

# REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Office of Superintendent of Schools  
Board of Education Meeting of February 9, 2012

**SUBJECT: BOARD MONITORING SYSTEM–GOAL 1, SECTION F: INCREASE COLLEGE READINESS.**

At the February 11, 2010 meeting, the Board of Education implemented a revised Board Monitoring System in order to efficiently maintain and measure achievement of Houston Independent School District (HISD) goals and adherence to its core values. The monitoring system was designed to give district administrators clear direction on how to meet the board's expectations in these crucial areas.

Board Policy AE(LOCAL) states “[T]he administration shall report to the Board of Education on each goal and core value using the specific method and timing set out below, . . . .”

In reference to the district's **Goal 1: Increase Student Achievement**, the attached report provides information regarding section **F: Increase College Readiness**. The policy states that *the Administration will provide the Board of Education with a report that reflects the number and percentages of students demonstrating college readiness as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and as indicated by performance on grade 11 TAKS scores as follows:*

- *All students and each student group, that earn a 2200 or higher scale score on the mathematics portion of the TAKS test;*
- *All students and each student group that earn both a 2200 scale score on the English/Language Arts (ELA) portion of the TAKS test and a three or higher on the writing portion of the TAKS test;*
- *Comparisons of District and state averages for all students and each student group; and*
- *The rate at which District students demonstrating college readiness improved as compared to the rate for which the state average improved for this indicator.*

The report shall also include *the number and percent of students scoring at or above 45 on each of the PSAT sections: critical reading, writing, and math. Participation rates will also be provided along with the percent of students meeting AP Potential for a student who actually enrolled in the course. Additionally, the Board will be provided with a report showing the number and percentage of students scoring at or above 21 on the ACT, and at or above 500 on each of the SAT sections: critical reading, writing, and math.*

*The report shall include an analysis of improvements made towards the number and percentage of students graduating under the Recommended High School Program (RHSP) or higher.*

*The report shall track college-going rates, including applications to institutions of higher education, enrollment in institutions of higher education (by tier status where available), and receipt of scholarships by campus and for the District.*

*This report will be prepared for the Board in February of each school year and will include data from the previous school year.*

The attached reports provide the information requested for the 2010–2011 school year.



## Board Monitoring System: Indicator F

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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#### Purpose

The Houston Independent School District (HISD) exists to strengthen the social and economic foundation of Houston by assuring its youth the highest-quality elementary and secondary education available anywhere. In fulfilling this goal, HISD's Board of Education has designed a program to systematically monitor the district's goals and core values. The Board Monitoring System will report on each goal and core value on a routine basis. The goal currently under review is to INCREASE COLLEGE READINESS by increasing the number and percentage of all students and of each student group meeting the higher education readiness component of the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) on the TAKS in English language arts and in mathematics (Goal 1, Section F). In addition, the report presents the number and percentage of students scoring 45 or above on all sections of the PSAT, PSAT participation rates of sophomores, the number and percentage of students scoring at or above 21 on the ACT (composite), and the number and percentage of students scoring 500 or higher on all sections of the SAT. The report also includes an analysis of improvements made towards the percentage of students graduating under the Recommended High School Program (RHSP) or Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP). Finally, the report shall track college-going rates, including applications to institutions of higher education, enrollment in institutions of higher education (by tier status where available), and receipt of scholarships by campus and for the district. The percentage of students meeting AP Potential who enroll in the course is not currently tracked in the district, but procedures are being put into place to begin monitoring those data.

#### Findings

##### Percentage of Students Meeting Higher Education Readiness Criteria

- On the English language arts indicator, in both 2010 and 2011, the state had a higher percentage of students who met the higher education readiness component of the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) than HISD for all students and three of the four student groups. HISD had a higher score than the state for the White student group. The district increased in 2011 from 2010 from 52 to 57 percent of all students meeting the higher education readiness standard, while the state reported an increase on this indicator as well, from 60 percent in 2010 to 66 percent in 2011 (see **Figure 1**).
- Overall, the state's rate of change from 2010 to 2011 varied from an increase in performance of six percentage points for All Students and African American groups to a seven-percentage-point gain for Hispanic, White, and Economically Disadvantaged student groups. HISD's percentage of students meeting higher education readiness criteria increased for all student groups by five percentage points (see **Figure 2**).
- HISD reported an increase in the total number of students meeting the English language arts higher education readiness criteria from 4,810 in 2010 to 5,319 in 2011. Each student group increased from 2010 to 2011 (see **Table 1**).
- On the mathematics higher education readiness component of the TSI, HISD outperformed the state in 2011 for White students, with HISD reporting 83 percent and the state with 79

percent meeting the higher education readiness indicator. The Economically Disadvantaged students in HISD outperformed the state for mathematics reporting 60 percent compared to 59 percent for the state (see **Figure 3**).

