



*University of Nevada, Las Vegas*

*University of Nevada, Reno*

*Nevada State College*

*College of Southern Nevada*

*Great Basin College*

*Truckee Meadows Community  
College*

*Western Nevada College*

*Desert Research Institute*



# Creating a Culture of Completion

**For Presentation to  
the P20W Council**

December 10, 2015



# Today's Presentation



- Creating a culture of completion in Nevada
- Complete College America – aggressive goals to graduate more students
- Policy changes adopted that support student completion
- Gateway course completions
- The Silver State Opportunity Grant program
- 15 to Finish – Enrollment intensity and student completion campaign

## U.S. Ranking Among Nations for 25-34 Year Olds with an Associate's Degree or Higher

1996		2010	
1	Korea	1	Korea
2	United States	2	Japan
3	Netherlands	3	Canada
4	Canada	4	Russian Federation
5	Norway	5	Ireland
6	Spain	6	Norway
7	Australia	7	New Zealand
8	Denmark	8	United Kingdom
9	Greece	9	Australia
10	New Zealand	10	Luxembourg
11	United Kingdom	11	Israel
12	Belgium	12	Belgium
13	Ireland	13	France
14	Italy	14	United States

**Among developed nations, the U.S. ranks 14<sup>th</sup> for its educated youth.**

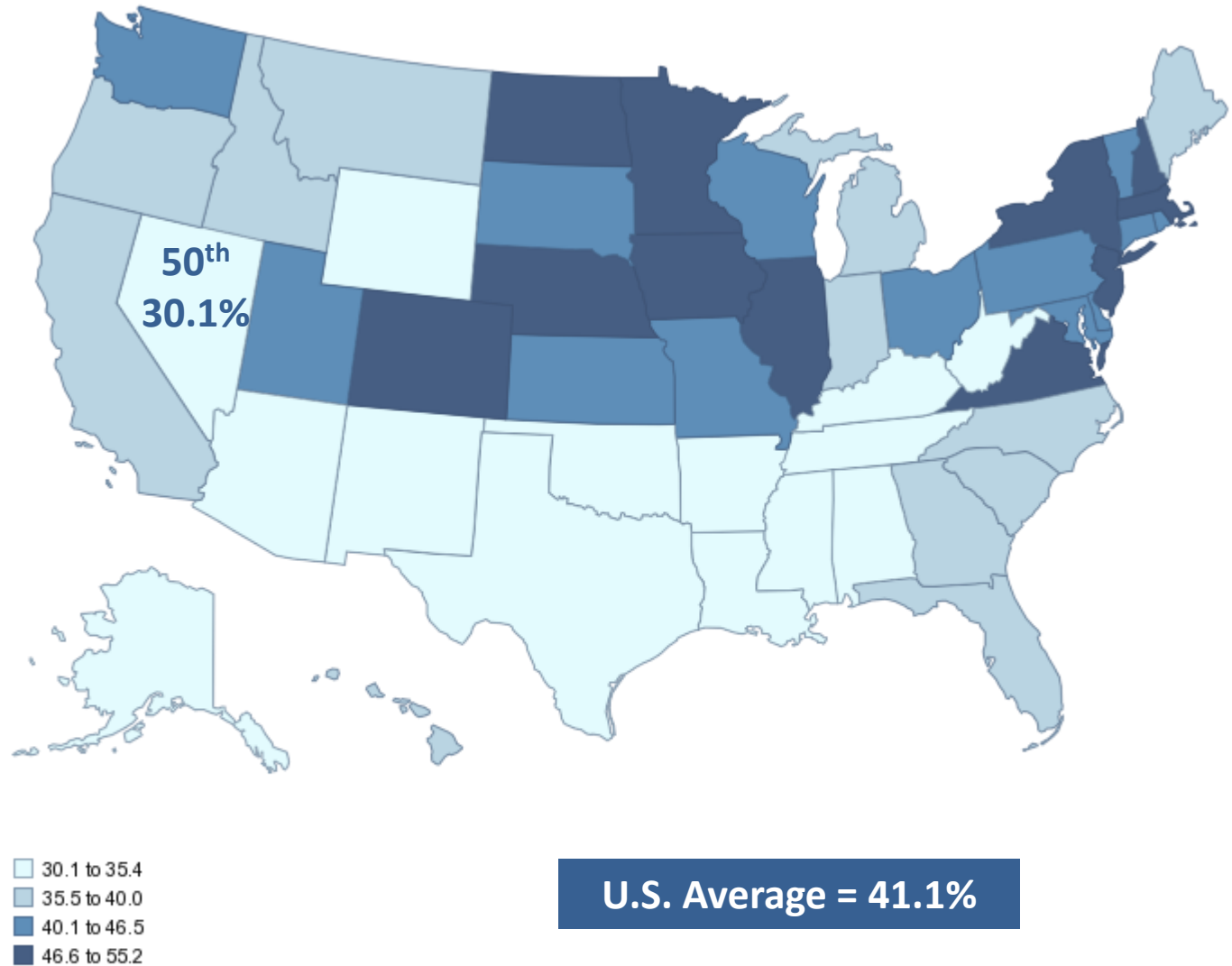
# How it all began . . .

