

Ethnic Diversity

College-bound students interested in studying with people of different backgrounds will want to consider stats on racial and ethnic diversity. To identify colleges where students are most likely to encounter undergraduates from a different ethnic group from their own, U.S. News factored in the proportion of minority students – leaving out international students – and the overall mix of groups in each institution’s 2017-2018 academic year student body. The categories we use in our calculations are African-American (non-Hispanic), Hispanic, American Indian, Asian-American, Pacific Islander, White (non-Hispanic), and multiracial (two or more races). The formula produces a diversity index that ranges from 0.0 to

1.0. The closer a school’s number is to 1.0, the more diverse the student population. In other words, the closer the number is to 1.0 the more likely it is for students to run into students from a different ethnic group.

Note: The basis for this methodology was created by Philip Meyer and Shawn McIntosh and was referenced in the article “The USA TODAY Index of Ethnic Diversity,” published in spring 1992 in the International Journal of Public Opinion Research. Students who did not identify themselves as members of any of the above demographic groups were classified by U.S. News as whites for the purpose of this calculation.

► National Universities

School (State) (*Public)	Diversity index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its %
Rutgers University–Newark (NJ)*	0.76	Hispanic, 29%
University of Nevada–Las Vegas*	0.76	Hispanic, 29%
Andrews University (MI)	0.75	African-American, 19%
Stanford University (CA)	0.74	Asian-American, 22%
University of Houston*	0.74	Hispanic, 35%
University of San Francisco	0.74	Asian-American, 22%
San Francisco State University*	0.73	Hispanic, 33%
University of Hawaii–Manoa*	0.73	Asian-American, 40%
University of the Pacific (CA)	0.73	Asian-American, 36%
Georgia State University*	0.72	African-American, 42%
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	0.72	Asian-American, 27%
New Jersey Inst. of Technology*	0.72	Asian-American, 22%
University of California–Los Angeles*	0.72	Asian-American, 28%
University of California–Santa Cruz*	0.72	Hispanic, 28%
University of Illinois–Chicago*	0.72	Hispanic, 33%
University of Texas–Arlington*	0.72	Hispanic, 27%
Johns Hopkins University (MD)	0.71	Asian-American, 26%
Nova Southeastern University (FL)	0.71	Hispanic, 27%
Rice University (TX)	0.71	Asian-American, 26%
Texas Woman’s University*	0.71	Hispanic, 30%
University of California–Davis*	0.71	Asian-American, 28%
University of California–Santa Barbara*	0.71	Hispanic, 27%
Univ. of Massachusetts–Boston*	0.71	African-American, 17%
University of Texas–Dallas*	0.71	Asian-American, 31%
Azusa Pacific University (CA)	0.70	Hispanic, 32%
George Mason University (VA)*	0.70	Asian-American, 20%
New York University	0.70	Asian-American, 20%
San Diego State University*	0.70	Hispanic, 31%
Florida Atlantic University*	0.69	Hispanic, 27%
Harvard University (MA)	0.69	Asian-American, 21%
Rutgers Univ.–New Brunswick (NJ)*	0.69	Asian-American, 27%
Texas A&M University–Commerce*	0.69	African-American, 23%
University of California–Berkeley*	0.69	Asian-American, 35%
Univ. of Maryland–Baltimore County*	0.69	Asian-American, 22%
University of Southern California	0.69	Asian-American, 21%

