



# Graduation trends in America

Tony Reyes  
Leila Kandil  
Jose Colchado



# Data Overview

**Date Range** → Data covers all awards granted between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021

**Total Degrees** → ~4,840,000 students graduated

**Genders** → Men & Women

**Ethnicities** → White, Asian, Hispanic, African American, Pacific Islander, Native American

**Universities** → Size, Public/Private, HBCU/Non-HBCU, Location

# Our Objective

Analyse graduation trends in Universities in the United States.  
Understand what type of institutions tend to have higher diversity in graduating students

Highlight key factors:  
**control type**  
(public/private), **HBCU** or **Non-HBCU**, **Location**, etc.

# Definitions:

**Private non-for-profit:** Institution that reinvests its earnings into education.

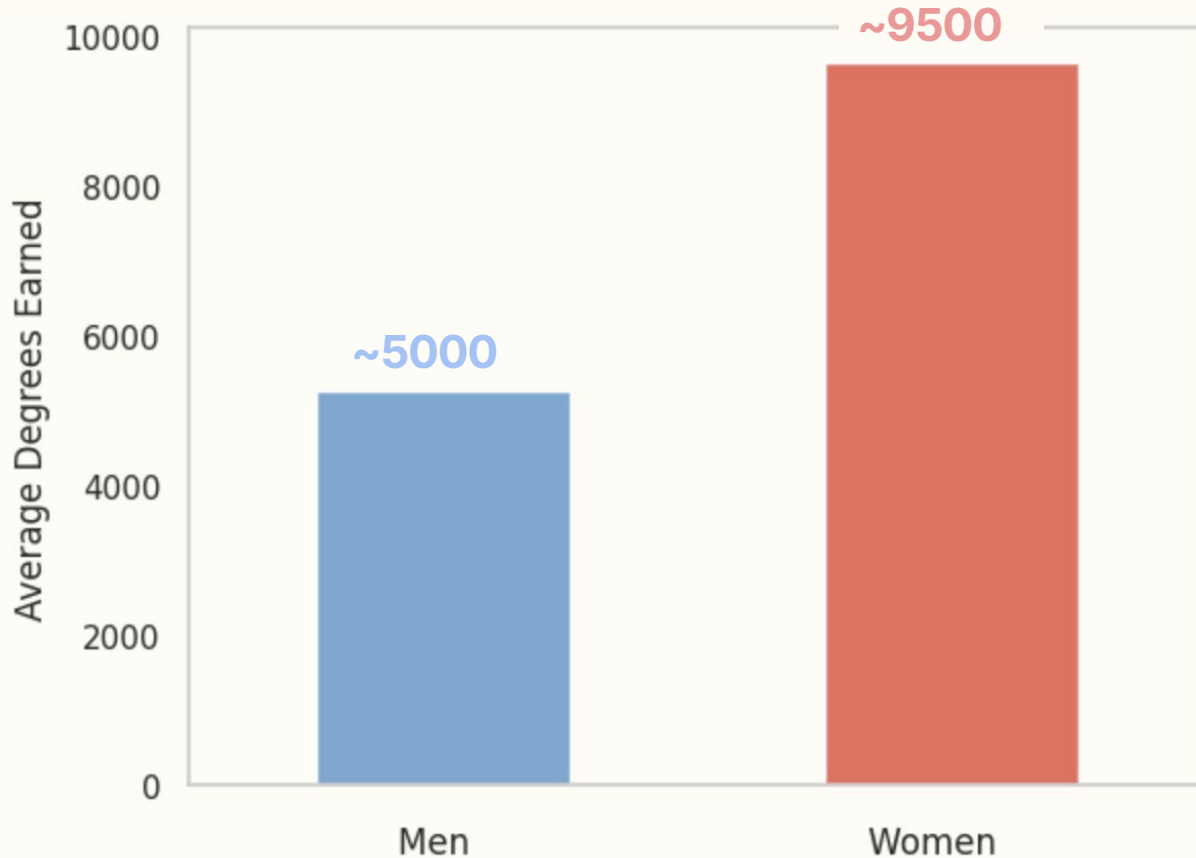
**Private for-profit:** Privately owned institution that operates as a business.

