



Education

Education is the foundation for future economic growth. The fast pace of technological change dictates that the local population adapt and attain the skills necessary to attract and retain a wide array of employers and a diverse industrial mix. A well-educated and highly skilled work force is essential for successful competition in the global economy.

Public Education

About 9.4 percent, or more than 435,000 of the state's public elementary and secondary students, attend school in the Alamo

region, which is home to 76 public school districts with 730 campuses, as well as 27 charter districts and their 56 campuses.

The region's student population has risen steadily in recent years, growing by 12.7 percent from 2001-02 to the 2007-08 school year, for a net gain of nearly 49,000 students. The region's total population rose by 12.4 percent over the same time period.

During 2007-08, the region's largest independent school districts by enrollment were Northside ISD in Bexar County, with almost 86,000 students, and North East ISD, also in Bexar County, with nearly 62,000 students. The smallest districts were the Guardian Angel Performance Arts Academy in Bexar County, a charter school with just seven students, and Divide ISD in Kerr County, with 15 students.

About 9.4 percent, or more than 435,000 of the state's public elementary and secondary students, attend school in the Alamo region.



University of Houston-Victoria

PHOTO: University of Houston-Victoria



Alamo Academic Academies

San Antonio has made a commitment to ensure that its economy will be driven by high-wage, high-skill industries. The Alamo Academies are intended to provide “talent pipelines” that prepare high school juniors and seniors for post-secondary education and the work force through industry-driven dual-credit programs.

The Alamo Academies provide two-year training and internship programs designed to give participating high school students a seamless transition to college or the work force. Three specialized academies offer free college-level training in aerospace, information technology and security and manufacturing.

Students may enter into paid internships and earn more than \$2,500 working for companies such as Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Kinetic Concepts, Cox Manufacturing, AT&T and Rackspace Managed Hosting. In addition, academy students can earn anywhere from 27 to 31 college credit hours while completing their high school diplomas. Academy graduates earn an average of nearly \$22,000 in salary and another \$6,500 in benefits directly upon graduating.

The Alamo Academies are the culmination of a partnership including the city of San Antonio, the Alamo Community College District, Alamo Worksource, the San Antonio Manufacturers Association, Port San Antonio, the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, local universities and other stakeholders. This partnership was created to supply the skilled talent that local industries need while allowing students to earn college credit and learn about occupations that require some college education.¹

Like the rest of the state, the Alamo region has seen its public school population become more Hispanic (**Exhibit 42**). But the region has a much larger share of Hispanic students than the state as a whole, at 61.4 percent versus 47.2 percent.²

The Alamo region also has seen an increase in its number of economically disadvantaged students. In 2001-02, more than 216,000 of its students, or 56 percent of total enrollment

were identified as economically disadvantaged. In 2007-08, more than 249,000 students or 57.3 percent of the region’s students were classified in this way, slightly more than the statewide average of 55.3 percent.

Accountability

The Alamo region’s districts compared favorably with statewide averages in the 2007-08 district accountability ratings established by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The region exceeded the state average for Exemplary ratings, and fell below the statewide average for districts deemed Academically Unacceptable (**Exhibit 43**).

In August 2008, TEA rated six of the region’s 103 districts as Exemplary; 25 as Recognized; 68 as Academically Acceptable; and two as Academically Unacceptable. Two districts were not rated.

The Alamo region also exceeded statewide averages in its number of campuses rated

Exhibit 42

Alamo Region, Ethnicity of Public School Students, 2001-02 and 2007-08 School Years

Ethnicity	2001-02	2007-08
White	33.5%	28.8%
Hispanic	57.9	61.4
Black	7.3	7.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.2	1.7
Native American	0.2	0.3

Totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Source: Texas Education Agency.



Academically Acceptable (**Exhibit 44**). A smaller percentage of its campuses were rated Academically Unacceptable than in the state as a whole.

Of the 786 campuses in the region’s districts, including charter schools, 83 were rated Exemplary; 252 were rated Recognized; 342 were Academically Acceptable; nine were Academically Unacceptable; and 100 were listed as “Not Rated: Other” in 2007-08.

Twenty of the region’s 27 charter districts were rated Academically Acceptable, while three were rated as Recognized and one as Exemplary. One charter district campus was rated Academically Unacceptable and two were “Not Rated: Other” in 2007-08.

In 2008, among the region’s districts that teach all grade levels, Falls City ISD in Karnes County had the highest percentage of students passing all Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) tests, at 96 percent. Randolph Field ISD in Bexar County had the next largest share, at 91 percent. (An average for the Alamo region is unavailable because TEA reports district data only as percentages.)

Within the region, all graduating students in the Charlotte and Runge ISDs took college entrance exams in the 2007-08 school year, greatly outpacing the statewide average of 68.2 percent. Of the 82 Alamo region districts for which data are available, 23 had participation rates above the state average.

In 2007-08, Alamo Heights ISD had the highest percentage of test takers scoring at or above the criterion score used by TEA to measure college readiness, at 55.6 percent. Across the state, just 27 percent of students who took at least one of the tests scored at or above the criterion score.

Exhibit 43

2007-08 Accountability Ratings, Alamo School Districts

Rating	Region	Statewide
Exemplary	5.8%	3.5%
Recognized	24.3	26.8
Academically Acceptable	66.0	66.6
Academically Unacceptable	1.9	2.6
Not Rated:Other	1.9	0.6

Note: “Not Rated: Other” includes campuses such as alternative education programs or early childhood education centers. These data include charter districts. Totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.
Source: Texas Education Agency.

