

Community Colleges: Solutions to Emerging Challenges

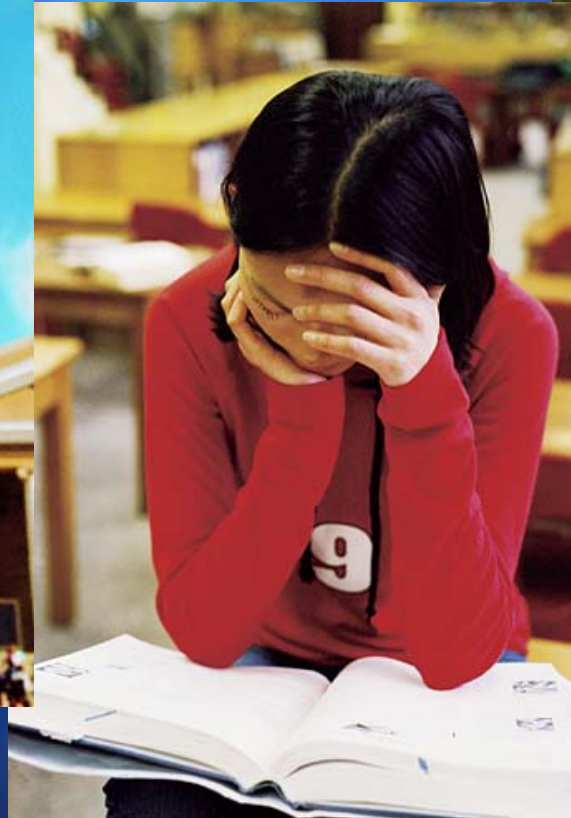
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American Association
of Community Colleges



Why Community Colleges Are Important



Community Colleges in the U. S.

American Association of Community Colleges

Community College Growth by Decade



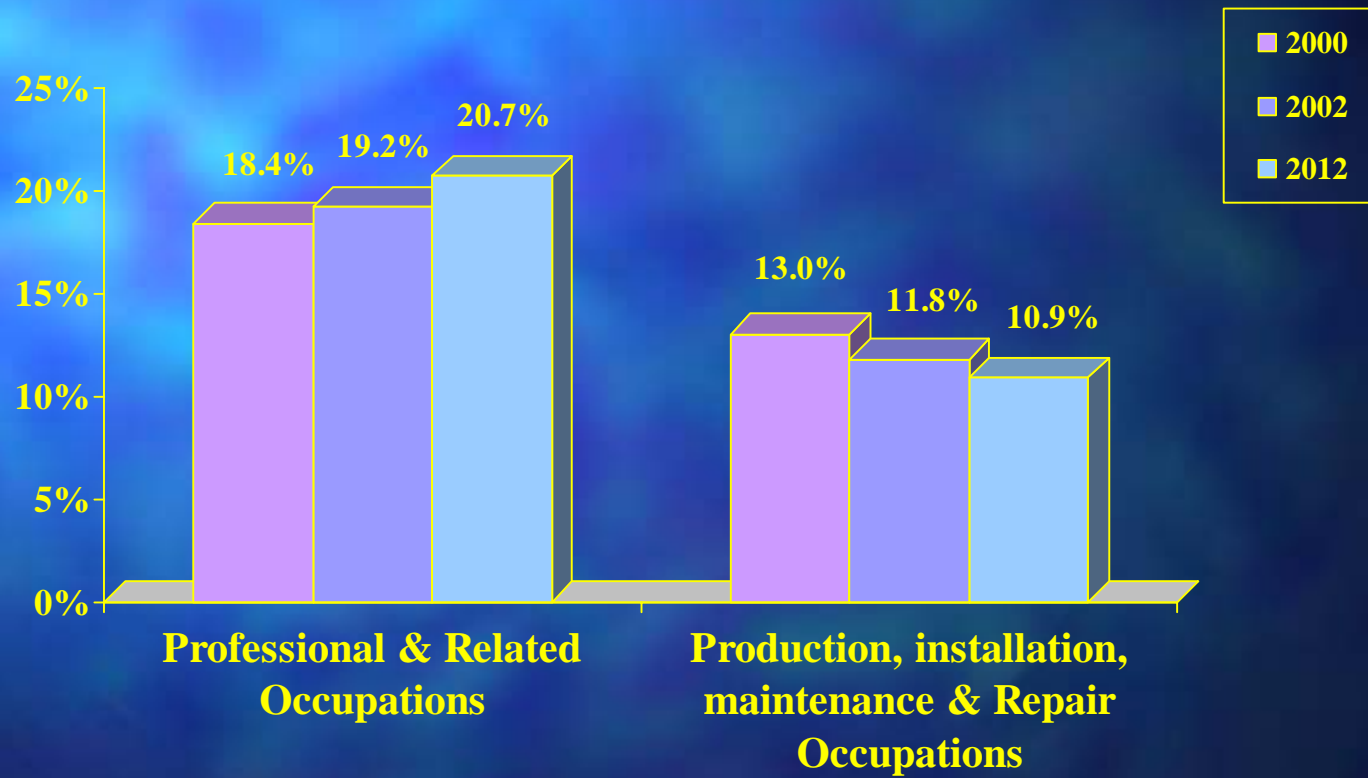
Community College Values

- Access
- Community responsiveness
- Clear focus on student learning
- Resourcefulness
- Entrepreneurial spirit
- Creativeness
- Innovativeness



