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Student and Faculty Diversity: University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) and University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), 2012-2020

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STUDENT AND FACULTY DIVERSITY: UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS (UNLV) AND UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO (UNR), 2012-2020

Higher Education Fact Sheet No. 22 | May 2022

Prepared by: Olivia K. Cheche, Caitlin J. Saladino, and William E. Brown, Jr.

PURPOSE:

This fact sheet highlights data on the racial and ethnic diversity of students, tenured faculty, tenure-track faculty, and non-tenured/tenure-track faculty at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) and University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). Data are presented for each year from 2012 to 2020. The UNLV Office of Decision Support¹ and representatives at UNR assisted in the compilation of this data.²

ABOUT THE DATA:

Data in this fact sheet are reflective of American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black, Latino, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, two or more races, and white populations of students, tenured faculty, tenure-track faculty, and non-tenured/tenure-track faculty at UNLV and UNR. These data are self-reported by students and faculty to UNLV and UNR. All data utilized in this fact sheet can be found in Appendices A, B, C, and D. These data show that the two universities contain predominantly white faculty populations and rapidly diversifying student populations.

KEY FINDINGS:

1. At both UNLV and UNR, the share of white students decreased each year between 2012 and 2020. The majority of tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenured/tenure-track faculty at both institutions are white.
2. At both UNLV and UNR, Latinos are the largest minority group among the student population, and Asians are the largest minority group among tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenured/tenure-track faculty.
3. Black and Latino faculty (tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenured/tenure-track) are underrepresented respective to the Black and Latino student populations at both UNLV and UNR.
4. UNLV did not employ any American Indian/Alaska Native tenure-track faculty members between 2014 and 2017, and UNR did not employ any American Indian/Alaska Native tenure-track faculty members between 2012 and 2016. UNLV did not employ any American Indian/Alaska Native non-tenured/tenure-track faculty members between 2019 and 2020, and UNR did not employ any American Indian/Alaska Native non-tenured/tenure-track faculty members between 2012 and 2014.
5. UNR did not employ any Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander faculty members (tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenured/tenure-track) between 2012 and 2014.

¹ Dataset retrieved from Brent Drake and Kanikka Wofford, Office of Decision Support, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. September 17, 2021, (<https://ir.unlv.edu/iap/>).

² Dataset retrieved from representatives at the University of Nevada, Reno. September 2021. These representatives indicated that the data are publicly available through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (<https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/>).

Figure 1 presents the change in racial demographics of students at UNLV and UNR from 2012 to 2020.

At both institutions, the share of white students decreased each year, and the share of non-white students increased each year. As detailed in Appendix A, the share of white students at UNLV decreased from 46.9% in 2012 to 32.2% in 2020. The share of white students at UNR decreased from 69.5% in 2012 to 57.0% in 2020.

