

Paul E. Lingenfelter
President, SHEEO

Should Everyone Go to College?

Urban Institute/Public Agenda Symposium

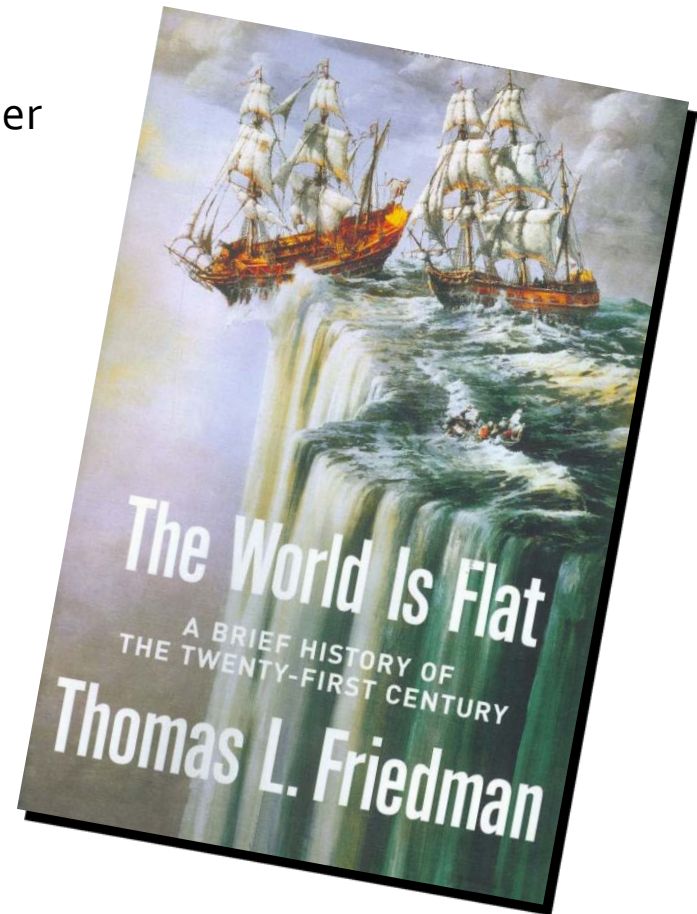
September 17, 2009

The Evolution of Public Purpose

- Jefferson
- Lincoln
- The GI Bill
- The Higher Education Act of 1965
- The proposed College Access and Completion Fund

Forces Flattening the Global Playing Field

- Fall of Berlin Wall
- First Mainstream Web Browser
- Work Flow Software
- Open Sourcing
- Outsourcing
- Offshoring
- Supply-chaining
- Insourcing
- In-forming
- “The Steroids” Wireless Mobile Digital Communication





The Price of American Workers

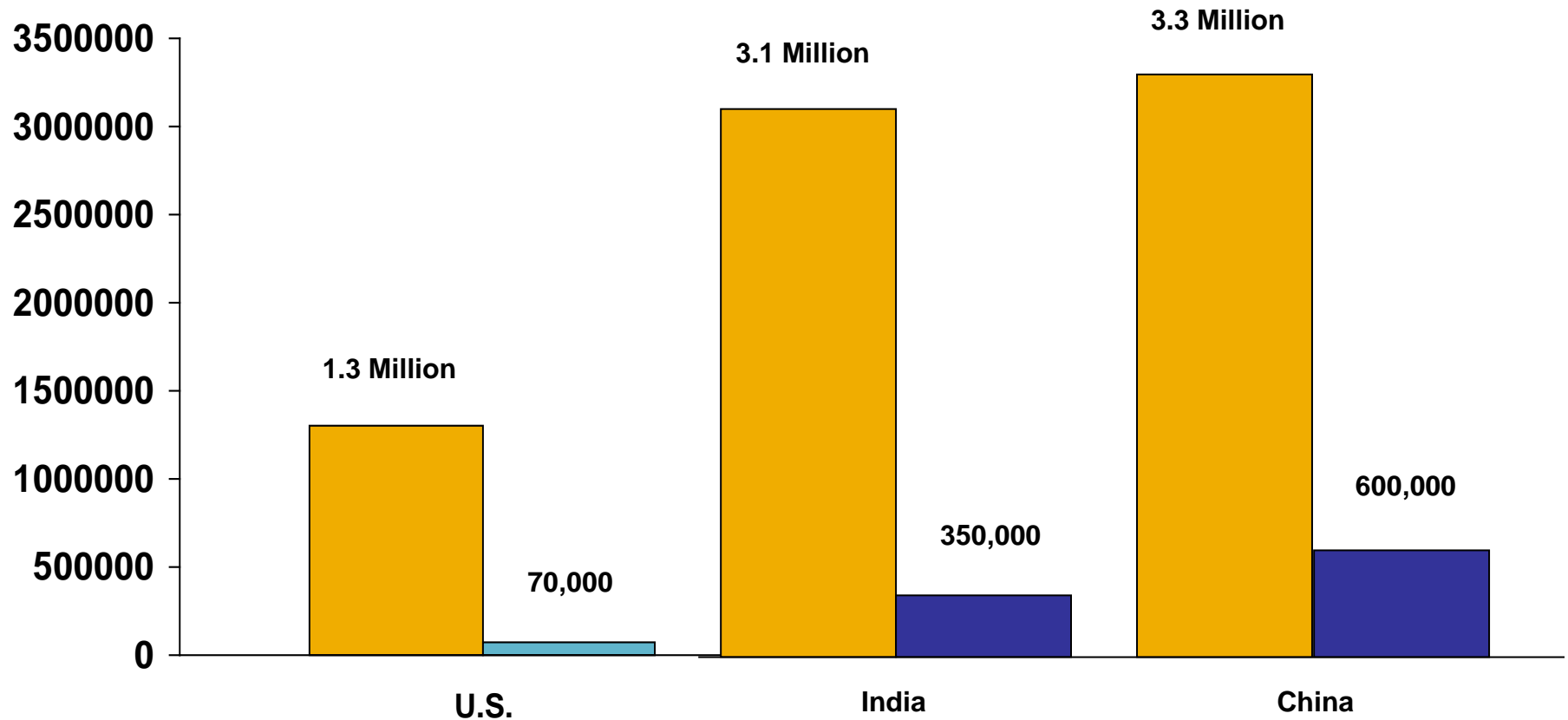
- American (and Western European) workers are the most expensive in the world.
- What will it take for them to be worth what they cost?
- They must be the best educated in the world.

College Graduates: U.S., India, and China

College graduates this year:

