

# Midwestern Higher Education Compact

## 2025 Illinois State Visit



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# About MHEC

- **Our purpose:** To work in partnership with our 12 member states to strengthen postsecondary education through cost-savings initiatives and collaborative solutions that are informed by research and the expertise of regional leaders
- **Legislatively created** in 1991 through Council of State Governments, Midwestern Legislative Conference; Illinois authorized legislation in 1991 to join MHEC
- **Governed** by 60 commissioners and alternates
- **MHEC annual state commitment** of \$115,000 lowest of four compacts

# Illinois Commissioners



**Maureen Banks**  
*Illinois  
Community  
College Board,  
Board Member*



**Pranav  
Kothari**  
*Illinois Board  
of Higher  
Education,  
Board Chair*



**Alternate**  
*Vacancy,  
Governor's  
Designee*



**Sen. Michael  
Halpin**  
*Senate  
Committee on  
Education  
Appropriations,  
Chair*



**Rep. Katie  
Stuart**  
*Assistant  
Majority  
Leader and  
Floor Whip*

# MHEC's Value to Illinois

- **Cost & Time-Saving Contracts & Programs** – technology (hardware, software and services); student health solutions; insurance programs
- **Policy Initiatives** – state-specific support on dual enrollment; open educational resources; M-SARA; credentials and learner records; FAFSA summit
- **Research** – regular reporting on data trends and responses to specific requests to inform state decision making
- **Convenings** – opportunities for legislative, executive branch, and higher ed leaders to problem solve and share ideas

# FY24 Cost Savings for Illinois

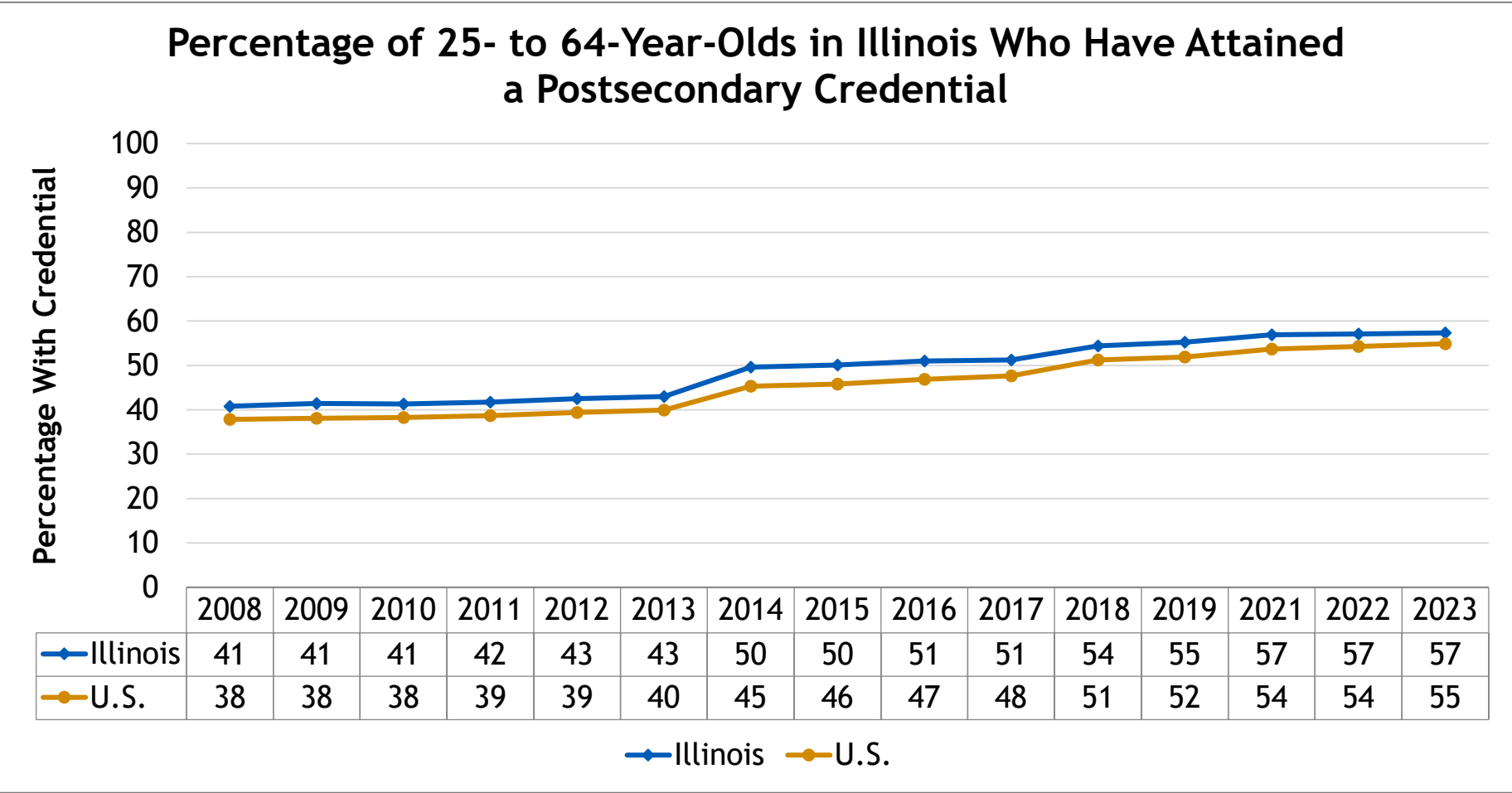
- **\$26.06M in total annual savings** for Illinois colleges, universities, school districts, state and local governments, and students and their families through MHEC's contracts and programs
- **226-fold return** on annual compact membership commitment of \$115,000
- **\$10.1M in savings on technology** for Illinois entities through contracts with Dell, Oracle, Xerox, CampusGuard, Lenovo, Presidio, and more
- **\$6.5M savings on distance education** through Midwestern-State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement
- **Ten Illinois institutions** received dividends totaling \$283,164 for participating in MHEC's Master Property Insurance Program

