

Latinos in Higher Education in California — 2005

Population

- ◇ California ranks first among the states in the size of its Latino population. Latinos represent more than one-third of the population in California. [*U.S. Census Bureau, State Population Estimates by Race and Hispanic Origin*]
- ◇ California's Latino population is projected to increase by more than 33 percent between 2005 and 2015, and by about 30 percent between 2015 and 2025. [*U.S. Census Bureau, Projected State Populations, by Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1995-2025*]
- ◇ In 2002-03, Latinos represented 33 percent of public high-school graduates in California. By 2013, Latinos are projected to represent almost 50 percent of graduates. [*Knocking at the College Door: Projections of High School Graduates by State, Income, and Race/Ethnicity, 6th edition, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)*]

College Preparation

- ◇ Latino public high-school graduates are less likely than other graduates to take the college-preparatory courses required for freshmen admission. In 2003, 21 percent of Latino public high-school graduates in California completed the courses required for freshman admission. In comparison, 24 percent of all African American, 39 percent of white, and 51 percent of Asian public high-school graduates completed these courses. [*University Preparedness of Public High School Graduates, California Postsecondary Education Commission, March 2005*]
- ◇ Latinos in California scored lower on the SAT I exam than did white or Asian students in 2003. White students outscored Latinos on the SAT I by 190 points. Since 1998, this gap has increased by 14 points. [*University Preparedness of Public High School Graduates, California Postsecondary Education Commission, March 2005*]
- ◇ More Latinos are taking Advanced Placement courses and tests. Since 1998, the percentage of Latinos taking AP tests has increased 92 percent (from less than 8,000 to more than 15,000 students). [*University Preparedness of Public High School Graduates, California Postsecondary Education Commission, March 2005*]

College Enrollment

- ◇ In 2002-03, California enrolled 36 percent of all Latinos in higher education in the United States. [*U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Enrollment File, Fall 2002*]
- ◇ In 2002-03, Latinos represented 24 percent of college enrollment in California's colleges and universities (601,000). [*The Almanac of Higher Education, 2004-05. The Chronicle of Higher Education*]
- ◇ Most Latinos are enrolled in public institutions of higher education in California. In 2004, Latinos represented 12 percent of students in the University of California system, 22 percent of students in the California State University system, 27 percent of students in the California Community College system, and 6 percent of students in other institutions. [*Ethnic and Gender Diversity of Enrollments Tables, California Postsecondary Education Commission, September 2005*]
- ◇ The vast majority of Latinos in California who are enrolled in college are enrolled in community colleges. In 2004, more than 75 percent of Latinos enrolled in public colleges in California were enrolled at a community college. [*Total Enrollment, by Ethnicity, 2004, California Postsecondary Education Commission, September 2005*]
- ◇ The majority of California Latinos enrolled in higher-education institutions are enrolled part time. In 2002-03, 60 percent of Latinos enrolled in higher education in California were enrolled part time. [*U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, Enrollment File, Fall 2002*]

Financial Aid*

- ◇ Latinos received lower average amounts of financial aid to pay for college compared to all ethnic groups in California. In 2003-04, Latino undergraduates received an average aid award of \$4,945, compared to the average award of \$5,450 for all ethnic groups in California.
- ◇ Latinos in California are less likely to receive federal aid than Latinos in other states or nationally. Less than one-third of Latinos in California received federal aid to pay for college. In comparison, 50 percent of Latinos nationally received federal aid.
- ◇ Latinos in California are more likely to receive federal grants than federal loans to pay for college. In 2003-04, 25 percent of Latino undergraduates in California received federal grants, and 14 percent received federal loans (excluding PLUS loans).

