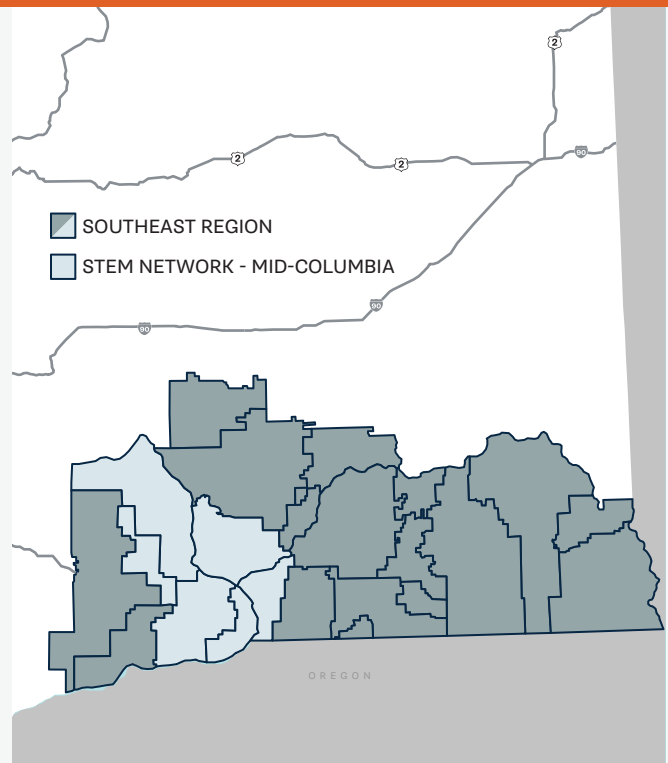


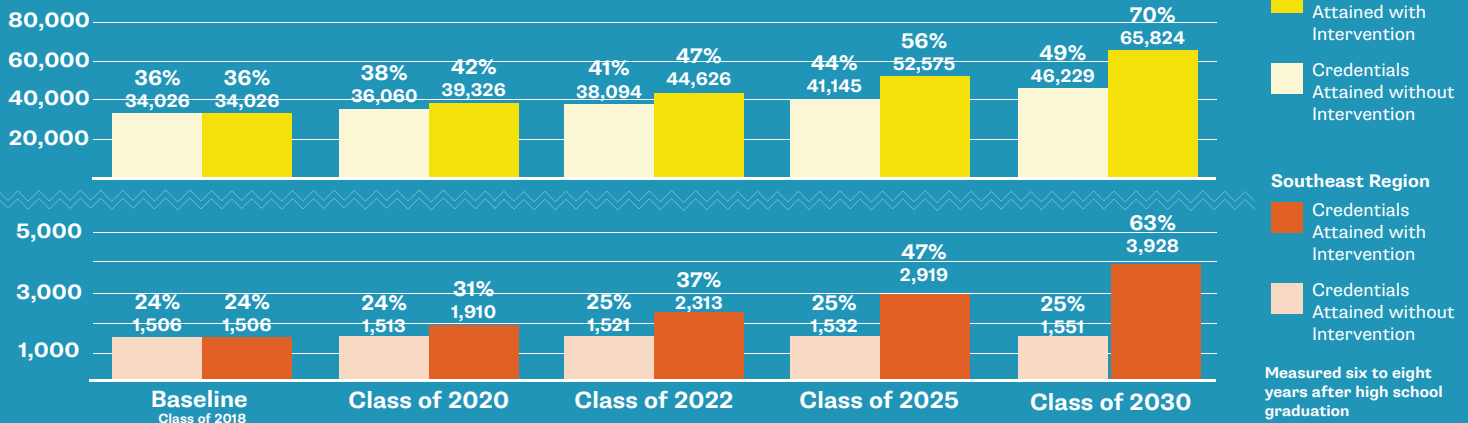


# STEM BY THE NUMBERS: SOUTHEAST REGION

The Southeast Region is home to growing clean energy, education, health-care, engineering, and construction industries, spanning from the Tri-Cities to Clarkston. The region is made up of 23 school districts, six of which are members of the Mid-Columbia STEM Network. The Network's business, education, and community partners are working to close credential attainment gaps, especially for students of color and students from low-income families. They aim to increase the number of local students who become computer and IT professionals, trades professionals, teachers, engineers, scientists, and healthcare professionals, which combined have 1,693 annual projected openings over the next five years.

