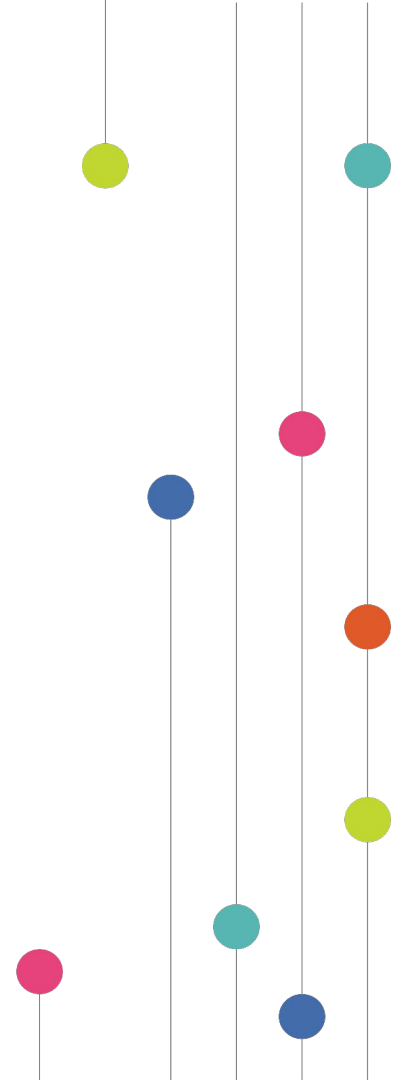


# Individual Graduation Committees (IGC)

2015-2022 Graduating Classes

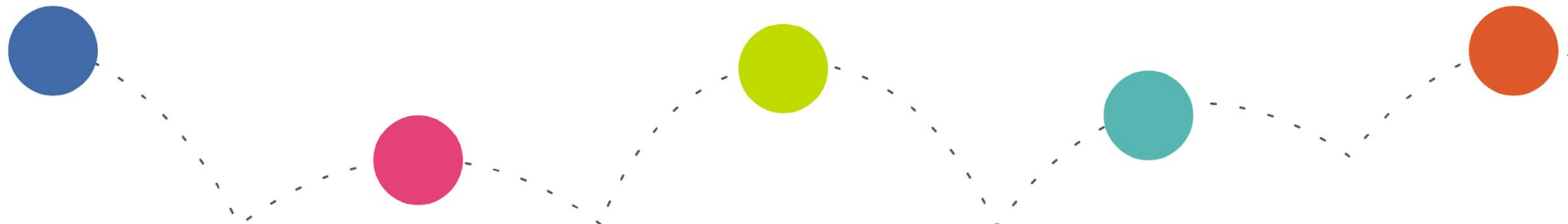


# What are IGCs and why study them?

- Starting in 2015, high school students who **fail no more than 2 of the 5 required STAAR End of Course (EOC) exams** can still graduate high school if an individual graduation committee (IGC) determines they are otherwise qualified to graduate.
- In November 2023, **Houston ISD** superintendent Mike Miles [revealed](#) at a board meeting that the **district is under investigation for over-utilizing the IGC process.**

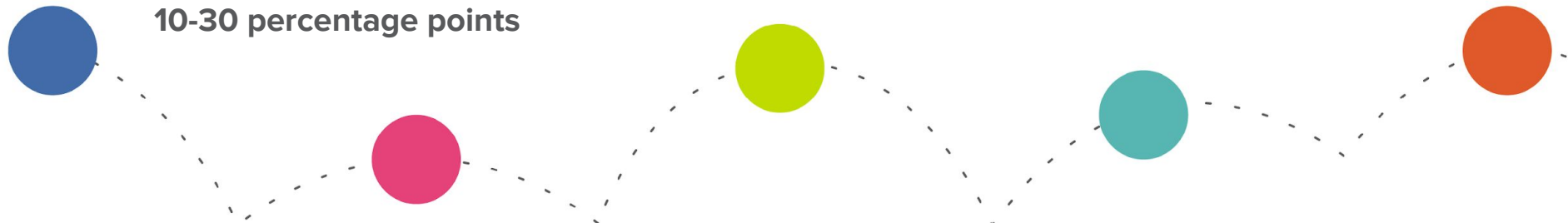
Good Reason Houston's analysis seeks to understand the magnitude of this issue:  
**How do IGC rates in HISD compare to other districts and campuses across Texas?**

- This analysis uses data from the TEA on [2015-2022 IGC Rates](#), [2022 TAPR Enrollment and Graduation Rates](#), and [2022 A-F Accountability](#)



