



Midwestern Higher Education Compact

2025 Nebraska 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; Nebraska joined in 1991
- **Governed** by 60 commissioners and alternates
- **MHEC annual state commitment** of \$115,000 lowest of four regional higher education compacts

MHEC Nebraska Commissioners

Commissioners



Matthew Blomstedt
Associate Vice President for Government Relations, University of Nebraska System



Deborah A. Frison
Commission Member, Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education



Grant Latimer
Policy Advisor to Governor Jim Pillen, State of Nebraska



John Cavanaugh
State Senator, Nebraska Legislature



Jana Hughes
State Senator, Nebraska Legislature

Alternates



Michael Baumgartner
Executive Director, Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education



Paul Turman
Chancellor, Nebraska State College System

MHEC's Value to Nebraska

- **Cost & Time Savings 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 Nebraska

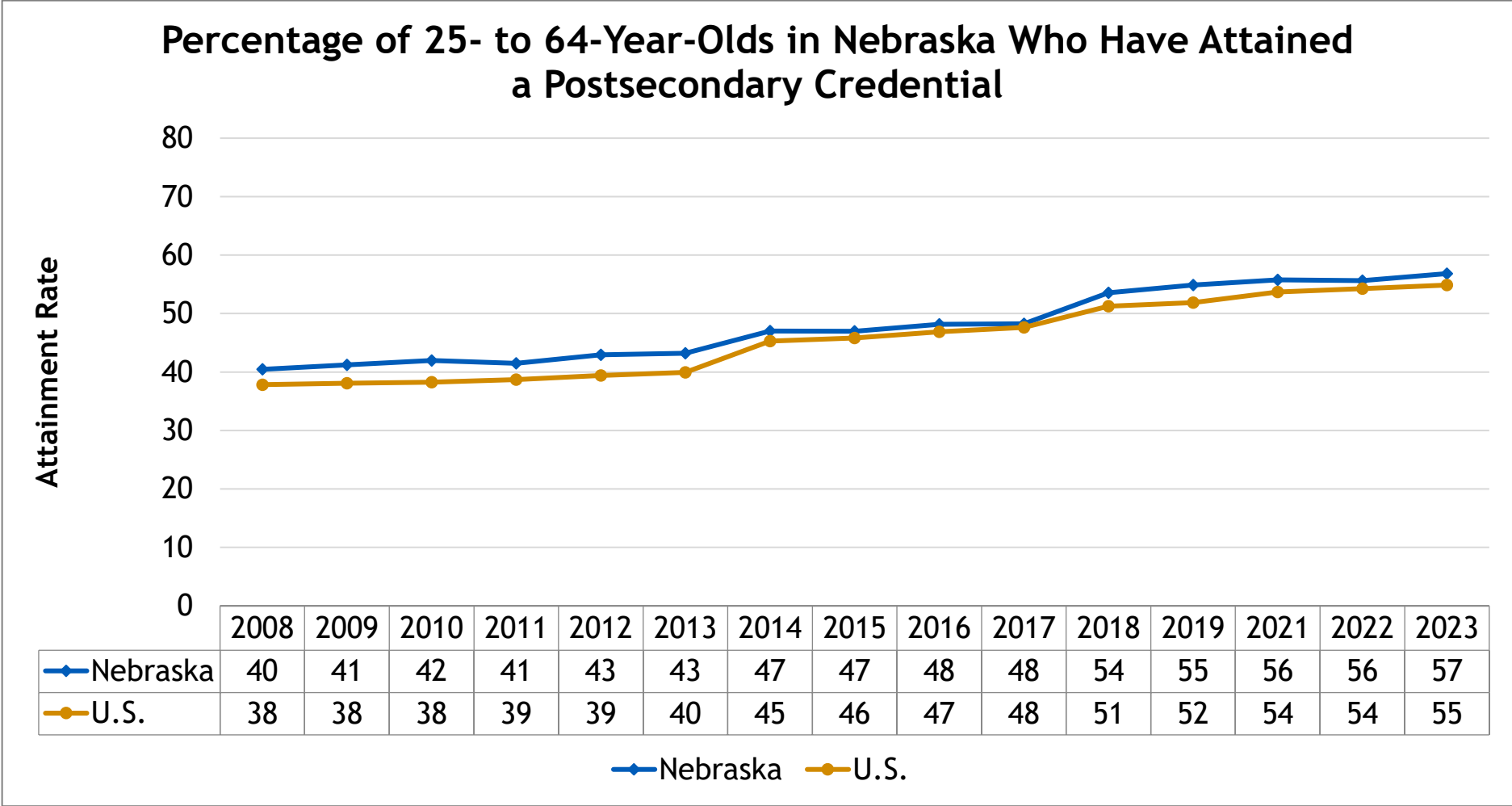
- **\$5.85M in total annual savings** for Nebraska colleges, universities, school districts, state and local governments, and students and their families through MHEC's contracts and programs
- **51-fold return** on annual compact membership commitment of \$115,000
- **\$762,092 in savings on technology** for Nebraska entities through contracts with Dell, Oracle, CampusGuard, Lenovo, etc.
- **\$1.16M savings on distance education** through Midwestern-State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement
- **5,000 students** at five Nebraska institutions participated in MHEC's contract for student health insurance

