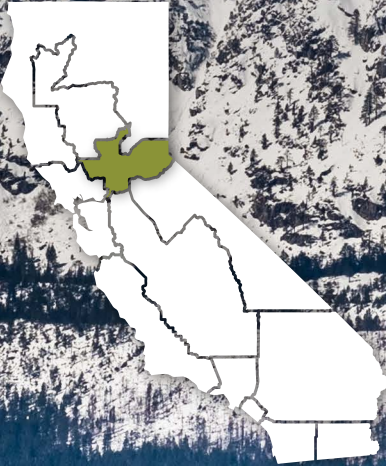




# POSTSECONDARY TO PROSPERITY

## SACRAMENTO-TAHOE



More online at  
[californiacompetes.org/p2p](https://californiacompetes.org/p2p)

Home to California’s capital, the Sacramento-Tahoe region’s population makes up 6 percent of the state population. This region has eight California Community Colleges (CCC), one California State University (CSU), and one University of California (UC) institution. High school graduation, A-G course completion, and college-going rates are similar to the state average. However, college access within the region varies by race and ethnicity. More than twice as many Native American and Alaska Native high school students have no college experience than the region’s average of 33 percent. While associate’s degree attainment surpasses the state average, bachelor’s degree attainment falls 6 percent short, with Asian and White residents most likely to hold bachelor’s degrees (49% and 38%, respectively). In addition, most residents who complete a certificate do so in a service field. Though the region’s employment rate and ability to earn a living wage either meet or surpass the state average, opportunities here also vary across racial and ethnic groups within the region and are inconsistent within groups. Though 96 percent of White residents are employed, only 75 percent earn a living wage, and 68 percent own a home. In contrast, only 89 percent of Black residents are employed, with 52 percent earning a living wage and 33 percent owning a home. Employment rates may be relatively high, but employment alone does not guarantee a living wage or ability to build wealth through homeownership. These disparities exist despite the region having higher-than-average rates for diversity, health insurance, and homeownership.

**POPULATION**  
2,498,369

**COUNTIES**  
El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba

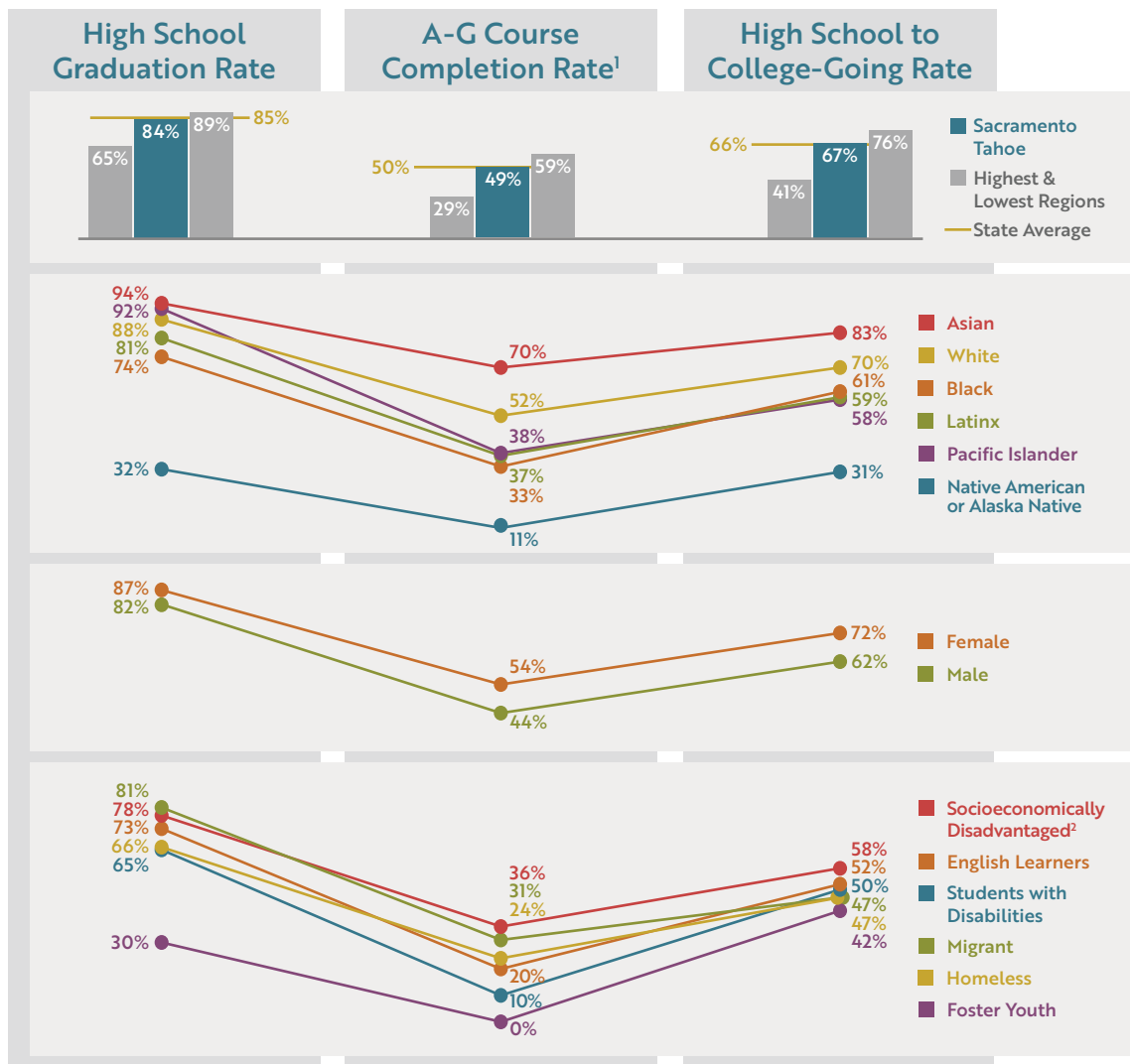
**ABOUT THE DATA<sup>1</sup>**  
This factsheet uses 8 primary datasets (2017–2020)

