

Our collaborative efforts across sectors are leading to economic and educational success throughout far Northern California



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is a regional network of cross-sector partners who have come together to strengthen educational outcomes from cradle to career for ALL in far northern California. With the collective impact model as our regional framework, NST provides backbone support to our ten county networks. Each county network team brings together cross-sector partners including community leaders, philanthropy, industry partners, families, and students that combine to form the place-based efforts that are collectively working toward our shared vision of a

> thriving North State built on the educational success of every child from cradle to career.



SIERRA STRONG

NORTH STATE TOGETHER

serves as the backbone organization and the regional support framework for our ten county networks.





NORTH STATE TOGETHER

A Regional Hub for Collective Impact

We're on a mission to improve the economic and educational outcomes for students in far northern California.

North State Together is the centerpiece of our region's collective impact network. We are the hub linking ten county networks to each other. Through these strategic partnerships, we help our region transform systems and expand access so that all students have equitable opportunities. North State Together operates outside the traditional education system with an approach referred to as a cross-sector collective impact. By recruiting diverse organizations and collectively focusing their energy, resources, and expertise, we can eliminate significant systemic problems that hinder our students' success. Our vision is a future where every North State resident is supported from birth to a successful career.

Our methodology follows two fundamental tracks:

Promoting Communication and Cooperation Across Communities

Without intentional and sustained effort, our communities become siloed. An organization's influence in isolation is minimal compared to the power that can be harnessed through collective impact. Our team disrupts community silos by connecting local leaders from education, business, philanthropic, nonprofit, civic, and faith and channeling their efforts toward a shared vision.

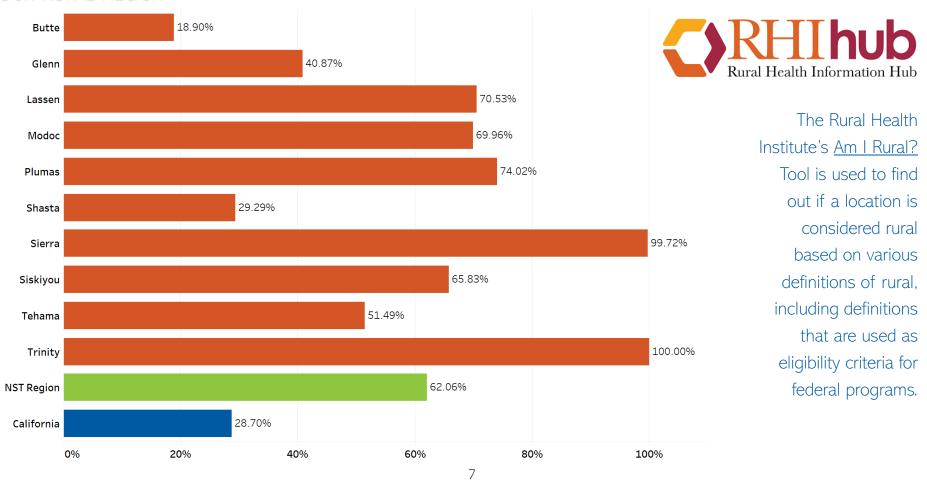
Performing the "Backbone" Support Role for our Cradle-to-Career County Networks

North State Together supports ten cradle-to-career county networks. In turn, each network supports its local community and organizations. Keeping everyone united toward a common goal requires leadership and region-wide planning; North State Together provides both. As the collective impact "backbone," we balance the roles of leadership and administration. We provide a vision for the networks to follow while encouraging and celebrating their individual successes.

RURAL COLLECTIVE POWER

Our ten North State Together counties expand over 31,000 square miles. Although we are a whopping 20% of the state's geography, we account for less than 1.6% of the state's population. Our combination of vast geography, limited resources, sparse infrastructure, and overall regional economic health, stresses the need for collective impact as a model for our region. This is where North State Together comes in – bringing a comprehensive and coordinated effort that spans sectors and county lines. We guide a unified effort toward improving outcomes by providing a platform to facilitate ongoing communication and collaboration across our county networks allowing for cross-pollination of ideas and experiences to harness our collective power.

OUR RURAL REGION



COLLECTIVE IMPACT DEFINED

Collective impact is a network of community members, organizations, and institutions who advance equity by learning together, aligning, and integrating their actions to achieve population and systems level change.

"Collective Impact is not WHAT we do, it is HOW we do it."



Operating Premise: No single organization, no matter how powerful or innovative, can solve complex problems in isolation.

OUR BACKBONE ROLE ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

We hold specific skills to perform the essential functions to establish and maintain the conditions of Collective Impact.

- 1. Guide vision
- 2. Establish shared measurement practices
- 3. Support aligned activities
- 4. Ensure continuous communications

- 5. Advance policy
- 6. Mobilize \$ and resources
- 7. Cultivate community engagement

Our Backbone Structure: A Layered System of Support

COUNTY

County Network
Leads
Cross-Sector Leadership Teams
Working Groups

REGIONAL

North State Together
SCAILE UP
North Star Center for Rural Community Schools
Golden North Regional Technical Assistance Center

NATIONAL

CivicLabs
Complete College America
Partners for Rural Impact
Rural Schools Collaborative



EXPECT MORE TEHAMA

Expect More Tehama (EMT) was formed in 2009 to encourage and prepare local students for higher education after high school. EMT's ability to bring the community together, foster relationships, and collaborate has been the foundation of its success. Over the years, they have been instrumental in coming alongside the education sector, addressing local issues, promoting educational equity, and stimulating economic prosperity.



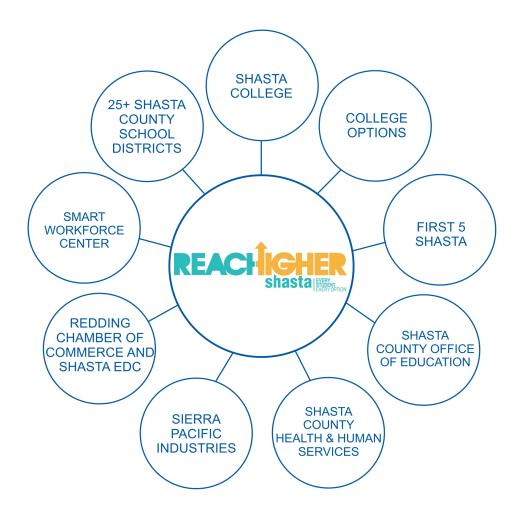
Expect More Tehama operates under the comprehensive framework of "cradle to career," addressing six distinct focus areas, each tailored to specific age and grade ranges. They employ specific measurements to track progress in each focus area, offering insights into trends, identifying gaps, and highlighting opportunities over time. EMT emphasizes the pivotal role of relationships and key connections in driving meaningful change and engagement.

The community collaboration goals of Expect More Tehama encompass empowering community educators, fostering grassroots conversations, influencing educational decision-makers, advocating for education and behavioral change, and celebrating great programs and success. These objectives underscore their commitment to fostering positive educational outcomes and community engagement.

REACH HIGHER SHASTA

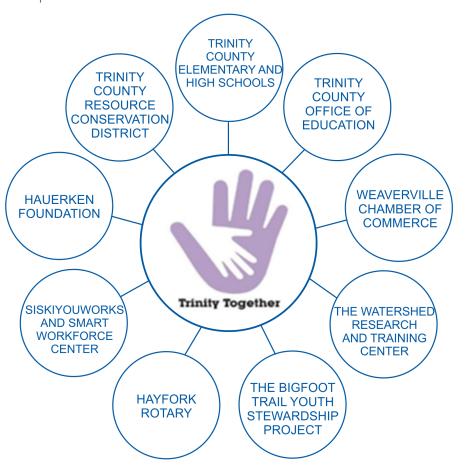
Reach Higher Shasta was established in 2012 to provide "every student, every option." It's an aspiring goal that has become the organization's motto. The cradle-to-career collaborative works with several county organizations to support residents from the day they're born to the first day of their careers. They work with partners from early childhood organizations, more than 25 school districts, local colleges, universities, and businesses to provide focused student success resources.

Reach Higher Shasta has achieved numerous accomplishments, including The Shasta Promise, an agreement between county schools and regional colleges that guarantees college enrollment and in-state tuition for students. Additionally, the organization's High School Counseling Initiative has lifted college and career readiness scores to a nearly 30% higher "prepared rate" over the California state average.



TRINITY TOGETHER

Trinity Together was founded in 2018 to establish pathways that align students with future career opportunities. The organization has created a successful partnership model between education and business, and they actively facilitate cooperation between local schools, industry, community organizations, and government agencies— a victory in a region known for its fierce independence.



Trinity Together has fostered diverse relationships that are sharpening career focus in the county. They are actively surveying businesses to determine local employment needs, teaching classes based on those needs, administering internships, providing hands-on career labs, fundraising for student scholarships, tracking the success of high school alumni, and helping to bolster engagement for a declining Chamber of Commerce. The work is big, broad, and sometimes messy, but Trinity Together is committed to working with others to see the community move toward a prosperous future.

ADVANCING MODOC

Initially established as Advancing Modoc Youth in 2019, the county network aimed to improve social mobility for Modoc residents aged from birth to 26. After securing the K-16 Collaborative grant in 2022, the Executive Committee expanded its mission to cover the entire spectrum from cradle to career and citizenship. Now operating as Advancing Modoc, the organization is dedicated to growing, training, and retaining all Modoc residents through the establishment of solid foundations in childhood, life-long training and education, and retention facilitated by youth-led initiatives and community development. Advancing Modoc collaborates closely with various organizations that directly impact children to collectively achieve county-wide goals, including Kindergarten Readiness, 3rd Grade Literacy, 7th Grade Math proficiency, High School Graduation rates, College/Career Readiness,

and Post-secondary enrollment, retention, and completion.

Through collaborative efforts between the far north counties and the educational entities in the region, Advancing Modoc pioneered a unique college center using a co-op model, distributing its needs across multiple colleges and funders to ensure long-term sustainability. This groundbreaking initiative, the first of its kind in California, opened its doors in 2023, welcoming its inaugural cohort in Early Childhood Education and Human Services. The Modoc College Center offers college coursework, financial aid assistance, and in-person student support services, serving as a hub for educational and career pathways. Currently, pathways into Social Work, Healthcare, and Entrepreneurship are also available.



