



TEXAS
HIGH SCHOOL
PROJECT

**2011 RAISE
Texas Learning Forum
and Summit**

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Executive Director

November 1, 2011



www.thsp.org



Our Mission

TO SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THE POSTSECONDARY READINESS OF LOW-INCOME STUDENTS WITH A FOCUS ON STUDENTS IN LOW PERFORMING SCHOOLS

The Texas High School Project develops practical insights and proven solutions that can be scaled in schools and districts throughout Texas based on our evidence and data analysis across the transition from middle school (8-9) through high school (9-12) and into postsecondary programs (four-year, two-year, and technical programs).





STATE OF TEXAS

PHILANTHROPY



GREATER TEXAS FOUNDATION



COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION of TEXAS



IMPACT AREAS

DEFINITION

TEACHER EFFECTIVENESS

Teachers hired and developed to deliver strong student performance outcomes

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP

Campus- and district-level leaders hired and developed to focus on instruction and lead operations efficiently

LEARNING SYSTEMS

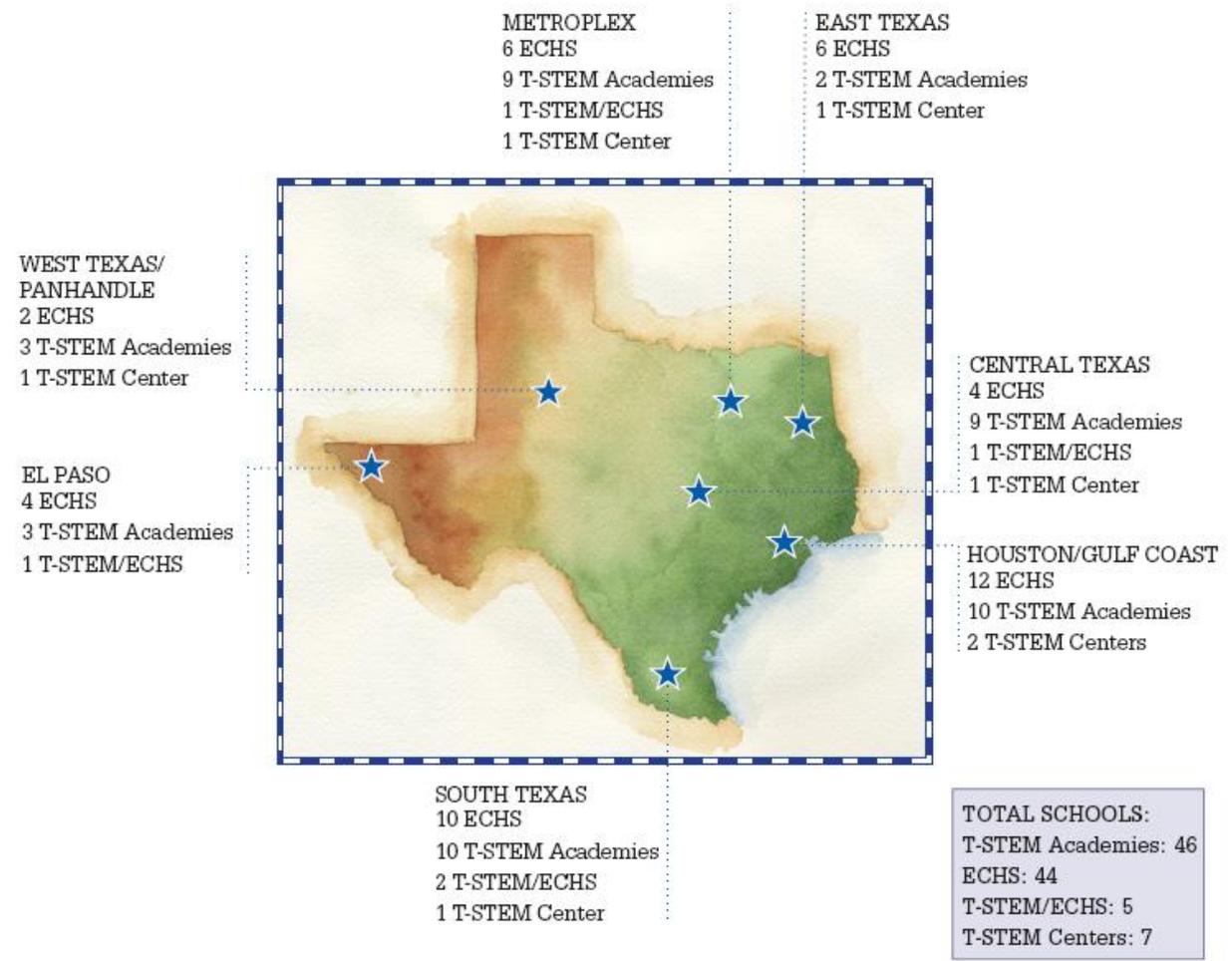
Rules and flexibility within the administrative and learning environment that support the personalization of learning at the student level

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Infrastructure and processes for identifying, tracking, and analyzing data critical to decision-making aligned with standards



THSP Statewide Network of Early College High Schools, T-STEM Academies and T-STEM Centers





Statewide STEM Strategy

- Align economic development with talent development, expand quality STEM teaching and learning, and mobilize STEM champions to support and sustain the effort.
- Implement key high-impact changes that leverage current assets to support quality STEM teaching and learning.
- Identify and mobilize STEM-ready communities within Texas to inspire and drive student demand, support STEM integration in classrooms across the region, and advocate for high expectations of STEM knowledge and skill development at the regional level.

DRAFT

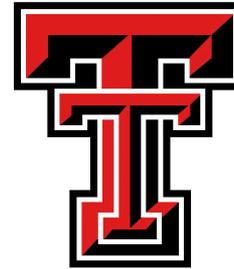
Ready to Launch: A Statewide STEM Strategy for Texas

