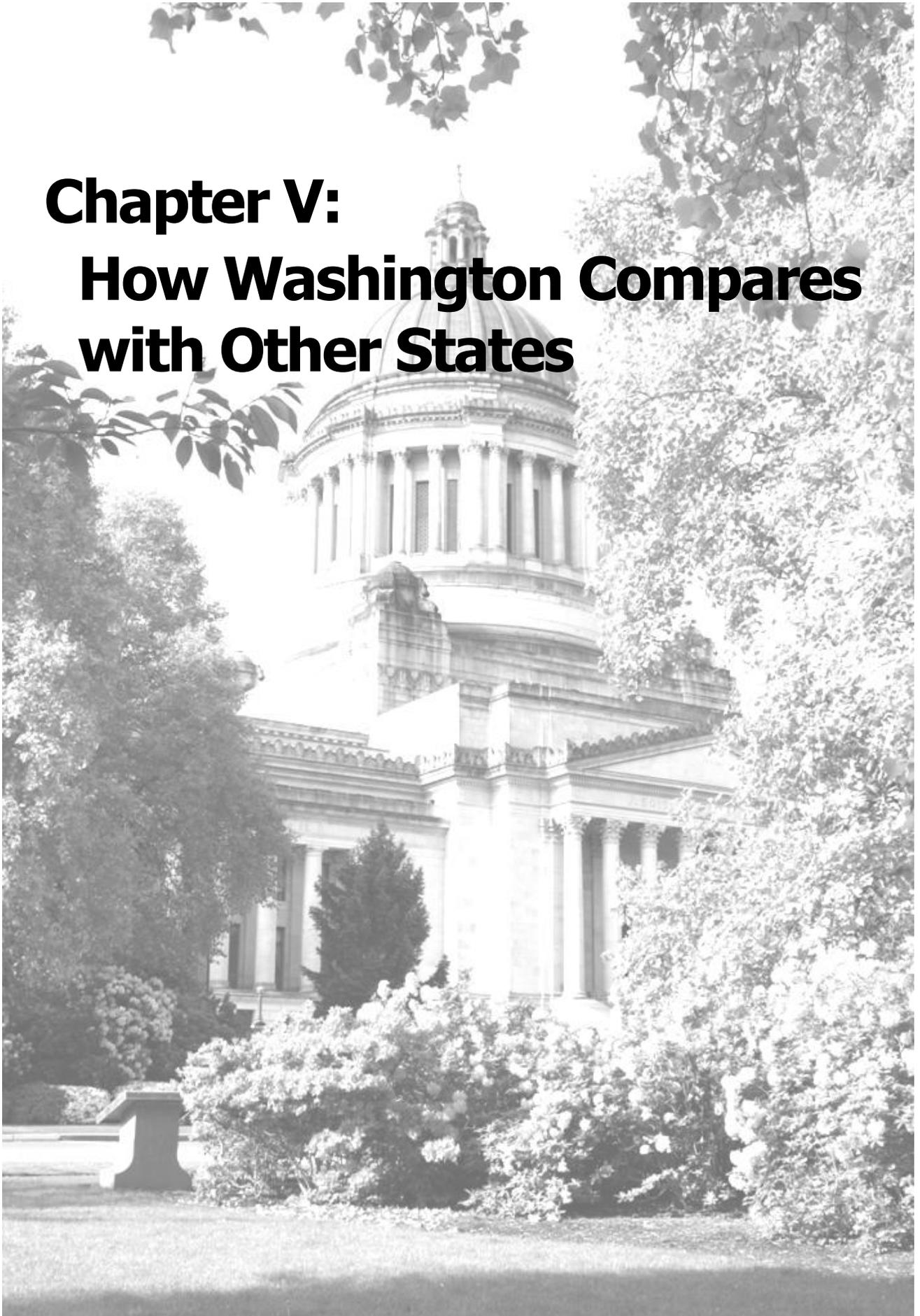


Chapter V: How Washington Compares with Other States

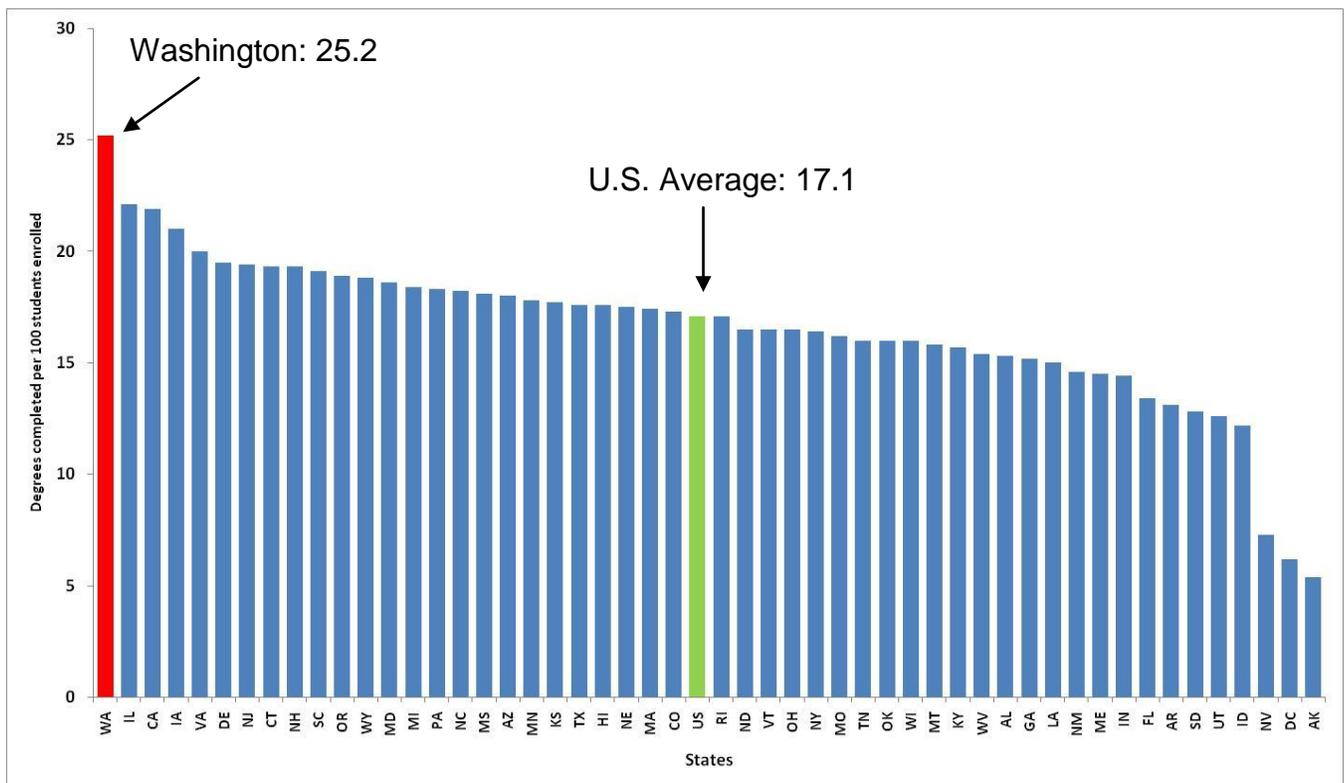


Washington's public four-year colleges are highly productive in degree completion...

An undergraduate who attends one of Washington's four-year public colleges and universities has an excellent chance of successfully completing his or her studies and receiving a baccalaureate degree. In 2007-08, Washington was first among all 50 states in the efficient production of baccalaureate degrees among students already enrolled in college.

Factors that help account for Washington's high ranking include the high number of freshmen and transfer students who successfully graduate from the state's baccalaureate institutions.

How States Compare in Completion of Bachelor's Degrees Public Baccalaureate Institutions, 2007-08



Source: National Center for Education Statistics, fall 2007.