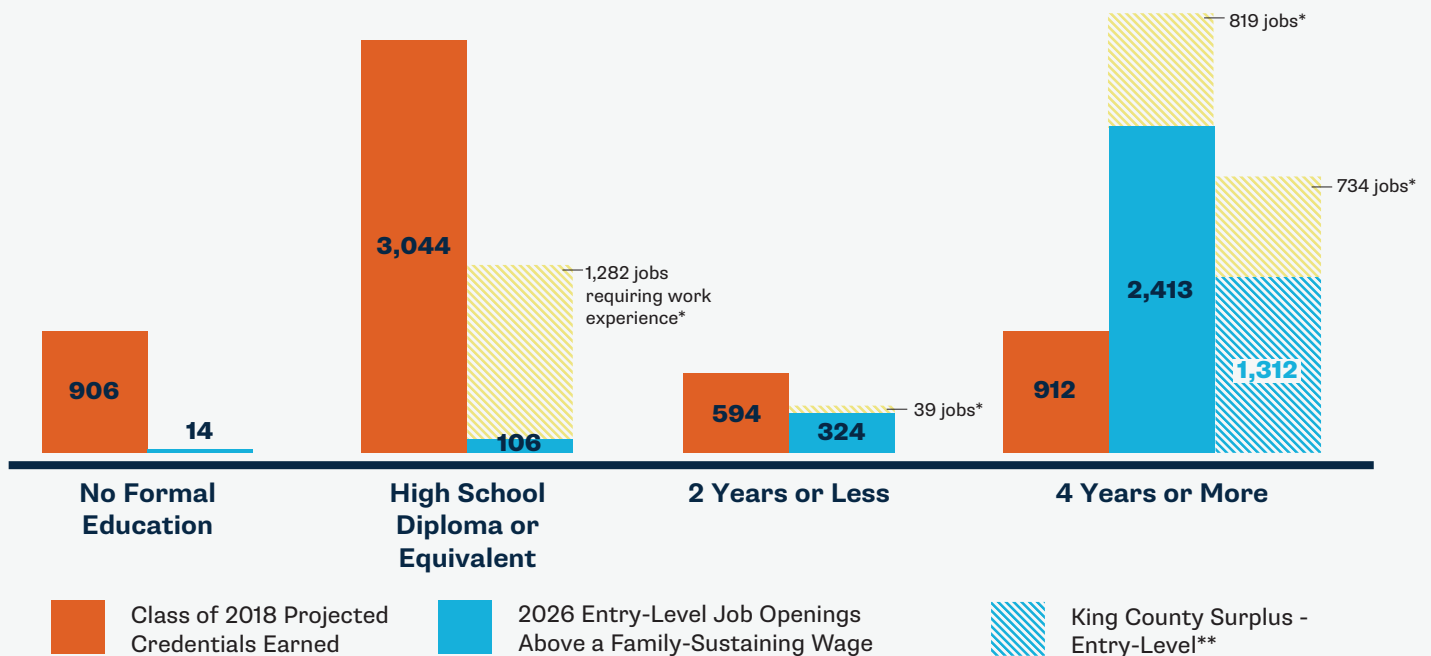


## 202 MORE CREDENTIALS PER YEAR = REGION ON TRACK



# THE OPPORTUNITY: A STRONG DEMAND FOR STEM TALENT

## SOUTHEAST REGION SUPPLY-DEMAND PROJECTIONS



By supporting more students to be on track to earn a high-demand credential, the Mid-Columbia STEM Network and its partners will ensure that up to 2,857 family-sustaining\*\*\* (those that pay a regionalized wage of \$45,212 or more a year) are available to local young adults looking to start their career in the Southeast Region.

