## North Texas Regional P-16 GAP Analysis for the School Year of 2007-2008



Website: www.coe.unt.edu/NTP16

## Overview

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## The Goals of North Texas Regional

## P-16 Council

- To become the umbrella organization in the north Texas region that advocates for student success across all levels of education;
- To support educational and community initiatives that create a college-going culture, especially among students from underrepresented groups; and
- To develop collaborative relationships and resources that promote education and produce educated citizens who are workforce ready.


## The Member School Districts at a Glance

## Member School Districts



# The Education Service Center (ESC) Regions in Texas 

## Public Education and Higher Education Regions



## Relationship with the Education Service

## Center (ESC) Regions



# Geographic Locations of the 14 School Districts in the Four North Texas Counties 



## The 14 ISDs Can be Classified into Three Types Based on the Total Student Size (2007-08)

Large ISDs (>60,000)

1. Dallas $(157,605)$
2. Fort Worth $(78,732)$

Medium ISDs $(15,000-60,000) \quad$ Small ISDs $(<15,000)$

1. Plano $(53,439)$
2. Mesquite $(36,448)$
3. Richardson $(34,091)$
4. Irving $(32,707)$
5. McKinney $(22,276)$
6. Denton $(20,826)$
7. Duncanville $(12,385)$
8. Wylie $(10,690)$
9. DeSoto $(8,884)$
10. Cedar Hill $(7,831)$
11. Lancaster $(6,180)$
12. Little Elm $(5,371)$

## About 90\% of the Students Were in the Two Large and Six Medium School Districts

## Number of Students in the Three Types of ISDS in the Regional <br> Council in 2007-08



## Number of Schools in the Regional Council in 2007-2008

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Total <br> Enrollment | Number <br> of <br> Schools | No. of <br> Elem <br> Schools | No of <br> Elem/Se <br> condary | No. of <br> High <br> School | Junior <br> High <br> School | No. of <br> Middle <br> School | No. of <br> Other <br> Grade <br> Group |
| State | 4651516 | 8226 | 4377 | 805 | 1461 | 314 | 1253 | 16 |
| Council | 487465 | 714 | 458 | 36 | 91 | 25 | 103 | 1 |

## Distribution of School Types: Different from the State

The North Texas Regional P-16 Council had a higher percentage of elementary schools and a lower percentage of secondary schools, especially high schools, than the state.

Distribution of School Types in the North Texas Region Comparing with the State in 2007-2008


State
Council
$\square$ Elementary School
$\square$ Junior High School
$\square$ Elmentary/Secondary School
$\square$ Middel School
$\square$ High School
$\square$ Other Grade Group

## The Regional Council Represented Approximately 10\% of the Total Students or Schools in Texas



Source: TEA LONESTAR (http://www.lonestarreports.com/)


There were 714 schools in the regional council in 2007-08, about $9 \%$ of the total schools in the state.

The total number of students in 2007-08 in the regional council was 487,465 , about $10.5 \%$ of the total PK-12 student population in the state.

# Put it in the Context: The Demographic Profiles 

## Population Changes in North Texas from 2000 to 2008

The population growth from 2000 to 2008 in Collin and Denton Counties had been about 3 times faster than the state. But Dallas County, the largest one, had been slower than the state.


## Changes on Population Composition in the Eight Years

All of the four counties had declined faster than the state on White. Consequently, all counties had grown faster than the state towards diversity, particularly in African American in Collin County and Hispanic in Dallas County. All but Denton County also had higher change rates on economically disadvantaged than the state.


[^0]
## Ethnic Composition of the Regional Population in 2008

About 60\% of the population in Dallas County were African American and Hispanic. But, Collin and Denton Counties had only about 22\% and 25\%, respectively.

Percentage of Population Distribution by Ethnicity for Selected North Texas Counties in 2008


Source: U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts. 2009

## Economically Disadvantaged (2007) and LEP (2000)

The percentages of economically disadvantaged persons and people speaking language other than English at home in Dallas County were comparable to the state averages, whereas the other three counties were lower than the state on the two indicators.

Population of Low SES and Limited English Language Proficiency in the Selected North Texas Counties


[^1]Source: U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts. 2009

# Summary of the Regional Demography and Changes 

- Although all counties had grown in population from 2000 to 2008, the two small counties (i.e., Collin and Denton Counties) grew much faster than the two large ones (i.e., Dallas and Tarrant Counties).

The four counties in north Texas had grown faster than the state on population diversity from 2000 to 2008.

- Dallas County had the largest percentage of underrepresented population among the four counties, particularly of the Hispanics and the economically disadvantaged.


## The Dynamic Schools

## Students Demographic Profiles in 2007-08

Except for the comparable percentage on Hispanic, the regional council was higher than the state on every other underrepresented group: 11.5\% higher on African American, $5.3 \%$ on low SES, $7.3 \%$ on LEP, about 1\% on Other Minorities. Thus, the regional council was higher than the state on diversity.

Students' Demography between the Regional Council and the State in
2007-2008


## Enrollment Change Rate from 2003 to 2008

Large ISDs slightly shrank, but some small and medium ISDs had rapid growth in the past six years.

The Average Annual Growth Rate of the Total Student Size for the 14 ISDs in the Past Six Years (2003-2008) in Relative to the Size in 2002


## Demographic Changes in the Past Six Years

The regional council had grown faster than the state in African American, Hispanic, and Low SES from 2003 to 2008. The Cedar Hill and DeSoto ISDs had the fastest growth in African American. The Irving and Mesquite ISDs had increased the most in Hispanic. The Mesquite ISD had the largest change in LEP students.

Annual Growth Rate of Pre-K-12 by Demographics for Each ISD in Six Years (from 2003 to 2008)


## The North Texas Regional P-16 Council was below the State on Accountability Ratings in 2007-2008

The regional council was $1.3 \%$ lower on the combination of 'Exemplary' and 'Recognized', 0.5\% lower on 'Academically Acceptable', and 2.4\% higher on 'Academically Unacceptable' than the state.

Comparisons of Accountability Ratings between the Regional Council and the State in 2008


## The Regional Council was below the State on Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2007-2008

The regional council was about 1\% lower on 'Met AYP', and about $3 \%$ higher on 'Missed AYP' than the state in 2007-2008.

Comparisons of AYP Evaluations between the Regional Council and the
State in 2008


## Changes on Accountability Rating from 2004 to 2008

In the state, 'Exemplary' and 'Recognized' had increased about 2.4\% annually, and 'Academically Acceptable' decreased at the yearly rate of $1.5 \%$. But, the regional council was slower on the positive ratings and faster on the negative rating than the state.

