



Texas Higher Education  
Coordinating Board

# Texas Higher Education Quick Facts 2010

## Closing the Gaps

Closing the Gaps by 2015, the state's higher education plan, was adopted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in 2000 to focus the state's efforts on four goals: to close the gaps – within Texas as well as in comparison with other leading states – in participation, success, excellence, and research. In late 2005, the participation goal and its intermediate targets were adjusted to reflect the state's rapid population growth, and other goals and intermediate targets were changed to allow more effective measurement of progress.

*All funds appropriations to Texas higher education for the 2010-11 biennium totaled \$21.6 billion, an 8.4 percent increase over the \$19.9 billion in the 2008-09 biennium.*

- *Closing the Gaps* participation goal: By 2015, close the gaps in participation rates to add 630,000 more students (compared to the number of students in 2000, when the plan was adopted).
- *Closing the Gaps* success goal: By 2015, award 210,000 undergraduate degrees, certificates, and other identifiable student successes from high quality programs.
- *Closing the Gaps* excellence goal: By 2015, substantially increase the number of nationally recognized programs or services at colleges and universities in Texas.
- *Closing the Gaps* research goal: By 2015, increase the level of federal science and engineering research and development obligations to Texas institutions to 6.5 percent of obligations to higher education institutions across the nation.

## Institutions

There are 146 public and independent institutions of higher education in Texas:

- 50 public community college districts (with multiple campuses)
- 38 public four-year universities and upper-division centers
- 4 campuses in the Texas State Technical College System (including three extension centers)
- 9 public health-related institutions
- 3 public two-year, lower-division Lamar state colleges
- 39 independent four-year colleges and universities
- 1 independent medical school
- 2 independent junior colleges

Texas public universities, health-related institutions, state colleges, and the Texas State Technical College System report a \$18 billion replacement value investment in their physical plants. They occupy approximately 168 million square feet of space. (Community colleges, which use local funds for their physical plants, are not required to report these figures to the Coordinating Board.)

## Funding

- State *general revenue appropriations* to higher education totaled \$12.7 billion for the 2010-11 biennium, an 11.3 percent increase from \$11.4 billion for the the 2008-09 biennium, according to the Legislative Budget Board.
- *All funds appropriations* to Texas higher education for the 2010-11 biennium totaled \$21.6 billion, an 8.4 percent increase over the \$19.9 billion in the 2008-09 biennium, according to the Legislative Budget Board.
- Higher education accounted for 11.5 percent of the state's total *all funds appropriation* of \$188.0 billion and 15.7 percent of the state's *general revenue appropriation* of \$80.6 billion for the 2010-11 biennium.
- For public universities, the \$6.7 billion *all funds appropriation* for the 2010-11 biennium represented an increase of 5.3 percent over the 2008-09 biennium of \$6.4 billion.
- For public universities, the \$5.2 billion *general revenue appropriation* for the 2010-11 biennium represented a 5.6 percent increase from the 2008-09 biennium of \$4.8 billion.
- Public community colleges, the \$2.2 billion *general revenue appropriation* for the 2010-11 biennium represented a 16.5 percent increase from the 2008-09 biennium of \$1.9 billion.

*In fall 2009, enrollment at Texas higher education institutions increased by 121,935 students when compared to the previous fall, the largest ever enrollment increase.*



■ Two constitutionally mandated funds – the Permanent University Fund (PUF) and the Higher Education Assistance Fund (HEAF) – support new construction, repair and rehabilitation, land and capital equipment, and library expenses at public universities, public health-related institutions, and the Texas State Technical College System.

■ For the 2010-11 biennium, the state has authorized \$658 million in tuition revenue bond (TRB) debt service retirement, an decrease of 1.36 percent over the 2008-09 biennium of \$667 million. TRBs are used by public higher education institutions to acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property, buildings, structures, facilities, roads, or related infrastructure on or for the campus.

### General Revenue Appropriations (Billions of Dollars)

Biennium	2008-09	2010-2011
Universities	\$4.8	\$5.2
Community Colleges	\$1.9	\$2.2
Health-Related Institutions	\$2.6	\$2.9
Technical Colleges	\$0.2	\$0.2
Other	\$2.0	\$2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11.4</b>	<b>\$12.7</b>

### All Funds Appropriations (Billions of Dollars)

Biennium	2008-09	2010-11
Universities	\$6.4	\$6.7
Community Colleges	\$1.9	\$2.2
Health-Related Institutions	\$7.8	\$8.1
Technical Colleges	\$0.2	\$0.3
Other	\$3.5	\$4.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19.9</b>	<b>\$21.6</b>

## Enrollment

■ Since fall 2000, enrollment in Texas higher education (public, independent, and career institutions) has increased by 401,476 students – or over 39.4 percent. Enrollment totaled approximately 1.4 million students in fall 2008.

■ In fall 2009, enrollment at Texas higher education institutions increased by 121,935 students when compared to the previous fall, the largest ever enrollment increase. The state is well positioned to meet the participation goal of *Closing the Gaps* but needs to accelerate efforts to

increase Hispanic and African American male participation.

■ Lower-division, two-year institutions – the sector that includes the state’s public community colleges, Lamar state colleges, and the Texas State Technical College System – accounted for 62 percent, or 75,338 students, of the enrollment increase for fall 2009, when enrollments at those institutions reached 692,845 students.

■ In 2009, Blacks and Hispanics represented about 57 percent of Texas’ 15-to-34 population, but only 42 percent of the students in Texas higher education in the fall of that year.

■ Students from the state’s rapidly growing Hispanic population accounted for 38 percent of the state’s higher education enrollment growth from fall 2008 to fall 2009, but Texas is still lagging in reaching the Hispanic participation targets.

## Outcomes

■ Approximately 25.3 percent of Texas’ population age 25 and older held a bachelor’s or higher degree in 2008.

■ Texas public universities and health-related institutions awarded 81,014 bachelor’s, 27,111 master’s, and 3,083 doctoral and professional degrees in fiscal year 2009.

■ Texas public two-year colleges awarded 41,732 associate degrees, 22,631 certificates, and 112 bachelors of applied technology in fiscal year 2009.

■ Research expenditures at Texas public higher education institutions totaled \$3.31 billion in fiscal year 2009. Expenditures for medical science research, totaling \$1.41 billion, led all categories. Other top areas included biological and other life sciences, \$798 million, and engineering, \$550 million.

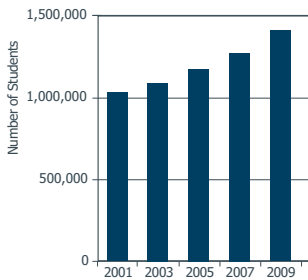
■ The six-year graduation rate at Texas public universities for students who entered in fall 2003 was 55.9 percent.

■ Median earnings for a Texan age 25 and over with a high school diploma or equivalent were \$26,508 in 2008, compared to \$33,067 with some college or an associate’s degree, \$47,482 with a bachelor’s degree, and \$61,442 with a graduate or professional degree.

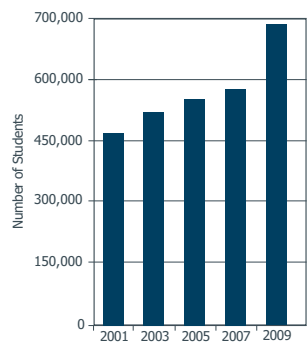
■ Hispanic & African American success increased by 85 & 54 percent from 2000-2009.

■ STEM awards increased by 8.7 percent in FY 2009 compared to FY 2008.

Texas Public and Independent  
Institutions of Higher Education



Texas Public Community,  
Technical and State Colleges



Texas Public Universities