## The Goal of the Obama Administration

1	United States
2	Korea
3	Japan
4	Canada
5	Russian Federation
6	Ireland
7	Norway
8	New Zealand
9	United Kingdom
10	Australia
11	Luxembourg
12	Israel
13	Belgium
14	France

**To be first among nations by 2020, 60% of 25-34 year olds in the United States will need to have a postsecondary credential.**

## Percent of Adults 25 to 34 with an Associates Degree or Higher



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey  
One-Year Public Use Microdata Sample.

# Complete College America

For a strong economy, the skills gap must be closed.

**58%**

By 2020, jobs in Nevada requiring a career certificate or college degree

**30%**

Nevada young adults who currently have an associate degree or higher

**28%**

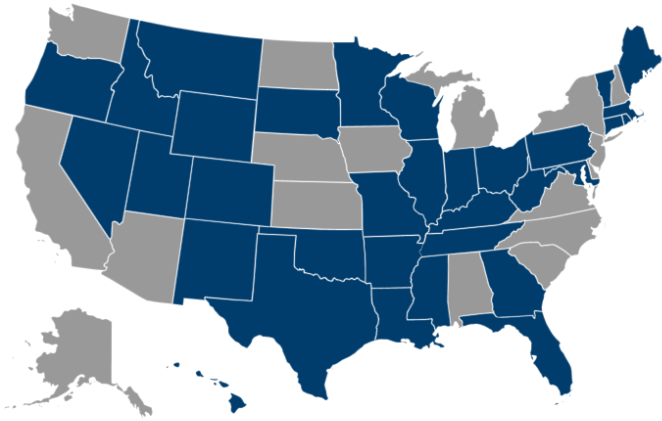
**The Skills Gap**



# Complete College America

## The CCA Alliance

33 states, the District of Columbia,  
and the Commonwealth of the  
Northern Mariana Islands



■ Member states

Complete College America is an alliance of states committed to significantly increasing the number of students successfully completing college and achieving degrees and credentials of value in the labor market and closing attainment gaps for traditionally underrepresented populations by 2020.

# NSHE's Campaign to Create a Culture of Completion

## What we have already done

- ✓ Complete College America
- ✓ Strategic Directions
  - 120 / 60 credit policy
  - Low Yield Program Policy
  - Excess Credit Policy
- ✓ New Funding Formula
- ✓ Performance Pool
- ✓ Access and Affordability – Silver State Opportunity Grant program
- ✓ 15 to Finish Campaign

A shift in focus from enrolling to graduating students . . .  
but there is more work to be done.



# NSHE Awards Conferred

## Number of Degrees and Certificates Awarded

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	5-year Percent Change
Certificates (30+ credits)	390	623	540	540	702	80.0%
Skills Certificates	--	--	--	2,487*	3,043	--
Associates degrees	3,377	3,811	3,853	4,186	4,600	36.2%
Bachelor's degrees	6,262	6,531	6,625	6,975	6,963	11.2%
Total	10,018	10,965	11,018	14,188	15,308	--

Note: Figures do not include master's, doctoral, first-professional degrees and post-baccalaureate certificates.  
Bachelor's degrees with second majors are counted only once.

Source: IPEDS

\*reported by the institutions

# Shifting Gears

## Promoting Student Completion through Policy

### **60/120 Credit Policy**

- Limiting the number of credits for an associates or bachelor's degree to 60 and 120 credits, respectively

### **Low Yield Policy**

- Requiring institutions to review programs on a regular basis in the context of degree productivity. Institutions must develop a plan for increasing productivity or eliminate the low-yield program

### **Excess Credit Policy**

- Tough love policy – charging students a 50 percent surcharge if they accumulate more than 150 percent of the credits required for their degree program

# The Importance of Timely Gateway Course Completion

## Impacts on Graduating Students

Fall 2007 cohort	% Completed Gateway Math in first 2 years	150% Graduation Rate	% <u>not</u> Completed Gateway Math in first 2 years	150% Graduation rate
UNLV	59.5%	48.8%	40.5%	22.6%
UNR	79.2%	52.0%	20.8%	12.7%
NSC	37.0%	25.0%	63.0%	3.9%
CSN	16.9%	23.2%	83.1%	3.9%
GBC	17.5%	26.8%	82.5%	1.8%
TMCC	18.8%	31.8%	81.2%	1.5%
WNC	35.1%	30.9%	64.9%	0.3%

Timely completion of gateway mathematics courses correlates with students persistence and degree completion.