A 21st-Century Roadmap for STEM
in the Lone Star State





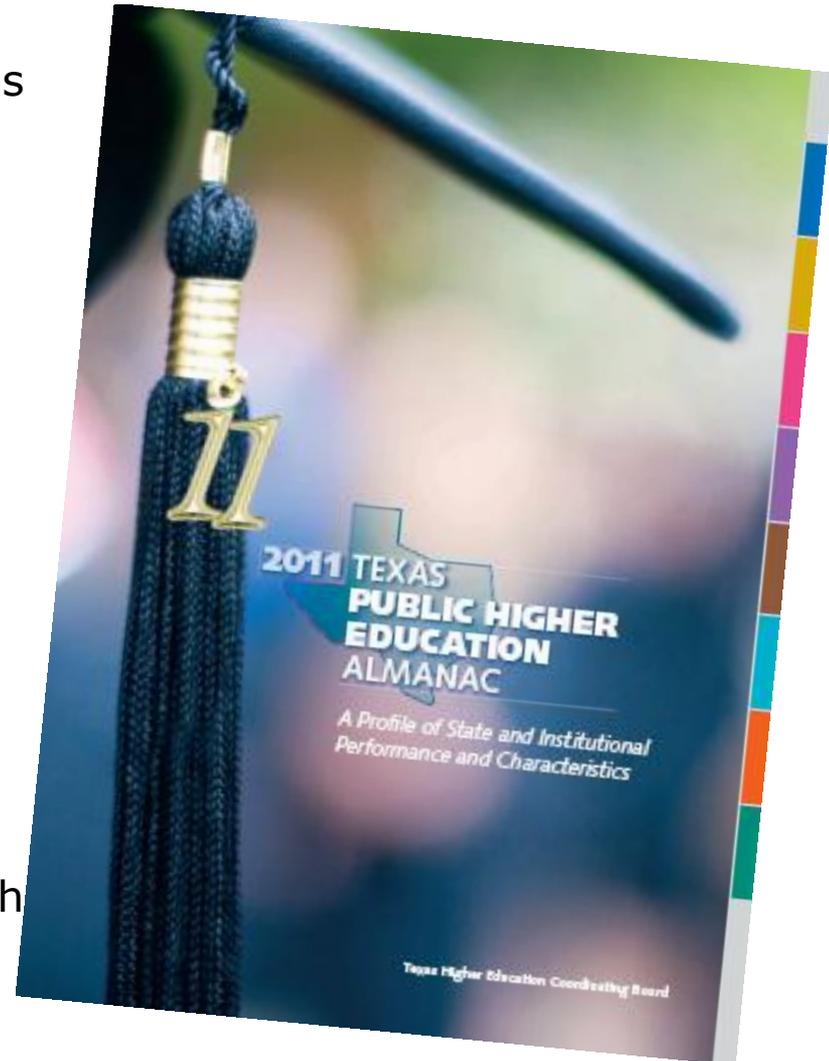
Established IHE Partnerships





Postsecondary Success Initiatives

- The first comprehensive almanac of Texas higher education and institutional data
- Public-Private Partnerships
 - Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
 - Texas High School Project
 - Communities Foundation of Texas
 - Greater Texas Foundation
 - The Meadows Foundation
 - Houston Endowment
- Publicly supported and announced at Capitol news conference by Governor Rick Perry, Higher Education Commissioner Raymund Paredes, and State Rep. Dan Branch (*House Higher Education Committee Chair*)





Postsecondary Success Initiatives

- **Regional Action Plan**
Provides statewide overview, region-specific summaries, and strategy to improve postsecondary outcomes through collective impact via a multi-regional approach including South Texas, El Paso, Metroplex, Gulf Coast and Central Texas.
- **National College Access Network**
Work with a network of state agencies and organizations to develop the Texas College Access Network.
- **Completion by Design**
Serving as the State Policy Lead for the Lone Star Community College System's cadre of colleges.
- **Learn and Earn**
Working with Texarkana Community College to apply for a Learn and Earn grant from the U.S. Department of Labor.



Social Impact Consultants

Discovering better ways
to solve social problems

Texas Regional Action Plan for Postsecondary Completion



GREATER TEXAS FOUNDATION



COMMUNITIES
FOUNDATION
of TEXAS

HOUSTON ENDOWMENT INC.

A PHILANTHROPY ENDOWED BY MR. AND MRS. JESSE H. JONES

The Meadows
Foundation

March 2011

Improving Education in Texas Is a Priority for A Large Number of Philanthropic Funders

Active Foundations

COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION of TEXAS
Enhancing the experience and impact of giving.

 Michael & Susan Dell
FOUNDATION

 KDK Harman
Foundation

BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation

 THE CARNEGIE FOUNDATION
for the ADVANCEMENT of TEACHING

 GREATER TEXAS FOUNDATION

HOUSTON ENDOWMENT INC.
A PHILANTHROPY ENDOWED BY MR. AND MRS. JESSE H. JONES

LUMINA

The Meadows
Foundation



Funded Initiatives

 Achieving
the Dream™

Texas
Student
Data
System

 JOBS FOR THE FUTURE
EDUCATION FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

 CCSSE
Community College Survey
of Student Engagement

 TEXAS
HIGH SCHOOL
PROJECT

KnowHow2GO

Pathways
Project

Early College
High Schools

 UTeach
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

 Achieving
the Dream™

DEVELOPMENTAL
EDUCATION
INITIATIVE
Accelerating Achievement

STATWALY™

In Addition to State-Wide Efforts, Addressing Postsecondary Education at a Regional Level Makes Sense for Several Reasons

Drivers for a Regional Approach

Student Population is Concentrated and Not Highly Mobile

- 76% of students with no PSE degree or certificate come from four regions: South, Metroplex, Gulfcoast, Central Texas
- 64% of students stay in their region for postsecondary education

Level of Institutional Autonomy

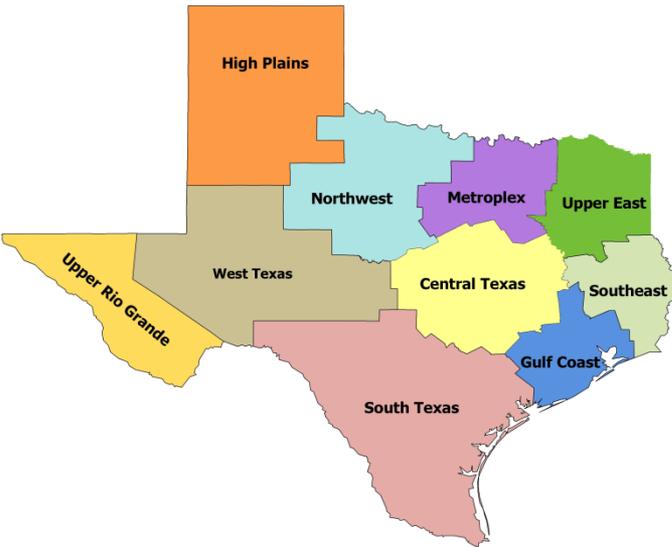
- Postsecondary institutions are fairly autonomous and governance is decentralized

Influence of Local Funding

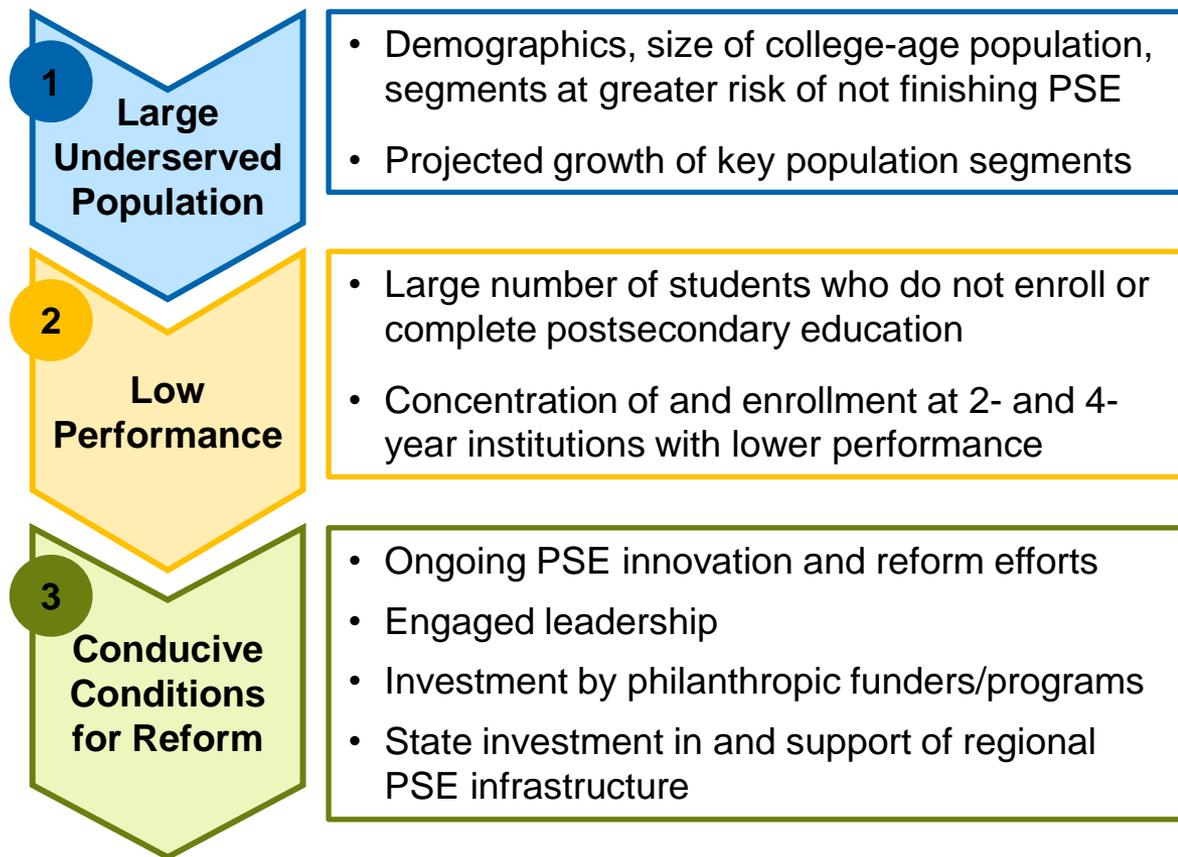
- State spending per student: +9% in 4-year and -4% in 2-year from 2000 to 2008
- Largest funding source for community colleges has shifted from state (26%) funding to local taxes (29%)

