

Charting a Course to the Sacramento Region's Future Economic Prosperity

[Executive Summary](#) (requested reading)

[Full Report](#)

In 2018, a combination of uncertainty in the face of highly disruptive trends—globalization, technological change, demographic shifts—and new leadership among the region’s business, government, and civic organizations motivated public and private leaders to secure the nationally recognized Brookings Institute to assess the region’s current conditions compared to similar metro areas and advise us on where to invest in order to grow our regional economy.

The *Charting a Course to the Sacramento Region’s Future Economic Prosperity* assess the region’s relatively prosperous status by looking at its growth, prosperity change, and inclusion, with inclusion lagging and stark racial disparities.

When looking at the region’s job share, jobs requiring minimal digital skills decreased from 53 percent in 2002 to 28 percent in 2016. This is notable because educational attainment between white, Hispanic, and Black residents differs greatly. Fifty percent of Black and Hispanic residents attained a high school education and only 18 percent attained a BA or higher in 2016. This is significantly lower when compared to 69 percent of white residents who attained a high school education and 37 percent who attained a BA or higher in 2016. As the region’s population and workforce becomes much more racially diverse, it is extremely urgent that leaders focus on closing the educational and employment disparities by race.

One recommendation in minimizing the gap is to prepare and connect young workers, specifically young workers of color, to in-demand occupations and industries. The report concluded a clear case that regional leaders have an opportunity to organize and invest in the economic future of the region but must do the hard task of civic work to assure sustained growth and prosperity for all.