



Community Impact Monitoring Report: 2023 - 2024

Presented to the CWC Board of Trustees

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Overview of Strategic Plan Key Results and Board End Statements

Key Result and Definition	Board End Statement
Student Learning and Success: <i>Successful Central Wyoming College students discover their academic potential, achieve their goals, and build their future while respecting human dignity in the service of diverse communities</i>	1. Because of CWC, students will achieve their goals, including earning college credits in high school, transferring to 4-year schools, earning a degree or certificate, job placement, or enrichment and career advancement. 2. Because of CWC, students will meet rigorous learning standards and will be well-prepared for their futures through academic accomplishments and personal growth. 3. Because of CWC, students will acquire the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in and contribute to a diverse and global community and to exercise their rights and responsibilities as citizens.
Educational Partnerships and Collaborations: <i>CWC engages in mutually beneficial educational and organizational partnerships for the purpose of enhancing lives.</i>	4. Because of CWC's mutually beneficial educational partnerships, CWC students will have expanded access to opportunities, and their educational experiences will be aligned from K-12 through CWC, transfer, internships, and job training.
Sustainability: <i>Central Wyoming College is sustainable when it is fiscally responsible, has growing enrollment/retention, has a strong and supportive Foundation, relies on funding from a mix of sources (appropriations, grants, fundraising, tuition, reserves) and uses resources efficiently.</i>	5. Because of CWC's sound management of finances, enrollment, and environmental resources, and with the support of the CWC foundation, the institution will be sustainable for the foreseeable future.
Positive Employee Engagement: <i>CWC employees value and feel valued by the organization, uplift those around them, and embrace their role in the success of CWC.</i>	6. Because of CWC's excellence as a workplace, employees will feel valued by the organization, uplift those around them, and embrace their role in the success of CWC.
Community Resource and Workforce Development: <i>CWC enhances the economic/business climate in our service area. CWC provides the community access to opportunities for workforce development, cultural enrichment, wellness, and lifelong learning.</i>	7. Because of CWC, the economic/business climate in our service area will be significantly enhanced through credit and non-credit workforce development. 8. Because of CWC's cultural, wellness, and lifelong learning offerings, the lives of the citizens of our service area will be significantly enhanced.

Board Ends Statements addressed in this monitoring report are in Rustler Orange.

Introduction

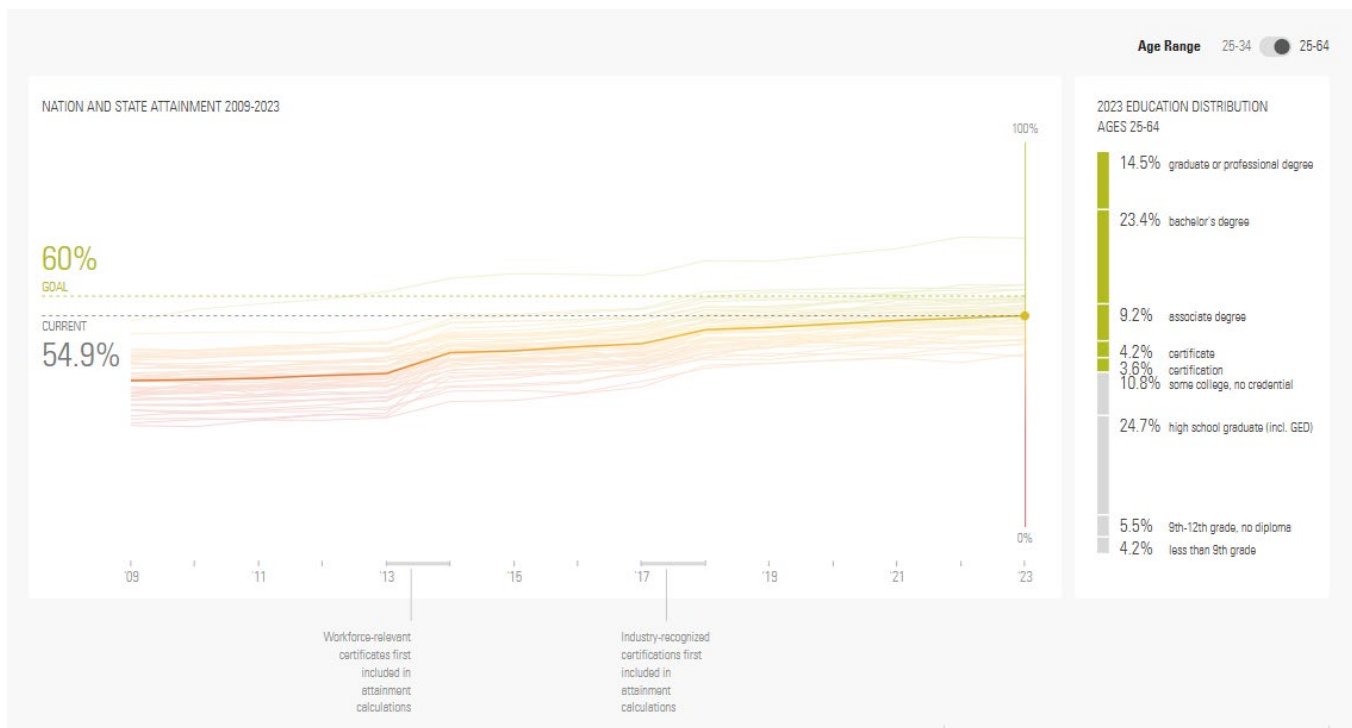
The Central Wyoming College (CWC) mission, vision, and values are threaded through all aspects of the college, but are particularly evident in how the college positively impacts the communities we serve. CWC transforms lives and strengthens communities through our leadership in advancing educational attainment in workforce development and academic programming, and builds connections with our communities through recreational programming and cultural enrichment events. This monitoring report serves to demonstrate the progress the college has made in regard to the goals prescribed in the board ends for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Strengthening the Economic Climate through an Educated Citizenry

