



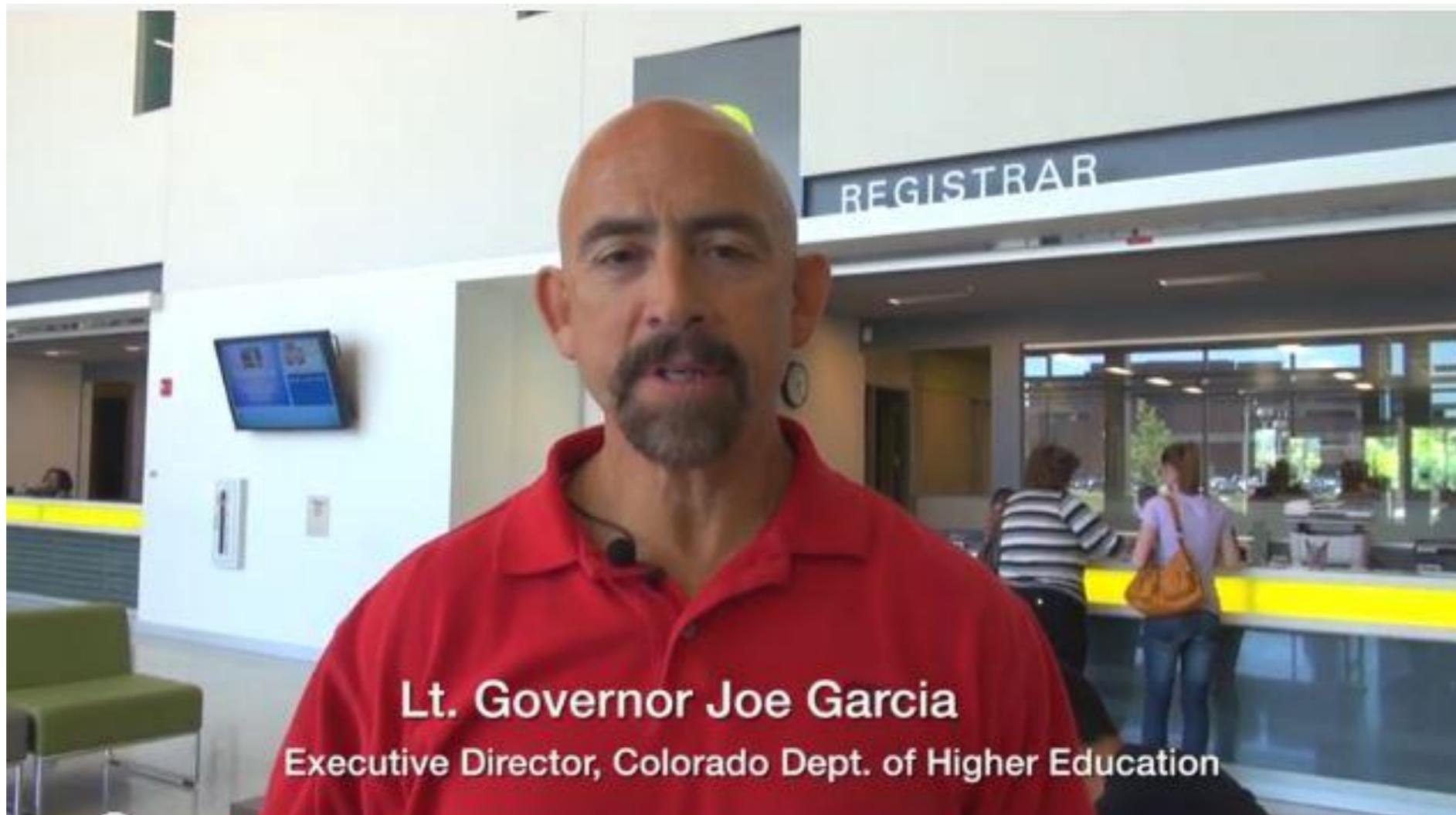
# *Higher Education in Colorado*

Our challenges and our goals



**COLORADO**  
Department of  
Higher Education

# *Overview: Watch the video*



# Colorado Commission on Higher Education

An 11-member, bipartisan council appointed by the governor, with at least one member from each Congressional district

Responsibilities include:

