



Online Education Annual Report

SECOND EDITION, NOVEMBER 2018

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Highlights

- ▶ Research by Clinefelter and Aslanian (2016) suggests that most adult learners will return to college online, and that online education has become mainstream.
- ▶ The Texas State University System is the leader among public Texas university systems, with the highest percentage of fully online students in relation to the system's student populations as a whole.
- ▶ Texas State University is an Emerging Research University that generates numerous online student credit hours through 18 degree programs offered partially online. In 2018, Texas State University was awarded an Effective Practice Award from the Online Learning Consortium.
- ▶ In 2018, Sam Houston State University created 181 "7B" online class sections in response to challenges posed by Hurricane Harvey; signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Lamar Institute of Technology for cooperation in online education; and was ranked number one for the second year in a row for its online graduate degrees in Criminal Justice by U.S. News & World Report.
- ▶ Lamar University continues to be recognized for the strength of its online programs. This year, the BA/BS in Sociology and BS in Criminal Justice and the MS in Criminal Justice have been recognized for costs and return on investment. The Nursing program continues to rank well in Best Overall and Best Value.
- ▶ Online education is important to Sul Ross State University's mission, given the institution's remote location. The two-year online MBA is designed for students who are employed and located at remote sites from campus. The university's hope is that its MBA graduates will benefit with career promotions and professional growth as a result of this distance learning opportunity.
- ▶ Students at Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College, which plays an important role in meeting the needs of underserved Latino communities in the border region, earn 77% of their semester credit hours in courses offered through distance education formats.
- ▶ Texas State University System two-year institutions have a pipeline for seamless transfer pathways to degrees earned online at four-year TSUS institutions.
- ▶ Lamar State College-Port Arthur had 389 students taking at least one or more courses online, which is a 16.4% increase from 2017.
- ▶ Lamar State College-Orange now offers the Texas Core Curriculum online. Currently over 66% of the institution's associate degrees can be completed mostly online.
- ▶ Lamar Institute of Technology offers three certificates and associate programs that are 100% online, and students can continue with baccalaureate programs online through four-year TSUS institutions.



Introduction



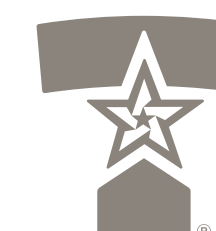
elcome to the second annual Texas State University System Online Education report.

The Texas State University System is leading online education into the future. Any doubt about that can be set aside by simply looking at the numbers. When it comes to online education, TSUS is seizing the initiative. Many online education semester credit hours attempted in the state of Texas are taken by students within TSUS institutions. **As of Fall 2018, among the six public university systems in Texas, TSUS leads the way in the percentage of students pursuing their degrees fully online, with 14%.**

With its component institutions stretching from eastern Texas to the west, the Texas State University System is uniquely positioned to move forward as the state's leader in online education. Though there are a total of six public university systems in Texas, none of the others have opted to focus on online education in the way that TSUS institutions have, and that creates a singular opportunity for the System.

The *Online College Students 2018: Comprehensive Data on Demands and Preferences* report (Magda, A. J., & Aslanian, C. B., 2018) states:

“Online students are bypassing the on-ground classroom for added convenience. Nearly 60% of online college students who had a choice between online and on-ground actively chose online learning. Online programs have built in many conveniences that on-ground programs often still lack. Opportunities to take year-round courses (27%) and accelerated courses (20%) inform some online students' decisions, while others take advantage of generous transfer policies that ease their time to completion (85% of online learners have prior college credit, with 25% of these students having more than 60 credits, priming them for quick completion of a bachelor's degree).”



A GOOD SOLUTION

Courses and degree programs offered online are increasingly important tools within the Texas State University System to address issues of both college access and student success. TSUS institutions plan to increase online education opportunities as a way to support the growing interest among Texas students and families.

Over the past six years, the number of degree programs offered fully online and semester credit hours earned online have increased dramatically. Through programs offered online, students can log on to class using any computer with internet access—at home, at work, at the local library, or on campus, and anytime—24 hours a day, seven days a week. This allows students with jobs and family responsibilities to make learning an integral part of their busy lives.

Continued on page 5

Online
Programs

231%

Increase since 2010

Online
Credit Hours

309%

Increase since 2010

Click here to hear more for a video Message
from TSUS Chancellor Brian McCall, Ph.D.



RESEARCH SUGGESTS

Research by Clinefelter and Aslanian (2016) suggests that most adult learners will return to college online, and that online education has become mainstream. While face-to-face enrollments have decreased for an unprecedented 12 consecutive terms (National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, 2017), in 2017 alone, online enrollments grew 3% to 3.85 million among fully or majority online learners (Eduventures, 2017).

As Magda, A. J., & Aslanian, C. B. (2018) also note,

“Colleges and universities attempting to service the online market also have an increased sense of competition amongst their peers. Nearly 60% of institutions with online enrollments believe that the online program marketplace is ‘much more competitive’ than it was five years ago.”

(*Online College Students 2018: Comprehensive Data on Demands and Preferences*).



85%

who have experienced in-person and virtual classrooms feel learning online is as good or better than attending courses on campus

Clinefelter and Aslanian provide several key findings among online college students in 2018:

Online students are bypassing the on-ground classroom for added convenience

Online programs are becoming more diversified

- ▶ Graduate programs in STEM and health sciences have reported steady growth over the last four years.
- ▶ Diversifying online program offerings may allow institutions to serve new segments of students.

Online students need career services

- ▶ 74% of online college students are pursuing their program for career-focused reasons.


An online degree's value is more than its price.

- ▶ Factors increasing the perception of value include program convenience, Institutional reputation, or offering the best content.
- ▶ 86% believe the value of their online degree equals or exceeds the cost.

Online students support innovations that decrease the cost and time to complete a degree

- ▶ 61% of students would consider electronic books as an innovation in decreasing cost to complete a degree.

FULLY ONLINE STUDENT HEADCOUNT FOR TEXAS PUBLIC UNIVERSITY SYSTEMS



The Texas State University System

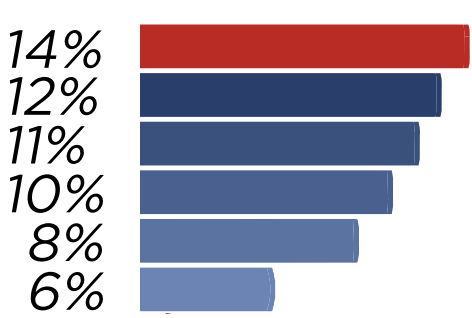
14% of Students Fully Online

Fully Online Students Enrolled: 11,131

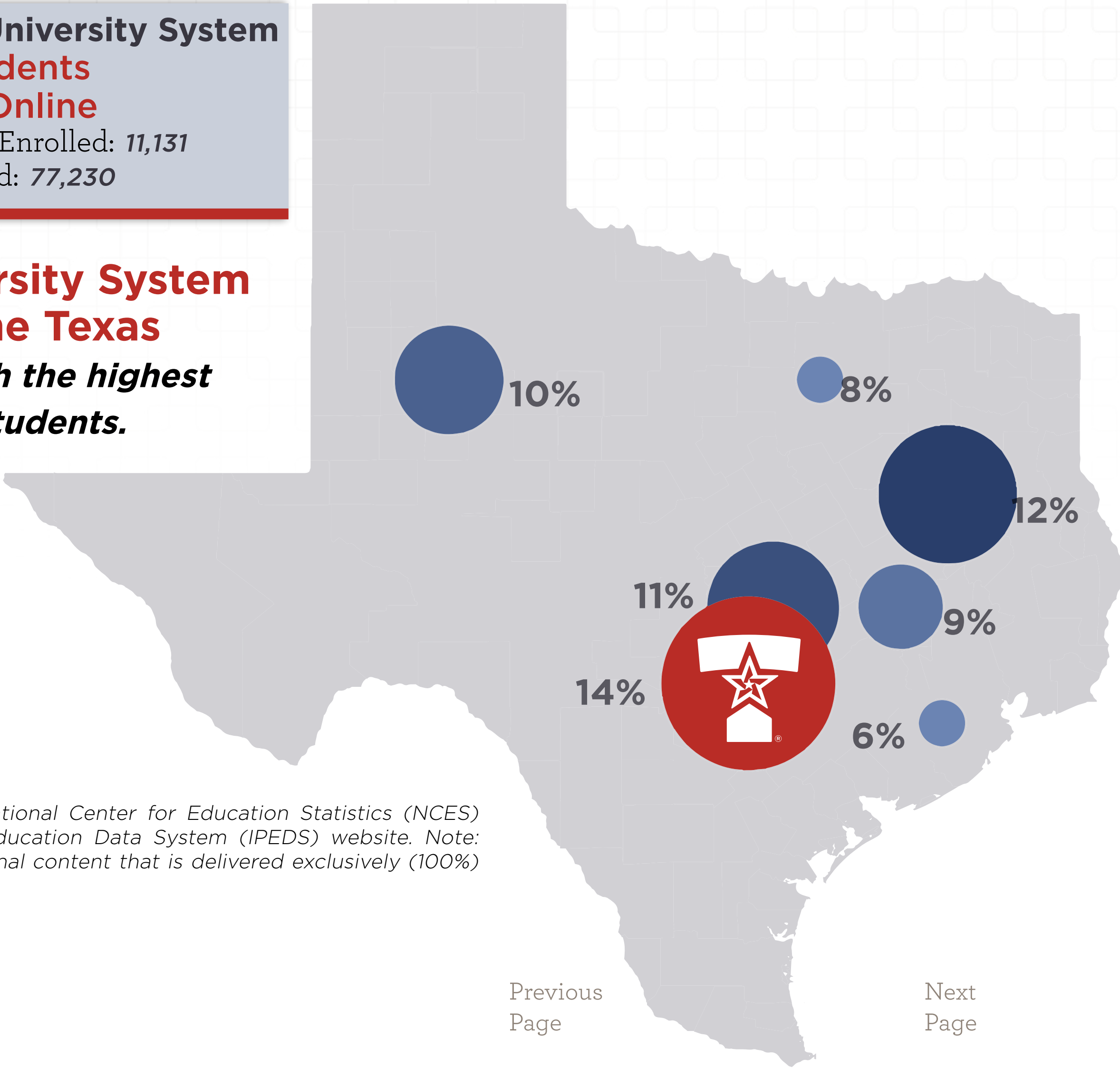
Total Students Enrolled: 77,230

The Texas State University System is the leader among the Texas university systems, with the highest percentage of fully online students.

Percentage of Fully Online Students




SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) available at the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) website. Note: IPEDS defines Distance Learning as instructional content that is delivered exclusively (100%) via distance education.



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Texas Independent Institutions

12% of Students Fully Online

Fully Online Students Enrolled: 11,644

Total Students Enrolled: 98,476




The University of Texas System

11% of Students Fully Online

Fully Online Students Enrolled: 26,820

Total Students Enrolled: 234,621




Texas Tech University System

10% of Students Fully Online

Fully Online Students Enrolled: 5,289

Total Students Enrolled: 51,364




The Texas A&M University System

9% of Students Fully Online

Fully Online Students Enrolled: 14,216

Total Students Enrolled: 149,901




University of North Texas System

8% of Students Fully Online

Fully Online Students Enrolled: 3,908

Total Students Enrolled: 43,556



University of Houston System

6% of Students Fully Online

Fully Online Students Enrolled: 4,594

Total Students Enrolled: 71,078

Online Education in TSUS Institutions

Lamar University, Sam Houston State University, Sul Ross State University, and Texas State University offer a wide variety of quality undergraduate and graduate degree programs online, several of which have been recognized by high rankings from U.S. News & World Report, and by awards from the Texas Distance Learning Association and other organizations.

In addition, Lamar Institute of Technology, Lamar State College-Orange, and Lamar State College-Port Arthur have online workforce-related courses and a pipeline for seamless transfer pathways to degrees earned online at four-year TSUS institutions.

LAMAR UNIVERSITY

Home to over 15,000 students, Lamar University, in Beaumont, Texas, is among the fastest growing Texas colleges and universities, with more than 100 programs of study leading to bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees. 42 of those undergraduate and graduate programs are online.

As a doctoral granting institution, Lamar University is internationally recognized for its high-quality academics, innovative curriculum, diverse student population, accessibility, and leading-edge scholarly activities dedicated to transforming the communities of Southeast Texas and beyond.

Lamar’s commitment to online education is reflected in high rankings and awards. The university’s online programs have been recognized among the best in the nation by the 2018 U.S. News & World Report Best Online Programs rankings.

Almost 6,500 graduate and undergraduate students at Lamar are studying fully online. The university enrolls the most students in shortened-semester-format courses (among TSUS institutions), which is reflected in their number of fully online graduates (see page 21).

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
Semester Credit Hours (SCH)	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH
Total Online SCH	44,009	32%	36,324	28%	38,352	31%	48,446	37%	58,204	42%
Total SCH	137,925	100%	128,916	100%	125,618	100%	131,345	100%	137,186	100%

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Online Degree Programs

In addition to growth in fully online enrollments, Lamar University also delivers 2% of its semester credit hours in a hybrid/blended format.



SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Sam Houston State University provides high quality education, scholarship, and service to over 21,000 students for the benefit of regional, state, national and international constituencies. For more than 139 years, SHSU has been preparing students for meaningful lives of achievement.

While embracing its legacy, SHSU also strives to meet the needs of contemporary students, both traditional and online. The university offers 49 fully online undergraduate and graduate degrees and numerous certificates, all of which are taught by on-campus professors.

