

Council of State Governments
78th Annual
Midwestern Legislative Conference

July 21-24, 2024

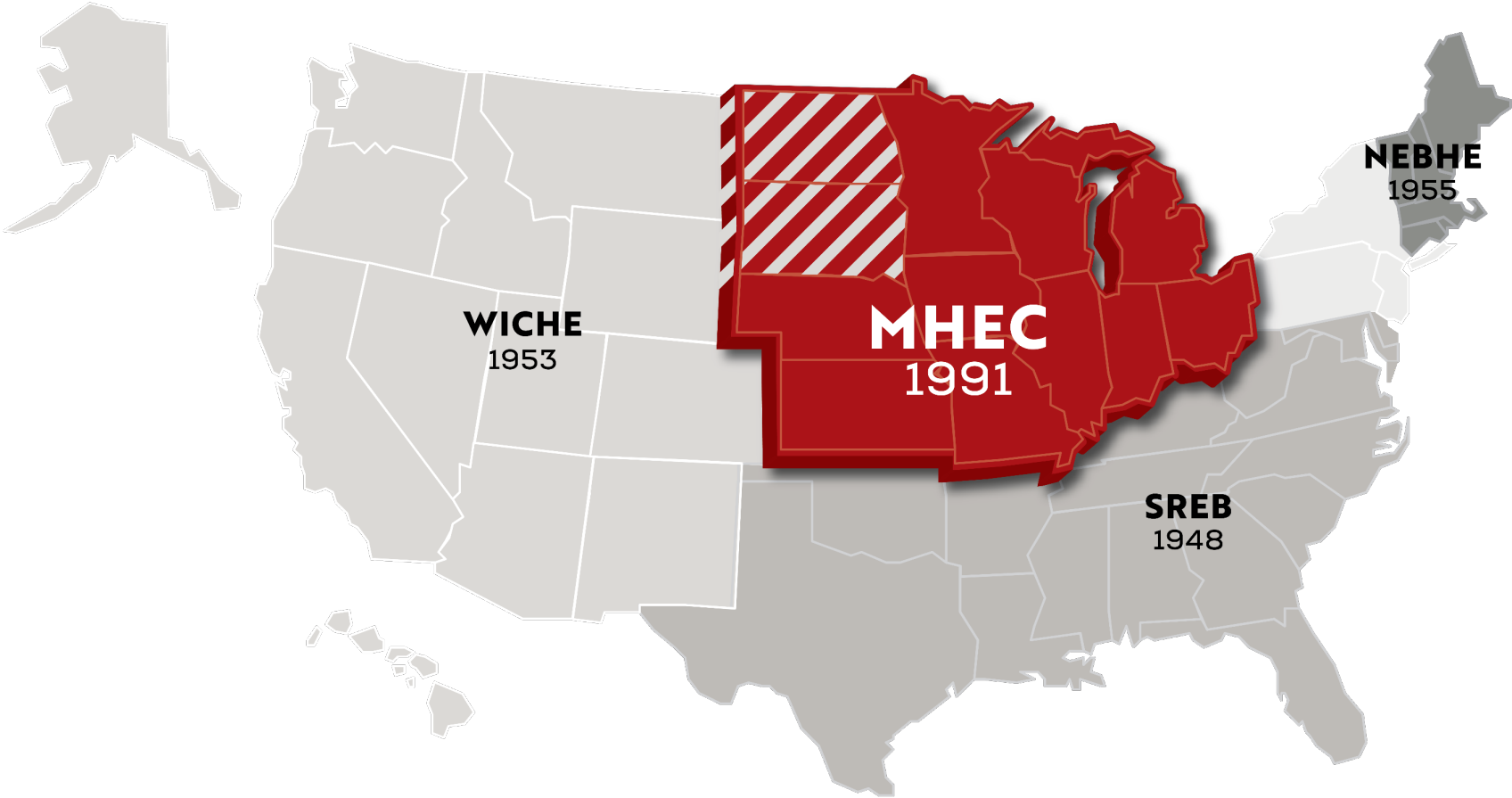
Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC)

Susan G. Heegaard, President

MHEC Background

- Legislatively created in 1991, CSG/Midwestern Legislative Conference origins
- 12 states (Midwest census region)
- One of four regional higher education compacts (MHEC, WICHE, SREB, NEBHE)
- Governed by 60 commissioners and alternates
- MHEC's annual state commitment is \$115,000
- What value/ROI do we provide?

Midwestern Higher Education Compact



Providing Value through Cost Savings, Contracts and Programs, Policy & Research

- Eligible entities include higher education institutions (including public and private not-for-profit), school districts, state and local governments, and students
- In FY23, MHEC states achieved savings of over \$67.87M in savings for member states.
- Students and their families saved an additional \$43.89M in tuition costs through MHEC's regional reciprocity program, the Midwest Student Exchange Program.

Effectiveness and Efficiency for Member States

- **Technology** - In FY23, MHEC colleges, universities, school districts, and state and local governments realized over \$31.59M in cost savings by purchasing \$351M of technology hardware, software, and services.
- **M-SARA** - In FY23, MHEC states saved over \$36.28M through the Midwestern-State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement
- **MHECare** - In the 2023-24 school year, institutions provided over 75,000 students protection from unexpected medical expenses or virtual mental health options. Additional property programs of insurance are in development.

Programs, Policy and Research Impacting the Region

- **Policy-Related Programs** - Dual Enrollment, Open Educational Resources (OER), State Authorization (M-SARA), Credentials and Learner Records
- **Research** - Reporting regularly on data trends informed by you as well as specific requests, interactive dashboard
- **Convening Opportunities** - Bringing together legislative, executive branch as well as higher education leaders to problem solve and share ideas

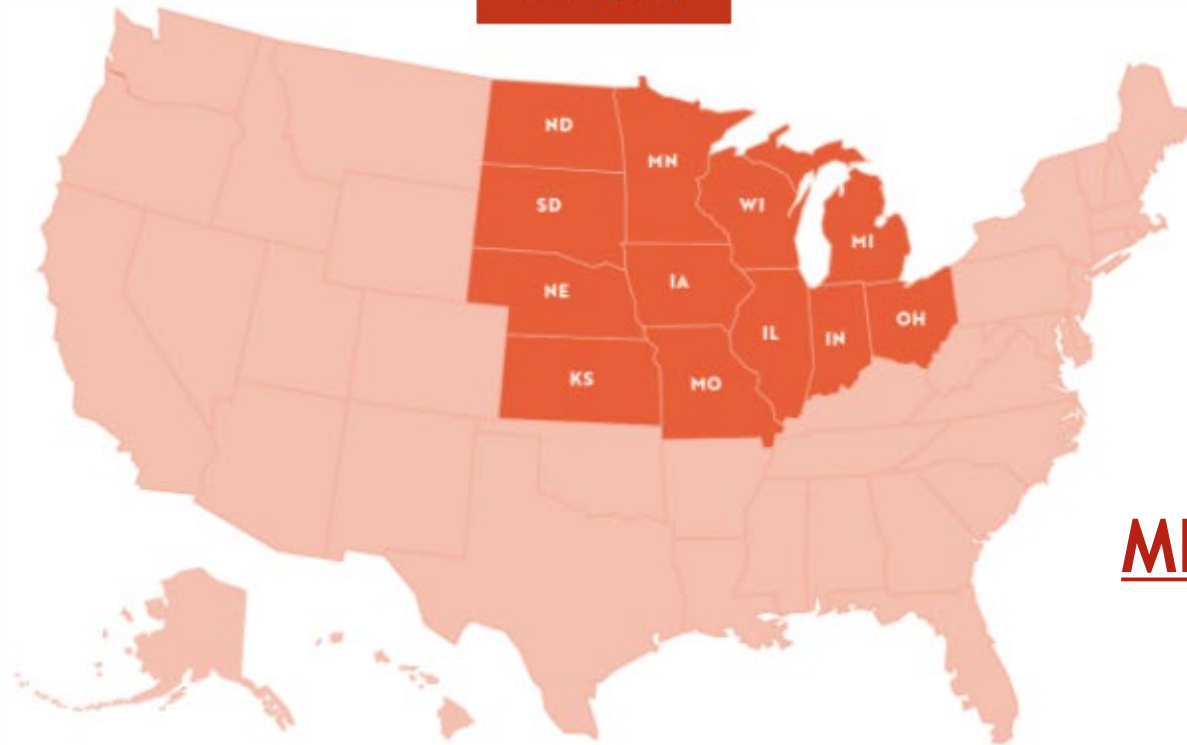
Interactive Dashboard



MHEC INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD

The Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) Interactive Dashboard provides data and key performance indicators relevant to the goal of improving educational attainment in the Midwest and across the nation. Indicators are organized within seven categories: Context, Preparation, Participation, Affordability, Completion, Finance, and Benefits. Several of these areas also portray a subcategory highlighting opportunity and achievement gaps by income, race, and ethnicity.

