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The Grades are In – 2008: Is California Higher Education Measuring Up?

Key Points:

- California has a serious and urgent education/workforce problem
- Policy and planning are not meeting the challenge
- Budget is no excuse – there are low-cost options

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Context: Many Similar Warnings

- **Campaign for College Opportunity:** Access to college threatened by lack of planning
- **National Center:** CA projected drop in per capita income most severe in US
- **PPIC:** shortage of college-educated workers
- **EDGE Campaign:** risk losing competitive advantage
- **National Center:** “egalitarian provisions of the Master Plan commitment – access and transfer – are in serious disrepair”



The Grades are In:
California lags many other states
in important aspects of higher
education performance

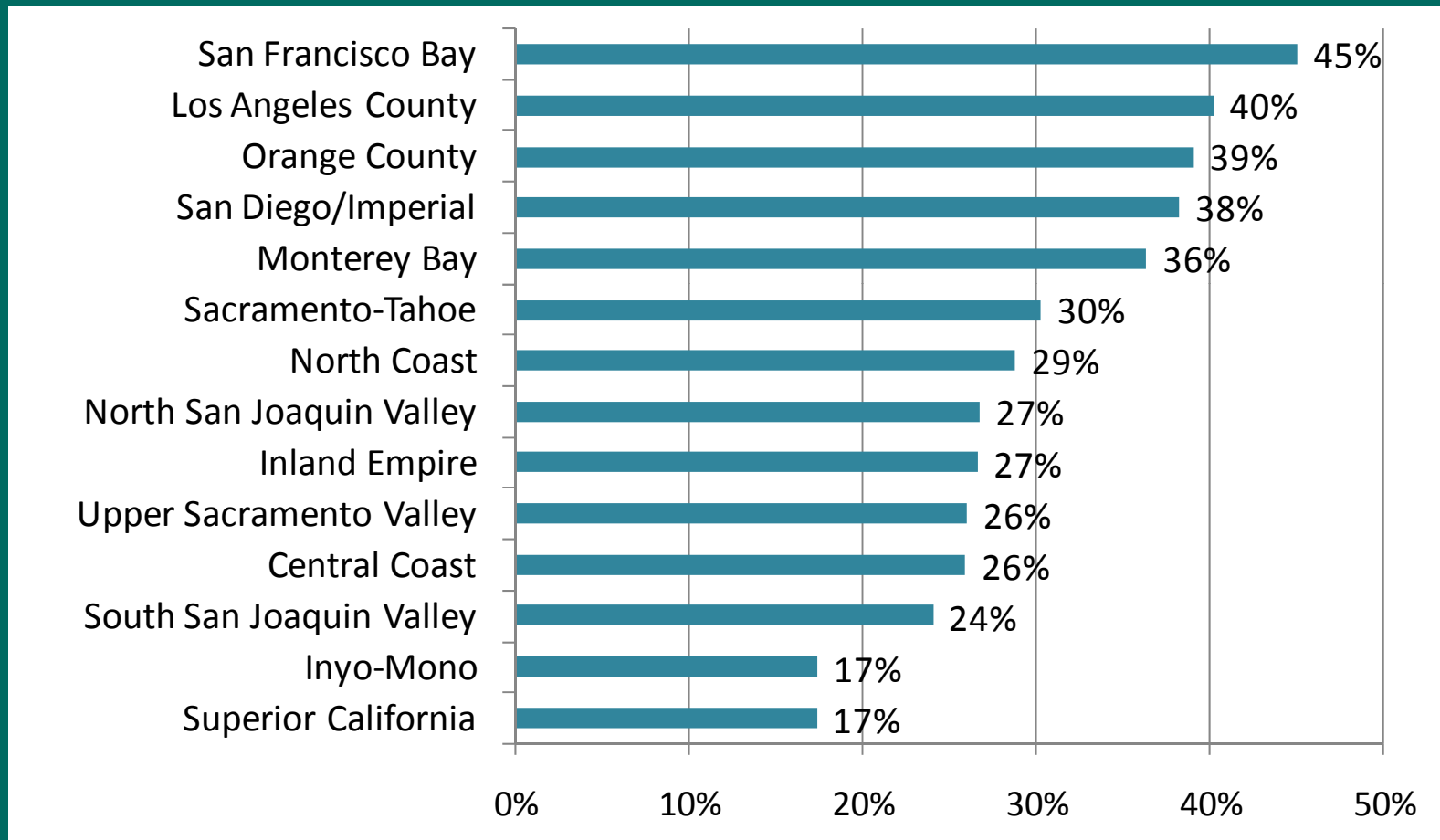
- 45th in share of HS students taking advanced math/science
- 40th in rate of HS grads going directly to college
- 47th in number of degrees/certificates awarded in relation to enrollment
- Percent of working-age adults with a college degree is declining with each younger age group
- Large variations by region and race/ethnicity

