

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

## National **TRiO** Clearinghouse

### Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Federal TRIO Programs

TRIO Programs are federally funded educational opportunity programs. As mandated by Congress, two-thirds of students served by federal TRIO programs come from low-income families and are first-generation college students. Most TRIO program eligibility is not race-based. Department of Education profiles on TRIO programs include demographic information. The most recently published profiles can be accessed on-line at <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OPE/HEP/trio/>.

Percent TRIO Program Participants by Race or Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	TRIO Program					% of U.S. Population 2000
	% EOC 1999-00	% TS 1999-00	% SSS 1999-00*	% McNair 1999-00	% UB and UB M/S 2000-01*	
Black or African American	38	35	28	44	44	12.3
White	40	32	45	19	25	75.1
Hispanic or Latino	14	23	16	25	19	11.8
Asian	2	4	5	5	5	3.6
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	1	1	(Listed as Asian/Pacific Islander)	1	2	0.1
American Indian or Alaska Native	4	4	3	4	4	0.7
More than one race or Other	2	1	2	2	2	7.9
Total participants	167, 128	328, 070	Unavail.	4, 273	62, 879	281, 421, 906

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Federal TRIO Programs TRIO program profiles (published in different years) and U.S. Census, 2000. Percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding and nature of race/ethnicity data. \*Unpublished Data; Does not include Veterans Upward Bound participants. EOC- Educational Opportunity Centers; TS-Talent Search; SSS-Student Support Services; UB- Upward Bound; UB M/S- Upward Bound Math/Science.

TRIO program participants come from a wide range of racial and ethnic backgrounds. Out of every 25 UB students in 2000-01, approximately 11 were Black, six were White, five were Hispanic/Latino, one was Asian, one was an American Indian or Alaska native and one was Pacific Islander or multiracial. Out of every 25 McNair students in 1999-00, approximately 11 were Black, five were White, six were Hispanic or Latino, one was Asian and one was American Indian or Alaska Native. One student out of every 50 was multiracial and one out of every 100 was Pacific Islander. Altogether, Black and White students account for the largest racial groups in TRIO programs and Hispanic students make up about 15 to 20 percent. Race and ethnicity data is difficult to quantify due to classification issues. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 2.4% of the U.S. population is multiracial, 5% is listed as 'some other race' and Hispanics/Latinos can be of any race or may be multiracial.

The National TRIO Clearinghouse collects and disseminates information and resources about access to higher education for low-income, first-generation college students and students with disabilities. The Clearinghouse serves as a resource to inform practice in educational opportunity programs and the research community. The National TRIO Clearinghouse receives funding from the US Department of Education's Office of Federal TRIO Programs and is housed in The Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education.

**National TRIO Clearinghouse • Council for Opportunity in Education**  
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