



2011 Texas Public Higher Education Almanac

A public-private partnership to improve transparency, accountability, and value of higher education in Texas

In 2004, under a directive of Governor Rick Perry, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) launched an online Accountability System for public institutions of higher education. Since then, the THECB has continuously improved the system to include more data and information — achieving national recognition as a “best practice” model for collecting and disseminating higher education data.

The *Texas Public Higher Education Almanac* represents the next phase in promoting transparency, accountability, and the value of higher education to Texas taxpayers. The *Almanac* is designed to place the most relevant data and information on institutional performance in the hands of policymakers, students, parents, and the general public. This effort represents a working collaboration between a state agency and philanthropic organizations dedicated to improving higher education in Texas — a true model for public-private partnership.

Key Data and Information

- Enrollment in all Texas higher education institutions (two-year and four-year public, independent, and career institutions) has **increased 47 percent** since 2000. (p. 10)
- The annual number of degrees and certificates awarded at all Texas higher education institutions has increased by **52 percent** since 2000. (p. 11)
- Texas **ranks 26th nationally** in attainment of Bachelor’s degrees. (p. 7)
- Texas **ranks 45th nationally** in attainment of Associate’s degrees. (p. 7)
- Texas **ranks 28th nationally** in average tuition at public, four-year institutions (\$5,623).
- Texas **ranks 45th nationally** in average tuition at public, two-year institutions (\$1,796).
- **43 percent** of students enrolling in public higher education in 2010 attended a public four-year university.
- The gap between Texas females and males continues to grow in higher education. In fall 2010, **6.8 percent** of the total female population was enrolled in an institution of higher education.
- In contrast, only **5.1 percent** of the total male population was enrolled. (p. 10)
- Only **6.7 percent** of African American males, and **7.8 percent** of Hispanic males, who enrolled in a Texas 7th grade classroom in 1998 graduated with a degree or certificate by 2009. (p. 9)