- HISD's improvement in the percentage of students meeting the TSI higher education readiness criteria in mathematics varied from a decrease of three percentage points for White students to an increase of three percentage points by Hispanic and Economically Disadvantaged students. The state's range of improvement increased from a one-percentage-point gain for White students to a five-percentage-point gain for African American and Hispanic students (see **Figure 4**).
- The number of HISD students meeting the higher education readiness criteria for mathematics increased for the majority of student groups from 2010 to 2011. For all students, the numbers increased from 5,618 in 2010 to 5,913 in 2011 (see **Table 2**).

### **Student Performance on PSAT, ACT, and SAT**

- The total number of HISD students (grades 9–11) scoring a 45 or higher on the critical reading section of the PSAT test in the fall of 2011 was 6,712, a decrease from 7,048 ninth-through eleventh-graders in the fall of 2010. In addition, the percentage of test-takers scoring a 45 or higher in critical reading decreased slightly from 22 percent in 2010 to 21 percent in 2011 (see **Figure 5**).
- For the math section of the PSAT, the number of HISD freshman, sophomores and juniors scoring a 45 or higher decreased from 9,821 in the fall of 2010 to 9,595 ninth-through eleventh-graders in the fall of 2011. The percent of students scoring a 45 or higher in the math section of the PSAT remained constant, from 2010 to 2011 at 30 percent.
- On the writing section of the PSAT, 24 percent of HISD freshman, sophomores, and juniors scored a 45 or higher in 2011, compared to 17 percent of ninth-through eleventh-graders tested in 2010. Additionally, the total number of HISD students meeting this standard increased from 5,341 in 2010 to 7,823 in 2011.
- Participation rates for HISD sophomores decreased slightly from fall 2010, with 90.4 percent testing in 2010 to 89.5 percent of enrolled sophomores testing in 2011 (see **Table 3**).
- On the ACT test, the total number of HISD students with a composite score of 21 or higher increased from 852 in 2010 to 1,081 in 2011. There was also an increase in the percent of students scoring 21 or higher, from 35 percent in 2010 to 40 percent in 2011 (see **Figure 6**).
- The actual number of HISD students scoring 500 or higher on the SAT increased from 1,632 to 1,851 in critical reading, from 1,942 to 2,298 in math, and from 1,519 to 1,670 in writing from 2010 to 2011 even though HISD reported no gains in the percentage of students scoring 500 or higher in each subject due to increased participation (see **Figure 7**).

### **Graduates Receiving the Recommended High School Program Diploma or Higher**

- The total percentage of HISD students graduating under either the Recommended High School Program (RHSP) or the Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP) decreased from 86.1 for the class of 2010 to 81.1 for the class of 2011 (see **Figure 8**).
- The number of HISD students graduating in the class of 2010 under the RHSP or higher increased by 385 students, from 7,470 in 2009 to a total of 7,855 in the class of 2010. That total increased for the class of 2011 by 219 students, to 8,074 (see **Table 4**). For the classes of 2009 and 2010, HISD reported a higher percentage of graduates receiving the RHSP or DAP than did the state. State data for the class of 2011 are not available at the present time (see **Figure 9**).