The Average Annual Growth Rate of Accountability Ratings by Category for the 14 ISDs in the Past Five Years (2004-2008)

| $3.0 \%$$2.0 \%$$1.0 \%$$0.0 \%$$-1.0 \%$$-2.0 \%$$-3.0 \%$$-4.0 \%$ |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | State | Council |
| $\square$ Exemplary | 1.5\% | 2.2\% |
| $\square$ Recognized | 0.9\% | 0.0\% |
| - Acad Acceptable | -1.5\% | -3.1\% |
| $\square$ Acad Unacceptable | 0.3\% | 1.2\% |

## Net Change on Accountability Ratings from 2004 to 2008

Overall, both the regional council and the state had grown at a positive annual rate from 2004 to 2008. However, the regional council grew slower than the state. Furthermore, six ISDs in the council had a negative annual change rate. Two of them had declined even at an annual rate over 6\%.


Source: TEA LONESTAR (http://www.lonestarreports.com/)
Note: Net change = Exemplary + Recognized - Academically Unacceptable

## Unsatisfactory Changes on AYP Ratings from 2004 to 2008

Both the state and the regional council had a negative annual growth rate on 'Met AYP' and a positive rate on 'Missed AYP.' So did many ISDs in the regional council. But the Lancaster and Little Elm ISDs had remarkably improved on AYP in the last five years.

Annual Growth Rate of Adequate Yearly Progress from 2004 to 2008


## Number of Years Missed AYP from 2004 to 2008

No ISDs missed more than 2 years. Three ISDs missed 2 times and 5 missed once. The other 6 ISDs had always been on target

Number of Years Met or Missed AYP between 2004-2008 for the 14 ISDs


[^2]
## Summary of the Accountability Ratings and the AYP Evaluations

- The North Texas Regional P-16 Council was slightly behind the state on both accountability ratings and AYP evaluations in the school year of 2007-2008.
The annual change rates of the accountability ratings and AYP in the past five years again showed that the regional council had changed slower than the state in the favorable direction.
- The unsatisfactory status and growth on accountability ratings and AYP in the regional council may be largely contributed to some particular ISDs.


## The Focal Data

# Suggested Data Elements for Analysis 

Pre-K - 5th Grade Indicator
High School Success Factors

Middle School Success Factors
Transition to College and TX HE Success Factors
Pre-K K 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th

|  |  |  |  |  | $:$ |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |  | $:$ |  |  |

Pre-K - 5th Grade Indicator:

1. \# Children enrolled in public pre-K (2007-08)
2. \# students meeting standard for $2^{\text {nd }}$ grade by the end of $1^{\text {st }}$ grade assessed by \# $1^{\text {st }}$ graders enrolled in ARI and AMI (2006-07)
3. \# students meet minimum and commended standards on TAKS for Grade 3 Reading, Grade 4 Writing, and Grade 5 Mathematics (2007-08)

Middle School
Success Factors:

1. Distribution of scale TAKS scores for Grade 6 Reading and Math; Grade 7 Reading, Math, and Writing, and Grade 8 Reading, Math, and Science (2007-08)
2. Retention rate for $6^{\text {th }}, 7^{\text {th }}$, and $8^{\text {th }}$ graders (2006-07)

Indicators in italic implies that data for the ethnic and low SES groups were available

High School Success Factors:

1. \# 1st time $9^{\text {th }}$ graders taking 10th grade level course (2006-07)
2. \# 1st time $9^{\text {th }}$ graders advance to 10 th grade on time (2006-07)
3. $12^{\text {th }}$ graders taking advanced coursework (2007-08)
4. Outcomes for the $9^{\text {th }}$ grade cohort (2003-04) that graduated with MHP, RHSP, or DAP; continued, earned GED, dropped out, or as other leavers in 200607

Transition to College and TX HE Success

## Factors:

1. \# high school graduates were college-ready (2006-07)
2. \# high school graduates directly enrolled into HE (2006-07)
3. \# high school graduates earned HE degree or certificate within 6 years (classes of 1999,2000, 2001)

# Modifications from the Previous Data Elements 

Pre-K - 5th Grade Indicator
High School Success Factors

Middle School Success Factors
Transition to College and TX HE Success Factors


Pre-K - 5th Grade Indicator:

1. \# Children epsolled in public pre-K

## Middle School

Success Factors:

1. Distribution of scate TAKS. scores for Grade 7 Writing, and Grade 8 Science
2. \% FTE teachers teaching highschool level courses
$2^{\text {nd }}$ grade by the end of $1^{\text {st }}$ grade assessed by \# $1^{\text {st }}$ graders enrolled in AP andAMI enrolled in AA andAMInged to
\# students meeting standard of $2^{\text {nd }}$ grade by the end of $1^{\text {st }}$ grade assessed by TPRI and DRA
\# Children enrolled in public or private pre-K
3. \# students meeting standard for

High School Success Factors:

1. $\# 1^{\text {st }}$ time $9^{\text {th }}$ graders taking 10th grade level course
\% of middle school students in advanced courses or HS credit courses
2. $\# 1^{\text {st }}$ time $9^{\text {th }}$ graders advance to 10 th grade on time (2006-07) Changed to
\% 9th grade class that earned $\geq 6$ credits in $1^{\text {st }}$ year

Transition to College and TX HE Success
Factors:

No change

## Added Data Elements for Analysis

- To identify the trends, we located and used some additional longitudinal data

Pre-K - 5th Grade Indicator

Middle School Success Factors
High School Success Factors

Transition to College and TX HE Success Factors


Pre-K - 5th Grade
Indicator:

1. \# Children enrolled in public pre-K from 20042008, expanding from on year to 5 years.
2. \# students of passing on TAKS for Grade 3 Reading, Grade 4 Writing, and Grade 5 Mathematics from 20022008, expanding from one year to 6 years.

Middle School
Success Factors:

1. Retention rate for $6^{\text {th }}-12^{\text {th }}$ graders from 2005-2007, expanding one year to 2 years and expanding the grades to 6-12 from 6-8.

High School Success
Factors:

1. High school students graduated with MHP/IEP, RHSP, or DAP from 1997-1998 to 2006-2007

Transition to
College and TX HE
Success Factors:

1. \# high school graduates were college-ready assessed by TSI HE readiness on
English Language Arts and Mathematics from 2004-2008

Plus, (a) Demography in 2008 and changes (2000-2008) in the region
(b) Student's Demography from 2003 to 2008
(c) Accountability and AYP Ratings from 2004 to 2008

## Pre-K-5 Indicator

## Children Enrolled in Public Pre-K (1 of 4)

The number of 4 -year old children enrolled into the public Pre-K in 2007-2008 was proportional to the total PK-12 student size in each ISD. The PK students usually made up of about $2-5 \%$ of the total student size.


## Children Enrolled in Public Pre-K (2 of 4)

Hispanic and African American children accounted for over 90\% of the enrollment in all ISDs but Plano and Wylie. Hispanic was the largest group in all ISDs but the three ones in the African American communities in south Dallas.

Percentage of Public Pre-K Enrollment by Ethnicity in 2007-08


[^3]
## Children Enrolled in Public Pre-K (3 of 4)

In all ISDs but Plano, most of the public pre-K enrolled children were from the low SES families, often over $80 \%$.