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).

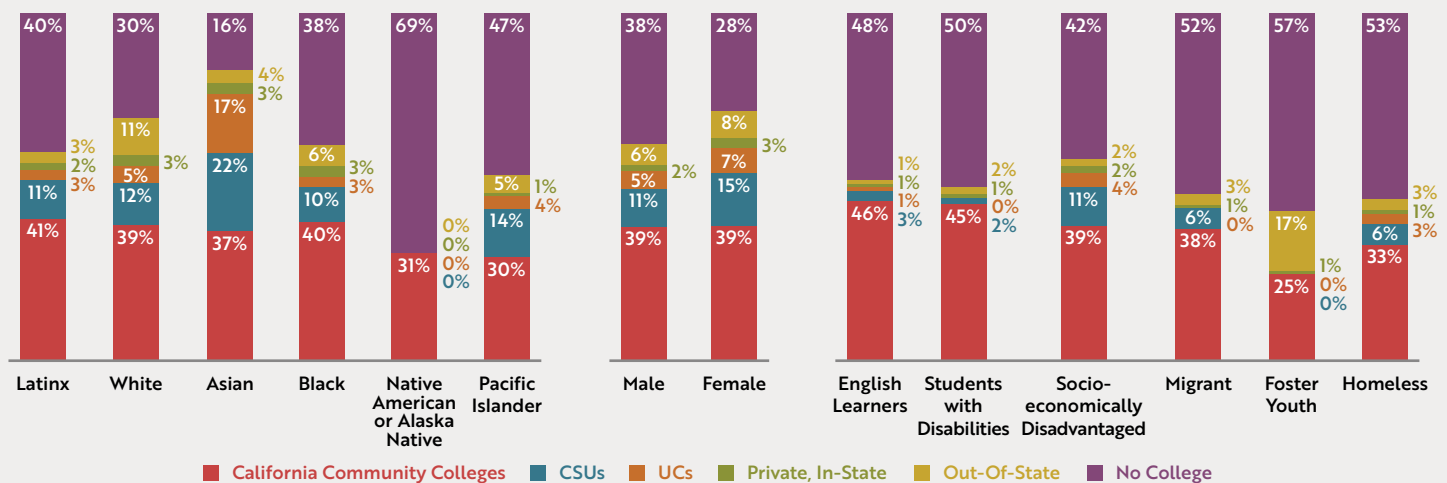
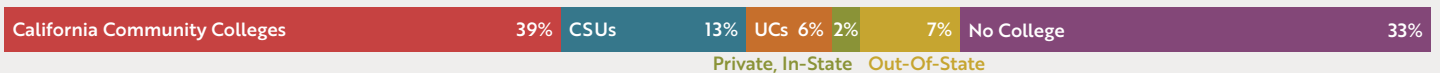
Substantial differences exist in higher education outcomes. College readiness and access are the first steps to college completion. Access to a college preparatory curriculum is not universal, and differences exist in who goes to college and where they go based on demographic characteristics, such as 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.