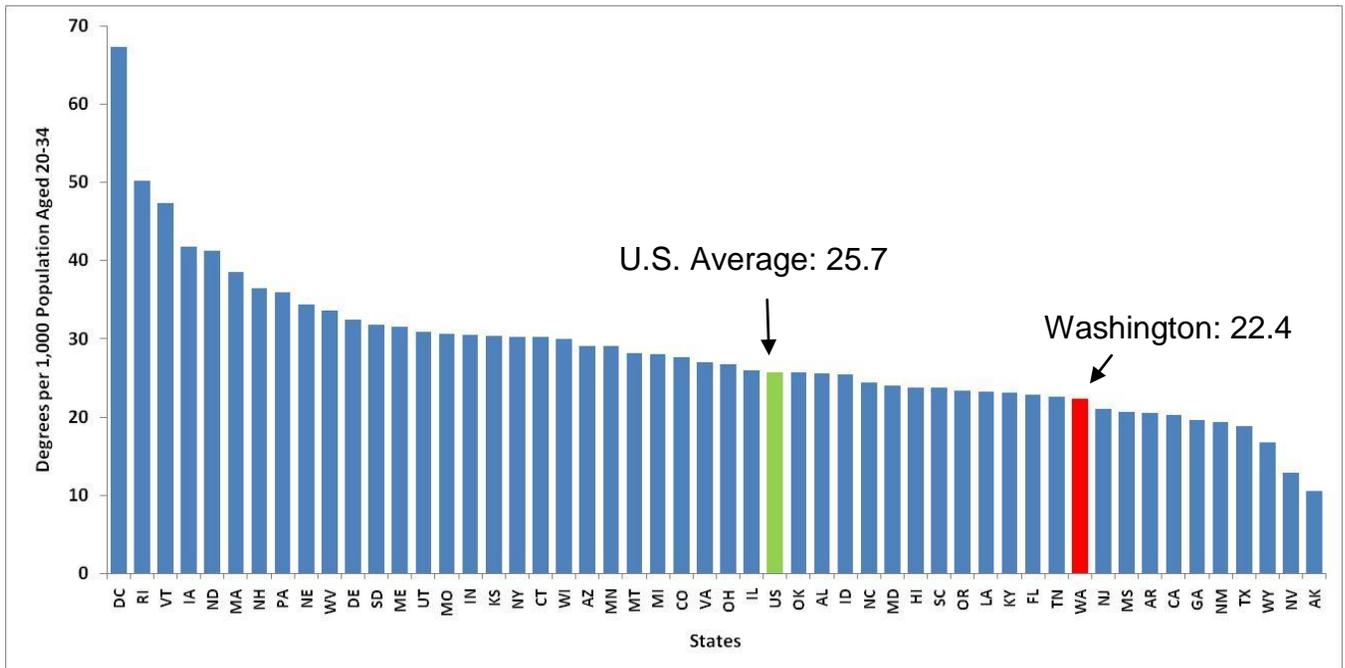
Chapter V: How We Compare with Other States

...but based on population, Washington degree production ranks in bottom third of states

Even though Washington is first in baccalaureate degree production among students who *do* go to a four-year college, Washington does not compete well with other states in terms of the number of bachelor degree produced in the state population as a whole.

A major factor contributing to Washington's low ranking in degree production is inadequate institutional capacity, which limits access to baccalaureate degree programs. Also, Washington needs to do a better job of encouraging more residents to earn four-year degrees.

Bachelor's Degrees Produced per 1,000 Population Aged 20 to 34, 2007-08



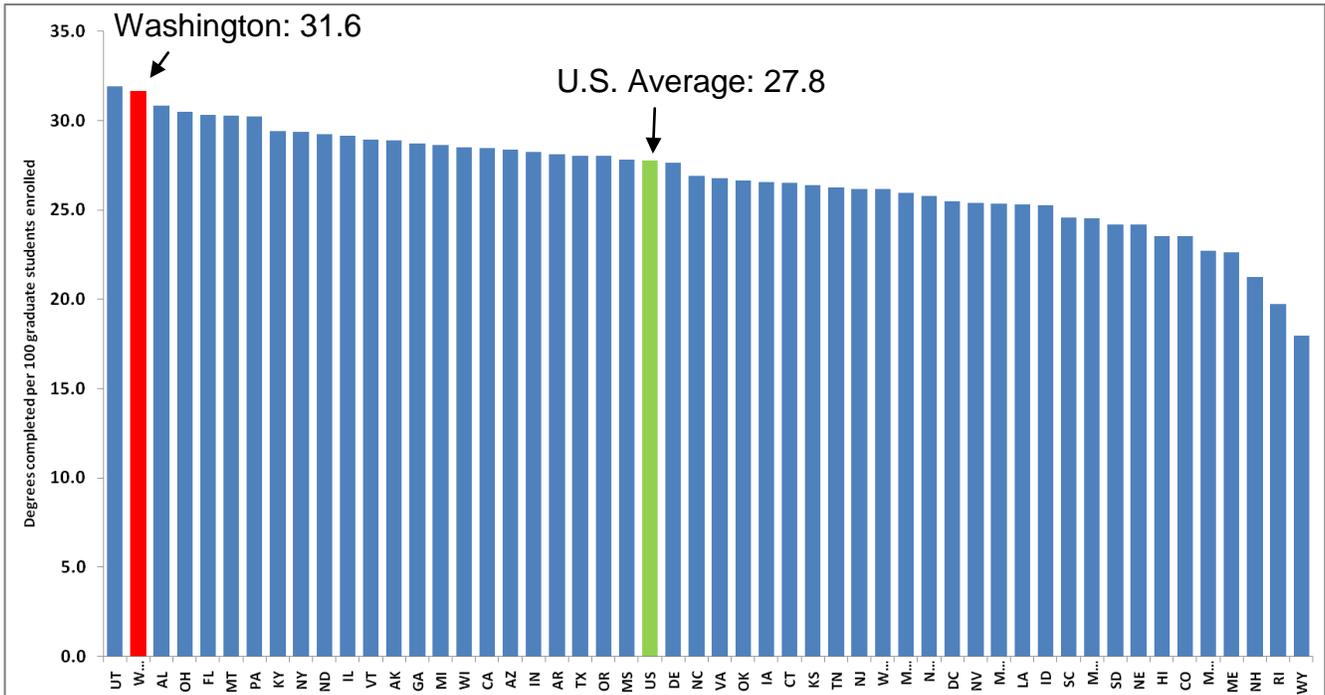
Sources: National Center for Education Statistics, Digest of Education Statistics, 2008; U.S. Census Bureau.