# Are NSHE Institutions Affordable?

## It Depends . . . .

### Factors in Affordability

- The Price Tag v. Total Cost of Attendance
  - Tuition and Fees, Room and Board, etc.
- Student/Family Ability to Pay
  - Family Income
- Financial Support
  - Student Financial Aid



Historically, discussions on tuition and fees of NSHE institutions focused on the price tag as compared to the prices in the regional western United States.

## When you consider the price tag alone relative to Median Family Income in Nevada, NSHE institutions appear affordable

Public 4-Year Institutions, 2011-12

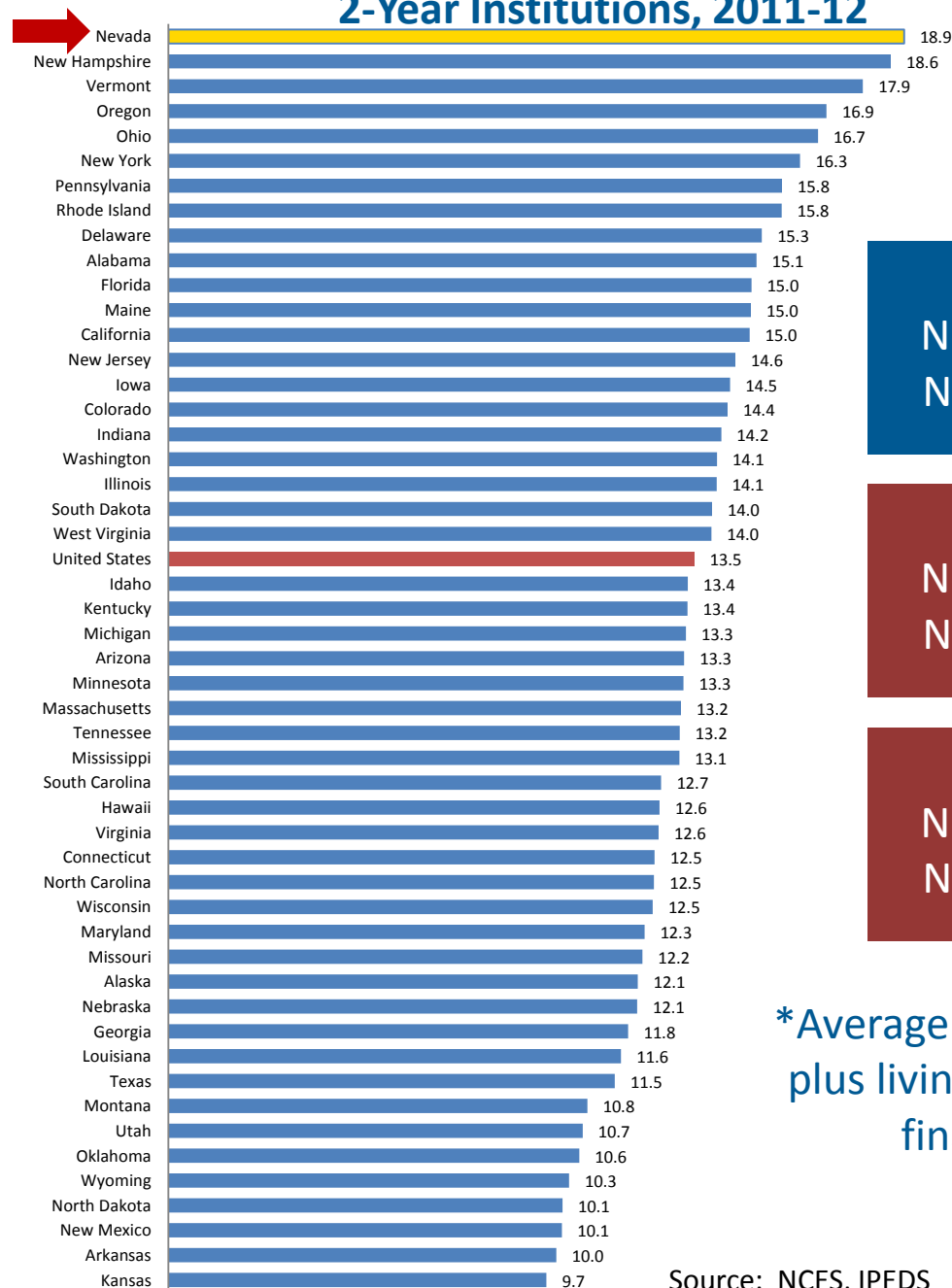
	Average Tuition and Fees as a % of Median Family Income	Average Tuition and Fees as a % of Family Income - Lowest Quintile
Nevada	8.7%	28.5%
U.S. Average	12.7%	46.7%

Public 2-Year Institutions, 2011-12

	Average Tuition and Fees as a % of Median Family Income	Average Tuition and Fees as a % of Family Income - Lowest Quintile
Nevada	4.4%	14.5%
U.S. Average	4.5%	16.6%