## College-Going Rates: Enrollments and Scholarships

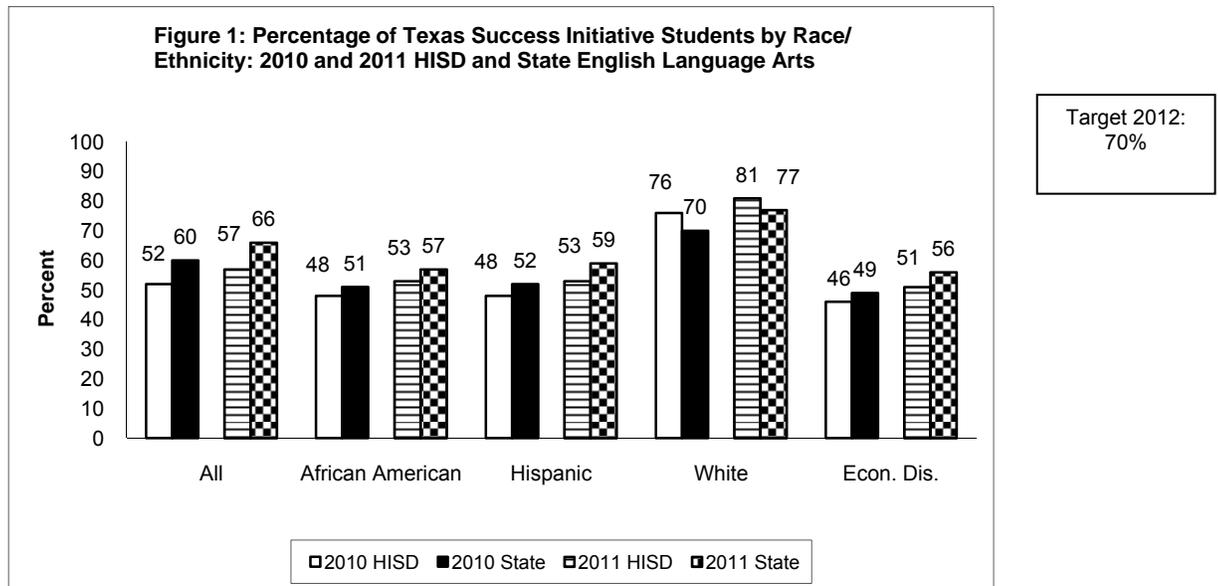
- The percent of HISD graduates enrolled in college for the fall semester immediately following high school graduation increased from 2008 to 2009, but decreased in 2010 to 50 percent. Almost twice as many graduates enrolled in 4-year institutions (33 percent) as opposed to 2-year institutions (17 percent) in the class of 2010 (see **Figure 10**).
- HISD graduates were awarded a total of \$51,430,434 in scholarship money in the class of 2009, \$97,133,202 for the class of 2010, and \$129,583,837 for the class of 2011. Over the last three years, the scholarship award amount has more than doubled for HISD students (see **Table 5**).
- Attached is a table with HISD senior (self-reported) application, acceptance, and enrollment data by the enrolled class of 2010 and accepted class of 2011 (see **Appendix A**).

## Administrative Response:

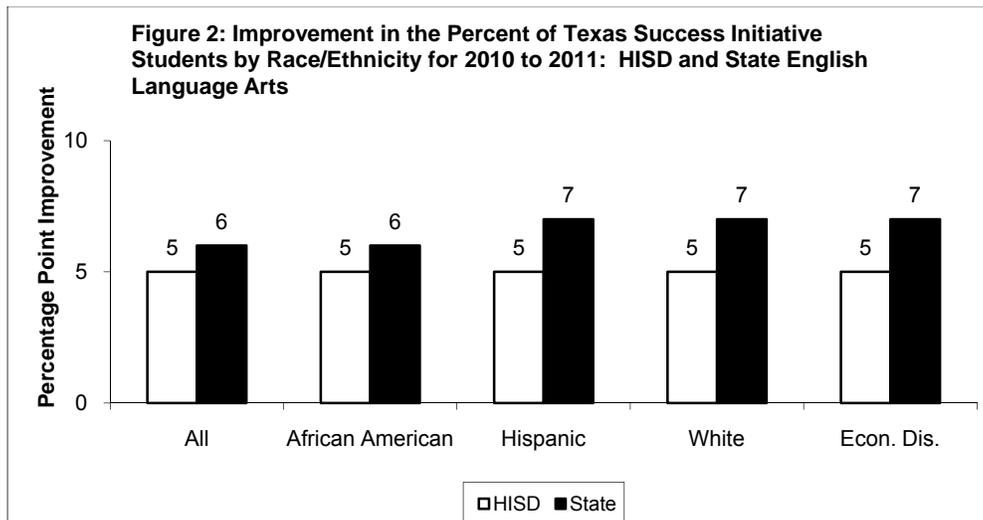
- The High School Office and P-16 College Readiness Department will partner to ensure that all eligible students take advantage of free SAT and ACT preparation opportunities. An online program is currently available through College Board to support SAT preparation, and student use of this opportunity will be both encouraged and monitored. SAT School-Day is offered to all juniors at no cost to the student. College Board will provide training to effectively utilize the Online SAT Prep and SAT Prep study book. SAT Prep Academies will occur on high school campuses to be facilitated by training campus staff members or by an approved SAT Prep vendor. P-16 College Readiness Department will provide all high schools with additional resources such as Word Smart or Laying the Foundation SAT vocabulary lessons. Providing this testing opportunity during the school day helped eliminate barriers that many students encounter such as work, lack of transportation, or childcare thereby increasing the number of juniors taking the SAT. The fee waiver process will be tightened by monitoring counselors' communication to students and parents so that students complete the free and reduced lunch paperwork that provides eligibility for the waiver to be used for SAT or ACT.
- All eighth-grade students took College Board's Readistep assessment, an indicator that is aligned to the PSAT and SAT. This assessment provides the district with a formative measure of college readiness for our students. The data provide a lens to analyze the level of rigor provided by individual classroom teachers and will be used to inform the design and delivery of curriculum so that instructional gaps are closed.
- Detailed analysis will take place to examine Summary of Answers & Skills reports of the Readistep/PSAT/SAT to identify learning or knowledge gaps in instruction and/or curriculum.
- Online tracking of scholarships offered to seniors provided an equitable tool for college access staff members to track scholarships. Through constant communication, students were completing scholarship applications and reporting the scholarship dollars offered at a higher rate than in previous years. The fall Scholarship Fair sponsored by the P-16 College Readiness Department provided students opportunities to speak to representatives of community and higher education scholarships and in so doing increased the likelihood students were applying for the scholarships.

