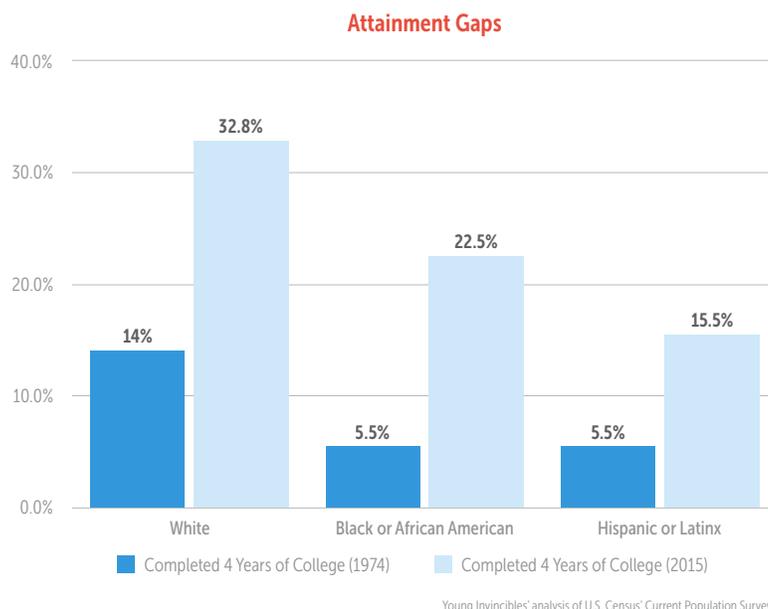


ATTAINMENT & SUCCESS

Addressing equity challenges in higher education requires a multi-faceted approach, so we break our report into three categories. This document summarizes problems and recommended federal policy solutions for Attainment & Success in higher education as identified in Young Invincibles' report *Race & Ethnicity as a Barrier to Opportunity*. To read the full report, visit: www.younginvincibles.org.

PROBLEM: Attainment gaps are widening – While college attainment rates have steadily risen for most demographic groups, Latinx and African American rates have not grown at the same pace as whites. As a result, the racial and ethnic attainment gap has widened dramatically since 1974.



Recommendations:

- **Invest in affordable campus-based childcare** – A quarter of all college students are also parents. We should find ways to strengthen programs that support these undergraduates, including but not limited to subsidized child care services.
- **Improve Pell Grant Flexibility** – Restoration of the Year-Round or “summer Pell” Pell Grant could be pursued to cover full-time students summer courses.
- **Align financial aid and public benefits** – The next Farm Bill should grant Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (food stamp) eligibility to any student on a Pell Grant.
- **Invest in assessment infrastructure at minority serving institutions** – The federal government should fund MSIs to collect more and better data that can be used to make data-driven decisions about interventions and programs that improve student outcomes.
- **Hold institutions accountable for student success** – All institutions should be held accountable for student success while also protecting access, especially for low-income students of color.
- **Further evaluate student support services** – Explore investments in additional research and evaluation for these kinds of programs, including potential complications created by burdensome eligibility requirements, and scale what works.