Secondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools 2019-20

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Abstract. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) prepares an annual report on graduates and dropouts in Texas public secondary schools. This report includes state summaries of the annual dropout rate, longitudinal graduation and dropout rates, and state attrition rates. In addition to statewide statistics, the report provides historical information about dropout policy in Texas and the evolution of the dropout definition used for accountability purposes. Common methods of measuring student progress through school are discussed, along with advantages and disadvantages associated with each measure. Extensive background information on TEA data collection, processing, and reporting is presented, and national requirements for dropout data are described.

Additional copies of this document may be purchased using the order form in the back of this publication. Also, the report is available in PDF format on the agency website at https://tea.texas.gov/reports-and-data/school-performance/accountability-research/completion-graduation-and-dropouts. Additional information about this report may be obtained by contacting the Texas Education Agency Division of Research and Analysis by phone at (512) 475-3523 or by e-mail at Research@tea.texas.gov.

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Overview

This report provides annual dropout rates for students attending Texas public schools in 2019-20; four-year longitudinal graduation and dropout rates for students who were expected to graduate from Texas public schools in 2019-20; and extended longitudinal rates for students expected to graduate in previous years. The annual dropout rate measures the percentage of students who drop out of school during one school year. The four-year longitudinal rates reflect the percentages of students from a class of beginning ninth graders who, by the fall following their anticipated graduation date, graduate, remain enrolled, receive a Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency (TxCHSE), or drop out. The extended longitudinal rates reflect the percentages of students from a class of beginning ninth graders who, by the fall a year or more after their anticipated graduation date, graduate, remain enrolled, receive a TxCHSE, or drop out. Texas uses the National Center for Education Statistics dropout definition. Under this definition, a dropout is a student who is enrolled in public school in Grades 7-12, does not return to public school the following fall, is not expelled, and does not: graduate, receive a high school equivalency certificate, continue school outside the public school system, begin college, or die.

In addition to statewide statistics, the report provides historical information about dropout policy in Texas and the evolution of the dropout definition used for public school accountability purposes. Common methods of measuring student progress through school are discussed, along with advantages and disadvantages associated with each measure. Extensive background information on Texas Education Agency data collection, processing, and reporting is presented, and national requirements for dropout data are described.

Highlights

COVID-19 Update

- In spring 2020, given the impact of COVID-19, the governor of Texas used his statutory authority under Texas Government Code §418.016 to suspend in-school instruction across the state. All students statewide were learning remotely at the end of the 2019-20 school year.

School-Start Window Extension

- Since implementation of the national dropout definition in 2005-06, students have been required to return to school during the period of time between the first day of school and the last Friday in September (the "school-start window") so as not to be considered school leavers from the prior year. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2019-20 school-start window for returning students (or "continuers") was extended through Friday, October 30, 2020. This change meant that students had more time to return to school before being considered: (a) dropouts in the annual dropout rate; or (b) continuers or dropouts in the longitudinal completion rates.

Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

- In the 2016-17 school year, 409,566 students began Grade 9 in Texas public schools. Over the next three years, 24,434 students who entered the Texas public school system were added to the Grade 9 cohort. Another 46,127 students left the system for reasons other than graduating, receiving a Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency (TxCHSE), or dropping out. By the fall semester following the spring 2020 anticipated graduation date for the cohort, 384,600 students had been assigned one of four final statuses: graduate, continuer, TxCHSE recipient, or dropout. Students with these final statuses made up the class of 2020. The final statuses for 3,273 students could not be determined because of data errors. Data errors can result from missing student records (i.e., underreported students) or misreported student identification information.

- Out of 384,600 students in the class of 2020, 90.3 percent graduated within four years. An additional 3.9 percent of students in the class of 2020 continued school the fall after expected graduation, and 0.4 percent received a TxCHSE. The four-year longitudinal dropout rate for the class of 2020 was 5.4 percent. Compared to the class of 2019, the class of 2020 had a higher graduation rate, a higher continuation rate, and lower dropout and TxCHSE recipient rates.

- Of the graduates in the class of 2020 with diploma program information, 87.8 percent graduated under the Recommended or Advanced High School Program or the Foundation High School Program with an endorsement (with or without a distinguished level of achievement).

- Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in the class of 2020, the four-year graduation rate was highest for Asian students (96.7%), followed by White (94.0%), multiracial (91.1%), Hispanic (88.6%), and African American (87.0%) students.

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates (%), Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020

Group	Graduation rate	Continuation rate	TxCHSE[a] recipient rate	Dropout rate
African American	87.0	4.8	0.4	7.8
American Indian	86.3	5.0	0.5	8.2
Asian	96.7	1.9	0.1	1.4
Hispanic	88.6	4.6	0.3	6.5
Pacific Islander	89.2	5.2	0.5	5.1
White	94.0	2.4	0.5	3.1
Multiracial	91.1	3.8	0.6	4.4
Economically disadvantaged	87.5	4.8	0.4	7.3
Not economically disadvantaged	93.5	2.8	0.3	3.3
EL in 9-12[b]	79.3	7.6	0.2	12.9
Special education	78.9	12.7	0.3	8.2
State	90.3	3.9	0.4	5.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category.
[a]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [b]Students identified as English learners (ELs) at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools.

- The four-year dropout rate was lowest for Asian students (1.4%), followed by White (3.1%), multiracial (4.4%), Hispanic (6.5%), and African American (7.8%) students.

- The four-year graduation rate for students not identified as economically disadvantaged in the class of 2020 was 93.5 percent, 6.0 percentage points higher than the rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged (87.5%).

- Females in the class of 2020 had a higher four-year graduation rate (92.6%) than males (88.1%) and lower rates of continuation (3.2% vs. 4.5%), receiving a TxCHSE (0.3% vs. 0.5%), and dropping out (4.0% vs. 6.8%).

- For the class of 2020, the four-year graduation rates for students in special education programs (78.9%) and for students identified as English learners in Grades 9-12 (79.3%) were lower than the state average (90.3%). The dropout rates for these two student groups (8.2% and 12.9%, respectively) were higher than the state average (5.4%).

- A total of 20,888 students in the class of 2020 dropped out over a four-year span. In each year after the first year of high school, a majority of students who dropped out were one or more

grades behind the grade expected for the class. Specifically, 50.5 percent of students who dropped out in the second year had not reached Grade 10, 58.7 percent who dropped out in the third year had not reached Grade 11, and 61.9 percent who dropped out in the fourth year had not reached Grade 12.

- Students in the class of 2019 who began Grade 9 in 2015-16 or who later joined the cohort were tracked into the fall semester one year after their anticipated graduation date of spring 2019. By fall 2020, the five-year graduation rate for the class of 2019 was 92.0 percent, 2.0 percentage points higher than the four-year graduation rate of 90.0 percent in fall 2019. The five-year dropout rate was 6.1 percent, 0.2 percentage points higher than the four-year dropout rate of 5.9 percent. The five-year graduation, continuation, or TxCHSE recipient rate for the class of 2019 was 93.9 percent.

Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates (%), Texas Public Schools, Class of 2019, as of Fall 2020

Group	Graduation rate	Continuation rate	TxCHSE[a] recipient rate	Dropout rate
African American	88.7	1.5	0.6	9.2
American Indian	89.6	1.1	0.6	8.7
Asian	97.6	0.7	0.1	1.6
Hispanic	90.7	1.6	0.4	7.3
Pacific Islander	89.7	1.0	1.0	8.3
White	95.0	0.9	0.8	3.3
Multiracial	93.1	1.2	0.8	4.9
Economically disadvantaged	89.8	1.5	0.6	8.1
Not economically disadvantaged	94.6	1.1	0.5	3.8
EL in 9-12[b]	83.2	2.4	0.3	14.1
Special education	82.4	7.4	0.4	9.8
State	92.0	1.3	0.5	6.1

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category. [a]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [b]Students identified as English learners (ELs) at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools.

- Students in the class of 2018 who began Grade 9 in 2014-15 or who later joined the cohort were tracked into the fall semester two years after their anticipated graduation date of spring 2018. By fall 2020, the six-year graduation rate for the class of 2018 was 92.6 percent, 2.6 percentage points higher than the four-year graduation rate of 90.0 percent in fall 2018. The six-year dropout rate was 6.1 percent, 0.4 percentage points higher than the four-year dropout rate of 5.7 percent.

Grade 9 Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates (%), Texas Public Schools, Class of 2018, as of Fall 2020

Group	Graduation rate	Continuation rate	TxCHSE[a] recipient rate	Dropout rate
African American	89.6	0.7	0.7	9.0
American Indian	88.5	0.6	0.8	10.0
Asian	97.8	0.5	0.1	1.6
Hispanic	91.4	0.7	0.6	7.4
Pacific Islander	89.8	0.4	1.6	8.3
White	95.4	0.5	0.9	3.3
Multiracial	93.7	0.4	0.9	5.0
Economically disadvantaged	90.6	0.7	0.7	8.0
Not economically disadvantaged	95.0	0.5	0.6	3.9
EL in 9-12[b]	83.6	1.0	0.3	15.1
Special education	85.0	4.7	0.4	9.9
State	92.6	0.6	0.7	6.1

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category.
[a]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [b]Students identified as English learners (ELs) at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools.

- For 2019-20, the attrition rates for Grades 9-12 and Grades 7-12 (i.e., the percentage change in fall enrollment between these grades across years) were 17.9 percent and 7.5 percent, respectively.

Annual Dropout Rates

- Out of 2,481,749 students who attended Grades 7-12 in Texas public schools during the 2019-20 school year, 1.2 percent were reported to have dropped out, a decrease of 0.2 percentage points from the previous school year. The number of dropouts in Grades 7-12 decreased to 30,921, a 10.3 percent decrease from the 34,477 students who dropped out in 2018-19.

- Although the overall number of dropouts in Grades 7-12 decreased between 2018-19 and 2019-20, the number of students who dropped out of Grades 7-8 increased by 20.0 percent, from 3,579 to 4,295.

- In 2019-20, a total of 4,295 students dropped out of Grades 7-8, and 26,626 dropped out of Grades 9-12. The Grade 7-8 and Grade 9-12 dropout rates were 0.5 percent and 1.6 percent, respectively.

Annual Dropout Rate (%), Grades 7-8, Grades 9-12, and Grades 7-12, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Grades 7-8	Grades 9-12	Grades 7-12
African American	0.8	2.5	1.9
American Indian	0.6	2.3	1.7
Asian	0.2	0.3	0.3
Hispanic	0.5	1.9	1.5
Pacific Islander	1.4	1.5	1.5
White	0.3	0.9	0.7
Multiracial	0.5	1.5	1.1
Economically disadvantaged	0.6	2.1	1.6
Not economically disadvantaged	0.3	1.0	0.8
English learner	0.8	3.3	2.2
Special education	0.7	2.2	1.6
State	0.5	1.6	1.2

Note. Students may be counted in more than one category.

- In 2019-20, across Grades 7-12, Grade 9 had the highest dropout rate (2.1%) and the largest number of dropouts (9,390), accounting for 30.4 percent of all dropouts. Grade 7 had the lowest dropout rate (0.4%) and the smallest number of dropouts (1,796).

- Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in 2019-20, the Grade 7-12 dropout rate was highest for African American students (1.9%), followed by Hispanic (1.5%), multiracial (1.1%), White (0.7%), and Asian (0.3%) students.

- The Grade 7-12 dropout rate for males (1.5%) was higher than the rate for females (0.9%) in 2019-20. There were more male than female dropouts in each of Grades 7-12.

- In 2019-20, the Grade 7-12 dropout rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged was 1.6 percent. By contrast, the rate for students not identified as economically disadvantaged was 0.8 percent. Economically disadvantaged students accounted for 72.2 percent of Grade 7-12 dropouts.

- Some groups of students make up larger proportions of the dropout population than of the student population. The greatest percentage-point difference was among overage students, who accounted for 19.5 percent of the Grade 7-12 population in 2019-20 but 73.1 percent of dropouts.

Leaver Reporting

- The underreported student rate is the percentage of students in Grades 7-12 who attend in one school year and are not accounted for the next fall. Statewide, 99.8 percent (2,475,689) of students in Grades 7-12 in 2019-20 were accounted for in district and charter school data submissions or in TEA databases. Only 0.2 percent of students in Grades 7-12 were underreported, unchanged from the previous year. The number of underreported students (6,039) increased by 353 from the previous year.

- For the 2019-20 school year, 40 districts or charter schools exceeded thresholds for underreported student records: more than 75 underreported students and a rate of underreporting of at least 0.7 percent; or more than 4 underreported students and a rate of underreporting greater than 1.3 percent. Of these, three districts had more than 75 underreported students as well as a rate of underreporting greater than 1.3 percent. Thirty-five districts or charter schools had rates of underreporting greater than 1.3 percent and more than 4, but fewer than 75, underreported students. Two districts had more than 75 underreported students and a rate of underreporting greater than 0.7 percent, but less than 1.3 percent.

- A total of 511 districts and charter schools had no underreported students for 2019-20.

Definitions and Calculations
of High School Completion

Measures of
High School Completion

Definitions and
Calculations for Accountability

Measures of High School Completion

Components of Rates

Several measures of high school completion are available (Table 1). Measures differ in the definition of a dropout or a school completer, the accuracy of the data, the time period covered, and the student population considered. Some rates, for example, cover only one school year, whereas others cover multiple years. Some are based on individual student-level data, whereas others use estimated student counts. The selection of a completion or dropout measure depends on purpose and data availability. This section discusses three measures calculated by the Texas Education Agency (TEA): annual dropout rates; longitudinal graduation and dropout rates; and attrition rates. The discussion includes how each measure is calculated, factors that can affect each measure, and the advantages and disadvantages of each measure.

Annual Dropout Rates

Description. The annual dropout rate is the percentage of students who drop out of school during one school year.

Calculation. An annual dropout rate is calculated by dividing the number of students who drop out during a single school year by the cumulative number of students who enrolled during the same year.

$$\frac{\text{number of students who dropped out during the school year}}{\text{number of students enrolled during the school year}}$$

Factors affecting the rate. Annual dropout rates reported by different organizations may differ because: (a) different grade levels are included in the calculation; (b) dropouts are defined and counted differently; (c) total student counts are taken at different times of the school year; or (d) the data systems employed provide different levels of precision. Annual dropout rates can also differ at the campus and district levels based on whether the rates are calculated for federal reporting purposes or calculated with statutory exclusions applied for state accountability. No exclusions were applied to the state-level annual dropout rates presented in this report. See the sections "State Accountability System" and "Federal Accountability and Reporting" on pages 118-126 for additional information on exclusions.

Advantages. An annual dropout rate measures what happens in a school, district, or state during one school year and can be considered a measure of annual performance. Because it is based on a simple mathematical operation and requires data for only one school year, it has the greatest potential to produce accurate rates that are comparable across schools, districts, or states. It can be calculated for any school that has students in any of the grades included in the calculation, allowing the largest number of campuses to be included in an accountability system.

Annual dropout rates also can be calculated for student groups based on demographic characteristics (e.g., race/ethnicity, economic status, gender), special program participation

Table 1
Common Methods of Measuring Student Progress Through School

Information	Annual dropout rate	Longitudinal rates: graduation and dropout	Attrition rate
Description	The percentage of students who drop out of school during one school year.	The percentage of students from a class of beginning ninth graders who graduate (graduation rate) or drop out before completing high school (dropout rate).	The percentage change in fall enrollment between Grade 9 and Grade 12 across years.
Calculation	Divide the number of students who drop out during a school year by the total number of students enrolled that year.	Divide the number of students who graduate or drop out by the end of Grade 12 by the total number of students in the original ninth-grade class. Students who enter the Texas public school system over the years are added to the class; students who leave the system are subtracted. For example, the graduation rate is calculated as follows: $$\frac{graduates}{graduates + continuers + TxCHSE^a\ recipients + dropouts}$$	Subtract Grade 12 enrollment from Grade 9 enrollment three years earlier, then divide by the Grade 9 enrollment. The rate may be adjusted for estimated population change over the three years.
Advantages	• Measure of annual performance for program improvements. • Program improvements can be ascertained within one year. • Requires only one year of data. • Can be calculated for any school or district with students in any of the grades covered. • Can be disaggregated by grade level.	• The graduation rate is a positive indicator, measuring school success rather than failure. • More stable measures over time. • The longitudinal dropout rate is more consistent with the public's understanding of what a dropout rate reflects. • Districts have more time to encourage dropouts to return to school before being held accountable. • Can be extended to five or six years to account for students who take more than four years to complete high school.	Provides an estimate of school leavers when aggregate enrollment numbers are the only data available.
Disadvantages	• Produces the lowest rate of any method. • May not correspond to the public's understanding of a dropout rate.	• Requires multiple years of data; one year of inaccurate student identification data can remove a student from the measure. • Can only be calculated for schools that have all the grades in the calculation and that have had all those grades for the number of years necessary to calculate the rate. Since few high schools have Grades 7 and 8, longitudinal graduation and dropout rates are often calculated for Grades 9-12. • Program improvements may not be reflected for several years, and districts are not held accountable for some dropouts until years after they drop out. • Does not produce a dropout rate by grade.	• Produces the highest rate of any method. • Does not distinguish attrition that results from dropping out from attrition resulting from students being retained, moving to other schools, graduating early, etc. • Does not always correctly reflect the status of dropouts; adjustments for growth can further distort the rate. • Cannot be used in accountability systems because it is an estimate.
Remarks	A Grade 7-12 annual dropout rate has been calculated by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) since 1987-88.	Longitudinal rates are calculated such that the graduation rate, continuation rate, TxCHSE recipient rate, and dropout rate add to 100 percent.	The attrition rate reported by TEA is not adjusted for growth.
2019-20 TEA reporting	Annual dropout rates Grades 7-12: 1.2% Grades 9-12: 1.6% Grades 7-8: 0.5%	Class of 2020 Grade 9 four-year longitudinal rates Graduation: 90.3% Graduation, continuation, or TxCHSE: 94.6% Dropout: 5.4% Class of 2019 Grade 9 five-year extended longitudinal rates Graduation: 92.0% Graduation, continuation, or TxCHSE: 93.9% Dropout: 6.1% Class of 2018 Grade 9 six-year extended longitudinal rates Graduation: 92.6% Graduation, continuation, or TxCHSE: 93.9% Dropout: 6.1%	Unadjusted attrition rates Grades 7-12: 7.5% Grades 9-12: 17.9%

[a]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

(e.g., special education, bilingual/English as a second language), or other factors (e.g., grade level, at-risk, overage for grade). This makes an annual dropout rate a practical tool to help educators determine who is dropping out and why—essential information for developing and evaluating dropout prevention and recovery programs.

Disadvantages. Because an annual dropout rate uses data for only one year, it produces the lowest dropout rate of any of the methods. There is concern that reporting low dropout rates may understate the severity of the dropout problem. The concern is based in part on the perception that an annual dropout rate is not consistent with the public's understanding of what a dropout rate is measuring.

Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

Description. TEA calculates longitudinal rates for a class of Grade 9 students. A four-year longitudinal graduation rate is the percentage of students from a class of beginning ninth graders who graduate within four years; that is, by the end of the fourth school year after they begin ninth grade. An extended longitudinal graduation rate is the percentage of students from a class of beginning ninth graders who graduate within five or more years. Similarly, a four-year longitudinal dropout rate is the percentage of students from a class of beginning ninth graders who drop out before completing high school. An extended longitudinal dropout rate reflects those students who drop out within five or more years after entering ninth grade. Dropouts are counted according to the dropout definition in place the year they drop out.

Calculation. Calculating four-year longitudinal rates requires tracking a cohort of students from the time they enter Grade 9 until the fall following their anticipated graduation date, or, for extended rates, the fall one or more years following their anticipated graduation date. A cohort is defined as the group of students who begin Grade 9 in Texas public schools for the first time in the same school year plus students who, in the next three school years, enter the Texas public school system in the grade level expected for the cohort. A subset of a cohort, called a class, is then used to calculate longitudinal student status rates. A class consists of all members of a cohort minus students who leave the Texas public school system for reasons other than graduating, receiving a Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency (TxCHSE), or dropping out and students who cannot be tracked. Only students in the cohort to whom final statuses are assigned are included as members of the class. The four final statuses—graduate, continuer, TxCHSE recipient, or dropout—are defined in greater detail later in this section. The longitudinal graduation rate is the number of students who graduate divided by the total number of students in the class, and the longitudinal dropout rate is the number of students who drop out divided by the total number of students in the class.

For purposes of calculating a longitudinal rate, all students remain in their original cohort. For example, a student who entered Grade 9 in 2016-17 and was expected to graduate in 2019-20 but who graduated in 2018-19 is counted in the graduation rate for the class of 2020. Similarly, students who are retained in grade or who skip grades remain members of the cohorts they first joined.

Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) attendance data are used to build each cohort of students. Each cohort is identified by the starting grade and anticipated year of

graduation. For example, students who attended Grade 9 in Texas public schools for the first time in the 2016-17 school year make up the 2020 cohort. Students who did not attend Grade 9 in Texas public schools that year but entered the system over the next three years were added to the cohort if, in the year they entered, they were in the grade level expected for the cohort. Students were tracked into the fall semester following their anticipated graduation date of spring 2020. Data collected for the 2020-21 school year made it possible to identify those who continued in school after their class graduated.

Any student for whom one of the designated outcomes of graduate, continuer, TxCHSE recipient, or dropout could be determined was counted in the class. A student whose final status could not be determined was not counted in the class. In most cases, these were students who left the Texas public school system to enter other educational settings. In a small number of cases, students were not counted in the class because of missing records or data errors resulting from misreported student identification information.

This report provides four-year and five-, six-, and seven-year extended longitudinal rates for several classes based on the tracking of students into the fall of 2020. The longitudinal rates focus on selected long-term student outcomes over a period of years. For four-year rates, each student is assigned a final status by the fall after anticipated graduation. For extended rates, each student is assigned a final status by the fall one or more years after anticipated graduation. Neither dropping out nor leaving for other reasons necessarily determines the final status of a student. The status of a student who drops out or leaves will change if he or she subsequently returns and graduates, obtains a TxCHSE, or continues in school. Dropout becomes the status of record only if it is the final status recorded for a student. Thus, the status of a student in the four-year rates may differ from his or her status in the extended rates.

There are four final statuses used to calculate longitudinal rates: graduate, continuer, TxCHSE recipient, and dropout.

Graduate. A student is classified as a graduate in the year in which he or she is reported in PEIMS as a graduate from the Texas public school system. The student may have graduated in any of the years the cohort was in school. For example, for a student to be counted as a graduate in the class of 2020 four-year rates, a student may have graduated in 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, or 2019-20. Students who graduated in 2019-20 must have graduated by August 31, 2020. The graduation rate is calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the total number of graduates, continuers, TxCHSE recipients, and dropouts in the class.

$$\frac{\text{graduates}}{\text{graduates + continuers + TxCHSE recipients + dropouts}}$$

Continuer. A student is classified as a continuer if he or she is not a graduate and is reported as enrolled in the Texas public school system in the fall after his or her anticipated graduation or later. For example, for a student to be counted as a continuer in the class of 2020 four-year rates, he or she must have been enrolled in the fall of 2020.

TxCHSE recipient. A student is classified as a TxCHSE recipient if he or she earns a high school equivalency certificate through one of two TEA-approved assessments: the General Educational Development (GED) test and the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET). Although a third TEA-approved assessment, the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC), is no longer administered, students in the class of 2020 may have earned a high school equivalency certificate through the TASC before August 31, 2019. High school equivalency assessments are given throughout the state in school districts, colleges and universities, and education service centers. Tests are given year-round and results are transmitted electronically to the TEA. Receipt of a TxCHSE is reported as soon as the test is passed. A student in the class of 2020 is assigned a final status of TxCHSE recipient if he or she is not a graduate, is not a continuer, and had received a certificate by August 31, 2020.

Dropout. A student is classified as a dropout if dropout is the final status recorded for the student. A student is assigned the final status of dropout if the student dropped out during one of the years that the cohort was in school and did not subsequently return and graduate, continue in school, receive a TxCHSE, or leave for one of the 13 non-dropout, non-graduate leaver reasons outlined in Table 4 on page 40.

Factors affecting the rate. Longitudinal rates reported by different organizations may differ because they use: (a) different starting grades in the calculation (typically Grade 9 or Grade 7); (b) different definitions of a graduate or dropout; (c) different definitions of a cohort or class of students; or (d) different underlying methods to calculate the rates. Additionally, few organizations have the data to track individual students over a number of years, so longitudinal rates are often estimated based on state-level data or sample data from surveys. TEA tracks individual students using student-level data submitted by districts through the Texas Student Data System (TSDS). Finally, longitudinal rates can differ at the campus and district levels based on whether federal or state accountability exclusions are applied. No exclusions were applied to the state-level longitudinal rates presented in this report. See the sections "State Accountability System" and "Federal Accountability and Reporting" on pages 118-126 for additional information on exclusions.

Advantages. One advantage of a longitudinal measure over an annual measure is that it is more consistent with the public's understanding of what a graduate or dropout is—someone who begins Grade 9 in a particular school year and, within a specified period of time, graduates or drops out. Also, because students are tracked into the fall after their anticipated graduation date or later, districts have more time to encourage dropouts to return to school before being held accountable for them. A longitudinal measure can also be expected to be more stable over time than an annual measure. Fluctuations in an annual dropout rate may not necessarily reflect the long-term success or failure of a district dropout prevention program.

The graduation rate is more positive than the dropout rate, measuring school success instead of failure. Like most indicators of school success, an increase in the graduation rate represents improved performance. Because a separate rate can be reported for each status, such as graduate or TxCHSE recipient, longitudinal rates can provide more information with which to evaluate districts than annual dropout rates.

Four-year longitudinal rates can be calculated for students who graduate on time, or within four years. Extended longitudinal rates can be calculated for students who take longer than four years to graduate. Because of the longer period of analysis, extended rates arguably provide a more comprehensive picture of high school completion than four-year rates.

Disadvantages. Calculating a longitudinal rate requires linking individual student records from multiple sources from one year to the next over the time period covered. An error in student-identifying information can prevent a record from being linked to other records for that student. The method also requires that decisions be made about the classification of students who change schools or move in and out of special programs over time. Changes in data collection practices and in the dropout definition over time must also be incorporated in the method. For example, as a result of adoption of the national dropout definition in 2005-06, students from the class of 2008 who began Grade 9 in 2004-05 and who left school in 2004-05 without graduating were subject to a different dropout definition than the definition that applied to students from the same class who left in 2005-06 or later.

Students who continue in school in the fall after their anticipated graduation date and later leave without graduating are not counted as dropouts under a four-year longitudinal rate. Tracking students for additional years may result in changes in final statuses. For example, some continuing students drop out before they graduate, and some previous dropouts return to school and graduate or receive a TxCHSE.

Longitudinal rates can be calculated only for schools that have all the grade levels included in the rate and that have had all those grades for the number of years necessary to calculate the rate. Since few high schools include Grades 7 and 8, graduation and dropout rates are calculated for beginning Grade 9 students more commonly than for beginning Grade 7 students. The effects of the grade-span criteria become more pronounced when calculating extended longitudinal rates. As the number of years necessary to calculate the rate increases to five or six years, the less likely it is that a school will meet the criteria.

Longitudinal rates for special programs reflect decisions about the classification of students who move in and out of those programs. For example, the longitudinal dropout rate for students in special education programs may include only those students who are receiving special education services in the years they drop out.

Improvements in dropout prevention programs may not be reflected in a longitudinal dropout rate immediately because the rate may include students who dropped out before the prevention program was implemented. At the same time, many dropouts are not included in a longitudinal dropout rate until several years after they drop out. This means districts may not be held accountable for students who drop out until the longitudinal rate is calculated.

Attrition Rates

Description. An attrition rate is the percentage change in fall enrollment between two grades across years. Aggregate enrollment counts, rather than student-level data, are used to estimate the percentage of Grade 7 students who are not enrolled in Grade 12 five years later, or the percentage of Grade 9 students who are not enrolled in Grade 12 three years later.

Calculation. The Grade 9-12 attrition rate is calculated by subtracting Grade 12 enrollment in the fall of one school year from Grade 9 enrollment three years earlier and dividing by Grade 9 enrollment. For 2019-20, the formula is as follows.

$$\frac{\text{Grade 9 enrollment in fall 2016} - \text{Grade 12 enrollment in fall 2019}}{\text{Grade 9 enrollment in fall 2016}}$$

The Grade 7-12 attrition rate is calculated by subtracting Grade 12 enrollment in the fall of one school year from Grade 7 enrollment five years earlier and dividing by Grade 7 enrollment. For 2019-20, the formula is as follows.

$$\frac{\text{Grade 7 enrollment in fall 2014} - \text{Grade 12 enrollment in fall 2019}}{\text{Grade 7 enrollment in fall 2014}}$$

Advantages. The attrition rate provides a measure of school leavers when aggregate enrollment numbers are the only data available. Because aggregate numbers are widely available, attrition rates can be calculated for most states and districts and are often used to compare entities that do not have student-level data.

Disadvantages. Unlike both the annual dropout rate and the longitudinal dropout rate, the attrition rate does not track individual students. Because it is an estimate, the attrition rate should not be used as a performance indicator in a high-stakes accountability system.

The attrition rate does not take into account the reasons beginning and ending enrollments differ (Appendix D). For example, the Grade 9-12 attrition rate does not take into account Grade 9 enrollment that may be high because some students are repeating Grade 9. The attrition rate also does not take into account Grade 12 enrollment that may be lower than Grade 9 enrollment three years earlier because some students left public school for other educational settings, graduated early, or are in school but not yet in Grade 12. Because the attrition rate is based on enrollment figures from the fall of the first year and fall three years later, it excludes some students. For example, Grade 9 students who enroll after the fall of the first year are excluded from the Grade 9 enrollment count. Moreover, students who enter the school system after the first year and leave before Grade 12 are excluded from rate calculations. Additionally, because the attrition rate is based on data from the fall before expected graduation, rather than after expected graduation, it does not take into account whether a student enrolled in Grade 12 in the fall goes on to graduate.

The attrition rate can fluctuate because of factors that are not considered reflective of school performance, such as the student mobility rate, and factors Texas has chosen not to include as

accountability performance measures, such as retention rates. When used as a proxy for a longitudinal dropout rate, the attrition rate overstates the percentage of students who dropped out of Texas public schools.

Differences in growth rates across grade levels and between schools and districts can distort the attrition rate. Calculations sometimes include growth adjustments in an attempt to offset potential inflation of the rates, yet the adjustments themselves may cause distortions. In fact, a negative attrition rate may result. For a school or district that is not growing but has an effective dropout prevention program, a growth adjustment would inflate the attrition rate.

Definitions and Calculations for Accountability

Dropout Definition

The U.S. Department of Education National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is the federal entity with primary responsibility for collecting and analyzing data related to education in the United States. In 2003, the 78th Texas Legislature passed legislation requiring that dropout rates be computed according to the NCES dropout definition (Texas Education Code [TEC] §39.051, 2004). Districts began collecting data consistent with the NCES definition in the 2005-06 school year. In 2017, the 85th Texas Legislature amended TEC §39.053 to revise the state accountability system and remove the requirement that dropout rates align with the NCES definition. The 2019-20 annual dropout rates were calculated in accordance with the NCES definition to align with federal reporting criteria, which require submission of annual dropout rates calculated in compliance with this definition. A dropout is a student who is enrolled in public school in Grades 7-12, does not return to public school the following fall, is not expelled, and does not: graduate, receive a high school equivalency certificate, continue school outside the public school system, begin college, or die.

A summer dropout is a student who completes the school year but does not return in the fall. Under the NCES definition, a summer dropout is: (a) considered a dropout from the grade, district, and campus in which he or she would have been enrolled in the fall; and (b) included in the dropout count for the school year in which he or she failed to return to school. Under the TEA definition, a summer dropout is: (a) considered a dropout from the grade, district, and campus in which he or she was enrolled at the end of the school year just completed; and (b) included in the dropout count for the school year just completed.

State Accountability

Calculations. The following measures were used for state accountability in 2021. See the section "State Accountability System" on page 118 for additional information.

Annual dropout rates. The Grade 9-12 annual dropout rate was calculated by dividing the number of students who dropped out during a single school year by the cumulative number of students who enrolled during the same year.

$$\frac{\text{number of Grade 9-12 students who dropped out during the school year}}{\text{number of Grade 9-12 students enrolled during the school year}}$$

Graduation rates. Four-year, five-year extended, and six-year extended graduation rates were calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the total number of graduates, continuers, TxCHSE recipients, and dropouts in the class.

$$\frac{\text{graduates}}{\text{graduates + continuers + TxCHSE recipients + dropouts}}$$

Graduation, continuation, or TxCHSE recipient rates. Four-year, five-year extended, and six-year extended graduation, continuation, or TxCHSE recipient rates were calculated by dividing the number of graduates, continuers, and TxCHSE recipients by the total number of graduates, continuers, TxCHSE recipients, and dropouts in the class.

$$\frac{\text{graduates + continuers + TxCHSE recipients}}{\text{graduates + continuers + TxCHSE recipients + dropouts}}$$

Exclusions. State statute specified the following exceptions for attribution of records to campuses and districts for 2021 state accountability purposes.

- Under TEC §39.053(g-1) (2019), a student who meets at least one of the following criteria is excluded from campus and district annual dropout and longitudinal rate calculations: (a) a student who is ordered by a court to attend a high school equivalency certificate program but has not earned a high school equivalency certificate; (b) a student previously reported to the state as a dropout; (c) a student in attendance but who is not in membership for purposes of average daily attendance (i.e., students for whom school districts are not receiving state Foundation School Program [FSP] funds); (d) a student whose initial enrollment in a school in the United States in Grades 7 through 12 was as an unschooled refugee or asylee as defined by TEC §39.027(a-1); (e) a student who is in the district exclusively as a function of having been detained at a county detention facility but is otherwise not a student of the district, or a student who is being provided services by an open-enrollment charter school exclusively as the result of having been detained at the facility; (f) a student who is incarcerated in a state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult or as a person certified to stand trial as an adult; or (g) a student who has suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care and leaves the student unable to attend school and assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility.

- Under TEC §39.053(g-2) (2019), a student who (a) is at least 18 years of age as of September 1 and has satisfied the credit requirements for high school graduation; (b) has not completed his or her individualized education program (IEP); and (c) is enrolled and receiving IEP services is excluded from longitudinal rate calculations.

- Under TEC §39.053(g-3) (2019), the dropout record for a student who fails to enroll in school after leaving a residential treatment facility or a pre- or post-adjudication facility is not attributed to the district serving the facility for annual dropout and longitudinal rate calculations.

- Under TEC §39.055 (2019), a student in a Texas Juvenile Justice Department facility (e.g., a county- or state-operated juvenile justice facility) or residential treatment facility served by a Texas public school district is excluded from campus and district annual dropout and longitudinal rate calculations.

Federal Accountability

Calculations. To meet federal requirements, campuses and districts were evaluated on the percentage of students who graduate in four years. See the section "Federal Accountability and Reporting" on page 124 for additional information.

$$\frac{\text{graduates}}{\text{graduates + continuers + TxCHSE recipients + dropouts}}$$

Exclusions. A student in a Texas Juvenile Justice Department facility (e.g., a county- or state-operated juvenile justice facility) or residential treatment facility served by a Texas public school district is excluded from campus and district graduation rate calculations.

History of Graduation
and Dropout Reporting in Texas

Chronology

Dropout Definition

Annual Dropout Rates

Longitudinal Graduation
and Dropout Rates

Chronology

In 1983, *A Nation at Risk* described the condition of education in the United States as unsatisfactory (National Commission on Excellence in Education, 1983). A year later, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill (HB) 72, which mandated sweeping reforms in the state's public education system. The bill, among other changes, increased graduation requirements, established a minimum competency testing program with an exit-level test for graduation, prohibited social promotion, limited the number of permissible absences, and linked participation in extracurricular activities to academic standards with a "no pass/no play" policy.

HB 72 also addressed high school dropouts. The 1984 legislation authorized the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to implement a system for collecting data on student dropouts and to begin developing a program to reduce the statewide longitudinal dropout rate to no more than 5 percent (Texas Education Code [TEC] §11.205, 1986). At the same time, the bill directed the then Texas Department of Community Affairs (TDCA) to assess the state's dropout problem and its effect on the Texas economy. Under contract with TDCA, the Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA) conducted much of the research.

As this research was being conducted, change was underway in completion and dropout reporting. Statewide public reporting of student performance and progress began in 1985-86. A year before, the Texas Legislature had passed a law (TEC §21.258, 1986) requiring that all school districts publish annual performance reports (APRs). The reports were intended to inform communities about the quality of education in their districts and to provide educators and policymakers with information needed to analyze performance trends. For the most part, APRs were produced by the districts themselves, although the reports began to include aggregate student data collected and compiled by TEA shortly after they were introduced. In 1988, the reports included agency counts of district enrollment and high school graduates.

The report mandated by HB 72, known as the Texas School Dropout Survey Project, was presented to the 69th Legislature (IDRA, 1986). IDRA estimated that a third of Texas students dropped out before completing high school. The dropout rates for African American and Hispanic students were notably higher than that for White students. The reasons most frequently cited by students for leaving school included failing grades, excessive absences, marriage and pregnancy, and financial difficulties at home. Few Texas school districts reported having dropout prevention programs, and fewer still had evaluation data for those programs. Losses in potential earnings and tax revenues to the state for each cohort of dropouts were estimated to be substantial.

In response to the report and to growing concerns about dropouts, the legislature passed HB 1010 in 1987 (Frazer, Nichols, & Wilkinson, 1991). HB 1010 substantially increased state and local responsibilities for collecting student dropout information, monitoring dropout rates, and providing dropout reduction services (TEC §§11.205-11.207, 1988). HB 1010 also required TEA to establish a statewide dropout information clearinghouse and to form, along with other state agencies, an interagency council to coordinate policies and resources for dropouts and students identified as at risk of dropping out of school. A definition of a dropout was added to statute. In

addition, TEA was directed to produce biennial reports for the legislature presenting a broad range of statewide dropout statistics and a systematic plan to reduce dropout rates for all segments of the student population. HB 1010 also required school districts to designate one or more at-risk coordinators and to provide remedial and support programs for at-risk students.

The first TEA report on public school dropouts presented data on students who dropped out during the 1987-88 school year. Using student-level data from the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS), the report presented actual, not estimated, annual dropout counts and rates for Grades 7-12 by county, district, and campus. It also included five-year projections of cross-sectional and longitudinal dropout rates for the state, as mandated by statute (TEC §11.205, 1988).

The Academic Excellence Indicator System (AEIS) established in 1990 replaced the agency information distributed through APRs. Among the initial performance indicators adopted by the State Board of Education (SBOE) and reported annually through AEIS reports were annual graduation counts and dropout rates. In 1991, TEA began reporting these rates in two additional publications: *Snapshot*, a compilation of district profile data; and *Pocket Edition*, a small brochure highlighting statewide education statistics.

In 1993, when the legislature directed that AEIS data form the foundation of a performance-based accountability system to rate districts and campuses, dropout rates became one of the indicators targeted in statute for this purpose. In 1994, Grade 7-12 annual dropout rates from the 1992-93 school year were used for *Exemplary* and *Recognized* ratings only. The next year, TEA began using annual dropout rates for *Academically Acceptable* and *Academically Unacceptable* ratings as well. Also in 1995, the agency was required to report detailed information about dropouts in the comprehensive biennial and interim reports to the Texas Legislature (TEC §39.182 and §39.185, 1996). In 2001, the legislature amended TEC §39.182, and the reports were combined into a single comprehensive annual report on Texas public schools (see, e.g., TEA, 2001). Based on legislative changes to TEC §39.332 in 2013, the annual report once again became biennial (see, e.g., TEA, 2020d).

Interest in reporting longitudinal indicators of student success or failure in school and in basing these indicators on actual, rather than estimated, figures had remained high since student-level data were first collected through PEIMS in 1988. In 1990-91, districts began submitting student-level enrollment and graduation records. This information, combined with dropout records, enabled TEA to analyze the progress attained by students on an annual basis. It also became possible for the first time to consider tracking student progress from one year to the next.

In 1996, TEA investigated using a high school completion rate as an alternative or supplement to an annual dropout rate in the accountability system (TEA, 1996). This measure, as a complement to the dropout rate, would provide an indicator of student and school success rather than failure. Four-year completion rates for the classes of 1996 and 1997 were published as report-only indicators in the 1998 AEIS reports. By 1998, the agency had sufficient years of PEIMS data to follow the progress of the members of a seventh-grade class (i.e., Grade 7 cohort) through high school to determine their final statuses. Grade 7-12 longitudinal dropout rates for the class of 1998 were included in AEIS a year later. TEA continued to calculate Grade 7 longitudinal graduation and dropout rates for reporting

purposes through the class of 2019. Results for the classes of 2009 through 2019 are found in Appendix C.

As PEIMS continued to evolve, refinements in data collection, processing, and reporting helped meet the growing demand for reliable information about public education. The desire for a more comprehensive and accurate accounting of reported student outcomes led to a major change in data submission requirements for 1997-98. Until then, districts were required to report only students in Grades 7-12 from the previous year who had graduated or dropped out. The statuses of students who left school for other reasons were not reported through PEIMS.

From 1997-98 through 2004-05, districts were required to report the statuses of all students who attended Grades 7-12 during the previous school year. Beginning with students who attended in 2005-06, TEA has accounted for students who: (a) graduated in a previous school year; (b) moved from one public school district and enrolled in another; or (c) received high school equivalency certificates. Districts must report the statuses of all other Grade 7-12 students. Each fall, returning students are reported on enrollment records. Students who left during the previous year or who completed the school year but did not return the following fall are reported on leaver records. Based on the leaver records submitted by districts, school leavers are categorized as graduates, dropouts, or other leavers. Other leavers include students who withdraw to enroll in private schools in the state, enroll in schools outside the state, enroll in colleges, or enter home schooling.

Beginning with the class of 1998, separate longitudinal dropout rates and completion rates were replaced with a four-year high school completion/student status series. The series is made up of four complementary longitudinal rates based on the tracking of students into the fall four years after they begin Grade 9: graduate, continuer, high school equivalency certificate recipient, or dropout. The four rates add to 100 percent. Completion/student status rates appeared for the first time as report-only indicators in the 2000 AEIS reports. In 2001, the Texas Legislature added the Grade 9 completion rate to the list of performance indicators in statute (TEC §39.051, 2001). The rate became a base indicator in the 2004 accountability system.

In 1999, the 76th Texas Legislature approved the Student Success Initiative (SSI) (TEC §28.0211, 1999). Under SSI requirements, a student could advance to the next grade level only by meeting standards on state assessments or by unanimous decision of a grade placement committee. Students in the class of 2012 who attended third grade in 2002-03 were the first to be subject to SSI requirements. Specifically, these students were given three opportunities to pass the third-grade Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) reading test in 2002-03, the fifth-grade TAKS reading and mathematics tests in 2004-05, and the eighth-grade TAKS reading and mathematics tests in 2007-08. SSI requirements for third grade were eliminated after the 2008-09 school year.

TEA calculated two Grade 9 completion rates for campuses and districts through the 2011 accountability cycle. Completion II consisted of students who, four years after beginning Grade 9, graduated, continued in high school the fall after graduation was expected, or received high school equivalency certificates. Completion I, which was more rigorous, consisted of students who graduated or continued in high school. In 2004, the year that completion became a base indicator

in the accountability system, campuses and districts were rated on Completion II. They also were rated on Completion II in 2005, the year that alternative education accountability (AEA) procedures were introduced. From 2006 to 2011, campuses and districts subject to standard accountability procedures were rated on Completion I. Campuses and districts subject to AEA procedures, which applied to campuses and charter schools dedicated to serving students at risk of dropping out of school, were rated on Completion II.

In 2009, the legislature passed HB 3, requiring that TEA, among other mandates: (a) redesign the public school accountability system; and (b) exclude certain groups of students from campus and district annual dropout rate and longitudinal rate calculations used for state accountability purposes (TEC §39.053, 2010). Because of the redesign, no ratings were issued in 2012. Nevertheless, annual dropout and completion rates were calculated.

Accountability ratings returned in 2013 with students excluded from rates used for state accountability purposes. TEA calculated campus and district annual dropout and longitudinal graduation rates, as required by statute (TEC §39.053, 2013), as well as graduation or high school equivalency certification rates, for use as indicators in the new accountability system. Also in 2013, the 83rd Texas Legislature passed HB 5, requiring that districts receive accountability ratings based on an A-F scale beginning with the 2016-17 school year (TEC §39.054, 2013).

In 2014, the graduation, continuation, or high school equivalency certification rate replaced the graduation or high school equivalency certification rate as an indicator in the state accountability system (TEC §39.0545, 2013). Campus and district longitudinal dropout, high school equivalency certification, and continuation rates are also calculated but not used in the state accountability system. See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on these exclusions.

In 2015, the 84th Texas Legislature passed HB 2804, which delayed implementation of A-F accountability ratings to start beginning with the 2017-18 school year (TEC §39.054, 2016). The legislature also passed Senate Bill (SB) 1867, requiring that an additional group of students be excluded from rates used for state accountability purposes (TEC §39.053(g-2), 2016). Beginning with class of 2016, a student who: (a) was at least 18 years of age as of September 1 and had satisfied the credit requirements for high school graduation; (b) had not completed his or her individualized education program (IEP); and (c) was enrolled and receiving IEP services was excluded from campus and district longitudinal rate calculations.