Percent of the Public Pre-K Children by SES in 2007-2008


## Children Enrolled in Public Pre-K (4 of 4)

In all ISDs, the public pre-K enrollment had increased in the past five years. The average change rate in the council was $4 \%$. Smaller ISD were likely to have larger growth rates.

The Annual Growth Rate of Public PK Enrollment between 2004 and 2008


[^4]
## Findings on the Public Pre-K Enrollment

- The total enrollment was proportional to the district size.
- The public Pre-K enrollment only made up of 2-5\% of the total Pre-K-12 student size.
- Majority of these children, often over 85\%, were from the disadvantaged families, especially from the Hispanic and low SES families.
- The public Pre-K enrollment had positive growth in the council and all of its member school districts from 2004 to 2008. The average change rate was $4 \%$ in the regional council. But some ISDs had grown twice or even three times fasters than the council as a whole.


## The Implications of the Findings

- The \% of the Pre-K public enrollment was normally 3-5\% less than that for kindergarten. Why so? Where were the children not enrolled into the public PK programs?
- Some of the qualified 4 -year old children may miss the quality public Pre-K education, especially for those in the disadvantaged families.
- How much \% of the Pre-K teachers were from the same or similar cultural background as the children? or how much \% of the teachers were culturally ready for these children, largely from the disadvantaged families?
- We may need more Pre-K teachers culturally sensitive to these minority or economically disadvantaged children.
- We may need inter-district collaborations on the Pre-K teaching staff to balance the uneven growth among the districts within the council.


## $1^{\text {st }}$ graders on grade level (1 of 3 )

The regional council was similar to the state in reading, but it was $6 \%$ lower than the state in mathematics.

Percent of 1st Graders Meeting Standards for 2nd Grade in 2006-2007


## $1^{\text {st }}$ graders on grade level (2 of 3)

The council had $16 \%$ children struggling in reading, similar to the state. But several ISDs had relatively high percentages.

Percent of 1st Graders Struggling in Reading or Mathematics in 2006-07
Reading



## $1^{\text {st }}$ graders on grade level (3 of 3)

The council was $6 \%$ higher than the state, largely due to the high percentages of $1^{\text {st }}$ graders struggling in mathematics in the two largest ISDs.

Percent of 1st Graders Struggling in Reading or Mathematics in 2006-07


## Findings on $1^{\text {st }}$ Graders on Grade Level

- The North Texas Regional P-16 Council had over 6,000 of 1st graders struggling in reading or mathematics in 20062007.
- Whereas majority of the 1st grade students met the standards for 2 nd grade by the end of 1st grade, there were still $16 \%$ of children not being on grade level in either reading or mathematics in the regional council.
- The regional council was $6 \%$ higher than the state on the ratio of children struggling in mathematics. However, it was comparable to the state in reading.
- Some ISDs had consistently high or low percentages on both reading and mathematics. Others had a high percentage of struggling children on one subject area, but a low ratio on another subject.


## The Implications of the Findings

- It is critical to keep all children in the education pipeline from the beginning. These $16 \%$ children need special helps to catch up with the peers.
- We need to focus more on mathematics, particularly in the two largest districts.
- We need to identify the best practices in the ARI and AMI programs for first graders at the district or campus level. Such an effort is particularly important and instrumental to other districts or campuses in vicinity with similar general population and/or student demographics, but with high struggling percentages.


## 3rd graders in Reading TAKS (1 of3)

The regional council was about 4-5\% below the state on both standards. ISDs with higher percentages of meeting the minimum standards generally also had higher percentage on meeting the commended standards.

Percent of 3rd Graders Meeting the Passing and Commended Standards of TAKS in Reading in 2007-2008



Total \% of Meeting Standards

- Total \% of Commended


## 3rd graders in Reading TAKS (2 of 3)

The regional council collectively was $4 \%$ lower than the state, primarily due to the low performances in the African American, Hispanic, and low SES groups. The White and Asian groups were similar to the counterparts in the state population.

Percent of Meeting the Passing Standards in Grade 3 TAKS Reading in 2007-2008


## 3rd graders in Reading TAKS (3 of 3)

Similar conclusions to those on meeting the minimum passing standards can be drawn from the graph below on meeting the commended standards.

Percent of Meeting the Commended Standards in Grade 3 TAKS in Reading in 2007-2008


Source: TEA AEIS Reports2007-2008

## Findings on G3 Reading and Implications

## Findings

> The regional council had about $16 \%$ third graders with difficulty in passing the minimum standards.
$>$ Our council was 4\% higher in the lower bound ( $\leq 2100$ ) and $5 \%$ lower in the upper bound ( $\geq 2400$ ) than the state.
> The lower percentages in the council were primarily contributory to the low performances of the African American, Hispanic, and low SES groups.
$>$ The differences between the three low performance groups and the two high ones were more evident in the low performance ISDs.
> The two largest ISDs in the council had the lowest percentages on meeting both of the standards.

## - Implication

- Focus on the three low performance groups and the two low performance ISDs, especially the African American, Hispanic, and low SES third graders in the two largest ISDs.


## 4th graders in Writing TAKS (1 of 3)

The regional council was about $2-3 \%$ below the state on the two standards. The high/low performance ISDs on meeting the minimum standards usually also were high/low on meeting the commended standards.

Percent of 4th Graders Meeting the Passing and Commended Standards in Writing in 2008


## 4th graders in Writing TAKS (2 of 3)

The African American, Hispanic, and low SES groups were lower than the other two groups, and their low performances were the primary sources of lower percentage in the regional council.


Source: TEA AEIS Reports2007-2008

## 4th graders in Writing TAKS (3 of 3)

Only $27 \%$ fourth graders met the commended standards in the regional council, 3\% lower than the state. African American, Hispanic, and low SES groups were notably lower than the other two groups, and their low performances were the primary sources of lower percentage in the regional council.

Percents of Meeting the Commended Standards in Grade 4 TAKS Writing by Demographic Variables in 2008


## Findings on G4 Writing and Implications

$>$ Findings
$>10 \%$ fourth graders were at-risk in writing, $2 \%$ higher than the state.
> Only 27\% met the commended standards, 3\% lower than the state
> The Hispanic and low SES groups had the lowest percentages on meeting both standards at the council and state level
$>$ The low percentages on meeting the two standards in the low performance ISDs were no longer confined to any particular groups, as in Grade 3 reading.
$>$ Implications
$>$ For the low performance ISD: Work on all children in all groups.
$>$ For other ISDs: Focus on the Hispanic and low SES groups

## 5th graders in Math TAKS (1 of 4)

The regional council was $3 \%$ and $1 \%$ lower than the state on the two standards, respectively. ISDs with high/low \% on meeting the minimum standards typically also had high/low \% on meeting the commended standards. Additionally, the gaps among the ISDS in G5 math appeared to be wider than those in Grade 3 reading or Grade 4 writing.

