

**THE EDUCATION TRUST**

# **ACCESS TO SUCCESS IN AMERICA**

**Why more action—and  
innovation—is critical**

**Innovation in Higher Education  
March 9, 2015  
Sacramento, California**



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# America: Two Powerful Stories



# 1. Land of Opportunity:

Work hard, and you can become anything you want to be.



## 2. Generational Advancement:

Through hard work, each generation of parents can assure a better life — and better education — for their children.



These stories animated hopes and  
dreams of people here at home

And drew countless immigrants to our  
shores



Yes, America was often intolerant...

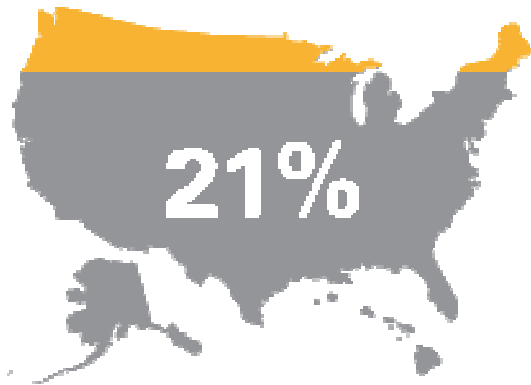
And they knew the “Dream” was a work in progress.

# We were:

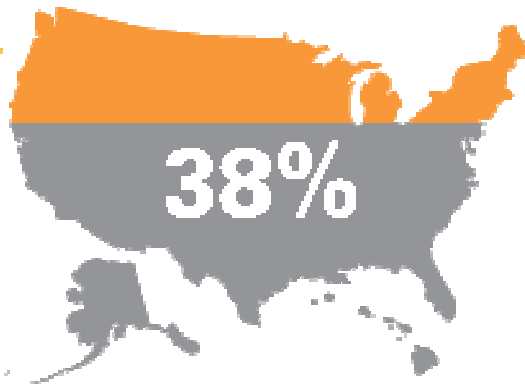
- The first to provide universal high school;
- The first to build public universities;
- The first to build community colleges;
- The first to broaden access to college, through GI Bill, Pell Grants, ...

# Percent of U.S. adults with a high school diploma

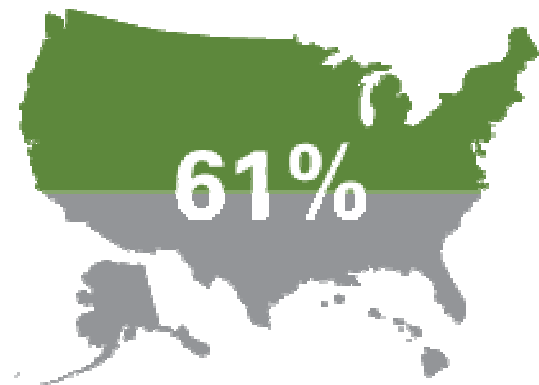
1920



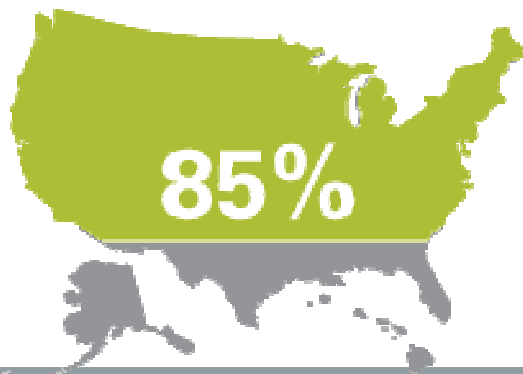
1940



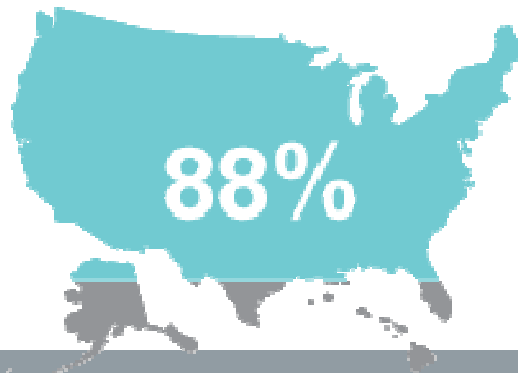
1960



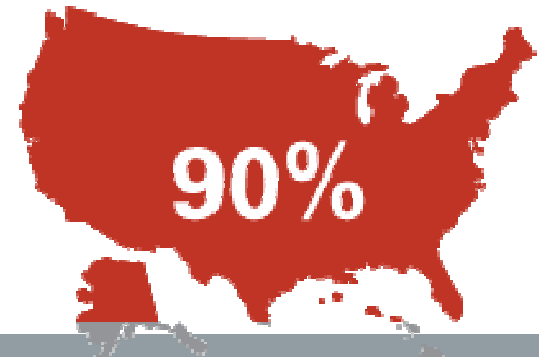
1980



2000



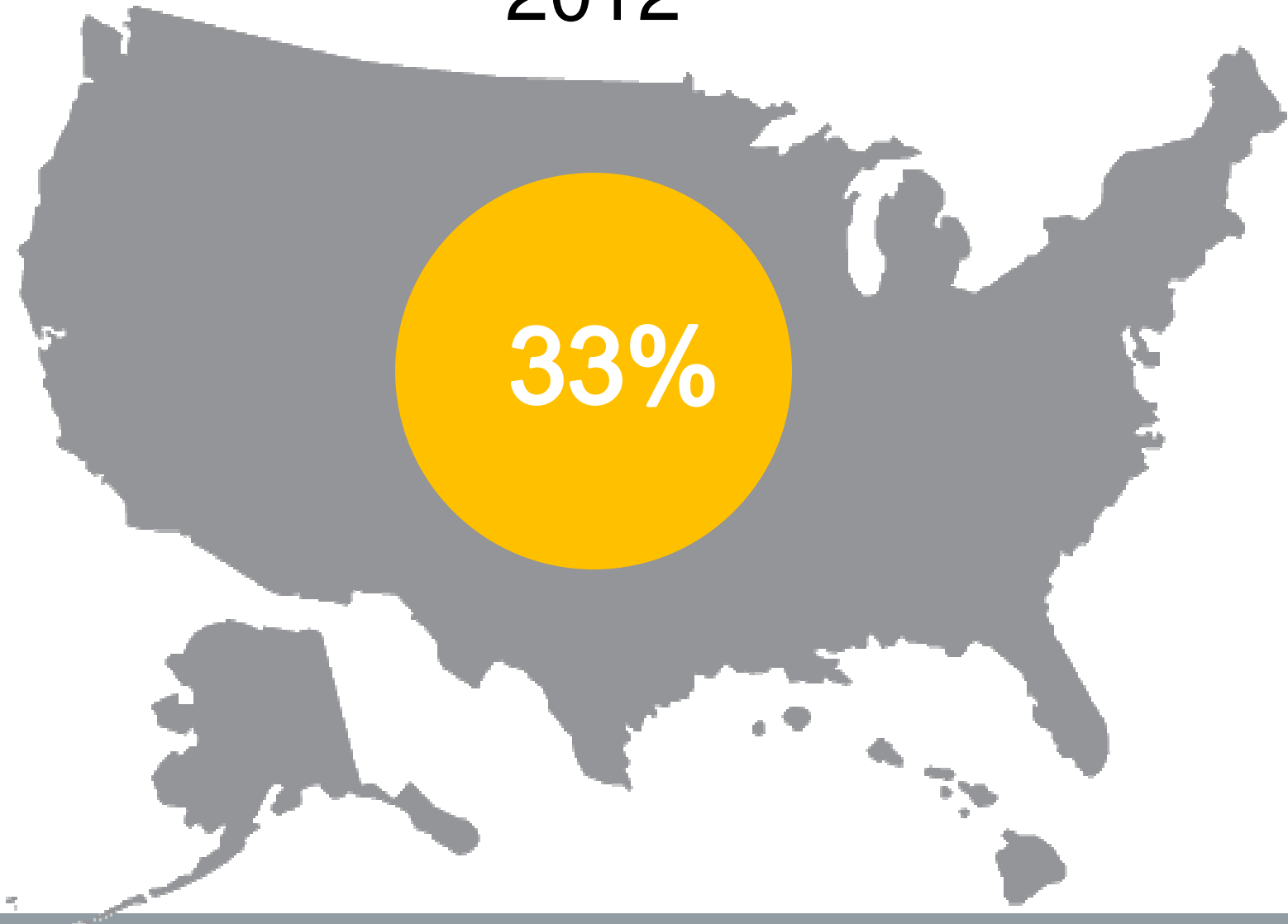
2012






# Percent of U.S. adults with a B.A. or more

2012

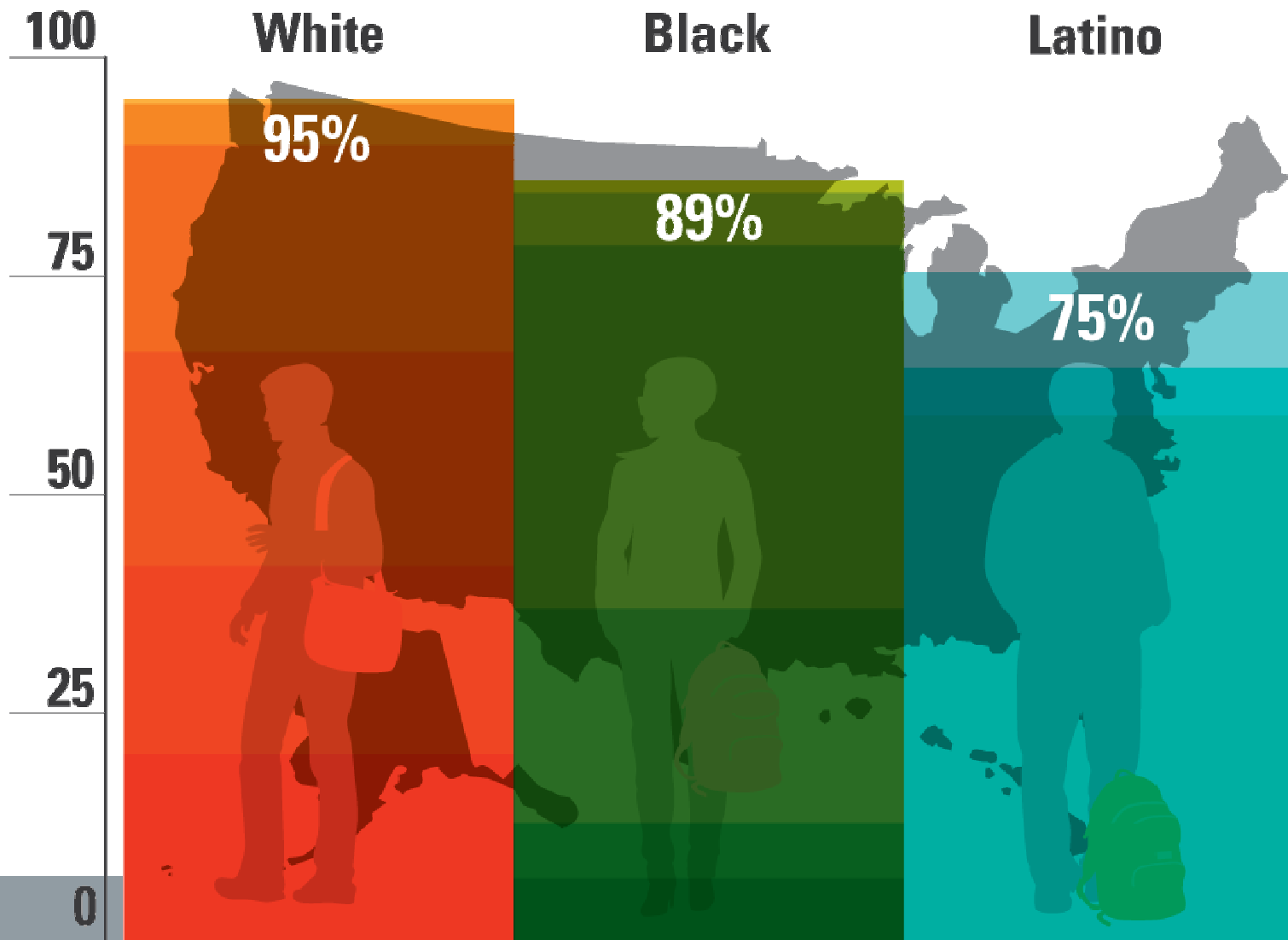




Progress was painfully slow, especially  
for people of color. But year by year,  
decade by decade...

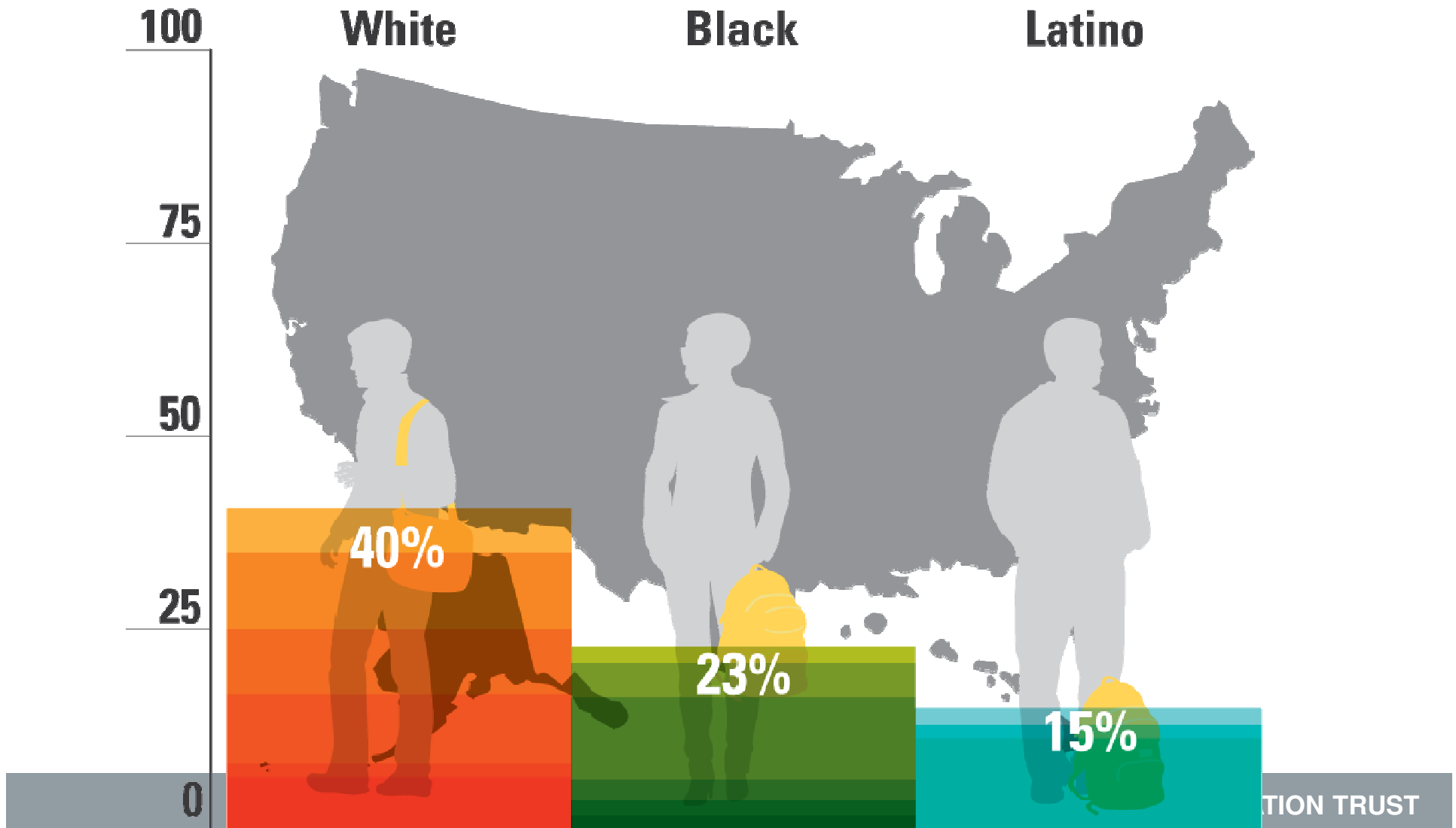
# Percent of U.S. adults with a high school diploma, by race


2012




# Percent of U.S. adults with a B.A. or more, by race

2012





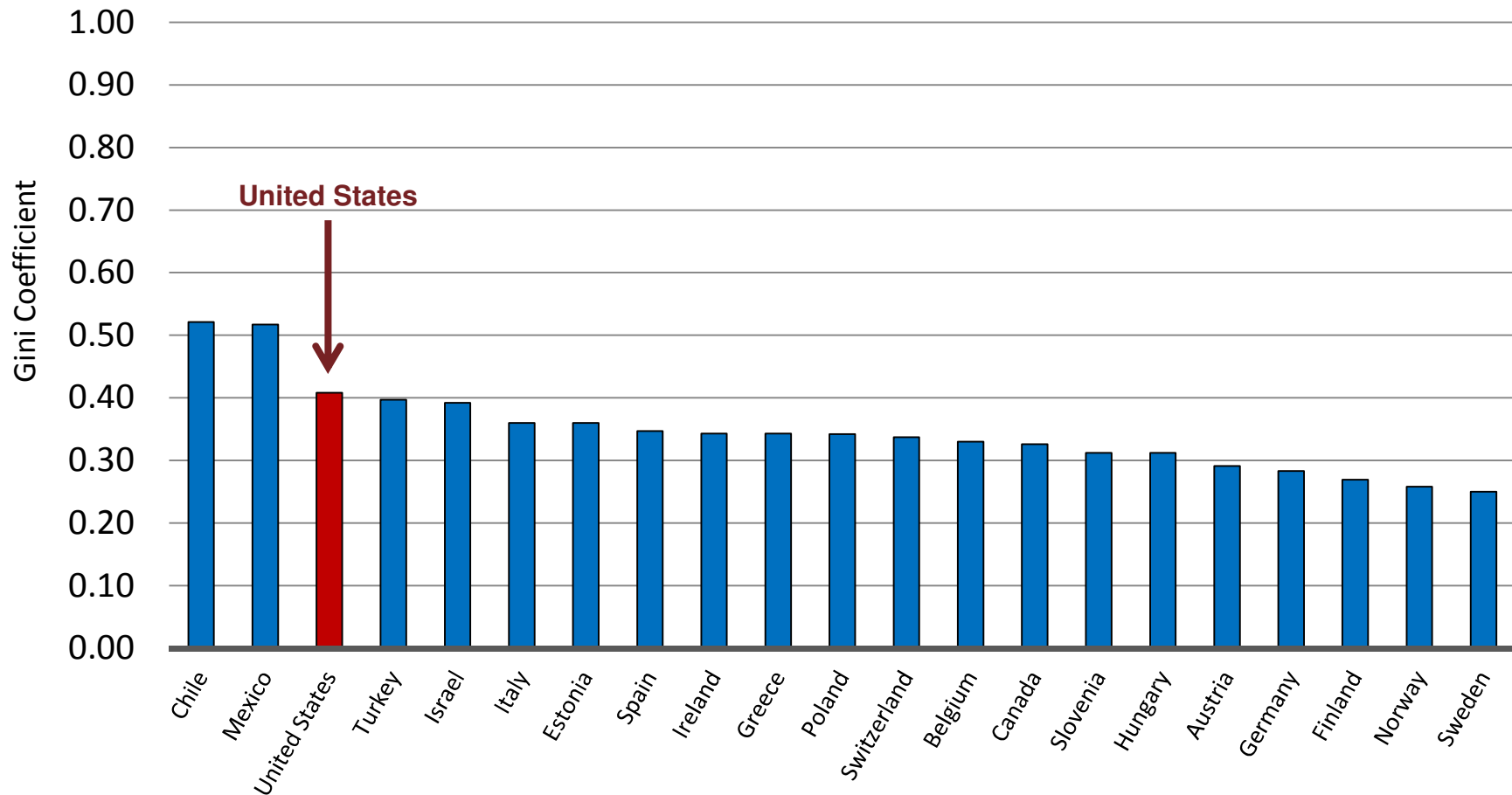
**Then, beginning in the  
eighties, inequality started  
growing again.**



In recent years, most income gains have gone to those at the top of the ladder, while those at the bottom have fallen backwards.

Source: Stiglitz, "Inequality is a Choice," *New York Times*, October 13, 2013.

Instead of being the most equal, the U.S. has the third highest income inequality among OECD nations.



Note: Gini coefficient ranges from 0 to 1, where 0 indicates total income equality and 1 indicates total income inequality.

Source: United Nations, U.N. data, <http://data.un.org/DocumentData.aspx?q=gini&id=271>: 2011

# Median Wealth of White Families

**20 X** that of African Americans

**18 X** that of Latinos

Source: Rakesh Kochhar, Richard Fry, and Paul Taylor, "Twenty-to-One: Wealth Gaps Rise to Record Highs Between Whites, Blacks, and Hispanics," Pew Social & Demographic Trends, 2011.

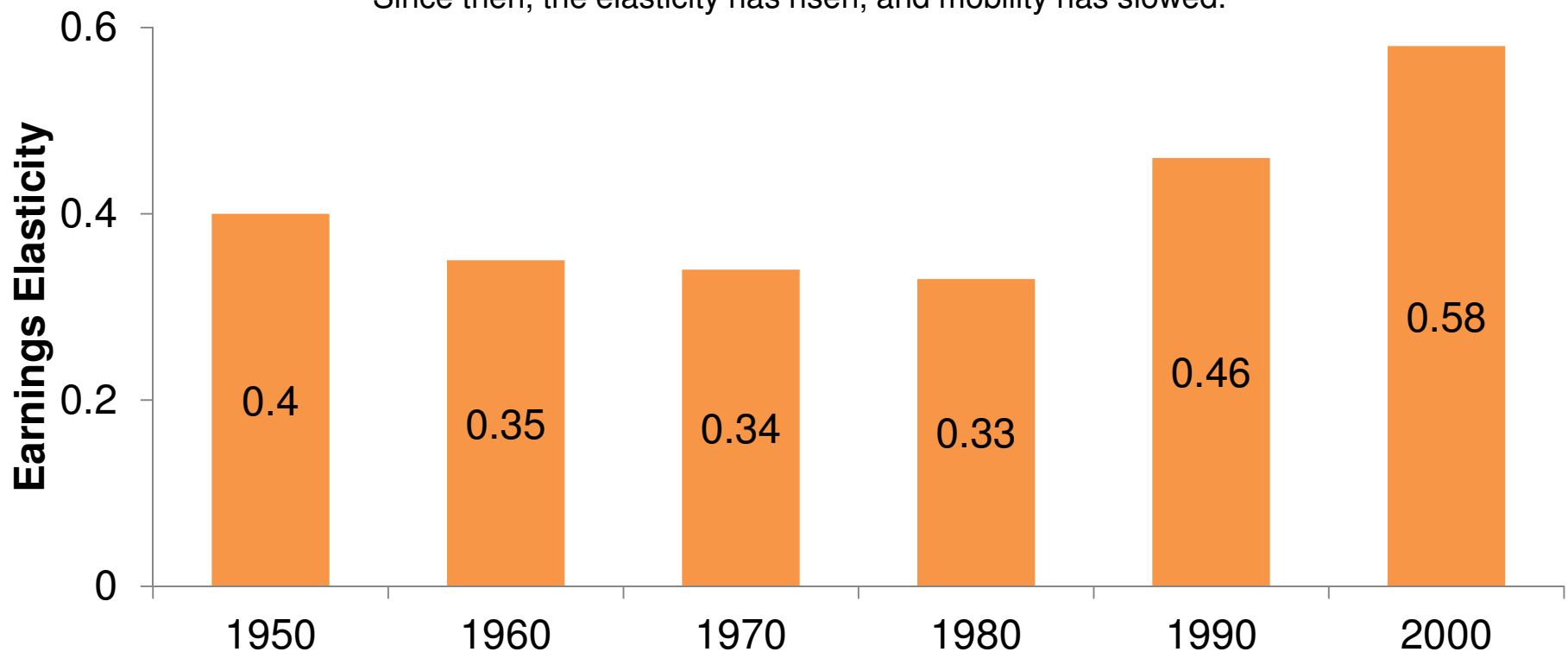




Not just wages and wealth, but  
social mobility as well.