Also in 2015, the legislature passed SB 149, which revised the state's assessment graduation requirements for students enrolled in Grade 11 or 12 during the 2014-15 school year (TEC §28.0258, 2016). Under the requirements, a student who failed an end-of-course (EOC) assessment for no more than two of five required courses could still receive a Texas high school diploma if he or she was determined to be qualified to graduate by an individual graduation committee (IGC) (Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code [TAC] §101.3022, 2021, amended to be effective September 6, 2015). In 2017, the legislature extended the revised graduation requirements through the 2018-19 school year, and in 2019 extended them through the 2022-23 school year (TEC §28.0258, 2019; 19 TAC

§101.3022, 2021, amended to be effective October 15, 2019). A student receiving special education services was not subject to IGC requirements (19 TAC §74.1025(m), 2021, amended to be effective April 19, 2016). A student's admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee determined whether the student was required to achieve satisfactory performance on an EOC assessment to graduate (19 TAC §101.3022(f), 2021, amended to be effective September 6, 2015). If the ARD committee determined a student was not required to achieve satisfactory performance on the EOC assessments, the student was considered to be in compliance with assessment requirements under TEC §39.025 (2019). For the 2014-15 school year, school districts had the authority to establish necessary procedures and timelines regarding implementation of IGCs. In April 2016, the commissioner of education adopted rules related to IGC implementation, including timelines and related reporting requirements (19 TAC §74.1025, 2021, amended to be effective April 19, 2016; TEC §28.0258(k), 2016).

In 2017, the legislature passed HB 22, which revised the state accountability system to include three domains: Student Achievement, School Progress, and Closing the Gaps (TEC §39.053, 2018). TEA continued to calculate campus and district annual dropout and longitudinal graduation rates for use in the system. The legislature also passed HB 3075, which amended TEC §39.053 (g-1) (2018) by clarifying that a student who is in an open-enrollment charter school exclusively as a function of having been detained at a county detention facility is also excluded from rates used for state accountability purposes. See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on all state accountability exclusions.

Additionally, in 2017, the Texas Student Data System (TSDS) was fully implemented. TSDS is the new statewide system that improves the quality of PEIMS data collection, management, and reporting for Texas public schools. TSDS is designed to reduce the burden of data collection on districts and charter schools with improvements such as allowing for year-round data collection and an enhanced data validation tool. TSDS also includes the TSDS Unique ID system, which was introduced in 2012-13 to better manage student identification information. See the section "Public Education Information Management System Data" on page 34 for more information about the TSDS.

In 2019, the 86th Texas Legislature passed HB 3, which directed the commissioner of education to adopt rules requiring PEIMS to include pregnancy as a reason a student withdraws from or otherwise no longer attends public school (TEC §48.009(d), 2019). Additionally, the legislature passed HB 330, which modified TEC §39.053(g-1) (2019) to exclude students who have suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care and leaves the student unable to attend school and assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility from the computation of dropout and completion rates for state accountability purposes. Beginning with the 2019-20 school year, two new leaver reasons were available in PEIMS, allowing districts to report when students drop out for these reasons.

Also in 2019, the legislature passed HB 1051, which required districts to report a student as a previous dropout in PEIMS if the student: (a) was at least 18 years of age and under 26 years of age; (b) had not been previously reported as a dropout; and (c) had not been enrolled in school during the previous nine months before enrolling in a high school equivalency program, a dropout recovery

school, or an adult education program provided under a high school diploma and industry certification charter school program (TEC §42.006, 2019). Districts will be able to report students as meeting these criteria beginning with the 2020-21 school year.

In spring 2020, given the impact of COVID-19, the governor of Texas used his statutory authority under Texas Government Code §418.016 to suspend in-school instruction and annual academic requirements, including STAAR EOC requirements, across the state. All Texas public school students were receiving remote instruction at the end of the 2019-20 school year. Performance requirements on EOCs for graduation under TEC §28.025(c) and §39.025(a) (2019) were waived for seniors who were still working to meet assessment requirements for graduation. Notably, seniors who had met all other graduation requirements under TEC §28.025(c) (2019) were able to graduate via an IGC determination, regardless of the number of EOCs they still needed to pass. Additionally, students who were on schedule to complete graduation requirements in spring 2020 and were scheduled to take a required EOC for the first time were not required to pass that specific test to fulfill graduation requirements, and an IGC was not needed in this circumstance.

Dropout Definition

A dropout was first defined in statute in 1987 as a student in Grades 7-12 who did not hold a high school diploma or the equivalent and who was absent from school for 30 or more consecutive days with no evidence of being enrolled in another public or private school (TEC §11.205, 1988). As implemented by the SBOE, students with approved excuses were excluded from the dropout definition, as were students who returned to school the following semester or school year (19 TAC §61.64, 1988). The first PEIMS dropout records were submitted for students who dropped out during the 1987-88 school year.

The original dropout definition in the *1988-89 PEIMS Data Standards* (TEA, 1989) did not count as dropouts: (a) students who received General Educational Development (GED) certificates; (b) students who left to enter other educational settings leading to high school diplomas, GED certificates, or college degrees; (c) students who withdrew to enter health care facilities; and (d) students incarcerated in correctional facilities. When the age of compulsory attendance was raised from 16 to 17 in 1989, an exemption from the dropout definition was added for students who were at least 17 years old and enrolled in GED preparation programs (TEC §§21.032 and 21.033, 1990).

Beginning with the 1992-93 dropout rate, TEA searched dropout data for prior years to identify previously reported dropouts. Because students who drop out but return to school are more likely to drop out again, repeat dropouts were removed from the dropout count so as not to discourage districts from trying to recover these students. Also beginning in 1992-93, a student expelled for committing certain types of criminal acts on school property or at a school-related event was removed from the dropout count if the term of expulsion had not expired.

In 1994-95, the dropout definition itself was removed from state law and SBOE rule. Legislative direction at the time indicated that, in deleting the dropout definition from code, it was intended that students who met all coursework requirements for a diploma but left school without passing the exit-level test were not to be counted as dropouts. Also beginning that year, students who withdrew from school to return to their home countries were not counted as dropouts, even if the districts did not have evidence that the students had reenrolled in school.

In 1997, the compulsory attendance age was again raised, requiring a student to attend school until his or her 18th birthday (TEC §25.085, 1997). In 1999, the legislature added two groups of students to those who were exempted from the dropout count. SB 1472 exempted students who were at least 16 and enrolled in Job Corps programs (TEC §25.086, 1999). SB 103 exempted all expelled students from the dropout count during the terms of expulsion (TEC §39.051, 1999).

In 2003, the Texas Legislature passed SB 186, which amended the language on the dropout indicator. SB 186 required districts to report dropout data and TEA to compute dropout rates and graduation rates consistent with the standards and definitions of the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) (TEC §39.051(b)(2), 2004). Under the NCES definition, a dropout is a student who is enrolled in public school in Grades 7-12, does not return

to public school the following fall, is not expelled, and does not: graduate, receive a high school equivalency certificate, continue school outside the public school system, begin college, or die. Districts began collecting information according to the new dropout definition and procedures in 2005-06. In 2015, the 84th Texas Legislature raised the compulsory attendance age again, requiring a student to attend school until his or her 19th birthday (TEC §25.085, 2016).

In 2017, the 85th Texas Legislature amended TEC §39.053 to revise the state accountability system and remove the requirement that dropout rates align with the NCES definition. Annual dropout rates continue to be calculated in accordance with the NCES definition to align with federal reporting criteria, which require submission of annual dropout rates calculated in compliance with this definition.

In 2019, the 86th Texas Legislature amended TEC §48.009, requiring the commissioner of education to adopt rules to include pregnancy as a reason a student withdraws from or otherwise no longer attends public school. Additionally, the legislature modified TEC §39.053(g-1) to exclude students who have suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care and leaves the student unable to attend school and assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility from the computation of dropout and completion rates for state accountability purposes. Students who meet either of these criteria are identified as dropouts under the NCES definition. Beginning with the 2019-20 school year, districts were able to report students as dropping out for these reasons.

Annual Dropout Rates

An annual dropout rate was first calculated by TEA for the 1987-88 school year as the number of dropouts from Grades 7-12 divided by the total number of students enrolled in Grades 7-12 the fall of that same year (Table 2). The same calculation was used for the first five years of dropout reporting.

In 1992-93, districts began submitting individual student attendance records as part of the PEIMS data collection. For the first time, TEA was able to compute cumulative enrollment—the number of students in attendance in Grades 7-12 at any time during the previous school year. Cumulative enrollment more closely parallels the required reporting of dropouts, which covers students who drop out at any time during the school year and includes students who enroll after the fall enrollment count. Cumulative enrollment also provides the most consistent data for comparisons of dropout rates between districts and campuses with different mobility rates. For these reasons, cumulative enrollment replaced fall enrollment in the dropout rate calculation, beginning with the 1992-93 school year.

From 1992-93 through 2004-05, public school students who were ineligible for state Foundation School Program (FSP) funding, usually because they were being served fewer than two hours of instruction per day, were not included in the annual dropout count; thus, they were excluded from the denominator. With adoption of the NCES dropout definition in 2005-06, students not eligible for FSP funding who leave school without a valid reason are included in the dropout count. They are therefore included in the denominator. The addition of students who are not eligible for FSP funding and the adoption of cumulative, rather than fall, enrollment are the only changes that have been made to the dropout rate denominator.

Because rates for smaller groups can be less stable over time, comparisons of rates across racial/ethnic groups can be misleading when one group is small compared to other groups. The American Indian and Pacific Islander student populations are small in number, compared to other racial/ethnic populations. Therefore, discussions of annual results in this report, including comparisons across racial/ethnic groups, do not include these populations.

Table 2

Chronology of Texas Education Agency Dropout Definition and Data Processing Enhancements

Dropout definition	Data processing
1987-88	
A dropout is defined in the Texas Education Code (TEC), Texas Administrative Code, and *Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) Data Standards* as a student in Grades 7-12 who does not hold a high school diploma or the equivalent and is absent from school for 30 or more consecutive days. Students with an approved excuse or documented move are excluded from the dropout definition, as are students who return to school the following semester or year.	The Texas Education Agency (TEA) begins collecting individual student-level records for students who drop out of school.
1990-91	
	TEA begins collecting individual student-level enrollment records and graduate records. An automated search of enrollment records is instituted, and reported dropouts found to be enrolled in another Texas public school district the following year are removed from the dropout count.
1992-93	
Students previously counted as dropouts, back to 1990-91, are removed from the dropout count. Students expelled for committing certain types of criminal behavior on school property or at school-related events are removed from the dropout count during the term of expulsion.	TEA begins collecting individual student-level attendance records. An automated search of attendance records is instituted, and reported dropouts found to be in attendance in another Texas public school district later in the year are removed from the dropout count. An automated search of graduate records and General Educational Development (GED) certificate records is instituted, and reported dropouts found to have graduated or received a GED certificate are removed from the dropout count.
1994-95	
The definition of a dropout is removed from state law and State Board of Education rule. Students who meet all graduation requirements but fail the exit-level test are removed from the dropout count. Students who return to their home countries are excluded from the dropout count even if there is no evidence that they have reenrolled in school.	
1995-96	
Students who enroll in alternative programs that are not state approved but who are in compliance with compulsory attendance and are working toward completion of high school diplomas or GED certificates are removed from the dropout count.	
1997-98	
	TEA begins collecting individual student-level records for all school leavers—graduates, dropouts, and students who left school for other reasons. Additional audits of dropout rates calculated from these data are conducted at the state level.

Table 2 (continued)
Chronology of Texas Education Agency Dropout Definition and Data Processing Enhancements

Dropout definition	Data processing
1998-99	
	The automated search of enrollment records is expanded to include students who return to school in the fall but leave before the PEIMS snapshot date or do not return until after the PEIMS snapshot date.
1999-00	
Sixteen-year-olds enrolled in Job Corps programs leading to high school equivalency certificates are removed from the dropout count. The circumstances under which expelled students are excluded from the dropout count are expanded in statute to cover students expelled for any reason.	Within a district, each dropout is assigned to a campus based on attendance or reported campus of accountability.
2003-04	
Students who fail to enroll in school after release from correctional facilities or residential treatment centers are not counted as dropouts for the districts in which the facilities are located if the serving districts are not the students' home districts.	Students served outside their districts are attributed to the sending districts. Dropout rates for districts serving Texas Youth Commission facilities do not include dropouts from the facilities unless the dropouts have been attributed to a regular campus in that district through campus of accountability procedures.
2005-06	
Texas adopts the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) dropout definition. Under the NCES definition, a dropout is a student who is enrolled in public school in Grades 7-12, does not return to public school the following fall, is not expelled, and does not: graduate, receive a high school equivalency certificate, continue high school outside the public school system, begin college, or die.	To track students more efficiently and reduce the number of records districts must submit, TEA begins using agency files to account for previous Texas public school graduates, students who receive GED certificates by August 31, and students who enroll in other Texas public school districts by the last Friday in September. Districts are no longer required to submit leaver records for students who are accounted for by TEA.
2006-07	
A student who fails to enroll in school after release from a residential treatment center is not counted as a dropout for the serving campus or district (i.e., the campus and district providing educational services to the center) if the serving district is not the student's home district. A student who fails to enroll in school after release from a Texas Juvenile Probation Commission (TJPC) or Texas Youth Commission (TYC) facility is not counted as a dropout for the serving district.	Students served outside their districts are no longer attributed to the sending districts. Specifically: (a) a dropout from a residential treatment facility whose home district is not the serving district is not included in the dropout rates for the serving campus and district; and (b) a dropout from a TJPC facility is not included in the dropout rate for any district. A dropout from a TJPC facility is included in the dropout rate for the serving campus if the serving campus is the TJPC facility. A dropout from a TJPC facility whose home district is not the serving district but who is attributed to a regular campus in the serving district is not included in the dropout rate for any campus. A dropout from a TYC facility is included in the dropout rate for the serving campus if the serving campus is the TYC facility. A dropout from a TYC facility is included in the dropout rate for the serving district if, through campus of accountability procedures, he or she has been attributed to a regular campus in the serving district; otherwise, the dropout is not included in the dropout rate for any district.

continues

Table 2 (continued)
Chronology of Texas Education Agency Dropout Definition and Data Processing Enhancements

Dropout definition	Data processing
2007-08	
	Since implementation of the national dropout definition in 2005-06, students have been required to return to school during the period of time between the first day of school and the last Friday in September (the "school-start window") so as not to be considered school leavers from the prior year. In response to the crisis declaration following Hurricane Ike, the 2008-09 school-start window for returning students is temporarily extended through Friday, October 24, 2008. The extension is implemented to accommodate both the closing of some districts and the enrollment of students displaced as a result of the hurricane into other public schools throughout the state. As with the original school-start window, districts are not required to submit leaver records for students found to have enrolled in another district during the temporarily extended school-start window.
2008-09	
	Students in the Optional Flexible School Day Program are accounted for in data processing.
	Determination of economic status changes. Before 2008-09, students were identified as economically disadvantaged if they were reported as such by any district in the fall. Beginning in 2008-09, students are identified as economically disadvantaged only if they are reported as such by the accountable district.
2009-10	
	TEA begins collecting data on student race and ethnicity in compliance with a new federal standard that requires separation of categories for ethnicity and categories for race. The data also are collected that year using the old standard. Rates calculated for 2009-10 reflect the new federal standard.
2010-11	
	In 2009, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill (HB) 3, requiring that TEA exclude six groups of students from campus and district dropout rate calculations used for state accountability purposes (TEC §39.053, 2010). Although state accountability ratings are not issued in 2012, annual dropout rates are calculated with and without exclusions for 2010-11. See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on exclusions.
2011-12	
	A new state accountability system is implemented in 2013. As in 2010-11, annual dropout rates for 2011-12 are calculated with and without exclusions. Rates with exclusions are used for state accountability. See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on exclusions.
2012-13	
	In 2013, the Texas Legislature passed HB 5 and Senate Bill 306, clarifying some exclusions and requiring additional students be excluded for state accountability purposes (TEC §§39.053(g-1)(2) and 39.055, 2013). See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on exclusions.

continues

Table 2 (continued)
Chronology of Texas Education Agency Dropout Definition and Data Processing Enhancements

Dropout definition	Data processing
2016-17	
The requirement that dropout rates align with the NCES definition is removed from statute. The 2016-17 annual dropout rates were calculated in accordance with the NCES definition to align with federal reporting criteria, which require submission of annual dropout rates calculated in compliance with this definition.	In 2017, the Texas Legislature passed HB 3075, clarifying an exclusion for state accountability purposes (TEC §39.053(g-1), 2018). See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on exclusions.
	In response to the crisis declaration following Hurricane Harvey, the 2017-18 school-start window for returning students (or "continuers") was extended through Friday, October 27, 2017. The extension was implemented to accommodate both the closing of some districts and the enrollment into other public schools throughout the state of students displaced as a result of the hurricane.
	A new state accountability system is implemented in 2018.
2019-20	
In 2019, the Texas Legislature passed HB 3 and HB 330, which resulted in the implementation of two new leaver codes for dropouts: one for students who withdraw from public school due to pregnancy (TEC §48.009(d), 2019) and one for students who suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care and leaves the student unable to attend school and assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility.	In 2019, the Texas Legislature passed HB 330, which modified TEC §39.053(g-1) (2019) to exclude from state accountability rates students assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility who are unable to attend school as a result of serious injury or illness.
	In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2019-20 school-start window for returning students (or "continuers") was extended through Friday, October 30, 2020.

Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

TEA has calculated Grade 9 four-year graduation and dropout rates for the classes of 1996 through 2020 (Table 3 on page 28). The rates are based on the final statuses of students who began Grade 9 in Texas public schools in a particular school year and were tracked into the fall after their expected graduation date. TEA has also calculated Grade 9 five-year extended rates for the classes of 2008 through 2019, and Grade 9 six-year extended rates for the classes of 2008 through 2018. The five- and six-year extended rates are based on the final statuses of students who began Grade 9 in a particular school year and were tracked into the fall one and two years, respectively, after their expected graduation date.

The method used to calculate the rates was developed so that the longitudinal graduation rate, continuation rate, Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency (TxCHSE) recipient rate, and dropout rate add to 100 percent. A student is considered to be a graduate, continuer, TxCHSE recipient, or dropout from the school he or she last attended.

The definition of a dropout in the longitudinal rate is based on the same definition of a dropout used in the annual dropout rate. The national dropout definition, which was adopted in 2005-06, was fully incorporated in the four-year graduation and dropout rates for the class of 2009.

The denominator of each longitudinal rate consists of students who entered Grade 9 in Texas public schools and who, by the fall after their expected graduation date (or, in the case of extended rates, the fall one or two years after their expected graduation date), either graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued in high school, or dropped out. Students who left for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out are not included in the denominator. Most other leavers are students who leave to enroll in other educational settings, such as private schools in the state, public or private schools outside the state, colleges, or home schooling. Also considered other leavers are students who: return to their home countries; are expelled for offenses under Texas Education Code §37.007 (2019) from districts located in counties that do not have juvenile justice alternative education programs to which the students can be assigned; are removed by Child Protective Services; are withdrawn by districts when the districts discover that the students are not entitled to enrollment in the districts because the students are not residents of the districts; or die.

Through the class of 2009, longitudinal rates were calculated for districts and campuses if they served Grade 9 and Grade 11 or 12 in the first and fifth years of the cohort. To comply with federal accountability standards, a second criterion was added beginning with the class of 2010. For the class of 2010 and later classes:

- four-year rates were calculated for districts and campuses if they: (a) served Grade 9 as well as Grade 11 or 12 in the first and fifth years of the cohort or (b) served Grade 12 in the first and fifth years of the cohort;

- five-year extended rates were calculated for districts and campuses if they: (a) served Grade 9 as well as Grade 11 or 12 in the first and sixth years of the cohort or (b) served Grade 12 in the first and sixth years of the cohort; and

Table 3

Chronology of Texas Education Agency Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rate Definitions and Data Processing Enhancements

Longitudinal rate definitions	Data processing
1992-93 through 1996-97	
A Grade 7-12 estimated longitudinal dropout rate based on the Grade 7-12 annual dropout rate is calculated using aggregate numbers of dropouts and students.	
Classes of 1996 and 1997	
Completion rates using student-level data are first calculated for Grade 9 cohorts based on the holding power approach to high school completion (Hartzell, McKay, & Frymier, 1992). Completers are defined as graduates, high school continuers, and General Educational Development (GED) certificate recipients. Separate longitudinal dropout rates using student-level data are calculated for Grade 7 cohorts.	Completion rates are based on fall snapshot data. Longitudinal dropout rates are based on cumulative attendance data. Student characteristics and program participation statuses are assigned based on a student's first appearance in the cohort. A student who moves from one school to another is considered to be a completer or dropout from the last school attended.
Class of 1998	
Separate longitudinal dropout rates and completion rates are replaced with a four-year high school completion series. The series is made up of four complementary longitudinal rates: graduation, continuation in high school, GED certification, and dropout. The four rates add to 100 percent.	Longitudinal rates are based on cumulative attendance data. Student characteristics and program participation statuses are assigned based on a student's final record in the cohort.
	A student who finishes the cohort period as both a continuer and a GED certificate recipient is assigned a final status of GED certificate recipient.
	Rates are calculated for districts and campuses that served Grade 9 and Grade 11 or 12 in the first and fifth years of the cohort.
Class of 2003	
The dropout definition is the state definition in the dropout year for each of the four years of the cohort.	
Class of 2004	
	A student who earns a GED certificate is matched to the longitudinal cohort, regardless of the date the certificate is earned.
	Completion rates for districts serving Texas Youth Commission facilities do not include students from the facilities unless the students have been attributed to regular campuses in the districts through campus of accountability procedures.
Class of 2005	
	A student who finishes the cohort period as both a continuer and a GED certificate recipient is assigned a final status of continuer.
Class of 2006	
Districts begin submitting data in 2005-06 based on the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) dropout definition. For the class of 2006, the dropout definition is the state definition for students who left in the first three years of the cohort and the NCES definition for students who left in the fourth year.	A student who finishes the cohort period as both an other leaver and a GED certificate recipient is assigned a final status of other leaver.
Class of 2007	
The dropout definition is the state definition for students who left in the first two years of the cohort and the NCES definition for students who left in the third and fourth years.	

continues

Table 3 (continued)

Chronology of Texas Education Agency Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rate Definitions and Data Processing Enhancements

Longitudinal rate definitions	Data processing
Class of 2008	
The dropout definition is the state definition for students who left in the first year of the cohort and the NCES definition for students who left in the final three years.	Since implementation of the national dropout definition in 2005-06, students have been required to return to school during the period of time between the first day of school and the last Friday in September (the "school-start window") so as not to be considered school leavers from the prior year. In response to the crisis declaration following Hurricane Ike, the 2008-09 school-start window for returning students (or "continuers") is temporarily extended through Friday, October 24, 2008. The extension is implemented to accommodate both the closing of some districts and the enrollment of students displaced as a result of the hurricane into other public schools throughout the state.
Class of 2009	
The dropout definition is the NCES definition for students who left in any of the four years of the cohort.	Students in the Optional Flexible School Day Program are accounted for in data processing.
	Determination of program participation and student characteristics changes. Before 2008-09, if the last district attended did not submit program participation or student characteristic data for a student, data from the previous year were used. Beginning in 2008-09, only program participation and student characteristic data submitted by the accountable district in the last year attended are used.
Class of 2010	
	In 2009-10, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) begins collecting data on student race and ethnicity in compliance with a new federal standard that requires separation of categories for ethnicity and categories for race. The data also are collected that year using the old standard. Graduates, GED certificate recipients, and dropouts, all of whom have final statuses in 2009-10 or earlier, are reported using the old racial/ethnic categories. Because they have final statuses in 2010-11, all continuers, with the exception of multiracial continuers, are reported using the new categories. Multiracial continuers are assigned the race/ethnicity reported for them in the most recent previous year.
	Completion rates for the class of 2010 are calculated for districts and campuses if they: (a) served Grade 9 and Grade 11 or 12 in the first and fifth years of the cohort or (b) served Grade 12 in the first and fifth years of the cohort.
Class of 2011	
	Rates calculated for the class of 2011 reflect the new federal standard that requires separation of categories for ethnicity and categories for race.
	In 2009, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 3, requiring that TEA exclude six groups of students from campus and district longitudinal rate calculations used for state accountability purposes (Texas Education Code [TEC] §39.053, 2010). Although state accountability ratings are not issued in 2012, completion rates are calculated with and without exclusions for the class of 2011. One group of students is excluded from campus and district longitudinal rate calculations used for federal accountability purposes. See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on exclusions.

continues

Table 3 (continued)
Chronology of Texas Education Agency Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rate Definitions and Data Processing Enhancements

Longitudinal rate definitions	Data processing
Class of 2012	
	A new state accountability system is implemented in 2013. A graduation or GED certification rate is calculated for use in state accountability.
Class of 2013	
	A new diploma program rate, the percentage of students graduating under the Recommended High School Program (RHSP) or Advanced High School Program (AHSP), is calculated for the class of 2013 for use in state accountability.
	In 2013, the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 1538, requiring that a graduation, continuation, or GED certification rate replace the graduation or GED certification rate in state accountability (TEC §39.0545, 2013). The legislature also passed HB 5 and SB 306, clarifying some exclusions and requiring additional students be excluded for state accountability purposes (TEC §§39.053(g-1)(2) and 39.055, 2013). See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on exclusions.
Class of 2015	
	An additional diploma program rate, the percentage of students graduating under the RHSP or AHSP or Foundation High School Program with an endorsement (with or without a distinguished level of achievement), is calculated for the class of 2015 for use in state accountability.
	In 2015, the Texas Legislature passed SB 149, which revised the state's assessment graduation requirements for students enrolled in Grade 11 or 12 during the 2014-15, 2015-16, or 2016-17 school year. Under the new requirements, a student who failed an end-of-course assessment for no more than two of five required courses could still receive a Texas high school diploma if he or she was determined to be qualified to graduate by an individual graduation committee (IGC) (Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code [TAC] §101.3022, 2021, amended to be effective September 6, 2015).
Class of 2016	
	In 2015, the Texas Legislature passed SB 1867, requiring that TEA exclude an additional group of students from campus and district longitudinal rate calculations used for state accountability purposes (TEC §39.053(g-2), 2016). See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on exclusions.

continues

Table 3 (continued)
Chronology of Texas Education Agency Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rate Definitions and Data Processing Enhancements

Longitudinal rate definitions	Data processing
Class of 2017	
	In 2017, the Texas Legislature passed HB 3075, clarifying an exclusion for state accountability purposes (TEC §39.053(g-1), 2018). See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on exclusions.
	In response to the crisis declaration following Hurricane Harvey, the 2017-18 school-start window for returning students (or "continuers") was extended through Friday, October 27, 2017. The extension was implemented to accommodate both the closing of some districts and the enrollment into other public schools throughout the state of students displaced as a result of the hurricane.
	A new state accountability system is implemented in 2018. In addition to four-, five-, and six-year longitudinal graduation rates calculated with exclusions for state accountability purposes, the new system also uses the four-year graduation rate calculated for federal accountability purposes (without state accountability exclusions).
Class of 2018	
	In 2017, the Texas Legislature passed SB 463, which extended IGC requirements through the 2018-19 school year. Under these requirements, a student who failed an end-of-course assessment for no more than two of five required courses could still receive a Texas high school diploma if he or she was determined to be qualified to graduate by an IGC (19 TAC §101.3022, 2021, amended to be effective December 5, 2017).
Class of 2020	
	In 2019, the Texas Legislature passed HB 330, which modified TEC §39.053(g-1) (2019) to exclude from state accountability rates students assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility who are unable to attend school as a result of serious injury or illness.
	In 2019, the Texas Legislature also passed HB 165, allowing special education students with modified curricula, who were previously excluded from diploma program calculations, to earn endorsements.
	In 2019, the Texas Legislature extended IGC requirements through the 2022-23 school year (TEC §28.0258, 2019). End-of-course requirements were relaxed for 2019-20 graduates during the COVID-19 pandemic. See the section "Chronology" on page 14 for more information.
	In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2019-20 school-start window for returning students (or "continuers") was extended through Friday, October 30, 2020.

- six-year extended rates were calculated for districts and campuses if they: (a) served Grade 9 as well as Grade 11 or 12 in the first and seventh years of the cohort or (b) served Grade 12 in the first and seventh years of the cohort.

Because rates for smaller groups can be less stable over time, comparisons of rates across racial/ethnic groups can be misleading when one group is small compared to other groups. The American Indian and Pacific Islander student populations are small in number, compared to other racial/ethnic populations. Therefore, discussions of longitudinal results in this report, including comparisons across racial/ethnic groups, do not include these populations.

Figure 1 highlights the four-year longitudinal graduation rates for the classes of 2011 through 2020 and the significant education policies implemented over this time period. The boxes in Figure 1 describe policies that went into effect that may have influenced graduation rates. It is important to note that many factors, not only those presented here, influence graduation rates over time, and the figure should be interpreted with this in mind.

Figure 1
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation Rates and Policy Changes, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2011 Through 2020
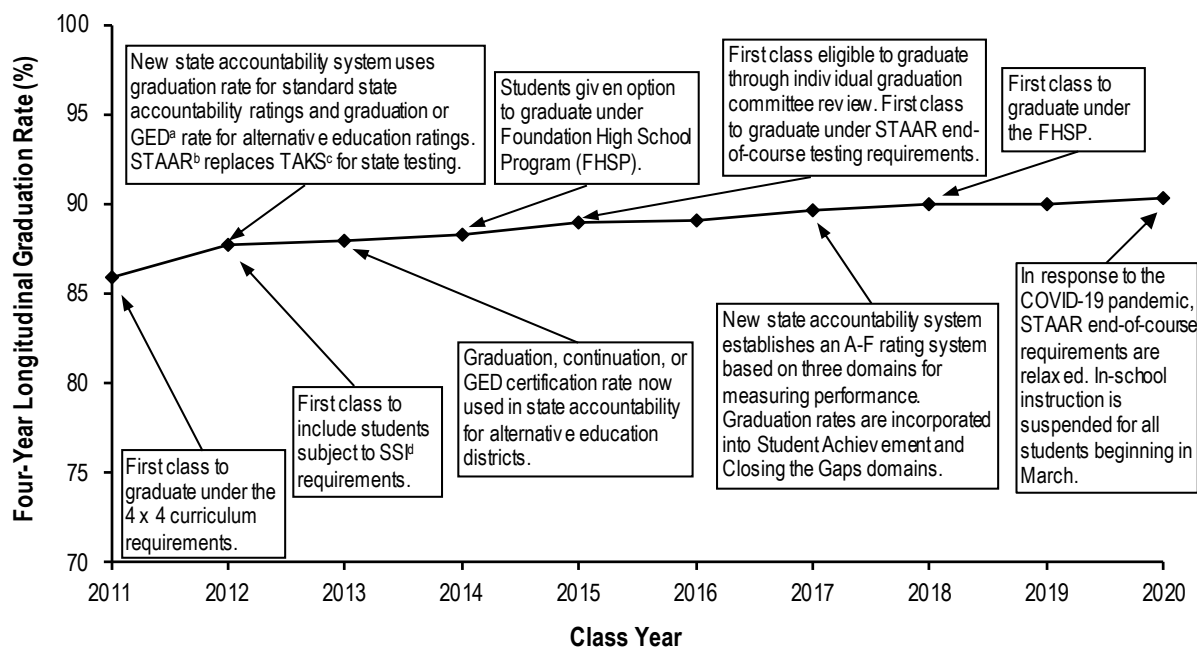
Note. The figure illustrates graduation rates and significant education policies implemented between 2011 and 2020. It is important to note that many factors, not only those presented here, influence graduation rates over time, and the figure should be interpreted with this in mind.
[a]General Educational Development certificate. [b]State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness. [c]Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills. [d]Student Success Initiative.

Data Used in Graduation and Dropout Reporting

Public Education Information
Management System Data

Creating the
Roster of Students

Accounting for Students by
the Texas Education Agency

Accounting for
Students by Districts

Processing
Leaver Records

Reporting of
Student and Program Information

District Results
for Leaver Processing

Data Quality in
Dropout Reporting

Public Education Information Management System Data

Data Standards

Districts have submitted Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) since the fall of 1987. The *Texas Education Data Standards* (TEDS) (e.g., TEA, 2021b), published annually by TEA, outlines requirements for submitting PEIMS data through the Texas Student Data System (TSDS). The TEDS provides descriptions of data elements and the values of codes used to report the data elements, subcategory specifications, submission timelines, and the responsibilities of districts, education service centers, and TEA with regard to the data submission process. The TSDS Unique ID system was introduced in 2012-13 to manage student identification information. It provides a mechanism for districts to assign a statewide unique identifier to each student enrolled in the Texas public school system. Starting in the 2012-13 school year, districts were required to assign Unique IDs to all students in their PEIMS submissions. Prior to implementation of the TSDS Unique ID system, the agency assigned unique identification numbers to students using the Person Identification Database (PID).

Leaver Data Documentation

From 1997-98 through 2004-05, districts were required to report the statuses of all students who attended Grades 7-12 during the previous school year. Beginning with students who attended in 2005-06, TEA has accounted for students who: (a) graduated in a previous school year; (b) moved from one public school district and enrolled in another; or (c) received a Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency (TxCHSE). Districts must report the statuses of all other Grade 7-12 students. The TEDS requires that districts have documentation to support the leaver reason code assigned to each school leaver. To assist districts in meeting the requirements, specific documentation standards for each code are included in the TEDS (Appendix A).

Data Submission

Districts submit PEIMS enrollment records for students who return and leaver records for students who do not return through the Web-based application TSDS. In addition, districts have been provided a number of Web-based tools to assist them in reducing data errors before and during data submission, including the ability to generate reports within TSDS to assist with data validation. Additionally, districts can use the TSDS Unique ID system, which has incorporated the functionality of the retired Person Enrollment Tracking (PET) application, to learn whether students who leave the district enroll in other public schools in the state. The Unique ID system maintains up-to-date enrollment information for students in early education through Grade 12 Texas public schools. Districts are required to submit student enrollment information on a weekly basis, starting the third week of the school year. Enrollment dates and withdrawal dates for each student served by a district are submitted. Districts can search the enrollment submissions to locate students or view enrollment histories. Districts can also use the Unique ID system to search for existing students, add new students, or update existing records in the Unique ID database, and they can access reports that

will notify them when students do not have a Unique ID and must be added to the Unique ID database. Preliminary cohort lists available through TEA Login (TEAL) allow districts to determine a student's expected graduation year, for accountability purposes, and the year he or she last attended Texas public schools. In addition, districts have technical documentation that describes the steps used by TEA to build the Grade 9 cohorts and compute longitudinal rates. This document is available through TEAL and on the agency's public website.

Creating the Roster of Students

The first step in the collection and processing of data used to calculate the graduation and dropout rates is the creation of a roster of all students who were in Grades 7-12 in Texas public schools the previous year. Each student has one entry on the roster for each district he or she attended. Every student on the roster must be accounted for through TEA or district records. TEA searches for students in enrollment and attendance records and in the graduate and TxCHSE databases. Based on the attendance and enrollment records of all districts, the records of Texas graduates for the last several years, and TxCHSE records, TEA identifies students for whom districts do not need to submit leaver records. School districts must account for all other students by submission of leaver reasons.

Accounting for Students by the Texas Education Agency

TxCHSE Recipients

Texas public school students have an opportunity to earn a TxCHSE through one of two TEA-approved assessments: the General Educational Development (GED) test and the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET). Prior to August 31, 2019, students could earn a TxCHSE through the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC). High school equivalency assessment centers submit records to TEA of students who receive a TxCHSE. TEA searches the records each year to identify students who received a TxCHSE prior to August 31. School districts are not required to submit leaver records for students who receive a TxCHSE.

Previous Graduates

Some students graduate from Texas public schools, return to school to take additional courses, and then leave again. TEA accounts for these "previous graduates" by searching a cumulative database of Texas public school graduates. School districts are not required to submit leaver records for previous graduates.

Movers

Students who move from one Texas public school district and enroll in another also are accounted for by TEA. Attendance records submitted each June by all Texas public school districts and enrollment records submitted each fall enable TEA to verify reenrollment. Students found to have enrolled in another district during the course of a single school year are identified as "school-year movers." Students found to have enrolled in another district during the school-start window, that is, between the first day of school and the last Friday in September, are identified as "summertime movers." Districts are not required to submit leaver records for movers. For fall 2020, to allow students more time to return to school during the COVID-19 pandemic, the school-start window was extended to October 30, 2020.

Accounting for Students by Districts

Enrollment Reporting

Each fall, districts submit records for students enrolled in their districts, including new enrollees and students who attended the previous school year. A district is not required to submit leaver records for students who return to the district between the first day of school and the last Friday in September (i.e., the "school-start window"). A district is required to submit leaver records for students who do not return or who return after that date, unless they have been accounted for by TEA. For fall 2020, to allow students more time to return to school during the COVID-19 pandemic, the school-start window was extended to October 30, 2020.

Leaver Reporting Requirement

Districts begin submitting fall PEIMS data, including enrollment records and leaver records, as early as September, with final submission due in December and a resubmission opportunity in mid-January for districts with errors or omissions in their December submissions. During this time, TEA provides districts access to reports on the student roster so they can identify students for whom leaver records are not required. TEA updates the roster and generates reports as data are submitted. A district may not know whether a student has reenrolled in another district until the final data submission deadline in December. If the district is required to submit a leaver record and has not done so by the submission deadline, the district can submit the record during the resubmission process, which ends in mid-January.

A district is required to submit a leaver record for any student in Grades 7-12 the previous year, unless the student:

- received a TxCHSE by August 31;
- is a previous Texas public school graduate;
- is a school-year mover or summertime mover from the district; or
- returned to the district on time, or by the last Friday in September. For fall 2020, given the impact of COVID-19, the return deadline was extended to October 30, 2020.

Leaver Reason Codes

School districts can submit 1 of 19 leaver reason codes for each leaver (Table 4 on page 40). One code is for students who graduate from a Texas public school. Thirteen codes are for "other leavers"—students who: enroll in school outside Texas; enroll in a Texas private school; enter home schooling; enter college early to pursue degrees; enroll in university high school diploma programs authorized by the State Board of Education; graduate outside Texas before entering a Texas public school, enter a Texas public school, and leave again; earn a high school equivalency certificate outside Texas; are expelled for offenses under Texas Education Code (TEC) §37.007 (2019) from

districts located in counties that do not have juvenile justice alternative education programs to which the students can be assigned; are removed by Child Protective Services; graduate from other states under provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children; are withdrawn by districts when the districts discover that the students are not entitled to enrollment in the districts because the students are not residents of the districts; return to their home countries; or die. Five codes are for dropouts: students (female or male) who withdraw or leave because of pregnancy; students who have suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care and leaves the student unable to attend school and assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility; students ordered by court to attend high school equivalency programs who have not earned a TxCHSE; students incarcerated in state jails or federal penitentiaries as adults or as persons certified to stand trial as adults; or students who leave for reasons other than those previously listed and cannot be accounted for by TEA processing.

Table 4
Leaver Reason Codes, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Code	Leaver reason
Graduated or received an out-of-state high school equivalency certificate	
01	Graduated from a campus in this district or charter
85	Graduated outside Texas before entering a Texas public school, entered a Texas public school, and left again
86	Completed a high school equivalency certificate outside Texas
90	Graduated from another state under provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
Moved to other educational setting	
24	Entered college and is working towards an Associate's or Bachelor's degree
60	Is home schooled
66	Removed by Child Protective Services (CPS), and the district has not been informed of the student's current status or enrollment
81	Enrolled in a private school in Texas
82	Enrolled in a public or private school outside Texas
87	Withdrew from/left school to enroll in the Texas Tech University ISD High School Diploma Program or the University of Texas at Austin High School Diploma Program
Withdrawn by district	
78	Expelled under the provisions of Texas Education Code (TEC) §37.007 and cannot return to school
83	Was attending and was withdrawn from school by the district when the district discovered that the student was not entitled to enrollment in the district because (a) the student was not a resident of the district, (b) was not entitled under other provisions of TEC §25.001 or as a transfer student, or (c) was not entitled to public school enrollment under TEC §38.001 or a corresponding rule of the Texas Department of State Health Services because the student was not immunized
Other reasons	
03	Died while enrolled in school or during the summer break after completing the prior school year
08[a]	Withdrew from/left school because of pregnancy (female or male)
16	Returned to family's home country
20[b]	Has suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care and leaves the student unable to attend school and assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility
88[b]	Ordered by a court to attend a high school equivalency program and has not earned a TxCHSE[c]
89[b]	Incarcerated in a state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult or as a person certified to stand trial as an adult
98[a]	Other (reason unknown or not listed above)

Source. Texas Education Agency (2021b).

[a]School leavers with this leaver reason code are counted as dropouts for state and federal accountability or reporting purposes. [b]School leavers with this leaver reason code are counted as dropouts for federal accountability or reporting purposes; they are not counted as dropouts for state accountability purposes at the campus and district levels. [c]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

Processing Leaver Records

Determining Student Statuses

After all leaver records are received from districts, they are matched to the student roster and loaded into agency databases. Because multiple records per student are possible, and because a record from one district may affect a student's status at another, the agency uses all the data available for a student to determine the student's status. The agency determines whether the student returned to, or is a leaver from, each district he or she attended. The agency also determines whether the student returned to, or is a leaver from, the Texas public school system as a whole. District leaver statuses are used to determine the numbers of graduates, dropouts, other leavers, and underreported students for each district. State leaver statuses are used to determine the numbers of graduates, dropouts, other leavers, and underreported students for the state as a whole.

State Leaver Status

Description. State leaver status indicates whether a student is considered to be a leaver from the Texas public school system. State leaver status is determined by enrollment and leaver records submitted by districts in the fall and TEA records identifying movers, graduates, and TxCHSE recipients. There are seven state leaver statuses: graduate, previous graduate, not a leaver, other leaver, TxCHSE recipient, dropout, and underreported. A student can have only one state leaver status, regardless of the number of districts attended. State leaver statuses are not always mutually exclusive, so a hierarchy exists to determine the status.

Graduate. A status of "graduate" indicates the student graduated from a Texas public school district. A district submits a leaver record for the student with the leaver reason code for graduate.

Previous graduate. A status of "previous graduate" indicates that: (a) the preceding status does not apply; and (b) the student graduated in a previous school year from a Texas public school. A leaver record is not required for the student.

Not a leaver. A status of "not a leaver" indicates that: (a) the preceding two statuses do not apply; and (b) the student returned to a Texas public school on time in the fall or (c) the student returned, but not on time, and the student is a migrant. A leaver record is not required for a student who returns on time. If the student is a late-return migrant, the last district the student attended is required to submit a leaver record for the student.

Other leaver. A status of "other leaver" indicates that: (a) the preceding three statuses do not apply; and (b) the student left Texas public schools for a reason other than graduating or dropping out. A district submits a leaver record for the student with a leaver reason code for other leaver.

TxCHSE recipient. A status of "TxCHSE recipient" indicates that: (a) the preceding four statuses do not apply; and (b) the student received a TxCHSE by August 31, 2020. A leaver record is not required for the student.

Dropout. A status of "dropout" indicates that: (a) the preceding five statuses do not apply; and (b) the student is a dropout. A district submits a leaver record for the student with a leaver reason code for dropout.

Underreported. A status of "underreported" indicates that the preceding six statuses do not apply. A leaver record is required for the student but is not received.

District Leaver Status

Description. District leaver status indicates whether a student is considered to be a leaver from the district. District leaver status is determined by enrollment and leaver records submitted by the district in the fall and TEA records identifying movers, graduates, and TxCHSE recipients. For a student who attended more than one district, the district leaver status may differ from one district to another and may differ from the state leaver status. The district leaver statuses are the same as the state leaver statuses, but their definitions differ slightly, and there is one additional status: mover. Mover is not a status at the state level because a student who moves from one Texas public school district and enrolls in another has not left the Texas public school system. District leaver statuses are not always mutually exclusive, so a hierarchy exists to determine the status.

Graduate. A status of "graduate" indicates the student graduated from the district. The district is required to submit a leaver record for the student with the leaver reason code for graduate, and the record is loaded into the graduation database.

Previous graduate. A status of "previous graduate" indicates that: (a) the preceding status does not apply; and (b) the student graduated in a previous school year from a Texas public school. A leaver record is not required for the student.

Not a leaver. A status of "not a leaver" indicates that: (a) the preceding two statuses do not apply; and (b) the student returned to the district on time in the fall or (c) the student returned, but not on time, and the student is a migrant. A leaver record is not required for a student who returns on time. If the student is a late-return migrant, the district is required to submit a leaver record for the student, but the leaver record is not loaded into the leaver database.

Mover. A status of "mover" indicates that: (a) the preceding three statuses do not apply; and (b) the student moved from the district and enrolled in another Texas public school district. A leaver record is not required for the student.

Other leaver. A status of "other leaver" indicates that: (a) the preceding four statuses do not apply; and (b) the student left the district for a reason other than graduating or dropping out. The district is required to submit a leaver record for the student with a leaver reason code for other leaver, and the record is loaded into the other leaver database.

TxCHSE recipient. A status of "TxCHSE recipient" indicates that: (a) the preceding five statuses do not apply; and (b) the student received a TxCHSE by August 31, 2020. A leaver record is not required for the student.

Dropout. A status of "dropout" indicates that: (a) the preceding six statuses do not apply; and (b) the student is a dropout. The district is required to submit a leaver record for the student with a leaver reason code for dropout, and the record is loaded into the dropout database.

Underreported. A status of "underreported" indicates that the preceding seven statuses do not apply. A leaver record is required for the student but is not received.

Reporting of Student and Program Information

Overview

In this report, graduation and dropout data are presented by race/ethnicity, gender, economically disadvantaged status, and other student characteristics (e.g., English learner) and by program participation (e.g., special education). Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data on demographics, student characteristics, and program participation were submitted by districts through the Texas Student Data System (TEA, 2020c). This section presents additional information about these student characteristic and program participation groupings.