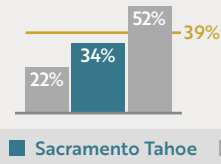
Where Do High School Students Go to College?



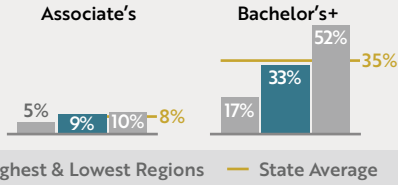
1. High school students must complete a set of courses known as "A-G" to be eligible for admission to the California State University and University of California.  
 2. Students who do not have a parent who graduated from high school, are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, or are foster, homeless,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



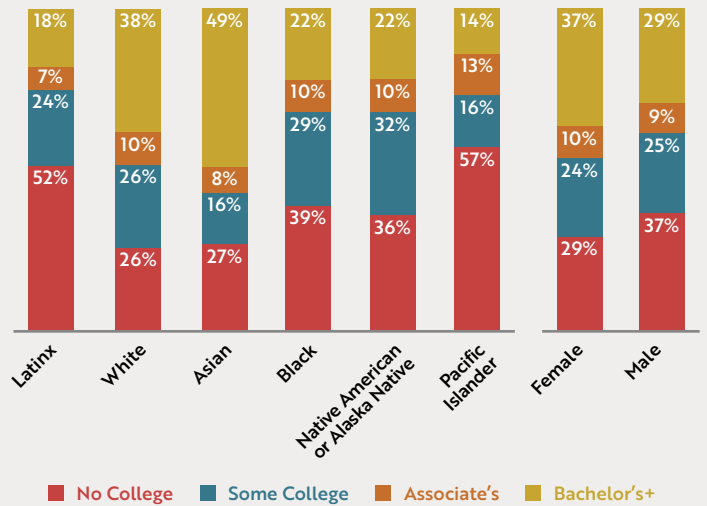
Adult (25+) Intent to Enroll



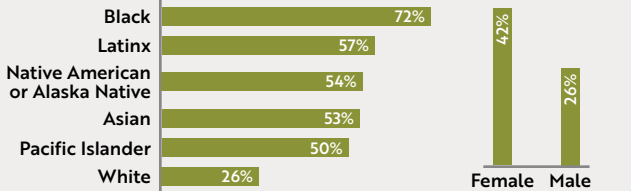
Highest Educational Attainment



What Is the Highest Level of Attainment?

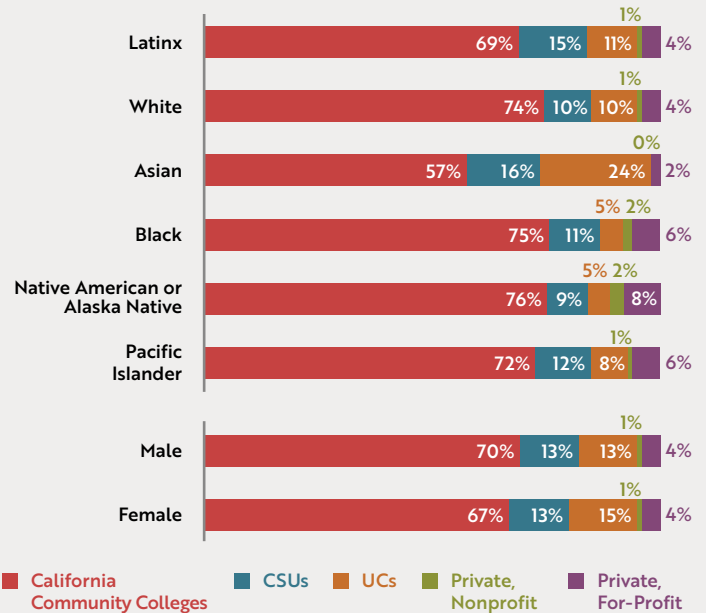
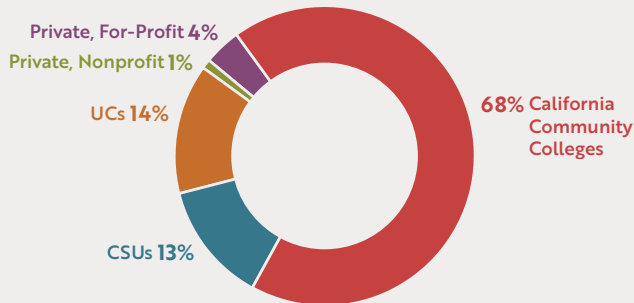


Which Adults (25+) Intend to Enroll in College?

