
15	St. Louis, Mo.	41.70%
16	Sacramento/Arden-Arcade/Roseville, Calif.	40.61%
17	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, Fla.	39.27%
18	Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, Calif.	39.01%
19	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, Texas	38.86%
20	Detroit-Warren-Livonia, Mich.	38.32%
21	Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, Fla.	37.35%
22	Phoenix-Mesa-Glendale, Ariz.	37.32%
23	Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, Texas	35.55%
24	San Antonio-New Braunfels, Texas	34.50%
25	Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, Calif.	27.20%

College attainment in the 25 most populous metropolitan areas in the continental U.S.



Note: This map denotes Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). The term MSA refers to a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of social and economic integration with that core. MSAs comprise one or more entire counties, except in New England, where cities and towns are the basic geographic units. The federal Office of Management and Budget defines MSAs for purposes of collecting, tabulating and publishing federal data. These definitions result from applying published standards to Census Bureau data.

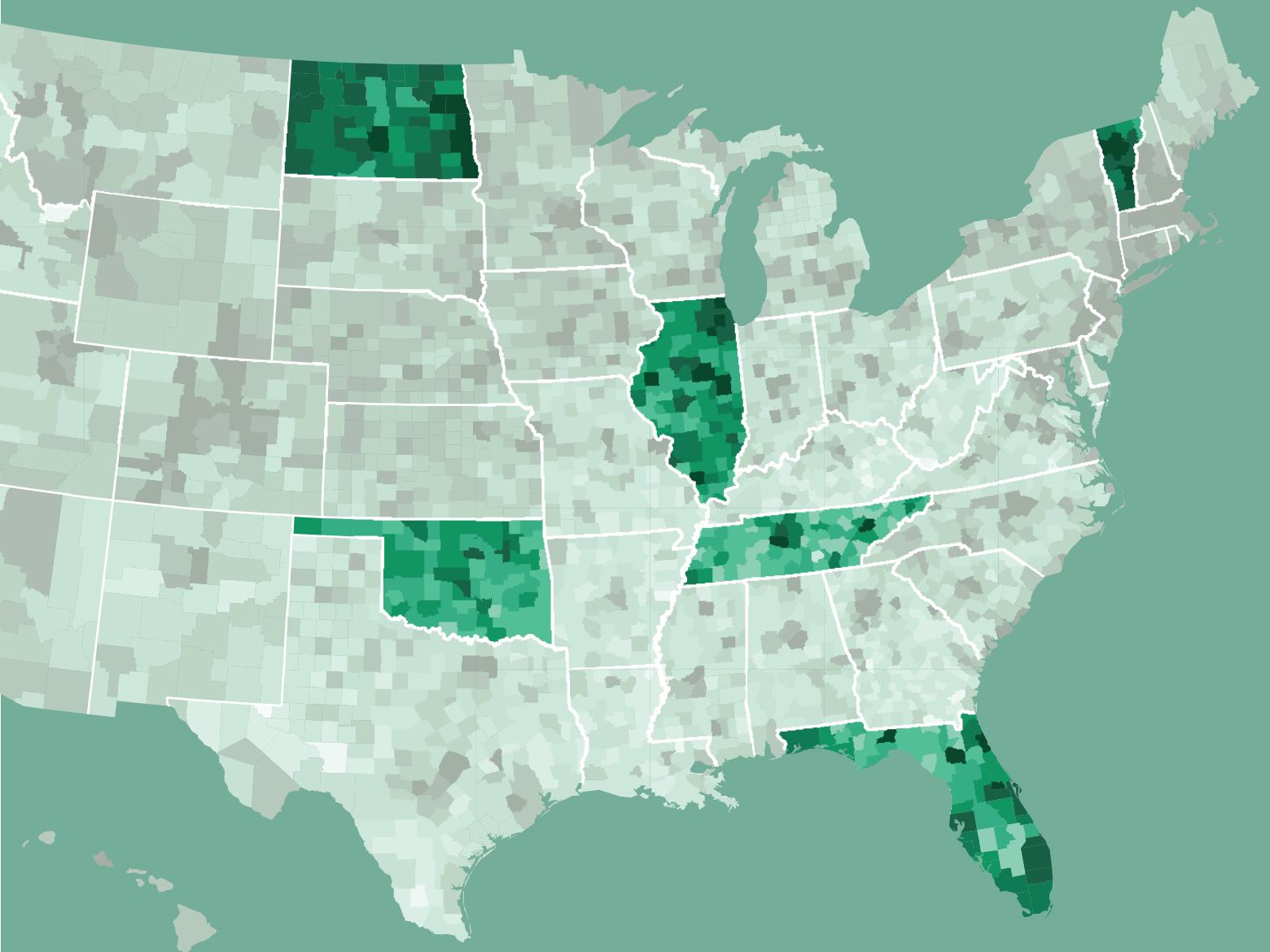
Percentage of adults (25-64) with at least an associate degree, by metropolitan area

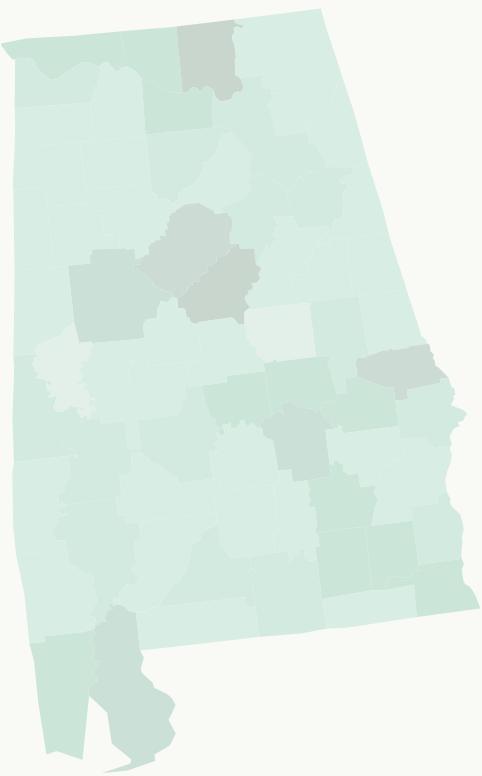
	Percent with at least an associate degree	Total Population 2011	2011 Population Rank		Percent with at least an associate degree	Total Population 2011	2011 Population Rank
Akron, OH	39.26	701,456	76	Madison, WI	54.81	576,467	90
Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY	49.27	871,478	60	McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX	21.21	797,810	69
Albuquerque, NM	37.89	898,642	58	Memphis, TN-MS-AR	33.52	1,325,605	42
Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA-NJ	38.84	824,916	65	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL	39.27	5,670,125	8
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA	43.32	5,359,205	9	Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI	42.48	1,562,216	40
Augusta-Richmond County, GA-SC	33.25	561,858	93	Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI	50.65	3,318,486	16
Austin-Round Rock-San Marcos, TX	47.48	1,783,519	35	Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro-Franklin, TN	39.42	1,617,142	38
Bakersfield-Delano, CA	21.35	851,710	62	New Haven-Milford, CT	42.71	861,113	61
Baltimore-Towson, MD	44.52	2,729,110	20	New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner, LA	33.73	1,191,089	47
Baton Rouge, LA	32.73	808,242	67	New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-PA	46.01	19,015,900	1
Birmingham-Hoover, AL	37.54	1,132,264	51	North Port-Bradenton-Sarasota, FL	37.09	709,355	74
Boise City-Nampa, ID	38.79	627,664	86	Ogden-Clearfield, UT	40.13	555,916	94
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA-NH	54.25	4,591,112	10	Oklahoma City, OK	35.86	1,278,053	44
Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk, CT	52.86	925,899	57	Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	43.97	877,110	59
Buffalo-Niagara Falls, NY	44.82	1,134,039	50	Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL	39.75	2,171,360	27
Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL	32.19	631,330	85	Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura, CA	40.25	831,771	64
Charleston-North Charleston-Summerville, SC	41.34	682,121	79	Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville, FL	39.34	543,566	97
Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC	43.71	1,795,472	34	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE-MD	42.72	5,992,414	6
Chattanooga, TN-GA	32.16	533,372	99	Phoenix-Mesa-Glendale, AZ	37.32	4,263,236	14
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville, IL-IN-WI	43.74	9,504,753	3	Pittsburgh, PA	43.58	2,359,746	23
Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN	39.72	2,138,038	28	Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA	43.89	2,262,605	24
Cleveland-Elyria-Mentor, OH	38.71	2,068,283	29	Poughkeepsie-Newburgh-Middletown, NY	42.76	672,871	80
Colorado Springs, CO	46.87	660,319	82	Providence-New Bedford-Fall River, RI-MA	40.88	1,600,224	39
Columbia, SC	40.04	777,116	71	Provo-Orem, UT	46.67	540,834	98
Columbus, OH	42.94	1,858,464	33	Raleigh-Cary, NC	52.64	1,163,515	48
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX	38.86	6,526,548	4	Richmond, VA	40.49	1,269,380	45
Dayton, OH	36.49	845,388	63	Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario, CA	27.20	4,304,997	12
Denver-Aurora-Broomfield, CO	47.69	2,599,504	21	Rochester, NY	47.72	1,055,278	52
Des Moines-West Des Moines, IA	48.10	580,255	89	Sacramento-—Arden-Arcade-Roseville, CA	40.61	2,176,235	26
Detroit-Warren-Livonia, MI	38.32	4,285,832	13	Salt Lake City, UT	39.76	1,145,905	49
El Paso, TX	28.97	820,790	66	San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX	34.50	2,194,927	25
Fresno, CA	27.90	942,904	56	San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, CA	44.04	3,140,069	17
Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	38.32	779,604	70	San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA	52.76	4,391,037	11
Greensboro-High Point, NC	36.09	730,966	72	San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA	54.15	1,865,450	32
Greenville-Mauldin-Easley, SC	37.88	647,401	84	San Juan-Caguas-Guaynabo, PR	38.00	2,468,598	22
Harrisburg-Carlisle, PA	40.05	552,911	95	Scranton-Wilkes-Barre, PA	35.44	563,223	91
Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford, CT	46.40	1,213,255	46	Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA	48.28	3,500,026	15
Honolulu, HI	44.45	963,607	54	Springfield, MA	41.00	693,204	78
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX	35.55	6,086,538	5	St. Louis, MO-IL	41.70	2,817,355	19
Indianapolis-Carmel, IN	40.98	1,778,568	36	Stockton, CA	26.75	696,214	77
Jackson, MS	38.57	545,394	96	Syracuse, NY	43.91	662,553	81
Jacksonville, FL	37.20	1,360,251	41	Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	37.35	2,824,724	18
Kansas City, MO-KS	42.74	2,052,676	30	Toledo, OH	35.14	650,266	83
Knoxville, TN	39.09	704,500	75	Tucson, AZ	37.92	989,569	53
Lakeland-Winter Haven, FL	27.02	609,492	88	Tulsa, OK	36.03	946,962	55
Lancaster, PA	31.74	523,594	100	Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC	38.55	1,679,894	37
Las Vegas-Paradise, NV	29.59	1,969,975	31	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV	54.73	5,703,948	7
Little Rock-North Little Rock-Conway, AR	35.66	709,901	73	Wichita, KS	36.64	625,526	87
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Santa Ana, CA	39.01	12,944,801	2	Worcester, MA	46.61	801,227	68
Louisville/Jefferson County, KY-IN	35.36	1,294,849	43	Youngstown-Warren-Boardman, OH-PA	29.38	562,739	92

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census and 2009-11 American Community Survey Three-Year Estimates

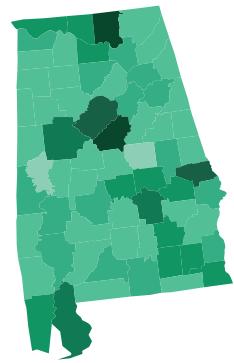
Note: This chart lists Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). The term MSA refers to a large population nucleus, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of social and economic integration with that core. MSAs comprise one or more entire counties, except in New England, where cities and towns are the basic geographic units. The federal Office of Management and Budget defines MSAs for purposes of collecting, tabulating and publishing federal data. These definitions result from applying published standards to Census Bureau data.

State profiles





Alabama



In Alabama, 31.9 percent of the state's 2.5 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Alabama's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 31.5 percent. Also, Alabama'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, however, some reason for optimism. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the attainment rate of young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Alabama, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 33.4 percent, higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Alabama are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. However, Alabama's attainment rate among young adults is still well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Alabama is making some progress, but it has a long way to go. In Alabama and nationally, college attainment rates must increase more rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 38 percent of Alabama's adult population — 888,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 2,338,088, Alabama will need to add more than 514,000 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, 373,000 of the expected 680,000 job

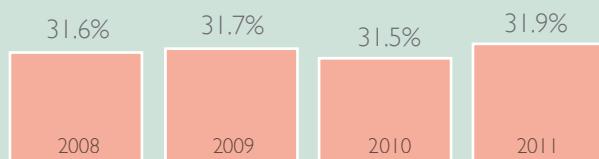
vacancies in Alabama will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 55 percent of all Alabama jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

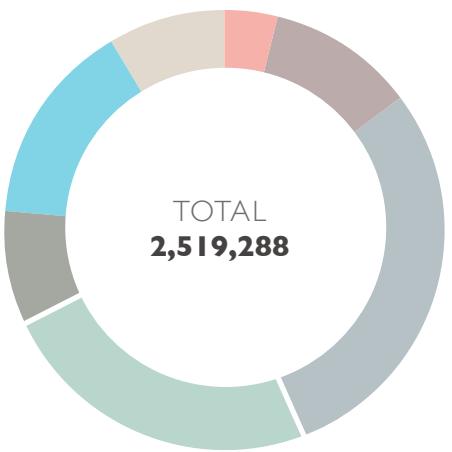
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, nearly 590,000 Alabama adults — 23.4 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Alabama 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 Alabama 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. Alabama 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 Alabama'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 Alabama adults (ages 25-64)

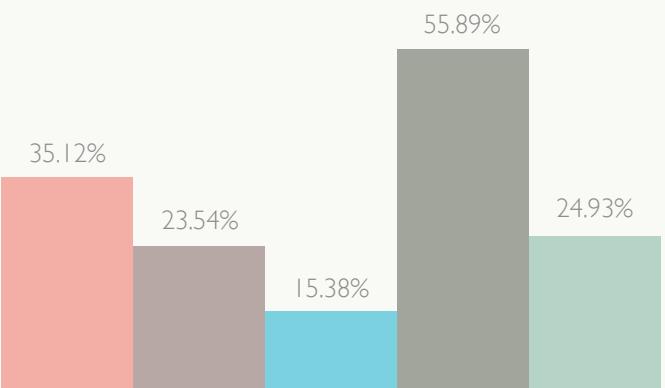
Less than ninth grade	102,359	4.06%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	270,537	10.74%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	753,606	29.91%
Some college, no degree	588,997	23.38%
Associate degree	209,930	8.33%
Bachelor's degree	379,422	15.06%
Graduate or professional degree	214,437	8.51%

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

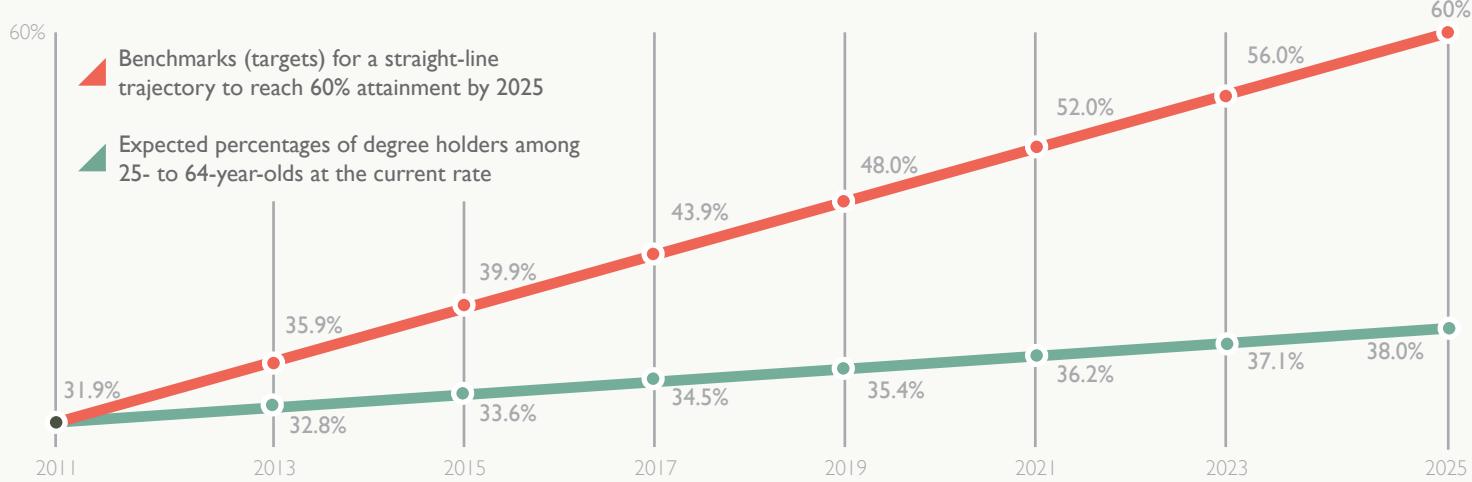
Degree-attainment rates among Alabama adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	35.12%
Black	23.54%
Hispanic	15.38%
Asian	55.89%
Native American	24.93%

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

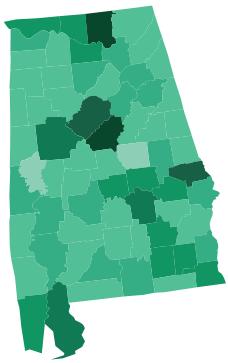


The path to 60% degree attainment in Alabama



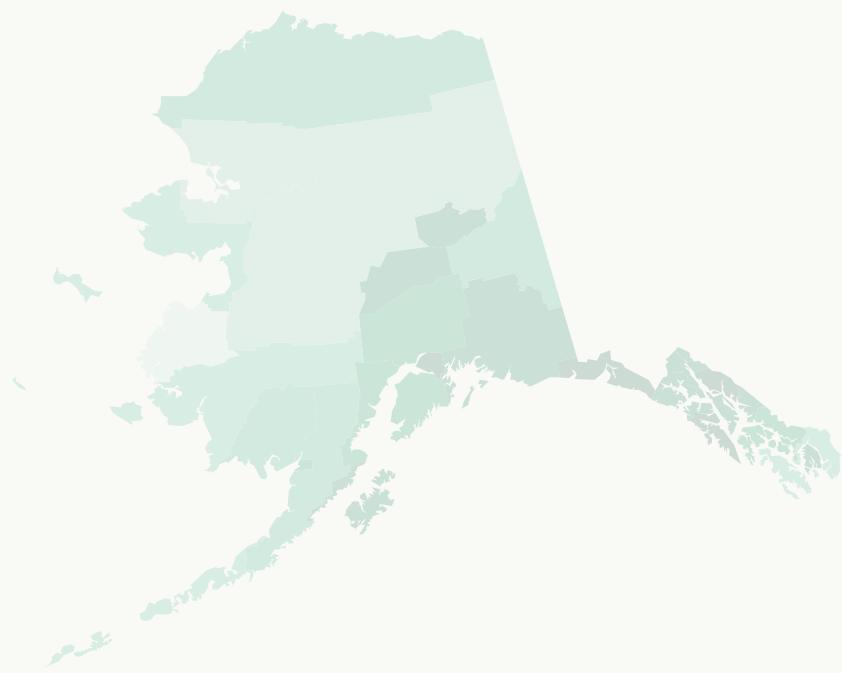
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

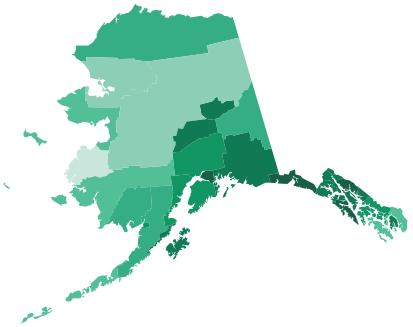


Autauga	32.34	Clarke	22.60	DeKalb	18.80	Jefferson	39.49	Mobile	29.56	Talladega	21.02
Baldwin	37.35	Clay	18.01	Elmore	29.27	Lamar	17.23	Monroe	17.54	Tallapoosa	27.19
Barbour	21.11	Cleburne	17.50	Escambia	22.17	Lauderdale	29.58	Montgomery	38.58	Tuscaloosa	34.02
Bibb	17.95	Coffee	33.29	Etowah	26.48	Lawrence	22.14	Morgan	27.92	Walker	19.20
Blount	19.59	Colbert	26.71	Fayette	20.24	Lee	40.51	Perry	20.64	Washington	16.77
Bullock	20.71	Conecuh	25.01	Franklin	19.76	Limestone	30.05	Pickens	17.80	Wilcox	19.89
Butler	22.04	Coosa	13.75	Geneva	19.46	Lowndes	19.67	Pike	28.55	Winston	19.69
Calhoun	24.12	Covington	23.31	Greene	13.89	Macon	27.86	Randolph	20.70		
Chambers	20.26	Crenshaw	19.83	Hale	17.88	Madison	46.77	Russell	22.32		
Cherokee	18.32	Cullman	25.71	Henry	23.28	Marengo	25.88	St. Clair	23.88		
Chilton	20.13	Dale	29.68	Houston	29.82	Marion	18.16	Shelby	50.37		
Choctaw	19.31	Dallas	22.58	Jackson	21.54	Marshall	24.54	Sumter	22.81		

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



Alaska



In Alaska, 34.4 percent of the state's 398,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Alaska's attainment rate is actually declining; last year, the rate was 37.3 percent. Also, Alaska'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 Alaska. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Alaska, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at just 31.9 percent, lower than that of the adult population as a whole. What's more, Alaska's attainment rate among young adults is well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Alaska 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, about 36 percent of Alaska's adult population — 141,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 391,697, Alaska will need to add nearly 94,000 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, 65,000 of the expected 104,000 job

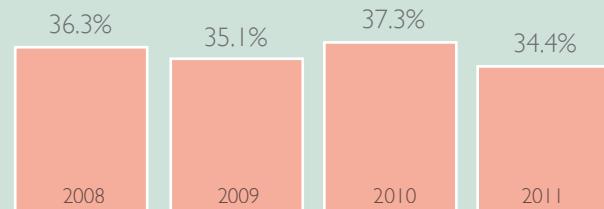
vacancies in Alaska will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 63 percent of all Alaska jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

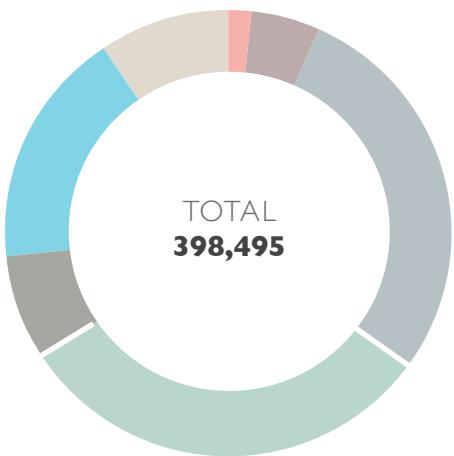
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 121,000 Alaska adults — 30.4 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Alaska 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 Alaska 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. Alaska 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 Alaska'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 Alaska adults (ages 25-64)

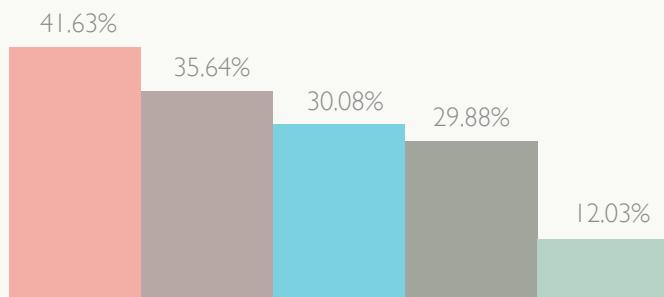
Less than ninth grade	7,276	1.83%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	19,502	4.89%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	113,520	28.49%
Some college, no degree	121,037	30.37%
Associate degree	31,380	7.87%
Bachelor's degree	68,837	17.27%
Graduate or professional degree	36,943	9.27%

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

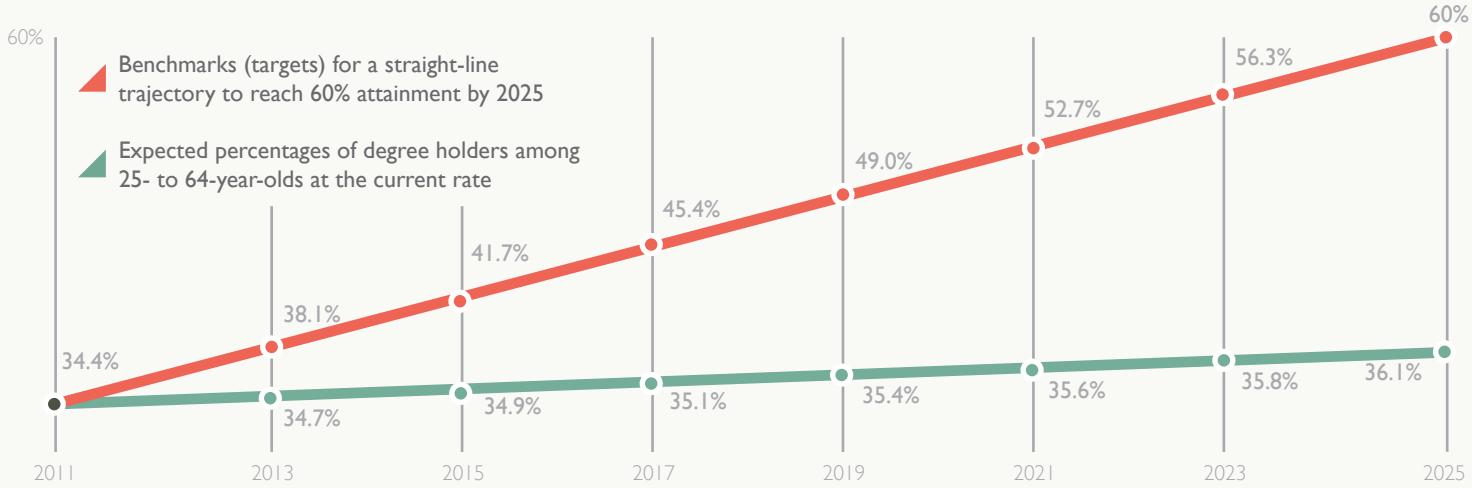
Degree-attainment rates among Alaska adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	41.63%
Black	35.64%
Hispanic	30.08%
Asian	29.88%
Native American	12.03%

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

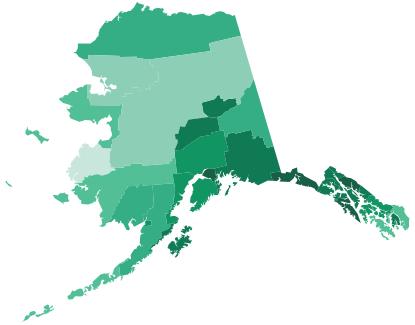


The path to 60% degree attainment in Alaska



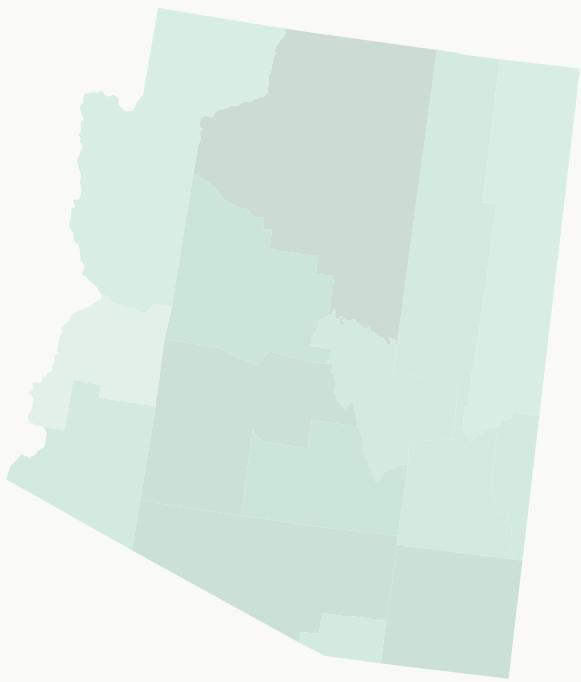
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

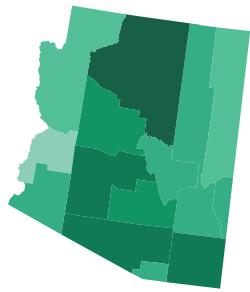


Aleutians East Borough	20.79	Juneau City and Borough	42.25	Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area	21.93
Aleutians West Census Area	17.00	Kenai Peninsula Borough	30.73	Sitka City and Borough	44.03
Anchorage Municipality	41.95	Ketchikan Gateway Borough	35.59	Skagway Municipality	34.99
Bethel Census Area	17.09	Kodiak Island Borough	35.46	Southeast Fairbanks Census Area	26.68
Bristol Bay Borough	28.82	Lake and Peninsula Borough	26.03	Valdez-Cordova Census Area	34.11
Denali Borough	35.86	Matanuska-Susitna Borough	31.17	Wade Hampton Census Area	9.76
Dillingham Census Area	25.67	Nome Census Area	21.10	Wrangell City and Borough	32.00
Fairbanks North Star Borough	37.41	North Slope Borough	23.36	Yakutat City and Borough	39.78
Haines Borough	37.71	Northwest Arctic Borough	15.74	Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area	16.23
Hoonah-Angoon Census Area	36.59	Petersburg Census Area	34.90		

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



Arizona



In Arizona, 35.8 percent of the state's 3.3 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Arizona's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 35.1 percent. Still, Arizona'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 also rising, but again, 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 Arizona. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Arizona, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at just 34.5 percent, lower than that of the adult population as a whole. What's more, Arizona's attainment rate among young adults is below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Arizona 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, about 40 percent of Arizona's adult population — 1.8 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 4,370,192, Arizona will need to add more than 856,000 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, 554,000 of the expected 907,000 job

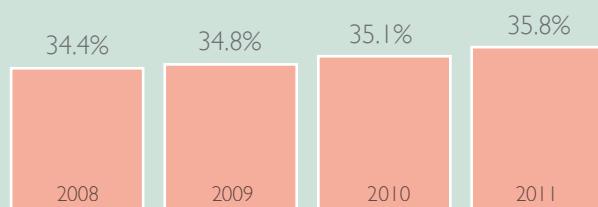
vacancies in Arizona will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 61 percent of all Arizona jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

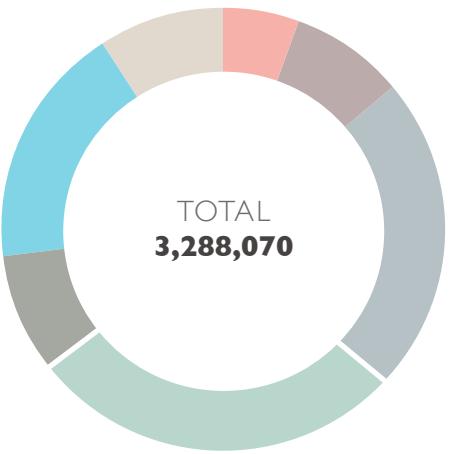
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, nearly 882,000 Arizona adults — 26.8 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Arizona 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 Arizona 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. Arizona 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 Arizona'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 Arizona adults (ages 25-64)

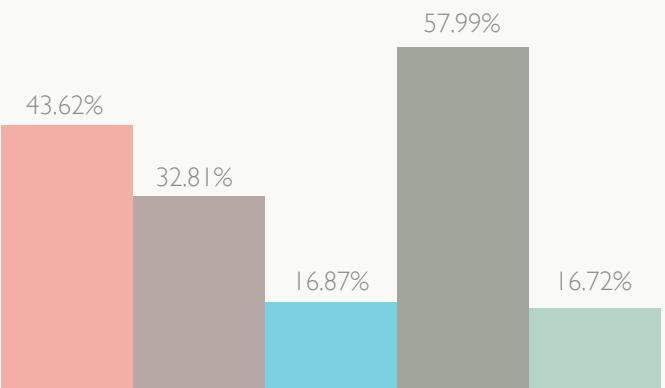
Less than ninth grade	184,668	5.62%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	274,331	8.34%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	771,483	23.46%
Some college, no degree	881,651	26.81%
Associate degree	294,538	8.96%
Bachelor's degree	581,397	17.68%
Graduate or professional degree	300,002	9.12%

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

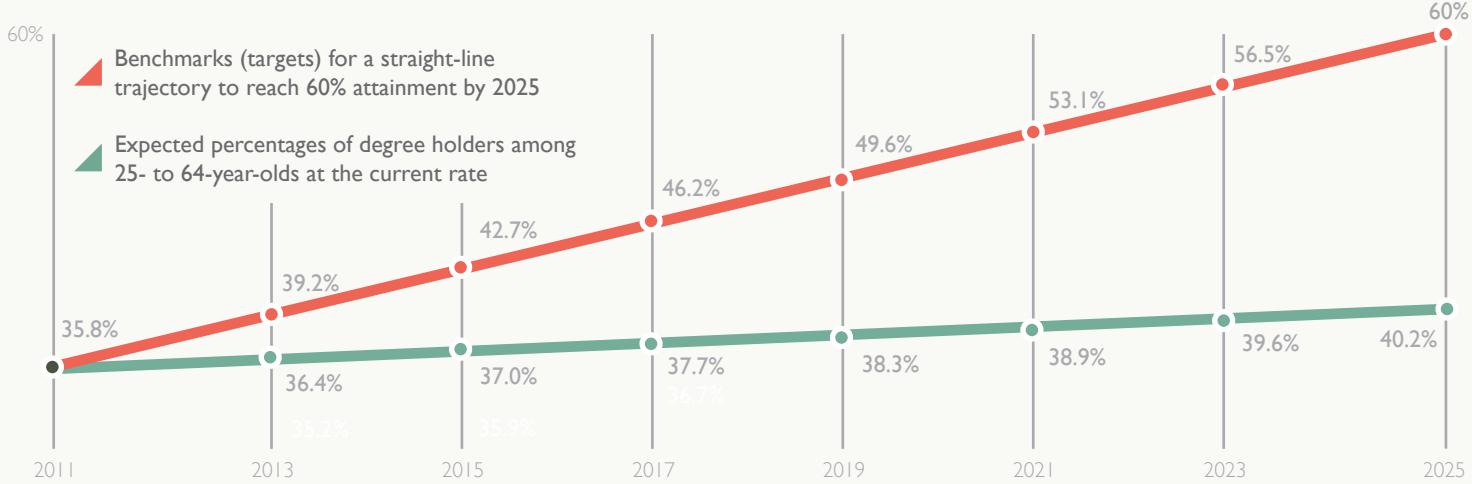
Degree-attainment rates among Arizona adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	43.62%
Black	32.81%
Hispanic	16.87%
Asian	57.99%
Native American	16.72%

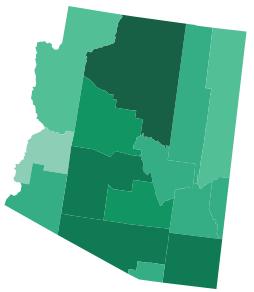
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File



The path to 60% degree attainment in Arizona



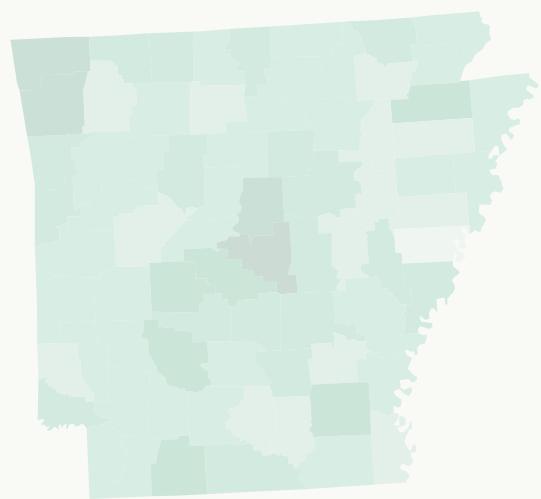
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



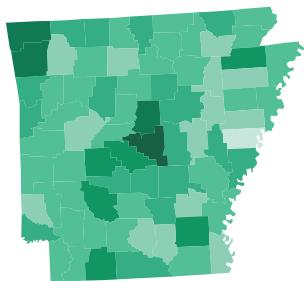
Percentage of Arizona adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Apache	19.26	Gila	24.84	La Paz	14.68	Navajo	24.03	Santa Cruz	22.49
Cochise	33.43	Graham	23.35	Maricopa	38.49	Pima	38.43	Yavapai	32.14
Coconino	40.49	Greenlee	22.41	Mohave	21.11	Pinal	27.82	Yuma	22.53

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



Arkansas



In Arkansas, 28.2 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. Arkansas' attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 27.9 percent. Also, Arkansas' 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 also rising, but again, 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 Arkansas, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 30 percent, higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Arkansas are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. However, Arkansas' attainment rate among young adults is still well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Arkansas is making some progress, but it has a long way to go. In Arkansas and nationally, college attainment rates must increase more rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 35 percent of Arkansas' adult population — roughly 529,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 1,518,793, Arkansas will need to add nearly 383,000 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, 217,000 of the expected 419,000 job

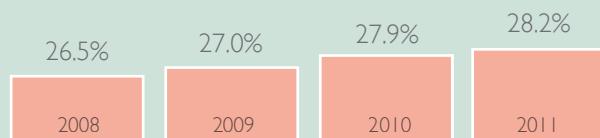
vacancies in Arkansas will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 52 percent of all Arkansas jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

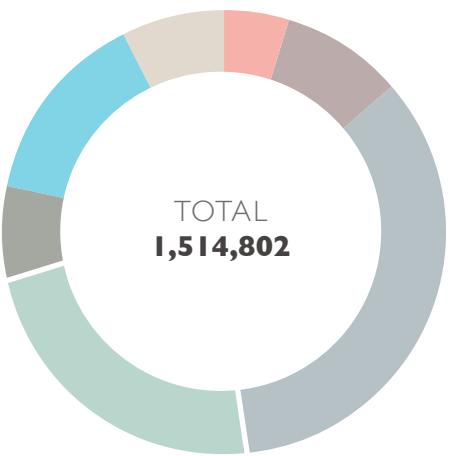
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 351,000 Arkansas adults — 23.2 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Arkansas 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 Arkansas 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. Arkansas 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 Arkansas' 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 Arkansas adults (ages 25-64)

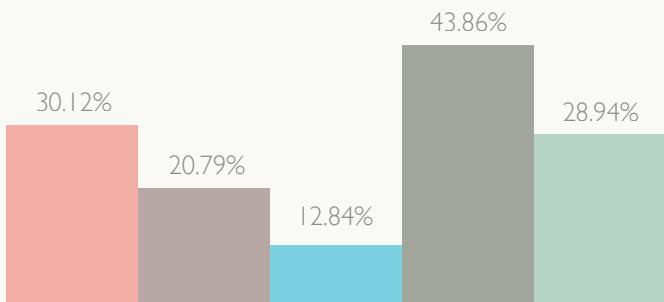
Less than ninth grade	72,849	4.81%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	135,585	8.95%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	528,075	34.86%
Some college, no degree	351,411	23.20%
Associate degree	100,128	6.61%
Bachelor's degree	217,035	14.33%
Graduate or professional degree	109,719	7.24%

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

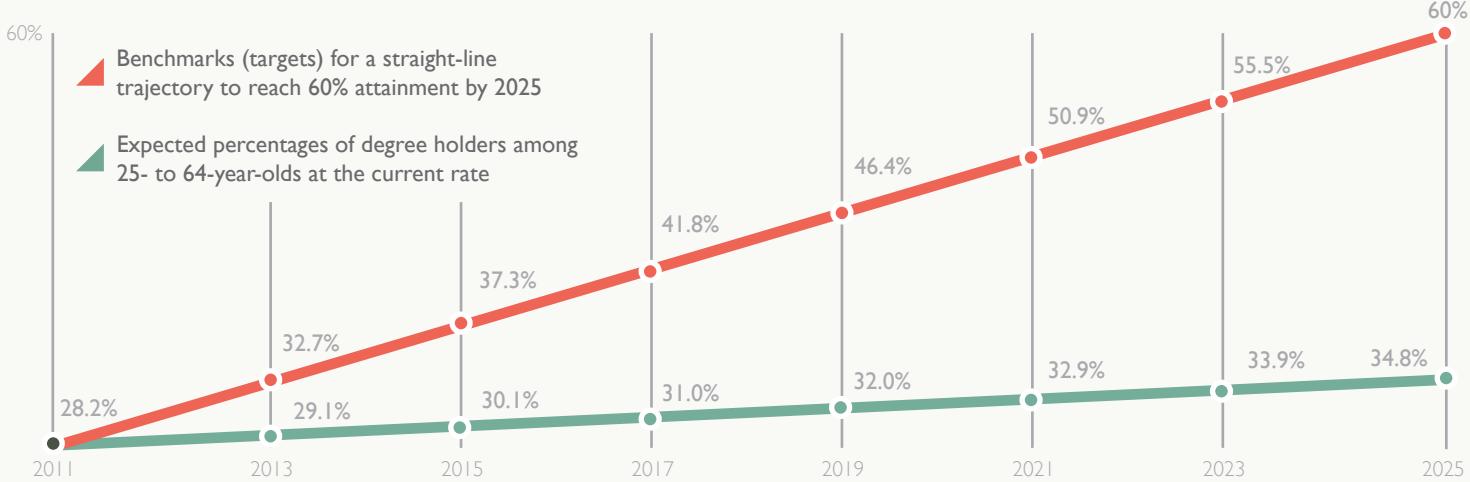
Degree-attainment rates among Arkansas adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	30.12%
Black	20.79%
Hispanic	12.84%
Asian	43.86%
Native American	28.94%

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

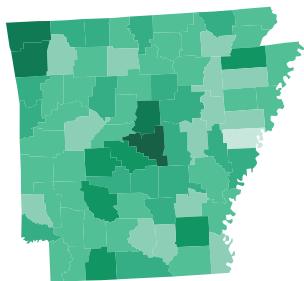


The path to 60% degree attainment in Arkansas



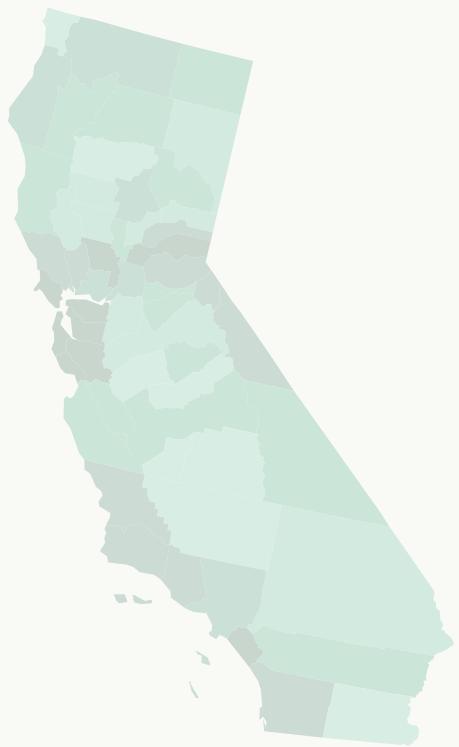
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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



Arkansas	22.03	Columbia	31.70	Grant	23.92	Lincoln	13.25	Perry	16.81	Sebastian	27.69
Ashley	17.81	Conway	20.38	Greene	17.61	Little River	22.40	Phillips	25.32	Sevier	15.25
Baxter	24.21	Craighead	30.70	Hempstead	19.58	Logan	18.87	Pike	20.06	Sharp	19.68
Benton	35.63	Crawford	23.88	Hot Spring	23.35	Lonoke	27.36	Poinsett	15.06	Stone	20.95
Boone	23.03	Crittenden	19.45	Howard	17.18	Madison	16.29	Polk	19.70	Union	26.75
Bradley	15.93	Cross	20.23	Independence	20.41	Marion	21.32	Pope	27.57	Van Buren	19.41
Calhoun	15.31	Dallas	19.49	Izard	18.65	Miller	18.99	Prairie	15.69	Washington	34.26
Carroll	23.13	Desha	20.10	Jackson	15.00	Mississippi	19.19	Pulaski	40.01	White	26.57
Chicot	16.38	Drew	28.43	Jefferson	23.29	Monroe	26.21	Randolph	22.96	Woodruff	14.30
Clark	31.93	Faulkner	34.62	Johnson	20.95	Montgomery	21.96	St. Francis	16.30	Yell	13.92
Clay	17.32	Franklin	19.03	Lafayette	18.34	Nevada	19.77	Saline	31.41		
Cleburne	24.09	Fulton	19.09	Lawrence	16.33	Newton	19.91	Scott	17.67		
Cleveland	22.93	Garland	29.20	Lee	9.73	Ouachita	21.08	Searcy	16.21		

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



California



In California, 38.9 percent of the state's 20 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. California's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 38.8 percent. Also, California's rate of higher education attainment is on par with 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 California. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In California, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 38 percent, lower than that of the adult population as a whole. What's more, California's attainment rate among young adults is below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

California 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, 43 percent of California's adult population — 9.5 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 22,154,167, California will need to add nearly 3.8 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, 3.3 million of the expected 5.5 million

job vacancies in California will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 61 percent of all California jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

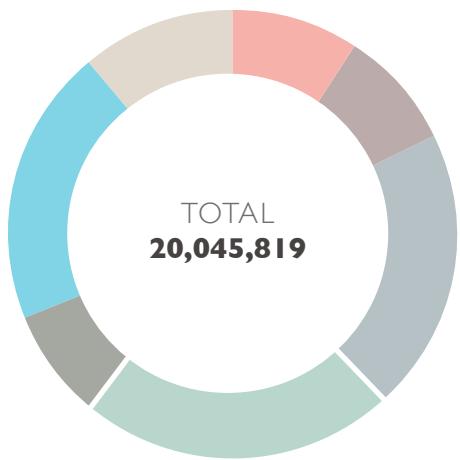
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 4.5 million California adults — 22.5 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping California 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 California 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. California 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 California'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





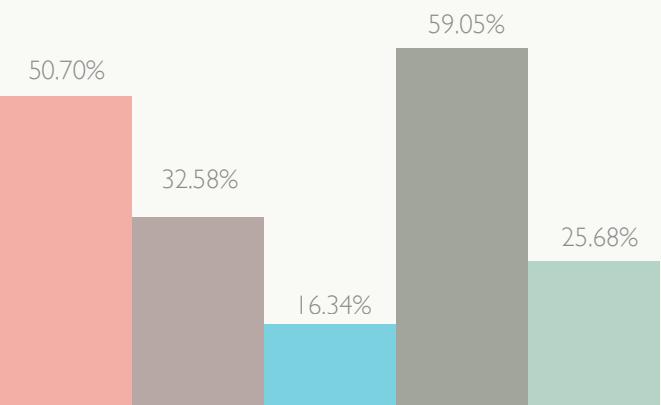
Levels of education for California adults (ages 25-64)

Less than ninth grade	1,859,961	9.28%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	1,745,632	8.71%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	4,130,374	20.60%
Some college, no degree	4,511,756	22.51%
Associate degree	1,588,179	7.92%
Bachelor's degree	4,010,467	20.01%
Graduate or professional degree	2,199,450	10.97%

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

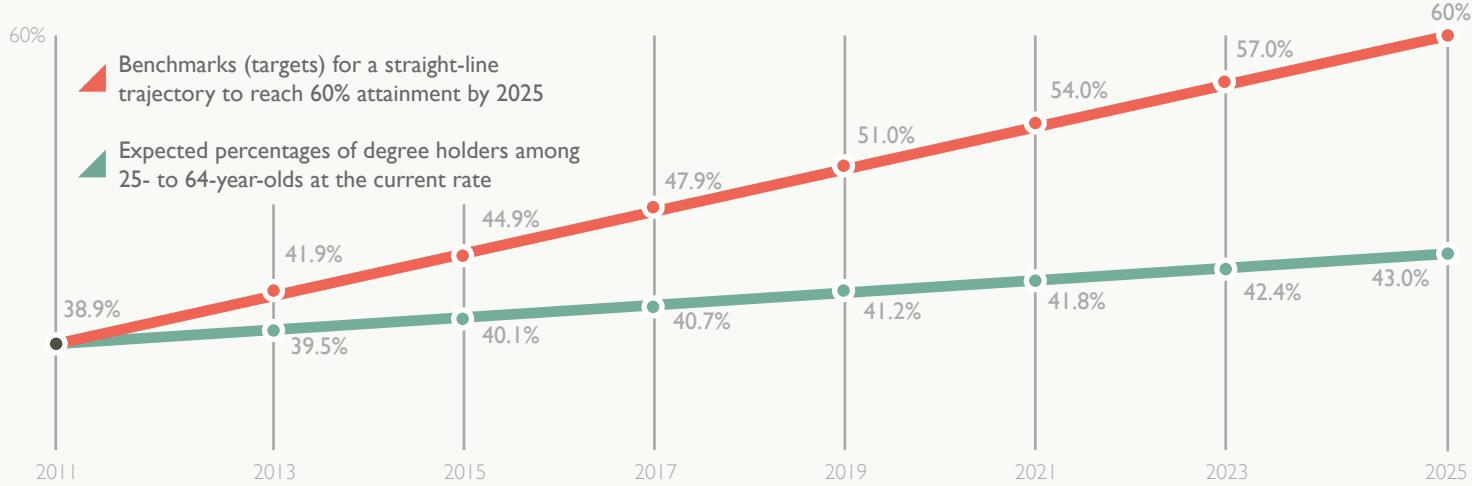
Degree-attainment rates among California adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	50.70%
Black	32.58%
Hispanic	16.34%
Asian	59.05%
Native American	25.68%



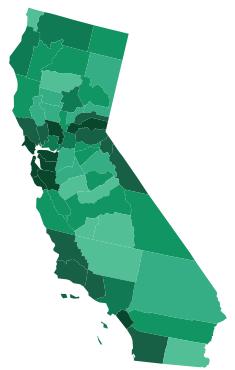
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in California



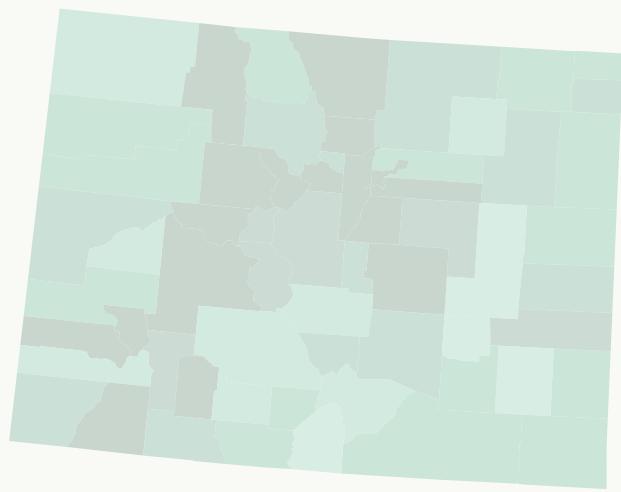
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

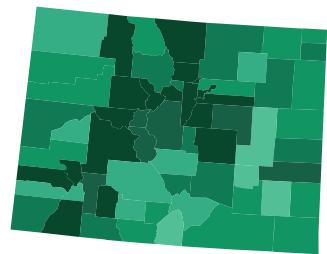


Alameda	50.05	Glenn	22.57	Marin	61.48	Placer	48.49	San Mateo	54.26	Sutter	29.84
Alpine	39.14	Humboldt	36.98	Mariposa	30.07	Plumas	32.88	Santa Barbara	39.99	Tehama	21.24
Amador	29.10	Imperial	21.24	Mendocino	31.72	Riverside	28.25	Santa Clara	55.08	Trinity	29.29
Butte	34.70	Inyo	33.26	Merced	19.75	Sacramento	38.15	Santa Cruz	46.91	Tulare	20.91
Calaveras	31.16	Kern	21.49	Modoc	28.08	San Benito	28.27	Shasta	31.65	Tuolumne	26.45
Colusa	22.63	Kings	20.98	Mono	42.39	San Bernardino	27.33	Sierra	27.29	Ventura	40.48
Contra Costa	47.75	Lake	25.83	Monterey	29.47	San Diego	44.15	Siskiyou	33.52	Yolo	48.14
Del Norte	21.98	Lassen	24.29	Napa	40.29	San Francisco	61.42	Solano	35.48	Yuba	22.65
El Dorado	42.12	Los Angeles	37.34	Nevada	43.47	San Joaquin	26.68	Sonoma	40.44		
Fresno	28.06	Madera	21.53	Orange	45.46	San Luis Obispo	40.90	Stanislaus	24.21		

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



Colorado



In Colorado, 47 percent of the state's 2.8 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Colorado's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 46 percent. Colorado's rate of higher education attainment is well 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.

