

SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE REPORT 2022

As Required by SC Code of Laws §59-18-1950

SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
Transforming data into solutions for South Carolina



Purpose

- This report is presented pursuant to SC Code of Laws §59-18-1950 which states “The General Assembly recognizes the importance of having a state longitudinal data system to inform policy and fiscal decisions related to early childhood education, public education, postsecondary preparedness and success, and workforce development.”
- §59-18-1950 requires the longitudinal system include, at a minimum, the following information for measuring the continuous improvement of the state public education system and the college and career readiness and success of its graduates:
 - a) the number of students graduating from public high schools in the State who enter postsecondary education without the need for remediation;
 - b) the number of working-aged adults in South Carolina by county who possess a postsecondary degree or industry credential;
 - c) the number of high school graduates who are gainfully employed in the State within five and ten years of graduating from high school; and
 - d) outcome data regarding student achievement and student growth that will assist colleges of education in achieving accreditation and in improving the quality of teachers in classrooms.

Data Availability and Limitations

- The review of available data identified some gaps that could not be filled by existing data collections:
 - “d) outcome data regarding student achievement and student growth that will assist colleges of education in achieving accreditation and in improving the quality of teachers in classrooms” is not included in this report because the required data linking student achievement to individual teachers is not currently collected.
- This report presents the findings on (a) through (c) in the order they are listed in the legislation.
- Analysis is restricted to on-time graduates of SC public high schools.
- Analysis is restricted to in-state postsecondary institutions and in-state employment.
- No data is currently available to determine if graduates moved out of state.

Longitudinal Data System Measurement (a):

The number of students graduating from public high schools in SC who enter postsecondary education without the need for remediation

- Data Sources:
 - SC Department of Education public high school graduates linked to Commission on Higher Education (CHE) enrollment data. Details are provided in the Appendix.
- Definitions:
 - High school graduates are defined as those completing high school within four (4) years.
 - Postsecondary education includes colleges, universities, community/junior colleges, and technical colleges in SC.
 - Remediation is a postsecondary education admission type of “*developmental*” as defined by CHE.
- Limitations:
 - Analysis is focused on those entering postsecondary education within one year of graduating; data is not available to determine if a student received remediation out-of-state before entering postsecondary education in SC at a later date.

Longitudinal Data System Measurement (a):

The number of students graduating from public high schools in SC who enter postsecondary education without the need for remediation

- Key Findings:
 - The percent of SC high school graduates entering postsecondary education in SC within one year of graduating has decreased from 56% in 2015 to less than 44% in 2020.
 - According to the SC Department of Education's College Freshman Report, 12.1% of SC graduates went out-of-state for postsecondary education in 2020 compared to 9.7% in 2015. This increase explains some, but not all, of the decline in in-state enrollment.
 - The percent of SC graduates entering postsecondary education in SC without remediation has increased from approximately 87% in 2015 to almost 95% in 2020.
 - There is substantial variation among SC counties in terms of in-state enrollment to postsecondary education of high school graduates.
 - In 2020, the percentage of graduates entering postsecondary education ranged from 12% to 66% by county.
 - Of those who entered postsecondary education, the percent entering without remediation ranged from 80% to 100% by county.

South Carolina Public High School Graduates (2015-2020)

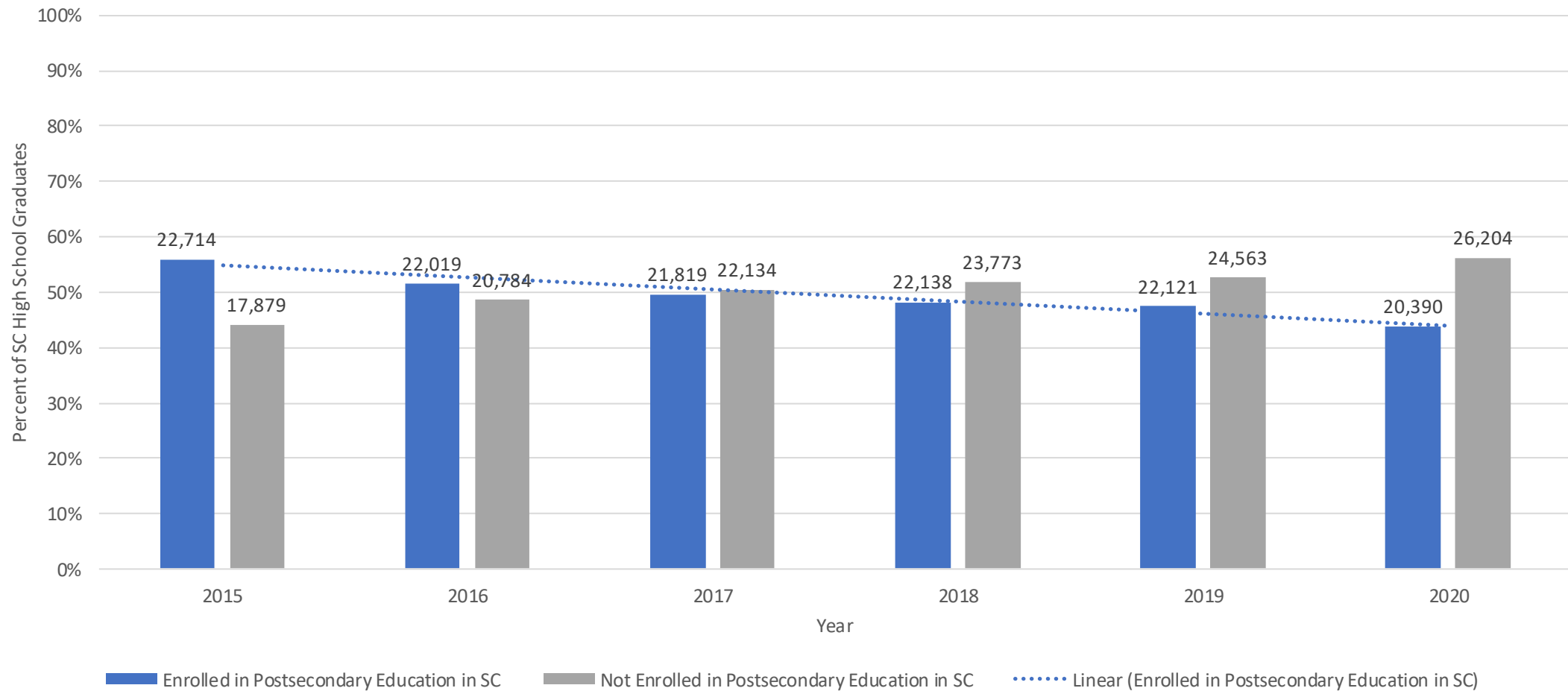
Entering postsecondary education in SC the year following high school graduation

Year	SC Public High School Graduates	Number of Graduates Entering SC Postsecondary Education	Percent	Number and Percent of Those Entering Postsecondary Education:			
				Without Remediation		With Remediation	
2015	40,593	22,714	56.0%	19,681	86.6%	3,033	13.4%
2016	42,803	22,019	51.4%	19,446	88.3%	2,573	11.7%
2017	43,953	21,819	49.6%	19,151	87.8%	2,668	12.2%
2018	45,911	22,138	48.2%	19,878	89.8%	2,260	10.2%
2019	46,684	22,121	47.4%	20,492	92.6%	1,629	7.4%
2020	46,594	20,390	43.8%	19,333	94.8%	1,057	5.2%

