

2024
**ANNUAL
REPORT**



Contents

- 2 A Message From Commissioner Morath
- 3 TEA Strategic Plan
- 4 School Safety & Security
- 5 Student Demographics
- 6 School Funding
- 7 Local Control in School Funding
- 8 **Priority** Recruit, Support and Retain Teachers and Principals
- 9 **Priority** Build a Foundation for Reading and Math
- 10 **Priority** Connect High School to Career and College
- 11 **Priority** Improve Low-Performing Schools
- 12 Special Education
- 13 Assessment
- 14 A National Comparison
- 15 References and Citations



▲ Burleson ISD

A MESSAGE FROM **Commissioner Morath**

My Fellow Texans,

As we reflect on the 2023-24 school year, we can take pride in the progress toward growing opportunities for all Texas students. Schools across Texas have been expanding Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs and increasing access to high-quality instructional materials statewide. School systems have been working to increase support for teachers as well, with more than 25,000 teachers now designated under the Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) and tens of thousands more likely to be designated in the coming year.

While these achievements are worth celebrating, significant challenges remain. Academic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic continues to demand our focus, particularly in mathematics, where performance has yet to return to pre-pandemic levels. Addressing these setbacks requires ongoing targeted support and resources to improve student success. At the same time, we must continue to strengthen supports for our teachers, improve retention, and elevate the teaching profession across the state.

Despite the obstacles we face, our accomplishments fuel optimism for the future of public education in Texas. It's our unwavering commitment to overcome barriers and ensure every student has the opportunity to succeed that drives us forward.

Yours in Service,

Mike Morath
Texas Education Commissioner

★ Strategic Plan

VISION

Every child, prepared for success in college, career, or the military.

GOAL

By 2030, at least 60% of Texans will have a degree, certificate, or other postsecondary credential of value as part of Building a Talent Strong Texas.¹

Strategic Priorities



RECRUIT, SUPPORT AND RETAIN TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS

Teachers are the most important in-school factor affecting student outcomes.



BUILD A FOUNDATION FOR READING AND MATH

Focus on the fundamentals to eliminate the achievement gap.



CONNECT HIGH SCHOOL TO CAREER AND COLLEGE

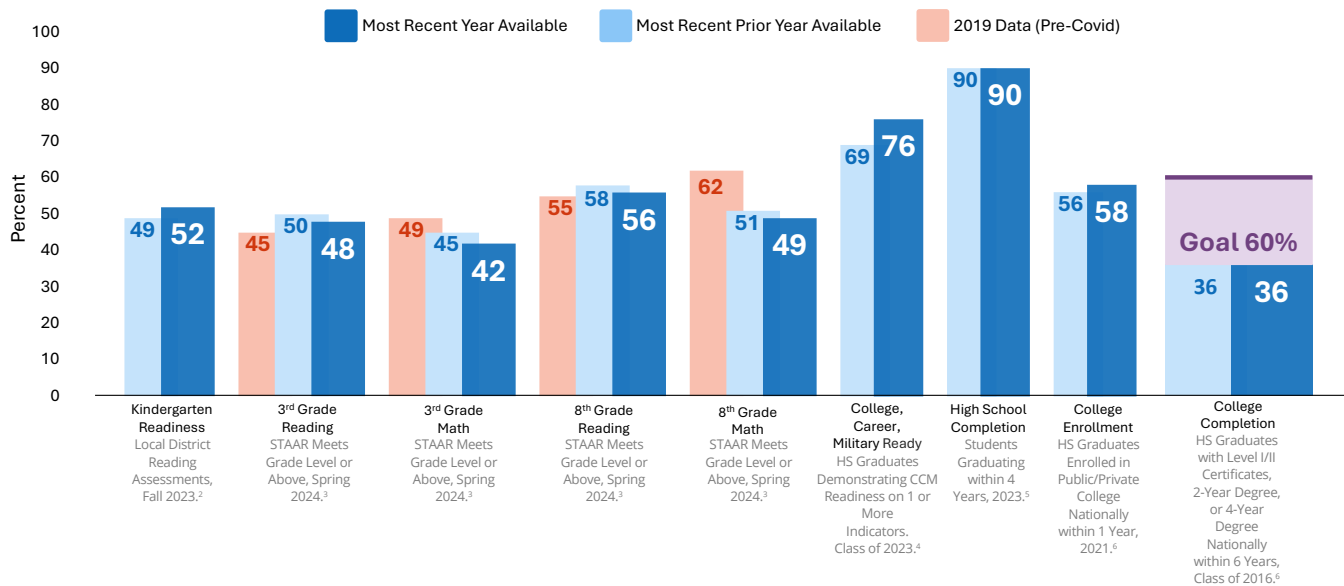
Rigor and relevance matter.



IMPROVE LOW-PERFORMING SCHOOLS

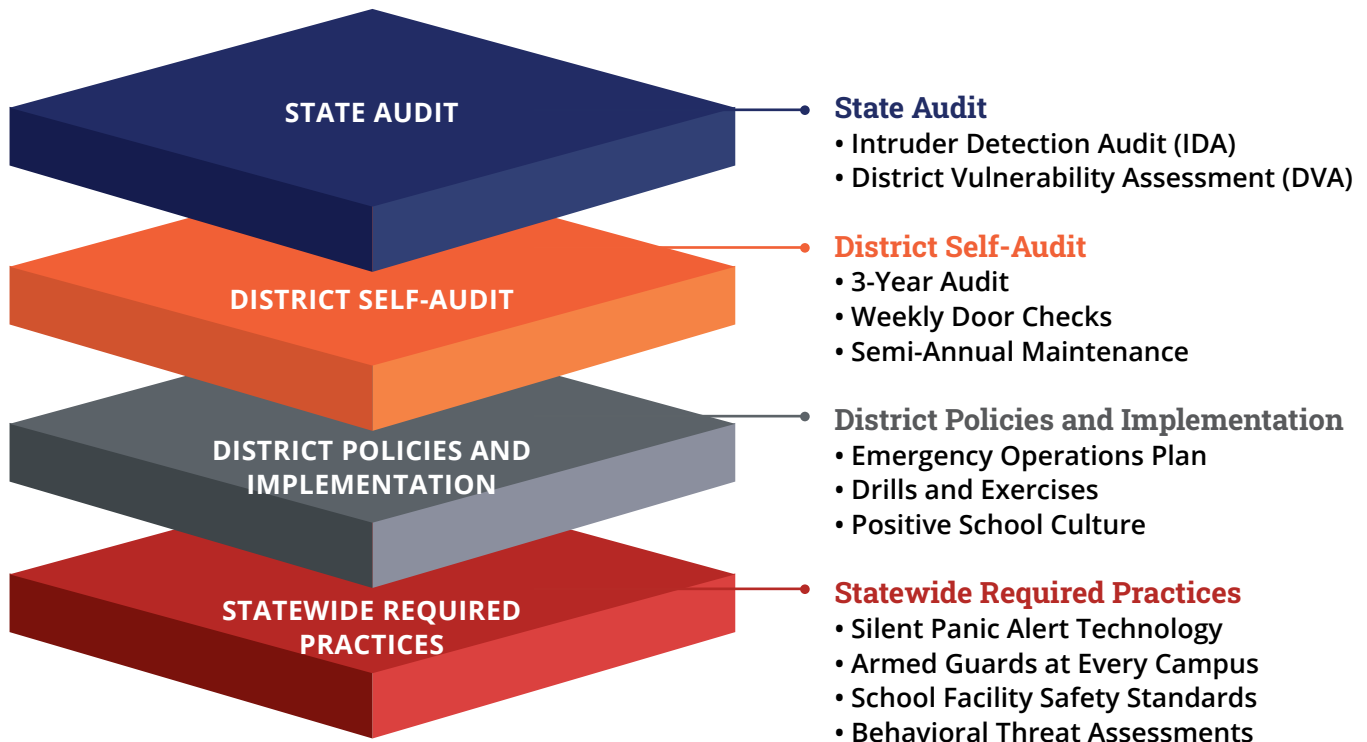
Every child. Every classroom. Every day.

