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**Secondary School
Completion and Dropouts
in Texas Public Schools
2014-15**

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ASSESSMENT AND
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**DIVISION OF
RESEARCH
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**Secondary School
Completion and Dropouts
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2014-15**

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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.

Keywords. Secondary education, high school completion, dropouts, annual dropout rate, longitudinal dropout rate, longitudinal graduation rate, attrition rate, Grades 7-12, Grades 7-8, Grades 9-12.

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Introduction

Overview

Highlights

Overview

This report provides annual dropout rates for students attending Texas public schools in 2014-15; four-year longitudinal graduation and dropout rates for students who were expected to graduate from Texas public schools in 2014-15; 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 General Educational Development (GED) certificates, 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 GED certificates, 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 GED 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

What's New in 2014-15

- In 2015, the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 149, which revised the state's assessment graduation requirements. Under the new requirements, a student who fails an end-of-course assessment for no more than two courses can still receive a Texas high school diploma if he or she is determined to be qualified to graduate by an individual graduation committee (IGC) (Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code §101.3022, 2016, amended to be effective September 6, 2015).
- The report includes diploma program information for students who graduated under the Foundation High School Program (FHSP) for the class of 2015. Additionally, a new diploma program indicator that includes FHSP students is provided.

Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

- In the 2011-12 school year, 370,255 students began Grade 9 in Texas public schools. Over the next three years, 22,688 students who entered the Texas public school system were added to the Grade 9 cohort. Another 48,906 students left the system for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out. By the fall semester following the spring 2015 anticipated graduation date for the cohort, 339,626 students had been assigned one of four final statuses: graduate, continuer, GED certificate recipient, or dropout. Students with final statuses made up the class of 2015. The final statuses for 4,411 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 339,626 students in the class of 2015, 89.0 percent graduated within four years. The four-year graduation rate for the class of 2015 was 0.7 percentage points higher than the rate for the class of 2014. An additional 4.1 percent of students in the class of 2015 continued in high school the fall after their anticipated graduation date, 0.2 percentage points lower than the continuation rate for the class of 2014. The GED certification rate and the dropout rate were 0.6 percent and 6.3 percent, respectively (0.2 and 0.3 percentage points lower, respectively, than the same rates for the class of 2014). The four-year graduation, continuation, or GED certification rate was 93.7 percent, 0.3 percentage points higher than the rate for the class of 2014.
- Of class of 2015 graduates with diploma program information, 84.1 percent graduated under the Recommended or Advanced High School Program or the Foundation High School Program with an endorsement.

**Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates (%),
Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015**

Group	Graduated	Continued	Received GED ^a	Dropped out
African American	85.2	4.8	0.5	9.5
American Indian	86.3	4.2	0.7	8.7
Asian	95.4	2.2	0.2	2.2
Hispanic	86.5	5.3	0.5	7.7
Pacific Islander	88.7	3.9	0.9	6.5
White	93.4	2.4	0.8	3.4
Multiracial	92.1	3.0	0.6	4.3
Economically disadvantaged	85.6	5.0	0.7	8.7
ELL in 9-12 ^b	73.3	11.4	0.3	15.1
Special education	78.2	11.1	0.4	10.4
State	89.0	4.1	0.6	6.3

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Students may be counted in more than one of the following categories: economically disadvantaged, ELL in 9-12, and special education.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bStudents identified as English language learners (ELLs) at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools.

- Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in the class of 2015, the four-year graduation rate was highest among Asian students (95.4%), followed by White (93.4%), multiracial (92.1%), Hispanic (86.5%), and African American (85.2%) students.
- African American students had the highest four-year dropout rate across the five largest racial/ethnic groups (9.5%), followed by Hispanic (7.7%), multiracial (4.3%), White (3.4%) and Asian (2.2%) students.
- The four-year graduation rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged in the class of 2015 was 85.6 percent, 0.4 percentage points higher than the rate for the class of 2014. The four-year dropout rate for economically disadvantaged students was 8.7 percent, 0.3 percentage points lower than the rate for the class of 2014.
- Females in the class of 2015 had a higher four-year graduation rate (91.3%) than males (86.8%) and lower rates of continuation (3.2% vs. 5.0%), GED certification (0.4% vs. 0.8%), and dropping out (5.1% vs. 7.4%). Compared to the previous class, the graduation rate for males in the class of 2015 was 0.5 percentage points higher, and the rate for females was 0.9 percentage points higher.
- For the class of 2015, the four-year graduation rates for students in special education programs (78.2%) and for students identified as English language learners in Grades 9-12 (73.3%) were lower than the state average (89.0%). The continuation rates (11.1% and

11.4%, respectively) and dropout rates (10.4% and 15.1%, respectively) for these two student groups were higher than those for the state (4.1% and 6.3%).

- A total of 21,357 students in the class of 2015 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. For example, 54.7 percent of students who dropped out in the second year had not reached Grade 10, and 58.7 percent who dropped out in the third year had not reached Grade 11.
- Students in the class of 2014 who began Grade 9 in 2010-11 or who later joined the cohort were tracked into the fall semester one year after their anticipated graduation date of spring 2014. By fall 2015, the five-year graduation rate for the class of 2014 was 90.4 percent, 2.1 percentage points higher than the four-year graduation rate of 88.3 percent in fall 2014. The five-year dropout rate was 7.2 percent, 0.6 percentage points higher than the four-year dropout rate of 6.6. The five-year graduation, continuation, or GED certification rate for the class of 2014 was 92.8 percent.

Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates (%), Texas Public Schools, Class of 2014, as of Fall 2015

Group	Graduated	Continued	Received GED ^a	Dropped out
African American	86.8	1.4	0.9	10.9
American Indian	89.3	0.8	1.1	8.9
Asian	95.9	0.8	0.2	3.0
Hispanic	88.3	1.7	1.0	9.1
Pacific Islander	89.6	1.2	1.2	8.1
White	94.3	0.8	1.3	3.6
Multiracial	92.9	1.1	1.0	5.1
Economically disadvantaged	87.8	1.4	1.1	9.6
ELL in 9-12 ^b	76.7	3.9	0.5	18.9
Special education	81.6	6.1	0.6	11.7
State	90.4	1.3	1.0	7.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Students may be counted in more than one of the following categories: economically disadvantaged, ELL in 9-12, and special education.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bStudents identified as English language learners (ELLs) at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools.

- Students in the class of 2013 who began Grade 9 in 2009-10 or who later joined the cohort were tracked into the fall semester two years after their anticipated graduation date of spring 2013. By fall 2015, the six-year graduation rate for the class of 2013 was 90.9 percent, 2.9 percentage points higher than the four-year graduation rate of 88.0 percent in fall 2013. The six-year dropout rate was 7.2 percent, 0.6 percentage points higher than

the four-year dropout rate of 6.6 percent. The six-year graduation, continuation, or GED certification rate for the class of 2013 was 92.8 percent.

Grade 9 Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates (%), Texas Public Schools, Class of 2013, as of Fall 2015

Group	Graduated	Continued	Received GED ^a	Dropped out
African American	87.2	0.6	1.3	10.9
American Indian	87.8	0.7	2.4	9.1
Asian	95.6	0.5	0.3	3.5
Hispanic	88.8	0.7	1.4	9.1
Pacific Islander	91.6	0.2	0.5	7.7
White	94.7	0.4	1.5	3.5
Multiracial	93.7	0.3	1.3	4.6
Economically disadvantaged	88.8	0.6	1.5	9.0
ELL in 9-12 ^b	78.8	1.6	0.7	18.9
Special education	84.0	3.5	0.9	11.6
State	90.9	0.6	1.4	7.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Students may be counted in more than one of the following categories: economically disadvantaged, ELL in 9-12, and special education.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bStudents identified as English language learners (ELLs) at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools.

- For 2014-15, 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 20.3 percent and 10.7 percent, respectively.

Annual Dropout Rates

- Out of 2,284,109 students who attended Grades 7-12 in Texas public schools during the 2014-15 school year, 1.5 percent were reported to have dropped out, a decrease of 0.1 percentage points from the previous year. The number of dropouts in Grades 7-12 decreased to 33,437, a 5.4 percent decrease from the 35,358 students who dropped out in 2013-14.
- In 2014-15, a total of 2,584 students dropped out of Grades 7-8, and 30,853 dropped out of Grades 9-12. The Grade 7-8 and Grade 9-12 dropout rates were 0.3 percent and 2.1 percent, respectively.
- In 2014-15, students who dropped out of Grade 9 accounted for 24.6 percent of all dropouts, the highest proportion of any grade. Across Grades 7-12, the numbers of dropouts ranged from 993 in Grade 7 to 8,229 in Grade 9.

**Annual Dropout Rate (%), Grades 7-8,
Grades 9-12, and Grades 7-12, Texas Public
Schools, 2014-15**

Group	Dropout rate		
	Grades 7-8	Grades 9-12	Grades 7-12
African American	0.5	3.0	2.2
American Indian	0.4	2.8	2.0
Asian	0.2	0.8	0.6
Hispanic	0.4	2.5	1.8
Pacific Islander	0.4	2.1	1.5
White	0.2	1.1	0.8
Multiracial	0.2	1.5	1.1
Economically disadvantaged	0.4	2.5	1.7
ELL ^a	0.6	4.5	2.7
Special education	0.5	2.9	2.0
State	0.3	2.1	1.5

Note. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Students may be counted in more than one of the following categories: economically disadvantaged, ELL, and special education.

^aEnglish language learner.

- Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in 2014-15, the Grade 7-12 dropout rate was highest among African American students (2.2%), followed by Hispanic (1.8%), multiracial (1.1%), White (0.8%), and Asian (0.6%) students.
- The Grade 7-12 dropout rate for males (1.7%) was higher than the rate for females (1.2%) in 2014-15. More males dropped out from Grade 9 (5,078) than from any other grade. By contrast, more females dropped out from Grade 12 (3,693) than from any other grade.
- In 2014-15, the Grade 7-12 dropout rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged was 1.7 percent. Economically disadvantaged students accounted for 71.1 percent of Grade 7-8 dropouts and 65.4 percent of Grade 9-12 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 22.9 percent of the Grade 7-12 population in 2014-15 but 79.2 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, 99.7 percent (2,278,043)

of students in Grades 7-12 in 2014-15 were accounted for in district and charter data submissions or in TEA databases. Only 0.3 percent of students in Grades 7-12 were underreported, a decrease of 0.1 percentage points from the previous year. The number of underreported students (7,834) decreased by 595 from the previous year.

- For the 2014-15 school year, 52 districts or charters 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 1.5 percent. Of these, eight districts or charters had more than 75 underreported students as well as a rate of underreporting greater than 1.5 percent. Forty-one districts or charters had rates of underreporting greater than 1.5 percent and more than 4, but fewer than 75, underreported students. Three districts had more than 75 underreported students but underreported rates of at least 0.7 percent but less than 1.5 percent.
- A total of 490 districts and charters had no underreported students for 2014-15.

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, the advantages and disadvantages of each measure, and factors that can affect 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.

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 (race/ethnicity, economic status, gender), special program participation (special education, bilingual/English as a second language), or other factors (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.

**Table 1
Common Methods of Measuring Student Progress Through School**

	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: $\frac{\text{graduates}}{\text{graduates} + \text{continuers} + \text{GED}^a \text{ recipients} + \text{dropouts}}$	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produces the lowest rate of any method. • May not correspond to the public's understanding of a dropout rate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. In 2003, the Texas Legislature required districts and TEA to adopt the national dropout definition beginning with students who left Texas public schools in 2005-06.	Longitudinal rates are calculated such that the graduation rate, continuation rate, GED certification rate, and dropout rate add to 100 percent. Dropouts are counted according to the dropout definition in place the year they drop out. The national dropout definition, which was adopted in 2005-06, was fully incorporated in the graduation and dropout rates for the class of 2009.	The attrition rate reported by TEA is not adjusted for growth.
2014-15 TEA reporting	Annual dropout rates Grades 7-12: 1.5% Grades 9-12: 2.1% Grades 7-8: 0.3%	Class of 2015 Grade 9 four-year longitudinal rates Graduation: 89.0% Graduation, continuation, or GED: 93.7% Dropout: 6.3% Class of 2014 Grade 9 five-year extended longitudinal rates Graduation: 90.4% Graduation, continuation, or GED: 92.8% Dropout: 7.2% Class of 2013 Grade 9 six-year extended longitudinal rates Graduation: 90.9% Graduation, continuation, or GED: 92.8% Dropout: 7.2%	Unadjusted attrition rates Grades 7-12: 10.7% Grades 9-12: 20.3%

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate.

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 classes of Grade 7 students and classes of Grade 9 students. Although the discussion that follows focuses on rates for Grade 9 students, the principles apply to rates for Grade 7 students, as well. 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 General Educational Development (GED) certificates, 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, GED certificate 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 2011-12 and was expected to graduate in 2014-15 but who graduated in 2013-14 is counted in the graduation rate for the class of 2015. Similarly, students who are retained in grade or who skip grades remain members of the cohorts they first joined.

Attendance data from the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) 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 2011-12 school year make up the 2015 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 2015. Data collected for the 2015-16 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, GED certificate 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 2015. 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 GED certificate, 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, GED certificate 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 2015 four-year rates, a student may have graduated in 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, or 2014-15. Students who graduated in 2014-15 must have graduated by August 31, 2015. The graduation rate is calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the total number of graduates, continuers, GED certificate recipients, and dropouts in the class.

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

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 2015 four-year rates, he or she must have been enrolled in the fall of 2015.

GED certificate recipient. GED tests are given at over 170 centers 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 GED certificate is reported as soon as the test is passed. A student in the class of 2015 is assigned a final status of GED certificate recipient if he or she is not a graduate, is not a continuer, and had received a certificate by August 31, 2015.

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 GED certificate, or leave for one of the 13 non-dropout, non-graduate leaver reasons outlined in Table 4 on page 35.

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. 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 PEIMS.

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 GED certificate 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 GED certificates.

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 2014-15, the formula is as follows.

$$\frac{\text{Grade 9 enrollment in fall 2011} - \text{Grade 12 enrollment in fall 2014}}{\text{Grade 9 enrollment in fall 2011}}$$

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 2014-15, the formula is as follows.

$$\frac{\text{Grade 7 enrollment in fall 2009} - \text{Grade 12 enrollment in fall 2014}}{\text{Grade 7 enrollment in fall 2009}}$$

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 and students who enter the school system after the first year are excluded from the rates. 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 dropout problem.

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 (TEC §39.051, 2004). Districts began collecting data consistent with the NCES definition in the 2005-06 school year. 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 GED 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 2016. See the section "State Accountability System" on page 114 for additional information.

Annual dropout rates. The 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.

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

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

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

Graduation, continuation, or GED certification rates. Four-year, five-year extended, and six-year extended graduation, continuation, or GED certification rates were calculated by dividing the number

of graduates, continuers, and GED certificate recipients by the total number of graduates, continuers, GED certificate recipients, and dropouts in the class.

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

Exclusions. State statute specified the following exceptions for attribution of records to campuses and districts for 2016 state accountability purposes.

- Under TEC §39.053(g-1) (2015), 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 in which the facility is located; or (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.
- Under TEC §39.054(f) (2015), 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.
- Under TEC §39.055 (2015), a student in a Texas Juvenile Justice Department facility served by a Texas public school district is not counted in campus or district rates if the student was in the facility as a result of a court order. Statute was amended in 2013 to exclude, as well, any student in a residential treatment facility served by a Texas public school district. State accountability procedures were modified in 2014 to accommodate this statutory change.

Federal Accountability

Calculations. To meet federal requirements, campuses and districts were evaluated on the percentage of students who graduate in four or five years. See the section "Federal Accountability System" on page 120 for additional information.

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

Exclusions. A student in a Texas Juvenile Justice Department facility or residential treatment facility served by a Texas public school district was 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, 2015b).

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 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.

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 General Educational Development (GED) 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, GED 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.

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 GED 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 districts 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 GED certification rates, for use as indicators in the new accountability system. In 2014, the graduation, continuation, or GED certification rate replaced the graduation or GED certification rate as an indicator in the state accountability system (TEC §39.0545, 2013). Campus and district longitudinal dropout, GED 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 Senate Bill (SB) 1867, requiring an additional group of students be excluded from rates used for state accountability purposes (TEC §39.053(g-2), 2015). Beginning with class of 2016, 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 will be 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, 2015-16, or 2016-17 school year (TEC §28.0258, 2015). Under the new requirements, a student who failed an end-of-course assessment for no more than two 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, 2016, amended to be effective September 6, 2015). 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, 2016, adopted to be effective April 19, 2016; TEC 28.0258(k), 2015).

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 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 GED 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, 2015).

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 non-Hispanic American Indian and Pacific Islander student populations are small in number, compared to other racial/ethnic populations. Similarly, within the overall Hispanic student population, the Asian and Pacific Islander populations are small in number, compared to other racial 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	
<p>A dropout is defined in the Texas Education Code (TEC), Texas Administrative Code, and <i>Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) Data Standards</i> 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.</p>	<p>The Texas Education Agency (TEA) begins collecting individual student-level records for students who drop out of school.</p>
1990-91	
	<p>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.</p>
1992-93	
<p>Students previously counted as dropouts, back to 1990-91, are removed from the dropout count.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
1994-95	
<p>The definition of a dropout is removed from state law and State Board of Education rule.</p> <p>Students who meet all graduation requirements but fail the exit-level test are removed from the dropout count.</p> <p>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.</p>	
1995-96	
<p>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.</p>	
1997-98	
	<p>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.</p>

continues

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	
<p>Sixteen-year-olds enrolled in Job Corps programs leading to high school equivalency certificates are removed from the dropout count.</p> <p>The circumstances under which expelled students are excluded from the dropout count are expanded in statute to cover students expelled for any reason.</p>	Within a district, each dropout is assigned to a campus based on attendance or reported campus of accountability.
2003-04	
<p>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.</p>	<p>Students served outside their districts are attributed to the sending districts.</p> <p>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.</p>
2005-06	
<p>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 GED certificate, continue high school outside the public school system, begin college, or die.</p>	<p>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.</p>
2006-07	
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>A dropout from a TJPC facility is included in the dropout rate for the serving campus if the serving campus is the TJPC facility.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>A dropout from a TYC facility is included in the dropout rate for the serving campus if the serving campus is the TYC facility.</p> <p>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.</p>

continues

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

Dropout definition	Data processing
2007-08	<p>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.</p>
2008-09	<p>Students in the Optional Flexible School Day Program are accounted for in data processing.</p> <p>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.</p>
2009-10	<p>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.</p>
2010-11	<p>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.</p>
2011-12	<p>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.</p>
2012-13	<p>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), 2013; TEC §39.055, 2013). See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on exclusions.</p>

Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

TEA has calculated Grade 9 four-year graduation and dropout rates for the classes of 1996 through 2015 (Table 3). 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 2014, and Grade 9 six-year extended rates for the classes of 2008 through 2013. 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, GED certification rate, and dropout rate add to 100 percent. A student is considered to be a graduate, continuer, GED certificate 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 GED certificates, continued in high school, or dropped out. Students who left for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, 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 (2015) 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 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;
- five-year extended rates were calculated for districts and campuses if they: (a) served Grade 9 and 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	
<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
Class of 2009	
<p>The dropout definition is the NCES definition for students who left in any of the four years of the cohort.</p>	<p>Students in the Optional Flexible School Day Program are accounted for in data processing.</p> <p>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.</p>
Class of 2010	
	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Class of 2011	
	<p>Rates calculated for the class of 2011 reflect the new federal standard that requires separation of categories for ethnicity and categories for race.</p> <p>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 graduation rate calculations used for federal accountability purposes. See the section "Definitions and Calculations for Accountability" on page 10 for more information on exclusions.</p>

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), 2013; TEC §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 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 (Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code §101.3022, 2016, amended to be effective September 6, 2015).

- six-year extended rates were calculated for districts and campuses if they: (a) served Grade 9 and 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.

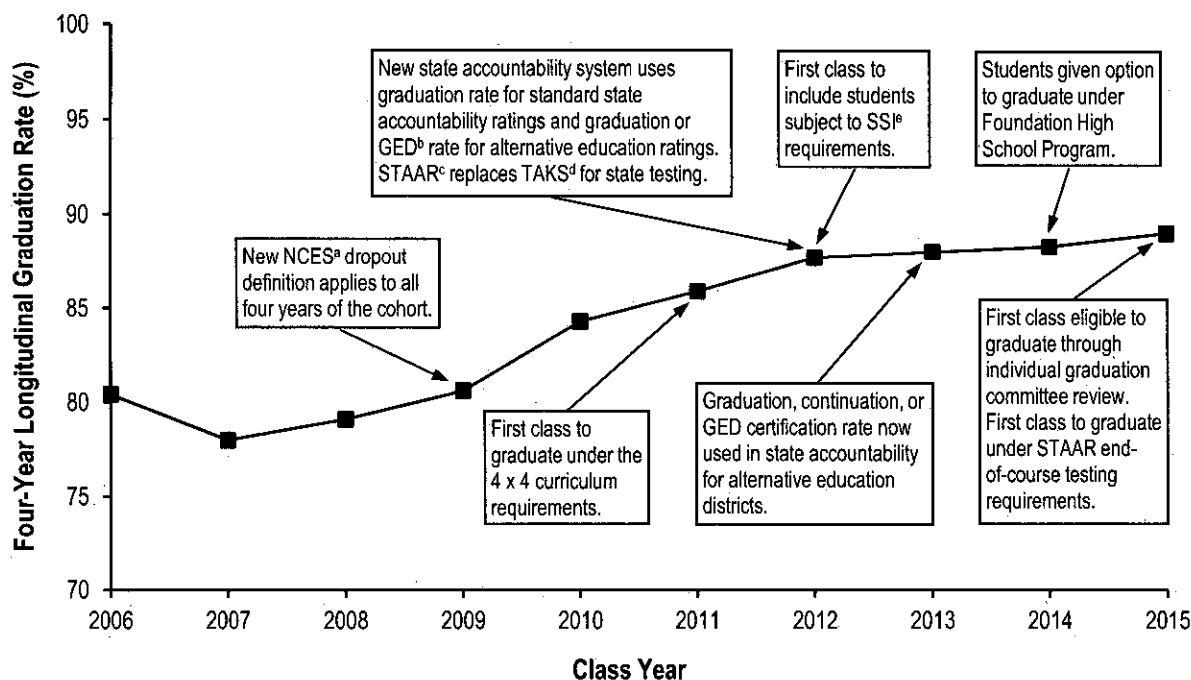
TEA also calculates longitudinal graduation and dropout rates for students who began Grade 7 in Texas public schools. A Grade 7-12 longitudinal dropout rate was calculated for the first time for the class of 1998. The longitudinal graduation and dropout rates for the class of 2015 are based on the tracking of students who began Grade 7 in 2009-10 or who later joined 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 non-Hispanic 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 2006 through 2015 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 2006 Through 2015



Note. The figure illustrates graduation rates and significant education policies implemented between 2006 and 2015. 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.

^aNational Center for Education Statistics. ^bGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^cState of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness. ^dTexas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills. ^eStudent 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 data to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) through the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) since the fall of 1987. The *PEIMS Data Standards* (e.g., TEA, 2015d), published annually by TEA, outlines requirements for submitting data through PEIMS. The *PEIMS Data Standards* provides descriptions of data elements and the values of codes used to report the data elements, record layout specifications, submission timelines, and the responsibilities of districts, education service centers, and TEA with regard to the data submission process. The Texas Student Data System (TSDS) Unique ID system is a new system for managing student identification information that was introduced in 2012-13 as part of the statewide longitudinal data system. 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 TSDS 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 General Educational Development (GED) certificates. Districts must report the statuses of all other Grade 7-12 students. The *PEIMS Data Standards* 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 *PEIMS Data Standards* (Appendix A).

Data Submission

Districts submit enrollment records for students who return and leaver records for students who do not return through PEIMS. The *PEIMS Data Standards* provides detailed reporting requirements, data element definitions, and TEA contact information. Districts use a Web-based application called EDIT+ to submit PEIMS data.

Districts have been provided a number of Web-based tools to assist them in reducing data errors before and during data submission. For example, districts can use PID Enrollment Tracking (PET) to learn whether students who leave the district enroll in other public schools in the state. PET 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 PET to locate students or view enrollment histories.

Districts can also use the Unique ID system, which is synchronized with the EDIT+ PID database, to search for existing students, add new students, or update existing records in the Unique ID database. PET reports will also notify districts when students do not have a Unique ID and must be added to the Unique ID database. Preliminary cohort lists available through TEA Secure Environment (TEASE) 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 TEASE 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 GED databases. Based on the attendance and enrollment records of all districts, the records of Texas graduates for the last several years, and GED certificate 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

GED Certificate Recipients

GED testing centers submit records to TEA of students who receive GED certificates in Texas. TEA searches the records each year to identify students who received GED certificates prior to August 31. School districts are not required to submit leaver records for students with GED certificates.

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.

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.

