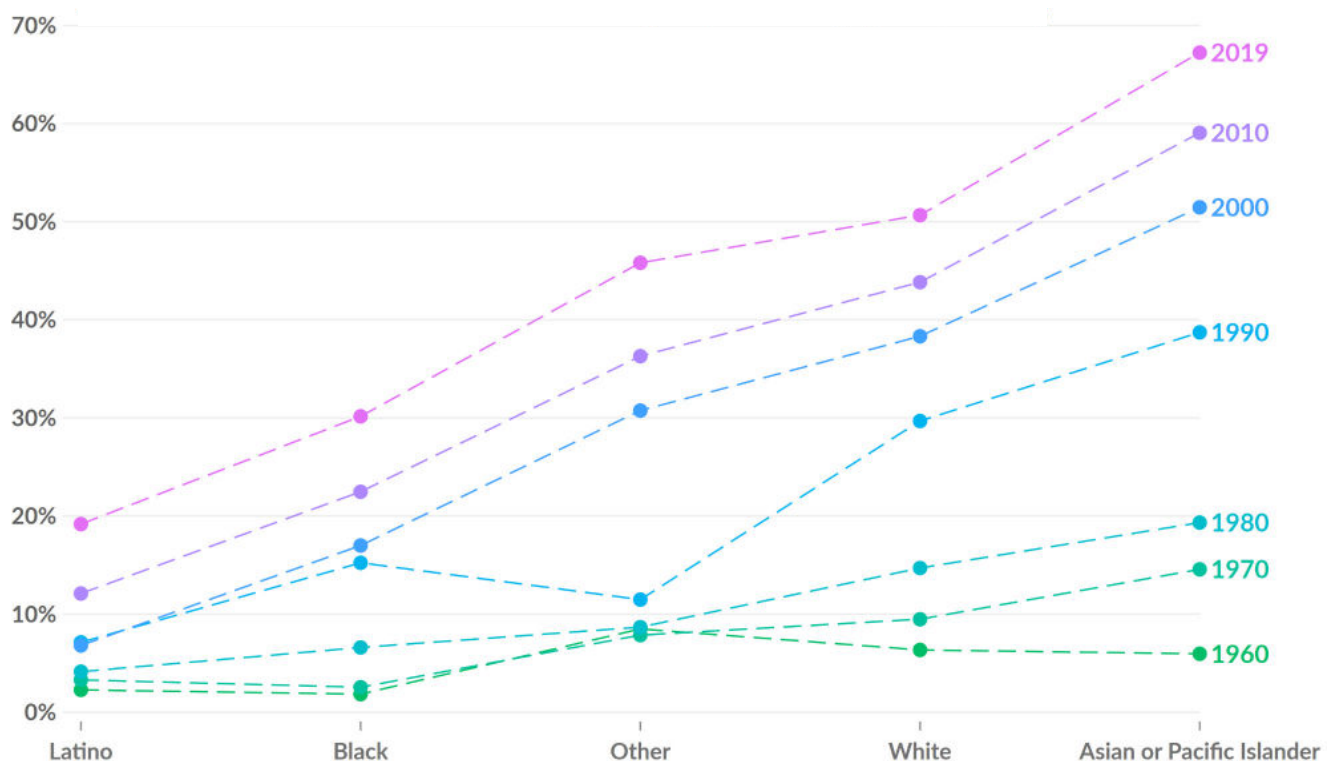


Young Adult College Attainment in California

February 23, 2022 | James Hawkins

Trends in Rates of College Attainment

Fraction of 25-34 Californians with a Bachelor's Degree (1960-2019), by Race/Ethnicity



Source: IPUMS-USA
 Sample: 25-34 non-institutionalized population in California.
 Notes: This figure plots the fraction of each race/ethnicity group among 25-34-year-olds in California with a college degree.

Despite increases in college attainment across the board since the 1960's, there are still vast differences in college completion across racial/ethnic groups.

- In 2019 in California, 67.2% of 25-34-year-old Asian/Pacific Islanders had a college degree, 50.6% of whites, 30.2% of Blacks, 19.2% of Latinos, and 45.8% of Californians not identifying as any of these race/ethnicity groups (other).
- The increase in college attainment since the 1960's was not shared equally across racial/ethnic groups.
- The fact that Bachelor degree attainment among Latino and Black Californians continues to lag other groups suggests the need for significant investment in the state's ability to expand access to higher education and deliver equitable outcomes for underserved populations.