DOUBLE THE NUMBERS

Kentucky' s Plan to Increase College Graduates

KENTUCKY COUNCIL ON
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

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OCTOBER 2007

To raise Kentucky's standard of living to the national average by 2020, we must

Double the Number

of college graduates living in Kentucky.

We are in the middle of the most dramatic economic and social transformation in Kentucky's history.

In 1997, the General Assembly passed the *Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act* (House Bill 1). The law states that in order to raise our standard of living and quality of life to the national average by the year 2020, we must increase our educational attainment. Reaching this goal requires that we Double the Numbers—double the number of Kentuckians empowered by a bachelor's degree.

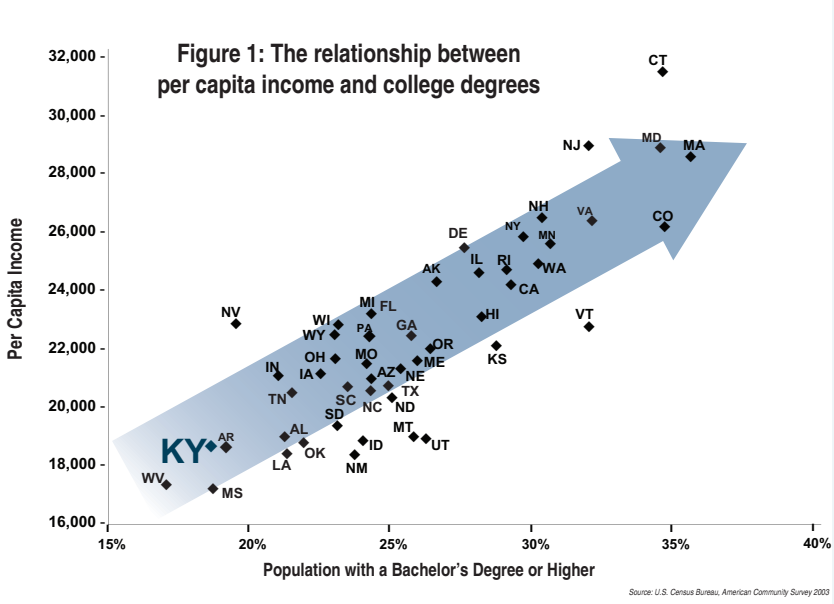
Now, with only 13 years to go, we must renew our commitments and plot carefully the path that will lead us to the goal.

We are making progress, but not fast enough.

Since 2000, we have increased the annual number of degrees and credentials 62 percent.[1] And this has contributed to a remarkable increase—22 percent—in our per capita income.[2]

But we are not gaining ground fast enough. A recent Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation report determined that if we don't intensify our efforts, Kentucky won't reach the national average in per capita income for another 154 years.[3]

How will we get there faster? As this chart shows, the quickest way to increase our per capita income is to raise the percent of Kentuckians with a bachelor's degree.



"The single factor with the greatest power to explain the difference in per capita income is the percent of college graduates."

-The Milken Institute

Civic participation and earnings data show

why it is so important

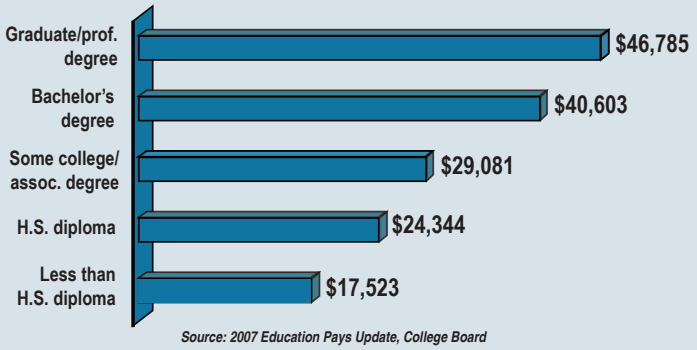
that we Double the Numbers.

There is a strong correlation between education level and personal income, productivity, civic participation, life expectancy, employment status, and community strength.

College graduates earn more.

- Kentuckians with bachelor's degrees typically earn over $16,000 more a year than high school graduates.
- The average U.S. bachelor's degree recipient can expect to earn 62 percent more over a 40-year working life than the average high school graduate.[4]

Figure 2: Median annual earnings of Kentuckians by degree, 2006

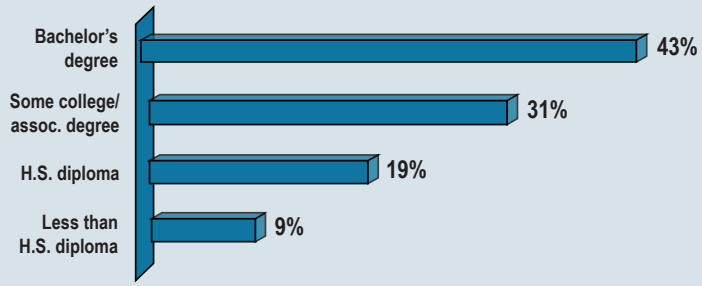


Source: 2007 Education Pays Update, College Board

College graduates tend to be more engaged citizens.

- In 2006, about 27 percent of U.S. adults volunteered for community organizations. Among college graduates, the volunteer rate was 43 percent, over twice the 19 percent rate for high school graduates.
- In the 2004 presidential election, 76 percent of U.S. college graduates reported voting, compared to 49 percent of high school graduates.[5]

Figure 3: Percent of U.S. adults who volunteer by degree, 2007



Source: 2007 Education Pays Update, College Board

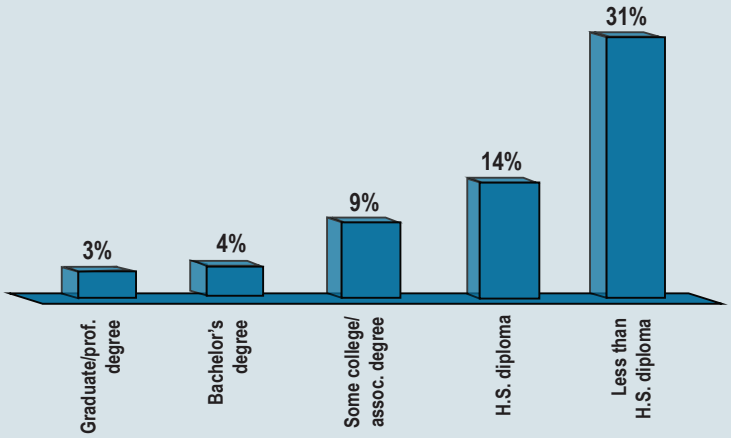
College graduates are healthier: they are more likely to exercise, less likely to smoke, and more likely to have health insurance.

