

Trends in Low-Income Enrollment and Outcomes in Central Texas for School Districts and Campuses, 2008 through 2012



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Trends in Low-Income Enrollment in Central Texas

The Central Texas region¹ has seen rapid growth in the number of high school graduates between 2008 and 2012, with just over 9,000 graduates in 2008 increasing to nearly 10,900 graduates in 2012 (Table 1). This 19% increase likely places strain on always limited district and campus resources. This overall growth includes a much more rapid increase in the number of low-income students graduating from high school in the region. This increase is important because students on free or reduced lunch their senior year (low-income students) are traditionally less likely to enroll in postsecondary education after high school graduation than their counterparts. In 2008, roughly 2,500 low-income students graduated from high school. By 2012, the region saw an 88% increase in the number of low-income graduates, with just over 4,700 low-income students completing high school (Table 2). As the growth of low-income graduates outpaced overall growth, the share of low-income graduates rose from 28% of regional graduates to 43% of graduates (Table 3).

The tables below demonstrate that this growth in the number and share of low-income high school graduates in the region has not been evenly distributed across all schools or districts. Some districts have seen little change when comparing overall 2008 to 2012 enrollment (Eanes ISD at 1%), while other districts have seen significant growth (Manor ISD at 50%, Del Valle ISD at 49%, and Leander ISD at 45%) as shown in Table 1. The percent change in the number of low-income graduates between 2008 and 2012 outpaces overall growth in all districts and almost all campuses (Tables 1 and 2). This has caused a rapid increase in the share of low-income graduates at some schools; a number of regional campus' graduating classes transitioned from 2008 to 2012 to being majority (over 50%) low-income (Bastrop, from 38% to 57% low-income graduates; Manor, from 46% to 75%; and San Marcos, from 40% to 57%). In 2008, just three districts had graduating classes with 40% or more low-income students; by 2012, eight districts had graduating classes with 40% or more low-income students (Table 3).

Despite the challenges inherent in transitioning a growing population of low-income high school graduates into college, the region has seen an increasing number of low-income students enroll directly into college (from 961 in 2008 to 2,090 in 2012), an increase of 117% (data not shown in tables below). Additionally, the share of low-income students who enroll directly in college has increased from 38% in 2008 to 44% in 2012 (with 45% enrolling directly in college in 2011) as seen in Table 4. This demonstrates that despite a rapid rise in the number of low-income students and the likely challenges accompanying it, the region is transitioning a greater share of low-income students to college.

¹ The Central Texas region includes school districts participating in the Student Futures Project. In order to ensure the reliability of trends discussed in this brief, percentages and numbers reflect districts who participated during the entire period from 2008 through 2012. Tables include all districts participating in any year.

Table 1. Regional Growth in the Number of High School Graduates, by District and Campus*

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Percent Change‡
Overall	11,275	11,614	12,911	13,566	11,290	20%**
Overall†	9,002	9,235	10,049	10,674	10,899	19%
Austin ISD	3,840	3,819	3,973	4,156	4,167	9%
Akins	392	475	511	486	554	41%
Anderson	458	428	451	481	452	-1%
Austin	474	441	452	525	519	9%
Bowie	627	606	592	624	647	3%
Crockett	343	329	346	349	314	-8%
Eastside Memorial	111	84	78	106	98	-12%
Garza Independence	128	150	130	124	143	12%
Lanier	228	250	251	285	319	40%
LASA	194	198	167	203	190	-2%
LBJ	164	169	166	181	175	7%
McCallum	356	311	390	334	369	4%
Reagan	117	123	144	172	133	14%
Travis	246	250	289	283	247	0%
Bastrop ISD	466	500	548	525	515	11%
Bastrop	432	442	476	456	453	5%
Del Valle ISD	413	415	582	612	616	49%
Del Valle	320	300	325	395	421	32%
Eanes ISD	620	559	567	617	629	1%
Westlake	620	559	567	617	629	1%
Hays ISD	638	655	750	871	881	38%
Jack C Hays	338	343	392	459	427	26%
Lehman	254	268	328	372	407	60%
Lake Travis ISD					72	
Lake Travis					72	
Hutto ISD			250	275	319	28%
Hutto			250	275	319	28%
Leander ISD	1,299	1,385	1,646	1,711	1,889	45%
Cedar Park	439	501	517	586	414	-6%
Leander	375	415	554	546	446	19%
Rouse					361	
Vandegrift					243	
Vista Ridge	440	425	514	525	392	-11%
Manor ISD	189	210	243	336	284	50%
Manor	178	201	162	216	186	4%
Pflugerville ISD	1,139	1,257	1,298	1,389	1,418	24%
Hendrickson	311	368	361	450	485	56%
John B Connally	354	414	428	420	415	17%
Pflugerville	473	475	509	519	518	10%
Round Rock ISD	2,273	2,366	2,612	2,617		15%
McNeil	584	579	677	633		8%
Round Rock	470	513	556	638		36%
Stony Point	547	587	674	688		26%
Westwood	602	575	578	541		-10%
San Marcos ISD	398	435	442	457	500	26%
San Marcos	326	348	442	457	500	53%

Source: Student Futures Project data.

