



# REGENTS AS ADVOCATES

Communicating Higher Education's Value

Chancellor Allison D. Garrett

October 9, 2024

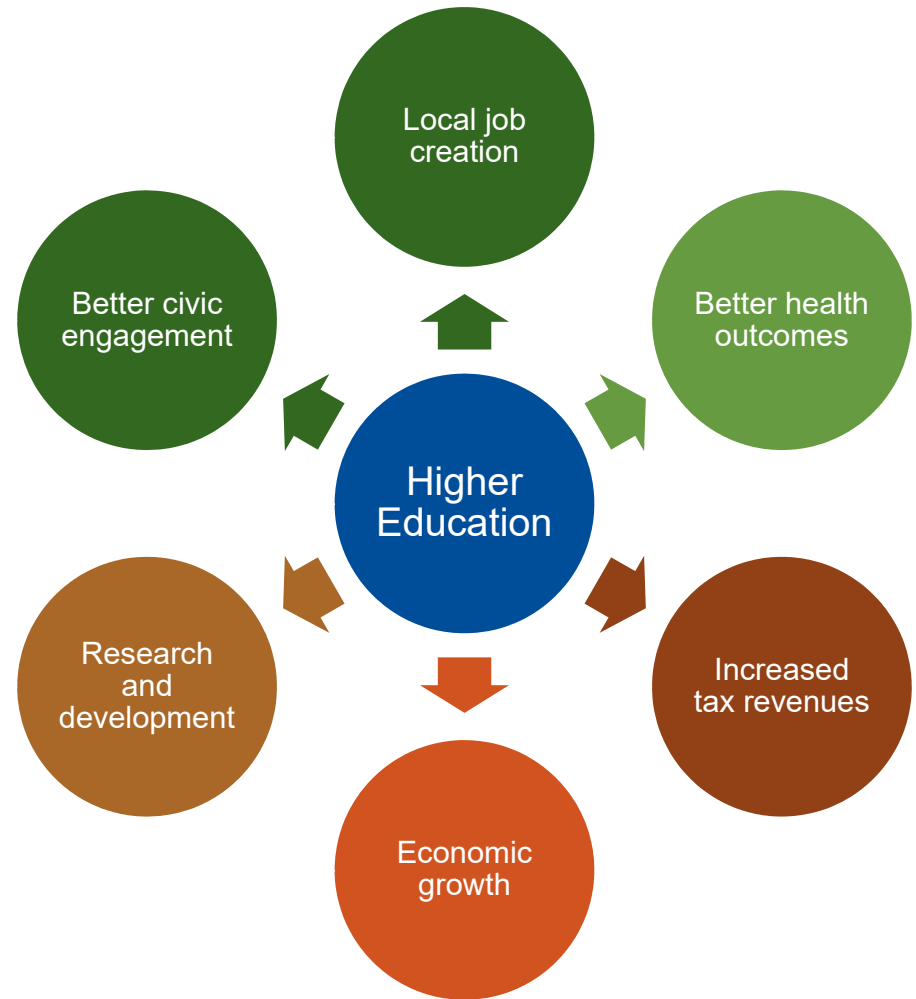


# WHY HIGHER ED?



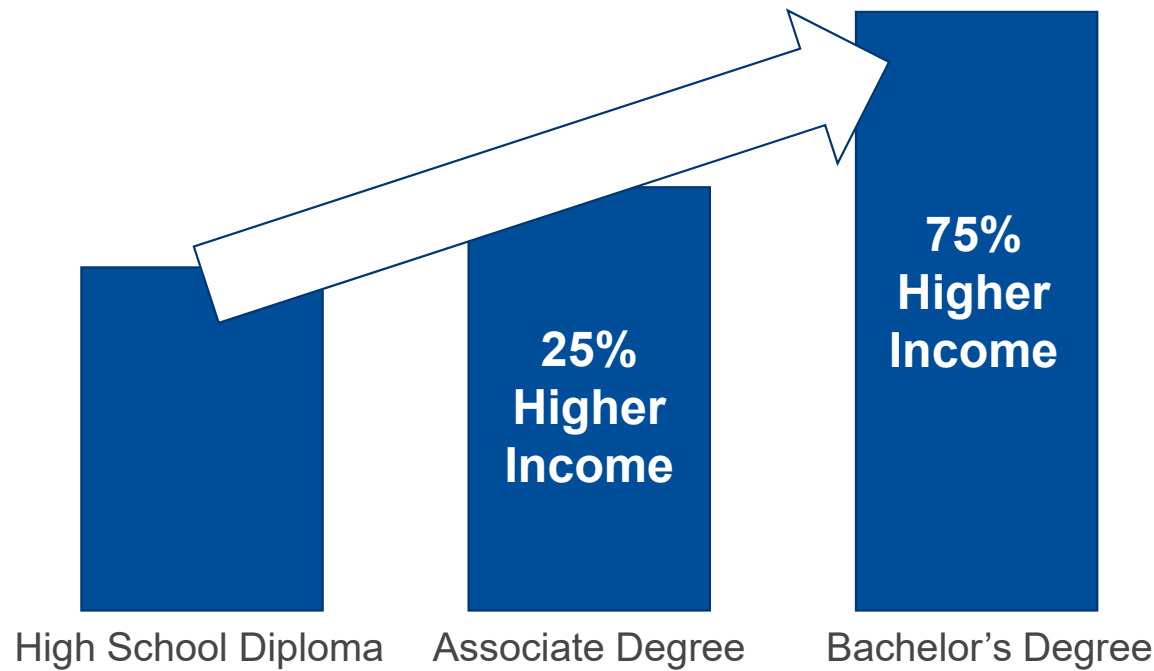
# HIGHER ED IS MORE THAN JUST A PRIVATE GOOD.

