

Getting to 65 by 2025

Understanding the Demographic Landscape

Alaska Postsecondary Access and Completion Network
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ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Getting to 65 by 2025

Goal: 35/15/15
(Bachelor's+/Associate's/Cert.)

Starting point: 28/9/13

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Let's look at it as a cold, hard math problem

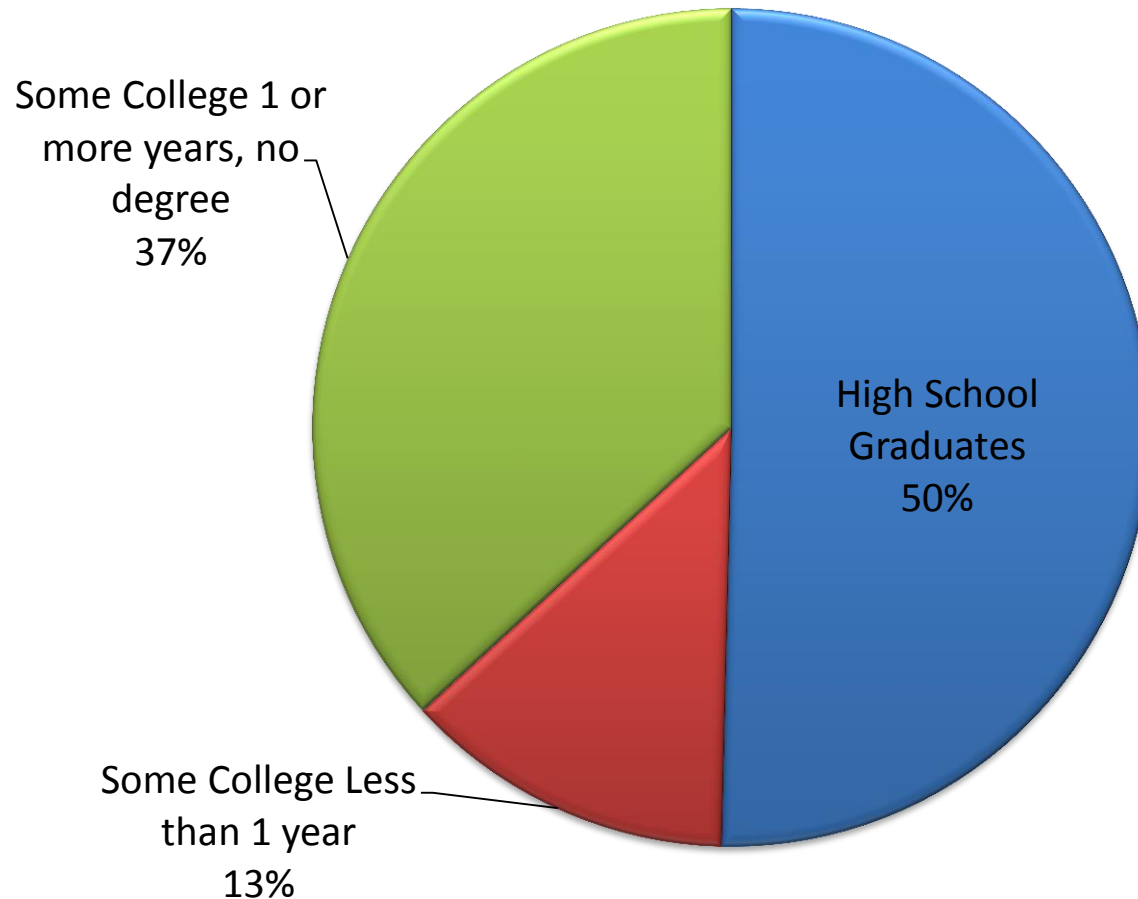
Looking at the math:

- You want to increase bachelor's degree holders by 7 percentage points (25 percent)
- You want to increase associate's degree holders by 6 percentage points (67 percent)
- You want to increase certificate holders by 2 percentage points (15 percent)

