

# Graduation Initiative 2025 Preliminary Progress Update

Are you on track to meet your goals?



2015

2025

[calstate.edu/dashboard](https://calstate.edu/dashboard)

In September 2016, the CSU launched Graduation Initiative 2025, establishing ambitious goals to facilitate our students’ path to a high-quality college degree and committing us to eliminate equity gaps between historically underserved students and their peers. When we achieve these goals, the CSU will stand alone as a national leader in student success for the most diverse student body in the nation.

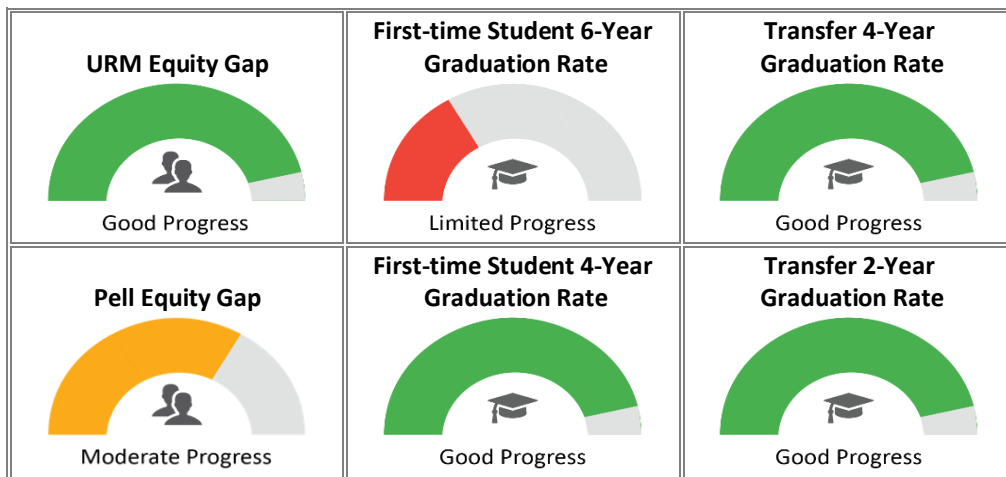
Fulfilling the Graduation Initiative requires us to consistently measure progress and take stock of our efforts to identify barriers that delay or prevent our students’ timely completion of a high-quality degree. To support this process, the CSU Student Success Dashboard ([calstate.edu/dashboard](http://calstate.edu/dashboard)) has leveraged degree completion data through summer 2021 to measure system and campus progress toward our 2025 goals. The 2021 graduation rates cited herein may increase very slightly in the coming weeks as campuses submit additional degree counts.

This report offers a preliminary glimpse of how Sonoma State (SSU) is progressing toward its 2025 goals. The formidable challenges associated with the global health crisis have heightened the collective imperative to better support our students and promote equitable opportunities for timely degree completion.

While the Graduation Initiative goals are formally measured against specific student cohorts (e.g., the 6-year graduation rate of first-time students who enrolled in 2019), the intention is to improve our policies and practices to support the success of all students. We encourage you to share this report broadly and engage your campus community in a deeper internal assessment of progress toward meeting your Graduation Initiative goals.

## Sonoma State Progress Summary

**Five years into this initiative, SSU is making good or moderate progress toward most of its goals and limited progress toward one other.**



For each graduation rate goal, an interim target was set by extrapolating a straight line from the 2010 (6-year first-time students), 2012 (4-year first-time students and transfers), or 2014 (2-year transfers) cohorts to their respective 2025 goals. The current rates (for the 2015, 2017 or 2019 cohorts) were then compared to the interim targets, and the gauges were set as:

- Green if the graduation rate was less than 1 percentage point below the interim target
- Yellow if the graduation rate was between 1 and 3 percentage points below the interim target
- Red if the graduation rate was more than 3 percentage points below the interim target

For the URM and Pell gap goal, the gauges were set as:

