

# RURAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

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One in six of the nation's undergraduate students attend rural colleges or universities, yet these institutions are seldom studied. This infographic provides an overview of rural institutions and their students.

## The Nation's Rural Institutions

**15%**

of all undergraduate students attend rural public institutions



**49%**

of public two-year institutions are rural

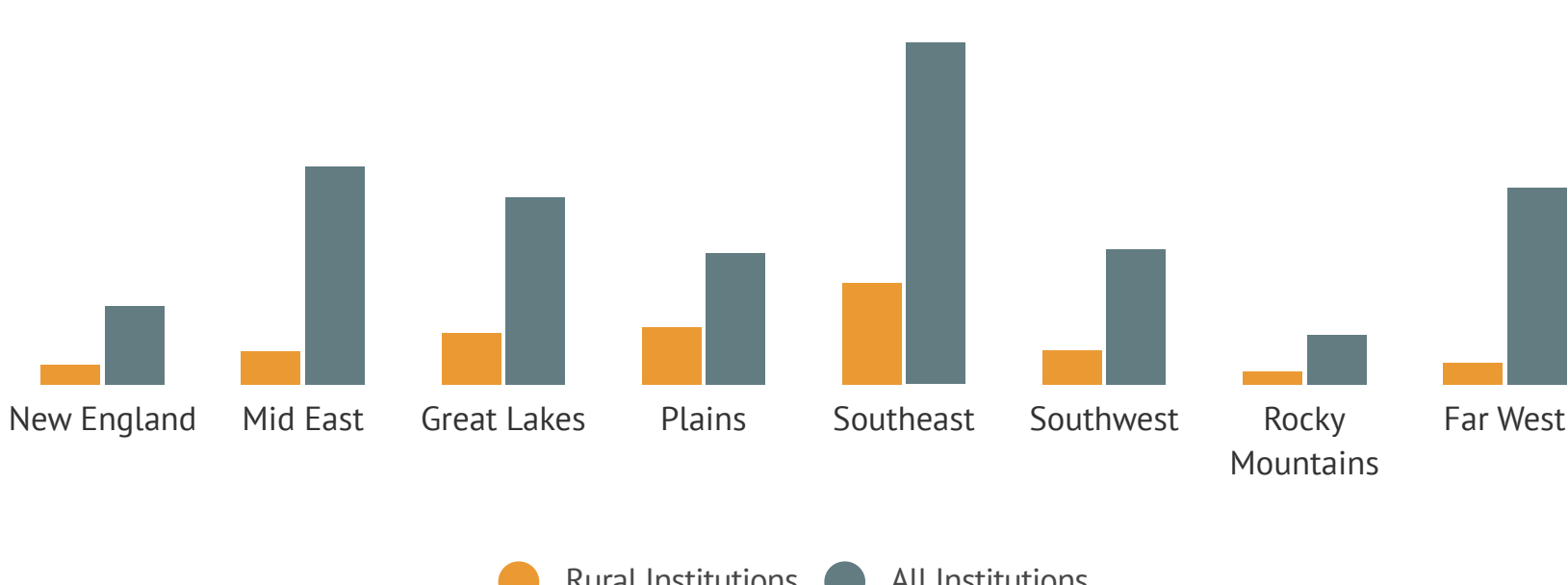


**31%**

of public four-year institutions are rural

Number of Institutions, by Region

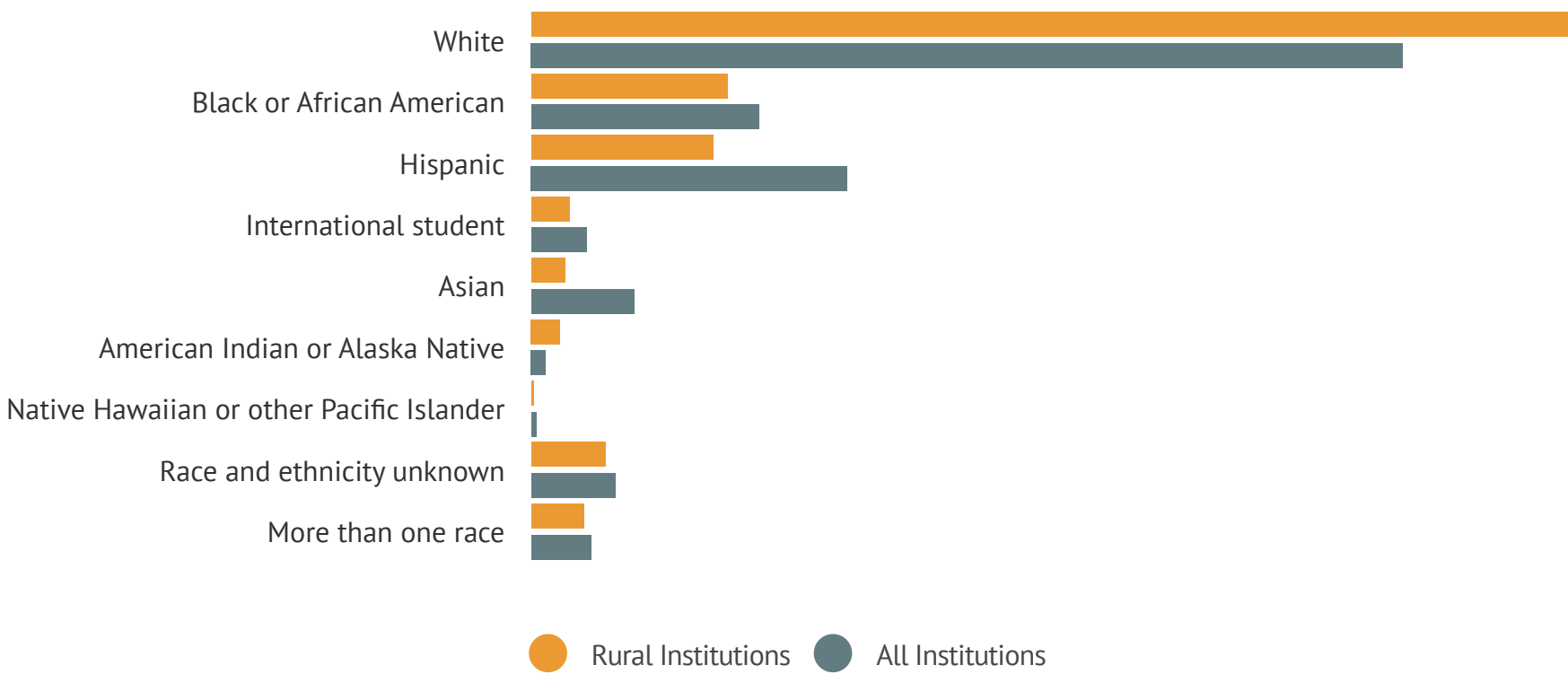
Number of Institutions, by Sector



## Race and Ethnicity at Rural Institutions

Unsurprisingly, the student body at rural institutions is less diverse. About **65%** of rural undergraduates are White, compared with about **50%** across all institutions.

