

# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT 2020

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## **MISSION**

Texas A&M University-Texarkana is a proud member of The Texas A&M University System. A&M-Texarkana is a comprehensive regional university that provides students with academically challenging, engaging, and rewarding educational experiences through quality teaching, scholarship, student support services, co-curricular programming, research, and service. Through the personal attention of our faculty and staff, students are afforded the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, abilities, and skills to become leaders in their chosen profession and to prepare for opportunities to serve in a global environment.

A&M-Texarkana has set four specific student achievement goals and documents the university's progress in meeting these goals. At least three types of measures are reported per goal to provide a comprehensive view of our progress and to examine replication of results across measures.

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**GOAL #1: Students will persist at a consistent rate, complete degree programs, and obtain employment or seek additional education.**

**MEASURE #1: DEGREES CONFERRED**

A&M-Texarkana reached 73% of our university stretch goal for degrees awarded by academic year. The highest number of undergraduate degrees awarded occurred in the 2018-2019 academic year, 75.4%. First-time in college (FTIC) refers to all new, full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate students. Transfer student represent full-time, degree seeking students. A&M-Texarkana obtained 50% of our stretch goal for the four-year graduation rate of FTIC students, and 71% of our stretch goal for transfer students.

**Degrees Awarded by Academic Year**

*Stretch Goal 700 degrees by 2020*

ACADEMIC YEAR	UNDERGRADUATE	GRADUATE	DOCTORAL	TOTAL	+/- COUNT PREVIOUS YEAR	+/- % PREVIOUS YEAR
2014-2015	346	143	N/A	489	N/A	N/A
2015-2016	335	144	N/A	479	-10	-2.04%
2016-2017	357	130	N/A	487	+8	+1.67%
2017-2018	373	121	4	498	+11	+2.26%
2018-2019	384	144	1	529	+26	+5.22%
2019-2020	413	99	7	519	-10	-1.89%

*\*Source: CBM009 State Required Report to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)*

**Four-Year Graduation Rate**

**Full-time, first-time, degree seeking**

*Stretch Goal 40%*

YEAR	PERCENTAGE	+/- PREVIOUS YEAR
2014-2015	18.48%	+1.64%
2015-2016	15.92%	-2.56%
2016-2017	26.45%	+10.53%
2017-2018	30.67%	+4.22%
2018-2019	19.23%	-11.44%
2019-2020	20.10%	+0.87%

*\*Source: Legislative Budget Board (LBB)*

**Four-Year Graduation Rate**

**Full-Time Transfer Students+**

*Stretch Goal 85%*

YEAR	PERCENTAGE	+/- PREVIOUS YEAR
2014-2015	61.64%	N/A
2015-2016	65.92%	+4.28%
2016-2017	62.73%	-3.19%
2017-2018	59.78%	-2.95%
2018-2019	54.42%	-5.36%
2019-2020	60.52%	+6.10%

*\*Source: Legislative Budget Board (LBB)*

*+Students transferring at least 30 semester credit hours*

## MEASURE #2: STUDENT PERSISTENCE

Persistence generally refers to the rate at which degree-seeking undergraduate students new to A&M-Texarkana: (1) began classes (full-time) in the fall semester; (2) completed their freshmen academic year; and (3) remained enrolled in classes (full-time) at the beginning of their sophomore year. Fall 2019 reported our highest persistence rates for FTIC and Full-Time Transfer students. We earned 91.7% of our stretch goal for FTIC students and 82.6% of the stretch goal for transfer students. Relative to the most recently reported year's findings, the persistence rates have increased for both FTIC and transfer students.