- Green if the gap was less than 3 percentage points
- Yellow if the gap was between 3 and 7 percentage points
- Red if the gap was more than 7 percentage points

## Underrepresented Minority (URM\*) Equity Gap Goal



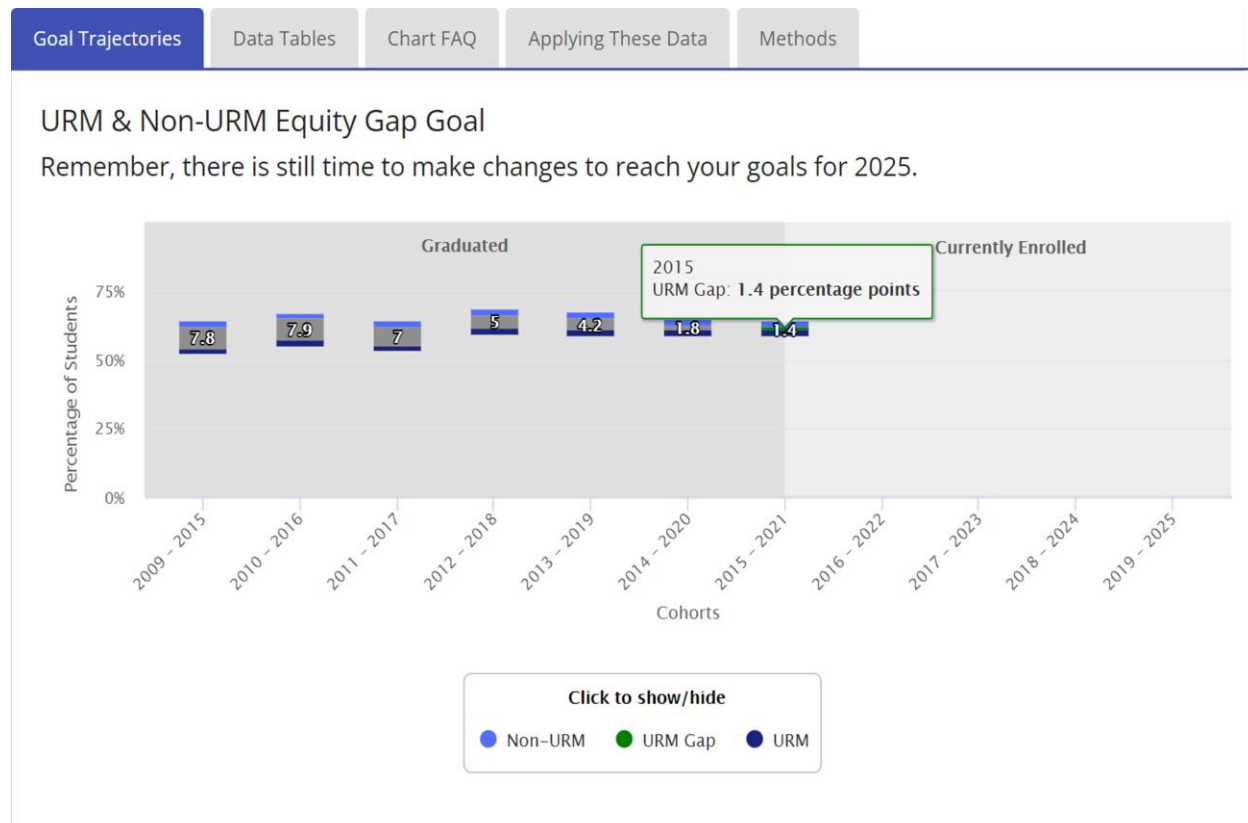
Good Progress

**SSU is making good progress toward its 2025 goal of eliminating the gap between the percentage of URM and Non-URM first-time students who graduate within 6 years.**

Over the past 3 years, the gap between URM and Non-URM students who graduated within 6 years was roughly 2 percentage points. The preliminary URM equity gap for the most recent cohort (1.4 percentage points) shows a slight decrease under this average.