Source: NCES, IPEDS

## Percent of Median Family Income Needed to Pay for College 2-Year Institutions, 2011-12



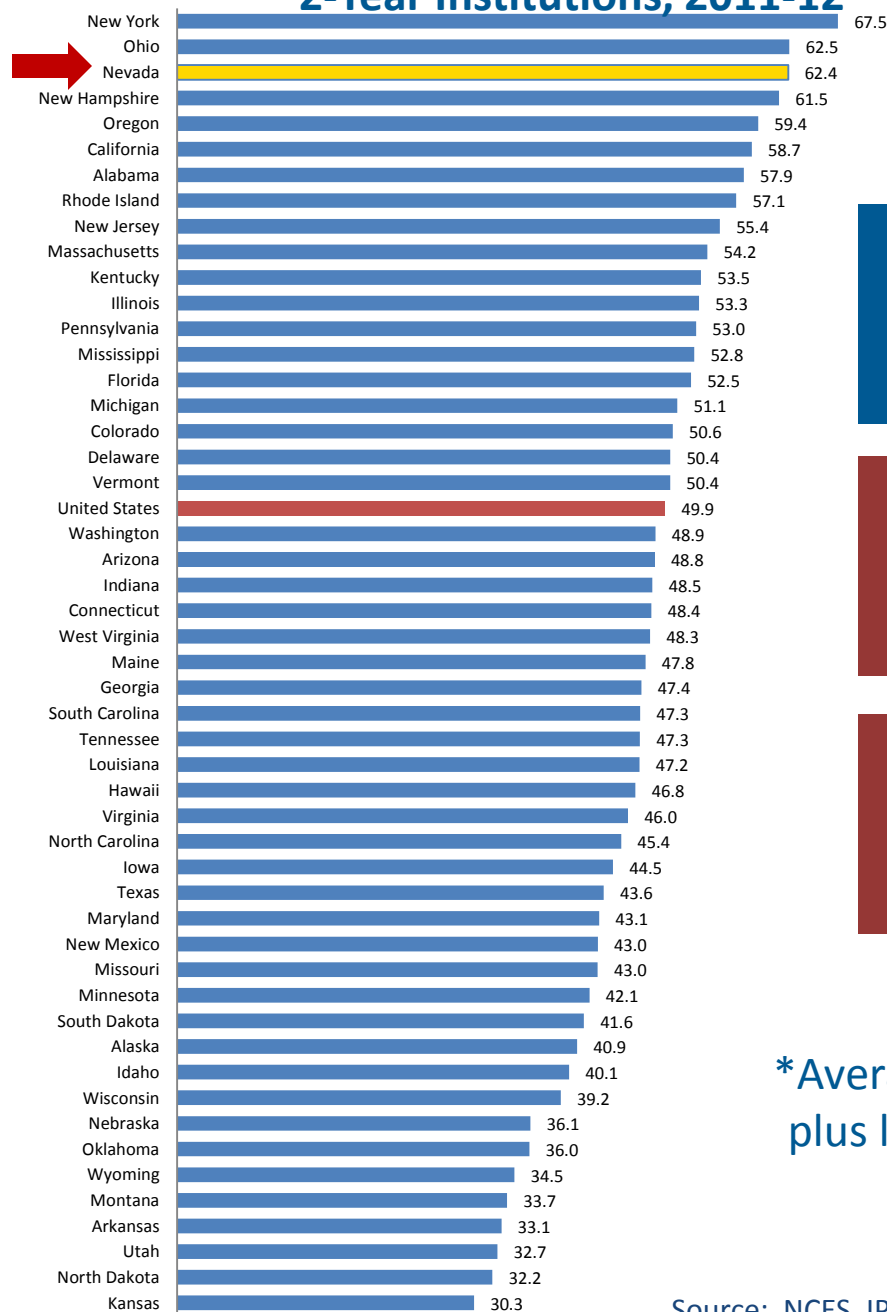
2011-12  
Nevada: 18.9%  
Nation: 13.5%

2008-09  
Nevada: 16.8%  
Nation: 12.9%

2006-07  
Nevada: 14.7%  
Nation: 12.4%

\*Average tuition and fees  
plus living expenses less  
financial aid

# Percent of Income from the Lowest Quintile Needed to Pay for College 2-Year Institutions, 2011-12



2011-12  
Nevada: 62.4%  
Nation: 49.9%

2008-09  
Nevada: 53.4%  
Nation: 46.4%

2006-07  
Nevada: 45.3%  
Nation: 42.8%

\*Average tuition and fees  
plus living expenses less  
financial aid

Source: NCES, IPEDS

Access and Affordability

## How Accessible are Nevada's Access Institutions?

### Nevada:

Among the Lowest in the Nation for  
2-Year College Participation Rates  
for Students from Low Income Families

#### Select Participation Rates: 2-Year Institutions, 2012

Florida	5.2%
District of Columbia	5.9%
<b>Nevada</b>	<b>6.4%</b>
West Virginia	7.1%
Utah	7.4%
South Dakota	7.8%
<b>2-Year U.S. Rate</b>	<b>15.0%</b>