-Education Pays 2007 College Board

States with more college graduates generally enjoy a higher quality of life.

- Incarceration rates for U.S. adults with some postsecondary education are about a quarter of that for individuals with only a high school diploma.[6]
- Government spending for public assistance programs tends to decrease as levels of education increase.[7]
- Kentuckians with higher education levels have lower rates of poverty.

Figure 4: Percent of Kentuckians in poverty by degree, 2006



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey

States with more college graduates have stronger, more diverse economies.

- Unemployment rates are much lower for college graduates than for high school graduates.[8]
- The top states in educational attainment also rank highest on the New Economy Index, which measures innovation, entrepreneurship, and competitiveness in the global economy. Kentucky ranks 45th on this index.[9]

The Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center has estimated that doubling the number of bachelor's degree holders by 2020 could produce an additional $139.5 billion in the personal income of Kentuckians and add $9 billion in tax revenue to the General Fund.[10]

"By investing in its workforce and achieving the national rate of working-age adults with a bachelor's degree or higher by 2020, Kentucky stands to gain billions of dollars in personal income and revenue over what it will achieve at current production levels."

-Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center

While other goals are important,

bachelor's degrees

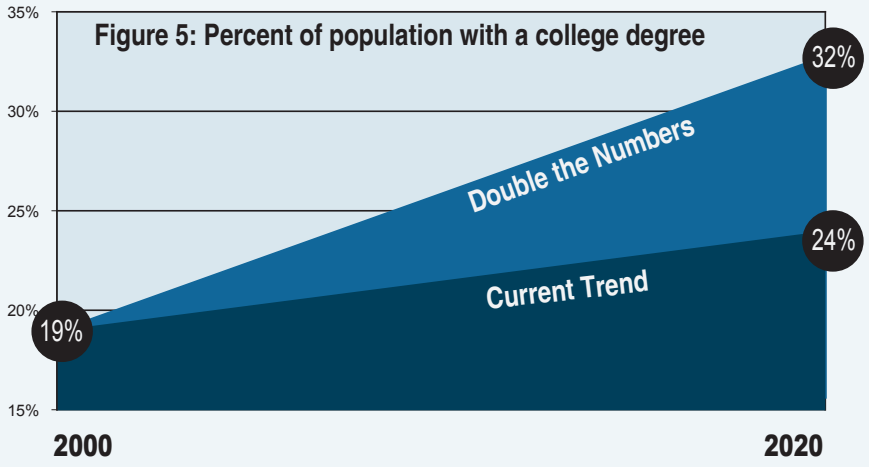
are the quickest, most direct link to economic prosperity.

Kentucky's Double the Numbers Plan does not diminish the importance of associate or advanced degrees, which are vital to our state's economy. The other goals of House Bill 1—like increased research and development, greater regional stewardship, and improved adult education and training—will continue to be pursued.

But the Plan focuses on bachelor's degree production because:

- The link between economic prosperity and educational attainment is most dramatic at the bachelor's degree level, both for states and for individuals.
- At the current rate of improvement, Kentucky is on track to meet or exceed the national average in associate degree production, but will fall far short in bachelor's degrees.
- Master's and advanced degrees, while vital to the new economy, cannot be obtained without a bachelor's degree.

Simply put, this plan is the most substantial contribution our postsecondary education programs can make to Kentucky's quality of life in the shortest period of time.



Demographers predict that in 2020, about 1 of every 3 Americans will have a bachelor's degree. In 2000, about 1 in 5 Kentuckians had a bachelor's degree. If current trends continue, we will fall short of our goal by about 211,000 college graduates.

The Double the Numbers Plan clearly outlines

what it will take

for Kentucky to reach educational parity with the rest of the nation.

To quantify the bachelor's degree challenge, the Council posed the following questions.

1. What will the national level of bachelor's degree attainment be in 2020?

2. Where will Kentucky be in 2020 if the system continues to produce bachelor's degrees at the current rate?

3. Will there be a gap and, if so, what will that gap be?

To answer the first question, we selected a methodology advanced by a 2000 U.S. Census Working Paper.[11] Because it projects the rate to 2028 and draws on 15 years of best-available data, this methodology offers the most sophisticated projection with the lowest probable degree of error. The final analysis produced an estimate of 32 percent, meaning that by the year 2020, 32 percent of all working-age Americans (25-64) will have at least a bachelor's degree or higher.

Next, we examined the Kentucky State Data Center's working-age population projection for 2020, which is just shy of 2.5 million. Applying the national rate of 32 percent to this number yields 791,000 Kentuckians.

Finally, assuming the system continues to perform at the current degree production rate, we calculated that 580,000 bachelor's degree holders will be produced by 2020. This number was derived as follows:

- Start with the 402,000 working-age bachelor's degree holders living in Kentucky in 2000.
- Subtract the 167,000 who were 45-65 years old in 2000, who will age out of the working-age population by 2020.
- Add 14,000 for predicted net migration from 2000 to 2020.
- Add 65,000 for the bachelor's degrees produced from 2000 to 2004.
- Add 266,000 for the bachelor's degrees that will be produced from 2005 to 2020.

The resulting 580,000 represents about 24 percent of the projected working-age population, which is well below the predicted national average of 32 percent.

"Thirty years ago, the United States could lay claim to having 30 percent of the world's population of college students. Today that proportion has fallen to 14 percent and is continuing to fall."

-New Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce

To achieve the Double the Numbers goal

five essential strategies

must be vigorously and urgently advanced.

With help from the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems and Kentucky's nine public postsecondary institutions, the Council has outlined five strategies which, if implemented concurrently over the next 13 years, will produce the additional degree holders needed to Double the Numbers.

The five strategies target the following groups of Kentuckians:

- The thousands of young Kentuckians who enter the ninth grade each year but never graduate from high school.
- The thousands of Kentuckians—about 1 of every 5—who lack a high school diploma or GED.
- The one million working-age adults without a bachelor's degree.

To attract and retain college graduates, Kentucky also must recruit and develop new businesses with jobs that require college degrees.

STRATEGY 1 Raise high school graduation rates.

In 2006, there were 58,000 ninth-graders in the state but only 40,000 seniors.[12] Kentucky must increase the number of high school graduates to 48,000 in 2020.