In 2018, for the second year in a row, SHSU was ranked number one in the nation in U.S. News & World Report, for its online graduate degrees in Criminal Justice. This sign of excellence is the result of implementing research-based best practices in online pedagogy to improve learning outcomes for students online.

Presently, SHSU has 3,500 students taking 100% of their courses online, and more than 11,400 students are taking one or more courses online. Currently, 53% of the university’s student body is taking at least one online course.

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
Semester Credit Hours (SCH)	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH
Total Online SCH	38,693	17%	46,864	20%	48,914	20%	57,158	23%	59,661	24%
Total SCH	229,673	100%	237,629	100%	243,056	100%	248,902	100%	252,856	100%

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Online Degree Programs

In 2018, for the second year in a row, Sam Houston State University was ranked number one in the nation in U.S. News & World Report for its online graduate degrees in Criminal Justice.



SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

Sul Ross State University is a public, comprehensive, master’s-degree granting, multi-campus university, providing on-site and distance education in the Big Bend and the U.S.-Mexico border regions of Texas. The university serves over 2,000 students from its Alpine, Texas campus.

Online education is important to Sul Ross’s mission, given the university’s remote location in far West Texas. Thus the university offers many courses in online education formats, including web-delivered courses. Sul Ross offers a total of 15 online programs at present, including two Criminal Justice

master’s degree programs, a dual M.A. in Public Administration and M.S. in Criminal Justice, as well as the M.S. in Criminal Justice. The Criminal Justice master’s degree is ranked high nationally in affordability, according to a survey by SR Education Group.

The two-year online MBA is designed for students who are employed and located at remote sites from campus. The university’s hope is that its MBA graduates will benefit with career promotions and professional growth as a result of this distance learning opportunity.

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
Semester Credit Hours (SCH)	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH
Total Online SCH	4,121	20%	4,052	20%	4,547	21%	4,377	21%	4,409	22%
Total SCH	20,270	100%	20,392	100%	21,518	100%	20,813	100%	19,686	100%

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Online Degree Programs

In addition to growth in fully online enrollments, Sul Ross State University also delivers 1% of its semester credit hours in a hybrid/blended format.



SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY RIO GRANDE COLLEGE

Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College, through its sites in Uvalde, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass, Texas, offers bachelor’s degrees in a variety of fields, including nursing, education, business, biology, criminal justice, English, Spanish, history, mathematics, psychology, and social science, as well as child development and organizational leadership. Students may also earn teacher certification at the elementary or secondary level. Master’s degrees in English, history, public administration, business, education, criminal justice, and health and human performance are also offered.

The college, with an approximate enrollment of around 1,000 students, seeks to play an important role in meeting the needs of underserved Latino communities in the U.S.-Mexico border region. Currently, a large number of Rio Grande College courses are still offered via two-way interactive video conferencing. This infrastructure provides an opportunity to implement lecture capture technology in order to grow fully online programs.

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
Semester Credit Hours (SCH)	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH
Total Online SCH	2,547	37%	3,075	42%	3,027	40%	3,261	44%	2,790	40%
Total SCH	6,915	100%	7,364	100%	7,598	100%	7,431	100%	6,943	100%

5

Online Degree Programs

In addition to growth in fully online enrollments, Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College also delivers 36% of its semester credit hours in a two-way interactive format.



TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Texas State University is a public, student-centered, Emerging Research University dedicated to excellence in serving the educational needs of the diverse population of Texas and the world beyond.

Texas State’s almost 40,000 students choose from 98 bachelor’s, 91 master’s and 13 doctoral degree programs offered by the following colleges: Applied Arts, McCoy College of Business Administration, Education, Fine Arts and Communication, Health Professions, Liberal Arts, Science and Engineering, University College, and The Graduate College.

As an Emerging Research University, Texas State offers opportunities for discovery and innovation to faculty and students.

Currently, Texas State University has just over 1,000 undergraduate and graduate students who are 100% online. The university has received a number of recognitions and awards for its programs offered online, including the 2017 TxDLA Award for the School of Social Work (for Outstanding Commitment to Excellence and Innovation in Distance Education by an Organization, Four-Year Higher Education category).

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
Semester Credit Hours (SCH)	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH
Total Online SCH	13,313	3%	17,599	4%	18,341	4%	19,229	4%	22,763	5%
Total SCH	440,711	100%	456,771	100%	468,137	100%	468,085	100%	468,799	100%

4 Online Degree Programs

In addition to growth in fully online enrollments, Texas State University also delivers 3% of its semester credit hours through 18 partially online degree programs.



LAMAR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) offers educational programs and training to over 3,200 students that expand students’ knowledge, encourage their development, and give them marketable skills for today’s workforce.

LIT is a two-year technical college offering Associate of Applied Science (AAS) and Academic Transfer (AA/AS) Degrees. LIT offers three fully online degree or certificate programs and 23 partially online programs. Fully online programs include an associate degree in Health Information Technology, a Real Estate Certificate, and a Medical Coding Certificate.

LIT offers numerous online courses each semester. Students can build on their associate degrees at Lamar Institute of Technology by continuing with baccalaureate programs online through four-year institutions in the Texas State University System.

Lamar Institute of Technology, as of 2017, had 151 fully online students, with an additional 696 students taking at least one or more courses online.

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
Semester Credit Hours (SCH)	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH
Total Online SCH	1,170	4%	1,442	5%	3,502	13%	4,542	15%	5,832	18%
Total SCH	27,490	100%	28,728	100%	27,720	100%	29,714	100%	31,894	100%

3

Online Degree Programs

Lamar Institute of Technology’s continued growth in online education has provided the opportunity for students to continue their education at four-year TSUS institutions.



LAMAR STATE COLLEGE - ORANGE

Lamar State College-Orange currently has a student body of approximately 2,700. Two-year academic programs are offered in business, communication, computer science, criminal justice, education, liberal arts, theater, natural science and sociology. These academic programs lead to associate of science degrees and transfers to four-year institutions, such as Sam Houston State University and Lamar University, for students seeking baccalaureate degrees online.

Thirty technical programs are available, leading to associate of applied science degrees, certificates of completion and institutional awards. Over

40 hybrid courses are available each semester and more than 60 courses are offered fully online, allowing students to “attend” class at any location they prefer.

Lamar State College-Orange has six fully online programs, including an associate of arts degree in Liberal Arts, an associate of science degree in Business, an associate of applied science degree in Business Management, and certificates in General Education, Business Management, and Entrepreneurship.

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
Semester Credit Hours (SCH)	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH
Total Online SCH	3,411	16%	4,145	19%	4,935	23%	5,701	28%	6,266	31%
Total SCH	21,392	100%	21,301	100%	21,234	100%	20,567	100%	20,406	100%

6 Online Programs

In addition to growth in fully online enrollments, Lamar State College-Orange also delivers 5% of its semester credit hours in a hybrid/blended format.



LAMAR STATE COLLEGE – PORT ARTHUR

Over 60 courses are offered online each semester at Lamar State College-Port Arthur, allowing additional flexibility in class schedules for students who are working. Eight-week sessions are available for students who wish to take courses over a shorter time period, as opposed to a traditional semester. Lamar State College-Port Arthur students can enroll in online courses after consulting with an advisor. Students new to Lamar State College must first apply for admission to the college. The registration period for online courses is concurrent with on-campus courses.

Over 2,600 Lamar State College-Port Arthur students learn valuable, job-ready skills through a curriculum of more than 30 academic and technical programs that will transfer to a four-year college or university.

In the fall of 2018, Lamar State College-Port Arthur had 389 students taking at least one or more courses online, which is a 16.4% increase from 2017.

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
Semester Credit Hours (SCH)	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH	Semester Credit Hrs (SCH)	% of Total SCH
Total Online SCH	3,433	18%	2,132	13%	2,415	13%	2,645	13%	3,231	15%
Total SCH	19,038	100%	16,605	100%	18,268	100%	19,719	100%	22,153	100%

60+ Courses Offered Online

Lamar State College-Port Arthur had 389 students taking at least one or more courses online, which is a 16.4% increase from 2017.



2020 TSUS Online Education Goals



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2020 TSUS Online Education Goals

Texas State University System component institutions have persisted in their commitment to increasing the number of courses and programs offered online. Building upon this success, the System is determined to be even more innovative and aggressive in its online education efforts by the year 2020.

TSUS aligns with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's definitions of distance education: The formal educational process that occurs when students and instructors are not in the same physical setting for the majority (more than 50%) of instruction. A program in which a student may complete a majority (more than 50%) of the credit hours required for the program through distance education courses is a distance education degree. Fully Distance Courses are defined as: a course which may have mandatory face-to-face sessions totaling no more than 15% of the instructional time.

Highlighted below are TSUS's goals in terms of credit hours earned online, degree programs offered online, and degrees earned online by 2020:



168,000
Online Credit
Hours



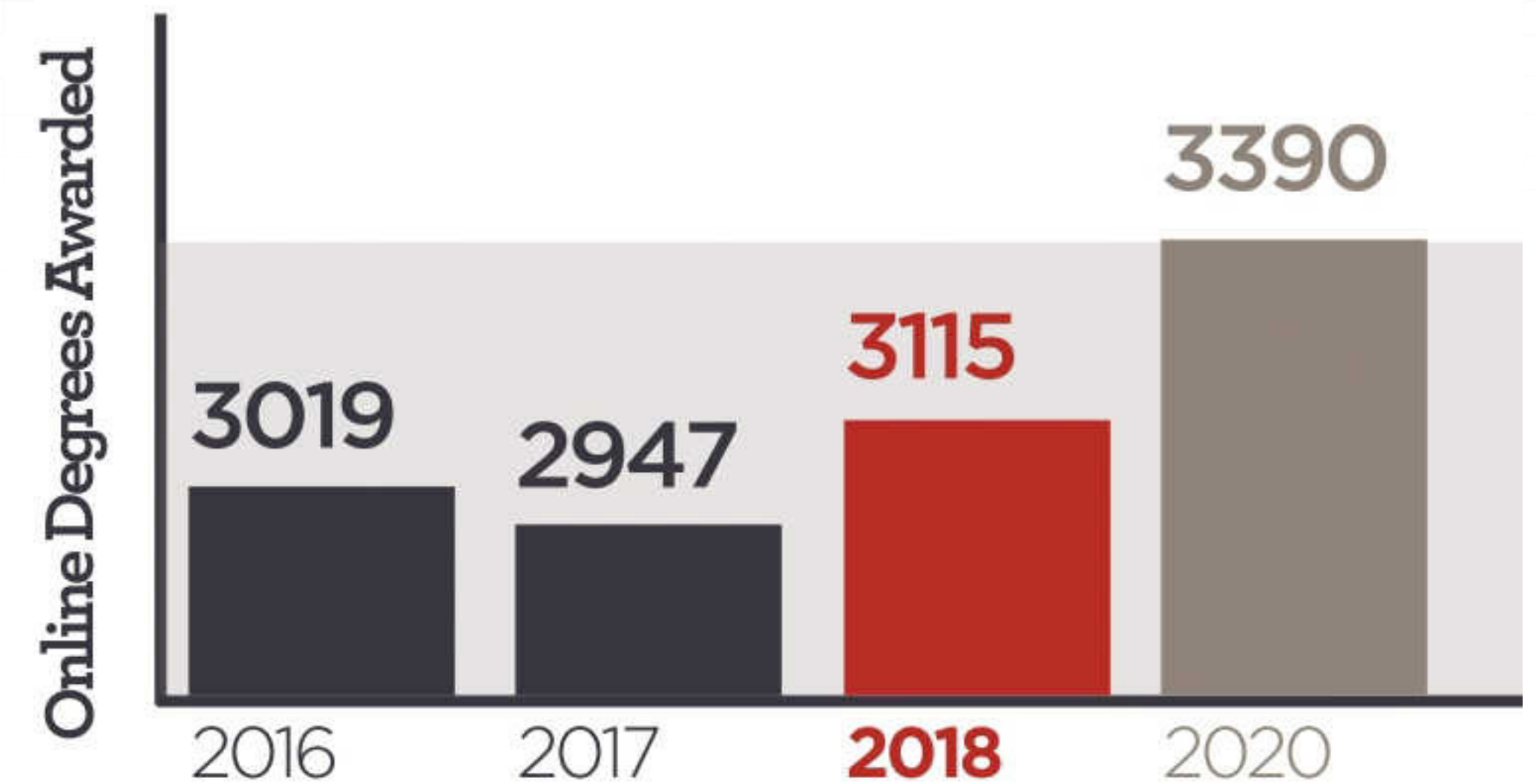
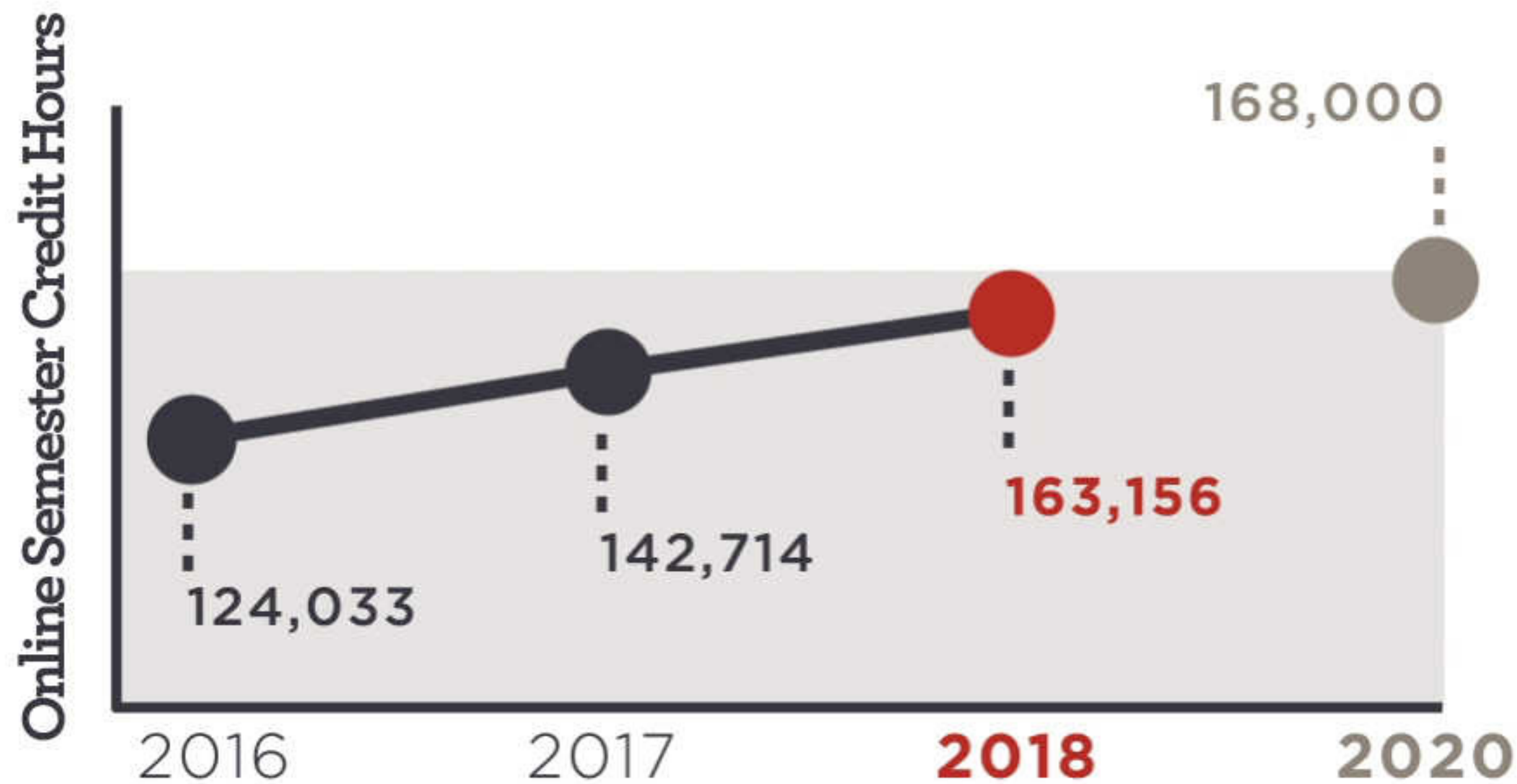
128
Online Degree
Programs



