

College is Opportunity



NASPA Conferences on Student Success in Higher Education

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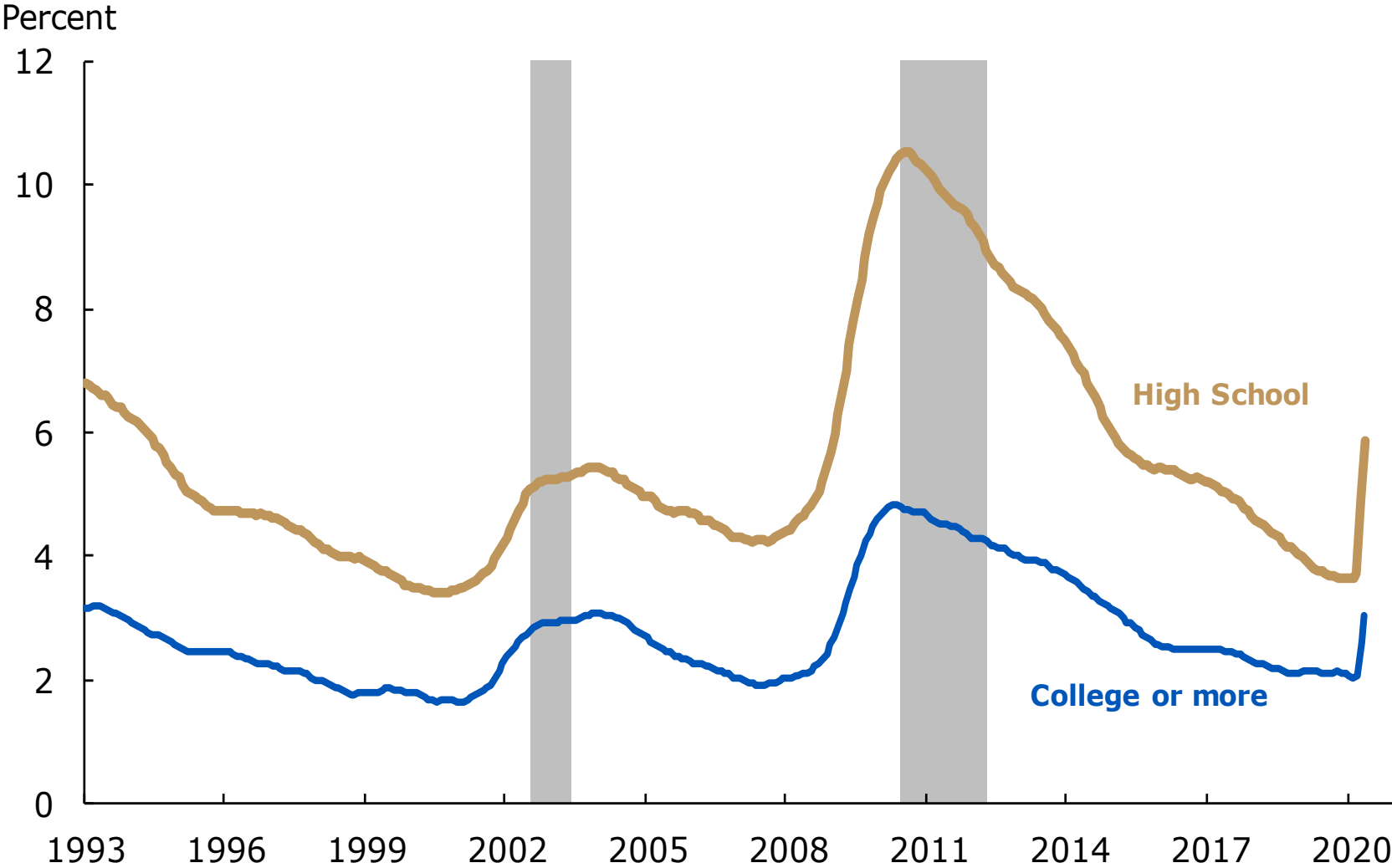
Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

