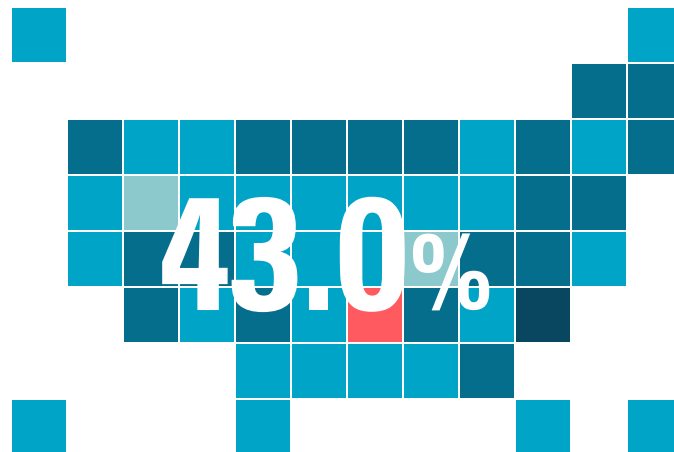


A STRONGER NATION

Learning beyond high school builds American talent



Tennessee's Report 2019



Lumina[™]
FOUNDATION

Tennessee's progress toward the goal

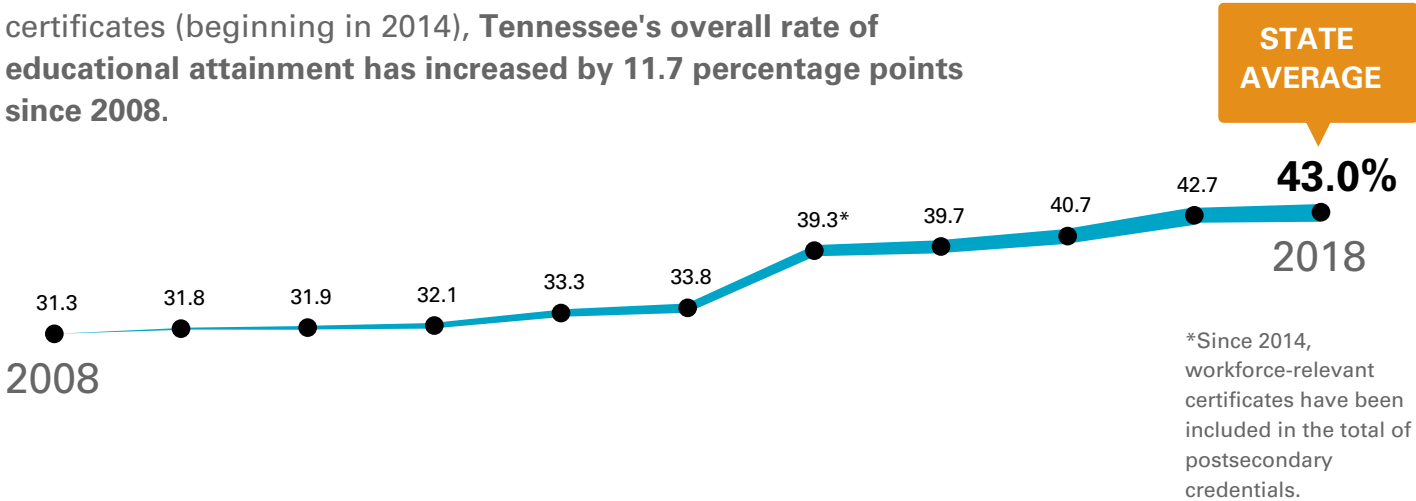
By 2025, 60 percent of Americans will need some type of high-quality credential beyond high school. To count toward this important goal, any credential must have clear and transparent learning outcomes that lead to further education and employment. **Tennessee's attainment rate is 43 percent, and the state is working toward its attainment goal of 55 percent by 2025.**

Tennessee is making progress in increasing educational attainment, but still lags when compared to the national average.



