

***Dr. Dana Thomas***  
***Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research***  
***University of Alaska***

Born and raised in Fairbanks and a University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) Biology Program alum, Dr. Dana Thomas returned home to develop a Statistics Program at UAF in 1981 after completing his graduate work in Oregon. He served six years as Chair of UAF's Department of Mathematics and Statistics. In 2005, Dr. Thomas received the Emil Usibelli Distinguished Teaching Award. While on faculty at UAF, he arranged United States Agency for International Development contracts to work two years in the Republic of Yemen facilitating a national survey of agriculture and two years in the Sultanate of Oman improving their fisheries statistics operations. From 2006 to 2012 Dr. Thomas served as UAF's Vice Provost and Accreditation Liaison Officer. The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities has had him serve as an institutional accreditation evaluator of other institutions. Dr. Thomas is recognized for his interdisciplinary research on the design and analysis of studies assessing resource (food and habitat) selection by animals. He has served as the UA Statewide Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research since May 2012.

University of Alaska

Shaping  
Alaska's  
Future

# The Evidence Base for Shaping Alaska's Future

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WICHE's David Longanecker



UNIVERSITY  
*of* ALASKA

*Many Traditions One Alaska*

# Expectations are Changing: National Higher Education Agendas (I)

- Completion
  - Draft congressional bills reauthorizing the Higher Education Act connect federal funding to completion rates
  - Looking down (HS) & looking up (adults with some college but no degree)
  - Competency based education (not seat time)
  - Ensuring quality is maintained or improved – the worry
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  - Analytics can support evidence based practice (CLA, CAAP, ETS Proficiency Profile, AHELO, Work-keys, etc.)

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- Innovation
  - The continued expansion of on-line delivery and blended courses
  - Accelerating developmental education (blended collegiate-developmental courses, intensives, etc.)
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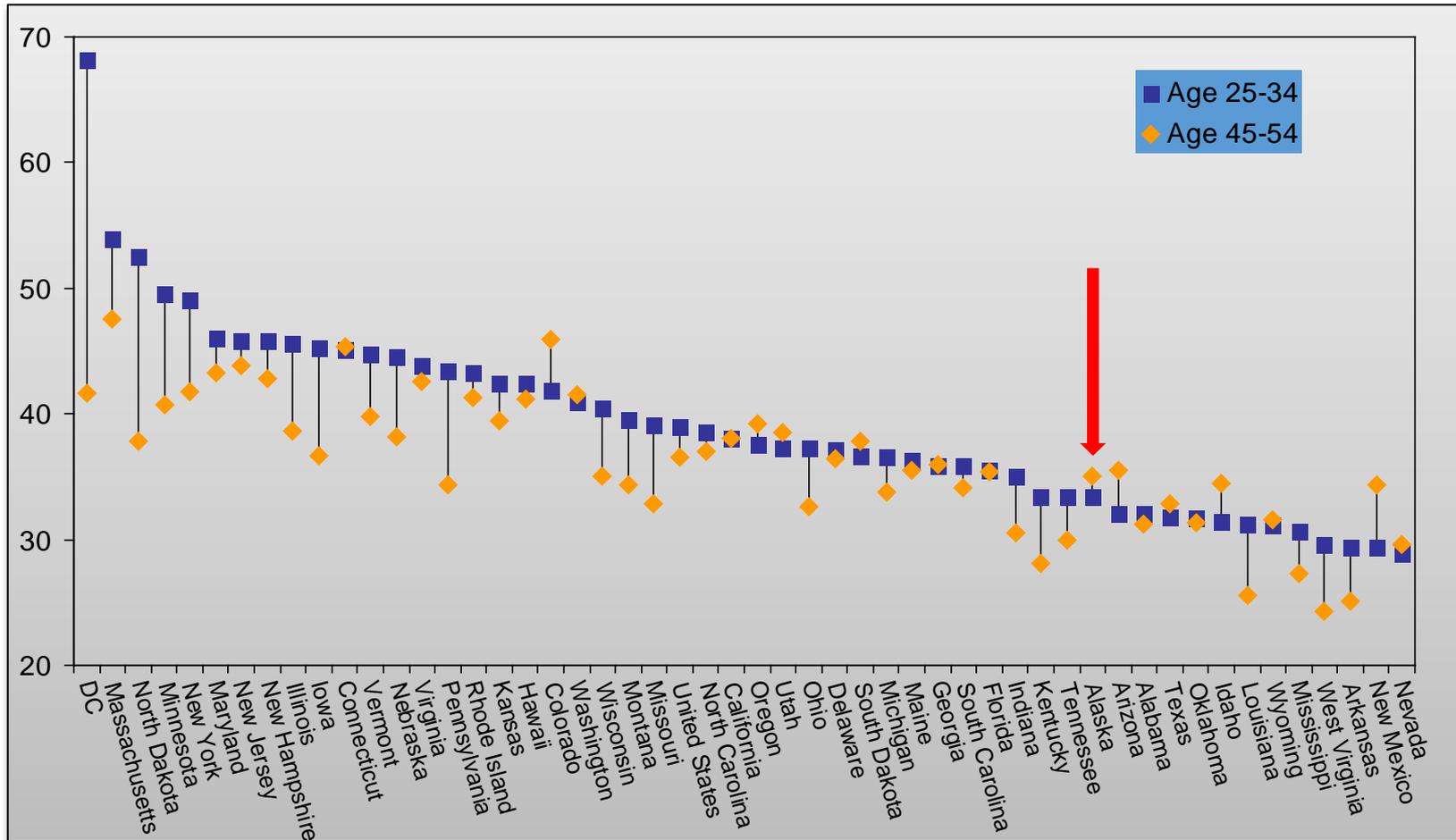
# Themes

- Student Achievement and Attainment
- Productive Partnerships with Alaska's Schools
- Research and Development (R&D) and Scholarship to Enhance Alaska's Communities and Economic Growth
- Productive Partnerships with Public Entities and Private Industries
- Accountability to the People of Alaska

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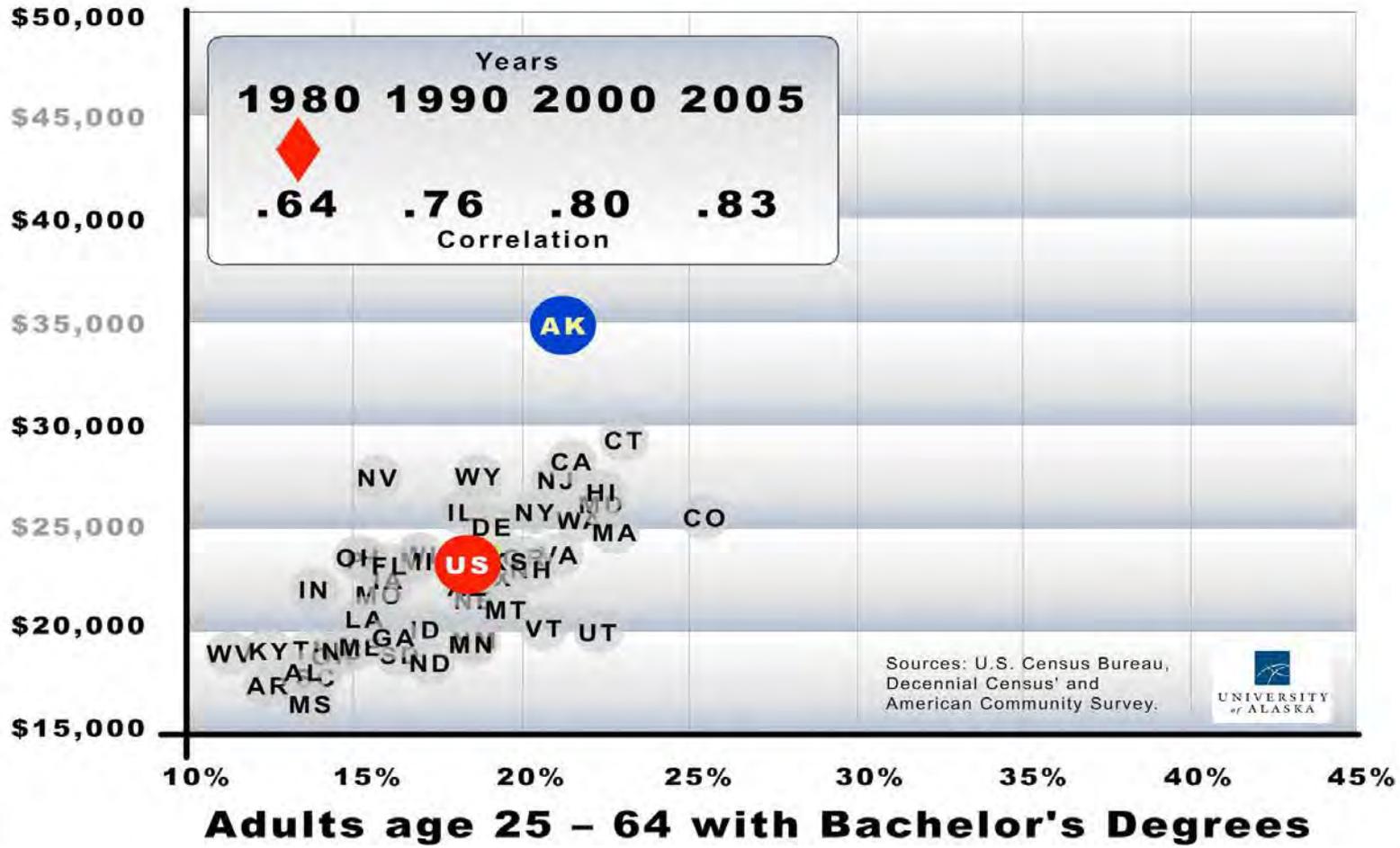
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# Differences in College Attainment (Associate & Higher) Between Younger & Older Adults - U.S., 2009

