



POSTSECONDARY TO PROSPERITY

INLAND EMPIRE



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Inland Empire’s population makes up 12 percent of the state population. This region is home to twelve California Community Colleges (CCC), one California State University (CSU), and one University of California (UC) campus. High school graduation, A-G completion, and college-going rates for this region all fall below the state average. While 59 percent of high school graduates go directly to college, only roughly 35 percent of English language learners, students with disabilities, and foster youth fall into this category. While associate’s degree attainment surpasses the state average, bachelor’s degree attainment is 40 percent less than the state average. Only 11 percent of Latinx residents hold a bachelor’s degree compared to 30 percent of White residents. Forty-two percent of adults in this region express an interest in pursuing postsecondary education compared to the state average of 39 percent.

While Inland Empire’s employment rate falls just below the state average, its residents are slightly more likely than other Californians to earn a living wage. However, the ability to earn a living wage, have health insurance, or own a home all differ by racial and ethnic group. Ninety-three percent of Latinx residents are employed, but 53 percent earn a living wage, 89 percent have health insurance, and 56 percent own a home. In contrast, 95 percent of White residents are employed, with 73 percent earning a living wage, 95 percent having health insurance, and 72 percent owning a home. Employment alone does not secure residents’ well-being or ability to build wealth through homeownership.

POPULATION
4,581,109

COUNTIES
Riverside, San Bernardino

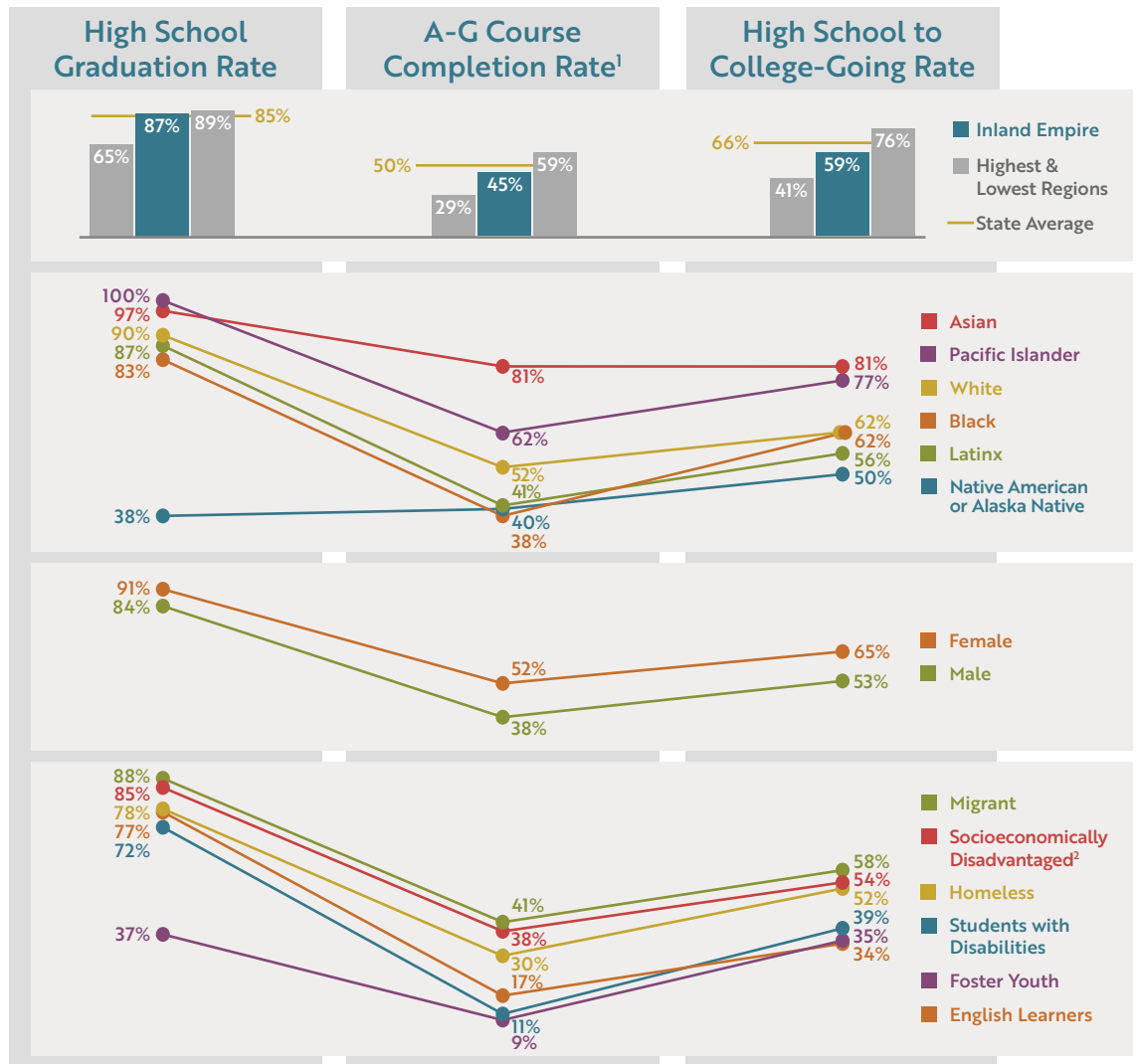
ABOUT THE DATA¹
This factsheet uses 8 primary datasets (2017–2020)

