

60x30TX Plan Progress Report September 2019

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60x30TX



**Texas Higher Education
Coordinating Board**

The Texas Higher Education Strategic Plan, 2015-2030



THE OVERARCHING GOAL: 60x30 EDUCATED POPULATION

At least 60 percent of Texans ages 25-34 will have a certificate or degree.

- *Supports the economic future of the state*



THE SECOND GOAL: COMPLETION

At least 550,000 students in 2030 will complete a certificate, associate, bachelor's, or master's from an institution of higher education in Texas.

- *Requires large increases among targeted groups*



THE THIRD GOAL: MARKETABLE SKILLS

All graduates from Texas public institutions of higher education will have completed programs with identified marketable skills.

- *Emphasizes the value of higher education in the workforce*



THE FOURTH GOAL: STUDENT DEBT

Undergraduate student loan debt will not exceed 60 percent of first-year wages for graduates of Texas public institutions.

- *Helps students graduate with manageable debt*

Key Takeaways

High notes

- The 60x30 educated population goal showed strong growth this year, close to the rate of improvement needed each year to reach the 2030 goal.
- Institutions made notable progress in reducing excess semester credit hours and the student debt goal was successfully maintained.

Areas for additional acceleration

- Completions increased but growth slowed this year for African American, Hispanic, male, and economically disadvantaged students.
- The high school direct enrollment rate is lower now than when the plan began.
- Additional effort is needed to meet the 2020 marketable skills target.

Next steps

- A comprehensive 5-year strategic plan review will be conducted in 2020

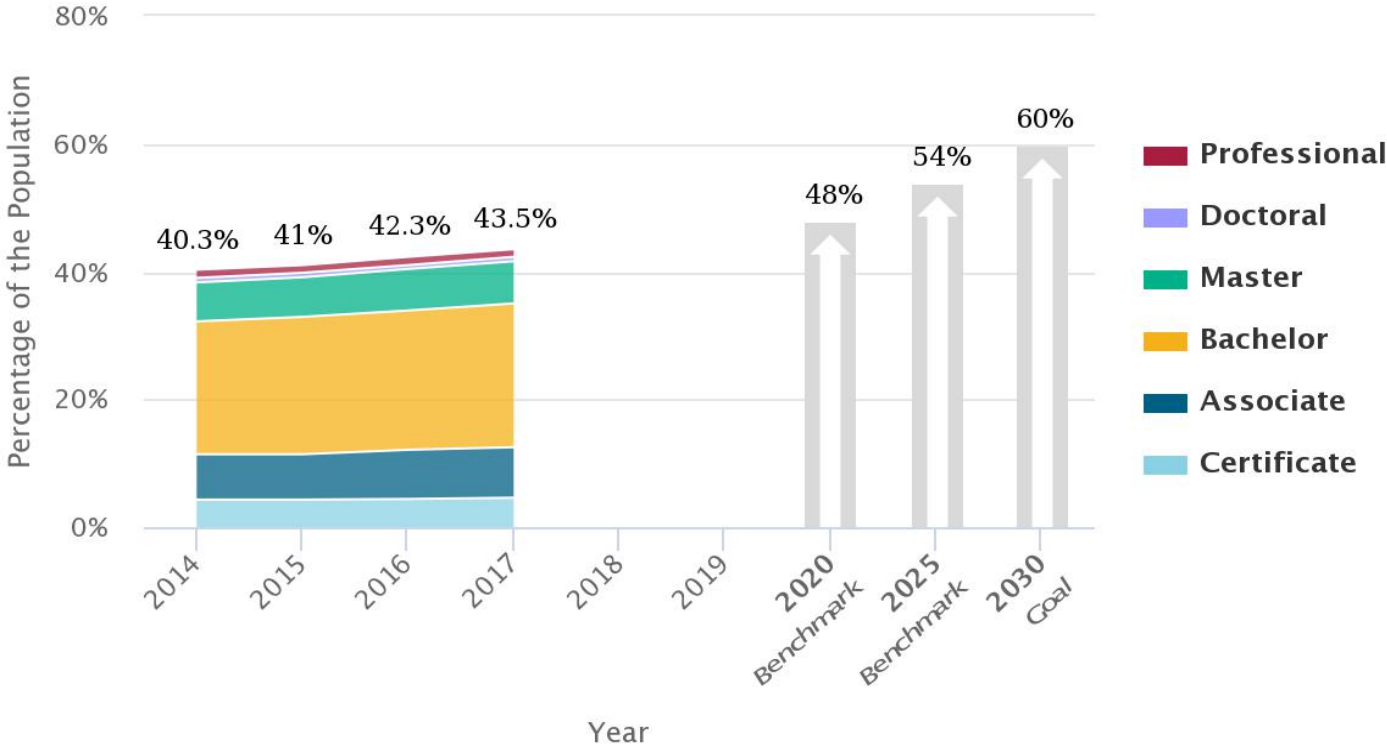
Texas young adults ages 25-34 are **27th** in the world