Tennessee's progress

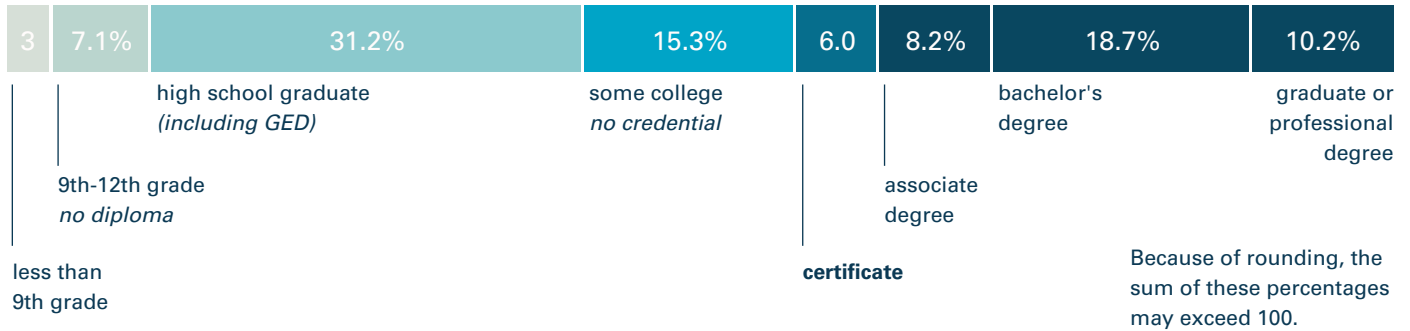
To reach state goals, the state will not only have to maintain current rates of attainment but also significantly increase the number of people who enroll in programs and earn all types of credentials beyond high school. With the inclusion of workforce certificates (beginning in 2014), **Tennessee's overall rate of educational attainment has increased by 11.7 percentage points since 2008.**



Highest Education Level Across Tennessee

TENNESSEE AGES 25-64

43.0% attainment



Tennessee'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 Tennessee 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 Tennessee's 95 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
31.6%	Anderson	76,257	18	27.8%	Coffee	55,034	26
22.6%	Bedford	48,117	33	20.8%	Crockett	14,473	79
18.0%	Benton	15,986	76	24.0%	Cumberland	59,078	23
19.1%	Bledsoe	14,717	78	48.9%	Davidson	691,243	2
35.3%	Blount	129,929	11	23.1%	DeKalb	19,852	65
32.1%	Bradley	105,560	13	23.1%	Decatur	11,751	85
18.7%	Campbell	39,648	40	23.0%	Dickson	52,853	30
18.8%	Cannon	14,216	80	27.2%	Dyer	37,463	41
24.5%	Carroll	27,860	52	30.4%	Fayette	40,036	39
23.0%	Carter	56,488	24	20.1%	Fentress	18,136	69
29.7%	Cheatham	40,330	38	29.1%	Franklin	41,652	36
26.5%	Chester	17,119	73	28.5%	Gibson	49,111	32
24.5%	Claiborne	31,609	48	23.1%	Giles	29,401	50
19.3%	Clay	7,703	90	20.4%	Grainger	23,144	61
16.9%	Cocke	35,556	42	23.7%	Greene	68,808	20