Still, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Colorado. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Colorado, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 45.5 percent — lower than that of the adult population as a whole, though higher than the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Despite its relative success, Colorado must do better. 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, about 53 percent of Colorado's adult population — 1.4 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 2,715,348, Colorado will need to add more than 195,000 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, 609,000 of the expected 924,000

job vacancies in Colorado will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 67 percent of all Colorado 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, more than 646,000 Colorado adults — 23 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 Colorado reach the 60 percent goal.

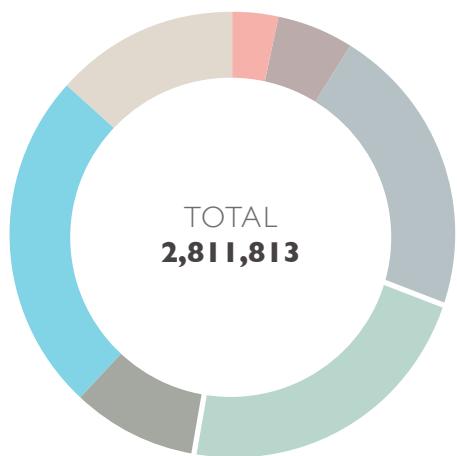
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Colorado county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



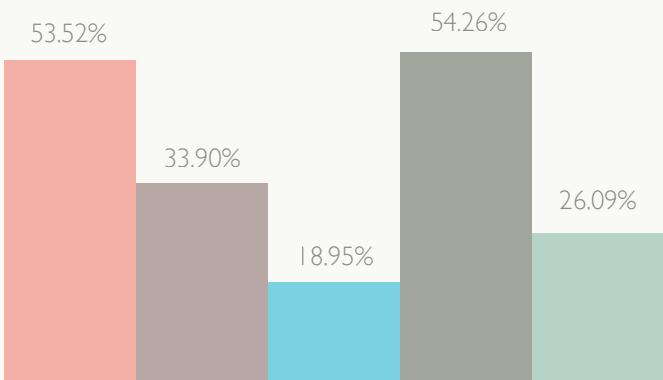
Less than ninth grade	98,201	3.49%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	154,951	5.51%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	591,001	21.02%
Some college, no degree	646,551	22.99%
Associate degree	253,298	9.01%
Bachelor's degree	693,924	24.68%
Graduate or professional degree	373,887	13.30%

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

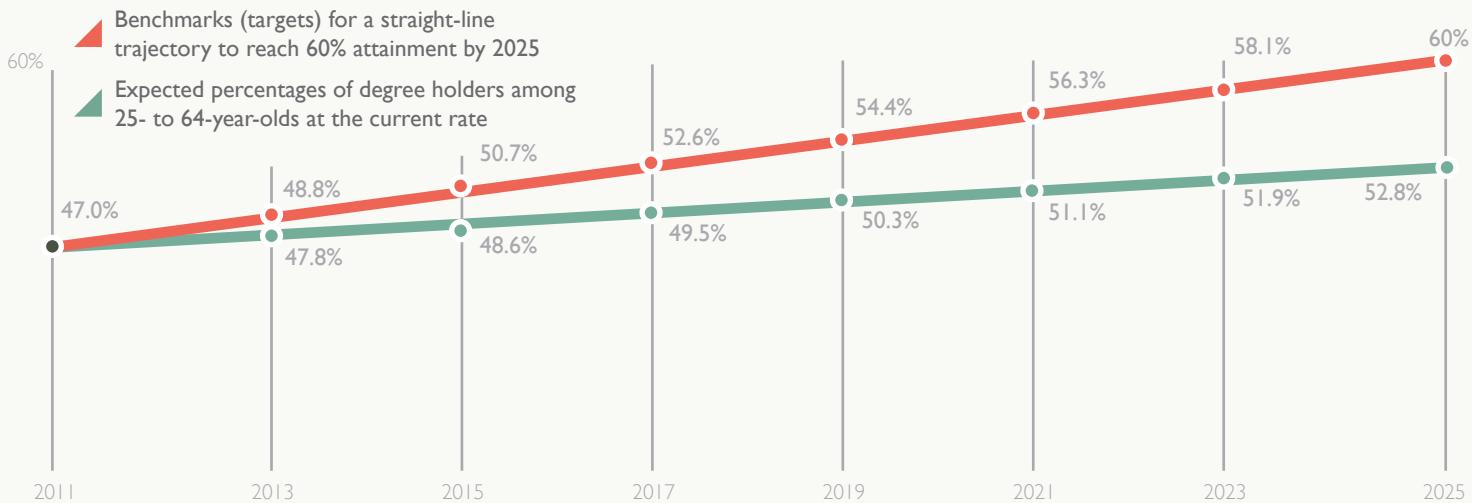
Degree-attainment rates among Colorado adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	53.52%
Black	33.90%
Hispanic	18.95%
Asian	54.26%
Native American	26.09%

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

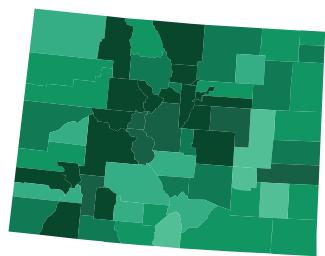


The path to 60% degree attainment in Colorado



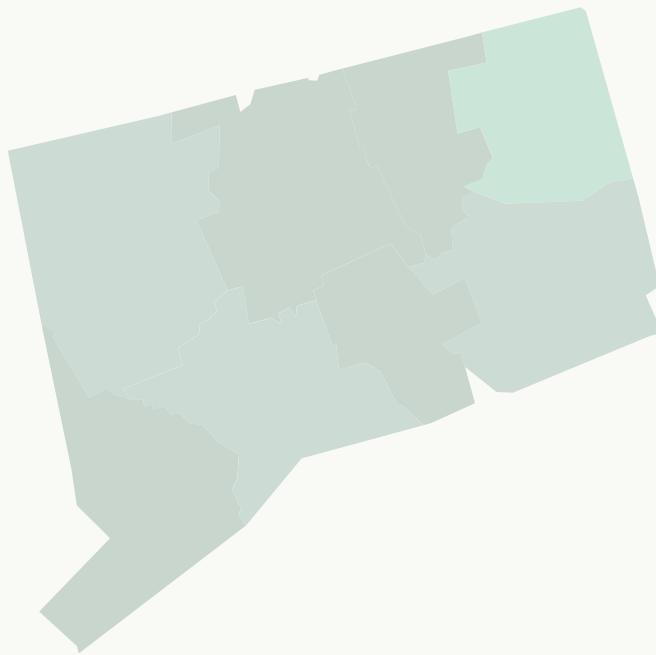
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

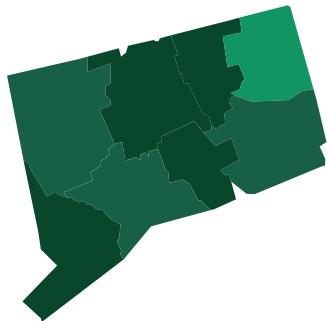


Adams	30.11	Conejos	30.64	Fremont	22.95	Lake	39.28	Morgan	26.28	Saguache	25.98
Alamosa	33.21	Costilla	19.59	Garfield	32.86	La Plata	48.26	Otero	28.61	San Juan	26.05
Arapahoe	47.79	Crowley	17.30	Gilpin	38.51	Larimer	54.53	Ouray	49.03	San Miguel	53.12
Archuleta	38.43	Custer	37.52	Grand	37.23	Las Animas	33.18	Park	41.57	Sedgwick	32.21
Baca	33.01	Delta	27.55	Gunnison	55.06	Lincoln	21.08	Phillips	33.83	Summit	55.27
Bent	18.35	Denver	48.90	Hinsdale	40.37	Logan	29.79	Pitkin	63.50	Teller	38.14
Boulder	65.20	Dolores	25.31	Huerfano	27.66	Mesa	36.94	Prowers	33.28	Washington	33.61
Broomfield	58.79	Douglas	64.48	Jackson	31.22	Mineral	49.65	Pueblo	33.62	Weld	36.41
Chaffee	39.46	Eagle	51.40	Jefferson	50.03	Moffat	23.52	Rio Blanco	33.05	Yuma	29.17
Cheyenne	33.53	Elbert	42.70	Kiowa	42.64	Montezuma	34.59	Rio Grande	25.90		
Clear Creek	45.32	El Paso	46.87	Kit Carson	29.83	Montrose	30.23	Routt	53.98		

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



Connecticut



In Connecticut, 46.4 percent of the state's 1.9 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Connecticut's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 45.8 percent. Connecticut'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.

Still, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Connecticut. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Connecticut, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 46.1 percent, lower than that of the adult population as a whole, though higher than the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Despite its relative success, Connecticut must do better. In this 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 52 percent of Connecticut's adult population — 963,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 1,858,608, Connecticut will need to add more than 152,000 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, 359,000 of the expected 564,000 job vacancies in Connecticut will require postsecondary

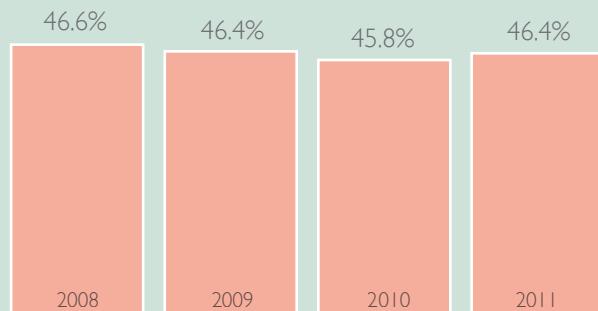
credentials. Indeed, 65 percent of all Connecticut jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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 366,000 Connecticut adults — 19 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 Connecticut reach the 60 percent goal.

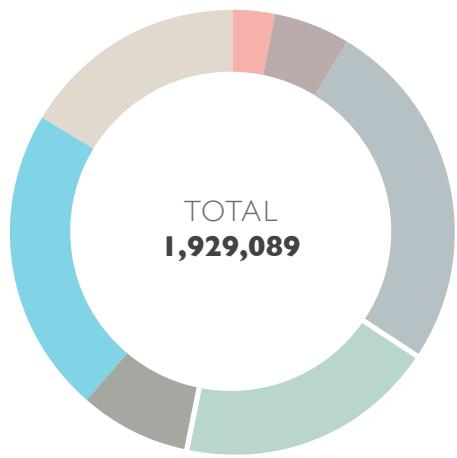
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Connecticut county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



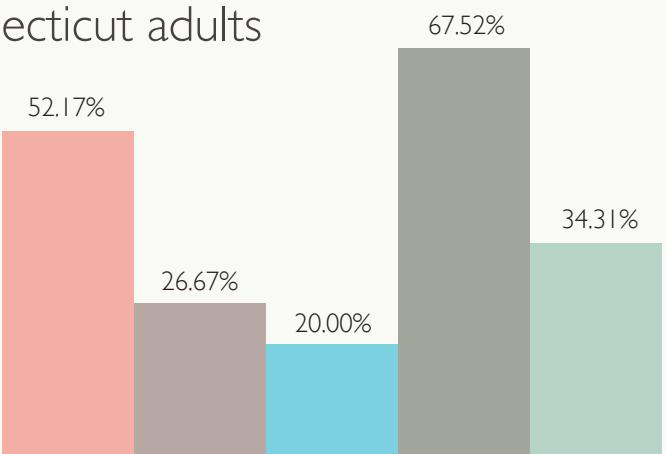
Less than ninth grade	61,528	3.19%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	105,627	5.48%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	501,086	25.98%
Some college, no degree	365,697	18.96%
Associate degree	154,754	8.02%
Bachelor's degree	427,696	22.17%
Graduate or professional degree	312,701	16.21%

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

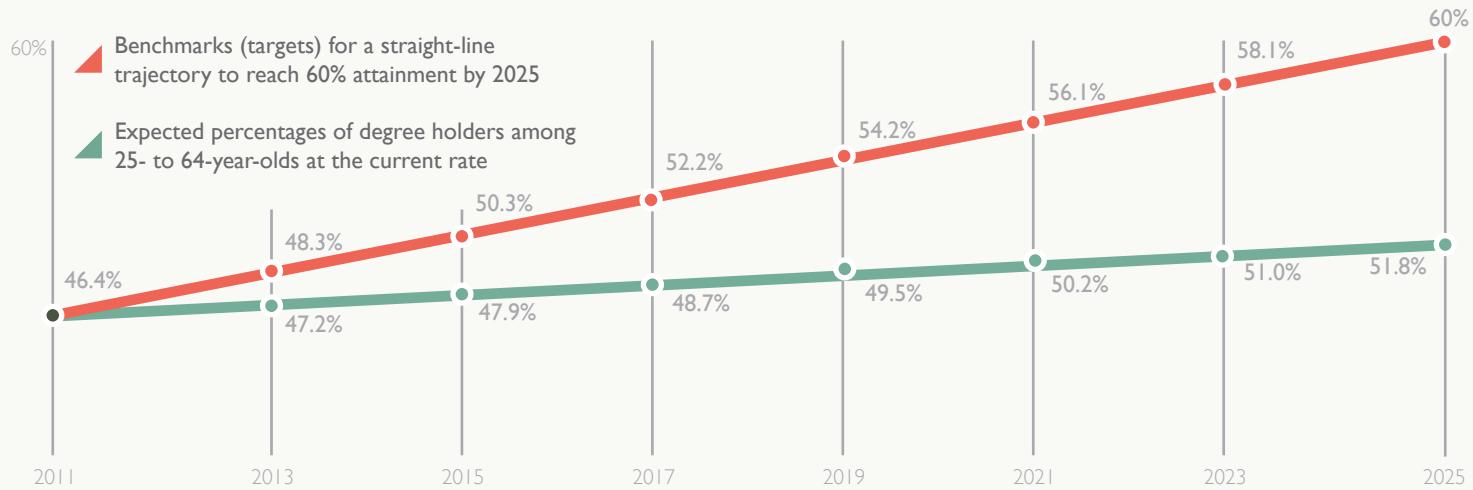
Degree-attainment rates among Connecticut adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	52.17%
Black	26.67%
Hispanic	20.00%
Asian	67.52%
Native American	34.31%

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

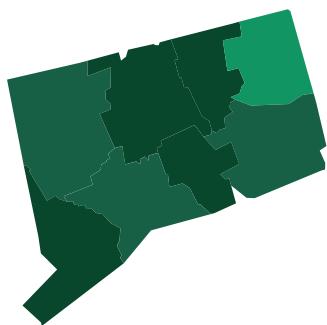


The path to 60% degree attainment in Connecticut



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

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

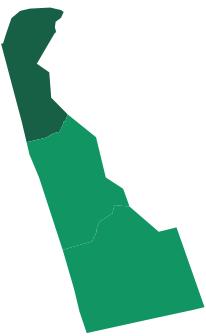


Fairfield	53.60	Litchfield	43.80	New Haven	43.02	Tolland	49.80
Hartford	45.16	Middlesex	50.28	New London	41.30	Windham	31.44

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



Delaware



In Delaware, 37.6 percent of the state's 477,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Delaware's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 37.4 percent. Also, Delaware's rate of higher education attainment is 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.

Also, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Delaware. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Delaware, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 37.4 percent — a bit lower than that of the adult population as a whole, and well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, Delaware has a long way to go. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 42 percent of Delaware's adult population — 203,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 486,221, Delaware will need to add nearly 89,000 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, 83,000 of the expected 144,000

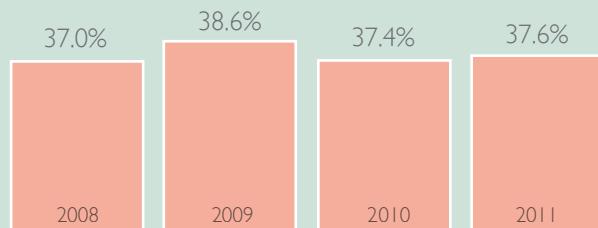
job vacancies in Delaware will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 59 percent of all Delaware jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

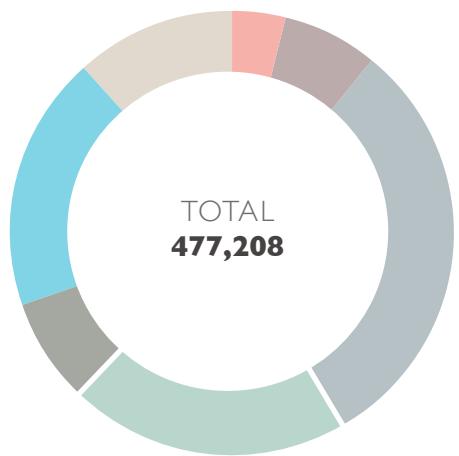
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, nearly 98,000 Delaware adults — 20.5 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Delaware 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 Delaware 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. Delaware 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 Delaware'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 Delaware adults (ages 25-64)

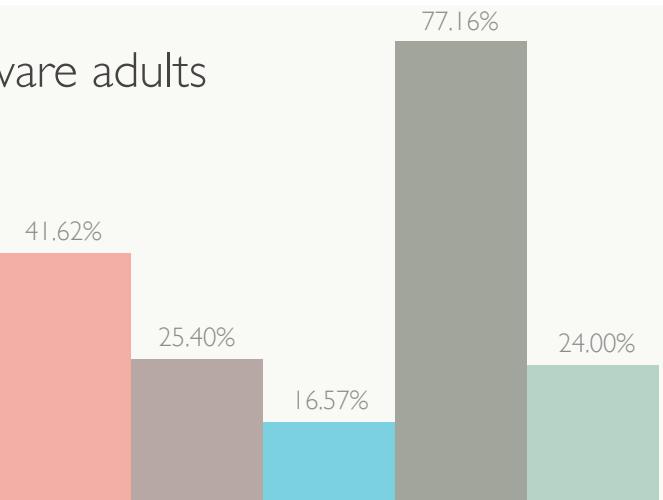
Less than ninth grade	18,742	3.93%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	34,038	7.13%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	147,033	30.81%
Some college, no degree	97,986	20.53%
Associate degree	35,859	7.51%
Bachelor's degree	88,415	18.53%
Graduate or professional degree	55,135	11.55%

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

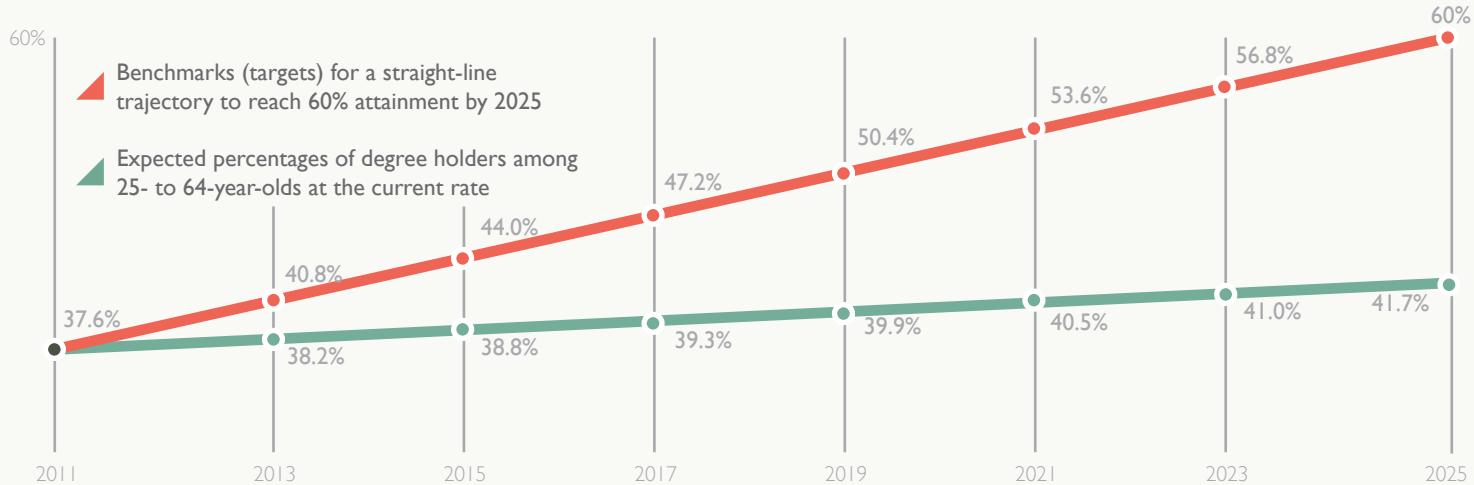
Degree-attainment rates among Delaware adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	41.62%
Black	25.40%
Hispanic	16.57%
Asian	77.16%
Native American	24.00%

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



The path to 60% degree attainment in Delaware



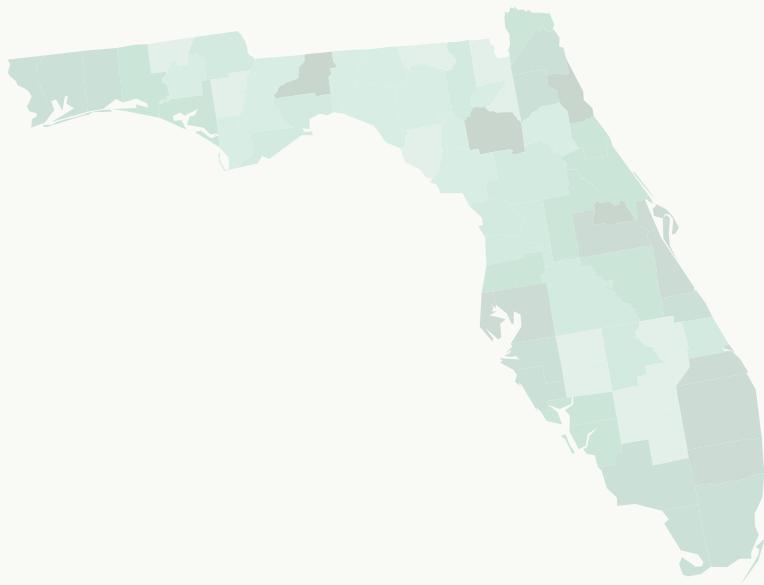
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



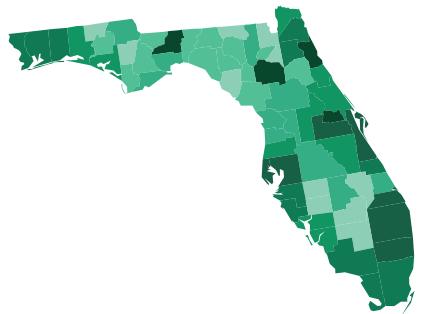
Percentage of Delaware adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Kent	31.07	New Castle	41.93	Sussex	31.02
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-11 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates



Florida



In Florida, 37 percent of the state's 9.9 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Florida's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 36.5 percent. Also, Florida's rate of higher education attainment is 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.

Also, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Florida. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Florida, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 37.2 percent — only a bit higher than that of the adult population as a whole, and well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, Florida has a long way to go. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 43 percent of Florida'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 12,249,025, Florida will need to add 2.1 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, 1.6 million of the expected 2.8 million

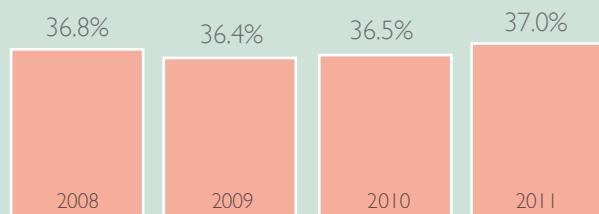
job vacancies in Florida will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 59 percent of all Florida jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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, more than 2.1 million Florida adults — 21.5 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 Florida reach the 60 percent goal.

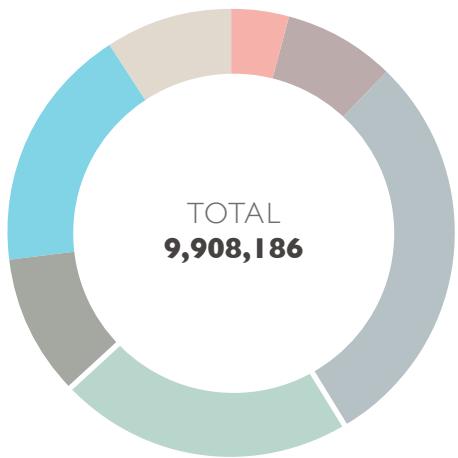
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Florida county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, so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



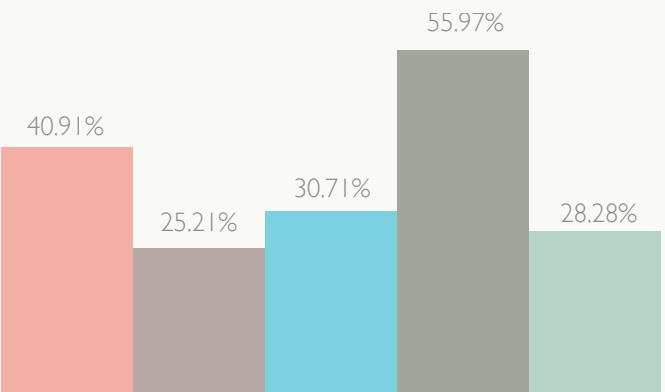
Less than ninth grade	428,854	4.33%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	786,740	7.94%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	2,904,408	29.31%
Some college, no degree	2,126,333	21.46%
Associate degree	1,003,938	10.13%
Bachelor's degree	1,753,121	17.69%
Graduate or professional degree	904,792	9.13%

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

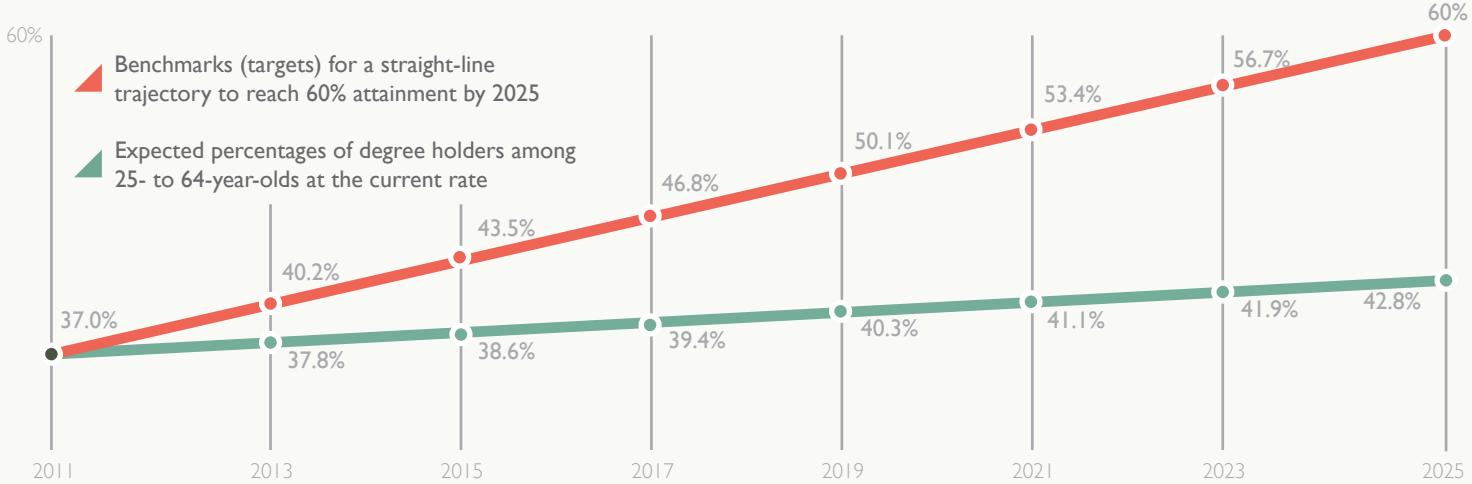
Degree-attainment rates among Florida adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	40.91%
Black	25.21%
Hispanic	30.71%
Asian	55.97%
Native American	28.28%

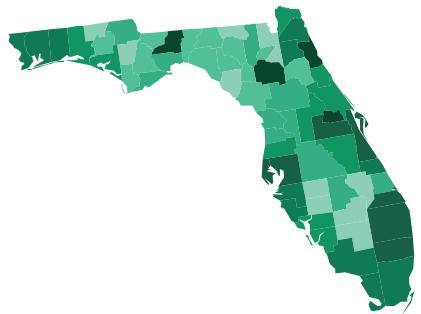
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File



The path to 60% degree attainment in Florida



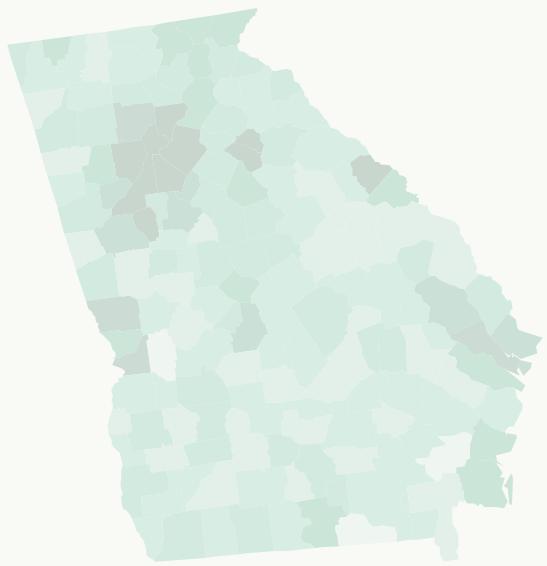
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



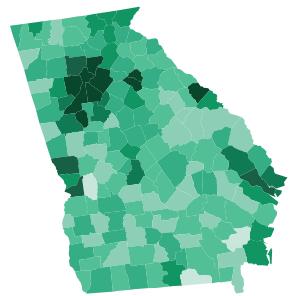
Percentage of Florida adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Alachua	54.15	DeSoto	14.23	Hendry	14.38	Levy	20.58	Osceola	30.71	Suwannee	17.50
Baker	14.59	Dixie	13.25	Hernando	26.59	Liberty	18.29	Palm Beach	42.12	Taylor	17.66
Bay	32.81	Duval	35.83	Highlands	23.00	Madison	18.29	Pasco	32.97	Union	16.72
Bradford	16.12	Escambia	35.15	Hillsborough	40.97	Manatee	36.49	Pinellas	39.08	Volusia	32.77
Brevard	40.24	Flagler	32.98	Holmes	14.80	Marion	27.39	Polk	27.43	Wakulla	26.10
Broward	42.02	Franklin	23.53	Indian River	34.01	Martin	41.67	Putnam	19.36	Walton	32.04
Calhoun	14.05	Gadsden	18.68	Jackson	23.18	Miami-Dade	37.68	St. Johns	49.35	Washington	17.26
Charlotte	31.81	Gilchrist	20.49	Jefferson	20.02	Monroe	38.03	St. Lucie	26.83		
Citrus	25.25	Glades	16.23	Lafayette	21.65	Nassau	30.34	Santa Rosa	38.34		
Clay	34.44	Gulf	20.49	Lake	30.17	Okaloosa	38.68	Sarasota	38.50		
Collier	35.49	Hamilton	15.81	Lee	32.80	Okeechobee	15.82	Seminole	46.38		
Columbia	23.41	Hardee	13.08	Leon	53.30	Orange	42.30	Sumter	23.72		

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



Georgia



In Georgia, 36.4 percent of the state's 5.2 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Georgia's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 36.1 percent. Also, Georgia's rate of higher education attainment is 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.

Also, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Georgia. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Georgia, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 36.2 percent — a bit lower than that of the adult population as a whole, and well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, Georgia has a long way to go. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 42 percent of Georgia'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 5,652,637, Georgia will need to add 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, 820,000 of the expected 1.4 million

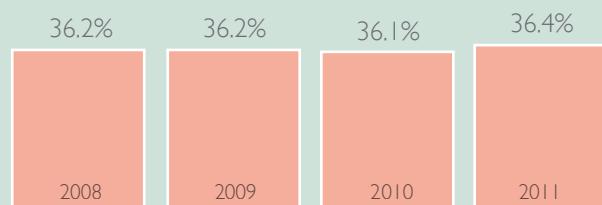
job vacancies in Georgia will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 58 percent of all Georgia jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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, more than 1.1 million Georgia adults — 21.5 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 Georgia reach the 60 percent goal.

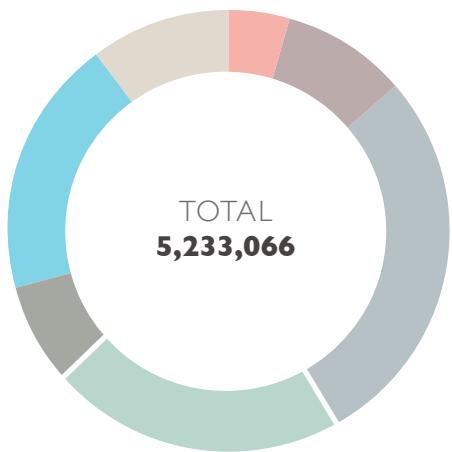
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Georgia county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, so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

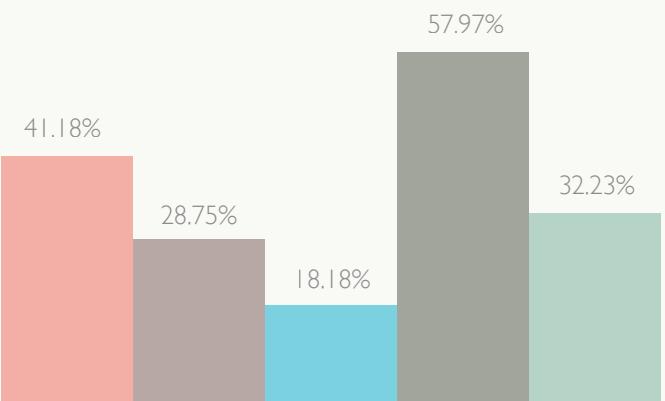


Less than ninth grade	243,103	4.65%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	477,795	9.13%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	1,484,632	28.37%
Some college, no degree	1,124,465	21.49%
Associate degree	378,333	7.23%
Bachelor's degree	998,793	19.09%
Graduate or professional degree	525,945	10.5%

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

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

White	41.18%
Black	28.75%
Hispanic	18.18%
Asian	57.97%
Native American	32.23%



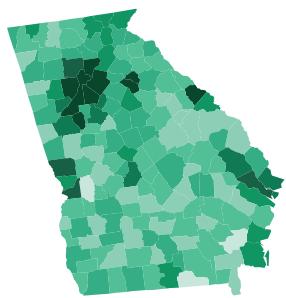
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Georgia



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

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

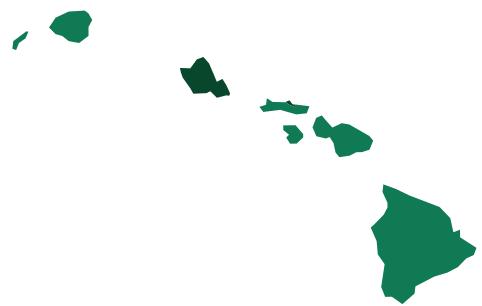


Appling	17.08	Cherokee	43.48	Fannin	21.19	Jenkins	24.68	Oglethorpe	24.03	Thomas	26.66
Atkinson	12.25	Clarke	46.26	Fayette	55.38	Johnson	18.54	Paulding	30.97	Tift	27.64
Bacon	13.47	Clay	17.06	Floyd	26.30	Jones	25.44	Peach	26.01	Toombs	22.41
Baker	20.67	Clayton	26.04	Forsyth	53.40	Lamar	17.17	Pickens	26.44	Towns	29.05
Baldwin	25.44	Clinch	19.36	Franklin	20.64	Lanier	22.56	Pierce	18.15	Treutlen	15.60
Banks	17.50	Cobb	52.99	Fulton	55.55	Laurens	22.60	Pike	23.24	Troup	26.77
Barrow	25.13	Coffee	19.33	Gilmer	18.89	Lee	27.19	Polk	16.60	Turner	21.51
Bartow	22.33	Colquitt	19.24	Glascock	16.48	Liberty	28.94	Pulaski	18.09	Twiggs	16.75
Ben Hill	19.63	Columbia	46.06	Glynn	32.78	Lincoln	18.36	Putnam	25.26	Union	30.84
Berrien	23.06	Cook	15.21	Gordon	19.23	Long	16.02	Quitman	13.72	Upson	16.16
Bibb	31.19	Coweta	36.22	Grady	20.61	Lowndes	31.12	Rabun	28.21	Walker	20.99
Bleckley	20.38	Crawford	17.99	Greene	19.01	Lumpkin	26.24	Randolph	26.37	Walton	27.23
Brantley	10.36	Crisp	20.23	Gwinnett	45.28	McDuffie	20.48	Richmond	28.86	Ware	20.59
Brooks	18.88	Dade	24.80	Habersham	25.51	McIntosh	20.63	Rockdale	34.18	Warren	11.37
Bryan	39.58	Dawson	25.72	Hall	28.98	Macon	17.29	Schley	18.20	Washington	14.22
Bulloch	33.65	Decatur	22.80	Hancock	17.78	Madison	18.92	Screven	16.48	Wayne	18.43
Burke	14.18	DeKalb	47.82	Haralson	19.07	Marion	9.92	Seminole	18.53	Webster	22.22
Butts	15.20	Dodge	21.60	Harris	40.28	Meriwether	12.08	Spalding	19.99	Wheeler	16.18
Calhoun	13.77	Dooly	16.53	Hart	22.55	Miller	19.72	Stephens	23.51	White	27.97
Camden	30.22	Dougherty	25.93	Heard	16.12	Mitchell	16.63	Stewart	17.40	Whitfield	20.67
Candler	19.72	Douglas	33.98	Henry	36.32	Monroe	23.26	Sumter	24.17	Wilcox	11.59
Carroll	24.71	Early	23.54	Houston	36.12	Montgomery	26.02	Talbot	17.34	Wilkes	21.54
Catoosa	29.86	Echols	9.51	Irwin	15.82	Morgan	32.20	Taliaferro	13.34	Wilkinson	19.55
Charlton	14.02	Effingham	24.75	Jackson	26.50	Murray	12.22	Tattnall	14.80	Worth	15.53
Chatham	38.14	Elbert	18.46	Jasper	25.21	Muscogee	30.67	Taylor	12.61		
Chattahoochee	39.06	Emanuel	18.83	Jeff Davis	19.01	Newton	27.70	Telfair	15.97		
Chattooga	16.36	Evans	19.65	Jefferson	15.33	Oconee	54.16	Terrell	16.59		

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



Hawaii



In Hawaii, 41.6 percent of the state's 736,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Hawaii's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was also 41.6 percent. However, Hawaii's rate of higher education attainment is higher than 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.

Still, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Hawaii. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Hawaii, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 39.7 percent — lower than that of the adult population as a whole, and a bit below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, Hawaii has a long way to go. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 46 percent of Hawaii's adult population — 302,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 659,850, Hawaii will need to add nearly 94,000 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, 131,000 of the expected 205,000 job

vacancies in Hawaii will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 65 percent of all Hawaii 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, more than 183,000 Hawaii adults — 24.9 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 Hawaii reach the 60 percent goal.

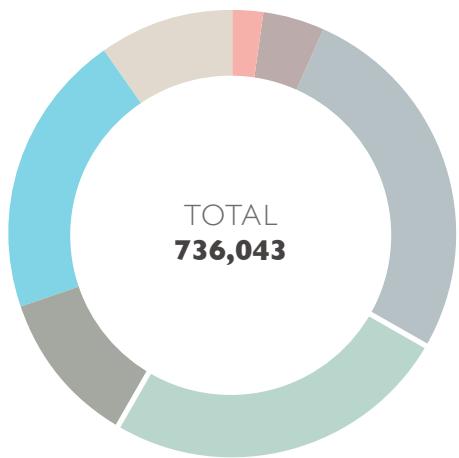
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Hawaii county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, so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



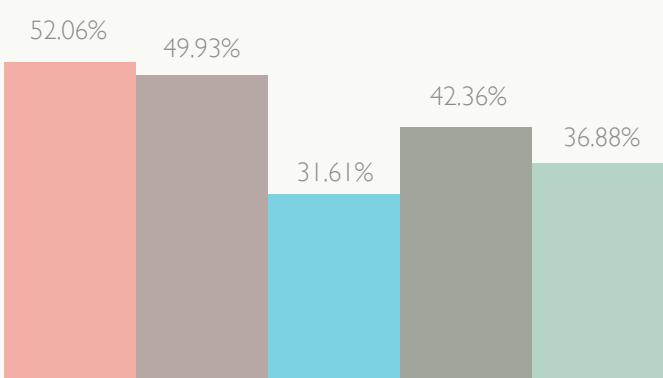
Less than ninth grade	17,029	2.31%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	32,495	4.41%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	197,308	26.81%
Some college, no degree	183,379	24.91%
Associate degree	84,063	11.42%
Bachelor's degree	150,335	20.42%
Graduate or professional degree	71,434	9.71%

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

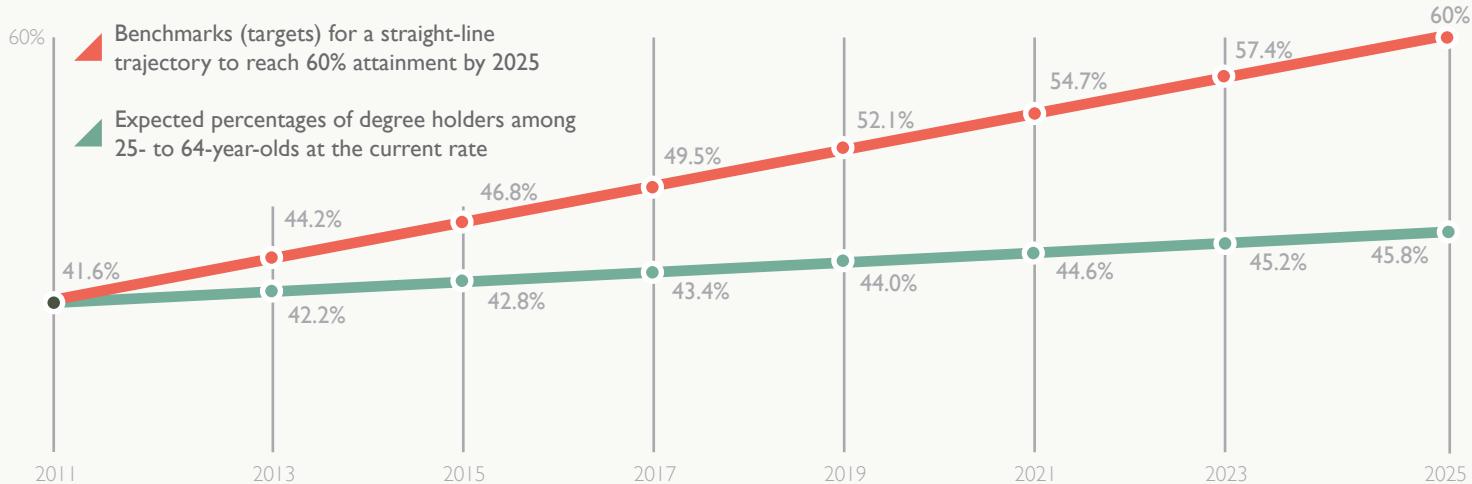
Degree-attainment rates among Hawaii adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	52.06%
Black	49.93%
Hispanic	31.61%
Asian	42.36%
Native American	36.86%

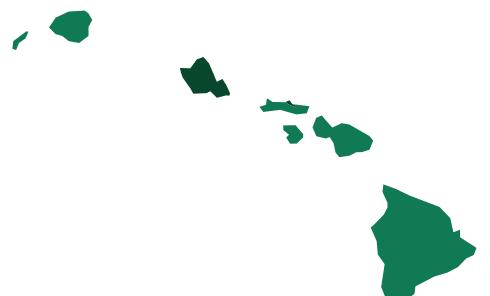
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File



The path to 60% degree attainment in Hawaii



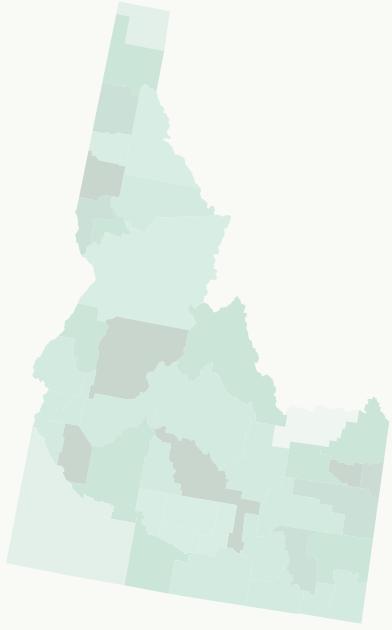
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



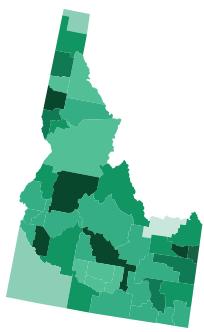
Percentage of Hawaii adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Hawaii	37.76	Honolulu	44.69	Kalawao	75.76	Kauai	38.16	Maui	35.67
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-11 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates



Idaho



In Idaho, 36.5 percent of the state's 794,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Idaho's attainment rate is increasing; last year, the rate was 34.7 percent. Still, Idaho's rate of higher education attainment is 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 Idaho. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Idaho, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at just 35 percent, lower than that of the adult population as a whole. What's more, Idaho's attainment rate among young adults is below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Idaho 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, about 43 percent of Idaho's adult population — 390,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 912,666, Idaho will need to add nearly 158,000 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, 146,000 of the expected 239,000 job

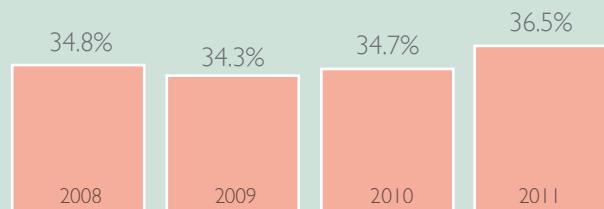
vacancies in Idaho will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 61 percent of all Idaho jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

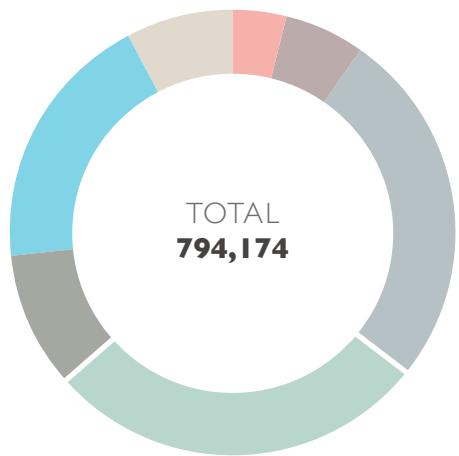
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 218,000 Idaho adults — 27.5 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Idaho 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 Idaho 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. Idaho 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 Idaho'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





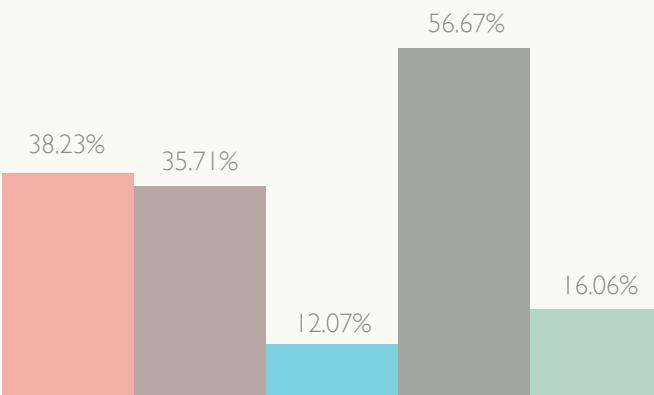
Levels of education for Idaho adults (ages 25-64)

Less than ninth grade	31,539	3.97%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	47,839	6.02%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	206,811	26.04%
Some college, no degree	218,378	27.50%
Associate degree	78,951	9.94%
Bachelor's degree	149,433	18.82%
Graduate or professional degree	61,223	7.71%

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

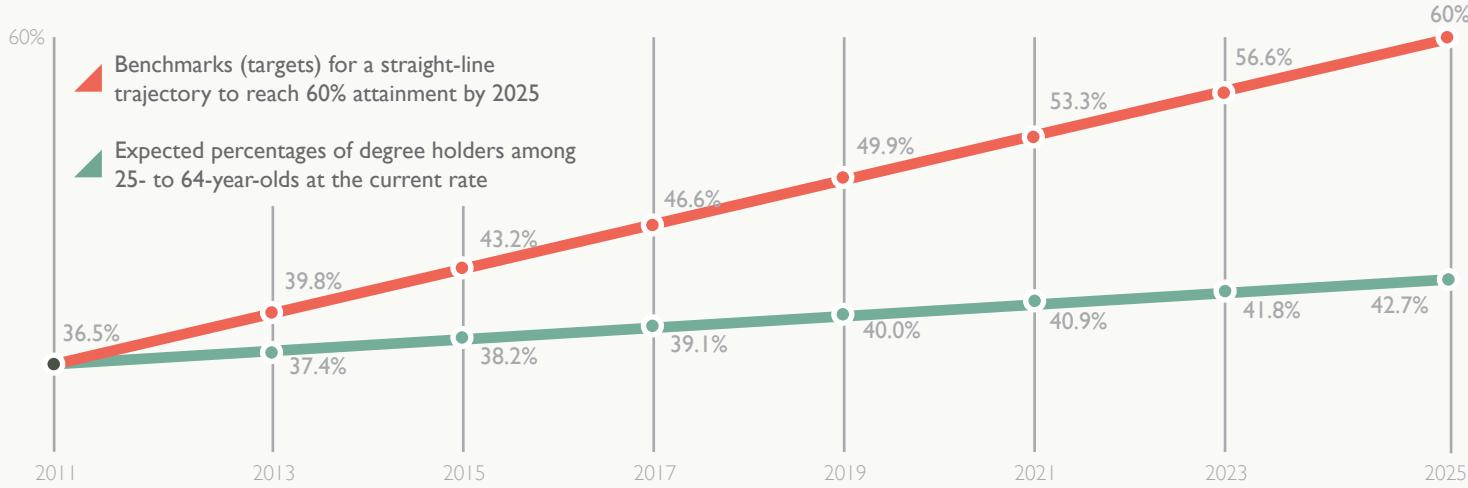
Degree-attainment rates among Idaho adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	38.23%
Black	35.71%
Hispanic	12.07%
Asian	56.67%
Native American	16.06%

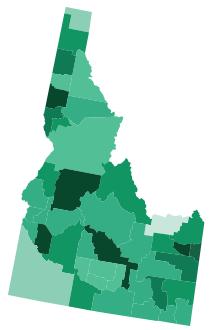


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Idaho



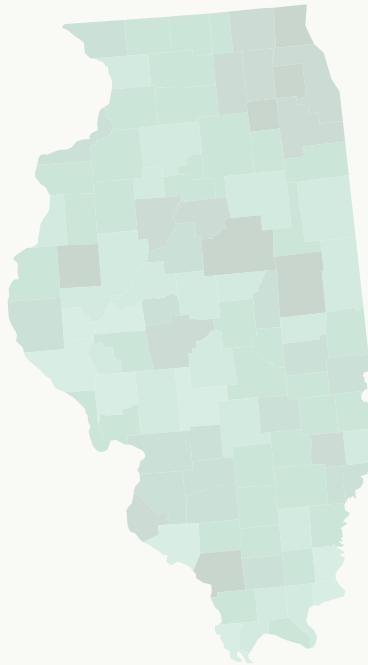
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



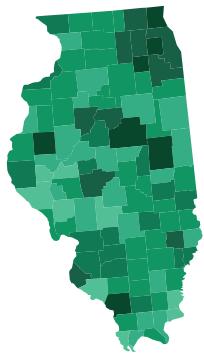
Percentage of Idaho adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Ada	45.93	Bonner	32.07	Clark	9.95	Idaho	21.13	Madison	47.02	Teton	41.04
Adams	28.93	Bonneville	38.82	Clearwater	26.12	Jefferson	32.42	Minidoka	19.49	Twin Falls	30.54
Bannock	38.57	Boundary	14.92	Custer	26.28	Jerome	19.39	Nez Perce	33.56	Valley	45.15
Bear Lake	24.01	Butte	27.10	Elmore	29.26	Kootenai	35.45	Oneida	25.99	Washington	25.60
Benewah	19.94	Camas	26.70	Franklin	25.88	Latah	52.71	Owyhee	15.42		
Bingham	26.24	Canyon	25.40	Fremont	28.13	Lemhi	32.23	Payette	25.61		
Blaine	48.10	Caribou	31.79	Gem	22.45	Lewis	29.78	Power	25.21		
Boise	26.98	Cassia	26.17	Gooding	20.29	Lincoln	17.54	Shoshone	19.04		

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



Illinois



In Illinois, 41.7 percent of the state's 6.9 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Illinois' attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 41.3 percent. Also, Illinois' 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 reason for optimism about educational trends in the state. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Illinois, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 45.7 percent, considerably higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Illinois are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. Illinois' attainment rate among young adults is also better than the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Despite its relative success, Illinois must do better. In Illinois and nationally, college attainment rates must increase more rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 49 percent of Illinois' adult population — 3.3 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 6,636,111, Illinois will need to add more than 723,000 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, 1.3 million of the expected 2 million

job vacancies in Illinois will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 64 percent of all Illinois 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, more than 1.5 million Illinois adults — 21.9 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 Illinois reach the 60 percent goal.