Texas attainment levels have stayed relatively steady, but in a global economy, **staying steady = falling behind**

The 60x30 Educated Population goal increased by 1.2 percentage points from 2016 to 2017*

Percent of Texas Population Age 25–34 with a Postsecondary Credential



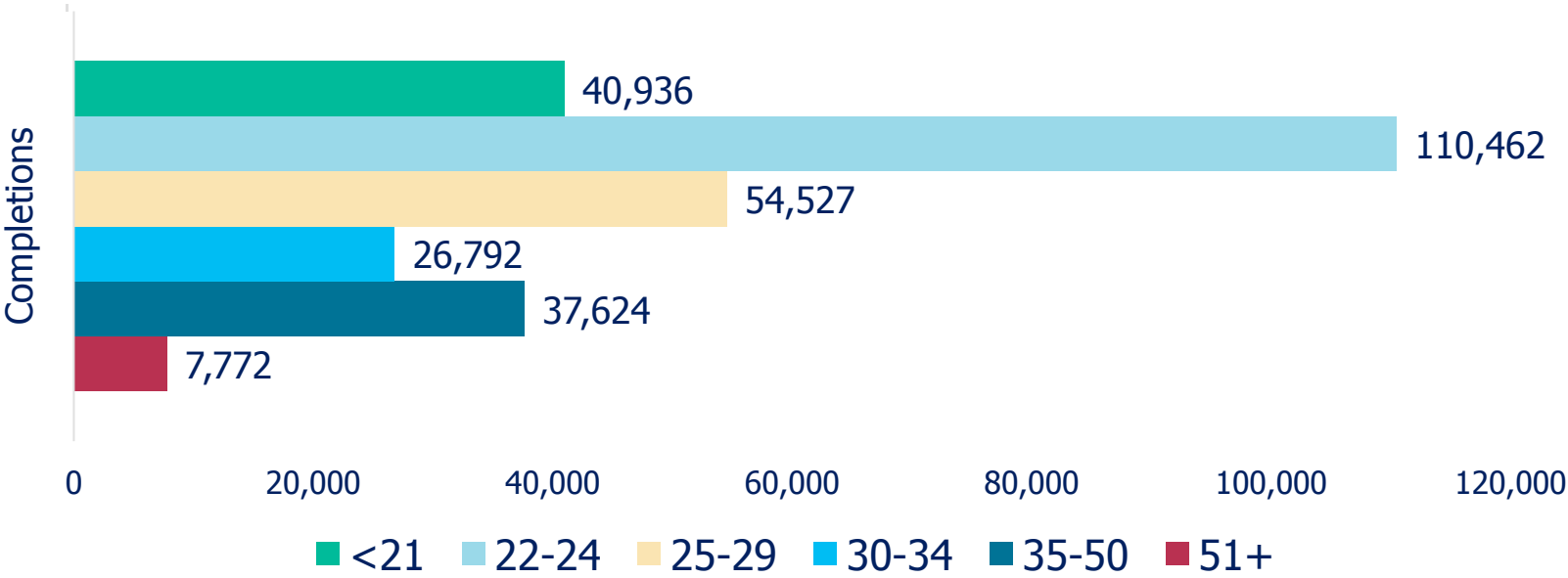
* Most recent data available from the American Community Survey

The 60x30 Educated Population goal counts residents who follow a variety of education pathways, including those who. . .

- Migrate into TX with credentials or migrate to TX to earn a credential and stay
- Receive credentials in-state after attending public high school in TX
- Receive credentials in-state after earning GEDs, attending private high school or homeschooling
- Receive credentials in-state as adult students who did not go directly from high school or stopped out and returned to complete college
- Went to high school in TX, left the state to complete higher education, and returned

45 percent of completers in 2017 were 25 years or older

Undergraduate Degrees Awarded, by Age FY 2017



Completions increased by around 7,000 credentials in 2018, compared to 12,500 in 2017

