

# SREB

# North Carolina

## Featured Facts

*from the SREB Fact Book on Higher Education*

2007

Southern  
Regional  
Education  
Board

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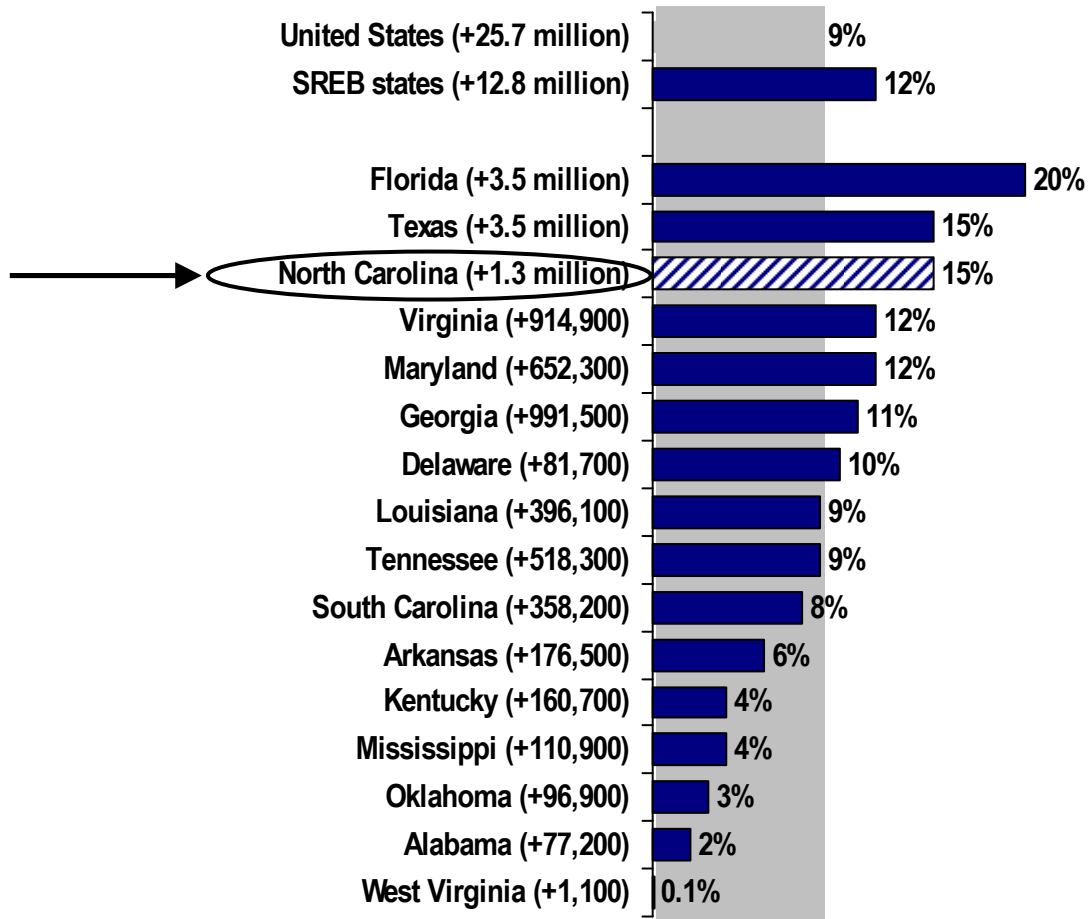
*SREB states can lead the nation in educational progress.*

*Nothing influences a state's prosperity more than the education of its people.*

*SREB Goals for Education, Challenge to Lead, 2002*

**Population changes could  
put progress in education at  
risk.**

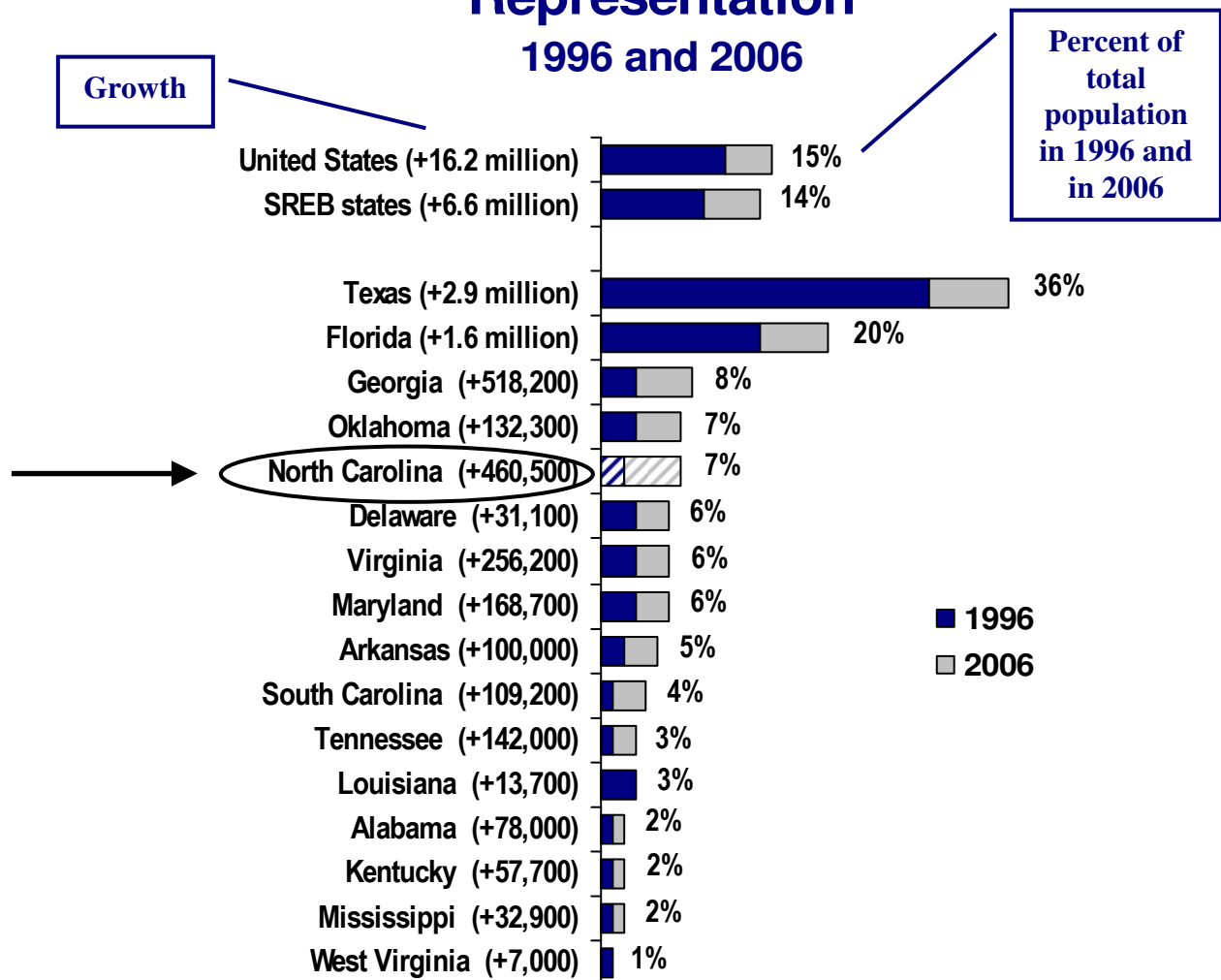
## Projected Population Growth 2006 to 2016



Source: Table 1, U.S. Census Bureau.

- Half the nation’s population growth from 2006 to 2016 is expected to be in the 16 SREB states — an increase of 12.8 million. North Carolina’s population is projected to increase by 1.3 million, or 15 percent, one of the highest growth rates in the region.

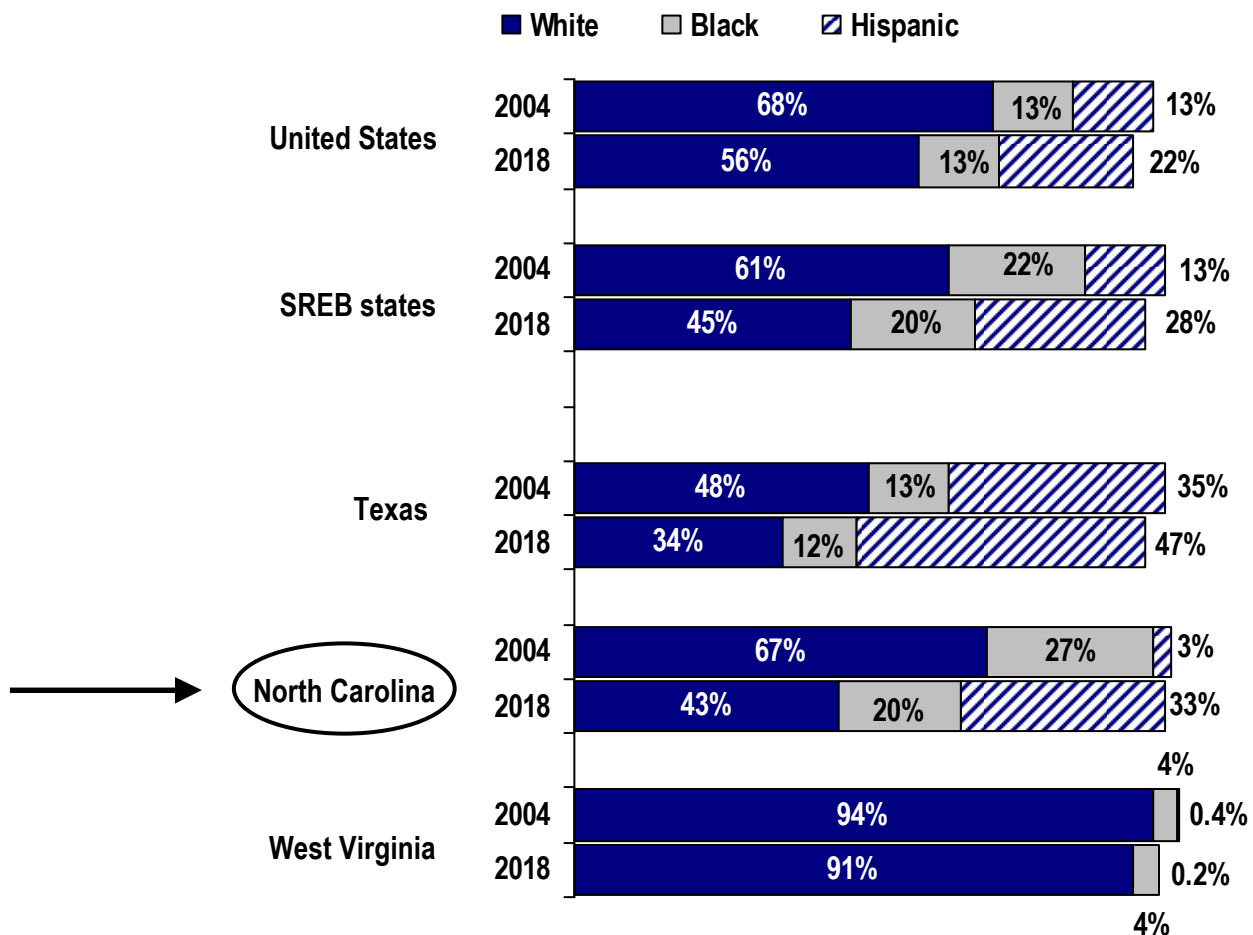
## Hispanic Population Representation 1996 and 2006



Source: Table 4, U.S. Census Bureau.

- The Hispanic population increase is the region's major demographic development. Hispanic population increases accounted for 41 percent of the entire increase in the SREB region from 1996 to 2006. In North Carolina, the Hispanic population accounted for 7 percent of the population in 2006. Of the 593,900 Hispanics in North Carolina in 2006, 460,500 (78 percent) arrived since 1996.

## Public High School Graduates 2004 and 2018

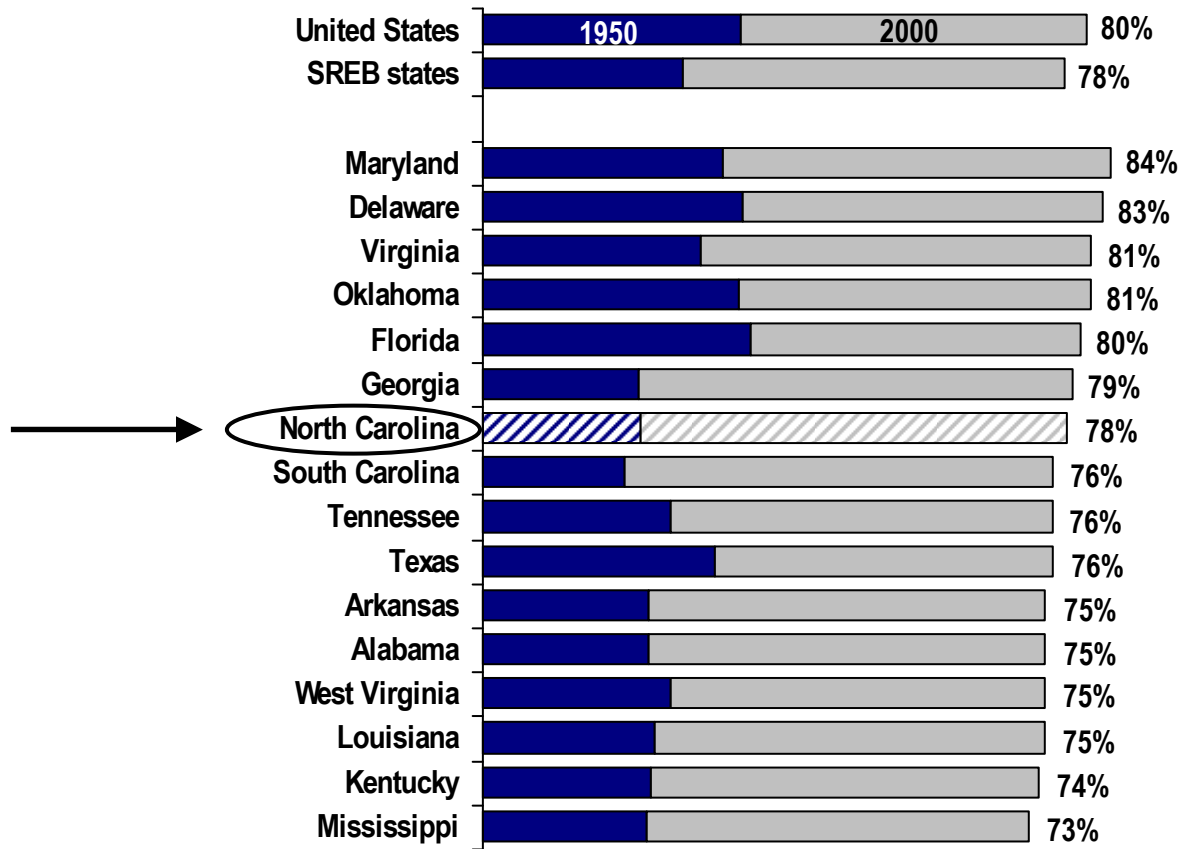


Note: On selected measures, the highest- and lowest-ranking SREB states are shown in order to put data in context.

