#### March 11, 2010

Thank you for allowing me a few moments to speak. I appreciate the time and effort each of you have put forth while serving on this commission.

I am speaking on behalf of the Clarksville City Council, the citizens I am representing, and the Red River County Water Control & Improvement District, (WCID) Board of Directors.

We feel the most important step now is for the Sulphur River Basin Authority to complete the "U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sulphur River Basin Feasibility Study." A basin-wide perspective to analyze and develop a reasonable approach to answer questions and concerns. The ability to find accurate facts and answers to questions that are presently speculation. We understand this is necessary before a project can move forward and to truly gain an understanding of the impacts, both positive and negative, that any of the projects produce.

I have with me today resolutions passed by the Clarksville City Council and various boards dating from 2002 – 2010 stating support for the needed studies.

The city is also a member of the Northeast Texas Water Coalition and a resolution is included with the others. We feel, as do others, that the Marvin Nichols will bring economic development and an appreciable amount of water to meet the long term needs for a potable water source in the Northeast Texas Region. Water for future generations of families in our corner of the world to ensure these families and others have all the resources needed to foster job creation and economic development. But, we are not saying build at any cost. That would not be rational either. There are questions that need to be answered, a study that needs to be done.

Region D stating the Marvin Nichols should not be in their plan or any other plan is also not rational thinking. None of us can predict the future. If everyone thought that way, we would not have water today. There could very well be not as much water far as long as some seem to think. What is an excess? Please don't take options off the table. We must leave something behind that future generations can use to their benefit, and this is a big concern in Clarksville/ Red River County.

As I address both Region C and Region D today, The City of Clarksville and the Red River County Water Control and Improvement District would like to go on record stating that there are three (3) sites for future water development in Red River County. Pecan Bayou, Big Pine and Marvin Nichols. We are willing to work with interested parties in developing a reliable and dependable long term supply of surface water and you can be assured we would not be greedy. We need surface water.

Red River County Region consists of 1,058 square miles with a population density of 13.53 per square mile compared to statewide density of 79.54 with natural amenities reflecting an overall percent of surface water of 0.7 percent compared to 2.5 percent statewide. Resource rich, but poor in water availability.

We ask that the Basin Wide Feasibility Study be completed as quickly as possible. If the study turns out to be positive for the Marvin Nichols then we ask that everyone sit down at the table and work together to make this project a WIN-WIN for all concerned. Make it benefit both regions. The final outcome must be what is best for all Texans.

Thank you

Mayor Ann Rushing

#### City of Clarksville

RESOLUTION	NO.	2010-02

WHEREAS, the Sulphur River Basin Authority has been duly authorized by the State of Texas to develop all future water resources within the Sulphur River Basin, and

WHEREAS, the Clarksville City Council is aware that in order to factually determine the total impact of all present and future water resources there must first be a "Basin Wide Study" so that a project can move forward; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, of the City of Clarksville, has a very futuristic approach and of the belief that to fully address our needs and those of future generations we must glance to the future and plan now for the next 50 years, and;

WHEREAS, Clarksville/Red River County is designated as an economically disadvantaged community that would greatly benefit from an additional surface water source for municipal, economic and recreational needs; and

WHEREAS, the Clarksville City Council wishes to place the most emphasis on support of first completing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sulphur River Basin Feasibility Study, which includes a review of strategies and reservoir projects; namely Marvin Nichols/Wright Patman/and Parkhouse Sites, in order to gain an understanding of the impacts both positive and negative, that any of these projects produce.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CLARKSVILLE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLARKSVILE, TEXAS:

That the City Council, of the City of Clarksville, continue to support all efforts by the Sulphur River Basin Authority to complete the U.S.Army Corps of Engineers "Sulphur River Basin Feasibility Study", as quickly as possible, so that factual information may be obtained for use in evaluating water resource development in the Sulphur Basin.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of February, 2010.

