

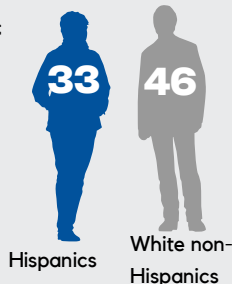
FAST FACTS

7th largest Latino population in the U.S.¹

23% of the population was Latino¹

29% of the K-12 population was Latino¹

The median age of Hispanics in New Jersey was **33**, compared to **46** for White non-Hispanics.¹



20% of Hispanics (ages 18 to 34) were enrolled in higher education, compared to **25%** of White non-Hispanics.¹

30% of Hispanic adults (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to **56%** of White non-Hispanic adults.¹

Hispanic Adults



White Adults

Median income of adults without a college degree vs. **with a college degree** in New Jersey¹

\$37,297

\$77,179

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 NEW JERSEY²

	Institution	Sector	Enrollment (Fall 2023)	Completions (2022-23)
1	Montclair State University	4-Pub	39% Latino 6,820 17,677	31% Latino 1,183 3,788
2	Rutgers University-New Brunswick	4-Pub	16% Latino 5,682 36,357	14% Latino 1,193 8,769
3	Bergen Community College	2-Pub	43% Latino 4,558 10,597	34% Latino 545 1,607
4	Kean University	4-Pub	37% Latino 4,002 10,842	31% Latino 723 2,313
5	UCNJ Union College of Union County, NJ	2-Pub	47% Latino 3,643 7,760	38% Latino 537 1,404

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.

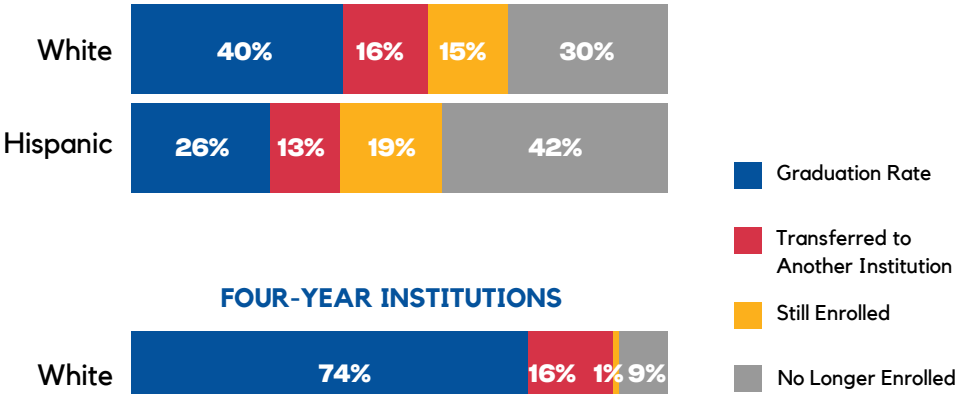
2. Excelencia in Education analysis using U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2023 Fall Enrollment, Graduation Rates Survey and Institutional Characteristics Survey.

NEW JERSEY 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.

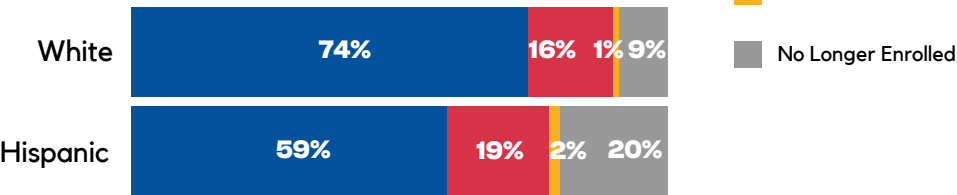
TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

At two-year institutions, Hispanics' graduation rate was 14%-points lower than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in New Jersey.



FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

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



*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*.

Latino Promise and **HACER (Hispanics Achieving College Education Recognition)** are sister programs whose mission is to provide access to higher education by offering associate degree programs with the benefits of a university setting to traditional-aged, Latino students. Latino Promise-HACER ensures that primarily first-generation college students can transfer into a bachelor's program of their choice. The programs offer the same curriculum, but HACER helps students preserve and even improve their native Spanish while teaching them English through ESL; these students gradually transition from taking bilingual coursework to English-only. The Latino Promise program offers instruction in English. Both programs seek to redress educational, economic, and social barriers by recruiting in immigrant-heavy school districts, offering workshops for families on financial aid, and a one-credit course on transitioning to college life

which promotes student retention. The programs provide a pre-college summer program, small classes, academic support, financial grants, personalized advising, and cultural enrichment all designed to mold high school graduates from the local communities into successful college students. The average graduation rate since 2010 for Latino Promise is 40%, which is more than double the current average of 18% graduation rate for Latino students in associate programs at New Jersey two-year institutions. Further, from Fall 2019 to Spring 2022, Latino Promise students achieved a 93% Fall-to-Spring persistence rate.