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 GED certificate 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.

Leaver Reason Codes

School districts can submit 1 of 17 leaver reason codes for each leaver (Table 4). 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; complete GEDs outside Texas; are expelled for offenses under Texas Education Code (TEC) §37.007 (2015) 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

**Table 4
Leaver Reason Codes, Texas Public Schools, 2014-15**

Code	Leaver reason
Graduated or received an out-of-state GED^a	
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 the GED 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
16	Returned to family's home country
88 ^b	Ordered by a court to attend a GED program and has not earned a GED certificate
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 ^c	Other (reason unknown or not listed above)

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bSchool leavers with this leaver reason code are counted as dropouts for federal accountability purposes; they are not counted as dropouts for state accountability purposes at the campus and district levels. ^cSchool leavers with this leaver reason code are counted as dropouts for state and federal accountability purposes.

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. Three codes are for dropouts: students ordered by court to attend GED programs who have not earned GED certificates; 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.

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 GED certificate recipients. There are seven state leaver statuses: graduate, previous graduate, not a leaver, other leaver, GED certificate 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.

GED certificate recipient. A status of "GED certificate recipient" indicates that: (a) the preceding four statuses do not apply; and (b) the student received a GED certificate by August 31, 2015. 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 GED certificate 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.

GED certificate recipient. A status of "GED certificate recipient" indicates that: (a) the preceding five statuses do not apply; and (b) the student received a GED certificate by August 31, 2015. 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

Student Information

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 the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB, 2015), Title X, Part C, Section 725(2), the term "homeless children and youths," 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, or foster group home.

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 language learner. A student is classified as an English language learner (ELL) 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 ELLs receive bilingual or English as a second language instruction. With annual dropout rates, students were identified as ELLs in the 2014-15 school year. With longitudinal graduation and dropout rates, students were identified as ELLs: (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.

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 is aged 3 through 21 and is a migratory agricultural worker (or whose parent, spouse, or guardian is a migratory agricultural worker) and who, in the preceding 36 months, to obtain temporary employment in agriculture or fishing, or to accompany a parent, spouse, or guardian to obtain such employment: (a) has moved from one school district to another; or (b) 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 in order to engage in a fishing activity.

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 new 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, 2015c).

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 new 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 Hispanics. 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 new 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 new 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 individual new 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 Information

Bilingual or English as a second language. Bilingual indicates that the student is participating in a state-approved bilingual education program. The program must be a full-time program that provides dual-language instruction through the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills in the content areas (mathematics, science, health, and social studies) in the primary language of ELLs. In addition, the program must provide for a carefully structured and sequenced mastery of English cognitive academic language development. English as a second language (ESL) indicates that a student is participating in a state-approved ESL program. An ESL program in Grade 8 and below is a program of intensive instruction in English from teachers either certified or endorsed in ESL who use second language acquisition information to teach ELLs the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS). An ESL program in Grades 9-12 is a program of intensive instruction in English from teachers trained in recognizing and dealing with language differences who use secondary language acquisition information to teach ELLs the ELPS.

Career and technical education. A student may be enrolled in a state-approved career and technical education (CTE) program either as a participant in the district's career and technical coherent sequence of courses or as a participant in the district's tech prep program. In this report, students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded from CTE rates.

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.

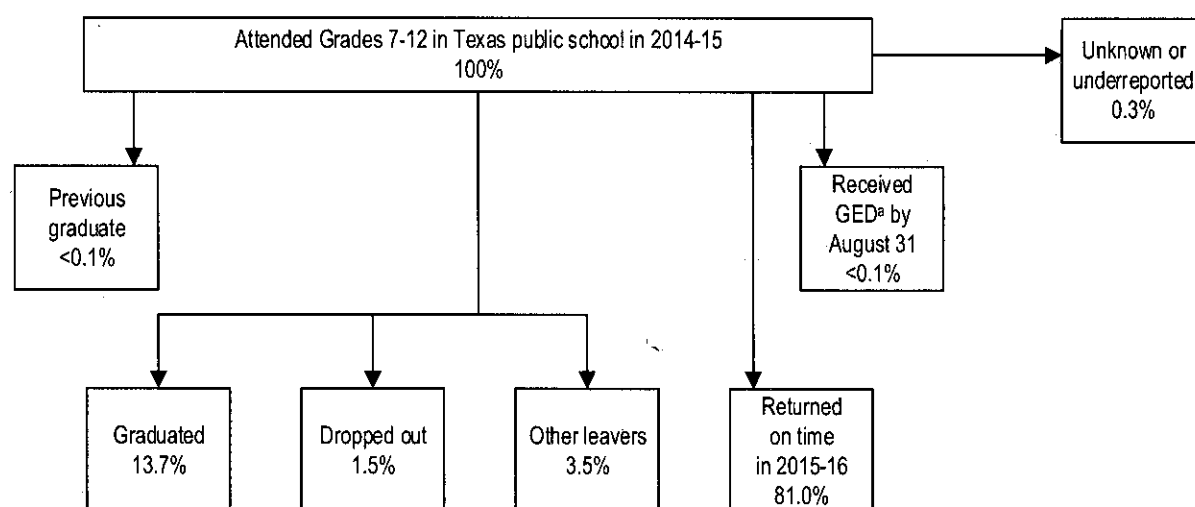
Title I. A Title I student is one participating in a program authorized under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which is designed to improve the academic achievement of disadvantaged students.

District Results for Leaver Processing

District Summary

Of the students in Grades 7-12 in the 2014-15 school year, 81.0 percent returned to Texas public schools the next fall on time, that is, by the last Friday in September (Figure 2). Another 13.7 percent graduated, 1.5 percent dropped out, and 3.5 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 GED certificates by August 31, 2015. The remaining 0.3 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, 2014-15



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

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate.

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 (73.5%) of leaver records submitted by districts in fall 2015 were for students who graduated from Texas public schools (Table 5 on page 44). An additional 7.8 percent were for

Table 5
District Leavers, Grades 7-12, by Leaver Reason, Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Code	Leaver reason	Other leavers		All leavers	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Graduated or received an out-of-state GED^a					
01	Graduated from a campus in this district or charter	n/a ^b	n/a	313,397	73.5
85	Graduated outside Texas before entering a Texas public school, entered a Texas public school, and left again	51	0.1	51	<0.1
86	Completed the GED outside Texas	40	0.1	40	<0.1
90	Graduated from another state under provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children	28	<0.1	28	<0.1
Moved to other educational setting					
24	Entered college and is working towards an Associate's or Bachelor's degree	319	0.4	319	0.1
60	Is home schooled	21,120	26.5	21,120	5.0
66	Removed by Child Protective Services (CPS), and the district has not been informed of the student's current status or enrollment	164	0.2	164	<0.1
81	Enrolled in a private school in Texas	8,809	11.0	8,809	2.1
82	Enrolled in a public or private school outside Texas	35,283	44.2	35,283	8.3
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	252	0.3	252	0.1
Withdrawn by district					
78	Expelled under the provisions of Texas Education Code (TEC) §37.007 and cannot return to school	116	0.2	116	<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	397	0.5	397	0.1
Other reasons					
03	Died while enrolled in school or during the summer break after completing the prior school year	636	0.8	636	0.2
16	Returned to family's home country	12,631	15.8	12,631	3.0
88 ^c	Ordered by a court to attend a GED program and has not earned a GED certificate	n/a	n/a	1,441	0.3
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	458	0.1
98 ^d	Other (reason unknown or not listed above)	n/a	n/a	31,565	7.4
All leaver reasons		79,846	100	426,707	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.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bNot applicable. Graduates (Code 01) and dropouts (Codes 88, 89, and 98) are not counted as other leavers. ^cSchool leavers with this leaver reason code are counted as dropouts for federal accountability purposes; they are not counted as dropouts for state accountability purposes at the campus and district levels. ^dSchool leavers with this leaver reason code are counted as dropouts for state and federal accountability purposes.

students who dropped out, and 18.7 percent were for students who left Texas public schools for reasons other than graduating or dropping out.

Among the 79,846 other leavers, or students who left Texas public schools for reasons other than graduating or dropping out, 44.2 percent left to enroll in school outside Texas. An additional 26.5 percent withdrew to begin home schooling, 15.8 percent withdrew to return to their home countries, and 11.0 percent withdrew to enroll in Texas private schools. The leaver records do not include students who received GED certificates in Texas or previous Texas public school graduates.

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 interventions and sanctions. For 2014-15 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 1.5 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

Although TEA uses the Texas Student Data System (TSDS) to store and manage identifying information on students, data are reported to the agency through the PEIMS EDIT+ system, which assigns a student identification number to each record using the Person Identification Database (PID). TEA uses the PID to process data used in the calculation of annual dropout and high school completion rates. The database enables records for a student to be linked by matching four items: the student's social security number or alternative identification number, last name, first name, and date of birth. When a new student record matches an existing record on some, but not all, of the four items, a student identification error occurs. For example, an error occurs if the social security number on a new record matches the number on an existing record, but the last names on the two records do not match.

The student identification error rate is calculated as the number of student records with errors divided by the total number of student records received. Although the overall student identification error rate for the state has declined since student enrollment data were first collected in 1990-91, student identification errors continue to complicate efforts to link data across two or more data submissions. Greater reliance is being placed on desk audits of district leaver data submissions.

Because audits require that student data be linked across years, the accuracy of student identification information is critical. Moreover, inaccuracies in student identification information can cause students for whom records have been submitted to appear on district lists of underreported students.

A student identification error rate policy was introduced for data submitted in 2000-01. The policy requires that the student identification information provided to TEA as part of each district's PEIMS data submissions meet a standard for accuracy. The student identification error rate standard has become more rigorous over time. For 2014-15, the thresholds for student identification errors were: more than 10 student records with student identification errors or an error rate higher than 1.0 percent.

In the 2012-13 school year, TEA began implementing a Unique ID database through the TSDS that synchronizes with the PID database. 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 student, or update existing records in the Unique ID database. These features allow districts to correct errors before submitting data to TEA; however until the agency transitions fully from the EDIT+ PID system to the TSDS Unique ID system for district data submission, student identification errors are expected to continue to occur.

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 has been integrated into a data validation component of the Performance-Based Monitoring (PBM) system under which districts with leaver data reporting anomalies are subject to graduated interventions (Table 6 on page 48). Emphasis is on a continuous improvement process in which districts undertake activities that promote improved data reporting and TEA monitors their progress. Nevertheless, interventions can lead to corrective actions or sanctions.

Interventions include requirements to conduct analyses focused 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 identified issues in a continuous improvement plan. 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 on-site review may be conducted.

Interventions for data validation monitoring were implemented in 2005-06, a pilot year for the data validation component of PBM, using leaver data from 2002-03 and 2003-04. In 2006-07, data validation monitoring using 2004-05 leaver data identified 58 districts and charters for Stage 1 interventions and 45 districts and charters for Stage 2 interventions.

Table 6
Criteria for Investigation of Leaver Data, 2013-14

Indicator	Description
Use of one or more leaver codes	A potentially anomalous percentage of one or more leaver codes in 2013-14 (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 2013-14 dropouts reported is zero, and a potentially anomalous percentage of certain leaver reason codes (codes 16, 24, 60, 81, and 82) for 2013-14 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 2011-12 to 2013-14 and from 2012-13 to 2013-14 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 2013-14 exceeded 100, or the underreported student rate for 2013-14 exceeded 1.7 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 2013-14 dropouts with dropout codes 88 and 89 in relation to the number of 2013-14 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 2013 Grade 9 cohort dropout rate for students who continued in school after the expected graduation date equaled 35.0 percent or higher. A minimum of 30 continuing students and a minimum of 5 dropouts are required for evaluation on this indicator.
Missing PET ^a submission (August 17, 2015 through September 18, 2015)	This indicator identifies districts that did not complete at least one PET submission between August 17, 2015, and September 18, 2015.
Missing PET submission (2014-15 reporting year)	This indicator identifies districts that did not complete at least one PET submission during the 2014-15 school year.

^aPerson Identification Database (PID) Enrollment Tracking.

In 2007-08, data validation monitoring using 2005-06 leaver data identified 68 districts and charters for Stage 1 interventions, 29 districts and charters for Stage 2 interventions, 58 districts and 9 districts and charters for Stage 4 interventions.

In 2008-09, data validation monitoring using 2006-07 leaver data identified 38 districts and charters for Stage 1 interventions, 57 districts and charters for Stage 2 interventions, 64 districts and charters for Stage 3 interventions, and 13 districts and charters for Stage 4 interventions.

In 2009-10, data validation monitoring using 2007-08 leaver data identified 60 districts and charters for Stage 1 interventions, 106 districts and charters for Stage 2 interventions, 87 districts and charters for Stage 3 interventions, and 13 districts and charters for Stage 4 interventions.

In 2010-11, data validation monitoring using 2008-09 leaver data identified 94 districts and charters for Stage 1 interventions, 62 districts and charters for Stage 2 interventions, 54 districts and charters for Stage 3 interventions, and 11 districts and charters for Stage 4 interventions.

In 2011-12, data validation monitoring using 2009-10 leaver data identified 144 districts and charters for Stage 1 interventions, 48 districts and charters for Stage 2 interventions, 18 districts and charters for Stage 3 interventions, and 15 districts and charters for Stage 4 interventions.

In 2012-13, data validation monitoring using 2010-11 leaver data identified 64 districts and charters for Stage 1 interventions, 105 districts and charters for Stage 2 interventions, 49 districts and charters for Stage 3 interventions, and 22 districts and charters for Stage 4 interventions.

In 2013-14, data validation monitoring using 2011-12 leaver data identified 53 districts and charters for Stage 1 interventions, 99 districts and charters for Stage 2 interventions, 80 districts and charters for Stage 3 interventions, and 22 districts and charters for Stage 4 interventions.

In 2014-15, data validation monitoring using 2012-13 leaver data identified 115 districts and charters for Stage 1 interventions, 95 districts and charters for Stage 2 interventions, and 19 districts and charters for Stage 3 interventions.

In 2015-16, data validation monitoring using 2013-14 leaver data identified 149 districts and charters for Stage 1 interventions, 71 districts and charters for Stage 2 interventions, and 26 districts and charters for Stage 3 interventions.

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 39 for additional information.

Comparisons of rates by race/ethnicity. The non-Hispanic American Indian and Pacific Islander student populations are small in number, compared to other racial/ethnic populations. Similarly, within the overall Hispanic student population, the Asian and Pacific Islander populations are small in number, compared to other racial 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 20 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, special education, Title I) and student characteristics (at-risk, English language learner, immigrant, migrant, overage). See the section "Reporting of Student and Program Information" on page 39 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 (PEIMS) data sources 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 2014-15 school year, the statewide annual dropout rate for Grades 7-8 was 0.3 percent (Table 7). The Grade 7-8 dropout rate was lower than the 2.1 percent annual dropout rate for Grades 9-12 (Table 10 on page 56). There were 2,584 students who dropped out of Grades 7-8, and of these, 61.6 percent (or 1,591) dropped out of Grade 8 (Table 18 on page 64). 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 2014-15, the Grade 7-8 dropout rate was highest among African American students (0.5%), followed by Hispanic (0.4%), and Asian, White, and multiracial students (0.2% each). The dropout rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged was 0.4 percent. Female and male students had the same dropout rate (0.3%).

Table 7
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2010-11 Through 2014-15

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
African American					
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					
2010-11	<3,625	0.5	- ^a	-	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					
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					
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					
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					
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

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for school years prior to 2010-11 are found in Appendix C.

^aA dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity.

continues

Table 7 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2010-11 Through 2014-15

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Multiracial					
2010-11	11,338	1.6	21	1.4	0.2
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					
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
Female					
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
Male					
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					
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. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for school years prior to 2010-11 are found in Appendix C.

*A dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity.

Rates by program participation and student characteristic. In 2014-15, the annual dropout rate for Grade 7-8 students participating in special education programs (0.5%) was higher than the state average (0.3%) (Table 8). Students identified as English language learners made up 20.1 percent of all Grade 7-8 dropouts and had a higher dropout rate (0.6%) than the state average (Table 9). Overage students made up a majority (53.1%) of Grade 7-8 dropouts and had a dropout rate of 0.9 percent.

Table 8
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Program Participation, Texas
Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Bilingual or ESL ^a	81,640	10.3	315	12.2	0.4
Gifted and talented	78,485	9.9	45	1.7	0.1
Special education	76,226	9.7	362	14.0	0.5
Title I	482,545	61.2	2,040	78.9	0.4
State	788,815	100	2,584	100	0.3

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

^aEnglish as a second language.

Table 9
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Student Characteristic, Texas
Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
At-risk	349,455	44.3	1,125	43.5	0.3
English language learner	94,305	12.0	519	20.1	0.6
Immigrant	10,715	1.4	78	3.0	0.7
Migrant	5,419	0.7	24	0.9	0.4
Overage	155,170	19.7	1,373	53.1	0.9
State	788,815	100	2,584	100	0.3

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

Grade 9-12 Annual Rate

State summary. For the 2014-15 school year, the statewide annual dropout rate for Grades 9-12 was 2.1 percent, a decrease of 0.1 percentage points from the previous school year (Table 10 on page 56). The Grade 9-12 dropout rate was higher than the Grade 7-8 rate of 0.3 percent (Table 7 on page 53) and the Grade 7-12 rate of 1.5 percent (Table 13 on page 59). There were 30,853 students who dropped out of Grades 9-12 in the 2014-15 school year, 1.7 percent fewer than in 2013-14 (Table 10 on page 56). 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 2014-15, the Grade 9-12 dropout rate was highest among African American students (3.0%), followed by Hispanic (2.5%), multiracial (1.5%), White (1.1%), and Asian (0.8%) students. The dropout rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged was 2.5 percent. Male students had a higher dropout rate (2.4%) than female students (1.7%).

Table 10
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2010-11 Through 2014-15

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
African American					
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					
2010-11	<7,190	0.5	— ^a	—	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					
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					
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					
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					
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

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for school years prior to 2010-11 are found in Appendix C.

^aA dash (—) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity.

continues

Table 10 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2010-11 Through 2014-15

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Multiracial					
2010-11	21,130	1.5	266	0.8	1.3
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					
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
Female					
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
Male					
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					
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. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for school years prior to 2010-11 are found in Appendix C.

*A dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity.

Rates by program participation and student characteristic. Among Grade 9-12 students participating in special education programs in 2014-15, the dropout rate was 2.9 percent, 0.8 percentage points higher than the state average of 2.1 percent (Table 11 on page 58). Students identified as English language learners had a dropout rate of 4.5 percent, more than double the state average (Table 12 on page 58). Overage students made up a majority (81.3%) of Grade 9-12 dropouts and had a dropout rate of 6.8 percent.

Table 11
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Program Participation, Texas
Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Bilingual or ESL ^a	93,146	6.2	3,475	11.3	3.7
CTE ^b	564,670	37.8	5,804	18.8	1.0
Gifted and talented	135,601	9.1	239	0.8	0.2
Special education	133,240	8.9	3,845	12.5	2.9
Title I	665,852	44.5	18,173	58.9	2.7
State	1,495,294	100	30,853	100	2.1

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

^aEnglish as a second language ^bCareer and technical education. Data reflect students participating in CTE programs; students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded.

Table 12
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Student Characteristic, Texas
Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
At-risk	670,495	44.8	17,072	55.3	2.5
English language learner	111,538	7.5	5,040	16.3	4.5
Immigrant	23,174	1.5	914	3.0	3.9
Migrant	10,569	0.7	377	1.2	3.6
Overage	368,024	24.6	25,096	81.3	6.8
State	1,495,294	100	30,853	100	2.1

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

Grade 7-12 Annual Rate

State summary. Out of 2,284,109 students who attended Grades 7-12 in Texas public schools during the 2014-15 school year, 1.5 percent were reported to have dropped out, a decrease of 0.1 percentage points from the previous school year (Table 13). The number of dropouts in Grades 7-12 decreased to 33,437, a 5.4 percent decrease from the 35,358 students who dropped out in 2013-14. 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 2014-15, the Grade 7-12 dropout rate was highest among African American students (2.2%), followed by Hispanic (1.8%), multiracial (1.1%), White (0.8%), and Asian (0.6%) students. The dropout rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged was 1.7 percent. Male students had a higher dropout rate (1.7%) than female students (1.2%).

Table 13
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2010-11 Through 2014-15

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
African American					
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					
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					
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					
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					
2010-11	<2,755	0.1	–	–	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					
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

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for school years prior to 2010-11 are found in Appendix C.

^aA dash (–) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity.

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Table 13 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2010-11 Through 2014-15

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Multiracial					
2010-11	32,468	1.5	287	0.8	0.9
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					
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
Female					
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
Male					
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					
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. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for school years prior to 2010-11 are found in Appendix C.

*A dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity.

Some racial/ethnic groups make up larger percentages of the dropout population than of the student population. In 2014-15, for example, Hispanic students made up 50.2 percent of students in Grades 7-12, but 60.4 percent of dropouts, a difference of 10.2 percentage points (Table 13). African American students made up 12.8 percent of students in Grades 7-12 in 2014-15, but 19.0 percent of dropouts, a difference of 6.2 percentage points.

Similar patterns were seen for students identified as economically disadvantaged and for males. Students identified as economically disadvantaged made up 55.1 percent of students in Grades 7-12 in 2014-15, but 65.8 percent of dropouts, a difference of 10.7 percentage points. Males made up 51.3 percent of students in Grades 7-12, but 58.4 percent of dropouts, a difference of 7.1 percentage points.

Rates by program participation and student characteristic. In Grades 7-12, students participating in special education programs had a dropout rate of 2.0 percent, and students identified as English language learners had a dropout rate of 2.7 percent, both higher than the state average of 1.5 percent (Tables 14 and 15). Overage students had a dropout rate of 5.1 percent. Whereas overage students accounted for 22.9 percent of students in Grades 7-12, they accounted for 79.2 percent of dropouts.

Table 14
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Program Participation, Texas
Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Bilingual or ESL ^a	174,786	7.7	3,790	11.3	2.2
CTE ^b	564,670	24.7	5,804	17.4	1.0
Gifted and talented	214,086	9.4	284	0.8	0.1
Special education	209,466	9.2	4,207	12.6	2.0
Title I	1,148,397	50.3	20,213	60.5	1.8
State	2,284,109	100	33,437	100	1.5

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

^aEnglish as a second language. ^bCareer and technical education. Data reflect students participating in CTE programs; students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded.

Table 15
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Student Characteristic, Texas
Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
At-risk	1,019,950	44.7	18,197	54.4	1.8
English language learner	205,843	9.0	5,559	16.6	2.7
Immigrant	33,889	1.5	992	3.0	2.9
Migrant	15,988	0.7	401	1.2	2.5
Overage	523,194	22.9	26,469	79.2	5.1
State	2,284,109	100	33,437	100	1.5

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). For example, 17-year-old students accounted for 29.4 percent of dropouts, but 14.8 percent of students in Grades 7-12. Eighteen-year-old students accounted for 18.0 percent of dropouts, but 3.2 percent of students in Grades 7-12.

Table 16
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Student Age, Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

September 1 age	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
11	5,880	0.3	22	0.1	0.4
12	317,765	13.9	504	1.5	0.2
13	384,656	16.8	1,002	3.0	0.3
14	391,246	17.1	1,513	4.5	0.4
15	382,509	16.7	3,069	9.2	0.8
16	370,699	16.2	7,172	21.4	1.9
17	338,108	14.8	9,844	29.4	2.9
18	72,872	3.2	6,026	18.0	8.3
19	12,063	0.5	2,423	7.2	20.1
20	4,246	0.2	902	2.7	21.2
21	2,257	0.1	304	0.9	13.5
22	515	<0.1	181	0.5	35.1
23	378	<0.1	134	0.4	35.4
24	320	<0.1	109	0.3	34.1
25	207	<0.1	104	0.3	50.2
Other	388	<0.1	128	0.4	33.0
State	2,284,109	100	33,437	100	1.5

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

Annual Dropout Rates by Grade

In 2014-15, students who dropped out of Grade 9 accounted for 24.6 percent of all dropouts, the highest proportion of any grade (Table 17). Grade 7 had the lowest dropout rate (0.3%) and the smallest number of dropouts (993). Grade 12 had the highest dropout rate (2.4%), and Grade 9 had the largest number of dropouts (8,229).

There were more male than female dropouts in each of Grades 7-12 (Table 17). Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in Grades 7-12, African American students in Grade 12 had the highest annual dropout rate (3.4%), followed by African American students in Grade 11 (3.2%), and Hispanic students in Grade 12 (3.0%) (Table 18 on page 64). Asian, White, and multiracial students in Grade 7 and Asian and White students in Grade 8 had the lowest annual dropout rates (0.2% each).

