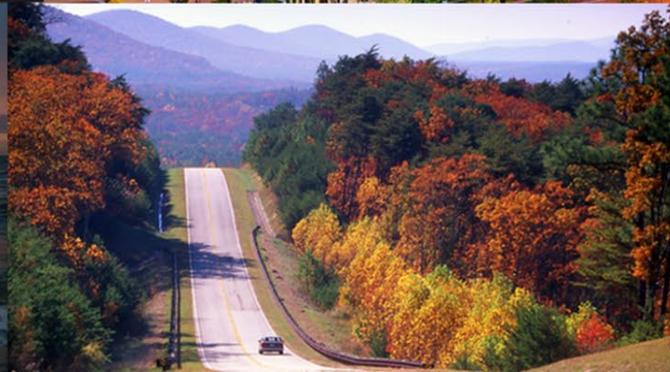
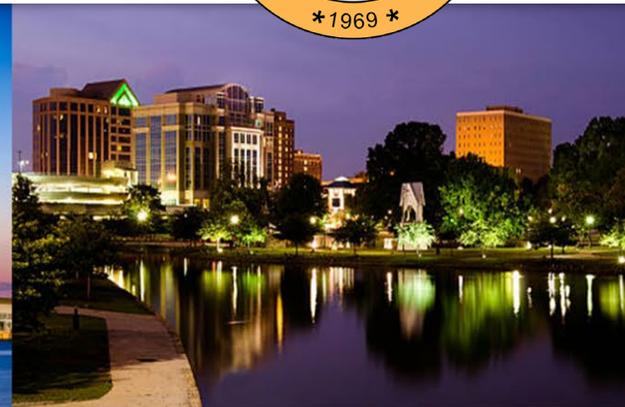
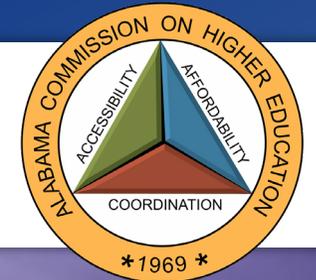


# Higher Education Budget Request for FY 2026-2027

**Jim Purcell, Ed.D., Executive Director**  
**Alabama Commission on Higher Education**





# Responsibilities of the Commission on Higher Education



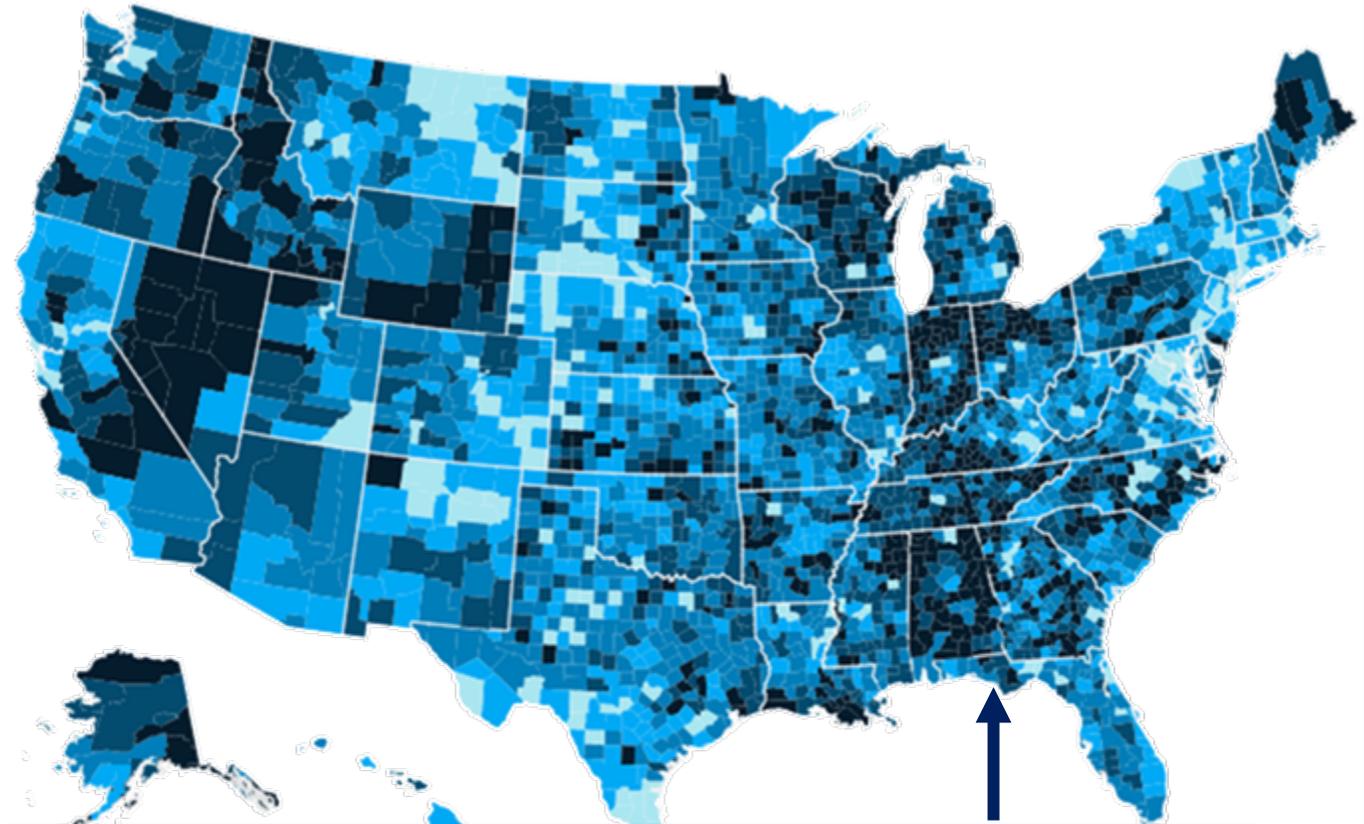
- Prepare budget recommendations for the public community colleges and universities
- Develop and implement the statewide strategic plan for postsecondary education
- Approve new academic programs
- Make recommendations about existing programs of study at public community colleges and universities
- Approve new units of instruction and off-campus instruction sites for the public community colleges and universities
- Aggregate information and conduct research about colleges and universities that informs state policy on PreK-12 education, higher education and the workforce
- Review the facilities master plans of the public colleges and universities and identify their new construction, deferred maintenance and renovation needs.
- Administer state-sponsored financial aid programs for students attending public and private colleges.



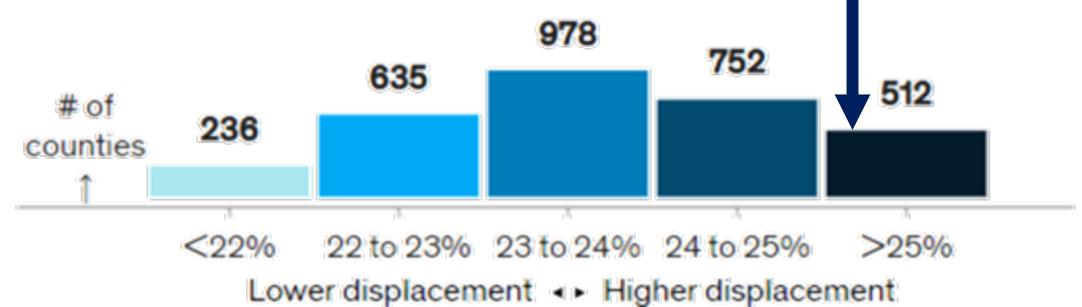
The challenge will be equipping people with the skills that will serve them well, helping them move into new roles, and addressing local mismatches.



Job losses will occur nationwide. In 90% of U.S. counties, the potential displacement rate is between 22% and 27%, but there are variations, ranging from 18% all the way to 33% in some hard-hit places.



Two-thirds of Alabama counties will have significant job displacement (>25%) because of automation.