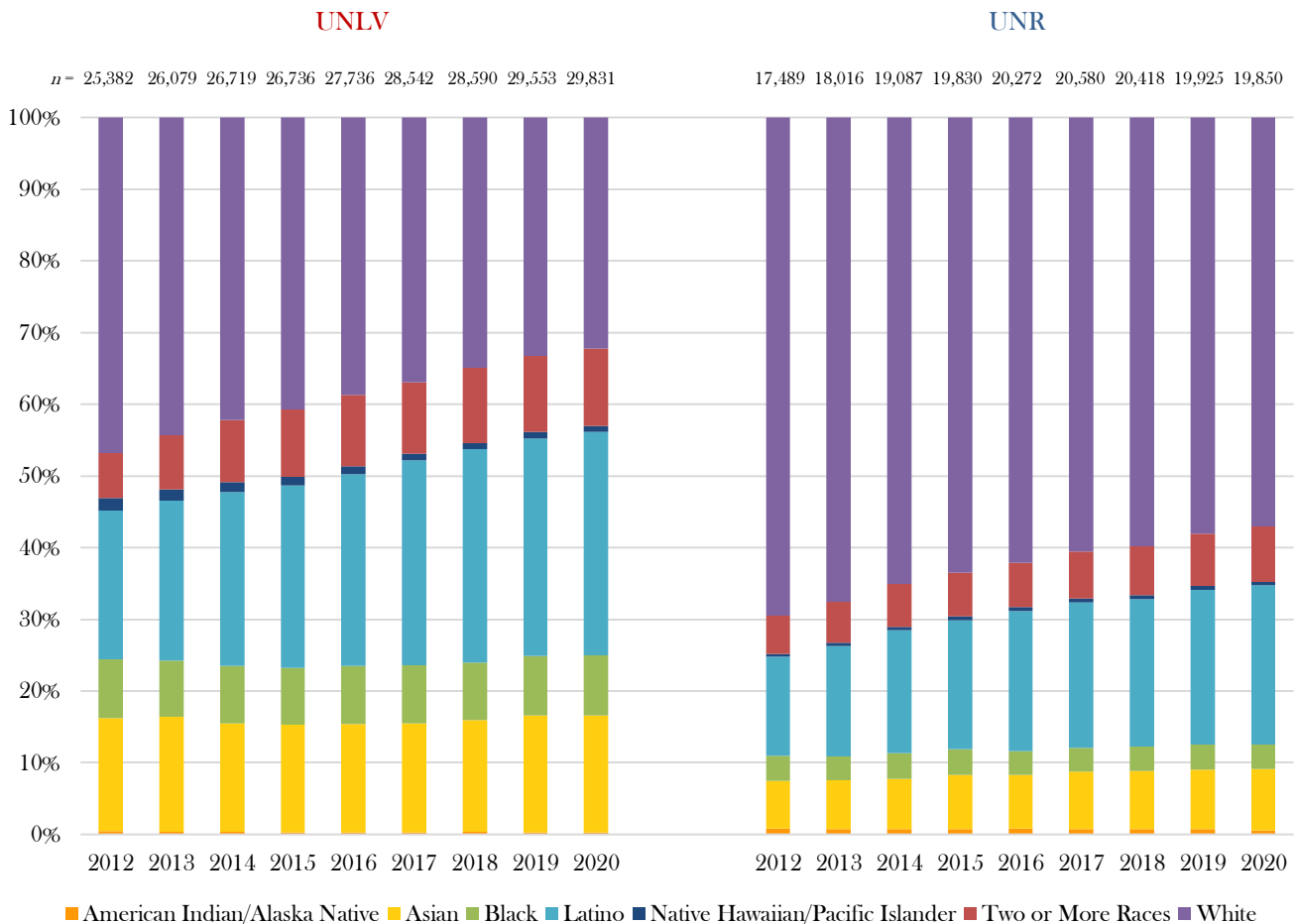
At both institutions, Latinos are the largest minority student group. UNLV’s share of Latino students increased from 20.7% in 2012 to 31.3% in 2020. UNR’s share of Latino students increased from 13.8% in 2012 to 22.2% in 2020.

The share of students who identify with two or more races also grew at both institutions (6.2% in 2012 to 10.8% in 2020 at UNLV, 5.4% in 2012 to 7.8% at UNR).

Both institutions faced decreases in their already small shares of American/Indian Alaska Native students (0.5% in 2012 to 0.3% in 2020 at UNLV, 0.9% in 2012 to 0.6% in 2020 at UNR), and UNLV faced a decrease in its share of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander students (1.8% in 2012 to 0.8% in 2020).

Although there are year-to-year differences in each institution’s share of Asian and Black students, there were no dramatic shifts for these groups.

Figure 1: UNLV and UNR Student Racial Diversity, 2012-2020



Source: Authors’ analysis of data provided by the UNLV Office of Decision Support and UNR representatives.

Figure 2 presents the change in racial and ethnic demographics of tenured faculty at UNLV and UNR from 2012 to 2020.

At both institutions, the largest share of tenured faculty members each year were white. As noted in Appendix A, the share of white tenured faculty at UNLV consistently remained above 70.0% until 2020, when this value decreased to 68.4%. The share of white tenured faculty at UNR consistently remained above 80.0% until 2019 and 2020, when this value decreased to 79.6% and 78.7% respectively.