 Total College Graduates

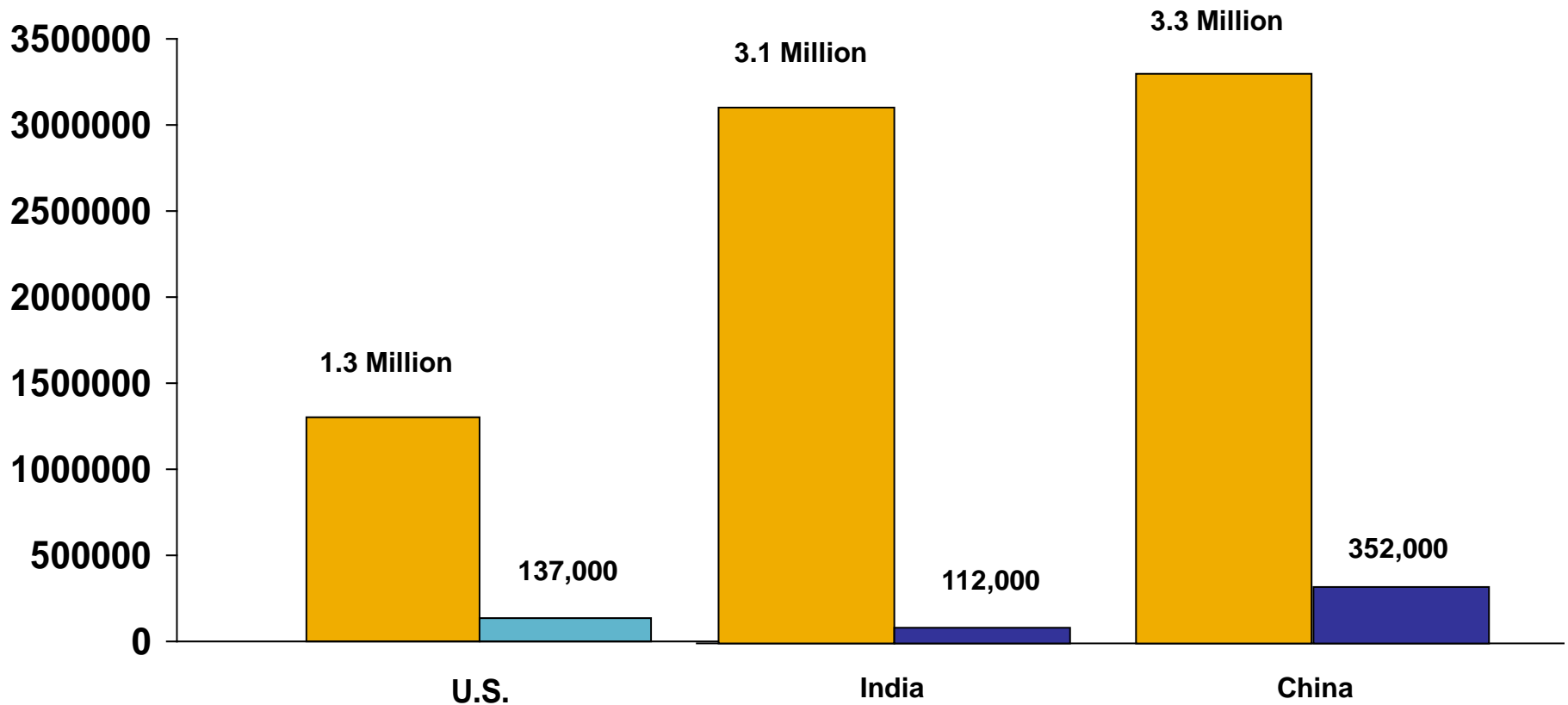
 Engineering Graduates



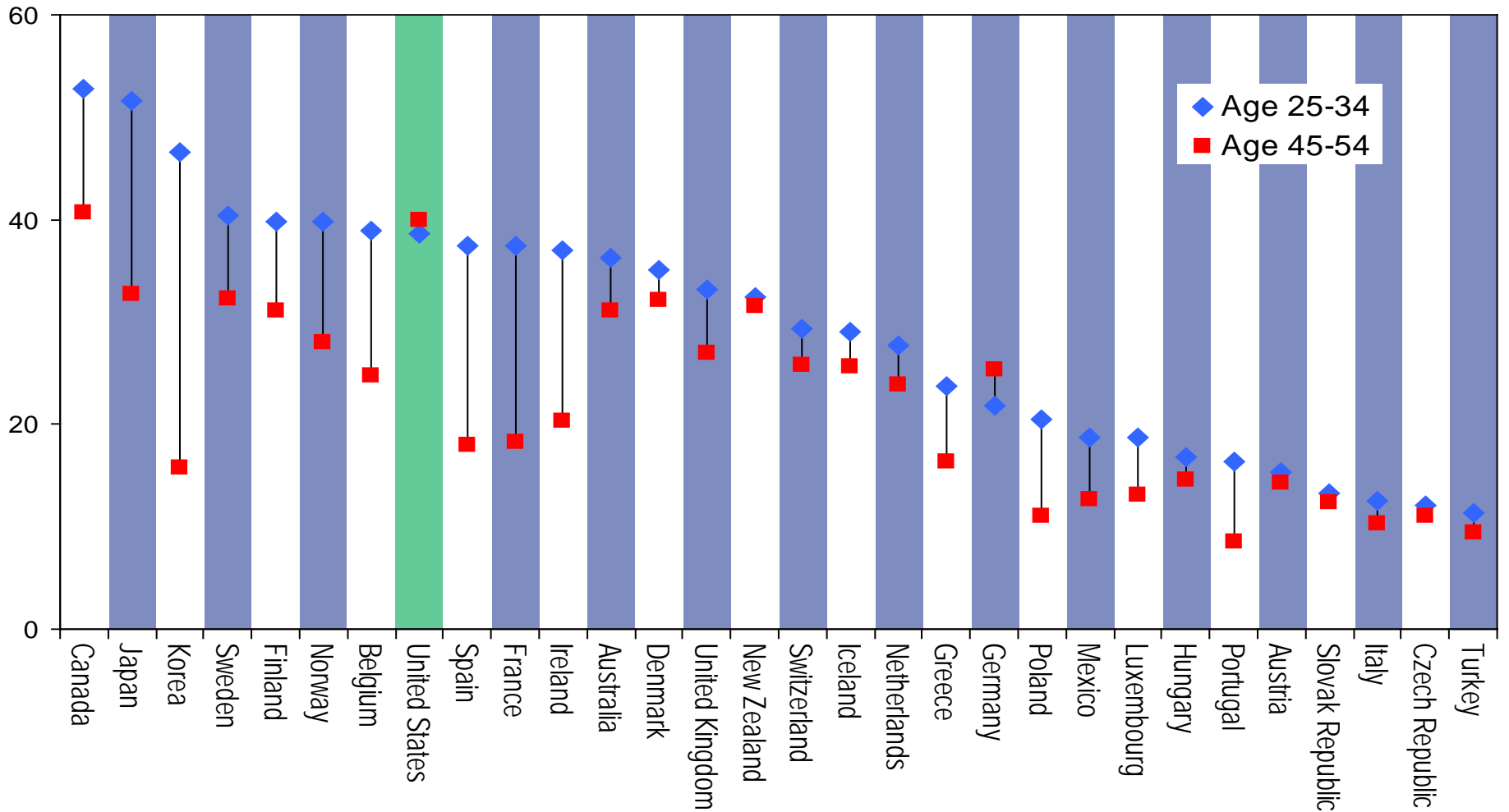
College Graduates: U.S., India, and China