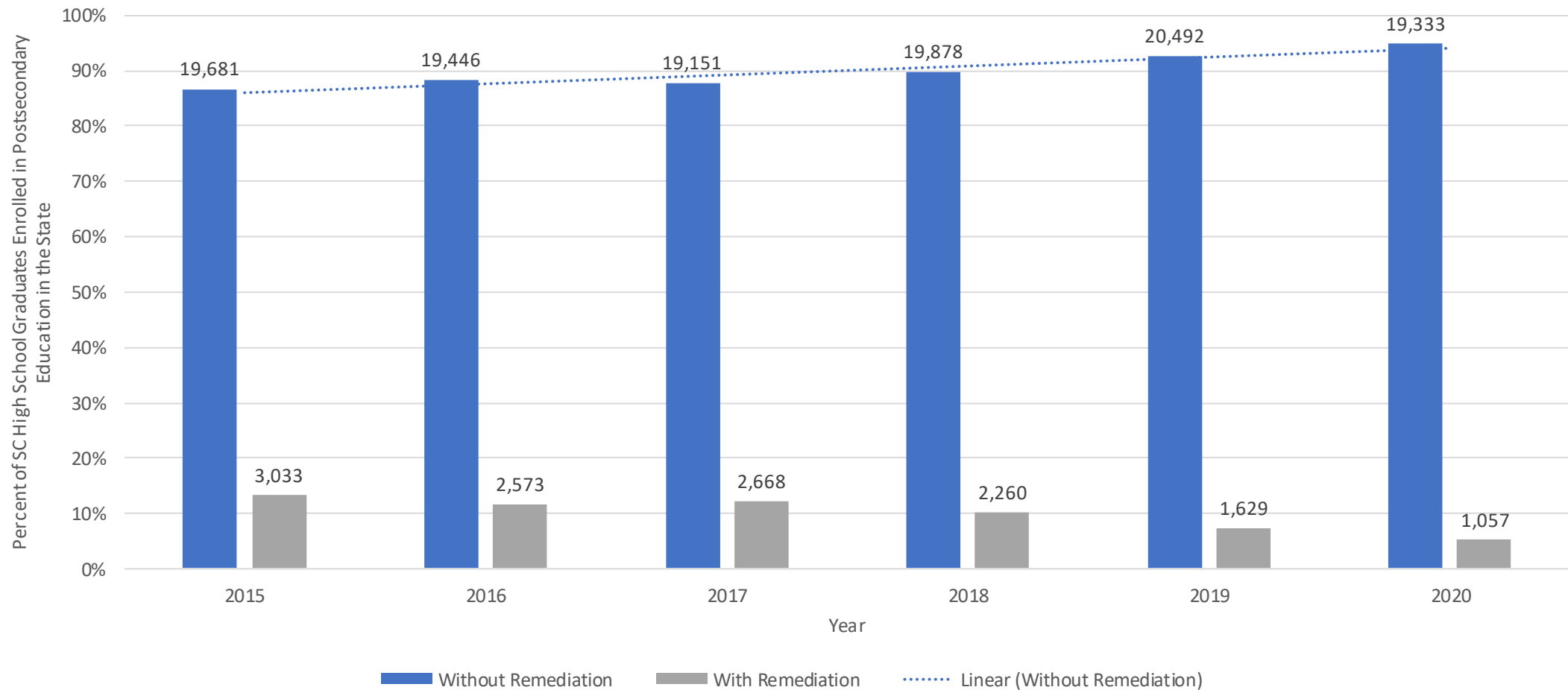


South Carolina Public High School Graduates (2015-2020)

Postsecondary education enrollment in SC the year following high school graduation

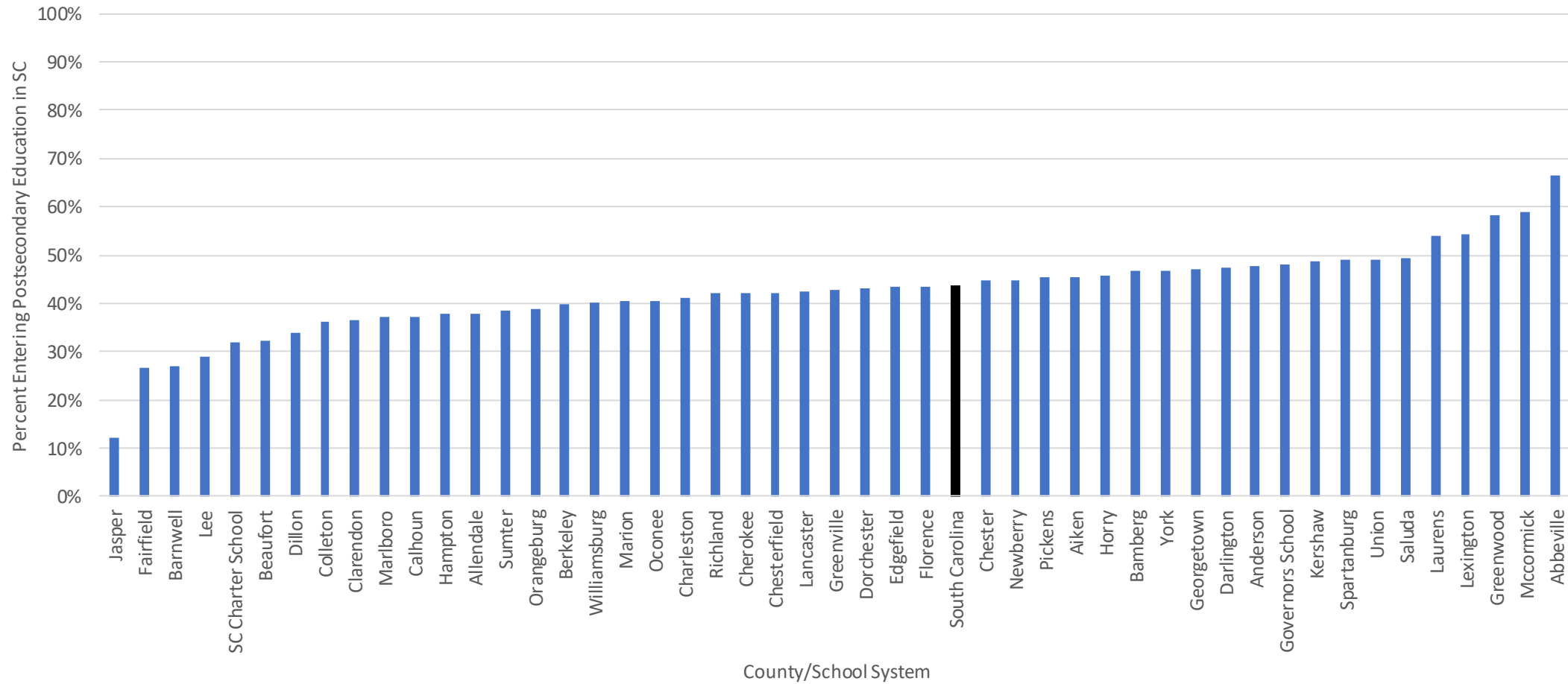


South Carolina Public High School Graduates (2015-2020) Entering postsecondary education in SC the year following high school graduation – with and without remediation