Year-Over-Year Student Outcomes



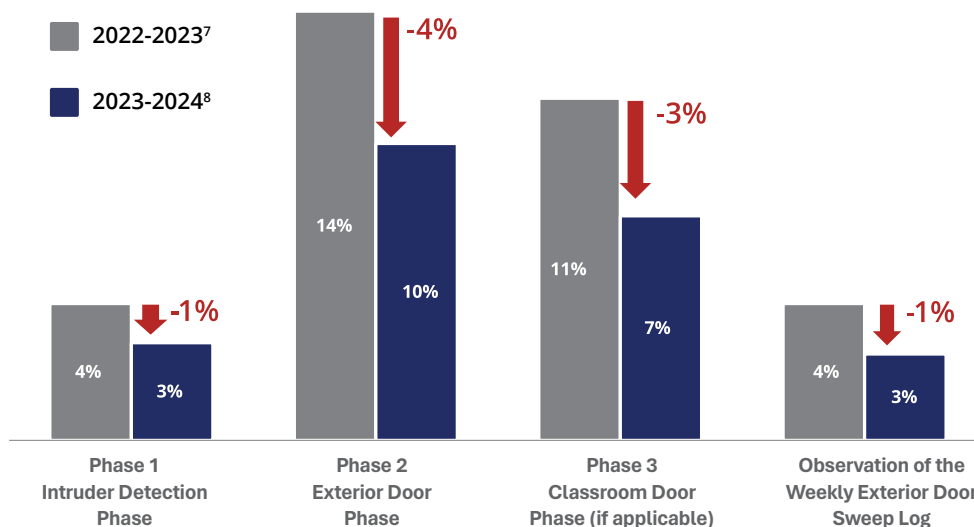
A Layered Approach To Safety And Security

Keeping Texas students, educators, and staff safe is a shared responsibility. Schools employ robust security policies and train students and staff on implementation of their district protocols. TEA's Office of School Safety and Security provides on-site technical assistance and conducts comprehensive school safety assessments to ensure alignment with statewide requirements and best practices.



Intruder Detection Audits Year-to-Year Comparison of Findings by Phase

Since 2023, TEA has conducted intruder detection audits on every Texas public school campus to ensure schools employ effective safety measures and allow only authorized individuals to enter schools.



★ Student Demographics



STATE OF TEXAS EDUCATION⁹



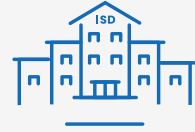
5,531,236
STUDENTS



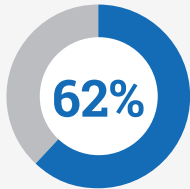
384,408
TEACHERS¹⁰



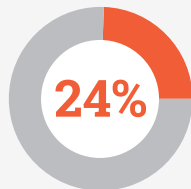
9,088
CAMPUSES



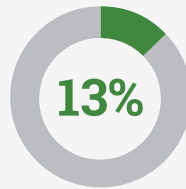
1,207
SCHOOL SYSTEMS



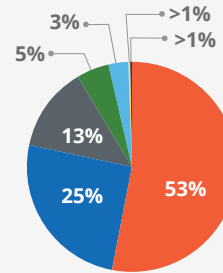
ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS¹¹



EMERGENT BILINGUAL/ ENGLISH LEARNER STUDENTS¹¹



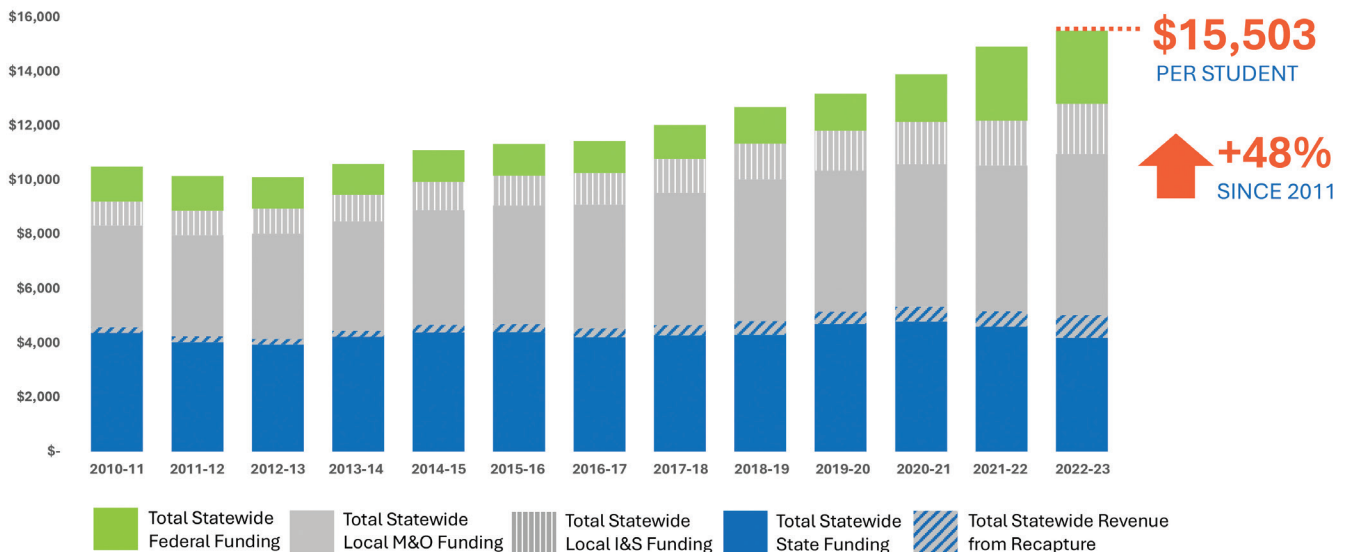
RURAL DISTRICT STUDENTS¹²



- Hispanic
- White
- African American
- Asian
- Two or More Races
- American Indian
- Pacific Islander

