

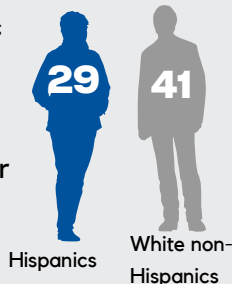
FAST FACTS

8th largest Latino population in the U.S.¹

23% of the population was Latino¹

32% of the K-12 population was Latino¹

The median age of Hispanics in Colorado was **29**, compared to **41** for White non-Hispanics.¹



18% of Hispanics (ages 18 to 34) were enrolled in higher education, compared to **21%** of White non-Hispanics.¹

30% of Hispanic adults (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to **61%** of White non-Hispanic adults.¹

Hispanic Adults



White Adults

Median income of adults **without** a college degree vs. **with** a college degree in Colorado¹

\$41,250

\$69,601

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 COLORADO²

	Institution	Sector	Enrollment (Fall 2023)	Completions (2022-23)
1	Metropolitan State University of Denver	4-Pub	37% Latino 5,472 14,932	29% Latino 779 2,689
2	University of Colorado Boulder	4-Pub	13% Latino 4,260 31,578	12% Latino 820 6,965
3	Colorado State University-Fort Collins	4-Pub	16% Latino 3,934 25,148	15% Latino 761 5,201
4	Front Range Community College	4-Pub	28% Latino 3,097 11,132	22% Latino 423 1,937
5	University of Colorado Denver/Anschutz Medical Campus	4-Pub	28% Latino 2,956 10,686	21% Latino 535 2,559

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

Legend

■ Latino Enrollment
■ All Enrollment

■ Latino Completions
■ All Completions

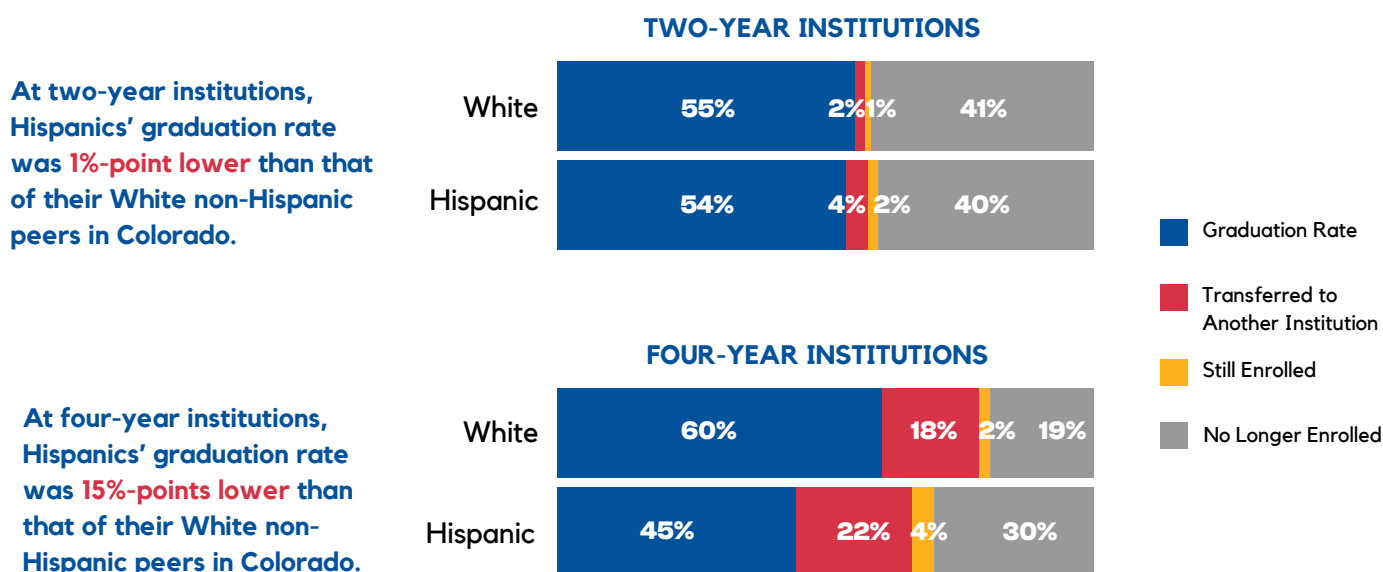
NOTE: We use the terms Latino and Hispanic interchangeably in this factsheet.

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.

COLORADO 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.



*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 **CUMBRES Teacher Preparation Program at the University of Northern Colorado (UNC)** is a scholarship and support program for students who aspire to become English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers. Cumbres recruits, supports, and mentors undergraduate students pursuing a degree in education with an endorsement in ESL, preparing them to teach culturally and linguistically diverse students in K-12 education. Students are offered scholarships to ensure persistence in the program. Cumbres is grounded in three high-impact educational practices designed to bridge the service gaps for Latino and all program participants: (1) Residential Community — During their freshman year, participants live in a residential community in which an upper-classman Resident Assistant (RA) serves as a mentor and tutor to students; (2) Learning Community — Participants take classes with their Cumbres cohort, allowing them to be in classes with their

residential community; and (3) Mentorship: First-year participants (including transfer and non-traditional students) meet with a peer academic advisor and a mentor teacher in K-12 education.

Cumbres participants have:

- Higher 6-year graduation rates: In 2020, 61% (14 of 23) of participants from the 2014 cohort graduated within six years, compared to 50% of all students at the institution.
- Stronger persistence: Among the 2019 cohort, 71% (12 of 17) of participants persisted from Fall 2019 to Fall 2020.
- High job placement: Each year, approximately 90% of participants secure K-12 ESL teaching positions before graduation or by the start of the following school year or term.

For more information on institutional programs improving Latino student success in higher education, visit <https://www.edexcelencia.org/what-works/growing-what-works>