# Summary of Findings

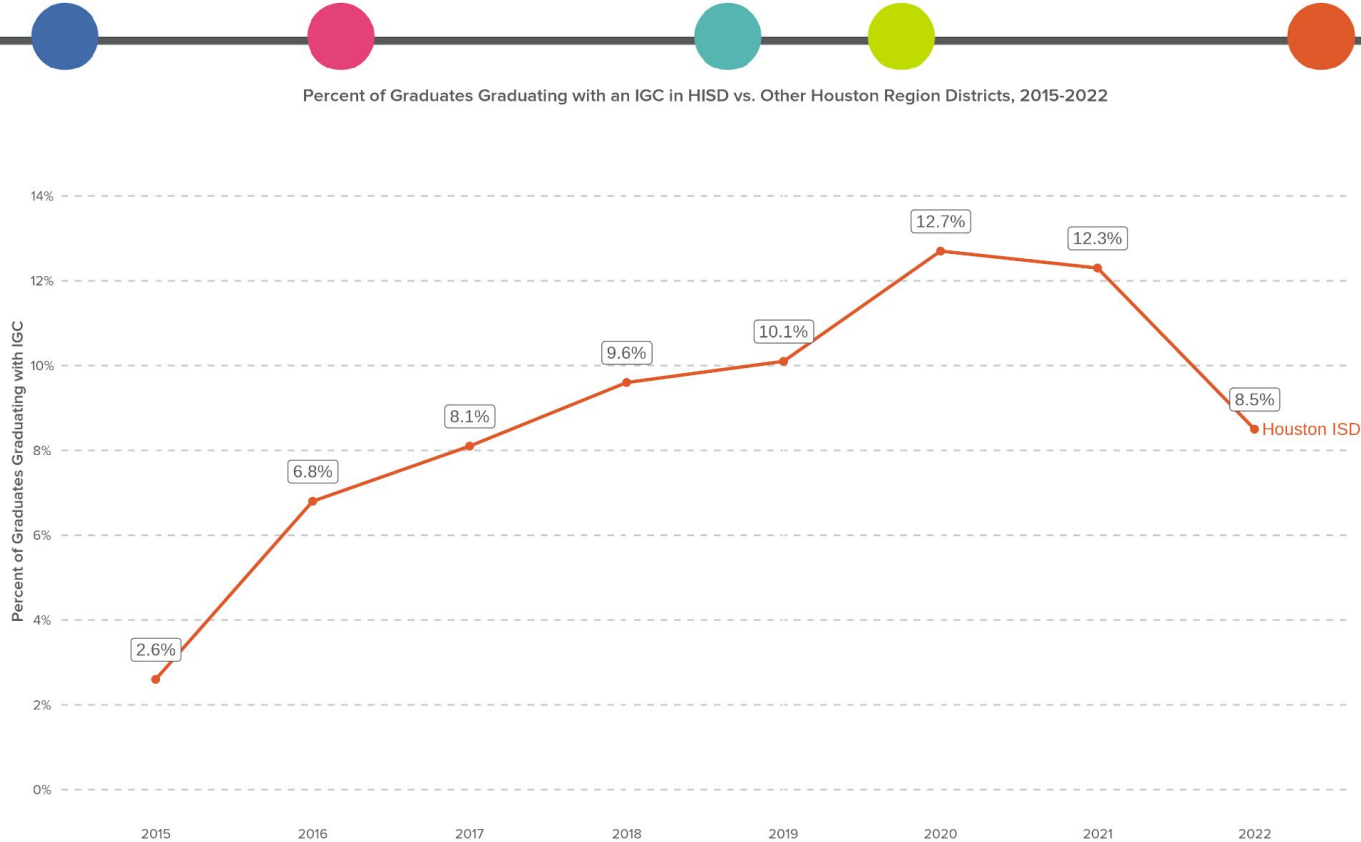
- Among both Houston-area school districts and Texas Urban Council (TUC) districts, **Houston ISD has consistently had among the highest proportion of high school graduates using IGCs to graduate**
- However, **HISD rarely had the *highest* IGC rate** among Houston-area or TUC districts in any year since 2015
- In 2022, HISD had **13 campuses with 10% or more of graduates using the IGC process**, out of 117 campuses with such rates statewide
- HISD campuses with high IGC rates tended to have **higher proportions of Economically Disadvantaged and Emergent Bilingual students** than other HISD campuses
- In some campuses, excluding IGC graduates would drop the 2021 graduation rate by nearly **10-30 percentage points**





**How do HISD's IGC rates compare to other districts statewide?**

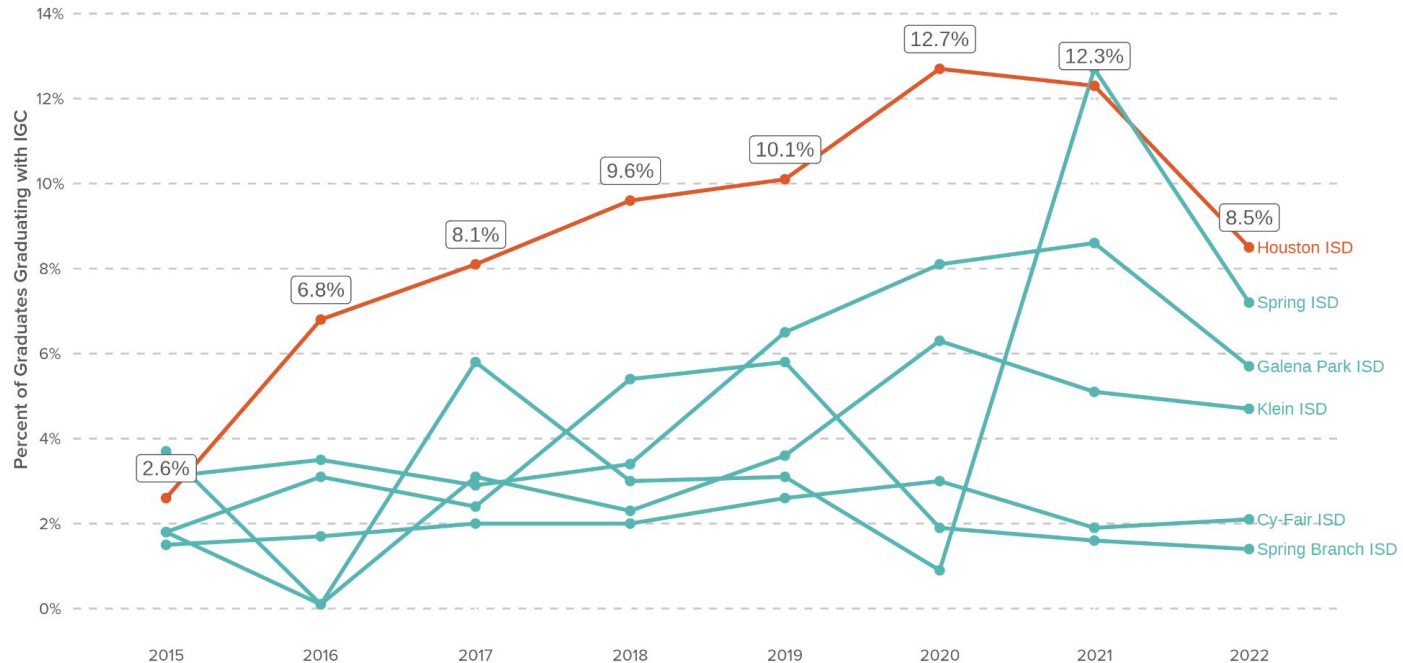
# IGC rates in HISD steadily increased over time, before dropping for the 2022 graduating class.



Note: A full list of IGC graduation rates and counts among Houston-area and TUC districts can be found in the Appendix

# Some Houston-area ISDs, such as Cy-Fair, Galena Park, Klein, Spring (until 2021) and Spring Branch, usually had lower IGC rates than HISD.