Through multiple avenues, CWC directly influences the key result of *Community Resource and Workforce Development* by providing access to opportunities for economic and workforce development, cultural enrichment, wellness, and lifelong learning, as identified in the college's Strategic Plan. This key result is linked to two board ends statements, which will be addressed separately. The first board end states:

“Because of CWC, the economic/business climate in our service area will be significantly enhanced through credit and non-credit workforce development.”

As noted in this board end statement, the college is a key resource for economic development and the support of a qualified, skilled workforce through credit and non-credit education. Increasing the rate of certificate and degree attainment of Wyomingites is currently one of the main areas of focus for higher education at the individual state level as well as nationally. According to the most recent data reported by the Lumina Foundation, the national average of those between the ages of 25-64 who have completed workforce-relevant and post-secondary degrees is 54.3%, an increase from 53.7% when compared to last year. The national attainment was 38.1% in 2009, the year the attainment data was first collected. The national goal is identified as 60% by 2025.



Source: Lumina Foundation (2025). *A Stronger Nation: Learning beyond high school builds American talent*. Retrieved from: <https://www.luminafoundation.org/stronger-nation/report2025/#/progress>

The diagram of the state-by-state comparison, noted below, sorted from lowest attainment rates to highest, places Wyoming's average rate of degree attainment thirty-third out of fifty-two states and territories (data includes the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico), which is down from twenty-eighth the year prior. Twenty-eight states demonstrate attainment rates higher than the national average. For additional details, trends, and data on specific states, please click [HERE](#) to view the Lumina Foundation's 2024 National Report.

WV 44.3%	NV 45.0%	AL 47.4%	AR 47.8%	LA 48.5%	AK 48.5%	MS 48.7%	TN 48.8%	SC 49.8%	OK 50.2%	KY 50.2%	DE 50.9%	TX 51.1%	NM 51.7%	MI 51.8%	ID 51.8%
MO 52.2%	OH 52.8%	WY 52.9%	GA 53.1%	MT 53.2%	PA 53.7%	IN 53.8%	HI 54.4%	OR 54.4%	IA 54.5%	FL 55.1%	RI 55.2%	NC 55.4%	SD 55.5%	AZ 55.6%	CA 56.1%
ME 56.6%	NY 56.8%	WI 56.8%	NE 56.8%	KS 57.0%	IL 57.3%	PR 57.8%	NH 58.5%	MD 58.5%	VT 58.9%	ND 59.0%	NJ 59.3%	VA 59.4%	WA 59.5%	CT 60.2%	MN 61.7%
UT 61.8%	MA 63.0%	CO 63.0%	DC 75.1%												

Source: Lumina Foundation (2025). *A Stronger Nation: Learning beyond high school builds American talent*. Retrieved from: <https://www.luminafoundation.org/stronger-nation/report2025/#/progress&nation-sort=attainment>

While Wyoming's annual percentage decreased this reporting period, overall the state is making progress in increasing the educational attainment for its residents. With the inclusion of workforce certificates (beginning in 2014) and post-secondary certifications (in 2018), Wyoming's overall rate of educational attainment has increased by 18.1% since 2009. The current percentage of 52.9% (down from 54%) is comparable to the national average of 54.9%. With the national goal of 60% and Wyoming's goal identified as 67%, there is still considerable work ahead.

