

In the fall of 2019, **Texas's Higher Education Enrollment was 1.7 million. 39.2% (664,512) WERE LATINO.**¹



In 2018, **115,735 LATINO STUDENTS GRADUATED** from Texas's public institutions.²



33% OF ENROLLED STUDENTS received Pell Grants in 2019.³

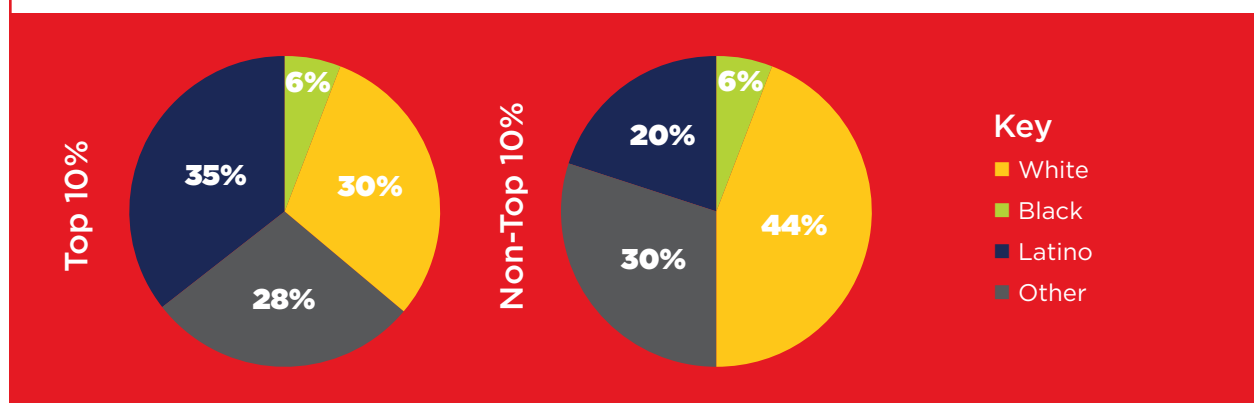
ONLY 44% of Texas's economically disadvantaged high school students **ARE CONSIDERED COLLEGE READY.**⁴

The Top 10% rule is the principal admissions driver for Latinos—**84% OF ADMITTED LATINO STUDENTS AT UT AUSTIN** were admitted through the top 10% rule.^{7,8}

In 2016, there were **25,151 in-state tuition students that benefitted from the Texas Dream Act program**—which extends in-state tuition and grant eligibility to non-citizen residents of the state—who accounted for just 1.5% of all students enrolled in public colleges and universities.⁵ While undocumented status is not exclusive to one racial/ethnic group, **Latino immigrants make up nearly 90% of Texas's non-citizen/undocumented population.**⁶

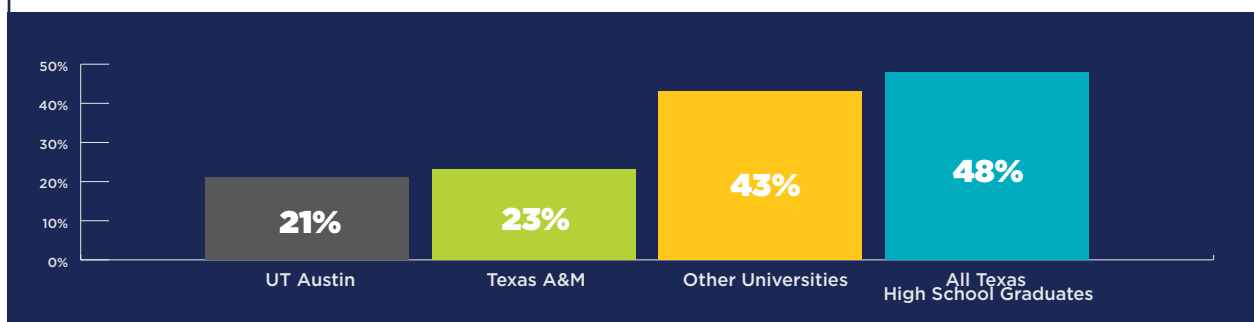
Under Texas's Top 10% Rule, which passed in 1997, Texas students who graduate in the top 10% of their high school class are guaranteed automatic admission to all state-funded universities. The rule was intended to address the issue of student diversity (income, ethnic/racial, and geographic) in Texas public universities, particularly at the two flagship institutions—The University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) and Texas A&M University.