Source: Table 8, Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education.

- By 2018, Hispanic students are expected to account for 28 percent of the SREB region’s public high school graduates. White students, who were 61 percent of graduates in 2004, are projected to be 45 percent in 2018. In North Carolina, Hispanic students are expected to rise from 3 percent to 33 percent and white students to decline from 67 percent to 43 percent from 2004 to 2018.

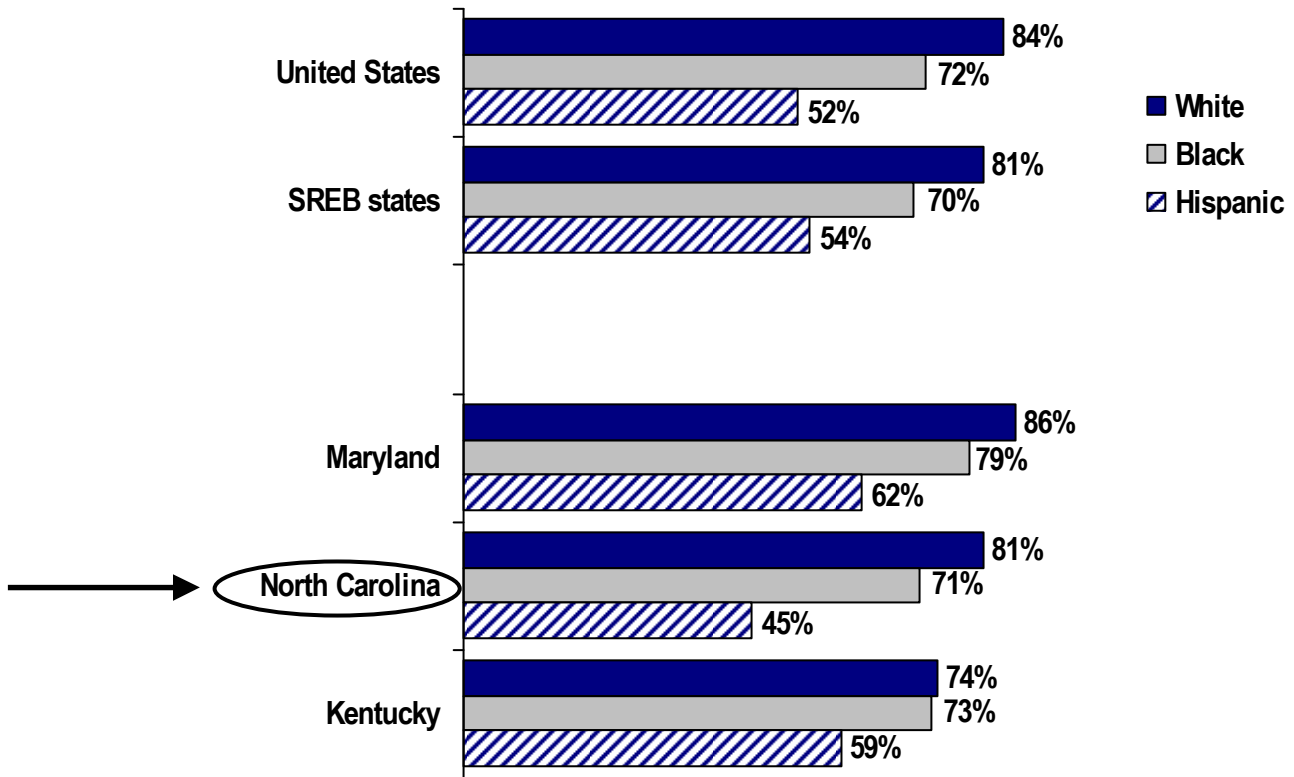
## Adults With High School Diplomas or GED Credentials 1950 and 2000



Source: Table 3, U.S. Census Bureau.

- Since 1950, the percentage of adults with high school diplomas or GED credentials has risen dramatically. In 2000, 78 percent of adults ages 25 and older in North Carolina had high school diplomas or GED credentials.

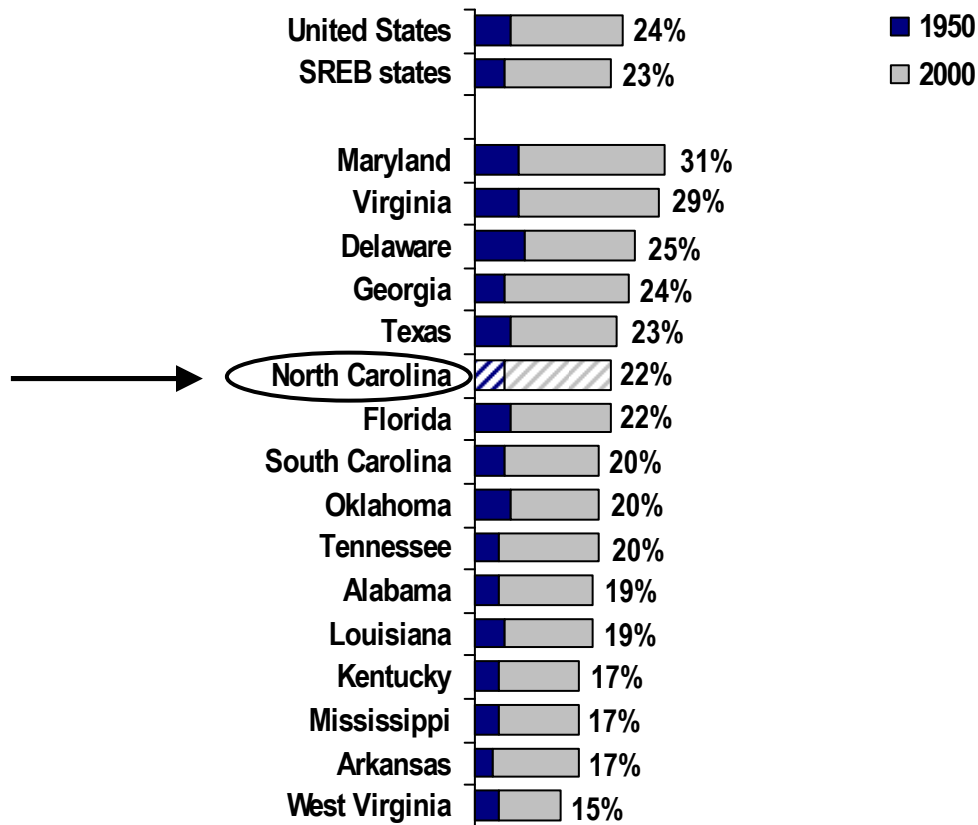
## Adults With High School Diplomas or GED Credentials 1950 and 2000



Source: Table 5, U.S. Census Bureau.

- The percentage of Hispanic adults with a high school diploma or GED credential was lower than the percentage for black adults with diplomas or credentials in nearly every SREB state. In North Carolina, 81 percent of white adults and 71 percent of black adults had high school diplomas or GED credentials in 2000. Forty-five percent of Hispanic adults had diplomas or credentials.

## Adults With Bachelor's or Higher Degrees 1950 and 2000

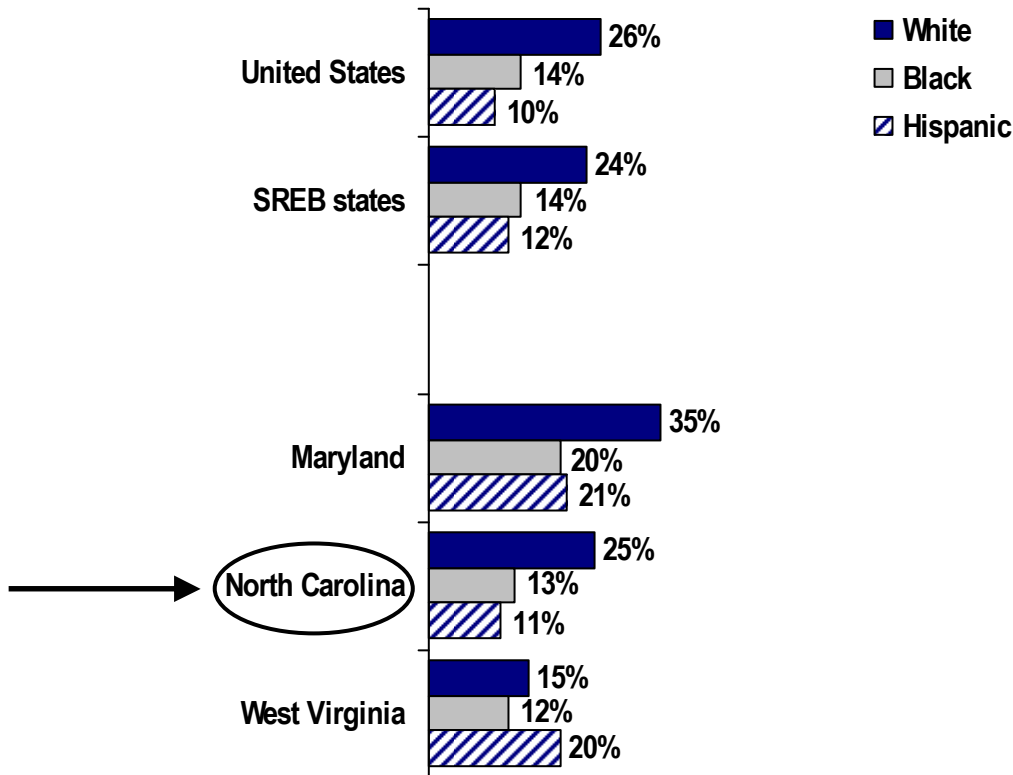


Source: Table 3, U.S. Census Bureau.

- Since 1950, the percentages of adults with bachelor's or higher degrees have increased significantly. In 2000, 22 percent of adults ages 25 and older in North Carolina had bachelor's or higher degrees.



## Adults With Bachelor's or Higher Degrees 2000



Source: Table 5, U.S. Census Bureau.

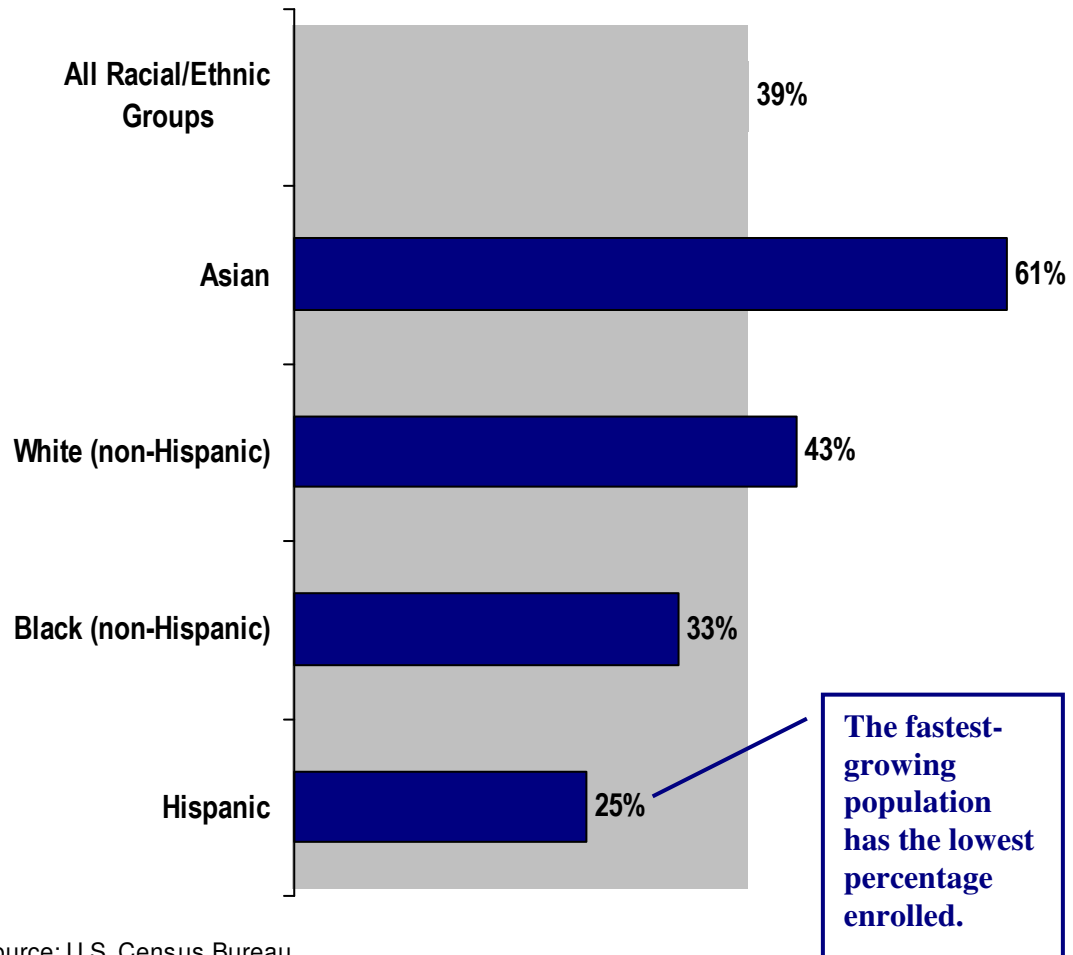
- The percentage of Hispanic adults with at least a bachelor's degree was higher than the percentage for black adults with degrees in most SREB states. In North Carolina, 25 percent of white adults and 13 percent of black adults had bachelor's or higher degrees in 2000. Eleven percent of Hispanic adults had bachelor's or higher degrees.