Table 17
Annual Dropout Rate, by Grade and Gender, Texas Public Schools,
2014-15

Grade	Students	Dropouts					
		Female		Male		State	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Grade 7	391,394	435	0.2	558	0.3	993	0.3
Grade 8	397,421	784	0.4	807	0.4	1,591	0.4
Grade 9	430,349	3,151	1.5	5,078	2.3	8,229	1.9
Grade 10	382,621	2,867	1.5	4,412	2.3	7,279	1.9
Grade 11	342,461	2,980	1.8	4,210	2.4	7,190	2.1
Grade 12	339,863	3,693	2.2	4,462	2.6	8,155	2.4
Grades 7-12	2,284,109	13,910	1.2	19,527	1.7	33,437	1.5

Table 18
Annual Dropout Rate, by Grade, Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
English Language Learner Status, and Special Education Program
Participation, Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Grade 7					
African American	49,437	12.6	223	22.5	0.5
American Indian	<1,500	0.4	— ^a	—	0.3
Asian	15,357	3.9	27	2.7	0.2
Hispanic	200,990	51.4	533	53.7	0.3
Pacific Islander	<550	0.1	—	—	0.6
White	116,364	29.7	190	19.1	0.2
Multiracial	7,260	1.9	13	1.3	0.2
Economically disadvantaged	232,611	59.4	688	69.3	0.3
English language learner	50,322	12.9	210	21.1	0.4
Special education	38,672	9.9	149	15.0	0.4
State	391,394	100	993	100	0.3
Grade 8					
African American	50,224	12.6	314	19.7	0.6
American Indian	<1,550	0.4	—	—	0.6
Asian	15,392	3.9	27	1.7	0.2
Hispanic	204,136	51.4	940	59.1	0.5
Pacific Islander	<600	0.1	—	—	0.2
White	118,449	29.8	278	17.5	0.2
Multiracial	7,150	1.8	22	1.4	0.3
Economically disadvantaged	232,755	58.6	1,150	72.3	0.5
English language learner	43,983	11.1	309	19.4	0.7
Special education	37,554	9.4	213	13.4	0.6
State	397,421	100	1,591	100	0.4
Grade 9					
African American	56,225	13.1	1,515	18.4	2.7
American Indian	1,752	0.4	40	0.5	2.3
Asian	15,800	3.7	71	0.9	0.4
Hispanic	222,111	51.6	5,366	65.2	2.4
Pacific Islander	577	0.1	8	0.1	1.4
White	126,410	29.4	1,132	13.8	0.9
Multiracial	7,474	1.7	97	1.2	1.3

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aA dash (—) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity.

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Table 18 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, by Grade, Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
English Language Learner Status, and Special Education Program
Participation, Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Economically disadvantaged	246,219	57.2	5,836	70.9	2.4
English language learner	43,744	10.2	1,637	19.9	3.7
Special education	39,254	9.1	1,148	14.0	2.9
State	430,349	100	8,229	100	1.9
Grade 10					
African American	49,585	13.0	1,393	19.1	2.8
American Indian	1,594	0.4	43	0.6	2.7
Asian	14,334	3.7	72	1.0	0.5
Hispanic	190,687	49.8	4,375	60.1	2.3
Pacific Islander	565	0.1	11	0.2	1.9
White	119,032	31.1	1,292	17.7	1.1
Multiracial	6,824	1.8	93	1.3	1.4
Economically disadvantaged	205,610	53.7	4,942	67.9	2.4
English language learner	28,549	7.5	1,032	14.2	3.6
Special education	32,738	8.6	1,099	15.1	3.4
State	382,621	100	7,279	100	1.9
Grade 11					
African American	44,063	12.9	1,407	19.6	3.2
American Indian	1,462	0.4	41	0.6	2.8
Asian	13,975	4.1	82	1.1	0.6
Hispanic	165,743	48.4	4,038	56.2	2.4
Pacific Islander	481	0.1	11	0.2	2.3
White	110,664	32.3	1,493	20.8	1.3
Multiracial	6,073	1.8	118	1.6	1.9
Economically disadvantaged	173,873	50.8	4,684	65.1	2.7
English language learner	20,784	6.1	829	11.5	4.0
Special education	28,000	8.2	949	13.2	3.4
State	342,461	100	7,190	100	2.1
Grade 12					
African American	43,901	12.9	1,513	18.6	3.4
American Indian	1,471	0.4	50	0.6	3.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

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Table 18 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, by Grade, Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
English Language Learner Status, and Special Education Program
Participation, Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Asian	13,830	4.1	232	2.8	1.7
Hispanic	163,965	48.2	4,945	60.6	3.0
Pacific Islander	533	0.2	15	0.2	2.8
White	110,324	32.5	1,311	16.1	1.2
Multiracial	5,839	1.7	89	1.1	1.5
Economically disadvantaged	167,759	49.4	4,715	57.8	2.8
English language learner	18,461	5.4	1,542	18.9	8.4
Special education	33,248	9.8	649	8.0	2.0
State	339,863	100	8,155	100	2.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

*A dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity.

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 one exception: Hispanic females in Grade 8 (Table 19). Across grades and racial/ethnic groups, the difference in dropout rates by gender was greatest among African American students in Grade 10, at 1.4 percentage points.

The annual dropout rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged generally increased from one grade level to the next between Grades 7 and 12, with the highest rate occurring in Grade 12, at 2.8% (Table 18). The largest number of students identified as English language learners (ELLs) dropped out in Grade 9 (1,637), whereas the dropout rate for ELLs was highest in Grade 12 (8.4%). Annual dropout rates for students participating in special education programs were highest in Grades 10 and 11 (3.4% each).

Annual Dropout Rates for Hispanic Students by Race

Of the 1,147,632 students in Grades 7-12 who identified their ethnicity as Hispanic in the 2014-15 school year, 819,893 (71.4%) identified White as their race, and 271,809 (23.7%) identified American Indian (Table 20 on page 69). Across the four largest racial groups, the dropout rate was highest for African American students (2.0%). Of the 31,692 multiracial Hispanic students, 22,211 (70.1%) identified as White and American Indian. The dropout rate for this group was 1.4 percent.

Table 19
Annual Dropout Rate, by Grade and Gender Within Racial/Ethnic Groups, Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students				Dropouts				Annual dropout rate (%)	
	Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	Male
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Grade 7										
African American	23,979	12.6	25,458	12.7	86	19.8	137	24.6	0.4	0.5
American Indian	<750	0.4	<750	0.4	- ^a	-	-	-	0.3	0.3
Asian	7,517	3.9	7,840	3.9	15	3.4	12	2.2	0.2	0.2
Hispanic	97,924	51.5	103,066	51.3	247	56.8	286	51.3	0.3	0.3
Pacific Islander	<300	0.1	<300	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.8	0.4
White	56,329	29.6	60,035	29.9	76	17.5	114	20.4	0.1	0.2
Multiracial	3,568	1.9	3,692	1.8	7	1.6	6	1.1	0.2	0.2
State	190,305	100	201,089	100	435	100	558	100	0.2	0.3
Grade 8										
African American	24,499	12.6	25,725	12.6	158	20.2	156	19.3	0.6	0.6
American Indian	<750	0.4	<800	0.4	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.6
Asian	7,501	3.9	7,891	3.9	10	1.3	17	2.1	0.1	0.2
Hispanic	99,828	51.5	104,308	51.2	471	60.1	469	58.1	0.5	0.4
Pacific Islander	275	0.1	<300	0.1	0	0.0	-	-	0.0	0.4
White	57,349	29.6	61,100	30.0	132	16.8	146	18.1	0.2	0.2
Multiracial	<3,600	1.8	<3,600	1.8	-	-	-	-	0.3	0.4
State	193,751	100	203,670	100	784	100	807	100	0.4	0.4
Grade 9										
African American	26,611	12.9	29,614	13.2	588	18.7	927	18.3	2.2	3.1
American Indian	<800	0.4	<1,000	0.4	-	-	-	-	2.7	2.0
Asian	7,708	3.8	8,092	3.6	27	0.9	44	0.9	0.4	0.5
Hispanic	105,880	51.5	116,231	51.7	2,013	63.9	3,353	66.0	1.9	2.9
Pacific Islander	<300	0.1	<350	0.1	-	-	-	-	2.2	0.6
White	60,550	29.5	65,860	29.3	454	14.4	678	13.4	0.7	1.0
Multiracial	3,716	1.8	3,758	1.7	42	1.3	55	1.1	1.1	1.5
State	205,511	100	224,838	100	3,151	100	5,078	100	1.5	2.3
Grade 10										
African American	24,160	12.9	25,425	13.0	514	17.9	879	19.9	2.1	3.5
American Indian	<800	0.4	<850	0.4	-	-	-	-	2.6	2.8
Asian	6,967	3.7	7,367	3.8	30	1.0	42	1.0	0.4	0.6
Hispanic	93,050	49.8	97,637	49.8	1,727	60.2	2,648	60.0	1.9	2.7
Pacific Islander	<300	0.1	<350	0.2	-	-	-	-	2.8	1.3

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aA dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity.

continues

Table 19 (continued)

Annual Dropout Rate, by Grade and Gender Within Racial/Ethnic Groups, Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students				Dropouts				Annual dropout rate (%)	
	Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	Male
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
White	58,121	31.1	60,911	31.1	526	18.3	766	17.4	0.9	1.3
Multiracial	3,444	1.8	3,380	1.7	43	1.5	50	1.1	1.2	1.5
State	186,759	100	195,862	100	2,867	100	4,412	100	1.5	2.3
Grade 11										
African American	21,677	12.9	22,386	12.9	554	18.6	853	20.3	2.6	3.8
American Indian	<750	0.4	<750	0.4	- ^a	-	-	-	2.5	3.1
Asian	6,777	4.0	7,198	4.1	31	1.0	51	1.2	0.5	0.7
Hispanic	81,884	48.6	83,859	48.2	1,676	56.2	2,362	56.1	2.0	2.8
Pacific Islander	<250	0.1	<300	0.2	-	-	-	-	1.8	2.7
White	54,063	32.1	56,601	32.5	638	21.4	855	20.3	1.2	1.5
Multiracial	3,121	1.9	2,952	1.7	59	2.0	59	1.4	1.9	2.0
State	168,461	100	174,000	100	2,980	100	4,210	100	1.8	2.4
Grade 12										
African American	21,793	12.9	22,108	12.9	655	17.7	858	19.2	3.0	3.9
American Indian	<750	0.4	<800	0.4	-	-	-	-	3.2	3.6
Asian	6,820	4.0	7,010	4.1	109	3.0	123	2.8	1.6	1.8
Hispanic	81,958	48.7	82,007	47.8	2,281	61.8	2,664	59.7	2.8	3.2
Pacific Islander	<300	0.2	<300	0.2	-	-	-	-	4.1	1.5
White	53,851	32.0	56,473	32.9	576	15.6	735	16.5	1.1	1.3
Multiracial	3,032	1.8	2,807	1.6	38	1.0	51	1.1	1.3	1.8
State	168,438	100	171,425	100	3,693	100	4,462	100	2.2	2.6

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aA dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity.

Table 20
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, Hispanic Students by Race, Texas
Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
African American	16,978	1.5	335	1.7	2.0
American Indian	271,809	23.7	4,472	22.1	1.6
Asian	4,030	0.4	32	0.2	0.8
Pacific Islander	3,230	0.3	81	0.4	2.5
White	819,893	71.4	14,853	73.5	1.8
Multiracial	31,692	2.8	424	2.1	1.3
All Hispanic	1,147,632	100	20,197	100	1.8

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

Annual Dropout Rates for Students Identified as English Language Learners

Table 21 on page 70 presents annual dropout rates for current and former ELLs in Grades 7-8 and 9-12 by special language program instructional model. To fully evaluate the quality of educational services provided to ELLs, 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 ELLs 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 ELL 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 21
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8 and Grades 9-12, Current and Former
English Language Learners, by Special Language Program Instructional
Model, Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Grades 7-8					
All current ELLs ^a	94,305	100	519	100	0.6
All bilingual education programs	<1,100	1.1	- ^b	-	0.1
Transitional bilingual/early exit	22	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0
Transitional bilingual/late exit	29	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0
Dual immersion/two-way	885	0.9	0	0.0	0.0
Dual immersion/one-way	<150	0.2	-	-	0.7
All ESL ^c programs	78,634	83.4	312	60.1	0.4
ESL/content-based	32,100	34.0	128	24.7	0.4
ESL/pull-out	46,534	49.3	184	35.5	0.4
No services	<14,600	15.5	-	-	1.4
All former ELLs^d					
All bilingual education programs	8,180	33.1	8	22.2	0.1
Transitional bilingual/early exit	<3,900	15.7	-	-	0.1
Transitional bilingual/late exit	<1,850	7.3	-	-	0.1
Dual immersion/two-way	<700	2.7	-	-	0.1
Dual immersion/one-way	<1,850	7.3	-	-	0.2
All ESL programs	13,986	56.6	25	69.4	0.2
ESL/content-based	6,445	26.1	10	27.8	0.2
ESL/pull-out	7,541	30.5	15	41.7	0.2
No services	<2,600	10.3	-	-	0.1
Grades 9-12					
All current ELLs	111,538	100	5,040	100	4.5
All bilingual education programs	<200	0.1	-	-	0.6
Transitional bilingual/early exit	1	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0
Transitional bilingual/late exit	5	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0
Dual immersion/two-way	<200	0.1	-	-	0.6
Dual immersion/one-way	2	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0

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

^aCurrent English language learners (ELLs) were identified as limited English proficient in 2014-15. The group, all current ELLs, includes students for whom information about services received may be incomplete. ^bA dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity. ^cEnglish as a second language. ^dFormer ELLs are those in the first and second years of academic monitoring after exiting ELL status. The group, all former ELLs, includes students for whom information about services received may be incomplete.

continues

Table 21 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8 and Grades 9-12, Current and Former English Language Learners, by Special Language Program Instructional Model, Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
All ESL ^c programs	90,808	81.4	3,431	68.1	3.8
ESL/content-based	50,684	45.4	1,910	37.9	3.8
ESL/pull-out	40,124	36.0	1,521	30.2	3.8
No services	<20,600	18.4	– ^b	–	7.8
All former ELLs ^d	19,392	100	191	100	1.0
All bilingual education programs	<300	1.3	–	–	0.8
Transitional bilingual/early exit	8	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0
Transitional bilingual/late exit	6	<0.1	0	0.0	0.0
Dual immersion/two-way	<250	1.1	–	–	1.0
Dual immersion/one-way	33	0.2	0	0.0	0.0
All ESL programs	16,685	86.0	161	84.3	1.0
ESL/content-based	8,741	45.1	86	45.0	1.0
ESL/pull-out	7,944	41.0	75	39.3	0.9
No services	<2,500	12.6	–	–	1.1

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

^aCurrent English language learners (ELLs) were identified as limited English proficient in 2014-15. The group, all current ELLs, includes students for whom information about services received may be incomplete. ^bA dash (–) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity. ^cEnglish as a second language. ^dFormer ELLs are those in the first and second years of academic monitoring after exiting ELL status. The group, all former ELLs, includes students for whom information about services received may be incomplete.

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, General Educational Development (GED) certificate recipient, or dropout is counted as a member of a class. See the section "Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates" on page 24 for additional information.

Presentation of rates by race/ethnicity. Longitudinal rates for the class of 2010 and earlier classes were calculated based on the old racial/ethnic categories. Longitudinal rates for the classes of 2011 and later classes were calculated based on the new 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 new 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 individual new 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. See the section "Reporting of Student and Program Information" on page 39 for additional information.

Comparisons of rates by race/ethnicity. The non-Hispanic 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 24 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, English language learner [ELL], immigrant, migrant). See the section "Reporting of Student and Program Information" on page 39 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. Except for students who were identified as ELLs at any time while attending Texas public schools and those identified as ELLs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools, student characteristics and program participation statuses are assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Table B-1 in Appendix B provides

the data sources 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 2006 are found in Appendix C.

Student Success Initiative. In 1999, the 76th Texas Legislature approved the Student Success Initiative (SSI). 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 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. Students who did not pass one or more of the tests and were retained prior to starting Grade 9 were, in most cases, not part of the class of 2012. The class of 2015 was the fourth class to include students who had been subject to SSI requirements.

Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

State summary. Out of 339,626 students in the class of 2015, 89.0 percent graduated within four years (Table 22 on page 74). An additional 4.1 percent of students in the class of 2015 continued school the fall after expected graduation, and 0.6 percent received GED certificates. The four-year longitudinal dropout rate for the class of 2015 was 6.3 percent. Compared to the class of 2014, the class of 2015 had a higher rate of graduation and lower rates of continuation, GED certification, and dropping out. The method for calculating longitudinal rates is discussed on page 4. Table 23 on page 78 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 2015, the four-year graduation rate was highest among Asian students (95.4%), followed by White (93.4%), multiracial (92.1%), Hispanic (86.5%), and African American (85.2%) students (Table 22 on page 74). The four-year graduation rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged was 85.6 percent. The four-year graduation rate was higher for females (91.3%) than males (86.8%). Longitudinal dropout rates were lowest among Asian students (2.2%), followed by White (3.4%), multiracial (4.3%), Hispanic (7.7%), and African American (9.5%) students. Economically disadvantaged students dropped out at a rate of 8.7 percent. Female students (5.1%) dropped out at a lower rate than male students (7.4%).

Table 22**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	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	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	- ^b	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 ^c	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. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for classes prior to 2006 are found in Appendix C.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bA 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. ^cNot available. ^dNumbers 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 22 (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	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED		
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	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 ^c	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	– ^b	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. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for classes prior to 2006 are found in Appendix C.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bA 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. ^cNot available. ^dNumbers 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 22 (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	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Multiracial											
Class of 2006	n/a ^c	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
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

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. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for classes prior to 2006 are found in Appendix C.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bA 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. ^cNot available. ^dNumbers 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 22 (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	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
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 ^d	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 ^d	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. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for classes prior to 2006 are found in Appendix C.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bA 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. ^cNot available. ^dNumbers 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 23
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 2015

Group	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
African American	43,484	36,902	84.9	2,153	5.0	209	0.5	4,220	9.7	39,264	90.3
American Indian	1,464	1,261	86.1	62	4.2	11	0.8	130	8.9	1,334	91.1
Asian	13,280	12,658	95.3	298	2.2	24	0.2	300	2.3	12,980	97.7
Hispanic	160,662	138,421	86.2	8,686	5.4	864	0.5	12,691	7.9	147,971	92.1
Pacific Islander	534	473	88.6	21	3.9	5	0.9	35	6.6	499	93.4
White	108,603	101,403	93.4	2,622	2.4	848	0.8	3,730	3.4	104,873	96.6
Multiracial	5,744	5,290	92.1	171	3.0	33	0.6	250	4.4	5,494	95.6
Econ. disad. ^b	164,962	140,534	85.2	8,510	5.2	1,151	0.7	14,767	9.0	150,195	91.0
Female	163,893	149,345	91.1	5,345	3.3	639	0.4	8,564	5.2	155,329	94.8
Male	169,878	147,063	86.6	8,668	5.1	1,355	0.8	12,792	7.5	157,086	92.5
State	333,771	296,408	88.8	14,013	4.2	1,994	0.6	21,356	6.4	312,415	93.6

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

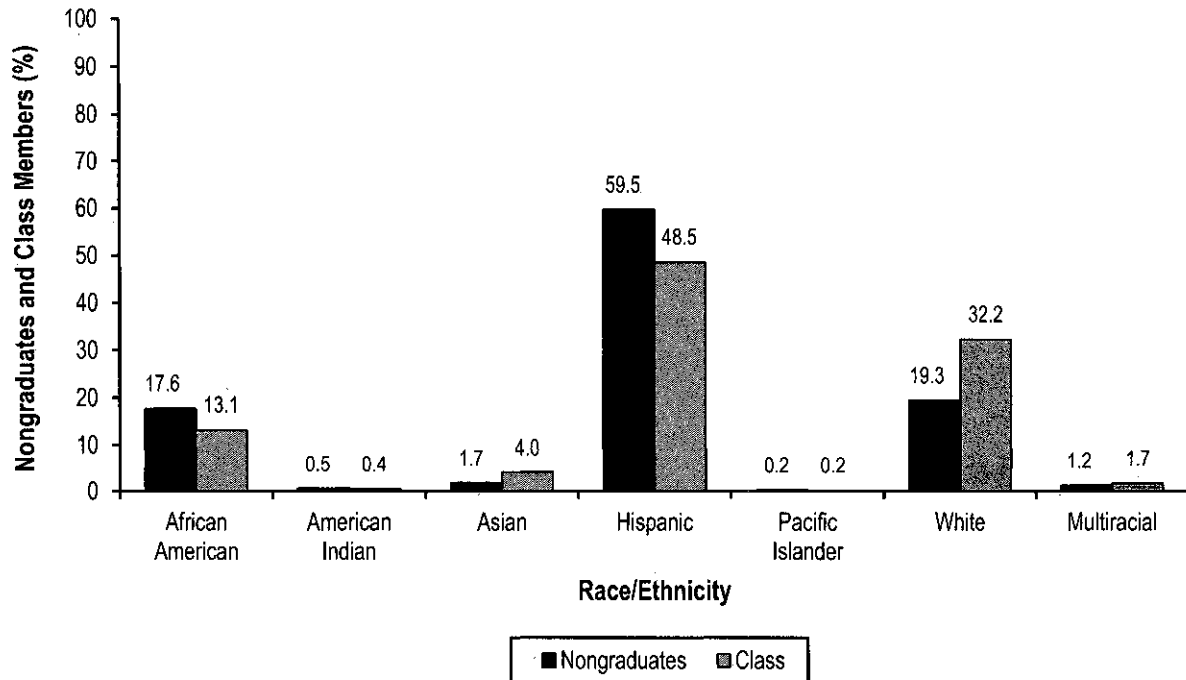
^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bEconomically disadvantaged.

In the class of 2015, Hispanic and African American students made up larger percentages of nongraduates (59.5% and 17.6%, respectively) than of students in the class (48.5% and 13.1%, respectively) (Figure 3). By comparison, Asian and White students made up smaller percentages of nongraduates (1.7% and 19.3%, respectively) than of students in the class (4.0% and 32.2%, respectively).

Rates by program participation and student characteristic. Students in the class of 2015 who participated in special education programs had a four-year graduation rate of 78.2 percent (Table 24). Students identified as English language learners in Grades 9-12 had a graduation rate of 73.3 percent (Table 25 on page 80). The graduation rate for students identified as at risk of dropping out of school was 85.0 percent. All three rates were lower than the state average (89.0%).

Graduates. Students in the class of 2015 were required to enroll in a graduation program when they began Grade 9 in 2011-12. Students could enroll in the Recommended High School Program (RHSP) or the Advanced High School Program (AHSP), unless the student, the student's parent, and a school counselor or administrator agreed to allow the student to enroll in the Minimum High School Program (MHSP) (Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code [TAC] §74.61, 2016, amended to be effective August 23, 2010). In 2013, the 83rd Texas Legislature established the Foundation High School Program (FHSP) as the new high school graduation program for all

Figure 3
Comparison of Nongraduates and Class Membership, by Race/Ethnicity, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015



Note. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Nongraduates are members of a class who continued in high school in the fall after expected graduation, received General Educational Development certificates, or dropped out.

Table 24
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Program Participation, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015

Group	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Bilingual or ESL ^b	15,794	11,679	73.9	1,744	11.0	39	0.2	2,332	14.8
CTE ^c	150,997	144,340	95.6	2,163	1.4	384	0.3	4,110	2.7
Gifted and talented	31,197	30,942	99.2	61	0.2	48	0.2	146	0.5
Special education	29,045	22,703	78.2	3,214	11.1	102	0.4	3,026	10.4
Title I	147,966	128,088	86.6	5,903	4.0	1,001	0.7	12,974	8.8
State	339,626	302,262	89.0	14,013	4.1	1,994	0.6	21,357	6.3

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.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bEnglish as a second language. ^cCareer and technical education. Data reflect students participating in CTE programs; students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded.

Table 25
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Student Characteristic,
Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015

Group	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
At-risk	161,179	136,960	85.0	10,023	6.2	1,068	0.7	13,128	8.1
English language learner									
In K-12 ^b	99,592	85,528	85.9	5,909	5.9	381	0.4	7,774	7.8
In 9-12 ^c	24,513	17,962	73.3	2,789	11.4	72	0.3	3,690	15.1
In last year ^d	18,037	12,888	71.5	1,848	10.2	54	0.3	3,247	18.0
Immigrant	3,090	2,327	75.3	311	10.1	5	0.2	447	14.5
Migrant	2,540	2,070	81.5	143	5.6	19	0.7	308	12.1
State	339,626	302,262	89.0	14,013	4.1	1,994	0.6	21,357	6.3

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. With the exception of two groups of students identified as English language learners (ELLs) (ever ELL in K-12 and ever ELL in 9-12), student characteristics were assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bStudents identified as English language learners (ELLs) at any time while attending Texas public schools. ^cStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools. ^dStudents identified as ELLs in their last year in Texas public schools.

students who entered Grade 9 in the 2014-15 school year or later (Texas Education Code [TEC] §28.025, 2013). The commissioner of education adopted a transition plan for students graduating in the 2013-14 through 2016-17 school years, giving those students the option of graduating under the new foundation program instead of the existing graduation plans (19 TAC §§74.1021 and 74.1022, 2016, amended to be effective December 16, 2013). Although students could graduate under the FHSP in 2013-14, FHSP requirements were not finalized until the 2014-15 school year (19 TAC §74.12, 2016, amended to be effective July 8, 2014).