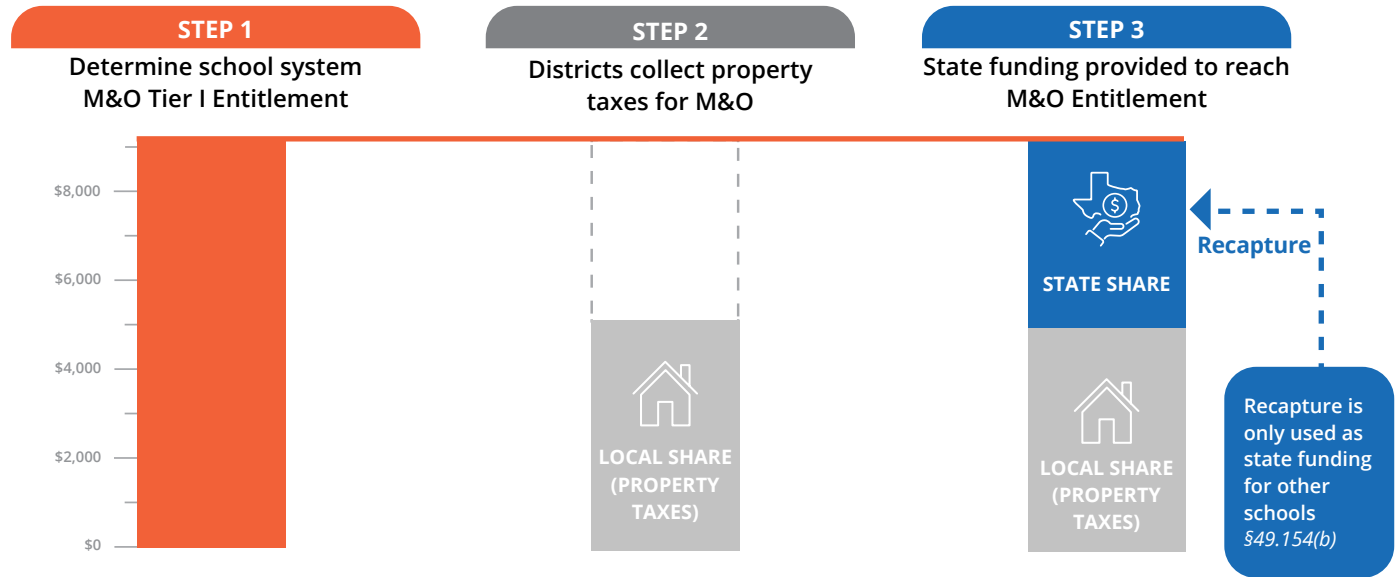


ANNUAL FUNDING PER STUDENT¹³



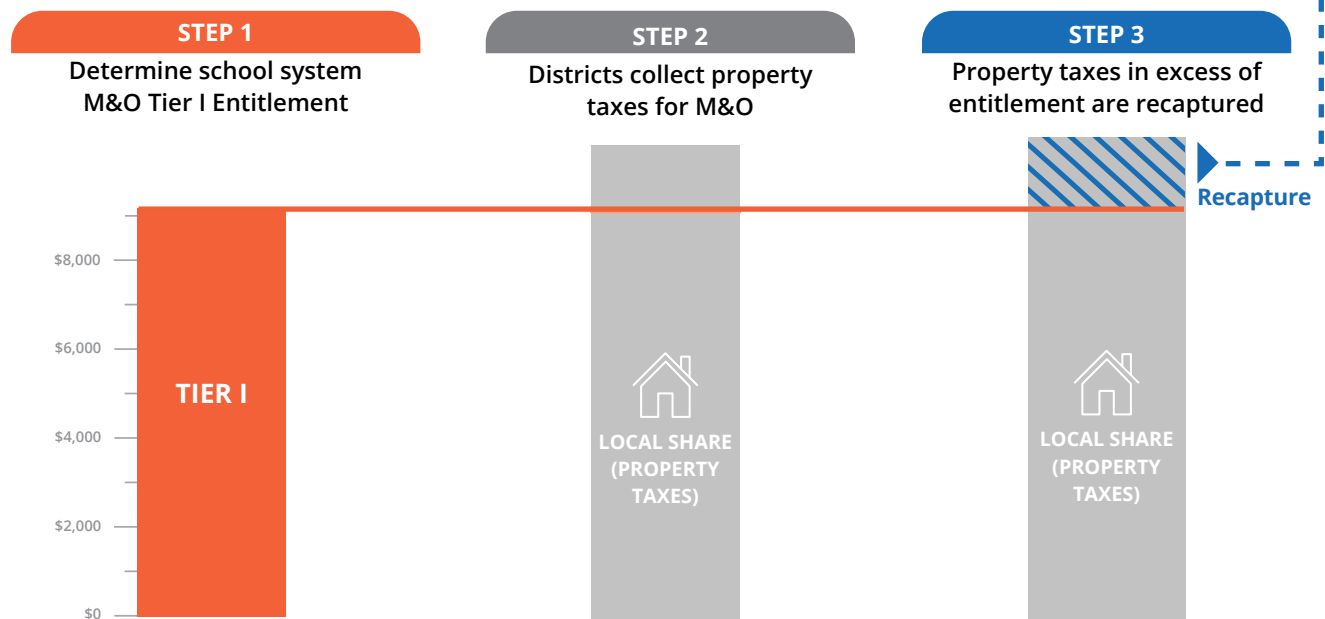
How do property values impact school funding in Texas?

The Foundation School Program establishes a funding entitlement for all public schools in Texas to cover their annual maintenance and operational costs (M&O).¹⁴ The primary funding component of M&O is referred to as Tier I and is based primarily on the number of students enrolled and attending school each day, with differentiation based upon student needs. Schools are funded at their entitlement regardless of their level of property wealth.



How does Recapture work in Texas?

The Texas Constitution requires similar levels of funding per student for similar property tax rates. However, some school districts have very high levels of property wealth. The Foundation School Program uses a recapture mechanism to meet constitutional requirements.



★ Local Control in School Funding

Meaningful Discretion for Districts

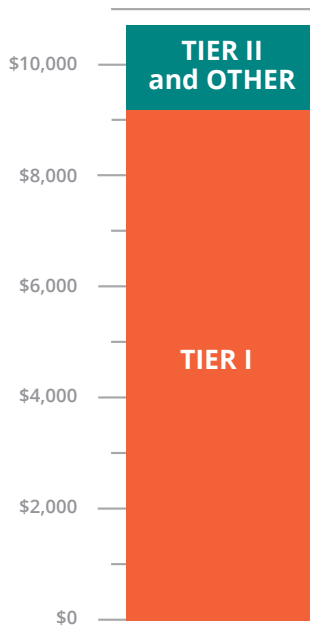
There are multiple components that make up M&O and related funding streams available to districts. Many of these components can be accessed based upon the decisions of local school boards and district leaders.