- Society derives myriad benefits from a highly-educated population.
- From advancing research to driving economic development, the benefits of higher education extend far beyond its role in educating students.





# RETURN ON INVESTMENT



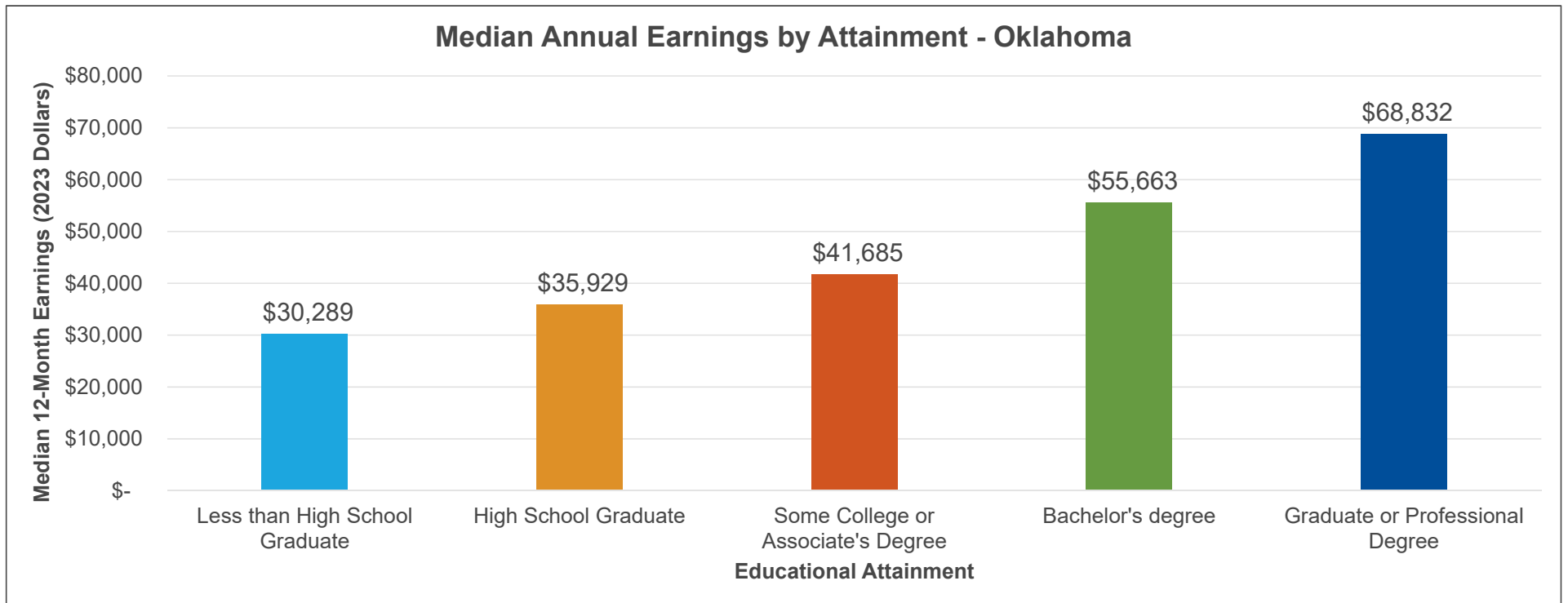
➤ Associate and bachelor's degree holders earn a median income 25% and 75% higher, respectively, than those with only a high school diploma.

SOURCE: Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce, The College Payoff: Education, Occupations, Lifetime Earnings (2021).