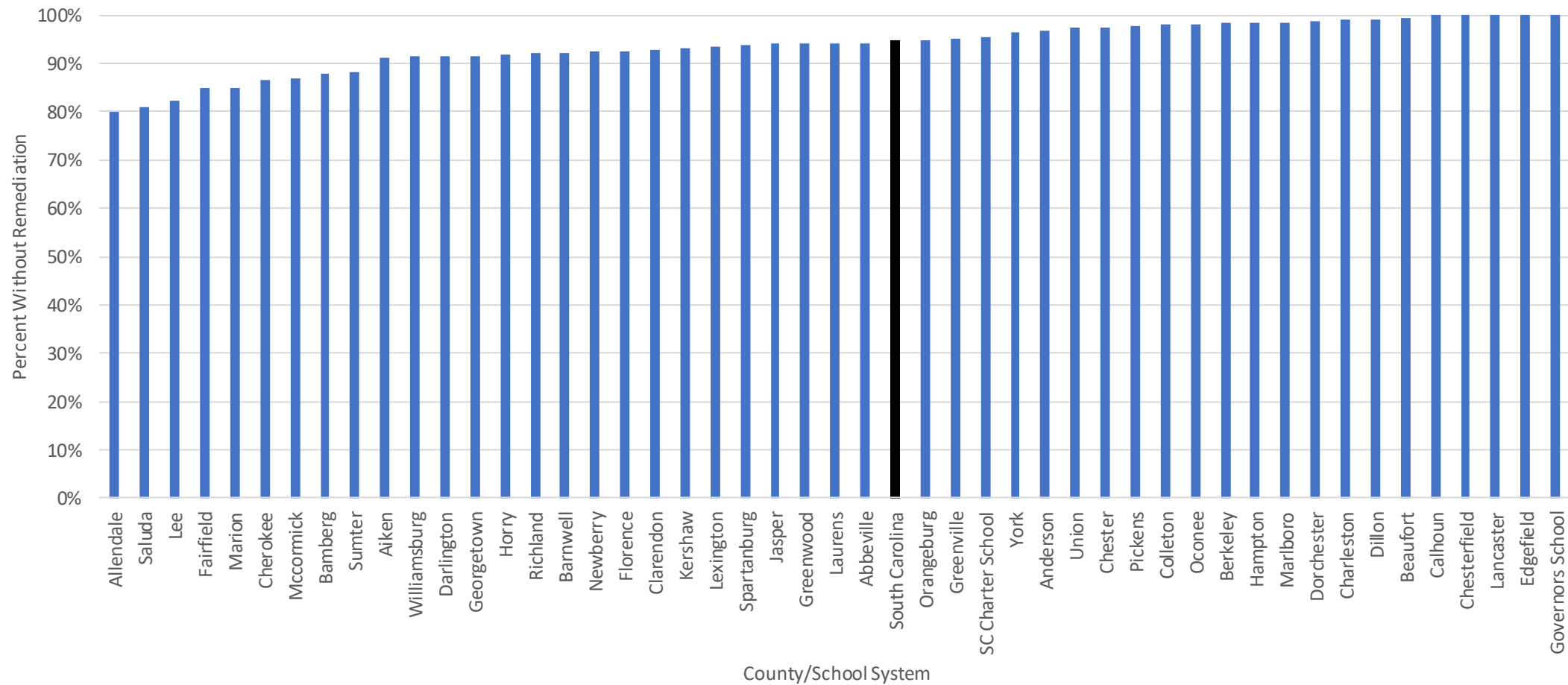
South Carolina Public High School Graduates, 2020

Postsecondary education enrollment in SC the year following high school graduation



South Carolina Public High School Graduates, 2020

Postsecondary education enrollment in SC without the need for remediation the year following high school graduation



Longitudinal Data System Measurement (b):

The number of working-age adults in South Carolina by county who possess a postsecondary degree or industry credential

- Data Sources:
 - U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) was used to determine the educational attainment of the working age population (18-64). Details are provided in the Data Appendix.
- Key Limitations:
 - Analysis based on survey estimates, rather than direct counts.
 - Geographic location determined by location at the time of survey response.
 - Education could have been obtained outside of South Carolina.
 - ACS does not consider “industry credential”.
 - ACS 1-year estimates are not available for 2020. See Section B of the Data Appendix for more information.

Longitudinal Data System Measurement (b):

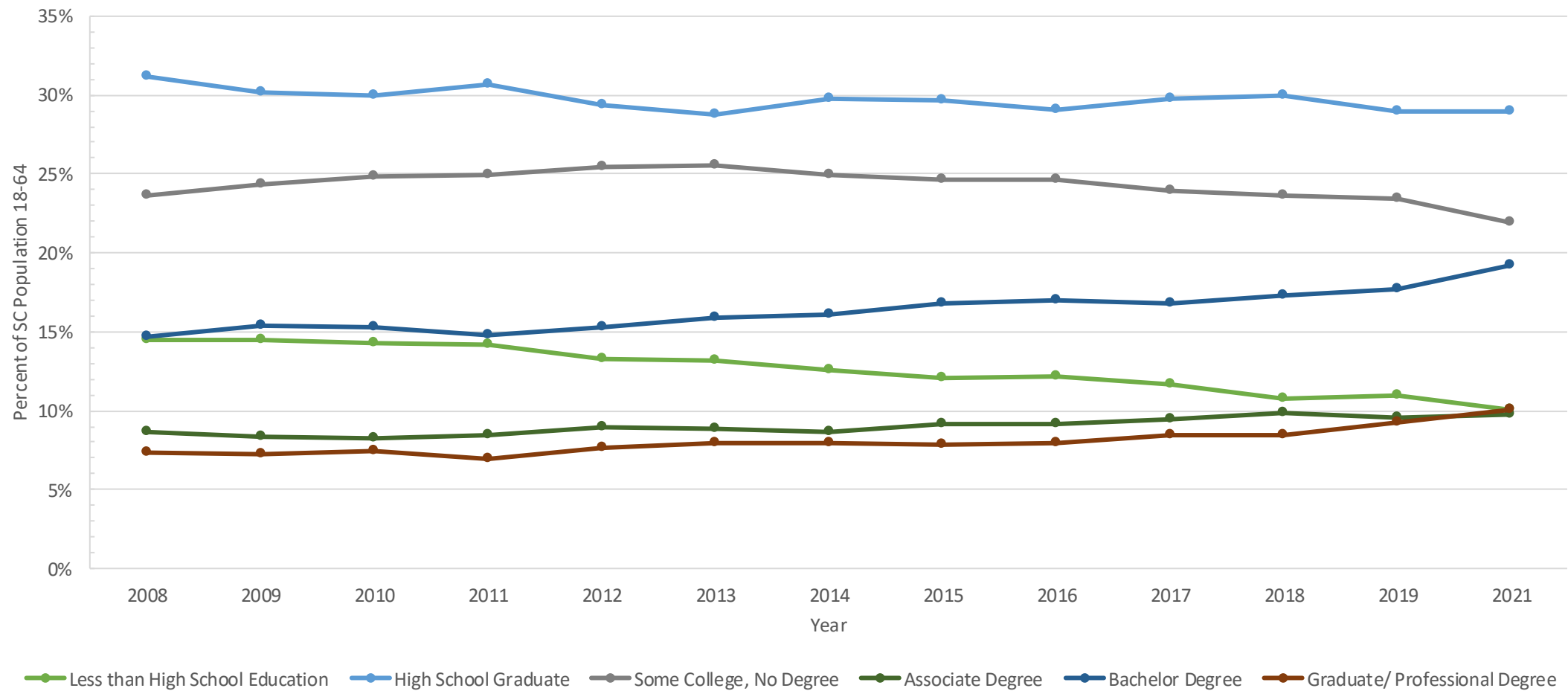
The number of working-age adults in South Carolina by county who possess a postsecondary degree or industry credential