Exhibit 44

2007-08 Accountability Ratings, Alamo School Campuses

Rating	Region	Statewide
Exemplary	10.6%	12.2%
Recognized	32.1	34.4
Academically Acceptable	43.5	42.8
Academically Unacceptable	1.1	2.5
Not Rated: Other	12.7	8.1

Note: “Not Rated: Other” includes campuses such as alternative education programs or early childhood education centers. These data include charter districts.
Source: Texas Education Agency.

In the 2006-07 school year, the most recent year for which dropout data is available, the Alamo region had a dropout rate of 4.2 percent, which was slightly higher than the statewide average of 3.9 percent.

Outcomes

In 2008, 81 percent of Alamo region residents above the age of 25 had a high school diploma, a General Educational Development (GED) certificate or some higher education, slightly above the statewide average of 75.7 percent.³

In the 2006-07 school year, 22,919 students graduated from the region’s public high



San Antonio Public Library Central Branch

The 106 year-old San Antonio Public Library system (SAPL) consists of 24 libraries and two bookmobiles serving Bexar County's 1.6 million population with more than 2.1 million items. Two more branch libraries now under construction will open in 2010.⁴

The star of SAPL is its Central Branch, in the heart of downtown at the corner of Soledad and Navarro. This six-story structure of Mexican Modernist design is a bold departure from traditional library architecture and has changed the look of the city. The Central Branch, at 240,000 square feet, is twice as large as the old main library and contains almost 500,000 items. Designed by the famous Mexican architect Ricardo Legorreta, the exterior is a striking red and features a bright yellow atrium, outdoor plazas, sculptures and fountains, and is adorned inside and out with purple, blue, yellow and geometric shapes. Much of the interior furnishings were made specifically for this location, such as the "castle" in the children's area.⁵

The facility was financed through a bond approved by San Antonio voters in 1989 and another \$10 million raised by private donations and city allocations. Construction began in July 1993; the Central Branch opened on May 20, 1995, to crowds so large that tickets had to be issued specifying times for library tours. The San Antonio mayor at the time, Nelson Wolff, called it "the most important building in San Antonio in 50 years."⁶

The library has computers distributed on each floor with an advanced online catalog and web site and laptop hookups with Internet connections. For disabled patrons, the library has a Kurzweil Reading Machine and zoom-text computer. Facilities include an auditorium, art gallery, media center, reading and conference rooms and numerous service desks for help with questions and borrowing materials. Outside the library near the circular driveway entrance is the Java Nook coffee shop, where patrons can enjoy a pastry and a latte. A bookstore in the basement, operated by the Friends of San Antonio Public Library, sells withdrawn materials and extra donated books.⁷

The Central Library has tripled the number of visitors who visited the old downtown location, and currently averages 3,000 per day. With the recent economic downturn, SAPL is being used even more as a free place to search for a job on the Internet, check e-mail, take an Excel class and study for a high school equivalency diploma or civil service exam. SAPL is also a place to borrow DVDs, entertain children at story time, find lost relatives using the genealogy or Texana collections, stroll in the art gallery, buy great \$1 books, and read the latest bestseller in Spanish or Chinese.⁸

SAPL's central and branch libraries share 1.7 million books, 121,000 audio items, 127,000 videos, 325 e-books and 1,200 current subscriptions, as well as 352 computers that are used by 822,000 registered users and 4.1 million visitors each year. Librarians guide users to credible Web sites and 109 online databases not available for free on the Internet. Each year, SAPL staff members answer 3.2 million questions and check out 6 million items. SAPL also offers 8,000 programs and classes each year to all age groups.⁹

schools, representing about 9.5 percent of the statewide total for that year. Northside ISD had the largest number of graduates with 4,300, while the Academy of Careers and Technologies in Bexar County and Nordheim ISD in DeWitt County had the smallest number, with just three graduates each.

About 7 percent of the region's students graduated under the state's most stringent graduation plan, the Distinguished Achievement plan; 69.1 percent under the Recommended plan, which is the required plan; and 23.8 percent under the Minimum plan, a less stringent graduation plan that requires



both parental and school approval, or under an Individual Education Plan offered through Special Education (**Exhibit 45**).

School Finance

In the 2007-08 school year, the Alamo region’s total school spending per pupil, including debt service, averaged \$10,750, about 5.8 percent more than the statewide average of \$10,162. Twenty Alamo region districts spent more than 20 percent above the statewide average in that year. Another 59 districts, however, including the region’s charters, spent less per pupil than the statewide average.

Excluding charter districts and districts located on military bases, which do not receive funding from local taxes, the region’s lowest total tax rate in 2007 was that of Divide ISD, at 74.3 cents per \$100 of property value. Floresville ISD levied the highest rate at \$1.52. The statewide average was \$1.19 per \$100 of value, and in the region 39 districts exceeded it.

The Alamo region generated a substantially lower share of its school revenue from local taxes (40.8 percent) than the statewide average (45.8 percent). Hunt ISD received the largest portion of its school funding from local taxes (75 percent), while Edgewood ISD had the lowest share (11.3 percent). The region’s share of revenue from other local sources, such as equity transfers and tuition, was marginally lower than the state’s, at 6.5 versus 6.7 percent. The KIPP Aspire Academy gained 35.4 percent of its revenue from these other local sources, for the highest share in the region; Doss Consolidated School District received the lowest share

Exhibit 45

Alamo Region and Statewide, 2007 High School Graduates

Graduation Plan	Region	Statewide
Distinguished Achievement	7.0%	10.8%
Recommended	69.1	67.0
Minimum/IEP*	23.8	22.1
Distinguished Achievement & Recommended as Percent of Total	76.1%	77.9%

Totals may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.
Source: Texas Education Agency.

for the region’s non-charter schools, at 1.2 percent.