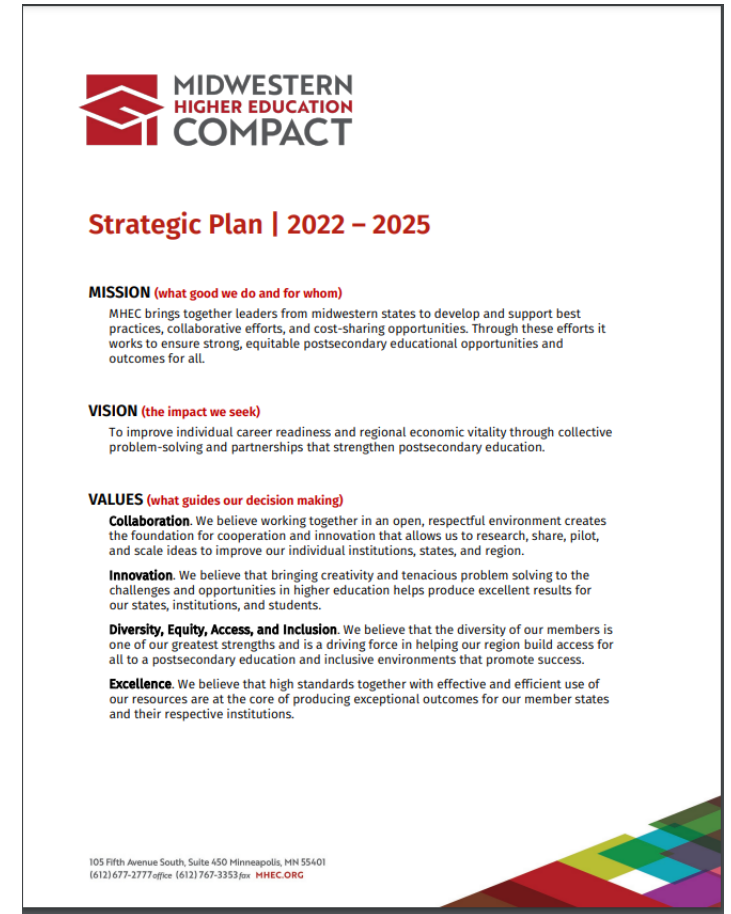
Start Exploring



[MHEC.ORG/dashboard](https://mhec.org/dashboard)

Strategic Plan | 2022-2025

- **Mission:** MHEC brings together midwestern states to develop and support best practices, collaborative efforts, and cost-sharing opportunities. Through these efforts it works to ensure strong, equitable postsecondary educational opportunities and outcomes for all.
- **Vision:** To improve individual career readiness and regional economic vitality through collective problem-solving and partnerships that strengthen postsecondary education.



<https://bit.ly/mhec-strategic-plan202225>

The Top State Priorities for Higher Education

- Economic and Workforce Development
- State Operating Support for Public Colleges and Universities
- Higher Education's Value Proposition
- College Affordability
- State Funding for Financial Aid Programs

Source: Harnisch, T., Burns, R., Heckert, K., Kunkle, K., & Weeden, D. (2024). State priorities for higher education in 2024. State Higher Education Executive Officers Association.

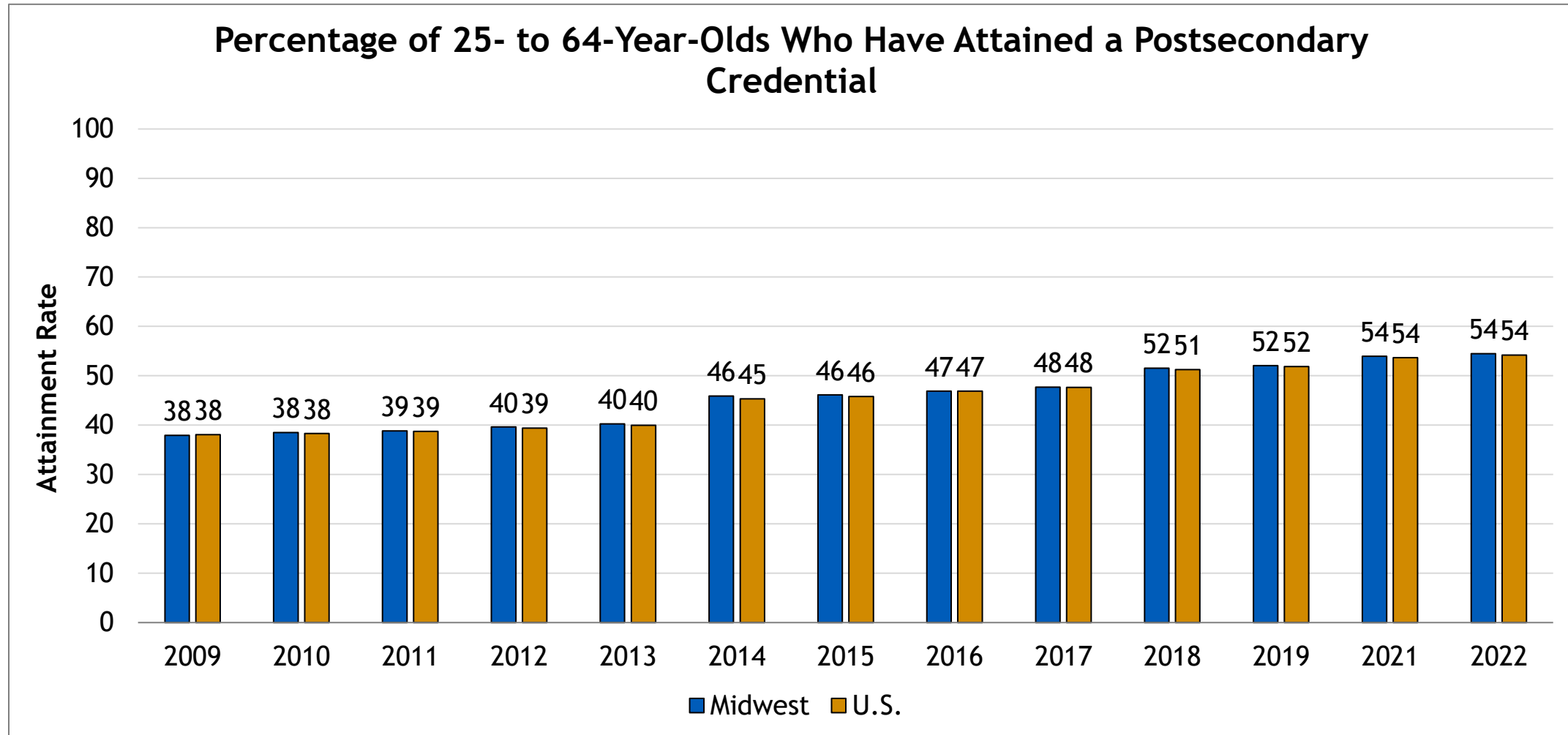
The Top State Priorities for Higher Education

(continued)

- Public Perception of Higher Education
- College Completion/Student Success
- Enrollment Declines
- K-12 Teacher Workforce
- Adult/Nontraditional Student Success

