

GOOD REASON HOUSTON

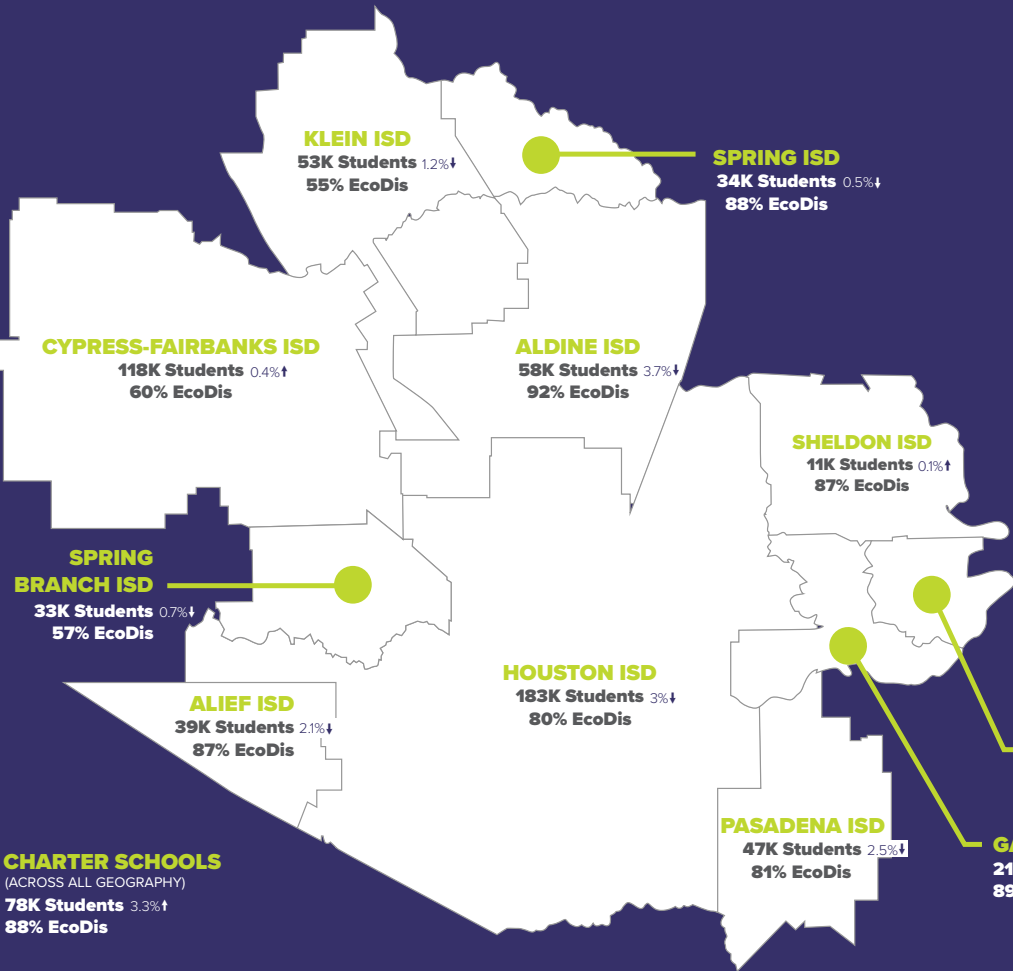
Every Child. Every Neighborhood.



2024 HOUSTON AREA PUBLIC EDUCATION SNAPSHOT

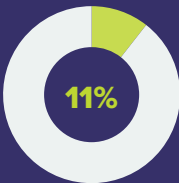
Regional Enrollment & Demographics

Our focus geography includes **over 900 campuses** in **11 Independent School Districts (ISDs)** and **7 charter networks**.



TOTAL ENROLLMENT
689,000 0.9%↓

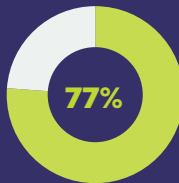
ENROLLMENT BY DEMOGRAPHIC		
61% HISPANIC	424,000	0.8%↑
20% BLACK	141,000	0.1%↓
11% WHITE	77,000	2%↓
5% ASIAN	36,000	2.5%↑
2% OTHER	17,000	2%↑



73,000
SPECIAL EDUCATION
(10%↑)



241,000
EMERGENT BILINGUAL
(7%↑)



530,000
ECONOMICALLY
DISADVANTAGED
(2%↑)

WHY THIS MATTERS

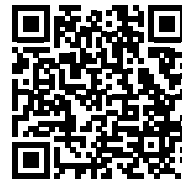
The Houston region saw a decrease in enrollment with about 6,000 fewer students in 2024 than in 2023. While 88% of students attend an ISD, charter enrollment has seen a 6% increase since last year. Understanding the composition of schools in our region helps us more effectively meet student needs. As the population evolves, school systems must adapt settings, experiences, and strategies to support every learner. This awareness enables leaders to make informed decisions about resource investments unique to the current student population.