# A COLLEGE DEGREE PAYS MORE...

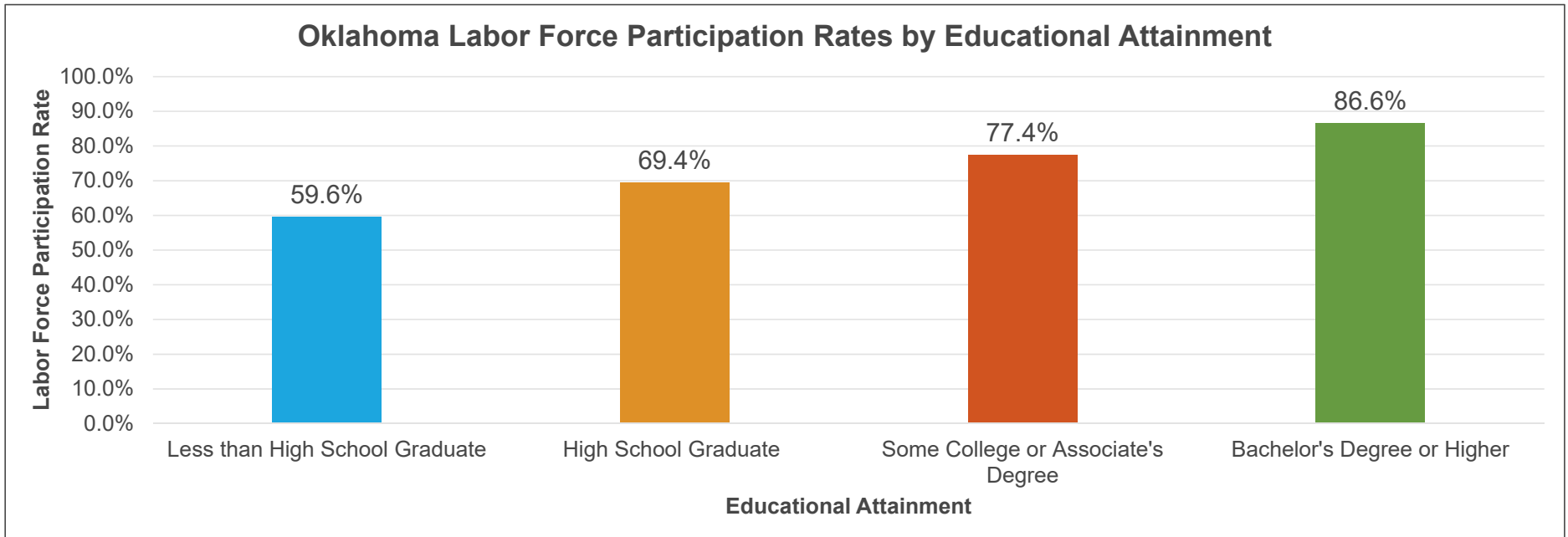


SOURCE: US Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 1-Year Estimates





# LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION



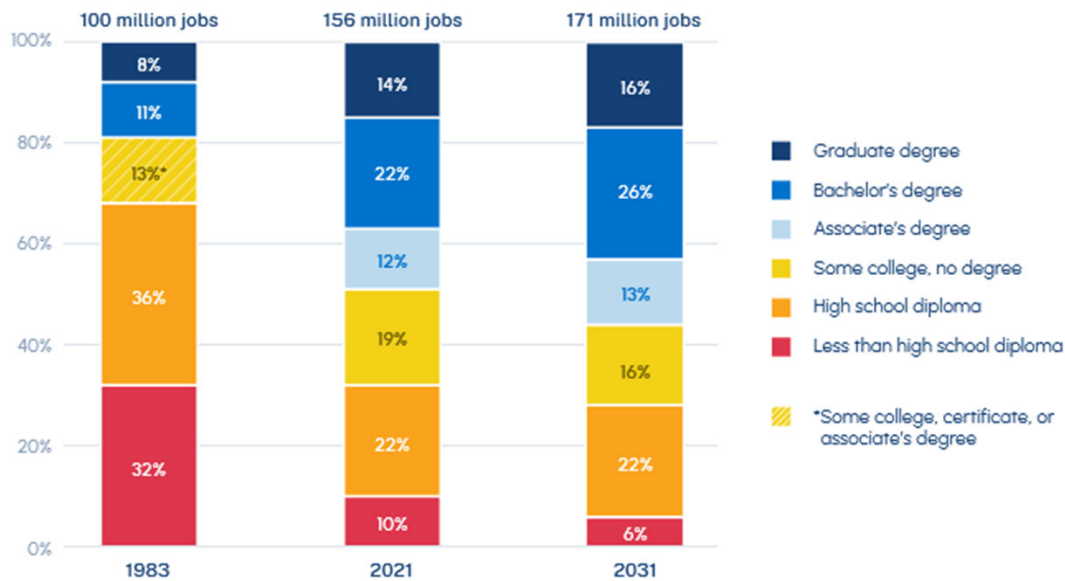
SOURCE: US Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 1-Year Estimates, Table S2301 (Population 25 to 64 Years)





# WORKFORCE - EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

**FIGURE 1. Forty-two percent of jobs in 2031 will require at least a bachelor's degree, while only 28 percent will go to workers with a high school diploma or less.**



➤ By 2031, 42% of jobs in the U.S. will require at least a bachelor's degree.

➤ 72% of jobs in 2031 will require education or training beyond high school.

➤ A recent study from The Burning Glass Institute found that although online job postings show fewer degree requirements, the share of college graduates actually hired is increasing.

Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. (2024). [After Everything: Projection of Jobs, Education, and Training Requirements through 2031](#).  
The Burning Glass Institute. (2024). [Skills-Based Hiring: The Long Road from Pronouncements to Practice](#).

