

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:

South Dakota had the **46th largest Latino population** in the U.S.

### K-12 POPULATION:

In South Dakota, **7%** of the K-12 population was **Latino**.<sup>2</sup>

### POPULATION:

In South Dakota, **4%** of the population was **Latino**.<sup>2</sup>

### MEDIAN AGE:

The median age of **Hispanics** in South Dakota was **22**, compared to **41** for **White non-Hispanics**.<sup>2</sup>



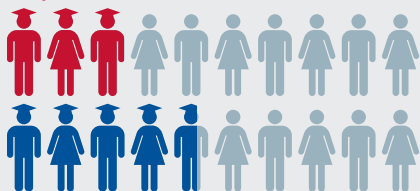
### ENROLLMENT:

In South Dakota, **15%** of **Hispanics** (ages 18 to 34) were enrolled in higher education, compared to **21%** of **White non-Hispanics**.<sup>2</sup>

### DEGREE ATTAINMENT:

In South Dakota, **29%** of **Hispanic adults** (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to **46%** of **White non-Hispanic adults**.<sup>2</sup>

**Hispanic Adults = 2.9 of 10**



**White Adults = 4.6 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 South Dakota, 2021-22

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	University of South Dakota	Public, 4-year	5,328	240	5%
2	South Dakota State University	Public, 4-year	8,651	221	3%
3	National American University-Rapid City	Private for-profit, 4-year	937	124	13%
4	South Dakota School of Mines and Technology	Public, 4-year	1,976	106	5%
5	Dakota State University	Public, 4-year	1,910	94	5%

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

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	National American University-Rapid City	Private for-profit, 4-year	106	13	12%
2	Southeast Technical College	Public, 2-year	619	13	2%
3	Mitchell Technical College	Public, 2-year	321	11	3%
4	Western Dakota Technical College	Public, 2-year	226	10	4%
5	Lake Area Technical College	Public, 2-year	571	8	1%

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

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	University of South Dakota	Public, 4-year	1,230	37	3%
2	South Dakota State University	Public, 4-year	1,850	37	2%
3	National American University-Rapid City	Private for-profit, 4-year	244	28	11%
4	Black Hills State University	Public, 4-year	423	25	6%
5	South Dakota School of Mines and Technology	Public, 4-year	352	16	5%

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

# South Dakota 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.

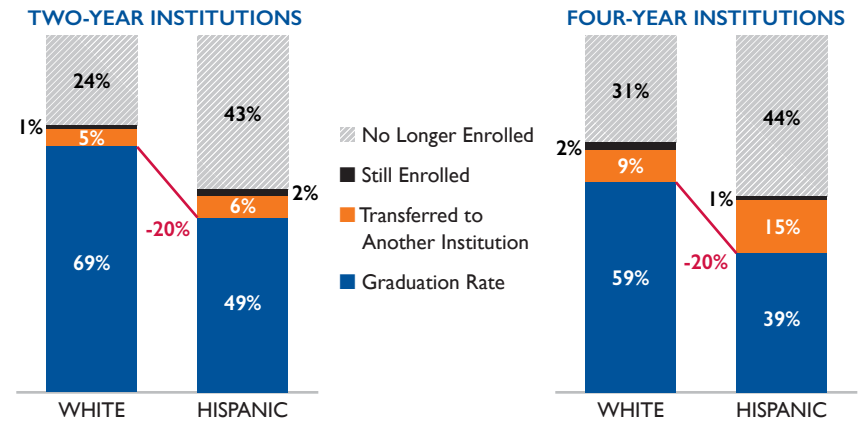
**Still Enrolled** — Percentage of students that are still enrolled at the point of 150% normal time to completion.

**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 **20%-points lower** than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in South Dakota.

At four-year institutions, Hispanics’ graduation rate was **20%-points lower** than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in South Dakota.



\*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 **Compact Scholars Program** provides undergraduate students academic, social support, and the opportunity to cultivate a sense of identity in connection to their academic work and community. The program seeks to eliminate the national achievement gap in Latino college completion. Established in 2006, Compact Scholars was designed as the postsecondary component of Compact for Success’ partnership between the Sweetwater Union High School District (SUHSD) and San Diego State University (SDSU) to promote higher graduation rates for Sweetwater District students, a majority of whom are Latino. Compact for Success offers undergraduate students first-year experiences, holistic intrusive academic advising, peer/faculty mentoring, and experiential learning including study abroad

opportunities, undergraduate research, and service-learning. Program participants also have the opportunity to apply for scholarships which can help cover costs of experiential learning activities including internships, service learning, research and other creative activities.

As of Fall 2019, 318 Latino students served had enrolled in college compared to only 84 students as of Fall 2006. As of 2019, one-year continuation rates for Latino program participants is 86%, compared to 84% for Latino, non-program participants. In 2000, the six-year graduation rate for SUHSD Latino students at SDSU was only 38%. As of 2019, 69% of Latino program participants graduated within 6 years compared to 65% for Latino, non-program participants.

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>