Data Masking

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (Title 20 of the United States Code [U.S.C.] §1232(g), 2021; Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 99, 2021) prohibits improper disclosure of personally identifiable student information by any educational agency or institution that receives funding under any program administered by the U.S. Department of Education (ED). In 2016, ED guidance on reporting education data in compliance with FERPA changed, relaxing requirements for masking state-level data. Based on this guidance, data presented in this report are no longer masked, beginning with 2015-16 reporting.

Student Characteristics

At-risk. In this report, a student identified as at risk of dropping out of school is one who is under age 26 and who meets one or more of the following criteria:

- is in prekindergarten, kindergarten, or Grades 1, 2, or 3 and did not perform satisfactorily on a readiness test or assessment instrument administered during the current school year;

- is in Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 and did not maintain an average equivalent to 70 on a scale of 100 in two or more subjects in the foundation curriculum (language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies) during a semester in the preceding or current school year or is not maintaining such an average in two or more subjects in the foundation curriculum in the current semester;

- was not advanced from one grade level to the next for one or more school years;

- did not perform satisfactorily on an assessment instrument administered to the student under TEC Subchapter B, Chapter 39, and who has not in the previous or current school year subsequently performed on that instrument or another appropriate instrument at a level equal to at least 110 percent of the level of satisfactory performance on that instrument;

- is pregnant or is a parent;

- has been placed in an alternative education program in accordance with TEC §37.006 during the preceding or current school year;

- has been expelled in accordance with TEC §37.007 during the preceding or current school year;

- is currently on parole, probation, deferred prosecution, or other conditional release;

- was previously reported through PEIMS to have dropped out of school;

- is a student of limited English proficiency, as defined by TEC §29.052;

- is in the custody or care of the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services or has, during the current school year, been referred to the department by a school official, officer of the juvenile court, or law enforcement official;

- is homeless, as defined by 42 U.S.C. §11302, and its subsequent amendments; or

- resided in the preceding school year or resides in the current school year in a residential placement facility in the district, including a detention facility, substance abuse treatment facility, emergency shelter, psychiatric hospital, halfway house, cottage home operation, specialized child-care home, or generalized residential operation;

- has been incarcerated or has a parent or guardian who has been incarcerated, within the lifetime of the student, in a penal institution as defined by Texas Penal Code §1.07;

- or, regardless of the student's age, participated in an adult education program provided under a high school diploma and industry certification charter school program under TEC §29.259.

Dyslexia. Dyslexia is a disorder of constitutional origin manifested by a difficulty in learning to read, write, or spell, despite conventional instruction, adequate intelligence, and sociocultural opportunity. A student is identified as having dyslexia after being screened or tested at the end of his or her kindergarten year and in Grade 1 in accordance with a program approved by the State Board of Education (TEC §38.003).

Economically disadvantaged. A student identified as economically disadvantaged is one who is eligible for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Program.

English learner. A student is classified as an English learner (EL) when: (a) a language other than English is used as the primary language in the home, and (b) the student's English language proficiency is determined to be limited by a language proficiency assessment committee or as indicated by a test of English proficiency. Most students identified as ELs receive instruction through bilingual, English as a second language, or alternative language programs. With annual dropout rates, students were identified as ELs in the 2019-20 school year. With longitudinal graduation and dropout rates, students were identified as ELs: (a) at any time while attending Texas public schools; (b) at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools; and (c) in their last year in Texas public schools.

Foster care. A student classified as in foster care is under the conservatorship of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. For annual dropout rates, students were identified

as in foster care in the 2019-20 school year. For longitudinal graduation and dropout rates, students were identified as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools and in their last year in Texas public schools.

Homeless. A student is classified as homeless when the student lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as defined by title 42 U.S.C. §11434(a). This definition includes:

- children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters;

- children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;

- children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

- migratory children (as such term is defined in U.S.C. Section 6399 of Title 20) who qualify as homeless because the children are living in circumstances described previously.

For annual dropout rates, students were identified as homeless in the 2019-20 school year. For longitudinal graduation and dropout rates, students were identified as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools. In 2017-18, the number of homeless students increased substantially, as many students identified as homeless were affected by hurricanes.

Immigrant. A student identified as an immigrant is one who: (a) is aged 3 through 21; (b) was not born in any state in the United States, Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia; and (c) has not been attending school in the United States for more than three full academic years. U.S. citizenship is not a factor when identifying a student as an immigrant for the purpose of public school data collection.

Migrant. A student identified as a migrant is one who: (a) is aged 3 through 21; (b) is (or whose parent, spouse, or guardian is) a migratory agricultural worker; including a migratory dairy worker, or migratory fisher; and (c) in the preceding 36 months, in order to obtain, or accompany such parent, spouse, or guardian in order to obtain, temporary or seasonal employment in agriculture or fishing work: (1) has moved from one school district to another; or (2) resides in a school district of more than 15,000 square miles and migrates a distance of 20 miles or more to a temporary residence to engage in a fishing activity.

Military-Connected. For state reporting purposes, a student identified as military-connected is a dependent of a current or former member of the U.S. military service, the Texas National Guard, or a reserve force in the U.S. military. A student who was a dependent of a member of a military or reserve force in the U.S. military who was killed in the line of duty may also be identified as military-connected by the state.

For federal reporting purposes, a student identified as military-connected is a dependent of an active-duty member of the U.S. military service or a dependent of a current member of the Texas National Guard.

Overage. Based on compulsory school attendance laws in Texas, under which most students begin Grade 1 at the age of six, the age of a student in any specified grade is usually equal to that grade level plus five years. For example, most students in Grade 9 are 14 years of age (9+5=14). A student whose age on September 1 is higher than his or her grade level plus five years is classified as overage.

Race/ethnicity. In 2009-10, TEA began collecting data on race and ethnicity in compliance with a new federal standard (TEA, 2009). For that year only, as a transitional measure, the data also were collected using the old standard. The current standard requires that race and ethnicity be collected separately using a specific two-part question, presented in a specific order, and that both parts of the question be answered (TEA, 2020c).

Part 1. Ethnicity: Is the person Hispanic/Latino? Choose only one.

- Hispanic/Latino
- Not Hispanic/Latino

Part 2. Race: What is the person's race? Choose one or more, regardless of ethnicity.

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
- White

The racial/ethnic categories are defined as follows. Hispanic/Latino includes students of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. American Indian or Alaska Native includes students having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintain a tribal affiliation or community attachment. Asian includes students having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent. Black or African American includes students having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa. Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander includes students having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands. White includes students having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

The current standard resulted in several important changes: (a) the combined racial category Asian/Pacific Islander is now separated into two categories; (b) students once identified exclusively as "Hispanic/Latino" must now report their race; (c) students may report more than one race; and (d) the definition for one of the racial categories—American Indian or Alaska Native—differs from

that used in years past. Prior to 2009-10, American Indian or Alaska Native included students having origins in any of the original peoples of North America only.

Throughout the rest of this report, students classified in PEIMS as Hispanic/Latino are referred to as Hispanic; students classified as American Indian or Alaska Native are referred to as American Indian; students classified as Black or African American are referred to as African American; students classified as Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander are referred to as Pacific Islander; and students classified as having two or more races are referred to as multiracial.

For purposes of reporting Texas public school graduation and dropout data, TEA combines the answers to the two-part question to create seven mutually exclusive racial/ethnic categories. A student identified as Hispanic is included only in the count for Hispanic students. A student not identified as Hispanic is included in the count for only one of the following six racial categories: African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, or multiracial. A student identified as having two or more races is included only in the count for multiracial students, not in the count for any single racial category. When reporting annual data by race/ethnicity for school years prior to 2009-10 and longitudinal data by race/ethnicity for the class of 2009 and earlier classes, TEA used the term Native American in place of the term American Indian. In this report, the term American Indian is used to present both current and historical data.

For this report, longitudinal rates for the class of 2010 and earlier classes were calculated based on the old racial/ethnic categories. Longitudinal rates for the class of 2011 and later classes were calculated based on the current racial/ethnic categories. For the classes of 2011 and 2012, racial/ethnic data for students who had final statuses in 2009-10 or later were collected using the current categories, whereas data for students who had final statuses in 2008-09 or earlier were collected using the old categories. Although most of the old racial/ethnic categories correspond to current individual categories, the category "Asian/Pacific Islander" does not. Thus, Asian/Pacific Islander students in the classes of 2011 and 2012 who had final statuses in 2008-09 or earlier, although included in state totals, are not included in the counts and rates for any individual racial/ethnic category.

Program Participation

Bilingual or English as a second language. Students identified as English learners (ELs), who do not speak English as their primary language and have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English, may participate in bilingual or English as a second language (ESL) programs. There are four state-approved bilingual instructional program models. The program must be a full-time program that provides dual-language instruction through the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) in the content areas (mathematics, science, health, and social studies) in English and the primary language of EL students. In addition, the program must provide for a carefully structured and sequenced mastery of English cognitive academic language development, as defined by 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §89.1210(c). There are two state-approved ESL instructional program models. An ESL program provides intensive instruction in English through second language

acquisition methods in all content area TEKS (mathematics, science, health, and social studies) for EL students, as defined by 19 TAC §89.1210(d). A school district that is unable to provide a state-approved bilingual or ESL program because of an insufficient number of appropriately certified teachers must request from the commissioner of education an exception to the bilingual education program or a waiver for the ESL program and approval of an alternative language program (19 TAC §89.1207). Beginning with the 2019-20 school year, districts were required to submit data through the Texas Student Data System specifying whether students receiving bilingual or ESL services received them through state-approved programs or through alternative language programs.

Career and technical education. A student enrolled in a state-approved career and technical education (CTE) program as a participant in the district's career and technical coherent sequence of courses is identified as participating in a career and technical education program. In this report, students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded from CTE rates. Beginning in 2020-21, districts no longer report CTE data to TEA. Instead, the agency will use course completion data reported during the summer to determine CTE participation. As a result, the latest CTE information is no longer available for continuing students in longitudinal graduation and dropout rate calculations. CTE program participation for these students is assigned based on the student's prior record of attendance in the continuing district, if available.

Gifted and talented. A student identified as gifted and talented is one who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment, and who: (a) exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area; (b) possesses an unusual capacity for leadership; or (c) excels in a specific academic field.

Special education. A student enrolled in a special education program is one who is participating in a special education instructional and related services program or a general education program using special education support services, supplementary aids, or other special arrangements.

Section 504. A Section 504 student is one who is receiving assistance through an aid, accommodation, or service under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Title I. A Title I student is one participating in a program authorized under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which is designed to improve the academic achievement of disadvantaged students.

District Results for Leaver Processing

District Summary

Of the students in Grades 7-12 in the 2019-20 school year, 81.3 percent returned to Texas public schools the next fall on time, that is, by October 30, 2020 (Figure 2). For 2020-21, the on-time return to school date was extended from the last Friday in September to October 30, 2020, to allow students more time to return to school during the COVID-19 pandemic. Another 14.5 percent graduated, 1.2 percent dropped out, and 2.7 percent left the Texas public school system for other reasons. In addition, fewer than 0.1 percent had graduated in previous school years, and fewer than 0.1 percent received a TxCHSE by August 31, 2020. The remaining 0.2 percent could not be accounted for through TEA and district records.

Figure 2
Year-to-Year Reporting of Students in Grades 7-12, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20
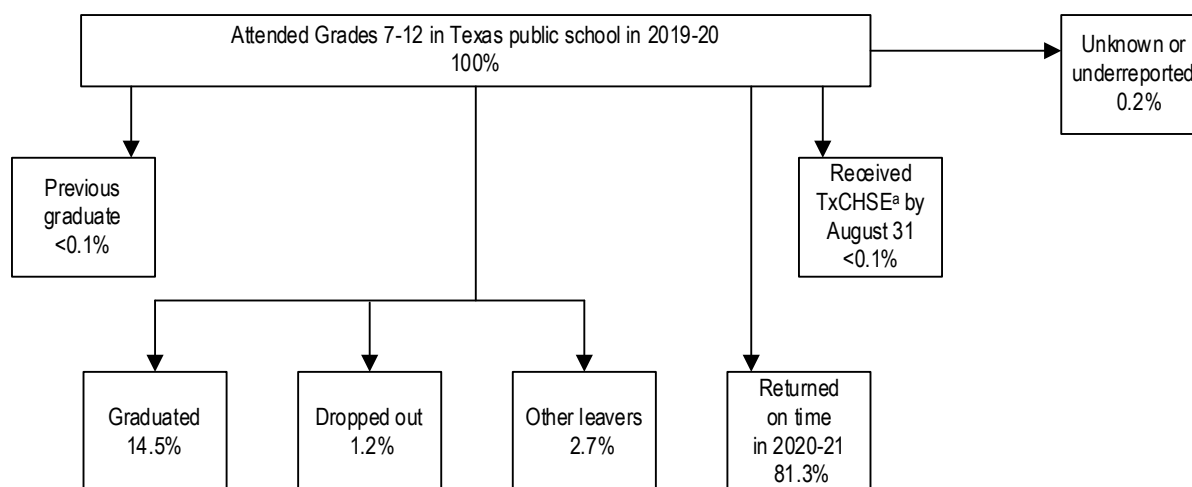
Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.
[a]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

Leaver Reasons Reported by Districts

The counts of graduates, dropouts, and other leavers summed across districts do not match total counts of graduates, dropouts, and other leavers summed at the state level. When two or more districts submit leaver records for the same student, TEA attempts to determine which district is accountable for the student. When the accountable district cannot be determined, all records are retained and included in processing. Each record submitted for a student is included in the district counts, whereas duplicate records are removed from state counts. Thus, the total counts of graduate, dropout, and other leaver records received by TEA do not match the total counts of graduate, dropout, and other leavers at the state level presented elsewhere in this report.

A majority (78.6%) of leaver records submitted by districts in fall 2020 were for students who graduated from Texas public schools (Table 5 on page 52). An additional 6.8 percent were for students who dropped out, and 14.6 percent were for students who left Texas public schools for reasons other than graduating or dropping out.

Among the 67,006 other leavers, or students who left Texas public schools for reasons other than graduating or dropping out, 40.5 percent left to enroll in school outside Texas. An additional 31.7 percent withdrew to begin home schooling, 16.1 percent withdrew to return to their home countries, and 9.1 percent withdrew to enroll in Texas private schools. The leaver records do not include students who received high school equivalency certificates in Texas or previous Texas public school graduates.

Table 5

District Leavers, Grades 7-12, by Leaver Reason, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Code	Leaver reason	Other leavers (N)	Other leavers (%)	All leavers (N)	All leavers (%)
Graduated or received an out-of-state high school equivalency certificate					
01	Graduated from a campus in this district or charter	n/a[a]	n/a	360,220	78.6
85	Graduated outside Texas before entering a Texas public school, entered a Texas public school, and left again	27	<0.1	27	<0.1
86	Completed a high school equivalency certificate outside Texas	30	<0.1	30	<0.1
90	Graduated from another state under provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children	12	<0.1	12	<0.1
Moved to other educational setting					
24	Entered college and is working towards an Associate's or Bachelor's degree	278	0.4	278	0.1
60	Is home schooled	21,229	31.7	21,229	4.6
66	Removed by Child Protective Services (CPS), and the district has not been informed of the student's current status or enrollment	220	0.3	220	<0.1
81	Enrolled in a private school in Texas	6,074	9.1	6,074	1.3
82	Enrolled in a public or private school outside Texas	27,114	40.5	27,114	5.9
87	Withdrew from/left school to enroll in the Texas Tech University ISD High School Diploma Program or the University of Texas at Austin High School Diploma Program	177	0.3	177	<0.1
Withdrawn by district					
78	Expelled under the provisions of Texas Education Code (TEC) §37.007 and cannot return to school	129	0.2	129	<0.1
83	Was attending and was withdrawn from school by the district when the district discovered that the student was not entitled to enrollment in the district because (a) the student was not a resident of the district, (b) was not entitled under other provisions of TEC §25.001 or as a transfer student, or (c) was not entitled to public school enrollment under TEC §38.001 or a corresponding rule of the Texas Department of State Health Services because the student was not immunized	241	0.4	241	0.1
Other reasons					
03	Died while enrolled in school or during the summer break after completing the prior school year	702	1.0	702	0.2
08[b]	Withdrew/left school because of pregnancy (female or male)	n/a	n/a	33	<0.1
16	Returned to family's home country	10,773	16.1	10,773	2.4
20[c]	Has suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care and leaves the student unable to attend school and assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility	n/a	n/a	32	<0.1
88[c]	Ordered by a court to attend a high school equivalency program and has not earned a TxCHSE[d]	n/a	n/a	596	0.1
89[c]	Incarcerated in a state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult or as a person certified to stand trial as an adult	n/a	n/a	256	0.1
98[b]	Other (reason unknown or not listed above)	n/a	n/a	30,024	6.6
All leaver categories					
All codes	All reasons	67,006	100	458,167	100

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. The counts of graduates, dropouts, and other leavers reflect all records received from districts. Because duplicate records are removed from state counts, district-level counts do not match state-level counts presented elsewhere in this report. [a]Not applicable. Graduates (Code 01) and dropouts (Codes 08, 20, 88, 89, and 98) are not counted as other leavers. [b]School leavers with this leaver reason code are counted as dropouts for state and federal accountability or reporting purposes. [c]School leavers with this leaver reason code are counted as dropouts for federal accountability or reporting purposes; they are not counted as dropouts for state accountability purposes at the campus and district levels. [d]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

Data Quality in Dropout Reporting

Underreported Students

Not all students from the previous year are accounted for through district records or TEA processing. For example, a district may fail to submit a record for a student. Or a district may submit a record, but an error in the student's identification information on the record prevents TEA from matching the record to a student. Students from the previous year who are not accounted for or for whom a record cannot be matched are considered underreported. The percentage of underreported students is calculated as the number of students who are unaccounted for divided by the total number of students served in Grades 7-12 the previous year.

Districts with high numbers or percentages of underreported students, high numbers or percentages of data errors, or anomalous use of certain leaver codes are subject to compliance reviews. For 2019-20 leavers, the standards were: more than 75 underreported students and a rate of underreporting of at least 0.7 percent; or more than 4 underreported students and a rate of underreporting greater than 1.3 percent.

An indeterminate fraction of underreported students are dropouts. Nevertheless, TEA counts and reports underreported students separately from dropouts. Counting underreported students as dropouts changes a dropout rate from a measure of dropouts to a measure of dropouts and data reporting problems combined. A combined measure is not a meaningful indicator of educational performance. An independent data quality measure has been very effective in monitoring and improving data quality.

Student Identification Errors

Data are reported to TEA through the Texas Student Data System (TSDS), and the agency uses the TSDS to store and manage identifying information on students. In the 2012-13 school year, TEA began implementing a Unique ID system through the TSDS that synchronizes with the Person Identification Database (PID). TEA uses the PID to process data used in calculating annual dropout and longitudinal graduation rates. The Unique ID system allows a student's records to be linked by matching several pieces of identifying information: the student's social security number or alternative identification number, last name, first name, middle name, date of birth, gender, and race/ethnicity. Unique ID provides enhanced matching logic for students who have closely matching information. It also allows authorized users to search for existing students, add new students, or update existing records in the Unique ID database. These features allow districts to correct errors before submitting data to TEA.

Prior to the 2016-17 school year, within the PID system, when a new student record matched an existing record on some, but not all matching criteria, a student identification error occurred. For example, an error occurred if the social security number on a new record matched the number on an existing record, but the last names on the two records did not match. A student identification error

would prevent TEA from being able to match all the records of a student and accurately track that student across years. In 2016-17, the Unique ID system was fully implemented, and student identification errors within the PID can no longer occur. However, student tracking errors can still occur whenever districts create an additional Unique ID for a student who already has a Unique ID assigned. The agency has developed a process for retiring Unique IDs to resolve cases in which students have multiple Unique IDs.

Monitoring, Interventions, and Investigations

Standards and consequences are assigned to data quality measures. Districts with high numbers or percentages of underreported students or anomalous use of other leaver codes may be subject to audit.

The validation of leaver data was integrated into a data validation component of the Performance-Based Monitoring (PBM) system in 2005-06. The new process was piloted that year using leaver data from 2002-03 and 2003-04. Each year since, districts with leaver data reporting anomalies have been identified using established criteria (Table 6). These districts are assigned compliance reviews by the TEA Data Reporting Compliance Unit. Emphasis is on a continuous improvement process in which districts undertake activities that promote improved data reporting and TEA monitors their progress.

Compliance reviews include requirements to conduct analyses on leaver data reporting. The focus of the analyses is on data collection and reporting systems in the district. As appropriate to the indicator, student-level data reviews are required. The district is required to work with stakeholders to conduct the analyses and address any identified issues. Many districts will be able to validate and document the accuracy of their data, but if substantial or imminent concerns are identified, or if appropriate progress is not made by the district in addressing leaver data reporting problems, a targeted investigation may be conducted.

In 2020-21, data validation monitoring using 2018-19 leaver data identified 193 districts and charter schools with data anomalies, and these districts and charter schools were required to submit compliance reviews and documentation in response.

Table 6
Criteria for Investigation of Leaver Data, 2018-19

Indicator	Description
Use of one or more leaver codes	A potentially anomalous percentage of one or more leaver codes in 2018-19 (codes 03, 16, 24, 60, 66, 78, 81, 82, 83, 85, 86, 87, and 90). A minimum of 10 students with any non-graduate, non-dropout leaver reason code and a minimum of 5 leavers with any of the anomalous codes specified is required for evaluation on this indicator.
Use of leaver reason codes by districts with no dropouts	The number of 2018-19 dropouts reported is zero, and a potentially anomalous percentage of certain leaver reason codes (codes 16, 24, 60, 81, and 82) for 2018-19 leavers is used. A minimum of 10 students with any non-graduate, non-dropout leaver reason code and a minimum of 5 leavers with any of the anomalous codes specified is required for evaluation on this indicator.
Leaver data analysis	A decrease in Grade 7-12 annual dropout rate from 2016-17 to 2018-19 and from 2017-18 to 2018-19 given a district's: (a) change in total leavers (i.e., graduates, other leavers, and dropouts) in relation to total Grade 7-12 attendance; (b) change in the number and rate of graduates in relation to total leavers; (c) change in the number and rate of other leavers in relation to total leavers; (d) change in the number and rate of dropouts in relation to total leavers; and (e) change in the number and rate of underreported students. A minimum of 10 students and a minimum of 5 dropouts are required for evaluation on this indicator.
Above the threshold for number or percentage of underreported students	The underreported student count for 2018-19 exceeded 75, or the underreported student rate for 2018-19 exceeded 1.3 percent. A minimum of 5 underreported students and a rate of underreporting of at least 0.7 percent are required for evaluation on this indicator.
Use of certain leaver reason dropout codes	The number of 2018-19 dropouts with dropout codes 88 and 89 in relation to the number of 2018-19 dropouts with any leaver reason dropout code. A minimum of 10 dropouts and a minimum of 5 students reported with a code of 88 or 89 is required for evaluation on this indicator.
Continuing students' dropout rate	The class of 2018 Grade 9 cohort dropout rate for students who continued in school after the expected graduation date exceeds 25.0 percent. A minimum of 30 continuing students and a minimum of 5 dropouts are required for evaluation on this indicator.
Missing UID[a] Enrollment Tracking submission (First day of school through September 11, 2020)	This indicator identifies districts that did not complete at least one UID Enrollment Tracking submission between the first day of school and September 11, 2020.
Missing UID Enrollment Tracking submission (2019-20 reporting year)	This indicator identifies districts that did not complete at least one UID Enrollment Tracking submission during the period of August 1, 2019, through July 31, 2020.

Source. Texas Education Agency (n.d.)
[a]Unique Identification Database.

Results for Texas Public Schools

Annual Dropout Rates

Longitudinal Graduation
and Dropout Rates

Attrition Rates

Data Quality Measures

Annual Dropout Rates

Presentation and Interpretation of Results

Presentation of rates by race/ethnicity. Annual dropout rates are provided for seven racial/ethnic categories. See the section "Reporting of Student and Program Information" on page 44 for additional information.

Comparisons of rates by race/ethnicity. The American Indian and Pacific Islander student populations are small in number, compared to other racial/ethnic populations. Therefore, discussions of annual results, including comparisons across racial/ethnic groups, do not include these populations. See the section "Annual Dropout Rates" on page 22 for additional information.

Presentation of rates by program participation and student characteristic. Dropout rates are presented by participation in special programs (bilingual/English as a second language, career and technical education, gifted and talented, Section 504, special education, Title I) and student characteristics (at-risk, dyslexia, English learner, in foster care, homeless, immigrant, migrant, military-connected, overage). See the section "Reporting of Student and Program Information" on page 44 for additional information. A student may be reported with more than one special demographic characteristic or as participating in more than one special instructional program. Table B-1 in Appendix B provides the Public Education Information Management System data sources within the Texas Student Data System used in calculating annual dropout rates by instructional program and student characteristic.

Grade 7-8 Annual Rate

State summary. An array of complex, interrelated factors contribute to dropping out. Family and personal background, academic history, and characteristics of the school all may influence the decision of a student to drop out of school. For the 2019-20 school year, the statewide annual dropout rate for Grades 7-8 was 0.5 percent, a 20.0 percent increase from 2018-19 (Table 7). The Grade 7-8 dropout rate was lower than the 1.6 percent annual dropout rate for Grades 9-12 (Table 10 on page 63). Of the 4,295 students who dropped out of Grades 7-8, 58.2 percent (or 2,499) dropped out of Grade 8 (Table 18 on page 71). The formula for calculating the annual dropout rate is on page 2.

Rates by race/ethnicity, economic status, and gender. Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in 2019-20, the Grade 7-8 dropout rate was highest for African American students (0.8%), followed by Hispanic (0.5%), multiracial (0.5%), White (0.3%), and Asian students (0.2%). The dropout rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged was 0.6 percent, whereas the rate for students not identified as economically disadvantaged was 0.3 percent. Male students had a higher dropout rate (0.6%) than female students (0.4%).

Table 7

Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2015-16 Through 2019-20

School year	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
African American					
2015-16	99,489	12.5	548	19.7	0.6
2016-17	100,840	12.5	573	20.8	0.6
2017-18	102,969	12.6	770	22.5	0.7
2018-19	105,257	12.7	745	20.8	0.7
2019-20	108,474	12.8	904	21.0	0.8
American Indian					
2015-16	2,964	0.4	16	0.6	0.5
2016-17	2,915	0.4	14	0.5	0.5
2017-18	2,864	0.3	17	0.5	0.6
2018-19	2,990	0.4	26	0.7	0.9
2019-20	3,045	0.4	18	0.4	0.6
Asian					
2015-16	32,454	4.1	55	2.0	0.2
2016-17	34,450	4.3	53	1.9	0.2
2017-18	35,575	4.3	68	2.0	0.2
2018-19	36,423	4.4	67	1.9	0.2
2019-20	37,419	4.4	75	1.7	0.2
Hispanic					
2015-16	409,743	51.6	1,602	57.6	0.4
2016-17	418,691	51.9	1,601	58.1	0.4
2017-18	427,000	52.2	1,920	56.1	0.4
2018-19	434,821	52.4	2,028	56.7	0.5
2019-20	448,385	52.8	2,445	56.9	0.5
Pacific Islander					
2015-16	1,088	0.1	4	0.1	0.4
2016-17	1,133	0.1	8	0.3	0.7
2017-18	1,146	0.1	6	0.2	0.5
2018-19	1,263	0.2	10	0.3	0.8
2019-20	1,323	0.2	19	0.4	1.4
White					
2015-16	232,673	29.3	507	18.2	0.2
2016-17	231,469	28.7	447	16.2	0.2
2017-18	230,983	28.2	588	17.2	0.3
2018-19	229,561	27.7	623	17.4	0.3
2019-20	230,672	27.1	741	17.3	0.3

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Results for school years prior to 2015-16 are found in Appendix C.

continues

Table 7 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2015-16 Through 2019-20

School year	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Multiracial					
2015-16	15,319	1.9	51	1.8	0.3
2016-17	16,670	2.1	58	2.1	0.3
2017-18	17,830	2.2	55	1.6	0.3
2018-19	18,981	2.3	80	2.2	0.4
2019-20	20,655	2.4	93	2.2	0.5
Economically disadvantaged					
2015-16	469,422	59.1	2,033	73.1	0.4
2016-17	476,751	59.1	1,988	72.2	0.4
2017-18	496,799	60.7	2,582	75.4	0.5
2018-19	502,548	60.6	2,695	75.3	0.5
2019-20	512,483	60.3	3,193	74.3	0.6
Not economically disadvantaged					
2015-16	324,308	40.9	750	26.9	0.2
2016-17	329,417	40.9	766	27.8	0.2
2017-18	321,568	39.3	842	24.6	0.3
2018-19	326,748	39.4	884	24.7	0.3
2019-20	337,490	39.7	1,102	25.7	0.3
Female					
2015-16	386,352	48.7	1,280	46.0	0.3
2016-17	393,199	48.8	1,286	46.7	0.3
2017-18	398,360	48.7	1,563	45.6	0.4
2018-19	403,470	48.7	1,675	46.8	0.4
2019-20	413,934	48.7	1,827	42.5	0.4
Male					
2015-16	407,378	51.3	1,503	54.0	0.4
2016-17	412,969	51.2	1,468	53.3	0.4
2017-18	420,007	51.3	1,861	54.4	0.4
2018-19	425,826	51.3	1,904	53.2	0.4
2019-20	436,039	51.3	2,468	57.5	0.6
State					
2015-16	793,730	100	2,783	100	0.4
2016-17	806,168	100	2,754	100	0.3
2017-18	818,367	100	3,424	100	0.4
2018-19	829,296	100	3,579	100	0.4
2019-20	849,973	100	4,295	100	0.5

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Results for school years prior to 2015-16 are found in Appendix C.

Rates by program participation and student characteristic. In 2019-20, the annual dropout rate for Grade 7-8 students participating in special education programs (0.7%) was 0.2 percentage points higher than the state average (Table 8). Students identified as English learners made up 28.6 percent of all Grade 7-8 dropouts and also had a higher dropout rate (0.8%) than the state average (Table 9). Among Grade 7-8 dropouts, 42.1 percent were overage. Overage students had a dropout rate of 1.3 percent in 2019-20.

Table 8
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Program Participation, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Bilingual or ESL[a]	141,001	16.6	1,155	26.9	0.8
Gifted and talented	91,419	10.8	151	3.5	0.2
Section 504	86,758	10.2	278	6.5	0.3
Special education	93,757	11.0	641	14.9	0.7
Title I	533,826	62.8	3,395	79.0	0.6
State	849,973	100	4,295	100	0.5

Note. Students may be counted in more than one category.
[a]English as a second language.

Table 9
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
At-risk	414,178	48.7	2,416	56.3	0.6
Dyslexia	44,565	5.2	128	3.0	0.3
English learner	150,884	17.8	1,227	28.6	0.8
Foster care	2,421	0.3	31	0.7	1.3
Homeless	13,549	1.6	315	7.3	2.3
Immigrant	14,445	1.7	356	8.3	2.5
Migrant	3,229	0.4	32	0.7	1.0
Military-connected					
Federal definition	11,464	1.3	53	1.2	0.5
State definition	15,683	1.8	62	1.4	0.4
Overage	134,695	15.8	1,810	42.1	1.3
State	849,973	100	4,295	100	0.5

Note. Students may be counted in more than one category.

Grade 9-12 Annual Rate

State summary. For the 2019-20 school year, the statewide annual dropout rate for Grades 9-12 was 1.6 percent, a decrease of 0.3 percentage points from the previous school year (1.9%) (Table 10). The Grade 9-12 dropout rate was higher than the Grade 7-8 rate of 0.5 percent (Table 7 on page 59) and the Grade 7-12 rate of 1.2 percent (Table 13 on page 66). There were 26,626 students who dropped out of Grades 9-12 in the 2019-20 school year, a 13.8 percent decrease from 2018-19 (Table 10). The formula for calculating the annual dropout rate is on page 2.

Rates by race/ethnicity, economic status, and gender. Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in 2019-20, the Grade 9-12 dropout rate was highest for African American students (2.5%), followed by Hispanic (1.9%), multiracial (1.5%), White (0.9%), and Asian (0.3%) students. The dropout rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged was 2.1 percent, whereas the dropout rate for students not identified as economically disadvantaged was 1.0 percent. Male students had a higher dropout rate (2.1%) than female students (1.2%).

Rates by program participation and student characteristic. For Grade 9-12 students participating in special education programs in 2019-20, the dropout rate was 2.2 percent, 0.6 percentage points higher than the state average of 1.6 percent (Table 11 on page 65). Students identified as English learners had a dropout rate of 3.3 percent, more than double the state average (Table 12 on page 65). The majority of Grade 9-12 dropouts (78.1%) were overage. Overage students had a dropout rate of 6.0 percent in 2019-20.

Grade 7-12 Annual Rate

State summary. Out of 2,481,749 students who attended Grades 7-12 in Texas public schools during the 2019-20 school year, 1.2 percent were reported to have dropped out, a decrease of 0.2 percentage points from the previous school year (Table 13 on page 66). The number of dropouts in Grades 7-12 decreased from 34,477 in 2018-19 to 30,921 in the 2019-20 school year. The formula for calculating the annual dropout rate is on page 2.

Rates by race/ethnicity, economic status, and gender. Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in 2019-20, the Grade 7-12 dropout rate was highest for African American students (1.9%), followed by Hispanic (1.5%), multiracial (1.1%), White (0.7%), and Asian (0.3%) students. The dropout rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged was 1.6 percent, whereas the dropout rate for students not identified as economically disadvantaged was 0.8 percent. Male students had a higher dropout rate (1.5%) than female students (0.9%).

Some racial/ethnic groups make up larger percentages of the dropout population than of the student population. In 2019-20, for example, Hispanic students made up 52.4 percent of students in Grades 7-12, but 61.4 percent of dropouts, a difference of 9.0 percentage points (Table 13 on page 66). African American students made up 12.7 percent of students in Grades 7-12 in 2019-20, but 19.5 percent of dropouts, a difference of 6.8 percentage points.

Table 10
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2015-16 Through 2019-20

School year	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
African American					
2015-16	198,005	12.9	5,842	19.0	3.0
2016-17	200,410	12.8	5,707	18.8	2.8
2017-18	202,424	12.7	5,683	18.8	2.8
2018-19	203,871	12.7	6,193	20.0	3.0
2019-20	205,603	12.6	5,131	19.3	2.5
American Indian					
2015-16	6,070	0.4	164	0.5	2.7
2016-17	6,028	0.4	159	0.5	2.6
2017-18	5,985	0.4	173	0.6	2.9
2018-19	5,806	0.4	143	0.5	2.5
2019-20	5,655	0.3	130	0.5	2.3
Asian					
2015-16	61,220	4.0	390	1.3	0.6
2016-17	65,047	4.1	341	1.1	0.5
2017-18	68,898	4.3	352	1.2	0.5
2018-19	71,851	4.5	402	1.3	0.6
2019-20	74,488	4.6	240	0.9	0.3
Hispanic					
2015-16	774,571	50.4	18,741	61.1	2.4
2016-17	800,774	51.0	18,754	61.9	2.3
2017-18	816,820	51.3	18,650	61.6	2.3
2018-19	834,704	51.8	18,850	61.0	2.3
2019-20	851,268	52.2	16,538	62.1	1.9
Pacific Islander					
2015-16	2,285	0.1	60	0.2	2.6
2016-17	2,411	0.2	54	0.2	2.2
2017-18	2,475	0.2	67	0.2	2.7
2018-19	2,474	0.2	52	0.2	2.1
2019-20	2,516	0.2	37	0.1	1.5
White					
2015-16	467,359	30.4	5,076	16.5	1.1
2016-17	466,315	29.7	4,899	16.2	1.1
2017-18	464,643	29.2	4,844	16.0	1.0
2018-19	459,151	28.5	4,700	15.2	1.0
2019-20	456,653	28.0	4,033	15.1	0.9

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Results for school years prior to 2015-16 are found in Appendix C.

continues

Table 10 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2015-16 Through 2019-20

School year	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Multiracial					
2015-16	27,706	1.8	410	1.3	1.5
2016-17	29,375	1.9	382	1.3	1.3
2017-18	31,240	2.0	504	1.7	1.6
2018-19	33,345	2.1	558	1.8	1.7
2019-20	35,593	2.2	517	1.9	1.5
Economically disadvantaged					
2015-16	828,322	53.9	20,512	66.9	2.5
2016-17	853,126	54.3	20,813	68.7	2.4
2017-18	892,672	56.1	21,615	71.4	2.4
2018-19	900,901	55.9	22,538	72.9	2.5
2019-20	907,848	55.6	19,118	71.8	2.1
Not economically disadvantaged					
2015-16	708,894	46.1	10,171	33.1	1.4
2016-17	717,234	45.7	9,483	31.3	1.3
2017-18	699,813	43.9	8,658	28.6	1.2
2018-19	710,301	44.1	8,360	27.1	1.2
2019-20	723,928	44.4	7,508	28.2	1.0
Female					
2015-16	749,847	48.8	12,546	40.9	1.7
2016-17	765,746	48.8	11,833	39.1	1.5
2017-18	776,882	48.8	12,023	39.7	1.5
2018-19	786,529	48.8	12,297	39.8	1.6
2019-20	796,323	48.8	9,466	35.6	1.2
Male					
2015-16	787,369	51.2	18,137	59.1	2.3
2016-17	804,614	51.2	18,463	60.9	2.3
2017-18	815,603	51.2	18,250	60.3	2.2
2018-19	824,673	51.2	18,601	60.2	2.3
2019-20	835,453	51.2	17,160	64.4	2.1
State					
2015-16	1,537,216	100	30,683	100	2.0
2016-17	1,570,360	100	30,296	100	1.9
2017-18	1,592,485	100	30,273	100	1.9
2018-19	1,611,202	100	30,898	100	1.9
2019-20	1,631,776	100	26,626	100	1.6

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Results for school years prior to 2015-16 are found in Appendix C.

Table 11
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Program Participation, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Bilingual or ESL[a]	186,659	11.4	6,111	23.0	3.3
CTE[b]	812,970	49.8	6,408	24.1	0.8
Gifted and talented	153,419	9.4	290	1.1	0.2
Section 504	140,990	8.6	1,734	6.5	1.2
Special education	160,222	9.8	3,537	13.3	2.2
Title I	736,713	45.1	16,512	62.0	2.2
State	1,631,776	100	26,626	100	1.6

Note. Students may be counted in more than one category.

[a]English as a second language [b]Career and technical education.

Table 12
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
At-risk	740,042	45.4	15,880	59.6	2.1
Dyslexia	62,248	3.8	589	2.2	0.9
English learner	199,769	12.2	6,515	24.5	3.3
Foster care	4,350	0.3	250	0.9	5.7
Homeless	27,649	1.7	1,528	5.7	5.5
Immigrant	28,941	1.8	1,497	5.6	5.2
Migrant	7,169	0.4	165	0.6	2.3
Military-connected					
Federal definition	20,020	1.2	143	0.5	0.7
State definition	28,005	1.7	191	0.7	0.7
Overage	348,473	21.4	20,791	78.1	6.0
State	1,631,776	100	26,626	100	1.6

Note. Students may be counted in more than one category.

Table 13
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2015-16 Through 2019-20

School year	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
African American					
2015-16	297,494	12.8	6,390	19.1	2.1
2016-17	301,250	12.7	6,280	19.0	2.1
2017-18	305,393	12.7	6,453	19.2	2.1
2018-19	309,128	12.7	6,938	20.1	2.2
2019-20	314,077	12.7	6,035	19.5	1.9
American Indian					
2015-16	9,034	0.4	180	0.5	2.0
2016-17	8,943	0.4	173	0.5	1.9
2017-18	8,849	0.4	190	0.6	2.1
2018-19	8,796	0.4	169	0.5	1.9
2019-20	8,700	0.4	148	0.5	1.7
Asian					
2015-16	93,674	4.0	445	1.3	0.5
2016-17	99,497	4.2	394	1.2	0.4
2017-18	104,473	4.3	420	1.2	0.4
2018-19	108,274	4.4	469	1.4	0.4
2019-20	111,907	4.5	315	1.0	0.3
Hispanic					
2015-16	1,184,314	50.8	20,343	60.8	1.7
2016-17	1,219,465	51.3	20,355	61.6	1.7
2017-18	1,243,820	51.6	20,570	61.0	1.7
2018-19	1,269,525	52.0	20,878	60.6	1.6
2019-20	1,299,653	52.4	18,983	61.4	1.5
Pacific Islander					
2015-16	3,373	0.1	64	0.2	1.9
2016-17	3,544	0.1	62	0.2	1.7
2017-18	3,621	0.2	73	0.2	2.0
2018-19	3,737	0.2	62	0.2	1.7
2019-20	3,839	0.2	56	0.2	1.5
White					
2015-16	700,032	30.0	5,583	16.7	0.8
2016-17	697,784	29.4	5,346	16.2	0.8
2017-18	695,626	28.9	5,432	16.1	0.8
2018-19	688,712	28.2	5,323	15.4	0.8
2019-20	687,325	27.7	4,774	15.4	0.7

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Results for school years prior to 2015-16 are found in Appendix C.

continues

Table 13 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2015-16 Through 2019-20

School year	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Multiracial					
2015-16	43,025	1.8	461	1.4	1.1
2016-17	46,045	1.9	440	1.3	1.0
2017-18	49,070	2.0	559	1.7	1.1
2018-19	52,326	2.1	638	1.9	1.2
2019-20	56,248	2.3	610	2.0	1.1
Economically disadvantaged					
2015-16	1,297,744	55.7	22,545	67.4	1.7
2016-17	1,329,877	56.0	22,801	69.0	1.7
2017-18	1,389,471	57.6	24,197	71.8	1.7
2018-19	1,403,449	57.5	25,233	73.2	1.8
2019-20	1,420,331	57.2	22,311	72.2	1.6
Not economically disadvantaged					
2015-16	1,033,202	44.3	10,921	32.6	1.1
2016-17	1,046,651	44.0	10,249	31.0	1.0
2017-18	1,021,381	42.4	9,500	28.2	0.9
2018-19	1,037,049	42.5	9,244	26.8	0.9
2019-20	1,061,418	42.8	8,610	27.8	0.8
Female					
2015-16	1,136,199	48.7	13,826	41.3	1.2
2016-17	1,158,945	48.8	13,119	39.7	1.1
2017-18	1,175,242	48.7	13,586	40.3	1.2
2018-19	1,189,999	48.8	13,972	40.5	1.2
2019-20	1,210,257	48.8	11,293	36.5	0.9
Male					
2015-16	1,194,747	51.3	19,640	58.7	1.6
2016-17	1,217,583	51.2	19,931	60.3	1.6
2017-18	1,235,610	51.3	20,111	59.7	1.6
2018-19	1,250,499	51.2	20,505	59.5	1.6
2019-20	1,271,492	51.2	19,628	63.5	1.5
State					
2015-16	2,330,946	100	33,466	100	1.4
2016-17	2,376,528	100	33,050	100	1.4
2017-18	2,410,852	100	33,697	100	1.4
2018-19	2,440,498	100	34,477	100	1.4
2019-20	2,481,749	100	30,921	100	1.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Results for school years prior to 2015-16 are found in Appendix C.

Similar patterns were seen for students identified as economically disadvantaged and for males. Students identified as economically disadvantaged made up 57.2 percent of students in Grades 7-12 in 2019-20, but 72.2 percent of dropouts, a difference of 15.0 percentage points. Males made up 51.2 percent of students in Grades 7-12, but 63.5 percent of dropouts, a difference of 12.3 percentage points.

Rates by program participation and student characteristic. In Grades 7-12, students participating in special education programs had a dropout rate of 1.6 percent, and students identified as English learners had a dropout rate of 2.2 percent, both higher than the state average of 1.2 percent (Tables 14 and 15). Overage students had a dropout rate of 4.7 percent. Whereas overage students accounted for 19.5 percent of students in Grades 7-12, they accounted for 73.1 percent of dropouts.

Table 14
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Program Participation, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Bilingual or ESL[a]	327,660	13.2	7,266	23.5	2.2
CTE[b]	812,970	32.8	6,408	20.7	0.8
Gifted and talented	244,838	9.9	441	1.4	0.2
Section 504	227,748	9.2	2,012	6.5	0.9
Special education	253,979	10.2	4,178	13.5	1.6
Title I	1,270,539	51.2	19,907	64.4	1.6
State	2,481,749	100	30,921	100	1.2

Note. Students may be counted in more than one category.

[a]English as a second language. [b]Career and technical education.

Table 15
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
At-risk	1,154,220	46.5	18,296	59.2	1.6
Dyslexia	106,813	4.3	717	2.3	0.7
English learner	350,653	14.1	7,742	25.0	2.2
Foster care	6,771	0.3	281	0.9	4.2
Homeless	41,198	1.7	1,843	6.0	4.5
Immigrant	43,386	1.7	1,853	6.0	4.3
Migrant	10,398	0.4	197	0.6	1.9
Military-connected					
Federal definition	31,484	1.3	196	0.6	0.6
State definition	43,688	1.8	253	0.8	0.6
Overage	483,168	19.5	22,601	73.1	4.7
State	2,481,749	100	30,921	100	1.2

Note. Students may be counted in more than one category.

Annual Dropout Rates by Age

Students ages 16 through 25 accounted for larger percentages of the dropout population than of the student population (Table 16 on page 70). For example, 17-year-old students accounted for 26.0 percent of dropouts, but 15.0 percent of students in Grades 7-12. Eighteen-year-old students accounted for 13.1 percent of dropouts, but only 2.9 percent of students in Grades 7-12.

Annual Dropout Rates by Grade

In 2019-20, across Grades 7-12, Grade 9 had the highest dropout rate (2.1%) and the largest number of dropouts (9,390), accounting for 30.4 percent of all dropouts (Table 17 on page 70). Grade 7 had the lowest dropout rate (0.4%) and the smallest number of dropouts (1,796).