# U.S. intergenerational mobility was increasing until 1980, but has sharply declined since.

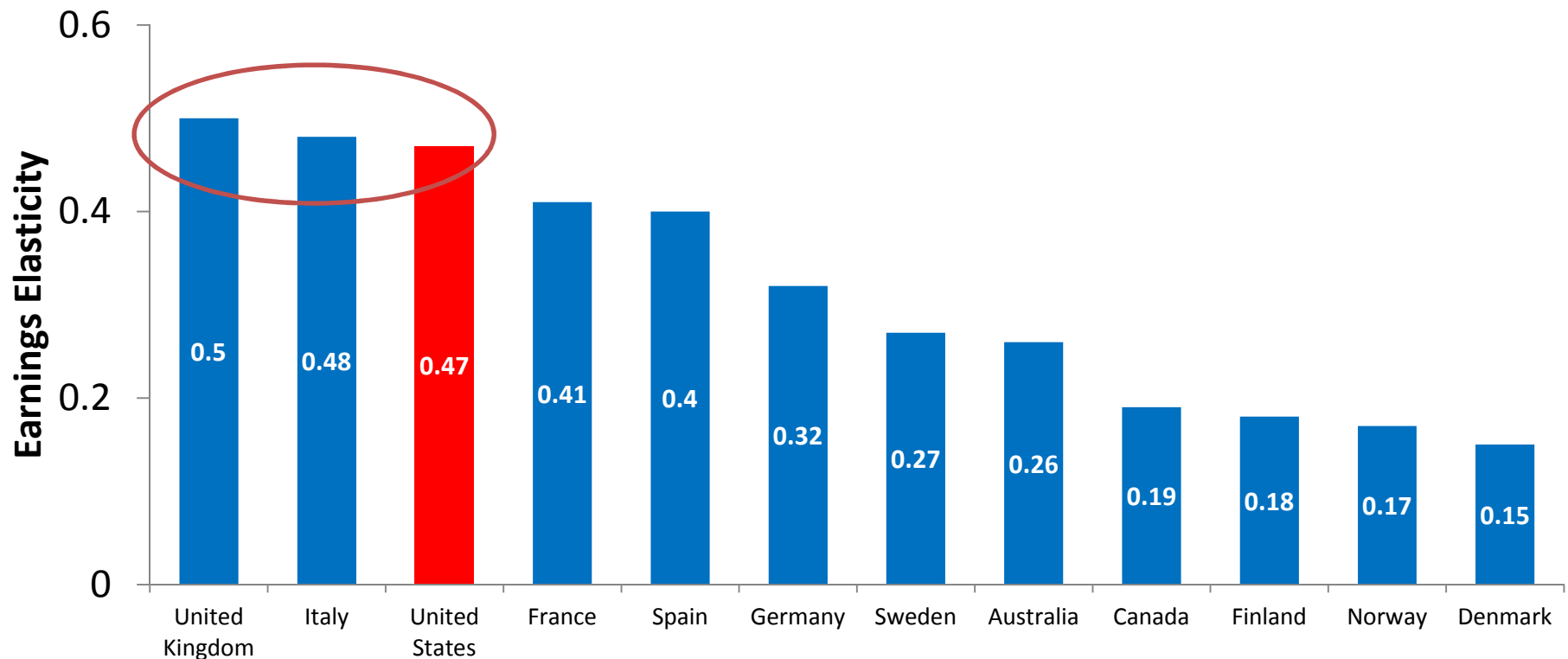
The falling elasticity meant increased economic mobility until 1980.  
Since then, the elasticity has risen, and mobility has slowed.




Source: Daniel Aaronson and Bhashkar Mazumder. *Intergenerational Economic Mobility in the U.S., 1940 to 2000*. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago WP 2005-12: Dec. 2005.

# The US now has one of lowest rates of intergenerational mobility

Cross-country examples of the link between father and son wages



Source: Corak, Miles. *Chasing the Same Dream, Climbing Different Ladders*. Economic Mobility Project; New Charitable Trusts, 2010.



At macro level, better and more equal  
education is not the only answer.

But at the individual level, it really is.

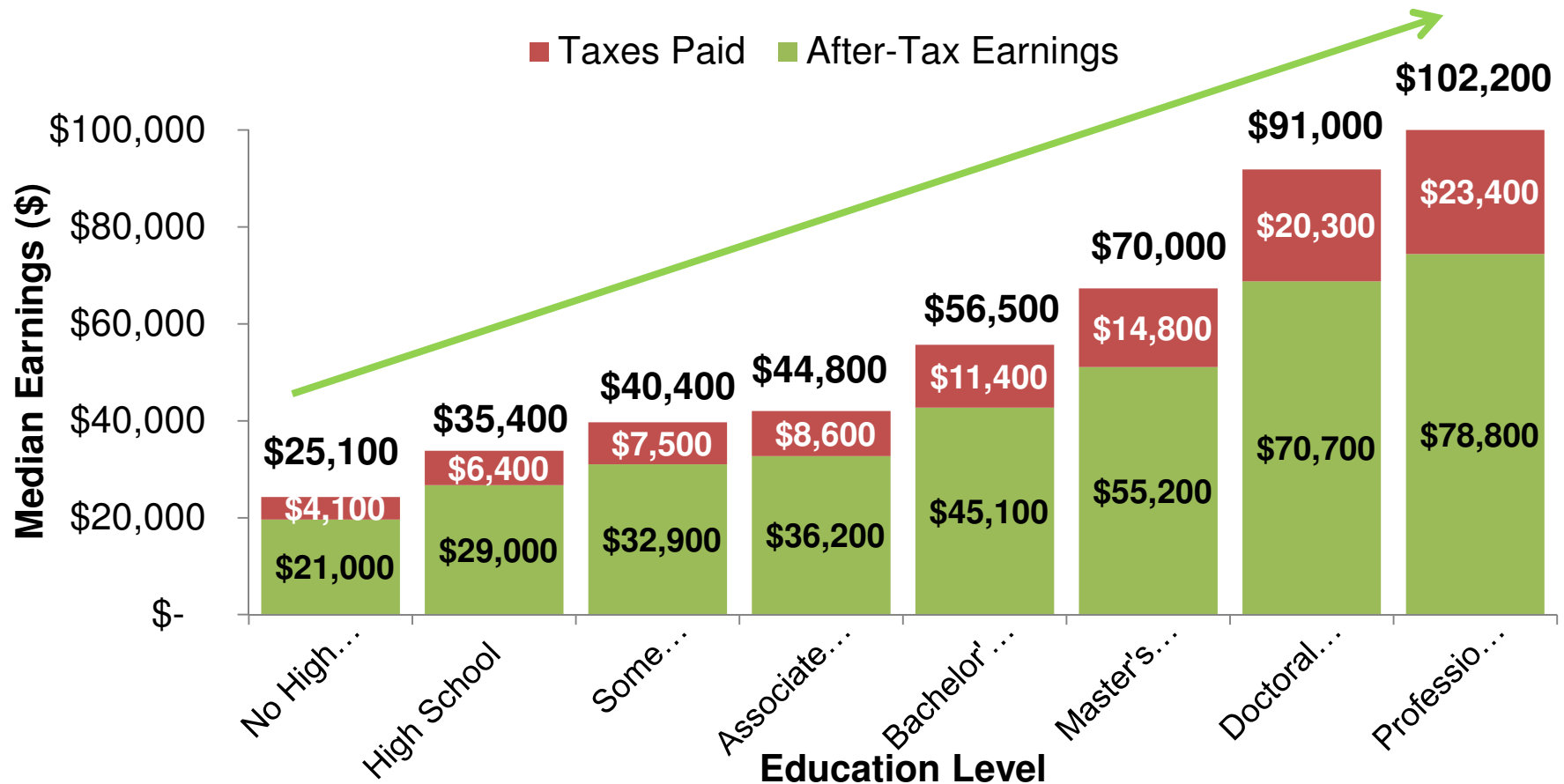
# Overwhelming message about what matters in turning this around?

## Education.

“Among those who have finished four years of college, there is no racial gap in economic mobility. Both whites and blacks experience very high rates.”

Source: Upward Intergenerational Mobility in the US. PewTrusts.

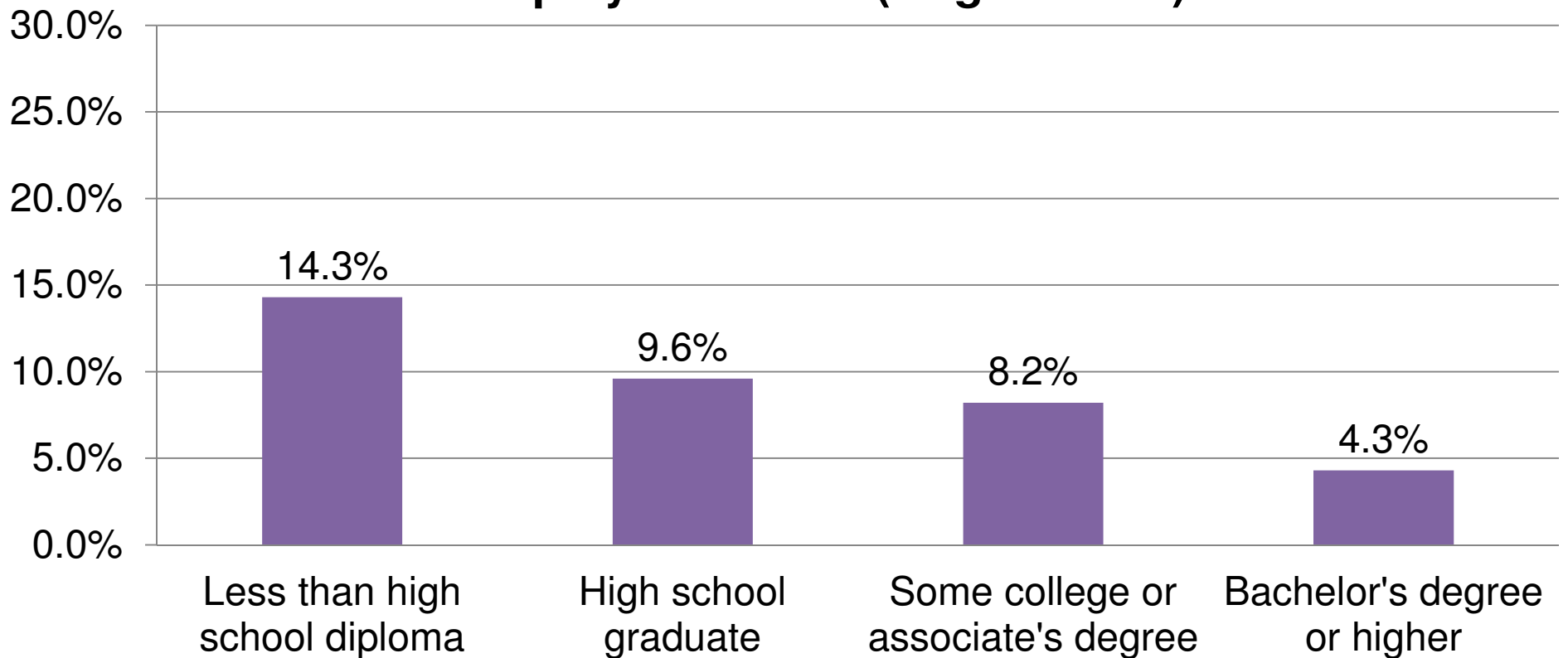
# College Grads Earn More



Source: College Board, Education Pays, 2013, Figure 1.1: Median Earnings and Tax Payments of Full-Time Year-Round Workers Ages 25 and Older, by Education Level, 2011

# College Grads Less Likely to be Unemployed

## Unemployment Rate (August 2011)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Table A-4, <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t04htm>

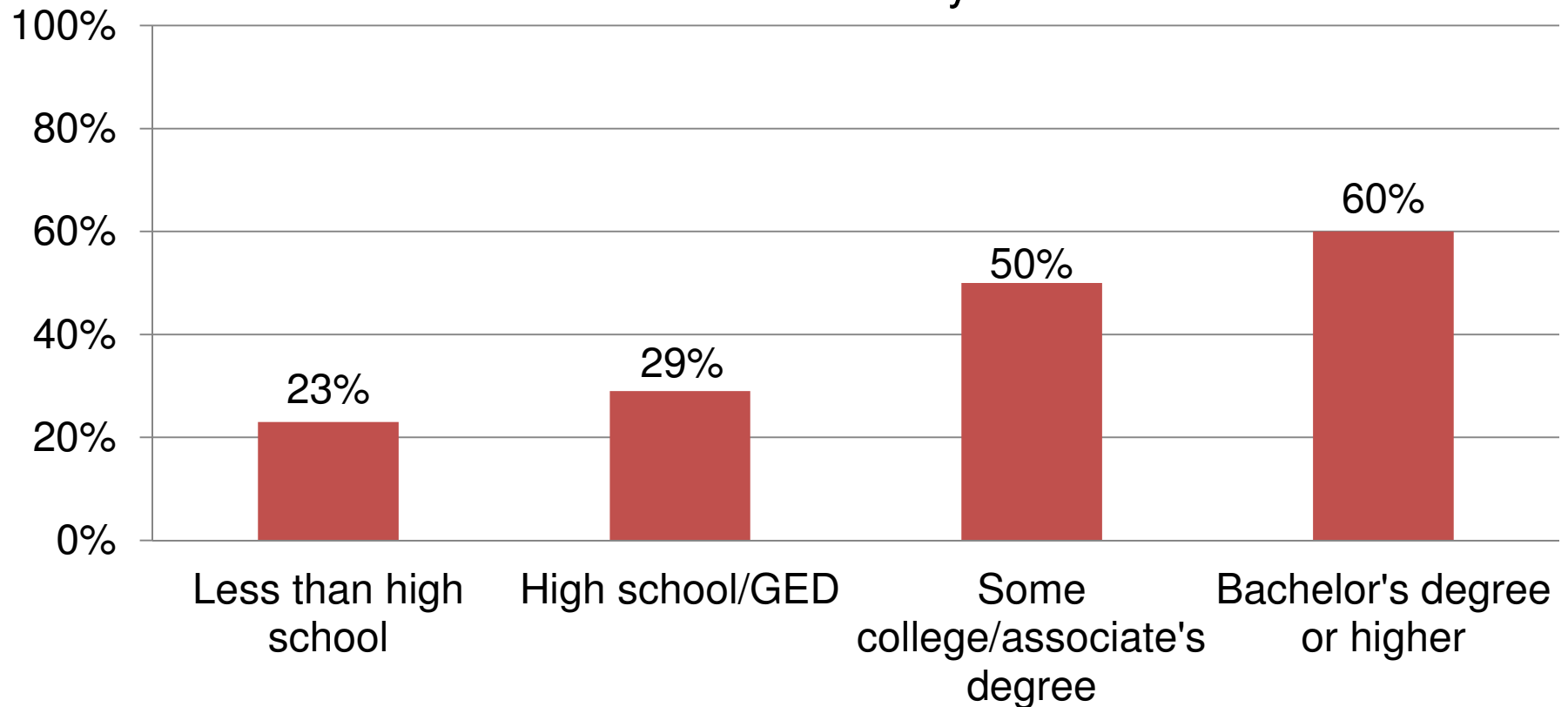


They also stand out on the  
other things we value.



# College graduates more likely to vote

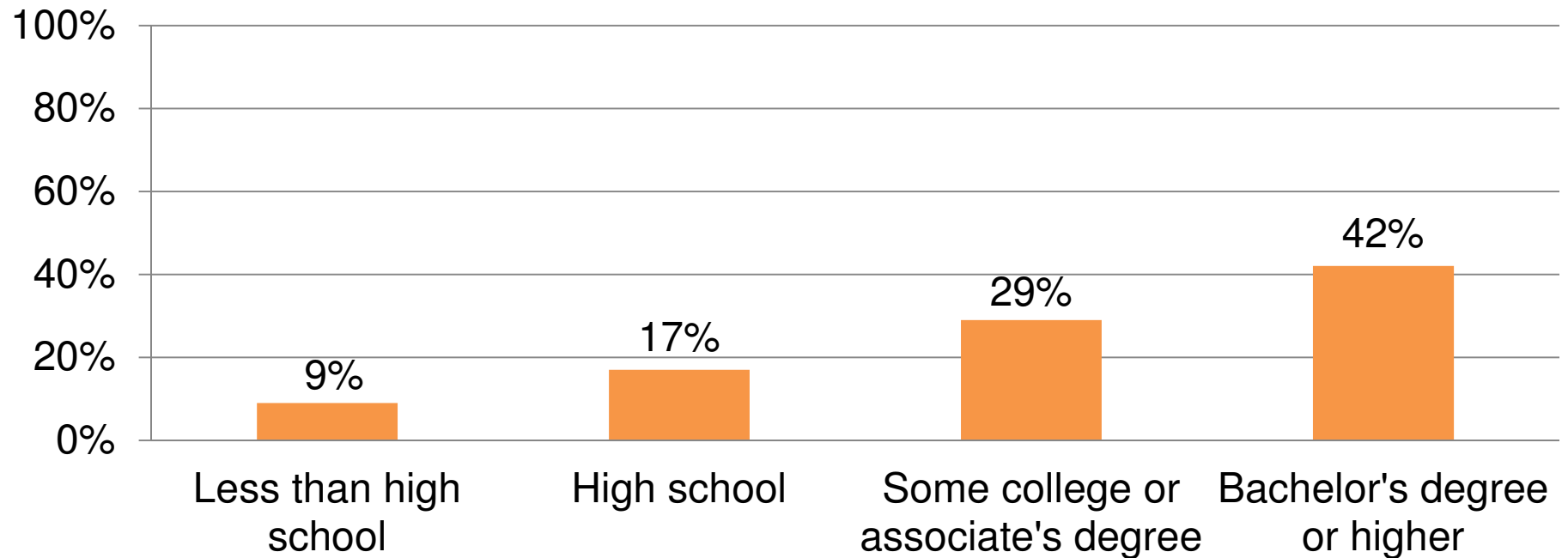
Percent of US Citizens Aged 18-24 Who Voted in the 2012 Presidential Election by Education Level



Note: Data include both those who are and are not registered to vote.  
Source: Education Pays 2013, The College Board

# College graduates more likely to volunteer

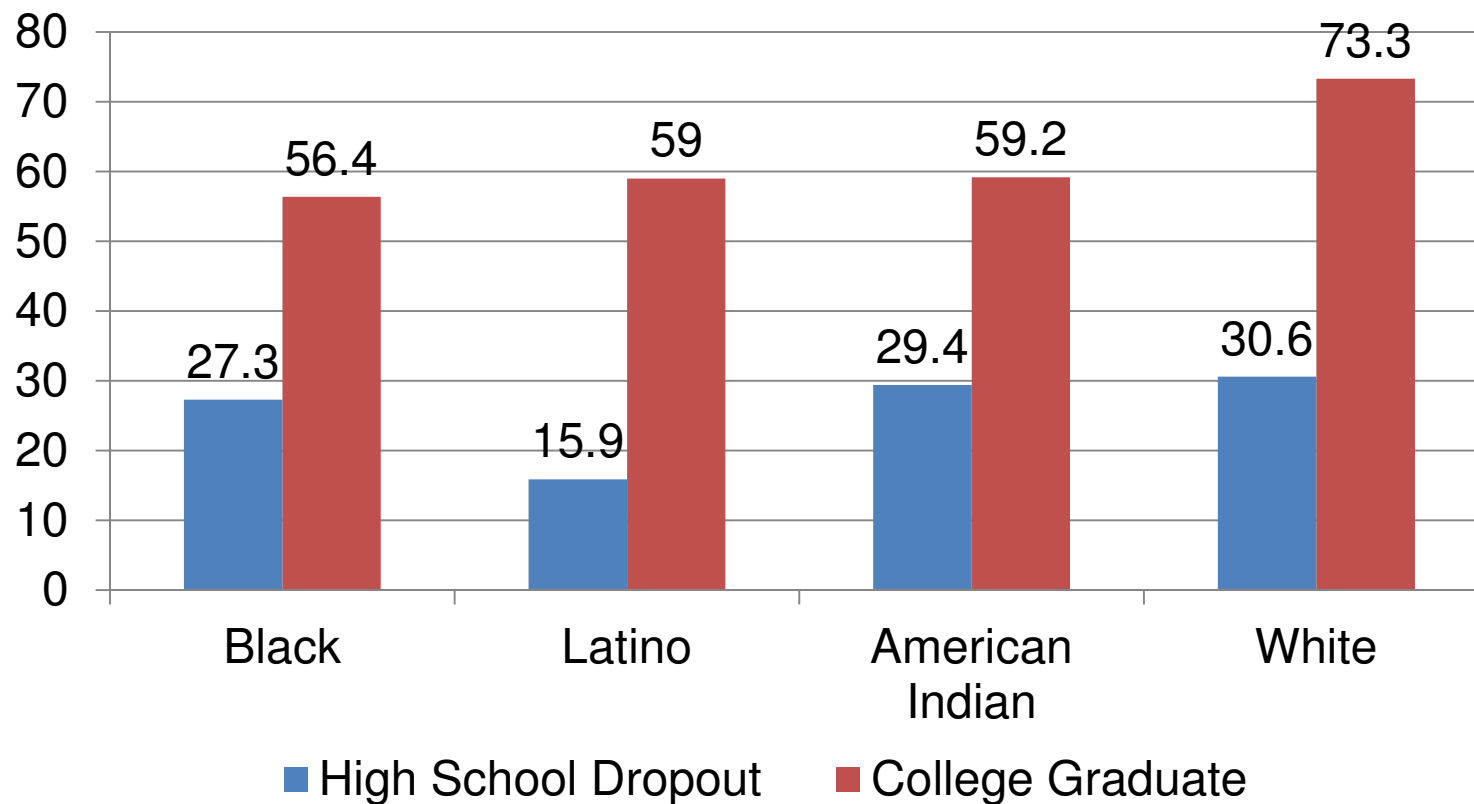
Percent of Adults 25 and Over Who Volunteered in 2012 by Education Level



Note: Data represent percentage of total population that reported volunteering from September 2008 to September 2009

Source: Education Pays 2013, The College Board

# College Grads of all races far more likely to be in “Very Good” or “Excellent” Health

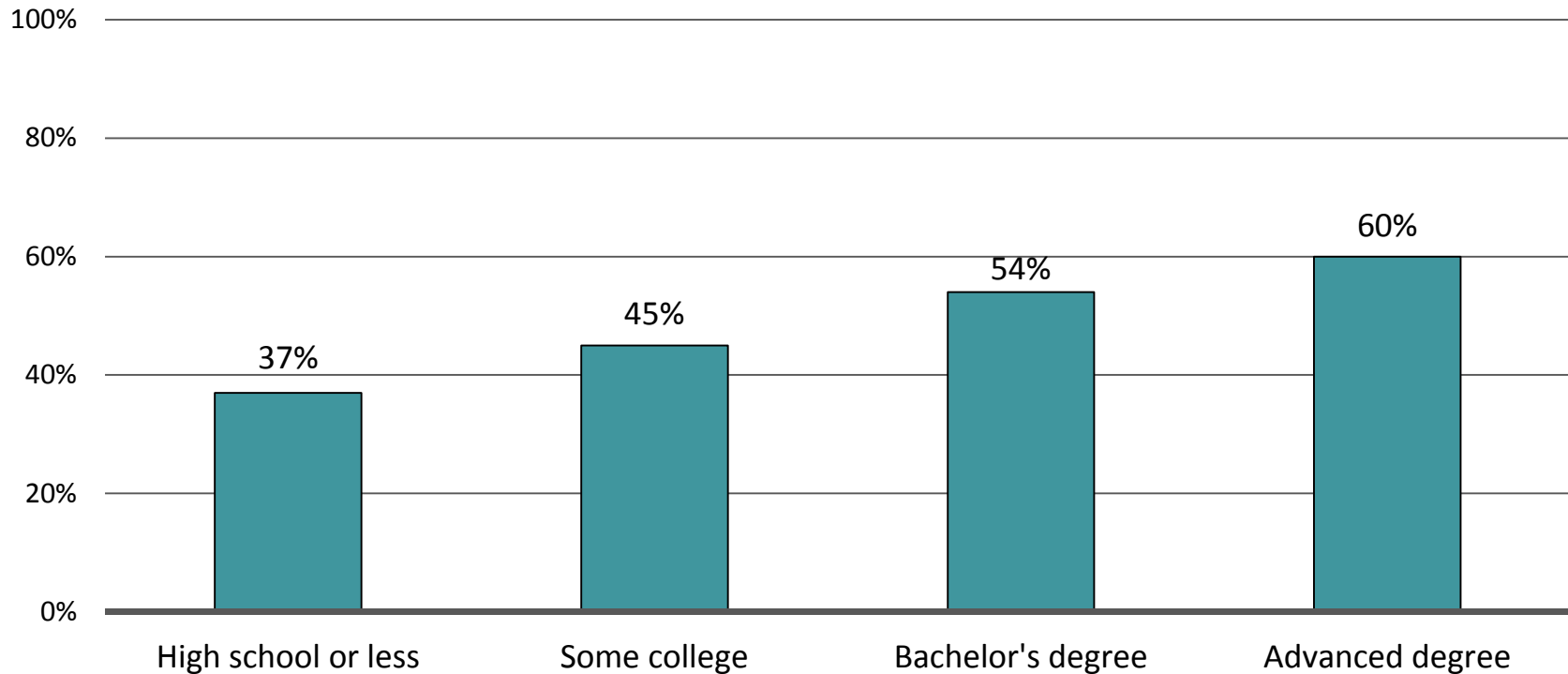


Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Commission for a Healthier America, 2009


e:

# College Grads Even Have Better Mental Health

Percentage of respondents reporting themselves to be in excellent mental health



Source: Gallup, "Strong Relationship Between Income and Mental Health" (2007)




What schools and colleges do, in other words, is hugely important to our **economy**, our **democracy**, and our **society**.



There is one road up, and that  
road runs through us.

So, how are we doing?