► National Liberal Arts Colleges

School (State) (*Public)	Diversity index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its %
Pacific Union College (CA)	0.75	Hispanic, 26%
Soka University of America (CA)	0.74	Asian-American, 13%
Agnes Scott College (GA)	0.72	African-American, 30%
Harvey Mudd College (CA)	0.72	Hispanic, 18%
Pine Manor College (MA)	0.72	African-American, 40%
Pomona College (CA)	0.71	Hispanic, 16%
Wellesley College (MA)	0.70	Asian-American, 23%
Swarthmore College (PA)	0.68	Asian-American, 17%
Amherst College (MA)	0.67	Asian-American, 14%
Austin College (TX)	0.66	Hispanic, 21%
Fort Lewis College (CO)*	0.64	Native American, 26%
Whittier College (CA)	0.64	Hispanic, 50%
Occidental College (CA)	0.63	Hispanic, 14%
Bryn Mawr College (PA)	0.62	Asian-American, 12%
Claremont McKenna College (CA)	0.62	Hispanic, 15%
Oglethorpe University (GA)	0.62	African-American, 24%
Pitzer College (CA)	0.62	Hispanic, 15%
Purchase College–SUNY*	0.62	Hispanic, 22%
Virginia Wesleyan University	0.62	African-American, 27%
Wesleyan College (GA)	0.62	African-American, 29%
Williams College (MA)	0.62	Hispanic, 13%
Barnard College (NY)	0.61	Asian-American, 15%
Bloomfield College (NJ)	0.61	African-American, 51%
Knox College (IL)	0.60	Hispanic, 15%
Scripps College (CA)	0.59	Asian-American, 16%
Vassar College (NY)	0.59	Asian-American, 13%
Smith College (MA)	0.58	Asian-American, 11%
Albright College (PA)	0.57	African-American, 21%
Berea College (KY)	0.57	African-American, 15%
Charter Oak State College (CT)*	0.57	African-American, 17%
Linfield College (OR)	0.56	Hispanic, 17%
Schreiner University (TX)	0.56	Hispanic, 40%
United States Military Academy (NY)*	0.56	African-American, 12%
Wesleyan University (CT)	0.56	Hispanic, 11%
Centenary College of Louisiana	0.55	African-American, 16%
Kalamazoo College (MI)	0.55	Hispanic, 13%
Mount Holyoke College (MA)	0.55	Asian-American, 10%
Southwestern University (TX)	0.55	Hispanic, 24%
United States Naval Academy (MD)*	0.55	Hispanic, 12%

► Regional Universities

NORTH ►

School (State) (*Public)	Diversity Index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its %
CUNY–Brooklyn College*	0.76	Hispanic, 23%
CUNY–Baruch College*	0.73	Asian-American, 31%
CUNY–Queens College*	0.73	Hispanic, 29%
Nyack College (NY)	0.73	African-American, 30%
SUNY College–Old Westbury*	0.73	African-American, 29%
CUNY–City College*	0.72	Hispanic, 38%
CUNY–Hunter College*	0.72	Asian-American, 30%
New Jersey City University*	0.72	Hispanic, 40%
New York Inst. of Technology	0.71	Asian-American, 18%
College of Mount St. Vincent (NY)	0.70	Hispanic, 42%
College of St. Elizabeth (NJ)	0.70	African-American, 33%
CUNY–John Jay Col. of Crim. Justice*	0.70	Hispanic, 44%
Felician University (NJ)	0.70	Hispanic, 29%
Mercy College (NY)	0.70	Hispanic, 40%
University of Bridgeport (CT)	0.70	African-American, 34%

SOUTH ►

School (State) (*Public)	Diversity Index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its %
Keiser University (FL)	0.70	Hispanic, 33%
Marymount University (VA)	0.69	Hispanic, 17%
U. of North Carolina–Pembroke*	0.69	African-American, 35%
Southern Adventist University (TN)	0.68	Hispanic, 21%
Christian Brothers University (TN)	0.62	African-American, 27%
Saint Leo University (FL)	0.61	Hispanic, 20%
St. Thomas University (FL)	0.61	Hispanic, 45%
Brenau University (GA)	0.60	African-American, 32%
Loyola University New Orleans	0.60	Hispanic, 16%
Columbus State University (GA)*	0.59	African-American, 39%
Northwestern State University of Loui-	0.59	African-American, 32%
Belhaven University (MS)	0.58	African-American, 45%