3,390
Online Degrees
Awarded

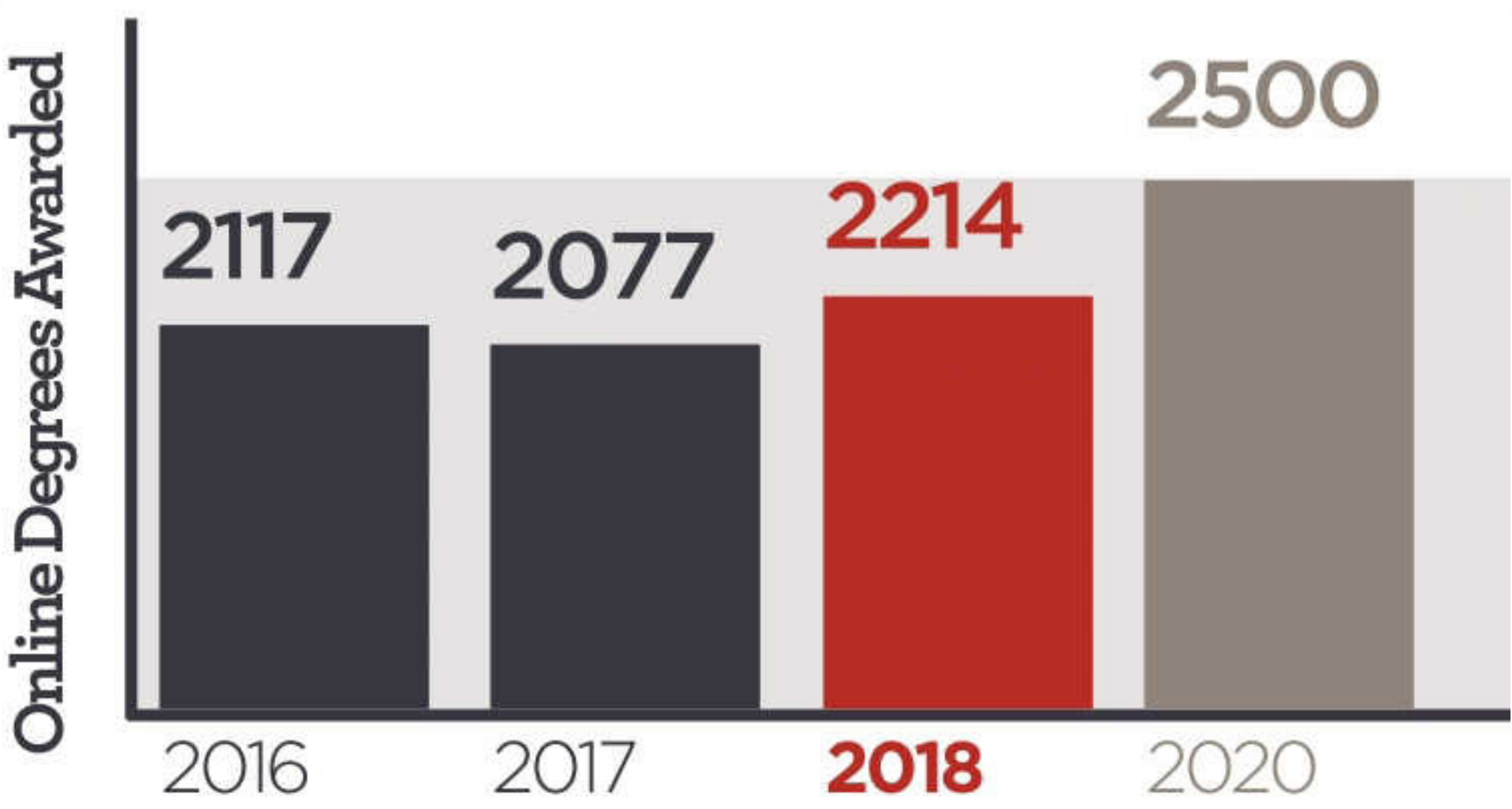
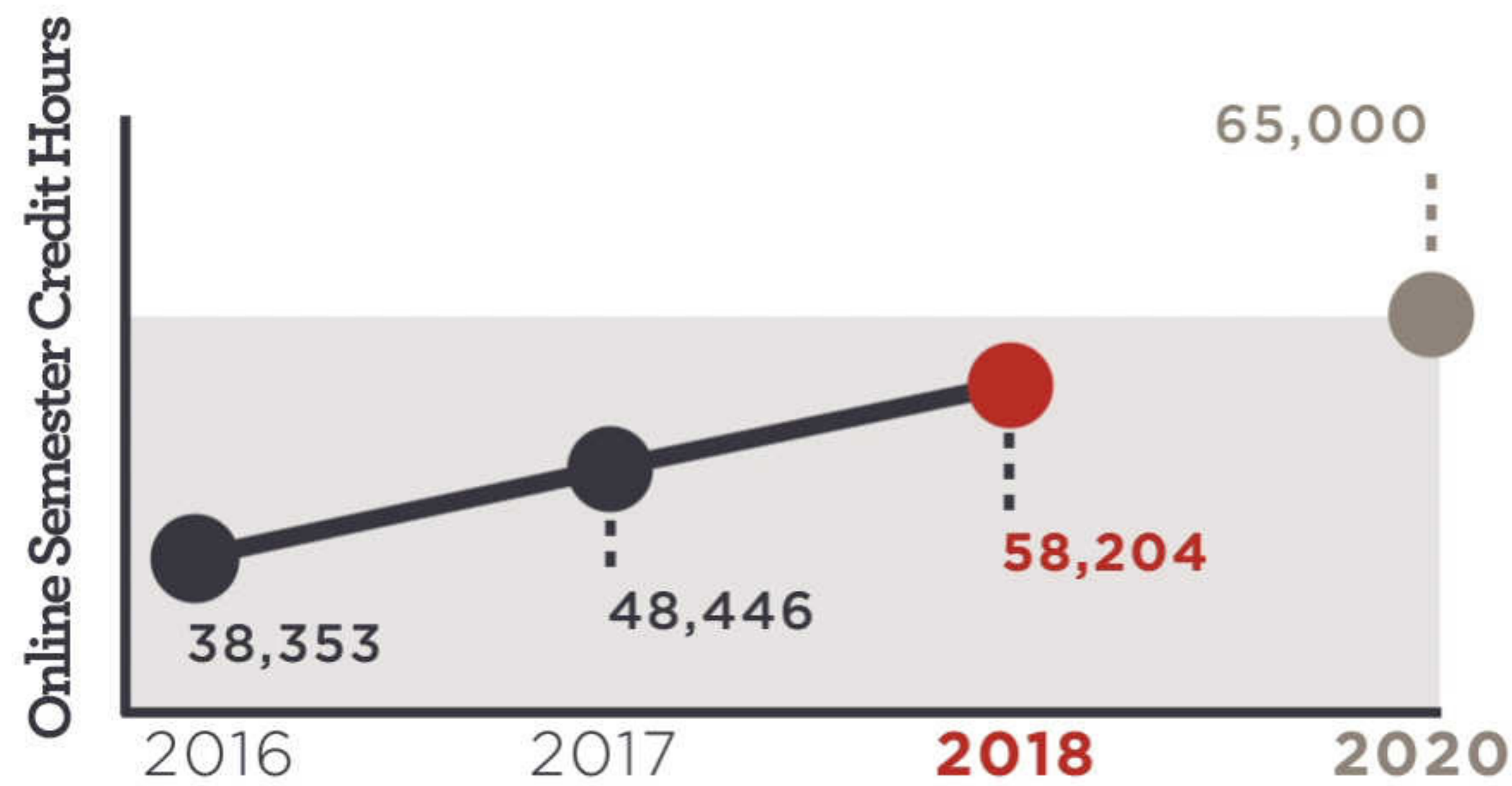