Other MHEC Benefits for Nebraska

- **MHEC supported Nebraska with grant funds** to expand access to the Open Education Resources (OER) Commons Hub and established ten groups on the hub for various Nebraska institutions.
- **MHEC provided four scholarships** for Nebraska leaders to attend MHEC's FAFSA Summit. Seven additional Nebraska representatives also attended.
- **Eight technology leaders** engaged in MHEC's free professional development and networking.
- **\$3.9M savings on tuition reciprocity** for Nebraska students and families who participated in the Midwest Student Exchange Program.

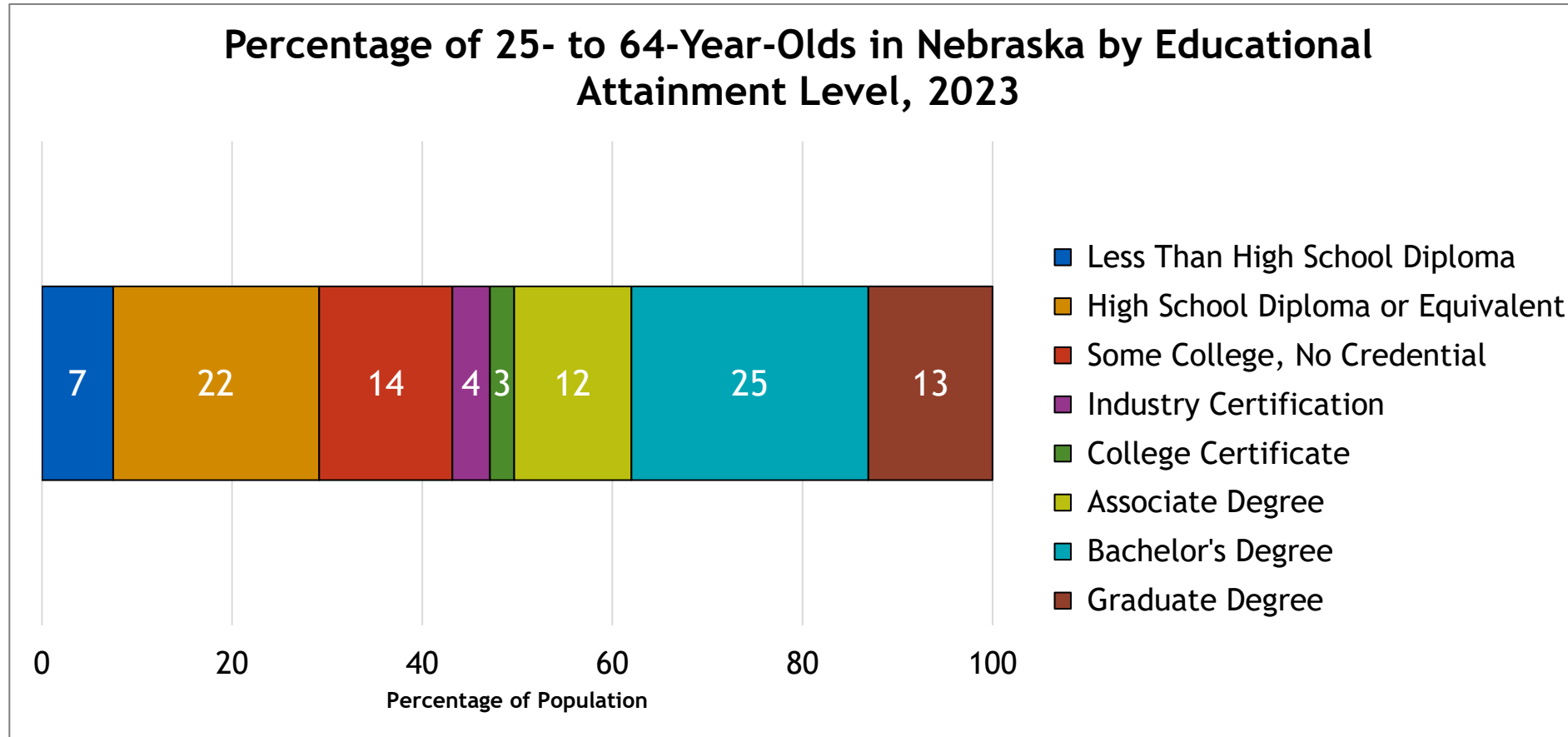
Key Indicators for Higher Education in Nebraska

