

**Inputs**

CPI invests resources from TANF, Arkansas two-year colleges, ADHE, DWS, WIB, Career Education, and DHS

- \$7,150,000 Annual TANF grant
- In-kind contributions from AR two-year colleges
- In-kind services from ADHE, DWS, WIB, Career Education, and DHS
- CPI staff/case management resources
- Data systems

*So that...*

**Activities**

CPI can assist Arkansas parents living at or below 250% of the federal poverty level access work-related education and training opportunities at local two-year colleges

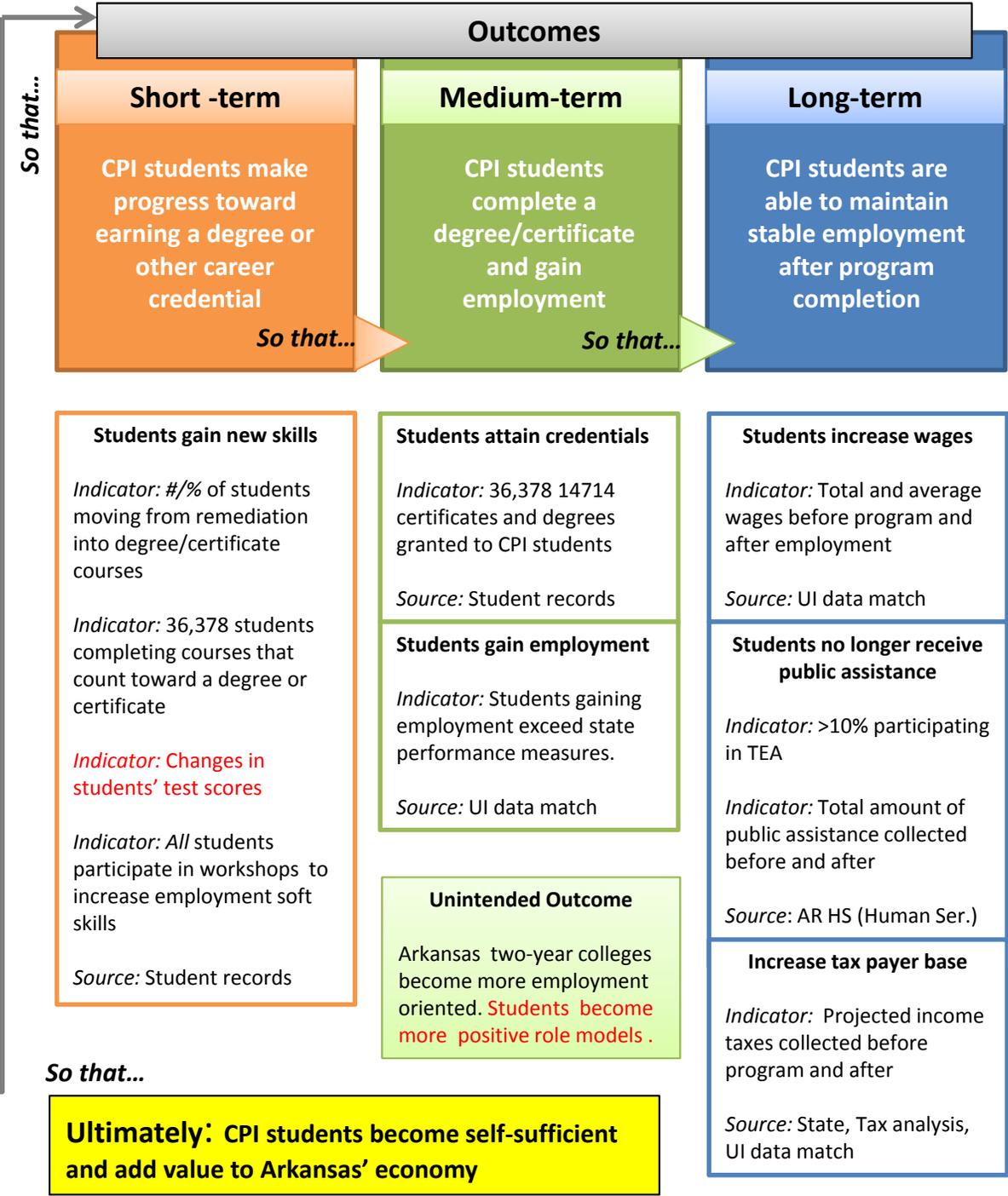
- Case management/intrusive counseling
- Program delivery at 25 sites
- Student support services
- Student testing/assessment and remediation

