

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:

Alaska had the **44th largest Latino population** in the U.S.

### K-12 POPULATION:

In Alaska, **10%** of the K-12 population was **Latino**.<sup>2</sup>

### POPULATION:

In Alaska, **7%** of the population was **Latino**.<sup>2</sup>

### MEDIAN AGE:

The median age of **Hispanics** in Alaska was **27**, compared to **40** for **White non-Hispanics**.<sup>2</sup>



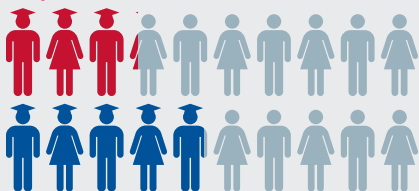
### ENROLLMENT:

In Alaska, **13%** of **Hispanics** (ages 18 to 34) were enrolled in higher education, compared to **12%** of **White non-Hispanics**.<sup>2</sup>

### DEGREE ATTAINMENT:

In Alaska, **32%** of **Hispanic adults** (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to **48%** of **White non-Hispanic adults**.<sup>2</sup>

**Hispanic Adults = 3.2 of 10**



**White Adults = 4.8 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 Alaska, 2021-22

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	University of Alaska Anchorage	Public, 4-year	7,284	729	10%
2	University of Alaska Fairbanks	Public, 4-year	4,108	353	9%
3	University of Alaska Southeast	Public, 4-year	999	80	8%
4	Alaska Pacific University	Private not-for-profit, 4-year	347	36	10%
5	Alaska Career College	Private for-profit, 2-year	317	29	9%

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

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	University of Alaska Anchorage	Public, 4-year	665	53	8%
2	University of Alaska Fairbanks	Public, 4-year	254	23	9%
3	University of Alaska Southeast	Public, 4-year	77	7	9%
4	Alaska Career College	Private for-profit, 2-year	29	4	14%
5	–	–	–	–	–

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

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	University of Alaska Anchorage	Public, 4-year	1,039	96	9%
2	University of Alaska Fairbanks	Public, 4-year	558	52	9%
3	University of Alaska Southeast	Public, 4-year	144	10	7%
4	Alaska Pacific University	Private not-for-profit, 4-year	52	2	4%
5	Alaska Bible College	Private not-for-profit, 4-year	4	1	25%

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

# Alaska 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.

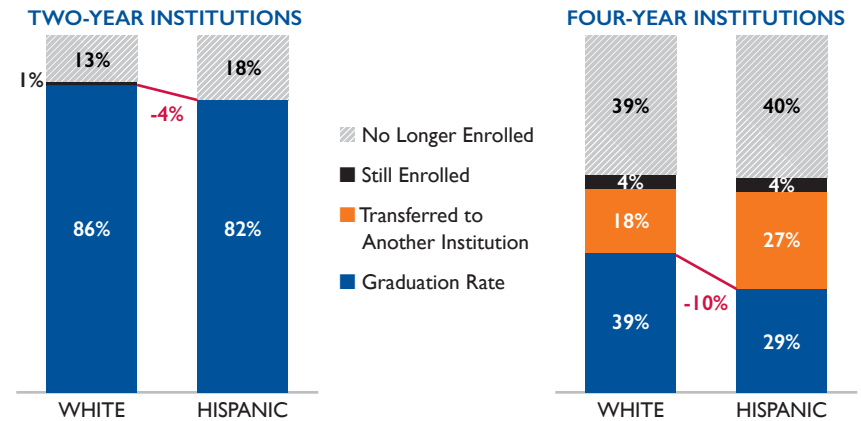
**Still Enrolled** — Percentage of students that are still enrolled at the point of 150% normal time to completion.

**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 **4%-points lower** than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in Alaska.

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



\*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 goal of the **Engage. Develop. Grow. Empower. (EDGE) program** at College of the Desert in California is to increase student success and mitigate achievement gaps in access, retention, persistence, and completion. EDGE provides students with a structured onboarding process, a summer bridge component to prepare for college and college-level coursework, comprehensive wrap-around support services, and financial support (pLEDGE) for students’ first two-years of college. The program provides opportunities for students to connect with faculty, staff and other students before they start their academic journey. During the program, students participate in a rigorous review of subject-specific content in math and English, attend counseling sessions, learn about campus resources, attend special program presentations, and build lasting connections. The program also provides extensive outreach services in

English and Spanish to our local high schools and the community at large to increase access and educational attainment within their service area.

The EDGE/pLEDGE Program serves 87% Hispanic/Latino students and they have higher persistence rates than Hispanic, non-program participants (89% to 73%, respectively). When comparing success rates in college level English, Hispanic/Latino EDGE students were more successful compared to their non-EDGE counterparts (66% vs. 54%, FA ‘18). EDGE/pLEDGE students complete more units in their first semester (9.5) and first year (17.2) compared to their non-EDGE/pLEDGE counterparts (7 units and 12, respectively). pLEDGE students also have a higher 3-year completion rate (14%) compared to their non-pLEDGE counterparts (9%).

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>