

# A Review of University: Access Affordability

### Student Success



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#### **ACCESS**

Texas Southern University is a student-centered comprehensive doctoral university committed to

- ensuring equality,
- offering innovative programs that are responsive to its urban setting, and
- transforming diverse students into lifelong learners, engaged citizens, and creative leaders in their local, national, and global communities.



#### **Profile of First-time Freshmen**

- 85% In-State
  - Top Counties: Harris(52%), Dallas (13%), Tarrant (7%), Fort
     Bend (6%) . All other counties are 3% or less

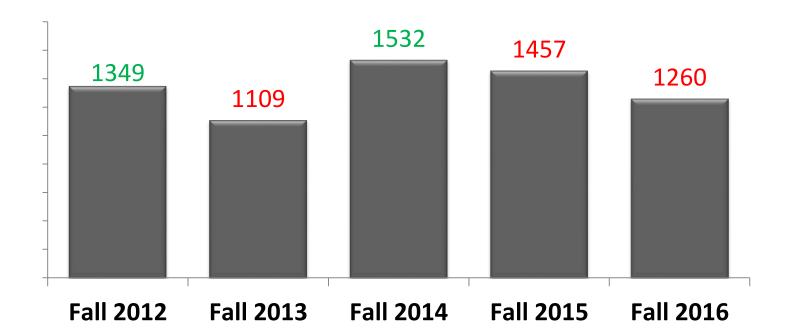


- 19 years old-Average age
- 2.85 Average (mean) high school GPA

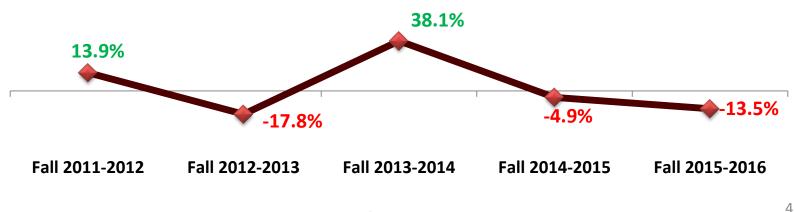


- About 50% are first-generation college students
- Over 50% require some developmental education

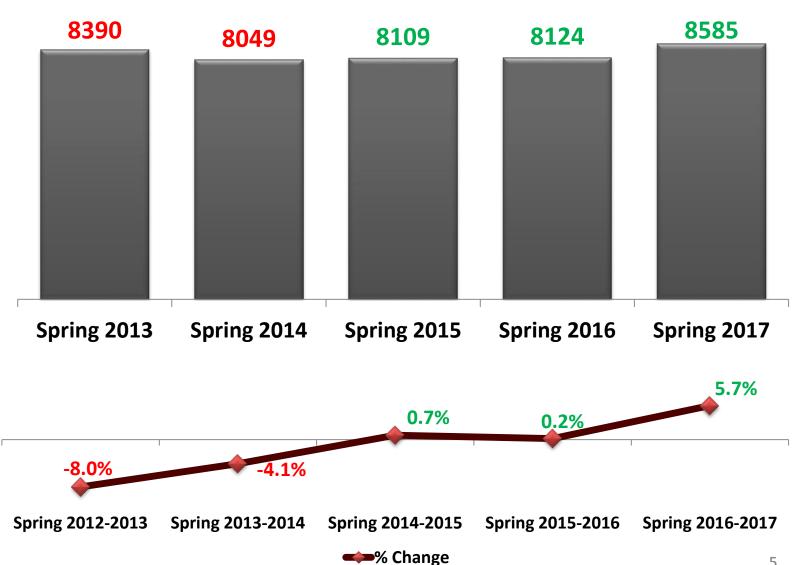
#### Access: Fall Enrollment Trends 1st-Time Freshmen