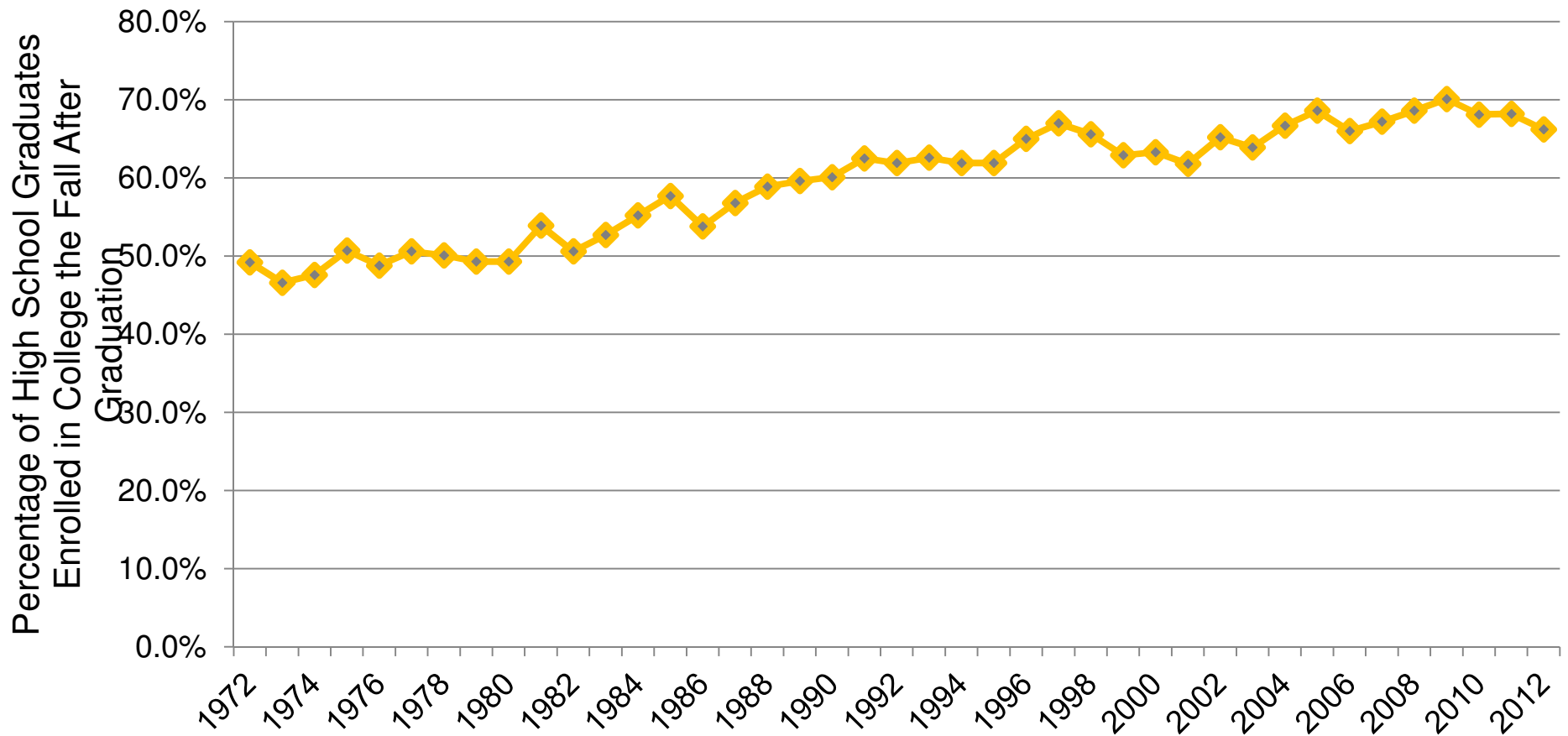


Over past 30 years, we've made  
a lot of progress on the access  
side.

n/a



# Immediate College-Going Up

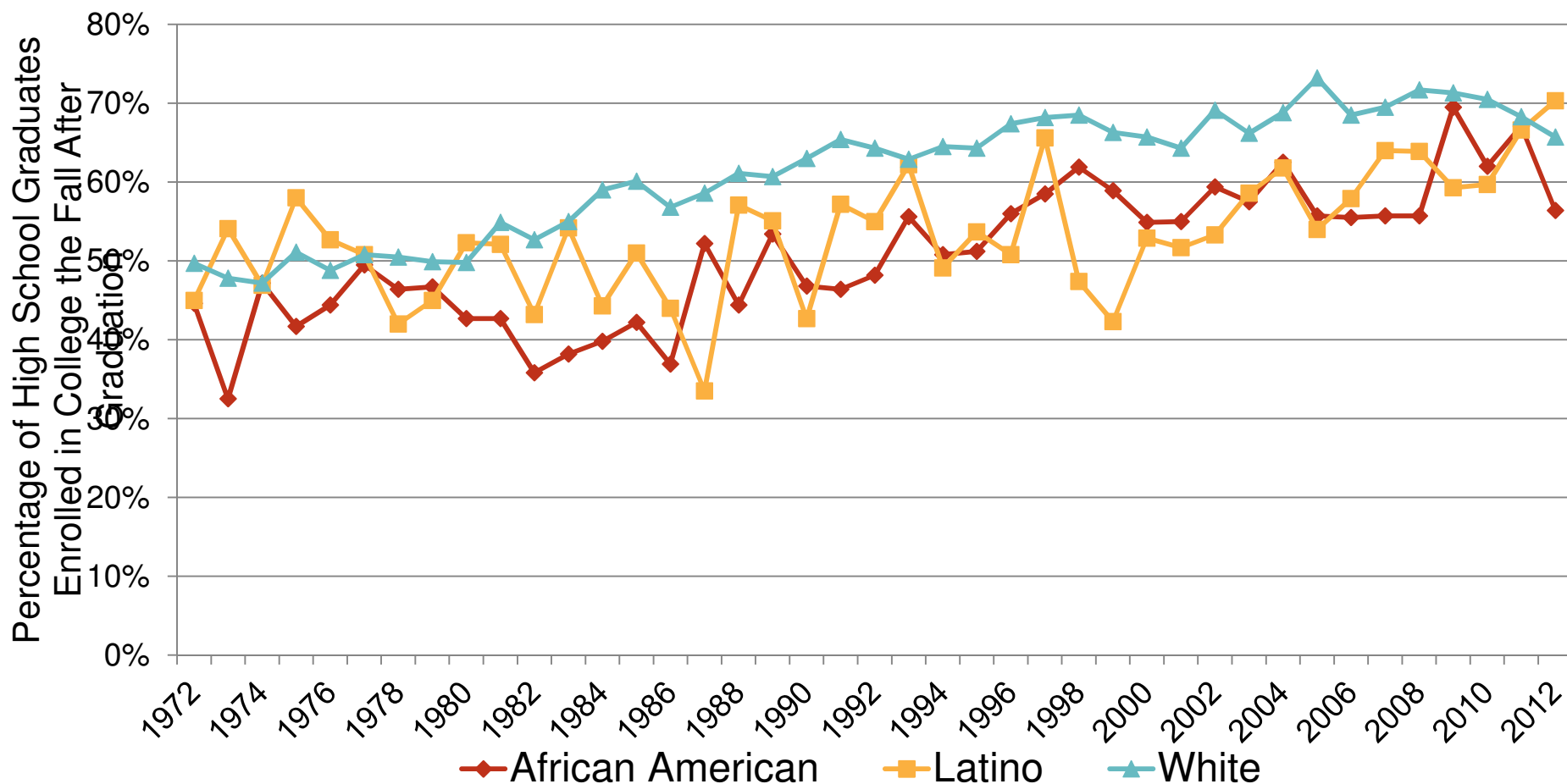


Note: Percent of high school completers who were enrolled in 2-year or 4-year college the October after completing high school.  
Source: NCES, *The Digest of Education Statistics 2013* (Table 302.10).



College-going is up for **all**  
groups.

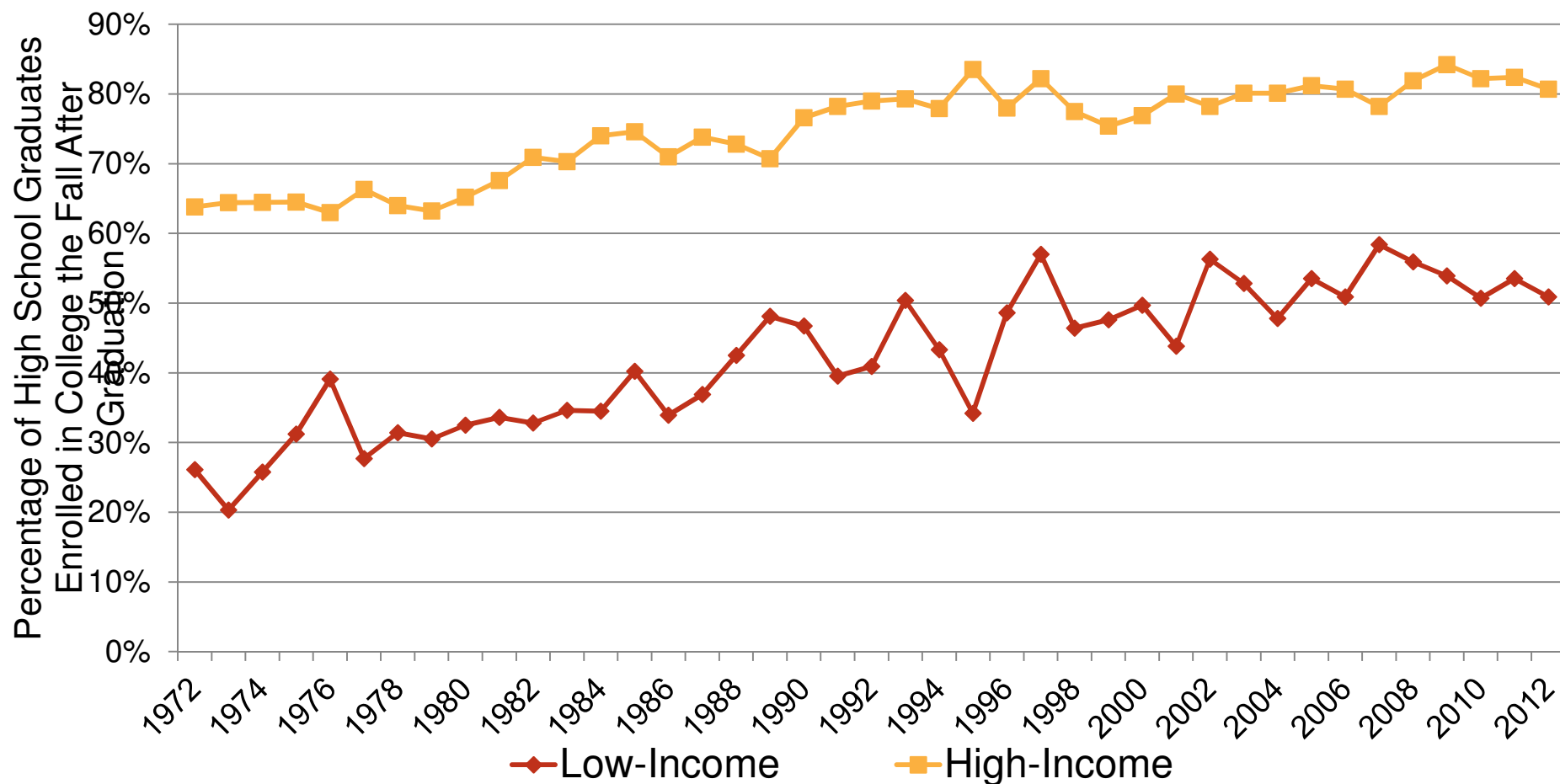
# Immediate College-Going Increasing for All Racial/Ethnic Groups: 1972 to 2012



Note: Percent of high school completers who were enrolled in college the October after completing high school

Source: NCES, *The Digest of Education Statistics 2013* (Table 302.20).

# College-Going Generally Increasing for All Income Groups



Note: Percent of high school completers who were enrolled in college the October after completing high school

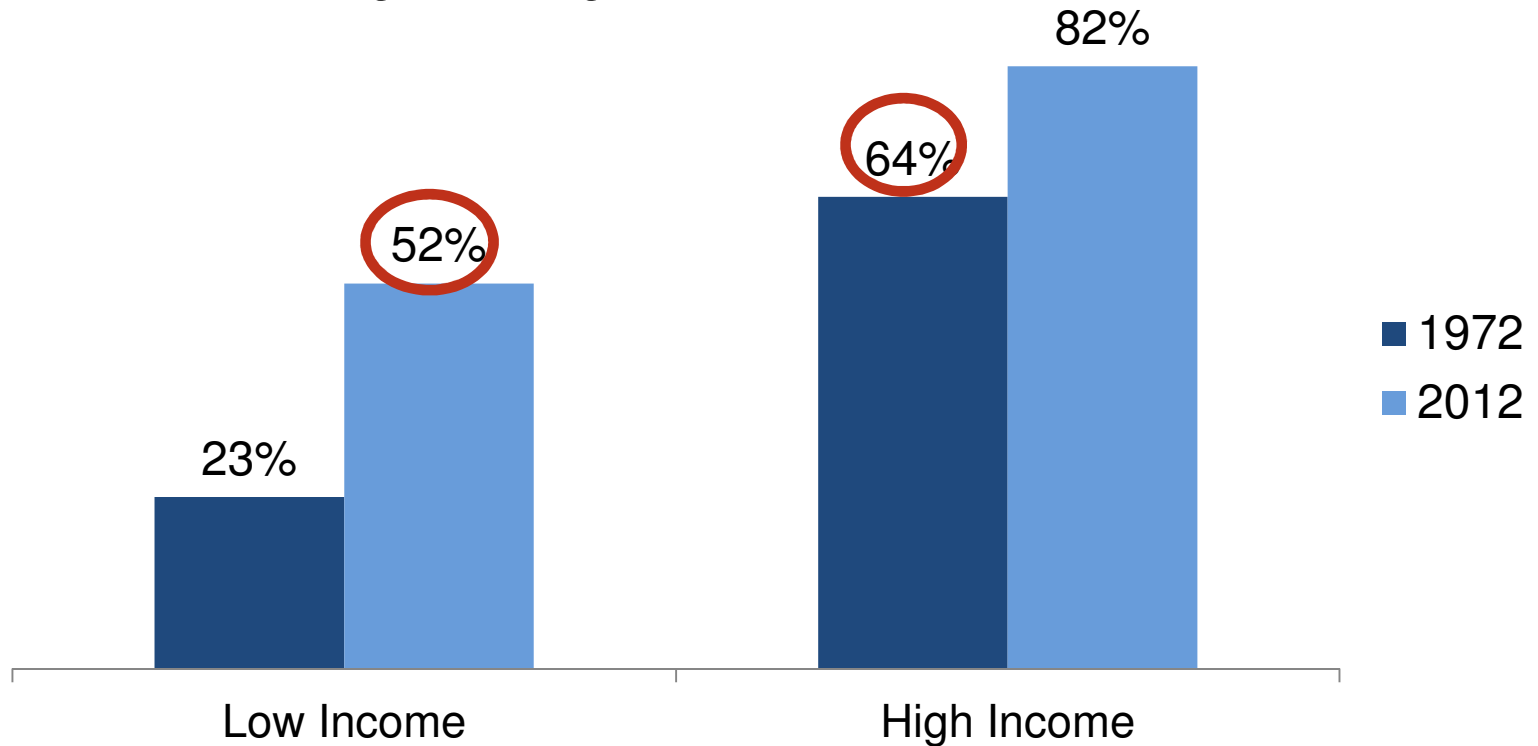
Source: NCES, *The Condition of Education 2010* (Table A-20-1) and *The Digest of Education Statistics 2013* (Table 302.30).



But though college going up  
for low-income students...


# Low-Income Students Today Still Not Reaching the College-going Rate for High-Income Students in 1972...

Percentage of high school graduates immediately enrolling in college, 1972-2012



Note: Data for black, Hispanic, and low-income represent two-year moving average because of small sample sizes.

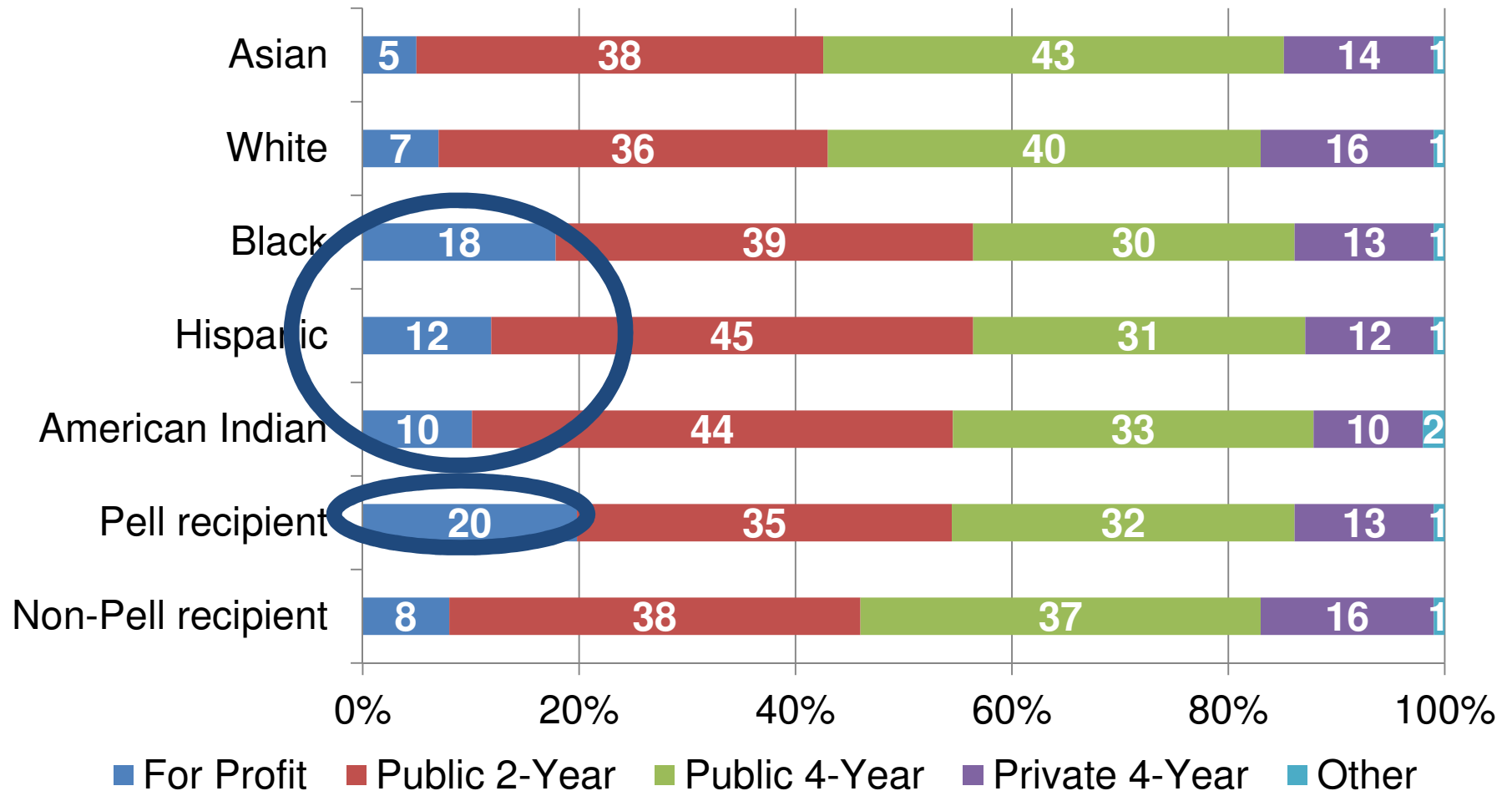
Source: NCES, *The Condition of Education 2010* (Table A-20-1) and *The Digest of Education Statistics 2013* (Table 302.30)



**But access isn't the only  
issue:**

There's a question of access to what...

# Low-Income Students and Students of Color Twice as Likely to Enter For-profit Colleges



Ed Trust analysis of IPEDS Fall enrollment, Fall 2012 (by race) and IPEDS Student Financial Aid survey, 2011-12 (by Pell recipient status).




# Access to what?

For-profit college companies

- **11%** of enrollments
- **24%** of Pell Grants and federal student loan dollars
- Lowest degree completion rates of any 4-year sector
- **48%** of federal student loan defaults

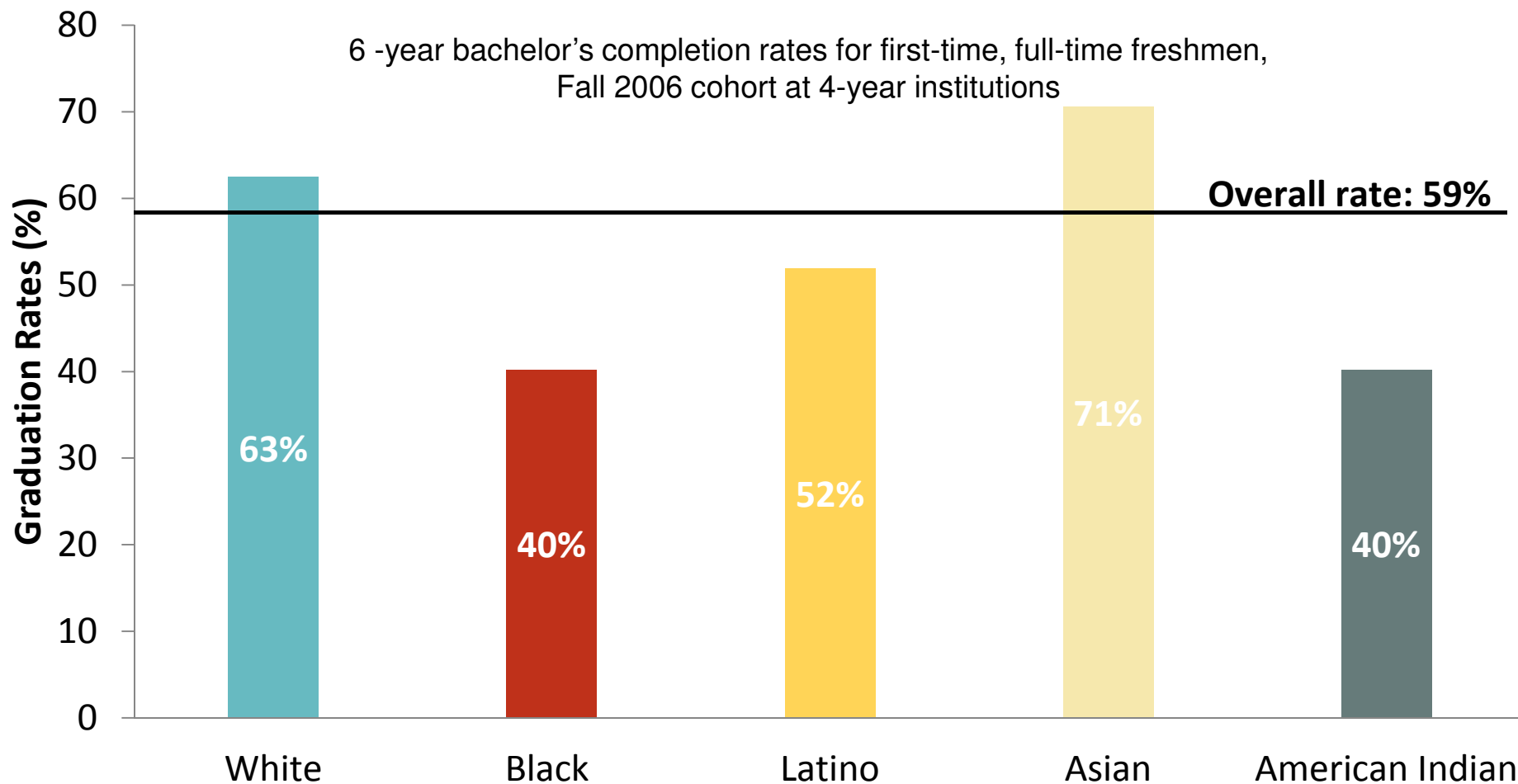


IPEDES Enrollment Fall 2011 First Look (December 2011)  
by U.S. Department of Education, 2008-09 in “Emerging Risk?: An Overview of Growth, Spending, Student Debt and Unanswered Questions in For-Profit Higher Education.” Senate HELP Committee. 24 June 2010 (page 4); and Ed Trust analysis of FY 2009 data in “Institutional Default Rate Comparison of FY 2007, 2008, and 2009 Cohort Default Rates.”



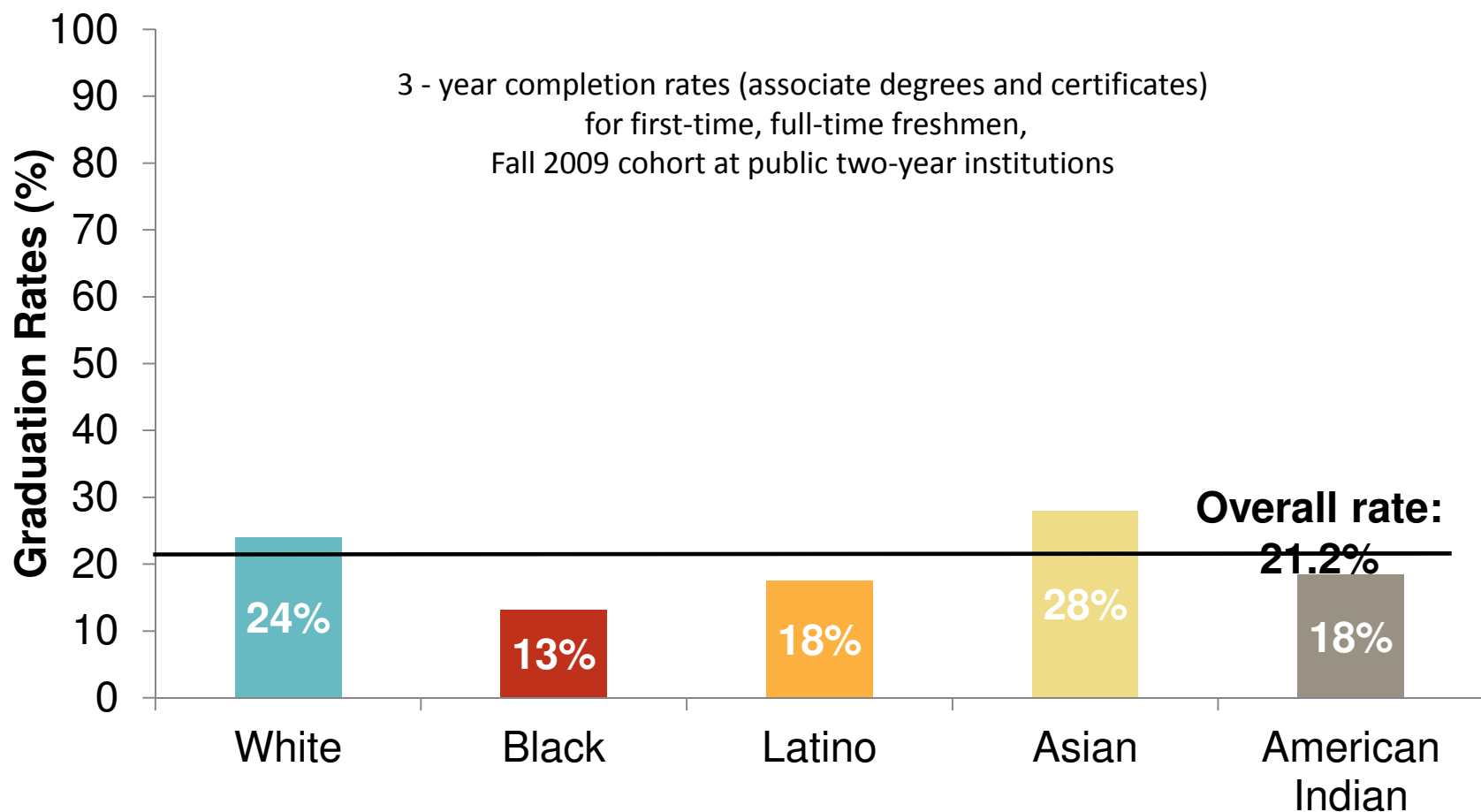
And what about graduation in colleges  
more generally?

