

## Key Takeaways – 2018 Progress Report

In 2006, the Nebraska Legislature identified education as key to the state's economic future: "Increasing the number of Nebraskans with high levels of educational attainment is essential to support economic expansion and diversification." (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-1428) In 2018, it remains essential, as an estimated 71 percent of Nebraska jobs will require at least some postsecondary education by 2020. This report provides detailed analysis of Nebraska's progress toward increasing its educational attainment. The *Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Postsecondary Education*, produced by the Coordinating Commission, includes many of these same metrics within its "Measuring Accomplishments" section.

89.1

Nebraska's 2016-2017 public high school graduation rate. (See Figure 1.1.a.4, page 28.) However, ACT reports that only 28% of Nebraska's ACT-tested high school graduates are sufficiently prepared to succeed in all four common areas of entry-level college coursework in algebra, biology, English, and social sciences. (See Figure 1.1.b.4 on page 39.)

71.0

The college continuation rate for the 2015-2016 Nebraska public high school graduating class. (See Figure 1.1.c.6, page 57.)

81.0

The percentage of ACE Scholarship recipients who have gone on to college. The comparable college continuation rates were 53.2% for low-income high school graduates who did not receive ACE and 77.8% for non-low-income high school graduates. (See Figure 1.5.8, page 95.)

39.6

65.6

The six-year completion rates for Nebraska public two-year institutions (39.6%) and four-year public institutions (65.6%), compared to national rates of 39.3% and 62.4%, respectively. (Fall 2010 cohort.) (See Figure 2.3.1, page 121.)

47.6

For every 10,000 working-age (22 to 64) Nebraskans with a bachelor's degree or higher, there was an average annual net *out*-migration of 47.6 people from 2012 to 2016, meaning that Nebraska continues to lose more residents with a bachelor's degree than it attracts from other states. (See page 134.)

32.4

The percentage of Nebraskans ages 22 to 64 who have a bachelor's degree or higher for the period 2012-2016, according to the American Community Survey. This is up from 29.7% for the period 2007-2011. The percentage of Nebraskans ages 22 to 64 who have some college or an associate's degree is 35.6%, down from 36.3%. (See Figure 3.1, page 131.)

26.8

The percentage difference in college attainment between whites and minorities ages 25 to 44, which ranks third worst in the country. (See page S20.)