124 Online Degree Programs
out of **128** (program goal)



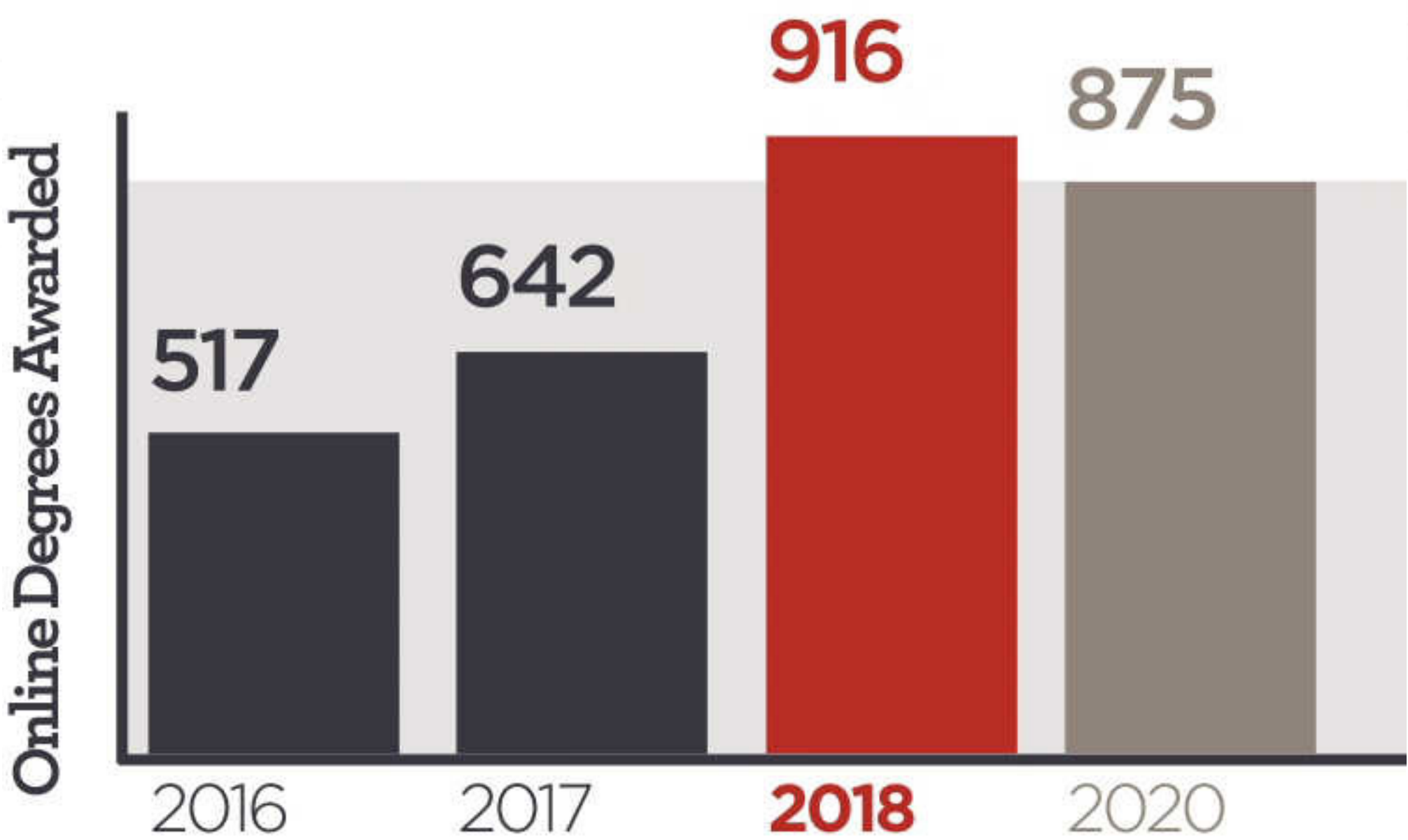
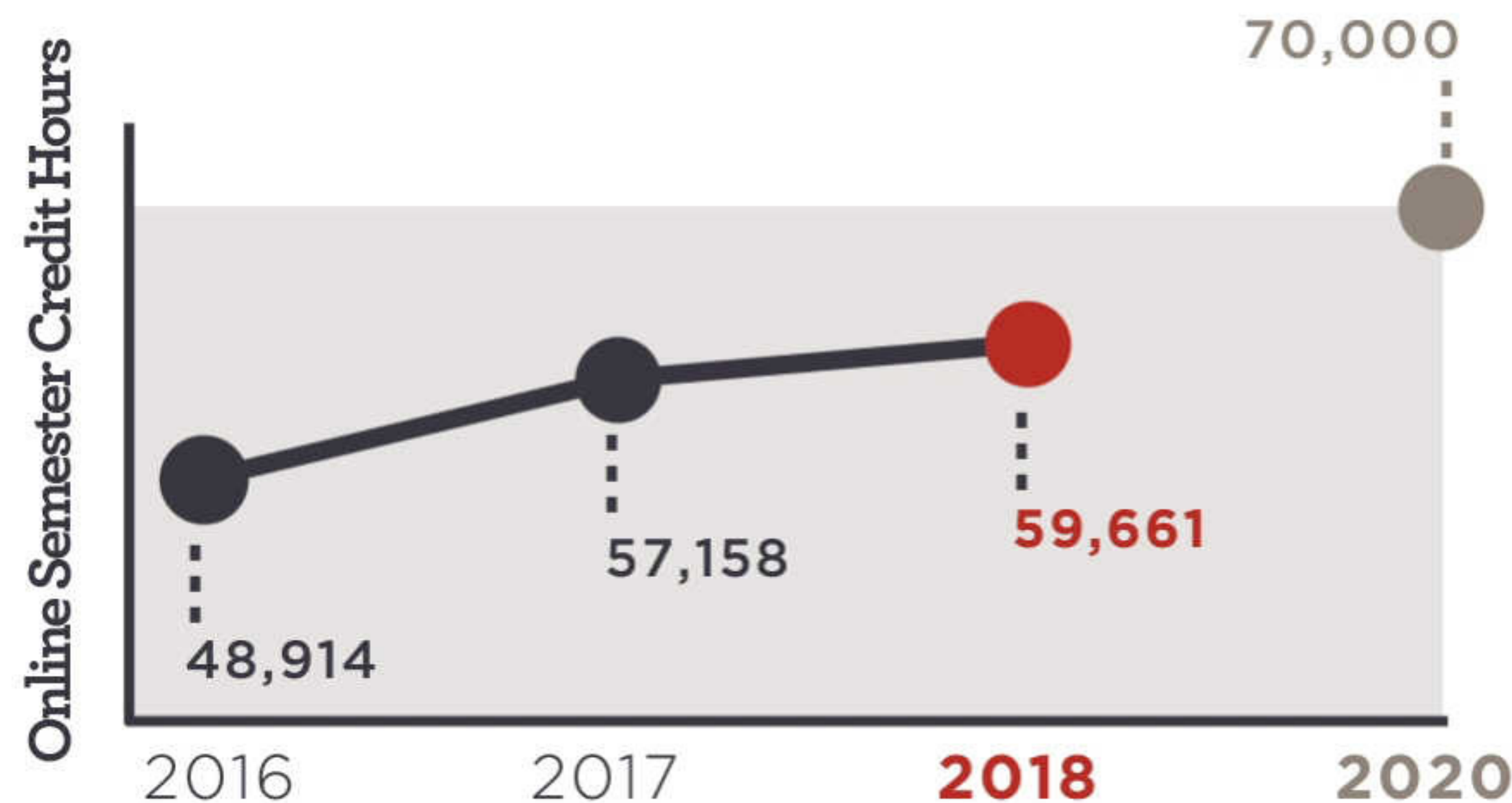
LAMAR UNIVERSITY

42 Online Degree Programs
out of **40** (program goal)



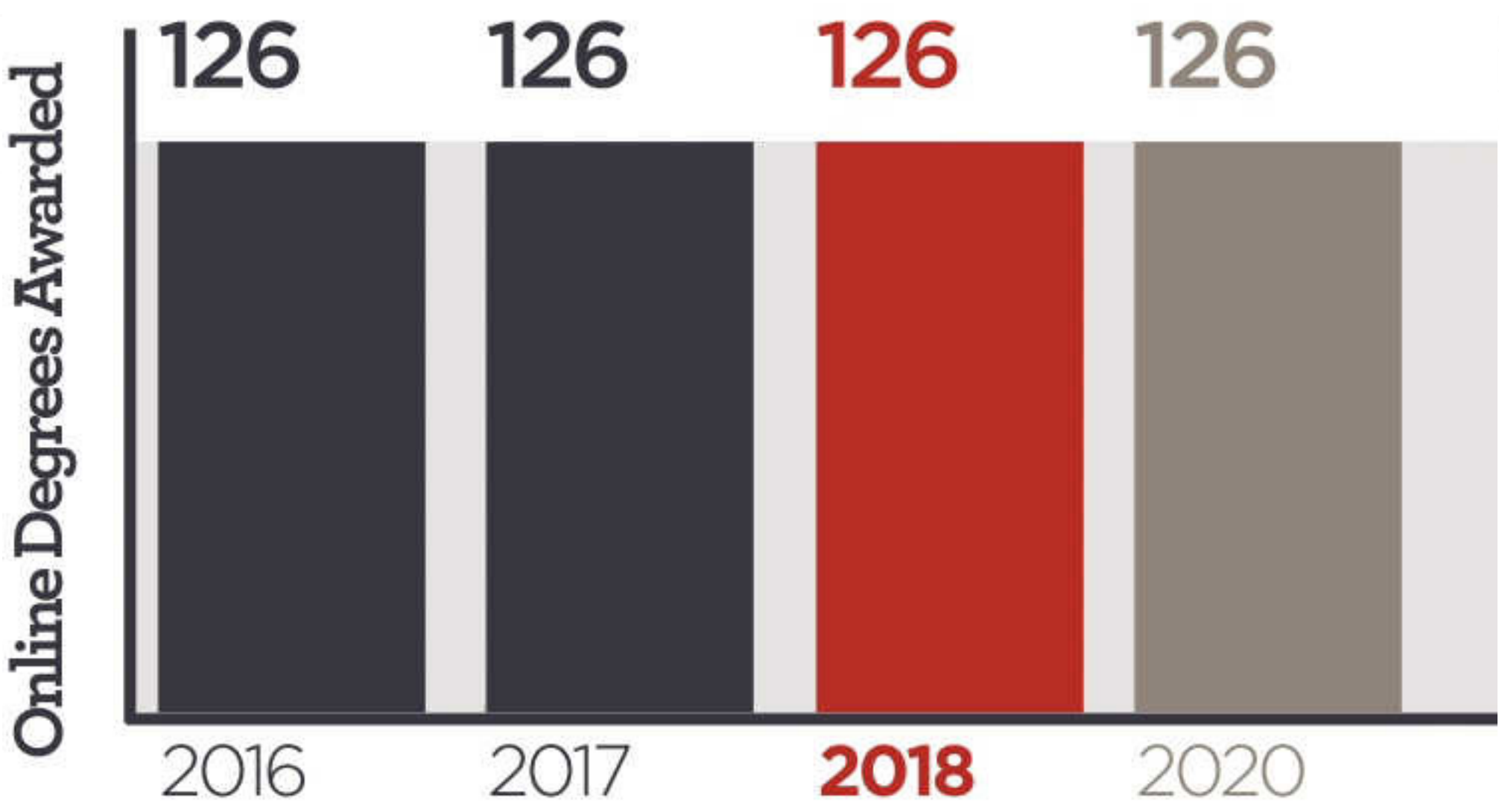
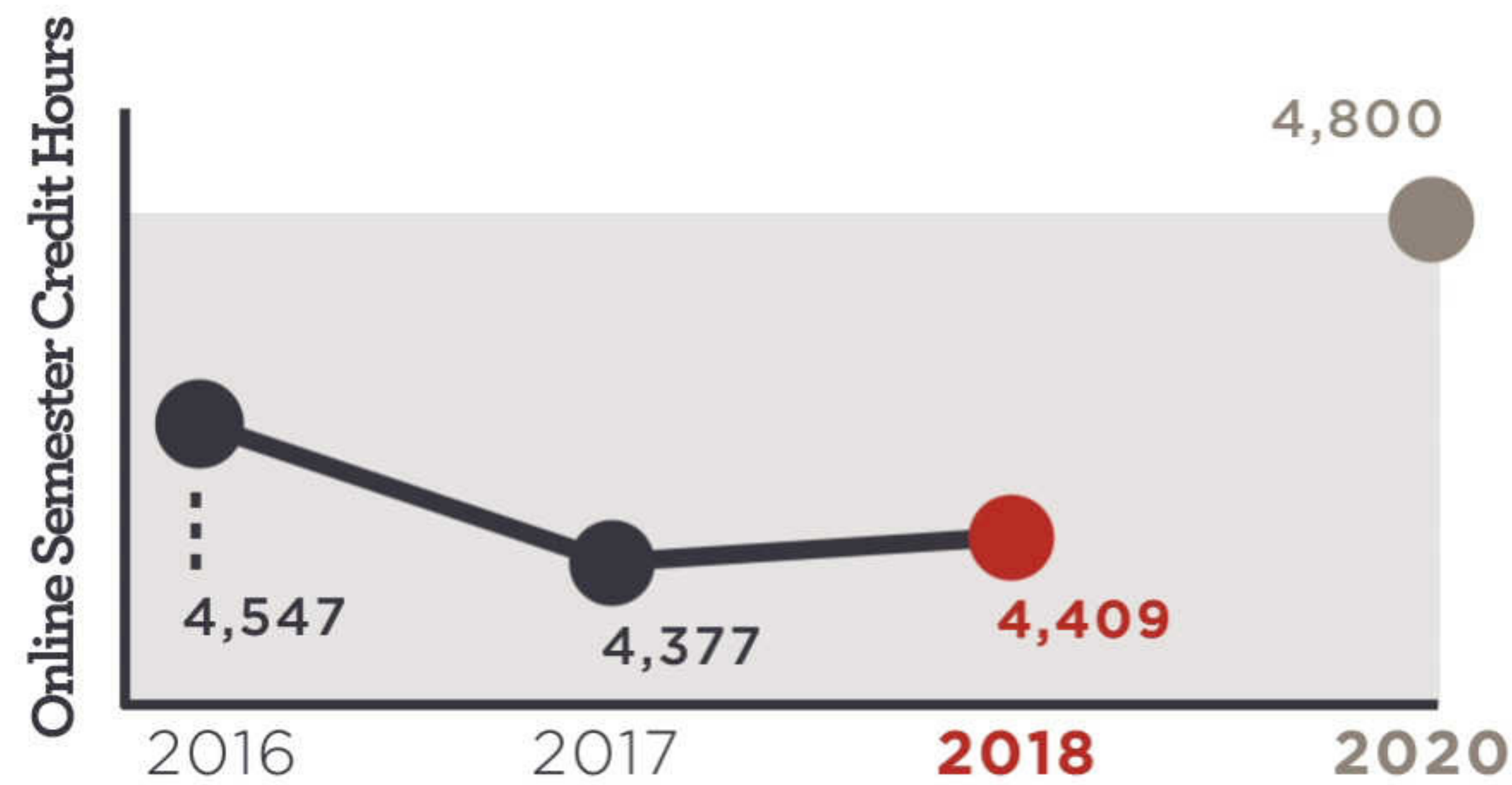
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

