

# **Building a Talent Strong Texas**

Senate Education Subcommittee on Higher Education  
March 1, 2023

Commissioner Harrison Keller, Ph.D.

**“We project that by 2030,  
62 percent of all jobs in  
Texas will require some  
postsecondary education.”**

*Anthony Carnevale  
Director and Research Professor  
The Center on Education and the Workforce  
Georgetown University*

# Building a Talent Strong Texas

2022-2030 STRATEGIC PLAN

## GOALS

**ATTAINMENT**  
of Postsecondary  
Credentials

Postsecondary  
**CREDENTIALS**  
**OF VALUE**

**RESEARCH,**  
Development,  
and Innovation

### COMMITMENT TO EQUITY

Data will be tracked and disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, and income



### COLLABORATION

Engage public and private sector stakeholders to break down historic silos



# Postsecondary Credentials of Value

Credentials from Texas institutions of higher education must provide a positive return on investment:

- Economic **benefits exceed typical costs** to receive them
- **No debt or manageable student debt** in relation to potential earnings
- Programs help students progress efficiently towards completion and **align with career opportunities**

BASELINE

2019:  
347,669

TARGET

**GOAL:**  
550K

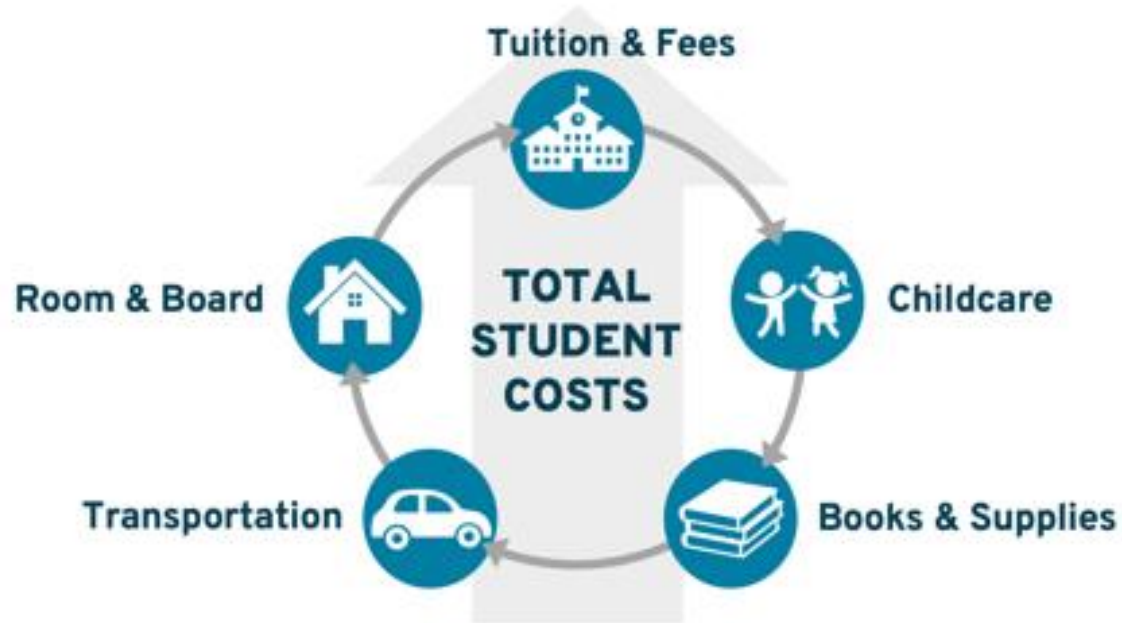
Students completing postsecondary credentials of value each year

2019:  
94%

**GOAL:**  
95%

of graduates with **no or manageable levels of undergrad debt** in relation to potential earnings