# Other MHEC Benefits for Illinois

- **Illinois students and their families** who participated in the Midwest Student Exchange Program saved \$9.3M
- **More than 5,000 Illinois students** at three institutions participated in MHEC's contract for student health insurance, with two additional institutions now participating for 24-25
- **MHEC supported Illinois with grant funds** for OER Campus Kickstart: Award for Growing Illinois Open Educational Resources Programs
- **Twenty-one Illinois leaders** attended MHEC's FAFSA Summit
- **Four technology leaders** engaged in MHEC's free professional development and networking

# Key Indicators for Higher Education in Illinois

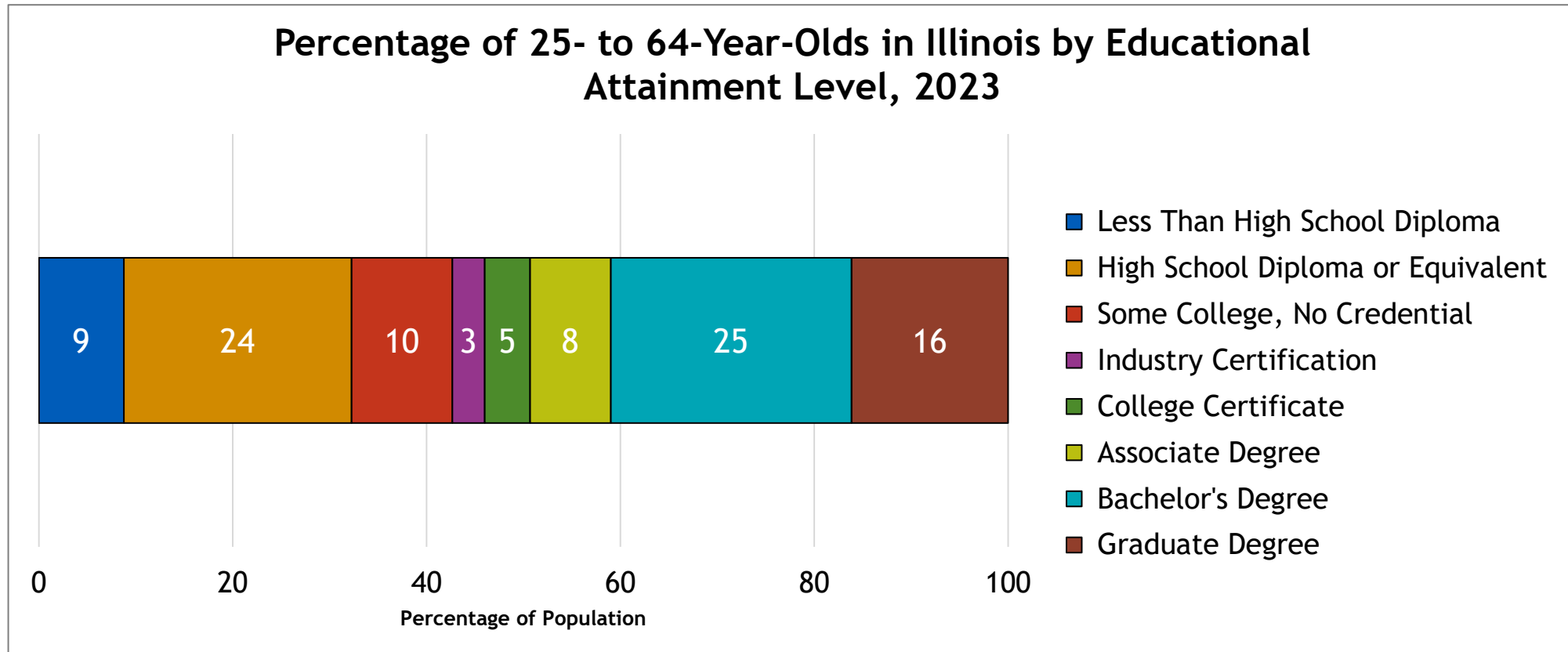
**ATTAINMENT: About 57% of Illinois residents have a postsecondary certificate or higher, compared to 55% nationally.**