### First Year Persistence Rate

#### First Time In College (FTIC)

Stretch Goal 70% (Fall to Fall)

SEMESTER	PERCENTAGE	+/- PREVIOUS FALL
FALL 2015	52%	N/A
FALL 2016	55%	+3%
FALL 2017	54%	-1%
FALL 2018	58.7%	+4.7%
FALL 2019	64.25%	+5.55%

\*Source: Legislative Budget Board (LBB); First-Time Full-Time Degree Seeking

### First Year Persistence Rate

#### Full-Time Transfer Students

Stretch Goal 90% (Fall to Fall)

YEAR	PERCENTAGE	+/- PREVIOUS FALL
FALL 2015	70.17%	N/A
FALL 2016	68.66%	-1.51%
FALL 2017	75.74%	+7.08%
FALL 2018	70.11%	-5.63
FALL 2019	74.35%	+4.09%

\*Source: Institutional Data Management

## MEASURE #3: EMPLOYMENT AND FUTURE PLANS

A&M-Texarkana seeks to increase the percentage of graduates who find gainful employment or who enroll in graduate or professional school after they graduate. Relative to the previously year's reported findings, this percentage increased. Institutional Data Management is currently working with Career Development and Alumni Relations to create a survey that will allow us to obtain additional information regarding employment and future plans. This initiative is also in line with the marketable skills measurement in the state's 60X30 plan.

## GRADUATION PLANS

### Baccalaureate Graduates Employed and/or Enrolled in Graduate or Professional School

YEAR	PERCENTAGE	+/- PREVIOUS FALL
2014	76.8%	N/A
2015	73.4%	-3.4%
2016	74.2%	+0.8%
2017	78.5%	+4.3%
2018	78.93%	+0.43%
2019	79.00%	+0.17%

\*Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Marketable Skills M01A – Working or Enrolled within One Year

**GOAL #2: Students will achieve academically and participate in engaging educational experiences.**

Due to the state government ordered shutdown, university assessment for many of the components related to Core Curriculum were halted. This time was used to revamp our assessment practices for Academic Achievement and Engaging Educational Experiences.

**GOAL #3: Students will receive personal attention from faculty and staff.**

**MEASURE #1: CLASS SIZES**

Lower division courses include courses offered at the freshman and sophomore level at a four-year college or university. A&M-Texarkana has continued to keep class sizes significantly smaller than the Texas state average even with increasing enrollment.

**Average Lower Division Class Size**

SEMESTER	A&M-TEXARKANA	STATE AVERAGE
FALL 2015	23	39
FALL 2016	22	39
FALL 2017	21	39
FALL 2018	20	40
FALL 2019	20	39

*\*Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Sector-Specific/Other X02U – Average and Median Class Size*

**MEASURE #2: STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO**

A&M-Texarkana seeks to maintain a reasonable student/faculty ratio. On average, there is one faculty member for every 10 students.

SEMESTER	A&M-TEXARKANA
FALL 2015	11:1
FALL 2016	9:1
FALL 2017	11:1
FALL 2018	14:1
FALL 2019	14:1

*\*Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Sector-Specific/Other Z03U – Student/Faculty Ratio*

### MEASURE #3: STUDENT SATISFACTION

The purpose of the Student Satisfaction Survey is to collect students’ perceptions of the effectiveness of various A&M-Texarkana administrative units and staff. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic did not provide the opportunity to gather a complete view of a student’s satisfaction for the previous year, due to a state government ordered shutdown. Instead, the intended focus of student satisfaction related to on campus offices and interactions shifted to the COVID-19 virus and the complications of moving the university to a complete online environment. A new survey instrument was utilized to gather data regarding all A&M-Texarkana units and interactions, COVID-19 Pulse Survey. The abruptness of the closure contributed to the results provided below.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced the university to move to a complete online environment. Please share your feelings related to various online activities.	Average percentage of respondents who selected “Strongly Agree” or “Somewhat Agree”
<i>I feel engaged in online courses.</i>	8.75%
<i>Instructors provide effective instruction in online courses.</i>	13.5%
How effective is A&M-Texarkana at providing the following online ... components?	Average percentage of respondents who selected “Extremely Effective” or “Very Effective”
<i>Discussion boards to socialize</i>	0%
<i>Online library access</i>	31.25%
<i>Online appointments with university departments</i>	5%

\*Source: COVID-19 Pulse Survey