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College is protective

Graduates have lower unemployment rates

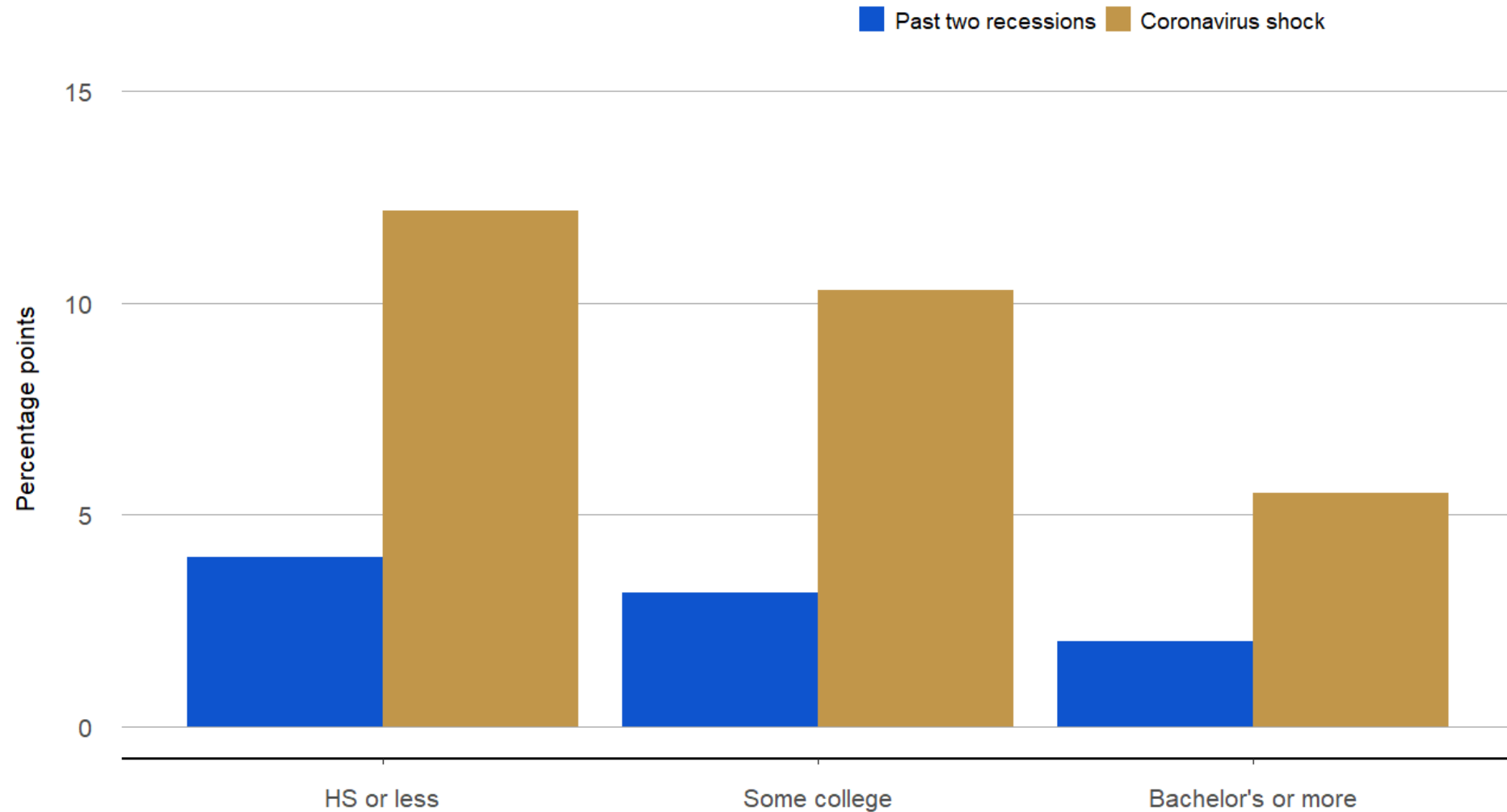
Unemployment rate by educational attainment



Source: BLS/Haver Analytics. Note: Unemployment rate shown is a 12 month moving average.