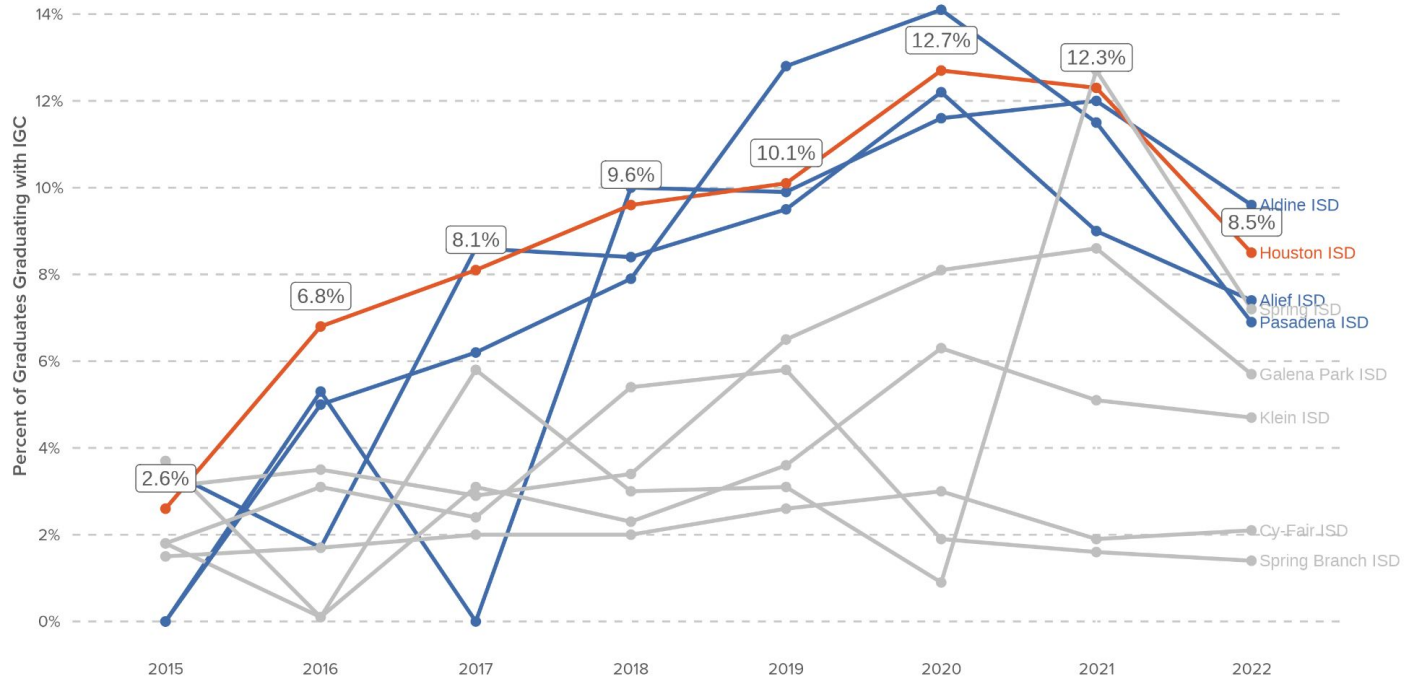
Percent of Graduates Graduating with an IGC in HISD vs. Other Houston Region Districts, 2015-2022



Note: A full list of IGC graduation rates and counts among Houston-area and TUC districts can be found in the Appendix

# Others, however, such as Aldine, Alief, and Pasadena ISDs, often had similar or higher IGC rates than HISD.

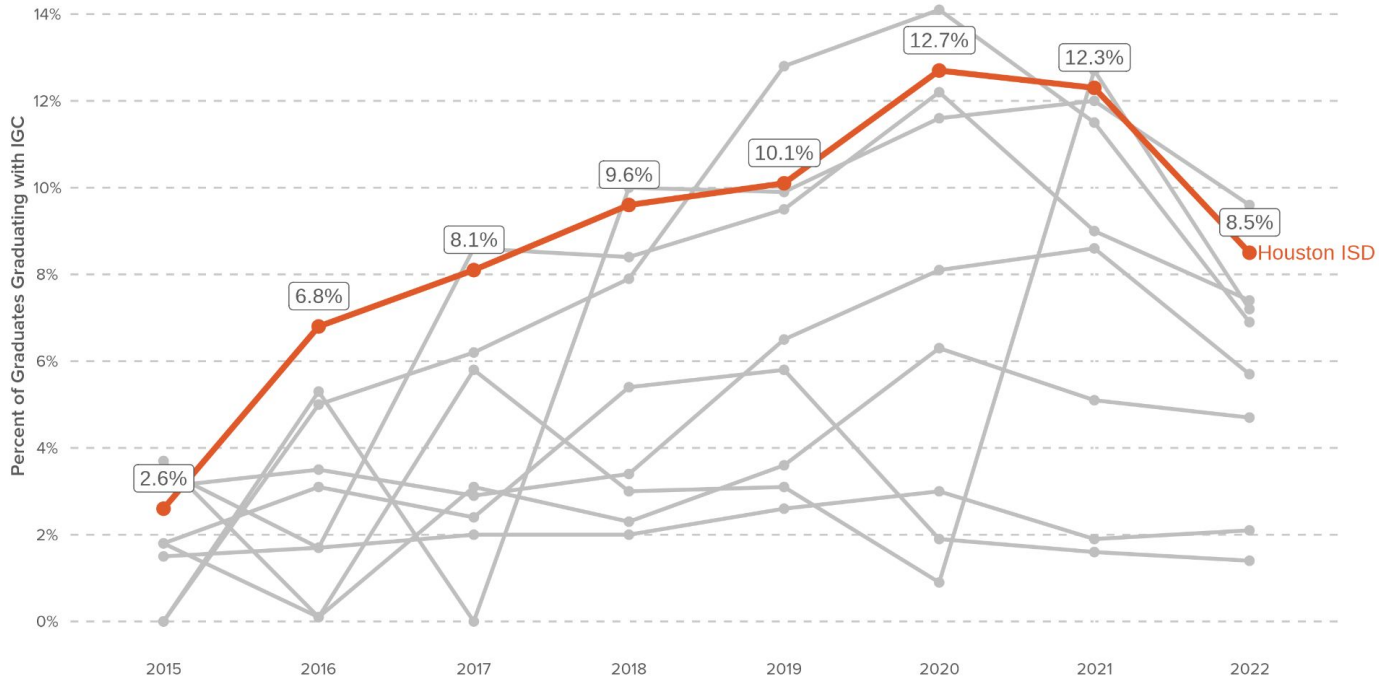
Percent of Graduates Graduating with an IGC in HISD vs. Other Houston Region Districts, 2015-2022



Note: A full list of IGC graduation rates and counts among Houston-area and TUC districts can be found in the Appendix

# While HISD consistently had among the highest rates of IGC graduates across Houston-area districts, in no year after 2016 did it have the highest rate.