# Rising Cost of Attendance (COA) in Texas



- Basic living expenses account for 62% of COA
- From 2021 to 2022,
  - Tuition and fees: 2.3% increase
  - Rent: 5-30% increase
  - Groceries: 13.5% increase
  - Childcare\*: 5% increase
- Other expenses not considered
  - Medical expenses, insurance, utilities, internet, and cell phone

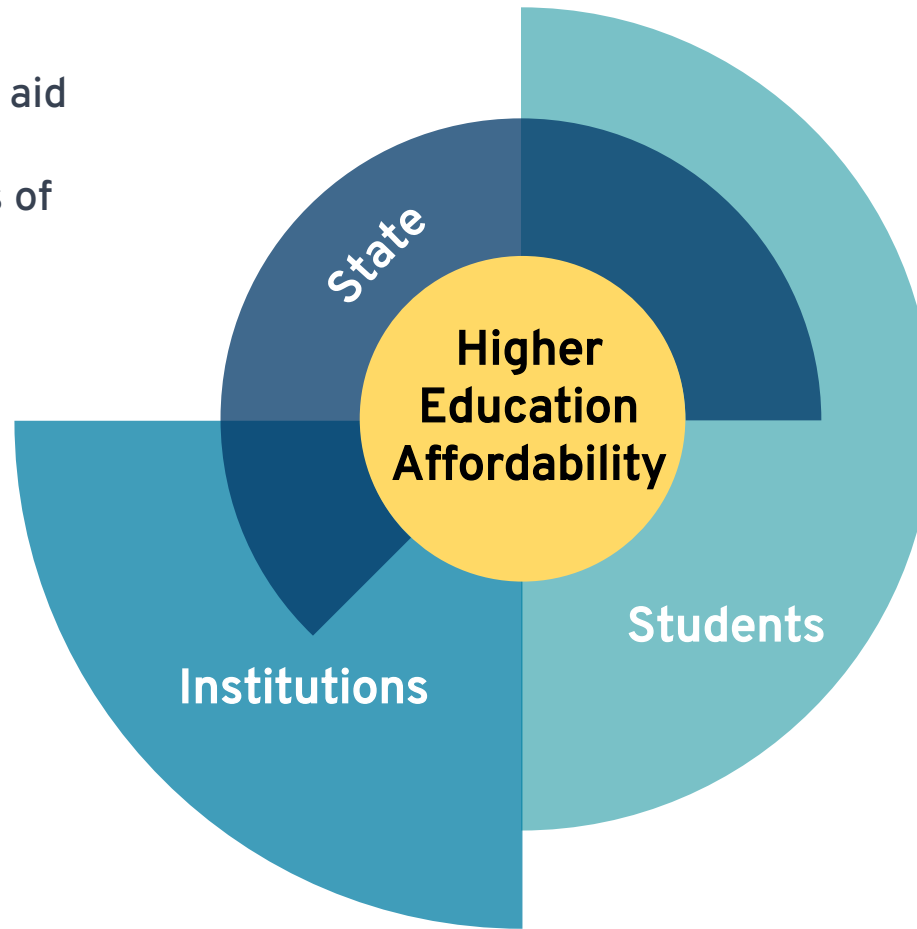
# Shared Responsibility

## State

Provide targeted financial aid and direct support to institutions to offset costs of higher education.

## Institutions

Provide efficient pathways toward credentials of value, support and monitor students' progress, set tuition and fees at reasonable rates, and provide financial aid.