- Key Findings:
 - Educational attainment has increased modestly over time, with slight upward trends in the percent of people acquiring associate, bachelor, and graduate/professional degrees.
 - In 2008, the number of adults aged 18 – 64 who did not complete high school was almost twice the number of adults with a Graduate/Professional Degree. In 2021, those populations are almost equal.
 - There is substantial variability across the counties in all categories according to the ACS 5-year estimates (2017-2021).
 - 10.5% of working-age adults in SC have less than a high school education; county level percentages range from 7% to 23%
 - 29% of working-age adults in SC have completed high school but have no postsecondary education; by county, the percentages range from 21% to 50%
 - Approximately 61% of adults in SC have at least some college; county level percentages range from 33% to 72%
 - Approximately 18% of adults in SC have a bachelor degree; by county, the percentages range from 4% to 29%

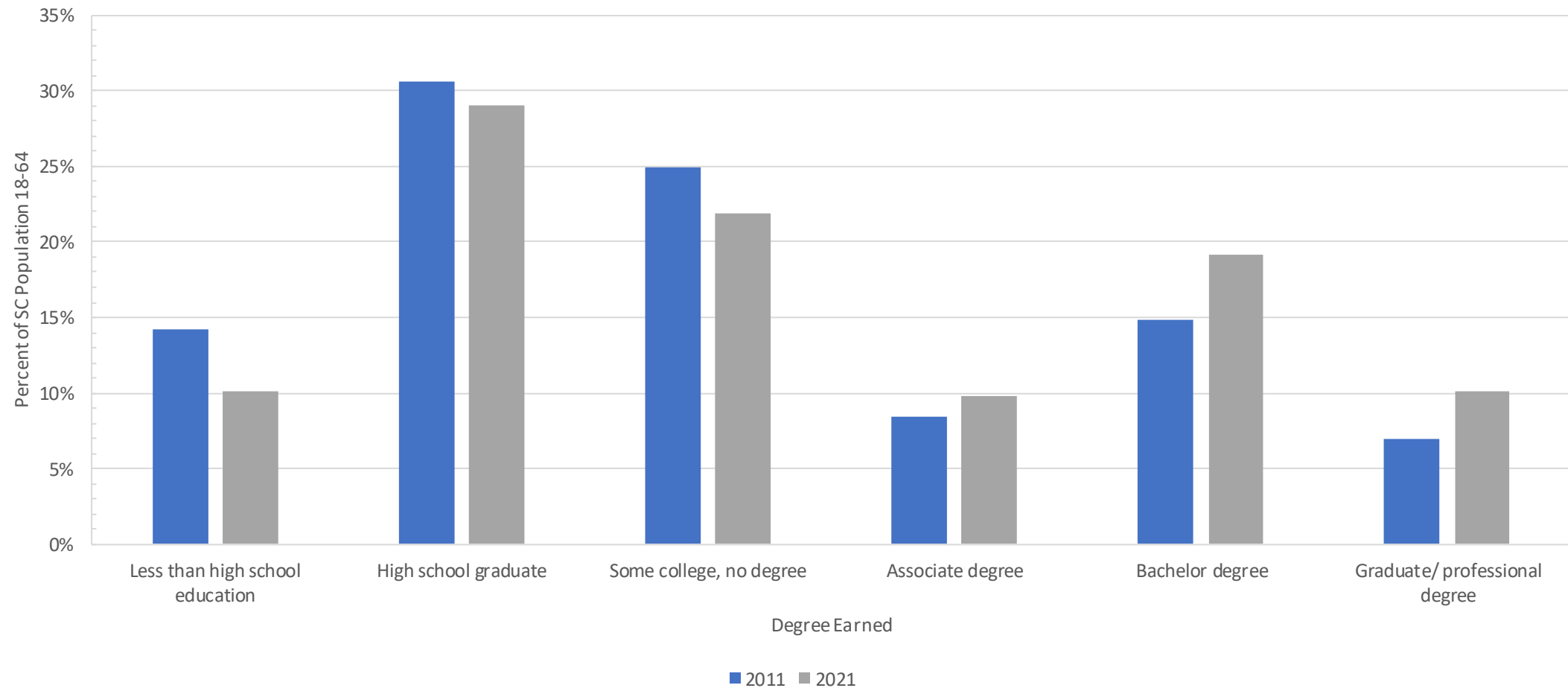
Highest Educational Attainment for SC Population Age 18 to 64

American Community Survey, One Year Estimates

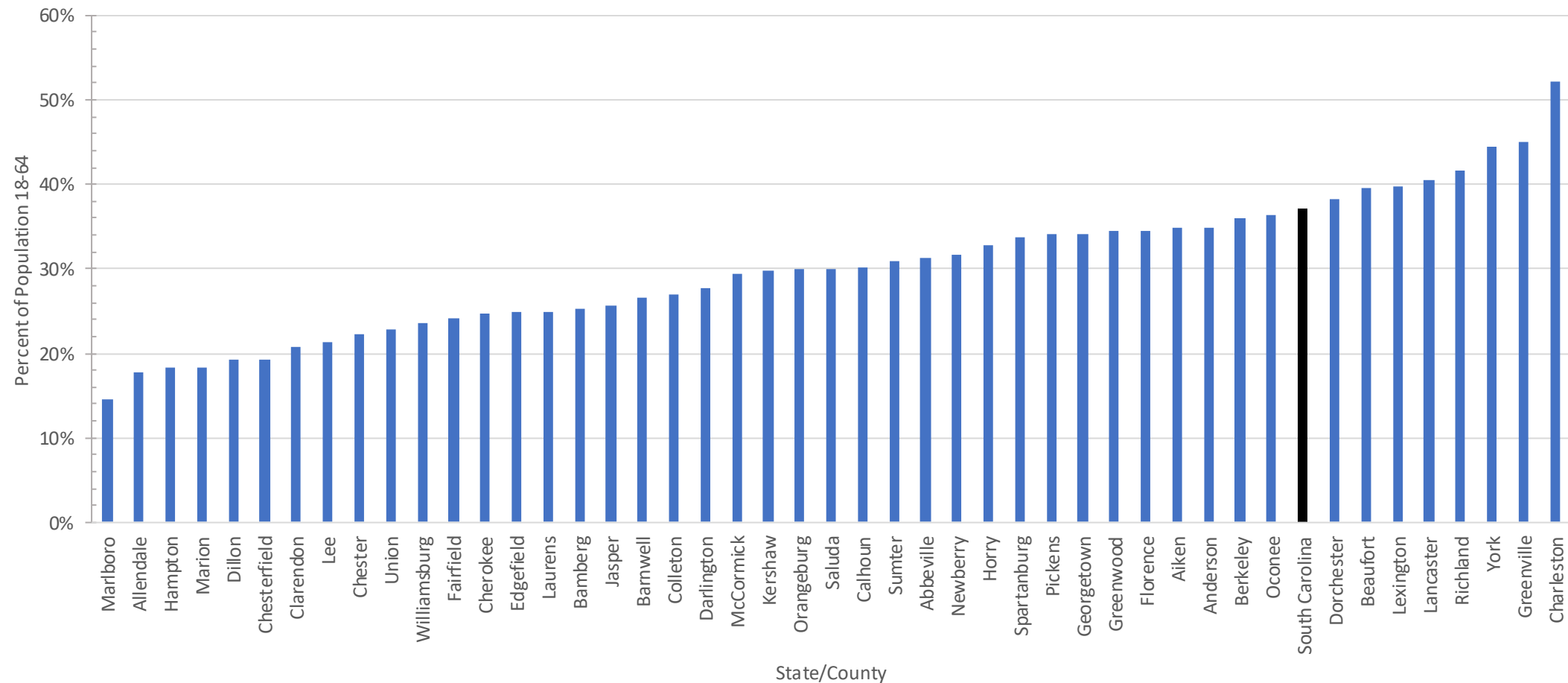
2008 - 2019 & 2021



Highest Educational Attainment for SC Population Age 18 to 64 American Community Survey, One Year Estimates - 2011 and 2021 Comparison