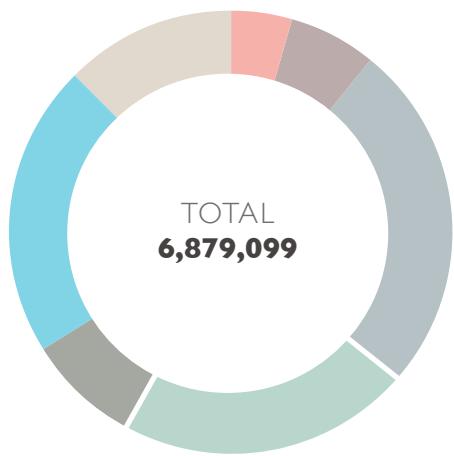
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Illinois county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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

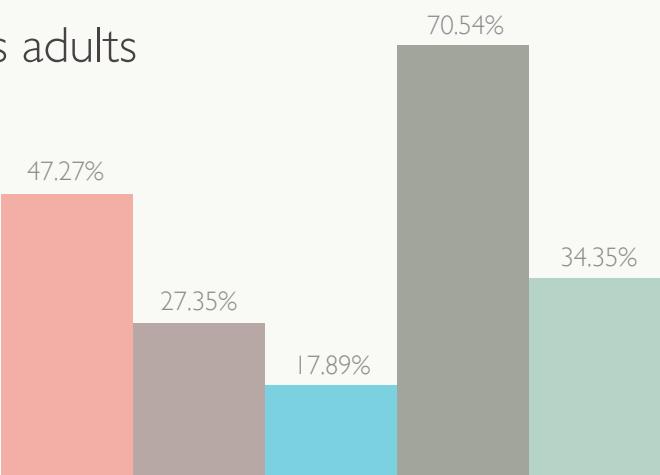


Less than ninth grade	311,391	4.53%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	440,063	6.40%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	1,750,370	25.44%
Some college, no degree	1,505,483	21.88%
Associate degree	563,984	8.20%
Bachelor's degree	1,463,138	21.27%
Graduate or professional degree	844,670	12.28%

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

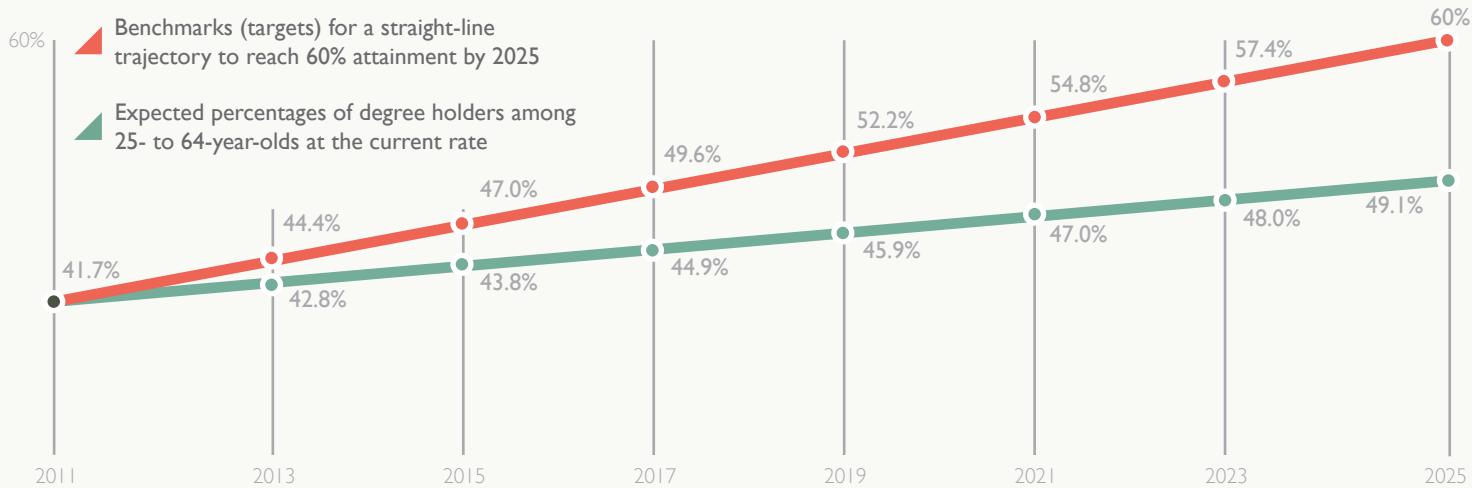
Degree-attainment rates among Illinois adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	47.27%
Black	27.35%
Hispanic	17.89%
Asian	70.54%
Native American	34.35%

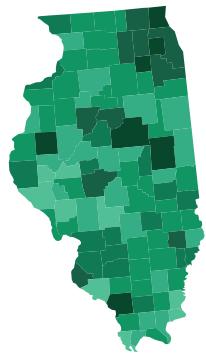


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Illinois



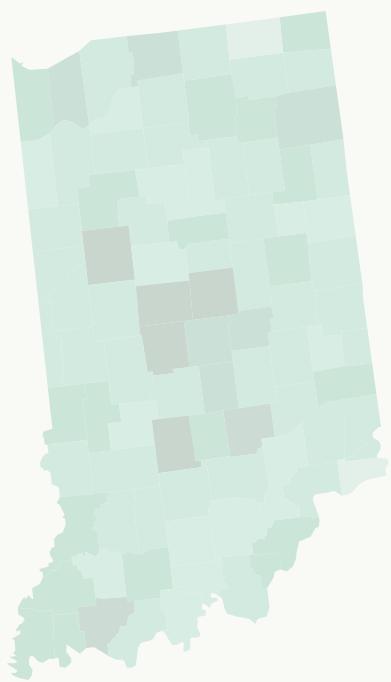
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



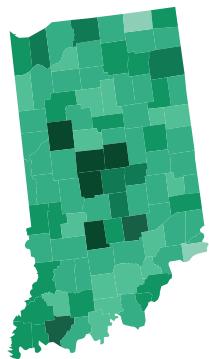
Percentage of Illinois adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Adams	34.22	Cumberland	30.55	Hardin	21.12	Lee	28.01	Morgan	30.43	Scott	27.32
Alexander	17.82	DeKalb	40.87	Henderson	26.54	Livingston	23.51	Moultrie	28.07	Shelby	29.58
Bond	36.45	DeWitt	27.56	Henry	33.26	Logan	26.26	Ogle	30.80	Stark	27.69
Boone	29.23	Douglas	24.07	Iroquois	26.37	McDonough	46.10	Peoria	40.64	Stephenson	29.43
Brown	20.23	DuPage	56.29	Jackson	46.84	McHenry	42.44	Perry	27.86	Tazewell	38.24
Bureau	27.65	Edgar	28.72	Jasper	32.83	McLean	51.49	Piatt	37.78	Union	32.12
Calhoun	30.54	Edwards	36.09	Jefferson	28.35	Macon	31.79	Pike	21.33	Vermilion	25.79
Carroll	27.09	Effingham	37.61	Jersey	30.35	Macoupin	26.95	Pope	23.88	Wabash	36.35
Cass	17.87	Fayette	26.35	Jo Daviess	33.41	Madison	35.73	Pulaski	25.34	Warren	28.74
Champaign	53.92	Ford	29.85	Johnson	24.97	Marion	28.40	Putnam	30.15	Washington	36.73
Christian	23.10	Franklin	28.56	Kane	41.00	Marshall	28.45	Randolph	20.76	Wayne	29.95
Clark	34.52	Fulton	26.84	Kankakee	29.34	Mason	26.71	Richland	40.98	White	30.48
Clay	29.30	Gallatin	22.22	Kendall	45.03	Massac	28.38	Rock Island	34.52	Whiteside	28.35
Clinton	36.78	Greene	21.07	Knox	29.70	Menard	33.44	St. Clair	37.64	Will	42.14
Coles	37.64	Grundy	29.13	Lake	50.11	Mercer	28.70	Saline	30.06	Williamson	35.44
Cook	43.16	Hamilton	25.92	LaSalle	28.57	Monroe	40.04	Sangamon	43.83	Winnebago	30.87
Crawford	32.63	Hancock	30.24	Lawrence	25.85	Montgomery	21.76	Schuylerville	25.13	Woodford	39.83

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



Indiana



In Indiana, 33.8 percent of the state's 3.4 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Indiana's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 33.2 percent. However, Indiana'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, 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 Indiana, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 36.9 percent, higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Indiana are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. Still, Indiana's attainment rate among young adults is below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Indiana is making progress, but it 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 41 percent of Indiana's adult population — 1.35 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 3,296,224, Indiana will need to add more than 626,000 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, 506,000 of the expected 930,000 job

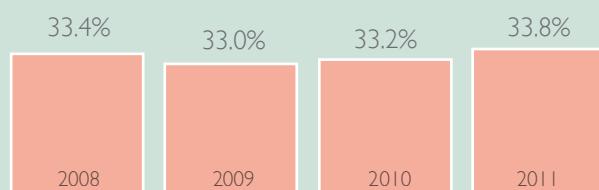
vacancies in Indiana will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 55 percent of all Indiana jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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, more than 746,000 Indiana adults — 22 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 Indiana reach the 60 percent goal.

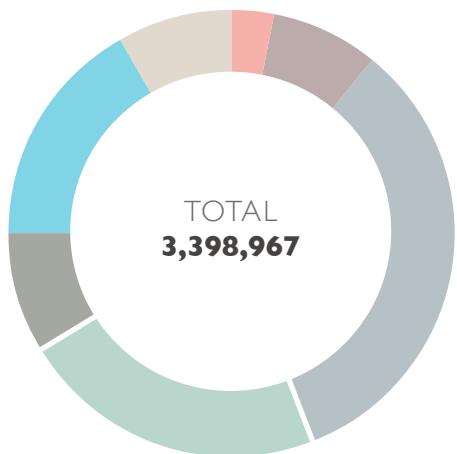
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Indiana county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, so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



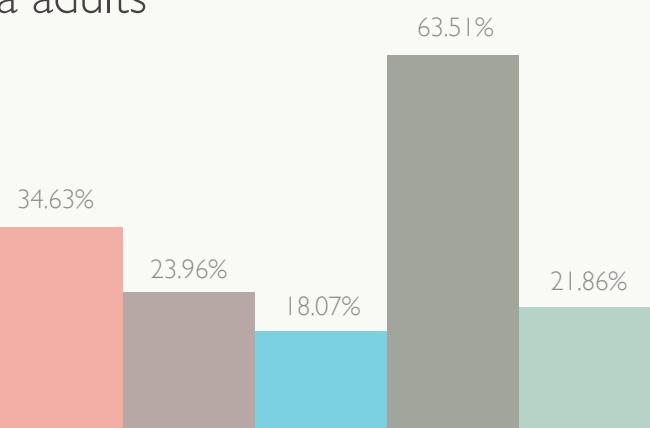
Less than ninth grade	113,176	3.33%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	259,119	7.62%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	1,131,205	33.28%
Some college, no degree	746,283	21.96%
Associate degree	305,782	9.00%
Bachelor's degree	561,959	16.53%
Graduate or professional degree	281,443	8.28%

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

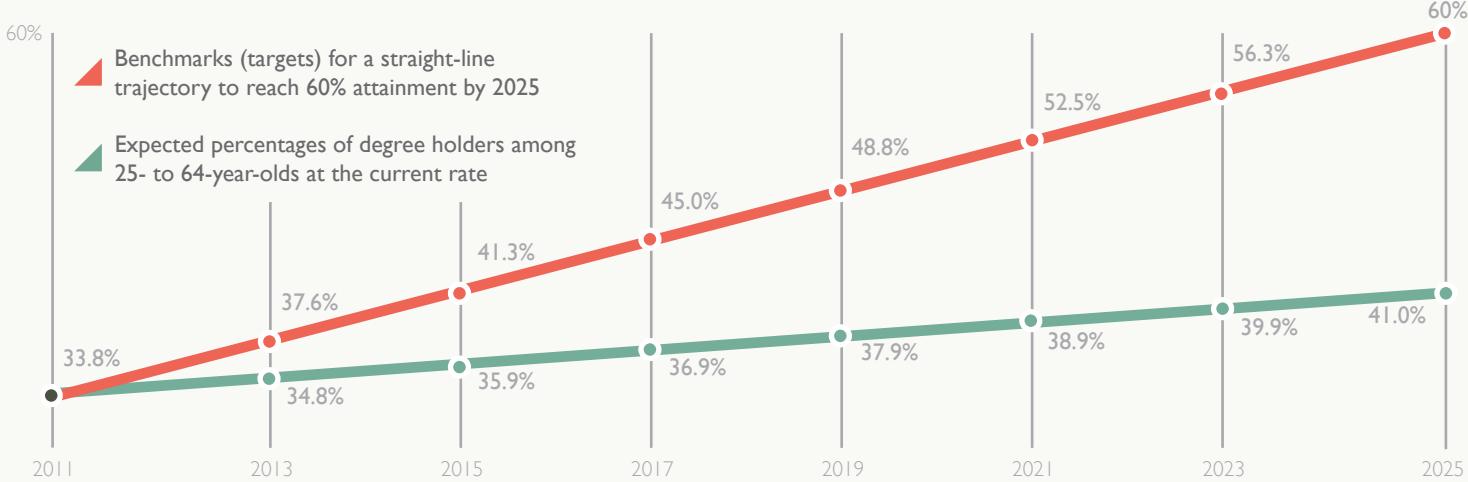
Degree-attainment rates among Indiana adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	34.63%
Black	23.96%
Hispanic	18.07%
Asian	63.51%
Native American	21.86%

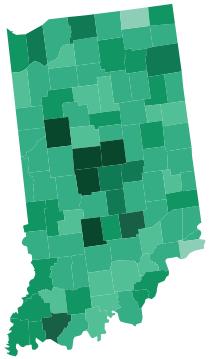
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File



The path to 60% degree attainment in Indiana



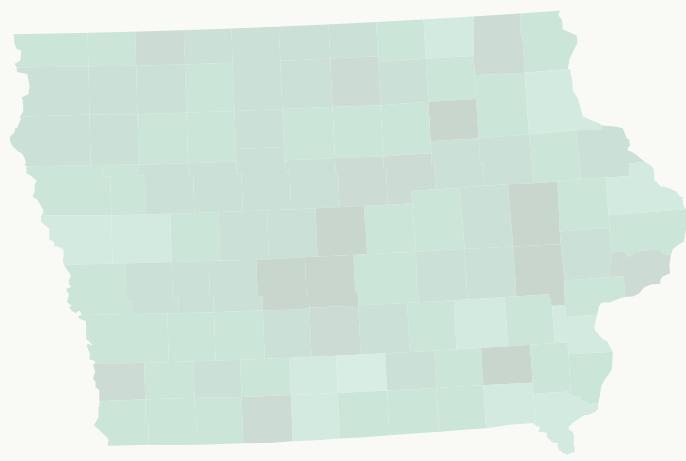
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



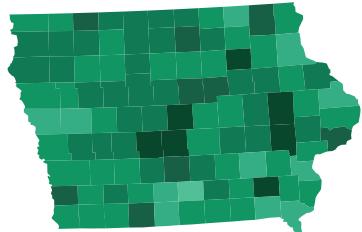
Percentage of Indiana adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Adams	24.63	DeKalb	26.64	Henry	23.52	Marion	35.83	Posey	32.84	Union	26.03
Allen	38.32	Delaware	31.76	Howard	28.82	Marshall	25.50	Pulaski	23.97	Vanderburgh	33.01
Bartholomew	38.95	Dubois	31.67	Huntington	27.34	Martin	24.11	Putnam	25.64	Vermillion	26.96
Benton	24.40	Elkhart	24.97	Jackson	22.94	Miami	18.98	Randolph	22.69	Vigo	31.26
Blackford	19.21	Fayette	16.95	Jasper	24.36	Monroe	51.84	Ripley	26.41	Wabash	25.92
Boone	51.11	Floyd	32.99	Jay	19.30	Montgomery	26.22	Rush	22.83	Warren	24.49
Brown	31.40	Fountain	22.63	Jefferson	25.15	Morgan	25.54	St.Joseph	36.62	Warrick	40.53
Carroll	24.91	Franklin	28.15	Jennings	17.09	Newton	18.57	Scott	18.97	Washington	18.45
Cass	21.76	Fulton	23.70	Johnson	38.84	Noble	22.79	Shelby	26.84	Wayne	26.32
Clark	30.04	Gibson	28.35	Knox	31.53	Ohio	23.15	Spencer	27.55	Wells	28.76
Clay	28.16	Grant	25.89	Kosciusko	27.81	Orange	19.75	Starke	19.40	White	28.38
Clinton	21.80	Greene	23.70	LaGrange	14.53	Owen	17.62	Steuben	30.18	Whitley	27.90
Crawford	20.81	Hamilton	64.39	Lake	29.81	Parke	23.67	Sullivan	26.17		
Daviess	23.39	Hancock	37.63	LaPorte	26.85	Perry	18.79	Switzerland	15.18		
Dearborn	27.68	Harrison	25.11	Lawrence	22.92	Pike	19.35	Tippecanoe	45.72		
Decatur	22.69	Hendricks	44.73	Madison	27.50	Porter	36.67	Tipton	25.73		

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



Iowa



In Iowa, 41.1 percent of the state's 1.6 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Iowa's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 39.7 percent. Also, Iowa'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 educational trends in Iowa. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Iowa, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 48 percent, considerably higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Iowa are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. Iowa's attainment rate among young adults is also well above the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Despite its relative success, however, Iowa must do better. 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 51 percent of Iowa's adult population — 740,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 1,442,734, Iowa will need to add more than 125,000 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, 319,000 of the expected 527,000 job

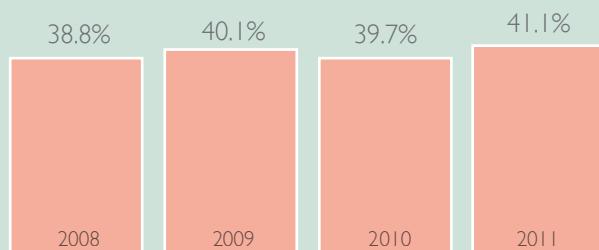
vacancies in Iowa will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 62 percent of all Iowa jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

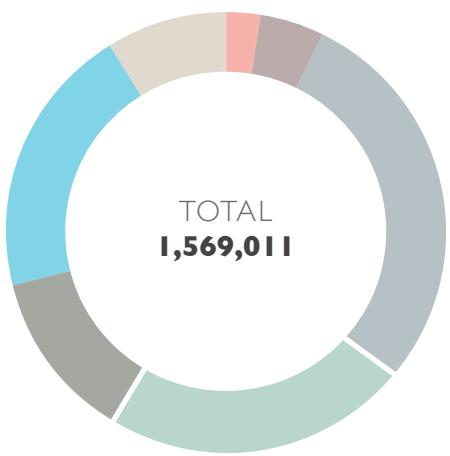
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 352,000 Iowa adults — 22.5 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Iowa 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 Iowa 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. Iowa 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 Iowa'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 Iowa adults (ages 25-64)

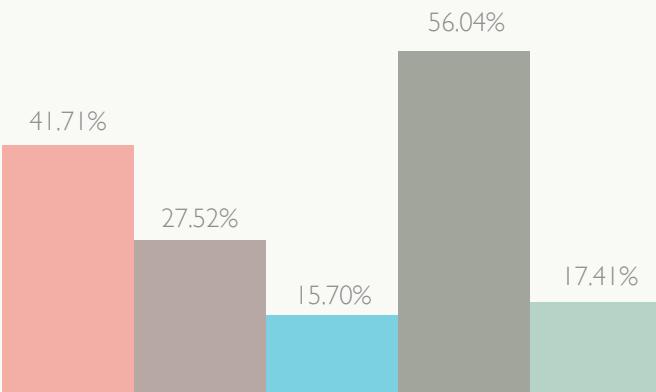
Less than ninth grade	39,396	2.51%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	75,410	4.81%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	456,336	29.08%
Some college, no degree	352,369	22.46%
Associate degree	195,549	12.46%
Bachelor's degree	313,560	19.98%
Graduate or professional degree	136,391	8.69%

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

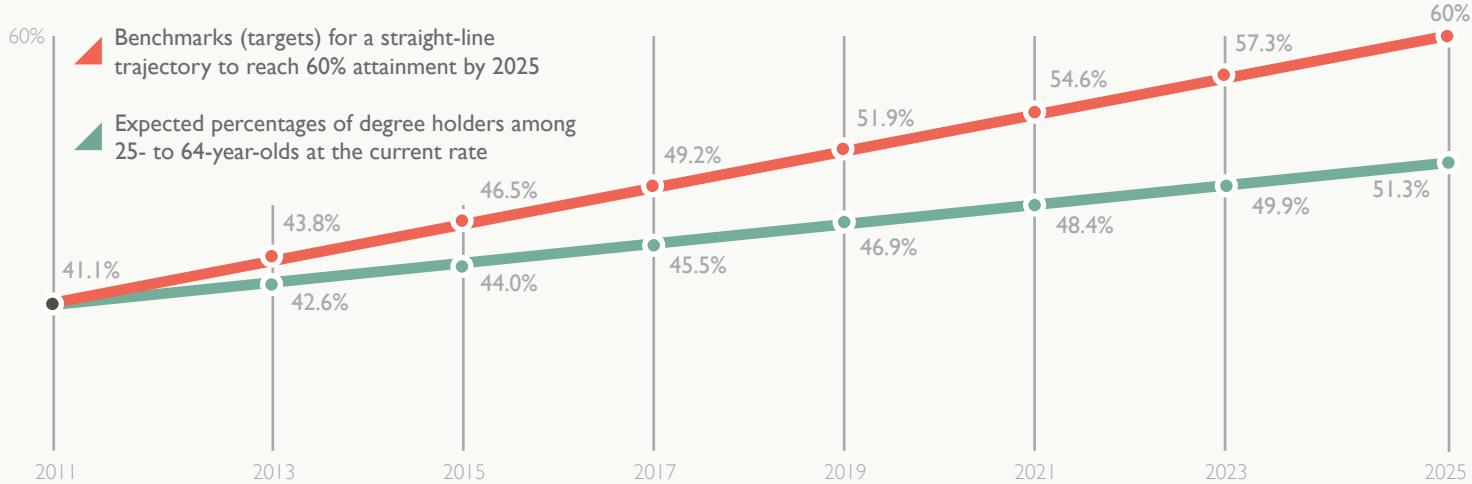
Degree-attainment rates among Iowa adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	41.71%
Black	27.52%
Hispanic	15.70%
Asian	56.04%
Native American	17.41%

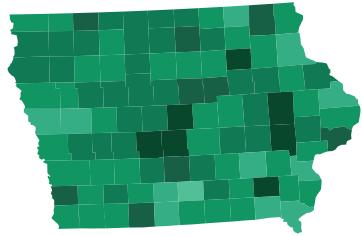
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File



The path to 60% degree attainment in Iowa



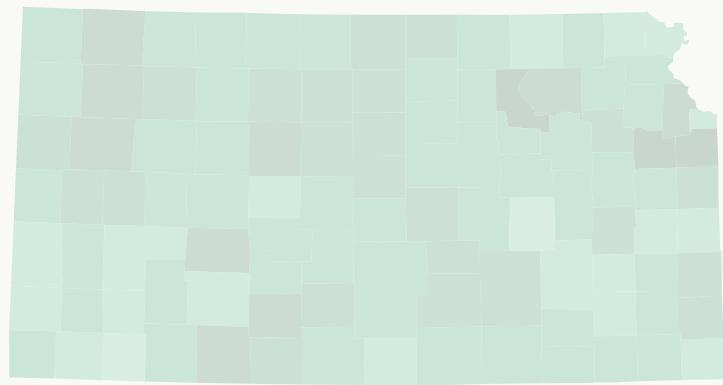
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



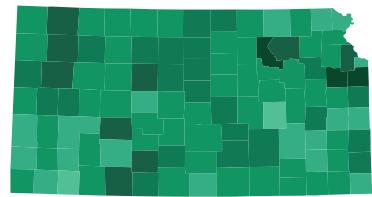
Percentage of Iowa adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Adair	33.07	Cherokee	34.35	Franklin	30.67	Johnson	62.85	Montgomery	33.00	Tama	31.30
Adams	33.67	Chickasaw	29.88	Fremont	28.24	Jones	30.38	Muscatine	30.31	Taylor	27.95
Allamakee	28.64	Clarke	26.57	Greene	37.40	Keokuk	27.67	O'Brien	35.48	Union	29.89
Appanoose	31.04	Clay	34.45	Grundy	39.34	Kossuth	35.78	Osceola	28.39	Van Buren	24.76
Audubon	34.17	Clayton	27.76	Guthrie	35.35	Lee	27.18	Page	28.84	Wapello	27.93
Benton	33.50	Clinton	32.59	Hamilton	33.59	Linn	46.34	Palo Alto	33.17	Warren	42.76
Black Hawk	38.83	Crawford	24.33	Hancock	34.55	Louisa	22.65	Plymouth	35.58	Washington	32.85
Boone	35.90	Dallas	57.33	Hardin	40.55	Lucas	21.99	Pocahontas	32.92	Wayne	29.79
Bremer	45.35	Davis	32.38	Harrison	30.09	Lyon	31.90	Polk	47.00	Webster	33.89
Buchanan	35.34	Decatur	26.29	Henry	32.70	Madison	34.78	Pottawattamie	31.35	Winnebago	35.86
Buena Vista	33.13	Delaware	29.96	Howard	27.42	Mahaska	31.75	Poweshiek	35.57	Winneshiek	43.22
Butler	29.07	Des Moines	31.70	Humboldt	33.83	Marion	37.40	Ringgold	41.00	Woodbury	31.25
Calhoun	37.04	Dickinson	42.23	Ida	32.36	Marshall	33.27	Sac	33.97	Worth	34.89
Carroll	33.23	Dubuque	37.86	Iowa	38.60	Mills	39.53	Scott	43.76	Wright	28.03
Cass	28.17	Emmet	34.19	Jackson	25.26	Mitchell	32.75	Shelby	35.26		
Cedar	35.42	Fayette	31.13	Jasper	29.14	Monona	26.47	Sioux	37.77		
Cerro Gordo	41.79	Floyd	34.03	Jefferson	45.32	Monroe	34.35	Story	61.25		

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



Kansas



In Kansas, 40.7 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. Kansas' attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 40.5 percent. Kansas' 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.

Also, there is reason for optimism about education trends in Kansas. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Kansas, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 42.7 percent, higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Kansas are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. Kansas' attainment rate among young adults is also better than the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Despite its relative success, however, Kansas must do better. 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 47 percent of Kansas' adult population — 660,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 1,397,674, Kansas will need to add nearly 179,000 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, 301,000 of the expected 482,000 job

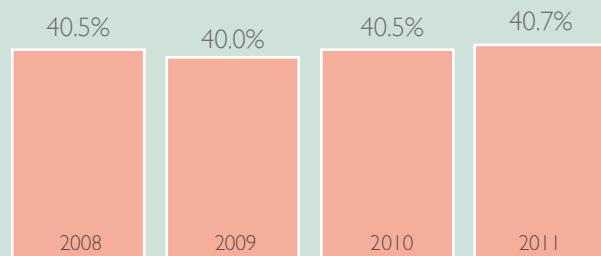
vacancies in Kansas will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 64 percent of all Kansas jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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 370,000 Kansas adults — 25.2 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 Kansas reach the 60 percent goal.

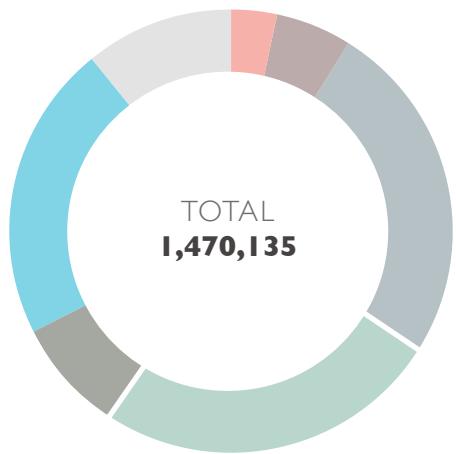
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Kansas county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, so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



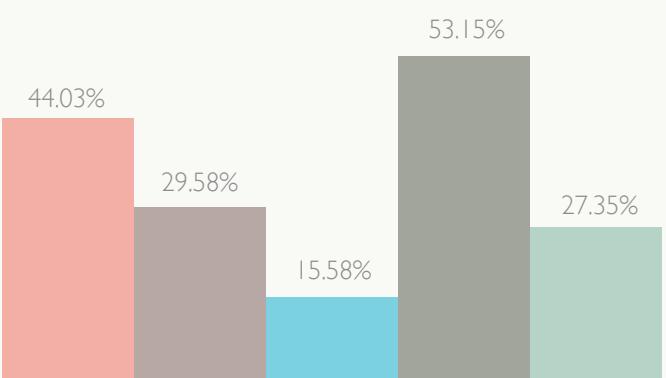
Less than ninth grade	50,419	3.43%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	80,581	5.48%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	371,330	25.26%
Some college, no degree	369,861	25.16%
Associate degree	123,872	8.43%
Bachelor's degree	316,216	21.51%
Graduate or professional degree	157,856	10.74%

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

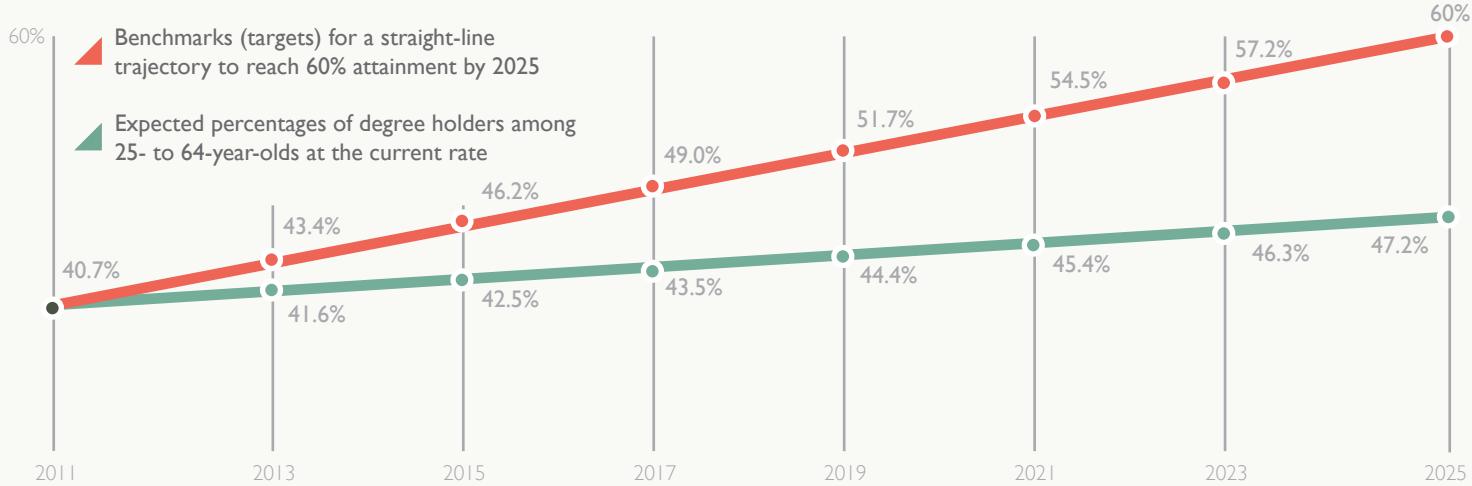
Degree-attainment rates among Kansas adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	44.03%
Black	29.58%
Hispanic	15.58%
Asian	53.15%
Native American	27.35%

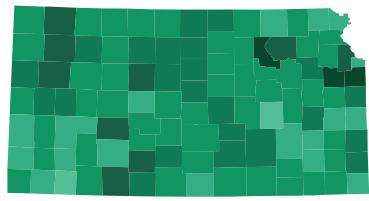
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File



The path to 60% degree attainment in Kansas



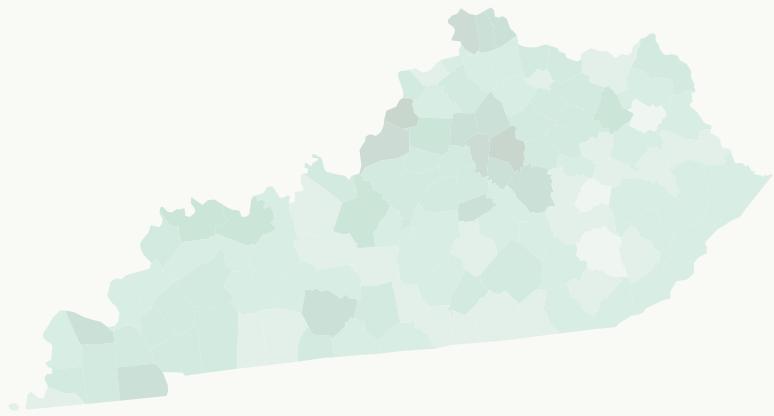
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



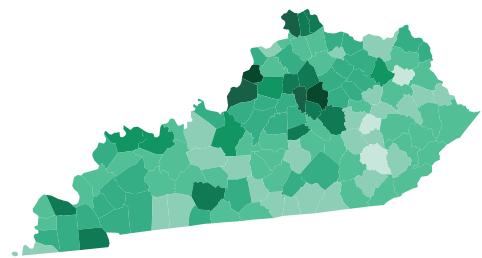
Percentage of Kansas adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Allen	32.14	Crawford	38.47	Greenwood	22.86	Logan	39.46	Pawnee	31.32	Sherman	30.46
Anderson	26.23	Decatur	30.87	Hamilton	24.79	Lyon	29.68	Phillips	31.13	Smith	32.86
Atchison	29.79	Dickinson	30.21	Harper	27.72	McPherson	34.35	Pottawatomie	40.92	Stafford	32.79
Barber	32.26	Doniphan	27.66	Harvey	37.73	Marion	32.07	Pratt	35.72	Stanton	22.25
Barton	32.19	Douglas	57.65	Haskell	23.81	Marshall	24.60	Rawlins	40.27	Stevens	23.40
Bourbon	38.04	Edwards	32.85	Hodgeman	39.45	Meade	31.25	Reno	31.67	Sumner	29.10
Brown	26.34	Elk	33.05	Jackson	29.48	Miami	34.62	Republic	36.79	Thomas	43.75
Butler	38.46	Ellis	43.32	Jefferson	32.63	Mitchell	35.49	Rice	29.78	Trego	33.26
Chase	20.34	Ellsworth	34.29	Jewell	36.87	Montgomery	30.70	Riley	54.45	Wabaunsee	31.48
Chautauqua	28.10	Finney	27.65	Johnson	61.49	Morris	29.46	Rooks	33.47	Wallace	34.40
Cherokee	25.39	Ford	25.08	Kearny	29.71	Morton	32.68	Rush	26.78	Washington	32.91
Cheyenne	30.33	Franklin	28.31	Kingman	32.14	Nemaha	32.37	Russell	36.11	Wichita	34.99
Clark	40.06	Geary	31.71	Kiowa	39.89	Neosho	28.50	Saline	33.31	Wilson	22.50
Clay	30.41	Gove	33.16	Labette	31.49	Ness	31.47	Scott	34.77	Woodson	26.30
Cloud	32.56	Graham	32.14	Lane	32.41	Norton	29.28	Sedgwick	37.17	Wyandotte	23.61
Coffey	34.36	Grant	29.90	Leavenworth	39.38	Osage	28.36	Seward	19.83		
Comanche	33.73	Gray	33.30	Lincoln	36.64	Osborne	35.09	Shawnee	37.87		
Cowley	31.90	Greeley	30.83	Linn	25.42	Ottawa	28.91	Sheridan	34.19		

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



Kentucky



In Kentucky, 30.8 percent of the state's 2.3 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Kentucky's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 30 percent. Also, Kentucky'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, 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 Kentucky, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 33.9 percent, considerably higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Kentucky are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. However, Kentucky's attainment rate among young adults is still below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Kentucky is making some progress, but it 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 39 percent of Kentucky's adult population — 872,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 2,247,168, Kentucky will need to add more than 476,000 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, 330,000 of the expected 617,000

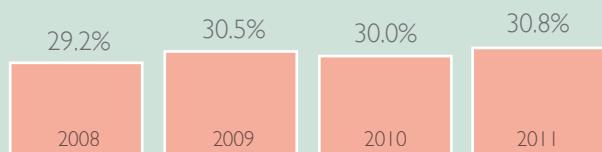
job vacancies in Kentucky will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 54 percent of all Kentucky jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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, more than 516,000 Kentucky adults — 22.2 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 Kentucky reach the 60 percent goal.

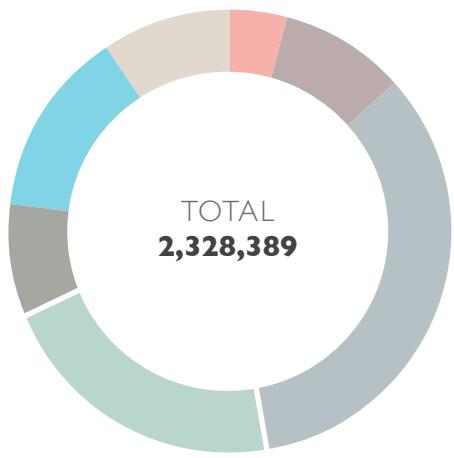
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Kentucky county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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

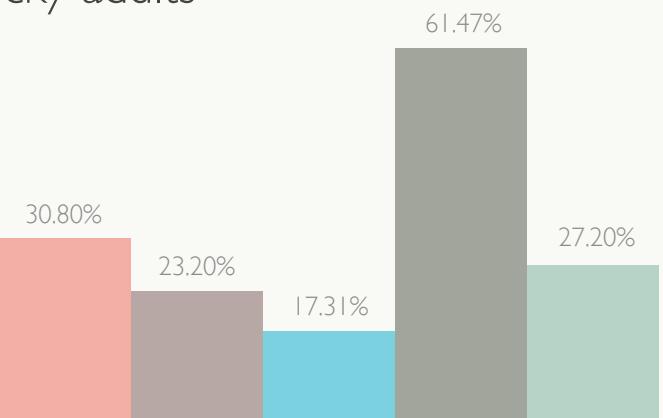


Less than ninth grade	96,449	4.14%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	211,153	9.07%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	787,968	33.84%
Some college, no degree	516,394	22.18%
Associate degree	186,589	8.01%
Bachelor's degree	315,337	13.54%
Graduate or professional degree	214,499	9.21%

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

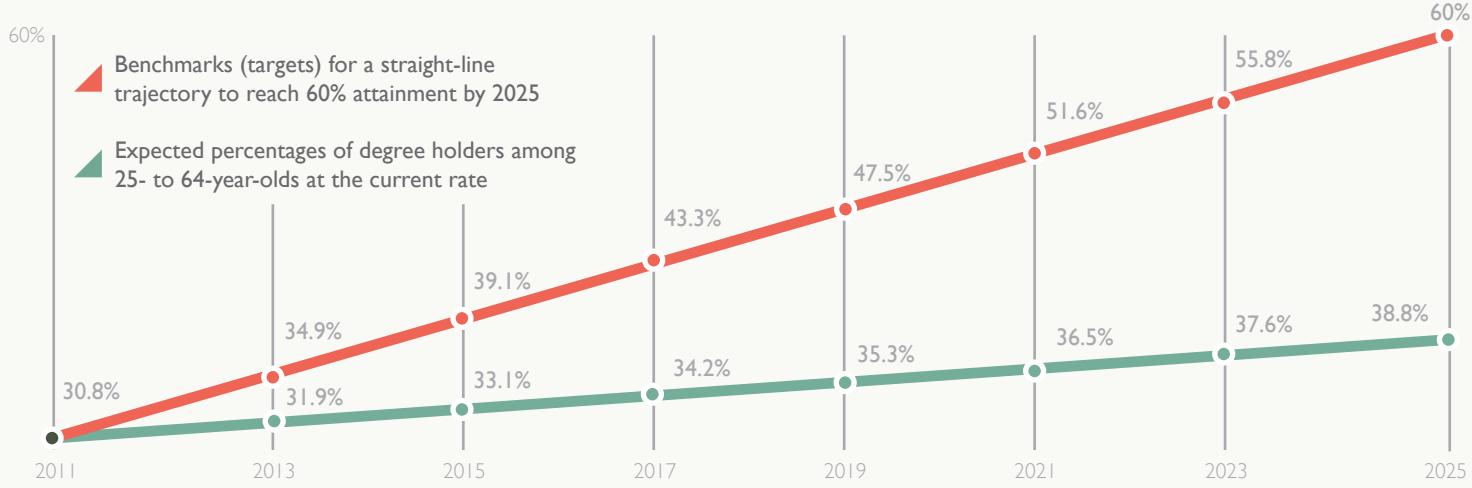
Degree-attainment rates among Kentucky adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	30.80%
Black	23.20%
Hispanic	17.31%
Asian	61.47%
Native American	27.20%



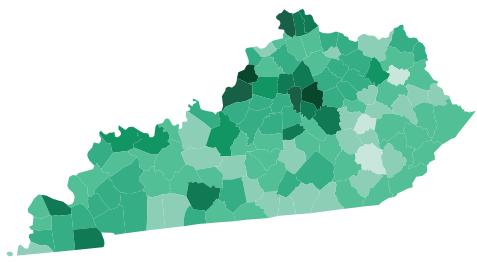
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Kentucky



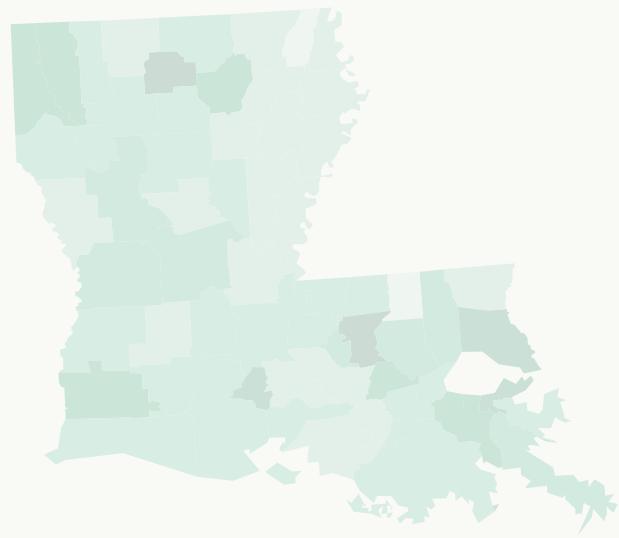
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

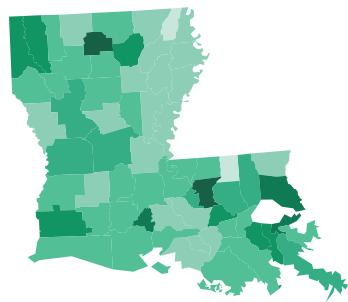


Adair	21.34	Carroll	13.95	Grant	16.70	Knox	11.48	Mason	25.06	Robertson	13.67
Allen	19.49	Carter	18.57	Graves	25.04	Larue	20.67	Meade	23.16	Rockcastle	19.01
Anderson	27.42	Casey	16.34	Grayson	14.69	Laurel	21.30	Menifee	15.23	Rowan	33.22
Ballard	22.09	Christian	22.81	Green	20.32	Lawrence	17.21	Mercer	25.92	Russell	25.07
Barren	23.59	Clark	27.56	Greenup	26.41	Lee	10.57	Metcalfe	13.02	Scott	35.60
Bath	22.68	Clay	11.00	Hancock	18.87	Leslie	13.11	Monroe	19.56	Shelby	31.61
Bell	18.80	Clinton	14.25	Hardin	31.23	Letcher	18.66	Montgomery	22.87	Simpson	24.73
Boone	40.73	Crittenden	19.23	Harlan	20.15	Lewis	16.15	Morgan	17.23	Spencer	25.51
Bourbon	24.86	Cumberland	15.05	Harrison	20.58	Lincoln	16.93	Muhlenberg	19.54	Taylor	21.61
Boyd	26.78	Daviess	28.58	Hart	13.85	Livingston	19.38	Nelson	25.30	Todd	16.58
Boyle	33.37	Edmonson	18.03	Henderson	28.44	Logan	15.97	Nicholas	22.50	Trigg	27.01
Bracken	23.02	Elliott	10.38	Henry	20.82	Lyon	23.08	Ohio	18.48	Trimble	23.42
Breathitt	17.38	Estill	13.60	Hickman	23.55	McCracken	35.97	Oldham	48.52	Union	26.21
Breckinridge	16.55	Fayette	49.17	Hopkins	24.30	McCreary	14.60	Owen	24.25	Warren	37.97
Bullitt	22.32	Fleming	26.07	Jackson	11.72	McLean	21.41	Owsley	12.93	Washington	24.51
Butler	19.36	Floyd	17.81	Jefferson	39.05	Madison	37.14	Pendleton	21.67	Wayne	14.33
Caldwell	22.80	Franklin	33.65	Jessamine	36.80	Magoffin	14.86	Perry	19.71	Webster	17.08
Calloway	38.31	Fulton	15.08	Johnson	15.05	Marion	22.06	Pike	19.20	Whitley	17.37
Campbell	38.55	Gallatin	17.86	Kenton	37.38	Marshall	25.72	Powell	17.24	Wolfe	14.66
Carlisle	20.44	Garrard	22.21	Knott	19.05	Martin	13.83	Pulaski	25.08	Woodford	39.39

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



Louisiana



In Louisiana, 27.9 percent of the state's 2.4 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Louisiana's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 28.2 percent. Also, Louisiana's rate of higher education attainment is far 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 Louisiana, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 30.8 percent, considerably higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Louisiana are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. However, Louisiana's attainment rate among young adults is still well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, Louisiana 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 33 percent of Louisiana's adult population — 749,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 2,289,726, Louisiana will need to add more than 625,000 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, 316,000 of the expected 634,000

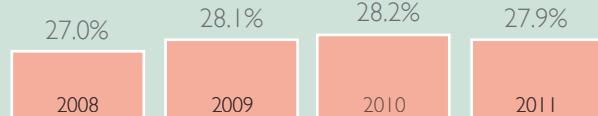
job vacancies in Louisiana will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 51 percent of all Louisiana jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

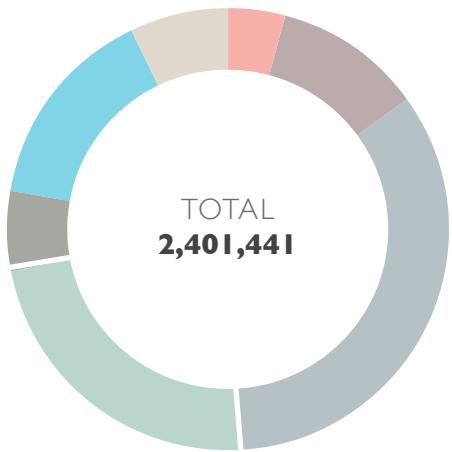
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, nearly 546,000 Louisiana adults — 22.7 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Louisiana 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 Louisiana parish. 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. Louisiana 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 Louisiana'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





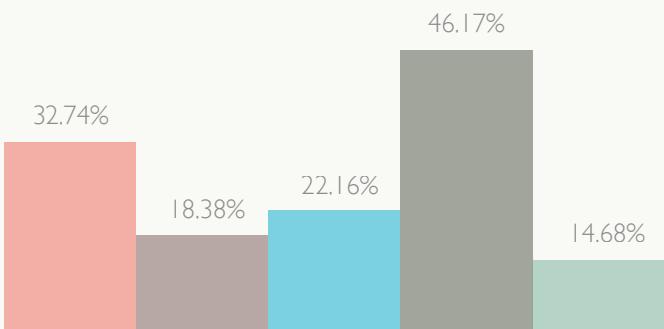
Levels of education for Louisiana adults (ages 25-64)

Less than ninth grade	103,514	4.31%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	262,271	10.92%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	820,676	34.17%
Some college, no degree	545,834	22.73%
Associate degree	140,554	5.85%
Bachelor's degree	360,792	15.02%
Graduate or professional degree	167,800	6.99%

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

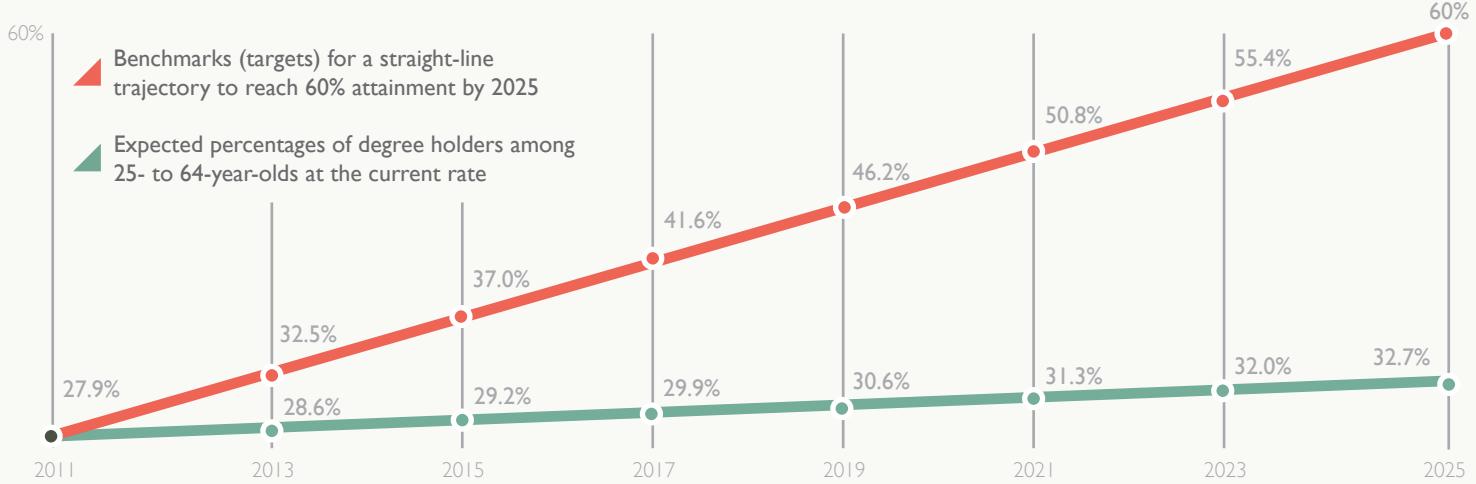
Degree-attainment rates among Louisiana adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	32.74%
Black	18.38%
Hispanic	22.16%
Asian	46.17%
Native American	14.68%



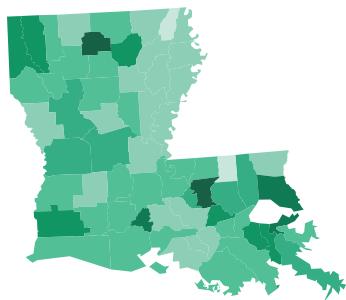
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Louisiana



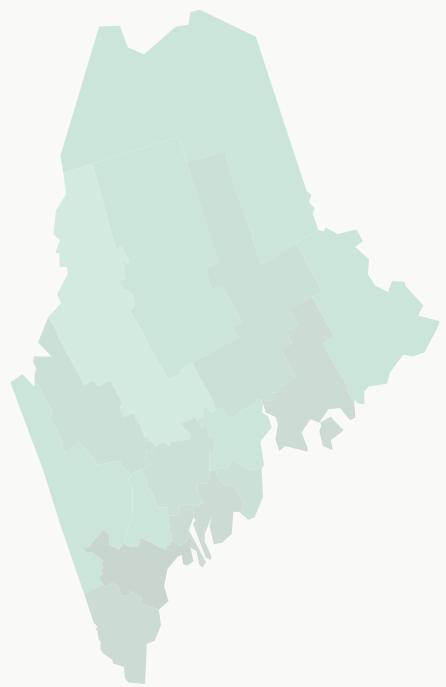
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey.