Percent of Graduates Graduating with an IGC in HISD vs. Other Good Reason Houston Districts, 2015-2022



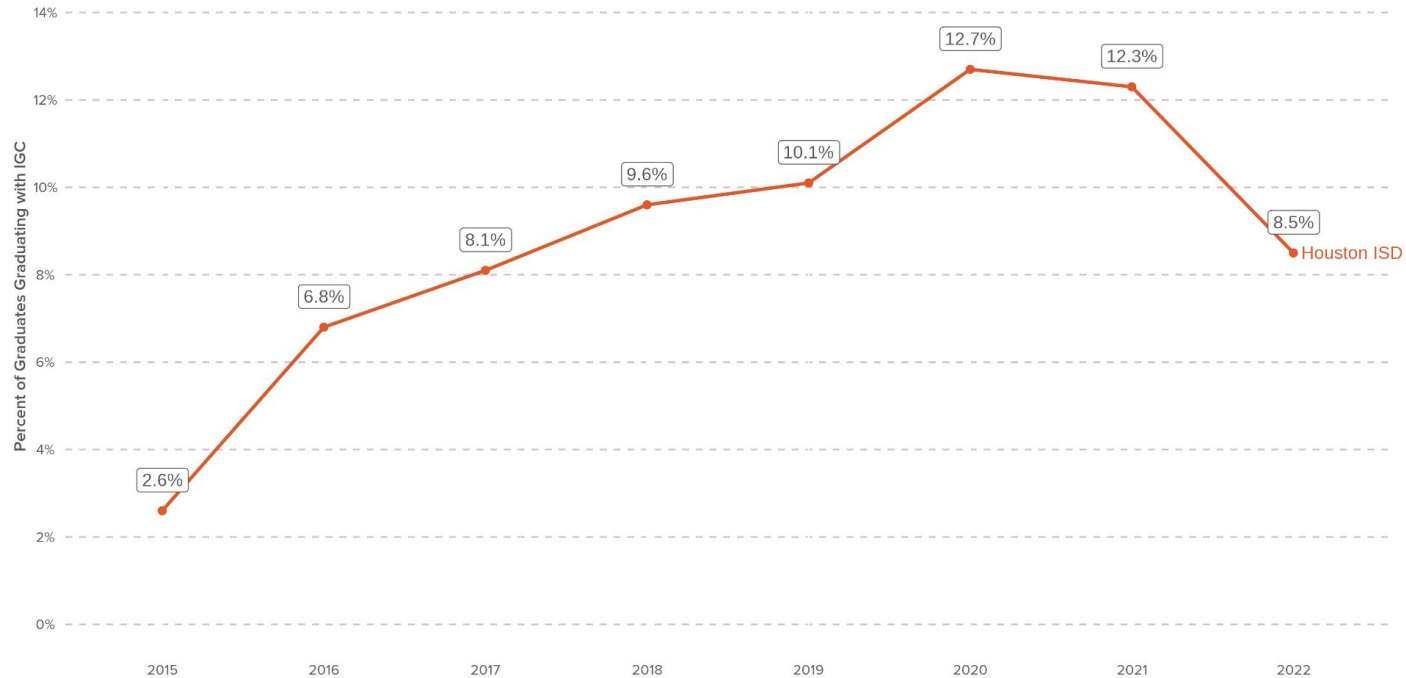
Note: A full list of IGC graduation rates and counts among Houston-area and TUC districts can be found in the Appendix



# If we compare HISD to other Texas Urban Council (TUC) districts...



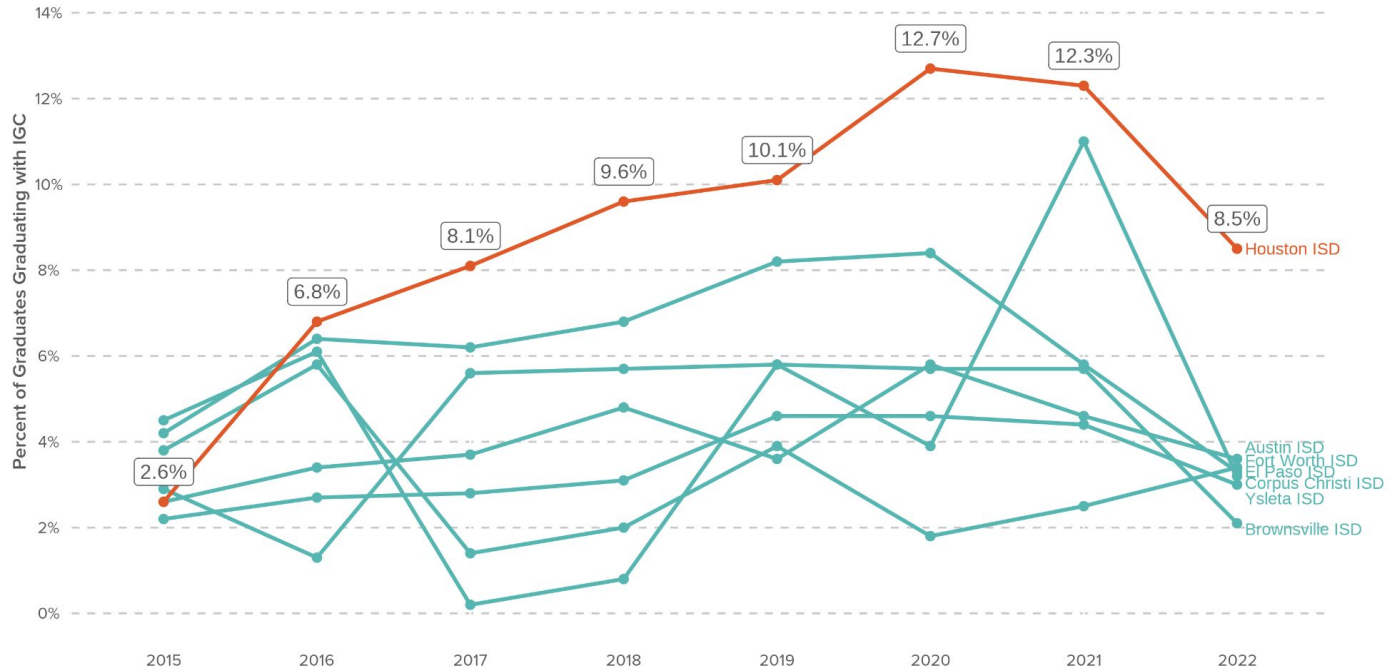
Percent of Graduates Graduating with an IGC in HISD vs. Other Houston Region Districts, 2015-2022



**Note:** A full list of IGC graduation rates and counts among Houston-area and TUC districts can be found in the Appendix

# TUC ISDs such as Austin, Fort Worth, El Paso, Corpus Christi (until 2021), Ysleta, and Brownsville usually had lower IGC rates than HISD.

