

STATE RANKING

Georgia had the 10th largest Latino population in the U.S.¹

K-12 POPULATION

In Georgia, 11% of the K-12 population was Latino.²

STATE POPULATION

In Georgia, 9% of the state population was Latino.³ Projections show a continued increase.

MEDIAN AGE

The median age of Latinos in Georgia was 25, compared to 38 for White non-Hispanics.⁴

DEGREE ATTAINMENT

In Georgia, 18% of Latino adults (25 to 64 years old) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to 36% of all adults.⁵

For the U.S. to regain the top ranking in the world for college degree attainment, Latinos will need to earn 5.5 million degrees by 2020.

To reach the degree attainment goal by 2020, Georgia can: 1) close the equity gap in college completion; 2) increase the number of degrees conferred; and, 3) scale up programs and initiatives that work for Latino and other students. The following is a framework for tracking Latino degree attainment in Georgia.

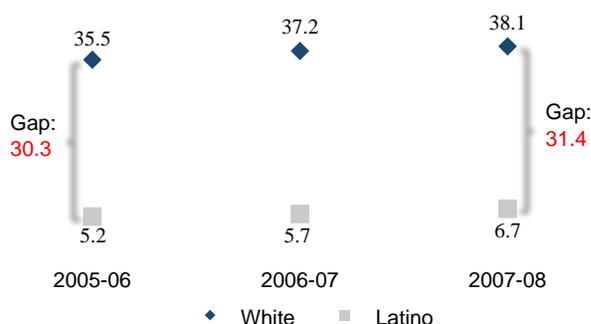
Equity Gap in Degree Completion

Closing the equity gap in college completion can be tracked by the 3 measures provided below. Alone, none of these measures capture the entire “story” of equity in degree completion. However, in combination, they provide a useful picture of the equity gap in degree attainment between Latino and white cohorts in Georgia in a single year (2007-08) and the persistence of the gap over time (2006-08).

Georgia	2007-08		
	Latinos	Whites	Equity Gap
Graduation Rates	37.8	42.3	4.5
Completions per 100 FTE Students	18.3	22.7	4.4
Completions Relative to the Population in Need	6.7	38.1	31.4

Graduation rates - Total graduation within 150% percent of program time for first-time, full-time freshman
Completions per 100 FTE students – Total undergraduate degrees and certificates awarded per 100 full-time equivalent students (incorporates part-time students)
Completions Relative to the Population in Need – Total undergraduate degrees and certificates awarded per 1,000 adults aged 18 to 44 relative to the adult population with no college degree

Completions Relative to the Population in Need: 2006 to 2008



¹ U.S. Census 2010, American Fact Finder, Demographic Profile Summary. <http://factfinder2.census.gov>

² U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data (CCD), "State Nonfiscal Public Elementary/Secondary Education Survey", 2009-10, v.1b. [www.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/data](http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/data)

³ U.S. Census 2010: Georgia. <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/data/>

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey. www.census.gov/acs

⁵ Lumina Foundation for Education. *A Stronger Nation Through Higher Education. Educational Attainment Levels for the States.* www.luminafoundation.org

Degrees Conferred

Another metric to benchmark college completion is to track the progress of total degrees awarded over time. This measure may be the result of an increase in overall enrollment numbers rather than an increase in rates of completion. From 2005-06 to 2007-08,

- the number of Hispanics who earned an undergraduate degree in Georgia increased about 24% from 2006-08, while all other race/ethnic groups increased 5%.
- among the 50 states, Georgia ranked 14th for the increase in degrees conferred to Latinos over 3 years.

For more information on these metrics, download *Benchmarking Latino College Completion to Meet National Goals: 2010 to 2020* and *Degrees Conferred to Latinos: 2006-2008* at www.EdExcelencia.org/research/EAF/Benchmarking

Examples of What Works for Latino Students

There are institutions in Georgia showing success in enrolling, retaining, and graduating Latino students. The following are examples of institutional programs with evidence of effectiveness in serving Latino students nominated for Examples of *Excelencia*.

Hispanic Outreach and Leadership (HOLA) – Armstrong Atlantic State University

HOLA is a recruitment, retention and outreach program serving Latino students at the university from enrollment to graduation and beyond. The mission of HOLA is to help Hispanic students succeed at AASU by providing support services and culturally sensitive programs that engage students in learning and enriching their university experience. Since its creation, HOLA has nearly doubled the enrollment of Hispanic students at Armstrong Atlantic State University (AASU), which is located in a predominantly non-Latino area. Overall, Hispanic enrollment at AASU has increased by 36%. AASU enrolled 253 Hispanic students in fall 2007, and directly assisted 70 of these students through a variety of walk-in and scheduled services. AASU continues to be the only university of its size, outside of Atlanta, to commit to the advancement of Hispanic higher education.

(http://www.armstrong.edu/Departments/hola/hola_welcome).

Latino Student Services and Outreach (LASSO) – Georgia State University

The mission of the LASSO office is to engage in the recruitment and retention of Latino students. This mission is accomplished by providing students with academic support services, advising, advocacy, mentoring, and referral services that compliment the personal and career development of Latino students. Through the partnership with The Goizueta Foundation, GSU has been able to increase the percentage of Latino students on campus from 4% to almost 8%. When the program began, 845 Latino students were enrolled at GSU; for the 2010-2011 academic year, Hispanic student enrollment was 2,142. GSU has also improved graduation rates for Latino students, who now graduate at a higher rate than any other student ethnic category on campus, by 25%. (http://www.gsu.edu/success/latino_outreach.html)

For more information on institutional programs improving Latino student success in higher education, access *Excelencia* in Education's Growing What Works database at <http://www.edexcelencia.org/examples>

Ensuring America's Future partners in Georgia:

Southern Education Foundation: www.sefatl.org

Southern Regional Education Board: www.sreb.org