Mayor Ann Rushing

ATTEST-

Pennye Hobbs, City Secretary

#### City of Clarksville

#### RESOLUTION NO. 2005-21

WHEREAS, the City Council, of the City of Clarksville, Texas, recognizes the significant impact that the Marvin Nichols Reservoir could have on the economy and citizens of Clarksville, and;

WHEREAS, there are certain feasibility studies needed on the Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir to identify the effect the reservoir would have on Clarksville, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council, of the City of Clarksville has a very futuristic approach and believe to fully address our needs and those of future generations we must glance to the future and plan now for the next 50 years, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council, of the City of Clarksville, realizes there could be some set backs in some areas; but firmly believe the Marvin Nichols Reservoir will supply water and recreational and economic benefits badly needed in Clarksville and the good will far exceed any negative aspects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF CLARKSVILLE, TEXAS:

That the City Council, of the City of Clarksville, continues to support the Marvin Nichols Reservoir, continues to support future studies in an effort to form educated and rational decisions and continues to recognize and acknowledge the economic, recreational and water benefits to reap from building a reservoir such as the Marvin Nichols.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the

day of

. 2005

Honorable Ann Rushing, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pennye Hobbs, City Secretary

#### City of Clarksville

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-33

WHEREAS, the City Council, of the City of Clarksville, Texas, recognizes the significant impact that the Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir could have on the economy and citizens of Clarksville, and;

WHEREAS, there are certain economic and feasibility studies needed on the Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir to identify the effect the reservoir would have on Clarksville, and;

WHEREAS, the Sulphur River Basin Authority has been duly authorized by the State of Texas to develop all future water resources within the Sulphur River Basin, and;

WHEREAS, the City Council, of the City of Clarksville, wishes to support any and all studies conducted on the Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir so that citizens will have facts on which rational opinions may be formed.

WHEREAS, the Region D Planning Committee has included the Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir in the Region D Plan, and;

WHEREAS, the Texas State Water Development Board has included the Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir in the State Water Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLARKSVILLE, TEXAS:

That the Region D Planning committee and the Texas State Water Development Board keep the Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir in the Region D Plan until adequate studies can be conducted to factually determine the total impact of the proposed reservoir on the City of Clarksville and Northeast Texas.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 17th day of Lestenber, 2002

Honorable Ann Rushing, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lorene Beers, City Secretary

#### RED RIVER COUNTY

#### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Red River County Commissioners Court recognizes the significant impact that the Proposed Marvin Nichols I Reservoir could have on the economy and citizens of Red River

WHEREAS, there are certain studies needed on the Proposed Marvin Nichols I Reservoir to identify the effect the reservoir would have on Red River County, and

WHEREAS, the Sulphur River Basin Authority has been duly authorized by the State of Texas to develop all future water resources within the Sulphur River Basin, and

WHEREAS, the Red River County Commissioners Court wishes to support further studies on the Proposed Marvin Nichols I Reservoir related to each possible reservoir site. The studies should address relevant site-specific topics covering mitigation effects (specific location, acres, conditions, timing, etc.), economic effects, effects on local property owners (land/structure value determination, appeal process), effects on taxing entities, future water needs of potential consumers, environmental effects, effects on the agricultural and natural resources, expected normal water level and maximum variations from that level, alternative sources, and alternative viable water management strategies. Upon completion, results of the study shall be summarized in layman's terms so that each citizen will have facts on which rational opinions may be formed.

WHEREAS, the Red River County Commissioners Court is neither for nor against construction of the proposed Marvin Nichols I reservoir,

WHEREAS, the Region D Planning Committee has included the Proposed Marvin Nichols I Reservoir in the Region D Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Texas State Water Development Board has included the Proposed Marvin Nichols I Reservoir in the State Water Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF RED RIVER COUNTY, TEXAS:

That the Region D Planning Committee and the Texas State Water Development Board keep the Marvin Nichols Reservoir I in the Region D Plan as a potential reservoir until adequate studies can be conducted to factually determine the total impact of the proposed reservoir on Red River County and Northeast Texas.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 25 day of april

ATTEST:

#### The Historic Red River County Chamber of Commerce

Resolution No. 4-06

WHEREAS, the Historic Red River County Chamber of Commerce recognizes the significant impact the Marvin Nichols Reservoir could have on the economy and security of water resources for the citizens of Clarksville and Red River County, and;

WHEREAS, the Historic Red River County Chamber of Commerce has a very futuristic approach and believe to fully address our needs and those of future generations we must glance to the future and plan now for the next 50 years, and;

WHEREAS, the Historic Red River County Chamber of Commerce believes the Marvin Nichols should remain in Region D's Plan so that our region will be allowed to participate in the planning and construction of the reservoir.

#### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HISTORIC RED RIVER COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

That the Historic Red River County Chamber of Commerce recognizes the economic and water benefits to reap from building the Marvin Nichols and believes the Marvin Nichols should remain in Region D's Plan so that our region may participate in the planning and construction of this reservoir.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 19 day of APRIL, 2006.

Mac Varley, President

ATTEST:

#### **RESOLUTION 2007-04**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLARKSVILLE, TEXAS, SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARVIN NICHOLS RESERVOIR TO MEET THE LONG-TERM NEEDS FOR A POTABLE WATER SOURCE IN THE NORTHEAST TEXAS REGION; PROVIDING FOR THE PROMOTION OF A UNIQUE RESERVOIR; PROVIDING FOR THE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHEAST TEXAS REGION; PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE MARVIN NICHOLS RESERVOIR; AND CONSIDERING THE LEAST ENVIRONMENTAL DISRUPTION DUE TO MITIGATION.

WHEREAS, the construction of the proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir would provide the Northeast Texas region with an estimated additional 78 million gallons o water per day; and,

WHEREAS, total economic activity in the five-county area will increase between \$299 million and \$365 million during the dam construction phase, supporting at additional 1,700 to 2,000 person-years of employment; and,

WHEREAS, building the dam, pumping stations, and related infrastructure will boost total state economic activity by \$2.0 billion to \$2.4 billion during the construction phase of the proposed reservoir; and,

WHEREAS, the reservoir and mitigation area represent an estimated 104.7 million cubic feet of local hardwood timber inventories, less than 3 percent of regiona totals, where net annual growth adds about 153.9 million cubic feet of hardwood timber to offset any losses; and,

WHEREAS, it is highly likely that legislation will be proposed during the 80<sup>th</sup> Session of the Texas Legislature which could affect the distribution and management of water resources in the Northeast Texas region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLARKSVILLE, TEXAS:

Section 1. That the Clarksville City Council supports efforts of the Northeast Texas Water Coalition and its mission to work with parties and stakeholders to develop a significant water resource in the Northeast Texas Region.

Section 2. That the Clarksville City Council promotes legislation in the 80<sup>th</sup> Session of the Texas Legislature that recommends and supports the designation of the Marvin Nichols Reservoir as a unique reservoir in the Northeast Texas region.

Section 3. That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for the Northeast Texas Water Coalition as an expression of support by this body.

Section 4. That an official copy of this resolution be forwarded to our state Senators, Representatives, and the Governor.

SIGNED AND APPROVED THIS 20th DAY OF MARCH 2007.

MAYOR ANN RÚSHING CITY OF CLARKSVILLE

ATTEST:

PENNYE HOBBS, CITY SECRETARY

A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

We, the undersigned, are in support of continued studies of the Marvin Nichols Reservoir. We believe the "Marvin Nichols Reservoir" will supply water, recreational and economic benefits for Clarksville and Red River County.

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

We, the undersigned, are in support of continued studies of the Marvin Nichols Reservoir. We believe the "Marvin Nichols Reservoir" will supply water, recreational and economic benefits for Clarksville and Red River County.

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

We, the undersigned, are in support of continued studies of the Marvin Nichols Reservoir. We believe the "Marvin Nichols Reservoir" will supply water, recreational and economic benefits for Clarksville and Red River County.

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichola Reservoir" and

We, the undersigned, are in support of continued studies of the Marvin Nichols Reservoir. We believe the "Marvin Nichols Reservoir" will supply water, recreational and economic benefits for Clarksville and Red River County.