**College enrollment trends are promising, but alarming gaps remain.**

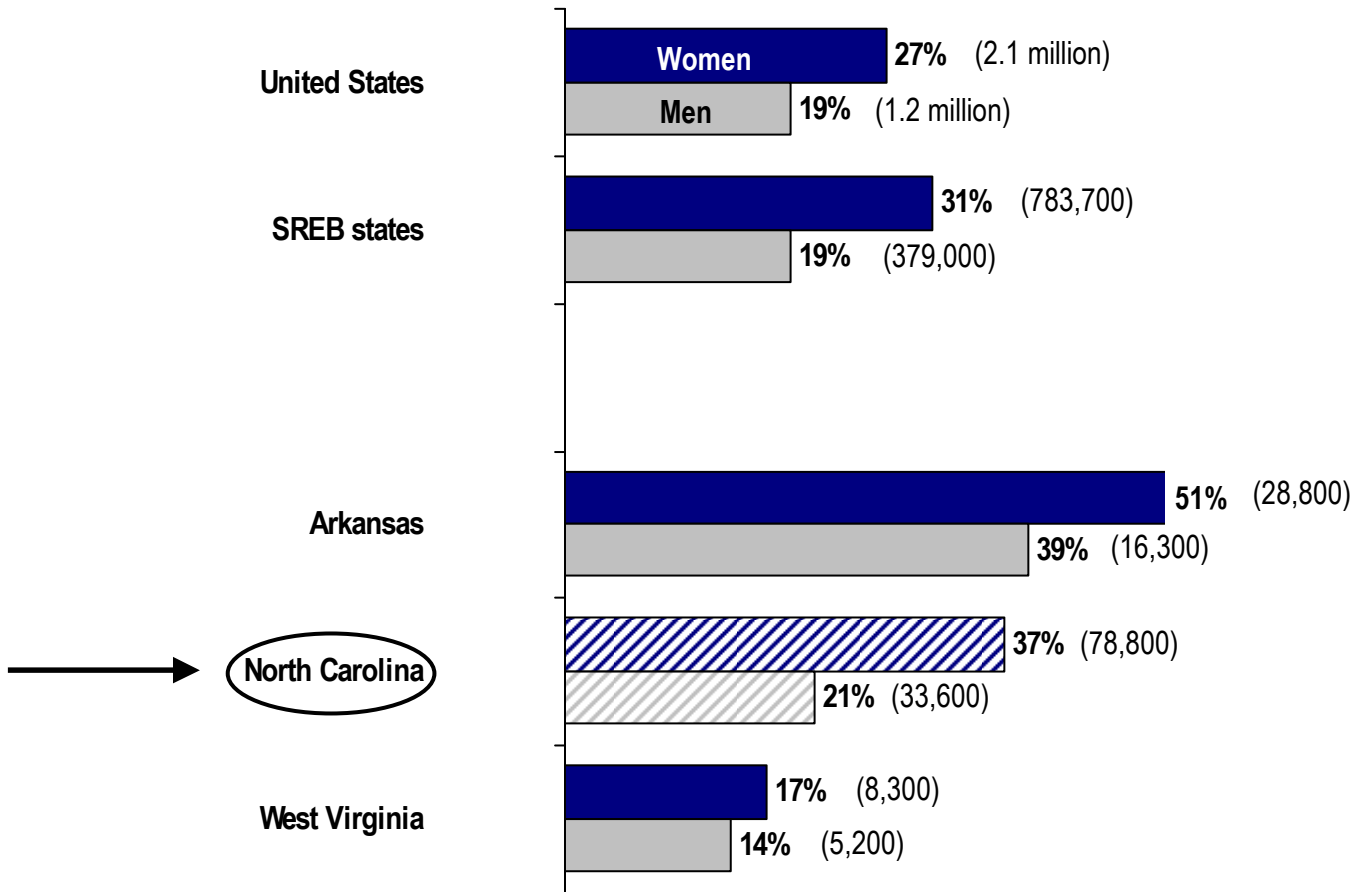
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## 18- to 24-Year-Olds in College United States, 2005



- Even after years of progress, a lower proportion (25 percent) of Hispanic young adults attended college than black young adults (33 percent) and white young adults (43 percent).

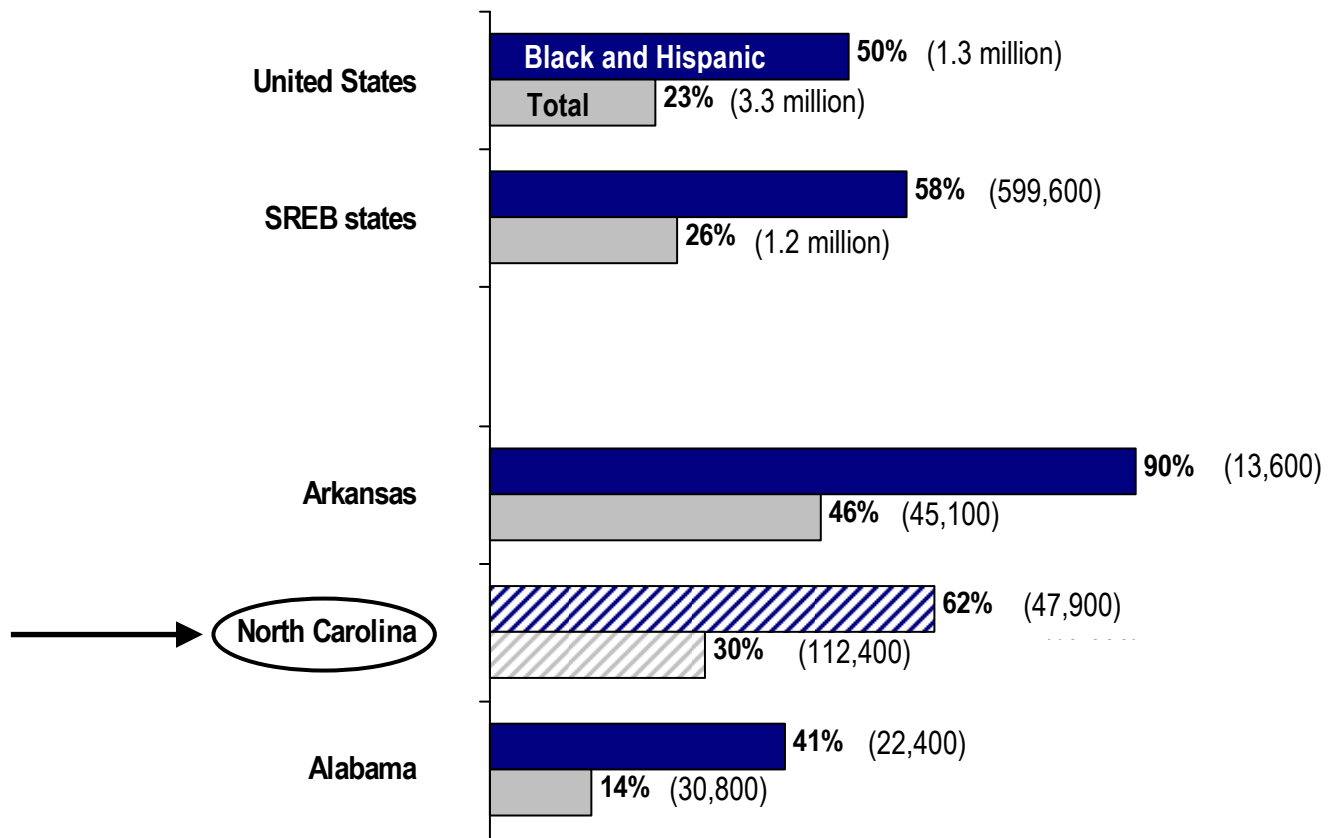
## Enrollment Growth 1995 to 2005



Sources: Tables 23 and 24, National Center for Education Statistics.

- Women accounted for most of the college enrollment growth in every SREB state from 1995 to 2005. In North Carolina, there were an additional 78,800 women enrolled in college in 2005 than in 1995 and an additional 33,600 men.

## Black and Hispanic Enrollment Growth 1995 to 2005



Sources: Tables 17, 25, 26 and 27, National Center for Education Statistics.

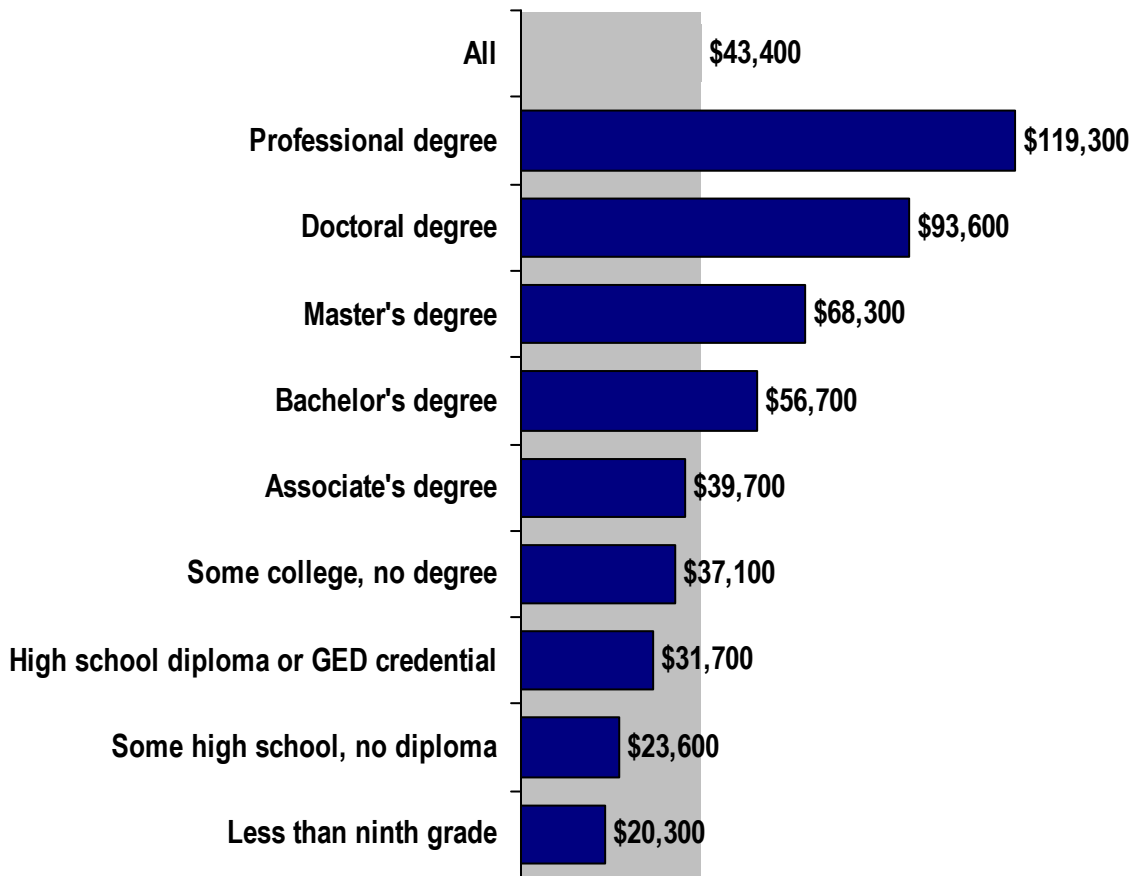
- College enrollment of black and Hispanic students grew rapidly from 1995 to 2005 in virtually every SREB state. In North Carolina, there were 47,900 more black and Hispanic students enrolled in 2005 than in 1995. This was a 62 percent increase, compared with a 30 percent increase in total enrollment.



**Higher education is still  
the best bet for higher pay.**

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## Average Annual Earnings of Adults United States, 2005

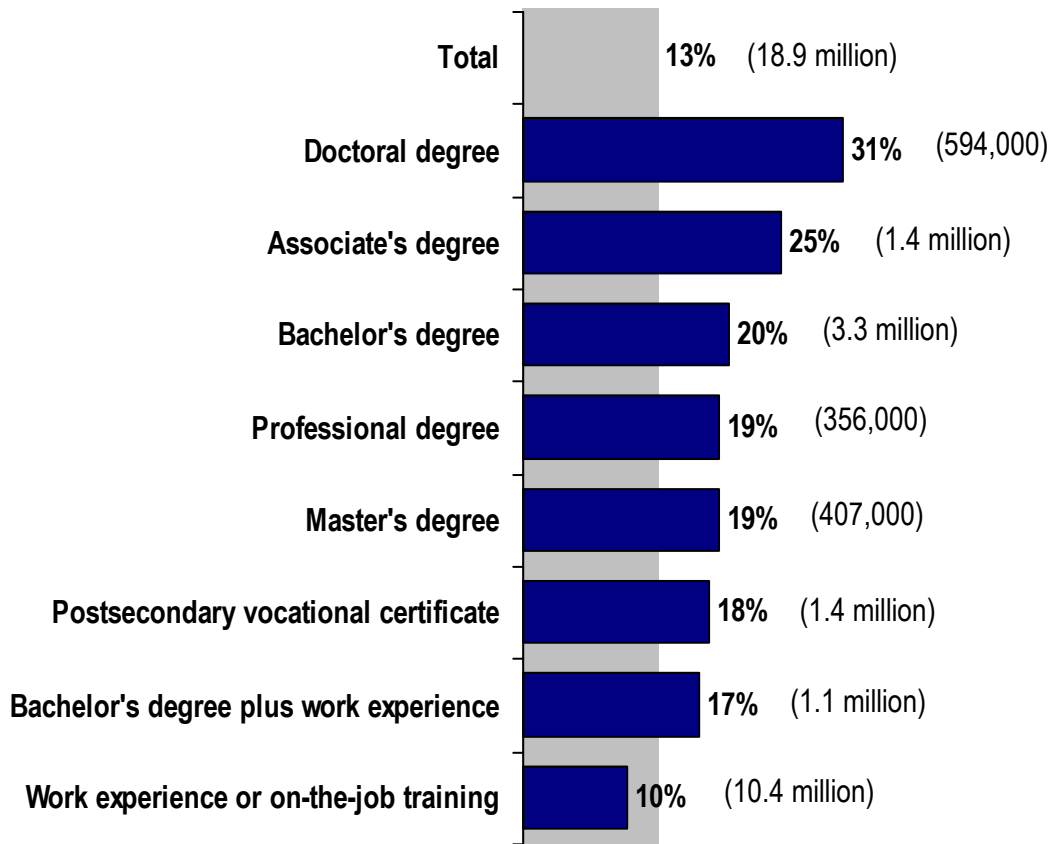


Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

- More than ever, education pays. Adults with high school diplomas or GED credentials in 2005 earned 56 percent more than those with no high school attendance and 34 percent more than those who attended high school but did not earn diplomas or GED credentials. Those with associate's degrees earned 25 percent more than those with high school-level credentials. Those with bachelor's degrees earned 79 percent more. And, those with professional degrees in fields such as law and medicine earned 110 percent more than those with bachelor's degrees.

