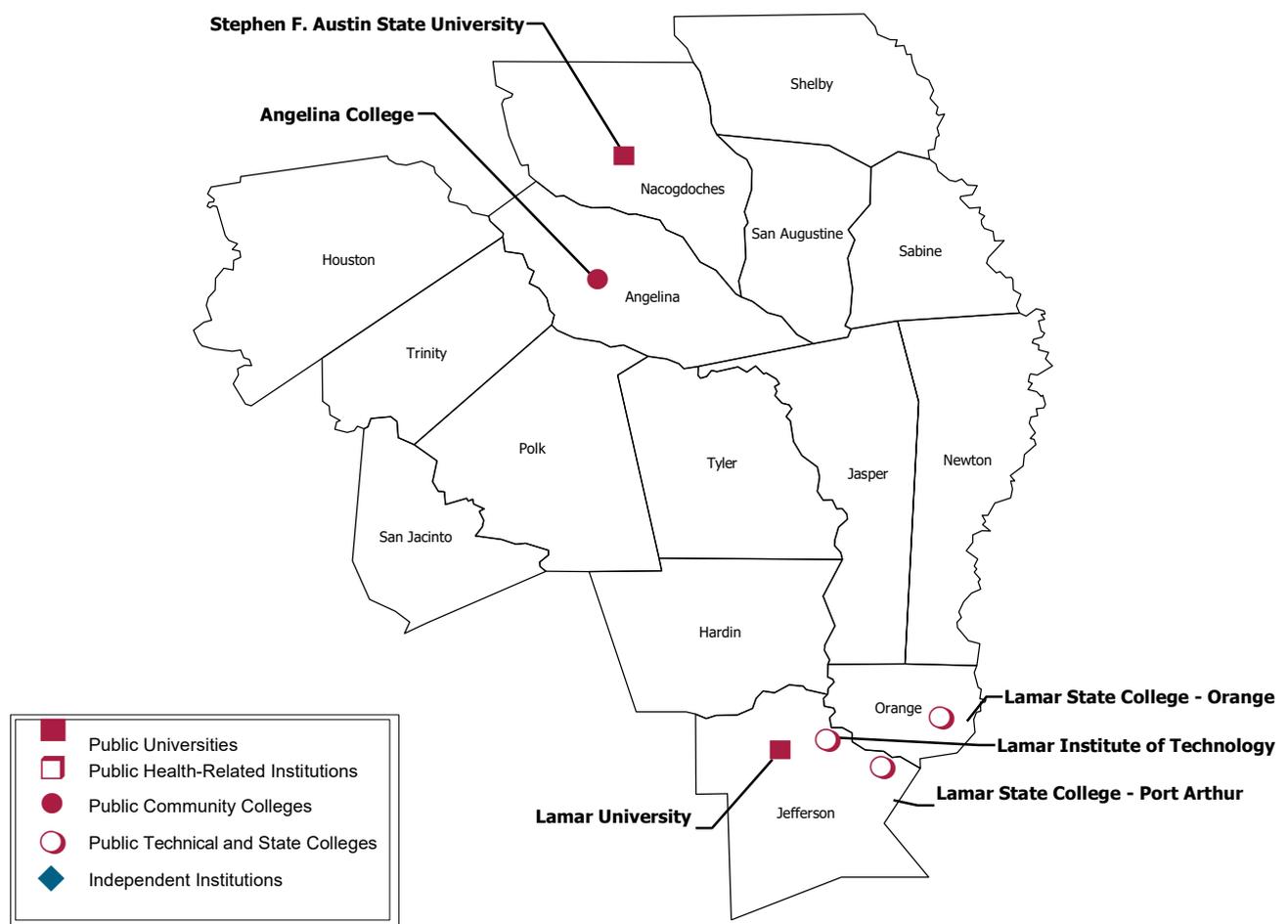
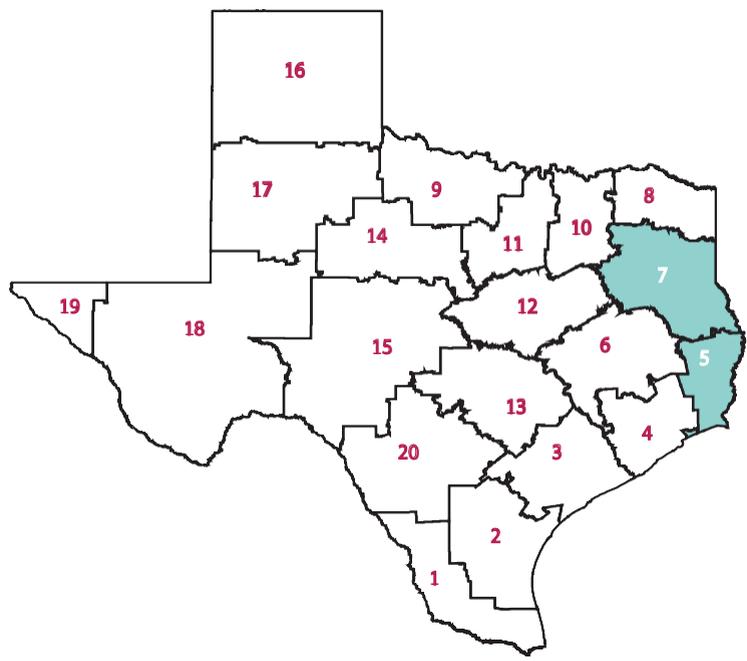


