

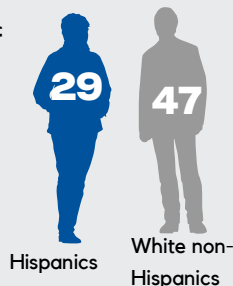
FAST FACTS

38th largest Latino population in the U.S.¹

18% of the population was Latino¹

28% of the K-12 population was Latino¹

The median age of Hispanics in Rhode Island was **29**, compared to **47** for White non-Hispanics.¹



27% of Hispanics (ages 18 to 34) were enrolled in higher education, compared to **30%** of White non-Hispanics.¹

23% of Hispanic adults (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to **52%** of White non-Hispanic adults.¹

Hispanic Adults



White Adults

Median income of adults without a college degree vs. **with a college degree** in Rhode Island¹

\$37,462

\$68,760

ACCELERATING COLLEGE COMPLETION

To make our country stronger and meet the economy's demand for a highly educated workforce, we must ensure access to quality higher education for Latino, and all, students. This requires accelerating Latino degree completion, increasing completion for all students, and scaling programs and initiatives proven to support Latino, and all, student success. The following demographics, institutional data, and practices inform Latino degree attainment.

TOP 5 INSTITUTIONS ENROLLING AND GRADUATING HISPANIC UNDERGRADUATES IN RHODE ISLAND²

	Institution	Sector	Enrollment (Fall 2023)	Completions (2022-23)
1	Community College of Rhode Island	2-Pub	29% Latino 3,276 11,455	20% Latino 347 1,769
2	University of Rhode Island	4-Pub	11% Latino 1,586 13,822	10% Latino 334 3,433
3	Rhode Island College	4-Pub	26% Latino 1,212 4,630	23% Latino 236 1,048
4	Brown University	4-Priv	12% Latino 886 7,273	11% Latino 177 1,682
5	Johnson & Wales University-Providence	4-Priv	15% Latino 576 3,913	13% Latino 140 1,075

NOTE: The institutions in this chart are ordered from highest to lowest Latino enrollment.

Legend

■ Latino Enrollment
■ All Enrollment

■ Latino Completions
■ All Completions

NOTE: We use the terms Latino and Hispanic interchangeably in this factsheet.

1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates.

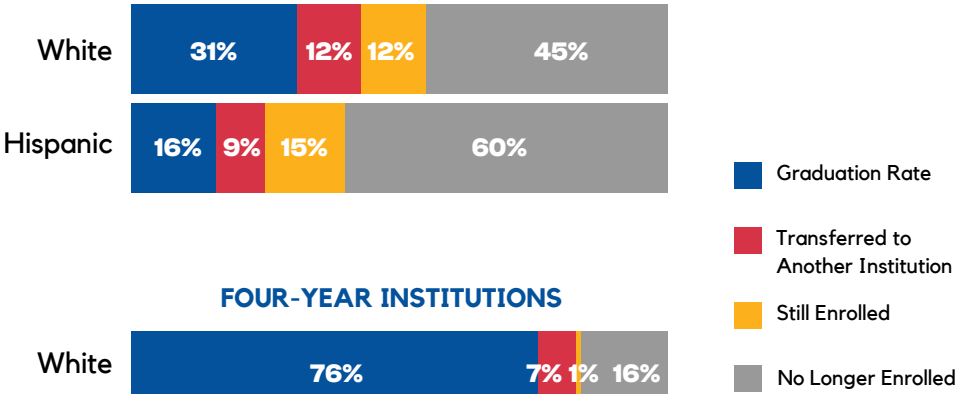
2. Excelencia in Education analysis using U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2023 Fall Enrollment, Graduation Rates Survey, and Institutional Characteristics Survey.

RHODE ISLAND DEGREE COMPLETION GAP

Tracking the progress of students along their educational pathways can inform strategies and practices to close the degree completion gap. Four key indicators of student progress highlight different stages on the path to graduation. Together, they provide a clearer picture of how degree attainment varies between Hispanic and White non-Hispanic student cohorts in a given year. While no single indicator tells the whole story, collectively they help illustrate the extent of the gap and where targeted efforts can make a difference.

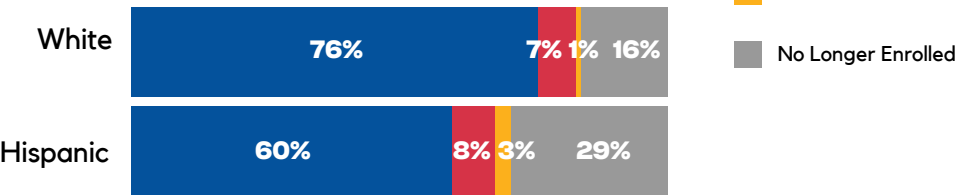
TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

At two-year institutions, Hispanics' graduation rate was 15%-points lower than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in Rhode Island.



FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

At four-year institutions, Hispanics' graduation rate was 16%-points lower than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in Rhode Island.



*Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.
NOTE: Outcomes shown are for students at two-year institutions who started in Fall 2020, and for students at four-year institutions who started in Fall 2017. These rates are at the point of 150% normal time to completion, and capture first-time, full-time undergraduate students only.
Source: *Excelencia in Education* analysis using the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2023 Graduation Rates Survey and the Institutional Characteristics Survey.

EXAMPLE OF WHAT WORKS FOR LATINO STUDENTS

There are institutions showing success in enrolling, retaining, and graduating Latino students. The following is an example of a program across the country with evidence of effectiveness in serving Latino students recognized for Examples of *Excelencia*.

The **Program for Research Initiatives in Science and Math (PRISM)** at John Jay College has transformed the institution from a minor player in STEM education to a leading baccalaureate origin institution for Latino students pursuing STEM PhDs and professional careers. Through a comprehensive support system, PRISM fosters strong relationships with faculty, staff, and peer mentors to increase student engagement, help participants see themselves as scientists, and reduce feelings of impostor syndrome. The program provides direct career exposure, immerses students in the culture and practice of science, and works intentionally to counteract negative stereotypes, supporting students' long-term academic and professional success. The program staff are bilingual, and PRISM activities intentionally reflect the backgrounds of the students it serves. Students are introduced to Latino, Black, and

female scientists, and families are invited to participate in events—reinforcing students' sense of belonging and identity in STEM. These efforts have helped double graduation rates within three years, and three students advanced to STEM PhD programs—compared to only five over the prior decade. Since its launch, PRISM has contributed to a four-fold increase in overall graduates at John Jay College from science programs, and a nearly ten-fold increase in Latino graduates. In PRISM's most recent years (2014-2022), the program has helped 99 students (average of 12 per year) transition to graduate school, including 31 Latino students (average of 3 per year), reinforcing its role as a launchpad for underrepresented students in STEM.