California Is Becoming Less Educated Than Other States

(Rank Among States in % with College Degrees)

Age Group:	AA or Higher	BA or Higher
>64	3 rd	4 th
45-64	14 th	13 th
35-44	26 th	17 th
25-34	31 st	26 th

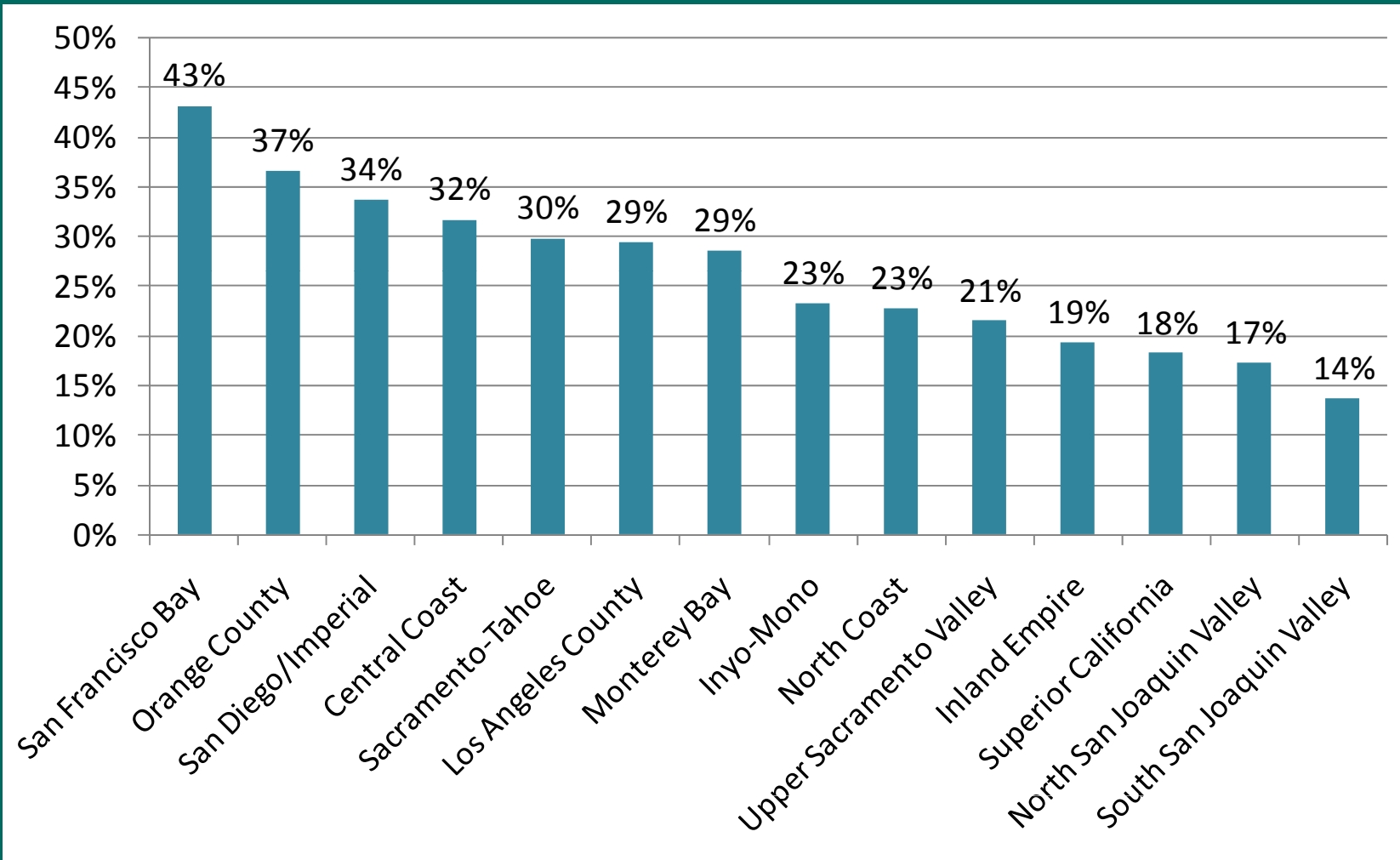
Regional Variation: Share of HS Graduates Completing a-g



