

## The Upside of College Enrollment for Black Students and the Value of HBCUs

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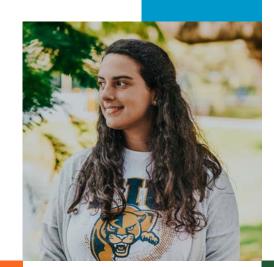
WHO WE ARE

Helios Education Foundation exists to support postsecondary attainment for low-income and under-represented communities in Arizona and Florida.

Driven by our fundamental beliefs of Community, Equity, Investment, and Partnership, Helios has invested more than \$350 million in partnerships and initiatives focused on improving education outcomes in the two states we serve.

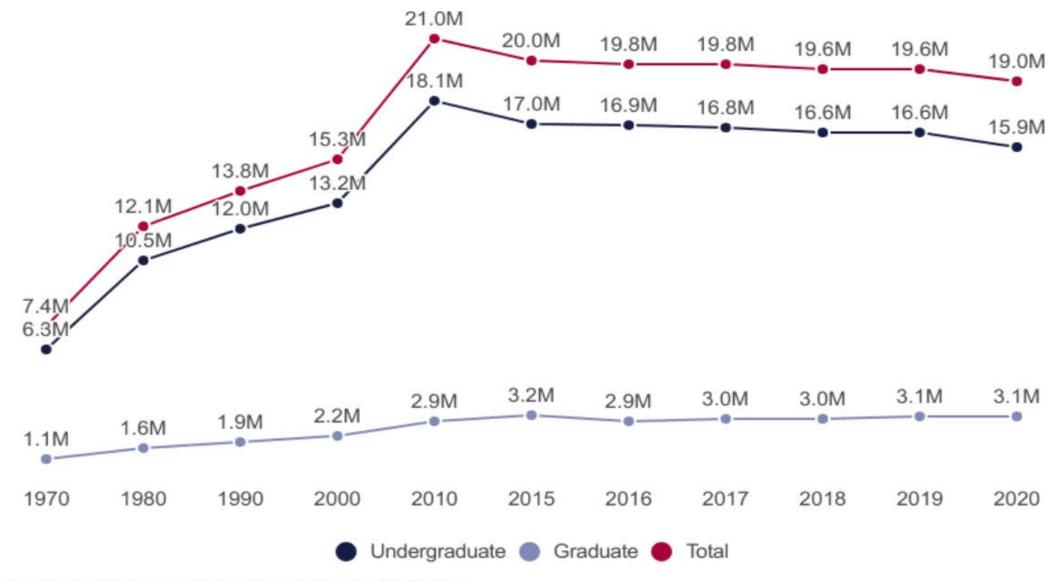
We take a multi-pronged approach—working across four domains, including performance-based community investments, systemic public policy efforts, research and data, and impact-driven communications—that together support the significant changes required to foster equitable progress across the education continuum.