For 2014-15 graduates who opted into the FHSP, the program required 22 credits to graduate, including four credits in English language arts and three credits each in mathematics, science, and social studies. Additionally, beginning with 2014-15 graduates, the program allowed students to earn special recognition, known as an endorsement, in one or more fields of study, such as business and industry or arts and humanities (19 TAC §74.13, 2016, amended to be effective July 8, 2014; TEC §28.025, 2013). A 2014-15 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 2014-15 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, 2016, amended to be effective July 8, 2014; TEC §28.025, 2013).

Of the 287,947 students in the class of 2015 who graduated under the MHSP, RHSP, or AHSP, 86.1 percent graduated under the RHSP or AHSP, and 13.9 percent graduated under the MHSP (Table 26 on page 81). Of the 14,189 students who graduated under the FHSP, 8,191 (57.7%) graduated without an endorsement, 501 (3.5%) graduated with an endorsement but did not earn a DLA, and 5,497 (38.7%) graduated with an endorsement and earned a DLA. Of all 302,136 graduates

Table 26**Graduates Within Diploma Programs, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, Gender, Program Participation, and Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015 Grade 9 Cohort**

Group	Minimum		Recommended		Advanced		Foundation High School Program (FHSP) without endorsement	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
African American	7,133	19.6	27,295	75.1	1,937	5.3	1,172	74.7
American Indian	224	18.2	868	70.6	138	11.2	26	53.1
Asian	607	4.8	7,499	59.7	4,446	35.4	134	51.1
Hispanic	18,202	13.5	98,620	73.0	18,299	13.5	4,552	63.0
Pacific Islander	73	15.6	347	74.1	48	10.3	7	58.3
White	13,014	13.4	66,461	68.4	17,621	18.1	2,175	44.7
Multiracial	692	13.5	3,612	70.6	811	15.9	125	61.6
Econ. disad. ^a	23,670	17.2	99,718	72.4	14,259	10.4	4,608	63.7
Female	15,694	10.8	104,288	71.8	25,327	17.4	3,608	53.6
Male	24,251	17.0	100,414	70.4	17,973	12.6	4,583	61.5
Bilingual or ESL ^b	2,242	20.4	8,400	76.5	345	3.1	522	76.5
CTE ^c	17,428	12.7	98,568	71.7	21,530	15.7	3,511	51.7
Gifted and talented	377	1.3	16,277	54.0	13,501	44.8	213	27.3
Special education	16,441	75.0	5,304	24.2	163	0.7	625	79.8
Title I	15,976	13.1	88,150	72.2	17,891	14.7	3,743	62.0
At-risk	29,870	23.2	93,539	72.6	5,414	4.2	5,691	70.6
ELL ^d								
In K-12 ^e	10,282	12.6	60,213	73.6	11,369	13.9	2,504	69.0
In 9-12 ^f	3,508	20.6	12,660	74.5	829	4.9	698	73.8
In last year ^g	2,599	21.4	9,149	75.4	378	3.1	565	75.4
Immigrant	288	13.0	1,772	80.0	155	7.0	61	61.6
Migrant	228	11.3	1,472	72.8	323	16.0	32	68.1
State	39,945	13.9	204,702	71.1	43,300	15.0	8,191	57.7

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. With the exception of two groups of students identified as English language learners (ELLs) (ever ELL in K-12 and ever ELL in 9-12), student characteristics were assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category. The total number of graduates summed across diploma programs does not match the state-level count of graduates presented elsewhere in this report because 115 students graduated under the transitional FHSP in 2013-14, and 11 students were missing diploma program information. The Minimum High School Program (MHSP), Recommended High School Program (RHSP), Advanced High School Program (AHSP), and RHSP or AHSP rates are each calculated by dividing the number of students graduating under each program (or combination thereof) by the sum of graduates in the three programs. Each of the three rates for FHSP graduates is 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) is calculated by dividing the sum of students graduating under each of the programs as specified by all graduates with diploma information.

^aEconomically disadvantaged. ^bEnglish as a second language. ^cCareer and technical education. Data reflect students participating in CTE programs; students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded. ^dEnglish language learner. ^eStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Texas public schools. ^fStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools. ^gStudents identified as ELLs in their last year in Texas public schools.

continues

Table 26 (continued)

Graduates Within Diploma Programs, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, Gender, Program Participation, and Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015 Grade 9 Cohort

Group	FHSP with endorsement						Recommended,	
	No distinguished level of achievement		Distinguished level of achievement		Recommended or Advanced		Advanced, or FHSP with endorsement	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
African American	107	6.8	289	18.4	29,232	80.4	29,628	78.1
American Indian	0	0.0	23	46.9	1,006	81.8	1,029	80.5
Asian	35	13.4	93	35.5	11,945	95.2	12,073	94.2
Hispanic	221	3.1	2,457	34.0	116,919	86.5	119,597	84.0
Pacific Islander	0	0.0	5	41.7	395	84.4	400	83.3
White	133	2.7	2,557	52.6	84,082	86.6	86,772	85.1
Multiracial	5	2.5	73	36.0	4,423	86.5	4,501	84.6
Econ. disad. ^a	274	3.8	2,349	32.5	113,977	82.8	116,600	80.5
Female	232	3.4	2,893	43.0	129,615	89.2	132,740	87.3
Male	269	3.6	2,604	34.9	118,387	83.0	121,260	80.8
Bilingual or ESL ^b	44	6.5	116	17.0	8,745	79.6	8,905	76.3
CTE ^c	243	3.6	3,033	44.7	120,098	87.3	123,374	85.5
Gifted and talented	37	4.7	530	67.9	29,778	98.7	30,345	98.1
Special education	26	3.3	132	16.9	5,467	25.0	5,625	24.8
Title I	175	2.9	2,116	35.1	106,041	86.9	108,332	84.6
At-risk	308	3.8	2,057	25.5	98,953	76.8	101,318	74.0
ELL ^d								
In K-12 ^e	149	4.1	975	26.9	71,582	87.4	72,706	85.0
In 9-12 ^f	55	5.8	193	20.4	13,489	79.4	13,737	76.6
In last year ^g	48	6.4	136	18.2	9,527	78.6	9,711	75.4
Immigrant	8	8.1	30	30.3	1,927	87.0	1,965	84.9
Migrant	0	0.0	15	31.9	1,795	88.7	1,810	87.4
State	501	3.5	5,497	38.7	248,002	86.1	254,000	84.1

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. With the exception of two groups of students identified as English language learners (ELLs) (ever ELL in K-12 and ever ELL in 9-12), student characteristics were assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category. The total number of graduates summed across diploma programs does not match the state-level count of graduates presented elsewhere in this report because 115 students graduated under the transitional FHSP in 2013-14, and 11 students were missing diploma program information. The Minimum High School Program (MHSP), Recommended High School Program (RHSP), Advanced High School Program (AHSP), and RHSP or AHSP rates are each calculated by dividing the number of students graduating under each program (or combination thereof) by the sum of graduates in the three programs. Each of the three rates for FHSP graduates is 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) is calculated by dividing the sum of students graduating under each of the programs as specified by all graduates with diploma information.

^aEconomically disadvantaged. ^bEnglish as a second language. ^cCareer and technical education. Data reflect students participating in CTE programs; students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded. ^dEnglish language learner. ^eStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Texas public schools. ^fStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools. ^gStudents identified as ELLs in their last year in Texas public schools.

with diploma program information, 84.1 percent graduated under the RHSP or AHSP or the FHSP with an endorsement (with or without a DLA). Table 27 on page 84 presents the numbers and percentages of graduates within diploma programs excluding individual graduation committee (IGC) graduates.

Dropouts. Table 28 on page 86 provides aggregate counts of the 21,357 dropouts from the class of 2015 based on the grade and year in which they left Texas public schools. To graduate from Texas public schools, students in the class of 2015 were expected to pass five end-of-course exams. Students who did not pass the end-of-course exams (including those who met all coursework requirements for a diploma) and did not enroll in the fall after their anticipated graduation date were counted as dropouts, unless they were determined to be qualified to graduate by IGCs.

A total of 21,357 students in the class of 2015 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. For example, 54.7 percent of students who dropped out in the second year had not reached Grade 10, and 58.7 percent who dropped out in the third year had not reached Grade 11.

Other Leavers. Of the 392,943 students who began Grade 9 in Texas public schools in 2011-12 or who transferred into the cohort later, 48,906 left for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out (Table 29 on page 87 and Figure 4 on page 88). Of these other leavers, the largest percentage (30.3%) left in the third year of the cohort (2013-14) and the smallest percentage (16.7%) left in the fourth year (2014-15). Nearly all of the other leavers (97.0%) left for one of four reasons: (a) 36.1 percent withdrew to enroll in schools outside of Texas; (b) 32.6 percent withdrew to begin home schooling; (c) 16.1 percent withdrew to return to their home countries; and (d) 12.2 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 (35.7%) withdrew in the first year of the cohort (2011-12). The largest percentages of students who withdrew to begin home schooling (34.7%), to return to their home countries (34.0%), or to enroll in Texas private schools (29.7%) left in the third year of the cohort (2013-14).

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, 23.5 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 among students who withdrew to begin home schooling (40.4%).

As noted previously, to calculate four-year longitudinal rates, students were tracked from the time they entered Grade 9 for the first time in 2011-12 or transferred into the cohort until the fall after their anticipated graduation date. Figure 4 on page 88 provides a synopsis of student progress through school for the 2015 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 came back in a later year.

Table 27**Graduates Within Diploma Programs, Excluding Individual Graduation Committee Graduates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, Gender, Program Participation, and Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015 Grade 9 Cohort**

Group	Minimum		Recommended		Advanced		Foundation High School Program (FHSP) without endorsement	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
African American	6,824	19.2	26,693	75.3	1,933	5.5	1,073	74.8
American Indian	216	17.9	855	70.7	138	11.4	25	52.1
Asian	579	4.7	7,383	59.5	4,445	35.8	124	51.0
Hispanic	17,407	13.2	95,915	72.9	18,271	13.9	4,216	62.2
Pacific Islander	72	15.6	341	74.0	48	10.4	7	58.3
White	12,757	13.2	66,189	68.5	17,611	18.2	2,135	44.4
Multiracial	678	13.3	3,598	70.7	811	15.9	122	61.3
Econ. disad. ^a	22,684	17.0	96,799	72.4	14,234	10.6	4,260	63.2
Female	15,128	10.6	102,426	71.7	25,305	17.7	3,381	52.8
Male	23,405	16.7	98,548	70.4	17,952	12.8	4,321	60.8
Bilingual or ESL ^b	1,948	20.9	7,022	75.5	335	3.6	382	82.9
CTE ^c	16,877	12.5	96,810	71.6	21,491	15.9	3,340	50.9
Gifted and talented	373	1.2	16,256	54.0	13,497	44.8	212	27.2
Special education	16,382	75.9	5,043	23.4	163	0.8	604	80.1
Title I	15,357	12.9	85,597	72.0	17,851	15.0	3,452	61.6
At-risk	28,586	23.0	90,073	72.6	5,391	4.3	5,244	70.6
ELL ^d								
In K-12 ^e	9,703	12.3	57,926	73.3	11,346	14.4	2,250	69.0
In 9-12 ^f	3,173	21.0	11,102	73.6	818	5.4	533	77.0
In last year ^g	2,277	22.0	7,687	74.4	368	3.6	415	80.7
Immigrant	241	12.0	1,611	80.3	155	7.7	46	63.0
Migrant	217	11.5	1,349	71.4	323	17.1	29	65.9
State	38,533	13.6	200,974	71.1	43,257	15.3	7,702	57.0

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. With the exception of two groups of students identified as English language learners (ELLs) (ever ELL in K-12 and ever ELL in 9-12), student characteristics were assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category. The total number of graduates summed across diploma programs does not match the state-level count of graduates presented elsewhere in this report because 115 students graduated under the transitional FHSP in 2013-14, and 11 students were missing diploma program information. The Minimum High School Program (MHSP), Recommended High School Program (RHSP), Advanced High School Program (AHSP), and FHSP or AHSP rates are each calculated by dividing the number of students graduating under each program (or combination thereof) by the sum of graduates in the three programs. Each of the three rates for FHSP graduates is 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) is calculated by dividing the sum of students graduating under each of the programs as specified by all graduates with diploma information.

^aEconomically disadvantaged. ^bEnglish as a second language. ^cCareer and technical education. Data reflect students participating in CTE programs; students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded. ^dEnglish language learner. ^eStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Texas public schools. ^fStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools. ^gStudents identified as ELLs in their last year in Texas public schools. ^hA dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity.

continues

Table 27 (continued)
Graduates Within Diploma Programs, Excluding Individual Graduation Committee Graduates,
by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, Gender, Program Participation, and Student Characteristic,
Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015 Grade 9 Cohort

Group	FHSP with endorsement				Recommended,			
	No distinguished level of achievement		Distinguished level of achievement		Recommended or Advanced		Advanced, or FHSP with endorsement	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
African American	81	5.6	280	19.5	28,626	80.8	28,987	78.6
American Indian	0	0.0	23	47.9	993	82.1	1,016	80.8
Asian	31	12.8	88	36.2	11,828	95.3	11,947	94.4
Hispanic	182	2.7	2,377	35.1	114,186	86.8	116,745	84.4
Pacific Islander	0	0.0	5	41.7	389	84.4	394	83.3
White	126	2.6	2,546	53.0	83,800	86.8	86,472	85.3
Multiracial	5	2.5	72	36.2	4,409	86.7	4,486	84.9
Econ. disad. ^a	215	3.2	2,263	33.6	111,033	83.0	113,511	80.8
Female	196	3.1	2,831	44.2	127,731	89.4	130,758	87.6
Male	229	3.2	2,560	36.0	116,500	83.3	119,289	81.1
Bilingual or ESL ^b	11	2.4	68	14.8	7,357	79.1	7,436	76.1
CTE ^c	224	3.4	2,994	45.7	118,301	87.5	121,519	85.7
Gifted and talented	37	4.7	530	68.0	29,753	98.8	30,320	98.1
Special education	23	3.1	127	16.8	5,206	24.1	5,356	24.0
Title I	111	2.0	2,044	36.5	103,448	87.1	105,603	84.9
At-risk	235	3.2	1,953	26.3	95,464	77.0	97,652	74.3
ELL ^d								
In K-12 ^e	107	3.3	903	27.7	69,272	87.7	70,282	85.5
In 9-12 ^f	20	2.9	139	20.1	11,920	79.0	12,079	76.5
In last year ^g	14	2.7	85	16.5	8,055	78.0	8,154	75.2
Immigrant	- ^h	4.1	-	32.9	1,766	88.0	1,793	86.2
Migrant	0	0.0	15	34.1	1,672	88.5	1,687	87.3
State	425	3.1	5,391	39.9	244,231	86.4	250,047	84.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. With the exception of two groups of students identified as English language learners (ELLs) (ever ELL in K-12 and ever ELL in 9-12), student characteristics were assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category. The total number of graduates summed across diploma programs does not match the state-level count of graduates presented elsewhere in this report because 115 students graduated under the transitional FHSP in 2013-14, and 11 students were missing diploma program information. The Minimum High School Program (MHSP), Recommended High School Program (RHSP), Advanced High School Program (AHSP), and FHSP or AHSP rates are each calculated by dividing the number of students graduating under each program (or combination thereof) by the sum of graduates in the three programs. Each of the three rates for FHSP graduates is 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) is calculated by dividing the sum of students graduating under each of the programs as specified by all graduates with diploma information.

^aEconomically disadvantaged. ^bEnglish as a second language. ^cCareer and technical education. Data reflect students participating in CTE programs; students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded. ^dEnglish language learner. ^eStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Texas public schools. ^fStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in Texas public schools. ^gStudents identified as ELLs in their last year in Texas public schools. ^hA dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity.

Table 28
Dropouts, by Grade and School Year, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015 Grade 9 Cohort

Grade	2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Grade 9	2,162	98.2	2,443	54.7	1,476	22.2	459	5.7	6,540	30.6
Grade 10	30	1.4	1,922	43.0	2,428	36.5	1,337	16.6	5,717	26.8
Grade 11	– ^a	0.3	–	1.7	2,388	35.9	2,468	30.7	4,941	23.1
Grade 12	–	0.1	–	0.5	358	5.4	3,770	46.9	4,153	19.4
Total	2,201	10.3	4,470	20.9	6,652	31.2	8,034	37.6	21,357	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.

^aA dash (–) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity.

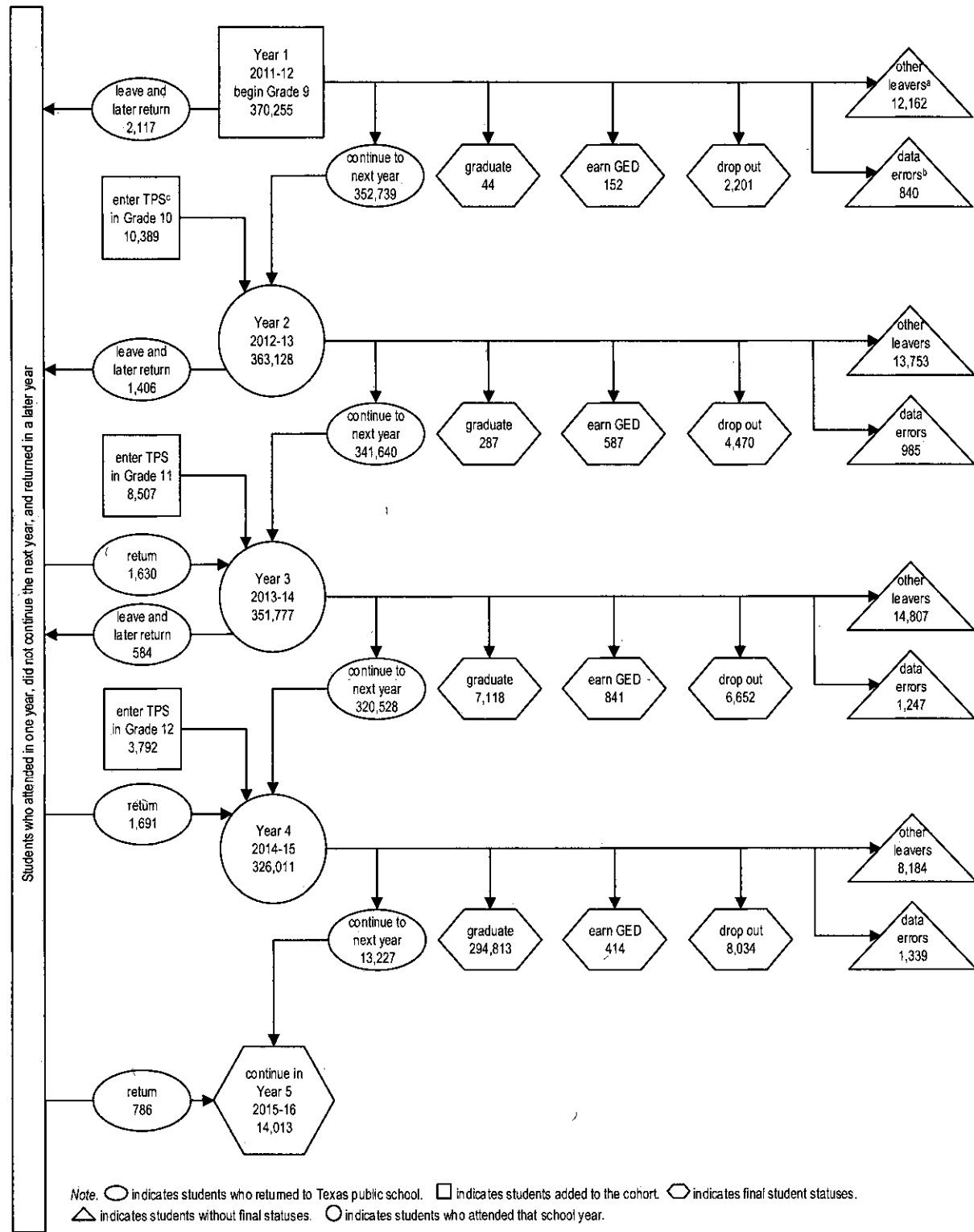
Table 29
Other Leavers, by Leaver Reason, On-Grade Status, and School Year, Texas Public Schools,
Class of 2015 Grade 9 Cohort

On-grade status ^a	2011-12		2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Enrolled in public or private school outside Texas										
On grade	6,290	100	4,723	88.3	3,813	86.7	1,300	80.9	16,126	91.4
Not on grade	0 ^b	0.0	627	11.7	585	13.3	308	19.2	1,520	8.6
Total	6,290	35.7	5,350	30.3	4,398	24.9	1,608	9.1	17,646	100
Is home schooled										
On grade	2,276	100	2,596	61.9	2,902	52.4	1,733	43.9	9,507	59.6
Not on grade	0	0.0	1,595	38.1	2,635	47.6	2,214	56.1	6,444	40.4
Total	2,276	14.3	4,191	26.3	5,537	34.7	3,947	24.7	15,951	100
Returned to family's home country										
On grade	2,298	100	1,374	69.4	2,054	76.7	540	57.9	6,266	79.5
Not on grade	0	0.0	605	30.6	624	23.3	392	42.1	1,621	20.6
Total	2,298	29.1	1,979	25.1	2,678	34.0	932	11.8	7,887	100
Enrolled in Texas private school										
On grade	1,112	100	1,292	73.3	1,168	66.2	815	62.0	4,387	73.7
Not on grade	0	0.0	470	26.7	597	33.8	499	38.0	1,566	26.3
Total	1,112	18.7	1,762	29.6	1,765	29.7	1,314	22.1	5,953	100
Left for other reasons^c										
On grade	186	100	402	85.4	268	62.5	270	70.5	1,126	76.7
Not on grade	0	0.0	69	14.7	161	37.5	113	29.5	343	23.4
Total	186	12.7	471	32.1	429	29.2	383	26.1	1,469	100
Total other leavers										
On grade	12,162	100	10,387	75.5	10,205	68.9	4,658	56.9	37,412	76.5
Not on grade	0	0.0	3,366	24.5	4,602	31.1	3,526	43.1	11,494	23.5
Total	12,162	24.9	13,753	28.1	14,807	30.3	8,184	16.7	48,906	100
Total students in cohort enrolled in the school year indicated^d										
On grade	370,255	100	335,335	92.4	323,203	91.9	309,733	95.1	n/a ^e	n/a
Not on grade	0	0.0	27,793	7.7	28,548	8.1	15,844	4.9	n/a	n/a

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

^aStudents were on grade if they were in the grade level expected for the cohort or a higher grade level in the school year indicated. ^bStudents were added to the 2015 cohort in 2011-12 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 2011-12 were considered to be on grade. ^cBecause of small numbers, students who left for other reasons are grouped together. For a list of the other reasons, see Table 4 on page 35. ^dNumbers for school years may not match counts presented elsewhere in the report because of missing high school grade information. ^eNot 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 2015
Grade 9 Cohort



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 2010-11 or who later joined the cohort were tracked into the fall one year following their anticipated graduation date of spring 2014. The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2014 and fall 2015 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2014 left Texas public schools by fall 2015 for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left Texas public schools by fall 2014 without graduating returned to Texas public schools and graduated, received GED certificates, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2015. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups.

By the fall of 2014, 88.3 percent of the class of 2014 had graduated, 4.3 percent were still in high school, 0.8 percent had received GED certificates, and 6.6 percent had dropped out (Table 30 on page 90). By the fall of 2015, 90.4 percent of the class of 2014 had graduated, 1.3 percent were still in high school, 1.0 percent had received GED certificates, and 7.2 percent had dropped out (Table 30 on page 90 and Table 33 on page 93). The five-year graduation rate for the class of 2014 was 2.1 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 2014, the percentage-point increase in graduation rate from fall 2014 to fall 2015 was highest for Hispanic students (2.8 points), followed by African American (2.6 points), multiracial (1.7 points), White (1.3 points) and Asian (1.1 points) students (Table 30 on page 90). The graduation rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged increased by 2.6 percentage points to 87.8 percent. Graduation rates increased by 2.6 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 4.1 percentage points higher than the four-year rate, increasing from 77.5 percent to 81.6 percent (Table 31 on page 91). Students identified as English language learners in Grades 9-12 had a five-year graduation rate of 76.7 percent, 5.2 percentage points higher than their four-year rate (Table 32 on page 92). The five-year graduation rates for both groups continued to be lower than the state average (90.4%).

