

Key Takeaways from Research on Latinx College Completion

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Latinx College Completion: Trends and Influential Factors



Trends

Nationally, Latinx **college graduation rates** (150% normal time) are **54% for 4-year** institutions and **34% for 2-year** institutions. Pathways through college are complicated, and UChicago Consortium's [To & Through tool](#) provides detailed data on Chicago Public Schools graduates' postsecondary pathways.



College Supports

Colleges can support Latinx student persistence. In particular, they can:

- **Provide support for navigating college**, such as orientation programs (for both families & students), connections to faculty and peer mentors, and access to information about topics like transfer expectations.
- **Attend to key transition points** at which Latinx student persistence can stall, including the summer before college, late registration for a semester, experiencing financial holds, dropping a class, and stopping out.



Finances

Latinx students are more likely to be paying for some or all of college than their White and Asian peers. Consequently, they **work more during college** (with 32% working 40+ hours) and are **more likely to be part-time**. Both factors are related to attrition. Need-based aid and timely awareness of aid opportunities can help.



Policies

Policies that support HSIs, provide in-state tuition for undocumented students, honor bilingual education, and articulate 2-year to 4-year transfer processes can be **opportunity-enhancing** for Latinx students. Funding for public colleges is also important to explore in a nuanced way: for example, selective public colleges receive more funding on average, and Latinx students succeed in such colleges, but are underrepresented there on the whole.

Post-College Outcomes



Employment

Latinx students who attained Bachelor's degrees in Spring 2020 were **less likely to be employed, to be employed full-time, or to be continuing education** than their White, Asian, Native, and multi-racial peers.



Earnings

Latinx college graduates earn more than non-college graduates, but racial/ethnic disparities in employment and pay exist across college graduates. **Latinx college graduates earn less than their White counterparts**, even considering college major and occupational choice.

These post-college outcome disparities may influence Latinx students' outlook on the benefits of college.