Statewide tactics

- Expanded opportunities for students to earn college credit during high school and lessen time-to-degree.
- More intervention programs for middle and high school students to identify and remedy gaps in their preparation for college.
- A redesigned Web site (www.GoHigherKY.org) where Kentuckians can efficiently plan for college and complete admission and financial aid applications online.

2020 statewide targets

- Increase the number of high school graduates from 40,000 to 48,000.
- Raise the percent of high school freshmen who graduate four years later from 72 percent to 81 percent.

STRATEGY 2 Increase the number of GED graduates and transition more to college.

A full 60 percent of adult Kentuckians have no education beyond high school; 26 percent have less than a high school diploma. As the baby boomers mature, Kentucky is becoming an aging state—there are not enough young people coming up through the pipeline to replace the current workforce by the year 2020. Our demographic reality is that no one is expendable. Kentucky must reach out to the nearly 800,000 adults with low educational skills, help them earn a GED, and then transition them to college.

Statewide tactics

- Higher academic standards so graduates are better prepared for college and high-quality employment.
- Enhanced teacher standards and professional development to strengthen the skills and abilities of the teaching force.
- New incentives for adults to complete the GED and transition to postsecondary education.

2020 statewide targets

- Raise the annual number of GED graduates from 9,800 to 15,000.
- Increase the college-going rate of GED graduates from 19 percent to 36 percent.

"Adult illiteracy is a fundamental barrier to every major challenge facing Kentucky including early childhood education, education reform, economic development, and improving the health and well-being of Kentucky's families and communities."

-Senate Bill 1
The Adult Education Act of 2000

"Today's demanding and fast-paced environment is changing the patterns of attendance in higher education. More than half (60 percent) of all first-year undergraduate students start their college education at two-year community or for-profit colleges."

-National Articulation and Transfer Network

STRATEGY 3 Enroll more first-time students in KCTCS and transfer them to 4-year programs.

Without the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, Kentucky's four-year universities do not have the capacity to serve the additional students needed to Double the Numbers. Encouraging more students to begin their college careers at KCTCS saves money for the system and the students.

The success of this strategy depends on getting more students to take their general education required courses at a community or technical college, then transfer these credits to a four-year degree program. We also must ensure community and technical college tuition is affordable for every Kentuckian.

Statewide tactics

- Expanded capability at community and technical colleges to deliver a general education component.
- Enhanced partnerships to provide collaborative advising and student services to support transfer.
- Increased affordability at community and technical colleges and more financial aid opportunities for adult part-time and transfer students.

2020 statewide targets

- Increase KCTCS enrollment from 86,500 to 115,800.
- Increase KCTCS transfers to four-year universities from 4,500 to 11,300.

STRATEGY 4 Increase the number of Kentuckians going to and completing college.

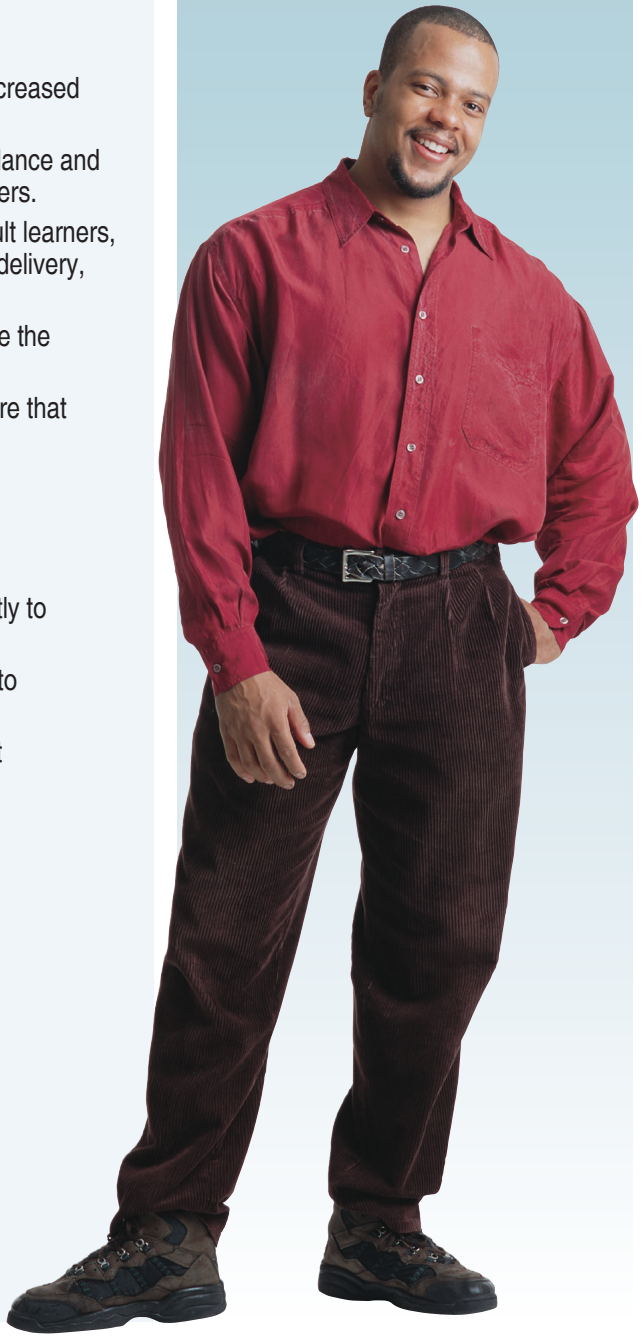
Too many Kentuckians do not understand the benefits of a bachelor's degree, especially in counties where professional job opportunities are scarce. To compete in the knowledge economy, Kentucky must create a college-going culture where everyone is expected to complete some postsecondary education or training. To succeed, we need an infusion of high school graduates and working-age adults into our colleges and universities. Once enrolled, we must help more students complete their degree by addressing their academic, financial, and personal needs early and often.

Statewide tactics

- Incentives and rewards for colleges and universities for increased degree production.
- Concentrated efforts across the system to strengthen guidance and support for students at every stage of their academic careers.
- Expanded capacity to serve more students, especially adult learners, through course redesign, alternative methods of program delivery, and better coordination of distance education.
- A coordinated statewide outreach initiative to communicate the importance of earning a bachelor's degree.
- Redesigned and expanded financial aid programs to ensure that college is possible for all Kentuckians.

2020 statewide targets

- Increase the percent of high school graduates going directly to college from 62 percent to 74 percent.
- Increase the percent of adults in college from 3.6 percent to 4.5 percent.
- Raise the six-year college graduation rate from 45 percent to 56 percent.
- Raise annual bachelor's degrees awarded from 18,200 to 33,700.