If Texas Is to Reverse Current Education Attainment Trends It Will Need to Focus on Regions with Most Pressing Challenges and Favorable Conditions for Reform

Texas Higher Education Regions (THECB)



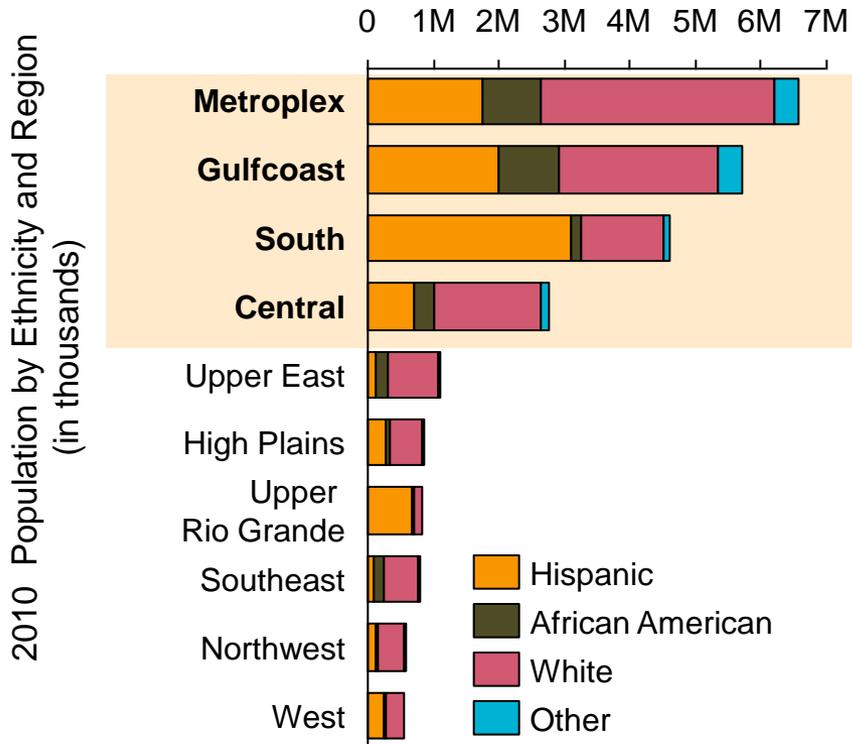
Three criteria guided the selection of critical regions



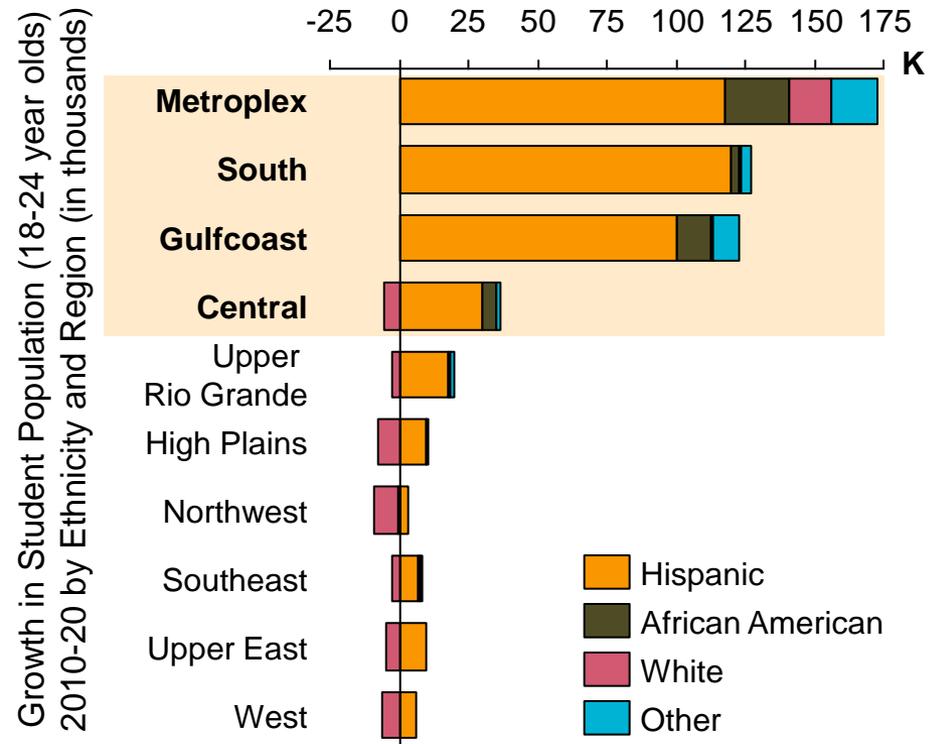
81% of the Texas Population Is Concentrated in Four Regions, All of Which Will Have High Growth in Their Student Populations

Large Underserved Population

The Four Highlighted Regions Concentrate 81% of Total Population and 83% of Hispanics



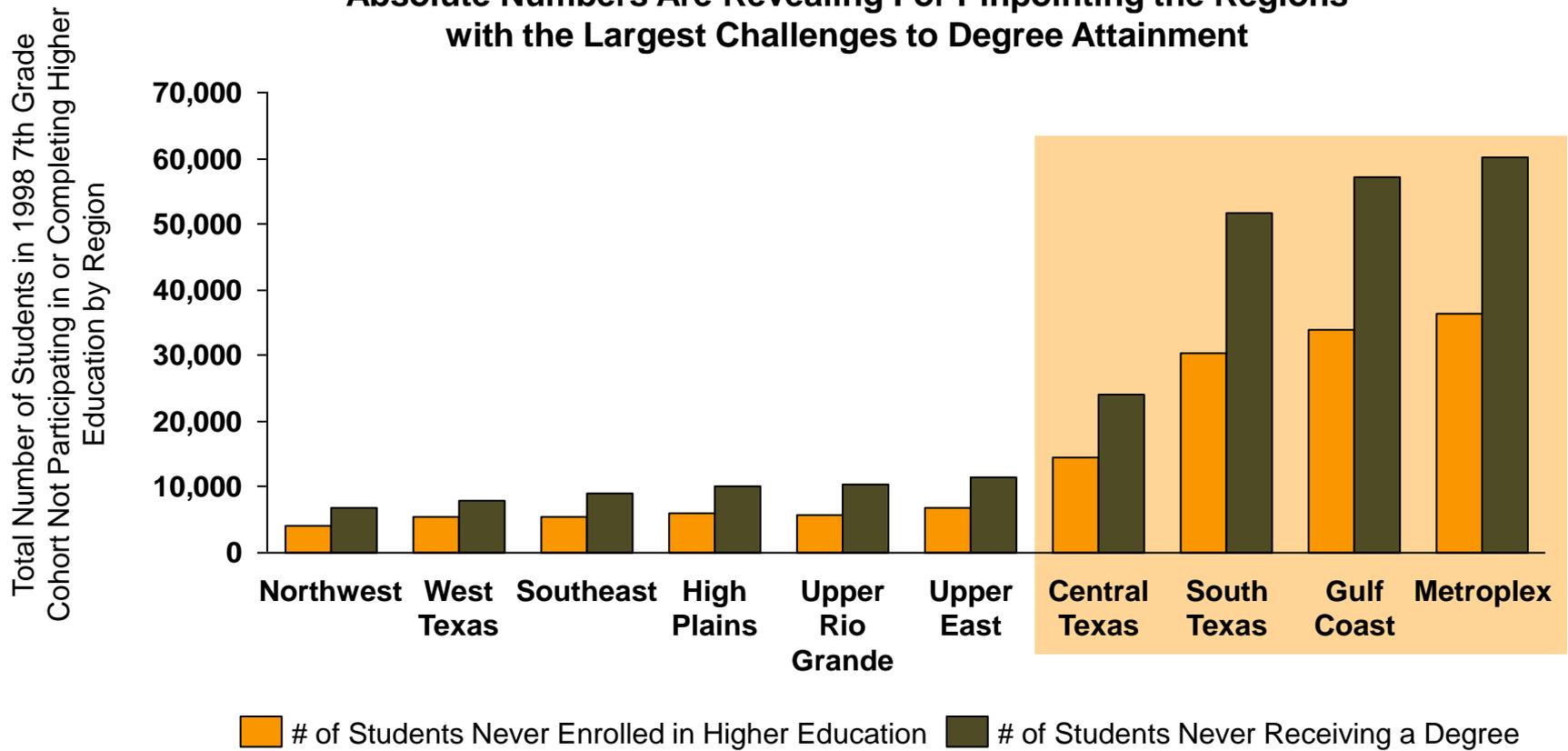
The Same Four Regions Will Contribute 95% of Growth in Student Population



