Postsecondary Attainment:
Data as a Key to Transparency, Accountability, Commitment and Action

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Lumina Foundation

- Independent private foundation
- National focus
- Based in Indianapolis
- Committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available to all
Goal 2025

To increase the proportion of Americans with high-quality degrees, certificates and other credentials to 60 percent by 2025.
Why Goal 2025?

- Today’s jobs require specialized training and skills
- By 2020 2/3 of jobs will require postsecondary education
Education Requirements for Jobs

- 1973: 72% No College, 9% Bachelor's Degree, 12% Some College, No Degree, 19% Associate's Degree, 7% Graduate or Professional
- 1992: 44% No College, 8% Bachelor's Degree, 19% Some College, No Degree, 17% Associate's Degree, 10% Graduate or Professional
- 2007: 41% No College, 10% Bachelor's Degree, 17% Some College, No Degree, 18% Associate's Degree, 12% Graduate or Professional
- 2020: 38% No College, 12% Bachelor's Degree, 18% Some College, No Degree, 21% Associate's Degree, 11% Graduate or Professional

Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce
Why Goal 2025?

• Today’s jobs require specialized training and skills
• By 2020 2/3 of jobs will require postsecondary education
• Young adults enter the labor force ill prepared
• The US attainment rate is 13th among developed countries in college attainment for young adults
Why Goal 2025?

• Today’s jobs require specialized training and skills
• By 2020 2/3 of jobs will require postsecondary education
• Young adults enter the labor force ill prepared
• The US attainment rate is 13th among developed countries in college attainment for young adults
• Our current postsecondary system does not serve Today’s Students
Equity Gaps in Degree Attainment

- **Asian & Pacific Islander**: 61.2%
- **White**: 45.7%
- **African American**: 29.3%
- **American Indian**: 23.9%
- **Hispanic**: 21.3%
Equity Indicator 5a: Bachelor's degree attainment by age 24 for dependent family members by family income quartile: 1970-2013
THINK YOU KNOW THE FACTS?
TODAY'S COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE...

BALANCING MULTIPLE RESPONSIBILITIES

75% of college students commute to class while juggling parenting, working and both.

40% attend school only part-time.

Students work on average 19 hours per week.

About 40 percent of community-college students work 20 or more hours per week.
OLDER AND MORE RACIALLY DIVERSE

38 PERCENT OF ALL TODAY’S UNDERGRADUATES ARE OLDER THAN 25.


ENROLLMENT AMONG HISPANIC STUDENTS TRIPPLED SINCE THE MID-1990’S,

AND BLACK STUDENT ENROLLMENT GREW BY 72 PERCENT.

AND THOSE TRENDS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THROUGH 2021, WITH BLACK ENROLLMENT PROJECTED TO GROW BY 25 PERCENT, HISPANIC STUDENTS PROJECTED TO INCREASE BY 42 PERCENT, AND ONLY A 4 PERCENT INCREASE IN WHITE STUDENTS FORECASTED.
FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THEMSELVES... AND OFTEN STRUGGLE TO MAKE ENDS MEET

4.8 MILLION POSTSECONDARY STUDENTS ARE PARENTS, AND OF THOSE, 61 PERCENT HAVE NO MONEY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COST OF COLLEGE.

ALMOST HALF OF TODAY'S STUDENTS ARE ON THEIR OWN FINANCIALLY. HALF OF THOSE STUDENTS (25%) HAVE FINANCIAL DEPENDENTS OF THEIR OWN.

88 PERCENT OF SINGLE STUDENT-PARENTS HAVE INCOMES BELOW 200 PERCENT OF THE POVERTY LINE.
LESS LIKELY TO GRADUATE

2X

Students with additional financial, work and family obligations are twice as likely to drop out of school in their first year as students fresh out of high school - 38 percent compared to 16 percent.

No more than a quarter of part-time students make it to graduation, even when given twice as long to complete.
**Priorities for Action**

**2017-20**

**Student Success**
- A postsecondary system in which the top priorities are completion of quality credentials, affordability, and closing of equity gaps

**Transparent Credentials**
- A new, national system of transparent, high-quality postsecondary credentials

**Competency-Based Learning**
- A national expansion of competency-based learning

**First Credential for Adults**
- Pathways to initial credentials—certificates and certifications—for adults who have no postsecondary education

**Quality Assurance**
- An integrated quality assurance system for postsecondary learning

**Opportunity Populations**

**By 2020**

- Increase attainment by 5.9 million above current rates
- Increase attainment among 25–64-year-olds from 45.3% to 51.2%
- Increase attainment among 25–34-year-olds from 47.2% to 53.3%

**Goal 2025**

**By 2025**

- Increase attainment by 16.4 million high-quality credentials above current rates to reach 60%
- Increase attainment among traditional-age students by 4.8 million
- Increase attainment among returning adults who have some postsecondary education but no credential by 6.1 million
- Increase attainment among adults who have no recognized postsecondary education by 5.5 million
Tracking Progress
A Stronger Nation: Over the Years
Tracking Progress Toward Goal 2025