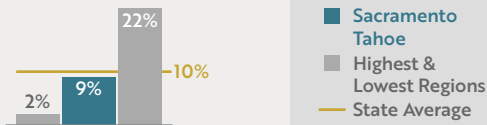


ABOUT COLLEGES IN THIS REGION

What Does Enrollment at Colleges in this Region Look Like?

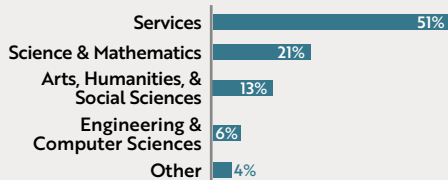


Online Enrollment Rate<sup>1</sup>

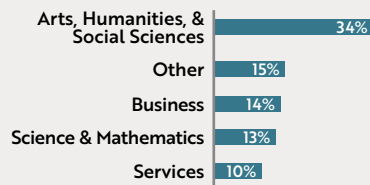


What Are the Most Commonly Completed Programs at Colleges in the Region?

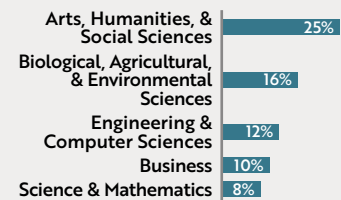
Certificates



Associate's Degree



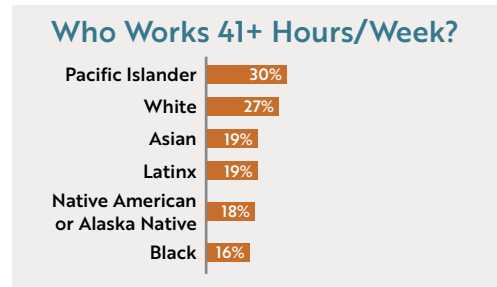
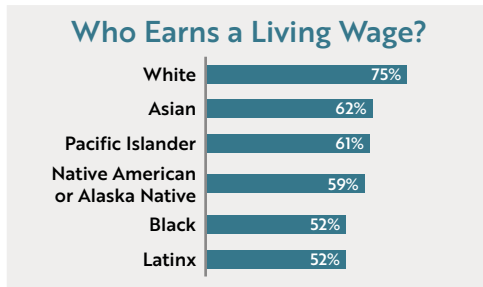
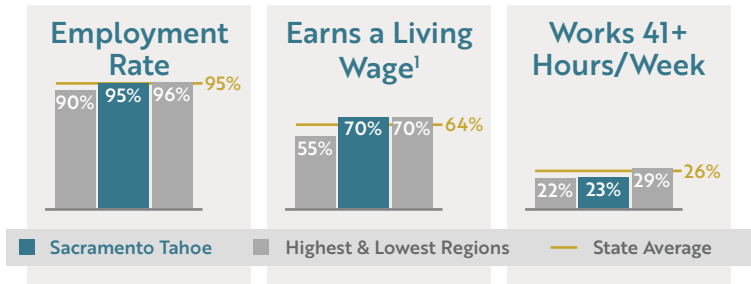
Bachelor's Degree



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.