\* The King County surplus represents a proportion of the surplus jobs that could be supplied by students from the Southeast Region. The surplus is the result of fewer King County originating students than annual projected job openings in King County.

\*\*Jobs requiring related work experience, and/or on-the-job training, would generally not be immediately available to high school graduates and be more competitive with a greater number of eligible applicants.

\*\*\* Family-sustaining regionalized wage is defined as the full-time wage needed to support a household of 2 adults (1 working) and 1 child, using the MIT Living Wage Calculator.

## CAREER CONNECTED LEARNING IN THE MID-COLUMBIA

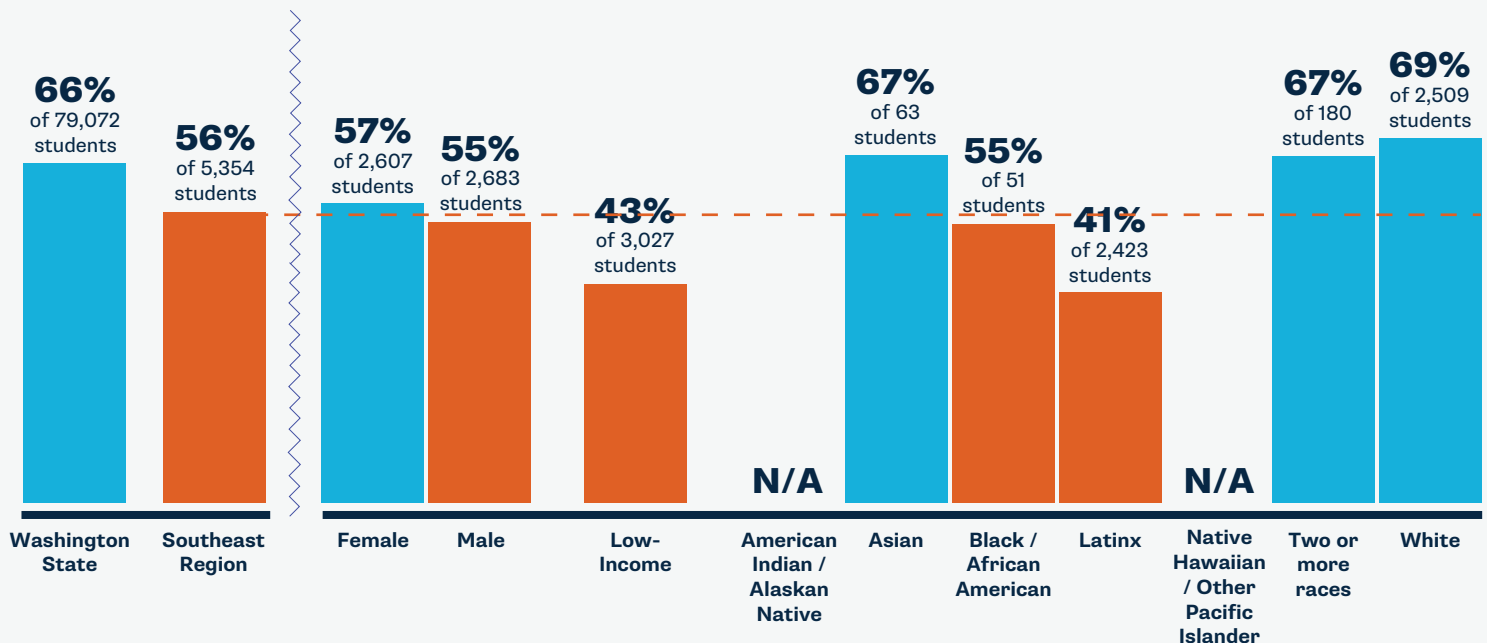
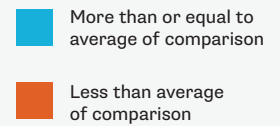
In the past decade the region's local STEM Foundation has invested more than \$750,000 in private funds to develop and implement career connected learning opportunities in the Mid-Columbia. eSTEM Like ME!<sup>SM</sup> is the bedrock of the region's career connected learning system and an important ingredient in a meaningful High School and Beyond plan. The program is an engaging interaction between STEM professionals and students on the cusp of making critical career choices. STEM Like ME!<sup>SM</sup> was developed in the Tri-Cities, and first introduced in 2015. Since that time, STEM Like ME!<sup>SM</sup> has been shared across the state and nation and inspired more than 6,500 students.