- *Institutional funding*
- *Student financial aid*
- *Long-range planning*

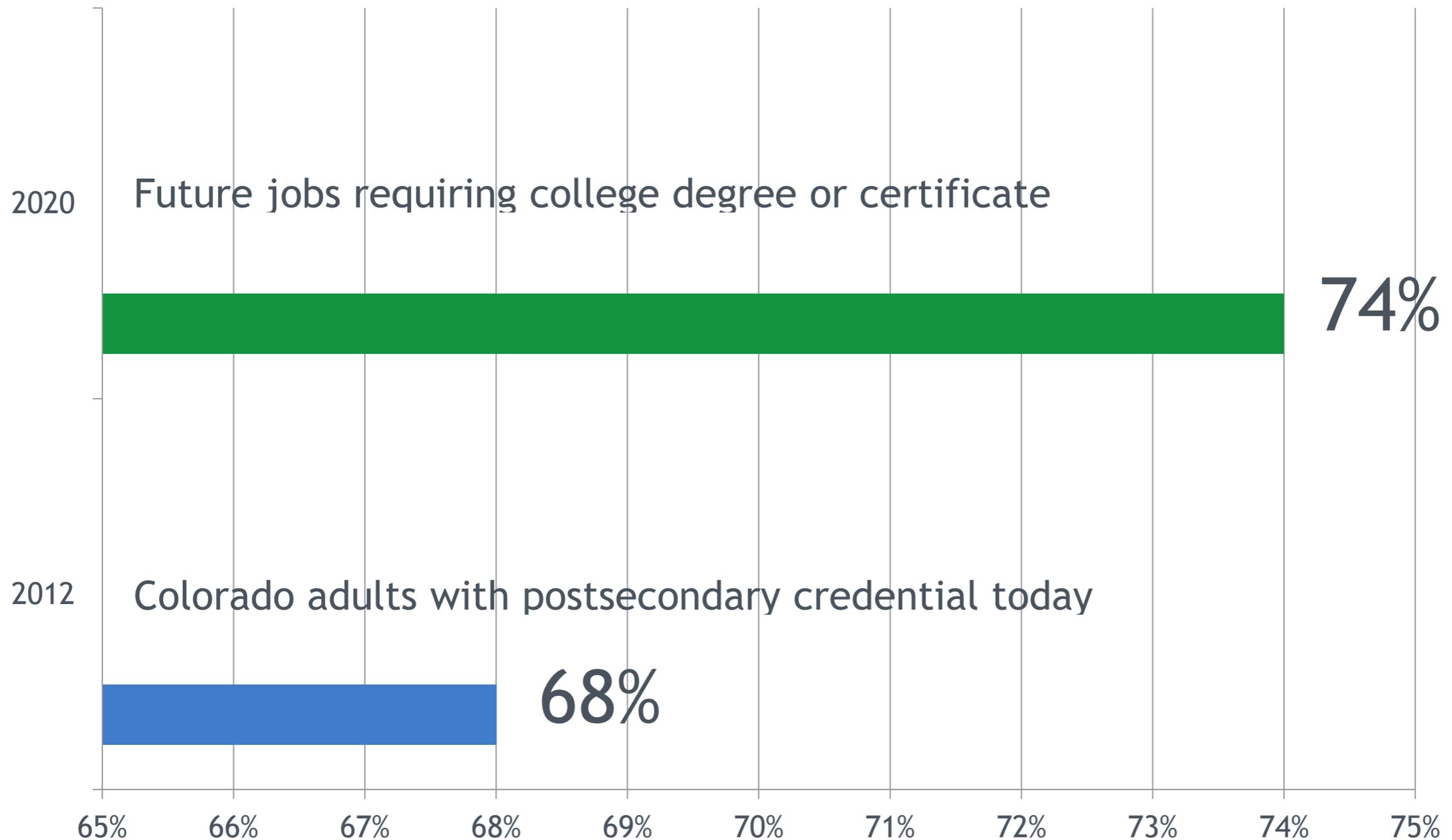


2014

# Colorado's higher education challenges

- **Workforce needs** - *We won't have enough educated Coloradans to fill our state's jobs in 2020.*
- **Education pipeline** - *Fewer than 25 percent of Colorado 9<sup>th</sup>-graders earn a college degree.*
- **Completion gaps** - *The fastest-growing segments of our population are least likely to earn a degree.*
- **Shifting financial burden** - *The share of college costs paid by students has doubled in 10 years.*