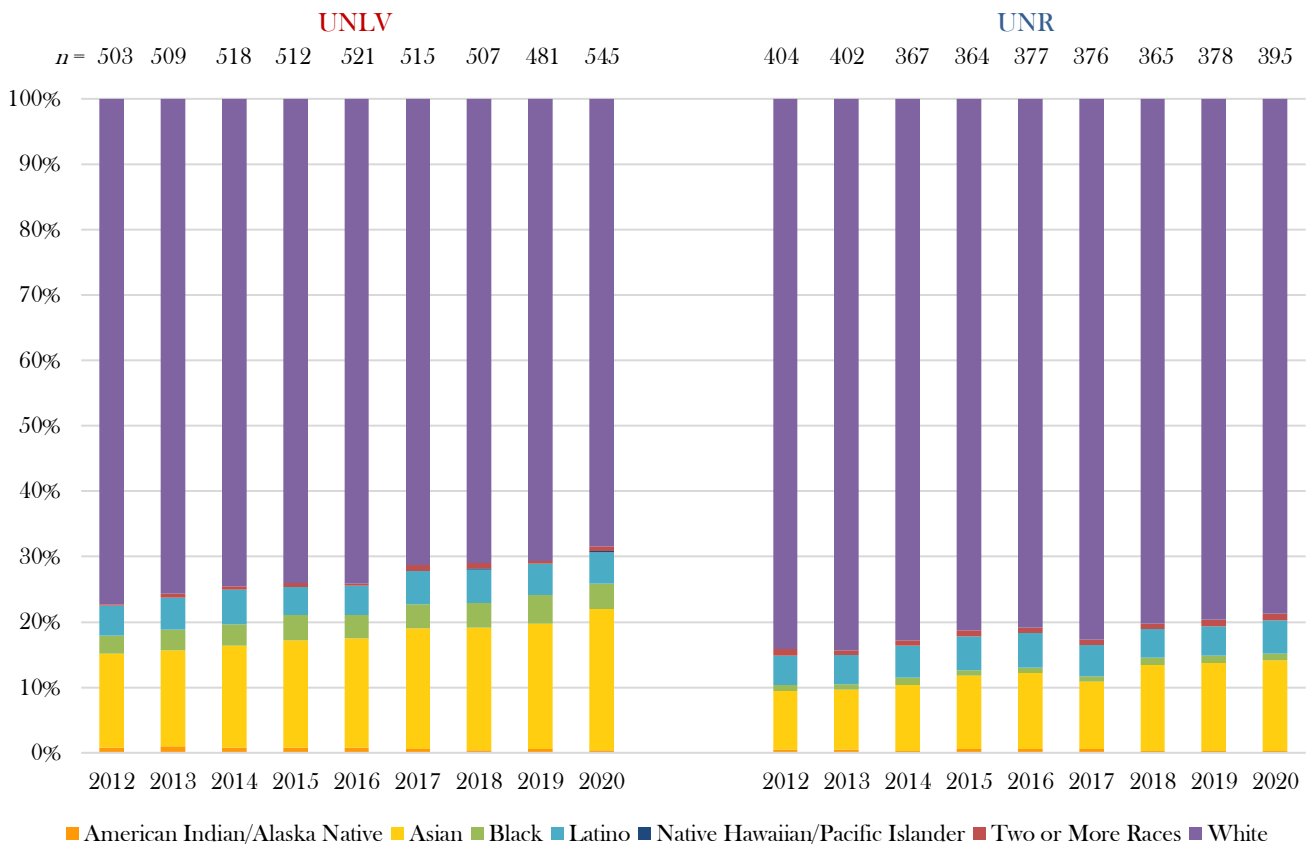
At both institutions, Asians are the largest minority tenured faculty group. In 2020, 21.7% of UNLV tenured faculty members were Asian, and 13.9% of UNR tenured faculty members were Asian.

Black tenured faculty populations are underrepresented respective to the Black student population at both UNLV and UNR. In 2020, 3.9% of UNLV tenured faculty members were Black, and 1.0% of UNR tenured faculty members were Black.

Latino tenured faculty populations are also under representative of each institution’s Latino student population. In 2020, 4.8% of UNLV tenured faculty members were Latino, and 5.1% of UNR tenured faculty members were Latino.

UNLV did not have any Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander tenured faculty members until 2018, and UNR still does not have any Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander tenured faculty members.