And insurance against economic shocks

Changes in unemployment rate during recessions, 1992-2020



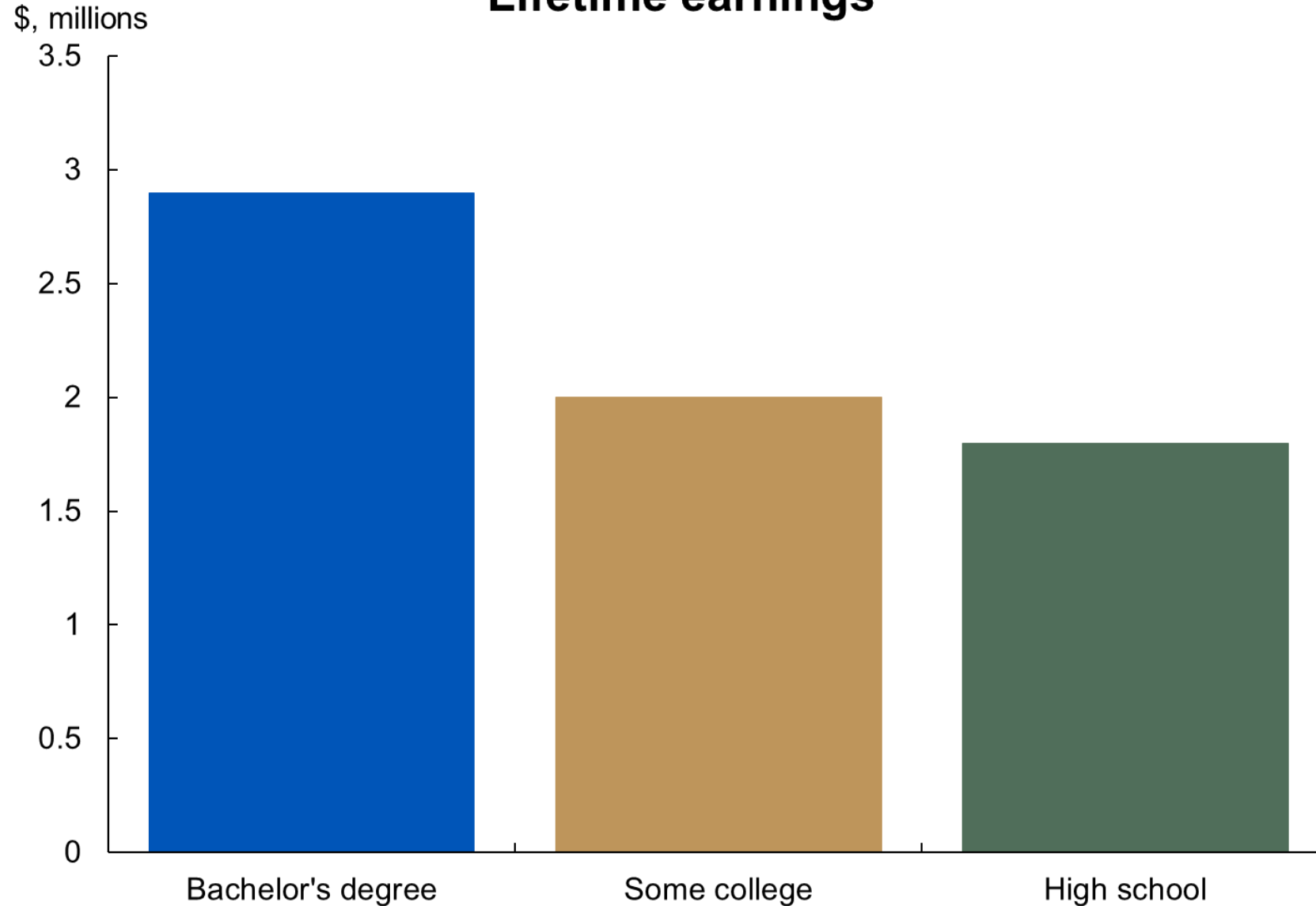
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Note: Past two recession values are averaged from 2000-2001 recession and Great Recession. Coronavirus shock values are from February to May 2020.

