



Postsecondary National Policy Institute

Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs)¹

HISTORY

A series of Congressional hearings on Latino access to higher education in the 1980s culminated in a [new HSI designation](#) under Title III of the Higher Education Act (HEA) in 1992. The first HSI appropriations were distributed in 1995, and in 1998 HSIs were moved from Title III to their own title, Title V. Title V describes [HSIs](#) as not-for-profit institutions of higher learning with a full-time equivalent (FTE) undergraduate student enrollment wherein at least 25 percent of students identify as Hispanic.² In the subsequent decades, HSIs [proliferated](#), increasing by more than 100% since the 2008 reauthorization.

FEDERAL FUNDING

- HSIs are federally funded under Title III, [Part F](#), and Title V, [Parts A](#) and [B](#), of the HEA.
 - Projected annual funding for FY21-FY25 through Title III, Part F was [\\$94.3M](#).
 - Total funds appropriated through Title V, Part A for FY23 was [\\$227.8M](#).
 - Total funds appropriated through Title V, Part B for FY22 was [\\$19.7M](#).

INSTITUTIONAL TYPE

- In 2022-2023, there were 600 HSIs in 30 different states and territories, with California (172), Texas (111), Puerto Rico (56), New York (39), and Illinois (34) having the most institutions.
- Of the 600 HSIs, 166 were public four-year institutions, 234 were public two-year institutions, 180 were private four-year institutions, and 8 were private two-year institutions.

ENROLLMENT

- In 2022-2023, HSIs enrolled 4,678,264 undergraduate students, which comprised 31.7% of total undergraduate enrollment in the United States.
 - 2,142,019 (45.8%) of the total enrollment at HSIs identified as Hispanic or Latino.
- In 2022-2023, 63% of Hispanic or Latino undergraduate students in the U.S. were enrolled in HSIs.

¹ Data are based on the author's calculations of IPEDS and FSA data unless otherwise cited or specified. Code and data available upon request. Trend data represents information for the current cohort of institutions under the designation.

² In the HEA reauthorization of 2008, a new program was added to Title V, the "Promoting Postbaccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans (PPOHA) Program." This was followed in 2010 with a program addition to Title III, the "Hispanic-Serving Institutions Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (HSI STEM) and Articulation Programs."

FINANCIAL AID

- According to the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study, [49.1%](#) of HSI students received some form of federal Title IV financial aid in 2019-2020, compared to 54.9% of all students.
 - [42.2%](#) of HSI students received a Pell Grant, compared to 40.2% of all students.
 - [20.6%](#) of HSI students received a federal student loan, compared to 34.5% of all students.
- Among HSI students who received federal Title IV aid, the [average amount](#) received was \$7,013.
 - The average Pell Grant amount for HSI students was \$4,212.
 - The average Federal student loan amount for HSI students was \$7,637.

COMPLETION/DEGREE ATTAINMENT

- At HSIs, 46.5% of students graduated within 150% time.³
 - In comparison, 63.5% of public four-year, 30.2% of public two-year, 68.4% of private non-profit, and 50.8% of private for-profit students graduated within 150% time.
- At HSIs, 40.5% of Hispanic or Latino students graduated within 150% time.
 - 58.1% of public four-year, 25.9% of public two-year, 64.4% of private non-profit, and 57.7% of private for-profit Hispanic or Latino students graduated within 150% time.
- In 2021-2022, HSIs conferred 390,140 associate's degrees and 435,085 bachelor's degrees.
 - HSIs conferred 175,741 bachelor's degrees to Hispanic or Latino graduates, representing 50.9% of all bachelor's degrees conferred to Hispanic or Latino graduates in 2021-22.

EARNINGS AND WEALTH

- According to the Baccalaureate & Beyond Longitudinal Study (B&B), four years after receiving a bachelor's degree, Hispanic or Latino HSI graduates averaged a gross income of [\\$42,366](#) in 2019, \$1,000 less than the national average for Hispanic or Latino bachelor's degree graduates overall.⁴
 - Hispanic or Latino graduates earned an average of \$44,512 at public four-year institutions, \$44,531 at private non-profit institutions, and \$45,301 at private for-profit institutions.
- Wealth accumulation can be [measured](#) differently from income. Four years after graduating:
 - [19%](#) of Hispanic or Latino HSI bachelor's degree recipients owned a home, compared to 18.9% of Hispanic or Latino bachelor's degree recipients overall.
 - [36.1%](#) of Hispanic or Latino HSI bachelor's degree recipients had a retirement account, compared to 32.6% of Hispanic or Latino bachelor's degree recipients overall.

DATA SOURCES

[Baccalaureate & Beyond Longitudinal Study](#). National Center for Education Statistics, February 2024.

[HSI Funding Timeline and Factbook](#). Excelencia in Education, September 2014 & April 2024.

[Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System](#). National Center for Education Statistics. March 2024.

[National Postsecondary Student Aid Study](#). National Center for Education Statistics, February 2024.

[U.S. Department of Education Program Data](#). March 2024.

³ 150% time represents a six-year graduation rate for four-year institutions and a three-year graduation rate for two-year institutions for first-time, full-time students. Four-year institution counts only include bachelor's degree seeking cohorts.

⁴ Earnings and wealth estimates only include Hispanic or Latino graduates who received their bachelor's degree before age 29.