School boards determine:

- **how funds are spent** within a district, and
- **whether extra funding** streams are accessed by a district



Schools received **\$10,800** on average per student in total M&O in 2023-24¹⁴



Many different funding components make up Tier I and total M&O funding

ATTENDANCE-BASED

- Regular Program / Basic Allotment
- Early Education
- School Safety (in part)
- Career and Technology
- Special Education
- Bilingual Education

ENROLLMENT-BASED

- Dyslexia
- Compensatory Education
- Instructional Materials Allotment
- Gifted & Talented Allotment

DISTRICT-BASED

- Small and Mid-Sized
- Fast Growth
- School Safety (in part)

SPENDING-BASED

- Transportation
- TRS On-Behalf
- New Instructional Facility Allotment
- College Readiness Assessment
- IBCs

DISTRICT ACTION-DEPENDENT

- Career and Technology Sequences
- Teacher Incentive Allotment
- Mentor Program Allotment
- CCMR Outcomes Bonus
- Dual Language
- Additional Days School Year
- Dropout Recovery
- P-TECH & New Tech
- Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership
- SB 1882 Partnerships
- Resource Campuses
- Non-Enrolled UIL Participation
- High-Quality Instructional Materials

TAX RATE-DEPENDENT

- Tier I Tax Rate
- Tier II Tax Rate
- LOHE

Tier II Tax Rates¹⁴

For M&O funding, school boards set a Tier I tax rate not to exceed the maximum rate set in law. School boards also set Tier II tax rates¹⁴, which have a significant impact on district funding.

UP TO 8 TIER II GOLDEN PENNIES

provide additional funding of **\$126.21** per penny per weighted student and are **not subject** to recapture*

UP TO 9 TIER II COPPER PENNIES

provide additional funding of **\$49.28** per penny per weighted student and **are subject** to recapture



*The value of Golden Pennies is indexed by law to property value growth. Values per penny featured here were applicable during 2023-24. Since Golden Pennies are not subject to recapture, very high property wealth districts generate more funding per student.



Recruit, Support and Retain Teachers and Principals

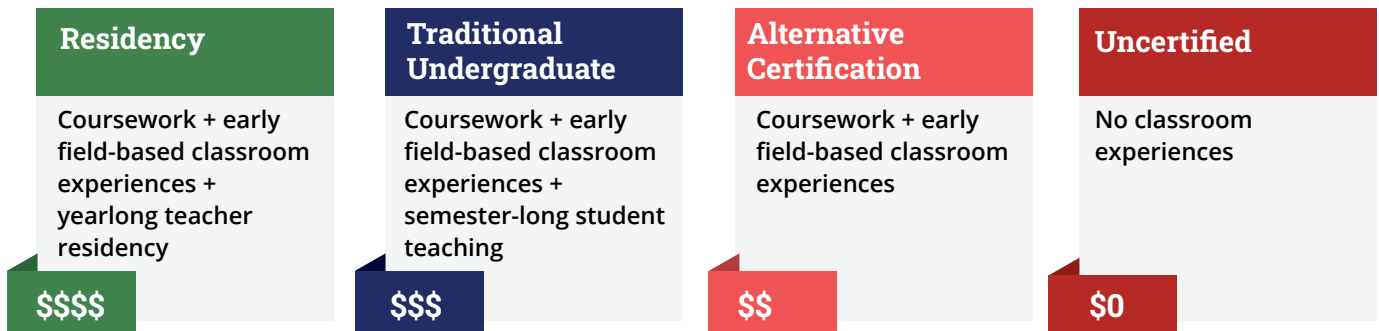
Preparing Teachers

Teaching is one of the most rewarding professions, but it is also highly demanding. A teacher must develop skills specific to teaching, such as classroom management, that require intensive study, training, and practice. Furthermore, a skilled teacher must excel in their subject matter. Texas allows many different pathways for those interested in becoming a teacher, but not all pathways provide the same level of preparation.



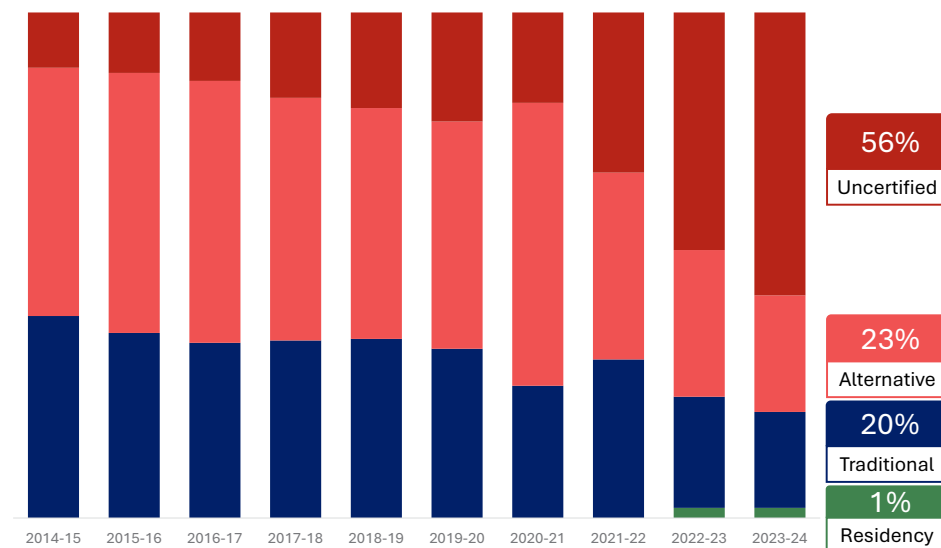
▲ Italy ISD

Pathways and Costs to Become a Teacher in Texas

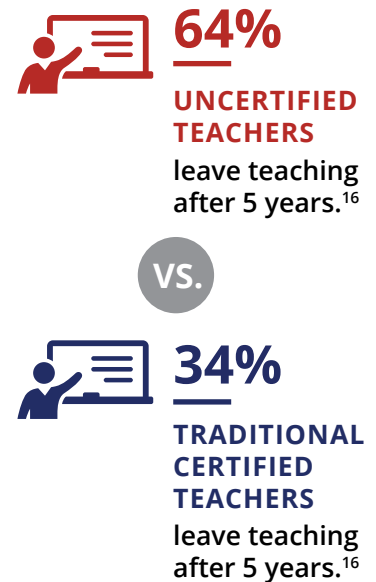


First-Time Teacher Hiring

Texas public schools hire approximately 50,000 teachers annually, with about one-third being rehires of experienced teachers. Among the estimated 30,000 hires that are new to the profession each year, an increasing number are uncertified.¹⁵