- Analysis of the college matriculation data provided by National Student Clearinghouse and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board will identify trends of college readiness and percentage of students taking development course work.

The qualifying scores for higher education readiness in English language arts for the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) are scale scores of 2200 on the exit-level TAKS English language arts test with a written composition score of '3' or higher on the writing component.



Source: Academic Excellence Indicator System 2010–2011



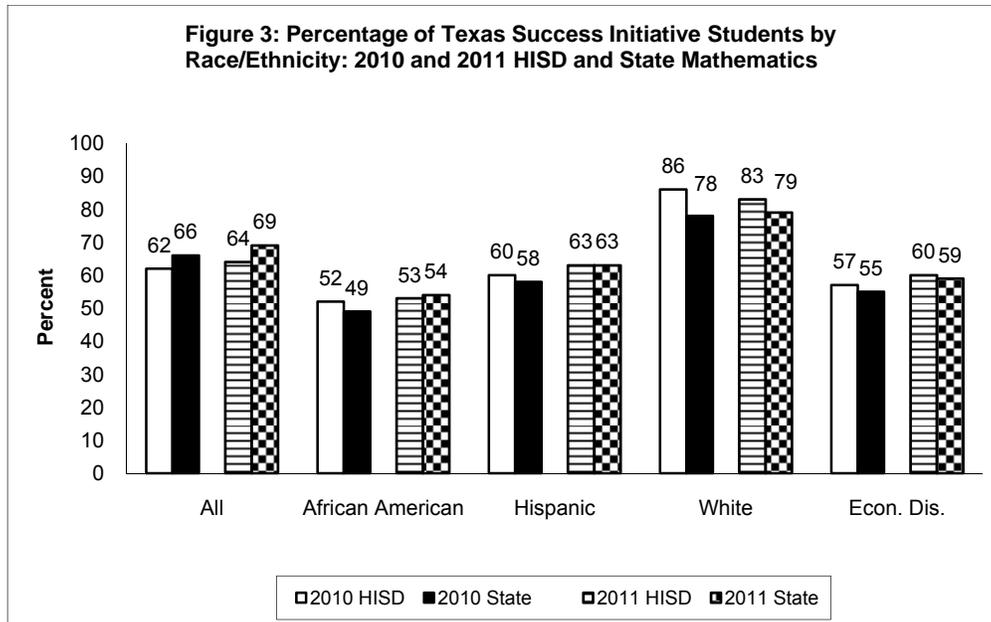
Source: Academic Excellence Indicator System 2010–2011

**Table 1: Counts of Students Meeting Texas Success Initiative Criteria by Race/Ethnicity: English Language Arts for HISD**

	All	African American	Hispanic	White	Econ. Dis.
<b>2010</b>	4,810	1,345	2,372	752	2,821
<b>2011</b>	5,319	1,406	2,749	765	3,272

