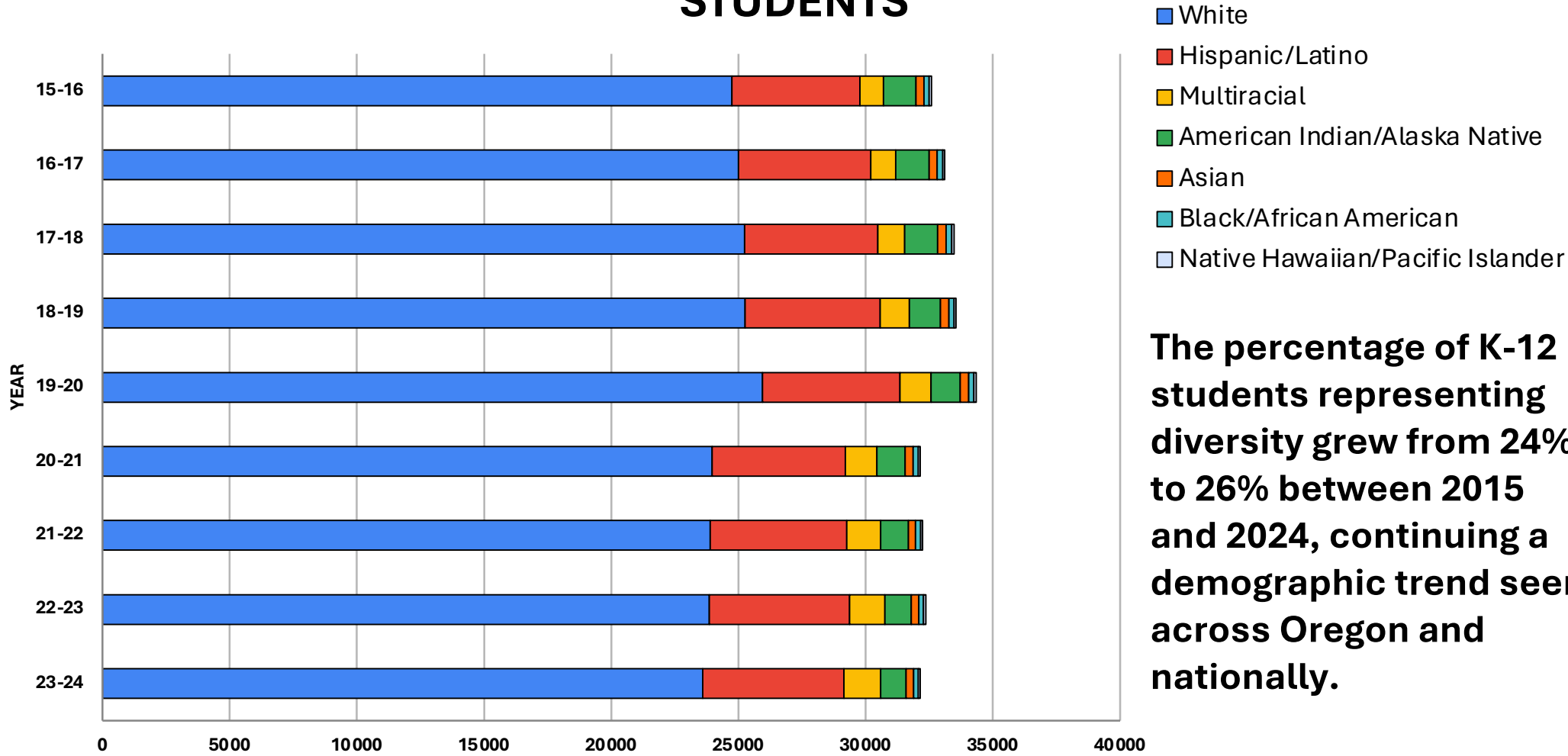


TODAY: COCC and OSU-Cascades: Hub, Heart and Drivers of Central Oregon



- Dr. Laurie Chesley, President of Central Oregon Community College
- Sherman “Sherm” Bloomer, Chancellor and Dean of OSU-Cascades
- Moderated by: Emily Cureton Cook, OPB Central Oregon Bureau Chief

DIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OREGON ENROLLED K-12 STUDENTS



The percentage of K-12 students representing diversity grew from 24% to 26% between 2015 and 2024, continuing a demographic trend seen across Oregon and nationally.

Source: High Desert Education Service District

In 2022, the national unemployment rate was **3.5%**. For those with only a high school diploma, their unemployment rate was **4.0%**

For individuals who had obtained an **Associate's (two-year) degree** as their highest educational achievement, their unemployment rate was **2.7%**.

For individuals who had obtained a **Bachelor's (four-year) degree** as their highest educational achievement, their unemployment rate was **2.2%**.

