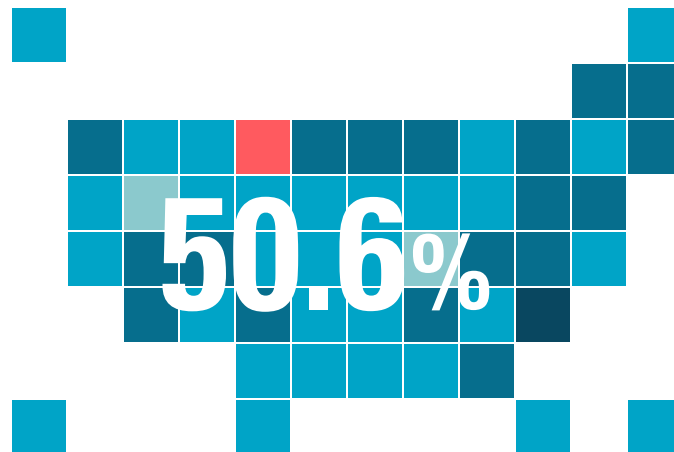


A STRONGER NATION

Learning beyond high school builds American talent



North Dakota's Report 2019

North Dakota's progress toward the goal

By 2025, 60 percent of Americans will need some type of high-quality credential beyond high school. To count toward this important goal, any credential must have clear and transparent learning outcomes that lead to further education and employment. **North Dakota's attainment rate is 51 percent, and the state is working toward its attainment goal of 65 percent by 2025.**

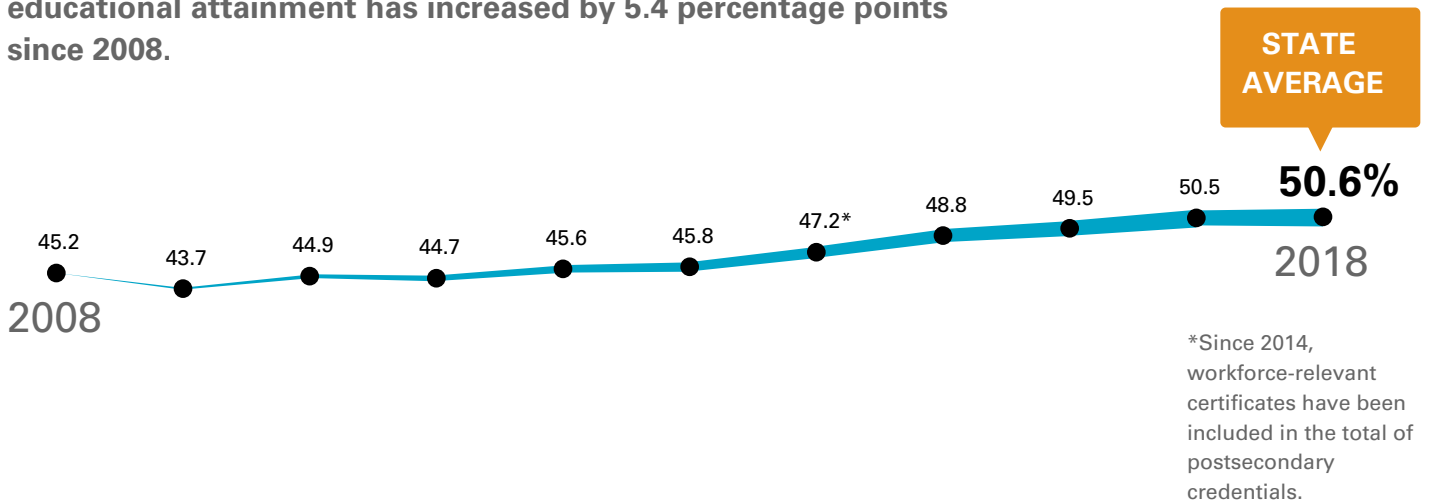
How North Dakota compares to the nation

Educational attainment in North Dakota exceeds the national average, but work remains before it reaches 60 percent.



