

THE STATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN CALIFORNIA

The Campaign for College Opportunity



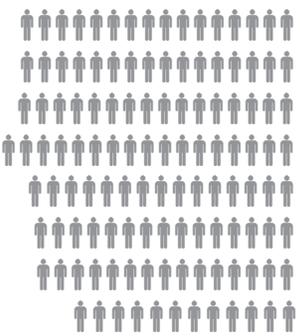
LATINOS



BLACKS



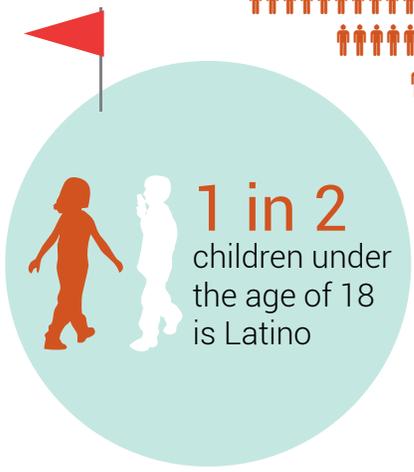
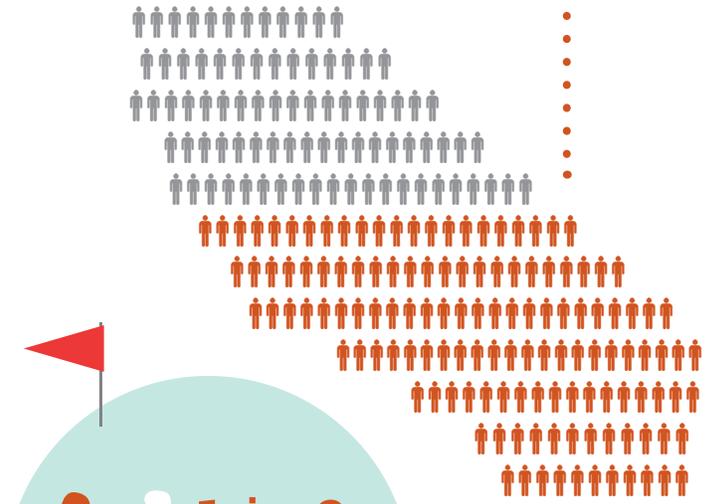
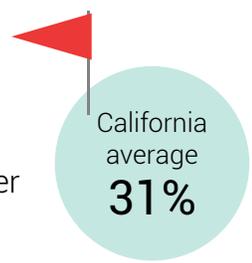
ASIAN AMERICANS
NATIVE HAWAIIANS
PACIFIC ISLANDERS



there are 15 million
LATINOS
in California, the largest racial/ethnic group in the state



12%
Bachelor's degree or higher



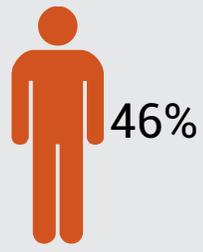
7%
Foreign-born Latinos have a BA or higher

18%
Native-born Latinos have a BA or higher

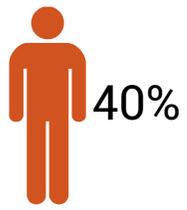
When one in two children under the age of 18 is Latino, California cannot meet its workforce demand for college educated workers without ensuring more Latinos earn college credentials. The future of our economy and the state will rise or fall on the educational success of Latinos.