Institutions are highly efficient in the production of graduate degrees...

Washington not only leads the nation in production of bachelor's degrees among already enrolled students, it also is very efficient in graduating students who are already enrolled in graduate programs. Among all 50 states, Washington ranked second in 2007-08 in graduating students who enrolled in master's and doctoral degree programs.

One factor that may help explain why state colleges and universities are highly efficient in the production of graduate degrees is the highly selective nature of many graduate programs, which means only the very best students are accepted into those programs.

How States Compare in Completion of Graduate Degrees Public Baccalaureate Institutions, 2007-08



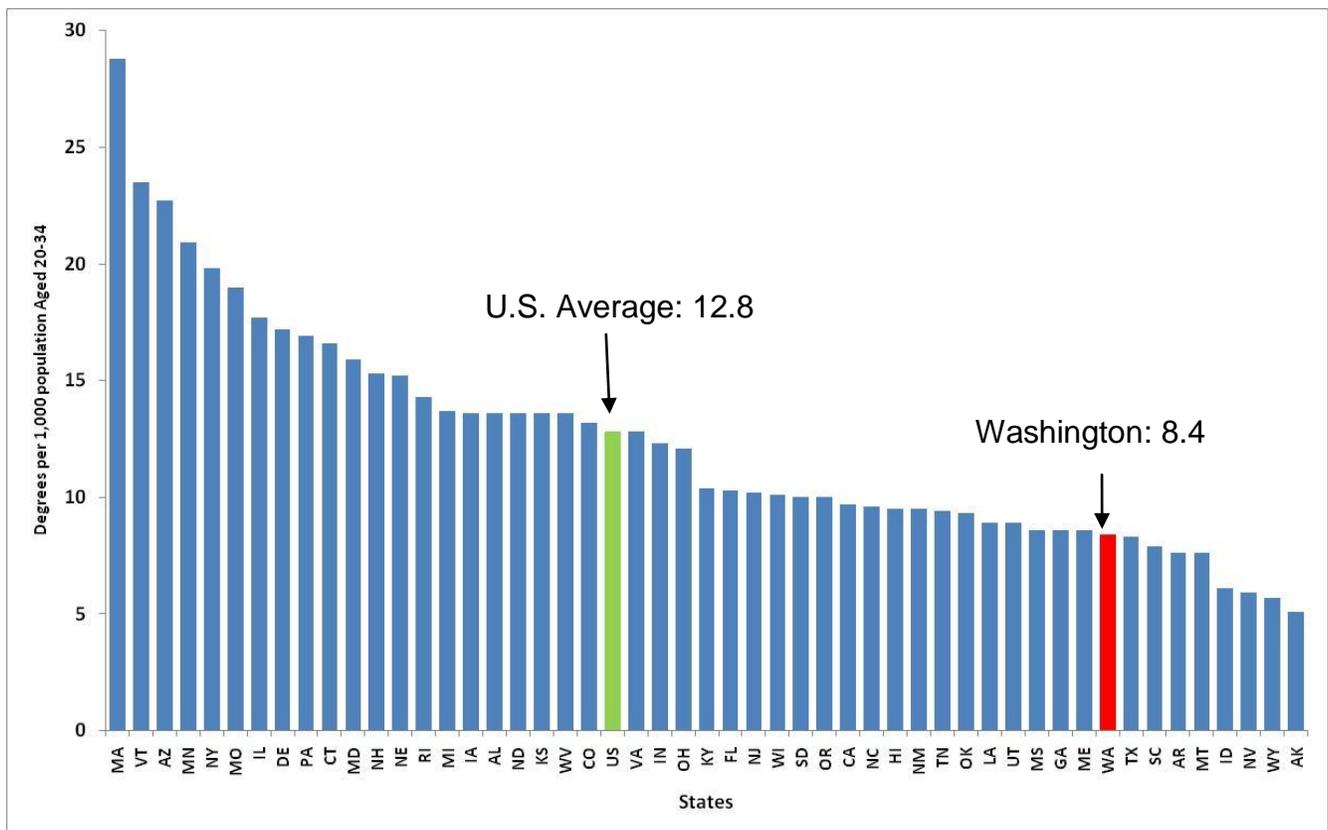
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, fall 2007.