Percent of 5th Graders Meeting the Passing and Commended Standards in Mathematics in 2008


State Council CedarHill Dallas Denton DeSotoDuncanvilleFt Worth Irving LancasterLittle ElnMcKinneyMesquite Plano Richardson Wylie

## 5th graders in Math TAKS (2 of 4)

The performances in Grade 5 mathematics in the 14 ISDs were more disparate than those in Grade 3 reading or Grade 4 writing. The percentages on meeting the commended standards in the high performance ISDs were even close to ratios of meeting the passing standards in the low performance districts.

Percent of 5th Graders Meeting the Passing and Commended Standards in Math in the State, Regional Council, and Districts in 2008


## 5th graders in Math TAKS (3 of 4)

In both the state and the council, African American had the lowest percent age on meeting the two standards, followed by the low SES group, and then by the Hispanic group. These three groups were remarkably lower than the other two groups, as in Grade 3 reading or Grade 4 writing.

Percents of Meeting the Passing Standards in Grade 5 TAKS Math Test in 2007-2008


## 5th graders in Math TAKS (4 of 4)

Similar to the finding on the previous slide on meeting the passing standards.

Percents of Meeting the Commended Standards in Grade 5 TAKS Math Test in 2008


[^5]
## Findings on Grade 5 Mathematics

> The regional council had about one fifth (19\%) of 5th graders being at-risk in mathematics, 3\% higher than the state.
$>$ The lower percentage in the council on meeting the passing standards was primarily contributory to the low performances of the African American, Hispanic, and low SES groups
$>$ The African American group had the lowest percentages on both standards.
> The group differences on ethnicity or district within the council on the Grade 5 mathematics TAKS test appeared to be wider than those on the other two TAKS tests.
> The ISDs with an overall low percentage generally had low percentages in the individual groups as well.

## Implications of the Findings on G5 Math

$>$ We need to concentrate on:
o the $\mathbf{1 9 \%}$ students who did not pass the minimum standards,
o the five low performance districts,
o the African American, Hispanic, and low SES students.
o particularly, the African American or Hispanic students from the low SES families in the low performance districts.
$>$ Find out what the other ISDs demographically similar to the low performance ones but with relatively high \% did, and share the best practices.

## Summary on the Elementary Graders' TAKS Performances in 2007-2008

- Overall, the regional council was slightly lower than the state on meeting both the minimum and commended performance standards in Grade 3 reading, Grade 4 writing, and Grade 5 mathematics.
- The lower percentages in the council were largely related to low performances of the African American, Hispanic, and low SES students in the low performance districts.
- There were wide differences among the ISDs in the regional council. ISDs with high or low percentages on one standard were typically high or low on another standard. But there were some exceptions. Roughly, it appeared that there were four groups of ISDs within the regional council:
- Consistently high
- Consistently low
- Around the average
- Inconsistent (not consistent across the grades, subject areas, or standards)


## Track the change - For Grade 3 Reading

An example: On how to get the points on the next three slides
The Changing Trend on Meeting the Passing Standards on Grade 3 Reading between 2003 and 2008 for All Students


## Track the change - Grade 3 Reading

The state, Region 10, and most of the 14 ISDs in the regional council improved at a rate about $0.5 \%$ over the last six years on meeting the minimum standards. Hispanic had grown the fastest.

Change Rate of Grade 3 Reading - Meeting the Minimum
Passing Standard by Demographics in Six Years (2003-2008)


## Track the change - Grade 4 Writing

The state, Regions 10 and 11, and 10 ISDs had improved at the rate about $1.5 \%$ over the last six years on meeting the minimum standards. Hispanic and Low SES had a rate > $1.5 \%$ in 12 ISDs.

Change Rate of Grade 4 Writing - Meeting the Minimum Passing Standard by Demographics in Six Years (2003-2008)


## Track the change - Grade 5 Math

The state, Regions 10 and 11, and all ISDs had positive growth over the last six years. African American and Hispanic had higher rates than White. Male improved faster than female.

Change Rate of Grade 5 Mathematics - Meeting the
Minimum Passing Standard by Demographics in Six Years (2003-2008)


## The Trends on G3 Reading, G4 Writing, and G5 Mathematics from 2003 to 2008

- The state, the two local ESC regions, and most of the 14 ISDs had grown over the six-year period although the average annual change rates were usually less than $2 \%$.
- The low performance entities or groups generally had higher annual growth rates than those with relatively high percentages. For instance,
- Region 10 > Region 11
- Low performance districts > high performance ISDs
- Hispanic, African American, and low SES > White
- Male > Female in English language arts


## Implications of the Trends

- Overall, the trend analysis indicates the gap had been gradually closing between the districts or groups in the desired direction.
- Two important exceptions to the trends
- Male had faster annual growth rates than female in Grade 5 mathematics, implying the gap on mathematics ha been widened.
- Some low performance districts did not demonstrate high annual growth rates.
- Practical implications:
- Special policies, programs, or measures need to be designed and implemented at the state, ESC region, and district level to help the female students on mathematics.
- The low performance ISDs with lower annual growth rates may benefit from the experiences in the neighboring districts with similar demographic characteristics, but with higher rates.
- The high performance groups/districts should not be ignored while our focus has been on the low performance ones.


## Middle School Success Factors

## Grades 6-8 TAKS Scale Score in 2007-08 (1 of 3)

- The council was mathematically lower than the state


## The regional council appeared to be lower than the state in all of the eight TAKS tests.

The Mean Scores on Secondary School TAKS between the Council and the State in 2008


[^6]
## Grades 6-8 TAKS Scale Score in 2007-08 (2 of 3)

- The council was statistically lower than the state

The regional council was statistically lower than the state across the TAKS tests at the . 001 level, except for that in Grade 6 mathematic at the .01 level.

|  | Council |  |  | State |  |  | Whitney- <br> Mann U <br> Test | Finding |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | N | M | SD | N | M | SD | Z |  |
| G6-M | 30670 | 2291.4 | 263.2 | 302450 | 2295.04 | 250.86 | 2.80** | Council < State |
| G6-R | 30564 | 2348.99 | 222.85 | 301507 | 2353.62 | 218.85 | 3.68*** | Council < State |
| G7-M | 31156 | 2208.1 | 186.67 | 303645 | 2223.7 | 183.04 | 15.18*** | Council < State |
| G7-R | 31145 | 2256.45 | 189.26 | 303631 | 2264.5 | 185.57 | $7.45 * * *$ | Council < State |
| G7-W | 31127 | 2317.79 | 194.05 | 302049 | 2335.9 | 186.62 | 17.68*** | Council < State |
| G8-M | 29398 | 2225.72 | 211.56 | 295875 | 2236.79 | 202.34 | 10.98*** | Council < State |
| G8-R | 29780 | 2343.27 | 204.99 | 298874 | 2354.73 | 198.67 | 8.89*** | Council < State |
| G8-S | 28974 | 2186.24 | 254.55 | 291120 | 2205.71 | 247.58 | 14.44*** | Council < State |

Note: $1 . \mathrm{G}=$ Grade, $\mathrm{M}=$ Mathematics, $\mathrm{R}=$ Reading, $\mathrm{S}=$ Science
2. The mean scaled scores were weighted by frequency.


