

Certificates in Oregon

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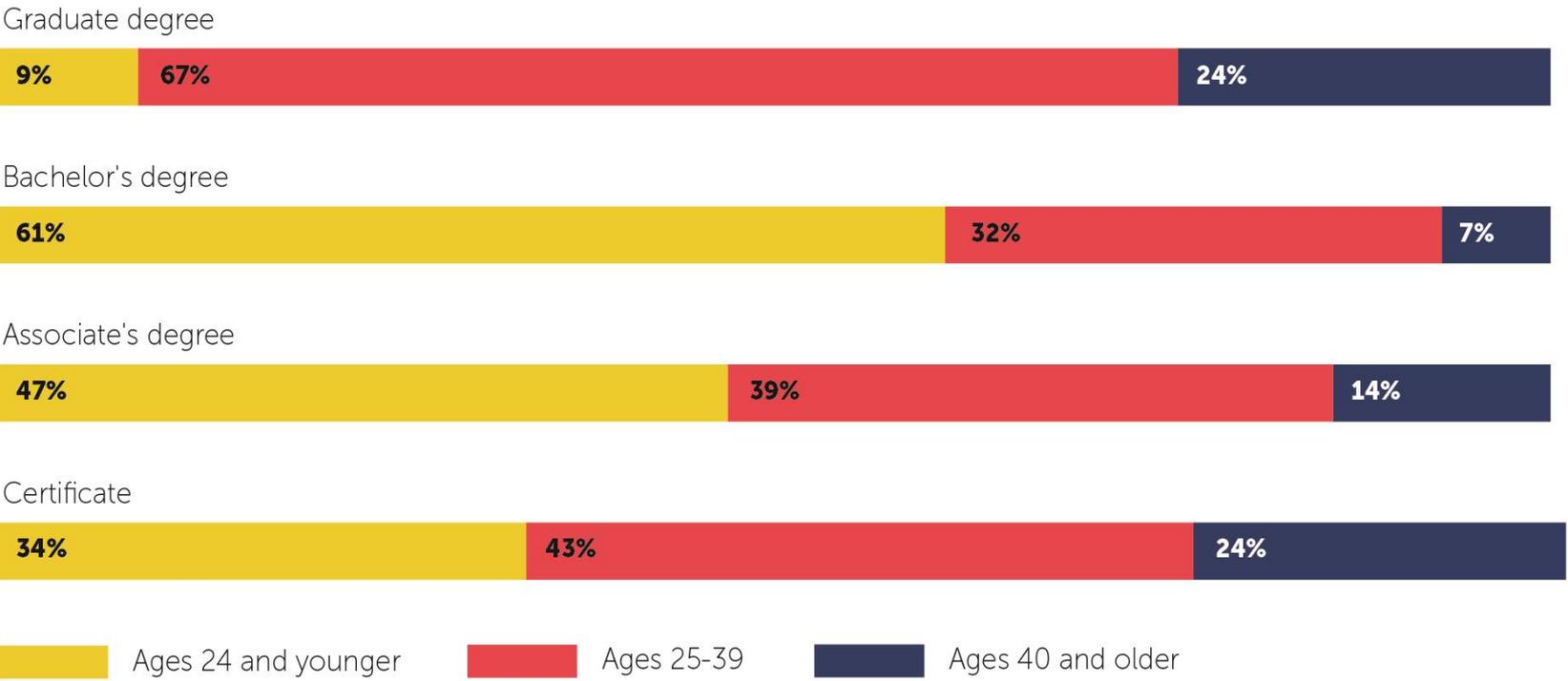
