



# Postsecondary National Policy Institute

## Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs)

### 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.<sup>1</sup> The first HSI appropriations were distributed in 1995, and in 1998 HSIs were moved from Title III to their own title, Title V.<sup>1</sup> 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.\* In the subsequent decades, HSIs proliferated, increasing by more than 100% since the 2008 reauthorization.<sup>1</sup>

### FEDERAL FUNDING

- HSIs are federally funded under Title III, Part F, and Title V, Parts A and B, of the HEA.<sup>3</sup>
  - Projected annual funding for FY21-FY25 through Title III, Part F was \$94.3M.<sup>3</sup>
  - Total funds appropriated through Title V, Part A for FY23 was \$227.8M.<sup>3</sup>
  - Total funds appropriated through Title V, Part B for FY22 was \$19.7M.<sup>3</sup>

### 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.<sup>5</sup>
- 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.<sup>5</sup>

### ENROLLMENT

- In 2022-2023, HSIs enrolled 4,678,264 undergraduate students, which comprised 31.7% of total undergraduate enrollment in the United States.<sup>5</sup>
  - 2,142,019 (45.8%) of the total enrollment at HSIs identified as Hispanic or Latino.<sup>5</sup>
- In 2022-23, 63% of Hispanic or Latino undergraduate students in the U.S. were enrolled in HSIs.<sup>5</sup>

\*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

- 49.1% of HSI students received some form of federal Title IV financial aid in 2019-2020, compared to 54.9% of all students.<sup>6</sup>
  - 42.2% of HSI students received a Pell Grant, compared to 40.2% of all students.<sup>6</sup>
  - 20.6% of HSI students received a federal student loan, compared to 34.5% of all students.<sup>6</sup>
- Among HSI students who received federal Title IV aid, the average amount received was \$7,013.<sup>6</sup>
  - The average Pell Grant amount for HSI students was \$4,212.<sup>6</sup>
  - The average Federal student loan amount for HSI students was \$7,637.<sup>6</sup>

## COMPLETION/DEGREE ATTAINMENT

- At HSIs, 46.5% of students graduated within 150% time.<sup>5</sup>
  - 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.<sup>5</sup>
- At HSIs, 40.5% of Hispanic or Latino students graduated within 150% time.<sup>5</sup>
  - 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.<sup>5</sup>
- In 2021-2022, HSIs conferred 390,140 associate's degrees and 435,085 bachelor's degrees.<sup>5</sup>
  - 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.<sup>5</sup>

## EARNINGS AND WEALTH

- Hispanic or Latino HSI graduates who received their bachelor's degree before age 29 averaged a gross income of \$42,366 four years after receiving a bachelor's degree, \$1,000 less than the national average for Hispanic or Latino bachelor's degree graduates overall.<sup>2</sup>
  - 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.<sup>2</sup>
- Wealth accumulation can be measured differently from income.<sup>8</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup>
  - 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.<sup>2</sup>

## DATA SOURCES

<sup>1</sup> [30 Years of Hispanic-Serving Institutions \(HSIs\)](#). Excelencia in Education, April 2025.

<sup>2</sup> [Baccalaureate & Beyond Longitudinal Study](#). National Center for Education Statistics, February 2024.

<sup>3</sup> [Grants and Programs](#). US Department of Education, July 2025.

<sup>4</sup> [HSI Funding Timeline and Factbook](#). Excelencia in Education, September 2014 & April 2024.

<sup>5</sup> [Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System](#). National Center for Education Statistics. March 2024.

<sup>6</sup> [National Postsecondary Student Aid Study](#). National Center for Education Statistics, February 2024.

<sup>7</sup> [U.S. Department of Education Program Data](#). March 2024.

<sup>8</sup> [Wealth Analysis FAQ](#). Urban Institute, 2021.