

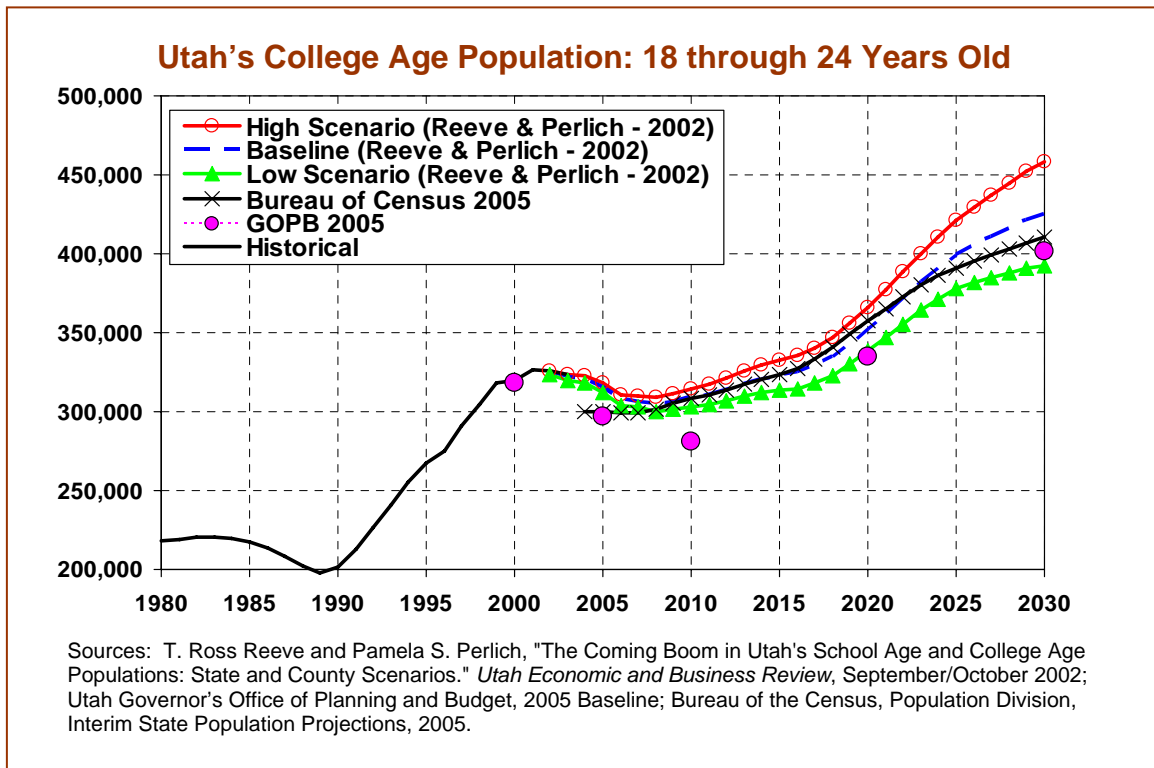
LONG TERM DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IMPACTING HIGHER EDUCATION IN UTAH

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Higher education will be significantly impacted by several major demographic trends over the next two decades. These trends are identified and briefly explored below.