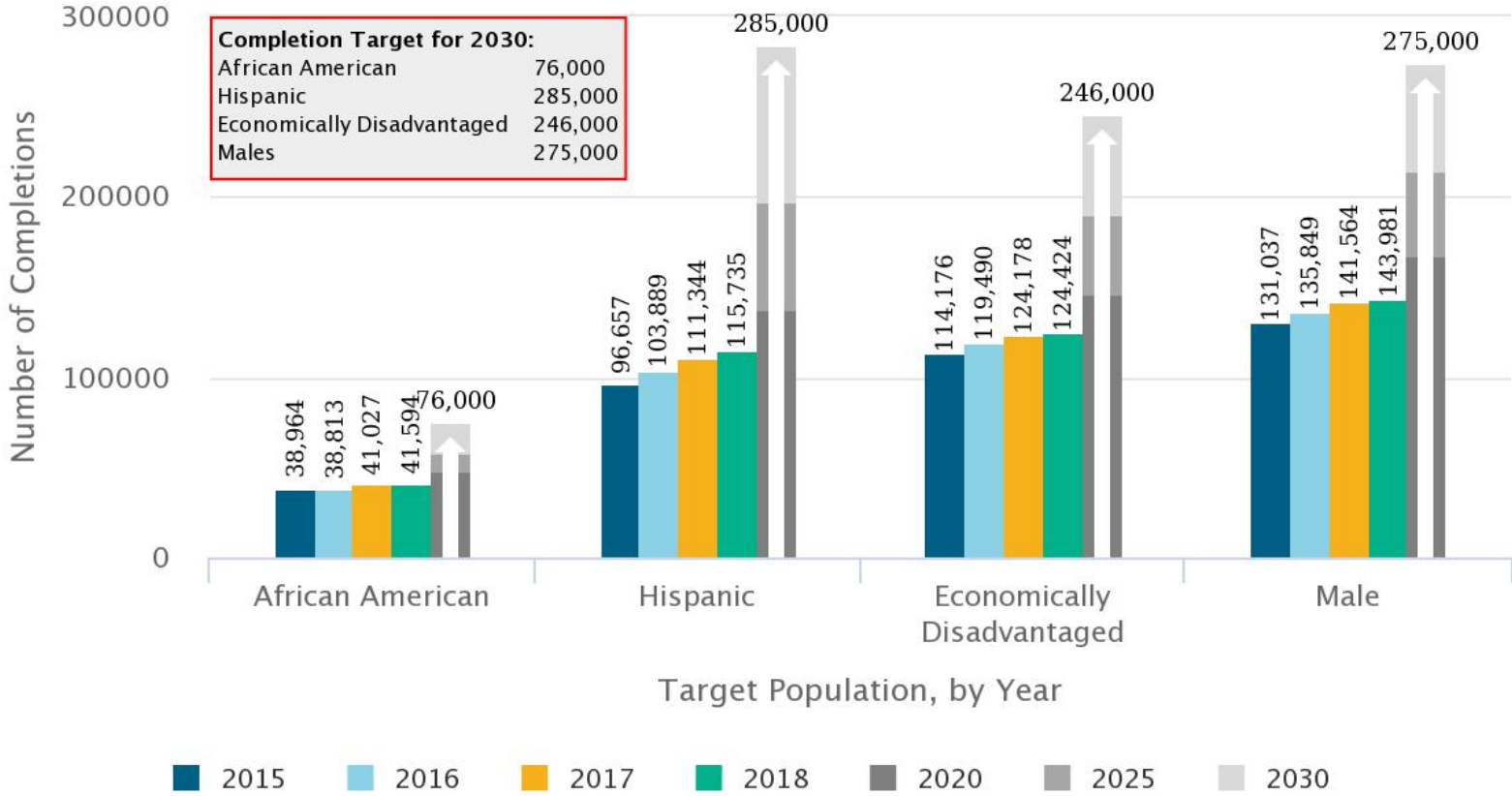
Number Completing a Certificate, Associate, Bachelor's or Master's in Texas