"Through teaching and research, America's colleges and universities produce new ideas, new discoveries, and a richer civic and cultural life. We depend on [them] for innovations in medicine, business, science, technology, national security, environmental quality, and many other fields."

–Solutions for Our Future
American Council on Education

STRATEGY 5 Attract college-educated workers to the state and create new jobs for them.

Even if we succeed in the first four strategies, we still will fall short of the goal. We must recruit more college-educated workers to Kentucky. The final strategy demands increased job creation—not only in the agricultural, manufacturing, and mining sectors, but in high-tech, high-wage fields.

Statewide tactics

- Greater efforts to attract more research dollars to Kentucky and assist entrepreneurs in commercializing research.
- Intensified efforts to greatly expand the number of graduates in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.
- Stronger relationships with economic development partners to recruit new economy jobs to Kentucky.

2020 statewide targets

- Attract 80,000 college-educated adults from outside the state to Kentucky through increased job creation and economic development opportunities.

DOUBLE THE NUMBERS

BY REGION

Doubling the Numbers by 2020 will be challenging, but not impossible. Every region must do its part. Reaching the goal will require a coordinated effort from education and business partners in every region of the state. To give the statewide targets more meaning, we estimated what each of the public university service regions will need to contribute to reach the goal,[13] and how each region could benefit.[14] When viewed from a regional perspective, the goal is feasible.

Doubling the Numbers in the

Southeast Region

could raise average household income by $22,000.

This area encompasses 22 counties and 4 area development districts with a population of 566,768. Eleven percent of the population has a bachelor's degree or above, and 38 percent has less than a high school diploma.

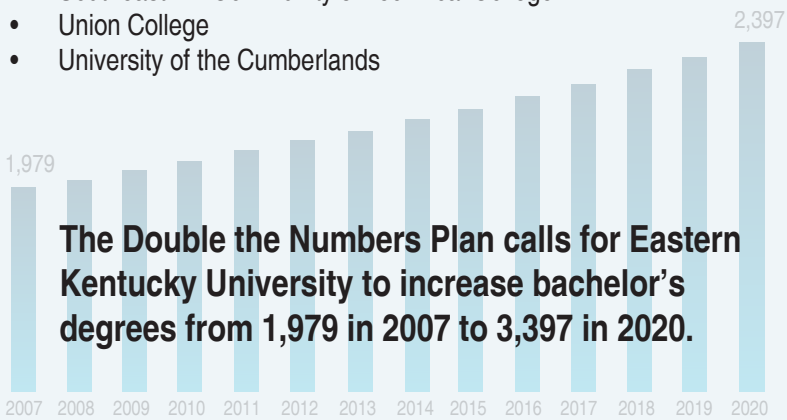
This region is Eastern Kentucky University's area of geographic responsibility, but it also includes 7 other postsecondary institutions, 35 K-12 public school districts, and 22 county adult education programs. All of these providers play a vital role in this plan.

The table below highlights the increases needed from this region for the state to reach its Double the Numbers goal. **The bachelor's degree target reflects the contributions of the 8 public and independent postsecondary partners in this area.**

Strategies	2020 Target
1. Increase high school graduates	7,039
2. Increase GED graduates	2,957
3. Increase 2- to 4-year transfers	1,872
4. Increase bachelor's degrees produced	4,692
5. Import bachelor's degree holders to KY	10,414

Area public and independent (AIKCU) colleges and universities

- Berea College
- Centre College
- Eastern Kentucky University
- Hazard Community & Technical College
- Somerset Community College
- Southeast KY Community & Technical College
- Union College
- University of the Cumberlands



The Double the Numbers Plan calls for Eastern Kentucky University to increase bachelor's degrees from 1,979 in 2007 to 3,397 in 2020.

Eastern Kentucky University is a comprehensive university serving 15,763 undergraduate and graduate students.

If this region doubles the numbers, average household income could increase from $23,043 to $45,237.

Doubling the Numbers in the

North Central Region

could raise average household income by $13,000.

This area encompasses 6 counties and 3 area development districts with a population of 158,803. Eighteen percent of the population has a bachelor's degree or above, and 22 percent has less than a high school diploma.

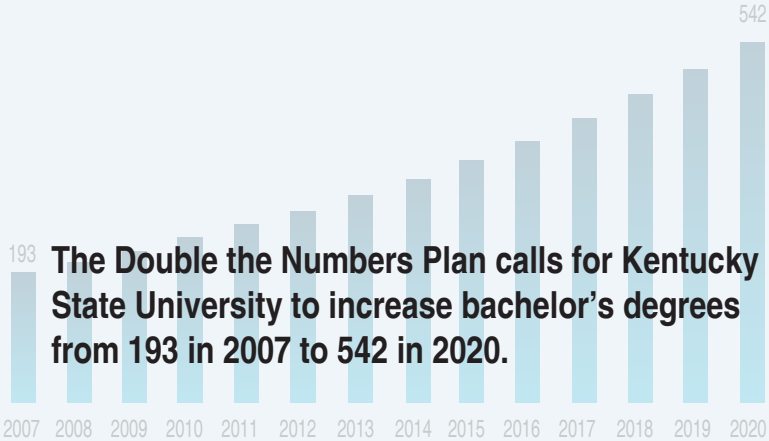
This region is Kentucky State University's area of geographic responsibility, but it is also includes 1 other postsecondary institution, 8 K-12 public school districts, and 6 county adult education programs. All of these providers play a vital role in this plan.

The table below highlights the increases needed from this region for the state to reach its Double the Numbers goal. **The bachelor's degree target reflects the contributions of the 2 public and independent postsecondary partners in this area.**

Strategies	2020 Target
1. Increase high school graduates	2,058
2. Increase GED graduates	515
3. Increase 2- to 4-year transfers	391
4. Increase bachelor's degrees produced	918
5. Import bachelor's degree holders to KY	3,578

Area public and independent (AIKCU) colleges and universities

- Kentucky State University
- Georgetown College



The Double the Numbers Plan calls for Kentucky State University to increase bachelor's degrees from 193 in 2007 to 542 in 2020.

Kentucky State University is a historically black, comprehensive, land-grant university serving 2,500 undergraduate and graduate students.

If this region doubles the numbers, average household income could increase from $41,439 to $54,238.

Doubling the Numbers in the

Eastern Region

could raise average household income by $20,000.