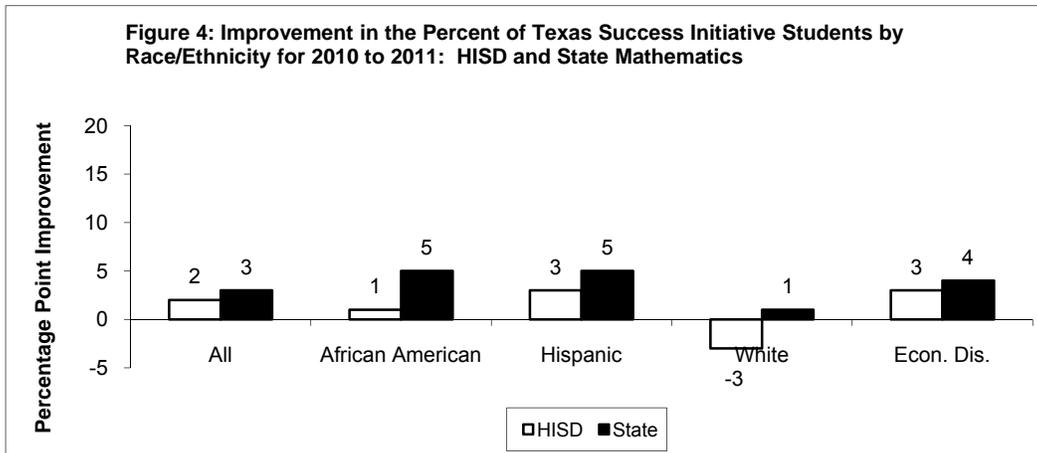
Source: TEA, State Gold Performance Data Tables, 2010–2011

The qualifying scores for higher education readiness in mathematics for the TSI are scale scores of 2200 on the exit-level TAKS mathematics test.



Target 2012:  
70%

Source: Academic Excellence Indicator System 2010–2011

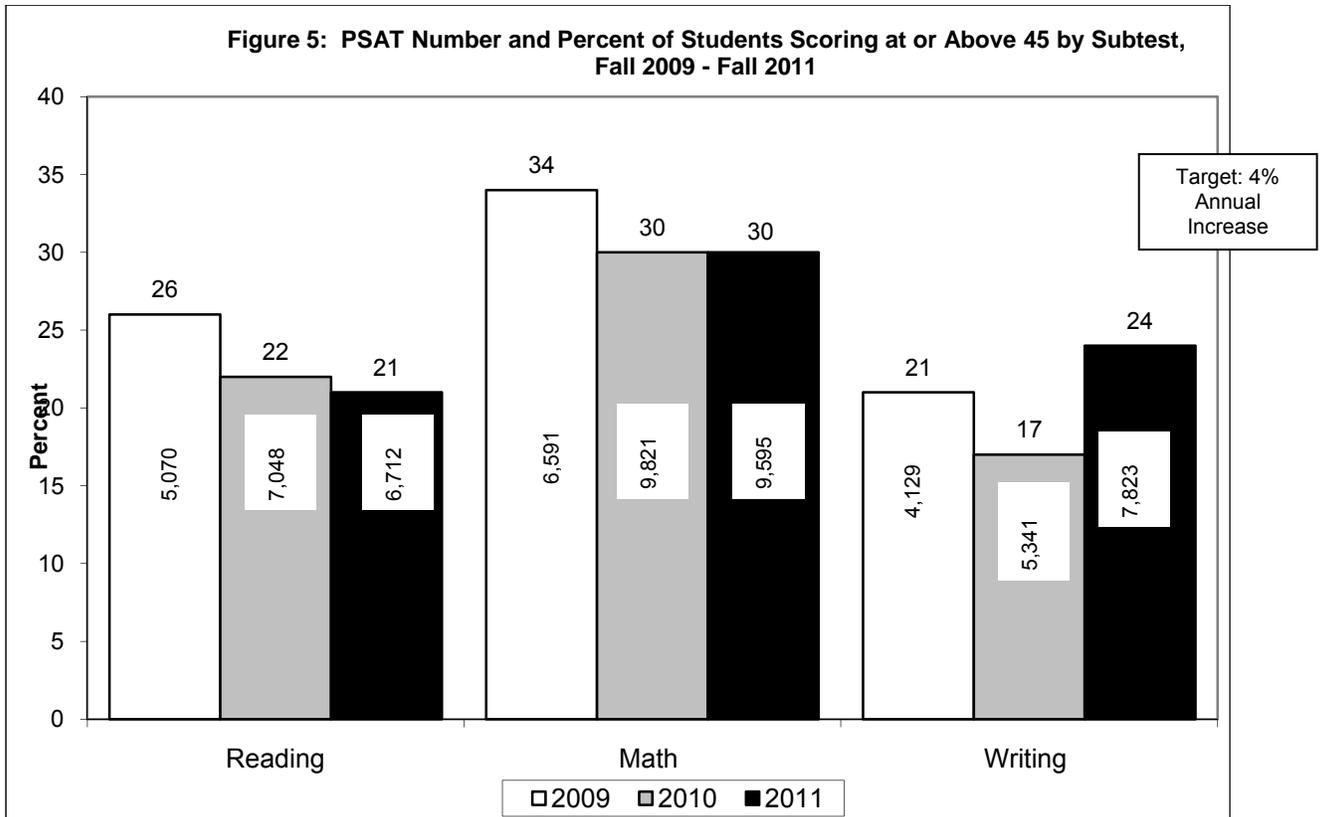


Source: Academic Excellence Indicator System 2010–2011

**Table 2: Counts of Students Meeting Texas Success Initiative Criteria by Race/Ethnicity: Mathematics for HISD**

	All	African American	Hispanic	White	Econ. Dis.
<b>2010</b>	5,618	1,436	2,925	864	3,447
<b>2011</b>	5,913	1,398	3,279	792	3,846