South, Metroplex, Gulf Coast, and Central Regions Have Large Numbers of Students Who Never Enroll in or Attain a Postsecondary Degree

Low Performance

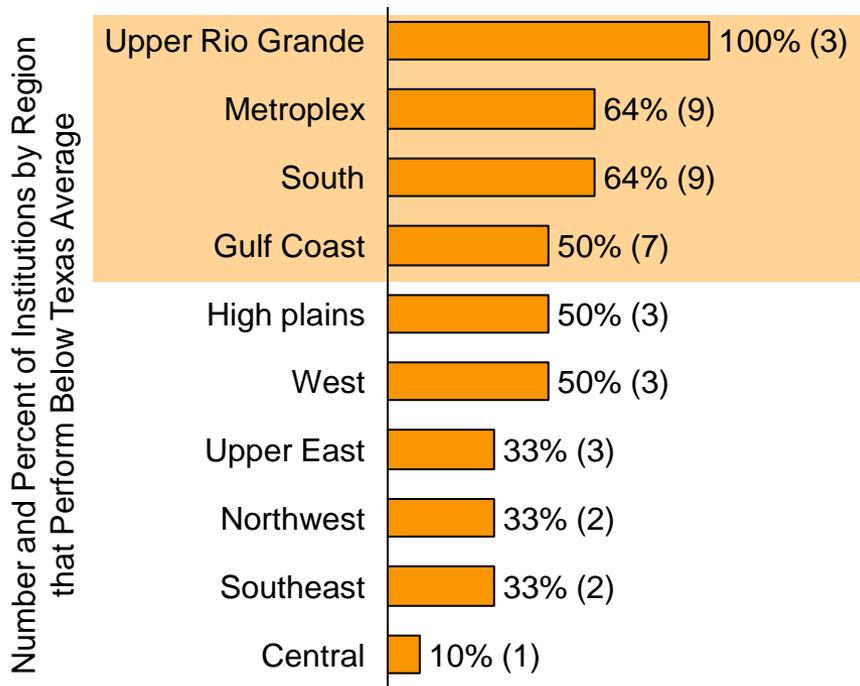
Absolute Numbers Are Revealing For Pinpointing the Regions with the Largest Challenges to Degree Attainment



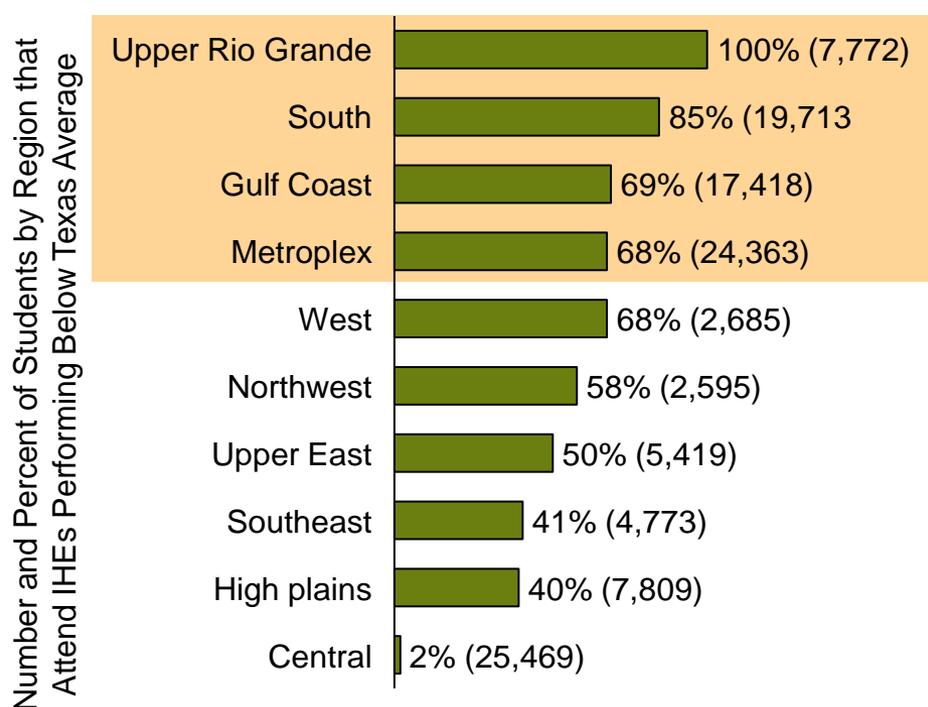
Concentration of Low-Performing Institutions Serving Large Numbers of Students Characterizes Regions with Urgent Need for Improvement

Low Performance

Upper Rio Grande, Metroplex, South and Gulf Coast Have a Large Number and/or Percent of Underperforming Institutions



Over Two Thirds of Students in These Regions Attend Underperforming Institutions



Upper Rio Grande is a critical region to focus on given that virtually all students in the region attend a low performing institution

Note: Institutions were ranked as “low performing” if their graduation rate was below the TX average (two-year: 30%, four-year: 56%), Cohort enrollment was used for “Number of Students attending IHES Performing Below Texas Average)

Executive Summary – Metroplex

- Metroplex is dominated by two densely populated, largely white urban centers with strong business bases, **Dallas and Fort Worth**. The region is currently experiencing major growth in the Hispanic population, with a **Hispanic college-age population that will increase from 30% to 47%** in the next 20 years
- **Hispanics - the fastest growing population - have the lowest postsecondary completion rate** of any major demographic group in the region. While higher than Hispanic rates, graduation rates for other ethnicities are also below state average - 24% for whites and 9% for African-Americans
- Community colleges are the preferred gateway into postsecondary education, enrolling 60% of the students in the region. **A majority of those students (60%), however, are not ready to enroll in credit bearing courses and require developmental education, halving their chances of graduating with a credential.** Although not as staggering, a significant percent of 4-year students (23%) also require developmental education and have a smaller chance of graduating with a degree. Given these high developmental education rates, **improving postsecondary outcomes will require increased regional collaboration** among IHEs and K12. **Historic dynamics, however, have been more competitive than collaborative** and not focused on student success
- If the Metroplex does not improve its graduation rates, it will not produce enough graduates to fill jobs in rapidly growing industries such as telecom and finance. The inability to produce a career-ready workforce will threaten regional competitiveness and economic development
- The region has numerous assets to leverage towards education reform: a **strong business community, a tradition of collaboration between 2 and 4-year institutions around student transfer and a growing conscience about the need to increasingly collaborate to improve student success.** A public-private partnership can play a critical role in fostering greater collaboration among IHEs and with K12, and in incentivizing change in institutional practices that support student success