# Manufacturing Employment in Alabama, 1990-2024

(All Employees, Thousands of Persons)

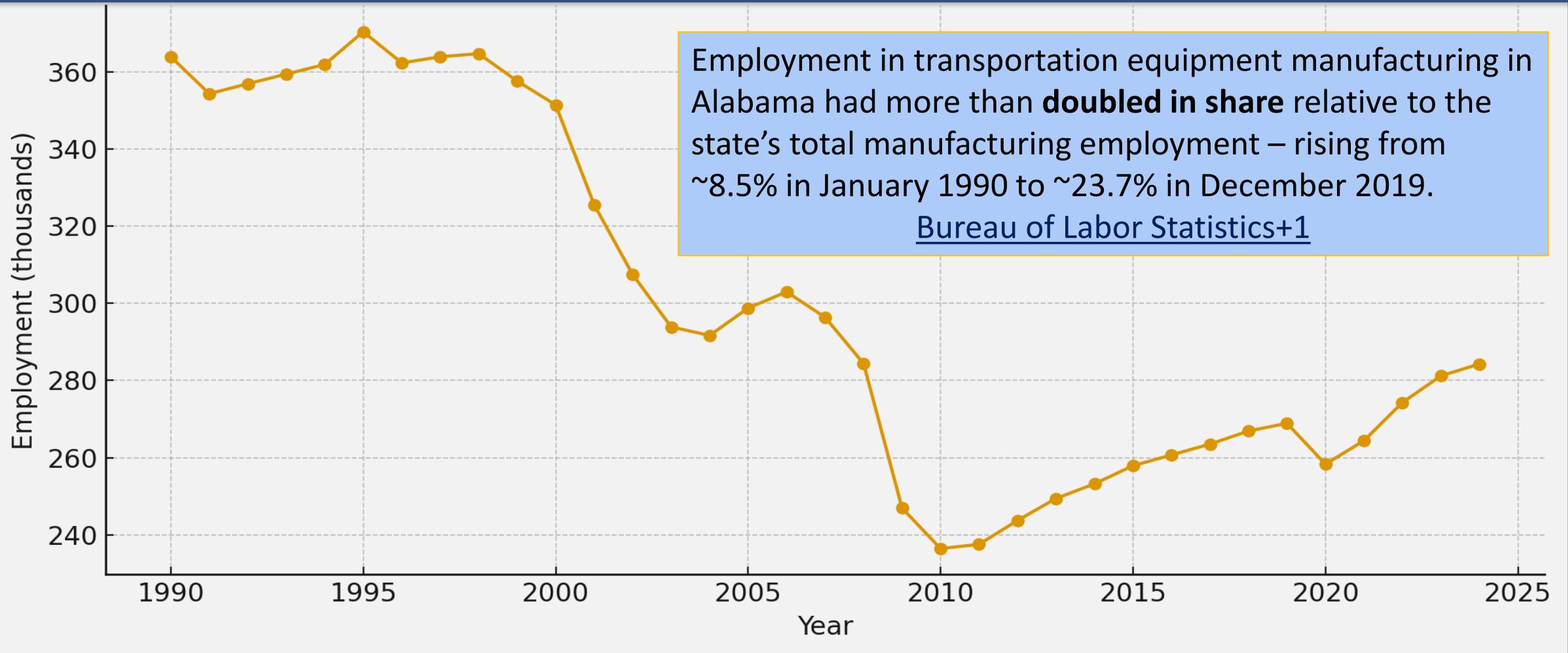


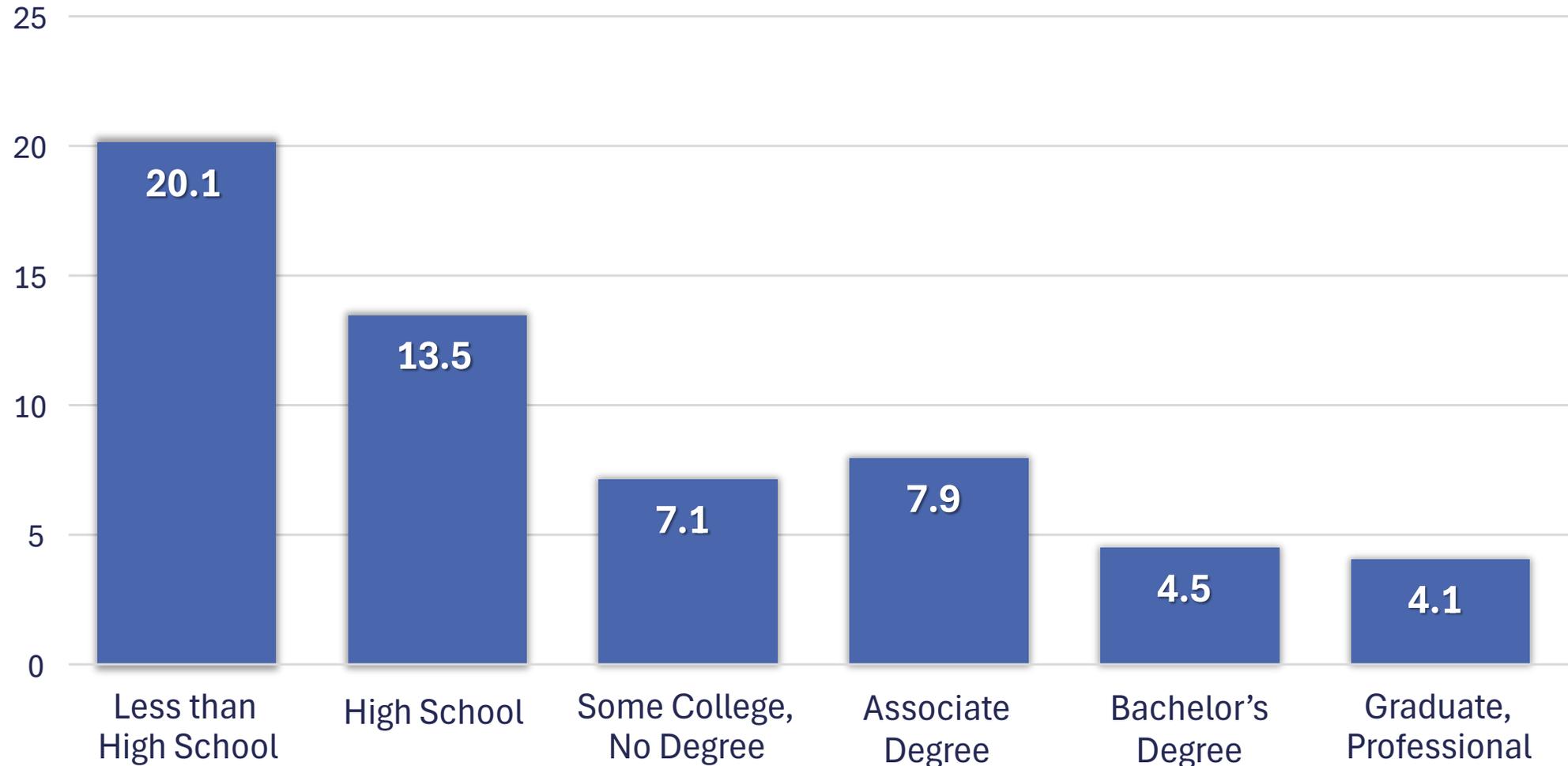
Table Data - All Employees: Manufacturing in Alabama | FRED | St. Louis Fed



Census Bureau [data](#) shows that households headed by a bachelor's-degree holder earn a median income of \$132,700, more than double the \$58,410 for those led by someone with only a high school diploma.