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



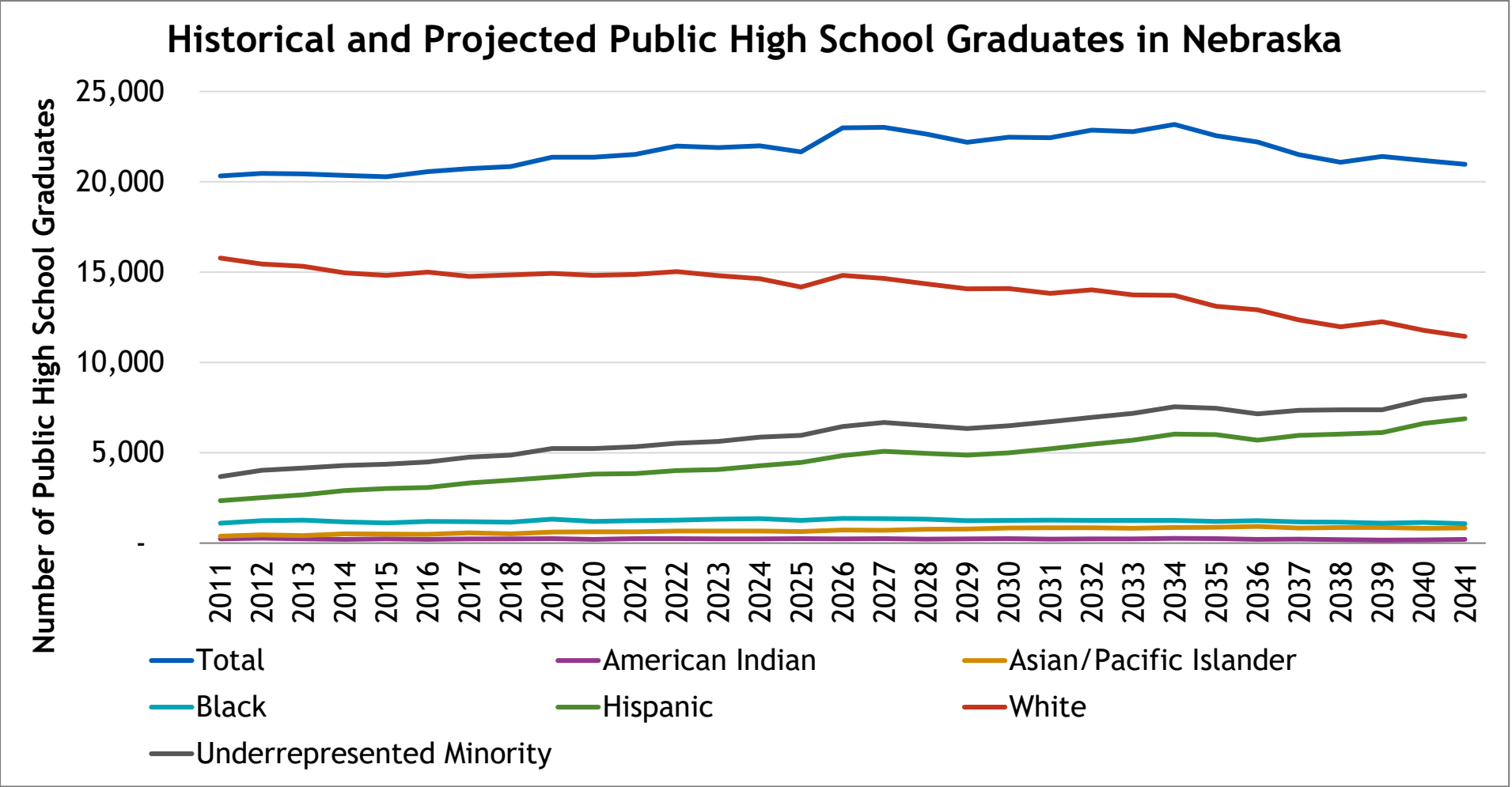
Source. Lumina Foundation. (2025). *A Stronger Nation*. Note. Since 2014, the attainment estimate includes postsecondary certificates. Since 2018, the attainment estimate includes industry-recognized certifications. 2020 estimates are not available due to sampling problems that occurred during the 2020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