RACE AND ETHNICITY OF UNDERGRADUATES AT RURAL INSTITUTIONS AND AT ALL INSTITUTIONS



**4 IN 10**

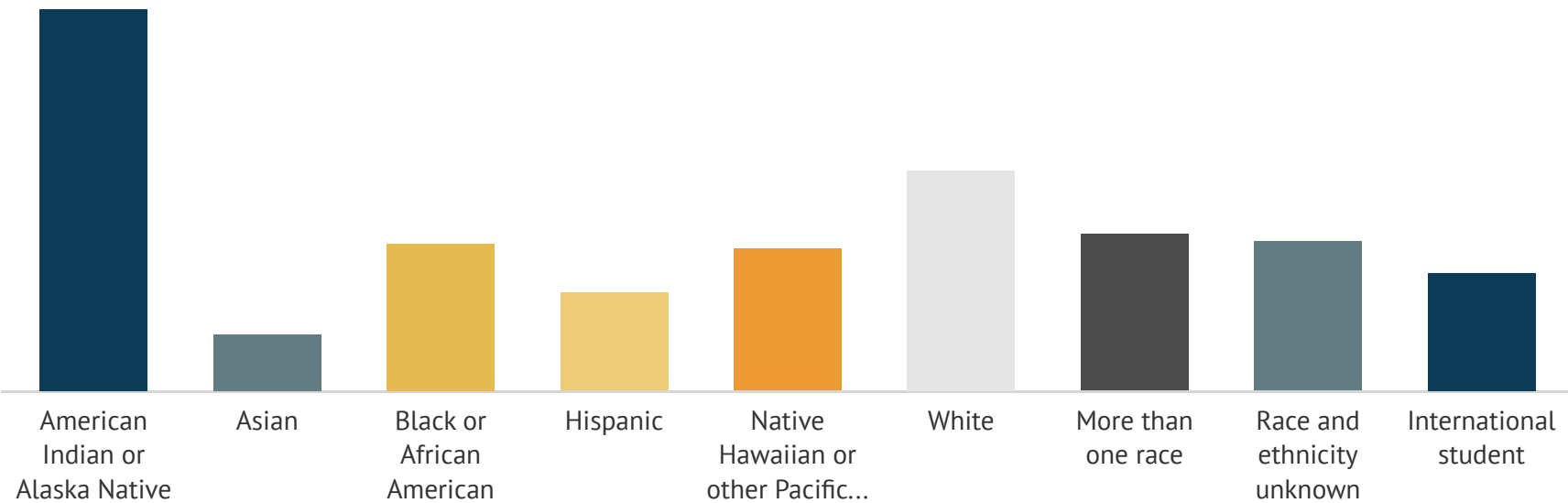
American Indian or Alaska Native undergraduates in the U.S. attend rural institutions