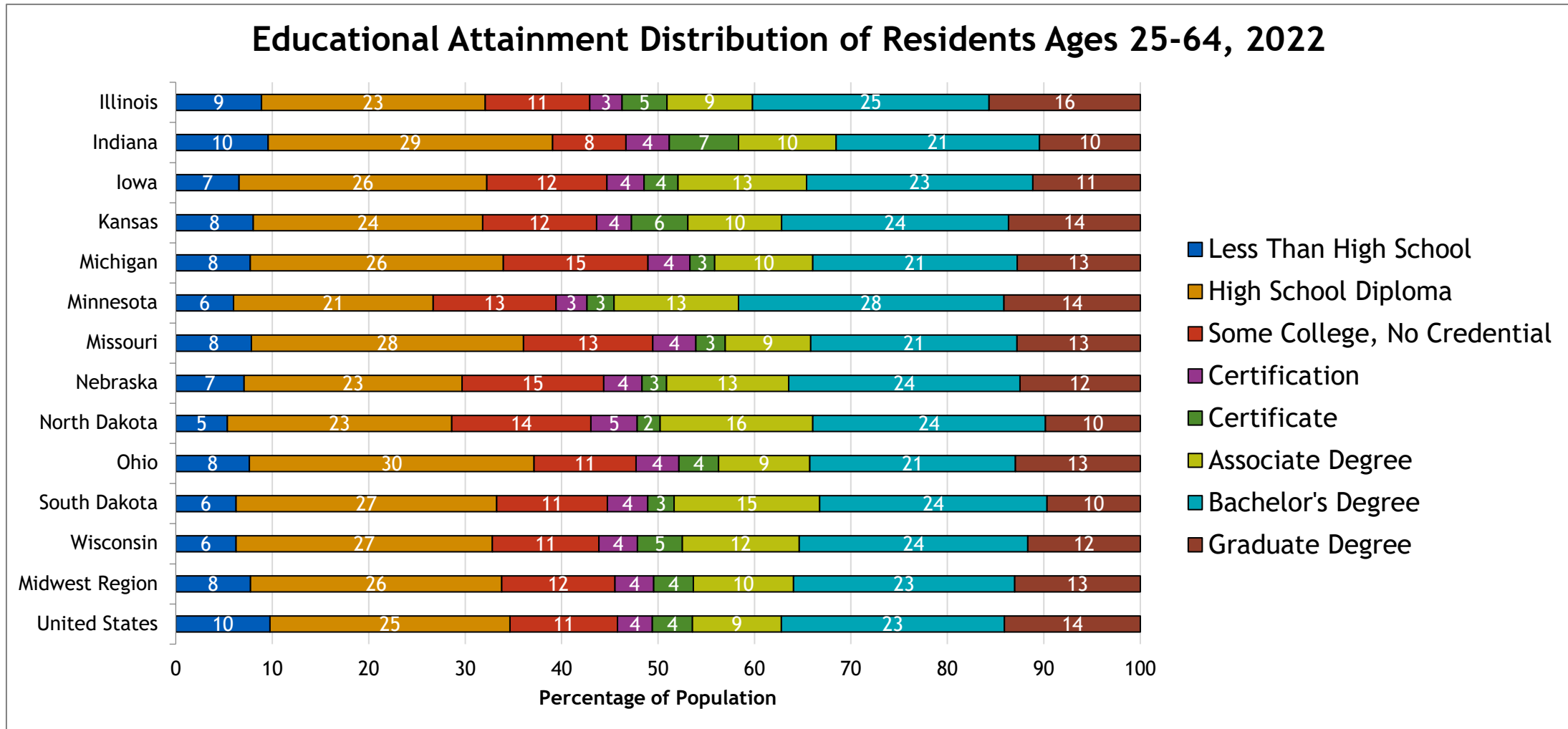
Source: Harnisch, T., Burns, R., Heckert, K., Kunkle, K., & Weeden, D. (2024). *State priorities for higher education in 2024*. State Higher Education Executive Officers Association.

Over the past decade, the Midwest postsecondary attainment rate has increased and is currently the same as the national attainment rate.



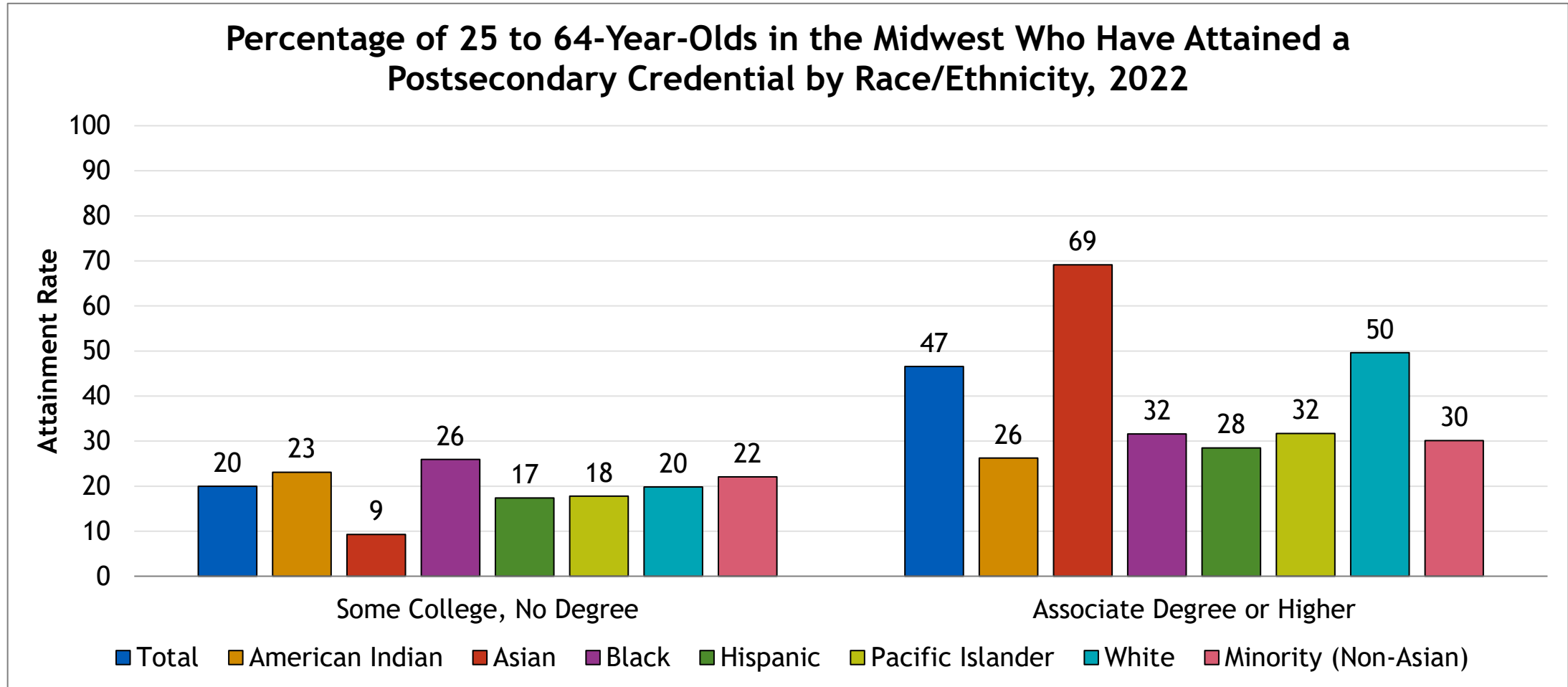
Source. Lumina Foundation. (2023). [A stronger nation](#). Note. The attainment estimate includes postsecondary certificates and industry-recognized certifications.

Midwest residents have attained various levels of postsecondary education, spanning from industry certifications and college certificates to bachelor's and graduate degrees.



Source. U.S. Census Bureau. *American Community Survey one-year estimates: Sex by age by educational attainment for the population 18 years and over*. Lumina Foundation. (2024). *A stronger nation*.

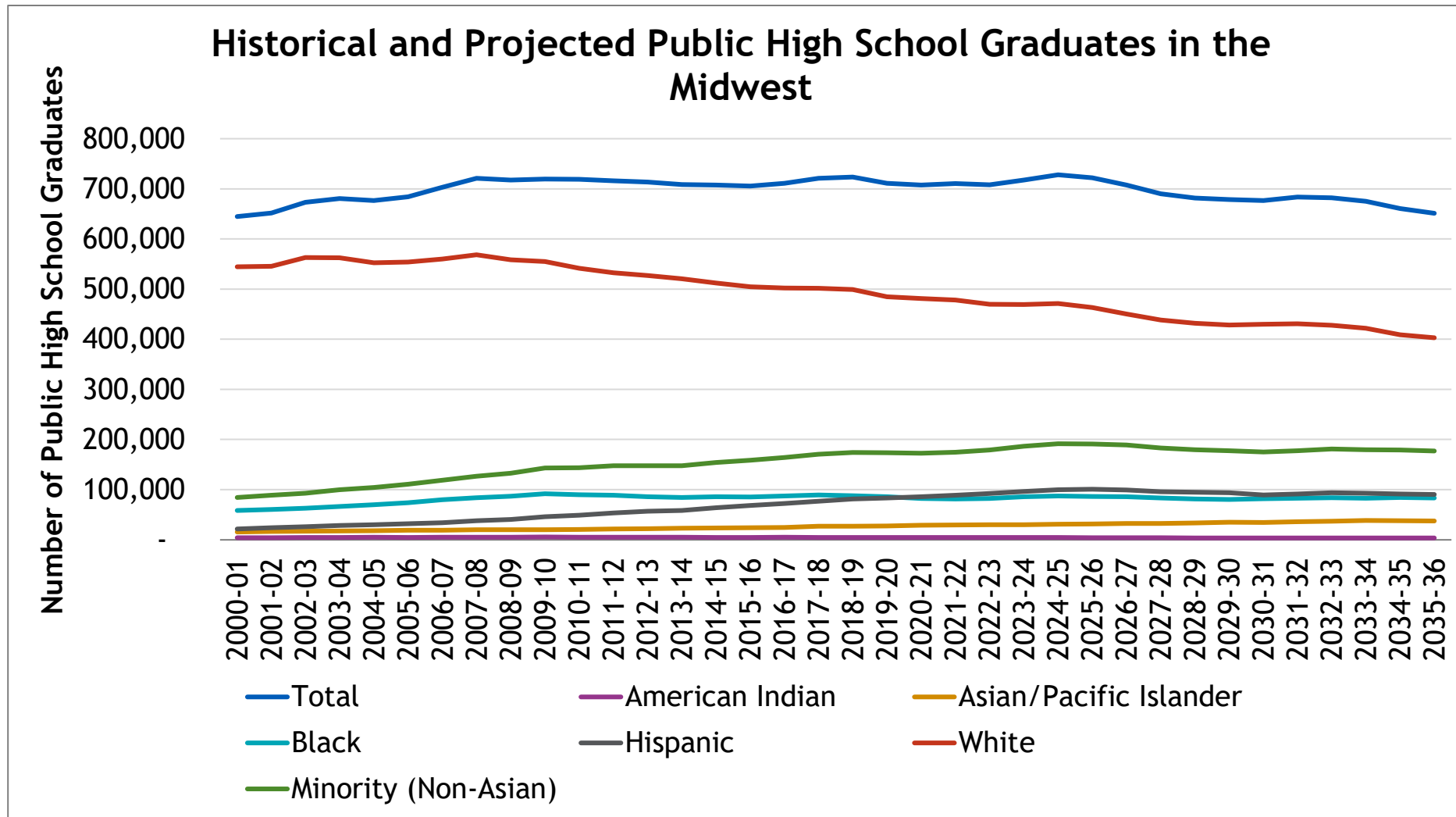
There are gaps in the proportion of adults with an associate degree or higher in the Midwest between most minority groups (American Indian, Black, Hispanic, and Pacific Islander) and White adults.