Graduates. Students in the class of 2014 were required to enroll in a graduation program when they began Grade 9 in 2010-11. Students could enroll in the Recommended High School Program (RHSP) or the Advanced High School Program (AHSP), unless the student, the student's parent, and a school counselor or administrator agreed to allow the student to enroll in the Minimum High School Program (MHSP) (Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code [TAC] §74.61, 2016, amended to be effective August 23, 2010). Between fall 2014 and fall 2015, the percentage of graduates in the class of 2014 who graduated under the RHSP or AHSP decreased by 1.0 percentage point to 84.5 percent, and the percentage who graduated under the MHSP increased by the same amount to 15.5 percent (Table 34 on page 95 and TEA, 2015a, Table 26).

Table 30
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 2014

Status date	Class ^b	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
African American											
As of fall 2014	43,707	36,807	84.2	2,323	5.3	280	0.6	4,297	9.8	39,410	90.2
As of fall 2015	43,491	37,760	86.8	588	1.4	391	0.9	4,752	10.9	38,739	89.1
American Indian											
As of fall 2014	<1,450	– ^c	87.1	–	4.0	–	1.1	–	7.9	–	92.1
As of fall 2015	1,423	1,271	89.3	11	0.8	15	1.1	126	8.9	1,297	91.1
Asian											
As of fall 2014	12,969	12,292	94.8	345	2.7	15	0.1	317	2.4	12,652	97.6
As of fall 2015	12,950	12,425	95.9	109	0.8	23	0.2	393	3.0	12,557	97.0
Hispanic											
As of fall 2014	159,708	136,586	85.5	8,869	5.6	1,203	0.8	13,050	8.2	146,658	91.8
As of fall 2015	158,985	140,341	88.3	2,639	1.7	1,565	1.0	14,440	9.1	144,545	90.9
Pacific Islander											
As of fall 2014	<450	–	88.9	–	3.7	–	0.5	–	7.0	–	93.0
As of fall 2015	433	388	89.6	5	1.2	5	1.2	35	8.1	398	91.9
White											
As of fall 2014	109,354	101,737	93.0	2,694	2.5	1,026	0.9	3,897	3.6	105,457	96.4
As of fall 2015	109,224	102,992	94.3	893	0.8	1,376	1.3	3,963	3.6	105,261	96.4
Multiracial											
As of fall 2014	5,691	5,193	91.2	183	3.2	41	0.7	274	4.8	5,417	95.2
As of fall 2015	5,681	5,277	92.9	60	1.1	57	1.0	287	5.1	5,394	94.9
Economically disadvantaged											
As of fall 2014	167,545	142,669	85.2	8,322	5.0	1,485	0.9	15,069	9.0	152,476	91.0
As of fall 2015	166,757	146,424	87.8	2,345	1.4	1,906	1.1	16,082	9.6	150,675	90.4
Female											
As of fall 2014	163,308	147,598	90.4	5,806	3.6	920	0.6	8,984	5.5	154,324	94.5
As of fall 2015	162,823	149,968	92.1	1,796	1.1	1,180	0.7	9,879	6.1	152,944	93.9
Male											
As of fall 2014	169,978	146,642	86.3	8,681	5.1	1,662	1.0	12,993	7.6	156,985	92.4
As of fall 2015	169,364	150,486	88.9	2,509	1.5	2,252	1.3	14,117	8.3	155,247	91.7
State											
As of fall 2014	333,286	294,240	88.3	14,487	4.3	2,582	0.8	21,977	6.6	311,309	93.4
As of fall 2015	332,187	300,454	90.4	4,305	1.3	3,432	1.0	23,996	7.2	308,191	92.8

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

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bThe total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2014 and fall 2015 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2014 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2015 for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2014 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received GED certificates, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2015. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. ^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.

Table 31
Grade 9 Four-Year and Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by
Program Participation, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2014

Status date	Class ^b	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Bilingual or ESL^c											
As of fall 2014	10,748	6,712	62.4	1,604	14.9	32	0.3	2,400	22.3	8,348	77.7
As of fall 2015	10,442	7,191	68.9	447	4.3	52	0.5	2,752	26.4	7,690	73.6
Career and technical education^d											
As of fall 2014	146,696	139,583	95.2	2,057	1.4	526	0.4	4,530	3.1	142,166	96.9
As of fall 2015	146,729	140,865	96.0	470	0.3	725	0.5	4,669	3.2	142,060	96.8
Gifted and talented											
As of fall 2014	30,479	30,212	99.1	49	0.2	53	0.2	165	0.5	30,314	99.5
As of fall 2015	30,482	30,255	99.3	7	<0.1	68	0.2	152	0.5	30,330	99.5
Special education											
As of fall 2014	29,875	23,149	77.5	3,240	10.8	141	0.5	3,345	11.2	26,530	88.8
As of fall 2015	29,988	24,462	81.6	1,827	6.1	176	0.6	3,523	11.7	26,465	88.3
Title I											
As of fall 2014	143,169	122,721	85.7	6,061	4.2	1,310	0.9	13,077	9.1	130,092	90.9
As of fall 2015	143,295	125,766	87.8	1,648	1.2	1,708	1.2	14,173	9.9	129,122	90.1
State											
As of fall 2014	333,286	294,240	88.3	14,487	4.3	2,582	0.8	21,977	6.6	311,309	93.4
As of fall 2015	332,187	300,454	90.4	4,305	1.3	3,432	1.0	23,996	7.2	308,191	92.8

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.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bThe total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2014 and fall 2015 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2014 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2015 for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2014 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received GED certificates, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2015. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. ^cEnglish as a second language. ^dData reflect students participating in career and technical education (CTE) programs; students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded.

Table 32

Grade 9 Four-Year and Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2014

Status date	Class ^b	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
At-risk											
As of fall 2014	136,889	111,527	81.5	10,199	7.5	1,385	1.0	13,778	10.1	123,111	89.9
As of fall 2015	135,703	115,803	85.3	2,972	2.2	1,839	1.4	15,089	11.1	120,614	88.9
Ever ELL in K-12^c											
As of fall 2014	97,030	82,367	84.9	6,076	6.3	490	0.5	8,097	8.3	88,933	91.7
As of fall 2015	96,504	84,836	87.9	1,782	1.8	673	0.7	9,213	9.5	87,291	90.5
Ever ELL in 9-12^d											
As of fall 2014	25,382	18,142	71.5	3,131	12.3	78	0.3	4,031	15.9	21,351	84.1
As of fall 2015	25,066	19,225	76.7	973	3.9	123	0.5	4,745	18.9	20,321	81.1
ELL in last year^e											
As of fall 2014	12,515	7,549	60.3	1,697	13.6	56	0.4	3,213	25.7	9,302	74.3
As of fall 2015	12,341	8,132	65.9	478	3.9	84	0.7	3,647	29.6	8,694	70.4
Immigrant											
As of fall 2014	3,288	2,453	74.6	336	10.2	5	0.2	494	15.0	2,794	85.0
As of fall 2015	3,230	2,536	78.5	119	3.7	6	0.2	569	17.6	2,661	82.4
Migrant											
As of fall 2014	2,749	2,270	82.6	147	5.3	26	0.9	306	11.1	2,443	88.9
As of fall 2015	2,722	2,327	85.5	34	1.2	31	1.1	330	12.1	2,392	87.9
State											
As of fall 2014	333,286	294,240	88.3	14,487	4.3	2,582	0.8	21,977	6.6	311,309	93.4
As of fall 2015	332,187	300,454	90.4	4,305	1.3	3,432	1.0	23,996	7.2	308,191	92.8

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. With the exception of two groups of students identified as English language learners (ELLs) (ever ELL in K-12 and ever ELL in 9-12), student characteristics were assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bThe total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2014 and fall 2015 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2014 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2015 for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2014 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received GED certificates, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2015. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. ^cStudents identified as English language learners (ELLs) at any time while attending TPS. ^dStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. ^eStudents identified as ELLs in their last year in TPS.

Table 33
Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2011, as of Fall 2012, Class of 2012, as of Fall 2013, Class of 2013, as of Fall 2014, and Class of 2014, as of Fall 2015

Class year	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
African American											
Class of 2011	44,877	37,849	84.3	765	1.7	515	1.1	5,748	12.8	39,129	87.2
Class of 2012	42,872	37,077	86.5	580	1.4	443	1.0	4,772	11.1	38,100	88.9
Class of 2013	43,978	38,145	86.7	586	1.3	438	1.0	4,809	10.9	39,169	89.1
Class of 2014	43,491	37,760	86.8	588	1.4	391	0.9	4,752	10.9	38,739	89.1
American Indian											
Class of 2011	1,579	1,413	89.5	16	1.0	33	2.1	117	7.4	1,462	92.6
Class of 2012	<1,600	– ^b	88.6	–	1.2	–	2.3	–	7.8	–	92.2
Class of 2013	<1,500	–	87.6	–	1.3	–	2.1	–	9.0	–	91.0
Class of 2014	1,423	1,271	89.3	11	0.8	15	1.1	126	8.9	1,297	91.1
Asian											
Class of 2011	10,680	10,334	96.8	97	0.9	26	0.2	223	2.1	10,457	97.9
Class of 2012	11,189	10,769	96.2	113	1.0	26	0.2	281	2.5	10,908	97.5
Class of 2013	12,040	11,472	95.3	121	1.0	31	0.3	416	3.5	11,624	96.5
Class of 2014	12,950	12,425	95.9	109	0.8	23	0.2	393	3.0	12,557	97.0
Hispanic											
Class of 2011	142,707	122,787	86.0	3,087	2.2	2,080	1.5	14,753	10.3	127,954	89.7
Class of 2012	144,452	127,054	88.0	2,497	1.7	1,757	1.2	13,144	9.1	131,308	90.9
Class of 2013	154,480	136,228	88.2	2,532	1.6	1,783	1.2	13,937	9.0	140,543	91.0
Class of 2014	158,985	140,341	88.3	2,639	1.7	1,565	1.0	14,440	9.1	144,545	90.9
Pacific Islander											
Class of 2011	<450	–	92.3	–	1.4	–	0.9	–	5.4	–	94.6
Class of 2012	<450	–	92.0	–	1.7	–	0.5	–	5.8	–	94.2
Class of 2013	<450	–	91.4	–	1.2	–	0.5	–	7.0	–	93.0
Class of 2014	433	388	89.6	5	1.2	5	1.2	35	8.1	398	91.9
White											
Class of 2011	113,272	106,425	94.0	990	0.9	1,754	1.5	4,103	3.6	109,169	96.4
Class of 2012	109,883	103,867	94.5	890	0.8	1,402	1.3	3,724	3.4	106,159	96.6
Class of 2013	109,816	103,635	94.4	882	0.8	1,361	1.2	3,938	3.6	105,878	96.4
Class of 2014	109,224	102,992	94.3	893	0.8	1,376	1.3	3,963	3.6	105,261	96.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bA 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. ^cNumbers 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 33 (continued)

Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2011, as of Fall 2012, Class of 2012, as of Fall 2013, Class of 2013, as of Fall 2014, and Class of 2014, as of Fall 2015

Class year	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Multiracial											
Class of 2011	4,343	4,085	94.1	47	1.1	52	1.2	159	3.7	4,184	96.3
Class of 2012	5,063	4,758	94.0	34	0.7	62	1.2	209	4.1	4,854	95.9
Class of 2013	5,341	4,990	93.4	41	0.8	60	1.1	250	4.7	5,091	95.3
Class of 2014	5,681	5,277	92.9	60	1.1	57	1.0	287	5.1	5,394	94.9
Economically disadvantaged											
Class of 2011	147,143	129,304	87.9	2,764	1.9	1,914	1.3	13,161	8.9	133,982	91.1
Class of 2012	151,679	134,549	88.7	2,248	1.5	1,830	1.2	13,052	8.6	138,627	91.4
Class of 2013	161,878	142,831	88.2	2,288	1.4	2,041	1.3	14,718	9.1	147,160	90.9
Class of 2014	166,757	146,424	87.8	2,345	1.4	1,906	1.1	16,082	9.6	150,675	90.4
Female											
Class of 2011	156,232	141,699	90.7	2,131	1.4	1,590	1.0	10,812	6.9	145,420	93.1
Class of 2012	154,714	142,605	92.2	1,758	1.1	1,248	0.8	9,103	5.9	145,611	94.1
Class of 2013	160,637	148,056	92.2	1,751	1.1	1,356	0.8	9,474	5.9	151,163	94.1
Class of 2014	162,823	149,968	92.1	1,796	1.1	1,180	0.7	9,879	6.1	152,944	93.9
Male											
Class of 2011	161,795	141,617	87.5	2,877	1.8	2,881	1.8	14,420	8.9	147,375	91.1
Class of 2012	160,787	142,691	88.7	2,382	1.5	2,481	1.5	13,233	8.2	147,554	91.8
Class of 2013	166,931	148,106	88.7	2,436	1.5	2,350	1.4	14,039	8.4	152,892	91.6
Class of 2014	169,364	150,486	88.9	2,509	1.5	2,252	1.3	14,117	8.3	155,247	91.7
State											
Class of 2011 ^c	318,027	283,316	89.1	5,008	1.6	4,471	1.4	25,232	7.9	292,795	92.1
Class of 2012 ^c	315,501	285,296	90.4	4,140	1.3	3,729	1.2	22,336	7.1	293,165	92.9
Class of 2013	327,568	296,162	90.4	4,187	1.3	3,706	1.1	23,513	7.2	304,055	92.8
Class of 2014	332,187	300,454	90.4	4,305	1.3	3,432	1.0	23,996	7.2	308,191	92.8

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bA 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. ^cNumbers 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 34
Graduates Within Diploma Programs, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, Gender, Program Participation, and Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2014 Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Cohort, as of Fall 2015

Group	Minimum		Recommended		Advanced		Recommended or Advanced	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
African American	8,173	21.9	27,148	72.7	2,007	5.4	29,155	78.1
American Indian	249	19.8	883	70.2	125	9.9	1,008	80.2
Asian	613	5.0	7,405	59.9	4,340	35.1	11,745	95.0
Hispanic	21,270	15.4	97,954	70.8	19,072	13.8	117,026	84.6
Pacific Islander	56	14.6	289	75.5	38	9.9	327	85.4
White	14,885	14.6	68,228	66.9	18,919	18.5	87,147	85.4
Multiracial	778	14.9	3,605	69.0	838	16.1	4,443	85.1
Econ. disad. ^a	27,483	19.0	101,755	70.4	15,244	10.6	116,999	81.0
Female	18,201	12.3	103,614	69.8	26,685	18.0	130,299	87.7
Male	27,823	18.8	101,898	68.7	18,654	12.6	120,552	81.2
Bilingual or ESL ^b	1,836	25.9	5,108	72.0	150	2.1	5,258	74.1
CTE ^c	18,804	13.5	98,382	70.5	22,354	16.0	120,736	86.5
Gifted and talented	503	1.7	15,565	51.6	14,112	46.8	29,677	98.3
Special education	17,865	73.7	6,155	25.4	212	0.9	6,367	26.3
Title I	18,029	14.5	87,456	70.2	19,111	15.3	106,567	85.5
At-risk	32,776	28.9	76,096	67.1	4,491	4.0	80,587	71.1
ELL ^d								
In K-12 ^e	11,964	14.3	60,108	71.7	11,739	14.0	71,847	85.7
In 9-12 ^f	4,317	22.8	13,651	72.0	1,001	5.3	14,652	77.2
In last year ^g	2,233	27.8	5,621	70.1	168	2.1	5,789	72.2
Immigrant	329	13.1	2,019	80.3	167	6.6	2,186	86.9
Migrant	316	13.7	1,592	68.8	405	17.5	1,997	86.3
State	46,024	15.5	205,512	69.2	45,339	15.3	250,851	84.5

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. With the exception of two groups of students identified as English language learners (ELLs) (ever ELL in K-12 and ever ELL in 9-12), student characteristics were assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category. The total number of graduates summed across diploma programs does not match the state-level count of graduates presented elsewhere in this report because 3,570 students graduated under the Foundation High School Program, and 9 students were missing diploma program information.

^aEconomically disadvantaged. ^bEnglish as a second language. ^cCareer and technical education. Data reflect students participating in CTE programs; students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded. ^dEnglish language learner. ^eStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Texas public schools (TPS). ^fStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. ^gStudents identified as ELLs in their last year in TPS.

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). The commissioner of education adopted a transition plan in 2013 that, among other provisions, gave students completing their fourth or final year of high school in the 2013-14 school year the option of graduating under the new foundation program instead of the existing graduation plans (19 TAC §74.1022, 2016, amended to be effective December 16, 2013). The endorsement requirements were not finalized until early 2014. Therefore, students in the class of 2014 opting to graduate under the new foundation program in the 2013-14 school year were unable to earn an endorsement. Students who graduated in the 2014-15 school year, were able to earn an endorsement and earn a distinguished level of achievement (19 TAC §§74.11-74.13, 2016, amended to be effective July 8, 2014; TEC §28.025, 2013). Of the five-year graduates, 3,312 graduated under the transitional FHSP in 2013-14, and 258 graduated under the fully-implemented FHSP in 2014-15.

Grade 9 Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

Students who began Grade 9 in Texas public schools for the first time in 2009-10 or who later joined the cohort were tracked into the fall semester two years following their anticipated graduation date of spring 2013. The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2013 and fall 2015 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2013 left Texas public schools by fall 2015 for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left Texas public schools by fall 2013 without graduating returned to Texas public schools and graduated, received GED certificates, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2015. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups.

By the fall of 2013, 88.0 percent of the class of 2013 had graduated, 4.6 percent were still in high school, 0.8 percent had received GED certificates, and 6.6 percent had dropped out (Table 35). By the fall of 2015, 90.9 percent of the class had graduated, 0.6 percent were still in high school, 1.4 percent had received GED certificates, and 7.2 percent had dropped out (Table 35 on facing page and Table 38 on page 101). The six-year graduation rate for the class of 2013 was 2.9 percentage points higher than the four-year graduation rate.

Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in the class of 2013, the percentage-point increase between the four-year and six-year graduation rates was highest for Hispanic students (3.7 points), followed by African American (3.1 points), multiracial (2.0 points), Asian (1.8 points), and White (1.7 points) students (Table 35). The graduation rate for students identified as economically disadvantaged increased by 3.6 percentage points over the two year period to 88.8 percent. Graduation rates increased by 3.4 percentage points for males and by 2.3 percentage points for females.

Table 35

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 2013

Status date	Class ^b	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
African American											
As of fall 2013	44,189	37,162	84.1	2,352	5.3	298	0.7	4,377	9.9	39,812	90.1
As of fall 2014	43,978	38,145	86.7	586	1.3	438	1.0	4,809	10.9	39,169	89.1
As of fall 2015	43,953	38,346	87.2	248	0.6	563	1.3	4,796	10.9	39,157	89.1
American Indian											
As of fall 2013	<1,500	– ^c	85.8	–	4.4	–	1.3	–	8.5	–	91.5
As of fall 2014	<1,500	–	87.6	–	1.3	–	2.1	–	9.0	–	91.0
As of fall 2015	<1,500	–	87.8	–	0.7	–	2.4	–	9.1	–	90.9
Asian											
As of fall 2013	12,058	11,312	93.8	360	3.0	21	0.2	365	3.0	11,693	97.0
As of fall 2014	12,040	11,472	95.3	121	1.0	31	0.3	416	3.5	11,624	96.5
As of fall 2015	12,032	11,505	95.6	64	0.5	42	0.3	421	3.5	11,611	96.5
Hispanic											
As of fall 2013	155,160	132,051	85.1	9,153	5.9	1,307	0.8	12,649	8.2	142,511	91.8
As of fall 2014	154,480	136,228	88.2	2,532	1.6	1,783	1.2	13,937	9.0	140,543	91.0
As of fall 2015	154,385	137,121	88.8	1,092	0.7	2,142	1.4	14,030	9.1	140,355	90.9
Pacific Islander											
As of fall 2013	<450	–	89.5	–	4.7	–	0.5	–	5.3	–	94.7
As of fall 2014	<450	–	91.4	–	1.2	–	0.5	–	7.0	–	93.0
As of fall 2015	<450	–	91.6	–	0.2	–	0.5	–	7.7	–	92.3
White											
As of fall 2013	109,915	102,213	93.0	2,845	2.6	996	0.9	3,861	3.5	106,054	96.5
As of fall 2014	109,816	103,635	94.4	882	0.8	1,361	1.2	3,938	3.6	105,878	96.4
As of fall 2015	109,841	103,969	94.7	481	0.4	1,598	1.5	3,793	3.5	106,048	96.5
Multiracial											
As of fall 2013	5,345	4,899	91.7	165	3.1	48	0.9	233	4.4	5,112	95.6
As of fall 2014	5,341	4,990	93.4	41	0.8	60	1.1	250	4.7	5,091	95.3
As of fall 2015	5,340	5,005	93.7	17	0.3	72	1.3	246	4.6	5,094	95.4

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bThe total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2013 and fall 2015 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2013 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2015 for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2013 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received GED certificates, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2015. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. ^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.

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Table 35 (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 2013

Status date	Class ^b	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Economically disadvantaged											
As of fall 2013	162,779	138,630	85.2	8,868	5.4	1,493	0.9	13,788	8.5	148,991	91.5
As of fall 2014	161,878	142,831	88.2	2,288	1.4	2,041	1.3	14,718	9.1	147,160	90.9
As of fall 2015	161,770	143,693	88.8	1,021	0.6	2,452	1.5	14,604	9.0	147,166	91.0
Female											
As of fall 2013	161,039	145,457	90.3	5,865	3.6	971	0.6	8,746	5.4	152,293	94.6
As of fall 2014	160,637	148,056	92.2	1,751	1.1	1,356	0.8	9,474	5.9	151,163	94.1
As of fall 2015	160,593	148,652	92.6	887	0.6	1,548	1.0	9,506	5.9	151,087	94.1
Male											
As of fall 2013	167,545	143,841	85.9	9,095	5.4	1,721	1.0	12,888	7.7	154,657	92.3
As of fall 2014	166,931	148,106	88.7	2,436	1.5	2,350	1.4	14,039	8.4	152,892	91.6
As of fall 2015	166,877	148,996	89.3	1,027	0.6	2,906	1.7	13,948	8.4	152,929	91.6
State											
As of fall 2013	328,584	289,298	88.0	14,960	4.6	2,692	0.8	21,634	6.6	306,950	93.4
As of fall 2014	327,568	296,162	90.4	4,187	1.3	3,706	1.1	23,513	7.2	304,055	92.8
As of fall 2015	327,470	297,648	90.9	1,914	0.6	4,454	1.4	23,454	7.2	304,016	92.8

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bThe total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2013 and fall 2015 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2013 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2015 for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2013 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received GED certificates, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2015. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. *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.

Table 36 presents six-year extended longitudinal rates by program participation, and Table 37 on page 100 presents rates by student characteristic. Table 39 on page 103 presents numbers and percentages of graduates within diploma programs for the class of 2013, as of fall 2015.

Grade 9 Seven-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

Students who began Grade 9 in Texas public schools for the first time in 2008-09 or who later joined the cohort were tracked into the fall semester three years following their anticipated graduation date of spring 2012. The total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2012 and fall 2015 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2012 left Texas public schools by fall 2015 for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left Texas public schools by fall 2015 without graduating returned to

Table 36
Grade 9 Four-Year, Five-Year Extended, and Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Program Participation, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2013

Status date	Class ^b	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Bilingual or ESL^c											
As of fall 2013	10,044	6,372	63.4	1,565	15.6	43	0.4	2,064	20.5	7,980	79.5
As of fall 2014	9,718	6,876	70.8	401	4.1	53	0.5	2,388	24.6	7,330	75.4
As of fall 2015	9,638	6,963	72.2	134	1.4	69	0.7	2,472	25.6	7,166	74.4
Career and technical education^d											
As of fall 2013	143,590	136,304	94.9	2,289	1.6	590	0.4	4,407	3.1	139,183	96.9
As of fall 2014	143,620	137,808	96.0	437	0.3	822	0.6	4,553	3.2	139,067	96.8
As of fall 2015	143,653	137,991	96.1	206	0.1	954	0.7	4,502	3.1	139,151	96.9
Gifted and talented											
As of fall 2013	29,354	29,091	99.1	72	0.2	43	0.1	148	0.5	29,206	99.5
As of fall 2014	<29,400	- ^e	99.3	-	<0.1	-	0.2	-	0.5	-	99.5
As of fall 2015	<29,400	-	99.3	-	<0.1	-	0.2	-	0.5	-	99.5
Special education											
As of fall 2013	31,014	24,114	77.8	3,306	10.7	154	0.5	3,440	11.1	27,574	88.9
As of fall 2014	31,066	25,509	82.1	1,748	5.6	237	0.8	3,572	11.5	27,494	88.5
As of fall 2015	31,102	26,138	84.0	1,083	3.5	287	0.9	3,594	11.6	27,508	88.4
Title I											
As of fall 2013	142,976	122,221	85.5	6,538	4.6	1,396	1.0	12,821	9.0	130,155	91.0
As of fall 2014	143,120	125,685	87.8	1,715	1.2	1,937	1.4	13,783	9.6	129,337	90.4
As of fall 2015	143,167	126,415	88.3	697	0.5	2,302	1.6	13,753	9.6	129,414	90.4
State											
As of fall 2013	328,584	289,298	88.0	14,960	4.6	2,692	0.8	21,634	6.6	306,950	93.4
As of fall 2014	327,568	296,162	90.4	4,187	1.3	3,706	1.1	23,513	7.2	304,055	92.8
As of fall 2015	327,470	297,648	90.9	1,914	0.6	4,454	1.4	23,454	7.2	304,016	92.8

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.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bThe total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2013 and fall 2015 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2013 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2015 for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2013 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received GED certificates, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2015. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. ^cEnglish as a second language. ^dData reflect students participating in career and technical education (CTE) programs; students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded. ^eA 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.