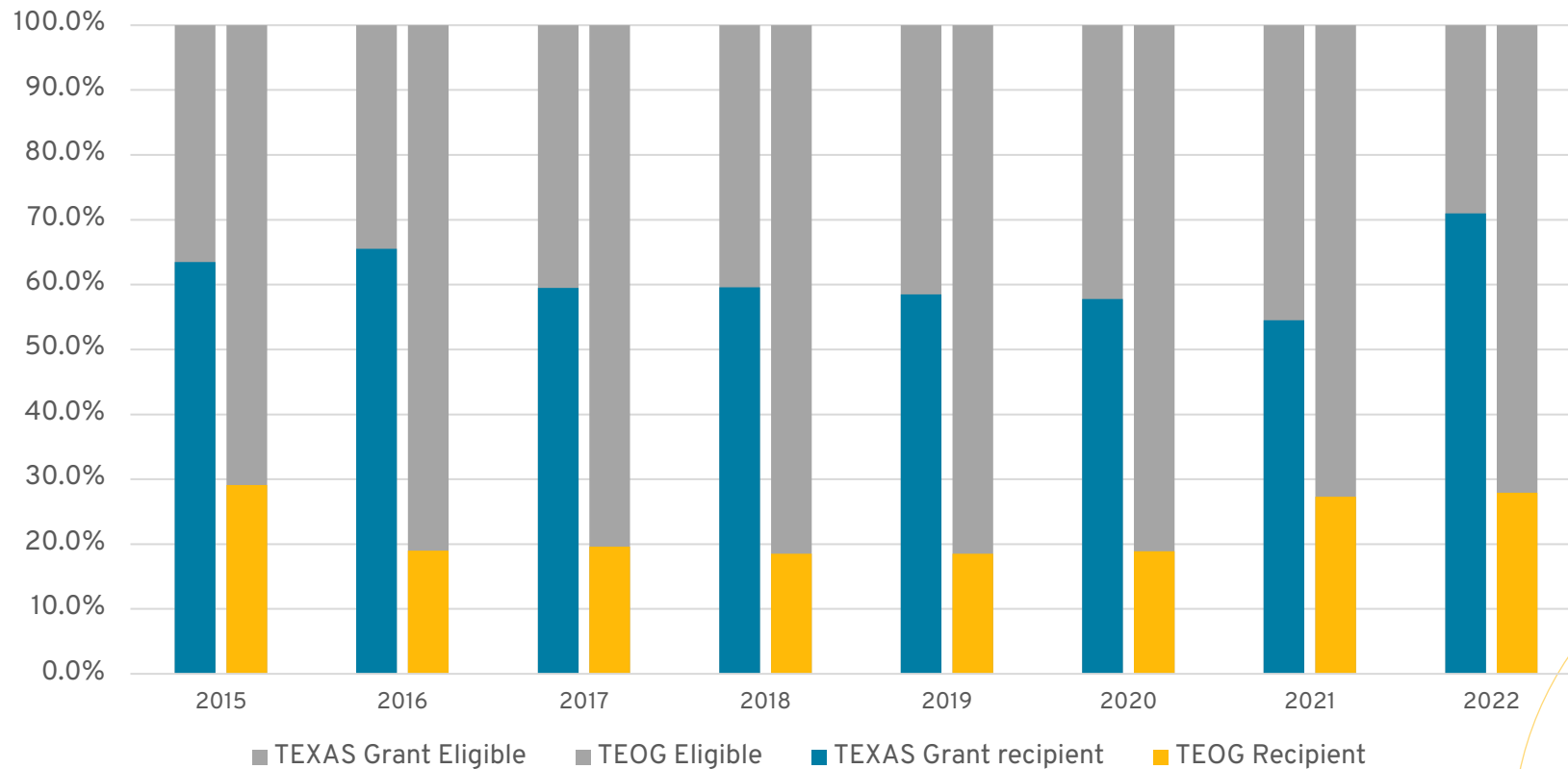


## Students

Pursue a credential of value by using a combination of financial resources (e.g., savings, financial aid, debt, and working while enrolled), and persist toward their aspirations in a timely manner.

# State Financial Aid is Critical for Student Affordability

Percent of Eligible Students served for TEXAS Grants and TEOG



The Coordinating Board administers **over \$600M** annually in state financial aid grant assistance benefitting more than **100,000 Texas students who have financial need.**

# Innovations in Financial Aid

With federal GEER funding, the Coordinating Board has been able to deploy innovative strategies for providing **targeted financial aid** to priority populations:



## TEXAS TRANSFER GRANTS PILOT PROGRAM

Provides **portable, need-based grant aid** to **high-achieving students who transfer** from Texas public two-year to four-year institutions.