Edgewood ISD had the lowest property wealth per pupil in 2007, at \$75,178, while Divide ISD led the region with \$3,155,900 per pupil. The regional average was \$294,401, or 11.7 percent lower than the statewide average of \$333,420.

The Texas school finance system requires districts with relatively high property wealth per pupil to share it with less-wealthy districts through a process called “equity transfers.” In 2007, 12 districts in the Alamo region transferred roughly \$73.3 million, an average of \$176 per pupil. Calhoun County ISD transferred the largest total amount (\$26.9 million), while Ezzell ISD had the highest per-pupil transfer (\$15,938).

Among the non-charter districts, Poteet ISD received the largest share of revenue from the state in 2007, at 71.5 percent. Hunt ISD received the smallest state share, at 9.4 percent. The regional average for 2007-08 was 41.8 percent, higher than the statewide average of 37.8 percent. The region derived a slightly larger share of its school funding from federal aid than the statewide average, at 11 percent versus 9.8 percent statewide.¹⁰

The Alamo region generated a substantially lower share of its school revenue from local taxes (40.8 percent) than the statewide average (45.8 percent).

Teachers

In examining teacher salaries across the region, it should be remembered that average salaries vary with length of teacher tenure as well as wage levels. District A, for instance, may have a higher average salary than District B because it has a higher percentage of experienced teachers, even though its wage levels for various years of experience are lower than District B's.

The average Alamo region teacher salary in 2007-08 was \$983 above the statewide average of \$46,178. Divide ISD had the highest average salary at \$57,869.

Average salaries in the region rose by 14.5 percent from 2002-03 to 2007-08,

compared with a statewide average rise of 15.5 percent for the same period. For charter schools, the San Antonio Can High School had the highest increase for this period at 53 percent. Divide ISD had the highest increase for non-charter schools at 30.3 percent.

The region's teacher salaries accounted for more than 26 percent of total district expenditures from all funds in 2007-08, lower than the statewide average of 30.1 percent. Lighthouse Charter School devoted the highest share of total spending to teacher salaries, at 45.2 percent. Moulton ISD spent the highest share among the non-charter schools, at 42.2 percent. Sixty of the region's districts devoted a smaller share of expenditures to teacher salaries than the statewide average.

In 2007-08, the Alamo region had a slightly higher number of students per teacher, at 15 versus a statewide average of 14.7. For charter schools, the Guardian Angel Performance Arts Academy had the lowest number of students per teacher, at 4.7. For non-charter schools, Nordheim ISD had the lowest ratio, at 5.6 students per teacher.¹¹

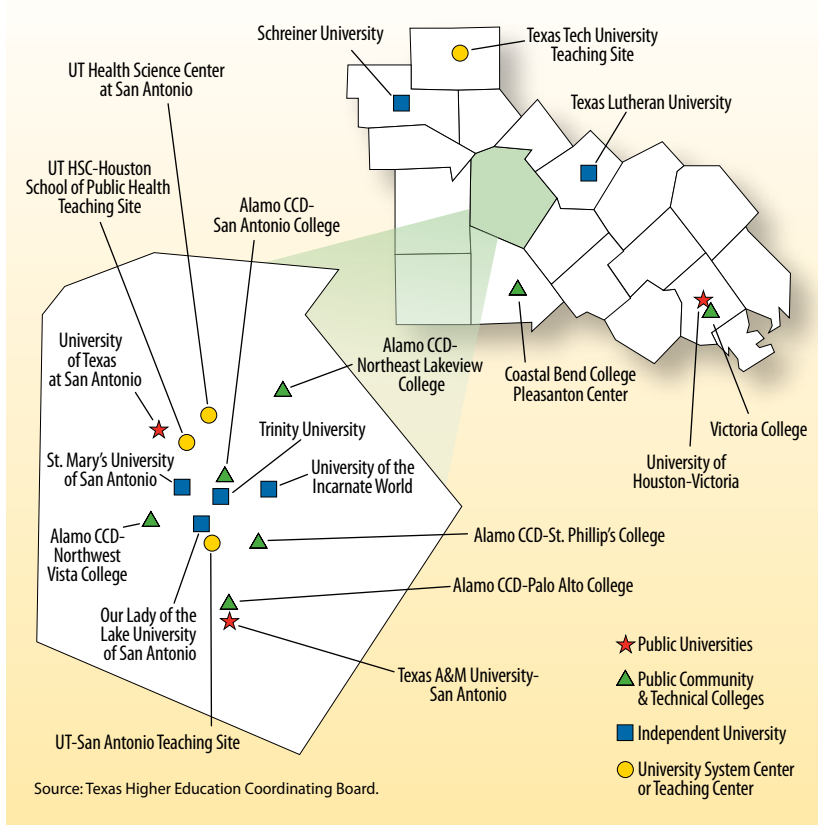
Higher Education

The Alamo region has 16 institutions of higher education, including three university teaching sites and a health science center. Ten of these institutions are in Bexar County; this includes Texas A&M University-San Antonio, which became a stand-alone university in 2009. Six of the region's 19 counties have higher education campuses or facilities (**Exhibit 46**).¹²

(text continued on Page 109)

Exhibit 46

Alamo Region, Higher Education Campuses





Museums in the Alamo Region

The Witte Museum celebrates South Texas by collecting, preserving and displaying wonders of natural science, history and art. The museum is located at the third entrance to Brackenridge Park on the banks of the scenic San Antonio River.