• Postsecondary Attainment rates
  • Nation
  • States
  • Counties
  • 100 most populous Metros

• Disaggregated by:
  • Race/Ethnicity
  • Age
  • Credential
Tracking the trend

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

- 37.9% (2008)
- 38.1% (2009)
- 38.3% (2010)
- 38.7% (2011)
- 39.4% (2012)
- 40.0% (2013)
Levels of education for United States residents, ages 25-64

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than ninth grade</td>
<td>7,849,104</td>
<td>4.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ninth to 12th grade, no diploma</td>
<td>11,958,503</td>
<td>7.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate (including equivalency)</td>
<td>43,843,773</td>
<td>26.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college, no degree</td>
<td>36,174,067</td>
<td>21.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate degree</td>
<td>14,710,826</td>
<td>8.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree</td>
<td>32,970,178</td>
<td>19.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate or professional degree</td>
<td>18,740,174</td>
<td>11.27%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Group</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>44.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>28.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>20.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>60.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>23.86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011-13 American Community Survey PUMS File
Importance of Tracking Data

• Transparency
• Brings the attainment challenge to life
• Allows the nation states and communities to understand their role
• Compare to others
• Create and manage goals (nation, state, communities)
• Create priorities
• Set strategies
Limitations of Past Reports

- Static
- Difficult to compare
- Not accessible
- Not customizable
New Format

Web-based platform:

- Update the data in real time
- User interaction
- Customizable data displays
- Customizable reports

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A Stronger Nation: Today

A STRONGER NATION
Learning beyond high school builds American talent

Tracking America’s Progress Toward 2025

The nation faces an urgent and growing need for talent. To meet that need, many more people must earn college degrees, workforce certificates, industry certifications and other high-quality credentials. That’s why Lumina Foundation focuses on Goal 2025. We want to ensure that, by 2025, a system exists that is easy to navigate and has helped 60 percent of Americans earn credentials that prepare them for informed citizenship and for success in a global economy.

A Steady Climb

Lumina tracks educational achievement beyond high school among Americans ages 25 to 64. Since 2008, attainment nationally has risen by 7.9 percentage points. That’s progress, but it’s not enough. The nation is not yet on track to reach the 2025 attainment goal. Dramatic action will be required to address the urgent demand for talent.

We need a comprehensive system for learning beyond high school — one built on the expectation that all Americans will earn degrees or other postsecondary credentials. It must be a system in which all learning is recognized, however it is obtained; a system in which the student — not colleges, universities and other providers — is at the center.
A Stronger Nation: Today

U.S. Education Levels

The need for universal postsecondary education is a direct result of the global shift from an industrial economy to a knowledge economy. Since 2011, the U.S. economy has added 11.5 million more jobs for workers with education beyond high school but only 80,000 more jobs for those with a high school diploma or less. The recovery from the Great Recession never came for the millions of Americans who lack postsecondary education and have few options for good jobs and economic security.

Fewer than half of Americans ages 25 to 64 have completed a credential beyond high school. While troubling, this offers significant opportunities to create a better-educated nation since so many have college credit or skills that should be recognized.

U.S. Residents Ages 25-64

45.8% attainment

- 4.7% high school graduate (including GED)
- 26.3% some college no credential
- 10.3% associate degree
- 4.9% bachelor’s degree
- 20.4% graduate or professional degree
- 11.9% less than 9th grade

Because of rounding, the sum of these percentages may exceed 100.
A Stronger Nation: Today

State-by-State Educational Attainment

Not only is the acquisition of knowledge and skills paramount in our economy, the opportunity to participate fully in American life – to hold good jobs, be active citizens, raise families and contribute to building safe and prosperous communities – requires some form of learning beyond high school. The national rate of educational attainment beyond high school for working-age Americans is 45.8 percent. The share of residents across states with education beyond high school varies widely, but every state must improve. So far, 40 states have set attainment goals that meet Lumina’s criteria for rigor and efficacy (i.e., the goal is quantifiable, challenging, long term, addresses gaps, and is in statute and/or a strategic plan).

Explore each state’s attainment rate below. Attainment percentages here reflect workforce certificates along with other post-high school credentials for residents ages 25 to 64.
A Stronger Nation: Today

Exploring Race and Ethnicity

Expanding Americans’ opportunity to earn meaningful credentials after high school will be essential to reducing inequality in many aspects of American life. While modest progress has been made since 2000, educational attainment rates for African-American, Hispanic, and American Indian students continue to lag significantly behind those of whites and Asian-Americans.

Compare educational levels across states among five racial and ethnic groups. Attainment here is shown as the percentage of people 25 to 64 with at least an associate degree.*
Impact

- Brings the ACS data to life
- Drives home the attainment imperative
- National thermometer
  - Used by reporters
  - Policymakers
- State
  - Goals
  - Progress
- Solutions