

CLOSING *the GAPS*: The Texas Higher Education Plan

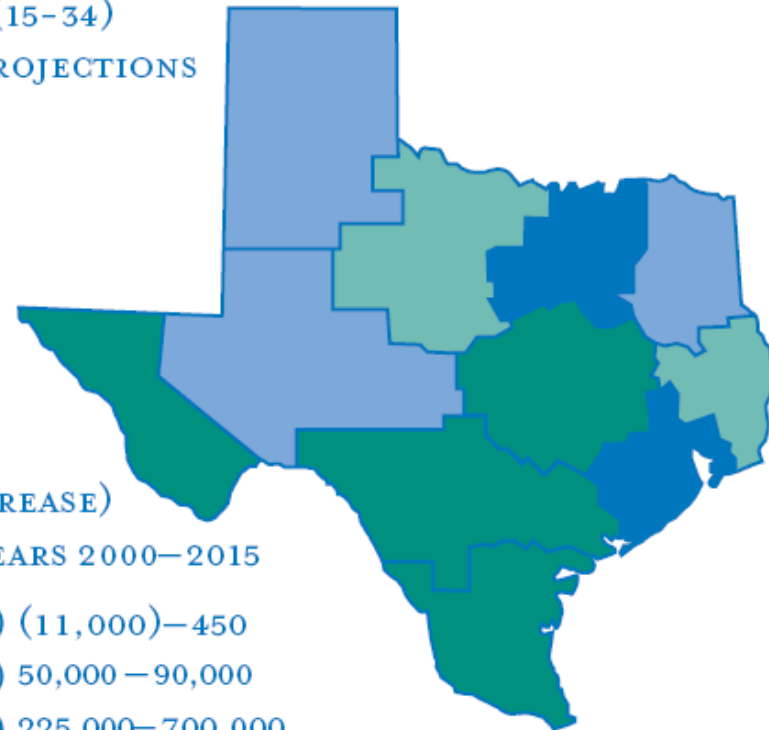
If participation and graduation rates remain low, the poverty rate in Texas will increase by 3 percent and the average Texas household income will decline by \$3,000 in constant dollars by 2030.

— Steve Murdock, Chief Demographer, Texas State Data Center.

COLLEGE AGE (15-34)
POPULATION PROJECTIONS
BY REGION

RANGE OF (DECREASE)
OR INCREASE YEARS 2000—2015

- (11,000)—450
- 50,000—90,000
- 225,000—700,000
- OVER 1,000,000



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GOAL 1: CLOSE THE GAPS IN PARTICIPATION

By 2015, close the gaps in participation rates across Texas to add 500,000 more students.

GOAL 2: CLOSE THE GAPS IN SUCCESS

By 2015, increase by 50 percent the number of degrees, certificates and other identifiable student successes from high quality programs.

GOAL 3: CLOSE THE GAPS IN EXCELLENCE

By 2015, substantially increase the number of nationally recognized programs or services at colleges and universities in Texas.

GOAL 4: CLOSE THE GAPS IN RESEARCH

By 2015, increase the level of federal science and engineering research funding to Texas institutions by 50 percent to \$1.3 billion.



Think Small (and Easy) – Act Now

Host College & Human Services Fairs

Higher Education Literature

Computer Classes

Link To Free Online Tutorials & Preparatory Programs

Reserve Study Space/Computers For Online Learners Use

Contact Technical Schools, Colleges & Universities About Their Online Learning Options



Think BIG as TEXAS – Act Now

Identify High-Need Workforce Development & Create Partnerships

Partner With Business, Health Care, School Districts

Meet With HS Guidance Counselors & United Way Service Providers
To Identify Where Online/Other Success Tools Exist and Where They Need
To Be Developed

Identify f2f and Online Developmental Courses (Math & Composition)

Design a Libraries for Learning Initiative



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Charts, graphs and data from THECB Closing the Gaps

