

# GOVERNORS' EDUCATION PROFILE SERIES

CLASS OF 2018



NGA is boldly nonpartisan. Through NGA, governors share best practices, speak with an informed voice on national policy and develop innovative solutions that improve state government and support the principles of federalism.



ACT is a mission-driven, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people achieve education and workplace success. Headquartered in Iowa City, Iowa, ACT is trusted as a leader in college and career readiness, providing high-quality assessments grounded in nearly 60 years of research. ACT offers a uniquely integrated set of solutions designed to provide personalized insights that help individuals succeed from elementary school through career.

<sup>1</sup> [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17\\_203.40.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17_203.40.asp?current=yes); [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16\\_203.20.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16_203.20.asp?current=yes); [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17\\_304.10.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17_304.10.asp?current=yes)

<sup>2</sup> <http://nieer.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/State-of-Preschool-2017-Full-7-16-18.pdf>; <https://stats.bls.gov/oes/special.requests/oesm17st.zip>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/ndecore/landing>. Analysis done by ACT.

<sup>4</sup> [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17\\_219.46.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17_219.46.asp)

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.sheeo.org/sites/default/files/project-files/SHEEO\\_SHEF\\_FY2017\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.sheeo.org/sites/default/files/project-files/SHEEO_SHEF_FY2017_FINAL.pdf); [https://www.nassgapsurvey.com/survey\\_reports/2016-2017-48th.pdf](https://www.nassgapsurvey.com/survey_reports/2016-2017-48th.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> [https://ticas.org/sites/default/files/pub\\_files/classof2017.pdf](https://ticas.org/sites/default/files/pub_files/classof2017.pdf); [https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/17\\_5YR/DP02/0100000US|0100000US.04000.001](https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/17_5YR/DP02/0100000US|0100000US.04000.001). Analysis done by ACT. Reflects adults, residing in the state, aged 25 and older.



# GOVERNOR TOM WOLF

**Major Education Priorities:** ★ **K-12 Funding** ★ **Workforce Development**  
★ **Early Education Investments** ★ **Graduation Rates**

**BACKGROUND:** Governor Wolf grew up in Pennsylvania and received his college education at Dartmouth University, the University of London and MIT. He served in the Peace Corps for two years in India while in school and after graduation worked as CEO of his family's business. He previously served as Governor Ed Rendell's secretary of revenue. Governor Wolf is married with two daughters.

**PARTY AFFILIATION:** Democrat

"Today, we have nearly 100,000 students enrolled in full-day kindergarten, and we've increased the number of kids able to attend pre-kindergarten by nearly half."  
– Gov. Wolf

## Early Education and K-12 Educational Priorities

**Early Education Investments:** Increased the number of students enrolling in full-day kindergarten to 96,096 and pre-k funding by 64 percent.

**K-12 Funding:** Restored \$1B in cuts to K-12 education and enacted a new funding formula that promotes equity and access.

**Graduation Rates:** Increased state high school graduation rate to 86 percent.

**Additional Priorities:** Teacher benefits and school safety.

## Student Enrollment<sup>1</sup>



## Higher Education and Workforce Priorities

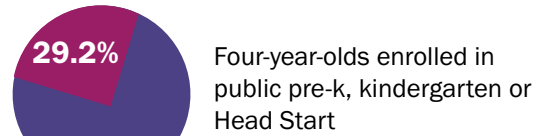
**Lifelong Learning:** Established the PAsmart initiative to help the state meet his demand-driven statewide goal for 60 percent of Pennsylvania residents to have some form of postsecondary education by 2025. Initiative invests \$30M in public education and workforce development programs focusing on STEM, Career and Technical Education (CTE), apprenticeships and computer science.

**Work-Based Learning:** Established a goal to double the number of registered apprentices in Pennsylvania to 30,000 by 2025.