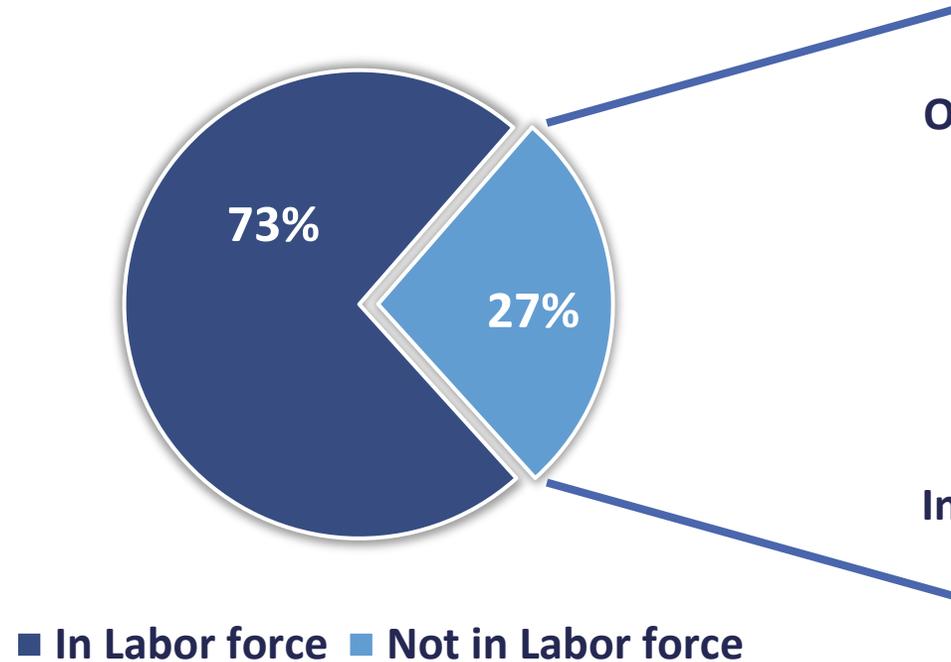
Over the past two decades, degree-holding households saw real incomes rise by 13%, while high school-only households saw virtually no rise.

# Alabama Percentage of Adults Ages 18 to 64 Relying on Public Assistance By Level of Education (2023)

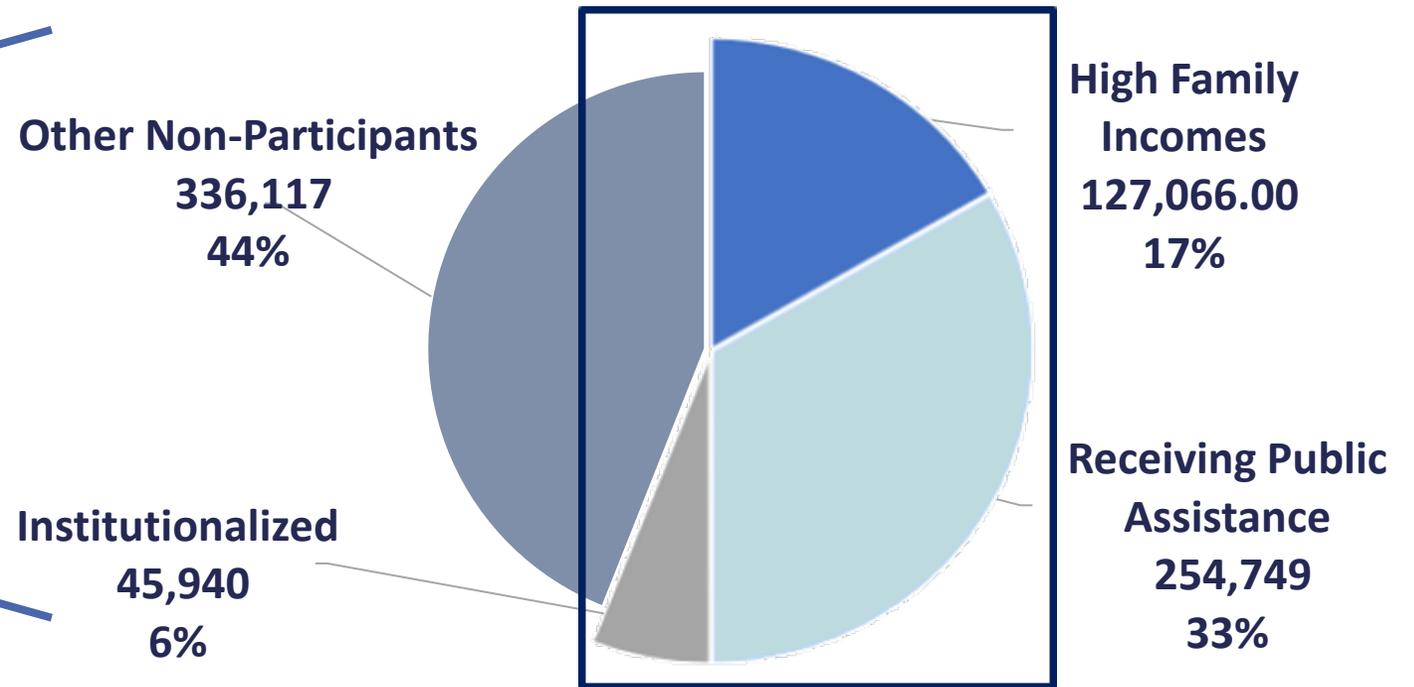


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey (Public Use Microdata Samples); IPUMS.