ATTAINMENT: Nebraska residents have attained various types of postsecondary credentials, ranging from industry certifications and college certificates to bachelor's and graduate degrees; 43% have no postsecondary credential.



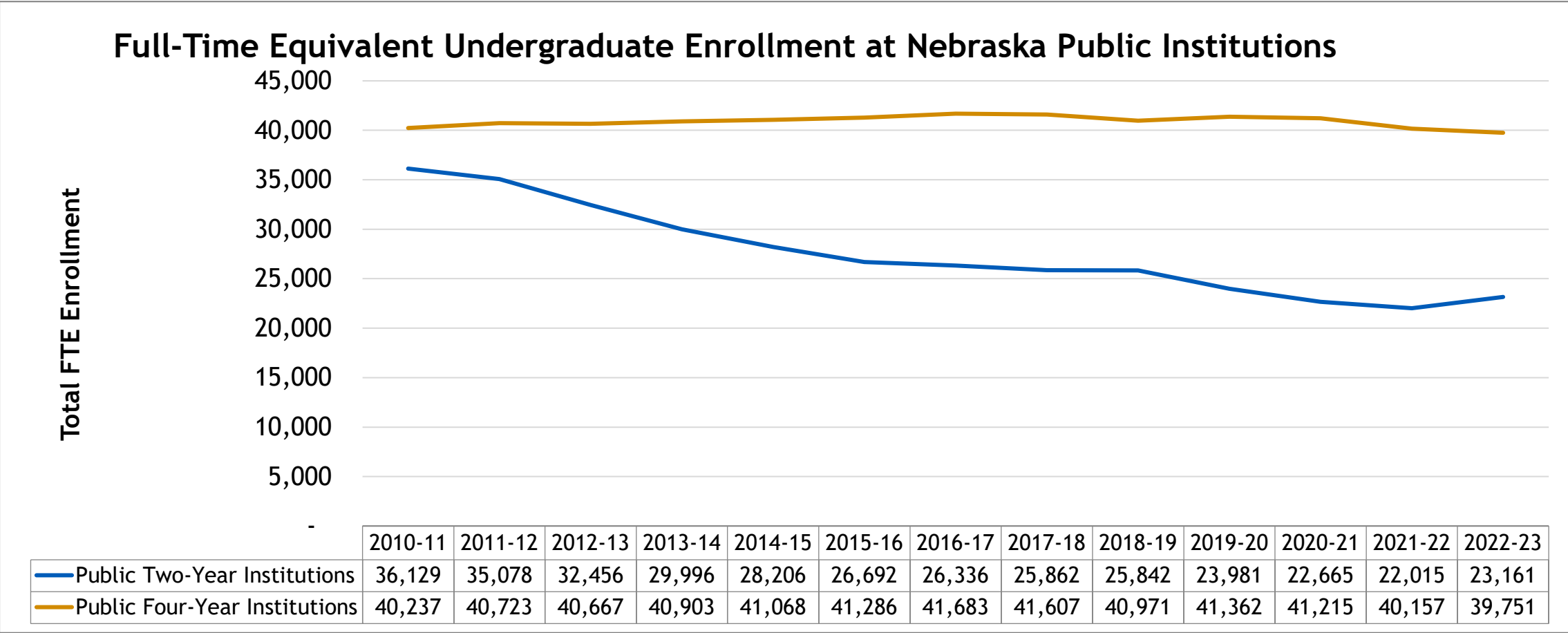
Source. Lumina Foundation. (2025). *A Stronger Nation*.

