

## Panel 2: Role of education and training in youth employment

- 16-24 is a critical time in a young person's life
  - A time when transitions can lead to disconnection
- Graduating high school is a significant milestone in a young person's life
  - People who do not complete high school have the lowest rates of employment
  - High school diploma or equivalent is required for many jobs or advanced training
  - High school graduation rates are on the rise – 85% in 2017-2018 graduated in 4 years
    - But disparities remain

# Postsecondary Education

- Postsecondary education and training can offer on-ramps to high-quality jobs, higher earnings
  - An estimated 35% of 25-54 year olds do not have a postsecondary degree
  - Of those who enroll in public community colleges, 40% earn a degree or certificate in 6 years (National Student Clearinghouse Research Center)
  - Certificate programs vary extensively in length, quality, and value in the labor market
  - COVID implications:
    - Community college enrollment in Fall 2020 was down 19%
    - How will labor market be affected in the long-term in terms of skills that are in demand?

# Strategies to Promote Training and Education

- Context matters – career pathways should be tailored to local economy
- Provide supports to mitigate challenges to persistence
- High school graduates may need additional academic supports to succeed in postsecondary