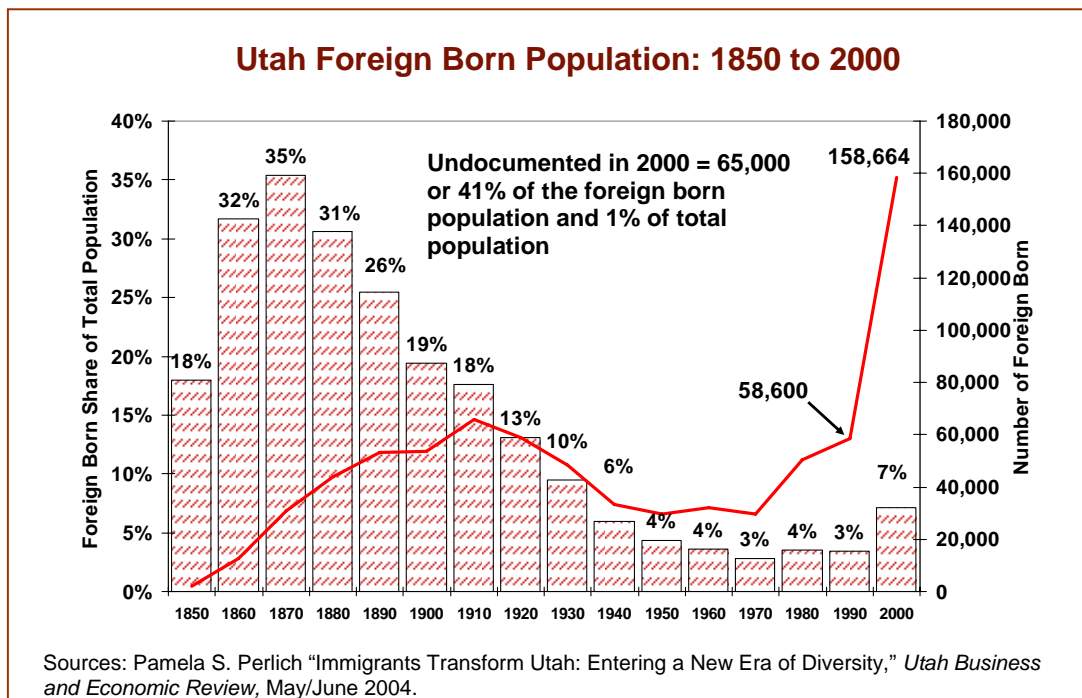
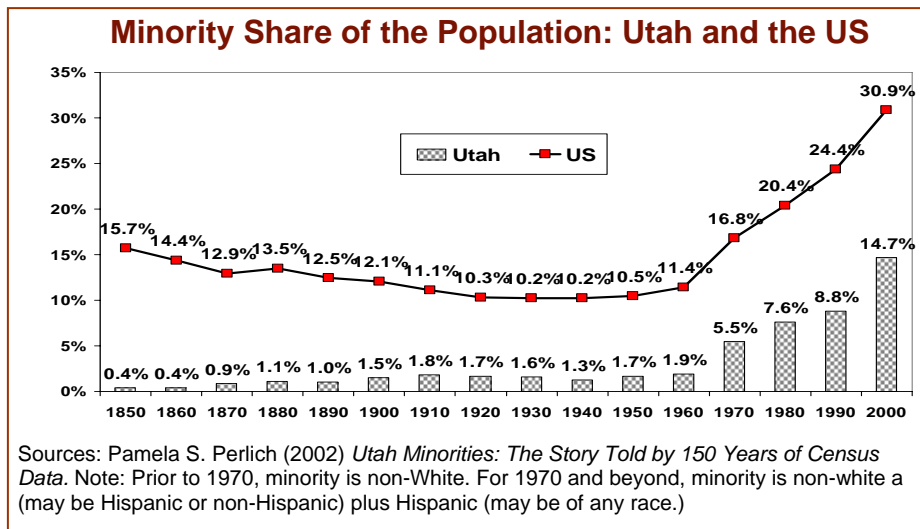
Utah's College Age Population is Projected to be Flat

Utah's college age population, ages 18 through 24 years, is projected to be flat or grow very slowly for at least the next ten years. Utah's true Baby Boom peaked in the early 1980s. This age wave moved through higher education in the 1990s, peaking at the end of the decade. The echo boom from cohort is well underway, resulting in record births for most years since 1998. These echo boom children began entering public education in large numbers in 2006 and should begin to significantly impact higher education around 2018. In the meantime, this new age wave will add at least 10,000 new students annually to Utah's public education system for at the next ten years or longer. This school age population boom will occur simultaneously with the slow- to no-growth period in the college age population.



