Enrollment: Past and Projections

- Hispanic student college enrollment had been growing at an accelerated pace for more than 20 years, but in 2020 dropped significantly despite previous projections of continued growth. Projections in 2021 continue to show a decline below 2019 enrollment numbers for Hispanics.¹

- Hispanic student college enrollment is projected to grow once more later in this decade, but not at the accelerated pace seen in the years prior to the pandemic. The projected growth for Hispanic student enrollment between 2020 and 2029 shows a 15% increase in enrollment, compared to the decade prior (2010-2019) where Hispanic student enrollment had increased by 38%.

![Figure 1. College Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity (1976-2029)](image)

*Years 2020 through 2029 show projected enrollment data.

- In the decade prior to the pandemic, Latinos and Asian/Pacific Islander students were the only growth populations in college enrollment. From Fall 2010 to Fall 2019, Latinos’ enrollment increased by 38%, Asian/Pacific Islanders’ by 8%, while their White (-20%) and Black (-19%) peers’ enrollment decreased. This trend completely reversed during the pandemic.

- For the first time in 10 years, White and Black students’ enrollment increased, while Latino and Asian/Pacific Islander students’ enrollment decreased during the pandemic. From Fall 2019 to Fall 2020, Latinos and Asian/Pacific Islander students’ enrollment dropped (-3% and -5%, respectively), while White (+2%) and Black (+4%) students’ enrollment increased.


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Enrollment: Current (Fall 2020)

By Sector
- The majority of Latino students enrolled at a public institution. Over 80% of Latino students enrolled at a public institution (83%) – almost half (47%) enrolled at a public 4-year and 36% at a public 2-year.

![Figure 2. Latino Students’ Fall 2020 Enrollment by Sector](image)

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

By Enrollment Intensity
- Latino students were more likely to enroll part-time than all students. Almost half (44%) of Latino students were enrolled part-time, compared to all students (38%).

By Geography
- The majority of Latino students in the U.S. are enrolled in five locations. Over 60% of Latino undergraduates are enrolled in California, Texas, Florida, New York, and Puerto Rico.

![Figure 3. Top 5 Locations with Highest Enrollment of Latinos in Fall 2020](image)

Graduate Enrollment
- Latinos represented one in ten graduate students enrolled. Latinos represented 11% of all graduate students (330,430 out of 3.0 million).

Note: This factsheet includes data from all 50 states, DC, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau, and Virgin Islands on degree-granting, Title IV-participating, public, private non-profit, and private for-profit institutions. As of the time of this release, some institutions have permanently closed after reporting data for Fall 2020. The terms Latino and Hispanic are used interchangeably in this fact sheet.


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