College is an investment

Graduates earn more

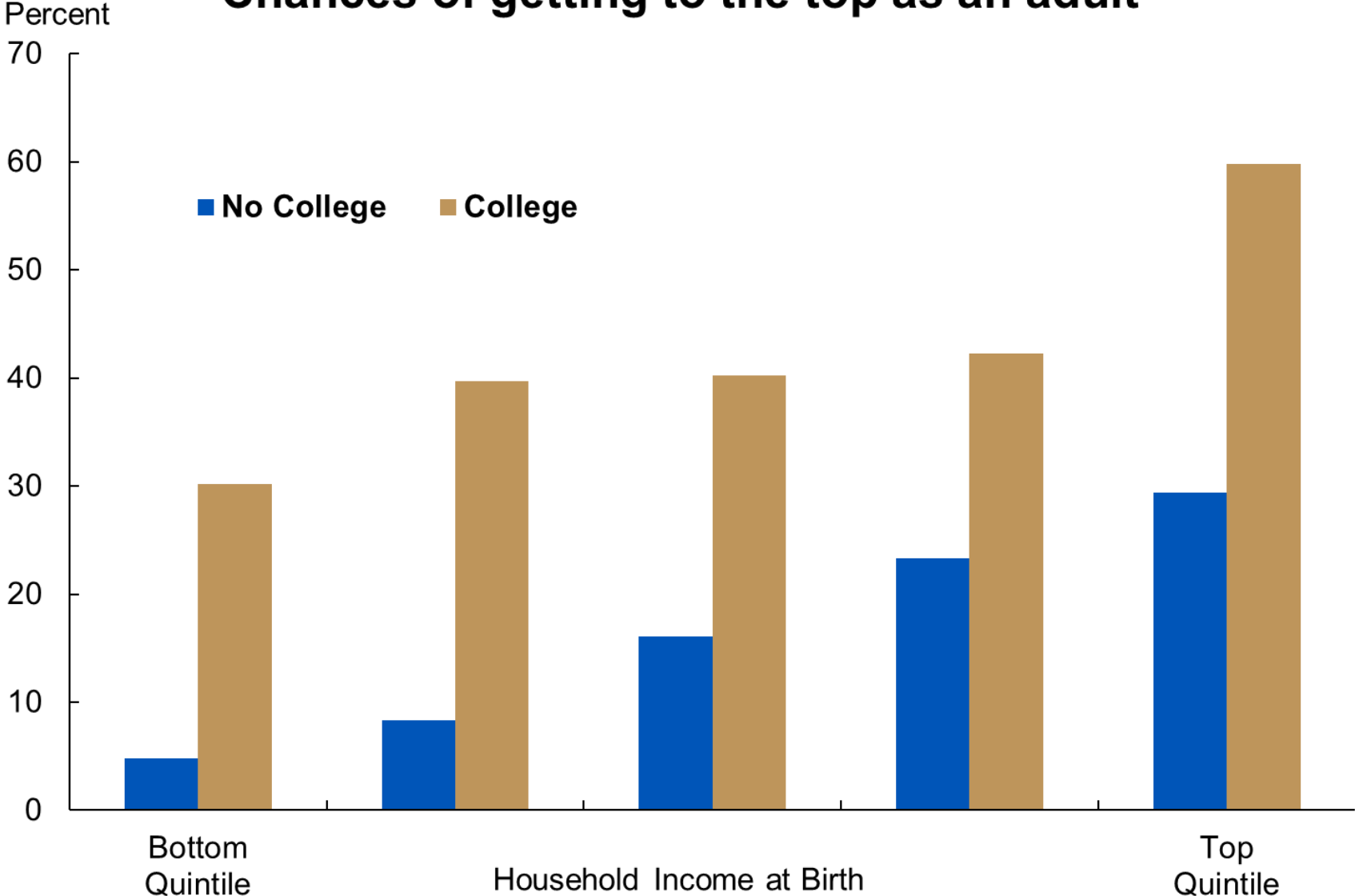
Lifetime earnings



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of New York - Abel. Notes: Average, full-time workers.