# Challenge: Workforce needs



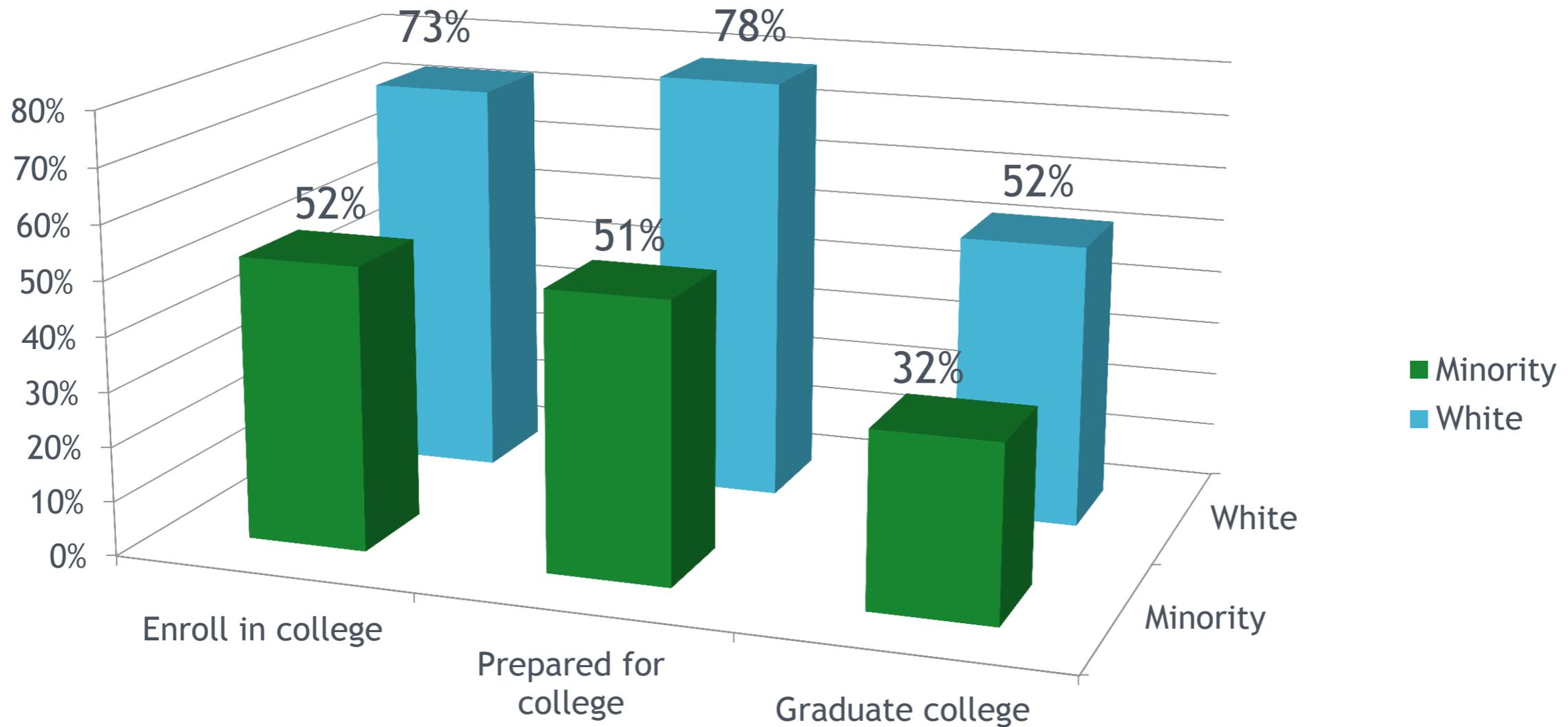
# *Challenge: Education pipeline*

For every **100 