Texas
College Affordability Profile 2018

The socioeconomic future of SREB states depends in large part on substantially increasing the number of residents with postsecondary credentials of value. As the population of the SREB states becomes more diversified, Texas faces a critical challenge to help more people succeed in postsecondary education and earn a living wage. This 2018 college affordability profile illustrates how affordable different public institutions are for Alabama families at various income levels.

**What Percentage of Average Family Income Is Required to Attend College Full Time?**

In 2015-16, families in Texas needed on average 28 percent of their income to pay for educational expenses for a full-time student at public category 1 institutions and close to 25 percent at public four-year category 2 institutions. These percentages were higher than they were in 2010-11 but lower than the SREB and national averages in 2015-16.

For a full-time student at public two-year institutions, families in Texas needed to pay, on average, 15 percent of their income in 2015-16 to cover educational expenses. This was only slightly higher than the nearly 14 percent needed in 2010-11 and lower than the SREB and national averages in 2015-16.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Texas, 2010-11</th>
<th>Texas, 2015-16</th>
<th>SREB Average, 2015-16</th>
<th>U.S. Average, 2015-16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Four-Year Category 1</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
<td>30.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Four-Year Category 2</td>
<td>21.9%</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
<td>28.8%</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Two-Year</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>18.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**How Much Is Spent Per Student on Financial Aid?**

Texas spent $512 on average per full-time-equivalent student on need-based aid in 2015-16 compared to $307 in 2010-11. The SREB average was $343 and the national average was $376 in 2015-16. In 2015-16, the state spent $397, on average, per FTE for financial aid that had both need and merit criteria, more than the SREB average at $135 and the national average of $214.
For Families Making Less Than $30,000, What Percentage of Income Is Required for Tuition at Lowest-Priced Colleges?

Twenty-four percent of families in Texas made less than $30,000 in 2015. For these families, the cost of tuition and fees at the lowest-priced public institutions averaged 9 percent of income that year, compared to 7 percent in 2010-11. These percentages were considerably lower than the SREB and national averages in 2010-11 and 2015-16.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Need Only</td>
<td>$307</td>
<td>$512</td>
<td>$343</td>
<td>$376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need and Merit</td>
<td>$371</td>
<td>$397</td>
<td>$135</td>
<td>$214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merit Only</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>$416</td>
<td>$168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Purpose</td>
<td>$3</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$64</td>
<td>$39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


How Much Do Graduates Borrow?

Graduates who sought a degree or certificate from public four-year category 1 universities in Texas in 2015-16 borrowed, on average, $20,148, and graduates of four-year category 2 institutions borrowed $19,831, on average. These amounts were noticeably higher than average amounts borrowed in 2010-11. Borrowing at category 1 universities was somewhat lower than SREB and national averages in 2015-16; the amount borrowed by graduates at category 2 universities was also lower than the SREB average and close to the national average.

Students at public two-year colleges borrowed, on average, $8,929 in 2015-16, more than the average amount borrowed in 2010-11 but lower than SREB and national averages.
A Closer Look at Family Ability to Pay

SREB’s Commission on College Affordability defined affordability as the relationship of the price required to attend higher education — or the net price — to family income.

Net price is the sum of tuition and required fees, plus room and board, books and other expenses, minus grant aid students receive from the federal or state government or the institution.

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Four-Year Category 1 Institutions

At Texas’ public four-year category 1 institutions, families making less than $30,000 in 2015 needed 55 percent of their income for educational expenses. In 2010, that percentage was 31 percent. Families making between $30,000 and $48,000 needed nearly 28 percent of their income for a full-time student in 2015-16; these families needed 19 percent of their income in 2010-11 to cover educational expenses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Income</th>
<th>Average in This Income Level, 2015</th>
<th>Percentage of Families in This Income Level, 2015</th>
<th>Net Price, 2015-16</th>
<th>Percentage of 2010 Income Needed</th>
<th>Percentage of 2015 Income Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income $0 - $30,000</td>
<td>$17,239</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$9,459</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $30,000 - $48,000</td>
<td>$39,080</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>$11,125</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $48,000 - $75,000</td>
<td>$61,056</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>$15,003</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $75,000 - $110,000</td>
<td>$91,621</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>$19,507</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $110,000 and above</td>
<td>$195,324</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>$20,979</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Four-Year Category 2 Institutions