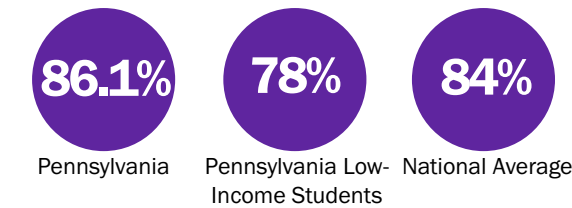
“ High school graduation rates have increased to 86 percent, making Pennsylvania a national leader. ”

# State of Pennsylvania Education

## Early Childhood Facts<sup>2</sup>

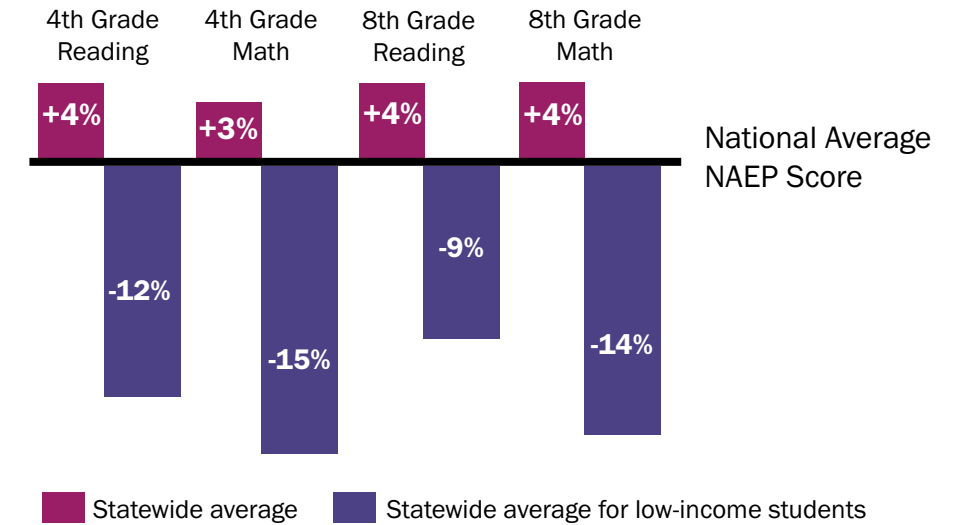


## High School Graduation Rate<sup>4</sup>



## Pennsylvania National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Scores<sup>3</sup>

Percentage of students performing at or above proficient level



## Are Pennsylvania Students Ready for College?

The ACT test is the most frequently taken college entrance exam in the U.S. The chart below shows the ACT Composite score distribution for students in Pennsylvania and the U.S.

ACT COMPOSITE	PENNSYLVANIA	NATION
1-18	19.8%	39.9%
19-23	30.8%	29.1%
24-36	49.4%	31%

## STEM Careers: Are Pennsylvania Students Interested and Ready?

In Pennsylvania, **56.7 percent** of ACT-tested students from the class of 2018 had aspirations to pursue a future in STEM. Of those students, **40.9 percent** are prepared for first-year college coursework related to STEM fields.

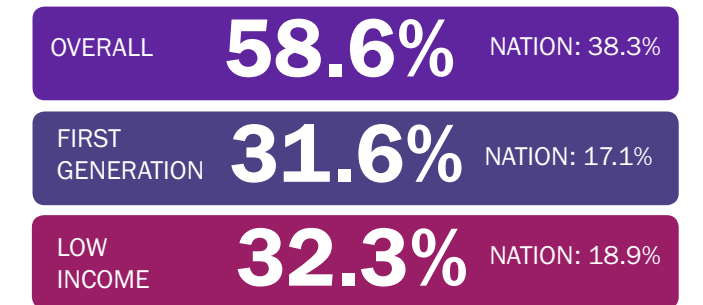
## Higher Education Stats<sup>5</sup>

	PENNSYLVANIA	NATIONAL AVERAGE
Educational Appropriations per Full-Time Equivalent	<b>\$4,122</b>	<b>\$7,642</b>
Total State Grant Expenditures as Percentage of State Fiscal Support for Higher Education	<b>25.7%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>
Percent Change in Total Spending Since 2008	<b>-35.4%</b>	<b>-11.6%</b>
State Grant Aid per Full-Time Undergraduate Student	<b>\$861.39</b>	<b>\$816.79</b>
Need-based State Grant Aid per Full-Time Undergraduate Student	<b>\$857.80</b>	<b>\$623.66</b>

## College Readiness is More than ONE Number

Along with their ACT Composite score, students also receive scores in four subject areas – Math, Science, English and Reading – along with target (or “Benchmark”) scores that will help them gauge their likelihood of earning a B or C in credit-bearing first-year college courses. The percentages of students who met at least three of these four Benchmark scores are provided below.

## Students in Pennsylvania Who Met at Least 3 of 4 College-Ready Benchmark Scores



## Higher Education Outcomes<sup>6</sup>

Percent of Residents with an Associate's Degree or Higher:



Percent of Residents with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher:



Average Student Debt:

