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Florida moves closer to educational attainment goal in latest *Stronger Nation* report 54.5% of working age Floridians have a college degree or high-value credential

In a <u>late 2023 blog post</u>, we shared the news that Florida degree attainment (associate's degree or higher) among the population age 25-64 had risen to 46.2%, based on the latest American Community Survey estimates.

With the latest release of the Lumina Foundation's *Stronger Nation* report, we are pleased to share that non-degreed postsecondary attainment among working age Floridians increased from 7.9% to 8.3%, with non-degreed attainment referring to a workforce certificate or industry certification. Florida has reached a total share of 54.5% attainment, exceeding the national average of 54.3%. Florida ranks 24th among the 50 U.S. States and has increased its educational attainment from 52.2% in 2018.

These positive trends will need to accelerate if Florida is to reach its 60% attainment goal by 2030, and gaps in degree attainment require attention in order to achieve the goal for all Floridians.

"This positive news reflects the efforts of our students, community partners, institutions, and policy makers coming together to drive Florida closer toward meeting the future economic demands of our state," said Braulio Colón, executive director of the Florida College Access Network. "However, let's acknowledge there's so much more to do to ensure all residents in our state can benefit from the power of postsecondary education. For example, too many in our Black and Latino communities are underrepresented in these figures, and gaps persist. We must continue to work together to close these gaps."

Learn more about the work being done to increase postsecondary attainment at the **2024 Talent Strong Summit – Access for All**, May 8-10 in Orlando, Florida.

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About Florida College Access Network

Florida College Access Network (FCAN) is Florida's collaborative network committed to ensuring all Floridians have the opportunity to achieve an education beyond high school and a rewarding career. We envision a Florida working together where education is the pathway to economic mobility for all.

FCAN strives to expand knowledge of research, data, policies, and practices that impact postsecondary access and attainment in Florida. For more information, visit www.floridacollegeaccess.org.

FCAN is a statewide independent organization hosted by the University of South Florida (USF). The statements and positions presented are those of FCAN and are not made on behalf of the USF Board of Trustees or intended in any way to be representative of USF.