Cohort	Grad Rate Gap
2013-2019	4.2 points
2014-2020	1.8 points
2015-2021	1.4 points
<b>2025 Goal</b>	<b>0 points</b>

**The fact that SSU's URM equity gap is 1.4 percentage points suggests that the university is making good progress toward its 2025 goal of eliminating the graduation rate gap between URM and Non-URM students.**



\*URM (underrepresented minority) students are those who self-identify as African American, Latinx, or American Indian. All other students are classified as Non-Underrepresented Minority (Non-URM).

## Underrepresented Minority (URM) Equity Gap Progress for CSU System and CSU Campuses

Campus	Current 6-year URM Graduation Rate	Current 6-year URM Gap (percentage points)	2025 6-year URM Gap Goal (percentage points)	Gap Goal Difference (percentage points)
→ Sonoma	59.0%	1.4	0	1.4
Bakersfield	46.9%	2.1	0	2.1
San Diego	74.6%	2.3	0	2.3
Dominguez Hills	52.0%	3.0	0	3.0
San Bernardino	56.1%	3.5	0	3.5
Fresno	54.9%	4.1	0	4.1
Sacramento	55.2%	4.1	0	4.1
Long Beach	73.0%	4.5	0	4.5
Monterey Bay	57.7%	5.1	0	5.1
San Luis Obispo	80.7%	5.4	0	5.4
San Marcos	56.0%	6.6	0	6.6
Stanislaus	54.7%	7.1	0	7.1
Fullerton	67.4%	7.8	0	7.8
Humboldt	43.2%	8.2	0	8.2
Channel Islands	54.9%	8.3	0	8.3
Chico	60.2%	9.2	0	9.2
San Francisco	48.3%	9.7	0	9.7
Los Angeles	49.5%	9.8	0	9.8
Maritime Academy	59.1%	11.4	0	11.4
East Bay	43.0%	13.2	0	13.2
Northridge	49.3%	13.6	0	13.6
San José	59.5%	13.7	0	13.7
Pomona	62.8%	14.1	0	14.1
<b>CSU System</b>	<b>56.9%</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12.4</b>

