



Knocking at the College Door

Projections of High School Graduates

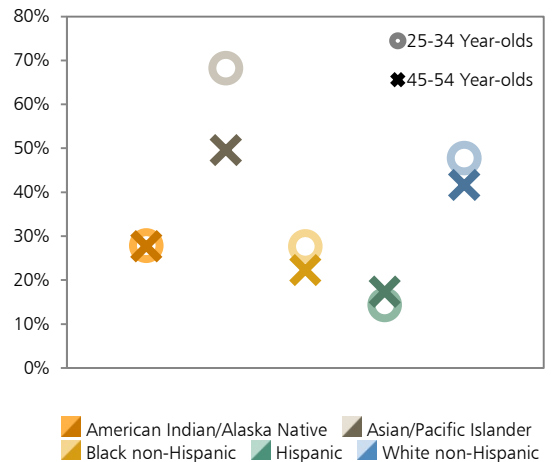
KANSAS

National and regional trends mask important variation among states in the supply of high school graduates. This profile provides brief indicators for Kansas related to: current levels of educational attainment, our projections of high school graduates into the future, and two common barriers to student access and success – insufficient academic preparation and inadequate finances.

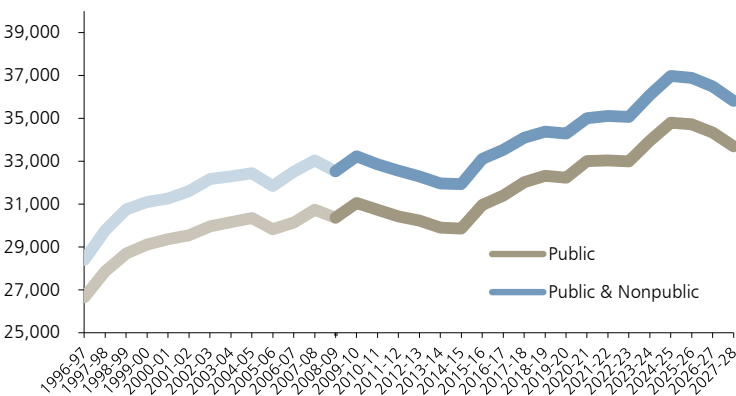
Educational Attainment by Race/Ethnicity¹

Workforce projections indicate there will be a growing demand for well-educated labor, which means that younger adults need to be as well as or more educated than older adults given how much longer they will need to be employed. Data about the proportion of Kansas adults ages 25-34 and 45-54 with postsecondary degrees between 2008 and 2010 indicate:

- Overall, younger adults were slightly more likely (42%) to have a postsecondary degree than older adults (39%), regardless of race/ethnicity.
- Among the races/ethnicities, Hispanics of either age group were the least likely to have a postsecondary degree in Kansas, 14% and 17%, respectively. Educational attainment among American Indian/Alaska Natives was also relatively low.
- The rate of postsecondary degree attainment among Asian/Pacific Islander adults in Kansas exceeded all other race/ethnicities, with rates of 68% among younger adults and 50% among older adults.



Production of High School Graduates



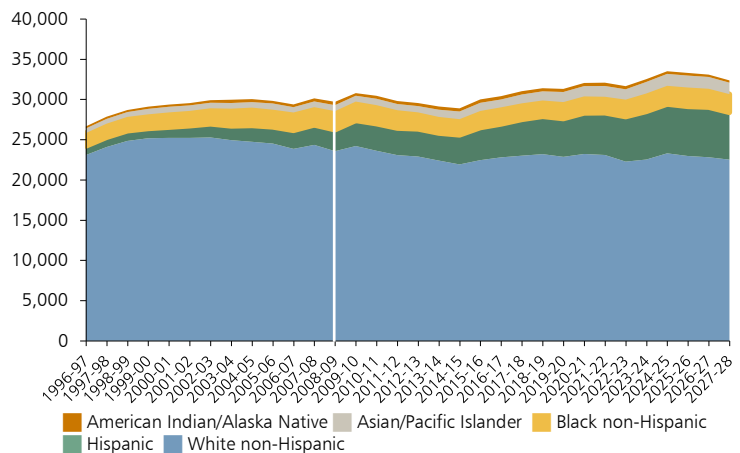
According to our projections, Kansas produced just over 33,200 high school graduates in 2009-10 and, after emerging from several years of small declines between 2010-11 and 2014-15, will continue to produce graduates at a steadily increasing pace through the end of the projected period.