North Dakota's progress

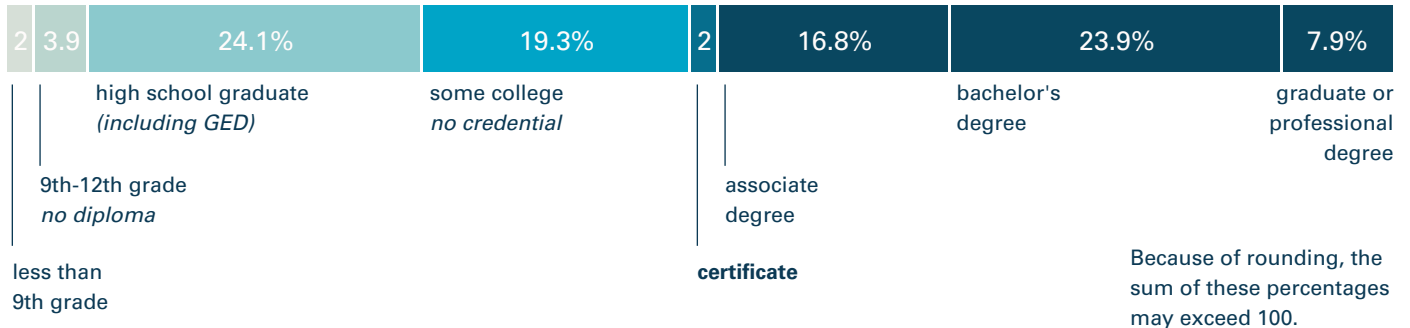
To reach state goals, the state will not only have to maintain current rates of attainment but also significantly increase the number of people who enroll in programs and earn all types of credentials beyond high school. With the inclusion of workforce certificates (beginning in 2014), **North Dakota's overall rate of educational attainment has increased by 5.4 percentage points since 2008.**



Highest Education Level Across North Dakota

NORTH DAKOTA AGES 25-64

50.6% attainment



North Dakota's racial and ethnic disparities

There are **significant gaps** in educational attainment that must be closed – specifically, **gaps linked to race and ethnicity. These gaps persist in every state.** Because educational attainment beyond high school has become the key determinant of economic opportunity and social mobility, **closing these gaps is crucial.**


























Comparing North Dakota Counties

Exploring educational attainment at the local level can be especially helpful to local leaders as they work on talent development. For example, by pinpointing counties or regions where attainment lags, resources can be targeted where they're needed most. Conversely, in areas of high attainment, other regions may find practices or processes they can emulate.

Compare degree attainment rates across North Dakota's 53 counties. Attainment is shown here as the percentage of people ages 25-64 with at least an associate degree.*

sorted by NAME ▼▲

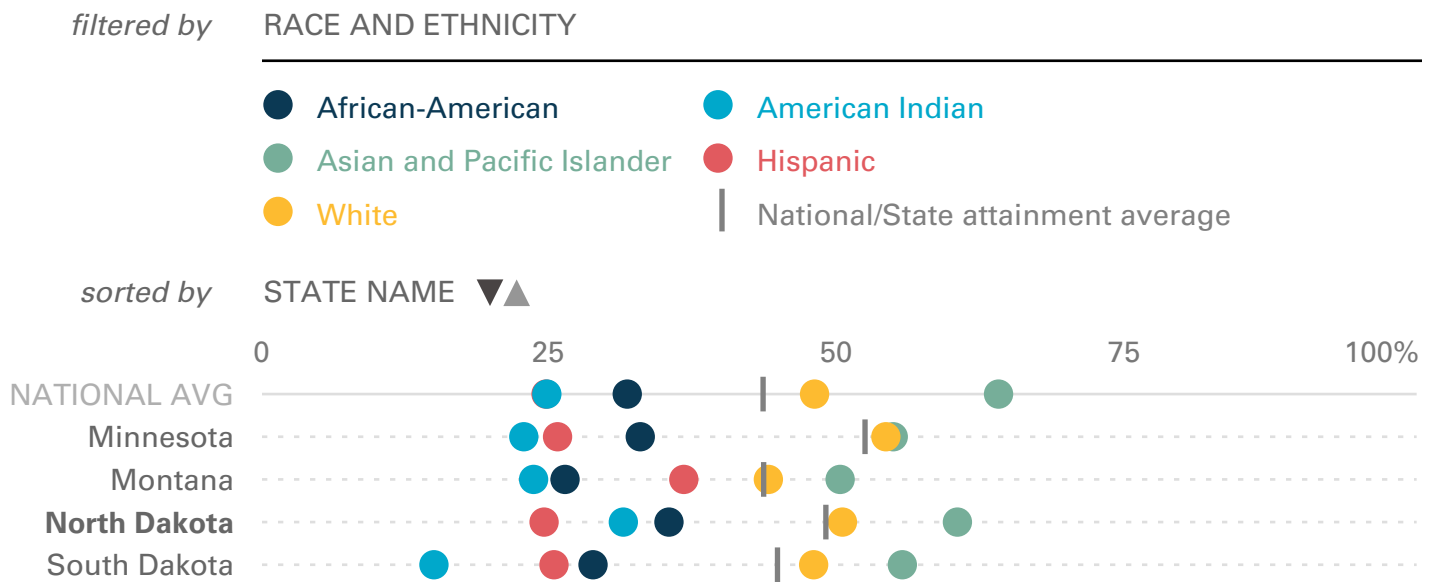
Attainment	County	Population	Pop. Rank	Attainment	County	Population	Pop. Rank
47.1%	Adams	2,318	41	34.7%	Emmons	3,301	32
45.4%	Barnes	10,734	14	52.4%	Foster	3,257	33
33.3%	Benson	6,936	20	47.9%	Golden Valley	1,789	50
48.8%	Billings	940	52	50.4%	Grand Forks	70,795	3
40.2%	Bottineau	6,530	21	36.7%	Grant	2,376	40
43.1%	Bowman	3,166	34	41.2%	Griggs	2,258	44
39.5%	Burke	2,131	46	28.0%	Hettinger	2,483	37
54.7%	Burleigh	95,030	2	37.7%	Kidder	2,482	38
58.3%	Cass	177,787	1	38.1%	LaMoure	4,087	28
44.1%	Cavalier	3,762	31	33.8%	Logan	1,918	48
48.3%	Dickey	4,861	24	40.5%	McHenry	5,900	22
31.9%	Divide	2,288	43	39.6%	McIntosh	2,606	36
36.2%	Dunn	4,289	26	40.4%	McKenzie	12,724	11
44.1%	Eddy	2,316	42	40.6%	McLean	9,685	16

