



TIER's Objective:
Every child in Texas will graduate from high school fully prepared for higher education and the 21st century workplace as well as responsible citizenship.

Student Achievement Results

TAKS Passing Rates

- TAKS passing rates are high, even without the Texas Performance Measure (TPM); for example, 74% of 7th graders passed all of their TAKS tests in 2011
- But few students achieve at the "Commended" level -- that is, are on the path to postsecondary readiness

Texas Students

4,933,617 students enrolled in Texas public schools during the 2010-11 school year -- a 21% increase since 2000-01, compared with a 6% increase nationally

2010-11 profile:

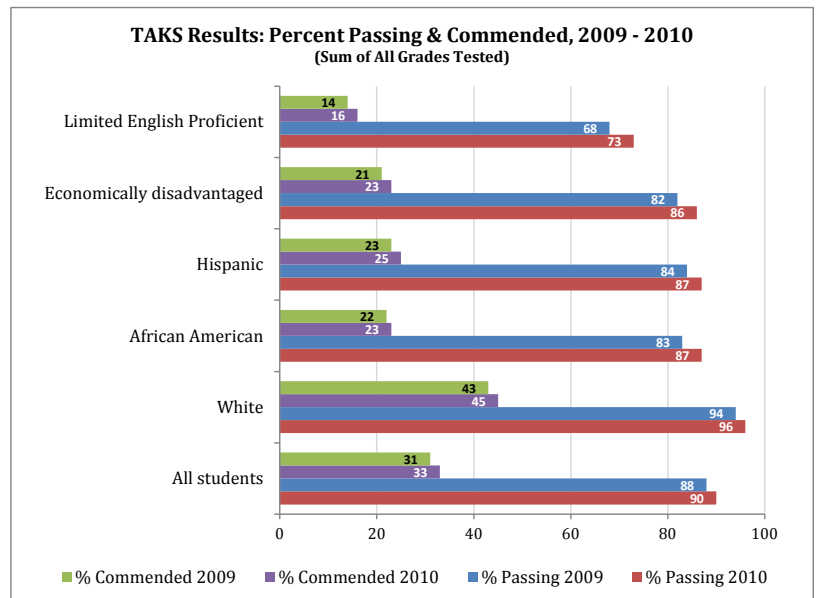
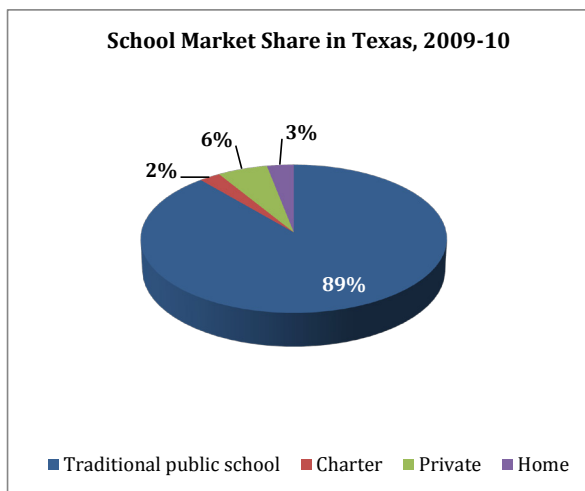
- 50% Hispanic
- 13% African American
- 9% special education
- 17% Ltd. English Proficient
- 59% economically disadvantaged (up from 49% in 2000-01)
- 31% White
- 3% Asian
- 8% gifted
- 47% at risk

Schools & Districts

- 8,435 public schools, including 463 charter schools
- 1,237 school districts

School Market Share

- 89% of students attend "traditional" district public schools
- Approximately 6% attend private schools (NCES)
- <3% are home schooled (Texas Public Policy Foundation)
- Only 2% attend charter schools, but enrollment multiplying
- TX charter school enrollment grew 736% between 1997 & 2009 vs. 18% growth in traditional district school enrollment



- For example, 7th grade Commended rates, 2010-11:
30% in Reading/ELA 23% in Math
36% in Writing 13% in all three subjects

District Accountability Ratings (2011, incl. charter schools)

- 14% Exemplary 33% Recognized
- 39% Academically Acceptable 7% Academically Unacceptable

School Accountability Ratings (2011)

- 5% Exemplary 34% Recognized
- 53% Academically Acceptable 7% Academically Unacceptable

Algebra I End-of-Course Passing Rates (2010)

- 57% of TX students met the Algebra I EOC standard, while just 12% performed at Commended level
- 45% of economically disadvantaged students met the Algebra I standard, while 6% performed at Commended level

"Even our most elite urban schools often produce results that are mediocre compared with those of our international peers."