Source: Lumina Foundation. (2025). *A Stronger Nation*. Note. Since 2014, the attainment estimate includes postsecondary certificates. Since 2018, the attainment estimate includes industry-recognized certifications. 2020 estimates are not available due to sampling problems that occurred during the 2020 administration of the American Community Survey.

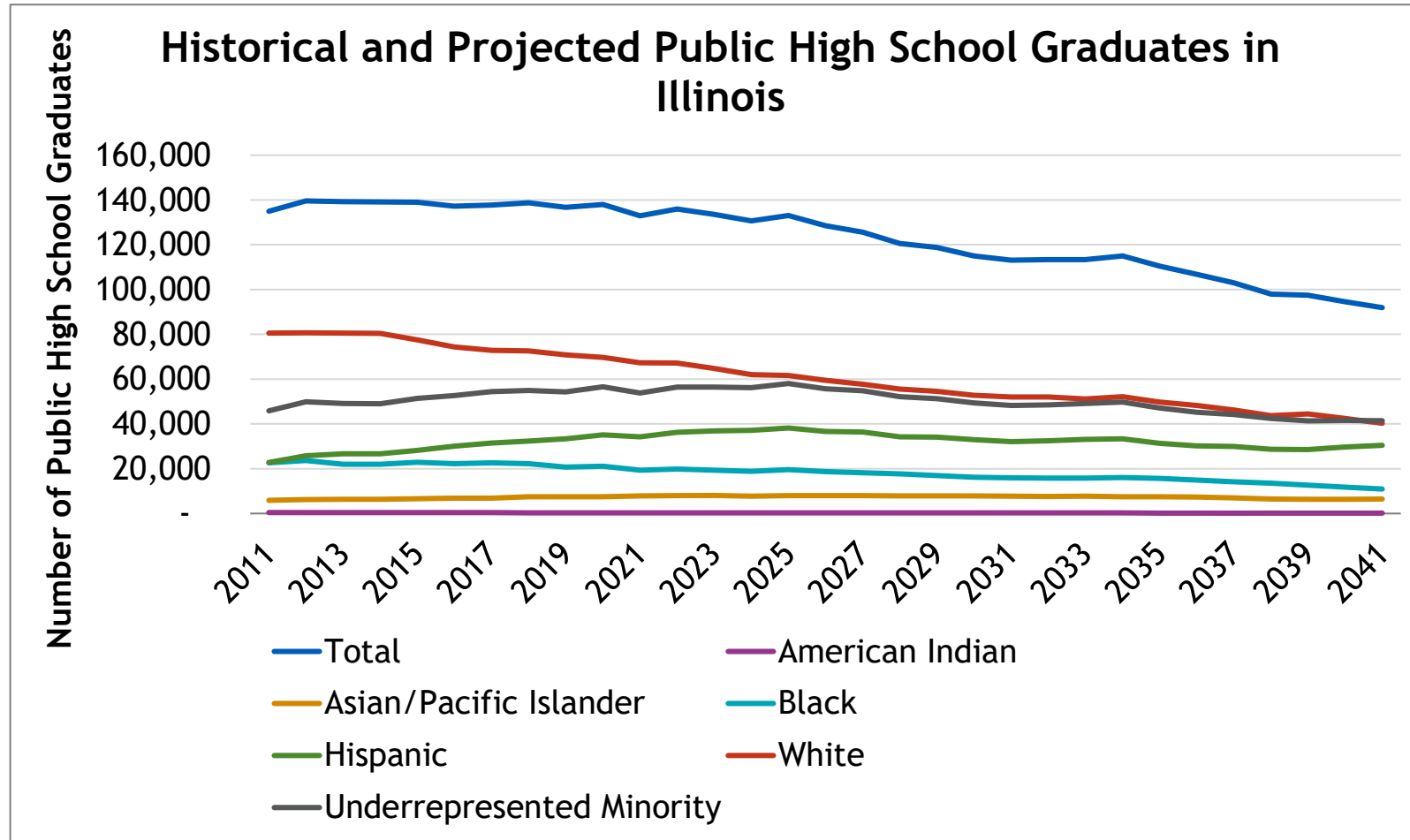


**ATTAINMENT:** Illinois residents have attained various types of postsecondary credentials, ranging from industry certifications and college certificates to bachelor's and graduate degrees; 43% of residents do not have a postsecondary credential.



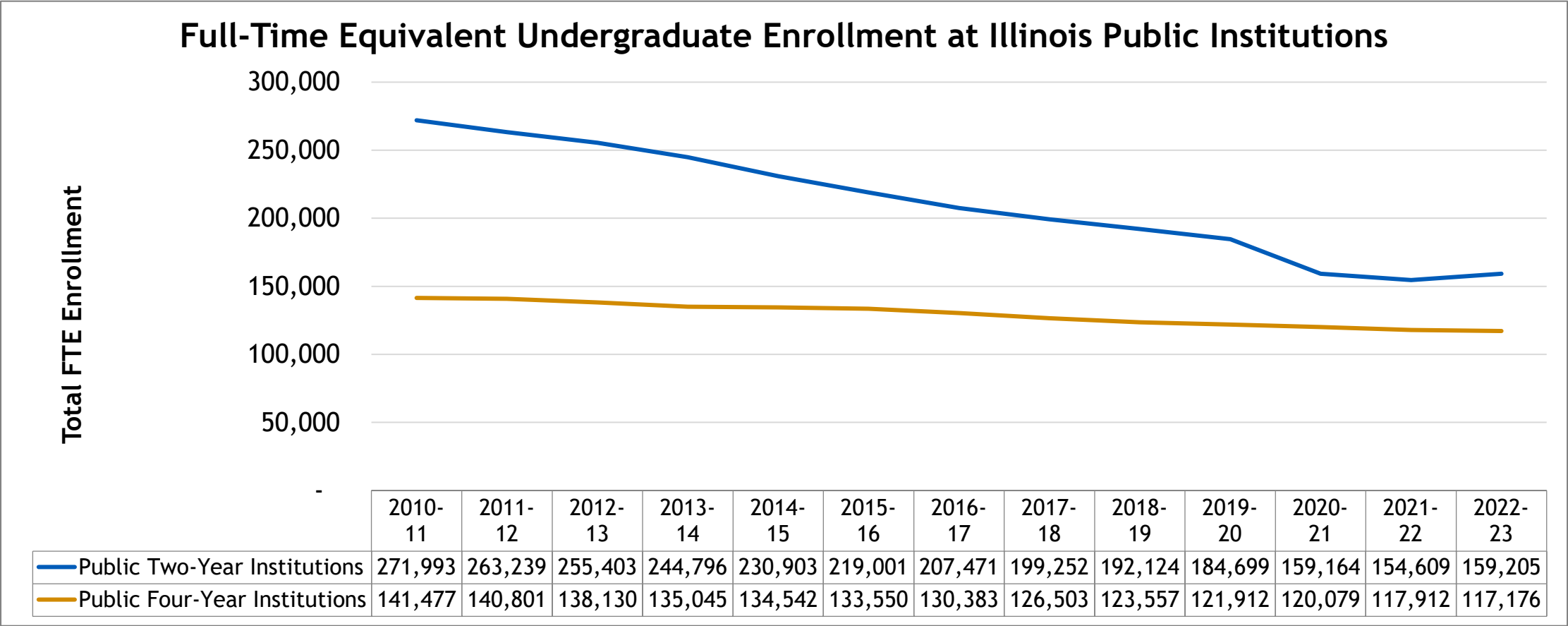
Source. Lumina Foundation. (2025). *A Stronger Nation*.