There were more male than female dropouts in each of Grades 7-12 (Table 17 on page 70). Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in Grades 7-12, African American students in Grade 9 had the highest annual dropout rate (3.0%), followed by African American students in Grade 10 (2.7%) (Table 18 on page 71). Asian students in Grades 7 and 8 had the lowest annual dropout rates (0.2% each).

Table 16
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Student Age, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

September 1 age	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
11	6,093	0.2	36	0.1	0.6
12	365,463	14.7	1,094	3.5	0.3
13	414,327	16.7	1,943	6.3	0.5
14	415,585	16.7	2,405	7.8	0.6
15	413,345	16.7	3,906	12.6	0.9
16	403,032	16.2	6,801	22.0	1.7
17	372,009	15.0	8,042	26.0	2.2
18	72,482	2.9	4,042	13.1	5.6
19	11,382	0.5	1,332	4.3	11.7
20	4,003	0.2	473	1.5	11.8
21	2,082	0.1	221	0.7	10.6
22	384	<0.1	112	0.4	29.2
23	259	<0.1	74	0.2	28.6
24	218	<0.1	59	0.2	27.1
25	134	<0.1	43	0.1	32.1
Other	951	<0.1	338	1.1	35.5
State	2,481,749	100	30,921	100	1.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

Table 17
Annual Dropout Rate, by Grade and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Grade	Students	Female dropouts (N)	Female dropout rate (%)	Male dropouts (N)	Male dropout rate (%)	Total dropouts (N)	Total dropout rate (%)
Grade 7	430,820	779	0.4	1,017	0.5	1,796	0.4
Grade 8	419,153	1,048	0.5	1,451	0.7	2,499	0.6
Grade 9	457,861	3,259	1.5	6,131	2.6	9,390	2.1
Grade 10	414,951	2,649	1.3	4,729	2.2	7,378	1.8
Grade 11	376,056	2,084	1.1	3,599	1.9	5,683	1.5
Grade 12	382,908	1,474	0.8	2,701	1.4	4,175	1.1
Grades 7-12	2,481,749	11,293	0.9	19,628	1.5	30,921	1.2

Table 18

Annual Dropout Rate, by Grade, Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, English Learner Status, and Special Education Program Participation, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Grade 7					
African American	55,017	12.8	401	22.3	0.7
American Indian	1,552	0.4	7	0.4	0.5
Asian	18,879	4.4	29	1.6	0.2
Hispanic	227,597	52.8	986	54.9	0.4
Pacific Islander	678	0.2	6	0.3	0.9
White	116,401	27.0	329	18.3	0.3
Multiracial	10,696	2.5	38	2.1	0.4
Econ. disad.[a]	261,687	60.7	1,333	74.2	0.5
Not econ. disad.	169,133	39.3	463	25.8	0.3
English learner	80,903	18.8	483	26.9	0.6
Special education	48,506	11.3	275	15.3	0.6
State	430,820	100	1,796	100	0.4
Grade 8					
African American	53,457	12.8	503	20.1	0.9
American Indian	1,493	0.4	11	0.4	0.7
Asian	18,540	4.4	46	1.8	0.2
Hispanic	220,788	52.7	1,459	58.4	0.7
Pacific Islander	645	0.2	13	0.5	2.0
White	114,271	27.3	412	16.5	0.4
Multiracial	9,959	2.4	55	2.2	0.6
Econ. disad.	250,796	59.8	1,860	74.4	0.7
Not econ. disad.	168,357	40.2	639	25.6	0.4
English learner	69,981	16.7	744	29.8	1.1
Special education	45,251	10.8	366	14.6	0.8
State	419,153	100	2,499	100	0.6
Grade 9					
African American	59,045	12.9	1,767	18.8	3.0
American Indian	1,593	0.3	48	0.5	3.0
Asian	19,344	4.2	59	0.6	0.3
Hispanic	245,653	53.7	6,230	66.3	2.5
Pacific Islander	711	0.2	10	0.1	1.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Economically disadvantaged.

continues

Table 18 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, by Grade, Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
English Learner Status, and Special Education Program Participation,
Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
White	121,175	26.5	1,116	11.9	0.9
Multiracial	10,340	2.3	160	1.7	1.5
Econ. disad.ᵃ	273,346	59.7	7,002	74.6	2.6
Not econ. disad.	184,515	40.3	2,388	25.4	1.3
English learner	74,778	16.3	2,794	29.8	3.7
Special education	48,319	10.6	1,213	12.9	2.5
State	457,861	100	9,390	100	2.1
Grade 10					
African American	52,228	12.6	1,433	19.4	2.7
American Indian	1,411	0.3	35	0.5	2.5
Asian	18,980	4.6	73	1.0	0.4
Hispanic	216,887	52.3	4,523	61.3	2.1
Pacific Islander	606	0.1	8	0.1	1.3
White	115,505	27.8	1,134	15.4	1.0
Multiracial	9,334	2.2	172	2.3	1.8
Econ. disad.	233,047	56.2	5,318	72.1	2.3
Not econ. disad.	181,904	43.8	2,060	27.9	1.1
English learner	53,366	12.9	1,753	23.8	3.3
Special education	40,302	9.7	1,046	14.2	2.6
State	414,951	100	7,378	100	1.8
Grade 11					
African American	46,293	12.3	1,146	20.2	2.5
American Indian	1,327	0.4	33	0.6	2.5
Asian	18,447	4.9	57	1.0	0.3
Hispanic	191,809	51.0	3,246	57.1	1.7
Pacific Islander	591	0.2	12	0.2	2.0
White	109,468	29.1	1,089	19.2	1.0
Multiracial	8,121	2.2	100	1.8	1.2
Econ. disad.	199,639	53.1	3,916	68.9	2.0
Not econ. disad.	176,417	46.9	1,767	31.1	1.0

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

ᵃNot economically disadvantaged.

continues

Group	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
English learner	37,718	10.0	1,082	19.0	2.9
Special education	33,018	8.8	725	12.8	2.2
State	376,056	100	5,683	100	1.5
Grade 12					
African American	48,037	12.5	785	18.8	1.6
American Indian	1,324	0.3	14	0.3	1.1
Asian	17,717	4.6	51	1.2	0.3
Hispanic	196,919	51.4	2,539	60.8	1.3
Pacific Islander	608	0.2	7	0.2	1.2
White	110,505	28.9	694	16.6	0.6
Multiracial	7,798	2.0	85	2.0	1.1
Econ. disad.[a]	201,816	52.7	2,882	69.0	1.4
Not econ. disad.	181,092	47.3	1,293	31.0	0.7
English learner	33,907	8.9	886	21.2	2.6
Special education	38,583	10.1	553	13.2	1.4
State	382,908	100	4,175	100	1.1

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.
[a]Not economically disadvantaged.

The annual dropout rates for students identified as economically disadvantaged and for students identified as English learners (ELs) were highest in Grade 9 (2.6% and 3.7%, respectively). The annual dropout rate for students participating in special education programs was highest in Grade 10 (2.6%).

Within each of the five largest racial/ethnic groups in Grades 7-12, the dropout rate for males in each grade was the same as, or higher than, the rate for females, with the exception of multiracial females in Grade 7 (Table 19 on page 74). Across grades and racial/ethnic groups, the difference in dropout rates by gender was greatest among African American students in Grade 9, at 1.6 percentage points.

Table 19
Annual Dropout Rate, by Grade and Gender Within Racial/Ethnic Groups, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Female students (N)	Female students (%)	Male students (N)	Male students (%)	Female dropouts (N)	Female dropouts (%)	Male dropouts (N)	Male dropouts (%)	Annual female dropout rate (%)	Annual male dropout rate (%)
Grade 7										
African American	26,711	12.8	28,306	12.8	183	23.5	218	21.4	0.7	0.8
American Indian	746	0.4	806	0.4	1	0.1	6	0.6	0.1	0.7
Asian	9,274	4.4	9,605	4.3	14	1.8	15	1.5	0.2	0.2
Hispanic	110,832	52.9	116,765	52.8	415	53.3	571	56.1	0.4	0.5
Pacific Islander	368	0.2	310	0.1	1	0.1	5	0.5	0.3	1.6
White	56,295	26.9	60,106	27.2	145	18.6	184	18.1	0.3	0.3
Multiracial	5,248	2.5	5,448	2.5	20	2.6	18	1.8	0.4	0.3
State	209,474	100	221,346	100	779	100	1,017	100	0.4	0.5
Grade 8										
African American	26,185	12.8	27,272	12.7	210	20.0	293	20.2	0.8	1.1
American Indian	714	0.3	779	0.4	4	0.4	7	0.5	0.6	0.9
Asian	9,150	4.5	9,390	4.4	18	1.7	28	1.9	0.2	0.3
Hispanic	107,766	52.7	113,022	52.6	606	57.8	853	58.8	0.6	0.8
Pacific Islander	327	0.2	318	0.1	6	0.6	7	0.5	1.8	2.2
White	55,364	27.1	58,907	27.4	182	17.4	230	15.9	0.3	0.4
Multiracial	4,954	2.4	5,005	2.3	22	2.1	33	2.3	0.4	0.7
State	204,460	100	214,693	100	1,048	100	1,451	100	0.5	0.7
Grade 9										
African American	27,994	12.8	31,051	13.0	602	18.5	1,165	19.0	2.2	3.8
American Indian	779	0.4	814	0.3	9	0.3	39	0.6	1.2	4.8
Asian	9,405	4.3	9,939	4.2	22	0.7	37	0.6	0.2	0.4
Hispanic	116,957	53.5	128,696	53.8	2,121	65.1	4,109	67.0	1.8	3.2
Pacific Islander	372	0.2	339	0.1	3	0.1	7	0.1	0.8	2.1
White	58,004	26.5	63,171	26.4	428	13.1	688	11.2	0.7	1.1
Multiracial	5,093	2.3	5,247	2.2	74	2.3	86	1.4	1.5	1.6
State	218,604	100	239,257	100	3,259	100	6,131	100	1.5	2.6
Grade 10										
African American	25,475	12.6	26,753	12.6	534	20.2	899	19.0	2.1	3.4
American Indian	696	0.3	715	0.3	15	0.6	20	0.4	2.2	2.8
Asian	9,283	4.6	9,697	4.6	30	1.1	43	0.9	0.3	0.4
Hispanic	105,938	52.3	110,949	52.2	1,558	58.8	2,965	62.7	1.5	2.7
Pacific Islander	308	0.2	298	0.1	2	0.1	6	0.1	0.6	2.0

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

continues

Table 19 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, by Grade and Gender Within Racial/Ethnic Groups, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Female students (N)	Female students (%)	Male students (N)	Male students (%)	Female dropouts (N)	Female dropouts (%)	Male dropouts (N)	Male dropouts (%)	Annual female dropout rate (%)	Annual male dropout rate (%)
White	56,097	27.7	59,408	28.0	438	16.5	696	14.7	0.8	1.2
Multiracial	4,667	2.3	4,667	2.2	72	2.7	100	2.1	1.5	2.1
State	202,464	100	212,487	100	2,649	100	4,729	100	1.3	2.2
Grade 11										
African American	23,095	12.4	23,198	12.2	431	20.7	715	19.9	1.9	3.1
American Indian	655	0.4	672	0.4	17	0.8	16	0.4	2.6	2.4
Asian	9,086	4.9	9,361	4.9	20	1.0	37	1.0	0.2	0.4
Hispanic	95,175	51.2	96,634	50.8	1,155	55.4	2,091	58.1	1.2	2.2
Pacific Islander	296	0.2	295	0.2	7	0.3	5	0.1	2.4	1.7
White	53,456	28.8	56,012	29.5	412	19.8	677	18.8	0.8	1.2
Multiracial	4,157	2.2	3,964	2.1	42	2.0	58	1.6	1.0	1.5
State	185,920	100	190,136	100	2,084	100	3,599	100	1.1	1.9
Grade 12										
African American	23,833	12.6	24,204	12.5	292	19.8	493	18.3	1.2	2.0
American Indian	665	0.4	659	0.3	5	0.3	9	0.3	0.8	1.4
Asian	8,644	4.6	9,073	4.7	23	1.6	28	1.0	0.3	0.3
Hispanic	98,099	51.8	98,820	51.1	849	57.6	1,690	62.6	0.9	1.7
Pacific Islander	304	0.2	304	0.2	5	0.3	2	0.1	1.6	0.7
White	53,814	28.4	56,691	29.3	265	18.0	429	15.9	0.5	0.8
Multiracial	3,976	2.1	3,822	2.0	35	2.4	50	1.9	0.9	1.3
State	189,335	100	193,573	100	1,474	100	2,701	100	0.8	1.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

Annual Dropout Rates for Students Identified as English Learners

Table 20 on page 76 presents annual dropout rates for current and former ELs in Grades 7-8 and 9-12 by special language program instructional model. To fully evaluate the quality of educational services provided to ELs, multiple factors must be examined. In addition to considering differences in instructional models, it is also important to consider the following: the policies that guide the placement of students in various instructional programs; the consistency with which districts follow guidelines for identifying ELs and determining when they should be reclassified as English proficient; the length of time required for students to become English proficient and academically successful in core content areas; and the rate of immigrant influx. Over time, it may be possible to use current and former EL performance data, along with other analyses, to evaluate the effectiveness of various instructional models in helping students attain long-term academic success in Texas public schools.

Table 20

Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8 and Grades 9-12, Current and Former English Learners, by Special Language Program Instructional Model, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Grades 7-8					
All current ELs[a]	150,884	100	1,227	100	0.8
All bilingual education programs	2,265	1.5	8	0.7	0.4
Transitional bilingual/early exit	7	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0
Transitional bilingual/late exit	11	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0
Dual immersion/two-way	1,765	1.2	5	0.4	0.3
Dual immersion/one-way	482	0.3	3	0.2	0.6
Bilingual alt. lang.[b] program	690	0.5	1	0.1	0.1
All ESL[c] programs	117,997	78.2	872	71.1	0.7
ESL/content-based	14,501	9.6	220	17.9	1.5
ESL/pull-out	103,496	68.6	652	53.1	0.6
ESL alt. lang. program	15,826	10.5	69	5.6	0.4
No services	14,106	9.3	277	22.6	2.0
All former ELs[d]	48,813	100	67	100	0.1
All bilingual education programs	22,135	45.3	29	43.3	0.1
Transitional bilingual/early exit	9,987	20.5	13	19.4	0.1
Transitional bilingual/late exit	3,336	6.8	5	7.5	0.1
Dual immersion/two-way	2,555	5.2	0	0.0	0.0
Dual immersion/one-way	6,257	12.8	11	16.4	0.2
Bilingual alt. lang. program	n/a[e]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
All ESL programs	22,952	47.0	29	43.3	0.1
ESL/content-based	11,693	24.0	14	20.9	0.1
ESL/pull-out	11,259	23.1	15	22.4	0.1
ESL alt. lang. program	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
No services	3,726	7.6	9	13.4	0.2
Grades 9-12					
All current ELs	199,769	100	6,515	100	3.3
All bilingual education programs	526	0.3	7	0.1	1.3
Transitional bilingual/early exit	4	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0
Transitional bilingual/late exit	1	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. A dot (.) indicates there were no students in the group. Special language program instructional model information is reported by districts in the fall only, whereas general bilingual and English as a second language (ESL) participation information is reported in the fall and in the summer. Therefore, totals for bilingual/ESL students in this table will not sum to bilingual/ESL totals presented elsewhere in this report.

[a]Current English learners (ELs) were identified as limited English proficient in 2019-20. The group, all current ELs, includes students for whom information about services received may be incomplete. [b]Alternative language. [c]English as a second language. [d]Former ELs are those in the first through fourth years of academic monitoring after exiting EL status. The group, all former ELs, includes students for whom information about services received may be incomplete. [e]Not available. Alternative language program information was first collected in the 2019-20 school year and is therefore not available for former ELs.

Table 20 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8 and Grades 9-12, Current and Former English Learners, by Special Language Program Instructional Model, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Dual immersion/two-way	430	0.2	7	0.1	1.6
Dual immersion/one-way	91	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0
Bilingual alt. lang. program	407	0.2	1	<0.1	0.2
All ESL[c] programs	154,501	77.3	4,193	64.4	2.7
ESL/content-based	20,371	10.2	1,225	18.8	6.0
ESL/pull-out	134,130	67.1	2,968	45.6	2.2
ESL alt. lang.[b] program	20,558	10.3	422	6.5	2.1
No services	23,777	11.9	1,892	29.0	8.0
All former ELs[d]	61,850	100	370	100	0.6
All bilingual education programs	7,606	12.3	26	7.0	0.3
Transitional bilingual/early exit	2,484	4.0	10	2.7	0.4
Transitional bilingual/late exit	1,113	1.8	3	0.8	0.3
Dual immersion/two-way	1,523	2.5	4	1.1	0.3
Dual immersion/one-way	2,486	4.0	9	2.4	0.4
Bilingual alt. lang. program	n/a[e]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
All ESL programs	49,732	80.4	298	80.5	0.6
ESL/content-based	17,939	29.0	108	29.2	0.6
ESL/pull-out	31,793	51.4	190	51.4	0.6
ESL alt. lang. program	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
No services	4,512	7.3	46	12.4	1.0

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. A dot (.) indicates there were no students in the group. Special language program instructional model information is reported by districts in the fall only, whereas general bilingual and English as a second language (ESL) participation information is reported in the fall and in the summer. Therefore, totals for bilingual/ESL students in this table will not sum to bilingual/ESL totals presented elsewhere in this report.

[a]Current English learners (ELs) were identified as limited English proficient in 2019-20. The group, all current ELs, includes students for whom information about services received may be incomplete. [b]Alternative language. [c]English as a second language. [d]Former ELs are those in the first through fourth years of academic monitoring after exiting EL status. The group, all former ELs, includes students for whom information about services received may be incomplete. [e]Not available. Alternative language program information was first collected in the 2019-20 school year and is therefore not available for former ELs.

Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

Presentation and Interpretation of Results

Definitions and calculations. Calculating longitudinal rates requires tracking a cohort of students over time. A cohort is defined as the group of students who begin Grade 9 in Texas public schools for the first time in the same school year plus students who, in the next three school years, enter the Texas public school system in the grade level expected for the cohort. To calculate four-year longitudinal rates, students in a cohort are tracked into the fall following their anticipated graduation date, and for extended rates, the fall one or more years following their anticipated graduation date. A subset of a cohort, called a class, is used to calculate longitudinal student status rates. Any student who is determined to be a graduate, continuer, Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency (TxCHSE) recipient, or dropout is counted as a member of a class. See the section "Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates" on page 27 for additional information.

Presentation of individual graduation committee graduates. Students who graduated by decisions of individual graduation committees (IGCs) were included as graduates in longitudinal rates. Four-year longitudinal rates excluding IGC graduates are also presented. See the section "Chronology" on page 14 for additional information.

Presentation of rates by race/ethnicity. Longitudinal rates are provided for seven racial/ethnic categories. See the section "Reporting of Student and Program Information" on page 44 for additional information.

Comparisons of rates by race/ethnicity. The American Indian and Pacific Islander student populations are small in number, compared to other racial/ethnic populations. Therefore, discussions of longitudinal results, including comparisons across racial/ethnic groups, do not include these populations. See the section "Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates" on page 27 for additional information.

Presentation of rates by program participation and student characteristic. Longitudinal rates are presented by participation in special programs (bilingual/English as a second language, career and technical education, gifted and talented, special education, Title I) and student characteristics (at-risk, dyslexia, English learner [EL], in foster care, homeless, immigrant, migrant, military-connected). See the section "Reporting of Student and Program Information" on page 44 for additional information. A student may be reported with more than one special demographic characteristic or as participating in more than one special instructional program. Student characteristics and program participation statuses are assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort, except in the cases of students identified: (a) as ELs at any time while attending Texas public schools, (b) as ELs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools, (c) as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools, or (d) as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools. Additionally, beginning with the 2020-21 school year, CTE information is no longer available for continuing students. CTE program participation for these students is assigned based on the student's prior record

of attendance in the continuing district, if available. Table B-1 in Appendix B provides the Public Education Information Management System data sources within the Texas Student Data System used in calculating longitudinal rates by instructional program and student characteristic.

Comparison of rates across years. The national dropout definition, which was adopted in 2005-06, was fully incorporated in the four-year graduation and dropout rates for the class of 2009. Longitudinal rates for the class of 2009 and later classes are comparable to one another. Rates for classes in which the national dropout definition was phased in (i.e., classes of 2006, 2007, and 2008) are not comparable from one class to another, nor are they comparable to rates for prior or later classes. Results for classes prior to 2016 are found in Appendix C.

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

State summary. Out of 384,600 students in the class of 2020, 90.3 percent graduated within four years (Table 21 on page 80). An additional 3.9 percent of students in the class of 2020 continued school the fall after expected graduation, and 0.4 percent received a TxCHSE. The four-year longitudinal dropout rate for the class of 2020 was 5.4 percent. Compared to the class of 2019, the class of 2020 had higher graduation and continuation rates, and lower dropout and TxCHSE recipient rates. Table 22 on page 82 presents four-year longitudinal rates with students who graduated by decisions of individual graduation committees (IGCs) excluded from the class. For more information about IGCs, see page 17.

Rates by race/ethnicity, economic status, and gender. Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in the class of 2020, the four-year graduation rate was highest for Asian students (96.7%), followed by White (94.0%), multiracial (91.1%), Hispanic (88.6%), and African American (87.0%) students (Table 21 on page 80). The four-year graduation rate was higher for students not identified as economically disadvantaged (93.5%) than for students identified as economically disadvantaged (87.5%). The four-year graduation rate was higher for females (92.6%) than for males (88.1%). The four-year dropout rate was lowest for Asian students (1.4%), followed by White (3.1%), multiracial (4.4%), Hispanic (6.5%), and African American (7.8%) students. Students who were not economically disadvantaged dropped out at a lower rate (3.3%) than economically disadvantaged students (7.3%). Female students dropped out at a lower rate (4.0%) than male students (6.8%) overall and within each of the five largest racial/ethnic groups (Table 23 on page 83).

In the class of 2020, Hispanic and African American students made up larger percentages of nongraduates (61.0% and 17.2%, respectively) than of students in the class (51.8% and 12.8%, respectively) (Figure 3 on page 84). By comparison, Asian and White students made up smaller percentages of nongraduates (1.6% and 17.7%, respectively) than of students in the class (4.5% and 28.4%, respectively).

Table 21

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2016 Through 2020

Class year	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	TxCHSE[e] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
African American											
Class of 2016	46,151	39,404	85.4	2,336	5.1	200	0.4	4,211	9.1	41,940	90.9
Class of 2017	47,036	40,494	86.1	2,284	4.9	186	0.4	4,072	8.7	42,964	91.3
Class of 2018	48,333	41,802	86.5	2,330	4.8	196	0.4	4,005	8.3	44,328	91.7
Class of 2019	48,913	42,183	86.2	2,188	4.5	216	0.4	4,326	8.8	44,587	91.2
Class of 2020	49,077	42,680	87.0	2,369	4.8	184	0.4	3,844	7.8	45,233	92.2
American Indian											
Class of 2016	1,395	1,219	87.4	62	4.4	8	0.6	106	7.6	1,289	92.4
Class of 2017	1,405	1,212	86.3	71	5.1	8	0.6	114	8.1	1,291	91.9
Class of 2018	1,382	1,176	85.1	74	5.4	5	0.4	127	9.2	1,255	90.8
Class of 2019	1,426	1,245	87.3	55	3.9	7	0.5	119	8.3	1,307	91.7
Class of 2020	1,353	1,168	86.3	67	5.0	7	0.5	111	8.2	1,242	91.8
Asian											
Class of 2016	13,781	13,188	95.7	309	2.2	5	<0.1	279	2.0	13,502	98.0
Class of 2017	14,367	13,799	96.0	311	2.2	17	0.1	240	1.7	14,127	98.3
Class of 2018	15,867	15,300	96.4	322	2.0	15	0.1	230	1.4	15,637	98.6
Class of 2019	16,913	16,302	96.4	313	1.9	18	0.1	280	1.7	16,633	98.3
Class of 2020	17,338	16,760	96.7	330	1.9	12	0.1	236	1.4	17,102	98.6
Hispanic											
Class of 2016	173,265	150,564	86.9	8,985	5.2	729	0.4	12,987	7.5	160,278	92.5
Class of 2017	179,845	157,660	87.7	8,630	4.8	683	0.4	12,872	7.2	166,973	92.8
Class of 2018	188,106	165,858	88.2	8,562	4.6	710	0.4	12,976	6.9	175,130	93.1
Class of 2019	197,059	173,793	88.2	8,633	4.4	720	0.4	13,913	7.1	183,146	92.9
Class of 2020	199,074	176,368	88.6	9,166	4.6	615	0.3	12,925	6.5	186,149	93.5
Pacific Islander											
Class of 2016	476	419	88.0	27	5.7	3	0.6	27	5.7	449	94.3
Class of 2017	578	512	88.6	29	5.0	3	0.5	34	5.9	544	94.1
Class of 2018	572	494	86.4	27	4.7	3	0.5	48	8.4	524	91.6
Class of 2019	583	513	88.0	15	2.6	6	1.0	49	8.4	534	91.6
Class of 2020	610	544	89.2	32	5.2	3	0.5	31	5.1	579	94.9
White											
Class of 2016	109,346	102,120	93.4	2,804	2.6	719	0.7	3,703	3.4	105,643	96.6
Class of 2017	110,720	103,591	93.6	2,879	2.6	673	0.6	3,577	3.2	107,143	96.8

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Results for classes prior to 2016 are found in Appendix C.

[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

continues

Table 21 (continued)

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2016 Through 2020

Class year	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	TxCHSE[e] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
Class of 2018	111,598	104,418	93.6	2,787	2.5	690	0.6	3,703	3.3	107,895	96.7
Class of 2019	110,084	103,158	93.7	2,603	2.4	710	0.6	3,613	3.3	106,471	96.7
Class of 2020	109,381	102,794	94.0	2,601	2.4	589	0.5	3,397	3.1	105,984	96.9
Multiracial											
Class of 2016	6,270	5,691	90.8	239	3.8	43	0.7	297	4.7	5,973	95.3
Class of 2017	6,655	6,105	91.7	250	3.8	38	0.6	262	3.9	6,393	96.1
Class of 2018	7,061	6,452	91.4	248	3.5	38	0.5	323	4.6	6,738	95.4
Class of 2019	7,473	6,827	91.4	232	3.1	52	0.7	362	4.8	7,111	95.2
Class of 2020	7,767	7,078	91.1	296	3.8	49	0.6	344	4.4	7,423	95.6
Economically disadvantaged											
Class of 2016	178,148	153,120	86.0	9,009	5.1	934	0.5	15,085	8.5	163,063	91.5
Class of 2017	184,356	160,183	86.9	8,862	4.8	909	0.5	14,402	7.8	169,954	92.2
Class of 2018	199,025	173,685	87.3	9,225	4.6	967	0.5	15,148	7.6	183,877	92.4
Class of 2019	205,362	178,978	87.2	9,159	4.5	987	0.5	16,238	7.9	189,124	92.1
Class of 2020	205,248	179,613	87.5	9,842	4.8	847	0.4	14,946	7.3	190,302	92.7
Not economically disadvantaged											
Class of 2016	172,536	159,485	92.4	5,753	3.3	773	0.4	6,525	3.8	166,011	96.2
Class of 2017	176,250	163,190	92.6	5,592	3.2	699	0.4	6,769	3.8	169,481	96.2
Class of 2018	173,894	161,815	93.1	5,125	2.9	690	0.4	6,264	3.6	167,630	96.4
Class of 2019	177,089	165,043	93.2	4,880	2.8	742	0.4	6,424	3.6	170,665	96.4
Class of 2020	179,352	167,779	93.5	5,019	2.8	612	0.3	5,942	3.3	173,410	96.7
Female											
Class of 2016	171,633	156,924	91.4	5,569	3.2	577	0.3	8,563	5.0	163,070	95.0
Class of 2017	177,298	163,257	92.1	5,577	3.1	560	0.3	7,904	4.5	169,394	95.5
Class of 2018	183,557	169,071	92.1	5,573	3.0	578	0.3	8,335	4.5	175,222	95.5
Class of 2019	188,020	173,254	92.1	5,518	2.9	584	0.3	8,664	4.6	179,356	95.4
Class of 2020	188,757	174,798	92.6	5,999	3.2	472	0.3	7,488	4.0	181,269	96.0
Male											
Class of 2016	179,051	155,681	86.9	9,193	5.1	1,130	0.6	13,047	7.3	166,004	92.7
Class of 2017	183,308	160,116	87.3	8,877	4.8	1,048	0.6	13,267	7.2	170,041	92.8
Class of 2018	189,362	166,429	87.9	8,777	4.6	1,079	0.6	13,077	6.9	176,285	93.1
Class of 2019	194,431	170,767	87.8	8,521	4.4	1,145	0.6	13,998	7.2	180,433	92.8
Class of 2020	195,843	172,594	88.1	8,862	4.5	987	0.5	13,400	6.8	182,443	93.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Results for classes prior to 2016 are found in Appendix C.
[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

continues

Table 21 (continued)
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2016 Through 2020

Class year	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	TxCHSE[e] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
State											
Class of 2016	350,684	312,605	89.1	14,762	4.2	1,707	0.5	21,610	6.2	329,074	93.8
Class of 2017	360,606	323,373	89.7	14,454	4.0	1,608	0.4	21,171	5.9	339,435	94.1
Class of 2018	372,919	335,500	90.0	14,350	3.8	1,657	0.4	21,412	5.7	351,507	94.3
Class of 2019	382,451	344,021	90.0	14,039	3.7	1,729	0.5	22,662	5.9	359,789	94.1
Class of 2020	384,600	347,392	90.3	14,861	3.9	1,459	0.4	20,888	5.4	363,712	94.6

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Results for classes prior to 2016 are found in Appendix C.
[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

Table 22
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, Excluding Individual Graduation Committee Graduates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020

Group	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	TxCHSE[e] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
African American	46,198	39,801	86.2	2,369	5.1	184	0.4	3,844	8.3	42,354	91.7
American Indian	1,292	1,107	85.7	67	5.2	7	0.5	111	8.6	1,181	91.4
Asian	16,923	16,345	96.6	330	2.0	12	0.1	236	1.4	16,687	98.6
Hispanic	187,525	164,819	87.9	9,166	4.9	615	0.3	12,925	6.9	174,600	93.1
Pacific Islander	582	516	88.7	32	5.5	3	0.5	31	5.3	551	94.7
White	107,477	100,891	93.9	2,600	2.4	589	0.5	3,397	3.2	104,080	96.8
Multiracial	7,613	6,924	90.9	296	3.9	49	0.6	344	4.5	7,269	95.5
Econ. disad.[f]	192,192	166,557	86.7	9,842	5.1	847	0.4	14,946	7.8	177,246	92.2
Not econ. disad.	175,418	163,846	93.4	5,018	2.9	612	0.3	5,942	3.4	169,476	96.6
Female	181,555	167,597	92.3	5,998	3.3	472	0.3	7,488	4.1	174,067	95.9
Male	186,055	162,806	87.5	8,862	4.8	987	0.5	13,400	7.2	172,655	92.8
State	367,610	330,403	89.9	14,860	4.0	1,459	0.4	20,888	5.7	346,722	94.3

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.
[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [f]Economically disadvantaged.

Table 23

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates of Racial/Ethnic Groups, by Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020

Group	Class	Graduates (N)	Graduation rate (%)	Continuers (N)	Continuation rate (%)	TxCHSE[a] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)
African American									
Female	24,097	21,719	90.1	915	3.8	54	0.2	1,409	5.8
Male	24,980	20,961	83.9	1,454	5.8	130	0.5	2,435	9.7
American Indian									
Female	668	603	90.3	21	3.1	1	0.1	43	6.4
Male	685	565	82.5	46	6.7	6	0.9	68	9.9
Asian									
Female	8,541	8,324	97.5	110	1.3	5	0.1	102	1.2
Male	8,797	8,436	95.9	220	2.5	7	0.1	134	1.5
Hispanic									
Female	97,859	89,491	91.4	3,773	3.9	182	0.2	4,413	4.5
Male	101,215	86,877	85.8	5,393	5.3	433	0.4	8,512	8.4
Pacific Islander									
Female	297	272	91.6	14	4.7	1	0.3	10	3.4
Male	313	272	86.9	18	5.8	2	0.6	21	6.7
White									
Female	53,360	50,741	95.1	1,030	1.9	214	0.4	1,375	2.6
Male	56,021	52,053	92.9	1,571	2.8	375	0.7	2,022	3.6
Multiracial									
Female	3,935	3,648	92.7	136	3.5	15	0.4	136	3.5
Male	3,832	3,430	89.5	160	4.2	34	0.9	208	5.4
State									
Female	188,757	174,798	92.6	5,999	3.2	472	0.3	7,488	4.0
Male	195,843	172,594	88.1	8,862	4.5	987	0.5	13,400	6.8

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

Figure 3
Comparison of Nongraduates and Class Membership, by Race/Ethnicity, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020
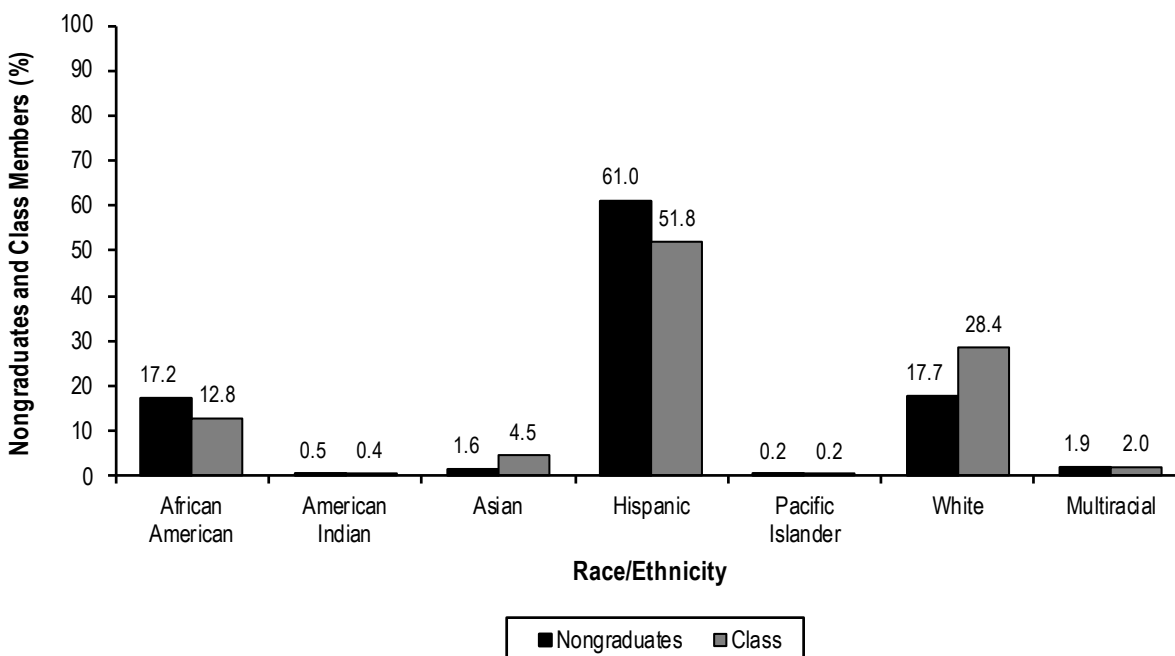
Note. Nongraduates are members of a class who continued in high school in the fall after expected graduation, received Texas Certificates of High School Equivalency, or dropped out.

Rates by program participation and student characteristic. Students in the class of 2020 who participated in special education programs had a four-year graduation rate of 78.9 percent (Table 24). Students identified as English learners in Grades 9-12 had a graduation rate of 79.3 percent (Table 25). The graduation rate for students identified as at risk of dropping out of school was 85.1 percent. All three rates were lower than the state average (90.3%). The dropout rates for these three student groups (8.2%, 12.9%, and 7.5%, respectively) were higher than the state average (5.4%).

Graduates. In 2013, the 83rd Texas Legislature established the Foundation High School Program (FHSP) as the new high school graduation program for all students who entered Grade 9 in the 2014-15 school year or later (Texas Education Code [TEC] §28.025, 2013). Prior to full implementation of the FHSP, students could graduate under the Recommended High School Program (RHSP), Advanced High School Program (AHSP), or Minimum High School Program (MHSP) (Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code [TAC] §74.71, 2021, adopted to be effective May 30, 2012). For the class of 2020, the FHSP required 22 credits to graduate, including four credits in English language arts and three credits each in mathematics, science, and social studies (19 TAC §74.12, 2021, amended to be effective August 1, 2020). Additionally, the program allowed students to earn special recognition, known as an endorsement, in one or more of the following fields of study: science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); business and industry; public services;

Table 24

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Program Participation, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020

Group	Class	Graduates (N)	Graduation rate (%)	Continuers (N)	Continuation rate (%)	TxCHSE[a] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)
Bilingual or ESL[b]	33,769	26,332	78.0	2,359	7.0	52	0.2	5,026	14.9
CTE[c]	217,358	207,897	95.6	3,840	1.8	372	0.2	5,249	2.4
Gifted and talented	34,478	34,131	99.0	108	0.3	34	0.1	205	0.6
Special education	32,708	25,800	78.9	4,147	12.7	93	0.3	2,668	8.2
Title I	173,203	152,320	87.9	7,361	4.2	718	0.4	12,804	7.4
State	384,600	347,392	90.3	14,861	3.9	1,459	0.4	20,888	5.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Program participation was assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category.

[a]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [b]English as a second language. [c]Career and technical education.

Table 25

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020

Group	Class	Graduates (N)	Graduation rate (%)	Continuers (N)	Continuation rate (%)	TxCHSE[a] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)
At-risk	166,008	141,353	85.1	11,469	6.9	704	0.4	12,482	7.5
Dyslexia	12,445	11,688	93.9	288	2.3	14	0.1	455	3.7
English learner									
In K-12[b]	121,607	107,292	88.2	5,802	4.8	252	0.2	8,261	6.8
In 9-12[c]	44,583	35,333	79.3	3,395	7.6	91	0.2	5,764	12.9
In last year[d]	35,958	28,102	78.2	2,539	7.1	61	0.2	5,256	14.6
Foster care									
In 9-12[e]	1,629	1,001	61.4	232	14.2	22	1.4	374	23.0
In last year[f]	745	475	63.8	68	9.1	13	1.7	189	25.4
Homeless in 9-12[g]	23,211	18,675	80.5	1,751	7.5	105	0.5	2,680	11.5
Immigrant	5,537	4,018	72.6	256	4.6	5	0.1	1,258	22.7
Migrant	1,888	1,681	89.0	81	4.3	6	0.3	120	6.4
Military-connected									
Federal definition	4,491	4,299	95.7	57	1.3	19	0.4	116	2.6
State definition	6,275	5,983	95.3	128	2.0	23	0.4	141	2.2
State	384,600	347,392	90.3	14,861	3.9	1,459	0.4	20,888	5.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category.

[a]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [b]Students identified as English learners (ELs) at any time while attending Texas public schools (TPS). [c]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [d]Students identified as ELs in their last year in TPS. [e]Students identified as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [f]Students identified as in foster care in their last year in TPS. [g]Students identified as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS.

arts and humanities; and multidisciplinary studies (19 TAC §74.13, 2021, amended to be effective August 1, 2020; TEC §28.025, 2019). A graduate could earn an endorsement by successfully

completing the following: the curriculum requirements for the FHSP; one additional credit each in mathematics and science; two additional elective credits; and the curriculum requirements for the selected endorsement. Moreover, a graduate who met all of these requirements could also earn a distinguished level of achievement (DLA) if one of the four credits earned in mathematics was for Algebra II (19 TAC §74.11, 2021, amended to be effective August 1, 2020; TEC §28.025, 2019). A student could opt to graduate under the FHSP without earning an endorsement if, after the student's sophomore year: (a) the student and the student's parent or guardian were advised by a school counselor of the benefits of graduating with an endorsement; and (b) the student's parent or guardian filed with a school counselor written permission, on a form adopted by TEA, for the student to graduate under the FHSP without earning an endorsement.

In 2019, the Texas legislature passed House Bill 165, amending the requirements of the FHSP to expand students' eligibility to earn endorsements (TEC §28.025, 2019). Beginning with 2019-20 graduates, a student receiving special education services was eligible to earn an endorsement if the student successfully completed curriculum requirements with or without modifications. Furthermore, a student's ARD committee could determine whether the student was required to achieve satisfactory performance on an EOC assessment to earn an endorsement. Special education students from the class of 2020 who graduated prior to 2019-20 were ineligible to pursue an endorsement if they received a modified curriculum in any course required for an endorsement or failed to perform satisfactorily on the required state assessments. These students are excluded from the data presented in Table 26.

Of the 347,163 graduates in the class of 2020 with diploma program information, 99.8 percent graduated under the FHSP (Table 26). Because some students in the class of 2020 graduated under the MSHP, RHSP, or AHSP, three sets of diploma program rates were calculated. MHSP, RHSP, and AHSP rates were each calculated by dividing the number of students graduating under each program by the sum of graduates in the three programs. Each of the three rates for FHSP graduates was derived by dividing the number of graduates with the specified program options by the sum of all FHSP graduates. The rate for students graduating under the RHSP, AHSP, or FHSP with an endorsement (with or without a distinguished level of achievement) was calculated by dividing the sum of students graduating under each of the programs as specified by all graduates with diploma information. Of the 346,356 FHSP graduates who were eligible to earn an endorsement, 42,377 (12.2%) graduated without an endorsement, 14,884 (4.3%) graduated with an endorsement but did not earn a DLA, and 289,095 (83.5%) graduated with an endorsement and earned a DLA. Of all 347,163 graduates with diploma program information, 87.8 percent graduated under the RHSP or AHSP or the FHSP with an endorsement (with or without a DLA).

Of all FHSP graduates with detailed endorsement information, 301,370 (87.6%) earned one or more endorsements, 42,377 (12.3%) did not earn an endorsement, and 228 (0.1%) were ineligible to earn an endorsement (Table 27 on page 89). Of those who earned at least one endorsement, 57.9 percent graduated with two or more endorsements. Multidisciplinary studies was the most frequently earned endorsement, followed by the arts and humanities and the STEM endorsements (Table 28 on page 89).

Table 26

Graduates Within Diploma Programs, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, Gender, Program Participation, and Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020 Grade 9 Cohort

Group	Minimum (N)	Minimum (%)	Recom.[a] (N)	Recom. (%)	Advanced (N)	Advanced (%)	FHSP,[b] no endorsement (N)	FHSP, no endorsement (%)
African American	26	36.1	9	12.5	37	51.4	7,013	16.5
American Indian	0	0.0	1	50.0	1	50.0	180	15.4
Asian	5	17.9	0	0.0	23	82.1	1,241	7.4
Hispanic	64	19.6	49	15.0	213	65.3	21,455	12.2
Pacific Islander	0	.	0	.	0	.	70	12.9
White	40	11.1	14	3.9	305	85.0	11,536	11.3
Multiracial	2	10.0	0	0.0	18	90.0	882	12.5
Econ. disad.[c]	105	24.3	52	12.0	275	63.7	26,192	14.6
Not econ. disad.	32	8.5	21	5.6	322	85.9	16,185	9.7
Female	68	16.5	36	8.7	308	74.8	17,263	9.9
Male	69	17.5	37	9.4	289	73.2	25,114	14.6
Bilingual or ESL[d]	35	37.2	30	31.9	29	30.9	5,196	19.8
CTE[e]	55	9.4	29	4.9	503	85.7	19,514	9.4
Gifted and talented	0	0.0	4	3.8	100	96.2	1,068	3.1
Special education	34	68.0	10	20.0	6	12.0	12,522	49.0
Title I	55	14.5	36	9.5	288	76.0	16,916	11.1
At-risk	71	17.4	45	11.0	292	71.6	29,898	21.2
Dyslexia	1	5.0	1	5.0	18	90.0	2,054	17.6
EL[f]								
In K-12[g]	42	18.2	43	18.6	146	63.2	12,331	11.5
In 9-12[h]	37	32.2	33	28.7	45	39.1	6,326	18.0
In last year[i]	36	37.1	31	32.0	30	30.9	5,607	20.1
Foster care								
In 9-12[j]	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100	362	36.4
In last year[k]	0	.	0	.	0	.	182	38.5
Homeless in 9-12[l]	13	25.5	3	5.9	35	68.6	4,144	22.3
Immigrant	10	40.0	11	44.0	4	16.0	826	20.7
Migrant	0	0.0	1	33.3	2	66.7	191	11.4
Military-connected								
Federal definition	0	0.0	1	25.0	3	75.0	364	8.5
State definition	0	0.0	1	14.3	6	85.7	486	8.1
State	137	17.0	73	9.0	597	74.0	42,377	12.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category. The number of graduates summed across diploma programs does not match the state-level count of graduates presented elsewhere in this report because 228 students were not eligible to pursue an endorsement. A dot (.) indicates there were no students in the group.

