

## State of Student Aid and Higher Education In Texas

The State of Student Aid and Higher Education in Texas publication is intended to be a reference document filled with current and timely statistics. The publication focuses on Texas, but often contains comparisons to the nation or other large states.



### Texas Education Pipeline

By 2050, it is projected that about

**47%** of 18 to 24-year-olds  
WILL BE HISPANICS.

Overall, **15%** of Texans  
lived in poverty,  
**28%** in the Rio Grande  
region, in 2018.

About **1/2** of Texas high  
school graduates  
enrolled in college immediately  
after high school in 2019.

Texas ranked **3<sup>rd</sup>**  
in the nation  
for high school graduation rates  
in 2017-18, tying with 5 other states at 90%.

### Texas College Student Profile

**80% OF ALL  
FRESHMEN**  
attending Texas public higher education  
institutions in fall 2018 were enrolled  
at **community colleges**.

**48%** of Texas undergraduates  
enrolled in school  
part-time in fall 2018.

### Costs & Paying for College in Texas

Tuition and fees  
in Texas comprise **38%**  
of total costs at 4-year public universities  
in 2018-19; **20%** at community colleges.

Texas students benefited from over  
**\$785,000,000**  
in exemptions and waivers  
at public institutions.

The state of Texas spent approximately  
**\$706,000,000**  
on grant aid in 2018-19.

The average Pell grant in Texas covered  
**19%** of the average cost  
of attendance at  
public institutions.

Unmet need for **low-income  
Texas students** is about  
**\$10,000**  
at public universities per school year.

It takes **68** hours per week at **minimum  
wage to pay for 2 semesters** at a  
Texas university; **54** at community  
colleges.

## Debt

Student loan debt is the **3<sup>rd</sup> largest type of consumer debt in Texas**, behind mortgage and auto debt.

Most states, including Texas, saw **INCREASES IN STUDENT LENDING ACTIVITY from 2017 to 2018.**

Nearly **1/2** of borrowers **who started college in 2003** and did not graduate **had defaulted by 2016.**

**African-American college graduates** were **MORE LIKELY** to borrow student loans and borrowed larger cumulative amounts compared to their peers.

Total outstanding student loan debt in Texas reached **\$114,000,000,000** in 2019.

**Borrowers who default** have **LESS STUDENT LOAN DEBT** than those **who do not default**, due largely to dropping out of college.

**UNDERGRADUATE VETERANS** were less likely to borrow than non-veterans, but borrowed larger amounts.

**LESS THAN 1/3** of direct student aid to Texas community college students was in the form of loans, compared to **nearly half for Texas public university students.**

## Student Financial Wellness

Approximately **13%** of community college students surveyed **reported experiencing homelessness** in 2019.

More than **1/2** of students in a 2019 survey reported that they would **have trouble getting \$500 dollars** to meet an unexpected need.

Almost **1/4** of students surveyed **in fall 2019** reported they did not know how they **would pay for college the next semester.**

**Low-income Texas students are far LESS LIKELY** to obtain a Bachelor's degree compared to high-income students.

## College (Still) Pays Off

Over a lifetime, earnings by **bachelor degree recipients exceeds high school graduate earnings by \$1M**

**Unemployment rates DECREASE** as educational attainment rises.