# Black, Latino, and American Indian Freshmen Complete College at Lower Rates Than Other Students




Source: NCES (December 2013). Enrollment in Postsecondary Institutions, Fall 2012; Financial Statistics, Fiscal Year 2012; and Graduation Rates, Selected Cohorts, 2004-2009, First Look (Provisional Data) Table 3.

# Graduation rates at public community colleges



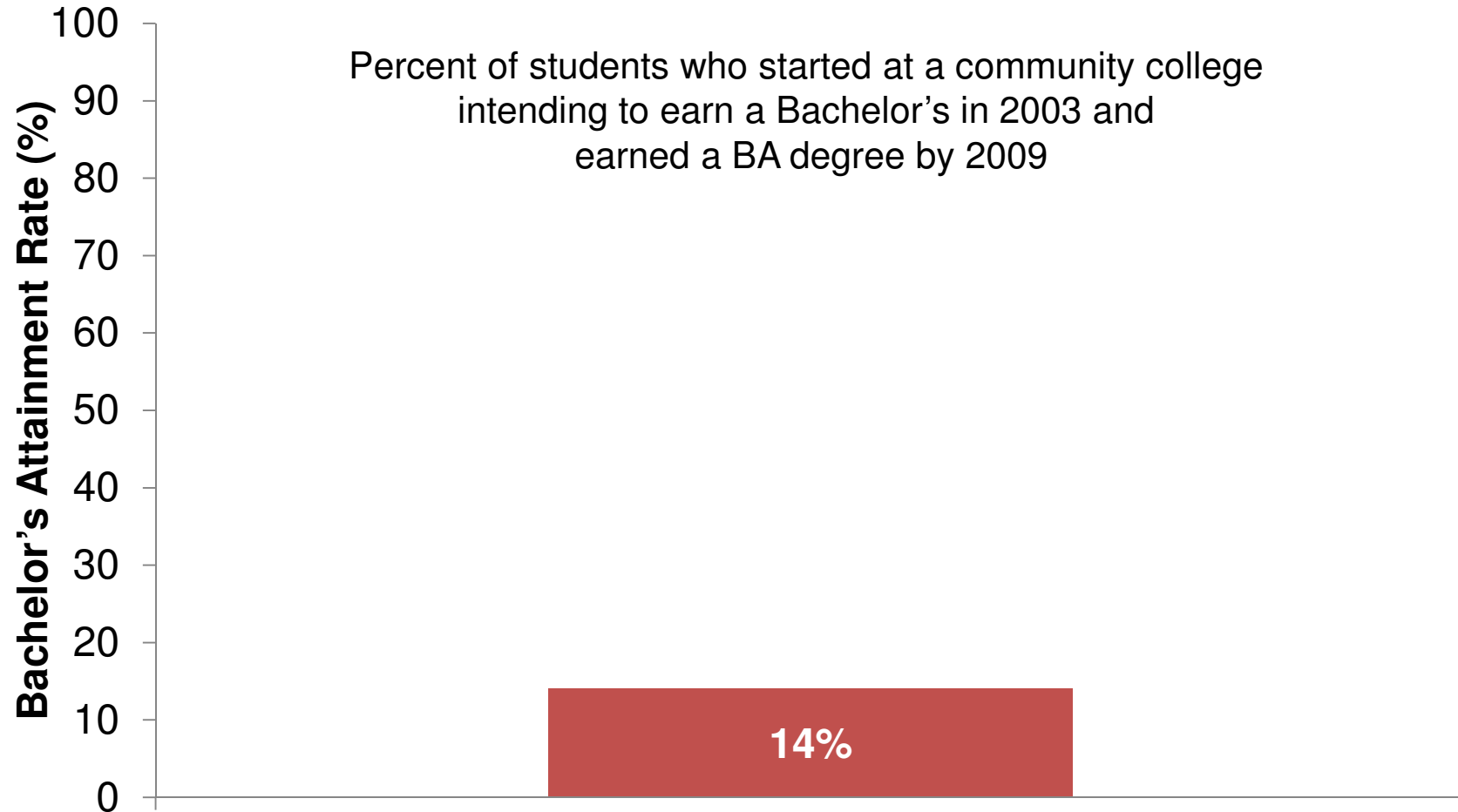
Source: NCES (Dec. 2013). First Look: Enrollment in Postsecondary Institutions, Fall 2012; Financial Statistics, Fiscal Year 2012; and Graduation Rates, Selected Cohorts, 2004-2009, First Look (Provisional Data) Table 3.



Chance of  
attaining a bachelor's degree  
within six years,  
among students who aspire to a Bachelors  
degree and  
begin at community college?

n/a

# Only 14 percent.



Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003-04 Beginning Postsecondary Students Longitudinal Study, First Follow-up (BPS:04/06).



Add it all up...



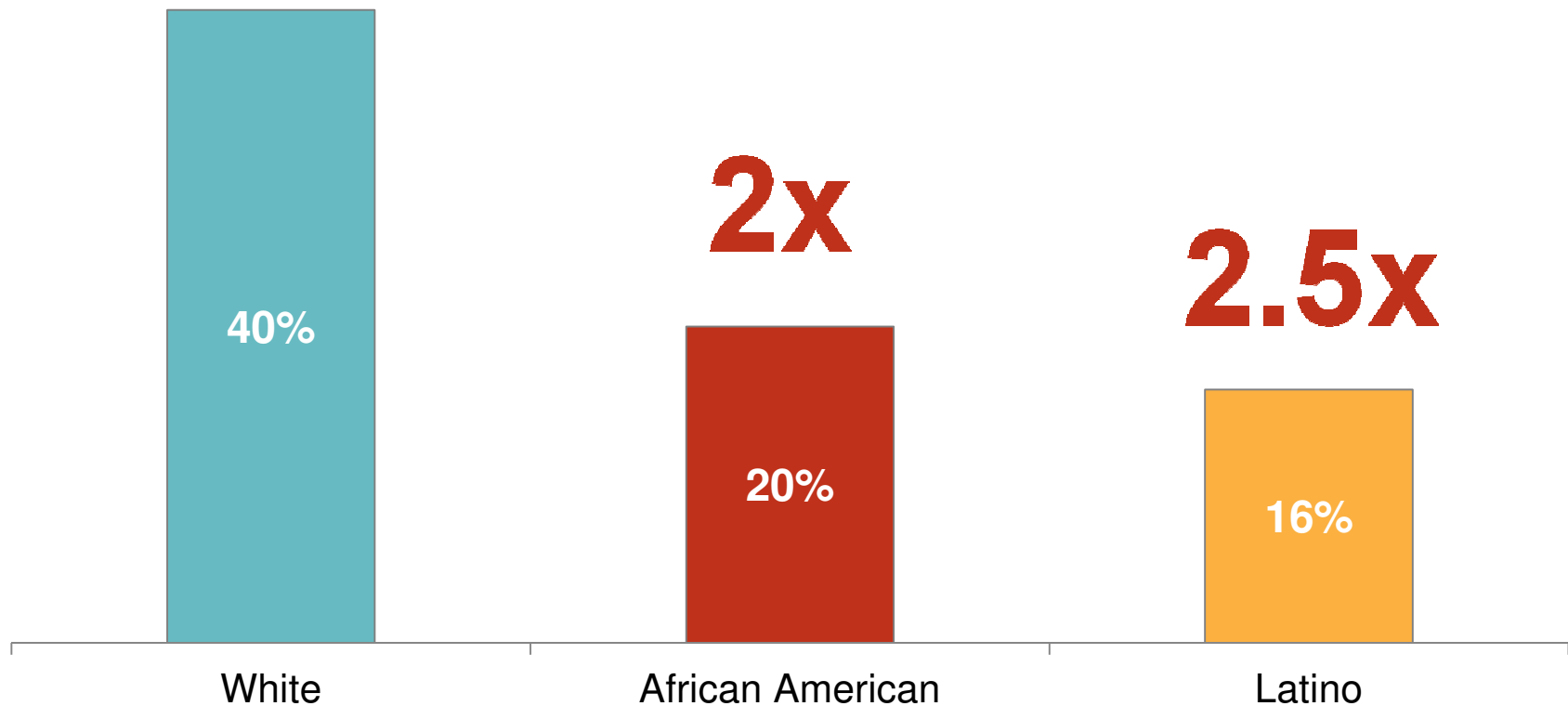
Different groups of young  
Americans obtain degrees at very  
different rates.

n/a



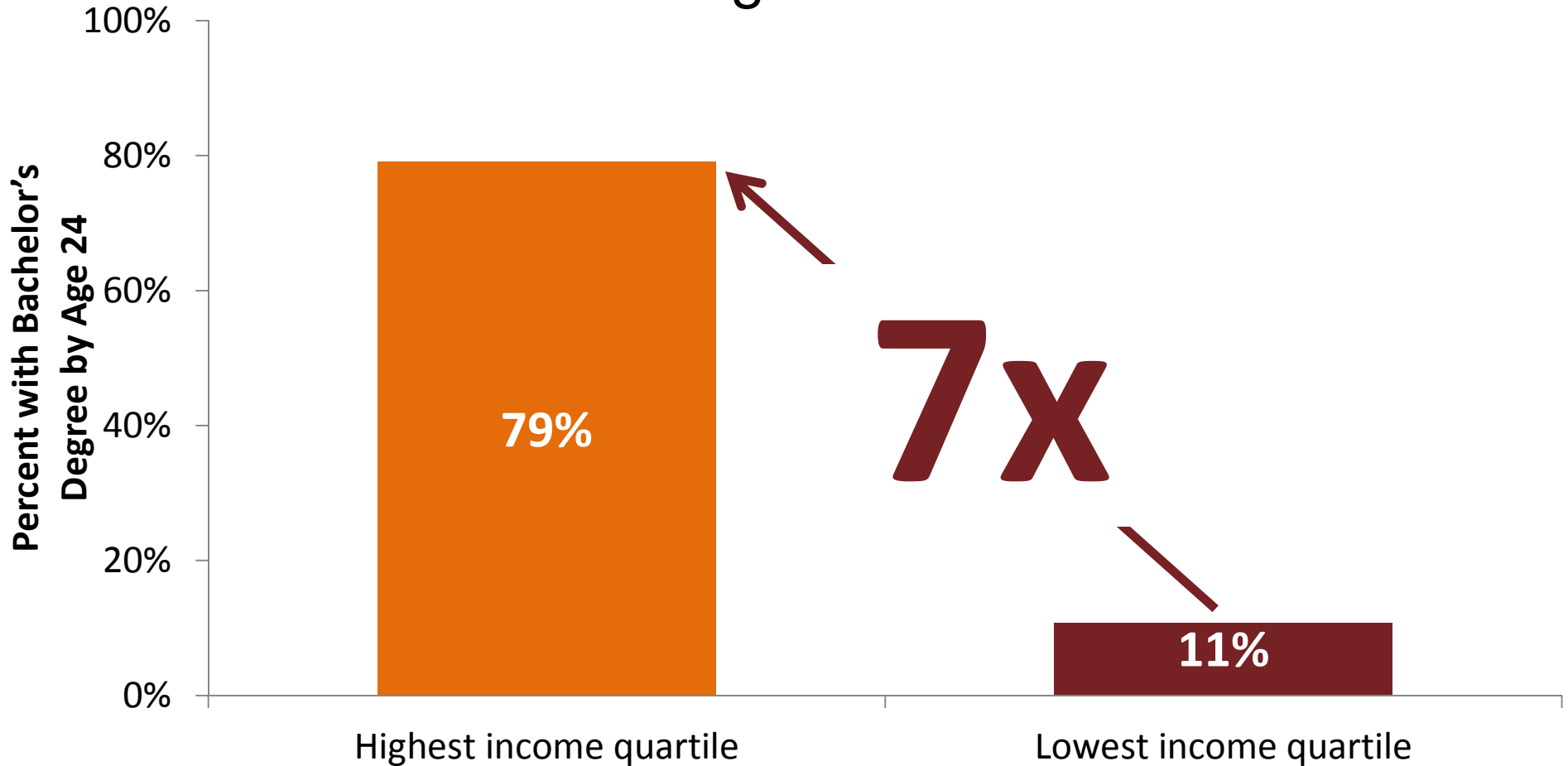
# Whites attain bachelor's degrees at nearly twice the rate of blacks and almost three times the rate of Hispanics

Bachelor's Degree Attainment of Young Adults  
(25-29-year-olds), 2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Educational Attainment in the United States: 2013

# Young adults from high-income families are 7 times more likely to earn bachelor's degrees by age 24



Tom Mortenson, *Bachelor's Degree Attainment by age 24 by Family Income Quartiles, 1970 to 2010*, Postsecondary Education Opportunity, 2012.

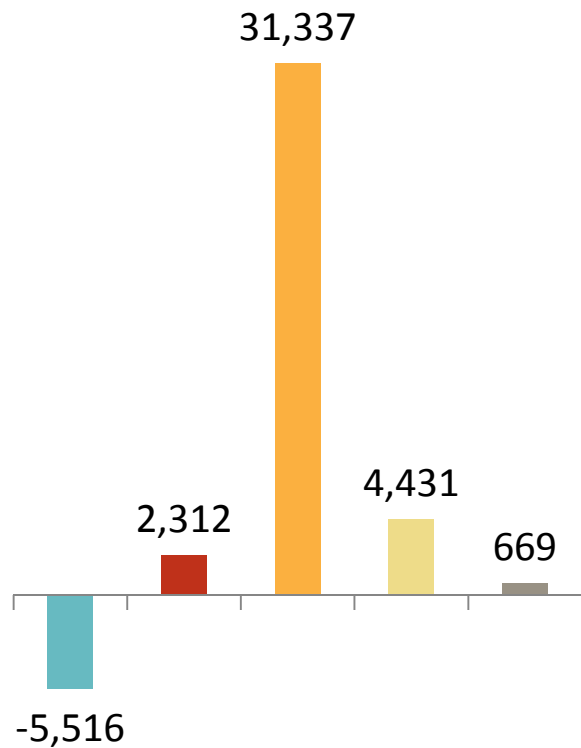


These rates **threaten** health of our  
democracy.

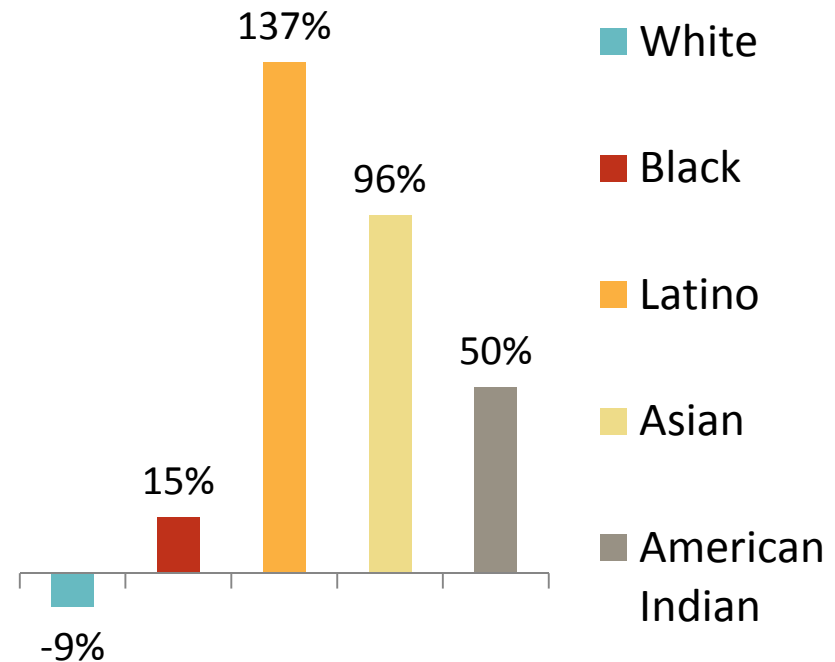
But even for those who don't care much  
about that, they are particularly worrisome,  
given which groups are growing...and which  
aren't.

# Changing demographics demand greater focus on underrepresented populations.

Population Increase, Ages 0-24, (in thousands)



Percentage Increase, Ages 0-24,



Note: Projected Population Growth, Ages 0-24, 2010-2050

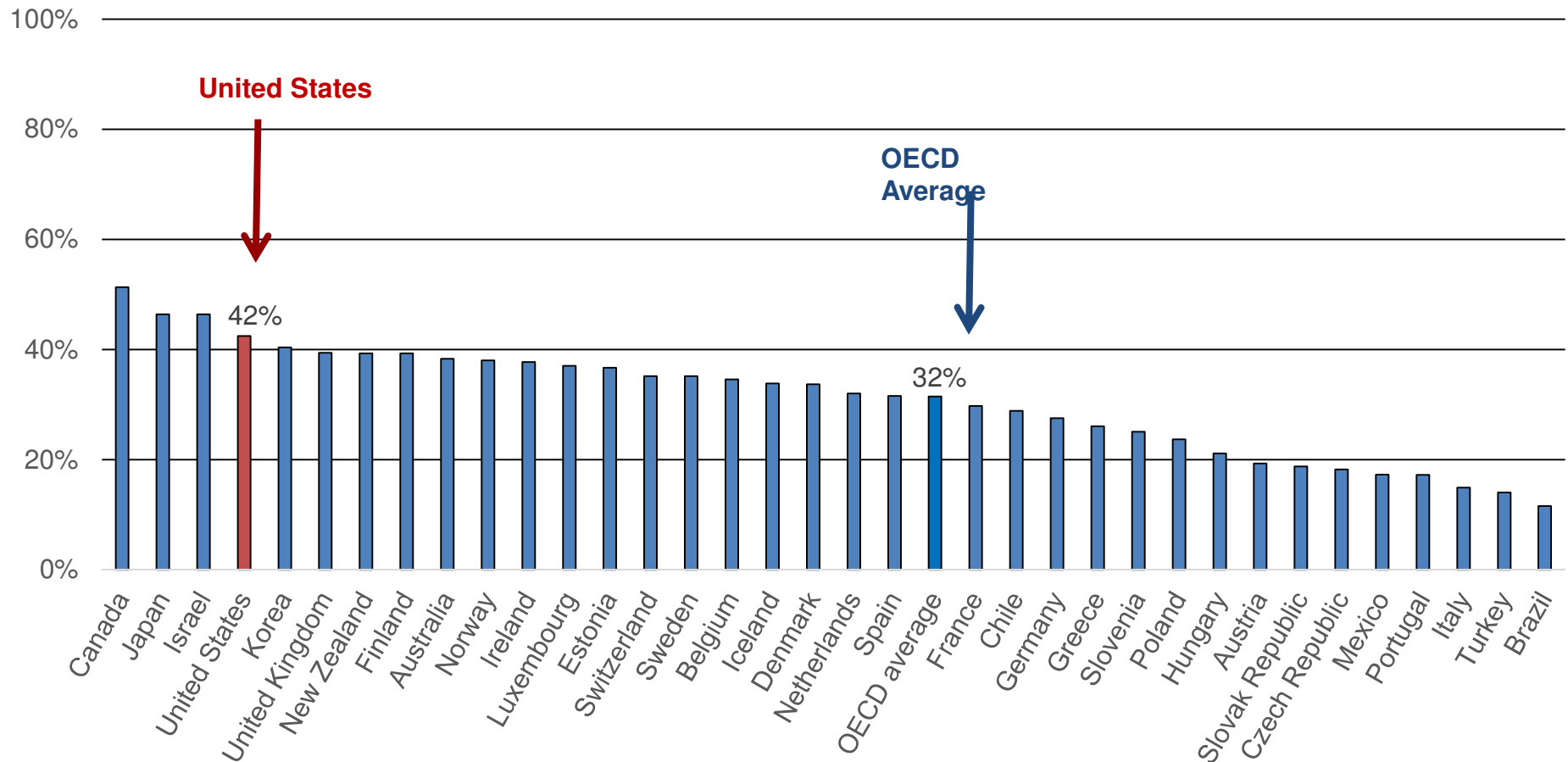
Source: National Population Projections, U.S. Census Bureau. Released 2008; NCHEMS ,Adding It Up, 2007



Not surprisingly, our **international lead** is  
slipping away

# We're relatively strong in educational attainment

## Percentage of residents aged 25-64 with a postsecondary degree

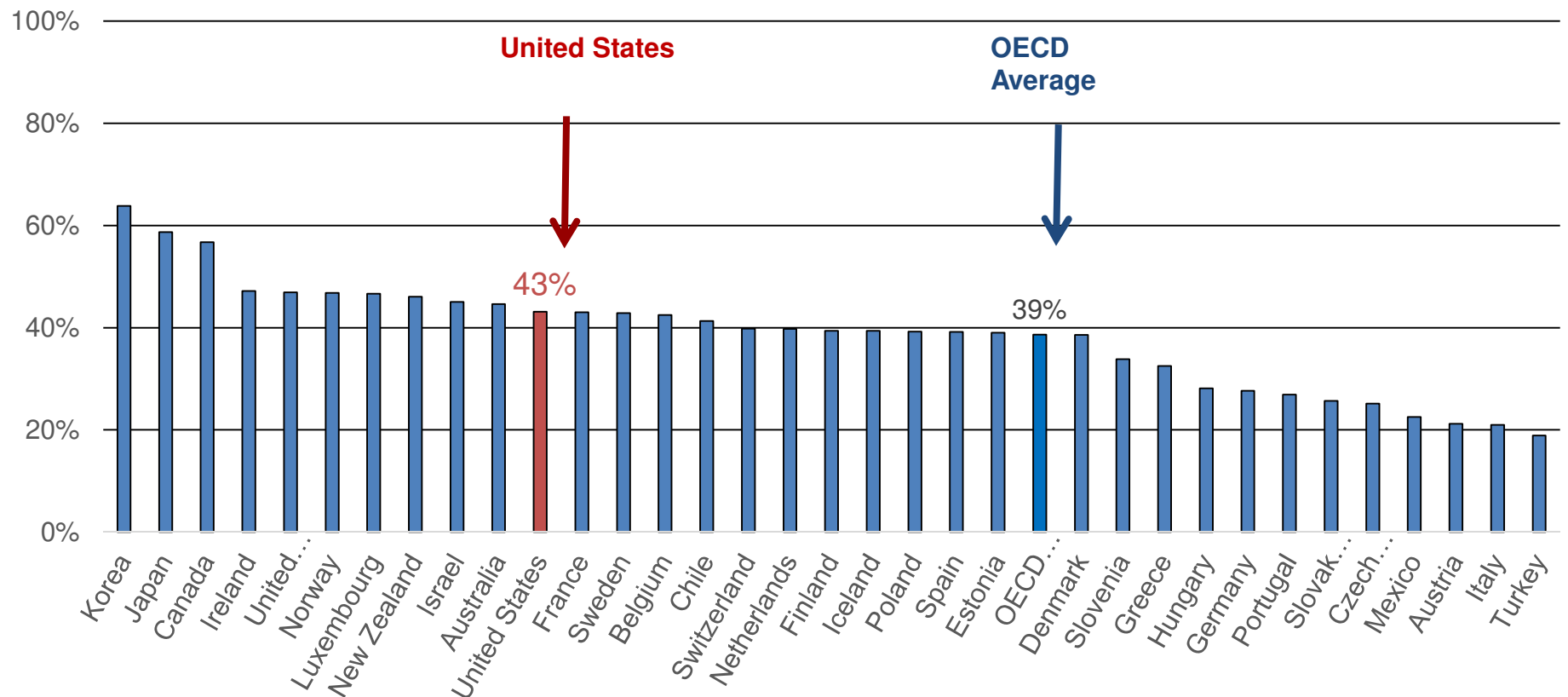


Note: Adults with a postsecondary degree include those who have completed either a tertiary-type B program (programs that last for at least two years, are skill-based, and prepare students for direct entry into the labor market) or a tertiary-type A program (programs that last at least three, but usually four, years, are largely theory-based, and provide qualifications for entry into highly-skilled professions or advanced research programs)

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Education at a Glance 2013 (2011 data).