**HBCU:** Historically Black college or university founded before 1964 to serve black students.



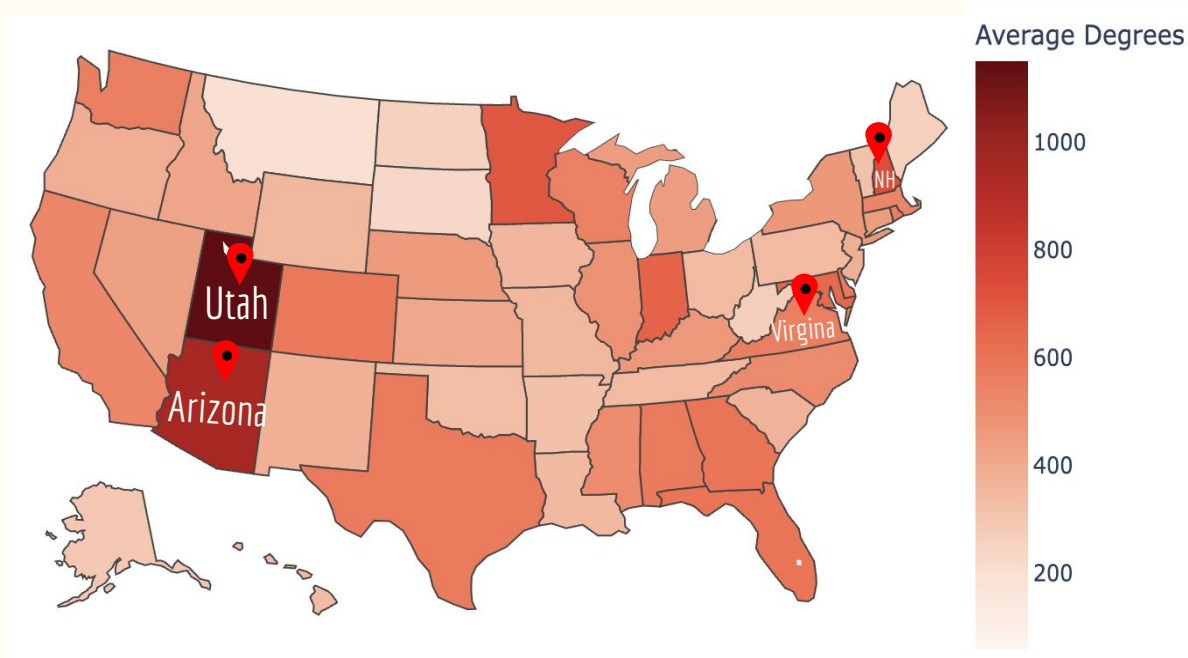
**Gender**

## Average Number of Degrees awarded per institution



Overall **Women** receive more degrees than **Men**

# Gender Distribution of **Female** and **Male** Graduates Across U.S. States



7

## Top States for Women

1. Utah
2. Arizona
3. New Hampshire
4. Virginia

**Note:** There are more **female** graduates than **male** graduates across all states.

**Note:** **Women** receive nearly double the number of degrees granted to **Men**

**From top 10 female  
graduates universities**

1. Western Governors University (Utah) - ~ **34,400**
2. University of Phoenix-Arizona (Arizona) - ~ **18,800**
3. Southern New Hampshire University (New Hampshire) - ~ **17,200**
4. Liberty University (Virginia) - ~ **14,200**
5. Ivy Tech Community College (Indiana) - ~ **13,600**

**From top 10 male  
graduates universities**

1. Western Governors University (Utah) - ~ **15,000**
2. Liberty University (Virginia) - ~ **9,700**
3. Southern New Hampshire University (New Hampshire) - ~ **9,500**
4. Ivy Tech Community College (Indiana) - ~ **9000**
5. University of Phoenix-Arizona (Arizona) - ~ **8,500**



**Western Governors University (Utah)**  
**vs** other well known Universities in Utah

University	Total Student Enrollment Per Year
<b>Western Governors university (WGU)</b>	<b>156,935</b>
Utah Valley University (UVU)	44,653
University of Utah	35,310
Brigham Young University (BYU)	34,464

## Similar trends observed to why female graduates are higher in number:

### Western Governors University (**Utah**)

- **Online** University
- First university where all bachelor's and master's degrees are competency-based

### University of Phoenix-Arizona (**Arizona**)

- **Online** University (expected to migrate fully)
- One of the first online universities designed for working adults

### Southern New Hampshire University (**New Hampshire**)

- Has a large **online** student population and also offers traditional campus-based programs
- Over 170,000 online students

## Similar trends observed to why female graduates are :

### Liberty University (**Utah**)

- Both **online** and in-person university

### Ivy Tech Community College (**Indiana**)

- In-Person Community College with **Online** Options

Why does Utah have the **highest** graduation rates for both **males** and **females** compared to other states?

Utah ranks #5 in lowest tuition

Cultural and Religious Influence  
(LDS Church)

Strong Family & Community Support

Strong job market

Other **variables** in data that **do not** have an influence on university choice based on **gender**:

## Institution size

Both **Women** and **Men** received **more** degrees as the institution size **increased**

## University type

Both **Women** and **Men** received **more** degrees in **public** universities

## HBCU

Both **Women** and **Men** received **more** degrees in **non-HBCU** colleges and universities