CRADLE TO CAREERS FOR SISKIYOU

Created in 2019, Cradle to Careers for Siskiyou (C2C4S) is a collective impact collaboration between a number of community organizations, government agencies, schools, and businesses engaged in, or supportive of, the education and well-being of children, youth, and adults in Siskiyou County.



The purpose of this collective impact collaboration is to provide unified leadership through a countywide effort to increase educational readiness and success, as well as to promote civic engagement and community careers that have a lasting positive impact on Siskiyou County.

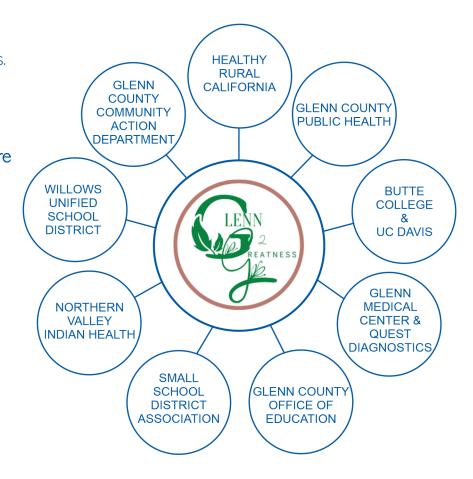
C2C4S's collective impact model includes the following:

- Diverse organizations in Siskiyou County joining forces to address intricate social challenges.
- A commitment to transitioning from isolation or small subgroups to actively working together to find solutions, extending our efforts to involve those beyond our immediate circle.
- A dedication to building trust and coordination across sectors to channel our collective strength towards the goal of Cradle to Careers success for every child in Siskiyou County.

GLENN 2 GREATNESS

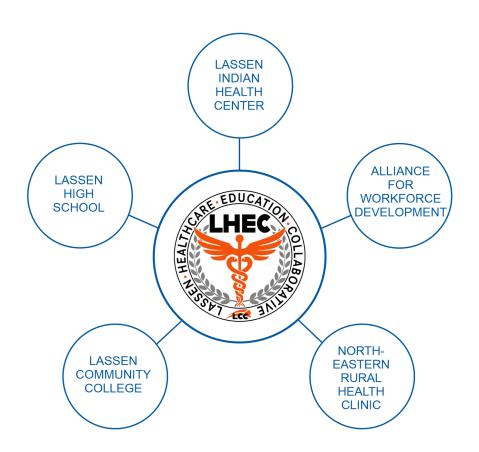
Glenn 2 Greatness (G2G) aims to prepare the next generation of educators and healthcare professionals by equipping them with marketable skills. Their mission is to assist learners in securing jobs within the healthcare and education sectors by providing access to local education and career pathways. The network is led by an executive steering committee dedicated to fostering cross-collaboration among community builders in education, business, philanthropy/nonprofit, and civic sectors with the goal of making local resources available to all Glenn County residents pursuing careers in healthcare and education.

Glenn 2 Greatness emphasizes the importance of collaborative efforts and human-centered design in developing effective pathways. Since its establishment in the summer of 2022, the initiative has garnered support from influential leaders, focusing on three key pathways: health, education, and the K16 continuum. The Healthcare Professions Pathways Program, within the health pathway, offers an eight-week internship to nursing and medicine students across multiple counties. In partnership with Healthy Rural California, MedicalEd Clubs bring healthcare professionals to high schools in Glenn County, aiming to increase enrollment in medical health pathways by 2024. The education pathway supports classified employees in obtaining teaching credentials, addressing STEM and special education shortages. Within the K16 continuum, G2G aids over 2,000 students through GEAR UP programs and plans to expand UC Davis' outreach efforts.



LASSEN HEALTHCARE EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

In 2023, North State Together met with leaders and community members in Lassen County to discuss opportunities for students within their region. Shortly after, an MOU to implement the K-16 Education Collaborative grant was signed and Lassen Healthcare Education Collaborative (LHEC) was formed! LHEC has been fully developed and consists of a robust group of at least 25% local employer representatives, including Lassen Indian Health Center, Northeastern Rural Health Clinic, Alliance for Workforce Development, Lassen High School, and Lassen Community College.



With LHEC's mission to build intellectual growth, human perspective and economic potential in the healthcare community, they are well underway in creating a new dental hygiene/dental assisting program for Lassen County!

LHEC has identified a dedicated classroom and lab space with up-to-date equipment to ensure a robust healthcare program. They also received an additional donation of equipment from one of their community partners. To assist with remodel plans for the designated space, a consultant has been acquired to complete and refine the plans so remodeling efforts can soon begin. On the horizon, work on the state board obligations for development of the dental healthcare pathway as well as submission of curriculum is being tackled.

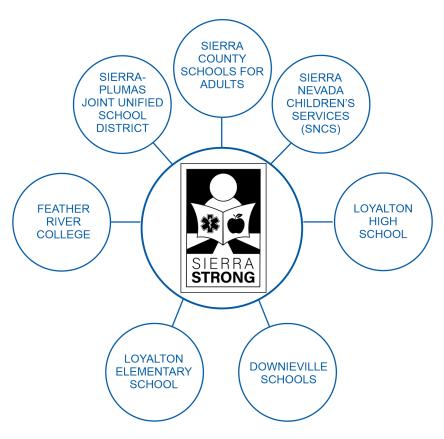
SIERRA STRONG

Sierra Strong, a rapidly growing county network within North State Together, is dedicated to fostering inclusive, locally responsive pathways to retain talent in the region. With a mission centered on equitable strategies and lasting partnerships, Sierra Strong pursues five overarching goals. These include enhancing college and career readiness, fostering occupational pathways in healthcare and education fields, bolstering the regional economy through skilled worker training, supporting data-driven decision-making, and streamlining transitions between education and the workforce. Through collaborative efforts and targeted initiatives in these fields, Sierra Strong aims to build a sustainable future while meeting the unique needs of its rural communities, ensuring prosperity and opportunity for all.

Sierra Strong is advancing its mission through key milestones:

- Establishing the Sierra Strong Network with employer representation and regular meetings.
- Providing college and career experiences for Sierra Plumas students to enhance post-high school readiness.
- Expanding career opportunities in education through collaborations and internships.
- Initiating similar efforts in the medical sector to prepare residents for healthcare careers.

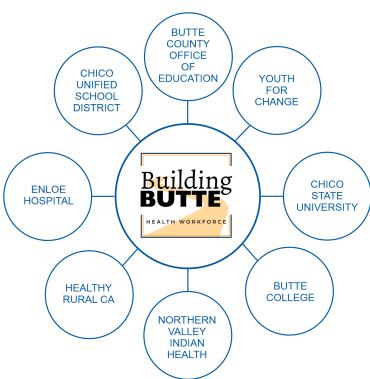
These milestones contribute to Sierra Strong's goal of creating inclusive pathways, retaining talent, and fostering economic growth in the region through strategic partnerships and actions.



BUILDING BUTTE HEALTH WORKFORCE

North State Together is excited to share the latest developments from one of our newest county networks, **Building Butte Health**Workforce, which is now up and running and making strides in pathways in the field of healthcare. Building Butte Health

Workforce is dedicated to fostering a healthcare pathway that is built on principles of equity and inclusivity. The core Recovery with Equity strategies chosen by Building Butte emphasize the importance of cultivating an inclusive, engaging, and equityoriented learning environment as well as inclusive support for student retention.



Building Butte has taken a significant step forward by forming an 8-member steering committee comprising representatives from various sectors. The committee includes individuals from industry, community college, CSU Chico, the County Office of Education, K-12 school district, Tribal Health, and a youth nonprofit.

Upcoming activities include creating an inventory of local healthcare programs, degrees, and certifications, including cost, timeline, and career outcomes, and making it accessible to students and employers alike. They will also reach out to Butte County youth to engage in ongoing healthcare career exploration activities and connect with high school counselors to inform them of current pathway options into the healthcare workforce.

Building Butte Health Workforce is continually growing and evolving. The commitment to equity, inclusivity, and collaboration remains central to this endeavor, and we look forward to the positive impact it will have on healthcare education in Butte County.

PLUMAS COUNTY NETWORK

The Plumas County Network is a community-driven initiative that aims to empower the next generation of educators and healthcare professionals by providing them with the skills and knowledge needed to secure employment in their respective fields. The organization's primary mission is to facilitate access to local education and career pathways for learners, enabling them to achieve their professional goals in the education and healthcare industries, nonprofit organizations, and civic sectors.



The Plumas County Network operates under the guidance of a diverse group of stakeholders who collaborate to steward local resources and make them accessible to all Plumas County residents aspiring to careers in healthcare and education. Through collective decision-making, this group of stakeholders will guide the implementation and direction of the K16 Subgrant to develop and implement educational and healthcare pathways in Plumas County.

To ensure that the Plumas County Network is representative of the local community, the organization is led by an Executive Steering Committee, which includes at least one K-12 school district, one community college, and 25% local employers. This committee is responsible for creating the official name of the organization during the inaugural steering committee meeting and will continue to provide guidance and support as the Plumas County Network grows and evolves over time.

NST's COLLABORATION WITH STRIVETOGETHER

StriveTogether

Every child. Cradle to career.

North State Together collaborates with the StriveTogether network as a vital part of its collective impact strategy to enhance educational outcomes in our region. Through this partnership with a national network of communities, North State Together can leverage additional

resources, access innovative tools and techniques, and learn from the experiences of other collective impact initiatives.

Our county networks benefit significantly from this collaboration by gaining access to a wealth of resources, including training, technical assistance, and best practices. StriveTogether supports building local capacity for sustainable change, promoting crosssector collaboration, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement that drives student success and creates a brighter future for all.

StriveTogether's Theory of Action, a powerful and proven framework, guides our collective impact efforts. By adhering to its four key components, North State Together and its partners are making significant strides in improving educational outcomes for students in our northern California region.











enrollment







SHARED COMMUNITY VISION:

A diverse group of people in a geographic area agree on what shifts to policies, practices, resources and power structures produce equitable cradle-to-career outcomes.



EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING:

The process of rigorously collecting, analyzing, sharing and taking action with data (i.e., both outcomes and systems data), including youth and family perspectives and narratives, to make shifts in policies, practices, resources and power structures that produce equitable cradle-to-career outcomes.



COLLABORATIVE ACTION:

Members of a partnership collectively adopt the tools and processes and build the necessary knowledge and skills to make powerful contributions that shift policies, practices, resources and power structures leading to equitable cradle-to-career outcomes.



INVESTMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY:

A partnership has cultural, financial and social assets to support the collaboration necessary for producing and maintaining shifts in policies, practices, resources and power structures that will lead to equitable cradle-to-career outcomes.

K-16 EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE

"We are a cross-sector group of partners representing education, business, community organizations, and local government, striving to improve the economic and personal lives of community members that live and work in the remote North. Together, we are building inclusive, supportive pathways that are responsive to local needs and retain the talent in our region by sharing resources, centering equitable strategies, promoting sustainability, and building lasting partnerships across sectors and geography."

Goal 1: Increase college and career readiness, post-secondary enrollment, and post-secondary completion among students at all K-12 districts throughout the region.

Goal 2: Implement and/or expand occupational pathway programs in healthcare and education which are high-demand fields essential to our rural communities.

Goal 3: Bolster regional economy by training skilled workers.

Goal 4: Support data-driven decision making by establishing cradle-to-career data that is clear, timely, and actionable.

Goal 5: Streamline priorities, practices, and policies across systems and the region to create seamless transitions between educational institutions and/or the workforce.



CALIFORNIA COLLEGE GUIDANCE INITIATIVE

California College

Guidance Initiative

California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI) works to smooth the path to college for California students and unify the efforts of the institutions that serve them.

Combining data-driven tools and infrastructure with capacity building and student-focused curricula, we help close the gaps between systems and ensure that all

California students, especially those who have been underrepresented in higher education, can move seamlessly from K-12 to college and career.

CaliforniaColleges.edu is California's official college and career planning platform. North State Together, through our K-16 Education Collaborative, is implementing the CaliforniaColleges.edu platform across the region to provide students and parents

with in-depth, grade-appropriate information and data-driven tools to support college, career, and financial aid planning and applications. CaliforniaColleges.edu offers counselors and educators a comprehensive suite of reporting tools that automate routine tasks and help quickly identify students who need more help. Through North State Together's data support team and our county networks, we work directly with districts to expand their capacity to manage and use student data. NST leverages CaliforniaColleges.edu to work across our



region's systems, closing the gaps between K-12 and higher education so that the college and career goals of students remain prioritized throughout the transition process.

CA JOBS FIRST—NORTH STATE REGION

California Jobs First (formerly the Community Economic Resilience Fund, CERF) is a \$600 million fund to build a sustainable and equitable economy across California, with a focus on supporting new strategies to diversify local economies and develop industries that create high-quality, broadly accessible jobs for all Californians in the transition to a carbon-neutral economy. California Jobs First will support high-road economic development plans to create equitable access to quality jobs. High-road economic development supports environmentally sustainable businesses that pay living wages and create opportunities for career growth.



For more information, visit https://www.nspdc.csuchico.edu/

The Sierra Institute for Community & Environment (Sierra Institute) and the North State Planning & Development Collective (the Collective) were named Co-Conveners for the North State Region: Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity Counties. The North State Region's High Road Transition Collaborative (HRTC) includes balanced representation from workforce, community, labor, business, government, economic development, education, philanthropy, and indigenous communities. North State Together is honored to sit on the HRTC, bringing the cradle-to-career collective voice to the CA Jobs First regional planning process.

The North State Region California Jobs First co-convening team (the Collective and Sierra Institute), along with the High Road Transition Collaborative (HRTC), continues to encourage participation in subcommittee working groups. Beginning in December of 2023, subcommittees on labor, education, tourism/recreation, agriculture, economic development, and workforce began meeting to highlight priorities, discuss shared themes and review potential projects to be recommended for funding through the Catalyst Fund. Additional subcommittees have also started and will continue through the spring of 2024 with regional planning completed in summer 2024. The first round of implementation funds will be announced fall 2024, and all CA Jobs First expenditures encumbered by June 2026.

GRAD PARTNERSHIP: STUDENT SUCCESS SYSTEMS



Rural Schools Collaborative selected North State Together as one of only two regions across the nation to pilot the GRAD Partnership for Student Success. We are pleased to have established a regional network of ten rural GRAD Partnership high schools, that

includes the Shasta College TRiO programs at Anderson High School and West Valley Early College High School, Burney High School, Dunsmuir High School, Fall River High School, Gateway to College, Red Bluff High School's TRiO Program, Redding

School of the Arts Early College High School, Southern Trinity High School, and Tulelake High School.

Together, the network has co-designed and implemented a Student Success System that works in rural settings using a place-based framework that is flexible and data-driven. GRAD Partnership schools integrate existing systems into one Student Success System that monitors the "Big A, B, C's" which are Attendance, Behavior, and Course Completion combined with the "little a, b, c's" which are agency, belonging, and connectedness. We have learned that by promoting school connectedness and student belonging, it is an effective, universal prevention measure that affects many important school outcomes such as academic achievement and school culture.



GRAD Partnership Schools have established Student Success teams that are laser-focused on better understanding why students are disconnected and what might reengage them. Many of the school sites have surveyed students and have added student-focused events that increase engagement and school attendance. They have also implemented a relationship audit to determine which students do and do not have supportive relationships. With insights in hand, the team works to improve students' connections, including tailored responses or actions that address patterns seen among many students.

NORTH STAR CENTER FOR RURAL COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

The Shasta County Office of Education, in partnership with North State Together, local County Offices of Education, and Partners for Rural Impact comprises northern California's North Star Center for Rural Community Schools. North Star CRCS is a regional cradle to career collective impact partnership with over 250 cross-sector organizations whose mission is to transform schools across our region into thriving community schools that advance cradle-to-career outcomes. School systems cannot do it alone. By working together, schools, parents, communities, government agencies, healthcare providers, nonprofits, and other cross sector partners can create a more holistic and supportive educational system that works for all.





This regional technical assistance center serves all schools across the 13 northernmost counties of California, a vast region spanning over 41,393 square miles. Home to almost a million residents, with a density of 22.5 residents per square mile, this predominantly rural area fosters strong communities and supports over 100 community schools (as of June 2023). The 13 county region includes Butte, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity counties.

The North Star CRCS's team of community school experts offer support, provide technical assistance, advocate for rural needs across the state, and empower and equip schools, community members, students, and local organizations to work collectively towards shared goals across the 13 northernmost counties of California.

This partnership recognizes the importance of collaboration, data-driven decision making, and taking a holistic approach to improving outcomes for students and families. Building a comprehensive and effective system of support for all children and families in the North State is how collective impact brings about lasting change.

GOLDEN NORTH REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

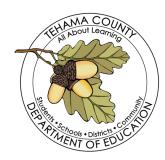


The Golden State Pathways Program (GSPP), under the stewardship of the California Department of Education (CDE), provides funding to seamlessly link K-12 education, postsecondary education, and careers in high-wage, high skill, high-growth industry sectors, including technology, healthcare, education, and climate-related fields. GSPP recognizes the significance of a well-coordinated, regional approach to achieve its objectives. In the vast and rural expanse of Far Northern California, an exciting partnership is taking shape, one that sets the stage for a brighter future for the youth across 13 counties—Butte, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta,

Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity. Humboldt County Office of Education and Tehama County Department of Education along with North State Together, Redwood Coast K-16 Educational Collaborative, and Linked Learning Alliance have teamed up to form the Golden North Regional Technical Assistance Center (RTAC).

The Golden North RTAC provides technical assistance to applicants and grant recipients seeking to establish or expand pathway programs that advance students seamlessly from high school to college and career and provide the workforce needed for economic growth.











COMPLETE COLLEGE AMERICA ALLIANCE



North State Together is an Alliance Member of Complete College America (CCA), an organization devoted to closing college equity gaps and dramatically increasing college completion rates.

CCA is restoring the promise of higher education by advocating for forward-thinking policies, identifying effective strategies, and advancing proven tactics that guarantee more students earn college diplomas or credentials that prepare them for success.

As an Alliance member, North State Together has supported Shasta College and College of the Siskiyous in becoming early adopters of the Postsecondary Data Partnership (PDP). This partnership provides our region with key performance indicators that can be filtered by age, gender, Pell, first-generation, and more. The PDP is a nationwide effort from the National Student Clearinghouse to provide easier access to better data that enhances knowledge and facilitates more informed decision-making.



NORTH STATE TOGETHER AND PARTNERS FOR RURAL IMPACT COLLABORATION



North State Together (NST) and Partners for Rural Impact (PRI) have joined forces in a strategic collaboration aimed at advancing educational outcomes and fostering community development in rural areas. This dynamic partnership leverages the strengths of both organizations to create a powerful synergy dedicated to addressing challenges and promoting positive change across Rural Impact Northern California. NST has established a multifaceted collaboration with PRI to provide our place-based county networks and regional partners with support to build our rural capacity.

PRI accelerates equitable systems change by advancing a national rural agenda, increasing public and private funding for rural places, and expanding research on what works in rural America. The Rural-to-Rural Collaborative (R2R), which includes North State Together, is a federal policy coalition that aims to ensure federal investments promote upward mobility for rural youth. R2R serves as a thought partner—to educate and inform—policymakers at the federal level to drive more funding to rural students and their families.

Our region has also joined forces with PRI through the regional technical assistance center, North Star Center for Rural Community Schools, to help coordinate and establish community schools across the north state. This collaboration allows us to utilize PRI's

vast experience and track record of success in implementing community schools in rural areas.

NST and PRI work together to strengthen our rural leaders, organizations, and schools across the north state by supporting the development of civic infrastructure and increasing access to proven practices through training and technical assistance.