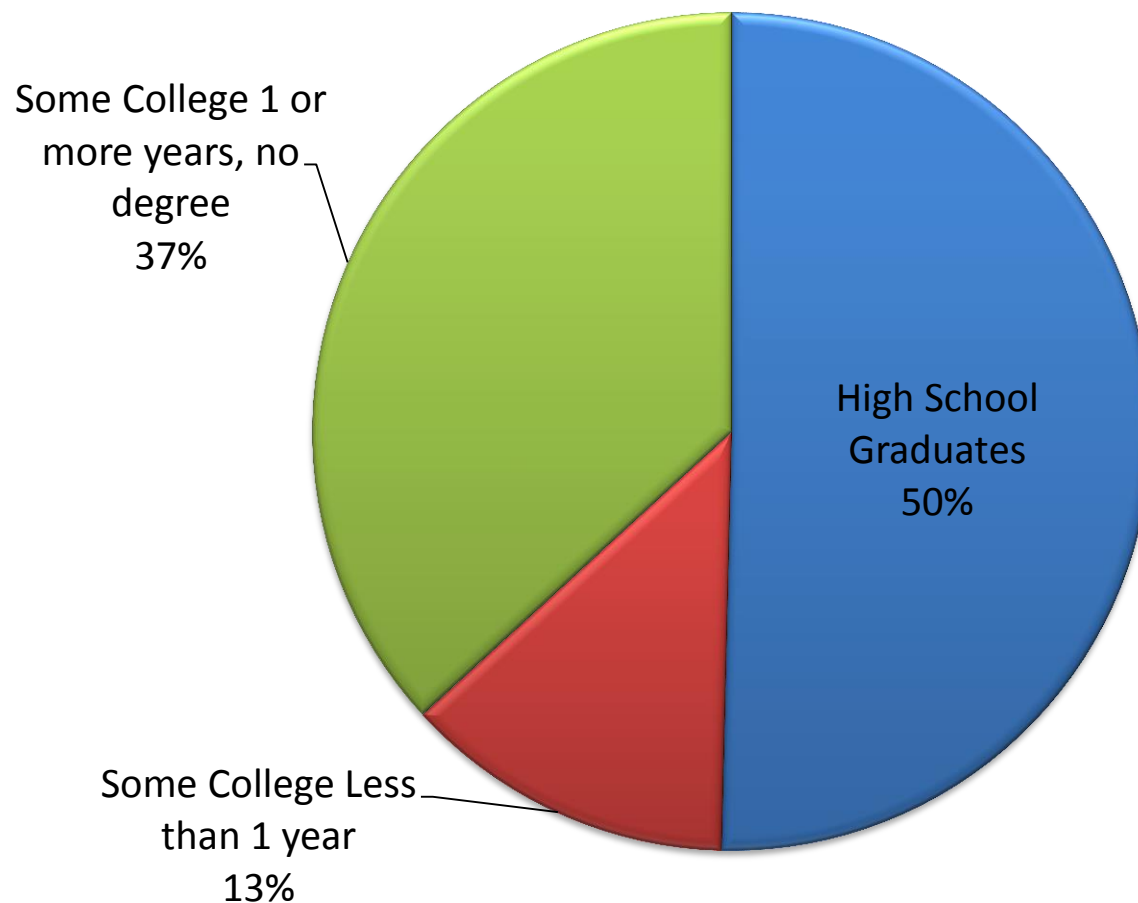
Looking at the math:

- Overall, you want to increase group holding at least a certificate 15 percentage points (30 percent)

Where are the most promising groups? Here's who you're looking to move:



But remember this is the 25+ population and some of the green and red slices are getting certificates



Working backwards from 2025

If it's 2025 and you've met your 65 percent goal, what are some of the possible ways you got there?

Some scenarios ...

What if we could wave a magic wand and have 100 percent of kids who are currently high school seniors or younger move into the category that we're trying to get to 65 percent?

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That would take us from our current **50 percent** (28 + 9 + 13) to **52.1 percent**

Some scenarios ...

Why so little movement?

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1. That group will make up a fairly small percentage of total population in 2025

Some scenarios ...

Why so little movement?

1. That group will make up a fairly small percentage of total population in 2025
2. Especially when you consider that only the ones 15 and older will be in the group we're counting in 2025 (the 25+ population)

Some scenarios ...

What about if we ignored the 25+ thing and counted all of the extra kids we'd get eventually?

