



Awareness to
Action

Promoting Equity in Education and Careers



ILLINOIS EDUCATION AND CAREER
SUCCESS NETWORK



Illinois' Postsecondary Attainment Goal

The Illinois P-20 Council has set a goal to ensure that **60%** of all Illinois adults have a high-quality college degree or postsecondary credential **by 2025**.

Right now, Illinois is at 57.1%.

Network Organizers



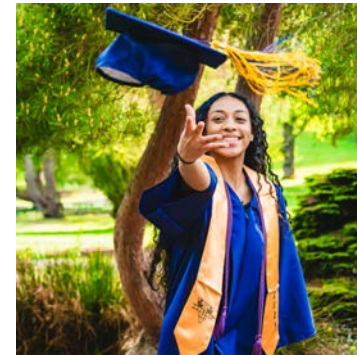
EdSystems

EDUCATION SYSTEMS CENTER at
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY



Our Goal

To support communities to increase meaningful and equitable postsecondary attainment



Aurora Regional Pathways to Prosperity

Black Hawk Region Pathways

Boone County

Chicago Public Schools

East St. Louis D189

Enlace Chicago

Evanston

Greater Peoria Pathways

Lake County

MORE in the Mississippi and Rock River Region

McLean County

NCI/Starved Rock Region

Northwest Educational Council for Student Success (NECSS)