Source. U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). *American Community Survey 1-year estimates*.

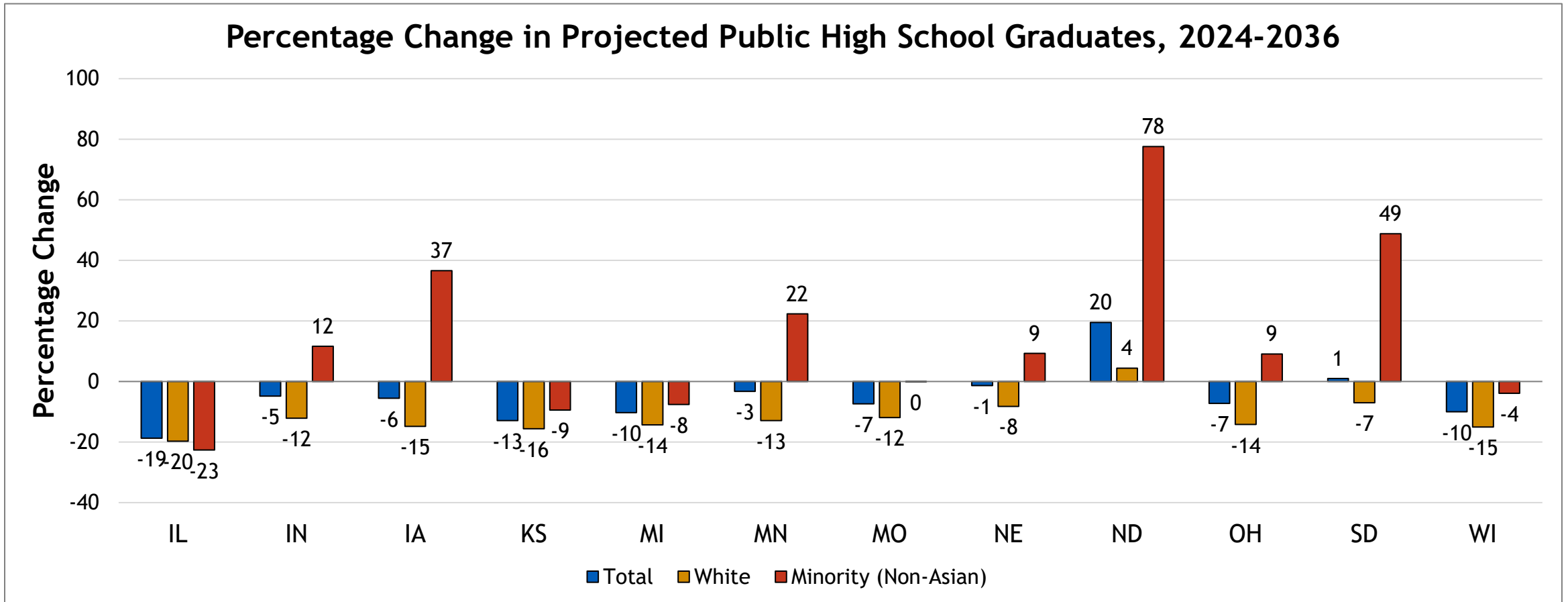
Note. College certificates are included within the “some college, no degree” category. The minority group excludes Asian adults due to their historically high college attainment rates. Some Asian subgroups have lower college attainment rates (e.g., Hmong) but cannot be separated from the Asian category.

The number of high school graduates in most minority groups is projected to decline slightly in the Midwest as a whole, compared to a sharper decline in the number of White high school graduates.



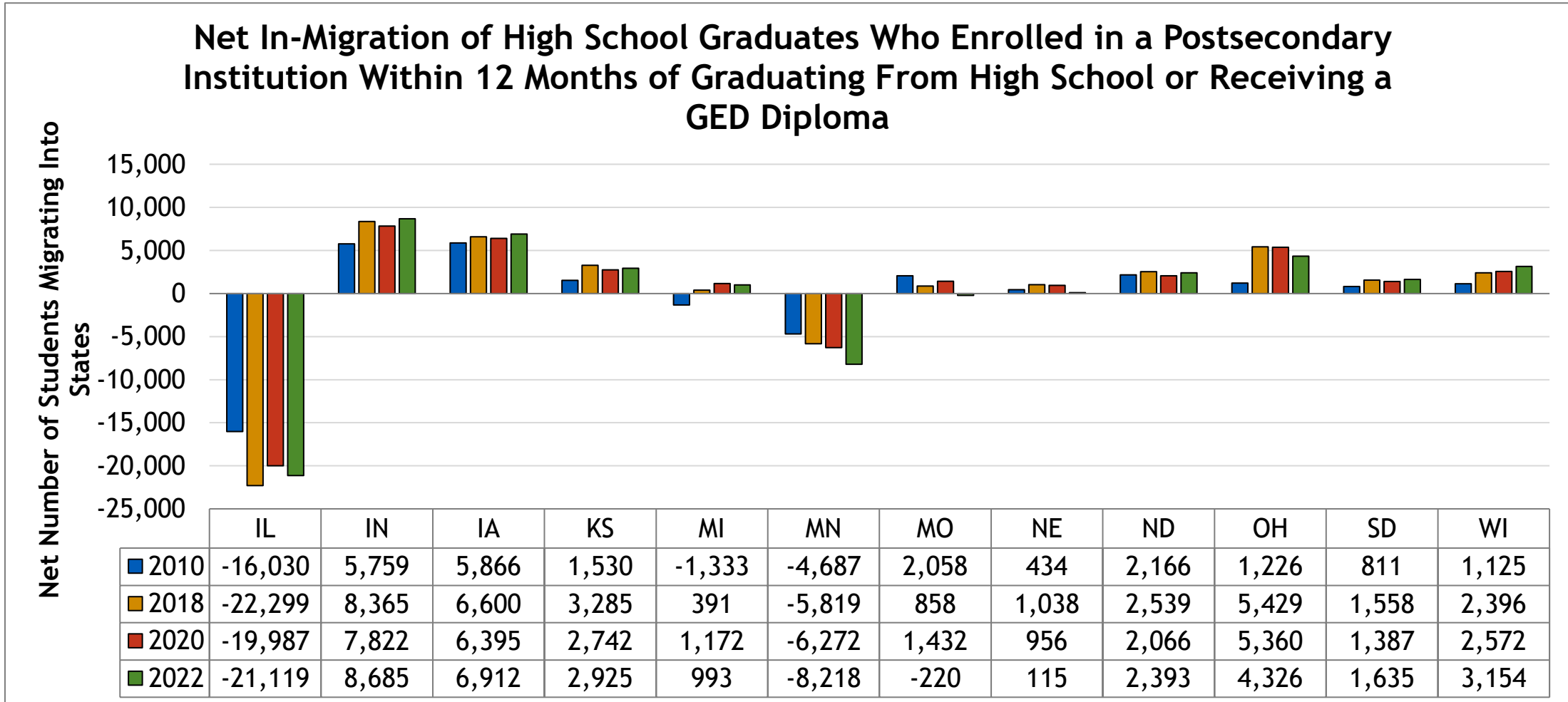
Source. WICHE. (2020). *Knocking at the college door*. The minority group excludes Asian high school graduates due to their historically high college attainment rates.

The number of high school graduates in most minority groups is projected to increase or remain stable across several Midwest states, compared to a projected decline in the number of White high school graduates in 11 Midwest states.