*So that...*

**Outputs**

CPI participants can take courses and enroll in degree or certificate programs

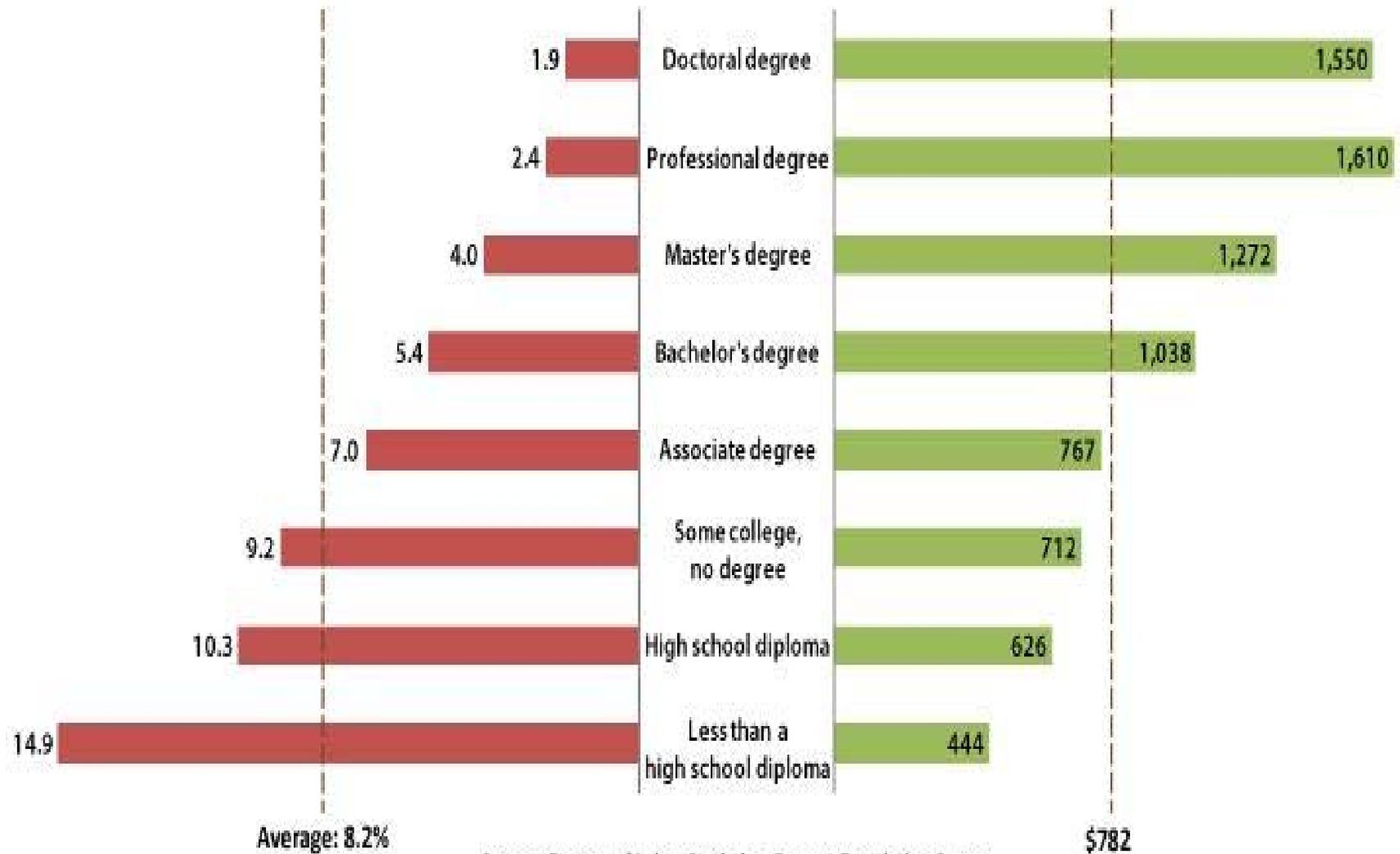
- Enrollments of CPI students taking assessments
- # of CPI students earning Career Readiness Certificates
- # of CPI students in degree programs
- # of community colleges with active CPI programs on campus
- # of workshops, classes, tests offered