At public four-year category 2 institutions in Texas, families making less than $30,000 in 2015 needed 50 percent of their income for educational expenses compared to 45 percent in 2010. Families making between $30,000 and $48,000 needed 25 percent of their income in 2015 compared to 22 percent in 2010-11 for a full-time student.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Income</th>
<th>Average in This Income Level, 2015</th>
<th>Percentage of Families in This Income Level, 2015</th>
<th>Net Price, 2015-16</th>
<th>Percentage of 2010 Income Needed</th>
<th>Percentage of 2015 Income Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income $0 - $30,000</td>
<td>$17,239</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$8,600</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $30,000 - $48,000</td>
<td>$39,080</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>$9,820</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $48,000 - $75,000</td>
<td>$61,056</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>$12,930</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $75,000 - $110,000</td>
<td>$91,621</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>$16,674</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $110,000 and above</td>
<td>$195,324</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>$17,394</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Net Price as a Percentage of Income, Public Two-Year Institutions

At public two-year institutions in Texas, families making less than $30,000 in 2015-16 needed 32 percent of income for educational expenses compared to 27 percent in 2010. Families making between $30,000 and $48,000 in 2015 needed 16 percent of income for a full-time student, only slightly higher than the 14 percent needed in 2010.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Income</th>
<th>Average in This Income Level, 2015</th>
<th>Percentage of Families in This Income Level, 2015</th>
<th>Net Price, 2015-16</th>
<th>Percentage of 2010 Income Needed</th>
<th>Percentage of 2015 Income Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income $0 - $30,000</td>
<td>$17,239</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$5,447</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $30,000 - $48,000</td>
<td>$39,080</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>$6,059</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $48,000 - $75,000</td>
<td>$61,056</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>$8,130</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $75,000 - $110,000</td>
<td>$91,621</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>$9,985</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income $110,000 and above</td>
<td>$195,324</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>$10,938</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Changes in Tuition and Fees, CPI, and Income

Compared to the Consumer Price Index and household income, tuition and fees at Texas public colleges and universities increased substantially between 2006 and 2016. Over that decade, the CPI increased by 20 percent and household income rose by 13 percent, while tuition and fees at four-year institutions increased by 89 percent and by 59 percent at two-year institutions.

Ratio of State Appropriations and Tuition and Fee Revenues

Public Four-Year Institutions

In 2015-16, net tuition and fees at Texas’ four-year institutions made up 52 percent of total funds available for operations of the state’s public institutions, while state appropriations supplied the remaining 48 percent. In comparison, state appropriations provided 53 percent in 2005-06.

![Graph showing ratio of state appropriations and tuition and fees for public four-year institutions.]

Source: SREB-State Data Exchange

Public Two-Year Institutions

Texas’ two-year colleges receive much more through state and local appropriations than from tuition and fees for operational revenue. Although appropriations provided 70 percent of revenues in 2005-06, that share had increased to 75 percent by 2015-16; tuition and fees made up 25 percent of revenues that year compared to 30 percent in 2005-06.

![Graph showing ratio of state/local appropriations and tuition and fees for public two-year institutions.]

Source: SREB-State Data Exchange
Additional Context

Attainment — In 2016, 42 percent of Texas’ working adult population between ages 25 and 64 had a postsecondary credential of value. The state’s educational attainment goal is that 60 percent of adults ages 25-34 will have a postsecondary credential or degree by 2030.

Poverty — In 2016, 22 percent of children in Texas were living in poverty. This was down from 2010, when 26 percent were living in poverty. The SREB region and the nation saw overall declines in this rate from 26 to 23 percent and from 22 to 20 percent during this time period, respectively.

FAFSA — Through June 2018, approximately 55 percent of Texas’ 2017-18 12th grade class had completed a FAFSA application, a one-year increase of around 3 percent. Nationwide, the FAFSA completion rate was nearly 61 percent.