- Kansas will reach a new all-time high of almost 37,000 total public and nonpublic graduates by 2024-25, 14% higher than 2008-09, and remain at about that level for several years before beginning to see small declines by the last projected year.
- Nonpublic high school graduates will stay between 2,100 and 2,200 in all projected years, between 6% and 7% of the total.

Public High School Graduates by Race/Ethnicity

Kansas is projected to experience increasing diversity throughout the years projected:

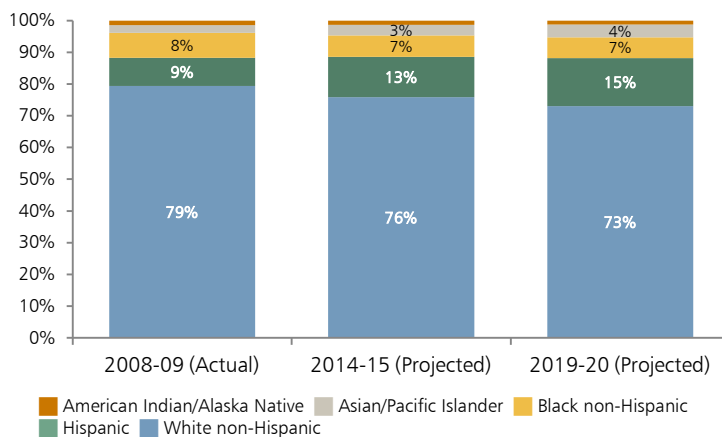
- White non-Hispanics will continue to be the majority of graduates. They were projected to have peaked at 24,200 in 2009-10 and not to exceed that peak again during the projections, but remain relatively flat in number.
- Hovering around 2,000 graduates each year, the number of Black non-Hispanics is also projected to be relatively stable.
- Hispanic graduates outpaced Black non-Hispanics in 2006-07 to be the second-largest group of graduates, and are projected to more than double in size from 2,700 in 2008-09 to 6,200 in 2026-27. Asians/Pacific Islanders will double from 740 to almost 1,500 graduates over the same period.



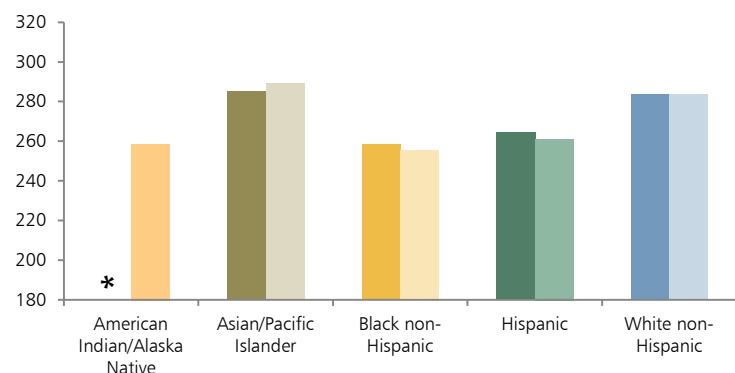
Composition of Public High School Graduates by Race/Ethnicity

Kansas's public graduating classes are projected to grow increasingly diverse due in large part to increases of Hispanic graduates:

- White non-Hispanics decrease from virtually 80% of all public graduates at the beginning of the projections, to 73% in 2019-20 and only 70% by the last projected year, 2027-28.
- Hispanic public graduates constitute the greatest gains among non-White graduates, rising consistently from 9% of the total to 18% by the last projected year.
- Asians/Pacific Islanders increase from 2% to 4% of the total; American Indians/Alaska Natives and Black non-Hispanics retain relatively constant proportions of the total throughout, about 1% and 6-7%, respectively.