NATIONAL POLICY COALITION: RURAL TO RURAL COLLABORATIVE



The Rural-to-Rural Collaborative (R2R) was established in 2023 to address the lack of federal funding reaching rural communities by coordinating efforts of rural organizations to secure funding for youth and families. R2R is committed to advocating for more funding for

rural students, believing in supporting children and families, empowering youth as leaders, and designing systems that provide opportunities for all. The structure involves informal collaboration, a steering committee, and backbone support from Partners for Rural Impact.

The Collaborative's mission is to ensure upward mobility for rural youth, with the vision of supporting cradle-to-career success through partnerships with federal agencies and elected officials. Meetings are open to all interested organizations, with MOAs outlining commitments required for formal collaboration.

The founding steering committee includes Partners for Rural Impact, Delta Health Alliance, North State Together, and Campus Compact for New Hampshire. Backbone support for R2R includes meeting facilitation provided by Partners for Rural Impact and strategic planning by Allied for Progress. Since forming, the R2R has met with key federal agencies in Washington, D.C., and has standing virtual meetings as thought partners with the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Agriculture and has developed key relationships with the Department of Labor.

Our Mission

To ensure all youth and children in rural places have a pathway to upward mobility.

Our Vision

Our vision is a seamless partnership between our rural placebased organizations, federal agencies, and elected officials that supports cradle-to-career success for all rural children and youth.

STATE POLICY COALITION: CA CRADLE TO CAREER COALITION



North State Together is a member of the **CA Cradle to Career Coalition**, a group dedicated to improving outcomes for children and families across California. We are committed to equity, ensuring that ALL individuals have access to opportunities for success regardless of background or

circumstances. Part of our approach includes advocating for policies that address systemic barriers and promote fairness in education, healthcare, and other key systems.

Additionally, prioritizing systems transformation is key, recognizing the need to reform existing systems to better serve the needs of communities. Through collaborative efforts, advocacy for policy changes and initiatives that support positive outcomes for youth and families is pursued, aiming to create more equitable pathways to success.

North State Together and the CA Cradle to Career Coalition prioritize community engagement and collective action. Valuing the input and leadership of communities in driving change, we work in partnership with local stakeholders to develop solutions that address the unique needs of each community. By mobilizing support and amplifying community voices, we strive to create meaningful and sustainable impact across the state.

COLLABORATE, EMPOWER, ADVANCE: FOR COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

COLLABORATE – Collaborate to improve the wellbeing and self-sufficiency of communities and people.

EMPOWER – Empower others, one connection at a time

ADVANCE - Advance equity by engaging in meaningful and impactful change efforts

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA YOUTH POLICY COALITION



The Northern California Youth Policy Coalition (NCYPC) seek to give a voice to rural youth who feel unheard and a platform to come together to advocate for issues that are most important to our rural youth in Northern California. Their objective is to ensure that the youth voices from over a 30 county region are heard at local, regional, and state levels where decisions make a direct impact on our rural communities. By advocating for the needs and priorities of rural youth, NCYPC aims to create positive change that uplifts our region and fosters a sense of representation and fairness for all.

NCYPC engages future voters, organizes annual advocacy days at the California State Capitol, and addresses issues facing rural communities, emphasizing the voices and viewpoints of rural youth, who are often an overlooked constituency in the state.

North State Together supports NCYPC by leveraging its collaborative network to enhance educational and workforce opportunities. NST's backing helps NCYPC's youth-led initiatives gain broader reach and impact, ensuring that the perspectives of rural youth inform and drive positive change in Northern California.



CALKIDS: HELPING CHILDREN TAKE THEIR FIRST STEP TOWARD COLLEGE



North State Together collaborates with California Kids Investment and Development Savings

Program (CalKIDS) to increase awareness of higher education opportunities and the importance of saving for college. Research shows that children with \$500 or less designated for college savings are three times more likely to enroll in college and nearly four times more likely to graduate than children with no savings. By promoting the benefits of higher education

and the CalKIDS program, we can help inspire children and families in our region to pursue post-secondary education goals to increase their economic mobility.

CalKIDS was created by the State of California to help more children have an opportunity to save for higher education. The program automatically creates an account with an initial seed deposit for newborns and eligible low-income public school children in California, plus offers other possible financial incentives so that they can start saving money for college. All babies born in California on or after July 1, 2022, can be eligible to receive up to \$175 in a college savings account. Additionally, eligible low-income public school students may qualify to receive up to \$1,500 in college savings for their future.* Although the account creation is automatic, families must claim and register their accounts. Through our membership with the California Cradle to Career Coalition and partnership with the California State Treasurer's Office, North State Together is working to increase account claim rates in our region. North State Together aims to ensure that every child in the North State has the opportunity to build a brighter future through higher education, setting the stage for lifelong success and prosperity.

For more information, visit https://CalKIDS.org/

^{*}Final seed deposits and financial incentives are subject to change and approval by the ScholarShare Investment Board.

Research indicates that having a college savings account can positively impact a child's likelihood of attending and completing college. College savings programs empower students and families by providing financial resources and instilling an expectation for higher education, ultimately increasing the likelihood of college enrollment and graduation.

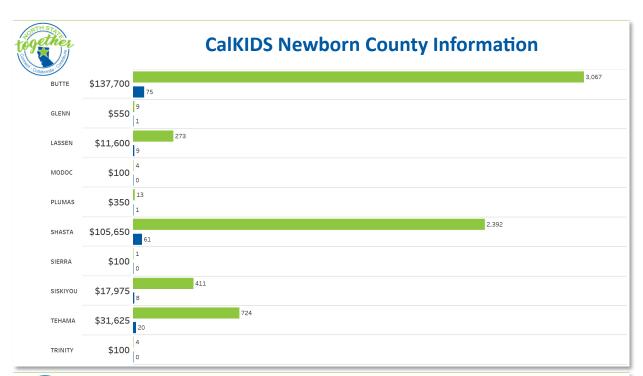
North State Together and our CA Cradle to Career Coalition are working together with the CalKIDS program at the CA State Treasurer's Office to increase the free college savings funding claim rates in the North State.

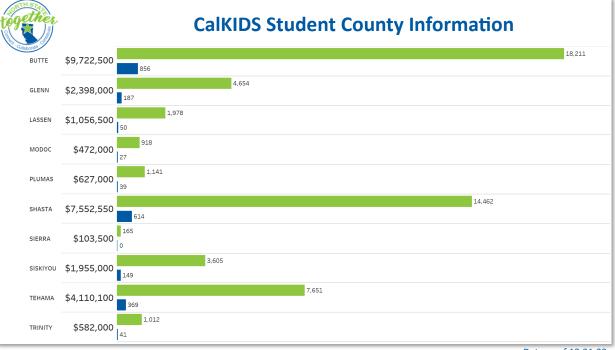
Eligible Children

Already Claimed



For more information, visit **https://CalKIDS.org/**





Date as of 12.31.23 Source: California C2C Coalition

WHAT'S A TALENT HUB, YOU SAY?

Improving education, talent, and workforce systems requires authentic partnership.

Communities, regions, and states around the US are bringing the public, private, and social sectors together to improve the quality of life for their residents. Together, they pursue systems change by improving policy and practice, better connecting learning to economic opportunity in the places they call home.



Talent Hubs are exemplary cross-sector partnerships that have met rigorous, independent standards, demonstrating their capacity and capability to significantly increase the numbers of residents with college degrees, certificates, or other credentials beyond a high school diploma. The National Talent Network is a supported learning and action network of nearly 100 cross-sector partnerships operating at the local, regional, state, or multi-state level to improve education, equity, and talent systems. Together, the network shares ideas, information, resources, data, policies, practices, and relationships to improve each other's work. Talent Hubs and the National Talent Network are part of CivicLab, a nonprofit institute dedicated to improving civic collaboration to address complex social challenges and improve the human condition.



North State Together, in partnership with SCAILE, is proud to be a designated Talent Hub under CivicLab's National Talent Network. The Talent Hub designation signifies that our regional cross-sector



partnership has met rigorous standards for creating environments that attract, retain, and cultivate talent, particularly among today's students, many of whom are the first in their families to go to college and from low-income households.



The goal of SCAILE is to create a place where policy, practice, inquiry and applied research are integrated to foster innovation in educational attainment, and the reduction of equity gaps, with a spotlight on the changing dynamics of rural communities

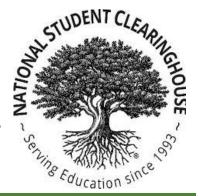
- ⇒ PRACTICE: Create "Strategy Lab" to research and incubate big ideas/theories of change regarding postsecondary access and completion with comparisons/contrasts between urban and rural environments
- ⇒ PARTNERS: Build and sustain strategic partnerships to share best practices for post-secondary attainment translated into local contexts with implications for individual, community and economic health
- ⇒ PATHWAYS: Amplify potential of community colleges to facilitate cross sector/intersegmental partnerships for attainment and expand links between education and other sectors
- ⇒ POLICY: Help innovators sustain progress through policy, legislation and practice

SCAILE/North State Together is a designated Talent Hub under CivicLab's National Talent Network.



NATIONAL STUDENT CLEARINGHOUSE

North State Together joins National Student Clearinghouse to provide our region with education data which helps us understand our student pathways and outcomes to ensure student success. National Student Clearinghouse is the only nationwide collective of postsecondary enrollment and degree records, providing us a unique and invaluable tool for researching student progress and outcomes.