Table 37
Grade 9 Four-Year, Five-Year Extended, and Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2013

Status date	Class ^b	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
At-risk											
As of fall 2013	137,046	111,341	81.2	10,731	7.8	1,455	1.1	13,519	9.9	123,527	90.1
As of fall 2014	135,696	116,137	85.6	2,839	2.1	2,045	1.5	14,675	10.8	121,021	89.2
As of fall 2015	135,479	117,062	86.4	1,308	1.0	2,469	1.8	14,640	10.8	120,839	89.2
Ever ELL in K-12^c											
As of fall 2013	94,064	79,354	84.4	6,328	6.7	583	0.6	7,799	8.3	86,265	91.7
As of fall 2014	93,549	82,197	87.9	1,740	1.9	784	0.8	8,828	9.4	84,721	90.6
As of fall 2015	93,462	82,777	88.6	701	0.8	977	1.0	9,007	9.6	84,455	90.4
Ever ELL in 9-12^d											
As of fall 2013	24,044	17,133	71.3	3,218	13.4	101	0.4	3,592	14.9	20,452	85.1
As of fall 2014	23,707	18,363	77.5	921	3.9	136	0.6	4,287	18.1	19,420	81.9
As of fall 2015	23,658	18,635	78.8	374	1.6	176	0.7	4,473	18.9	19,185	81.1
ELL in last year^e											
As of fall 2013	11,922	7,352	61.7	1,677	14.1	69	0.6	2,824	23.7	9,098	76.3
As of fall 2014	11,730	7,959	67.9	442	3.8	91	0.8	3,238	27.6	8,492	72.4
As of fall 2015	11,691	8,080	69.1	158	1.4	115	1.0	3,338	28.6	8,353	71.4
Immigrant											
As of fall 2013	<2,950	- ^f	72.5	-	9.9	-	0.1	-	17.6	-	82.4
As of fall 2014	<2,900	-	76.6	-	3.8	-	0.1	-	19.5	-	80.5
As of fall 2015	2,845	2,232	78.5	17	0.6	6	0.2	590	20.7	2,255	79.3
Migrant											
As of fall 2013	2,731	2,254	82.5	160	5.9	36	1.3	281	10.3	2,450	89.7
As of fall 2014	2,727	2,336	85.7	32	1.2	48	1.8	311	11.4	2,416	88.6
As of fall 2015	2,720	2,349	86.4	12	0.4	52	1.9	307	11.3	2,413	88.7
State											
As of fall 2013	328,584	289,298	88.0	14,960	4.6	2,692	0.8	21,634	6.6	306,950	93.4
As of fall 2014	327,568	296,162	90.4	4,187	1.3	3,706	1.1	23,513	7.2	304,055	92.8
As of fall 2015	327,470	297,648	90.9	1,914	0.6	4,454	1.4	23,454	7.2	304,016	92.8

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. With the exception of two groups of students identified as English language learners (ELLs) (ever ELL in K-12 and ever ELL in 9-12), student characteristics were assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bThe total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2013 and fall 2015 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2013 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2015 for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2013 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received GED certificates, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2015. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups. ^cStudents identified as English language learners (ELLs) at any time while attending TPS. ^dStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. ^eStudents identified as ELLs in their last year in TPS. ^fA 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 represented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the class while maintaining student anonymity.

Table 38

Grade 9 Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2010, as of Fall 2012, Class of 2011, as of Fall 2013, Class of 2012, as of Fall 2014, and Class of 2013, as of Fall 2015

Class year	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
African American											
Class of 2010	45,650	38,166	83.6	307	0.7	780	1.7	6,397	14.0	39,253	86.0
Class of 2011	44,811	38,088	85.0	318	0.7	578	1.3	5,827	13.0	38,984	87.0
Class of 2012	42,866	37,268	86.9	240	0.6	622	1.5	4,736	11.0	38,130	89.0
Class of 2013	43,953	38,346	87.2	248	0.6	563	1.3	4,796	10.9	39,157	89.1
American Indian											
Class of 2010	1,234	1,093	88.6	9	0.7	34	2.8	98	7.9	1,136	92.1
Class of 2011	<1,600	- ^b	90.0	-	0.3	-	2.2	-	7.5	-	92.5
Class of 2012	<1,600	-	89.2	-	0.5	-	2.6	-	7.7	-	92.3
Class of 2013	<1,500	-	87.8	-	0.7	-	2.4	-	9.1	-	90.9
Asian											
Class of 2010	n/a ^c	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Class of 2011	10,679	10,363	97.0	60	0.6	27	0.3	229	2.1	10,450	97.9
Class of 2012	11,185	10,807	96.6	55	0.5	38	0.3	285	2.5	10,900	97.5
Class of 2013	12,032	11,505	95.6	64	0.5	42	0.3	421	3.5	11,611	96.5
Hispanic											
Class of 2010	133,682	113,646	85.0	1,336	1.0	2,633	2.0	16,067	12.0	117,615	88.0
Class of 2011	142,543	123,996	87.0	1,121	0.8	2,258	1.6	15,168	10.6	127,375	89.4
Class of 2012	144,386	127,988	88.6	1,131	0.8	2,221	1.5	13,046	9.0	131,340	91.0
Class of 2013	154,385	137,121	88.8	1,092	0.7	2,142	1.4	14,030	9.1	140,355	90.9
Pacific Islander											
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	-	92.5	-	0.5	-	1.1	-	5.9	-	94.1
Class of 2012	<450	-	93.2	-	0.2	-	0.5	-	6.1	-	93.9
Class of 2013	<450	-	91.6	-	0.2	-	0.5	-	7.7	-	92.3
White											
Class of 2010	119,667	112,457	94.0	460	0.4	2,389	2.0	4,361	3.6	115,306	96.4
Class of 2011	113,261	106,821	94.3	479	0.4	1,867	1.6	4,094	3.6	109,167	96.4
Class of 2012	109,917	104,226	94.8	460	0.4	1,718	1.6	3,513	3.2	106,404	96.8
Class of 2013	109,841	103,969	94.7	481	0.4	1,598	1.5	3,793	3.5	106,048	96.5
Multiracial											
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	4,346	4,103	94.4	23	0.5	57	1.3	163	3.8	4,183	96.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bA 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 represented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the class while maintaining student anonymity. ^cNot available. ^dNumbers 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 38 (continued)

Grade 9 Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2010, as of Fall 2012, Class of 2011, as of Fall 2013, Class of 2012, as of Fall 2014, and Class of 2013, as of Fall 2015

Class year	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Class of 2012	5,064	4,771	94.2	14	0.3	84	1.7	195	3.9	4,869	96.1
Class of 2013	5,340	5,005	93.7	17	0.3	72	1.3	246	4.6	5,094	95.4
Economically disadvantaged											
Class of 2010	131,341	115,571	88.0	1,160	0.9	2,134	1.6	12,476	9.5	118,865	90.5
Class of 2011	146,899	130,364	88.7	1,090	0.7	2,103	1.4	13,342	9.1	133,557	90.9
Class of 2012	151,530	135,409	89.4	979	0.6	2,366	1.6	12,776	8.4	138,754	91.6
Class of 2013	161,770	143,693	88.8	1,021	0.6	2,452	1.5	14,604	9.0	147,166	91.0
Female											
Class of 2010	153,195	138,007	90.1	981	0.6	2,119	1.4	12,088	7.9	141,107	92.1
Class of 2011	156,130	142,512	91.3	850	0.5	1,731	1.1	11,037	7.1	145,093	92.9
Class of 2012	154,702	143,247	92.6	852	0.6	1,560	1.0	9,043	5.8	145,659	94.2
Class of 2013	160,593	148,652	92.6	887	0.6	1,548	1.0	9,506	5.9	151,087	94.1
Male											
Class of 2010	158,479	138,374	87.3	1,168	0.7	3,769	2.4	15,168	9.6	143,311	90.4
Class of 2011	161,659	142,705	88.3	1,158	0.7	3,102	1.9	14,694	9.1	146,965	90.9
Class of 2012	160,755	143,595	89.3	1,057	0.7	3,168	2.0	12,935	8.0	147,820	92.0
Class of 2013	166,877	148,996	89.3	1,027	0.6	2,906	1.7	13,948	8.4	152,929	91.6
State											
Class of 2010	311,674	276,381	88.7	2,149	0.7	5,888	1.9	27,256	8.7	284,418	91.3
Class of 2011 ^d	317,789	285,217	89.8	2,008	0.6	4,833	1.5	25,731	8.1	292,058	91.9
Class of 2012 ^d	315,457	286,842	90.9	1,909	0.6	4,728	1.5	21,978	7.0	293,479	93.0
Class of 2013	327,470	297,648	90.9	1,914	0.6	4,454	1.4	23,454	7.2	304,016	92.8

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bA 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 represented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the number of students in the class while maintaining student anonymity. ^cNot available. ^dNumbers 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 39
Graduates Within Diploma Programs, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, Gender, Program Participation, and Student Characteristic, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2013 Grade 9 Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Cohort, as of Fall 2015

Group	Minimum		Recommended		Advanced		Recommended or Advanced	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
African American	9,533	24.9	27,011	70.5	1,791	4.7	28,802	75.1
American Indian	279	21.3	899	68.7	130	9.9	1,029	78.7
Asian	758	6.6	6,925	60.2	3,821	33.2	10,746	93.4
Hispanic	24,516	17.9	95,266	69.5	17,250	12.6	112,516	82.1
Pacific Islander	61	15.5	296	75.1	37	9.4	333	84.5
White	17,070	16.4	68,785	66.2	18,095	17.4	86,880	83.6
Multiracial	829	16.6	3,425	68.5	749	15.0	4,174	83.4
Econ. disad. ^a	31,316	21.8	98,474	68.6	13,837	9.6	112,311	78.2
Female	21,128	14.2	102,877	69.2	24,604	16.6	127,481	85.8
Male	31,918	21.4	99,730	67.0	17,269	11.6	116,999	78.6
Bilingual or ESL ^b	2,032	29.2	4,802	69.0	123	1.8	4,925	70.8
CTE ^c	21,209	15.4	96,339	69.8	20,432	14.8	116,771	84.6
Gifted and talented	594	2.0	15,541	53.3	13,017	44.7	28,558	98.0
Special education	19,290	73.8	6,649	25.4	189	0.7	6,838	26.2
Title I	21,643	17.1	87,241	69.0	17,476	13.8	104,717	82.9
At-risk	37,969	32.5	74,855	64.0	4,151	3.5	79,006	67.5
ELL ^d								
In K-12 ^e	14,053	17.0	58,197	70.4	1,0467	12.7	68,664	83.0
In 9-12 ^f	4,932	26.5	12,841	69.0	845	4.5	13,686	73.5
In last year ^g	2,519	31.2	5,411	67.0	142	1.8	5,553	68.8
Immigrant	341	15.3	1,761	78.9	130	5.8	1,891	84.7
Migrant	342	14.6	1,624	69.2	380	16.2	2,004	85.4
State	53,046	17.8	202,607	68.1	41,873	14.1	244,480	82.2

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. With the exception of two groups of students identified as English language learners (ELLs) (ever ELL in K-12 and ever ELL in 9-12), student characteristics were assigned based on the year of a student's final status in the cohort. Students may be counted in more than one category. The total number of graduates summed across diploma programs does not match the state-level count of graduates presented elsewhere in this report because 92 students graduated under the Foundation High School Program and 30 were missing diploma program information.

^aEconomically disadvantaged. ^bEnglish as a second language. ^cCareer and technical education. Data reflect students participating in CTE programs; students enrolled in CTE courses as electives are excluded. ^dEnglish language learner. ^eStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Texas public schools (TPS). ^fStudents identified as ELLs at any time while attending Grades 9-12 in TPS. ^gStudents identified as ELLs in their last year in TPS.

Texas public schools and graduated, received GED certificates, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2015. In addition, students with changes in year of final status were added to, or removed from, relevant student groups.

By the fall of 2012, 87.7 percent of the class of 2012 had graduated, 5.0 percent were still in high school, 1.0 percent had received GED certificates, and 6.3 percent had dropped out (Table 40). By the fall of 2015, 91.2 percent of the class of 2012 had graduated, 0.3 percent were still in high school, 1.7 percent had received GED certificates, and 6.8 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 2012

Status date	Class ^b	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
As of fall 2012	316,758	277,778	87.7	15,750	5.0	3,198	1.0	20,032	6.3
As of fall 2013	315,501	285,296	90.4	4,140	1.3	3,729	1.2	22,336	7.1
As of fall 2014	315,457	286,842	90.9	1,909	0.6	4,728	1.5	21,978	7.0
As of fall 2015	315,510	287,761	91.2	795	0.3	5,386	1.7	21,568	6.8

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

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bThe total number of students with final statuses changed between fall 2012 and fall 2015 because: (a) some students who continued high school in fall 2012 left Texas public schools (TPS) by fall 2015 for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out; and (b) some students who left TPS by fall 2012 without graduating returned to TPS and graduated, received GED certificates, continued high school, or dropped out by fall 2015.

Grade 7 Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates

The class of 2015 Grade 7 cohort includes students who entered Grade 7 in Texas public schools for the first time in in 2009-10 plus students who, in the next five school years, entered the Texas public school system in the grade level expected for the cohort. For the class of 2015 Grade 7 cohort, 88.3 percent graduated, 4.8 percent continued in high school the year following their anticipated graduation date, 0.6 percent received GED certificates, and 6.4 percent dropped out (Table 41). As with the Grade 9 cohort, the graduation rate in the Grade 7 cohort increased between the class of 2014 and the class of 2015.

Table 41
Grade 7 Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity and Economic Status,
Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2012 Through 2015

Class year	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
African American									
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
American Indian									
Class of 2012	<1,600	– ^b	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
Asian									
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
Hispanic									
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
Pacific Islander									
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
White									
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
Multiracial									
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

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for classes prior to 2012 are found in Appendix C.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bA 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. ^cNumbers 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 41 (continued)

Grade 7 Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, by Race/Ethnicity and Economic Status, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2012 Through 2015

Class year	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Economically disadvantaged									
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
State									
Class of 2012 ^c	316,277	273,762	86.6	18,591	5.9	3,016	1.0	20,908	6.6
Class of 2013 ^c	326,482	285,009	87.3	16,994	5.2	2,567	0.8	21,912	6.7
Class of 2014 ^c	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

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity. Results for classes prior to 2012 are found in Appendix C.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bA 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. ^cNumbers 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.

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 42). Grade 7 enrollment five years earlier is used to calculate the Grade 7-12 attrition rate (Table 43 on page 108). The attrition rate calculations are on page 8.

Table 42
Attrition Rate, Grades 9-12, by Race/Ethnicity and Economic Status,
Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Fall enrollment		Change	Attrition rate (%)
	Grade 9, 2011-12	Grade 12, 2014-15		
African American	52,807	39,820	12,987	24.6
American Indian	1,915	1,359	556	29.0
Asian	13,688	13,444	244	1.8
Hispanic	196,580	149,136	47,444	24.1
Pacific Islander	521	496	25	4.8
White	121,994	104,151	17,843	14.6
Multiracial	6,048	5,404	644	10.6
Economically disadvantaged	222,848	144,673	78,175	35.1
State	393,553	313,810	79,743	20.3

Note. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

The attrition rate does not take into account any of the reasons beginning and ending enrollments differ (Table 44 on page 108). 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 and students who enter the school system after the first year are excluded from the rates. 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 43
Attrition Rate, Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity and Economic Status,
Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Fall enrollment			Attrition rate (%)
	Grade 7, 2009-10	Grade 12, 2014-15	Change	
African American	45,877	39,820	6,057	13.2
American Indian	2,089	1,359	730	34.9
Asian	11,809	13,444	-1,635	-13.8
Hispanic	169,851	149,136	20,715	12.2
Pacific Islander	470	496	-26	-5.5
White	116,004	104,151	11,853	10.2
Multiracial	5,276	5,404	-128	-2.4
Economically disadvantaged	201,541	144,673	56,868	28.2
State	351,376	313,810	37,566	10.7

Note. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aNot available.

Table 44
Comparison of Class of 2015 Four-Year Longitudinal Rate and 2014-15 Attrition Rate Calculations, Texas Public Schools

Four-year longitudinal rates, based on tracking individual students		Attrition rate, based on aggregate numbers		
	Students who: (a) began Grade 9 in Texas public schools (TPS) in 2011-12, with repeaters excluded; or (b) entered TPS in Grade 10 in 2012-13, Grade 11 in 2013-14, or Grade 12 in 2014-15.	392,943	Students in Grade 9 in TPS in fall 2011, with students repeating Grade 9 included.	393,553
minus	Students reported to have left TPS in 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, or 2014-15 for reasons other than graduating, receiving General Educational Development (GED) certificates, or dropping out.	48,906	minus Students in Grade 12 in TPS in fall 2014. Individual students are not tracked. Students enrolled in Grade 12 in TPS in fall 2014 may or may not have been enrolled in Grade 9 in TPS in fall 2011.	313,810
minus	Students who could not be tracked across years because of data errors. ^a	4,411		
equals	Class of 2015	339,626	equals Change in enrollment	79,743
final statuses	Graduated	302,262		
	Continued	14,013		
	Received GED	1,994		
	Dropped out	21,357		
	Graduation rate	89.0	Attrition rate	20.3%
	Continuation rate	4.1		
	Received GED rate	0.6		
	Dropout rate	6.3		

^aData 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 interventions and sanctions.

Data Quality Measures

Data Quality in the Annual Rates

Underreported students. 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 General Educational Development (GED) certificates. Districts must report the statuses of all other Grade 7-12 students. From 2005-06 to 2014-15, the percentage of students who were not accounted for decreased overall from 0.8 percent to 0.3 percent (Table 45). Across the five largest racial/ethnic groups in 2014-15, two groups—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 (50.3% vs. 55.8%) (Table 46 on page 110).

Table 45
Reported and Underreported Students,
Grades 7-12, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06
Through 2014-15

Year	Students accounted for ^a		Underreported students	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
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

^aStudents enrolled in Grades 7-12 in one school year who were accounted for by districts or the Texas Education Agency the following fall.

Table 46
Reported and Underreported Students,
Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Texas Public
Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students accounted for ^a		Underreported students	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
African American	292,103	12.8	1,277	16.3
American Indian	8,860	0.4	41	0.5
Asian	88,572	3.9	180	2.3
Hispanic	1,146,691	50.3	4,371	55.8
Pacific Islander	3,134	0.1	17	0.2
White	697,528	30.6	1,810	23.1
Multiracial	41,155	1.8	138	1.8
State	2,278,043	100	7,834	100

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aStudents enrolled in Grades 7-12 in 2014-15 who were accounted for by districts or the Texas Education Agency the following fall.

Student identification errors. The Person Identification Database (PID) links records for a student based on four pieces of identifying information: social security number or alternative identification number, last name, first name, and date of birth. When identifying information for a student does not match across records, errors can occur. The overall student identification error rate for the state has declined since student enrollment data were first collected in 1990-91. The percentage of leaver records that contained student identification errors was unchanged from 2009-10 to 2014-15, at 0.1 percent (Table 47).

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 Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) and other data files, most students are assigned one of four final statuses: graduate, continuer, GED certificate recipient, or dropout.

Two groups of students from a cohort are not assigned final statuses: 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 2015 Grade 9 cohort, 583 students (0.1%) could not be tracked because of identification errors, and 3,828 students (1.0%) were underreported by districts (Table 48). Data quality information for classes prior to 2009 is found in Appendix C.

Table 47
Leaver Records With Student Identification
Errors, Texas Public Schools, 1997-98
Through 2014-15

School year	Leaver records	Records with identification errors	
		Number	Percent
1997-98	275,263	17,031	6.2
1998-99	304,365	14,022	4.6
1999-00	305,485	11,808	3.9
2000-01	306,358	7,650	2.5
2001-02	311,824	5,789	1.9
2002-03	311,763	4,670	1.5
2003-04	322,057	3,842	1.2
2004-05	336,297	2,920	0.9
2005-06	153,246	404	0.3
2006-07	151,296	339	0.2
2007-08	140,141	237	0.2
2008-09	131,088	219	0.2
2009-10	122,835	167	0.1
2010-11	120,559	117	0.1
2011-12	121,165	107	0.1
2012-13	115,976	112	0.1
2013-14	117,129	109	0.1
2014-15	113,310	65	0.1

Table 48
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Cohort, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2009 Through 2015

Cohort ending year	Cohort							Cohort
	Class			Data errors				
	Graduated	Continued	Received GED ^a	Dropped out	Other leavers ^b	Student ID errors	Underreported students	
2009	248,500	26,667	4,404	28,856	61,179	1,668	6,819	378,093
2010	264,632	22,532	3,927	22,988	55,670	1,356	5,129	376,234
2011	274,562	19,757	3,456	21,813	53,538	1,061	4,585	378,772
2012	277,778	15,750	3,198	20,032	49,601	915	3,917	371,191
2013	289,298	14,960	2,692	21,634	50,113	867	4,072	383,636
2014	294,240	14,487	2,582	21,977	48,998	749	4,144	387,177
2015	302,262	14,013	1,994	21,357	48,906	583	3,828	392,943

Note. Results for classes prior to 2009 are found in Appendix C.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bOther leavers are students who left the Texas public school system for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out. For more information on other leavers, see Table A-1 in Appendix A.

In addition to tracking students in the class of 2015, TEA tracked continuers in the class of 2014 through 2014-15 to determine whether they dropped out that year. There were 14,487 students in the class of 2014 who remained enrolled in fall 2014. Of these, 3,202 dropped out in 2014-15, resulting in a dropout rate for continuing students of 22.1 percent.

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

State Accountability System

Federal Accountability System

National Center for
Education Statistics Reporting

State Accountability System

The public school accountability system consists of four indices: student achievement, student progress, closing performance gaps, and postsecondary readiness (TEA, 2016). Annual dropout rates, longitudinal graduation rates, and diploma program rates are components of the postsecondary readiness index. The rates used for 2016 accountability procedures for campuses and districts include: the class of 2015 four-year graduation rate and the class of 2014 five-year graduation rate. In addition, two four-year diploma program rates were calculated using different combinations of the four state high school diploma programs: Minimum (MHSP), Recommended (RHSP), Advanced (AHSP), and Foundation (FHSP). The diploma program rate that gave the district or campus the most points was used for state accountability.

One rate measured the percentage of MHSP, RHSP, and AHSP graduates who graduated under the RHSP or AHSP and was calculated as follows.

$$\frac{\text{RHSP} + \text{AHSP}}{\text{MHSP} + \text{RHSP} + \text{AHSP}}$$

The other rate measured the percentage of MHSP, RHSP, and AHSP graduates and FHSP graduates with and without an endorsement who graduated under the RHSP or AHSP or the FHSP with an endorsement (with or without a DLA) and was calculated as follows.

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

The groups evaluated on graduation rates were: all students, students ever identified as English language learners (ELLs) during high school, students served in special education programs, and the seven racial/ethnic groups used for federal reporting (African American, American Indian, Asian, Hispanic, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial). The groups evaluated on diploma program rate were all students and the seven racial/ethnic groups used for federal reporting. For campuses and districts that did not meet the grade span criteria needed for calculation of a graduation rate, the Grade 9-12 annual dropout rate was used. The same groups evaluated for graduation rates were evaluated for the Grade 9-12 annual dropout rate.

For alternative education campuses and districts, the class of 2015 four-year, class of 2014 five-year extended, and class of 2013 six-year extended graduation, continuation, or General Educational Development (GED) certification rates were used. The groups evaluated for the graduation, continuation, or GED certification rates were: all students; students ever identified as ELLs during high school; students served in special education programs; and the seven racial/ethnic groups used for federal reporting. For campuses and districts that did not have a graduation, continuation, or GED certification rate, the Grade 9-12 annual dropout rate was used.

Under Texas Education Code (TEC) §39.053(g-1) (2015), a student who met at least one of the following criteria was excluded from campus and district rate calculations used for state

accountability purposes, beginning with the class of 2011. (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 in which the facility is located; or (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. In addition, beginning with 2014 accountability procedures, any student in a residential treatment facility served by a Texas public school district was excluded from campus and district rate calculations used for state accountability purposes (TEC §39.055, 2015).

