



HIGHLIGHTS IN ADULT EDUCATION ADULT BASIC & SECONDARY EDUCATION



IMPROVING LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS

Adult basic education (ABE) and adult secondary education (ASE) and basic skills together constitute the largest adult education category, with offerings that focus on literacy, numeracy, helping adults who do not have a high school diploma complete their high school equivalency and preparing students to enter college-level courses. AEBG consortia throughout the state focus on matching programs for adults lacking high school diplomas to community need. They do so by expanding the number and types of courses, providing flexible scheduling or online programs, and/or offering instruction in languages other than English, customizing it based on demand in their local area. These efforts include helping adults prepare for the General Educational Development test (GED) or other high school equivalency exams.

Additionally, basic skills courses improve students' literacy and numeracy skills in order to prepare them for college-level coursework. These courses help students accelerate through academic programs by better preparing them to take the college placement exam, often helping them bypass the remedial-level course sequences that are required when a student performs poorly on the exam. Regions also are employing innovative programs that combine basic skills courses with career technical courses, shortening the time it takes to complete a program and improving completion rates. Some regions are partnering experienced K-12 adult basic skills instructors with community college career technical instructors to help bridge the transition for students who may be intimidated by the college experience.

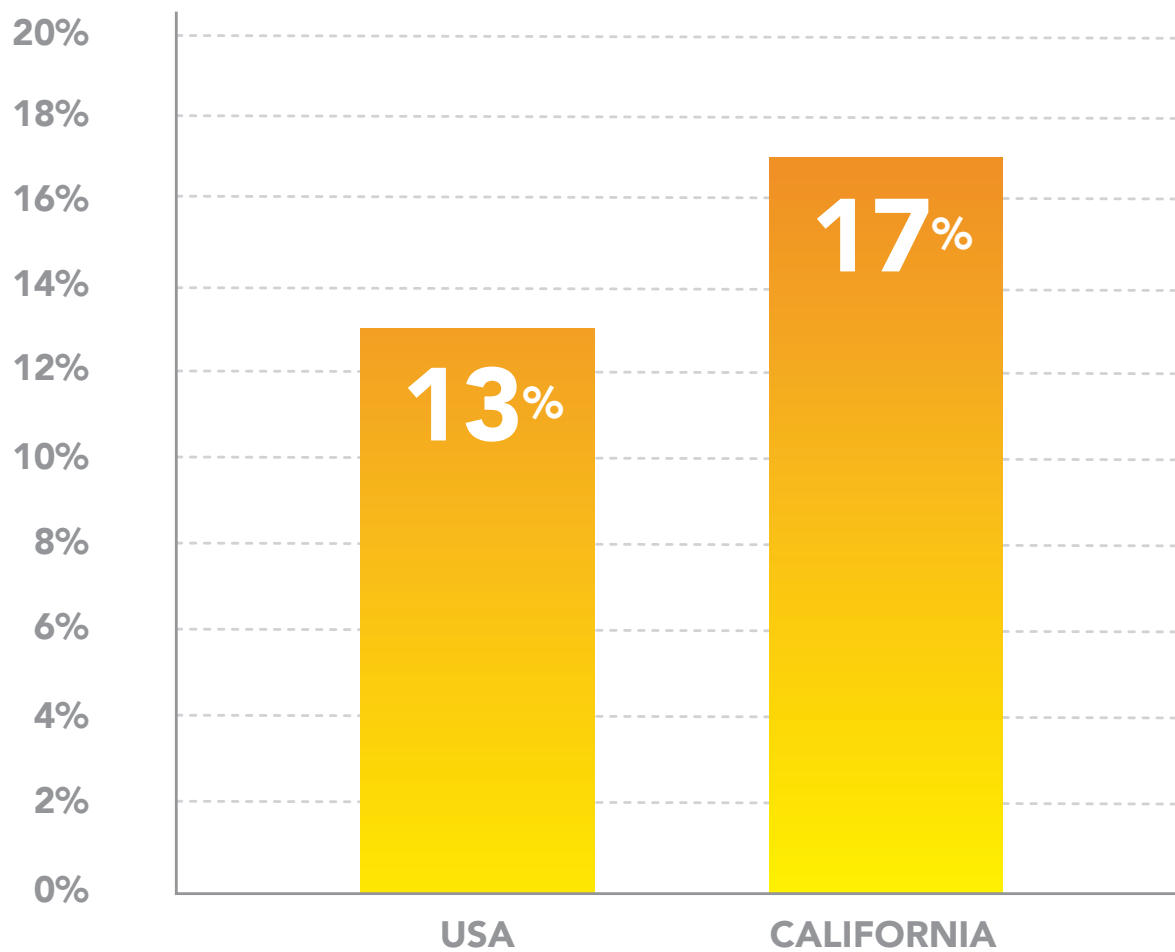


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POPULATION 18 YEARS AND OLDER THAT DO NOT POSSESS A HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE



The percentage of California's population with less than a high school diploma is greater than the percentage across the U.S. as a whole. Adult basic and secondary education will help Californians achieve greater educational success.¹

¹U.S. Census Bureau. (2015). American Community Survey: Educational Attainment 2015 1-Year Estimates. Retrieved April 2017, from U.S. Census Bureau: https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_15_1YR_S1501&prodType=table



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37%

Percentage of California's immigrant population in 2015 that had **not completed a high school diploma**³

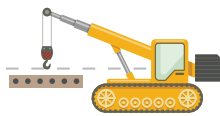
47%

Percentage of the state's **long-term unemployed population**, defined as those unemployed for 27 weeks or more, that had educational attainment of a high school diploma or less²



ADULT EDUCATION

Adult basic and secondary education programs are **essential for preparing students** to enter and successfully complete postsecondary programs.