OAI/Rich Township District 227

Rockford

Sangamon County Continuum of Learning

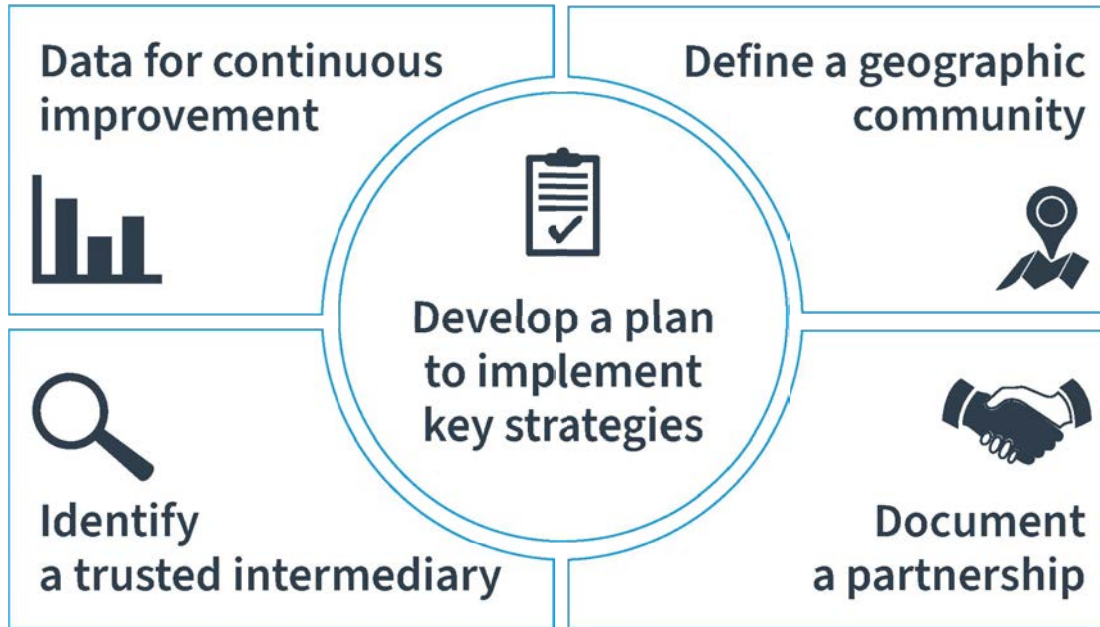
Southern Illinois Region

Vandalia ONE

Vermilion County

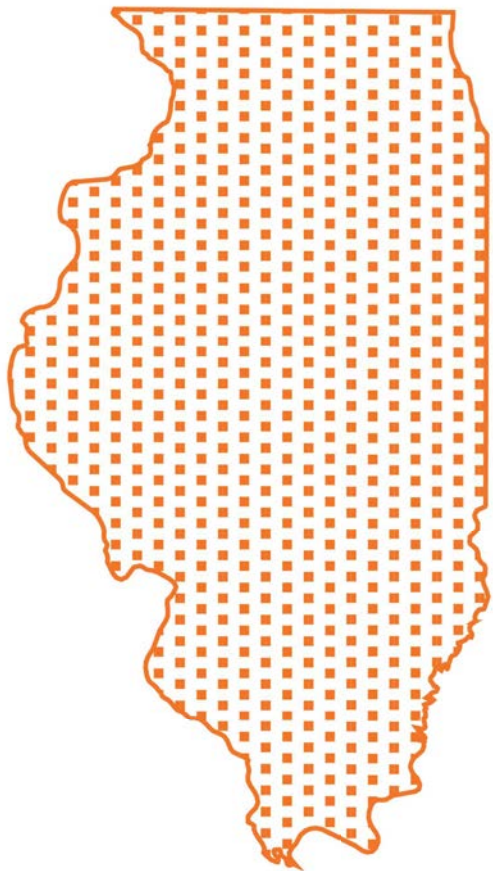


Leadership Community Expectations



Documented partnership must include:

- Education
- Employers
- Community-based organizations
- Municipal leadership



269,770

*public high school students are
in Leadership Communities,
representing*

45%

*of Illinois' total high school
students*

What's New Since the Last Conference?

January 10, 2024

MEMO

Transportation-Related Barriers Impacting Student Access to Work-Based Learning

Initial Findings from the Success Network Policy Committee

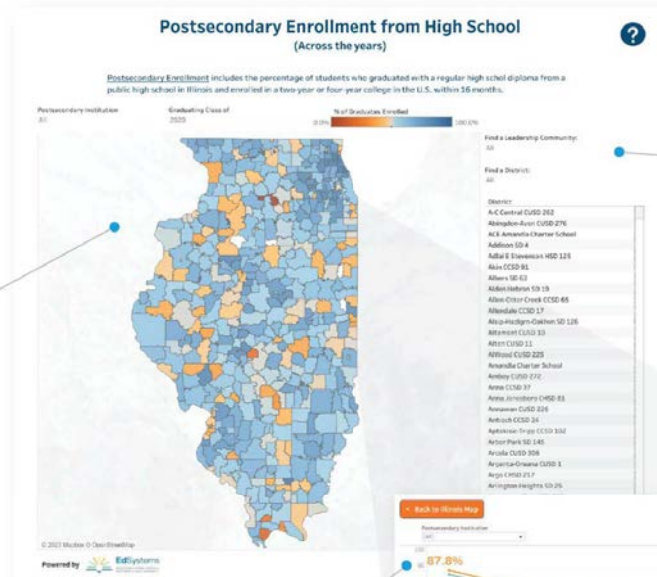
Over the past decade, work-based learning has been a critical strategy in the state's broader efforts to expand college and career pathways. For in-school youth, this is a fundamental component of the College and Career Pathway Endorsement (CCPE) system established in the 2016 Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness (PWR) Act¹. The CCPE has also been incorporated into the Every Student Succeeds Act Plan and Perkins V Plan such that they also advance implementation of work-based learning for students statewide. Further, the 2022 passage of HB3296 (Public Act 102-0917) calls for districts to scale their offerings of the endorsements, thus functioning as an additional policy push to provide increased access to work-based learning. Coupled with the momentum generated by these policy levers, bodies such as the Illinois Work-Based Learning Innovation Network² also foster efforts to scale work-based learning as a key career awareness and preparation activity.

As a result of these ongoing efforts to develop and scale work-based learning for in-school youth, policymakers and practitioners have engaged in conversations around barriers impacting student access to work-based learning. While there are many barriers to scaling and ensuring student access to work-based learning, practitioners highlighted one critical barrier: transportation for in-school youth to access their

Launched in December 2022, the Policy Committee provides space for local practitioners and policy leaders to collaborate and learn from one another, elevates local practice to inform Illinois state policy, and supports local practitioners in taking advantage of policy windows. Composed of a range of education, workforce, community-based organizations, advocacy groups, and state agency stakeholders spanning the P-20 pipeline, the Policy Committee offers a useful venue for these conversations.







