

Increasing Higher Education's Value Proposition for Students and Employers

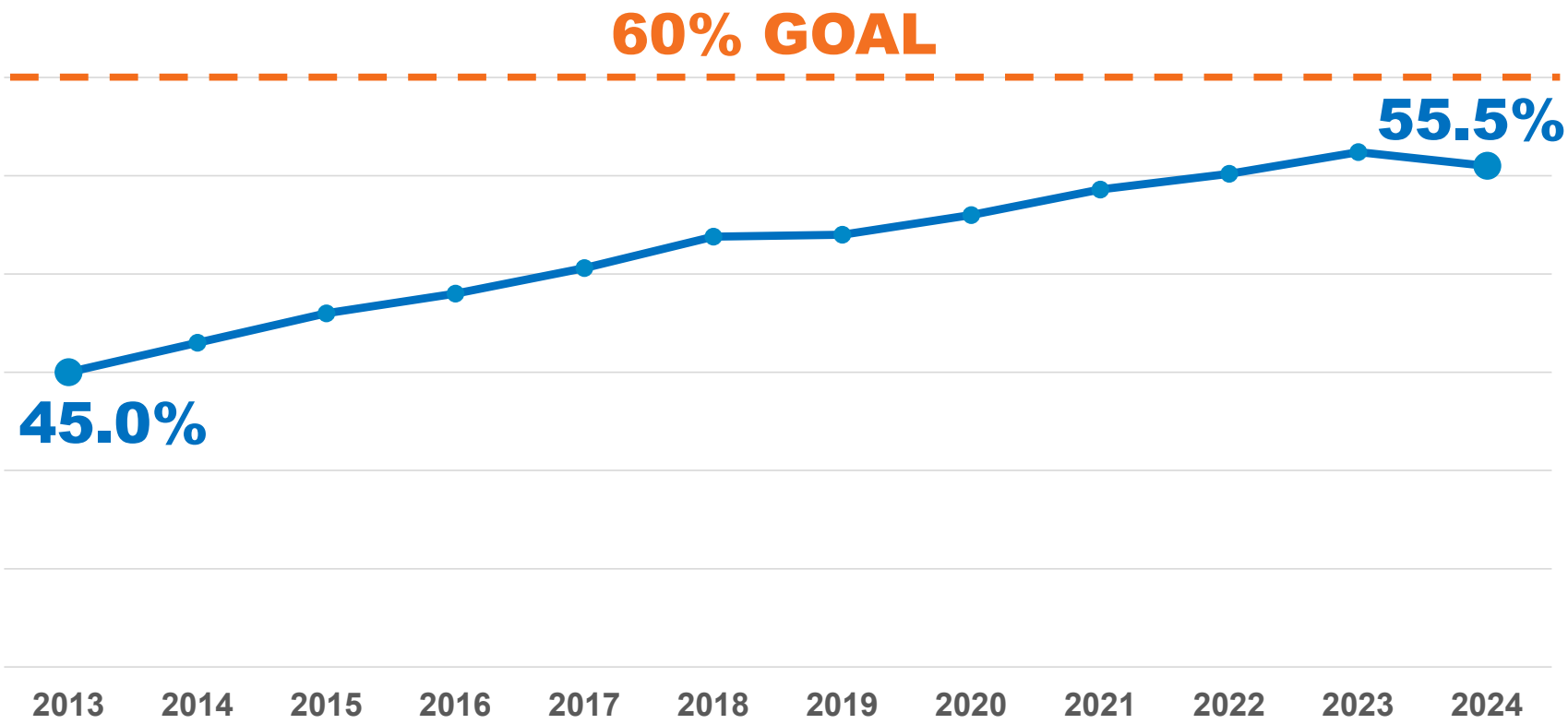
Dr. Aaron Thompson
President
Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education