## Labor Force Status of Ages 25 to 64 in Alabama (2023)

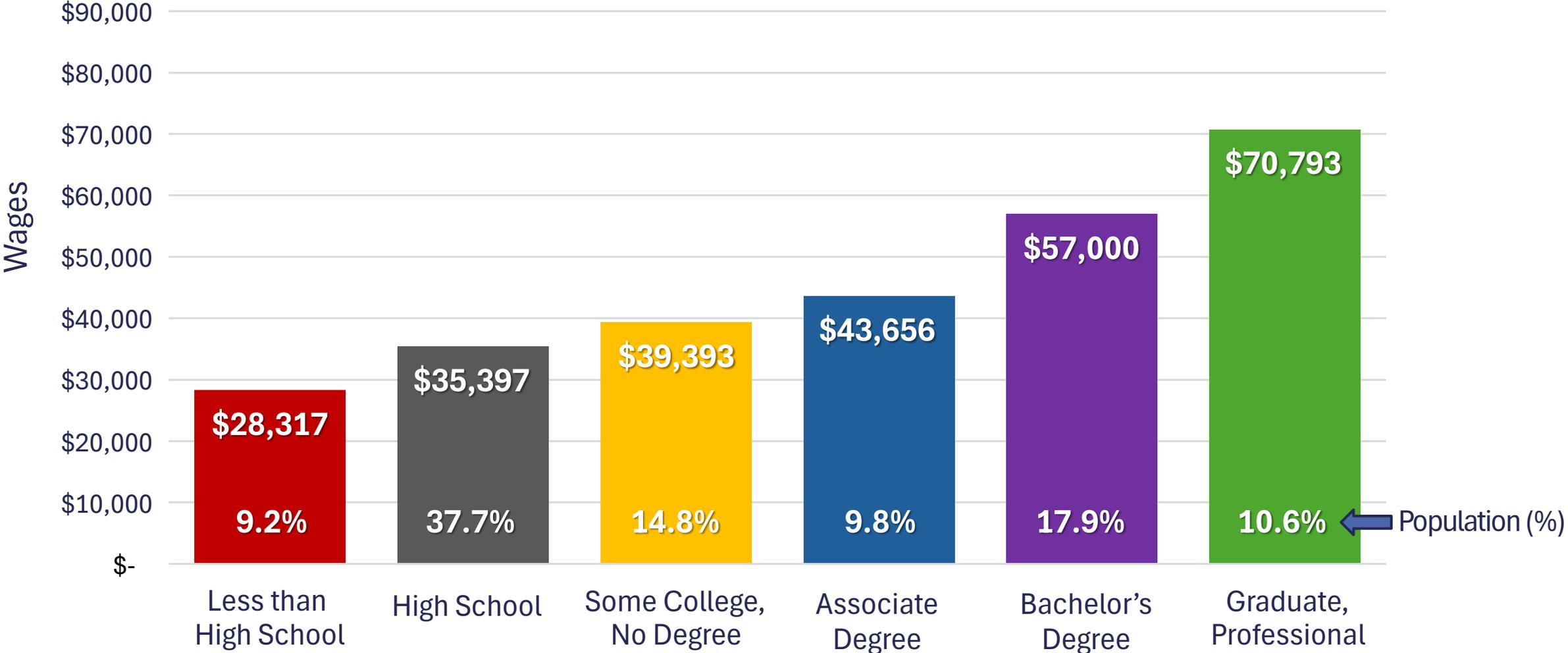


## Status of Those Not in Labor Force



**56% are not likely to participate in the labor force**

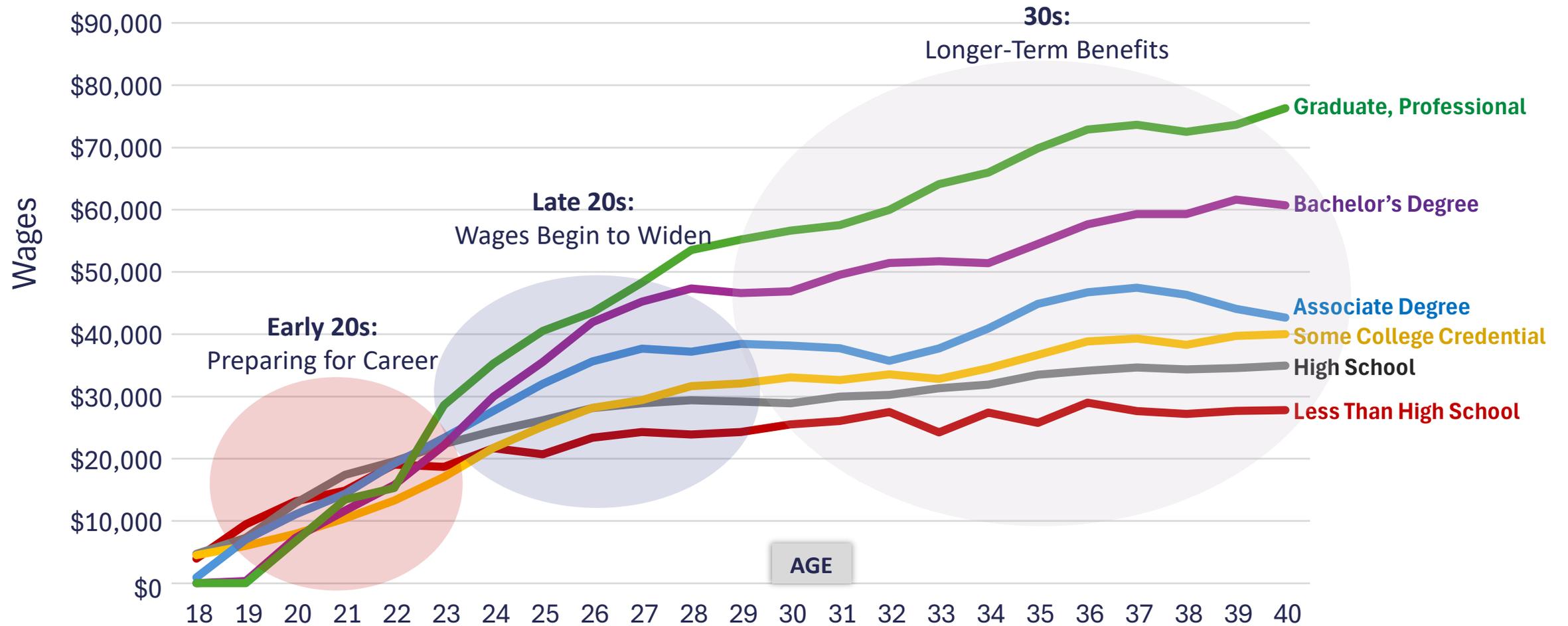
# Alabama Median Annual Wages of Adults Ages 25 to 64 By Level of Education (2023)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey (Public Use Microdata Samples); IPUMS.



# Alabama Median Annual Wages by Age and Education Level Among Alabama's Young Workers (2023)

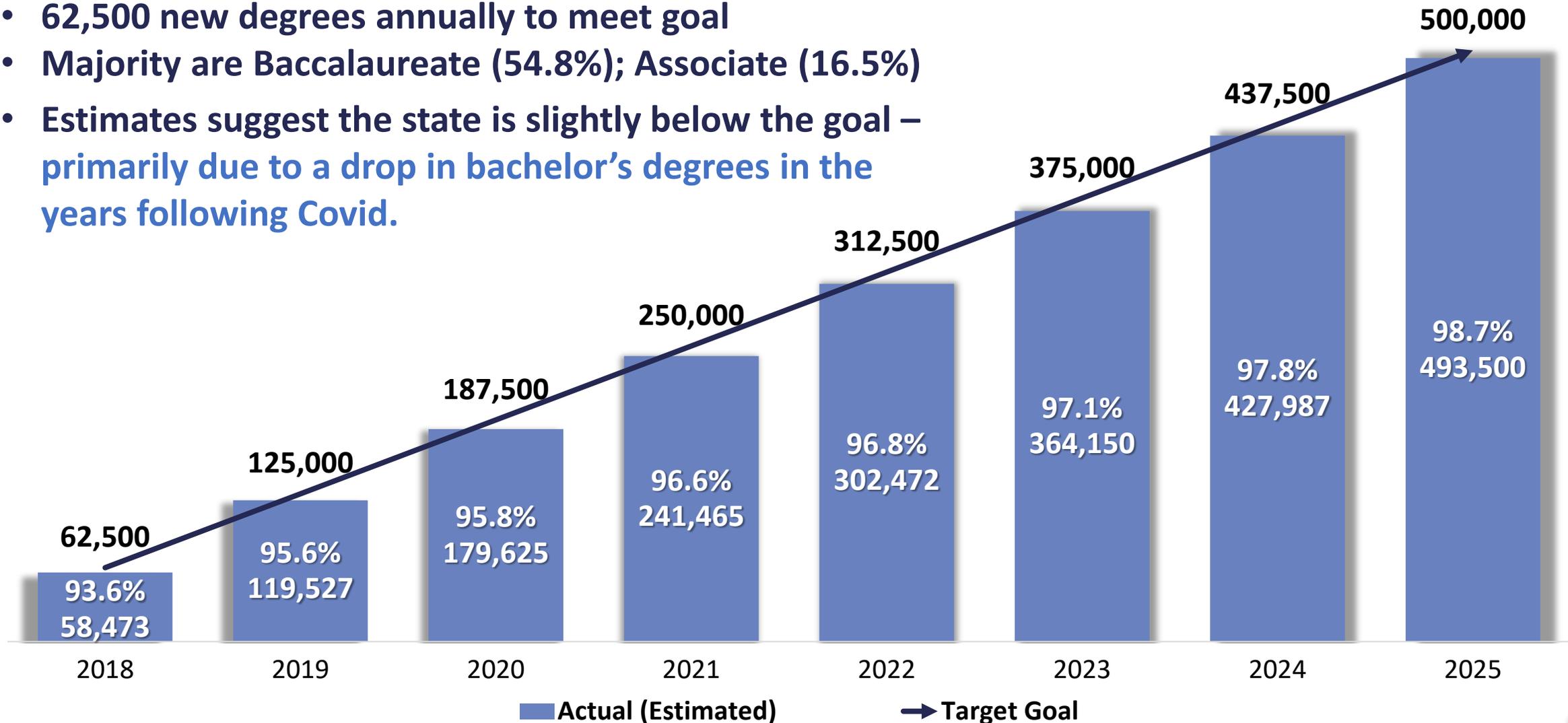


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey (Public Use Microdata Samples); IPUMS.



