



# New Mexico Community Colleges – A General Overview

August 19, 2011

# A brief national perspective.....

Selected slides from:

*“The ‘Age of And’*  
**Are Community Colleges Fulfilling their  
Missions?”**

Georgetown University

Center on Education and the Workforce

July 2008

The “Age of And”  
Are Community Colleges Fulfilling their  
Missions?

July 2008

Excerpts for HED presentation  
August 19, 2011



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Center on Education and the Workforce

# What is a community college?

- Community colleges tend to be “AND” institutions, not “OR” institutions.
- How can community colleges be defined by AA degrees or BA degrees that only go to a minority of its students?
- Community colleges are difficult to define by degrees.



# Community colleges have one budget, at least 10 missions

- Second-chance high schools providing a remediation on-ramp to postsecondary education and training
- Partnering With Early College, Career Academies and other CTE programs for HS school students who have met core standards
- “The Junior College” that provides the first few years of college and transfer to four-year institutions
- Career and technical education (CTE) providers
- The “Community College” that serves geographic and demographic communities
- The “Professional College” that provides occupational and professional BA’s
- Incumbent worker training
- Education and training for industry and occupational clusters targeted on Economic Development Clusters
- Adult basic education (ABE) and training providers for unskilled workers
- And the preferred provider for retraining dislocated incumbent workers

## Future of community college driven by “college for all”

- WIA and trade adjustment
- Infrastructure
- STEM
- Energy and environmental policy
- State and regional economic development
- Income maintenance (EITC) and welfare
- Military recruitment and veterans adjustment
- Disability and vocational rehabilitation
- Education and training in the criminal justice system
- Immigration and ESL
- Healthcare and homeland security

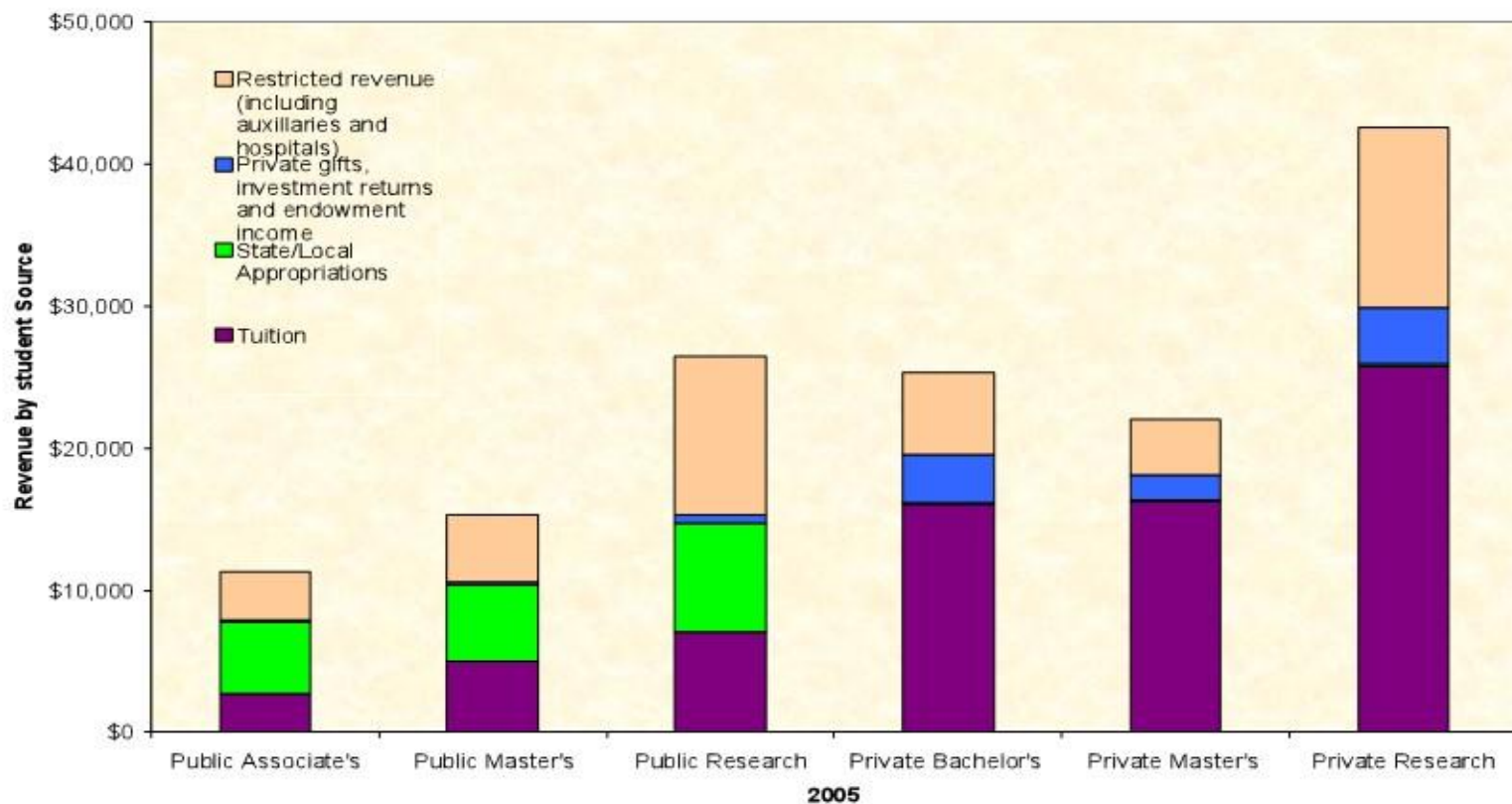
# Entering the “Age of And” in community college history

