

The University of Texas System and the United States Census Bureau Partnership

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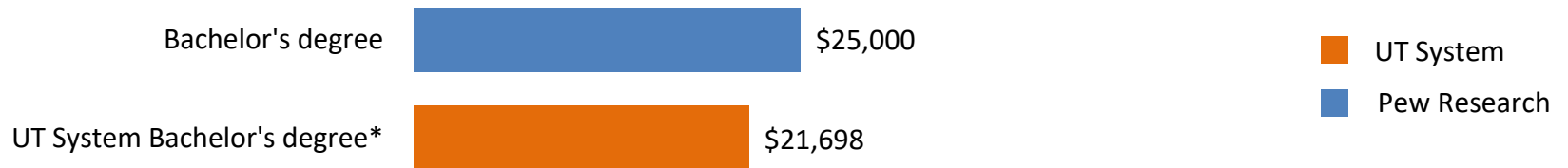


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Higher Education Environment

- Value of a degree
- Return on investment (ROI)
- Rising cost of education
 - Student debt



Sources: FADS and Pew Research Center analysis of Federal Reserve Board's 2016 Survey of Household Economics and Decisionmaking.

*First-time students who entered in academic years 2002-2015



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Existing Barriers / Proposed Solutions



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Past and Current Federal Efforts

- Higher Education Act (2008)
 - Student-level record ban
- U.S. Department of Education – College Scorecard (2013)
 - Online consumer tool showing cost/value of education
- Promoting Real Opportunity, Success, and Prosperity through Education Reform (PROSPER) Act (2017)
- College Transparency Act (2017)



UT System's Partnership with the U.S. Census Bureau



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The Partnership – U.S. Census Bureau Longitudinal Employer- Household Dynamics Program (LEHD)

- MOA, September 2016, 10-year agreement, New Census Public Data Product
 - Estimated earnings 1, 5, and 10 years out for graduates of UT System (2001 to 2015) academic and health institutions
 - Earnings for programs of study at each institution. Earnings are at the 4-digit CIP level for baccalaureate and professional degrees (e.g., 14.02 - Aerospace Engineering) and 2-digit level for master's and doctoral degrees (e.g., 14 - Engineering)
 - Earnings estimated at the 25th, median, and 75th percentiles
 - See Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO) on the LEHD webpage at https://lehd.ces.census.gov/data/pseo_beta.html



The Partnership - A Benefit for Higher Education

- Pathway for higher education institutions to access national program level data on post-graduation earnings
- Serves as a proof of concept
 - Federal unit record data systems
 - Privacy



UT System's Solution –

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What Is seekUT?

- seekUT is a free, online consumer tool developed with the input of students for students
 - Shows a 10-year data span of earnings in the context of average loan debt, by program
 - Offers the ability to compare earnings and debt by various programs side-by-side
 - Goes beyond the median to show percentiles
 - Indicates the percent of students who continue their education beyond baccalaureate degree