Retention Varies with Preparation

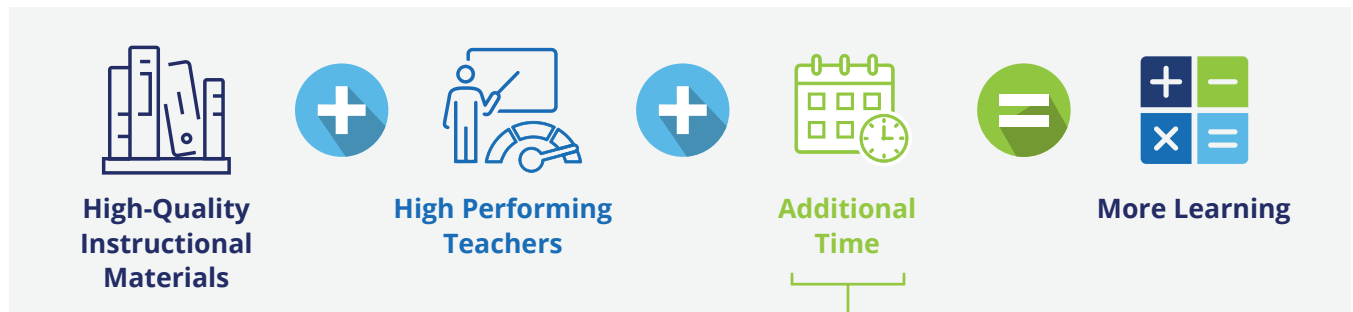




Build a Foundation for Reading and Math

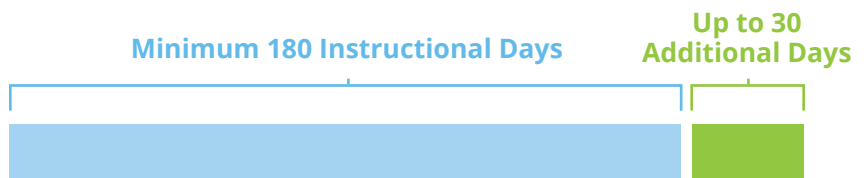
More Time for Foundational Learning

Missed instructional time can create gaps that hinder progress, especially in math. If students do not have enough time in 3rd grade to master basic math facts, they will continue to struggle with fractions and cross multiplication throughout middle school. With the Additional Days School Year (ADSY) initiative, school systems have the potential to bridge these gaps and give students additional time to build foundational math skills. More time paired with quality instructional materials and well-trained teachers is key for math mastery, and is beneficial in reading as well.



What is ADSY?

ADSY adds **half-day formula funding** for school systems that want to add instructional days (beyond a minimum 180 days, **up to 210 days**) to any of their elementary schools (grades **PK-5**).



ADSY STUDENTS SAW MORE GROWTH IN MATH AND READING THAN THOSE WHO DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN ADSY IN 2024¹⁷

Math STAAR Outcomes

% Approaches or better
SY '23 to SY '24



Reading STAAR Outcomes

% Approaches or better
SY '23 to SY '24



Testimonial

"Funding generated by implementing the ADSY extended school year has enhanced our ability to provide robust summer programming, resulting in improved student outcomes."

- Renee Smith-Faulkner,
Superintendent
Castleberry ISD



Connect High School to Career and College

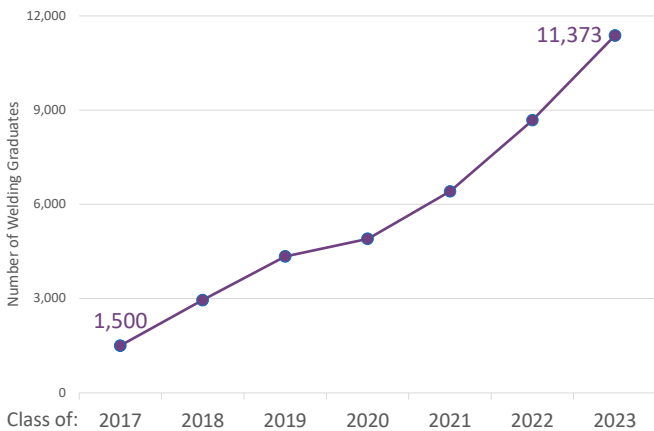
Supporting Career Readiness

Preparing students for careers beyond high school is crucial for both their financial future and the state’s continued economic growth. With most jobs now requiring specialized training or post-secondary education, Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs are key in providing students with the skills, certifications, and practical experience needed to succeed in high-demand fields.

CTE Growth Example: Welding

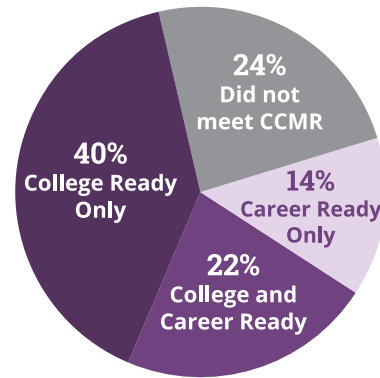
Multiple Texas policy changes have helped schools launch and expand their CTE pathways, with far more students now graduating with certifications like welding than just a few years ago.

GRADUATES EARNING WELDING CREDENTIALS¹⁸



Career and College Ready

Career readiness is important. College readiness is also important. Our goal is to help students achieve both.



PERCENT OF GRADUATES DEMONSTRATING COLLEGE OR CAREER READINESS
Class of 2023¹⁹



Steps to Launch a New CTE Pathway

- 1 Establish partnerships with higher education & industry
- 2 Identify and purchase equipment and supplies needed
- 3 Identify and purchase classroom instructional materials
- 4 Select, hire, and train qualified instructors
- 5 Generate student interest

Spotlight: Welding in Taylor ISD

“The integration of industry-based certifications and dual credit courses has opened up valuable opportunities for students after graduation. Beyond that, it has inspired, equipped, and empowered them, giving their education a deeper sense of purpose- which is our mission at Taylor ISD. Our Welding Program has not only boosted their success in other subjects but also ignited a passion for learning that extends throughout their academic journey.”