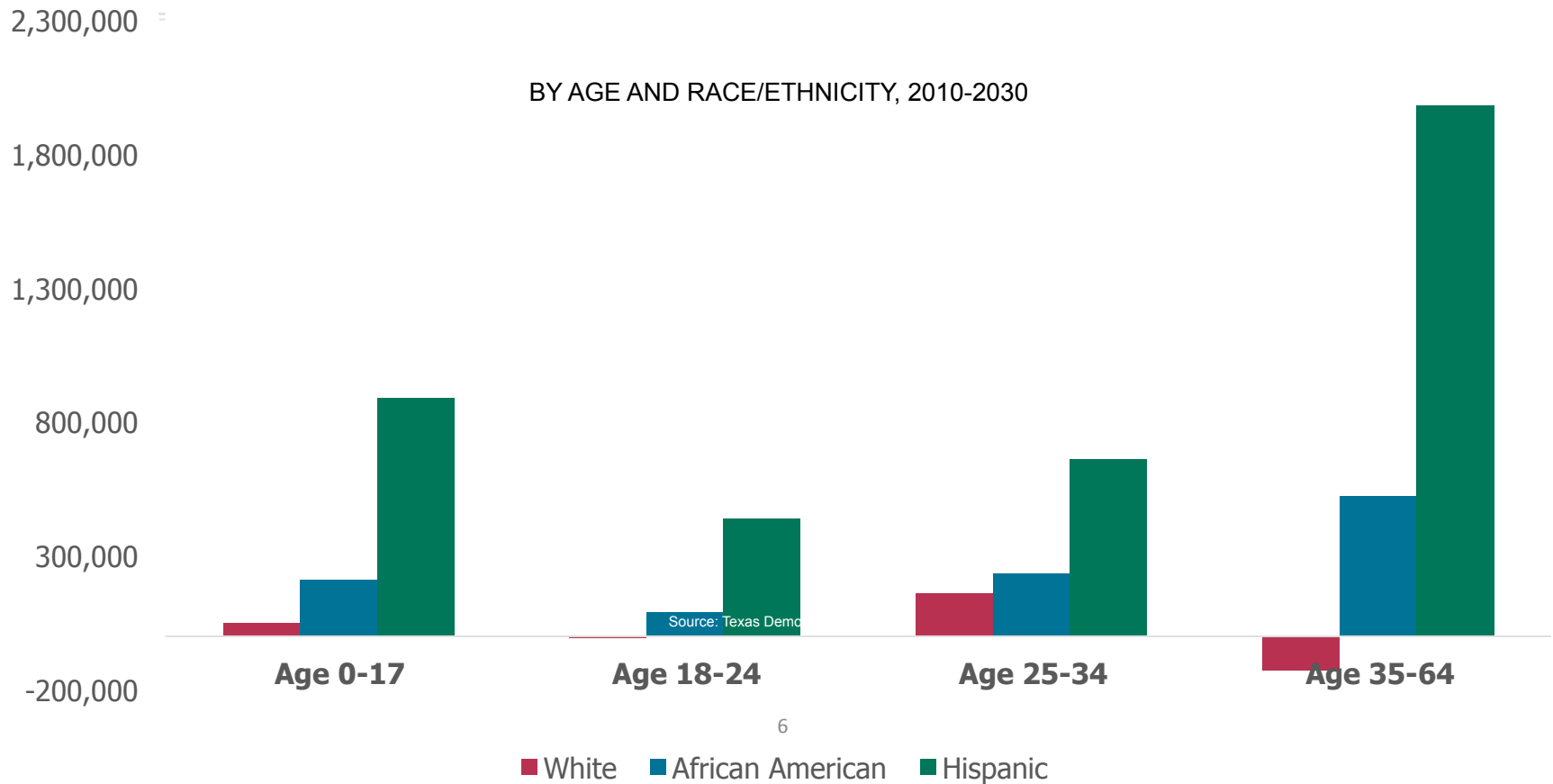
The statewide slowdown is associated with lower levels of growth among associate degrees compared to previous years.

The increase in completions slowed for underrepresented groups.

Target Populations: African American, Hispanic, Economically Disadvantaged, and Males Completing in Texas

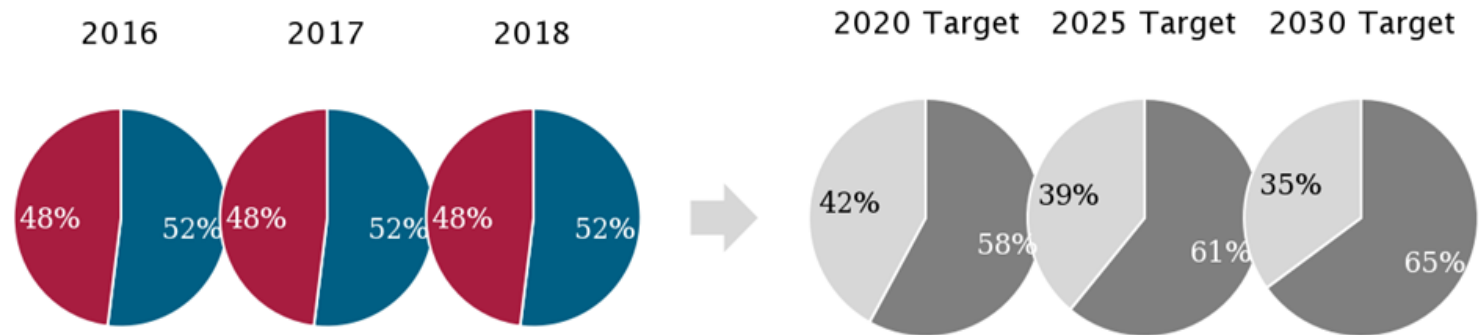


New Texas demographic projections will inform THECB's ongoing review of *60x30TX*