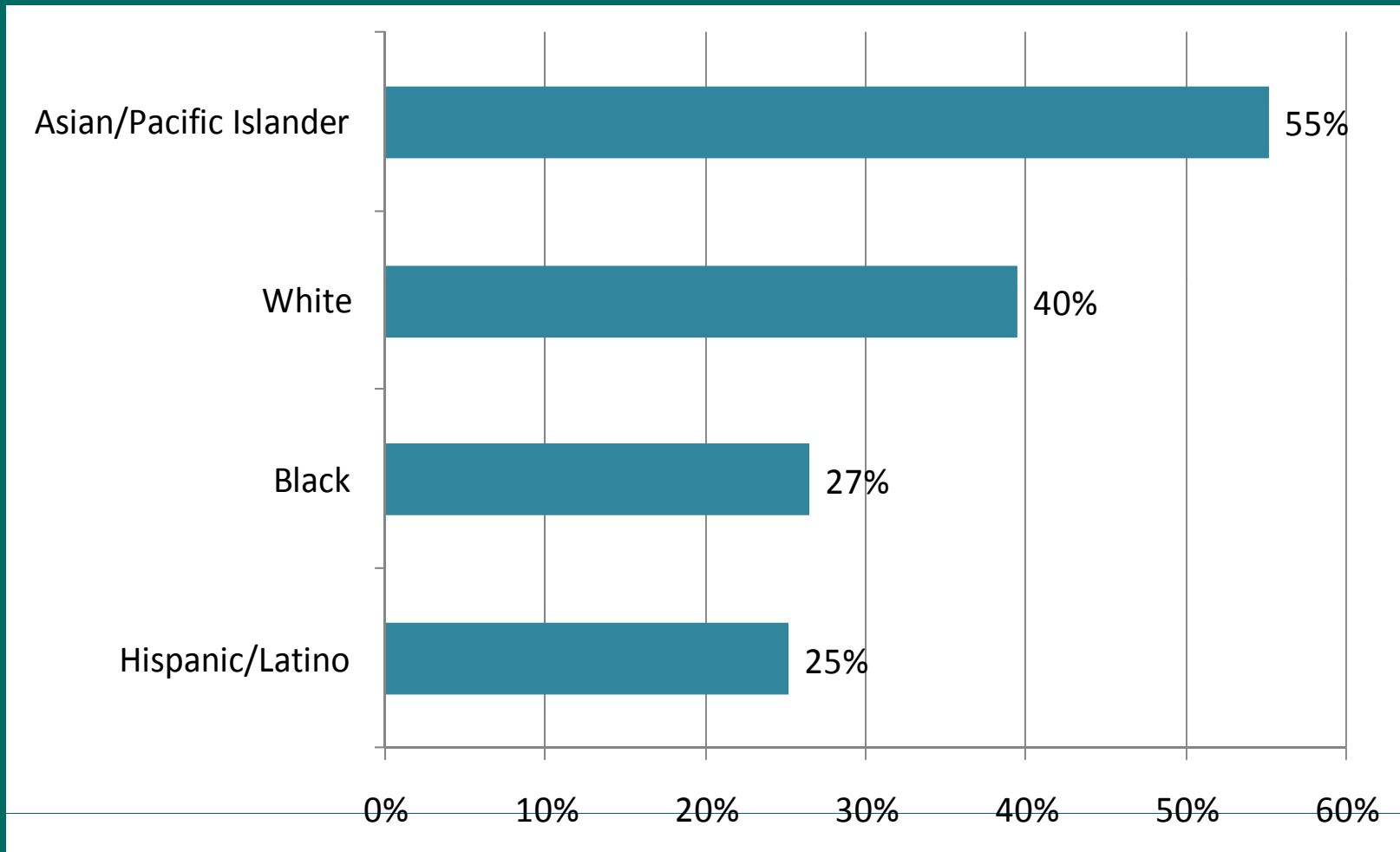
Regional Variation: Percent of 18-24 Year Olds Enrolled in College