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

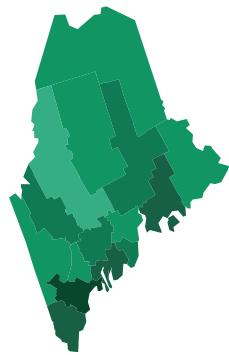


Acadia	18.25	Claiborne	14.11	Jefferson Davis	18.02	Rapides	25.69	Tangipahoa	26.03
Allen	14.02	Concordia	14.49	Lafayette	33.83	Red River	20.16	Tensas	11.84
Ascension	30.20	De Soto	20.29	Lafourche	20.33	Richland	16.57	Terrebonne	17.89
Assumption	13.57	East Baton Rouge	39.55	La Salle	16.91	Sabine	16.05	Union	20.25
Avoyelles	15.46	East Carroll	13.46	Lincoln	39.22	St. Bernard	16.80	Vermilion	18.31
Beauregard	20.91	East Feliciana	17.23	Livingston	22.60	St. Charles	29.67	Vernon	24.46
Bienville	17.78	Evangeline	18.90	Madison	16.52	St. Helena	9.88	Washington	16.55
Bossier	32.77	Franklin	14.40	Morehouse	15.48	St. James	18.51	Webster	18.89
Caddo	29.49	Grant	14.43	Natchitoches	26.65	St. John the Baptist	21.72	West Baton Rouge	23.68
Calcasieu	27.98	Iberia	17.33	Orleans	38.20	St. Landry	18.55	West Carroll	10.44
Caldwell	15.03	Iberville	16.62	Ouachita	29.14	St. Martin	15.91	West Feliciana	17.83
Cameron	16.91	Jackson	18.89	Plaquemines	23.05	St. Mary	14.00	Winn	18.37
Catahoula	13.97	Jefferson	30.92	Pointe Coupee	19.82	St. Tammany	38.60		

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



Maine



In Maine, 40 percent of the state's 725,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Maine's attainment rate is increasing; last year, the rate was 38.8 percent. Also, Maine's rate of higher education attainment is slightly higher than 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 educational trends in Maine. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Maine, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 39.5 percent — lower than that of the adult population as a whole, and also below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Maine is making some progress, but it 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, 48.5 percent of Maine's adult population — 351,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 724,345, Maine will need to add more than 83,000 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, 115,000 of the expected 196,000 job

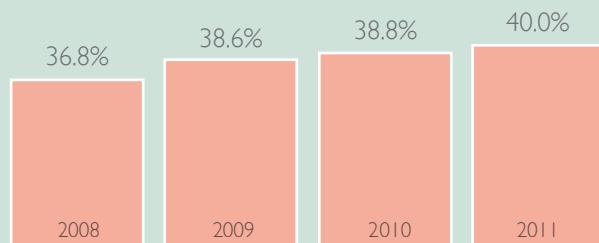
vacancies in Maine will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 59 percent of all Maine jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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 155,000 Maine adults — 21.3 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 Maine reach the 60 percent goal.

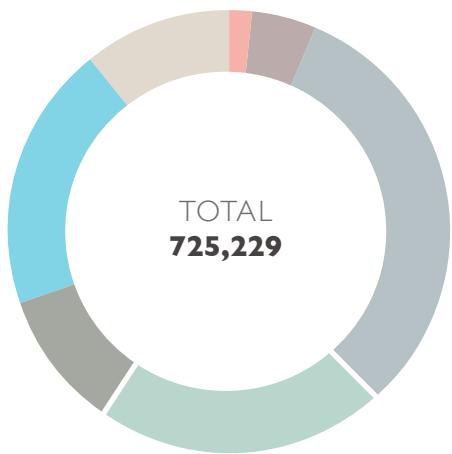
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Maine county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, so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

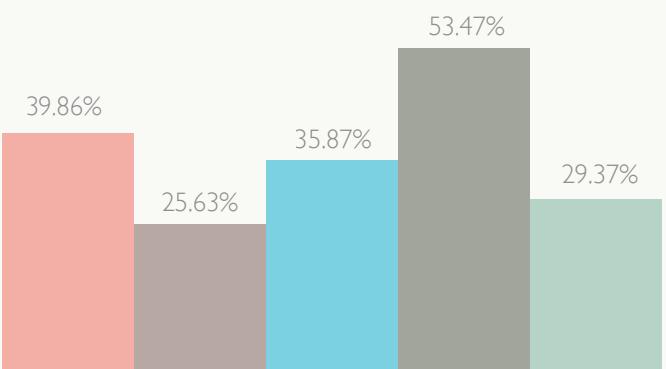


Less than ninth grade	12,085	1.67%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	34,663	4.78%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	233,665	32.22%
Some college, no degree	154,534	21.31%
Associate degree	72,415	9.99%
Bachelor's degree	140,902	19.43%
Graduate or professional degree	76,965	10.61%

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

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

White	39.86%
Black	25.63%
Hispanic	35.87%
Asian	53.47%
Native American	29.37%

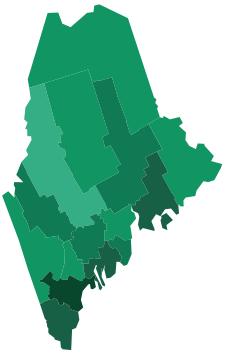


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Maine



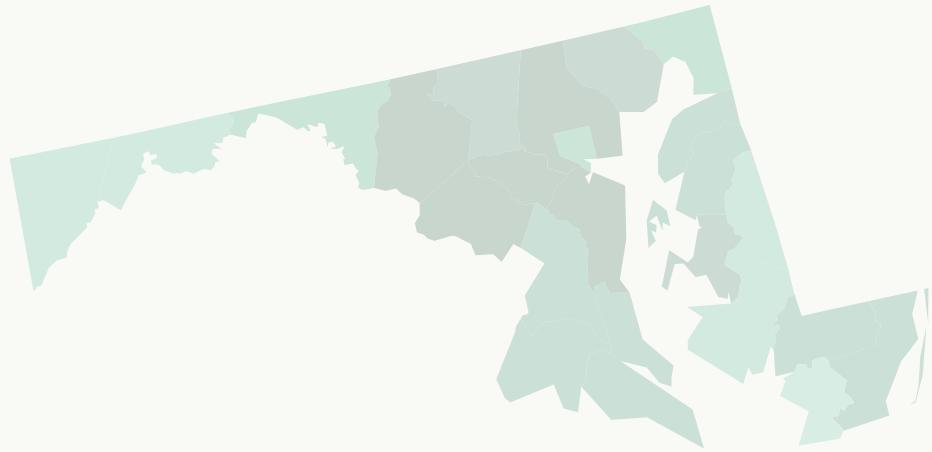
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



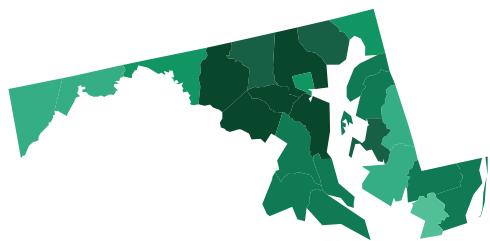
Percentage of Maine adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Androscoggin	30.76	Franklin	34.82	Knox	37.87	Penobscot	37.12	Somerset	26.94	York	40.28
Aroostook	29.09	Hancock	39.77	Lincoln	39.65	Piscataquis	28.56	Waldo	33.16		
Cumberland	52.33	Kennebec	37.26	Oxford	28.02	Sagadahoc	40.90	Washington	28.43		

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



Maryland



In Maryland, 45.4 percent of the state's 3.2 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Maryland's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 44.7 percent. Maryland's rate of higher education attainment is well 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.

Still, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Maryland. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Maryland, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 45.9 percent — only slightly higher than that of the adult population as a whole, though well above the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Despite its relative success, Maryland must do better. 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, about 53 percent of Maryland's adult population — 1.8 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 3,339,835, Maryland will need to add nearly 252,000 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, 569,000 of the expected 908,000

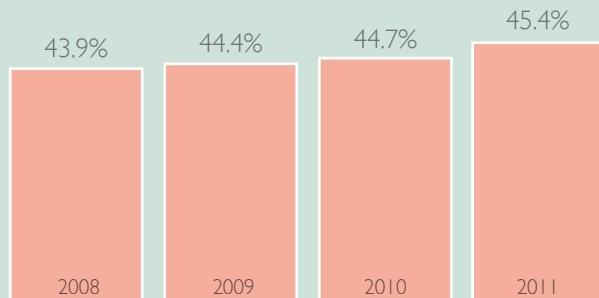
job vacancies in Maryland will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 66 percent of all Maryland jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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 662,000 Maryland adults — 20.8 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 Maryland reach the 60 percent goal.

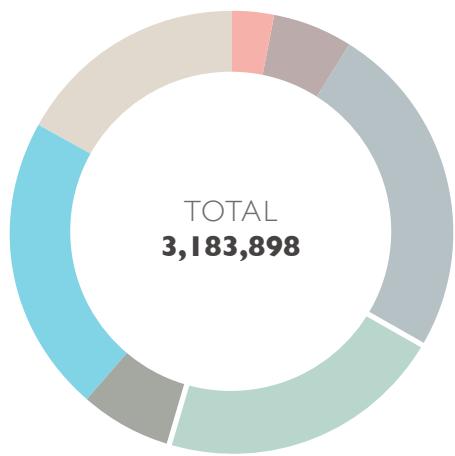
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Maryland county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



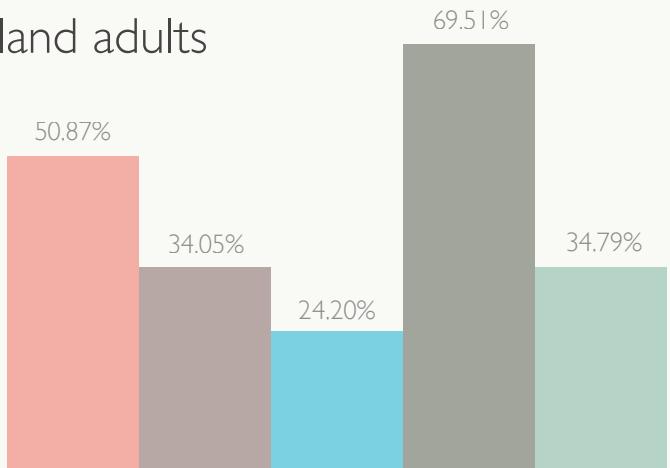
Less than ninth grade	104,511	3.28%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	186,270	5.85%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	785,370	24.67%
Some college, no degree	661,596	20.78%
Associate degree	217,689	6.84%
Bachelor's degree	696,649	21.88%
Graduate or professional degree	531,813	16.70%

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

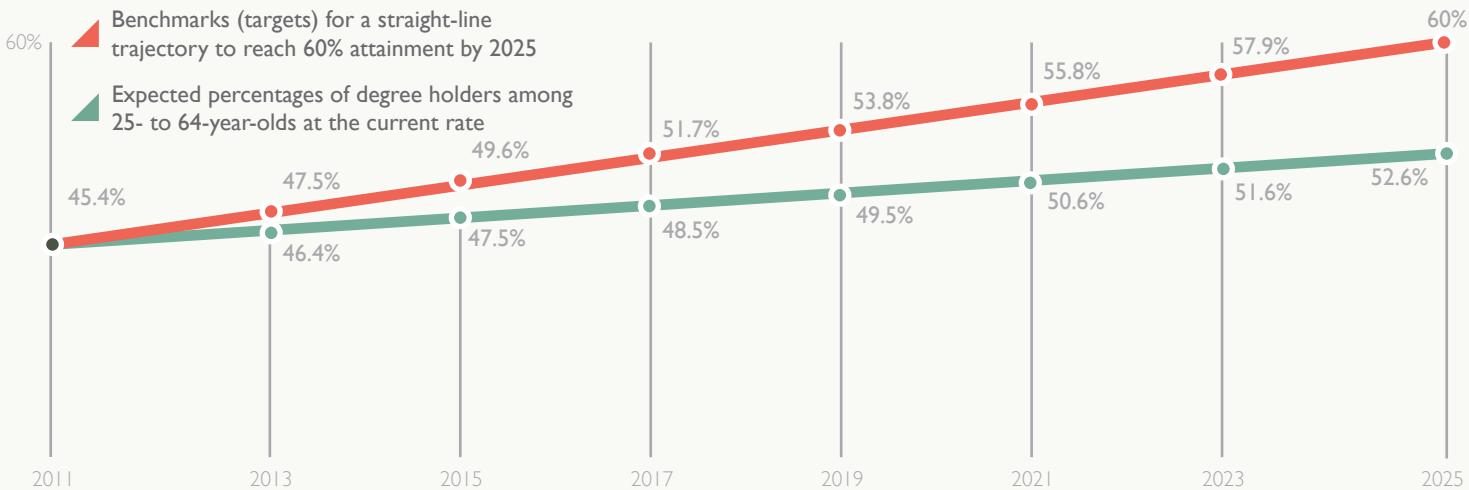
Degree-attainment rates among Maryland adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	50.87%
Black	34.05%
Hispanic	24.20%
Asian	69.51%
Native American	34.79%

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

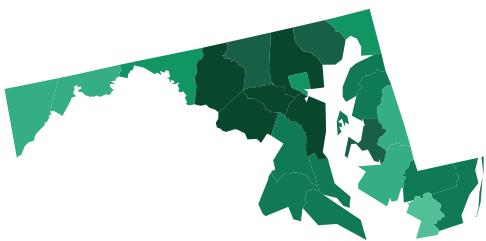


The path to 60% degree attainment in Maryland



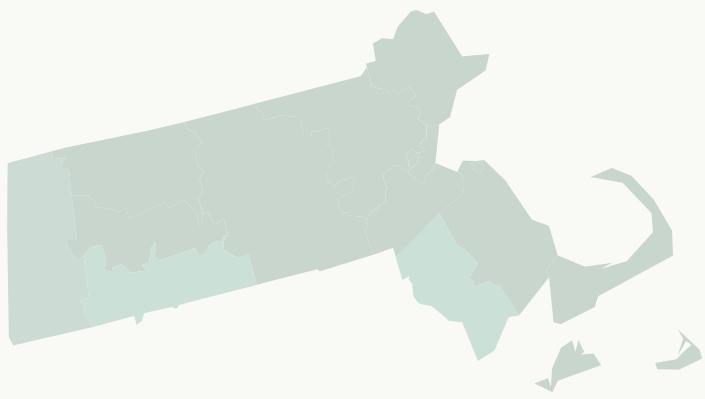
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

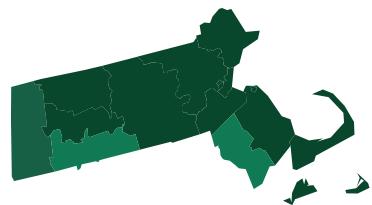


Allegany	26.83	Caroline	24.86	Dorchester	25.15	Howard	67.47	Queen Anne's	38.71	Washington	29.43
Anne Arundel	45.70	Carroll	43.41	Frederick	47.80	Kent	38.30	St. Mary's	38.15	Wicomico	33.86
Baltimore	45.00	Cecil	29.85	Garrett	27.15	Montgomery	63.70	Somerset	19.11	Worcester	38.00
Calvert	38.36	Charles	36.98	Harford	43.12	Prince George's	37.22	Talbot	39.35	Baltimore city	32.54

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



Massachusetts



In Massachusetts, 50.8 percent of the state's 3.6 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Massachusetts' attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 50.5 percent. Massachusetts' rate of higher education attainment is well 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 Massachusetts. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Massachusetts, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 55.2 percent — higher than that of the adult population as a whole, and well above the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Despite its successes, however, there is room for improvement in Massachusetts. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 58 percent of Massachusetts' adult population — 2 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 3,485,818, Massachusetts will need to add nearly 77,000 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, 707,000 of the expected

1 million job vacancies in Massachusetts will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 68 percent of all Massachusetts jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

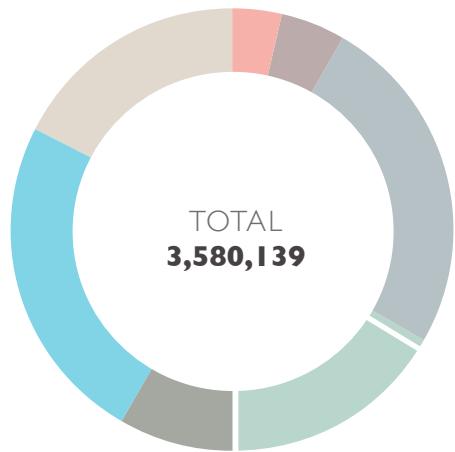
The state's economic future can surely be bolstered by producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, nearly 610,000 Massachusetts adults — 17 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Massachusetts 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 Massachusetts 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. Massachusetts 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 Massachusetts' 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





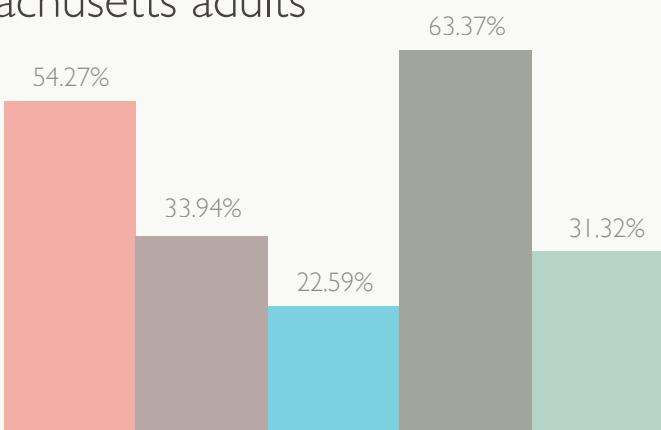
Levels of education for Massachusetts adults (ages 25-64)

Less than ninth grade	133,051	3.72%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	177,197	4.95%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	842,538	23.53%
Some college, no degree	609,837	17.03%
Associate degree	298,467	8.34%
Bachelor's degree	888,302	24.81%
Graduate or professional degree	630,747	17.62%

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

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

White	54.27%
Black	33.94%
Hispanic	22.59%
Asian	63.37%
Native American	31.32%

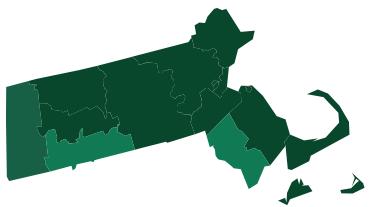


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Massachusetts



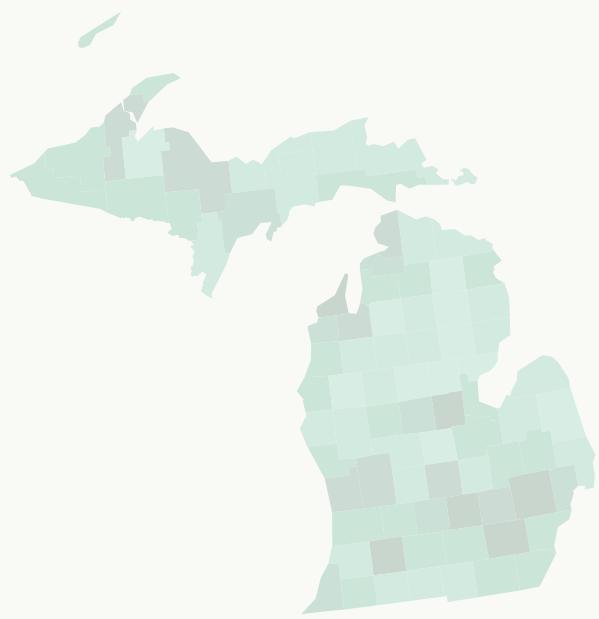
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



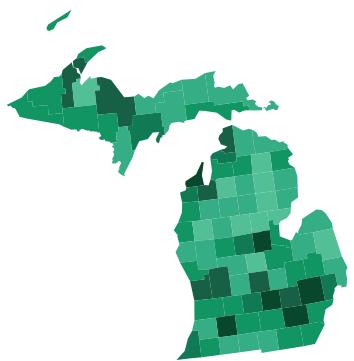
Percentage of Massachusetts adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Barnstable	50.82	Dukes	50.10	Hampden	36.15	Nantucket	49.80	Suffolk	47.84
Berkshire	41.16	Essex	48.53	Hampshire	55.00	Norfolk	61.67	Worcester	46.34
Bristol	37.60	Franklin	45.31	Middlesex	60.53	Plymouth	45.60		

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



Michigan



In Michigan, 36.8 percent of the state's 5.2 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Michigan's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 36.4 percent. Still, Michigan's rate of higher education attainment is 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 Michigan, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 37.8 percent, higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Michigan are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. However, Michigan's attainment rate among young adults is still below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Michigan is making some progress, but it 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 43 percent of Michigan's adult population — 2.3 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 5,429,861, Michigan will need to add more than 923,000 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, 836,000 of the expected 1.3 million

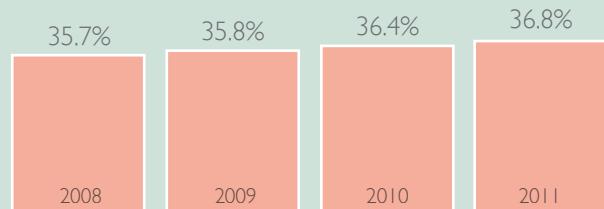
job vacancies in Michigan will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 62 percent of all Michigan jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

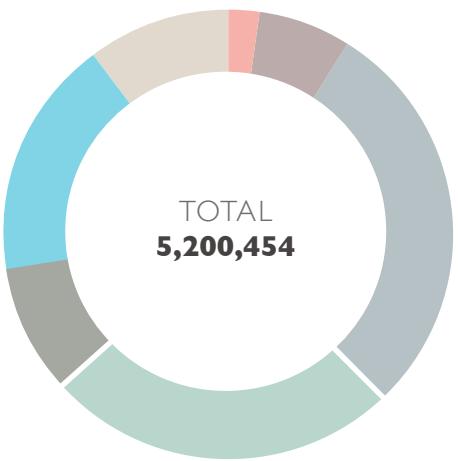
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 1.3 million Michigan adults — 25.3 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Michigan 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 Michigan 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. Michigan 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 Michigan'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





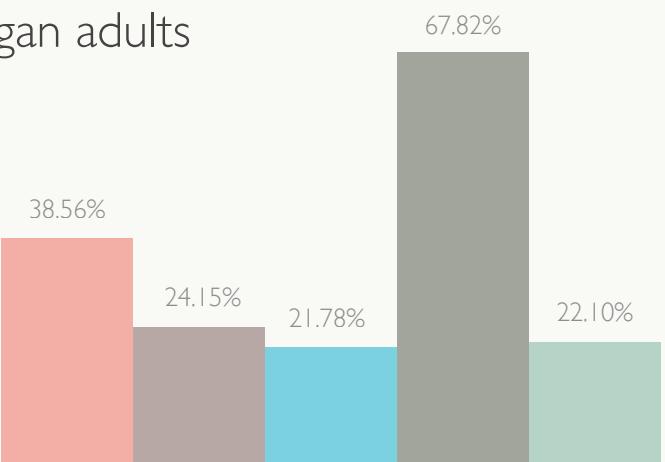
Levels of education for Michigan adults (ages 25-64)

Less than ninth grade	125,617	2.42%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	345,418	6.64%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	1,500,532	28.85%
Some college, no degree	1,312,878	25.25%
Associate degree	493,960	9.49%
Bachelor's degree	899,960	17.31%
Graduate or professional degree	522,668	10.05%

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

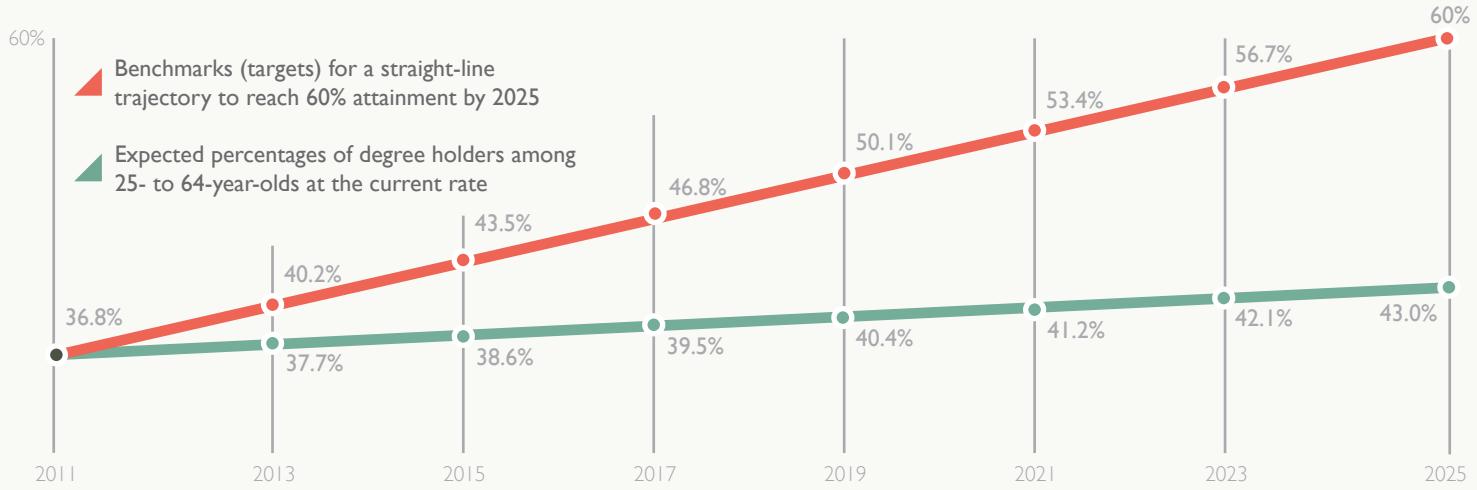
Degree-attainment rates among Michigan adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	38.56%
Black	24.15%
Hispanic	21.78%
Asian	67.82%
Native American	22.10%



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

The path to 60% degree attainment in Michigan



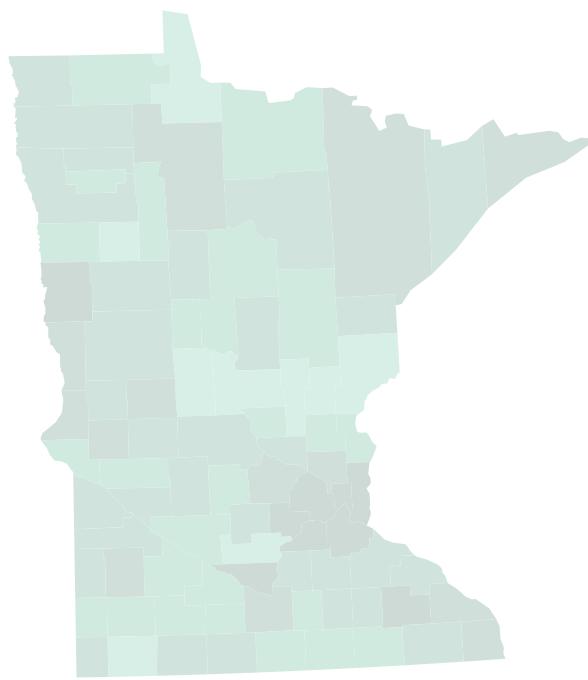
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



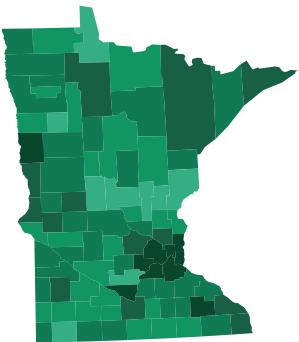
Percentage of Michigan adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Alcona	22.85	Charlevoix	34.93	Gratiot	22.15	Lake	16.93	Missaukee	23.87	Presque Isle	26.20
Alger	25.07	Cheboygan	27.40	Hillsdale	22.52	Lapeer	29.03	Monroe	29.16	Roscommon	25.58
Allegan	29.46	Chippewa	25.32	Houghton	40.94	Leelanau	48.75	Montcalm	23.51	Saginaw	30.92
Alpena	33.01	Clare	20.91	Huron	26.26	Lenawee	29.60	Montmorency	21.71	St. Clair	27.38
Antrim	30.15	Clinton	41.28	Ingham	45.96	Livingston	43.85	Muskegon	28.59	St. Joseph	24.24
Arenac	20.35	Crawford	26.13	Ionia	24.10	Luce	22.63	Newaygo	23.07	Sanilac	20.98
Baraga	18.48	Delta	33.68	Iosco	22.50	Mackinac	28.59	Oakland	53.61	Schoolcraft	23.55
Barry	28.29	Dickinson	31.14	Iron	28.87	Macomb	35.09	Oceana	24.50	Shiawassee	27.33
Bay	32.36	Eaton	38.24	Isabella	35.97	Manistee	28.12	Ogemaw	21.14	Tuscola	25.08
Benzie	33.89	Emmet	40.19	Jackson	29.01	Marquette	40.24	Ontonagon	31.31	Van Buren	27.51
Berrien	35.17	Genesee	30.35	Kalamazoo	44.82	Mason	31.41	Osceola	23.93	Washtenaw	60.51
Branch	23.11	Gladwin	20.76	Kalkaska	17.06	Mecosta	32.59	Oscoda	19.13	Wayne	30.02
Calhoun	29.79	Gogebic	32.45	Kent	41.51	Menominee	25.84	Otsego	28.94	Wexford	26.98
Cass	27.79	Grand Traverse	41.87	Keweenaw	30.70	Midland	45.62	Ottawa	40.49		

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



Minnesota



In Minnesota, 46.6 percent of the state's 2.9 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Minnesota's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 45.8 percent. Minnesota's rate of higher education attainment is well 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 Minnesota. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Minnesota, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 50.8 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 Minnesota. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 58 percent of Minnesota's adult population — 1.7 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 3,057,199, Minnesota will need to add more than 131,000 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, 620,000 of the expected 902,000

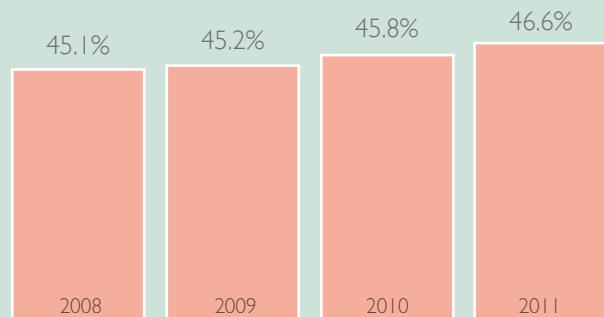
job vacancies in Minnesota will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 70 percent of all Minnesota jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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 660,000 Minnesota adults — 23.1 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 Minnesota reach the 60 percent goal.

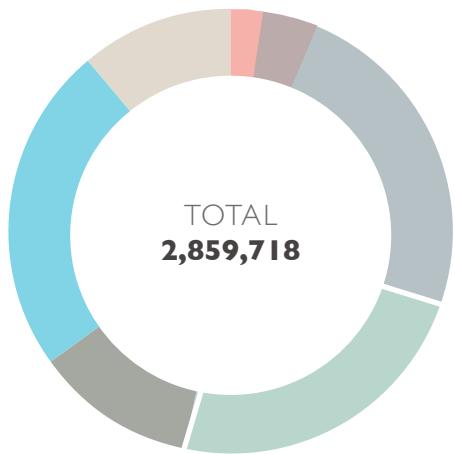
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Minnesota county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



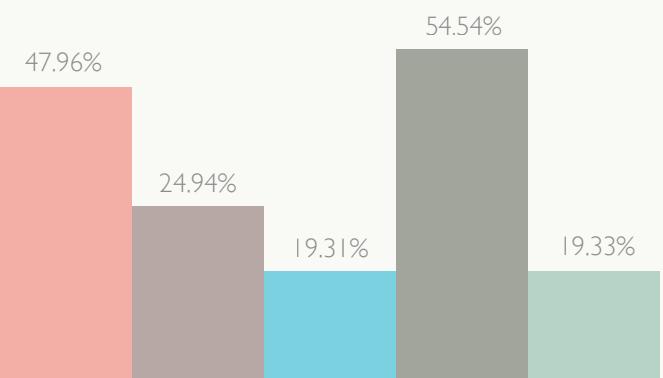
Less than ninth grade	63,116	2.21%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	116,409	4.07%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	687,720	24.05%
Some college, no degree	660,472	23.10%
Associate degree	337,767	11.81%
Bachelor's degree	679,231	23.75%
Graduate or professional degree	315,003	11.02%

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

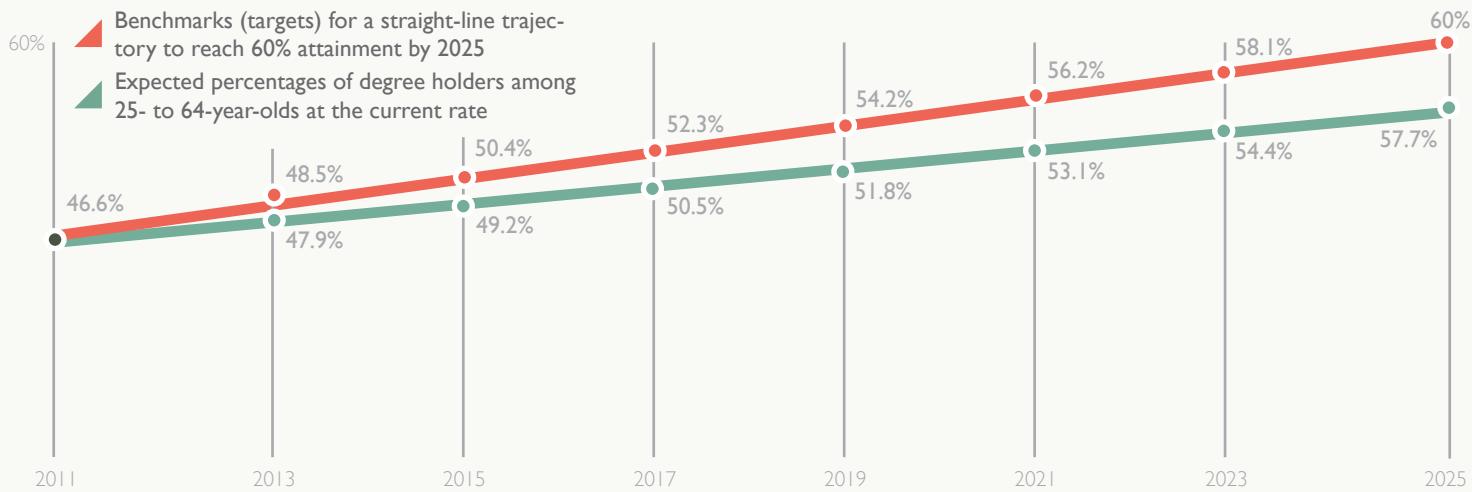
Degree-attainment rates among Minnesota adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	47.96%
Black	29.94%
Hispanic	19.31%
Asian	54.54%
Native American	19.33%

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

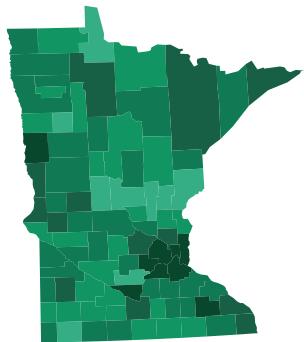


The path to 60% degree attainment in Minnesota



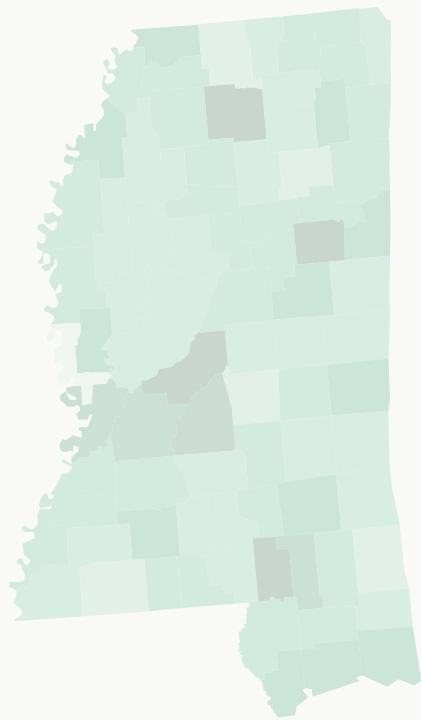
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

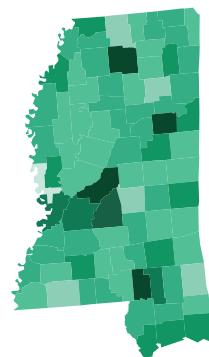


Aitkin	29.40	Dakota	52.16	Lac qui Parle	36.25	Olmsted	55.05	Stearns	38.58
Anoka	39.86	Dodge	38.85	Lake	34.91	Otter Tail	37.76	Steele	38.64
Becker	36.03	Douglas	43.43	Lake of the Woods	27.27	Pennington	34.40	Stevens	43.04
Beltrami	40.64	Faribault	31.61	Le Sueur	33.80	Pine	22.99	Swift	29.36
Benton	32.91	Fillmore	34.97	Lincoln	35.01	Pipestone	30.52	Todd	24.91
Big Stone	33.09	Freeborn	30.14	Lyon	39.45	Polk	38.37	Traverse	41.23
Blue Earth	43.91	Goodhue	38.43	McLeod	36.24	Pope	38.18	Wabasha	34.48
Brown	32.08	Grant	35.24	Mahnomen	25.98	Ramsey	49.54	Wadena	30.88
Carlton	37.10	Hennepin	55.89	Marshall	34.27	Red Lake	28.96	Waseca	30.79
Carver	56.71	Houston	41.82	Martin	34.38	Redwood	29.63	Washington	53.75
Cass	30.81	Hubbard	35.73	Meeker	31.23	Renville	30.61	Watonwan	28.39
Chippewa	34.35	Isanti	28.36	Mille Lacs	27.11	Rice	37.52	Wilkin	40.95
Chisago	32.47	Itasca	35.30	Morrison	27.64	Rock	34.20	Winona	41.21
Clay	47.20	Jackson	36.06	Mower	32.37	Roseau	28.48	Wright	40.45
Clearwater	31.01	Kanabec	25.10	Murray	30.91	St. Louis	40.67	Yellow Medicine	33.91
Cook	41.25	Kandiyohi	38.61	Nicollet	47.32	Scott	50.02		
Cottonwood	30.12	Kittson	37.37	Nobles	27.68	Sherburne	38.66		
Crow Wing	37.95	Koochiching	30.26	Norman	32.59	Sibley	25.70		

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



Mississippi



In Mississippi, 30.3 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. Mississippi's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 29.9 percent. Also, Mississippi'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, however, some reason for optimism. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the attainment rate of young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Mississippi, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 31.5 percent, higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Mississippi are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. However, Mississippi's attainment rate among young adults is well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Mississippi is making some progress, but it 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 38 percent of Mississippi's adult population — 558,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 1,500,207, Mississippi will need to add more than 342,000 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, 214,000 of the expected 398,000

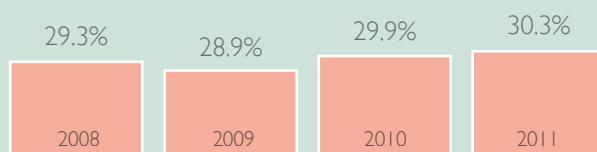
job vacancies in Mississippi will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 54 percent of all Mississippi jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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, more than 367,000 Mississippi adults — 24.1 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 Mississippi reach the 60 percent goal.

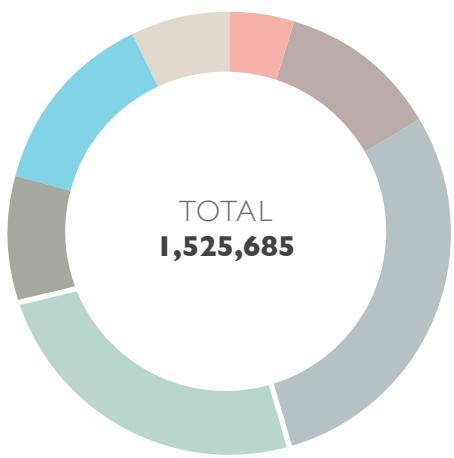
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Mississippi county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



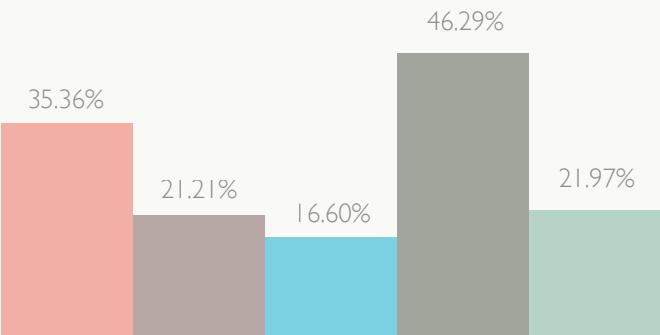
Less than ninth grade	72,538	4.75%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	180,282	11.82%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	443,936	29.10%
Some college, no degree	367,037	24.06%
Associate degree	144,020	9.44%
Bachelor's degree	208,134	13.64%
Graduate or professional degree	109,738	7.19%

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

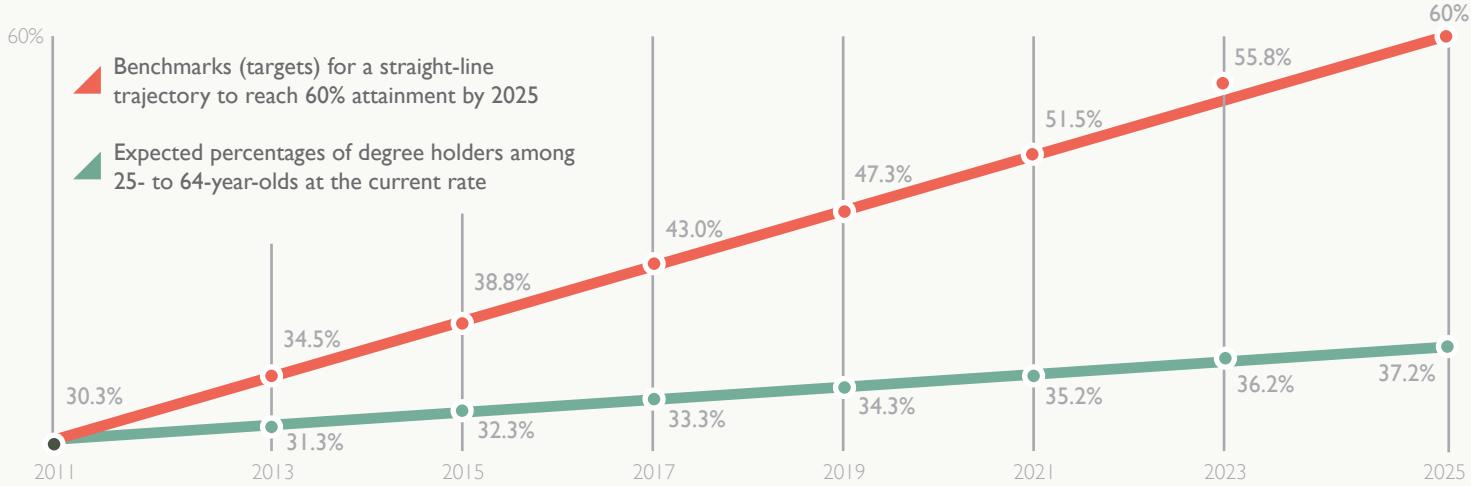
Degree-attainment rates among Mississippi adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	35.36%
Black	21.21%
Hispanic	16.60%
Asian	46.29%
Native American	21.97%

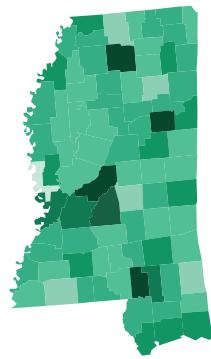
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File



The path to 60% degree attainment in Mississippi



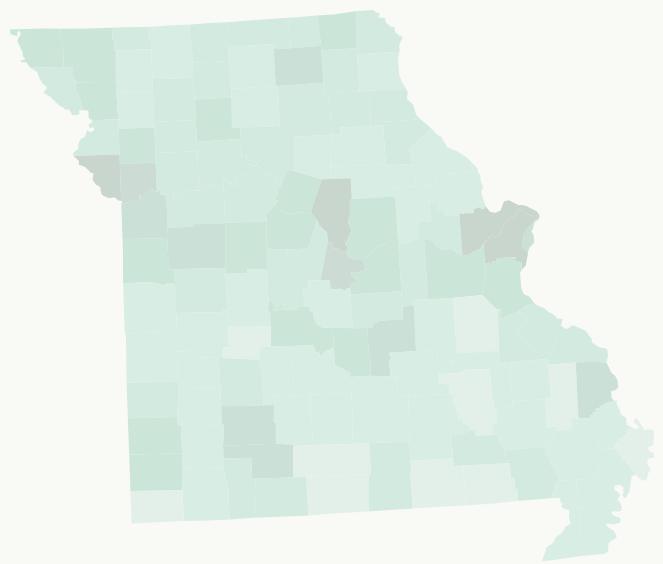
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



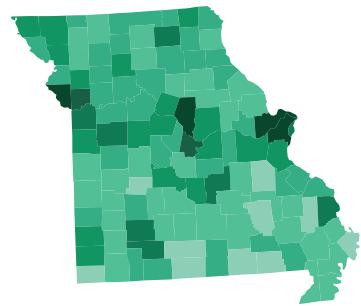
Percentage of Mississippi adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Adams	26.97	Copiah	25.92	Itawamba	23.07	Lincoln	29.09	Pike	25.25	Tishomingo	21.70
Alcorn	26.73	Covington	24.34	Jackson	29.46	Lowndes	29.28	Pontotoc	21.08	Tunica	26.09
Amite	16.15	DeSoto	32.79	Jasper	20.34	Madison	54.55	Prentiss	24.67	Union	21.74
Attala	23.79	Forrest	35.14	Jefferson	22.31	Marion	21.23	Quitman	19.86	Walthall	24.93
Benton	18.78	Franklin	20.89	Jefferson Davis	20.13	Marshall	16.23	Rankin	39.69	Warren	33.90
Bolivar	26.99	George	19.05	Jones	28.14	Monroe	22.38	Scott	15.78	Washington	25.43
Calhoun	17.43	Greene	15.17	Kemper	19.38	Montgomery	22.64	Sharkey	30.80	Wayne	18.99
Carroll	20.85	Grenada	26.75	Lafayette	49.02	Neshoba	22.07	Simpson	20.83	Webster	22.73
Chickasaw	16.13	Hancock	32.19	Lamar	45.26	Newton	26.14	Smith	22.43	Wilkinson	16.89
Choctaw	22.91	Harrison	30.72	Lauderdale	28.80	Noxubee	19.99	Stone	25.60	Winston	28.64
Claiborne	24.41	Hinds	36.97	Lawrence	21.93	Oktibbeha	49.02	Sunflower	19.31	Yalobusha	22.88
Clarke	17.75	Holmes	17.52	Leake	19.67	Panola	25.03	Tallahatchie	18.07	Yazoo	18.78
Clay	25.20	Humphreys	17.08	Lee	31.80	Pearl River	26.66	Tate	26.72		
Coahoma	28.76	Issaquena	6.05	Leflore	20.69	Perry	22.49	Tippah	22.40		

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



Missouri



In Missouri, 36.4 percent of the state's 3.15 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Missouri's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 35.8 percent. Also, Missouri's rate of higher education attainment is 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 Missouri, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 40 percent, considerably higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Missouri are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. However, Missouri's attainment rate among young adults is still slightly below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Missouri is making some progress, but it has a long way to go. In Missouri and nationally, college attainment rates must increase more rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 44 percent of Missouri's adult population — 1.4 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 3,094,790, Missouri will need to add nearly 486,000 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, 523,000 of the expected 898,000 job