# Education pays:

Unemployment rate in 2010 (%)

Median weekly earnings in 2010 (\$)



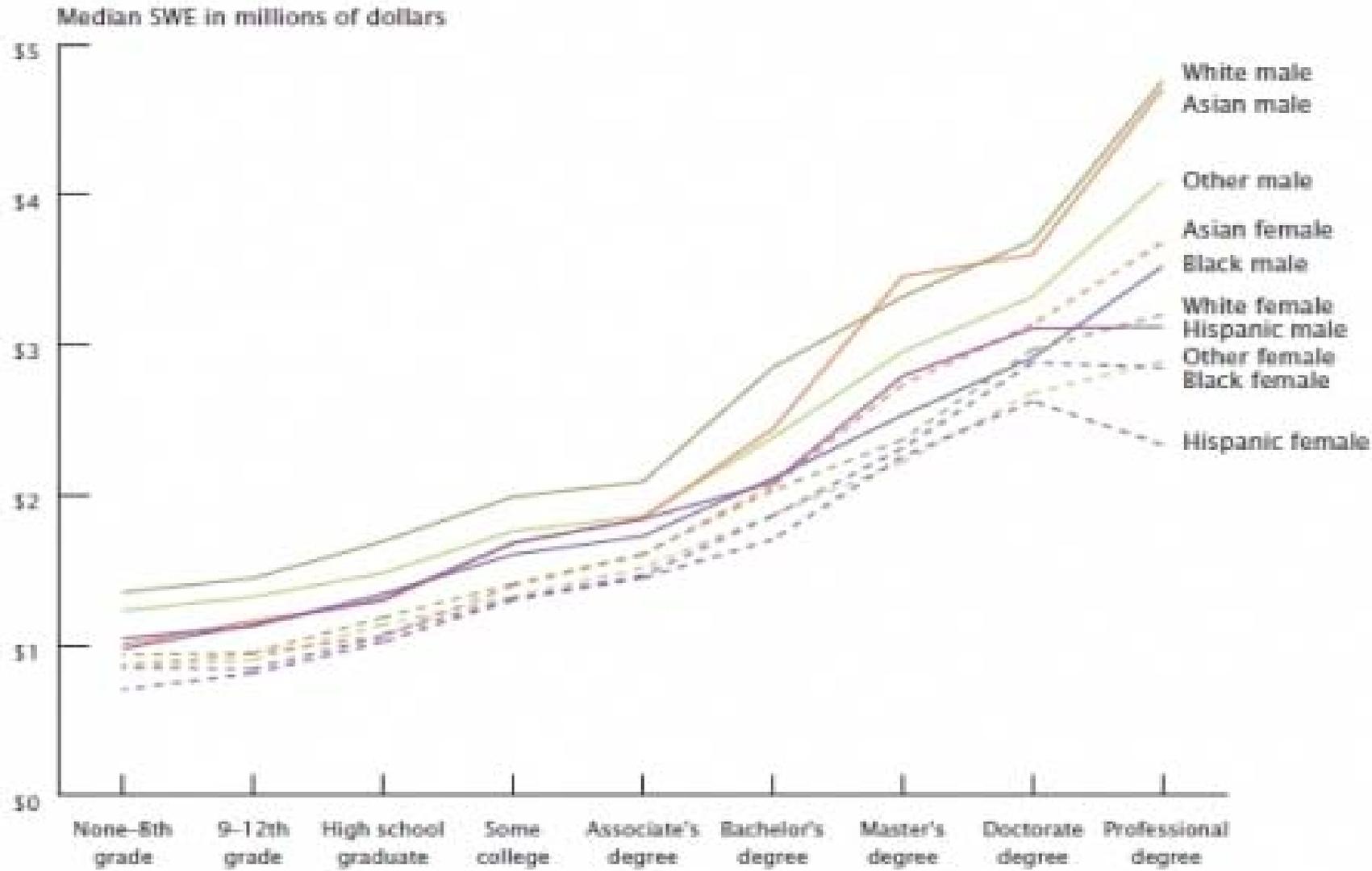
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

