

Faculty Diversity by Rank

Mississippi

College Faculty Are Less Diverse at Higher Ranks

While faculty diversity has seen small improvements over the past few decades, there is still a considerable gap in demographic representation between faculty members and students they serve. Additionally, there are differences in faculty diversity based upon faculty rank.

Typically, only professors who progress to higher ranks — associate professor and full professor — are awarded tenure by their institution. Higher education faculty often work toward tenure, which allows for the free exchange of ideas, promotes career stability and strengthens the pursuit of research.

Black and Hispanic scholars remain largely underrepresented at the faculty level. Asian faculty demographics are not listed below because they are not historically underrepresented in the faculty context.

Faculty Types in Mississippi, by Race/Ethnicity

At Mississippi's higher education institutions, Black faculty are more likely than their white peers to have more junior roles, such as assistant professor, instructor or lecturer. When looking at the race and ethnicity of tenured faculty, typically associate or full, a disproportionate number of white faculty have received tenured status compared to their Black and Hispanic peers. Across all institution types listed below, as the academic rank goes up, the representation of white faculty disproportionately rises compared to their Black and Hispanic counterparts.

Public 2-Year and Technical Colleges	SREB Region			Mississippi		
	Black	Hispanic	White	Black	Hispanic	White
Full Professor	319 8.12%	254 6.46%	2,994 76.2%	* Data not available	* Data not available	* Data not available
Associate Professor	414 11.3%	168 4.59%	2,836 77.42%	* Data not available	* Data not available	* Data not available
Assistant Professor	419 11.75%	264 7.4%	2,626 73.66%	* Data not available	* Data not available	* Data not available
Instructors, Lecturers and Faculty with No Academic Rank	3129 13.84%	1,075 4.76%	17,227 76.2%	365 16.71%	13 0.6%	1,738 79.58%

* Some data is unavailable. Mississippi does not employ at any professor level rank for 2-year institutions. (IPEDS, 2021)

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Public 4-Year Institutions	SREB Region			Mississippi		
	Black	Hispanic	White	Black	Hispanic	White
Full Professor	2,352 5.85%	1,881 4.68%	29,070 72.29%	119 11.35%	14 1.34%	756 72.14%
Associate Professor	3,022 8.17%	2,174 5.88%	24,670 66.72%	137 12.35%	26 2.34%	764 68.89%
Assistant Professor	3,777 9.64%	2,361 6.03%	22,438 57.28%	200 14.93%	39 2.91%	754 56.27%
Instructors, Lecturers and Faculty with No Academic Rank	3,392 9.38%	3,055 8.45%	18,004 69.49%	147 18.7%	27 3.44%	551 70.1%

(IPEDS, 2021)

Private Not-for-Profit 4-Year Institutions	SREB Region			Mississippi		
	Black	Hispanic	White	Black	Hispanic	White
Full Professor	822 5.28%	578 3.71%	12,357 79.38%	16 10.0%	1 0.63%	134 83.75%
Associate Professor	1,281 8.86%	719 4.97%	10,356 71.59%	32 16.0%	3 1.5%	149 74.5%
Assistant Professor	2,143 11.42%	1,011 5.39%	11,829 63.04%	45 18.15%	7 2.82%	161 64.92%
Instructors, Lecturers and Faculty with No Academic Rank	1,094 11.5%	739 7.77%	6,428 67.59%	24 22.64%	4 3.77%	68 64.15%

(IPEDS, 2021)

Sources

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