



**CALIFORNIA COMPETES**  
HIGHER EDUCATION FOR A STRONG ECONOMY

# Establishing Goals to Close the Degree Gap

Joint Hearing, Assembly Higher Education and Budget  
Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance

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# The Degree Attainment Gap continues to loom in California

	PROJECTED DEGREES, AT CURRENT STATE	NEEDED DEGREES (CURRENT STATE + 19% INCREASE)	NEW DEGREES ADDED AS RATE INCREASE PERSISTS
2018	289,648	289,648*	0
2019	289,651	344,247	54,597
2020	288,686	409,138	120,452
2021	296,835	486,260	189,426
2022	294,854	577,920	283,066
2023	292,977	686,858	393,881
2024	295,064	816,331	521,267
2025	298,939	970,210	671,271

\* Considers year one output constant due to lag time in degree completion

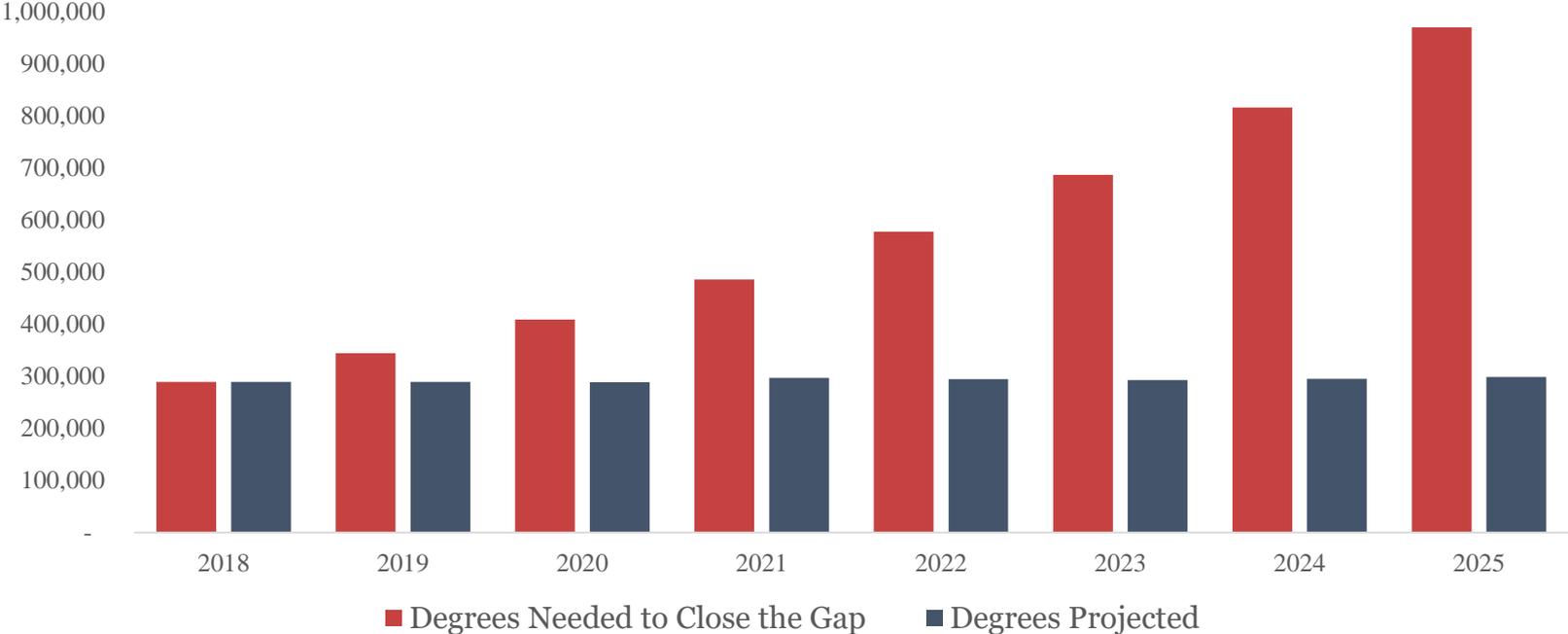
**2,233,960**

To close the degree gap by 2025, the state needs to **increase degree production to 19% annually...**