# SOUTHEAST REGION K-12 STEM INDICATORS BY DEMOGRAPHIC

## KINDERGARTEN MATH READY (2018)

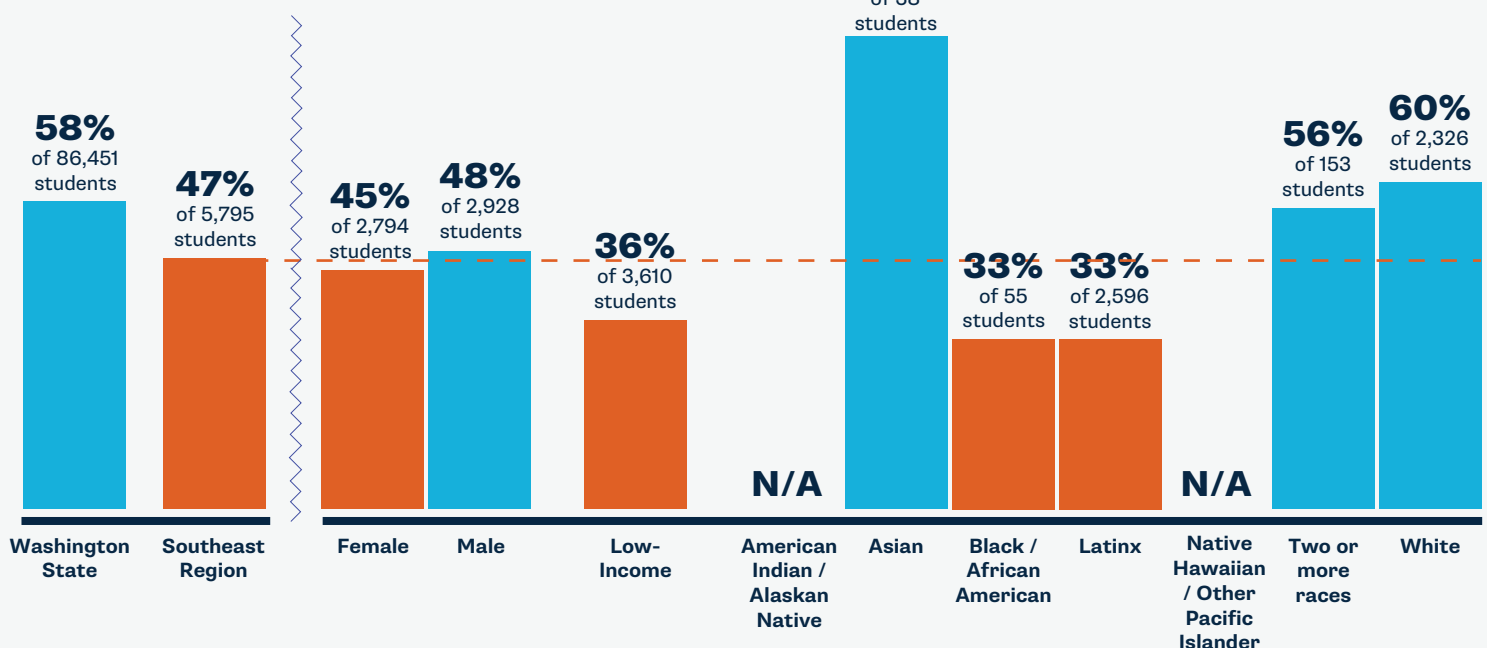
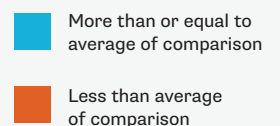
**56% of 5,354** Southeast Region children entering kindergarten are math ready compared to **66% of 79,072** children statewide.