 20.5% Grundy	13,361	81	 34.6% Madison	97,643	14
 24.7% Hamblen	64,277	21	 20.9% Marion	28,425	51
 42.4% Hamilton	361,613	4	 23.5% Marshall	32,931	45
 14.5% Hancock	6,600	92	 34.7% Maury	92,163	16
 15.9% Hardeman	25,447	57	 25.8% McMinn	52,877	29
 22.5% Hardin	25,846	56	 21.8% McNairy	26,004	55
 21.7% Hawkins	56,459	25	 18.7% Meigs	12,068	83
 17.2% Haywood	17,573	72	 21.2% Monroe	46,240	34
 23.8% Henderson	27,751	53	 38.5% Montgomery	200,182	7
 22.5% Henry	32,450	47	 30.5% Moore	6,384	93
 18.1% Hickman	24,864	59	 14.8% Morgan	21,636	64
 15.8% Houston	8,213	88	 21.6% Obion	30,385	49
 19.1% Humphreys	18,484	68	 19.5% Overton	22,012	62
 17.3% Jackson	11,677	86	 17.8% Perry	7,975	89
 24.9% Jefferson	53,804	27	 18.4% Pickett	5,073	95
 22.0% Johnson	17,691	71	 20.2% Polk	16,757	74
 47.1% Knox	461,860	3	 33.3% Putnam	77,674	17
 14.2% Lake	7,468	91	 22.2% Rhea	32,691	46
 14.8% Lauderdale	25,274	58	 30.8% Roane	53,036	28
 21.8% Lawrence	43,396	35	 28.9% Robertson	70,177	19
 20.5% Lewis	12,035	84	 42.2% Rutherford	317,157	5
 27.4% Lincoln	33,751	43	 16.8% Scott	21,989	63
 29.8% Loudon	52,152	31	 24.7% Sequatchie	14,736	77
 17.2% Macon	24,079	60	 25.2% Sevier	97,638	15

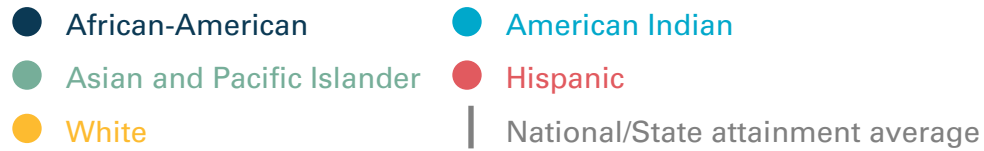
 38.6% Shelby	<i>936,961</i>	1	 12.6% Van Buren	<i>5,742</i>	94
 22.1% Smith	<i>19,636</i>	66	 21.6% Warren	<i>40,651</i>	37
 23.6% Stewart	<i>13,355</i>	82	 41.9% Washington	<i>127,806</i>	12
 33.6% Sullivan	<i>157,158</i>	9	 16.4% Wayne	<i>16,583</i>	75
 37.9% Sumner	<i>183,545</i>	8	 29.3% Weakley	<i>33,337</i>	44
 25.9% Tipton	<i>61,366</i>	22	 19.5% White	<i>26,753</i>	54
 24.5% Trousdale	<i>10,083</i>	87	 69.0% Williamson	<i>226,257</i>	6
 23.6% Unicoi	<i>17,759</i>	70	 42.2% Wilson	<i>136,442</i>	10
 15.8% Union	<i>19,442</i>	67			

Results by race and ethnicity in Tennessee

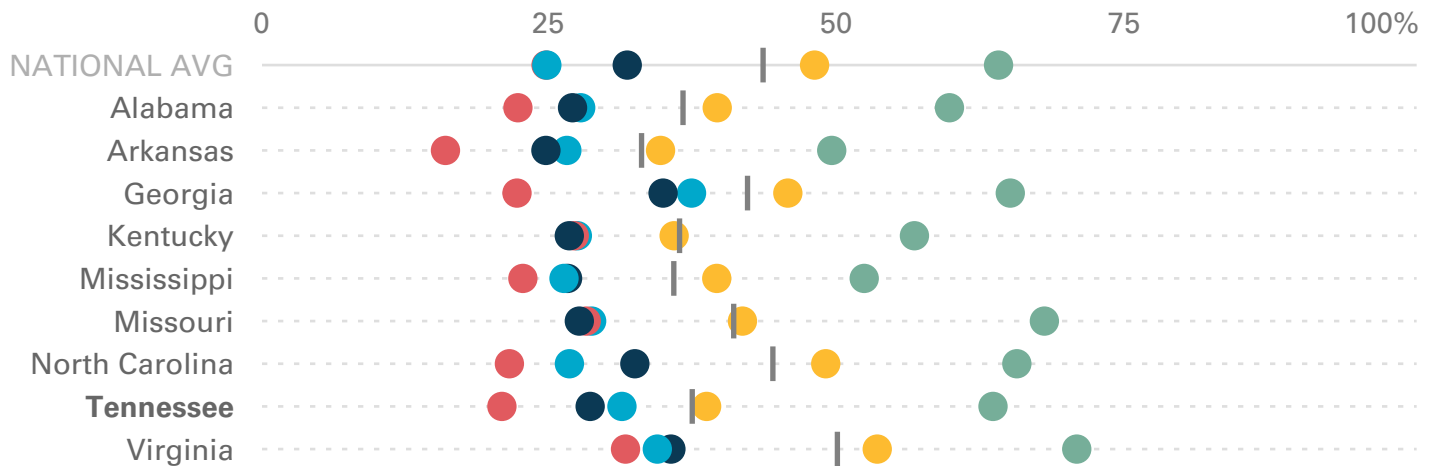
A growing proportion of today’s learners are African-American, Hispanic, and American Indian; and data show persistent and troubling gaps between their attainment levels and those of their white peers. Addressing these gaps – and expanding post-high-school learning opportunities for all – is essential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