# Success Plus: 500K New Degree Earners by 2025

- Success Plus: 500K New Degrees from 2018 to 2025
- 62,500 new degrees annually to meet goal
- Majority are Baccalaureate (54.8%); Associate (16.5%)
- Estimates suggest the state is slightly below the goal – primarily due to a drop in bachelor’s degrees in the years following Covid.





# Alabama Commission on Higher Education Employment Outcomes Report 2024



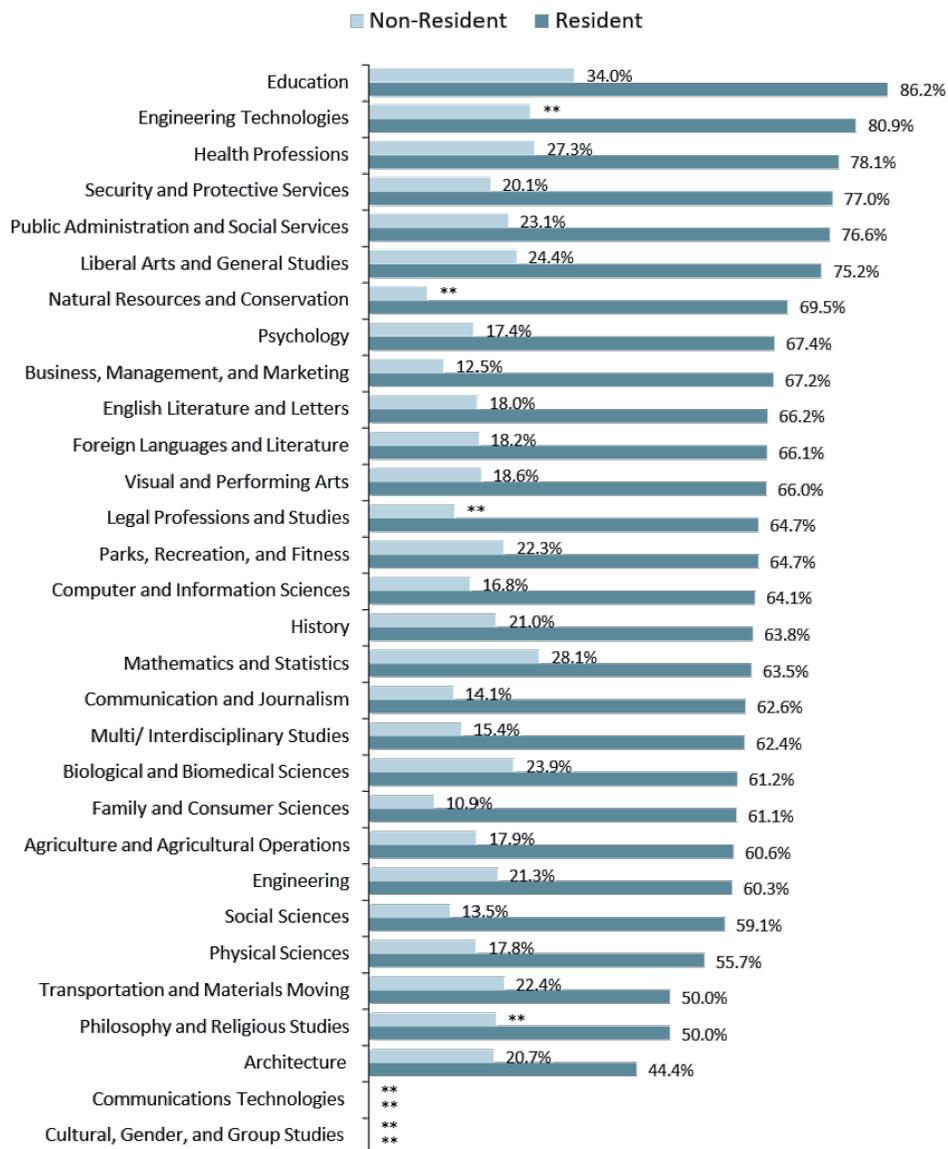
[www.ache.edu](http://www.ache.edu)

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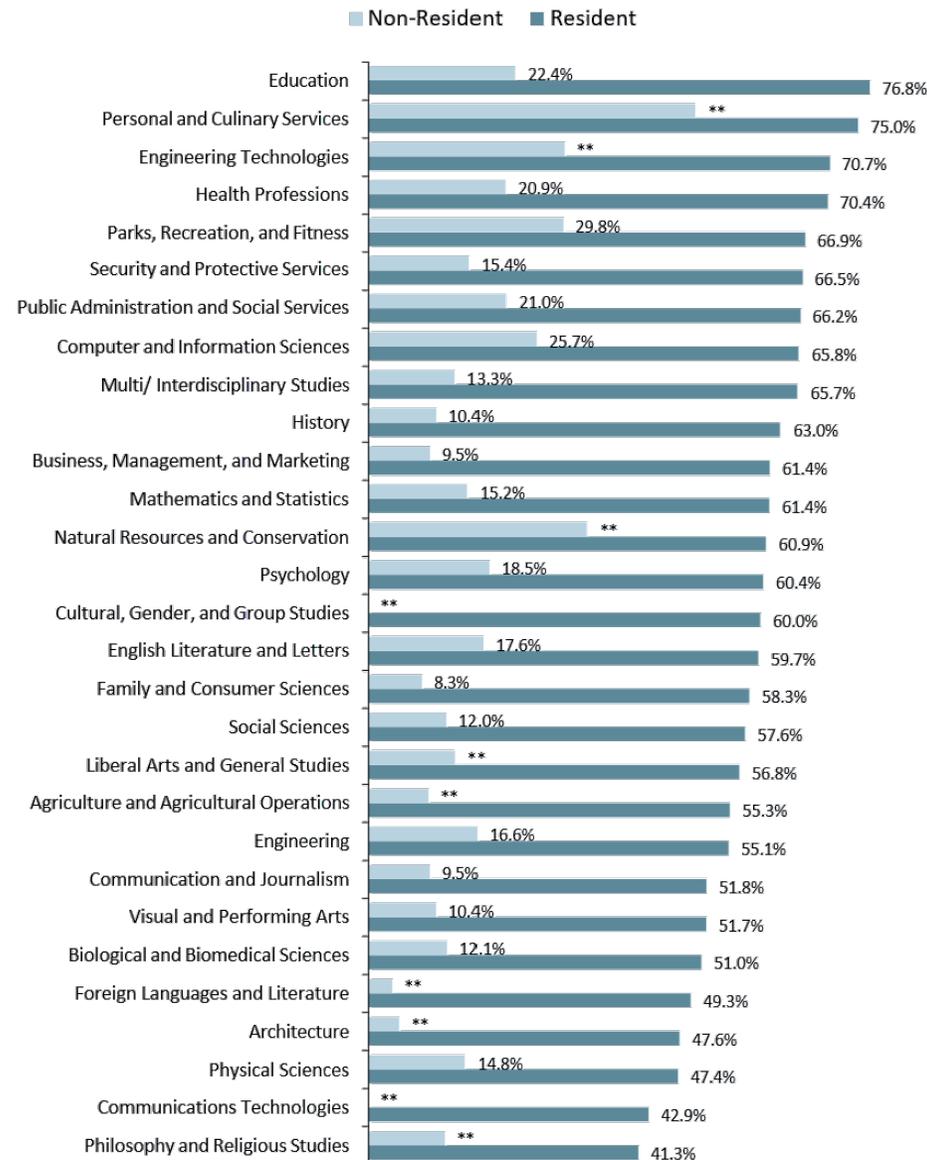


## Alabama Employment Rates by Field of Study for Resident and Non-Resident 2022 Bachelor's Degree Graduates – After One Year