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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A Petition in support of the "Proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir" and future studies

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NORTH EAST TEXAS:
BUILDING ON STRENGTHS
AND WORKING TOGETHER
ON CHALLENGES

Prepared August 2005 for



By Corporation for a Skilled Workforce



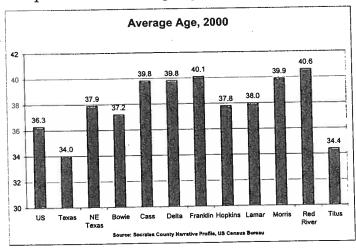
#### Poverty, 2000 & 2002

	All ages (2002)	All ages (2000)	Under 18 (2000)	Families (2000)
U.S.	12.1%	12.4%	16.6%	9.2%
Texas	15.4%	15.0%	20.5%	12.0%
North East Texas	16.7%	16.4%	23.7%	13.5%
Bowie	16.1%	16.4%	25.5%	13.8%
Cass	16.4%	17.4%	22.6%	14.7%
Delta	18.6%	17.1%	21.7%	14.6%
Franklin	13.9%	15.3%	21.9%	12.5%
Hopkins	15.4%	14.3%	18.4%	11.3%
Lamar	17.7%	16.0%	23.0%	12.0%
Morris	16.1%	18.0%	25.8%	14.9%
Red River	20.9%	16.9%	25.8%	13.1%
Titus	16.2%	18.1%	25.4%	14.9%

Source: Socrates County Narrative Profiles, US Census Bureau

# The Population is Growing Slowly and Aging Rapidly

North East Texas is significantly older than the state as a whole, with 15.3% of its population over the age of 65 and an average age of 37.9, compared with just 9.9% of the statewide population over age 65 and an average age of 34.0. Only in Titus County is the average age lower than for the U.S., a consequence of its higher percentage of children. The younger population profile for Titus County is most likely due to its high percentage of Hispanics. Hispanic families tend to have more children which helps lower the average age of the population.





Age, 2000

	Under 5	5-14	15-19	20-44	45-64	65+
U.S.	6.8%	14.6%	7.1%	37.1%	21.9%	12.4%
Texas	7.8%	15.8%	7.8%	38.5%	20.2%	9.9%
North East Texas	6.6%	14.5%	7.4%	33.2%	22.9%	15.3%
Bowie	6.4%	14.1%	7.1%	36.2%	22.4%	13.8%
Cass	6.0%	14.0%	7.5%	29.5%	25.4%	17.6%
Delta	5.6%	14.9%	7.8%	30.2%	23.8%	17.7%
Franklin	5.7%	13.9%	7.5%	29.4%	25.0%	18.5%
Hopkins	6.5%	14.8%	7.6%	32.9%	23.0%	15.2%
Lamar	7.1%	14.7%	7.2%	32.5%	22.9%	15.6%
Morris	5.9%	14.6%	7.5%	29.2%	24.5%	18.3%
Red River	5.8%	13.6%	7.1%	29.5%	24.3%	19,7%
Titus	8.6%	16.8%	8.0%	34.6%	19.5%	12.5%

Source: Socrates County Narrative Profiles, US Census Bureau

Population growth in the region is much slower than in the state as a whole and the nation. Population growth varies tremendously within the region, with four counties having double-digit population growth, and two counties (Morris and Red River) with a slightly declining population. Numerically speaking, Bowie experienced the greatest growth over the decade, adding 7,641 people. Franklin only grew by 1,656, but because it was small to begin with, its growth rate is more than double that of Bowie County's.

#### Population, 1990 & 2000

	1990	2000	Percent Change
U.S.	248,709,873	281,421,906	13.2%
Texas	16,986,510	20,851,820	22.8%
North East Texas	248,614	270,468	8.8%
Bowie	81,665	89,306	9.4%
Cass	29,982	30,438	1.5%
Delta	4,857	5,327	9.7%
Franklin	7,802	9,458	21.2%
Hopkins	28,833	31,960	10.8%
Lamar	43,949	48,499	10.4%
Morris	13,200	13,048	-1.2%
Red River	14,317	14,314	0.0%
Titus	24,009	28,118	17.1%

Source: Socrates County Narrative Profiles, US Census Bureau





North East Texas is only very slightly less diverse than the neighboring Arkansas region, but considerably less diverse than the state and nation. Hispanics are the fastest growing minority group in the US today, and that is true for the North East Texas region. A significant part of that growth is the higher percentage of children of Hispanic origin. In all except Bowie County, Hispanics make up a higher percentage of the child population than of the total population, sometimes significantly so. This has potential implications for the region's educators in terms of English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction and cultural sensitivity issues.

