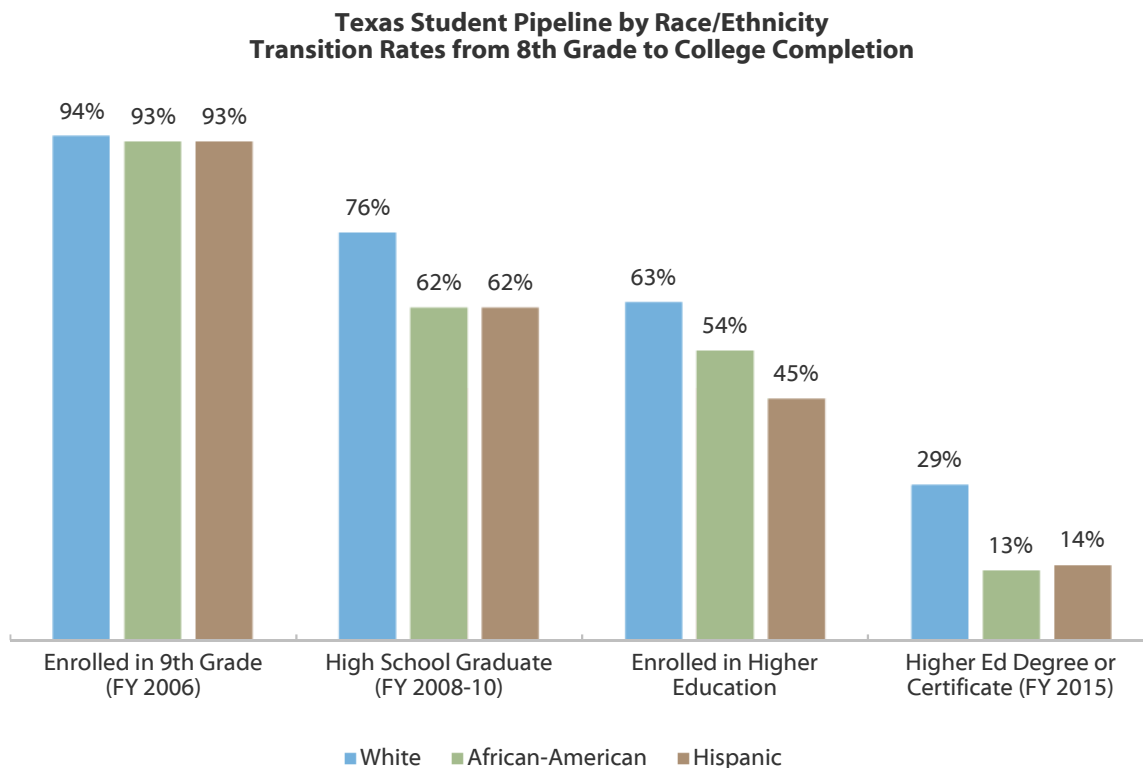


Many Texas Students Exit the Education Pipeline toward a Higher Education Degree or Certificate at Transition Points



The student pipeline is one way to observe the path that Texas students take towards earning a postsecondary credential. The pipeline highlights the major transition points where many students drop out of the system. Simply focusing on student success after high school is an insufficient strategy to increase the number of postsecondary credentials. Instead, a strategy of promoting student achievement at every level of the educational pipeline has a better chance of increasing degree attainment.

At every stage of the student pipeline, larger percentages of Hispanic and African-American students exited compared to White students. Whereas 63 percent of White 8th graders in 2005 enrolled in higher education directly following high school graduation, only 54 and 45 percent of African American and Hispanic 8th graders enrolled, respectively. Reducing these disparities is essential to making the attainment gains Texas needs for a skilled and competitive workforce, because these gains will most easily be found in underserved populations. For all student groups, those who enrolled in higher education but did not complete a degree or certificate represented the largest drop-off in the student education pipeline.

Note: The methodology and design for this figure was derived from the Texas Business Leadership Council and NCHEMS, 2013 TAB Higher Education Summit

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Regional Topic Data Tabs: 8th Grade Cohort and HS to College Data, 2015 (<http://www.txhighereddata.org/reports/performance/regions/>). TEA and National Student Clearinghouse data used by THECB. Out-of-state graduate total not shown, because current NSC data collection extends only into 2006.

