Latinos are the fastest-growing ethnic category in the United States: therefore, the future health of U.S. engineering will depend upon the success with which our nation recruits Latinos to the field. U.S. engineering schools produced 1,290 Latino engineers at the bachelor’s level in 1977. Only seven mainland institutions produced 25 or more Latino engineers in 1977 with the University of Texas at El Paso leading with 60 bachelor’s degrees. Women, were nearly invisible among Latino BSE recipients. Since then, Latino representation among new graduates has increased. In 2009, 20 percent of the 5,577 bachelor’s degrees earned by U.S. Latinos were awarded by Puerto Rican institutions.

Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) are important in the production of Latino college graduates. But according to a report by ¡Excelencia in Education!: “Latino college students’ choices create HSIs. However, most Latino students enrolled at HSIs did not know their institution was an HSI.” This means the institutions that “count” as HSIs change yearly, depending on the percentage of Latino students among enrolled students. There are important differences within the Latino category associated with country of origin: unfortunately, engineering educational data on the important Latino subgroups are not available.

Puerto Rican universities have long been an important producer of Latino engineers, with two schools awarding 392 degrees in 1977, with 5.6 percent earned by women. By 2009, five Puerto Rican institutions conferred 1,160 engineering bachelor’s degrees to Latinos, representing 21 percent of the nation’s 5,577 engineering bachelor’s degrees. For quite some time, too, women have earned a substantial proportion of engineering degrees on the island: by 2009 women earned 40 percent of engineering bachelor’s degrees awarded by the flagship public institution—the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez.

- Latinos earned just over 8 percent of engineering bachelor’s degrees in 2009
- Latinos earned 1,317 master’s degrees and only 153 doctoral degrees in engineering in 2009
- The percent of engineering bachelor’s degrees earned by Latinos has continued to increase while those earned by African Americans reveal a recent decline
- Latinas’ share of engineering degrees has not increased at the bachelor’s and masters’ levels since 2002
- Latinos’ inroads into doctoral degrees has been modest since the 1970s
There were 158,888 Latinos in four types of engineering jobs in 2009.

- Latinos represent 6 percent of the U.S. engineering workforce … but account for 14 percent of the overall U.S. workforce.
- Latinos in the U.S. engineering workforce are more likely to be technicians and less likely to be managers.
- Salaries of Latino engineers, regardless of sex, are far higher than those for Latino workers, in general.
- The average Latino (male) engineer aged 25-34 earned $60,000 annually.
- The average Latina engineer aged 25-34 earned $67,000 annually.
- Of the nation’s 24,369 tenured/tenure track engineering faculty, 3.5 percent were Latino in 2009 (ASEE 2010).
- About two-thirds of Latinos live in five states (see chart, below) but the percent of Latinos among 2009 BSEs lags population between 4 percent (Fla.) and 25 percent (Calif.)

### Median Annual Earnings, Engineers by Age-Group, 2009

(Full-time, year-round workers only)


### Median Annual Earnings, 25-34 Year Old Latinos and U.S. Workers, 2009

(Full-time, year-round workers only)


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**NACME’s vision:**

An engineering workforce that looks like America.

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**About the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering, Inc. (NACME)**

Since its founding 37 years ago, NACME has stayed true to its mission: To insure American resilience in a flat world by leading the national effort to expand U.S. capability via better engagement of African American, American Indian and Latino women and men in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education and careers. NACME Alumni hold leadership positions in industry, medicine, law, education and government. With funding from corporate and individual donors, NACME has supported over 22,000 students with more than $124 million in scholarships and other support. Currently, NACME provides scholarship support to more than 1,300 college engineering students through a national network of 50 partner universities. NACME has also been engaged in a middle school through community college strategy to increase the number of underrepresented minority students in STEM disciplines. engineering. [http://www.nacme.org](http://www.nacme.org).

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**NACME Block Grant Universities**

- California State Univ., Los Angeles (HSI)
  - Prairie View A&M Univ.
- California State Univ., Sacramento
  - Purdue Univ.
- CUNY City College (HSI)
  - Rochester Inst. of Tech.
- Drexel Univ.
  - Tuskegee Univ.
- Florida International Univ. (HSI)
  - Univ. of California, San Diego
- Georgia Inst. of Tech.
  - Univ. of Central Florida
- Kansas State Univ.
  - Univ. of Colorado at Boulder
- Kettering Univ.
  - Univ. of Houston (HSI)
- Missouri Univ. of Science and Tech.
  - Univ. of Texas at El Paso (HSI)
- New Jersey Inst. of Tech.
  - Univ. of Texas at San Antonio (HSI)
- North Carolina A&T State Univ.
  - Univ. of Washington
- Northern Arizona Univ.
  - Virginia Polytechnic Inst. and State Univ.
- Polytechnic Inst. of New York Univ.
  - HSI = Hispanic Serving Institution

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