 45.1% Mercer	<i>8,465</i>	17	 29.7% Sheridan	<i>1,353</i>	51
 41.9% Morton	<i>30,796</i>	6	 27.6% Sioux	<i>4,376</i>	25
 37.7% Mountrail	<i>10,265</i>	15	 46.5% Slope	<i>771</i>	53
 43.1% Nelson	<i>2,937</i>	35	 38.1% Stark	<i>30,209</i>	7
 42.8% Oliver	<i>1,940</i>	47	 45.9% Steele	<i>1,917</i>	49
 37.5% Pembina	<i>6,972</i>	19	 38.5% Stutsman	<i>21,087</i>	8
 36.5% Pierce	<i>4,099</i>	27	 36.9% Towner	<i>2,253</i>	45
 51.1% Ramsey	<i>11,519</i>	12	 47.3% Traill	<i>8,013</i>	18
 37.0% Ransom	<i>5,297</i>	23	 34.6% Walsh	<i>10,855</i>	13
 34.9% Renville	<i>2,463</i>	39	 42.5% Ward	<i>68,946</i>	4
 45.8% Richland	<i>16,351</i>	9	 40.3% Wells	<i>4,022</i>	29
 38.5% Rolette	<i>14,531</i>	10	 40.1% Williams	<i>33,349</i>	5
 37.6% Sargent	<i>3,858</i>	30			

Results by race and ethnicity in North Dakota

A growing proportion of today’s learners are African-American, Hispanic, and American Indian; and data show persistent and troubling gaps between their attainment levels and those of their white peers. Addressing these gaps – and expanding post-high-school learning opportunities for all – is essential to reducing the inequality that influences much of American life.

Explore **North Dakota's attainment rates across five racial and ethnic groups**, and see how it performs relative to other states. Attainment is shown here as the percentage of residents, ages 25-64 with at least an associate degree.*



Data sources

Data sources for *A Stronger Nation* are listed below, along with links and additional information.

Attainment and enrollment rates

U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS): One-year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS). County-level and metro-regional data are from ACS five-year estimates (2013-2017). College enrollment percentages reflect the enrollment of non-degree-holding students, ages 18-57, at public and private two- and four-year institutions.

- U.S. Census Bureau: <http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs>

Persistence and completion rates

Student retention rates (persistence) and degree-completion rates were collected by the National Student Clearinghouse. Graduate degrees awarded were analyzed by the National Center for Education Statistics and IPEDS.

- National Student Clearinghouse, 2016: <http://www.studentclearinghouse.org/>
- National Center for Education Statistics: <https://nces.ed.gov/>
- Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System Completion Survey 2014-2015: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/Home/UseTheData>

Awareness

Data that track public opinion about the importance of earning credentials come from a Gallup-Lumina Foundation survey conducted in 2016.

Population

U.S. Census Bureau Population Division: Annual Estimates of the Resident Population April 1, 2010, to July 1, 2017.

- U.S. Census Bureau Annual Population Estimates: https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=PEP_2017_PEPANNRES&prodType=table

Inclusion of certificates

Attainment rates for 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017 include the estimated percentage of working-age Americans who have earned high-value postsecondary certificates – not just associate degrees and above, as *A Stronger Nation* reported in previous years. This estimated percentage was derived by polling a nationally representative sample of Americans ages 25-64. The surveys were conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago, an independent research institution. See the [methodology for certificate estimates](#).

At the state level, the estimated percentage of state residents who have earned high-value certificates was derived by labor market experts at Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce.

- The [National Education and Attainment Survey](#) (NEAS) from NORC at the University of Chicago
- [Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System](#)
- Georgetown University's [Center on Education and the Workforce](#)

Defining metro areas

Metro-area data in *A Stronger Nation* are those that apply to the nation's 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 by applying published standards to Census Bureau data.

Lumina Foundation is an independent, private foundation in Indianapolis that is committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available to all. We envision a system that is easy to navigate, delivers fair results, and meets the nation's need for talent through a broad range of credentials. Our goal is to prepare people for informed citizenship and for success in a global economy.



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FOUNDATION

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