



Knocking at the College Door

Projections of High School Graduates

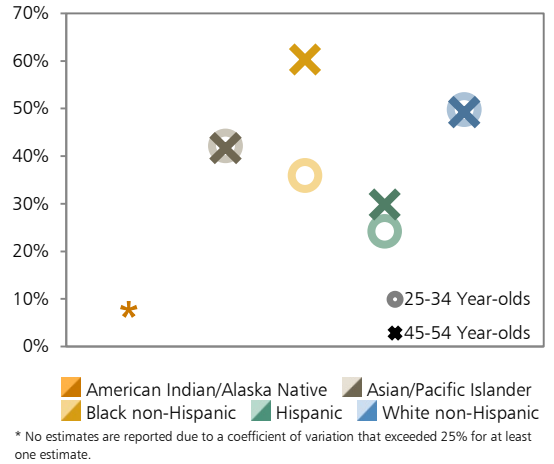
HAWAII

National and regional trends mask important variation among states in the supply of high school graduates. This profile provides brief indicators for Hawaii 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.

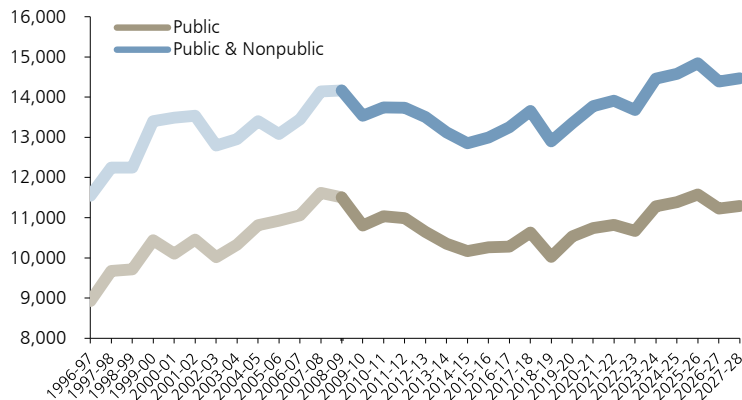
Educational Attainment by Race/Ethnicity¹

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. In Hawaii between 2008 and 2010:

- Overall about 41% of Hawaiian adults had at least an associate’s degree, both younger (aged 25-34) and older (aged 45-54). For White non-Hispanics, it was about 49% of both younger and older adults.
- Younger Black non-Hispanic adults have the largest educational gap from their older counterparts. Estimates are not precise enough to determine as much about the generational educational gaps among Asian/Pacific Islanders and Hispanics, but it is clear that both younger and older adults in these groups are less likely to have a postsecondary degree than White non-Hispanics. Hispanics of both age groups were notably below the state average rate.



Production of High School Graduates



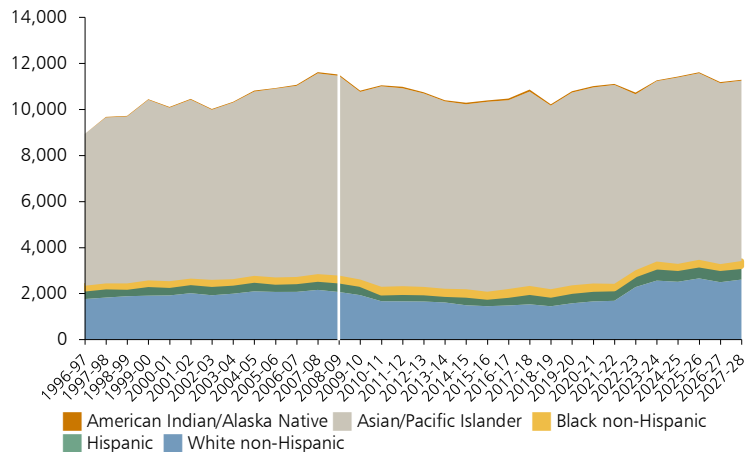
Our projections indicate relatively stable production of high school graduates in Hawaii in years going forward, similar to what Hawaii has produced in graduates in prior years.

- Hawaii had just over 14,000 graduates in 2008-09. Graduating classes are projected to dip slightly for the next decade or so, varying between 12,800 and 13,900 through 2022-23. After that, they will increase slightly to exceed 14,000 again by 2023-24 and beyond.
- Nonpublic high school graduates were about 20% of total graduates in 2008-09 (about 2,700), and Hawaii is one of few states projected to see an increase in nonpublic graduates. They are projected to rise above 3,000 by 2020-21 and then stay above that point.

Public High School Graduates by Race/Ethnicity

Hawaii’s public high school graduating classes are unlike any other state’s in their racial/ethnic composition. The vast majority of public graduates are and will continue to be Asian/Pacific Islanders; White non-Hispanics are a much smaller portion of the total, but are virtually the only other source of increase for Hawaii over the projected long-term.