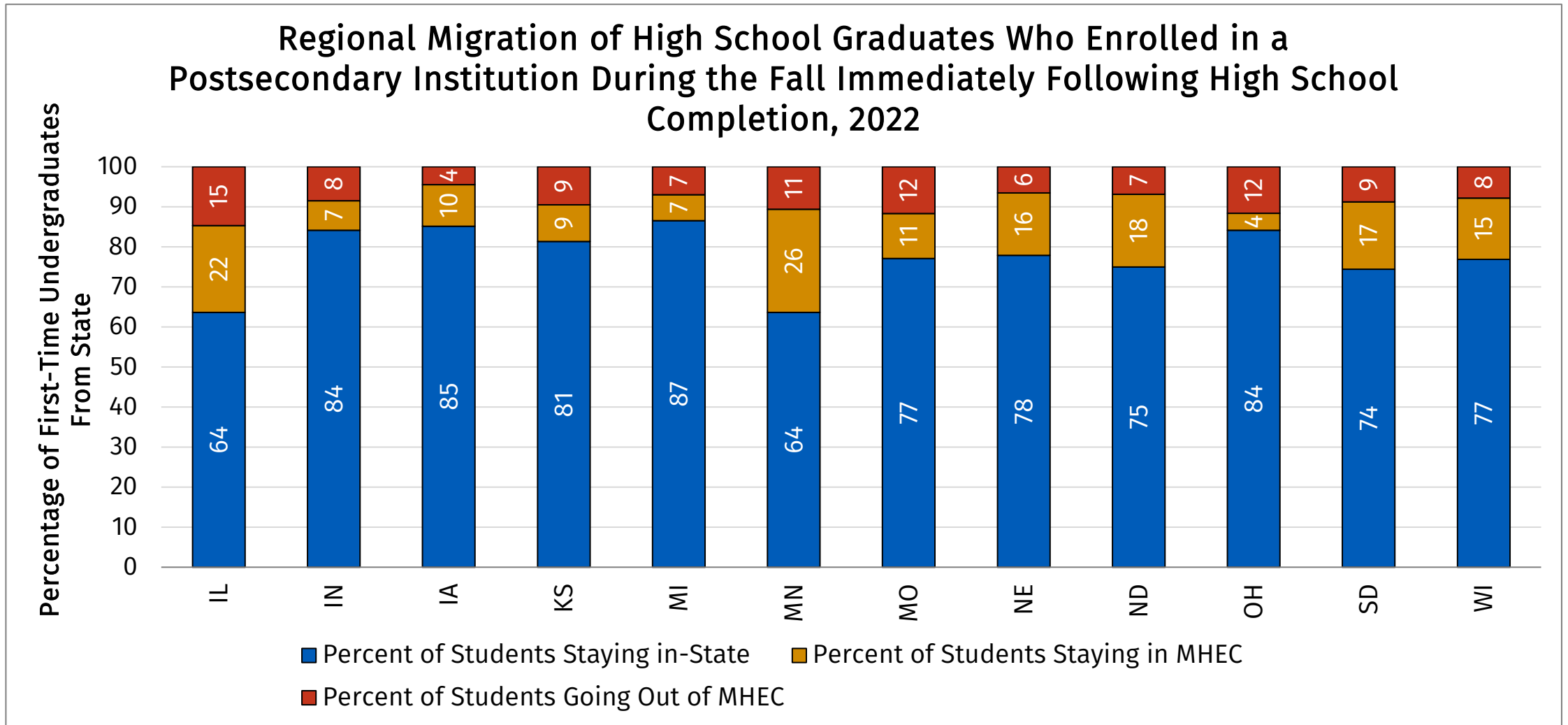
Source. WICHE. (2020). *Knocking at the college door*. The minority group excludes Asian high school graduates due to their historically high college attainment rates.

In nine Midwest states, more students migrate into the state than the number that migrate out. Net in-migration increased in six states between 2020 and 2022.



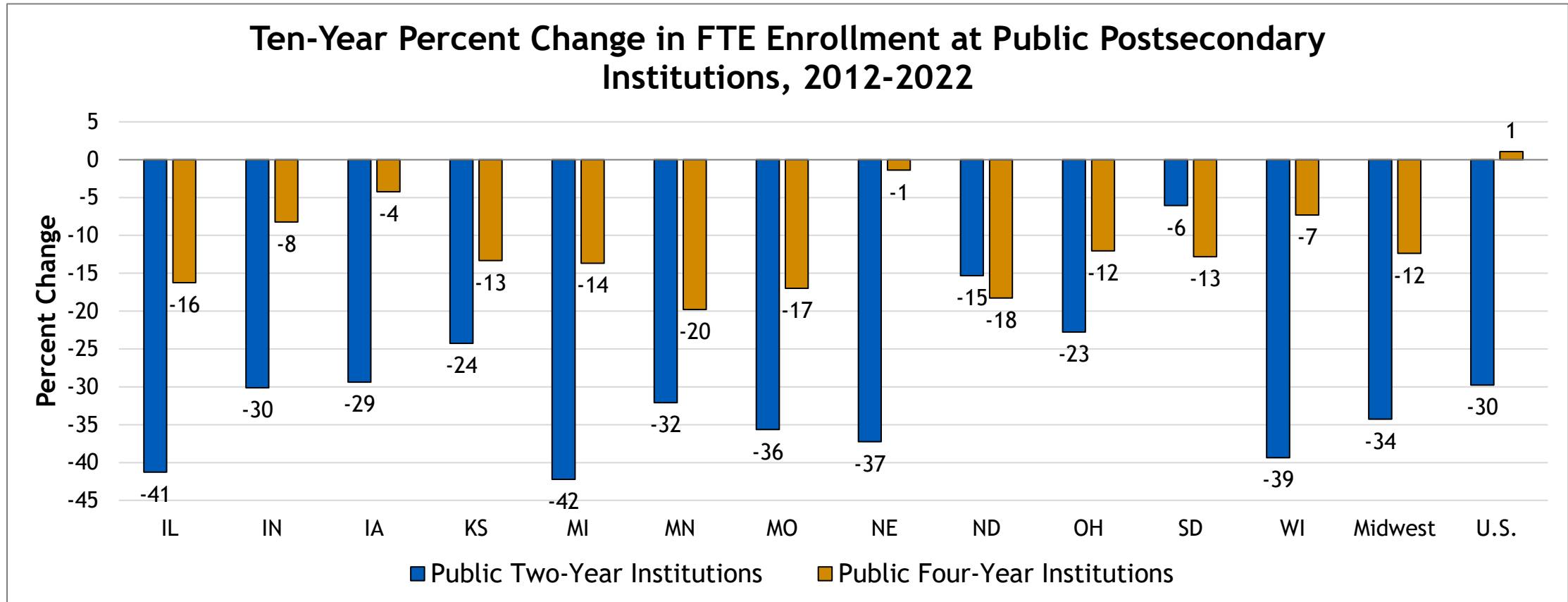
Source. NCES IPEDS. (2022). *Fall enrollment.*

Of first-time college students in Midwest states in 2022, 64% to 87% enrolled in state, 4% to 26% enrolled elsewhere in the Midwest, and 4% to 15% percent enrolled outside the Midwest.



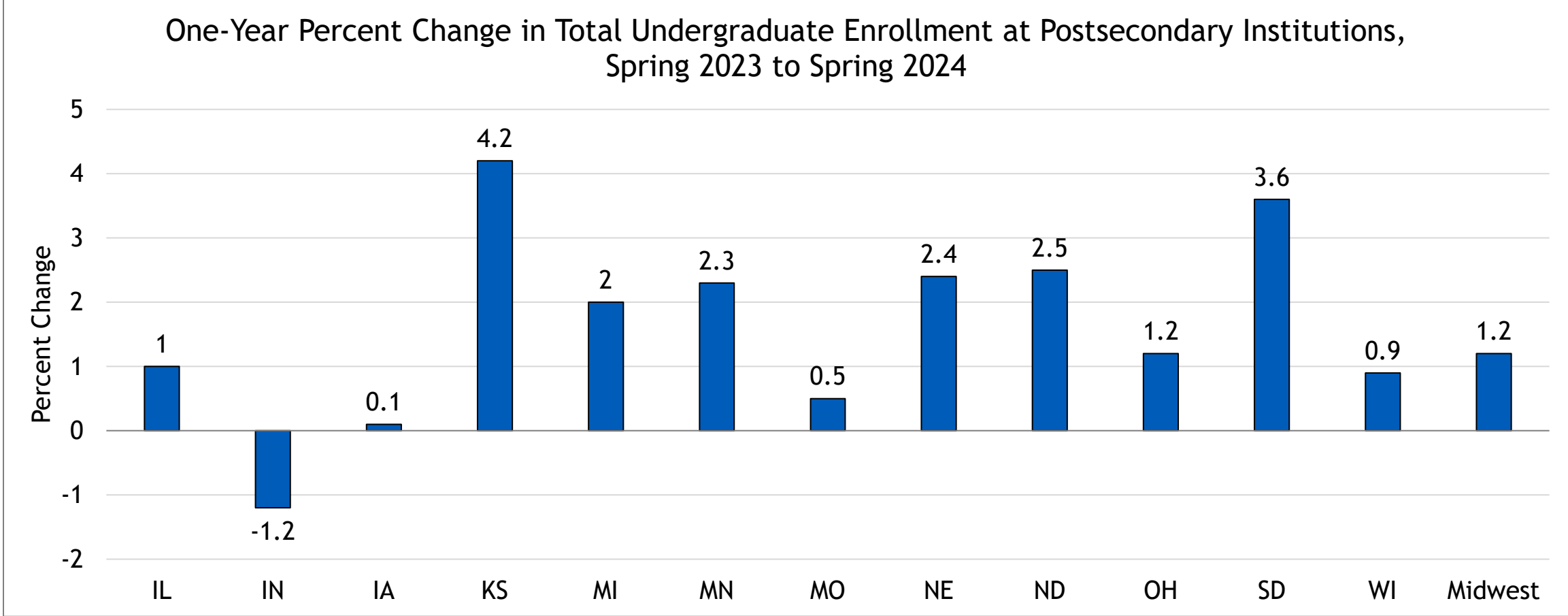
Source. NCES IPEDS. (2022). *Fall enrollment*.