INTERACTIVE MAP
with community
snapshots

FILTERS
by Leadership Community
or by selecting districts

DOWNLOAD
the visualizations or
data in spreadsheets

TRENDS
for selected district/s
displayed in a line chart

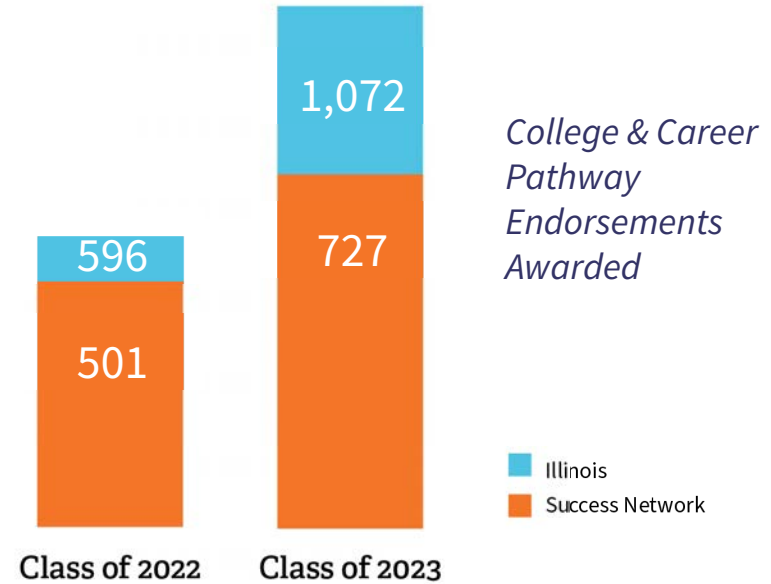


Impact Report Highlights

Key Takeaways

- Leadership Communities **drive policy implementation**
- The Success Network is an important **community of practice**
- Collective impact strengthens **collaboration**
- Leadership Communities **advance equitable practices**
- Leadership Communities grapple with **challenges**
- Leadership Communities **drive positive outcomes** for students

Leadership Communities Drive Policy Implementation



Collective Impact Strengthens Collaboration Across Sectors

“Collective impact has been the key to the success of the NECSS region because it allows us to leverage resources and people.”

Nancy Awdziejczk, NECSS

“With collective impact, you can accomplish so much more because the lines of communication are open. It doesn’t make sense to do it any other way.”

Kris Noble, MORE



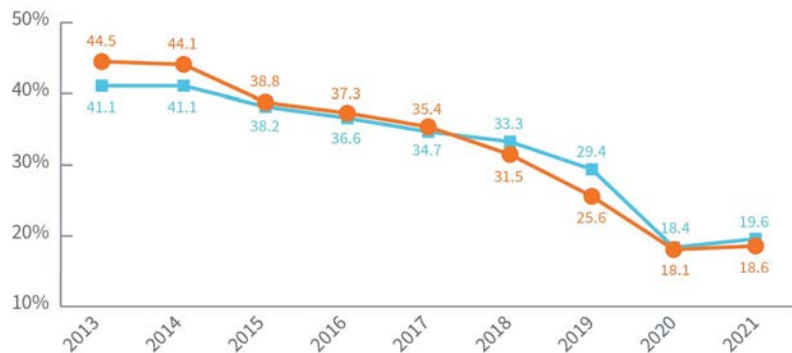
Leadership Communities Are Advancing Equity

- Including youth voices
- Shifting the burden from students to the system

Celebrating Student Outcomes

Declining Remediation Rates

Math Remediation



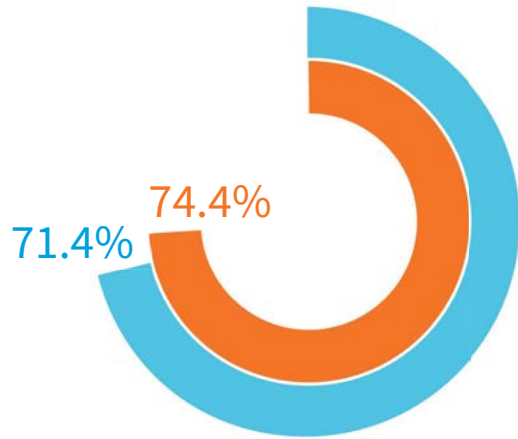
Reading Remediation



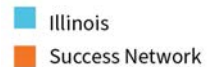
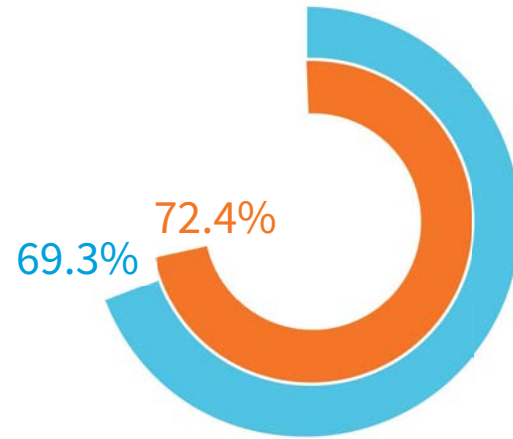
■ Illinois
■ Success Network