REVISED DATA : 4 year degrees

■ Total College Graduates ■ Engineering Graduates



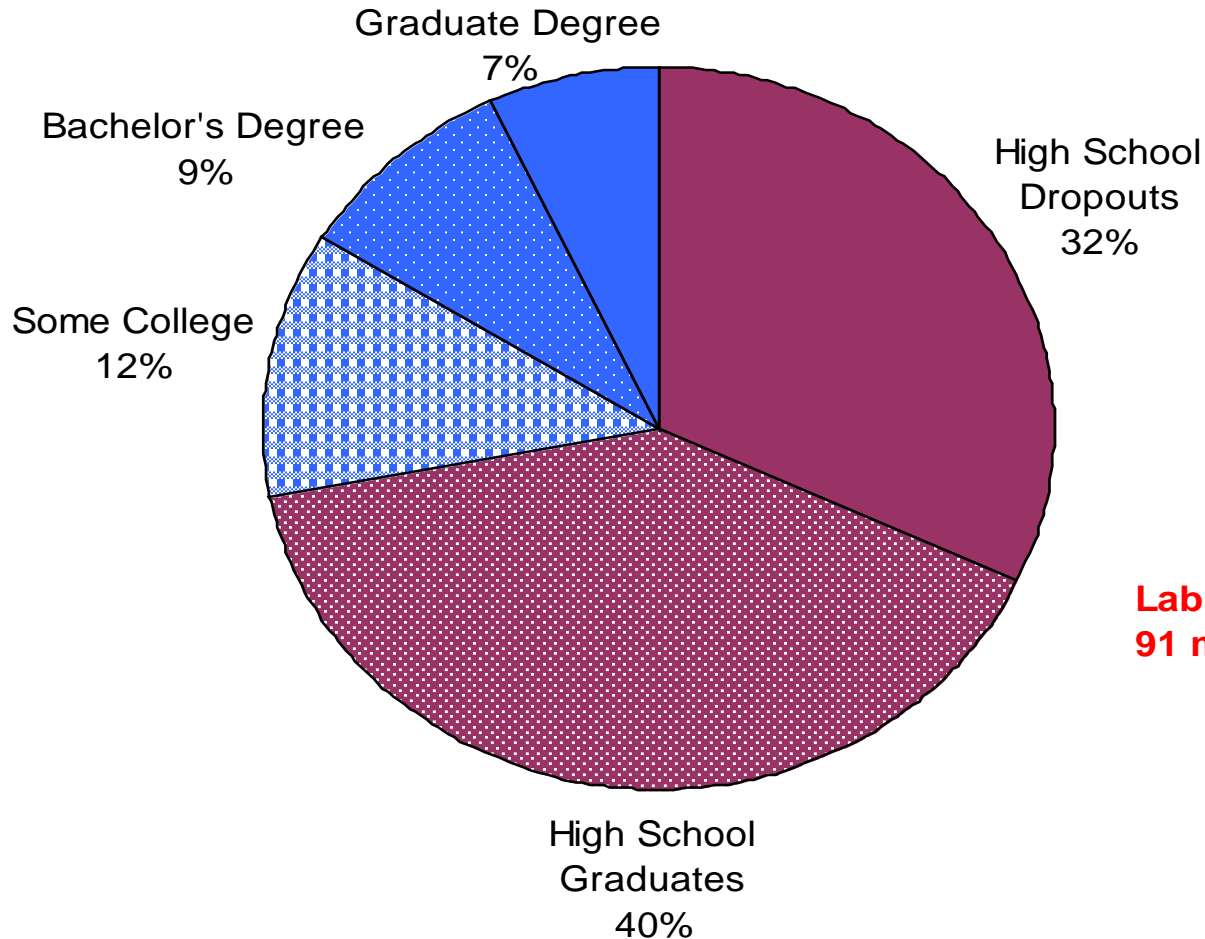
Differences in College Attainment (Associate and Higher) Between Young and Older Adults – U.S. and OECD Countries, 2004



Aspirations of High School Sophomores

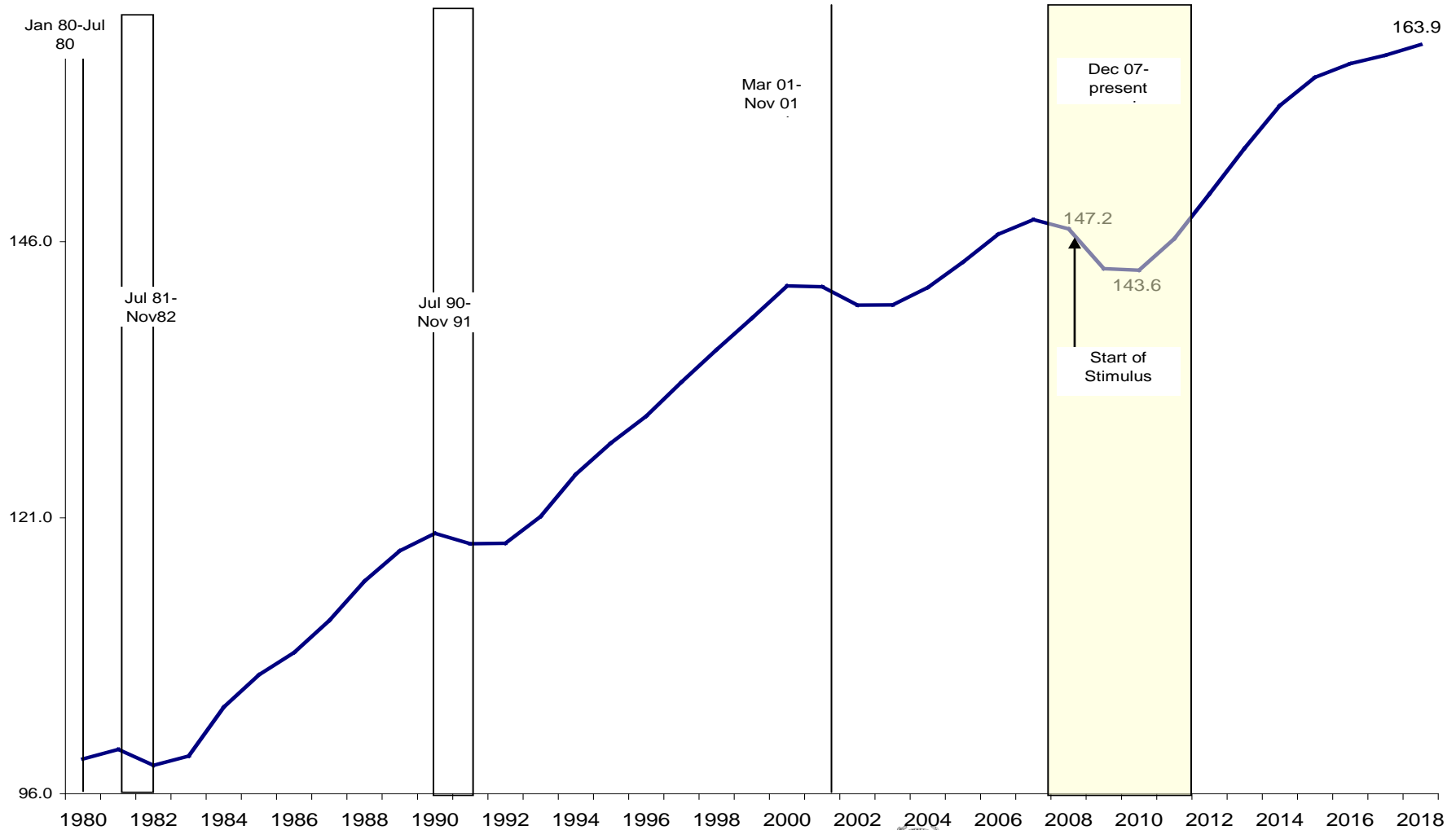
- 72% - At least a baccalaureate degree
- 36% - A graduate or professional degree
- 10% - Some postsecondary education
- 8% - No postsecondary education
- 10% - Don't know