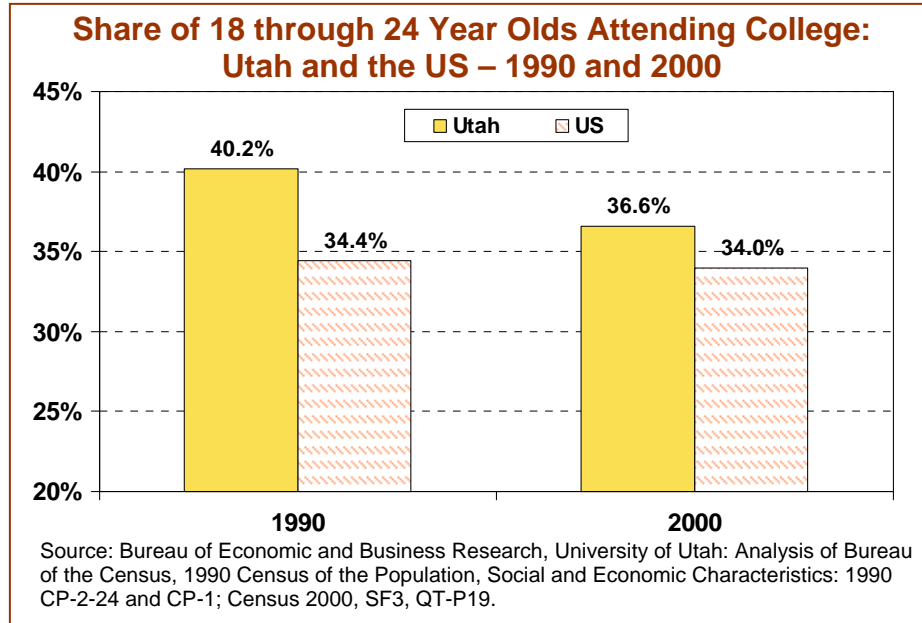
Immigrants and Minorities Contribute Significantly to Growth

The Utah population is becoming more racially and ethnically diverse primarily because of recent large flows of international immigrants to the state in combination with the regions of origin, minority status, and relatively high fertility rates of many of these new arrivals. Although immigrants have come from all continents to Utah, about three quarters of immigrants coming to Utah during the 1990s were Latin Americans, most of these persons are Hispanics, and many are Mexican. Utah's population grew by about half a million in the 1990s. About three fifths of this increase was natural increase (the amount by which births exceed deaths), about one fifth was net in-migration from other states, and about one fifth was from immigration. The latter can be measured several ways, including changes in the foreign born population – which increased by over 100,000 in the 1990s. Minorities contributed 35 percent of the state's population growth in the 1990s; this share is estimated to have increased to 41 percent from 2000 to 2004.



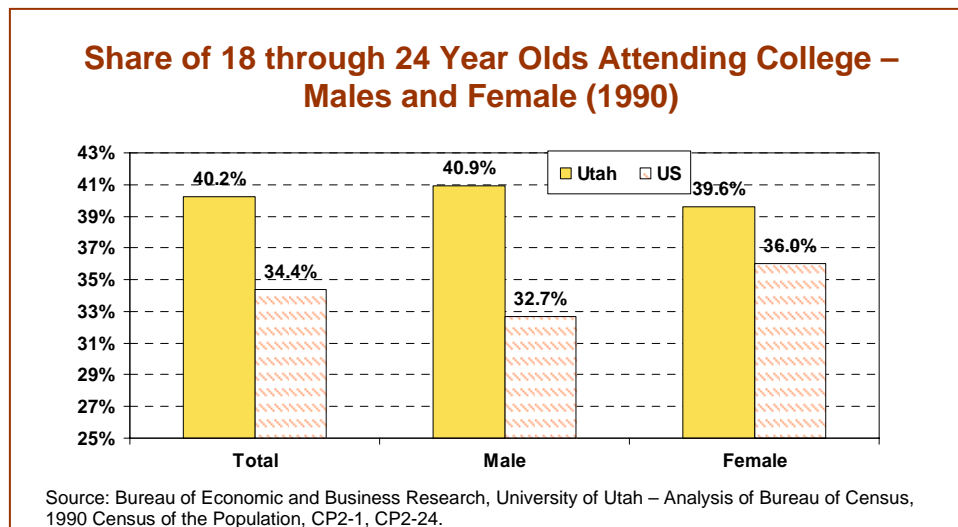
Utah's College Participation Rate is Declining

The share of Utah residents ages 18 through 24 who are attending college declined from 1990 to 2000; this is a national trend. Participation rates in Utah continue to exceed those of the nation.