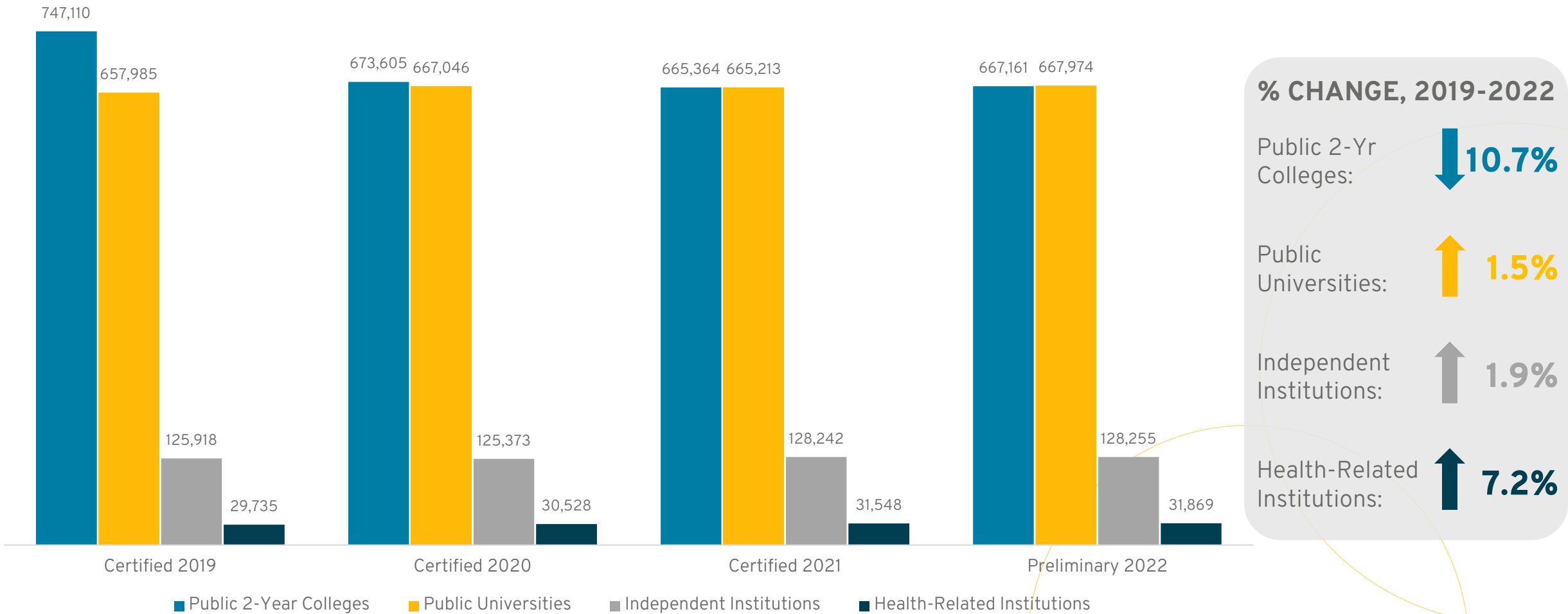
## TEXAS LEADERSHIP SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Provides **high-achieving, low-income high school seniors** with financial assistance, connections to professional networks, leadership development, and opportunities for undergraduate research at 18 Texas public universities.