49 Online Degree Programs
out of **50** (program goal)



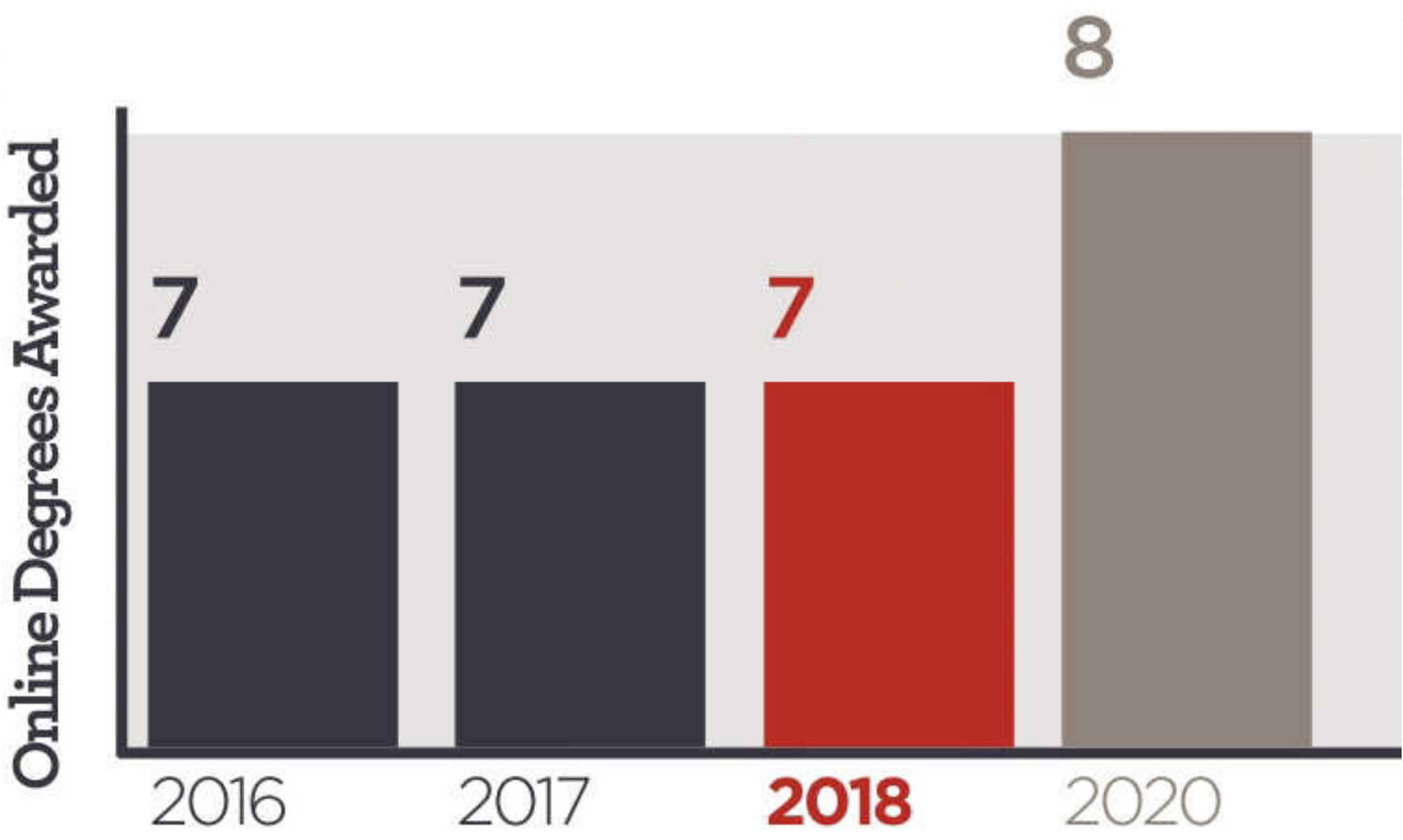
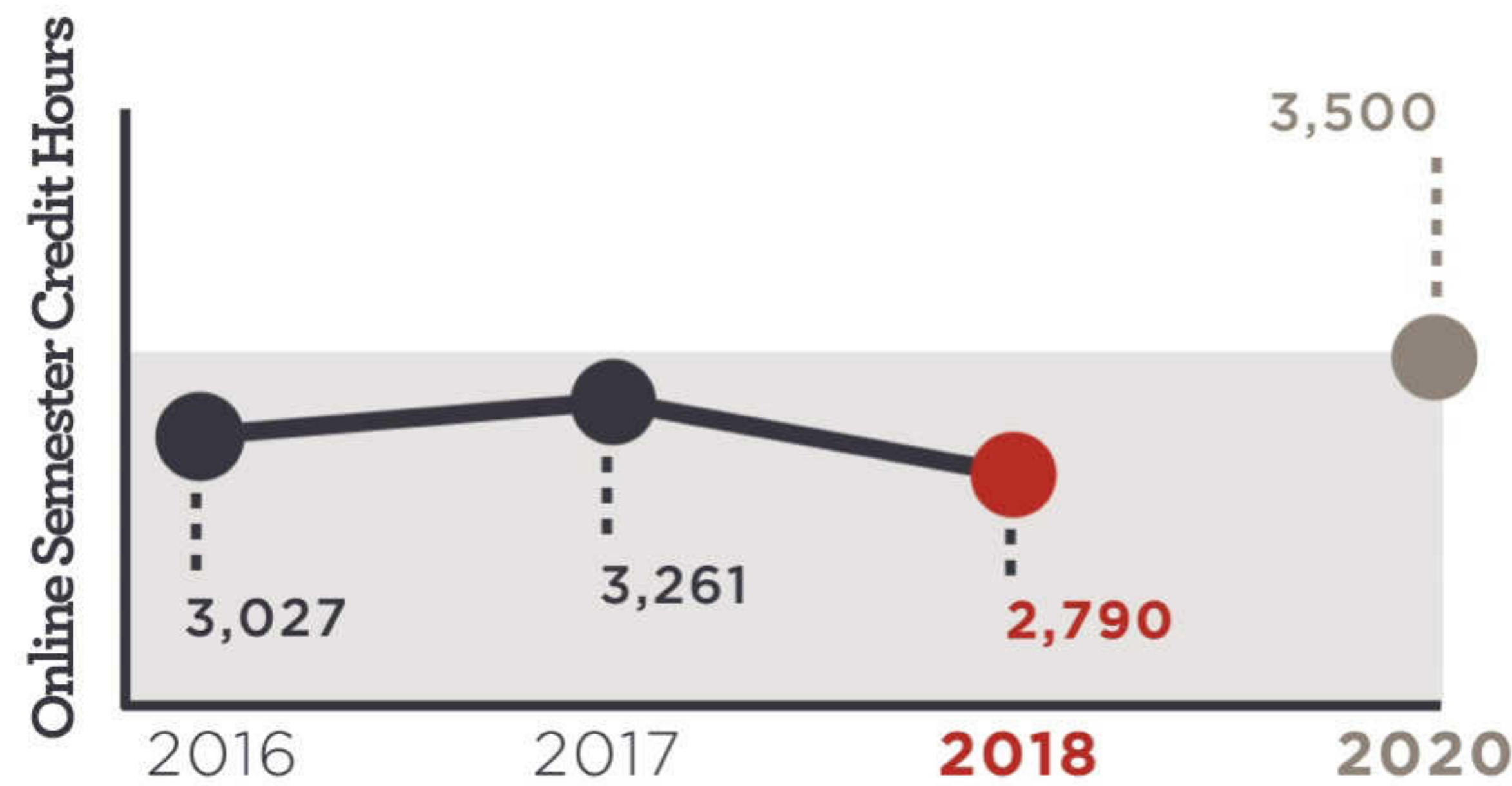
SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

15 Online Degree Programs
out of **12** (program goal)



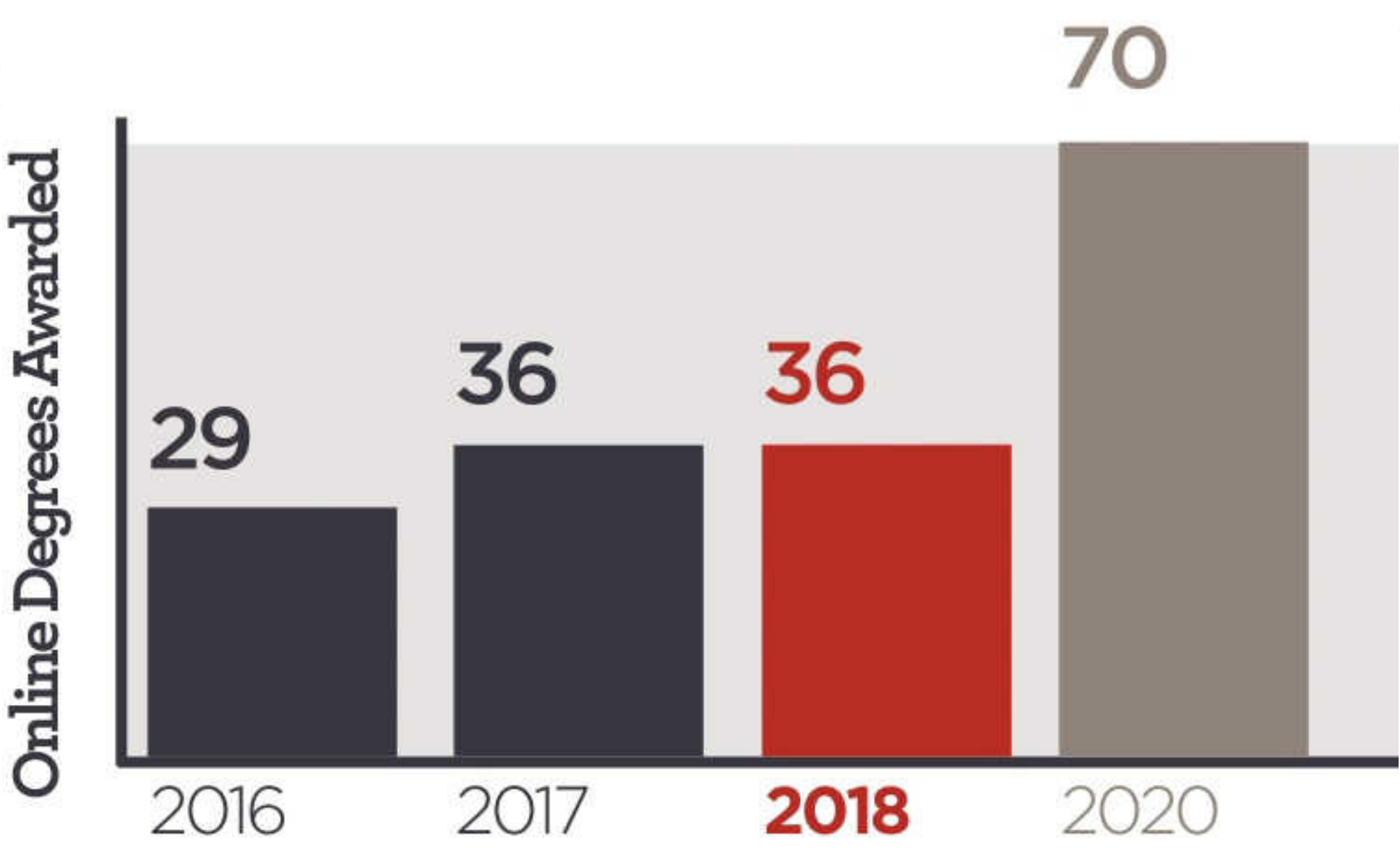
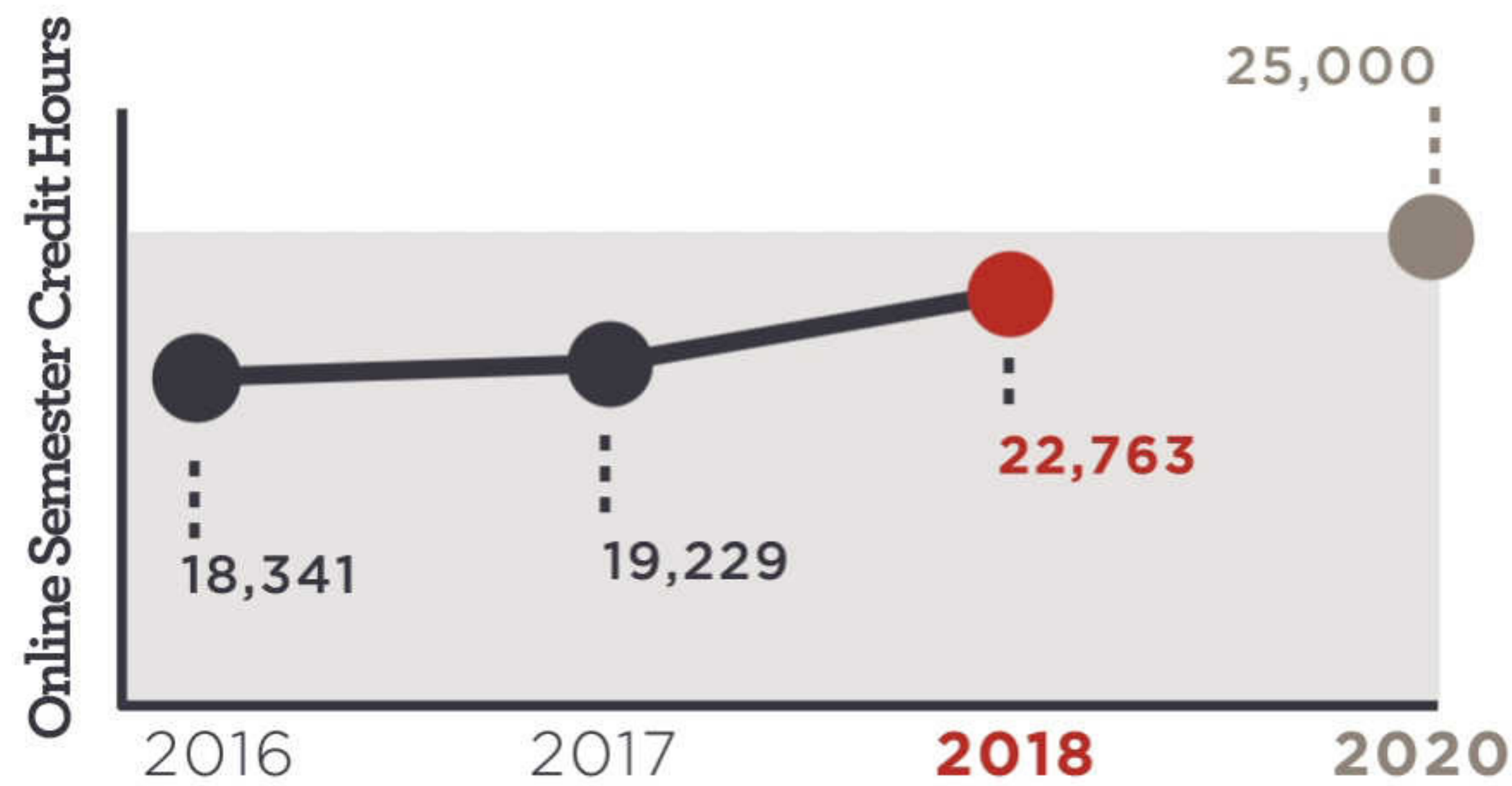
SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY RIO GRANDE COLLEGE

