



# Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs): 2018-19 At a Glance

**REPRESENTATION**  
Emerging Undergraduate Location  
**ENROLLMENT** Private 2-year  
**GROWTH DIVERSITY**  
Institutions of 4-year Latino GRADUATE  
Higher Education ETHNICITY  
CONCENTRATED GEOGRAPHICALLY Full-time  
**RACE 25%+ Public**  
Highly Populated Areas

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*The authors are solely responsible for the content and any errors in this publication.*

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*Excelencia in Education* accelerates Latino student success in higher education by promoting Latino student achievement, conducting analysis to inform educational policies, and advancing institutional practices while collaborating with those committed and ready to meet our mission. Launched in 2004 in the nation's capital, *Excelencia* is building a network of results-oriented educators and policymakers to address the U.S. economy's need for a highly educated workforce and engaged civic leadership. For more information, visit: [www.EdExcelencia.org](http://www.EdExcelencia.org).

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## **Introduction**

*Excelencia* in Education accelerates Latino student success in higher education by providing data-driven analysis of the educational status of Latinos, and by promoting education policies and institutional practices that support their academic achievement.

A critical group of institutions enrolling and graduating Latino students are Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs). HSIs are defined in federal law as accredited and degree-granting public or private not-for-profit institutions of higher education with 25 percent or more total undergraduate Hispanic full-time equivalent (FTE) student enrollment. These institutions were first recognized in federal law in 1994.<sup>1</sup>

*Excelencia* in Education has conducted analysis on HSIs since 2004 and releases the list of institutions meeting the basic definition every year. In addition, *Excelencia* popularized the consideration of Emerging HSIs and information on HSIs with graduate programs by releasing annual lists on these institutions as well. Information on these institutions is available at our website: <http://www.edexcelencia.org/>.

## **Overview**

This compilation provides ten one-page fact sheets on HSIs for 2018-19 using *Excelencia* in Education’s analysis of U.S. Department of Education, NCES, IPEDS, 2018-19 Institutional Characteristics and Fall Enrollment surveys.

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<sup>1</sup> Summary of Title V of the Higher Education Act, as amended in 2008. To be eligible for the “Developing HSIs Program”, the law further requires that an HSI have a high enrollment of needy students and low educational and general expenditures.

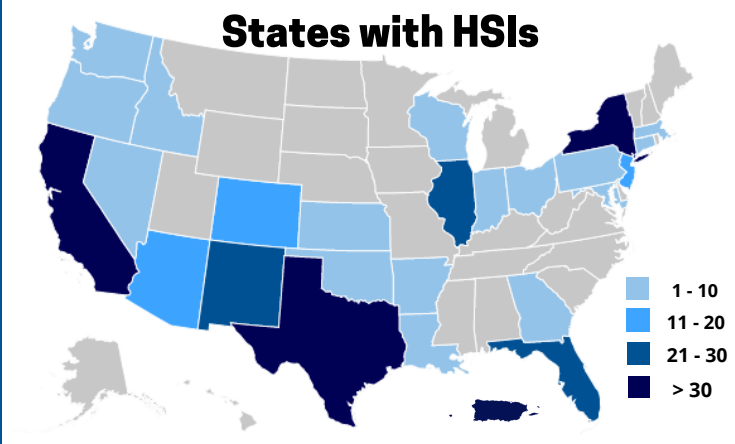
**HSI Infographic**

**HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS (HSIs)  
2018-2019: FAST FACTS**

<p><b>539</b> Number of HSIs</p>	<p><b>17%</b> of all institutions meet HSI definition</p>	<p><b>67%</b> of all Latinos attend an HSI</p>
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**Geography**

**States with HSIs**




**27** states, including D.C. and Puerto Rico, have HSIs

**Growth**



**93%** increase in HSIs over the last 10 years

**Sector**



**43%** are public 2-years,  
**54%** are 4-years

## HSI Fact Sheet

The mission of *Excelencia* in Education is to accelerate Latino student success in higher education. A critical group of institutions enrolling and graduating Latino students are Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

### History and Definition

In the 1980s, leaders recognized a small set of institutions enrolled a large percentage of Latino students but had limited resources to educate these students. The classification of Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) formally recognized these institutions for capacity-building and other support.