...producing an additional **2.2 million degrees.**

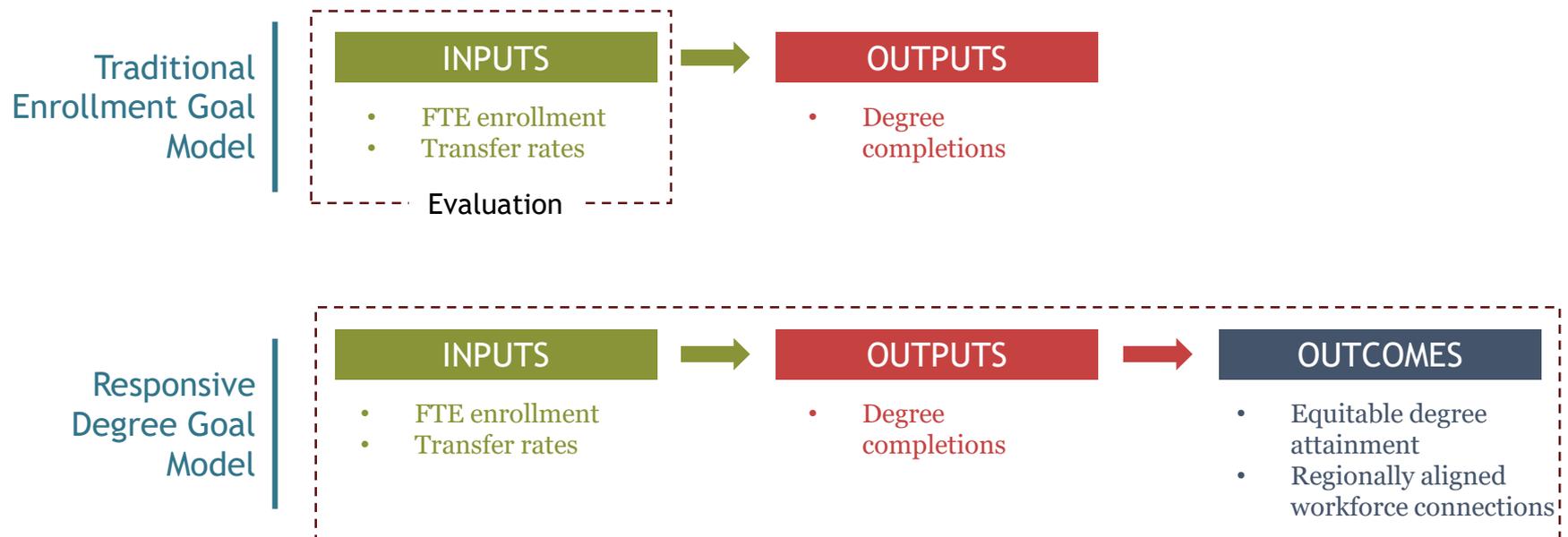
# Closing the gap requires tripling estimated degree production by 2025

BY 2025, THE STATE IS PROJECTED TO PRODUCE ONLY A FRACTION OF THE DEGREES NEEDED TO CLOSE THE DEGREE GAP.



# Goals established to close the gap must include both inputs and outcomes

State degree goals should consider not just the total number of degrees produced, but also whether those degrees **enhance regional economies** and **promote equitable economic opportunity**.