HIGHER EDUCATION
Matters

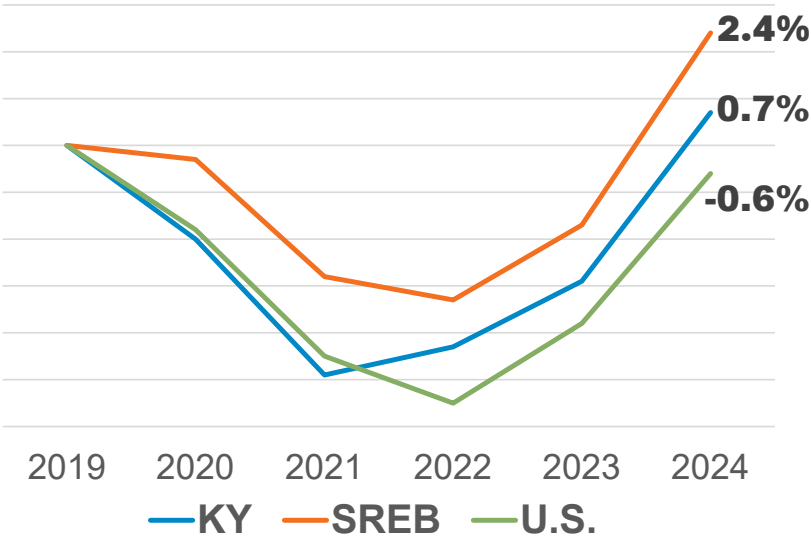


Progress Toward KY's 60x30 Attainment Goal

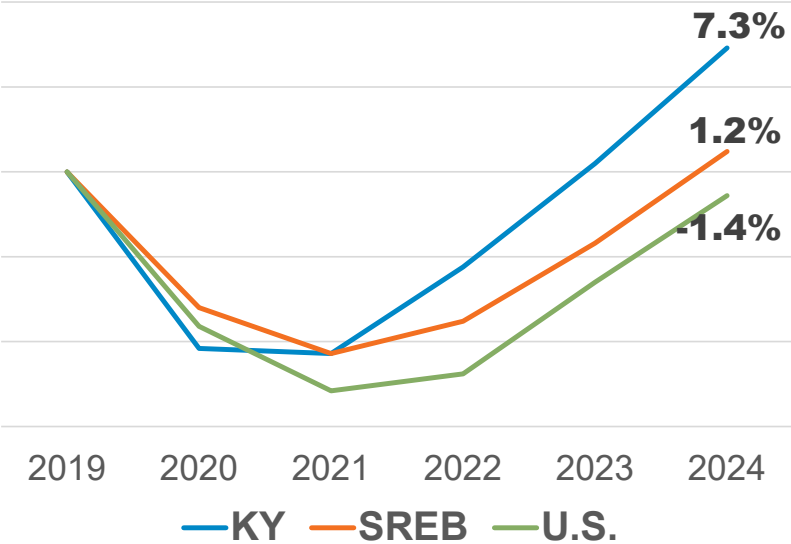


Enrollment Growth, 2019-2024

Public 4-Years

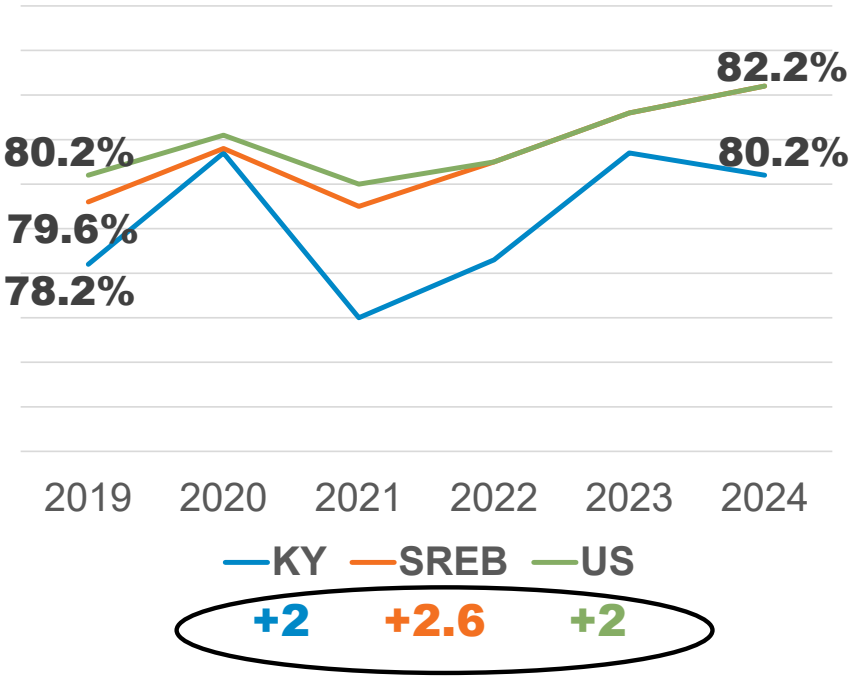


Public 2-Years

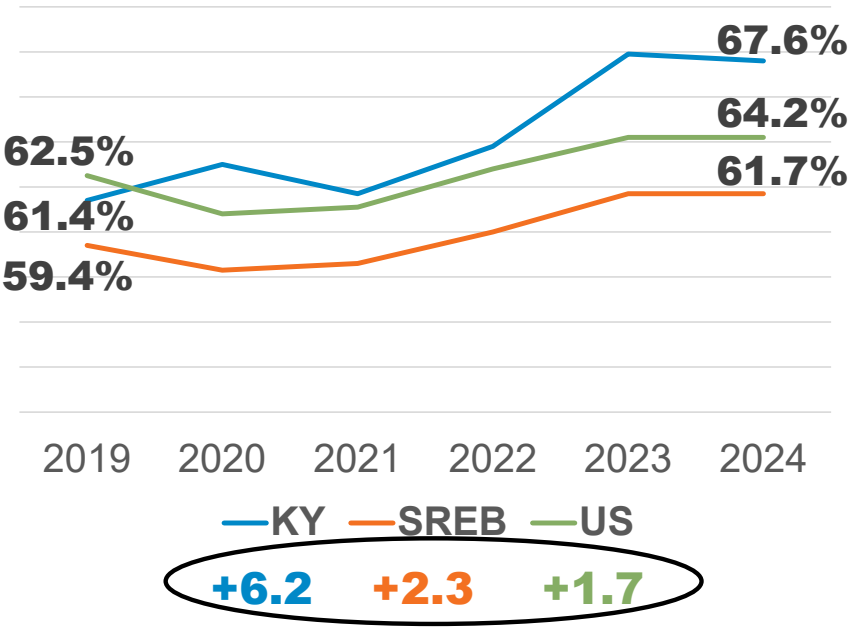