[a]Recommended. [b]Foundation High School Program. [c]Economically disadvantaged. [d]English as a second language. [e]Career and technical education. [f]English learner. [g]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Texas public schools (TPS). [h]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [i]Students identified as ELs in their last year in TPS. [j]Students identified as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [k]Students identified as in foster care in their last year in TPS. [l]Students identified as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [m]Distinguished level of achievement.

continues

Table 26 (continued)
Graduates Within Diploma Programs, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, Gender, Program Participation, and Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020 Grade 9 Cohort

Group	FHSP[b] with endorsement, no DLA[m] (N)	FHSP with endorsement, no DLA (%)	FHSP with endorsement and DLA (N)	FHSP with endorsement and DLA (%)	Recommended, Advanced, or FHSP with endorsement (N)	Recommended, Advanced, or FHSP with endorsement (%)
African American	2,722	6.4	32,840	77.1	35,608	83.5
American Indian	39	3.3	947	81.2	988	84.6
Asian	308	1.8	15,181	90.7	15,512	92.6
Hispanic	8,022	4.6	146,439	83.2	154,723	87.8
Pacific Islander	23	4.2	451	82.9	474	87.1
White	3,536	3.5	87,299	85.3	91,154	88.7
Multiracial	234	3.3	5,938	84.2	6,190	87.5
Econ. disad.[c]	9,801	5.5	143,015	79.9	153,143	85.3
Not econ. disad.	5,083	3.0	146,080	87.3	151,506	90.3
Female	6,903	4.0	150,118	86.1	157,365	90.1
Male	7,981	4.6	138,977	80.8	147,284	85.4
Bilingual or ESL[d]	1,841	7.0	19,158	73.1	21,058	80.1
CTE[e]	9,023	4.4	178,693	86.2	188,248	90.6
Gifted and talented	481	1.4	32,476	95.4	33,061	96.9
Special education	2,963	11.6	10,080	39.4	13,059	51.0
Title I	7,362	4.8	127,543	84.0	135,229	88.8
At-risk	9,260	6.6	101,601	72.2	111,198	78.8
Dyslexia	761	6.5	8,835	75.8	9,615	82.4
EL[f]						
In K-12[g]	5,264	4.9	89,396	83.6	94,849	88.5
In 9-12[h]	2,391	6.8	26,455	75.2	28,924	82.0
In last year[i]	1,992	7.1	20,363	72.8	22,416	79.9
Foster care						
In 9-12[j]	86	8.6	547	55.0	634	63.7
In last year[k]	30	6.3	261	55.2	291	61.5
Homeless in 9-12[l]	1,207	6.5	13,246	71.2	14,491	77.7
Immigrant	214	5.4	2,947	73.9	3,176	79.2
Migrant	57	3.4	1,427	85.2	1,487	88.6
Military-connected						
Federal definition	129	3.0	3,798	88.5	3,931	91.5
State definition	164	2.7	5,322	89.1	5,493	91.9
State	14,884	4.3	289,095	83.5	304,649	87.8

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category. The number of graduates summed across diploma programs does not match the state-level count of graduates presented elsewhere in this report because 228 students were not eligible to pursue an endorsement. A dot (.) indicates there were no students in the group.

[a]Recommended. [b]Foundation High School Program. [c]Economically disadvantaged. [d]English as a second language. [e]Career and technical education. [f]English learner. [g]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Texas public schools (TPS). [h]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [i]Students identified as ELs in their last year in TPS. [j]Students identified as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [k]Students identified as in foster care in their last year in TPS. [l]Students identified as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [m]Distinguished level of achievement.

Table 27
Foundation High School Plan Graduates by Number of Endorsements Earned, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020

Number of endorsements earned	Graduates (*N*)	Graduates (%)
One endorsement	126,757	36.9
Two endorsements	106,344	30.9
Three endorsements	55,483	16.1
Four endorsements	11,524	3.4
Five endorsements	1,262	0.4
No endorsement earned	42,377	12.3
Ineligible for endorsement	228	0.1

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Detailed endorsement information was not reported for 2,609 FHSP graduates who earned a distinguished level of achievement, which requires an endorsement.

Table 28
Foundation High School Plan Graduates by Endorsements Earned, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020

Endorsement earned[a]	Number
Arts and humanities	106,186
Business and industry	82,429
Multidisciplinary studies	224,601
Public services	58,193
Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics	86,891
No endorsement earned	42,377
Ineligible for endorsement	228

Note. Detailed endorsement information was not reported for 2,609 FHSP graduates who earned a distinguished level of achievement, which requires an endorsement.

[a]Students may earn more than one endorsement and may be counted in more than one category.

Dropouts. Table 29 on page 90 provides aggregate counts of the 20,888 dropouts from the class of 2020 based on the grade and year in which they left Texas public schools. In each year after the first year of high school, a majority of students who dropped out were one or more grades behind the grade expected for the class. Specifically, 50.5 percent of students who dropped out in the second year had not reached Grade 10, 58.7 percent who dropped out in the third year had not reached Grade 11, and 61.9 percent who dropped out in the fourth year had not reached Grade 12.

Table 29
Dropouts, by Grade and School Year, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020 Grade 9 Cohort

Grade	2016-17 (N)	2016-17 (%)	2017-18 (N)	2017-18 (%)	2018-19 (N)	2018-19 (%)	2019-20 (N)	2019-20 (%)	Total (N)	Total (%)
Grade 9	3,037	98.2	2,360	50.5	1,505	21.6	463	7.5	7,365	35.3
Grade 10	39	1.3	2,221	47.5	2,586	37.1	1,478	24.0	6,324	30.3
Grade 11	13	0.4	64	1.4	2,702	38.8	1,872	30.4	4,651	22.3
Grade 12	4	0.1	26	0.6	169	2.4	2,345	38.1	2,544	12.2
Total	3,093	14.8	4,673	22.4	6,964	33.3	6,158	29.5	20,888	100

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding or missing high school grade information. Numbers by school year may not sum to the total because of missing high school grade information.

Other Leavers. Of the 434,000 students who began Grade 9 in Texas public schools in 2016-17 or who transferred into the cohort later, 46,127 left for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out (Table 30 on facing page and Figure 4 on page 92). Of these other leavers, the largest percentage (31.0%) left in the third year of the cohort (2018-19) and the smallest percentage (13.6%) left in the fourth year (2019-20). Nearly all of the other leavers (97.1%) left for one of four reasons: (a) 36.0 percent withdrew to enroll in schools outside of Texas; (b) 34.0 percent withdrew to begin home schooling; (c) 18.4 percent withdrew to return to their home countries; and (d) 8.6 percent withdrew to enroll in Texas private schools. Among students who withdrew from Texas public schools to enroll in school outside Texas, the largest percentage (35.3%) withdrew in the first year of the cohort (2016-17). The largest percentages of students who withdrew to begin home schooling (35.4%), to return to their home countries (34.2%), and to enroll in Texas private schools (32.8%) left in the third year of the cohort (2018-19).

In general, students who left Texas public schools were less likely to be in the grade expected for a specific year than students who remained in Texas public schools. Specifically, 20.9 percent of other leavers were not on grade at the time of withdrawal. By leaver reason, the percentage of students not on grade was largest for students who withdrew to begin home schooling (36.3%).

As noted previously, to calculate four-year longitudinal rates, students were tracked from the time they entered Grade 9 for the first time in 2016-17 or transferred into the cohort until the fall after their anticipated graduation date. Figure 4 on page 92 provides a synopsis of student progress through school for the 2020 cohort. In addition to showing final statuses of students by year, Figure 4 shows the number of students who left Texas public schools each year, how many continued from one year to the next, and how many left Texas public schools and returned in a later year.

Table 30

Other Leavers, by Leaver Reason, On-Grade Status, and School Year, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020 Grade 9 Cohort

On-grade status[a]	2016-17 (N)	2016-17 (%)	2017-18 (N)	2017-18 (%)	2018-19 (N)	2018-19 (%)	2019-20 (N)	2019-20 (%)	Total (N)	Total (%)
Enrolled in public or private school outside Texas										
On grade	5,861	100	4,759	90.6	3,726	88.8	1,062	80.9	15,408	92.7
Not on grade	0[b]	0.0	495	9.4	471	11.2	251	19.1	1,217	7.3
Total	5,861	35.3	5,254	31.6	4,197	25.2	1,313	7.9	16,625	100
Is home schooled										
On grade	2,385	100	2,878	63.5	3,159	56.8	1,566	48.9	9,988	63.7
Not on grade	0	0.0	1,656	36.5	2,400	43.2	1,639	51.1	5,695	36.3
Total	2,385	15.2	4,534	28.9	5,559	35.4	3,205	20.4	15,683	100
Returned to family's home country										
On grade	2,478	100	1,732	74.6	2,320	79.8	492	61.6	7,022	82.6
Not on grade	0	0.0	589	25.4	588	20.2	307	38.4	1,484	17.4
Total	2,478	29.1	2,321	27.3	2,908	34.2	799	9.4	8,506	100
Enrolled in Texas private school										
On grade	784	100	987	82.1	895	69.1	348	51.8	3,014	76.2
Not on grade	0	0.0	215	17.9	401	30.9	324	48.2	940	23.8
Total	784	19.8	1,202	30.4	1,296	32.8	672	17.0	3,954	100
Left for other reasons[c]										
On grade	212	100	429	84.3	251	70.5	184	65.2	1,076	79.2
Not on grade	0	0.0	80	15.7	105	29.5	98	34.8	283	20.8
Total	212	15.6	509	37.5	356	26.2	282	20.8	1,359	100
Total other leavers										
On grade	11,720	100	10,785	78.0	10,351	72.3	3,652	58.2	36,508	79.1
Not on grade	0	0.0	3,035	22.0	3,965	27.7	2,619	41.8	9,619	20.9
Total	11,720	25.4	13,820	30.0	14,316	31.0	6,271	13.6	46,127	100
Total students in cohort enrolled in the school year indicated[d]										
On grade	409,566	100	379,628	94.0	366,159	93.2	351,479	96.1	n/a[e]	n/a
Not on grade	0	0.0	24,265	6.0	26,826	6.8	14,228	3.9	n/a	n/a

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Students were on grade if they were in the grade level expected for the cohort or a higher grade level in the school year indicated. [b]Students were added to the 2020 cohort in 2016-17 if they attended Grade 9 in Texas public schools for the first time that year, regardless of other grades attended that year or in previous years. Therefore, all students added in 2016-17 were considered to be on grade. [c]Because of small numbers, students who left for other reasons are grouped together. For a list of the other reasons, see Table 4 on page 40. [d]Numbers for school years may not match counts presented elsewhere in the report because of missing high school grade information. [e]Not applicable. Because a student's on-grade status can change from year to year, totals for students who remained in school could not be determined. Totals for other leavers were calculated based on the years the students left school.

Figure 4
Synopsis of Student Progress Through High School, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020 Grade 9 Cohort
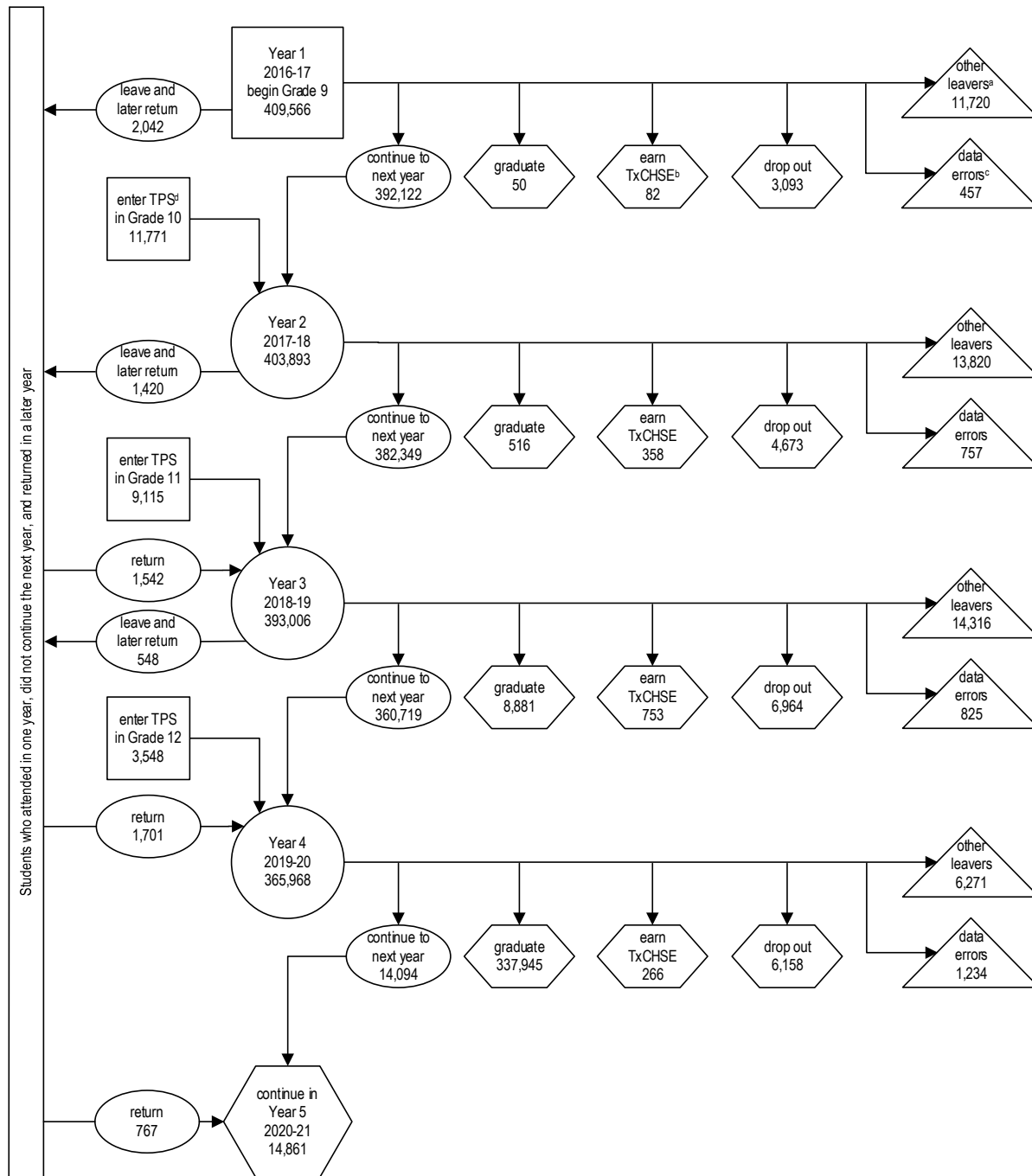
Note. ⬭ indicates students who returned to Texas public school. ☐ indicates students added to the cohort. ◇ indicates final student statuses. △ indicates students without final statuses. ○ indicates students who attended that school year.

[a]Students who left the Texas public school system for reasons other than graduating, receiving a Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency (TxCHSE), or dropping out and who did not return. [b]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [c]Data errors can result from missing student records (i.e., underreported students) or misreported student identification information. [d]Texas public schools.

Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

State summary. Many students took longer than four years to graduate. Students who began Grade 9 in Texas public schools for the first time in 2015-16 or who later joined the cohort were tracked into the fall one year following their anticipated graduation date of spring 2019. The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2019 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2019 left Texas public schools by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left Texas public schools by fall 2019 without graduating returned to Texas public schools and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups.

By the fall of 2019, 90.0 percent of the class of 2019 had graduated, 3.7 percent were still in high school, 0.5 percent had received a TxCHSE, and 5.9 percent had dropped out (Table 31 on page 94). By the fall of 2020, 92.0 percent of the class of 2019 had graduated, 1.3 percent were still in high school, 0.5 percent had received a TxCHSE, and 6.1 percent had dropped out (Table 31 on page 94 and Table 34 on page 98). The five-year graduation rate for the class of 2019 was 2.0 percentage points higher than the four-year graduation rate.

Rates by race/ethnicity, economic status, and gender. Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in the class of 2019, the percentage-point increases in graduation rate from fall 2019 to fall 2020 were highest for Hispanic and African American students (2.5 points each), followed by multiracial (1.7 points), White (1.3 points), and Asian (1.2 points) students (Table 31 on page 94). The graduation rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged increased by 2.6 percentage points, and the rate for students not identified as economically disadvantaged increased by 1.4 percentage points. Graduation rates increased by 2.5 percentage points for males and by 1.7 percentage points for females.

Rates by program participation and student characteristic. The five-year graduation rate for students participating in special education programs was 4.5 percentage points higher than the four-year rate, increasing from 77.9 percent to 82.4 percent (Table 32 on page 95). Students identified as English learners in Grades 9-12 had a five-year graduation rate of 83.2 percent, 5.2 percentage points higher than their four-year rate (Table 33 on page 96). The five-year graduation rates for both groups continued to be lower than the state average (92.0%).

Graduates. In 2013, the 83rd Texas Legislature established the Foundation High School Program (FHSP) as the new high school graduation program for all students who entered Grade 9 in the 2014-15 school year or later (Texas Education Code [TEC] §28.025, 2013). Prior to full implementation of the FHSP, students could graduate under the Recommended High School Program (RHSP), Advanced High School Program (AHSP), or Minimum High School Program (MHSP) (Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code [TAC] §74.71, 2021, adopted to be effective May 30, 2012).

Table 31
Grade 9 Four-Year and Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2019

Status date	Class[a]	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad.[c] rate (%)	Cont.[d] (N)	Cont.[e] rate (%)	TxCHSE[f] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
African American											
As of fall 2019	48,913	42,183	86.2	2,188	4.5	216	0.4	4,326	8.8	44,587	91.2
As of fall 2020	48,859	43,325	88.7	747	1.5	269	0.6	4,518	9.2	44,341	90.8
American Indian											
As of fall 2019	1,426	1,245	87.3	55	3.9	7	0.5	119	8.3	1,307	91.7
As of fall 2020	1,420	1,273	89.6	15	1.1	9	0.6	123	8.7	1,297	91.3
Asian											
As of fall 2019	16,913	16,302	96.4	313	1.9	18	0.1	280	1.7	16,633	98.3
As of fall 2020	16,903	16,493	97.6	120	0.7	21	0.1	269	1.6	16,634	98.4
Hispanic											
As of fall 2019	197,059	173,793	88.2	8,633	4.4	720	0.4	13,913	7.1	183,146	92.9
As of fall 2020	196,834	178,513	90.7	3,147	1.6	874	0.4	14,300	7.3	182,534	92.7
Pacific Islander											
As of fall 2019	583	513	88.0	15	2.6	6	1.0	49	8.4	534	91.6
As of fall 2020	580	520	89.7	6	1.0	6	1.0	48	8.3	532	91.7
White											
As of fall 2019	110,084	103,158	93.7	2,603	2.4	710	0.6	3,613	3.3	106,471	96.7
As of fall 2020	110,000	104,539	95.0	996	0.9	858	0.8	3,607	3.3	106,393	96.7
Multiracial											
As of fall 2019	7,473	6,827	91.4	232	3.1	52	0.7	362	4.8	7,111	95.2
As of fall 2020	7,476	6,957	93.1	90	1.2	63	0.8	366	4.9	7,110	95.1
Economically disadvantaged											
As of fall 2019	205,362	178,978	87.2	9,159	4.5	987	0.5	16,238	7.9	189,124	92.1
As of fall 2020	204,932	184,006	89.8	3,167	1.5	1,198	0.6	16,561	8.1	188,371	91.9
Not economically disadvantaged											
As of fall 2019	177,089	165,043	93.2	4,880	2.8	742	0.4	6,424	3.6	170,665	96.4
As of fall 2020	177,140	167,614	94.6	1,954	1.1	902	0.5	6,670	3.8	170,470	96.2
Female											
As of fall 2019	188,020	173,254	92.1	5,518	2.9	584	0.3	8,664	4.6	179,356	95.4
As of fall 2020	187,991	176,389	93.8	2,252	1.2	728	0.4	8,622	4.6	179,369	95.4
Male											
As of fall 2019	194,431	170,767	87.8	8,521	4.4	1,145	0.6	13,998	7.2	180,433	92.8
As of fall 2020	194,081	175,231	90.3	2,869	1.5	1,372	0.7	14,609	7.5	179,472	92.5
State											
As of fall 2019	382,451	344,021	90.0	14,039	3.7	1,729	0.5	22,662	5.9	359,789	94.1
As of fall 2020	382,072	351,620	92.0	5,121	1.3	2,100	0.5	23,231	6.1	358,841	93.9

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2019 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2019 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2019 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. [b]Graduates. [c]Graduation. [d]Continuers. [e]Continuation. [f]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

Table 32

Grade 9 Four-Year and Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Program Participation, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2019

Status date	Class[a]	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad.[c] rate (%)	Cont.[d] (N)	Cont.[e] rate (%)	TxCHSE[f] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
Bilingual or ESL[g]											
As of fall 2019	27,376	21,828	79.7	1,985	7.3	44	0.2	3,519	12.9	23,857	87.1
As of fall 2020	27,736	23,418	84.4	586	2.1	58	0.2	3,674	13.2	24,062	86.8
Career and technical education											
As of fall 2019	216,764	207,350	95.7	2,935	1.4	456	0.2	6,023	2.8	210,741	97.2
As of fall 2020	216,830	209,459	96.6	906	0.4	558	0.3	5,907	2.7	210,923	97.3
Gifted and talented											
As of fall 2019	34,696	34,366	99.0	61	0.2	52	0.1	217	0.6	34,479	99.4
As of fall 2020	34,707	34,428	99.2	11	<0.1	63	0.2	205	0.6	34,502	99.4
Special education											
As of fall 2019	31,537	24,575	77.9	3,896	12.4	97	0.3	2,969	9.4	28,568	90.6
As of fall 2020	31,590	26,027	82.4	2,343	7.4	123	0.4	3,097	9.8	28,493	90.2
Title I											
As of fall 2019	173,206	152,154	87.8	6,403	3.7	859	0.5	13,790	8.0	159,416	92.0
As of fall 2020	174,002	156,183	89.8	2,540	1.5	1,043	0.6	14,236	8.2	159,766	91.8
State											
As of fall 2019	382,451	344,021	90.0	14,039	3.7	1,729	0.5	22,662	5.9	359,789	94.1
As of fall 2020	382,072	351,620	92.0	5,121	1.3	2,100	0.5	23,231	6.1	358,841	93.9

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Program participation was assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category.

[a]The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2019 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2019 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2019 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. [b]Graduates. [c]Graduation. [d]Continuers. [e]Continuation. [f]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [g]English as a second language.

Table 33

Grade 9 Four-Year and Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2019

Status date	Class[a] (N)	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad.[c] rate (%)	Cont.[d] (N)	Cont.[e] rate (%)	TxCHSE[f] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
At-risk											
As of fall 2019	163,437	138,769	84.9	10,032	6.1	886	0.5	13,750	8.4	149,687	91.6
As of fall 2020	163,142	144,370	88.5	3,766	2.3	1,105	0.7	13,901	8.5	149,241	91.5
Dyslexia											
As of fall 2019	11,403	10,610	93.0	265	2.3	27	0.2	501	4.4	10,902	95.6
As of fall 2020	11,383	10,792	94.8	53	0.5	31	0.3	507	4.5	10,876	95.5
Ever EL in K-12[g]											
As of fall 2019	119,863	105,318	87.9	5,608	4.7	291	0.2	8,646	7.2	111,217	92.8
As of fall 2020	119,715	108,526	90.7	1,934	1.6	350	0.3	8,905	7.4	110,810	92.6
Ever EL in 9-12[h]											
As of fall 2019	40,831	31,850	78.0	3,285	8.0	92	0.2	5,604	13.7	35,227	86.3
As of fall 2020	40,746	33,903	83.2	968	2.4	112	0.3	5,763	14.1	34,983	85.9
EL in last year[i]											
As of fall 2019	31,124	23,636	75.9	2,360	7.6	71	0.2	5,057	16.2	26,067	83.8
As of fall 2020	31,270	25,350	81.1	646	2.1	89	0.3	5,185	16.6	26,085	83.4
Foster care in 9-12[j]											
As of fall 2019	1,493	934	62.6	157	10.5	29	1.9	373	25.0	1,120	75.0
As of fall 2020	1,486	1,004	67.6	68	4.6	37	2.5	377	25.4	1,109	74.6
Foster care in last year[k]											
As of fall 2019	661	429	64.9	38	5.7	15	2.3	179	27.1	482	72.9
As of fall 2020	645	448	69.5	12	1.9	18	2.8	167	25.9	478	74.1
Homeless in 9-12[l]											
As of fall 2019	23,975	19,140	79.8	1,679	7.0	146	0.6	3,010	12.6	20,965	87.4
As of fall 2020	24,074	20,162	83.8	555	2.3	180	0.7	3,177	13.2	20,897	86.8
Immigrant											
As of fall 2019	4,938	3,611	73.1	327	6.6	12	0.2	988	20.0	3,950	80.0
As of fall 2020	4,889	3,807	77.9	82	1.7	12	0.2	988	20.2	3,901	79.8
Migrant											
As of fall 2019	1,910	1,660	86.9	76	4.0	3	0.2	171	9.0	1,739	91.0
As of fall 2020	1,888	1,699	90.0	19	1.0	4	0.2	166	8.8	1,722	91.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category.

[a]The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2019 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2019 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2019 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. [b]Graduates. [c]Graduation. [d]Continuers. [e]Continuation. [f]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [g]Students identified as English learners (ELs) at any time while attending TPS. [h]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [i]Students identified as ELs in their last year in TPS. [j]Students identified as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [k]Students identified as in foster care in their last year in TPS. [l]Students identified as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [m]Not applicable.

continues

Table 33 (continued)

Grade 9 Four-Year and Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2019 (continued)

Status date	Class[a]	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad.[c] rate (%)	Cont.[d] (N)	Cont.[e] rate (%)	TxCHSE[f] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
Military-connected – federal definition											
As of fall 2019	n/a[m]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
As of fall 2020	4,318	4,171	96.6	31	0.7	17	0.4	99	2.3	4,219	97.7
Military-connected – state definition											
As of fall 2019	5,111	4,878	95.4	107	2.1	15	0.3	111	2.2	5,000	97.8
As of fall 2020	5,148	4,952	96.2	68	1.3	18	0.3	110	2.1	5,038	97.9
State											
As of fall 2019	382,451	344,021	90.0	14,039	3.7	1,729	0.5	22,662	5.9	359,789	94.1
As of fall 2020	382,072	351,620	92.0	5,121	1.3	2,100	0.5	23,231	6.1	358,841	93.9

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category.

[a]The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2019 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2019 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2019 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. [b]Graduates. [c]Graduation. [d]Continuers. [e]Continuation. [f]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [g]Students identified as English learners (ELs) at any time while attending TPS. [h]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [i]Students identified as ELs in their last year in TPS. [j]Students identified as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [k]Students identified as in foster care in their last year in TPS. [l]Students identified as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [m]Not applicable.

Table 34

Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2016, as of Fall 2017, Class of 2017, as of Fall 2018, Class of 2018, as of Fall 2019, and Class of 2019, as of Fall 2020

Class year	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	TxCHSE[e] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
African American											
Class of 2016	45,983	40,579	88.2	586	1.3	313	0.7	4,505	9.8	41,478	90.2
Class of 2017	46,853	41,594	88.8	590	1.3	292	0.6	4,377	9.3	42,476	90.7
Class of 2018	48,212	42,947	89.1	615	1.3	278	0.6	4,372	9.1	43,840	90.9
Class of 2019	48,859	43,325	88.7	747	1.5	269	0.6	4,518	9.2	44,341	90.8
American Indian											
Class of 2016	1,395	1,250	89.6	24	1.7	13	0.9	108	7.7	1,287	92.3
Class of 2017	1,400	1,250	89.3	17	1.2	8	0.6	125	8.9	1,275	91.1
Class of 2018	1,382	1,211	87.6	24	1.7	8	0.6	139	10.1	1,243	89.9
Class of 2019	1,420	1,273	89.6	15	1.1	9	0.6	123	8.7	1,297	91.3
Asian											
Class of 2016	13,759	13,337	96.9	103	0.7	10	0.1	309	2.2	13,450	97.8
Class of 2017	14,359	13,958	97.2	123	0.9	24	0.2	254	1.8	14,105	98.2
Class of 2018	15,854	15,462	97.5	123	0.8	15	0.1	254	1.6	15,600	98.4
Class of 2019	16,903	16,493	97.6	120	0.7	21	0.1	269	1.6	16,634	98.4
Hispanic											
Class of 2016	172,612	155,124	89.9	2,494	1.4	1,031	0.6	13,963	8.1	158,649	91.9
Class of 2017	179,220	162,037	90.4	2,400	1.3	937	0.5	13,846	7.7	165,374	92.3
Class of 2018	187,590	170,322	90.8	2,392	1.3	962	0.5	13,914	7.4	173,676	92.6
Class of 2019	196,834	178,513	90.7	3,147	1.6	874	0.4	14,300	7.3	182,534	92.7
Pacific Islander											
Class of 2016	475	437	92.0	4	0.8	4	0.8	30	6.3	445	93.7
Class of 2017	577	525	91.0	8	1.4	5	0.9	39	6.8	538	93.2
Class of 2018	568	510	89.8	3	0.5	7	1.2	48	8.5	520	91.5
Class of 2019	580	520	89.7	6	1.0	6	1.0	48	8.3	532	91.7
White											
Class of 2016	109,179	103,596	94.9	885	0.8	974	0.9	3,724	3.4	105,455	96.6
Class of 2017	110,546	105,106	95.1	893	0.8	898	0.8	3,649	3.3	106,897	96.7
Class of 2018	111,443	105,923	95.0	908	0.8	934	0.8	3,678	3.3	107,765	96.7
Class of 2019	110,000	104,539	95.0	996	0.9	858	0.8	3,607	3.3	106,393	96.7
Multiracial											
Class of 2016	6,277	5,831	92.9	85	1.4	68	1.1	293	4.7	5,984	95.3
Class of 2017	6,637	6,253	94.2	58	0.9	56	0.8	270	4.1	6,367	95.9
Class of 2018	7,066	6,597	93.4	53	0.8	58	0.8	358	5.1	6,708	94.9
Class of 2019	7,476	6,957	93.1	90	1.2	63	0.8	366	4.9	7,110	95.1

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

continues

Table 34 (continued)

Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2016, as of Fall 2017, Class of 2017, as of Fall 2018, Class of 2018, as of Fall 2019, and Class of 2019, as of Fall 2020

Class year	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	TxCHSE[e] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
Economically disadvantaged											
Class of 2016	177,434	157,882	89.0	2,392	1.3	1,303	0.7	15,857	8.9	161,577	91.1
Class of 2017	183,936	165,007	89.7	2,433	1.3	1,249	0.7	15,247	8.3	168,689	91.7
Class of 2018	198,441	178,614	90.0	2,435	1.2	1,326	0.7	16,066	8.1	182,375	91.9
Class of 2019	204,932	184,006	89.8	3,167	1.5	1,198	0.6	16,561	8.1	188,371	91.9
Not economically disadvantaged											
Class of 2016	172,246	162,272	94.2	1,789	1.0	1,110	0.6	7,075	4.1	165,171	95.9
Class of 2017	175,656	165,716	94.3	1,656	0.9	971	0.6	7,313	4.2	168,343	95.8
Class of 2018	173,674	164,358	94.6	1,683	1.0	936	0.5	6,697	3.9	166,977	96.1
Class of 2019	177,140	167,614	94.6	1,954	1.1	902	0.5	6,670	3.8	170,470	96.2
Female											
Class of 2016	171,306	159,830	93.3	1,703	1.0	818	0.5	8,955	5.2	162,351	94.8
Class of 2017	176,938	166,163	93.9	1,676	0.9	739	0.4	8,360	4.7	168,578	95.3
Class of 2018	183,322	172,070	93.9	1,698	0.9	791	0.4	8,763	4.8	174,559	95.2
Class of 2019	187,991	176,389	93.8	2,252	1.2	728	0.4	8,622	4.6	179,369	95.4
Male											
Class of 2016	178,374	160,324	89.9	2,478	1.4	1,595	0.9	13,977	7.8	164,397	92.2
Class of 2017	182,654	164,560	90.1	2,413	1.3	1,481	0.8	14,200	7.8	168,454	92.2
Class of 2018	188,793	170,902	90.5	2,420	1.3	1,471	0.8	14,000	7.4	174,793	92.6
Class of 2019	194,081	175,231	90.3	2,869	1.5	1,372	0.7	14,609	7.5	179,472	92.5
State											
Class of 2016	349,680	320,154	91.6	4,181	1.2	2,413	0.7	22,932	6.6	326,748	93.4
Class of 2017	359,592	330,723	92.0	4,089	1.1	2,220	0.6	22,560	6.3	337,032	93.7
Class of 2018	372,115	342,972	92.2	4,118	1.1	2,262	0.6	22,763	6.1	349,352	93.9
Class of 2019	382,072	351,620	92.0	5,121	1.3	2,100	0.5	23,231	6.1	358,841	93.9

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

Students who graduated under the FHSP were able to earn an endorsement and earn a distinguished level of achievement (DLA) (19 TAC §74.13, 2021, amended to be effective August 1, 2020; 19 TAC §74.11, 2021, amended to be effective August 1, 2020; TEC §28.025, 2019). Students in the class of 2019 receiving special education services were not eligible to pursue an endorsement before the 2019-20 school year if they received a modified curriculum in any course required for an endorsement or failed to perform satisfactorily on the required state assessments (19 TAC §89.1070(c), 2021, amended to be effective February 15, 2018). These students are excluded from the numbers and rates presented in Table 35 on page 101. Beginning with 2019-20 graduates, students receiving special education services were able to earn an endorsement if they successfully completed curriculum requirements with or without modifications (TEC §28.025, 2019).

Of the 347,414 graduates in the class of 2019 with diploma program information, 99.7 percent graduated under the FHSP by the fall of 2020 (Table 35). Because some students in the class of 2019 graduated under the MSHP, RHSP, or AHSP, three sets of diploma program rates were calculated. MHSP, RHSP, and AHSP rates were each calculated by dividing the number of students graduating under each program by the sum of graduates in the three programs. Each of the three rates for FHSP graduates was derived by dividing the number of graduates with the specified program options by the sum of all FHSP graduates. The rate for students graduating under the RHSP, AHSP, or FHSP with an endorsement (with or without a distinguished level of achievement) was calculated by dividing the sum of students graduating under each of the programs as specified by all graduates with diploma information. By the fall of 2020, of the 346,381 FHSP graduates who were eligible to earn an endorsement, 13.4 percent graduated without an endorsement, 4.3 percent graduated with an endorsement but did not earn a DLA, and 82.3 percent graduated with an endorsement and earned a DLA. Of all 347,414 graduates with diploma program information, 86.5 percent graduated under the RHSP or AHSP or the FHSP with an endorsement (with or without a DLA) by the fall of 2020, a decrease of 1.1 percentage points from the fall of 2019 (TEA, 2020b, Table 27).

Grade 9 Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

State summary. Students who began Grade 9 in Texas public schools for the first time in 2014-15 or who later joined the cohort were tracked into the fall semester two years following their anticipated graduation date of spring 2018. The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2018 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2018 left Texas public schools by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left Texas public schools by fall 2018 without graduating returned to Texas public schools and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups.

By the fall of 2018, 90.0 percent of the class of 2018 had graduated, 3.8 percent were still in high school, 0.4 percent had received a TxCHSE, and 5.7 percent had dropped out (Table 36 on page 103). By the fall of 2020, 92.6 percent of the class had graduated, 0.6 percent were still in high school, 0.7 percent had received a TxCHSE, and 6.1 percent had dropped out (Table 36 on page 103 and Table 39 on page 108). The six-year graduation rate for the class of 2018 was 2.6 percentage points higher than the four-year graduation rate.

Rates by race/ethnicity, economic status, and gender. Across the five largest racial/ ethnic groups in the class of 2018, the percentage-point increase between the four-year and six-year graduation rates was highest for Hispanic students (3.2 points), followed by African American (3.1 points), multiracial (2.3 points), White (1.8 points), and Asian (1.4 points) students (Table 36 on page 103). Over the two-year period, the graduation rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged increased by 3.3 percentage points, and the rate for those not identified as economically disadvantaged increased by 1.9 percentage points. Graduation rates increased by 3.2 percentage points for males and by 2.2 percentage points for females.

Table 35

Graduates Within Diploma Programs, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, Gender, Program Participation, and Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2019 Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Cohort, as of Fall 2020

Group	Minimum (N)	Minimum (%)	Recom.[a] (N)	Recom. (%)	Advanced (N)	Advanced (%)	FHSP,[b] no endorsement (N)	FHSP, no endorsement (%)
African American	62	38.3	68	42.0	32	19.8	7,696	18.2
American Indian	2	28.6	3	42.9	2	28.6	217	17.4
Asian	14	16.9	25	30.1	44	53.0	789	4.8
Hispanic	128	28.4	160	35.5	163	36.1	24,883	14.2
Pacific Islander	0	0.0	1	100	0	0.0	89	17.4
White	81	26.0	39	12.5	191	61.4	11,858	11.5
Multiracial	5	27.8	7	38.9	6	33.3	923	13.4
Econ. disad.[c]	197	32.4	205	33.7	206	33.9	29,830	16.5
Not econ. disad.	95	22.4	98	23.1	232	54.6	16,625	10.0
Female	141	26.4	161	30.1	232	43.4	18,851	10.8
Male	151	30.3	142	28.5	206	41.3	27,604	16.0
Bilingual or ESL[d]	60	28.4	120	56.9	31	14.7	4,775	21.1
CTE[e]	104	20.5	64	12.6	340	66.9	21,429	10.4
Gifted and talented	0	0.0	1	1.2	83	98.8	696	2.0
Special education	72	77.4	13	14.0	8	8.6	12,513	56.4
Title I	117	25.6	195	42.7	145	31.7	19,525	12.7
At-risk	176	30.0	207	35.3	203	34.6	33,639	24.0
Dyslexia	5	31.3	1	6.3	10	62.5	1,913	18.4
EL[f]								
In K-12[g]	85	22.4	155	40.9	139	36.7	14,298	13.4
In 9-12[h]	70	28.5	135	54.9	41	16.7	6,470	19.6
In last year[i]	64	29.0	124	56.1	33	14.9	5,369	21.9
Foster care								
In 9-12[j]	0	0.0	2	100	0	0.0	403	42.3
In last year[k]	0	.	0	.	0	.	187	44.4
Homeless in 9-12[l]	37	42.5	27	31.0	23	26.4	4,726	24.1
Immigrant	24	20.3	88	74.6	6	5.1	635	17.3
Migrant	0	0.0	1	100	0	0.0	218	13.0
Military-connected								
Federal definition	4	40.0	2	20.0	4	40.0	452	11.0
State definition	4	40.0	2	20.0	4	40.0	532	10.9
State	292	28.3	303	29.3	438	42.4	46,455	13.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category. The number of graduates summed across diploma programs does not match the state-level count of graduates presented elsewhere in this report because 4,202 students were not eligible to pursue an endorsement, and 4 students were missing diploma program information. A dot (.) indicates there were no students in the group.

[a]Recommended. [b]Foundation High School Program. [c]Economically disadvantaged. [d]English as a second language. [e]Career and technical education. [f]English learner. [g]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Texas public schools (TPS). [h]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [i]Students identified as ELs in their last year in TPS. [j]Students identified as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [k]Students identified as in foster care in their last year in TPS. [l]Students identified as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [m]Distinguished level of achievement.

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Table 35 (continued)

Graduates Within Diploma Programs, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, Gender, Program Participation, and Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2019 Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Cohort, as of Fall 2020

Group	FHSP[b] with endorsement, no DLA[m] (N)	FHSP with endorsement, no DLA (%)	FHSP with endorsement and DLA (N)	FHSP with endorsement and DLA (%)	Recommended, Advanced, or FHSP with endorsement (N)	Recommended, Advanced, or FHSP with endorsement (%)
African American	2,506	5.9	32,133	75.9	34,739	81.7
American Indian	63	5.0	969	77.6	1,037	82.6
Asian	495	3.0	15,095	92.2	15,659	95.1
Hispanic	8,374	4.8	142,445	81.1	151,142	85.8
Pacific Islander	17	3.3	406	79.3	424	82.7
White	3,256	3.2	88,202	85.4	91,688	88.5
Multiracial	228	3.3	5,737	83.3	5,978	86.6
Econ. disad.[c]	9,955	5.5	140,654	78.0	151,020	83.4
Not econ. disad.	4,984	3.0	144,333	87.0	149,647	89.9
Female	6,997	4.0	148,419	85.2	155,809	89.1
Male	7,942	4.6	136,568	79.3	144,858	83.9
Bilingual or ESL[d]	1,620	7.2	16,244	71.8	18,015	78.8
CTE[e]	8,725	4.2	176,420	85.4	185,549	89.6
Gifted and talented	660	1.9	32,972	96.0	33,716	98.0
Special education	2,006	9.0	7,648	34.5	9,675	43.5
Title I	8,788	5.7	125,172	81.6	134,300	87.2
At-risk	9,120	6.5	97,351	69.5	106,881	76.0
Dyslexia	632	6.1	7,852	75.5	8,495	81.6
EL[f]						
In K-12[g]	5,714	5.3	86,914	81.3	92,922	86.6
In 9-12[h]	2,223	6.7	24,259	73.6	26,658	80.3
In last year[i]	1,769	7.2	17,352	70.9	19,278	78.0
Foster care						
In 9-12[j]	51	5.4	499	52.4	552	57.8
In last year[k]	21	5.0	213	50.6	234	55.6
Homeless in 9-12[l]	1,241	6.3	13,682	69.6	14,973	75.9
Immigrant	240	6.5	2,796	76.2	3,130	82.6
Migrant	90	5.4	1,365	81.6	1,456	87.0
Military-connected						
Federal definition	112	2.7	3,556	86.3	3,674	89.0
State definition	125	2.6	4,240	86.6	4,371	89.1
State	14,939	4.3	284,987	82.3	300,667	86.5

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category. The number of graduates summed across diploma programs does not match the state-level count of graduates presented elsewhere in this report because 4,202 students were not eligible to pursue an endorsement, and 4 students were missing diploma program information. A dot (.) indicates there were no students in the group.

[a]Recommended. [b]Foundation High School Program. [c]Economically disadvantaged. [d]English as a second language. [e]Career and technical education. [f]English learner. [g]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Texas public schools (TPS). [h]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [i]Students identified as ELs in their last year in TPS. [j]Students identified as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [k]Students identified as in foster care in their last year in TPS. [l]Students identified as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [m]Distinguished level of achievement.

Table 36

Grade 9 Four-Year, Five-Year Extended, and Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2018

Status date	Class[a]	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad.[c] rate (%)	Cont.[d] (N)	Cont.[e] rate (%)	TxCHSE[f] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
African American											
As of fall 2018	48,333	41,802	86.5	2,330	4.8	196	0.4	4,005	8.3	44,328	91.7
As of fall 2019	48,212	42,947	89.1	615	1.3	278	0.6	4,372	9.1	43,840	90.9
As of fall 2020	48,224	43,210	89.6	343	0.7	329	0.7	4,342	9.0	43,882	91.0
American Indian											
As of fall 2018	1,382	1,176	85.1	74	5.4	5	0.4	127	9.2	1,255	90.8
As of fall 2019	1,382	1,211	87.6	24	1.7	8	0.6	139	10.1	1,243	89.9
As of fall 2020	1,386	1,227	88.5	9	0.6	11	0.8	139	10.0	1,247	90.0
Asian											
As of fall 2018	15,867	15,300	96.4	322	2.0	15	0.1	230	1.4	15,637	98.6
As of fall 2019	15,854	15,462	97.5	123	0.8	15	0.1	254	1.6	15,600	98.4
As of fall 2020	15,852	15,506	97.8	72	0.5	17	0.1	257	1.6	15,595	98.4
Hispanic											
As of fall 2018	188,106	165,858	88.2	8,562	4.6	710	0.4	12,976	6.9	175,130	93.1
As of fall 2019	187,590	170,322	90.8	2,392	1.3	962	0.5	13,914	7.4	173,676	92.6
As of fall 2020	187,675	171,448	91.4	1,319	0.7	1,078	0.6	13,830	7.4	173,845	92.6
Pacific Islander											
As of fall 2018	572	494	86.4	27	4.7	3	0.5	48	8.4	524	91.6
As of fall 2019	568	510	89.8	3	0.5	7	1.2	48	8.5	520	91.5
As of fall 2020	568	510	89.8	2	0.4	9	1.6	47	8.3	521	91.7
White											
As of fall 2018	111,598	104,418	93.6	2,787	2.5	690	0.6	3,703	3.3	107,895	96.7
As of fall 2019	111,443	105,923	95.0	908	0.8	934	0.8	3,678	3.3	107,765	96.7
As of fall 2020	111,440	106,267	95.4	526	0.5	1,004	0.9	3,643	3.3	107,797	96.7
Multiracial											
As of fall 2018	7,061	6,452	91.4	248	3.5	38	0.5	323	4.6	6,738	95.4
As of fall 2019	7,066	6,597	93.4	53	0.8	58	0.8	358	5.1	6,708	94.9
As of fall 2020	7,064	6,618	93.7	28	0.4	65	0.9	353	5.0	6,711	95.0
Economically disadvantaged											
As of fall 2018	199,025	173,685	87.3	9,225	4.6	967	0.5	15,148	7.6	183,877	92.4
As of fall 2019	198,441	178,614	90.0	2,435	1.2	1,326	0.7	16,066	8.1	182,375	91.9
As of fall 2020	198,456	179,710	90.6	1,366	0.7	1,474	0.7	15,906	8.0	182,550	92.0

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2018 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2018 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2018 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. [b]Graduates. [c]Graduation. [d]Continuers. [e]Continuation. [f]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

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Table 36 (continued)

Grade 9 Four-Year, Five-Year Extended, and Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2018

Status date	Class[a] (N)	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad.[c] rate (%)	Cont.[d] (N)	Cont.[e] rate (%)	TxCHSE[f] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
Not economically disadvantaged											
As of fall 2018	173,894	161,815	93.1	5,125	2.9	690	0.4	6,264	3.6	167,630	96.4
As of fall 2019	173,674	164,358	94.6	1,683	1.0	936	0.5	6,697	3.9	166,977	96.1
As of fall 2020	173,753	165,076	95.0	933	0.5	1,039	0.6	6,705	3.9	167,048	96.1
Female											
As of fall 2018	183,557	169,071	92.1	5,573	3.0	578	0.3	8,335	4.5	175,222	95.5
As of fall 2019	183,322	172,070	93.9	1,698	0.9	791	0.4	8,763	4.8	174,559	95.2
As of fall 2020	183,411	172,872	94.3	1,029	0.6	886	0.5	8,624	4.7	174,787	95.3
Male											
As of fall 2018	189,362	166,429	87.9	8,777	4.6	1,079	0.6	13,077	6.9	176,285	93.1
As of fall 2019	188,793	170,902	90.5	2,420	1.3	1,471	0.8	14,000	7.4	174,793	92.6
As of fall 2020	188,798	171,914	91.1	1,270	0.7	1,627	0.9	13,987	7.4	174,811	92.6
State											
As of fall 2018	372,919	335,500	90.0	14,350	3.8	1,657	0.4	21,412	5.7	351,507	94.3
As of fall 2019	372,115	342,972	92.2	4,118	1.1	2,262	0.6	22,763	6.1	349,352	93.9
As of fall 2020	372,209	344,786	92.6	2,299	0.6	2,513	0.7	22,611	6.1	349,598	93.9

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2018 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2018 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2018 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. [b]Graduates. [c]Graduation. [d]Continuers. [e]Continuation. [f]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

Rates by program participation and student characteristic. The six-year graduation rate for students participating in special education programs was 7.1 percentage points higher than the four-year rate, increasing from 77.9 percent to 85.0 percent (Table 37). Students identified as English learners in Grades 9-12 had a six-year graduation rate of 83.6 percent, 6.4 percentage points higher than their four-year rate (Table 38 on page 106). The six-year graduation rates for both groups continued to be lower than the state average (92.6%).

