



El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence: A Holistic Transformative Educational Approach

Presentation for Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators (AHSIE)

Tuesday, March 10, 2020



El Paso Collaborative
for Academic Excellence



Understanding the El Paso community



- Bi-national, Tri-state, Bilingual
- Geographically isolated
- One large university and one large community college

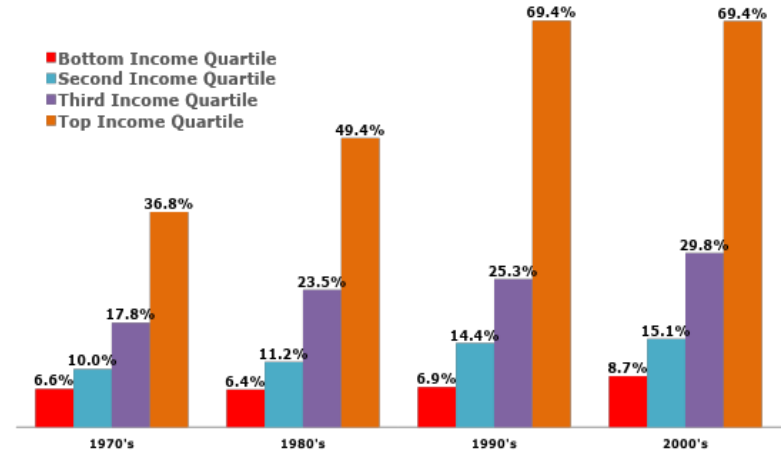
- 2.5M people reside in the El Paso, Cd. Juarez, & Southern New Mexico metroplex
- ~800,000 residents in El Paso
- 6th largest city in Texas
- 83% Hispanic
- 77% with high school diploma or higher
- \$21K per capita in El Paso
- 20% poverty

Source: "U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: El Paso County, Texas." *Census Bureau QuickFacts*, www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/elpasocountytexas/PST045218.

Families grow by degrees



U.S. Family Income and Educational Attainment: 1970 to 2010






The Washington Post




"Their study (Chetty et al.) identified several universities — California State University at Los Angeles, City University of New York and the University of Texas at El Paso — that accept large numbers of low-income students and generate "very good outcomes." Such colleges could provide a "scalable model for increasing upward mobility" — and at an instructional cost of \$8,000 per student, compared with \$54,000 at elite private colleges. Not enhancing taxpayer support for such schools would seem criminal. That's just one idea — but it's a big one."

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO™




Laying the Foundation for Educational Attainment-1990-1992

	<p>1983- A Nation at Risk: The Imperative for Educational Reform motivates colleges, universities, school districts and community leaders to address the issues it raised.</p>
	<p>If we assume that talent crosses gender, ethnic/race and socioeconomic boundaries, and if UTEP's goals were to impact the economy and quality of life, then it was our OBLIGATION to provide access.</p>
	<p>1991- El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence is formed and functions as a cross-sector leadership council focused on increasing educational aspirations and raising educational attainment of all young people in El Paso.</p>




Calibrating Academic Standards, 1992-1996

	<p>Collaborative efforts to raise academic standards in K12 leads to successful pre-college preparation.</p>
	<p>UTEP's College of Education doubles down on teacher quality.</p>
	<p>UTEP revises its admissions policies, recognizing that standardized tests are not accurate predictors of student success, especially for students of low-income backgrounds.</p>

Establishing Systemic Reform, 1997-2000

	<p>EPCAЕ is recognized for systemic reform efforts and leading partnerships.</p>
	<p>All members of the Collaborative share a common agenda and contribute to its success.</p>
 <p>SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY • ENGINEERING • MATH</p>	<p>Focus on STEM significantly improved achievement scores among school children in the region.</p>

Closing the Academic Gap, 2001-2005

	<p>Enrollment at UTEP, especially Hispanic enrollment, increases as a result of the great investment in public education.</p>
	<p>Efforts in K12 lead to UTEP becoming the top-ranked Hispanic-Serving Institution in awarding STEM degrees to Hispanic students.</p>
	<p>Revitalized efforts in the College of Education lead to year long residency programs to prepare area teachers, including with families of school children.</p>

Building a College-Going Culture, 2006-2013



College bound activities permeate the local schools. School children arriving in yellow school buses flank the sidewalks of the University campus.






Students on the pathway to college understood expectations at every grade level and can accelerate their post-secondary education by earning **college credit** while attending high school.



The region experiences the highest percentage of high school seniors matriculating directly to college in Texas.

Increasing Innovation and Entrepreneurship, 2013- present

	<p>UTEP maintains the lowest cost of attendance to ensure that more of the youth across the region can afford college.</p>
	<p>Dual credit and early college high school programs dramatically increase opportunities for students across the region.</p>
	<p>Reverse transfer rewards students during their bachelor's degree journey with the associate's degree immediately upon meeting criteria.</p>



UTEP Impact and Demographics



- Carnegie, R1 designation
- \$108 million in annual research expenditures
- 20+ years of increased growth in student enrollment (+25,000)
- 22 doctoral degrees
- Over 5,000 degrees awarded in 2018-2019
- Awarded the Inaugural Seal of Excelencia by Excelencia in Education
- 83% Hispanic students
- 37% from households of \$20K or less
- 73% Pell recipients
- 4% Mexican Nationals
- 55% First Generation
- 84% from the El Paso area
- \$1.4 billion University-related local economic impact

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