# Our world standing drops to 11<sup>th</sup> for younger adults

## Percentage of residents aged 25-34 with a postsecondary degree

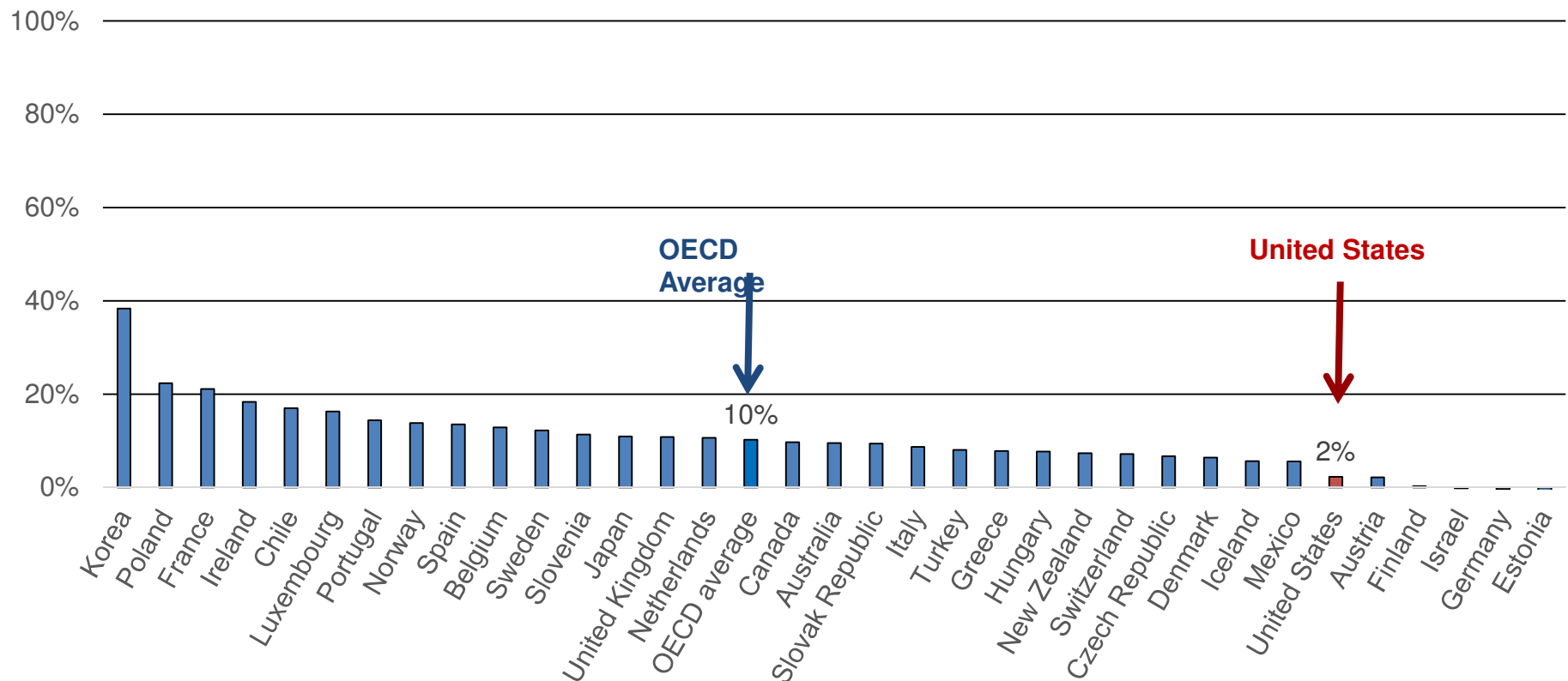


Note: Adults with a postsecondary degree include those who have completed either a tertiary-type B program (programs that last for at least two years, are skill-based, and prepare students for direct entry into the labor market) or a tertiary-type A program (programs that last at least three, but usually four, years, are largely theory-based, and provide qualifications for entry into highly-skilled professions or advanced research programs).

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Education at a Glance 2013 (2011 data).

# We're near the bottom in intergenerational progress

## Difference in percentage of residents aged 45-54 and those aged 25-34 with a postsecondary degree



Note: Adults with a postsecondary degree include those who have completed either a tertiary-type B program (programs that last for at least two years, are skill-based, and prepare students for direct entry into the labor market) or a tertiary-type A program (programs that last at least three, but usually four, years, are largely theory-based, and provide qualifications for entry into highly-skilled professions or advanced research programs)

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Education at a Glance 2012 (2010 data).

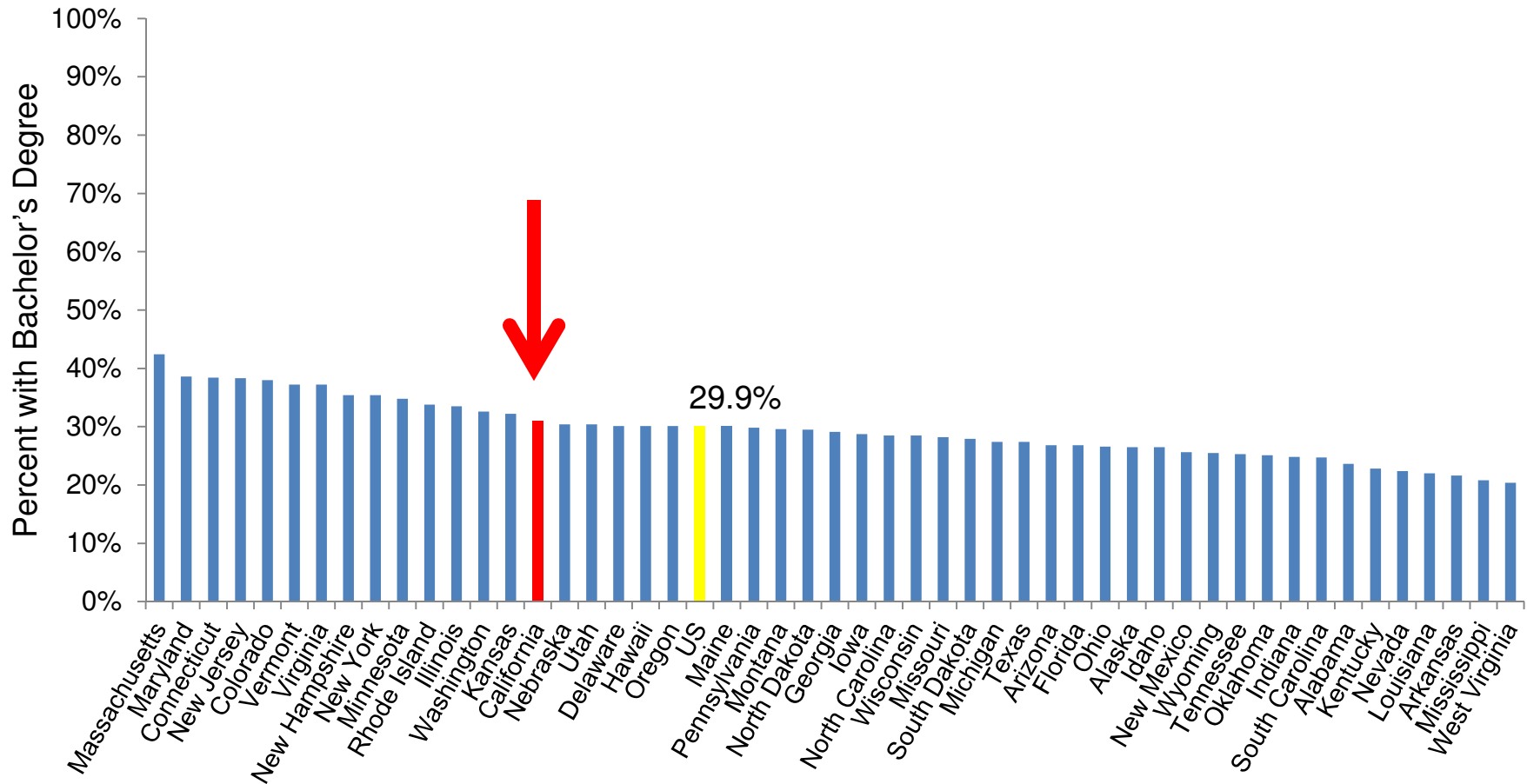




California?

# Adults Ages 25-64 with at least a Bachelor's Degree, 2011:

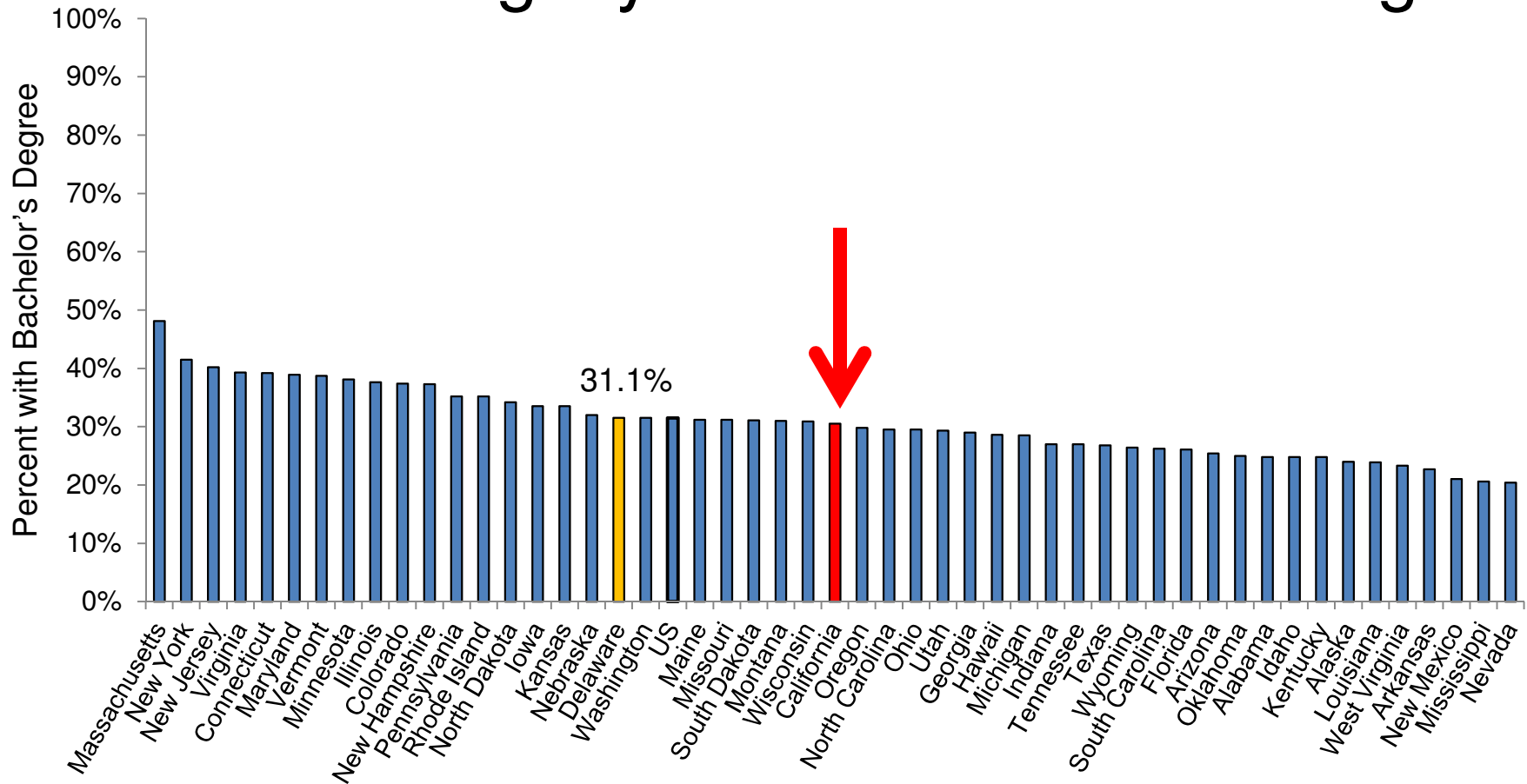
## California Slightly Above National Average



U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey data from NCHEMS Information Center.

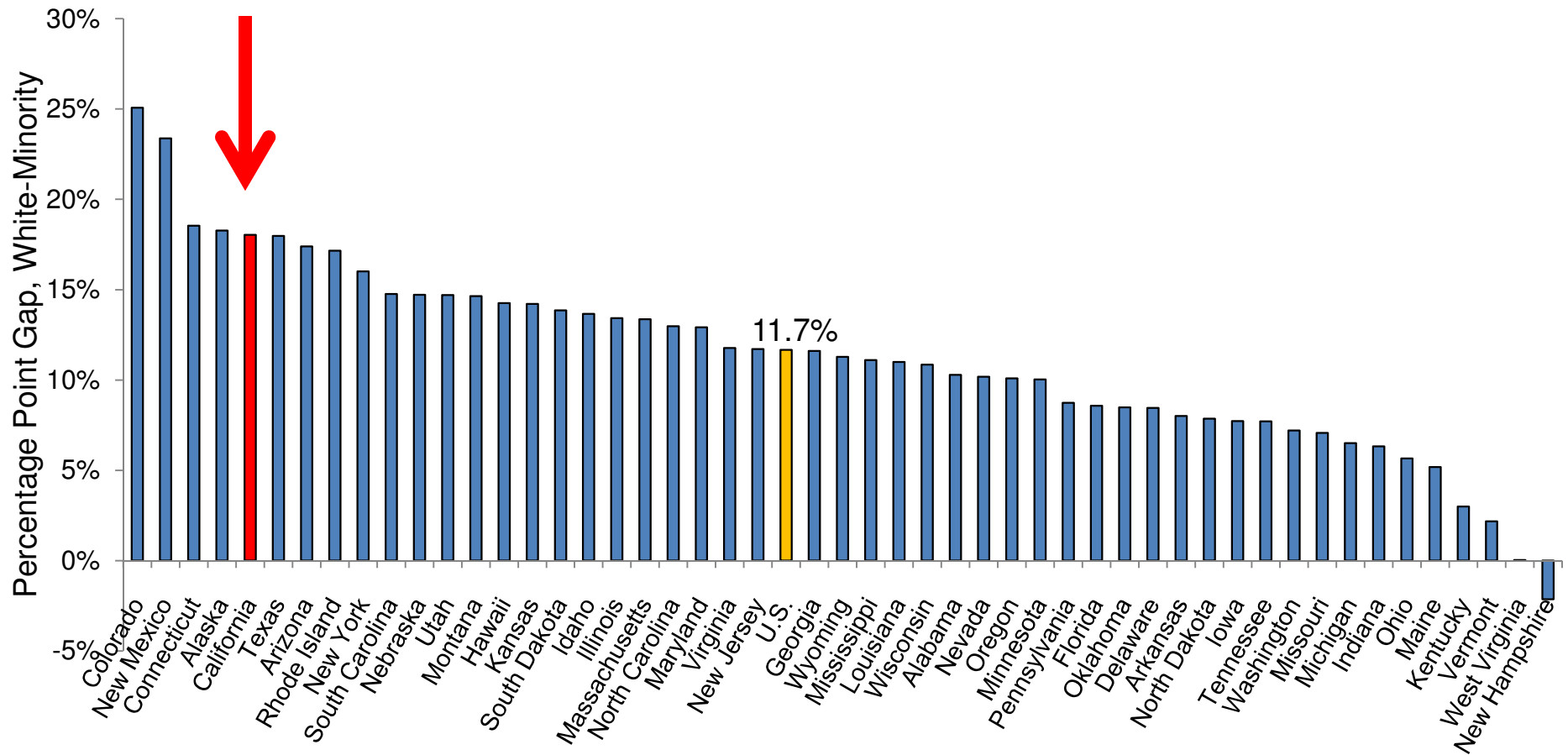
# Adults Ages 25-34 with at least a Bachelor's Degree, 2011:

## California Slightly Below National Average



U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 American Community Survey data from NCHEMS Information Center

# Gaps in Average Annual Percent of Adults 25-64 with at Least a Bachelor's Degree, 2008-2010: California 5<sup>th</sup> Largest Gap between URM and Whites



2008-2010 Three-Year American Community Survey (ACS) data from NCHEMS Information Center.



# WHAT'S GOING ON?

Many in higher education would like to believe that these patterns are mostly a function of lousy high schools and stingy federal and state policymakers.



They are not all wrong.



## K-12 Schools

Challenges | Progress



Low Income and Minority Students Continue  
to be Clustered in Schools where we spend  
less...



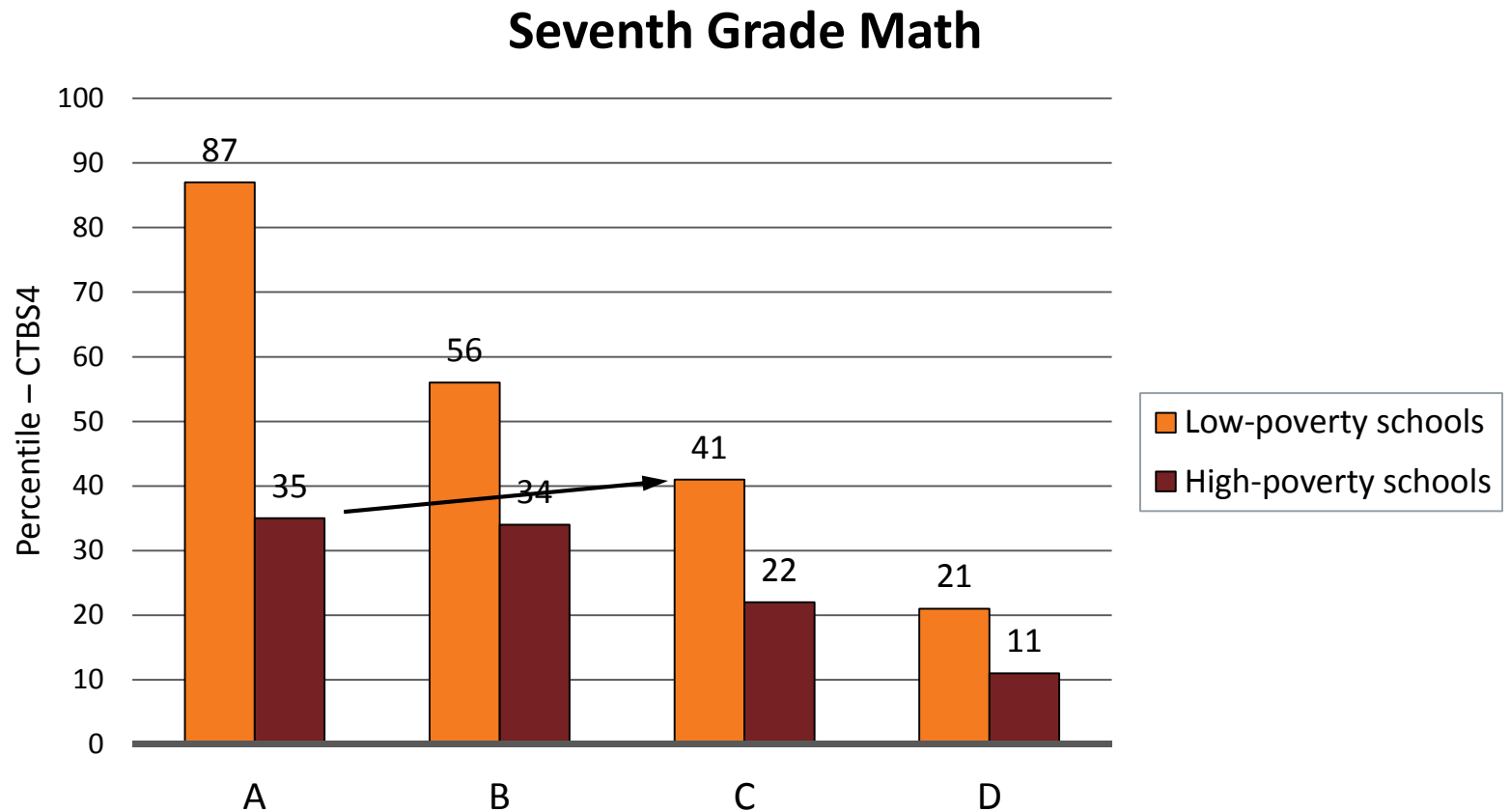
# National Inequities in State and Local Revenue Per Student

	<b>Gap</b>
High Poverty vs. Low Poverty Districts	<b>-\$1200</b> per student
High Minority vs. Low Minority Districts	<b>-\$2,000</b> per student

Source: Education Trust analyses based on U.S. Dept of Education and U.S. Census Bureau data for 2010-12

...expect less

# Students in Poor Schools Receive 'A's for Work That Would Earn 'Cs' in Affluent Schools



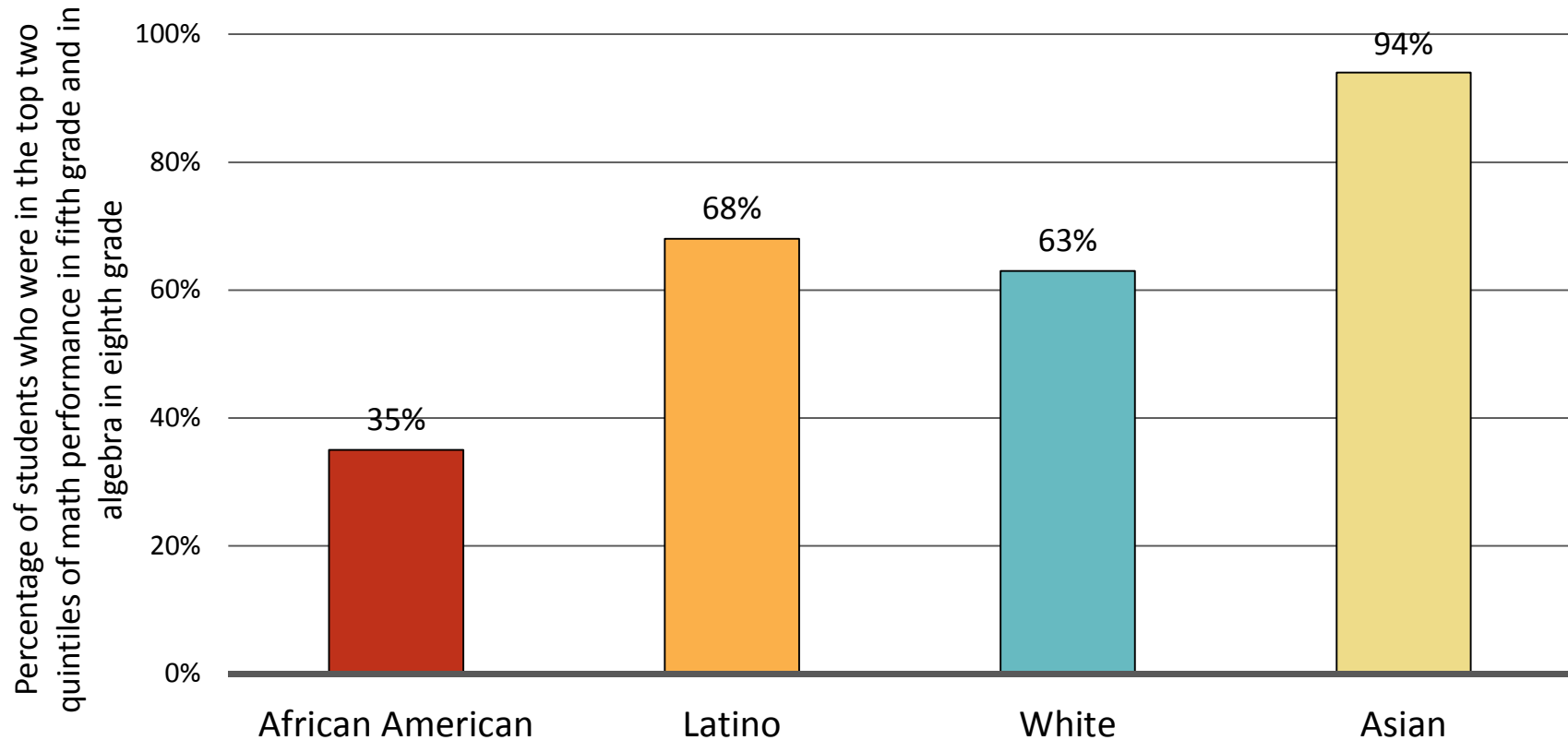
Source: Prospects (ABT Associates, 1993), in "Prospects: Final Report on Student Outcomes", PES, DOE, 1997

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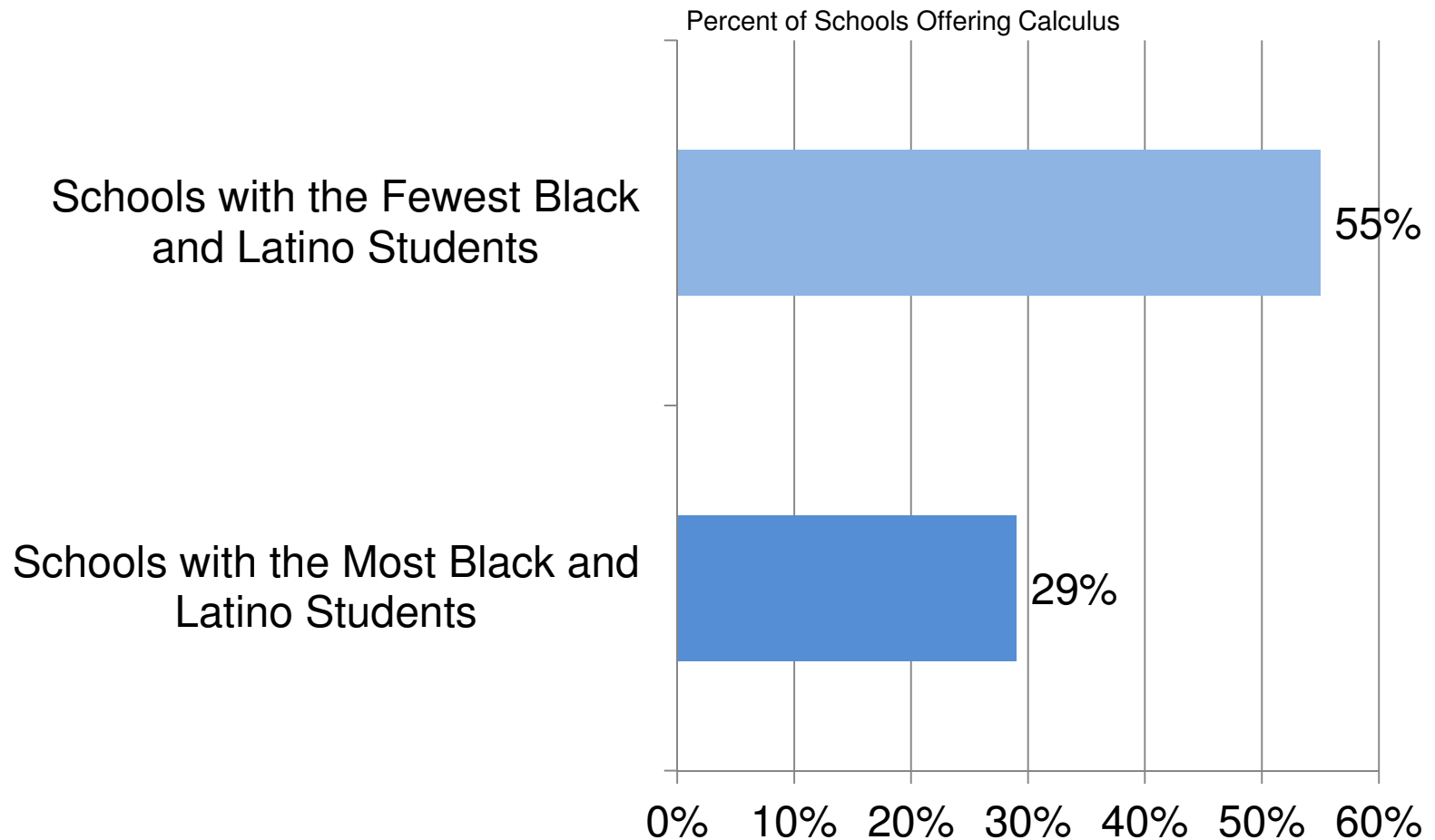
...teach them less

# Even African-American students with *high math performance* in fifth grade are unlikely to be placed in algebra in eighth grade




Source: NCES, "Eighth-Grade Algebra: Findings from the Eighth-Grade Round of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Kindergarten Class of 1998-99 (ECLS-K)" (2010).