Education of the U.S. Labor Force 1973



**Labor force in 1973:
91 million**

Growth of the U.S. Labor Force 1973 to 2007 and beyond

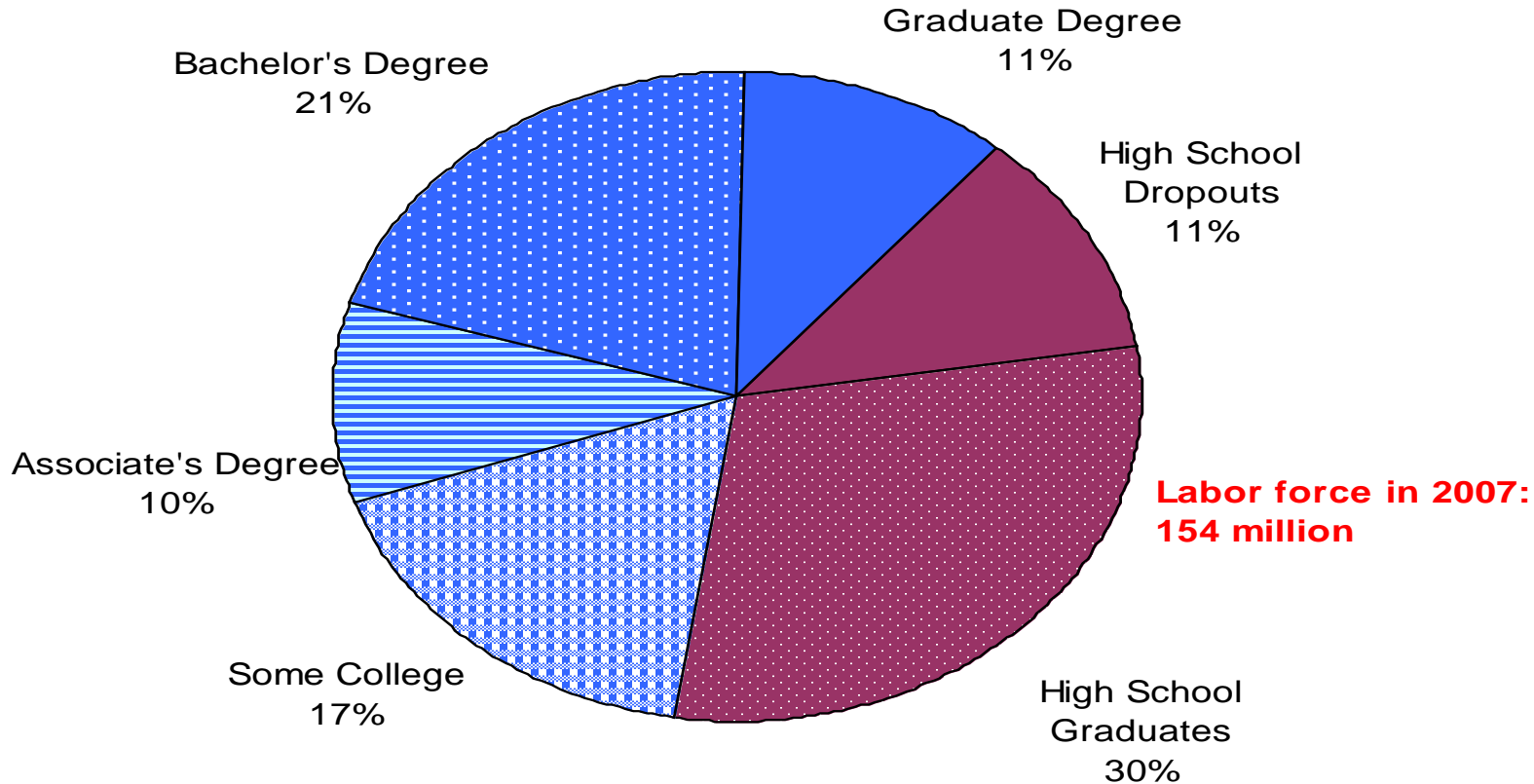


Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce's Analysis of Macroeconomic Advisers (MA) Long-term Economic Outlook, March 2009