Beginning with the class of 2016, for 2017 accountability ratings, a student will be 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) under Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code §89.1070(b)(2) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 United States Code §1400 et seq.); and (c) is enrolled and receiving IEP services (TEC §39.053(g-2), 2015). Districts were given an opportunity to appeal their 2016 accountability ratings if inclusion of students who met these eligibility requirements was the sole reason for receiving a district or campus rating of *Improvement Required*.

A total of 27,884 students, 6,875 of whom were dropouts, were excluded from the 2014-15 campus and district Grade 9-12 annual dropout rates for state accountability ratings in 2016 (Table 49 on page 116). For each student enrolled in Texas public schools in 2014-15, the exclusion criteria he or she met were summed across all districts attended. The majority of students, represented in the first six 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 GED program, does not receive a GED certificate, 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 GED program, no GED certificate earned." In the "dropouts" column, the same student would be counted only in the category "court-ordered GED program, no GED certificate earned."

Table 49
Students and Dropouts Excluded From Campus and District Annual Dropout Rates for State Accountability Purposes, Grades 9-12, Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Exclusion ^a	Students		Dropouts	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Court-ordered GED ^b program, no GED certificate earned	1,297	4.7	1,340	19.5
Previously reported to the state as a dropout	7,245	26.0	2,061	30.0
Ineligible for FSP ^c funding	3,496	12.5	1,130	16.4
Unschooling refugee or asylee ^d	1,524	5.5	113	1.6
In a juvenile detention or residential treatment facility	12,780	45.8	1,334	19.4
Incarcerated in state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult	227	0.8	247	3.6
Two or more exclusions	1,315	4.7	650	9.5
State	27,884	100	6,875	100

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

^aStudents may be eligible for exclusion based on more than one criterion. ^bGeneral Educational Development. ^cFoundation School Program. ^dTo be excluded, the student must also be reported as an English language learner.

A total of 6,862 students in the class of 2015, 8,468 students in the class of 2014, and 8,476 students in the class of 2013 were excluded from campus and district longitudinal rates calculated for state accountability purposes in 2016 (Table 50, Table 51 on page 118, and Table 52 on page 119, 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 six 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. In addition, students court-ordered to attend GED programs who did not earn GED certificates 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 34 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 2015 would have been 1.6 percentage points higher (90.6%), and the continuation, GED certification, and dropout rates would have been 0.5, 0.1, and 1.0 percentage points lower (3.6%, 0.5%, and 5.3%), respectively; (b) the five-year extended graduation rate for the class of 2014 would have been 1.8 percentage points higher (92.2%), and the continuation, GED certification, and dropout rates would have been 0.3, 0.1, and 1.3 percentage points lower (1.0%, 0.9%, and 5.9%), respectively; and (c) the six-year extended graduation rate for the class of 2013 would have been 1.7 percentage points higher (92.6%), and the continuation, GED certification, and dropout rates would have been 0.2, 0.2, and 1.4 percentage points lower (0.4%, 1.2%, and 5.8%), respectively.

Table 50
Students Excluded From Campus and District Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Rates for State Accountability Purposes, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015

Exclusion ^b	Graduates		Continuers		GED ^a recipients		Dropouts		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Court-ordered GED program, no GED certificate earned	n/a ^c	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,476	100	1,476	21.5
Previously reported to the state as a dropout	564	26.8	577	27.5	30	1.4	931	44.3	2,102	30.6
Ineligible for FSP ^d funding	n/a	n/a	1,378	100	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,378	20.1
Unschooling refugee or asylee ^e	– ^f	–	–	–	0	0.0	70	35.4	198	2.9
In a juvenile detention or residential treatment facility	207	17.8	38	3.3	224	19.3	694	59.7	1,163	17.0
Incarcerated in state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	215	100	215	3.1
Two or more exclusions	–	–	–	–	23	7.0	252	76.4	330	4.8
State	875	12.8	2,072	30.2	277	4.0	3,638	53.0	6,862	100

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

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bStudents may be eligible for exclusion based on more than one criterion. ^cNot applicable. Please see table discussion for additional information. ^dFoundation School Program. ^eTo be excluded, the student must also be reported as an English language learner. ^fA dash (–) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity.

Table 51**Students Excluded From Campus and District Grade 9 Five-Year Extended Longitudinal Rates for State Accountability Purposes, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2014, as of Fall 2015**

Exclusion ^b	Graduates		Continuers		GED ^a recipients		Dropouts		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Court-ordered GED program, no GED certificate earned	n/a ^c	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,407	100	1,407	16.6
Previously reported to the state as a dropout	934	34.7	395	14.7	88	3.3	1,277	47.4	2,694	31.8
Ineligible for FSP ^d funding	683	30.4	717	31.9	14	0.6	833	37.1	2,247	26.5
Unschooling refugee or asylee ^e	–	–	–	–	0	0.0	97	55.1	176	2.1
In a juvenile detention or residential treatment facility	227	17.6	19	1.5	333	25.9	709	55.1	1,288	15.2
Incarcerated in state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	205	100	205	2.4
Two or more exclusions	–	–	–	–	44	9.8	324	71.8	451	5.3
State	1,937	22.9	1,200	14.2	479	5.7	4,852	57.3	8,468	100

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

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bStudents may be eligible for exclusion based on more than one criterion. ^cNot applicable. Please see table discussion for additional information. ^dFoundation School Program. ^eTo be excluded, the student must also be reported as an English language learner. ^fA dash (–) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity.

Table 52
Students Excluded From Campus and District Grade 9 Six-Year Extended Longitudinal Rates
for State Accountability Purposes, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2013, as of Fall 2015

Exclusion ^b	Graduates		Continuers		GED ^a recipients		Dropouts		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Court-ordered GED program, no GED certificate earned	n/a ^c	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,228	100	1,228	14.5
Previously reported to the state as a dropout	1,191	39.2	236	7.8	153	5.0	1,461	48.0	3,041	35.9
Ineligible for FSP ^d funding	781	38.7	266	13.2	23	1.1	947	47.0	2,017	23.8
Unschooling refugee or asylee ^e	64	40.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	93	59.2	157	1.9
In a juvenile detention or residential treatment facility	246	18.3	15	1.1	433	32.3	648	48.3	1,342	15.8
Incarcerated in state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	200	100	200	2.4
Two or more exclusions	33	6.7	35	7.1	39	7.9	384	78.2	491	5.8
State	2,315	27.3	552	6.5	648	7.7	4,961	58.5	8,476	100

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

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bStudents may be eligible for exclusion based on more than one criterion. ^cNot applicable. Please see table discussion for additional information. ^dFoundation School Program. ^eTo be excluded, the student must also be reported as an English language learner.

Federal Accountability System

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, 2015) reauthorized this legislation. The primary function of the Act is 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 are evaluated annually for adequate yearly progress (AYP). AYP statuses were assigned to Texas public school districts and campuses from 2003 through 2012. In 2013, the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) approved a Texas Education Agency (TEA) request to waive 2012-13 and 2013-14 AYP calculations, noting that TEA's existing intervention systems adequately guide 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 USDE's approval to implement ESEA flexibility through the end of the 2014-15 school year. USDE approved the extension request with conditions related to the state's teacher and principal evaluation and support systems. Texas has since received another extension effective through the 2015-16 school year.

For 2016, TEA accountability system safeguard measures included four components: (1) assessment performance rates, (2) assessment participation rates, (3) graduation rates, and (4) limits on use of the alternative assessment (TEA, 2016). The long-term statewide goal for the four-year graduation rate was 90.0 percent. Districts and campuses that did not meet this goal must have met one of the following targets: (a) four-year graduation rate annual target of 88.0 percent; (b) four-year graduation rate growth target of a 10.0 percent decrease in the difference between prior-year graduation rate and the 90.0 percent goal; or (c) five-year graduation rate annual target of 90.0 percent. The targets applied to 11 student groups: all students, students ever identified as English language learners in high school, 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). A student in a Texas Juvenile Justice Department facility or residential treatment facility served by a Texas public school district was excluded from campus and district graduation rate calculations.

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 2014 adjusted cohort graduation rates in September 2015 (NCES, 2015). For the class of 2014, the rates ranged from 90.5 percent in Iowa to 61.4 percent in the District of Columbia (Table 53 on page 122). Texas ranked fifth out of 50 states and the District of Columbia, with an adjusted cohort graduation rate of 88.3 percent.

Averaged Freshman Graduation Rate

In addition to collecting adjusted cohort graduation rates calculated by each state based on student-level data, NCES calculates averaged freshman graduation rates (AFGRs) based on aggregate enrollment and graduation counts. The AFGR is calculated by dividing the number of high school students who graduate with a regular high school diploma in a given school year by the average of three enrollments: Grade 8 enrollment five years earlier, Grade 9 enrollment four years earlier, and Grade 10 enrollment three years earlier.

$$\frac{\text{number of graduates in year 5}}{\text{average of (Grade 8 enrollment in year 1, Grade 9 enrollment in year 2, Grade 10 enrollment in year 3)}}$$

NCES released the 2012-13 AFGRs through the Digest of Education Statistics (NCES, n.d.). For 2012-13, the rates ranged from 93.3 percent in Nebraska to 67.5 percent in Nevada (Table 54 on page 124). Texas, along with California, ranked 20th out of 50 states and the District of Columbia, with an AFGR of 83.6 percent.

A state's AFGR may be lower than its adjusted cohort graduation rate because the AFGR does not account for students who leave for home schools, private schools, or schools out of state. By contrast, a state's AFGR may be higher than its adjusted cohort graduation rate because the AFGR: (a) excludes from the denominator students who entered a state's public schools in the last years of a cohort or (b) includes in its numerator students who take more than four years to graduate.

Event Dropout Rate

TEA submits annual Grade 9-12 dropout data to NCES, which uses the data, along with dropout information submitted by other states, to calculate event dropout rates. The NCES event dropout rate is the percentage of students who drop out of school during one school year. It is calculated by

Table 53
National Center for Education Statistics Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates (%), by
Race/Ethnicity and State, Class of 2014

State	Rank	All students	African American	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Hispanic	White
Iowa	1	90.5	79.0	78.0	90.0	82.0	92.2
Nebraska	2	89.7	81.0	69.0	78.0	82.8	92.8
New Jersey	3	88.6	78.9	86.0	96.0	80.6	93.5
Wisconsin	3	88.6	66.1	81.0	90.0	78.1	92.9
Texas	5	88.3	84.2	87.0	94.6	85.5	93.0
New Hampshire	6	88.1	84.0	84.0	90.0	77.0	88.6
Indiana	7	87.9	75.0	84.0	89.0	83.2	90.4
Vermont	8	87.8	75.0	≥50.0 ^a	90.0	78.0	88.6
Kentucky	9	87.5	79.4	84.0	89.0	84.0	88.7
Missouri	10	87.3	74.8	83.0	90.0	80.0	90.4
North Dakota	11	87.2	76.0	66.0	85.0	74.0	90.2
Tennessee	11	87.2	78.6	81.0	93.0	81.4	90.9
Connecticut	13	87.0	78.6	85.0	93.0	74.0	92.2
Delaware	13	87.0	83.0	89.0	93.0	84.0	89.5
Arkansas	15	86.9	81.0	86.0	85.0	84.5	89.3
Maine	16	86.5	79.0	80.0	95.0	72.0	87.0
Maryland	17	86.4	80.5	87.0	94.9	77.5	91.9
Alabama	18	86.3	83.8	88.0	91.0	85.0	87.8
Massachusetts	19	86.1	74.9	76.0	91.9	69.2	90.9
Illinois	20	86.0	77.2	82.0	94.1	81.3	90.1
Kansas	21	85.7	77.0	76.0	90.0	78.7	88.3
Montana	22	85.4	89.0	65.0	85.0	81.0	88.3
Pennsylvania	23	85.3	72.3	82.0	90.4	71.1	89.6
Virginia	23	85.3	78.5	n/a ^b	90.5	75.9	89.2
West Virginia	25	84.5	79.0	59.0	95.0	89.0	84.7
North Carolina	26	83.9	79.9	79.0	91.0	77.4	87.1
Utah	26	83.9	69.0	66.0	85.0	72.9	86.6
Oklahoma	28	82.7	75.7	82.4	88.0	77.6	84.8
South Dakota	28	82.7	73.0	47.0	80.0	71.0	88.5
Hawaii	30	81.8	76.0	72.0	82.8	76.0	80.0

Source. Primary data from National Center for Education Statistics (2015).

^aThe result is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the rate while maintaining student anonymity. ^bNot available. ^cA dash (–) indicates data were not reported to protect student anonymity. ^dThe rate for American Indian students in the U.S. were estimated using reported data from 49 states and the District of Columbia and imputed data for Virginia.

continues

Table 53 (continued)
National Center for Education Statistics Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates (%), by Race/Ethnicity and State, Class of 2014

State	Rank	All students	African American	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Hispanic	White
Ohio	30	81.8	62.7	74.0	88.0	69.2	86.6
Minnesota	32	81.2	60.4	51.0	81.7	63.2	86.3
California	33	81.0	68.0	71.0	91.8	77.0	88.0
Rhode Island	34	80.8	72.0	57.0	88.0	72.0	85.0
South Carolina	35	80.1	76.0	74.0	88.0	77.0	82.8
Michigan	36	78.6	64.5	65.0	88.7	68.8	82.9
Wyoming	36	78.6	69.0	47.0	85.0	72.0	80.9
Washington	38	78.2	68.0	57.0	84.4	67.5	80.9
New York	39	77.8	64.5	65.0	83.6	63.9	88.0
Mississippi	40	77.6	71.5	66.0	89.0	80.0	84.0
Colorado	41	77.3	69.0	61.0	84.0	66.7	83.2
Idaho	41	77.3	75.0	56.0	79.0	70.3	79.2
Florida	43	76.1	64.7	74.0	89.2	75.0	81.7
Arizona	44	75.7	71.0	62.7	83.0	70.3	82.3
Louisiana	45	74.6	67.9	80.0	89.0	73.0	80.3
Georgia	46	72.5	65.2	67.0	82.8	64.0	79.7
Oregon	47	72.0	60.0	54.0	83.0	65.0	74.3
Alaska	48	71.1	66.0	55.0	74.0	70.0	78.5
Nevada	49	70.0	53.9	52.0	83.0	64.6	76.9
New Mexico	50	68.5	62.0	61.0	84.0	66.9	74.7
District of Columbia	51	61.4	59.7	— ^c	—	65.0	85.0
United States		82.3	72.5	69.6^d	89.4	76.3	87.2

Source. Primary data from National Center for Education Statistics (2015).

^aThe result is presented in such a manner as to provide a general idea of the rate while maintaining student anonymity. ^bNot available. ^cA dash (—) indicates data were not reported to protect student anonymity. ^dThe rate for American Indian students in the U.S. were estimated using reported data from 49 states and the District of Columbia and imputed data for Virginia.

Table 54

National Center for Education Statistics Averaged Freshman Graduation Rates, by State, 2010-11 Through 2012-13

State	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13		State	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
	Rate (%)	Rank	Rate (%)	Rank	Rate (%)	Rank		Rate (%)	Rank	Rate (%)	Rank	Rate (%)	Rank
Nebraska	89.8	4	92.7	1	93.3	1	Tennessee	81.1	23	83.6	20	82.4	26
Wisconsin	92.2	2	92.2	2	93.0	2	Idaho	83.2	17	83.9	17	82.1	27
North Dakota	90.2	3	91.1	4	91.4	3	Utah	78.5	32	77.6	37	81.6	28
Minnesota	89.2	5	88.4	6	91.0	4	West Virginia	78.1	33	80.3	27	81.5	29
Iowa	89.0	6	89.3	5	89.4	5	Indiana	79.9	27	80.0	29	81.0	30
Vermont	92.7	1	91.9	3	89.3	6	North Carolina	76.8	38	78.7	32	80.5	31
New Jersey	86.6	7	86.4	12	89.1	7	Washington	79.0	30	79.2	31	80.4	32
Kansas	86.5	9	88.3	7	88.4	8	Arkansas	77.0	37	78.1	34	80.1	33
Massachusetts	85.4	12	86.5	11	88.4	8	Alaska	77.9	35	78.6	33	79.9	34
Pennsylvania	85.8	10	88.3	7	88.4	8	Oklahoma	79.9	27	79.3	30	79.4	35
Maine	85.7	11	86.7	10	87.5	11	Rhode Island	76.6	39	77.1	40	79.0	36
Connecticut	84.7	13	86.1	13	87.4	12	New York	77.6	36	77.1	40	78.5	37
New Hampshire	86.6	7	87.0	9	87.3	13	Michigan	74.7	42	77.5	38	78.3	38
Missouri	84.7	13	85.9	14	86.6	14	Hawaii	73.7	43	77.9	36	78.0	39
Maryland	83.8	15	84.5	16	85.6	15	District of Columbia	64.9	50	70.8	48	77.7	40
Ohio	82.3	19	83.9	17	84.9	16	Delaware	76.1	40	77.1	40	77.0	41
Virginia	82.7	18	83.9	17	84.8	17	Oregon	78.1	33	78.0	35	76.8	42
Montana	83.7	16	85.7	15	84.7	18	Arizona	78.9	31	77.3	39	76.5	43
South Dakota	81.6	21	83.1	21	83.8	19	Florida	72.0	44	74.7	44	75.8	44
California	79.7	29	81.7	26	83.6	20	Alabama	76.1	40	75.1	43	74.2	45
Texas	81.4	22	83.0	22	83.6	20	South Carolina	69.0	48	71.6	47	74.2	45
Colorado	82.0	20	82.3	23	83.3	22	Louisiana	71.2	45	71.9	46	72.7	47
Kentucky	80.9	24	81.9	25	83.1	23	New Mexico	70.7	46	74.3	45	71.6	48
Illinois	80.0	26	82.1	24	82.7	24	Georgia	69.6	47	69.6	49	70.5	49
Wyoming	80.4	25	80.2	28	82.5	25	Mississippi	68.5	49	67.3	50	68.4	50
							Nevada	58.7	51	59.5	51	67.5	51
							United States^a	79.6		80.8		81.9	

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

^aU.S. totals include any of the 50 states and the District of Columbia that reported all data elements.

dividing the number of students who drop out by the total number of students enrolled on a single day of the year, usually October 1.

$$\frac{\text{number of students who dropped out during the school year}}{\text{number of students enrolled on October 1 of the school year}}$$

The TEA annual dropout rate differs from the NCES event dropout rate. The denominator in the TEA annual dropout rate formula is the cumulative number of students in attendance at any time during the school year. By contrast, the denominator in the NCES event dropout rate formula is the number of students enrolled at a single point in time in the fall of the school year.

NCES released the 2011-12 Grade 9-12 event dropout rates in April 2014 (NCES, 2014). For 2011-12, the rates ranged from 1.3 percent in New Hampshire to 7.0 percent in Alaska (Table 55 on page 126). Texas, along with five other states, ranked 15th out of 50 states and the District of Columbia, with an event dropout rate of 2.5 percent.

Table 55

National Center for Education Statistics Event Dropout Rates, Grades 9-12, by State, 2009-10 Through 2011-12

State	2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		State	2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	Rate (%)	Rank	Rate (%)	Rank	Rate (%)	Rank		Rate (%)	Rank	Rate (%)	Rank	Rate (%)	Rank
New Hampshire	1.2	1	1.3	1	1.3	1	South Dakota	2.6	16	2.6	19	3.1	25
Alabama	1.8	6	1.4	2	1.4 ^a	2	Arkansas	3.6	29	3.5	30	3.2	27
New Jersey	1.6	3	1.4	2	1.4	2	Iowa	3.4	26	3.4	27	3.2	27
Utah	2.6	16	1.5	4	1.5	4	Maine	4.2	34	3.5	30	3.2	27
Idaho	1.4	2	1.6	5	1.9	5	Mississippi	7.4	50	3.2	23	3.2	27
Minnesota	1.6	3	1.8	6	1.9	5	Oregon	3.4	26	3.2	23	3.4	31
Virginia	2.1	7	2.3	13	1.9	5	Delaware	3.9	32	3.6	32	3.5	32
Wisconsin	2.2	10	2.0	9	1.9	5	Tennessee	2.7	18	3.6	32	3.7	33
Connecticut	3.0	23	1.9	8	2.1	9	Maryland	2.7	18	3.3	25	3.8	34
Florida	2.3	13	2.1	10	2.1	9	New York	3.6	29	3.6	32	3.8	34
Indiana	1.6	3	1.8	6	2.1	9	Washington	4.2	34	4.0	38	3.8	34
Kansas	2.1	7	2.3	13	2.1	9	Georgia	3.8	31	3.9	35	3.9	37
Nebraska	2.2	10	2.1	10	2.2	13	Nevada	4.5	39	4.1	39	3.9	37
Illinois	2.9	22	2.9	22	2.4	14	California	4.6	40	4.2	40	4.0	39
Kentucky	3.2	25	2.5	16	2.5	15	Montana	4.3	37	4.3	41	4.1	40
Massachusetts	2.8	21	2.7	20	2.5	15	Rhode Island	4.6	40	5.2	46	4.2	41
Oklahoma	2.4	14	2.5	16	2.5	15	Wyoming	6.0	46	5.4	47	4.3	42
South Carolina	3.0	23	2.8	21	2.5	15	Ohio	4.2	34	4.4	42	4.6	43
Texas	2.7	18	2.4	15	2.5	15	Hawaii	5.2	44	5.1	44	4.7	44
Vermont	2.4	14	2.5	16	2.5	15	Colorado	5.3	45	5.1	44	4.9	45
West Virginia	4.0	33	3.4	27	2.7	21	Louisiana	4.8	43	3.9	35	5.7	46
Pennsylvania	2.1	7	2.2	12	2.8	22	District of Columbia	7.0 ^b	49	6.1	48	5.8	47
Missouri	3.5	28	3.4	27	2.9	23	Arizona	7.8	51	5.0	43	5.9	48
North Dakota	2.2	10	3.3	25	3.0	24	New Mexico	6.9	47	6.6	49	6.4	49
North Carolina	4.7	42	3.9	35	3.1	25	Michigan	4.3	37	7.2	51	6.9	50
							Alaska	6.9	47	6.9	50	7.0	51
							United States^c	3.4		3.3		3.3	

Source. Primary data from National Center for Education Statistics (2014).

^aData were imputed based on prior-year reported data. ^bData were imputed based on prior-year rates. ^cU.S. totals include any of the 50 states and the District of Columbia that reported all data elements.

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 133 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) *2015-2016 Public Education Information Management System Post Addendum Version Data Standards* (TEA, 2015d). The table is organized into the following broad categories of leavers:

- completed high school or General Educational Development (GED) 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 GED 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 Person Identification Database (PID) Enrollment Tracking (PET) 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. The school-start window is the period of time between the first day of school and the last Friday in September. 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 GED, 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: code 98. School leavers with this LEAVER-REASON-CODE are counted as dropouts for federal accountability purposes: codes 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 GED	
01	<p>Student graduated from a campus in this district or charter</p> <p>Definition and use: Use for students who meet all high school graduation requirements (which includes passing the state assessments required for graduation) at any time during the prior school year, including the summer (through August 31) following the close of the prior year.</p> <p>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 course requirements for graduation in one school year but do not pass the state assessments required for graduation until a later year, are reported as graduates in the school year in which the state assessments are passed and the diploma is issued.</p> <p>Documentation requirement: Transcript showing sufficient credits, successful completion of the state assessments (including testing dates) required for graduation, graduation seal, school official signature, and date of completion.</p>
85	<p>Student graduated outside Texas before entering a Texas public school, entered a Texas public school, and left again</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Documentation requirement: Transcript showing sufficient credits, date, and school official signature, and a diploma with a graduation seal.</p>
86	<p>Student completed the GED outside Texas</p> <p>Definition and use: This code may be used for students who earned GED certificates outside Texas, including students living in Texas and earning GED certificates online from a testing company in another state, before enrolling or after leaving Texas public schools.</p> <p>Documentation requirement: Acceptable documentation is a copy of the GED certificate or some other written document provided by the testing company showing completion of the GED. Written documentation from the testing company must include the date of GED completion, location, address, and contact information of the company.</p>
90	<p>Student graduated from another state under provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Documentation requirement: Transcript showing sufficient credits, date, and school official signature, or a diploma with a graduation seal.</p>
Moved to other educational setting	
24	<p>Student entered college and is working towards an Associate's or Bachelor's degree</p> <p>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, the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, and the Texas Academy of International Studies at Texas A&M International University.</p> <p>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 <u>not</u> permissible for a district to document that, at the time of withdrawal, the student intended to enter a postsecondary educational setting. Beginning with students</p>

Source. Texas Education Agency (2015d).

continues

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

Leaver code	Explanation/clarification and documentation requirements
	<p>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:</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
60	<p>Student is home schooled</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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:</p> <p>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.</p>
66	<p>Student was removed by Child Protective Services (CPS) and the district has not been informed of the student's current status or enrollment</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
81 82	<p>Student enrolled in a private school in Texas</p> <p>Student enrolled in a public or private school outside of Texas</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If the student enrolls in another school in the district or another public school district in Texas, a leaver record is not submitted.</p> <p>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</p>

Source: Texas Education Agency (2015d).

continues

Table A-1 (continued)

Leaver Reason Codes in the Public Education Information Management System

Leaver code	Explanation/clarification and documentation requirements
	<p>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.</p> <p>Documentation requirement: Per federal requirement, it is <i>not</i> 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:</p> <p>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).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
87	<p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Withdrawn by school district	
78	<p>Student was expelled under the provisions of TEC §37.007 and cannot return to school</p> <p>Definition and use: This code may only be used when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>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).</p> <p>Documentation requirement: Due process documentation supporting the expulsion.</p>
83	<p>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.</p> <p>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</p>

Source: Texas Education Agency (2015d).

continues

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

Leaver code	Explanation/clarification and documentation requirements
	<p>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.</p> <p>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 <i>Student Attendance Accounting Handbook</i>. For further information about immunization requirements, immunization exemptions, and immunization documentation, please contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.</p> <p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<p>Student died while enrolled in school or during the summer break after completing the prior school year</p> <p>Definition and use: Self-explanatory.</p> <p>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.</p>
16	<p>Student returned to family's home country</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p>

Source: Texas Education Agency (2015d).

continues

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

Leaver code	Explanation/clarification and documentation requirements
	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.
88	<p>Student was ordered by a court to attend a GED program and has not earned a GED certificate</p> <p>Definition and use: This code is for students who are court-ordered to attend a GED program and have not earned a GED certificate at any time during the prior school year, including the summer (through August 31) following the close of the prior year.</p> <p>Documentation requirement: Acceptable documentation is a copy of the court order stating that the student has been ordered to attend a high school equivalency or GED 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 or GED program or to take a high school equivalency or GED exam.</p>
89	<p>Student is incarcerated in a state jail or federal penitentiary as an adult or as a person certified to stand trial as an adult</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
98	<p>Other (reason unknown or not listed above)</p> <p>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.</p>

Source: Texas Education Agency (2015d).