* Alternative schools are included in district totals but not provided here.

† These overall figures include only districts that participated in the Student Futures Project for all years shown, so exclude Hutto, Lake Travis and Round Rock ISDs.

‡ Calculations are between 2008 and 2012 except for the following exceptions: Round Rock figures are between 2008 and 2011; Hutto figures are between 2010 to 2012. **Overall results compare 2008 to 2011, as 2012 lacked Round Rock ISD data.

Table 2. Regional Growth in the Number of Low-Income High School Graduates, by District and Campus*

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Percent Change‡
Overall	2,771	3,270	4,057	5,013	4,872	76%
Overall†	2,506	~2,970	3,528	~4,300	4,720	88%
Austin	1,259	1,451	1,441	1,878	1,953	55%
Akins	173	240	210	304	369	113%
Anderson	57	71	56	87	96	68%
Austin	85	95	118	167	169	99%
Bowie	39	51	39	78	92	136%
Crockett	137	156	159	187	191	39%
Eastside Memorial	82	69	62	89	82	0%
Garza Independence	37	33	43	36	58	57%
Lanier	159	204	187	227	260	64%
LASA	40	40	39	44	29	-28%
LBJ	108	119	110	133	145	34%
McCallum	86	86	116	132	133	55%
Reagan	82	95	118	147	116	41%
Travis	173	189	179	245	210	21%
Bastrop	177	207	253	278	291	64%
Bastrop	165	179	213	232	250	52%
Del Valle	229	280	397	428	486	112%
Del Valle	177	195	213	268	323	82%
Eanes	12	<10	12	<10	30	150%
Westlake	12	<10	12	<10	30	150%
Hays	196	193	278	349	418	113%
Jack C Hays	73	60	109	156	151	107%
Lehman	110	116	153	180	241	119%
Lake Travis					20	
Lake Travis					20	
Hutto			67	109	132	97%
Hutto			67	109	132	97%
Leander	134	189	311	385	423	216%
Cedar Park	20	25	42	56	50	150%
Leander	55	101	164	212	151	175%
Rouse					108	
Vandegrift					38	
Vista Ridge	48	53	91	97	69	44%
Manor	86	128	184	240	213	148%
Manor	80	125	128	169	152	90%
Pflugerville	252	340	438	492	622	147%
Hendrickson	70	83	102	140	160	129%
John B Connally	96	141	194	197	246	156%
Pflugerville	85	116	142	155	216	154%
Round Rock	265	297	462	607		129%
McNeil	51	55	79	101		98%
Round Rock	61	78	106	169		177%
Stony Point	119	113	184	213		79%
Westwood	24	25	46	63		163%
San Marcos	161	174	214	238	284	76%
San Marcos	127	134	214	238	284	124%

Source: Student Futures Project data.

* Alternative schools are included in district totals but not provided here.

† These overall figures include only districts that participated in the Student Futures Project for all years shown, so exclude Hutto, Lake Travis and Round Rock ISDs.

‡ Calculations are between 2008 and 2012 except for the following exceptions: Round Rock figures are between 2008 and 2011; Hutto figures are between 2010 to 2012.

Table 3. Regional Growth in the Share of Low-Income High School Graduates, by District and Campus*