Center on Education and the Workforce

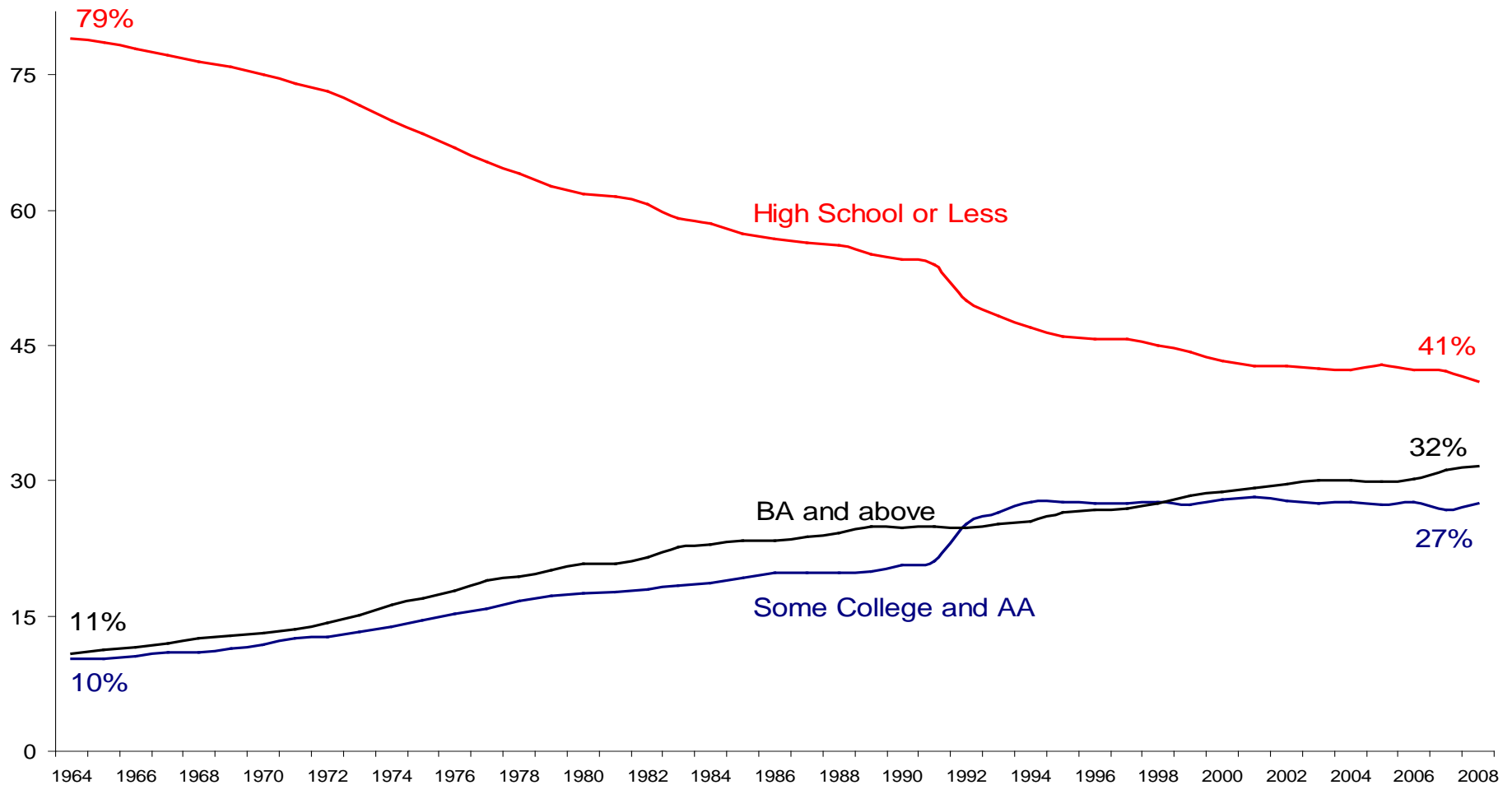
Education of the U.S. Labor Force, 2007



Source: March CPS

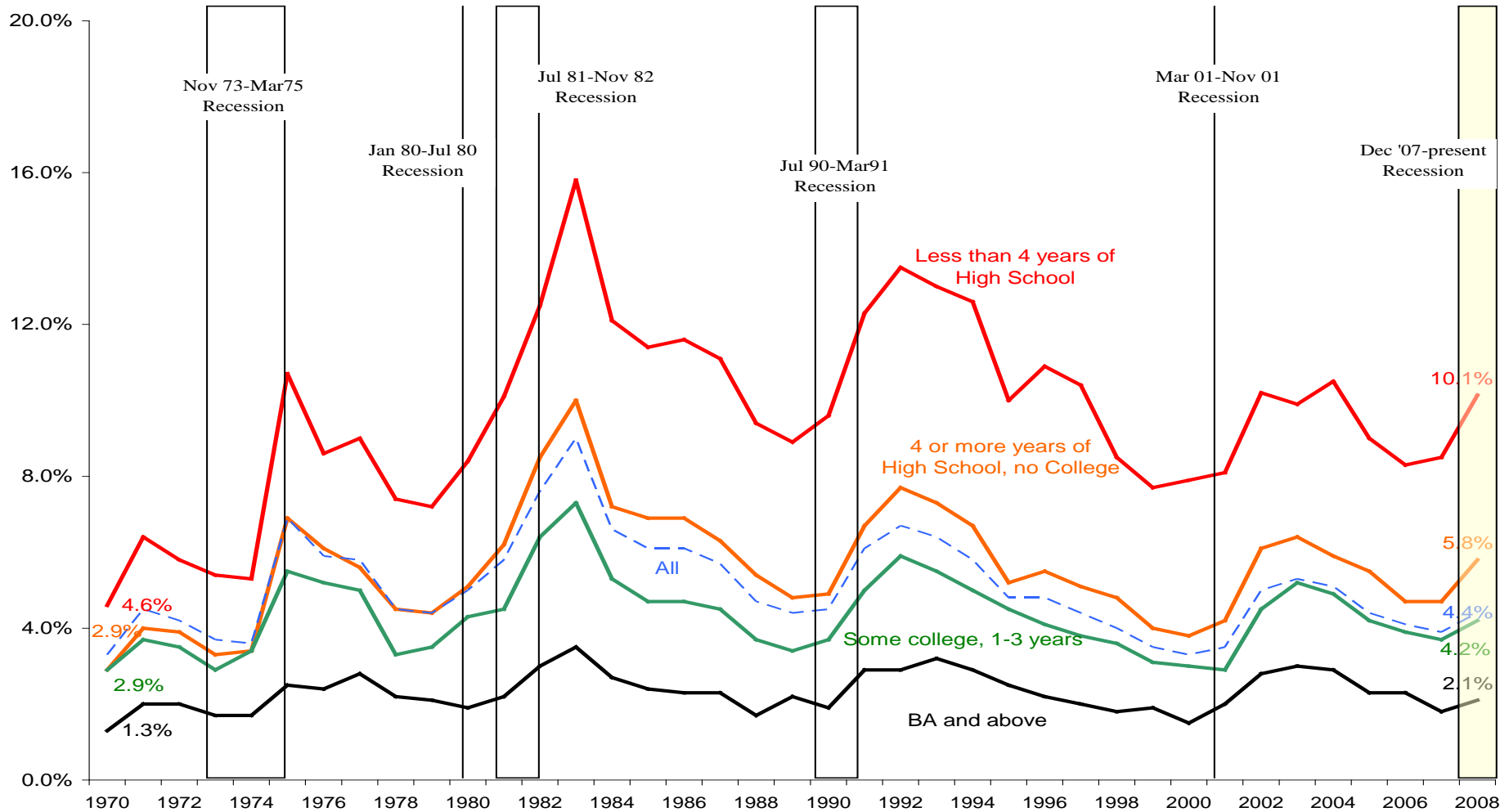
2007

Jobs in the last 4 decades have increasingly required post secondary education



The least educated are most vulnerable in economic downturns

(unemployment rates by education)

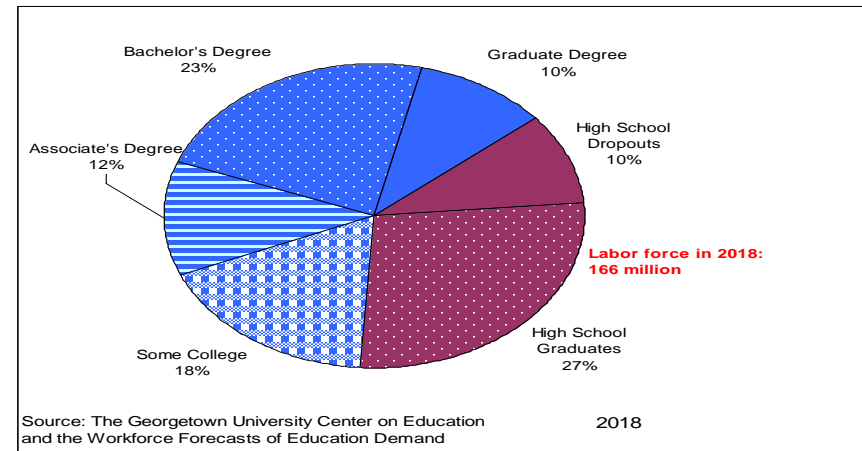
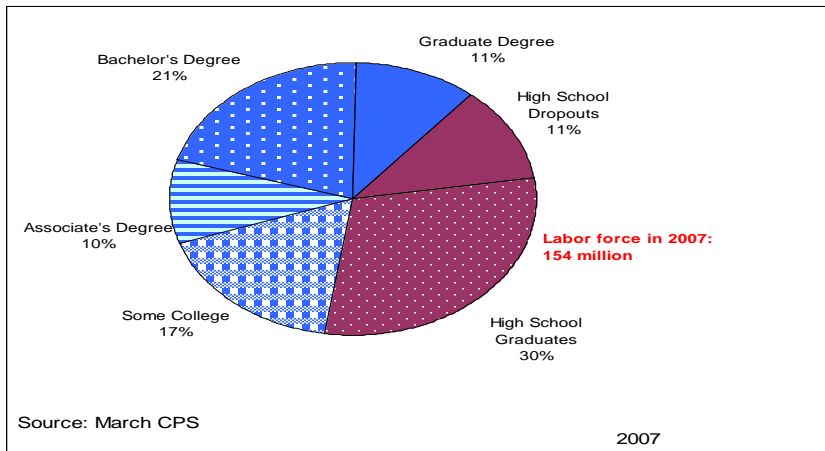
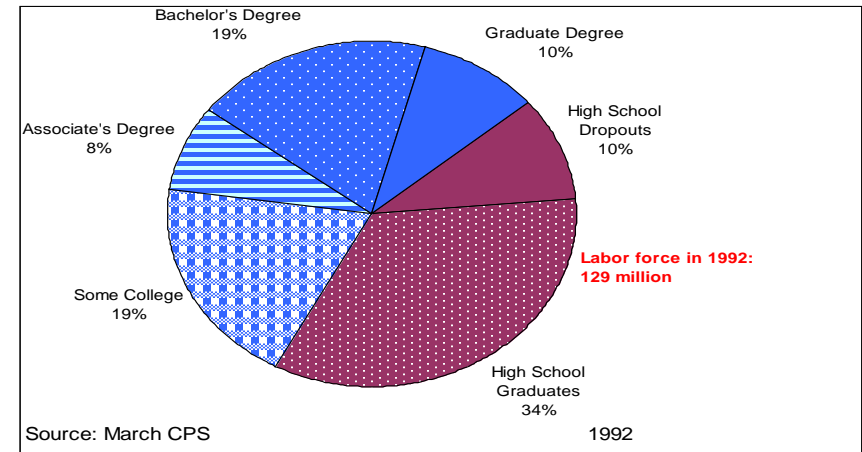
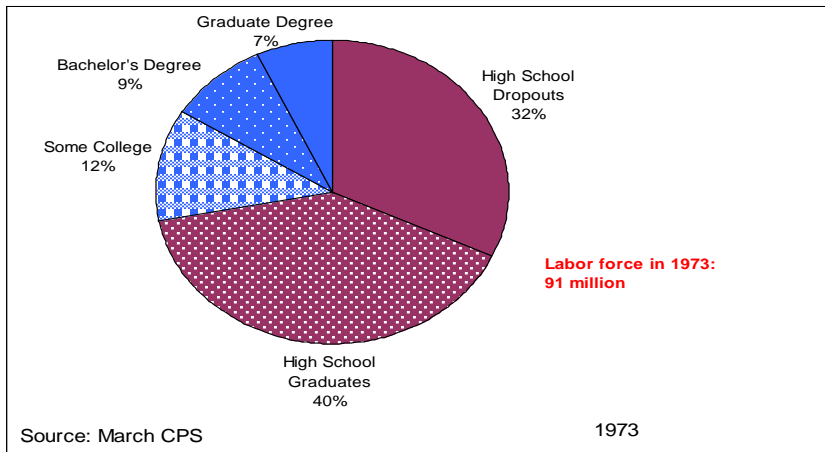


