

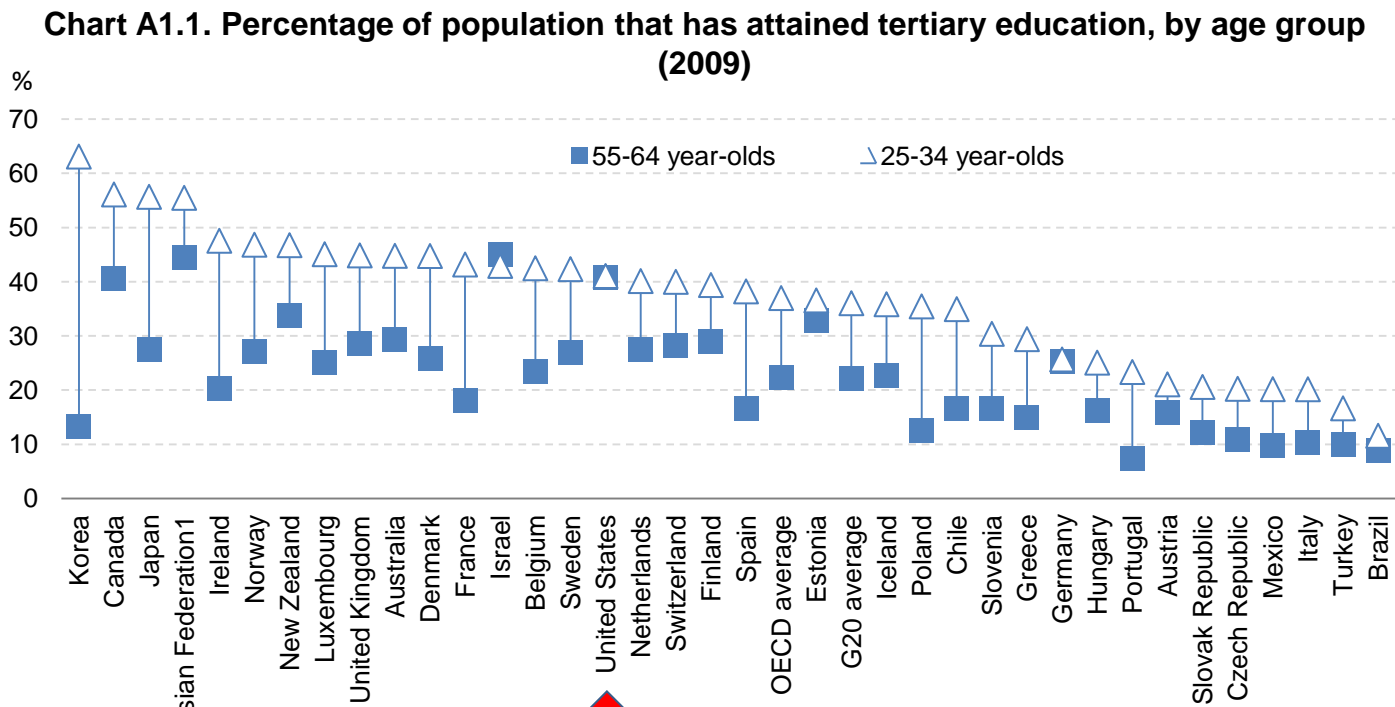
Education Commission of the States

December 8, 2011

Paul E. Lingenfelter, President
State Higher Education Executive Officers

Figure 1

Differences in College Attainment (Associate and Higher) Between Young and Older Adults – U.S. and OECD Countries, 2009