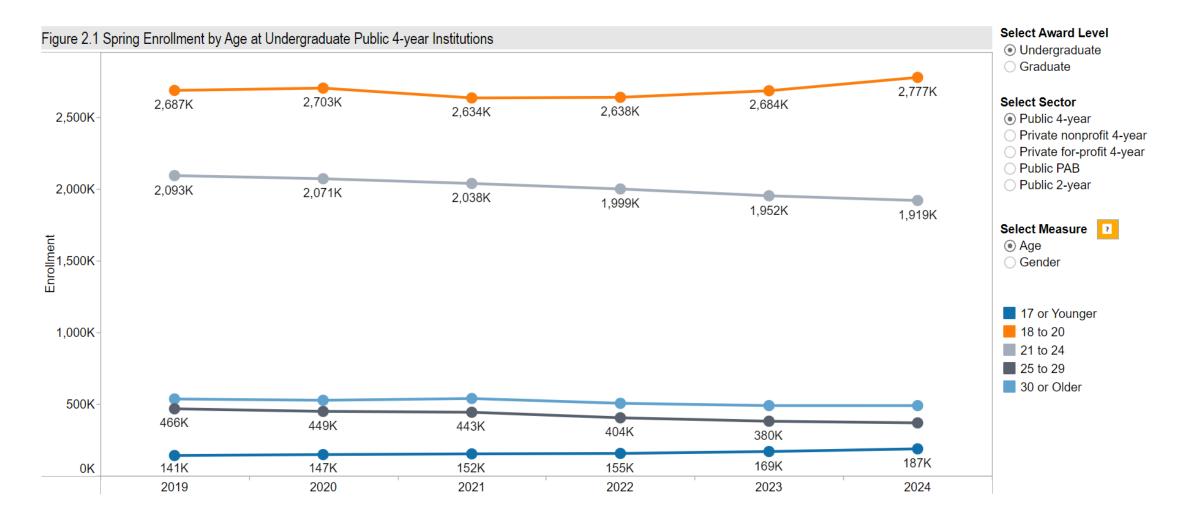


## College Enrollment Over Time

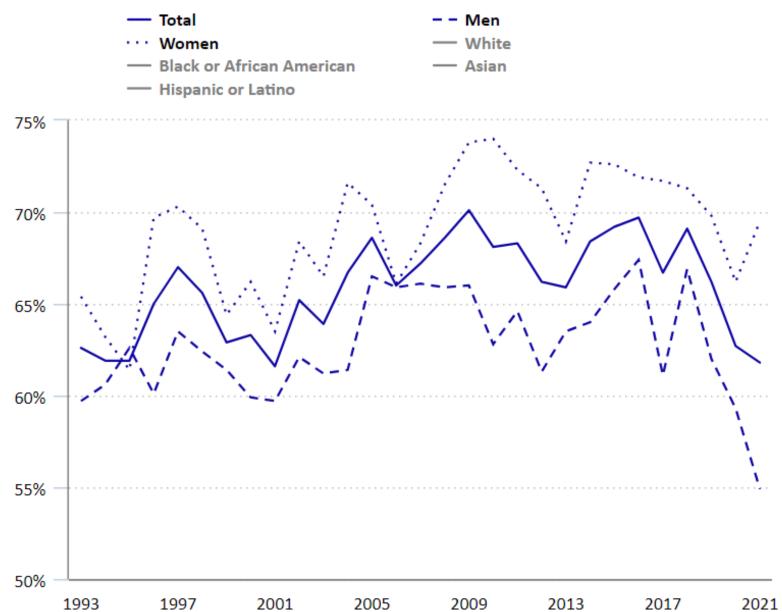
#### College Enrollment Over Time



### College Enrollment by Public 4 Year and Age

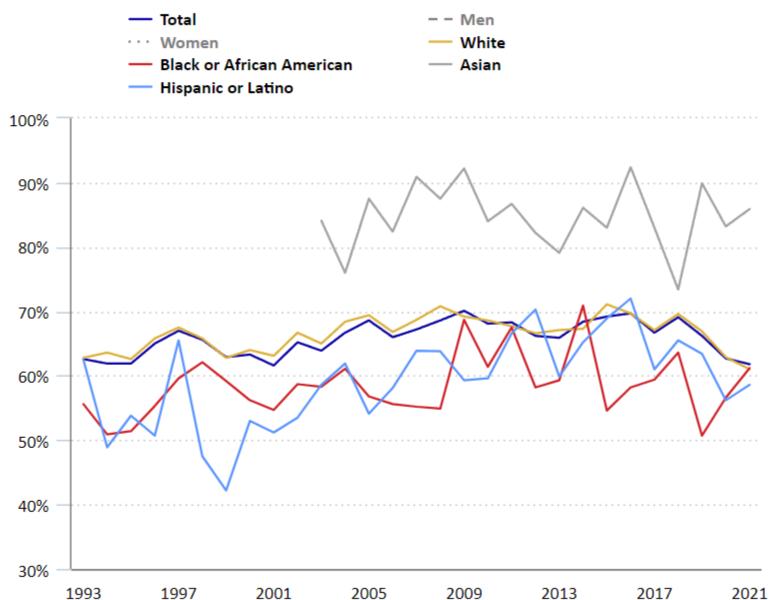


College enrollment rates of recent high school graduates 16 to 24 years old by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, October 1993–2021



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**Ashley Edwards**College Board



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## **Key Research Questions**

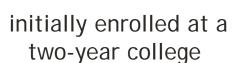
- How does initially enrolling in a community college or four-year institution impact Florida's Black high school students' postsecondary, economic, and financial success?
- 2. How is the state of Florida impacted by its Black high school graduates initially enrolling in a community college or four-year institution?
- 3. How does initially enrolling in an HBCU impact Florida's Black high school students' postsecondary, economic, and financial success?
- 4. How is the state of Florida impacted by its Black high school students initially enrolling in an HBCU?

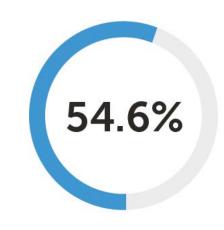
# **Summary Findings**

#### Black Student College Enrollment in Florida

Among the 96,710 Black SAT-takers who graduated from a Florida high school between 2004 and 2010...







initially enrolled at a four-year college or university



percent of those who attended a four-year institution enrolled in an in-state fouryear institution



percent of those who enrolled in college attended an HBCU

#### How College Attendance Among Black Students Benefits Florida

- Relative to individuals who do not enroll in college, the average estimated household earnings increase by \$6,492 for two-year college enrollees and \$8,583 for four-year college enrollees.
- Enrolling in college also increases the probability—by 2.9 percentage points for two-year college enrollees and 10.4 percentage points for four-year college enrollees—of someone earning more than the 50th percentile of earners in Florida.
- Other benefits associated with increased degree attainment and higher earnings include:
  - reduced expenditures on social and economic assistance programs
  - improved health outcomes
  - lower mortality rates
  - better education outcomes for children
  - better workforce productivity

#### How HBCUs Benefit Florida

- Adjusting for individuals who live elsewhere, HBCU enrollment increases the average estimated yearly household earning in Florida by \$2,707 per HBCU enrollee.
- HBCU enrollment increases the probability that an individual's earnings will remain in Florida and exceed the 75th percentile of Black SAT takers by 14 percent.
- Higher incomes correspond (on average) with higher rates of consumer spending and consumption. In turn, increased consumption strengthens Florida's economic condition and increases state sales tax revenues



**What States Can Do** 

### Policy Implications for the State

- Investments to increase college attendance—especially in-state college attendance—among Black high school students should be an economic priority for Florida.
- Florida would benefit in numerous ways by investing further in state-sponsored needbased financial aid and increasing subsidies to colleges and universities to make college more affordable.
- There is incentive for Florida to invest in increasing in-state HBCU enrollment among Black high school graduates.
- There is incentive for Florida to sustainably fund HBCUs in the state.

### Questions