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Situation, various years



Center on Education and the Workforce

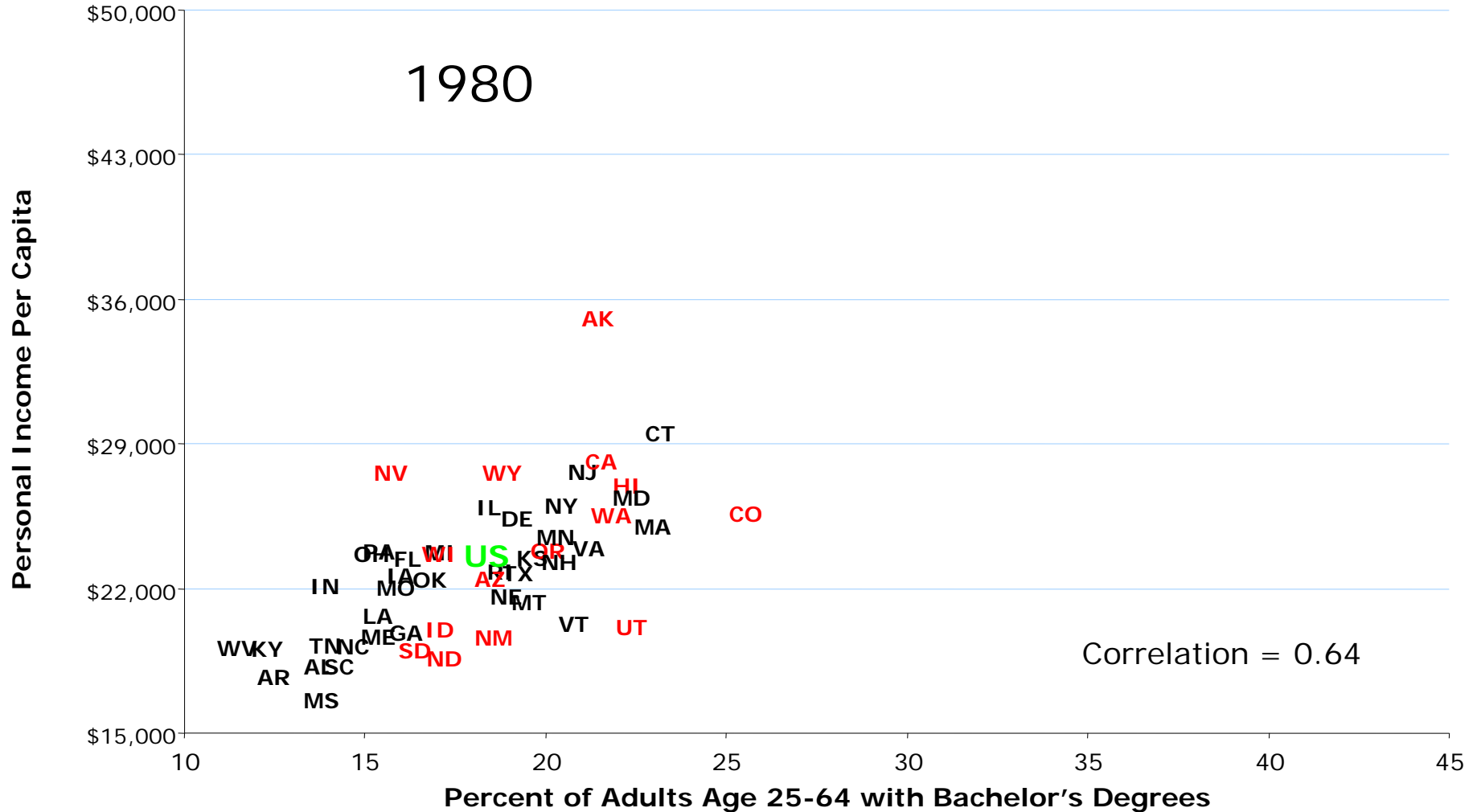
63% of all jobs will require some post secondary education and training in 2018



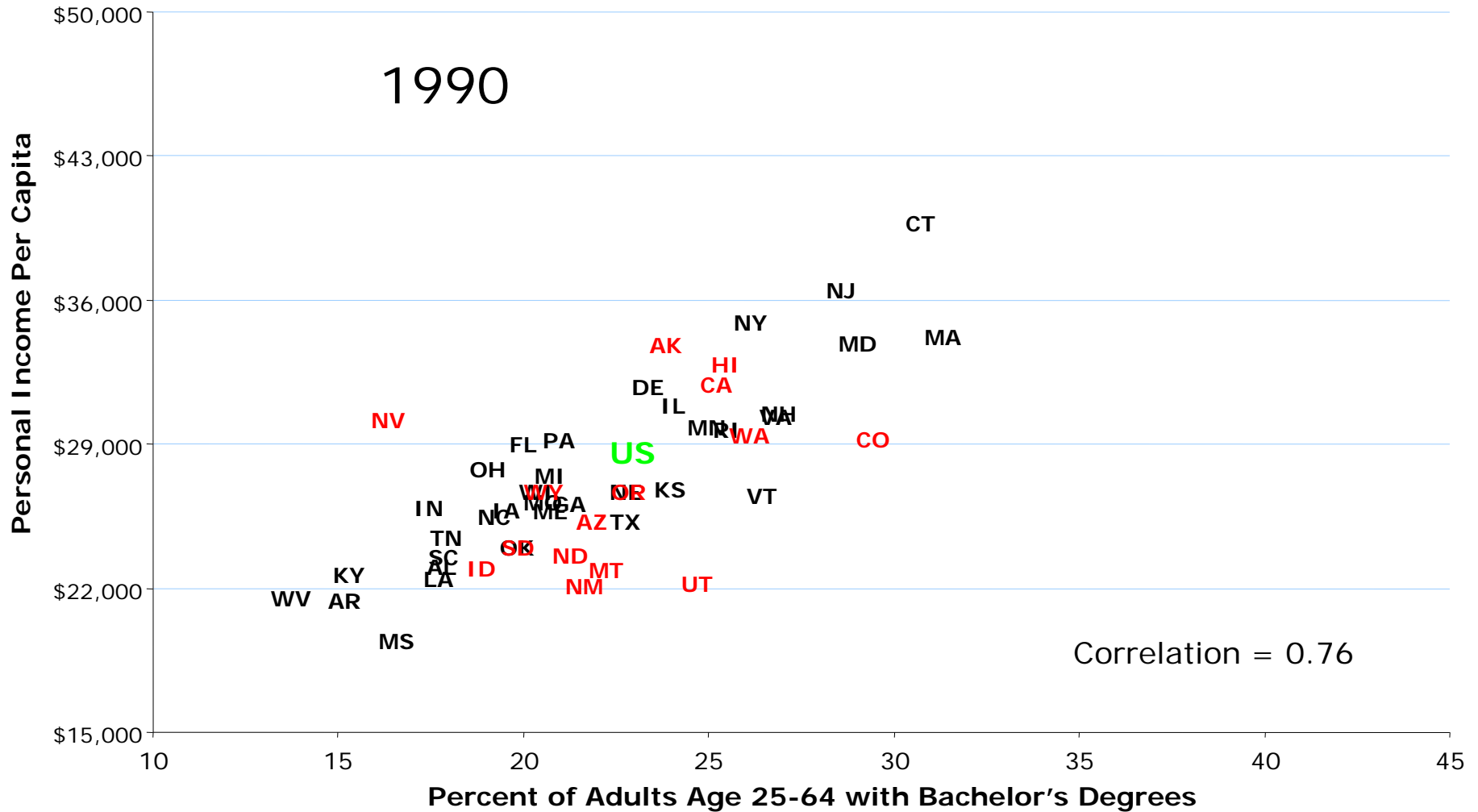
Source: Analysis of March CPS data, 1973 to present, Center on Education and the Workforce forecasts of education demand to 2018.