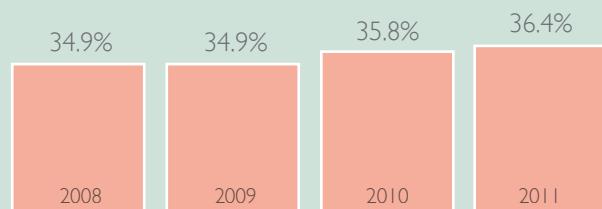
vacancies in Missouri will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 59 percent of all Missouri jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

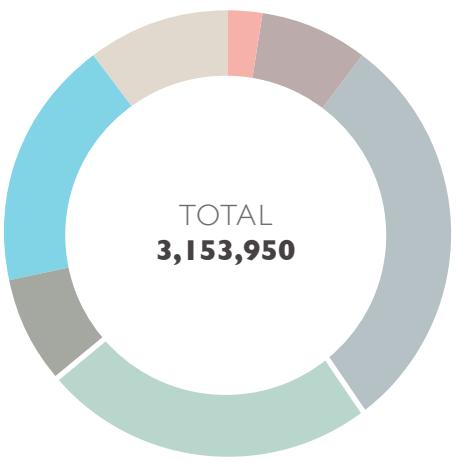
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, nearly 755,000 Missouri adults — 23.9 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Missouri 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 Missouri 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. Missouri 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 Missouri'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 Missouri adults (ages 25-64)

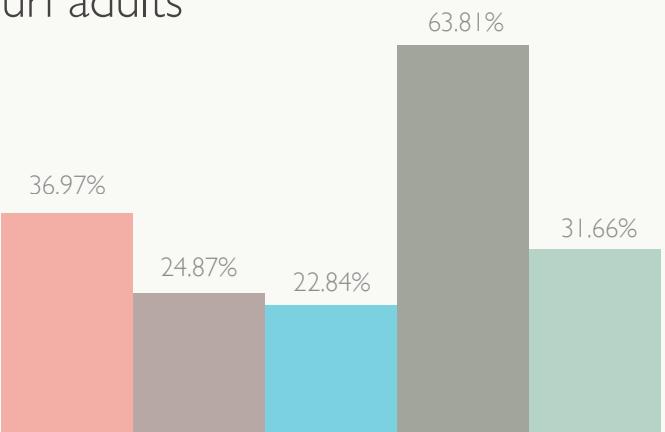
Less than ninth grade	80,462	2.55%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	244,457	7.75%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	927,865	29.42%
Some college, no degree	754,665	23.93%
Associate degree	256,747	8.14%
Bachelor's degree	570,335	18.08%
Graduate or professional degree	319,419	10.13%

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

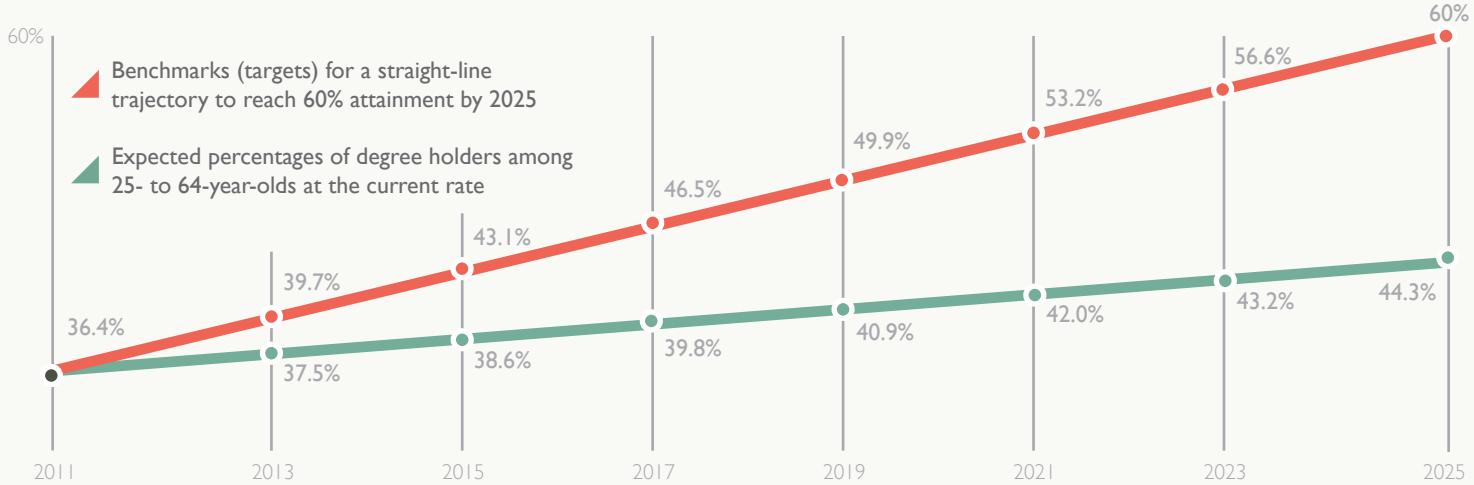
Degree-attainment rates among Missouri adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	36.97%
Black	24.87%
Hispanic	22.84%
Asian	63.81%
Native American	31.66%

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

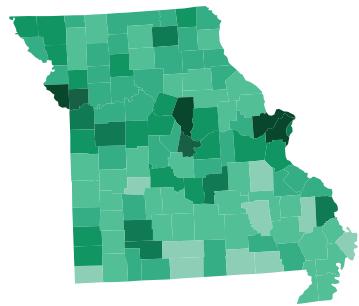


The path to 60% degree attainment in Missouri



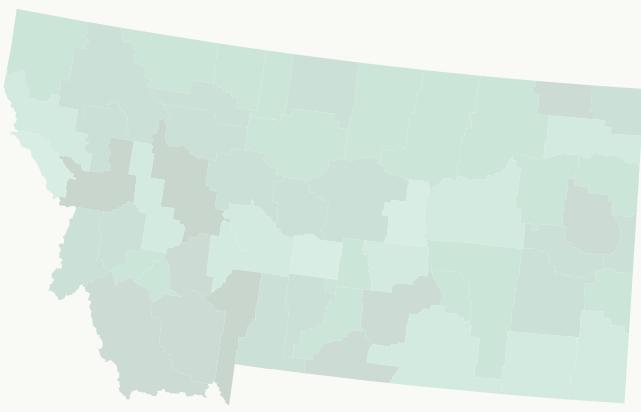
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

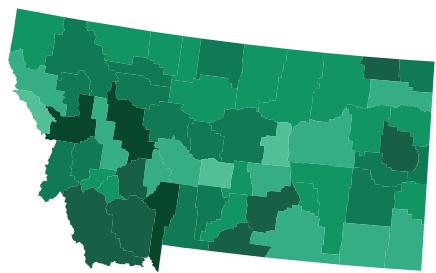


Adair	36.72	Chariton	25.34	Harrison	16.81	Macon	25.35	Phelps	35.41	Shannon	17.82
Andrew	27.78	Christian	36.56	Henry	23.62	Madison	18.47	Pike	18.16	Shelby	23.97
Atchison	33.06	Clark	24.39	Hickory	15.99	Maries	24.28	Platte	49.13	Stoddard	18.78
Audrain	19.81	Clay	41.94	Holt	23.58	Marion	26.47	Polk	25.62	Stone	22.58
Barry	18.96	Clinton	28.16	Howard	30.78	Mercer	24.07	Pulaski	32.61	Sullivan	18.41
Barton	25.76	Cole	40.44	Howell	23.56	Miller	18.79	Putnam	24.38	Taney	26.09
Bates	19.09	Cooper	28.02	Iron	18.34	Mississippi	15.59	Ralls	24.02	Texas	18.03
Benton	20.60	Crawford	17.12	Jackson	35.96	Moniteau	23.84	Randolph	20.73	Vernon	21.74
Bollinger	15.04	Dade	18.76	Jasper	27.92	Monroe	21.47	Ray	23.29	Warren	25.76
Boone	54.76	Dallas	19.16	Jefferson	29.51	Montgomery	22.20	Reynolds	13.31	Washington	12.75
Buchanan	26.83	Daviess	24.84	Johnson	36.50	Morgan	22.41	Ripley	15.54	Wayne	18.56
Butler	23.95	DeKalb	18.80	Knox	25.53	New Madrid	18.53	St. Charles	46.92	Webster	20.15
Caldwell	23.30	Dent	20.79	Laclede	19.60	Newton	28.87	St. Clair	21.37	Worth	25.02
Callaway	30.84	Douglas	15.03	Lafayette	25.83	Nodaway	32.95	Ste. Genevieve	22.34	Wright	19.20
Camden	29.02	Dunklin	16.75	Lawrence	22.22	Oregon	16.11	St. Francois	24.48	St. Louis city	36.83
Cape Girardeau	35.25	Franklin	27.95	Lewis	19.68	Osage	27.83	St. Louis	50.65		
Carroll	24.56	Gasconade	25.51	Lincoln	21.70	Ozark	15.88	Saline	24.63		
Carter	24.67	Gentry	21.25	Linn	21.72	Pemiscot	17.48	Schuylerville	22.91		
Cass	32.60	Greene	37.09	Livingston	28.99	Perry	22.55	Scotland	28.83		
Cedar	19.64	Grundy	26.97	McDonald	14.41	Pettis	28.64	Scott	18.79		

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



Montana



In Montana, 39.2 percent of the state's 526,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Montana's attainment rate is falling slightly; last year, the rate was 40 percent. Montana's rate of higher education attainment is roughly on par with 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.

Also, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Montana. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Montana, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 40 percent, only a bit higher than that of the adult population as a whole, and a bit below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Montana is making some progress, but it 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 46 percent of Montana's adult population — 233,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 502,693, Montana will need to add more than 68,000 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, 96,000 of the expected 155,000 job

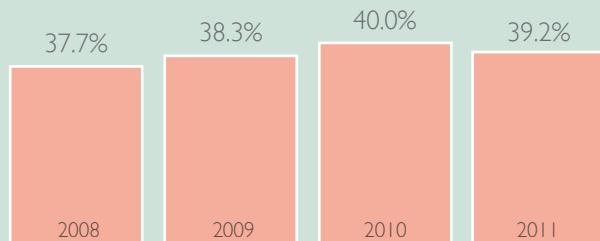
vacancies in Montana will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 62 percent of all Montana jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

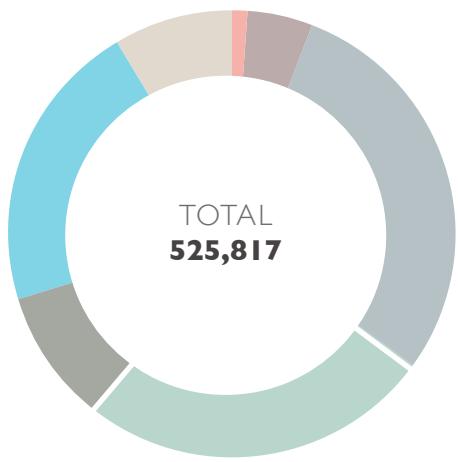
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 135,000 Montana adults — 25.7 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Montana 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 Montana 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. Montana 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 Montana'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 Montana adults (ages 25-64)

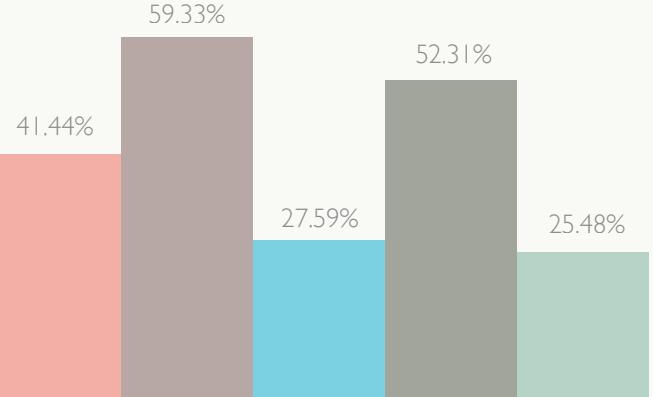
Less than ninth grade	6,227	1.18%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	25,545	4.86%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	153,079	29.11%
Some college, no degree	135,033	25.68%
Associate degree	50,472	9.60%
Bachelor's degree	111,263	21.16%
Graduate or professional degree	44,198	8.41%

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

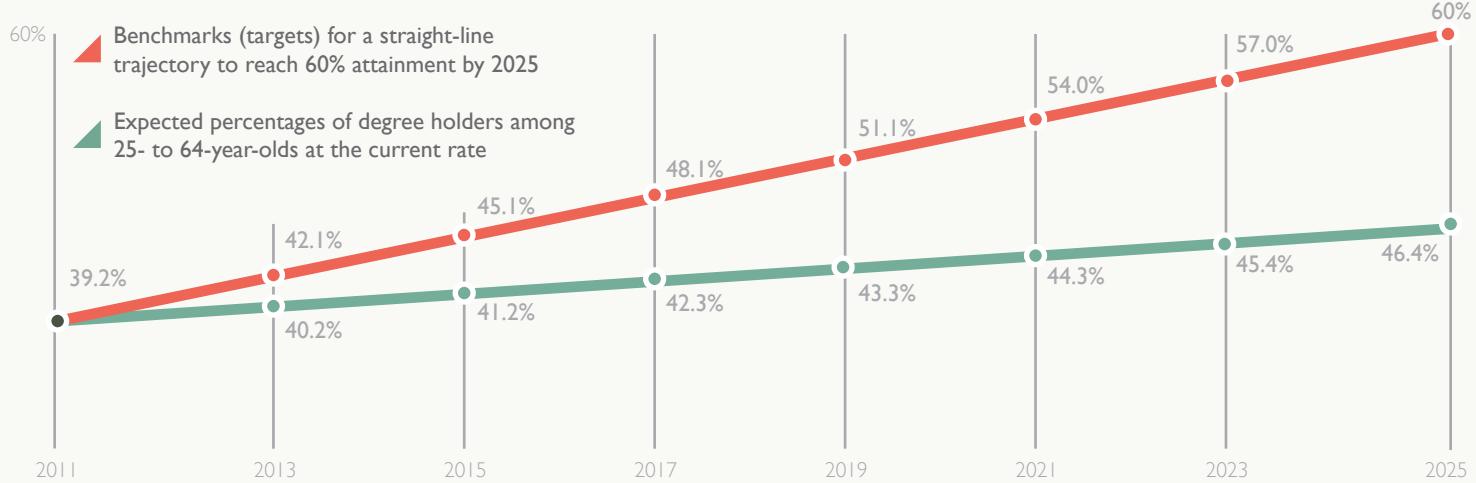
Degree-attainment rates among Montana adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	41.44%
Black	59.33%
Hispanic	27.59%
Asian	52.31%
Native American	25.48%

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

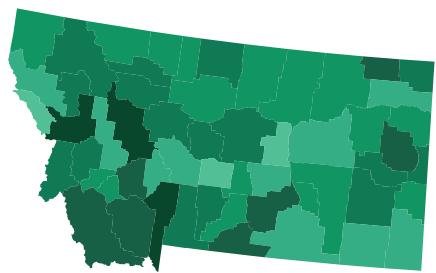


The path to 60% degree attainment in Montana



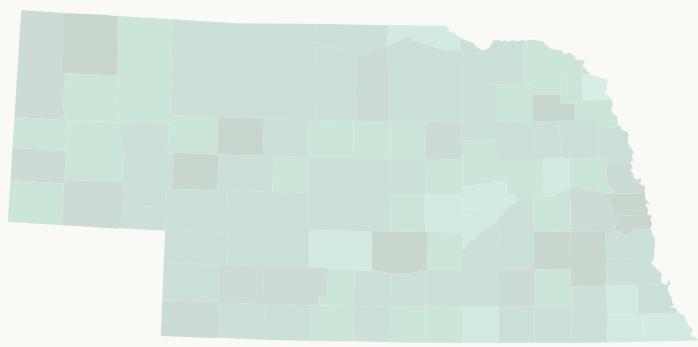
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

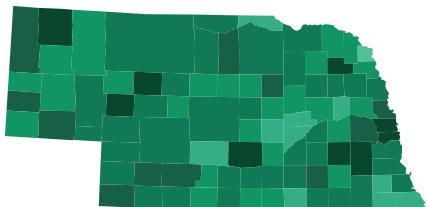


Beaverhead	41.06	Dawson	40.72	Hill	34.92	Mineral	19.25	Ravalli	33.80	Toole	28.43
Big Horn	22.41	Deer Lodge	29.45	Jefferson	42.99	Missoula	47.87	Richland	28.68	Treasure	31.65
Blaine	28.82	Fallon	27.90	Judith Basin	36.46	Musselshell	23.09	Roosevelt	26.31	Valley	30.24
Broadwater	25.67	Fergus	36.61	Lake	34.01	Park	37.36	Rosebud	28.81	Wheatland	22.09
Carbon	40.76	Flathead	37.50	Lewis and Clark	47.91	Petroleum	17.67	Sanders	23.86	Wibaux	36.94
Carter	23.90	Gallatin	53.48	Liberty	28.79	Phillips	30.16	Sheridan	34.34	Yellowstone	39.86
Cascade	35.24	Garfield	26.73	Lincoln	29.15	Pondera	34.96	Silver Bow	33.18		
Chouteau	33.21	Glacier	31.48	McCone	32.80	Powder River	26.16	Stillwater	31.29		
Custer	34.91	Golden Valley	31.88	Madison	40.90	Powell	26.96	Sweet Grass	33.77		
Daniels	39.46	Granite	38.29	Meagher	23.55	Prairie	37.43	Teton	37.73		

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



Nebraska



In Nebraska, 41.5 percent of the state's 946,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Nebraska's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 42 percent. Nebraska'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.

Also, there is reason for optimism about education trends in Nebraska. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Nebraska, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 43.9 percent, higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Nebraska are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. Nebraska's attainment rate among young adults is also better than the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Despite its relative success, however, Nebraska must do better. 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 49 percent of Nebraska's adult population — 408,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 839,822, Nebraska will need to add nearly 96,000 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, 207,000 of the expected 321,000

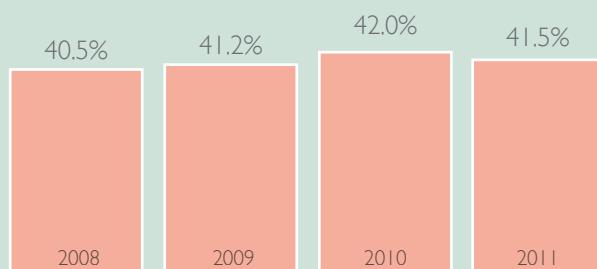
job vacancies in Nebraska will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 66 percent of all Nebraska jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

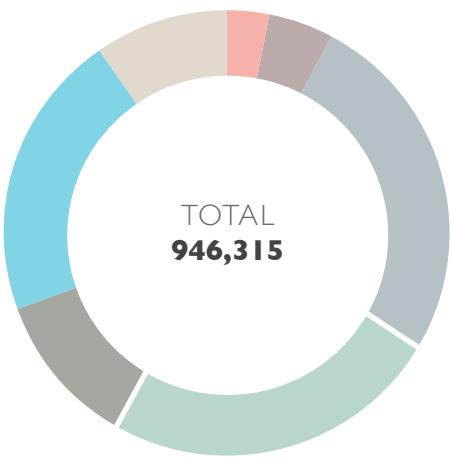
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 237,000 Nebraska adults — 25.1 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Nebraska 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 Nebraska 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. Nebraska 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 Nebraska'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 Nebraska adults (ages 25-64)

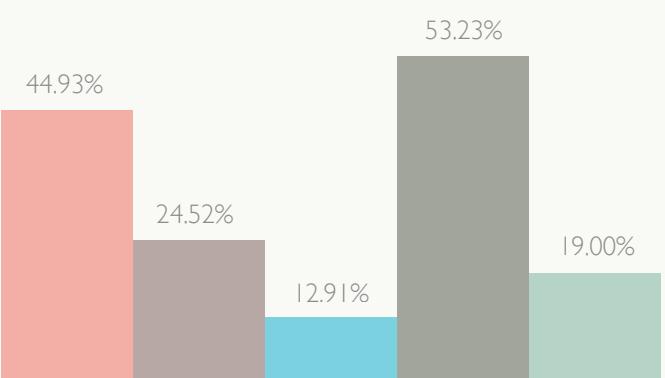
Less than ninth grade	31,338	3.31%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	43,956	4.64%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	241,306	25.50%
Some college, no degree	237,122	25.06%
Associate degree	104,668	11.06%
Bachelor's degree	197,864	20.91%
Graduate or professional degree	90,061	9.52%

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

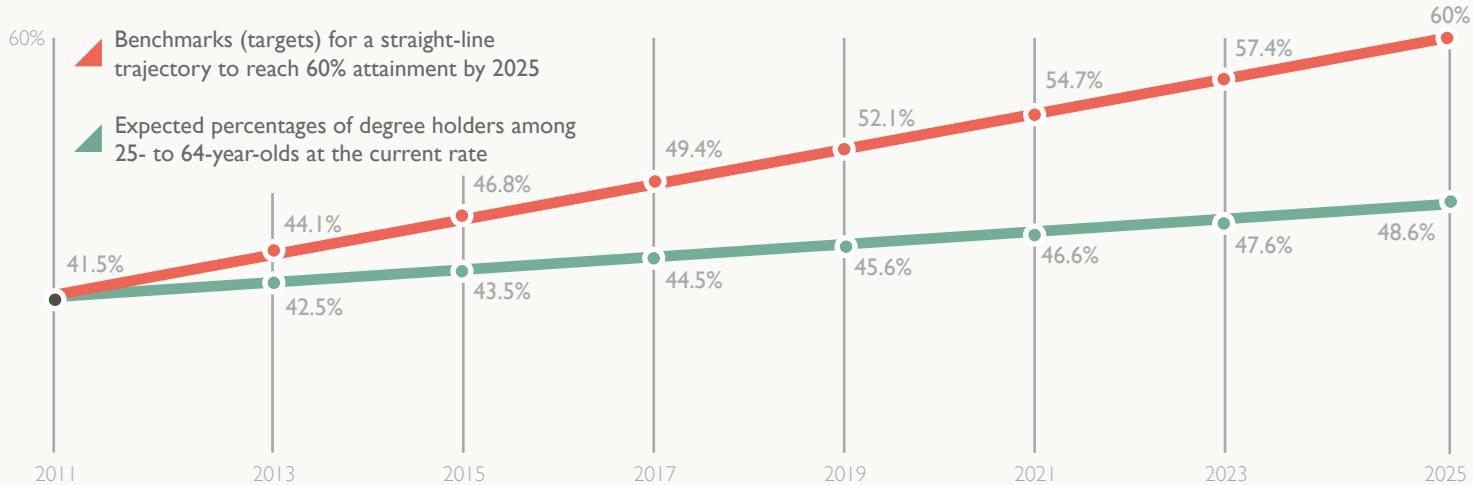
Degree-attainment rates among Nebraska adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	44.93%
Black	24.52%
Hispanic	12.91%
Asian	53.23%
Native American	19.00%

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

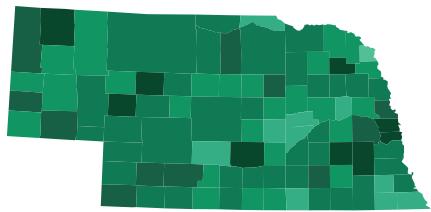


The path to 60% degree attainment in Nebraska



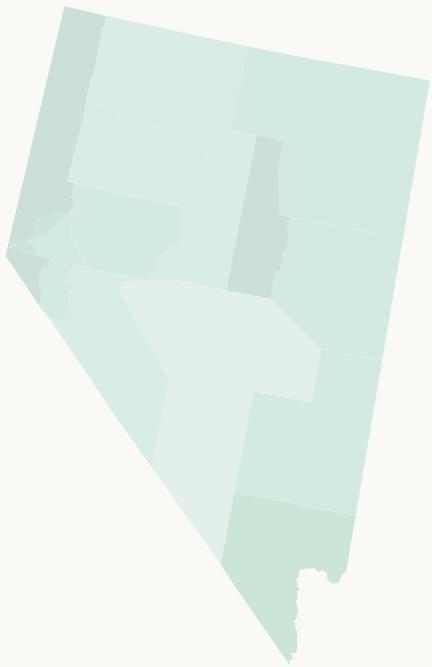
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

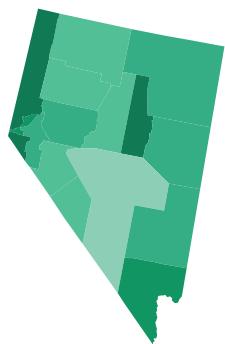


Adams	37.43	Cheyenne	40.12	Furnas	30.79	Johnson	23.01	Nuckolls	26.72	Sheridan	32.03
Antelope	34.10	Clay	35.31	Gage	35.26	Kearney	37.91	Otoe	38.83	Sherman	31.89
Arthur	48.15	Colfax	22.25	Garden	33.93	Keith	33.81	Pawnee	27.71	Sioux	42.49
Banner	43.33	Cuming	35.10	Garfield	28.36	Keya Paha	36.76	Perkins	33.55	Stanton	36.22
Blaine	29.81	Custer	35.22	Gosper	33.02	Kimball	31.84	Phelps	36.26	Thayer	37.18
Boone	28.84	Dakota	19.99	Grant	29.74	Knox	33.69	Pierce	32.88	Thomas	38.08
Box Butte	32.36	Dawes	47.14	Greeley	32.85	Lancaster	50.27	Platte	32.62	Thurston	31.52
Boyd	23.80	Dawson	22.56	Hall	28.45	Lincoln	35.56	Polk	35.47	Valley	35.15
Brown	34.32	Deuel	33.69	Hamilton	38.71	Logan	32.34	Red Willow	38.51	Washington	40.61
Buffalo	44.51	Dixon	29.93	Harlan	37.44	Loup	33.23	Richardson	26.11	Wayne	45.68
Burt	37.17	Dodge	29.62	Hayes	39.64	McPherson	36.49	Rock	40.28	Webster	31.56
Butler	33.09	Douglas	45.83	Hitchcock	35.80	Madison	38.53	Saline	28.83	Wheeler	39.00
Cass	37.42	Dundy	42.33	Holt	34.74	Merrick	27.65	Sarpy	47.92	York	37.59
Cedar	32.95	Fillmore	39.62	Hooker	46.31	Morrill	32.94	Saunders	39.92		
Chase	33.88	Franklin	31.52	Howard	26.97	Nance	26.48	Scotts Bluff	33.00		
Cherry	38.34	Frontier	39.36	Jefferson	33.51	Nemaha	36.42	Seward	47.56		

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



Nevada



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,

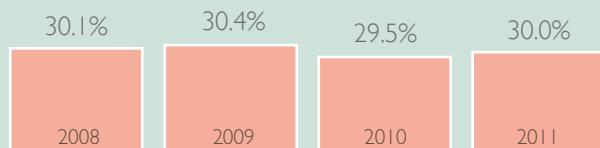
54 percent of all Nevada jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

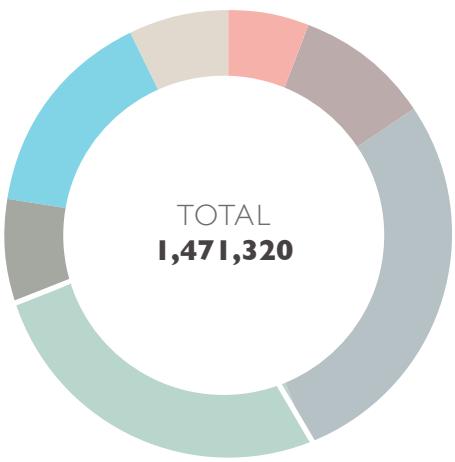
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, nearly 378,000 Nevada adults — 25.7 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either 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)

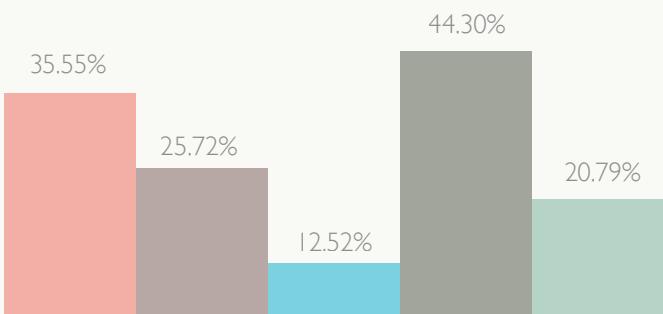
Less than ninth grade	89,517	6.08%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	142,787	9.71%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	420,529	28.58%
Some college, no degree	377,714	25.67%
Associate degree	111,535	7.58%
Bachelor's degree	225,073	15.30%
Graduate or professional degree	104,165	7.08%

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

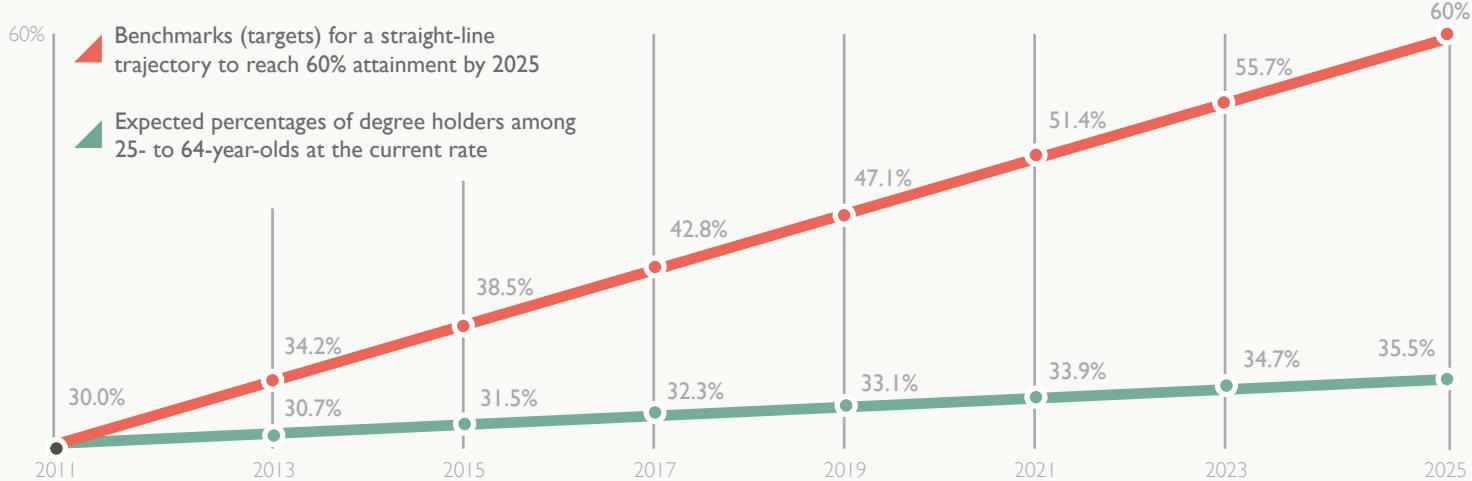
Degree-attainment rates among Nevada adults (ages 25-64), by population group

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

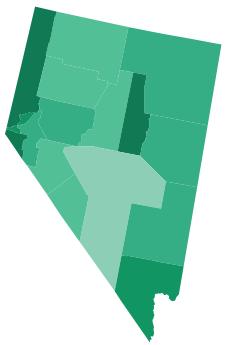
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File



The path to 60% degree attainment in Nevada



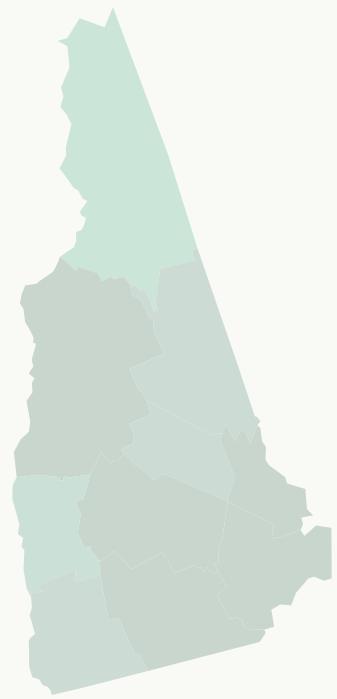
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



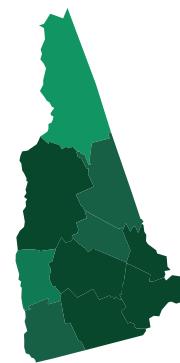
Percentage of Nevada adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

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



New Hampshire



In New Hampshire, 45.8 percent of the state's 730,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. New Hampshire's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was also 45.8 percent. Still, New Hampshire's rate of higher education attainment is well 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.

However, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in New Hampshire. 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 Hampshire, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 45.3 percent — lower than that of the adult population as a whole, though higher than the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, there is room for improvement in New Hampshire. 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, about 52.5 percent of New Hampshire's adult population — 431,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 820,018, New Hampshire will need to add nearly 62,000 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, 141,000 of the expected 223,000 job

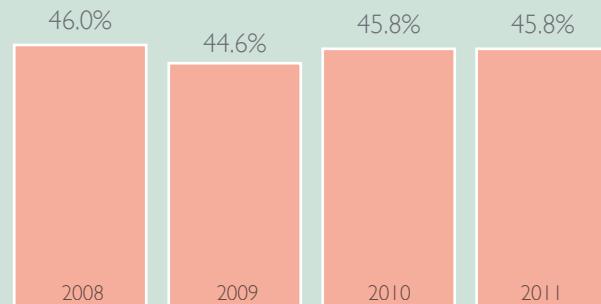
vacancies in New Hampshire will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 64 percent of all New Hampshire jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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, more than 146,000 New Hampshire adults — 20.1 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 Hampshire reach the 60 percent goal.

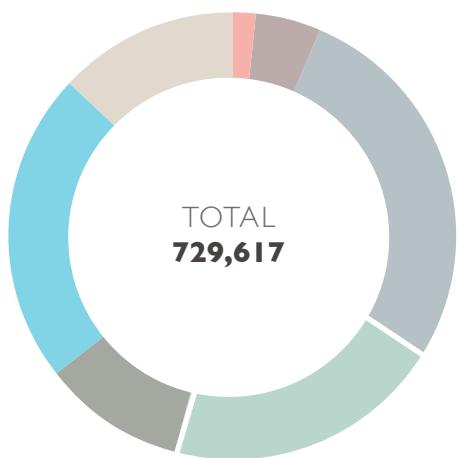
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each New Hampshire county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



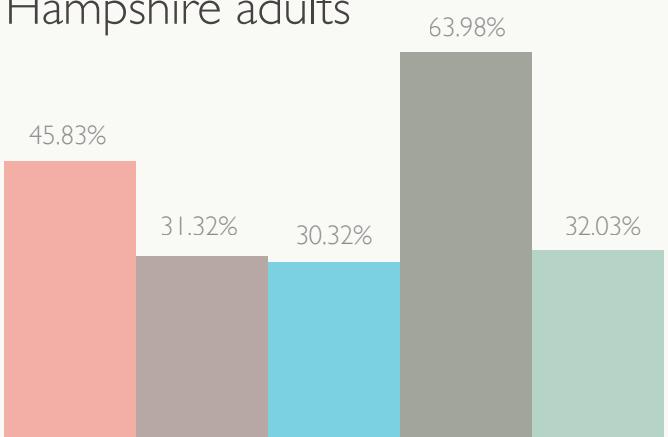
Less than ninth grade	12,515	1.72%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	35,833	4.91%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	200,883	27.53%
Some college, no degree	146,399	20.07%
Associate degree	75,869	10.40%
Bachelor's degree	164,908	22.60%
Graduate or professional degree	93,210	12.78%

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

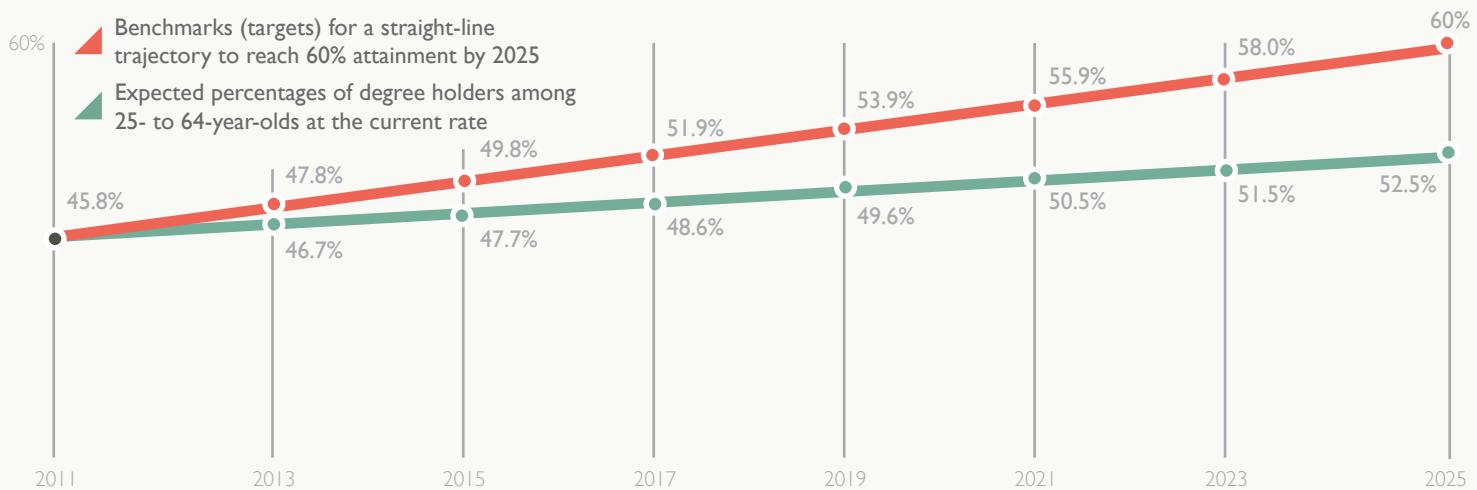
Degree-attainment rates among New Hampshire adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	45.83%
Black	31.32%
Hispanic	30.32%
Asian	63.98%
Native American	32.03%

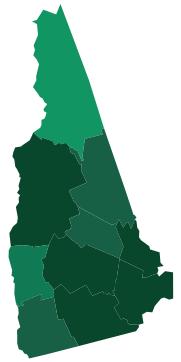
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File



The path to 60% degree attainment in New Hampshire



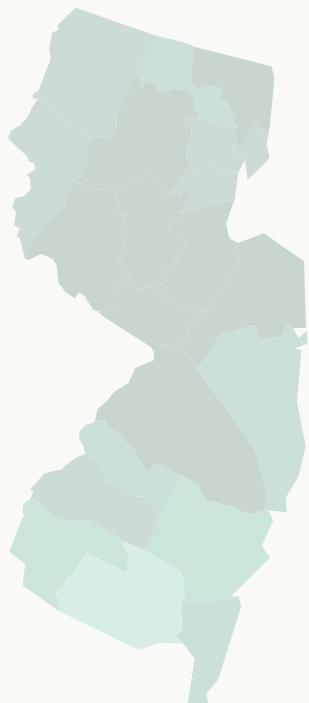
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



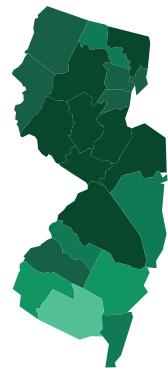
Percentage of New Hampshire adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Belknap	40.13	Cheshire	40.12	Grafton	45.49	Merrimack	46.05	Strafford	44.58
Carroll	40.92	Coos	28.83	Hillsborough	47.52	Rockingham	50.31	Sullivan	35.51

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



New Jersey



In New Jersey, 45.1 percent of the state's 4.8 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. New Jersey's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 45.3 percent. Still, New Jersey's rate of higher education attainment is well 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 reason for optimism about the educational trends in New Jersey. 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 Jersey, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 47 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, however, New Jersey must do better. 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, about 52 percent of New Jersey's adult population — 2.6 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 4,973,940, New Jersey will need to add more than 378,000 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, 794,000 of the expected 1.3 million

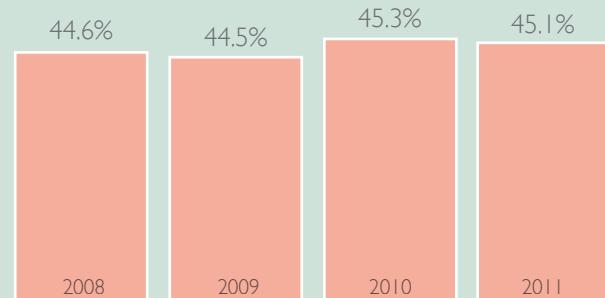
job vacancies in New Jersey will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 64 percent of all New Jersey jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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 871,000 New Jersey adults — 18.15 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 Jersey reach the 60 percent goal.

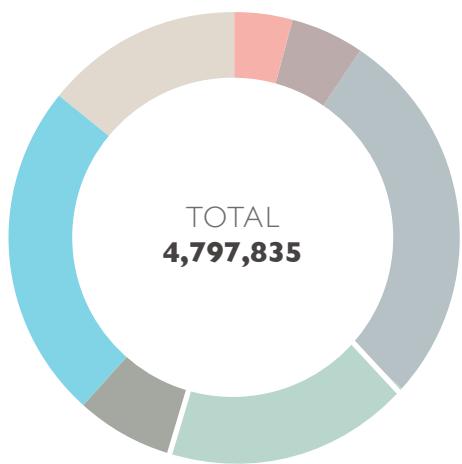
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each New Jersey county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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

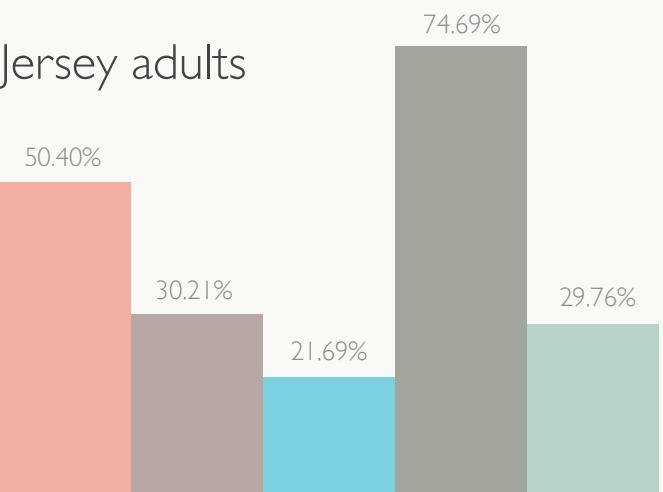


Less than ninth grade	205,082	4.27%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	255,693	5.33%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	1,304,124	27.18%
Some college, no degree	870,838	18.15%
Associate degree	326,716	6.81%
Bachelor's degree	1,160,667	24.19%
Graduate or professional degree	674,715	14.06%

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

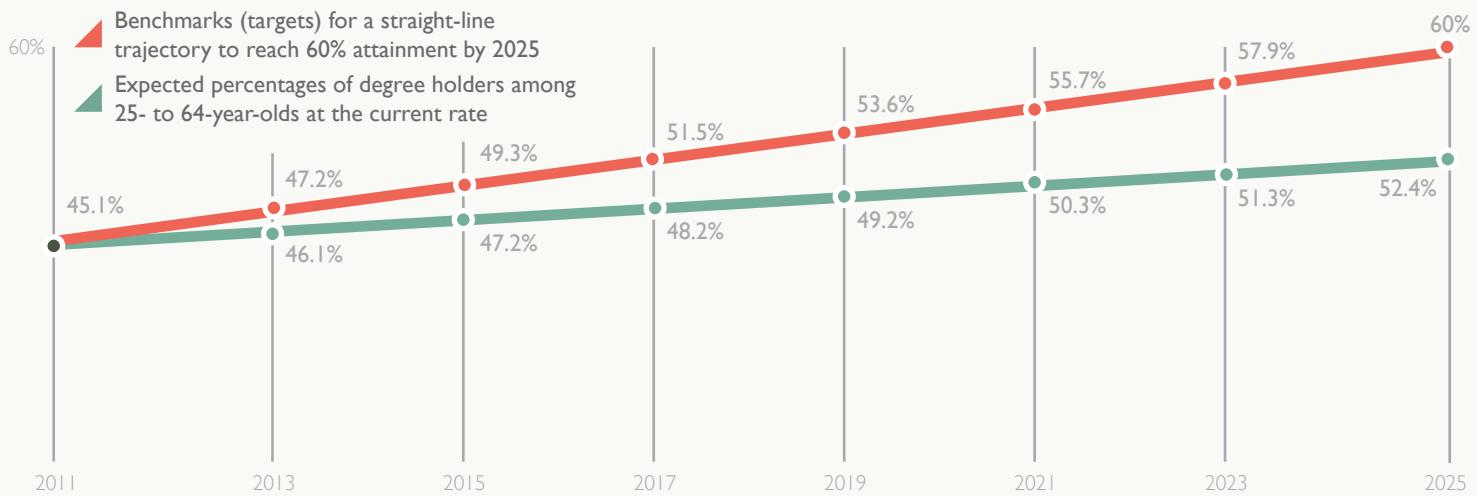
Degree-attainment rates among New Jersey adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	50.40%
Black	30.21%
Hispanic	21.69%
Asian	74.69%
Native American	29.76%



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

The path to 60% degree attainment in New Jersey



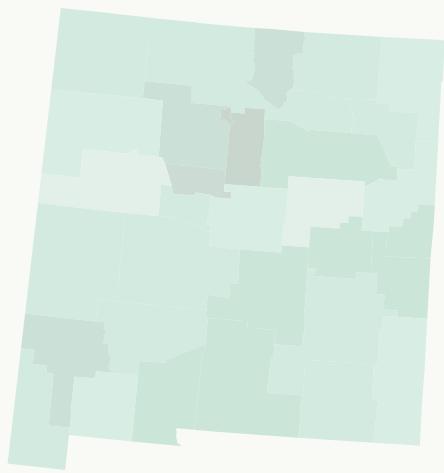
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



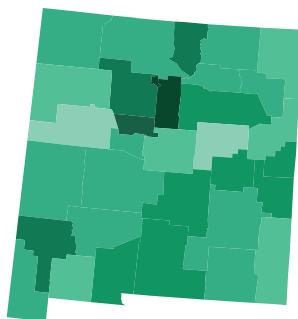
Percentage of New Jersey adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Atlantic	32.38	Cape May	36.64	Hudson	43.45	Monmouth	51.10	Salem	29.52	Warren	40.95
Bergen	55.66	Cumberland	21.33	Hunterdon	59.39	Morris	59.56	Somerset	60.78		
Burlington	45.67	Essex	39.51	Mercer	47.53	Ocean	36.06	Sussex	42.39		
Camden	37.64	Gloucester	39.52	Middlesex	49.60	Passaic	33.67	Union	40.33		

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



New Mexico



In New Mexico, 33.9 percent of the state's 1.1 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. New Mexico's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 33.1 percent. Also, New Mexico'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 New Mexico. 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 Mexico, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at just 30.4 percent, lower than that of the adult population as a whole. What's more, New Mexico's attainment rate among young adults is well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

New Mexico 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, about 37 percent of New Mexico's adult population — 362,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 970,371, New Mexico will need to add more than 220,000 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, 166,000 of the expected

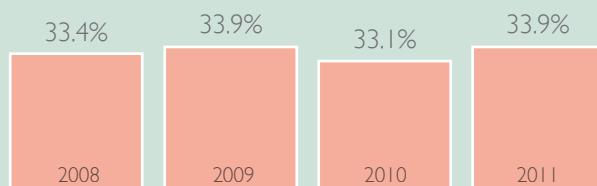
292,000 job vacancies in New Mexico will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 58 percent of all New Mexico jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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 262,000 New Mexico adults — 24.4 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 New Mexico reach the 60 percent goal.