1. Some metrics are based on very small sample sizes, which may not provide reliable estimates of the population. These results should be interpreted with caution. For more detailed information on how metrics are calculated, please refer to the [technical appendix on californiacompetes.org/p2p](https://californiacompetes.org/p2p).

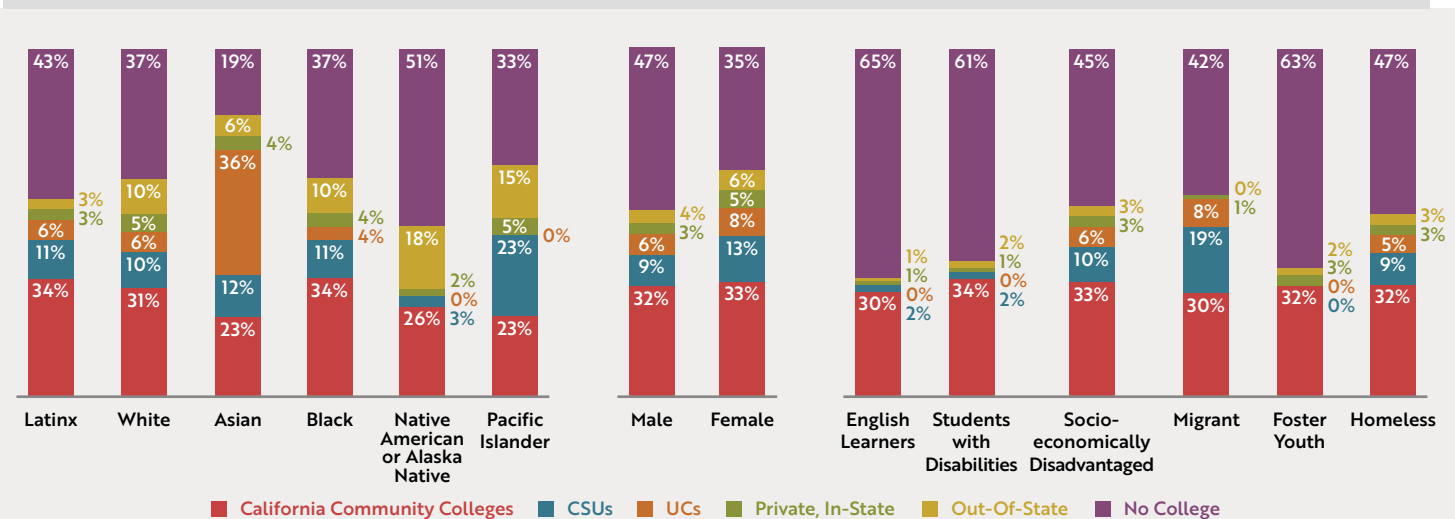
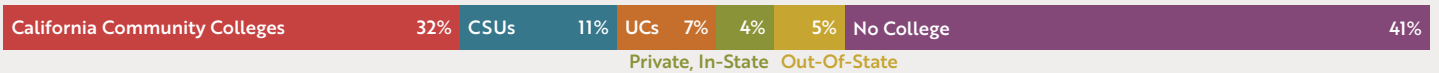
Substantial differences exist in higher education outcomes. College readiness and access are the first steps to college completion. Access to a college preparatory curriculum is not universal, and differences exist in who goes to college and where they go based on demographic characteristics, such as race and ethnicity. Homeless students, foster youth, English language learners, and students with disabilities also face tremendous barriers in accessing and succeeding in college.

Moreover, the postsecondary education system's focus on the traditional student's pathway (one who matriculates directly to college after high school) leaves limited opportunities for older adults interested in higher education to successfully complete a postsecondary credential.

The inequitable access to postsecondary education leads to significant differences in the region's educational attainment by race and ethnicity.



