



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 1992.¹ The first HSI appropriations were distributed in 1995, and in 1998 HSIs were moved from Title III to their own title, Title V.¹ 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.¹

FEDERAL FUNDING

- HSIs are federally funded under Title III, Part F, and Title V, Parts A and B, of the HEA.³
 - Title III, Part F provides mandatory funding for developing HSI STEM and Articulation Programs. Total funds appropriated through Title III, Part F for FY25 were \$94.3M.³
 - Title V, Part A provides discretionary funding for developing HSIs. Total funds appropriated through Title V, Part A historically exceeded \$200M, but were reduced to \$0.3M in FY25.
 - Title V, Part B provides discretionary funding to “promote postbaccalaureate opportunities for Hispanic Americans.” Total funds appropriated through Title V, Part B historically exceeded \$25M, but were reduced to \$0 in FY25.

INSTITUTIONAL TYPE

- In 2024-25, there were 631 HSIs in 34 different states and territories, with California (179), Texas (105), Puerto Rico (57), New York (39), and Illinois (34) having the most institutions.⁴
- Of the 631 HSIs, 221 were public four-year institutions, 217 were public two-year institutions, 189 were private four-year institutions, and 4 were private two-year institutions.⁴

ENROLLMENT

- In Fall 2024, HSIs enrolled 5,613,607 undergraduate students and 603,997 graduate students, which comprised 34.3% of total undergraduate and 18.4% of total graduate enrollment in the United States.⁴
 - 2,639,014 (42.4%) of students at HSIs identified as Hispanic or Latino.⁴
- In Fall 2024, 64.9% of Hispanic or Latino undergraduate students in the U.S. were enrolled in HSIs.⁴

*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

- 49.9% of HSI students received a Pell Grant in 2023-24, with an average award of \$6,106.⁴
 - In comparison, 41.3% of students overall received a Pell Grant, with an average award of \$5,869.⁴
- 20.6% of HSI students received a federal student loan in 2023-24, with an average loan amount of \$5,046.⁴
 - In comparison, 36.1% of students overall received a federal student loan, with an average loan amount of \$5,479.⁴

COMPLETION/DEGREE ATTAINMENT

- At HSIs, 61.1% of students seeking a bachelor's degree graduated within 150% time.⁴
 - In comparison, 64.8% of students seeking a bachelor's degree across all institutions graduated within 150% time.⁴
- At HSIs, 54.3% of Hispanic or Latino students seeking a bachelor's degree graduated within 150% time.⁴
 - In comparison, 59.1% of Hispanic or Latino students seeking a bachelor's degree across all institutions graduated within 150% time.⁴
- In 2023-24, HSIs conferred 374,157 associate's degrees and 486,285 bachelor's degrees.⁴
 - HSIs conferred 185,950 bachelor's degrees to Hispanic or Latino graduates, representing 57.4% of all bachelor's degrees conferred to Hispanic or Latino graduates in 2023-24.⁴

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.²
 - 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.²
- Wealth accumulation can be measured differently from income.⁵ 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.²
 - 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.²

DATA SOURCES

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

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

³ [Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Summary](#). U.S. Department of Education, June 2026.

⁴ [Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System](#). National Center for Education Statistics. March 2026.

⁵ [Wealth Analysis FAQ](#). Urban Institute, 2021.