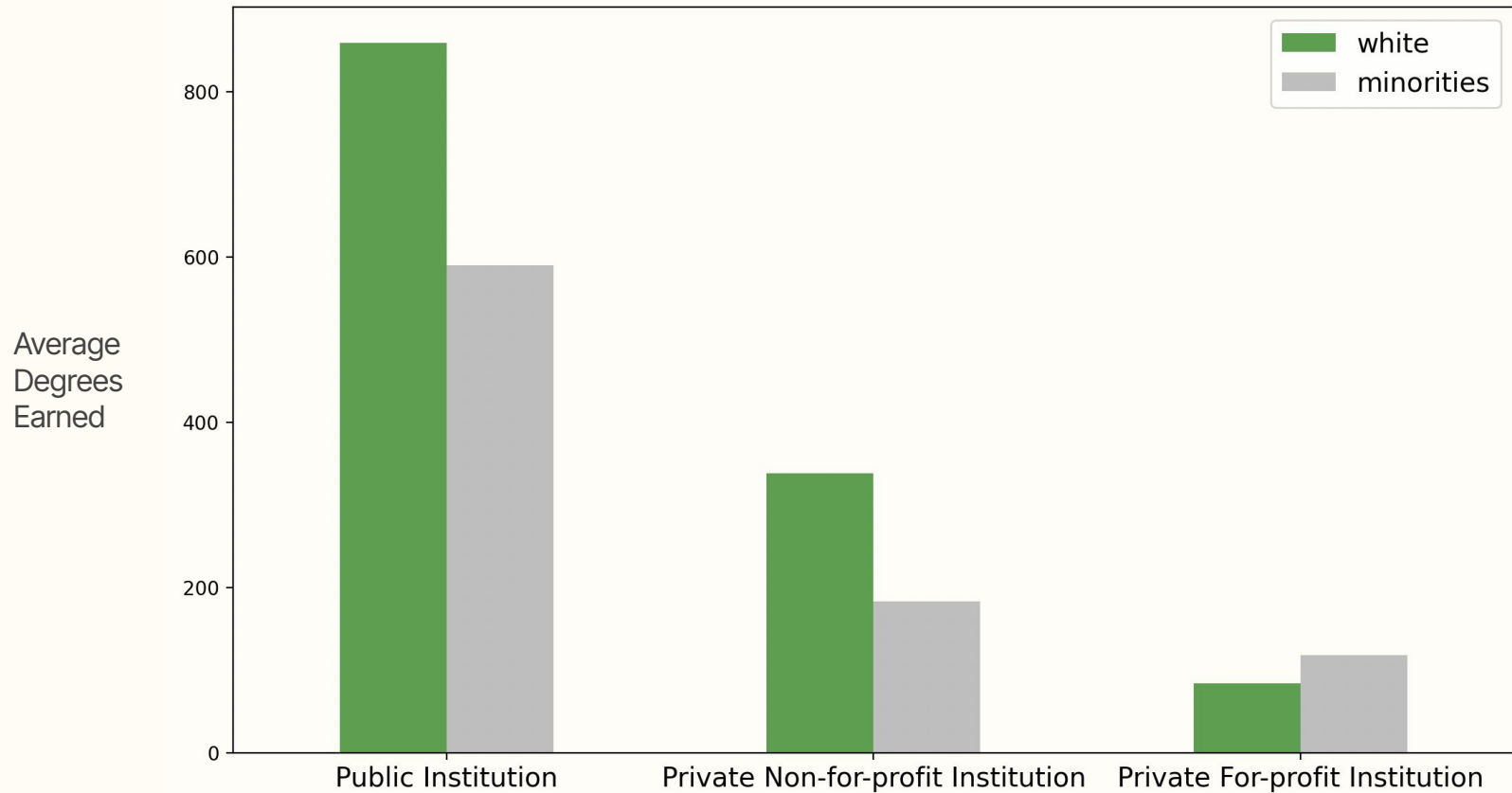
# Ethnicities

# Diversity

- **50%** White Students
- **34%** Minorities
  - 17%** Hispanic Students
  - 11%** African American Students
  - 6%** Asian Students
  - <0.01%** Native American Students
  - <0.01%** Pacific Islander Students

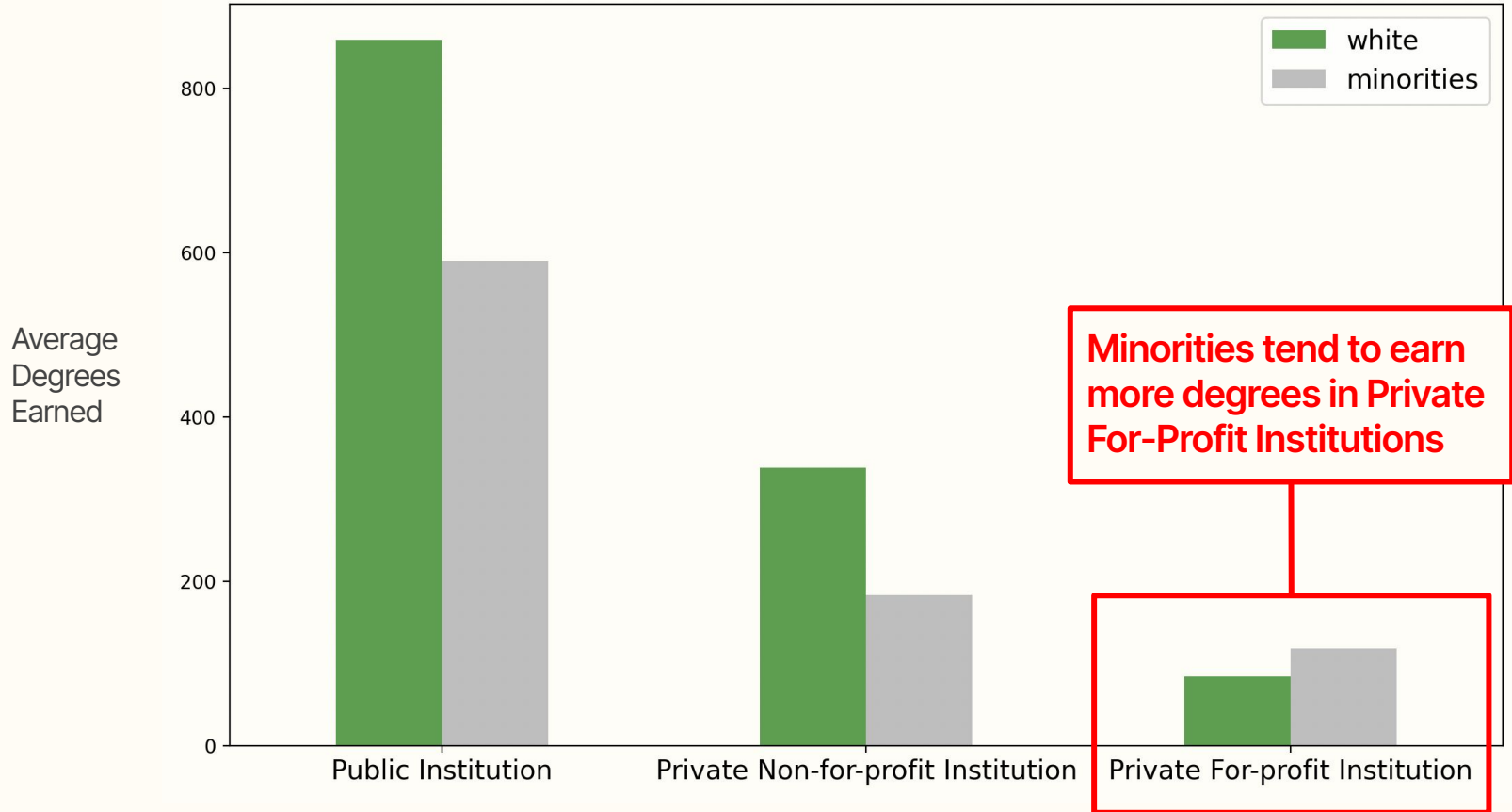
Remaining 16% belong in other categories

