

Texas Higher Education 2013 QUICK FACTS



JANUARY 2013

Closing the Gaps by 2015 was adopted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in 2000 to focus state policy on the goal of creating parity in educational attainment and quality between Texas and peer states like California, New York and Massachusetts. As we approach the end of *Closing the Gaps*, Texas now must measure up against global leaders like Germany, South Korea, and China. While Texas has achieved much since 2000, we must do even better, faster to compete on the international stage.

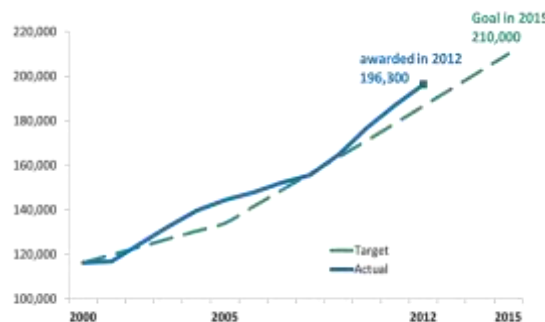
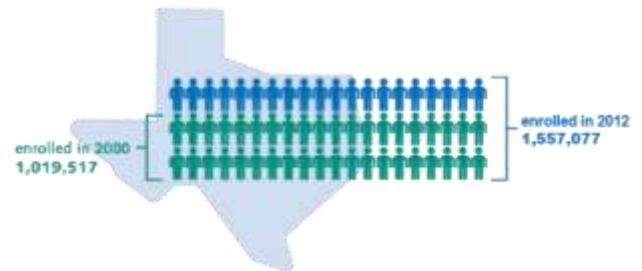
CLOSING THE GAPS: THE GOALS

Closing the Gaps by 2015 established four primary goals used to measure higher education in Texas against our peer states:

- ✓ **Participation:** By 2015, add **630,000** more students to higher education over 2000 levels
- ✓ **Success:** By 2015, award **210,000** undergraduate credentials (degrees and certificates) each year from high quality programs.
- ✓ **Excellence:** By 2015, **substantially increase** the number of nationally recognized programs or services at colleges and universities.
- ✓ **Research:** By 2015, increase the level of research and development obligations to Texas institutions to **6.5%** of national research obligations

PROGRESS MADE

Participation: Texas has increased total enrollments in higher education by more than **537,000** students since 2000. During this time, enrollments for Hispanics and African Americans **have doubled**.



Success: In 2012, Texas awarded more than **196,000** undergraduate credentials. Annual credentials awarded to Hispanics and African Americans have increased by **125%** and **75%**, respectively.

Research: In 2012, research expenditures at Texas universities and community colleges **exceeded \$3.7B**.

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Higher education in Texas consists of **146 public and independent institutions**--accounting for **12.7 percent** of the state's 2012-2013 budget (all funds).

Texas Institutions of Higher Education

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

Higher Education Funding 2012-2013 (All Funds)

Sector	2010-2011 Budget	2012-2013 Budget
Public Universities	\$6.22B	\$5.85B
Public Community Colleges	\$1.74B	\$1.75B
Health Related Institutions	\$7.85B	\$8.09B
Technical Colleges†	\$0.24B	\$0.23B

Source: Legislative Budget Board, *Fiscal Size-Up*, Jan. 2012
† Includes Lamar Colleges

“Higher education in Texas was appropriated \$12.2B in general state revenue for the 2012-2013 budget—a decrease of 6.3 percent compared to the 2010-2011 budget.” -Legislative Budget Board

THE HIGHER EDUCATION CHALLENGE

Despite significant progress toward state higher education goals, Texas must do better, faster. According to the Center on Education and the Workforce **4 of 5 jobs lost** over the last few years **affected workers with a high school diploma or less**—and most economists agree these jobs will not return. In fact, by 2020 about **2 of every 3 jobs** will require some form of postsecondary education or training, including 13 of the top 20 fastest growing career fields with the best potential for earnings growth. Even **jobs in advanced manufacturing**, once considered low-skill, are now increasingly specialized and technologically sophisticated in ways that **demand education or training beyond high school**.

Unfortunately, young Texans currently rank 24th in educational attainment among those from the most globally competitive economies. For Texas to compete on the international stage, we must dramatically increase the number of postsecondary credentials by:

- ❖ Investing at greater levels in higher education, particularly in student financial aid;
- ❖ Emphasizing a balance between academic and technical credentials of all types, particularly in emerging career fields;
- ❖ Continuously improving productivity and cost-effectiveness at institutions; and
- ❖ Aligning higher education funding with state education and workforce goals

Educational Attainment for 25-34 Year Olds Among Most Competitive Economies

as measured by Associate's Degree or higher