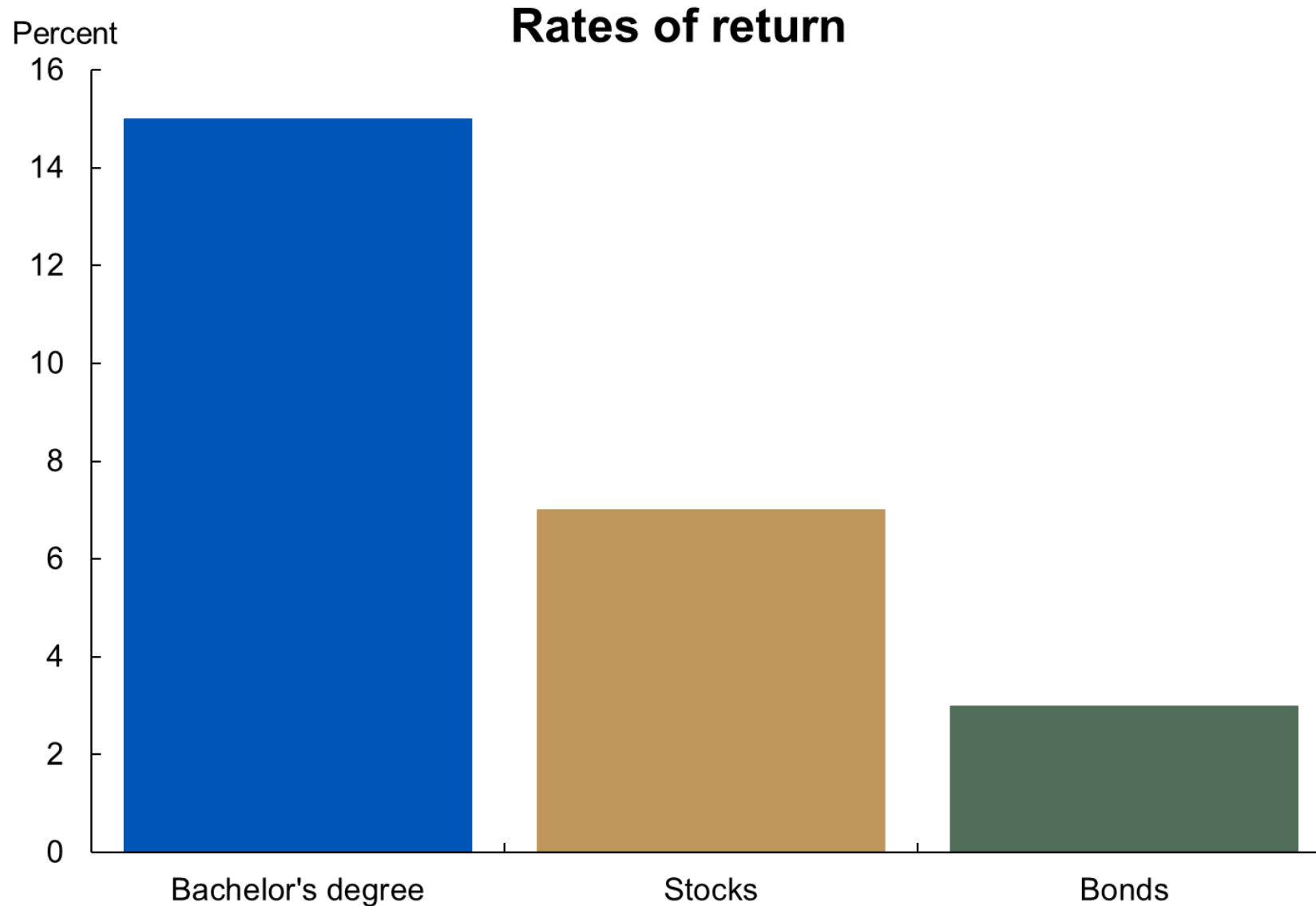
Graduates have greater economic mobility

Chances of getting to the top as an adult



Source: PSID and author's calculations. Note: Percent of people who make it to the top quintile of the income distribution.