Source: Postsecondary Education Opportunity, September 2013



# Silver State Opportunity Grant (SSOG)

## State-Funded, Need-Based Financial Aid Program

To be eligible for an **SSOG** award, a student must:

- Be enrolled in a program of study leading to a degree or certificate;
- Enroll in at least 15 credit hours that apply to the student's chosen program of study;
- Be college ready based on placement or completion of entry-level, college-level mathematics and English;
- Be classified as a resident for tuition purposes;
- Meet institutional Title IV financial aid satisfactory academic progress requirements; and
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

# Silver State Opportunity Grant (SSOG)

## State-Funded, Need-Based Financial Aid Program

### ❖ How is the award calculated?

Average Annual Cost of Attendance

- Student Contribution (\$5,500)
- Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- Federal Contribution (Pell, SEOG, TEACH)

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= SSOG Award (\$200 minimum; \$5,500 maximum)

### ❖ Distributing Limited Funds (\$2.5 million each year of the biennium)

- Grants are awarded in ascending EFC\* order to the financially neediest students first up to 8500 EFC

\*EFC = Expected Family Contribution as determined through completion of the FAFSA

## 15 to Finish

Shift Focus to Benefits of Full-Time Enrollment

### Benefits include:

- ✓ Progress from freshman to sophomore status after first year
- ✓ More likely to graduate
- ✓ Pay less in tuition and living expenses
- ✓ Gain additional years of earnings
- ✓ Free up limited classroom space for other students

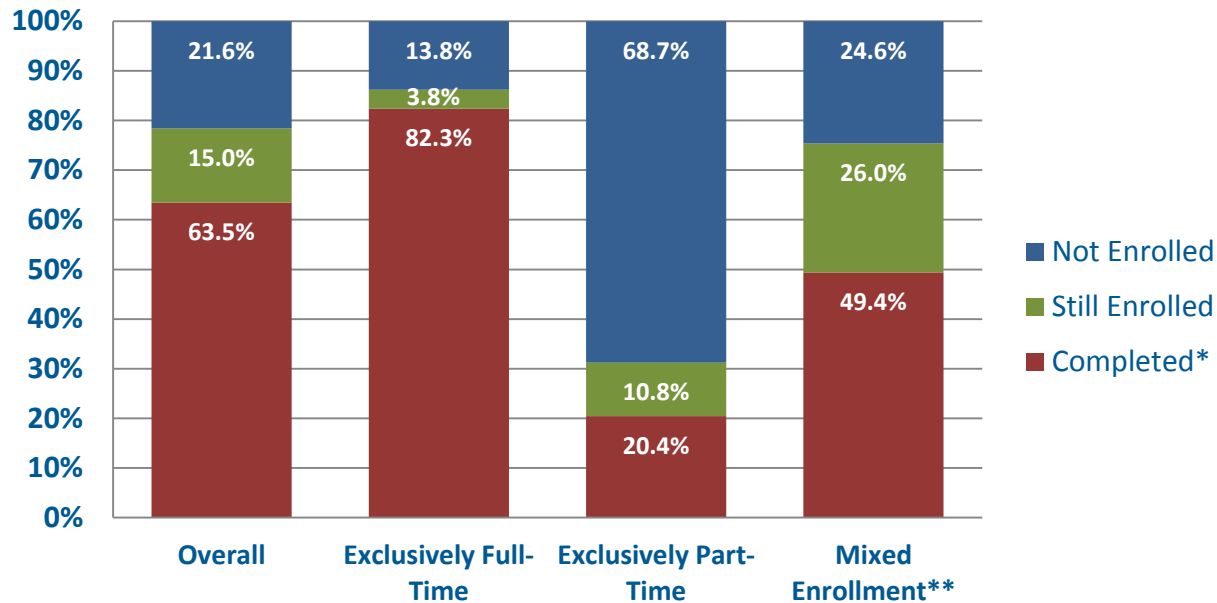


Source: *The Power of 15 Hours, Enrollment Intensity and Postsecondary Student Achievement*, Dr. Nate Johnson, Fall 2012

# National Perspective

## National Student Clearinghouse Research Center Four-Year Public Institutions

Six-Year Outcomes and First Completion for Students who  
Started at Four-Year Public Institutions by Enrollment Intensity



**Part-time students far  
less likely to graduate**

**To the extent  
students can  
go full-time  
at any point,  
increased  
likelihood of  
completing.**

\*Completed: Includes students who completed at starting or different institution

