

Data Point

St. Philip's College
June 2021

An item of factual information derived from measurement or research

A Look at Educational Attainment by State: High, Low, and Texas

Figure 54-1 (left) features the educational attainment of 25 to 34 year olds by state. Educational attainment is highest in Massachusetts (MA) with 59.6% completing an Associate Degree or Higher (53.3% have a Bachelor Degree or higher)*. New Mexico (NM) shows the lowest attainment of higher education with 31.1% earning an Associates Degree or Higher (22.6% with a Bachelor Degree or Higher)* Texas falls -10.5% below MA and +8% above NM with 39.1% earning an Associate Degree or Higher (31.3% Bachelor Degree or Higher).

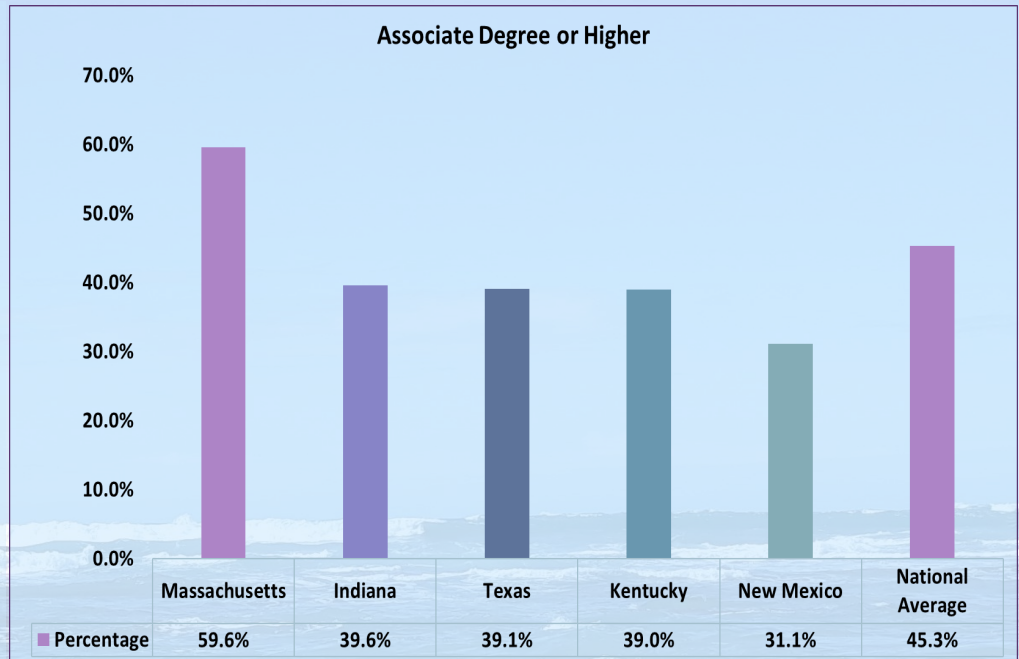


Figure 54-1: Educational attainment comparison of highest, lowest, and TX Comparisons
Data Source: 2020 Texas Public Higher Education Almanac**