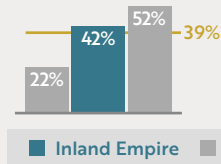
Where Do High School Students Go to College?



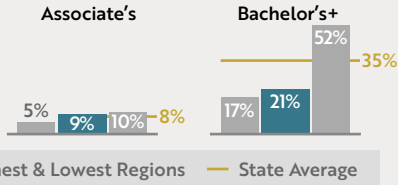
1. High school students must complete a set of courses known as "A-G" to be eligible for admission to the California State University and University of California.
 2. Students who do not have a parent who graduated from high school, are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, or are foster, homeless, or migrant youth.



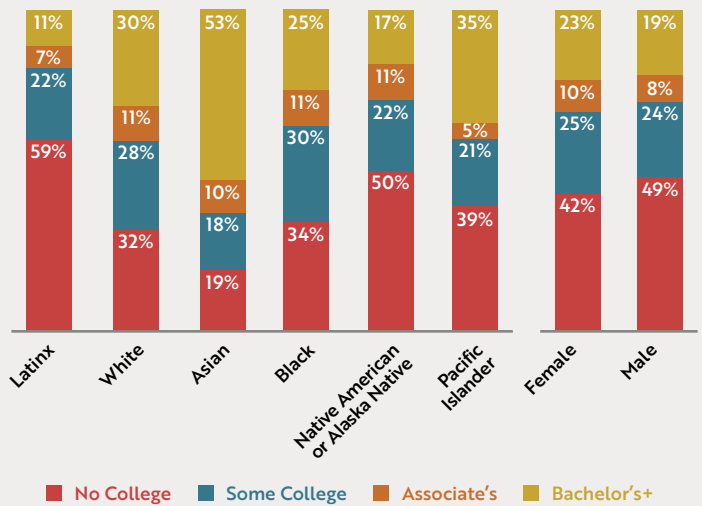
Adult (25+) Intent to Enroll



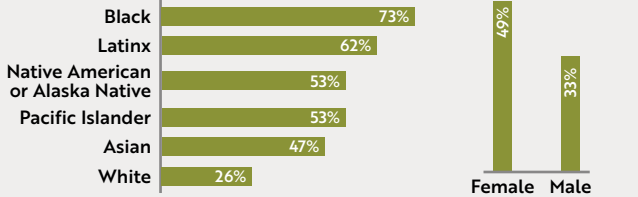
Highest Educational Attainment



What Is the Highest Level of Attainment?

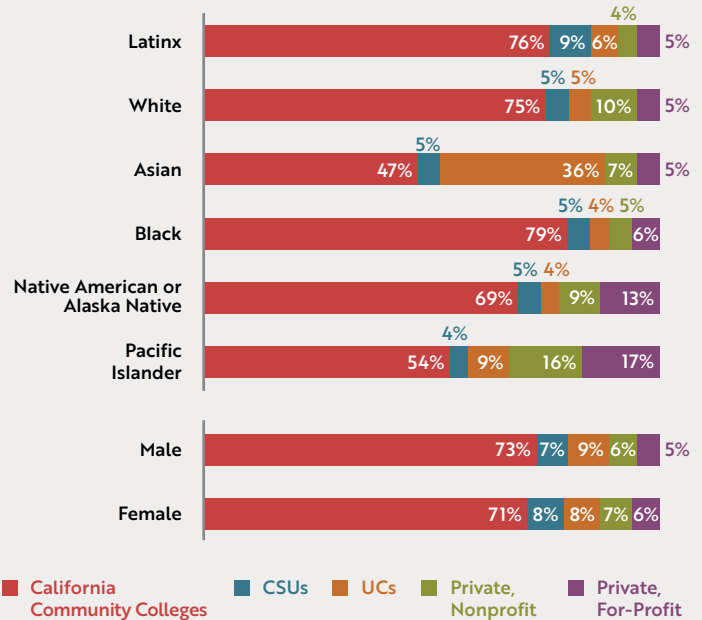
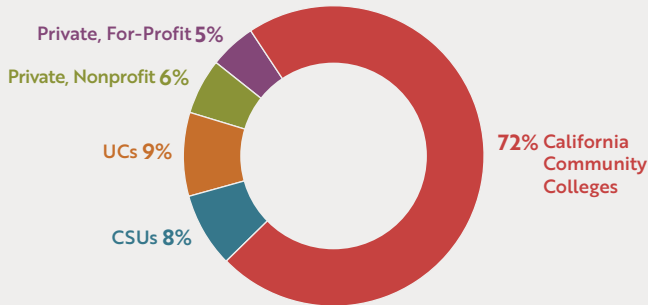


Which Adults (25+) Intend to Enroll in College?