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Percentage Point Change‡
Overall	25%	28%	31%	37%	43%	19%
Overall†	28%	32%	35%	40%	43%	15%
Austin	33%	38%	36%	45%	47%	14%
Akins	44%	51%	41%	63%	67%	22%
Anderson	12%	17%	12%	18%	21%	9%
Austin	18%	22%	26%	32%	33%	15%
Bowie	6%	8%	7%	13%	14%	8%
Crockett	40%	47%	46%	54%	61%	21%
Eastside Memorial	74%	82%	79%	84%	84%	10%
Garza Independence	29%	22%	33%	29%	41%	12%
Lanier	70%	82%	75%	80%	82%	12%
LASA	21%	20%	23%	22%	15%	-5%
LBJ	66%	70%	66%	73%	83%	17%
McCallum	24%	28%	30%	40%	36%	12%
Reagan	70%	77%	82%	85%	87%	17%
Travis	70%	76%	62%	87%	85%	15%
Bastrop	38%	41%	46%	53%	57%	19%
Bastrop	38%	40%	45%	51%	55%	17%
Del Valle	55%	67%	68%	70%	79%	23%
Del Valle	55%	65%	66%	68%	77%	21%
Eanes	2%	<2%	2%	<2%	5%	3%
Westlake	2%	<2%	2%	<2%	5%	3%
Hays	31%	29%	37%	40%	47%	17%
Jack C Hays	22%	17%	28%	34%	35%	14%
Lehman	43%	43%	47%	48%	59%	16%
Lake Travis					28%	
Lake Travis					28%	
Hutto			27%	40%	41%	15%
Hutto			27%	40%	41%	15%
Leander	10%	14%	19%	23%	22%	12%
Cedar Park	5%	5%	8%	10%	12%	8%
Leander	15%	24%	30%	39%	34%	19%
Rouse					30%	
Vandegrift					16%	
Vista Ridge	11%	12%	18%	18%	18%	7%
Manor	46%	61%	76%	71%	75%	29%
Manor	45%	62%	79%	78%	82%	37%
Pflugerville	22%	27%	34%	35%	44%	22%
Hendrickson	23%	23%	28%	31%	33%	10%
John B Connally	27%	34%	45%	47%	59%	32%
Pflugerville	18%	24%	28%	30%	42%	24%
Round Rock	12%	13%	18%	23%		12%
McNeil	9%	9%	12%	16%		7%
Round Rock	13%	15%	19%	26%		14%
Stony Point	22%	19%	27%	31%		9%
Westwood	4%	4%	8%	12%		8%
San Marcos	40%	40%	48%	52%	57%	16%
San Marcos	39%	39%	48%	52%	57%	18%

Source: Student Futures Project data.

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† These overall figures include only districts that participated in the Student Futures Project for all years shown, so exclude Hutto, Lake Travis and Round Rock ISDs.

‡ Calculations are between 2008 and 2012 except for the following exceptions: Round Rock figures are between 2008 and 2011; Hutto figures are between 2010 to 2012.

Table 4. Regional Growth in the Share of Low-Income High School Graduates Directly Enrolling in College, by District and Campus*

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Percentage Point Change
Overall	39%	44%	44%	46%	44%	5%
Overall†	38%	43%	43%	45%	44%	6%
Austin	39%	46%	43%	48%	45%	6%
Akins	34%	46%	43%	49%	45%	11%
Anderson	32%	56%	59%	65%	63%	30%
Austin	50%	43%	51%	53%	50%	0%
Bowie	67%	61%	49%	64%	66%	0%
Crockett	41%	61%	48%	50%	47%	6%
Eastside Memorial	35%	38%	34%	29%	35%	0%
Garza Independence	20%	24%	30%	61%	28%	8%
Lanier	30%	36%	37%	36%	38%	9%
LASA	60%	83%	74%	86%	79%	19%
LBJ	40%	49%	44%	46%	53%	13%
McCallum	49%	49%	49%	58%	53%	3%
Reagan	38%	38%	38%	34%	34%	-5%
Travis	38%	35%	35%	41%	34%	-5%
Bastrop	32%	29%	34%	37%	33%	0%
Bastrop	35%	32%	39%	41%	36%	1%
Del Valle	32%	40%	35%	37%	40%	8%
Del Valle	40%	49%	53%	49%	52%	12%
Eanes	50%	71%	58%	33%	63%	13%
Westlake	50%	71%	58%	33%	63%	13%
Hays	35%	39%	40%	42%	40%	5%
Jack C Hays	37%	40%	40%	43%	37%	0%
Lehman	35%	42%	44%	42%	44%	9%
Lake Travis					35%	
Lake Travis					35%	
Hutto			51%	46%	37%	
Hutto			51%	46%	37%	37%
Leander	53%	49%	51%	56%	50%	-3%
Cedar Park	70%	68%	64%	59%	54%	-16%
Leander	55%	44%	46%	55%	52%	-2%
Rouse					47%	
Vandegrift					42%	
Vista Ridge	54%	57%	58%	63%	51%	-3%
Manor	35%	36%	43%	44%	52%	17%
Manor	36%	37%	47%	46%	54%	18%
Pflugerville	44%	54%	54%	54%	52%	8%
Hendrickson	43%	57%	60%	50%	47%	4%
John B Connally	46%	52%	55%	56%	57%	11%
Pflugerville	44%	55%	49%	54%	50%	6%
Round Rock	50%	48%	49%	51%		1%
McNeil	61%	56%	62%	53%		-8%
Round Rock	52%	49%	48%	44%		-9%
Stony Point	45%	50%	49%	59%		14%
Westwood	63%	52%	65%	76%		14%
San Marcos	32%	31%	33%	26%	30%	-2%
San Marcos	35%	38%	33%	26%	30%	-4%

Source: Student Futures Project outcomes come from the StudentTracker service from the National Student Clearinghouse.

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