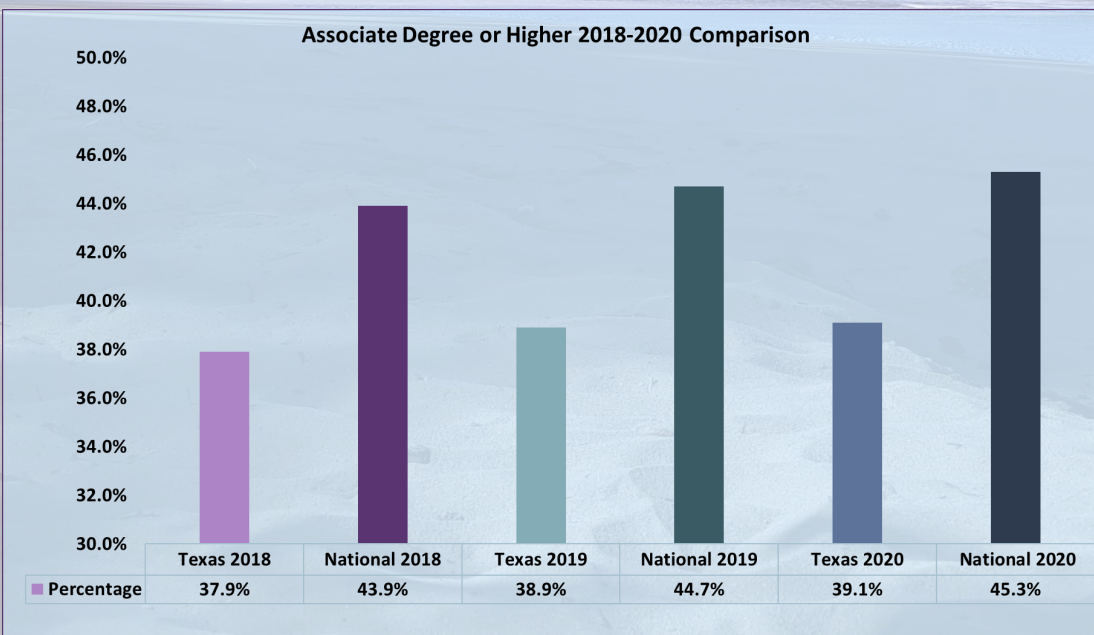


Figure 54-2: Educational attainment 3-year Texas and national comparison
Data Source: 2018, 2019, 2020 Texas Public Higher Education Almanacs

As seen in Figure 54-2 (left), educational attainment in Texas consistently falls between 5 and 6% below national averages for associate degree attainment, while bachelor degree attainment has been 4.7-5.0% lower than the national averages for the same period*. Bachelors degree or higher attainment shown in Figure 54-3 (below).

Year	Texas	USA
2018	30.2%	35.0%
2019	31.0%	35.7%
2020	31.3%	36.3%

Figure 54-3

*Bachelor Degree or higher not shown in chart

** Education attainment: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018

Figure 54-4 (right) shows student loan default rates for states with the lowest (Rhode Island) and highest (Mississippi) default rates, as well as Texas and its nearest comparison states (Wyoming and Nevada). As depicted, there exists a greater than 12% difference between the lowest and highest default rates. At 12.7%, Texas default rate is +2.8% above the national average.

