

Affirmative Action in Education

Why Percent Plans Don't Work Enrollment in Texas Flagship Schools

Since the 1996 *Hopwood* decision, despite the state's goals of achieving "minority enrollment reflect[ing] the population of areas it serves and from which it recruits students" (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board), neither of Texas' flagship institutions (UT Austin and Texas A&M) has reached enrollment levels reflecting the potential college-going population. In 2000, the state's 15-19-year old population was 44 percent White, 13 percent Black, 39 percent Hispanic and 3 percent Asian.

This data suggests that percent plans have fallen well short of creating diverse flagship campuses reflecting the states they are intended to serve.

University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) and Texas A&M First-Time, Full-Time Freshman Fall Enrollment, by Race/Ethnicity, Fall 1995 to 2001

[Source: The Civil Rights Project at Harvard University, "Percent Plans in College Admissions: A Comparative Analysis of Three States' Experiences," Table 28 (2003)]

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
UT Austin							
White (%)	66.4	66.2	67.4	65.9	63.7	62.7	62.3
Black (%)	3.4	3.0	2.6	2.9	4.1	3.8	3.4
Hispanic(%)	14.1	14.2	12.2	12.7	13.7	13.1	13.4
Asian (%)	14.1	14.4	15.8	16.6	17.0	16.8	18.1
Total (N)	5414	5226	6182	5665	6018	6148	5743
Texas A&M							
White (%)	78.2	82.8	83.5	82.0	83.0	80.7	81.8
Black (%)	4.5	3.5	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.1
Hispanic(%)	14.3	10.6	9.1	8.9	8.6	10.1	10.4
Asian (%)	2.6	2.7	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.1
Total (N)	5068	5231	5199	6523	6553	6445	6106

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