**Good Progress**  
Gap ≤ 3

**Moderate Progress**  
3 < Gap ≤ 7

**Limited Progress**  
Gap > 7

## Pell Equity Gap Goal



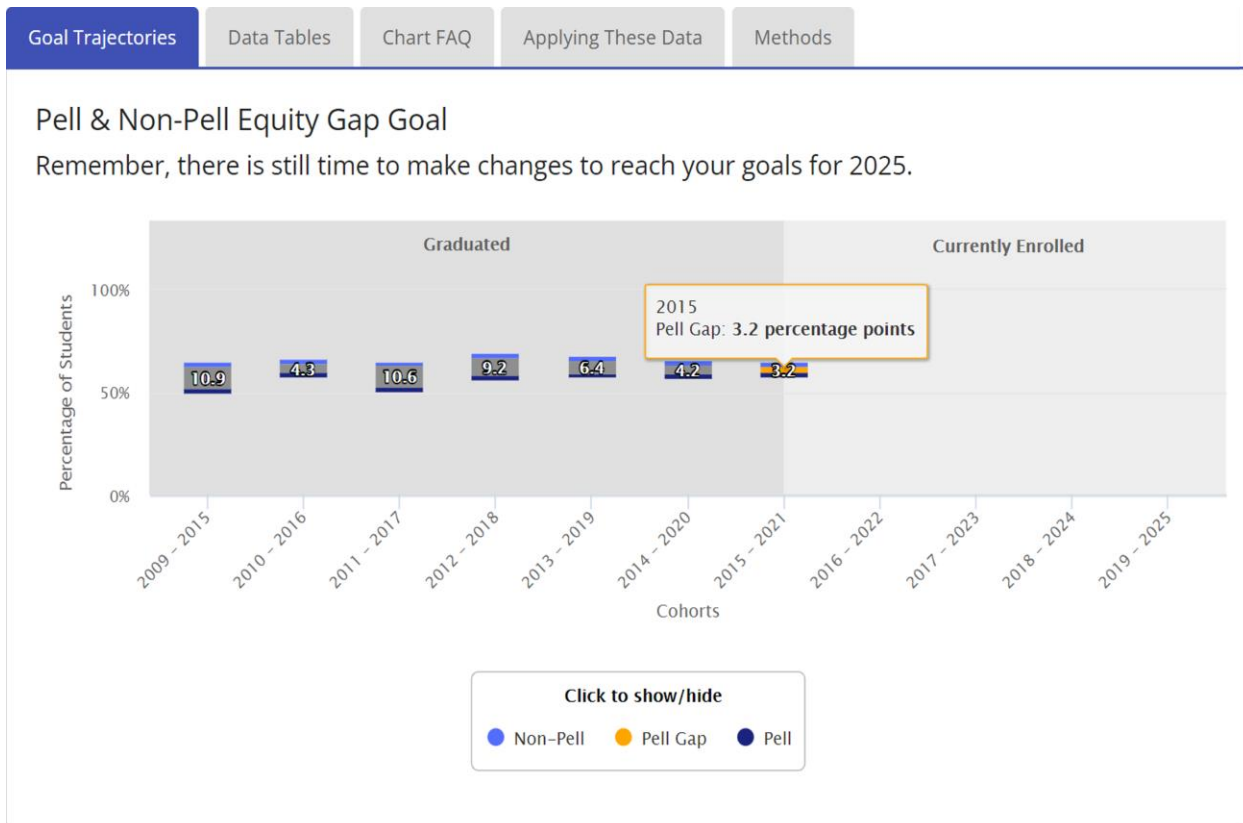
Moderate Progress

**SSU is making moderate progress toward its 2025 goal of eliminating the gap between the percentage of Pell recipient and Non-Pell recipient first-time students who graduate within 6 years.**

Over the past 3 years, the gap between Pell and Non-Pell students who graduated within 6 years was roughly 5 percentage points. The preliminary Pell equity gap for the most recent cohort (3.2 percentage points) shows a slight decrease under this average.

Cohort	Grad Rate Gap
2013-2019	6.4 points
2014-2020	4.2 points
2015-2021	3.2 points
<b>2025 Goal</b>	<b>0 points</b>

**The fact that SSU's Pell equity gap is 3.2 percentage points suggests that the university is making moderate progress toward its 2025 goal of eliminating the graduation rate gap between Pell and Non-Pell students.**



\*Pell students are students who received a Pell grant in their first term of enrollment. All other students are classified as Not Pell.

## Pell Equity Gap Progress for CSU System and CSU Campuses

Campus	Current 6-year Pell Graduation Rate	Current 6-year Pell Gap (percentage points)	2025 6-year Pell Gap Goal (percentage points)	Gap Goal Difference (percentage points)
Monterey Bay	59.9%	0.5	0	0.5
Maritime Academy	66.7%	2.0	0	2.0
Bakersfield	46.9%	2.1	0	2.1
Los Angeles	51.1%	2.6	0	2.6
Long Beach	74.1%	2.7	0	2.7
Pomona	68.5%	3.0	0	3.0
Sonoma	57.8%	3.2	0	3.2
Dominguez Hills	51.6%	3.3	0	3.3
San Diego	73.7%	3.4	0	3.4
San Francisco	51.8%	3.8	0	3.8
San José	66.1%	4.4	0	4.4
Stanislaus	55.8%	4.8	0	4.8
Sacramento	55.3%	4.8	0	4.8
San Luis Obispo	81.1%	5.0	0	5.0
Humboldt	45.2%	5.0	0	5.0
San Bernardino	55.3%	5.4	0	5.4
Fullerton	68.6%	5.5	0	5.5
East Bay	45.9%	5.7	0	5.7
Channel Islands	55.0%	6.6	0	6.6
San Marcos	55.7%	6.7	0	6.7
Northridge	51.5%	7.6	0	7.6
Fresno	53.4%	9.0	0	9.0
Chico	57.5%	14.8	0	14.8
CSU System	58.1%	10.2	0	10.2