Degrees earn a competitive return

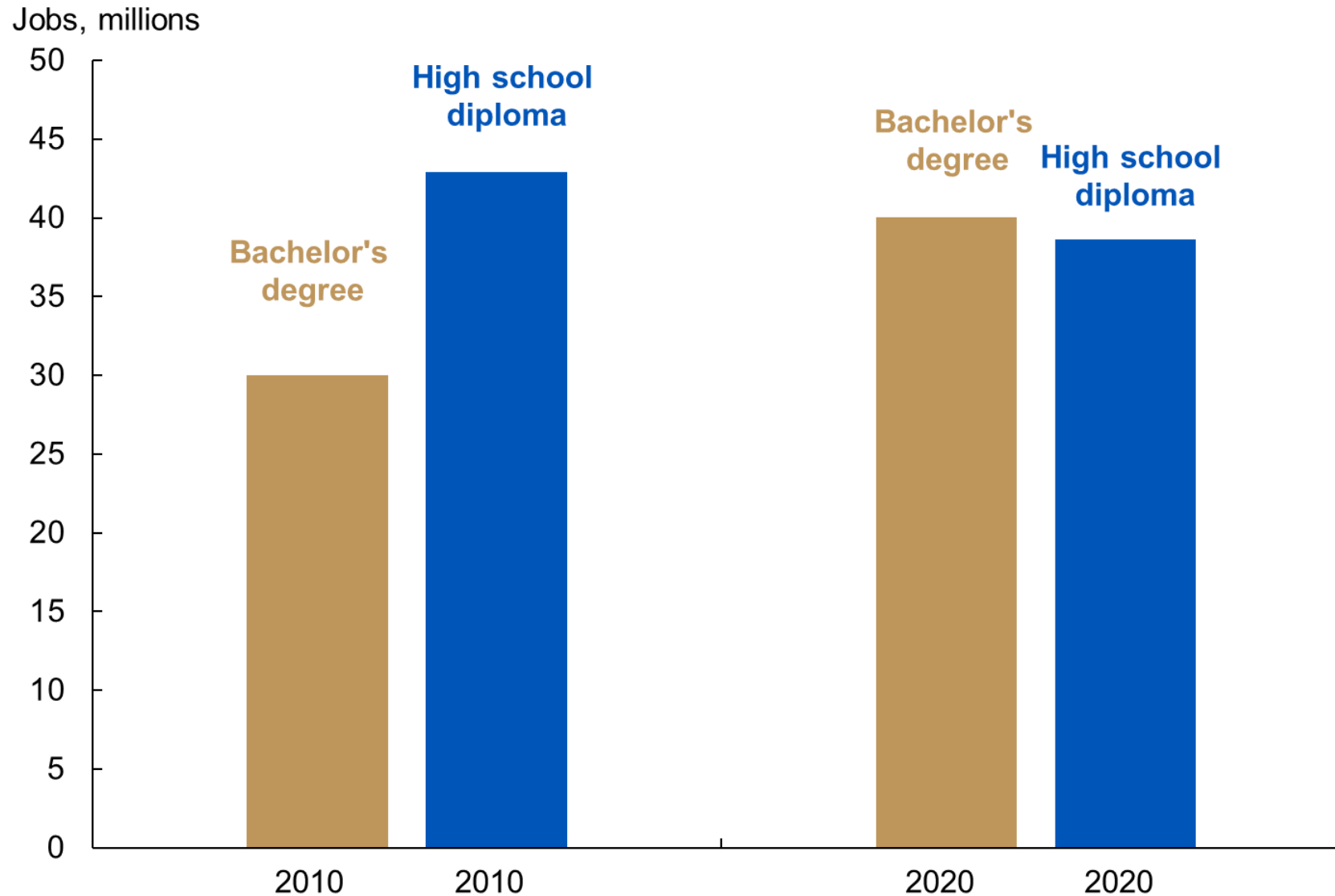


Source: FRBNY- Abel. Note: The rate of return for a bachelor's degree is defined as the average internal rate of return (the discount rate required to make the net present value equal to 0) in 2012. Stock and bond returns are average annual returns since 1950.