#### **Enrollment Trends: Spring Total Population**

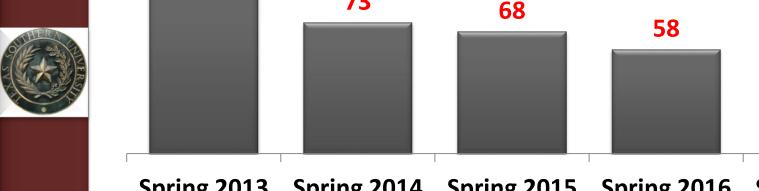




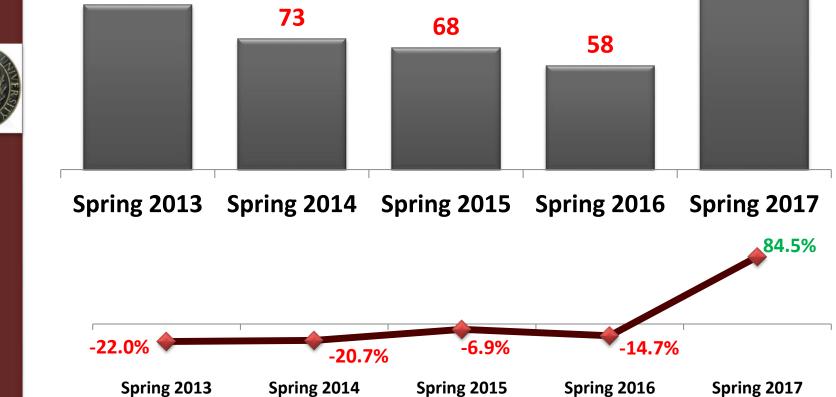
#### **Access: Spring Enrollment Trends 1st-Time Freshmen**

107

6



**92** 



**←**% Change

#### **Profile of First-time Transfers**

71% In-State, 21% Foreign, 7% Out-of-State

- 23 years old-Average age
- 2.63 Average (mean) transfer GPA
- About 45% are first-generation students

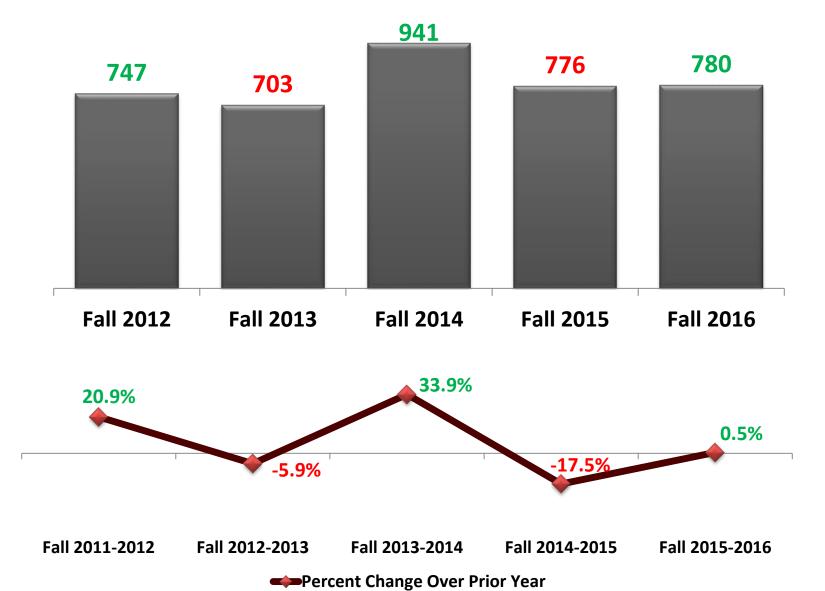


- 41% transfer in as Sophomores, 35% Freshmen, 19%
   Juniors, 5% Seniors
- Top Transfer Institutions: Houston Community College,
   Lone Star, San Jacinto and U of Houston Main



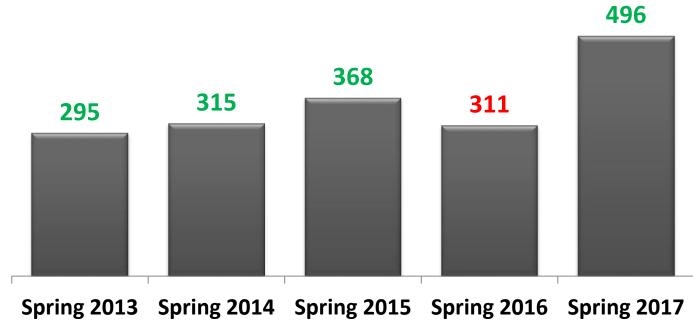


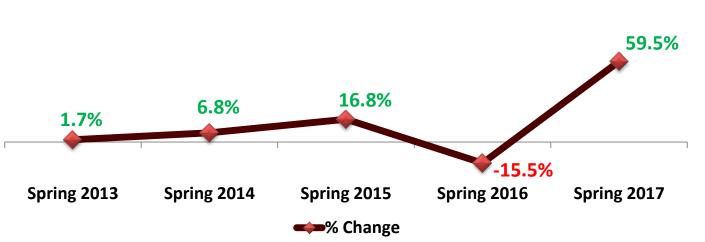
#### **Access: Total First-time Transfer Fall Enrollment**





#### **Access: Total First-time Transfer Spring Enrollment**











 Increased the percent of freshmen living oncampus from 53% in Fall 2015 to 67% in Fall 2016.