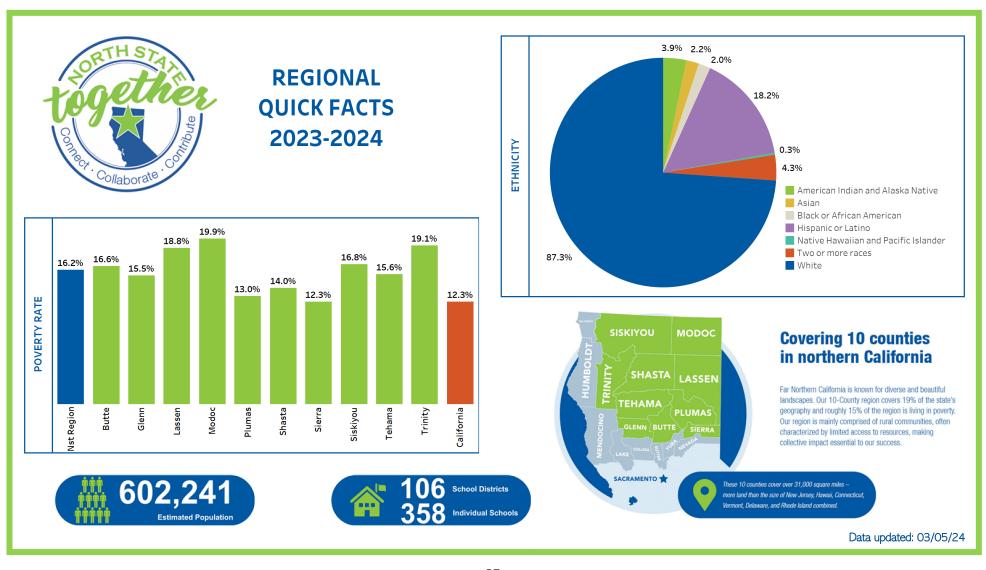
North State Together leverages StudentTracker® for High Schools to offer a range of complimentary, personalized data services to high school districts within our region. Our offerings include uploading high school data to our consortium account, providing technical support to school staff, delivering data presentations, and collaborating with the National Student Clearinghouse's research department to produce customized aggregate reports at the county and regional levels. Our objective is to achieve universal participation from all high schools to monitor the postsecondary outcomes of our students, regardless of the college they choose to attend across the country, which includes tracking enrollment, transfers, stop-outs, and persistence rates. By utilizing this data, our aim is to evaluate our college readiness initiatives and promptly address any equity disparities. All services are provided at no cost to each country through North State Together's network partnerships.

North State Together is also the NSC Postsecondary Data Partnership (PDP) hub for College of the Siskiyous and Shasta College, which makes it simple for our higher education institutions to measure, assess, and share their student success data.



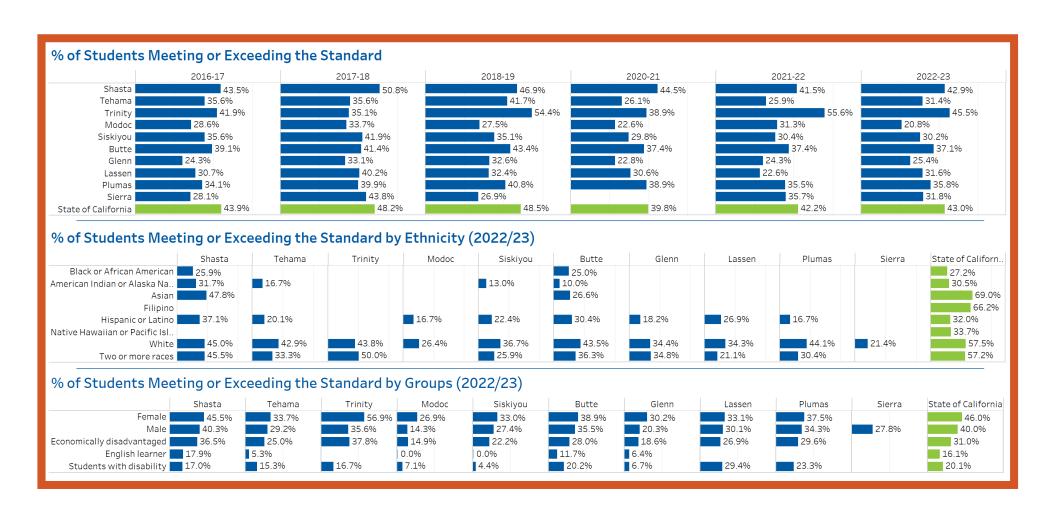
CRADLE TO CAREER DATA INDICATORS

As a backbone organization to our region, North State Together is focused on developing sustainable shared measurement systems. North State Together's role is to ensure that our county network partners see the value in data and have the data capacity to collect, analyze, and use data for their own continuous improvement. Establishing shared measurement practices and building partners' measurement system is a priority for our team.



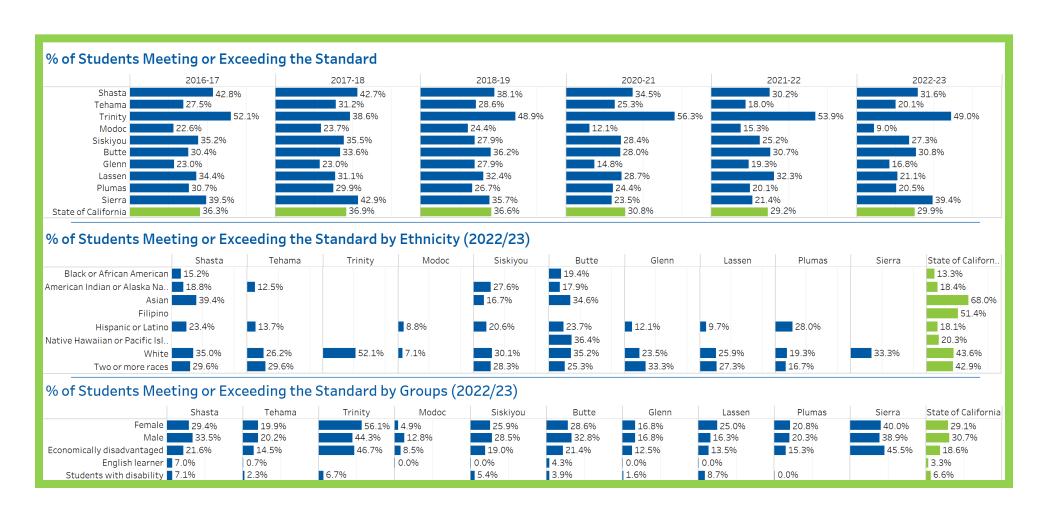
3rd Grade English Language Arts/Literacy (SBAC) Metrics

In 2014, California introduced a new assessment system aligned to the Common Core State Standards known as the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, or CAASPP. This system includes tests for mathematics and English language arts/literacy, which are also referred to as the Smarter Balanced assessments.



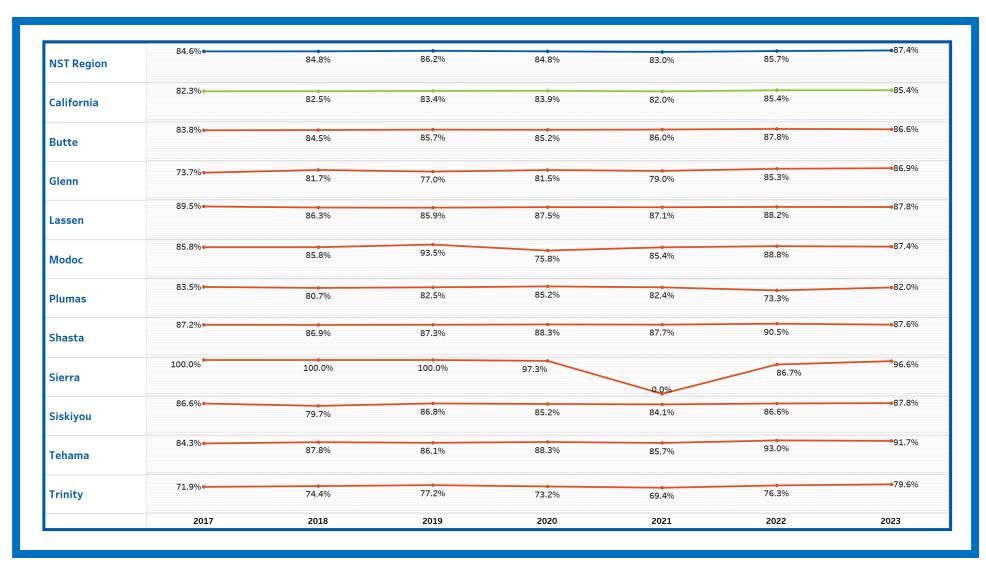
8th Grade Mathematics (SBAC) Metrics

In 2014, California introduced a new assessment system aligned to the Common Core State Standards known as the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress, or CAASPP. This system includes tests for mathematics and English language arts/literacy, which are also referred to as the Smarter Balanced assessments.



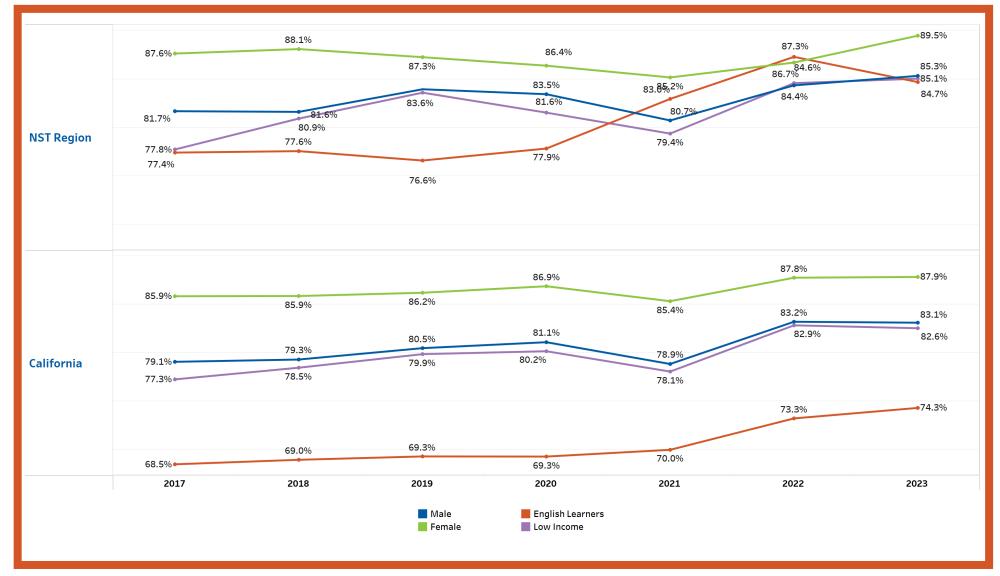
Graduation Rate Trends by County/Region

This infographic represents data gathered from the California Department of Education's Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) and Outcome data from the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) system.