Federal law defines HSIs as accredited, degree-granting public or private not-for-profit institutions of higher education with 25 percent or more total undergraduate Hispanic full-time equivalent student (FTE) enrollment.<sup>1</sup> To create this list, *Excelencia* uses the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), which is maintained by the U.S. Department of Education. The information presented below is the most recent data as of March 2020.<sup>2</sup>

### Overview: 2018-19

- **HSIs represent a small segment of higher education.** There are 539 HSIs, representing 17% of all colleges and universities.
- **HSIs enroll the majority of Latino undergraduates.** Two-thirds (67%) of all Latino full-time and part-time undergraduates are enrolled at HSIs.
- **The number of HSIs is growing.** Over the last 10 years, HSIs have grown from 280 to 539 (93%).
- **Latino representation at HSIs is high.** Almost half of students enrolled at HSIs (46%) are Latino.

### Location

- **HSIs are geographically concentrated.** HSIs are located in 25 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. California has the most HSIs (176), followed by Texas (96), Puerto Rico (60), and New York (34).
- **States not generally known for having large Latino populations have HSIs.** Arkansas, District of Columbia, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Ohio, and Wisconsin each have one HSI.
- **The majority of HSIs are located in cities or suburbs.** Over 84% of HSIs are either in the city (278) or suburbs (175) while 16% are in towns (49) or rural areas (37).

### Sector

- **A majority of HSIs are four-year institutions.** Overall, 54% of HSIs are four-year institutions (public—26%; private—28%), and 46% are two-year institutions (public—43%; private—3%).
- **The majority of HSIs are public institutions.** Overall, 69% of HSIs are public and 32% are private.

### Emerging HSIs

- **Emerging HSIs represent a growing subset of colleges and universities.** There are 352 Emerging HSIs (institutions with 15-24.9% undergraduate full-time equivalent Hispanic enrollment).
- **Over half of states have at least one Emerging HSI.** Thirty-five states, including Hawaii, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Utah have Emerging HSIs.
- **The majority of Emerging HSIs are four-year institutions.** Seventy percent are either four-year private (44%), or four-year public (26%), while 27% are two-year public, and 3% are two-year private.

### HSIs with Graduate Programs

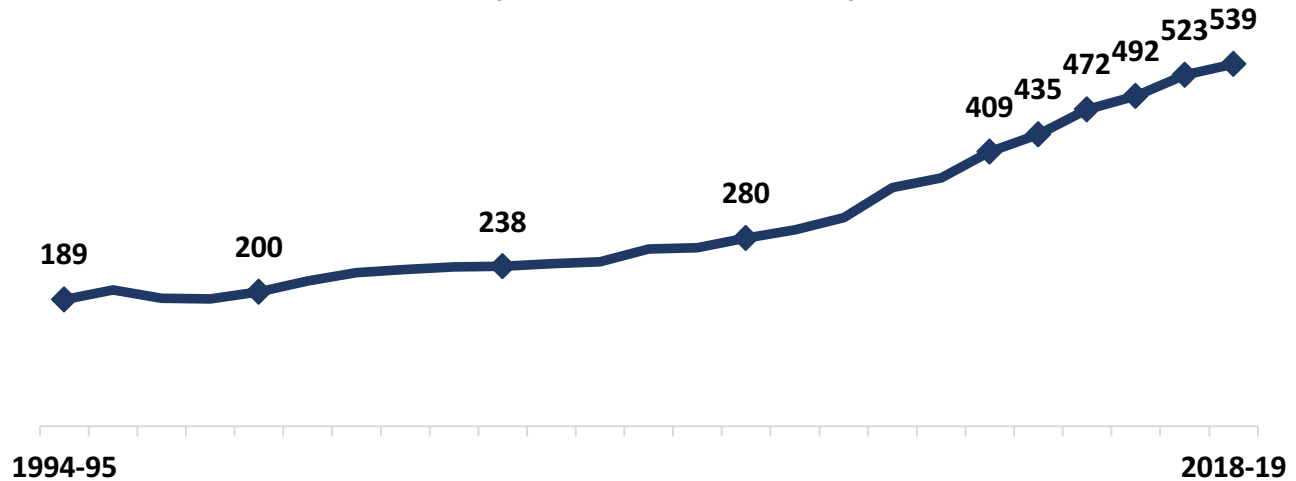
- **More than a third of HSIs offer graduate degrees.** Of the 539 HSIs, 215 offer graduate degrees (40%).
- **HSIs offering graduate degrees are concentrated geographically.** About 72% of HSIs with graduate programs are in California (58), Texas (40), Puerto Rico (38), and New York (19).