9<sup>th</sup>-graders** in Colorado,

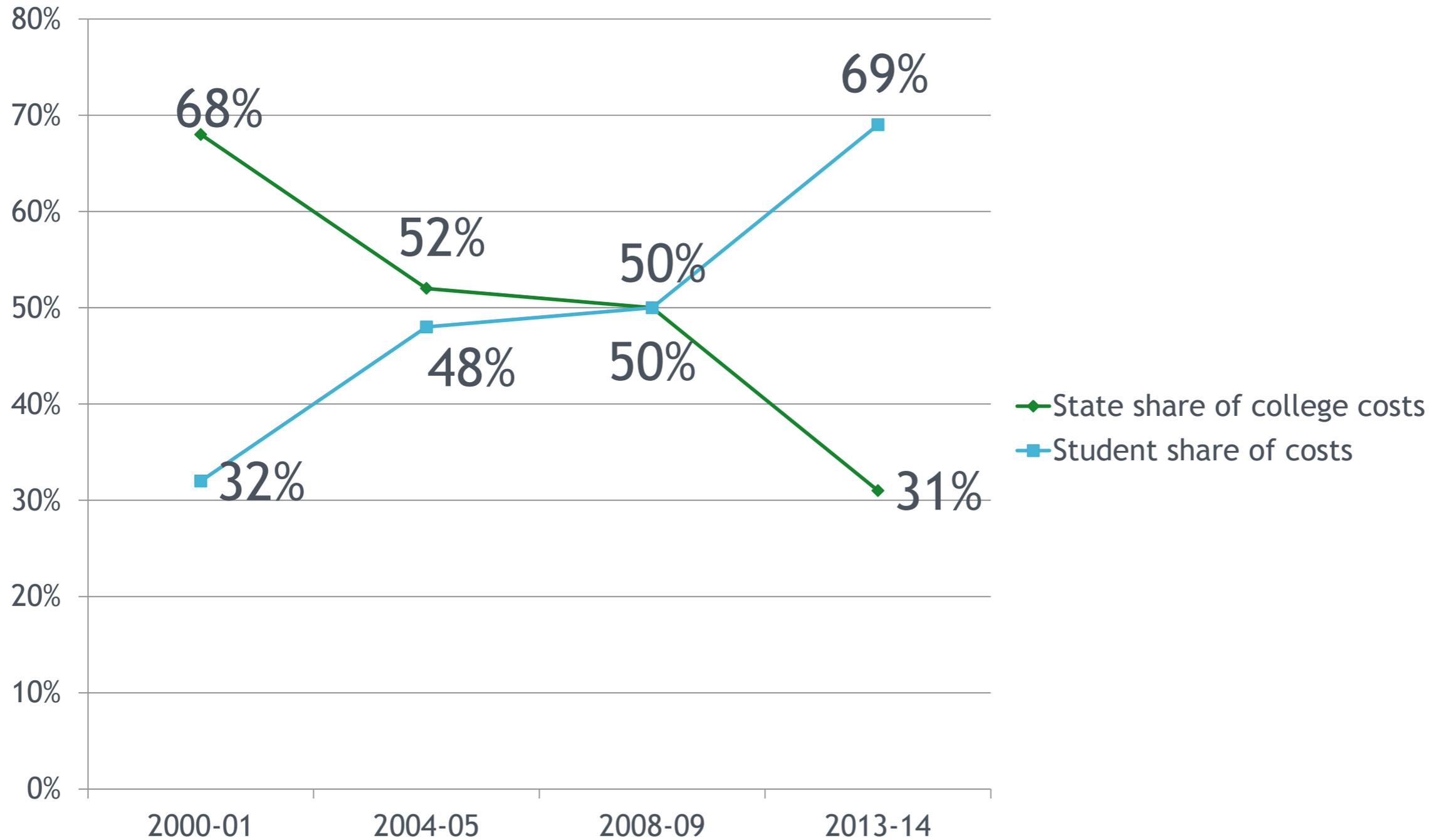
- **50** go to college
- **22** earn a college degree