Source: TEA, State Gold Performance Data Tables, 2010–2011



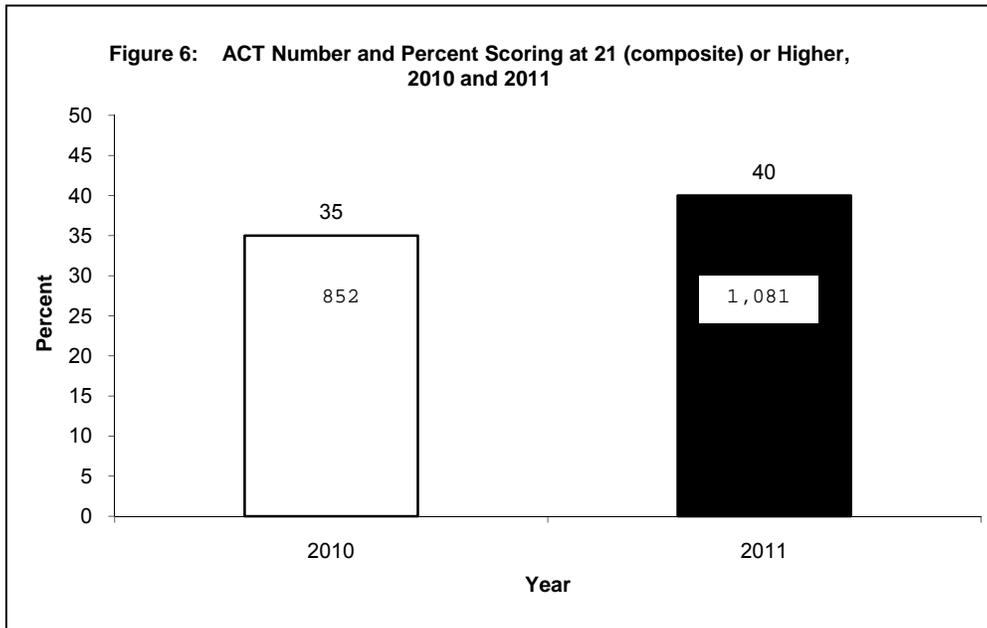
Source: Test Contractor Data Files, 2009–2011. 2009 data from files provided by College Board to include 3 new campuses. Note: 2009 results include only grades 10–11; 2010–2011 PSAT results include grades 9–11.

**Table 3: Fall 2009–2011 Sophomore PSAT Participation Rates**

	Enrolled	N Taking	Percent
<b>Fall 2009</b>	12,320	11,002	89.3
<b>Fall 2010</b>	12,412	11,221	90.4
<b>Fall 2011</b>	11,870	10,624	89.5

