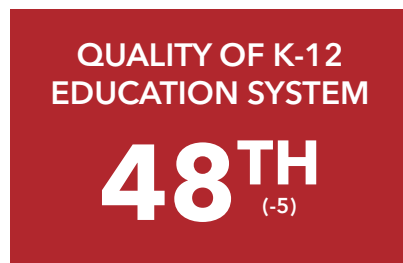


# WORKFORCE



## KEY FINDINGS:

- Oklahoma saw a modest improvement on its **workforce rankings**, returning to the 42nd ranking it held in the first edition of *The Scorecard*, up from 44th a year ago.
- The lagging performance of Oklahoma’s public K-12 school system continues to hold back its workforce ranking. **Oklahoma’s K-12 ranking declined again this year, from 43rd in last year’s ranking to 48th in the 2024 ranking**, due to a continued fall in achievement levels measured in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and poor marks in post-secondary readiness benchmarks.
- Oklahoma ranks **49th in STEM and STEM-related degrees or credentials** held by working age adults. The state also scores poorly in other educational attainment metrics, at **43rd in bachelor’s degree attainment and 37th in attainment of high school diploma** or equivalent.
- The state’s labor force participation rate continues to lag the nation, ranking in the bottom half of states despite ranking in the top half of states in prime working age population.
- The state’s overall workforce ranking was modestly improved this year due to inclusion of a new variable that measures the degree of educational choice available to students. With the passage of landmark universal school choice legislation, creation of a statewide charter school authorizer, and the introduction of open transfer in public school districts, **Oklahoma now ranks in the Top Ten in educational choice nationwide**.



## REGION

State	Regional Rank	National Rank
Colorado	1	2
Kansas	2	24
Texas	3	27
Missouri	4	41
Arkansas	5	45
<b>Oklahoma</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>46</b>
New Mexico	7	49

## PEER STATES

State	Peer Rank	National Rank
Colorado	1	1
Utah	2	2
Indiana	3	3
Iowa	4	5
Wisconsin	5	16
Tennessee	6	27
Kansas	7	28
Arkansas	8	34
Missouri	9	37
Nevada	10	38
<b>Oklahoma</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>42</b>
Kentucky	12	44
Alabama	13	47
Mississippi	14	49

## NATION

HIGHLY COMPETITIVE →

1. Colorado
2. Utah
3. Indiana
4. New Hampshire
5. Iowa
6. Massachusetts
7. New Jersey
8. Washington
9. Wyoming
10. Connecticut
11. Florida
12. California
13. Minnesota
14. Virginia
15. South Dakota
16. Wisconsin
17. Montana
18. Arizona
19. Illinois
20. Maryland
21. Nebraska
22. Georgia
23. Idaho
24. North Dakota
25. Delaware
26. Texas
27. Tennessee
28. Kansas
29. Ohio
30. Vermont
31. Hawaii
32. New York
33. Pennsylvania
34. Arkansas
35. Alaska
36. Michigan
37. Missouri
38. Nevada
39. North Carolina
40. Oregon
41. South Carolina
- 42. Oklahoma**
43. Louisiana
44. Kentucky
45. Maine
46. Rhode Island
47. Alabama
48. West Virginia
49. Mississippi
50. New Mexico

