

# Adventist Health

## Priority Area Overview



### Education

Educational attainment is a well-established social determinant of health. It affects health through many mechanisms such as neural development, biological aging, health literacy and health behaviors, sense of control and empowerment, and life chances. Education—from preschool to beyond college—is also one of the social determinants of health for which there are clear policy pathways for intervention.

### IMPLICATIONS

**Health:** Education is linked to disparities in employment because it can affect the type of work people do, the working conditions they experience, and the income they earn. Workforce participants have different skill levels and educational backgrounds, which creates inequalities in wages, opportunities for advancement, job security, and other work benefits. Individuals with less education have fewer employment choices, which may force them into positions with low levels of control, job insecurity, and low wages. Individuals with less education are also more likely to have jobs that are physically demanding or include exposure to toxins.

**Cost:** Low-wage workers are the least likely to have access to insurance through their employers. Some 65 percent of higher-paying companies (those where less than 35 percent of employees earn \$20,000 or less) offer health insurance, according to a study by the Kaiser Family Foundation. By contrast, among companies that pay lower wages to 35 percent or more of workers, only 42 percent offer a health plan.



Inadequate education contributes to the cycle of poverty by making it more difficult for low-income children to lift themselves and future generations out of poverty.

### POTENTIAL PARTNERS



SCHOOL DISTRICTS



JUNIOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES



VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS



LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COALITIONS/ORGANIZATIONS



BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

### SUBJECT-MATTER EXPERTS



**SCHOOL DISTRICT STAFF**  
(VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS, AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND COLLEGE PREP)

### GLOSSARY OF COMMON TERMS:

**Associate's Degree:** An associate degree is an undergraduate degree awarded after a course of post-secondary study lasting two or three years. It is a level of qualification between a high school diploma or GED and a bachelor's degree.

**Bachelor's Degree:** A bachelor's degree or baccalaureate is an undergraduate academic degree awarded by colleges and universities upon completion of a course of study lasting three to seven years (depending on institution and academic discipline).

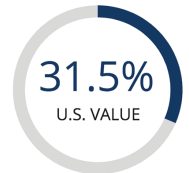
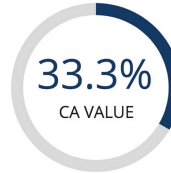
**Vocational Training:** Vocational training, also known as Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Career and Technical Education (CTE), provides job-specific technical training for work in a specific career. These programs generally focus on providing students with hands-on instruction, and can lead to certification, a diploma, or a certificate.

**General Educational Development (GED):** The GED or High School Equivalency Certificate shows that you have a level of knowledge equivalent to a high school graduate. GED stands for General Education Development or General Education Diploma. The GED is an internationally recognized test.



### People 25+ with a Bachelor’s Degree or Higher

POM: 2014–2018 | Sources: American Community Survey



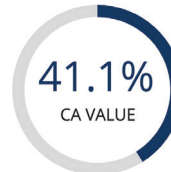
### People 25+ with a High School Degree or Higher

POM: 2014–2018 | Sources: American Community Survey



### People 25+ with an Associate’s Degree or Higher

POM: 2014–2018 | Sources: American Community Survey



### High School Graduation Rate

POM: 2018 | Sources: California Department of Education



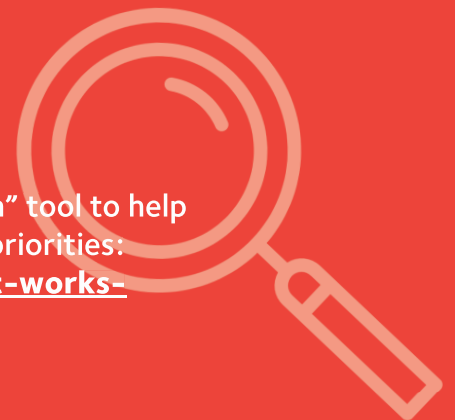
### High School Drop Outs

POM: 2018–2019 | Sources: California Department of Education



# Evidence Matters

Explore the County Health Rankings and Roadmaps “What Works for Health” tool to help find policies and programs that are a good fit for your communities health priorities: [www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/take-action-to-improve-health/what-works-for-health)



## RESOURCES

**Institute of Education Sciences (IES):** The Institute of Education Sciences (IES) is the statistics, research, and evaluation arm of the U.S. Department of Education.

**National Center for Education Statistics (NCES):** The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is the primary federal entity for collecting and analyzing data related to education in the U.S. and other nations.

**National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH):** The lead federal agency for research on mental disorders.

**US Department of Education:** Federal agency dedicated to promoting student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.