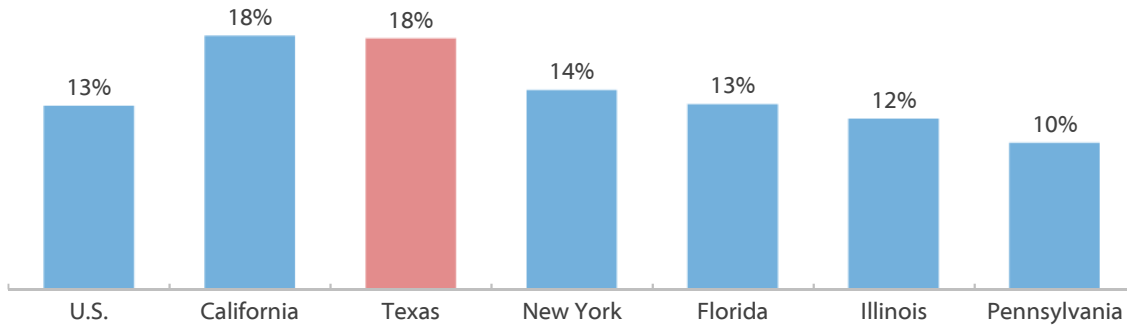


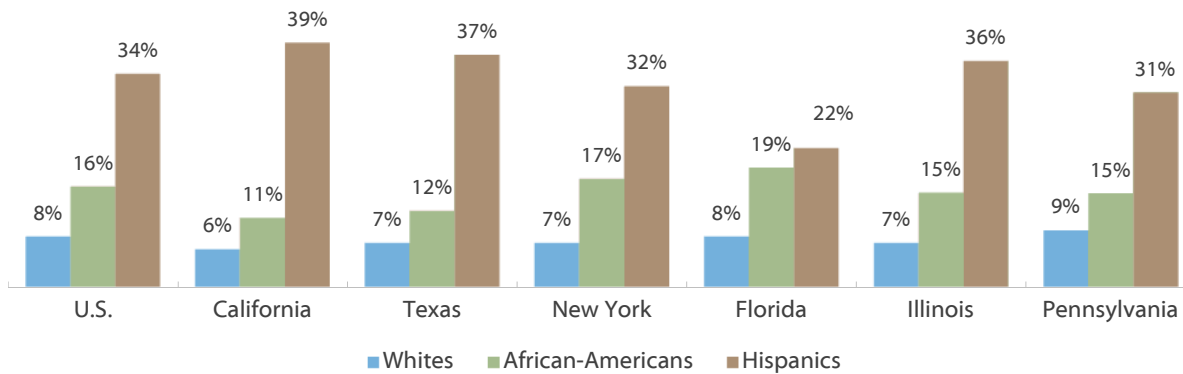
# Texas Ties For Largest Percentage of People Age 25 and Older Lacking a High School Education

**People Age 25 and Older Who Have Not Finished High School (2016)**



In 2016, 18 percent of people age 25 and older (or 3 million people) in Texas had not finished high school. This is the same percentage as California and a higher percentage than any other state in the nation. In the U.S., 13 percent of adults had not finished high school. Not completing high school can have a detrimental effect on college access. However, overall high school diploma attainment in Texas is improving. Recent Texas high school graduation rates rank Texas near the top compared to other states.

**People Age 25 and Older Who Have Not Finished High School (2014)**



States shown in order by size of population

The completion rates of different racial and ethnic groups vary widely. Although these disparities exist in many areas of the country, they are particularly important for Texas, which has become a “minority-majority” state. At the high school level, data show that:

- Hispanics, who comprised over a third of the Texas population in 2016 and who are projected to comprise 53 percent by 2050, are the least likely to have obtained a high school diploma. As of 2016, 37 percent of Hispanics age 25 and older had not finished high school.
- Approximately 12 percent of African-Americans in Texas have not completed high school. This represents a major improvement since 2006, when 17 percent of African-Americans had not finished high school.

Sources: Texas State Data Center and Office of the State Demographer, Texas Population Projections Program, “Population Projections for the State of Texas and Counties in One File,” 2014 (<http://www.txsdcenter.utsa.edu/Data/TPEPP/Projections/Index.aspx>). High school completion among 25 and older: U.S. Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Detailed Tables (<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>); High school graduation rates: U.S. Department of Education, ED Data Express, Data about elementary and secondary schools in the U.S. (<http://www.eddataexpress.ed.gov/>).