In 1921, Alfred G. Witte, a local businessman, left \$65,000 to the city for the building of a museum. Since its opening in 1926, the Witte has expanded its services by building two log cabins and moving and restoring three historic homes and an art studio to the grounds. In addition to its many galleries, the museum has an amphitheater, a courtyard with native gardens, a museum store, two auditoriums and the H-E-B Science Treehouse.¹³

The Witte has permanent natural exhibits including dinosaur bones and South Texas wildlife scenes with live insects, birds, and fish. It also includes Indian, vaquero and cowboy artifacts, an ancient mummy, historical gowns and early Texas furniture.¹⁴

Starting with a \$7,200 annual budget in October 1926, this cultural institution has blossomed into an almost \$6 million annual operation with about 4,500 annual dues paying members. The majority of the Witte's funds are raised through private contributions, with 9 percent coming from city funds. In 2008, about 400,000 people visited the museum, including 161,500 children, with 60,000 obtaining free admission through organization sponsorships on Free Tuesdays. The museum has 50 full-time and 40 part-time employees and about 175 volunteers, in addition to 40 voting trustees. The Witte works with college interns who gain valuable experience in museum studies, art, history, education and business. The museum also trains area teachers in history and science, offers summer and overnight camps for youngsters and provides daily demonstrations and presentations to visitors.¹⁵

Because of its beauty and central location, many events are held at the Witte, such as weddings, business meetings, concerts, plays and birthday parties. The two auditoriums in the main building have a combined 4,225 square feet with stages and audiovisual capabilities. The larger Prassel Auditorium also has a kitchen, a dance floor and an adjoining veranda and courtyard than can house up to 1,200 people. Children of all ages enjoy the Science Treehouse, a four-story, 15,000-square-foot building with hands-on science exhibits and a great roof top view of the San Antonio River and Brackenridge Park.¹⁶

To complement the ongoing expansion of the Riverwalk into Brackenridge Park, the Witte Museum is planning to expand its facilities by more than 65,000 square feet by 2012, with a new South Texas Heritage Center, a new grand entry, a Center for Rivers and Aquifers, and a uniquely designed restaurant that will honor the history of the museum's Reptile Garden. The renovation of the Pioneer Hall next door to the Witte will house their South Texas Heritage Collection.¹⁷

Fredericksburg's National Museum of the Pacific War is the only museum in the continental United States dedicated to the story of World War II's Pacific theater. This institution includes the Plaza of Presidents, Veterans' Walk of Honor, the George H.W. Bush Gallery, the Admiral Nimitz Museum, a Pacific Combat Zone exhibit, the Nimitz Education and Research Center and the Japanese Garden of Peace. The museum was originally named after Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz, who was born in Fredericksburg. Originally housed in the historic Nimitz Hotel, the museum continues to expand, with an additional 43,000 square feet to be added by December 2009. In 2008, this museum had about 96,400 visitors.¹⁸

Kerrville's Museum of Western Art collects, preserves and promotes art and artifacts related to cowboys, Native Americans, settlers and the landscape of the American West. Opened in 2004, the museum is housed in a 14,000-square-foot timber and limestone hacienda designed by famed architect O'Neil Ford. On display are some of the finest modern-day Western paintings and sculpture as well as works by esteemed masters of the past. The museum's Masel S. Quinn Pavilion, completed in 2004, houses an art education program. In 2008, the museum had about 17,500 visitors.¹⁹

Museums in the Alamo Region (cont.)

Founded in 1854, Fort Sam Houston is the ninth-oldest U.S. Army installation. The Fort Sam Houston Museum collects, displays and preserves the rich artifacts of the U.S. Army in South Texas. It houses artillery, vehicles, firearms, photographs, manuals, uniforms, insignia and other Army materials used in every major international conflict since the Civil War. The museum also helps preserve more than 900 national historic landmark buildings, the largest number of any active military post. Theodore Roosevelt, John J. Pershing and Dwight D. Eisenhower are just a few of the historic figures that served at Fort Sam. The Army museum had about 15,000 visitors in 2008.²⁰

Alamo Region Museums

County	City	Museums
Atascosa	Pleasanton	Longhorn Museum
Bandera	Bandera	Frontier Times Museum
Bexar	Brooks City Base	U.S. Air Force Museum of Aerospace Medicine
Bexar	Fort Sam Houston	Fort Sam Houston Museum; U.S. Army Medical Department Museum
Bexar	Lackland Air Force Base	U.S. Air Force History and Traditions Museum; U.S. Air Force Security Police Museum
Bexar	San Antonio	Briscoe Western Art Museum; Institute of Texan Cultures; Instituto Cultural de Mexico; McNay Art Museum; Museo Alameda; San Antonio (SA) Art League Museum; SA Children's Museum; SA Museum of Art; Texas Air Museum; Texas Highway Patrol Museum; Texas Transportation Museum; Witte Museum
Calhoun	Port Lavaca	Calhoun County Museum
Comal	New Braunfels	McKenna Children's Museum; Museum of Texas Handmade Furniture; New Braunfels Museum of Art & Music; Railroad Museum; Sophienburg Museum
DeWitt	Cuero	Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum; DeWitt County Historical Museum
DeWitt	Yorktown	Yorktown Historical Museum
Frio	Pearsall	Old Frio County Jail Museum
Gillespie	Fredericksburg	National Museum of the Pacific War, Pioneer Museum, Vereins Kirche Museum
Goliad	Goliad	Old Market House Museum
Gonzales	Gonzales	Gonzales Memorial Museum; Old Jail Museum
Guadalupe	Seguin	Fiedler Memorial Museum; Seguin-Guadalupe County Heritage Museum
Jackson	Edna	Texana Museum
Karnes	Helena	Karnes County Museum
Kendall	Boerne	Agricultural Heritage Center & Museum
Kerr	Kerrville	Hill Country Museum; Museum of Western Art
Lavaca	Hallettsville	Lavaca Historical Museum
Medina	Hondo	Medina County Museum
Victoria	Victoria	McNamara House Museum; Museum of the Coastal Bend; Nave Museum
Wilson	Floresville	Jailhouse Museum

