The Rio Grande Valley is made up of Starr, Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy counties. Over one million people live in the RGV. Most people are very young, so education is important to the success of the region.

1.3 million people live in the RGV, in an area of 4,316 square miles.

Median age is 29 years, compared to 34 in Texas and 37 in the U.S.

35% live below the poverty line and the median income is $30,000.

The RGV FOCUS Community Report explains how well we are preparing our students. We are improving but still have work to do.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION</th>
<th>UNITED STATES</th>
<th>TEXAS</th>
<th>RGV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than high school graduate</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate (includes equivalency)</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college or associates degree</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree or higher</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

39 school districts with 347,337 students

97.3% Latino
86.7% Economically Disadvantaged
33.5% English Language Learners
20,383 High School Graduates

3 colleges and 1 university* with 68,993 students

91% Latino

Doctorates: 20
Master’s: 1,016
Bachelor’s: 3,999
Associates: 3,796
Certificates: 2,432

ANNUAL AWARDS
RGV FOCUS works to increase the number of students going to and completing college. We work with school districts, colleges, and community groups to improve student lives. Over 40 groups are working together on this effort.

OUR PARTNERS

*Starting in fall 2015, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley was created, bringing together the resources and assets of The University of Texas at Brownsville and The University of Texas Pan American. Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2010-2014; Texas Education Agency, Texas Academic Performance Reports (TAPR), 2014-2015; Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Higher Education Accountability System
ACHIEVING EDUCATIONAL DREAMS:

More young adults in the RGV are graduating high school and getting a college education.

Education is important. It helps you get jobs and earn higher incomes. More and more, some college education or a college degree is key to get a job.

In education, adults in the RGV have some work to do to catch up to other adults in Texas and the U.S. 38% did not finish high school. This is two times more than Texas and three times more than the U.S. 24% finished high school. 22% have some college or a two-year degree. Only 16% have a four-year degree.
But young adults in the RGV are making progress. More RGV students are graduating high school and getting some college education. Just under half (41%) of 18- to 24-year-old young adults finished some college. That’s almost two times the rate of RGV adults 25 years and older. This progress shows that the RGV is achieving its educational dreams and changing for the better.

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey
# 2015 RGV Focus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>2013-2014 (Difference with Baseline)</th>
<th>2011-2012 Baseline</th>
<th>Texas Data (Most Recent Year Available)</th>
<th>RGV Comparison against Texas</th>
<th>Match or Exceed the State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4-Year HS Graduation Rate</td>
<td>89% (↑2%)</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>(↑1%)</td>
<td>🟩</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% FAFSA Completion</td>
<td>59% (no change)</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>(↑6%)</td>
<td>🟩</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% College Ready Graduates</td>
<td>47% (no change)</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>(↓7%)</td>
<td>🟩</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% AP / Dual Credit Completion</td>
<td>38% (↑6%)</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>(↑5%)</td>
<td>🟩</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Green star indicates RGV matched or exceeded Texas’ performance.

*White star indicates RGV did not match or exceed Texas’ performance.

## 4-Year High School Graduation Rate
Take the first step to becoming a college graduate by earning your high school diploma.

## % FAFSA Completion
Complete by March 15th to improve chances of receiving financial aid.

## % College Ready Graduates
Become college ready by performing well on state exams, ACT, or SAT.

## % Advanced Placement or Dual Credit Completion
Get a head start to college by earning college credit in high school.

*These data points are for the 2012-2013 year, since the 2013-2014 data was not yet available.

## US Scorecard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Higher Ed Immediate Enrollment Rate</th>
<th>Higher Ed Graduation Rate</th>
<th>Higher Ed Graduates Employed or Enrolled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2-Year College</td>
<td>4-Year University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2-Year College</td>
<td>4-Year University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59% (↑3%)</td>
<td>16% (↓1%)</td>
<td>49% (↑5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54% (↑5%)</td>
<td>15% (↑1%)</td>
<td>60% (↓11%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Higher Education Immediate Enrollment Rate**
Increase your chances of earning a degree on time by immediately enrolling in college.

**Higher Education Graduation Rate – 2-Year College**
Increase your chances of being fully employed in one of the fastest growing occupations which require a college degree.

**Higher Education Graduation Rate – 4-Year University**
Increase your chances of being fully employed in one of the fastest growing occupations which require a bachelor’s degree.

**Higher Education Graduates Employed or Enrolled – 2-Year College**
Complete an associates degree to increase earning potential.

**Higher Education Graduates Employed or Enrolled – 4-Year University**
Complete a bachelor’s degree to double earning potential, compared to a high school graduate.