

TEXAS COMMUNITY COLLEGES

GULF COAST REGION

REGIONAL IMPACT OF
COMMUNITY COLLEGES'
SPENDING, 2019

ALVIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BRAZOSPORT COLLEGE
COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
GALVESTON COLLEGE
HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
LEE COLLEGE
LONE STAR COLLEGE SYSTEM
SAN JACINTO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
WHARTON COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE

Created to expand Texans' access to higher education, the state's 50 community college districts serve a vital role in our state's economy by developing our workforce, preparing students for further academic study and meeting the specific educational and vocational needs of the local areas they serve.

The 13 counties in the **GULF COAST REGION** — one of 12 economic regions defined by the Comptroller's office — include nine community college districts.

EMPLOYMENT

20,077

OUTPUT

\$2.7 BILLION

COMPENSATION

\$1.3 BILLION

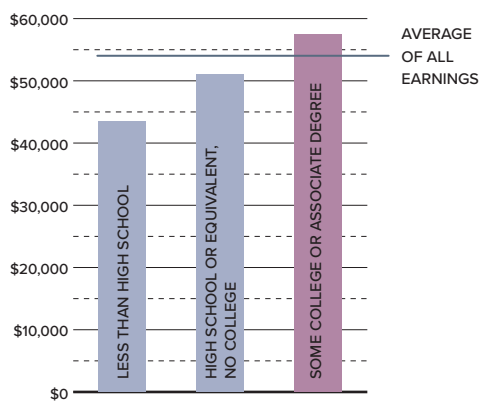
NOTE:
THESE ANALYSES
PREDATED THE
COVID-19 CRISIS AND
THE ECONOMIC
IMPACTS THAT
FOLLOWED.

Note: Figures include direct, indirect and induced economic impacts.

Sources: JobsEQ, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Texas community colleges.

WAGES BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, GULF COAST REGION, 2018



Source: JobsEQ

Community colleges provide their students with a good return on investment.

In 2018, workers in the Gulf Coast region with some college or associate degrees, with stable jobs, earned an average of \$6,408 more annually than high school graduates.

AVERAGE WAGE INCREASE
OVER HIGH SCHOOL OR
EQUIVALENT

\$6,408

NUMBER OF WORKERS,
SOME COLLEGE OR
ASSOCIATE DEGREE

796,592

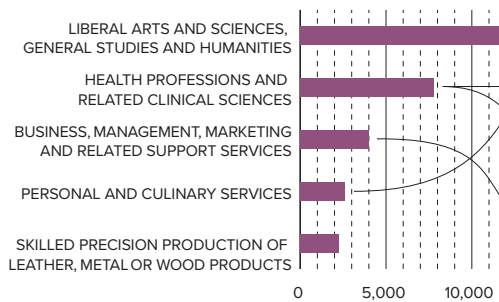
TOTAL REGIONAL
ADDITIONAL
WAGES

\$5.1 BILLION

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, JobsEQ and Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES

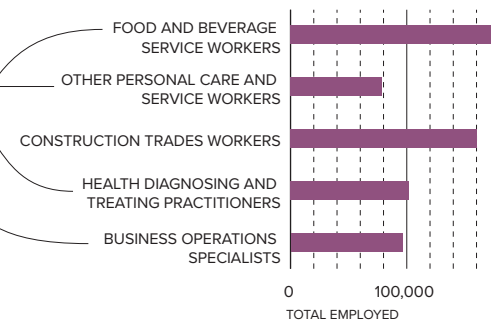
TOP CERTIFICATE AND DEGREES,
GULF COAST REGION, 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR



Gulf Coast community colleges awarded more than 12,000 general studies and liberal arts certificates and associate degrees in the 2017-18 school year, followed by health care and business administration.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT NEEDS

FASTEST GROWING OCCUPATIONS,
GULF COAST REGION, 2014-2019



Source: JobsEQ

SUMMARY

Texas' 50 community college districts contribute billions of dollars to the state's economy and support thousands of jobs while providing Texas students with a low-cost option to build skills or prepare for further education.

The nine community college districts in the Gulf Coast region account for more than 20,000 jobs and more than \$2.7 billion in output annually, while the greater skills and education of graduates add another \$5.1 billion to the region's total income. This region, however, still has unmet demand for degrees and certificates in business fields. Community colleges are best suited to meet these demands, helping to fulfill opportunities for students and businesses alike.

SPOTLIGHT WHARTON COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE

- Nuclear power technology, process technology and manufacturing technology programs provide students with high tech training and instruction in the classroom and in labs to meet technology needs.
- WCJC's newly renovated Johnson Health Occupations Center offers the training needed to enter the highly competitive health care field.
- Wharton ISD's Realizing Our Academic Reward Academy (ROAR) allows high school students to earn up to 60 college credit hours during high school.
- WCJC's Business Office Technology program, which trains students in skills such as accounting and business writing, places more than 90 percent of its graduates in jobs.

TO SEE INFORMATION ON COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND THE TEXAS ECONOMY: <https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/economic-data/colleges/>

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Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts