

LATINO COLLEGE COMPLETION: UNITED STATES

For the U.S. to regain the top ranking in the world for college degree attainment, Latinos will need to earn 6.1 million more degrees by 2020.

EAST FACTS

K-12 POPULATION

In the United States, **25%** of the K-12 population was **Latino**.²

POPULATION

In the United States, **18%** of the population was **Latino**.³ Projections show a continued increase.

MEDIAN AGE

The median age of Latinos in the United States was 28, compared to 43 for White non-Hispanics.⁴



DEGREE ATTAINMENT

In the United States, 22% of Latino adults (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to 39% of all adults.⁵

Latino Adults = 2.2 of 10



All Adults = 3.9 of 10

To reach the degree attainment goal by 2020, the U.S. can: 1) close the equity gap in college completion; 2) increase the number of degrees conferred; and, 3) scale up programs and initiatives that work for Latino and other students. The following is a framework for tracking Latino degree attainment in the United States.

ENROLLING: Top 5 institutions (Hispanic Undergraduates) in the United States, 2014-15

	Institution	State	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Miami Dade College	FL	Public, 4-year	66,046	44,870	68
2	South Texas College	TX	Public, 4-year	30,180	28,206	93
3	Florida International University	FL	Public, 4-year	41,009	27,451	67
4	East Los Angeles College	CA	Public, 2-year	36,012	24,235	67
5	El Paso Community College	TX	Public, 2-year	28,308	24,203	85

ASSOCIATE DEGREES: Top 5 institutions awarding to Hispanics in the United States, 2014-15

	Institution	State	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Miami Dade College	FL	Public, 4-year	10,318	6,978	68
2	South Texas College	TX	Public, 4-year	3,179	2,963	93
3	El Paso Community College	TX	Public, 2-year	3,214	2,736	85
4	Valencia College	FL	Public, 4-year	7,625	2,341	31
5	Central New Mexico Community College	NM	Public, 2-year	4,974	2,172	44

BACHELOR DEGREES: Top 5 institutions awarding to Hispanics in the United States, 2014-15

	Institution	State	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Florida International University	FL	Public, 4-year	8,494	5,754	68
2	California State University-Fullerton	CA	Public, 4-year	7,725	2,704	35
3	The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	TX	Public, 4-year	2,984	2,654	89
4	University of Central Florida	FL	Public, 4-year	12,629	2,615	21
5	The University of Texas at El Paso	TX	Public, 4-year	3,262	2,614	80

Source: *Excelencia in Education* analysis using Institutional Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2014-2015 enrollment and completions data, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), U.S. Department of Education

United States Equity Gap in Degree Completion

Closing the equity gap in college completion can be tracked by the 3 measures provided below. Alone, none of these measures capture the entire “story” of equity in degree completion. However, in combination, they provide a useful picture of the equity gap in degree attainment between Latino and White cohorts in the United States in a single year (2014-15).

Graduation rates — Total graduation within 150% percent of program time for first-time, full-time freshman

Completions per 100 FTE students — Total undergraduate degrees and certificates awarded per 100 full-time equivalent students (incorporates part-time students)

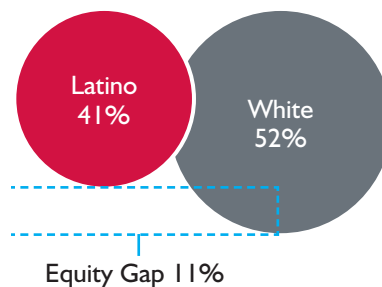
Completions Relative to the Population in Need — Total undergraduate degrees and certificates awarded per 1,000 adults 25 years and older relative to the adult population with no college degree

DEGREE ATTAINMENT

Percentage of Latino adults in the United States (25 and older) with an associate degree or higher, compared to all adults in the United States.⁵



GRADUATION RATES: 2014-15



COMPLETIONS PER 100 FTE



POPULATION IN NEED



Examples of What Works for Latino Students

There are institutions that are showing success in enrolling, retaining, and graduating Latino students. The following are examples of institutional programs across the country with evidence of effectiveness in serving Latino students nominated for Examples of *Excelencia*.

Valencia Community College’s DirectConnect is a transfer initiative that increases college transition and access where students receive preferential and concurrent admission to the University of Central Florida (UCF). This program places emphasis on the student

experience, smooth transition from college to university, shared-use of facilities, and strong academic programs/services. Valencia’s Hispanic graduation rates over the last decade have outpaced the rate for all of the other students, increasing from 33% to 45%.

For more information on institutional programs improving Latino student success in higher education, access *Excelencia in Education’s Growing What Works* database at <http://www.edexcelencia.org/growing-what-works>

1 U.S. Census Bureau, *Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin for the United States, States, and Counties: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2016*, PEPSR6H, Release Date: June 2017; Retrieved August 2017, www.census.gov.

2 K-12 data: U.S. Census Bureau, *2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

3 Median Age data: U.S. Census Bureau, *2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*

4 Degree Attainment data: U.S. Census Bureau, *2015 American Community Survey*

5 Top 5 Enrolling data: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education System (IPEDS): Fall 2014 Enrollment (final release January 2017)

6 Top 5 Graduating data: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education System (IPEDS): Completion Rates July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015 (final release)

7 U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education System (IPEDS): Graduation Rates as of August 31, 2015 (provisional release), and 12-Month Unduplicated Headcount -2014-15 (provisional release).