

# How the College Completion Fund Can Boost Statewide Completion Rates



**Shelbe Klebs**  
Education Policy Advisor  
[@ShelbeKlebs](https://twitter.com/ShelbeKlebs)

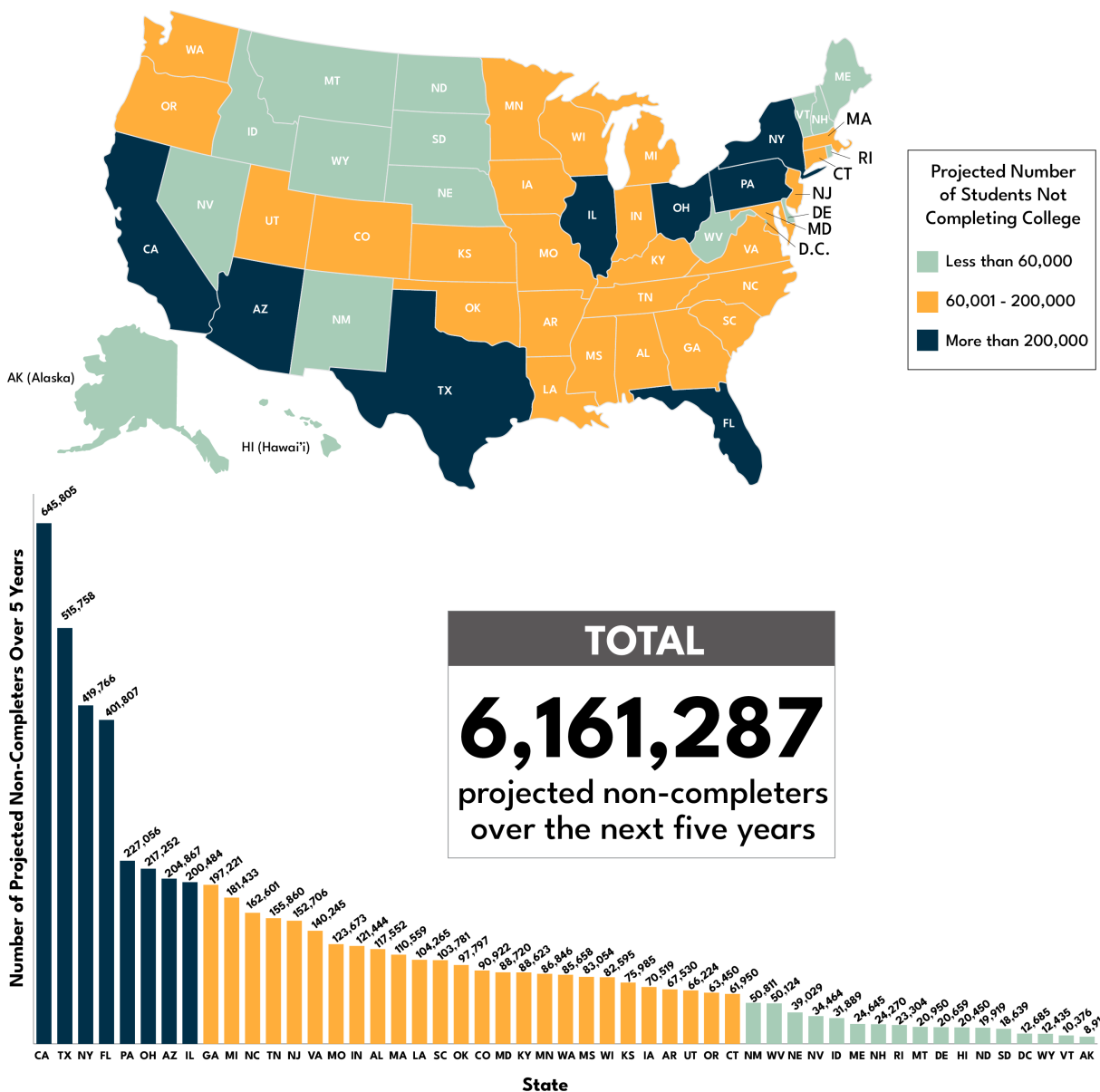


**Michael Itzkowitz**  
Senior Fellow, Higher Education  
[@mikeitzkowitz](https://twitter.com/mikeitzkowitz)

The College Completion Fund (CCF) included in the *Build Back Better Act* is a first-of-its-kind federal investment in college retention and completion aiming to ensure college students make it across the graduation stage. This is a critical investment as colleges currently graduate only about half of the students they enroll. Without this investment, more than **6 million** students could fail to complete college within five years, based on an analysis of first-time, full-time students who have completed their degree within 150% of expected time to graduation in each state.

## How the College Completion Fund Can Boost Statewide Completion Rates

According to federal data, more than 6 million students are projected to leave college before they earn their degrees over the next five years. The College Completion Fund included in the Build Back Better Act will help reverse this trend, as it is a first-of-its-kind federal investment designed to help students complete.



Source: Author's calculation from US Department of Education's College Scorecard website. Only includes first-time, full-time students who have completed their degree within 150% of expected time to graduation.

### TOPICS

HIGHER EDUCATION 516