

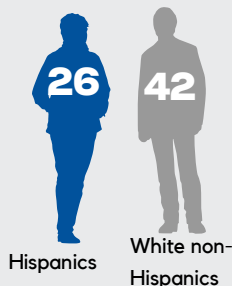
FAST FACTS

36th largest Latino population in the U.S.¹

7% of the population was Latino¹

12% of the K-12 population was Latino¹

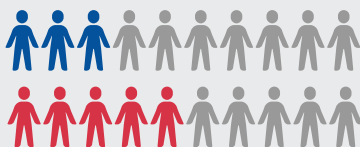
The median age of Hispanics in Iowa was **26**, compared to **42** for White non-Hispanics.¹



18% of Hispanics (ages 18 to 34) were enrolled in higher education, compared to **22%** of White non-Hispanics.¹

25% of Hispanic adults (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to **45%** of White non-Hispanic adults.¹

Hispanic Adults



White Adults

Median income of adults without a college degree vs. with a college degree in Iowa¹

\$37,424

\$60,498

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 IOWA²

	Institution	Sector	Enrollment (Fall 2023)	Completions (2022-23)
1	University of Iowa	4-Pub	9% Latino 1,985 21,691	8% Latino 405 5,180
2	Iowa State University	4-Pub	7% Latino 1,803 25,033	6% Latino 375 6,011
3	Des Moines Area Community College	2-Pub	11% Latino 1,112 10,406	8% Latino 164 2,020
4	Western Iowa Tech Community College	2-Pub	23% Latino 594 2,589	20% Latino 85 435
5	Kirkwood Community College	2-Pub	8% Latino 564 7,438	6% Latino 94 1,614

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

Legend

- Latino Enrollment
- Latino Completions
- All Enrollment
- 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.

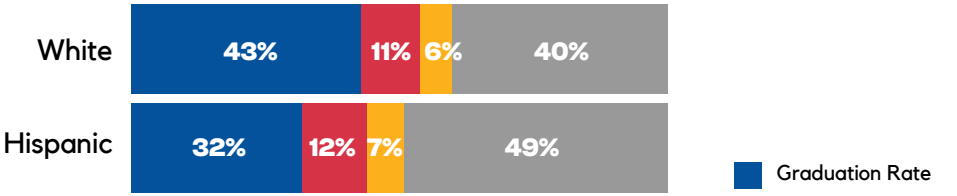
2. Excelencia in Education analysis using U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2023 Fall Enrollment, Graduation Rates Survey, and Institutional Characteristics Survey.

IOWA 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.

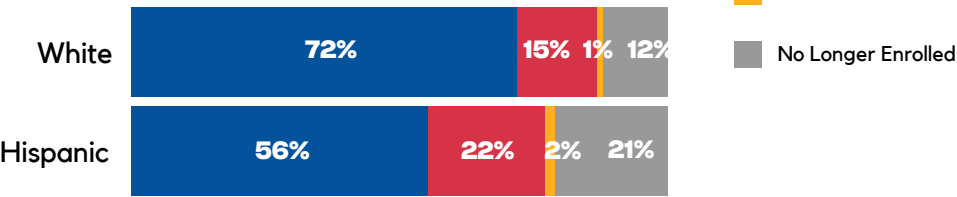
TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

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



FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

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



*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*.

Science Bound (SB) at Iowa State University supports underrepresented youth & families (8th grade through college) to prepare for and pursue degrees in Education, Agriculture, and STEM. The program aims to increase the number of students enrolling in and completing degrees in higher education. SB identifies middle school students with a propensity for math/science and guides them toward earning a bachelor's degree in STEM, and engages high school seniors/parents in college enrollment workshops. After high school, SB offers four-year tuition scholarships for students and has dedicated bilingual and bicultural staff trained in STEM student development. Students participate in a college onboarding retreat focused on academic support and peer mentoring, and attend a weekly seminar connecting first-year students to university resources. SB is intentionally inclusive in making

sure Latino students' cultural assets are incorporated and resources are provided regarding immigration status. Additionally, inclusive language is used when interacting with Latino students/families (e.g., parent letters in Spanish and English, and interpreters for Spanish-speaking families). More than 2,000 students have benefited from the program, and nearly 700 students have earned four-year STEM tuition scholarships. From the 2019-2020 academic year, 65 high school graduates from SB (98%) pursued higher education degrees, with 80% enrolling at Iowa State University. During the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 academic years, high school student retention increased to 91%. The six-year graduation rate for Latino students in the program was 70%, surpassing the university's overall graduation rate of 60%.