Improvement in Retention, 2019-2024

Public 4-Years

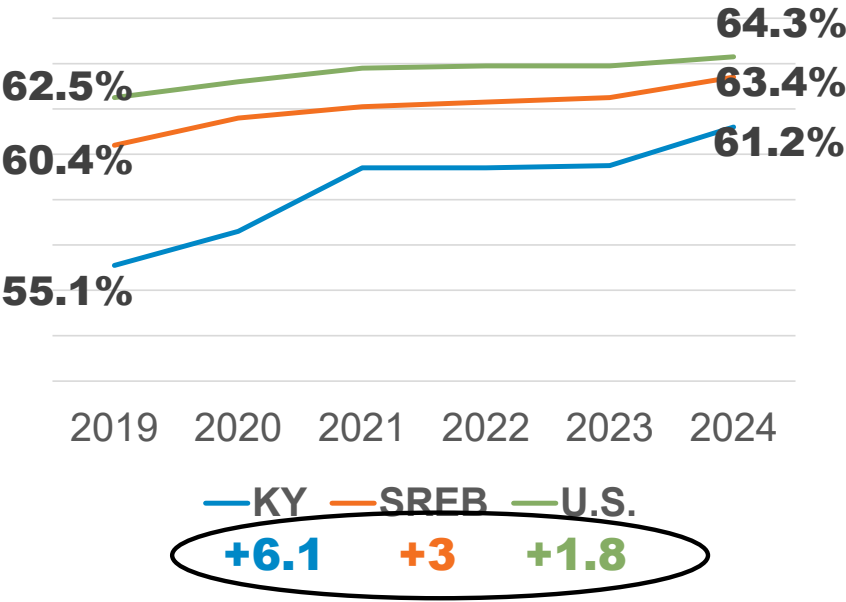


Public 2-Years

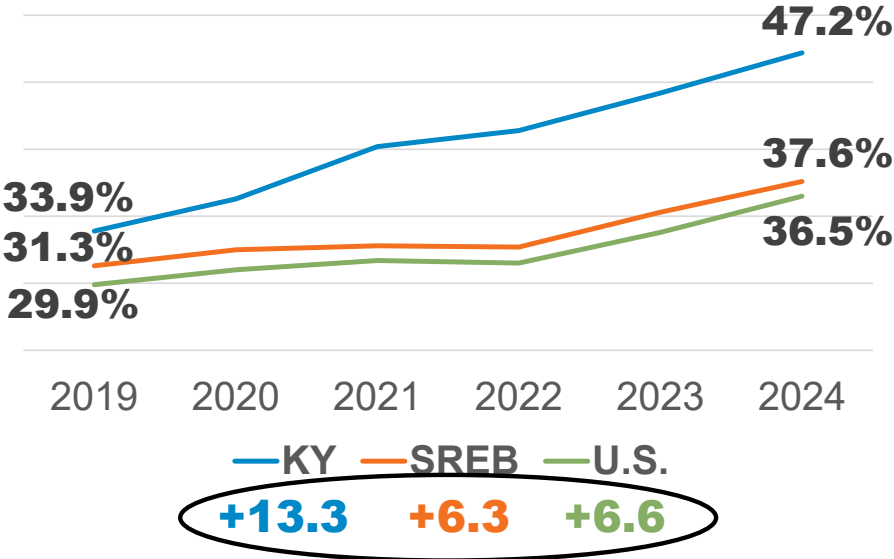


Improvement in Graduation, 2019-2024

Public 4-Years



Public 2-Years



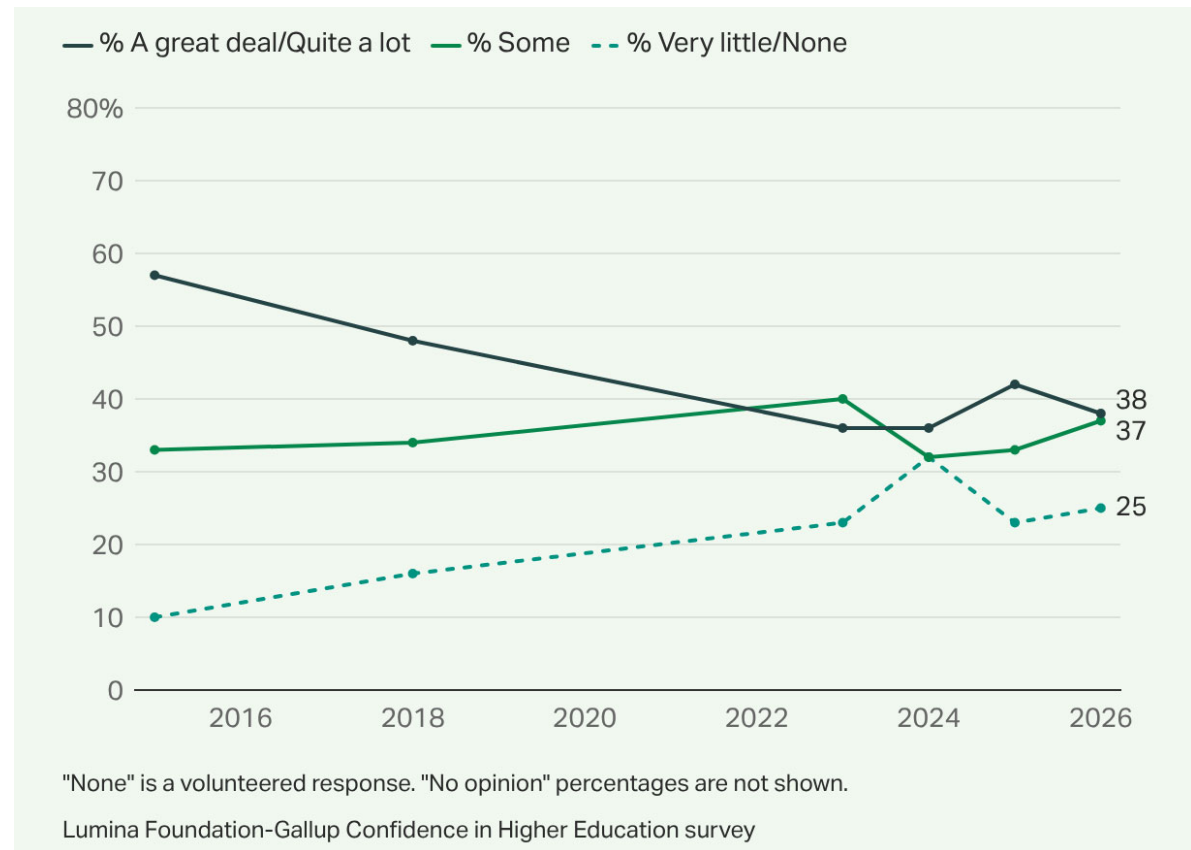
KY Higher Ed Offers Strong Return on Investment

- Every **\$1** in higher education appropriations returns **\$4.50** to state coffers and **\$17** to local communities
- Kentucky bachelor's degree holders make **\$1.2 million** more over their careers; associate degree holders make **\$500,000** more.