Societal Change

High Skilled & Unskilled Jobs as a % of the Workforce, 2000 to 2012



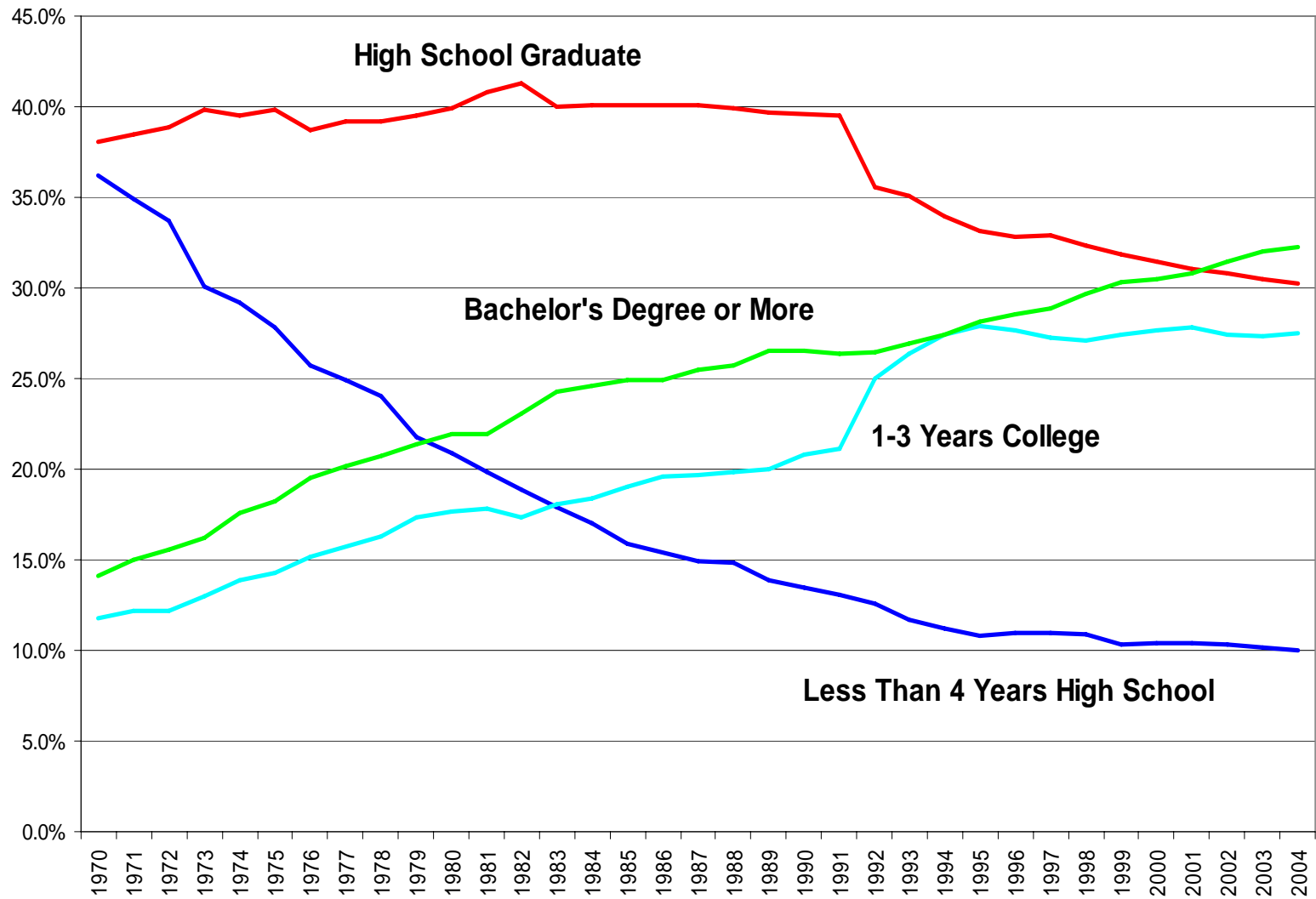
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Certificates and Degrees Change Lives



Higher levels of education lead to higher earnings for all racial and ethnic groups and for both men and women. People with associate degrees generally earn 20 to 30 percent more than people with only high school diplomas.