Community colleges can't perform all these missions

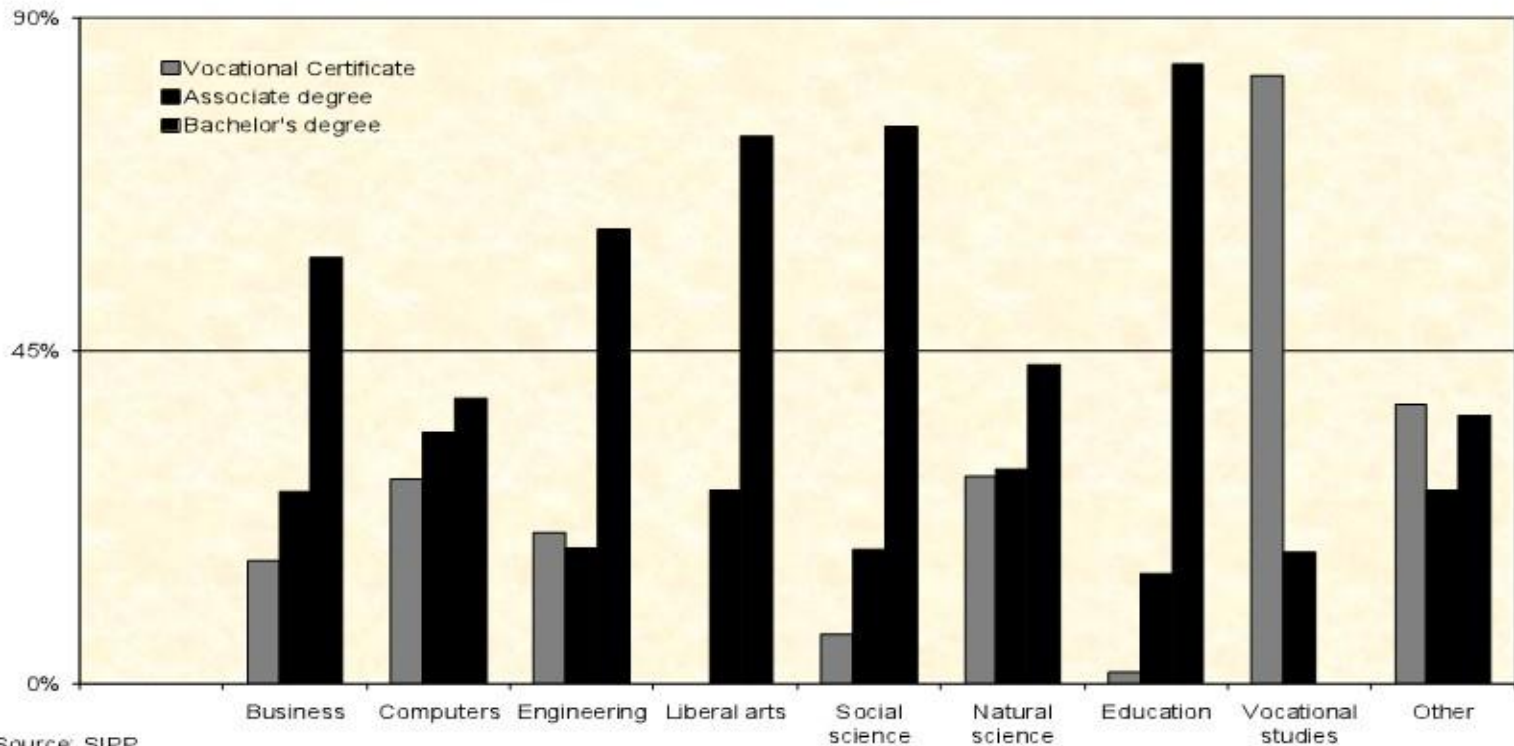
- with capped FTE aid
- a one size fits all cost structure
- and without substantial institutional aid for missions that are not market driven



