Hawaii

PREPARATION

2008 Grade C-
Change Over Time
Hawaii’s fairly low performance in educating its young population could limit the state’s access to a competitive workforce and weaken its economy.

- Eighth graders perform very poorly in math, science, reading, and writing. And small proportions of high school students score well on Advanced Placement tests.
- However, the state is among the top performers in high school completion.

PARTICIPATION

2008 Grade D
Change Over Time
College opportunities for young and working-age adults are poor.

- The likelihood of enrolling in college by age 19 is fairly low.
- A very low percentage of working-age adults are enrolled in higher education.

AFFORDABILITY

2008 Grade F
Change Over Time
A large proportion of residents have a bachelor’s degree, but there are substantial gaps by ethnicity.

- Thirty-two percent of Asians/Pacific Islanders have a bachelor’s degree, compared with 43% of whites.
- If all racial/ethnic groups had the same educational attainment and earnings as whites, total annual personal income in the state would be about $6 billion higher.

COMPLETION

2008 Grade C
Change Over Time
Hawaii’s performance in awarding certificates and degrees is only fair compared with other states.

- Forty-six percent of college students complete a bachelor’s degree within six years—and this percentage has declined over the decade.

WHAT DO THE ARROWS MEAN?

State has increased or remained stable on the key indicator in the category.

State has declined on the key indicator in the category.

See back page for key indicator by category.
This page reflects Hawaii’s performance and progress since the early 1990s on several key indicators.

**PREPARATION**

The percentage of young adults in Hawaii who earn a high school diploma has increased slightly since the early 1990s. Hawaii is a top-performing state in high school completion.

**PARTICIPATION**

College enrollment of young adults in Hawaii has improved since the early 1990s. Compared with the national average and the top states, however, considerably fewer young adults are enrolled in Hawaii (in percentages).

**AFFORDABILITY**

The share of family income, even after financial aid, needed to pay for college has risen substantially. To attend public two-year colleges in Hawaii, students and families pay less than the U.S. average but more than those in the best-performing states. To attend public four-year colleges, they pay close to the national average, which is more than those in the best states pay.

**COMPLETION**

The number of undergraduate credentials and degrees awarded in Hawaii, relative to the number of students enrolled, has increased since the early 1990s. However, Hawaii is below the U.S. average and the top states on this measure.

**BENEFITS**

The percentage of residents who have a bachelor’s degree has increased considerably in Hawaii. The state is above the U.S. average but below the top states.

**PARTICIPATION**

The enrollment of working-age adults, relative to the number of residents without a bachelor’s degree, has declined in Hawaii—as it has nationally and in the best-performing states. The percentage attending college in Hawaii is slightly below the U.S. average and well below the top states.