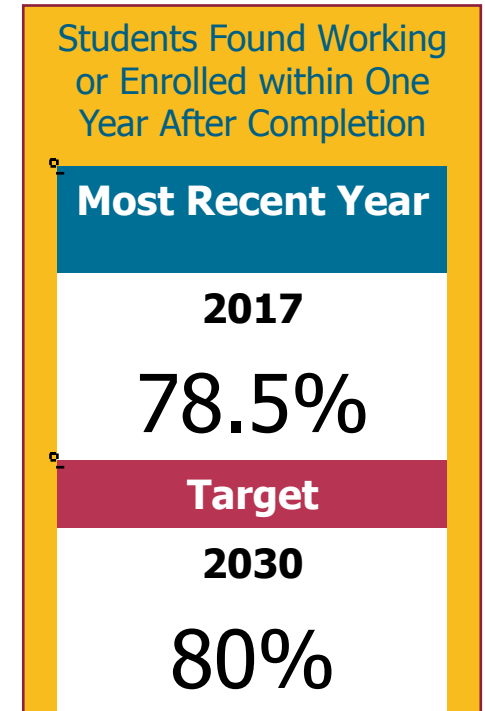
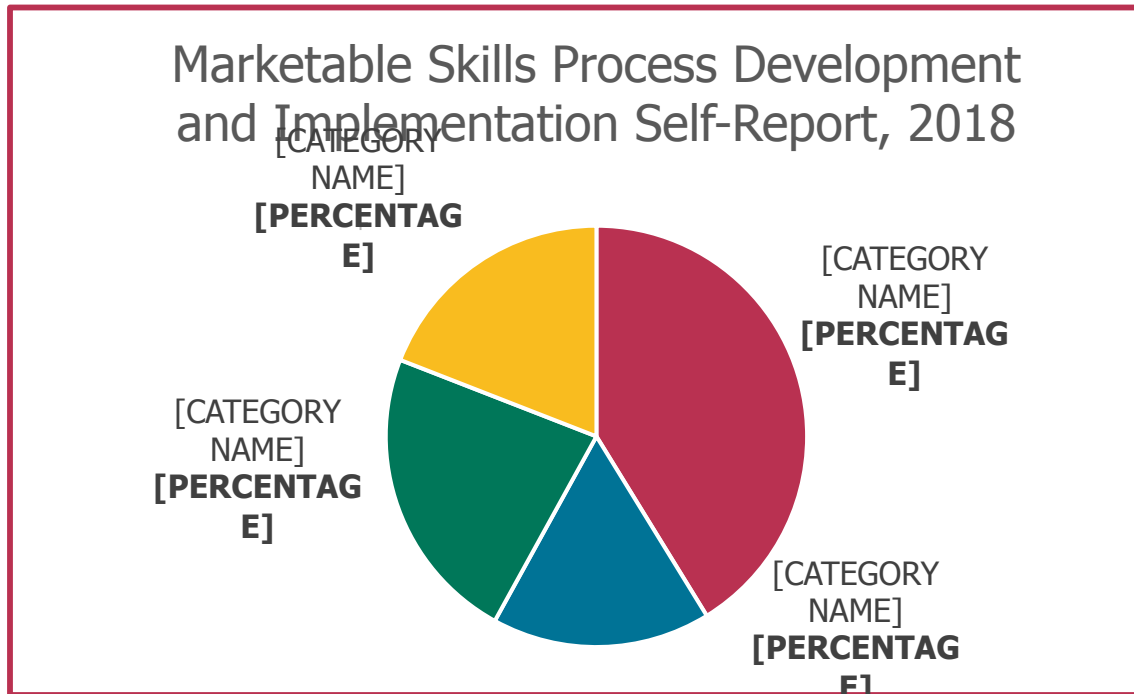
No progress was made in the percentage of high school graduates enrolling directly in Texas higher education

Texas Public High School Graduates Enrolling by Fall in Higher Education in Texas

