

# LATINO COLLEGE COMPLETION: WASHINGTON – 2023

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.<sup>1</sup>

## FAST FACTS

### STATE RANKING:

Washington had the 13th largest Latino population in the U.S.

### K-12 POPULATION:

In Washington, 22% of the K-12 population was Latino.<sup>2</sup>

### POPULATION:

In Washington, 14% of the population was Latino.<sup>2</sup>

### MEDIAN AGE:

The median age of Hispanics in Washington was 26, compared to 43 for White non-Hispanics.<sup>2</sup>



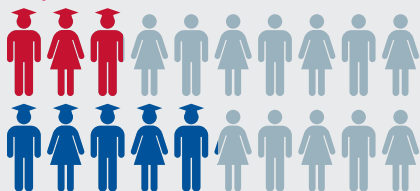
### ENROLLMENT:

In Washington, 18% of Hispanics (ages 18 to 34) were enrolled in higher education, compared to 18% of White non-Hispanics.<sup>2</sup>

### DEGREE ATTAINMENT:

In Washington, 28% of Hispanic adults (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to 51% of White non-Hispanic adults.<sup>2</sup>

Hispanic Adults = 2.8 of 10



White Adults = 5.1 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 Washington, 2021-22

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Washington State University	Public, 4-year	23,966	3,843	16%
2	University of Washington-Seattle Campus	Public, 4-year	31,367	2,949	9%
3	Columbia Basin College	Public, 4-year	5,301	2,403	45%
4	Central Washington University	Public, 4-year	9,508	1,752	18%
5	Yakima Valley College	Public, 4-year	2,761	1,588	58%

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

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Columbia Basin College	Public, 4-year	1,364	587	43%
2	Yakima Valley College	Public, 4-year	783	435	56%
3	Pierce College District	Public, 4-year	1,576	240	15%
4	Wenatchee Valley College	Public, 4-year	643	236	37%
5	Bellevue College	Public, 4-year	2,211	214	10%

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

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Washington State University	Public, 4-year	6,157	924	15%
2	University of Washington-Seattle Campus	Public, 4-year	8,100	685	8%
3	Central Washington University	Public, 4-year	2,756	456	17%
4	Western Washington University	Public, 4-year	3,427	350	10%
5	Eastern Washington University	Public, 4-year	2,191	334	15%

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.

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

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

## Washington 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.

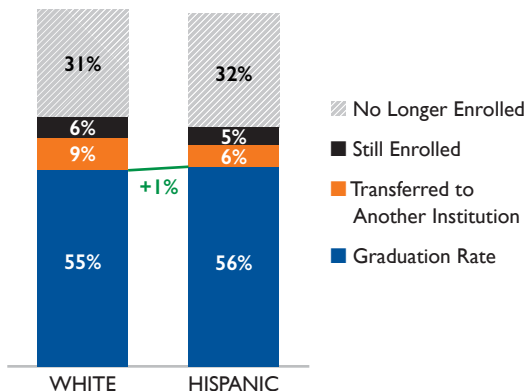
**Transferred to Another Institution** — Percentage of students that transferred to another institution and did not complete a degree.

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

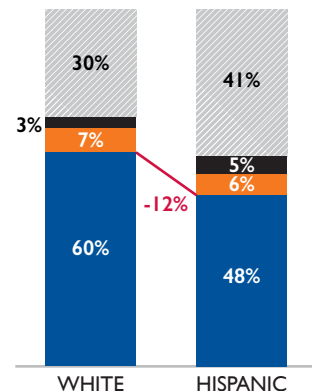
**No Longer Enrolled** — Percentage of students that are no longer enrolled at the point of 150% normal time to completion.

DEGREE OUTCOMES	
At two-year institutions, Hispanics' graduation rate was <b>1%-point higher</b> than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in Washington.	At four-year institutions, Hispanics' graduation rate was <b>12%-points lower</b> than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in Washington.

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*.

Washington State University's **College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)**'s mission is to improve the lives of migrant or seasonal farmworkers (MSFW) and their families through higher education attainment. CAMP's claim is that qualified and motivated MSFW students, who participate in WSU CAMP and actively seek opportunities to engage with the university community will successfully complete their freshman year (24 credits) and be retained as they continue to their sophomore year. Additionally, students receive non-monetary support from CAMP staff during the entirety of their academic careers to reach the ultimate goal of graduation. In 2006, Latinx undergraduate enrollment at WSU was at about 1000 of 19,000 students - about 5% of the student body. This low number of Latinx students prompted the university to strategically provide programming which targeted Latinx student success. CAMP was part of this strategy. CAMP is housed within Student Affairs with the intent to easily connect students to other service departments. WSU CAMP has evolved to include priority registration for classes, personalized academic coaching, a Spanish

language parent-centric orientation, collaboration with other institutions, departments, and constituents for a regional leadership conference, a weekend personal development retreat, the inclusion of a career development course, and increased financial assistance (\$1000 stipend).

Students participating in CAMP are more likely to graduate compared to the control group, Latinx students not participating in CAMP, and the general student population at WSU. WSU CAMP has averaged 90% first-year completion of 24 credits, and 98% retention Fall-to-Fall for freshmen completing 24 credits over the past ten (10) years. This performance is significant compared to WSU's general New Freshmen Full-Time Student Fall-to-Fall retention rate of 79%, and all other Fall-to-Fall full-time, minority, low income, and first-generation students of 75%. The WSU CAMP Graduation Rate for 4 - 6 years is 13% higher than the general WSU population, 16% higher than the control group made up of migrant or seasonal farm working qualified students, and 19% higher than the general Latinx student population.

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>