MIDWEST ►

School (State) (*Public)	Diversity Index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its %
Robert Morris University (IL)	0.69	Hispanic, 31%
Mount Mary University (WI)	0.68	Hispanic, 20%
Northeastern Illinois University*	0.68	Hispanic, 38%
North Park University (IL)	0.68	Hispanic, 27%
Calumet College of St. Joseph (IN)	0.67	Hispanic, 30%
Roosevelt University (IL)	0.67	Hispanic, 25%
Alverno College (WI)	0.66	Hispanic, 27%
Governors State University (IL)*	0.65	African-American, 40%
St. Xavier University (IL)	0.65	Hispanic, 38%
Concordia University Chicago	0.64	Hispanic, 30%
Park University (MO)	0.63	Hispanic, 19%

WEST ►

School (State) (*Public)	Diversity Index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its %
Hawaii Pacific University	0.77	Asian-American, 16%
Chaminade University of Honolulu	0.75	Asian-American, 37%
California State Univ.–East Bay*	0.74	Hispanic, 35%
California State Univ.–Sacramento*	0.74	Hispanic, 31%
Dominican University of California	0.73	Asian-American, 26%
Houston Baptist University	0.73	Hispanic, 35%
Mills College (CA)	0.71	Hispanic, 28%
San Jose State University (CA)*	0.71	Asian-American, 36%
Holy Names University (CA)	0.70	Hispanic, 43%
Hope International University (CA)	0.70	Hispanic, 29%
Texas Wesleyan University	0.70	Hispanic, 31%

► Regional Colleges

NORTH ►

School (State) (*Public)	Diversity Index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its %
CUNY–New York City Col. of Tech.*	0.73	Hispanic, 34%
Vaughn Col. of Aeron. and Tech. (NY)	0.73	Hispanic, 33%
CUNY–York College*	0.71	African-American, 37%
Newbury College (MA)	0.68	African-American, 34%
St. Francis College (NY)	0.68	Hispanic, 22%
Bay State College (MA)	0.66	African-American, 22%
Cooper Union (NY)	0.66	Asian-American, 20%
Concordia College (NY)	0.65	Hispanic, 21%
Farmingdale State College–SUNY*	0.60	Hispanic, 21%
University of Valley Forge (PA)	0.58	Hispanic, 16%
CUNY–Medgar Evers College*	0.54	African-American, 62%
SUNY College of Technology–Delhi*	0.54	African-American, 17%
Central Penn College	0.53	African-American, 21%
United States Coast Guard Academy (CT)*	0.52	Hispanic, 9%

SOUTH ►

School (State) (*Public)	Diversity Index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its %
Georgia Gwinnett College*	0.73	African-American, 33%
Broward College (FL)*	0.71	Hispanic, 37%
ECPI University (VA)	0.65	African-American, 42%
Webber International University (FL)	0.64	African-American, 33%
South Florida State College*	0.62	Hispanic, 37%
Warner University (FL)	0.62	African-American, 38%
Ferrum College (VA)	0.61	African-American, 33%
Indian River State College (FL)*	0.61	Hispanic, 23%
Point University (GA)	0.61	African-American, 37%
University of Holy Cross (LA)	0.61	African-American, 28%
Florida SouthWestern State College*	0.60	Hispanic, 31%
Middle Georgia State University*	0.58	African-American, 35%
North Carolina Wesleyan College	0.58	African-American, 42%
U. of South Carolina–Upstate*	0.58	African-American, 31%

MIDWEST ►

School (State) (*Public)	Diversity Index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its %
Donnelly College (KS)	0.71	Hispanic, 39%
Bethany College (KS)	0.60	Hispanic, 18%
Central Christian College (KS)	0.60	African-American, 22%
Union College (NE)	0.59	Hispanic, 22%
Iowa Wesleyan University	0.56	African-American, 17%
Tabor College (KS)	0.56	Hispanic, 17%
York College (NE)	0.55	Hispanic, 18%
Kansas Wesleyan University	0.54	Hispanic, 16%
Ottawa University (KS)	0.52	African-American, 12%