## Median Earnings for Full-Time, Year-Round Workers Aged 25-64 by Educational Attainment (2010)



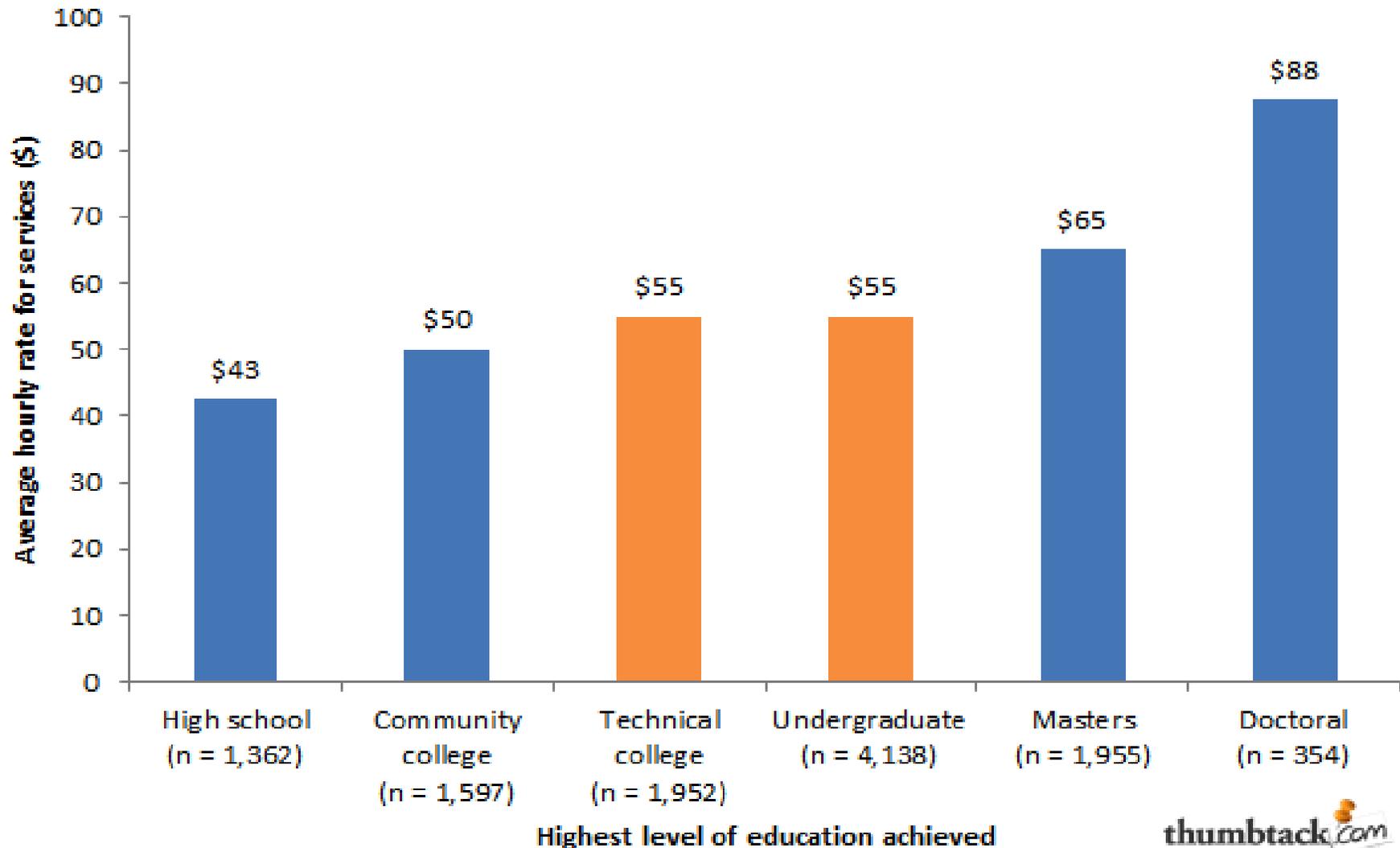
Source: Source: U.S. Census Bureau, PINC-03, Table 28  
[http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/cpstables/032011/perinc/new03\\_028.htm](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/cpstables/032011/perinc/new03_028.htm)