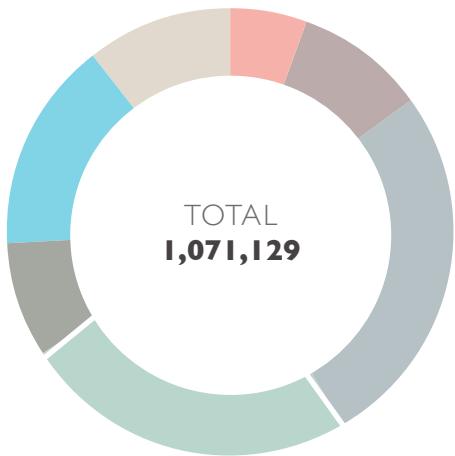
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each New Mexico county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



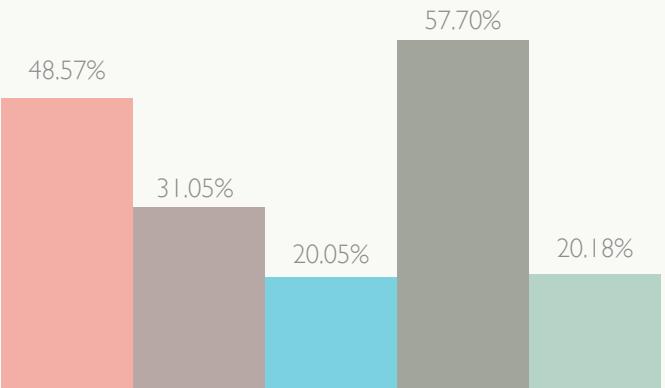
Less than ninth grade	60,271	5.63%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	101,673	9.49%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	284,480	25.56%
Some college, no degree	261,537	24.42%
Associate degree	89,110	8.32%
Bachelor's degree	161,309	15.06%
Graduate or professional degree	112,749	10.53%

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

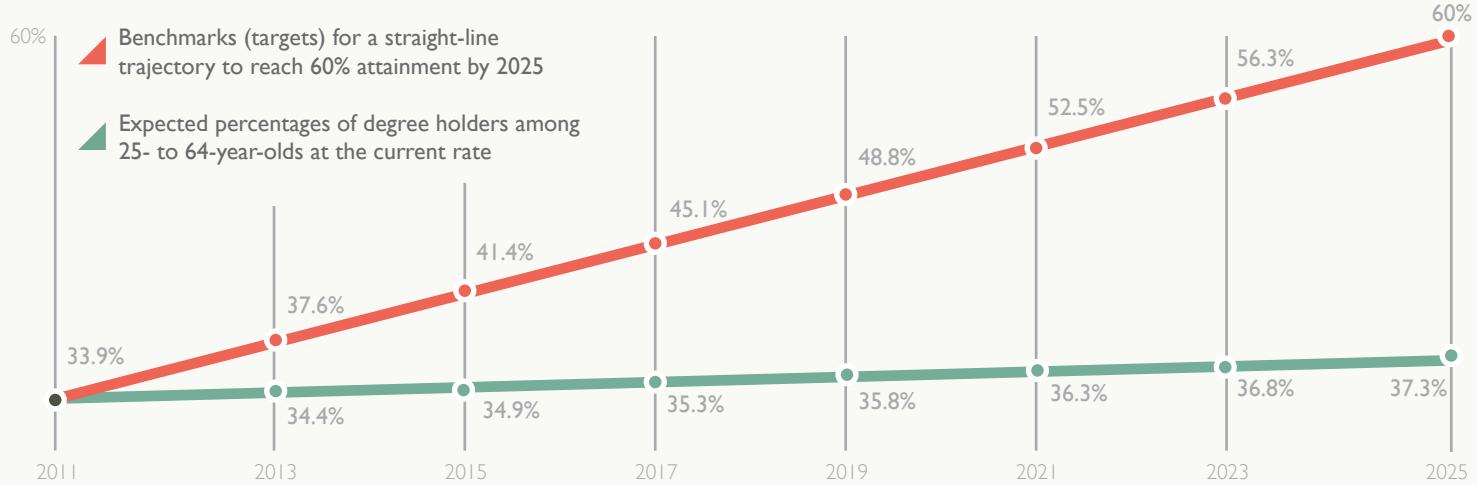
Degree-attainment rates among New Mexico adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	48.57%
Black	31.05%
Hispanic	20.05%
Asian	57.70%
Native American	20.18%

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

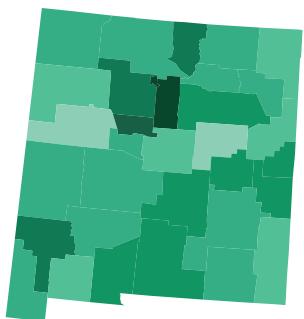


The path to 60% degree attainment in New Mexico



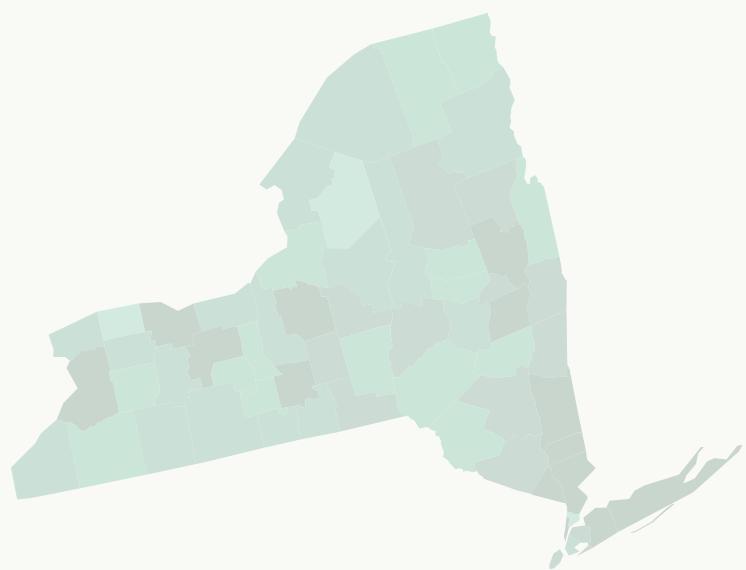
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

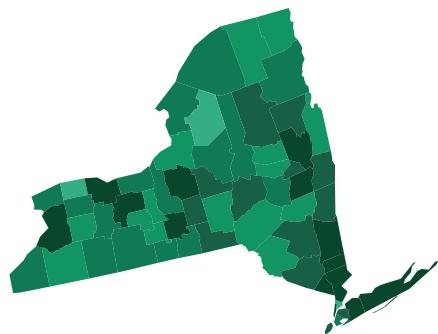


Bernalillo	40.01	De Baca	31.00	Hidalgo	23.43	Mora	25.95	San Juan	25.10	Torrance	20.22
Catron	25.21	Doña Ana	33.16	Lea	21.89	Otero	29.22	San Miguel	29.50	Union	22.14
Chaves	24.71	Eddy	25.45	Lincoln	33.18	Quay	21.92	Santa Fe	45.61	Valencia	24.15
Cibola	15.92	Grant	34.72	Los Alamos	72.15	Rio Arriba	24.13	Sierra	26.52		
Colfax	27.76	Guadalupe	16.52	Luna	18.82	Roosevelt	29.44	Socorro	26.80		
Curry	30.07	Harding	25.80	McKinley	19.03	Sandoval	38.50	Taos	37.12		

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



New York



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

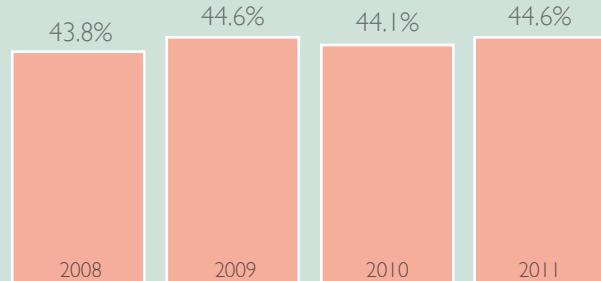
job vacancies in New York will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 63 percent of all New York jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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.

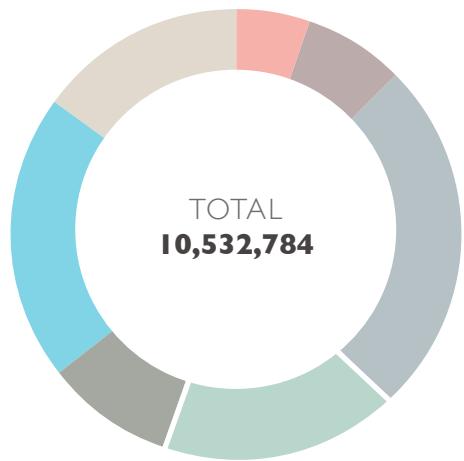
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each New York county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, 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)



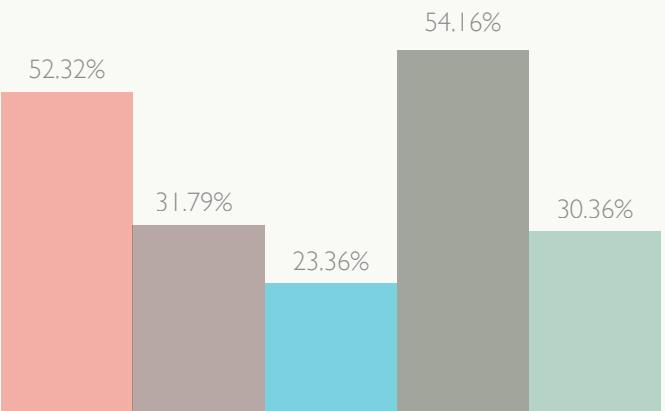
Less than ninth grade	558,308	5.30%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	779,835	7.40%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	2,706,364	25.69%
Some college, no degree	1,792,905	17.02%
Associate degree	969,790	9.21%
Bachelor's degree	2,168,317	20.59%
Graduate or professional degree	1,557,265	14.78%

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

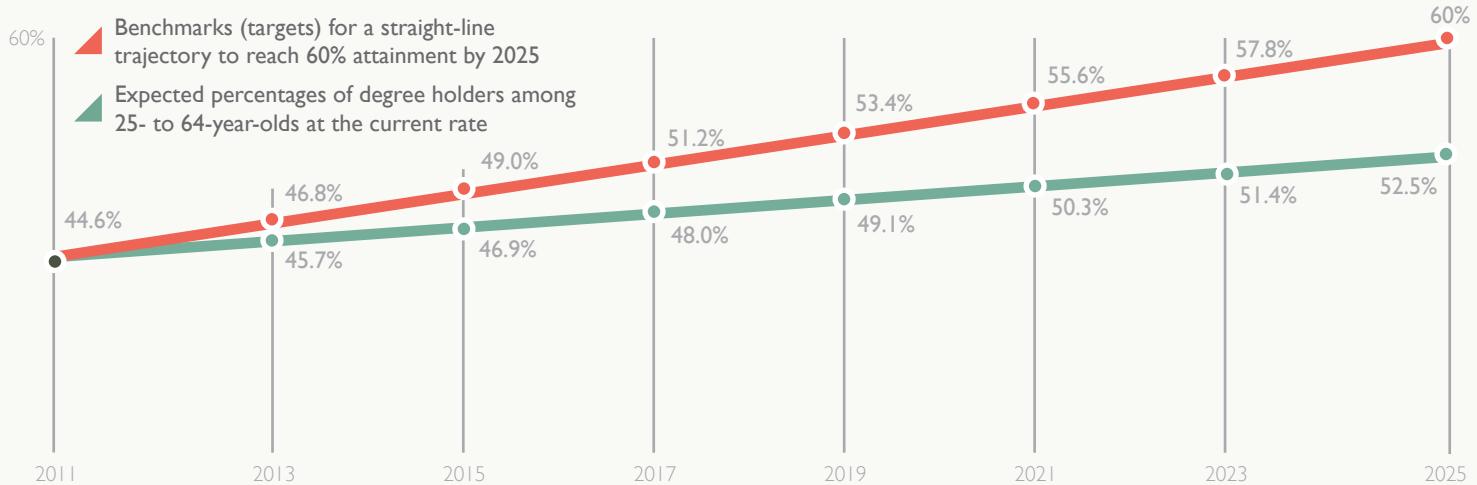
Degree-attainment rates among New York adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	52.32%
Black	31.79%
Hispanic	23.36%
Asian	54.16%
Native American	30.36%

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

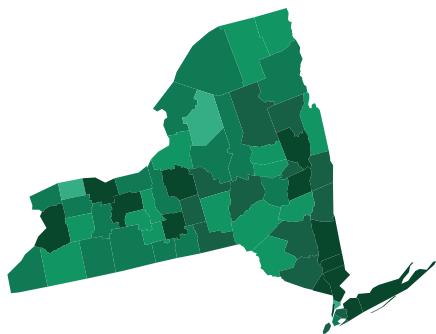


The path to 60% degree attainment in New York



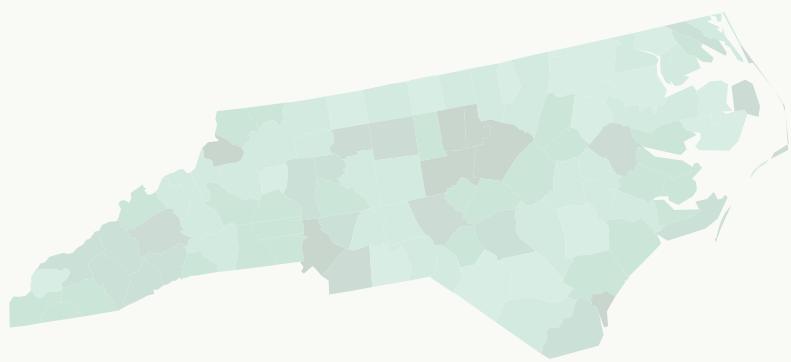
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

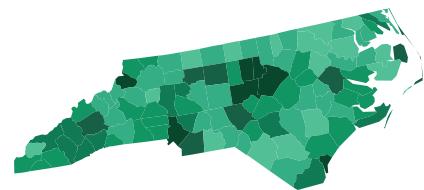


Albany	52.34	Cortland	39.91	Jefferson	34.24	Onondaga	47.96	St. Lawrence	34.13	Ulster	41.73
Allegany	33.66	Delaware	31.99	Kings	38.84	Ontario	47.99	Saratoga	51.67	Warren	42.57
Bronx	26.66	Dutchess	45.42	Lewis	26.65	Orange	40.33	Schenectady	44.42	Washington	28.64
Broome	42.25	Erie	46.19	Livingston	38.64	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



North Carolina



In North Carolina, 38.2 percent of the state's 5.1 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. North Carolina's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 37.6 percent. North Carolina's rate of higher education attainment is slightly 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.

Also, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in North Carolina. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In North Carolina, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 38.6 percent — only a bit higher than that of the adult population as a whole, and below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, North Carolina has a long way to go. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 46 percent of North Carolina's adult population — 2.6 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 5,567,866, North Carolina will need to add more than 768,000 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, 833,000 of the expected 1.4 million

job vacancies in North Carolina will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 59 percent of all North Carolina 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 1.2 million North Carolina adults — 22.7 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 North Carolina reach the 60 percent goal.

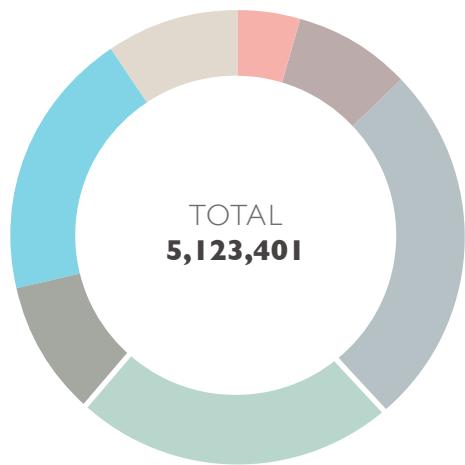
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each North Carolina county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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

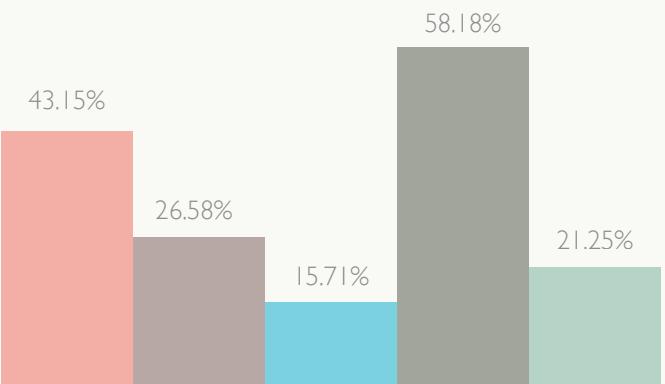


Less than ninth grade	228,207	4.45%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	434,372	8.48%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	1,339,297	26.14%
Some college, no degree	1,162,281	22.69%
Associate degree	498,121	9.72%
Bachelor's degree	981,908	19.17%
Graduate or professional degree	479,215	9.35%

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

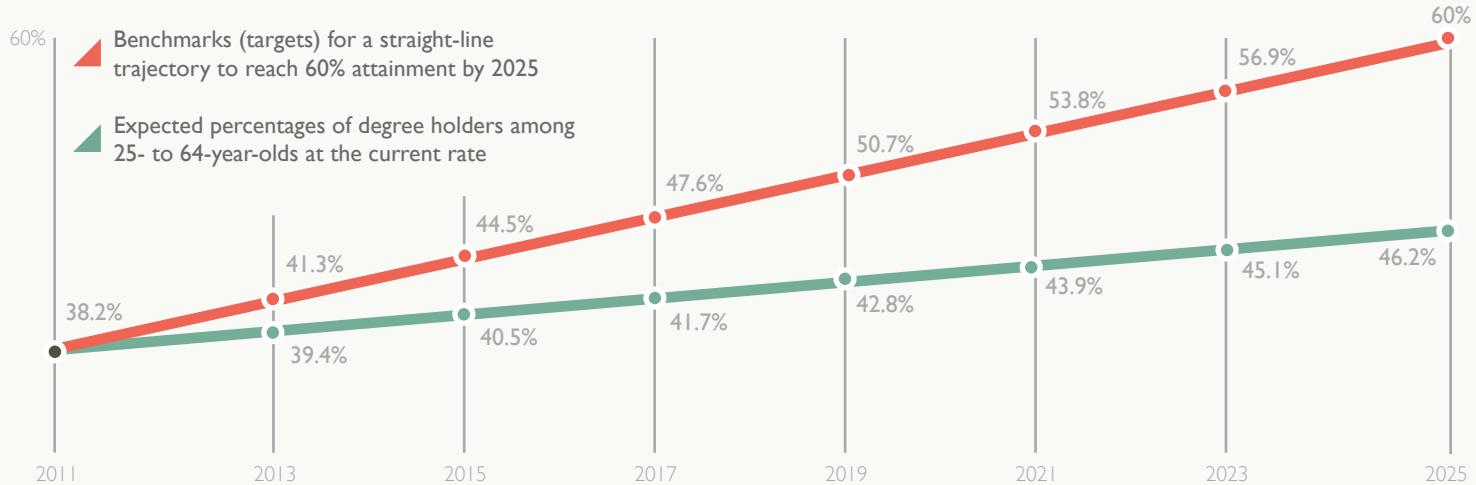
Degree-attainment rates among North Carolina adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	43.15%
Black	26.58%
Hispanic	15.71%
Asian	58.18%
Native American	21.25%



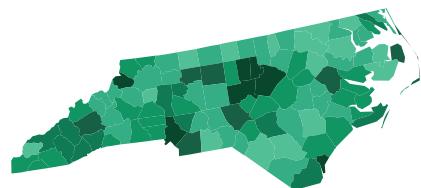
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in North Carolina



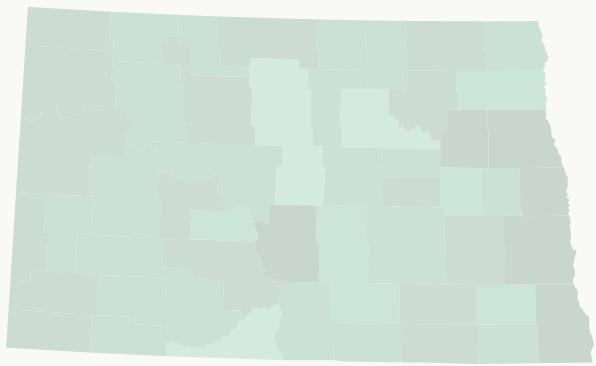
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

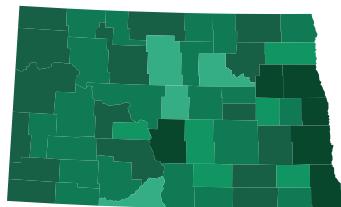


Alamance	32.53	Catawba	31.00	Franklin	26.43	Jones	24.77	Pamlico	32.71	Surry	27.06
Alexander	21.67	Chatham	44.52	Gaston	29.31	Lee	30.36	Pasquotank	30.23	Swain	34.17
Alleghany	27.89	Cherokee	28.61	Gates	21.96	Lenoir	26.08	Pender	30.32	Transylvania	36.91
Anson	18.47	Chowan	25.17	Graham	20.32	Lincoln	30.31	Perquimans	25.96	Tyrrell	17.28
Ashe	28.13	Clay	29.66	Granville	25.88	McDowell	27.33	Person	26.94	Union	41.03
Avery	26.97	Cleveland	28.05	Greene	22.83	Macon	27.95	Pitt	40.22	Vance	19.48
Beaufort	30.15	Columbus	23.49	Guilford	42.35	Madison	28.04	Polk	32.33	Wake	58.54
Bertie	19.42	Craven	32.15	Halifax	20.48	Martin	25.85	Randolph	24.26	Warren	24.13
Bladen	20.02	Cumberland	34.25	Harnett	29.51	Mecklenburg	50.41	Richmond	22.42	Washington	22.29
Brunswick	33.44	Currituck	25.16	Haywood	35.44	Mitchell	24.19	Robeson	19.77	Watauga	49.72
Buncombe	43.60	Dare	39.57	Henderson	37.73	Montgomery	25.31	Rockingham	23.03	Wayne	27.59
Burke	28.38	Davidson	27.57	Hertford	25.66	Moore	42.50	Rowan	27.90	Wilkes	22.81
Cabarrus	37.57	Davie	34.92	Hoke	29.53	Nash	29.01	Rutherford	27.65	Wilson	28.95
Caldwell	25.05	Duplin	20.88	Hyde	16.81	New Hanover	48.56	Sampson	22.66	Yadkin	25.84
Camden	34.17	Durham	53.20	Iredell	35.09	Northampton	20.03	Scotland	22.76	Yancey	26.89
Carteret	34.53	Edgecombe	20.08	Jackson	37.45	Onslow	29.44	Stanly	26.78		
Caswell	18.18	Forsyth	41.51	Johnston	32.31	Orange	62.59	Stokes	19.60		

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



North Dakota



In North Dakota, 44.7 percent of the state's 350,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. North Dakota's attainment rate is actually declining; last year, the rate was 44.9 percent. Still, North Dakota'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 some reason for optimism about the educational trends in North 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 North Dakota, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 50.4 percent — higher than that of the adult population as a whole, and well above the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, there is room for improvement in North 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, 54.2 percent of North Dakota's adult population — 156,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 288,136, North Dakota will need to add nearly 17,000 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, 80,000 of the expected

120,000 job vacancies in North Dakota will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 70 percent of all North Dakota jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

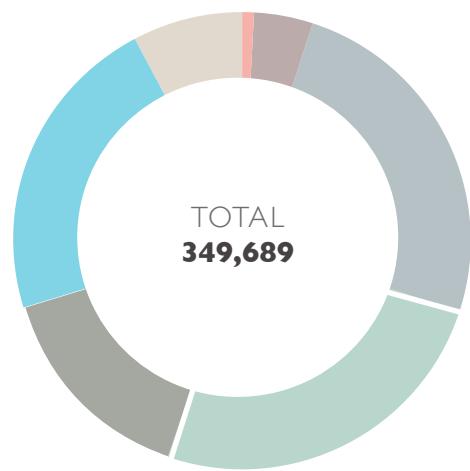
The state's economic future can surely be bolstered by producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 88,000 North Dakota adults — 25.2 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping North 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 North 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. North 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 North 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 North Dakota adults (ages 25-64)

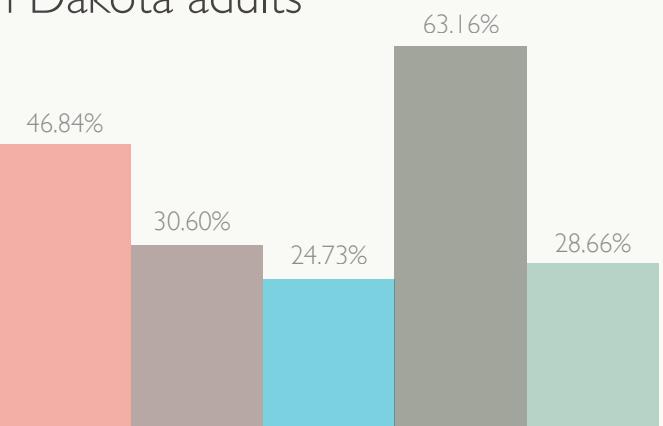
Less than ninth grade	3,611	1.03%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	14,110	4.04%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	87,515	25.03%
Some college, no degree	88,082	25.19%
Associate degree	53,254	15.23%
Bachelor's degree	76,848	21.98%
Graduate or professional degree	26,269	7.51%

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

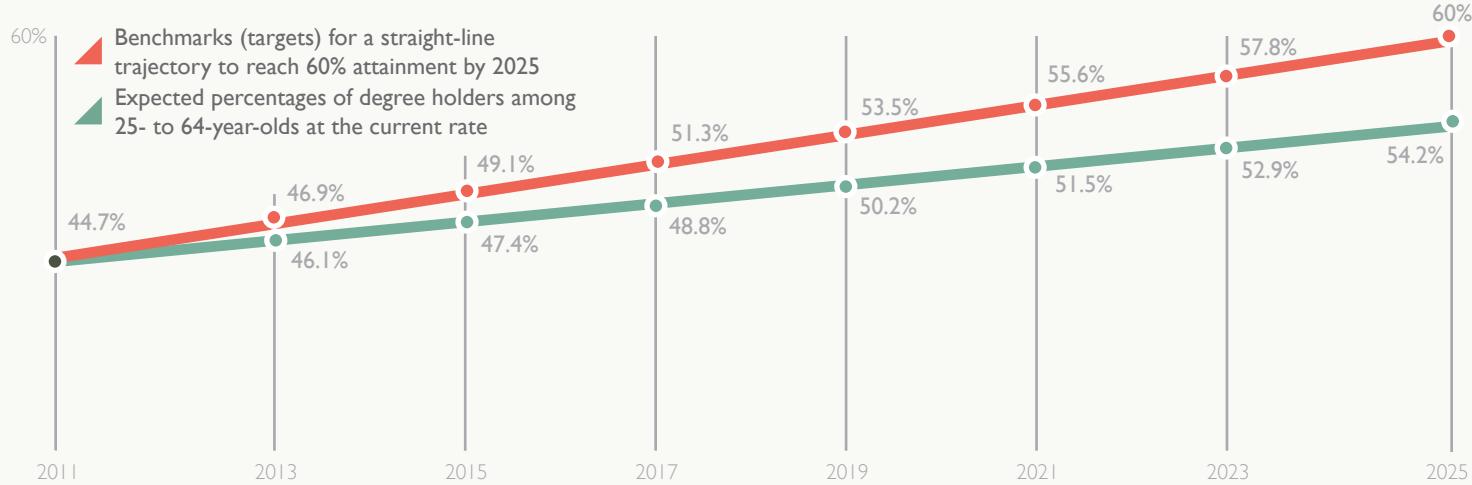
Degree-attainment rates among North Dakota adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	46.84%
Black	30.60%
Hispanic	24.73%
Asian	63.16%
Native American	28.66%

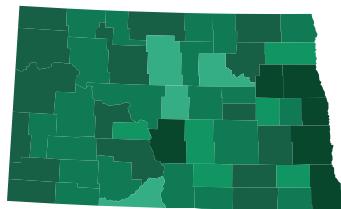
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File



The path to 60% degree attainment in North Dakota



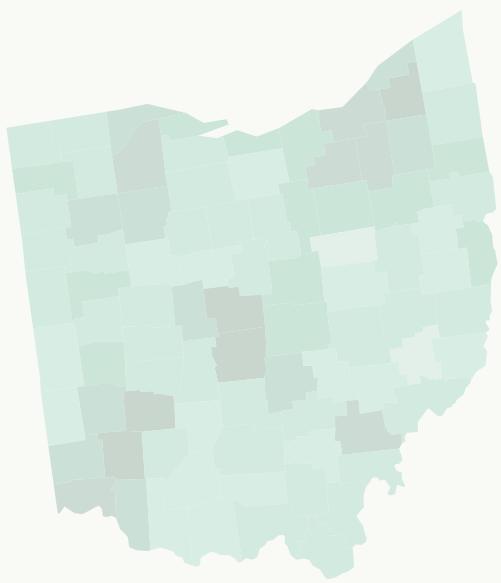
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



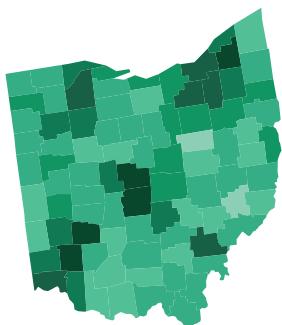
Percentage of North Dakota adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Adams	33.98	Cavalier	43.26	Grant	36.47	McLean	38.39	Ransom	33.00	Steele	35.32
Barnes	43.10	Dickey	44.36	Griggs	33.01	Mercer	43.11	Renville	35.84	Stutsman	37.25
Benson	26.75	Divide	41.19	Hettinger	35.80	Morton	40.35	Richland	44.85	Towner	36.81
Billings	36.29	Dunn	35.84	Kidder	31.65	Mountrail	35.82	Rolette	38.68	Trail	48.43
Bottineau	43.74	Eddy	38.64	LaMoure	42.86	Nelson	47.23	Sargent	35.21	Walsh	32.69
Bowman	39.65	Emmons	35.71	Logan	28.93	Oliver	32.00	Sheridan	25.95	Ward	41.90
Burke	36.18	Foster	43.90	McHenry	26.33	Pembina	36.12	Sioux	26.78	Wells	38.16
Burleigh	52.05	Golden Valley	41.99	McIntosh	35.69	Pierce	35.99	Slope	41.46	Williams	39.38
Cass	53.04	Grand Forks	48.10	McKenzie	40.78	Ramsey	40.60	Stark	38.73		

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



Ohio



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

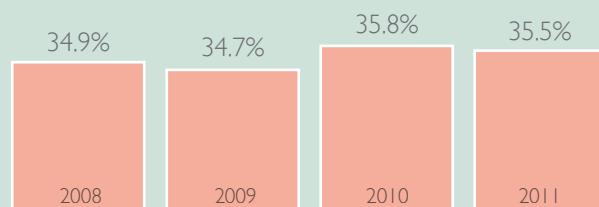
job vacancies in Ohio will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 57 percent of all Ohio jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

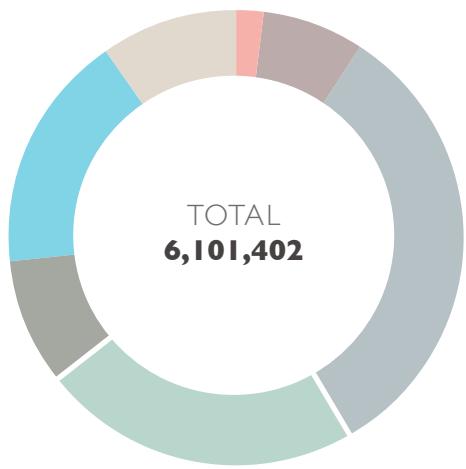
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, nearly 1.4 million Ohio adults — 22.4 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either 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





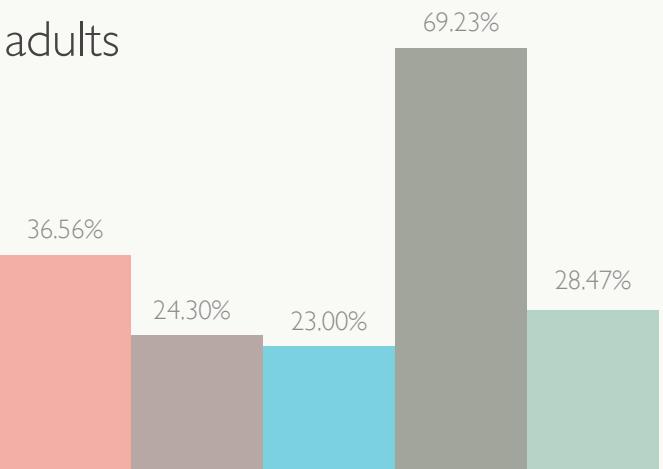
Levels of education for Ohio adults (ages 25-64)

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

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

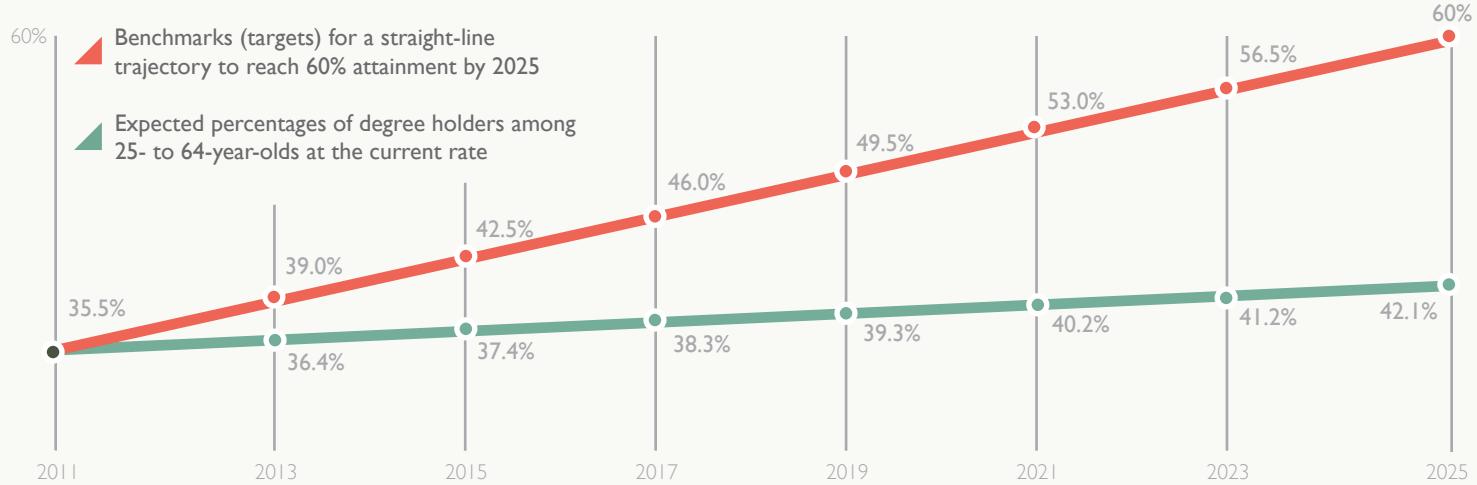
Degree-attainment rates among Ohio adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	36.56%
Black	24.30%
Hispanic	23.00%
Asian	69.23%
Native American	28.47%



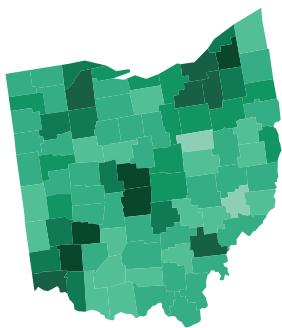
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Ohio



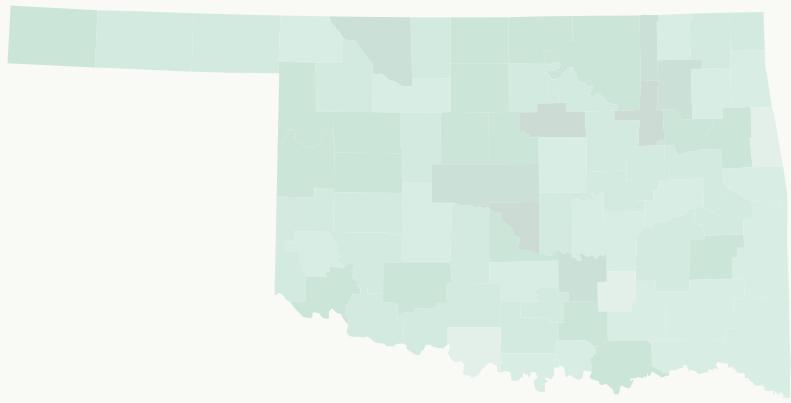
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

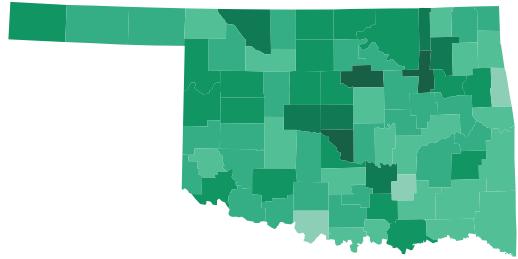


Adams	18.64	Coshocton	21.32	Hamilton	43.48	Logan	22.46	Noble	16.00	Stark	31.81
Allen	27.49	Crawford	22.68	Hancock	36.41	Lorain	32.83	Ottawa	31.94	Summit	41.00
Ashland	29.33	Cuyahoga	39.19	Hardin	21.66	Lucas	34.22	Paulding	22.42	Trumbull	26.16
Ashtabula	21.65	Darke	21.79	Harrison	19.73	Madison	27.12	Perry	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



Oklahoma



In Oklahoma, 33 percent of the state's 1.95 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Oklahoma's attainment rate is increasing; last year, the rate was 31.7 percent. Still, Oklahoma's rate of higher education attainment is 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.

Also, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Oklahoma. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Oklahoma, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 33.2 percent — only slightly higher than that of the adult population as a whole, and well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, Oklahoma has a long way to go. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 39 percent of Oklahoma's adult population — 703,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 1,801,805, Oklahoma will need to add more than 378,000 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, 308,000 of the expected 541,000

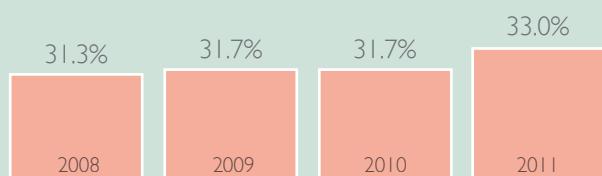
job vacancies in Oklahoma will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 57 percent of all Oklahoma jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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, more than 482,000 Oklahoma adults — 24.7 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 Oklahoma reach the 60 percent goal.

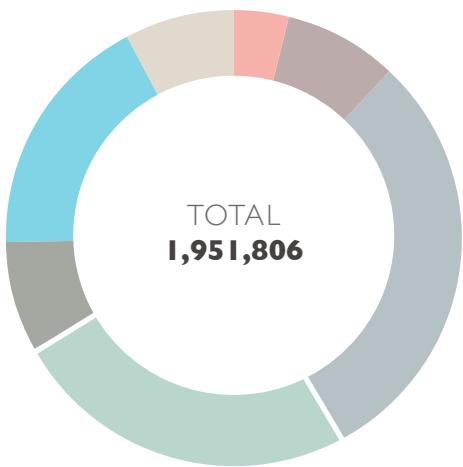
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Oklahoma county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



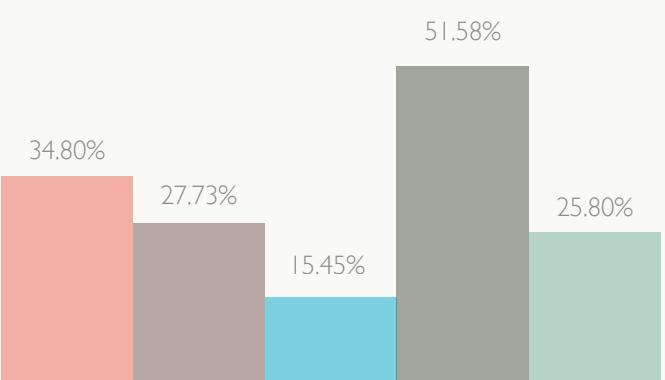
Less than ninth grade	76,753	3.93%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	159,346	8.16%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	590,231	30.24%
Some college, no degree	482,105	24.70%
Associate degree	153,067	7.84%
Bachelor's degree	340,530	17.45%
Graduate or professional degree	149,774	7.67%

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

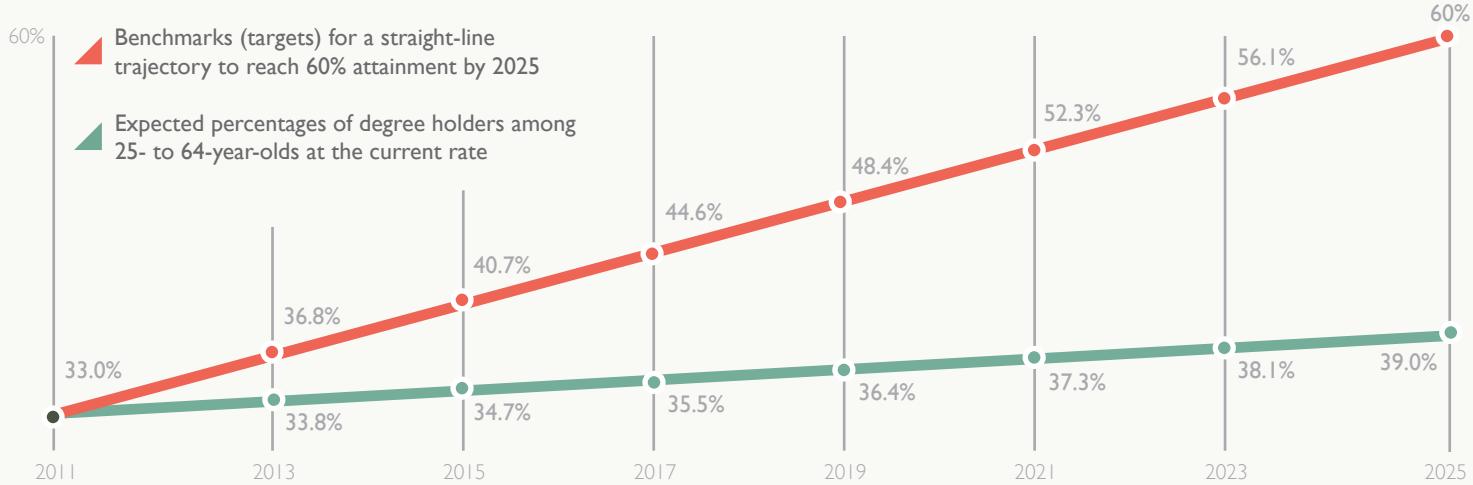
Degree-attainment rates among Oklahoma adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	34.80%
Black	27.73%
Hispanic	15.45%
Asian	51.58%
Native American	25.80%

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

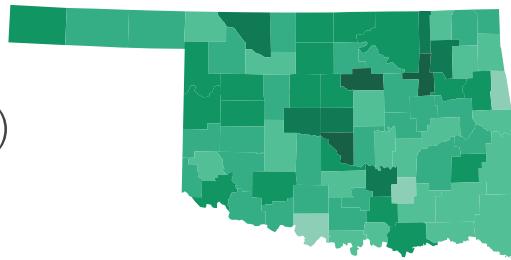


The path to 60% degree attainment in Oklahoma



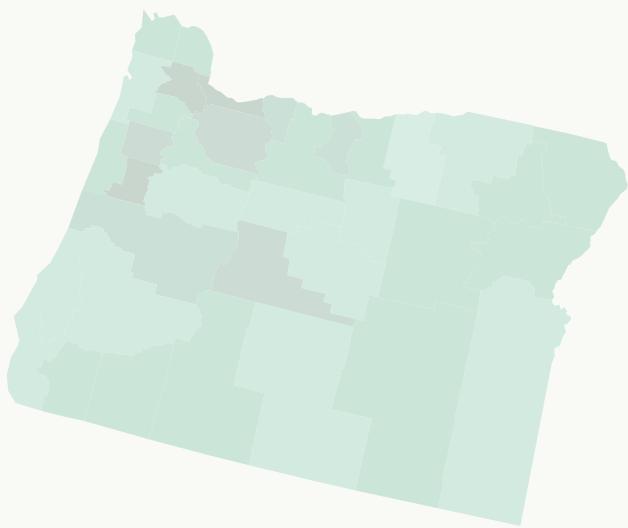
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

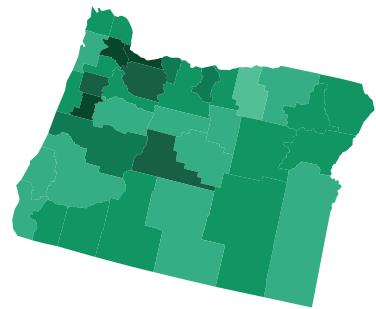


Adair	15.76	Cleveland	40.37	Grant	31.29	Le Flore	21.45	Nowata	20.14	Rogers	34.27
Alfalfa	23.66	Coal	15.64	Greer	21.54	Lincoln	20.18	Oklfuskee	22.31	Seminole	21.95
Atoka	19.06	Comanche	28.17	Harmon	25.23	Logan	30.63	Oklahoma	36.55	Sequoyah	21.23
Beaver	25.66	Cotton	23.45	Harper	20.38	Love	20.09	Okmulgee	26.12	Stephens	23.41
Beckham	23.66	Craig	22.51	Haskell	23.61	McClain	27.82	Osage	27.81	Texas	25.49
Blaine	24.81	Creek	23.76	Hughes	17.81	McCurtain	20.20	Ottawa	25.56	Tillman	23.78
Bryan	30.40	Custer	29.79	Jackson	32.80	McIntosh	20.65	Pawnee	26.04	Tulsa	39.58
Caddo	18.86	Delaware	21.54	Jefferson	15.33	Major	21.21	Payne	42.39	Wagoner	31.79
Canadian	35.96	Dewey	27.83	Johnston	31.22	Marshall	21.79	Pittsburg	25.87	Washington	35.39
Carter	24.13	Ellis	30.49	Kay	29.61	Mayes	22.07	Pontotoc	33.39	Washita	23.44
Cherokee	29.61	Garfield	30.66	Kingfisher	29.09	Murray	25.20	Pottawatomie	26.23	Woods	34.40
Choctaw	19.17	Garvin	20.60	Kiowa	24.46	Muskogee	26.52	Pushmataha	19.45	Woodward	23.52
Cimarron	31.53	Grady	24.86	Latimer	30.54	Noble	27.45	Roger Mills	28.66		

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



Oregon



In Oregon, 39 percent of the state's 2.1 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Oregon's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 38.6 percent. Also, Oregon's rate of higher education attainment is on par with 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 Oregon. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Oregon, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 38 percent, lower than that of the adult population as a whole. What's more, Oregon's attainment rate among young adults is below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Oregon 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, 45 percent of Oregon's adult population — 1.1 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 2,300,541, Oregon will need to add nearly 352,000 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, 377,000 of the expected 591,000 job vacancies in Oregon will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed,

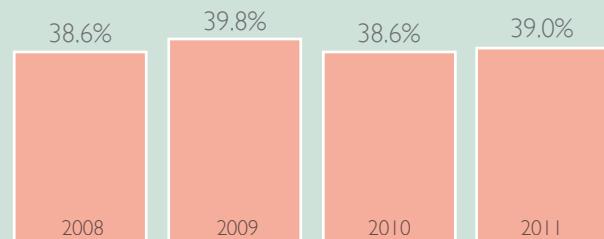
64 percent of all Oregon jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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, more than 567,000 Oregon adults — 27.1 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 Oregon reach the 60 percent goal.

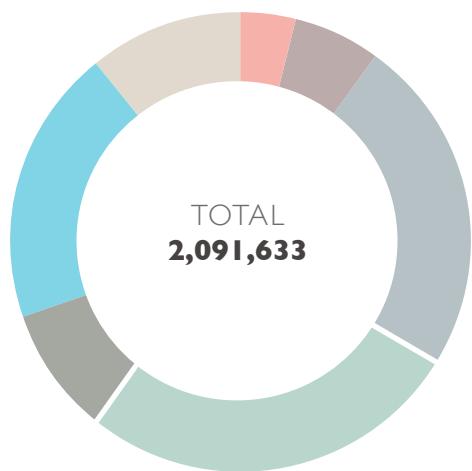
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Oregon county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, so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

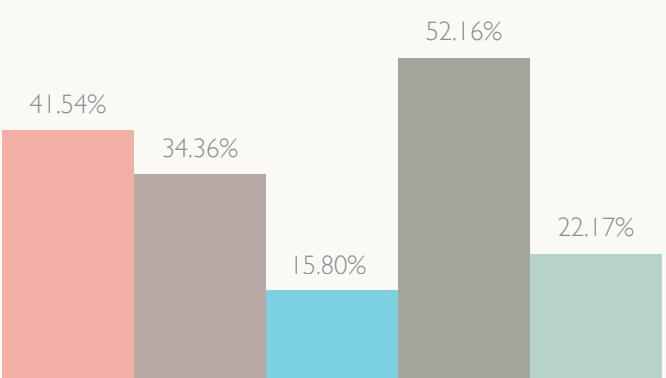


Less than ninth grade	81,400	3.89%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	128,267	6.13%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	498,721	23.84%
Some college, no degree	567,307	27.12%
Associate degree	186,128	8.90%
Bachelor's degree	404,798	19.35%
Graduate or professional degree	225,012	10.76%

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

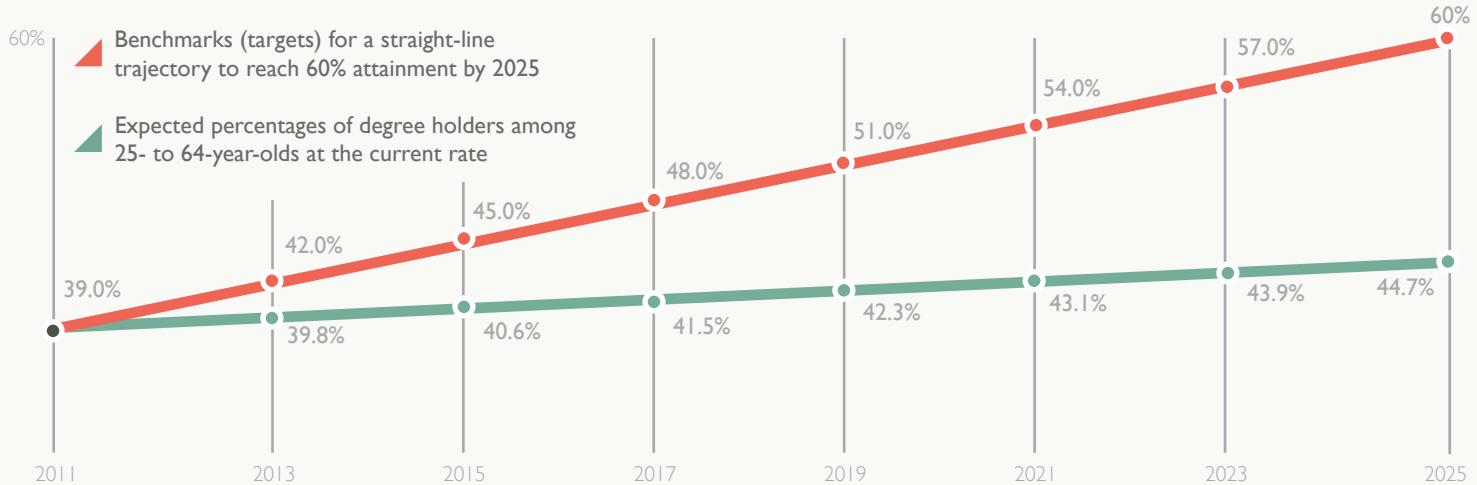
Degree-attainment rates among Oregon adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	41.54%
Black	34.36%
Hispanic	15.80%
Asian	52.16%
Native American	22.17%



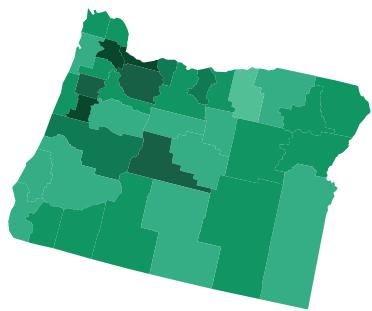
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Oregon



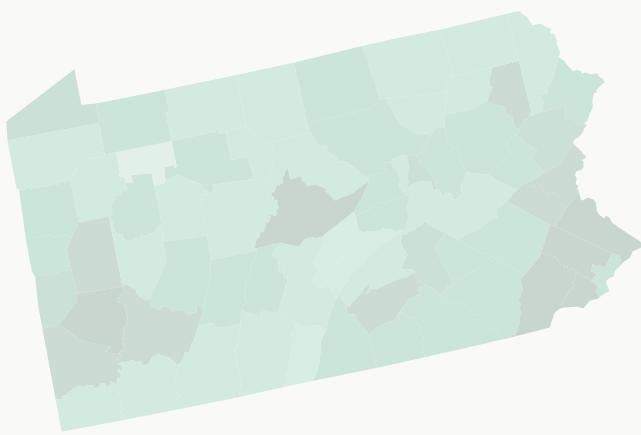
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

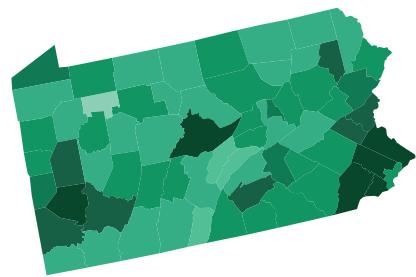


Baker	32.39	Crook	24.23	Harney	28.11	Lake	25.99	Morrow	20.02	Union	33.09
Benton	56.96	Curry	25.77	Hood River	34.93	Lane	38.34	Multnomah	47.29	Wallowa	33.08
Clackamas	41.65	Deschutes	41.53	Jackson	31.64	Lincoln	30.87	Polk	38.90	Wasco	32.12
Clatsop	31.44	Douglas	26.69	Jefferson	24.53	Linn	27.71	Sherman	34.16	Washington	49.88
Columbia	28.44	Gilliam	32.07	Josephine	29.89	Malheur	22.51	Tillamook	23.75	Wheeler	24.32
Coos	26.94	Grant	32.15	Klamath	31.10	Marion	30.61	Umatilla	25.92	Yamhill	31.07

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



Pennsylvania



In Pennsylvania, 38.6 percent of the state's 6.7 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Pennsylvania's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was also 38.6 percent. Pennsylvania's rate of higher education attainment is on par with 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, reason for optimism about educational trends in Pennsylvania. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Pennsylvania, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 44.1 percent — considerably higher than that of the adult population as a whole, and also above the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Pennsylvania is making some progress, but it 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 46 percent of Pennsylvania's adult population — 2.9 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 6,316,876, Pennsylvania will need to add more than 878,000 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 million of the expected

1.8 million job vacancies in Pennsylvania will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 57 percent of all Pennsylvania 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 1.2 million Pennsylvania adults — 17.6 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 Pennsylvania reach the 60 percent goal.