# Growing revenue gap between community colleges, other postsecondary institutions



# Combination of AAs and certificates often equals or surpasses the number of BAs



# Valuing credentials

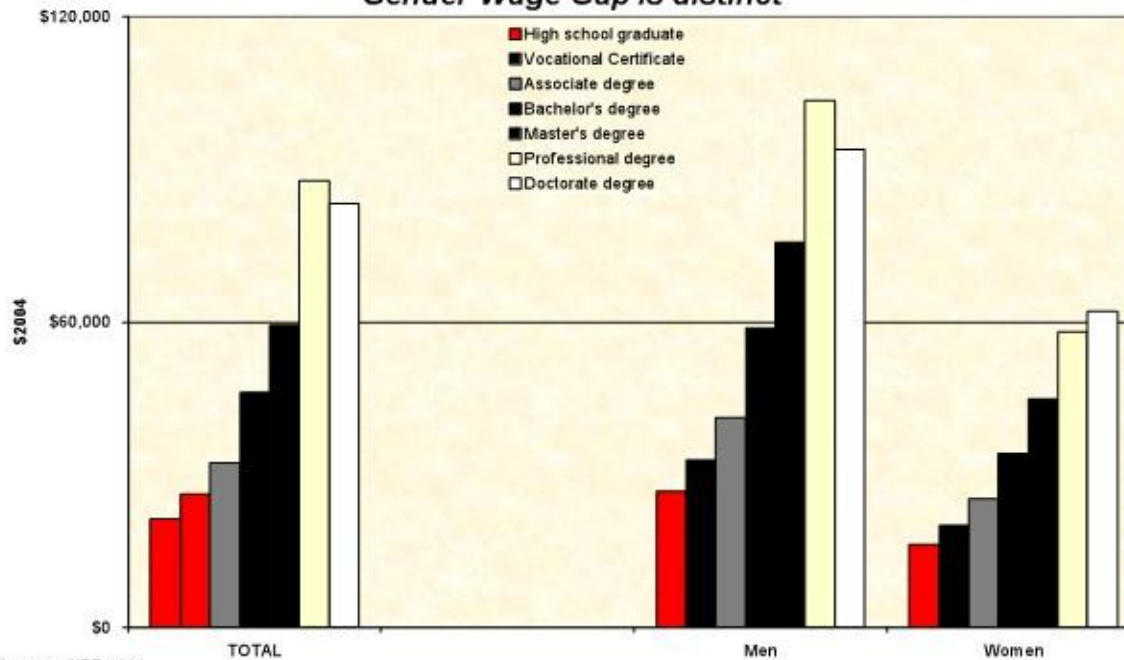
## Average earnings data conceals hidden gems

- Conventional wisdom - the higher the degree, the higher the earnings
- In real life
  - Not all education is created equal
  - e.g. Some certificates out-earn 2 and 4 year degrees
- Targeting high-value non-degree credentials
  - Adds new pathways to family sustaining earnings
  - Small steps are easier for the school-averse individuals to take



# Conventional wisdom

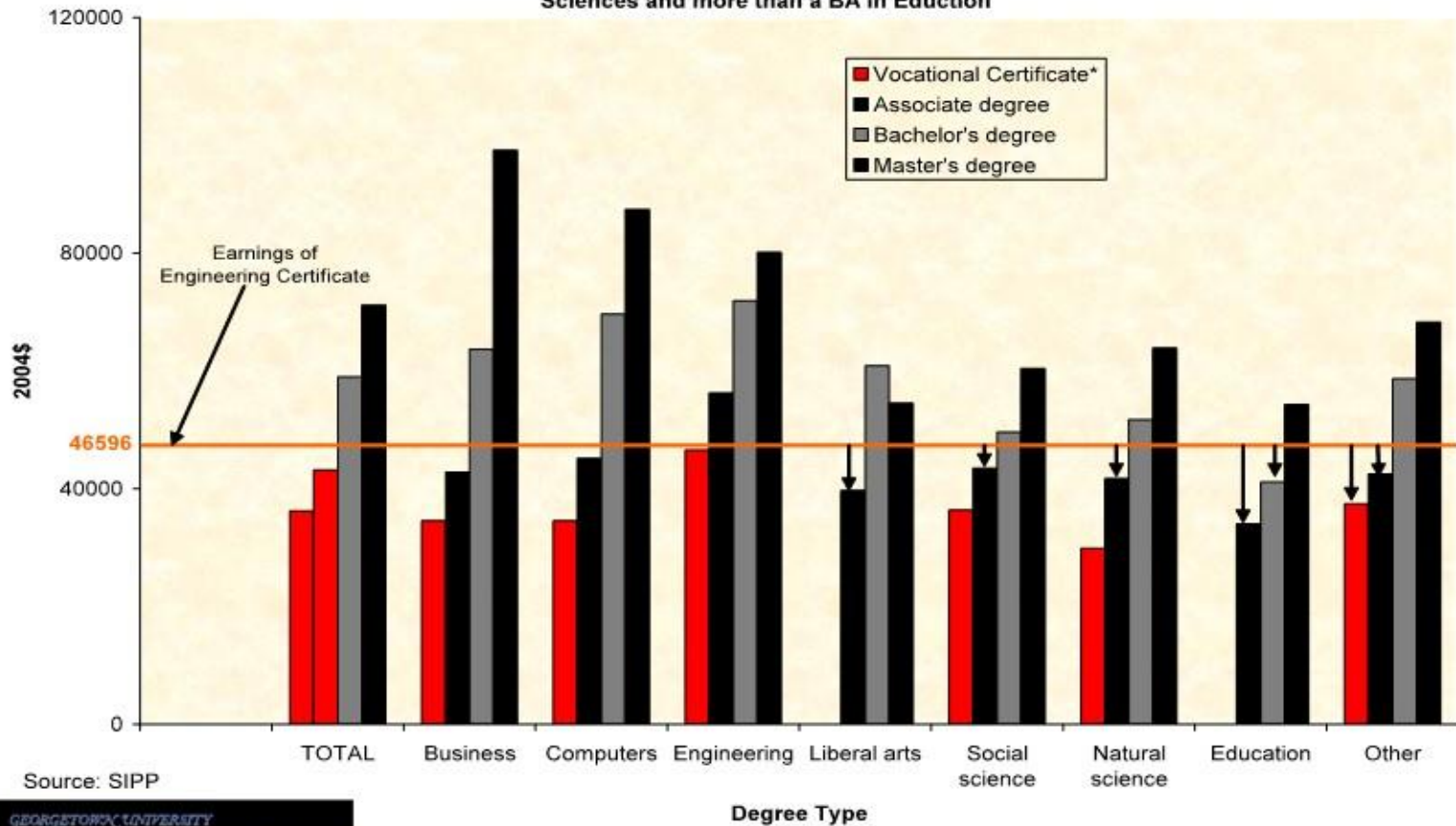
Income Increases with Certificates and Degrees  
*Gender Wage Gap is distinct*