Figure 2: UNLV and UNR Tenured Faculty Racial Diversity, 2012-2020



Source: Authors’ analysis of data provided by the UNLV Office of Decision Support and UNR representatives.

Figure 3 presents the change in the racial and ethnic demographics of tenure-track faculty at UNLV and UNR from 2012 to 2020.

At both institutions, the largest share of tenure-track faculty members each year were white. As noted in Appendix A, the share of white tenure-track faculty at UNLV was highest in 2013 (69.6%) and lowest in 2019 (54.3%). The share of white tenure-track faculty at UNR was highest in 2014 (74.1%) and lowest in 2019 (67.6%).

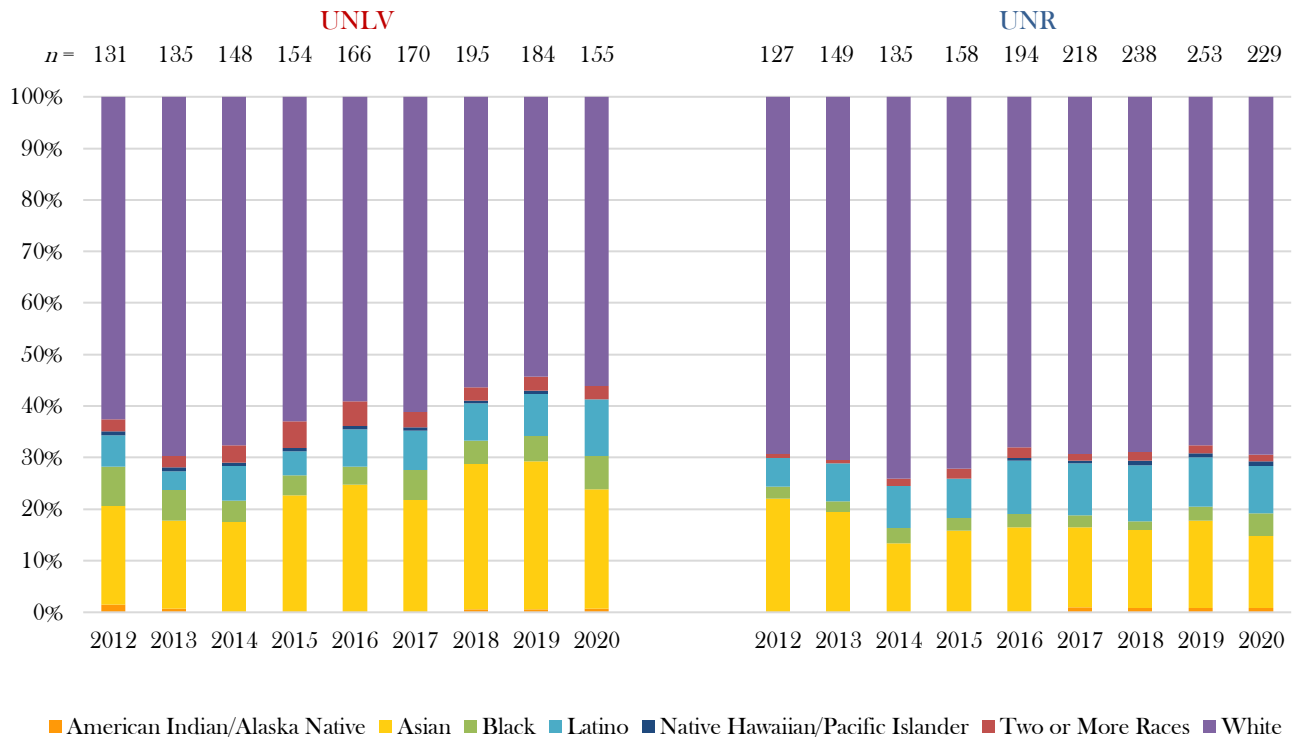
At both institutions, Asians are the largest minority tenure-track faculty group. UNLV had the highest share of Asian tenure-track faculty in 2019 (28.8%), and UNR had the highest share of Asian tenure-track faculty in 2012 (22.0%).