Explore **Tennessee'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.*

filtered by RACE AND ETHNICITY



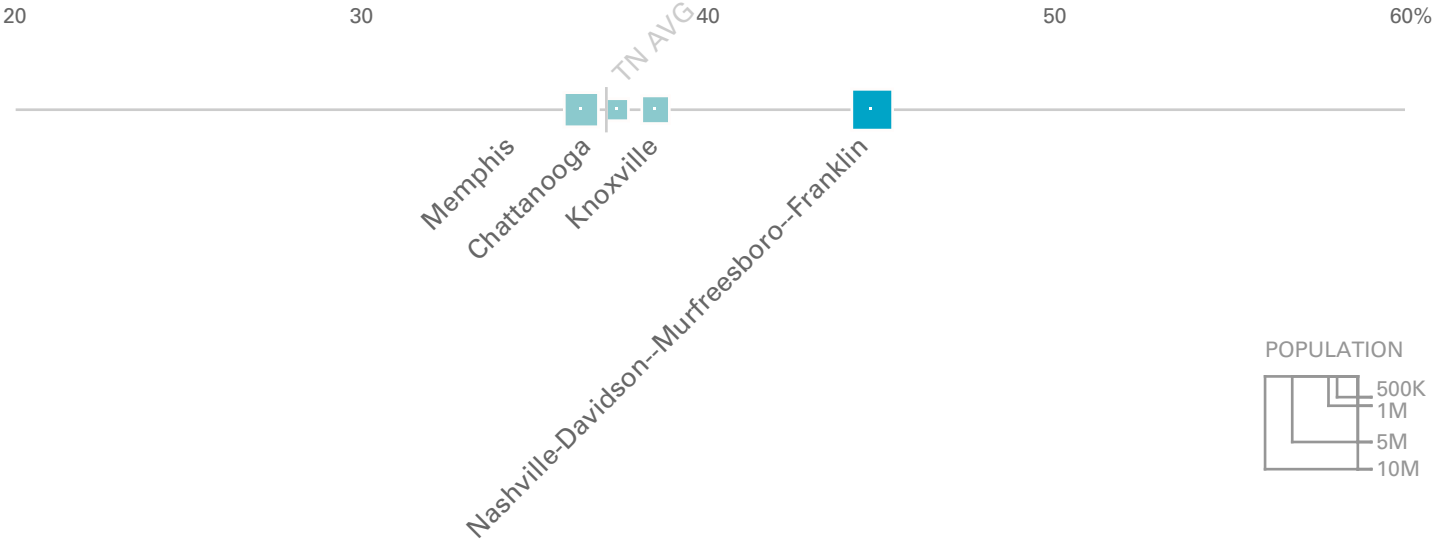
sorted by STATE NAME ▼▲



Tennessee's metro areas

Metropolitan areas are important talent hubs, because the majority of the nation's population lives within these areas.

Explore attainment rates in Tennessee's Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). 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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