ENROLLMENT POOL: High school graduates are projected to remain relatively stable in Nebraska over the coming decade, with decreases for White graduates but increases in non-White graduates.

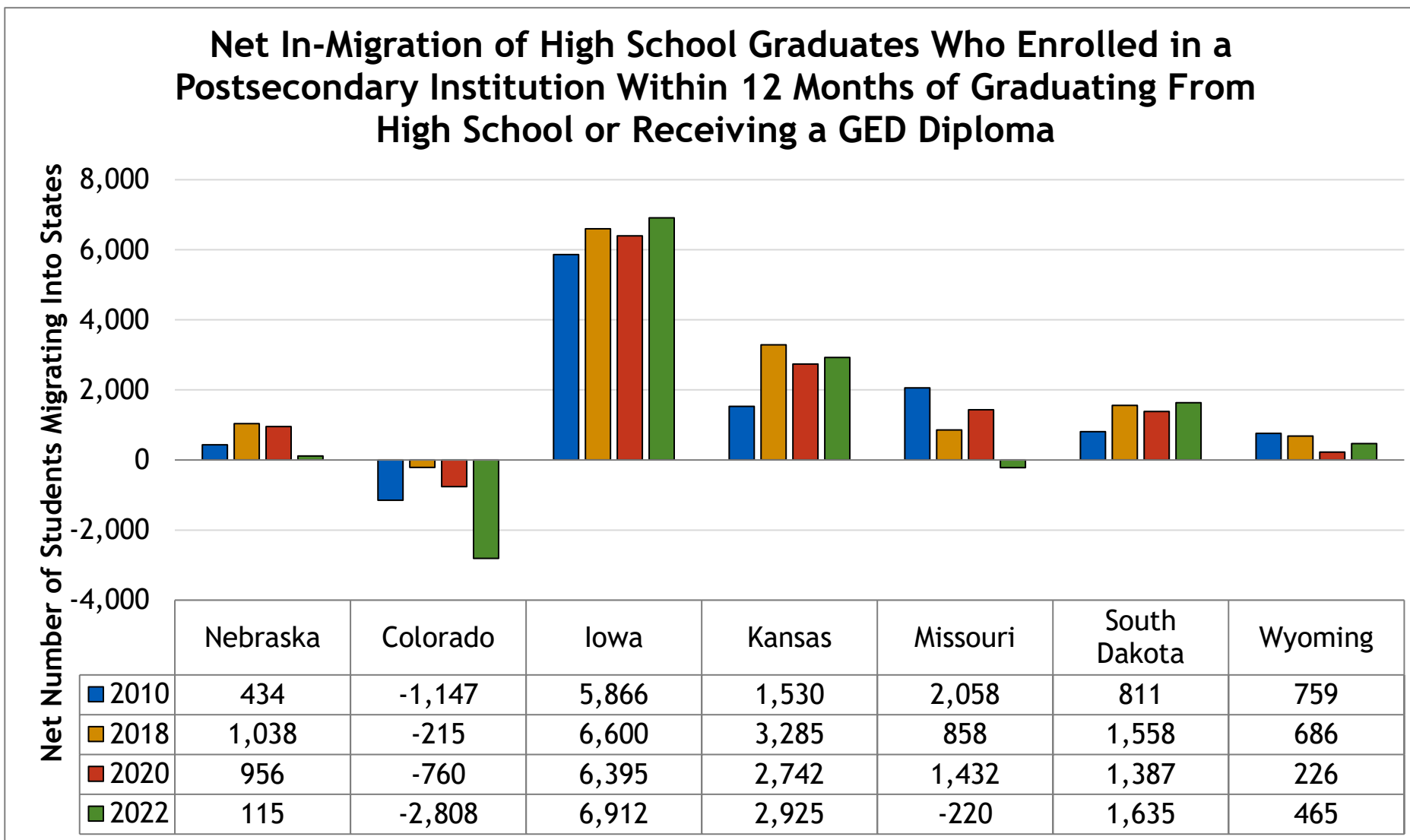


Source. WICHE. (2024). *Knocking at the College Door*. Note. The Underrepresented Minority category comprises American Indians, Blacks, and Hispanics.

ENROLLMENT: Undergraduate enrollment in Nebraska public two-year institutions declined since 2010-11 while enrollment at public four-year institutions remained stable over the same time period.