Percent of SC Population Age 18 to 64 with an Associate Degree or Higher American Communities Survey, Five Year Estimates (2017-2021)



Highest Educational Attainment for SC Population Age 18 to 64

American Communities Survey, Five Year Estimates (2017-2021)

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE	18-64 POPULATION	LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL		HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE		SOME COLLEGE		ASSOCIATE DEGREE		BACHELOR DEGREE		GRADUATE/ PROFESSIONAL DEGREE OR HIGHER	
		Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
All Counties	3,067,603	323,574	10.5%	886,326	28.9%	715,239	23.3%	299,161	9.8%	558,257	18.2%	285,046	9.3%
Abbeville	14,126	2,079	14.7%	4,847	34.3%	2,786	19.7%	2,160	15.3%	1,633	11.6%	621	4.4%
Aiken	98,831	10,172	10.3%	31,716	32.1%	22,519	22.8%	9,006	9.1%	17,541	17.7%	7,877	8.0%
Allendale	5,015	1,156	23.1%	1,870	37.3%	1,098	21.9%	365	7.3%	298	5.9%	228	4.5%
Anderson	119,777	15,189	12.7%	36,411	30.4%	26,478	22.1%	13,664	11.4%	18,457	15.4%	9,578	8.0%
Bamberg	7,890	1,277	16.2%	2,163	27.4%	2,465	31.2%	895	11.3%	711	9.0%	379	4.8%
Barnwell	12,007	1,877	15.6%	4,282	35.7%	2,659	22.1%	1,430	11.9%	1,242	10.3%	517	4.3%
Beaufort	100,656	8,552	8.5%	29,231	29.0%	23,033	22.9%	8,738	8.7%	20,052	19.9%	11,050	11.0%
Berkeley	139,527	13,589	9.7%	41,425	29.7%	34,249	24.5%	13,676	9.8%	25,528	18.3%	11,060	7.9%
Calhoun	8,223	856	10.4%	2,896	35.2%	1,985	24.1%	1,070	13.0%	1,029	12.5%	387	4.7%
Charleston	258,343	18,093	7.0%	53,234	20.6%	52,219	20.2%	20,599	8.0%	74,811	29.0%	39,387	15.2%
Cherokee	33,957	5,117	15.1%	12,469	36.7%	7,976	23.5%	3,602	10.6%	2,912	8.6%	1,881	5.5%
Chester	19,047	2,492	13.1%	7,635	40.1%	4,675	24.5%	1,831	9.6%	1,733	9.1%	681	3.6%
Chesterfield	25,862	4,558	17.6%	10,331	39.9%	5,971	23.1%	2,136	8.3%	1,843	7.1%	1,023	4.0%
Clarendon	18,060	3,557	19.7%	6,540	36.2%	4,226	23.4%	1,407	7.8%	1,569	8.7%	761	4.2%
Colleton	22,226	3,004	13.5%	9,613	43.3%	3,613	16.3%	2,876	12.9%	2,123	9.6%	997	4.5%



Highest Educational Attainment for SC Population Age 18 to 64

American Communities Survey, Five Year Estimates (2017-2021)

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE	18-64 POPULATION	LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL		HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE		SOME COLLEGE		ASSOCIATE DEGREE		BACHELOR DEGREE		GRADUATE/ PROFESSIONAL DEGREE OR HIGHER	
		Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
All Counties	3,067,603	323,574	10.5%	886,326	28.9%	715,239	23.3%	299,161	9.8%	558,257	18.2%	285,046	9.3%
Darlington	37,149	4,927	13.3%	13,577	36.5%	8,351	22.5%	3,387	9.1%	4,444	12.0%	2,463	6.6%
Dillon	16,585	2,711	16.3%	7,143	43.1%	3,543	21.4%	1,446	8.7%	1,250	7.5%	492	3.0%
Dorchester	98,458	9,754	9.9%	27,415	27.8%	23,648	24.0%	10,899	11.1%	18,361	18.6%	8,381	8.5%
Edgefield	16,354	2,860	17.5%	6,004	36.7%	3,420	20.9%	1,370	8.4%	1,718	10.5%	982	6.0%
Fairfield	12,586	1,616	12.8%	5,215	41.4%	2,721	21.6%	948	7.5%	1,546	12.3%	540	4.3%
Florence	81,245	9,687	11.9%	25,907	31.9%	17,648	21.7%	8,591	10.6%	12,634	15.6%	6,778	8.3%
Georgetown	33,984	3,903	11.5%	9,612	28.3%	8,836	26.0%	3,519	10.4%	5,673	16.7%	2,441	7.2%
Greenville	316,972	31,762	10.0%	74,020	23.4%	68,251	21.5%	28,410	9.0%	76,173	24.0%	38,356	12.1%
Greenwood	40,707	5,336	13.1%	12,245	30.1%	9,104	22.4%	5,903	14.5%	5,247	12.9%	2,872	7.1%
Hampton	11,445	1,901	16.6%	5,177	45.2%	2,275	19.9%	982	8.6%	778	6.8%	332	2.9%
Horry	198,593	19,075	9.6%	65,638	33.1%	48,709	24.5%	20,981	10.6%	29,791	15.0%	14,399	7.3%
Jasper	17,035	2,333	13.7%	6,476	38.0%	3,869	22.7%	1,236	7.3%	2,380	14.0%	741	4.3%
Kershaw	37,904	3,803	10.0%	13,827	36.5%	8,971	23.7%	3,828	10.1%	4,653	12.3%	2,822	7.4%
Lancaster	54,320	6,717	12.4%	14,847	27.3%	10,759	19.8%	6,634	12.2%	10,539	19.4%	4,824	8.9%
Laurens	40,037	6,695	16.7%	14,251	35.6%	9,102	22.7%	3,891	9.7%	4,440	11.1%	1,658	4.1%
Lee	10,359	1,557	15.0%	4,248	41.0%	2,332	22.5%	777	7.5%	957	9.2%	488	4.7%

Highest Educational Attainment for SC Population Age 18 to 64

American Communities Survey, Five Year Estimates (2017-2021)