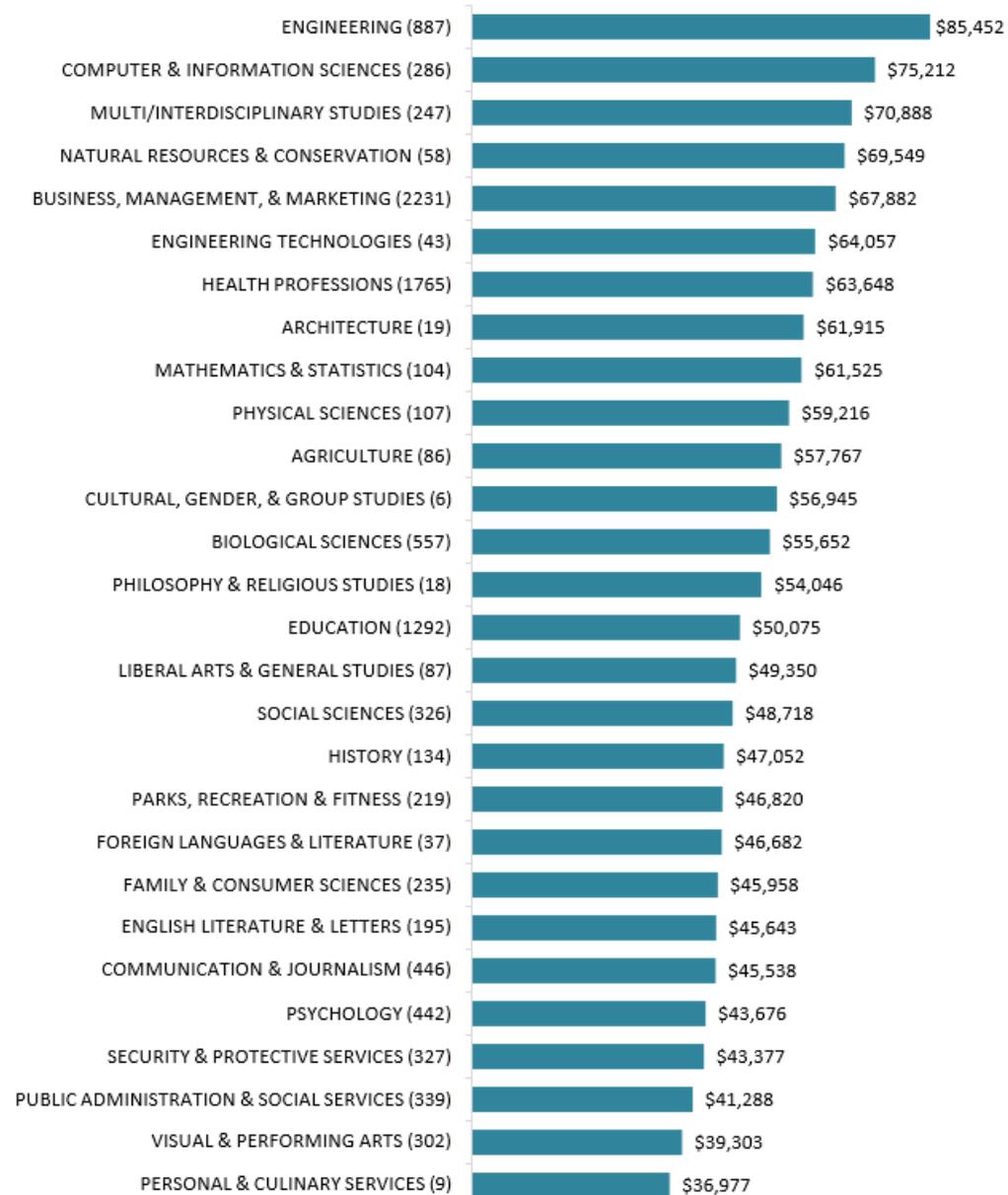
Note: \*\* indicates data not reported for 5 or fewer graduates or employed graduates.

## Alabama Employment Rates by Field of Study for Resident and Non-Resident 2017 Bachelor's Degree Graduates – After Five Years



Note: \*\* indicates data not reported for 5 or fewer graduates or employed graduates.

## Average Salaries by Field of Study for All Residents 2017 Bachelor's Degree Recipients – After Five Years



## Average Salaries by Field of Study for All Bachelor's Degree Recipients

Field of Study	After Five Years				After One Year			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2019	2020	2021	2022
AGRICULTURE	\$49,210	\$50,599	\$56,756	\$57,767	\$33,338	\$31,149	\$40,901	\$44,950
ARCHITECTURE	\$48,736	\$51,753	\$50,069	\$61,915	\$37,511	\$33,350	\$41,864	\$44,570
AREA AND ETHNIC STUDIES	\$37,127	**	**	\$56,945	**	\$25,049	\$24,923	**
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES	\$51,290	\$54,538	\$58,486	\$55,652	\$22,127	\$29,048	\$25,053	\$25,893
BUSINESS, MGT AND MARKETING	\$55,632	\$58,224	\$61,351	\$67,882	\$39,225	\$41,505	\$42,778	\$45,577
COMMUNICATIONS	\$41,810	\$40,867	\$43,332	\$45,538	\$25,856	\$26,368	\$31,502	\$31,582
COMMUNICATIONS TECH	\$26,983	**	**	**	\$19,786	\$22,630	\$23,113	\$27,897
COMPUTER AND INFO SCIENCES	\$64,639	\$69,693	\$73,949	\$75,212	\$52,958	\$55,797	\$53,296	\$55,381
CONSTRUCTION TRADES								
EDUCATION	\$42,491	\$43,801	\$48,364	\$50,075	\$34,384	\$36,005	\$37,802	\$39,086
ENGINEERING	\$74,470	\$81,037	\$82,716	\$85,452	\$58,021	\$57,762	\$60,987	\$65,284
ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIES	\$56,537	\$66,756	\$67,797	\$64,057	\$52,856	\$43,229	\$53,746	\$61,249
ENGLISH LITERATURE AND LETTERS	\$34,884	\$35,974	\$40,652	\$45,643	\$27,052	\$28,290	\$29,144	\$29,706
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES	\$39,120	\$39,907	\$42,551	\$45,958	\$28,400	\$28,654	\$32,806	\$33,563
FOREIGN LANG AND LITERATURE	\$37,366	\$36,404	\$41,785	\$46,682	\$28,827	\$30,386	\$30,784	\$45,977
HEALTH PROFESSIONS	\$56,931	\$57,641	\$63,253	\$63,648	\$46,176	\$51,740	\$53,650	\$56,793
HISTORY	\$38,973	\$41,284	\$41,513	\$47,052	\$27,404	\$28,900	\$30,037	\$30,936
SECURITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES	\$41,117	\$44,463	\$45,337	\$43,377	\$30,392	\$30,718	\$33,278	\$35,089
LEGAL PROFESSIONS AND STUDIES							**	\$26,267
LIBERAL ARTS AND GENERAL STUDIES	\$41,170	\$46,411	\$44,696	\$49,350	\$34,533	\$37,721	\$36,413	\$40,905
LIBRARY SCIENCE								
MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS	\$51,136	\$58,825	\$59,371	\$61,525	\$38,702	\$40,709	\$45,177	\$43,682
MECHANIC AND REPAIR TECH								
MILITARY APPLIED SCIENCES								
MULTI/INTERDISCIPLINE STUDIES	\$50,353	\$44,756	\$47,159	\$70,888	\$49,800	\$48,165	\$49,305	\$42,950
NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERV	\$48,330	\$57,587	\$49,159	\$69,549	\$27,791	\$32,032	\$35,396	\$35,461
PARKS, RECREATION AND FITNESS	\$36,293	\$45,648	\$43,027	\$46,820	\$22,894	\$25,854	\$26,591	\$24,736
PERSONAL AND CULINARY SERVICES			**	\$36,977	\$19,486	\$22,338		
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES	\$44,865	\$46,623	\$37,865	\$54,046	\$24,911	\$20,614	\$28,418	\$28,848
PHYSICAL SCIENCES	\$56,573	\$54,406	\$58,972	\$59,216	\$32,819	\$37,899	\$33,163	\$37,930
PRECISION PRODUCTION								
PSYCHOLOGY	\$36,140	\$37,561	\$40,099	\$43,676	\$23,295	\$25,426	\$26,612	\$28,027
PUBLIC ADMIN AND SOCIAL SERVICES	\$35,391	\$38,106	\$38,771	\$41,288	\$26,604	\$28,856	\$30,966	\$29,162
SCIENCE TECH AND TECHNICIANS								
SOCIAL SCIENCES	\$41,315	\$43,587	\$46,791	\$48,718	\$26,961	\$28,274	\$29,823	\$31,126
TRANSPORT AND MATERIAL MOVING					\$15,780	\$26,192	\$30,600	\$32,663
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS	\$34,354	\$34,931	\$37,668	\$39,303	\$24,723	\$25,236	\$27,028	\$29,104

Note: Asterisks (\*\*) indicate data withheld to protect the privacy of individuals.