California college-age population (18-24 years) that is Latino

percentage of enrolled students who are Latino



CA Community Colleges



California State University



University of California



For-profit colleges



Private, nonprofit colleges



WHERE DO LATINOS GO TO COLLEGE?

about 815,000 Latino students are enrolled in college in California

CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY
COLLEGES

CALIFORNIA
STATE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA

almost
7 in 10
Latino undergraduates
attend a
California Community
College
529,300 students

30%
transfer
within
six years

8 out of 10
are placed into
pre-college
level courses



39%
complete within
six years

CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY
COLLEGES

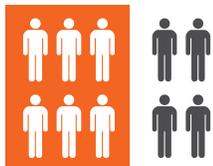
CALIFORNIA
STATE
UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA

almost
2 in 10
Latino undergraduates
attend a
California
State University
136,300 students

the 4-year
graduation rate gap
between Whites
and Latinos
almost doubled
between 1998 &
2007 cohorts

almost 6 out of 10
are placed into
pre-college
level courses



10%
graduate within
four years



45%
graduate within
six years

CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY
COLLEGES

CALIFORNIA
STATE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA

Latino
applications

350%

Latino
admits

1.7%

** at UC Berkeley
and UCLA
between 1995
and 2014*

almost
1 in 20

Latino undergraduates
attend a University of
California
40,900 students

2/3

of Latino applicants
are rejected from six of
UC's nine campuses.

46%
graduate within
four years



75%
graduate within
six years

WHY DON'T MORE LATINOS FINISH COLLEGE?

Latinos face significant barriers on
their pathway to a college degree

Once in college, students
face institutional hurdles

Before college,
students carry
challenges
beyond their
control

PRE-COLLEGE LEVEL COURSES

INSUFFICIENT FUNDING

BROKEN TRANSFER PATHWAY

LACK OF STUDENT SUPPORTS

Only 9% of
Latinos attend
the top 20%
highest-
achieving K-12
schools

The amount that
CA's public colleges
and universities
receive from the
state per full-time
equivalent student
has decreased by
21% in 10 years



WHAT POLICIES CAN ENSURE MORE LATINOS GO TO COLLEGE AND GRADUATE?

Closing access and achievement gaps among racial and ethnic groups is critical for California. As a majority-minority state, the success of all ethnic groups is essential for a strong economy and vibrant civil society. The Campaign for College Opportunity proposes the following recommendations for policymakers, college leaders, and students and families so that we can secure California's economic future by significantly improving our education system for all Californians and specifically increasing college enrollment and graduation among Latino students.

1. Create a statewide plan for higher education.

A statewide plan would allow California to be intentional about closing persistent educational gaps among racial/ethnic groups and improve rates of college readiness, enrollment, and graduation for all groups, particularly Latinos.

2. Ensure colleges successfully move students through pre-college level courses, quickly and with improved retention rates.

Pre-college level work is one of the biggest determinants in whether students graduate from college. Given that the majority of Latino students test into pre-college level coursework, this is a critical issue in college completion.

3. Provide students with clear transfer pathways to four-year degrees.

Only 30 percent of Latino California community college students transfer to a four-year university within six years. Given that the majority of California's students begin at community college and that those who do transfer graduate at high rates, improved transfer rates would substantially increase the number of Latino college degree-holders in the state.

4. Expand college knowledge in middle and high school and invest in support services students need to succeed.

Underrepresented, first-generation, and low-income students, the majority in California today, often face numerous challenges related to college enrollment and graduation. Research indicates that supporting these students before and through college vastly improves their success rates.

5. Fund colleges for both enrollment growth and successful outcomes.

California should keep its promise to provide adequate funding so all eligible students have a spot to enroll in a public college or university. The state should ensure that its funding policies require improved outcomes from our college leaders, so that more students have the supports they need to earn a certificate, degree, or transfer and that equity gaps by race are eliminated.

6. Strengthen financial support options for low- to moderate-income college students.

Ensure that all California students learn about the availability of financial aid and apply, while simultaneously increasing the availability of state financial aid through the Cal Grant program.

7. Allow California's public universities to use race/ethnicity as one of many factors in weighing an applicants' qualifications for admission.

Latinos are substantially underrepresented in higher education, especially at the University of California—the state has broken its promise to provide quality education for all of its residents. Given California's racial/ethnic diversity, if the state plans to keep our economy strong by meeting the growing demand of businesses for educated workers, we must significantly increase diversity in our universities.