SOUTHEAST REGION INDICATORS BY DEMOGRAPHIC

## 3RD GRADE MATH (2017)

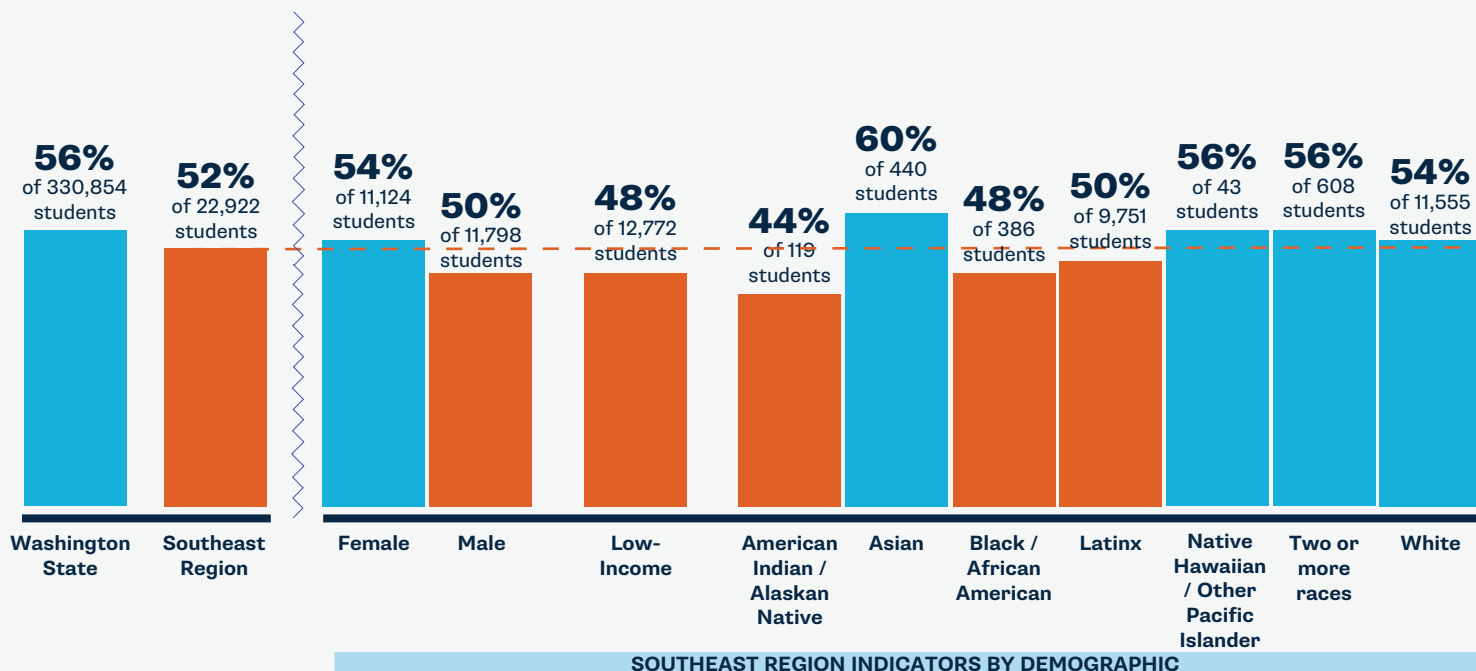
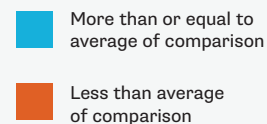
**47% of 5,795** of Southeast Region third graders meet grade level math standards compared to **58% of 86,451** third graders statewide.