...but Washington needs to boost advanced degree production to keep pace with other states

Overall, Washington trails many other states in the production of graduate degrees within the population age category most likely to produce master and doctoral degrees. Washington ranked in the bottom fifth in the number of graduate degrees produced.

Washington is home to two public research universities that together produce more than 90 percent of the doctoral degrees and half the professional degrees awarded in the state. The state does a good job of graduating those students who do enroll in master's and doctoral programs. As with baccalaureate degree production, the issue is that not enough Washingtonians go to graduate school.

Washington Is 42nd among All U.S. States in Advanced Degrees Produced per 1,000 Population 20-34, 2007-08



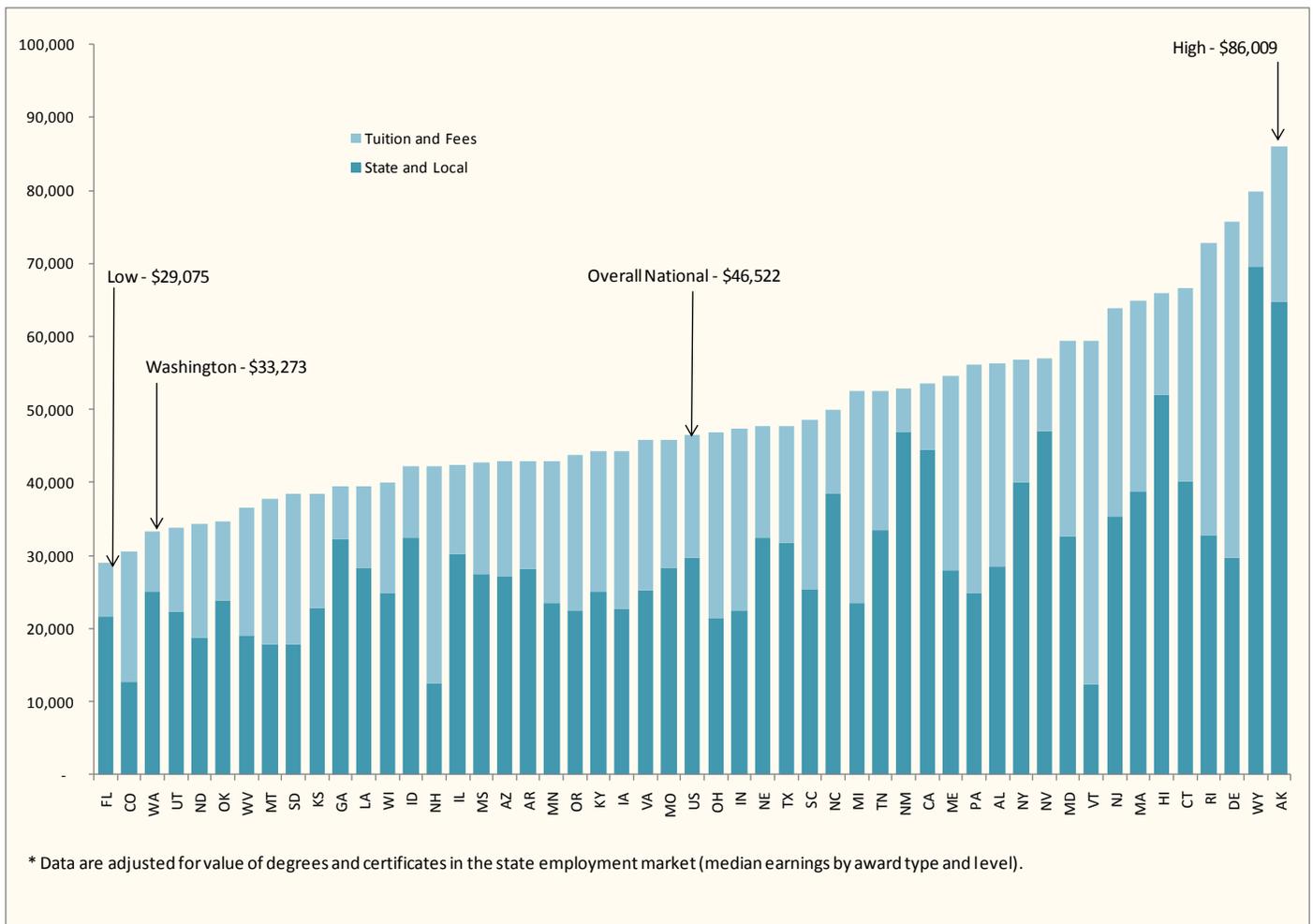
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, fall 2007.