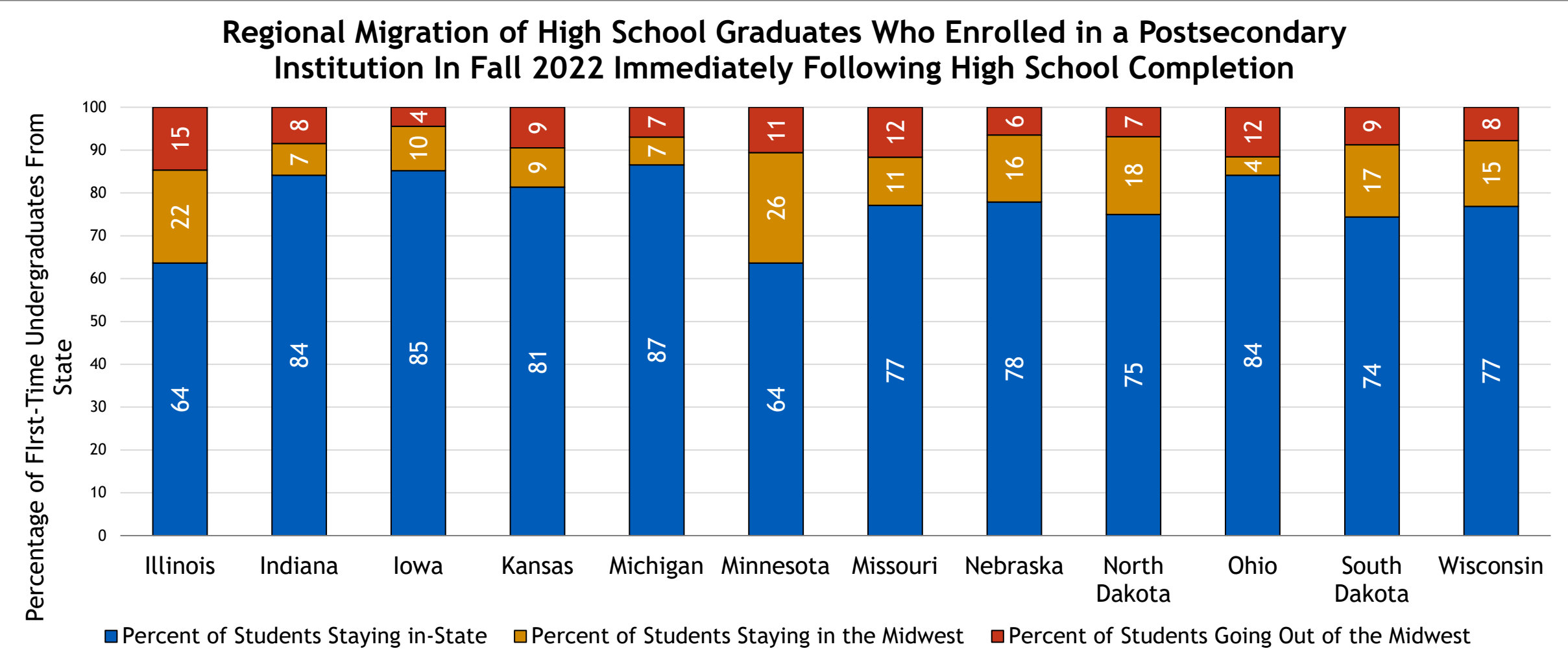


MIGRATION: More students migrate into Nebraska than migrate out.