Metroplex Is Experiencing Rapid Growth in Its Hispanic Population, Whose Achievement in the Region Is Far Below Average

1. Geography



4 Year University 2 Year College

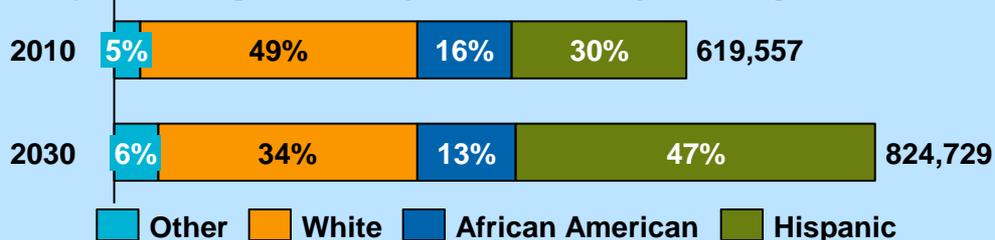
Private University

60% of Metroplex students remain in region for higher education

2. Demographics

- Metroplex has higher than average percent White population and income
- Metroplex will contribute 37% of the student-aged population growth in Texas between 2010-30, mainly from Hispanics

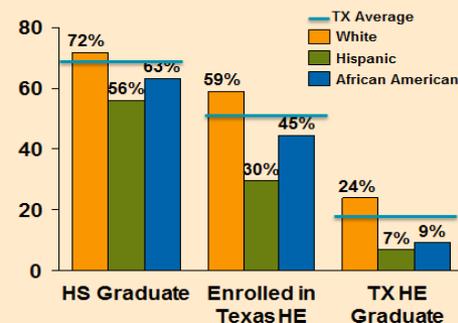
Population Ages 18-24 by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2010, 2030



3. Higher Education Results

- Metroplex performs at the Texas average for PSE enrollment and graduation
- African Americans and Whites outperform Hispanics throughout the pipeline

Pipeline for Metroplex 1998 7th Grade Cohort by Ethnicity



Only One University and Three Community Colleges Have Better Than State Average Graduation Rates

	Four-year Institutions (6-year Graduation Rates)	Fall '09 Total UG Enroll.	% Hispanic or African-American
U. of Texas At Dallas	71%	9,634	20%
University of North Texas	56%	27,427	26%
Regional Average	56%	1,696	63%
Texas Average	56%		
U. of Texas At Arlington	55%	20,642	35%
Texas Woman's University	54%	7,251	40%
Texas A&M University-Commerce	51%	5,349	29%
Tarleton State University	46%	7,154	15%
Univ. of North Texas At Dallas	N/A¹	79,153	29%
Two-year Institutions (6-year Graduation Rates)			
Grayson County College	37%	4,712	14%
Collin County Community College District	34%	24,517	23%
North Central Texas College	33%	9,037	20%
Texas Average	30%		
Navarro College	29%	9,124	35%
Weatherford College	28%	5,370	13%
Regional Average	28%	69,012	52%
Dallas Community College District ²	27%	52,349	36%
Tarrant County College District ³	25%	174,121⁴	38%

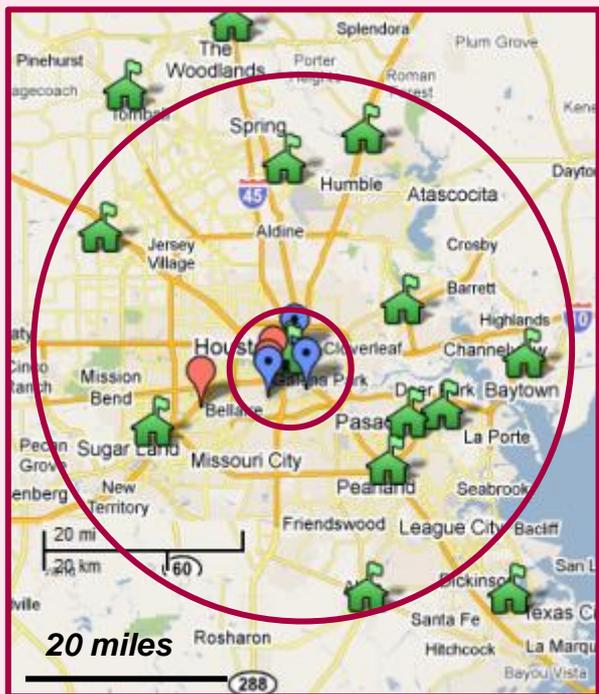
Notes: (1) University is new, started in 2000, and does not report graduation rate, (2) Includes seven of nine colleges: Brookhaven, Cedar, Eastfield, El Centro, Mountain View, North Lake, Richland, (3) Includes five campuses: Northeast, Northwest, South, Southeast, Trinity River (4) Data from THECB for Fall enrollment – credit students
Source: THECB, FSG analysis

Executive Summary – Gulf Coast

- The Gulf Coast contains **nearly one quarter of the state population**, largely concentrated in Harris county, and **mirrors the state's ethnic diversity**. However, in the next 20 years, **the Hispanic college-age population will grow by 70% and make up the majority (55%) of the 18-24 year old population**
- The region has benefited from strong economic growth, though there is a large disparity in income between white and Hispanic households
- Despite its relative wealth, the Gulf Coast has been struggling to produce graduates. **Graduation rates are low across the board, with the rapidly growing Hispanic population having the lowest graduation rate** – of the most recently tracked 7th grade cohort, only 8% of Hispanics completed a postsecondary credential
- One **major hurdle in the Gulf Coast is the huge disconnect between the high school preparation and curriculum and postsecondary readiness**: out of 100 students who pass Algebra 2 in high school -- i.e., on paper, qualified to take college-level math -- 88 must enroll in developmental education math courses in college
- Community colleges are critical to the region's success, with two-thirds of postsecondary enrollment and performance generally above the state average. However developmental education is a challenge: **59% of two-year entering students require in developmental education, but this group has only a 24% graduation rate** (versus 42% for entering students who do not need developmental education)
- Working in its favor, **the Gulf Coast has a cohesive sense of regional identity, a high level of philanthropic activity and support, numerous innovative pilot programs showing promising results**, large college systems that can help support smaller regional institutions, and growing coordination among K12 and postsecondary institutions

Gulf Coast Has Nearly 25% of Texas' College-Age Students, Most from Populations with Low Attainment Rates

1. Geography



4 Year University 2 Year College

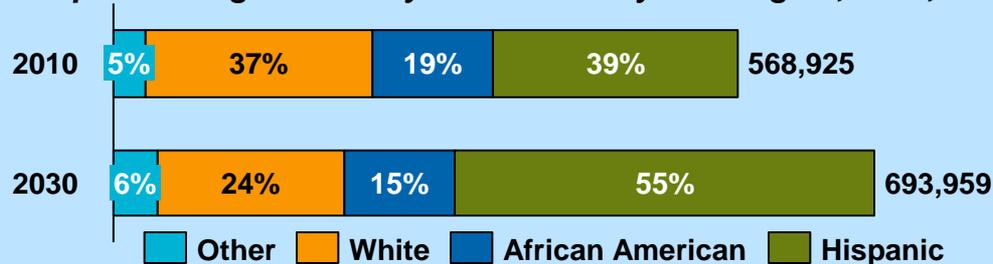
Private University

59% of Gulf Coast students remain in the region when enrolling in higher education

2. Demographics

- Gulf Coast demographics reflect Texas' average, its income is higher than Texas average
- Gulf Coast will contribute 22% of the student-aged population growth in Texas between 2010-30, mainly from Hispanics

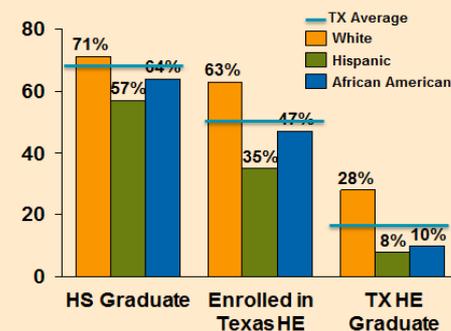
Population Ages 18-24 by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2010, 2030