Table 37

Grade 9 Four-Year, Five-Year Extended, and Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Program Participation, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2018

Status date	Class[a]	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad.[c] rate (%)	Cont.[d] (N)	Cont.[e] rate (%)	TxCHSE[f] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
Bilingual or ESL[g]											
As of fall 2018	23,212	18,054	77.8	2,053	8.8	31	0.1	3,074	13.2	20,138	86.8
As of fall 2019	22,909	19,157	83.6	365	1.6	44	0.2	3,343	14.6	19,566	85.4
As of fall 2020	22,997	19,440	84.5	168	0.7	48	0.2	3,341	14.5	19,656	85.5
Career and technical education											
As of fall 2018	209,122	200,364	95.8	2,846	1.4	394	0.2	5,518	2.6	203,604	97.4
As of fall 2019	209,202	202,394	96.7	648	0.3	567	0.3	5,593	2.7	203,609	97.3
As of fall 2020	209,230	202,719	96.9	378	0.2	625	0.3	5,508	2.6	203,722	97.4
Gifted and talented											
As of fall 2018	33,600	33,289	99.1	65	0.2	45	0.1	201	0.6	33,399	99.4
As of fall 2019	33,602	33,346	99.2	6	<0.1	58	0.2	192	0.6	33,410	99.4
As of fall 2020	33,602	33,352	99.3	3	<0.1	67	0.2	180	0.5	33,422	99.5
Special education											
As of fall 2018	29,582	23,033	77.9	3,689	12.5	68	0.2	2,792	9.4	26,790	90.6
As of fall 2019	29,625	24,499	82.7	2,103	7.1	102	0.3	2,921	9.9	26,704	90.1
As of fall 2020	29,590	25,158	85.0	1,381	4.7	114	0.4	2,937	9.9	26,653	90.1
Title I											
As of fall 2018	165,984	145,620	87.7	6,428	3.9	848	0.5	13,088	7.9	152,896	92.1
As of fall 2019	166,446	149,522	89.8	1,829	1.1	1,141	0.7	13,954	8.4	152,492	91.6
As of fall 2020	166,703	150,514	90.3	1,069	0.6	1,276	0.8	13,844	8.3	152,859	91.7
State											
As of fall 2018	372,919	335,500	90.0	14,350	3.8	1,657	0.4	21,412	5.7	351,507	94.3
As of fall 2019	372,115	342,972	92.2	4,118	1.1	2,262	0.6	22,763	6.1	349,352	93.9
As of fall 2020	372,209	344,786	92.6	2,299	0.6	2,513	0.7	22,611	6.1	349,598	93.9

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Program participation was assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category.

[a]The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2018 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2018 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2018 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. [b]Graduates. [c]Graduation. [d]Continuers. [e]Continuation. [f]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [g]English as a second language.

Table 38

Grade 9 Four-Year, Five-Year Extended, and Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2018

Status date	Class[a]	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad.[c] rate (%)	Cont.[d] (N)	Cont.[e] rate (%)	TxCHSE[f] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
At-risk											
As of fall 2018	160,781	136,560	84.9	10,281	6.4	822	0.5	13,118	8.2	147,663	91.8
As of fall 2019	159,950	142,030	88.8	2,897	1.8	1,181	0.7	13,842	8.7	146,108	91.3
As of fall 2020	159,987	143,293	89.6	1,662	1.0	1,317	0.8	13,715	8.6	146,272	91.4
Dyslexia											
As of fall 2018	10,486	9,757	93.0	262	2.5	27	0.3	440	4.2	10,046	95.8
As of fall 2019	10,465	9,914	94.7	56	0.5	40	0.4	455	4.3	10,010	95.7
As of fall 2020	10,464	9,944	95.0	23	0.2	47	0.4	450	4.3	10,014	95.7
Ever EL in K-12[g]											
As of fall 2018	114,092	100,008	87.7	5,718	5.0	314	0.3	8,052	7.1	106,040	92.9
As of fall 2019	113,741	103,049	90.6	1,510	1.3	419	0.4	8,763	7.7	104,978	92.3
As of fall 2020	113,791	103,811	91.2	796	0.7	468	0.4	8,716	7.7	105,075	92.3
Ever EL in 9-12[h]											
As of fall 2018	35,225	27,186	77.2	3,148	8.9	74	0.2	4,817	13.7	30,408	86.3
As of fall 2019	34,969	28,848	82.5	721	2.1	98	0.3	5,302	15.2	29,667	84.8
As of fall 2020	35,005	29,271	83.6	339	1.0	107	0.3	5,288	15.1	29,717	84.9
EL in last year[i]											
As of fall 2018	26,169	19,663	75.1	2,164	8.3	53	0.2	4,289	16.4	21,880	83.6
As of fall 2019	26,147	20,971	80.2	441	1.7	73	0.3	4,662	17.8	21,485	82.2
As of fall 2020	26,188	21,285	81.3	190	0.7	80	0.3	4,633	17.7	21,555	82.3
Foster care in 9-12[j]											
As of fall 2018	1,433	909	63.4	162	11.3	40	2.8	322	22.5	1,111	77.5
As of fall 2019	1,423	985	69.2	49	3.4	48	3.4	341	24.0	1,082	76.0
As of fall 2020	1,421	1,005	70.7	19	1.3	53	3.7	344	24.2	1,077	75.8
Foster care in last year[k]											
As of fall 2018	610	394	64.6	38	6.2	16	2.6	162	26.6	448	73.4
As of fall 2019	601	413	68.7	11	1.8	19	3.2	158	26.3	443	73.7
As of fall 2020	599	415	69.3	5	0.8	20	3.3	159	26.5	440	73.5
Homeless in 9-12[l]											
As of fall 2018	22,768	18,222	80.0	1,732	7.6	130	0.6	2,684	11.8	20,084	88.2
As of fall 2019	22,828	19,187	84.1	454	2.0	204	0.9	2,983	13.1	19,845	86.9
As of fall 2020	22,862	19,418	84.9	225	1.0	233	1.0	2,986	13.1	19,876	86.9

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category.

[a]The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2018 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2018 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2018 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. [b]Graduates. [c]Graduation. [d]Continuers. [e]Continuation. [f]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [g]Students identified as English learners (ELs) at any time while attending TPS. [h]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [i]Students identified as ELs in their last year in TPS. [j]Students identified as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [k]Students identified as in foster care in their last year in TPS. [l]Students identified as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [m]Not applicable.

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Table 38 (continued)

Grade 9 Four-Year, Five-Year Extended, and Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2018

Status date	Class[a]	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad.[c] rate (%)	Cont.[d] (N)	Cont.[e] rate (%)	TxCHSE[f] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
Immigrant											
As of fall 2018	4,442	3,249	73.1	318	7.2	2	<0.1	873	19.7	3,569	80.3
As of fall 2019	4,395	3,428	78.0	59	1.3	3	0.1	905	20.6	3,490	79.4
As of fall 2020	4,376	3,457	79.0	10	0.2	4	0.1	905	20.7	3,471	79.3
Migrant											
As of fall 2018	2,050	1,737	84.7	113	5.5	14	0.7	186	9.1	1,864	90.9
As of fall 2019	2,049	1,807	88.2	21	1.0	18	0.9	203	9.9	1,846	90.1
As of fall 2020	2,045	1,818	88.9	9	0.4	19	0.9	199	9.7	1,846	90.3
Military-connected - federal definition											
As of fall 2018	n/a[m]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
As of fall 2019	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
As of fall 2020	4,247	4,120	97.0	8	0.2	16	0.4	103	2.4	4,144	97.6
Military-connected - state definition											
As of fall 2018	4,975	4,767	95.8	88	1.8	13	0.3	107	2.2	4,868	97.8
As of fall 2019	4,983	4,826	96.8	24	0.5	18	0.4	115	2.3	4,868	97.7
As of fall 2020	4,994	4,838	96.9	23	0.5	19	0.4	114	2.3	4,880	97.7
State											
As of fall 2018	372,919	335,500	90.0	14,350	3.8	1,657	0.4	21,412	5.7	351,507	94.3
As of fall 2019	372,115	342,972	92.2	4,118	1.1	2,262	0.6	22,763	6.1	349,352	93.9
As of fall 2020	372,209	344,786	92.6	2,299	0.6	2,513	0.7	22,611	6.1	349,598	93.9

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Students may be counted in more than one category.

[a]The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2018 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2018 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2018 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. [b]Graduates. [c]Graduation. [d]Continuers. [e]Continuation. [f]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [g]Students identified as English learners (ELs) at any time while attending TPS. [h]Students identified as ELs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [i]Students identified as ELs in their last year in TPS. [j]Students identified as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [k]Students identified as in foster care in their last year in TPS. [l]Students identified as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [m]Not applicable.

Table 39

Grade 9 Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015, as of Fall 2017, Class of 2016, as of Fall 2018, Class of 2017, as of Fall 2019, and Class of 2018, as of Fall 2020

Class year	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	TxCHSE[e] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
African American											
Class of 2015	44,421	39,217	88.3	268	0.6	426	1.0	4,510	10.2	39,911	89.8
Class of 2016	45,954	40,807	88.8	259	0.6	406	0.9	4,482	9.8	41,472	90.2
Class of 2017	46,859	41,818	89.2	294	0.6	394	0.8	4,353	9.3	42,506	90.7
Class of 2018	48,224	43,210	89.6	343	0.7	329	0.7	4,342	9.0	43,882	91.0
American Indian											
Class of 2015	1,481	1,319	89.1	7	0.5	21	1.4	134	9.0	1,347	91.0
Class of 2016	1,397	1,260	90.2	11	0.8	14	1.0	112	8.0	1,285	92.0
Class of 2017	1,396	1,256	90.0	2	0.1	10	0.7	128	9.2	1,268	90.8
Class of 2018	1,386	1,227	88.5	9	0.6	11	0.8	139	10.0	1,247	90.0
Asian											
Class of 2015	13,423	12,991	96.8	59	0.4	36	0.3	337	2.5	13,086	97.5
Class of 2016	13,757	13,371	97.2	66	0.5	11	0.1	309	2.2	13,448	97.8
Class of 2017	14,357	14,002	97.5	70	0.5	24	0.2	261	1.8	14,096	98.2
Class of 2018	15,852	15,506	97.8	72	0.5	17	0.1	257	1.6	15,595	98.4
Hispanic											
Class of 2015	164,116	147,846	90.1	1,103	0.7	1,500	0.9	13,667	8.3	150,449	91.7
Class of 2016	172,476	156,168	90.5	1,006	0.6	1,248	0.7	14,054	8.1	158,422	91.9
Class of 2017	179,172	163,004	91.0	1,114	0.6	1,155	0.6	13,899	7.8	165,273	92.2
Class of 2018	187,675	171,448	91.4	1,319	0.7	1,078	0.6	13,830	7.4	173,845	92.6
Pacific Islander											
Class of 2015	541	497	91.9	3	0.6	7	1.3	34	6.3	507	93.7
Class of 2016	476	439	92.2	2	0.4	7	1.5	28	5.9	448	94.1
Class of 2017	577	531	92.0	2	0.3	6	1.0	38	6.6	539	93.4
Class of 2018	568	510	89.8	2	0.4	9	1.6	47	8.3	521	91.7
White											
Class of 2015	109,069	103,678	95.1	432	0.4	1,305	1.2	3,654	3.4	105,415	96.6
Class of 2016	109,163	103,929	95.2	476	0.4	1,117	1.0	3,641	3.3	105,522	96.7
Class of 2017	110,547	105,457	95.4	482	0.4	1,033	0.9	3,575	3.2	106,972	96.8
Class of 2018	111,440	106,267	95.4	526	0.5	1,004	0.9	3,643	3.3	107,797	96.7
Multiracial											
Class of 2015	5,761	5,437	94.4	19	0.3	66	1.1	239	4.1	5,522	95.9
Class of 2016	6,266	5,865	93.6	25	0.4	82	1.3	294	4.7	5,972	95.3
Class of 2017	6,634	6,272	94.5	30	0.5	67	1.0	265	4.0	6,369	96.0
Class of 2018	7,064	6,618	93.7	28	0.4	65	0.9	353	5.0	6,711	95.0

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

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Table 39 (continued)

Grade 9 Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015, as of Fall 2017, Class of 2016, as of Fall 2018, Class of 2017, as of Fall 2019, and Class of 2018, as of Fall 2020

Class year	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	TxCHSE[e] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or TxCHSE recipient rate (%)
Economically disadvantaged											
Class of 2015	168,821	150,453	89.1	1,045	0.6	1,916	1.1	15,407	9.1	153,414	90.9
Class of 2016	177,363	158,948	89.6	990	0.6	1,573	0.9	15,852	8.9	161,511	91.1
Class of 2017	183,845	166,014	90.3	1,095	0.6	1,526	0.8	15,210	8.3	168,635	91.7
Class of 2018	198,456	179,710	90.6	1,366	0.7	1,474	0.7	15,906	8.0	182,550	92.0
Not economically disadvantaged											
Class of 2015	169,991	160,532	94.4	846	0.5	1,445	0.9	7,168	4.2	162,823	95.8
Class of 2016	172,126	162,891	94.6	855	0.5	1,312	0.8	7,068	4.1	165,058	95.9
Class of 2017	175,697	166,326	94.7	899	0.5	1,163	0.7	7,309	4.2	168,388	95.8
Class of 2018	173,753	165,076	95.0	933	0.5	1,039	0.6	6,705	3.9	167,048	96.1
Female											
Class of 2015	166,402	155,531	93.5	821	0.5	1,104	0.7	8,946	5.4	157,456	94.6
Class of 2016	171,233	160,561	93.8	768	0.4	968	0.6	8,936	5.2	162,297	94.8
Class of 2017	176,925	166,831	94.3	833	0.5	906	0.5	8,355	4.7	168,570	95.3
Class of 2018	183,411	172,872	94.3	1,029	0.6	886	0.5	8,624	4.7	174,787	95.3
Male											
Class of 2015	172,410	155,454	90.2	1,070	0.6	2,257	1.3	13,629	7.9	158,781	92.1
Class of 2016	178,256	161,278	90.5	1,077	0.6	1,917	1.1	13,984	7.8	164,272	92.2
Class of 2017	182,617	165,509	90.6	1,161	0.6	1,783	1.0	14,164	7.8	168,453	92.2
Class of 2018	188,798	171,914	91.1	1,270	0.7	1,627	0.9	13,987	7.4	174,811	92.6
State											
Class of 2015	338,812	310,985	91.8	1,891	0.6	3,361	1.0	22,575	6.7	316,237	92.8
Class of 2016	349,489	321,839	92.1	1,845	0.5	2,885	0.8	22,920	6.6	326,569	93.4
Class of 2017	359,542	332,340	92.4	1,994	0.6	2,689	0.7	22,519	6.3	337,023	93.7
Class of 2018	372,209	344,786	92.6	2,299	0.6	2,513	0.7	22,611	6.1	349,598	93.9

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

Grade 9 Seven-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

Students who began Grade 9 in Texas public schools for the first time in 2013-14 or who later joined the cohort were tracked into the fall semester three years following their anticipated graduation date of spring 2017. The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2017 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2017 left Texas public schools by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left Texas public schools by fall 2017 without graduating returned to Texas public schools and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020.

In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups.

By the fall of 2017, 89.7 percent of the class of 2017 had graduated, 4.0 percent were still in high school, 0.4 percent had received a TxCHSE, and 5.9 percent had dropped out (Table 40). By the fall of 2020, 92.7 percent of the class of 2017 had graduated, 0.3 percent were still in high school, 0.8 percent had received a TxCHSE, and 6.2 percent had dropped out.

Table 40
Grade 9 Four-Year, Five-Year Extended, Six-Year Extended, and Seven-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2017

Status date	Class[a]	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad.[c] rate (%)	Cont.[d] (N)	Cont.[e] rate (%)	TxCHSE[f] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)
As of fall 2017	360,606	323,373	89.7	14,454	4.0	1,608	0.4	21,171	5.9
As of fall 2018	359,592	330,723	92.0	4,089	1.1	2,220	0.6	22,560	6.3
As of fall 2019	359,542	332,340	92.4	1,994	0.6	2,689	0.7	22,519	6.3
As of fall 2020	359,621	333,418	92.7	993	0.3	2,912	0.8	22,298	6.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2017 and fall 2020 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2017 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2020 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2017 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received a TxCHSE, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2020.
[b]Graduates. [c]Graduation. [d]Continuers. [e]Continuation. [f]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

Attrition Rates

An attrition rate is the percentage change in fall enrollment between two grades across years. It provides a measure of school leavers when aggregate enrollment numbers are the only data available. For Grades 9-12, the rate is calculated by subtracting the number of students enrolled in Grade 12 in Texas public schools in the fall of one school year from Grade 9 enrollment three years earlier, and dividing by the Grade 9 enrollment (Table 41). Grade 7 enrollment five years earlier is used to calculate the Grade 7-12 attrition rate (Table 42 on page 112). The attrition rate calculations are on page 8.

Table 41
Attrition Rate, Grades 9-12, by Race/Ethnicity and Economic Status,
Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Fall 2016 Grade 9 enrollment	Fall 2019 Grade 12 enrollment	Fall enrollment change	Attrition rate (%)
African American	56,025	43,540	12,485	22.3
American Indian	1,625	1,191	434	26.7
Asian	16,994	17,290	-296	-1.7
Hispanic	227,208	180,076	47,132	20.7
Pacific Islander	604	558	46	7.6
White	121,294	104,464	16,830	13.9
Multiracial	7,995	7,193	802	10.0
Economically disadvantaged	245,342	177,698	67,644	27.6
Not economically disadvantaged	186,403	176,614	9,789	5.3
State	431,745	354,312	77,433	17.9

The attrition rate does not take into account any of the reasons beginning and ending enrollments differ (Table 43 on page 112). For example, the Grade 9-12 attrition rate does not take into account Grade 9 enrollment that may be high because some students are repeating Grade 9. The attrition rate also does not take into account Grade 12 enrollment that may be lower than Grade 9 enrollment three years earlier because some students left Texas public schools for other educational settings, graduated early, or are in school but not yet in Grade 12. Because the attrition rate is based on enrollment figures from the fall of the first year and fall three years later, it excludes some students. For example, Grade 9 students who enroll after the fall of the first year are excluded from the Grade 9 enrollment count. Moreover, students who enter the school system after the first year and leave before Grade 12 are excluded from rate calculations. Additionally, because the attrition rate is based on data from the fall before expected graduation, rather than after expected graduation, it does not take into account whether a student enrolled in Grade 12 in the fall goes on to graduate. The attrition rates were not adjusted for growth in student enrollment over the time period covered.

Table 42
Attrition Rate, Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity and Economic Status,
Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Fall 2014 Grade 7 enrollment	Fall 2019 Grade 12 enrollment	Fall enrollment change	Attrition rate (%)
African American	48,103	43,540	4,563	9.5
American Indian	1,402	1,191	211	15.0
Asian	14,914	17,290	-2,376	-15.9
Hispanic	197,186	180,076	17,110	8.7
Pacific Islander	474	558	-84	-17.7
White	113,882	104,464	9,418	8.3
Multiracial	7,043	7,193	-150	-2.1
Economically disadvantaged	221,744	177,698	44,046	19.9
Not economically disadvantaged	161,260	176,614	-15,354	-9.5
State	383,004	354,312	28,692	7.5

Table 43
Comparison of Class of 2020 Four-Year Longitudinal Rate and 2019-20 Attrition Rate
Calculations, Texas Public Schools

Four-year longitudinal rates, based on tracking individual students	Number or rate
Students who: (a) began Grade 9 in Texas public schools (TPS) in 2016-17, with repeaters excluded; or (b) entered TPS in Grade 10 in 2017-18, Grade 11 in 2018-19, or Grade 12 in 2019-20.	434,000
minus Students reported to have left TPS in 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, or 2019-20 for reasons other than graduating, receiving a Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency (TxCHSE), or dropping out.	46,127
minus Students who could not be tracked across years because of data errors.[a]	3,273
equals Class of 2020	384,600
Graduates	347,392
Continuers	14,861
TxCHSE recipients	1,459
Dropouts	20,888
Graduation rate	90.3
Continuation rate	3.9
TxCHSE recipient rate	0.4
Dropout rate	5.4

Attrition rate, based on aggregate numbers	Number or rate
Students in Grade 9 in TPS in fall 2016, with students repeating Grade 9 included.	431,745
minus Students in Grade 12 in TPS in fall 2019. Individual students are not tracked. Students enrolled in Grade 12 in TPS in fall 2019 may or may not have been enrolled in Grade 9 in TPS in fall 2016.	354,312
equals Change in enrollment	77,433
Attrition rate	17.9

[a]Data errors can result from missing student records (i.e., underreported students) or misreported student identification information. Districts with high numbers or percentages of underreported students, high numbers or percentages of data errors, or high use of certain leaver codes are subject to compliance reviews.

Data Quality Measures

Data Quality in the Annual Rates

From 1997-98 through 2004-05, districts were required to report the statuses of all students who attended Grades 7-12 during the previous school year. In 2004-05, there were only 3,449 underreported student records. This was a substantial decrease from the 67,281 underreported student records in 1997-98. On a percentage basis, students in Grades 7-12 who had not been accounted for the next fall decreased from 3.6 percent in 1997-98 to 0.2 percent in 2004-05. As a result of major changes in leaver reporting following adoption of the national dropout definition in 2005-06, underreported student rates for 2004-05 and prior school years are not comparable to rates for 2005-06 and beyond.

Beginning with students who attended in 2005-06, TEA has accounted for students who: (a) graduated in a previous school year; (b) moved from one public school district and enrolled in another; or (c) received high school equivalency certificates. Districts must report the statuses of all other Grade 7-12 students. From 2005-06 to 2019-20, the percentage of students who were not accounted for decreased overall from 0.8 percent to 0.2 percent (Table 44). Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in 2019-20, African American and Hispanic students accounted for larger percentages of underreported students than of reported students. The percentage-point difference was greatest for Hispanic students (57.4% vs. 52.6%) (Table 45 on page 114).

Table 44
Reported and Underreported Students, Grades 7-12, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2019-20

Year	Students accounted for[a] (N)	Students accounted for (%)	Underreported students (N)	Underreported students (%)
2005-06	2,006,156	99.2	15,887	0.8
2006-07	2,012,621	99.3	13,316	0.7
2007-08	2,031,807	99.4	12,668	0.6
2008-09	2,054,752	99.5	10,045	0.5
2009-10	2,086,735	99.6	8,667	0.4
2010-11	2,117,269	99.6	8,149	0.4
2011-12	2,145,440	99.6	7,620	0.4
2012-13	2,184,207	99.7	7,351	0.3
2013-14	2,231,873	99.6	8,429	0.4
2014-15	2,278,043	99.7	7,834	0.3
2015-16	2,325,546	99.7	6,686	0.3
2016-17	2,372,390	99.8	5,588	0.2
2017-18	2,404,513	99.7	6,321	0.3
2018-19	2,434,817	99.8	5,686	0.2
2019-20	2,475,689	99.8	6,039	0.2

[a]Students enrolled in Grades 7-12 in one school year who were accounted for by districts or the Texas Education Agency the following fall.

Table 45
Reported and Underreported Students, Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students accounted for[a] (N)	Students accounted for (%)	Underreported students (N)	Underreported students (%)
African American	312,422	12.6	879	14.6
American Indian	7,840	0.3	31	0.5
Asian	111,350	4.5	131	2.2
Hispanic	1,302,213	52.6	3,466	57.4
Pacific Islander	3,829	0.2	17	0.3
White	679,744	27.5	1,398	23.1
Multiracial	58,291	2.4	117	1.9
State	2,475,689	100	6,039	100

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Students enrolled in Grades 7-12 in 2019-20 who were accounted for by districts or the Texas Education Agency the following fall.

Data Quality in the Longitudinal Rates

Calculating longitudinal rates requires tracking a cohort of students over a number of years, from the time they enter Grade 9 until after their anticipated graduation date. Using information submitted through the Texas Student Data System and other data files, most students are assigned one of the four final statuses that make up the class: graduate, continuer, TxCHSE recipient, or dropout.

Two groups of students from a cohort are not assigned final statuses because of data errors: students who cannot be tracked from year to year because districts submitted their records to the Texas Education Agency with identification errors; and students for whom districts did not submit final status records, who are considered underreported. For the class of 2020 Grade 9 cohort, 37 students (<0.1%) could not be tracked because of identification errors, and 3,236 students (0.7%) were underreported by districts (Table 46).

In addition to tracking students in the class of 2020, TEA tracked continuers in the class of 2019 through 2019-20 to determine whether they dropped out that year. There were 14,039 students in the class of 2019 who remained enrolled in fall 2019. Of these, 1,833 dropped out in 2019-20, resulting in a dropout rate for continuing students of 13.1 percent.

Table 46
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Cohort, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2016 Through 2020

Cohort ending year	Graduated	Continued	Received TxCHSE[a]	Dropped out	Other leavers[b]	Student ID errors	Underreported students	Cohort
2016	312,605	14,762	1,707	21,610	47,504	471	3,675	402,334
2017	323,373	14,454	1,608	21,171	47,970	361	3,139	412,076
2018	335,500	14,350	1,657	21,412	48,767	246	3,233	425,165
2019	344,021	14,039	1,729	22,662	48,132	101	3,113	433,797
2020	347,392	14,861	1,459	20,888	46,127	37	3,236	434,000

[a]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [b]Other leavers are students who left the Texas public school system for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out. For more information on other leavers, see Table A-1 in Appendix A.

Uses of Texas Annual Dropout Data and Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Data

State Accountability System

Federal Accountability and Reporting

National Center for
Education Statistics Reporting

State Accountability System

The public school accountability system consists of three domains: Student Achievement, School Progress, and Closing the Gaps (TEA, 2021c). Annual dropout rates, longitudinal graduation rates, and diploma program rates are components of the state accountability system. For the 2021 accountability cycle, TEA received approval to waive accountability requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act (U.S. Department of Education, April 6, 2021). All districts and campuses received a label of *Not Rated: Declared State of Disaster*. This section describes how longitudinal graduation rates, annual dropout rates, and diploma program rates would have been used to determine the ratings for districts and campuses if districts and campuses had received *A-F* ratings for their overall performance and performance in each domain in 2021.

In 2021, the following rates, calculated with state accountability exclusions, were used in the Student Achievement domain for campuses and districts: the class of 2020 four-year graduation rate, the class of 2019 five-year graduation rate, or the class of 2018 six-year graduation rate. For alternative education campuses and districts, the class of 2020 four-year, class of 2019 five-year extended, and class of 2018 six-year extended graduation, continuation, or Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency (TxCHSE) recipient rates were used. If a campus or district did not have a longitudinal rate, its Grade 9-12 annual dropout rate was used in the domain. Campuses and districts were evaluated on these rates for all students as one group; no separate student groups were evaluated.

The federal four-year graduation rate, calculated with federal accountability exclusions, was used in the Closing the Gaps domain for campuses and districts in 2021 for state accountability ratings. Campuses and districts were evaluated on this rate for different student groups, including all students, seven racial/ethnic groups, economically disadvantaged students, students served in special education programs, and students identified as English learners. For more information on federal accountability and reporting, see page 124.

Campuses and districts that received a rating of *A*, *B*, *C*, or *D* were eligible to earn distinction designations under the state accountability system in 2021. The four-year longitudinal graduation rate used in the Student Achievement domain and a diploma program rate were included as indicators for the postsecondary readiness distinction designation. The diploma program rate measured the percentage of Minimum (MHSP), Recommended (RHSP), and Advanced (AHSP) graduates and Foundation (FHSP) graduates with and without an endorsement who graduated under the RHSP or AHSP or the FHSP with an endorsement (with or without a distinguished level of achievement [DLA]) and was calculated as follows.

$$\frac{\text{RHSP + AHSP + FHSP with endorsement (with or without DLA)}}{\text{MHSP + RHSP + AHSP + FHSP without endorsement + FHSP with endorsement (with or without DLA)}}$$

Under Texas Education Code (TEC) §39.053(g-1) (2019), a student who meets at least one of the following criteria is excluded from campus and district rate calculations used for state accountability purposes: (a) a student who is ordered by a court to attend a high school equivalency certificate

program but has not earned a high school equivalency certificate; (b) a student previously reported to the state as a dropout; (c) a student in attendance but who is not in membership for purposes of average daily attendance (i.e., students for whom school districts are not receiving state Foundation School Program [FSP] funds); (d) a student whose initial enrollment in a school in the United States in Grades 7 through 12 was as an unschooled refugee or asylee as defined by TEC §39.027(a-1); (e) a student who is in the district exclusively as a function of having been detained at a county detention facility but is otherwise not a student of the district, or a student who is being provided services by an open-enrollment charter school exclusively as the result of having been detained at the facility; (f) a student who is incarcerated in a state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult or as a person certified to stand trial as an adult; or (g) a student who has suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care and leaves the student unable to attend school and assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility. In addition, any student in a Texas Juvenile Justice Department facility (e.g., a county- or state-operated juvenile justice facility) or residential treatment facility served by a Texas public school district is excluded from campus and district rate calculations used for state accountability purposes (TEC §§39.053(g-3) and 39.055, 2019).

A student is also excluded from campus and district longitudinal rate calculations if the student: (a) is at least 18 years of age as of September 1 of the school year and has satisfied the credit requirements for high school graduation; (b) has not completed his or her individualized education program (IEP); and (c) is enrolled and receiving IEP services (TEC §39.053(g-2), 2019).

A total of 25,434 students, 4,879 of whom were dropouts, were excluded from the 2019-20 campus and district Grade 9-12 annual dropout rates for state accountability ratings in 2021 (Table 47 on page 120). For each student enrolled in Texas public schools in 2019-20, the exclusion criteria he or she met were summed across all districts attended. The majority of excluded students, represented in the first seven rows of the table, met one exclusion criterion at a single district. Some students met multiple exclusion criteria at one district or across multiple districts. Such students were counted only in the "two or more exclusions" category in the "students" column. Exclusions for dropouts were counted somewhat differently. A student was attributed as a dropout only to the last district he or she attended; therefore, the student was counted as a dropout only in the exclusion category reported by that district. If the district reported multiple exclusion criteria for the student, he or she was counted only in the "two or more exclusions" category. The following example illustrates the difference in methods and helps explain why the number of excluded dropouts exceeded the number of excluded students in some cases. A student reported as ineligible for FSP funding at one district transfers to another district. In the second district, the student is determined to be eligible for FSP funding but is court-ordered to attend a high school equivalency certificate program, does not receive a TxCHSE, and drops out. In this case, in the "students" column, the student would be counted only in the "two or more exclusions" category, rather than in the separate categories, "ineligible for FSP funding" and "court-ordered high school equivalency certificate program, no TxCHSE earned." In the "dropouts" column, the same student would be counted only in the category "court-ordered high school equivalency certificate program, no TxCHSE earned."

Table 47

Students and Dropouts Excluded From Campus and District Annual Dropout Rates for State Accountability Purposes, Grades 9-12, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Exclusion[a]	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)
Court-ordered high school equivalency program, no TxCHSE[b] earned	507	2.0	516	10.6
Previously reported to the state as a dropout	9,098	35.8	2,149	44.0
Ineligible for FSP[c] funding	2,371	9.3	269	5.5
Unschooled refugee or asylee[d]	1,140	4.5	58	1.2
In a juvenile detention or residential treatment facility	10,960	43.1	1,240	25.4
Incarcerated in state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult	129	0.5	138	2.8
Medical injury	20	0.1	20	0.4
Two or more exclusions	1,209	4.8	489	10.0
State	25,434	100	4,879	100

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Students may be eligible for exclusion based on more than one criterion. [b]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [c]Foundation School Program. [d]To be excluded, the student must also be reported as an English learner.

A total of 8,885 students in the class of 2020, 9,425 students in the class of 2019, and 8,374 students in the class of 2018 were excluded from campus and district longitudinal rates calculated for state accountability purposes in 2021 (Table 48 on page 121, Table 49 on page 122, and Table 50 on page 123, respectively). For each student in the three classes, all exclusions that applied in the district of his or her final status were counted. The majority of students, represented in the first eight rows of each table, met one exclusion criterion in their districts of final status. Students who met multiple exclusion criteria were counted only in the "two or more exclusions" category. Some exclusions applied only to students assigned specific final statuses or whose final statuses were in specific years. For example, only students enrolled in the fifth, sixth, or seventh years of the cohort were excluded for being ineligible for FSP funding because students are considered eligible for funding during the first four years of high school. Also, only continuing special education students were excluded if they had met graduation requirements, were at least 18 years of age, but were still working toward completing an Individualized Educational Plan. In addition, students court-ordered to attend high school equivalency programs who did not earn a TxCHSE and students incarcerated in state jails or federal penitentiaries as adults were assigned final statuses of dropout because the exclusions were identified through leaver codes associated with dropping out (see the section "Accounting for Students by Districts" on page 38 for additional information). Students excluded from campus and district rates for state accountability purposes were not excluded from state-level rates. Nevertheless, had these students been excluded: (a) the four-year graduation rate for the class of 2020 would have been 1.8 percentage points higher (92.1%), the continuation, TxCHSE recipient, and dropout rates would have been 0.9, 0.1, and 0.8 percentage points lower (3.0%, 0.3%, and 4.6%, respectively); (b) the five-year extended graduation rate for the class of 2019 would have been 1.7 percentage points higher (93.7%), and the continuation and dropout rates would have been 0.7 and 0.9 percentage points lower (0.6% and 5.2%), respectively; and

Table 48

Students Excluded From Campus and District Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Rates for State Accountability Purposes, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020

Exclusion[a]	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad. (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont. (%)	TxCHSE[d] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipients (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Total (N)	Total (%)
Court-ordered high school equivalency program, no TxCHSE earned	n/a[e]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	686	100	686	7.7
Previously reported to the state as a dropout	807	29.7	900	33.1	26	1.0	984	36.2	2,717	30.6
Ineligible for FSP[f] funding	0	0.0	765	100	0	0.0	0	0.0	765	8.6
Unschooled refugee or asylee[g]	243	60.6	48	12.0	0	0.0	110	27.4	401	4.5
In a juvenile detention or residential treatment facility	259	13.8	56	3.0	286	15.2	1,277	68.0	1,878	21.1
Incarcerated in state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	125	100	125	1.4
IEP[h] continuers	n/a	n/a	1,771	100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,771	19.9
Medical injury	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	100	1	<0.1
Two or more exclusions	11	2.0	215	39.7	22	4.1	293	54.2	541	6.1
State	1,320	14.9	3,755	42.3	334	3.8	3,476	39.1	8,885	100

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Students may be eligible for exclusion based on more than one criterion. [b]Graduates. [c]Continuers. [d]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [e]Not applicable. [f]Foundation School Program. [g]To be excluded, the student must also be reported as an English learner. [h]Individualized education program.

Table 49

Students Excluded From Campus and District Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Rates for State Accountability Purposes, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2019, as of Fall 2020

Exclusion[a]	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad. (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont. (%)	TxCHSE[d] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipients (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Total (N)	Total (%)
Court-ordered high school equivalency program, no TxCHSE earned	n/a[e]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	699	100	699	7.4
Previously reported to the state as a dropout	1,207	37.5	701	21.8	49	1.5	1,261	39.2	3,218	34.1
Ineligible for FSP[f] funding	601	62.2	257	26.6	3	0.3	105	10.9	966	10.2
Unschooled refugee or asylee[g]	196	67.4	3	1.0	0	0.0	92	31.6	291	3.1
In a juvenile detention or residential treatment facility	313	15.8	6	0.3	291	14.7	1,368	69.2	1,978	21.0
Incarcerated in state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	174	100	174	1.8
IEP[h] continuers	n/a	n/a	1,562	100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,562	16.6
Medical injury	0	.	0	.	0	.	0	.	0	0.0
Two or more exclusions	28	5.2	194	36.1	27	5.0	288	53.6	537	5.7
State	2,345	24.9	2,723	28.9	370	3.9	3,987	42.3	9,425	100

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Students may be eligible for exclusion based on more than one criterion. [b]Graduates. [c]Continuers. [d]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [e]Not applicable. [f]Foundation School Program. [g]To be excluded, the student must also be reported as an English learner. [h]Individualized education program.

Table 50

Students Excluded From Campus and District Grade 9 Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Rates for State Accountability Purposes, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2018, as of Fall 2020

Exclusion[a]	Grad.[b] (N)	Grad. (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont. (%)	TxCHSE[d] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipients (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Total (N)	Total (%)
Court-ordered high school equivalency program, no TxCHSE earned	n/a[e]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	556	100	556	6.6
Previously reported to the state as a dropout	1,471	44.1	364	10.9	81	2.4	1,418	42.5	3,334	39.8
Ineligible for FSP[f] funding	583	62.2	101	10.8	15	1.6	239	25.5	938	11.2
Unschooled refugee or asylee[g]	161	62.6	2	0.8	1	0.4	93	36.2	257	3.1
In a juvenile detention or residential treatment facility	284	17.9	4	0.3	292	18.4	1,007	63.5	1,587	19.0
Incarcerated in state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	158	100	158	1.9
IEP[h] continuers	n/a	n/a	1,039	100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,039	12.4
Medical injury	0	.	0	.	0	.	0	.	0	0.0
Two or more exclusions	46	9.1	120	23.8	30	5.9	309	61.2	505	6.0
State	2,545	30.4	1,630	19.5	419	5.0	3,780	45.1	8,374	100

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Students may be eligible for exclusion based on more than one criterion. [b]Graduates. [c]Continuers. [d]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [e]Not applicable. [f]Foundation School Program. [g]To be excluded, the student must also be reported as an English learner. [h]Individualized education program.

(c) the six-year extended graduation rate for the class of 2018 would have been 1.5 percentage points higher (94.1%), and the continuation, TxCHSE recipient, and dropout rates would have been 0.4, 0.1, and 0.9 percentage points lower (0.2%, 0.6%, and 5.2%), respectively.

Federal Accountability and Reporting

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) was first passed by Congress in 1965 as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty. The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB, 2003) reauthorized this legislation. The primary function of the Act was to close the achievement gap between groups of students by requiring greater accountability and offering increased flexibility and choice. Under NCLB, the state and all public school districts and campuses were evaluated annually for adequate yearly progress (AYP), and AYP statuses were assigned to Texas public school districts and campuses from 2003 through 2012.

In 2013, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) approved a Texas Education Agency (TEA) request to waive 2012-13 and 2013-14 AYP calculations, noting that TEA's existing intervention systems adequately guided the support and improvement of schools (TEA, 2016). Specifically, TEA system safeguards identify schools that are eligible for additional federal funding while subject to a series of federally prescribed interventions. In 2014, TEA requested a one-year extension of ED's approval to implement ESEA flexibility through the end of the 2014-15 school year. ED approved the extension request with conditions related to the state's teacher and principal evaluation and support systems. Texas received another extension effective through the 2015-16 school year.

On December 10, 2015, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA, 2015) reauthorized the ESEA and provided states with new flexibility to develop a state accountability system to meet federal accountability requirements. ESSA regulations did not require states to request AYP waivers for the 2016-17 school year, and the provisions of ESSA did not affect state accountability ratings that year. In 2018, ED approved the state's federal accountability plan. The state accountability system aligns with the ESSA requirements through the indicators and targets in the Closing the Gaps domain. For the 2020 and 2021 accountability cycles, TEA received approval to waive accountability requirements under ESSA (ED, April 6, 2021; TEA, 2020a). All districts and campuses received a label of *Not Rated: Declared State of Disaster*. This section describes how longitudinal graduation rates would have been used to determine the ratings for districts and campuses if districts and campuses had received *A-F* ratings for their performance in the Closing the Gaps domain in 2021.

For 2021, four components were evaluated in the Closing the Gaps domain: (1) academic achievement, (2) growth or graduation, (3) English language proficiency, and (4) school quality or student success (TEA, 2021c). The federal four-year graduation rate, calculated with federal accountability exclusions, was used in the domain. Specifically, students in a Texas Juvenile Justice Department facility (e.g., a county- or state-operated juvenile justice facility) or residential treatment facility served by a Texas public school district were excluded from campus and district federal graduation rate calculations. These students are also excluded from campus and district annual dropout rates and longitudinal graduation rates submitted to the federal government for reporting purposes.

The long-term statewide goal for the federal four-year graduation rate was 94.0 percent (TEA, 2021c). Baseline rates for each student group were based on the class of 2015 federal four-year graduation rates. For the class of 2020, student groups were evaluated against the four-year long-term

target (94.0%), the four-year interim target (90.0%) with a tenth of a percent improvement, or expected growth toward the four-year long-term target. The growth target is a 10 percent decrease in the difference between the prior year rate and the long-term target. In 2021, the targets applied to 11 student groups for federal accountability: all students, English learners, students served in special education programs, students identified as economically disadvantaged, and the seven racial/ethnic groups used for federal reporting (African American, American Indian, Asian, Hispanic, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial).

To identify schools for improvement, TEA uses federal graduation rates to identify comprehensive, targeted, and additional targeted support and improvement schools (TEA, 2021c). In 2021, ED approved TEA's request for a waiver to delay identification of schools for improvement by one year, until August 2022, and to postpone the escalation of three-year additional targeted support schools to comprehensive support status until August 2023 (ED, April 6, 2021). Additionally, in 2021, ED approved an amendment to the school improvement requirement that allowed for a campus to be evaluated using its six-year federal graduation rate instead of its four-year rate (TEA, 2021a). When TEA resumes identifying schools for improvement in future accountability cycles, the six-year federal graduation rate will be used.

ESSA requires state agencies and local education agencies to prepare and publish annual Federal Report Cards for all public school districts, campuses, and the state. As part of its annual report card, each state must calculate and report federal four-year graduation rates disaggregated by various student subgroups. The report cards are required to provide subgroup information cross-tabulated by, at a minimum, each major racial/ethnic group, gender, English proficiency status, and children with or without disabilities and may include other subgroups, such as subgroups based on homeless status and foster care status. Table 51 on page 126 presents the statewide federal four-year graduation rates for the cross-tabulation groups associated with the 2020-21 Federal Report Card for Texas public schools.

Table 51

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation Rates, Federal Report Card Cross-Tabulation Groups, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020

Group	Female (N)	Female rate (%)	Male (N)	Male rate (%)	Spec. ed.[a] (N)	Spec. ed. rate (%)	Not spec. ed. (N)	Not spec. ed. rate (%)	English learner in 9-12[b] (N)	English learner in 9-12 rate (%)	All grads.[c] (N)	All grads. rate (%)
African American	21,719	90.1	20,961	83.9	4,813	78.1	37,867	88.2	833	80.7	42,680	87.0
American Indian	603	90.3	565	82.5	95	77.9	1,073	87.2	110	70.5	1,168	86.3
Asian	8,324	97.5	8,436	95.9	352	68.3	16,408	97.5	2,168	88.9	16,760	96.7
Hispanic	89,491	91.4	86,877	85.8	13,024	78.6	163,344	89.5	31,103	78.8	176,368	88.6
Pacific Islander	272	91.6	272	86.9	28	58.3	516	91.8	56	82.4	544	89.2
White	50,741	95.1	52,053	92.9	7,010	80.8	95,784	95.1	995	75.9	102,794	94.0
Multiracial	3,648	92.7	3,430	89.5	478	76.2	6,600	92.4	68	73.1	7,078	91.1
Econ. disad.[d]	91,998	90.2	87,615	84.8	16,473	78.4	163,140	88.6	28,591	80.8	179,613	87.5
Special education	9,361	80.6	16,439	77.9	n/a[e]	n/a	n/a	n/a	3,845	81.3	25,800	78.9
EL in 9-12	16,489	83.4	18,844	75.9	3,845	81.3	31,488	79.0	n/a	n/a	35,333	79.3
Foster care in 9-12[f]	599	63.6	402	58.5	278	55.5	723	64.1	72	58.5	1,001	61.4
Homeless in 9-12[g]	9,956	83.6	8,719	77.2	1,964	73.8	16,711	81.3	2,276	71.3	18,675	80.5
All graduates	174,798	92.6	172,594	88.1	25,800	78.9	321,592	91.4	35,333	79.3	347,392	90.3

[a]Special education. [b]Students identified as English learners at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools (TPS). [c]Graduates. [d]Economically disadvantaged. [e]Not applicable. [f]Students identified as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. [g]Students identified as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS.