## Grades 6-8 TAKS Scale Score in 2007-08 (3 of 3)

- The council was not only lower in means, but also performed worse on the percentile rank points for the scores of 2100 and 2400 than the state

In all of the cases but 6th grade mathematics at the score of 2400 , the state outperformed the council. The percentile rank difference was usually larger at the score of 2100 than that at the score of 2400 . In addition, the differences appeared larger in mathematics and science than in reading and writing (Only G6 math is presented here, refer to the gap analysis report for details).

| Percent Over the Percentile Rank of the |
| :---: |
| Scale Scores of 2100 and 2400 in the |
| State apd the Council in 2008 |

4.6-Mathematics | Advantages of the State over the Regional |
| :---: |
| Councilon the Percentile Ranks of the |
| Scale Scores of 2100 and 2400 in 2008 |

## Summary of the Findings on the Grades 6-8

## TAKS Tests in 2007-08

- The regional council was statistically lower than the state on all of the eight TAKS tests, usually at the . 001 level, but with trivial or small effect sizes.
- Both the state and the regional council performed better in English language arts than in mathematics and science.
- The regional council had higher percentages of students not meeting the passing standards and lower percentages of students meeting the commended standards than the state.
- The percentile rank differences between the regional council and the state were generally larger in mathematics and science than in English reading and writing.


# Implications of the Findings on the Grades 6-8 

## TAKS Tests in 2007-08

- Focus more on mathematics and science than on English reading and writing, especially for the 7-8th graders.

As the regional council had higher percentage of students scoring less than 2100 than the state, we need to put more effort into these low achievers.

We also need to increase the percentages on meeting the commended standards as they were typically lower than 25\%.

- Need to identify and help the low performance districts.


# Grades 6-12 Retention Rates (Repeating Grade) in 2006 and 2007 (1 of 9) 

Middle-school grades had low retention rates. High-school grades had relatively high retention rates. The peak appeared to be at Grade 9.

Retention Rates in All Students by Grade in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007
State


## Grades 6-12 Retention Rates in 2006 and 2007(2 of 9)

Region 10 and Region 11 were similar to the state. The change pattern over the two years was also similar to the state, slightly declining in all grades but Grade 12.

Retention Rates in All Students by Grade in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007
Region 10


Retention Rates in All Students by Grade in 2005-2006 and 2006-2007
Region 11


## Grade 6 Retention Rate in 2006 and 2007 (3 of 9)

Most ISDs generally had retention rates less than $2 \%$ in Grade 6. Also majority of the ISDs had reduced the retention rates from 2005-2006 to 2006-2007. But exceptions existed.

Overall Retention Rate at Grades 6-12 by ISD in 2005-2007

Grade 6


Source: Texas Education Agency, Grade-Level Retention Data, 2005-2006 and 2006-2007

## Grade 7 Retention Rate in 2006 and 2007 (4 of 9)

## Most ISDs had retention rates less than 5\% ion Grade 7. In addition, nine ISDs had reduced the retention rates from 2005-2006 to 2006-2007.

Overall Retention Rate at Grades 6-12 by ISD in 2005-2007
Grade 7


Source: Texas Education Agency, Grade-Level Retention Data, 2005-2006 and 2006-2007

## Grade 8 Retention Rate in 2006 and 2007 (5 of 9)

Most ISDs generally had retention rates less than 4\% at Grade 8. In addition, only two ISDs had considerably higher retention rate in 2005-2006 than that in 2006-2007.

Overall Retention Rate at Grades 6-12 by ISD in 2005-2007
Grade 8


## Grade 9 Retention Rate in 2006 and 2007 (6 of 9)

The retention rates in the state and the two regions in Grade 9 were around $15 \%$ for the two school years. Some ISDs had noticeably higher rates than the region average. Most ISDs had improved on retention in the two years.

Overall Retention Rate at Grades 6-12 by ISD in 2005-2007
Grade 9


Source: Texas Education Agency, Grade-Level Retention Data, 2005-2006 and 2006-2007

## Grade 10 Retention Rate in 2006 and 2007 (7 of 9)

The retention rates in the state and the two local ESC regions in Grade 10 were around 8\% in the two school years. Three ISDs had higher rates than the state or region average. Most ISDs had reduced the retention rate from 2006 to 2007.


Source: Texas Education Agency, Grade-Level Retention Data, 2005-2006 and 2006-2007

## Grade 11 Retention Rate in 2006 and 2007 (8 of 9)

The retention rates in the state and the two regions in Grade 11 were around $6 \%$ in the two school years. Most ISDs had reduced the retention rates from 2006 to 2007.

Overall Retention Rate at Grades 6-12 by ISD in 2005-2007
Grade 11


Source: Texas Education Agency, Grade-Level Retention Data, 2005-2006 and 2006-2007

## Grade 12 Retention Rate in 2006 and 2007 (9 of 9)

The retention rates in the state and the two regions in Grade 12 were around $7 \%$ in the two school years. Half of the ISDs had improved the retention rates within the two years.

Overall Retention Rate at Grades 6-12 by ISD in 2005-2007
Grade 12


## Summary of Findings on Retention Rate

- Grades 6-8 had low retention rates, usually less than $3 \%$. Highschool level had relatively high retention rates. The peak occurred at Grade 9, typically around 15\% in the state, the two ESC regions, and most of the 14 ISDs. The rates in $10-12^{\text {th }}$ grades were typically about half of the pike in the $9^{\text {th }}$ grade.
- Retention rates from 2006 to 2007 generally had declined.
- The African American, Hispanic, low SES, and male groups had higher retention rates than the White and female groups.
- Whereas the two regions had similar patterns on the retention rates across the grades and on the change trend across the school years, remarkable variations existed in the ISDs. Some districts demonstrated consistently high retention rates.


## Implications of the Findings on Retention Rate

We need to concentrate on :

- the African American, Hispanic, Low SES, and male groups;
- the high-school grades, particularly the 9th grade;
- The school districts with relatively high rates across the grades and the school years.


## High School Success Factors

## 9th Graders Taking 10 Grade Level Courses

The percentages of $9^{\text {th }}$ graders taking 10 grade level courses for the Asian/Pacific Islander and White groups were generally double of those for the African and Hispanic counterparts.

Percent of 9th Graders Taking 10 Grade Level Courses in 2007-08 by ISD


## $9^{\text {th }}$ Graders Advanced to 10 th Grade On Time

At least $70 \%$ first time $9^{\text {th }}$ graders advanced to $10^{\text {th }}$ grade on time in all of the groups at each ISD. But the percentages for the Asian/Pacific Islander and White students were generally higher than those for other groups. African American students appeared to have higher \% than the Hispanic peers.