## ENROLLMENT POOL: High school graduates are projected to decrease in Illinois over the coming decade, with decreases for both White and non-White graduates.



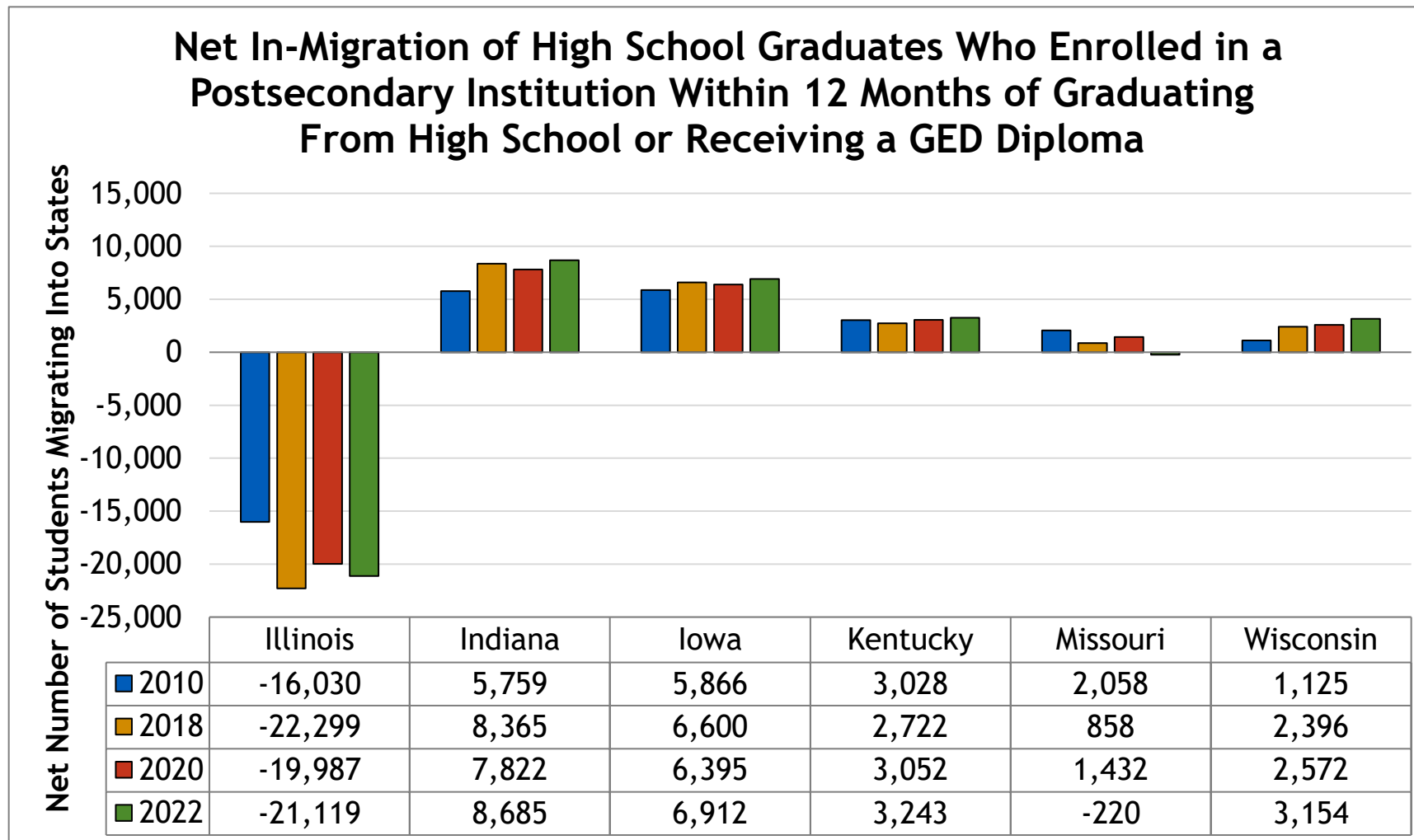
Source. WICHE. (2024). *Knocking at the College Door*. Note. The Underrepresented Minority category comprises American Indians, Blacks, and Hispanics.