SOUTHEAST REGION INDICATORS BY DEMOGRAPHIC

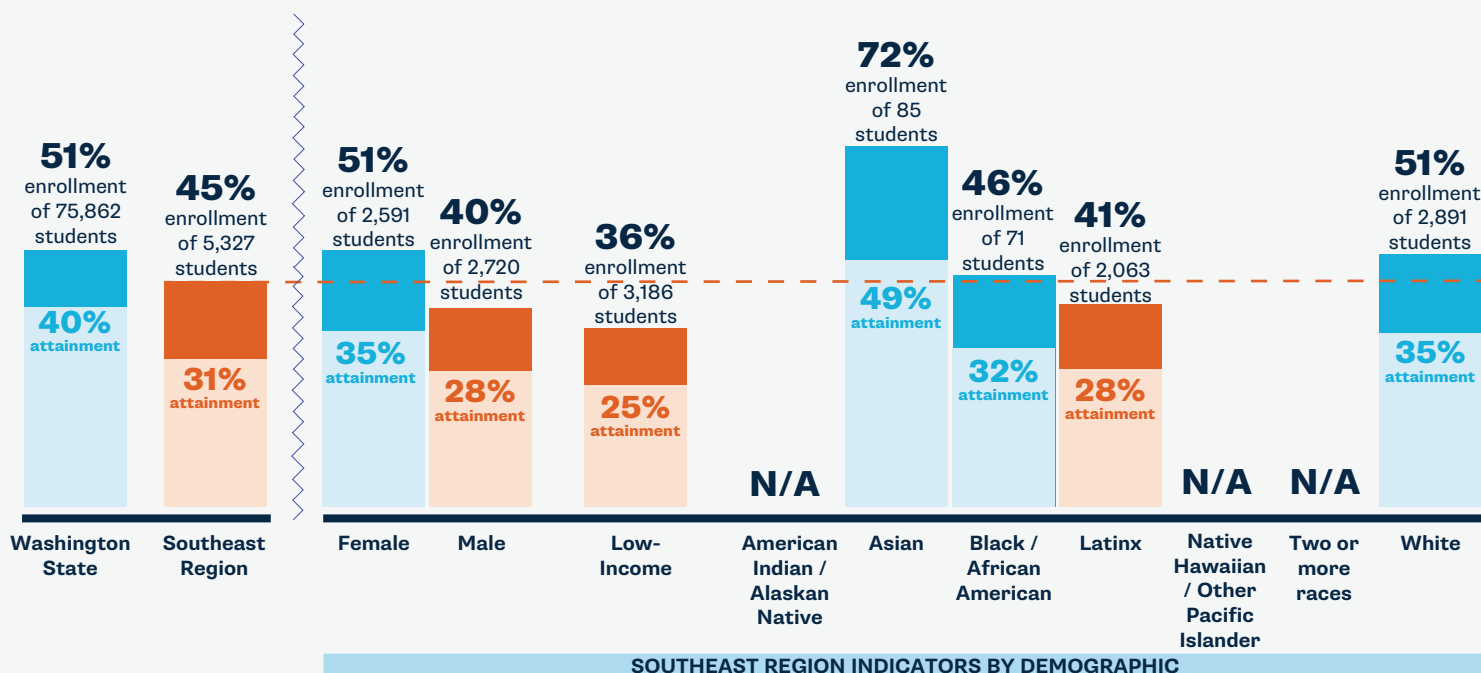
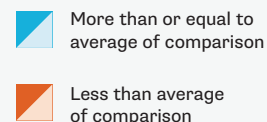
## DUAL CREDIT (2017 9-12TH GRADERS)

**52% of 11,124** Southeast Region high schoolers complete at least one dual credit course compared to **56% of 330,854** youth statewide.



## CREDENTIAL ENROLLMENT/ATTAINMENT (CLASS OF 2016)

**45% of 5,327** of the originating ninth graders in the Southeast Region enroll in a postsecondary program and **31%** of those originating ninth graders earn a credential by age 26.



Data citations and region-by-region analyses will be posted at [www.washingtonstem.org/STEMbythenumbers](http://www.washingtonstem.org/STEMbythenumbers).

For more information about early STEM and career pathways work in the Southeast Region, contact Mid-Columbia STEM Network director Deb Bowen, [deb@stemlearning.org](mailto:deb@stemlearning.org).