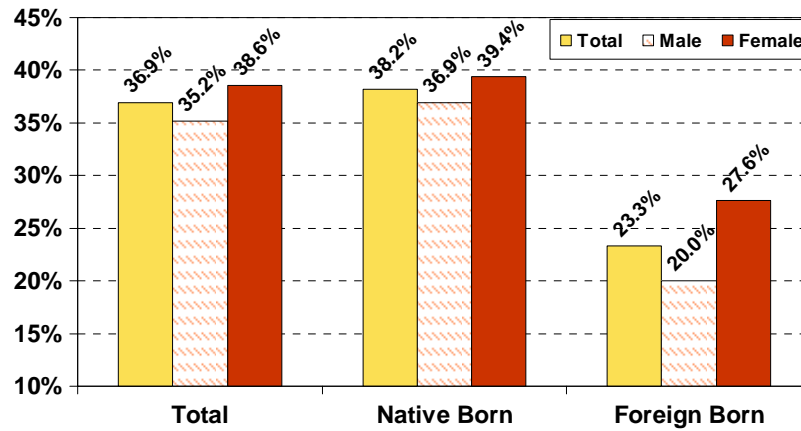


College Enrollment Varies by Sex and Nativity

Utah males and females ages 18 through 24 attended colleges at close to the same rates in 1990, while nationally females had higher participation rates. By 2000, female participation rates slightly exceeded that of males in Utah for both the native and foreign born, although the differential is greater for the foreign born. Greater shares of both native born men and women attend college as compared to their foreign born counterparts, although the difference between foreign and native born males is the greatest.



Utah Share of 18 through 24 Year Olds Attending College by Sex and Nativity (2000)

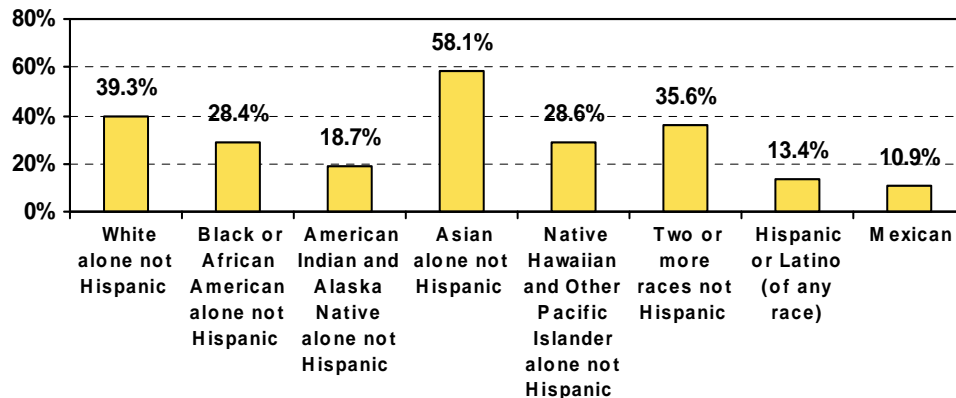


Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research - Analysis of Census 2000, 5% PUMS

College Enrollment Varies by Minority Status

College attendance also varies according to a person's race and ethnicity. Asians have the highest college participation rates, by a wide margin. Whites and multiracial persons have the next highest rates, followed by Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders and African Americans. American Indians and Hispanics (including Mexicans) have the lowest higher education participation rates among the Utah population aged 18 through 24.