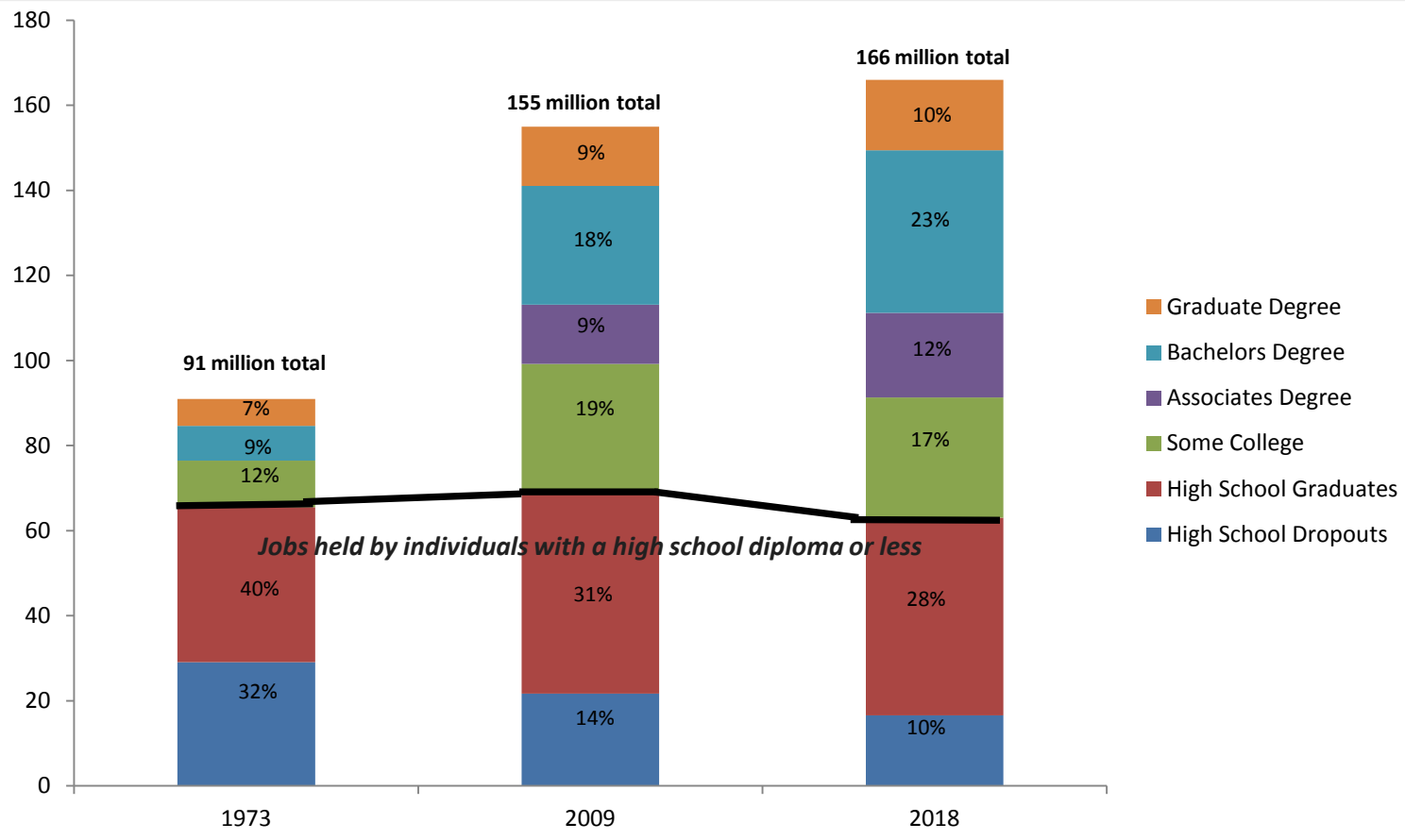


In 5 years (since 2004) the U.S. has gone from 8th to 16th place

Source: OECD. Table A1.3a. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/edu/eag2011).

Figure 2

Higher attainment levels needed for future U.S. jobs



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, CPS, 1973, 2009; Anthony Carnevale, *Help Wanted: Projections of jobs and Education Requirements Through 2018*, June 2010, p. 14.