**56%**

of undergraduates at rural institutions are women

PERCENTAGE OF U.S. UNDERGRADUATES THAT ATTEND RURAL INSTITUTIONS, BY RACE AND ETHNICITY



## Rural Undergraduates and Pell Grants

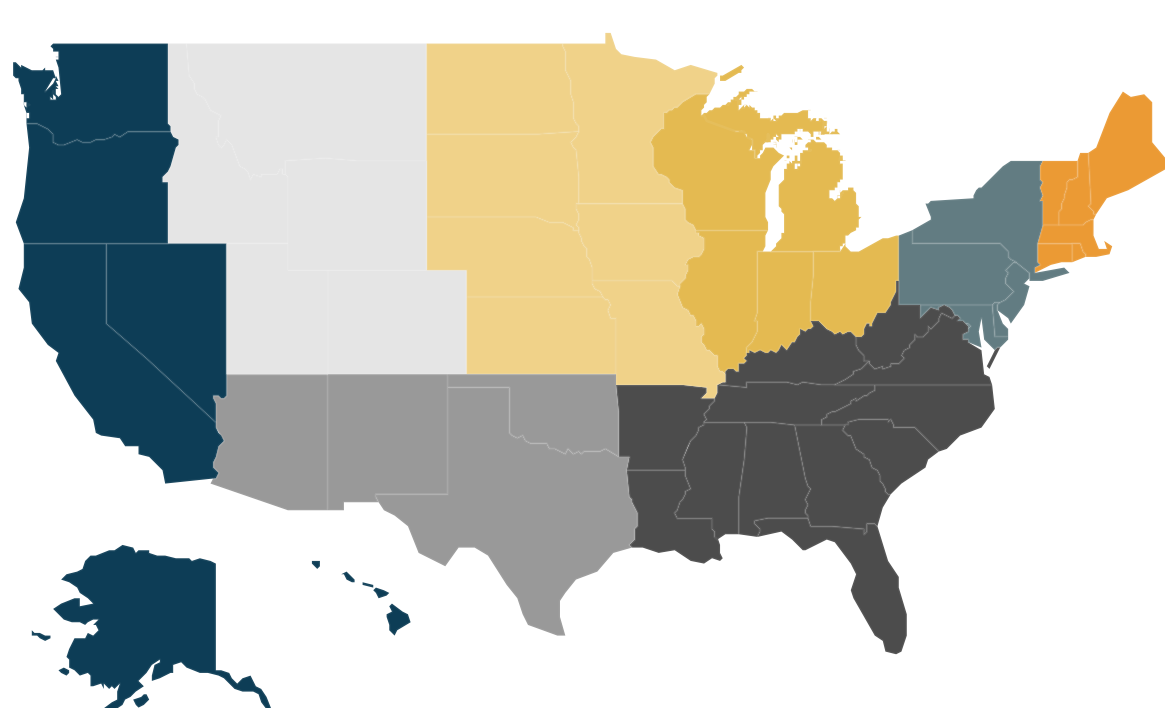
RATE OF PELL AWARDED, BY SECTOR



PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS RECEIVING PELL GRANTS, BY REGION

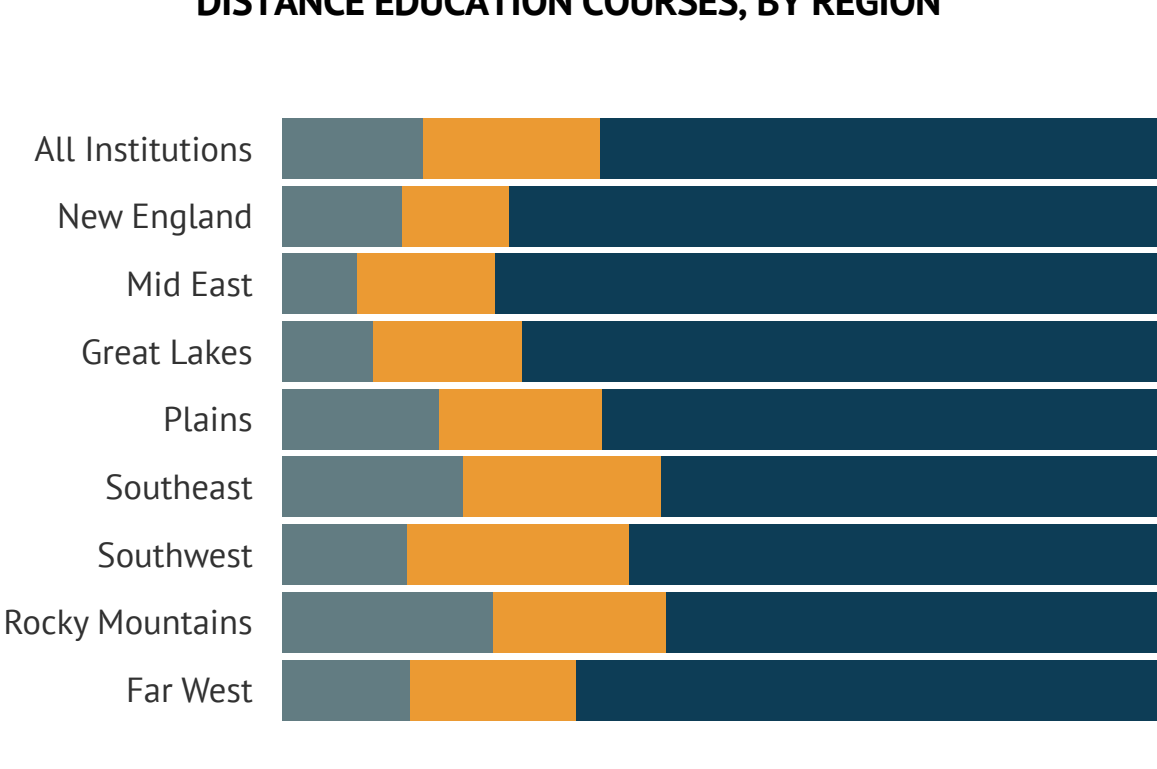
Rural Institutions

All Institutions



## Rural Distance Education

PERCENTAGE OF RURAL UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENTS IN DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES, BY REGION



**24%**

of all rural students in the Rocky Mountains attend college exclusively online

Enrollment intensity: ● All ● Some ● Not

Note: Rural institutions are defined as those designated under the Town or Rural categories by the IPEDS Degrees of Urbanization.

Source: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Systems (IPEDS), National Center for Education Statistics, 2016.