Sources:
1. 2024 PEIMS Snapshot.
2. 2024 Texas Academic Performance Reports (TAPR).

Notes: Current total and economically disadvantaged enrollment are from 2024 PEIMS Snapshot reflecting membership as of October 2024. Current figures for race, ethnicity, emergent bilingual (EB), and Special Education(SpEd) are from 2024 TAPR, a lagged data source reflecting

the 2022-23 school year. We use TAPR for subgroup figures due to the significant masking included in the 2024 PEIMS. We include open-enrollment charters within the boundaries of the 11 ISDs. Hispanic is denoted as ethnicity and is not mutually exclusive of race groups.

2024 Houston Public Education Snapshot

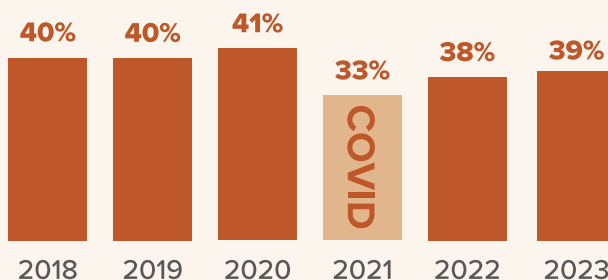


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FOR MORE INFORMATION



PRE-K ENROLLMENT

Of all eligible 3- and 4-year-olds, over 46,000 students are still not enrolled in a public pre-K program.



Percentage of Eligible Students Enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten

WHAT'S TRENDING

- Pre-K enrollment declined during the COVID-19 pandemic and has not yet rebounded.
- Several neighborhoods have high potential demand for tuition-free pre-K but there is insufficient capacity in existing programs to meet that need.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Pre-K develops students academically and socially, setting a strong foundation for school success. For disadvantaged student groups, it significantly improves early literacy and numeracy skills, leading to better kindergarten readiness. Black, Hispanic, emergent bilingual, and economically disadvantaged students who attended pre-K across all Houston-area ISDs were twice as likely to be ready for kindergarten compared to those who did not.

REGIONAL GOAL:

50% of eligible students are enrolled in public pre-K by 2028.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

ADVOCATE FOR CHANGE: Support policies to expand access to high-quality pre-K (e.g., Early Education Allotment and school bonds).

INFORM NETWORKS: Share pre-K enrollment resources to boost awareness and participation.

GET INVOLVED: Join the Citywide Coalition on Education and participate in Pre-K Houston events.

Source

1. TPEIR Pre-K Enrollment 2017-2022. Analysis includes 3- and 4-year-olds enrolled in 11 ISDs divided by the total number of eligible 3- and 4-year-olds, as determined by current first graders who would have been pre-K eligible.

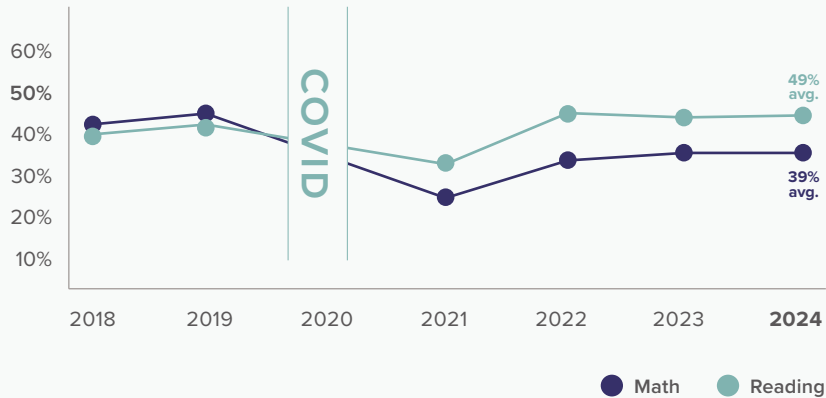
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above to learn more
about Kindergarten
Readiness



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

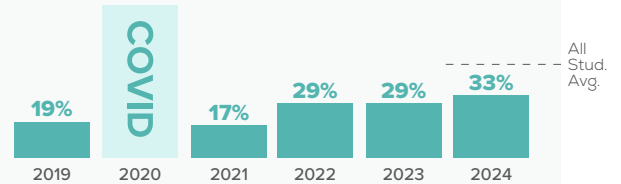
Academic achievement, as measured by STAAR, is improving overall in reading. Math achievement levels are still low across the region.

STAAR Meets or Exceeds Rate - All Students

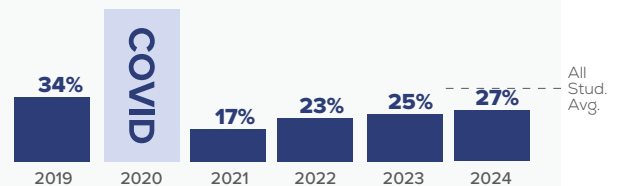


STAAR Progress by Student Groups

STAAR Reading - Emergent Bilingual Students



STAAR Math - Black Students



WHAT'S TRENDING

- For the first year, reading performance has surpassed pre-pandemic levels, with many districts crediting improvements to a stronger curriculum based on the Science of Reading.
- However, math performance remains low, with only 39% of students meeting or mastering content, particularly at the middle school level.
- While the pandemic worsened academic disparities for historically disadvantaged groups, there has been significant progress in recent years. Black students have steadily recovered in math, and emergent bilingual students have outperformed their pre-pandemic reading levels.