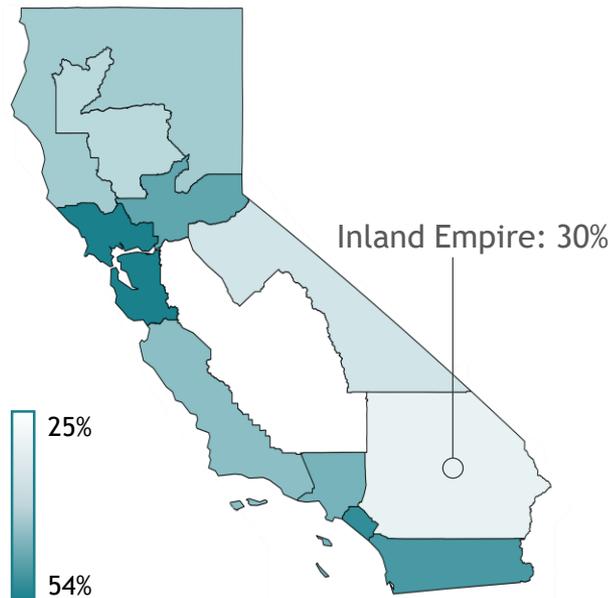


# Degree production should be responsive to statewide economic trends

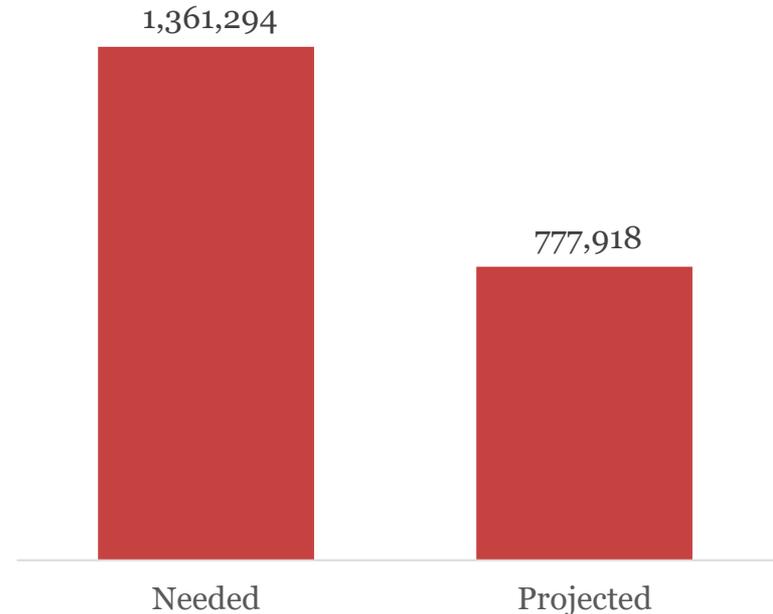
Occupation	Total Openings by 2025	
Healthcare Support	89.4K	
Education and Library Support	142.2K	
Healthcare Practitioners	156.3K	
Transport and Material Moving	167.9K	
Computers and Mathematics	179.3K	
Sales and Related Occupations	179.9K	
Business and Finance	180.4K	
Management	202.6K	
Construction and Extraction	210.6K	
Office and Admin Support	220.7K	