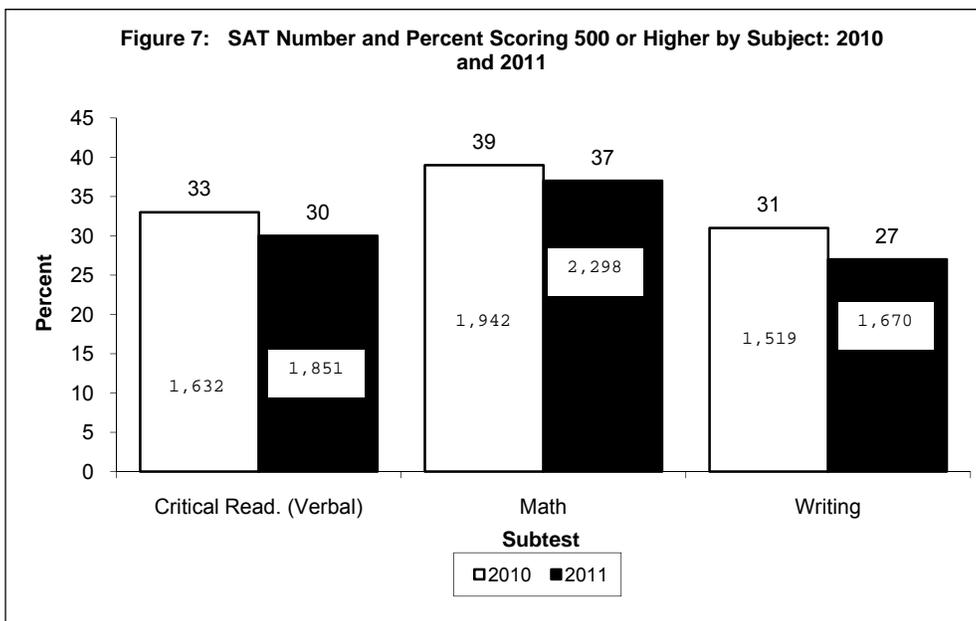
Target 2012:  
90%  
Participation

Source: 2009–2011 PEIMS Fall Submission



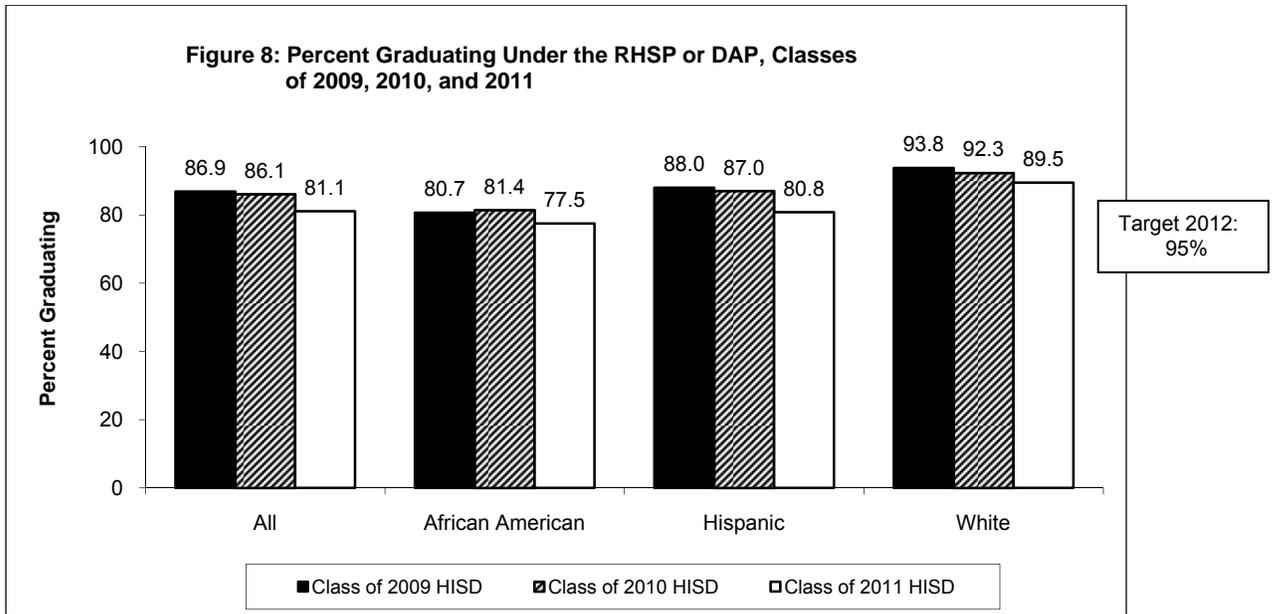
Target 2012:  
50%

Contractor Data Files, 2010 and 2011



Target 2012:  
50%

Source: Test Contractor Data Files, 2010–2011  
Note: No observed difference in writing due to rounding.