**Good Progress**  
Gap ≤ 3

**Moderate Progress**  
3 < Gap ≤ 7

**Limited Progress**  
Gap > 7

## First-time Student 6-Year Graduation Goal



Limited Progress

**SSU is making limited progress toward its 2025 goal that 75% of all first-time students graduate within 6 years.**

Six-year graduation rates for the first-time student cohorts beginning in 2013 and 2014 were 61.9% and 60.1%, respectively. The preliminary 6-year first-time student graduation rate for the 2015 cohort (59.9%) is notably lower than the interim target (68.9%) set by drawing a straight-line projection from the 2010 graduation rate to the 2025 goal (see dashboard chart below).

Cohort	Grad Rate
2013-2019	61.9%
2014-2020	60.1%
2015-2021	59.9%
<b>2025 Goal</b>	<b>75.0%</b>

**The fact that SSU's current 6-year first-time student graduation rate is 9.0 percentage points lower than the interim target suggests that the university is making limited progress toward its goal.**



## First-time Student 6-Year Graduation Goal Progress for CSU System and CSU Campuses

Campus	6-Year 2025 Graduation Goal	Current 6-Year Graduation Rate	6-Year Graduation Rate Interim Target	Difference from Interim Target
Dominguez Hills	55.0%	52.5%	49.4%	3.1
Maritime Academy	68.0%	68.2%	65.4%	2.8
Sacramento	60.0%	57.5%	55.1%	2.4
Long Beach	77.0%	75.5%	73.3%	2.2
Fullerton	75.0%	71.5%	69.4%	2.1
San Marcos	61.0%	59.1%	57.1%	2.0
San José	71.0%	68.8%	67.0%	1.8
Los Angeles	55.0%	51.9%	50.9%	1.0
Monterey Bay	63.0%	60.2%	59.4%	0.8
Pomona	73.0%	70.1%	71.0%	-0.9
San Bernardino	62.0%	57.0%	58.8%	-1.8
Bakersfield	56.0%	47.6%	50.1%	-2.5
San Luis Obispo	92.0%	85.3%	87.9%	-2.6
Humboldt	56.0%	47.5%	51.4%	-3.9
Stanislaus	65.0%	57.6%	61.5%	-3.9
San Diego	86.0%	76.1%	80.4%	-4.3
Northridge	66.0%	54.2%	58.9%	-4.7
Channel Islands	67.0%	58.1%	62.9%	-4.8
Chico	74.0%	65.4%	71.6%	-6.2
Fresno	69.0%	56.6%	63.4%	-6.8
East Bay	62.0%	48.4%	55.9%	-7.5
San Francisco	69.0%	53.7%	62.0%	-8.3
Sonoma	75.0%	59.9%	68.9%	-9.0
CSU System	70.0%	63.2%	65.1%	-1.9



**Good Progress**  
< 1 Point Below Interim Target

**Moderate Progress**  
Between 1-3 Points Below Interim Target

**Limited Progress**  
≥ 3 Points Below Interim Target



## First-time Student 4-Year Graduation Goal



Good Progress

**SSU is making good progress toward its 2025 goal that 54% of all first-time students graduate within 4 years.**

The four-year graduation rate for the first-time student cohort beginning in 2015 was among the highest in SSU's history. The preliminary 4-year first-time student graduation rate for the 2017 cohort (42.3%) is higher than the most recent graduation rate and is slightly below the interim target (43.2%) set by drawing a straight-line projection from the 2012 graduation rate to the 2025 goal (see dashboard chart below).