College is our future

Demand for college degrees is rising

Demand for jobs by educational attainment

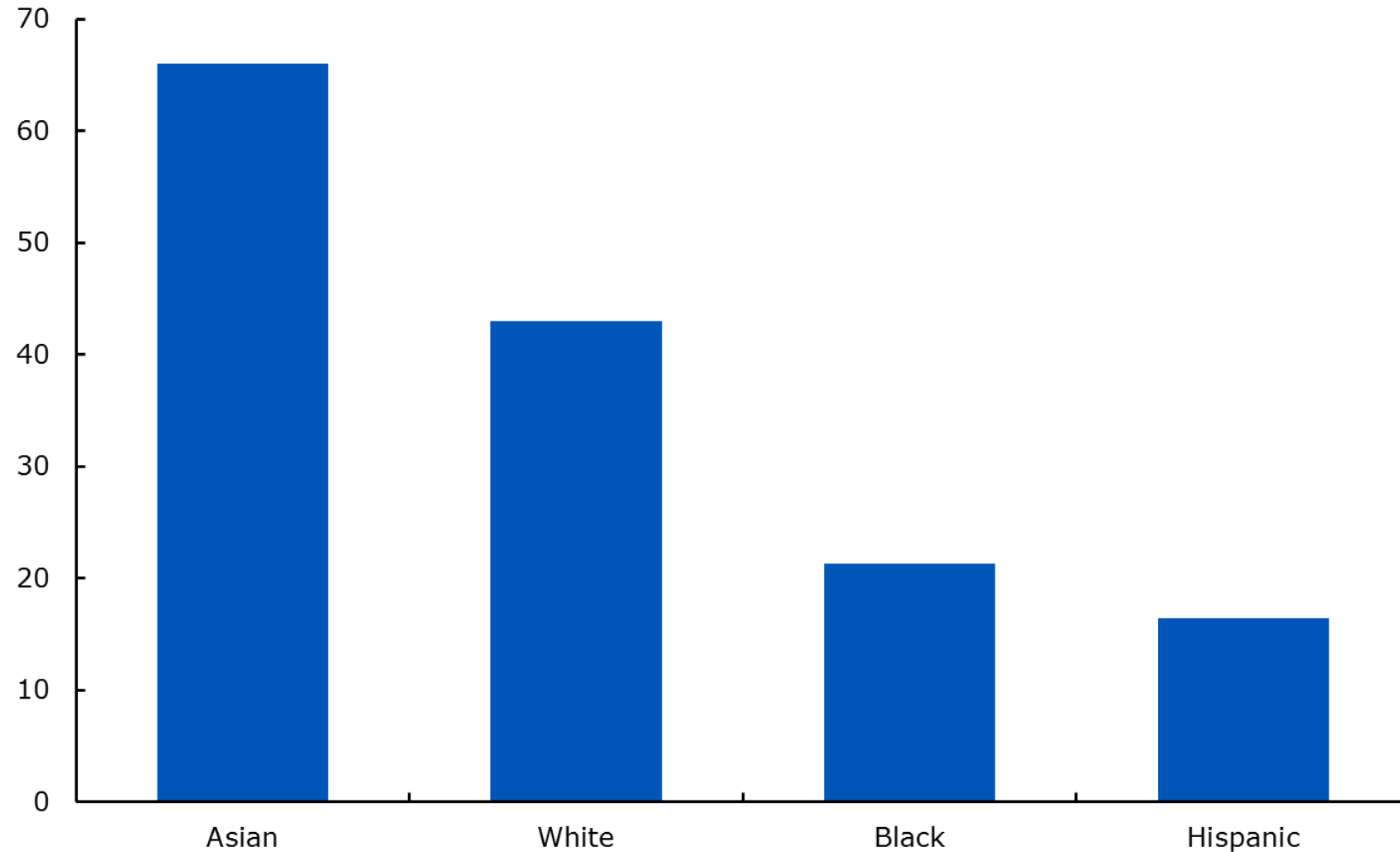


Source: Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce

But too many are left behind

Percentage of 25-29 year olds with at least a Bachelor's degree by race/ethnicity in 2015

Percent



Source: National Center for Educational Statistics

Closing gaps benefits everyone

Improves potential economic growth

- Employ more of working age population
- Increase the skill level of the workforce

Protects the *American Dream*

- Aspirations need evidence

References

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