Position Ranking	County	% degree attainment in 2022*	% degree attainment in 2023*	% degree attainment in 2024*	National Average of degree attainment (54.9%)
1	Albany	64.7%	65.4%	64.8%	
2	Teton (was 2nd)	60.7%	61.9%	63.6%	
3	Park	50.6%	51.6%	53.9%	
4	Laramie	45.5%	46.4%	48.1%	
5	Sublette	38.1%	40.7%	46.0%	
6	Hot Springs (was 4th)	42.6%	47.4%	45.2%	
7	Sheridan	41.1%	42.7%	44.8%	
8	Johnson	46.2%	44.0%	43.6%	
9	Crook	42.5%	41.4%	41.3%	
10	Natrona	37.4%	39.5%	39.9%	
11	Lincoln	35.4%	36.3%	37.2%	
12	Goshen	37.2%	38.4%	36.7%	
13	Sweetwater	35.1%	36.6%	36.7%	
14	Fremont (was 15th)	35.9%	35.9%	36.4%	
15	Campbell	32.4%	35.0%	36.0%	
16	Converse	36.7%	34.9%	36.0%	
17	Washakie	44.3%	34.2%	33.5%	
18	Uinta	29.9%	30.6%	33.3%	
19	Platte	35.5%	38.7%	33.0%	
20	Carbon	30%	29.8%	32.4%	
21	Big Horn	32.1%	32.5%	32.2%	
22	Weston	34.1%	32.9%	30.9%	
23	Niobrara	29.5%	27.6%	25.8%	

*Attainment is reports here as the percentage of people 25-64 with at least an associate degree

Source: Lumina Foundation (2025). *A Stronger Nation: Learning beyond high school builds American talent*. Retrieved from: <https://www.luminafoundation.org/stronger-nation/report/#/progress/state/WY>

Focusing specifically on CWC's service area, the educational impact CWC has had on Fremont, Hot Springs, and Teton Counties can be evaluated, from a superficial perspective, by tracking the degree attainment rates of Wyoming's 23 counties. Two counties currently have attainment percentages above both the national average and Wyoming's average - Teton and Albany Counties. In contrast to last year's data, Teton and Fremont Counties noted an increase in the percentage of attainment while Hot Springs County dipped slightly. While one cannot assume the total percentage of degree attainment for the counties in CWC's service area is solely based on the efforts of the college, the data does contribute to an overall determination of trends in which the college may impact the overall education of the residents in the college's service area.

Workforce Development is a Key Factor in Economic Health

Workforce development is a key contributor to the college's role in successfully enhancing the economic and business climate in the college's service area. The Workforce Development/Customized Training department at CWC has facilitated training, workplace readiness, and professional development sessions, including nationally recognized training. The Workforce Coordinator has taken on a leadership role in facilitating the monthly Statewide Workforce Committee, which focuses on collaboration and information sharing. The Coordinator successfully facilitated a number of new initiatives, including a Wyoming Innovation Partnership (WIP) project in light manufacturing. For details, click [HERE](#) to review the annual report.

Transforming Lives through Cultural, Wellness, and Lifelong Learning Offerings

Just as the economic climate is strengthened through credit and non-credit workforce development, CWC enhances the lives of the members of our communities through cultural, wellness and lifelong learning offerings for a diverse audience. The second of the two board ends statements addressed in this monitoring report focuses on the role the college has served as a community leader and resource in enriching the lives of citizens in the college's service area. The board end states:

"Because of CWC's cultural, wellness, and lifelong learning offerings, the lives of the citizens of our service area will be significantly enhanced."

Engaging with community members occurs through a variety of activities and educational offerings, including auditing courses, enrolling in community enrichment activities, or attending events held on campus or in an outreach facility. As reported in the October 2024

Sustainability Monitoring Report Part I, CWC hosted a total of 3,302 non-academic events with an estimated attendance of 85,945 in all of CWC's facilities from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024. Both the number of events, as well as the estimated attendance, increased from the year prior. The events held varied across many areas of interest, including community education, community service, wellness, safety, cultural, athletic, and professional development events, which provided diverse offerings for community members of all ages.