Sources: Texas Almanac, 2008-2009, MuseumsUSA.org, and individual museum Web sites.



Museums in the Alamo Region (cont.)

The Air Force History and Traditions Museum on Lackland Air Force Base (AFB) is the largest of its kind. The museum offers a history of basic military training from before World War I to Operation Iraqi Freedom, with exhibits on the history of aviation, weapons, uniforms and thousands of other objects. Recently, the mission of the museum has expanded to include the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center, in operation from 1942 to 1946, the Kelly AFB Air Depot from 1917 to 1960, and officer training programs conducted from 1948 to 1993. In 2008, this museum had about 10,100 visitors.²¹

The neo-classic Nave Museum in Victoria was built as a memorial to impressionist painter Royston Nave, and commissioned by his wife after his death in 1931. The Nave paintings are primarily of the people and landscapes of Texas, and are shown only every few years so that the museum can host traveling art exhibits. In 2008, almost 8,000 people visited including 4,000 students from the area as part of the Victoria Regional Museum Association art education program.²²

The Old Jail in Gonzales, completed in 1887, housed prisoners until 1975. The three-story concrete and steel structure was designed to hold 200 inmates in high security. Its architecture illustrates the early history of corrections, with cells for condemned prisoners featuring two-inch-thick iron doors; rooms for lunatics and women; and a dungeon that admits air and light only from holes above the doors. In 1975, the building was converted into a museum that displays items from prisoners and information about law enforcement in South Texas. In 2008, the Old Jail had about 5,400 visitors.²³

The Gonzales Memorial Museum and Amphitheatre was built to honor the Texas Centennial in 1936 and 1937. A large reflecting pool and the "Immortal 32" monument tell the story of 32 men from Gonzales that defended the Alamo. The museum also houses the "Come and Take It" cannon, which may have fired the first shot in the war for Texas independence on October 2, 1835. The back wall of the 500-seat amphitheatre features a marble mural honoring the 18 men who defended Gonzales from Mexican troops in 1835. Area documents and relics in the museum date from 1660. In 2008, this landmark had about 3,500 visitors.²⁴

These campuses include five operated by the Alamo Community College District, called the Alamo Colleges (**Exhibit 47**).

Enrollment

In fall 2008, 108,057 students enrolled in the Alamo region's higher public and private universities and colleges. Enrollment in four-year universities and colleges accounted for 45.7 percent of the total, with another 51.5 percent enrolled in the region's community colleges. The remaining 3,060 students were at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) had 28,413 students enrolled in fall 2008, while 3,174 enrolled at the University of Houston-Victoria (UHV). UTSA's enrollment has risen by 50.9 percent since fall 2000. Enrollment at UHV jumped by 86.9 percent in the same period, due in large part to expanded program offerings at off-campus locations as well as online. Both greatly exceeded the statewide public university enrollment growth rate of 22.8 percent.

The region's enrollment in two-year higher education programs rose from 42,823 in 2000 to 55,617 in 2008, a 29.9 percent

Since fall 2000, the University of Texas at San Antonio's enrollment has risen by 50.9 percent, and the University of Houston-Victoria's has increased by 86.9 percent.



increase. That pace lagged somewhat behind the statewide two-year enrollment growth rate of 38.2 percent.

In all, the region's higher education enrollment increased by 31.7 percent (Exhibit 48).²⁵

Accessibility

The University of Texas at San Antonio accepted 82.6 percent of its first-time undergraduate applicants for the fall 2008 semester, more than the statewide average of 74.4 percent. About 13.7 percent of the 10,949 applicants accepted at UTSA were accepted

because they were in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class, compared to 21.8 percent of accepted applicants statewide.²⁶ The University of Houston-Victoria's acceptance rates are not reported separately to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Outcomes

Because some degrees require more than four years of study, and because some students may need more time to graduate,

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Exhibit 47

Alamo Region, Higher Education Campuses

Institution	City	County
Coastal Bend College Pleasanton Center	Pleasanton	Atascosa
Alamo Colleges (Alamo CCD) – Northeast Lakeview College	San Antonio	Bexar
Northwest Vista College		
Palo Alto College		
St. Philip's College		
San Antonio College		
Our Lady of the Lake University of San Antonio	San Antonio	Bexar
St. Mary's University of San Antonio	San Antonio	Bexar
Texas A&M University-San Antonio (formerly TAMU-Kingsville System Center at Palo Alto)	San Antonio	Bexar
The University of Texas at San Antonio	San Antonio	Bexar
The University of Texas at San Antonio Teaching Site	San Antonio	Bexar
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio	San Antonio	Bexar
Trinity University	San Antonio	Bexar
University of the Incarnate Word	San Antonio	Bexar
UTHSC at Houston School of Public Health Teaching Site	San Antonio	Bexar
Texas Tech University Teaching Site	Fredericksburg	Gillespie
Texas Lutheran University	Seguin	Guadalupe
Schreiner University	Kerrville	Kerr
University of Houston-Victoria	Victoria	Victoria
Victoria College, The	Victoria	Victoria

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.