# Challenge: Degree completion gaps by ethnicity



# Challenge: Shifting burden from state to students



# Why higher education matters

## Personal benefits

- Earn more
- Healthier lifestyles
- Vote more
- Value education for children



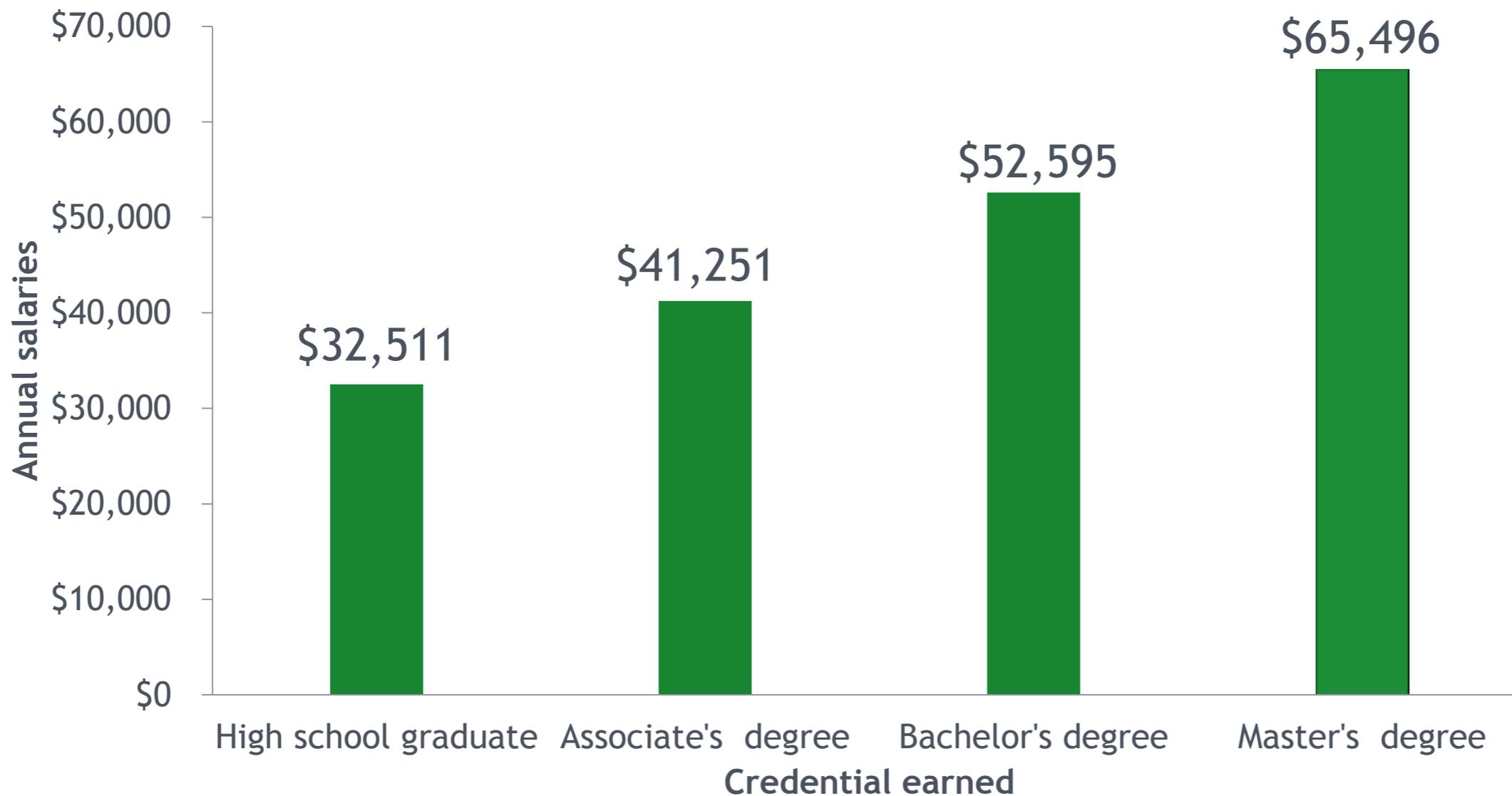
## Community benefits

- Attract better jobs
- Lower unemployment & incarceration rates
- Reduced health costs



# Personal Benefit

## *Median Colorado earnings by degree, 2008-10*



Community Benefit

# *Economic impacts of our campuses*

*Higher education in Colorado supports...*

- **97,563 jobs**, which contribute
- **\$4.25 billion** in wages and salaries, and
- **\$387 million** in state and local taxes

*to Colorado's economy annually*



# *Our goals: Meeting the challenges*

CCHE's master plan sets four primary goals:

- **Increase degree attainment** by at least 1,000 credentials a year to meet workforce demands.
- **Improve student success** through better remedial education, enhanced support services and reduced average time to degree completion.
- **Reduce completion gaps** among students from underserved communities by enhancing access to, and through, postsecondary institutions.
- **Restore fiscal balance** by increasing state support of higher education while promoting affordability, accessibility and efficiency.

# *Achieving our goals: Focus on performance*

## *PAST*

Focus largely on increasing ACCESS: Who's getting to campus?

## *TODAY*

Emphasis on COMPLETION: Who's earning a postsecondary credential?

# *Where do we go from here?*

We welcome your feedback.

- Find us on Facebook at **ColoradoHigherEd**
- E-mail us at [departmentofhighereducation@dhe.state.co.us](mailto:departmentofhighereducation@dhe.state.co.us)
- Follow us on Twitter **@CoHigherEd**
- Learn more by visiting our website <http://higher.ed.colorado.gov>



