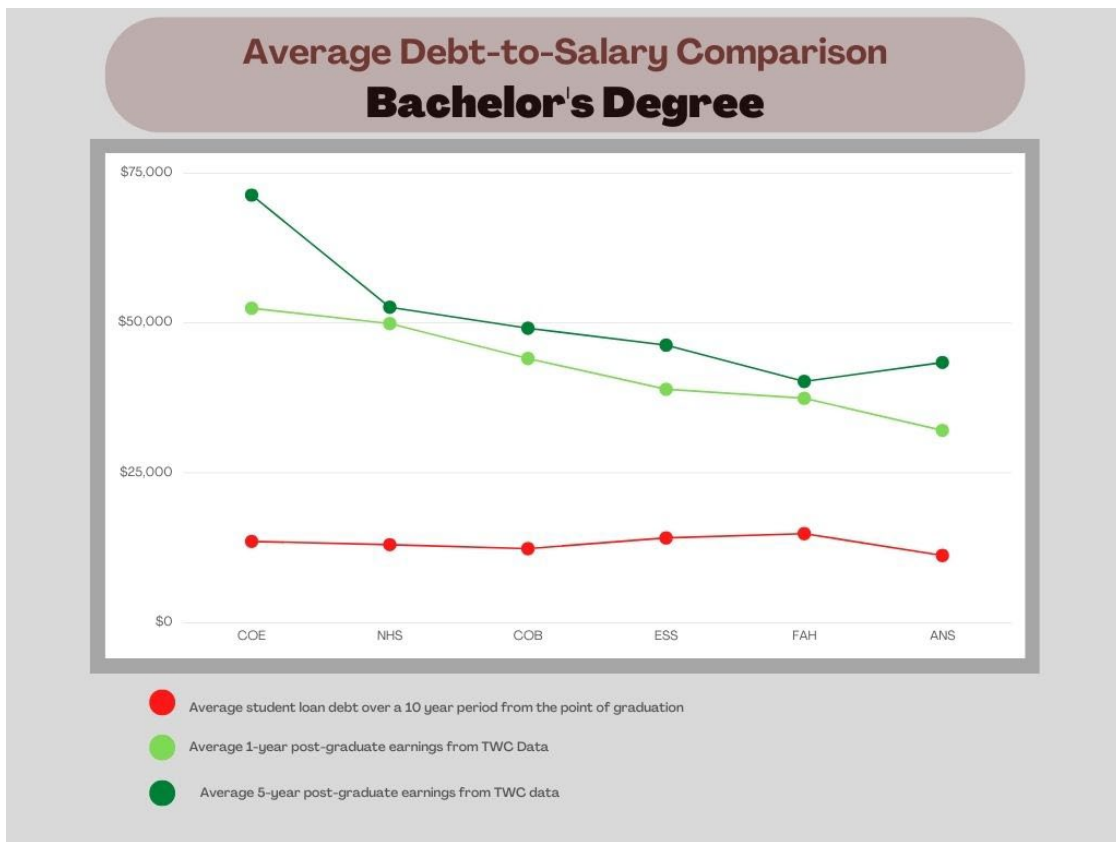# Average Debt-to-Salary Comparison across Colleges: Bachelor's Degree Graduates from AY2016 through AY2020

Points of Note Overall:

- Student loan debt is calculated over a 10 year period from the point of graduation
    - Students who do not have any debt have a place holder of $0, which brings down the total loan amount (this mirrors the original white paper mythology to include students who are debt free for salary amounts as well to represent the entire graduating class).
- Student salary data is collected through the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)
    - Thus only students who remain in the state of Texas after graduation have their earnings shown.
    - TWC reports true earnings based off tax returns, thus this is not self-reported data and more accurate representation of what actually happens after graduation then a student's self-report.
    - Major outliers where removed from the dataset to show a more accurate representation of the graduating class.

College Level Points of Note:

- ANS – Students TWC outcomes more frequently show they are making near the minimum wage salary of $25,000 if their NAICS code is in the 110000 (Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting) which might often mean that they are working at a family

