



# Postsecondary National Policy Institute

## Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs)

### HISTORY

In 2008, Congress authorized a program to provide financial support specifically to PBIs. It defined PBIs as having: at least 1,000 undergraduate students; an undergraduate enrollment that is at least 50% low-income or first-generation; an undergraduate enrollment that is at least 50% degree-seeking; a low expenditure per full-time undergraduate student in comparison with other institutions offering similar instruction; and at least 40% of enrolled students identifying as Black Americans.<sup>6</sup>

### FEDERAL FUNDING

- PBIs are federally funded under Title III, Parts A and F, and Title VII of the HEA. Title VII funding for PBIs was last awarded in FY11.<sup>5</sup>
  - Title III, Part A funding for FY25 was \$23.7M.<sup>5</sup>
  - Title III, Part F funding for FY25 was \$15.0M.<sup>5</sup>

### INSTITUTIONAL TYPE

- In 2025, there were 66 PBIs across 20 states, with Georgia (15), Mississippi (6), Louisiana (6), Illinois (5), and Alabama (5) having the most institutions.<sup>2</sup>
  - PBI concentrations largely reflect the distribution of Black Americans in the United States.
- Of the 66 PBIs, 11 were public four-year institutions, 41 were public two-year institutions, 13 were private non-profit four-year institutions, and 1 was a private non-profit two-year institution.<sup>2</sup>

### ENROLLMENT

- In fall 2024, PBIs enrolled 298,522 undergraduates and 23,995 graduate students.<sup>3</sup>
  - 148,933 (46.2%) of the total enrollment at PBIs identified as Black or African American.<sup>3</sup>
- Total fall enrollment at PBIs declined from 382,582 in 2014 to 322,517 in 2024, a 15.7% decrease.<sup>3</sup>
  - Non-PBI enrollment increased during the same period, growing from 18.9 million in 2014 to 19.4 million in 2024, a 2.6% increase.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2024, 6.5% of all Black students in the U.S. were enrolled in PBIs, down from 8.1% in 2014.<sup>3</sup>

## FINANCIAL AID

- 24% of undergraduate PBI students received federal student loans in the 2023-24 academic year, compared to 42% of all students.<sup>3</sup>
  - Among undergraduate PBI students who received federal student loans, the average loan amount in 2023-24 was \$5,490, lower than the average for all institutions, \$5,614.<sup>3</sup>
- In 2023-24, 66% of full-time, first-time undergraduate PBI students received a Pell Grant, compared to 34% of similar students across all institutions.<sup>3</sup>
  - The average Pell Grant amount for full-time, first-time undergraduate PBI students was \$6,486, higher than the \$5,739 average for similar students across all institutions.<sup>3</sup>

## COMPLETION/DEGREE ATTAINMENT

- At PBIs, 33.8% of students graduated within 150% time during the 2023-24 school year.<sup>3</sup>
  - In comparison, 63.5% of students at public four-year institutions, 30.2% at public two-year institutions, 68.4% at private non-profit institutions, and 50.8% at private for-profit institutions graduated within 150% of time.<sup>3</sup>
- At PBIs, 26.7% of Black students graduated within 150% time.<sup>3</sup>
  - 46.2% of Black students at public four-year institutions, 18.9% at public two-year institutions, 47.3% at private non-profit institutions, and 40.7% at private for-profit institutions graduated within 150% of time.<sup>3</sup>
- PBIs conferred 31,894 associate's degrees, 12,619 bachelor's degrees, and 7,772 graduate degrees in the 2023-24 academic year.<sup>3</sup>

## EARNINGS AND WEALTH

- Four years after receiving a bachelor's degree, Black PBI graduates averaged a gross income of \$37,844 in 2019, higher than the national average for Black bachelor's degree graduates overall.<sup>1</sup>
  - Black graduates earned an average of \$37,109 at public four-year institutions, \$36,042 at private non-profit institutions, and \$39,451 at private for-profit institutions.<sup>1</sup>
- Wealth accumulation can be measured differently from income.<sup>7</sup> Ten years after graduating:
  - 11.8% of Black PBI bachelor's degree recipients owned a home, compared to 9.7% of Black bachelor's degree recipients overall.<sup>1</sup>
  - 60% of Black PBI bachelor's degree recipients had a retirement account, compared to 64.2% of Black bachelor's degree recipients overall.<sup>1</sup>

## DATA SOURCES

<sup>1</sup> [Baccalaureate & Beyond Longitudinal Study](#). National Center for Education Statistics, November 2023.

<sup>2</sup> [Eligibility Matrix for Title III and Title V Programs](#). U.S. Department of Education, 2025.

<sup>3</sup> [Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System](#). National Center for Education Statistics. June 2025.

<sup>4</sup> [National Postsecondary Student Aid Study](#). National Center for Education Statistics, November 2023.

<sup>5</sup> [Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Summary](#). U.S. Department of Education, 2025.

<sup>6</sup> [Predominantly Black Institutions Program](#). U.S. Department of Education. July 2025.

<sup>7</sup> [Wealth Analysis FAQ](#). Urban Institute, 2021.