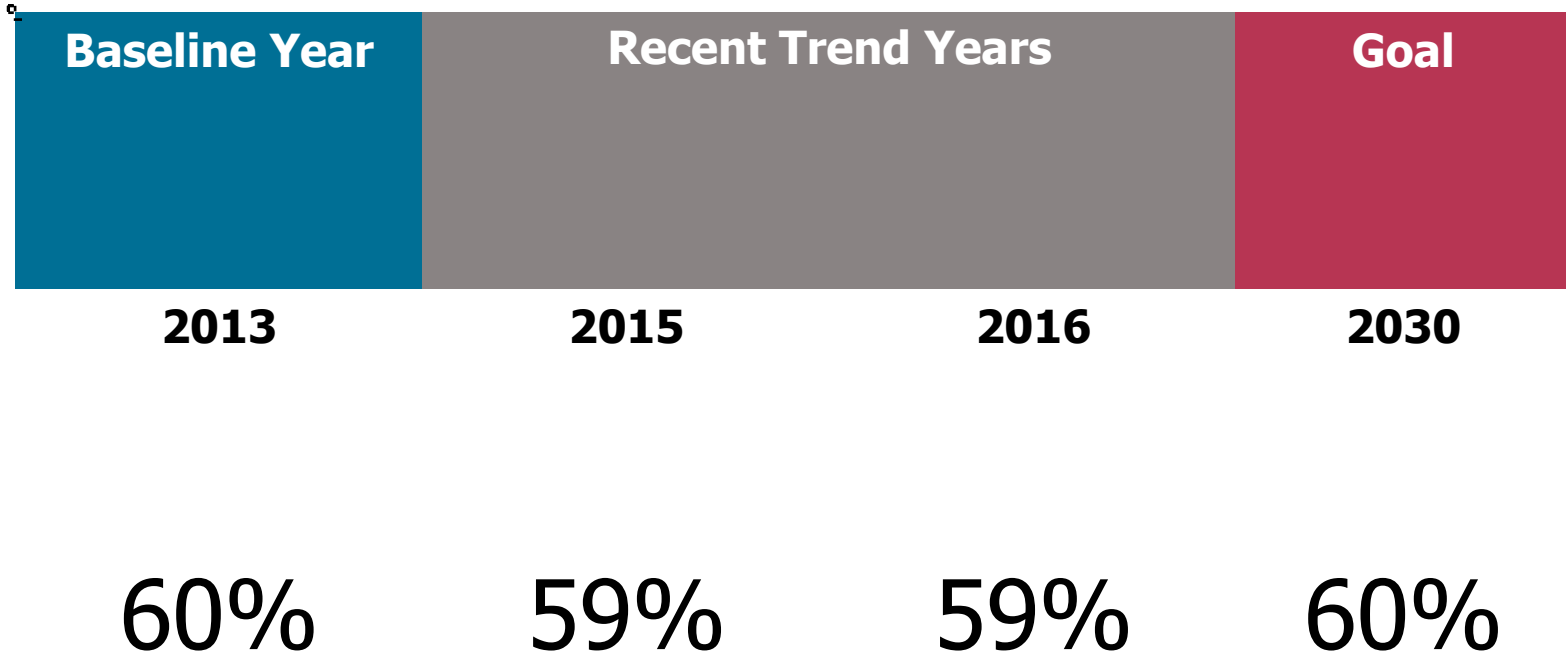


■ Not Enrolled in Higher Education in Texas ■ Enrolled in Higher Education in Texas
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41 percent of institutions reported they have created and implemented a process of identifying marketable skills for their programs