# Should I choose Private or Public Institutions?

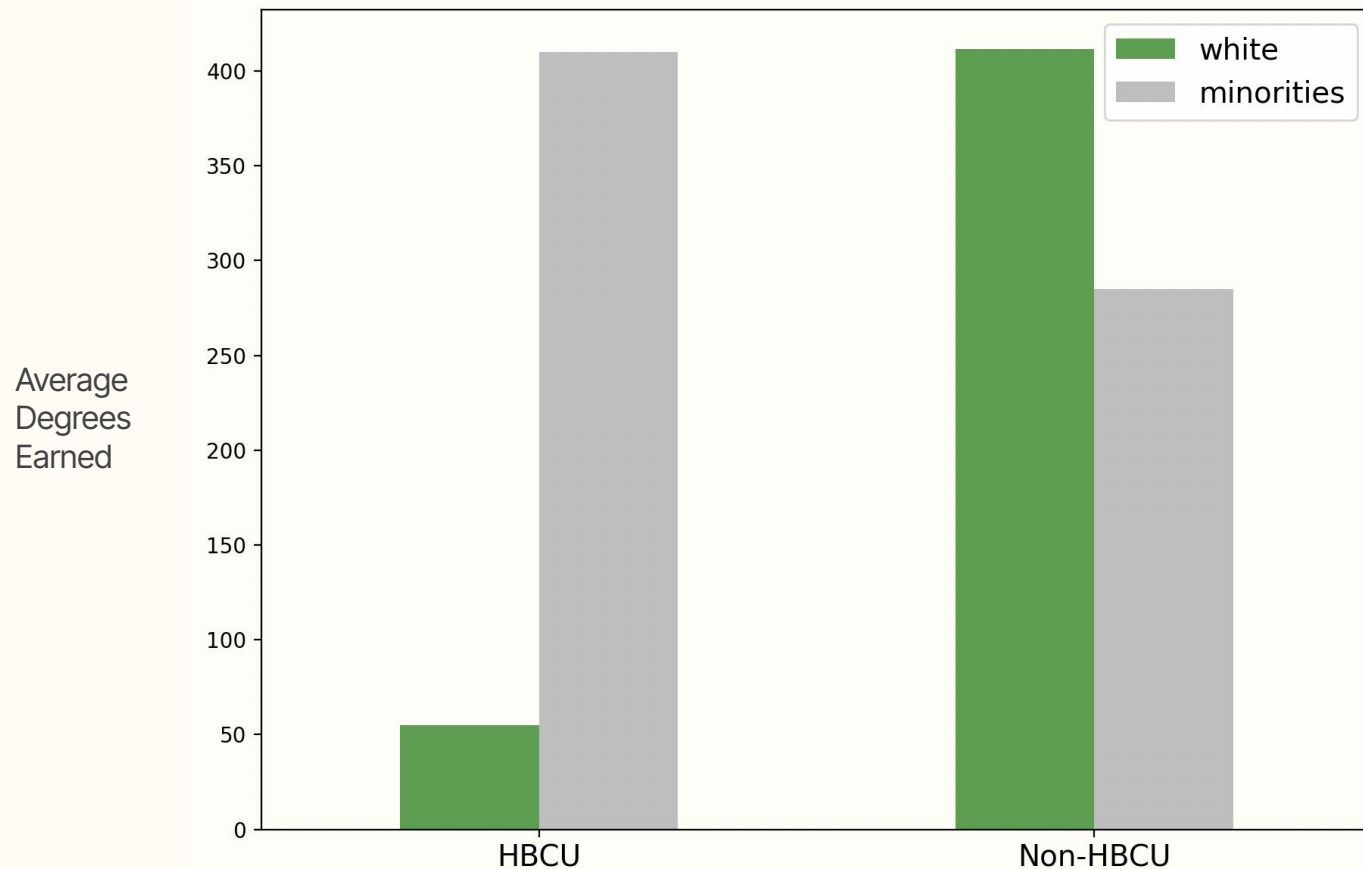




# Should I choose Private or Public Institutions?



# Should I choose HBCU or Non-HBCU Institutions?



## Should I choose HBCU or Non-HBCU Institutions?

~5%

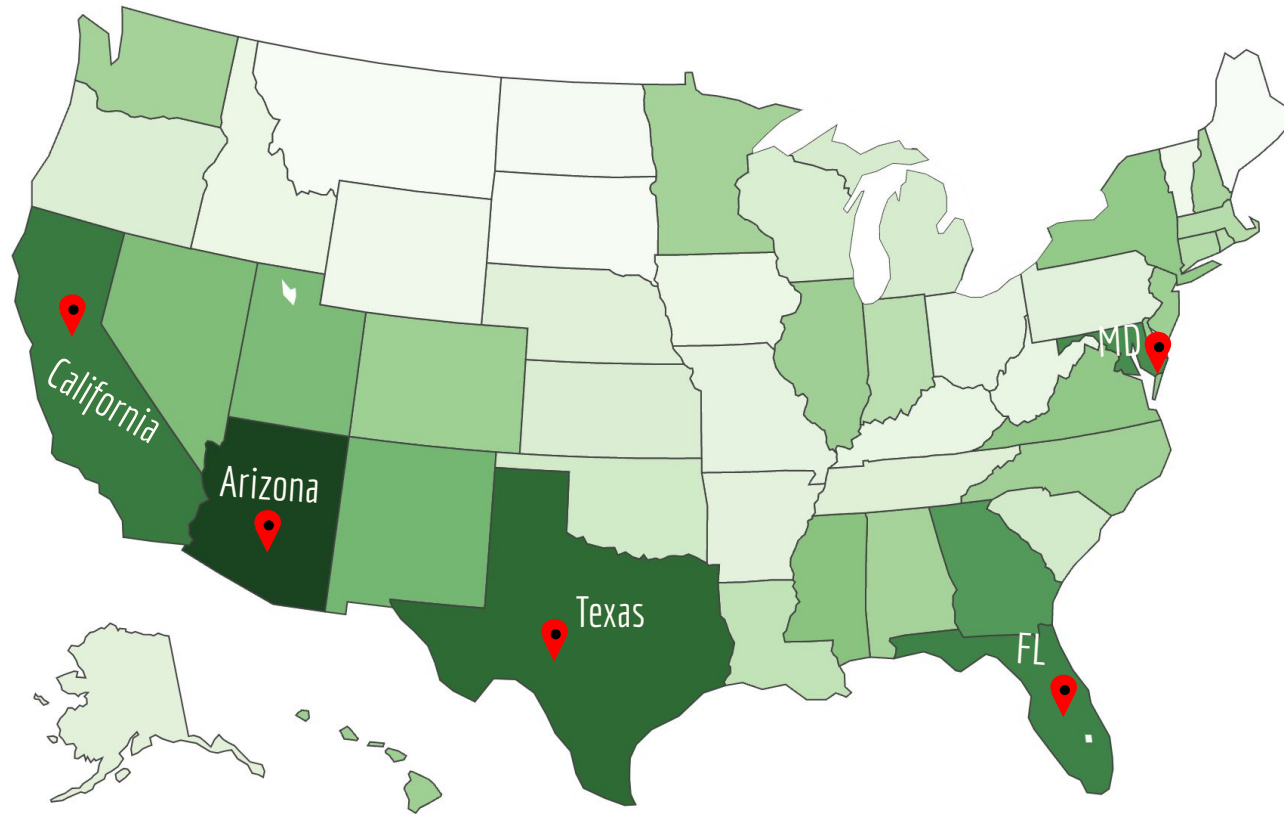
Of all Institutions are **HBCU**

## Control Type and HBCU or Non-HBCU

Minorities tend to earn more degrees in  
**Private-for-profit** institutions

**BUT**

There are no Private-for-profit HBCU Institutions



## Top States for Minorities

1. Arizona
2. Texas
3. California
4. Florida
5. Maryland

# Hispanics

## Top States for Minorities

1. Arizona
2. Texas
3. California
4. Florida
5. Maryland

**4 out of 5** of the top universities for Hispanic students are in **TX** and **FL**

## Top States for Minorities

1. Arizona
2. Texas
3. California
4. Florida
5. Maryland

African  
Americans

A diagram consisting of a red triangle. The left vertex of the triangle is positioned to the right of the text 'African Americans'. The rightmost vertex is aligned with the first item in the list, '1. Arizona'. The bottom-right vertex is aligned with the fourth item in the list, '4. Florida'. The bottom-left vertex is aligned with the fifth item in the list, '5. Maryland'. This visualizes that four out of the top five states for minorities are also top for African Americans.