**ENROLLMENT: Undergraduate enrollment declined at public two-year institutions in Illinois from 2010 to 2021 but increased for 2022-2023. Enrollment declined at public four-year institutions, but at a more gradual rate.**



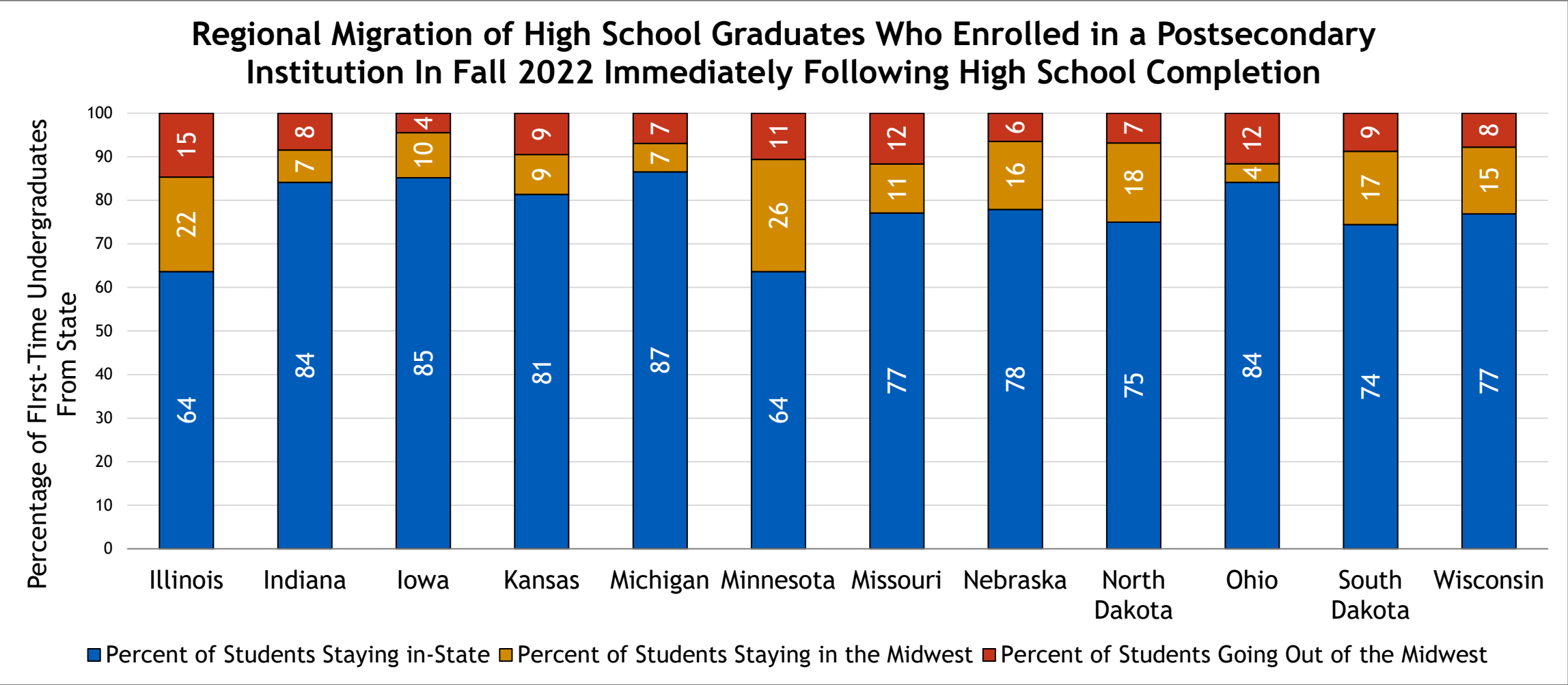
Source. NCES IPEDS. (2023). *12-month enrollment*. Carnegie Classification was used to classify institutions. Institutions with mixed categories were classified according to their distribution of associate and bachelor’s degrees awarded. Tribal colleges and universities are excluded. Categorizations may change over time.