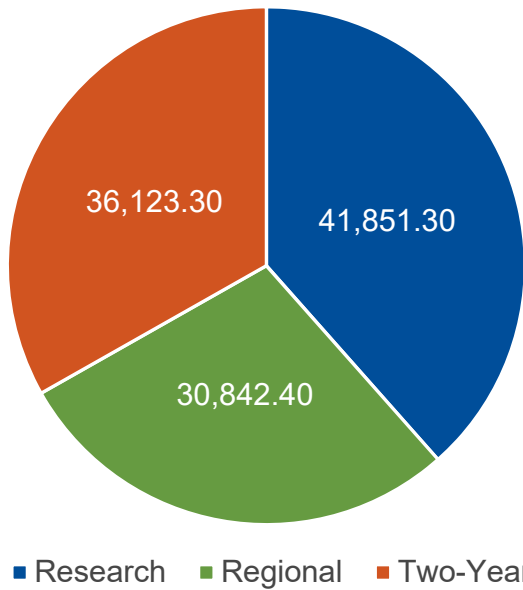




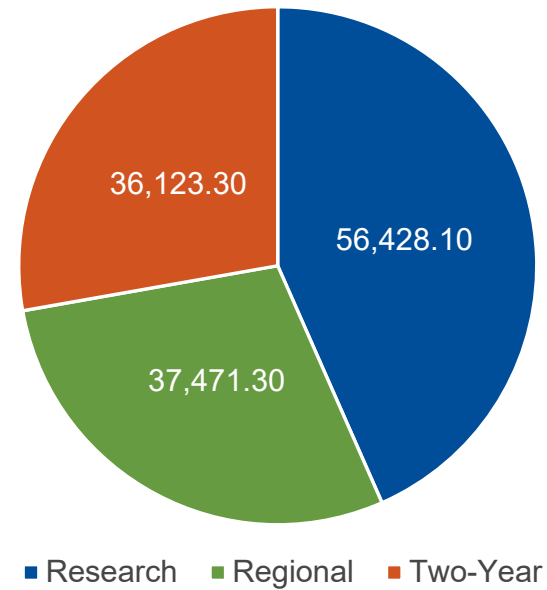


# AY24 ENROLLMENT

AY24 Undergraduate FTE Enrollment by Tier



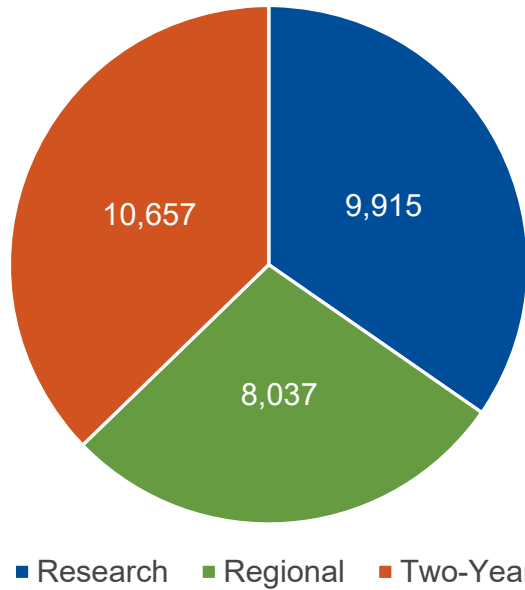
AY24 Total FTE Enrollment by Tier



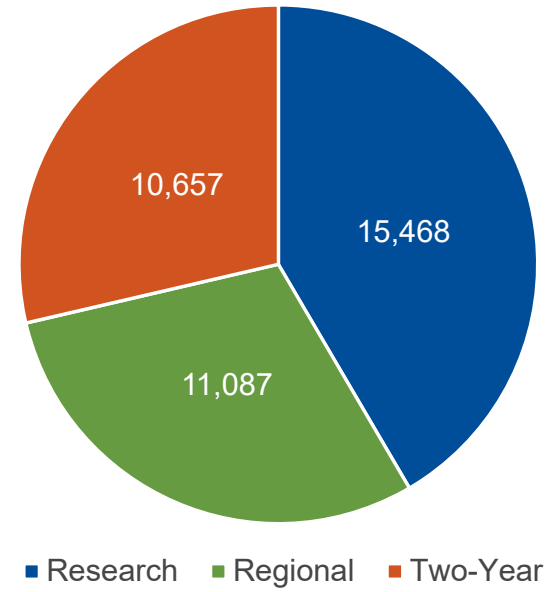


# AY24 DEGREE PRODUCTION

AY24 Undergraduate Degrees & Certificates



AY24 Total Degrees & Certificates





# COST OF COLLEGE ATTENDANCE

- ▶ Over **65%** of state system graduates have **NO federal student loan debt**.
- ▶ The **median student debt of graduates** taking on federal loans is under **\$15,000**.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education – College Scorecard (June 2024).