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE	18-64 POPULATION	LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL		HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE		SOME COLLEGE		ASSOCIATE DEGREE		BACHELOR DEGREE		GRADUATE/ PROFESSIONAL DEGREE OR HIGHER	
		Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent
All Counties	3,067,603	323,574	10.5%	886,326	28.9%	715,239	23.3%	299,161	9.8%	558,257	18.2%	285,046	9.3%
Lexington	177,414	16,733	9.4%	48,774	27.5%	41,218	23.2%	17,270	9.7%	36,080	20.3%	17,339	9.8%
McCormick	5,136	903	17.6%	1,957	38.1%	766	14.9%	795	15.5%	464	9.0%	251	4.9%
Marion	16,936	2,401	14.2%	8,439	49.8%	2,981	17.6%	1,137	6.7%	1,222	7.2%	756	4.5%
Marlboro	16,689	2,984	17.9%	8,202	49.1%	3,091	18.5%	1,247	7.5%	736	4.4%	429	2.6%
Newberry	22,115	2,911	13.2%	7,257	32.8%	4,956	22.4%	2,622	11.9%	3,185	14.4%	1,184	5.4%
Oconee	44,368	6,201	14.0%	12,549	28.3%	9,461	21.3%	5,463	12.3%	7,259	16.4%	3,435	7.7%
Orangeburg	49,297	6,427	13.0%	16,044	32.5%	12,015	24.4%	6,707	13.6%	4,680	9.5%	3,424	6.9%
Pickens	83,445	8,956	10.7%	21,362	25.6%	24,691	29.6%	7,874	9.4%	12,656	15.2%	7,906	9.5%
Richland	271,525	20,440	7.5%	62,008	22.8%	76,136	28.0%	20,211	7.4%	58,420	21.5%	34,310	12.6%
Saluda	11,092	2,143	19.3%	3,674	33.1%	1,942	17.5%	1,256	11.3%	1,273	11.5%	804	7.2%
Spartanburg	195,714	21,608	11.0%	60,617	31.0%	47,347	24.2%	21,081	10.8%	29,870	15.3%	15,191	7.8%
Sumter	62,712	6,123	9.8%	21,020	33.5%	16,165	25.8%	6,867	11.0%	8,068	12.9%	4,469	7.1%
Union	15,994	2,605	16.3%	6,120	38.3%	3,626	22.7%	1,710	10.7%	1,432	9.0%	501	3.1%
Williamsburg	18,153	2,559	14.1%	7,801	43.0%	3,533	19.5%	1,569	8.6%	1,799	9.9%	892	4.9%
York	169,733	14,375	8.5%	40,237	23.7%	39,820	23.5%	17,095	10.1%	39,047	23.0%	19,159	11.3%



Longitudinal Data System Measurement (c):

The number of high school graduates who are gainfully employed in the State within five and ten years of graduating from high school

- Data Sources:
 - SC Public High School Graduates linked to Department of Employment and Workforce Unemployment Insurance Quarterly Wage Data. Details are provided in the Data Appendix.
- Definitions:
 - Gainfully employed is defined as an individual with wages in two consecutive quarters beginning in the time period of interest.
 - Full-time employment is defined as an individual with annualized wages of at least \$14,500.
 - Annualized wages are calculated by taking the highest quarterly wages in the year and multiplying by 4.
- Key Limitations:
 - Analysis is restricted to graduates of SC public high schools.
 - Analysis is restricted to employment in SC and omits certain forms of employment.
 - No data available to determine the percent of those unemployed who left the state, died, entered the military, or remained in SC but were unemployed.

Longitudinal Data System Measurement (c):

The number of high school graduates who are gainfully employed in the State within five and ten years of graduating from high school

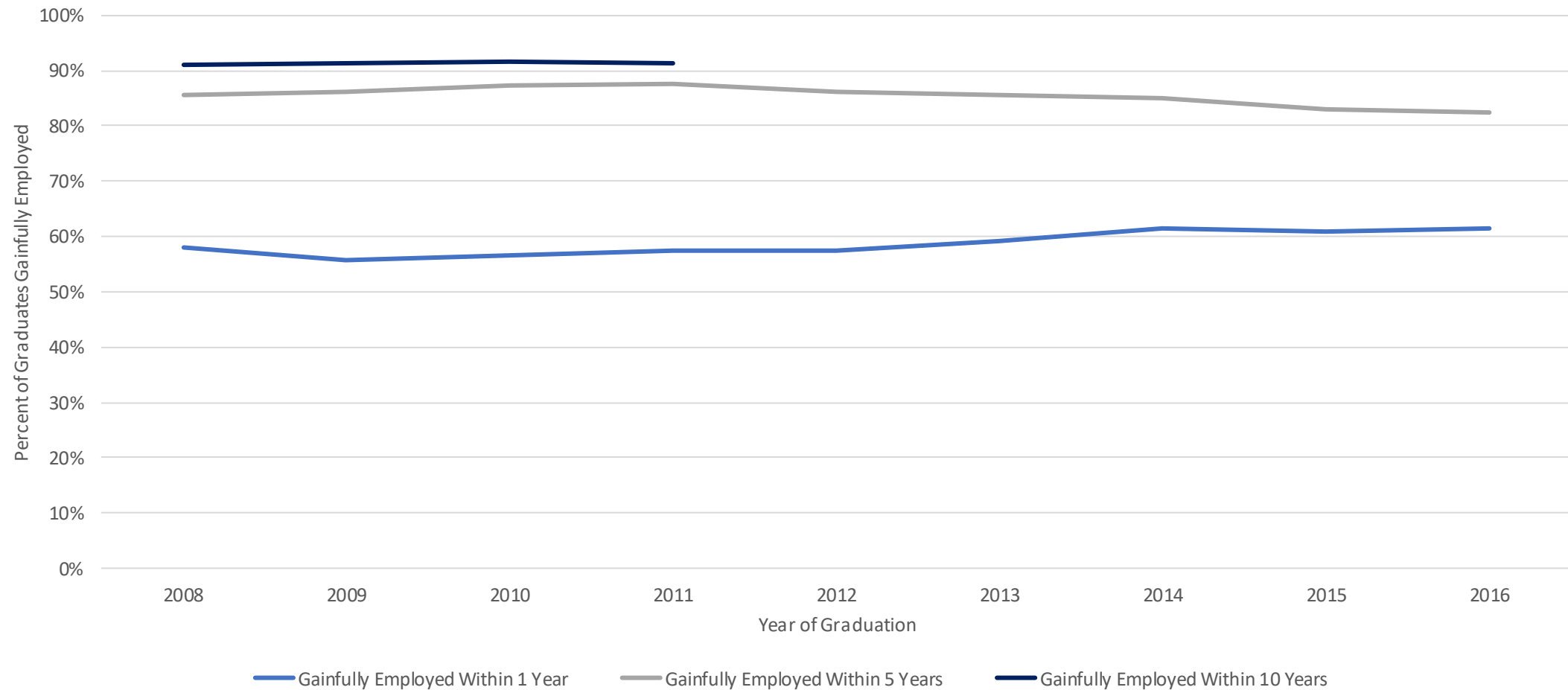
- Key Findings:
 - The vast majority of graduates experience some employment and earnings post-graduation.
 - First year employment is increasing which coincides with the decrease seen in postsecondary education enrollment.
 - 5-year employment is decreasing which suggests more students may be opting for post-bachelor degree programs.
 - Median wages for employment in the 5th year after graduation are similar to the statewide median income (American Community Survey) while wages in the 1st year after graduation are considerably lower. This could be contributed to work experience or obtainment of a college degree.
 - Higher levels of employment and wages are found in the longer, ten-year time period.