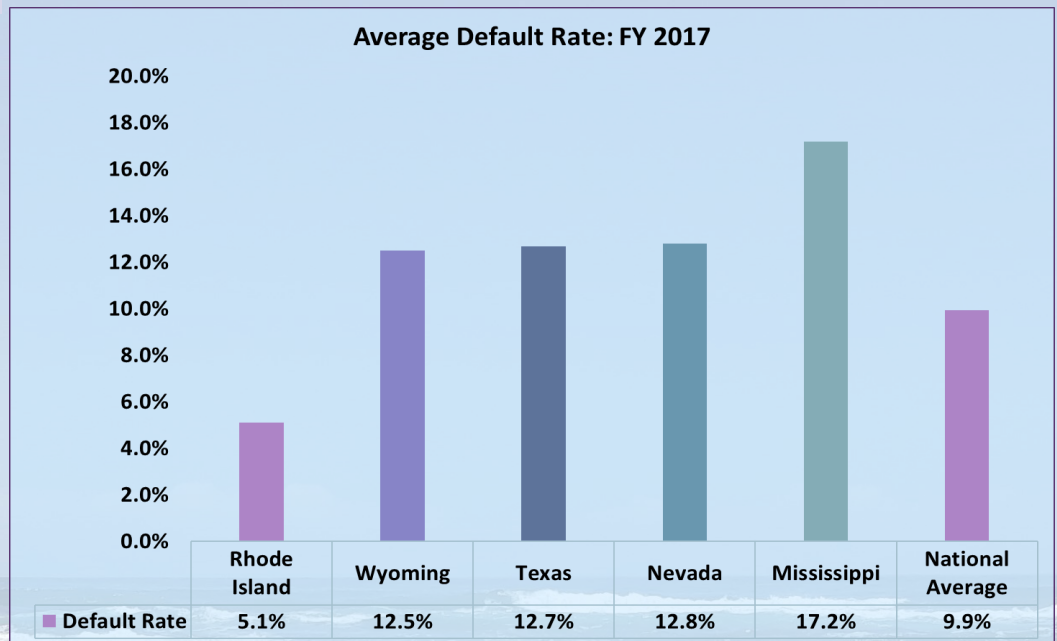


Figure 54-4: FY 2017 cohort default rates by state; lowest, highest and Texas comparisons Data Source: Federal Student Aid (FSA) data calculated September 2020

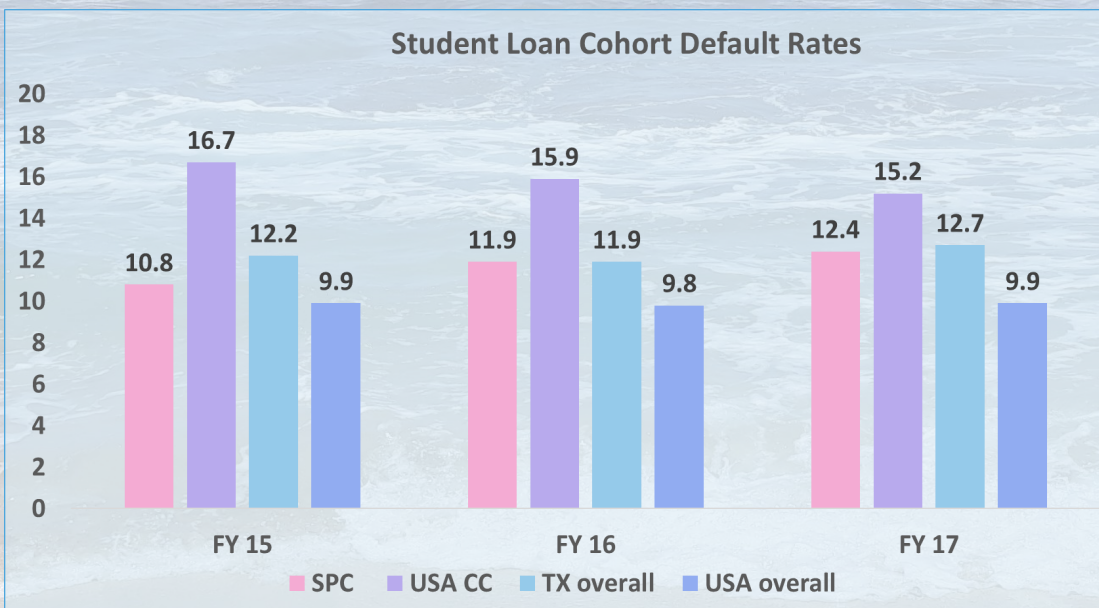
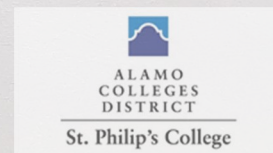


Figure 54-5: Average default rates 2015—2017 by community college and overall Data Source: Federal Student Aid (FSA) data calculated September 2020

Figure 54-5 (above) displays cohort default rates for 2015, 2016, and 2017 across SPC, national community colleges (USA CC), all Texas institutions (TX overall), and all national institutions (USA overall). As indicated, SPC 2017 cohort achieved a lower default rate (12.4%) than either the national community college average (15.2%) or the Texas overall average (12.7%) but remained higher than the overall national average (9.9%).



**Institutional Planning,
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