Black tenure-track faculty populations are underrepresented respective to the Black student population at both UNLV and UNR. In 2020, 6.5% of UNLV tenure-track faculty members were Black, and 4.4% of UNR tenure-track faculty members were Black.

Latino tenure-track faculty populations are also under representative of each institution’s Latino student population. In 2020, 11.0% of UNLV tenure-track faculty members were Latino, and 9.2% of UNR tenure-track faculty members were Latino.

UNLV did not have any American Indian/Alaska Native tenure-track faculty members for the years 2014 to 2017, and UNR did not have any American Indian/Alaska Native tenure-track faculty members until 2017. UNLV had no Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander tenure-track faculty members in 2020, and UNR did not have any Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander tenure-track faculty members until 2016.

Figure 3: UNLV and UNR Tenure-Track Faculty Racial Diversity, 2012-2020



Source: Authors’ analysis of data provided by the UNLV Office of Decision Support and UNR representatives.

Figure 4 presents the change in racial and ethnic demographics of non-tenured/tenure-track faculty at UNLV and UNR from 2012 to 2020.

At both institutions, the largest share of non-tenured/tenure-track faculty members each year were white. As detailed in Appendix A, the share of white non-tenured/tenure-track faculty at UNLV was highest in 2016 (80.6%) and lowest in 2019 (67.9%). The share of white non-tenured/tenure-track faculty at UNR was highest in 2019 (82.4%) and lowest in 2019 (74.9%).

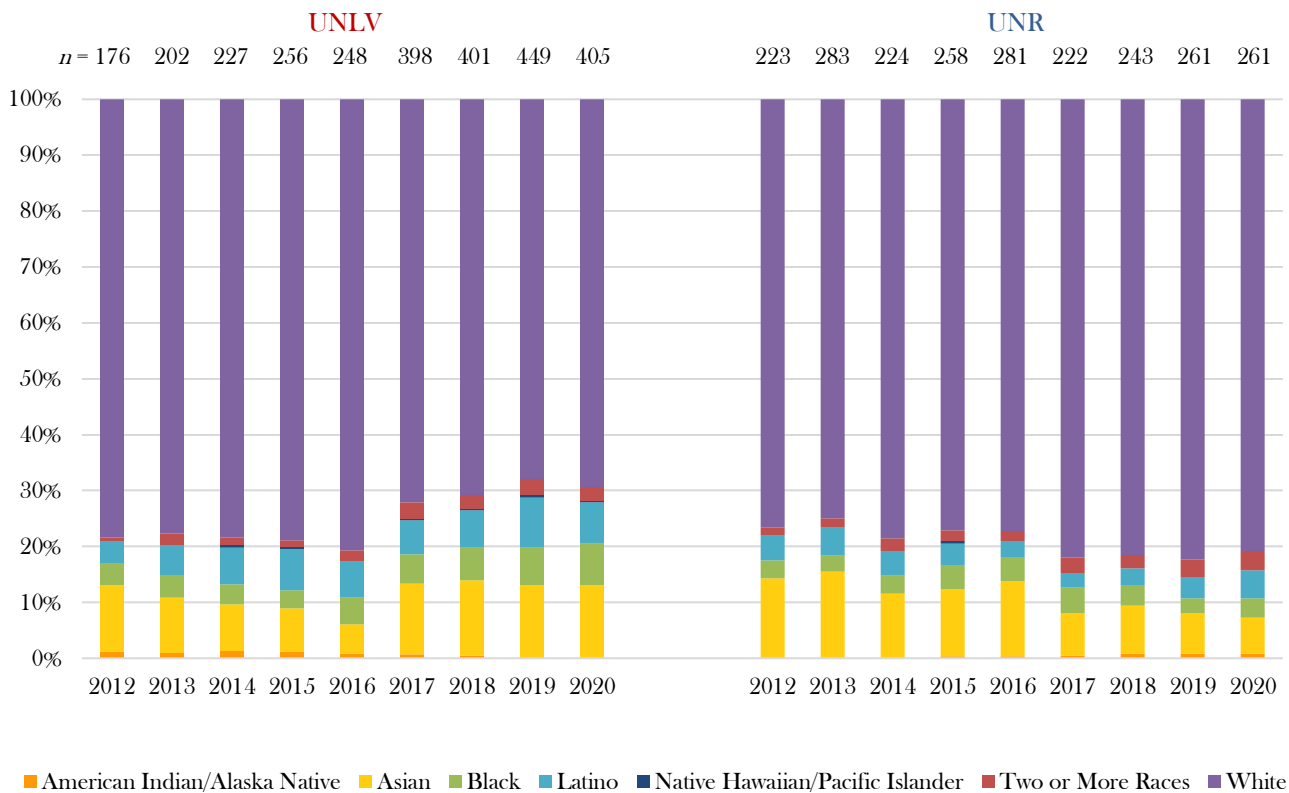
At both institutions, Asians are the largest minority non-tenured/tenure-track faculty group. UNLV had the highest share of Asian non-tenured/tenure-track faculty in 2018 (13.5%), and UNR had the highest share of Asian non-tenured/tenure-track faculty in 2013 (15.5%).