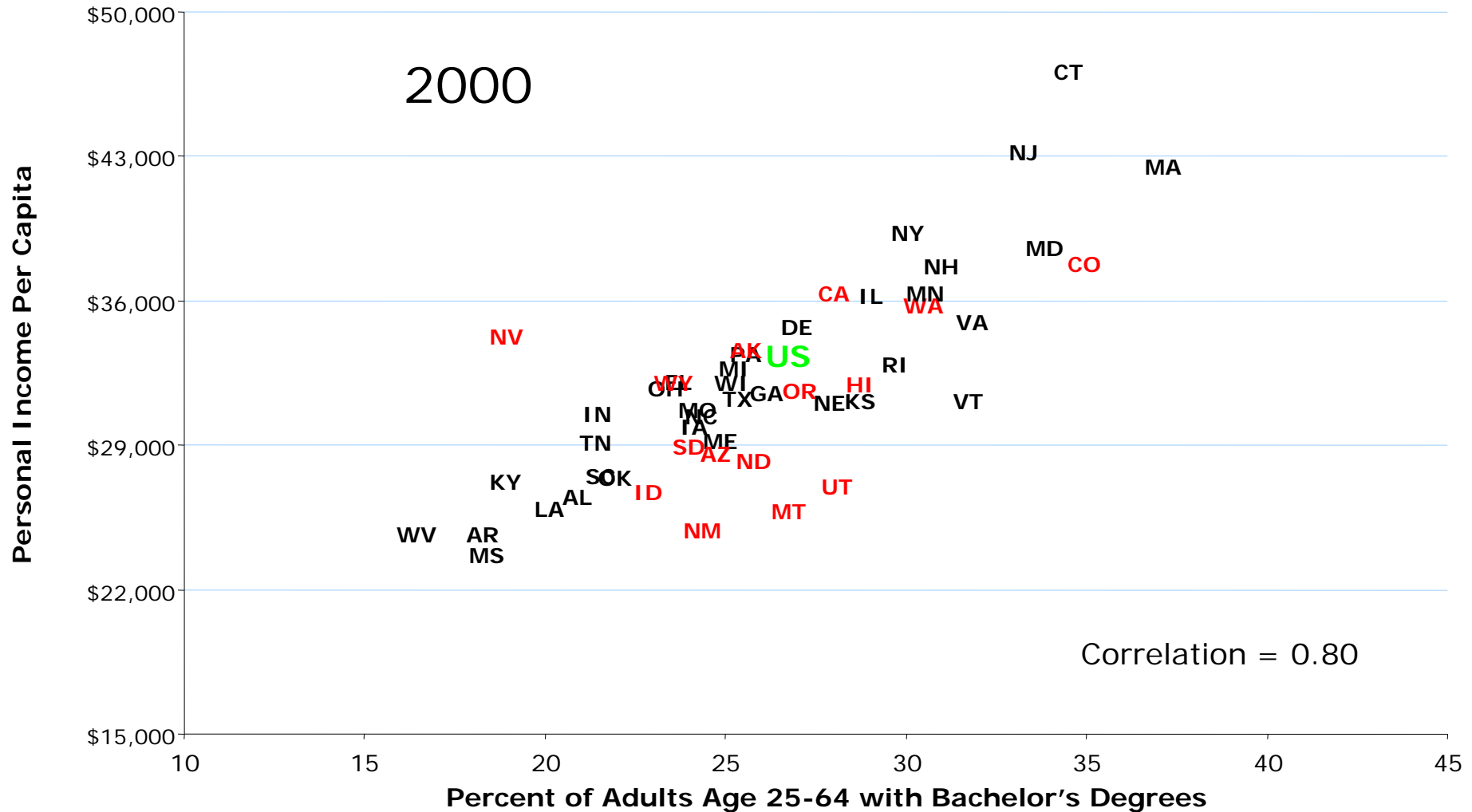
Educational Attainment and Income



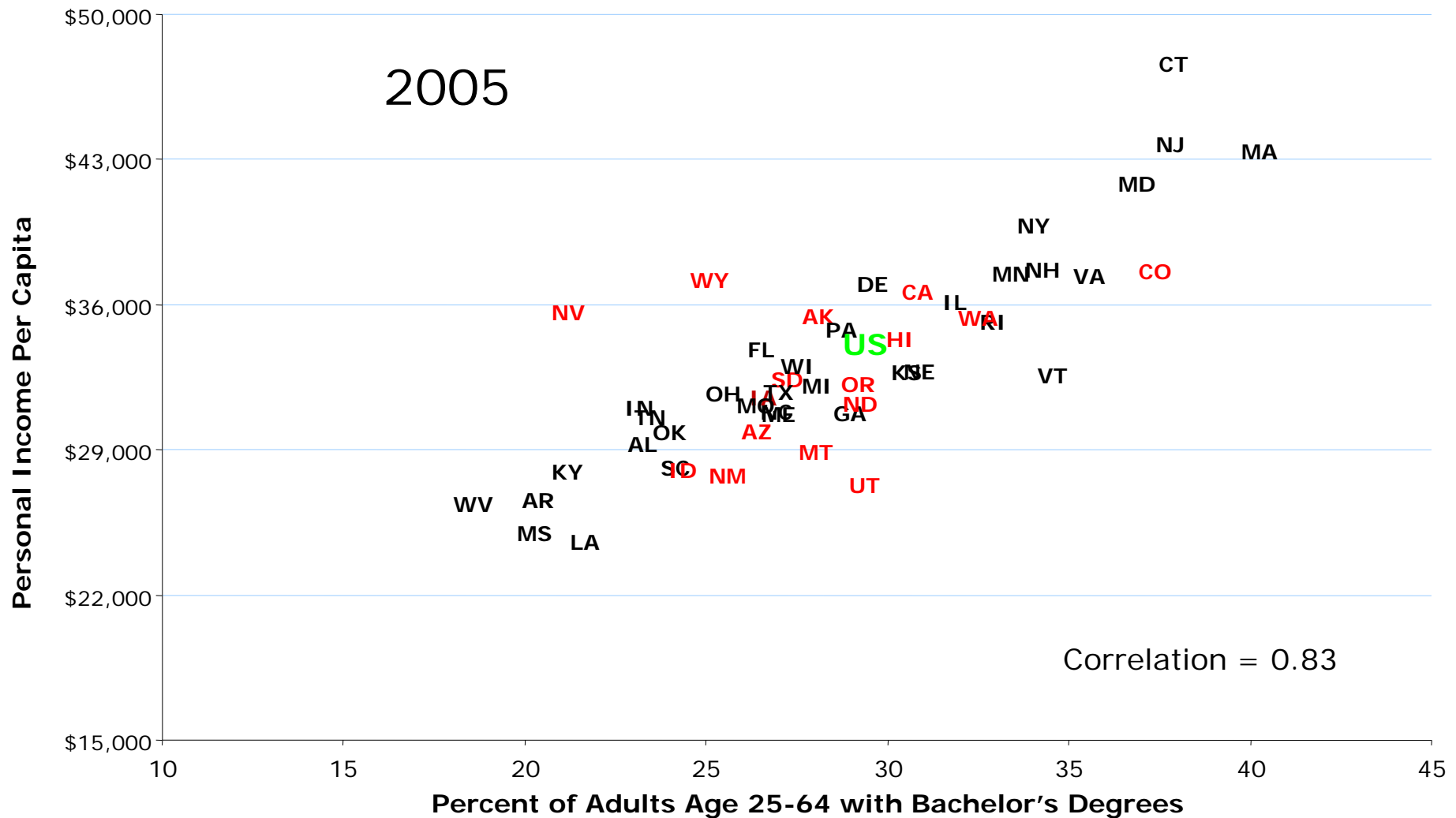
Educational Attainment and Income



Educational Attainment and Income



Educational Attainment and Income



College Participation by Socioeconomic Status

College Participation
By Achievement Test
and Socioeconomic
Status Quartile

SES Quartile

Lowest

Highest

Achievement
Quartile

Highest

78%

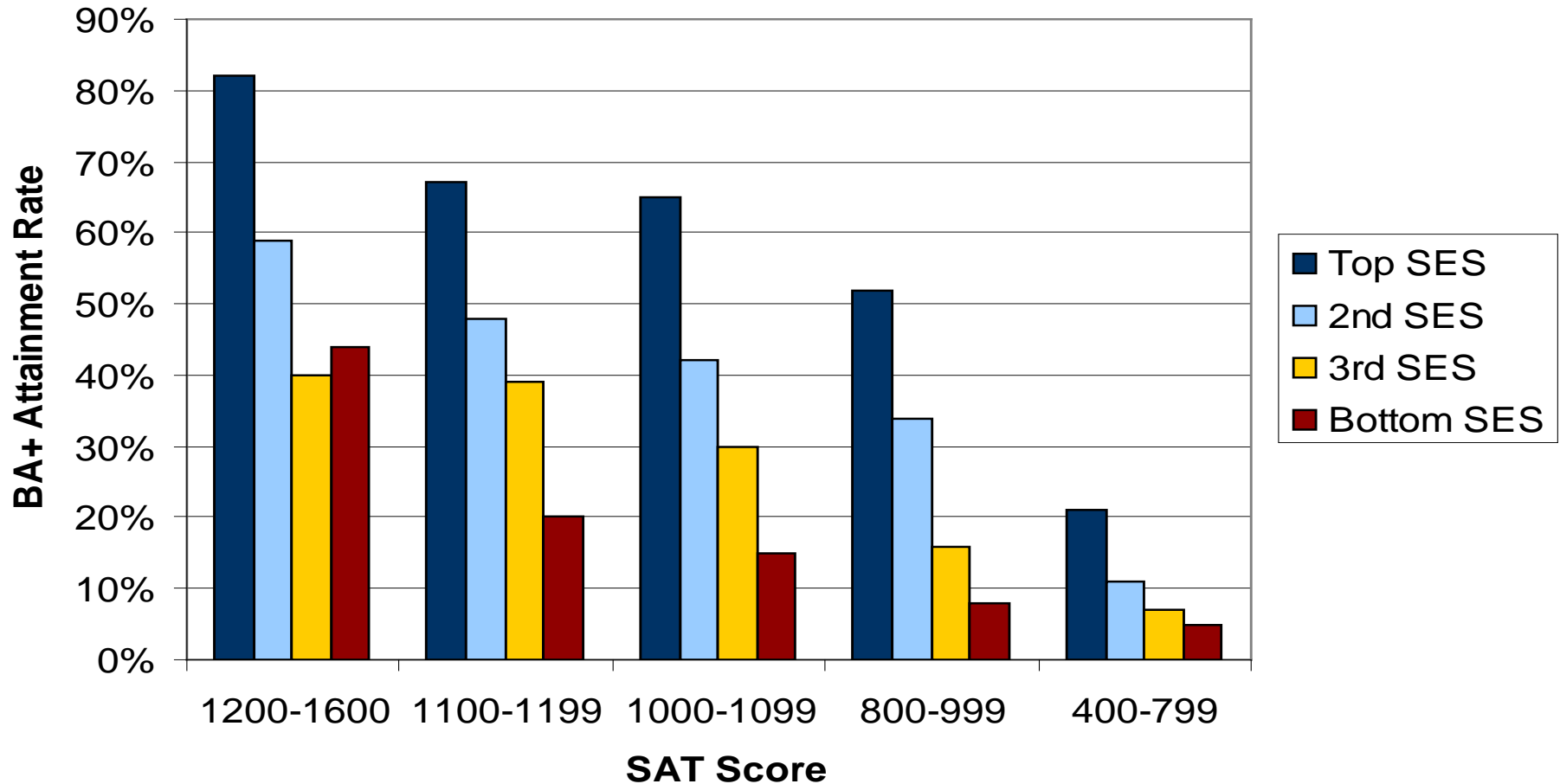
97%

Lowest

36%

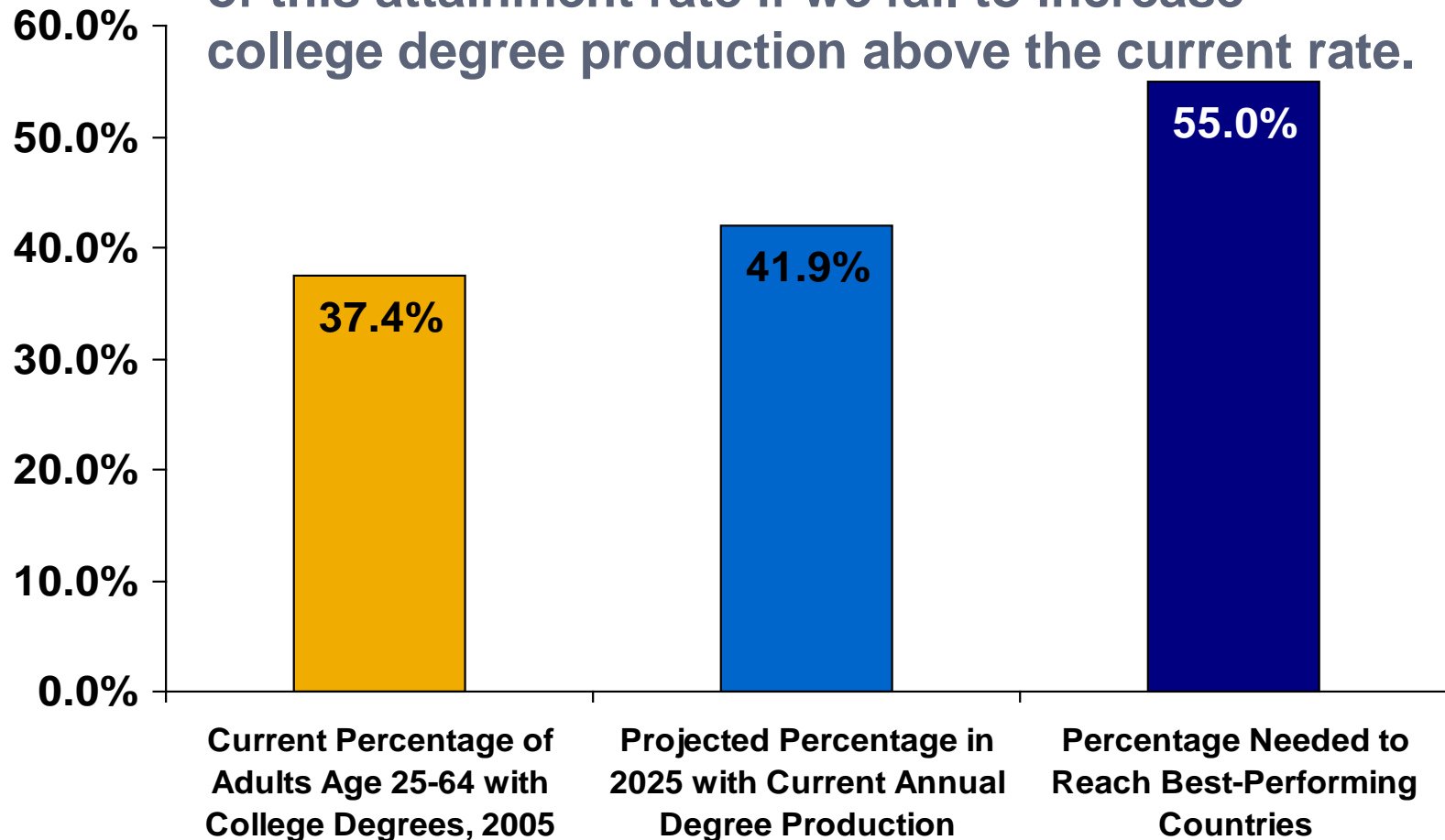
77%

Degree Attainment by SAT Scores and Socioeconomic Status





To match leading nations 55% of U.S. adults must attain some college degree by 2025, but...

By 2025, the U.S. will fall 16 million degrees short of this attainment rate if we fail to increase college degree production above the current rate.



Two essential steps...

The United States must:

- Continue to attract talent from abroad  **7 million more degrees by 2025**
- Increase degree production  **16 million more degrees by 2025**

Additional degrees needed to become the most educated country by 2020

- 1.3 million degrees Added through projected population growth
- 4.3 million degrees Resulting from increasing high school graduation rates, college-going rates of recent high school graduates, and postsecondary graduation rates
- 4.2 million degrees Added by having half of the 8.4 million young U.S. adults (aged 25-34) with some college complete a degree
- 2.6 million degrees Added by having a third of the 8.8 million slightly older U.S. adults (aged 35-44) with some college complete a degree
- 3.4 million degrees Added by having fifteen percent of the 22.7 million adults (aged 25-44) who have completed high school, but not attended college, complete a degree

Should everyone go to college?

- Nearly everyone, and many who are not now enrolling
- And we must become more successful in graduating higher numbers of those who now enroll

Contact Information

Paul Lingenfelter, President

State Higher Education Executive Officers

www.sheeo.org

(303)541-1605

Paul@sheeo.org