**4 out of 5** of the top universities for African American students are in **AZ, FL** and **MD**

# Asian Students

## Top States for Minorities

1. Arizona
2. Texas
3. California
4. Florida
5. Maryland

**5 out of 5** of the top universities for Asian students are  
in CA



Other **variables** in data that **do not** have an influence on university choice based on ethnicity:

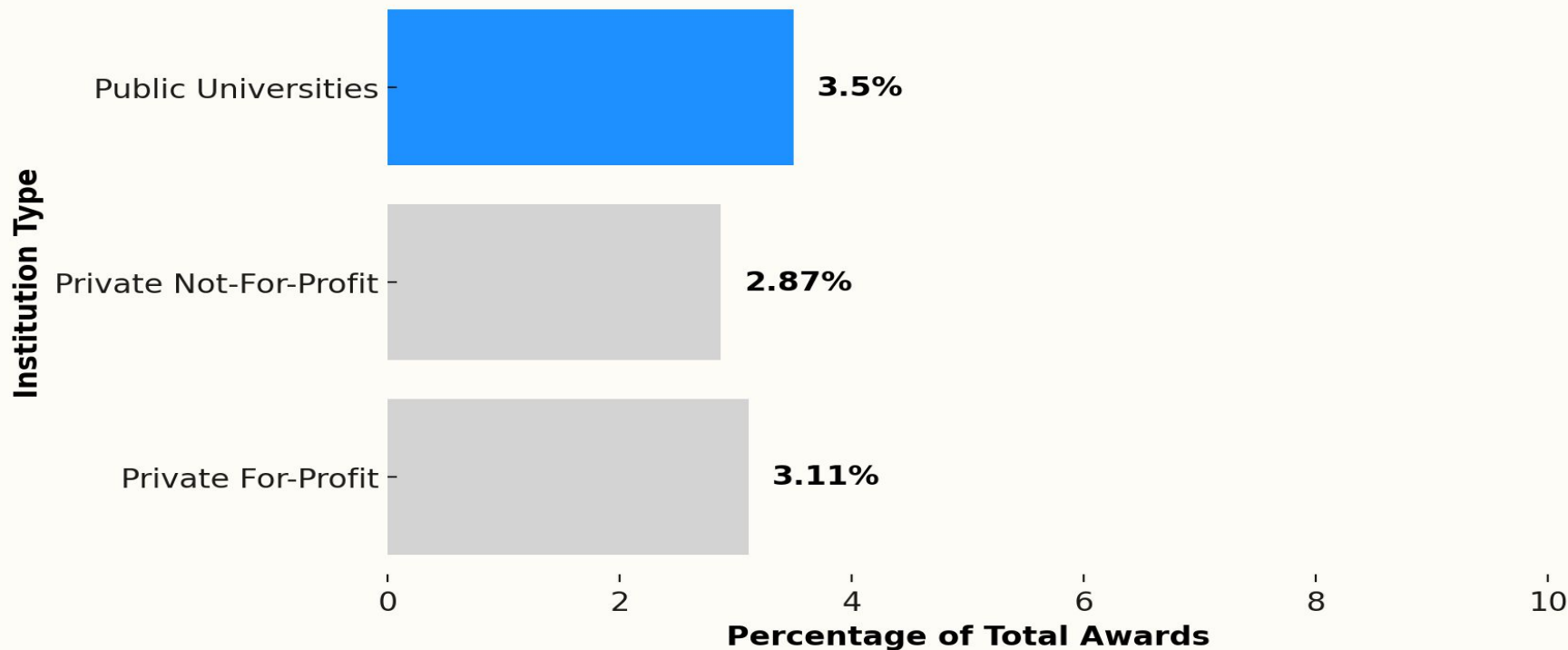
## Institution size

All **Ethnicities** received more or less degrees **equally** depending on the size of the Institution