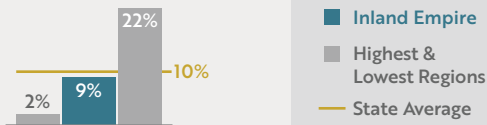


ABOUT COLLEGES IN THIS REGION

What Does Enrollment at Colleges in this Region Look Like?

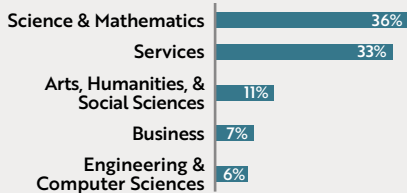


Online Enrollment Rate¹

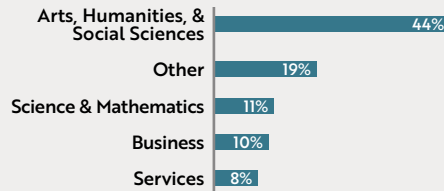


What Are the Most Commonly Completed Programs at Colleges in the Region?

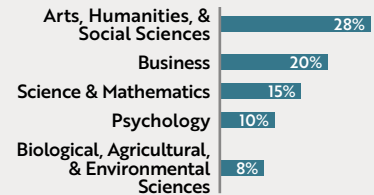
Certificates



Associate's Degree



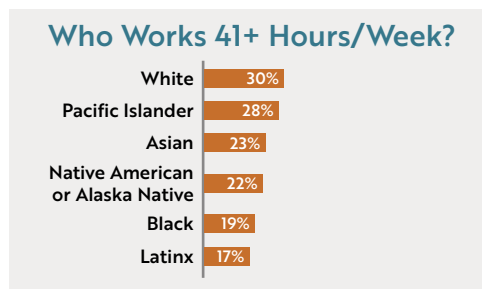
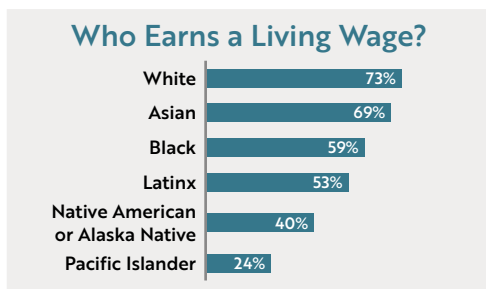
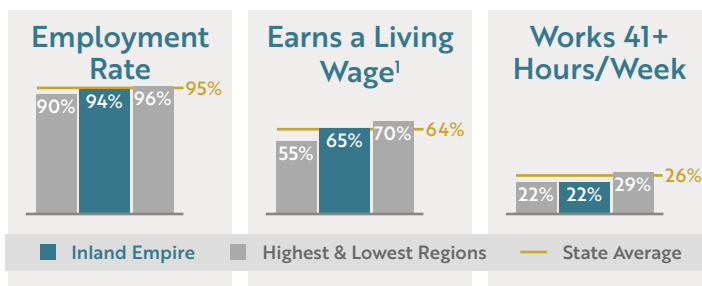
Bachelor's Degree



1. The percentage of college students enrolled in the fall term at colleges in the region who are enrolled exclusively in online courses. Note that these students may live in other regions, states, or countries.