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2023). bls.gov/emp/tables/unemployment-earnings-education.htm. Data are for persons age 25 and over. Earnings are for full-time wage and salary workers.

Source: Current Population Survey, U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

In 2021, for 25- to 34-year-olds who worked full time, year-round, higher educational attainment was associated with higher median earnings.

The **median annual earnings of high school diploma** completers was **\$39,700**.

The **median annual earnings of Associate's** degree completers was **\$45,000**.

The **median annual earnings of Bachelor's** degree completers was **\$61,600**.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics. (2023, May). Annual Earnings by Educational Attainment Report.

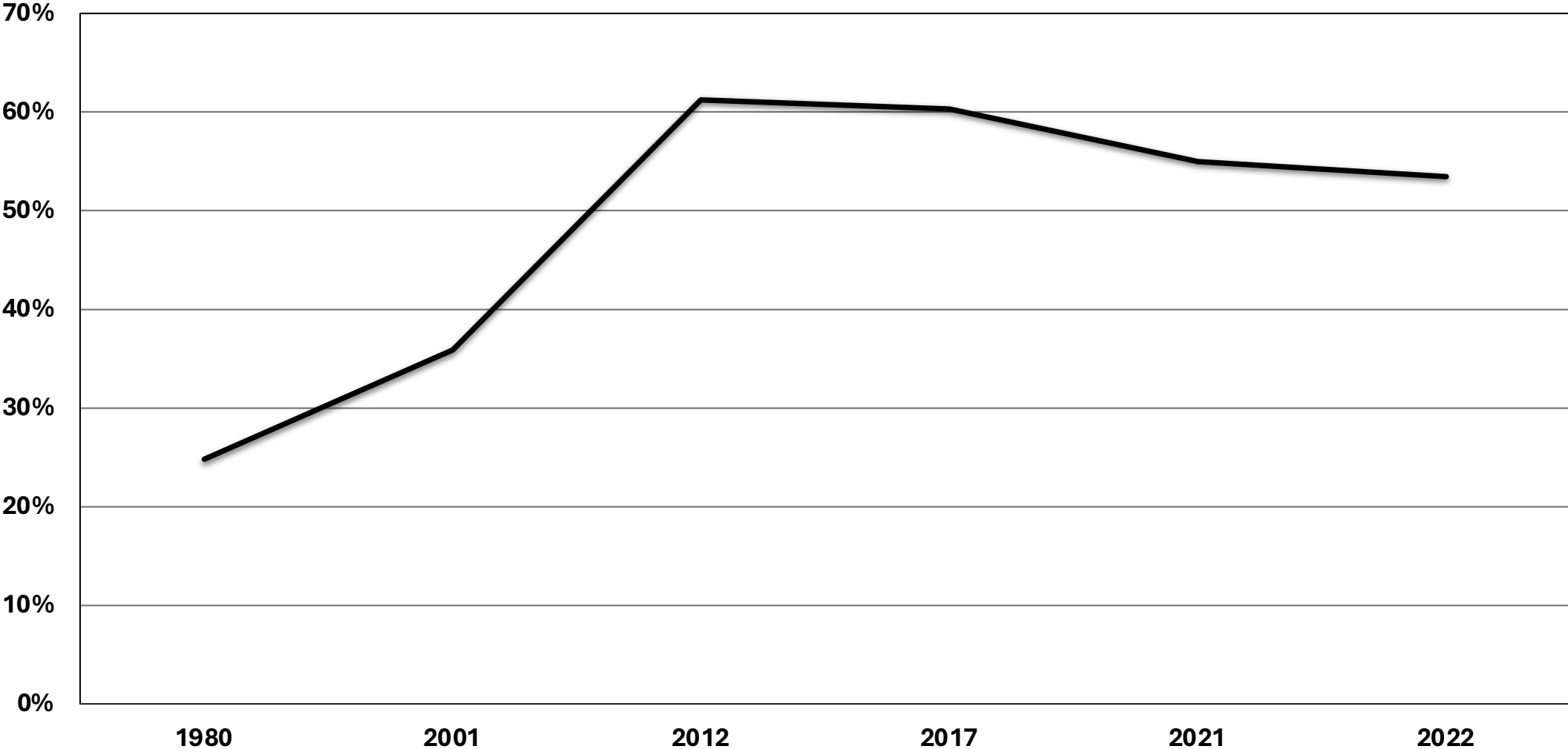
A 2021 Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce report found median lifetime earnings of full-time workers by level of education:

High school diploma: **\$1.6 million**

Associate's degree: **\$2 million,**
equivalent to \$50k annually

Bachelor's degree: **\$2.8 million,**
equivalent to \$70k annually

Student/Family Share of Public University Tuition OREGON



Source STATE HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCE (SHEF)