Enrollment — In 2015-16, nearly 28 percent of students in Texas were enrolled in public four-year category 1 institutions, close to 21 percent were enrolled at public four-year category 2 institutions and 51 percent were enrolled in public two-year colleges.

Automation — A recent study has found that individuals face a reduced risk of job automation if they have achieved a higher level of educational attainment and that “Artificial Intelligence puts more low-skilled jobs at risk than previous waves of technological progress.” According to this study, approximately 10 percent of the jobs in the United States can be considered at high risk of automation (in that they have an over 70 percent probability of being automated), with roughly an additional 25 percent of jobs at risk of significant change due to automation.


Texas Institutions by Type

Public Four-Year Category 1
University of Houston
University of North Texas
Texas A & M University-College Station
The University of Texas at Arlington
The University of Texas at Austin
The University of Texas at Dallas
The University of Texas at El Paso
The University of Texas at San Antonio
Texas Tech University
Texas Woman’s University

Public Four-Year Category 2
Angelo State University
Texas A & M University-Corpus Christi
Texas A & M University-Texarkana
Texas A & M University-Commerce
University of Houston-Clear Lake
University of Houston-Downtown
University of Houston-Victoria
Lamar University
Texas A & M International University
Midwestern State University
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
The University of Texas at Brownsville
Prairie View A & M University
Sam Houston State University
Stephen F Austin State University
Texas State University
Sul Ross State University
Tarleton State University
Texas A & M University-Kingsville
The University of Texas at Tyler
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin
Texas Southern University
West Texas A & M University
Texas A&M University-San Antonio
Texas A & M University-Central Texas
University of North Texas at Dallas

Public Two-Year
Alvin Community College
Amarillo College
Angelina College
Austin Community College District
Coastal Bend College
Blinn College
Brazosport College
Brookhaven College
Cedar Valley College
Central Texas College
Cisco College
Clarendon College
North Central Texas College
Del Mar College
Eastfield College
El Centro College
El Paso Community College
Frank Phillips College
Galveston College
Grayson College
Trinity Valley Community College
Hill College
Houston Community College
Howard College

Kilgore College
Lamar State College-Orange
Lamar State College-Port Arthur
Laredo Community College
Lee College
College of the Mainland
McLennan Community College
Midland College
Mountain View College
Navarro College
Lone Star College System
North Lake College
Northeast Texas Community College
Odessa College
Panola College
Paris Junior College
Ranger College
Richland College
St Philip's College
San Antonio College
San Jacinto Community College
South Plains College
Southwest Texas Junior College
Tarrant County College District
Temple College
Texarkana College
Tyler Junior College
Vernon College
Victoria College
Weatherford College
Western Texas College
Wharton County Junior College
Palo Alto College
Collin County Community College District
Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf
South Texas College
Northwest Vista College
Lamar Institute of Technology
Notes and Sources

Category 1 four-year institutions award at least 30 doctoral degrees in five different areas. Category 2 includes all other four-year institutions. The public two-year category includes institutions that primarily award associate degrees; the list may include two-year institutions that award bachelor’s degrees.

Institutions are listed as they were categorized in the 2015-16 Data Exchange Survey and if they submitted the data required for this profile.

This profile is based on data reported to IPEDS by institutions during the 2010-11 and 2015-16 academic years. Some IPEDS surveys collect data for the prior academic year; for instance, the 2015-16 Student Financial Aid survey reports data for 2014-15.

Institutions or states may update data that were previously reported to an organization or adjust the methodology to calculate a statistic. As a result, some data reported in past Affordability Profiles may differ from data in the current profile, even though the data are for the same time period.

See the technical guide at SREB.org/Affordability for detailed sources and explanatory notes.

SREB College Affordability Profiles detail data and trends specific to each SREB state to assist policymakers with decisions on postsecondary affordability and attainment. For additional resources, including recommendations of the Commission on College Affordability in the South and the SREB Fact Book on Higher Education, visit SREB.org/Affordability.