Composite Math and Reading Scores by Race/Ethnicity²



Academic preparation is a major factor in college access and success, and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) provides some measure of differences by race/ethnicity.

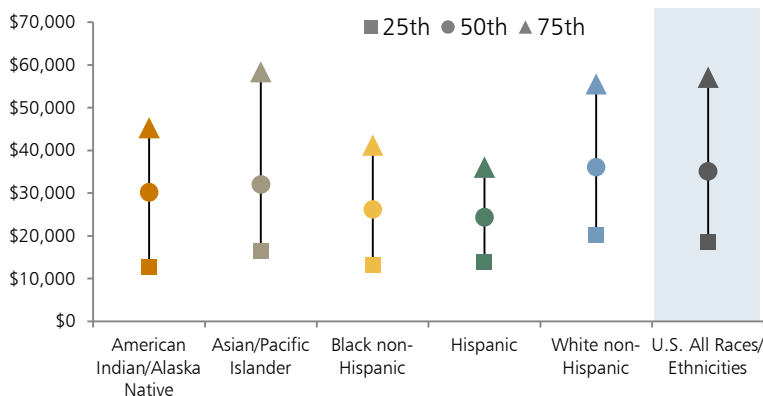
- The average composite math and reading score across races/ethnicities for Kansas eighth graders in 2011 ranged from 258 for Black non-Hispanics to 285 for Asian/Pacific Islanders, no score was available for American Indians/Alaska Natives.
- The average score for eighth graders in Kansas of each race/ethnicity was about the national average, or just above.

Note: Kansas in darker shades; U.S. in lighter shades. *Reporting standards were not met and no score is available.

Annual Income by Race/Ethnicity³

A second major barrier is access to the financial resources needed to pay for college. Among working-age adults (25-64) in Kansas from 2006 to 2010:

- The statewide median income was \$33,359, compared with \$35,147 for the nation.
- Hispanics were the least well off financially among all races/ethnicities with a median income of \$24,383, just over two-thirds of the statewide median, and one in four Hispanics earning \$13,800 or less.
- The median income of other non-Whites in Kansas was also below the statewide median, particularly for Black non-Hispanics, with a median income of \$26,200, 79% of the statewide median.



Projections of high school graduates are from WICHE, *Knocking at the College Door: Projections of High School Graduates*, 2012. 1996-97 to 2008-09 are actual reported graduates and 2009-10 to 2027-28 are projections. The National Center for Higher Education Management Systems supplied the data used in the first and last figures. State-level estimates for those figures are only reported for a racial/ethnic group when the coefficients of variation for all estimates do not exceed 25% and sample size is 50 or greater. Readers should understand that estimates for small samples can be imprecise due to large standard errors. WICHE provides relevant data tables at <http://wiche.edu/knocking-8th/technicalNotes>.

¹Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008-10 American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) File. Average annual percent of population aged 25-34 and 45-54 with an Associate's degree or higher in 2008-10.

²Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2009 and 2011 Mathematics and Reading Assessments, generated using the NAEP Data Explorer. <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/naepdata/>. Notes: Composite scores are the average of the Math and Reading scores for 8th graders tested in 2011, scale of 0 to 500; scores for 12th graders taking NAEP were not available for this state.

³Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-10 American Community Survey Five-Year Public Use Microdata Sample File. Note: Percentiles for wage/salary income were calculated for persons age 25-64 with positive earnings; unemployed persons with \$0 income were also included. Figures are in 2010 dollars. Native Hawaiians are included in Asian/Pacific Islander.

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