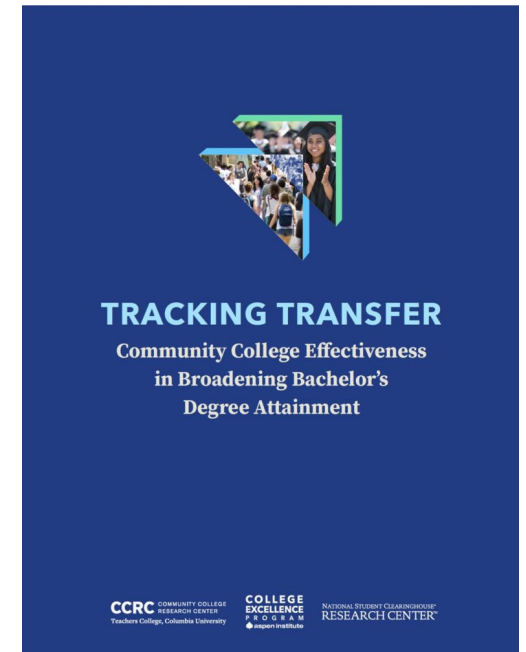
NOTES: Data is based on the proportion of degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students that borrowed through federal loan programs to help pay college costs. This proportion is calculated for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students enrolled in either the fall (for academic year-based schools) or over the course of the whole year (for program calendar-based schools).



# TRANSFER STUDENT SUCCESS

**#1** Oklahoma has **the highest 2-to-4 year transfer rate** in the nation, a measure of first-time-entering students attending community colleges who transfer to a four-year institution within 6 years.

**#5** Oklahoma has the **5<sup>th</sup> highest community college cohort bachelor's completion rate** in the nation, a measure of first-time entering students who start at a community college, transfer to a four-year institution & earn a bachelor's degree within 6 years.



SOURCE: Community College Research Center, Aspen Institute, and National Student Clearinghouse Research Center – Tracking Transfer: Community College and Four-Year Institutional Effectiveness in Broadening Bachelor's Degree Attainment





## DEGREES CONFERRED

- ▶ **Degree and certificate production** at our public colleges and universities **increased nearly 6%** over the last decade.
  - ▶ The number of **engineering degrees** conferred at all levels **increased 43.1%** over the last decade, & **STEM degrees** increased **19.2%** at all levels.
  - ▶ **Nursing degree** production **increased more than 17%** over the last 10 years.
  - ▶ Degree production in **computer and information sciences** **increased more than 32%** over the last 10 years.

SOURCE: OSRHE Unitized Data System





# CURRENT INITIATIVES





# CRITICAL OCCUPATIONS DASHBOARD

<https://www.okhighered.org/dashboards>

Critical Occupations Degrees Conferred as a Percent of AY 22 Degrees Conferred



Critical Occupations Enrollments as a Percent of AY 22 Enrollments



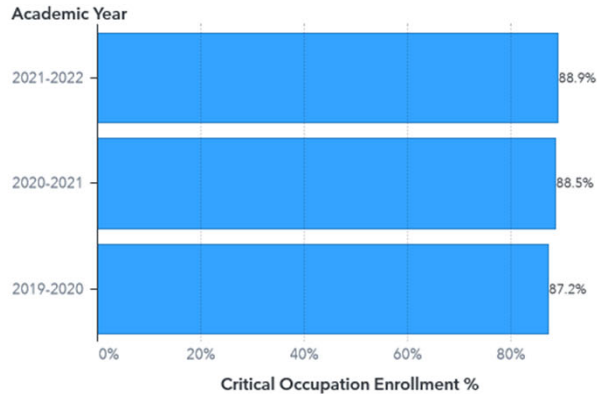
STEM plus Health Degrees Conferred as a Percent of AY 22 Degrees Conferred



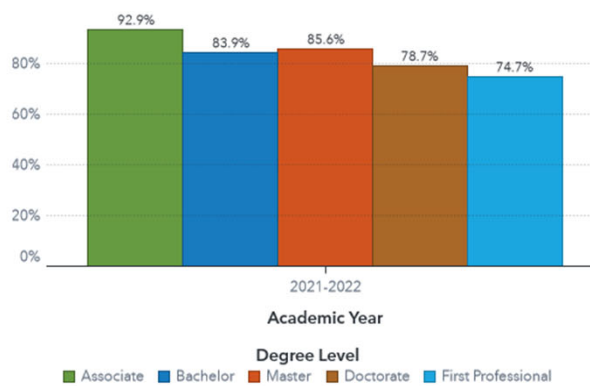
STEM plus Health Enrollments as a Percent of AY 22 Enrollments



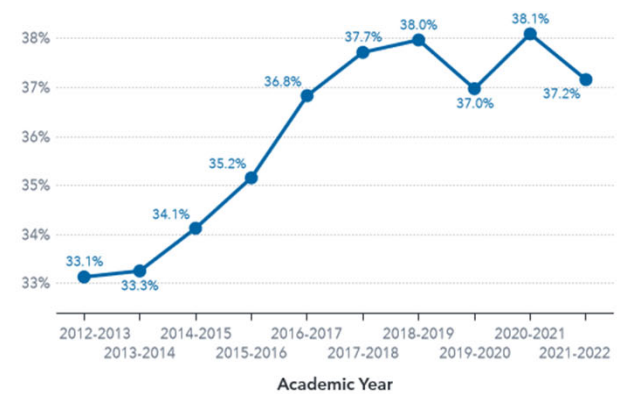
Critical Occupations Enrollments as a Percent of Enrollments by Academic Year



