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## *Some College, No Degree 2019*

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Thirty-six million Americans in the NSC database today hold some postsecondary education and training but no completion and are no longer enrolled, also known as the Some College, No Degree population.
- Ten percent of this population are “potential completers” who have already made at least two years’ worth of academic progress up until their last enrollment. Potential completers were found more likely than other former students to re-enroll and finish college.
- About 940,000 students identified as Some College, No Degree five years ago, in our first report, have since re-enrolled and are now new completers. In addition, more than a million are still enrolled as of December 2018, for a combined success and progress rate of 54 percent among re-enrollees.
- Compared to where they last enrolled, returning students were more likely to have re-enrolled at public institutions, and less likely to have done so at private institutions. But online enrollees were more likely to have returned to online institutions.
- Completers tend to finish at the institution where they first re-enrolled and complete within two years of re-enrolling, without stopping out.
- Completers typically re-enrolled and finished in the same state where they last enrolled, with a few exceptions.



# The Some College, No Degree National Picture 2019



**36 million**

Americans in the Clearinghouse database today hold some postsecondary education but no completion and are no longer enrolled (also known as *Some College, No Degree*).

**10%** of this population already have two years' worth of academic progress up until last enrollment (the group called Potential Completers). This is the most relevant group for efforts to increase enrollments and reach state postsecondary attainment goals, as they are more likely to re-enroll and finish college, according to our five-year follow-up study.

In **37 states**, more than half of Some College, No Degree (SCND) students were last enrolled at a community college. The SCND populations are generally proportional to current postsecondary enrollments by state.

## Demographics and Education History

	All SCND Students	Potential Completers
Percent under age 30 today	23%	58%
Percent under age 30 at last enrollment	56%	75%
Percent women	51%	51%
Percent racial/ethnic minorities	n/a	47%
Years since last enrollment (median)	10	4
Percent first enrolled at community colleges	67%	53%
Percent last enrolled at community colleges	67%	48%
Number of Stop-outs	1 (60%)	2+ (64%)

## From Stop-Out to Completion: A Five-Year Follow-Up

There were **29 million** identified as SCND five years ago. Since then:

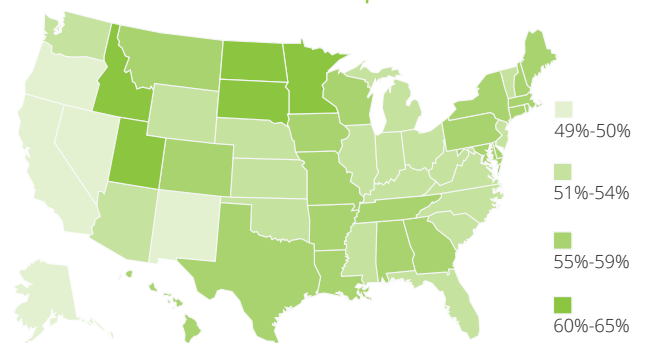
**3.8 million** re-enrolled.

**940,000** completed a credential, typically, an associate degree or certificate (60%).

**1.1 million** are still enrolled without a credential.

**54%** success and progress rate for re-enrollees as of Dec 2018. (*This varies across states between 49% and 65%.*)

Percent of Re-enrollees Completed or Still Enrolled



- Potential completers were far more likely to re-enroll and to complete than other SCND students (**24%** re-enrolled compared to **9%** of those with a single-term enrollment).
- Completers tend to finish at the institution where they first re-enrolled and complete within two years of re-enrolling, without stopping out again.
- Community colleges are the largest single sector awarding credentials to returning SCND students (**43%**).
- For most SCND completers, the institution of last enrollment, re-enrollment, and awarding of credential were all located in the same state. This in-state rate varies between **41%** in Maryland and **79%** in Michigan and Utah.