WT Institutional Effectiveness
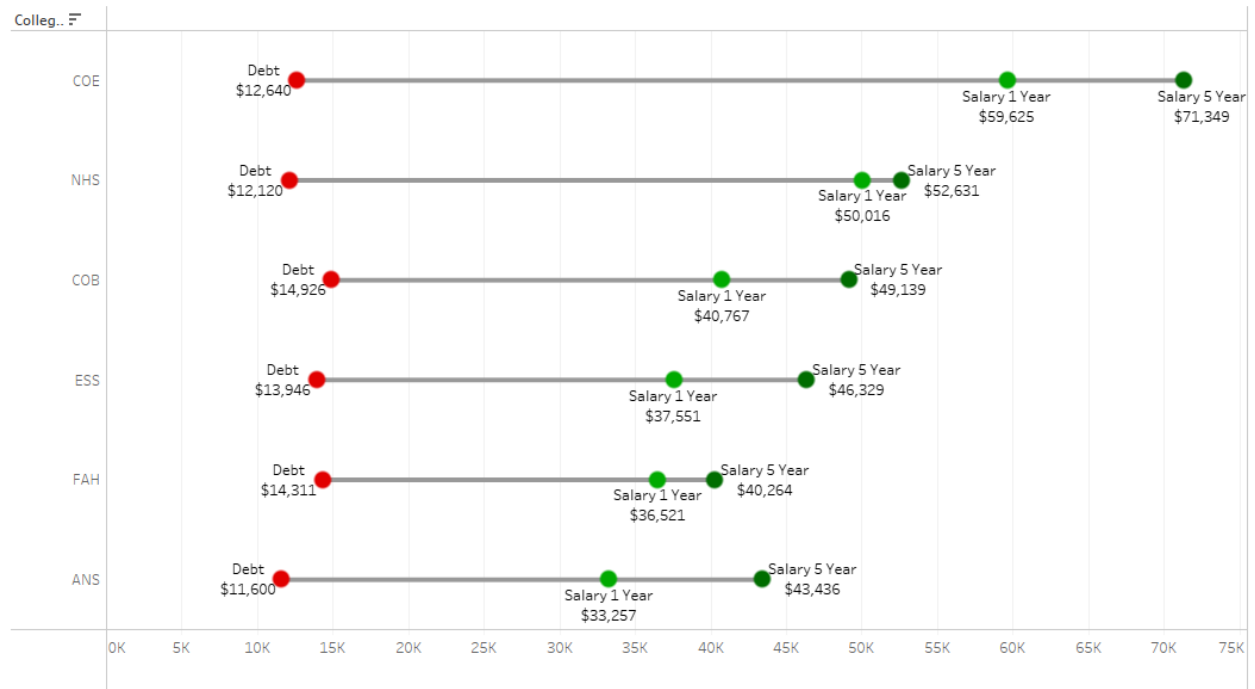**WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

farm operation and the minimum is being reported for their individual earnings through taxes. They are most likely earning more through their family.

- ANS also has the highest percentage of new grads that go off to grad school at 16% (this would lower their overall first year salaries)

o <u>NHS</u> – Students TWC outcomes start off very strong but don't progress as quickly as the other colleges.

- NHS is the second most likely to go on to grad school right after graduation at 14.7% → students from our grad programs in NHS earn the second most (behind COB) at $69,9939 year 1 → we have not yet had enough time for those students to have reached 5 years post-graduation in this cohort. But this would stunt their immediate salary growth but increase it at the 8 and 10 year mark
- These graduates also have the lowest for seeking employment or grad school enrollment after graduation (4%) → this might be in part because the Nursing program is required to track employment outcomes for accreditation status, showing a direct investment in employment outcomes at the college level.
- A separate study done for the department of nursing showed that a little over half (56%) of the graduates gain full-time employment with their internship employer after graduation.

o <u>FAH</u> - Students TWC outcomes show that this college is the most likely for students to have part-time employment after graduation at 31%, which greatly lowers their overall post-graduation earnings.

- It is consistent in the TWC data that these graduates are working multiple part-time jobs (often tutoring or private lessons of some kind) or working part-time in the NAICS code of 720000 (Accommodation and Food Services) which does not pay highly.
- These students are also the highest reporters of seeking employment or grad school after graduation (8%)

o <u>COB</u> – Students have the second highest full-time employment rate after graduation at 72% and lowest part-time employment rate at 12.7%, making these students our most employable college in the traditional employment route.

o <u>ESS</u> – These students have the second highest part-time employment at 21% within the first year of graduation. This could in part be due to the fact that 2 of our graduating classes are entering the workface at a time when the education industry is not offering contracts because their school year is already started.

o <u>COE</u> – These students have the highest full-time employment outcome at 76.9% and the lowest grad school enrollment at 4.4%.

Data Bite #16 – Average Debt-to-Salary Comparison

Here is a view of the data with data points for each item.

Average Debt-to-Salary Comparison Across Colleges: Bachelor's Degree Graduates AY2015 Longitudinal Study

Colleg.. ⇲

College		
COE	Debt $12,640	Salary 1 Year $59,625 — Salary 5 Year $71,349
NHS	Debt $12,120	Salary 1 Year $50,016 — Salary 5 Year $52,631
COB	Debt $14,926	Salary 1 Year $40,767 — Salary 5 Year $49,139
ESS	Debt $13,946	Salary 1 Year $37,551 — Salary 5 Year $46,329
FAH	Debt $14,311	Salary 1 Year $36,521 — Salary 5 Year $40,264
ANS	Debt $11,600	Salary 1 Year $33,257 — Salary 5 Year $43,436

X-axis: 0K, 5K, 10K, 15K, 20K, 25K, 30K, 35K, 40K, 45K, 50K, 55K, 60K, 65K, 70K, 75K

Link to the Dashboard for this information:

https://public.tableau.com/views/AverageDebttoSalaryComparisonsAcrossColleges-BachelorsDegreeGraduatesfromAY2016throughAY2020/Sheet1?:language=en-US&:display_count=n&:origin=viz_share_link

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