Undergraduate enrollment declined at public two-year institutions in all Midwest states (following the national trend) and declined at public four-year institutions in most Midwest states (in contrast to the national trend) over the past decade.



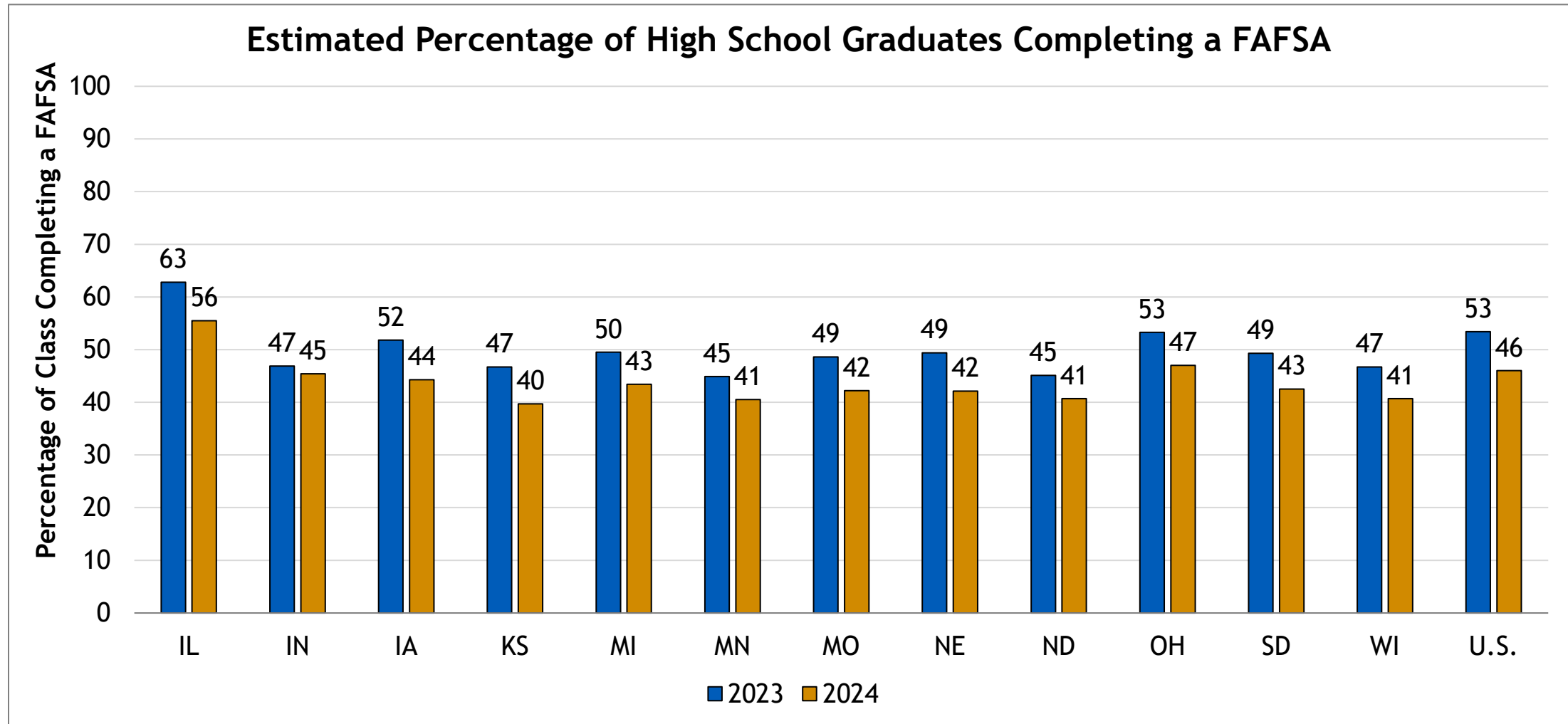
Source. NCES IPEDS. (2022). *12-month enrollment*. Carnegie Classification was used to classify institutions. Institutions with mixed categories were classified according to their distribution of associate and bachelor’s degrees awarded. Categorizations may change over time.

Recently, undergraduate enrollment increased between 2023 and 2024 at all postsecondary institutions (private and public) in most Midwest states.



Source. National Student Clearinghouse. (2024). *Current term enrollment estimates: Spring 2024.*

Following the national trend, FAFSA completion rates in 2024 as of June 28 among high school graduates across all Midwest states remained lower than 2023 completion rates.

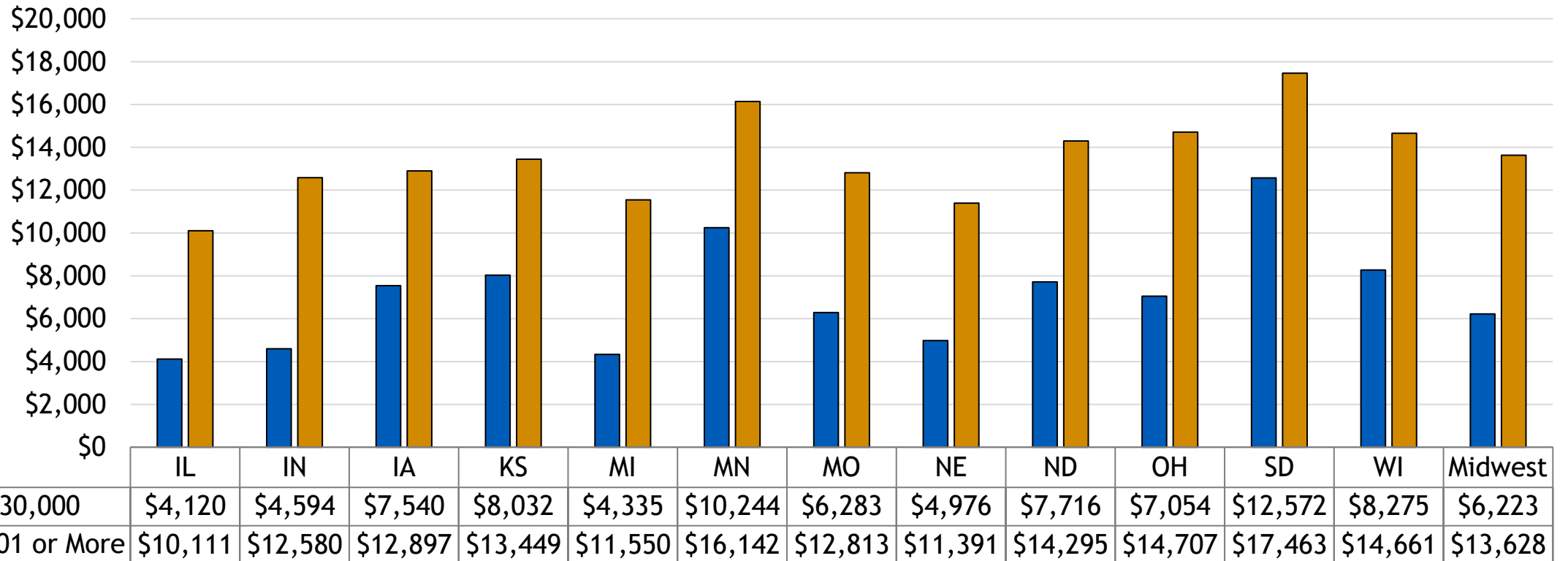


Source. National College Attainment Network. (2024). *NCAN's FAFSA tracker*.

Note. Includes all completions from October 1 through June 28.

The average net price - the total cost of attendance (including room and board) minus grant aid from all sources - for low-income students at public two-year institutions is above the Midwest average in eight Midwest states.

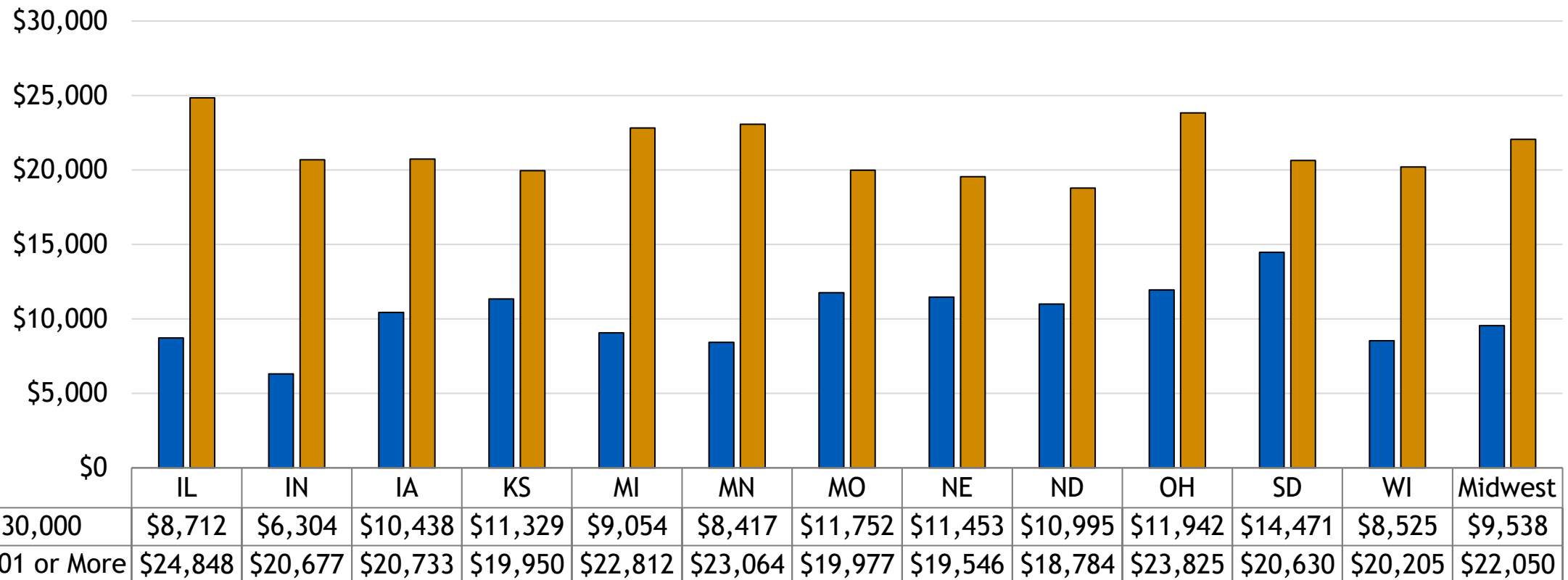
Net Price of Full-Time Enrollment at Public Two-Year Institutions by Family Income Level, 2021-22



Source. NCES IPEDS. (2022). *Net price*. Estimates are weighted by income group of first-time/full-time students. Total price of attendance includes tuition, fees, room, board, books, supplies, transportation, and other designated costs. Carnegie Classification was used to classify institutions. Institutions with mixed categories were classified according to their distribution of associate and bachelor's degrees awarded.

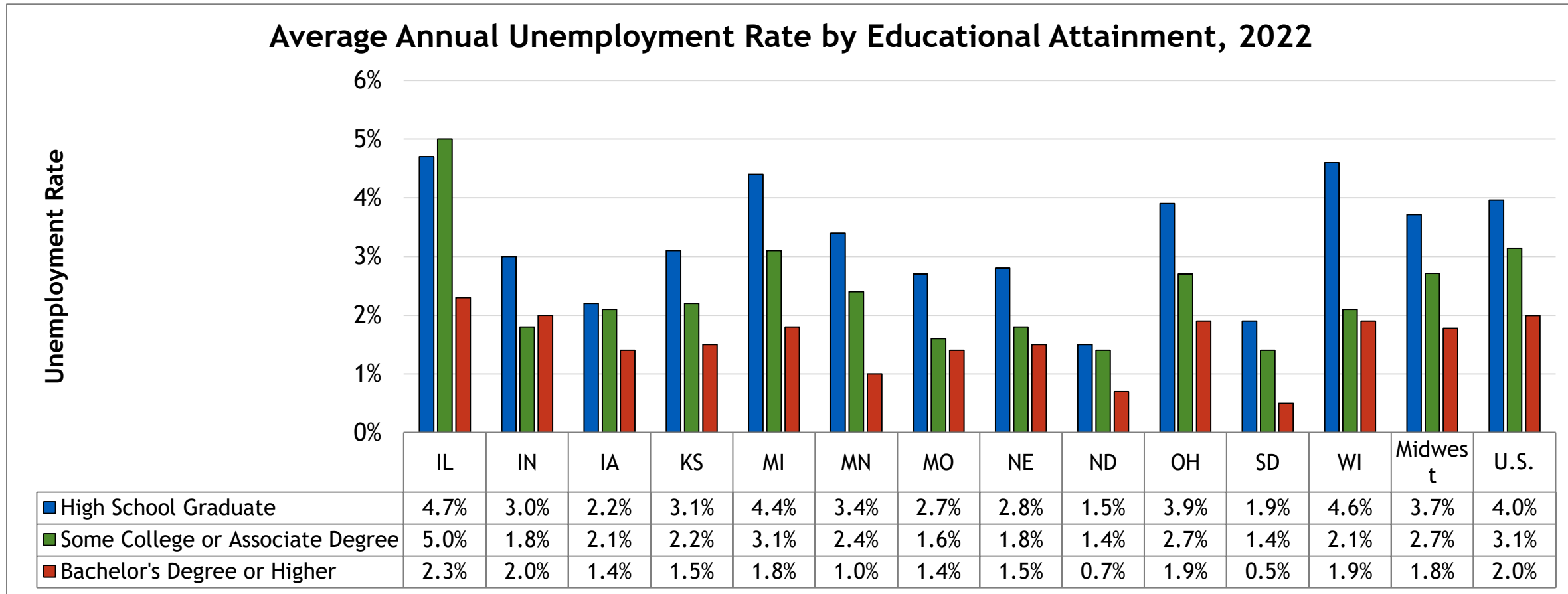
The average net price - the total cost of attendance (including room and board) minus grant aid from all sources - for low-income students at public four-year institutions is above the Midwest average in seven Midwest states.

Net Price of Full-Time Enrollment at Public Four-Year Institutions by Family Income Level, 2021-22



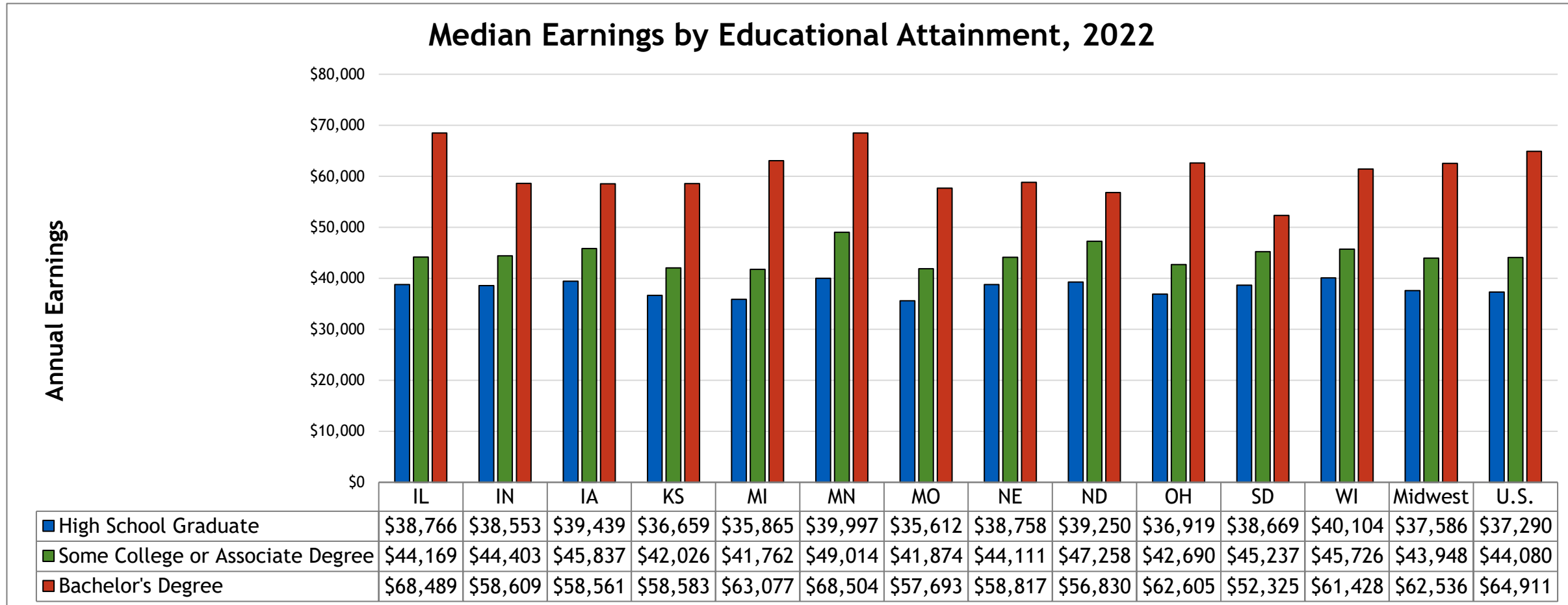
Source. NCES IPEDS. (2022). *Net price*. Estimates are weighted by income group of first-time/full-time students. Total price of attendance includes tuition, fees, room, board, books, supplies, transportation, and other designated costs. Carnegie Classification was used to classify institutions. Institutions with mixed categories were classified according to their distribution of associate and bachelor's degrees awarded.