# SOUTHEAST REGION STEM INDICATORS

## Ready for Kindergarten

While 56 percent of all Southeast Region kids are math ready by kindergarten, high-quality early learning opportunities need to be more accessible to families of color and those that are lower-income to close math-readiness gaps.

**TBD** we are determining availability of high-quality early learning for families and supports for professionals in this region

**56%** of Southeast Region children entering kindergarten are math ready

## K-12 STEM Learning

Between kindergarten and third grade, math-readiness and skills gaps widen for many students, which is correlated with success in related areas of study. School districts need resources and assistance to remove barriers and create opportunities in STEM for all students.

**TBD** we are determining the STEM indicators for each school district in this region in partnership with LASER

**47%** of Southeast Region third graders meet grade level math standards

## Secondary Pathways

While students in the Southeast Region are overall less likely to complete dual credit\*\* courses than their peers across the state, students of color and low-income students experience reduced access to and completion of these courses compared to their peers.

**TBD** we are determining availability of dual credit courses and career pathways programs by type and subject area in this region

**52%** of Southeast Region high schoolers complete at least one dual credit course

\*\*Dual credit programs give students the opportunity to earn high school and college credit simultaneously. Completion of dual credit coursework is highly correlated with higher education enrollment and completion.

## Credential Enrollment/Attainment

Of the originating ninth graders across the state, 51 percent enroll and 40 percent complete a credential. While Southeast Region students enroll and complete at comparable rates, the region is working to expand credential pathways capacity to close opportunity gaps for key student groups.

**TBD** we are determining local higher education and career training program capacity in this region

**45%** of the originating ninth graders in the Southeast Region enroll in a postsecondary program and 31 percent of those originating ninth graders earn a credential by age 26.



STEM by the Numbers is a series of regional reports which examines data that tells us about Washington students' access to credentials and family-sustaining jobs. Together with our partners, we are advocating for and developing regionalized, cross-sector, and longitudinal data. We highlight student outcomes above, and in future publications we will report on systems indicators, like high school course offerings and availability of STEM professional learning and supports.

Data citations and region-by-region analyses will be posted at [www.washingtonstem.org/STEMbythenumbers](http://www.washingtonstem.org/STEMbythenumbers).

For more information about early STEM and career pathways work in the Southeast Region, contact Mid-Columbia STEM Network director Deb Bowen, [deb@stemlearning.org](mailto:deb@stemlearning.org).



# REGIONAL TOP INDUSTRIES AND STEM JOBS

## HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

Annual # of Openings: 110  
Credential: Certificate → Bachelor's  
Average Regional Wage:  
\$48,710 → \$112,347

## CONSTRUCTION & TRADES PROFESSIONALS

Annual # of Openings: 340  
Credential: Apprenticeship  
Average Regional Wage:  
\$50,124 → \$84,440

## TECHNICIANS: ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION & CLEAN ENERGY

Annual # of Openings: 236  
Credential: Associate's  
Average Regional Wage:  
\$47,790 → \$79,145

## PROFESSIONALS: ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION & CLEAN ENERGY

Annual # of Openings: 287  
Credential: Bachelor's  
Average Regional Wage:  
\$60,084 → \$100,939

## STEM LIKE ME!<sup>SM</sup> - EDUCATOR OPPORTUNITY

The STEM Like ME!<sup>SM</sup> Grant Award Program invites pioneering educators to partner with the Mid-Columbia STEM Network and Dream Builder's Educational Foundation (ESD 123) to enact their best ideas for providing students in any grade K-12, particularly those underrepresented in STEM careers, with rich and robust STEM learning experiences both in and out of school. Mini-grant awards of up to \$1,000 each help to provide an incentive for creative Mid-Columbia educators to introduce career connected learning opportunities and volunteers into their classrooms, pilot new ideas, and share promising practices. An estimated 9,000 students have been engaged in career connected learning opportunities as a result of the program, since it was launched in 2015.



By 2030, Washington STEM and our statewide partners aim to **triple the number of students** of color, students from low-income and rural families, and young women who are on track to earn high-demand credentials and enter family-sustaining careers in the state.