UNLV’s share of Black non-tenured/tenure-track faculty members increased from 4.0% in 2012 to 7.4% in 2020, while UNR’s share of Black non-tenured/tenure-track faculty members did not change as much.

Latino tenured faculty populations are under representative of each institution’s Latino student population. In 2020, 7.4% of UNLV non-tenured/tenure-track faculty members were Latino, and 5.0% of UNR non-tenured/tenure-track faculty members were Latino.

UNLV did not have any American Indian/Alaska Native non-tenured/tenure-track faculty members in 2019 or 2020, and UNR did not have any American Indian/Alaska Native non-tenured/tenure-track faculty members until 2015.

Figure 4: UNLV and UNR Non-Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty Diversity, 2012-2020



Source: Authors’ analysis of data provided by the UNLV Office of Decision Support and UNR representatives.

Table 1 presents the percent change of non-white students, tenured faculty, tenure-track faculty, and non-tenure/tenure-track faculty at UNLV and UNR between 2012 and 2020. Both institutions experienced a large growth in their non-white student populations (14.7% at UNLV, 12.5% at UNR). At both institutions, the faculty are not diversifying as much as the students. UNR witnessed decreases in their non-white tenure-track and non-tenured/tenure-track faculty populations between 2012 and 2020.

Table 1: UNLV and UNR Percent Change of Non-white Students and Faculty, 2012-2020

School	2012		2020		% Change
	# of Non-white Students	% of Non-white Students	# of Non-white Students	% of Non-white Students	
UNLV	13,490	53.1%	20,224	67.8%	14.7%
UNR	5,339	30.5%	8,531	43.0%	12.5%
	# of Non-white Tenured Faculty	% of Non-white Tenured Faculty	# of Non-white Tenured Faculty	% of Non-white Tenured Faculty	
UNLV	114	22.7%	172	31.6%	8.9%
UNR	64	15.8%	84	21.3%	5.5%
	# of Non-white Tenure-Track Faculty	% of Non-white Tenure-Track Faculty	# of Non-white Tenure-Track Faculty	% of Non-white Tenure-Track Faculty	
UNLV	49	37.4%	68	43.9%	6.5%
UNR	39	30.7%	70	30.6%	-0.1%
	# of Non-white Non-Tenure/Tenure-Track Faculty	% of Non-white Non-Tenure/Tenure-Track Faculty	# of Non-white Non-Tenure/Tenure-Track Faculty	% of Non-white Non-Tenure/Tenure-Track Faculty	
UNLV	38	21.6%	124	30.6%	9.0%
UNR	52	23.3%	50	19.2%	-4.1%

Source: Authors' analysis of data provided by the UNLV Office of Decision Support and UNR representatives.

Appendix A displays the racial demographics of students at UNLV and UNR between 2012 and 2020. Data for UNLV are displayed with red text and data for UNR are displayed with blue text.