3. Higher Education Results

- Gulf Coast underperforms in high school graduation (-2%) but outperforms Texas averages in PSE enrollment and graduation (+1%)
- Gulf Coast Hispanics underperform Whites, with the second largest gap in PSE enrollment rates

Pipeline for Gulfcoast 1998 7th Grade Cohort by Ethnicity



Graduation Rates Are Low for Both 2-year and 4-year Institutions, with Only Two Having Graduation Rates Greater Than 50%

	Four-year Institutions (6-year Graduation Rates)	Fall '09 Total UG Enroll.	% Hispanic or African-American
Texas A&M Univ At Galveston	59%	1,707	93%
Texas Average	56%		
Sam Houston State University	54%	14,555	30%
University of Houston	49%	28,074	16%
Regional Average	36%	6,617	93%
Prairie View A&M University	35%	12,742	39%
U. of Houston-Downtown	17%	7,258	34%
Texas Southern University	12%	3,970	66%
U. of Houston-Clear Lake	Not available	74,253	51%
Two-year Institutions (6-year Graduation Rates)			
Wharton County Junior College	39%	6,622	37%
Alvin Community College	37%	5,189	35%
Brazosport College	37%	3,866	35%
Lee College	34%	6,542	46%
San Jacinto College System ¹	33%	30,449	49%
Galveston College	31%	2,167	47%
Regional Average	31%		
Texas Average	30%		
Lone Star College System ²	28%	42,104	55%
Houston Community College	27%	3,916	38%
College of The Mainland Community	24%	156,346³	44%

Notes: (1) San Jacinto College System includes four campuses: Central, North, Main, and South, (2) Lone Star College System includes six campuses: Cy-Fair, Kingwood, Main, Montgomery, North Harris, and Tomball, (3) Data from THECB for Fall enrollment – credit students
 Source: THECB, FSG analysis

Executive Summary – Central Texas

Central Texas is home to the **wealthier than state average** and **predominantly white** State Capital region. It is also home to **three flagship institutions** that are magnets for the highest achieving students across Texas

The high education achievement of white students pushes the region's attainment levels above the state average, which masks the **large gap between more affluent white students and a fast growing number of lower income Hispanic students**. This gap will only be exacerbated given that Hispanics will contribute almost 90% of the growth in student population over the next twenty years

Central Texas' vibrant economy benefits from the flagships' high graduation rates, which are almost 30% higher than the Texas average. **The region's ability to meet the talent demand of the fastest growing occupations will depend on its capacity to produce more students with a postsecondary degree or credential**

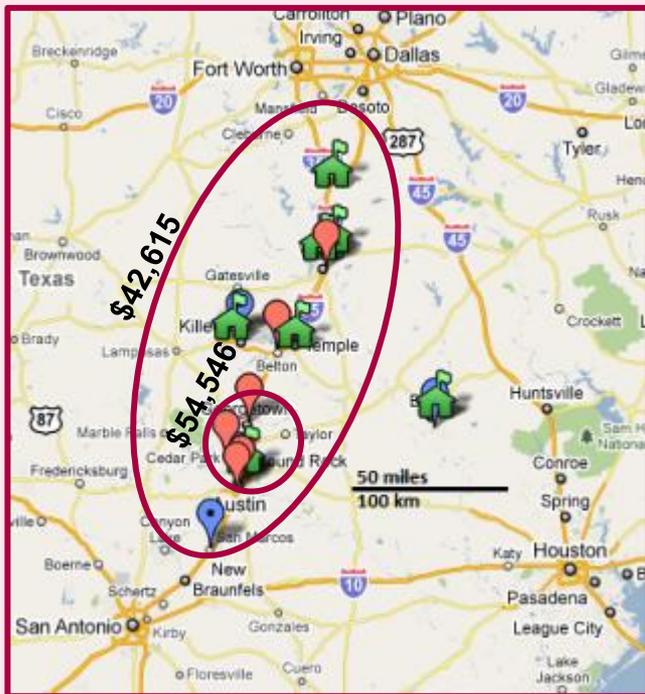
Significant challenges, however, need to be addressed to produce these graduates. Almost half the students in the region do not enroll in postsecondary immediately after high school, and only 1% of which ever get a degree or credential. Moreover, almost half of those who do enroll are not ready to take credit bearing courses and require developmental education

The high visibility of the State Capital area's vibrant economy and the high-achieving flagship students have resulted in a more **limited sense of urgency to address upcoming demographic changes** and **weaker cross-sector coordination** than in other regions. **The region lacks four-year regional institutions that provide students with a four-year alternative to selective flagships**, which poses an additional challenge to student success, especially for underserved students

The region has numerous assets to leverage towards education reform: **growing collaborative efforts, a vibrant business community and the broad set of political and talent assets of the State Capital region**. A public-private partnership can play a critical role in helping the region better realize the full potential of these resources

Central Texas Flagships Serve the State's Highest Achieving Students, but the Region Faces Large and Growing Disparities

1. Geography



4 Year University 2 Year College

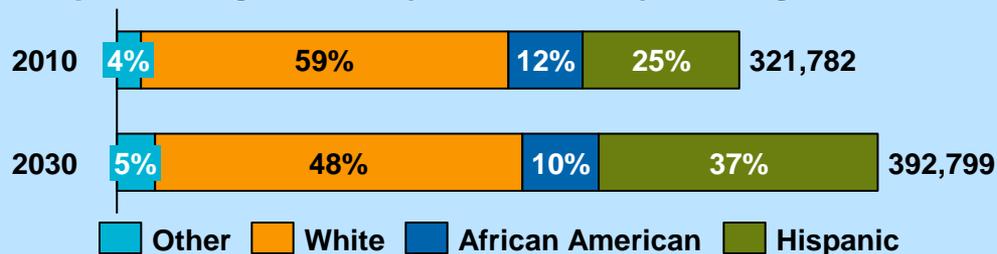
Private University

64% of Central Texas students remain in the region when enrolling in higher education

2. Demographics

- Central Texas has the highest proportion of Whites in the state
- Central Texas will contribute 12% of the student-aged population growth in Texas between 2010-30, mainly from Hispanics

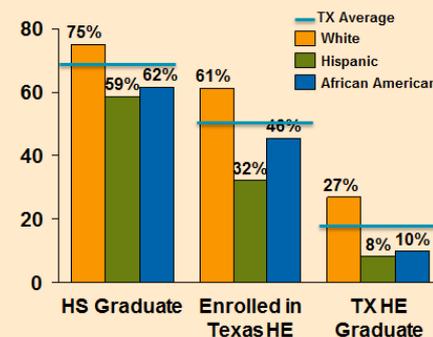
Population Ages 18-24 by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2010, 2030



3. Higher Education Results

- Central Texas outperforms state average attainment rates because of its large white population which has high attainment rates
- The gap between Whites and Hispanics in PSE enrollment is the highest in the state (29%)

Pipeline for Central Texas 1998 7th Grade Cohort by Ethnicity



Central Texas Is Home to Three Four-Year Flagship Schools, All of Which Outperform the Texas Average Graduation Rate

	Four-year Institutions (6-year Graduation Rates)	% Hispanic	Fall '09 Total UG Enroll.
UT Austin	84%	19%	38,168
Texas A&M University	84%	14%	38,726
Regional Average	81%	19%	104,411
Texas State University-San Marcos	65%	24%	26,001
Texas Average	56%	28%	
Texas A&M University - Central Texas	N/A	16%	1,516