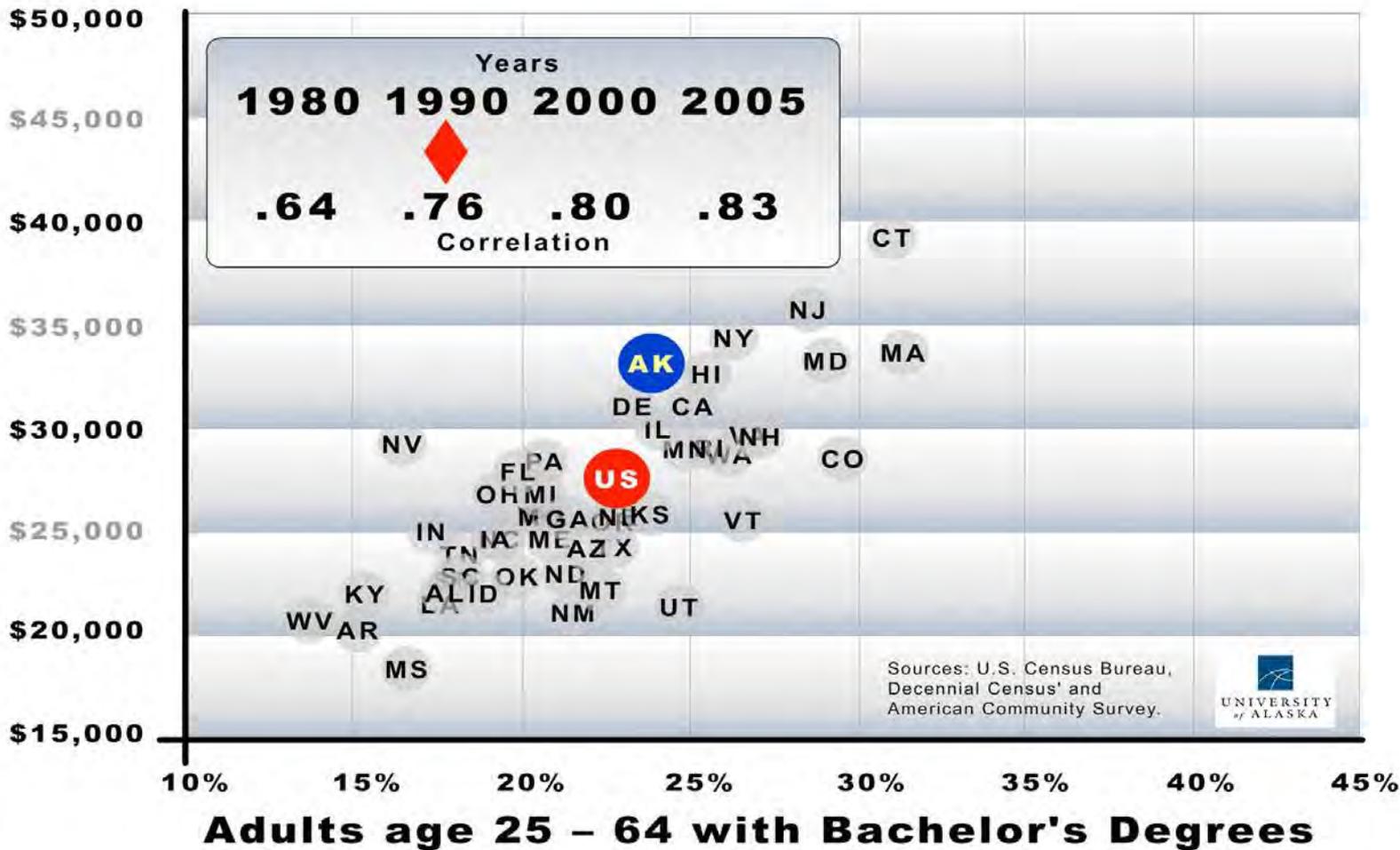


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey (ACS)