**Figure 4.**  
**Synthetic Work-Life Earnings for Gender/Race-Ethnicity Groups by Education Level**  
 (Full-time, year-round workers)

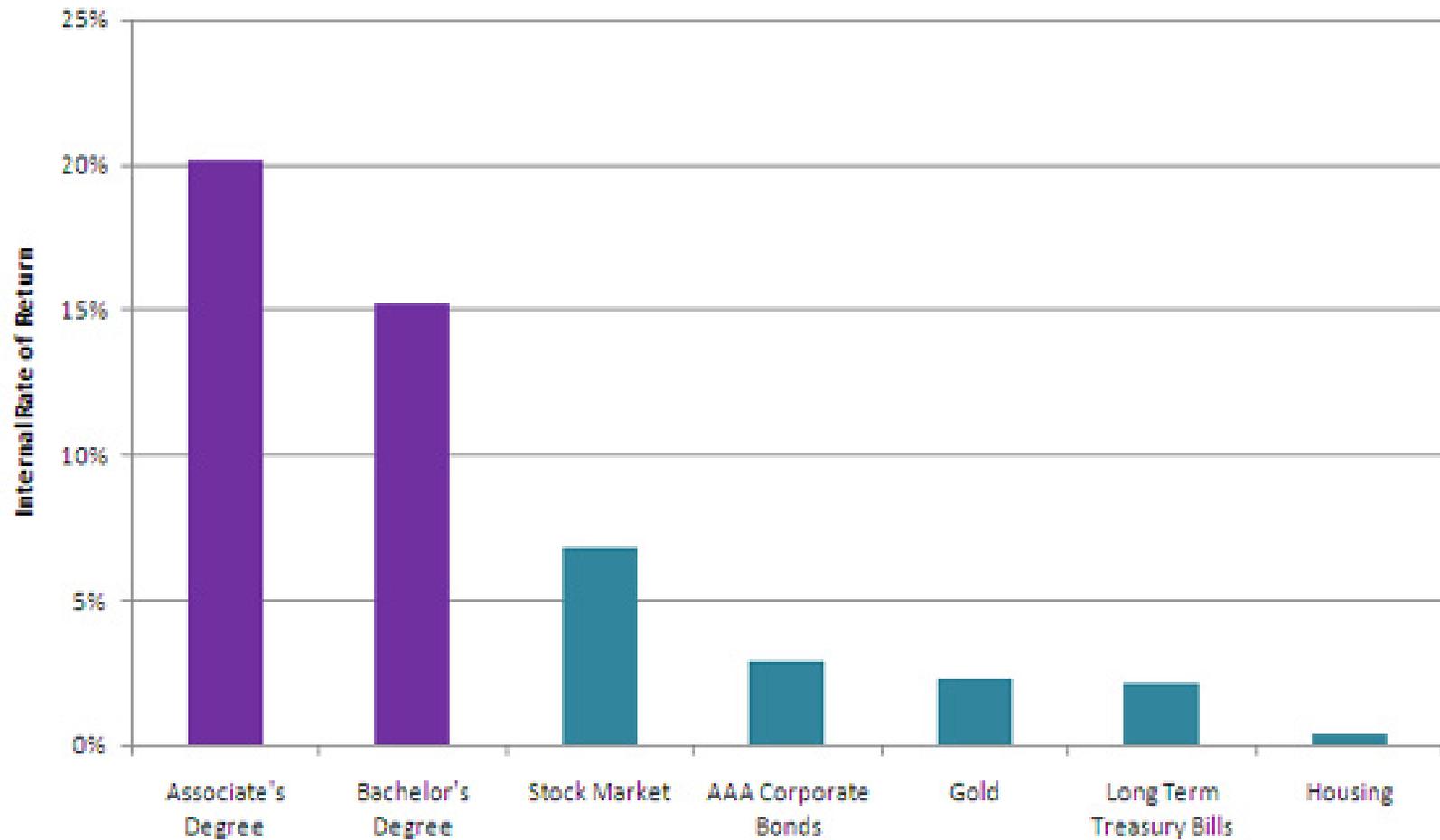


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2006-2008.