Region	
Upper Sacramento Valley	56%
Central Coast	52%
Orange County	49%
San Francisco Bay	47%
Monterey Bay	44%
Sacramento-Tahoe	43%
San Diego/Imperial	43%
Los Angeles County	43%
North San Joaquin Valley	34%
North Coast	33%
Inland Empire	33%
Superior California	32%
South San Joaquin Valley	26%

Regional Variation: Percent of Working-Age Adults with BA



Racial/Ethnic Gaps in Share of HS Graduates Completing a-g

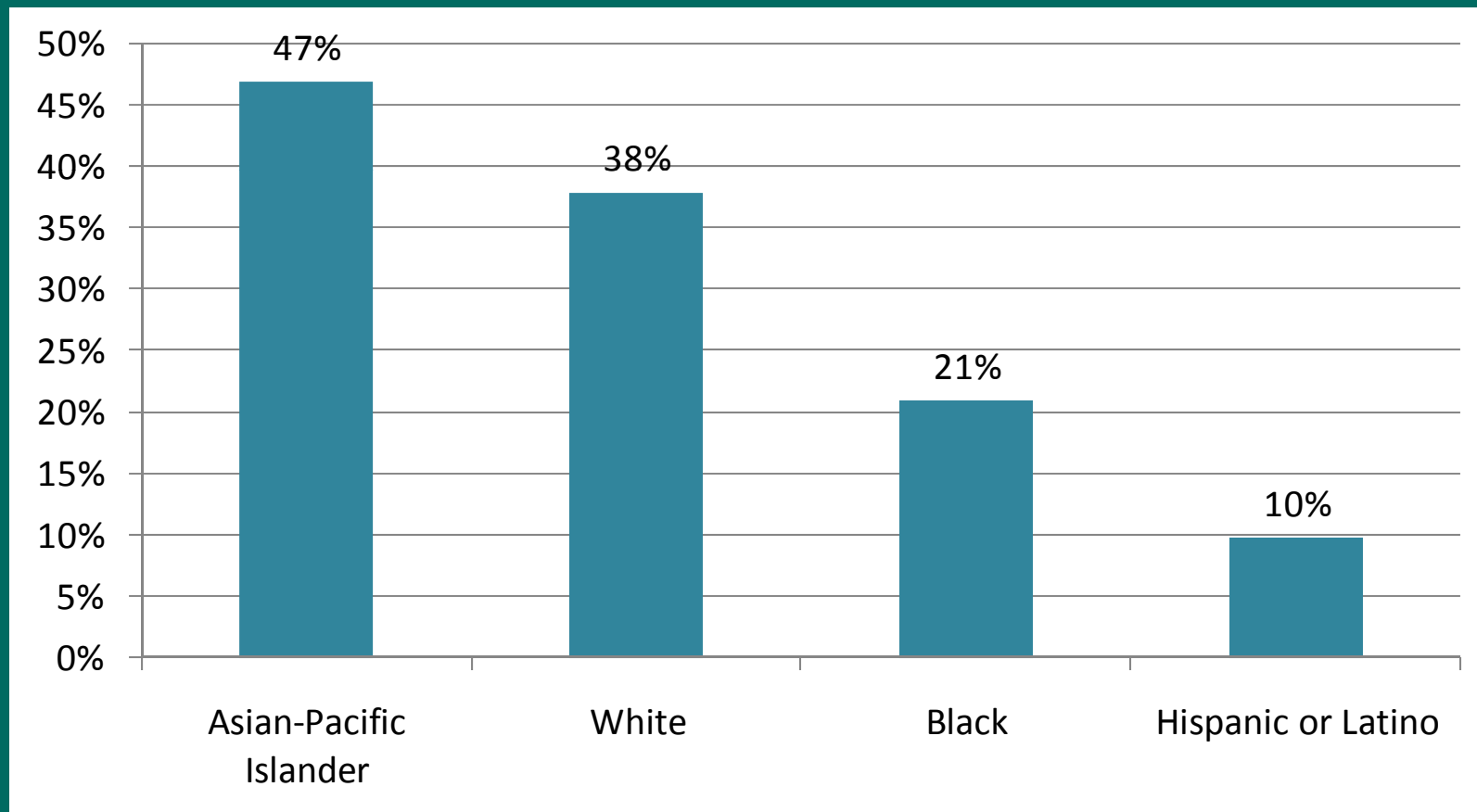


Racial/Ethnic Gaps in Enrollment and Completion

Race/Ethnicity	Percent of 18-24 Year Olds Enrolled in College
White	45%
Black	35%
Hispanic or Latino	27%

Certificates and degrees awarded compared to enrollment is at least one-third higher for white students than for blacks and Latinos

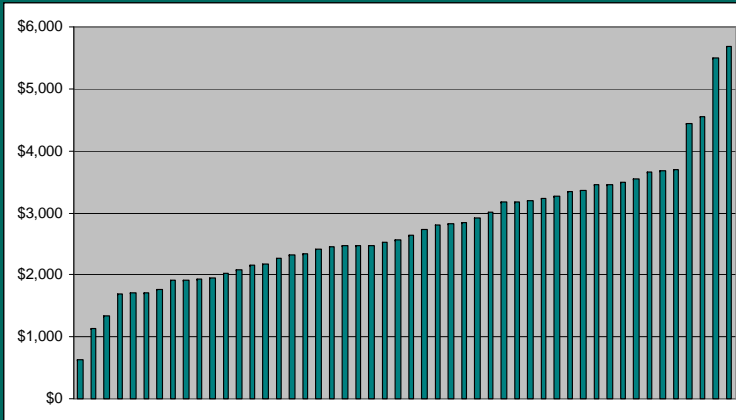
Racial/Ethnic Gaps in Percent of Adults with a BA



College is becoming less affordable for all, with more impact on lower-income populations