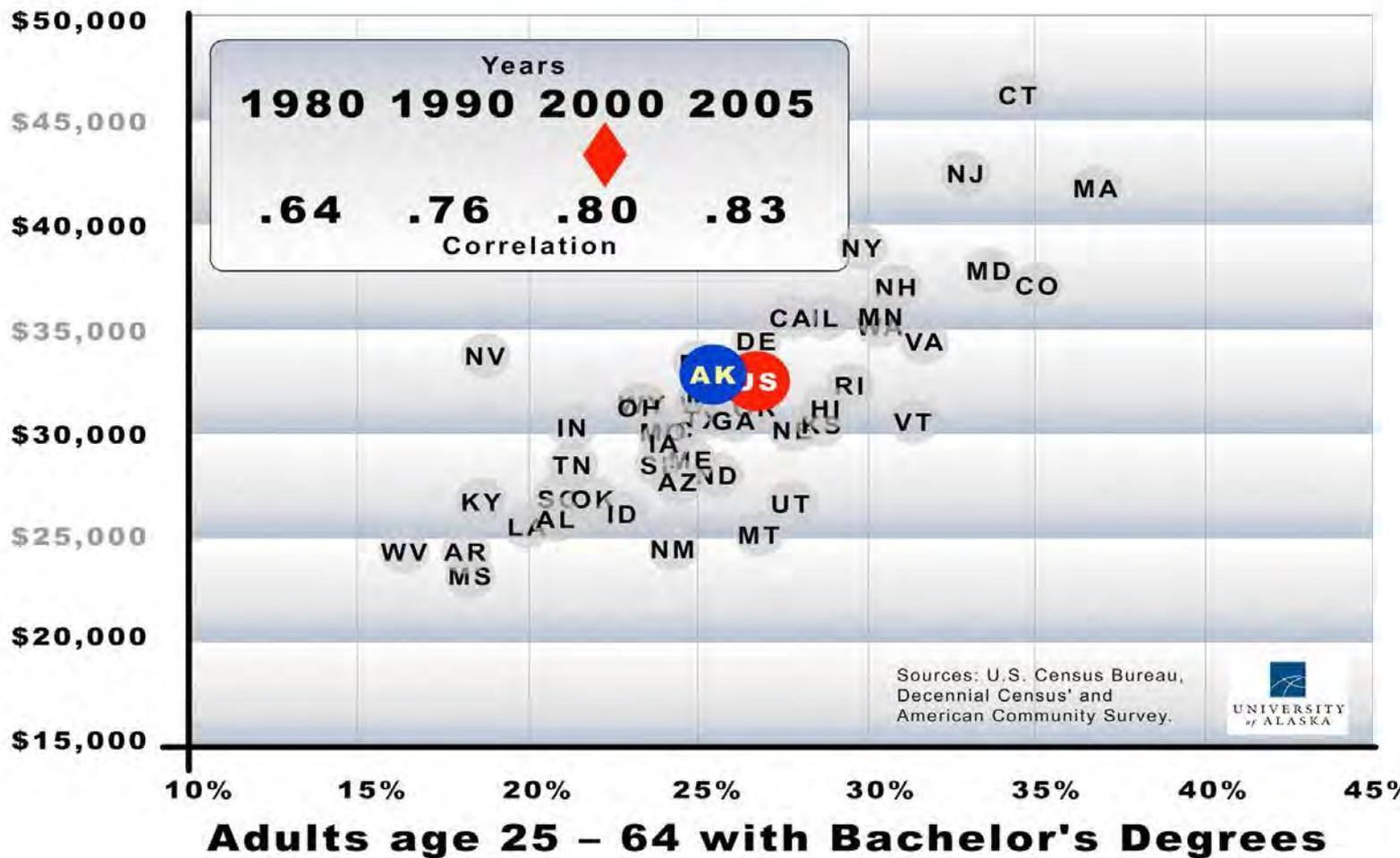
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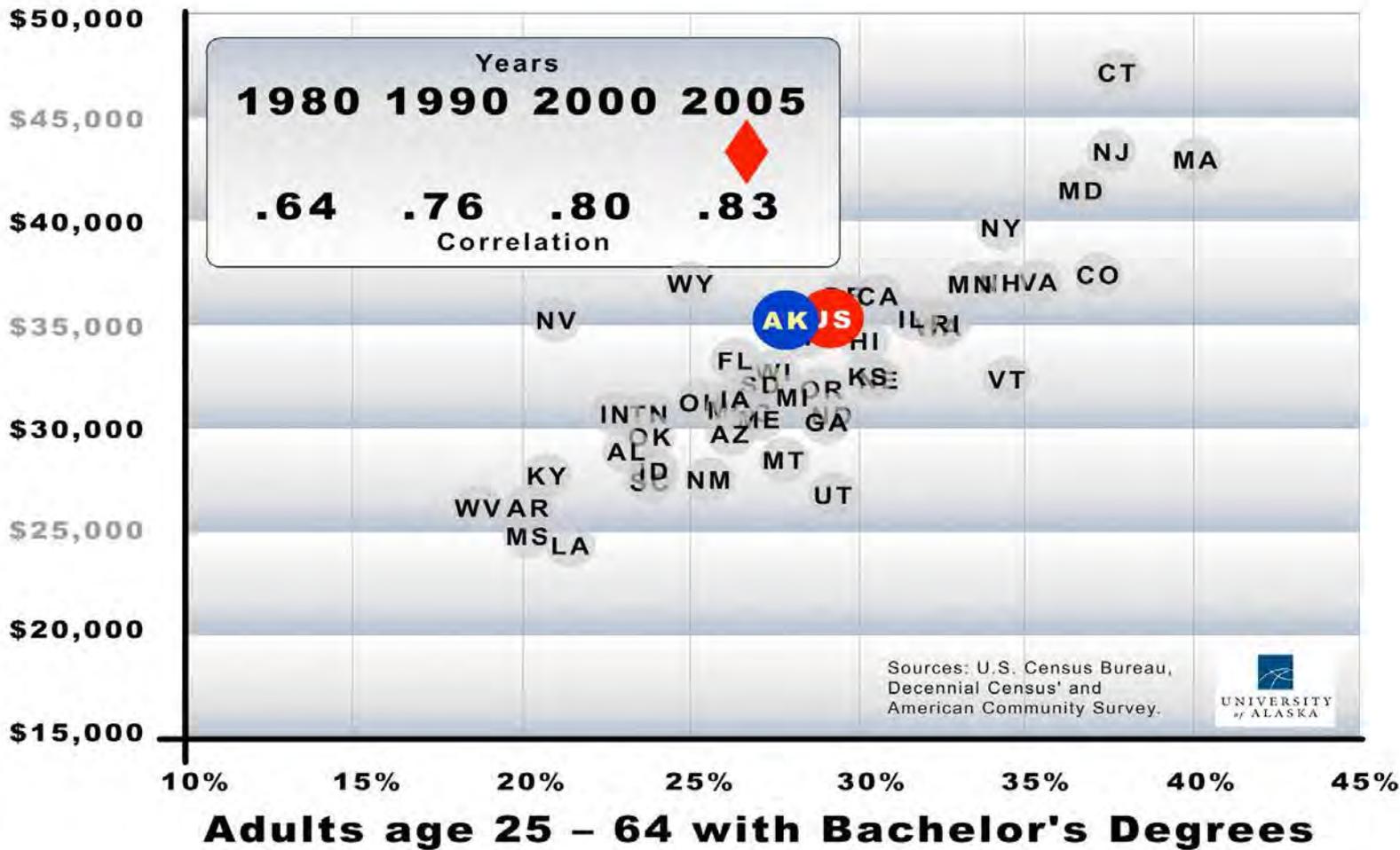
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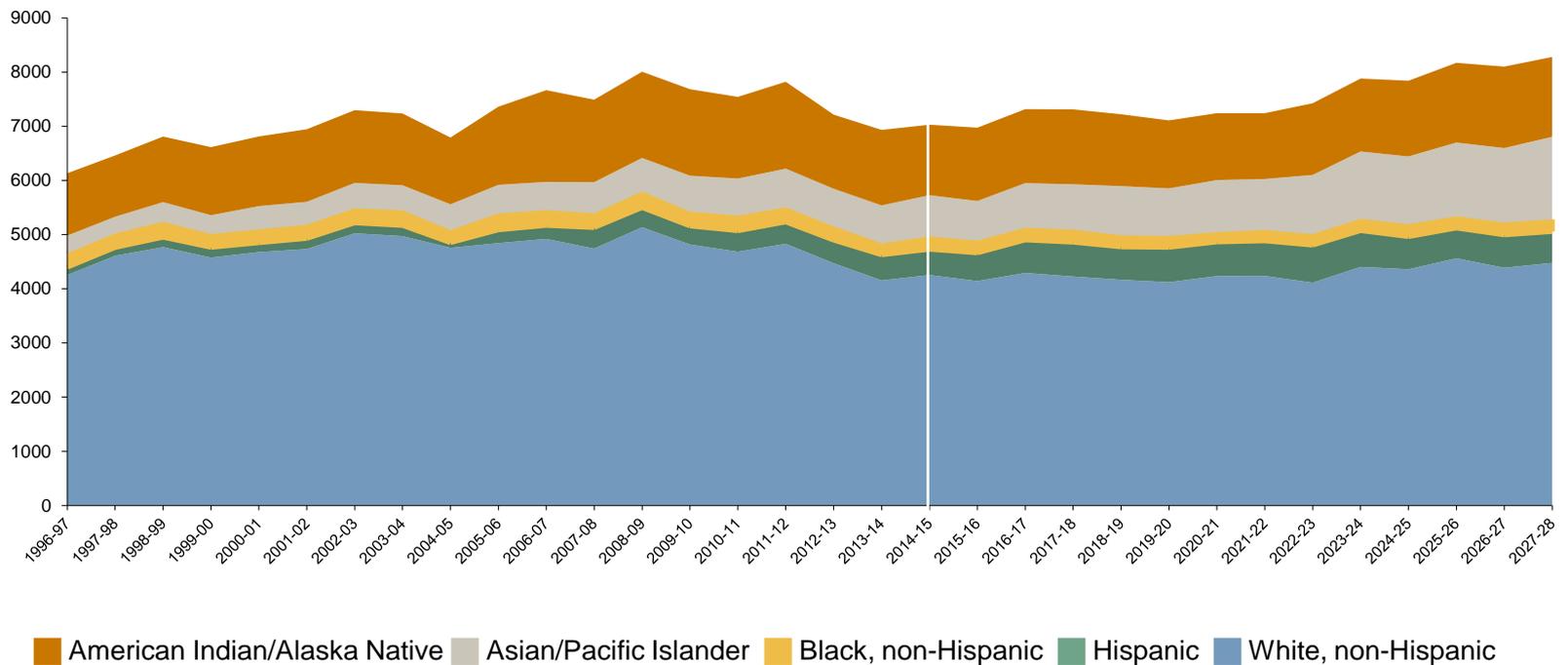
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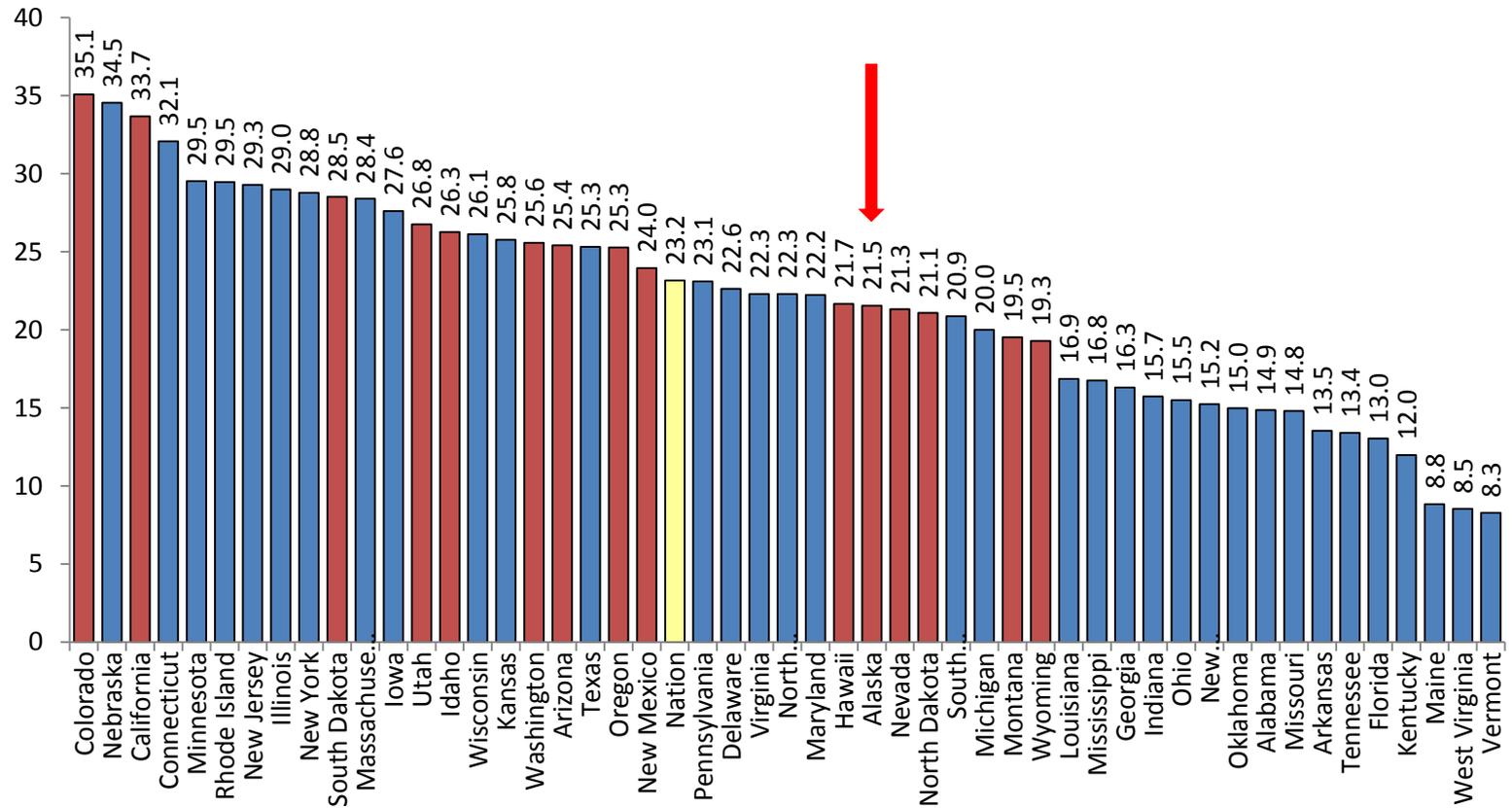
# Effect

- Full-time baccalaureate degree-seeking students graduate in four to five years at rates competitive with those at our established peer institutions. Full-time associate degree-seeking students graduate in two to three years at rates competitive to those at peer institutions.