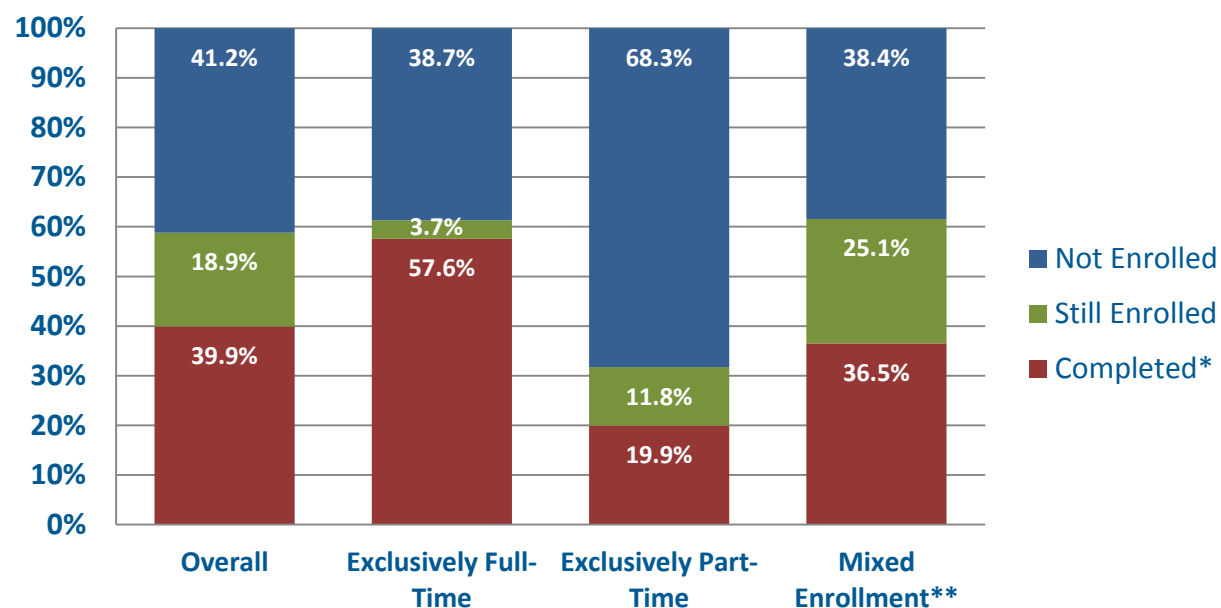
\*\*Mixed Enrollment: Both part-time and full-time during the study period

Source: *Completing College: A National View of Student Attainment Rates*, National Student Clearing House, December 2013

# National Perspective

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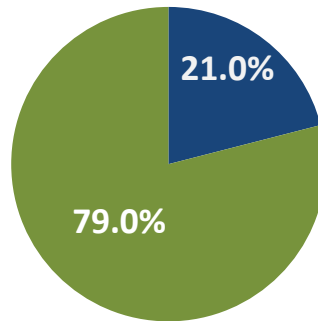
Source: *Completing College: A National View of Student Attainment Rates*, National Student Clearing House, December 2013

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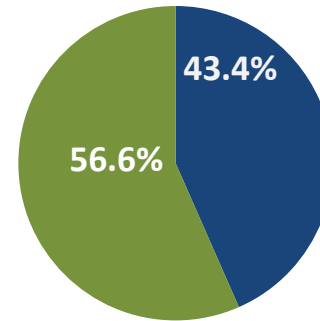
# Graduation Rates by Credit Load

## NSHE 4-Year Institutions – Fall 2004 Cohort

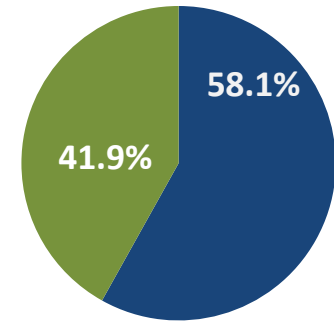
< 12 Credits



12 - 14 Credits



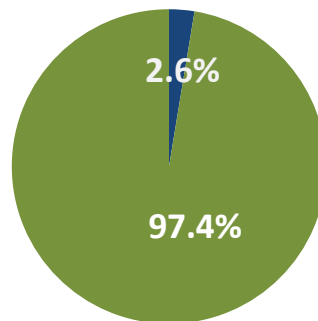
15+ Credits



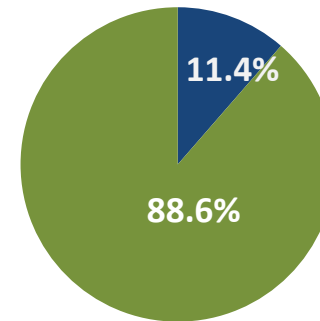
NOTE: Fall 2004 cohort, first-time, degree-seeking students, who earned a bachelor's degree within 200% time to degree at a 4-year institution. Enrollment load based on first term.