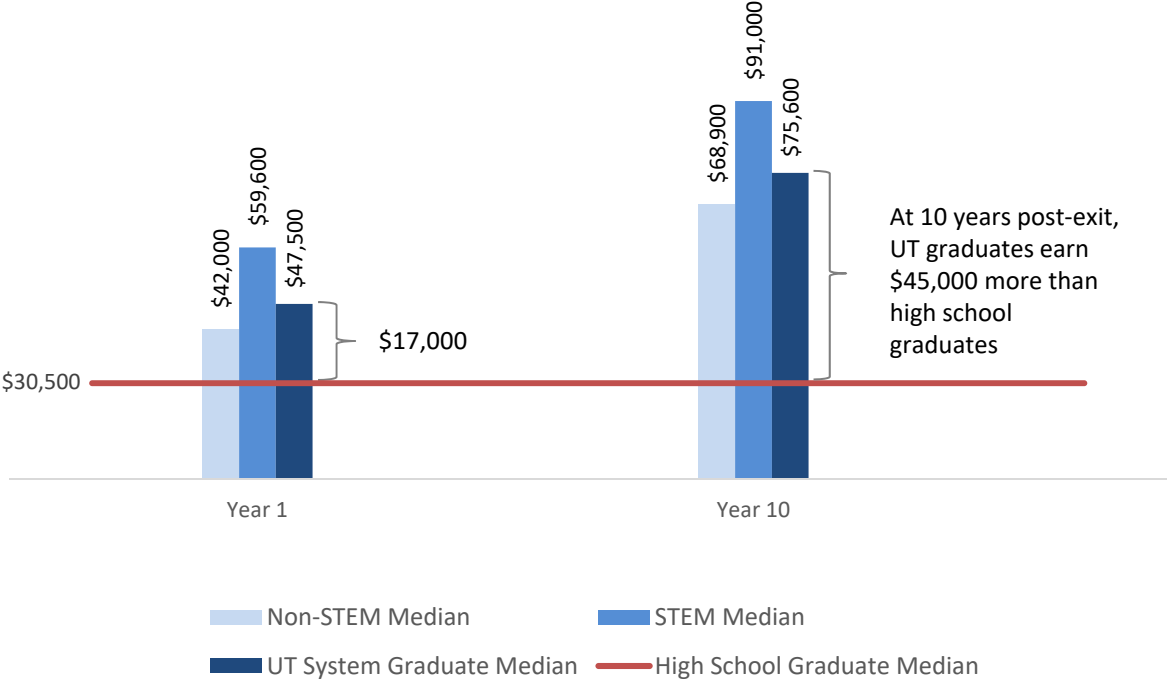
Important Additional Data Uses



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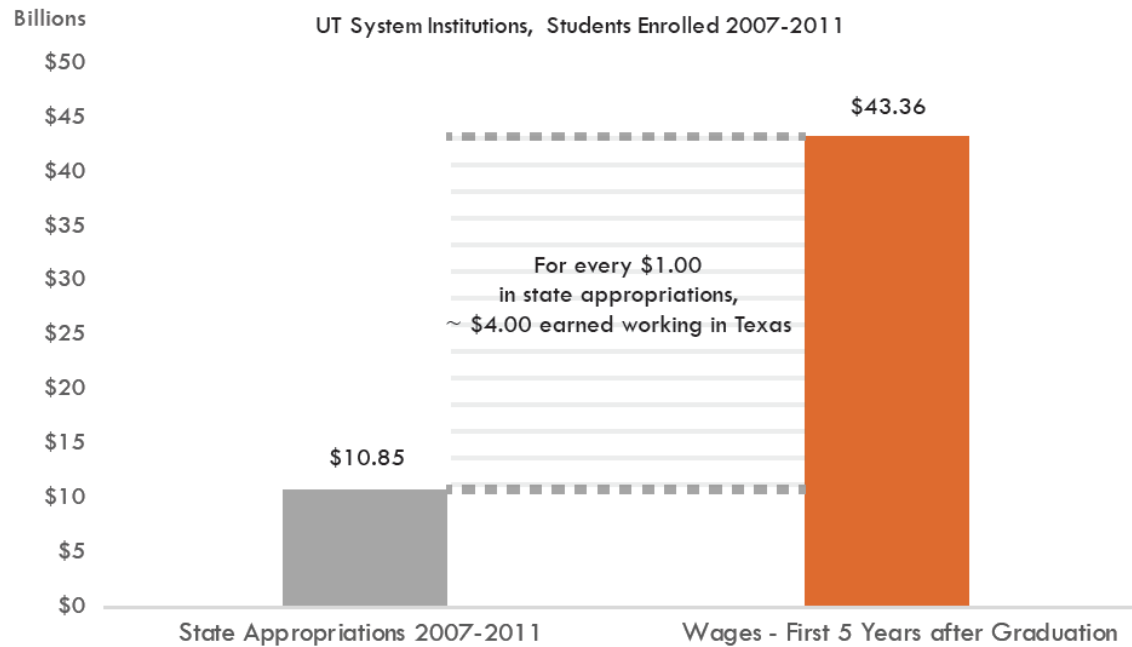
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Communicating ROI to Policymakers - National