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

Introduction

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

Introduction

Overview

Table B-1 on page 142 specifies the criteria the Texas Education Agency (TEA) applies to the data elements used to calculate annual dropout rates and longitudinal graduation and dropout rates for students with special demographic characteristics and students participating in special instructional programs. Texas public school districts report the data to the TEA through the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS). The table also identifies, when applicable, the PEIMS records through which the data elements are submitted. Refer to the *PEIMS Data Standards*, published annually by TEA, for a detailed description of the data elements in Table B-1 (TEA, 2015c).

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.

Attendance data from PEIMS 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 2011-12 make up the class of 2015 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 through the four or more years of the cohort. Students in the class of 2015 were tracked into the fall semester following their anticipated graduation date of spring 2015. 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, GED certificate recipient, or dropout was counted in the class of 2015. 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 GED certificates, 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. Demographic characteristics also are assigned based on data reported on the student's last record of attendance, with the exception of two groups of students identified as English language learners (ELLs): (a) students identified as ELLs at any time while attending Texas public schools and (b) students identified as ELLs while attending Grade 9-12 in Texas public schools. For example, if the student last attended in 2014-15 and was identified as a migrant that year, the student is included in rate calculations for migrant students.

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.

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

Through the TEA Secure Environment (TEASE), 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

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

Data element	Source and criteria
Instructional program	
Bilingual or English as a second language (ESL)	<p>Data source. PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. 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; and (b) "1" for the limited English proficient (LEP) Indicator Code.</p>
Transitional bilingual/early exit	<p>Data source. PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "2" for the Bilingual Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.</p>
Transitional bilingual/late exit	<p>Data source. PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "3" for the Bilingual Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.</p>
Dual language immersion/two-way	<p>Data source. PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "4" for the Bilingual Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.</p>
Dual language immersion/one-way	<p>Data source. PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "5" for the Bilingual Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.</p>
ESL content-based	<p>Data source. PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "2" for the ESL Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.</p>
ESL pull-out	<p>Data source. PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as: (a) "3" for the ESL Program Type Code and (b) "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.</p>
Career and technical education	<p>Data source. For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 101-Demographic record. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 101-Demographic record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as "2" or "3" for the Career and Technology Ed Indicator Code.</p>
Gifted and talented	<p>Data source. For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 400-Basic Attendance and 500-Flexible Attendance records. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as "1" for the Gifted Talented Indicator Code.</p>
Special education	<p>Data source. PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on either the 400-Basic Attendance or 405-Special Education Attendance record and either the 500-Flexible Attendance or 505-Special Education Flexible Attendance record. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. (a) a 405-Special Education Attendance record submission; (b) a 400-Attendance record submission where Total Elig Sp Ed Mainstream Days Present is greater than 0; (c) a 505-Special Education Attendance record submission; (d) a 500-Attendance record 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 110 enrollment record.</p>

continues

Table B-1 (continued)

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

Data element	Source and criteria
Title I	<p>Data source. PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 461-Title I, Part A, record. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. Any 461-Title I, Part A, attendance record submission or student coded as "A," "6," "7," or "9" on the Title I, Part A, Indicator Code on the 110-Enrollment record.</p>
Student characteristic	
At-risk	<p>Data source. Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as "1" for the At-Risk Indicator Code.</p>
Economically disadvantaged	<p>Data source. For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 101-Demographic record. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 101-Demographic record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as "01," "02," or "99" for the Economic Disadvantage Code.</p>
English language learner	<p>Data source. For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 400-Basic Attendance and 500-Flexible Attendance records. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as "1" for the LEP Indicator Code.</p>
Immigrant	<p>Data source. PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 110-Enrollment record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as "1" for the Immigrant Indicator Code.</p>
Migrant	<p>Data source. For students enrolled in membership, PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 101-Demographic record. For students enrolled but not in membership or enrolled in the fall after expected graduation, PEIMS fall collection (Submission 1) on the 101-Demographic record.</p> <p>Criteria. Student coded as "1" for the Migrant Indicator Code.</p>
Overage	<p>Data source. PEIMS summer collection (Submission 3) on the 400-Basic Attendance and 500-Flexible Attendance records.</p> <p>Criteria. For each district attended, the highest grade in the last six weeks is used. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) calculates a student's age based on September 1 of the school year in question.</p>

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 2009-10

Table C-2
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12,
by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender,
Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2009-10

Table C-3
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12,
by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender,
Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2009-10

Table C-4
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12,
Charters and Traditional Districts,
Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Table C-5
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates,
by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status, and Gender,
Texas Public Schools, Classes of 1996 Through 2005

Table C-6
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Cohort,
Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2001 Through 2008

Table C-7
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates,
Charters and Traditional Districts,
Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015

Table C-1
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2009-10

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
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
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
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
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
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
Pacific Islander					
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	<870	0.1	-	-	0.1
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

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aA dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity. ^bNot available.

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Table C-1 (continued)
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-8, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2009-10

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Multiracial					
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	11,057	1.5	24	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
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
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
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

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

*A dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity. ^bNot available.

Table C-2
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2009-10

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
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
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
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
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
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
Pacific Islander					
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	<1,860	0.1	-	-	2.5
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

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aA dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity. ^bNot 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 2009-10

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Multiracial					
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	19,670	1.4	246	0.7	1.3
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
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
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
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

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aA dash (-) indicates data are not reported to protect student anonymity. 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 while maintaining student anonymity. ^bNot available.

Table C-3
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 7-12, by Race/Ethnicity, Economic Status,
and Gender, Texas Public Schools, 2005-06 Through 2009-10

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
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
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
Asian					
2005-06	n/a ^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	70,077	3.4	411	1.2	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
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
Pacific Islander					
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	2,717	0.1	47	0.1	1.7
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

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aNot 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 2009-10

School year	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Multiracial					
2005-06	n/a ^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
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
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
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
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

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, White, and multiracial) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aNot available.

Table C-4
Annual Dropout Rate, Grades 9-12, Charters and Traditional Districts,
Texas Public Schools, 2014-15

Group	Students		Dropouts		Annual dropout rate (%)
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Charters	75,939	4.8	4,218	13.7	5.6
Traditional districts	1,494,505	95.2	26,659	86.3	1.8
State	1,495,294	100	30,853	100	2.1

Note. Parts may not add to 100 percent because of rounding. Counts for charters 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 1996 Through 2005

Class year	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated or continued		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
African American													
Class of 1996	27,200	18,849	69.3	2,738	10.1	1,443	5.3	4,170	15.3	21,587	79.4	23,030	84.7
Class of 1997	28,913	20,787	71.9	2,873	9.9	1,471	5.1	3,782	13.1	23,660	81.8	25,131	86.9
Class of 1998	30,464	22,597	74.2	3,356	11.0	989	3.2	3,522	11.6	25,953	85.2	26,942	88.4
Class of 1999	31,436	23,475	74.7	3,331	10.6	988	3.1	3,642	11.6	26,806	85.3	27,794	88.4
Class of 2000	32,338	24,863	76.9	3,133	9.7	1,132	3.5	3,210	9.9	27,996	86.6	29,128	90.1
Class of 2001	33,586	26,094	77.7	3,561	10.6	1,096	3.3	2,835	8.4	29,655	88.3	30,751	91.6
Class of 2002	34,597	27,614	79.8	3,817	11.0	879	2.5	2,287	6.6	31,431	90.8	32,310	93.4
Class of 2003	36,082	29,260	81.1	3,816	10.6	745	2.1	2,261	6.3	33,076	91.7	33,821	93.7
Class of 2004	37,281	30,860	82.8	3,438	9.2	1,139	3.1	1,844	4.9	34,298	92.0	35,437	95.1
Class of 2005	37,777	30,858	81.7	3,862	10.2	994	2.6	2,063	5.5	34,720	91.9	35,714	94.5
American Indian													
Class of 1996	506	360	71.1	36	7.1	41	8.1	69	13.6	396	78.3	437	86.4
Class of 1997	500	374	74.8	42	8.4	35	7.0	49	9.8	416	83.2	451	90.2
Class of 1998	755	432	57.2	222	29.4	30	4.0	71	9.4	654	86.6	684	90.6
Class of 1999	724	589	81.4	49	6.8	38	5.2	48	6.6	638	88.1	676	93.4
Class of 2000	605	477	78.8	42	6.9	38	6.3	48	7.9	519	85.8	557	92.1
Class of 2001	681	520	76.4	53	7.8	51	7.5	57	8.4	573	84.1	624	91.6
Class of 2002	650	550	84.6	43	6.6	34	5.2	23	3.5	593	91.2	627	96.5
Class of 2003	746	632	84.7	46	6.2	34	4.6	34	4.6	678	90.9	712	95.4
Class of 2004	832	701	84.3	49	5.9	51	6.1	31	3.7	750	90.1	801	96.3
Class of 2005	871	734	84.3	49	5.6	45	5.2	43	4.9	783	89.9	828	95.1
Asian/Pacific Islander													
Class of 1996	5,836	5,014	85.9	294	5.0	139	2.4	389	6.7	5,308	91.0	5,447	93.3
Class of 1997	6,009	5,262	87.6	330	5.5	142	2.4	275	4.6	5,592	93.1	5,734	95.4
Class of 1998	6,526	5,598	85.8	539	8.3	121	1.9	268	4.1	6,137	94.0	6,258	95.9
Class of 1999	6,992	6,110	87.4	437	6.3	153	2.2	292	4.2	6,547	93.6	6,700	95.8
Class of 2000	7,207	6,398	88.8	393	5.5	165	2.3	251	3.5	6,791	94.2	6,956	96.5
Class of 2001	7,665	6,901	90.0	379	4.9	150	2.0	235	3.1	7,280	95.0	7,430	96.9
Class of 2002	8,070	7,310	90.6	404	5.0	146	1.8	210	2.6	7,714	95.6	7,860	97.4
Class of 2003	8,418	7,703	91.5	431	5.1	123	1.5	161	1.9	8,134	96.6	8,257	98.1
Class of 2004	8,613	7,983	92.7	348	4.0	138	1.6	144	1.7	8,331	96.7	8,469	98.3
Class of 2005	8,795	8,149	92.7	380	4.3	105	1.2	161	1.8	8,529	97.0	8,634	98.2
Hispanic													
Class of 1996	68,532	43,926	64.1	8,242	12.0	4,165	6.1	12,199	17.8	52,168	76.1	56,333	82.2
Class of 1997	70,793	47,623	67.3	8,373	11.8	3,987	5.6	10,810	15.3	55,996	79.1	59,983	84.7

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 classes in which the national dropout definition was phased in (i.e., classes of 2006, 2007, and 2008) are not comparable to rates for prior or later classes. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander, and White) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bNumbers in class for race/ethnicity will not sum to the state total because some student records lacked information on race/ethnicity.

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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 1996 Through 2005

Class year	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated or continued		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Class of 1998	74,507	52,014	69.8	9,557	12.8	2,926	3.9	10,010	13.4	61,571	82.6	64,497	86.6
Class of 1999	79,538	56,126	70.6	10,187	12.8	2,789	3.5	10,436	13.1	66,313	83.4	69,102	86.9
Class of 2000	83,360	60,683	72.8	9,846	11.8	3,507	4.2	9,324	11.2	70,529	84.6	74,036	88.8
Class of 2001	85,391	62,732	73.5	10,797	12.6	3,657	4.3	8,205	9.6	73,529	86.1	77,186	90.4
Class of 2002	87,984	66,637	75.7	11,270	12.8	3,222	3.7	6,855	7.8	77,907	88.5	81,129	92.2
Class of 2003	93,063	71,966	77.3	11,769	12.6	2,732	2.9	6,596	7.1	83,735	90.0	86,467	92.9
Class of 2004	98,337	77,094	78.4	11,386	11.6	3,701	3.8	6,156	6.3	88,480	90.0	92,181	93.7
Class of 2005	100,781	77,985	77.4	12,377	12.3	3,452	3.4	6,967	6.9	90,362	89.7	93,814	93.1
White													
Class of 1996	108,807	90,275	83.0	4,020	3.7	7,093	6.5	7,419	6.8	94,295	86.7	101,388	93.2
Class of 1997	112,078	94,258	84.1	4,030	3.6	7,128	6.4	6,662	5.9	98,288	87.7	105,416	94.1
Class of 1998	115,797	98,738	85.3	5,071	4.4	5,633	4.9	6,355	5.5	103,809	89.6	109,442	94.5
Class of 1999	119,590	103,141	86.2	5,080	4.2	5,556	4.6	5,813	4.9	108,221	90.5	113,777	95.1
Class of 2000	121,267	105,158	86.7	4,407	3.6	6,806	5.6	4,896	4.0	109,565	90.4	116,371	96.0
Class of 2001	121,838	105,805	86.8	4,790	3.9	7,024	5.8	4,219	3.5	110,595	90.8	117,619	96.5
Class of 2002	122,739	108,270	88.2	4,881	4.0	6,244	5.1	3,344	2.7	113,151	92.2	119,395	97.3
Class of 2003	125,262	112,460	89.8	4,870	3.9	5,115	4.1	2,817	2.2	117,330	93.7	122,445	97.8
Class of 2004	125,848	112,495	89.4	4,605	3.7	6,416	5.1	2,332	1.9	117,100	93.0	123,516	98.1
Class of 2005	122,994	110,029	89.5	4,766	3.9	5,783	4.7	2,416	2.0	114,795	93.3	120,578	98.0
Economically disadvantaged													
Class of 1996	55,302	35,463	64.1	5,978	10.8	3,351	6.1	10,510	19.0	41,441	74.9	44,792	81.0
Class of 1997	58,481	39,801	68.1	6,219	10.6	3,459	5.9	9,002	15.4	46,020	78.7	49,479	84.6
Class of 1998	63,372	44,723	70.6	7,441	11.7	2,491	3.9	8,717	13.8	52,164	82.3	54,655	86.2
Class of 1999	67,639	48,204	71.3	7,991	11.8	2,562	3.8	8,882	13.1	56,195	83.1	58,757	86.9
Class of 2000	71,486	51,896	72.6	7,988	11.2	3,345	4.7	8,257	11.6	59,884	83.8	63,229	88.4
Class of 2001	74,246	54,352	73.2	9,125	12.3	3,450	4.6	7,319	9.9	63,477	85.5	66,927	90.1
Class of 2002	78,567	59,564	75.8	9,857	12.5	3,073	3.9	6,073	7.7	69,421	88.4	72,494	92.3
Class of 2003	85,880	66,843	77.8	10,638	12.4	2,719	3.2	5,680	6.6	77,481	90.2	80,200	93.4
Class of 2004	93,528	73,556	78.6	10,573	11.3	3,888	4.2	5,511	5.9	84,129	90.0	88,017	94.1
Class of 2005	99,637	77,131	77.4	11,955	12.0	3,902	3.9	6,649	6.7	89,086	89.4	92,988	93.3
Female													
Class of 1996	103,835	81,641	78.6	5,878	5.7	5,394	5.2	10,922	10.5	87,519	84.3	92,913	89.5
Class of 1997	108,034	86,884	80.4	6,152	5.7	5,270	4.9	9,728	9.0	93,036	86.1	98,306	91.0
Class of 1998	113,056	92,933	82.2	7,156	6.3	3,871	3.4	9,096	8.0	100,089	88.5	103,960	92.0
Class of 1999	118,170	98,058	83.0	7,170	6.1	3,670	3.1	9,272	7.8	105,228	89.0	108,898	92.2
Class of 2000	121,614	102,455	84.2	6,938	5.7	4,268	3.5	7,953	6.5	109,393	90.0	113,661	93.5
Class of 2001	123,452	104,608	84.7	7,416	6.0	4,394	3.6	7,034	5.7	112,024	90.7	116,418	94.3

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 classes in which the national dropout definition was phased in (i.e., classes of 2006, 2007, and 2008) are not comparable to rates for prior or later classes. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander, and White) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^aNumbers in class for race/ethnicity will not sum to the state total because some student records lacked information on race/ethnicity.

continues

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 1996 Through 2005

Class year	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out		Graduated or continued		Graduated, continued, or received GED	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Class of 2002	126,336	109,215	86.4	7,603	6.0	3,810	3.0	5,708	4.5	116,818	92.5	120,628	95.5
Class of 2003	130,964	114,795	87.7	7,742	5.9	3,022	2.3	5,405	4.1	122,537	93.6	125,559	95.9
Class of 2004	134,484	118,122	87.8	7,397	5.5	4,330	3.2	4,635	3.4	125,519	93.3	129,849	96.6
Class of 2005	133,707	116,660	87.3	8,049	6.0	3,844	2.9	5,154	3.9	124,709	93.3	128,553	96.1
Male													
Class of 1996	108,688	76,785	70.6	9,452	8.7	7,665	7.1	14,786	13.6	86,237	79.3	93,902	86.4
Class of 1997	110,259	81,420	73.8	9,496	8.6	7,493	6.8	11,850	10.7	90,916	82.5	98,409	89.3
Class of 1998	114,993	86,446	75.2	11,589	10.1	5,828	5.1	11,130	9.7	98,035	85.3	103,863	90.3
Class of 1999	120,110	91,383	76.1	11,914	9.9	5,854	4.9	10,959	9.1	103,297	86.0	109,151	90.9
Class of 2000	123,163	95,124	77.2	10,883	8.8	7,380	6.0	9,776	7.9	106,007	86.1	113,387	92.1
Class of 2001	125,709	97,444	77.5	12,164	9.7	7,584	6.0	8,517	6.8	109,608	87.2	117,192	93.2
Class of 2002	127,704	101,166	79.2	12,812	10.0	6,715	5.3	7,011	5.5	113,978	89.3	120,693	94.5
Class of 2003	132,607	107,226	80.9	13,190	9.9	5,727	4.3	6,464	4.9	120,416	90.8	126,143	95.1
Class of 2004	136,427	111,011	81.4	12,429	9.1	7,115	5.2	5,872	4.3	123,440	90.5	130,555	95.7
Class of 2005	137,511	111,095	80.8	13,385	9.7	6,535	4.8	6,496	4.7	124,480	90.5	131,015	95.3
State													
Class of 1996 ^b	212,523	158,426	74.5	15,330	7.2	13,059	6.1	25,708	12.1	173,756	81.8	186,815	87.9
Class of 1997	218,293	168,304	77.1	15,648	7.2	12,763	5.8	21,578	9.9	183,952	84.3	196,715	90.1
Class of 1998	228,049	179,379	78.7	18,745	8.2	9,699	4.3	20,226	8.9	198,124	86.9	207,823	91.1
Class of 1999	238,280	189,441	79.5	19,084	8.0	9,524	4.0	20,231	8.5	208,525	87.5	218,049	91.5
Class of 2000	244,777	197,579	80.7	17,821	7.3	11,648	4.8	17,729	7.2	215,400	88.0	227,048	92.8
Class of 2001	249,161	202,052	81.1	19,580	7.9	11,978	4.8	15,551	6.2	221,632	89.0	233,610	93.8
Class of 2002	254,040	210,381	82.8	20,415	8.0	10,525	4.1	12,719	5.0	230,796	90.9	241,321	95.0
Class of 2003	263,571	222,021	84.2	20,932	7.9	8,749	3.3	11,869	4.5	242,953	92.2	251,702	95.5
Class of 2004	270,911	229,133	84.6	19,826	7.3	11,445	4.2	10,507	3.9	248,959	91.9	260,404	96.1
Class of 2005	271,218	227,755	84.0	21,434	7.9	10,379	3.8	11,650	4.3	249,189	91.9	259,568	95.7

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 classes in which the national dropout definition was phased in (i.e., classes of 2006, 2007, and 2008) are not comparable to rates for prior or later classes. Racial groups (African American, American Indian, Asian/Pacific Islander, and White) do not include students of Hispanic ethnicity.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bNumbers in class for race/ethnicity will not sum to the state total because some student records lacked information on race/ethnicity.

Table C-6
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Cohort, Texas Public Schools, Classes of 2001 Through 2008

Cohort ending year	Cohort							
	Class		Received GED ^a	Dropped out	Other leavers ^b	Data errors		Cohort
	Graduated	Continued				Student identification errors	Underreported students	
2001	202,052	19,580	11,978	15,551	63,656	16,129	15,169	344,115
2002	210,381	20,415	10,525	12,719	64,648	18,432	10,992	348,112
2003	222,021	20,932	8,749	11,869	64,162	13,199	10,991	351,923
2004	229,133	19,826	11,445	10,507	60,527	7,563	9,038	348,039
2005	227,755	21,434	10,379	11,650	65,511	4,128	8,527	349,384
2006	227,975	24,292	6,456	24,975	65,877	3,315	5,292	358,182
2007	226,712	25,257	5,688	33,005	61,758	3,118	7,056	362,594
2008	237,576	26,865	4,610	31,437	60,896	2,028	7,291	370,703

Note. Dropouts are counted according to the dropout definition in place the year they drop out. The definition changed in 2005-06. Results 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 results for prior or later classes.

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate. ^bOther leavers are students who left the Texas public school system for reasons other than graduating, receiving GED certificates, or dropping out. For more information on other leavers, see Table A-1 in Appendix A.

Table C-7
Grade 9 Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation and Dropout Rates, Charters and Traditional Districts, Texas Public Schools, Class of 2015

Group	Class	Graduated		Continued		Received GED ^a		Dropped out	
		Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)	Number	Rate (%)
Charters	14,366	8,685	60.5	2,382	16.6	386	2.7	2,913	20.3
Traditional districts	325,260	293,577	90.3	11,631	3.6	1,608	0.5	18,444	5.7
State	339,626	302,262	89.0	14,013	4.1	1,994	0.6	21,357	6.3

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

^aGeneral Educational Development certificate.

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

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

Figure 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 2014-15.

GED.^a The attrition rate includes students who received GED certificates rather than high school diplomas.

Continuing Students. The attrition rate includes continuing students if they were not in Grade 12 in 2014-15. 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 TEA 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 2014-15 attrition rate includes students from the class of 2014 who were repeating Grade 9 in 2011-12. These students were also included in the 2013-14 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 2015 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 2014-15 but drop out before graduating.

Grade 9-12 Attrition Rate

Students from the class of 2015 who for any reason were not enrolled in Grade 12 in a Texas public school in the fall of the 2014-15 school year

Grade 9-12 Longitudinal Dropout Rate

Students from the class of 2015 who dropped out

^aGeneral Educational Development. ^bJuvenile justice alternative education program.

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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.

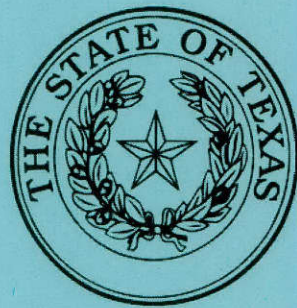
In addition to conducting reviews, the Texas Education Agency staff representatives check complaints of discrimination made by a citizen or citizens residing in a school district where it is alleged discriminatory practices have occurred or are occurring.

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.

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