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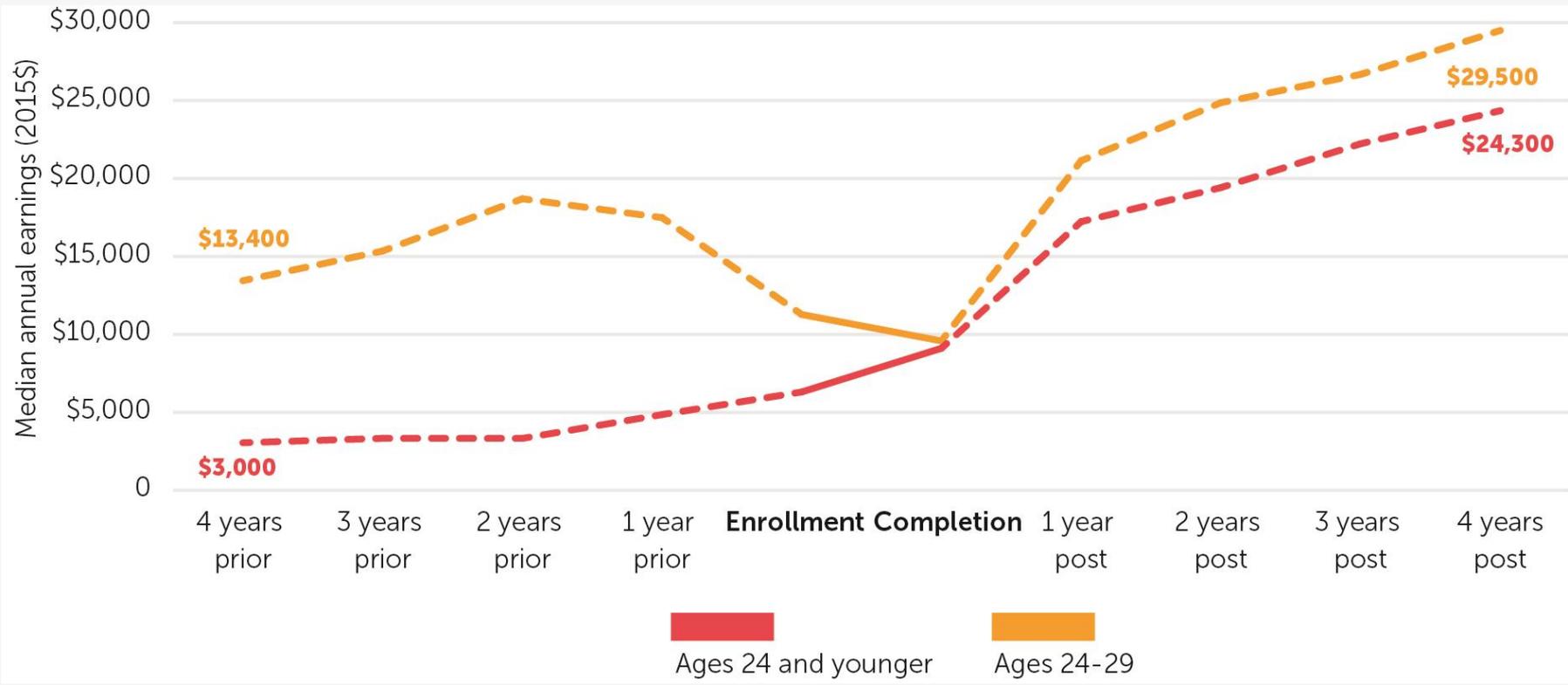
A State-Level Focus on Certificates