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## Projected Increase in Job Openings by Education or Training United States, 2004 to 2014



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

- The fastest-growing, highest-paying jobs will require education beyond high school. Jobs in the United States are projected to increase by 25 percent (1.4 million) by 2014 for people with associate's degrees and by 20 percent (3.3 million) for those with bachelor's degrees. Most new jobs will require only work experience or on-the-job training.

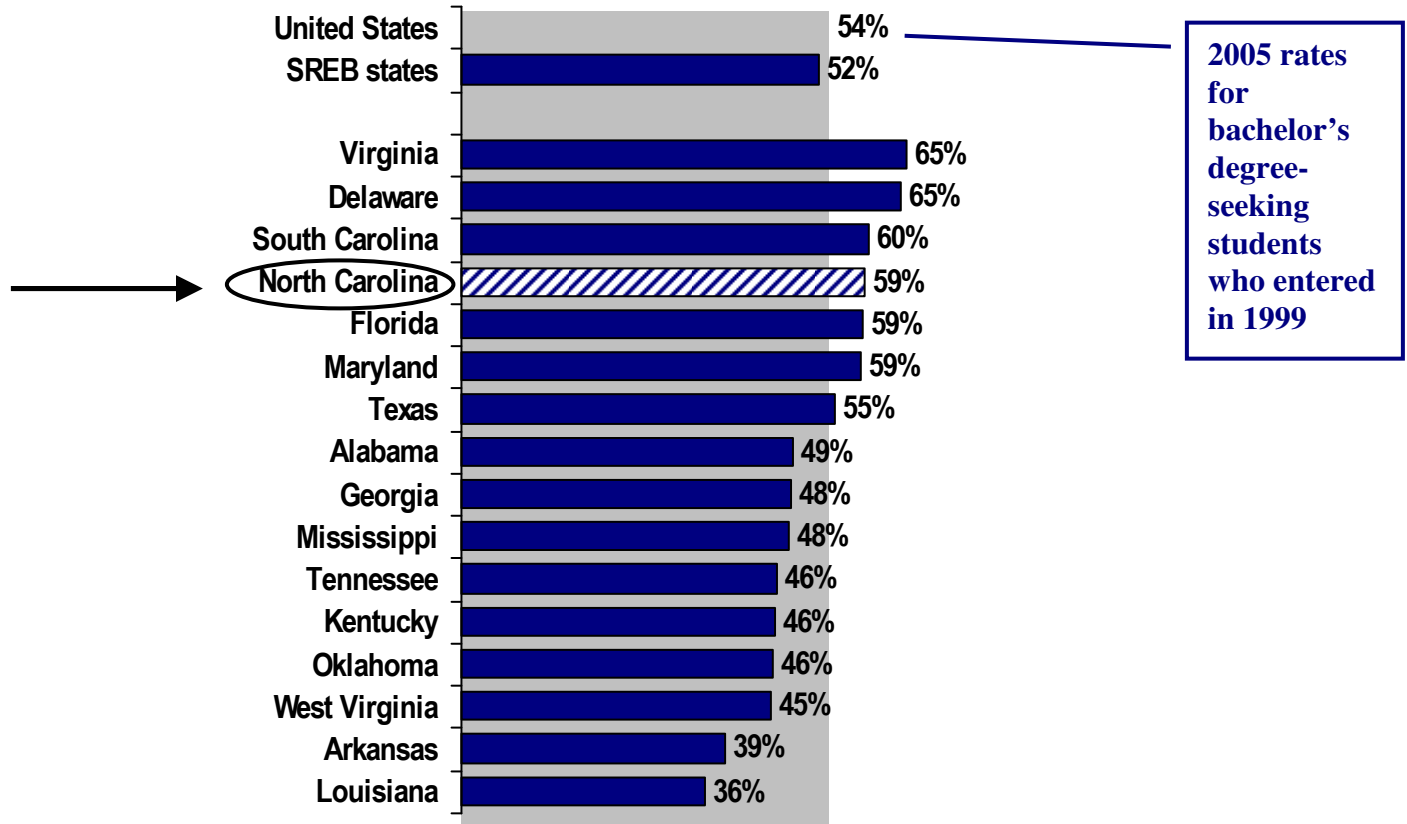




**College graduation rates in the SREB region are below U.S. averages, but more students are sticking to their studies. Women and minorities lead growth in degrees.**

# College Graduation Rates<sup>1</sup>

## Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities

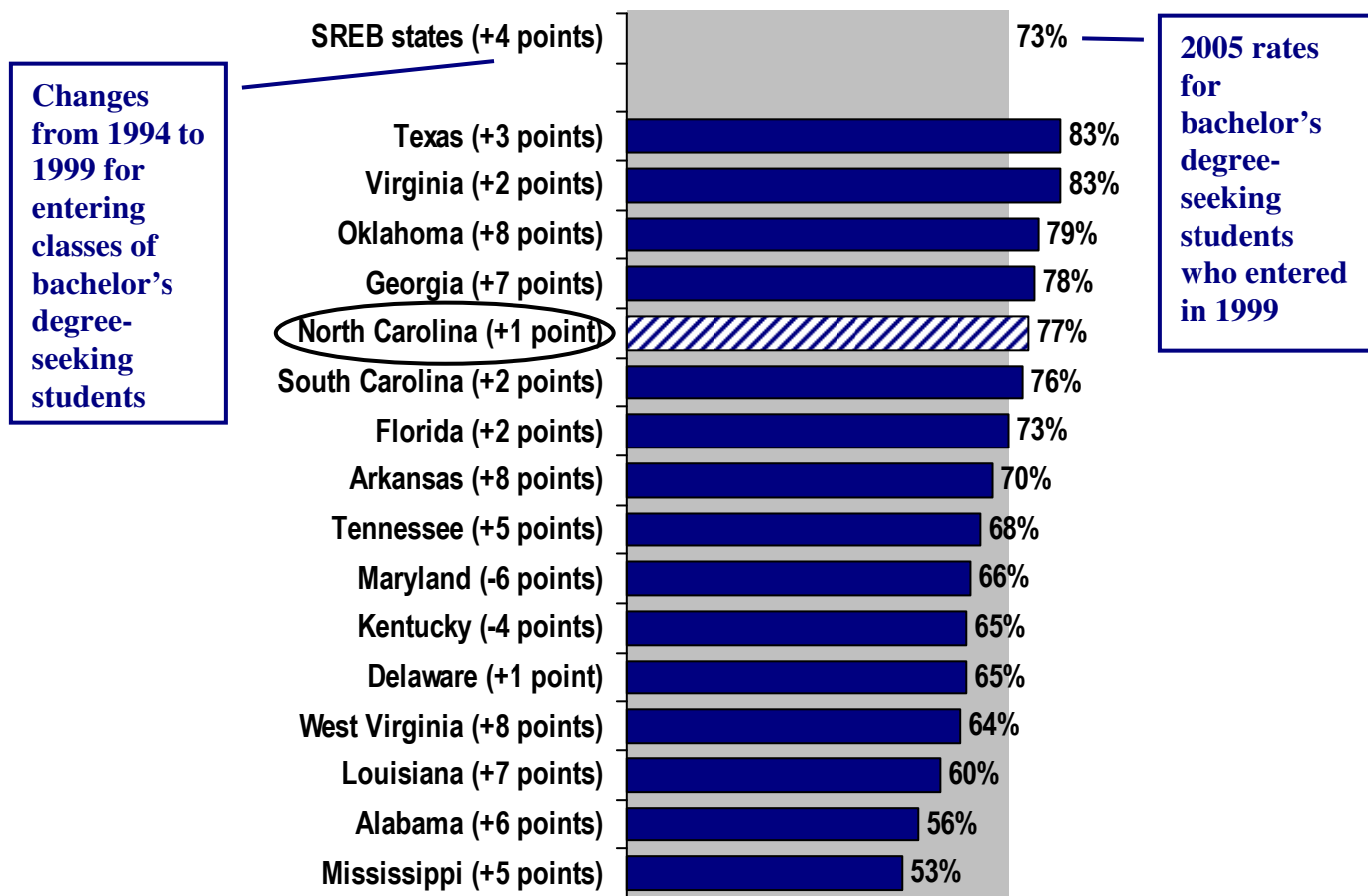


<sup>1</sup> Those who graduated within 150 percent of normal program time, usually six years.

Source: Table 39, SREB-State Data Exchange and National Center for Education Statistics.

- The average U.S. six-year graduation rate of full-time freshmen who first enrolled to earn a bachelor's degree in a public four-year college or university in 1999 was 54 percent. In the SREB region, the average was lower — 52 percent. Seven SREB states had graduation rates greater than the U.S. average. North Carolina had a 59 percent graduation rate.

## Student Progression Rates<sup>1</sup> Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities

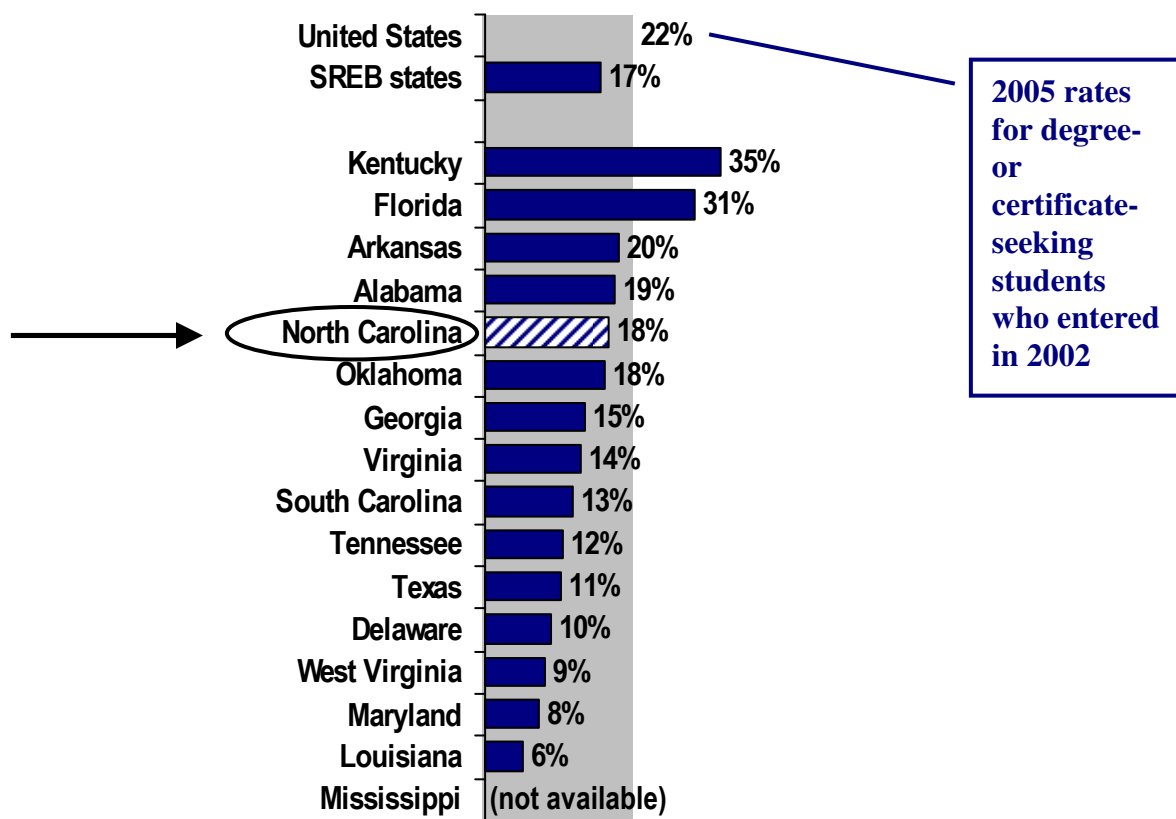


<sup>1</sup> The sum of those who had graduated, transferred or were still enrolled six years after entering.

Source: Table 39, SREB-State Data Exchange.

- In the SREB region, 73 percent of full-time freshmen who first enrolled to pursue bachelor's degrees in 1999 either had graduated within six years, still were enrolled or had transferred to another college — up 4 percentage points compared with those entering in 1994. North Carolina had a 1-point gain to 77 percent.

