

## ***HISPANIC STUDENTS IN OREGON***

### ***1. The Hispanic student population in Oregon is growing rapidly.***

In 1998, fewer than one in ten students in Oregon was Hispanic (8 percent). By 2010, one in five Oregon students was Hispanic (20 percent).

Source: ECONorthwest analysis of ODE data.

### ***2. Three out of four Hispanic students in Oregon currently graduate.***

The 2009 graduation rate for Hispanic students in Oregon was 76 percent, compared with 71 percent for black students and 88 percent for white students.

Source: ECONorthwest analysis of ODE data (standard NCES graduation rates).

### ***3. A large share of Hispanic students are identified as English Language Learners (ELL).***

In Oregon, more than one third of Hispanic students are identified as English Language Learners (35 percent in 2008-09), compared to 10 percent of all students. Hispanic students account for a large majority of all ELL students in Oregon.

Source: ECONorthwest analysis of ODE data.

### ***4. Most Hispanic students are identified as economically disadvantaged.***

Nearly two thirds of Hispanic students in Oregon are economically disadvantaged (61 percent in 2008-09), compared to 45 percent of all students. Hispanics account for 20 percent of all students, but they account for almost one third of economically disadvantaged students in Oregon.

Source: ECONorthwest analysis of ODE data. Available data regarding economically disadvantaged students in Oregon differ slightly from those published by ODE.

### ***5. On average, Hispanic student performance on statewide achievement tests falls well below the statewide average.***

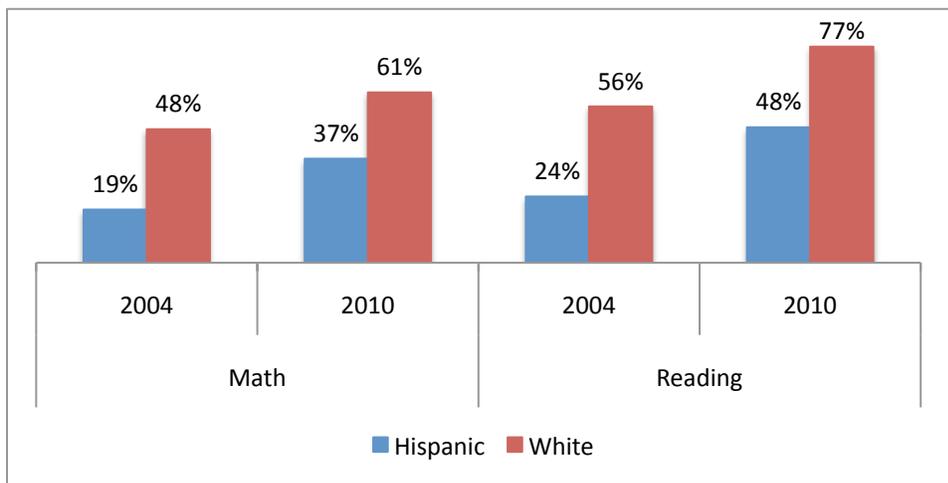
In 2010, Hispanic students met or exceeded statewide testing benchmarks at rates 15 to 29 percentage points lower, depending on grade and subject, than their white peers. In general, the Hispanic-white achievement gap in Oregon is larger in reading than in math. As a group, the share of Hispanics meeting benchmarks typically falls further behind that of white students in later grades than in earlier grades.

Source: ECONorthwest analysis of ODE data.

**6. The Hispanic-white achievement gap has persisted over time but shows signs of improvement in some areas.**

Average OAKS scores have improved for both Hispanic and white students over time; a significant Hispanic-white achievement gap continues to exist across all grades and subjects. But the current differences in the shares of students meeting testing benchmarks are smaller than they were in 2004, when Hispanic students lagged white students by 21 to 32 percentage points. Figure 1 illustrates these changes for 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. Both white and Hispanic students demonstrated improvement, but Hispanic students have narrowed the gap.

Figure 1: Share of Oregon 10<sup>th</sup> graders at or above OAKS benchmark



Source: ECONorthwest analysis of ODE data.

**7. Trends in Hispanic achievement in Oregon follow those for Hispanic students across the nation.**

While NAEP scores also show some narrowing of the Hispanic-white achievement gap over time, improvements in Oregon have not, overall, been notably different than changes in the achievement gap across the nation. As they did in 2000, Oregon's Hispanic students still underperform relative to the national average for Hispanic students in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and perform at about the national average in 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Oregon's white students also underperform in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, relative to the national average).

Source: ECONorthwest analysis of NCES National Assessment of Education Progress data.