# Alaska Public High School Graduates by Race/Ethnicity 2008-09 (Projected) and 2009-10 to 2027-28 (Projected)



# Difference in College Attainment Between Whites and Minorities (Blacks, Hispanics, & Native Americans) 2008-2010



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- UA graduates reflect the diversity of Alaska.

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# Alaska Postsecondary Engagement

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- 55% college-going in-state compared to national 83.2% (NCHEMS 2006)
- 59% of UA students are part-time
- 50% of UA students are >24 years old

# Effects

- The college-going rate in Alaska, the proportion attending college in-state, and the proportion entering postsecondary education immediately after graduating from high school are similar to other western states.
- UA's reputation for academic quality, programs of distinction, and research makes it an attractive, highly competitive choice for undergraduate and graduate students and faculty.

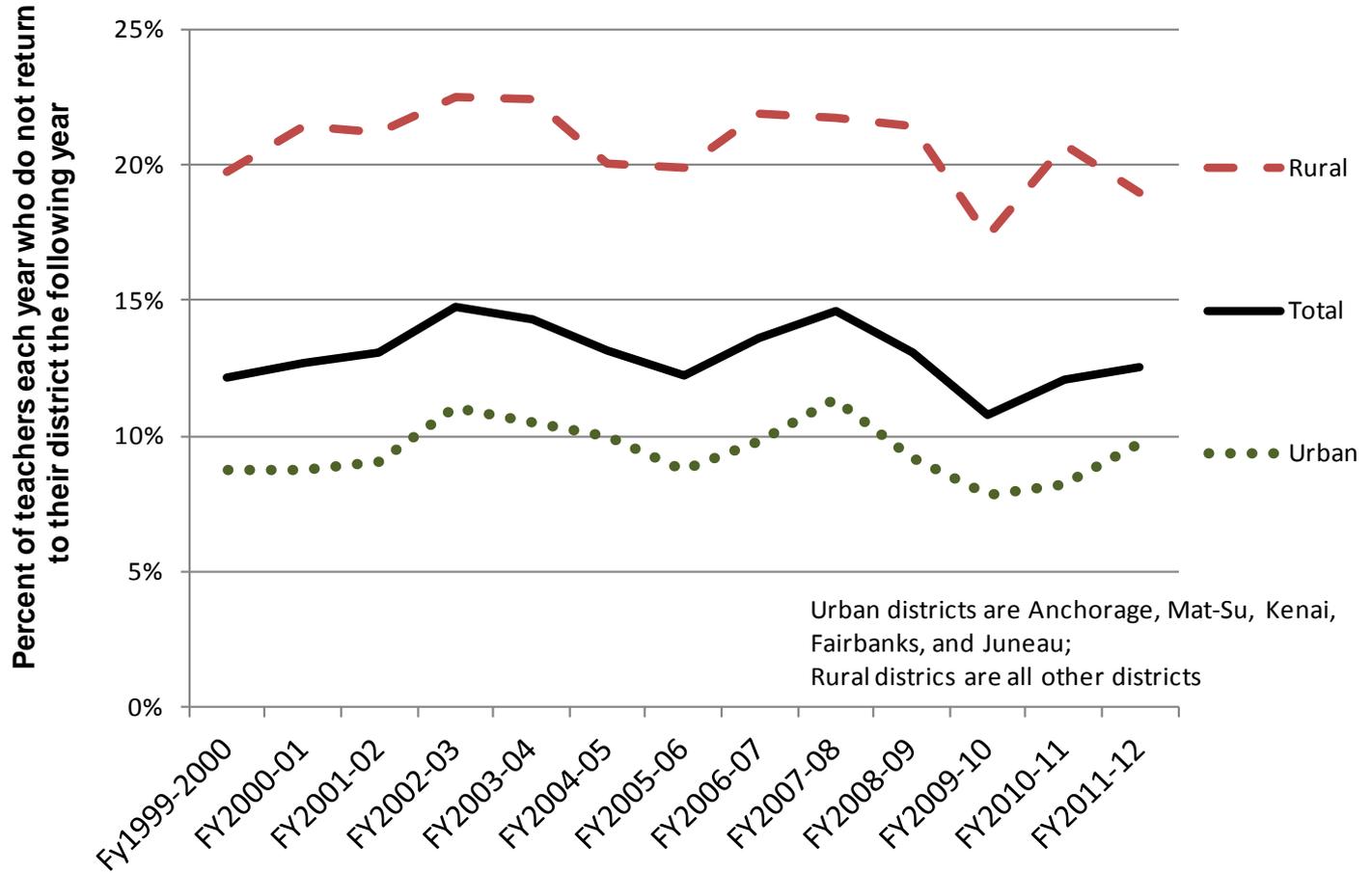
# Alaska Public School Teachers

- Each year, Alaska school districts hire over 1000 teachers
- About 370 teachers are hired from out of state annually; about 60% of these are new teachers

# Alaska School Districts' Teacher Hiring Average, FY2009-2012

	<b>Experienced teachers</b>	<b>New teachers</b>	<b>Total</b>
Alaskans	504	211	715
Non- Alaskans	153	217	370
<b>Total</b>	<b>658</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>1085</b>

## Alaska Average Teacher Turnover by Statewide, Rural and Urban Districts, 2000-2012



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“The Juneau school district lost nearly 100 positions in the last three years ... Of the 98 positions lost in the Juneau Borough School District, 28.5 were teachers, five were nurses and 36 were aides, mostly from the special education program. The cut positions represent an 8 percent loss in staffing for the district.”

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# Effect

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# Research

Peer Group	Citations/Publication (2006-2011)	Publications (2006-2011)/Faculty*	Research Expenditures**, Thousand \$/Faculty*
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# Effects

- UA is a recognized world leader and international collaborator in arctic research.
- UA recruits and retains top research faculty and students, and maintains modern, world-class research facilities, equipment, and infrastructure.

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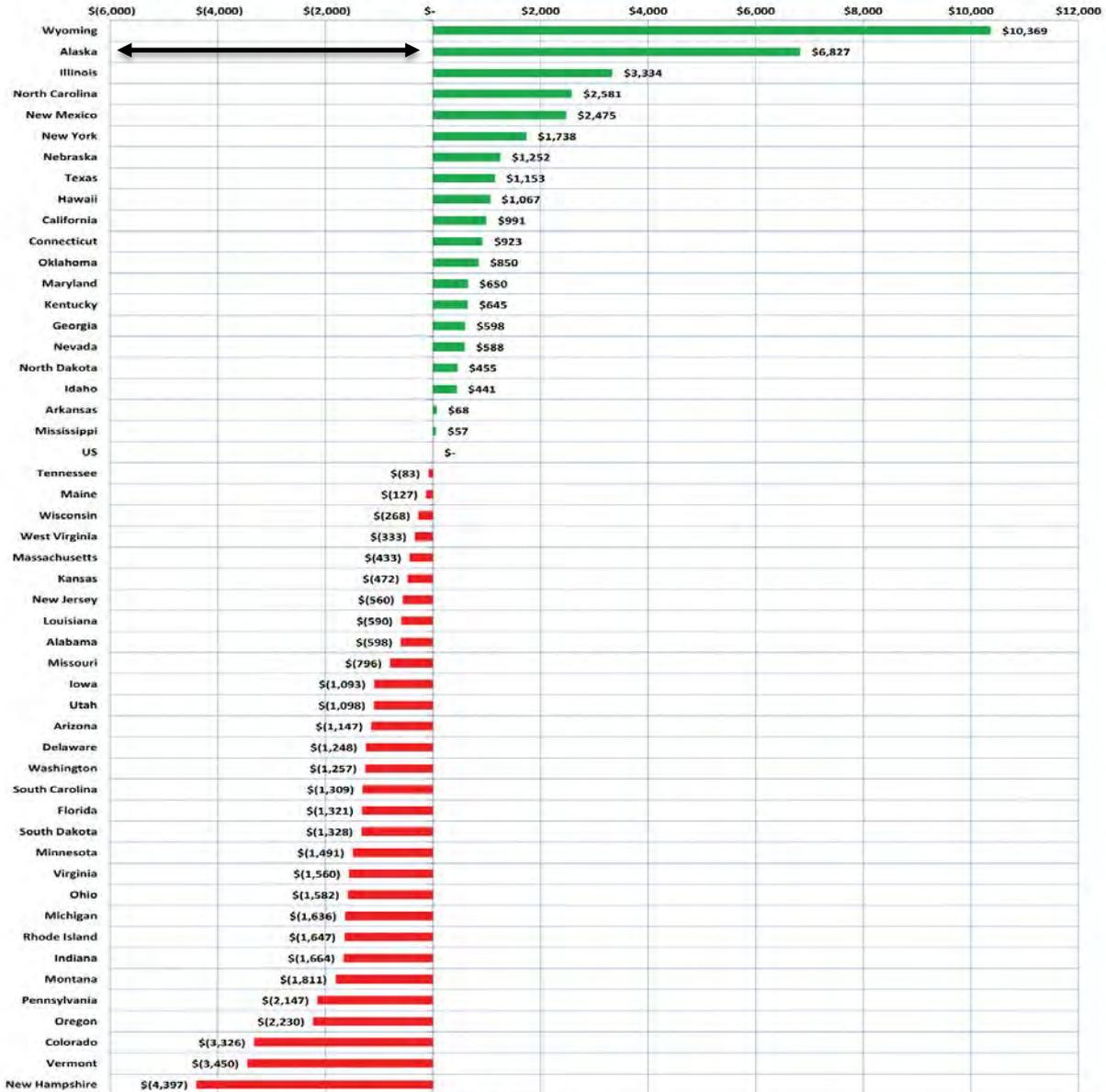
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# Alaska Support of Higher Education(2011)