Washington produces higher-value degrees for each dollar spent

Just as Washington graduates a greater percentage of the baccalaureate and graduate students who enroll in college than most other states, it also produces more degrees and certificates for each dollar spent by taxpayers and students, according to one national study.

To arrive at these findings, the study weighted degrees and certificates produced in each state by the median earnings of those who held those specific degrees and certificates in the state's employment market. By weighting the value of each state's degree production, the researchers could determine each state's degree "productivity" based on the amount of state and local appropriations and tuition and fee revenues spent to produce each degree.

Productivity: Total Funding per Degree/Certificate*



Source: Kelly, Patrick J. 2009. The Dreaded "P" Word: An Examination of Productivity in Public Postsecondary Education. Washington, DC: Delta Cost Project. Available at www.deltacostproject.org/resources/pdf/Kelly07-09_WP.pdf.

Data sources: SHEEO State Higher Education Finance Survey 2008; NCES IPEDS Completions Survey, 2006-2007; U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (PUMS), 2007.

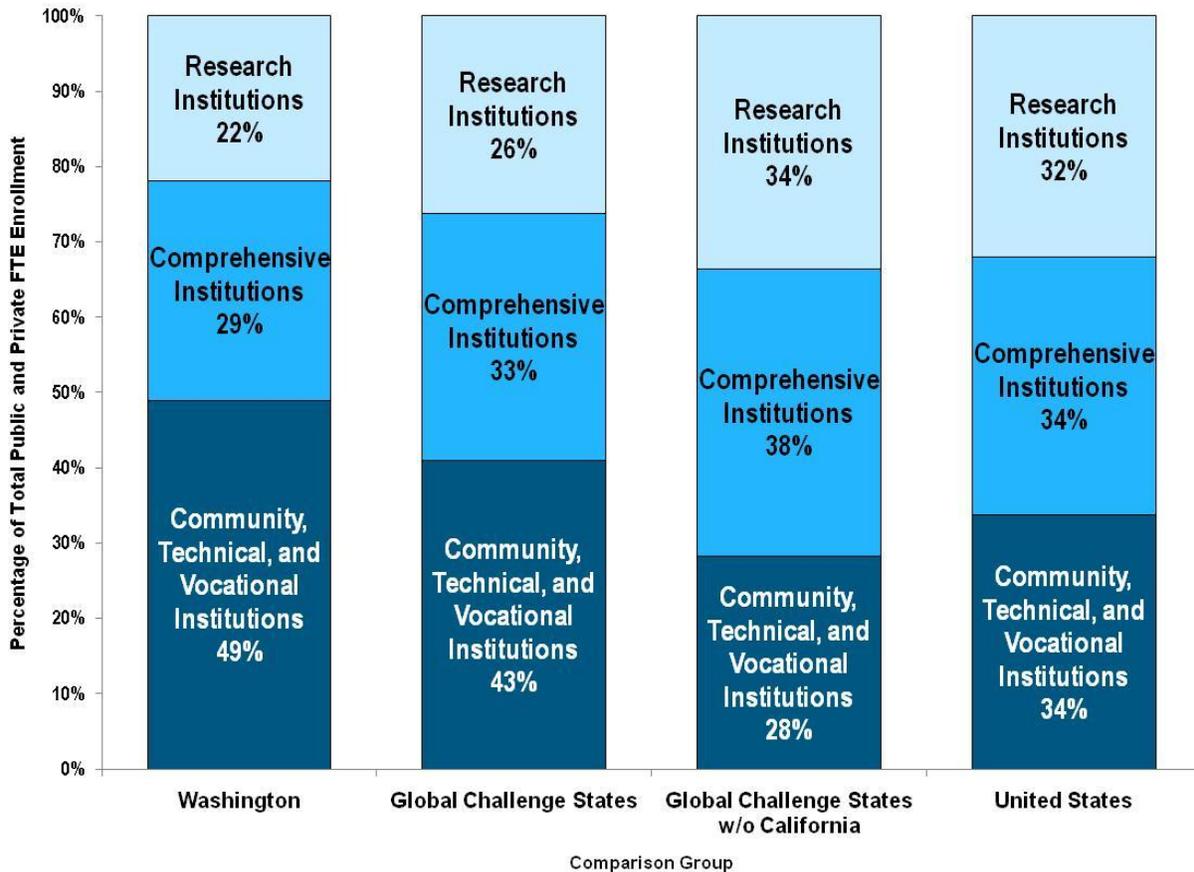
Share of students attending 4-year institutions higher in Washington’s peer states