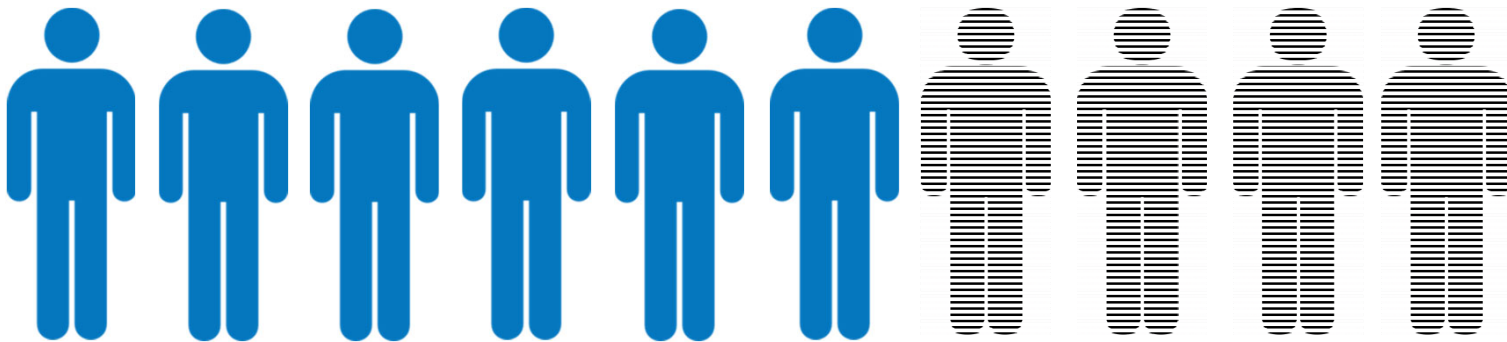
Confidence in U.S. Higher Education

- **38%** had “a great deal” or “quite a lot”
- **37%** had “some”
- **25%** had “very little” or “none”



Average Debt Levels in KY

6 out of 10 public undergraduates complete a credential debt-free.



Includes public graduates from both KCTCS and public universities.

Lumina/Gallup Employer Survey

- 54%** said college graduates have the skills businesses need
- 56%** said it's difficult to find candidates with the right skills
- 70%** said graduates need a “moderate” to a “great deal” of additional training or skill development



KY is Well Aligned with Lumina Goals

Lumina Foundation Goal:

By 2040, 75% of adults in the labor force will have credentials of value.

Priorities

- Increasing value
- Expanding access
- Helping students complete in less time
- Redesigning institutions

KY Goal:

By 2030, 60% of working-age adults will have a postsecondary credential.

Priorities

- Affordability
- Transitions
- Success
- Talent
- Value

The Graduate Profile and 10 Essential Skills



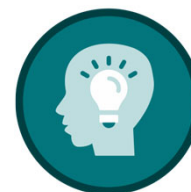
Communication



**Interpersonal
Relations**



**Civic
Engagement**



**Critical &
Creative
Thinking**



**Adaptability &
Leadership**



**Quantitative
Reasoning**



Professionalism



**Knowledge
Application**



**Collaboration
& Teamwork**



**Information
Literacy**

The Northeastern Advantage

“At Northeastern, you will define your future through a powerful education that integrates learning inside and outside of the classroom. Through experiential learning and our signature co-op program, you’ll bring your academics to life, and your life experiences back to the classroom.”



KY's Enrollment Cliff

Year	Actual or Projected Number of High School Graduates	College-Going Rate Needed for 22,462 First-Time Enrollees
2024	47,254	47.5%
2030	45,214	49.7%
2035	44,095	50.9%
2040	42,278	53.1%

Strategies to Improve Access

- Expanded and more rigorous dual credit offerings
- Proactive admissions
- Futuriti.org
- Adult learner initiatives

AND...

- Moderating cost of attendance
- Early outreach programs, like GEAR UP and summer bridge
- FAFSA assistance

Strategies to Improve Success

- Proactive advising & data analytics
- Meeting student basic needs
- Multigenerational programs and approaches
- Peer support systems
- Two-year to four-year transfer

AND...

- Work-based learning
- Clearer academic pathways

Redesigning Postsecondary Institutions

- Accelerated degrees
- Work-embedded learning
- Defining and refining mission
- Operational efficiencies
- Academic mergers
- Ethical and effective use of AI

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