

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:

West Virginia had the **48th largest Latino population** in the U.S.

K-12 POPULATION:

In West Virginia, **3%** of the K-12 population was **Latino**.²

POPULATION:

In West Virginia, **2%** of the population was **Latino**.²

MEDIAN AGE:

The median age of **Hispanics** in West Virginia was **27**, compared to **44** for **White non-Hispanics**.²



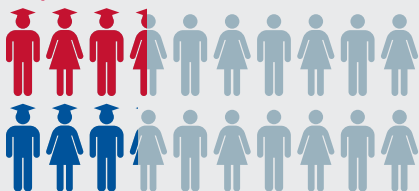
ENROLLMENT:

In West Virginia, **27%** of **Hispanics** (ages 18 to 34) were enrolled in higher education, compared to **19%** of **White non-Hispanics**.²

DEGREE ATTAINMENT:

In West Virginia, **34%** of **Hispanic adults** (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to **32%** of **White non-Hispanic adults**.²

Hispanic Adults = 3.4 of 10



White Adults = 3.2 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 West Virginia, 2021-22

| | Institution | Sector | Grand Total | Hispanic Total | % Hispanic |
|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|
| 1 | American Public University System | Private for-profit, 4-year | 37,245 | 6,407 | 17% |
| 2 | West Virginia University | Public, 4-year | 18,878 | 792 | 4% |
| 3 | Martinsburg College | Private for-profit, 2-year | 2,061 | 327 | 16% |
| 4 | Shepherd University | Public, 4-year | 2,299 | 173 | 8% |
| 5 | Marshall University | Public, 4-year | 7,175 | 169 | 2% |

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

| | Institution | Sector | Grand Total | Hispanic Total | % Hispanic |
|---|--|----------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|
| 1 | American Public University System | Private for-profit, 4-year | 3,409 | 585 | 17% |
| 2 | Blue Ridge Community and Technical College | Public, 2-year | 347 | 25 | 7% |
| 3 | BridgeValley Community & Technical College | Public, 2-year | 319 | 7 | 2% |
| 4 | Martinsburg College | Private for-profit, 2-year | 51 | 5 | 10% |
| 5 | Salem University | Private for-profit, 4-year | 71 | 5 | 7% |

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

| | Institution | Sector | Grand Total | Hispanic Total | % Hispanic |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|
| 1 | American Public University System | Private for-profit, 4-year | 7,002 | 897 | 13% |
| 2 | West Virginia University | Public, 4-year | 4,396 | 167 | 4% |
| 3 | Marshall University | Public, 4-year | 1,440 | 35 | 2% |
| 4 | University of Charleston | Private not-for-profit, 4-year | 588 | 33 | 6% |
| 5 | Shepherd University | Public, 4-year | 556 | 29 | 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

West Virginia 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.

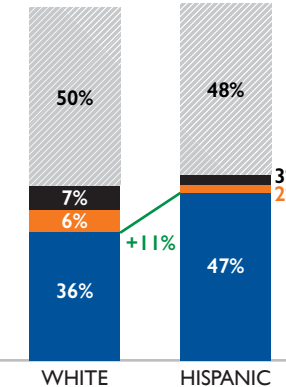
No Longer Enrolled — Percentage of students that are no longer enrolled at the point of 150% normal time to completion.

DEGREE OUTCOMES

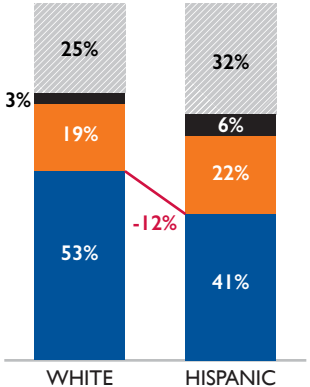
At two-year institutions, Hispanics' graduation rate was **11%-points higher** than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in West Virginia.

At four-year institutions, Hispanics' graduation rate was **12%-points lower** than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in West Virginia.

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 **Noble College Access and Success Program** facilitates Latino high school students' transition to college during grades 9 to 12 to encourage college matriculation and college completion. The Noble College Access and Success Program seeks to maximize the number of Chicago students who matriculate to college and persist through to their degree by making the transition from high school to college seamless for students. Established in 2003, the Noble College Access and Success Program emerged out of the need to support the Noble Network of Charter Schools' Class of 2003 who graduated from high school and enrolled in college. The Noble College Access and Success Program offers Noble Network of Charter Schools students in grades 9 to 11 the opportunity to participate in college summer programs and embark on college visits. When students become seniors in high school, they are encouraged to enroll in a year-long College Seminar course led by a team of college counselors. During this course, students apply

to college, complete scholarship applications, file for financial aid, and make their college selection. To encourage students to pursue higher education at an institution that is the best fit for them, Noble uses their tool, the College Bot. The College Bot inputs student demographic and academic performance data, including an analysis of graduation rates for underrepresented students at colleges, ensuring that Noble students who identify as Latinx attend a college equipped to meet their needs. With this information, the Bot provides each student a customized list of safety, match, and reach schools.

Of Latino program participants from the Class of 2019, 90% enrolled directly into college. On average, 89% of program participants matriculate. Of Latino program participants from the Class of 2019, 95% were admitted to at least one four-year college. On average, participants received more than six college acceptance offers each.

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>