Source: Texas Education Agency, PEIMS Reports 2006-2007

## $12^{\text {th }}$ Graders Taking Advanced Courseworks

Overall, only a small percentage of $12^{\text {th }}$ graders took advanced courses in the regional council. But many ISDs had missing data. Thus, the findings were not conclusive.

Percent of 12th Graders Taking Advanced Coursework in 2007-208 by ISD


Source: Texas Education Agency, PEIMS Reports 2006-2007

## Outcomes of the $9^{\text {th }}$ Grade Cohort (1 of 7 - on MHP)

The percentage of the 9th grader cohort graduated on MHP (Minimum High School Plan) was less than $15 \%$ in most of the ISDs. The African American group had the highest percentage. The White and Asian/Pacific Island groups were lower than the other three groups.

Percent of the 9 th grade cohort of 2003-2004 in different categories of outcomes in 2006-2007
Received MHP


[^7]
## Outcomes of the 9 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Grade Cohort (2 of 7 on RHSP)

All groups in the councils had relatively high percentages on RHSP (Recommended High School Plan), ranged from 52\% to $65 \%$. But there were wide differences in the individual groups.

Percent of the 9th grade cohort of 2003-2004 in different categories of outcomes in 2006-2007
Received RHSP


Source: Texas Education Agency, PEIMS Reports 2006-2007

## Outcomes of the $9^{\text {th }}$ Grade Cohort (3 of 7 - on DAP)

Overall, only a small percentage of students in the $9^{\text {th }}$ grade cohort graduated on DAP (Distinguished Achievement Program). The Asian/Pacific Islander group appeared to be higher than the other four groups in the council.

Percent of the 9th grade cohort of 2003-2004 in different categories of outcomes in 2006-2007
Received DAP


Source: Texas Education Agency, PEIMS Reports 2006-2007

## Outcomes of the $9^{\text {th }}$ Grade Cohort (4 of 7 on Continuers)

The Hispanic group had the largest percentage of continuers, followed by the low SES and African American groups. The percentages for the other two groups were less than 4\%.

Percent of the 9 th grade cohort of 2003 -2004 in different categories of outcomes in 2006-2007
Continuers


Source: Texas Education Agency, PEIMS Reports 2006-2007

## Outcomes of the $9^{\text {th }}$ Grade Cohort (5 of 7 on GED)

Overall, a very small percentage of the graduates in the $9^{\text {th }}$ grade cohort received GED, at most 4.2\% for the low SES group in the McKinney ISD. The White group appeared to have a relatively higher percentage than the other four groups.

Percent of the 9 th grade cohort of 2003-2004 in different categories of outcomes in 2006-2007
Received GED


[^8]
## Outcomes of the $9^{\text {th }}$ Grade Cohort (6 of 7 on Dropout)

The dropout rate was relatively high in the African American, Hispanic, and Low SES groups, around 20\%.

Percent of the Oth grade cohort of 2003-2004 in different categories of outcomes in 2006-2007
Dropped Out


Source: Texas Education Agency, PEIMS Reports 2006-2007

## Outcomes of the $9^{\text {th }}$ Grade Cohort (7 of 7 on <br> Completion Rate I)

Every group in the council had the rate over 75\%. The White and Asian/Pacific Islander groups were around $95 \%$. The Mesquite and Wylie ISDs were over $85 \%$ in all of the six groups.


## Summary of Findings on the $9^{\text {th }}$ Grade Cohort of

## 2003-04

- Majority of the students graduated on RHSP and few numbers of graduates received GED in each group in the regional council.
- However, there were group differences on other outcomes.
- The African American, Hispanic, and low SES groups had relatively higher percentages on the categories of MHP, continuers, and dropout.
- The White and Asian/Pacific Islander groups were higher than the other three groups on DAP.
- The Completion Rate I was over 75\% for each group in the council. But the Asian/Pacific Islander and White groups were much higher than the other three groups, above or approaching to 95\%,


# Implications of the Findings on the $9^{\text {th }}$ Grade Cohort 

 of 2003-04Identify the target groups with unsatisfactory performances for improvement in each district

- Learn from these districts which had high percentages on the positive outcomes and low percentages on the negative outcomes.


## HS Graduates on MHP/IEP, RHSP, and DAP in Ten Years (1 of 5)

## The annual growth rate for high school students graduated on MHP/IEP, RHSP, and DAP in Texas was about $5 \%,-5 \%$, and $0 \%$, respectively.

The Changes of High School Students Graduates with RHSP, MHP/IEP, or DAP between 1997-1998 and 2006-2007


[^9]
## HS Graduates on MHP/IEP, RHSP, and DAP in Ten Years (2 of 5)

## The annual growth rate on MHP/IEP, RHSP, and DAP in the north

 Texas regional council was about $6 \%,-6 \%$, and $-1 \%$, respectively. The council was better than the state on MHP/IEP and RHSP, but was slightly worse than the state on DAP.The Changes of High School Students Graduates with RHSP, MHP/IEP, or DAP between 1997-1998 and 2006-2007 Council


Source: Texas PK-16 Public Education Information Resources: High School Graduates Longitudinal Analysis

## HS Graduates on MHP/IEP, RHSP, and DAP in Ten Years (3 of 5)

## All ISDs had reduced the ratio of graduates on MHP/IEP. The

 Lancaster, Cedar Hill, and Dallas ISDs were the top three improvers.

[^10]
## HS Graduates on MHP/IEP, RHSP, and DAP in Ten Years (4 of 5)

All ISDs had increased the percentage of graduates on RHSP. The Lancaster, Cedar Hill, and Dallas ISDs again were the top three improvers.

Average Annual Growth Rate of High School Graduation Plans between 1998 and 2007 RHSP


Source: Texas PK-16 Public Education Information Resources: High School Graduates Longitudinal Analysis

## HS Graduates on MHP/IEP, RHSP, and DAP in Ten Years (5 of 5)

Most of the ISDs, like the state and the regional council, did not change too much on DAP.

Average Annual Growth Rate of High School Graduation Plans between 1998 and 2007


[^11]
## Summary of Findings on Diploma Types

- The state, the regional council, and all of the 14 school districts had positive annual growth rates on RHSP.
- All had reduced the percentages of graduates on MHP/IEP.
- All but the Cedar Hill ISD had either no change or small negative change rates on DAP. The Cedar Hill ISD had the largest annual growth rate of $1 \%$ in the regional council.
- $\quad$ Some districts improved faster than others. The Cedar Hill ISD overall had the largest improvement across the diploma type in the regional council. The Lancaster and Dallas ISDs also had relatively faster improvement on RHSP and MHP/IEP than the other districts in the council.