## College Graduation Rates<sup>1</sup> Public Two-Year Colleges



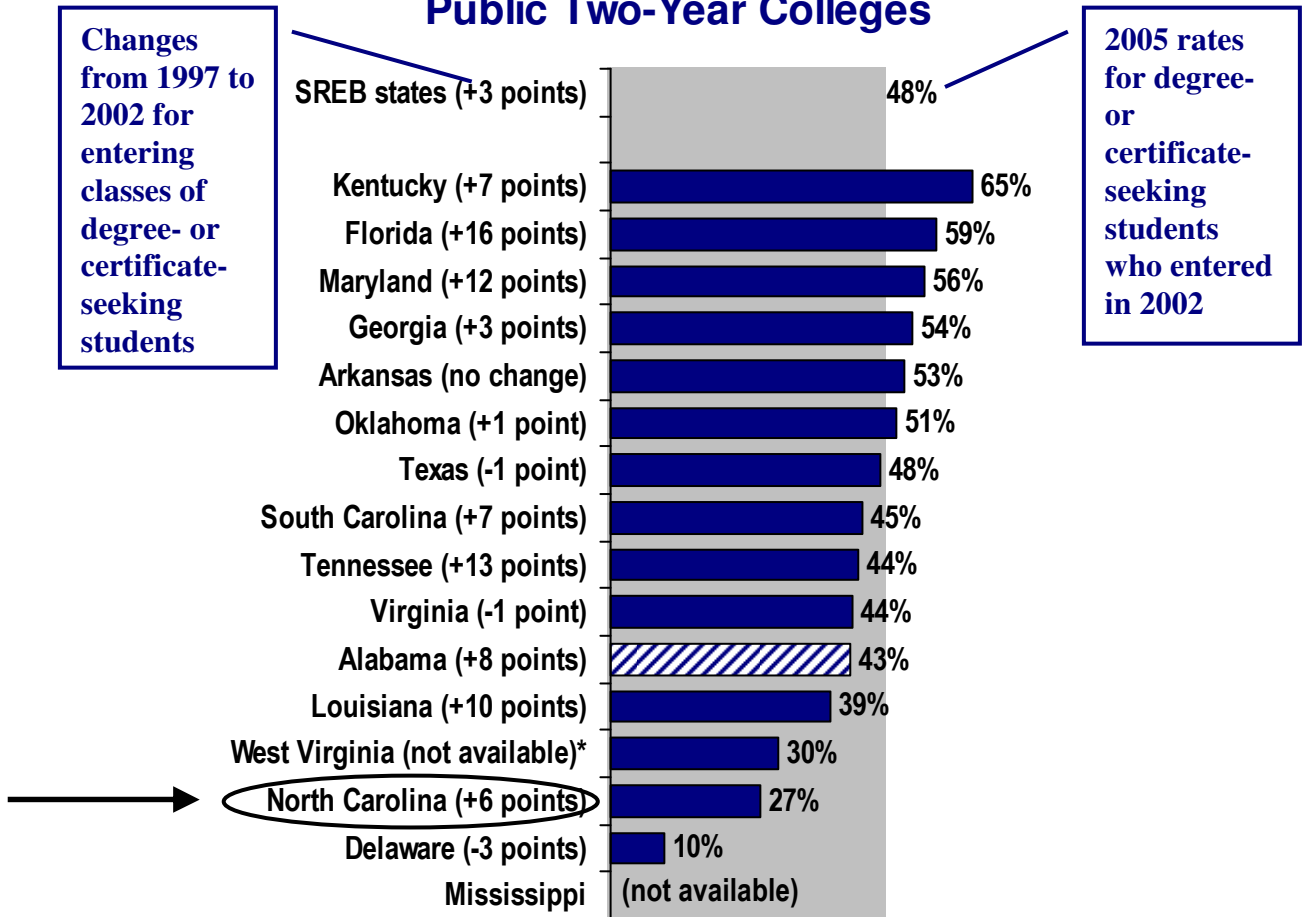
<sup>1</sup> Those who graduated within 150 percent of normal program time, usually three years.

Source: Table 39, SREB-State Data Exchange and National Center for Education Statistics.

- The U.S. average three-year graduation rate for full-time freshmen who first enrolled in public two-year colleges to pursue associate's degrees or vocational certificates in 2002 was 22 percent. The average in the SREB region was 17 percent. Two SREB states had rates greater than the U.S. average. North Carolina's rate was 18 percent.

# Student Progression Rates<sup>1</sup>

## Public Two-Year Colleges



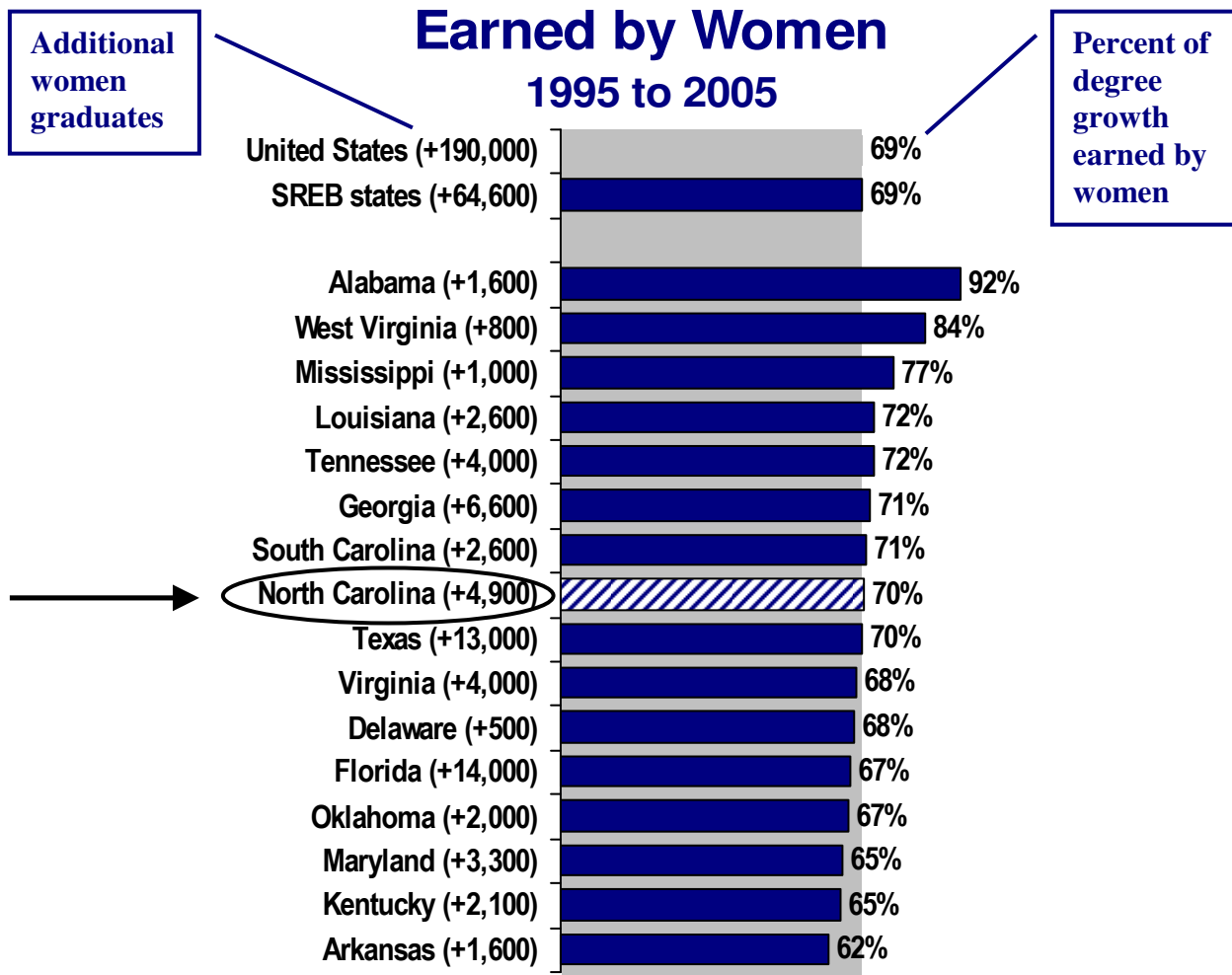
\*West Virginia's reorganization of two-year colleges eliminates comparisons over this time period.

<sup>1</sup>The sum of those who graduated, transferred or were still enrolled three years after entering.  
Note: The Delaware rate does not include transfer students or students still enrolled.

Source: Table 39, SREB-State Data Exchange.

- In the SREB region, 48 percent of full-time freshmen who first enrolled to pursue an associate's degree or vocational certificate in 2002 had graduated within three years, still were enrolled or had transferred to another college or institute — up 3 percentage points compared with those entering in 1997. North Carolina had a 6-point gain to 27 percent.

## Bachelor's Degrees Earned by Women 1995 to 2005

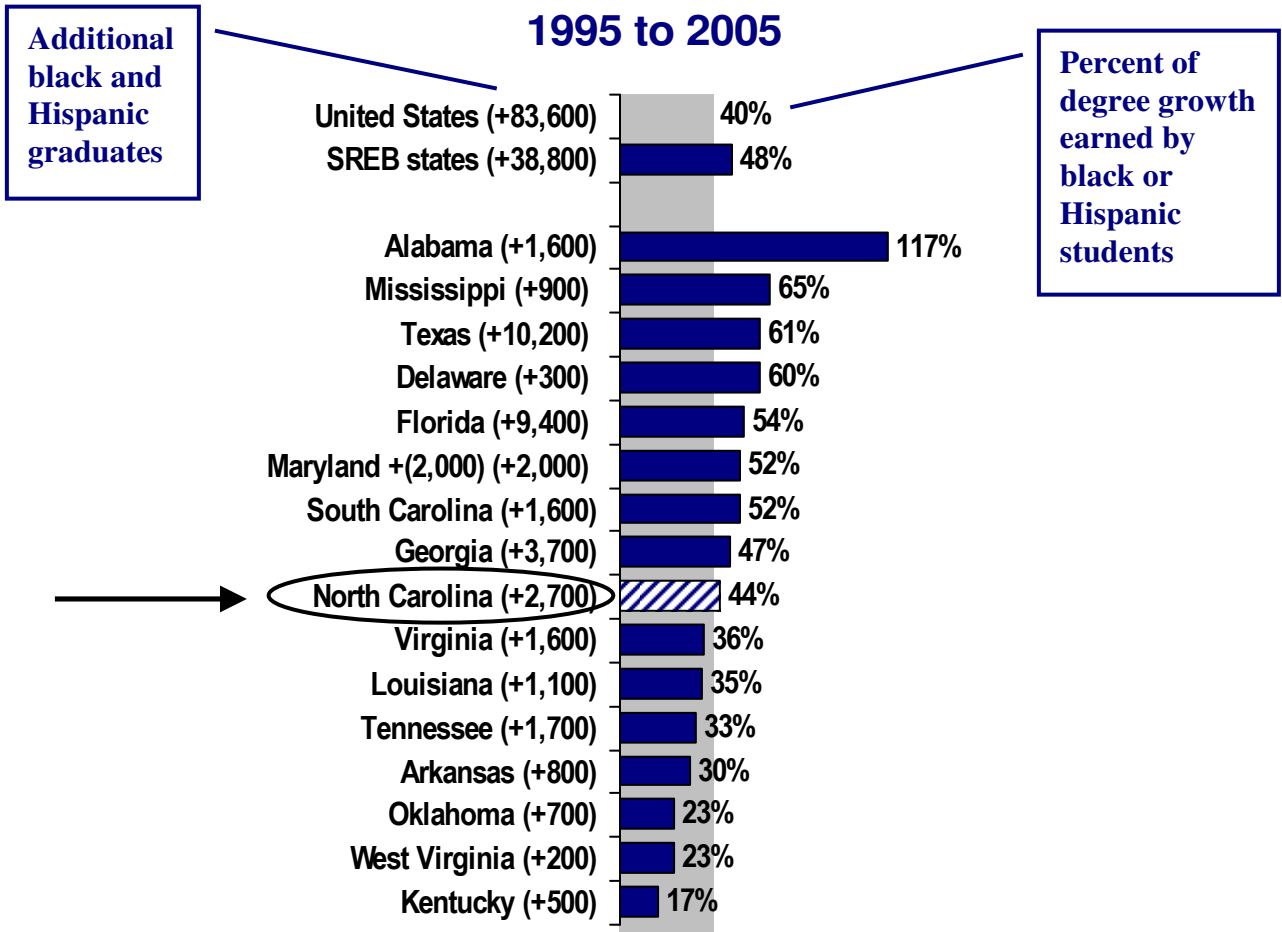


Source: Table 42, National Center for Education Statistics.

- Women accounted for 69 percent of the increase in bachelor's degrees in the SREB region from 1995 to 2005. In North Carolina, women accounted for 70 percent of the increase. North Carolina's rate of increase in degrees awarded to men was 15 percent. In North Carolina, women were 56 percent of graduates in 1995 and 59 percent in 2005.

# Bachelor's Degrees Earned by Black and Hispanic Students

1995 to 2005



Source: Table 42, National Center for Education Statistics.