- Oregon - one of the first states to count certificates as part of an attainment goal.
- Certificates are employment-focused; also, they can be part of a degree pathway.
- Report focus - various types of employment-focused certificates: less than one year; one year or more; and two years or more.

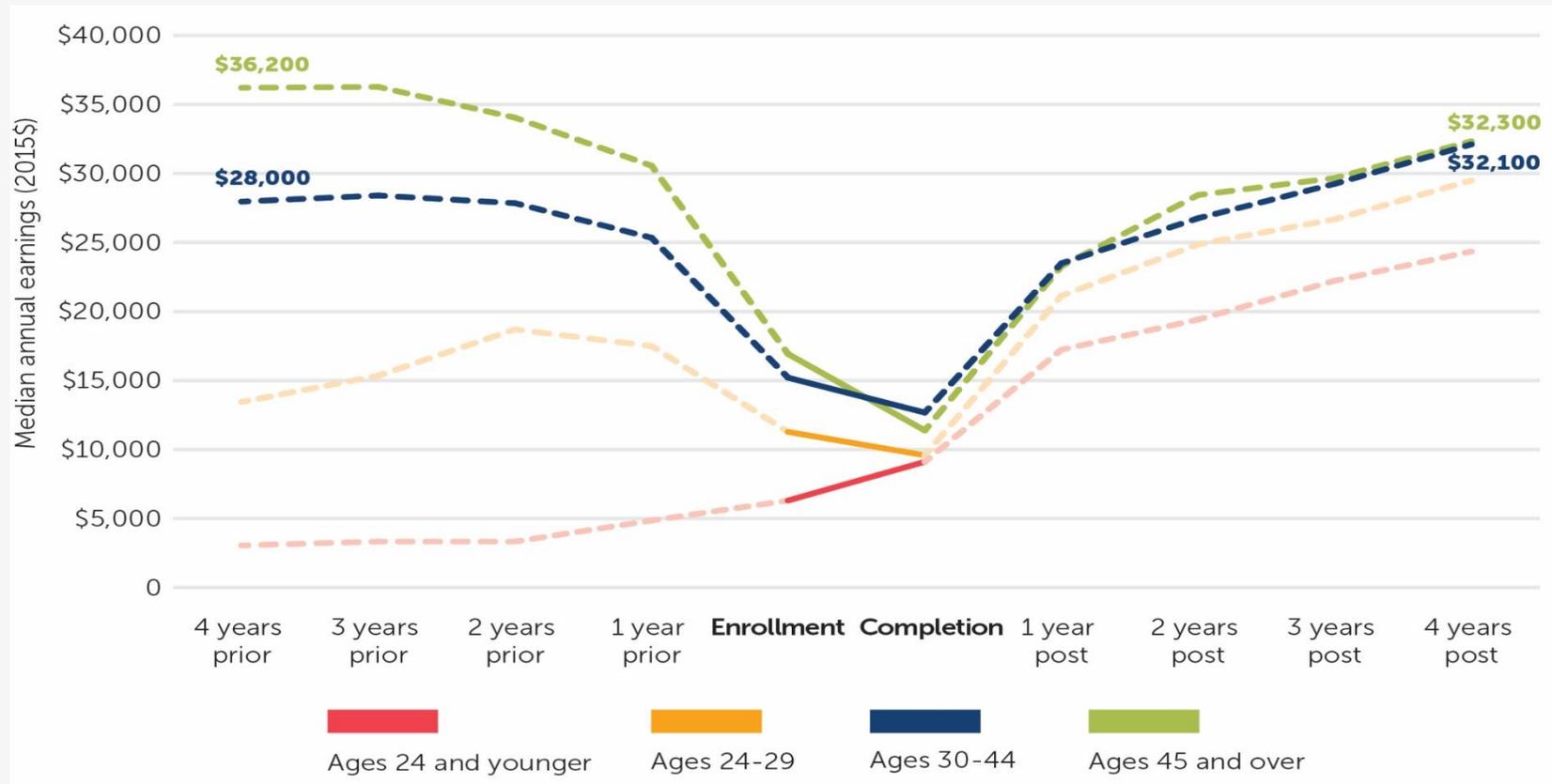
Certificate recipients earn their credentials at an older age than undergraduate degree completers.