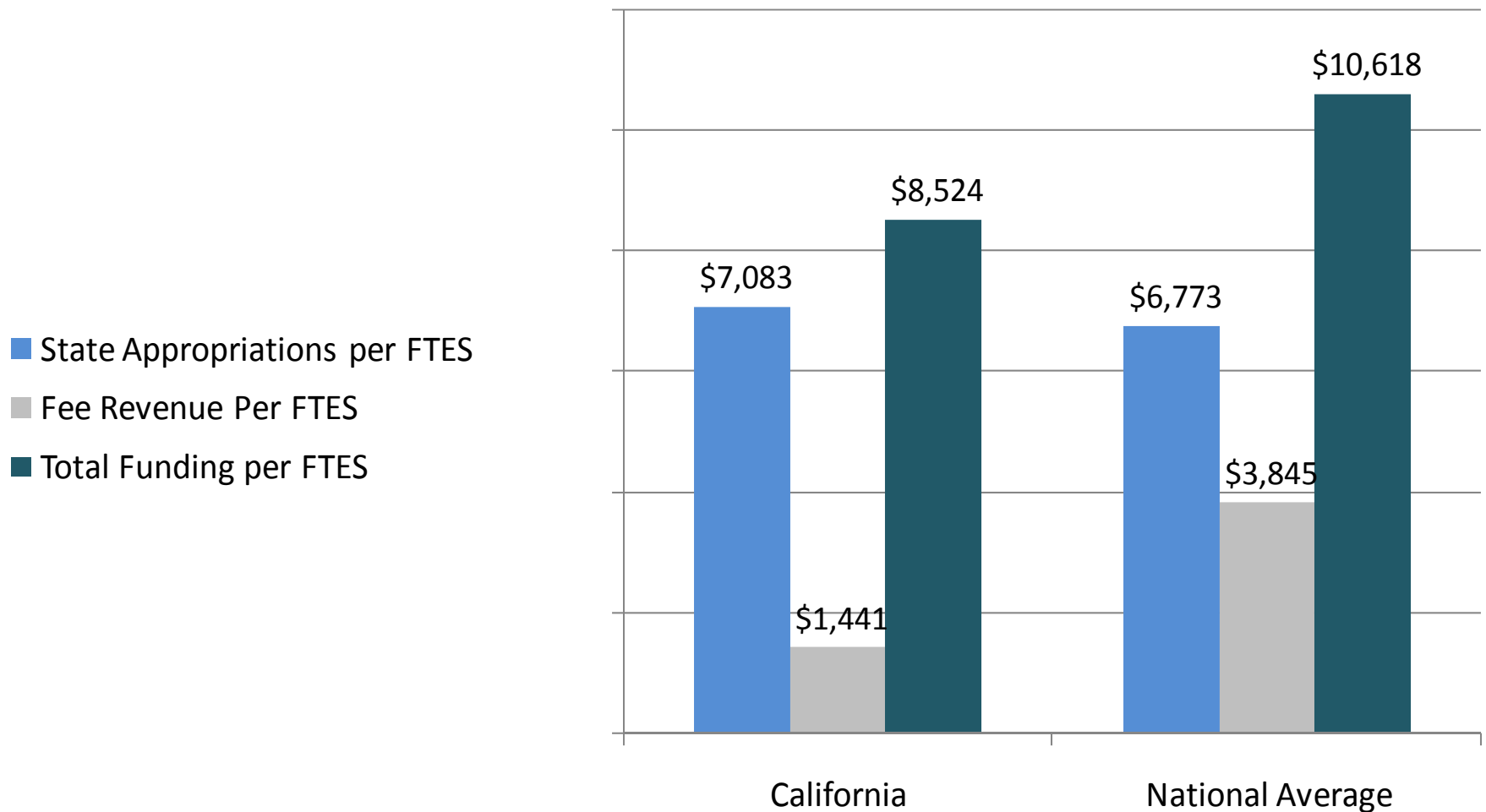
Year	UC Fee	CSU Fee
2001-02	\$3,839	\$1,877
2002-03	\$3,997	\$2,005
2003-04	\$5,490	\$2,572
2004-05	\$6,266	\$2,915
2005-06	\$6,791	\$3,164
2006-07	\$6,834	\$3,199
2007-08	\$7,494	\$3,523
2008-09	\$8,014	\$3,849
Total Increase	109%	105%
Avg Annual Increase	11.6%	11.1%

Affordability problem in CCC is real but has little to do with fees



- At \$20 per unit, full-time = \$600
- Lowest of 50 states; national average is \$2400
- But...high cost of living and low average incomes at bottom of income distribution =>
- High share of family income required to pay all college costs
- True for UC, CSU, and CCC

Above the national average in state support
but well below average in total support ...





Summing up – some key issues

- Lack of college readiness – K-16 collaboration
- Danger of declining college participation
- Displacement of under-represented students
- Low degree completion and workforce shortage
- Strength in high technology in jeopardy
- Disparities across regions and race/ethnicity
- Reduced state budgets
- Reduced affordability

What next?

- Budget cannot be an excuse for lack of action
- Other states are moving aggressively on policy reform and comprehensive planning
 - Comprehensive planning
 - Examining funding incentives – buy better outcomes
 - Establishing more efficient pathways for student success
- Can we stem the slide?

Low-cost/high impact actions:
comprehensive (not segmented) planning

- A “**public agenda**” sets goals for meeting statewide needs
 - with policies, budgets, plans, accountability
 - Some entity in charge – authority and resources
- College readiness plan
- Fees/affordability policy
- Regional planning aligned with state framework

Better use of resources - productivity

- More flexibility in use of resources
- Incentives for degree completion and other needs
- State subsidies focused on highest priorities
 - Educating the workforce
 - Access (capacity) and success
 - Affordability
- Clearer pathways for students
- Better data and accountability
 - How spending relates to outcomes

Yes we can