APPENDIX A:

Racial Demographics of UNLV and UNR Students, 2012-2020

Year	% American Indian/ Alaska Native	% Asian	% Black	% Latino	% Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	% Two or More Races	% White
2012	0.5%	15.8%	8.2%	20.7%	1.8%	6.2%	46.9%
2013	0.4%	16.0%	7.8%	22.3%	1.6%	7.6%	44.3%
2014	0.4%	15.2%	8.0%	24.3%	1.4%	8.6%	42.2%
2015	0.3%	15.0%	8.0%	25.5%	1.3%	9.4%	40.8%
2016	0.3%	15.1%	8.1%	26.8%	1.0%	10.0%	38.7%
2017	0.3%	15.2%	8.1%	28.5%	0.9%	10.0%	36.9%
2018	0.3%	15.6%	8.0%	29.8%	0.8%	10.5%	34.9%
2019	0.3%	16.3%	8.3%	30.3%	0.9%	10.6%	33.3%
2020	0.3%	16.3%	8.4%	31.1%	0.8%	10.8%	32.2%
2012	0.9%	6.6%	3.5%	13.8%	0.4%	5.4%	69.5%
2013	0.8%	6.7%	3.4%	15.3%	0.5%	5.7%	67.5%
2014	0.7%	7.0%	3.5%	17.2%	0.5%	6.0%	65.0%
2015	0.8%	7.5%	3.6%	18.0%	0.5%	6.0%	63.5%
2016	0.8%	7.5%	3.3%	19.5%	0.6%	6.2%	62.1%
2017	0.7%	8.0%	3.4%	20.2%	0.6%	6.6%	60.6%
2018	0.7%	8.2%	3.4%	20.5%	0.6%	6.8%	59.8%
2019	0.7%	8.4%	3.5%	21.6%	0.5%	7.3%	58.1%
2020	0.6%	8.5%	3.5%	22.2%	0.4%	7.8%	57.0%

Source: Authors' analysis of data provided by the UNLV Office of Decision Support and UNR representatives.

Appendix B displays the racial demographics of tenured faculty at UNLV and UNR between 2012 and 2020. Data for UNLV are displayed with red text and data for UNR are displayed with blue text.

APPENDIX B:

Racial Demographics of UNLV and UNR Tenured Faculty, 2012-2020

Year	% American Indian/ Alaska Native	% Asian	% Black	% Latino	% Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	% Two or More Races	% White
2012	0.8%	14.3%	2.8%	4.6%	0.0%	0.2%	77.3%
2013	1.0%	14.7%	3.1%	4.9%	0.0%	0.6%	75.6%
2014	0.8%	15.6%	3.3%	5.2%	0.0%	0.6%	74.5%
2015	0.8%	16.4%	3.9%	4.3%	0.0%	0.6%	74.0%
2016	0.8%	16.7%	3.6%	4.4%	0.0%	0.4%	74.1%
2017	0.6%	18.4%	3.7%	5.0%	0.0%	1.0%	71.3%
2018	0.4%	18.7%	3.7%	5.1%	0.2%	0.8%	71.0%
2019	0.6%	19.1%	4.4%	4.8%	0.0%	0.4%	70.7%
2020	0.4%	21.7%	3.9%	4.8%	0.2%	0.7%	68.4%
2012	0.5%	8.9%	1.0%	4.5%	0.0%	1.0%	84.2%
2013	0.5%	9.2%	0.7%	4.5%	0.0%	0.7%	84.3%
2014	0.3%	10.1%	1.1%	4.9%	0.0%	0.8%	82.8%
2015	0.5%	11.3%	0.8%	5.2%	0.0%	0.8%	81.3%
2016	0.5%	11.7%	0.8%	5.3%	0.0%	0.8%	80.9%
2017	0.5%	10.4%	0.8%	4.8%	0.0%	0.8%	82.7%
2018	0.3%	13.2%	1.1%	4.4%	0.0%	0.8%	80.3%
2019	0.3%	13.5%	1.1%	4.5%	0.0%	1.1%	79.6%
2020	0.3%	13.9%	1.0%	5.1%	0.0%	1.0%	78.7%

Source: Authors' analysis of data provided by the UNLV Office of Decision Support and UNR representatives.

Appendix C displays the racial demographics of tenure-track faculty at UNLV and UNR between 2012 and 2020. Data for UNLV are displayed with red text and data for UNR are displayed with blue text.