WEST ►

School (State) (*Public)	Diversity Index (1.0=highest)	Largest minority and its %
Cogswell Polytechnical College (CA)	0.72	Asian-American, 22%
University of Hawaii–West Dahu*	0.72	Asian-American, 38%
Warner Pacific College (OR)	0.72	Hispanic, 34%
San Diego Christian College	0.68	Hispanic, 29%
Southwestern Adventist Univ. (TX)	0.67	Hispanic, 45%
Arizona Christian University (AZ)	0.65	Hispanic, 22%
Marymount California University	0.64	Hispanic, 41%
McMurry University (TX)	0.63	Hispanic, 26%
Oklahoma State Univ.–Oklahoma City*	0.63	Hispanic, 16%
California State U.–Maritime Academy*	0.62	Hispanic, 20%
Southwestern Christian University (OK)	0.61	African-American, 18%
Rogers State University (OK)*	0.60	Native American, 8%

Valuing Economic Differences, Too

Economic diversity is an issue in higher education, particularly at elite schools that traditionally haven't enrolled large numbers of low-income students. This table shows the percentage of undergraduates receiving federal Pell grants at the top ranked schools in the 2019 U.S. News Best Colleges national universities and national liberal arts categories (excluding military academies, where the government picks up the tab). The proportion of students with Pell grants, most of which are awarded to people with family incomes under \$20,000, isn't a perfect measure of economic diversity. A college might enroll a large number of students just above the Pell cutoff, for instance,

and percentages at public universities may simply reflect the wide variation from state to state in the number of eligible students. Still, U.S. News believes that Pell figures are the best available gauge of institutions' relative commitment to access for all.

Note: Pell grant percentages were calculated using fiscal year 2016-2017 data on the number of Pell recipients at each school, in most cases the data was collected by U.S. News and in some cases it was from the U.S. Department of Education and given to U.S. News, and fall 2016 undergraduate enrollment figures from the colleges themselves by U.S. News.

► National Universities

School (State) (*Public)	Proportion of undergrads receiving Pell grants
University of California—Los Angeles*	36%
University of California—Berkeley*	30%
University of Southern California	22%
Emory University (GA)	21%
Columbia University (NY)	17%
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	17%
Cornell University (NY)	16%
Harvard University (MA)	16%
Northwestern University (IL)	16%
Princeton University (NJ)	16%
Brown University (RI)	15%
Dartmouth College (NH)	15%
Stanford University (CA)	15%
University of Pennsylvania	15%
Yale University (CT)	15%
Rice University (TX)	14%
Vanderbilt University (TN)	14%
Duke University (NC)	13%
University of Virginia*	13%
California Institute of Technology	12%
Carnegie Mellon University (PA)	12%
Georgetown University (DC)	12%
Johns Hopkins University (MD)	12%
University of Chicago	11%
University of Notre Dame (IN)	10%
Washington University in St. Louis	10%

► National Liberal Arts Colleges

School (State) (*Public)	Proportion of undergrads receiving Pell grants
Soka University of America (CA)	26%
Amherst College (MA)	24%
Vassar College (NY)	24%
Smith College (MA)	22%
Grinnell College (IA)	20%
Wellesley College (MA)	20%
Williams College (MA)	20%
Pomona College (CA)	19%
Swarthmore College (PA)	18%
Haverford College (PA)	17%
University of Richmond (VA)	17%
Wesleyan University (CT)	17%
Barnard College (NY)	16%
Bowdoin College (ME)	15%
Davidson College (NC)	15%
Hamilton College (NY)	15%
Middlebury College (VT)	15%
Carleton College (MN)	14%
Harvey Mudd College (CA)	13%
Claremont McKenna College (CA)	12%
Colgate University (NY)	12%
Bates College (ME)	11%
Colby College (ME)	10%
Washington and Lee University (VA)	9%