This area encompasses 22 counties and 5 area development districts with a population of 483,393. Eleven percent of the population has a bachelor's degree or above, and 36 percent has less than a high school diploma.

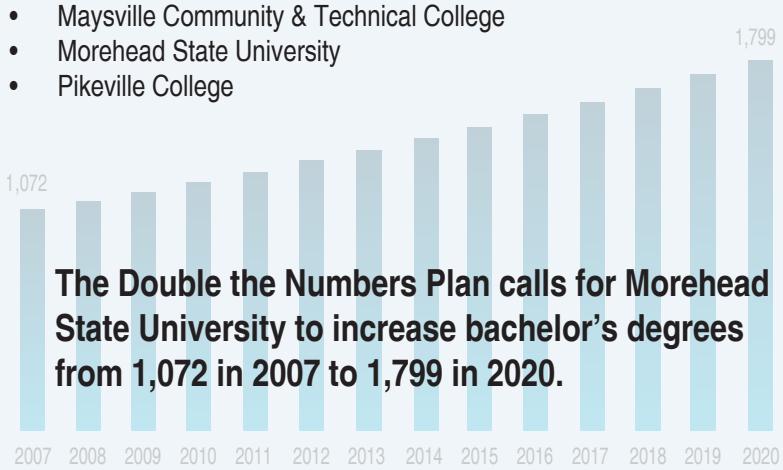
This region is Morehead State University's area of geographic responsibility, but it also includes 6 other postsecondary institutions, 31 K-12 public school districts, and 22 county adult education programs. All of these providers play a vital role in this plan.

The table below highlights the increases needed from this region for the state to reach its Double the Numbers goal. **The bachelor's degree target reflects the contributions of the 7 public and independent postsecondary partners in this area.**

Strategies	2020 Target
1. Increase high school graduates	6,045
2. Increase GED graduates	2,488
3. Increase 2- to 4-year transfers	1,025
4. Increase bachelor's degrees produced	2,719
5. Import bachelor's degree holders to KY	8,627

Area public and independent (AIKCU) colleges and universities

- Ashland Community & Technical College
- Alice Lloyd College
- Big Sandy Community & Technical College
- Kentucky Christian University
- Maysville Community & Technical College
- Morehead State University
- Pikeville College



The Double the Numbers Plan calls for Morehead State University to increase bachelor's degrees from 1,072 in 2007 to 1,799 in 2020.

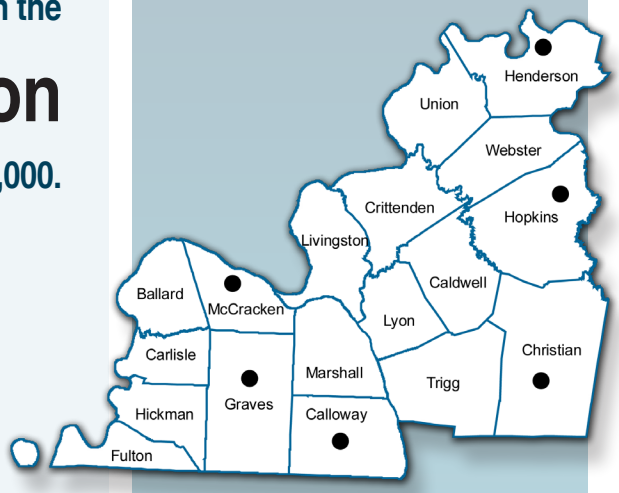
Morehead State University is a comprehensive university serving 9,025 undergraduate and graduate students.

If this region doubles the numbers, average household income could increase from $24,170 to $44,744.

Doubling the Numbers in the

Western Region

could raise average household income by $17,000.



This area encompasses 18 counties and 3 area development districts with a population of 439,790. Thirteen percent of the population has a bachelor's degree or above, and 24 percent has less than a high school diploma.

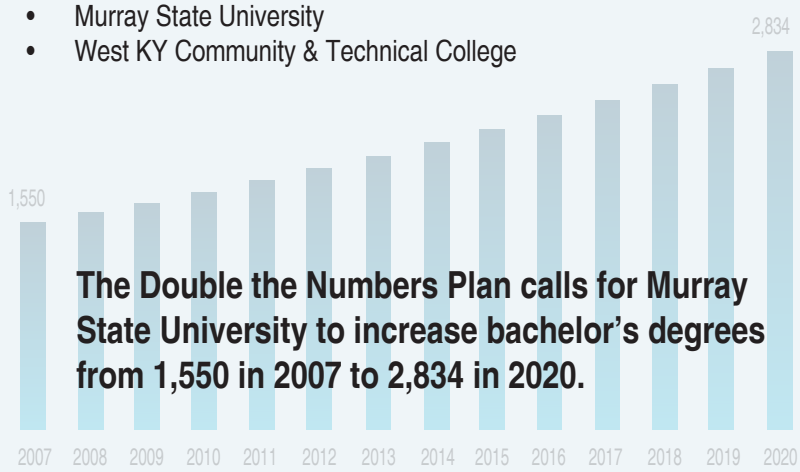
This region is Murray State University's area of geographic responsibility, but it also includes 5 other postsecondary institutions, 23 K-12 public school districts, and 18 county adult education programs. All of these providers play a vital role in this plan.

The table below highlights the increases needed from this region for the state to reach its Double the Numbers goal. **The bachelor's degree target reflects the contributions of the six public and independent postsecondary partners in this area**.

Strategies	2020 Target
1. Increase high school graduates	5,129
2. Increase GED graduates	1,591
3. Increase 2- to 4-year transfers	1,019
4. Increase bachelor's degrees produced	3,358
5. Import bachelor's degree holders to KY	8,574

Area public and independent (AIKCU) colleges and universities

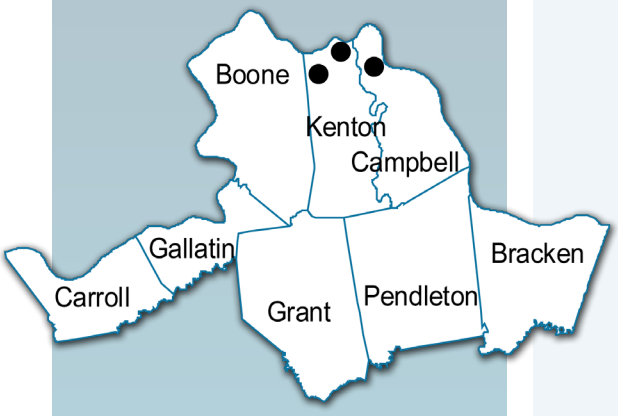
- Henderson Community College
- Hopkinsville Community College
- Madisonville Community College
- Mid-Continent University
- Murray State University
- West KY Community & Technical College



The Double the Numbers Plan calls for Murray State University to increase bachelor's degrees from 1,550 in 2007 to 2,834 in 2020.