Number and Percent of South Carolina Public High School Graduates Gainfully Employed in SC Within One, Five, and Ten Years After Graduation

Graduation Year	Number of Graduates	Employment within 1 Year of Graduation		Employment within 5 Years of Graduation		Employment within 10 Years of Graduation	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
2008	33,268	19,277	57.9%	28,448	85.5%	30,276	91.0%
2009	36,363	20,309	55.9%	31,319	86.1%	33,189	91.3%
2010	35,805	20,250	56.6%	31,242	87.3%	32,777	91.5%
2011	38,863	22,299	57.4%	34,020	87.5%	35,517	91.4%
2012	38,910	22,372	57.50%	33,501	86.1%		
2013	38,956	23,037	59.1%	33,362	85.6%		
2014	39,132	24,100	61.6%	33,313	85.1%		
2015	40,593	24,676	60.8%	33,732	83.1%		
2016	42,803	26,336	61.5%	35,312	82.5%		



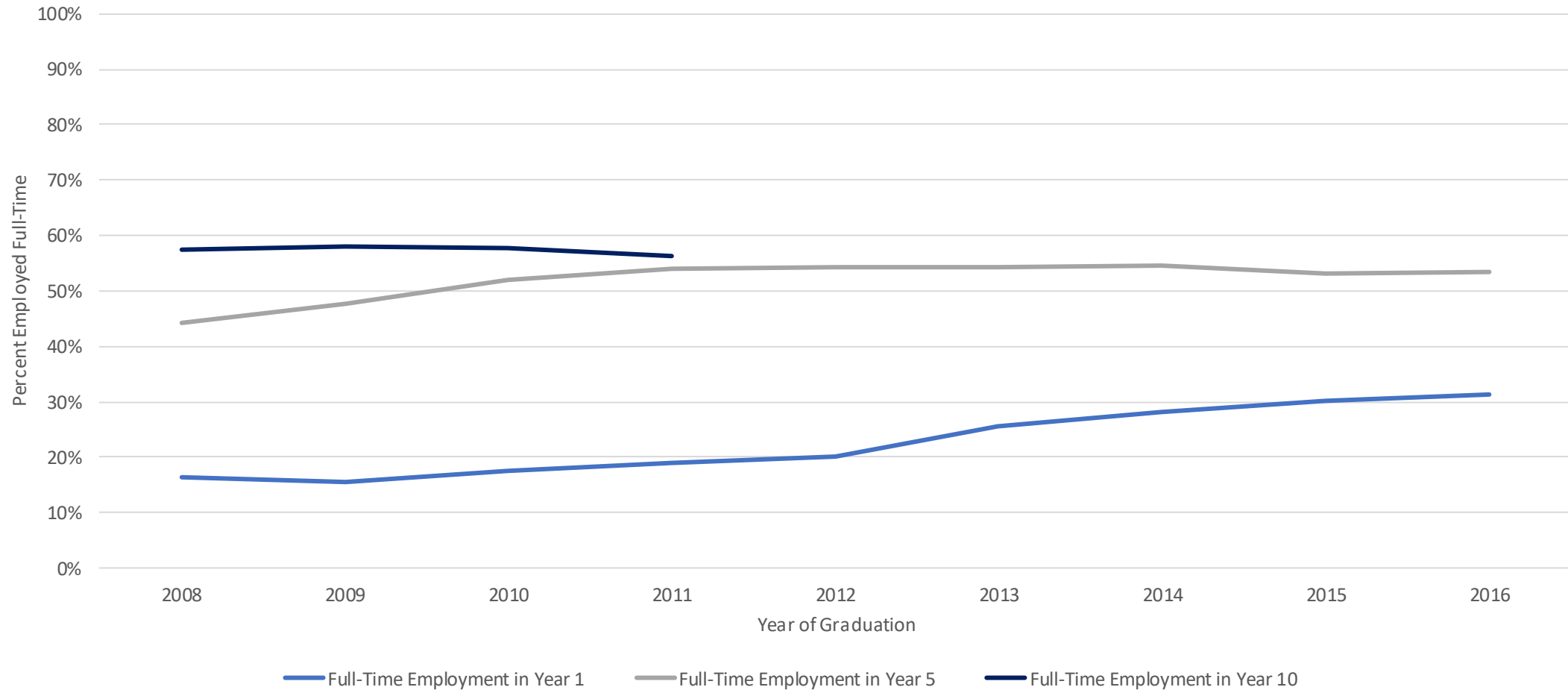
Percent of South Carolina Public High School Graduates Gainfully Employed in SC Within One, Five, and Ten Years After Graduation



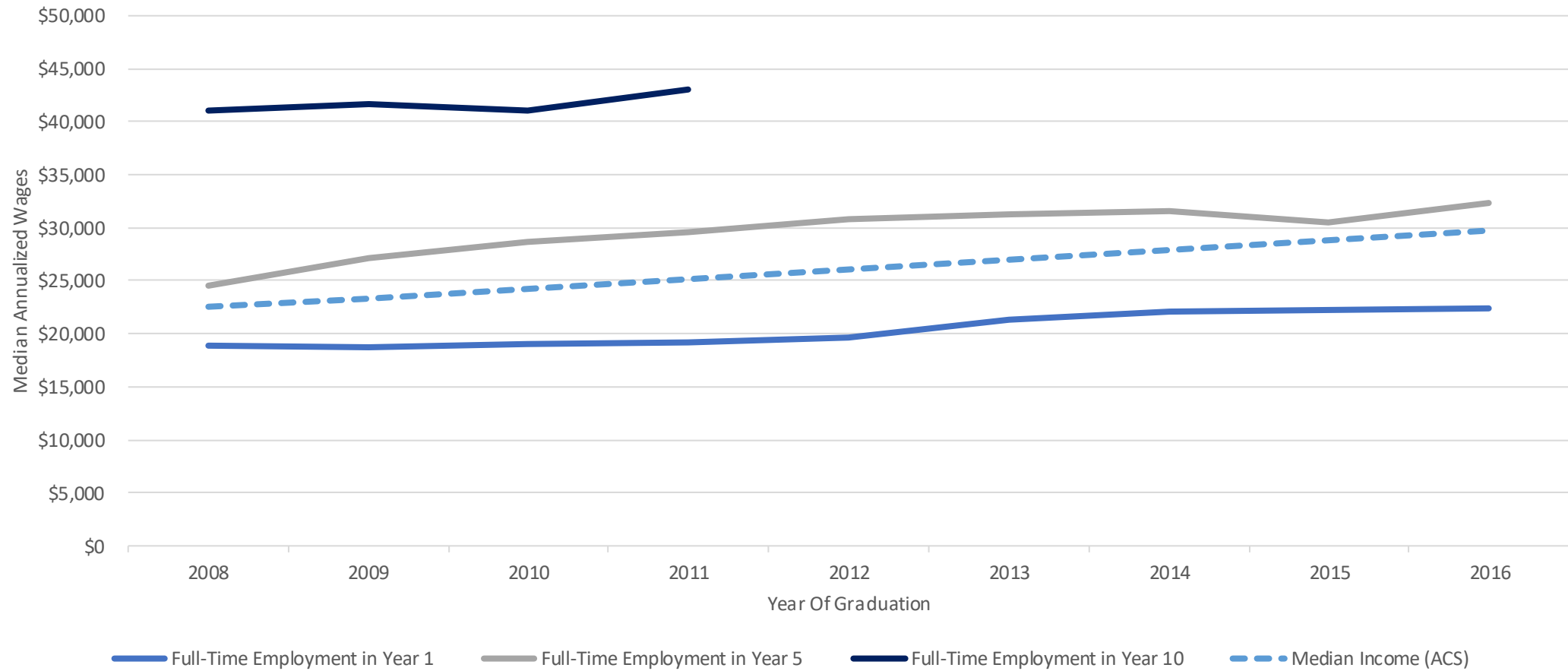
Wages of South Carolina Public High School Graduates Employed Full-Time in SC in the First, Fifth, and Tenth Year After Graduation