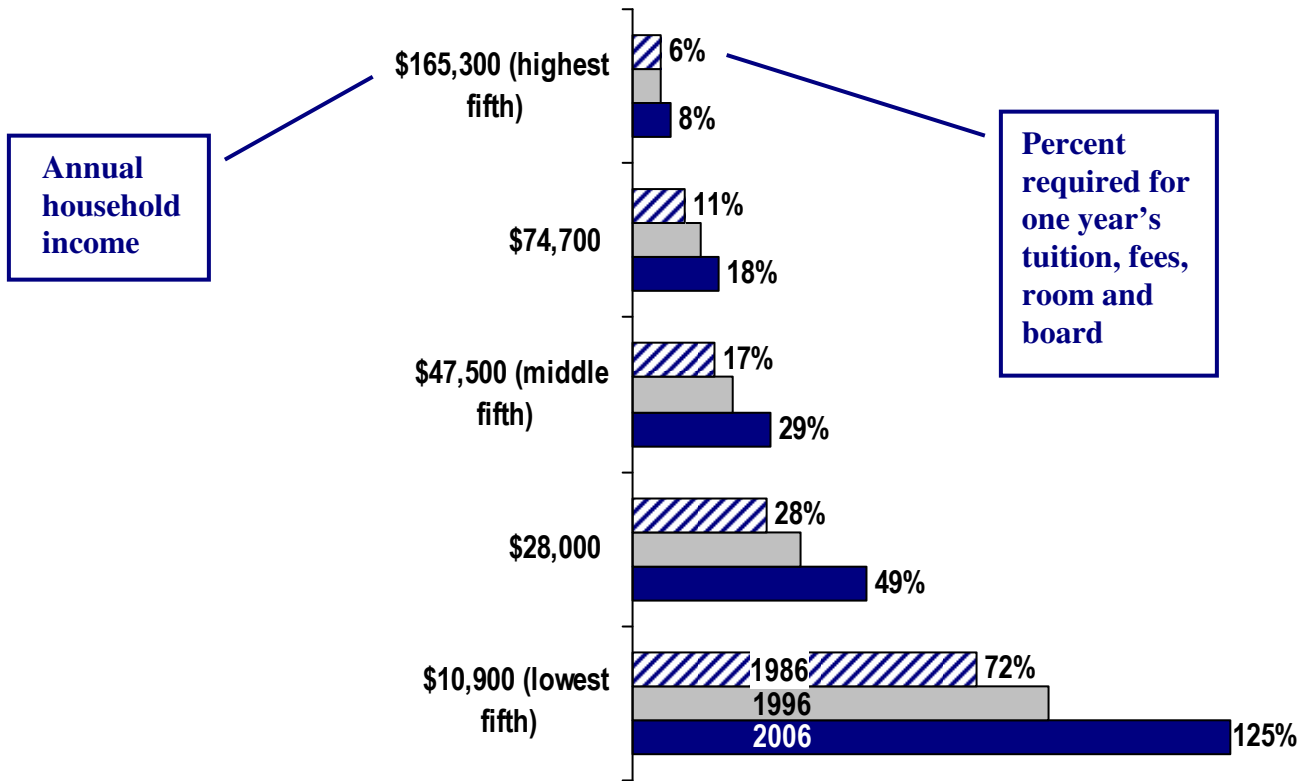
- Black and Hispanic graduates were 48 percent of the increase in bachelor's degrees in the SREB region from 1995 to 2005. The average regional increase in the number of white students was only 12 percent. In North Carolina, black and Hispanic graduates were 44 percent of the increase. In North Carolina, black and Hispanic students were 17 percent of graduates in 1995 and 21 percent in 2005.



**The college affordability gap grows for middle- and lower-income students.**



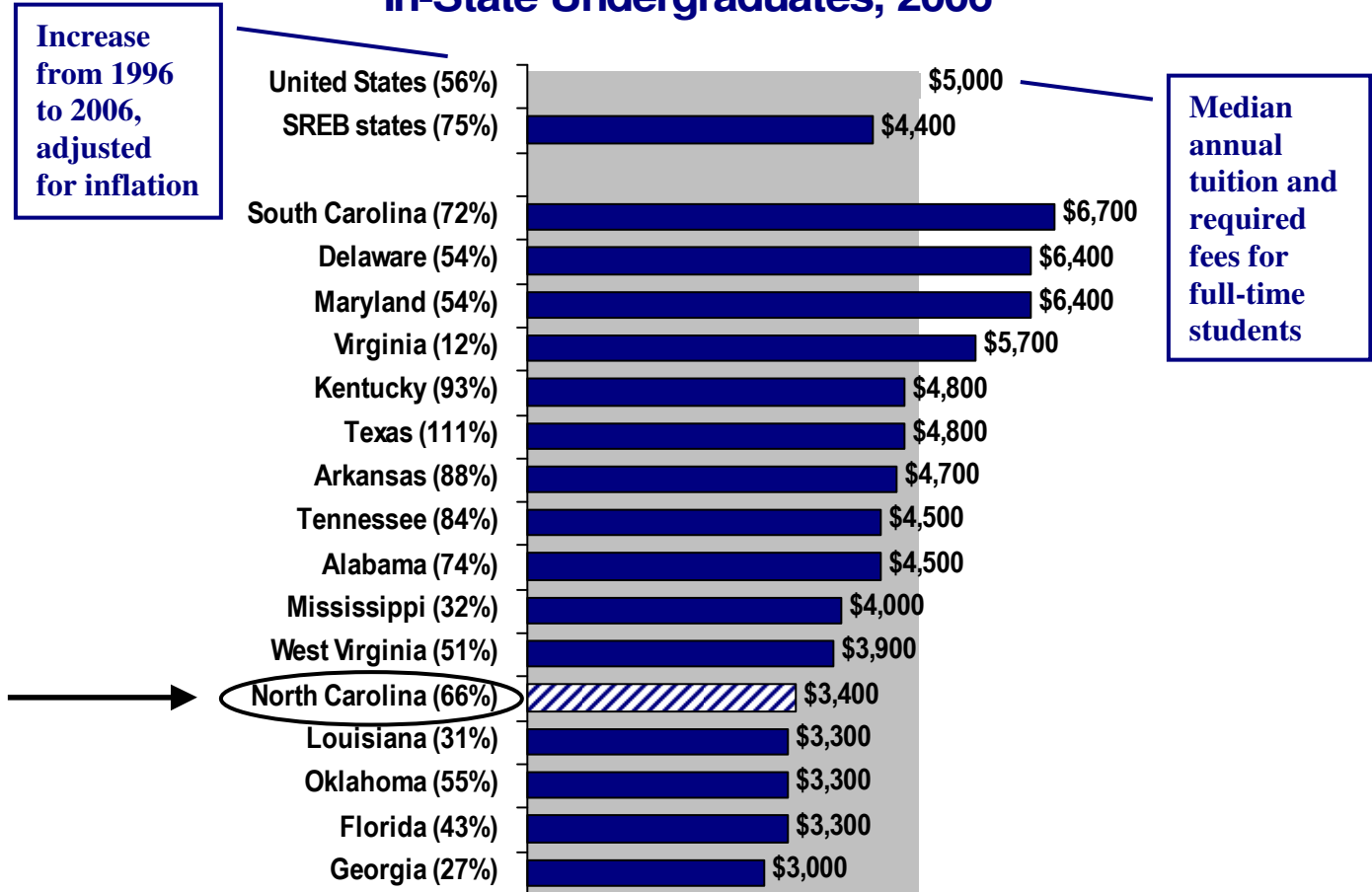
## Percent of Income Required to Pay for One Year Public Universities, United States



Sources: National Center for Education Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau.

- In 2006, the cost of one year of college attendance (tuition, required fees, room and board) was 29 percent of annual income for middle-income households — 12 percentage points more than in 1986. For students in the lowest fifth of incomes, one year's costs were a staggering 125 percent of income — 53 percentage points greater than in 1986.

## Tuition and Required Fees Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities In-State Undergraduates, 2006

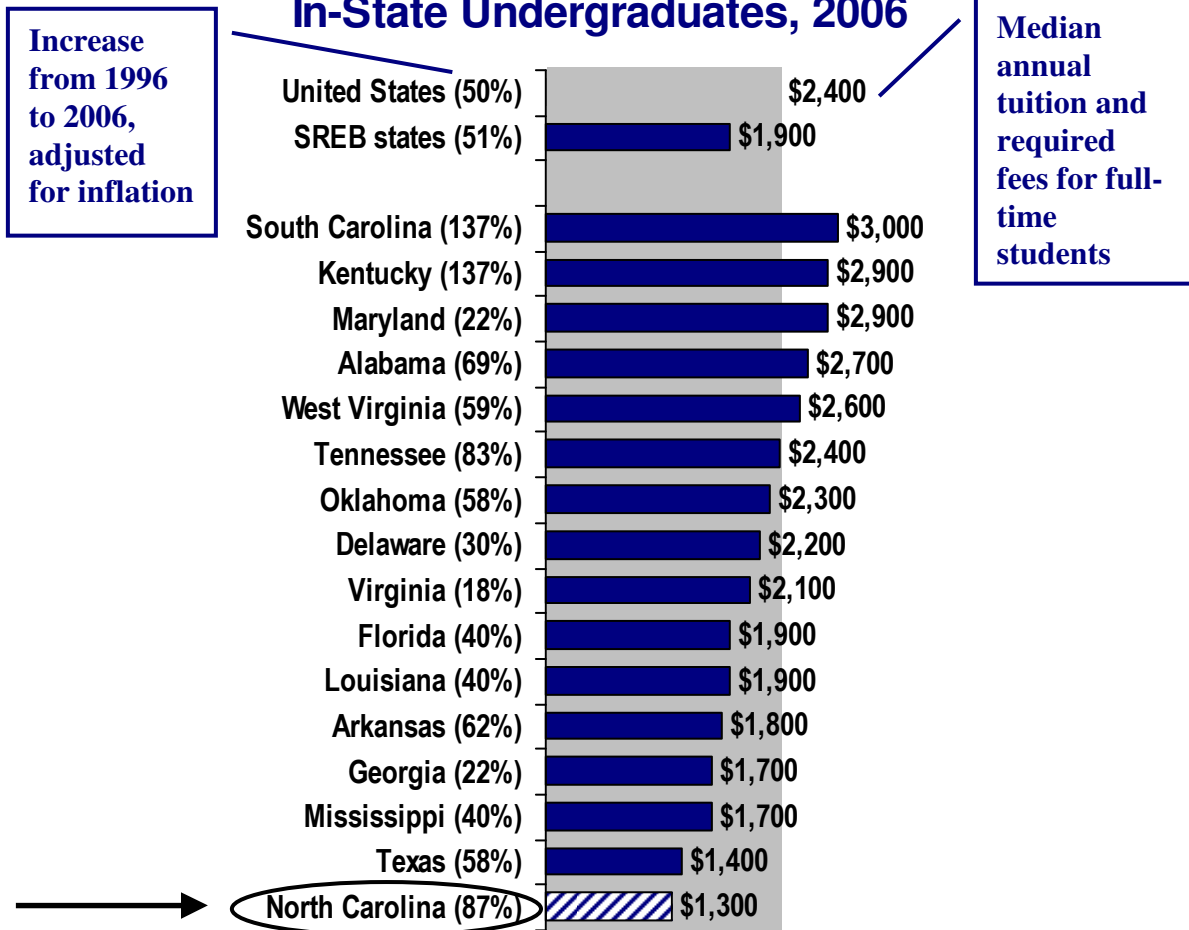


Note: Inflation was measured using academic year Consumer Price Index, which rose 27 percent over the period.

Source: Table 50, SREB-State Data Exchange and National Center for Education Statistics.

- Median annual tuition and required fees reached \$4,400 in SREB states in 2006. This was 75 percent more than in 1996 after adjusting for inflation. In North Carolina, tuition and fees were \$3,400 — an increase of 66 percent from 1996.

## Tuition and Required Fees Public Two-Year Colleges In-State Undergraduates, 2006

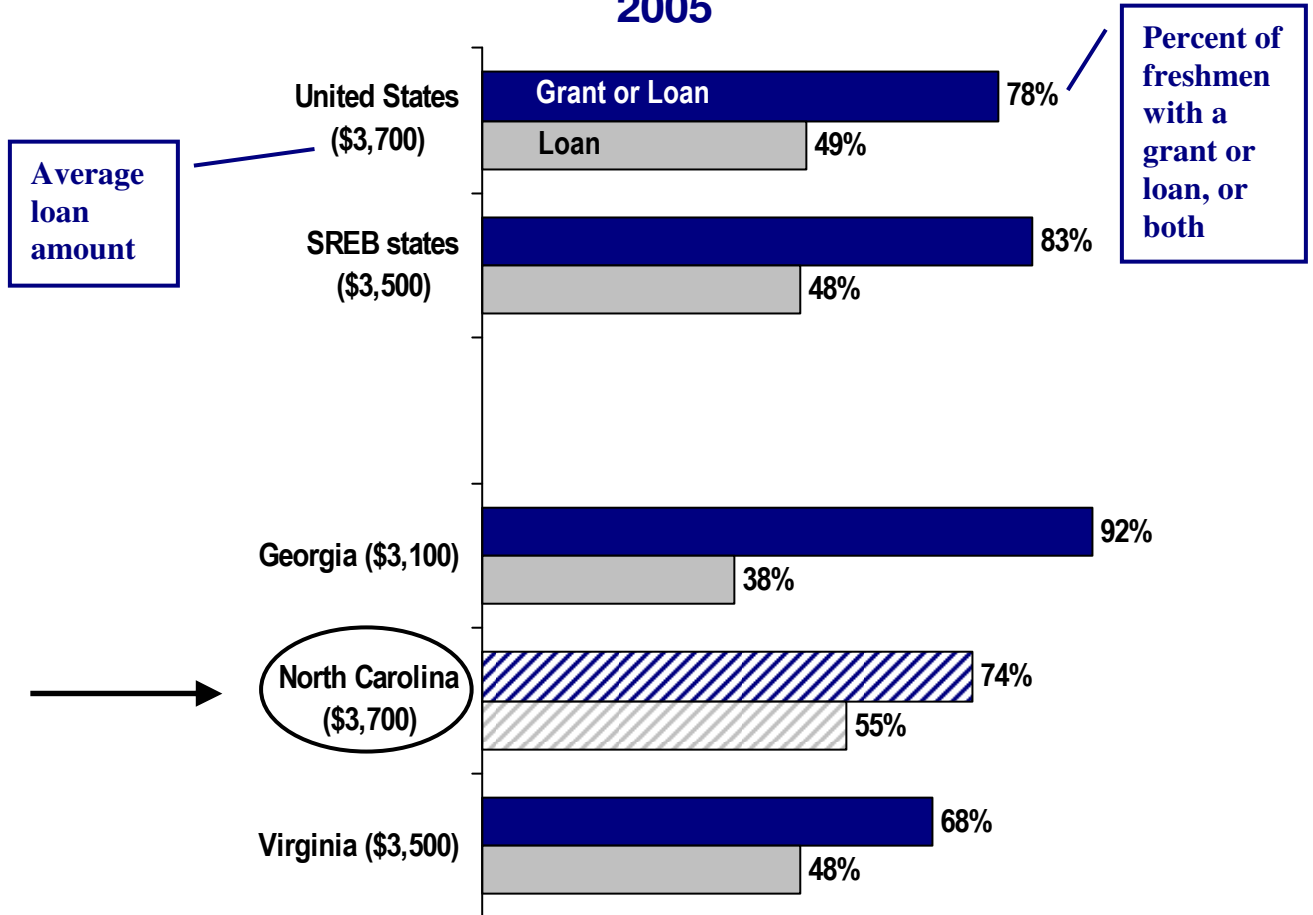


Note: Inflation was measured using academic year Consumer Price Index, which rose 27 percent over the period.

