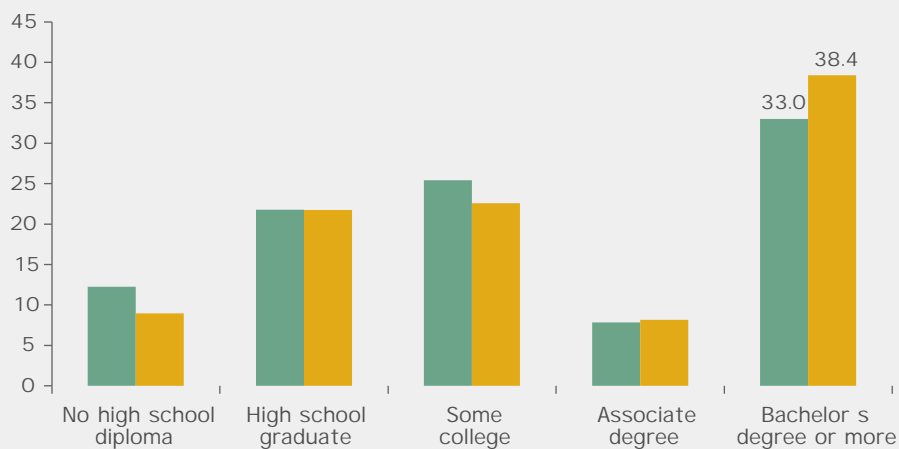


California is facing a shortfall of college-educated workers

Higher education benefits individuals and the state: college graduates are more likely to be employed and earn higher wages than nongraduates, which boosts state tax revenues and reduces pressure on the social safety net. However, California's higher education system is not keeping up with the changing economy. Projections suggest that the state will continue to need greater numbers of highly educated workers. In 2030, if current trends persist, 38 percent of jobs require at least a bachelor's degree. But population and education trends suggest that only 33 percent of working-age adults in California will have bachelor's degrees by 2030—a shortfall of 1.1 million college graduates.

BY 2030, CALIFORNIA MAY HAVE A SHORTAGE OF HIGHLY EDUCATED WORKERS



groups, including Latinos, African Americans, and students

that its investments pay off, the state will need to measu

that improve student success.

Californians are keenly aware of the importance of higher education. In a recent PPIC Survey, about eight in ten California parents hope their children will have a college degree. They are worried about affordability. The November 2017 PPIC Survey found that 73 percent of parents agree that affordability is a big problem at the University of California. In a separate survey, 78 percent agree that the price of higher education keeps st

California needs more college graduates

- California's economy increasingly demands highly educated workers.

For decades, employment growth has been strongest for workers with college degrees, as a result of changes and within industries. For example, relatively rapid growth in the health care and information technology sectors is driving up demand for these workers, who generally need college degrees. Also, within most sectors, more jobs requiring degrees than ever before.

- The supply of college graduates is not on track to keep up with workforce demand.

Two demographic trends will undercut future increases in the number of college graduates. First, the baby boomers a large and well-educated group are reaching retirement age; for the first time ever a large number of workers with college degrees are leaving the workforce. Second, college completion has been improving, but young adults are not graduating at sufficiently high rates to close the gap. Immigrants are also integral to California's highly skilled workforce. Today, three of every ten highly educated workers in California are immigrants, up from two in ten in 1990. However, there will not be enough highly educated newcomers from abroad or from other states to fully close the skills gap.

- Higher education is largely a public endeavor in California.

The vast majority of students in California and in most other states attend public colleges and universities. About three of every four students in California are enrolled in one of the state's public education systems: the California Community Colleges, CSU, and UC. Three of every four bachelor's degrees awarded annually in the state come from either CSU or UC.

- More students than ever are eligible for college, but they are competing for limited slots.

The growth in the proportion of California high school graduates completing a college preparatory curriculum has

- Many of California's high school graduates attend community colleges, but few transfer. Community colleges account for more than half of undergraduate enrollment in California. Open access, wide

Ensure access for low-income students. As the costs of attending college have increased, the importance of grant and scholarship aid has grown. California should ensure that its aid programs keep up with growing college costs and are targeted to institutions with good track records in educating low-income students without saddling them with large

CONTACT A PPIC EXPERT

Hans Johnson
ciahmih•jjb[«il`

Marisol Cuellar Mejia
[o]eeXI•jjb[«il`

Sarah Bohn
Ziah•jjb[«il`

Patrick Murphy
goljas•jjb[«il`

Kevin Cook
d[iid•jjb[«il`

Olga Rodriguez
li\lb`o]u•jjb[«il`

Jacob Jackson
cX[dmi h•jjb[«il`

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