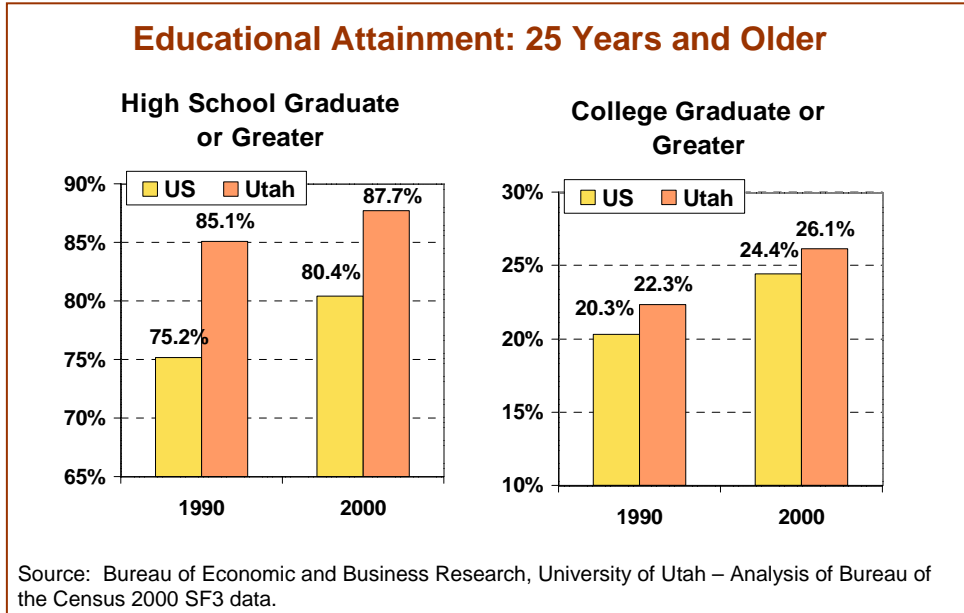
Utah Share of 18 through 24 Year Olds Attending College – by Race and Ethnicity (2000)



Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research - Analysis of Census 2000, SF4

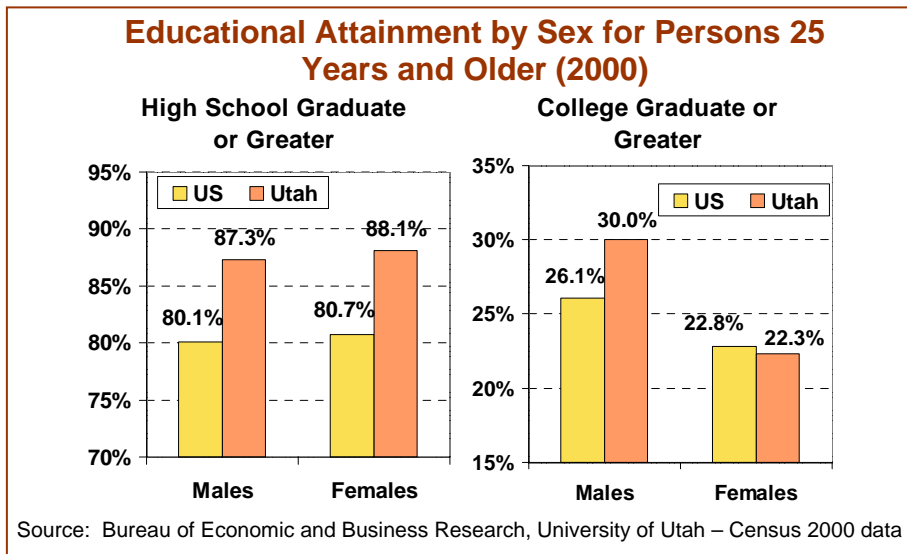
Utah's Total Educational Attainment is Increasing

Educational attainment has increased in both Utah and the nation. Utah exceeds the nation in both high school and college attainment for persons 25 years and older.