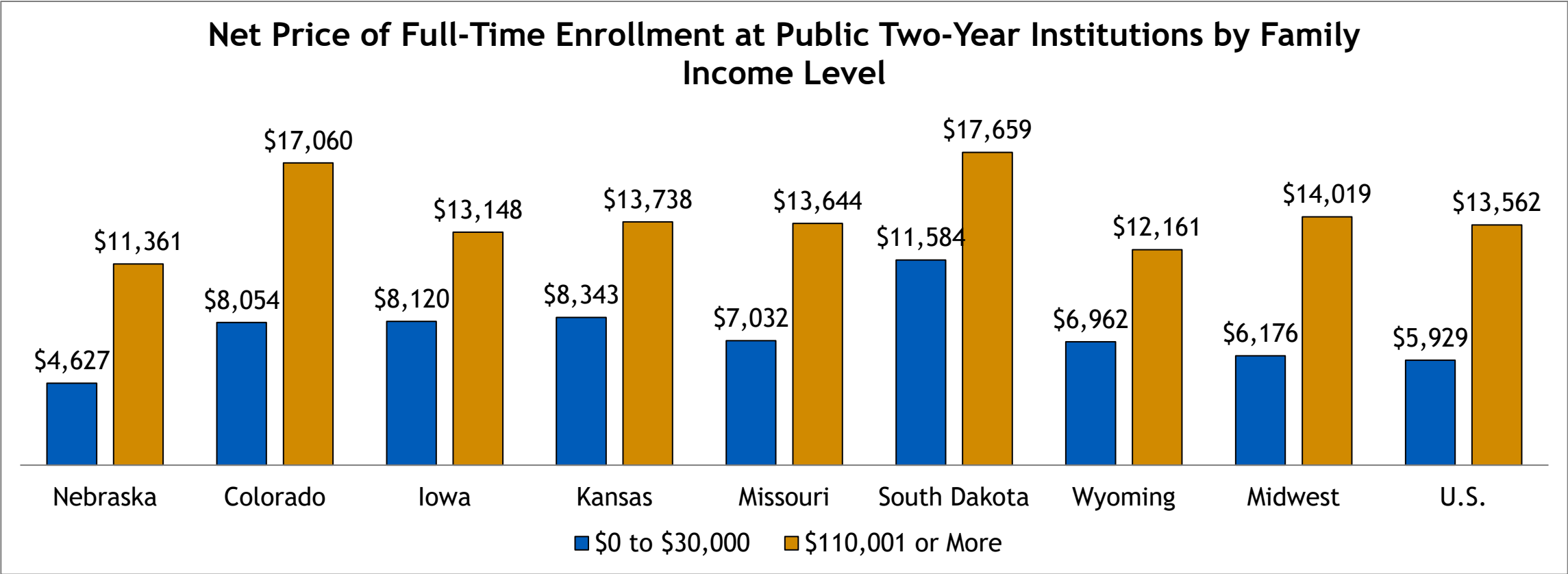
Source. NCES IPEDS. (2022). *Fall enrollment*.