Critical Occupation Degrees Conferred as a Percentage of AY 22 Degrees Conferred by Level



STEM plus Health Degrees Conferred as a Percent of Degrees Conferred by Academic Year





# EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES – ALL FIELDS

## UNDERGRADUATES EMPLOYED IN OKLAHOMA AFTER GRADUATION

	Oklahoma Residents	Non-Residents who attend Oklahoma Institutions	Total
<b>1 Year Post-Graduation</b> (AY22 Grad Year)	<b>93.8%</b>	<b>61.3%</b>	<b>87.2%</b>
<b>5 Years Post-Graduation</b> (AY18 Grad Year)	<b>85.5%</b>	<b>39.6%</b>	<b>75.1%</b>

SOURCE: Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, Oklahoma Tax Commission (2023 Employment Outcomes Report)

### METHODOLOGY:

Data match between OSRHE, OESC, and OTC records to determine percent of state system graduates (associate's and bachelor's degrees) who remain in the state and are employed in the state 1 year and 5 years post-graduation.

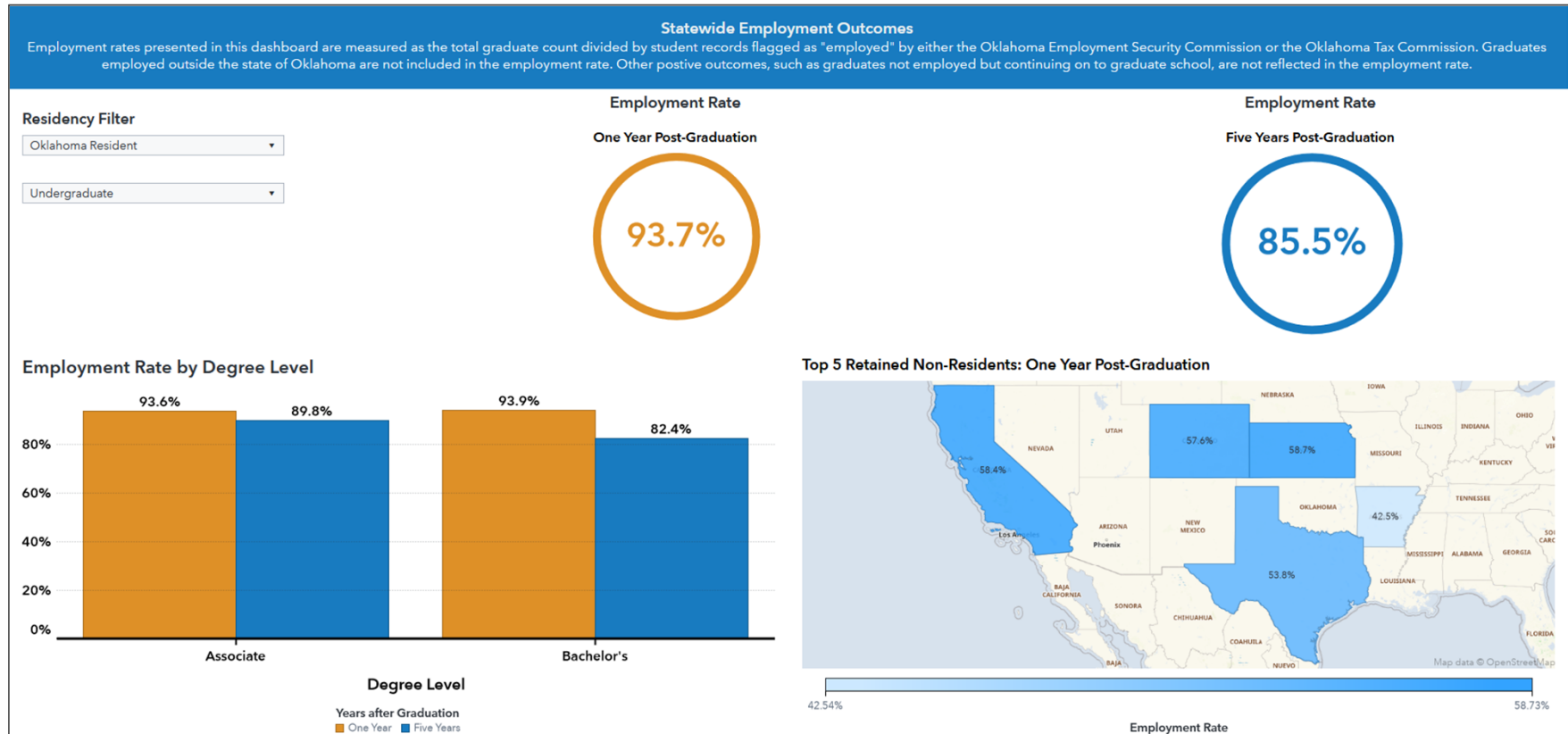






# EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES DASHBOARD

<https://www.okhighered.org/dashboards>





▶ Oklahoma is a national leader in micro-credentials through UpskillOK, and OSRHE staff have showcased UpskillOK at national conferences and webinars.