Murray State University is a comprehensive university serving 10,304 undergraduate and graduate students.

If this region doubles the numbers, average household income could increase from $31,520 to $48,320.



Doubling the Numbers in the

Northern Region

could raise average household income by $16,000.

This area encompasses 8 counties and 2 area development districts with a population of 389,149. Twenty percent of the population has a bachelor's degree or above, and 19 percent has less than a high school diploma.

This region is Northern Kentucky University's area of geographic responsibility, but it also includes 2 other postsecondary institutions, 21 K-12 public school districts, and 8 county adult education programs. All of these providers play a vital role in this plan.

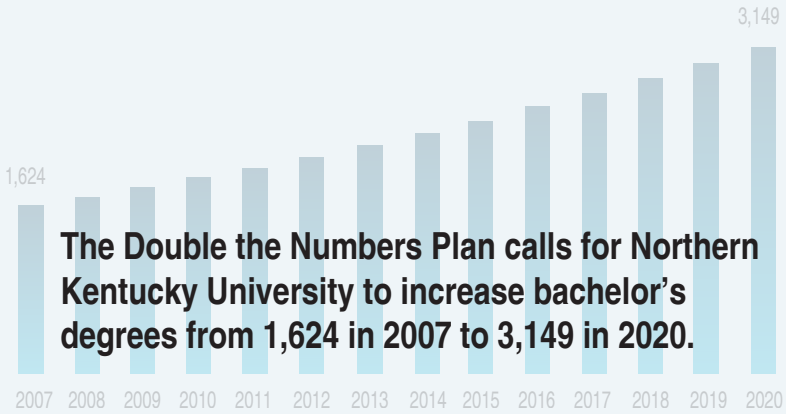
The table below highlights the increases needed from this region for the state to reach its Double the Numbers goal. **The bachelor's degree target reflects the contributions of the 3 public and independent postsecondary partners in this area.**

Strategies	2020 Target
1. Increase high school graduates	4,621
2. Increase GED graduates	1,074
3. Increase 2- to 4-year transfers	1,585
4. Increase bachelor's degrees produced	3,757
5. Import bachelor's degree holders to KY	8,574

Area public and independent (AIKCU) colleges and universities

- Gateway Community & Technical College
- Northern Kentucky University
- Thomas More College

If this region doubles the numbers, average household income could increase from $40,392 to $56,457.



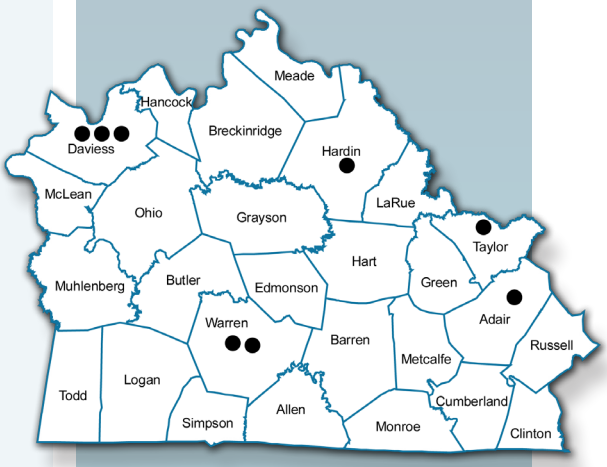
The Double the Numbers Plan calls for Northern Kentucky University to increase bachelor's degrees from 1,624 in 2007 to 3,149 in 2020.

Northern Kentucky University is a comprehensive university serving 14,638 undergraduate and graduate students.

Doubling the Numbers in the

West Central Region

could raise average household income by $18,000.



This area encompasses 26 counties and 4 area development districts with a population of 693,208. Thirteen percent of the population has a bachelor's degree or above, and 29 percent has less than a high school diploma.

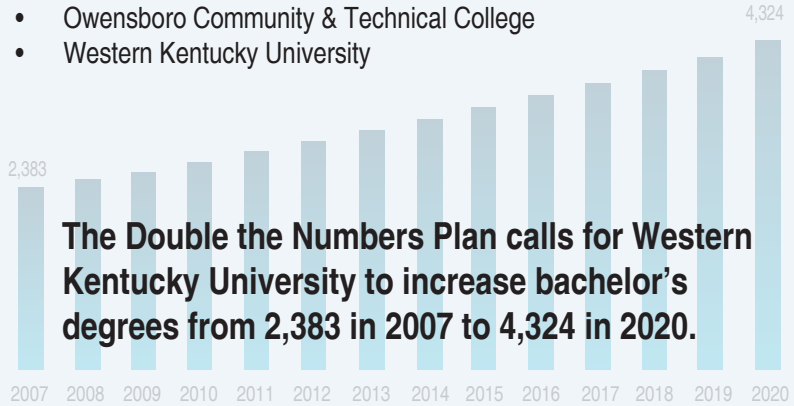
This region is Westerrn Kentucky University's area of geographic responsibility, but it also includes 7 other postsecondary institutions, 35 K-12 public school districts, and 26 county adult education programs. All of these providers play a vital role in this plan.

The table below highlights the increases needed from this region for the state to reach its Double the Numbers goal. **The bachelor's degree target reflects the contributions of the 8 public and independent postsecondary partners in this area.**

Strategies	2020 Target
1. Increase high school graduates	9,234
2. Increase GED graduates	2,774
3. Increase 2- to 4-year transfers	2,214
4. Increase bachelor's degrees produced	5,986
5. Import bachelor's degree holders to KY	13,653

Area public and independent (AIKCU) colleges and universities

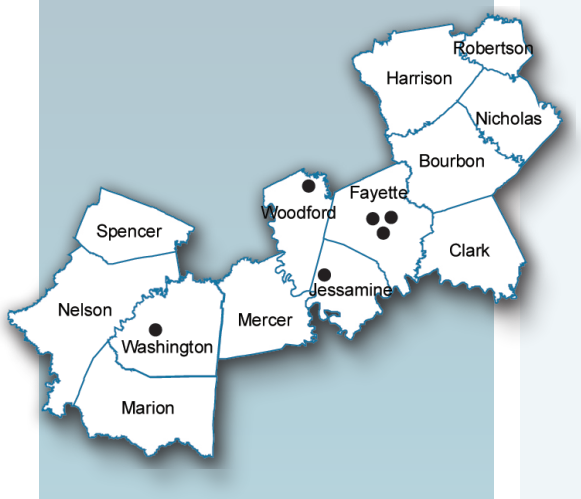
- Bowling Green Technical College
- Brescia University
- Campbellsville University
- Elizabethtown Community & Technical College
- Kentucky Wesleyan College
- Lindsey Wilson College
- Owensboro Community & Technical College
- Western Kentucky University



The Double the Numbers Plan calls for Western Kentucky University to increase bachelor's degrees from 2,383 in 2007 to 4,324 in 2020.