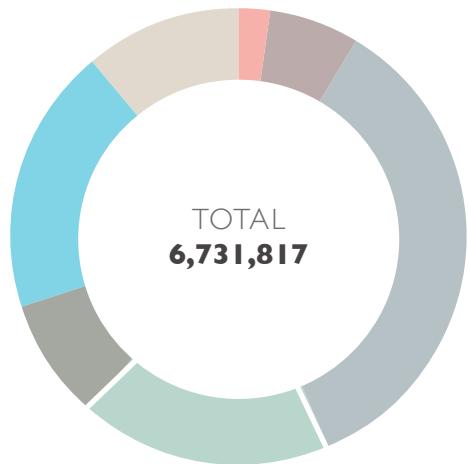
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Pennsylvania county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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

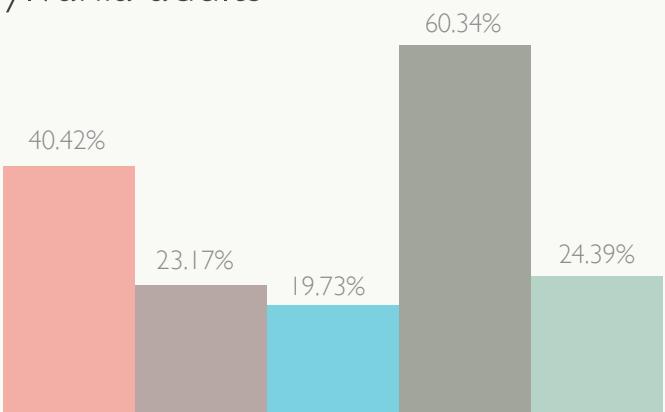


Less than ninth grade	158,165	2.35%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	422,982	6.28%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	2,366,755	35.16%
Some college, no degree	1,187,489	17.64%
Associate degree	589,625	8.76%
Bachelor's degree	1,258,688	18.70%
Graduate or professional degree	748,113	11.11%

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

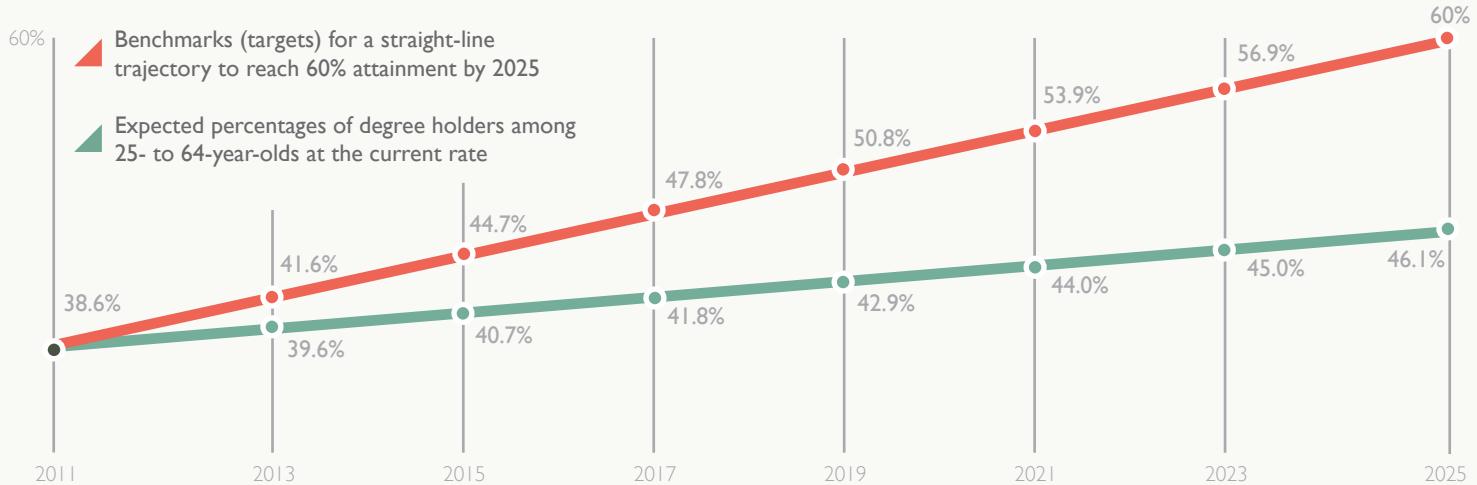
Degree-attainment rates among Pennsylvania adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	40.42%
Black	23.17%
Hispanic	19.73%
Asian	60.34%
Native American	24.39%



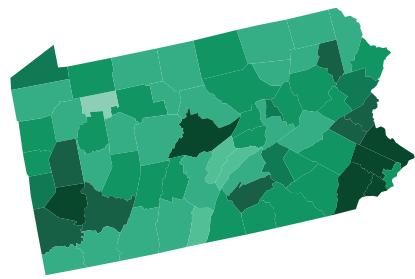
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Pennsylvania



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

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



Adams	28.24	Chester	58.04	Fulton	18.77	Mercer	30.89	Sullivan	25.17
Allegheny	49.58	Clarion	28.92	Greene	25.63	Mifflin	20.39	Susquehanna	26.97
Armstrong	25.33	Clearfield	25.69	Huntingdon	23.13	Monroe	34.69	Tioga	29.36
Beaver	35.92	Clinton	27.71	Indiana	31.76	Montgomery	55.80	Union	28.88
Bedford	22.82	Columbia	28.82	Jefferson	23.72	Montour	37.47	Venango	27.57
Berks	32.41	Crawford	27.50	Juniata	20.06	Northampton	39.69	Warren	28.70
Blair	29.89	Cumberland	43.93	Lackawanna	39.02	Northumberland	24.75	Washington	39.96
Bradford	26.92	Dauphin	38.33	Lancaster	31.69	Perry	24.04	Wayne	27.57
Bucks	46.26	Delaware	45.98	Lawrence	31.89	Philadelphia	30.90	Westmoreland	39.84
Butler	44.18	Elk	28.04	Lebanon	28.50	Pike	33.31	Wyoming	27.67
Cambria	30.92	Erie	34.16	Lehigh	39.89	Potter	24.76	York	32.73
Cameron	23.64	Fayette	24.94	Luzerne	33.15	Schuylkill	26.54		
Carbon	28.82	Forest	14.31	Lycoming	32.55	Snyder	28.14		
Centre	49.79	Franklin	28.60	McKean	25.83	Somerset	25.70		

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



Rhode Island



In Rhode Island, 43.2 percent of the state's 559,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Rhode Island's attainment rate is increasing; last year, the rate was 41.2 percent. Rhode Island's rate of higher education attainment is also 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.

However, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Rhode Island. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Rhode Island, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 42.9 percent — lower than that of the adult population as a whole, though higher than the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, there is room for improvement in Rhode Island. 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, about 51 percent of Rhode Island's adult population — 292,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 577,001, Rhode Island will need to add more than 54,000 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, 93,000 of the expected

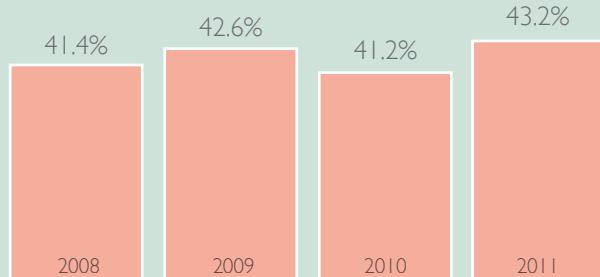
153,000 job vacancies in Rhode Island will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 61 percent of all Rhode Island jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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 113,000 Rhode Island adults — 20.2 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 Rhode Island reach the 60 percent goal.

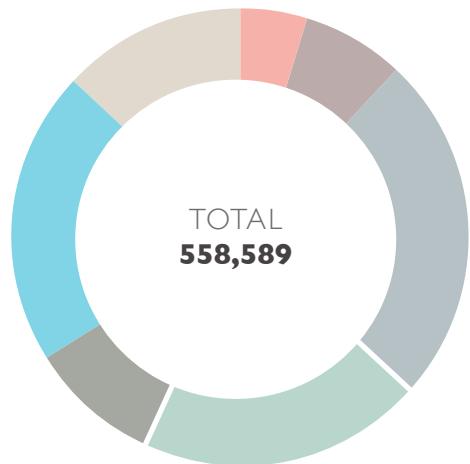
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Rhode Island county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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

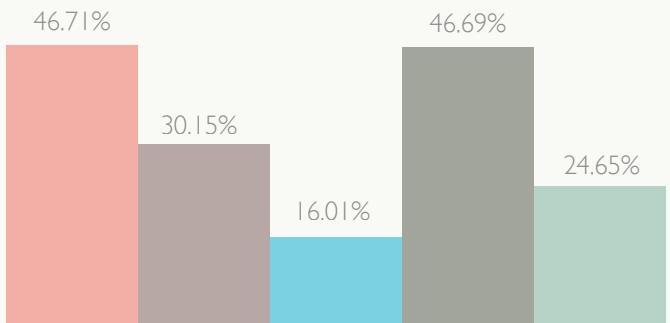


Less than ninth grade	27,877	4.99%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	39,501	7.07%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	137,558	24.63%
Some college, no degree	112,567	20.15%
Associate degree	52,237	9.35%
Bachelor's degree	116,607	20.88%
Graduate or professional degree	72,242	12.93%

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

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

White	46.71%
Black	30.15%
Hispanic	16.01%
Asian	46.69%
Native American	24.65%



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

The path to 60% degree attainment in Rhode Island



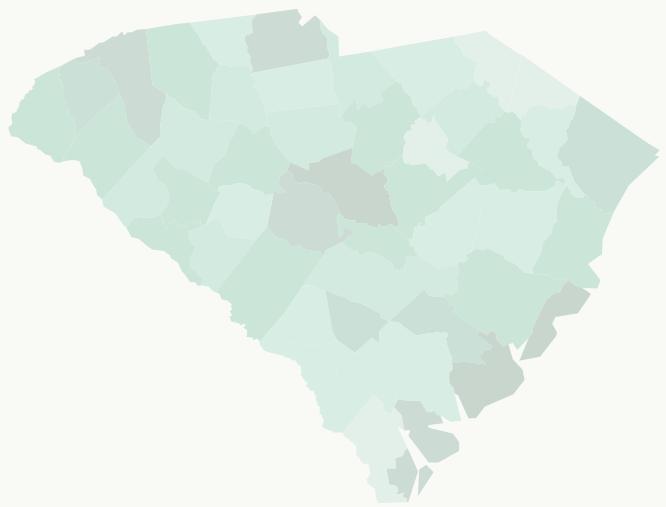
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

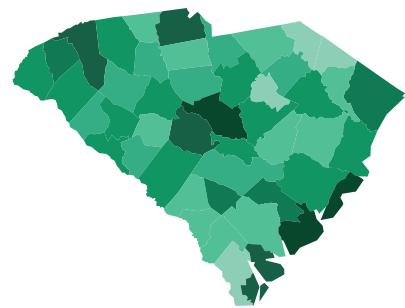


Bristol	54.68	Kent	43.04	Newport	56.36	Providence	36.84	Washington	54.51
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-11 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates



South Carolina



In South Carolina, 34.2 percent of the state's 2.5 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. South Carolina's attainment rate is falling slightly; last year, the rate was 34.8 percent. South Carolina's rate of higher education attainment is also 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.

Still, there is some reason for optimism about the educational trends in South Carolina. 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 Carolina, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 34.9 percent, a bit higher than that of the adult population as a whole, yet still well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, South Carolina 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, 40.5 percent of South Carolina's adult population — 982,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 2,422,423, South Carolina will need to add more than 472,000 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, 349,000 of the expected 630,000 job vacancies in South Carolina will require postsecondary

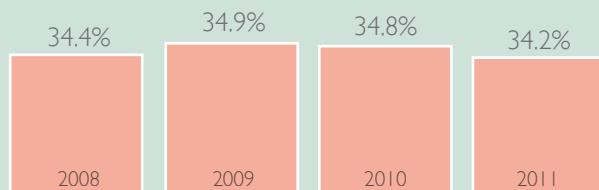
credentials. Indeed, 56 percent of all South Carolina jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

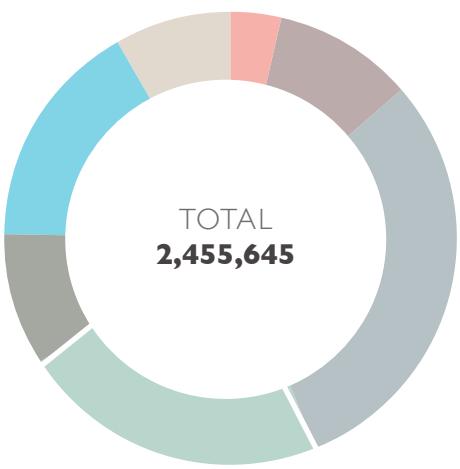
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, nearly 540,000 South Carolina adults — 22 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping South Carolina 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 Carolina 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 Carolina 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 Carolina'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





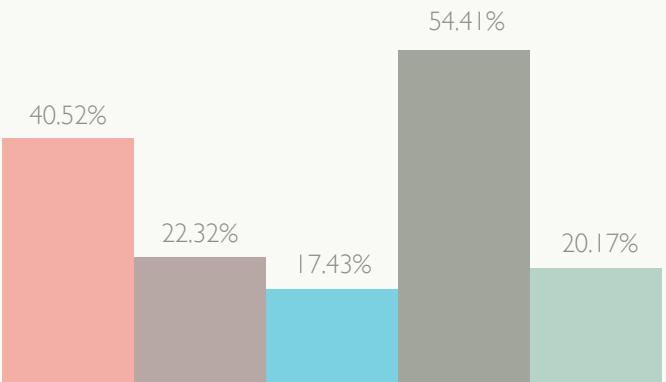
Levels of education for South Carolina adults (ages 25-64)

Less than ninth grade	94,460	3.85%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	234,855	9.56%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	747,501	30.44%
Some college, no degree	539,714	21.98%
Associate degree	231,829	9.44%
Bachelor's degree	404,636	16.48%
Graduate or professional degree	202,650	8.25%

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

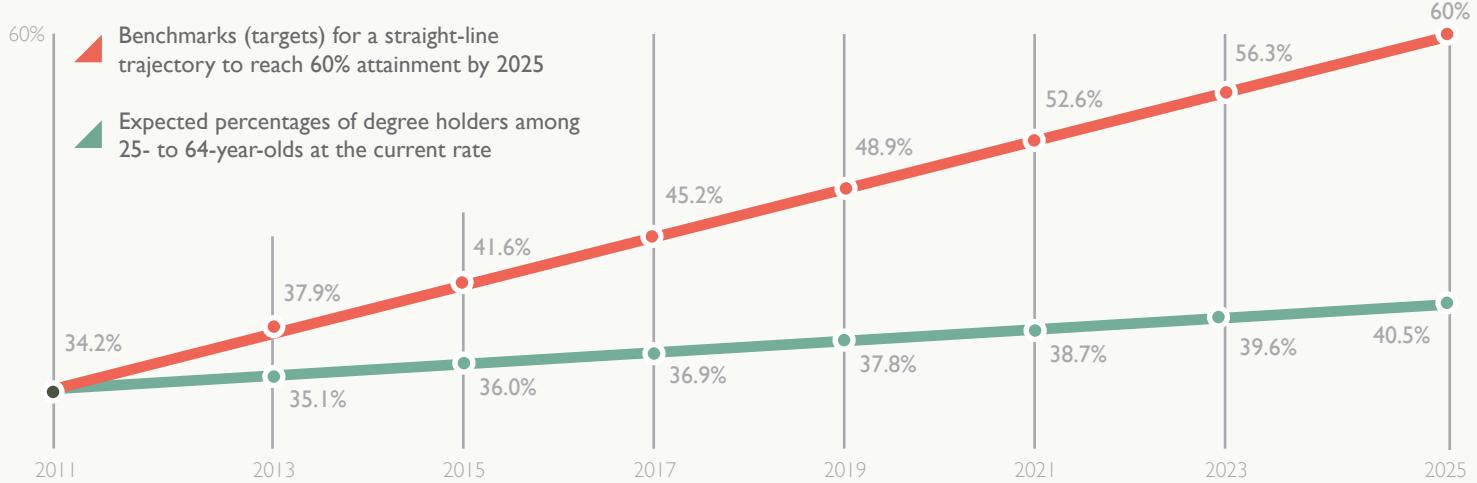
Degree-attainment rates among South Carolina adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	40.52%
Black	22.32%
Hispanic	17.43%
Asian	54.41%
Native American	20.17%



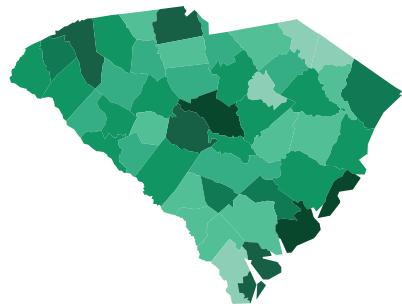
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in South Carolina



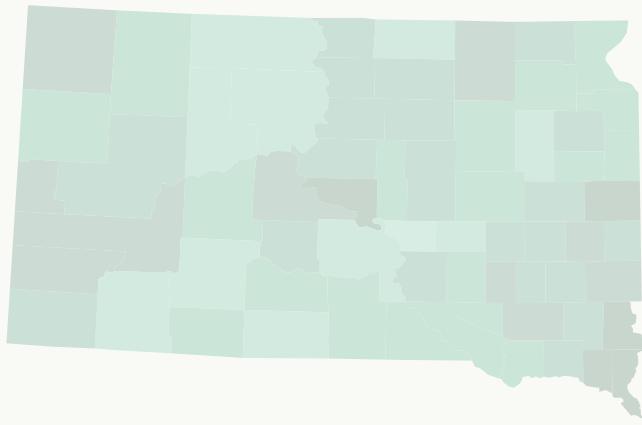
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

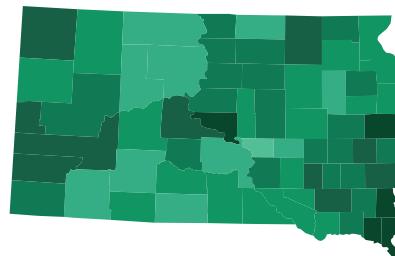


Abbeville	26.03	Calhoun	31.39	Dillon	15.72	Hampton	18.68	McCormick	27.79	Saluda	21.45
Aiken	32.63	Charleston	47.75	Dorchester	36.92	Horry	33.37	Marion	20.51	Spartanburg	32.55
Allendale	18.68	Cherokee	20.56	Edgefield	25.73	Jasper	15.74	Marlboro	12.93	Sumter	28.82
Anderson	30.09	Chester	19.89	Fairfield	25.73	Kershaw	28.29	Newberry	30.54	Union	22.65
Bamberg	35.93	Chesterfield	20.69	Florence	31.43	Lancaster	27.65	Oconee	32.21	Williamsburg	18.79
Barnwell	21.19	Clarendon	21.56	Georgetown	30.13	Laurens	23.92	Orangeburg	25.73	York	39.99
Beaufort	42.18	Colleton	21.08	Greenville	40.93	Lee	16.03	Pickens	34.28		
Berkeley	29.77	Darlington	24.58	Greenwood	32.72	Lexington	38.92	Richland	46.60		

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



South Dakota



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

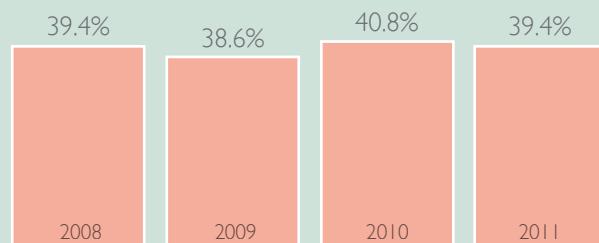
141,000 job vacancies in South Dakota will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 62 percent of all South Dakota jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

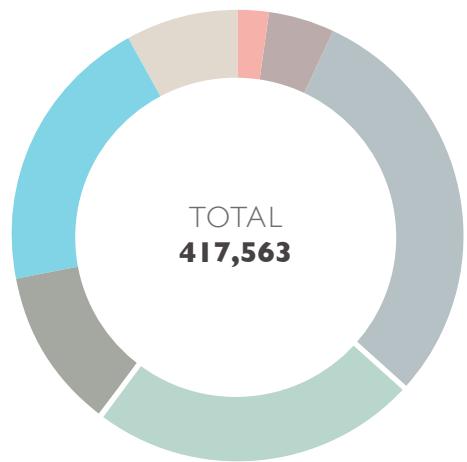
The state's economic future can surely be bolstered by producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 99,000 South Dakota adults — 23.8 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but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

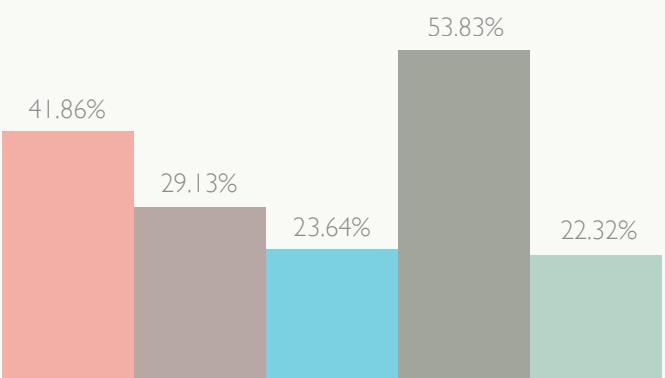
Less than ninth grade	10,049	2.41%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	19,690	4.72%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	123,946	29.68%
Some college, no degree	99,257	23.77%
Associate degree	48,061	11.51%
Bachelor's degree	83,607	20.02%
Graduate or professional degree	32,953	7.89%

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

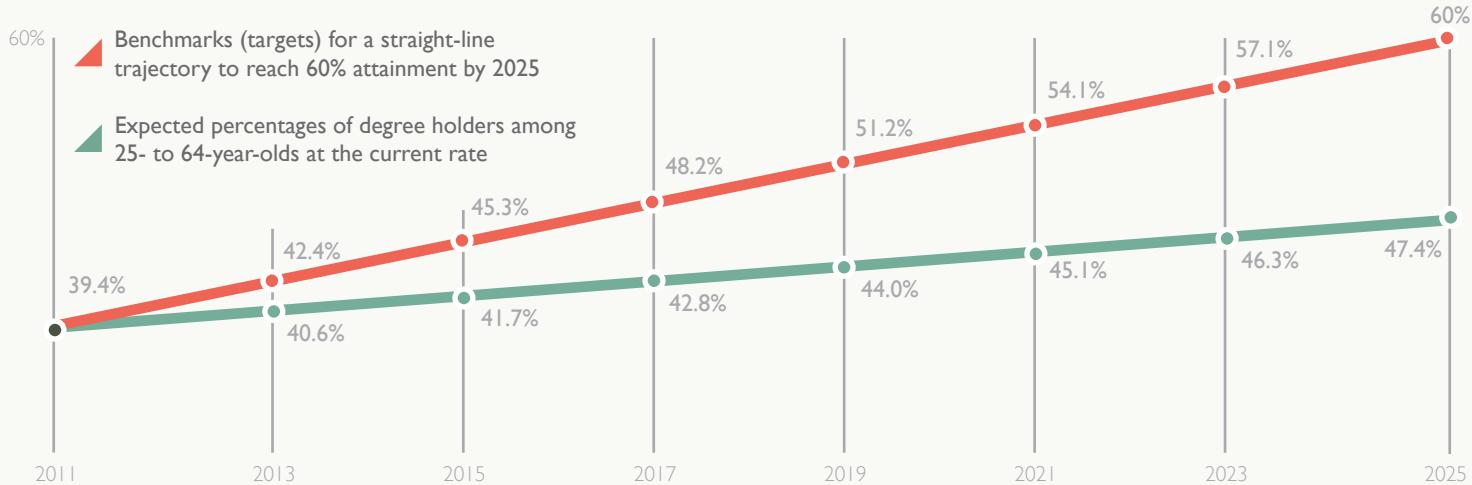
Degree-attainment rates among South Dakota adults (ages 25-64), by population group

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

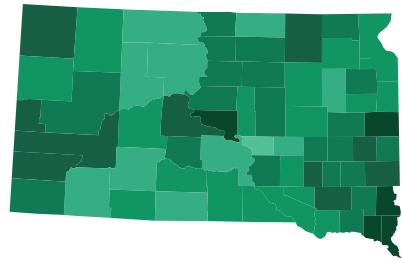


The path to 60% degree attainment in South Dakota



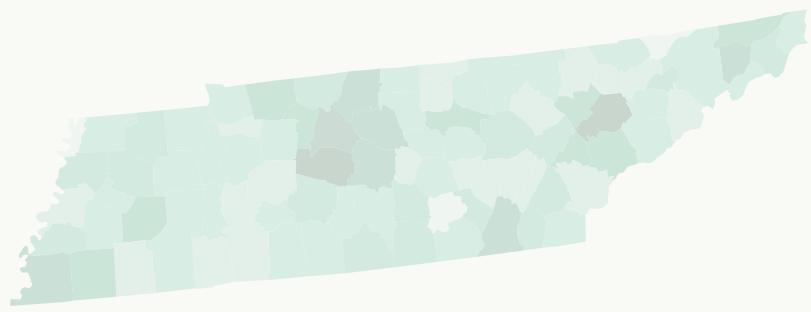
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

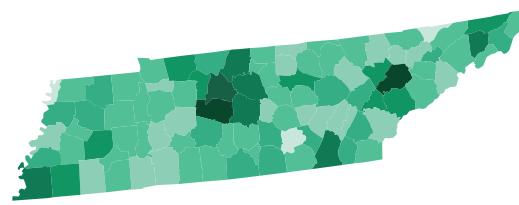


Aurora	32.79	Clark	27.36	Fall River	33.78	Hyde	27.84	Marshall	34.61	Shannon	22.74
Beadle	31.32	Clay	53.57	Faulk	36.56	Jackson	27.09	Meade	34.55	Spink	32.69
Bennett	32.75	Codington	37.76	Grant	30.90	Jerauld	23.70	Mellette	28.38	Stanley	40.96
Bon Homme	29.15	Corson	26.43	Gregory	30.53	Jones	36.84	Miner	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



Tennessee



In Tennessee, 32.1 percent of the state's 3.4 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Tennessee's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 31.9 percent. However, Tennessee'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, 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 Tennessee, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 33.3 percent, higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in Tennessee are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. Still, Tennessee's attainment rate among young adults is below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Tennessee is making progress, but it 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 39 percent of Tennessee's adult population — 1.35 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 3,450,817, Tennessee will need to add more than 728,000 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, 516,000 of the expected 967,000

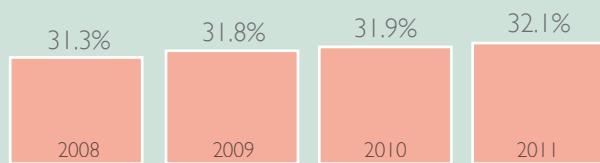
job vacancies in Tennessee will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 54 percent of all Tennessee jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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 755,000 Tennessee adults — 22.1 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 Tennessee reach the 60 percent goal.

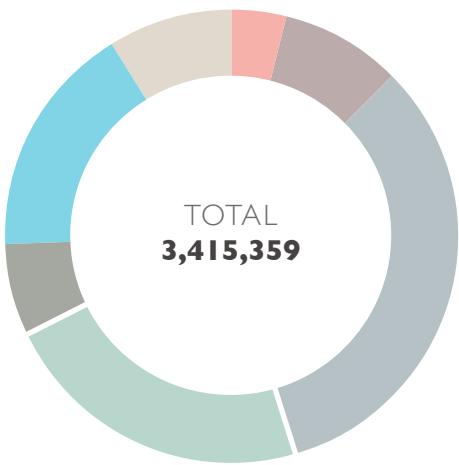
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Tennessee county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



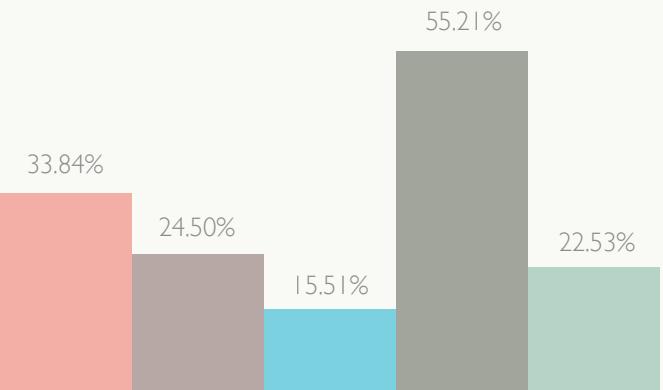
Less than ninth grade	133,410	3.91%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	294,093	8.61%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	1,135,036	33.23%
Some college, no degree	754,843	22.10%
Associate degree	234,125	6.86%
Bachelor's degree	568,335	16.64%
Graduate or professional degree	295,517	8.65%

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

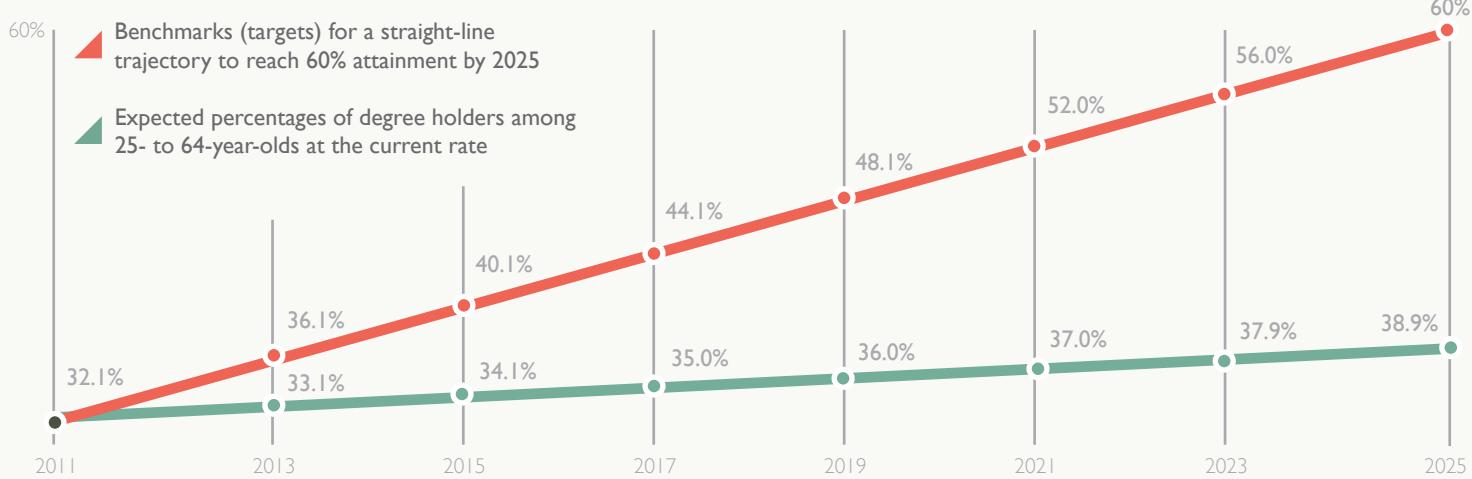
Degree-attainment rates among Tennessee adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	33.84%
Black	24.50%
Hispanic	15.51%
Asian	55.21%
Native American	22.53%

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

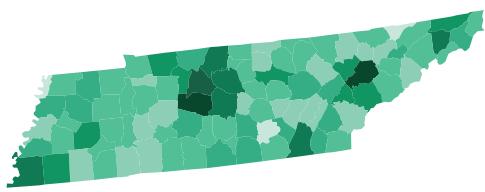


The path to 60% degree attainment in Tennessee



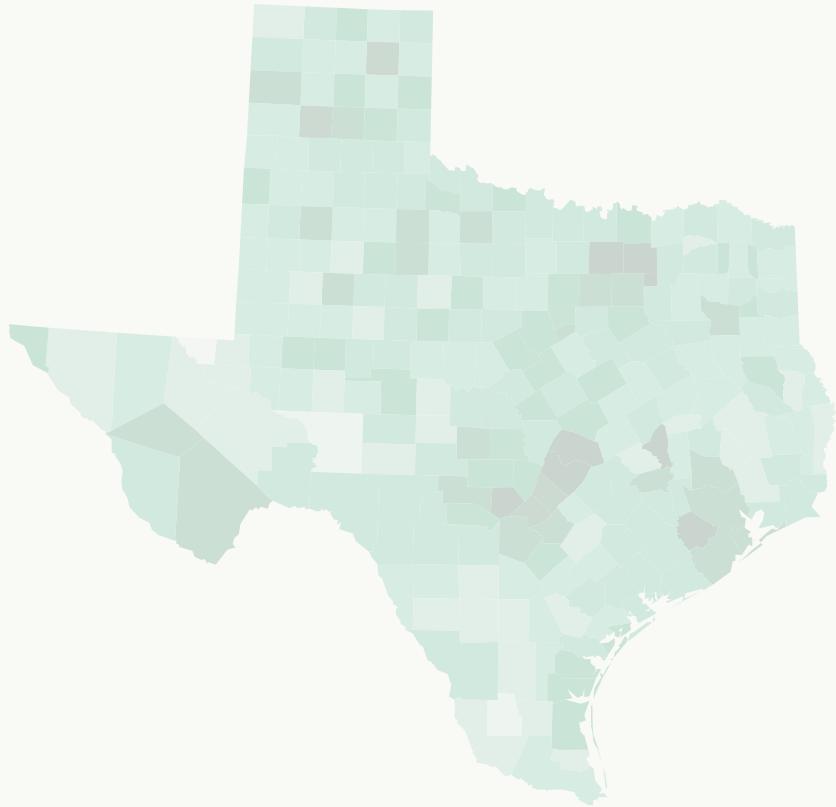
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

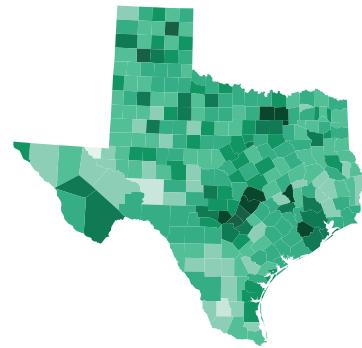


Anderson	29.97	Crockett	17.92	Hamilton	37.13	Lauderdale	14.24	Morgan	12.33	Stewart	21.06
Bedford	19.79	Cumberland	22.41	Hancock	10.51	Lawrence	18.57	Obion	17.68	Sullivan	30.66
Benton	17.18	Davidson	42.47	Hardeman	14.50	Lewis	17.40	Overton	17.09	Sumner	33.49
Bledsoe	12.49	Decatur	19.26	Hardin	14.88	Lincoln	22.48	Perry	14.35	Tipton	22.54
Blount	28.67	DeKalb	17.05	Hawkins	20.89	Loudon	29.46	Pickett	19.23	Trousdale	18.54
Bradley	27.49	Dickson	22.03	Haywood	17.94	McMinn	24.14	Polk	19.33	Unicoi	18.71
Campbell	14.44	Dyer	23.07	Henderson	20.46	McNairy	19.08	Putnam	28.12	Union	12.33
Cannon	16.59	Fayette	29.06	Henry	19.31	Macon	17.47	Rhea	16.15	Van Buren	12.53
Carroll	21.29	Fentress	17.65	Hickman	15.64	Madison	32.27	Roane	26.68	Warren	19.77
Carter	23.45	Franklin	25.50	Houston	15.49	Marion	20.53	Robertson	23.04	Washington	37.18
Cheatham	28.19	Gibson	22.72	Humphreys	20.36	Marshall	18.84	Rutherford	36.18	Wayne	14.42
Chester	20.45	Giles	20.01	Jackson	16.44	Maury	26.36	Scott	18.21	Weakley	24.96
Claiborne	19.88	Grainger	12.91	Jefferson	21.70	Meigs	13.33	Sequatchie	23.05	White	17.73
Clay	16.47	Greene	21.54	Johnson	17.77	Monroe	15.92	Sevier	21.75	Williamson	61.09
Cocke	14.43	Grundy	10.19	Knox	45.75	Montgomery	33.18	Shelby	36.28	Wilson	35.77
Coffee	26.93	Hamblen	23.33	Lake	8.04	Moore	17.85	Smith	18.55		

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



Texas



In Texas, 34.5 percent of the state's 13.4 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Texas' attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 33.7 percent. Still, Texas' 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 also rising, but again, 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 Texas. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Texas, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at just 33.9 percent, lower than that of the adult population as a whole. What's more, Texas' attainment rate among young adults is well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Texas 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, about 40 percent of Texas' adult population — 5.9 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 14,850,154, Texas will need to add more than 3 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, 2.2 million of the expected 4 million job vacancies in Texas will require postsecondary credentials.

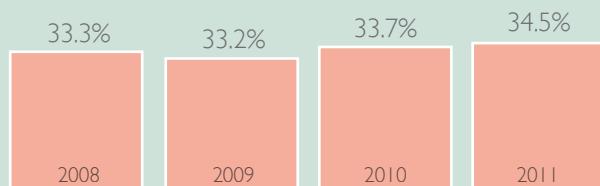
Indeed, 56 percent of all Texas jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

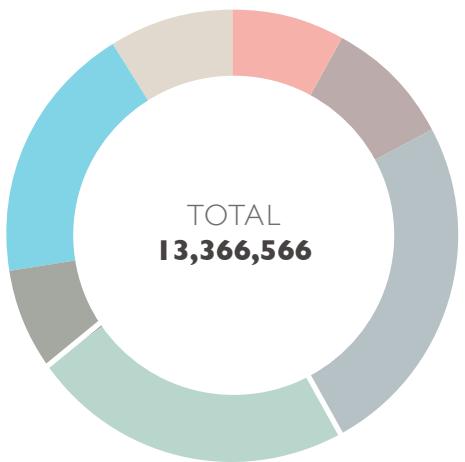
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, 3.1 million Texas adults — 23.1 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Texas 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 Texas 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. Texas 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 Texas' 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 Texas adults (ages 25-64)

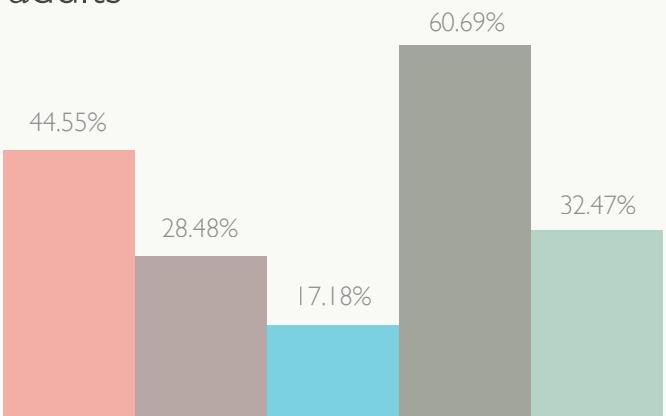
Less than ninth grade	1,092,143	8.17%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	1,241,383	9.29%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	3,329,672	24.91%
Some college, no degree	3,093,545	23.14%
Associate degree	949,585	7.10%
Bachelor's degree	2,494,952	18.67%
Graduate or professional degree	1,165,286	8.72%

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

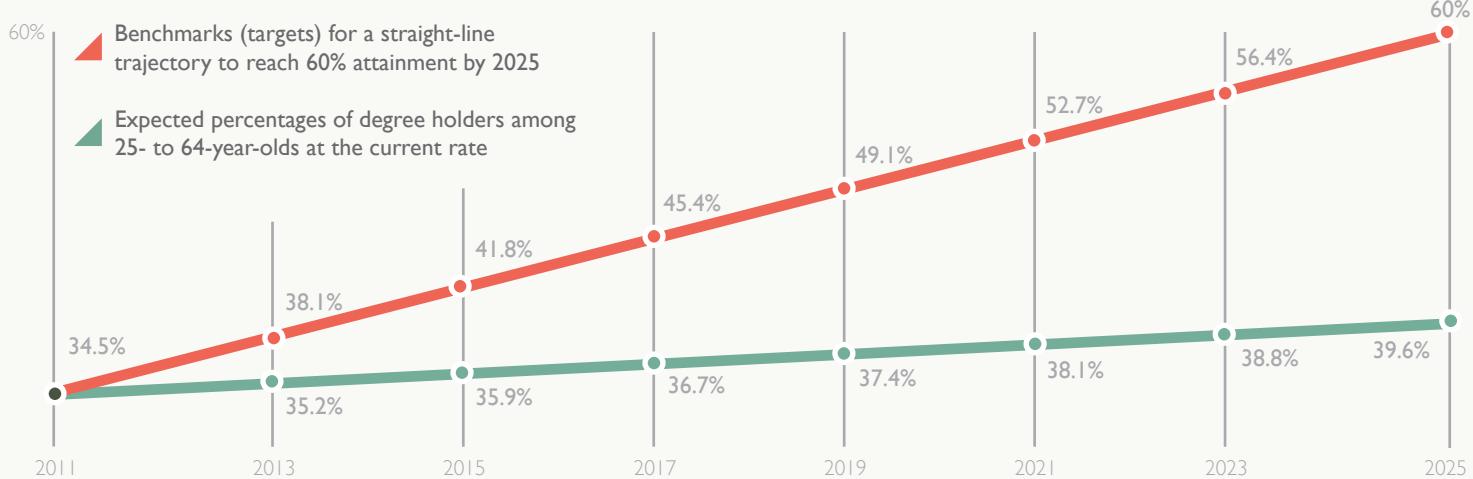
Degree-attainment rates among Texas adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	44.55%
Black	28.48%
Hispanic	17.18%
Asian	60.69%
Native American	32.47%

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

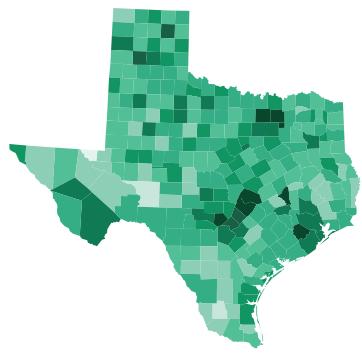


The path to 60% degree attainment in Texas



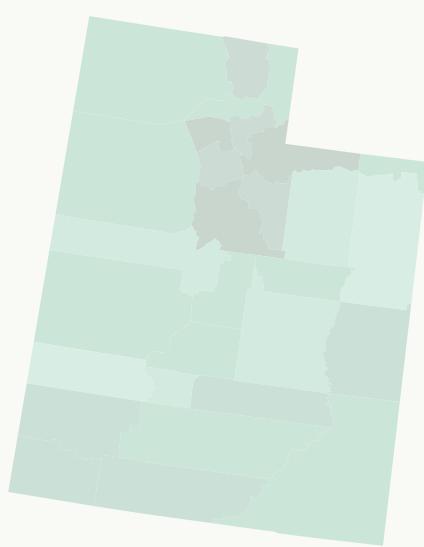
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

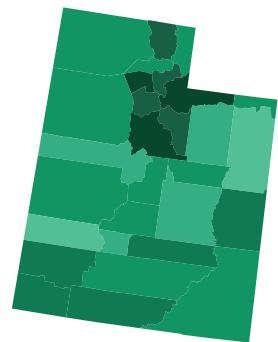


Anderson	17.95	Collingsworth	23.54	Glasscock	33.16	Kendall	48.88	Motley	27.19	Sterling	22.77
Andrews	19.11	Colorado	25.15	Goliad	27.75	Kenedy	28.57	Nacogdoches	29.81	Stonewall	33.71
Angelina	23.50	Comal	41.59	Gonzales	15.52	Kent	32.82	Navarro	22.90	Sutton	15.41
Aransas	29.53	Comanche	28.07	Gray	19.95	Kerr	34.36	Newton	13.83	Swisher	24.92
Archer	24.84	Concho	15.75	Grayson	29.29	Kimble	24.75	Nolan	25.12	Tarrant	37.09
Armstrong	38.43	Cooke	27.09	Gregg	29.96	King	36.90	Nueces	28.58	Taylor	31.78
Atascosa	18.27	Coryell	25.59	Grimes	17.07	Kinney	22.98	Ochiltree	20.46	Terrell	22.59
Austin	27.70	Cottle	22.86	Guadalupe	34.03	Kleberg	30.80	Oldham	35.36	Terry	21.07
Bailey	29.02	Crane	19.47	Hale	20.21	Knox	21.79	Orange	22.24	Throckmorton	26.86
Bandera	30.61	Crockett	10.81	Hall	22.24	Lamar	27.29	Palo Pinto	19.40	Titus	18.92
Bastrop	24.17	Crosby	17.43	Hamilton	28.23	Lamb	21.34	Panola	19.72	Tom Green	30.07
Baylor	33.62	Culberson	20.33	Hansford	29.41	Lampasas	30.62	Parker	32.61	Travis	51.30
Bee	16.00	Dallam	14.60	Hardeman	26.15	La Salle	11.84	Parmer	20.20	Trinity	14.91
Bell	32.30	Dallas	34.22	Hardin	23.82	Lavaca	22.67	Pecos	16.17	Tyler	17.61
Bexar	34.23	Dawson	12.11	Harris	34.33	Lee	22.85	Polk	15.85	Upshur	23.22
Blanco	31.98	Deaf Smith	18.05	Harrison	26.21	Leon	17.01	Potter	21.83	Upton	20.71
Borden	34.24	Delta	14.33	Hartley	27.05	Liberty	13.62	Presidio	23.29	Uvalde	24.30
Bosque	20.38	Denton	49.25	Haskell	16.94	Limestone	19.04	Rains	19.55	Val Verde	26.17
Bowie	25.80	DeWitt	19.49	Hays	42.94	Lipscomb	27.60	Randall	41.87	Van Zandt	18.87
Brazoria	36.72	Dickens	20.35	Hemphill	21.97	Live Oak	21.21	Reagan	13.91	Victoria	25.54
Brazos	45.25	Dimmit	16.16	Henderson	22.99	Llano	33.00	Real	26.90	Walker	23.04
Brewster	38.32	Donley	29.34	Hidalgo	20.84	Loving	5.36	Red River	17.14	Waller	24.04
Briscoe	25.90	Duval	14.14	Hill	23.42	Lubbock	34.95	Reeves	12.14	Ward	16.26
Brooks	14.88	Eastland	23.10	Hockley	26.67	Lynn	20.22	Refugio	16.78	Washington	34.69
Brown	20.67	Ector	20.04	Hood	29.05	McCulloch	25.90	Roberts	40.46	Webb	25.17
Burleson	16.15	Edwards	25.63	Hopkins	23.34	McLennan	31.75	Robertson	22.37	Wharton	26.24
Burnet	25.92	Ellis	29.86	Houston	17.64	McMullen	13.96	Rockwall	44.84	Wheeler	28.26
Caldwell	19.87	El Paso	28.59	Howard	18.39	Madison	14.47	Runnels	21.33	Wichita	27.87
Calhoun	22.49	Erath	30.45	Hudspeth	13.21	Marion	18.17	Rusk	20.54	Wilbarger	25.67
Callahan	27.43	Falls	17.74	Hunt	23.36	Martin	17.93	Sabine	17.68	Willacy	14.10
Cameron	22.08	Fannin	21.22	Hutchinson	20.58	Mason	33.88	San Augustine	12.56	Williamson	46.82
Camp	20.31	Fayette	25.76	Irion	20.11	Matagorda	24.35	San Jacinto	15.21	Wilson	27.80
Carson	31.24	Fisher	24.65	Jack	17.53	Maverick	20.10	San Patricio	22.61	Winkler	14.24
Cass	19.68	Floyd	24.65	Jackson	26.33	Medina	27.56	San Saba	23.80	Wise	22.98
Castro	19.16	Foard	31.41	Jasper	20.24	Menard	13.71	Schleicher	24.09	Wood	22.21
Chambers	26.26	Fort Bend	48.93	Jeff Davis	34.15	Midland	31.17	Scurry	23.56	Yoakum	18.35
Cherokee	18.70	Franklin	28.20	Jefferson	25.59	Milam	19.51	Shackelford	27.90	Young	22.60
Childress	21.93	Freestone	23.64	Jim Hogg	7.73	Mills	26.16	Shelby	18.37	Zapata	13.12
Clay	27.40	Frio	11.59	Jim Wells	17.40	Mitchell	14.70	Sherman	27.49	Zavala	16.99
Cochran	18.76	Gaines	21.15	Johnson	23.25	Montague	22.86	Smith	35.33		
Coke	26.77	Galveston	37.50	Jones	13.76	Montgomery	38.88	Somervell	37.84		
Coleman	19.92	Garza	14.37	Karnes	16.72	Moore	21.64	Starr	13.75		
Collin	58.24	Gillespie	33.28	Kaufman	24.79	Morris	28.86	Stephens	20.76		

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



Utah



In Utah, 40.3 percent of the state's 1.35 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Utah's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 39.7 percent. Utah's rate of higher education attainment is a bit higher than 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.

However, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Utah. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Utah, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 40.2 percent — a bit lower than that of the adult population as a whole, and little better than the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, Utah has a long way to go. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 46 percent of Utah's adult population — 660,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 1,448,347, Utah will need to add nearly 209,000 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, 308,000 of the expected 477,000 job

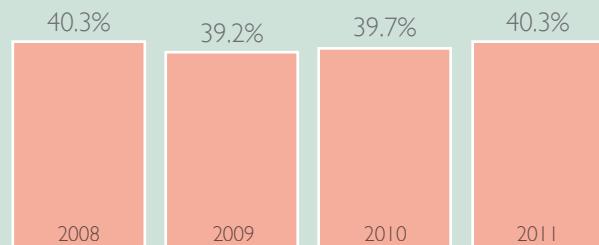
vacancies in Utah will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 66 percent of all Utah jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

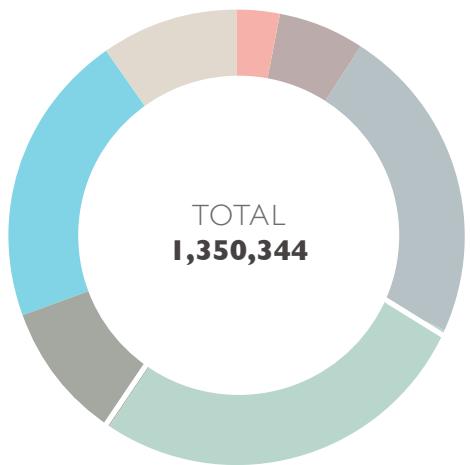
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 375,000 Utah adults — 27.8 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Utah 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 Utah 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. Utah 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 Utah'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 Utah adults (ages 25-64)

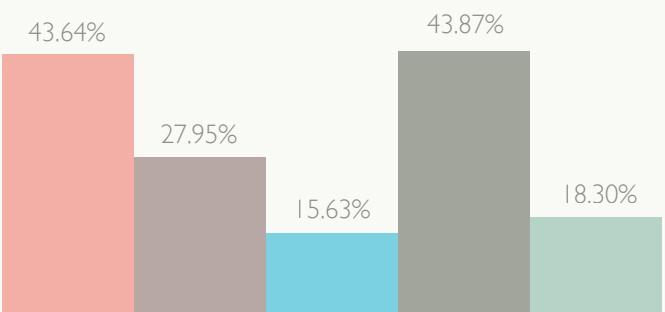
Less than ninth grade	43,089	3.19%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	83,386	6.18%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	304,118	22.52%
Some college, no degree	375,077	27.78%
Associate degree	134,307	9.95%
Bachelor's degree	281,744	20.86%
Graduate or professional degree	128,623	9.53%

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

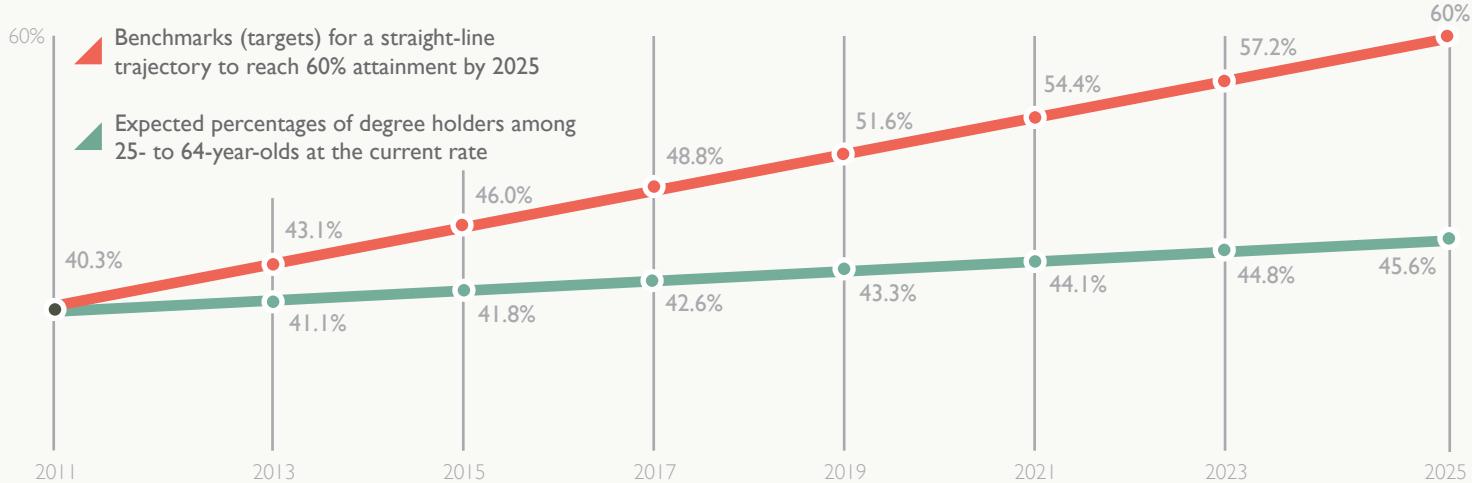
Degree-attainment rates among Utah adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	43.64%
Black	27.95%
Hispanic	15.63%
Asian	43.87%
Native American	18.30%

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

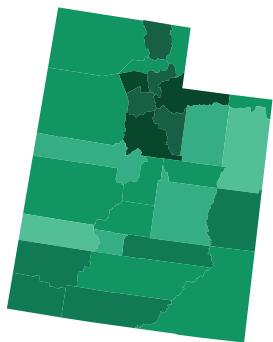


The path to 60% degree attainment in Utah



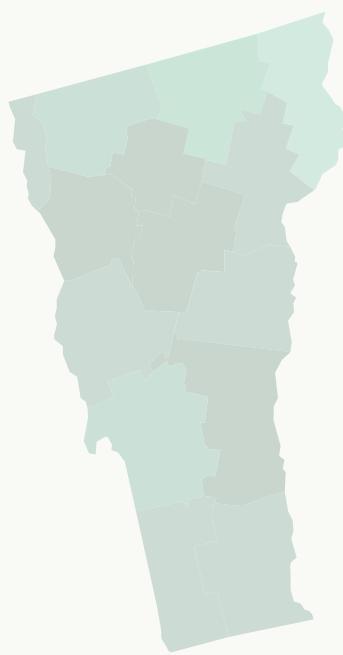
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

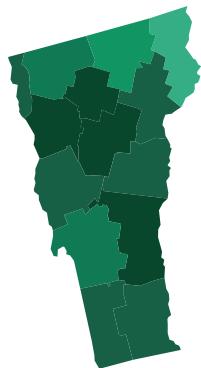


Beaver	17.76	Davis	46.02	Iron	36.95	Piute	23.98	Sevier	28.43	Wasatch	41.89
Box Elder	31.76	Duchesne	25.69	Juab	24.75	Rich	32.25	Summit	59.28	Washington	35.20
Cache	44.20	Emery	26.61	Kane	34.94	Salt Lake	40.04	Tooele	31.21	Wayne	35.69
Carbon	27.88	Garfield	32.54	Millard	30.86	San Juan	29.67	Uintah	21.53	Weber	32.97
Daggett	28.51	Grand	34.68	Morgan	39.45	Sanpete	30.77	Utah	48.07		

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



Vermont



In Vermont, 46.2 percent of the state's 341,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Vermont's attainment rate is increasing; last year, the rate was 44.1 percent. Also, Vermont's rate of higher education attainment is well 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 Vermont. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Vermont, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 47.2 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, however, Vermont must do better. 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, about 54 percent of Vermont's adult population — 190,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 354,303, Vermont will need to add more than 22,000 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, 62,000 of the expected 100,000 job

vacancies in Vermont will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 62 percent of all Vermont 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 63,000 Vermont adults — 18.3 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 Vermont reach the 60 percent goal.

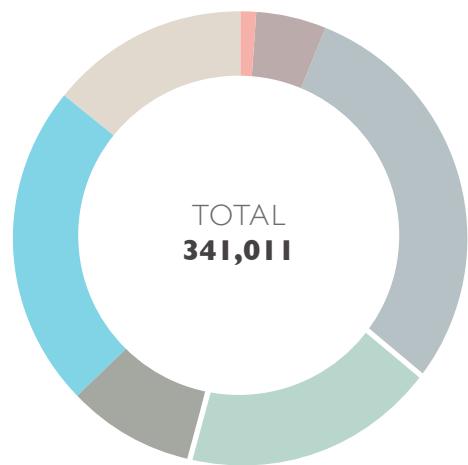
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Vermont county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties, so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

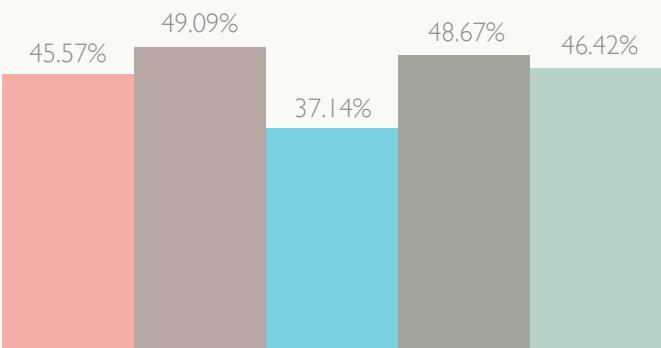


Less than ninth grade	4,463	1.31%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	16,869	4.95%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	99,533	29.19%
Some college, no degree	62,506	18.33%
Associate degree	30,945	9.07%
Bachelor's degree	78,938	23.15%
Graduate or professional degree	47,757	14.00%

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

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

White	45.57%
Black	49.09%
Hispanic	37.14%
Asian	48.67%
Native American	46.42%

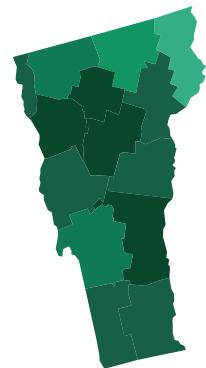


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Vermont



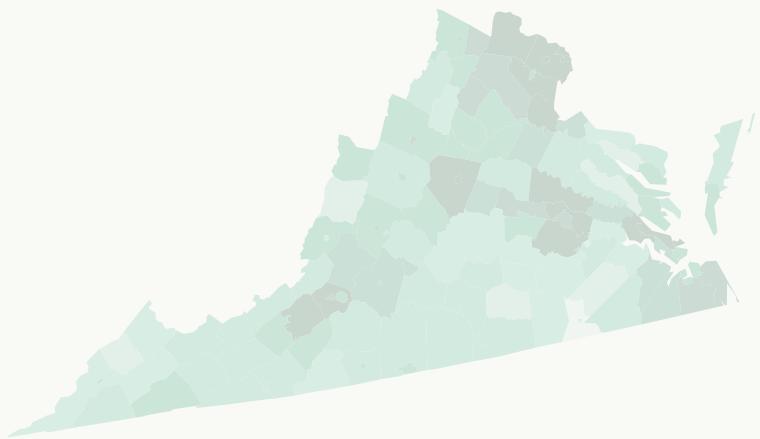
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey



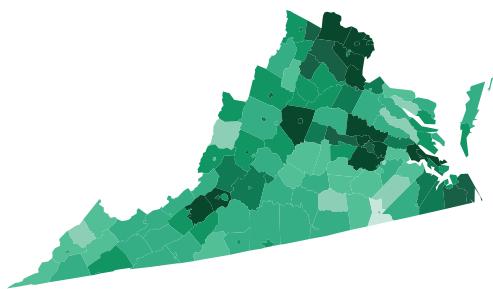
Percentage of Vermont adults (ages 25-64) with at least an associate degree, by county

Addison	42.80	Chittenden	58.30	Grand Isle	39.19	Orleans	28.11	Windham	44.06
Bennington	40.73	Essex	26.40	Lamoille	45.23	Rutland	35.95	Windsor	44.51
Caledonia	39.04	Franklin	34.09	Orange	39.94	Washington	49.50		

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



Virginia



In Virginia, 45 percent of the state's 4.4 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Virginia's attainment rate is increasing; last year, the rate was 43.9 percent. Also, Virginia's rate of higher education attainment is well 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 Virginia. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Virginia, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 46.6 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, however, Virginia must do better. 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, about 54 percent of Virginia's adult population — 2.5 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 4,621,136, Virginia will need to add more than 291,000 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, 820,000 of the expected 1.3 million

job vacancies in Virginia will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 64 percent of all Virginia 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, more than 912,000 Virginia adults — 20.7 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 Virginia reach the 60 percent goal.

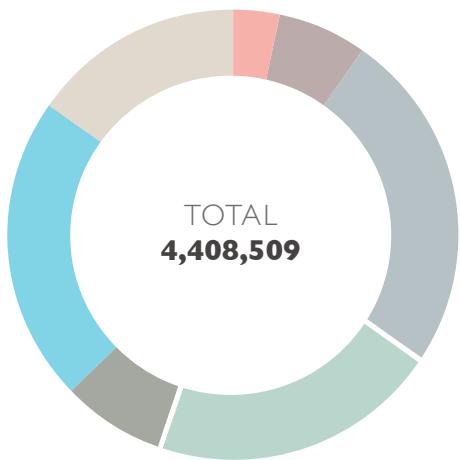
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Virginia county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



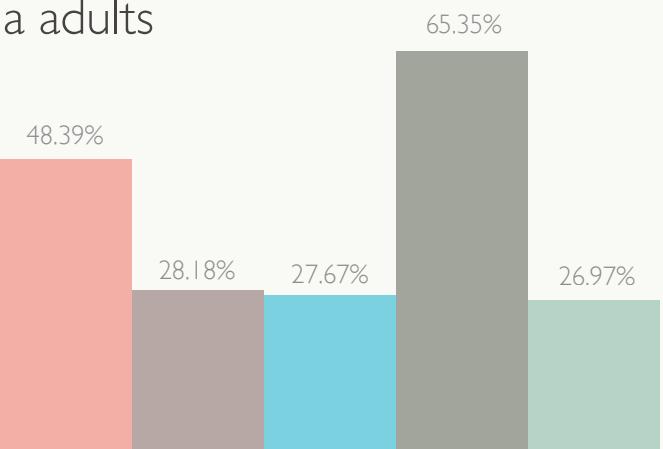
Less than ninth grade	148,318	3.36%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	284,948	6.46%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	1,080,973	24.52%
Some college, no degree	912,363	20.70%
Associate degree	341,004	7.74%
Bachelor's degree	972,964	22.07%
Graduate or professional degree	667,939	15.15%

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

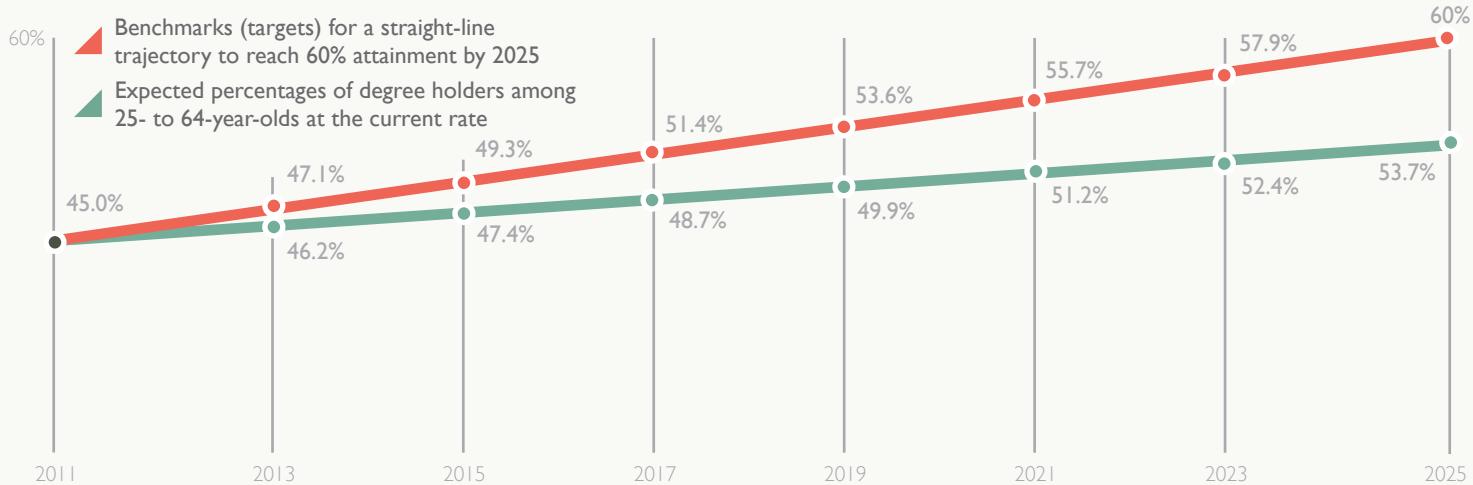
Degree-attainment rates among Virginia adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	48.39%
Black	28.18%
Hispanic	27.67%
Asian	65.35%
Native American	26.97%

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

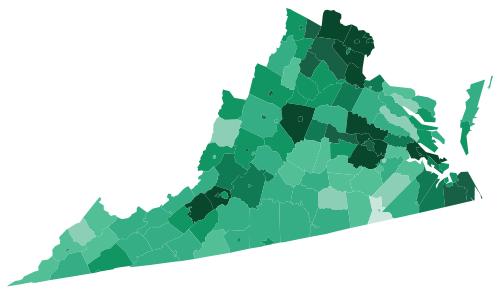


The path to 60% degree attainment in Virginia



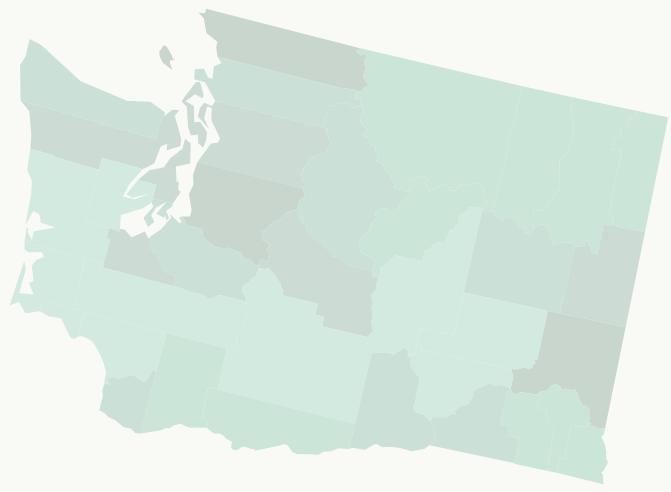
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

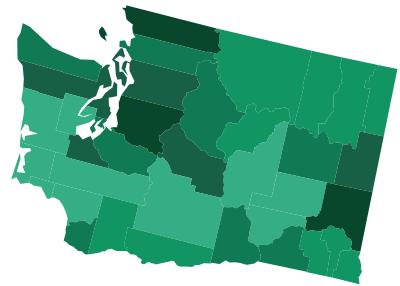


Accomack	25.00	Fairfax	65.26	Mathews	26.08	Spotsylvania	38.48	Hampton	32.96
Albemarle	60.23	Fauquier	41.72	Mecklenburg	22.78	Stafford	46.42	Harrisonburg	42.18
Alleghany	29.19	Floyd	30.40	Middlesex	33.10	Surry	19.98	Hopewell	14.74
Amelia	21.68	Fluvanna	36.28	Montgomery	52.03	Sussex	13.45	Lexington	55.45
Amherst	27.06	Franklin	26.68	Nelson	31.63	Tazewell	24.45	Lynchburg	37.87
Appomattox	21.08	Frederick	33.21	New Kent	33.38	Warren	28.73	Manassas	33.68
Arlington	77.46	Giles	27.43	Northampton	27.80	Washington	32.98	Manassas Park	31.57
Augusta	25.95	Gloucester	28.64	Northumberland	27.71	Westmoreland	21.72	Martinsville	30.69
Bath	14.42	Goochland	43.76	Nottoway	21.00	Wise	20.52	Newport News	34.57
Bedford	34.03	Grayson	24.19	Orange	29.75	Wythe	27.08	Norfolk	32.89
Bland	26.64	Greene	29.59	Page	17.87	York	55.35	Norton	36.64
Botetourt	38.31	Greensville	10.42	Patrick	20.43			Petersburg	18.37
Brunswick	21.31	Halifax	26.20	Pittsylvania	24.66	CITIES		Poquoson	51.11
Buchanan	18.27	Hanover	44.96	Powhatan	32.93	Alexandria	66.47	Portsmouth	29.34
Buckingham	17.93	Henrico	48.82	Prince Edward	25.20	Bedford	28.35	Radford	53.24
Campbell	27.41	Henry	24.10	Prince George	24.04	Bristol	31.79	Richmond	40.12
Caroline	23.21	Highland	29.13	Prince William	45.82	Buena Vista	24.54	Roanoke	31.28
Carroll	23.52	Isle of Wight	37.66	Pulaski	28.16	Charlottesville	54.54	Salem	43.65
Charles City	17.00	James City	52.84	Rappahannock	41.04	Chesapeake	40.20	Staunton	36.50
Charlotte	25.16	King and Queen	13.67	Richmond	14.32	Colonial Heights	29.13	Suffolk	35.79
Chesterfield	45.49	King George	37.85	Roanoke	47.27	Covington	20.73	Virginia Beach	44.01
Clarke	42.47	King William	24.79	Rockbridge	31.22	Danville	29.53	Waynesboro	26.11
Craig	22.47	Lancaster	30.89	Rockingham	30.47	Emporia	21.60	Williamsburg	51.58
Culpeper	29.93	Lee	20.38	Russell	20.79	Fairfax	61.27	Winchester	36.06
Cumberland	21.60	Loudoun	65.55	Scott	24.59	Falls Church	78.27		
Dickenson	14.56	Louisa	25.34	Shenandoah	23.19	Franklin	23.29		
Dinwiddie	21.15	Lunenburg	16.00	Smyth	26.57	Fredericksburg	39.41		
Essex	22.93	Madison	30.04	Southampton	22.73	Galax	24.81		

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



Washington



In Washington, 43.3 percent of the state's 3.7 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Washington's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 42.5 percent. Still, Washington's rate of higher education attainment is well 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.

However, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Washington. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Washington, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 42.1 percent — lower than that of the adult population as a whole, though higher than the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, there is room for improvement in Washington. 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, about 49 percent of Washington's adult population — 5.1 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 4,099,651, Washington will need to add nearly 435,000 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, 677,000 of the expected

1 million job vacancies in Washington will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 67 percent of all Washington 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 926,000 Washington adults — 24.9 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 Washington reach the 60 percent goal.

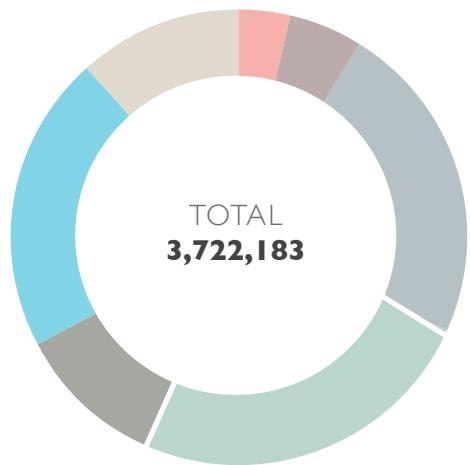
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each Washington county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



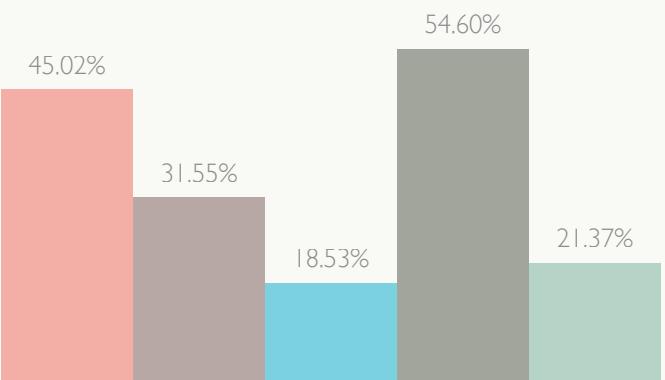
Less than ninth grade	139,562	3.75%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	196,909	5.29%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	848,605	22.80%
Some college, no degree	925,860	24.87%
Associate degree	396,194	10.64%
Bachelor's degree	782,846	21.03%
Graduate or professional degree	432,207	11.61%

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

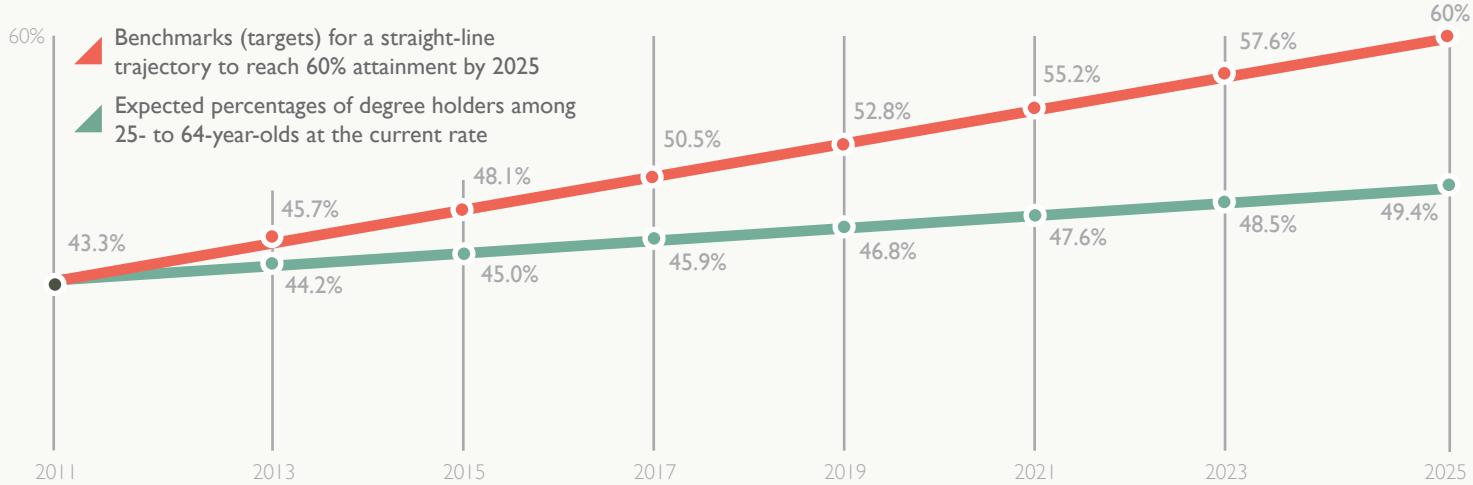
Degree-attainment rates among Washington adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	45.02%
Black	31.55%
Hispanic	18.53%
Asian	54.60%
Native American	21.37%

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

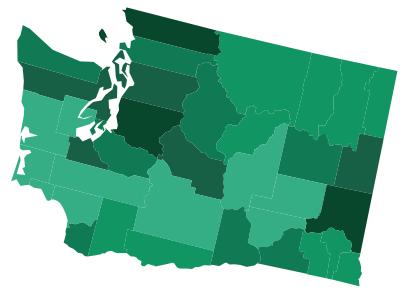


The path to 60% degree attainment in Washington



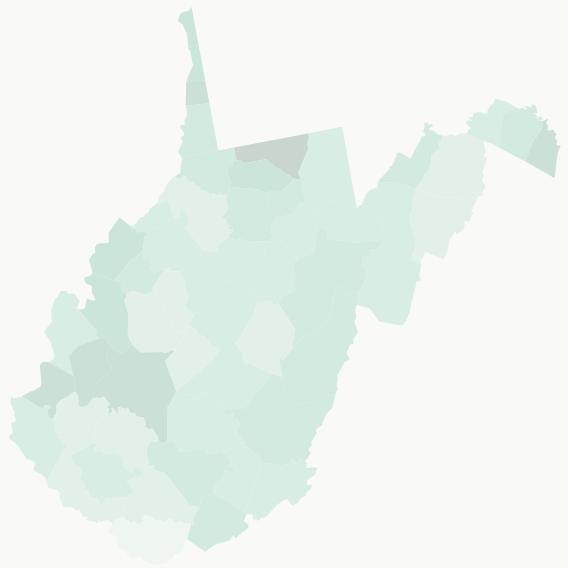
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

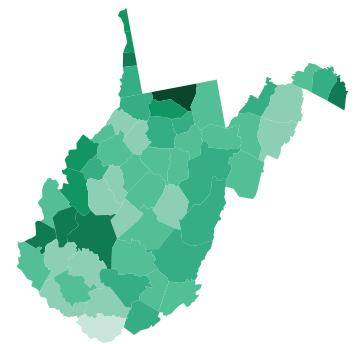


Adams	23.12	Cowlitz	27.19	Island	39.68	Lincoln	36.77	Skagit	36.08	Walla Walla	37.28
Asotin	28.80	Douglas	29.20	Jefferson	42.13	Mason	26.49	Skamania	32.42	Whatcom	45.03
Benton	38.74	Ferry	28.24	King	56.34	Okanogan	30.17	Snohomish	40.64	Whitman	61.63
Chelan	33.56	Franklin	22.99	Kitsap	40.51	Pacific	27.36	Spokane	42.94	Yakima	23.30
Clallam	34.41	Garfield	31.93	Kittitas	42.08	Pend Oreille	29.42	Stevens	33.12		
Clark	37.31	Grant	24.52	Klickitat	29.65	Pierce	34.89	Thurston	43.86		
Columbia	29.23	Grays Harbor	26.00	Lewis	26.33	San Juan	44.82	Wahkiakum	27.69		

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



West Virginia



In West Virginia, 27.8 percent of the state's 993,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. West Virginia's attainment rate is increasing; last year, the rate was 26.1 percent. However, West Virginia'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.

Still, there is some reason for optimism. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the attainment rate of young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In West Virginia, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 30.9 percent, considerably higher than that of the adult population as a whole. This suggests that young people in West Virginia are getting the message that higher education is important to their future. However, West Virginia's attainment rate among young adults is still far below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

West Virginia is making some progress, but it has a long way to go. In West Virginia and nationally, college attainment rates must increase more rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, only 35.5 percent of West Virginia's adult population — fewer than 315,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 886,531, West Virginia will need to add more than 217,000 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, 115,000 of the expected

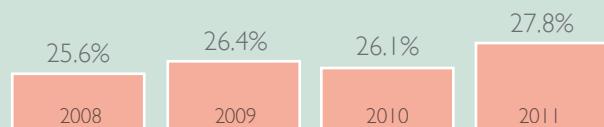
234,000 job vacancies in West Virginia will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 49 percent of all West Virginia jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

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, more than 185,000 West Virginia adults — 18.7 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 West Virginia reach the 60 percent goal.

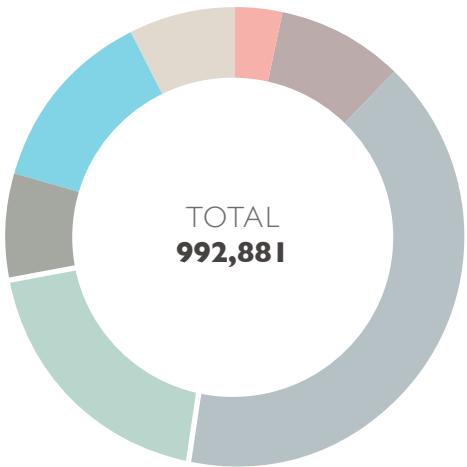
To increase attainment, states must work systematically to close achievement gaps based on race, income, geography and other factors. As in past years, this report lists an attainment rate for each West Virginia county. The data show that increasing attainment is a particular challenge in rural counties,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



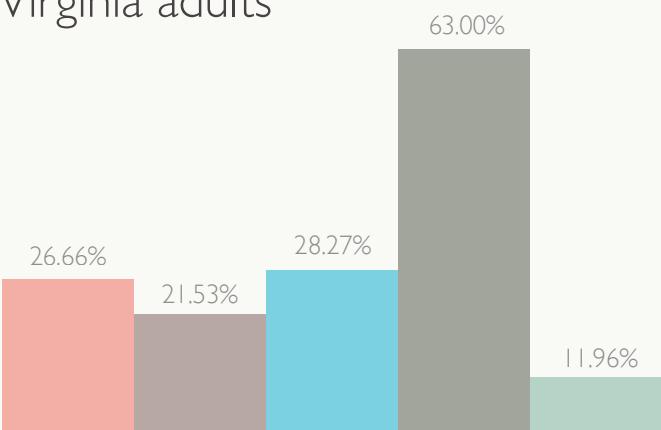
Less than ninth grade	35,094	3.53%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	87,414	8.80%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	409,110	41.20%
Some college, no degree	185,297	18.66%
Associate degree	73,760	7.43%
Bachelor's degree	130,177	13.11%
Graduate or professional degree	72,029	7.25%

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

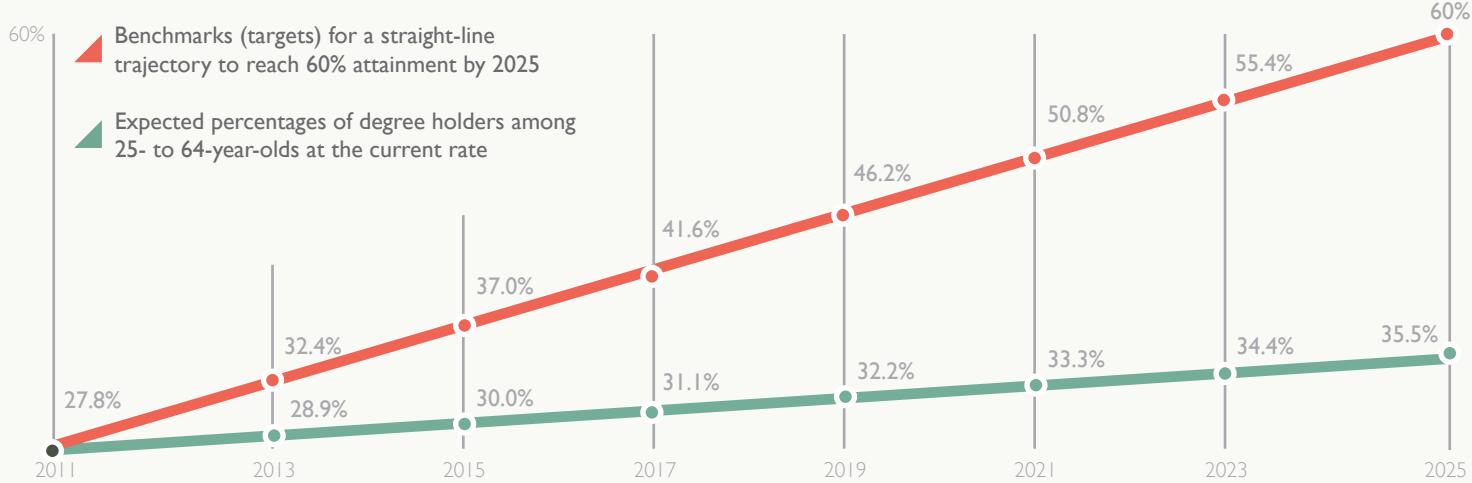
Degree-attainment rates among West Virginia adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	26.66%
Black	21.53%
Hispanic	28.27%
Asian	63.00%
Native American	11.96%

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

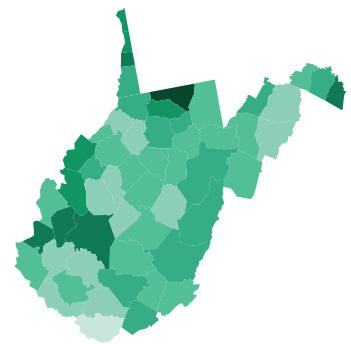


The path to 60% degree attainment in West Virginia



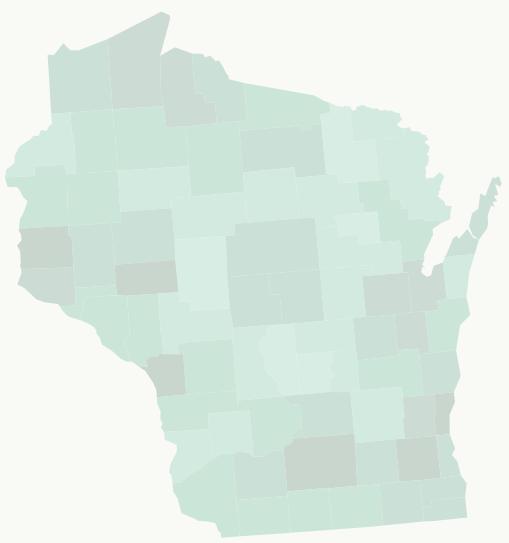
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

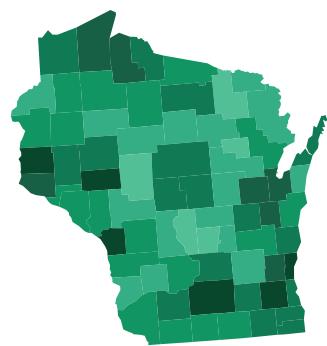


Barbour	18.14	Gilmer	16.74	Lewis	21.67	Monongalia	45.46	Raleigh	24.04	Webster	11.73
Berkeley	26.75	Grant	20.06	Lincoln	13.54	Monroe	19.65	Randolph	25.93	Wetzel	23.22
Boone	14.12	Greenbrier	24.74	Logan	17.73	Morgan	21.68	Ritchie	21.60	Wirt	22.41
Braxton	18.22	Hampshire	14.81	McDowell	10.31	Nicholas	20.58	Roane	14.37	Wood	31.06
Brooke	29.13	Hancock	29.24	Marion	28.49	Ohio	38.55	Summers	20.24	Wyoming	14.96
Cabell	34.73	Hardy	16.41	Marshall	24.55	Pendleton	19.31	Taylor	23.03		
Calhoun	13.70	Harrison	26.33	Mason	20.71	Pleasants	19.14	Tucker	20.71		
Clay	13.94	Jackson	27.92	Mercer	24.56	Pocahontas	25.12	Tyler	15.30		
Doddridge	14.54	Jefferson	38.75	Mineral	23.09	Preston	18.57	Upshur	21.11		
Fayette	16.89	Kanawha	33.42	Mingo	15.86	Putnam	35.08	Wayne	21.93		

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



Wisconsin



In Wisconsin, 39.6 percent of the state's 3 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Wisconsin's attainment rate is increasing slowly; last year, the rate was 39.1 percent. Still, Wisconsin'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 Wisconsin. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Wisconsin, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 42.5 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 Wisconsin. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, 47 percent of Wisconsin's adult population — 1.4 million people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 3,039,329, Wisconsin will need to add more than 398,000 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, 558,000 of the expected 925,000

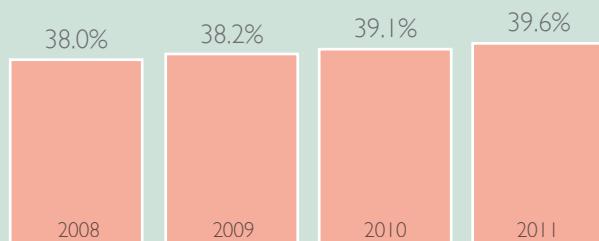
job vacancies in Wisconsin will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 61 percent of all Wisconsin jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

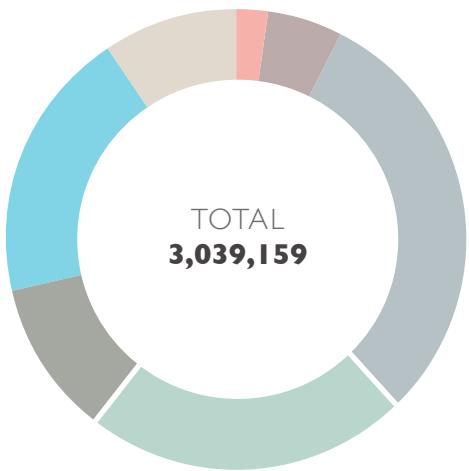
The state's economic future can surely be bolstered by producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 684,000 Wisconsin adults — 22.5 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Wisconsin 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 Wisconsin 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. Wisconsin 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 Wisconsin'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





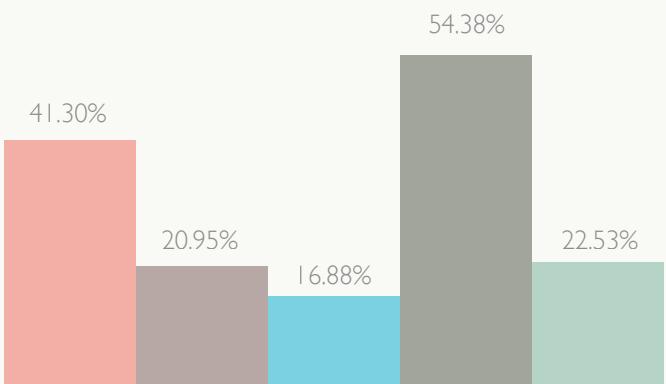
Levels of education for Wisconsin adults (ages 25-64)

Less than ninth grade	68,616	2.26%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	164,436	5.41%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	919,906	30.27%
Some college, no degree	684,008	22.51%
Associate degree	336,583	11.07%
Bachelor's degree	583,233	19.19%
Graduate or professional degree	282,377	9.29%

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

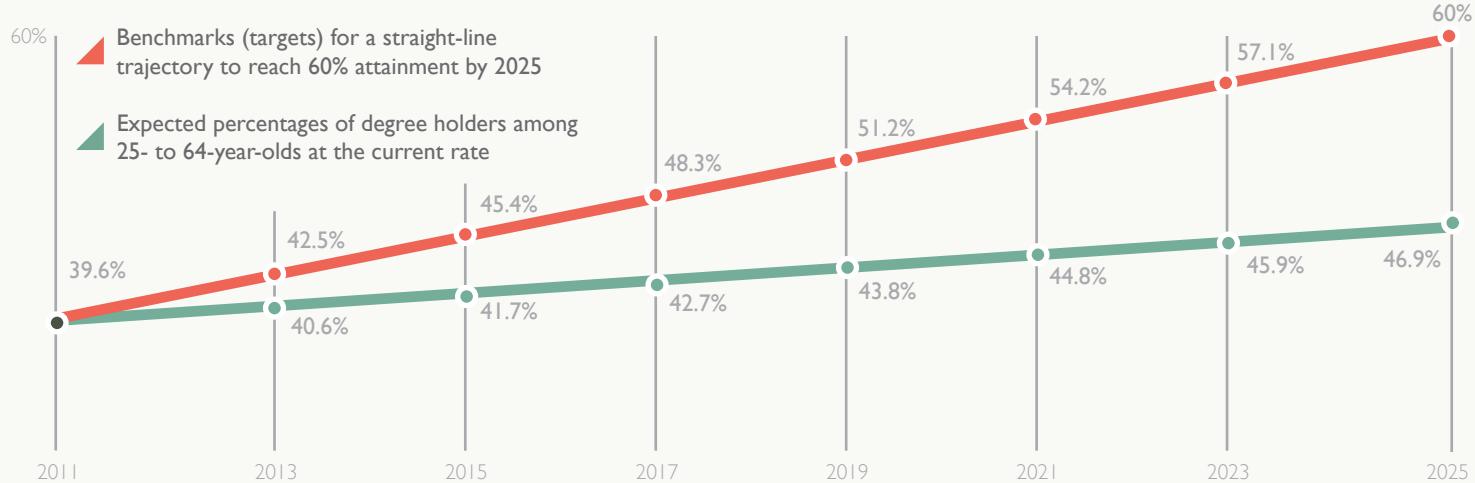
Degree-attainment rates among Wisconsin adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	41.30%
Black	20.95%
Hispanic	16.88%
Asian	54.38%
Native American	22.53%



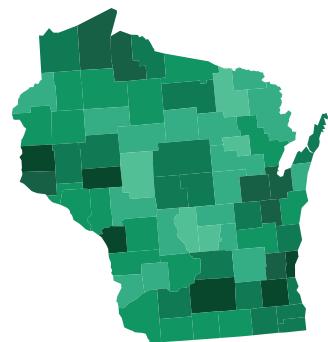
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Wisconsin



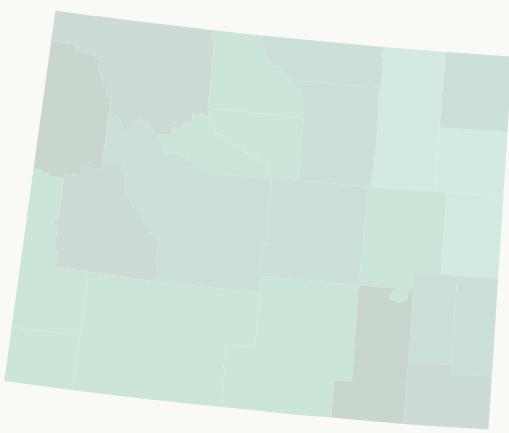
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census, 2010 & 2011 American Community Survey

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

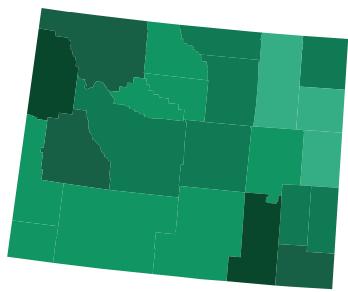


Adams	20.62	Dane	57.76	Iowa	35.70	Marathon	36.55	Polk	31.18	Taylor	24.29
Ashland	38.99	Dodge	26.60	Iron	38.51	Marinette	26.45	Portage	38.71	Trempealeau	31.33
Barron	32.28	Door	35.86	Jackson	27.66	Marquette	22.21	Price	28.19	Vernon	32.17
Bayfield	40.26	Douglas	36.88	Jefferson	33.94	Menominee	20.79	Racine	33.40	Vilas	33.10
Brown	39.86	Dunn	38.13	Juneau	24.67	Milwaukee	36.76	Richland	26.12	Walworth	35.87
Buffalo	31.45	Eau Claire	47.58	Kenosha	36.10	Monroe	30.01	Rock	31.15	Washburn	30.42
Burnett	26.32	Florence	25.15	Kewaunee	26.69	Oconto	28.32	Rusk	27.70	Washington	41.38
Calumet	41.46	Fond du Lac	31.73	La Crosse	46.75	Oneida	34.40	St. Croix	45.78	Waukesha	52.92
Chippewa	33.92	Forest	20.74	Lafayette	29.26	Outagamie	40.28	Sauk	31.73	Waupaca	27.60
Clark	22.18	Grant	33.27	Langlade	23.45	Ozaukee	55.61	Sawyer	31.18	Waushara	23.62
Columbia	33.71	Green	32.42	Lincoln	27.64	Pepin	31.37	Shawano	26.59	Winnebago	36.98
Crawford	25.07	Green Lake	25.58	Manitowoc	30.35	Pierce	39.97	Sheboygan	34.71	Wood	34.53

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



Wyoming



In Wyoming, 36.2 percent of the state's 304,000 working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold a two- or four-year college degree, according to 2011 Census data. Wyoming's attainment rate is essentially flat; last year, the rate was 37.3 percent. Wyoming's rate of higher education attainment is 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.

Also, there is reason for concern about the educational trends in Wyoming. The best indicator of where attainment rates are heading is the rate among young adults — those between the ages of 25 and 34. In Wyoming, 2011 Census data put the attainment rate of these young adults at 36.2 percent — the same as that of the adult population as a whole, and well below the national rate of 40.1 percent.

Clearly, Wyoming has a long way to go. In this state and nationally, college attainment rates must increase rapidly to reach 60 percent by 2025. If the current rate of degree production continues, about 41 percent of Wyoming's adult population — 104,000 people — will hold a college degree in 2025. To reach 60 percent attainment among its projected 2025 population of 255,638, Wyoming will need to add more than 49,000 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, 65,000 of the expected 108,000 job

vacancies in Wyoming will require postsecondary credentials. Indeed, 62 percent of all Wyoming jobs will require postsecondary education by 2018.

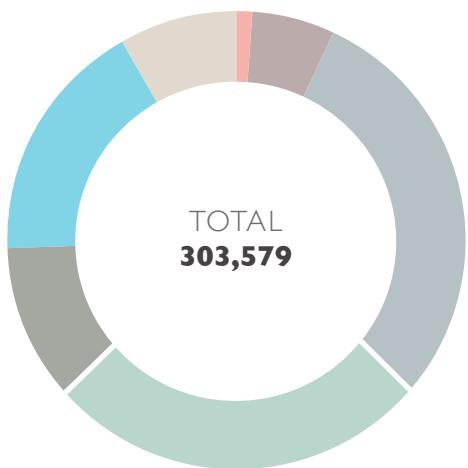
Clearly, the state's economic future depends on producing more college graduates — and an excellent place to begin is with those who have attended college but not earned a credential. In 2011, more than 83,000 Wyoming adults — 27.5 percent of the adult population — had gone to college but lacked either a two- or four-year degree. Encouraging and helping these adults to complete degrees would go a long way toward helping Wyoming 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 Wyoming 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. Wyoming 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 Wyoming'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





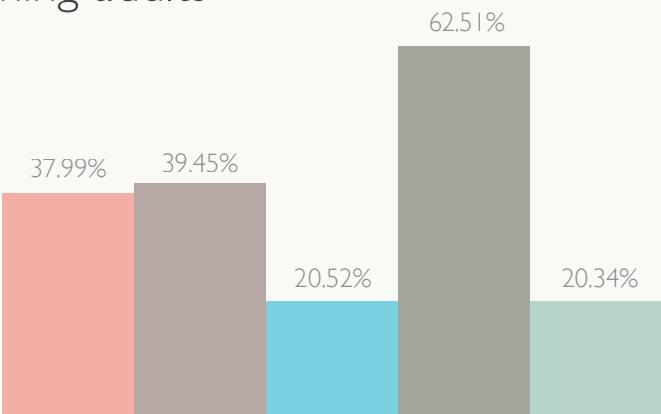
Levels of education for Wyoming adults (ages 25-64)

Less than ninth grade	3,880	1.28%
Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma	17,568	5.79%
High school graduate (including equivalency)	88,884	29.28%
Some college, no degree	83,474	27.50%
Associate degree	32,491	10.70%
Bachelor's degree	52,262	17.22%
Graduate or professional degree	25,020	8.24%

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

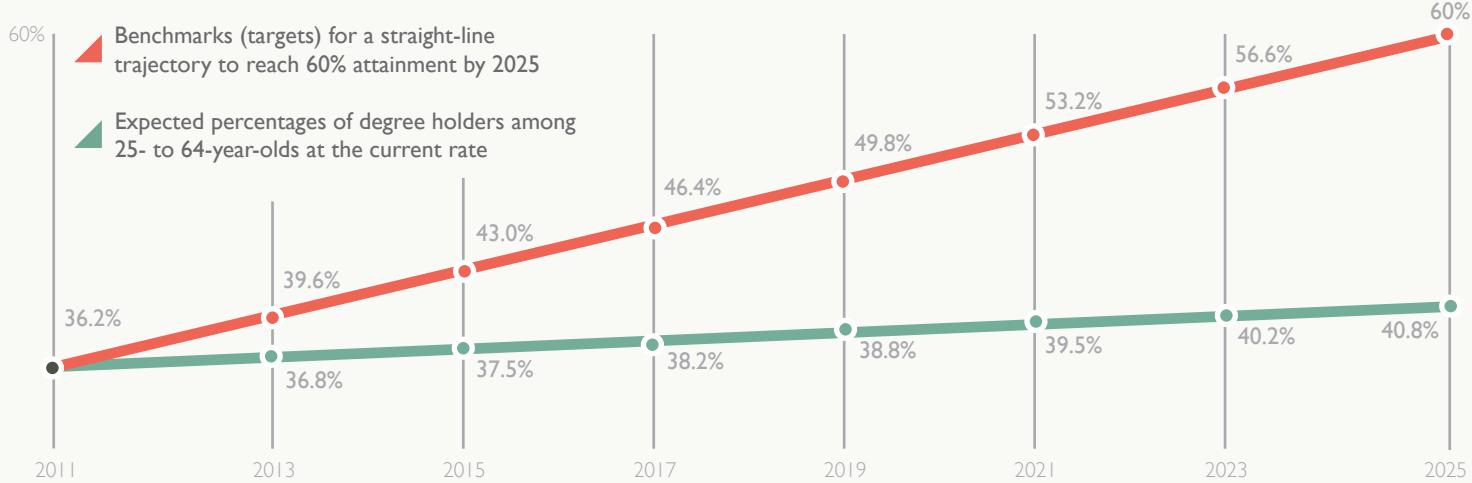
Degree-attainment rates among Wyoming adults (ages 25-64), by population group

White	37.99%
Black	39.45%
Hispanic	20.52%
Asian	62.51%
Native American	20.34%

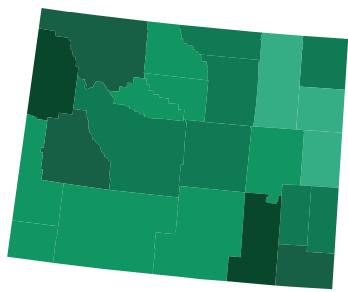


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-11 American Community Survey PUMS File

The path to 60% degree attainment in Wyoming



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



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

Albany	59.05	Converse	28.15	Hot Springs	31.06	Natrona	34.91	Sheridan	35.93	Uinta	28.66
Big Horn	30.18	Crook	38.44	Johnson	37.25	Niobrara	25.69	Sublette	40.10	Washakie	31.24
Campbell	27.16	Fremont	34.82	Laramie	38.90	Park	41.19	Sweetwater	29.19	Weston	26.59
Carbon	28.29	Goshen	34.38	Lincoln	31.77	Platte	33.87	Teton	55.94		

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

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About Lumina Foundation

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.

Online access: This report and all of its elements are available at www.luminafoundation.org/stronger_nation. From there, you can:

- Navigate through the full report, including the metro-area attainment data, and compare data dynamically among all states.
- Download a printable version of the full report.
- Download printable versions of individual policy briefs that present the data specific to each state.
- Download the *Stronger Nation* mobile application for use on your mobile device.
- Download a design template and various graphic elements that you can use to create a policy brief that presents college-attainment data specific to your own county, region or metropolitan area.

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