

NASEM – REGIONAL STEMM WORKFORCE NEEDS IN THE WAKE OF COVID-19



Panel 3: Higher Education's Role in Economic Mobility

October 22, 2020

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What is special about Riverside and the Inland Empire in terms of economic development?

- Uniquely positioned to address grand challenges in sustainability facing the state and nation
- Long tradition in innovations in air quality research, agriculture, natural resources, logistics, energy and climate change
- Social mobility, diversity, equity, and inclusion are hallmark features of our higher education institutions, including in STEMM-related fields
- Several regional Opportunity Zones and Innovation Districts initiatives, which leverage relationships with public, private, and philanthropic partners



Our most innovative contributions are likely to emerge from the interplay of our historical strengths in research and education, combined with the pressing need to address challenges posed by population growth and environmental sustainability

Some important investments

- **\$400M** California's Air Resources Board (CARB) engine emissions testing and research facility to open in Riverside in 2021 (~**450** high-paying jobs)
- **\$1.3 Billion** in UCR research investments since 2010; **\$475M** has been in STEM-related fields
- Life Science (wet-lab) Incubator, the first in the region, built with **\$2.5M** Federal and **\$1M** State funds
- Unparalleled testbed facilities for product, technology validation, and environmental impact already in place
- **Opportunities to Advance Sustainability, Innovation and Social Inclusion (OASIS) Project**
A sustainability innovation park that anchors a cluster of diverse stakeholders and leverages partnerships with workforce development in the area



\$150M LEED Platinum-certified
Multidisciplinary Research Building (MRB)
Award Recipient from Keep Riverside Clean and Beautiful

Some programs

EPIC–SBDC Regional Small Business Development Center for undergrad, grad, faculty and region's entrepreneurs

- Women Talk Tech Conference
- Founder Talks
- Finance Fridays
- SBIR/STTR Annual Conference
- Angel Network Development

Half of startups have no women on their leadership teams

Launchpad @ UCR – Focus on Undergrads

- Social Innovation Path – to diversify the pipeline of student entrepreneurs
- Speaker Series – featuring female founders and multiple social entrepreneurs
- Connect'R – a platform for students to connect, join startups, and access resources

NSF Funded Workshops and Entrepreneurship Training

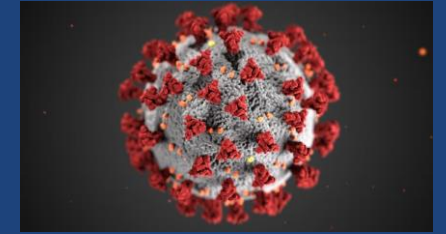
Entrepreneurship Certificates

International Know Hub Ignition Program with Chile



Technology + COVID accelerated changes in the economy

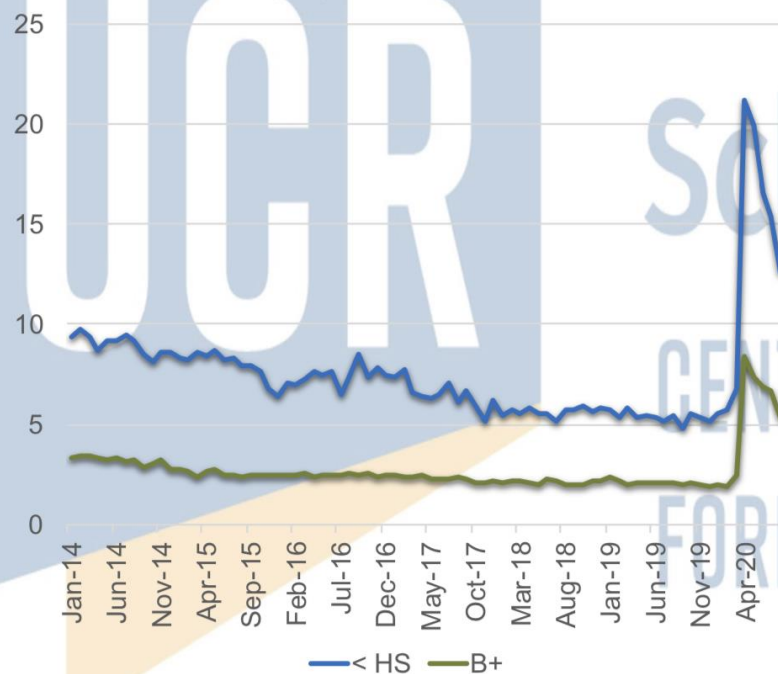
Disproportional impact of COVID-19 on jobs



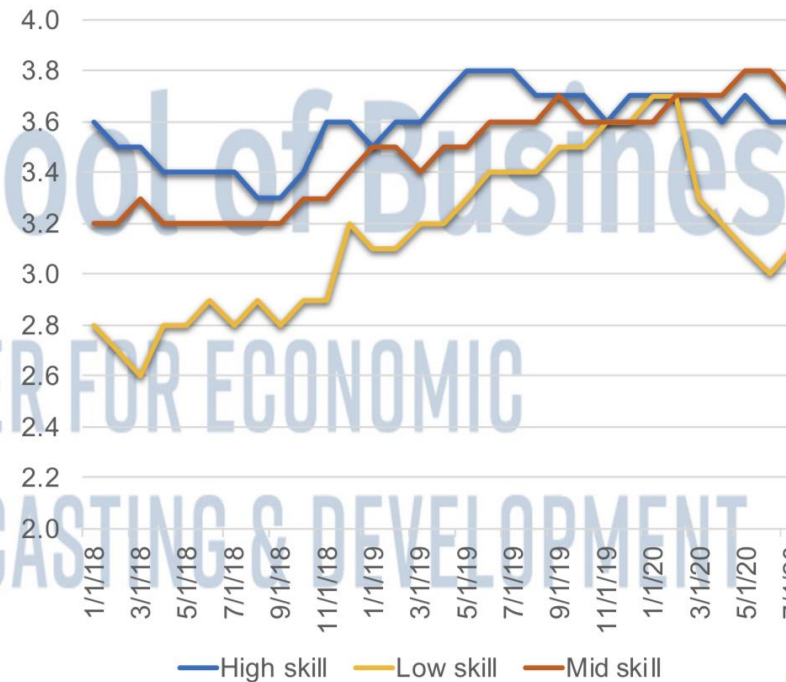
Credit: Alissa Eckert, MSMI; Dan Higgins, MAMS

K-Shaped Recovery?

Unemployment by Education



Wage Growth by Occupation



**We must redouble
our efforts in
workforce training
to bridge these gaps**

UCR Center for Economic Forecasting & Development

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