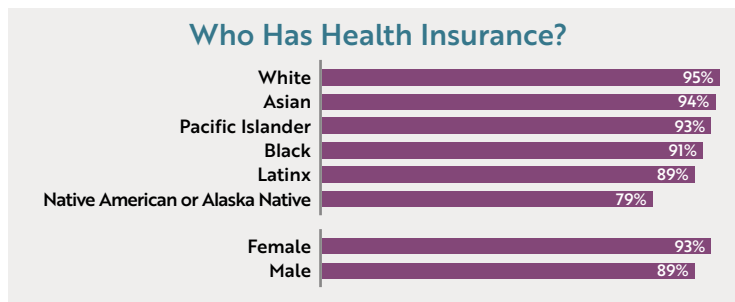
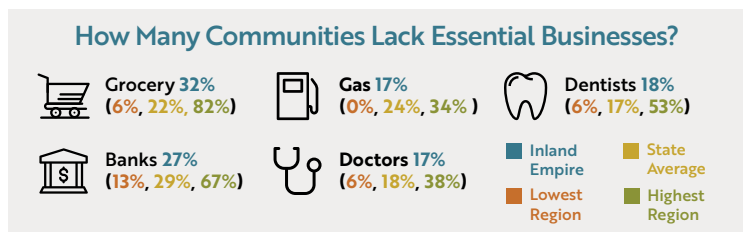
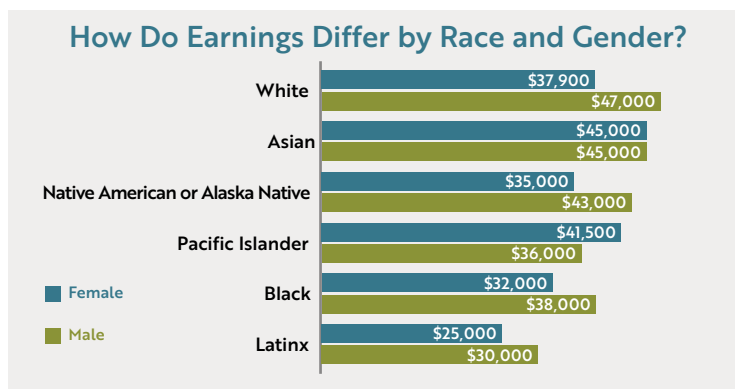
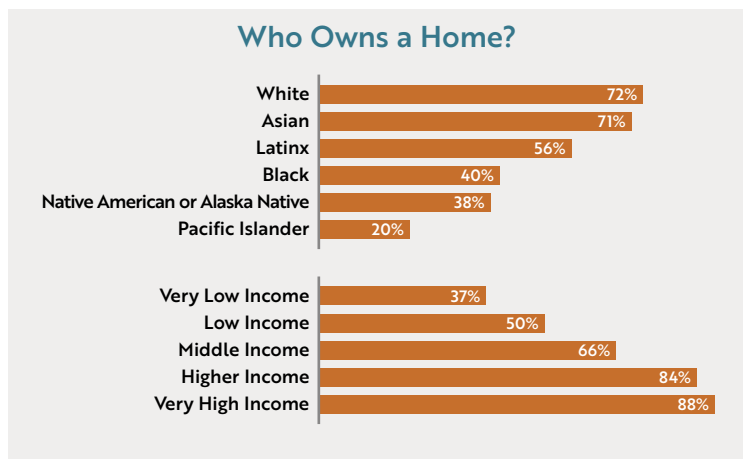
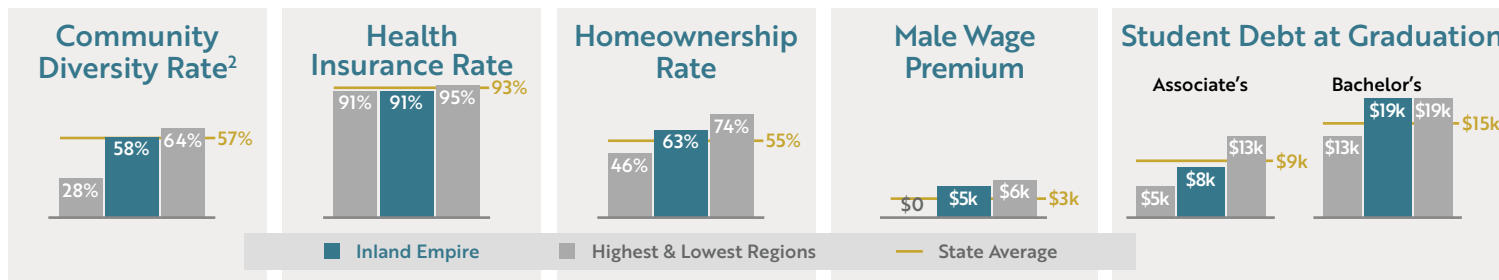


Gainful employment is critical for individual and community economic and social strength. Employment rates in the region are slightly less than the state average. Additionally, racial and ethnic differences in employment exist with 93 percent of Latinx residents being employed, compared to 95+ percent of White and Asian residents. Moreover, while access to employment is critical, earning a living wage is also important. Sixty-five percent of Inland Empire residents earn a living wage compared to the state average of 64 percent.



PROSPERITY

Though it is impossible to quantify prosperity, markers like health insurance, homeownership, and economic development signify pathways to prosperity. Mechanisms that reflect stability, build wealth, promote health, and enrich culture shape a community's ability to thrive. Similarly, wage gaps and communities without critical businesses demonstrate areas that need additional attention for equitable outcomes.



1. Earning a living wage means household income is sufficient to meet basic needs, which are adjusted for family size and county-level cost of living.
 2. The community diversity rate estimates the probability that any two individuals selected at random would be of different races or ethnicities.