- Scott Bishop, CATE Welding Teacher



Taylor ISD

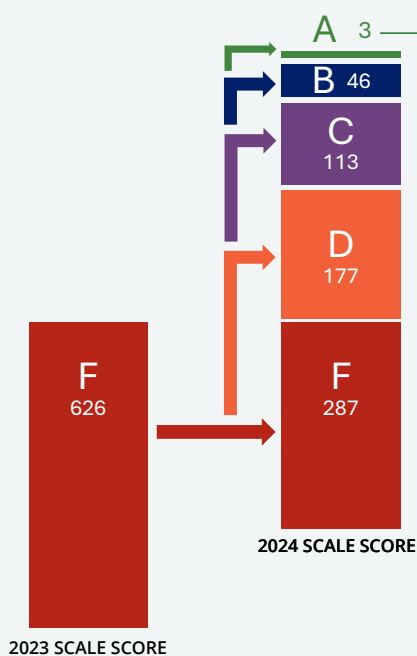


Improve Low-Performing Schools

The Challenge of School Turnaround

Operating a school so that it consistently helps students achieve excellence is no easy feat. Turning around a school that has been struggling is even harder. While A-F ratings were not issued in 2023 or 2024 due to lawsuits that are still pending, underlying and district-published performance data provides insight into the relative level of success in improving schools that have previously struggled.

CAMPUSES WITH 59 OR LESS SCALE SCORE IN 2023 TO CHANGE IN 2024²⁰



All three of these campuses were in Houston ISD.

HOUSTON ISD CAMPUS	2023 SCORE	2024 SCORE	CHANGE
Hilliard Elementary	57	92	+35
Hobby Elementary	49	90	+41
Wainwright Elementary	57	92	+35

For over a decade, the performance of some campuses in Houston ISD remained chronically unacceptable for students. To deliver meaningful change, the district's new leadership adopted a comprehensive turnaround strategy focused on school leadership, strong instructional practices, targeted daily differentiated learning supports, focused teacher support, and strategic compensation. This holistic approach proved successful, with Houston ISD seeing the three most improved schools in the state.

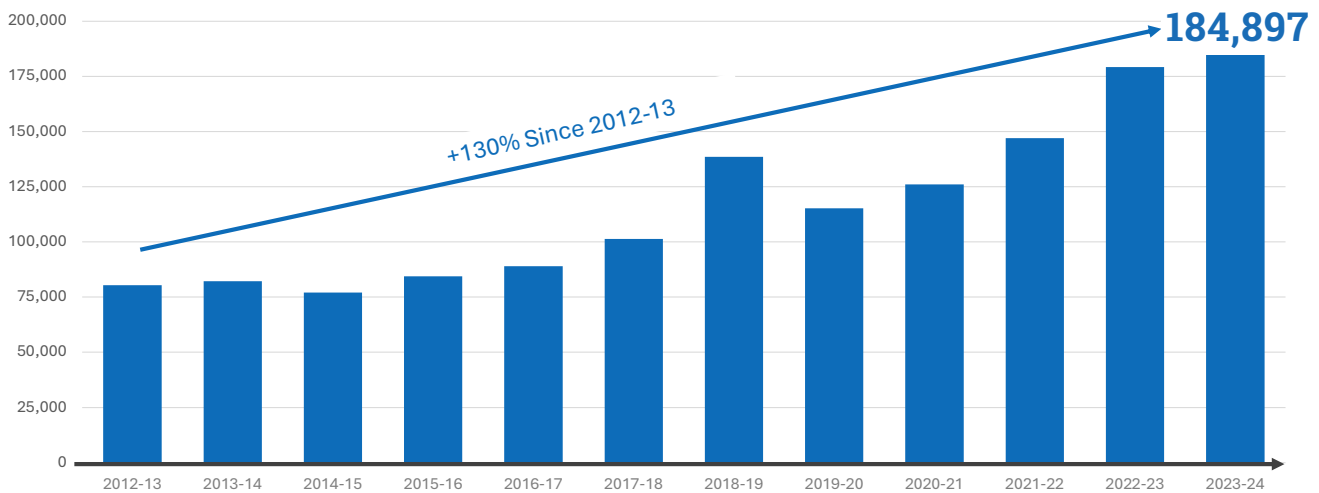
Keys to a Successful School: High Expectations + Elevated Supports



★ Special Education

Special Education Full and Individual Initial Evaluations (FIIIE)

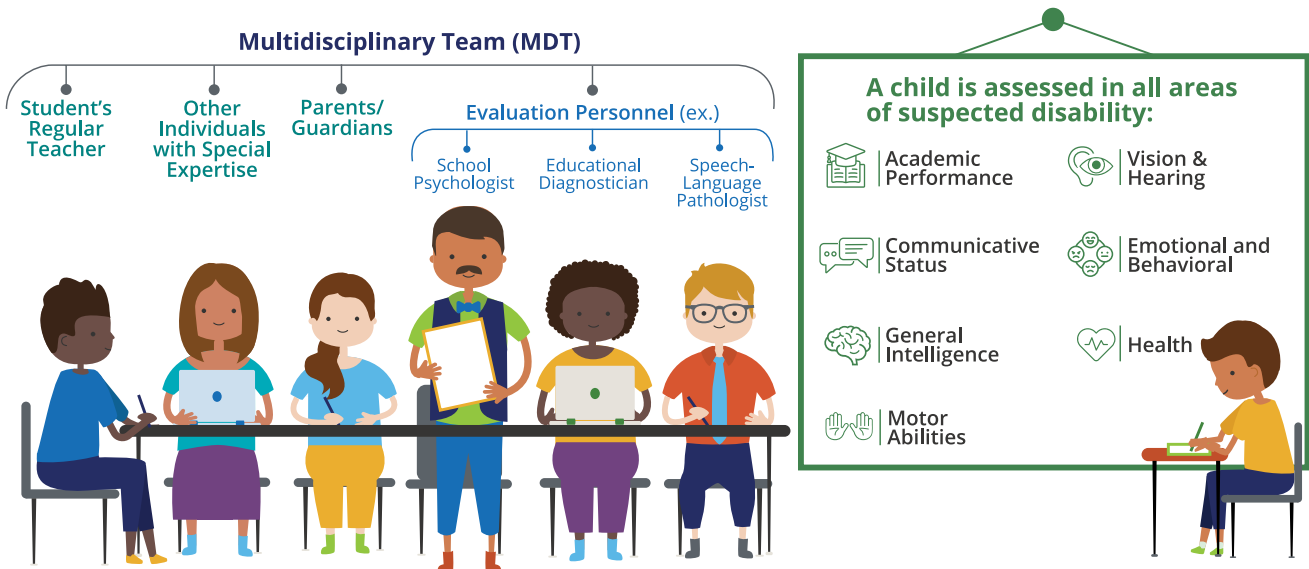
Students who may qualify for special education services have the right to an initial evaluation conducted by educational diagnosticians and other qualified professionals. In recent years, the number of these evaluations has increased significantly.²¹



Conducting Special Education Evaluations

All students who may have a disability, including those not enrolled in public schools, have the right to be evaluated for special education through their local public school.