Source: SIPP 2004

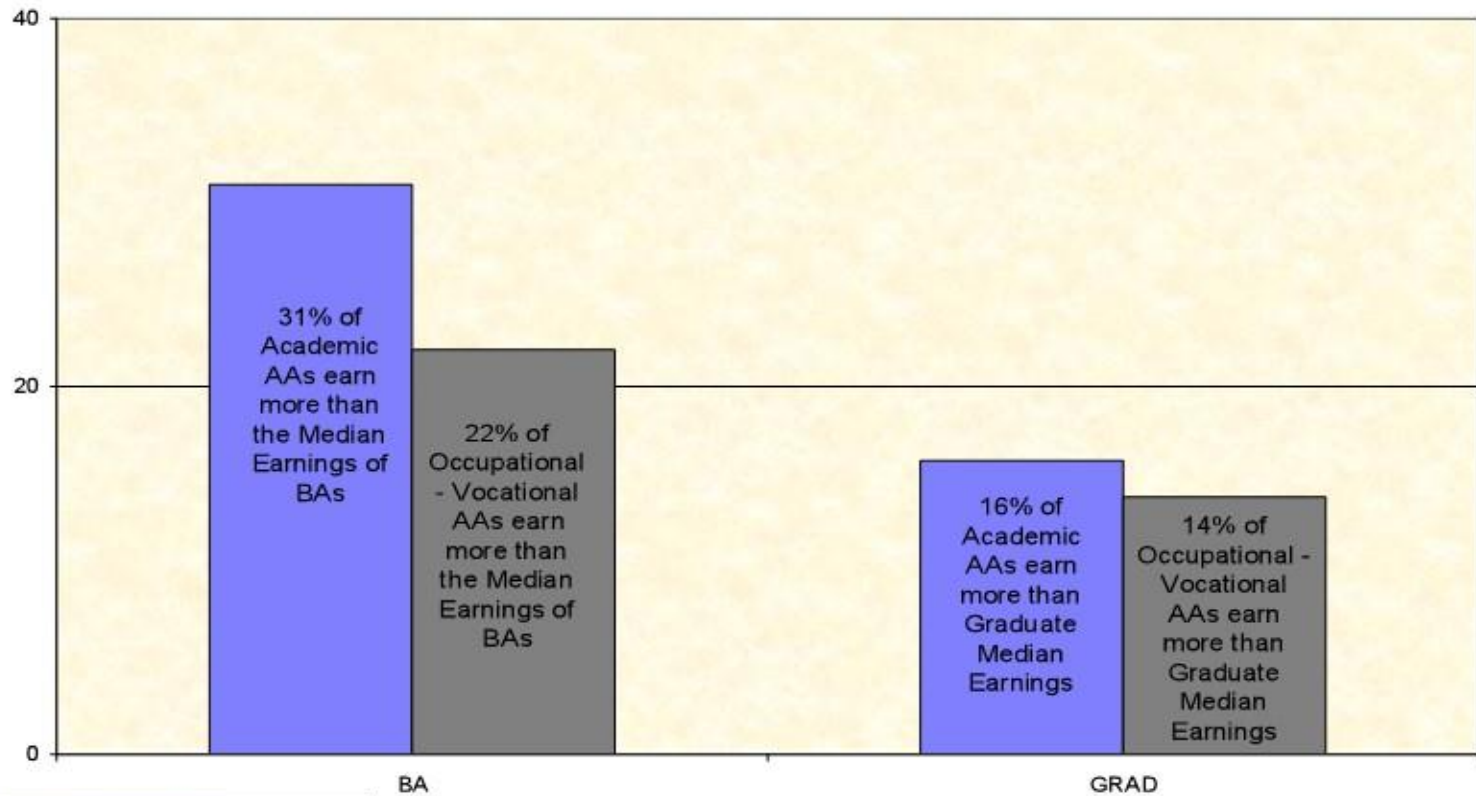
# In real life

**Sometimes Certificates are more valuable than AAs or even BAs**  
a Certificate in Engineering earns more than an AA in the Liberal Arts, Education and Social and Natural Sciences and more than a BA in Education

