Our mission is to transform college readiness, access, and success in the four counties of the Rio Grande Valley: Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy.

Our vision is for all RGV learners to achieve a degree or credential that leads to a meaningful career.

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS & MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

Since 2012, RGV FOCUS has partnered with education, business, and community leaders to help Rio Grande Valley students receive the education they need to achieve meaningful careers and lives. We recognize that many students, as well as their schools, family, and friends, are facing major challenges due to the pandemic.

This Annual Report shares new data and stories about our work from across our multi-cultural and multi-talented community. What matters most is the education and support of all students so they can succeed in school, in the workforce, and in life.

Together, we must help build a stronger Rio Grande Valley.

RGV FOCUS is committed to supporting Educate Texas' statewide 2025 Strategic Plan by achieving two essential goals in our region:

1. Adding 27,000 new postsecondary degrees and certificates to Texas’ higher education goal by 2025 (32% of Educate Texas’ statewide goal of 85,000 degrees and certificates)

2. Enabling schools to better attract, prepare, develop, and retain more high quality and diverse teachers to improve our state’s effective teaching workforce

OUR MISSION:

Our mission is to transform college readiness, access, and success in the four counties of the Rio Grande Valley: Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy.

OUR VISION:

Our vision is for all RGV learners to achieve a degree or credential that leads to a meaningful career.

2021 Annual Report

WHAT MATTERS MOST

Lo que más importa
MAKING A DIFFERENCE: CRADLE TO CAREER PATHWAY

* = RGV 2021 Average Meets or Exceeds the State 2021 Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RGV 2021 Average</th>
<th>RGV 2020 Average</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RGV Baseline Average</td>
<td>State 2021 Average</td>
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</tbody>
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*The information presented in this scorecard is the last reported data. Visit our website below for information on dates used for this year’s scorecard data.

*Due to disruptions caused by COVID-19 in the 2019-2020 school year, STAAR testing indicators were not tracked by the Texas Education Agency.

*Due to the consolidation of 4-year institutions of higher education in the RGV, a 4-year standard baseline is not applicable.

Visit EdTx.org/RGVscorecard for additional information about our scorecard data and sources.
RGV FOCUS ACTION NETWORKS

POSTSECONDARY DEGREES & CREDENTIALS IN HIGH SCHOOL

IMMEDIATE ENROLLMENT IN COLLEGE

HIGHER EDUCATION PERSISTENCE & COMPLETION

ELEVATING & PROMOTION TEACHER EFFECTIVENESS

BUSINESS & WORKFORCE ENGAGEMENT

RIO GRANDE VALLEY BY THE NUMBERS

1.37MM
Population

368K
Public Pre-K-12 Students (96% Latino)

72K
Public Higher Education Students (92% Latino)

13% of Hidalgo and Cameron County residents 25-34 years old are earning at least a $50,000 annual living wage.

In the RGV, 28% of the population lives below the poverty threshold, compared to 14% in the state.

Of RGV residents 25 years old and older:

6% have associate degrees, compared to 7% in that age group in the state.

18% have bachelor’s degrees or higher, compared to 31% in that age group in the state.

69% of RGV residents have internet access, compared to 85% in the state.

90% of RGV teachers are Latino, compared to 28% in the state.

9% RGV teacher turnover rate, compared to 14% in the state.

RGV teachers have an average 12.4 years of experience, compared to 11.2 years in the state.

29% of RGV Latino residents live in poverty, compared to 20% in the state.

46% of RGV high school graduates are college-ready, compared to 37% in the state.
The Rio Grande Valley is a multi-cultural community where language and talent are celebrated in our homes, in our schools, and on college and university campuses. Here, business and community leaders work side by side with parents and education leaders to give our children the academic foundation they need to succeed in the classroom, in their careers, and in life.

WE HAVE A MULTI-PRONGED APPROACH TO INCREASING COLLEGE READINESS AND IMMEDIATE ENROLLMENT, INCLUDING IDENTIFYING SENIORS WHO ARE NOT LIKELY TO PURSUE EDUCATION AFTER HIGH SCHOOL AND HELPING THEM TO OVERCOME CHALLENGES AND TO PLAN PATHS TO HIGHER EDUCATION THAT ARE BEST FOR THEM. WE HAVE ALSO PARTNERED WITH SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND COLLEGES ACROSS THE REGION TO HELP STUDENTS WHO HAVE DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL TO COMPLETE A GED AND BEGIN EARNING STACKABLE WORKFORCE CREDENTIALS.

TERI CAPISTRAN
Point Isabel ISD Superintendent and RGV FOCUS Leadership Team Chair

READ THE FULL STORY ONLINE
Read the latest stories about our work to address the digital divide, improve teacher quality and retention, and increase associate degrees earned in high school.

RGVFOCUS.ORG

OUR DESIGNATIONS AND NETWORKS

WITH HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS WHO SUPPORT OUR WORK

BILLY & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION
DELL TECHNOLOGIES
GREATER TEXAS FOUNDATION
TEXAS MUTUAL
THE MEADOWS FOUNDATION
W.W. CARUTH, JR. FUND AT COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION OF TEXAS

EDTX.ORG/RGVDESIGNATIONS

ABOUT EDUCATE TEXAS & COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION OF TEXAS

In 2012, Educate Texas and Communities Foundation of Texas (CFT) partnered with Valley-based leaders to establish RGV FOCUS. Educate Texas is proud to be an initiative of Communities Foundation of Texas and, together, we are building thriving communities and a thriving education system for all Texas students. Trusted as a change agent in Texas education, Educate Texas works side by side with partners through programs and policies to empower students to realize their dreams and fuel a thriving Texas.

RGVFOCUS.org | EdTx.org | CFTexas.org