5 Online Degree Programs
out of **1** (program goal)



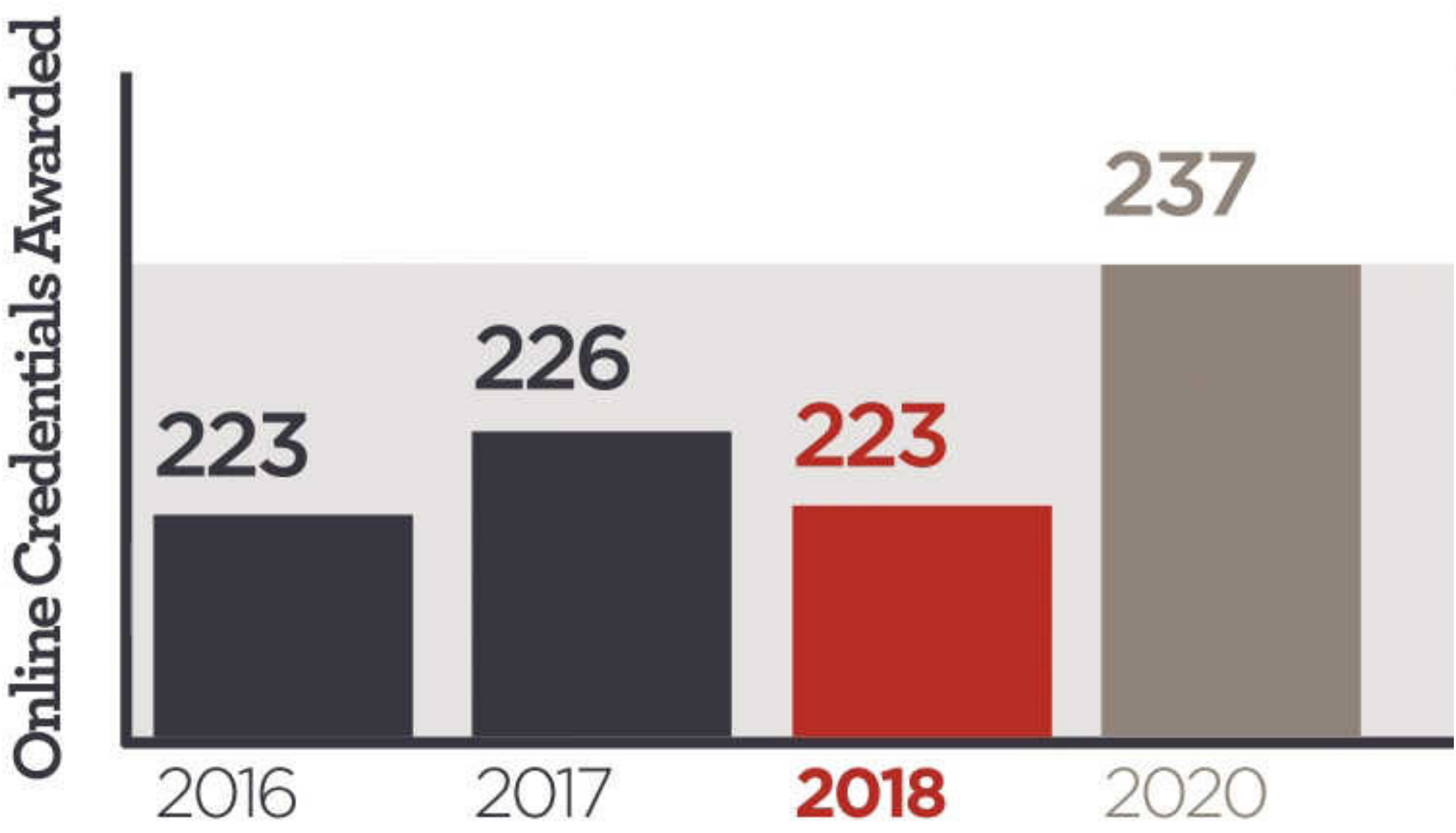
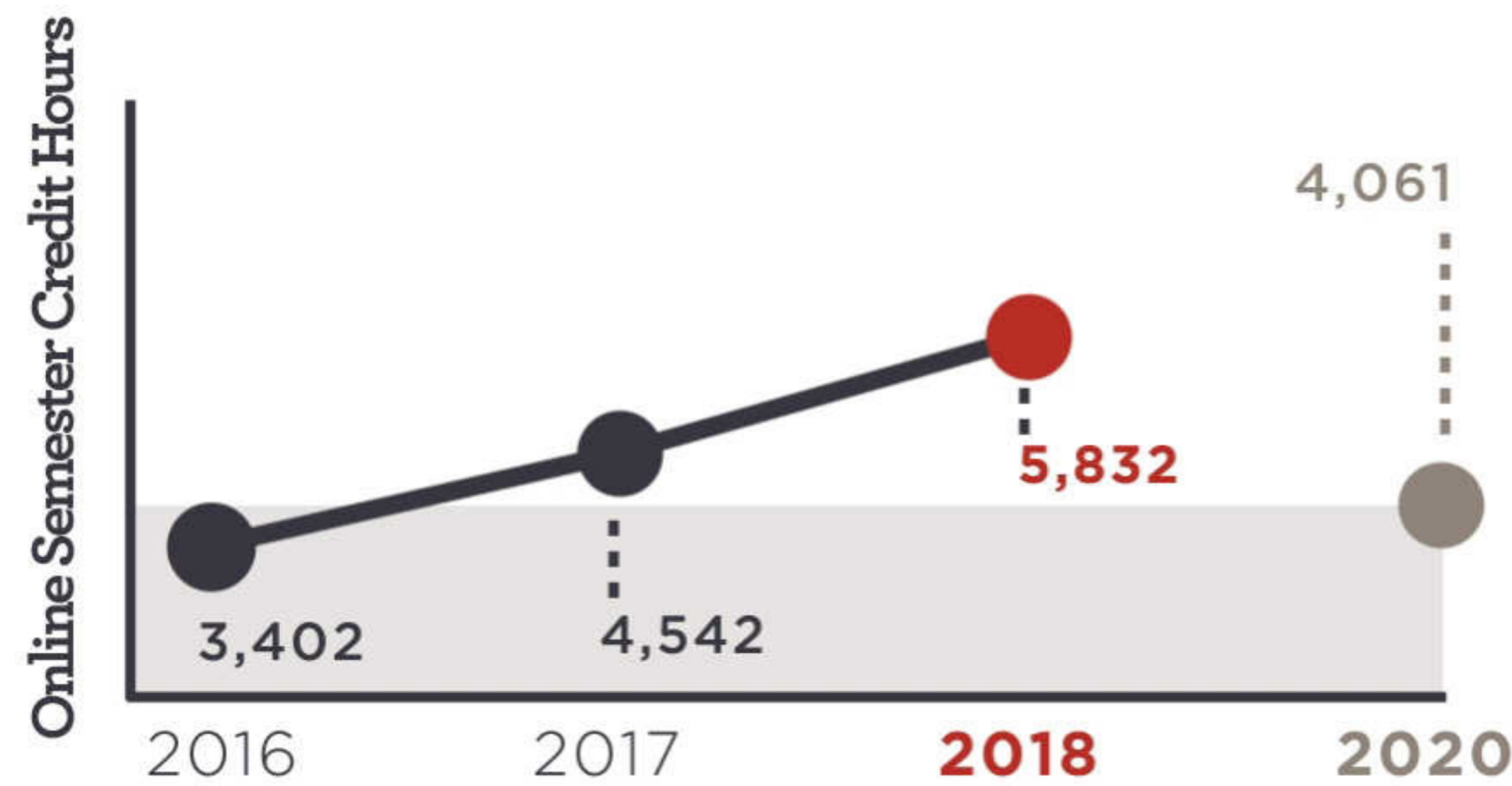
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

4 Online Degree Programs
out of **8** (program goal)



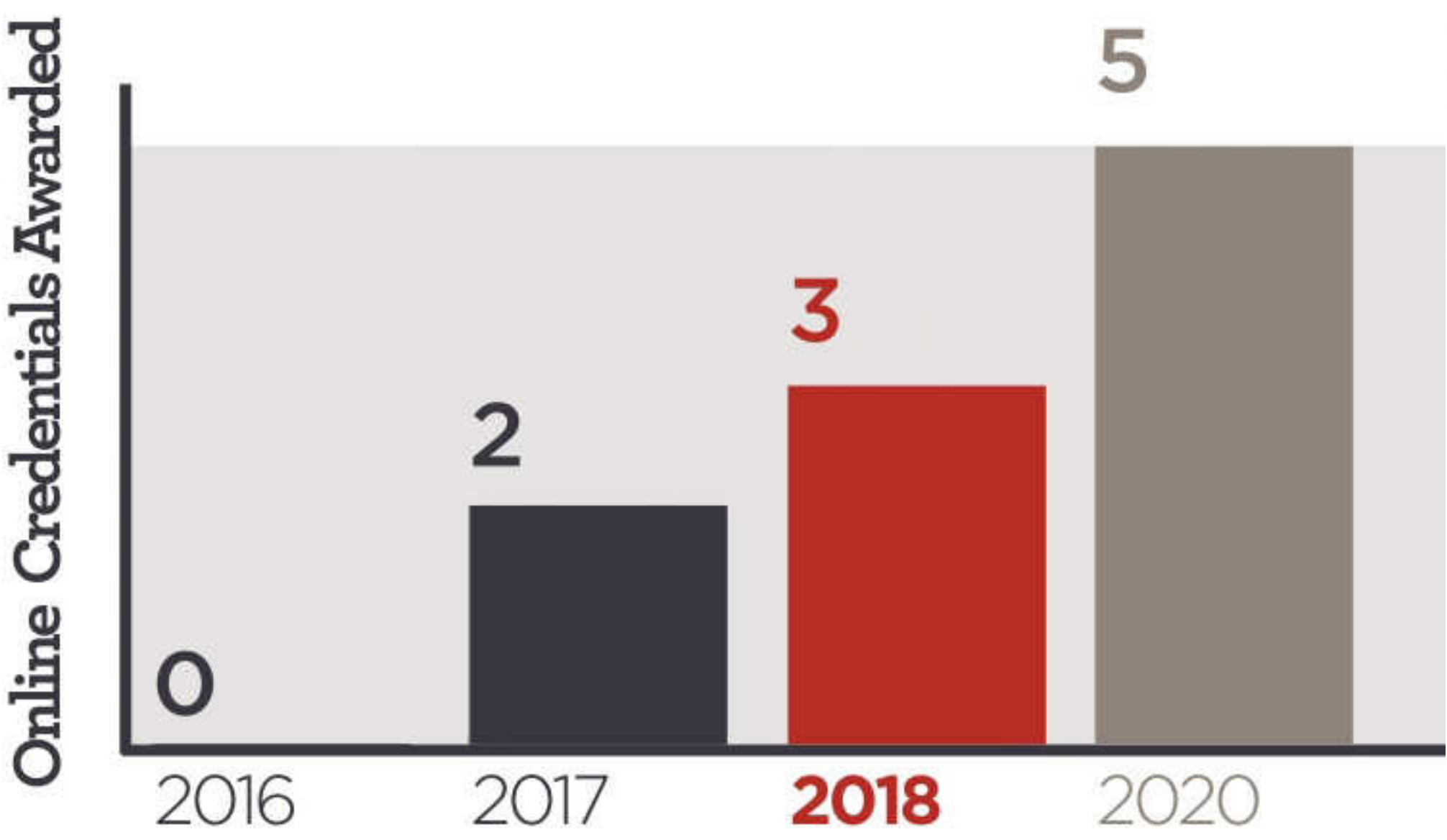
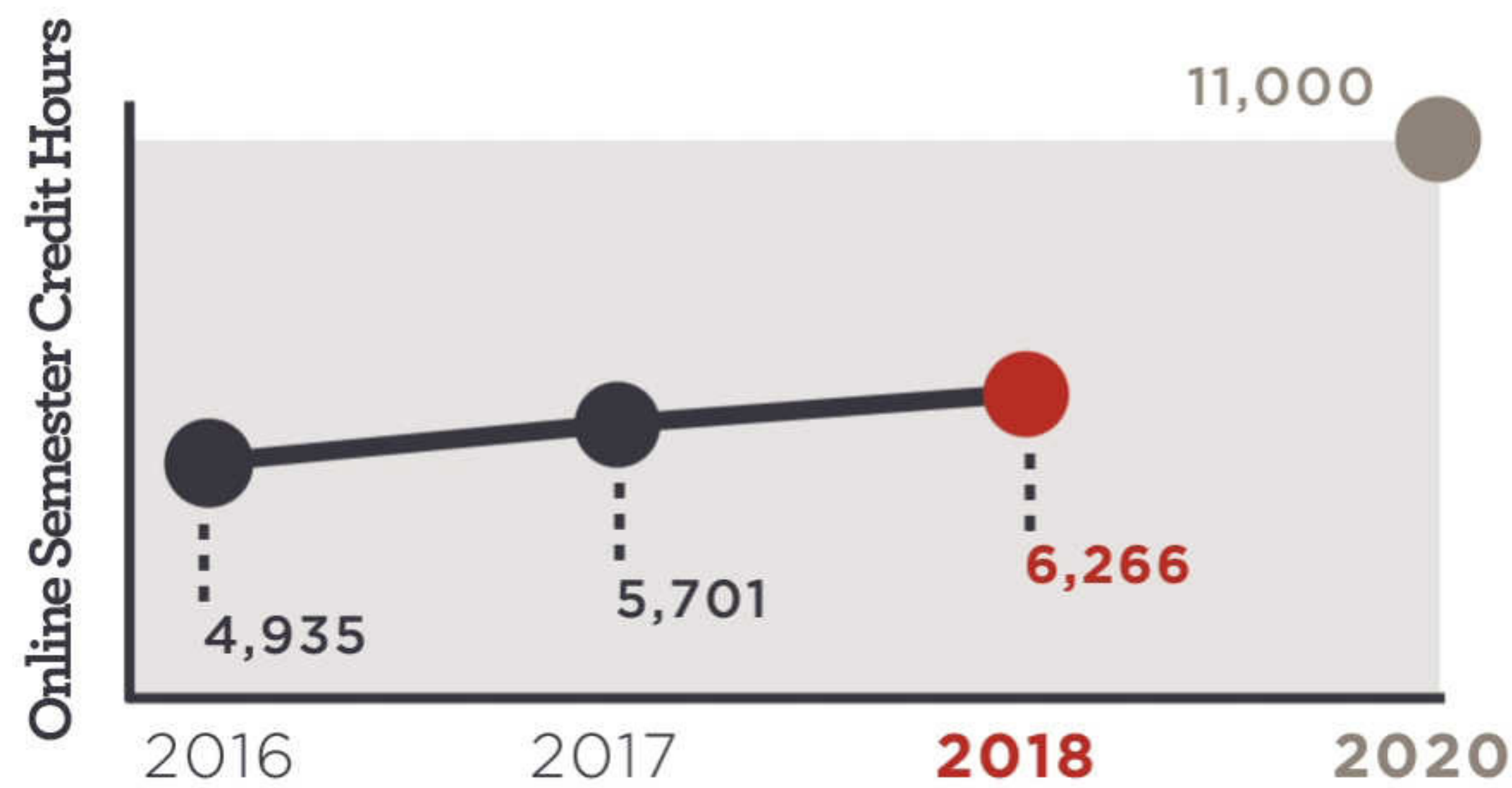
LAMAR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