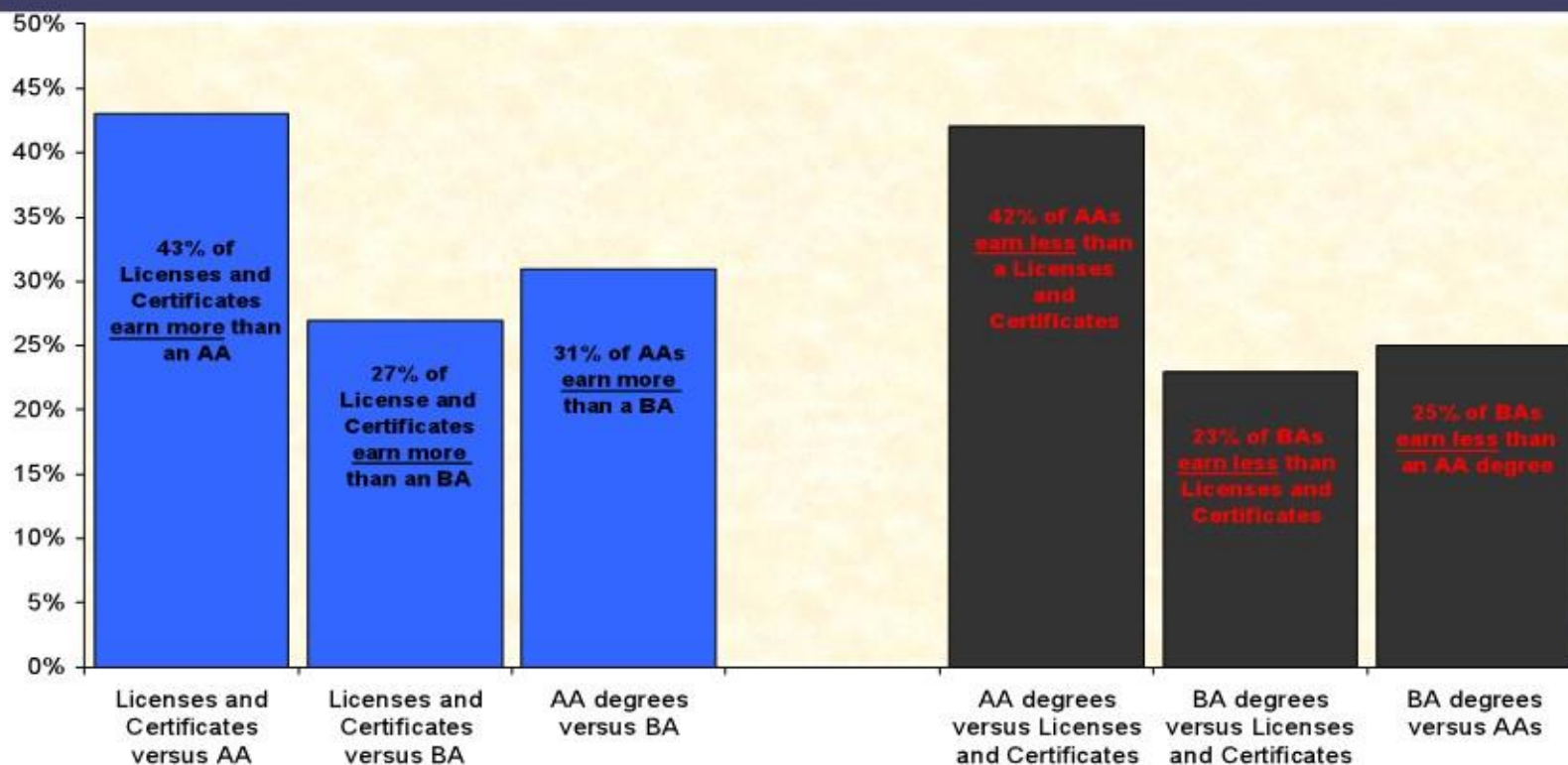


# In real life

There is considerable overlap in earnings among people with different degree levels