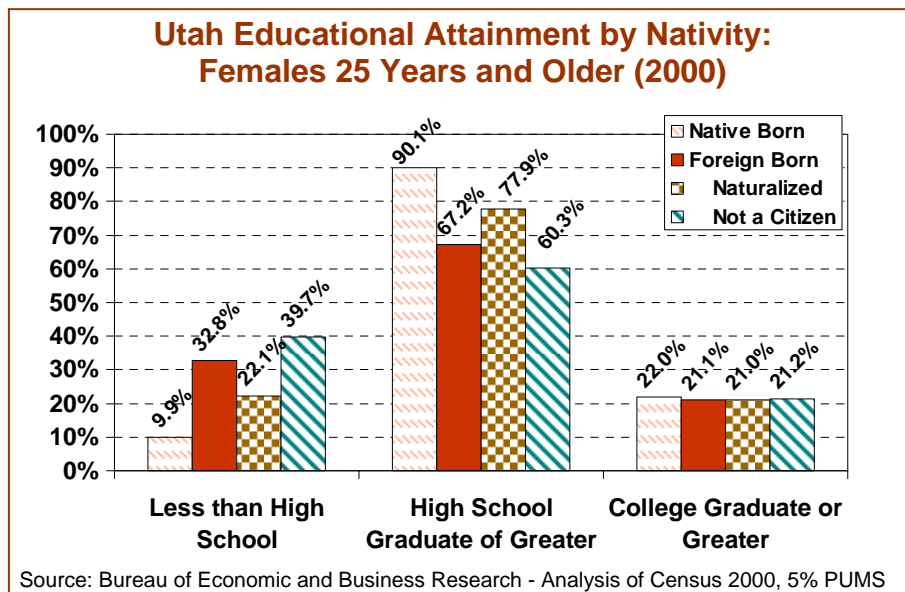
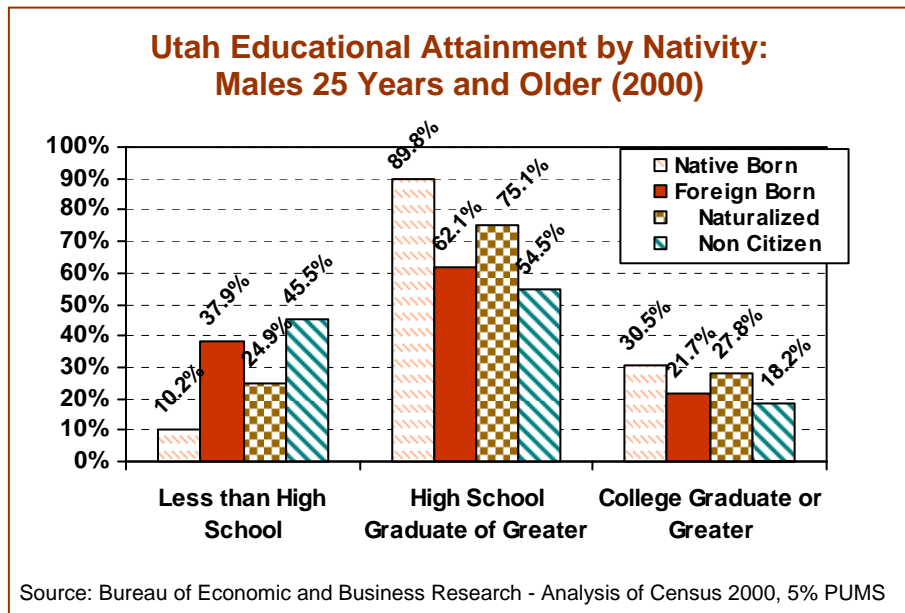
Many Utah Women are Not Completing College

While Utah's college age population is more likely to attend college than do the national population, Utah women are slightly less likely to have college degrees than are women in the rest of the nation. This lower overall rate is the result of significantly lower educational attainment of Utah's younger women (ages 25 through 45). Utah men, on the other hand, have higher college educational attainment than the nation. So, while Utah young women start college studies at above average rates, they are less likely to complete their degrees. Utah high school completion rates exceed those of the nation.



Educational Attainment Varies by Nativity

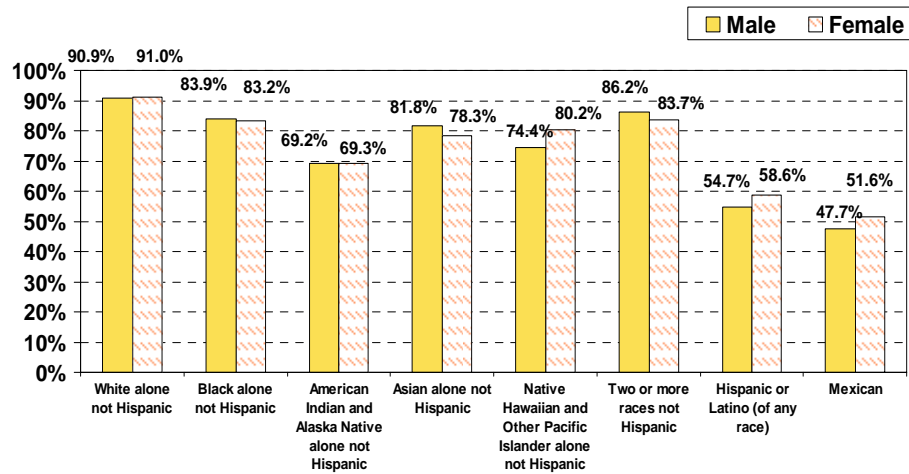
The native born Utah population has higher educational attainment than does its foreign born population. Immigrants who have been naturalized have higher levels of education than do non-citizen immigrants. Non-citizens tend to be more recent arrivals. Over 4 in 10 immigrants 25 years and older who are not citizens have less than a high school education. A greater share of foreign born males than females have not completed high school. Females exceed males in having at least completed high school in all categories. Nativity does not appear to significantly impact female college degree completion in Utah.