WHY IT MATTERS

The STAAR exam is given statewide for grades 3-8, with End of Course (EOC) exams for core subjects in high school. STAAR offers important insights into how well our public education system prepares students for state standards.

Since these assessments build on earlier content, it's crucial to monitor performance at all levels to provide timely support for those who need it most.

REGIONAL GOAL:

50% of students are on grade level in math and 60% in reading by 2028.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

ADVOCATE FOR ACCOUNTABILITY: Support a transparent and robust accountability system that drives student success.

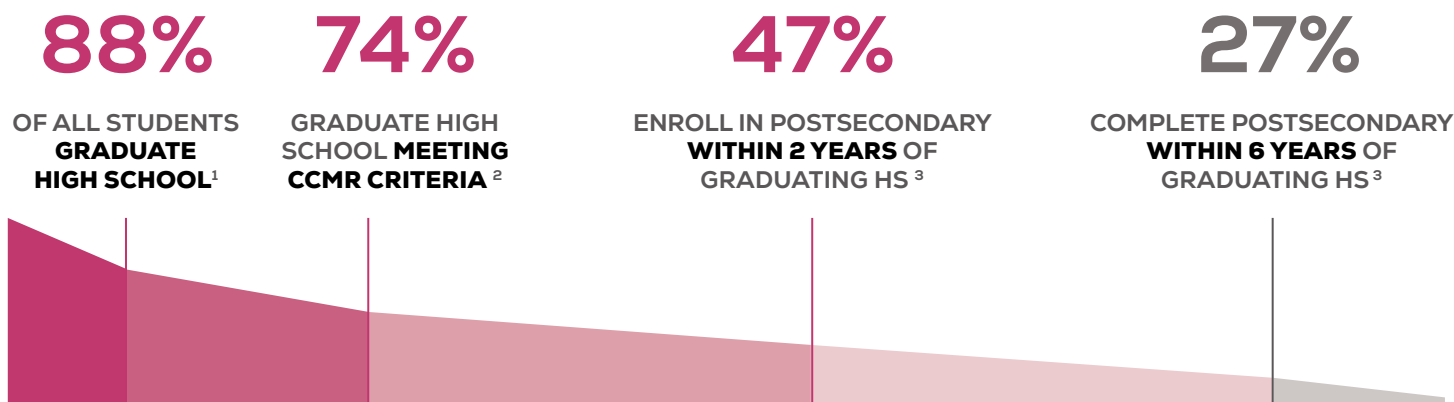
SUPPORT GOALS: Push for rigorous district-level math and reading goals with aligned strategies and campus-level support.

CHAMPION EDUCATORS: Advocate for strong educator development and evaluation programs.



POSTSECONDARY READINESS & COMPLETION

Although most students graduate high school, there are critical drop-off points on their path to postsecondary completion.



WHAT'S TRENDING

- While nearly 90% of students graduate high school and most meet at least one College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR) criterion, only a quarter go on to complete a postsecondary credential.
- The completion rate for graduating cohorts from 2012 to 2017 has remained largely unchanged, holding steady at 22% for economically disadvantaged students. In contrast, more affluent peers have experienced a 10-percentage-point increase in their completion rate over the same period.

WHY IT MATTERS

A Texas 2036 study projects that over 70% of jobs in Texas will require a postsecondary credential by 2036. For low-income students, earning a degree or credential can lead to economic mobility. However, data indicates that many students fail to reach this critical milestone. The significant drop-off in the pipeline suggests that high school graduation requirements and CCMR criteria are not aligned with the skills and support needed for recent graduates to enroll and persist in postsecondary programs.

REGIONAL GOAL:

100% of students are graduating college, career, or military ready and 50% of students secure a postsecondary degree or credential by 2035.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

PROMOTE ALIGNMENT: Collaborate with schools, workforce, higher education, and communities to better align K-12 college and career pathways with postsecondary outcomes.

ADVOCATE FOR BETTER DATA: Push for improved data systems to track student progress from PK-12 through postsecondary, ensuring support and accountability.

SUPPORT PROGRAMS & RESEARCH: Invest in programs and research that guide students through postsecondary options and identify factors for long-term success.

STAY ENGAGED: Keep informed by engaging in discussions, reviewing future reports, and participating in events on K-12 and postsecondary outcomes.

Source

1. Texas Academic Performance Reports 2023. CCMR rate lags by one school year, so the CCMR graduation data are for the 2022 graduating class.

2. Public Information Request to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for 2023 CCMR Data.
3. Good Reason Houston Postsecondary Credential Attainment Analysis.

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on page 1 to read
our postsecondary
research findings



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