Cohort	Grad Rate
2015-2019	41.1%
2016-2020	39.5%
2017-2021	42.3%
<b>2025 Goal</b>	<b>54.0%</b>

**The fact that SSU's current 4-year first-time student graduation rate is only 0.9 percentage points lower than the interim target indicates that the university is making good progress toward its goal.**



## First-time Student 4-Year Graduation Goal Progress for CSU System and CSU Campuses

Campus	4-Year 2025 Graduation Goal	Current 4-Year Graduation Rate	4-Year Graduation Rate Interim Target	Difference from Interim Target
San Diego	54.0%	56.6%	46.2%	10.4
Long Beach	39.0%	37.9%	29.1%	8.8
Sacramento	30.0%	25.9%	20.7%	5.2
San José	35.0%	30.0%	25.7%	4.3
Monterey Bay	44.0%	40.5%	36.5%	4.0
Bakersfield	30.0%	27.6%	24.9%	2.7
Fullerton	44.0%	36.2%	34.2%	2.0
Northridge	30.0%	25.0%	23.1%	1.9
San Bernardino	30.0%	24.0%	22.2%	1.8
Los Angeles	30.0%	21.1%	20.6%	0.5
San Luis Obispo	71.0%	61.1%	60.8%	0.3
San Marcos	30.0%	23.8%	23.6%	0.2
Humboldt	30.0%	24.0%	23.9%	0.1
Sonoma	54.0%	42.3%	43.2%	-0.9
Stanislaus	37.0%	25.6%	26.9%	-1.3
Pomona	38.0%	29.1%	30.5%	-1.4
San Francisco	33.0%	26.5%	27.9%	-1.4
Fresno	35.0%	24.7%	26.3%	-1.6
Chico	41.0%	33.1%	35.0%	-1.9
Dominguez Hills	31.0%	17.7%	21.5%	-3.8
Channel Islands	40.0%	28.1%	32.7%	-4.6
Maritime Academy	62.0%	49.8%	55.3%	-5.5
East Bay	35.0%	17.7%	24.2%	-6.5
CSU System	40.0%	33.3%	31.6%	1.7

**Good Progress**  
< 1 Point Below Interim Target

**Moderate Progress**  
Between 1-3 Points Below Interim Target

**Limited Progress**  
≥ 3 Points Below Interim Target

## Transfer 4-Year Graduation Goal



Good Progress

**SSU is making good progress toward its 2025 goal that 91% of all transfers graduate within 4 years.**

The four-year graduation rate for the transfer cohort beginning in 2016 was among the highest in SSU's history. The preliminary 4-year transfer graduation rate for the 2017 cohort (85.2%) is higher than the most recent graduation rate and is slightly below the interim target (86.0%) set by drawing a straight-line projection from the 2012 graduation rate to the 2025 goal (see dashboard chart below).

Cohort	Grad Rate
2015-2019	83.2%
2016-2020	84.0%
2017-2021	85.2%
<b>2025 Goal</b>	<b>91.0%</b>

**The fact that SSU's current 4-year transfer graduation rate is only 0.8 percentage points lower than the interim target indicates that the university is making good progress toward its goal.**