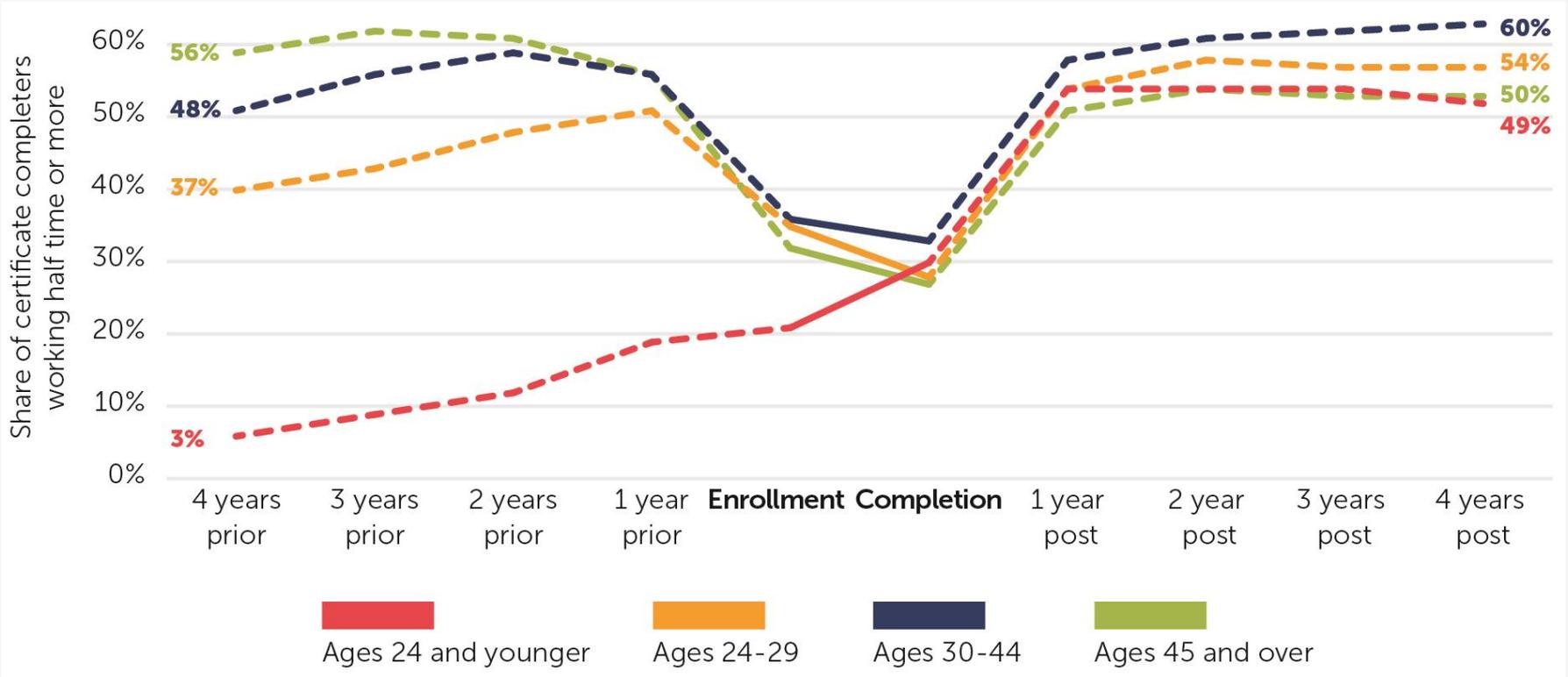
Certificate recipients ages 29 and younger experience sizable earnings gains.