STUDENTS ADMITTED TO UT AUSTIN IN 2018⁹

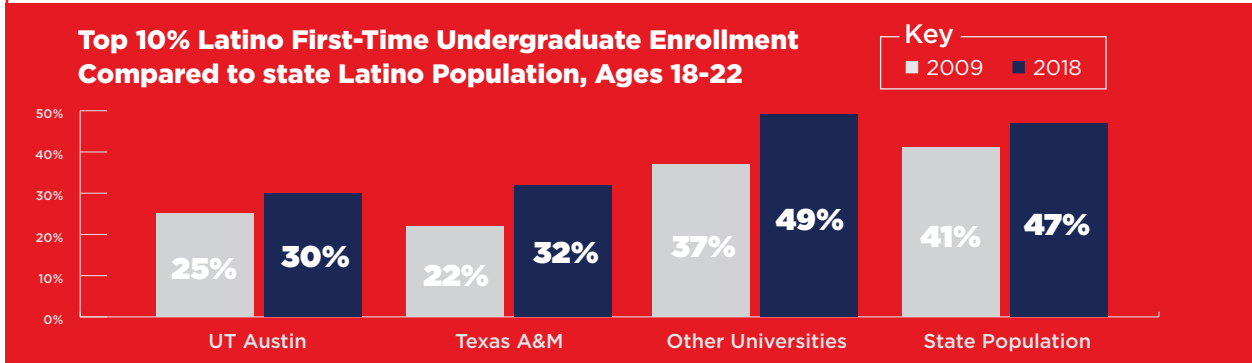


Share of Students from Low-Income Families admitted TO TEXAS PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES WITHIN THE TOP 10% (7%) RULE IN 2018

Latinos make up more than half of the state's low-income population.¹⁰



The **Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board** has analyzed the extent to which the two flagship universities and the other public universities are enrolling student populations that reflect the racial/ethnic diversity of the state’s 18- to 22-year-old population. **While enrollments have increased for Latino students between 2009 and 2018** at the two flagship universities and at other Texas public universities, more must be done to increase diversity at the two flagship universities.¹¹



About UnidosUS

UnidosUS, previously known as NCLR (National Council of La Raza), is the nation’s largest Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization. Through its unique combination of expert research, advocacy, programs, and an *Affiliate Network* of nearly 300 community-based organizations across the United States and Puerto Rico, UnidosUS simultaneously challenges the social, economic, and political barriers that affect Latinos at the national and local levels.

For more than 50 years, UnidosUS has united communities and different groups seeking common round through collaboration, and that share a desire to make our country stronger. For more information on UnidosUS, visit www.unidosus.org, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

Endnotes

- 1 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, *2020 Texas Public Higher Education Almanac: A Profile of State and Institutional Performance and Characteristics*. Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Almanac. Austin, TX, 2020, <https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/agency-publication/almanac/2020-texas-public-higher-education-almanac/> (accessed December 14, 2020).
- 2 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, *60x30TX Progress Report*. Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Strategic Planning and Funding. Austin, TX, 2019, <http://www.60x30tx.com/media/1518/2019-60x30tx-progress-report.pdf> (accessed December 15, 2020).
- 3 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, *2020 Texas Public Higher Education Almanac: A Profile of State and Institutional Performance and Characteristics*.
- 4 Texas Education Agency, *Texas Public High School College Ready Graduates*. Texas Education Agency Division of Research and Analysis Report. Austin, TX, 2014, https://texaseducationinfo.org/TEA.TpeirPortal.Web/Reports/College%20Ready%20Graduates_State.pdf (accessed November 30, 2020).
- 5 In 2001, then-Governor Rick Perry signed House Bill 1403 (sometimes called the “Texas Dream Act”), which extends in-state tuition and financial aid at public universities to young Texas residents who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents but have completed high school in Texas. Center for Public Policy Priorities, *Texas Dream Act: Ensuring in-state tuition for all Texans (HB 1403)* (Austin, TX: CPPP, 2019) https://everytexan.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/EO_2019_TxDreamAct.pdf (accessed December 18, 2020).
- 6 Center for Public Policy Priorities, *Texas Dream Act: Ensuring in-state tuition for all Texans (HB 1403)* (Austin, TX: CPPP, 2019); and Migration Policy Institute, “Profile of the Unauthorized Population - TX,” MPI Data Hub, <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/unauthorized-immigrant-population/state/TX> (accessed November 19, 2020).
- 7 UT Austin is the only state-funded university that now admits students from the top 6% of their class as compared to the top 10%. Lindsay Ellis, UT-Austin changes automatic admissions to top 6 percent for fall 2018 (Houston, TX: Houston Chronicle, 2017) <https://www.chron.com/local/education/campus-chronicles/article/UT-Austin-changes-automatic-admissions-to-top-6-12204604.php> (accessed January 5, 2021).
- 8 Intercultural Development Research Association, *Top 10 Percent Plan Expands College Access Across Texas* (San Antonio, TX: IDRA, 2019).
- 9 Intercultural Development Research Association, *The Texas Top Ten Percent Plan’s Legacy in Supporting Equal Access to College*, Policy Brief (San Antonio, TX: IDRA, 2019).
- 10 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, *Top 10 Percent Report: Changes in Newly Enrolled Undergraduate Student Populations in Texas Public Universities Fall 2009-2018*. Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Strategic Planning and Funding. Austin, TX, 2019, <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/DocID/PDF/12838.PDF> (accessed December 15, 2020).
- 11 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, *Top 10 Percent Report: Changes in Newly Enrolled Undergraduate Student Populations in Texas Public Universities Fall 2009-2018*. Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Strategic Planning and Funding. Austin, TX, 2019, <https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/DocID/PDF/12838.PDF> (accessed December 15, 2020).