Percent of Graduates Graduating with an IGC in HISD vs. Other TUC Districts, 2015-2022

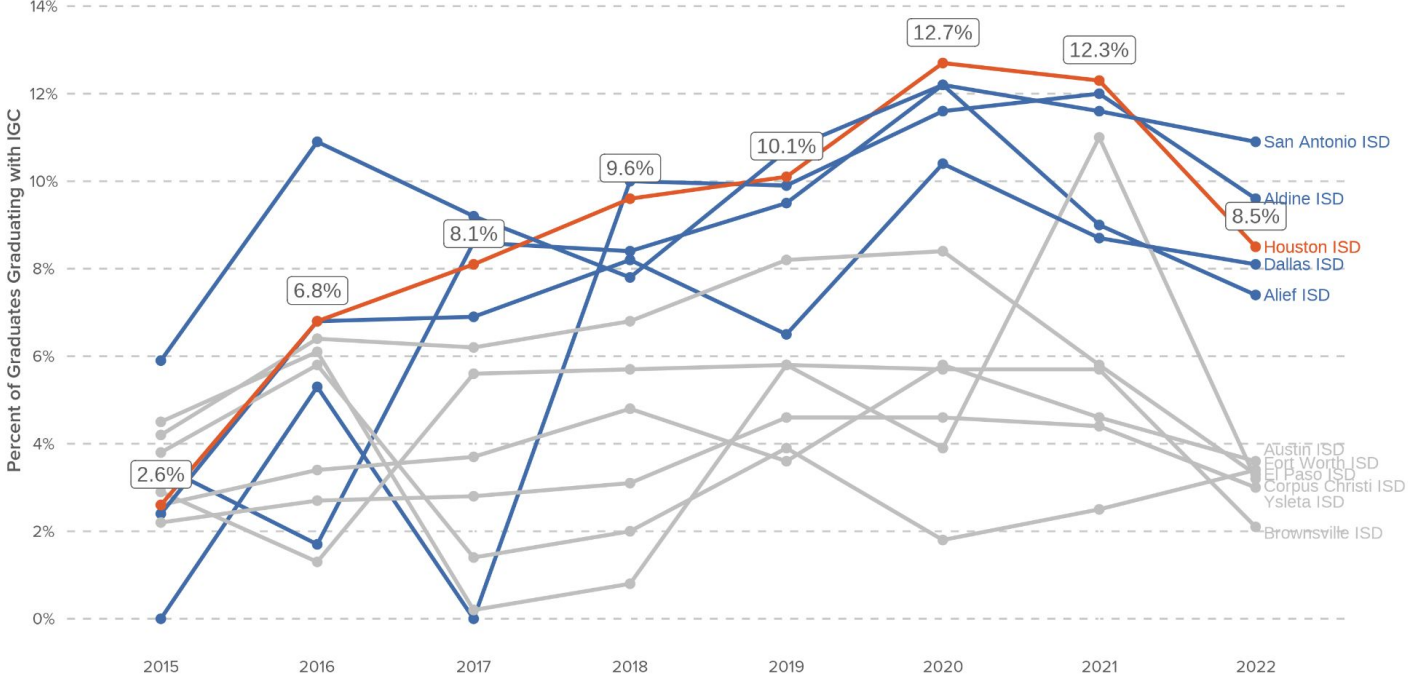


Note: A full list of IGC graduation rates and counts among Houston-area and TUC districts can be found in the Appendix

# Others, however, such as Aldine, Alief, Dallas, and San Antonio ISDs, often had similar or higher IGC rates than HISD.



Percent of Graduates Graduating with an IGC in HISD vs. Other Houston Region Districts, 2015-2022

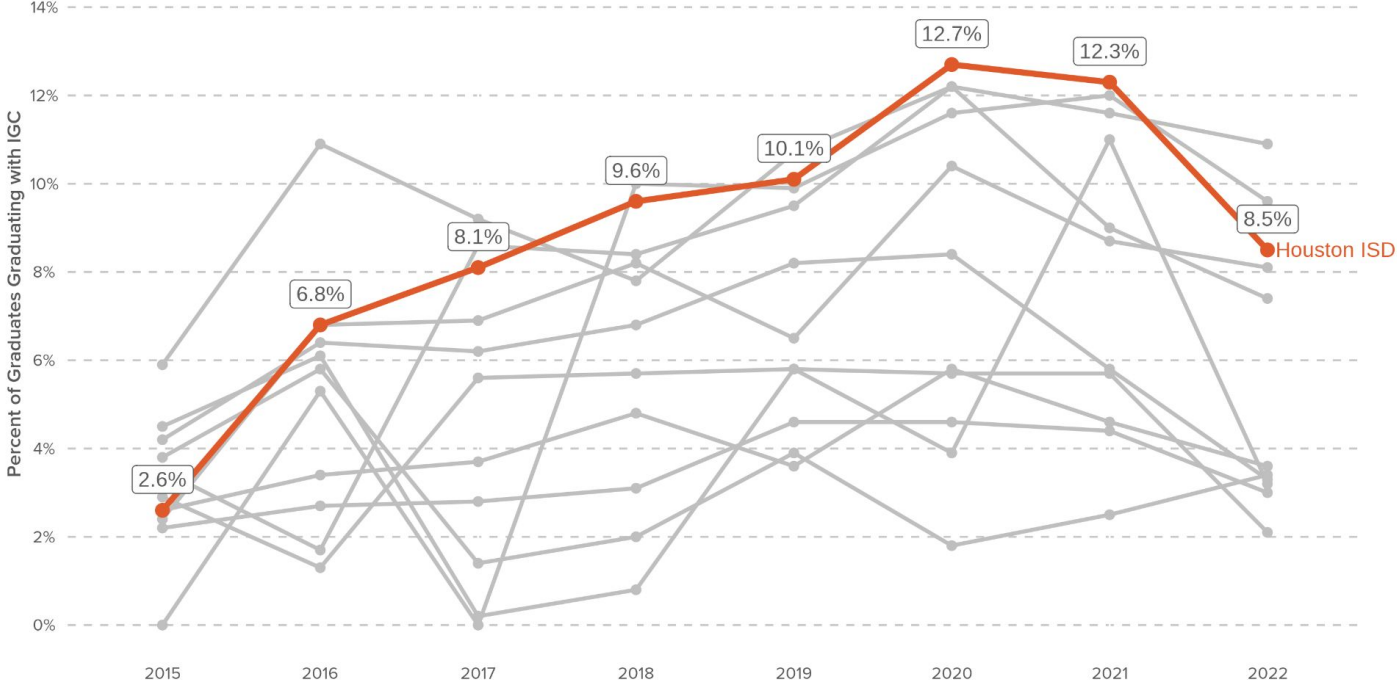


Note: A full list of IGC graduation rates and counts among Houston-area and TUC districts can be found in the Appendix