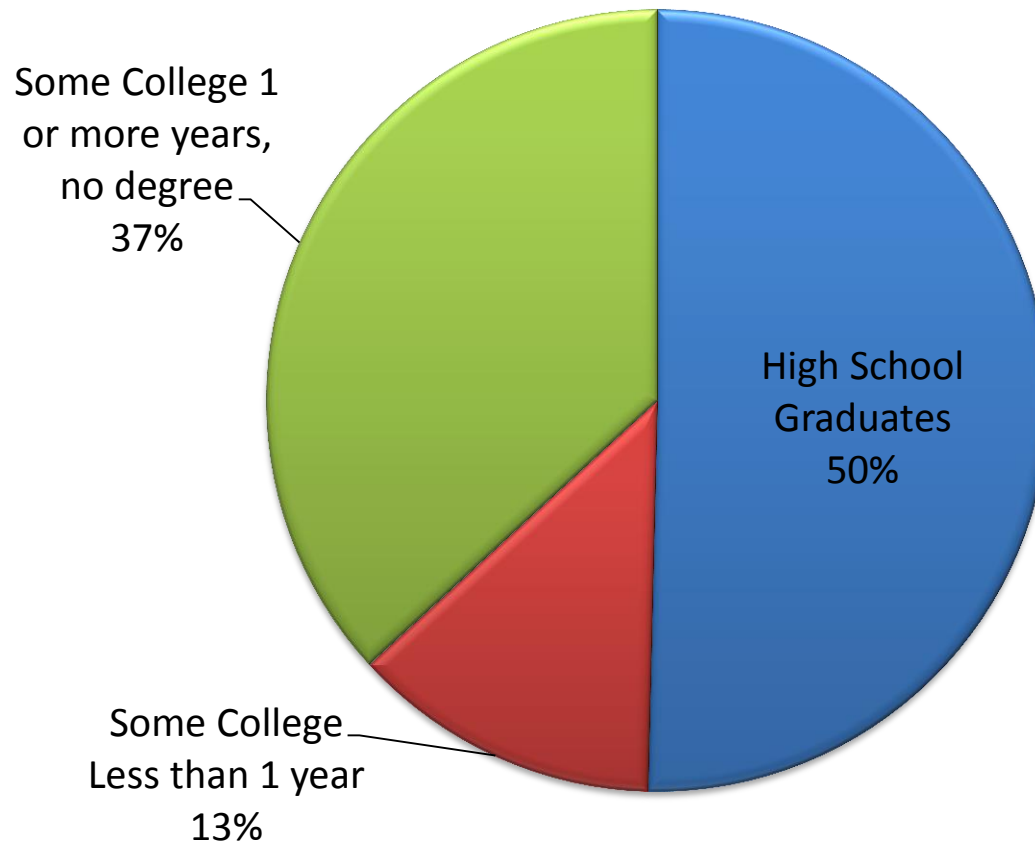
Some scenarios ...

What about if we ignored the 25+ thing and counted all of the extra kids we'd get?

That would take us from our current **50 percent** ($28 + 9 + 13$) to **54.9 percent**

Some scenarios ...

Back to this pie chart



Some scenarios ...

What if all the people currently on a path that takes them into one of the “some college, no degree” categories were moved into the group we’re trying to get to 65 percent?

Some scenarios ...

Which reminded me of a powerful video that I've already shared with some of you:

<http://vimeo.com/67277269>

Some scenarios ...

What if all the people currently on a path that takes them into one of the “some college, no degree” categories were moved into the group we’re trying to get to 65 percent?

Of the almost 300,000 Alaskans who “went to college” almost 100,000 attended for more than a year but didn’t get a degree and another 33,000 attended for less than a year

Some scenarios ...

There are currently about 74,000 Alaskans 18-24; if half seek post-secondary training or go to college and *all* complete something, our **50 percent** number goes to **53.7 percent**

Some scenarios ...

What other options for moving the needle?

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There are about 38,000 people from 25-34 with a high school diploma or less in the state; if *all* of them moved into our desired category, **50 percent** moves to **54.9 percent**

Some scenarios ...

How about focusing on Alaskans of all ages?

There are another 31,000 people from 35-44 with a high school diploma or less in the state; if we add *all* of them into our desired category, too, **50 percent** moves to **57.4 percent**

More women than men in desired categories (all 25+)

- 31 percent of Alaska women have bachelor's degree or more; 25 percent of men do
- 41 percent of Alaska women have an associate degree or more; 32 percent of men do
- 131,000 women have high school degree or less; 164,000 men in that category

More women than men in desired categories (all 25+)

Current 28 – 9 – 13 overall breaks out to

31 – 10 - ? for women

and

25 – 7 - ? for men

An important factor that we didn't talk about:

Migration: About 50,000 people move in and about 50,000 people move out of Alaska each year (and the reasons aren't simple, although we have a good idea what drives much of our migration: a spectacularly beautiful place to live that doesn't always have the greatest weather and has a lot of seasonal work)

An important factor that we didn't talk about:

Migration:

The reason we didn't talk much about it is because it's hard to do a lot about it; the forces that change it from year to year are a combination of global (oil, minerals, fish), national (our economic strength relative to country), and state and local

Takeaways:

- The math doesn't work to get you all the way to 65 percent if all of your focus is on youth
- A lot of people attend some college but don't obtain a degree or credential; some promise there
- Your strategies should consider that more men than women are in the group you're trying to move

Questions?

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