<sup>1</sup> Summary of Title V of the Higher Education Act, as amended in 2008. To be eligible for the “Developing HSIs Program”, the law further requires an HSI have a high enrollment of needy students and low core expenditures.

<sup>2</sup> **Suggested Citation:** *Excelencia* in Education. (2020). Hispanic-Serving Institutions: 2018 -19 Factsheet. *Excelencia* in Education. Washington, D.C.

## Changes Over the Years

### Growth in HSIs (1994-95 to 2018-19)



### Changes in 1 year

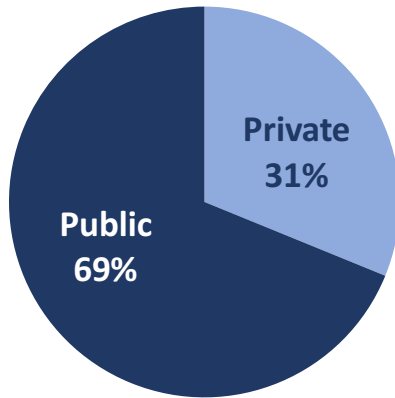
- **The number of HSIs continues to increase.** In 2018-19, 539 institutions met the enrollment definition of HSIs, an increase of 16 institutions from last year (3% increase).
- **The number of Emerging HSIs has increased.** In 2018-19, 352 institutions met the enrollment definition of an Emerging HSI, defined as institutions with 15-24.9% undergraduate Hispanic FTE enrollment, an increase of 24 institutions from last year (7% increase).
- **HSIs continue to represent a small portion of all institutions of higher education.** HSIs represented 17% of institutions in 2018-19, similar to last year.
- **HSIs continue to enroll the majority of Latino students.** In 2018-19, HSIs enrolled 67% of all Latino undergraduates, compared to 66% last year.
- **HSIs are in similar locations compared to last year.** In 2018-19, HSIs were located in 25 states, DC and Puerto Rico, similar to last year.

### Changes over 25 years

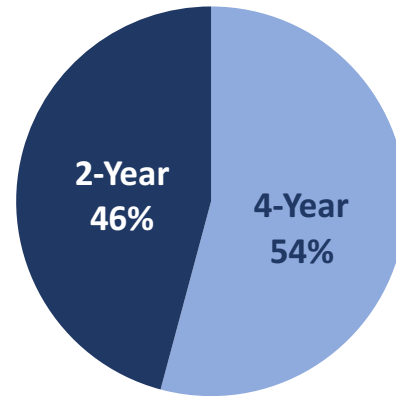
- **The number of HSIs has more than doubled over 25 years.** In 2018-19, there were 539 HSIs, compared to 189 in 1994-95 – a net increase of 350 institutions (185%).
- **Latino student enrollment at HSIs has more than quadrupled in the last 25 years.** In 2018-19, HSIs enrolled over 2.1 million Latino undergraduates, compared to 490,000 in 1994-95 – a net increase of about 1.6 million students (329%).