## MIGRATION: More students migrate out of Illinois than migrate in.



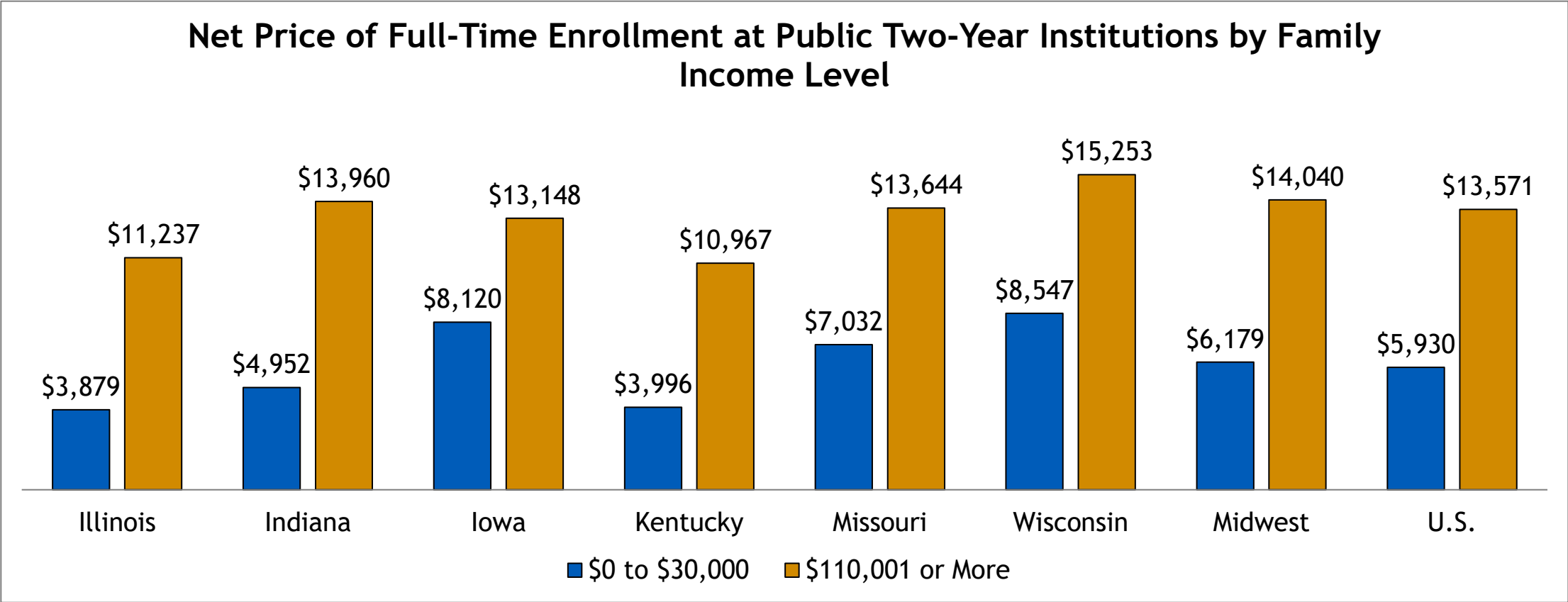
Source. NCES IPEDS. (2022). *Fall enrollment*.

**ENROLLMENT LOCATION: Of first-time college students from Illinois in 2022, 64 percent enrolled in state, 22 percent enrolled elsewhere in Midwest, and 15 percent enrolled outside the Midwest.**