Financial Aid Applications

Seniors Starting Financial Aid



Seniors Completing Financial Aid



Challenges

Practice Challenges

Capacity for intermediary organizations

Better socialization of the value of dual credit

Policy Barriers

Lack of transportation for work-based learning

Lack of qualified instructors to teach dual credit classes

Implications for the Network Moving Forward

- Lift up equitable policies and practices
- Center student voice
- Strengthen data capacity
- Align policy and practice
- Seek funding to better support intermediaries
- Organize convenings
- Encourage state agencies and partners to utilize the Network as a key partner

Advice from Leadership Communities

“Join the Network and take advantage of every opportunity to grow and use the resources the Network provides.”

Dr. Darryl Hogue, MORE

“If you’re considering becoming a Leadership Community do it! You’ll be able to share resources and learn from other communities...so you won’t have to start from scratch.”

Bridget French, Rockford

“Find something like the PaCE Framework that unifies people in the community and use it as your organizing tool to bring different stakeholders to the table.”

Beth Crider, Greater Peoria Region

Download the Impact Report

ILSuccessNetwork.org/resources



Looking Ahead: Spring Webinars



March 19, 10–11 a.m.

Nurturing Future Talent:
School and Nonprofit
Collaboration to Provide
Work-Based Learning
Opportunities for High School
Students



April 23, 10–11 a.m.

Supporting and Scaling
Postsecondary Readiness
through Stakeholder
Engagement + Continuous
Improvement



April 29, 1–2:15 p.m.

The AI-Ready Workforce: How
AI Will Transform Jobs That
Offer Pathways to
Economic Advancement

