

2025 REGIONAL OUTCOMES REPORT

EDUCATION, TALENT & WORKFORCE

REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Our economy is only as strong as our talent. This report shows how the Dallas Region's public schools and higher education institutions are preparing the workforce of the future.

THE SCOPE OF OUR TALENT PIPELINE

These numbers show the size and reach of the Dallas Region's education and workforce ecosystem.

613K

children under age 6

1.4 M

public PK-12 students

108

public PK-12 districts

70+

higher education institutions and campuses

404K

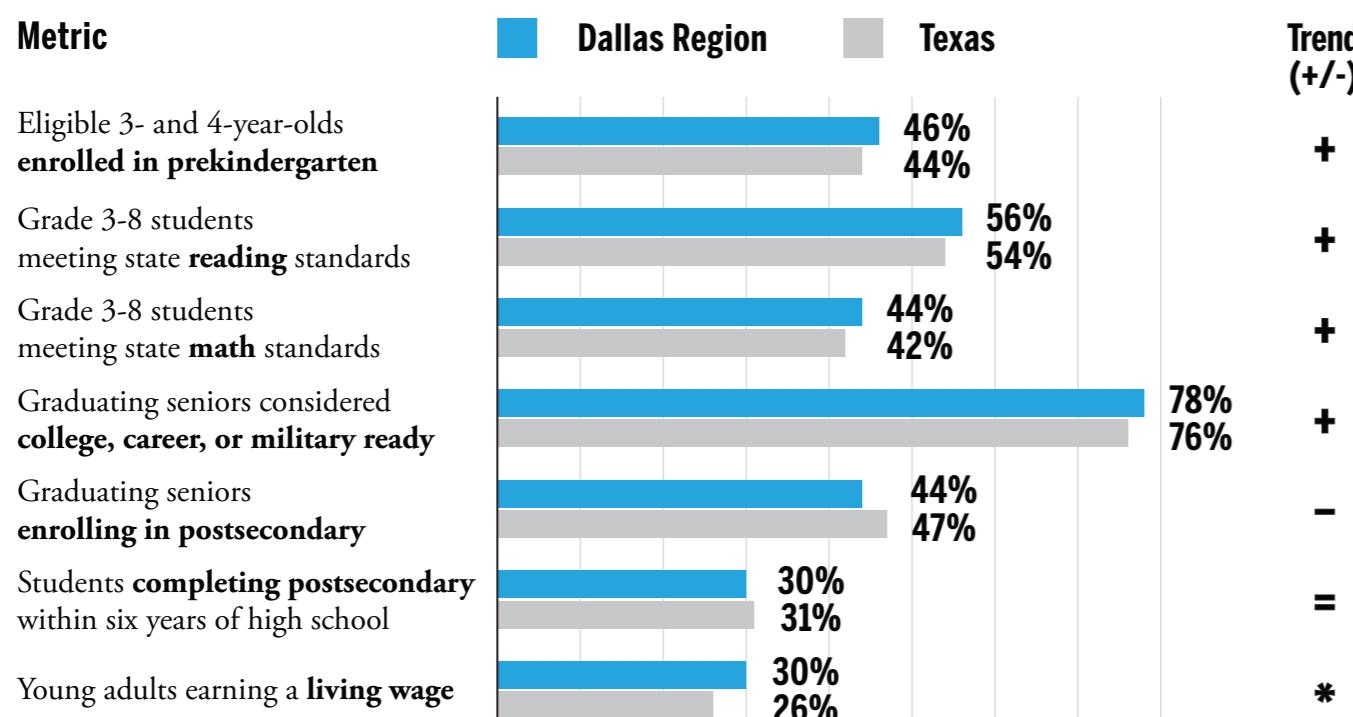
postsecondary students

4.5 M

workers

KEY METRICS

The DRC tracks key indicators along the full talent pipeline, spanning from early childhood education outcomes to workforce participation.



69%

labor force participation
(+4% vs Texas)

1.7%

job growth year over year
(+0.3% vs Texas)

Unless noted, all metrics cover the Dallas-Fort Worth Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) and the most recent data available.

*new or previously unreported data

TAKEAWAYS

What business leaders need to know about our education and workforce ecosystem.

READING ACHIEVEMENT CLIMBS, WHILE MATH STILL LAGS PRE-PANDEMIC LEVELS.

Grades 3-8 students in the Dallas Region and across Texas have made gains in reading, but math scores remain below pre-pandemic levels. **New state investments in math teacher preparation** aim to close this gap.

POSTSECONDARY READINESS IS AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH, BUT TOUGHER STANDARDS ARE COMING.

Nearly 80% of graduates met at least one College, Career, or Military Readiness indicator. Stricter state standards are expected to lower this number in coming years.

FEWER STUDENTS CHOOSING COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS NEED FOR ROBUST PATHWAYS.

Only 44% of graduates enrolled in postsecondary education, down eight points since 2022. In response, PK-12 districts are expanding dual-credit and career-aligned programs to give students a head start on credentials and workforce readiness.

DALLAS REGION LABOR MARKET REMAINS AMONG THE STRONGEST IN THE COUNTRY.

Since February 2020, the **Dallas Region has added 12.7% more jobs**, compared to 6.3% nationwide and 11% in Texas. Year-over-year job growth reached 1.7% versus 1.4% statewide. This strength creates opportunity but also reinforces the need for a strong talent pipeline preparing students for in-demand careers.

STRENGTHENING THE TALENT PIPELINE

Through partnerships with educators and employers, the DRC helps ensure North Texas students are prepared for the jobs our region needs.



EARLY CHILDHOOD

We advocate for investments in quality child care and prekindergarten that expand parents' ability to work and build early academic readiness.



PUBLIC EDUCATION

We champion a strong public school system that equips students with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in college, a career, or the military.



HIGHER EDUCATION

We promote a best-in-class higher education ecosystem that prepares students for high-demand jobs, advances research, and strengthens the region's economy.



TALENT & WORKFORCE

We partner with employers and educators to drive strategies that attract, retain, and develop talent through pathways aligned with high-demand, living-wage careers.

GET INVOLVED

Curious what this means for your company—and how you can help shape the future of our workforce? **Contact us at education@dallaschamber.org.**

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