Unemployment rates in the Midwest in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic were typically lower among adults with at least some postsecondary education.



Source. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2024). *Employment status of the civilian noninstitutional population 25 years and older, by educational attainment.*

The median earnings of adults who completed some college credit or an undergraduate credential were consistently higher than the median earnings of high school graduates across all Midwestern states in 2022.

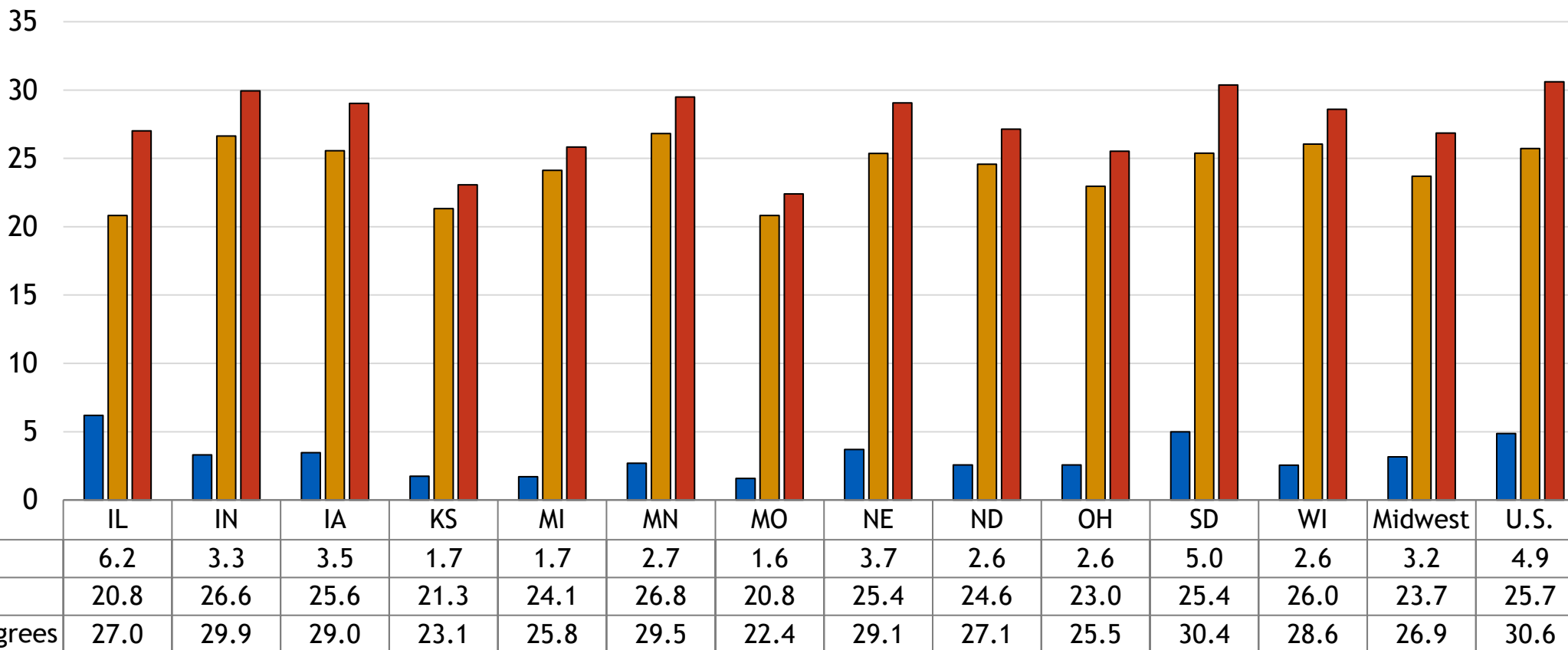


Source. U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). *American Community Survey one-year estimates: Median earnings in the past 12 months by sex by educational attainment for the population 25 years and over.*

Several Midwest states approximate the national average for total undergraduate science and engineering degrees awarded per 1,000 adults.

Number of Science and Engineering Undergraduate Degrees Conferred Per 1,000 Adults Aged 18-24, 2022

Degrees Conferred Per 1,000 18-24 Year-Old Adults

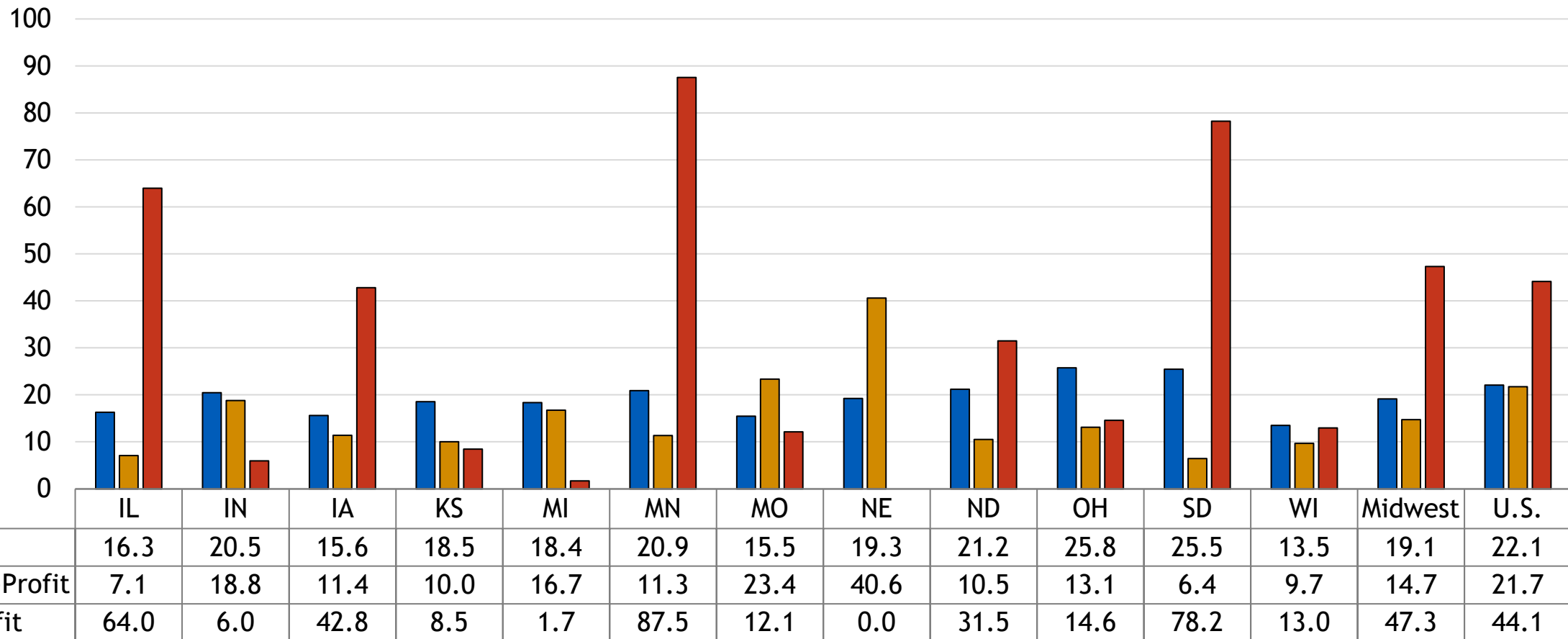


Source. National Science Board. (2023). *Science and engineering indicators, state indicators*.

Less than one third of college students are enrolled exclusively in online courses at public and private not-for-profit institutions in most Midwest states, compared to much higher percentages of online students in the for-profit sector in several states.

Percentage of Students Exclusively Enrolled in Online Courses, 2022

Percentage Enrolled Exclusively Online



Source. NCES IPEDS. (2022). *Fall enrollment.*

Thank you!

Please consider us a resource!

Susan G. Heegaard

President

susanh@mhec.org

Office: (612) 677-2761

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