**At a Glance by Sector**

**Public vs. Private HSIs**



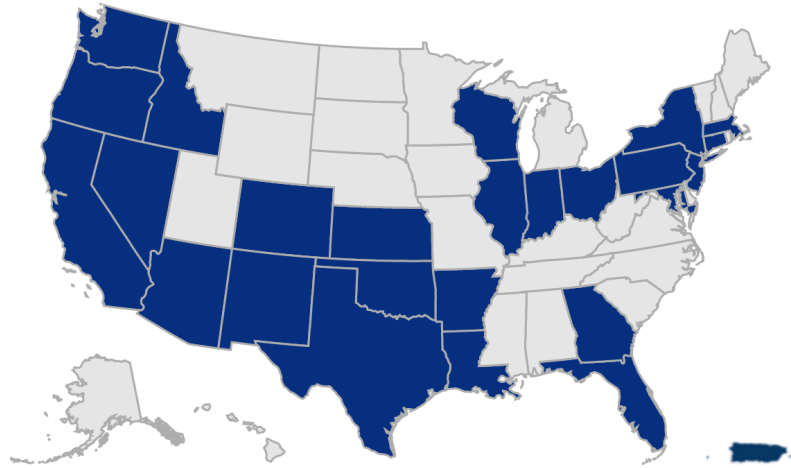
**2-Year vs. 4-Year HSIs**



- **The majority of HSIs are public institutions.** Over two-thirds (69%) of HSIs are public institutions, compared to 31% that are private not-for-profit institutions.
  - Of public HSIs, 231 are 2-year institutions, and 140 are 4-year institutions.
- **HSIs are almost evenly split between 2-year and 4-year institutions.** Just over half of all HSIs are 4-year institutions (292), and just under half are 2-year institutions (247).

Sector	# HSIs	% of HSIs*
Public, 4-year or above	140	26%
Public, 2-year	231	43%
Private not-for-profit, 4-year or above	152	28%
Private not-for-profit, 2-year	16	3%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>100%</b>

## At a Glance by Location



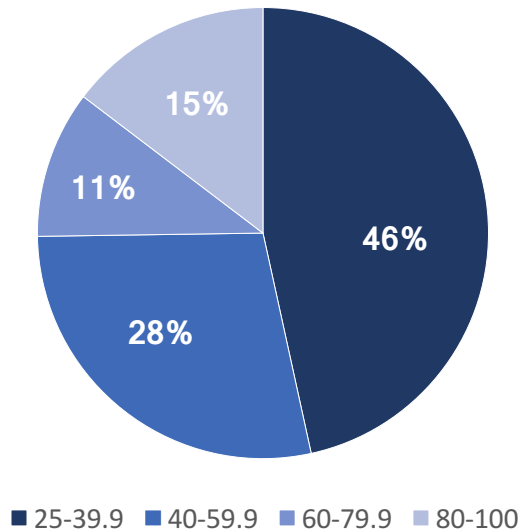
- **HSIs are very concentrated geographically.** HSIs are located in 25 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, but 68% are located in three states and Puerto Rico.
  - California has the most HSIs (176), followed by Texas (96), Puerto Rico (60), and New York (34).
- **HSIs are also located in states not generally known for having a large Latino population.** Arkansas, Idaho, Louisiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin each have one HSI.
- **The majority of HSIs are located in more highly populated areas.** Over 84% of HSIs are either in the city (278) or suburbs (175), while 16% are in towns (49) or rural areas (37).