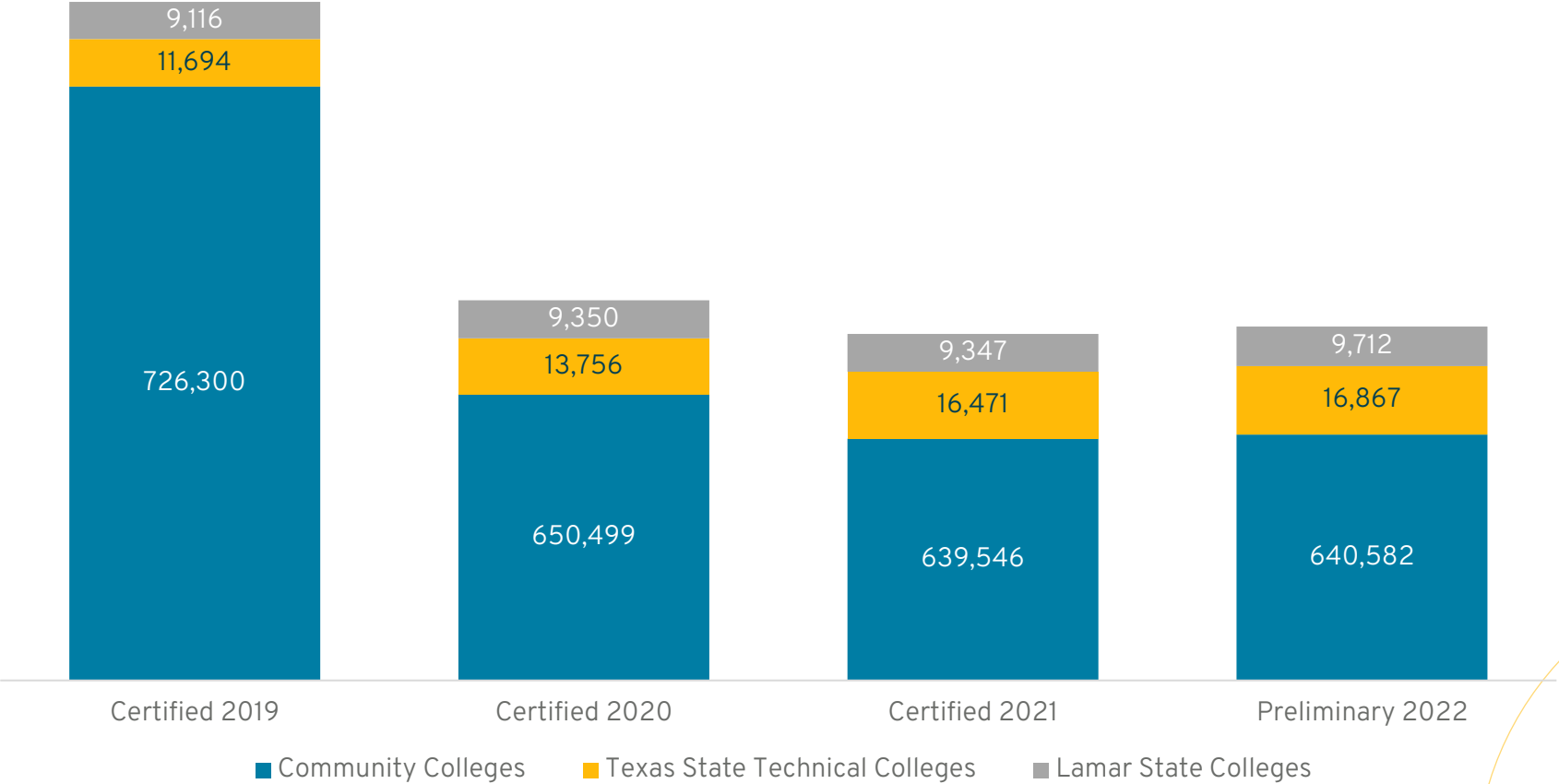


# Higher Education Enrollment

# Statewide enrollments have been stable over the last two years except for 2-year institutions



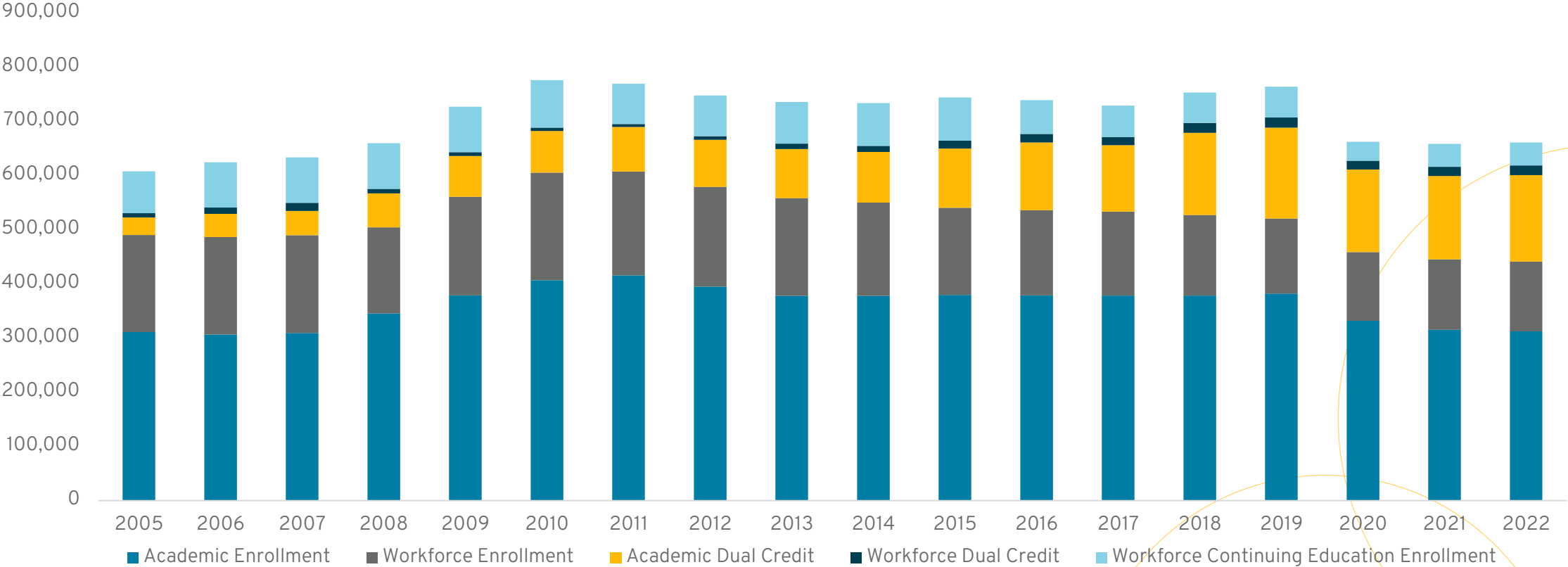
# Enrollment changes among public two-year institutions have varied by type of college



**% CHANGE, 2019-2022**

- Community Colleges: **↓ 11.8%**
- Texas State Technical Colleges: **↑ 44.2%**
- Lamar State Colleges: **↑ 6.5%**