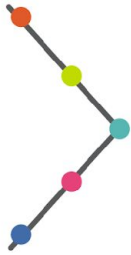
# HISD consistently had among the highest rates of IGC graduates across TUC districts, and in 2020 and 2021 it had the highest rates.



Percent of Graduates Graduating with an IGC in HISD vs. Other TUC Districts, 2015-2022

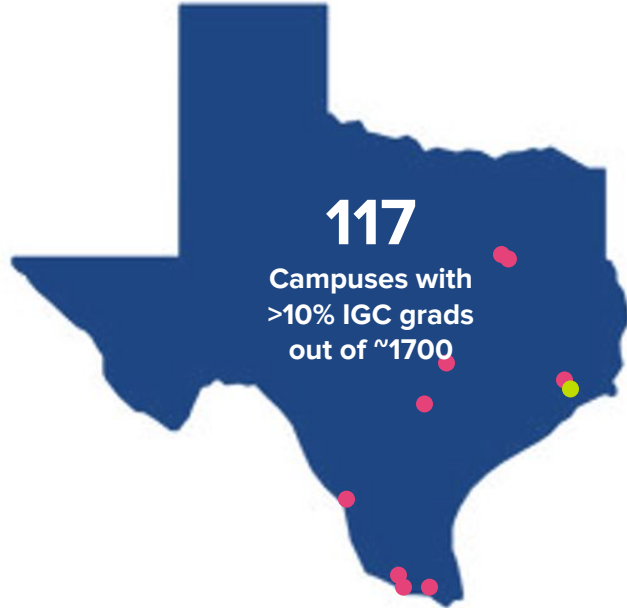


Note: A full list of IGC graduation rates and counts among Houston-area and TUC districts can be found in the Appendix



**How do HISD campuses' IGC rates compare to other campuses statewide?**

# Statewide, 117 campuses had high IGC graduation rates. HISD comprised 13 of these campuses.



District	# HS with IGC Rates of 10%+	Total HS	% HS with IGC Rates of 10%+
Houston ISD	13	44	30%
Dallas ISD	12	38	32%
San Antonio ISD	6	14	43%
Austin ISD*	4	15	27%
Aldine ISD	3	8	38%
Idea Public Schools	3	23	13%
Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD*	3	5	60%
La Joya ISD	3	5	60%
Jubilee Academies	2	4	50%
Uplift Education	2	10	20%
Mission CISD	2	3	67%
Laredo ISD	2	4	50%

*\*All 4 of Austin ISD's and 3 of Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD's high IGC rate high schools are early college high schools, which may mean their graduates do not follow typical graduation requirement trajectories.*

Many of the districts with multiple high schools with IGC rates over 10% are in areas such as the Rio Grande Valley with high proportions of emergent bilingual students.

**Note:** In this analysis, we exclude campuses that are considered Alternative Education by the TEA, as denoted by 2022 Accountability Ratings. We exclude these campuses since their total number of graduates are typically small, as students are less likely to consistently attend for grades 9-12.



# HISD campuses with 10% or more IGC graduates in 2022 also had high rates of Economically Disadvantaged and Emergent Bilingual (EB) students

Campus Name	# IGC Graduates	# Graduates	% of Graduates Through IGC	% Campus EcoDis	% Campus EB
Sharpstown H S	122	357	34%	83%	56%
Scarborough H S	28	143	20%	97%	35%
Yates H S	36	189	19%	96%	5%
Houston Math Science And Technolog	91	527	17%	95%	41%
Furr H S	38	227	17%	97%	34%
Wisdom H S	46	287	16%	98%	66%
Kashmere H S	21	133	16%	95%	22%
North Forest H S	30	197	15%	97%	18%
Madison H S	45	351	13%	89%	35%
Chavez H S	67	534	13%	93%	34%
Austin H S	36	316	11%	96%	36%
Sterling H S	36	318	11%	90%	25%
Worthing H S	17	155	11%	96%	14%

**Note:** In this analysis, we exclude campuses that are considered Alternative Education by the TEA, as denoted by 2022 Accountability Ratings. We exclude these campuses since their total number of graduates are typically small, as students are less likely to attend for grades 9-12.





# IGC Graduate Rates peaked during the pandemic in 2020 but have since declined for most campuses

Campus Name	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	5-year % point change (2017-2022)	2-year % point change (2020-2022)
Sharpstown H S	7%	17%	19%	20%	32%	43%	36%	34%	15%	-9%
Yates H S	0%	8%	16%	11%	17%	15%	14%	19%	3%	4%
Scarborough H S	7%	6%	6%	12%	15%	22%	18%	19%	13%	-3%
Sam Houston H S	6%	8%	10%	14%	21%	18%	30%	17%	7%	-1%
Wisdom H S	0%	6%	21%	24%	24%	33%	27%	16%	-5%	-17%
Furr H S	11%	15%	0%	17%	13%	18%	16%	16%	16%	-2%
North Forest H S	0%	19%	21%	19%	16%	19%	27%	15%	-6%	-4%
Kashmere H S	12%	17%	8%	21%	19%	14%	10%	15%	7%	1%
Madison H S	4%	15%	20%	16%	14%	24%	22%	12%	-8%	-12%
Chavez H S	0%	9%	11%	15%	12%	17%	13%	12%	1%	-5%
Worthing H S	9%	15%	17%	16%	21%	9%	17%	11%	-6%	2%
Sterling H S	0%	11%	13%	16%	13%	13%	20%	11%	-2%	-2%
Austin H S	4%	3%	8%	9%	12%	19%	24%	11%	3%	-8%
Westbury H S	6%	12%	14%	17%	14%	19%	20%	9%	-5%	-10%
Waltrip H S	2%	7%	6%	15%	10%	11%	8%	9%	3%	-2%
Milby H S	0%	9%	10%	10%	11%	13%	12%	9%	-1%	-4%
Washington B T H S	0%	8%	10%	14%	20%	19%	16%	8%	-2%	-11%
Northside H S	0%	7%	6%	14%	11%	14%	13%	7%	1%	-7%
Wheatley H S	9%	0%	15%	13%	10%	30%	22%	6%	-9%	-24%
Westside H S	1%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	6%	5%	1%	0%
Lamar H S	1%	3%	3%	5%	6%	6%	4%	4%	1%	-2%
Jones Futures Academy	0%	0%	0%	5%	7%	3%	0%	4%	4%	1%