State/Location	# HSIs 2018-19	State/Location	#HSIs 2018-19
California	176	Kansas	4
Texas	96	Nevada	4
Puerto Rico	60	Oklahoma	2
New York	34	Pennsylvania	2
Florida	29	Arkansas	1
Illinois	25	District of Columbia	1
New Mexico	24	Georgia	1
New Jersey	19	Idaho	1
Arizona	16	Indiana	1
Colorado	14	Louisiana	1
Massachusetts	8	Maryland	1
Connecticut	6	Ohio	1
Washington	6	Wisconsin	1
Oregon	5		
<b>Total HSIs = 539</b>			
<b>Total Locations = 27</b>			



**At a Glance by Enrollment**

**Concentration of Latinos at HSIs  
(by percentage FTE)**



- **Almost half of all students enrolled at HSIs are Latino.** Latinos represent 46% of students enrolled at HSIs by FTE (full-time equivalent).<sup>1</sup>
- **HSIs enroll the majority of Latino undergraduates.** Two-thirds (67%) of Latino undergraduates are enrolled at HSIs.

**Total FTE Enrollment at HSIs**

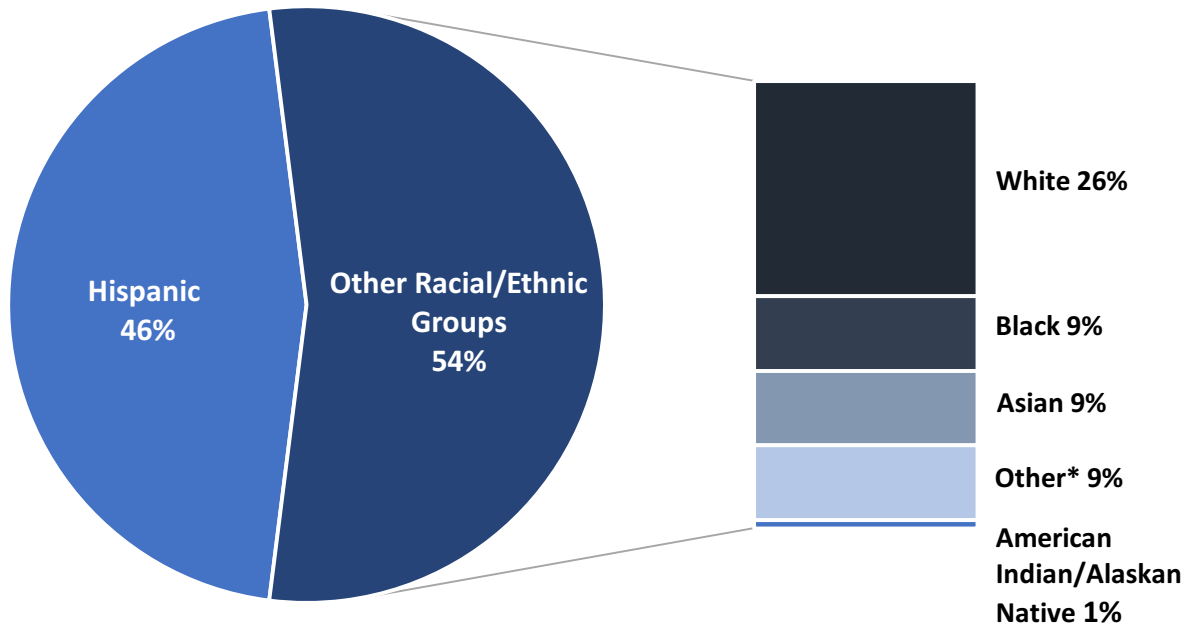
Race/Ethnicity	Undergraduate FTE
Hispanic/Latino	1,442,110
All students	3,167,698
<b>% Latino:</b>	<b>46%</b>

**Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) Enrollment**

FTE Enrollment	# of HSIs	% of HSIs*
<500	85	16%
500 - 1,000	43	8%
1,001 - 2,000	76	14%
2,001 - 3,000	49	9%
3,001 - 4,000	47	9%
4,001 - 5,000	34	6%
5,001 – 10,000	102	19%
> 10,000	103	19%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>1</sup> FTE includes enrollment of full-time students plus the calculated enrollment of part-time students by using a set multiplier. Head count includes the total number of students enrolled, regardless of enrollment intensity (full-time + part-time).