#### 2016 Summer of Success

- Summer program for students with high school GPAs below the standard for admissions.
- Complete developmental education and a college level course.
- Mandatory enrollment in Freshmen
   Seminar course.
- Students in this program that persisted to the fall added nearly +170 to fall enrollment.







- Enhanced Community College Transfer
   Articulation Agreements with emphasis on
   Reverse Transfer
- Increased online course access.
- Developed admissions dashboards.
- Implemented Recruitment tracking software.
- Enhance web presence of course transferability.



#### **AFFORDABILITY**

**Competitive Tuition Rates** – designed to enable access to the higher education arena,



**Reducing Student Debt**– by aggressive student education and strategies to minimize the burden of educational expenses

- part of entering student orientation
- maximize scholarship and grant aid prior to awarding loans.
- on-line financial literacy requirements for students who fall below the minimum satisfactory academic progress requirements.
- in-person exit loan counseling sessions to build relationships and bonds with default aversion officers.

#### **Affordability: Financial Aid Requirements**

- Required FASFA for all forms of grant, loans and scholarships to provide standardized information for each applicant.
- Financial aid checklists for each applicant.
- Entrance loan counseling prior to receiving loans.
- Financial Literacy Program as part of freshmen seminar classes and the institution's default management plan.
- Easy access to FEPRA release forms to encourage parental involvement in the financial aid education and awareness process
- Exit loan counseling prior to leaving the university.



#### **Affordability: Tuition Set-asides**

Texas Southern University uses tuition set-asides from designated tuition to assist students via institutional grants and scholarships: Merit based, need-based scholarships for academically competitive students with high need students, need-based scholarships for special interests and abilities.



	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Designated Tuition Set Aside Scholarship			
(Designated Student Tuition-Resident Only)	3,868,211	4,753,827	4,965,463
Institutional Scholarship			
(Formerly Be On Time fund)	+	1,000,000	1,101,432
Texas Public Education Grant (Statutory Tuition)	2,595,688	2,563,515	2,563,515
Total Financial Assistance Budget from Set -Asides	6,463,899	8,317,342	8,630,410

#### **Affordability: Exemptions and Waivers**



Texas currently maintains a variety of programs aimed at exempting or waiving tuition, fees, and other expenses related to attending public colleges and universities. These exemption and waiver programs are targeted to specific populations that the Texas Legislature has identified as warranting special consideration related to paying for higher education costs.

**Exemptions** allow special groups of Texas residents or nonresidents to enroll and pay a reduced amount of tuition and fees.

*Waivers* allow special groups of nonresidents to enroll and pay a reduced nonresident tuition rate.

• Total Waivers \$ 3,785,957

• Total Exemptions \$ 4,644,527

#### **Affordability: Tuition Increase Planning**

 The TSU Board of Regents approved a 3% tuition increase on April 15, 2016 for FY17 and FY18. The additional funds will be applied to university priorities designed to cause measurable improvements in specific areas critical for students success, including Faculty and Staff Retention, additional personnel, advising personnel, and extra financial aid and scholarships



No Further tuition increases have been proposed.

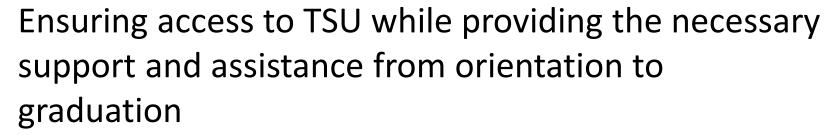
#### <u>Faculty and Staff Retention Initiatives</u>

- 2008 Across the Board Increase
- 2009 No Increase
- 2010 Merit Increase Pool 3% (October 2010)
- 2011 No Increase
- **2012** Across the Board Increase 2%
- 2013 Faculty Increase
- 2014 No Increase
- 2015 No Increase
- 2016 2% Increase for all faculty and for staff who earned < 100K.