Western Kentucky University is a comprehensive university serving 18,664 undergraduate and graduate students.

If this region doubles the numbers, average household income could increase from $29,282 to $47,580.



Doubling the Numbers in the

Central Region

could raise average household income by $26,000.

This area encompasses 13 counties and 2 area development districts with a population of 501,515. Twenty-six percent of the population has a bachelor's degree or above, and 19 percent has less than a high school diploma.

This region is the University of Kentucky's area of geographic responsibility, but **as the state's flagship university, UK serves the entire state.** This region also includes 5 other postsecondary institutions, 16 K-12 public school districts, and 13 county adult education programs. All of these providers play a vital role in this plan.

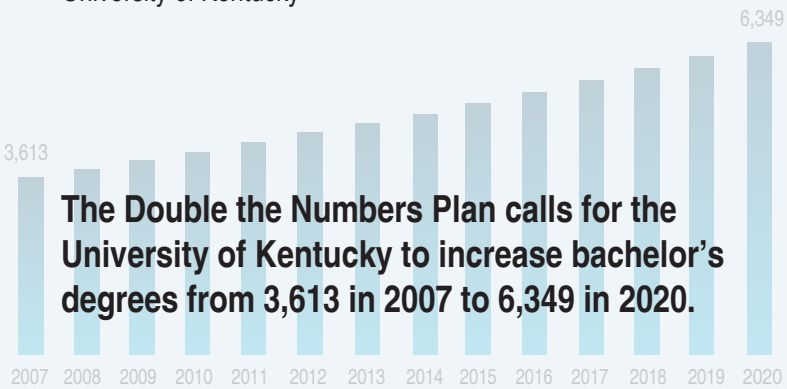
The table below highlights the increases needed from this region for the state to reach its Double the Numbers goal. **The bachelor's degree target reflects the contributions of the 6 public and independent postsecondary partners in this area.**

Strategies	2020 Target
1. Increase high school graduates	5,517
2. Increase GED graduates	1,364
3. Increase 2- to 4-year transfers	1,597
4. Increase bachelor's degrees produced	7,518
5. Import bachelor's degree holders to KY	10,284

Area public and independent (AIKCU) colleges and universities

- Asbury College
- Bluegrass Community & Technical College
- Midway College
- St. Catharine College
- Transylvania University
- University of Kentucky

If this region doubles the numbers, average household income could increase from $37,399 to $63,485.



The Double the Numbers Plan calls for the University of Kentucky to increase bachelor's degrees from 3,613 in 2007 to 6,349 in 2020.

The University of Kentucky is a land-grant research university serving 27,209 undergraduate and graduate students.

Doubling the Numbers in the

Louisville Metro Region

could raise average household income by $15,000.

This area encompasses 4 counties and 1 area development district with a population of 809,143. Twenty-four percent of the population has a bachelor's degree or above, and 18 percent has less than a high school diploma.

This region is the University of Louisville's area of geographic responsibility, but **as the state's premier metropolitan research university, UofL serves the entire state.** This region also includes 4 other postsecondary institutions, 5 K-12 public school districts, and 4 county adult education programs. All of these providers play a vital role in this plan.

The table below highlights the increases needed from this region for the state to reach its Double the Numbers goal. **The bachelor's degree target reflects the contributions of the 5 public and independent postsecondary partners in this area.**

Strategies	2020 Target
1. Increase high school graduates	8,260
2. Increase GED graduates	2.237
3. Increase 2- to 4-year transfers	1,781
4. Increase bachelor's degrees produced	4,720
5. Import bachelor's degree holders to KY	15,297

Area public and independent colleges and universities

- Bellarmine University
- Jefferson Community & Technical College
- Spalding University
- Sullivan University
- University of Louisville

The Double the Numbers Plan calls for the University of Louisville to increase bachelor's degrees from 2,328 in 2007 to 3,043 in 2020.

The University of Louisville is a metropolitan research university serving 21,841 undergraduate and graduate students.

If this region doubles the numbers, average household income could increase from $45,996 to $61,143.

The Kentucky Community and Technical College system has a mission to assure…access throughout the Commonwealth to a two-year course of general studies designed for transfer to a baccalaureate program, the training necessary to develop a workforce with the skills to meet the needs of new and existing industries, and remedial and continuing education to improve the employability of citizens.

--Goal Five
Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997

The role of the

Kentucky Community and Technical College System

in the Double the Numbers Plan.

While KCTCS does not award bachelor's degrees, the system plays a vital role in the Double the Numbers Plan. With 16 colleges on over 65 campuses across the state, the Kentucky Community and Technical College System is making postsecondary education more accessible to students and more responsive to community and business needs. KCTCS is the state's primary provider of associate degrees, transfer programs, and technical degrees and certificates.

KCTCS has one goal that directly affects the state's ability to meet its Double the Numbers targets.

Goal: Increase the number of students transferring to 4-year degree programs to 11,334 in 2020.

The Kentucky Community and Technical College System

Ashland CTC
Big Sandy CTC
Bluegrass CTC
Bowling Green TC
Elizabethtown CTC
Gateway CTC
Hazard CTC
Henderson CC
Hopkinsville CC
Jefferson CTC
Madisonville CC
Maysville CTC
Owensboro CTC
Somerset CC
Southeast Kentucky CTC
West Kentucky CTC

The role of

Kentucky's independent colleges and universities

in the Double the Numbers Plan.

The Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities has a diverse membership of 20 nonprofit, non-tax supported, four-year colleges and universities accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Schools range from small, rural, liberal arts colleges to comprehensive, urban universities. Collectively, these schools award more than 4,000 bachelor's degrees annually, comprising 22 percent of the state's total. Every year, independent colleges produce 25 to 30 percent of the state's degrees in science and math.

AIKCU institutions have one goal that directly affects the state's ability to meet its Double the Numbers targets.