# Southeast 2019 – 2020 REGIONAL ACTION PLAN

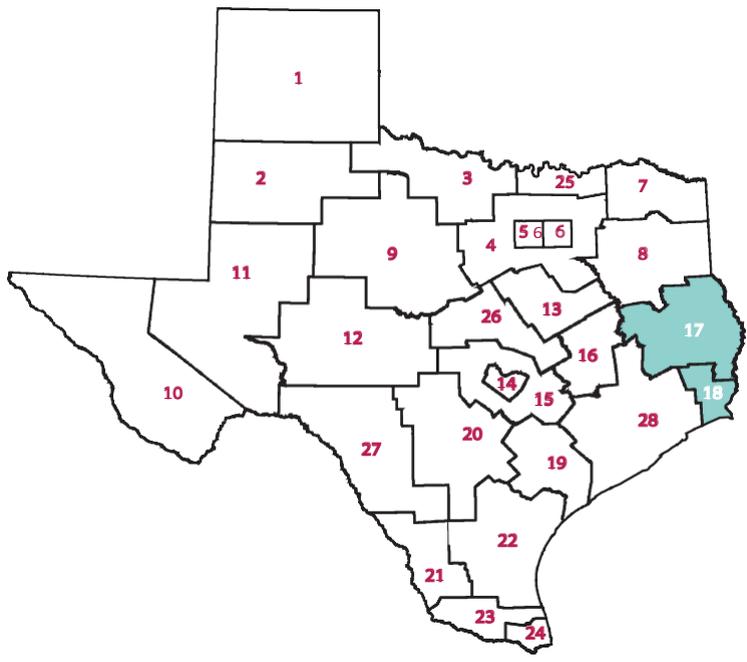
## Higher Education Region



## Education Service Centers (K12)



## TWC Workforce Development Areas



# REGIONAL STRATEGIES

## Southeast East Region

### 60x30: EDUCATED POPULATION

#### Completed Activities

The Southeast Region created a short video (2 minutes and 25 seconds) promoting the 60x30TX educated population goal for the Southeast region to the following regional target audiences: Middle school students, high school students, the students' parents, high school counselors, and workforce partners. The video features a logo for Region 5 designed by graphic arts students from Lamar State College Port Arthur. The video was written, filmed, and produced by Mass Communication majors from Stephen F. Austin State University. The video is accessible via YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZCOSUSR\\_C8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZCOSUSR_C8). The video link has been sent to all IHEs in the region to disseminate to the ISDs and workforce partners with which they interact. We are also designing a flier with the LSCPA logo and essential information about 60x30TX as it applies to the Southeast region and will be printing thousands of copies and distributing them to stakeholders in the region during the Fall 2019 semester (chambers of commerce, area industries, ISDs, and municipal/county libraries).

#### 2019 – 2020 Planned Activities

By September 30, 2019, all IHEs will have disseminated the video to area ISDs and workforce partners. By December 13, 2019, all IHEs will have distributed fliers to area ISDs, workforce partners and libraries. All IHEs in the region will convene one meeting/event with economic development/workforce partners by the end of December, 2019, and a second by the end of May, 2020, to increase awareness of the need to grow the region's educated population and to create synergies for doing so.