## A few notable trends:

- Sharpstown, Scarborough, and Furr have seen the biggest % point gains in IGC rates over the past five years
- Yates, Kashmere, Worthing, and Jones were the only campuses for which IGC graduate rates increased since the pandemic
- Wisdom and Wheatley saw substantial declines in IGC graduate rates since 2020

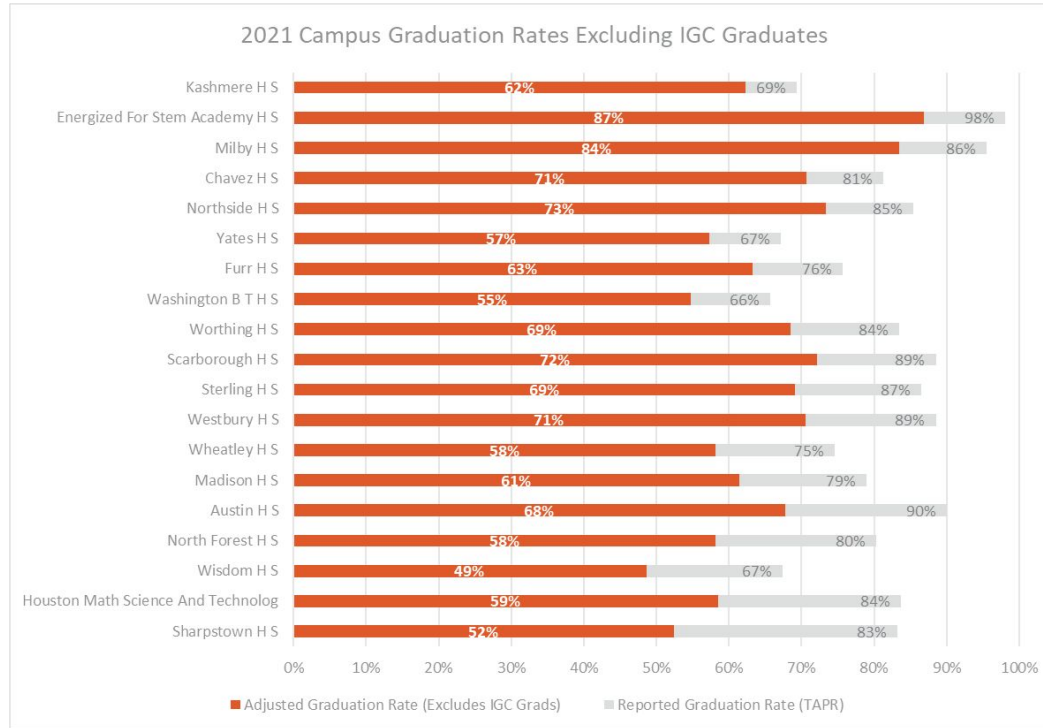
### Notes

- 1) In this analysis, we exclude campuses that are considered Alternative Education by the TEA, as denoted by 2022 Accountability Ratings. For campuses that were renamed, we included prior years' data aligned to the current campus name
- 2) A full list of campuses with IGC data in any year can be found in the appendix.





# In 2021, removing IGC graduates would cause sizeable drops in many campuses' total graduation rates



## Why this matters:

- Students graduating through IGCs may have failed 1-2 EOCs, which suggests that they are not academically prepared for postsecondary upon graduation.
- Graduation rates are a component of the TEA's A-F Accountability Rating. They factor into Domain 1 Student Achievement.

Note: We used data for the graduating class of 2021, as this is the last class for which the TEA has published total graduation rates. IGC rates are publicly available for the class of 2022, but total graduation rates for this year will not be published until TAPR is released.





# Findings & Limitations

## FINDINGS

- HISD's IGC Graduation Rates are among the highest in the state, comparable to districts like San Antonio, Dallas, Alief, and Aldine.
- At the campus level, HISD has a disproportionate number of campuses at which over 1 in 10 graduates did not pass at least one EOC. These campuses serve a high proportion of Economically Disadvantaged and Emergent Bilingual student populations.

**LIMITATIONS:** This analysis uses publicly available quantitative data from the TEA.

- We are unable to answer questions using student-level information that helps connect IGC graduates to other indicators.
- We are unable to understand the full context of each campus, including interventions in place and processes for assisting students to IGCs.

# Recommendations



## **ASK DISTRICT LEADERS**

- What systems are in place at the district level to identify students at risk of falling behind?
- What supports does the district provide to campuses to support these students?
- How is the district monitoring the IGC process to ensure rigor and compliance?
- What practices might the district adopt by learning from other districts with lower IGC rates?

## **ASK CAMPUS LEADERS**

- How does the campus identify students early on who are at risk of falling behind? Are there checkpoints throughout the year?
- What interventions are in place to support identified students to meet expectations in core subjects?
- What does the process for IGC approval look like? Is it rigorous enough to ensure all graduates are prepared for postsecondary?