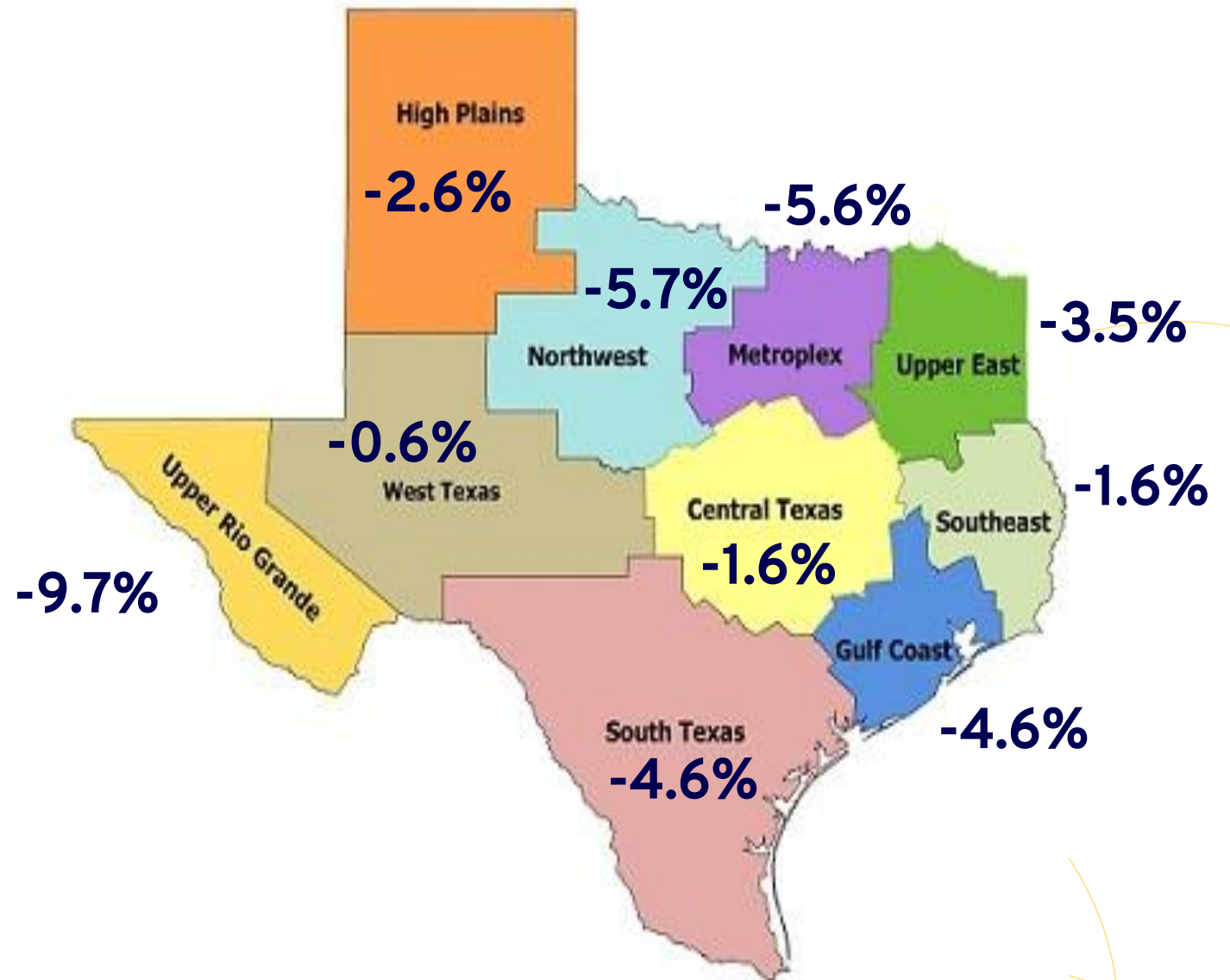
# Overall enrollment has declined at community colleges over past 10 years



Academic enrollments excluding dual credit declined by approximately **82,000** from fall 2012 to fall 2022.  
 Traditional and continuing workforce education (excluding dual credit) declined by approximately **88,000** from fall 2012 to fall 2022.  
 Dual credit enrollments have increased by approximately **84,000** from fall 2012 to fall 2022.