Figure 3

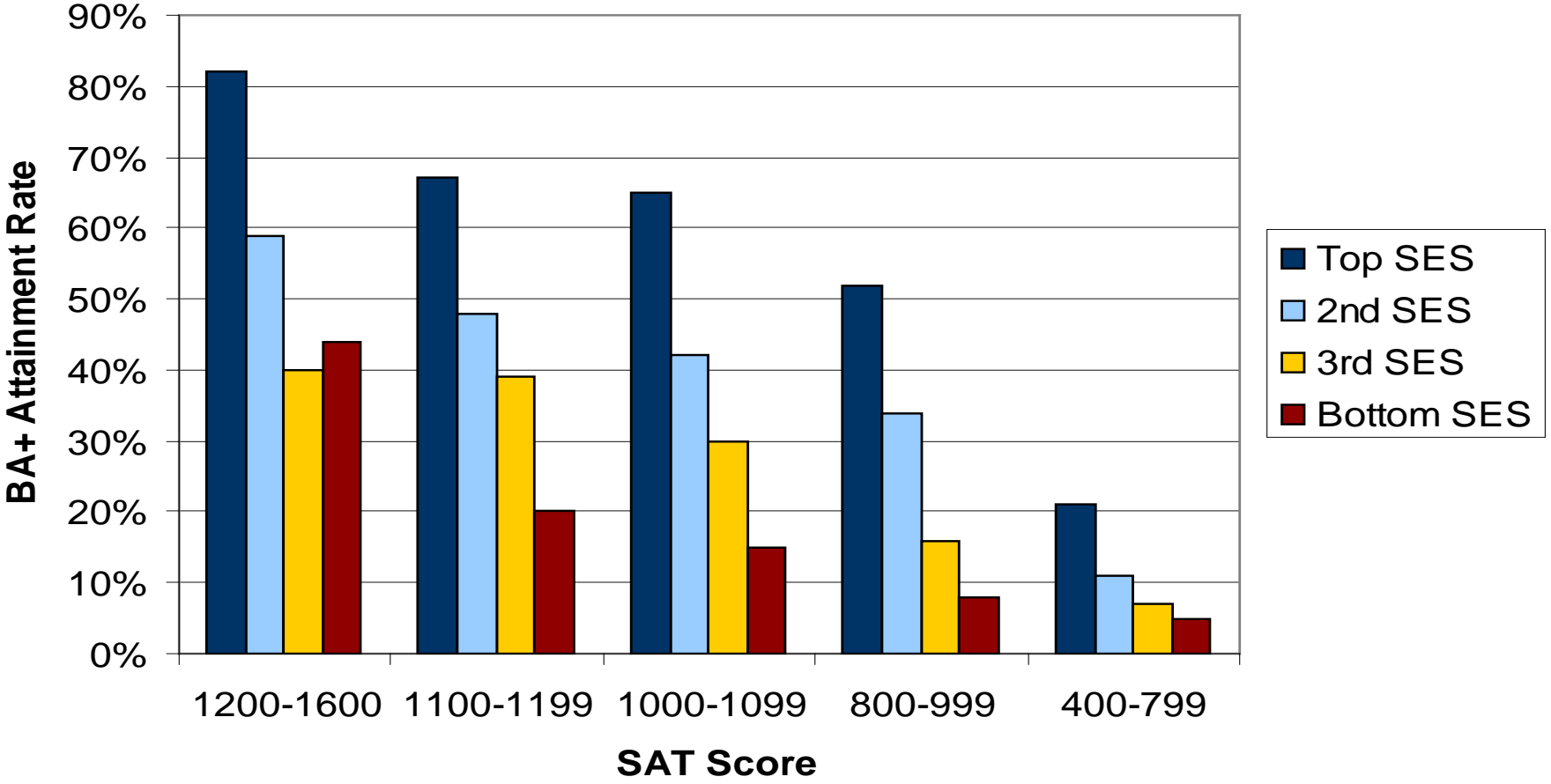
College participation by socioeconomic status (SES)

College Participation By Achievement Test and Socioeconomic Status Quartile		SES Quartile	
		Lowest	Highest
Achievement Quartile	Highest	78%	97%
	Lowest	36%	77%

Source: Access Denied, Department of Education, February 2001.

Figure 4

Degree attainment by SAT scores and SES



Source: Anthony Carnevale, *Liberal Education*, Fall 2008, p. 58.

Strategies for increasing educational attainment

- Clear learning objectives
 - Common Core State Standards, Degree Qualifications Profile
 - Fewer, clearer, higher, internationally benchmarked
- Effective approaches for engaging students and achieving learning
 - Appropriate curriculum
 - Capable teachers working in well-designed, well-functioning learning communities
 - Essential student supports: Time to learn, money for access, coaching and goading as needed
- Appropriate, multi-faceted assessments
 - PARCC, Smarter Balanced Consortia
 - AHELO (OECD Assessment of Higher Education Learning Outcomes)
 - NILOA, Alliance for Student Learning and Accountability
- Benchmarking and research capability
 - Common Education Data Standards (CEDDS)
- Collaboration and reciprocal feedback between higher education and K-12 – expectations, performance, strategies for improvement