	Two-year Institutions (6-year Graduation Rates)	% Hispanic	Fall '09 Total UG Enroll.
Blinn College	47%	14%	16,855
Regional Average	39%	20%	92,460
Temple College	36%	19%	5,659
McLennan Community College	36%	18%	9,117
Hill College	36%	15%	4,290
Austin Community College	32%	25%	37,850
Texas State T.C. Waco	31%	17%	6,816
Texas Average	30%	34%	
Central Texas College	23%	19%	11,873

Notes: Data from THECB for Fall enrollment – credit students, Texas A&M University – Central Texas cohort graduation rate is not available as campus was opened in 2009
 Source: THECB, FSG analysis

Executive Summary – El Paso

- El Paso is a **geographically isolated**, self-contained region. El Paso residents have a **lower income** than the Texas average and are **mainly Hispanic (82%)**. The student population will grow by 18% in the next 20 years, fueled mainly by Hispanic student growth
- El Paso has been successful **in raising persistence and success rates of Hispanic population above Texas average**. However, graduation rates are still woefully low for all ethnicities (13%)
- Despite significant progress in education attainment, El Paso still faces serious challenge in college readiness. Half of students who enroll in its four-year university require developmental coursework – a very high number. Among its community college students, almost two-thirds require developmental coursework, but their completion is only slightly lower than those who enter college-ready, indicating that additional challenges beyond academic readiness need to be addressed if the region is to improve its postsecondary outcomes
- Recent large-scale immigration from Juarez will also stretch El Paso’s capacities
- El Paso is aware of the challenges facing the region and the urgent need for reform. The region has a more than twenty-year long tradition of innovation and collaboration around student success which it can leverage to continue to improve student outcomes. The region’s key assets include:
 - A tightly-knit **community** with a strong sense of urgency about improving education opportunities
 - **Group of committed leaders** with a long-established willingness and ability to collaborate among its single two and four year IHEs, large high school districts and municipal government
 - Its ability to attract significant **philanthropic resources** through its commitment to education reform and innovation

El Paso Has the Largest Proportion of Hispanics and Lags Far Behind the State Average Educational Outcomes

1. Geography



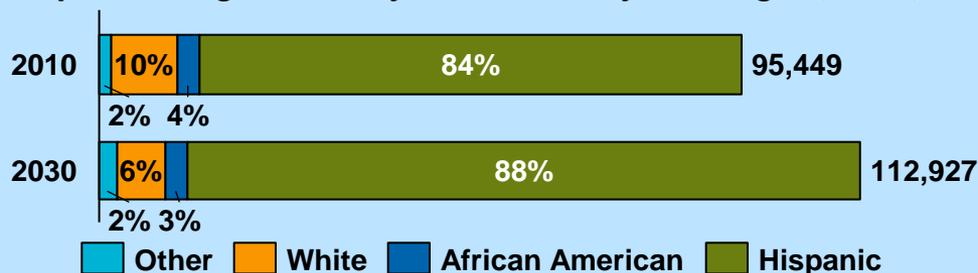
- 4 Year University 2 Year College
- Private University

88% of El Paso students remain in the region when enrolling in higher education

2. Demographics

- El Paso is 84% Hispanic and the lowest income region in Texas
- El Paso will contribute 3% of the student-aged population growth in Texas between 2010-30, mainly from Hispanics

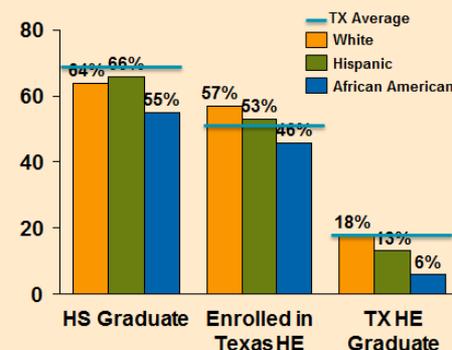
Population Ages 18-24 by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2010, 2030



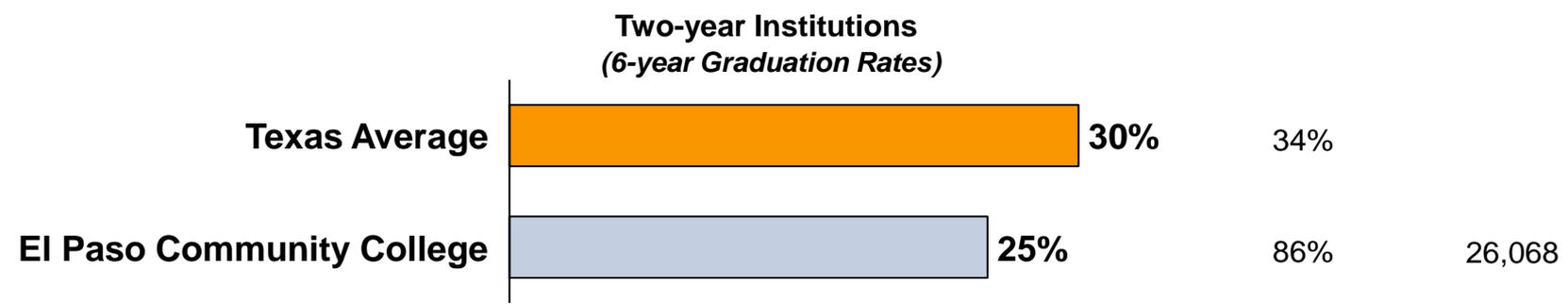
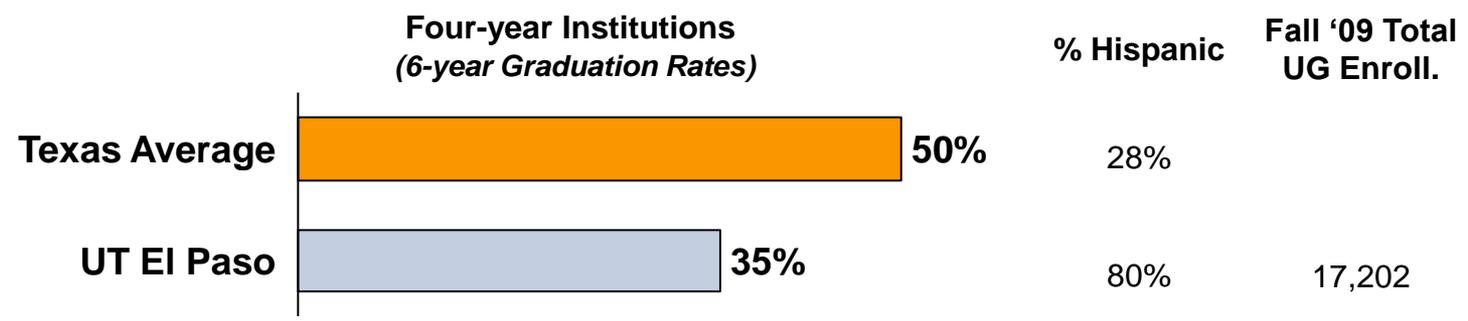
3. Higher Education Results

- El Paso enrolls high school graduates in PSE at a higher rate than state averages (+1%) but underperforms drastically in degree attainment (-5%)
- The gap between minorities and Whites is the lowest in the state

Pipeline for El Paso 1998 7th Grade Cohort by Ethnicity



El Paso Has Only Two Post Secondary Institutions, Both of Which Graduate Fewer Than 35% of Their Students



Although graduation rates at both institutions are lower than Texas averages, El Paso overall has been able to increase graduation rates by 5% in the past 6 years

Executive Summary – South Texas

- South Texas is a large region with a number of subregions at considerable distances from each other, including the Lower Rio Grande Valley, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and Laredo. All **border regions have a significantly higher Hispanic student population** than the more centrally-located San Antonio, which **also benefits from a higher income** than border regions (28% higher)
- The **Hispanic student population is set to grow 25%** in the next 20 years. The region is **on par** with stage averages for **high school graduation and postsecondary enrollment** but **lags slightly in degree completion**. These regional levels of student achievement are remarkable when compared to those of similar sociodemographic groups
- The different subregions in South Texas have **varying degrees of challenges** with respect to demographics and education attainment. San Antonio's education outcomes do not reflect its more favorable demographic and economic situation and it lags behind the border region on most education outcomes
- The Border region provides **limited opportunities for collaboration** across metro areas and has **an underdeveloped college-going culture**. The region also has limited resources available for **student financial support and funding for college readiness and success programs**
- South Texas boasts committed leadership, **state and philanthropic investment, and a high level of community-wide collaboration**. A public-private partnership can play a critical role in leveraging the region's assets to further improve persistence and completion