Source: Table 52, SREB-State Data Exchange and National Center for Education Statistics.

- Median annual tuition and required fees were about \$1,900 for the SREB region in 2006. This was 51 percent more than in 1996 after adjusting for inflation. In North Carolina, tuition and fees were \$1,300 — an increase of 87 percent from 1996, but still the lowest in the region.

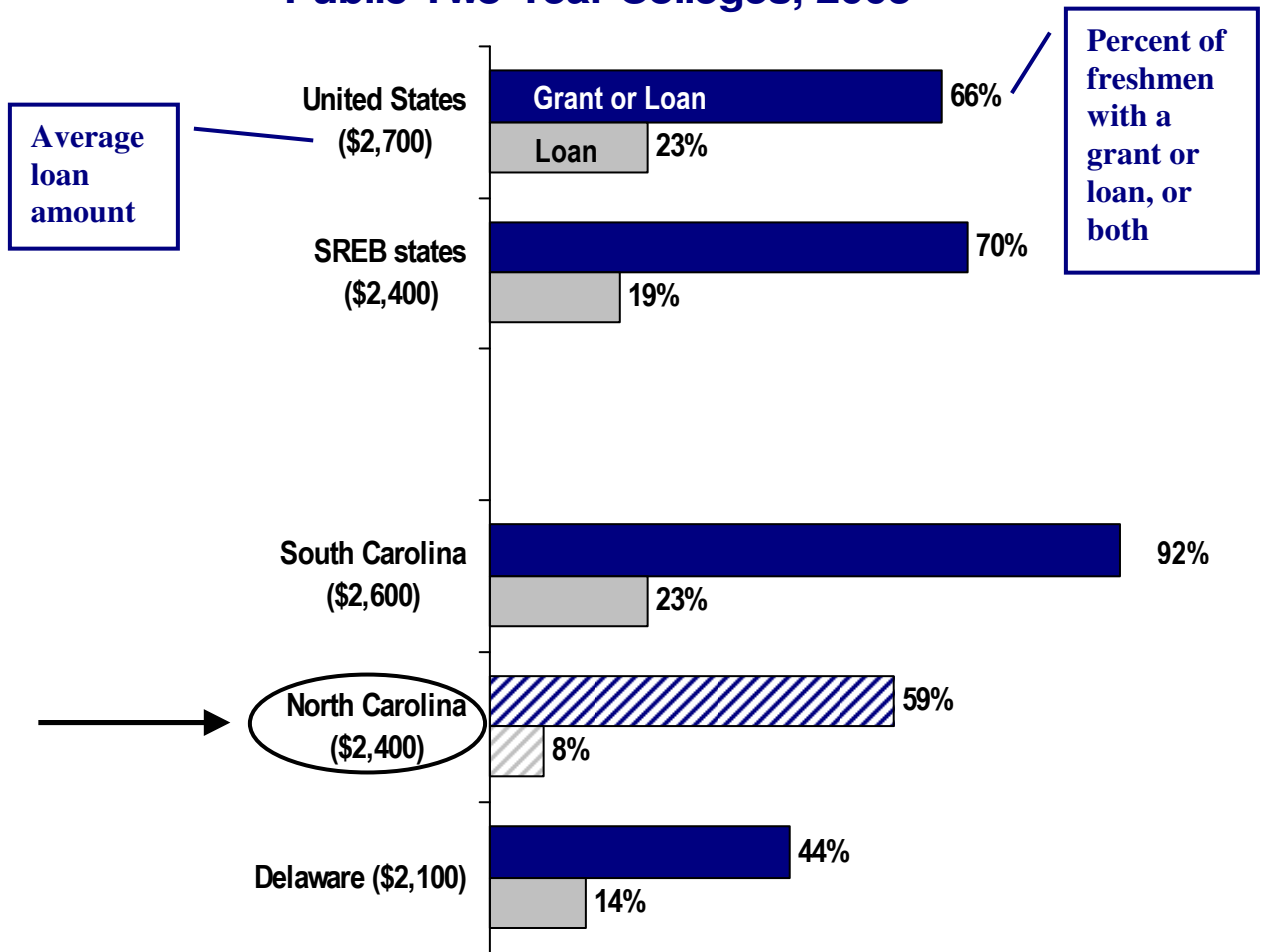
## Grants and Loans to Freshmen Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities 2005



Source: Table 53, National Center for Education Statistics.

- Nationally, 78 percent of first-time, full-time freshmen seeking undergraduate degrees at public four-year colleges received a financial aid grant, took out a student loan, or both, in 2005. Forty-nine percent took out loans. In North Carolina, the percentages were 74 percent and 55 percent, respectively. The average loan amount for North Carolina freshmen taking out loans in 2005 was \$3,700.

## Grants and Loans to Freshmen Public Two-Year Colleges, 2005



Source: Table 54, National Center for Education Statistics.

- Nationally, 66 percent of first-time, full-time freshmen seeking degrees or certificates at public two-year colleges received a financial aid grant, took out a student loan, or both, in 2005. Twenty-three percent took out loans. In North Carolina, 59 percent had a grant, loan or both, and 8 percent had loans, averaging \$2,400.

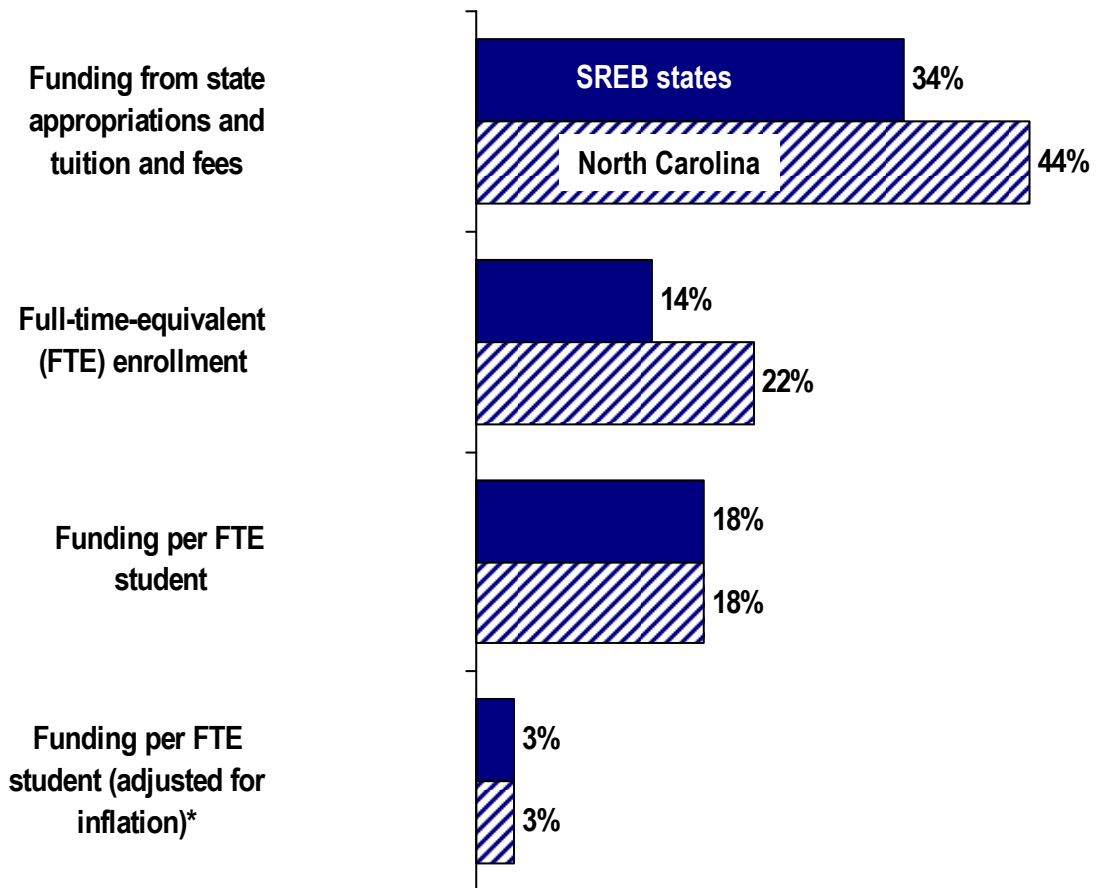


**Per student funding  
struggles to keep up with  
enrollment growth and  
inflation.**

# Enrollment and Funding Increases

## Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities

### 2001 to 2006



\* Inflation was measured using the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment Cost Index (ECI) for public colleges and universities, which rose 14.5 percent over the period.

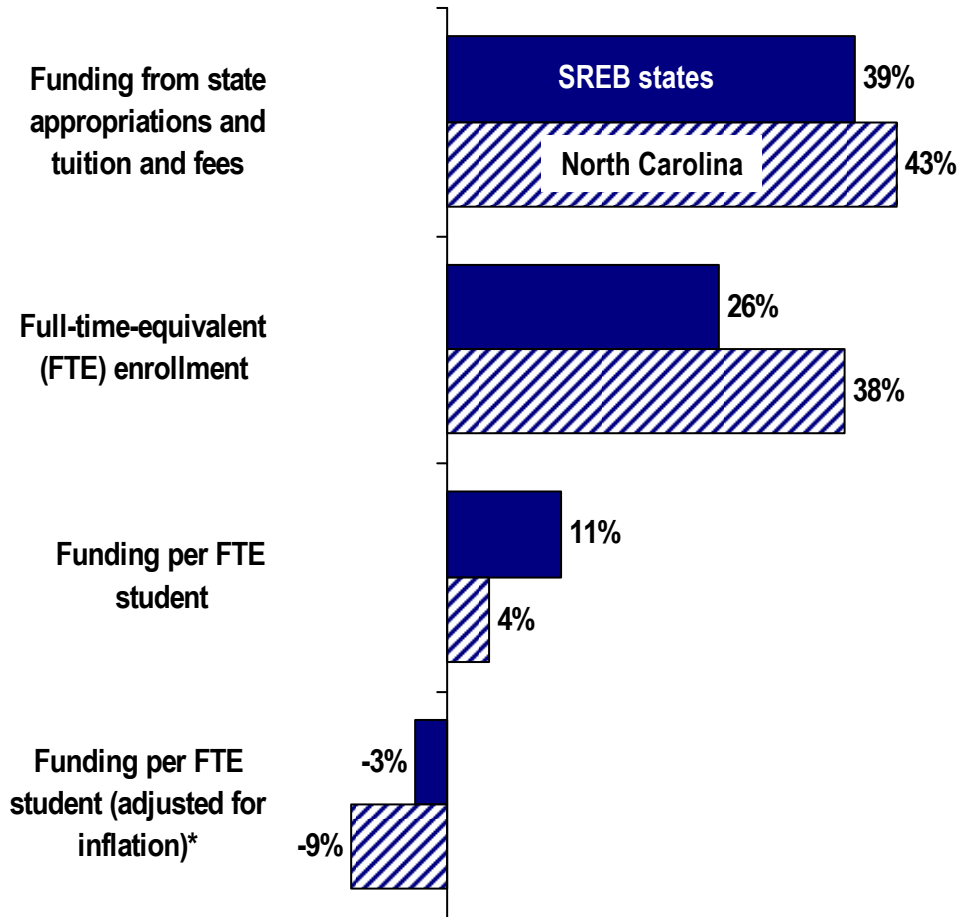
Sources: Tables 35, 75 and 77, SREB-State Data Exchange.

- In North Carolina in 2006, funding per FTE student was \$13,500 — 3 percent (\$400) more than in 2001 after adjusting for inflation. The regional average funding per FTE student was \$12,300 — 3 percent (\$400) more than in 2001 after adjusting for inflation.

# Enrollment and Funding Changes

## Public Two-Year Colleges

### 2001 to 2006



\* Inflation was measured using the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment Cost Index (ECI) for public colleges and universities, which rose 14.5 percent over the period.

Sources: Tables 35, 76 and 77, SREB-State Data Exchange.

