The number of American Indian or Alaska Native students accessing and completing postsecondary credentials increased between 1995–96 and 2015–16. However, we still lack precise, national data on many educational outcomes for Native students. The data we can observe show troubling equity gaps in educational and labor-market outcomes for American Indian or Alaska Native students when compared with other groups. This infographic highlights data from *Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education: A Status Report* to provide an overview of the educational journeys of American Indian or Alaska Native students enrolled in postsecondary education.

[www.equityinhighered.org](http://www.equityinhighered.org)
American Indians or Alaska Natives represented 0.7% of the total U.S. population.

Attainment of Associate Degree or Higher
(Adults Ages 25 and Older)

- Total U.S. population: 44.4%
- American Indians or Alaska Natives: 32.4%

*2017
The representation of American Indian or Alaska Native students remained relatively unchanged between 1995–96 and 2015–16.

60% of American Indian or Alaska Native undergraduates were enrolled in public two-year institutions, compared with 45.9% of undergraduates overall.

Undergraduate Enrollment Across Sectors

- All undergraduates:
  - Public Four-Year: 31.2%
  - Private Nonprofit Four-Year: 14.8%
  - Public Two-Year: 45.9%
  - For-Profit: 8.0%

- American Indian or Alaska Native undergraduates:
  - Public Four-Year: 26.1%
  - Private Nonprofit Four-Year: 5.2%
  - Public Two-Year: 60.1%
  - For-Profit: 8.6%

Undergraduate Enrollment by Gender

- All undergraduates:
  - Male: 43.5%
  - Female: 56.5%

- American Indian or Alaska Native undergraduates:
  - Male: 47.0%
  - Female: 53.0%

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1. Institutions were categorized into sectors based upon control of the institution and the length of the predominant award granted.
American Indian or Alaska Native Students

Graduate Enrollment

Graduate Enrollment by Gender

All graduate students

40.7% 59.3%

American Indian or Alaska Native graduate students

39.8% 60.2%

60% of American Indian or Alaska Native graduate students were women.

Graduate Enrollment Across Sectors

All graduate students

Public Four-Year 46.7%
Private Nonprofit Four-Year 43.0%
For-Profit 10.3%

American Indian or Alaska Native graduate students

50.1%

27.3%
22.6%

Half of American Indian or Alaska Native graduate students were enrolled in a public four-year institution.

* Interpret with caution. Ratio of standard error to estimate is >30% but <50%.

*2015–16
UndergraduateCompletion*

Undergraduate Completions by Award Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Level</th>
<th>All undergraduates</th>
<th>American Indian or Alaska Native undergraduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certificates</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
<td>27.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Degrees</td>
<td>27.2%</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's Degrees</td>
<td>54.3%</td>
<td>37.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduate Completion*

76.3% of American Indian or Alaska Native graduate students completed master’s degrees, similar to that of all students (77.0%).

American Indian or Alaska Native Students Earned

- 0.4% of all master’s degrees
- 0.5% of all professional degrees
- 0.4% of all doctoral degrees

*2016
American Indian or Alaska Native Students

Paying for College*

**FAFSA Completion Rate**

- All undergraduates: 70.3%
- American Indian or Alaska Native undergraduates: 77.5%

51% of American Indian or Alaska Native undergraduate students were from families with an expected family contribution of $0, compared with 39.1% of undergraduates overall.

**Percent Who Borrowed**

- Associate Degree Recipients:
  - All undergraduates: 48.0%
  - American Indian or Alaska Native students: 67.2%

- Bachelor's Degree Recipients:
  - All undergraduates: 68.9%
  - American Indian or Alaska Native students: 76.2%

**Average Amount Borrowed**

- Associate Degree Recipients:
  - All undergraduates: $18,501
  - American Indian or Alaska Native students: $18,225

- Bachelor's Degree Recipients:
  - All undergraduates: $29,669
  - American Indian or Alaska Native students: $26,380

Across all degree types, American Indian or Alaska Native students were **MORE** likely to borrow than undergraduate students overall.

*2015–16
Within every level of postsecondary attainment, the median annual earnings of American Indian or Alaska Native adults were between 16.2% and 28.5% less than the national median for all adults.

The earnings gap between American Indian or Alaska Native adults and the national median for all adults was largest among those with a graduate degree.

Median Annual Earnings for Adults 25 and Older

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>All adults</th>
<th>American Indian or Alaska Native adults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School Graduate or Equivalent</td>
<td>$29,100</td>
<td>$24,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some College but No Degree</td>
<td>$34,430</td>
<td>$28,851</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Degree</td>
<td>$39,493</td>
<td>$32,404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's Degree</td>
<td>$52,000</td>
<td>$41,316</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master's Degree</td>
<td>$64,809</td>
<td>$50,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Degree</td>
<td>$95,000</td>
<td>$67,948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctoral Degree</td>
<td>$84,049</td>
<td>$61,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Education Levels</td>
<td>$37,094</td>
<td>$28,995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education Spotlight

For more information visit

www.equityinhighered.org