## Implications of the Findings on Diploma Types

The public high schools in Texas have not paid enough attention to the academically high achievers. We need to increase the annual growth rate on DAP as well, while we keep improving the rates on RHSP and MHP/IEP.

- The districts with outstanding improvement in the regional council may serve as the role models for other ISDs with low rates of improvement, especially for those in vicinity with similar school/district characteristics.


# Transition to College and Higher Education Success Factors 

## College-Ready (1 of 6)

The state and the regional council on college-ready for HS graduates in 2007 was about $37 \%$. However, there were large differences among the ISDs. The percentage of enrollment into the TX HE institutions was higher than the percentage of collegeready for HS graduates in all ISDs but the three high performance ones (i.e., McKinney, Plano, and Richardson).

Percent of College-Ready in Both English Language Arts and Mathematics and Enrollment in Texas Higher Education for the High

School Graduates in the Regional Council in 2007


[^12]
## College-Ready (2 of 6)

The order of college-ready in the state by ethnicity was Asian/Pacific Islanders, White, Hispanic, and African American. Female was slightly higher than male. The percentage for the low SES group was low as well. The individual group and the collective groups had improved about $2 \%$ over the two years.

Percent of High School Graduates College-Ready in English Language Arts by Demographics for Classes of 2006 and 2007 State


## College-Ready (3 of 6)

Region 10 and Region 11 had similar percentages of college-ready in most of the individual groups. Both were higher than the corresponding groups in the state. The patterns of group differences were similar to that in the state. The two regions had also increased the percentage as the state in both the collective and individual groups from 2006 to 2007.

Percent of High School Graduates College-Ready in English Language Arts by Demographics for Classes of 2006 and 2007 Region 10


Percent of High School Graduates College-Ready in English Language Arts by Demographics for Classes of 2006 and 2007
Region 11


[^13]
## College-Ready (4 of 6)

The state and the two regions had about 2\% increase in in the collective and individual groups from 2006 to 2007. The Hispanic and low SES groups had relatively large improvement. The Little Elm ISD had the largest increase rate in the region, but the improvement was largely from the female and White groups.

Comparison of the Growth Rates of High School Graduates Being College-Ready between the State and the ISDs in Councils 7 and 30 on Both English Language Arts and

Mathematics for Classes of 2007 and 2006


## College-Ready (5 of 6)

The annual growth rates over the five years on English language arts in the state, Region 10, and Region 11 were $6.9 \%, 6.4 \%$, and $7.4 \%$, respectively. The White group appeared to have the largest growth rate in the six individual groups. The Cedar Hill and Richardson ISDs had the largest increase rates.

> Comparison of the Growth Rate of High School Graduates Meeting TSI's Higher Education Readiness Standard on English Language Arts in 5 Years (2004-2008)


## College-Ready (6 of 6)

The annual growth rates over the five years on mathematics in the state, Region 10, and Region 11 were $3.1 \%, 3.3 \%$, and $3.1 \%$, respectively. The Hispanic group appeared to have the largest growth rate. The Cedar Hill, Lancaster, and Dallas ISDs appeared to have the largest overall increase rate.

Comparison of the Growth Rate of High School Graduates Meeting TSI's Higher Education Readiness Standard on Mathematics in 5 Years (2004-2008)


## Summary of Findings on College-Ready

- The percentages of college-ready in both English language arts and mathematics were generally less than $40 \%$ in the state, the regional council or Regions 10 and 11, and most of the member school districts.
- The percentage of enrollment into higher education was generally higher than that of college-ready, especially in the low performance districts.
- The North Texas Regional P-16 Council or Regions 10 and 11 were comparable to the state on college readiness although they were general lower than the state on other indicators in the earlier grades.
- The change trend was positive over time.

There were variations on the growth rate in the individual groups or districts. However, the Hispanic and the low SES groups appeared to have relatively faster improvement rates than the other four groups across the college-ready indicators and subject areas.

## Implications of the Findings on College-Ready

Over half of the high school graduates were not collegeready. What are the challenges for these graduates to prepare for the high-tech society after leaving high school?

- Some of the high school graduates were still enrolled into higher education even though were not academically ready. How to ensure these students have a successful higher education live and be ready for the job market after graduation becomes a great challenge for the institutions admitted them.
- The variation of the growth rates on college-ready in the districts/groups helps us to identify the target groups for further improvement and learn from the better performed ones.


## Enrolled in Higher Education Institutions

More than half of the HS graduates were not trackable or not found in the Texas higher education institutions for the regional council. There were about 22\% of the 2001-2002 HS graduates in the following fall enrolled in TX higher education and about 18.5\% enrolled in the local community college. Thus, there were only less than $4 \%$ of the graduates enrolled in Texas higher education institutions outside north Texas. In short, of those students trackable, most of the HS graduates in the north Texas region were enrolled into either 4-year universities or local community colleges.


[^14]About half of the high school graduates were nontrackable or not found in Texas higher education system.

- For those enrolled in higher education in Texas, the order from high to low was: 4-year universities, local community colleges, and other community colleges in remote locations in Texas.
- Four ISDs (Dallas, Irving, Lancaster, Mesquite, and Wylie) had higher percentage of enrollment in local community colleges than in 4 -year universities.
- The enrollment rate in other community colleges was typically less than 5\%.


## Implication of the Findings on Higher Education Enrollment

How to reduce the percentage of non-trackable or not found?

- Some community colleges have low admission criteria or an open-door policy. What are the best practices to help the admitted students successfully complete the higher education in such type of colleges? How distance education may impact the low enrollment percentage in remote community colleges?


## Graduation from the Texas Higher Education Institutions (1 of 4)

The percentages of getting degree/certificate from TX High Ed institutions in 2006-2007 for those not starting HE immediately in the classes of 1999, 2000, and 2001 in the state and the regional council were $3.1 \%$ and $2.5 \%$, respectively. But the \% of getting the baccalaureate degree in the regional council was higher than that in the state.

Percent o Receeving DegreeCCertificiet for Three Types of College Sateres inthe Classe of 1090, 2000, and 2001
Did not start inmediately


[^15]
## Graduation from the Texas Higher Education Institutions (2 of 4)

The regional council was $5 \%$ lower than the state on getting degree/certificate from TX High Ed institutions in 2006-2007 for those started with 2-year in the classes of 1999, 2000, and 2001. Whereas certificate ranked $2^{\text {nd }}$ and associate degree had the least $\%$ in the state, high school graduates in the regional council seemed to be favorite of the baccalaureate or associate degrees to certificates.

Percent of Receiving Degree/Certificate for Three Types of College Starters in the Classes of 1909, 2000, and 2001
Started with 2-jear


[^16]
## Graduation from the Texas Higher Education Institutions (3 of 4)

The regional council was about 7\% higher than the state on getting degree/certificate from TX High Ed institutions in 2006-2007 for those started with 4 -year in the classes of 1999, 2000, and 2001. Those 4 -year starters predominantly got the baccalaureate degree, no matter either at the state, council, or district level.

