

# CIVIC MARSHALL PLAN TO BUILD A GRAD NATION

## 2015 INDEX

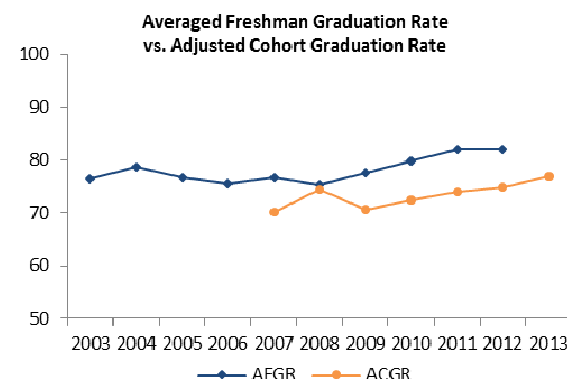
### WHERE DOES COLORADO STAND?

#### CONTEXT

**Poverty:** 6 states have lower childhood poverty rates than Colorado, at **14.0** percent.

**College Education:** Colorado has a higher proportion of college completion than **48** states at **34.4** percent.

**Sources:** Poverty: 2013 Current Population Survey (joint effort of Bureau of Labor Statistics and Census Bureau)  
College Education: 2013 American Community Survey (Census Bureau)



#### PROGRESS

#### CHALLENGES

**I** Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR): Colorado increased **2.9** points from **74** percent in 2011 to **76.9** percent in 2013.

The ACGR for Colorado needs to increase **1.87** points per year starting in 2013-2014 to reach 90 percent by 2020.

**II** The Class of 2012-2013 had **46,738** graduates and the Class of 2010-2011 had **44,988** graduates.

The Class of 2020 needs **7,962** more graduates than the Class of 2012-2013 to reach 90 percent in this state.

**III** **19** fewer dropout factories in 2013 than 2002.

In 2013, there were **13** dropout factories in Colorado. To reach 0 by 2020, **2** schools need to improve per year.\*

\*If the state has 7 or fewer dropout factories, 1 is assigned for 2013-2014.

**IV** **26,259** fewer students attended dropout factories in 2013 than in 2002.

**11,234** students still attend dropout factories in 2013.

**V** **63.7** percent of low-income\* students graduated high school on time in 2013.

**87.0** percent of medium and high income students graduated high school on time in 2013, leaving an "opportunity" gap of **23.3** percentage points.

\*In this context, low-income is defined as the percentage of students eligible for free- or reduced-price lunch.

**VI** Percent of 4th-graders testing at or above proficient in reading (NAEP) increased from **37** percent to **41** percent, from 2003 to 2013.

**38,089** 4th-graders still not proficient in reading.

**VII** Percent of 8th-graders testing at or above proficient in math (NAEP) increased from **34** percent to **42** percent, from 2003 to 2013.

**35,468** 8th-graders still not proficient in math.

**VIII** The number of students who took at least one AP exam during high school increased **16.7** percentage points, from **22.5** percent to **39.2** percent, from 2003 to 2013.

Only **28.8** percent of test-takers scored at least one "3" or higher.

#### ECONOMIC BENEFITS

With a 90 percent graduation rate, the additional graduates could deliver an estimated **\$85 million** in increased annual earnings, **\$4.8 million** in increased annual state and local tax revenues, and an increase in the Gross State Product of **\$144 million**.

**Source:** Previously unpublished Alliance for Excellent Education analysis of data from Economic Modeling Specialists, Inc.