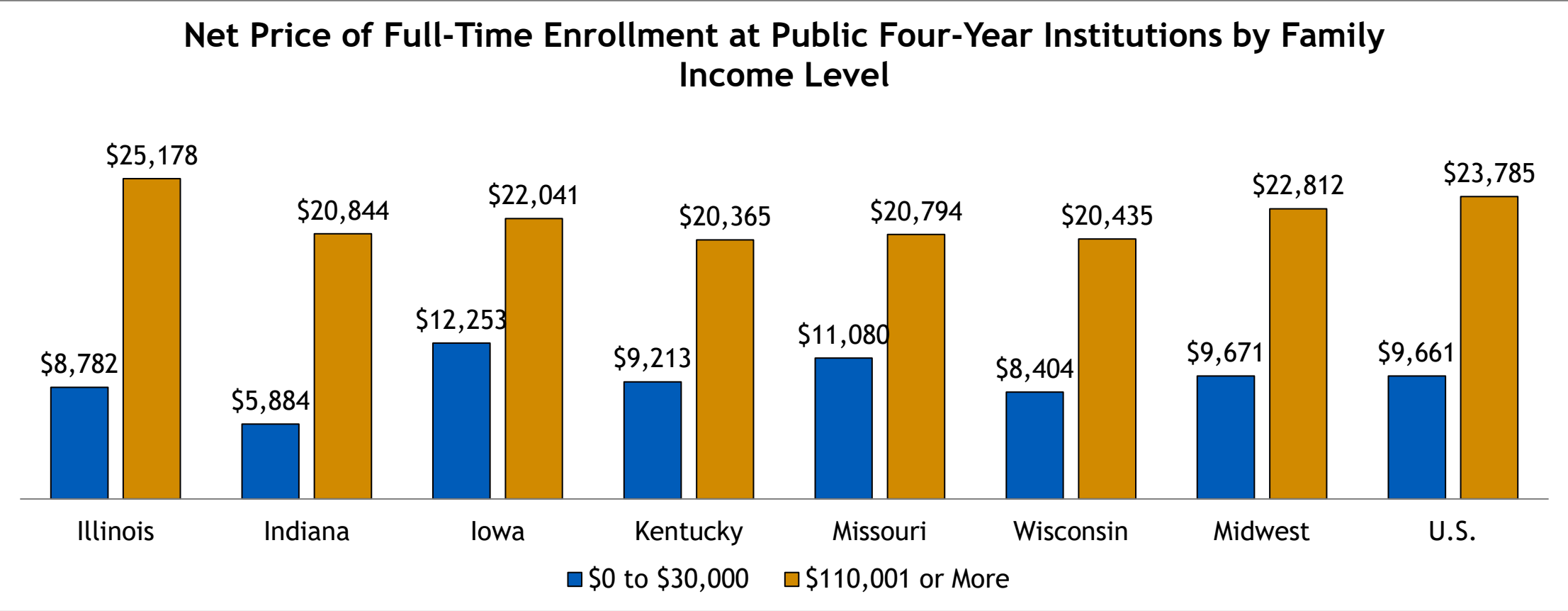
Source. NCES IPEDS. (2022). *Fall enrollment*.

**TWO-YEAR COLLEGE PRICE: Average net price for low-income students at two-year Illinois public institutions is lower than Midwest and national averages and lower than border states.**



Source. NCES IPEDS. (2023). *Net price*. Estimates are weighted by income group of first-time/full-time students. Total price of attendance includes in-district tuition, fees, room, board, books, supplies, transportation, and other designated costs. Carnegie Classification was used to classify institutions. Institutions with mixed categories were classified according to their distribution of associate and bachelor’s degrees awarded. Tribal colleges are excluded.

**FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE PRICE: Average net price for low-income students at Illinois public four-year institutions is lower than Midwest and national averages and lower than Iowa, Kentucky, and Missouri.**



Source. NCES IPEDS. (2023). *Net price*. Estimates are weighted by income group of first-time/full-time students. Total price of attendance includes in-state tuition, fees, room, board, books, supplies, transportation, and other designated costs. Carnegie Classification was used to classify institutions. Institutions with mixed categories were classified according to their distribution of associate and bachelor’s degrees awarded. Tribal colleges and universities are excluded.

# Policy & Research and Resources

- [MHEC Strategic Plan 2022-2025](https://www.mhec.org/resources/strategic-plan-2022-2025)  
<https://www.mhec.org/resources/strategic-plan-2022-2025>
- [MHEC Interactive Dashboard](http://mhec.org/dashboard)  
<http://mhec.org/dashboard>
- [2023-24 MHEC Cost Savings](https://www.mhec.org/resources/2023-24-mhec-cost-savings)  
<https://www.mhec.org/resources/2023-24-mhec-cost-savings>
- [Illinois-specific information](http://mhec.org/states/Illinois)  
Illinois State Highlights, State Performance Update, Higher Education in Focus Report  
<http://mhec.org/states/Illinois>

