

STATE RANKING

New Mexico had the 9th largest Latino population in the U.S.¹

K-12 POPULATION

Over **half** of the K-12 population in New Mexico (60%) was Latino.²

STATE POPULATION

In New Mexico, **46%** of the state population was Latino.³ Projections show a continued increase.

MEDIAN AGE

The median age of Latinos in New Mexico was **29**, compared to **40** for White non-Hispanics.⁴

DEGREE ATTAINMENT

In New Mexico, **21%** of Latino adults (25 to 64 years old) had earned an associate degree or higher, compared to **33%** 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, New Mexico 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 New Mexico.

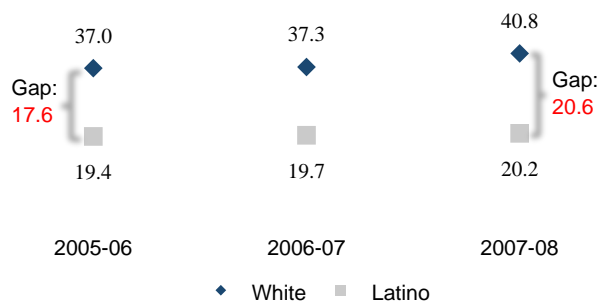
Equity Gap in Degree Completion

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 New Mexico in a single year (2007-08) and the persistence of the gap over time (2006-08).

New Mexico	2007-08		
	Latinos	Whites	Equity Gap
Graduation Rates	27.3	33.9	6.6
Completions per 100 FTE Students	13.6	15.5	1.9
Completions Relative to the Population in Need	20.2	40.8	20.6

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: New Mexico. <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 New Mexico increased about 7% from 2006-08, while all other race/ethnic groups increased 3%.
- among the 50 states, New Mexico ranked 13th 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 New Mexico 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*.

College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) – New Mexico State University

CAMP is a residential program based in a centralized dormitory to facilitate access to university resources and to CAMP offices, study halls and computer labs. First-year mechanisms to retain students include: support from staff, peers and CAMP alumni; family involvement; learning community residential living system; a special course section of University 150 exclusively for CAMP students; educationally tailored workshops; and art and cultural activities. The program also provides financial assistance for housing, meal plans, comprehensive health exams and stipends for textbooks and training during their freshman year. Ninety-five percent of the students who enter NMSU via CAMP finish their first full year of college, while the average freshman retention rate over a four-year period is 77%, compared with NMSU's general first-year retention rate of 70%. All 133 of the students who have participated in CAMP since 2002 have been Latino. (<http://web.nmsu.edu/~camp/>).

Engaging Latino Communities in Education (ENLACE) – University of New Mexico

Engaging Latino Communities in Education (ENLACE) is a grassroots initiative dedicated to empowering marginalized Latino communities through a comprehensive pre-school through graduate/professional educational pipeline. ENLACE sustains and increases learning opportunities and the degree of engagement among constituents at every level of education, beginning in early elementary school and culminating with college- and graduate-level education. In 2004-2005, ENLACE touched, and positively impacted 414 post-secondary Latino students (undergraduate and professional school students) throughout New Mexico. When comparing students' performance, more Latino undergraduate students, who went through ENLACE as young students, applied to graduate, law and medical schools, than those students who did not. (<http://enlacenm.unm.edu/>).

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 New Mexico:

Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE): <http://wiche.edu>