**400+**  
Programs



**26**  
Campuses



**150+**  
Industry  
Partnerships

#### Benefits of Micro-Credentials

- **Diverse Disciplines** – Programs cover a range of disciplines, from Nursing and Animal Science to Customer Service, addressing varied industry needs.
- **Flexible Delivery Modes** – With options like classroom, online, and hybrid, these programs cater to diverse learning preferences and schedules.
- **Stackable Credentials** – Stand-alone programs with potential for stacking provide pathways for continuous learning and career advancement.
- **Industry Collaboration** – Partnerships with industry stakeholders ensure program relevance and alignment with market needs.



# ADULT DEGREE COMPLETION

**Earned some college credits  
and ready to  
finish your  
degree?**

go **back** to go **forward**

**Cross the finish line  
with Reach Higher!**

**SCHOLARSHIPS  
AVAILABLE!**

**No Income Restriction**

Learn more at [MyReachHigherOK.org](http://MyReachHigherOK.org)

- Reach Higher Finish Line Scholarship
- GEER Scholarship





**INTO THE FUTURE**





# STRATEGIC PLAN – BLUEPRINT 2030

**PRODUCE WORKFORCE-READY GRADUATES**



**GROW THE STUDENT PIPELINE**



**FOCUS ON STUDENT SUCCESS**



**IMPROVE SYSTEM EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS**





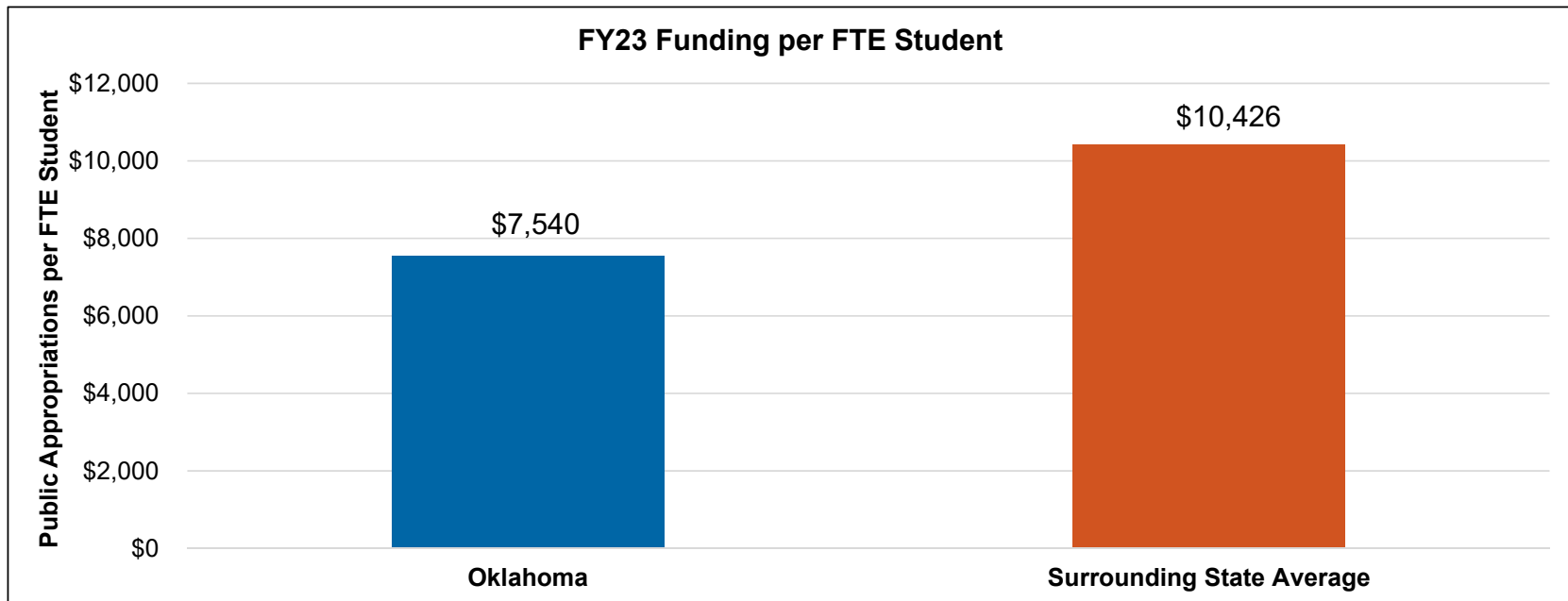
# QUESTIONS?