Exhibit 48

Alamo Region, Fall Headcount Enrollment 2000 and 2008

Public Institutions	Fall 2000 Enrollment	Fall 2008 Enrollment	Enrollment Change	Percent Change
The University of Texas at San Antonio	18,830	28,413	9,583	50.9%
University of Houston-Victoria	1,698	3,174	1,476	86.9
Regional Total – Public Universities	20,528	31,587	11,059	53.9%
Statewide Total – Public Universities	414,626	509,136	94,510	22.8%
Alamo Colleges (Alamo CCD)	38,802	51,641	12,839	33.1%
The Victoria College	4,021	3,976	-45	-1.1
Regional Total – Two-year Public Colleges	42,823	55,617	12,794	29.9%
Statewide Total – Two-year Public Colleges	431,934	597,146	165,212	38.2%

Private Institutions	Fall 2000 Enrollment	Fall 2008 Enrollment	Enrollment Change	Percent Change
Our Lady of the Lake University of San Antonio	3,474	2,642	-832	-23.9%
St. Mary's University of San Antonio	4,137	3,868	-269	-6.5
Schreiner University	776	974	198	25.5
Texas Lutheran University	1,460	1,432	-28	-1.9
Trinity University	2,620	2,588	-32	-1.2
University of the Incarnate Word	3,702	6,289	2,587	69.9
Regional Total – Private Universities	16,169	17,793	1,624	10.0%
Statewide Total – Private Universities	107,681	115,048	7,367	6.8%

Health-Related Institutions	Fall 2000 Enrollment	Fall 2008 Enrollment	Enrollment Change	Percent Change
UT Health Science Center at San Antonio	2,543	3,060	517	20.3%
Regional Total – Health-Related Institutions	2,543	3,060	517	20.3%
Statewide Total – Health-Related Institutions	12,607	17,692	5,085	40.3%

	Fall 2000 Enrollment	Fall 2008 Enrollment	Enrollment Change	Percent Change
Regional Total 2-Year Institutions	42,823	55,617	12,794	29.9%
Regional Total 4-Year Institutions	36,697	49,380	12,683	34.6%
Regional Total Higher Education	82,063	108,057	25,994	31.7%

Note: Regional data do not include enrollment for branch campuses located in the Alamo region that are part of a main campus located in another region, since they are not reported separately to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Separate data for Texas A&M-San Antonio is not included because it was part of Texas A&M University-Kingsville until 2009.

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.



Exhibit 49

Alamo Region Public Universities , Four- and Six-Year Graduation Rates (First-Time, Full-Time, Degree-Seeking Students)

Institution	Fiscal 1999 4-year	Fiscal 1999 6-year	Fiscal 2007 4-year	Fiscal 2007 6-year
University of Texas at San Antonio	7.2%	35.1%	14.2%	40.3%
Statewide Average	18.0%	49.2%	25.3%	56.3%

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

The University of Houston-Victoria

The University of Houston-Victoria (UHV) has been an upper-division and graduate school since its beginning in 1973. In 2009, however, the Texas Legislature granted UHV the opportunity to admit freshman, starting in 2010. Students will then be able to earn their entire bachelor’s degree at UHV and — pending final approval from the Southern Association of Colleges and Universities — some will be able to do so in only three years.

In a first-of-its-kind program at a Texas public university, the Degree-in-Three program is geared towards dedicated students who will take summer classes to complete their core courses in the first year before concentrating on their majors during the next two school years. Not all UHV degrees will be offered in this accelerated timeframe, which is modeled on many European programs. Although students obtaining a bachelor’s degree in three years will pay the same tuition as those attending for four years, due to credit-hour requirements, they will save a year’s worth of housing and other costs. And they’ll be able to move into a career a year earlier, another valuable benefit.²⁷

the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) compares four-year and six-year graduation rates to measure university outcomes. Graduation rates improved significantly between fiscal 1999 and fiscal 2007 at UTSA, with its four-year rate nearly doubling and the six-year rate rising by 5.2 percent (**Exhibit 49**).

Because many community college students go on to a university to obtain a four-year degree, THECB also compares three-year and six-year graduation rates to measure community college outcomes.

The Alamo Colleges’ three- and six-year graduation rates from fiscal 2000 to fiscal 2007 rose slightly, by 1.7 percent and 5.2 percent, respectively. These rates, however, still lag behind the statewide averages. The Victoria College’s three- and six-year graduation rates, by contrast, were much higher than statewide averages in both 2000 and 2007. Its three- and six-year graduation rates fell between 2000 and 2007, however, by 5.6 percent and 17.1 percent respectively (**Exhibit 50**).

From fiscal 2000 to 2008, UTSA’s number of degrees awarded rose by nearly 48 percent, to 4,591, while the University of Houston-Victoria, with a much smaller student body, doubled its number of degrees awarded. The statewide average increase was 35 percent (**Exhibit 51**).