# Students of color are less likely to attend high schools that offer calculus.

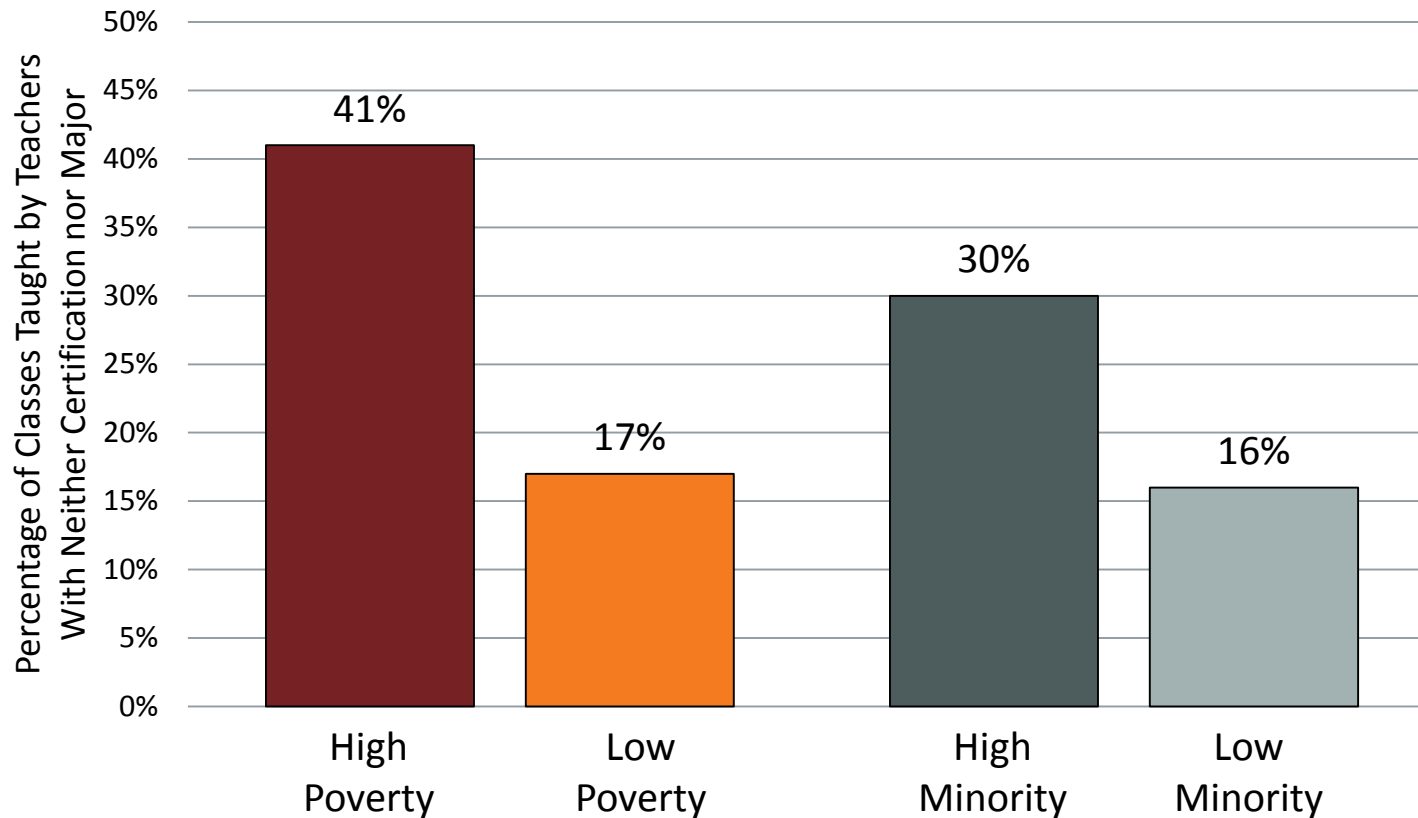


Source: U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights , Civil Rights Data Collection



...and assign them our least qualified  
teachers.

## Core classes in high-poverty and high-minority secondary schools are more likely to be taught by out-of-field teachers

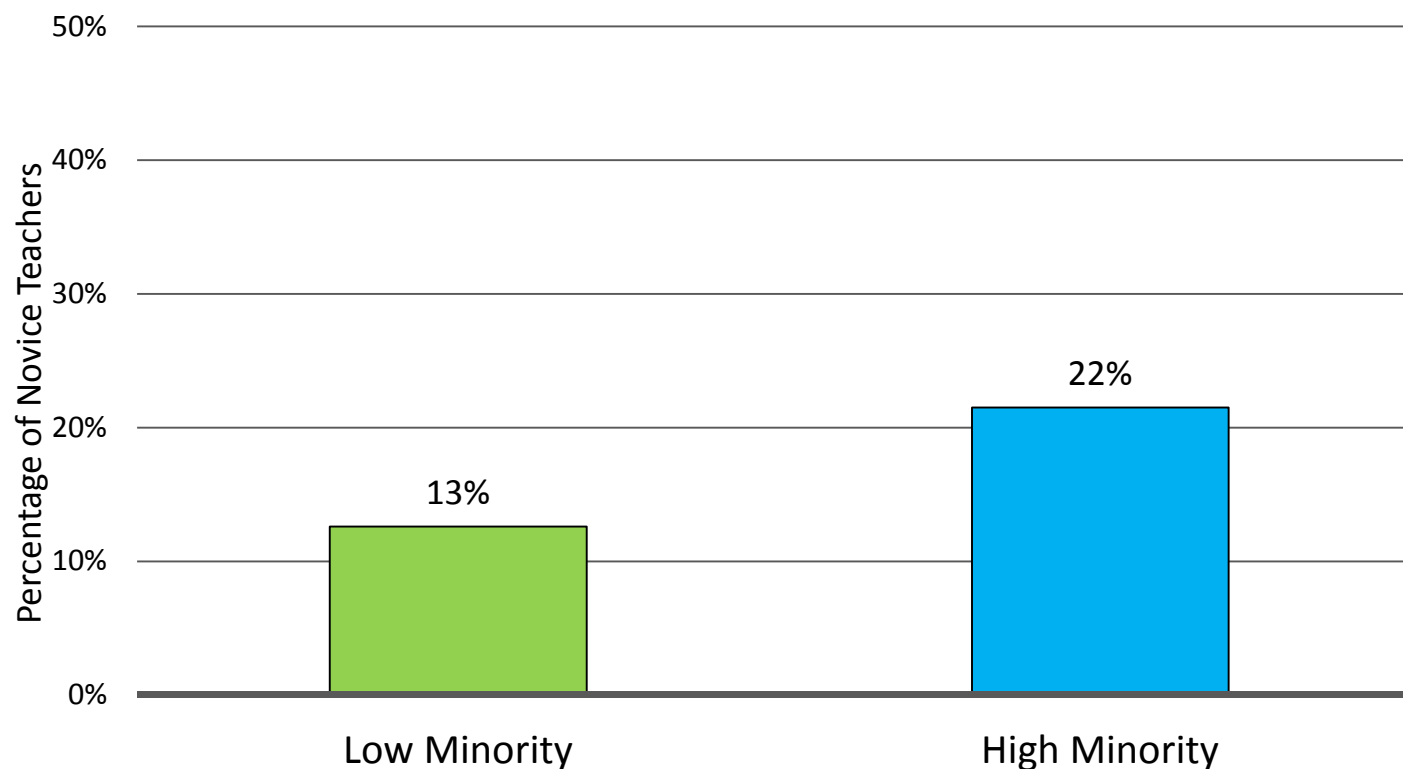


Note: Data are for secondary-level core academic classes (Math, Science, Social Studies, English) across United States. High-poverty  $\geq 75\%$  of students eligible for free/reduced-price lunch. Low-poverty school  $\leq 15\%$  of students eligible. High-minority  $\geq 75\%$  students non-white. Low-minority  $\leq 10\%$  students non-white.

- The Education Trust, *Core Problems: Out-of-Field Teaching Persists in Key Academic Courses and High-Poverty Schools*, (2008)



# Students at high-minority schools are more likely to be taught by novice teachers



Note: Novice teachers are those with three years or fewer experience.

High-minority  $\geq 75\%$  students non-white. Low-minority  $\leq 10\%$  students non-white.

Source: Analysis of 2003-2004 Schools and Staffing Survey data by Richard Ingersoll, University of Pennsylvania (2007)

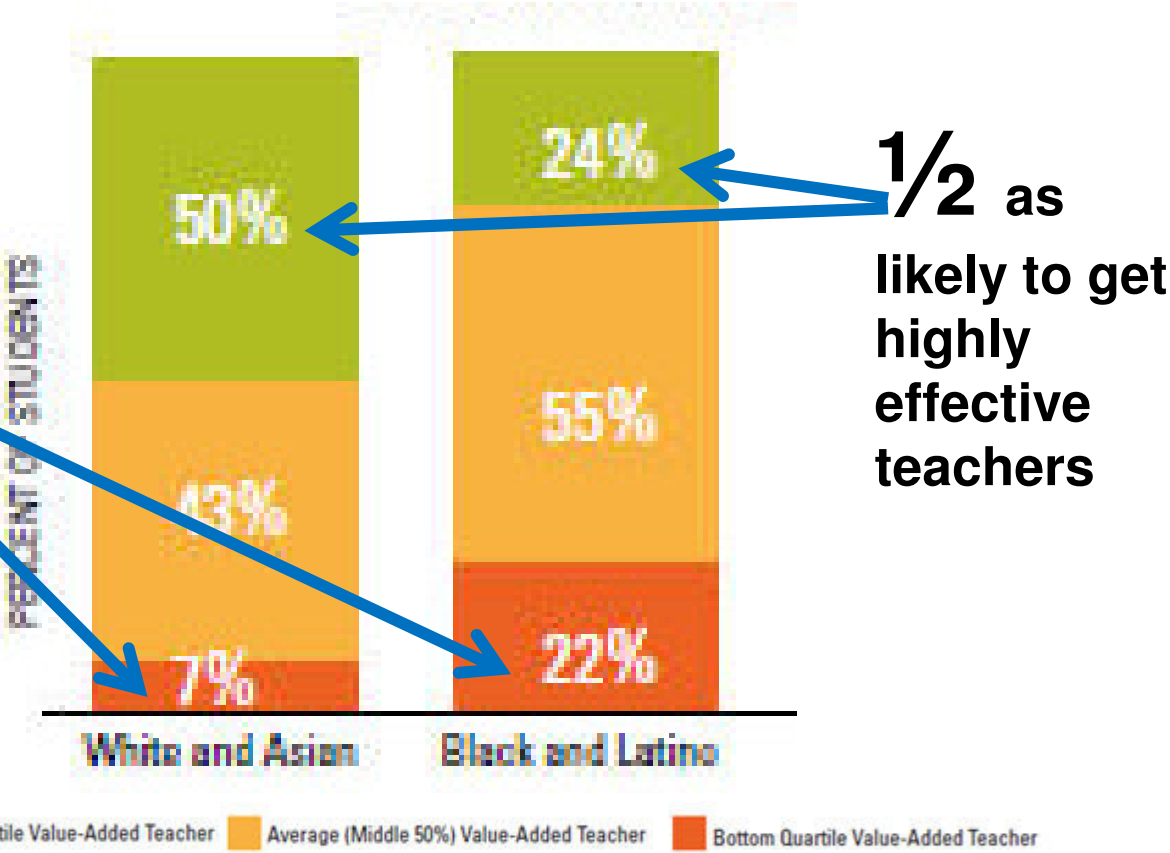
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# Los Angeles: Black, Latino students have fewer highly effective teachers, more weak ones.

## READING/LANGUAGE ARTS

Latino and black students are:

**3X** as likely to get low-effectiveness teachers



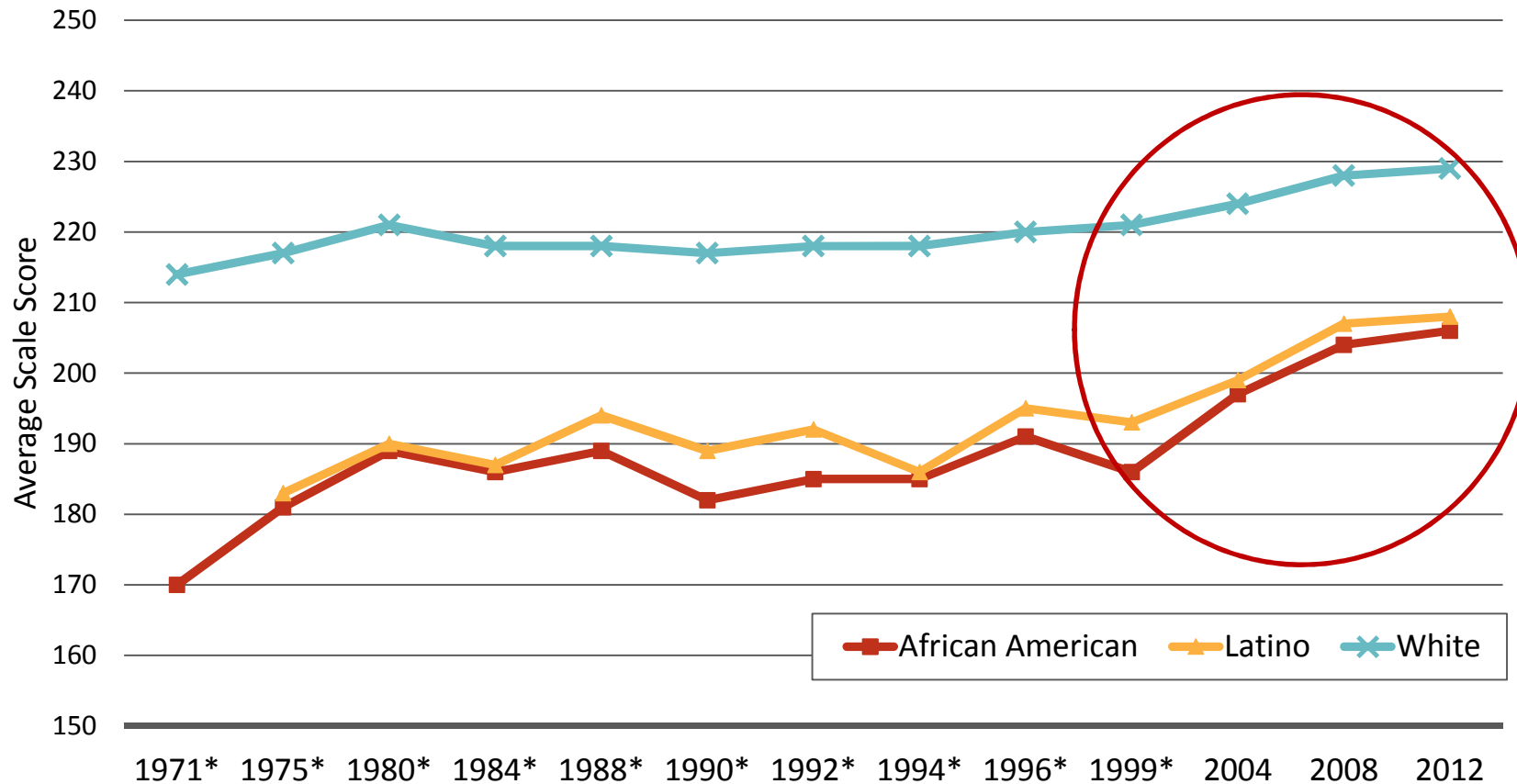
Source: Education Trust—West, *Learning Denied*, 2012.



While we're making some progress in addressing these problems in elementary and middle schools...

# Since 1999, large gains for all groups of students, especially students of color

9 Year Olds – NAEP LTT Reading

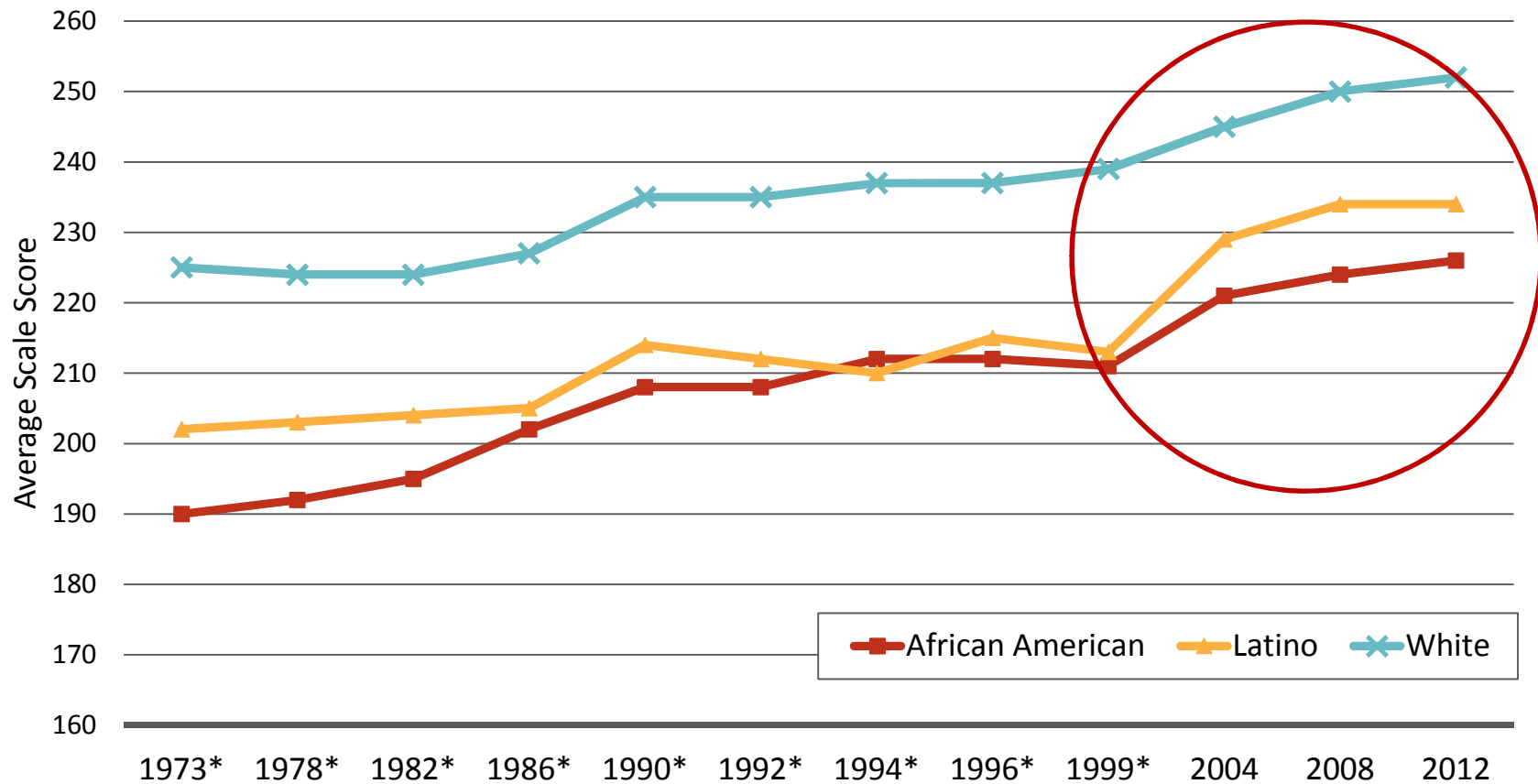


\*Denotes previous assessment format

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, "The Nation's Report Card: Trends in Academic Progress 2012"

# Since 1999, performance rising for all groups of students

## 9 Year Olds – NAEP LTT Math



\*Denotes previous assessment format

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, "The Nation's Report Card: Trends in Academic Progress 2012"

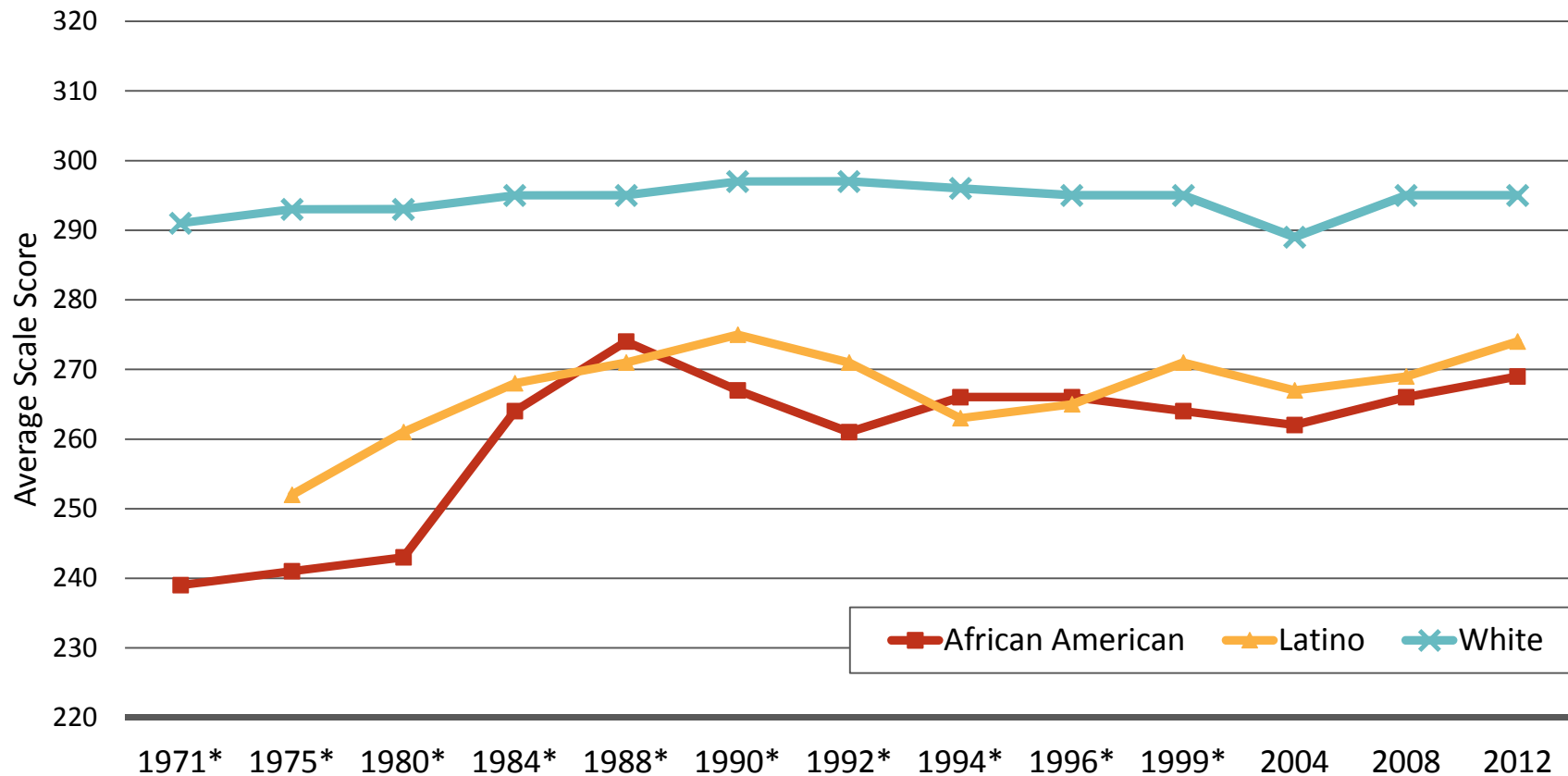
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We have not yet turned the corner in our high schools.