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# STATE FISCAL SUPPORT



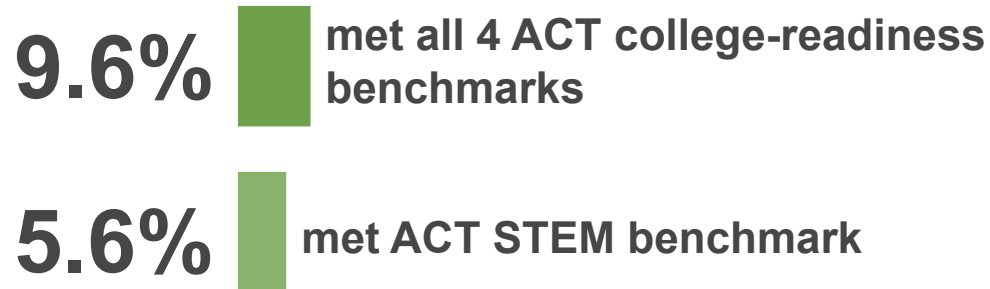
Source: State Higher Education Executive Officers Association FY23 State Higher Education Finance Report

Note: Surrounding states include CO, MO, KS, AR, NM, TX

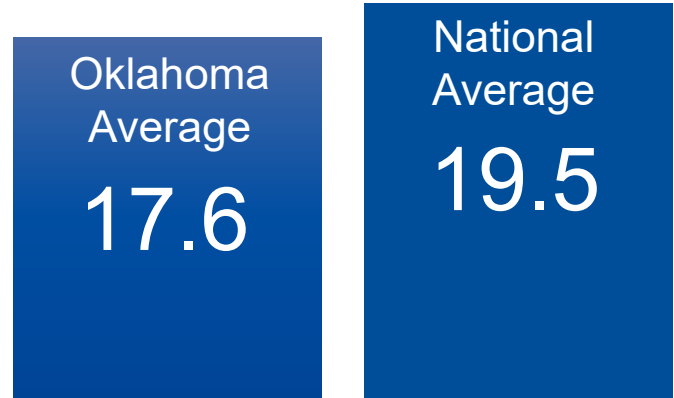


# STUDENT PIPELINE: COLLEGE READINESS

## HIGH SCHOOL INDICATORS



### Average ACT Composite Scores



SOURCE: ACT Profile Report – Oklahoma Public High School Graduating Class 2023





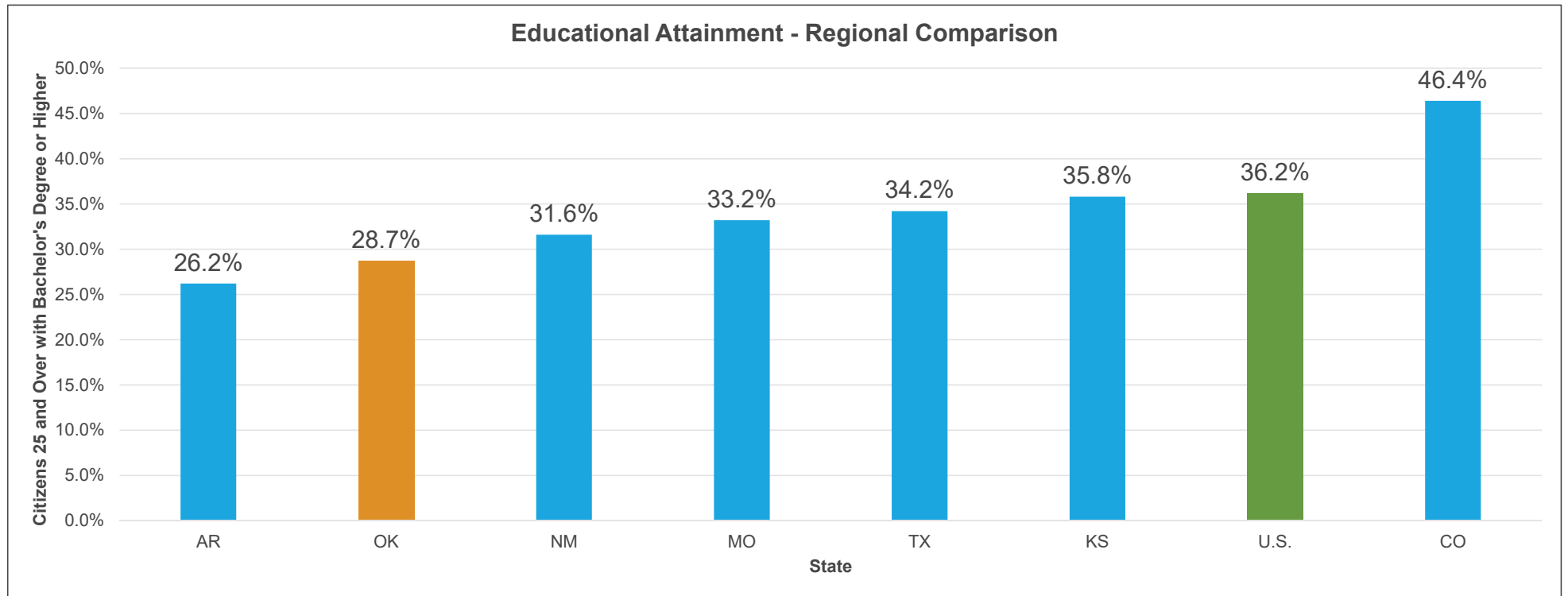
# STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Undergraduate student bodies at 13 of our 25 state system institutions are majority non-white.





# CURRENT EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



SOURCE: US Census Bureau, 2023 ACS 1-Year Estimates, Table S1501 (Population 25 Years and Over)