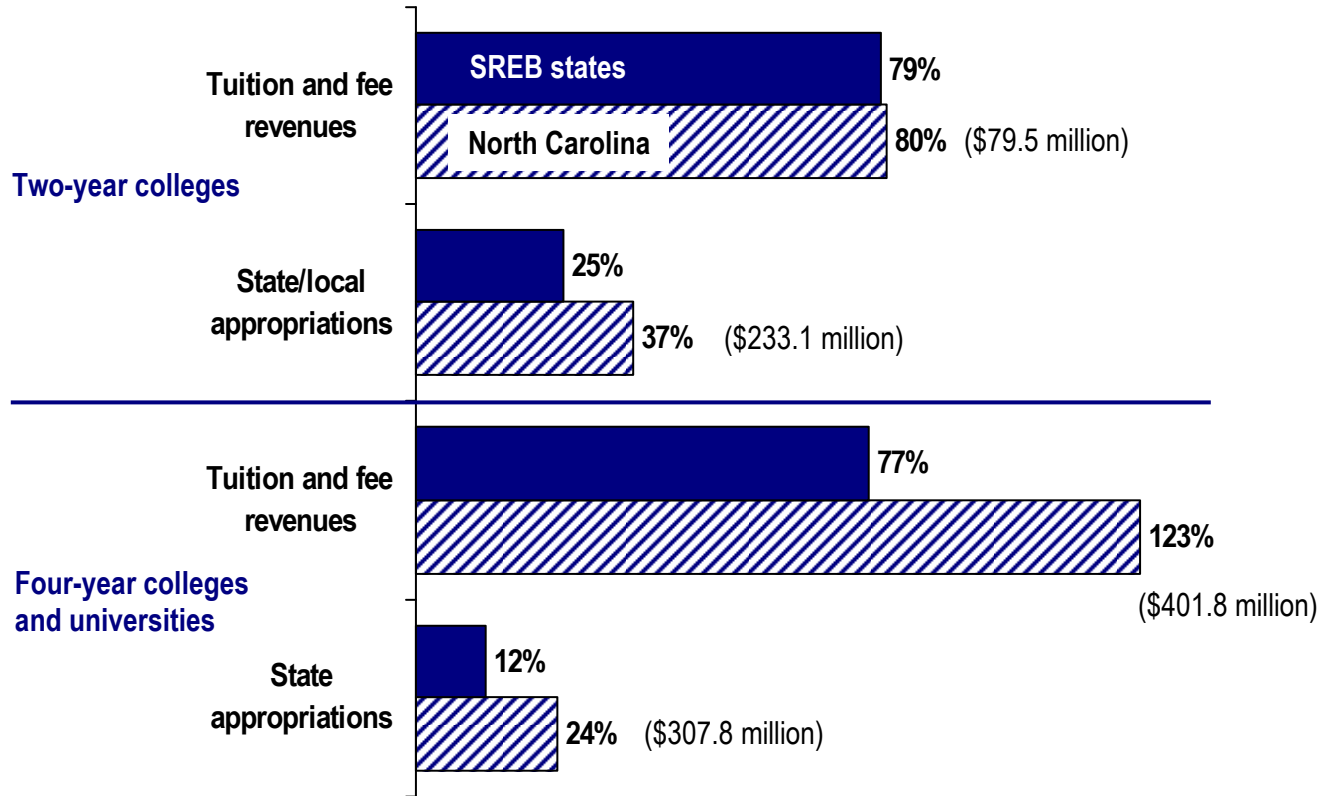
- In North Carolina in 2006, funding per FTE student was \$4,600 — 9 percent (\$500) less than in 2001 after adjusting for inflation. The regional average funding per FTE student was \$6,200 — 3 percent (\$200) less than in 2001 after adjusting for inflation.



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**Rising tuition and fees  
were the largest source of  
new funds for colleges and  
universities.**

## Appropriations and Tuition Growth Public Colleges and Universities 2001 to 2006



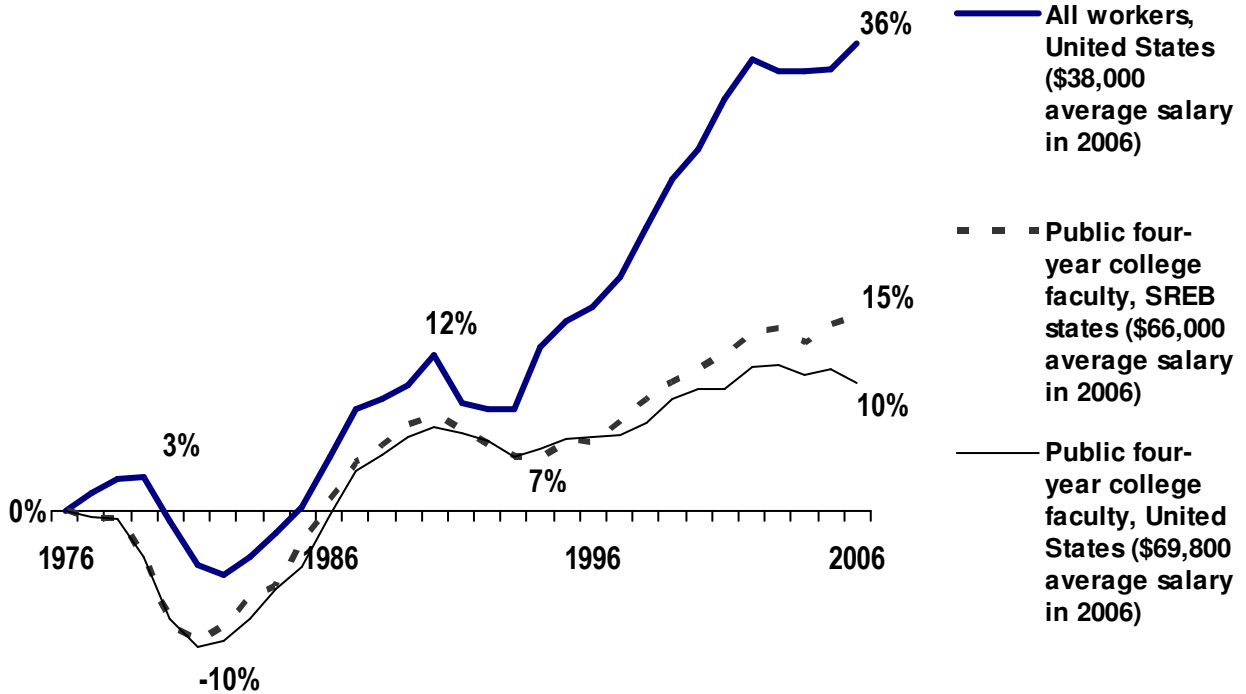
Sources: Tables 75, 76 and 77, SREB-State Data Exchange.

- At North Carolina’s public two-year colleges, there was an additional 30 cents in tuition and fees for every additional appropriated dollar. In the SREB region, there was \$1.20 in tuition and fees collected for every additional appropriated dollar.
- At North Carolina’s public four-year colleges and universities, there was an additional \$1.30 in tuition and fees for every additional appropriated dollar. In the SREB region, there was \$3.30 in tuition and fees collected for every additional appropriated dollar.



**Faculty salary growth  
trails that of the average  
American worker.**

## Changes in Annual Pay (adjusted for inflation)

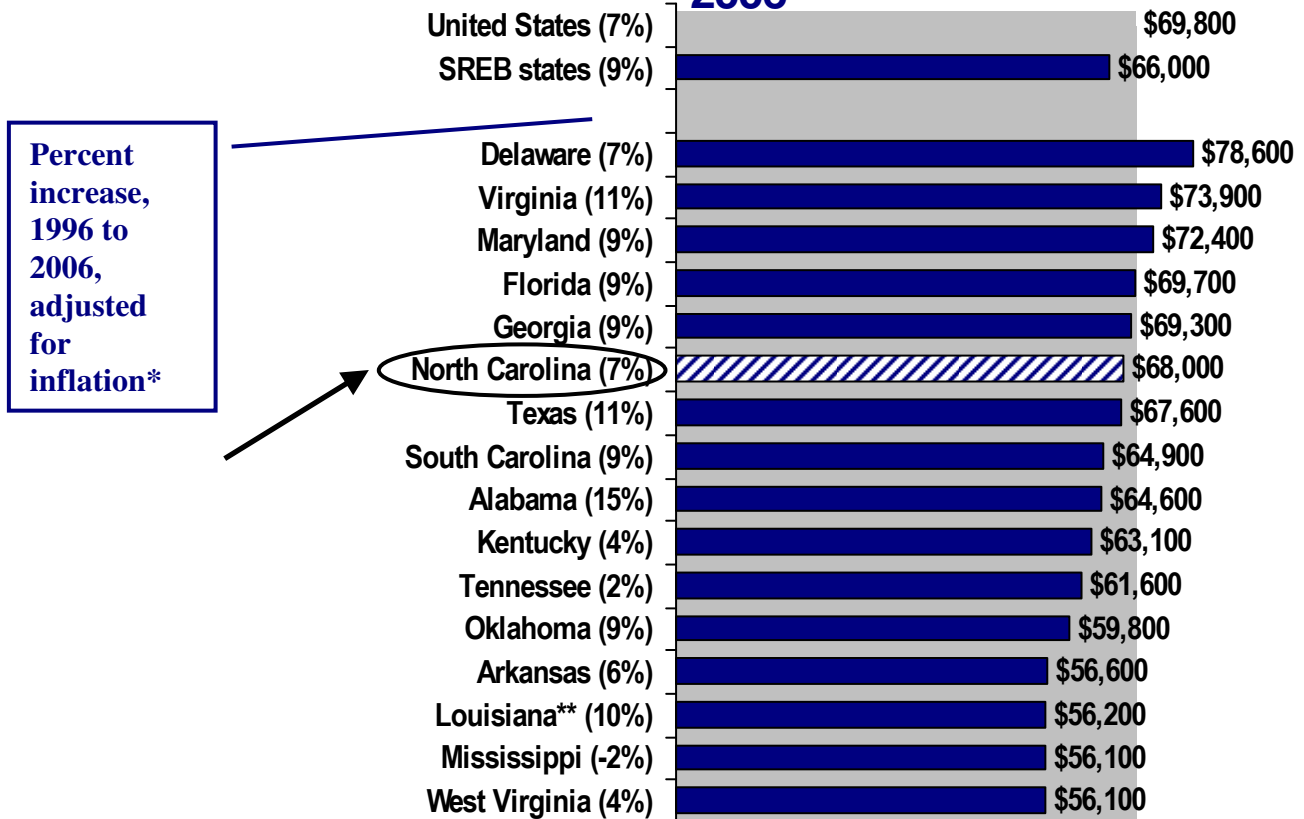


Sources: SREB-State Data Exchange, National Center for Education Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau.

- Despite the fact that college faculty have higher levels of education and higher pay than workers overall, faculty nationwide and in the SREB region continue to lose ground to the growth of the average American wage. Faculty salaries at public four-year colleges and universities in the SREB region were about \$8,500 higher in 2006 than in 1976 when adjusted for inflation. In contrast, the average increase for all workers nationwide was about \$10,200.

## Faculty Salaries

### Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities, 2006

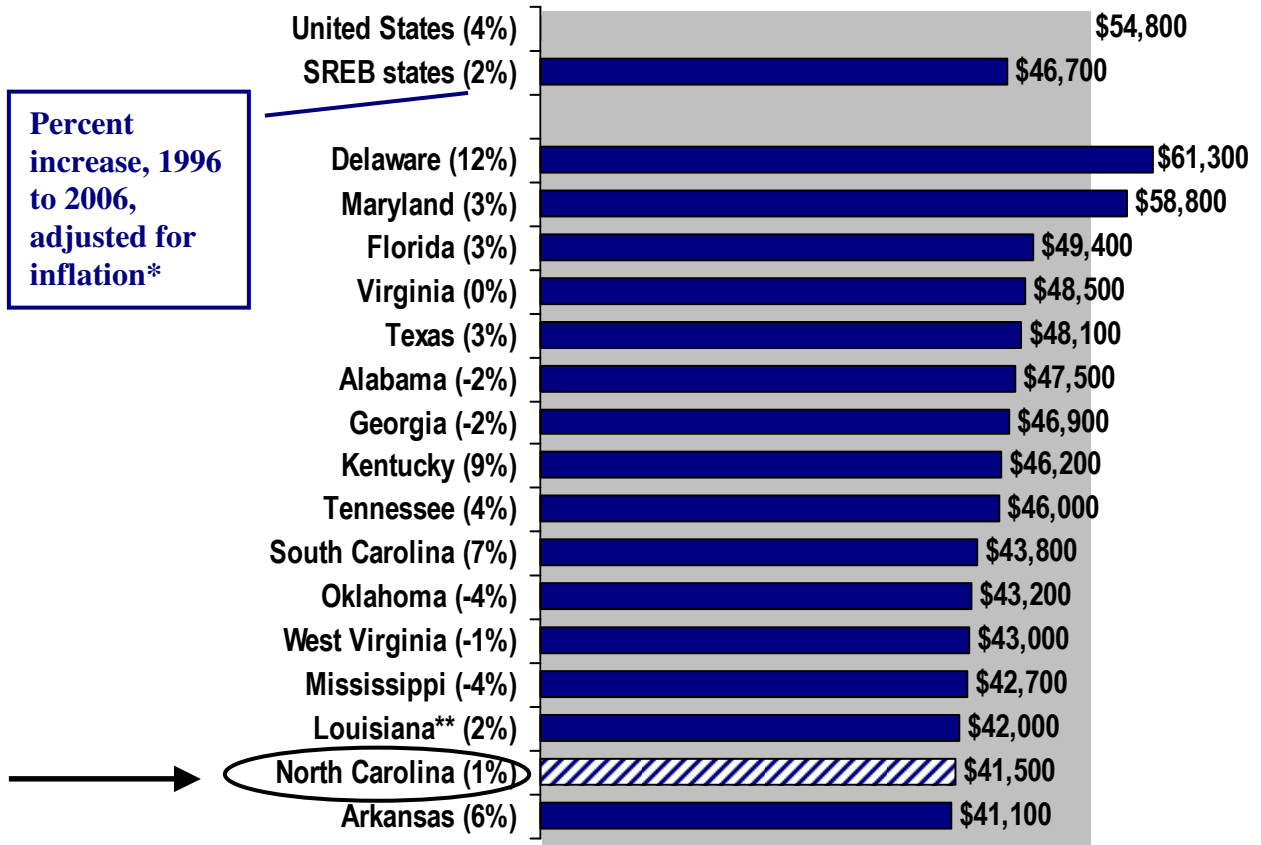


\* Inflation was measured using academic year Consumer Price Index, which rose 27 percent over the period.  
 \*\* The increase is greater than it appears here because reporting changes took effect in 1997.

Source: Table 68, SREB-State Data Exchange and American Association of University Professors.

- From 1996 to 2006, the SREB region’s average four-year faculty salary rose 9 percent to \$66,000. The average in North Carolina rose 7 percent to \$68,000. The four-year college and university average in North Carolina in 2006 was sixth highest in the SREB region.

## Faculty Salaries Public Two-Year Colleges, 2006



\* Inflation was measured using academic year Consumer Price Index, which rose 27 percent over the period.

\*\* The increase is greater than it appears here because reporting changes took effect in 1997.

Source: Table 73, SREB-State Data Exchange and American Association of University Professors.

- From 1996 to 2006, the SREB region's average two-year faculty salary rose 2 percent to \$46,700. The average in North Carolina rose 1 percent to \$41,500. The two-year college average in North Carolina in 2006 was second lowest in the SREB region.