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  - Alaska: \$12,932 (212% of U.S.; rank 2<sup>nd</sup>)
  - U.S. Average:\$6,105
- Above Average Wealth - Per capita income (2011)
  - Alaska: \$45,529 (9% above U.S. average; rank 10th)
  - U.S. Average: \$41,663

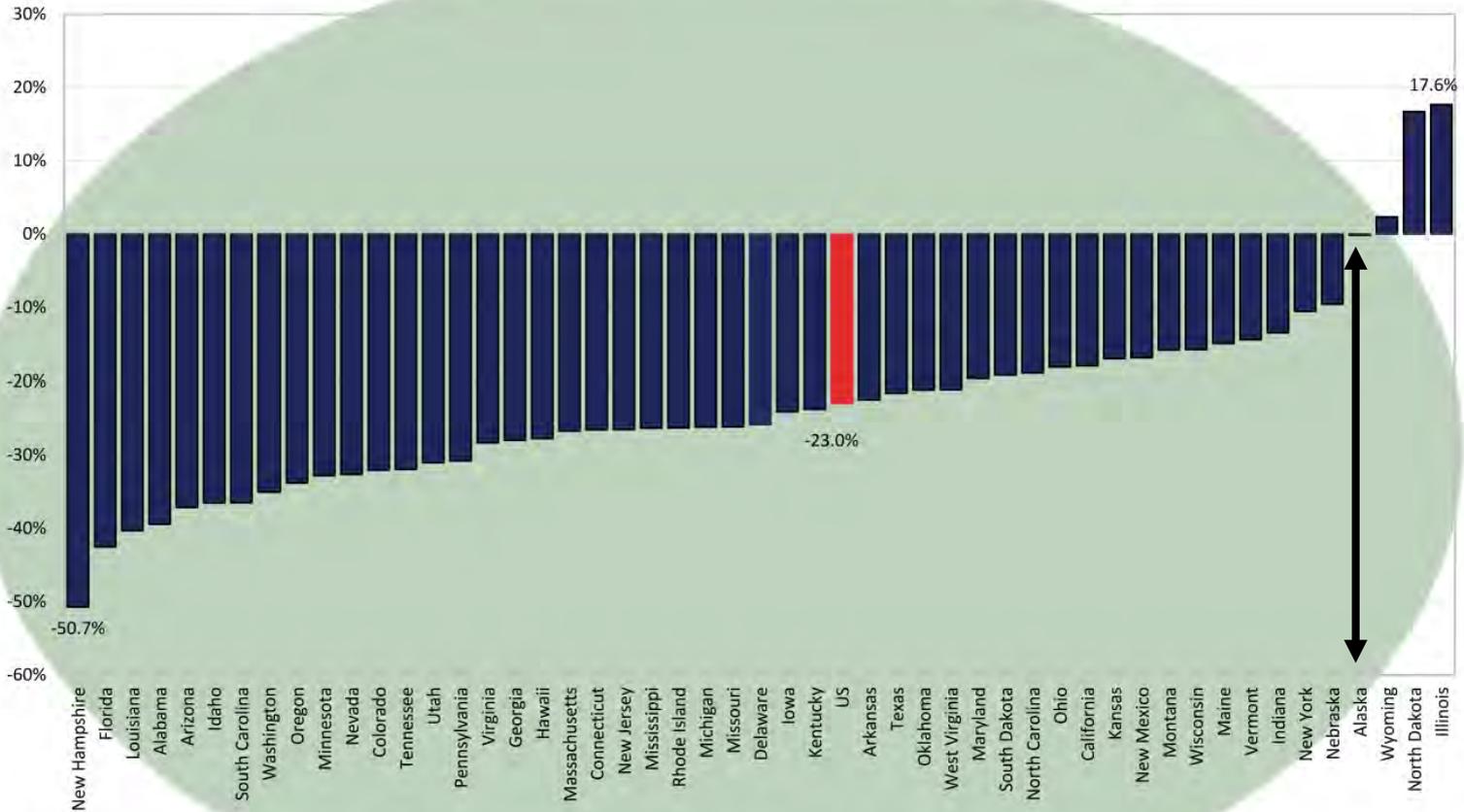
## Educational Appropriations per FTE State Differences from U.S. Average Fiscal 2013



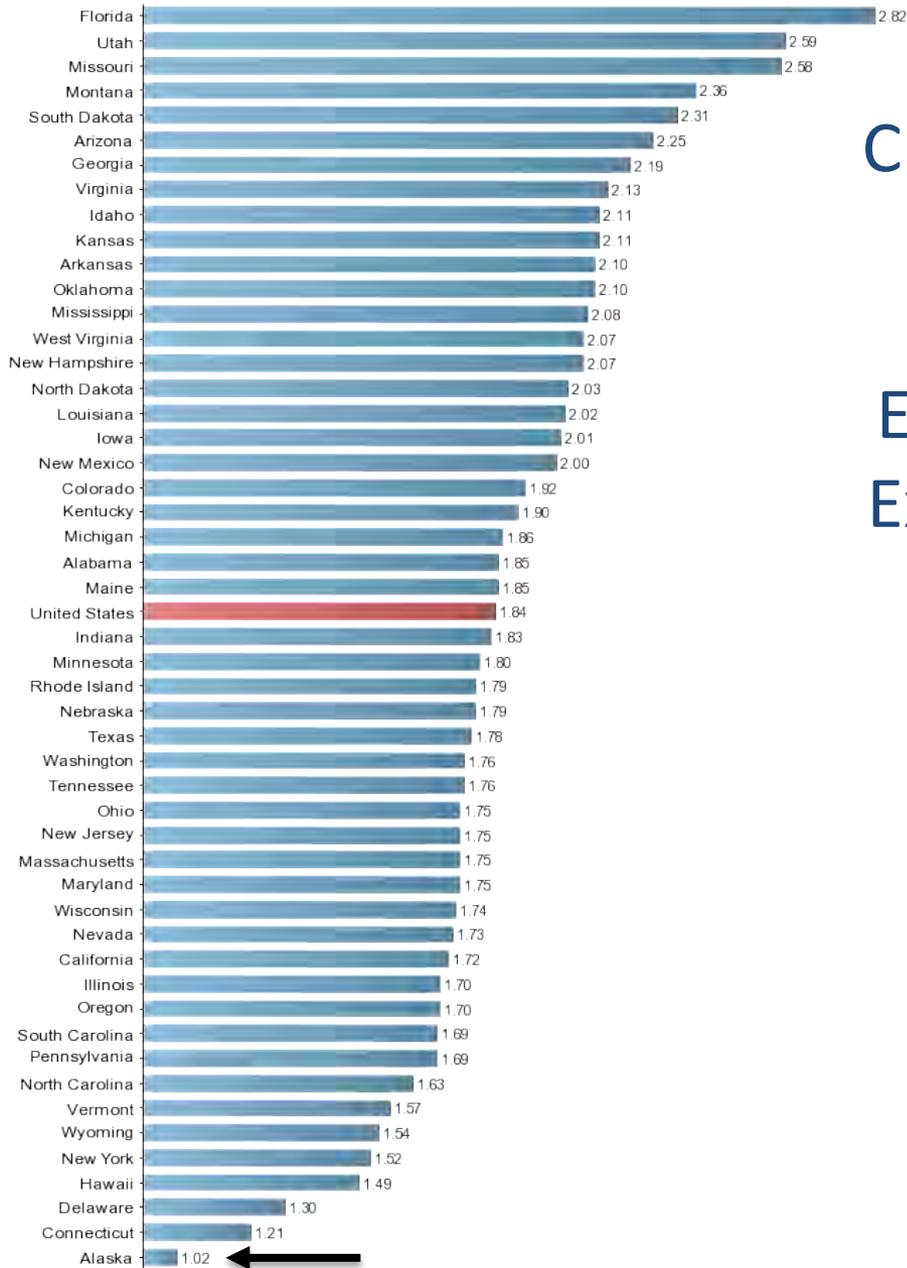
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## Educational Appropriations per FTE Percent Change by State, Fiscal 2008-2013



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# Credential & Degrees Awarded Per \$100,000 of Education & Related Expenditures – Total: Public Colleges & Universities



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- Greater efficiency, effectiveness, quality, and revenue generation result from UA wide collaborative decision making and cooperation.
- UA's deferred maintenance backlog is reduced to an acceptable level.