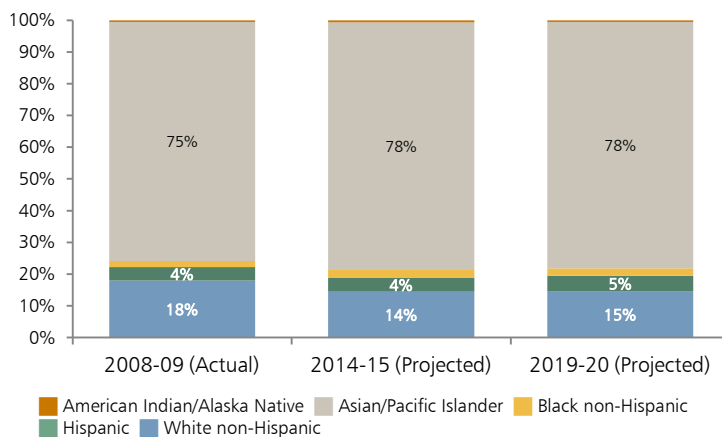
- There were almost 8,700 Asian/Pacific Islander graduates in 2008-09, and 8,000 to 8,500 are projected for each year through 2019-20, and most years after that.
- The number of White non-Hispanic graduates has hovered around 2,000 since 1999-2000, but is projected to dip somewhat to between 1,400 and 1,700 graduates in most years through 2021-22, after which they will increase above 2,000 again.



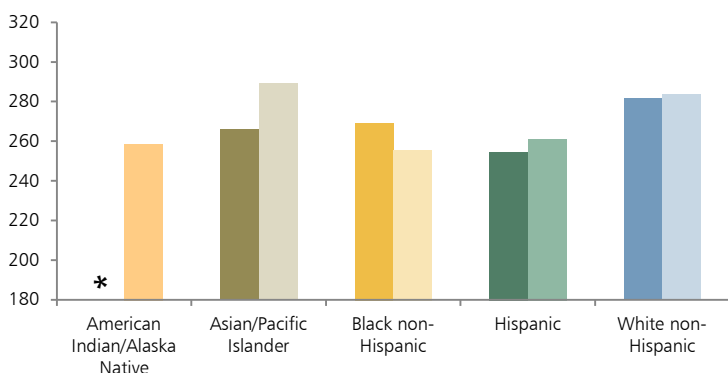
Composition of Public High School Graduates by Race/Ethnicity

Asian/Pacific Islanders comprise the vast majority of public high school graduates from Hawaii.

- They were 75% of the total in 2008-09, and will gain several percentage points to 78% by 2019-20.
- Asian/Pacific Islanders are projected to lose some share over the longer-term, dipping to 70% in the last projected years, as White non-Hispanics and Hispanics gain some share in the outer projected years.
- Black non-Hispanics and American Indian/Alaska Natives add between 2% to 3% to the non-White share in any projected year.



Composite Math and Reading Scores by Race/Ethnicity²



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

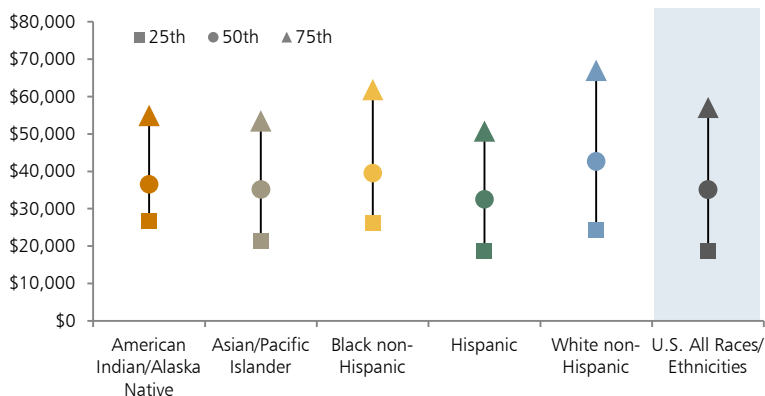
Academic preparation is a major factor in college access and success, and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) provides some measure of differences by race/ethnicity.

- The average composite math and reading scores for 8th graders in Hawaii in 2011 ranged from 255 for Hispanics to 281 for White non-Hispanics.
- Contrary to the trend in most states, Asians/Pacific Islanders in Hawaii posted scores lower than the national average for the group, 266 compared to 289; and Hawaiian Black non-Hispanics had scores higher than the national average for their group, 269 compared to 256.
- No scores were available for American Indian/Alaska Natives.

Annual Income by Race/Ethnicity³

A second major barrier is access to the financial resources needed to pay for college. Precise estimates are difficult to come by for smaller populations, so comparisons between groups can be problematic. But, estimates for 2006 to 2010 suggest incomes in Hawaii are somewhat high overall compared to other states, and differences exist by race/ethnicity.

The statewide median income for working-age adults (ages 25-64) was \$36,274, compared with \$35,147 for the nation. Hispanics' median income was the lowest at \$32,511, 76% of White non-Hispanics' median income of \$42,671. The median income for Asian/Pacific Islanders was \$35,166, 82% of the White non-Hispanic median income.



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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Visit <http://wiche.edu/knocking> to obtain the full publication and download these projections as [graphs](#) or [data files](#).