## Average hourly rate rises with education - except an undergraduate degree is worth no more than a technical college degree



## College Compared to Alternative Investments

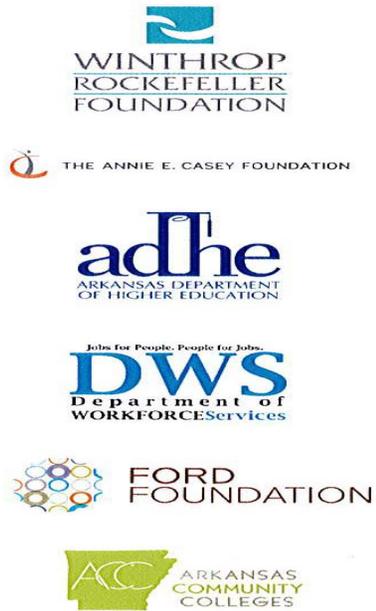


Note: Asset returns are geometric averages since 1950. Source: Author's calculations of IRR, values adjusted for inflation using the CPI-U; March Current Population Survey (CPS) 2007-2010 averages; National Mining Association; National Center for Education Statistics; Robert Shiller online data, Long Term Treasury Bills have 10 year maturities after 1953; Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

**KEY:**

-  Arkansas Community College student participating in CPI
-  Arkansas Community College student not participating in CPI
-  Nationwide Community College student not participating in CPI
-  TANF recipients not enrolled in Arkansas Community College

**Sponsored by:**



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## EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES



National studies report degree completion is directly correlated with **improved employment, higher lifetime earnings and social benefits.**

The Arkansas Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) has **significantly increased educational outcomes and achievement** for low-income participants when compared to their peers:



Of 27,517 low-income participants enrolled in the CPI between 2006 and 2013, more than **52%** graduated with a degree or certificate. This is **double the completion rate** of Arkansas community college students who did not participate in CPI.



Only **24%** of all non-CPI two-year college students enrolled between 2006 and 2013 completed a degree or certificate.

The CPI graduation rate is even more **impressive** compared to completion rates nationwide.



**62%** of CPI students enrolled in 2008 completed a degree or certificate by 2013.



Only **39%** of students who enrolled at a public two-year college nationwide in 2008 completed a degree or certificate by 2014.

Successful rates of program graduation and completion have **continued to improve over time.**



**Six times** as many CPI participants earned Associate Degrees by 2013, compared to non-CPI college students who enrolled in an Arkansas community college in 2011.



**Three times** more CPI participants earned Certificates of Proficiency or Technical Certificates when compared with their community college peers.

## ECONOMIC OUTCOMES

CPI graduates **earned significantly more** than their low-income TANF peers.



CPI graduates who enrolled in 2009 earned **\$2,600 more** in their first year than their matched TANF counterparts from the same region and field of employment, despite having earned similar incomes prior to entry into the program.



The wage bump increased to **\$3,100 per year more** for all CPI participants who enrolled in 2011, compared to income levels of matched TANF recipients.

In the Allied Health and Education employment sector which employs 60% of all CPI graduates and includes high demand nursing fields, CPI graduates who enrolled in 2011 earned an average of **\$3,176 more per year** than their matched TANF counterparts according to state employment records.

In early years of the CPI program, first year CPI students earned an average of \$6,400 less than their community college peers who entered the workforce the same year.



By 2011 CPI students narrowed the average annual wage gap to **\$1,584**, eliminating it entirely in some career fields.



CPI graduates tend to be single parents who are far more likely than their community college peers to initially work part-time rather than full-time. Low-income CPI participants often start work at a lower rung on the career ladder, but over time they catch up to their peers as they progress along the career pathway and earn additional credentials.