ENROLLMENT LOCATION: Of first-time college students from Nebraska in 2022, 78 percent enrolled in state, 16 percent enrolled elsewhere in Midwest, and 6 percent enrolled outside the Midwest.



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

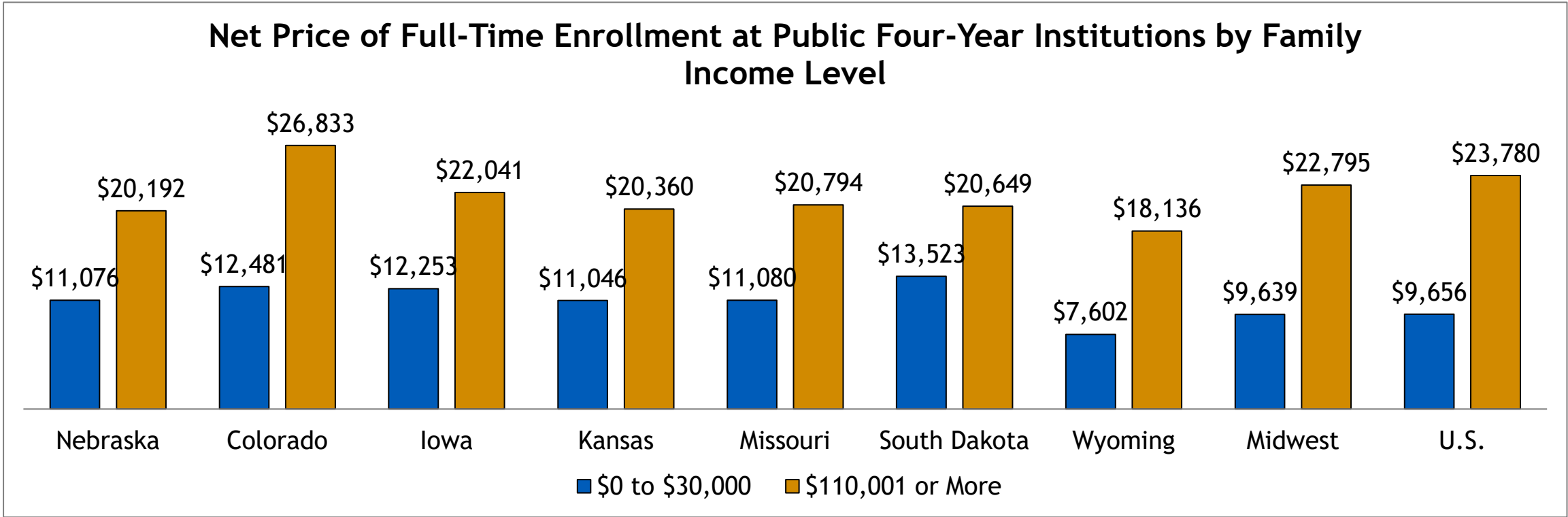
TWO-YEAR COLLEGE PRICE: Average net price for low-income students at two-year Nebraska public institutions is lower than Midwest and national averages and lower than border states.



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 Nebraska public four-year institutions is higher than Midwest and national averages but lower than Colorado, Iowa, Missouri, and South Dakota.



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>
- [Nebraska Highlights 2023-2024](https://www.mhec.org/resources/nebraska-highlights-2023-2024)
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