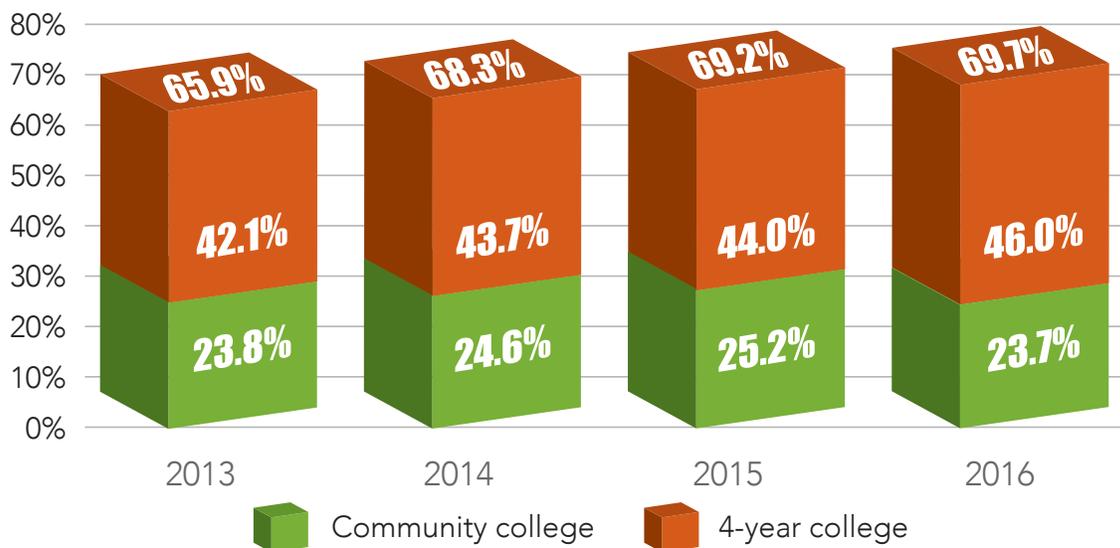


College continuation of high school graduates

A higher percentage of high school graduates are attending college, but they are less likely to choose a community college.

College continuation rates of high school graduates by level or institution



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



Community colleges have seen decreases in enrollment since their peak enrollment in 2010. One principle source of new students attending community colleges is high school graduates continuing on to community colleges upon graduation. Data from the National Center for Education Statistics indicate that the actual and projected number of high school graduates has increased from 2010-11 to 2016-17, with 1.7 percent more students graduating in 2016-17 than did in 2010-11. One component for this jump is the increasing percent of students completing high school. The Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate has increased from 79.6 percent in 2010-11 to 83.2 percent in 2014-15. This increase in the percentage of students graduating is a significant contributing factor to the increase in high school graduates. Not only are more students graduating from high school, but as demonstrated in the data above, a higher percentage of them are continuing on to college (65.9 percent in 2013 compared to 69.7 percent in 2016). However, the percentage who go on to community colleges has not shown the same consistent level of increase, with the rate for 2016 high school graduates roughly equal to the rate for 2013 graduates.

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