# Degree goals should consider regional variation in degree production

ADULTS 25-64 WITH AT LEAST AN AA DEGREE, BY REGION



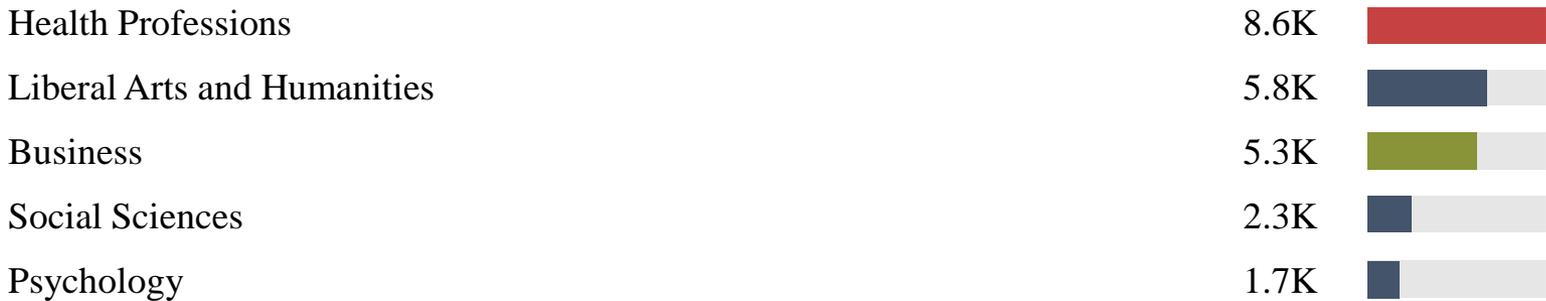
CURRENT DEGREE PRODUCTION IN THE INLAND EMPIRE TRAILS WHAT'S NEEDED BY 2025



# Degree production should align with regional economic needs

## Most Popular Majors, Inland Empire

## Total Degree Completions, 2016



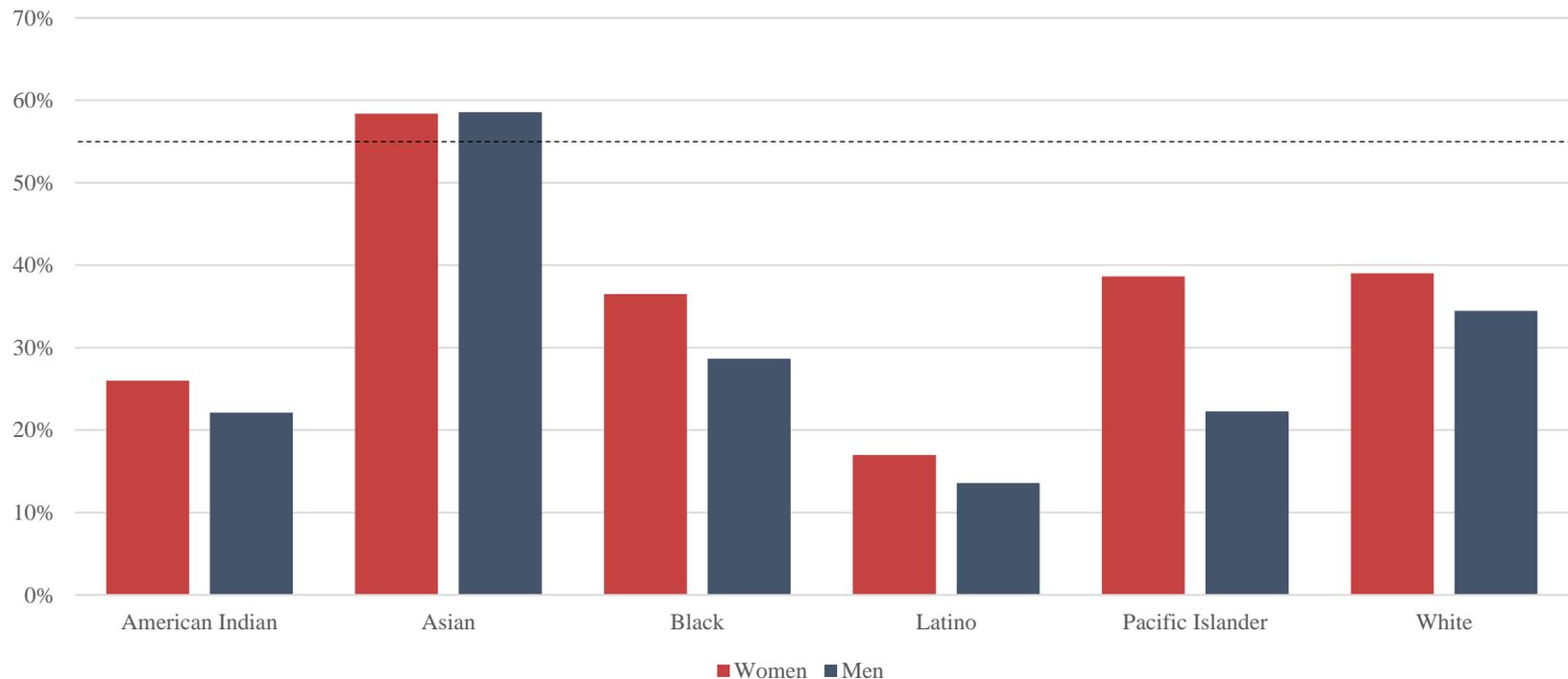
## Largest Occupations, Inland Empire

## Total Openings, 2025



# Closing the degree gap is not possible without addressing completion gaps

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF ADULTS 24-65 IN THE INLAND EMPIRE, 2016



# Degree goals must consider more than just the total number to close the gap

To account for...

Equitable Attainment

Regional Workforce Needs

Input Variation

Variables in a responsive degree goal model should include...

Positive weighting for:

- Progress made towards closing completion gaps
- Serving students with diverse needs and backgrounds

- Degree completion rates
- Job placement rates
- Occupational placement rates

- Adjustment for regional variation in population and occupational need
- Adjustment for variation in segmental and institutional mission

# Thank you

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