### At a Glance by Race/Ethnicity



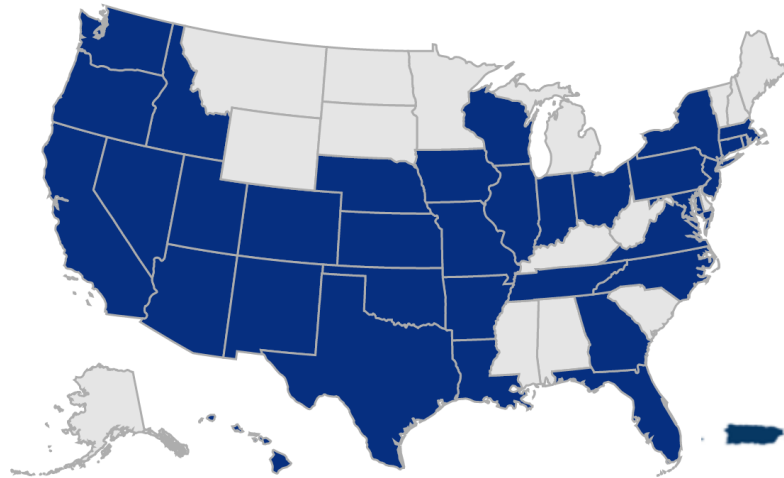
\* Includes two or more races, race/ethnicity unknown, and nonresidents.

- **Almost half of students enrolled at HSIs are Hispanic.** On average, 46% of students enrolled at HSIs are Hispanic, and 54% of students are from other racial/ethnic groups.
- **HSIs enroll a diverse student body.** Over 26% of students at HSIs are White, 9% are Black, and 9% are Asian.

Racial/Ethnic Group	% of HSI student body
Hispanic	46%
White	26%
Black	9%
Asian	9%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1%
Others	9%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

### At a Glance on Emerging HSIs

Emerging HSIs are degree-granting public or private not-for-profit institutions of higher education with 15-24.9% undergraduate Hispanic FTE enrollment.

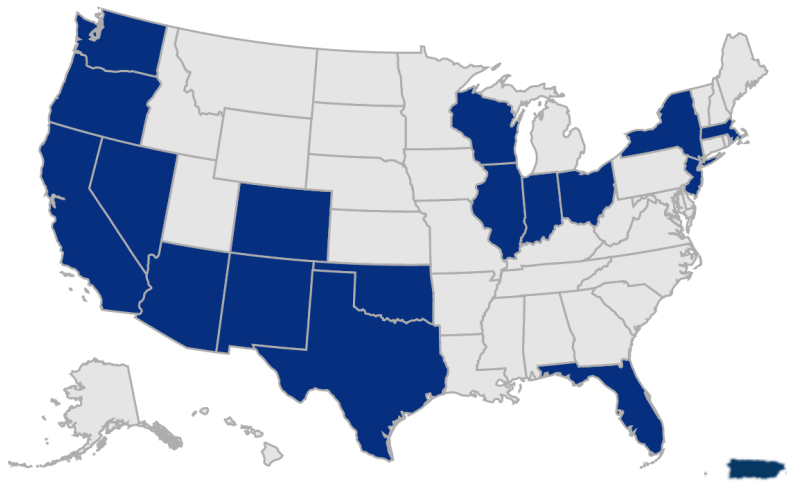


- **A growing number of institutions are on the cusp of becoming an HSI.** There are 352 Emerging HSIs.
- **The majority of states have at least one Emerging HSI.** Emerging HSIs are located in 35 states.
- **The majority of Emerging HSIs are public institutions.** Over half (53%) of Emerging HSIs are public institutions, and 47% are private.
- **The majority of Emerging HSIs are 4-year institutions.** About 70% of Emerging HSIs (247) are 4-year institutions.