# In real life...earnings are not just a function of postsecondary attainment levels



Source: NELS

# LEGAL FRAMEWORK IN NM

- **Community College Act** (21-13-1 NMSA 1978)
  - 6 institutions
- **Branch Community College Act** (21- 14-1 NMSA 1978)
  - 10 institutions
- **Technical & Vocational Institute Act** (21-16-1 NMSA 1978)
  - 1 institution
- **New Mexico Constitution** (Article XII Section 11)
  - 3 institutions with a “community college” mission
- **College District Tax Act** (21-2A-1 NMSA 1978)
  - Applies to all except NM constitution

# Enrollment Trends

## Fall Headcount

INSTITUTIONS	Fall 2005	Fall 2010	5-yr % Change in Headcount	Fall '10 % of Total NM
Research University	44,400	49,526	11.5%	31.9%
Comprehensive University	12,579	14,871	18.2%	9.6%
<b>Branch Colleges</b>	<b>22,514</b>	<b>30,307</b>	<b>34.6%</b>	<b>19.6%</b>
<b>Independent Colleges</b>	<b>48,841</b>	<b>60,361</b>	<b>23.6%</b>	<b>38.9%</b>
Total Headcount	128,334	155,065	20.8%	100.0%

# Enrollment Trends

## Fall FTE

INSTITUTIONS	Fall 2005	Fall 2010	5-yr % Change in FTE	Fall '10 % of Total NM
Research Universities	35,166	40,010	13.8%	41.2%
Comprehensive Universities	8,368	10,097	20.7%	10.4%
<b>Branch Colleges</b>	<b>12,275</b>	<b>16,555</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>17.1%</b>
<b>Independent Colleges</b>	<b>24,026</b>	<b>30,365</b>	<b>26.4%</b>	<b>31.3%</b>
Total FTE	79,835	97,026	21.5%	100.0%

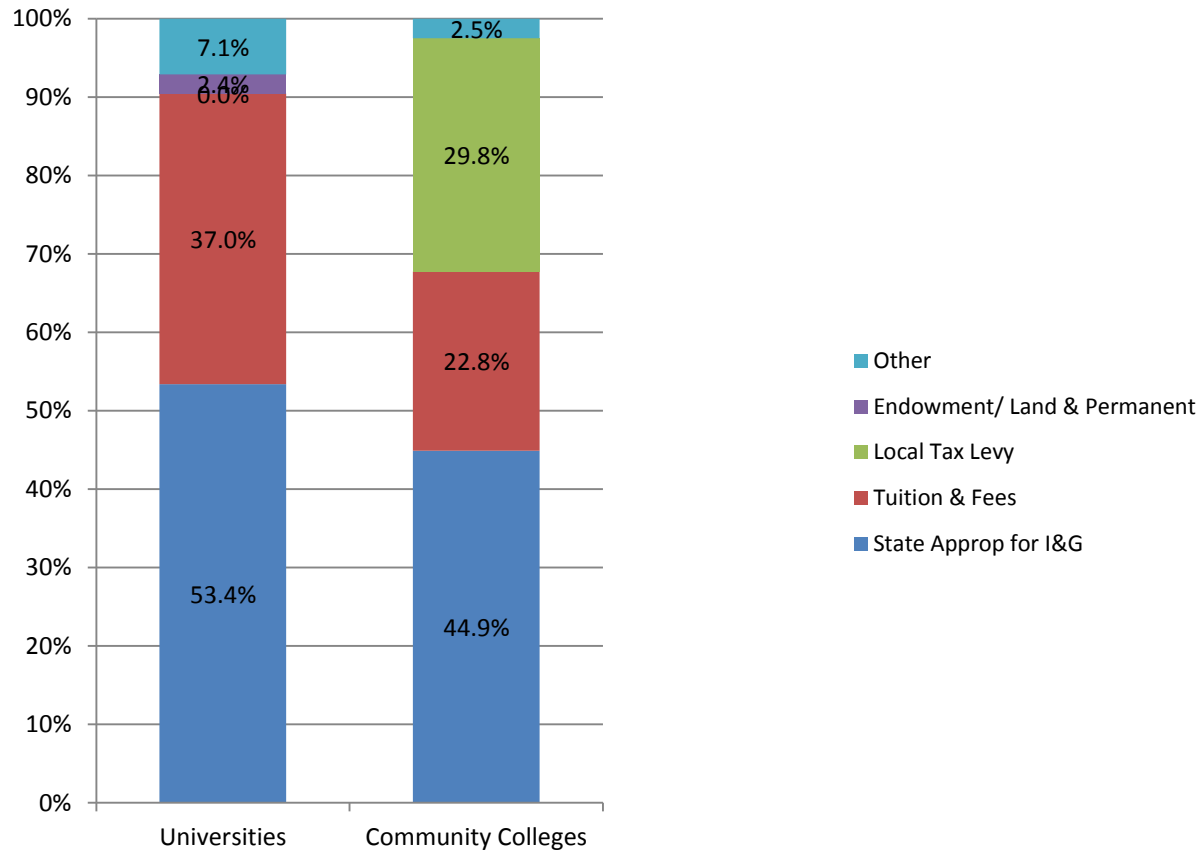
# Student Characteristics

- Majority are minority:
  - Hispanic - about 40%
  - Native American – about 10%
  - Black – about 3%
- Average age is in upper 20's
- Most are first-generation college goers
- Most attend part-time