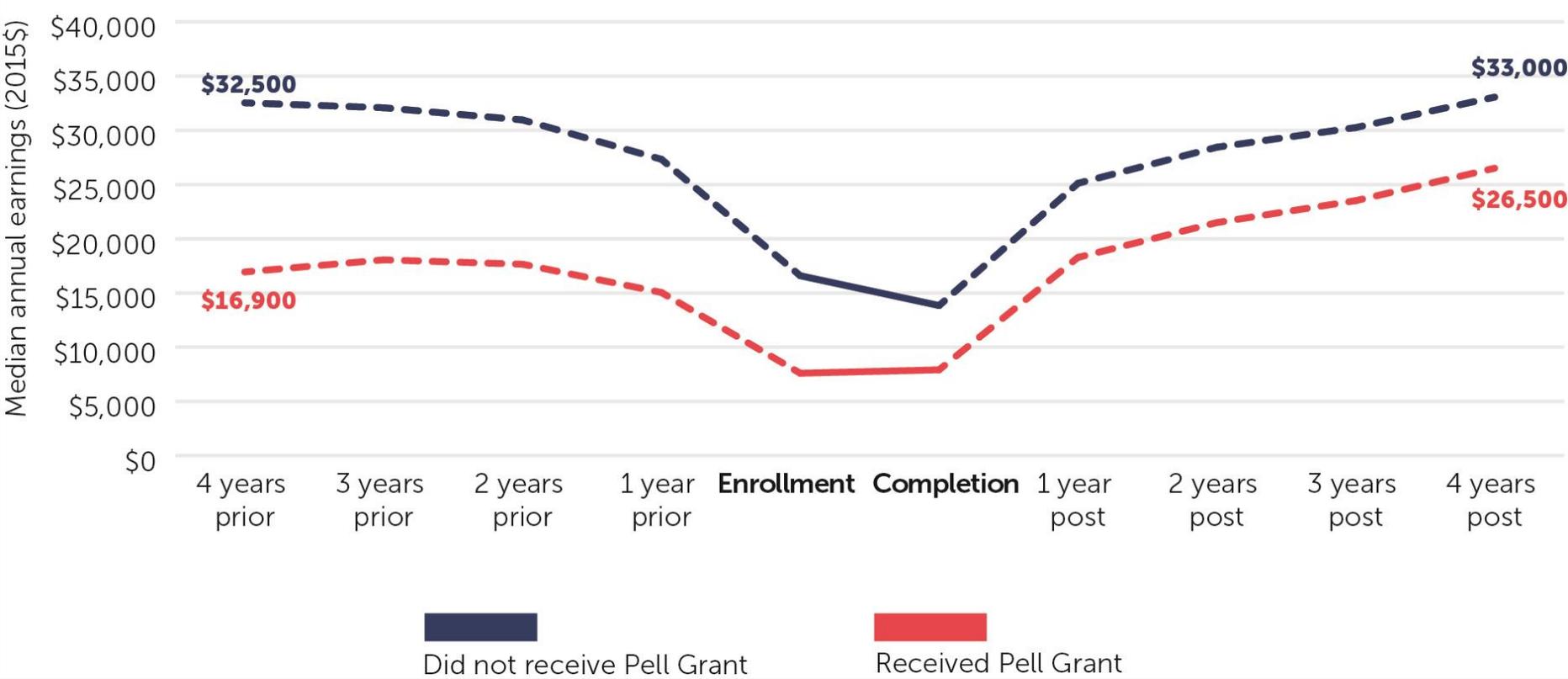
Certificate recipients ages 30-44 also make gains, but those ages 45 and older do not quite recover.



When hours worked are the measure, younger certificate recipients again show a larger gain.