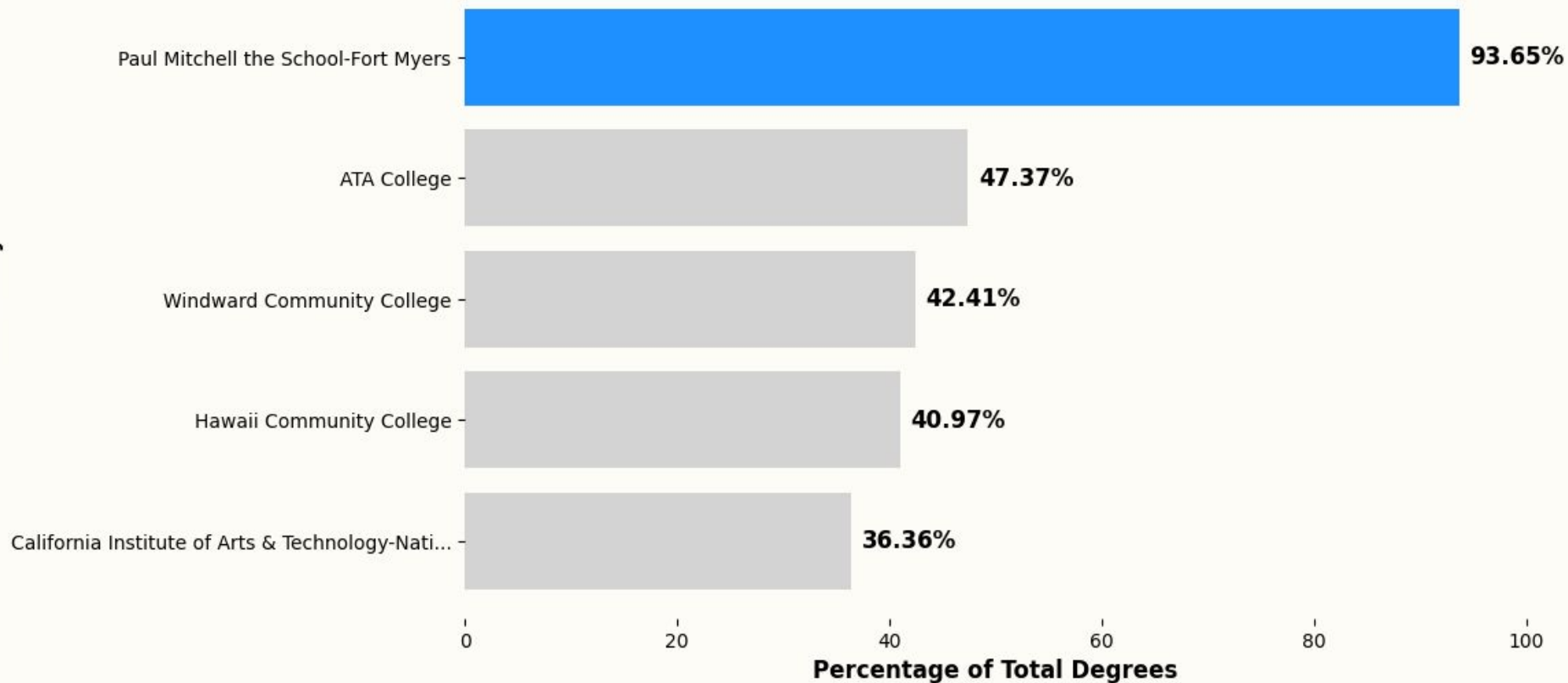
# Mixed Backgrounds

# Distribution of Degrees for people of Two or more races by Institution Type



**Key Takeaway:** Public institutions award the highest percentage!!!  
Despite the small numbers, top universities reveal deeper insights

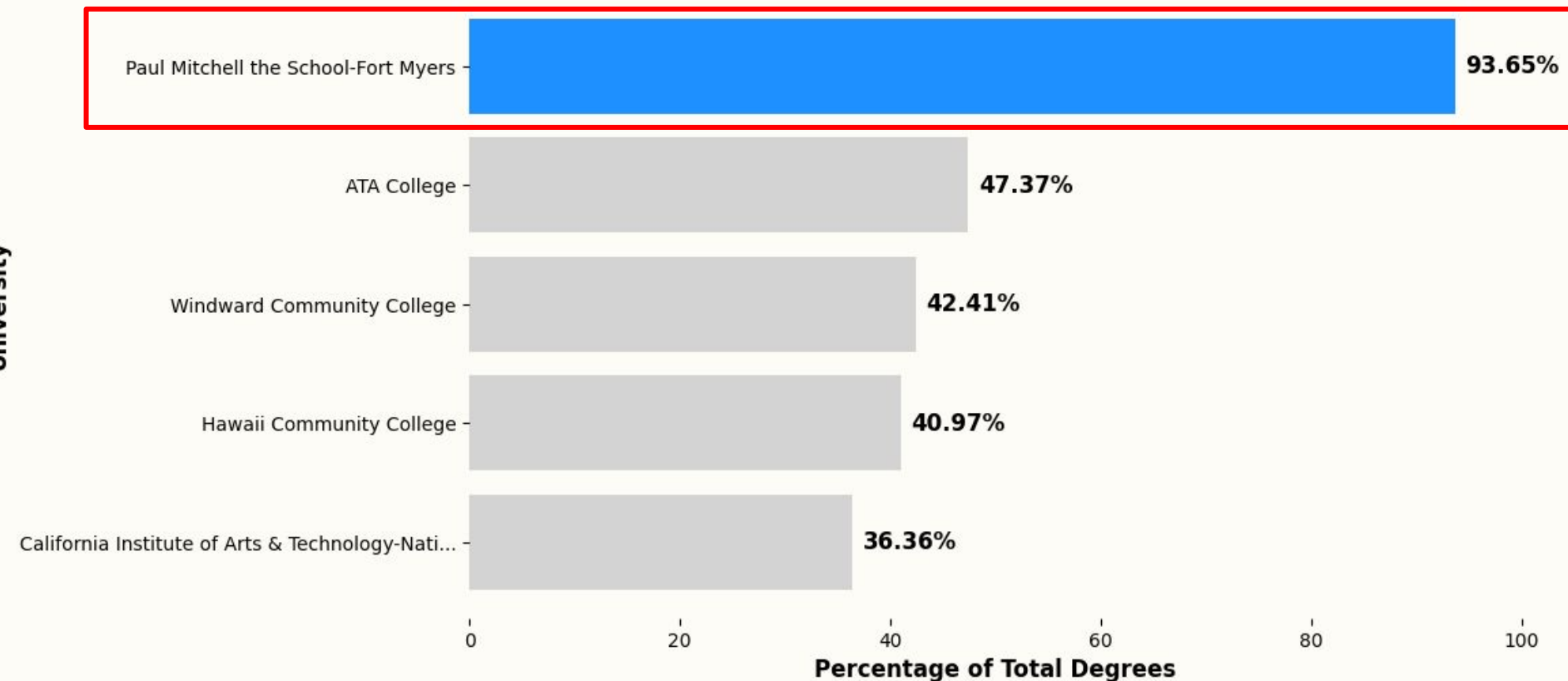
## The Top 5 schools based on percentage of degrees awarded to students of two or more races



# Common Characteristics

- Small Schools= Higher % of Two or More Race degrees
- Diverse States, Small Cities
  - Hawaii, Florida, and California
- Hands on Training focus- Concentrated in Vocational Schools (Private-for-Profit) and Community Colleges (Public)