Register now at ILSuccessNetwork.org/events

Awareness to Action: *Promoting Equity in Education and Careers*



Equitable Outcomes, Powered by Regions

Presented by: **Kenyatta Lovett, Ph.D.**

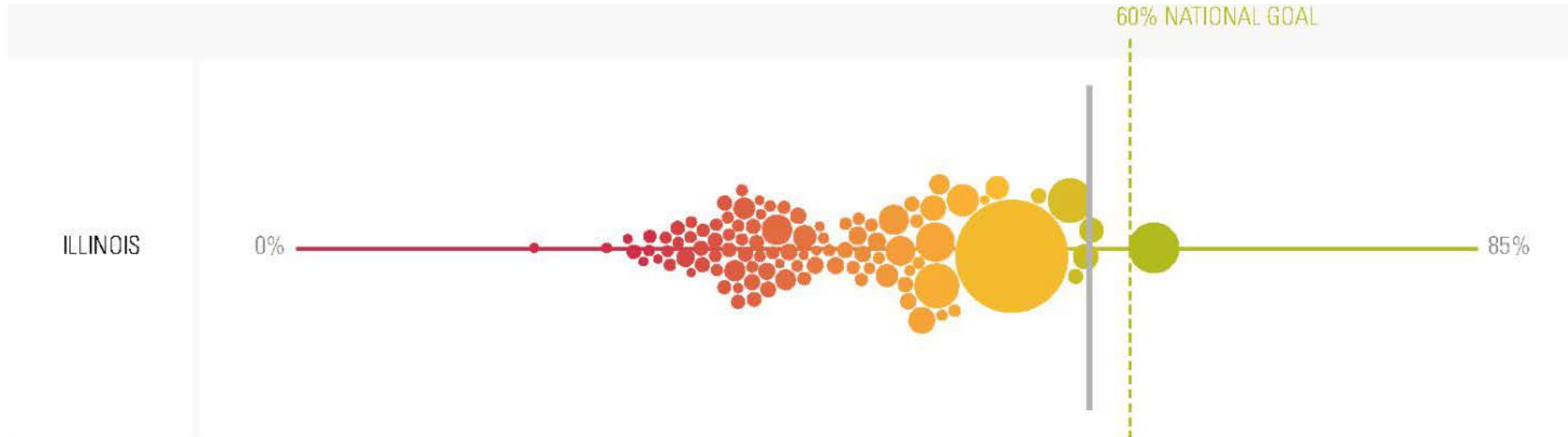
The State Context

Progress Beyond the National Attainment Goal

- Lumina Goal: 60% by 2025
- Illinois Goal: 60% by 2025
- Current Progress for the Nation: 38.1 (2009) to 54.3% (2022)
- Current Progress for Illinois: 41.4% (2009) to 57.1% (2022)
- **The Illinois Distinction:** Back in 2009, the Illinois P-20 Council established a goal for Illinois to increase the number of adults with college degrees and high-quality postsecondary credentials to 60 percent by 2025.

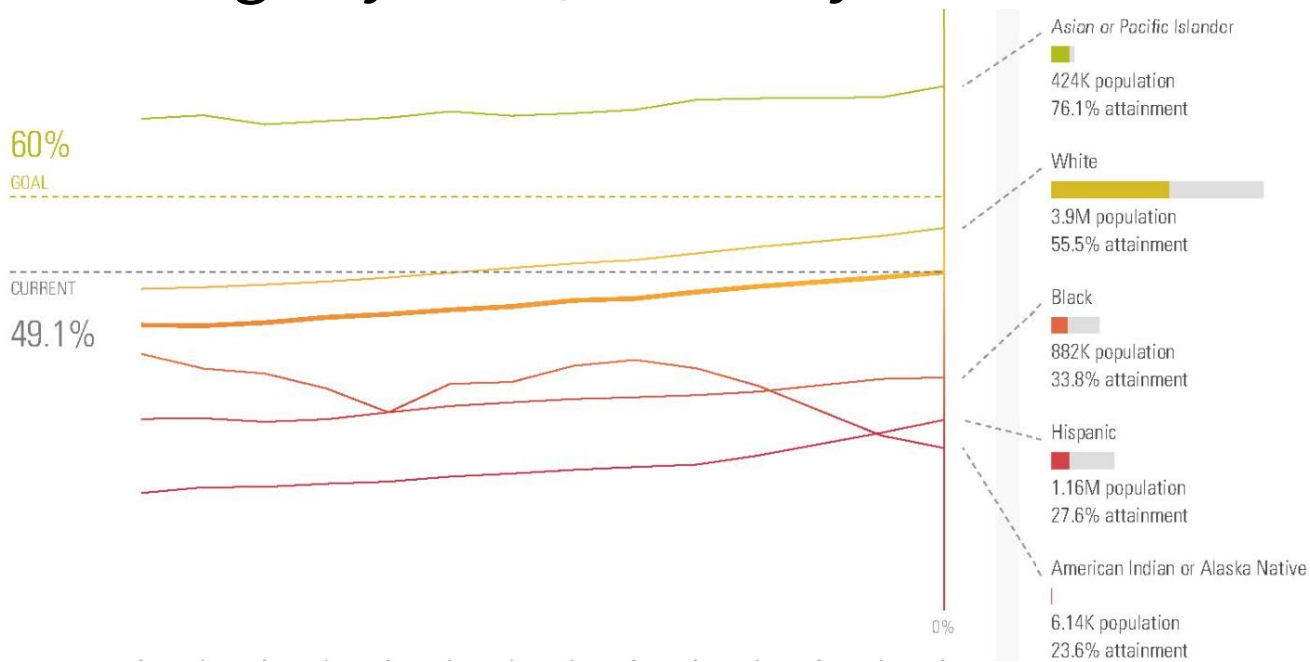
The Dynamic Between Averages and Equity

Current Range by County: 17.1% and 61.7%



Low Attainment Populations and the Implications

Current Range by Race/Ethnicity: 23.6% and 76.1%



Valid Questions to Ask About Improving Attainment

1. Had it not been for setting a goal for attainment in Illinois, what would be different today?
2. In service to what?
3. What exactly will be better in my community?

The Significance of the Illinois Journey & Your Role

1. Goals Guide Action
2. Regions Guide Collaboration
3. Enabling Conditions Guide Opportunities for Progress

Questions & Answers

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Thank You