Communicating ROI to Policymakers - Texas

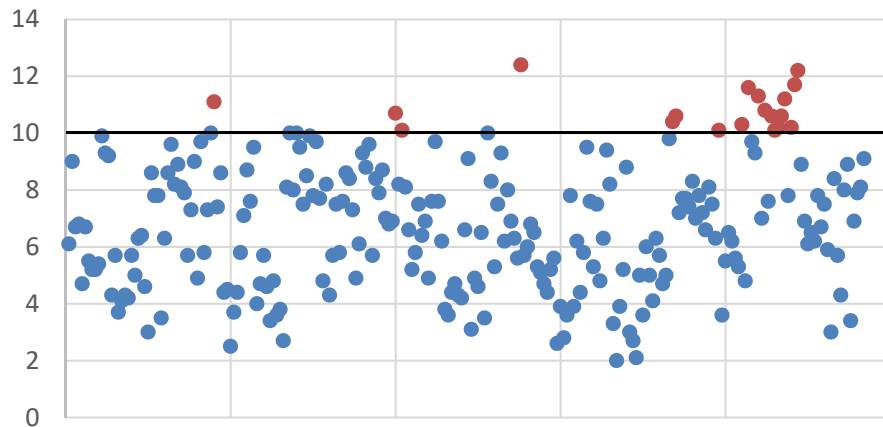
State Appropriations & Cumulative Wages of Former Students 5 Years After Graduation



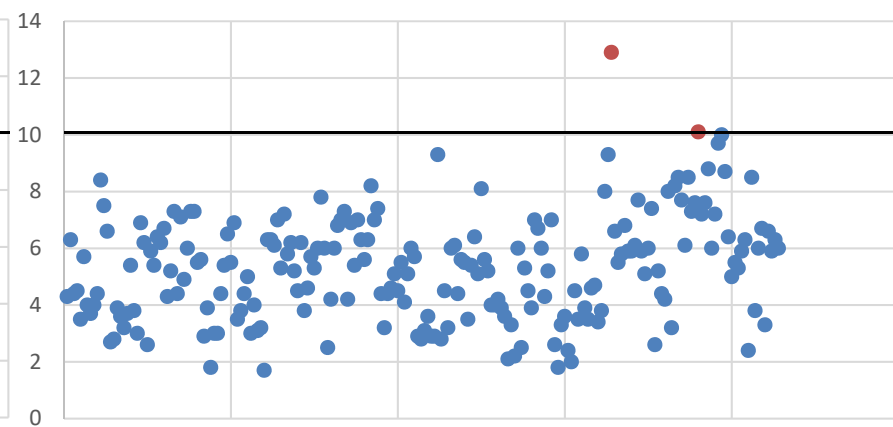
Monitoring Program Performance - National

- For UT System baccalaureate programs
 - 92% have debt-to-income ratio of 10% or less – 1 year after graduation
 - 99% have debt-to-income ratio of 10% or less – 5 years after graduation

UT System Baccalaureate Programs Debt to Income Ratio - 1-Year, National



UT System Baccalaureate Programs Debt to Income Ratio - 5-Year, National



Communicating ROI of Liberal Arts Degrees, National

- Median first-year earnings for 2/3 of graduates of UT System non-STEM programs are higher than the national individual median income of \$35,380
- Notable median incomes include
 - Music, \$50,856
 - Rhetoric and composition, \$46,790
 - Romance languages and literature, \$42,841
 - Philosophy, \$39,729



seekUT Demonstration



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Methodological Discussion



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Next Steps



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Questions



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