## Transfer 4-Year Graduation Goal Progress for CSU System and CSU Campuses

Campus	4-Year 2025 Graduation Goal	Current 4-Year Graduation Rate	4-Year Graduation Rate Interim Target	Difference from Interim Target
Bakersfield	74.0%	77.9%	70.1%	7.8
Channel Islands	78.0%	80.1%	75.0%	5.1
Los Angeles	81.0%	79.8%	76.0%	3.8
San José	80.0%	79.9%	76.4%	3.5
Monterey Bay	80.0%	80.9%	77.6%	3.3
San Marcos	77.0%	76.7%	73.4%	3.3
Sacramento	81.0%	79.4%	76.3%	3.1
Northridge	81.0%	80.2%	77.7%	2.5
Fullerton	85.0%	81.9%	80.2%	1.7
Stanislaus	78.0%	78.4%	77.2%	1.2
San Bernardino	83.0%	80.2%	80.0%	0.2
Pomona	85.0%	79.3%	79.2%	0.1
Dominguez Hills	75.0%	70.9%	71.4%	-0.5
Long Beach	91.0%	85.7%	86.2%	-0.5
Humboldt	79.0%	74.4%	75.1%	-0.7
Sonoma	91.0%	85.2%	86.0%	-0.8
Fresno	80.0%	75.4%	76.4%	-1.0
Chico	86.0%	80.6%	82.3%	-1.7
East Bay	83.0%	74.9%	77.0%	-2.1
San Diego	91.0%	85.3%	87.4%	-2.1
San Francisco	86.0%	77.5%	80.0%	-2.5
San Luis Obispo	93.0%	85.1%	89.0%	-3.9
<b>CSU System</b>	<b>85.0%</b>	<b>79.6%</b>	<b>80.1%</b>	<b>-0.5</b>

**Good Progress**  
< 1 Point Below Interim Target

**Moderate Progress**  
Between 1-3 Points Below Interim Target

**Limited Progress**  
≥ 3 Points Below Interim Target

## Transfer 2-Year Graduation Goal



Good Progress

**SSU is making good progress toward its 2025 goal that 64% of all transfers graduate within 2 years.**

Two-year graduation rates for the transfer cohorts beginning in 2017 and 2018 were 62.4%, respectively. The preliminary 2-year transfer graduation rate for the 2019 cohort (60.0%) nearly meets the interim target (60.1%) set by drawing a straight-line projection from the 2014 graduation rate to the 2025 goal (see dashboard chart below).

Cohort	Grad Rate
2017-2019	62.4%
2018-2020	62.4%
2019-2021	60.0%
<b>2025 Goal</b>	<b>64.0%</b>

**The fact that SSU's current 2-year transfer graduation rate is slightly lower than the interim target indicates that the university is making good progress toward its goal.**



## Transfer 2-Year Graduation Goal Progress for CSU System and CSU Campuses

Campus	2-Year 2025 Graduation Goal	Current 2-Year Graduation Rate	2-Year Graduation Rate Interim Target	Difference from Interim Target
Los Angeles	36.0%	48.8%	35.0%	13.8
Monterey Bay	46.0%	54.5%	41.8%	12.7
Sacramento	38.0%	43.5%	33.2%	10.3
San Diego	51.0%	57.4%	47.6%	9.8
Northridge	43.0%	46.7%	37.8%	8.9
Pomona	29.0%	33.0%	24.2%	8.8
San Marcos	40.0%	44.1%	35.5%	8.6
Stanislaus	45.0%	48.7%	40.6%	8.1
San Bernardino	45.0%	48.3%	40.6%	7.7
Fresno	34.0%	37.7%	30.1%	7.6
Chico	43.0%	43.9%	38.4%	5.5
San José	36.0%	34.9%	30.3%	4.6
Dominguez Hills	40.0%	39.3%	35.5%	3.8
Humboldt	38.0%	37.0%	33.6%	3.4
East Bay	49.0%	45.7%	42.8%	2.9
Channel Islands	54.0%	49.0%	46.6%	2.4
San Francisco	49.0%	45.4%	43.8%	1.6
Fullerton	44.0%	41.7%	40.5%	1.2
Long Beach	49.0%	44.6%	43.9%	0.7
Sonoma	64.0%	60.0%	60.1%	-0.1
Bakersfield	48.0%	44.9%	45.5%	-0.6
San Luis Obispo	45.0%	37.6%	41.1%	-3.5
CSU System	45.0%	44.3%	39.7%	4.6

**Good Progress**  
< 1 Point Below Interim Target

**Moderate Progress**  
Between 1-3 Points Below Interim Target

**Limited Progress**  
≥ 3 Points Below Interim Target