#### Insights Related to Educated Population Data Trends

**2017 Educated Population 30.4%**

**2016 Educated Population 31.5%**

**2015 Educated Population 32.9%**

Population data for the region indicates that of the three largest demographic groups--white, African-American, and Hispanic--the only one that is appreciably growing is the Hispanic demographic. However, this group also has the lowest percentage of college enrollment, which may partly explain the drop in the educated population for the region over the past three years. Another factor is that, according to demographic projections provided by the state of Texas in conjunction with U.S. Census data, the population in two-thirds of the counties in the region will decline, with the only significant

growth to be occurring in San Jacinto County (+35%), Polk County (+18%), and Orange County (+7.3). Angelina County is projected to grow at a slower pace (+4.5%), and Jefferson County to barely grow (+1.2%). The largest population decline is to the demographic with the highest level of education in the region--the white demographic. This decline is already under way and may also be a contributing cause for the drop in the educated population percentage for the Southeast. IHEs in the region are making an effort to reach out to young Hispanic students and at-risk students to try to reverse the trend.

## COMPLETION

### Completed Activities

In order to meet our completion goal, all IHEs in the region will post their degree maps on the North Texas Community College Consortium's Transfer Collaborative Guided Pathways portal (which is set to become a statewide collaborative run by the CB). All two-year schools in the region will map their associate degrees to the bachelor's degrees of the two four-year schools in the region.

### 2019 – 2020 Planned Activities

The degrees will be mapped for all IHEs by May 1, 2020.

### Insights Related to Completion Data Trends

**2018 Completion 9,063**

**2017 Completion 9,366**

**2016 Completion 8,814**

The completion number is up slightly since 2016, which attests to the intentional and diligent work being done by IHEs in the region to increase persistence and graduation rates. The growing challenge is that more and more college students will be first-generation due to the growing working-class Hispanic population in the region. It will be incumbent upon IHEs to provide resources and mentorship to first-generation students to give them the "college knowledge" and sense of belonging on a college campus necessary for them to complete their degree/credential.

## HIGH SCHOOL-TO-HIGHER EDUCATION

### Completed Activities

To meet the high school-to-higher ed goal, each IHE in the region will hold at least one major meeting with the high school counselors from the IHE's respective top feeder schools in order to share information on curricular updates, improve communication flow, and resolve obstacles regarding the student transition from high school to college. Due to receiving a second 60x30TX dissemination grant from the CB, the Southeast region will be able to build and maintain a Region 5 website containing admissions information for all IHEs in the region, as well as financial aid information and other information essential to successfully preparing for and attending college.

### 2019 – 2020 Planned Activities

During the 2019-2020 academic year (by May 15, 2020), all IHEs in the region will have held at least two major meetings with high school counselors from major feeder schools to share information and do curricular updates. By May 15, 2020, the Region 5 website will be fully constructed and accessible to high school counselors, their students, and parents throughout the Southeast.

### Insights to High School-To-Higher Education Data Trends

**2018 High school-to-higher education rate 48.1%**

**2017 High school-to-higher education rate 49.4%**

**2016 High school-to-higher education rate 48.4%**

The high school-to-higher-ed metric is flat and needs to increase. One of the things the IHEs discovered at their meeting held at Lamar University on February 26, 2019, with ISD superintendents and workforce partners was that high school counselors are not able to spend quality time with their students to guide them through the college admissions and financial aid processes because the bulk of their time is taken up with making sure they have completed all necessary coursework and testing to graduate high school, handling behavioral issues, and filing reams of required paperwork on each student. Therefore, the more IHEs can touch base with high school counselors and provide them with easily accessible information for their students to enroll in college, the wider we can make the high school to college pipeline.

## Organizational Structure

The lead coordinator for 60x30TX initiatives in Region 5 is Dr. Marc Guidry, Associate Provost, SFA. The coordinator for the Region 5 60x30TX website is Mr. Mark Knowles, Director of Institutional Effectiveness, LSCPA IHEs within the region have held multiple large, face-to-face meetings within the region to set strategies and create action plans to achieve the 60x30TX goals. They have also used conference calls, and met at CB organized 60x30TX events in order to coordinate on 60x30TX initiatives. Finally, group emails have been useful to facilitating communication. The 60x30TX representatives at each IHE will continue to use these methods to communicate and coordinate as needed.