# UA has a “public agenda” in Shaping Alaska’s Future

- What is Alaska’s Higher Education Agenda?
- “The lift is huge so the response must be as well” – David Longanecker

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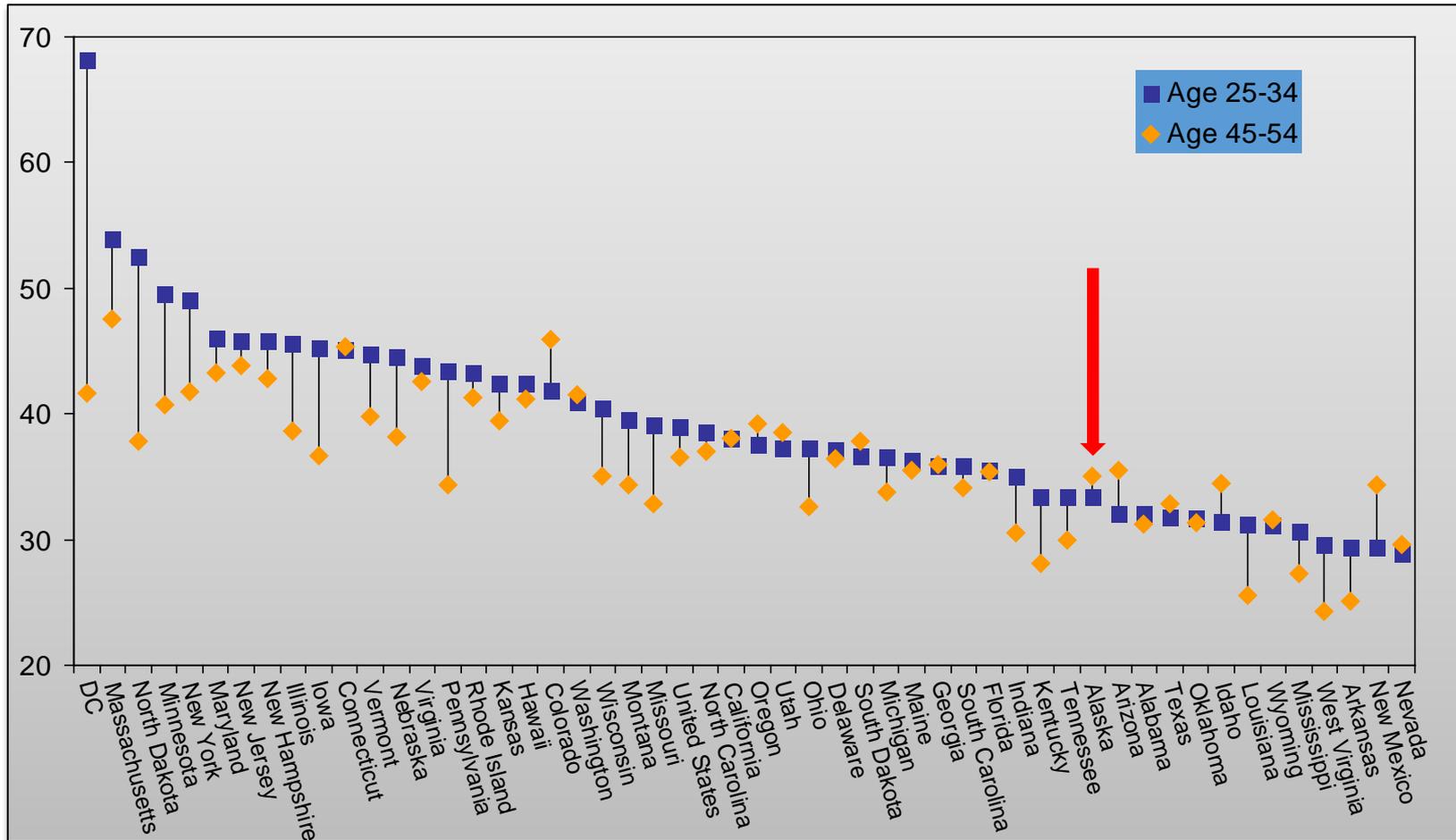