## The Top 5 universities based on share of degrees awarded to students of two or more races



# Paul Mitchell the School Fort-Myers (Fort myers, FL)

## Graduation Rate:

74%

## Characteristics:



Private For-Profit



Rural



Small

## Student Enrollment:

120 Students

## What is it?:

- A vocational school that specializes in beauty and cosmetology

## Key Takeaways:

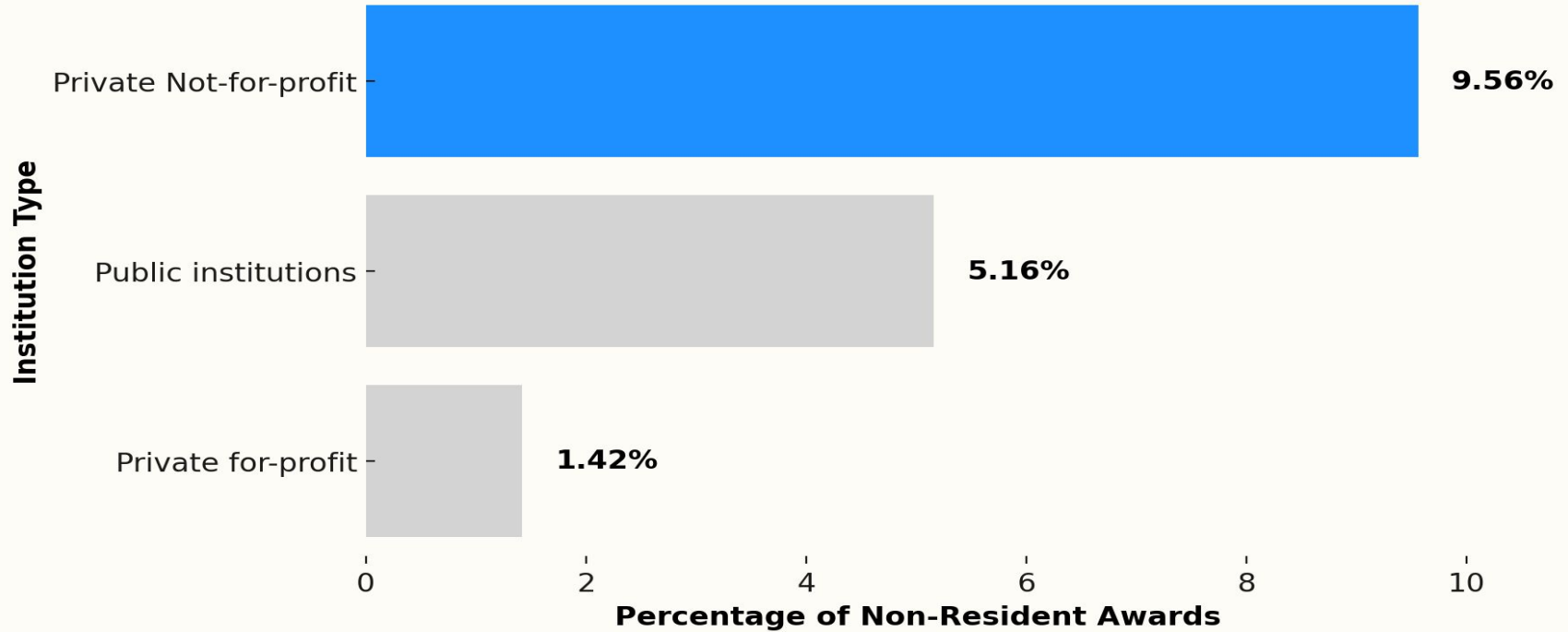
- Located in a diverse state like Florida
- Reputable Brands attract students of diverse backgrounds to get hands on experience
- Small size= higher % of two or more race degrees due to inflation



**Non-U.S. Residents**



# Distribution of Non-Resident Degrees by Institution Type



**Key Takeaway:** Non-U.S. Residents prefer Private-Not-for-profits!

## The Top 5 schools based on percentage of degrees awarded to Non-U.S residents

1. Pacific States University(CA)
2. United International College (AZ)
3. Southern States University (CA)
4. Toyota Technical Institute of Chicago (IL)
5. International Technical University (CA)

### Key Takeaway:

- All universities are tailored to Non-U.S Residents ensuring strong International support
- All serve a very small population size
- 4 out of the 5 colleges are **private non-for-profit** Universities

## The Top 5 schools based on percentage of degrees awarded to Non-U.S residents

1. Pacific States University (CA)
2. United International College (FL)
3. Southern States University (CA)
4. Toyota Technical Institute of Chicago (IL)
5. International Technical University (CA)

### Key Takeaway:

- 4 out of the 5 Colleges belong to Metropolitan areas

# Non-U.S Resident Students

## Top cities for Non-U.S Residents

1. New York City (NY)
2. Boston (MA)
3. Los Angeles (CA)
4. Chicago (IL)
5. Houston (TX)

### Key Takeaways:

- Metropolitan areas host top universities with strong international offices, providing visa advising, legal resources, and immigration support
- Large job market drive universities to expand job opportunities

# Summary

- **Women** receive more awards than **men** in America.
- **Online Universities** are a **great** option for Women.
- **Institution size** does not impact success.
- **HBCUs** and **Private for-profit** Institutions are a **great** option for minorities.
- **Not-for-profit Private** institutions in large metropolitan areas tend to have more Non U.S. Residents
- People of two or more races go to very diverse schools