GRADUATION YEAR	GRADUATES	FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT IN YEAR 1				FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT IN YEAR 5				FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT IN YEAR 10			
		NUMBER	PERCENT	ANNUALIZED WAGES		NUMBER	PERCENT	ANNUALIZED WAGES		NUMBER	PERCENT	ANNUALIZED WAGES	
				AVERAGE	MEDIAN			AVERAGE	MEDIAN			AVERAGE	MEDIAN
2008	33,268	5,454	16.39%	\$22,944	\$18,885	14,756	44.35%	\$28,424	\$24,571	19,145	57.55%	\$50,790	\$41,009
2009	36,363	5,656	15.55%	\$22,367	\$18,720	17,361	47.74%	\$32,377	\$27,212	21,121	58.08%	\$48,435	\$41,668
2010	35,805	6,311	17.63%	\$22,877	\$19,025	18,600	51.95%	\$34,042	\$28,726	20,703	57.82%	\$46,768	\$41,066
2011	38,863	7,314	18.82%	\$23,127	\$19,126	21,030	54.11%	\$34,926	\$29,608	21,921	56.41%	\$49,337	\$43,106
2012	38,910	7,867	20.22%	\$23,191	\$19,624	21,172	54.41%	\$35,935	\$30,798				
2013	38,956	9,977	25.61%	\$24,878	\$21,291	21,176	54.36%	\$39,907	\$31,315				
2014	39,132	11,017	28.15%	\$25,887	\$22,060	21,371	54.61%	\$35,980	\$31,637				
2015	40,593	12,295	30.29%	\$26,387	\$22,321	21,617	53.25%	\$34,518	\$30,560				
2016	42,803	13,369	31.23%	\$26,130	\$22,460	22,837	53.35%	\$36,672	\$32,392				

Percent of South Carolina Public High School Graduates Employed Full-Time in SC in the First, Fifth, and Tenth Year After Graduation



Median Annualized Wages of SC Public High School Graduates Employed Full-Time in SC in the First, Fifth, and Tenth Year After Graduation



*Adjust 1, 5, and 10 year annual wages forward appropriate years from graduation for ACS comparison. See appendix for more details.

Appendix: Detailed Discussion of Data



Expansion of Integrated Data System

- Discussions with stakeholders, most notably the State Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education, the SC Department of Employment and Workforce, and the SC Technical College System identified available data and validated the specific measures used in this report.
- Gaps in the RFA data holdings required the execution of two new Memoranda of Understanding (MOU's) between RFA and the Commission on Higher Education and the SC Technical College System in order to bridge these gaps. Existing MOU's with the State Department of Education and the Department of Employment and Workforce were sufficient to cover the data needed.
- All necessary individual data were linked and deidentified using RFA's existing record linking process, and subsequently maintained in RFA's secure, encrypted, data environment.

Longitudinal Data System Measurement (a):

The number of students graduating from public high schools in SC who enter postsecondary education without the need for remediation

- In order to evaluate the above-mentioned outcomes an initial cohort was established. Bi-annual census and graduation data, provided by the South Carolina Department of Education, were used to establish the cohort. Bi-annual census data provides information on the student's enrollment on the 45th and 135th day of the school year. This file is submitted twice a year to the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. The Graduation data includes individuals who graduated on-time from South Carolina public schools within four years. This data is provided annually to the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. This data does not include students who graduated from private, or home schools not affiliated with the SC Department of Education or students who took more than 4 years to graduate.
- The cohort is comprised of 532,001 individuals who graduated from South Carolina public schools between 2008 and 2020. For the purposes of this project, a student was considered a graduate if they were identified as a graduate in the graduation data and were found in the 12th grade Bi-Annual Census data. Individuals who were not found in both data systems were excluded from the cohort. Individuals who were unable to be matched due to missing information were also excluded from the cohort to ensure data validity and accuracy.

Longitudinal Data System Measurement (a):

The number of students graduating from public high schools in SC who enter postsecondary education without the need for remediation, continued

- To determine the number of South Carolina public high school graduates entering postsecondary education, we linked the SCDE senior cohort with data SC high school students provided by the SC Commission on Higher Education's CHEMIS database. A student enters the CHEMIS database the first time they enroll in a postsecondary education institute in the state. This means that a student could have multiple records if they transferred to another school in the state. For this report we only kept the first record for each student to ensure that we were capturing high school students and not transfer students. The file we received from the Commission on Higher Education covers the 2015-2016 through 2020-2021 school years. Unlike the SCDE senior cohort, this data does include students who attended private high schools and is not limited to those who graduated on time. However, by linking to the senior cohort, we put the same limitations on this dataset.
- Only students enrolled in an in-state institution in the school-year immediately following their high school graduation year were used in the analysis.
- SCDE creates the College Freshman Report that contains information on graduates, <https://ed.sc.gov/data/other/>

Longitudinal Data System Measurement (b): *The number of working-aged adults in South Carolina by county who possess a postsecondary degree or industry credential*

- Data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) was used to provide this measure. This was necessary because the issue focuses on population questions that exceed the scope of the state's administrative data collections. ACS provides estimates of the educational attainment of the working aged population (18-64).
- The annual ACS sample is smaller than that of the 2000 Census long-form sample, which included about 18 million housing units. As a result, the ACS needs to combine population or housing data from multiple years to produce reliable numbers for small counties, neighborhoods, and other local areas. To provide information for communities each year, the ACS currently provides 1-year estimates for geographic areas with at least 65,000 people and 5-year estimates for smaller geographic areas down to the census tract and block-group level. Single-year and multiyear estimates from the ACS are all "period" estimates derived from a sample collected over a period of time, as opposed to "point-in-time" estimates such as those from past decennial censuses. While an ACS 1-year estimate includes information collected over a 12-month period, an ACS 5-year estimate includes data collected over a 60-month period.
<https://www.census.gov/programssurveys/acs/guidance/handbooks/general.html>
- ACS 1-year estimates are used to present educational attainment over time at the state level. The broader 5-year estimates are used to examine differences in educational attainment across counties. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Census Bureau changed the 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) release schedule. Instead of providing the standard 1-year data products, the Census Bureau released experimental estimates from the 1-year data. This includes a limited number of data tables for the nation, states, and the District of Columbia. These tables are limited to adults 25 and over. <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/experimental-data.html>

Longitudinal Data System Measurement (c): ***The number of high school graduates who are gainfully employed in the State within five and ten years of graduating from high school***

- Data for high school graduates is derived from the cohort defined in section (a).
- These data are then linked to quarterly UI wage records acquired from the SC Department of Employment and Workforce. UI wage data captures the wages of most workers in a state, but some workers are excluded, such as those who work in a neighboring state. Federal employees, ex-service members, and postal workers are also not included in state UI wage data.
- Because a standard definition of “gainfully employed” could not be found, we substituted a stipulative definition that requires an individual to have wages in two consecutive quarters starting in the time period of interest.
- Wage comparisons were only considered for full-time work. A full-time threshold of \$14,500 is calculated by multiplying the minimum wage (\$7.25) by 40 hours a week for 50 weeks a year.
- 2010-2019, and 2021 ACS 1-year estimates of median individual income across all wages were used to compute a linear trend line as a benchmark. Wages at year of graduation are individual median wages for employment in the 1st, 5th, and 10th year after graduation and must be compared to ACS trend line at appropriate forward adjusted year.

For further information...

W. David Patterson, Ph.D.
Director, Data Integration and Analysis Division
David.Patterson@rfa.sc.gov
803-898-9954