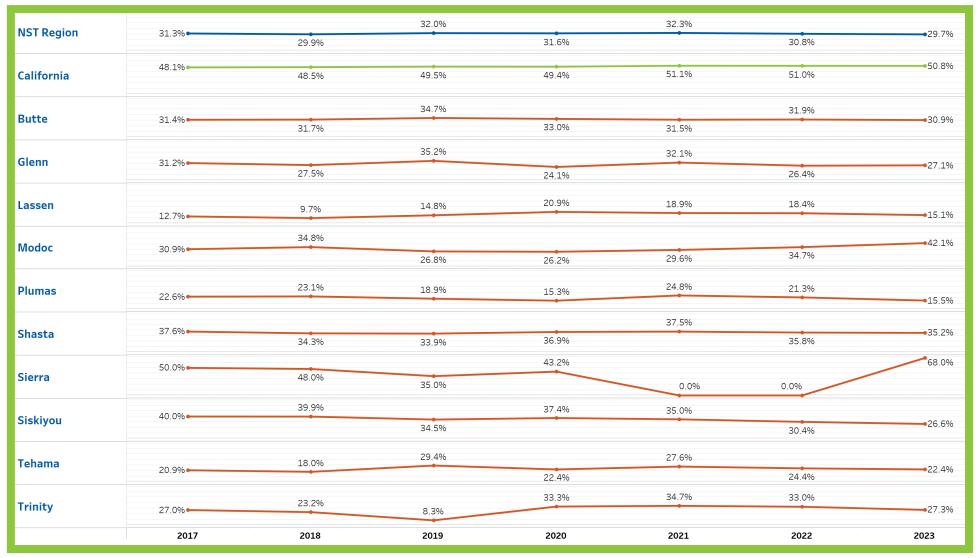
Graduation Rate Trends by Student Group

This infographic represents data gathered from the California Department of Education's Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) and Outcome data from the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) system.



A to G Rate Trends by County/Region

This infographic represents data gathered from the California Department of Education's Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) and Outcome data from the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) system.

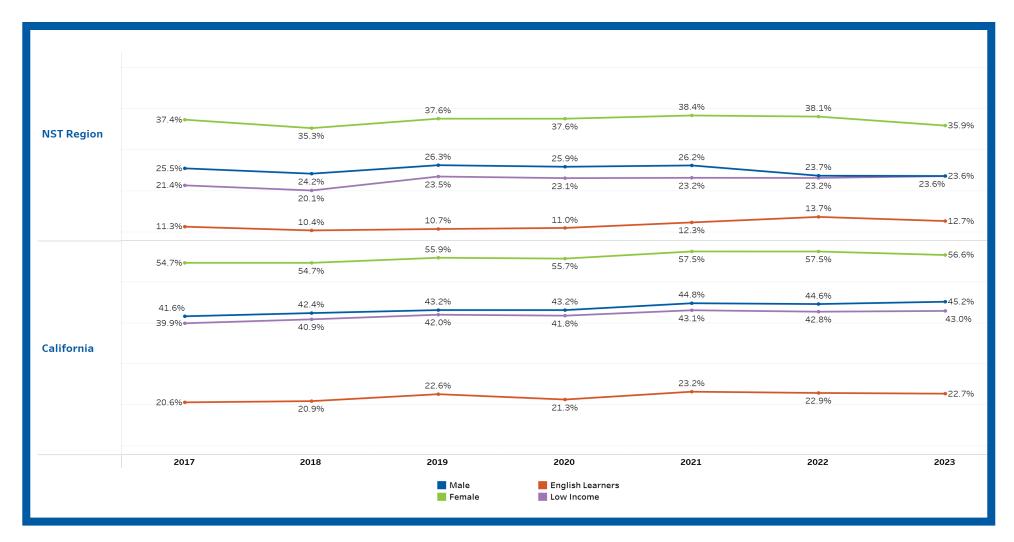


Data Source: California Department of Education DataQuest.

Data Updated: 01/16/24

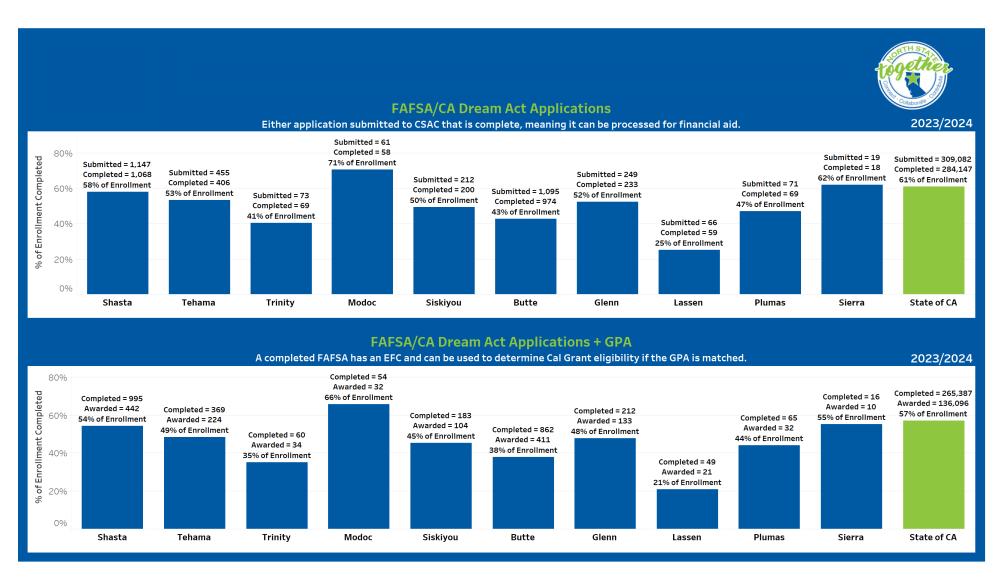
A to G Rate Trends by Student Group

This infographic represents data gathered from the California Department of Education's Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) and Outcome data from the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) system.





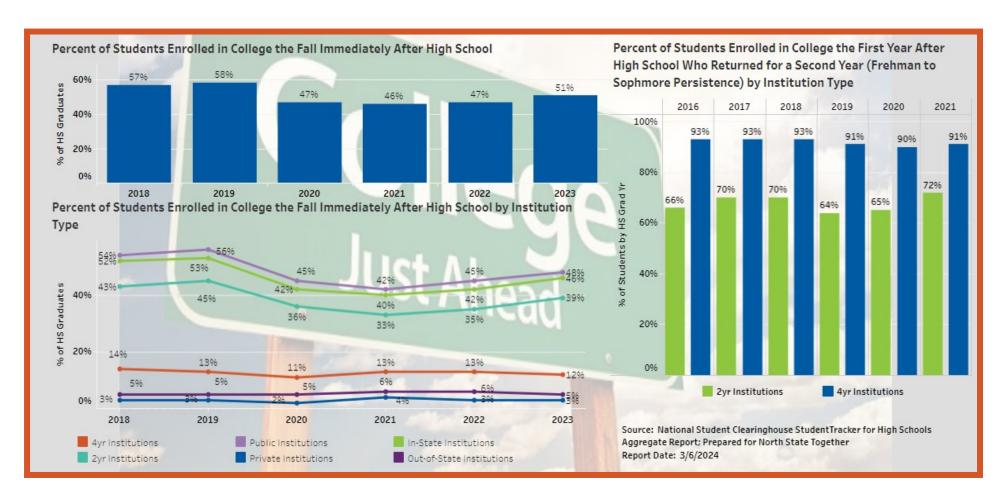
The Race to Submit is a statewide campaign that aims to increase the number of financial aid applications (FAFSA/CADAAs) for California high school seniors. Filling out these financial aid applications is the first step towards college success and helps qualify for federal and state aid to help pay for college. These efforts were modeled after the successful 2017-2018 FAFSA and CADAA Completion Initiative in Riverside.



Post-Secondary Enrollment

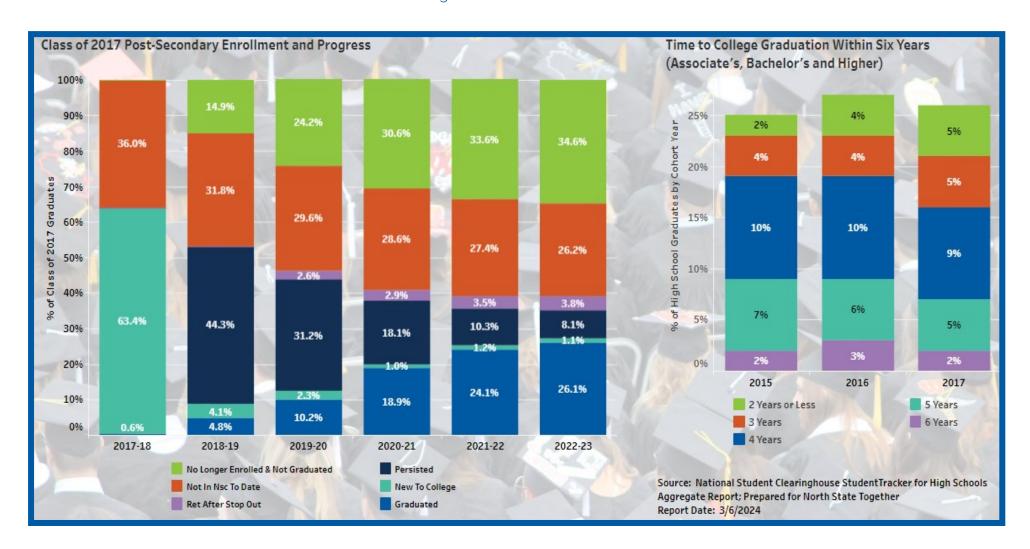


North State Together partners with the National Student Clearinghouse research department to provide post-secondary enrollment, persistence, retention, and completion data for our region.



