New Mexico

PREPARATION

D-

2008 Grade Change Over Time

New Mexico’s underperformance in educating its young population could limit the state’s access to a competitive workforce and weaken the state’s economy.

- Eighth graders perform very poorly in math, science, reading, and writing.
- New Mexico is among the poorest-performing states in high school completion. Eighty percent of Hispanics have a high school credential, compared with 92% of whites.

PARTICIPATION

B-

2008 Grade Change Over Time

New Mexico does fairly well in providing college opportunities for its residents.

- The likelihood of enrolling in college by age 19 is only fair, but a very high percentage of working-age adults are enrolled in higher education.
- Twenty-nine percent of Hispanic young adults are enrolled in college, compared with 40% of whites.

AFFORDABILITY

F

2008 Grade Change Over Time

A fairly small proportion of residents have a bachelor’s degree, and the economic benefits to the state as a result are only fair.

- Thirteen percent of Hispanics have a bachelor’s degree, compared with 40% of whites—one of the largest gaps in the nation.
- If all racial/ethnic groups had the same educational attainment and earnings as whites, total annual personal income in the state would be about $7 billion higher.

COMPLETION

D+

2008 Grade Change Over Time

New Mexico performs poorly in awarding certificates and degrees, but the state has improved over the decade.

- Only 42% of college students complete a bachelor’s degree within six years.
- Thirty-eight percent of Hispanics graduate within six years, compared with 47% of whites.

LEARNING

I

2008 Grade

Like all states, New Mexico receives an “Incomplete” in Learning because there is not sufficient data to allow meaningful state-by-state comparisons.

WHAT DO THE ARROWS MEAN?

State has increased or remained stable on the key indicator in the category.

State has declined on the key indicator in the category.

See back page for key indicator by category.
This page reflects New Mexico’s performance and progress since the early 1990s on several key indicators.

**PREPARATION**

The percentage of young adults in New Mexico who earn a high school diploma has remained stable since the early 1990s. High school completion is well below the U.S. average and the top-performing states.

**PARTICIPATION**

College enrollment of young adults in New Mexico has improved slightly since the early 1990s. Compared with the national average and the top states, however, considerably fewer young adults are enrolled in New Mexico (in percentages).

The enrollment of working-age adults, relative to the number of residents without a bachelor’s degree, has declined in New Mexico—as it has nationally and in the best-performing states. The percentage attending college in New Mexico is higher than the U.S. average but slightly below the top states.

**AFFORDABILITY**

The share of family income, even after financial aid, needed to pay for college has risen substantially. To attend public two- and four-year colleges in New Mexico, students and families pay less than the U.S. average but more than those in the best-performing states.

**COMPLETION**

The number of undergraduate credentials and degrees awarded in New Mexico, relative to the number of students enrolled, has increased since the early 1990s. However, New Mexico is considerably below the U.S. average and the top states on this measure.

**BENEFITS**

The percentage of residents who have a bachelor’s degree has increased in New Mexico, but is below the U.S. average and well below the top states.

The enrollment of working-age adults, relative to the number of residents without a bachelor’s degree, has declined in New Mexico—as it has nationally and in the best-performing states. The percentage attending college in New Mexico is higher than the U.S. average but slightly below the top states.

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**LEGEND:**

- □ = New Mexico
- □ = United States
- □ = Median of Top Five States