# Primary Focus Areas:

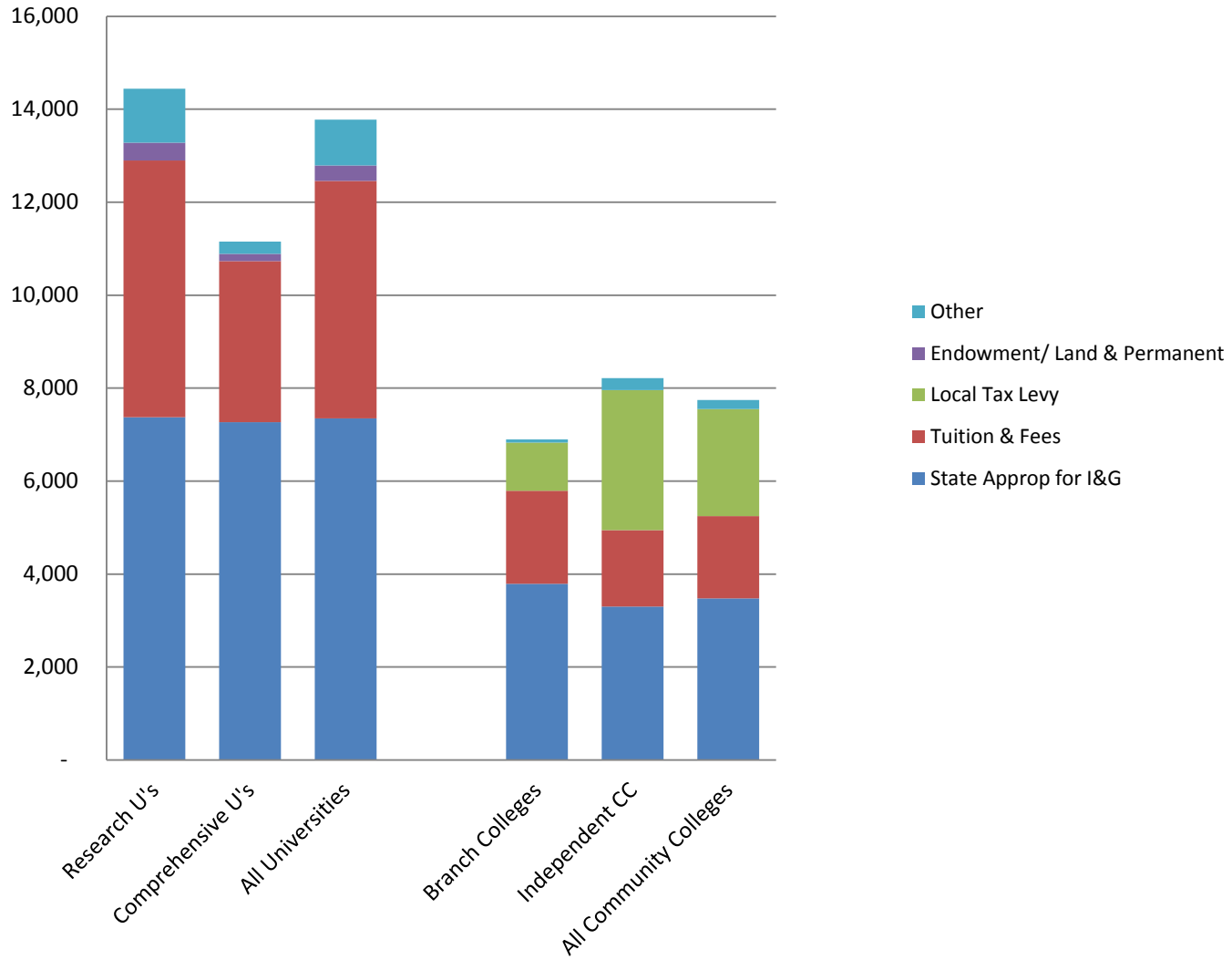
- Credit-bearing courses
  - Academic courses - about 48%
  - Career/technical - about 37%
  - Developmental - about 15%
- Dual credit
- Workforce training
- ABE/GED
- Community education