## NSHE 2-Year Institutions – Fall 2008 Cohort

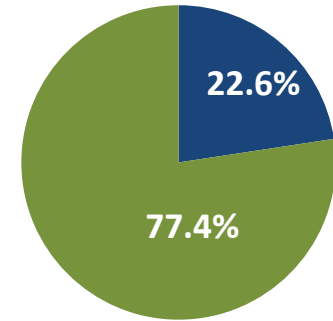
< 12 Credits



12 - 14 Credits



15+ Credits



 % Graduated

 % Not Graduated

NOTE: Fall 2008 cohort, first-time, degree seeking students who earned a certificate or associates degree at a community college within 200% time to degree. Enrollment load based on first term.

**15 TO FINISH**  
Undergraduate students who are enrolled full-time are more likely to graduate from college.

# Graduation Rates by Credit Load and Ethnicity

## 4-Year Institutions – Fall 2004 Cohort

	First-term Enrollment Load		
	< 12	12 – 14	15+
Minorities	23.1%	38.7%	53.5%
White, Non-Hispanic	19.1%	45.9%	60.5%

## NSHE 2-Year Institutions – Fall 2008 Cohort

	First-term Enrollment Load		
	< 12	12 – 14	15+
Minorities	2.6%	11.3%	20.9%
White, Non-Hispanic	2.8%	11.5%	23.3%

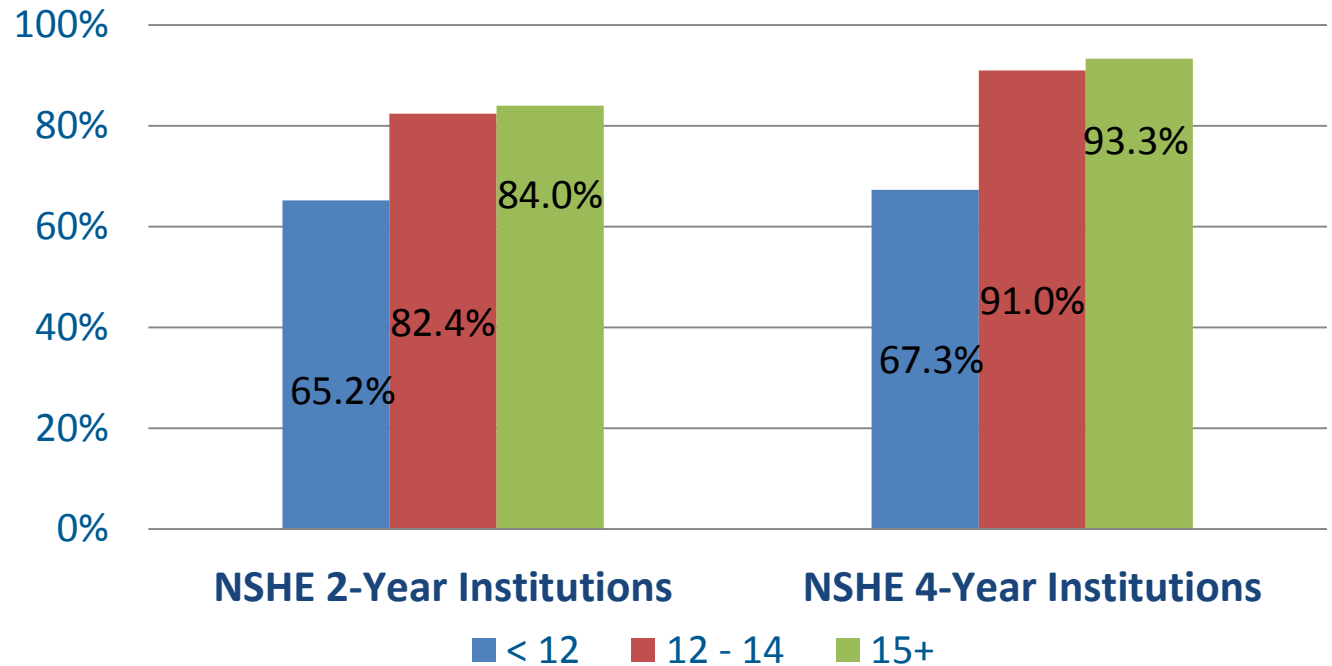
**Regardless of race or ethnicity, undergraduate students who are enrolled full-time are more likely to graduate from college.**

NOTE: Fall 2004 cohort, first-time, degree-seeking students, who earned a bachelor's degree within 200% time to degree at a 4-year institution. Fall 2008 cohort students who earned a certificate or associates degree at a community college within 200% time to degree. Enrollment load based on first term.

Enrollment Intensity

## Persistence Rates

### Fall to Spring Persistence Rate



NOTE: Analysis includes first-time, degree-seeking freshmen cohorts from Fall 2009, 2011, and 2012.

Full-time students are significantly more likely to persist to the next semester.



# Cohort GPA by Academic Preparation

		NSHE 2-Year Institutions	NSHE 4-Year Institutions
Remedial English / Math Enrollment Groups	Credit Load	GPA (cohort)	GPA (cohort)
College	< 12	2.61	2.37
	12 to < 15	2.68	2.75
	15+	2.78	2.98
Remedial	< 12	2.30	2.05
	12 to < 15	2.38	2.40
	15+	2.60	2.53

Lacking other data elements, placement into remedial English and/or mathematics was used as a proxy for academic preparation.