A higher proportion of public and private college students in Washington attend two-year institutions than do so in the United States generally, including in the states most compared with Washington. These include the 15 Western states that comprise the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), and the Global Challenge States (GCS) of Washington, Massachusetts, California, New Jersey, Connecticut, Colorado, Virginia, and Maryland. The GCS are states that have been identified as having a high potential to succeed in today’s knowledge-driven, global economy.

While more FTE (full-time equivalent) students fill slots in two-year institutions, Washington also has a lower percentage of students in comprehensive and research institutions than in the comparison states.

The percentages suggest that to be competitive with peer states in the production of educated workers, the state needs to boost the number of students attending four-year institutions. It can do so in part by encouraging more students to transfer to four-year colleges after graduating from two-year institutions.

Comparison of FTE Enrollment by Level, 2008-09
All Public and Private Institutions



Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

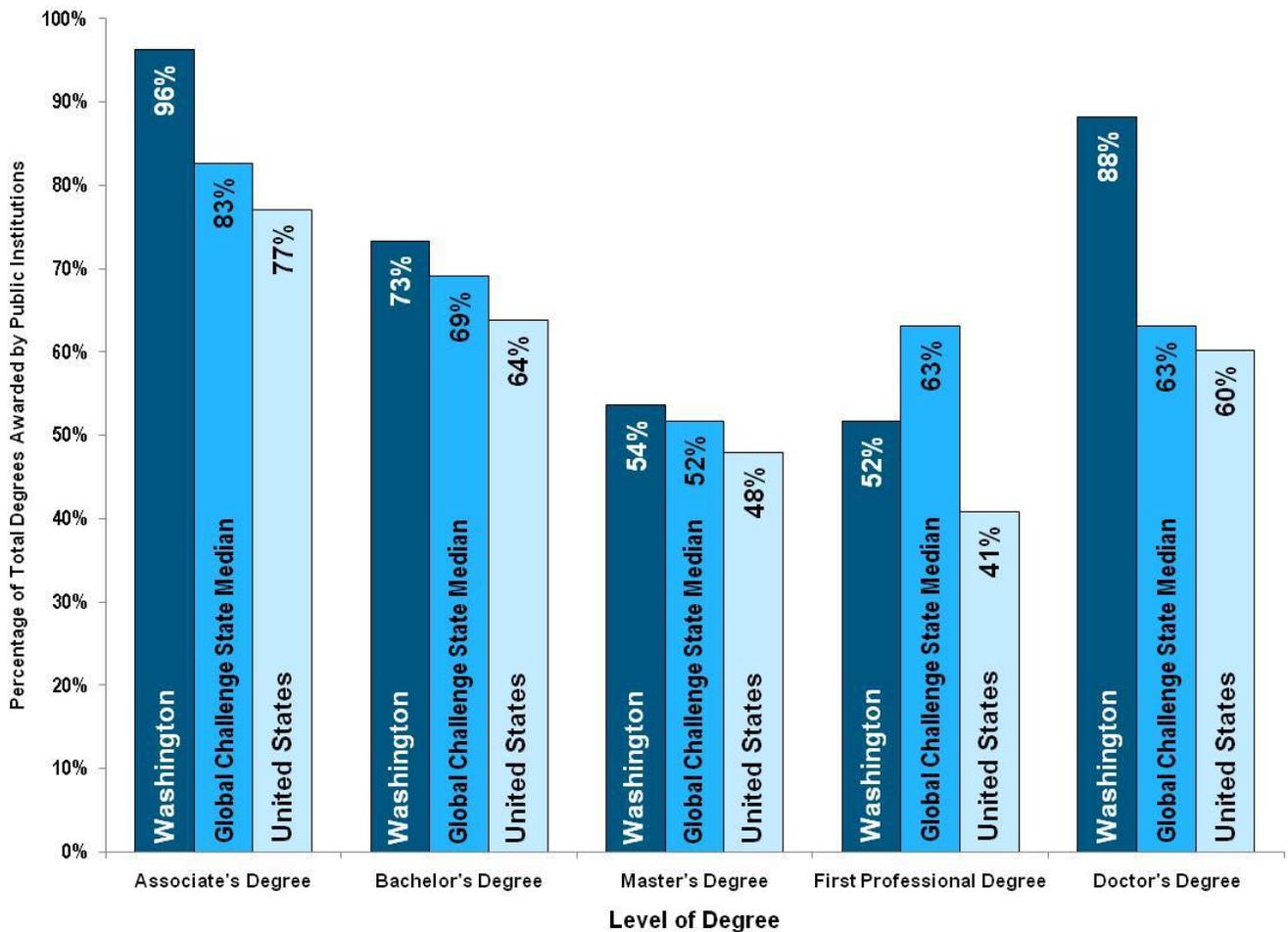
Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (U.S. Department of Education), fall 2009.