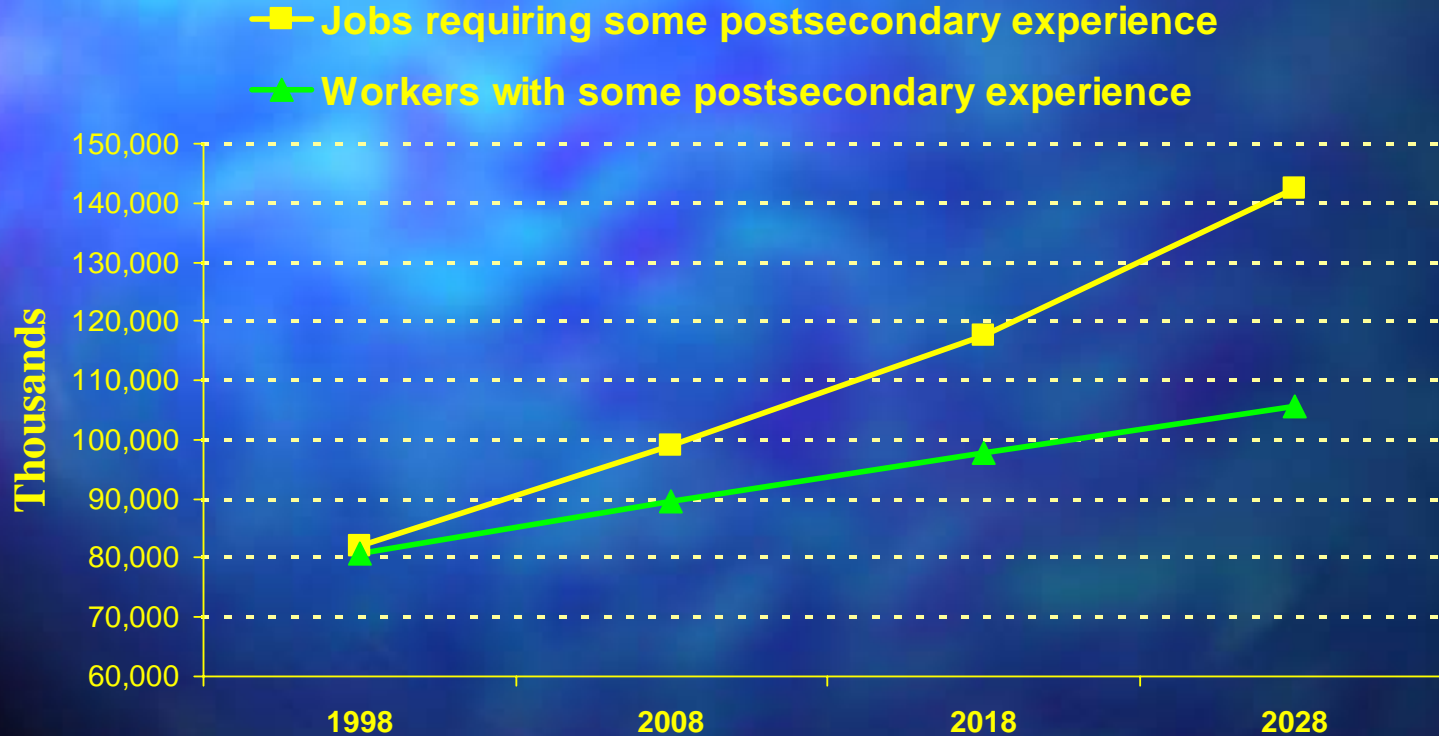
Civilian Labor Force by Educational Attainment 1970 to 2004



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Education Required

Projected Growth in Supply and Demand of Workers With Some Postsecondary Education, 1998 to 2028



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau and National Alliance of Business

More Emphasis on STEM Competitiveness

- National Academy of Sciences *Gathering Storm* report
- Friedman's flat world
- National Science Board commission
- Academic Competitiveness and SMART Grants
 - Workforce Development Institute
 - American Association of Community Colleges/National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education Principal Investigator conference

More Enrollment Pressure for Community Colleges

- Increasing numbers of people will seek higher education
- Rising university tuition costs and increased selectivity will drive more students to community colleges
- Increased need for lifelong learning will impact enrollments
- Retiring Baby Boomers will require education and training

Immigration Will Stay On the Front Burner for a While

- May cool somewhat with new Congress if economy continues to be strong
- Growing recognition for need to retain some international students
- DREAM Act will still be politically sensitive

Accountability Again

- More focus on success of students — not just access
- Evidence of student learning will be required by accrediting agencies, states and federal government
- Colleges will move toward a culture of evidence and use of data

Trend for Increased Student Mobility, But Many Are Place-bound

- Better articulation agreements with universities
- More university centers on community college campuses
- More distance learning opportunities

More Focus on K-12 Transitions

- Expectations for higher education need to be made clear
- Transitions need to be improved
 - League's College and Career Transitions Initiative
 - GEAR-UP
 - Concurrent enrollment
 - Middle College High School

First Responder and Security Preparation Still Important

- Post-9/11 concerns about Homeland Security
- Information systems security specialists will be needed
- Increased visibility of natural disasters
- Potential of pandemic

Growing Importance of Global and Intercultural Education

- Emerging global society and economy
 - Friedman's flat world
 - Bush National Defense Foreign Language Initiative
 - American Association of Community Colleges Recruitment efforts
 - Trips, Web page, study guide, map
- Growing anti-American spirit
 - State Department Initiatives

American Association of Community Colleges



The Voice of America's
Community Colleges