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.
MAKING A DIFFERENCE ALONG THE CRADLE-TO-CAREER EDUCATIONAL PATHWAY

RGV FOCUS STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

**EARLY CHILDHOOD THROUGH ELEMENTARY**
- Improve quality of education through grade-level literacy in reading and math, pre-K through third grade

**SECONDARY THROUGH POSTSECONDARY**
- Decrease remediation/developmental education
- Re-engage individuals with significant college credits to complete a degree or credential
- Increase immediate enrollment to postsecondary after graduation from high school
- Increase accessibility of resources for students and families to make informed decisions about postsecondary options leading to a career

**MIDDLE SCHOOL TO HIGH SCHOOL**
- Ensure successful completion of four years of an intentional and rigorous math pathway with emphasis on 8th Grade Math

**TEACHING EXCELLENCE**
- Improve educator preparation through coordinated regional efforts

**WORKFORCE**
- Create regional youth workplace-based experience and models
- Support educational alignment with high-demand occupations for the region to meet the needs of industry

### MAKING A DIFFERENCE ALONG THE CRADLE-TO-CAREER EDUCATIONAL PATHWAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>RGV</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRE-K ENROLLMENT</strong></td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STAAR 8TH GRADE MATH</strong>*</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FAFSA COMPLETION</strong></td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AP/DUAL CREDIT COMPLETION</strong></td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>STAAR 3RD GRADE READING</strong></td>
<td>---</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4-YEAR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE</strong></td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COLLEGE-READY GRADUATES</strong></td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HIGHER ED. IMMEDIATE ENROLLMENT RATE</strong></td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data is for Graduating Class of 2019 | **Data is for Graduating Class of 2020 | *** Due to the consolidation of 4-year institutions of higher education in the RGV, a 4-year standard baseline is not applicable | ****Due to disruptions caused by COVID-19 in the 2019-2020 school year with STAAR testing, these indicators were not tracked by the Texas Education Agency.
To view our sources, please visit edtx.org/documentsources.

PUBLIC HIGHER ED. GRADUATION RATE 2-YEAR
- 29%
- 17%

2-YEAR
- 90%
- 92%

PUBLIC HIGHER ED. GRADUATION RATE 4-YEAR***
- 30%

4-YEAR
- 80%
- 78%

HIGHER ED. GRADUATES EMPLOYED/ENROLLED 2-YEAR

HIGHER ED. GRADUATES EMPLOYED/ENROLLED 4-YEAR

RGV BY THE NUMBERS

1.36MM people call the Rio Grande Valley Home

Median Age 30

92% Latino Population

In the RGV, 30% of the population lives below the poverty threshold, compared to 15% in the state

Of RGV residents 25 years old and older, 18% have bachelor’s degrees or higher, compared to 30% in that age group in the state and 32% in the United States

37 Public Independent School Districts

366K Students in Public pre-K–12 (96% Latino)

Public and Private Institutions of Higher Education across the RGV

74K Public Higher Education Students (92% Latino)
The Rio Grande Valley is a place where English and Spanish are beautifully blended, and where language and culture are celebrated in our communities, in our homes, in our schools, and on college and university campuses. Here, businesses and leaders of community-based organizations 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.

Each one of the parents who are sitting with us at the table and are talking about education – it’s coming from the heart. It is coming from this hambre, this hunger that we have as parents for our kids’ success and for our own education as well....

RGV FOCUS became a teacher to our leaders and our parents which was a gift, un regalo de Dios para nosotros in our committee....

LOURDES FLORES
ARISE President and Chair of the Equal Voice Network Education Working Group

ABOUT EDUCATE TEXAS AND 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.