Perennt of Receving DegreelCertificiet for Three Types of College Staters in the Classes of 1999, 2000, and 2001
Started with 4-jear


[^17]
## Graduation from the Texas Higher Education Institutions (4 of 4)

The overall percentage of getting degree/certificate from TX High Ed institutions in 20062007 for all HS graduates in the classes of 1999, 2000, and 2001 in both the state and the regional council was about $22 \%$. But different from the state, certificate had the lowest percentage in all of the 14 ISD in the regional council.

Pereant of Receiving DegreelCerifificter for Three Types of College Staters in the Classes of 1 109, 2000, and 2001
Total


[^18]Summary of Findings on Percentage of Receiving Degree/Certificate

- The over percentage of receiving degree/certificate was only about $22 \%$ in both the state and the regional council for high school graduates in the classes of 1999-2001. It is about half of the $44 \%$ higher education enrollment rate in the class of 2001-2002 in the regional council.
- Almost $73 \%$ of the graduates started at 2-year did not receive a degree or certificate within 6 years.
- The regional council and the state had similar overall percentages on receiving degree/certificate in the cohort.
- The lowest percentage on certificate across the districts in the regional council indicates that the graduates in north Texas were less interested in technical certificates than the peers in the state.


## Degree/Certificate

- Some enrolled students did not complete their higher education on time, or discontinued in the process. How to ensure all enrolled high school graduates finish their higher education successfully on time?
- It is a more critical issue for community colleges as almost $73 \%$ of the graduates started at 2-year did not receive a degree or certificate. What are the best practices in community colleges to help students graduate on time with an associate degree or certificate?
- The north Texas graduates were less interested in the job market-oriented certificate. Is this a concern?


## Regional H.E. Institutions: Tarrant County (9)



# Regional H.E. Institutions: Dallas County (15) 



## Regional H.E. Institutions: North Dallas, Collin, and Denton Counties (10)



## Where Did They Get Their Bacc Degree?

Six universities consistently offered relatively large percentages of baccalaureate degree to the graduates, originally from the 14 ISDs in the North Texas Regional P-16 Council: UT Austin, UT Arlington, UT Dallas, Texas A\&M, Texas Tech, and UNT. Among them, UT Austin, UNT, and Texas A\&M. conferred over half of the degrees to the graduates originally from the local regional council.

Percent of Baccalaureate Degree Received from Texas Universities in the Classes of 1999-2001


## Summary of Findings on Universities That Offered the Degree

- The graduates of the classes of 1999-2001 in the North Texas Regional P-16 Council received their baccalaureate degrees from 35 universities in Texas. However, almost $80 \%$ of the degrees were offered by the six public universities: Texas A\& M, Texas Tech, UNT, UT Arlington, UT Austin, and UT Dallas.
- The giant three - UT Austin, UNT, and Texas A\&M, had consistently higher percentage across the districts. The three universities accounted over $50 \%$ of the degrees.
- Reputations - UT Austin, Texas A\&M, and Texas Tech. The three prestigious universities offered over $40 \%$ of the degree even though they are not located in the DFW area.
- Convenience - UTD, UTA, or UNT. Each offered more degrees to the graduates in their own local areas.


# Implications of the Findings on Universities That Offered the 

## Degree

What are the factors influencing high school graduates choose the universities?

- How to build a win-win relationships on undergraduate enrollment between the rivalrous universities? How will the widespread computing technology-based distance education impact the undergraduate enrollment and graduation from higher education?


## Recommendations - Public Pre-K Enrollment

1. In order to have more qualified children enrolled in the quality Pre-K programs, we need to increase the community awareness on the importance of early childhood education, especially in the parents from nontraditional families.
2. Foster the partnership between the Head Start programs, private Pre-K programs, the public Pre-K programs to improve the reading, mathematics, and science instructions at the Pre-K level.

## Recommendations - Elementary Education

1. Work with the districts with relatively high percentages of first graders struggling in both reading and mathematics, to implement more effective intervention programs.
2. Identify the schools/campuses that had succeeded with large percentage of African American, Hispanic, and economically disadvantaged 3rd-5th grade students or with significant improvement in these three groups. Search for the critical success factors, and share the best practices.
3. Find the effective strategies to curb or narrow the widened gap in mathematics between the male and female students.

## Recommendations - Secondary Education

1. Identify the districts/campuses or individual groups that ranked high in middle school TAKS indicators, and share their successful stories with those having similar characteristics but with low performances.
2. Study the effectiveness of repeating grade, and identify the critical factors for effective retention programs.
3. Investigate the critical factors influencing the first time 9th or 12 th graders taking advanced courses, and share the best practices.
4. Explore the factors that lead to low percentage and stagnant growth of the graduation plan on DAP.

## Recommendations - Postsecondary Education

1. Identify the critical factors that influence college readiness in the African American, Hispanic, and low SES students.
2. Investigate the reasons why the regional council was lower than the state on higher education enrollment, but with similar percentage of college-ready
3. Study the consequences of not enrolled in higher education.
4. Evaluate the impact of computing technology-based distance education on the choices of higher education institutions.
5. Examine why the high school graduates in north Texas were less interested in certificate than the state population.
6. Identify the critical factors and share the best practices for increasing degree/certificate completion.

[^0]:    Source: U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts. 2009; U. S. Census Bureau: Census 2000

[^1]:    Note: Economically Disadvantaged is based on the data in 2007 and LEP is based on Census 2000.

[^2]:    Source: TEA LONESTAR (http://www.lonestarreports.com/)

[^3]:    Source: TEA LONESTAR (http://www.lonestarreports.com/) and TEA PEIMS 2007-2008

[^4]:    Source: TEA LONESTAR (http://www.lonestarreports.com/)

[^5]:    Source: TEA AEIS Reports2007-2008

[^6]:    Source: THECB P-16 Initiatives Ad Hoc Data Files on grades 6-8 TAKS scale scores in 2007-2008.

[^7]:    Source: Texas Education Agency, PEIMS Reports 2006-2007

[^8]:    Source: Texas Education Agency, PEIMS Reports 2006-2007

[^9]:    Source: Texas PK-16 Public Education Information Resources: High School Graduates Longitudinal Analysis

[^10]:    Source: Texas PK-16 Public Education Information Resources: High School Graduates Longitudinal Analysis

[^11]:    Source: Texas PK-16 Public Education Information Resources: High School Graduates Longitudinal Analysis

[^12]:    Source: TEA's PEUMS and Division of Accountability Research, 2006-2007

[^13]:    Source: TEA's AEIS Reports, 2005-2006 and 2006-2007

[^14]:    Source: Texas Higher Education Data, 2001-2002 graduates

[^15]:    Source: THECB, 2006-2007

[^16]:    Source: THECB, 2006-2007

[^17]:    Source: THECB, 2006-2007

[^18]:    Source: THECB, 2006-2007