Jay Greene, University of Arkansas

National & International Assessment Results (2011)

- **39%** of TX 4th graders & **40%** of 8th graders are proficient in Math on the rigorous National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
- **28%** of TX 4th graders & **27%** of 8th graders are proficient in NAEP Reading
- TX NAEP performance rank among states:
4th Grade: **27th** in Math **38th** in Reading
8th Grade: **12th** in Math **39th** in Reading
- After controlling for student demographics & other factors, TX outperforms other states on the NAEP (*RAND study*)
- But TX students tend to do poorly compared to international peers:
16 countries outperformed TX students in the Class of 2011 in Math (*Paul Peterson et al., Harvard PEPG study*)
30 countries had higher percentages of students than TX performing at the advanced level in Math in the international PISA assessment (*Eric Hanushek et al., Education Next*)

SAT Participation & Performance (2011 graduates)

- Participation rate: **54%**
- **58%** increase in participation among Hispanic students and **43%** increase among African Americans, 2006 to 2011
- Mean scores & rank among states w. high participation rates:
486 Verbal -- **16th of 22**
506 Math -- **11th of 22**
475 Writing -- **18th of 22**
- Hispanic and African American students in TX outscored their national peers on SAT Math

ACT Participation & Performance (2010 graduates)

- Participation rate: **33%**
- Average composite score: **21**
(**13th of 29** states w. high participation rates)
- Average composite scores by subgroup:
African American: **18** Hispanic: **19**
White: **23** Asian: **25**

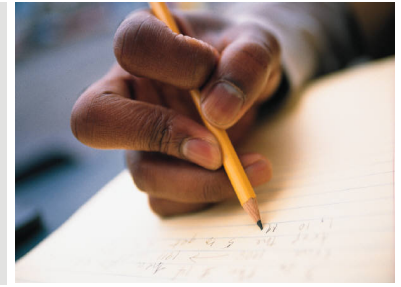
High School Completion & Costs of Dropouts

- **61%** of TX high school students graduate in four years
- **56%** of Hispanic high school students & **53%** of African American students graduate in four years
- TX graduation rate ranks **43rd** nationally
- H.S. dropouts from the Class of 2008 *alone* will cost TX an estimated \$30 billion in lost wages over their lives (*Alliance for Excellent Education*)

Postsecondary Readiness & Outcomes

- **51%** of students entering TX community colleges need remediation; only **30%** complete their remedial courses and just **6%** of them graduate within 3 years (*Complete College America*)
- **23%** of students entering TX four-year colleges need remediation, and just **29%** of them graduate within 6 years
- Just **18%** of students in 7th grade in 1998 had earned a post-secondary award by 2009 (*THECB*)
- TX workers with a bachelor's degree earn **79%** more than high school graduates, who earn **38%** more than high school dropouts (*Census Bureau*)

"By 2020, 60% of jobs are expected to require a college degree or career certificate, but only 31% of TX adults today have an associate's degree or higher -- a gap of 29%."
Complete College America



State Standards

- In a recent survey of state proficiency standards, TX was the only state to receive a positive rating for all five areas of postsecondary readiness: alignment of curriculum standards, graduation requirements, assessments, P-20 data systems, and accountability systems (*Achieve*)
- In the past, TX standards received low grades from national education experts for their lack of rigor
- 2009 grades (*Education Next*):
TX 4th grade Math standard: **D**
TX 4th grade Reading standard: **C-**
TX 8th grade Math standard: **D-**
TX 8th grade Reading standard: **D+**
Overall Grade 2003: **F** Overall Grade 2009: **D**
- TX standards are expected to become more rigorous with implementation of new STAAR assessment system

Staffing

- The quality of the teacher has a much larger effect on students' academic progress than socioeconomic status, race, or class size (*William Sanders, SAS Institute*)
- The difference between having a very effective teacher and an ineffective teacher can be an entire year of learning (*Eric Hanushek, Stanford University*)
- In 2010, Texas public schools had **659,821** staff, including **333,006** teachers (*Texas Education Agency*)
- Approx. **1 of every 3** of new TX teachers has alternative certification (*National Center for Alternative Certification*)
- Average teaching experience: **11 years**
- Average teacher salary: **\$48,263** (\$55,202 nationwide)
- TX ranks **31st** nationally in average teacher salary (*National Education Association*)
- **96%** of teachers are rated "proficient" (*TX Education Agency*)

District Spending

- TX public K-12 schools received approximately **44%** of the state's general revenue in the 2010-11 budget period
- Total district spending on education, 2009: **\$54.7 billion** (*TX Comptroller, FAST study*)
- Average district spending per student, 2008-09: **\$11,567**
- TX ranks **42nd** nationally in per student spending (*Census Bureau*)
- TX public education spending has increased **95%** over the past decade -- five times faster than enrollment (**20%** increase)

For more information:
www.texaseducationreform.org