National Center for Education Statistics Reporting

Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate

In 2004, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) released a report with the recommendations of a panel of experts on graduation rate calculations. The lead recommendation was for all states to adopt a standard, four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate (NCES, 2004). The adjusted cohort graduation rate is based on the tracking of individual students from the time they begin Grade 9 until the fall following their expected graduation and is the same as the graduation rate that TEA calculates for federal accountability. NCES released the class of 2019 adjusted cohort graduation rates for all states and the District of Columbia through the Digest of Education Statistics (NCES, n.d.). For the class of 2019, graduation rates were highest for Alabama and Iowa (91.7% and 91.6%, respectively), although NCES noted that Alabama's reported rate should be used with caution. Nationwide, the District of Columbia had the lowest graduation rate, at 68.9 percent (Table 52 on page 128). Texas had the eighth-highest rate out of 50 states and the District of Columbia, with an adjusted cohort graduation rate of 90.0 percent.

Table 52

National Center for Education Statistics Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates (%), by Race/Ethnicity and State, Class of 2019

State	Rank	All students	African American	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Hispanic	White	Multiracial
Alabama[a]	1	91.7	89.8	94.0	95.0	90.6	92.8	93.0
Iowa	2	91.6	82.0	77.0	91.0	84.5	93.3	88.0
West Virginia	3	91.3	88.0	75.0	>=95[b]	91.0	91.5	86.0
Kentucky	4	90.6	83.2	>=90	94.0	84.0	92.1	89.0
New Jersey	4	90.6	83.3	92.0	96.9	84.5	94.9	91.0
Tennessee	6	90.5	84.6	90.0	95.0	84.4	93.4	n/a[c]
Wisconsin	7	90.1	71.4	79.0	92.0	82.8	93.8	86.0
Texas	**8**	**90.0**	**86.2**	**87.0**	**96.1**	**88.2**	**93.7**	**91.4**
Missouri	9	89.7	80.6	85.0	92.0	86.3	91.9	89.0
Delaware	10	89.0	88.0	83.0	94.0	86.0	90.6	89.0
Connecticut	11	88.5	79.9	92.0	96.0	80.2	93.3	88.0
Nebraska	12	88.4	78.0	71.0	84.0	80.5	92.5	82.0
New Hampshire	12	88.4	76.0	>=80	91.0	76.0	89.5	85.0
North Dakota	14	88.3	81.0	72.0	86.0	74.0	91.8	n/a
Massachusetts	15	88.0	79.9	83.0	95.0	74.4	92.7	88.0
Arkansas	16	87.6	83.4	79.0	89.0	84.7	89.6	87.0
Virginia	17	87.5	84.1	87.0	93.8	72.9	92.1	91.3
Maine	18	87.4	80.0	78.0	94.0	82.0	87.8	82.0
Utah	18	87.4	75.0	79.0	88.0	79.5	89.7	87.0
Florida	20	87.2	81.9	78.0	95.2	86.1	90.4	88.4
Indiana	20	87.2	77.2	82.0	95.0	83.7	89.4	82.9
Kansas	20	87.2	80.0	76.0	94.0	83.2	89.3	83.0
Maryland	23	86.9	84.3	81.0	96.3	72.4	93.4	91.0
Montana	24	86.6	78.0	67.0	92.0	83.0	89.6	83.0
North Carolina	25	86.5	83.7	81.0	94.5	81.1	89.6	83.9
Pennsylvania	25	86.5	75.0	80.0	93.2	75.4	90.6	79.5
Illinois	27	86.2	76.5	78.0	94.9	82.2	90.8	86.9
Hawaii	28	85.2	83.0	n/a	85.6	85.0	84.0	n/a
Mississippi	29	85.0	81.9	82.0	92.0	83.0	88.4	86.0
Oklahoma	30	84.9	80.1	84.8	87.0	81.8	86.3	86.6

Source. Primary data from National Center for Education Statistics (n.d.).

[a]Use data with caution. The Alabama State Department of Education has indicated that their adjusted cohort graduation rate data for some years was misstated. [b]The result is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the rate while maintaining student anonymity. [c]Not available. [d]A dash (–) indicates data were not reported to protect student anonymity. [e]The rate for American Indian students in the United States was estimated assuming a count of zero American Indian students for Hawaii.

continues

Table 52 (continued)
National Center for Education Statistics Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates (%), by Race/Ethnicity and State, Class of 2019

State	Rank	All students	African American	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Hispanic	White	Multiracial
California	31	84.5	76.8	75.0	93.7	82.1	88.4	76.8
Vermont	31	84.5	71.0	—[d]	83.0	78.0	85.7	75.0
Nevada	33	84.1	72.2	74.0	93.3	83.0	87.3	86.0
South Dakota	33	84.1	79.0	54.0	90.0	74.0	89.7	75.0
Rhode Island	35	83.9	81.0	70.0	88.0	76.1	88.2	80.0
Minnesota	36	83.7	69.9	51.0	87.3	69.9	88.7	72.0
New York	37	82.8	73.9	70.0	89.7	72.9	90.2	83.6
Wyoming	38	82.1	78.0	59.0	87.0	77.0	83.8	82.0
Georgia	39	82.0	79.6	76.0	90.8	75.9	85.6	82.3
Ohio	39	82.0	69.4	71.0	90.7	73.4	85.3	76.9
Michigan	41	81.4	70.2	70.0	91.3	76.6	84.7	76.2
Colorado	42	81.1	74.4	65.0	89.0	74.0	85.9	81.0
South Carolina	42	81.1	76.4	71.0	93.0	79.5	84.2	n/a[c]
Washington	42	81.1	73.7	62.0	88.6	75.7	82.9	81.3
Idaho	45	80.8	74.0	68.0	86.0	73.9	82.6	79.0
Alaska	46	80.4	79.0	68.0	87.0	80.0	85.7	76.0
Louisiana	47	80.1	75.6	88.0	89.0	67.1	85.9	84.0
Oregon	48	80.0	70.0	68.0	90.0	76.2	81.3	80.0
Arizona	49	77.8	73.3	67.1	90.0	74.4	82.7	75.0
New Mexico	50	75.1	67.0	70.0	86.0	74.5	79.0	n/a
District of Columbia	51	68.9	68.7	–	90.0	60.0	93.0	79.0
United States		**85.8**	79.6	**74.3**[e]	**92.6**	**81.7**	**89.4**	**n/a**

Source. Primary data from National Center for Education Statistics (n.d.).

[a]Use data with caution. The Alabama State Department of Education has indicated that their adjusted cohort graduation rate data for some years was misstated. [b]The result is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the rate while maintaining student anonymity. [c]Not available. [d]A dash (–) indicates data were not reported to protect student anonymity. [e]The rate for American Indian students in the United States was estimated assuming a count of zero American Indian students for Hawaii.

Appendix A
Leaver Reason Codes
and Documentation Requirements
in the Public Education Information
Management System

Introduction

General Documentation Requirements

Documentation Requirements
by LEAVER-REASON-CODE

Table A-1
Leaver Reason Codes
in the Public Education
Information Management System

Introduction

Table A-1 on page 137 provides expanded definitions and specific documentation guidelines for each of the leaver reason codes listed in Code Table C162 of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) *2020-2021 Texas Education Data Standards* (TEDS) (TEA, 2021b). The table is organized into the following broad categories of leavers:

- completed high school or high school equivalency program

- moved to other educational setting

- withdrawn by school district

- other

Leaver records are not submitted for students who enroll in other Texas public school districts or charters and students who obtain high school equivalency certificates at Texas examination sites by August 31. Students who move to other Texas public school districts are considered movers, not leavers. Documentation as described in this appendix is not required for movers; districts may wish to develop local policy on documentation for movers. The Unique ID Enrollment Tracking may be used to establish tentative local documentation that students are movers. The final determination of whether students are movers will be made by TEA.

General Documentation Requirements

Districts must document the withdrawal of students and maintain on file the appropriate paperwork associated with student withdrawals. Documentation is required for all leaver reason codes. Documentation requirements for leaver codes are provided in the Documentation Requirements by LEAVER-REASON-CODE section. Documentation supporting use of a leaver reason code must exist in the district at the time the leaver data are submitted, i.e., no later than the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) Submission 1 January resubmission date.

Timelines for Establishing Leaver Reasons and Obtaining Documentation

Students who leave during the school year. For students who leave during the school year, leaver reasons apply at the time of withdrawal, and documentation should be obtained at that time. For example, for students who are withdrawn by Child Protective Services (CPS), LEAVER-REASON-CODE 66, documentation would be obtained when the student is removed.

Students who fail to return in the fall. For students who fail to return the following fall, leaver reasons apply on the first day of school or its approximation, the school-start window. For the 2020-2021 school year, the school-start window extends from the first day of school through October 30, 2020. Districts should use the LEAVER-REASON-CODE that most appropriately describes the student's whereabouts during the school-start window. For example, to use LEAVER-REASON-CODE 60 student withdrew from/left school for home schooling, a district would establish that a student was being home schooled at some point during the school-start window. The district could obtain the documentation to support the leaver code at any time up until the PEIMS Submission 1 resubmission date.

Students who were attending and were withdrawn under LEAVER-REASON-CODE 83 when the district discovered that the student was not entitled to public school enrollment in the district. LEAVER-REASON-CODE 83, not entitled to public school enrollment in the district, applies to students who are attending and are withdrawn by the district because the district discovers, when verifying enrollment information, that the student was not entitled to enrollment in the district because the student was not a resident of the district or was not entitled under other provisions of Texas Education Code (TEC) §25.001 or as a transfer student. It is not for a student who was a resident and stops attending because he/she has moved out of the district.

This code is also used for those rare situations in which the student has not met the requirements under TEC §38.001 or a corresponding rule of the Texas Department of State Health Services for immunization, provisional enrollment, or exemption. Leaver reasons for LEAVER-REASON-CODE 83 apply at the time of withdrawal and documentation showing due process supporting the withdrawal should be obtained at that time.

Signatures on Documentation

Documentation must be signed and dated by an authorized representative of the district. The district should have a written policy stating who can act as an authorized representative for purposes of signing withdrawal forms and other leaver reason documentation.

Withdrawal documentation should also be signed for the student by a:

- parent, or

- guardian, or

- responsible adult as recorded in school records, such as a foster parent or a probation officer, or

- qualified student. A qualified student is one who, at the time he/she stops attending school:

  - is married, or

  - is 18 years or older, or

  - has established a residence separate and apart from the student's parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control of the student.

An original signature is not required on withdrawal forms received in the district by fax. Withdrawal forms received by e-mail do not need to be signed by the parent/guardian or qualified student. Written documentation of oral statements made in person or by telephone by the parent/guardian or qualified student is acceptable documentation in some situations if it is signed and dated by the district representative.

Evaluation of Documentation

Merits of leaver documentation are assessed at the time the documentation is requested during a data inquiry investigation. Determination of the acceptability of documentation is made by the professional staff conducting the investigation. These guidelines describe the most common types of documentation the investigator would expect to find supporting use of each leaver reason code. Other documentation that represents good business practice and shows a good faith effort on the part of the district to properly report leaver status will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Completeness of Documentation

Withdrawal documentation shall be considered incomplete without a date, signature(s), and destination. Documentation will not be deemed insufficient when information is missing because the parent or parents refuse to provide information requested by the district. A district should document at the time of the conversation that the information was requested, and the parent refused to provide it. Appropriate documentation of a parent refusal to provide information includes the date, content of

conversation, name of person with whom the conversation was conducted, and the signature of the school official verifying the conversation.

Changing LEAVER-REASON-CODEs

Once a district meets the documentation standard that supports the leaver reason code used, the district is not required to obtain additional information on the student. Local policy will determine if an existing leaver reason code is updated for a student when additional information is received. The policy should be clearly stated in the district's published guidelines on leaver procedures. For example, if a district assigned LEAVER-REASON-CODE 60 *student withdrew from/left school for home schooling* for a student and later received a request for transcript information from a private school for the same student, the district may change the LEAVER-REASON-CODE to 81 *enroll in a Texas private school* but is not obligated to.

Documentation Requirements by LEAVER-REASON-CODE

In addition to general documentation requirements, requirements specific to leaver reason codes also apply. Following are the specific documentation requirements by leaver reason code. They are grouped into four major categories: graduated or received an out-of-state high school equivalency certificate, moved to other educational setting, withdrawn by school district, and other reasons. School leavers with this LEAVER-REASON-CODE are counted as dropouts for state accountability purposes: codes 08, 98. School leavers with this LEAVER-REASON-CODE are counted as dropouts for federal accountability purposes: codes 08, 20, 88, 89, 98.

Table A-1
Leaver Reason Codes in the Public Education Information Management System

Leaver code	Explanation/clarification and documentation requirements
Graduated or received an out-of-state high school equivalency certificate	
01	**Student graduated from a campus in this district or charter**
	Definition and use: Use for students who meet all high school graduation requirements (which includes passing the exit-level TAAS or TAKS) at any time during the prior school year, including the summer (through August 31) following the close of the prior year.
	To graduate, a student must satisfy the requirements under 19 TAC Chapter 74, Subchapter B. Special education students must satisfy requirements under 19 TAC §89.1070. Students who complete all graduation requirements in one school year but do not pass the exit-level assessments until a later year, are reported as graduates in the school year in which the exit-level assessments are passed and the diploma is issued.
	Documentation requirement: Transcript showing sufficient credits, successful completion of the exit-level assessments (including testing dates), graduation seal, school official signature, and date of completion.
85	**Student graduated outside Texas before entering a Texas public school, entered a Texas public school, and left again**
	Definition and use: This code may be used for students who graduated in another state or country before entering Texas public schools. This code may also be used for students who graduated from Texhoma High School, Texhoma, Oklahoma.
	Documentation requirement: Transcript showing sufficient credits, date, and school official signature, and a diploma with a graduation seal.
86	**Student completed a High School Equivalency Certificate outside Texas**
	Definition and use: This code may be used for students who earned high school equivalency certificates outside Texas, including students living in Texas and earning high school equivalency certificates online from a testing company in another state, before enrolling or after leaving Texas public schools.
	Documentation requirement: Acceptable documentation is a copy of the high school equivalency certificate or some other written document provided by the testing company showing completion of the high school equivalency. Written documentation from the testing company must include the date of high school equivalency completion, location, address, and contact information of the company.
90	**Student graduated from another state under provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children**
	Definition and use: Per TEC §162.002, student lives in the household of an active-duty military serviceperson, transferred into Texas public schools at the beginning of or during his or her senior year, did not meet requirements to graduate from Texas public schools, did meet requirements to graduate from a school in the sending state, and, under provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, graduated from a school or district in the sending state.
	Documentation requirement: Transcript showing sufficient credits, date, and school official signature, or a diploma with a graduation seal.
Moved to other educational setting	
24	**Student entered college and is working towards an Associate's or Bachelor's degree**
	Definition and use: This code is for students who leave secondary school to enter college early. It should be used for students who are enrolled full-time (at least 9 credit hours per semester). This code is also for students who leave school to enter a dual-credit program established by the Texas Legislature at the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science at the University of North Texas, the Texas Academy of Leadership in the Humanities at Lamar University, the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science at the University of Texas at Brownsville, and the Texas Academy of International Studies at Texas A&M International University.
	Documentation requirement: Documentation of enrollment in a college or university must indicate that the student is enrolled full-time in an academic program. Per federal requirement, it is not permissible for a district to document that, at the time of withdrawal, the student intended to enter a postsecondary educational setting. Beginning with students

Source. Texas Education Agency (2021b).

continues

Leaver code	Explanation/clarification and documentation requirements
	leaving in the 2011-12 school year, a district must document that the student has actually entered a postsecondary educational setting. One of the following types of documentation is required to verify enrollment:
	Transcript request. Acceptable documentation of enrollment in college is a records request from the college in which the student is enrolled. Telephone requests must be documented in writing, including the date of the call, the name of the college requesting the records, the name of the person making the request, and the name of the person who received the call. Telephone requests should appear on a standardized, district-approved form. The original of the form should be included in the student's permanent file. Documentation of the method of records dissemination also must be included in the student's permanent file (e.g., copy of fax activity log, certified mail receipt, encrypted e-mail receipt confirmation, or postage/mail log with complete address information for requesting school).
	Verification by an authorized representative of the college. A signed letter from the college verifying enrollment is also acceptable documentation. The letter must state the name and location of the college in which the student is enrolled and the date of enrollment. Other acceptable documentation is written documentation of an oral statement by a representative of the college providing the name and location of the college and verifying that the student is enrolled, signed and dated by an authorized representative of the district.
	Verification by the parent/guardian or qualified student. Acceptable documentation includes a letter, signed and dated from the parent, guardian, or qualified student stating that the student has enrolled in college in a program leading to an associate's or bachelor's degree.
60	**Student is home schooled**
	Definition and use: Student is being home schooled. This code may be used only for a student whose parent/guardian confirms that the student is pursuing, under direct supervision of the parent/guardian, a curriculum designed to meet basic education goals. The district is not required to obtain evidence that the program being provided meets educational standards.
	Documentation requirement: A district must document that the parent/guardian is home schooling the student. Per federal requirement, it is <u>not</u> permissible for a district to document that, at the time of withdrawal, the student intended to be home schooled. Beginning with students leaving in the 2011-12 school year, the following documentation is required to verify enrollment:
	Verification by the parent/guardian. A letter, signed and dated, from the parent/guardian stating that the student is being home schooled is acceptable documentation. Letters from parents/guardians must indicate the actual date home schooling began.
66	**Student was removed by Child Protective Services (CPS) and the district has not been informed of the student's current status or enrollment**
	Definition and use: This code applies only to Child Protective Services. Private agencies that provide asylum for students do not have the legal authority to remove students from school.
	Documentation requirement: Acceptable documentation includes due process documentation supporting the withdrawal; a written statement, signed and dated by the CPS officer, including the CPS officer's name and contact information; or written documentation of an oral statement by a CPS representative that the child was removed, including the CPS representative's name, the date of the conversation, and the signature of the school official.
81 82	**Student enrolled in a private school in Texas** **Student enrolled in a public or private school outside of Texas**
	Definition and use: Student is enrolled in a private school in Texas (code 81), the Texas Job Corps Diploma Program (code 81), or a public or private school outside Texas (code 82). Documentation of actual enrollment is required. This code is also used when a student moves from the district without withdrawing but the district receives a records request.
	If the student enrolls in another school in the district or another public school district in Texas, a leaver record is not submitted.
	If the district did not assign code 81 or code 82 when the student stopped attending, the district can change the original code assigned to the student when the records request or communication from the parent/guardian or qualified

Source. Texas Education Agency (2021b).

continues

Table A-1 (continued)
Leaver Reason Codes in the Public Education Information Management System

Leaver code	Explanation/clarification and documentation requirements
	student is received. If the original withdrawal date for the student is later than the date the student enrolled in the other school, the withdrawal date must be changed and all attendance accounting records affected by this change must be updated.
	Documentation requirement: Per federal requirement, it is <u>not</u> permissible for a district to document that, at the time of withdrawal, the student intended to enter another educational setting. Beginning with students leaving in the 2011-12 school year, a district must document that the student has actually enrolled in a private school in Texas, the Texas Job Corps Diploma Program, or a private or public school outside Texas. One of the following types of documentation is required to verify enrollment:
	Transcript request. Acceptable documentation of enrollment in another school is a records request from the school in which the student is enrolled. Telephone requests are acceptable, but they must be documented in writing, including the date of the call, the name of the school requesting the records, the name of the person making the request, and the name of the person who received the call. Telephone requests should appear on a standardized, district-approved form. The original of the form should be included in the student's permanent file. Documentation of the method of records dissemination also must be included in the student's permanent file (e.g., copy of fax activity log, certified mail receipt, encrypted e-mail receipt confirmation, or postage/mail log with complete address information for requesting school).
	Verification by the superintendent or authorized campus or district administrator of the receiving district. A signed letter from the receiving school verifying enrollment is acceptable documentation. The letter must state the name and location of the school in which the student is enrolled and the date of enrollment. Other acceptable documentation is written documentation of an oral statement by a representative of the receiving school providing the name and location of and contact information for the school and verifying that the student is enrolled, signed and dated by an authorized campus or district administrator of the district.
	Verification by the parent/guardian or qualified student. Acceptable documentation includes a letter, signed and dated, from the parent/guardian or qualified student stating that the student has enrolled in a private school in Texas or a private or public school outside of Texas leading to the completion of a high school diploma.
87	**Student withdrew from/left school to enroll in the Texas Tech University ISD High School Diploma Program or the University of Texas at Austin High School Diploma Program**
	Definition and use: Student was withdrawn from school and parent/guardian or qualified student indicated at time of withdrawal that the student has enrolled in the State Board of Education-authorized Texas Tech University ISD High School Diploma Program or the University of Texas at Austin High School Diploma Program.
	Documentation requirement: The district must receive either a) a records or transcript request from the high school diploma program or b) a letter from the high school diploma program stating that the student is enrolled.
Withdrawn by school district	
78	**Student was expelled under the provisions of TEC §37.007 and cannot return to school**
	Definition and use: This code may only be used when:
	• the student was expelled under the provisions of TEC §37.007, and
	• the term of expulsion has not expired or the student's failure to attend school is due to court action.
	This code may only be used for a student who was expelled for an offense included in TEC §37.007. This code is not intended for use by districts which assign students to a Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP).
	Documentation requirement: Due process documentation supporting the expulsion.
83	**Student was attending and was withdrawn from school by the district when the district discovered that the student was not entitled to enrollment in the district because a) the student was not a resident of the district, b) was not entitled under other provisions of TEC §25.001 or as a transfer student, or c) was not entitled to public school enrollment under TEC §38.001 or a corresponding rule of the Texas Department of State Health Services because the student was not immunized.**
	Definition and use: This code is for situations in which the district discovers when verifying enrollment information that the student is not entitled to enrollment in the district because the student is not a resident of the district or is not entitled under other provisions of TEC §25.001 or as a transfer student. It is not for a student who was a resident of the district

Source. Texas Education Agency (2021b).

continues

Leaver code	Explanation/clarification and documentation requirements
	and who stops attending because he/she has moved. This code is also for rare situations in which the student has not met the requirements under TEC §38.001 or a corresponding rule of the Texas Department of State Health Services for immunization, provisional enrollment, or exemption.
	Subject to the exceptions in TEC §38.001(c), a student is required to be fully immunized against disease as required by the Texas Department of State Health Services (TEC §38.001(a)). A student may be provisionally admitted if the student has begun the required immunizations and continues to receive the necessary immunizations as rapidly as medically feasible (TEC §38.001(e)). Except as provided by TEC §38.001(c) or by rule of the Department of State Health Services, a student who is not fully immunized and has not begun the required immunizations may not attend school. For further information about enrollment procedures, please see the *Student Attendance Accounting Handbook*. For further information about immunization requirements, immunization exemptions, and immunization documentation, please contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.
	Documentation requirement: Due process documentation supporting the withdrawal. All district actions to withdraw a student must be documented or the documentation for use of this leaver reason code may be considered insufficient. For purposes of leaver reason code 83, due process is defined as completion of the following steps:
	1. District provides oral or written notice, appropriately documented, to the student's parent, guardian, or qualified student him- or herself of intent to withdraw the student, reasons for the withdrawal, effective date of withdrawal, and date of hearing or conference at which the parent, guardian, or qualified student will have an opportunity to respond to the allegations that the student is not entitled to be enrolled in the district. Steps 2 and 3 are not required for cases in which the parent, guardian or qualified student agrees that the student is not entitled to enrollment in the district. Step 4 is always required for charter districts.
	2. District provides a hearing or conference at which the district presents the reasons for withdrawal, and the parent, guardian, or qualified student is given the opportunity to respond to the reasons for withdrawal.
	3. District provides a written report to the parent, guardian, or qualified student that contains the findings of fact and district decision following the hearing or conference. The written report shall include notice of the parent's, guardian's, or qualified student's right to appeal the district's decision.
	4. Charter districts shall notify the school district in which the student resides within three business days of withdrawing a student from a charter school, per Texas Administrative Code §100.1211.
Other reasons	
03	**Student died while enrolled in school or during the summer break after completing the prior school year**
	Definition and use: Self-explanatory.
	Documentation requirement: Acceptable documentation includes a copy of the death certificate or obituary, a program from the funeral or memorial service, a written statement from the parent or guardian, and written documentation of an oral statement by a parent or guardian stating that the student has died.
08	**Student (female or male) withdrew from/left school because of pregnancy.**
	Definition and use: This code should be used only if the parent, guardian, or student indicates verbally or in writing that the student is leaving school or left school because of pregnancy. This code should not be assigned based only on the fact that the student is pregnant at the time he or she leaves school.
	This code can be used for female or male students.
	Documentation requirement: Acceptable documentation is any written documentation, including documentation of oral statements by the parent, guardian, or student, indicating that the student is leaving school or left school because of pregnancy.
16	**Student returned to family's home country**
	Definition and use: Use for students who are leaving the United States to return to their home country. A student may be leaving with or without family members to live with his or her family, immediate or extended, in the home country. The citizenship of the student is not relevant in assigning this code. This code can also be used for foreign exchange students.

Source. Texas Education Agency (2021b).

continues

Leaver code	Explanation/clarification and documentation requirements
	Documentation requirement: Acceptable documentation is a copy of the Transfer Document for Binational Migrant Student completed at the time the student withdraws from school, signed and dated by an authorized campus or district administrator. Acceptable documentation is also a copy of the withdrawal form signed and dated by the parent/guardian or qualified student and a campus or district administrator. The withdrawal form should indicate that the student is leaving school because the student is returning to the home country and should specify the destination. An original signature is not required on withdrawal forms received in the district by fax. Withdrawal forms received by e-mail do not need to be signed by the parent/guardian or qualified student. A signed letter from the parent/guardian or qualified student stating that the student is leaving school because the student is returning to the home country is also acceptable documentation. Acceptable documentation for foreign exchange students includes a written, signed, and dated statement from the student's host family or the foreign student advisor verifying the student's return to his or her home country. Other acceptable documentation is written documentation of an oral statement by an adult neighbor or other adult with knowledge of the family's whereabouts, signed and dated by an authorized campus or district administrator.
20	**Student withdrew from/left school because of a medical injury** **Definition and use:** Students who have suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care and leaves the student unable to attend school and assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility are entitled to receive educational services. This code may be used if educational services are refused by the qualified student or the student's parent or guardian and the student is withdrawn from school. Local Education Agencies (LEAs) should be aware, however, that if the illness, condition, or injury suffered by the student leads the LEA to suspect that the illness, condition, or injury has resulted in a disability identified under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), along with a corresponding need for special education and related services, the LEA must comply with federal law requiring public agencies to locate, evaluate, and identify students with disabilities who need special education and related services. In this situation, once the LEA obtains informed consent from the parent, guardian, or qualified student consistent with the consent requirements in 34 C.F.R. §300.300, it must conduct a full and individual initial evaluation (FIE) for the student pursuant to the IDEA. The leaver code may be used in this situation if the parent, guardian, or qualified student denies the LEA's request for an FIE, refuses educational services, and withdraws the student from school. **Documentation requirement:** For general education students, acceptable documentation includes a written statement or an oral statement by the parent, guardian, or qualified student properly documented by a designated LEA staff member that: (a) the student has suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care; (b) the student is unable to attend school as a result; (c) the student has been assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility; (d) the student has been offered education services; and (e) the parent, guardian, or qualified student has refused those services. With respect to students receiving special education and related services, the refusal to accept these services should be in writing pursuant to 34 C.F.R. §300.300(b)(4). Acceptable documentation in this case, thus, includes a written statement or an oral statement by a parent, guardian, or qualified student properly documented by a designated LEA staff member that: (a) the student has suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care; (b) the student is unable to attend school as a result; (c) the student has been assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility; and (d) the student has been offered education services. A refusal or revocation of consent for special education services, however, should be in a written statement (rather than a documented oral statement) from the parent, guardian, or qualified student and maintained in the student's eligibility folder pursuant to 19 TAC §89.1075(a). If the student was not identified as eligible for special education prior to the illness, condition, or injury at issue, and the LEA suspects that the illness, condition, or injury has resulted in a disability and corresponding need for special education and related services, the following documentation is acceptable: a written statement or an oral statement by the parent, guardian, or qualified student properly documented by a designated LEA staff member that: (a) the student has suffered a condition, injury, or illness that requires substantial medical care; (b) the student is unable to attend school as a result; (c) the student has been assigned to a medical or residential treatment facility; (d) the student has been offered an FIE and education services, and (e) the parent, guardian, or qualified student has refused both the FIE and education services.

Source. Texas Education Agency (2021b).

continues

Table A-1 (continued)
Leaver Reason Codes in the Public Education Information Management System

Leaver code	Explanation/clarification and documentation requirements
88	**Student was ordered by a court to attend a High School Equivalency program and has not earned a Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency (TxCHSE)**
	Definition and use: This code is for students who are court-ordered to attend a high school equivalency program and have not earned a TxCHSE at any time during the prior school year, including the summer (through August 31) following the close of the prior year.
	Documentation requirement: Acceptable documentation is a copy of the court order stating that the student has been ordered to attend a high school equivalency program. Documentation must include the name of the student, the date of the order, the name of the judge making the order, and the county in which the judge presides. The order should state that the court is ordering the student to attend a high school equivalency program or to take a high school equivalency exam.
89	**Student is incarcerated in a state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult or as a person certified to stand trial as an adult**
	Definition and use: Student is incarcerated in a state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult or as a person certified to stand trial as an adult.
	Documentation requirement: Acceptable documentation is one of the following: 1) Oral notification from a law enforcement agency, the office of the prosecuting attorney, or the jail or penitentiary, to an authorized representative of the district, that the student is incarcerated. The written statement of the oral notification shall be signed and dated by the authorized representative. 2) Written notification from a law enforcement agency, the office of the prosecuting attorney, or the jail or penitentiary, that the student is incarcerated.
98	**Other (reason unknown or not listed above)**
	Definition and use: This code is used for students who are withdrawn by the school district after a period of time because they have quit attending school and their reason for leaving is not known. It is also used for students who withdrew from/left school for reasons not listed above.

Source. Texas Education Agency (2021b).

Appendix B
Student Characteristic and Program Participation Data in Annual Dropout Rates and Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

Introduction

Table B-1
Program Participation and Student Characteristic Data in Annual Dropout Rate and Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rate Calculations

Introduction

Overview

Table B-1 on page 146 specifies the criteria the Texas Education Agency (TEA) applies to the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data elements used to calculate annual dropout rates and longitudinal graduation and dropout rates for students participating in special instructional programs and students with special demographic characteristics. Texas public school districts report the data to the TEA through the Texas Student Data System (TSDS). The table also identifies, when applicable, the subcategories through which the data elements are submitted. Refer to the *Texas Education Data Standards* (TEDS), published annually by TEA, for a detailed description of the data elements in Table B-1 (TEA, 2020c).

Annual Dropout Rates

The annual dropout rate for students with a special demographic characteristic is calculated as the number of students reported with the specified characteristic who drop out during a single school year divided by the total number of students reported with the specified characteristic enrolled during the same school year. Likewise, the annual dropout rate for students participating in a special instructional program is calculated as the number of students reported as participating in the specified program who drop out during a single school year divided by the total number of students reported as participating in the specified program who attended the same school year. A student may be reported with more than one special demographic characteristic or as participating in more than one special instructional program. Following, as an example, is the annual dropout rate calculation for immigrant students.

$$\frac{\text{number of students reported to TEA as immigrants who dropped out during the school year}}{\text{number of students reported to TEA as immigrants enrolled during the school year}}$$

Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

Calculating longitudinal four-year rates requires tracking a cohort of students from the time they enter Grade 9, or transfer into the cohort, until the fall following their anticipated graduation date. Calculating extended longitudinal rates requires tracking a cohort of students until the fall one or more years after their anticipated graduation date. The longitudinal graduation rate is the number of students who graduate divided by the total number of students in the cohort who have final statuses. The longitudinal dropout rate is the number of students who drop out divided by the total number of students who have final statuses.

PEIMS attendance data are used to build each cohort of students. Each cohort is identified by the starting grade and anticipated year of graduation. For example, students who attended Grade 9 in Texas public schools for the first time in 2016-17 make up the class of 2020 Grade 9 cohort. Students who did not attend Grade 9 in Texas public schools that year but entered the system over the next

three years were added to the cohort if, in the year they entered, they were in the grade level expected for the cohort. Each cohort was tracked using PEIMS data through the four or more years of the cohort. Students in the class of 2020 were tracked into the fall semester following their anticipated graduation date of spring 2020. Students in previous cohorts were tracked into the fall semester one or more years following their anticipated graduation date.

Any student who was determined to be a graduate, continuer, TxCHSE recipient, or dropout was counted in the class of 2020. This included students who began Grade 9 in Texas public schools, as well as students who later entered Texas public schools in the grade level expected for the cohort and were added to the cohort. A student whose final status could not be determined was not included as a member of the class. A student who left the Texas public school system during the time period covered for reasons other than graduating, receiving a TxCHSE, or dropping out was not included as a member of the class.

A student may be reported with more than one special demographic characteristic or as participating in more than one special instructional program. Program participation is assigned to a student based on data elements reported on the student's last record of attendance. For example, if the student last attended in 2019-20 and was identified as gifted and talented that year, the student is included in rate calculations for gifted and talented students. Demographic characteristics also are assigned based on data reported on the student's last record of attendance, except in the cases of students identified: (a) as English learners (ELs) at any time while attending Texas public schools, (b) as ELs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools, (c) as in foster care at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools, or (d) as homeless at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools. Additionally, beginning with the 2020-21 school year, career and technical education (CTE) information is no longer available for continuing students in longitudinal rate calculations. CTE program participation for these students is assigned based on the student's prior record of attendance in the continuing district, if available.

As an example, the longitudinal graduation rate for migrant students is calculated as the number of students who graduated and were reported as migrants on their last records of attendance divided by the number of students in the class who were reported as migrants on their last records of attendance.

$$\frac{\text{graduates reported as migrants on last records of attendance}}{\text{graduates + continuers + TxCHSE recipients + dropouts reported as migrants on last records of attendance}}$$

Through the TEA Login (TEAL), school districts have access to the preliminary cohort for a given year, as well as technical documentation describing how TEA builds a cohort and how longitudinal rates are calculated. The technical documentation is also available on the agency's public website.

Table B-1

Program Participation and Student Characteristic Data in Annual Dropout Rate and Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rate Calculations

Data element	TSDS[a] source and criteria
Instructional program	
Bilingual or English as a second language (ESL)	**Data source.** For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS[b] summer collection (Submission 3) on the 42401-Special Programs Attendance subcategory and 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory and the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory.
	Criteria. (a) Days present reported as greater than 0 on Total Elig Bilingual/ESL Days Present or Flex Attend Total Bilingual/ESL Days Eligible and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code. Student coded as: (a) "2," "3," "4," or "5" for the Bilingual Program Type Code or "2" or "3" for the ESL Program Type Code or "01" or "02" for the Alternative Language Program Type Code; and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.
Transitional bilingual/early exit	**Data source.** PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory and the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory.
	Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "2" for the Bilingual Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.
Transitional bilingual/late exit	**Data source.** PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory and the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory.
	Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "3" for the Bilingual Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.
Dual language immersion/two-way	**Data source.** PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory and the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory.
	Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "4" for the Bilingual Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.
Dual language immersion/one-way	**Data source.** PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory and the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory.
	Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "5" for the Bilingual Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.
ESL content-based	**Data source.** PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory and the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory.
	Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "2" for the ESL Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.
ESL pull-out	**Data source.** PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory and the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory.
	Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "3" for the ESL Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.
Bilingual Alternative Language Program	**Data source.** PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory and the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as: (a) "01" for the Alternative Language Program Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.
ESL Alternative Language Program	**Data source.** PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory and the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as: (a) "02" for the Alternative Language Program Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.

[a]Texas Student Data System. [b]Public Education Information Management System.

continues

Table B-1 (continued)
Program Participation and Student Characteristic Data in Annual Dropout Rate and Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rate Calculations

Data element	TSDS[a] source and criteria
Career and technical education	**Data source.** For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS[b] summer collection (Submission 3) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "2" or "3" for the Career and Technology Ed Indicator Code.
Gifted and talented	**Data source.** For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "1" for the Gifted Talented Indicator Code.
Section 504	**Data source.** For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "1" for the Section 504 Indicator Code.
Special education	**Data source.** PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on either the 40110-Enrollment subcategory or the 42405-Special Education Attendance subcategory and either the 42500-Flexible Attendance subcategory or the 42505-Special Education Flexible Attendance subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory. **Criteria.** (a) a 42405-Special Education Attendance subcategory submission; (b) a 40110-Enrollment subcategory submission where Total Elig Sp Ed Mainstream Days Present is greater than 0; (c) a 42505-Special Education Flexible Attendance subcategory submission; (d) a 42500-Flexible Attendance subcategory submission where Flex Attend Total Sp Ed Mainstream Days Eligible is greater than 0; or (e) student coded as "1" on the Special Ed Indicator Code on the 40110-Enrollment subcategory.
Title I	**Data source.** PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 41461-Title I, Part A Program subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 41461-Title I, Part A Program subcategory. **Criteria.** Any 41461-Title I, Part A Program subcategory submission or student coded as "A," "6," "7," or "9" on the Title I, Part A, Indicator Code.
Student characteristic	
At-risk	**Data source.** PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "1" for the At-Risk Indicator Code.
Dyslexia	**Data source.** PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "1" for the Dyslexia Indicator Code.
Economically disadvantaged	**Data source.** For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "01," "02," or "99" for the Economic Disadvantage Code.

[a]Texas Student Data System. [b]Public Education Information Management System.

continues

Table B-1 (continued)
Program Participation and Student Characteristic Data in Annual Dropout Rate and Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rate Calculations

Data element	TSDS[a] source and criteria
Not economically disadvantaged	**Data source.** For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS[b] summer collection (Submission 3) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "00" for the Economic Disadvantage Code.
English learner	**Data source.** For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.
Foster care	**Data source.** For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "1" or "2" for the Foster Care Type Indicator Code.
Homeless	**Data source.** For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "1," "2,""3,""4," or "5" on Homeless Status Code.
Immigrant	**Data source.** PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "1" for the Immigrant Indicator Code.
Military-connected	**Data source.** For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** For state definition, student coded as "1","2","3", "4", "5" or "6" for the Military-Connected Student Indicator Code. For federal definition, student coded as "1" or "2" for the Military-Connected Student Indicator Code.
Migrant	**Data source.** For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory. **Criteria.** Student coded as "1" for the Migrant Indicator Code.
Overage	**Data source.** PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 40100-Student Basic Information subcategory, 42400-Basic Attendance subcategory, and 42500-Flexible Attendance subcategory. **Criteria.** For each district attended, the highest grade in the last six weeks is used. The Texas Education Agency calculates a student's age based on September 1 of the school year in question.

[a]Texas Student Data System. [b]Public Education Information Management System.