#### Emerging HSI Locations

State/Location	# Emerging HSIs 2018-19	State/Location	# Emerging HSIs 2018-19
California	46	Hawaii	5
Texas	45	Nebraska	5
Florida	32	Idaho	4
New York	28	Indiana	4
Illinois	27	Nevada	4
Massachusetts	15	Oklahoma	4
Arizona	14	Iowa	3
Connecticut	13	Louisiana	2
New Jersey	13	Rhode Island	2
Colorado	12	Tennessee	2
Oregon	10	Virginia	2
Pennsylvania	10	Ohio	2
Kansas	9	Arkansas	1
North Carolina	9	Maryland	1
Utah	7	Missouri	1
Wisconsin	7	New Mexico	1
Washington	6	Puerto Rico	1
Georgia	5		
<b>Total Emerging HSIs = 352</b>			
<b>Total Locations = 35</b>			

### At a Glance on Graduate Programs



- **More than a third of HSIs have graduate programs.** Of all HSIs, 40% offer graduate degrees (215 of 539 institutions).
- **HSIs with graduate programs are concentrated geographically.** About 72% of HSIs with graduate programs are in California (58), Texas (40), Puerto Rico (38), and New York (19).
- **The majority of HSIs with graduate programs offer doctoral degrees.** Over half of HSIs with graduate programs (127 institutions) offer doctoral degrees (59%). Additionally, 33% offer master’s degrees (70), and 8% offer a post-master’s certificate (18).

**HSIs with Graduate Programs – Locations**

State/Location	# HSIs w/Graduate Programs 2018-19	State/Location	# HSIs w/Graduate Programs 2018-19
California	58	District of Columbia	1
Texas	40	Indiana	1
Puerto Rico	38	Massachusetts	1
New York	19	Nevada	1
Florida	15	Ohio	1
New Jersey	12	Oklahoma	1
Illinois	10	Oregon	1
New Mexico	7	Washington	1
Arizona	4	Wisconsin	1
Colorado	3		
<b>Total HSIs with Graduate Programs = 215</b>			
<b>Total Locations = 19</b>			

**At a Glance - Top 10 HSIs Enrolling Latinos**

California



Texas



Florida



\* The top 10 institutions are located in 5 metro areas – Los Angeles, CA, El Paso, TX, Houston, TX, Rio Grande Valley, TX, and Miami, FL.

- **The top 10 HSIs enrolling Latinos are:**
  - **Also the top 10 institutions enrolling Latinos in the nation.** These 10 institutions enroll 8% of all Latino undergraduates in the country;
  - **All public institutions.** There are more 2-year than 4-year institutions; and
  - **Concentrated geographically.** Institutions are located in three states – Texas, California, and Florida.
  
- **Latino enrollment varies widely among the top 10 institutions.** Latino undergraduate student enrollment ranges from less than 20,000 to nearly 40,000 students and representation ranges from 35% to 95%.

**Top 10 HSIs Enrolling Latinos**

	HSI	State	Sector	Total Undergraduate Headcount	Latino Undergraduate Headcount	% Latino
1	Miami Dade College	FL	Public, 4-year	54,973	38,213	70%
2	Florida International University	FL	Public, 4-year	48,818	32,877	67%
3	South Texas College	TX	Public, 4-year	31,949	30,419	95%
4	Lone Star College System	TX	Public, 2-year	73,499	27,925	38%
5	El Paso Community College	TX	Public, 2-year	28,819	24,601	85%
6	East Los Angeles College	CA	Public, 2-year	35,403	24,190	68%
7	The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	TX	Public, 4-year	24,678	22,281	90%
8	Houston Community College	TX	Public, 2-year	57,200	20,067	35%
9	San Jacinto Community College	TX	Public, 2-year	32,137	19,136	60%
10	Mt San Antonio College	CA	Public, 2-year	29,346	18,688	64%
	TOTAL			416,822	258,397	62%