



**INDIANA UNIVERSITY**  
**SOUTH BEND**

IU S. Bend Brief PHL | ph2553@columbia.edu  
March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | Pedro Huet

**To:** IU South Bend Chancellor

**CC:** IU Trustee

**RE:** Status of Indiana University South Bend Campus' serving of racial/ethnic minority students

Based on the historical information available to the Office of Institutional Analytics regarding new student enrollment, it is possible to devise noticeable patterns among the various student groups.

1. In the last 12 years, the University of Indiana S. Bend Campus has shown a noticeable improvement in decreasing the gap between Caucasian students and Students of Color.
  - During this period, the campus has shifted its student enrollment from having more than 75% of its students being Caucasian to standing at close to 50% (a 20% decrease).
  - It now enrolls 377 students of color (43%), of which 97% are underrepresented groups.
2. However, disaggregating the data by the various demographic groups shows the existence of marked differences in enrollment gains among different student minority groups.
  - Hispanic students received the lion's share of the growth (64% of all students of color).
  - While Hispanic students more than tripled (from 9% to 27.6%) despite the pandemic, the second most benefited group, African Americans, only increased their total by 1%.
3. Despite showing signs of common trends, it seems there was an inflection point between Hispanic and African American students that markedly changed their enrollment patterns.
  - Although both groups were commensurate by starting at a similar size and sharing parallel trends, something (tentatively during 2016 – 2018) caused them to diverge.
  - African American student enrollment stagnated even before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and remains weak, while Hispanic students' was mostly unaffected in 2020 and currently doesn't show signs of peaking. This could be evidence of disparity.
4. The University has made some progress in increasing its share of international students, yet it seems to have a large room for improvement after its performance during this period.
  - It is close to tripling its number of international students, having peaked its enrollment gains during 2013 (400% increase), yet when said population stands comprised of only 12 students (less than 2% of the total), it is reasonable to think more can be done.
5. It would be useful to gather regional trends, like population size and scholarship ratios among racial/ethnic groups in S. Bend, Indiana or Midwest, to better asses if they are served.