29%

And while the unemployment rate for those with less than a high school diploma was the highest in 2015 (11.3 percent),¹ the largest share of those unemployed in California had a high school diploma, but no postsecondary education, **making up 29 percent of the unemployed population in the state.**³

¹Johnson, H., Mejia, M. C., & Bohn, S. (2015). Will California Run Out of College Graduates? Sacramento: Public Policy Institute of California.

²California Workforce Development Board Strategic Workforce Plan. (2016). Retrieved April 28, 2017, from California Workforce Development Board: <http://cwdb.blogs.ca.gov/files/2016/08/Unified-State-Plan-Preface-Through-Chapter-9-for-submission-and-public-posting.pdf>



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FIGURE 1: PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN ABE AND ASE PROGRAMS ADDRESSING A SKILLS GAP OR LEADING TO AN HSD OR HSE

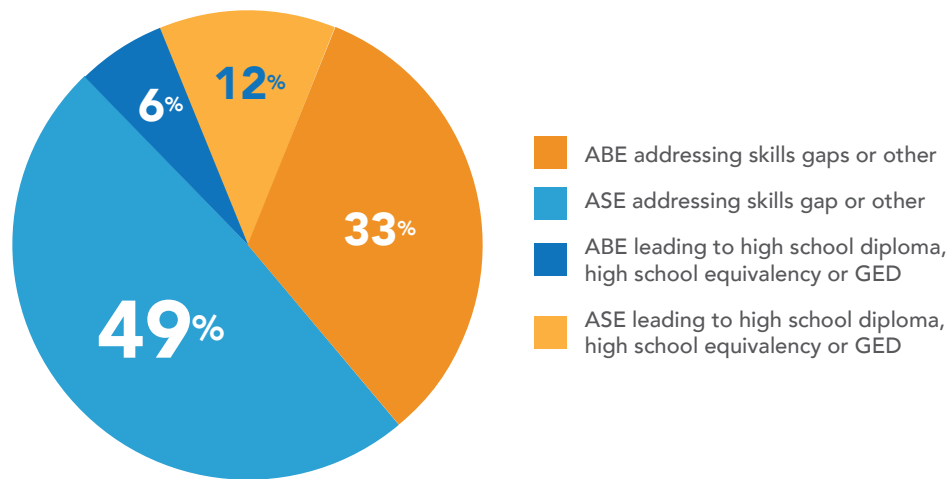
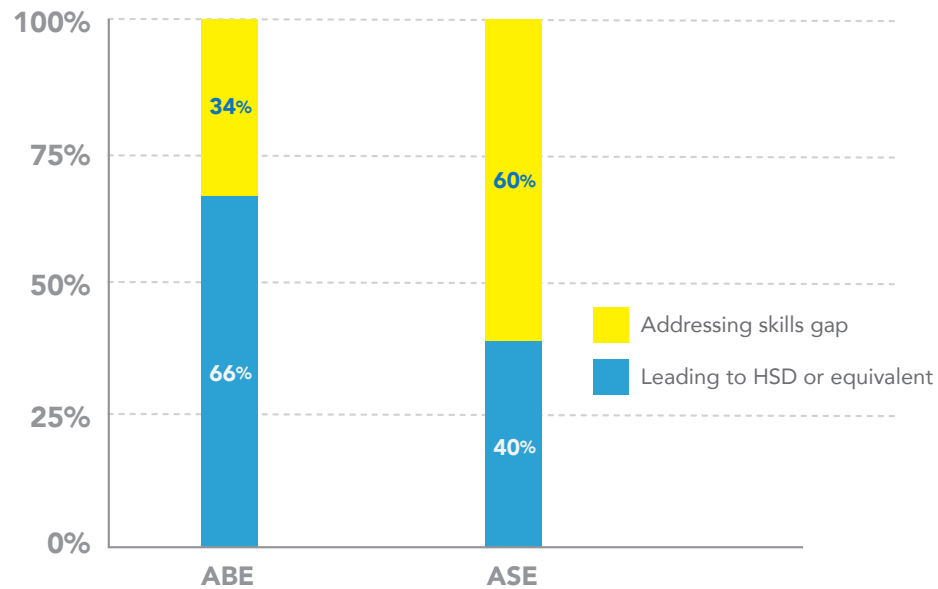


FIGURE 2: BREAKOUT OF ENROLLMENT IN ABE OR ASE BY THOSE ADDRESSING SKILLS GAP AND THOSE LEADING TO HSD OR EQUIVALENT





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Students in the adult basic education (ABE) and adult secondary education and basic skills (ASE) program are either pursuing a high school diploma (HSD) or its equivalent or already have one and are seeking to improve their reading, writing and math skills.

Figure 1 provides a breakdown of student enrollment by program outcome, with each section representing a percentage of overall ABE/ASE enrollment. **Figure 2** breaks it down further, separating out enrollment by outcome for each area of the ABE/ASE program, with the figures representing the percentage of total enrollment for each respective program. **Figure 3** shows enrollment numbers by provider, with school districts and community colleges being the primary providers of adult education in California.

FIGURE 3: ENROLLMENT IN PROGRAMS LEADING TO A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR EQUIVALENCY BY PROVIDER TYPE