Washington’s public institutions produce a higher percentage of doctoral and associate degrees than other states

Compared to the rest of the nation, Washington relies heavily on public institutions to produce doctoral and two-year degrees. Only about 12 percent of doctoral degrees are awarded at the state’s private institutions, compared to about 40 percent nationally and slightly more in the Global Challenge States, with which Washington is often compared.

Private institutions produce about 4 percent of the associate degrees in Washington, compared to about 23 percent nationally, and about 17 percent in the Global Challenge States.

Percentage of Total Degrees Awarded from Public Institutions by Level, 2007-08



Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Digest of Education Statistics 2009.

Chapter V: How We Compare with Other States

Washington tuition and fee costs rank near the middle compared to other states

Washington resident undergraduate students pay a little less in tuition than the national average for similar institutions. It is important to note that small changes in tuition and fees can produce significant changes in this ranking from year to year.

In 2009-10, the University of Washington ranked exactly in the middle (25th) among the 50 states in the level of tuition and fees paid by resident undergraduate students at the states' public "flagship universities." Washington's resident undergraduate tuition ranked 30th among 46 states with public comprehensive colleges and universities, and 26th among 49 states with community colleges.

Pennsylvania's flagship university had the nation's highest resident undergraduate tuition and fees in 2009-10 (\$14,416). Wyoming had the lowest (\$3,726). New Jersey's average tuition and fees (\$11,886) were highest for states with comprehensive institutions, while New Mexico's was lowest (\$5,101). New Hampshire had the highest community college average (\$6,262), while California had the lowest (\$780).

National Comparison of Resident Undergraduate Tuition and Fees: 2009-10 Academic Year

	University of Washington	Washington State University	Comprehensive Institutions	Community & Technical Colleges
Resident undergraduate tuition and fees	\$7,587	\$7,600	\$5,502	\$2,925
National comparison	N=50 states	N=50 states	N=46 states	N=49 states
National average	\$7,963	\$7,963	\$6,257	\$3,029
Dollar difference	(\$376)	(\$363)	(\$755)	(\$104)
Percentage difference	(5.0%)	(4.8%)	(13.7%)	(3.6%)
Washington rank	25 th	N/A	30th	26th

Note: The University of Washington is ranked with institutions categorized as "Flagship Universities" by state higher education agencies in all 50 states. Comprehensive institutions are averaged and then ranked against all other non-flagship schools. Community and technical colleges are ranked against primarily less than four-year public schools.

Source: Higher Education Coordinating Board, *Tuition and Fee Rates: A National Comparison, 2009-10*.

How Washington tuition and fees compare with peer and Western-state institutions

Peer Institution and WICHE State Comparison of Resident Undergraduate Tuition and Fees: 2009-10 Academic Year

	University of Washington	Washington State University	Comprehensive Institutions	Community & Technical Colleges
Resident undergraduate tuition and fees	\$7,587	\$7,600	\$5,502	\$2,925
Peer comparison	N=25 states	N=23 states	N/A	N/A
Peer average	\$9,294	\$8,461	N/A	N/A
Washington rank	18 th	13 th	N/A	N/A
WICHE comparison	N=15 states	N=15 states	N=12 states	N=14 states
WICHE average	\$6,205	\$6,205	\$5,164	\$2,571
Washington rank	3rd	N/A	5th	6th

Source: Higher Education Coordinating Board, *Tuition and Fee Rates: A National Comparison*, 2009-10.

Peers:

UW – The comparison group for the University of Washington is all public institutions classified as research universities with medical schools.

WSU – The comparison group for Washington State University is all public land grant universities classified as research universities with veterinary schools.

Comprehensive institutions – The comparison group for Central, Eastern, and Western Washington Universities is all public institutions classified as comprehensive colleges and universities. The Evergreen State College also is included in the comprehensive average specifically for this chart.

Community and technical colleges – The comparison group for the Washington community and technical college system is all state community college systems.

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) includes: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.