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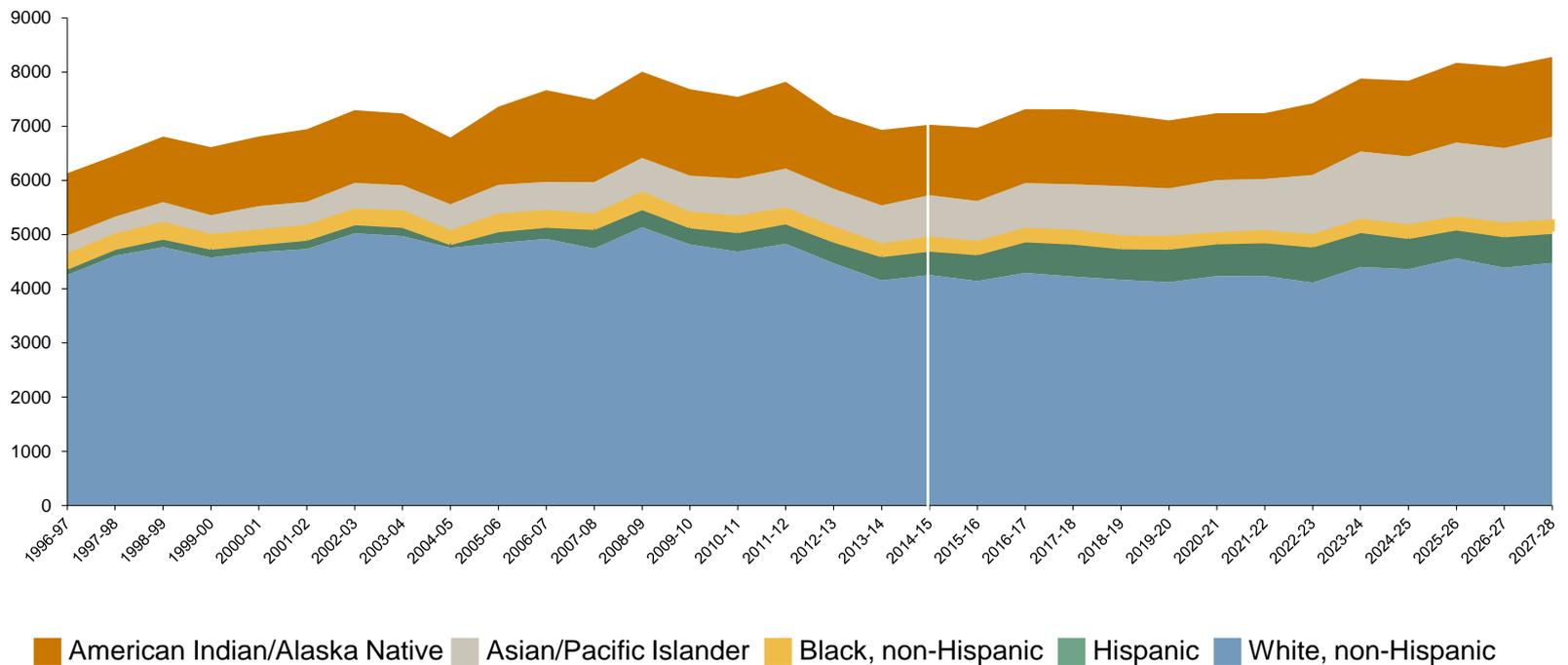
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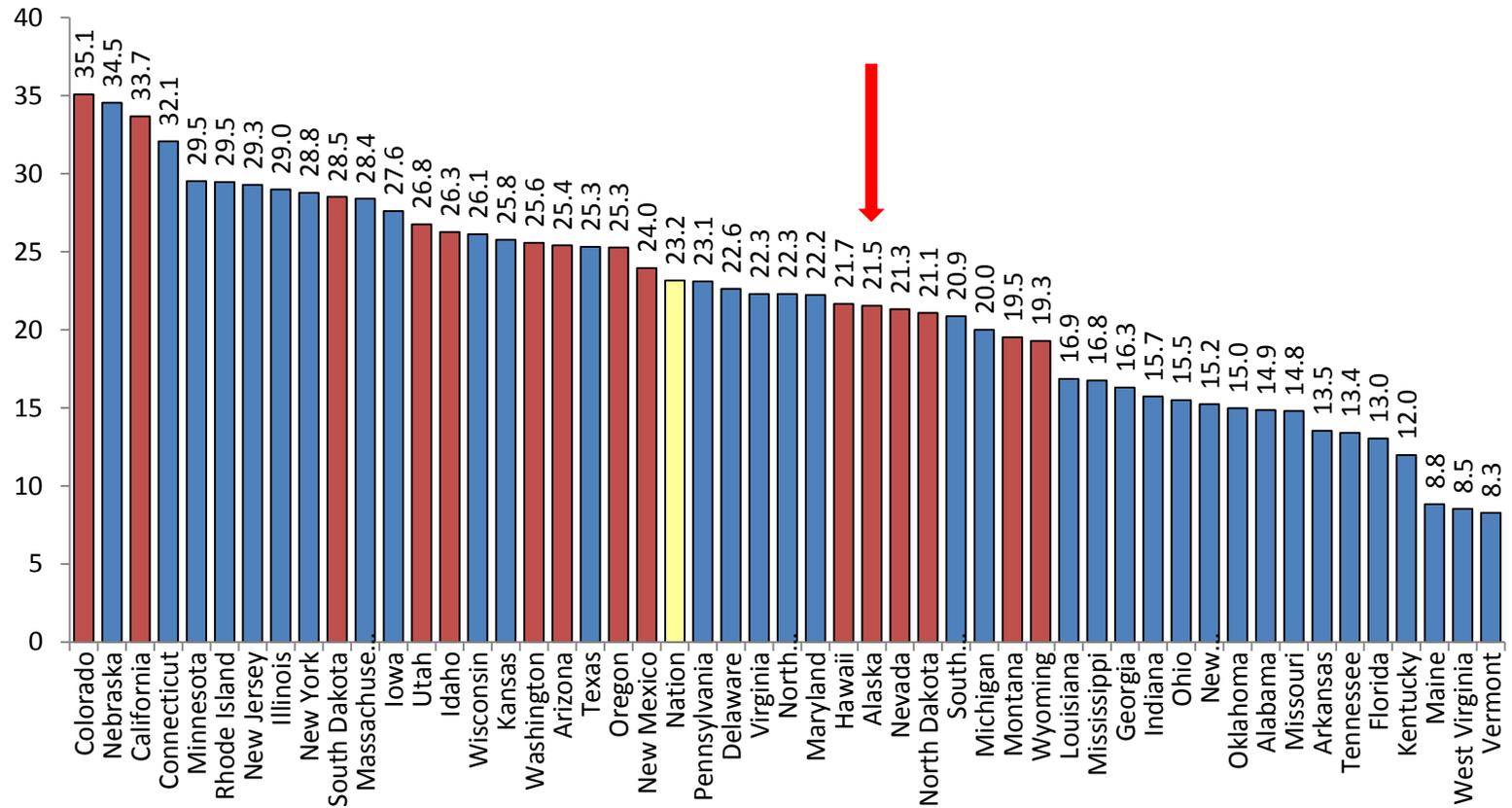
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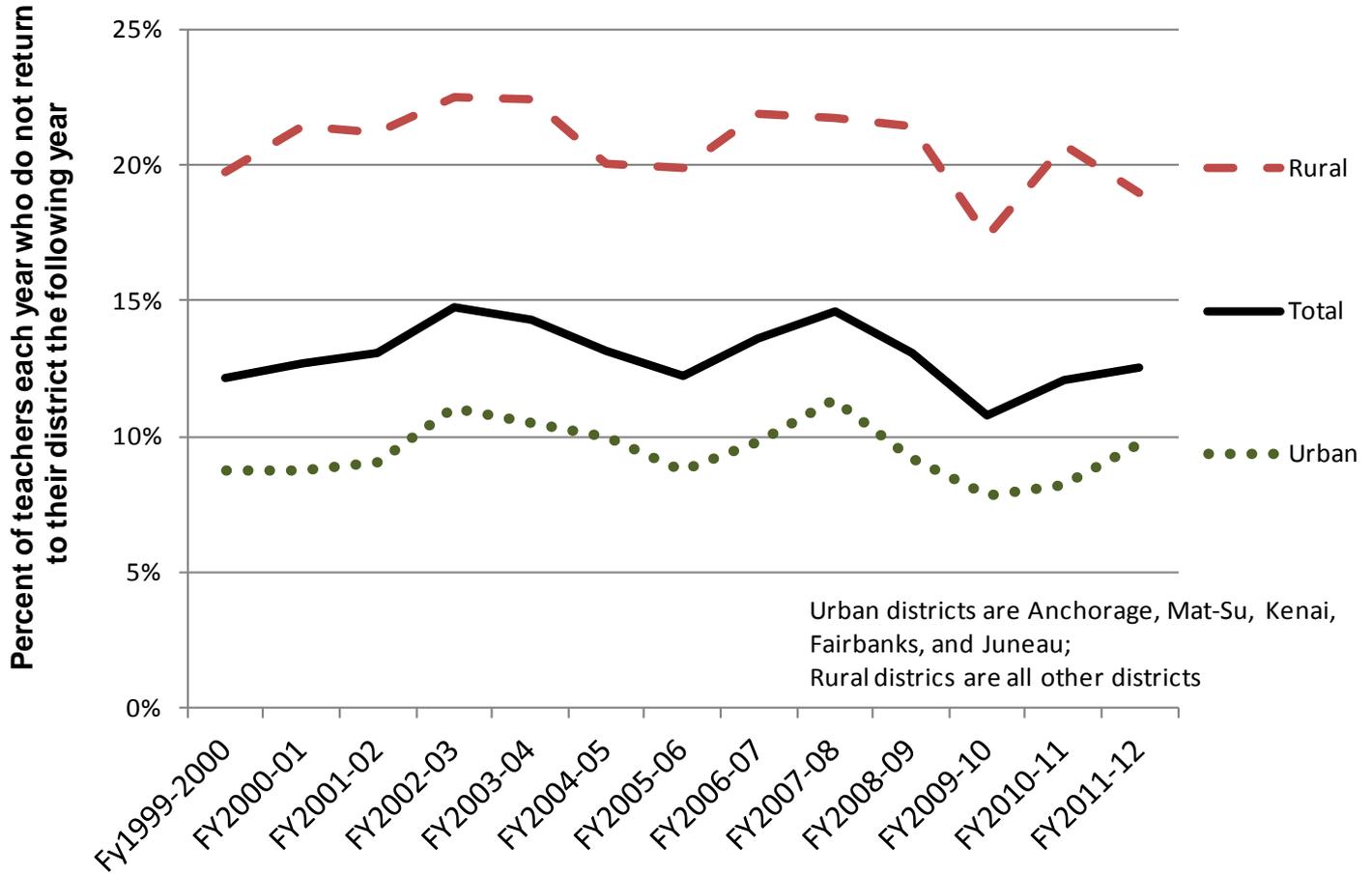