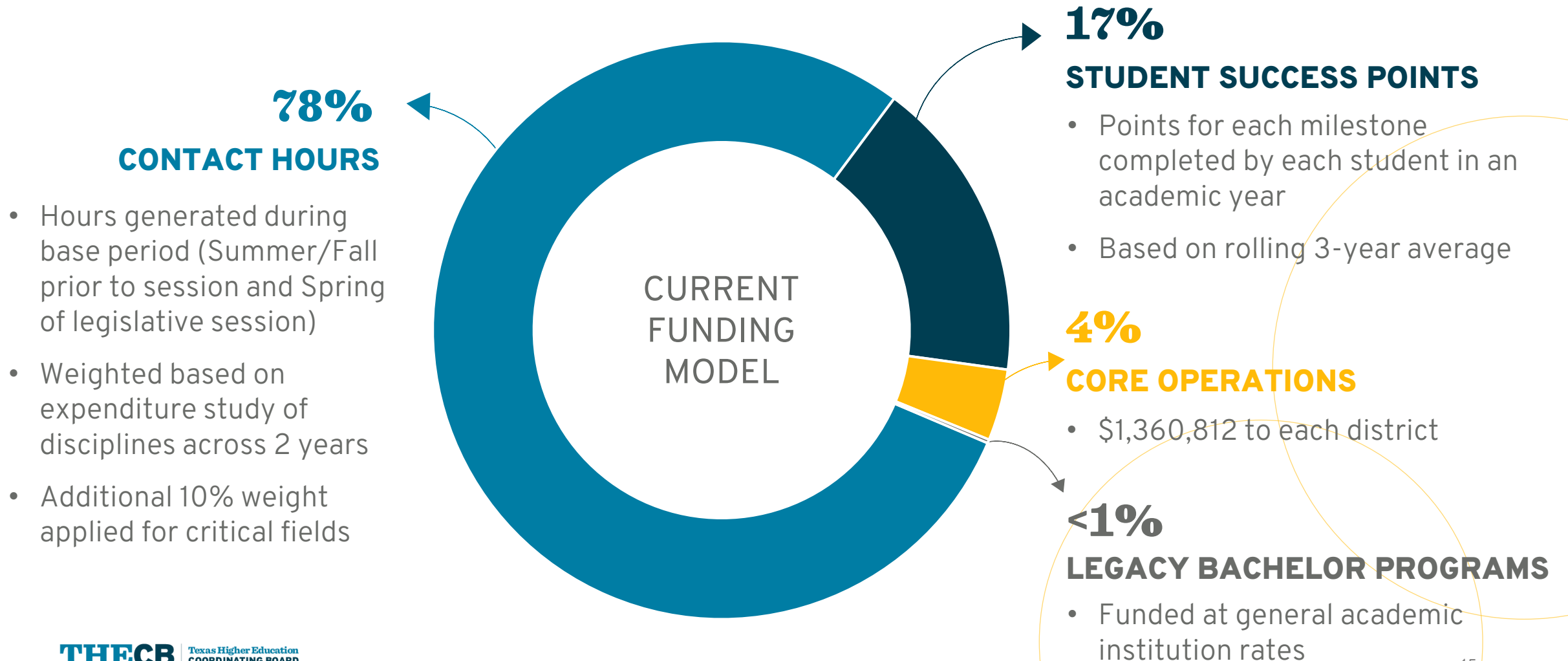
# Enrollment by region:

## 2022 compared to 2019



# Texas Commission on Community College Finance (TxCCCF)

# Current Community College Funding Formula



The 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature established the  
**Texas Commission on Community College Finance**  
through S.B. 1230, empowering its members:

*“...to make recommendations for consideration by the 88th Texas Legislature regarding the state funding formula and funding levels for public junior colleges in Texas that would be sufficient to sustain viable junior college education and training offerings throughout the state.”*



# TxCCCF Recommendations

Recommendations will advance the goals outlined in *Building a Talent Strong Texas*, which empowers higher education institutions to offer degrees, certificates, and other credentials that can help both traditional students and adult learners.



**STATE FUNDING  
FOR OUTCOMES**



**AFFORDABILITY  
FOR STUDENTS**



**INVESTMENTS IN  
COLLEGE CAPACITY**