Ethnicity and Gender Representation at US Business Schools
10-Year Comparison on Gender and Race

AACSB examined the changing demographics within U.S. business schools, looking at both ethnicity and gender for students and faculty. These trends are based on a controlled set of U.S. AACSB member business schools that reported in all years between 2011–12 and 2020–21. This report is intended to prompt additional discussions on diversity and does not represent a comprehensive analysis of business school demographics or represent all ethnicities or gender categories.

Summary (10-year comparison)

- **At least 8%** growth in underrepresented ethnicity groups across all levels of business education
- **5%** growth in female student representation in MBA programs
- **5%** increase in representation of Black students enrolled in doctoral programs
- **5%** increase in female full-time faculty representation
- **7%** increase in underrepresented ethnicity groups among faculty
- Specialized master’s programs saw the greatest growth in underrepresented ethnicity groups, at 13 percent.
- Women have had representation gains across most degree levels.
- Black doctoral student enrollment increased from 6 percent to 11 percent.
- This growth in female full-time faculty represents an increase from 29 percent to 34 percent.
- The fastest growing underrepresented ethnicity group within business schools is the Hispanic population.
- Enrollment of multiracial individuals, those identifying as two or more races, has surged at all business school degree levels.
- This growth in underrepresented ethnicity faculty groups represents an increase from 19 percent to 26 percent in total faculty population.
US Student Ethnicity and Gender Statistics
10-Year Representation Shifts by Region: Students

This map depicts the percentage change in representation for underrepresented ethnicity groups over the last 10 years, by region. These changes were compared to the shifts captured by the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2020 U.S. Census estimate. In all but two regions (the South and Mid-American), the growth in underrepresented ethnicity groups among students outpaced the underrepresented ethnicity groups in the population.

Percentage Change in Student Enrollment for Underrepresented Ethnicity Groups, by Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Mid-American</th>
<th>Mid-Atlantic</th>
<th>Northeast</th>
<th>South</th>
<th>Southwest</th>
<th>West</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Census Change</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Change</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KEY INSIGHT

In the Southwest and West, student enrollment for underrepresented ethnicity groups grew by 9 percent, outpacing the increase in those regions’ populations by 5 percent and 6 percent, respectively.
Business Student Demographics: Undergraduate Programs

3% increase in students identifying as two or more races over the last 10 years

- The number of individuals identifying as two or more races now make up nearly 4 percent of the total undergraduate population, up from just 1 percent over the ten-year period. Some of these gains are likely due to improved awareness of this population.
- The percentage of undergraduate student enrollment for underrepresented ethnicity groups increased by 8 percent, from 29 percent to 37 percent, over the last 10 years.
Hispanic students had the greatest gains as a percentage of the total population, from 5 percent in 2011–12 to 10 percent in 2020–21.

While undergraduate enrollment for Black students was flat, Black MBA student enrollment rose 4 percent, from 6 percent of the total population in 2010–11 to 10 percent in 2020–21.

The percentage of MBA student enrollment for underrepresented ethnicity groups increased by 10 percent, from 22 percent to 32 percent, over the last 10 years.
In the past five years, female specialized master’s enrollment increased by 1 percent.
Blacks and Asians both saw modest 2.4 percent gains in representation over the ten-year period.
Those of two or more races now make up 3 percent of the population, up from 1 percent in 2011–12.
The percentage of specialized master’s student enrollment for underrepresented ethnicity groups increased by 13 percent, from 26 percent to 39 percent, over the last 10 years.
In the past five years, female doctoral student enrollment increased by 2 percent. Black students had the greatest representation increase in doctoral programs, out of any education level, from 6 percent to 11 percent. Only white and Asian student populations are better represented in doctoral programs. The number of students selecting two or more races increased notably from 1 percent to 3 percent. The percentage of doctoral student enrollment for underrepresented ethnicity groups increased by 10 percent, from 25 percent to 35 percent, over the last 10 years.

5% increase in Black student representation in doctoral programs over last 10 years
US Faculty Ethnicity and Gender Statistics
10-Year Representation Shifts by Region: Faculty

This map depicts the percentage change in representation for underrepresented ethnicity groups over the last 10 years, by region. These changes were compared to the shifts captured by the 2010 U.S. Census and the 2020 U.S. Census estimate. In all regions, growth in underrepresented ethnicity groups among faculty outpaced the underrepresented ethnicity groups in the population growth.

**Perecentage Change in Full-Time Faculty Representation for Underrepresented Groups, by Region**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Mid- American</th>
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<th>Northeast</th>
<th>South</th>
<th>Southwest</th>
<th>West</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Census Change</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Change</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KEY INSIGHT**

In the Southwest, faculty representation for underrepresented ethnicity groups grew by 8 percent, outpacing the increase in that region’s population by 4 percent.
Business Faculty Demographics

- Seven percent increase in faculty representation for underrepresented ethnicity groups, from 19 percent to 26 percent of total faculty population in the last 10 years.
- The percentage of Asian faculty increased from 14 percent to 19 percent over the last 10 years.
- While presently more male than female faculty have tenure status (52 percent male, 41 percent female), more female than male faculty are on a track to obtain tenure in the future (27 percent female, 22 percent male).
- The percentage of deans who identify as female increased from 18 percent to 28 percent over the last 10 years.

Full-Time Faculty by Ethnicity, 2011–12 to 2020–21
n = 257 business schools

- Native American: 0.4 (2011–12), 0.2 (2020–21)

Full-Time Faculty by Gender, 2020–21
- Male: 66%
- Female: 34%

In the year 2011–2012, AACSB did not collect data of faculty with two or more races.
About This Statistics Sheet
This brief includes data collected through AACSB’s annual data collection efforts, primarily the AACSB Business School Questionnaire (BSQ) Programs Module, as well as statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau. The data from the U.S. Census Bureau are on pages 3 and 9 and are labeled as such.

In all instances that refer to students or faculty, underrepresented ethnicity groups is inclusive of all races excluding white.

The racial categories used within this statistic sheet are those used by the U.S. Census Bureau. Each racial category, excluding “2+ Races,” applies to respondents who self-identified as belonging to one racial group. Please see the U.S. Census Bureau’s race definitions for more information.

The term MBA as used in this sheet, refers to master’s generalist and MBA-equivalent programs, including MBA, MBA/dual degree, master’s generalist (non-MBA), and Executive MBA.