



What's wrong with this picture?

It's pretty simple. Every year thousands of science, engineering and technology jobs in our own state are taken by out-of-state grads because Washington's universities are not graduating enough young men and women to compete for them.

Consider this:

Our state leads the nation in engineers employed per capita. But we rank thirty-eighth in the percentage of bachelor's degrees earned in science and engineering per capita.

We have the jobs. We have the brain power. We don't have nearly enough graduates trained in the fields that are most in demand. These jobs are going and will continue to go to out-of-state graduates. It's wonderful to attract well-educated workers to our state. What's not wonderful is having the earning power and career potential of our own young people go to waste. We're simply not preparing enough Washington

students to seize the opportunities that our own economy is creating. We need more high-quality degree opportunities for Washington students.

What needs to be done?

First: It's essential to fill existing unfilled capacity in high-demand, high-impact fields in our colleges and universities. Space is available. State funding is lacking!

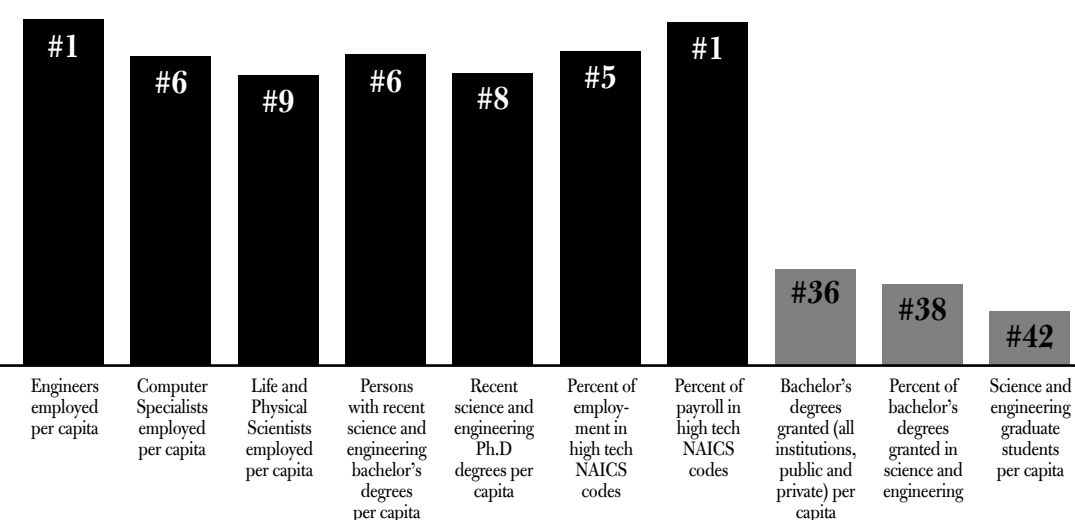
Second: Inform our educators, students, and parents of the opportunities in

high-demand fields, and increase the emphasis on math and science. Start filling the pipeline!

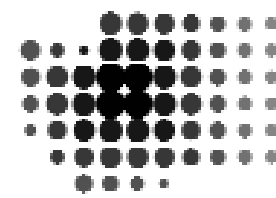
Third: Get going on a building plan to make sure we have room for our growing population.

And Finally: Stay committed to providing high-quality degrees. We can't let quality slip while we ramp up quantity!

Washington Leads the Nation in Using Bachelor's Degrees, But is 36th in the Nation in the Production of Bachelor's Degrees



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce



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