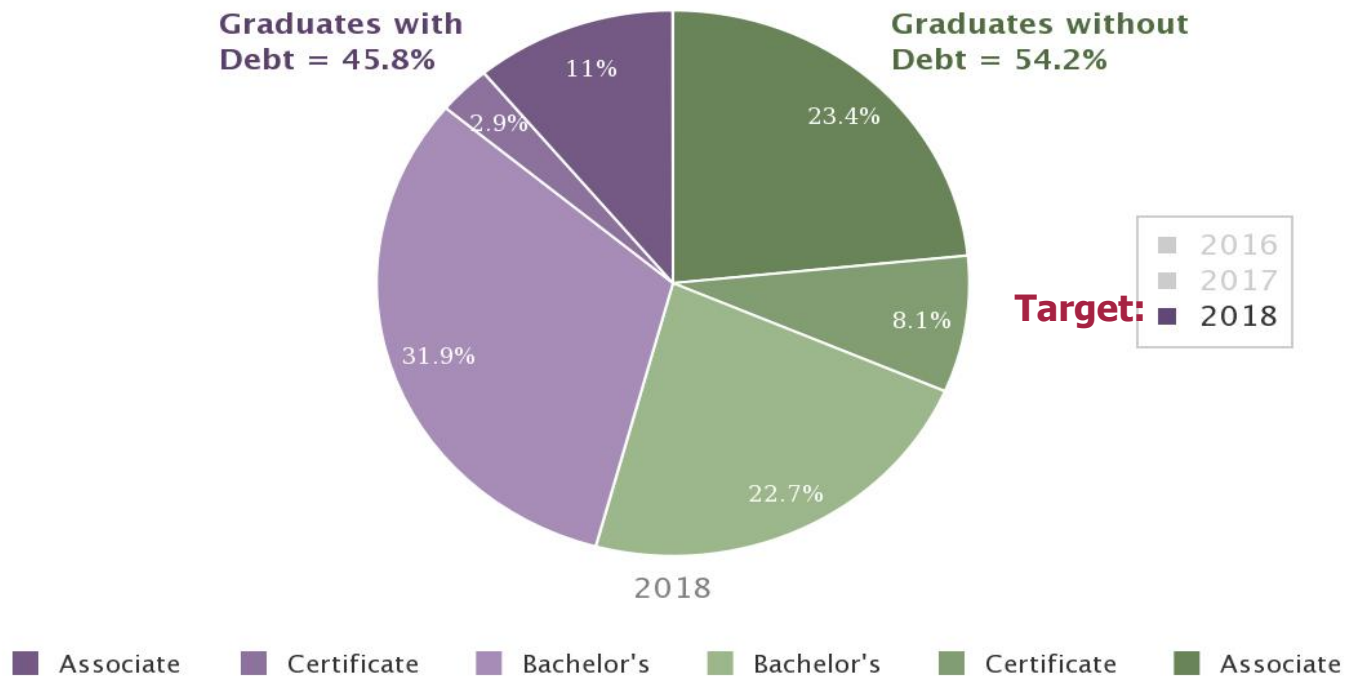


Student debt as a percentage of first-year wage remained close to the 60 percent maintenance goal

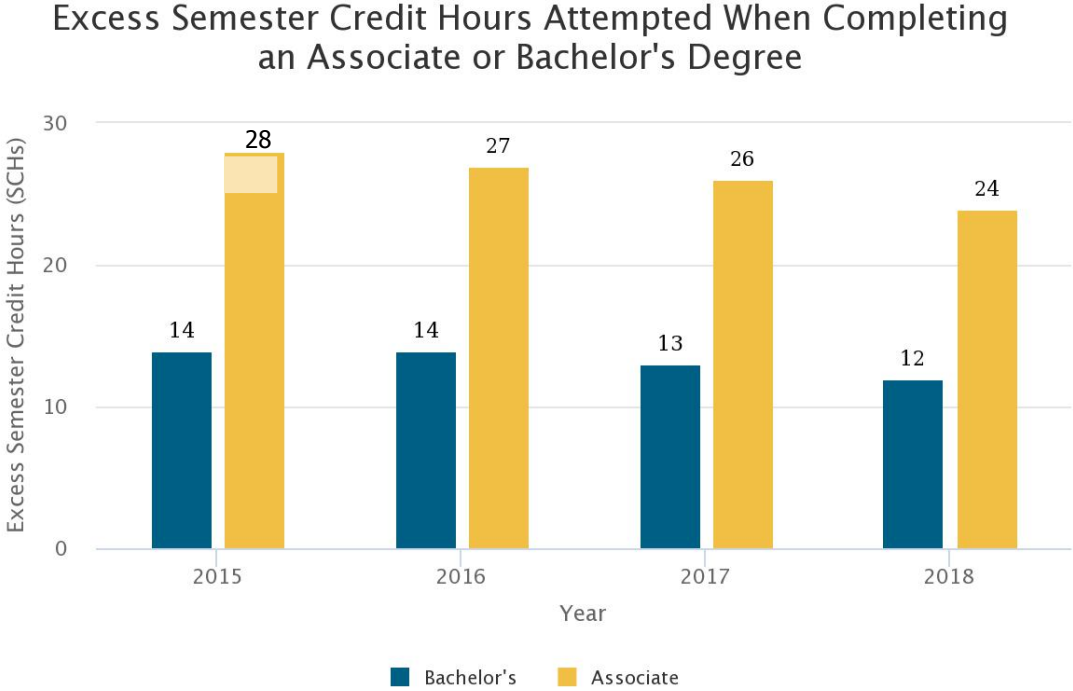


The share of graduates with debt declined for the third year in a row to 45.8 percent

Share of Undergraduate Students Earning a Degree or Certificate with and without Student Debt



Excess semester credit hours declined by 2 for associate degrees and by 1 for bachelor's degrees; those additional hours would have cost the state and students more than \$66 million.



The excess semester credit hour target averages bachelor's and associate degrees

Most Recent Year

2018

16 SCH

Target

2030

3 SCH

2018 was another strong year for the 60x30 educated population and student debt goals. Accelerated progress is needed for the completion and marketable skills goals.