## Percent of I&G Revenue by Source FY 2012 Operating Budgets



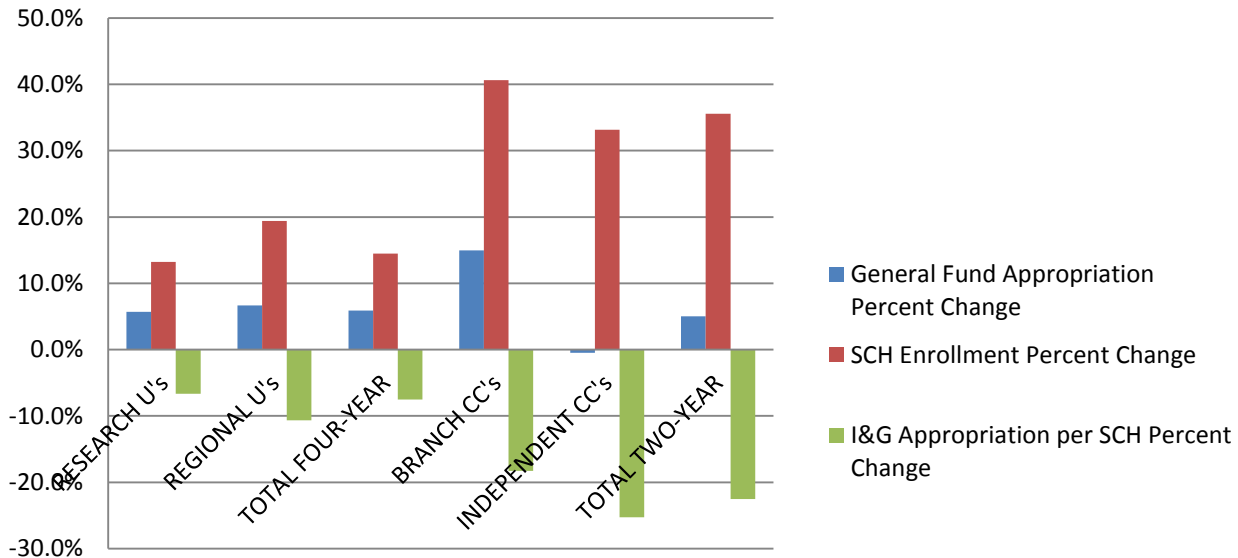
# I&G Revenue per FTE by Source

## FY12 Operating Budgets



# State funding has not kept up with rapid growth at community colleges

7-Year Percent Change in I&G Appropriations , Formula  
SCH and Appropriations per SCH  
FY '05 to FY '12



# Developmental Education

- Necessary first step for great many students:
  - Underprepared high school graduates
  - Returning adult learners
- Community colleges embrace this challenge with variety of programs & support services
- Research U's unable to provide
- Failure to fund growth undermines goal of developing a better prepared workforce

# Dual Credit

- Supported by legislation
- Allows high school students to acquire college credit at low cost
- One option for meeting state high school graduation requirements
- Keeps students engaged during high school
- Saves the student and the state money
- Provides a more diverse curriculum, especially in rural areas of the state

**Adult Basic Education** is a critical component of  
NM community college missions.

- ABE enrollment 2010-11                      16,978  
    (>12 contact hours)
- GED graduates 2010-11                      1,768

(ABE services are not funded through the I&G formula)

# **New funding formula should recognize the central role of community colleges in:**

- **Developing a Skilled Workforce**
  - “Middle Skills” jobs will constitute 40% of openings through 2016
  - Flexibility & responsiveness to business & industry
- **Addressing the “Achievement Gap”**
  - First choice for most at-risk students
  - Strong academic & student support programs
  - Students can build on early successes – “stackable” credentials

## **New formula should: (continued)**

- **Allocate resources to accommodate growth**
- **Value a range of “outcomes” other than degrees awarded**
- **Assure that post-secondary education is affordable and accessible to all**

# Proposed Community College “Outcome Measures” (tentative)

- **Completion:**
  - The number of certificates (by level) awarded in the most recent academic year.
  - The number of two-year degrees awarded in the most recent academic year.
- **Progress:**
  - The number of students who have accumulated at least twelve (12) non-developmental/remedial SCH by the end of the most recent academic year.
  - The number of students who have accumulated at least twenty-four (24) non-developmental/remedial SCH by the end of the most recent academic year.
- **Dual Credit:**
  - The number of former dual credit students who enroll at any college after high school graduation.

# Certificates and Associate Degrees are valuable “Outcomes”

- HED Degree File 2009-10:
  - **Certificates** **3,758**
  - **Associates** **4,729**
  - Bachelors 6,639
  - Masters 2,563
  - Doctorate 262
  - Professional/other 380
  - TOTAL 18,331

# Other Funding Issues:

- **Lottery Success Scholarship**
  - Eligibility criteria don't work for majority of community college students
  - Only 21% of Lottery Scholarships are awarded to community college students
  - Less than 6% of Lottery Scholarships funds have been awarded to community college students since program inception
  - Financial situation will need to be addressed soon

# Other Funding Issues: (continued)

- College Affordability Scholarship Program
  - Community college initiative
  - Need-based eligibility criteria
  - Approximately 75% of recipients are community college students
  - “Endowment” has been decimated by state funding cuts
  - Annual expenditures of approximately \$2 million
  - State will need to support from state General Fund if endowment fund depleted

# Other Funding Issues: (continued)

- Non-Credit Workforce Training Program
  - Community college initiative
  - Provides limited support for non-credit training programs for business & industry
  - State funding reduced from \$600k to \$338k over past three fiscal years
  - Funding allocated by HED based on prior-year activity