A child is assessed by a multidisciplinary team of professionals:

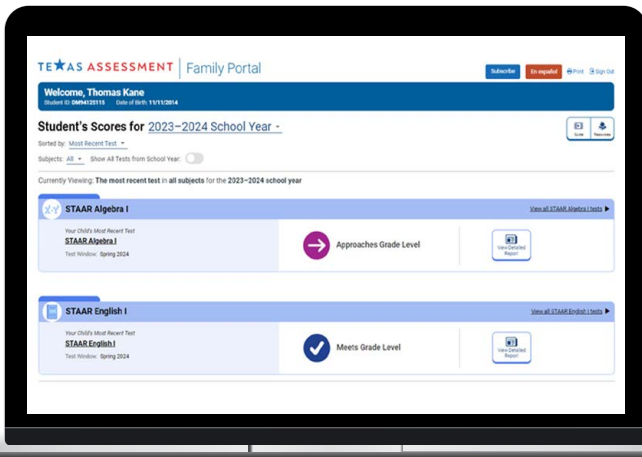


Cost of conducting a special education evaluation: **\$1,000 - \$5,000+**

There is no dedicated federal or state funding for public schools to conduct special education evaluations.

STAAR Offers Maximum Transparency for Parents

The State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) are a valuable tool in evaluating how students are performing in Texas classrooms. TEA's Texas Assessment Family Portal provides parents access to their child's test results, and most parents can conveniently log in through their school's local parent portal.



PARENTS CAN VIEW:

- ✓ Their child's score
- ✓ Each question on the test
- ✓ Each curriculum standard for each question
- ✓ Their child's answer to each question
- ✓ Rationales for correct/incorrect answers
- ✓ Resources to help support learning at home

Every STAAR Question & Answer is Available for Parents to View

PARENTS CAN VIEW:

Reading Passage

English I

Read the selection and choose the best answer to each question.

Mr. Roger Mifflin lives in a horse-drawn wagon, or van, that he has named Parnassus. He travels the countryside selling books, but he is ready to settle down now and hopes to sell the van and all of his contents to Andrew McGill. He stops by the McGill property to speak to Andrew, but Helen, Andrew's sister, talks to Mr. Mifflin first.

from Parnassus on Wheels
by Christopher Morley

1 I must admit that Mr. Mifflin had fixed up his van mighty comfortably inside. The body of the wagon was built out on each side over the wheels, which gave it an unwieldy appearance but made extra room for the bookshelves. This left an inside space about 5 feet wide and nine long. On one side, he had a little oil stove, a flap table, and a cozy-looking bunk above which was built a kind of chest of drawers—to hold clothes and such things, I suppose; on the other side, more bookshelves, a small table and a little wicker easy chair. Every possible inch of space seemed to be made useful in some way, for a shelf or a hook or a hanging cupboard or something. Above the stove was a neat little row of pots and dishes and cooking utensils. The raised skylight made it just possible to stand upright in the center aisle of the van; and a little sliding window opened onto the driver's seat in front. Altogether, it was a very neat affair. The windows in front and back were curtained, and a pot of geraniums stood on a diminutive shelf. I was amused to see a sandy Irish terrier curled up on a bright Mexican blanket in the bunk.

2 "Miss McGill," he said, "I couldn't sell Parnassus for less than four hundred. I've put twice that much into her, one time and another. She's built clean and solid all through, and there's everything a man would need from blankets to bouillon cubes. The whole thing's yours for \$400—including dog, cook stove, and everything—jib, boom, and spanker. There's a tent in a sling underneath, and an icebox (he pulled up a little trap door under the bunk), and a tank of coal oil and what all. She's as good as a yacht; but I'm tired of her.

Writing Prompt

✍️ ESSAY: Write your essay in the empty box below.

Read the excerpt from Parnassus on Wheels. Based on the information in the excerpt, write a response to the following: Identify and explain the significance of the revelation Miss McGill has from her dealings with Mr. Mifflin. Write a well-organized essay that uses specific evidence from the excerpt to support your answer.

Remember to –

- clearly state your thesis
- organize your writing
- develop your ideas in detail
- use evidence from the excerpt in your response
- use the correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar

Manage your time carefully so that you can –

- review the excerpt
- plan your response
- write your response
- revise and edit your response

Write your responses in the box provided.

Writing Prompt Reminders

Child's Actual Typed Response

The revelation Miss McGill has from her dealing with Mr. Mifflin means a lot to her, she finally gets to experience some of the world and not be stuck at the farm all day caring to andrews needs. She most likely needed a break, especially since andrew has experienced this happiness of adventuring already. She stated, "It just came over me that you've had all the adventure while I've been at home baking bread." and "to see some of this happiness and hayseed of yours "This shows just much shes missed out on and how shes been taking care of him so much and now shes going to take care of herself for awhile.



★ A National Comparison



2024: HOW TEXAS COMPARES

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), conducted approximately every two years, evaluates a sample of 4th- and 8th-grade students nationwide in reading and math. Between 2019 and 2022, COVID-19 dramatically and negatively impacted student learning throughout the country, especially in mathematics. In Texas, the impact was somewhat more muted, as many state policies helped our schools remain focused on student learning during the pandemic.

2024 NAEP Data

The 2024 NAEP data was released on January 29, 2025 and this page has been updated to reflect the most recent data available.

4 th Grade Reading				8 th Grade Reading			
	2022	2024	Change	2022	2024	Change	
Scale Score 	216	214	-2	259	257	-2	
	214	212	-2	255	252	-3	
Texas Rank: Unadjusted	33rd	37th	-4	41st	44th	-3	

4 th Grade Math				8 th Grade Math			
	2022	2024	Change	2022	2024	Change	
Scale Score 	235	237	+2	273	272	-1	
	239	241	+2	273	269	-4	
Texas Rank: Unadjusted	14th	8th	+6	25th	34th	-9	