South Texas Is a Large and Mostly Hispanic Region with Low Education Attainment Rates

1. Geography



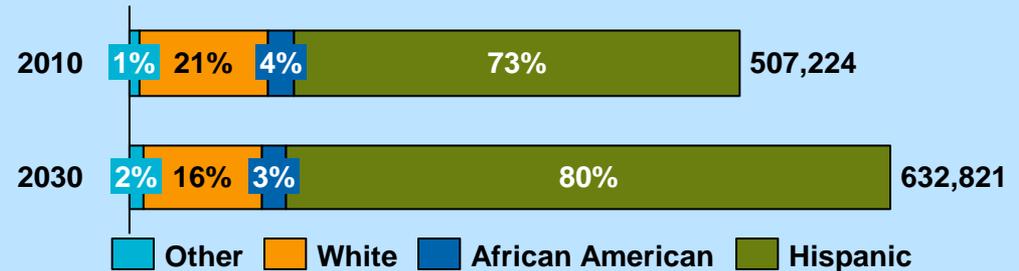
- 4 Year University
- 2 Year College
- Private University

71% of South Texas students remain in the region when enrolling in higher education

2. Demographics

- South Texas has a large Hispanic and low income population
- South Texas will contribute 23% of the student-aged population growth in Texas between 2010-30, mainly from Hispanics

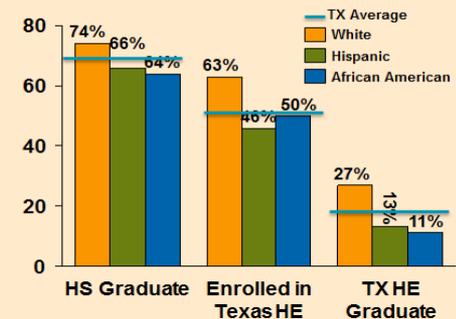
Population Ages 18-24 by Race/Ethnicity and Region, 2010, 2030



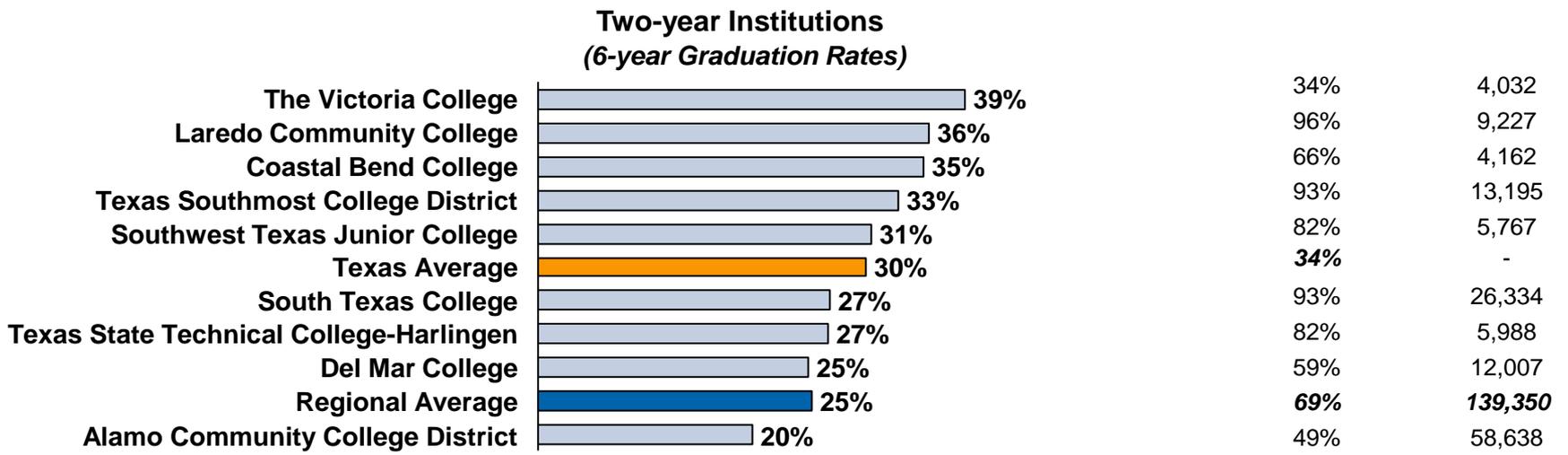
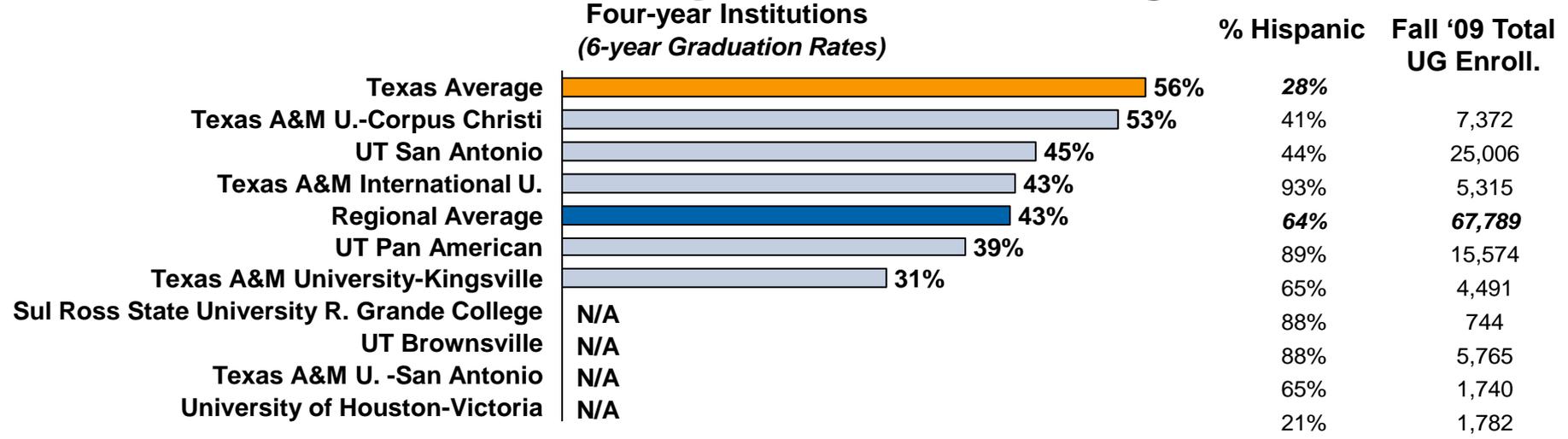
3. Higher Education Results

- South Texas underperforms the State in degree completion
- 21 of 22 PSE institutions in **South Texas and San Antonio** are classified as “minority-serving”

Pipeline for South Texas and San Antonio 1998 7th Grade Cohort by Ethnicity



South Texas' Four-Year Universities Underperform State Average Graduation Rate While Half of the Region's Two-Year Colleges Exceed It



16 out of 17 Public PSEs in South Texas are Minority-Serving Institutions

Notes: Data from THECB for Fall enrollment – credit students, Minority Serving Institution is defined as 25% or higher Hispanic enrollment or HBCU designation, N/A indicates 6-year graduation rate data is not available because of conjoint 2-4 year program, conjoint campuses, or cohort not yet graduated from new PSE
 Source: THECB, FSG analysis



Reflections On:

- **Postsecondary Access**
- **Postsecondary Success**
- **Financial Self-Sustainability**

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