What is WICHE?
COVID-19 Implications

• Model built on data from states and U.S. Dept of Ed. through Class of 2019

• COVID-19 likely to have significant impacts, potentially long-lasting, particularly on low-income students and students of color

• WICHE will update projections as data become available
Slowing Number of U.S. High School Graduates, then Decline (U.S. Total High School Graduates)
Diversification of Public High School Graduating Classes

- **2019**
  - White: 51%
  - Hispanic: 25%
  - Black: 14%
  - Asian/Pacific Islander: 6%
  - American Indian/Alaska Native: 3%

- **2025**
  - White: 46%
  - Hispanic: 28%
  - Black: 14%
  - Asian/Pacific Islander: 6%
  - American Indian/Alaska Native: 5%

- **2030**
  - White: 44%
  - Hispanic: 28%
  - Black: 13%
  - Asian/Pacific Islander: 7%
  - American Indian/Alaska Native: 6%

- **2036**
  - White: 43%
  - Hispanic: 28%
  - Black: 14%
  - Asian/Pacific Islander: 8%
  - American Indian/Alaska Native: 6%

Color codes:
- White
- Hispanic
- Black
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- American Indian/Alaska Native
- Multiracial
Projected Change in Public Graduates vs. 2019 by Race/Ethnicity

Graduating Class

- White
- Hispanic
- Black
- Asian or Pacific Islander (combined)
High School Graduates, Percent Change from Class of 2017

[Graph showing the percent change in high school graduates from Class of 2017. The graph includes data for private schools total, grand total, and public schools total. The data shows fluctuations over time, with a peak in 2025 and a dip in 2037.]
Sources of Change

Public High Schools

(Graduates By Race/Ethnicity, Class of 2019)

• Hispanic: 75,000 more (10%) reported than projected
• Black: 30,600 more (6.6%)
• Asian/Pacific Islander: 14,000 more (7.2%)
• American Indian/Alaska Native: 2,400 more (8.4%)

• Multiracial: 150,000 by Class of 2019 (no comparison from 9th edition)
• White: 10,000 to 30,000(1%) fewer reported, per year 2013 to 2019, than were projected
COVID-19: Will the Projected Numbers Change?

• Class of 2020 – March to May 2020 impacts on 12th graders
  • Less Likely?

• Class of 2021 – March 2020 to May 2021 impacts on (rising) 12th graders
  • Possibly More Likely? But balance of impacts & policies to offset

• Beyond 2021 – Impacts across all students
  • Probably More Likely?
Required Reading

The Agile College
How Institutions Successfully Navigate Demographic Changes

Nathan Grawe