

# Perspective on...



## Diversity in Florida Postsecondary Education

August 1998

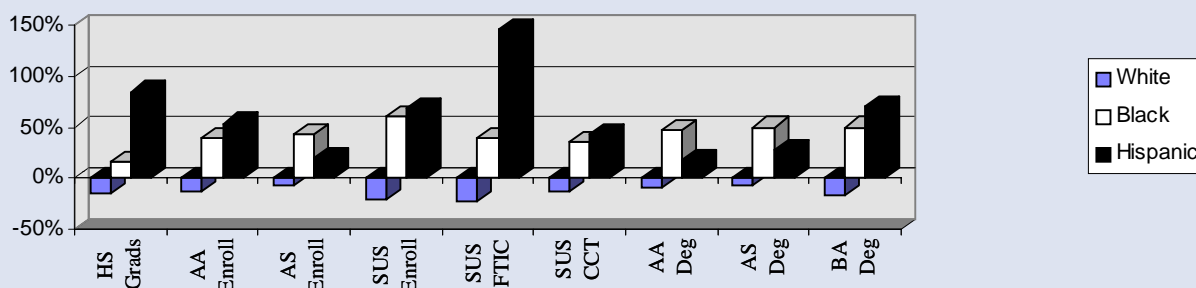
### INTRODUCTION

*Perspective on...* is a supplement to the Commission's newsletter, *Perspective*. It is published periodically to present statistical analysis and commentary on topics relevant to Florida postsecondary education. This issue of *Perspective on...* provides a summary of PEPC's 1998 report, *Minorities in Public Postsecondary Institutions in Florida, 1996-97 Update*. A national overview has been added to supplement Florida data. A copy of the full report may be obtained by contacting the Commission office.

### FLORIDA OVERVIEW

All graphs and summaries for this section are taken from *Minorities in Public Postsecondary Institutions in Florida, 1996-97 Update, PEPC*.

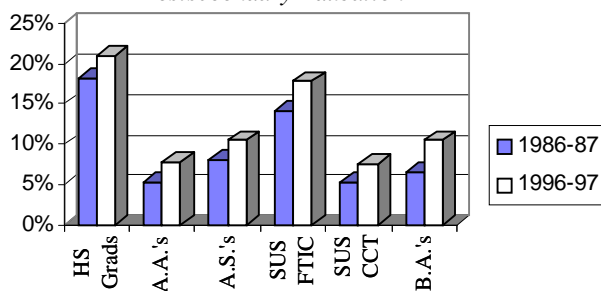
Percent Change in the Proportion of Students at Various Levels of Postsecondary Education 1986-87 to 1996-97



As a percentage of all high school graduates, postsecondary enrollees, First-Time-In-College (FTIC) students, and degree recipients, whites have decreased since 1986-87.

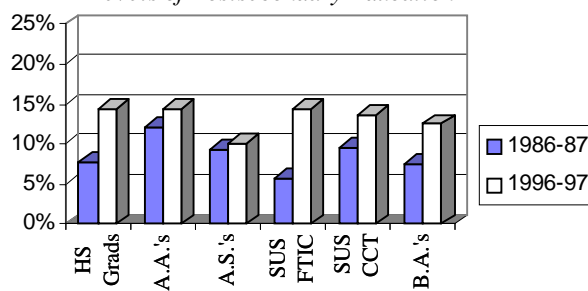
As a percentage of all high school graduates, postsecondary enrollees, FTICs, and degree recipients, blacks and Hispanics have increased since 1986-87.

Percentage of Black Students At Various Levels of Postsecondary Education



Relative to their percentage of high school graduates, blacks were underrepresented at all postsecondary levels in 1986-87 and 1996-97. However, since 1986-87 they have gained in all areas.

Percentage of Hispanic Students at Various Levels of Postsecondary Education



Relative to their percentage of high school graduates, Hispanics were underrepresented as Associate of Science (A.S.) recipients, and to a lesser degree, as Community College Transfers (CCTs) and Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) recipients. They were equally represented as Associate of Arts (A.A.) recipients and FTICs.

## FLORIDA OVERVIEW

All graphs and summaries for this section are taken from *Minorities in Public Postsecondary Institutions in Florida, 1996-97 Update, PEPC*.

### Ratio of Black and Hispanic High School Graduates to Various Postsecondary Education Outcomes 1986-87 and 1996-97

	<b>Degrees</b>			<b>Enrollments</b>	
	A.A.s	A.S.s	B.A.s	SUS FTICs	SUS CCTs
Black high school graduates 1986-87	18.8 to 1	28.9 to 1	11.4 to 1	8.2 to 1	52.3 to 1
Black high school graduates 1996-97	9.6 to 1	19 to 1	5.6 to 1	4.9 to 1	17.8 to 1
Hispanic high school graduates 1986-87	3.5 to 1	10.5 to 1	4.3 to 1	8.6 to 1	12.7 to 1
Hispanic high school graduates 1996-97	3.6 to 1	13.7 to 1	4.1 to 1	6.8 to 1	3.2 to 1

The ratio between high school graduation and postsecondary outcomes for blacks has improved for all measures since 1986-87. Thus, postsecondary outcomes gains are outpacing gains in high school graduation rates among black students. For example, in 1986-87 there were 11.4 black high school graduates for every one black B.A. recipient. In 1996-97 that ratio was 5.6 to 1.

The percentage of Hispanic students continues to increase at every postsecondary level. While the percentage gains among Hispanic high school graduates exceed their percentage gains as A.S. degree recipients, the ratio between Hispanic high school graduates and CCTs, FTICs, and B.A. recipients has improved since 1986-87.

## NATIONAL OVERVIEW

All information for this section is taken from *Digest of Education Statistics, 1997, National Center for Education Statistics*.

### **Enrollment**

- In the past decade, black and Hispanic students have increased their enrollment at both 2- and 4-year institutions.
- In Fall of 1995, black students represented 10.7 percent of all students enrolled in higher education. This number was up from 9.4 percent in 1990. Hispanic students doubled their percentage of all students enrolled, representing 4.0 percent in 1980 and 7.9 percent in Fall 1995.
- Black and Hispanic students represented 10.1 percent and 5.8 percent respectively of students enrolled at 4-year institutions in Fall 1995. These percentages had increased from 8.7 and 3.0 percent in 1980.
- At 2-year institutions, black students represented 11.5 percent of students enrolled for Fall 1995. This was an increase of one percent from 1980. Hispanic students

represented 11.3 percent enrollment at 2-year institutions in 1995, nearly twice the 5.7 percent in 1980.

### **Degrees Granted**

- Between 1984-85 and 1994-95, both black and Hispanic students increased their representation among Associate and Bachelor degree recipients.
- In 1984-85, black students represented 8.3 percent of Associate degree recipients and Hispanic students represented 4.5 percent. In 1994-95, these percentages were 8.8 percent and 6.7 percent, respectively.
- Black students constituted 5.9 percent of Bachelor degree recipients in 1984-85 and 7.5 percent in 1994-95. Hispanic students represented 2.7 percent of Bachelor degree recipients in 1984-85 and 4.7 percent in 1994-95.

The Postsecondary Education Planning Commission, established in 1980, serves as a citizen board to coordinate the efforts of postsecondary institutions and to provide independent policy analyses and recommendations to the State Board of Education and Legislature.

#### Postsecondary Education Planning Commission

Turlington Building Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

Phone (850) 488-7894 Fax (850) 922-5388

Website: [www.firn.edu/pepc](http://www.firn.edu/pepc)

For people with disabilities, *Perspective on... Diversity in Florida Postsecondary Education* is available in alternative format upon request.