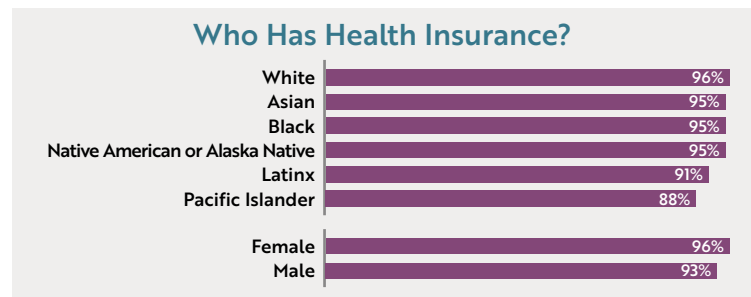
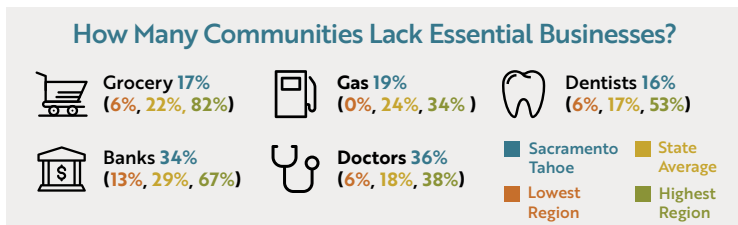
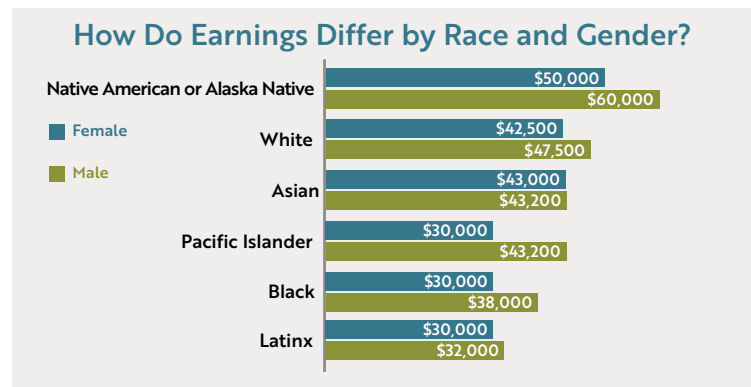
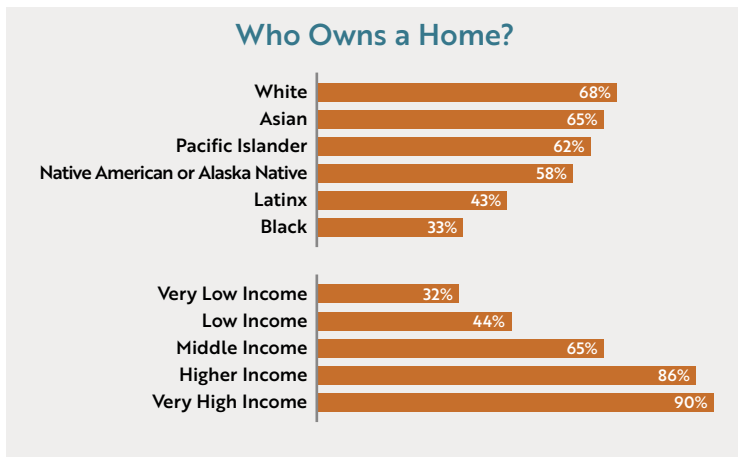
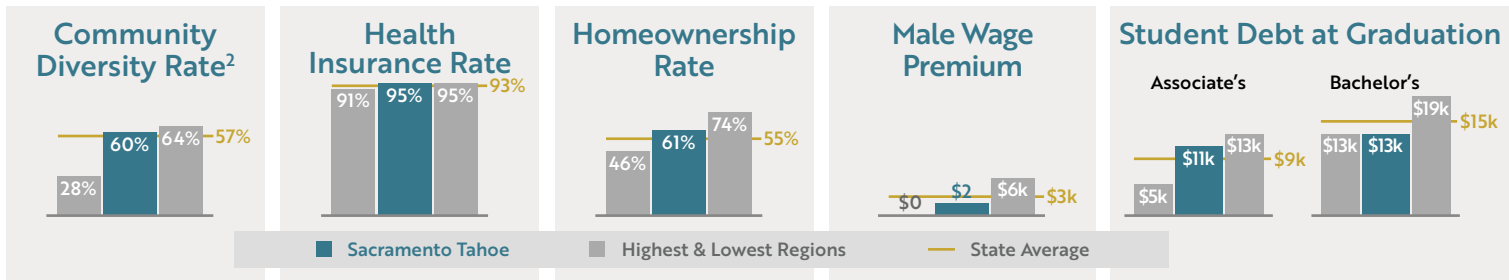


Gainful employment is critical for individual and community economic and social strength. Employment rates in the region are similar to the state average. However, racial and ethnic differences in employment exist with 93 percent of Native American and Alaska Native residents being employed, compared to 96 percent of White residents. Moreover, while access to employment is critical, earning a living wage is also important. Seventy percent of Sacramento-Tahoe 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.

