

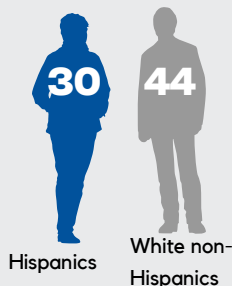
FAST FACTS

5th largest Latino population in the U.S.¹

19% of the population was Latino¹

25% of the K-12 population was Latino¹

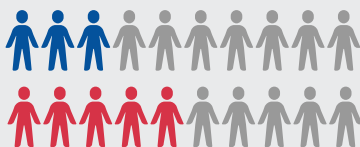
The median age of Hispanics in Illinois was **30**, compared to **44** for White non-Hispanics.¹



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

26% of Hispanic adults (25 and older) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to **51%** of White non-Hispanic adults.¹

Hispanic Adults



White Adults

Median income of adults without a college degree vs. **with a college degree** in Illinois¹

\$37,191

\$68,033

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 ILLINOIS²

	Institution	Sector	Enrollment (Fall 2023)	Completions (2022-23)
1	University of Illinois Chicago	4-Pub	37% Latino 7,982 21,814	31% Latino 1,612 5,177
2	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	4-Pub	14% Latino 4,805 34,623	13% Latino 1,117 8,482
3	College of DuPage	2-Pub	28% Latino 4,325 15,185	24% Latino 435 1,895
4	College of Lake County	2-Pub	47% Latino 4,322 9,282	36% Latino 493 1,383
5	DeVry University-Illinois	4-Priv*	15% Latino 3,990 25,975	17% Latino 641 3,722

*This institution is a private, for-profit institution.

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.

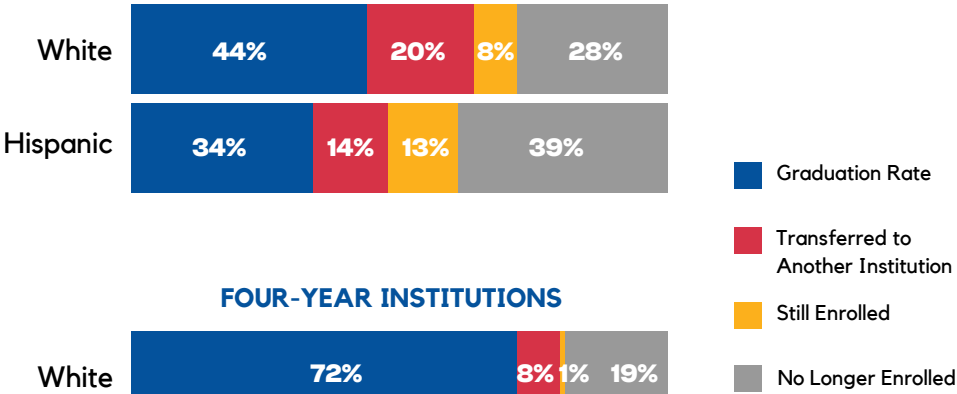
2. Excelencia in Education analysis using U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), 2023 Fall Enrollment, Graduation Rates Survey, and Institutional Characteristics Survey.

ILLINOIS 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.

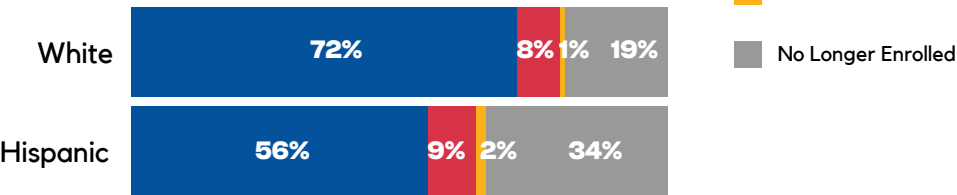
TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

At two-year institutions, Hispanics' graduation rate was 10%-points lower than that of their White non-Hispanic peers in Illinois.



FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

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



*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 mission of the **Algebra Recitation Program** at Aurora University is to enhance student success in entry-level college algebra courses by implementing innovative teaching practices and providing comprehensive support for a diverse student body. Launched in 2022 to counter declining math content knowledge of incoming students, the program offers tailored recitation sessions and co-requisite models to ensure students are successfully prepared for subsequent courses that build upon algebra concepts. The program also aims to improve ending content knowledge to an average of above 80%. In fall 2022, College Algebra began requiring students to attend recitation sessions for 5% of their grade. During these sessions, students engage with Academic Success Center (ASC) professionals to solve problems, complete assignments, review materials, and prepare for exams. Additionally, students could sign up for one-on-one appointments with the same tutors. To ensure the program

practices intentionally serve a course with more than 50% Latino students, the program incorporates Open Education Resources (OER) textbooks and ALEKS, an adaptive AI learning and assessment technology system. Instructors also employ culturally responsive teaching methods such as experiential project-based assessments related to the students' lived realities, including projecting the cost of a loan, sales at sporting events, and medicine dosing for patients.

Latino students have shown marked gains:

- **Academic Success:** Latino program participants improved their content knowledge from 25% in Fall 2021 (pre-initiative data) to 79% in Fall 2024.
- **Academic Support/Student Engagement:** Latino students increased their use of the ASC services from nearly 0 visits per semester in Fall 2021 to nearly 4 visits by Fall 2024.

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