# Reading: Not much gap narrowing since 1988.

## 17 Year Olds – NAEP LTT Reading



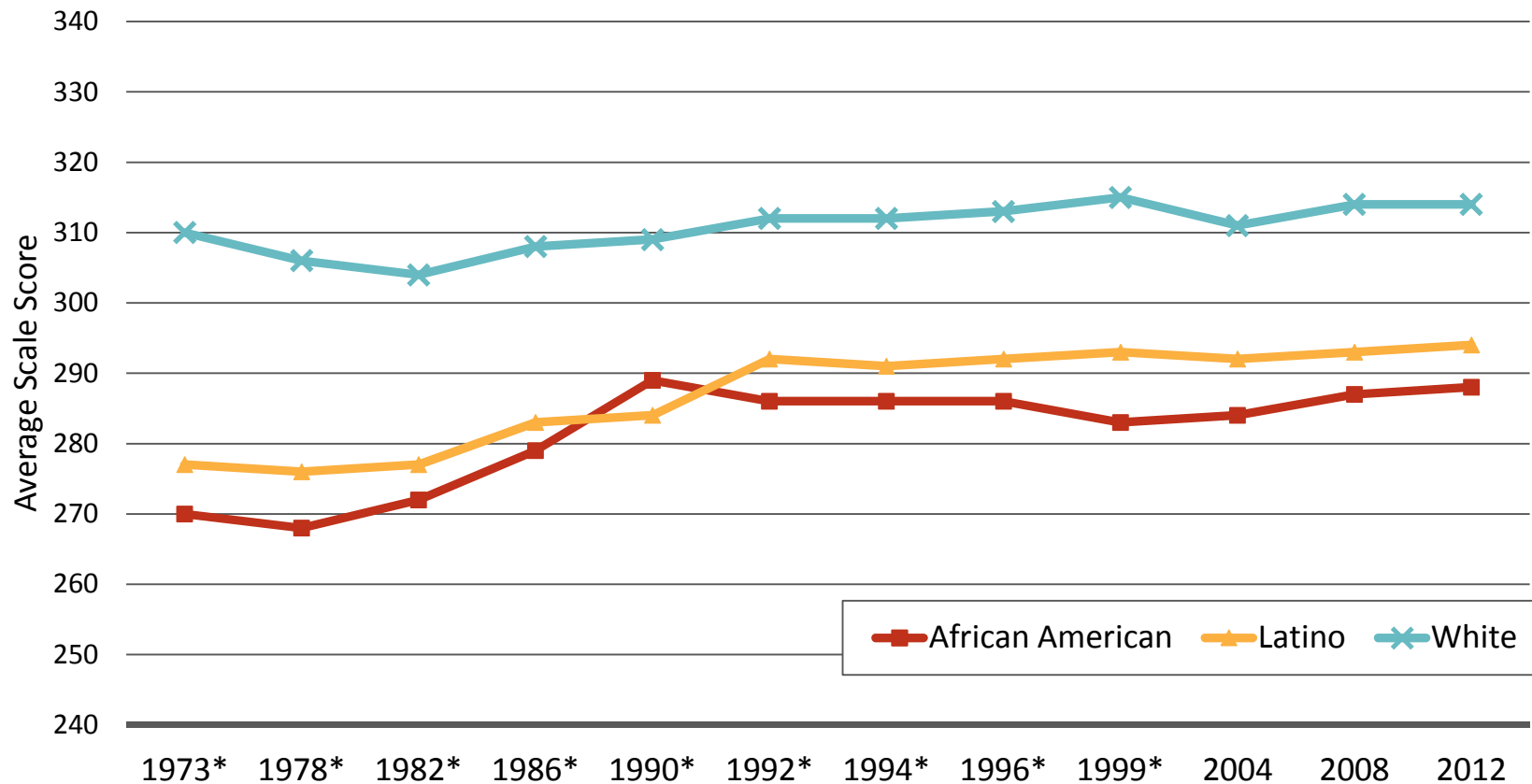
\*Denotes previous assessment format

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, "The Nation's Report Card: Trends in Academic Progress 2012"

e:

# Math: Not much gap closing since 1990.

## 17 Year Olds – NAEP LTT Math

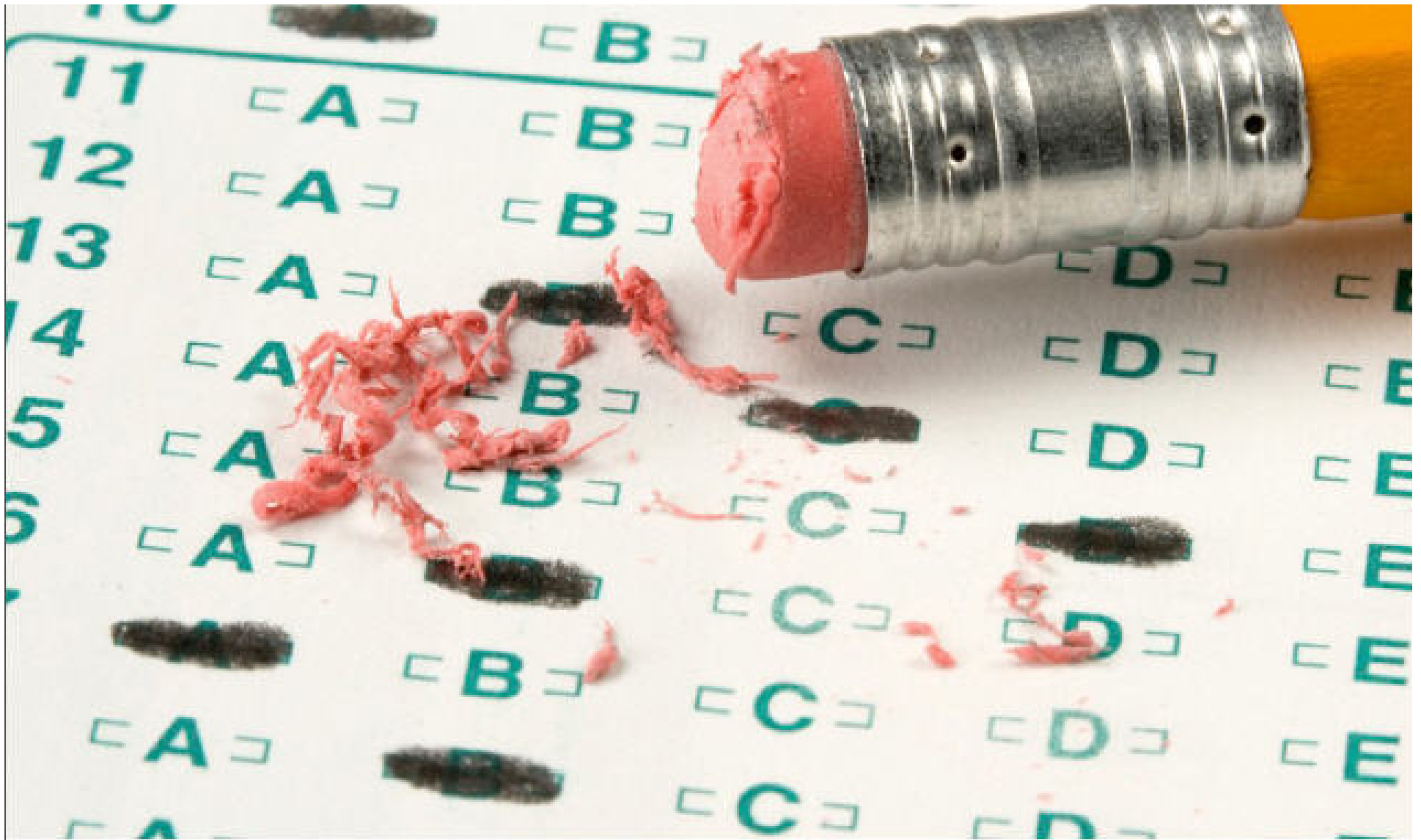


\*Denotes previous assessment format

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, "The Nation's Report Card: Trends in Academic Progress 2012"

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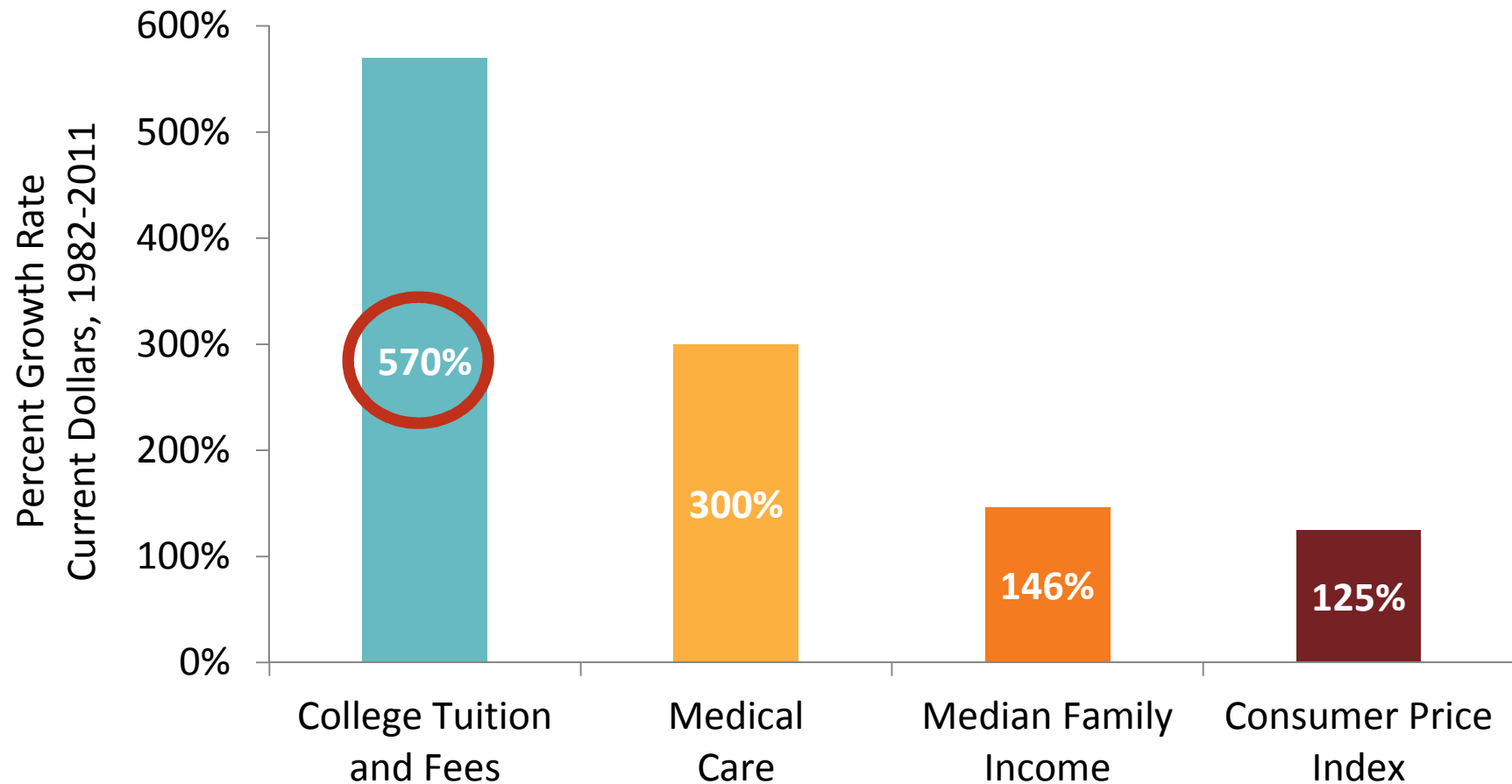


So yes, preparation is part of the problem.



So, too, are misguided government aid policies

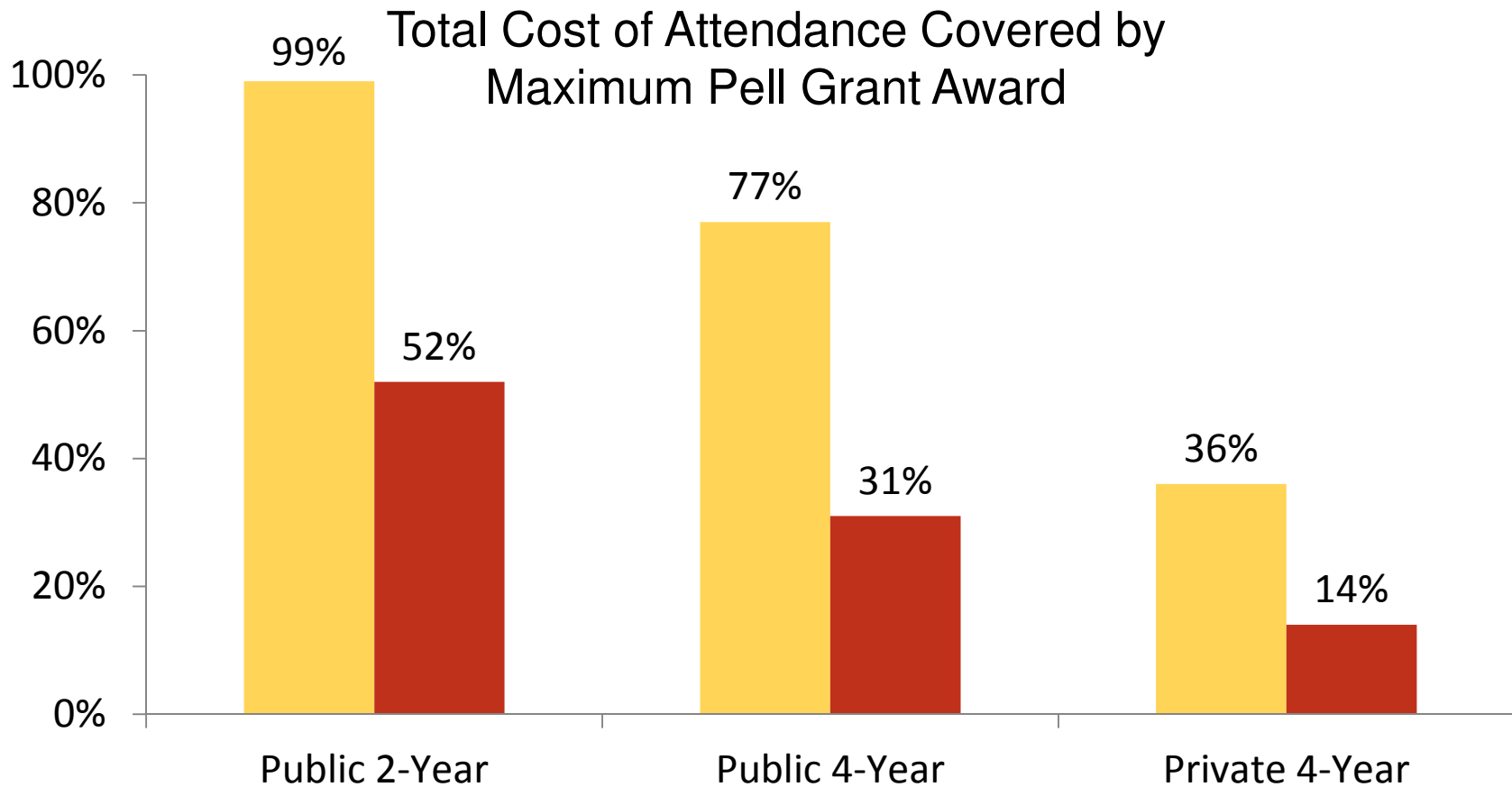
# College costs have increased at 4.5 times the rate of inflation



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Annual Average CPI Index, 2011:


<http://www.bls.gov/cpi/cpid11av.pdf>; Census Bureau, Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2012; Table F-6.

# Federal Pell Grants have failed to keep pace with rising college costs




■ 1979-80 ■ 2012-13

American Council on Education (2007). "Status Report on the Pell Grant Program, 2007" and College Board, Trends in Student Aid, 2013.



Why? Not because we're not spending a lot more on student aid.

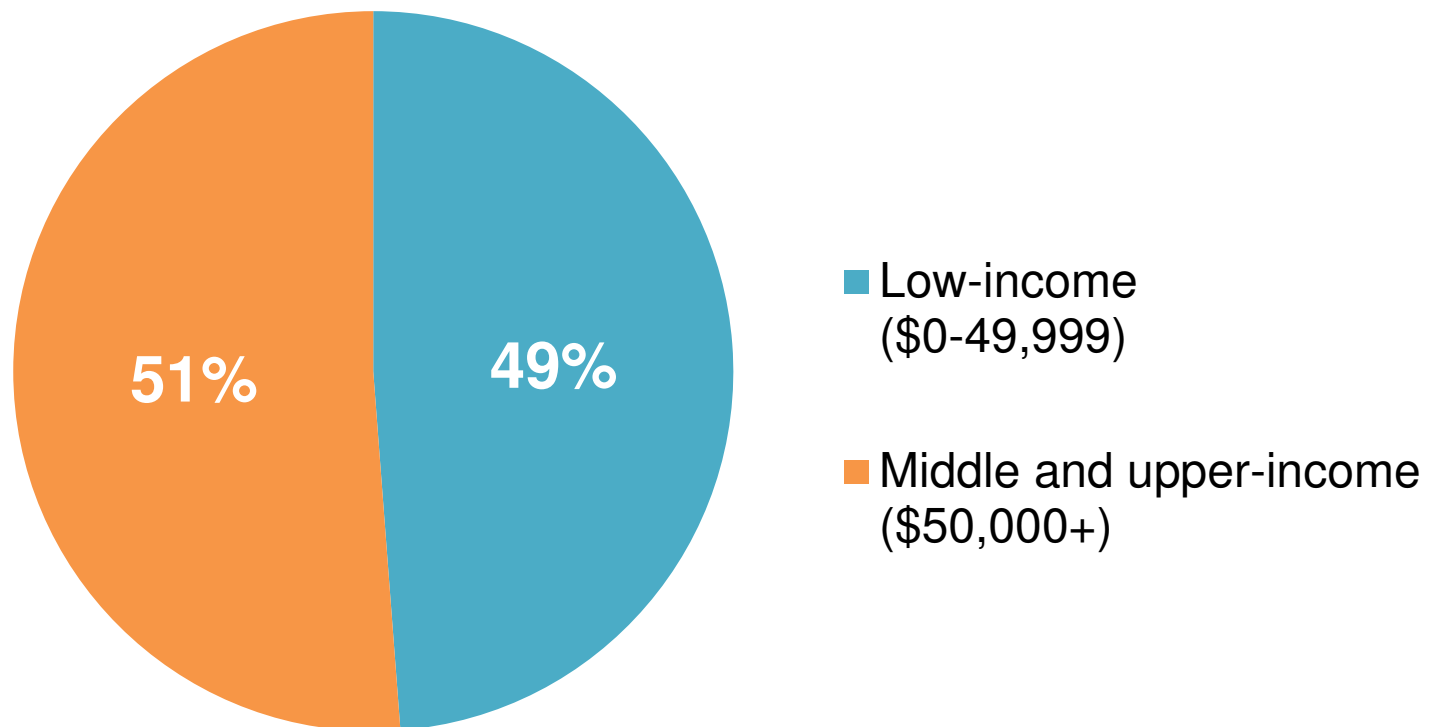
But, rather, because we've changed who gets those dollars.



\$21 billion in federal dollars were diverted in  
FY13 to education tax benefits,  
many of which benefit  
institutions or wealthier students.

# 51% of savings from tuition tax credits go to middle- and upper-income families

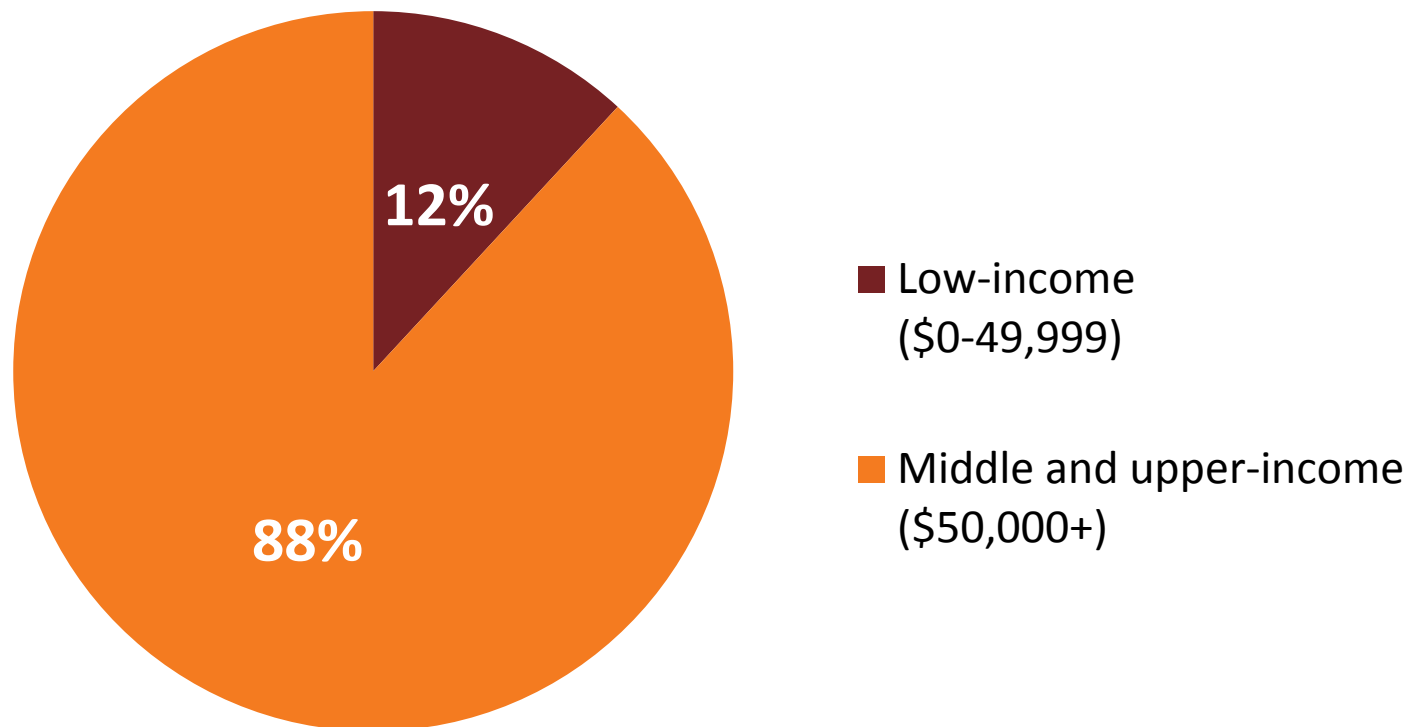
Distribution of Education Tax Credits  
by Adjusted Gross Income



Source: The College Board, *Trends in Student Aid 2013*.

# 88% of savings from tuition tax deductions go to middle- and upper-income families


Distribution of Tax Deduction Savings  
by Adjusted Gross Income



Note: Percentages may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Source: The College Board, *Trends in Student Aid 2013*.





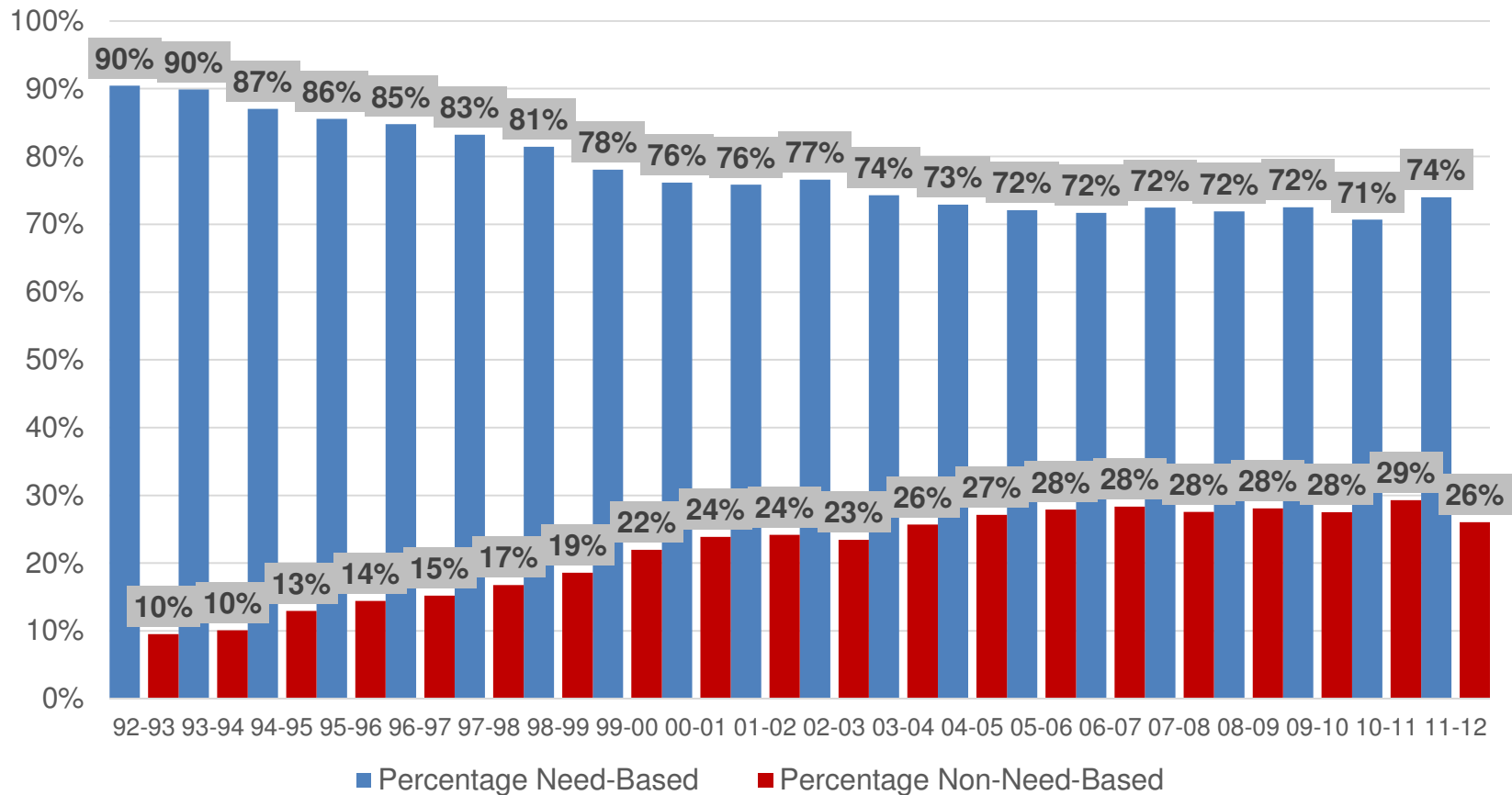
Pattern is the same at state level, even  
in tough times.