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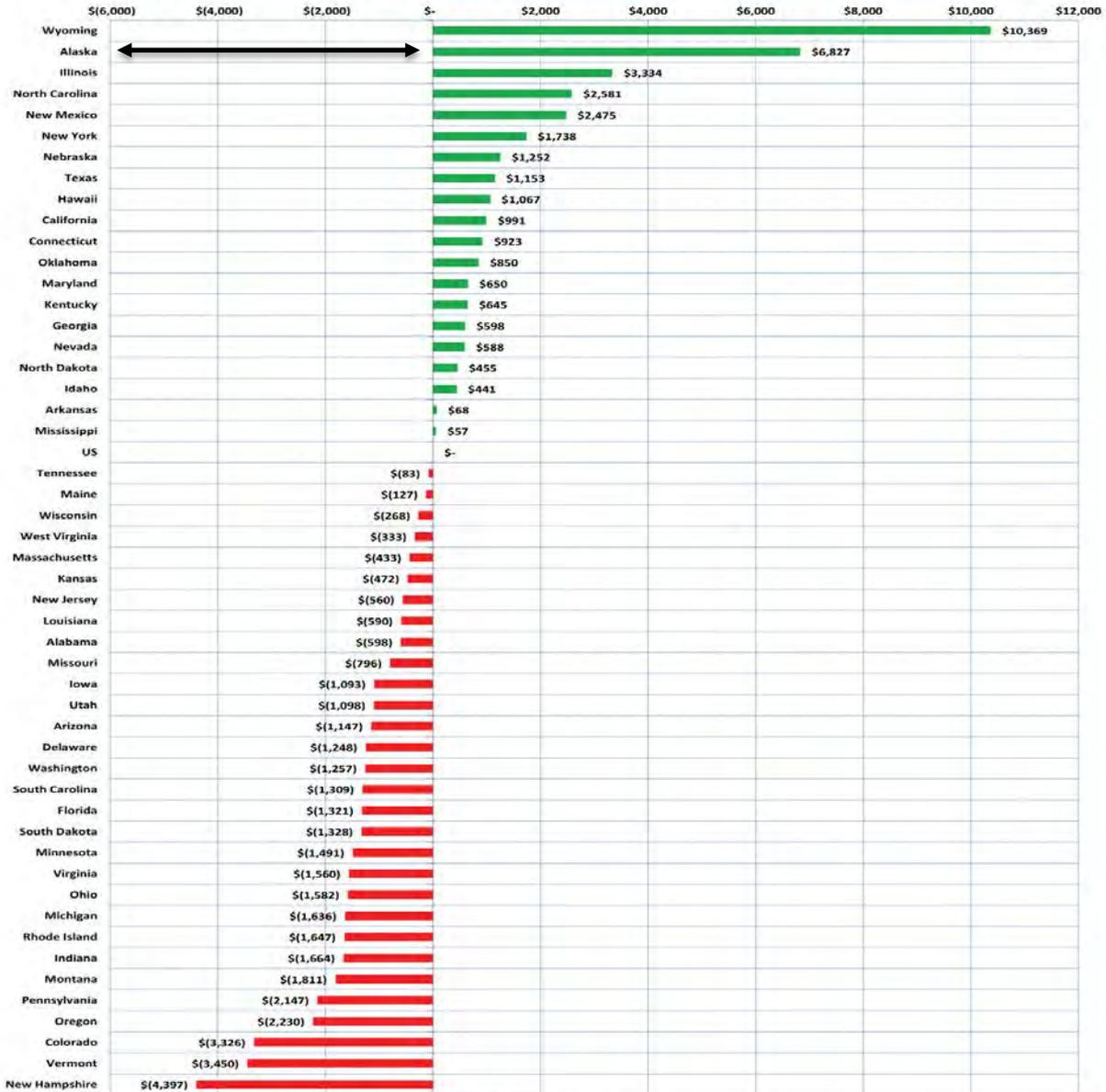
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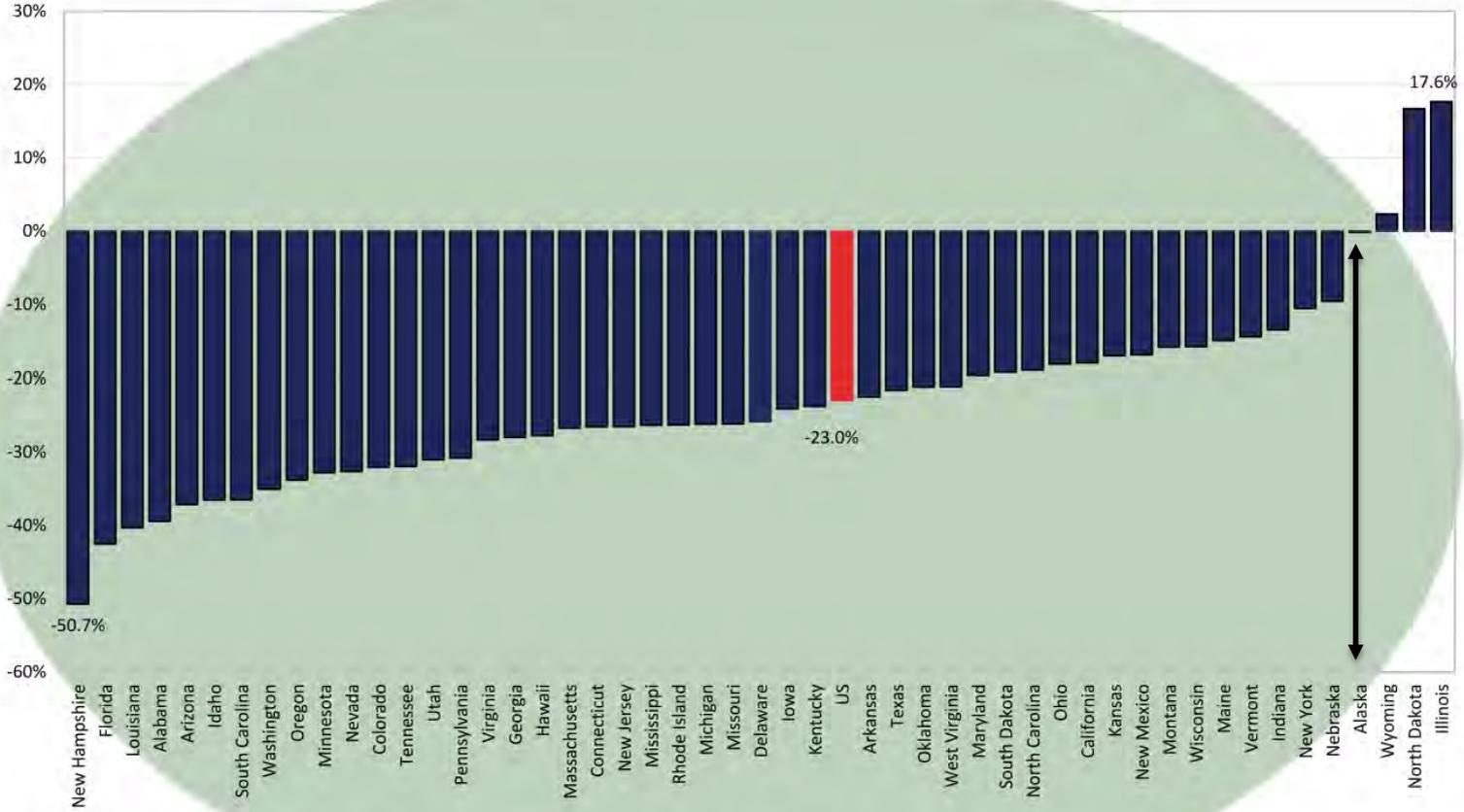
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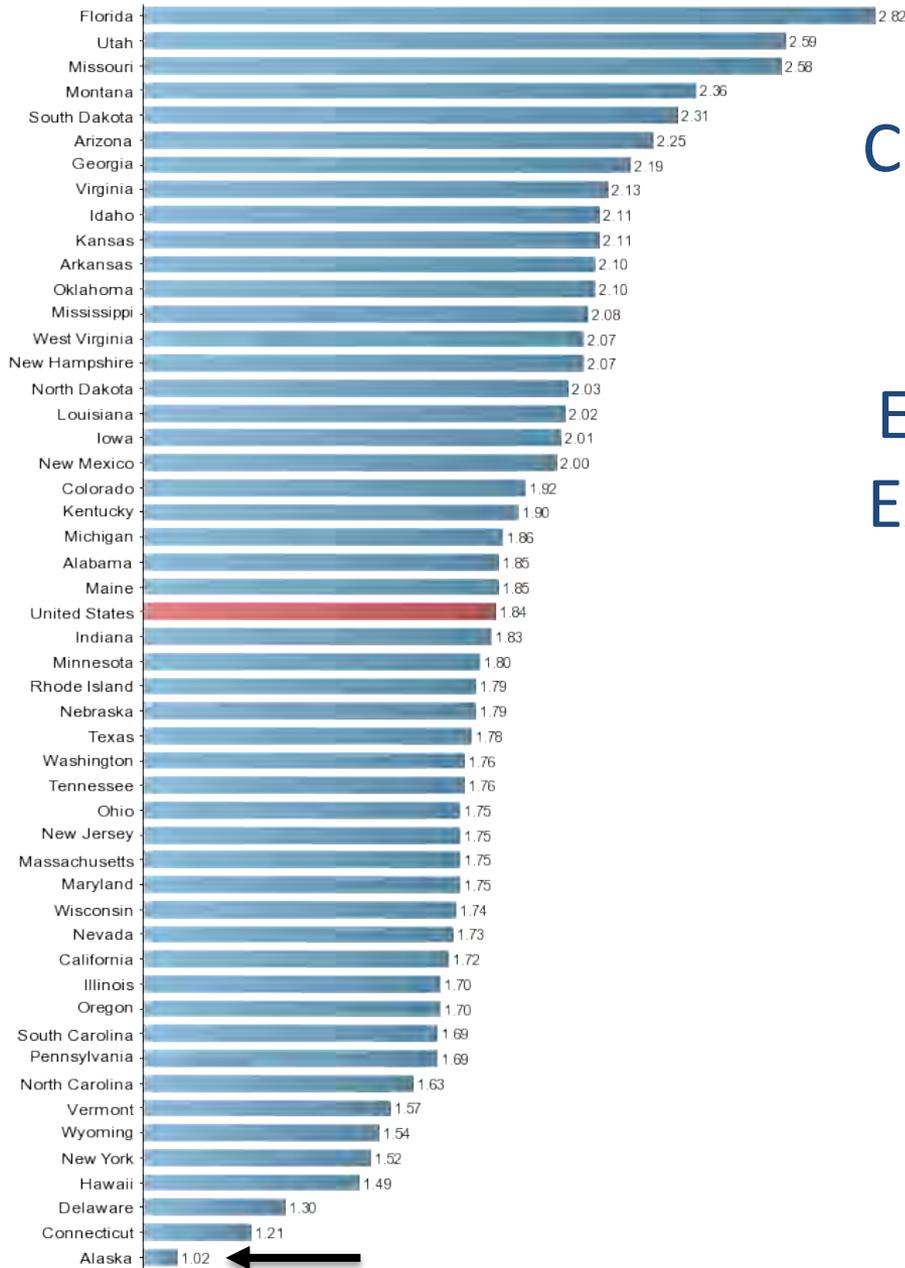


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