Post-Secondary Completion

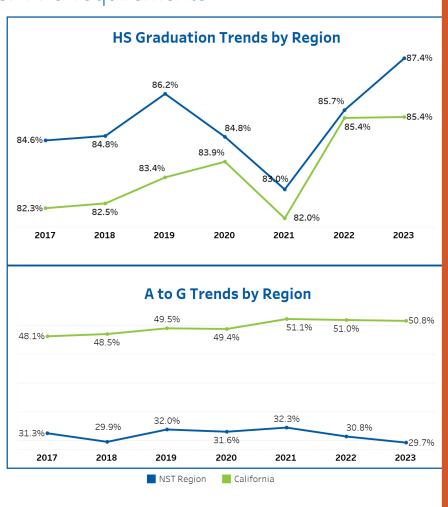
North State Together partners with the National Student Clearinghouse research National Student Clearinghouse department to provide post-secondary enrollment, persistence, retention, and completion $\mathbf{Research}$ $\mathbf{Center}^{\mathbb{T}}$ data for our region.



College and Career Readiness in the North State

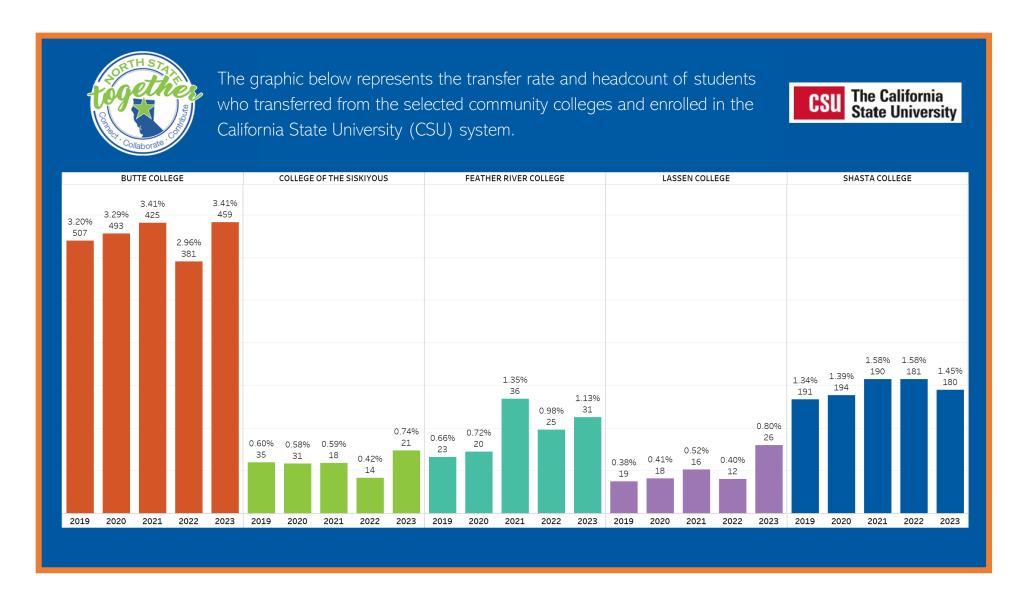
Graduation Rates & A-G requirements

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Butte	83.8%	84.5%	85.7%	85.2%	86.0%	87.8%	86.6%
Glenn	73.7%	81.7%	77.0%	81.5%	79.0%	85.3%	86.9%
Lassen	89.5%	86.3%	85.9%	87.5%	87.1%	88.2%	87.8%
Modoc	85.8%	85.8%	93.5%	75.8%	85.4%	88.8%	87.4%
Plumas	83.5%	80.7%	82.5%	85.2%	82.4%	73.3%	82.0%
Shasta	87.2%	86.9%	87.3%	88.3%	87.7%	90.5%	87.6%
Sierra	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	97.3%	0.0%	86.7%	96.6%
Siskiyou	86.6%	79.7%	86.8%	85.2%	84.1%	86.6%	87.8%
Tehama	84.3%	87.8%	86.1%	88.3%	85.7%	93.0%	91.7%
Trinity	71.9%	74.4%	77.2%	73.2%	69.4%	76.3%	79.6%
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
NST Region	84.6%	84.8%	86.2%	84.8%	83.0%	85.7%	87.4%

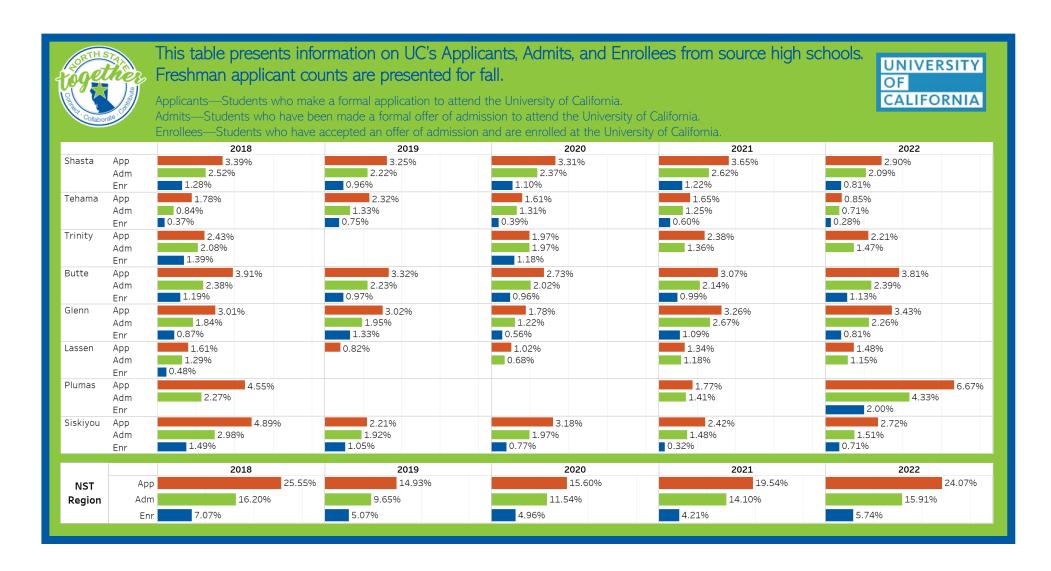


The charts on this infographic represent data gathered from the California Department of Education's Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) and Outcome data from the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) system.

Community College to CSU Transfer Rate & Headcount



High School UC Applicant/Admit/Enrollee Rates by Source County



UC Rates by Source College



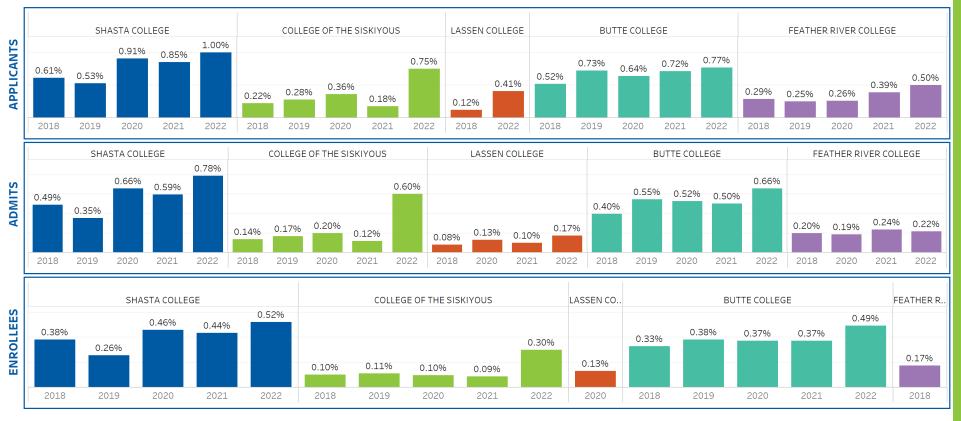
This table presents information on UC's Applicants, Admits, and Enrollees from source colleges.



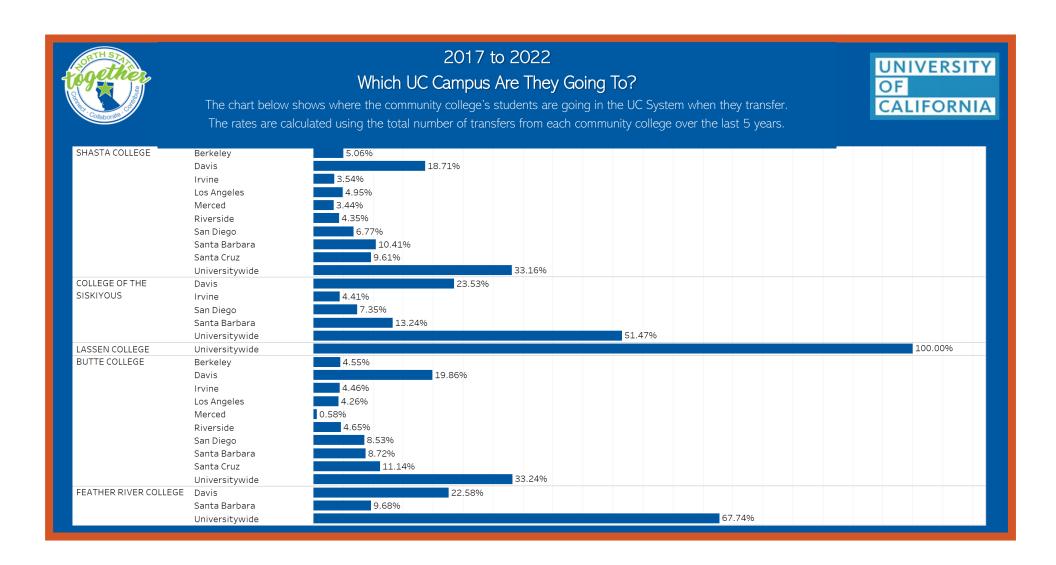
Applicants—Students who make a formal application to attend the University of California.

Admits—Students who have been made a formal offer of admission to attend the University of California.

Enrollees—Students who have accepted an offer of admission and are enrolled at the University of California.