Data are not reported for 5 or fewer graduates or employed graduates.

## Average Salaries by Field of Study for All Associate Degree Recipients

Field of Study	After Five Years				After One Year			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2019	2020	2021	2022
AGRICULTURE	**	**	**	**	**	\$28,740	\$27,844	\$32,821
ARCHITECTURE								
AREA AND ETHNIC STUDIES								
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES								
BUSINESS, MGT AND MARKETING	\$29,711	\$31,910	\$33,216	\$35,306	\$25,785	\$28,175	\$31,871	\$31,783
COMMUNICATIONS								
COMMUNICATIONS TECH	**	\$24,478	**	\$24,409	\$14,684	\$17,959	\$14,884	\$18,872
COMPUTER AND INFO SCIENCES	\$37,695	\$42,403	\$44,568	\$48,330	\$30,039	\$31,959	\$34,570	\$39,369
CONSTRUCTION TRADES	\$57,232	\$56,858	\$60,447	\$59,556	\$37,623	\$40,670	\$37,961	\$49,559
EDUCATION								
ENGINEERING								
ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIES	\$49,899	\$54,146	\$54,579	\$59,355	\$39,117	\$42,891	\$47,686	\$46,920
ENGLISH LITERATURE AND LETTERS								
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES	\$23,507	\$25,571	\$26,359	\$26,178	\$21,205	\$19,373	\$23,630	\$27,065
FOREIGN LANG AND LITERATURE								
HEALTH PROFESSIONS	\$46,470	\$47,288	\$54,427	\$56,054	\$43,921	\$49,843	\$52,675	\$53,980
HISTORY								
SECURITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES	\$38,756	\$42,340	\$40,651	\$46,249	\$29,325	\$32,779	\$38,604	\$41,061
LEGAL PROFESSIONS AND STUDIES	\$22,600	\$32,751	\$39,651	\$31,631	\$23,225	\$27,248	\$28,090	\$32,470
LIBERAL ARTS AND GENERAL STUDIES	\$35,938	\$38,459	\$43,440	\$44,057	\$23,300	\$29,142	\$26,702	\$26,828
LIBRARY SCIENCE								
MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS								
MECHANIC AND REPAIR TECH	\$53,917	\$60,491	\$68,069	\$70,361	\$46,583	\$46,983	\$52,712	\$56,176
MILITARY APPLIED SCIENCES	**	**						
MULTI/INTERDISCIPLINE STUDIES	\$37,441	\$44,686	\$42,957	\$49,861	\$35,660	\$31,311	\$35,477	\$43,921
NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERV	\$32,151	**		**	**	**	**	**
PARKS, RECREATION AND FITNESS	**	**		**		**		
PERSONAL AND CULINARY SERVICES	\$30,653	\$31,242	\$29,050	\$38,474	\$24,510	\$24,246	\$22,242	\$24,322
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES								
PHYSICAL SCIENCES								
PRECISION PRODUCTION	\$47,318	\$48,224	\$64,103	\$55,940	\$43,085	\$37,701	\$40,331	\$50,439
PSYCHOLOGY								
PUBLIC ADMIN AND SOCIAL SERVICES		**						
SCIENCE TECH AND TECHNICIANS	\$80,024	**	**	**	**			
SOCIAL SCIENCES								
TRANSPORT AND MATERIAL MOVING		**	**	**	**	**		**
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS	\$30,881	\$31,356	\$35,656	\$32,822	\$16,562	\$15,659	\$22,171	\$21,670

**Note:** Asterisks (\*\*) indicate data withheld to protect the privacy of individuals.  
Data are not reported for 5 or fewer graduates or employed graduates.



# Alabama Commission on Higher Education FY 2026-2027 Executive Budget Request

- **ACHE** has a unique budget structure that primarily **earmarks funds** for specific educational activities and serves as a pass-through for statewide education initiatives, encompassing **54 programs across six appropriation units**.
- When reviewing ACHE funding, consider excluding pass-through programs from ACHE's 5.75% funding cap.

# Alabama Commission on Higher Education FY 2026-2027 Executive Budget Request

- **ACHE requests a total of \$96,305,371 for FY26-27.**
- **ACHE requests \$87,674,213 from the Educational Trust Fund (ETF), reflecting a modest \$2,484,050 increase for existing Cost Centers.**
  - **Approximately 74% for state student financial aid programs and 26% for other educational initiatives**
  - **Includes minimal O&M increase of \$169,050**

# FY 2027 Increase Requests for Existing Programs

**\$1,500,000** for the following state aid programs:

- **\$500,000** Alabama Student Assistance Program (**ASAP**)
- **\$500,000** Alabama Student Grant Program (**ASGP**)
- **\$500,000** Alabama National Guard Scholarship Program (**ANGEAP**)

**\$200,000** Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR)

**\$200,000** Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL)

**\$200,000** Alabama Transfers - Articulation System (STARS)

**\$100,000** Pathways to Progress

**\$60,000** Adaptive Sports for extra costs regarding the Special Olympics

**\$50,000** SARA Reciprocity

**\$5,000** Credential Registry

# FY 2027 Increase Requests for Existing Programs

**\$1,500,000** for the following state aid programs:

- **\$500,000** Alabama Student Assistance Program (**ASAP**) is Need-Based Aid
- **\$500,000** Alabama Student Grant Program (**ASGP**)
- **\$500,000** Alabama National Guard Scholarship Program (**ANGEAP**)

**\$200,000** Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR)

**\$200,000** Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL)

**\$200,000** Alabama Transfers - Articulation System (STARS)

**\$100,000** Pathways to Progress

**\$60,000** Adaptive Sports for extra costs regarding the Special Olympics

**ACHE has been advised to no longer charge costs associated with Appropriation Unit 189, Support of State Programs (pass-throughs items) and instead expense them to O&M.**