Appendix C
Supplemental Tables

Table C-1
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8,
by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender,
Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

Table C-2
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12,
by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender,
Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

Table C-3
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12,
by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender,
Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

Table C-4
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12,
Charter Schools and Traditional Districts,
Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Table C-5
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates,
by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender,
Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2006 Through 2015

Table C-6
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates,
Charter Schools and Traditional Districts,
Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020

Table C-7
Grade 7 Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates,
by Race/Ethnicity and Economic Status,
Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2009 Through 2019

Table C-1
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

School year	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
African American					
2005-06	108,041	15.5	829	27.3	0.8
2006-07	102,967	14.9	740	25.6	0.7
2007-08	100,628	14.6	475	23.9	0.5
2008-09	100,818	14.3	505	22.9	0.5
2009-10	93,727	13.1	356	21.3	0.4
2010-11	95,360	13.1	321	21.0	0.3
2011-12	96,678	13.0	382	19.2	0.4
2012-13	97,887	12.9	364	11.4	0.4
2013-14	99,675	12.7	447	11.2	0.4
2014-15	99,661	12.6	537	20.8	0.5
American Indian					
2005-06	2,428	0.3	11	0.4	0.5
2006-07	2,454	0.4	10	0.3	0.4
2007-08	2,518	0.4	6	0.3	0.2
2008-09	2,603	0.4	13	0.6	0.5
2009-10	<3,675	0.5	–[a]	–	0.2
2010-11	<3,625	0.5	–	–	0.3
2011-12	<3,475	0.5	–	–	0.2
2012-13	<3,000	0.4	–	–	0.5
2013-14	2,915	0.4	15	0.4	0.5
2014-15	<3,000	0.4	–	–	0.4
Asian					
2005-06	n/a[b]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	24,207	3.4	26	1.6	0.1
2010-11	24,994	3.4	15	1.0	0.1
2011-12	25,590	3.4	27	1.4	0.1
2012-13	26,438	3.5	27	0.8	0.1
2013-14	29,165	3.7	30	0.8	0.1
2014-15	30,749	3.9	54	2.1	0.2
Hispanic					
2005-06	303,028	43.4	1,680	55.3	0.6
2006-07	307,440	44.6	1,626	56.3	0.5

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

continues

Table C-1 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

School year	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
2007-08	315,045	45.6	1,126	56.6	0.4
2008-09	327,594	46.5	1,289	58.5	0.4
2009-10	344,999	48.3	999	59.7	0.3
2010-11	356,057	48.9	870	56.9	0.2
2011-12	367,724	49.5	1,183	59.4	0.3
2012-13	381,097	50.1	2,311	72.5	0.6
2013-14	399,384	51.0	3,036	76.4	0.8
2014-15	405,126	51.4	1,473	57.0	0.4
Pacific Islander					
2005-06	n/a[b]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	<870	0.1	–[a]	–	0.1
2010-11	<900	0.1	–	–	0.3
2011-12	<925	0.1	–	–	0.3
2012-13	<1,000	0.1	–	–	0.2
2013-14	1,032	0.1	10	0.3	1.0
2014-15	<1,100	0.1	–	–	0.4
White					
2005-06	263,909	37.8	476	15.7	0.2
2006-07	254,861	37.0	471	16.3	0.2
2007-08	249,849	36.1	343	17.3	0.1
2008-09	248,422	35.3	357	16.2	0.1
2009-10	235,537	33.0	258	15.4	0.1
2010-11	235,642	32.4	289	18.9	0.1
2011-12	236,001	31.8	365	18.3	0.2
2012-13	238,079	31.3	430	13.5	0.2
2013-14	237,598	30.3	403	10.1	0.2
2014-15	234,813	29.8	468	18.1	0.2
Multiracial					
2005-06	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	11,057	1.5	24	1.4	0.2
2010-11	11,338	1.6	21	1.4	0.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

Table C-1 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

School year	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
2011-12	12,285	1.7	24	1.2	0.2
2012-13	13,142	1.7	37	1.2	0.3
2013-14	13,789	1.8	33	0.8	0.2
2014-15	14,410	1.8	35	1.4	0.2
Economically disadvantaged					
2005-06	361,820	51.8	1,665	54.8	0.5
2006-07	358,256	51.9	1,647	57.0	0.5
2007-08	356,732	51.6	1,054	53.0	0.3
2008-09	348,812	49.5	874	39.7	0.3
2009-10	368,495	51.6	685	41.0	0.2
2010-11	417,182	57.3	1,006	65.8	0.2
2011-12	441,937	59.5	1,431	71.9	0.3
2012-13	453,346	59.6	2,639	82.8	0.6
2013-14	470,835	60.1	3,314	83.4	0.7
2014-15	465,366	59.0	1,838	71.1	0.4
Not economically disadvantaged					
2005-06	n/a[b]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010-11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2011-12	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2012-13	307,277	40.4	548	17.2	0.2
2013-14	312,723	39.9	660	16.6	0.2
2014-15	323,449	41.0	746	28.9	0.2
Female					
2005-06	339,840	48.7	1,464	48.2	0.4
2006-07	335,173	48.6	1,338	46.3	0.4
2007-08	335,686	48.6	881	44.3	0.3
2008-09	342,418	48.6	995	45.2	0.3
2009-10	347,452	48.7	735	44.0	0.2
2010-11	353,919	48.6	756	49.4	0.2
2011-12	361,544	48.7	909	45.7	0.3
2012-13	370,903	48.8	966	30.3	0.3
2013-14	380,935	48.6	1,045	26.3	0.3
2014-15	384,056	48.7	1,219	47.2	0.3

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

continues

Table C-1 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

School year	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Male					
2005-06	358,637	51.3	1,574	51.8	0.4
2006-07	354,560	51.4	1,550	53.7	0.4
2007-08	355,596	51.4	1,107	55.7	0.3
2008-09	362,034	51.4	1,208	54.8	0.3
2009-10	366,608	51.3	937	56.0	0.3
2010-11	373,972	51.4	774	50.6	0.2
2011-12	381,123	51.3	1,082	54.3	0.3
2012-13	389,720	51.2	2,221	69.7	0.6
2013-14	402,623	51.4	2,929	73.7	0.7
2014-15	404,759	51.3	1,365	52.8	0.3
State					
2005-06	698,477	100	3,038	100	0.4
2006-07	689,733	100	2,888	100	0.4
2007-08	691,282	100	1,988	100	0.3
2008-09	704,452	100	2,203	100	0.3
2009-10	714,060	100	1,672	100	0.2
2010-11	727,891	100	1,530	100	0.2
2011-12	742,667	100	1,991	100	0.3
2012-13	760,623	100	3,187	100	0.4
2013-14	783,558	100	3,974	100	0.5
2014-15	788,815	100	2,584	100	0.3

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

Table C-2
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

School year	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
African American					
2005-06	202,072	15.3	10,863	22.3	5.4
2006-07	199,825	15.0	11,550	22.0	5.8
2007-08	201,866	14.9	10,017	22.9	5.0
2008-09	201,176	14.8	8,876	22.9	4.4
2009-10	191,211	13.9	7,392	22.2	3.9
2010-11	189,474	13.6	6,807	20.7	3.6
2011-12	187,634	13.3	7,062	20.6	3.8
2012-13	187,944	13.2	6,120	19.4	3.3
2013-14	189,446	13.0	5,868	18.7	3.1
2014-15	193,774	13.0	5,828	18.9	3.0
American Indian					
2005-06	4,590	0.3	133	0.3	2.9
2006-07	4,771	0.4	133	0.3	2.8
2007-08	4,995	0.4	129	0.3	2.6
2008-09	4,997	0.4	111	0.3	2.2
2009-10	<7,530	0.5	–[a]	–	2.6
2010-11	<7,190	0.5	–	–	2.8
2011-12	<6,980	0.5	–	–	2.7
2012-13	<6,350	0.4	–	–	2.5
2013-14	6,257	0.4	147	0.5	2.3
2014-15	<6,300	0.4	–	–	2.8
Asian					
2005-06	n/a[b]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	45,870	3.3	385	1.2	0.8
2010-11	48,616	3.5	374	1.1	0.8
2011-12	50,991	3.6	464	1.4	0.9
2012-13	52,377	3.7	420	1.3	0.8
2013-14	55,019	3.8	411	1.3	0.7
2014-15	57,939	3.9	457	1.5	0.8
Hispanic					
2005-06	534,570	40.6	27,633	56.6	5.2
2006-07	558,007	41.8	30,200	57.6	5.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

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Table C-2 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

School year	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
2007-08	580,114	42.9	25,332	57.8	4.4
2008-09	595,252	43.9	22,493	58.1	3.8
2009-10	631,184	45.8	19,597	59.0	3.1
2010-11	652,154	46.8	19,866	60.5	3.0
2011-12	670,390	47.6	20,662	60.3	3.1
2012-13	693,069	48.5	19,247	61.1	2.8
2013-14	714,253	49.1	19,306	61.5	2.7
2014-15	742,506	49.7	18,724	60.7	2.5
Pacific Islander					
2005-06	n/a[b]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	<1,860	0.1	–[a]	–	2.5
2010-11	<1,870	0.1	–	–	2.3
2011-12	<1,900	0.1	–	–	1.7
2012-13	<2,000	0.1	–	–	2.2
2013-14	2,067	0.1	61	0.2	3.0
2014-15	<2,200	0.1	–	–	2.1
White					
2005-06	534,204	40.5	9,592	19.7	1.8
2006-07	527,469	39.5	9,922	18.9	1.9
2007-08	518,202	38.4	7,831	17.9	1.5
2008-09	506,473	37.3	6,767	17.5	1.3
2009-10	480,028	34.9	5,377	16.2	1.1
2010-11	474,110	34.0	5,280	16.1	1.1
2011-12	467,344	33.2	5,529	16.1	1.2
2012-13	463,355	32.4	5,155	16.4	1.1
2013-14	462,905	31.8	5,218	16.6	1.1
2014-15	466,430	31.2	5,228	16.9	1.1
Multiracial					
2005-06	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	19,670	1.4	246	0.7	1.3
2010-11	21,130	1.5	266	0.8	1.3

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

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Table C-2 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

School year	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
2011-12	22,479	1.6	349	1.0	1.6
2012-13	23,784	1.7	365	1.2	1.5
2013-14	24,895	1.7	373	1.2	1.5
2014-15	26,210	1.8	397	1.3	1.5
Economically disadvantaged					
2005-06	555,270	42.1	23,359	47.9	4.2
2006-07	567,425	42.5	24,330	46.4	4.3
2007-08	581,948	43.1	20,354	46.5	3.5
2008-09	569,299	42.0	15,181	39.2	2.7
2009-10	612,655	44.5	13,099	39.4	2.1
2010-11	712,439	51.1	19,232	58.6	2.7
2011-12	745,010	52.9	20,929	61.0	2.8
2012-13	763,807	53.5	20,217	64.2	2.6
2013-14	783,079	53.8	20,592	65.6	2.6
2014-15	793,461	53.1	20,177	65.4	2.5
Not economically disadvantaged					
2005-06	n/a[b]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010-11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2011-12	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2012-13	665,012	46.5	11,292	35.8	1.7
2013-14	671,763	46.2	10,792	34.4	1.6
2014-15	701,833	46.9	10,676	34.6	1.5
Female					
2005-06	642,469	48.7	21,588	44.2	3.4
2006-07	651,518	48.8	23,923	45.6	3.7
2007-08	659,584	48.8	19,737	45.1	3.0
2008-09	661,106	48.7	17,650	45.6	2.7
2009-10	670,319	48.7	14,914	44.9	2.2
2010-11	679,085	48.7	14,406	43.9	2.1
2011-12	685,384	48.7	14,771	43.1	2.2
2012-13	695,346	48.7	13,272	42.1	1.9
2013-14	708,579	48.7	12,857	41.0	1.8
2014-15	729,169	48.8	12,691	41.1	1.7

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

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    Secondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Table C-2 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

School year	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Male					
2005-06	675,524	51.3	27,215	55.8	4.0
2006-07	682,319	51.2	28,495	54.4	4.2
2007-08	691,337	51.2	24,071	54.9	3.5
2008-09	695,143	51.3	21,070	54.4	3.0
2009-10	707,011	51.3	18,321	55.1	2.6
2010-11	715,438	51.3	18,427	56.1	2.6
2011-12	722,313	51.3	19,514	56.9	2.7
2012-13	733,473	51.3	18,237	57.9	2.5
2013-14	746,263	51.3	18,527	59.0	2.5
2014-15	766,125	51.2	18,162	58.9	2.4
State					
2005-06	1,317,993	100	48,803	100	3.7
2006-07	1,333,837	100	52,418	100	3.9
2007-08	1,350,921	100	43,808	100	3.2
2008-09	1,356,249	100	38,720	100	2.9
2009-10	1,377,330	100	33,235	100	2.4
2010-11	1,394,523	100	32,833	100	2.4
2011-12	1,407,697	100	34,285	100	2.4
2012-13	1,428,819	100	31,509	100	2.2
2013-14	1,454,842	100	31,384	100	2.2
2014-15	1,495,294	100	30,853	100	2.1

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

Table C-3

Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

School year	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
African American					
2005-06	310,113	15.4	11,692	22.6	3.8
2006-07	302,792	15.0	12,290	22.2	4.1
2007-08	302,494	14.8	10,492	22.9	3.5
2008-09	301,994	14.7	9,381	22.9	3.1
2009-10	284,938	13.6	7,748	22.2	2.7
2010-11	284,834	13.4	7,128	20.7	2.5
2011-12	284,312	13.2	7,444	20.5	2.6
2012-13	285,831	13.1	6,484	18.7	2.3
2013-14	289,121	12.9	6,315	17.9	2.2
2014-15	293,435	12.8	6,365	19.0	2.2
American Indian					
2005-06	7,018	0.3	144	0.3	2.1
2006-07	7,225	0.4	143	0.3	2.0
2007-08	7,513	0.4	135	0.3	1.8
2008-09	7,600	0.4	124	0.3	1.6
2009-10	11,183	0.5	200	0.6	1.8
2010-11	<10,800	0.5	–[a]	–	1.9
2011-12	<10,445	0.5	–	–	1.9
2012-13	9,299	0.4	175	0.5	1.9
2013-14	9,172	0.4	162	0.5	1.8
2014-15	9,267	0.4	187	0.6	2.0
Asian					
2005-06	n/a[b]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	70,077	3.4	411	1.2	0.6
2010-11	73,610	3.5	389	1.1	0.5
2011-12	76,581	3.6	491	1.4	0.6
2012-13	78,815	3.6	447	1.3	0.6
2013-14	84,184	3.8	441	1.2	0.5
2014-15	88,688	3.9	511	1.5	0.6
Hispanic					
2005-06	837,598	41.5	29,313	56.5	3.5
2006-07	865,447	42.8	31,826	57.5	3.7

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

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Table C-3 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

School year	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
2007-08	895,159	43.8	26,458	57.8	3.0
2008-09	922,846	44.8	23,782	58.1	2.6
2009-10	976,183	46.7	20,596	59.0	2.1
2010-11	1,008,211	47.5	20,736	60.3	2.1
2011-12	1,038,114	48.3	21,845	60.2	2.1
2012-13	1,074,166	49.1	21,558	62.1	2.0
2013-14	1,113,637	49.8	22,342	63.2	2.0
2014-15	1,147,632	50.2	20,197	60.4	1.8
Pacific Islander					
2005-06	n/a[b]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	2,717	0.1	47	0.1	1.7
2010-11	<2,755	0.1	—[a]	–	1.6
2011-12	<2,830	0.1	–	–	1.2
2012-13	2,971	0.1	45	0.1	1.5
2013-14	3,099	0.1	71	0.2	2.3
2014-15	3,224	0.1	49	0.1	1.5
White					
2005-06	798,113	39.6	10,068	19.4	1.3
2006-07	782,330	38.7	10,393	18.8	1.3
2007-08	768,051	37.6	8,174	17.8	1.1
2008-09	754,895	36.6	7,124	17.4	0.9
2009-10	715,565	34.2	5,635	16.1	0.8
2010-11	709,752	33.4	5,569	16.2	0.8
2011-12	703,345	32.7	5,894	16.2	0.8
2012-13	701,434	32.0	5,585	16.1	0.8
2013-14	700,503	31.3	5,621	15.9	0.8
2014-15	701,243	30.7	5,696	17.0	0.8
Multiracial					
2005-06	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	30,727	1.5	270	0.8	0.9
2010-11	32,468	1.5	287	0.8	0.9

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

continues

School year	Students (N)	Students (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
2011-12	34,764	1.6	373	1.0	1.1
2012-13	36,926	1.7	402	1.2	1.1
2013-14	38,684	1.7	406	1.1	1.0
2014-15	40,620	1.8	432	1.3	1.1
Economically disadvantaged					
2005-06	917,090	45.5	25,024	48.3	2.7
2006-07	925,681	45.7	25,977	47.0	2.8
2007-08	938,680	46.0	21,408	46.7	2.3
2008-09	918,111	44.6	16,055	39.2	1.7
2009-10	981,150	46.9	13,784	39.5	1.4
2010-11	1,129,621	53.2	20,238	58.9	1.8
2011-12	1,186,947	55.2	22,360	61.6	1.9
2012-13	1,217,153	55.6	22,856	65.9	1.9
2013-14	1,253,914	56.0	23,906	67.6	1.9
2014-15	1,258,827	55.1	22,015	65.8	1.7
Not economically disadvantaged					
2005-06	n/a[b]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2006-07	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2007-08	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008-09	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2009-10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010-11	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2011-12	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2012-13	972,289	44.4	11,840	34.1	1.2
2013-14	984,486	44.0	11,452	32.4	1.2
2014-15	1,025,282	44.9	11,422	34.2	1.1
Female					
2005-06	982,309	48.7	23,052	44.5	2.3
2006-07	986,691	48.8	25,261	45.7	2.6
2007-08	995,270	48.7	20,618	45.0	2.1
2008-09	1,003,524	48.7	18,645	45.6	1.9
2009-10	1,017,771	48.7	15,649	44.8	1.5
2010-11	1,033,004	48.7	15,162	44.1	1.5
2011-12	1,046,928	48.7	15,680	43.2	1.5
2012-13	1,066,249	48.7	14,238	41.0	1.3
2013-14	1,089,514	48.7	13,902	39.3	1.3
2014-15	1,113,225	48.7	13,910	41.6	1.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

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Table C-3 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2014-15

School year	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Male					
2005-06	1,034,161	51.3	28,789	55.5	2.8
2006-07	1,036,879	51.2	30,045	54.3	2.9
2007-08	1,046,933	51.3	25,178	55.0	2.4
2008-09	1,057,177	51.3	22,278	54.4	2.1
2009-10	1,073,619	51.3	19,258	55.2	1.8
2010-11	1,089,410	51.3	19,201	55.9	1.8
2011-12	1,103,436	51.3	20,596	56.8	1.9
2012-13	1,123,193	51.3	20,458	59.0	1.8
2013-14	1,148,886	51.3	21,456	60.7	1.9
2014-15	1,170,884	51.3	19,527	58.4	1.7
State					
2005-06	2,016,470	100	51,841	100	2.6
2006-07	2,023,570	100	55,306	100	2.7
2007-08	2,042,203	100	45,796	100	2.2
2008-09	2,060,701	100	40,923	100	2.0
2009-10	2,091,390	100	34,907	100	1.7
2010-11	2,122,414	100	34,363	100	1.6
2011-12	2,150,364	100	36,276	100	1.7
2012-13	2,189,442	100	34,696	100	1.6
2013-14	2,238,400	100	35,358	100	1.6
2014-15	2,284,109	100	33,437	100	1.5

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of dropouts is not reported, the total number of students is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the group. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [b]Not available.

Table C-4
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, Charter Schools and Traditional Districts, Texas Public Schools, 2019-20

Group	Students (*N*)	Students (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropouts (%)	Annual dropout rate (%)
Charter schools	97,293	5.7	5,412	20.3	5.6
Traditional districts	1,601,951	94.3	21,233	79.7	1.3
State	1,631,776	100	26,626	100	1.6

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Counts for charter schools and traditional districts will not add to state counts because students who attend more than one district are counted only once in state totals.

Table C-5
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2006 Through 2015

Class year	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	GED[e] recipients (N)	GED recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or GED recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or GED recipient rate (%)
African American											
Class of 2006	40,726	30,357	74.5	4,269	10.5	698	1.7	5,402	13.3	35,324	86.7
Class of 2007	42,177	29,827	70.7	4,437	10.5	671	1.6	7,242	17.2	34,935	82.8
Class of 2008	44,146	31,707	71.8	4,839	11.0	495	1.1	7,105	16.1	37,041	83.9
Class of 2009	45,710	33,750	73.8	4,705	10.3	506	1.1	6,749	14.8	38,961	85.2
Class of 2010	46,189	36,395	78.8	3,874	8.4	465	1.0	5,455	11.8	40,734	88.2
Class of 2011	45,199	36,544	80.9	3,334	7.4	379	0.8	4,942	10.9	40,257	89.1
Class of 2012	43,141	36,036	83.5	2,393	5.5	360	0.8	4,352	10.1	38,789	89.9
Class of 2013	44,189	37,162	84.1	2,352	5.3	298	0.7	4,377	9.9	39,812	90.1
Class of 2014	43,707	36,807	84.2	2,323	5.3	280	0.6	4,297	9.8	39,410	90.2
Class of 2015	44,533	37,951	85.2	2,153	4.8	209	0.5	4,220	9.5	40,313	90.5
American Indian											
Class of 2006	924	775	83.9	57	6.2	37	4.0	55	6.0	869	94.0
Class of 2007	1,031	839	81.4	64	6.2	29	2.8	99	9.6	932	90.4
Class of 2008	1,130	923	81.7	87	7.7	25	2.2	95	8.4	1,035	91.6
Class of 2009	1,119	899	80.3	91	8.1	25	2.2	104	9.3	1,015	90.7
Class of 2010	1,248	1,051	84.2	114	9.1	19	1.5	64	5.1	1,184	94.9
Class of 2011	1,587	1,374	86.6	83	5.2	28	1.8	102	6.4	1,485	93.6
Class of 2012	<1,600	–[f]	86.7	–	4.2	–	2.0	–	7.1	–	92.9
Class of 2013	<1,500	–	85.8	–	4.4	–	1.3	–	8.5	–	91.5
Class of 2014	<1,450	–	87.1	–	4.0	–	1.1	–	7.9	–	92.1
Class of 2015	1,486	1,283	86.3	62	4.2	11	0.7	130	8.7	1,356	91.3
Asian											
Class of 2006	n/a[g]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2011	10,709	10,170	95.0	372	3.5	16	0.1	151	1.4	10,558	98.6
Class of 2012	11,232	10,607	94.4	370	3.3	24	0.2	231	2.1	11,001	97.9
Class of 2013	12,058	11,312	93.8	360	3.0	21	0.2	365	3.0	11,693	97.0
Class of 2014	12,969	12,292	94.8	345	2.7	15	0.1	317	2.4	12,652	97.6
Class of 2015	13,444	12,822	95.4	298	2.2	24	0.2	300	2.2	13,144	97.8

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Dropouts are counted according to the dropout definition in place the year they drop out. The definition changed in 2005-06. Longitudinal rates for the class of 2009 and later classes are comparable to one another. Rates for classes in which the national dropout definition was phased in (i.e., classes of 2006, 2007, and 2008) are not comparable from one class to another, as indicated by the gray lines in the table, nor are they comparable to rates for prior or later classes.

[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]General Educational Development certificate. [f]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of students represented by a final status is not reported, the corresponding class size is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the class. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [g]Not available. [h]Numbers in class for race/ethnicity may not sum to the state total because some student records did not correspond to any single new racial/ethnic category.

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Table C-5 (continued)

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2006 Through 2015

Class year	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	GED[e] recipients (N)	GED recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or GED recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or GED recipient rate (%)
Hispanic											
Class of 2006	109,414	78,476	71.7	14,397	13.2	2,173	2.0	14,368	13.1	95,046	86.9
Class of 2007	114,590	78,506	68.5	15,286	13.3	2,039	1.8	18,759	16.4	95,831	83.6
Class of 2008	121,889	86,313	70.8	16,229	13.3	1,793	1.5	17,554	14.4	104,335	85.6
Class of 2009	130,086	95,609	73.5	16,461	12.7	1,827	1.4	16,189	12.4	113,897	87.6
Class of 2010	135,212	106,514	78.8	13,981	10.3	1,708	1.3	13,009	9.6	122,203	90.4
Class of 2011	143,712	117,624	81.8	12,008	8.4	1,600	1.1	12,480	8.7	131,232	91.3
Class of 2012	145,230	122,378	84.3	9,782	6.7	1,486	1.0	11,584	8.0	133,646	92.0
Class of 2013	155,160	132,051	85.1	9,153	5.9	1,307	0.8	12,649	8.2	142,511	91.8
Class of 2014	159,708	136,586	85.5	8,869	5.6	1,203	0.8	13,050	8.2	146,658	91.8
Class of 2015	164,646	142,404	86.5	8,686	5.3	864	0.5	12,692	7.7	151,954	92.3
Pacific Islander											
Class of 2006	n/a[g]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2011	<450	–[f]	88.0	–	6.1	–	0.9	–	5.0	–	95.0
Class of 2012	<450	–	89.0	–	6.5	–	0.5	–	4.1	–	95.9
Class of 2013	<450	–	89.5	–	4.7	–	0.5	–	5.3	–	94.7
Class of 2014	<450	–	88.9	–	3.7	–	0.5	–	7.0	–	93.0
Class of 2015	541	480	88.7	21	3.9	5	0.9	35	6.5	506	93.5
White											
Class of 2006	123,046	109,550	89.0	5,165	4.2	3,484	2.8	4,847	3.9	118,199	96.1
Class of 2007	122,784	108,313	88.2	5,048	4.1	2,896	2.4	6,527	5.3	116,257	94.7
Class of 2008	122,901	109,130	88.8	5,206	4.2	2,262	1.8	6,303	5.1	116,598	94.9
Class of 2009	120,629	108,190	89.7	4,943	4.1	2,011	1.7	5,485	4.5	115,144	95.5
Class of 2010	119,938	109,887	91.6	4,156	3.5	1,705	1.4	4,190	3.5	115,748	96.5
Class of 2011	113,472	104,448	92.0	3,768	3.3	1,380	1.2	3,876	3.4	109,596	96.6
Class of 2012	110,034	102,338	93.0	2,967	2.7	1,241	1.1	3,488	3.2	106,546	96.8
Class of 2013	109,915	102,213	93.0	2,845	2.6	996	0.9	3,861	3.5	106,054	96.5
Class of 2014	109,354	101,737	93.0	2,694	2.5	1,026	0.9	3,897	3.6	105,457	96.4
Class of 2015	109,200	102,000	93.4	2,622	2.4	848	0.8	3,730	3.4	105,470	96.6

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Dropouts are counted according to the dropout definition in place the year they drop out. The definition changed in 2005-06. Longitudinal rates for the class of 2009 and later classes are comparable to one another. Rates for classes in which the national dropout definition was phased in (i.e., classes of 2006, 2007, and 2008) are not comparable from one class to another, as indicated by the gray lines in the table, nor are they comparable to rates for prior or later classes.

[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]General Educational Development certificate. [f]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of students represented by a final status is not reported, the corresponding class size is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the class. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [g]Not available. [h]Numbers in class for race/ethnicity may not sum to the state total because some student records did not correspond to any single new racial/ethnic category.

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Table C-5 (continued)

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2006 Through 2015

Class year	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	GED[e] recipients (N)	GED recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or GED recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or GED recipient rate (%)
Multiracial											
Class of 2006	n/a[g]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2011	4,338	3,996	92.1	165	3.8	42	1.0	135	3.1	4,203	96.9
Class of 2012	5,074	4,687	92.4	145	2.9	52	1.0	190	3.7	4,884	96.3
Class of 2013	5,345	4,899	91.7	165	3.1	48	0.9	233	4.4	5,112	95.6
Class of 2014	5,691	5,193	91.2	183	3.2	41	0.7	274	4.8	5,417	95.2
Class of 2015	5,776	5,322	92.1	171	3.0	33	0.6	250	4.3	5,526	95.7
Economically disadvantaged											
Class of 2006	109,204	78,611	72.0	12,960	11.9	2,624	2.4	15,009	13.7	94,195	86.3
Class of 2007	112,939	77,704	68.8	13,256	11.7	2,418	2.1	19,561	17.3	93,378	82.7
Class of 2008	119,328	84,049	70.4	14,587	12.2	1,982	1.7	18,710	15.7	100,618	84.3
Class of 2009	120,083	93,981	78.3	11,654	9.7	1,417	1.2	13,031	10.9	107,052	89.1
Class of 2010	132,842	108,861	81.9	12,199	9.2	1,394	1.0	10,388	7.8	122,454	92.2
Class of 2011	148,492	124,234	83.7	11,295	7.6	1,468	1.0	11,495	7.7	136,997	92.3
Class of 2012	152,731	129,965	85.1	9,250	6.1	1,548	1.0	11,968	7.8	140,763	92.2
Class of 2013	162,779	138,630	85.2	8,868	5.4	1,493	0.9	13,788	8.5	148,991	91.5
Class of 2014	167,545	142,669	85.2	8,322	5.0	1,485	0.9	15,069	9.0	152,476	91.0
Class of 2015	169,386	144,957	85.6	8,510	5.0	1,151	0.7	14,768	8.7	154,618	91.3
Not economically disadvantaged											
Class of 2006	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2007	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2008	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2011	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2012	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2013	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2014	165,741	151,571	91.5	6,165	3.7	1,097	0.7	6,908	4.2	158,833	95.8
Class of 2015	170,240	157,305	92.4	5,503	3.2	843	0.5	6,589	3.9	163,651	96.1

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Dropouts are counted according to the dropout definition in place the year they drop out. The definition changed in 2005-06. Longitudinal rates for the class of 2009 and later classes are comparable to one another. Rates for classes in which the national dropout definition was phased in (i.e., classes of 2006, 2007, and 2008) are not comparable from one class to another, as indicated by the gray lines in the table, nor are they comparable to rates for prior or later classes.

[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]General Educational Development certificate. [f]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of students represented by a final status is not reported, the corresponding class size is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the class. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [g]Not available. [h]Numbers in class for race/ethnicity may not sum to the state total because some student records did not correspond to any single new racial/ethnic category.

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Table C-5 (continued)

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2006 Through 2015

Class year	Class	Grad.[a] (N)	Grad.[b] rate (%)	Cont.[c] (N)	Cont.[d] rate (%)	GED[e] recipients (N)	GED recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)	Grad., cont., or GED recipients (N)	Grad., cont., or GED recipient rate (%)
Female											
Class of 2006	139,674	115,672	82.8	10,142	7.3	2,270	1.6	11,590	8.3	128,084	91.7
Class of 2007	143,071	114,823	80.3	10,808	7.6	1,937	1.4	15,503	10.8	127,568	89.2
Class of 2008	148,737	121,074	81.4	11,857	8.0	1,707	1.1	14,099	9.5	134,638	90.5
Class of 2009	151,756	125,806	82.9	11,605	7.6	1,579	1.0	12,766	8.4	138,990	91.6
Class of 2010	154,177	133,378	86.5	9,485	6.2	1,396	0.9	9,918	6.4	144,259	93.6
Class of 2011	156,848	138,317	88.2	8,058	5.1	1,249	0.8	9,224	5.9	147,624	94.1
Class of 2012	155,183	139,751	90.1	6,205	4.0	1,080	0.7	8,147	5.2	147,036	94.8
Class of 2013	161,039	145,457	90.3	5,865	3.6	971	0.6	8,746	5.4	152,293	94.6
Class of 2014	163,308	147,598	90.4	5,806	3.6	920	0.6	8,984	5.5	154,324	94.5
Class of 2015	166,669	152,120	91.3	5,345	3.2	639	0.4	8,565	5.1	158,104	94.9
Male											
Class of 2006	144,024	112,303	78.0	14,150	9.8	4,186	2.9	13,385	9.3	130,639	90.7
Class of 2007	147,591	111,889	75.8	14,449	9.8	3,751	2.5	17,502	11.9	130,089	88.1
Class of 2008	151,751	116,502	76.8	15,008	9.9	2,903	1.9	17,338	11.4	134,413	88.6
Class of 2009	156,671	122,694	78.3	15,062	9.6	2,825	1.8	16,090	10.3	140,581	89.7
Class of 2010	159,902	131,254	82.1	13,047	8.2	2,531	1.6	13,070	8.2	146,832	91.8
Class of 2011	162,740	136,245	83.7	11,699	7.2	2,207	1.4	12,589	7.7	150,151	92.3
Class of 2012	161,575	138,027	85.4	9,545	5.9	2,118	1.3	11,885	7.4	149,690	92.6
Class of 2013	167,545	143,841	85.9	9,095	5.4	1,721	1.0	12,888	7.7	154,657	92.3
Class of 2014	169,978	146,642	86.3	8,681	5.1	1,662	1.0	12,993	7.6	156,985	92.4
Class of 2015	172,957	150,142	86.8	8,668	5.0	1,355	0.8	12,792	7.4	160,165	92.6
State											
Class of 2006	283,698	227,975	80.4	24,292	8.6	6,456	2.3	24,975	8.8	258,723	91.2
Class of 2007	290,662	226,712	78.0	25,257	8.7	5,688	2.0	33,005	11.4	257,657	88.6
Class of 2008	300,488	237,576	79.1	26,865	8.9	4,610	1.5	31,437	10.5	269,051	89.5
Class of 2009	308,427	248,500	80.6	26,667	8.6	4,404	1.4	28,856	9.4	279,571	90.6
Class of 2010	314,079	264,632	84.3	22,532	7.2	3,927	1.3	22,988	7.3	291,091	92.7
Class of 2011[h]	319,588	274,562	85.9	19,757	6.2	3,456	1.1	21,813	6.8	297,775	93.2
Class of 2012[h]	316,758	277,778	87.7	15,750	5.0	3,198	1.0	20,032	6.3	296,726	93.7
Class of 2013	328,584	289,298	88.0	14,960	4.6	2,692	0.8	21,634	6.6	306,950	93.4
Class of 2014	333,286	294,240	88.3	14,487	4.3	2,582	0.8	21,977	6.6	311,309	93.4
Class of 2015	339,626	302,262	89.0	14,013	4.1	1,994	0.6	21,357	6.3	318,269	93.7

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Dropouts are counted according to the dropout definition in place the year they drop out. The definition changed in 2005-06. Longitudinal rates for the class of 2009 and later classes are comparable to one another. Rates for classes in which the national dropout definition was phased in (i.e., classes of 2006, 2007, and 2008) are not comparable from one class to another, as indicated by the gray lines in the table, nor are they comparable to rates for prior or later classes.

[a]Graduates. [b]Graduation. [c]Continuers. [d]Continuation. [e]General Educational Development certificate. [f]A dash (–) indicates data are masked. When the number of students represented by a final status is not reported, the corresponding class size is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the class. See the section "Data Masking" on page 44 for additional information. [g]Not available. [h]Numbers in class for race/ethnicity may not sum to the state total because some student records did not correspond to any single new racial/ethnic category.

Table C-6
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, Charter Schools and Traditional Districts, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2020

Group	Class	Graduates (N)	Graduation rate (%)	Continuers (N)	Continuation rate (%)	TxCHSE[a] recipients (N)	TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)
Charter schools	21,020	13,782	65.6	3,302	15.7	269	1.3	3,667	17.4
Traditional districts	363,580	333,610	91.8	11,559	3.2	1,190	0.3	17,221	4.7
State	384,600	347,392	90.3	14,861	3.9	1,459	0.4	20,888	5.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding.

[a]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency.

Table C-7

Grade 7 Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity and Economic Status, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2009 Through 2019

Class year	Class	Graduates (N)	Graduation rate (%)	Continuers (N)	Continuation rate (%)	GED[a]/TxCHSE[b] recipients (N)	GED/TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)
African American									
Class of 2009	45,933	33,378	72.7	5,195	11.3	494	1.1	6,866	14.9
Class of 2010	46,885	36,069	76.9	4,527	9.7	455	1.0	5,834	12.4
Class of 2011	45,520	36,037	79.2	3,899	8.6	367	0.8	5,217	11.5
Class of 2012	43,051	35,322	82.0	2,884	6.7	338	0.8	4,507	10.5
Class of 2013	43,915	36,476	83.1	2,698	6.1	290	0.7	4,451	10.1
Class of 2014	43,649	36,359	83.3	2,609	6.0	272	0.6	4,409	10.1
Class of 2015	44,668	37,667	84.3	2,499	5.6	202	0.5	4,300	9.6
Class of 2016	46,150	39,106	84.7	2,582	5.6	184	0.4	4,278	9.3
Class of 2017	47,353	40,254	85.0	2,643	5.6	200	0.4	4,256	9.0
Class of 2018	48,556	41,531	85.5	2,658	5.5	189	0.4	4,178	8.6
Class of 2019	49,234	41,923	85.2	2,542	5.2	213	0.4	4,556	9.3
American Indian									
Class of 2009	1,127	894	79.3	98	8.7	25	2.2	110	9.8
Class of 2010	1,271	1,045	82.2	135	10.6	15	1.2	76	6.0
Class of 2011	1,596	1,357	85.0	102	6.4	31	1.9	106	6.6
Class of 2012	<1,600	–[c]	85.8	–	5.3	–	1.6	–	7.2
Class of 2013	<1,500	–	84.8	–	5.3	–	1.2	–	8.7
Class of 2014	<1,450	–	85.6	–	4.8	–	1.0	–	8.5
Class of 2015	1,478	1,273	86.1	67	4.5	10	0.7	128	8.7
Class of 2016	1,397	1,210	86.6	68	4.9	7	0.5	112	8.0
Class of 2017	1,417	1,205	85.0	76	5.4	7	0.5	129	9.1
Class of 2018	1,397	1,167	83.5	89	6.4	6	0.4	135	9.7
Class of 2019	1,428	1,238	86.7	63	4.4	7	0.5	120	8.4
Asian									
Class of 2009	n/a[d]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2011	10,727	10,148	94.6	412	3.8	18	0.2	149	1.4
Class of 2012	11,183	10,527	94.1	400	3.6	19	0.2	237	2.1
Class of 2013	11,975	11,213	93.6	392	3.3	19	0.2	351	2.9
Class of 2014	12,991	12,253	94.3	393	3.0	15	0.1	330	2.5
Class of 2015	13,455	12,775	94.9	344	2.6	23	0.2	313	2.3
Class of 2016	13,760	13,129	95.4	334	2.4	6	<0.1	291	2.1
Class of 2017	14,407	13,790	95.7	346	2.4	12	0.1	259	1.8
Class of 2018	15,911	15,273	96.0	368	2.3	15	0.1	255	1.6
Class of 2019	16,937	16,259	96.0	360	2.1	19	0.1	299	1.8

[a]General Educational Development certificate. [b]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [c]A dash (–) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. When the number of students represented by a final status is not reported, the corresponding class size is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the class while maintaining student anonymity. [d]Not available. [e]Numbers in class for race/ethnicity may not sum to the state total because some student records did not correspond to any single new racial/ethnic category.

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Table C-7 (continued)
Grade 7 Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity and Economic Status, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2009 Through 2019

Class year	Class	Graduates (N)	Graduation rate (%)	Continuers (N)	Continuation rate (%)	GEDa/ TxCHSEb recipients (N)	GED/ TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)
Hispanic									
Class of 2009	130,700	94,823	72.6	17,634	13.5	1,769	1.4	16,474	12.6
Class of 2010	136,509	105,549	77.3	15,639	11.5	1,650	1.2	13,671	10.0
Class of 2011	144,520	116,336	80.5	13,618	9.4	1,577	1.1	12,989	9.0
Class of 2012	145,669	120,626	82.8	11,473	7.9	1,415	1.0	12,155	8.3
Class of 2013	154,396	129,917	84.1	10,336	6.7	1,251	0.8	12,892	8.3
Class of 2014	159,509	135,158	84.7	10,053	6.3	1,147	0.7	13,151	8.2
Class of 2015	165,028	141,324	85.6	9,899	6.0	820	0.5	12,985	7.9
Class of 2016	173,168	149,252	86.2	9,896	5.7	710	0.4	13,310	7.7
Class of 2017	182,177	156,949	86.2	10,012	5.5	693	0.4	14,523	8.0
Class of 2018	190,757	164,874	86.4	10,017	5.3	708	0.4	15,158	7.9
Class of 2019	198,160	172,687	87.1	9,909	5.0	698	0.4	14,866	7.5
Pacific Islander									
Class of 2009	n/ad	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2011	<500	–c	87.2	–	7.7	–	0.9	–	4.3
Class of 2012	<500	–	88.6	–	7.1	–	0.5	–	3.9
Class of 2013	<450	–	88.7	–	5.4	–	0.5	–	5.4
Class of 2014	<450	–	88.2	–	4.9	–	0.2	–	6.7
Class of 2015	542	476	87.8	22	4.1	5	0.9	39	7.2
Class of 2016	482	418	86.7	34	7.1	1	0.2	29	6.0
Class of 2017	574	507	88.3	29	5.1	3	0.5	35	6.1
Class of 2018	576	494	85.8	27	4.7	4	0.7	51	8.9
Class of 2019	584	513	87.8	17	2.9	6	1.0	48	8.2
White									
Class of 2009	120,536	107,317	89.0	5,759	4.8	1,941	1.6	5,519	4.6
Class of 2010	120,238	109,184	90.8	5,098	4.2	1,621	1.3	4,335	3.6
Class of 2011	113,502	103,647	91.3	4,536	4.0	1,344	1.2	3,975	3.5
Class of 2012	109,292	100,971	92.4	3,549	3.2	1,165	1.1	3,607	3.3
Class of 2013	108,977	100,928	92.6	3,282	3.0	942	0.9	3,825	3.5
Class of 2014	109,403	101,146	92.5	3,255	3.0	1,010	0.9	3,992	3.6
Class of 2015	109,269	101,498	92.9	3,137	2.9	805	0.7	3,829	3.5
Class of 2016	109,433	101,633	92.9	3,267	3.0	696	0.6	3,837	3.5
Class of 2017	111,175	103,169	92.8	3,504	3.2	672	0.6	3,830	3.4
Class of 2018	111,864	103,958	92.9	3,327	3.0	688	0.6	3,891	3.5
Class of 2019	110,320	102,667	93.1	3,130	2.8	700	0.6	3,823	3.5

Note. aGeneral Educational Development certificate. bTexas Certificate of High School Equivalency. cA dash (–) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. When the number of students represented by a final status is not reported, the corresponding class size is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the class while maintaining student anonymity. dNot available. eNumbers in class for race/ethnicity may not sum to the state total because some student records did not correspond to any single new racial/ethnic category.

Table C-7 (continued)
Grade 7 Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity and Economic Status, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2009 Through 2019

Class year	Class	Graduates (*N*)	Graduation rate (%)	Continuers (*N*)	Continuation rate (%)	GED[a]/ TxCHSE[b] recipients (*N*)	GED/ TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (*N*)	Dropout rate (%)
Multiracial									
Class of 2009	n/a[d]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2011	4,356	3,969	91.1	200	4.6	43	1.0	144	3.3
Class of 2012	5,039	4,630	91.9	174	3.5	51	1.0	184	3.7
Class of 2013	5,293	4,845	91.5	185	3.5	45	0.9	218	4.1
Class of 2014	5,676	5,162	90.9	207	3.6	38	0.7	269	4.7
Class of 2015	5,810	5,302	91.3	205	3.5	34	0.6	269	4.6
Class of 2016	6,279	5,667	90.3	268	4.3	42	0.7	302	4.8
Class of 2017	6,678	6,070	90.9	293	4.4	35	0.5	280	4.2
Class of 2018	7,098	6,429	90.6	283	4.0	37	0.5	349	4.9
Class of 2019	7,511	6,800	90.5	280	3.7	52	0.7	379	5.0
Economically disadvantaged									
Class of 2009	120,732	92,957	77.0	13,080	10.8	1,367	1.1	13,328	11.0
Class of 2010	134,449	107,832	80.2	14,247	10.6	1,361	1.0	11,009	8.2
Class of 2011	149,384	122,654	82.1	13,281	8.9	1,458	1.0	11,991	8.0
Class of 2012	152,986	127,793	83.5	11,206	7.3	1,501	1.0	12,486	8.2
Class of 2013	161,745	136,055	84.1	10,298	6.4	1,448	0.9	13,944	8.6
Class of 2014	167,210	140,943	84.3	9,655	5.8	1,432	0.9	15,180	9.1
Class of 2015	169,731	143,722	84.7	9.887	5.8	1,094	0.6	15,028	8.9
Class of 2016	178,024	151,639	85.2	10,031	5.6	903	0.5	15,451	8.7
Class of 2017	186,964	159,352	85.2	10,437	5.6	914	0.5	16,261	8.7
Class of 2018	201,757	172,461	85.5	10,889	5.4	958	0.5	17,449	8.6
Class of 2019	206,771	177,742	86.0	10,725	5.2	967	0.5	17,337	8.4
Not economically disadvantaged									
Class of 2009	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2010	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2011	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2012	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2013	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2014	165,890	150,741	90.9	6,952	4.2	1,066	0.6	7,131	4.3
Class of 2015	170,519	156,593	91.8	6,286	3.7	805	0.5	6,835	4.0
Class of 2016	172,645	158,776	92.0	6,418	3.7	743	0.4	6,708	3.9
Class of 2017	176,817	162,592	92.0	6,466	3.7	708	0.4	7,051	4.0
Class of 2018	174,402	161,265	92.5	5,880	3.4	689	0.4	6,568	3.8
Class of 2019	177,403	164,345	92.6	5,576	3.1	728	0.4	6,754	3.8

Note. [a]General Educational Development certificate. [b]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [c]A dash (–) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. When the number of students represented by a final status is not reported, the corresponding class size is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the class while maintaining student anonymity. [d]Not available. [e]Numbers in class for race/ethnicity may not sum to the state total because some student records did not correspond to any single new racial/ethnic category.

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Table C-7 (continued)
Grade 7 Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity and Economic Status, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2009 Through 2019

Class year	Class	Graduates (N)	Graduation rate (%)	Continuers (N)	Continuation rate (%)	GED[a]/ TxCHSE[b] recipients (N)	GED/ TxCHSE recipient rate (%)	Dropouts (N)	Dropout rate (%)
State									
Class of 2009	309,171	246,399	79.7	29,194	9.4	4,264	1.4	29,314	9.5
Class of 2010	316,417	262,609	83.0	25,845	8.2	3,771	1.2	24,192	7.6
Class of 2011[e]	320,812	271,897	84.8	22,801	7.1	3,387	1.1	22,727	1.1
Class of 2012[e]	316,277	273,762	86.6	18,591	5.9	3,016	1.0	20,908	6.6
Class of 2013[e]	326,482	285,009	87.3	16,994	5.2	2,567	0.8	21,912	6.7
Class of 2014[e]	333,100	291,684	87.6	16,607	5.0	2,498	0.7	22,311	6.7
Class of 2015	340,250	300,315	88.3	16,173	4.8	1,899	0.6	21,863	6.4
Class of 2016	350,669	310,415	88.5	16,449	4.7	1,646	0.5	22,159	6.3
Class of 2017	363,781	321,944	88.5	16,903	4.6	1,622	0.4	23,312	6.4
Class of 2018	376,159	333,726	88.7	16,769	4.5	1,647	0.4	24,017	6.4
Class of 2019	384,174	342,087	89.0	16,301	4.2	1,695	0.4	24,091	6.3

Note. [a]General Educational Development certificate. [b]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [c]A dash (–) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. When the number of students represented by a final status is not reported, the corresponding class size is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the class while maintaining student anonymity. [d]Not available. [e]Numbers in class for race/ethnicity may not sum to the state total because some student records did not correspond to any single new racial/ethnic category.

Appendix D
Comparison of a Grade 9-12
Longitudinal Dropout Rate
and a Grade 9-12 Attrition Rate

Table D-1
Example: Comparison of
a Grade 9-12 Longitudinal Dropout Rate
and a Grade 9-12 Attrition Rate

Table D-1
Example: Comparison of a Grade 9-12 Longitudinal Dropout Rate and a Grade 9-12 Attrition Rate

Students in Attrition Rate Who Are Not Counted as Dropouts in Longitudinal Rate

Graduates. The attrition rate includes early graduates and any on-time graduates who were not enrolled in Grade 12 in the fall of 2019-20.

TxCHSE.[a] The attrition rate includes students who received high school equivalency certificates rather than high school diplomas.

Continuing Students. The attrition rate includes continuing students if they were not in Grade 12 in 2019-20. The most common reason for students to fall behind a grade level is retention in Grade 9.

Students who Left the Texas Public School System. The attrition rate includes all students who left Texas public schools for any reason. The longitudinal rate excludes students who left Texas public schools for reasons other than dropping out. Reasons for exclusion from the longitudinal rate include the following.

- Enrolled in or withdrew with intent to enroll in another educational setting (private school in Texas, public or private school out of state, home schooling, or entered college early)
- Returned to home country
- Removed by district (expelled for criminal behavior; falsified enrollment information; no immunization; etc.)
- Removed by Child Protective Services
- Died

Students Entering the Texas Public School System and Enrollment Growth. Some attrition rates include a growth adjustment that is an estimate of the number of students entering Texas public schools. The attrition rate calculated by the Texas Education Agency is not adjusted for growth. The longitudinal rate assigns all students who enter the Texas public school system to the appropriate cohort and determines outcomes in the same way that outcomes for starting Grade 9 students are determined.

Students Previously Counted. The 2019-20 attrition rate includes students from the class of 2019 who were repeating Grade 9 in 2016-17. These students were also included in the 2018-19 attrition rate.

Data Errors. The attrition rate includes students removed from the longitudinal calculation because their statuses cannot be determined because of data errors.

Students Included in Both Longitudinal Dropout Rate and Attrition Rate

Both the longitudinal dropout rate and the attrition rate include students in the class of 2020 who left school before graduation for the following reasons.

- Academic performance (poor attendance, low grades, failing the exit-level assessment, etc.)
- Employment (pursue job or join military)
- Family (marriage or pregnancy)
- Alternative education
- Discipline (failure to return following expulsion or JJAEP[b] term)
- Alcohol or other drug abuse problems
- Whereabouts unknown

Dropouts in Longitudinal Rate Who Are Not Included in Attrition Rate

The longitudinal dropout rate includes the following students who are excluded from the attrition rate.

- Grade 12 Dropouts. The attrition rate does not include students who enroll in Grade 12 in 2019-20 but drop out before graduating.

[a]Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency. [b]Juvenile justice alternative education program.

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Compliance Statement

Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Modified Court Order, Civil Action 5281, Federal District Court, Eastern District of Texas, Tyler Division.

Reviews of local education agencies pertaining to compliance with Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964 and with specific requirements of the Modified Court Order, Civil Action No. 5281, Federal District Court, Eastern District of Texas, Tyler Division are conducted periodically by staff representatives of the Texas Education Agency. These reviews cover at least the following policies and practices:

1. acceptance policies on student transfers from other school districts;
2. operation of school bus routes or runs on a nonsegregated basis;
3. nondiscrimination in extracurricular activities and the use of school facilities;
4. nondiscriminatory practices in the hiring, assigning, promoting, paying, demoting, reassigning, or dismissing of faculty and staff members who work with children;
5. enrollment and assignment of students without discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin;
6. nondiscriminatory practices relating to the use of a student's first language; and
7. evidence of published procedures for hearing complaints and grievances.

In addition to conducting reviews, the Texas Education Agency staff representatives check complaints of discrimination made by a citizen or citizens residing in a school district where it is alleged discriminatory practices have occurred or are occurring.

Where a violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act is found, the findings are reported to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education.

If there is a direct violation of the Court Order in Civil Action No. 5281 that cannot be cleared through negotiation, the sanctions required by the Court Order are applied.

Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964 as Amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972; Executive Orders 11246 and 11375; Equal Pay Act of 1964; Title IX, Education Amendments; Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as Amended; 1974 Amendments to the Wage-Hour Law Expanding the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1972 as Amended; Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986; Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990; and the Civil Rights Act of 1991.

The Texas Education Agency shall comply fully with the nondiscrimination provisions of all federal and state laws, rules, and regulations by assuring that no person shall be excluded from consideration for recruitment, selection, appointment, training, promotion, retention, or any other personnel action, or be denied any benefits or participation in any educational programs or activities which it operates on the grounds of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or veteran status (except where age, sex, or disability constitutes a bona fide occupational qualification necessary to proper and efficient administration). The Texas Education Agency is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.