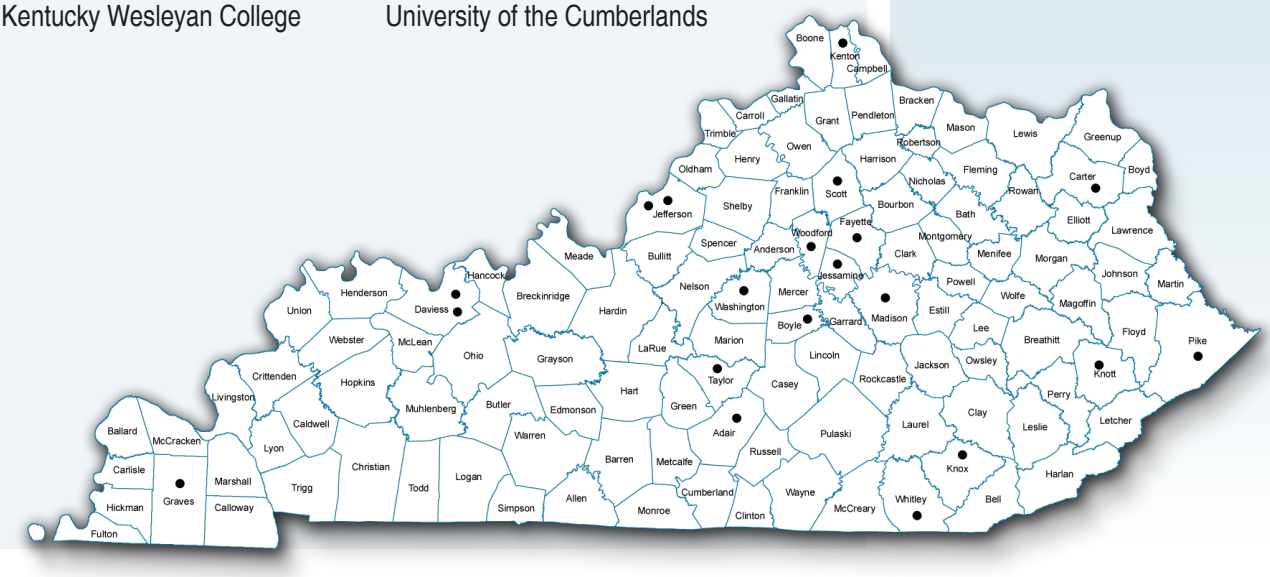
Goal: Increase the number of bachelor's degrees awarded to 8,231 in 2020.

AIKCU Member Institutions

Alice Lloyd College
Asbury College
Bellarmine University
Berea College
Brescia University
Campbellsville University
Centre College
Georgetown College
Kentucky Christian University
Kentucky Wesleyan College
Lindsey Wilson College
Mid-Continent University
Midway College
Pikeville College
St. Catharine College
Spalding University
Thomas More College
Transylvania University
Union College
University of the Cumberlands

"Almost 100,000 independent college alumni live in Kentucky who annually generate $416 million in state tax revenue and $543 million in federal tax revenue—about a 10-fold return on the state's financial aid outlay to these students."

–Private Colleges, Public Benefits: The Economic and Community Impact of Kentucky's Independent Colleges and Universities



We all have to roll up our sleeves and be a part of the consciousness raising. It's not just the Council on Postsecondary Education that needs to do it; the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce needs to do it, the Governor needs to do it. We all need to play a part to help change a culture.

-Dave Adkisson, President
Kentucky Chamber of Commerce

The Double the Numbers Plan is

ambitious, but attainable

if we work together and accelerate our efforts.

Kentucky can reach its destination, but we must travel faster and more efficiently than ever before. The Council on Postsecondary Education will continue to work with postsecondary representatives and state leaders to change the way we prioritize and fund future investments.

What long-term investments will be needed to double the numbers? The Council will propose a long-term funding approach that balances the institutions' need for stable funding with the state's need for increased efficiency and return on investment, as well as students' need for affordable, accessible education.

How can we increase accountability in the postsecondary system? Universities understand that adequate, consistent investment from the state demands specific, measurable results. Kentucky will strengthen its accountability system and create new incentives for improving outcomes, productivity, and efficiency in the system. There will be rewards for high performance, and consequences for not achieving targets.

How should universities be funded?
The Double the Numbers Plan calls for a sizable investment in postsecondary education in Kentucky that will yield enormous economic and community benefits. A new system of funding will focus more strategically and deliberately on statewide and regional needs.

Kentucky has a choice to make. We can accelerate the pace of change and move forward to a better future. Or we can fall into old patterns, assign education a lower priority, and slip back to an unpromising past. Doubling the Numbers won't be easy, but the rewards will far outweigh the costs. The benefits will be felt by all Kentuckians.

notes

1. *Degrees and Credentials Awarded,* CPE Comprehensive Database (2002 - 2006).

2. *State Per Capita Income,* U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (2000 - 2006).

3. *Kentucky Per Capita Income Analysis.* SRI International, Arlington, VA, 2006.

4. Baum, Sandy and Jennifer Ma. *Education Pays: The Benefits of Higher Education for Individuals and Society.* The College Board, Washington, DC, 2007.

5. Ibid.

6. Baum, Sandy and Jennifer Ma. *Education Pays: The Benefits of Higher Education for Individuals and Society.* The College Board, Washington, DC, 2004.

7. Baum, Sandy and Jennifer Ma. *Education Pays: The Benefits of Higher Education for Individuals and Society.* The College Board, Washington, DC, 2007.

8. Ibid.

9. Atkinson, Robert D. and Daniel K. Correa. *The 2007 State New Economy Index: Benchmarking Economic Transformation in the States.* The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, Washington, DC, 2007.

10. Watts, Amy. "Doubling Kentucky's Degree Holders: The Benefits and Challenges of CPE's Plan." Foresight, No. 49, 2007.

11. Day, Jennifer Cheeseman and Bauman, Kurt J. *Have We Reached the Top? Educational Attainment Projections of the U.S. Population.* Working Paper Series No. 43, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau: Washington, D.C., May 2000.

12. Kentucky Department of Education. *1993 - 2006 Non-Academic Briefing Packet: State Summary.*

13. Council projections based on published 2020 targets, Kentucky State Data Center population projections, and recent enrollment and graduation data from the Council's Comprehensive Database, the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, and Kentucky Adult Education.

14. Council projections based on regional median household incomes and bachelor's degree attainment levels in the 2000 U.S. Census.

Kentucky
UNBRIDLED SPIRIT™