**In FY 2025, associated costs for managing these pass-throughs was \$497,290.**



# Additional Requests for FY 2027 Consideration

**\$8,000,000 Law Enforcement Officers' Family Scholarship Program FY 2026**  
**\$8M rolled over plus \$8M = \$16M**

**Request: Redirect \$1.26M of these funds to add to O&M and the following programs.**

**\$500,000** Operations and Maintenance

**\$500,000** Alabama Student Assistance Program (ASAP)

**\$200,000** Network of Alabama Academic Libraries (NAAL)

**\$60,000** Adaptive Sports for extra costs regarding the Special Olympics

# Consolidated Budget Recommendation (CBR) FY 2026-2027

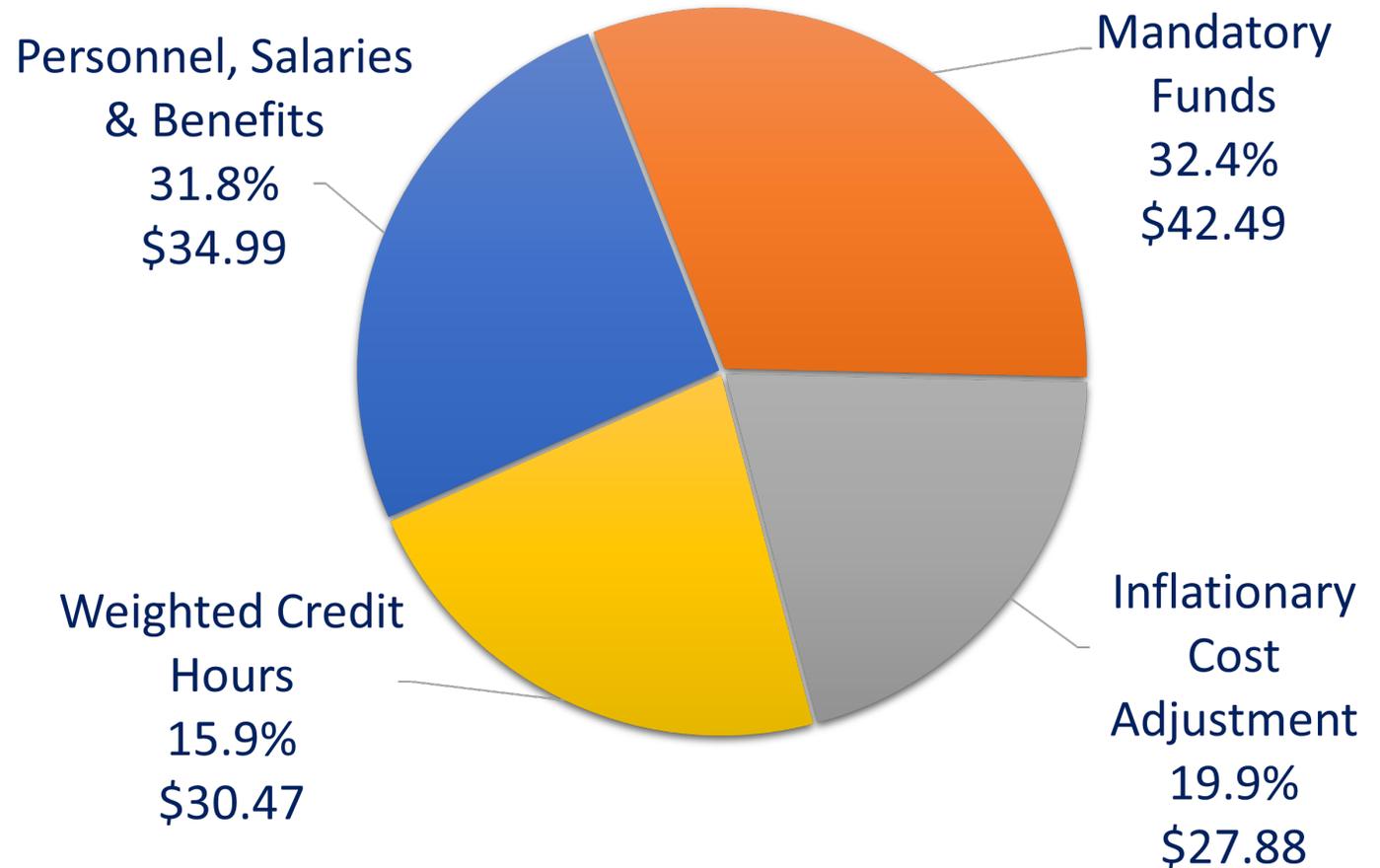
Section 16-5-9(b) of the Code of Alabama states that “...The Commission ... shall present to each institution and the Governor and Legislature, a single unified budget report containing budget recommendations for the separate appropriations to each of the institutions.”

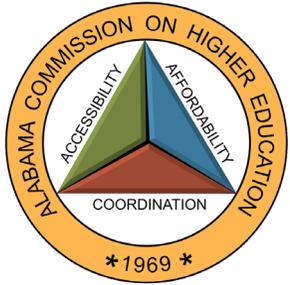


# CBR Increases for FY 2026-2027

- \$135.83 million (**6.02%**) increase for public institutions
- \$12.27 million (**3.85%**) increase for state-level programs
- \$148.09 million (**5.75%**) total increase aligned with 6% cap legislative requirement

## Financial Focus Areas for Public Institutions



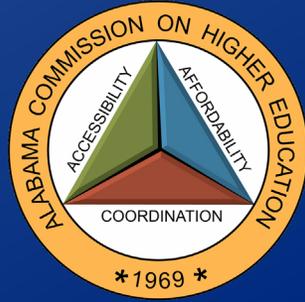


# FY 2026-2027 Consolidated Budget Recommendation

Institution	FY 2026-2027			FY 2026-2027	FY 2026-2027	% Increase CBR
	FY 2025-2026 Appropriation*	Institutional EBO Request	% Increase EBO Request	Consolidated Budget Recommendation	Amount CBR Increase	
Alabama A&M University	\$ 61,115,089	\$ 81,414,715	33.22%	\$ 65,231,774	\$ 4,116,685	6.74%
Alabama State University	\$ 66,556,368	\$ 76,524,823	14.98%	\$ 69,975,935	\$ 3,419,567	5.14%
Athens State University	\$ 23,502,462	\$ 27,600,500	17.44%	\$ 25,132,825	\$ 1,630,363	6.94%
Auburn University	\$ 379,246,504	\$ 416,864,642	9.92%	\$ 398,736,374	\$ 19,489,870	5.14%
Auburn University at Montgomery	\$ 34,989,116	\$ 38,476,536	9.97%	\$ 36,795,809	\$ 1,806,693	5.16%
Jacksonville State University	\$ 61,933,407	\$ 68,746,082	11.00%	\$ 67,428,825	\$ 5,495,418	8.87%
Troy University	\$ 87,931,064	\$ 94,075,000	6.99%	\$ 92,957,256	\$ 5,026,192	5.72%
University of Alabama	\$ 266,214,571	\$ 291,843,868	9.63%	\$ 282,463,337	\$ 16,248,766	6.10%
University of Alabama at Birmingham	\$ 416,907,358	\$ 457,372,019	9.71%	\$ 443,838,582	\$ 26,931,224	6.46%
University of Alabama in Huntsville	\$ 77,280,307	\$ 128,278,338	65.99%	\$ 81,371,896	\$ 4,091,589	5.29%
University of Montevallo	\$ 33,018,738	\$ 39,622,486	20.00%	\$ 34,725,623	\$ 1,706,885	5.17%
University of North Alabama	\$ 57,665,778	\$ 65,825,000	14.15%	\$ 60,778,675	\$ 3,112,897	5.40%
University of South Alabama	\$ 171,209,511	\$ 188,560,463	10.13%	\$ 181,413,176	\$ 10,203,665	5.96%
University of West Alabama	\$ 34,218,443	\$ 38,104,000	11.36%	\$ 36,493,796	\$ 2,275,353	6.65%
<b>Total Universities</b>	<b>\$ 1,771,788,716</b>	<b>\$ 2,013,308,472</b>	<b>13.63%</b>	<b>\$ 1,877,343,883</b>	<b>\$ 105,555,167</b>	<b>5.96%</b>
<b>Total Community Colleges**</b>	<b>\$ 485,311,163</b>	<b>\$ 573,932,006</b>	<b>18.26%</b>	<b>\$ 515,584,724</b>	<b>\$ 30,273,561</b>	<b>6.24%</b>
<b>Total All Public Institutions</b>	<b>\$ 2,257,099,879</b>	<b>\$ 2,587,240,478</b>	<b>14.63%</b>	<b>\$ 2,392,928,607</b>	<b>\$ 135,828,728</b>	<b>6.02%</b>
<b>All State-Level Programs</b>	<b>\$ 318,519,301</b>	<b>\$ 397,209,536</b>	<b>24.71%</b>	<b>\$ 330,788,676</b>	<b>\$ 12,269,375</b>	<b>3.85%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,575,619,180</b>	<b>\$ 2,984,450,014</b>	<b>15.87%</b>	<b>\$ 2,723,717,283</b>	<b>\$ 148,098,103</b>	<b>5.75%</b>

Note: Some institutional EBO requests include capital projects (e.g., larger percent increases).





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