3 Online Programs
out of **8** (program goal)



LAMAR STATE COLLEGE - ORANGE

6 Online Programs
out of **3** (program goal)

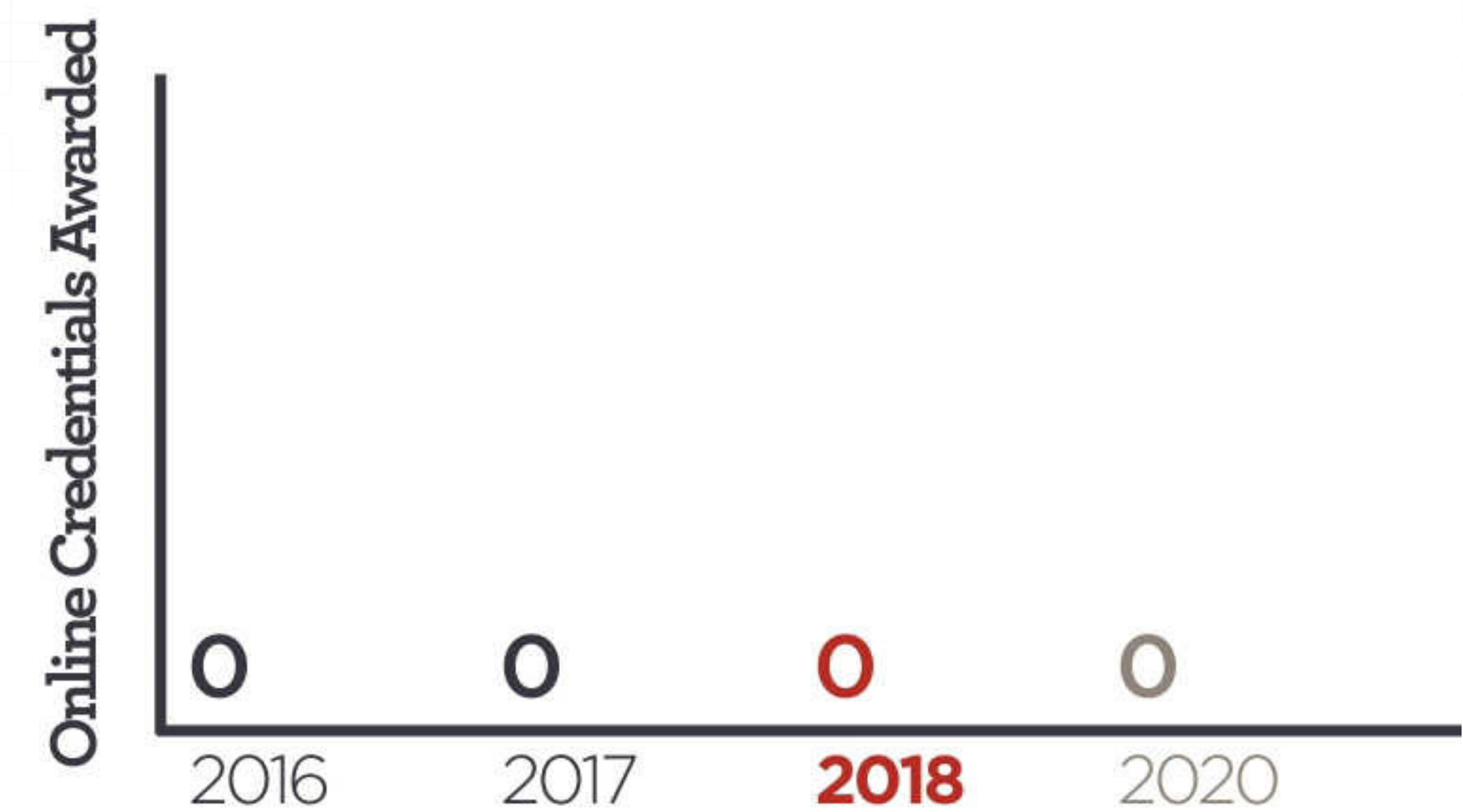
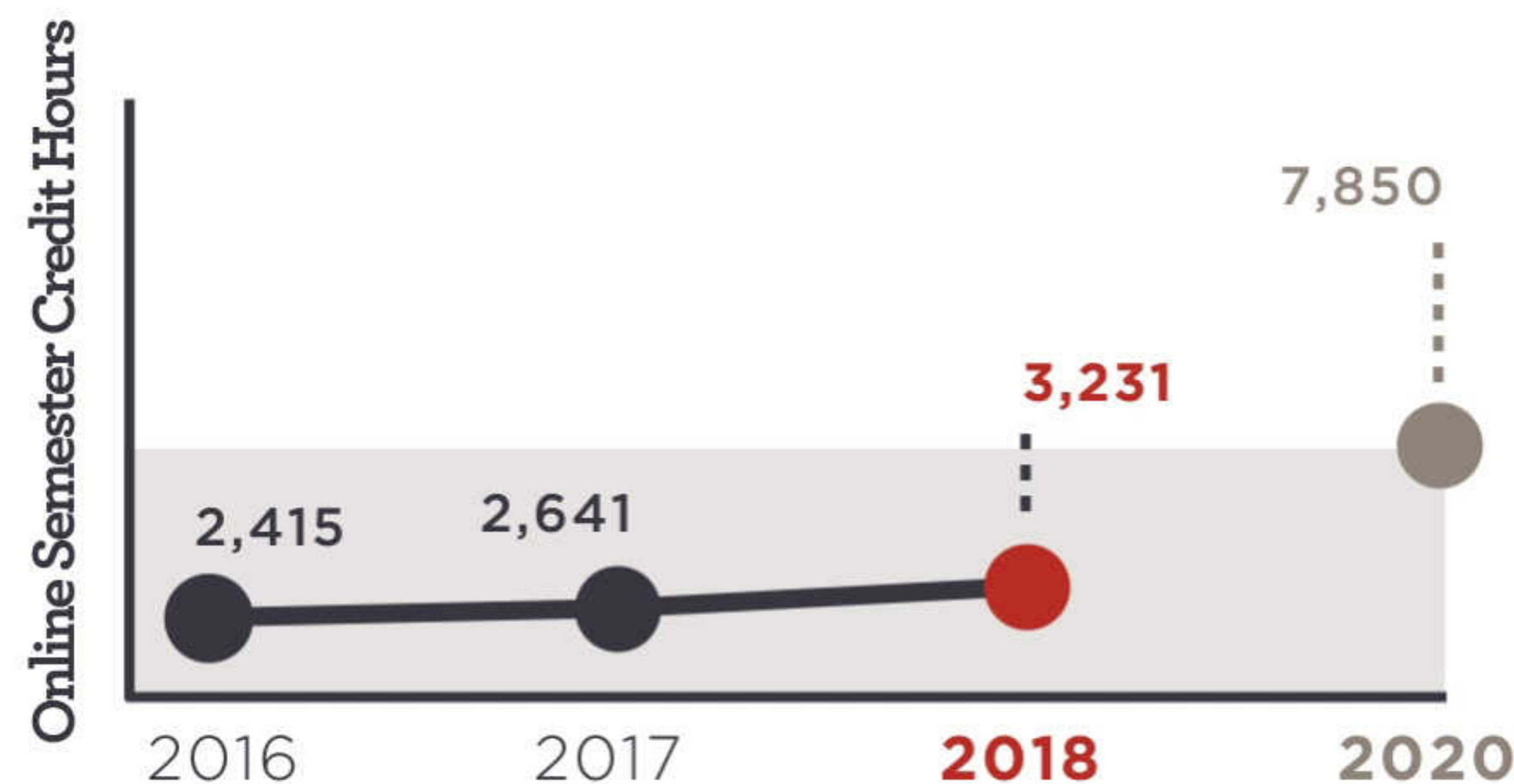


LAMAR STATE COLLEGE - PORT ARTHUR

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Online Programs

out of 6 (program goal)



Next Steps

Online education is an opportunity for TSUS members to work together by increasing the number of fully online students and programs, serving adult learners and underserved communities across the state.

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Online education continues to grow in importance for institutions in the Texas State University System and for higher education. In many ways, degree programs offered online have become mainstream, in TSUS and beyond. But as the System continues to make strides with our own efforts, there are still numerous opportunities and challenges ahead for online education—most notably in terms of providing high-quality, student-friendly online programs and continuing the development and provision of sharing academic and technology services.

Shared Online Education Services

One of the key benefits of providing shared services is their role in maintaining operations in case of a natural disaster, like Hurricane Harvey, among the institutions of TSUS. Since the System includes institutions of widely varying size and available staff expertise, shared services help spread that expertise among all campuses and their online education operations.

Specific benefits of shared services to TSUS include an enhanced ability to maintain operations, retain state funding and business continuity, and provide practical help, for people whose lives have been disrupted by natural disasters or other emergencies, in resuming their educational objectives.