# Appendix



# District Longitudinal IGC Graduate Rates

District	IGC Rate, 2015	IGC Rate, 2016	IGC Rate, 2017	IGC Rate, 2018	IGC Rate, 2019	IGC Rate, 2020	IGC Rate, 2021	IGC Rate, 2022
<b>Houston ISD</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	<b>9.6%</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>12.3%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>
Aldine ISD	0%	5.3%	0%	10%	9.9%	11.6%	12%	9.6%
Alief ISD	3.5%	1.7%	8.6%	8.4%	9.5%	12.2%	9%	7.4%
Cy-Fair ISD	1.5%	1.7%	2%	2%	2.6%	3%	1.9%	2.1%
Galena Park ISD	3.1%	3.5%	2.9%	3.4%	6.5%	8.1%	8.6%	5.7%
Klein ISD	1.8%	0.1%	3.1%	2.3%	3.6%	6.3%	5.1%	4.7%
Pasadena ISD	0%	5%	6.2%	7.9%	12.8%	14.1%	11.5%	6.9%
Spring Branch ISD	1.8%	3.1%	2.4%	5.4%	5.8%	1.9%	1.6%	1.4%
Spring ISD	3.7%	0.1%	5.8%	3%	3.1%	0.9%	12.7%	7.2%
Austin ISD	2.6%	3.4%	3.7%	4.8%	3.6%	5.8%	4.6%	3.6%
Brownsville ISD	2.9%	1.3%	5.6%	5.7%	5.8%	5.7%	5.7%	2.1%
Corpus Christi ISD	4.5%	6.1%	0.2%	0.8%	5.8%	3.9%	11%	3.2%
Dallas ISD	2.4%	6.8%	6.9%	8.2%	6.5%	10.4%	8.7%	8.1%
El Paso ISD	4.2%	6.4%	6.2%	6.8%	8.2%	8.4%	5.8%	3.3%
Fort Worth ISD	3.8%	5.8%	1.4%	2%	3.9%	1.8%	2.5%	3.4%
San Antonio ISD	5.9%	10.9%	9.2%	7.8%	10.7%	12.2%	11.6%	10.9%
Ysleta ISD	2.2%	2.7%	2.8%	3.1%	4.6%	4.6%	4.4%	3%

*\*Note that districts with IGC rates of 0 in certain years may reflect data masked by TEA for student privacy reasons*



# District Longitudinal IGC Graduate Counts

District	Total IGC Graduates, 2015	Total IGC Graduates, 2016	Total IGC Graduates, 2017	Total IGC Graduates, 2018	Total IGC Graduates, 2019	Total IGC Graduates, 2020	Total IGC Graduates, 2021	Total IGC Graduates, 2022
Houston ISD	254	698	861	1,061	1,139	1,462	1,431	960
Aldine ISD	0	189	0	364	383	438	458	370
Alief ISD	90	45	232	228	276	345	240	193
Cy-Fair ISD	114	136	164	163	213	254	169	178
Galena Park ISD	49	55	46	54	110	132	145	94
Klein ISD	60	0	105	89	137	243	198	184
Pasadena ISD	0	170	214	294	460	525	426	256
Spring Branch ISD	36	67	52	127	135	44	38	32
Spring ISD	76	0	119	62	68	19	272	150
Austin ISD	112	149	162	220	163	263	210	165
Brownsville ISD	82	40	172	187	191	149	173	66
Corpus Christi ISD	103	138	0	22	156	103	289	78
Dallas ISD	177	530	530	666	542	850	694	679
El Paso ISD	164	253	241	272	345	348	220	132
Fort Worth ISD	148	232	59	90	174	84	114	155
San Antonio ISD	154	277	245	206	284	320	311	293
Ysleta ISD	65	77	78	90	130	127	121	87



*\*Note that districts with IGC counts of 0 in certain years may reflect data masked by TEA for student privacy reasons*



# Campus Longitudinal IGC Graduate Rates

Campus Name	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Sharpstown H S	7%	17%	19%	20%	32%	43%	36%	34%
Yates H S	0%	8%	16%	11%	17%	15%	14%	19%
Scarborough H S	7%	6%	6%	12%	15%	22%	18%	19%
Sam Houston H S	6%	8%	10%	14%	21%	18%	30%	17%
Wisdom H S	0%	6%	21%	24%	24%	33%	27%	16%
Furr H S	11%	15%	0%	17%	13%	18%	16%	16%
North Forest H S	0%	19%	21%	19%	16%	19%	27%	15%
Kashmere H S	12%	17%	8%	21%	19%	14%	10%	15%
Madison H S	4%	15%	20%	16%	14%	24%	22%	12%
Chavez H S	0%	9%	11%	15%	12%	17%	13%	12%
Worthing H S	9%	15%	17%	16%	21%	9%	17%	11%
Sterling H S	0%	11%	13%	16%	13%	13%	20%	11%
Austin H S	4%	3%	8%	9%	12%	19%	24%	11%
Westbury H S	6%	12%	14%	17%	14%	19%	20%	9%
Waltrip H S	2%	7%	6%	15%	10%	11%	8%	9%
Milby H S	0%	9%	10%	10%	11%	13%	12%	9%
Washington B T H S	0%	8%	10%	14%	20%	19%	16%	8%
Northside H S	0%	7%	6%	14%	11%	14%	13%	7%
Wheatley H S	9%	0%	15%	13%	10%	30%	22%	6%
Westside H S	1%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	6%	5%
Lamar H S	1%	3%	3%	5%	6%	6%	4%	4%
Jones Futures Academy	0%	0%	0%	5%	7%	3%	0%	4%
Energized For Stem Academy H S							11%	4%
Heights H S	5%	5%	5%	0%	2%	5%	5%	3%
Bellaire H S	1%	1%	4%	4%	7%	6%	5%	3%
Sharpstown International School	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	2%
Mickey Leland College Prep Acad	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%

Campus Name	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Long Academy		5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%
Texas Connections Academy At H	0%	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%	5%	1%
Mount Carmel Academy	0%	3%	1%	6%	1%	2%	2%	1%
Young Women's College Prep Aca	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
T H Rogers School		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
South Early College H S	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
Soar Ctr	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
North Houston Early College H S	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Kinder H S For Performing And Vis	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Houston Academy For Internation	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Hcc Life Skills Program	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
H S For Law And Justice	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Energy Institute H S			0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%
Eastwood Academy	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
East Early College H S	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Debakey H S For Health Prof	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Challenge Early College H S	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Carnegie Vanguard H S	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Victory Preparatory Academy South			7%	13%				
Victory Preparatory Academy North			30%					
Reach Charter	25%	48%	46%					
Jordan H S	0%	0%	1%	5%				
Hope Academy Charter School	0%							
Energized For Stem Academy Wes	0%	5%	0%					
Energized For Stem Academy Southwe				0%	0%			
Energized For Stem Academy Southea				0%	2%	2%		
Energized For Stem Academy Cen	0%	0%	0%					
Advanced Virtual Academy	0%	5%	12%					

*\*Note that campuses with IGC rates of 0 in certain years may reflect data masked by TEA for student privacy reasons*

