



“Through the Tennessee Promise, we are fighting the rising cost of higher education, and we are raising our expectations as a state ... This is a bold promise. It is a promise that speaks volumes to current and prospective employers, and it is a promise that will make a real difference for generations of Tennesseans.”

—Gov. Bill Haslam, May 2014

Gov. Bill Haslam (R)

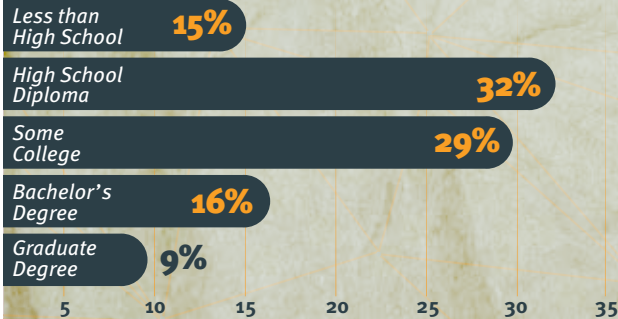
Tennessee Dept. of Econ. & Community Dev.
312 Rosa L. Parks Ave., 11th floor
Nashville, TN 37243
Randy Boyd, Commissioner
615-741-1888

tn.gov/ecc

Tennessee

Pop. (2014): 6,526,257 Pop. growth 2014—2019: 3.12%
Median household income: \$50,729 Median age: 38
Right-to-work state: Yes

Workforce Education by Percentage



Rankings that Matter

GDP.....	19 (\$269,602*)
Business Tax Climate.....	15
Small Business Policy.....	25
ACT Career Readiness Certificates.....	11 (100,876)
High School Graduation.....	21 (83%)
Incentives Transparency Index.....	10

*Real GDP in US millions

Legislative Update

• The “Tennessee Promise” bill guarantees high school graduates two years at a community or technical college completely free of tuition and fees. It’s part of Gov. Haslam’s “Drive to 55” initiative aimed at increasing the number of Tennesseans with a certificate or degree beyond high school: “In 11 years, 55 percent of Tennesseans

will need a certificate or degree to get a job,” said the Haslam administration, “but today, only 32 percent of Tennesseans qualify.”

• The Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry applauded workers’ compensation reform, unemployment insurance reform and charter school authorization, among other measures passed in 2014.