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Case Study: Sam Houston State University Real World Impact

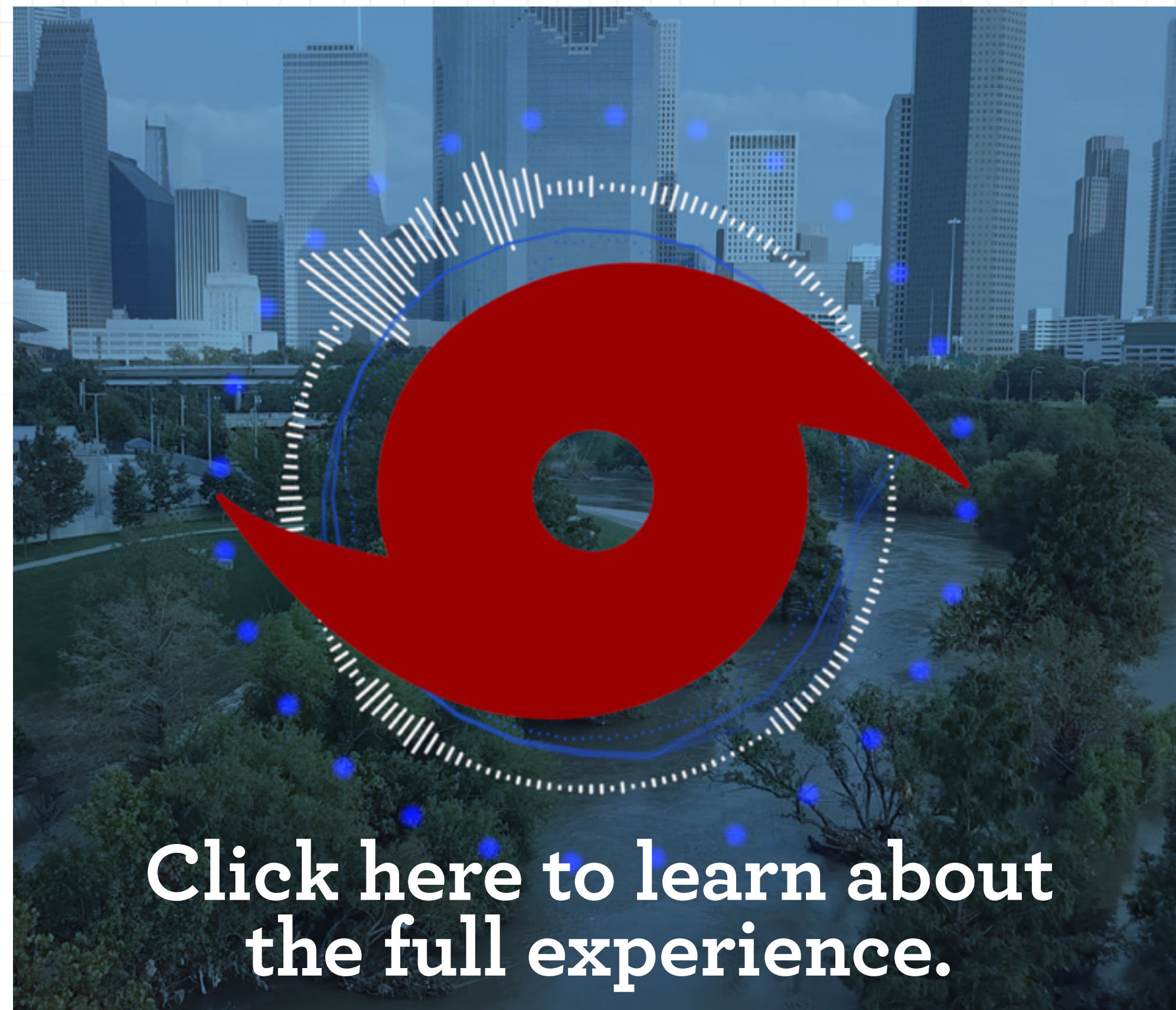
In response to the very difficult conditions stemming from unprecedented floods brought to the Houston-Huntsville area by Hurricane Harvey in late August 2017, Sam Houston State University prepared 181 online sections of a shortened semester schedule. The 7 1/2-week or “7B” class sections began on Wednesday, October 18, 2017. The university’s intention, in offering these additional sections, was to provide students who may have had to delay or drop classes due to the storm with a practical alternative that allowed them to keep their education plans on track.

Over 86% of students successfully completed their 7B semester due to the joint efforts of SHSU Online, SHSU Enrollment Management, and the faculty who volunteered at the last minute to teach in the shortened semester.

In addition to addressing humanitarian concerns, the 7B semester mitigated potential financial losses for Sam Houston State University. In fact, the 1,085 enrollments generated over \$1.5 million in revenue.

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Sam Houston State University

7 1/2 week (7B) Class Summary

Total Enrollment: 1,085

Online Sections: 181

Individual Students: 859

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Also of note is that almost 10% (83 students) of those enrolled in the 7B term were not in close proximity to substantially damaged or flooded areas. This indicates a broadly-based demand from students for the shortened semester.

The successful SHSU Online response to the challenges of Hurricane Harvey suggests that two-year TSUS institutions in the Golden Triangle could remain operational by sharing core curriculum courses online. This shared services approach may prove equally valuable in meeting students' needs, mitigating losses, and generating additional revenue.

Continuing to explore shared services across the System will enhance collaboration. In addition, shared services strengthen the ability of institutions to provide streamlined degree pathways from the System's two-year institutions to its four-year universities online. Academic initiatives, such as designing a lecture capture solution for Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College to transition two-way interactive courses to fully online, will be undertaken. This initiative could dramatically increase enrollment, while enabling education opportunities for geographically isolated students.

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Continuing development in fully online education can increase educational opportunities for adult learners and underserved regions across the state.

A number of shared online education services are currently being explored, including:

- ▶ Shared instance of Blackboard
- ▶ System-wide license for proctoring software
- ▶ Lecture capture and video hosting software
- ▶ Media captioning and transcription
- ▶ ADA compliance software
- ▶ 24 x 7 support desk
- ▶ Data analytics
- ▶ Streamlined degree pathways between 2-year and 4-year institutions
- ▶ Joint graduate degree programs between institutions
- ▶ Workshops in online pedagogy
- ▶ Annual System-wide online education conference

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Institutional Collaboration

Over the last two years, in support of System-wide collaborative efforts, Sam Houston State University hosted week-long workshops in online pedagogy for faculty members from Sul Ross State University, Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College, Lamar Institute of Technology, and Lamar University-Orange who teach online. Collaborative activities like these workshops will continue to help increase the proficiency and familiarity of faculty members in all TSUS institutions with aspects of online pedagogy and technology.

As a result of the workshops in online pedagogy with Lamar Institute of Technology, SHSU has established a memorandum of understanding to support online education activities.

Sam Houston State University and Lamar Institute of Technology share common academic interests and seek to develop collaborations in the area of shared services to support online education. The activities undertaken pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) are based on a spirit of cooperation and reciprocity that is intended to be of mutual benefit to both parties.

Both institutions agree to encourage the development of shared services for online education. The objective is sharing services and resources in alignment with the Texas State University System 2020 online education goals.

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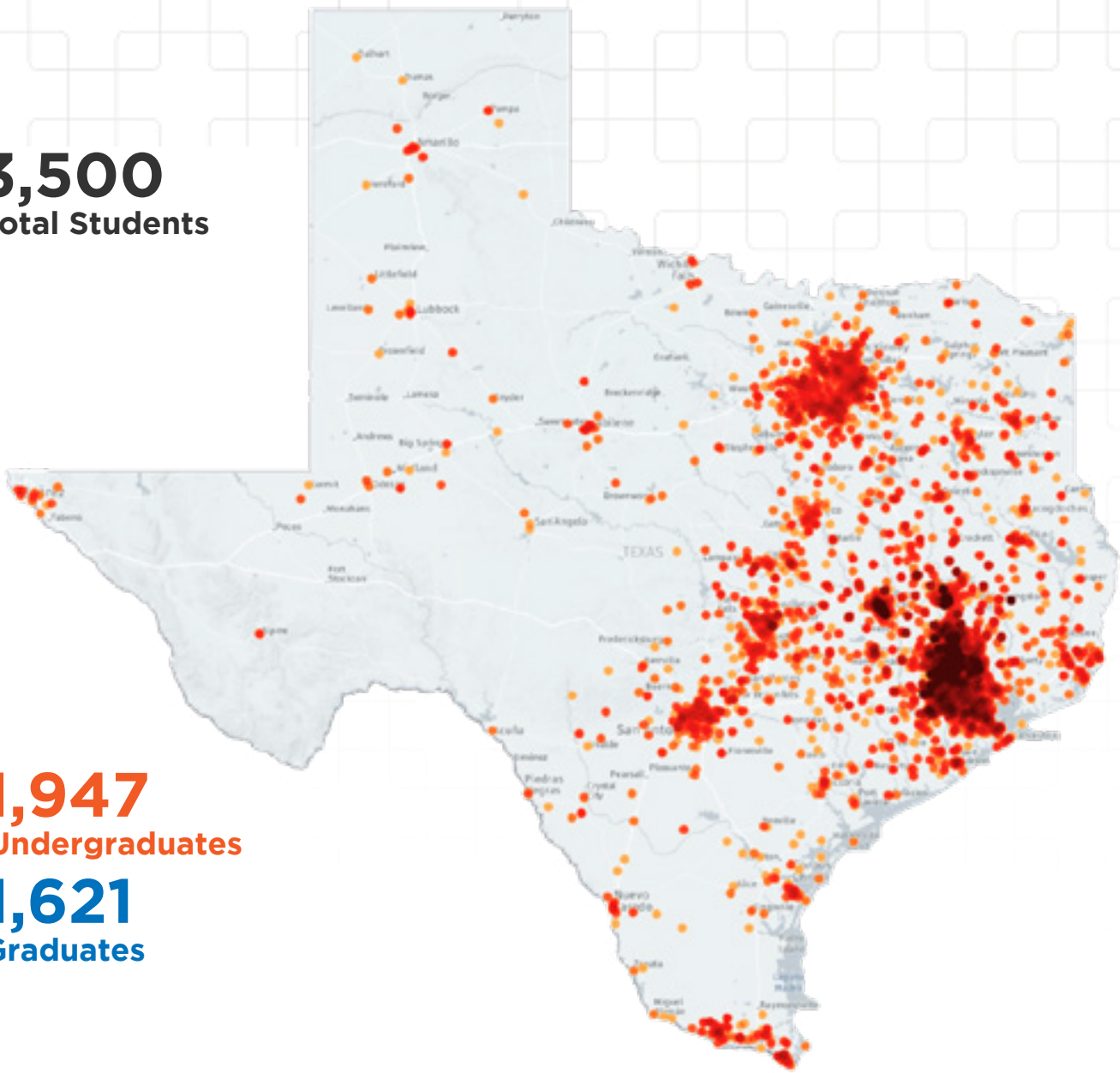
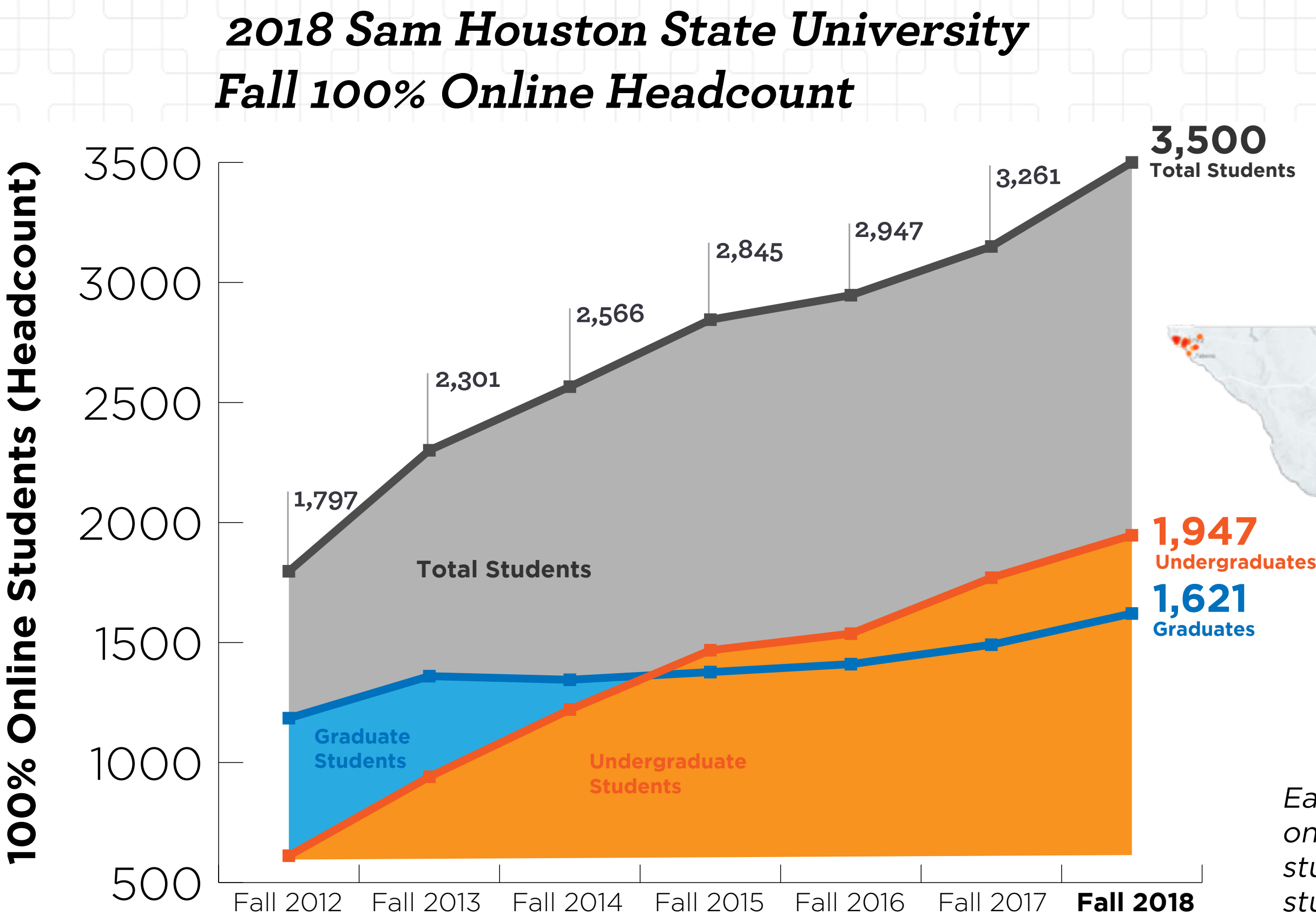
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Fully Online Students Across Texas

The following graphs illustrate the far-reaching impact of online programs and represents Sam Houston State University's 100% online students and their location in the state of Texas.

The Texas State University System is well positioned to serve adult learners in metropolitan and rural areas across the state.

Partnerships between TSUS institutions create a stronger joint presence and enable the System to continue being the leader in online education in Texas... eventually exceeding the 14% level already attained.



Each point on the map represents one or more SHSU 100% Online students. Heavier concentrations of students are denoted by darker color.

SOURCE: Fall 2017 100% Online Headcount Enrollment from Sam Houston State University



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