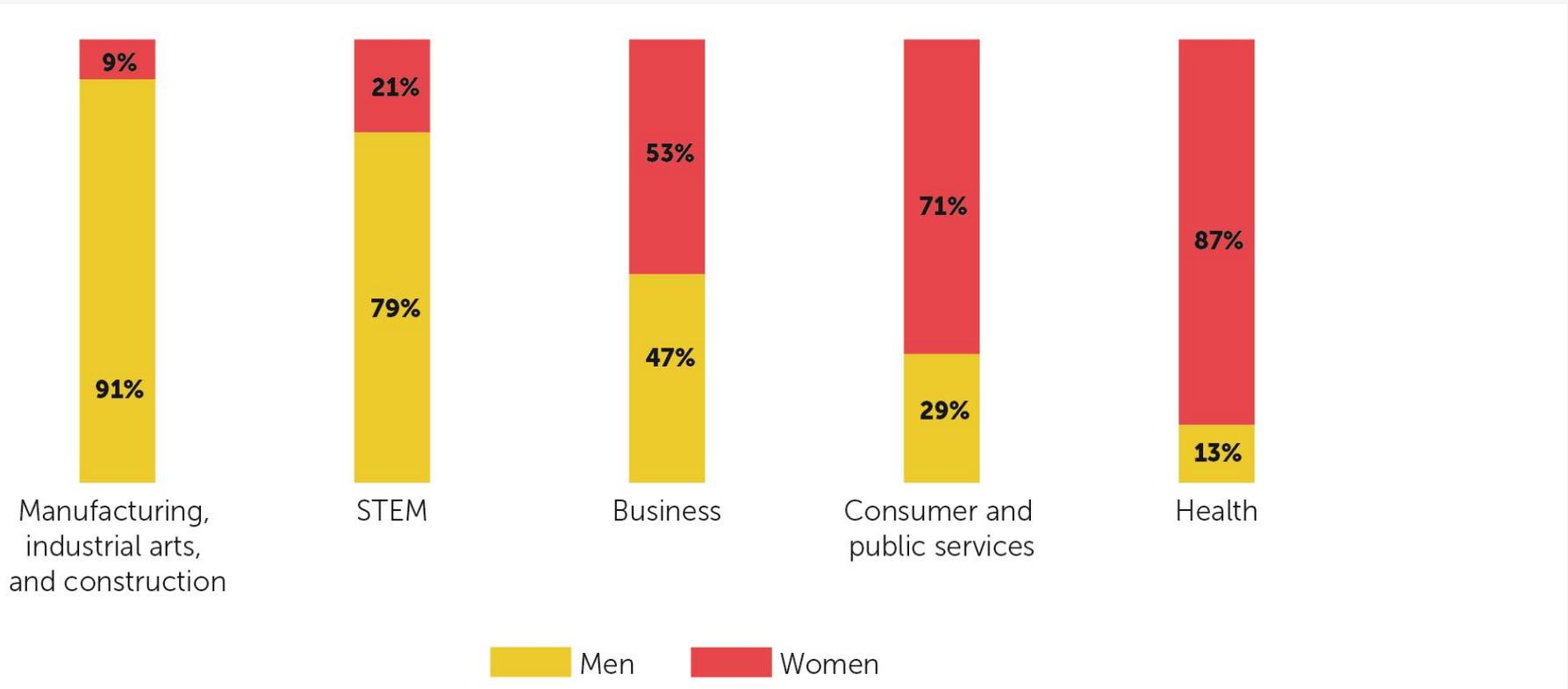
Pell Grant recipients, who tend to be younger certificate holders, also experience an earnings gain.



Field of Study Matters for Certificates, as for Degrees

Five Broad Fields of Study	Post-Program Median Earnings
Business	\$40,000
STEM	\$32,500
Manufacturing, Industrial Arts and Construction	\$32,400
Consumer and Public Services	\$28,500
Health	\$28,000

Men are concentrated in STEM and blue-collar fields, while women are concentrated in health and consumer and public services.



Certificate recipients are more likely to be employed in healthcare services and less likely to be working in manufacturing.

Industry	2 years pre-enrollment	2 years post-completion
Construction	5%	<5%
Manufacturing	22%	11%
Wholesale and retail trade services	22%	16%
Professional and business services	11%	11%
Education services	<5%	5%
Healthcare services	8%	30%
Leisure and hospitality services	10%	5%
Government services	5%	6%
Other	14%	12%
Total	100%	100%



Final Thoughts

- Because certificates are often employment-focused, the choice of field of study matters.
- The differences by age reflect the life cycle of earnings.
- Other studies have suggested an employment effect for certificates, even when there is not a wage boost.

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