2024: HOW TEXAS STUDENT GROUPS COMPARE

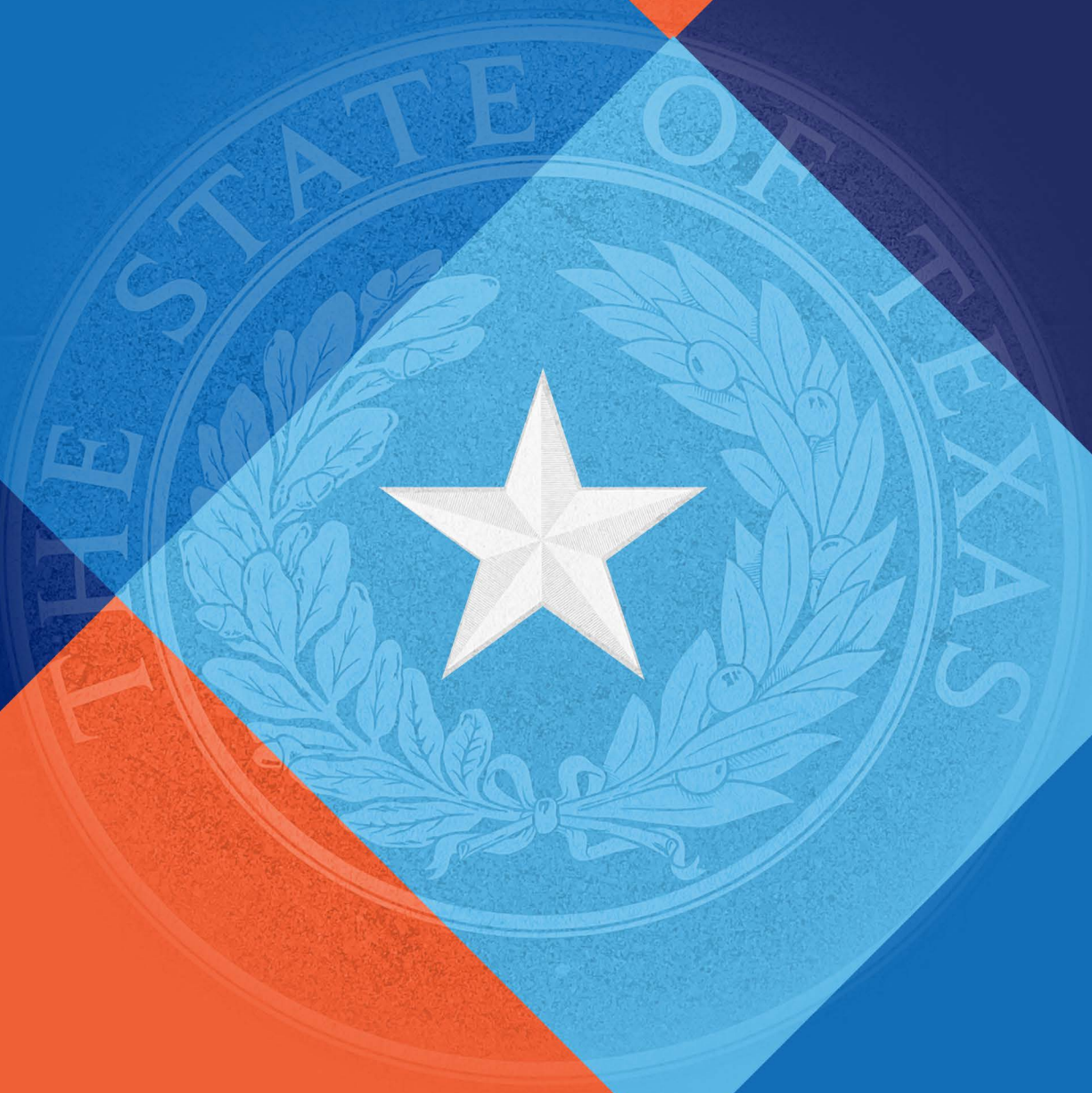
Texas is one of the most diverse states in the nation. When analyzing NAEP data, Texas schools are typically more successful in educating most student groups than schools in other states. The following NAEP data show Texas's 2024 rank by student group in 4th- and 8th-grade reading and math.

Student Group	Reading		Math	
	4 th Grade	8 th Grade	4 th Grade	8 th Grade
African American	9th	12th	1st	12th
Asian/Pacific Islander	7th	5th	2nd	11th
Hispanic	16th	38th	4th	14th
White	14th	16th	2nd	25th
English Learners	5th	1st	2nd	1st
Special Education	22nd	32nd	12th	32nd
Low Income	18th	42nd	4th	22nd
Non-Low Income	26th	26th	10th	38th
Texas Rank: Adjusted	9th	10th	3rd	6th



References and Citations

- 1 <https://www.highered.texas.gov/about/talent-strong-texas/>
- 2 <https://www.texaseducationinfo.org/>
- 3 2024 Consolidated Accountability File (CAF), Texas Education Agency.
- 4 The College Board, ACT, PEIMS, International Baccalaureate, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB).
- 5 <https://rptsvr1.tea.texas.gov/acctres/completion/2023/state>
- 6 PEIMS, THECB, and National Student Clearinghouse.
- 7 Prior to 2023, statewide Intruder Detection Audits were conducted by the Texas School Safety Center. https://locker.txssc.txstate.edu/74320e61f20da9dc4e756b29cee5ce56/Final-Statewide-Intruder-Audits-Findings-Report_June-2023.pdf
- 8 <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/tea-intruder-detection-audits-2023-2024.pdf>
- 9 PEIMS
- 10 Total teacher counts include all unique individuals with the role of a Teacher as reported by school systems in PEIMS. Other reports from TEA may set minimum FTE thresholds for inclusion rather than counts of individuals.
- 11 <https://tea.texas.gov/reports-and-data/school-performance/accountability-research/enroll-2023-24.pdf>
- 12 Based on the Teacher Incentive Allotment rural campus definition. Texas Education Code Sec. 48.112 and <https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/laws-and-rules/commissioner-rules-tac/coe-tac-currently-in-effect/ch150aa.pdf>.
- 13 Final two pages of Rider 59-Report on Public Education State Funding Transparency (as of December 17, 2024) found here: <https://tea.texas.gov/reports-and-data/legislative-reports>
- 14 <https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/news-and-multimedia/2024-annual-report-school-finance-end-notes.pdf>
- 15 <https://tea4avcastro.tea.state.tx.us/oess/edrs/regional-dashboards/>
- 16 <https://tea.texas.gov/reports-and-data/educator-data/teacher-retention-by-source-2022-2023.pdf>
- 17 TEA Student Assessment Files, PEIMS. Note: All students included have valid STAAR outcomes in SY22-23 and SY23-24 and tested in grades 3rd-6th grades in SY23-24. Students who did not have STAAR outcomes in both years, or students who were at an ADSY campus but did not participate in ADSY are not included.
- 18 PEIMS Graduates, 2017 – 2023; Post-Secondary Certifications, 2014 – 2023
- 19 College, Career and Military Readiness Indicators, 2024. PEIMS. Graduates 2023.
- 20 Due to an ongoing lawsuit, the TEA is temporarily enjoined from releasing the 2023 and 2024 A-F accountability ratings. The specific campus ratings in this report are self-published by Houston ISD, based on scale score data. Statewide scale score data comes from calculations of released underlying performance data. <https://www.houstonisd.org/cms/lib2/TX01001591/Centricity/Domain/7979/HISD%202024%20School%20Accountability%20Ratings.pdf>
- 21 Texas Education Agency. Texas Student Data System (TSDS) Child Find collection. Data collected July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024. Includes records of students with a completed eligibility determinations during the collection period who had a full individual initial evaluation (FIEE). Duplicate student records removed based on STUDENTID and DISTRICTID.
- 22 U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Ranking does not include DoDEA = Department of Defense Education Activity or DC = District of Columbia
- 23 <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/states-demographically-adjusted-performance-2022-nations-report-card>



tea.texas.gov | TXschools.gov | texasassessment.gov



@TexasEducationAgency

Copyright © 2024. Texas Education Agency. All Rights Reserved.