#### **SUCCESS**

#### Strategic Plan Components

Student Success and Completion-

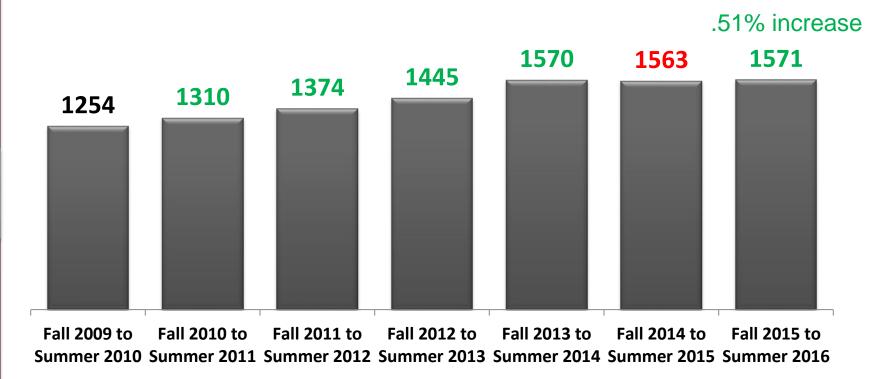




Academic Program Quality and Research-

Ensuring that programs prepare students for careers/employment while staying true to our special purpose designation for urban programming.

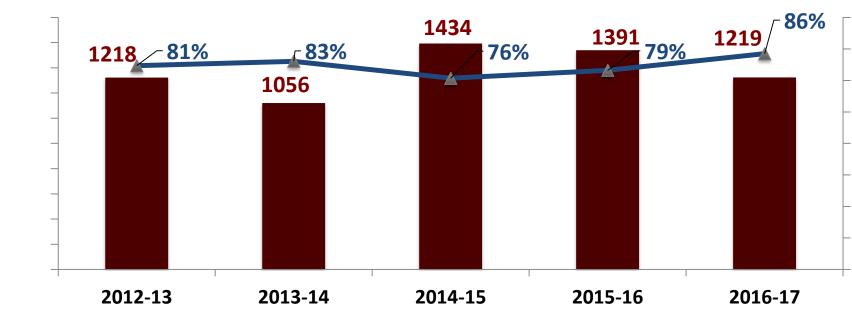
#### **Student Success: Total Degrees Awarded**





# Student Success: Fall to Spring Trends 1st-Time Full-time Freshmen

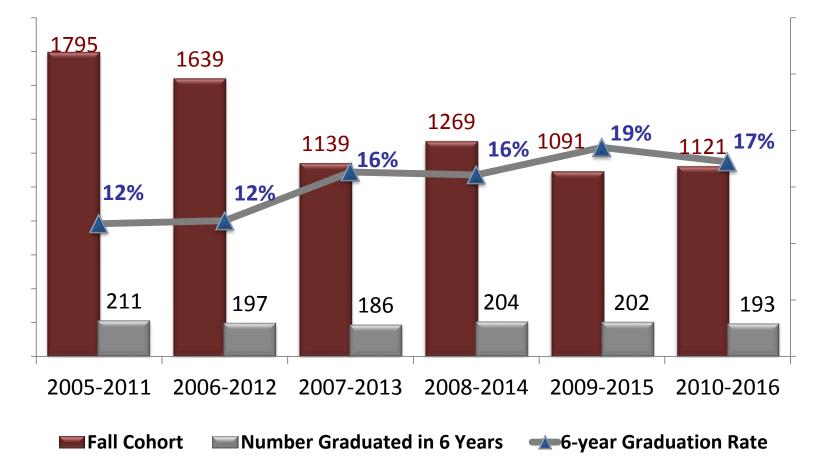




Cohort —Fall to Spring Persistence

## Student Success: 1st-Time Full-time Freshmen 6-Year Graduation Rate

Fall 2005 to 2010 1st-time Full-time Freshmen Cohort: 6-Year Graduation Rate (Graduation Periods 2011 to 2016)









- New Degree Audit system (Degree Works) launched campus-wide Fall 2014.
- Developed online dashboards to share real-time data and provide automated reports.
- Increase online programs and online courses.
- Increase course offering flexibility in days and times (more Saturday and evening courses)
- Provide comprehensive pathways from college entrance to graduation.



#### **Student Success: Improvement Strategies**



- Hire freshmen-focused academic advisors to transition entering students into their academic departments after 1 year.
- Enhance career placement opportunities.
- Established partnership with National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) to join the Foundation for Student Success. [program designed to conduct research on best practices to improve student success and outcomes] Initial meeting at Rutgers University March 27, 2017