Source: Trends in Student Aid 2010, The College Board

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# Non-need-based grant aid now represents more than a quarter of all state grant aid


Need-Based and Non-Need-Based State Grants per Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Undergraduate Student, 1992-93 to 2011-12



Source: The College Board, *Trends in Student Aid 2013*.



Big Effects, too, from State Disinvestment in Public Higher Education.



We start out by spending less per student in the institutions serving students with the biggest needs. Then, over the past few years, we just cut mercilessly from there.



So yes, government policy is part of  
the problem, too.



*But*

colleges and universities are not unimportant actors in this drama of shrinking opportunity, either.

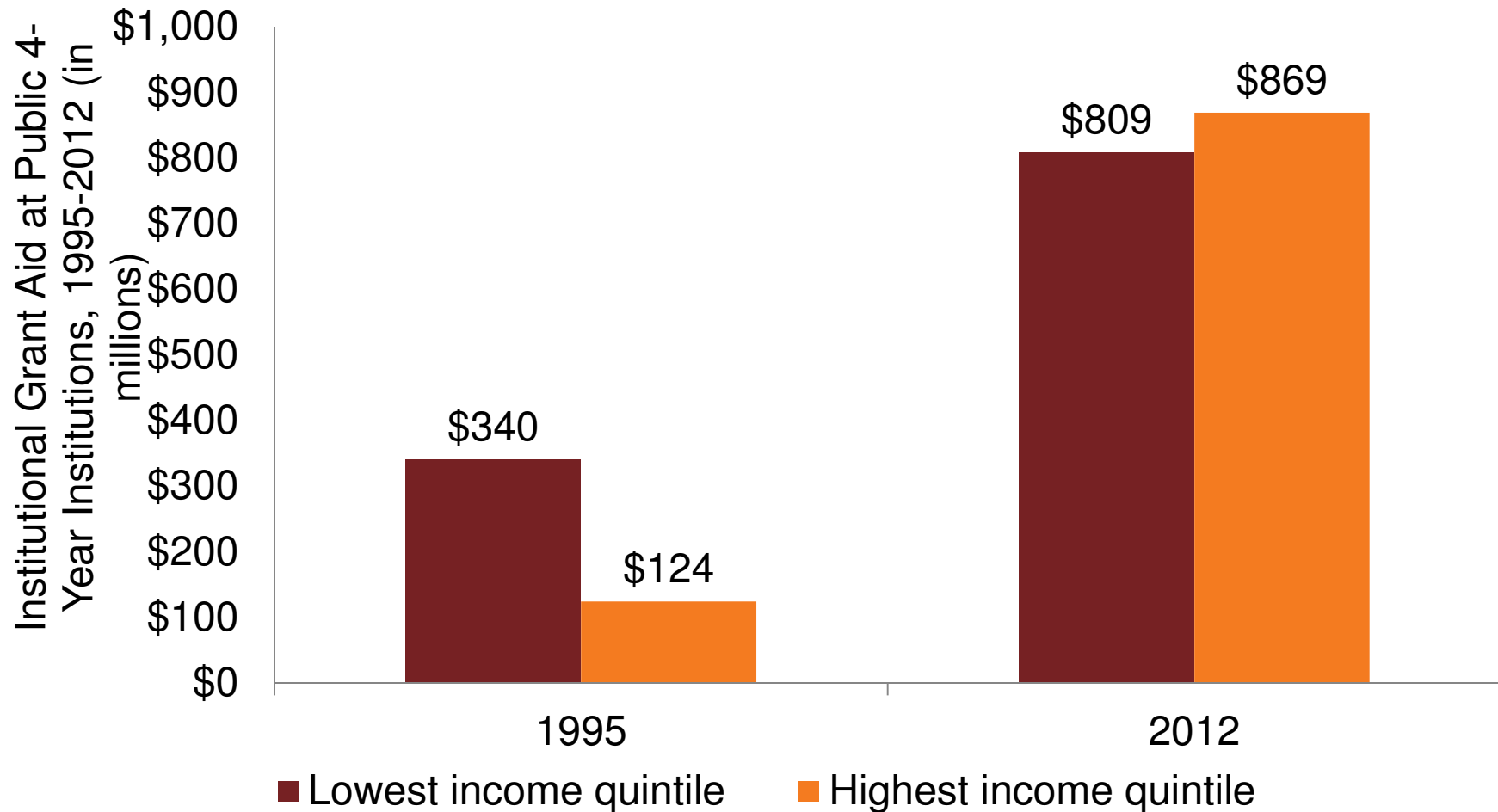
For one thing, the shifts away from poor students in institutional aid money are MORE PRONOUNCED than the shifts in government aid.

In 2011, four-year public and private nonprofit colleges spent over **\$21 billion** on grant aid.



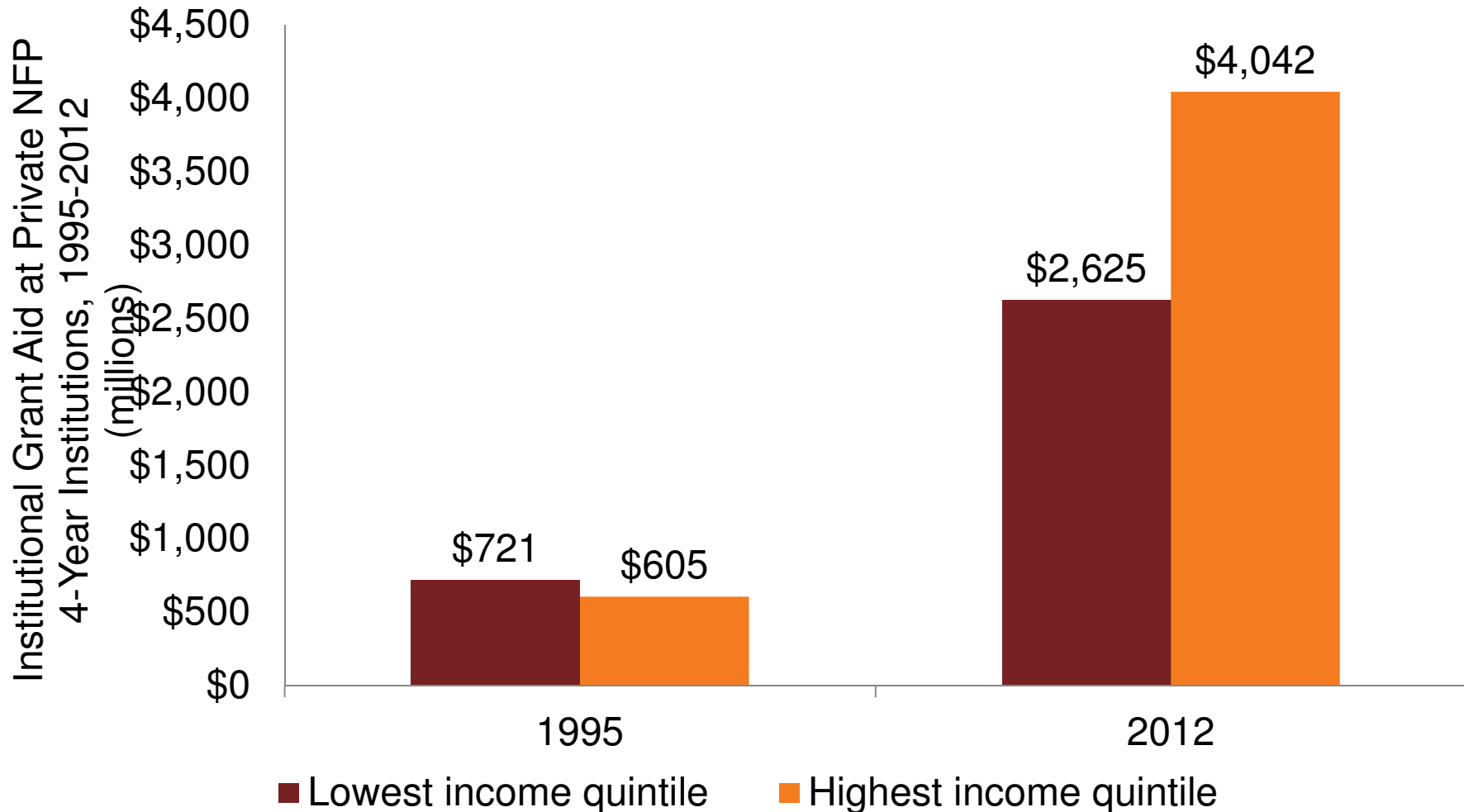
But, they spent a lot of aid on students who didn't need it...

# Public 4-year colleges used to spend more than twice as much on needy students, but now spend more on wealthy students



Education Trust analysis of NPSAS:96, NPSAS:08, NPSAS:12 using PowerStats. Results based on full-time, full-year, one-institution dependent undergraduates.

# Private nonprofit 4-year colleges used to spend more on low-income students, but now spend nearly twice as much on wealthy students




Education Trust analysis of NPSAS:96, NPSAS:08, NPSAS:12 using PowerStats. Results based on full-time, full-year, one-institution dependent undergraduates.

# Low-income students must devote an amount equivalent to 76% of their family income towards college costs


Family Income Percentile	Average Income	Average Cost of Attendance	Average Expected Family Contribution (EFC)	Average Grant Aid	Average Unmet Need After EFC and Grant Aid	Average % of Income Required to Pay Out-of-Pocket Expenses
0 – 20%	\$12,783	\$27,428	\$276	\$13,565	\$13,591	76%
21 – 40%	\$36,205	\$29,345	\$2,138	\$12,246	\$15,006	46%
41 – 60%	\$65,204	\$29,804	\$8,059	\$8,465	\$13,689	33%
61 – 80%	\$97,733	\$30,719	\$16,259	\$6,842	\$9,465	25%
81 – 100%	\$185,819	\$34,370	\$35,925	\$6,041	\$5,281	17%

Source: Education Trust analysis of NPSAS:12 using PowerStats, <http://nces.ed.gov/datalab/>.

Results based on full-time, full-year, one-institution dependent undergraduates at public and private nonprofit four-year colleges



So it's not all about the students or about government. What colleges do is important in who comes...and who doesn't.



Moreover, what **colleges** do also turns out to be very important in whether students graduate or not.

## Warning:

I'm going to focus for the next few minutes on IPEDS grad rates. Yes, we know those don't tell us everything. But they do tell us how we are doing with the easiest of our students.

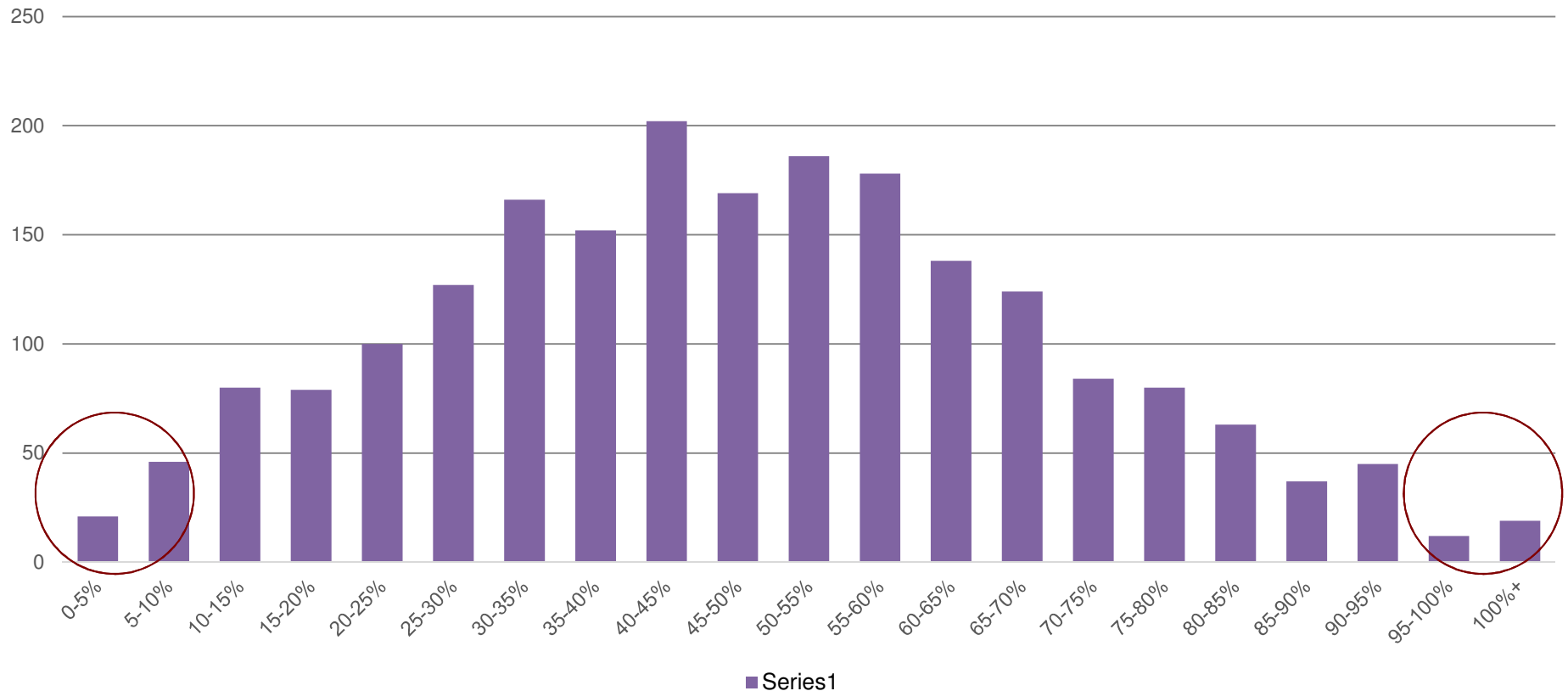
# College Completion Rates: 4-Year Colleges

- Fewer than 4 in 10 (38%) entering full-time freshmen obtain a bachelor's degree from the same institution within 4 years.
- Within six years of entry, that proportion rises to just under 6 in 10 (58%).
- If you go beyond IPEDS, and look at graduation from ANY institution, number grows to about two-thirds.




# Many Four-Year Colleges Have Very High Graduation Rates and Many, Very Low


**Distribution of Graduation Rates (2012)**  
6-year bachelor's completion rates for first-time, full-time freshmen,  
Fall 2006 cohort at 4-year institutions



Source: Ed Trust analysis of IPEDS Graduation Rates




Some of these differences are clearly attributable to differences in student preparation and/or institutional mission.




Indeed, with enough data on both institutions and students, we can find a way to “explain” 70-80% of the variance among institutions.

Source: Ed Trust analysis of College Results Online dataset 2011.



EdTrust experience:  
“Our graduation rates are about the same as other institutions that serve similar students.”

n/a




But...when you dig underneath the averages, one thing is very clear:

Some colleges are far more successful than their students' "stats" would suggest.

# College Results Online

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### About College Results Online

College Results Online (CRO) is an interactive, user-friendly Web tool designed to provide policymakers, counselors, parents, students, and others with information about college graduation rates for nearly any four-year college or university in the country. CRO allows users to:

- Examine colleges' graduation rates, and see how those rates have changed over time.
- Compare graduation rates of similar colleges serving similar students.
- Learn about colleges' track records in graduating diverse groups of students.

This information reveals that some colleges do a much better job of graduating students than others. It also shows that at many colleges, significant gaps exist in graduation rates between white students and students of color. But, it also provides powerful examples of colleges that prove that low graduation rates - especially for diverse students - are not inevitable.

[Recent Education Trust reports and analyses on graduation rates](#)



# Research Institutions

## Similar Students, Different Results

	Median SAT	Size	% Pell	% URM	Overall Grad Rate	URM Grad Rate
Penn State University	1,195	37,763	16%	8.6%	86.7%	74.6%
Indiana University	1,170	31,427	21%	8.0%	72.0%	52.1%
University of Minnesota	1,245	30,656	23%	7.6%	70.2%	44.4%
Purdue University	1,165	30,812	21%	6.9%	68.1%	54.1%

Source: College Results Online, 2013: [www.collegeresults.org](http://www.collegeresults.org).

# Research Institutions

## Similar Students, Different Results

	Median SAT	Size	% Pell	% URM	Overall Grad Rate	URM Grad Rate
Florida State University	1,185	29,291	28%	25.2%	73.8%	71%
University of Arizona	1,085	28,174	32%	23.8%	61.4%	53.1%

Source: College Results Online, 2013: [www.collegeresults.org](http://www.collegeresults.org).



## Masters Institutions – Large Similar Students, Different Results


	Median SAT	Size	% Pell	Overall Graduation Rate
University of Northern Iowa	1,070	10,716	25%	66.7%
Montclair State University	1,010	12,975	37%	62.3%
Eastern Illinois University	990	9,287	39%	59.3%
University of Wisconsin Whitewater	1,050	9,685	30%	53.9%

Source: College Results Online, 2013: [www.collegeresults.org](http://www.collegeresults.org).

## Historically Black Colleges Similar Students, Different Results

	Median SAT	Size	% Pell	Overall Graduation Rate
Elizabeth City University	835	3,020	80%	43.7%
Delaware State University	875	3,167	59%	34.6%
Norfolk State University	865	5,373	65%	33.2%
University of Arkansas Pine Bluff	780	3,096	82%	23%
Coppin State University	855	2,832	70%	14.7%

Source: College Results Online, 2013: [www.collegeresults.org](http://www.collegeresults.org).



Some making fast progress in  
improving success for students of  
color, some have closed gaps  
entirely.

# Biggest Gainers in Success for Latino Students: Public Colleges and Universities

	Undergrad FTE Fall 2009 Enrollment	% Hispanic among Undergrad FTE Fall 2009 Enrollment	Overall Six-Year Grad Rate 2010	Hispanic Six-Year Grad Rate 2004	Hispanic Six-Year Grad Rate 2010	Change in Hispanic Six-Year Grad Rates 2004-2010
1. Eastern Connecticut State University (CT)	4,631	5.5%	52.4%	20.0%	57.8%	37.8
2. Georgia State University (GA)	18,758	6.9%	48.2%	22.0%	59.4%	37.4
3. East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania (PA)	6,022	5.7%	57.9%	25.8%	56.1%	30.3
4. University of Utah (UT)	17,509	5.5%	56.4%	30.6%	59.6%	29.0
5. Clemson University (SC)	14,696	1.6%	76.2%	40.6%	69.0%	28.4
6. University of North Carolina at Charlotte (NC)	17,469	4.6%	55.2%	30.2%	55.2%	25.0
7. Central Washington University (WA)	9,798	7.7%	55.8%	38.1%	62.6%	24.5
8. University of Georgia (GA)	25,160	3.0%	79.8%	64.5%	87.3%	22.8
9. Virginia Commonwealth University (VA)	20,285	4.2%	50.4%	25.9%	48.7%	22.8
10. Millersville University of Pennsylvania (PA)	6,911	3.9%	61.1%	30.0%	52.0%	22.0
11. SUNY College at Oneonta (NY)	5,624	5.1%	64.6%	38.9%	60.8%	21.9
12. University of Maryland-Baltimore County (MD)	9,058	3.9%	57.3%	38.7%	60.5%	21.8
13. Washington State University (WA)	19,717	6.5%	69.0%	46.2%	67.8%	21.6
14. San Diego State University (CA)	24,084	23.5%	66.2%	40.8%	62.2%	21.4

Source: Advancing to Completion, 2012, The Education Trust.

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# Biggest Gainers in Success for Black Students: Public Colleges and Universities

**Table 1b: Top 25 Gainers in Black Student Graduation Rates among Public Institutions, 2004-2010**

	Undergrad FTE Fall 2009 Enrollment	% Black among Undergrad FTE Fall 2009 Enrollment	Overall Six-Year Grad Rate 2010	Black Six-Year Grad Rate 2004	Black Six-Year Grad Rate 2010	Change in Black Six-Year Grad Rates 2004-2010
1. California University of Pennsylvania (PA)	6,735	6.8%	55.1%	27.5%	60.5%	33.0
2. California State Polytechnic University-Pomona (CA) ←	17,806	3.5%	56.6%	24.3%	53.9%	29.6
3. Towson University (MD)	15,903	12.2%	68.2%	51.2%	74.0%	22.8
4. Appalachian State University (NC)	14,368	3.1%	65.9%	42.5%	64.6%	22.1
5. University of North Carolina-Wilmington (NC)	10,855	4.6%	65.9%	40.0%	61.4%	21.4
6. San Jose State University (CA) ←	20,294	4.9%	48.0%	23.9%	43.5%	19.6
7. New Mexico State University-Main Campus (NM)	13,321	3.3%	44.7%	20.0%	39.1%	19.1
8. Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (PA)	7,442	5.4%	60.6%	25.7%	44.1%	18.4
9. Texas Tech University (TX)	22,786	4.7%	62.6%	47.0%	65.4%	18.4
10. University of Louisville (KY)	13,146	12.5%	48.6%	24.4%	41.1%	16.7
11. San Francisco State University (CA) ←	21,853	5.5%	48.0%	25.9%	41.9%	16.0
12. SUNY College at Old Westbury (NY)	3,407	33.1%	39.4%	31.6%	47.6%	16.0

Source: Advancing to Completion, 2012, The Education Trust.

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# Universities with No Black/White Graduation Rate Gaps

**Table 2b: Public Colleges at Which Black Student Graduation Rates Equal or Exceed Rates of White Students, 2004 and 2010**


	Undergrad FTE Fall 2009 Enrollment	% Black among Undergrad FTE Fall 2009 Enrollment	Black Six-Year Grad Rate 2004	White Six-Year Grad Rate 2004	Black Six-Year Grad Rate 2010	White Six-Year Grad Rate 2010	White-Black Grad-Rate Gap 2004	White-Black Grad-Rate Gap 2010
1. SUNY College at Old Westbury (NY)	3,407	33.1%	31.6%	18.2%	47.6%	28.2%	-13.4	-19.4
2. Stony Brook University (NY)	15,544	6.6%	62.5%	53.3%	71.3%	58.7%	-9.2	-12.6
3. University of California-Riverside (CA)	16,665	7.9%	69.3%	60.9%	72.2%	60.4%	-8.4	-11.8
4. Radford University (VA)	7,551	5.5%	64.8%	56.0%	63.7%	56.7%	-8.8	-7.0
5. Georgia State University (GA)	18,758	33.0%	47.6%	36.5%	50.9%	44.5%	-11.1	-6.4
6. Old Dominion University (VA)	15,268	24.0%	45.0%	46.7%	52.8%	48.4%	1.7	-4.4
7. Sam Houston State University (TX)	13,005	16.4%	44.0%	39.1%	52.9%	49.0%	-4.9	-3.9
8. SUNY at Albany (NY)	12,584	10.2%	64.7%	61.3%	71.0%	67.1%	-3.4	-3.9
9. Kennesaw State University (GA)	17,107	12.3%	33.3%	30.6%	43.5%	40.0%	-2.7	-3.5
10. University of California-Santa Cruz (CA)	14,961	2.7%	78.2%	69.9%	75.6%	75.1%	-8.3	-0.5
11. Coastal Carolina University (SC)	7,399	14.7%	42.4%	38.8%	43.6%	43.2%	-3.6	-0.4
12. East Carolina University (NC)	19,414	14.2%	52.7%	53.7%	56.4%	56.2%	1.0	-0.2
13. Winthrop University (SC)	4,681	26.9%	63.5%	53.6%	54.4%	54.3%	-9.9	-0.1
14. University of North Carolina at Greensboro (NC)	14,412	22.5%	51.5%	51.0%	52.3%	53.1%	-0.5	0.8
15. Florida State University (FL)	28,738	10.2%	67.8%	65.7%	72.7%	74.1%	-2.1	1.4

Source: Advancing to Completion, 2012, The Education Trust.

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# Bottom Line:

- So yes, we have to keep working to improve our high schools;
- And yes, government has to do its part;
- But we've got to focus on changing what our colleges do, too.



And, let's be clear, that is not about implementing one more program or changing one more practice.

It's about establishing an institutional culture that values success and that accepts responsibility.





**Yes, we need innovation.**

But we also need to replace outmoded and ineffective practices with evidence-based practices that have been proven in other settings.



You don't, in other words, have  
to make everything up.

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