Educational Attainment Varies by Minority Status

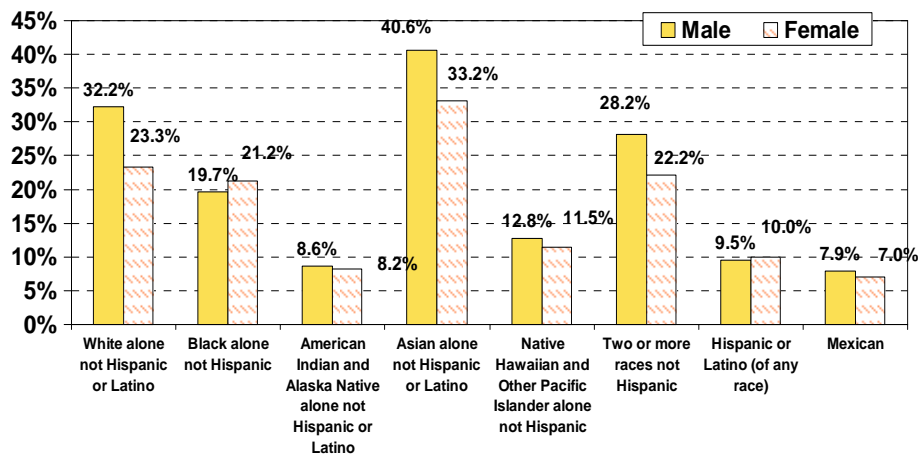
Educational attainment of Utah residents ages 25 and over by race and ethnicity follows the same pattern as college participation rates. Asians have, by a large margin, the highest educational levels while Native Americans and Hispanics (including Mexicans) have the very lowest levels. Over half of all Mexicans ages 25 and older, do not have a high school education.

Share of Utah Population 25 Years and Older with at Least High School Completion - Minority Status (2000)



Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research - Analysis of Census 2000, SF4

Share of Utah Population 25 Years and Older with a Bachelors or More - Minority Status (2000)



Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research - Analysis of Census 2000, SF4

Conclusions

1. The college age population in Utah is projected to grow very slowly (at best) for at least the next decade.
2. College participation rates for college age persons in Utah are declining.
3. These declining rates are at least partly explained by the increased immigration to the state of persons who have very low education levels and whose children are much less likely to finish high school as compared to the native born.
4. College participation rates in Utah vary widely by race and ethnic group, with Asians at the top and American Indians and Hispanics at the bottom.
5. Utah women, especially those who are native born, attend college at rates that exceed the nation, but complete degrees at rates that are slightly below those of their national counterparts.
6. Utah's rates of educational attainment exceed those of the nation, but vary widely by nativity, sex, and racial / ethnic group.
 - Non-citizen immigrants tend to have very low educational attainment.
 - Males tend to be more concentrated at the lowest (less than high school completion) and highest (college graduate or more) levels of attainment while females are more concentrated in the middle (high school or more).
 - Asians have by far the highest educational attainment (as measured by college completion) followed by white alone (not Hispanic), multi-race non-Hispanics, African American alone (not Hispanic), and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone (not Hispanic). Native American and Hispanics (including Mexicans) have the very lowest educational attainment among Utah persons aged 25 and older.
7. Hispanics have very high rates population growth rate, as compared to other race and ethnic groups in Utah. This is a combination of continued rapid rates of immigration and very high fertility rates.
 - Hispanics have high drop out rates in high school, so fewer are qualified to enroll for college.
 - This population also has among the lowest median household incomes resulting in less financial ability to afford college tuition or time out of the labor force to attend college.