Regardless of academic preparation, students enrolled full-time have higher grade point averages.

NOTE: Fall 2008 cohort of first-time, degree-seeking freshmen.

# The 15 to Finish Message



Graduate on Time.



Save money.



Earn sooner.

**Take 15 credits a semester and finish your degree on time!**  
**Meet with your advisor today.**



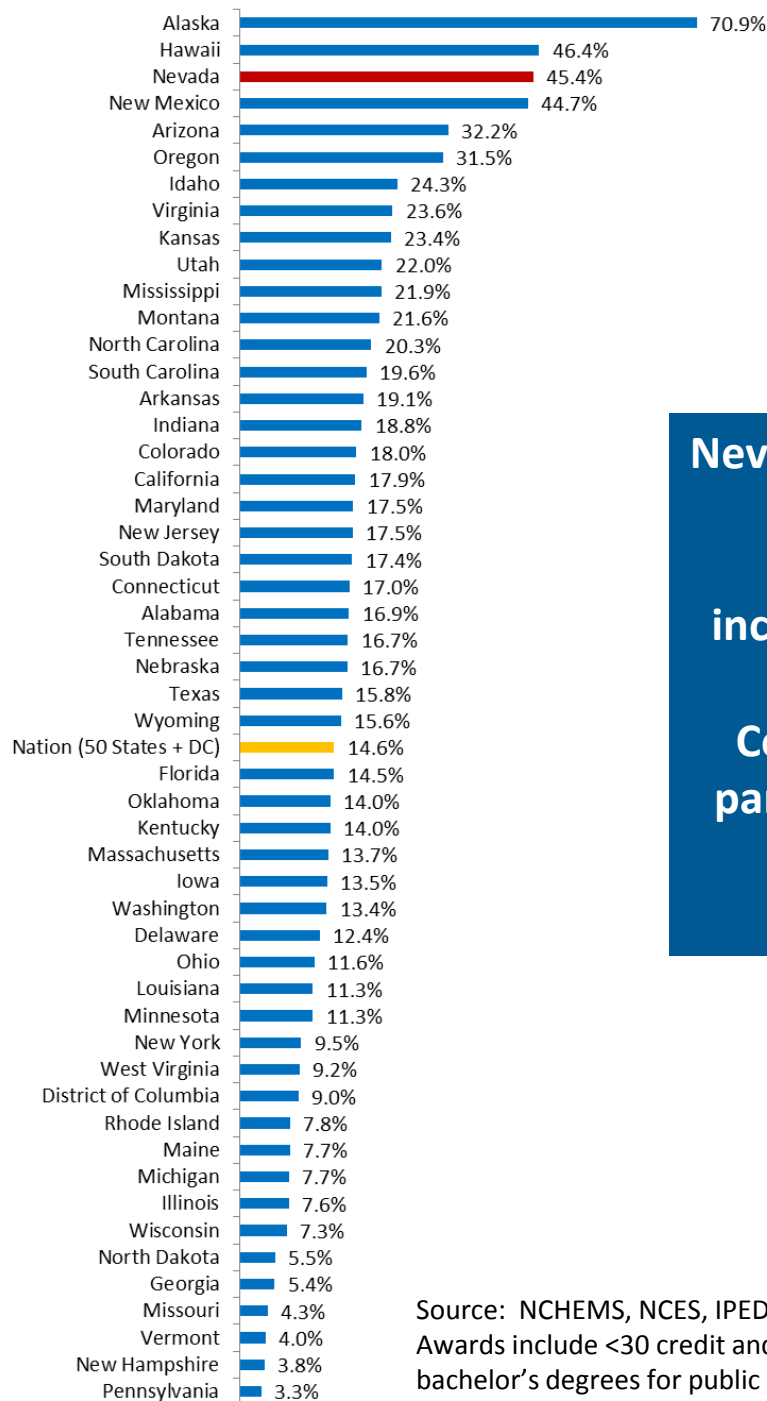
## Recent Policy Changes Related to 15 to Finish

### Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship

- Minimum enrollment required
  - 9 credits at the 2-year institutions (SB 128)
  - 12 credits at the 4-year institutions
- Maximum funding per semester
  - 15 credit max funded each semester (SB128)



## Percent Change in Awards Conferred, 2009-10 thru 2013-14



**Nevada is leading the nation in increases in award productivity. A 45.4% increase in awards conferred in the first five years of Complete College America participation – far exceeding the national average of 14.6%!!**

Source: NCHEMS, NCES, IPEDS 2009-10, 2013-14 Completions File  
Awards include <30 credit and 30+ credit certificates, associates degrees, and bachelor's degrees for public and private institutions



# Questions?