APPENDIX C:

Racial Demographics of UNLV and UNR Tenure-Track Faculty, 2012-2020

Year	% American Indian/ Alaska Native	% Asian	% Black	% Latino	% Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	% Two or More Races	% White
2012	1.5%	19.1%	7.6%	6.1%	0.8%	2.3%	62.6%
2013	0.7%	17.0%	5.9%	3.7%	0.7%	2.2%	69.6%
2014	0.0%	17.6%	4.1%	6.8%	0.7%	3.4%	67.6%
2015	0.0%	22.7%	3.9%	4.5%	0.6%	5.2%	63.0%
2016	0.0%	24.7%	3.6%	7.2%	0.6%	4.8%	59.0%
2017	0.0%	21.8%	5.9%	7.6%	0.6%	2.9%	61.2%
2018	0.5%	28.2%	4.6%	7.2%	0.5%	2.6%	56.4%
2019	0.5%	28.8%	4.9%	8.2%	0.5%	2.7%	54.3%
2020	0.6%	23.2%	6.5%	11.0%	0.0%	2.6%	56.1%
2012	0.0%	22.0%	2.4%	5.5%	0.0%	0.8%	69.3%
2013	0.0%	19.5%	2.0%	7.4%	0.0%	0.7%	70.5%
2014	0.0%	13.3%	3.0%	8.1%	0.0%	1.5%	74.1%
2015	0.0%	15.8%	2.5%	7.6%	0.0%	1.9%	72.2%
2016	0.0%	16.5%	2.6%	10.3%	0.5%	2.1%	68.0%
2017	0.9%	15.6%	2.3%	10.1%	0.5%	1.4%	69.3%
2018	0.8%	15.1%	1.7%	10.9%	0.8%	1.7%	68.9%
2019	0.8%	17.0%	2.8%	9.5%	0.8%	1.6%	67.6%
2020	0.9%	14.0%	4.4%	9.2%	0.9%	1.3%	69.4%

Source: Authors' analysis of data provided by the UNLV Office of Decision Support and UNR representatives.

Appendix D displays the racial demographics of non-tenured/tenure-track faculty at UNLV and UNR between 2012 and 2020. Data for UNLV are displayed with red text and data for UNR are displayed with blue text.

APPENDIX D:

Racial Demographics of UNLV and UNR Non-Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty, 2012-2020

Year	% American Indian/ Alaska Native	% Asian	% Black	% Latino	% Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	% Two or More Races	% White
2012	1.1%	11.9%	4.0%	4.0%	0.0%	0.6%	78.4%
2013	1.0%	9.9%	4.0%	5.4%	0.0%	2.0%	77.7%
2014	1.3%	8.4%	3.5%	6.6%	0.4%	1.3%	78.4%
2015	1.2%	7.8%	3.1%	7.4%	0.4%	1.2%	78.9%
2016	0.8%	5.2%	4.8%	6.5%	0.0%	2.0%	80.6%
2017	0.8%	12.6%	5.3%	6.0%	0.3%	3.0%	72.1%
2018	0.5%	13.5%	6.0%	6.5%	0.2%	2.5%	70.8%
2019	0.0%	13.1%	6.7%	8.9%	0.4%	2.9%	67.9%
2020	0.0%	13.1%	7.4%	7.4%	0.2%	2.5%	69.4%
2012	0.0%	14.3%	3.1%	4.5%	0.0%	1.3%	76.7%
2013	0.0%	15.5%	2.8%	4.9%	0.0%	1.8%	74.9%
2014	0.0%	11.6%	3.1%	4.5%	0.0%	2.2%	78.6%
2015	0.4%	12.0%	4.3%	3.9%	0.4%	1.9%	77.1%
2016	0.4%	13.5%	4.3%	2.8%	0.0%	1.8%	77.2%
2017	0.5%	7.7%	4.5%	2.7%	0.0%	2.7%	82.0%
2018	0.8%	8.6%	3.7%	2.9%	0.0%	2.5%	81.5%
2019	0.8%	7.3%	2.7%	3.8%	0.0%	3.1%	82.4%
2020	0.8%	6.5%	3.4%	5.0%	0.0%	3.4%	80.8%

Source: Authors' analysis of data provided by the UNLV Office of Decision Support and UNR representatives.