Over the same period, the number of degrees and certificates awarded by all Texas community colleges rose by 49.2 percent. In the Alamo region, The Victoria College, with nearly unchanged enrollment, increased its numbers of degrees and certificates awarded by 3 percent. The Alamo Colleges saw a sharp increase in degrees awarded; at 92.8 percent, their results

nearly doubled the statewide growth rate (**Exhibit 52**).²⁸

Affordability

From 2002-03 to 2008-09, the estimated costs of resident tuition and fees at both public universities in the Alamo region rose sharply, as they generally did statewide. The increase in costs for resident students, however, was not

Exhibit 50

Alamo Region Community Colleges, Three- and Six-Year Graduation Rates, (First-time, Full-time, Credential-Seeking Students),

Institution	Fiscal 2000 3-year	Fiscal 2000 6-year	Fiscal 2007 3-year	Fiscal 2007 6-year
Alamo Colleges (Alamo CCD)	4.2%	15.3%	5.9%	20.5%
The Victoria College	30.3	61.4	24.7	44.3
Statewide Average	10.8%	25.7%	11.1%	30.8%

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Exhibit 51

Alamo Region Public Universities, Degrees Awarded, Fiscal 2000 and 2008

Institution	Fiscal 2000	Fiscal 2008	Change	Percent Change
University of Texas at San Antonio	3,107	4,591	1,484	47.8%
University of Houston-Victoria	351	704	353	100.6
Statewide Total	78,954	106,582	27,628	35.0%

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Exhibit 52

Alamo Region Two-Year Colleges, Degrees and Certificates Awarded, Fiscal 2000 and 2008

Institution	Fiscal 2000	Fiscal 2008	Change	Percent Change
Alamo Colleges (Alamo CCD)	1,938	3,736	1,798	92.8%
The Victoria College	461	475	14	3.0
Statewide	37,395	55,809	18,414	49.2%

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

quite as steep at UHV and was higher than average at UTSA. The Alamo region universities' percent increase in total costs was within less than five percentage points on either side of the state average (**Exhibit 53**).

At the community college level, tuition and fees at the region's schools rose between 2002-03 and 2008-09, but less than the \$675 statewide average cost hike. The total resident student cost for the 2008-09

Exhibit 53

Alamo Region, College Costs

Public Universities

Institution	Resident Tuition and Fees 2002-03	Resident Tuition and Fees 2008-09	Dollar Change 2002-03 to 2008-09	Percent Change 2002-03 to 2008-09	Resident Total Costs 2002-03	Resident Total Costs 2008-09	Percent Change 2002-03 to 2008-09
University of Texas at San Antonio	\$3,598	\$7,666	\$4,068	113.1%	\$14,520	\$21,096	45.3%
University of Houston-Victoria	2,835	5,220	2,385	84.1	13,035	17,816	36.7
Statewide Average	\$3,441	\$6,193	\$2,752	80.0%	\$13,047	\$18,389	40.9%

Public Community Colleges

Institution	Resident Tuition and Fees 2002-03	Resident Tuition and Fees 2008-09	Dollar Change 2002-03 to 2008-09	Percent Change 2002-03 to 2008-09	Resident Total Costs 2002-03	Resident Total Costs 2008-09	Percent Change 2002-03 to 2008-09
Alamo Colleges (Alamo CCD)	\$1,173	\$1,832	\$659	56.2%	\$11,636	\$15,038	29.2%
The Victoria College	996	1,618	622	62.4	7,174	12,270	71.0
Statewide Average	\$1,120	\$1,795	\$675	60.3%	\$9,248	\$12,510	35.3%

Private Institutions

Institution	Resident Tuition and Fees 2002-03	Resident Tuition and Fees 2008-09	Dollar Change 2002-03 to 2008-09	Percent Change 2002-03 to 2008-09	Resident Total Costs 2002-03	Resident Total Costs 2008-09	Percent Change 2002-03 to 2008-09
Our Lady of the Lake University of San Antonio	\$12,964	\$20,232	\$7,268	56.1%	\$21,510	\$27,732	28.9%
St. Mary's University of San Antonio	13,480	21,156	7,676	56.9	21,615	30,000	38.8
Schreiner University	12,318	17,992	5,674	46.1	23,998	27,802	15.9
Texas Lutheran University	16,925	20,970	4,045	23.9	22,535	29,810	32.3
Trinity University	16,554	26,834	10,280	62.1	23,672	34,752	46.8
University of the Incarnate Word	13,498	20,260	6,762	50.1	21,648	29,380	35.7
Statewide Average	\$11,190	\$18,625	\$7,435	66.4%	\$19,434	\$29,859	53.6%

Note: Resident total costs include tuition and fees, books and supplies, room and board, transportation and personal expenses. Separate data for Texas A&M-San Antonio is not included because it was part of Texas A&M University-Kingsville until 2009.