UC Admissions by Source College and UC Campus



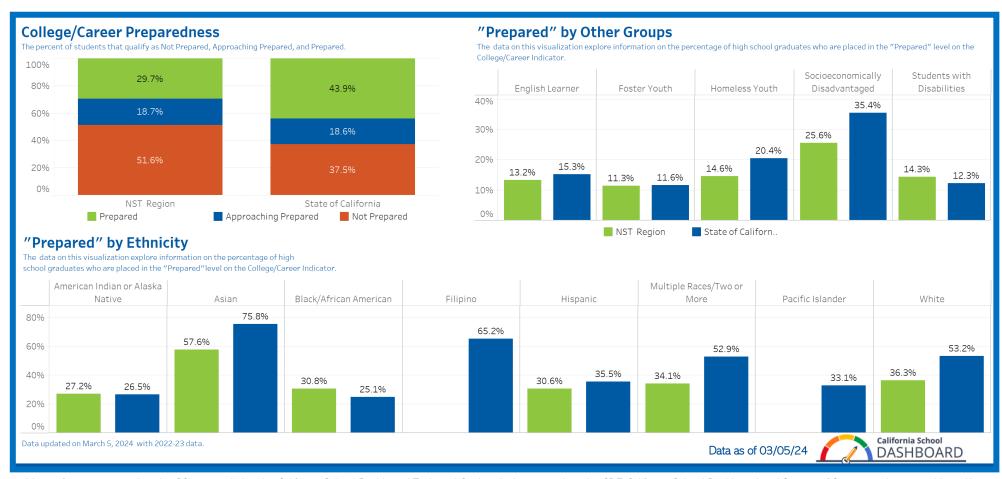
Source: UC Information Center "Admissions by Source School: (https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/about-us/information-center/admissions-source-school) Data as of: February 13, 2023





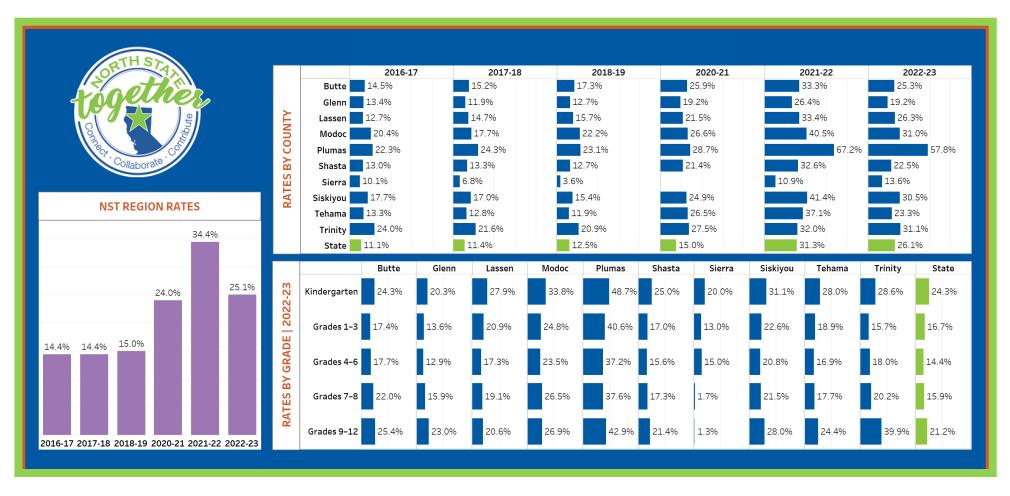
This measure is based on the number of high school graduates who are prepared for college or a career. College or career readiness means completing rigorous coursework, passing challenging exams, or receiving a state seal. The following measures are approved as indicating college or career readiness:

^{*} Career Technical Education Pathway Completion * Grade 11 Smarter Balance Summative * Assessments in ELA and mathematics * Advanced Placement Exams * International Baccalaureate Exams * College Credit Course (formerly called Dual Enrollment) * A-G Completion * State Seal of Biliteracy * Military Science/Leadership



More information regarding the CCI is provided in the California School Dashboard Technical Guide, which is posted on the CDE California School Dashboard and System of Support web page at hhttps://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/cm/ccical.asp

K-12 Chronic Absenteeism in the North State



The charts on this page represent the percentage of students who have missed more than 10 percent of the school year, which is considered to be chronically absent. For more information, see the EdData article on chronic absenteeism.

Students are determined to be chronically absent if they were enrolled for a total of 30 days or more during the academic year and they were absent for 10% or more of the days they were expected to attend.

GLOSSARY

Accountability structure: The organizational framework that establishes different teams within a partnership and outlines the roles and responsibilities of each.

Adjacent sectors: Other systems that intersect with education to impact outcomes for kids and families, including housing, health and more.

Anchor entity or backbone: An organization or entity that acts as a partnership's fiscal agent and ensures its long-term stability. Can also provide additional support, such as housing partnership staff.

Backbone: In the context of collective impact, a "backbone" refers to the critical support structure that facilitates and coordinates collaborative efforts across various sectors to address complex community challenges and achieve social change. A backbone organization maintains a balance between providing strong leadership to unify partners toward common goals and operating behind the scenes to allow individual systems to take ownership of their success.

Baseline data: Data gathered as an initial data set that will be later used to provide a comparison for tracking improvement on community-level outcomes.

Civic infrastructure: The organization of all the components in a community that impact children and families. The StriveTogether Theory of Action identifies four primary components as pillars necessary for civic infrastructure development—shared community vision, evidence-based decision making, collaborative action, and investment and sustainability.

Collective impact: The commitment of a group of important actors from different sectors to a common agenda for solving a specific social problem, using a structured form of collaboration. Cl's operating premise is that no single organization, no matter how powerful or innovative, can solve complex problems in isolation. Collective Impact is not WHAT we do, it is HOW we do it.

Community: Those closest to and most impacted by the challenges the partnership is working to address (i.e. families and students).

Community of Practice: A group of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do, and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly.

Continuous improvement: A process of constantly conducting small tests of change to improve work to get better outcomes for children and families. Continuous improvement involves observing the impact of actions, identifying what works and what doesn't, and making informed adjustments.

Contributing indicator: Data available in real time that indicates whether core indicators are improving. For example, early-grade reading (community-level outcome) is typically measured by a state assessment (core indicator), and chronic absenteeism can be used as a short-term predictor of students' proficiency (contributing indicator).

Core indicator: Specific measures used to track progress on community-level outcomes. For example, early-grade reading (community-level outcome) is typically measured by a state assessment (core indicator), and chronic absenteeism can be used as a short-term predictor of students' proficiency (contributing indicator).

County-level outcomes: Points along the cradle-to-career continuum that need to be improved to achieve a community's cradle-to-career vision.

County Networks: Groups of cross-sector practitioners and community members who work to improve selected county-level outcomes using continuous improvement strategies; organizations, systems and individuals who come together around a cradle-to-career vision in the county.

Cradle to Career Collective Impact: Guided by commitment to long-term, large scale change, cradle-to-career collective impact bring residents, school staff, community leaders, service providers, and other cross-sector partners together to focus their collective efforts on addressing pivotal areas across the continuum of life.

Demographic populations: Specific groups of people defined by criteria such as ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, etc.

Disaggregated data: Data that has been broken down into smaller units, typically by ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, etc.

Equity: The condition under which individuals are provided the resources they need to have access to the same opportunities as the general population.

Factor analysis: A way of identifying what contributes to why an outcome is trending in a particular direction.

FERPA: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. This federal law protects the privacy of student education records.

Geographic Scope: The population the partnership intends to impact.

HIPAA: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. This federal law regulates how health care data can be shared.

Interventions: Strategies to impact a factor.

Root Cause Analysis: An analysis of a problem's underlying cause.

Sector: Grouping of organizations sharing the same function. Examples include government, K-12, business, philanthropy.

Systems-level strategies: Activities (policy and practice shifts) designed to achieve desired result by addressing structural and behavioral pattern shifts at systems-level

Target Population: The group, identified through data, for which the partnership has developed or implemented strategies to support.



ACRONYMS

AM	Advancing Modoc, A North State Together County Network				
BB	Building Butte, A North State Together County Network				
C24CS	Cradle 2 Careers 4 Siskiyou, A North State Together County Network				
C2C	Cradle to Career, A North State Together County Network				
CERF	Community Economic Resilience Fund, now branded as California Jobs First				
CLC	Community Leadership Center (Shasta College Community Leadership Center, 1401 California Street, Downtown Redding, CA)				
COE	County Office of Education				
CoP	Community of Practice				
CS	Community Schools				
CTE	Career Technical Education				
EMT	Expect More Tehama, A North State Together County Network				
G2G	Glenn 2 Greatness, A North State Together County Network				
GIC	Good Jobs Challenge				
GSPP	Golden State Pathways Program				
LEA	Local Education Agency				
LHEC	Lassen Healthcare Education Collaborative, A North State Together County Network				
NoRTEC	Northern Regional Training and Employment Consortium				
NST	North State Together				
OJT	On the Job Training				
PRI	Partners for Rural Impact				
RHS	Reach Higher Shasta, A North State Together County Network				
RBA	Results Based Accountability				
RBF	Results Based Facilitation				
RSI	Related Supplemental Instruction				
RTAC	Regional Technical Assistance Center				
SCAILE	Shasta College Attainment and Innovation Lab for Equity				

Sierra Strong, A North State Together County Network TCDE Tehama County Department of Education TTCP Trinity Together: A Cradle to Career Partnership, A North State Together County Network

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

SS

WIOA

FOUNDING SUPPORTER

THE MCCONNELL FOUNDATION REDDING, CALIFORNIA

The McConnell Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization on a mission to build better communities through philanthropy. Part of building a better community is supporting the children and youth in our region, and The McConnell Foundation is committed to increasing opportunities in Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity counties.

In 2016, The McConnell Foundation awarded a \$2.5 million grant to establish North State Together as a regional collective partnership. As a result of the progress made, North State Together was awarded an additional 8-year multi-million dollar grant renewal.



Our team and our county collaborative network partners would like to thank
The McConnell Foundation for making long-term investments in our region.

Our cradle-to-career collective impact model has shown a significant improvement in educational outcomes across the North State, and we are excited to continue this work!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

northstatetogether.org

EMAIL US AT

nst@shastacollege.edu

TO DOWNLOAD

a copy of this NST Informational Booklet, scan this QR code.





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