

For the U.S. to regain the top ranking in the world for college degree attainment, Latinos will need to earn 6.2 million degrees by 2030.¹

FAST FACTS

STATE RANKING:

California had the **largest Latino population** in the U.S.

K-12 POPULATION:

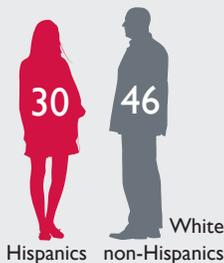
In California, **52%** of the K-12 population was **Latino**.²

POPULATION:

In California, **40%** of the population was **Latino**.²

MEDIAN AGE:

The median age of **Hispanics** in California was **30**, compared to **46** for **White non-Hispanics**.²



ENROLLMENT:

In California, **24%** of **Hispanics** (ages 18 to 34) were enrolled in higher education, compared to **25%** of **White non-Hispanics**.²

DEGREE ATTAINMENT:

In California, **22%** of **Hispanic adults** (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to **56%** of **White non-Hispanic adults**.²

Hispanic Adults = 2.2 of 10



White Adults = 5.6 of 10

To reach the degree attainment goal by 2030, the U.S. can: close the degree completion gap by accelerating Latino completion while increasing for all students and scale up programs and initiatives that work for Latino, and all, students. The following demographics, institutional data, and practices inform Latino degree attainment.

ENROLLING: Top 5 Institutions (Hispanic Undergraduates) in California, 2021-22

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	California State University-Northridge	Public, 4-year	34,436	18,543	54%
2	California State University-Fullerton	Public, 4-year	35,502	17,378	49%
3	California State University-Los Angeles	Public, 4-year	23,506	16,923	72%
4	East Los Angeles College	Public, 2-year	25,649	16,187	63%
5	California State University-Long Beach	Public, 4-year	33,765	15,812	47%

ASSOCIATE DEGREES: Top 5 Institutions Awarding to Hispanics in California, 2020-21

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Mt San Antonio College	Public, 2-year	3,186	2,016	63%
2	East Los Angeles College	Public, 2-year	2,601	2,006	77%
3	Pasadena City College	Public, 2-year	4,086	1,779	44%
4	Riverside City College	Public, 2-year	2,803	1,724	62%
5	Chaffey College	Public, 2-year	2,423	1,562	64%

BACHELOR DEGREES: Top 5 Institutions Awarding to Hispanics in California, 2020-21

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	California State University-Northridge	Public, 4-year	9,370	4,280	46%
2	California State University-Fullerton	Public, 4-year	9,750	4,164	43%
3	California State University-Long Beach	Public, 4-year	8,915	4,006	45%
4	California State University-Los Angeles	Public, 4-year	5,708	3,760	66%
5	California State Polytechnic University-Pomona	Public, 4-year	6,506	2,952	45%

NOTE: We use the terms Latino and Hispanic interchangeably in this factsheet.

Source: *Excelencia in Education* analysis using U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2021 Fall Enrollment, Graduation Rates Survey and Institutional Characteristics Survey.

¹ Projections to 2030: *Excelencia in Education*. (2020). Ensuring America's Future: Benchmarking Latino College Completion to 2030. *Excelencia in Education*. Washington, D.C.

² U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

California Gap in Degree Completion

Closing the degree completion gap can be tracked by the 4 measures shown below. Alone, none of these measures capture the entire “story” of degree completion. However, in combination, they provide a useful picture of the gap in degree attainment between Hispanic and White non-Hispanic cohorts in a single year.

Graduation Rate — Total percentage of students who graduated within 150% of normal time for first-time, full-time freshmen. This incorporates students that graduated in 3 years at two-year institutions, or in 6 years at four-year institutions.

Transferred to Another Institution — Percentage of students that transferred to another institution and did not complete a degree.

Still Enrolled — Percentage of students that are still enrolled at the point of 150% normal time to completion.

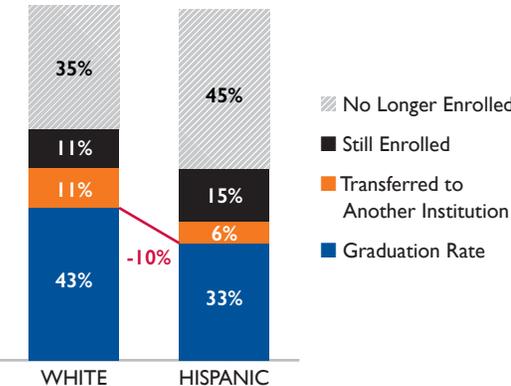
No Longer Enrolled — Percentage of students that are no longer enrolled at the point of 150% normal time to completion.

DEGREE OUTCOMES

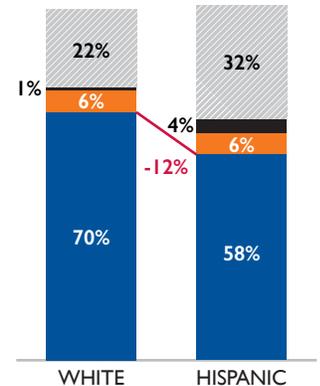
At two-year institutions, Hispanics' graduation rate was **10%-points lower** than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in California.

At four-year institutions, Hispanics' graduation rate was **12%-points lower** than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in California.

TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS



FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS



*Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

NOTE: Outcomes shown are for students at two-year institutions who started in Fall 2018, and for students at four-year institutions who started in Fall 2015.

Source: *Excelencia in Education* analysis using the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 2021 Graduation Rates Survey and the Institutional Characteristics Survey.

Examples of What Works for Latino Students

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

The University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA) **Center for Community College Partnerships (CCCCP)** works to increase transfer rates and success of underserved community college populations by enhancing transfer-sending and transfer-receptive culture. CCCC holistically equips students with skills and knowledge of available transfer pathways to empower them to become self-advocates and leaders in their communities. CCCC began in 2001 to create programs to inform, motivate, and prepare students to transfer. Summer Programs were developed to address pipeline issues, motivate, and prepare students to be competitive at top research universities. The Scholars program begins with a summer program & continues through the academic year with meetings and workshops focused on keeping the student on a transfer pathway.

The Scholars program has grown from 150 students in two 3-day programs to over 700 students in 12 programs. In Fall 2018, 48% (92 of 193) of Latino CCCC participants were admitted to UCLA compared to the general transfer admit rate of 23%. A majority of CCCC participants (75% to 85%) are admitted to one of the other 8 UC campuses. Approximately 95% of participants are admitted to a bachelor's granting institution. In 2017-18, 75% (337 of 449) of Latinx participants completed transfer requirements. Approximately 90% of participants who transfer to UCLA or other UC institutions graduate within 3 years after transferring. The Fall 2015 Cohort included 25 Latinx students, and 19 graduated by 2018, with the remaining students continuing to persist.

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>