#### Income Inequities Follow Racial/Ethnic Lines

There is considerable disparity in the economic status of the minority population compared to the white population. In Titus, which is over 28% Hispanic, the per capita income of the white population is \$18,077 per year (2000 Census data), while the per capita income of the Hispanic population is less than half that: \$7,496 per year. In Morris, which is over 24% black, the per capita income of the black population is \$11,779, while the white population's per capita income is \$17,433. Bowie also has a high percentage of black residents (23.4%), and their per capita income is \$10,143 compared to \$19,806 for whites. Income is strongly related to education. Ensuring minority populations have the right foundation skills and financial access to higher education will be important to reducing these inequities.

#### Labor Force Participation is Low and Unemployment is High

A lower percentage of North East Texans over the age of 16 are in the labor force compared to other areas. Unemployment is higher.

Unemployment varies among the counties. Franklin County consistently has a lower unemployment rate than the other counties and the state average. It also has the lowest rate of poverty for all ages, the highest per capita income, and highest percentage of adults with bachelor's degrees, in addition to having the fastest population growth rate. Morris and Red River counties, on the other hand, have tended to have the highest unemployment rates. They are the two counties that are losing population. They also have the lowest percentage of adults with bachelor's degrees and the highest percentage of young people living in poverty. Red River County has the lowest per capita income. There is definitely a link between educational attainment, unemployment, per capita income, and poverty.



# ☆Educational Attainment Inadequate to Grow a Knowledge Economy

Competitive communities are educated and highly skilled communities. And—education pays!

#### Lifetime Earnings by Education in the United States<sup>4</sup>

Education Level	Estimated Work Life Earnings
Less Than 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	\$787,400
9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade, Non-graduate	\$894,000
High School Grad	\$1,167,480
Some College, No Degree	\$1,373,600
Associate Degree	\$1,455,960
Bachelor's Degree	\$1,878,760
Master's Degree	\$2,263,560
Professional Degree	\$3,296,840
Doctorate	\$3,007,280

# Educational Attainment is Far Below Average and Impacts the Economy

North East Texans are less well educated than state averages. While roughly equal numbers hold a high school diploma, the percentage with associate's and bachelor's degrees or higher is significantly lower. In Red River and Titus counties, more than one third of adults over the age of 25 do not have a high school diploma. To the extent that education relates to skills, these low education levels bring concerns about the preparedness of the North East Texas workforce to function in a global economy.

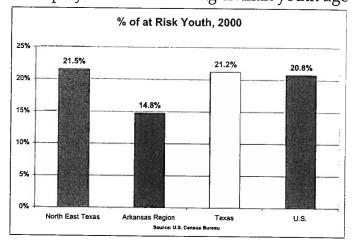
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> December, 2003 issue of Texas Labor Market Review



#### Many Youth are At-Risk

Additionally, North East Texas has a higher percentage of at-risk youth than does the state, nation, or neighboring Arkansas region. **At-Risk Youth** represents the U.S. Census 2000 unemployment rate covering civilian youth age

16-19 not enrolled in school and unemployed. North East Texas has a high rate of young people who are simply not engaged and not prepared to be engaged.



#### Dropout Rates are Low, but there are Some Serious Trouble Areas

outh are likely to complete high school in North East Texas. Dropout rates are very low. Nearly all the school districts do better than the state four-year dropout rate of 4.5%. Of the 39 school districts in the region, 15 have a zero percent dropout rate and 24 have a rate below 2%. Only three districts have a higher dropout rate than the state average, but their rate is substantially higher than the average. The Avery district in Red River County tops the list with a 12.5% dropout rate, followed by Avinger (Cass County) at 8.3% and Daingerfield-Lone Star (Morris County) at 7.1%. Morris and Red River have the highest rates of children in poverty in the region, and there is a correlation between poverty and school success.