Goal	Target	2016*	2017*	2018*	One-Year Change (pc = point change)	Annual % Increase Needed	2020 Benchmark	2030 Goal/Target
60x30	60x30 (Attainment)	41.0%	42.3%	43.5%	1.2 pc	1.3 pc	48%	60%
Completion	Overall	321,410	333,920	341,307	2.2%	3.9%	376,000	550,000
	Hispanic	103,889	111,344	115,735	3.9%	7.5%	138,000	285,000
	African American	38,813	41,027	41,594	1.4%	4.5%	48,000	76,000
	Male	135,849	141,564	143,981	1.7%	5.2%	168,000	275,000
	Economically Disadvantaged	119,490	124,178	124,424	0.2%	5.3%	146,000	246,000
	TX High School Graduates Enrolling in TX Higher Education	51.9%	52.3%	51.6%	-0.7 pc	0.7 pc	58%	65%
Marketable Skills	Institutions Implemented a Process to Identify Marketable Skills	--	--	41%	--	--	100%	Updated continuously
	Working or Enrolled Within One Year	78.8%	78.8%	78.5%	-0.3 pc	--	80%	80%
Student Debt	Student Loan Debt to First Year Wage Percent	60%	59%	59%	0 pc	--	60%	60%
	Excess SCH Attempted	19	18	16	-2 SCH	--	12	3
	Percent of Undergraduates Completing with Debt	48.2%	47.2%	45.8%	-1.4 pc	--	50%	50%

THECB is involved in many activities to support achievement of the goals of *60x30TX*. Four priority strategies are highlighted in this year's report

1. Improve academic preparation for students to enter and complete higher education

- Co-requisite expansion
- Texas Regional Alignment Networks

2. Promote college enrollment and completion to students and parents prior to high school graduation

- Advise TX, Generation Texas (GenTX), Are You Ready? campaign, College for all Texans website changes



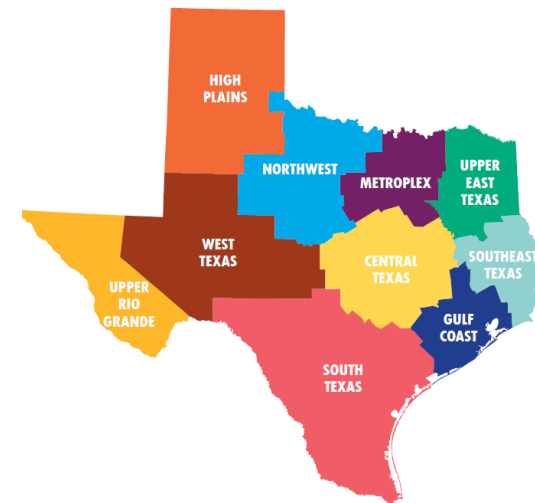
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3. Support completion pipeline by providing access to multiple postsecondary options

- Development of fields of study (FOS) to improve transfer and applicability of course credit
- Passage of SB 25 in the 86th legislature

4. Mobilize education and workforce stakeholders to achieve the goals of *60x30TX*

- Regional 60x30TX targets (K-12, higher education & workforce)
- Marketable skills supports (higher education & workforce)



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5. Address affordability issues

- 13 Texas Affordable Baccalaureate programs
 - The [Texas Affordable Baccalaureate](#) program offers low-cost, high quality degrees that enable non-traditional students to return to college and finish the degree they started.
- GradTX
 - The [Institute for Higher Education Policy](#) found that in 2015 at least 35 million Americans aged 25 and older had [some college, but no degree](#).
- Community college baccalaureate programs
 - The 85th Texas Legislature provided for increased opportunities for some [community colleges to offer baccalaureate degrees](#), which can lower the cost of obtaining a degree; 13 community colleges offer these programs.

Legislation that will positively impact *60x30TX*

Improve Student Transfer (SB 25)

- Excess courses taken by transfer students cost families and taxpayers an estimated \$60 million per year.
- SB 25 enacts several policies to help ensure that credits transfer efficiently, including earlier advising, stronger reporting requirements, clear course sequencing and examining the core curriculum to help courses transfer and count toward a major.
- By creating more efficient transfer, SB 25 will contribute to *60x30TX* goals for completion and student debt

Legislation that will positively impact *60x30TX*

Texas WORKS Internship Program (HB 3808)

- Paid internship opportunities help students build work experience and career connections while earning a salary to help pay for college.
- Through Texas WORKS, the Coordinating Board will provide a centralized process to connect students and employers offering high-quality, paid internship positions.
- Builds on Tri-agency findings and recommendations
- Contributes to *60x30TX* goals for marketable skills and student debt

Legislation that will positively impact *60x30TX*

Public school finance (HB 3)

- Focus on College, Career and Military Readiness (CCMR)
- Requires ISDs to develop CCMR plans that set specific annual goals.
- Establishes a CCMR Outcomes Bonus with funding paid for each annual graduate above certain thresholds.
- Ensures all students are given at least one college readiness assessment (SAT, ACT, TSIA) and one industry certification exam.
- Requires completion of a FAFSA prior to graduation (subject to opt-out).

If we achieve all these actions, we will make significant strides toward *60x30TX*.

We will reinvigorate higher education as the primary engine of social mobility.

We must be relentless in these efforts.