In addition, data on the non-credit activity at the college has been compiled in [this multi-tab spreadsheet](#) to capture non-credit enrollment, including ESL/High School Equivalency, community enrichment, and continuing education offerings by multiple departments/locations, various student orientations, and R Recreation. Events and attendance in internal training offered to CWC staff and/or students are not included in this data. Specific narrative on activities by CWC location is addressed in the following sections of this report.

Transforming Lives and Strengthening Communities with HEQ & ESL Education

Access to high school equivalency (HEQ) and English as a second language (ESL) education is a critical function of the college in enhancing the lives of those in our communities. Access to high school equivalency courses is available in Riverton, Ft. Washakie, Ethete, Lander, Jackson, and Thermopolis. While those served in these areas steadily decreased during the pandemic and post-pandemic years, students are returning to seek this education beginning with the 2023-2024 academic timeframe.

Transforming Lives and Strengthening the Riverton Community

Community events and offerings in the Riverton area link directly to the focus of the board's end statements of wellness, cultural and lifelong learning for the area's citizens. The Riverton Community Education department offered activities with a broad focus, with topics ranging from health and fitness to art and hobbies. To augment these activities, Riverton Recreation (R Rec) provides diverse opportunities for physical activities, recreation, and cultural enrichment for youth and families in the Riverton community. To view details on the data related to R Rec and Community Education offerings and numbers served, refer to the Riverton Recreation report for 2023-2024 by clicking [HERE](#).

Located in the ITECC building on the main campus, CWC's Institute of Tribal Learning (ITL) provided cultural educational opportunities and critical community support during the 2023-2024 year. As noted in [this report](#) written by Mr. Ivan Posey, the ITL facilitated ongoing and new activities and events that foster community engagement and education including hosting

community cultural events, providing cultural guidance to the Cheyenne Frontier Days Foundation on a permanent remodel of the the Indian Village, providing support and outreach to area Veterans, and fostering relationships with donors and education partners.

Transforming Lives and Strengthening the Reservation Community

CWC Wind River, which opened its doors in Ft. Washakie and Ethete in the 2020-2021 academic year, continues to expand educational services, course offerings, and student support through a physical presence on the Wind River Reservation. Notable highlights in this report include the relocation from the Ethete location to Great Plains Hall in Arapaho, an increase in the course offerings, and welcoming the first cohort of students taking Early Childhood courses via the collaborative partnership with Salish Kootenai College, CWC, and the Shoshone and Arapaho HeadStart programs. For additional details on specific activities sponsored by this initiative, please see the [CWC Wind River report](#).

Transforming Lives and Strengthening the Lander Community

The CWC Lander Center and the facilities at the Alpine Science Institute (ASI) have a long history of serving community members and various entities. From outdoor activities, expanded summer offerings for a variety of youth, to learning about local food and medicinal plants, the 2023-2024 year saw enhanced engagement with a broad cross-section of the community. For details on these activities, refer to the [CWC Lander/ASI narrative](#).

Transforming Lives and Strengthening the Dubois Community

One of the fastest-growing aspects of CWC's community engagement continues to be in the Dubois area. The monthly reports of activities and events sponsored or facilitated by the CWC outreach in Dubois highlight the fun and diverse connections being made in the community. A total of 132 activities and events were offered to the community that engaged 912 individual attendees; the total by month can be viewed [HERE](#), and the offerings by month can be viewed [HERE](#). A narrative outlining details on the exciting activities offered in the Dubois area during this reporting period can be viewed [HERE](#).

Transforming Lives and Strengthening the Jackson Community

In addition to offering credit courses for students to earn academic certificates and degrees, the staff at CWC Jackson interacts and engages with citizens in a variety of ways, including community enrichment classes and events. These events heightened the awareness

of CWC's diverse education and community enrichment activities. For details, please see the [CWC Jackson report](#).

Conclusion

Focusing on achieving the CWC mission, vision, values and the board ends is essential for the success of the institution, but more importantly, critical to the success of our students. By enhancing the economic climate and providing cultural, wellness and lifelong learning opportunities throughout the college's service area, CWC can positively improve the quality of life not only for individuals and families, but across entire communities.