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.



academic year was about the same at The Victoria College as for the average Texas community college; the Alamo Colleges' total costs were higher than the statewide average, although their tuition and fees were about average.²⁹

The cost of the region's private universities has varied somewhat in comparison to the statewide average. For 2002-03, estimated tuition and fee costs for the region's private universities were higher than the statewide average and, except at Schreiner University, this was also true in 2008-09. Total costs for a resident student in 2008, however, were lower or roughly the same as the state average, except at Trinity University.³⁰

Funding

The statewide average for public universities' total revenue, including tuition and fees, general revenue appropriations, federal funds and institutional funds, rose by 15.6 percent from fiscal 2006 to fiscal 2008. In the Alamo region, both public universities saw larger rates of increase in revenues, with UHV's increase more than half again as high at 24.8 percent. UTSA saw its revenues grow by 20.5 percent during the same period (**Exhibit 54**).³¹

Total state appropriations for community colleges fell in the 2004-05 biennium, as they did for the Alamo region's community colleges. By the 2008-09 biennium, however, statewide community college appropriations,

Institute of Texan Cultures

Located near the San Antonio Riverwalk on UTSA's HemisFair Park campus, the Institute of Texan Cultures serves as the state's ethnic and cultural heritage center. The institute features exhibits, programs, special events, a library and an extensive photo gallery, as well as teacher workshops and school outreach programs. It also holds annual festivals, including the Texas Folklife Festival during the summer and the Asian Festival held near the Chinese New Year.

The institute maintains a fresh feel by mixing temporary exhibits with permanent ones. Among the permanent exhibits is *Texans One and All*, which highlights the stories and customs of more than 20 cultural groups that settled in Texas. At the exhibit, guests can learn about Wendish wedding customs, Czech polka dancing and Japanese American internment camps, hear stories from early black Texans and see how early Swedish settlers lived.

Another permanent exhibit, *Creation and Cosmos*, offers a unique look at Native American spirituality over the last 1,000 years. Set in dark caves, the exhibit has artifacts such as decorated food and beverage containers used to communicate social standing, religious beliefs, political affiliations, cosmology and worldviews. The institute also gives an interactive look at life for early Texas settlers in its *Living Texas* exhibit. Guests can talk with ranch hands cooking a meal, watch seamstresses quilt or make thread on a wheel and peer inside an Indian tipi.

Other educational features at the institute include a hands-on outdoor learning center called the Back 40, which provides a cross-section of typical 19th century Texas, with a one-room schoolhouse, a log cabin, a barn, an army fort barracks and an adobe house. Knowledgeable instructors dressed in costume lead students and other groups through the Back 40.³²

Exhibit 54

Alamo Region, Public Universities Total Revenue Sources, Fiscal 2006 and Fiscal 2008**University of Texas at San Antonio**

Revenue Source	Fiscal 2006	Fiscal 2008	Percent Increase
Tuition and fees	\$110,609,769	\$138,738,892	25.4%
State appropriations	108,073,695	126,224,393	16.8
Federal funds	60,454,600	64,492,971	6.7
Institutional funds	20,717,983	31,972,518	54.3
Total Revenue	\$299,856,047	\$361,428,774	20.5%

University of Houston-Victoria

Revenue Source	Fiscal 2006	Fiscal 2008	Percent Increase
Tuition and fees	\$7,118,295	\$10,456,539	46.9%
State appropriations	14,436,939	19,751,198	36.8
Federal funds	1,727,346	2,280,124	32.0
Institutional funds	10,361,542	9,494,679	-8.4
Total Revenue	\$33,644,122	\$41,982,540	24.8%

Statewide

Revenue Source	Fiscal 2006	Fiscal 2008	Percent Increase
Tuition and fees	\$2,000,693,293	\$2,400,749,604	20.0%
State appropriations	2,599,091,546	2,949,486,914	13.5
Federal funds	1,161,122,338	1,260,930,090	8.6
Institutional funds	1,375,219,819	1,638,009,659	19.1
Total Revenue	\$7,136,126,996	\$8,249,176,267	15.6%

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Contact hours at the Alamo Colleges reflected their increased enrollment, with a 34.1 percent growth rate.

and the Alamo Colleges' amount, had recovered the loss. The Victoria College, however, did not have a similar rebound in its appropriations, and from 2002-03 to 2008-09 the college saw a 12.1 percent decrease in state general revenue funding (**Exhibit 55**).³³

Contact hours — the time a professor actually spends in the classroom with students — for community, state and technical colleges rose by 25.5 percent statewide from fall 2000 to fall 2008. In the Alamo region, contact hours

at the Alamo Colleges reflected their increased enrollment, with a 34.1 percent growth rate. The Victoria College had a drop in contact hours over the period (**Exhibit 56**).³⁴

Educational achievement will play a vital and positive role in the Alamo region's economic future. Significant increases in enrollment at the majority of the region's colleges and universities will place new demands on the region's higher education infrastructure, requiring more instructors to keep pace with student needs.



Exhibit 55

Alamo Region, General Revenue Appropriations, Public Community and Technical Colleges, Fiscal 2002-2009

Institution	2002-03 Biennium	2004-05 Biennium	2006-07 Biennium	2008-09 Biennium	Percent Change 2002-03 to 2008-09
Alamo Colleges (Alamo CCD)	\$120,311,432	\$115,564,930	\$130,737,272	\$135,693,392	12.8%
The Victoria College	15,166,180	13,690,643	13,618,232	13,328,426	-12.1
Public Community & Technical College Statewide Total	\$1,709,158,821	\$1,622,914,188	\$1,763,151,222	\$1,845,292,200	8.0%

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Exhibit 56

Alamo Region, Community, State and Technical Colleges, Contact Hours Fall 2000 and Fall 2008

Institution	Fall 2000	Fall 2008	Percent Change 2000 to 2007
Alamo Colleges (Alamo CCD)	6,142,544	8,239,264	34.1%
The Victoria College	707,248	643,792	-9.0
Public Community & Technical College Statewide Total	73,370,630	92,048,303	25.5%

Note: Contact hours include only those with a full or part-time faculty instructing by lecture, lab or practicum. Classes taught at an inter-institutional location are excluded.

Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

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