

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:

Georgia had the **9th largest Latino population** in the U.S.

K-12 POPULATION:

In Georgia, **14%** of the K-12 population was **Latino**.²

POPULATION:

In Georgia, **10%** of the population was **Latino**.²

MEDIAN AGE:

The median age of **Hispanics** in Georgia was **27**, compared to **42** for **White non-Hispanics**.²



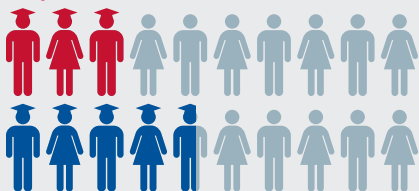
ENROLLMENT:

In Georgia, **21%** of **Hispanics** (ages 18 to 34) were enrolled in higher education, compared to **22%** of **White non-Hispanics**.²

DEGREE ATTAINMENT:

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

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 Georgia, 2021-22

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Kennesaw State University	Public, 4-year	37,743	5,146	14%
2	Georgia State University	Public, 4-year	28,415	3,865	14%
3	Georgia Gwinnett College	Public, 4-year	10,377	2,662	26%
4	University of North Georgia	Public, 4-year	16,515	2,586	16%
5	University of Georgia	Public, 4-year	30,032	2,095	7%

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

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Georgia State University-Perimeter College	Public, 2-year	2,535	341	13%
2	University of North Georgia	Public, 4-year	781	153	20%
3	Georgia Military College	Public, 4-year	1,940	152	8%
4	Georgia Highlands College	Public, 4-year	877	116	13%
5	Gwinnett Technical College	Public, 2-year	739	106	14%

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

	Institution	Sector	Grand Total	Hispanic Total	% Hispanic
1	Georgia State University	Public, 4-year	5,370	644	12%
2	Kennesaw State University	Public, 4-year	5,922	585	10%
3	University of Georgia	Public, 4-year	7,896	522	7%
4	Georgia Southern University	Public, 4-year	4,247	274	6%
5	Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus	Public, 4-year	3,810	266	7%

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

Georgia 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.

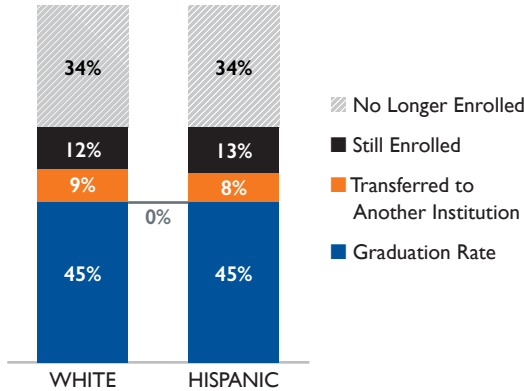
No Longer Enrolled — Percentage of students that are no longer enrolled at the point of 150% normal time to completion.

DEGREE OUTCOMES

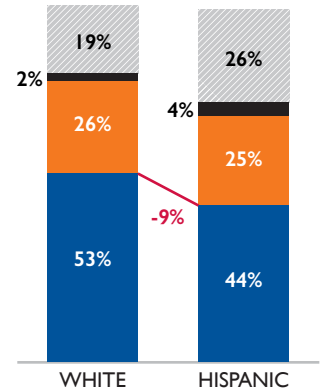
At two-year institutions, Hispanics’ graduation rate was **the same as** that of their White non-Hispanic peers in Georgia.

At four-year institutions, Hispanics’ graduation rate was **9%-points lower** than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in Georgia.

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 **School of Science STEM Research Institute (SRI)** at Miami Dade College provides Hispanic and other underrepresented STEM students high-quality, early research experiences to help them acquire knowledge and skills important to their academic success and competitiveness in the STEM workforce of the 21st century. The Institute seeks to increase persistence in STEM and attainment of STEM degrees among underrepresented students. Established in 2012, the Institute began as a pilot of undergraduate research. Aware that activities promoting deeper exposure to STEM have marked impacts on student success and retention, the Institute aimed to bring undergraduate research to the primarily Hispanic population of students at Miami Dade College (MDC). The School of Science STEM Research Institute requires students to complete 240 hours of research, attend professional skills workshops, and provide various deliverables. Participants typically engage in 10 to 12 weeks of paid, high-level, and quality research experiences with

faculty mentors and peers in interdisciplinary teams during the summer or as part of a year-round project. Program participants may choose to receive mentorship from MDC faculty or faculty at one of MDC’s partner research universities to carry out individual research projects.

Over 75% of program participants are Hispanic. For academic year 2019-2020, the fall-to-fall retention rate of SRI participants was 96% compared to 67% of STEM students who did not participate in undergraduate research experiences. In the past three years, 68% of participants graduated within 3 years compared to only 28% of non-participant STEM majors and 22% of non-STEM students at MDC. As of 2019, participants took an average of 2.8 years to graduate with an associate degree compared to 3.1 years for non-participant STEM students. As of 2020, students accomplished an average, 3.6 GPA compared to the average 2.8 GPA of non-participant STEM students.

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>