(over)

- ◇ The average federal loan award for Latinos in California is much higher than the average federal grant award. In 2003-04, the average loan awarded to Latinos was \$5,065; the average grant award was \$2,635.
- ◇ Less than 10 percent of Latino undergraduates in California receive state aid to pay for college, and the average state aid award for Latinos (\$2,930) was lower than that of all ethnic groups (\$3,310).
- ◇ More than 20 percent of Latino undergraduates in California received institutional aid in 2003-04. This rate is similar to the rate for all ethnic groups. The average institutional aid award was lower for Latinos (\$2,040), compared to the average for all ethnic groups (\$2,485).

*Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), National Postsecondary Aid Study (NPSAS) 2003-04: Undergraduates Survey. Calculated in conjunction with the Institute for Higher Education Policy.

College Completion

- ◇ Latinos received 11 percent of degrees awarded from the University of California system and 17 percent of degrees from the California State University system in 2004. [*Degree Completions, 2004, Data Tables, California Postsecondary Education Commission, September 2005*]
- ◇ Latinos were more likely to earn degrees in the social sciences. In 2004, the top-three disciplines for Latinos in the University of California system were social sciences and history, multi/inter-disciplinary studies, and psychology. The top-three disciplines for Latinos in the California State University system were business management and administration, liberal arts and sciences, and education. [*Degree Completions by Discipline, 2004, Data Tables, California Postsecondary Education Commission, September 2005*]

Latino Males in Higher Education in California

Population

- ◇ Latino males represented the largest group between the ages of 18 to 24 in California. Between 2002 and 2004, Latino males represented 23 percent of the state population 18 to 24 years of age. Latino females represented 20 percent, white males were 18 percent, and white females represented 17 percent of the state population 18 to 24 years of age. [*Ethnic and Gender Diversity of Degree Recipients Over the Period From 2002 to 2004, Data Tables, California Postsecondary Education Commission, September 2005*]

College Preparation

- ◇ The percentage of Latino males who are high-school graduates is low. Latino males represented 16 percent of high-school graduates in California during the period of 2002-04. [*Ethnic and Gender Diversity of Degree Recipients Over the Period From 2002 to 2004, Data Tables, California Postsecondary Education Commission, September 2005*]

College Enrollment

- ◇ Latino males are underrepresented at all public higher-education systems in California. In 2004, Latino males represented 5 percent of enrollment in the University of California system, 8 percent of enrollment at the California State University system, and 12 percent of enrollment at California community colleges. [*Total Enrollment, by Gender, Data Tables, California Postsecondary Education Commission, September 2005*]
- ◇ In 2004, Latino males represented 41 percent of students at public institutions of higher education in California; Latino females represented 59 percent of students. [*Total Enrollment, by Gender, Data Tables, California Postsecondary Education Commission, September 2005*]

Financial Aid

- ◇ Although Latino males were about as likely as all males in California to receive some form of aid to pay for college in 2003-04, Latino males received lower average aid awards. The average amount of aid for Latino males in 2003-04 was \$5,790, compared to \$6,500 for white males, \$7,280 for Asian males, and \$6,325 for all males in California. [*U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), National Postsecondary Aid Study (NPSAS) 2003-04: Undergraduates Survey*]
- ◇ Latino males in California were as likely as all males to use federal loans to pay for college, but they also received higher average loan awards than all males. In 2003-04, 14 percent of undergraduate Latino males received federal loans with an average loan award of \$5,460, compared to the average loan award of \$5,225 for all males in California. [*U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), National Postsecondary Aid Study (NPSAS) 2003-04: Undergraduates Survey*]

College Completion

- ◇ Latino males represented only 8 percent of Californians with higher-education degrees between 2002 and 2004. In comparison, Latino females were 13 percent, white males were 20 percent, and white females represented 28 percent of Californians with higher-education degrees. [*Ethnic and Gender Diversity of Degree Recipients Over the Period From 2002 to 2004, Data Tables, California Postsecondary Education Commission, September 2005*]
- ◇ Between 2002 and 2004, Latino males earned 9 percent of associate degrees, 7 percent of bachelor's degrees, 5 percent of master's degrees, and 4 percent of all degrees conferred in California. [*Data Tables, California Postsecondary Education Commission, September 2005*]



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