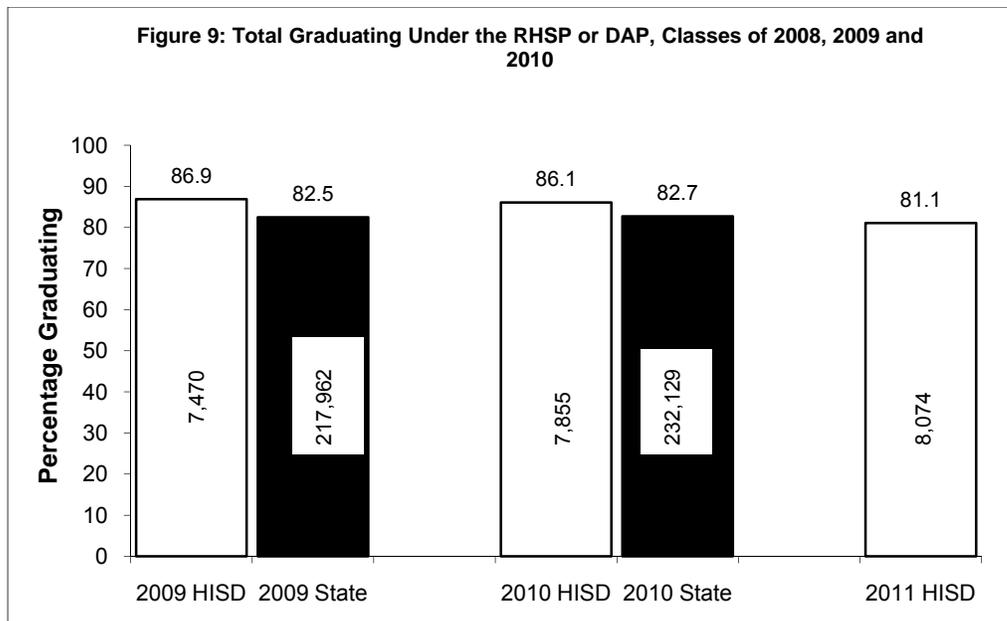


Source: TEA Accountability Report Data: class of 2009 and 2010, PEIMS Edit+ Report, 2011 Fall Collection for class of 2010.

**Table 4: Counts of Students Graduating Under the Recommended High School Program or Higher by Ethnicity for HISD**

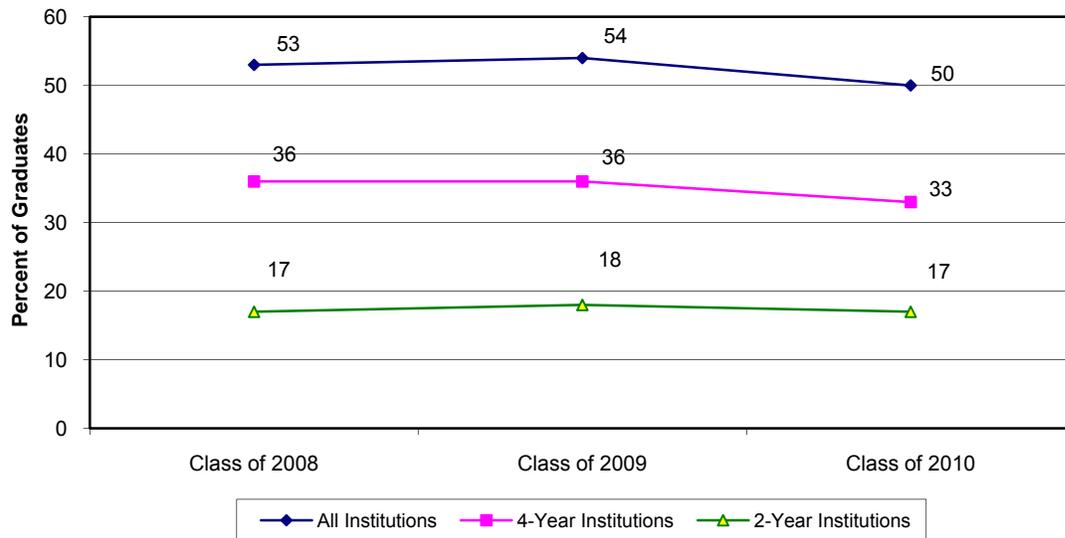
	All Students	African American	Hispanic	White
<b>Class of 2009</b>	7,470	2,102	3,859	1,081
<b>Class of 2010</b>	7,855	2,270	4,191	928
<b>Class of 2011</b>	8,074	2,406	4,308	907

Source: TEA Accountability Report Data, class of 2009 and 2010; PEIMS Edit+ Report, 2011 Fall Collection for class of 2011



Source: TEA Accountability Report, 2009–2011; PEIMS Edit+ Report, 2011 Fall Collection  
 Note: State data for the class of 2011 are not available at this time.

**Figure 10: Percent of HISD Students Enrolled in College in the Fall Immediately Following Graduation from High School, by Institutional Level**



Source: NSC 2011 Student Tracker for High Schools, Aggregate Report.

**Table 5: Scholarships Awarded (Dollar Values) to HISD: Classes of 2009, 2010, and 2011, by Campus and District Totals**

<b>Campus</b>	<b>Class of 2009</b>	<b>Class of 2010</b>	<b>Class of 2011</b>
Barbara Jordan HS	574,200	378,700	883,906
Bellaire HS	3,612,753	8,951,174	10,942,778
Booker T. Washington HS	2,784,000	2,871,382	2,162,700
Carnegie HS	1,039,600	5,304,588	3,632,816
Challenge EC	592,700	2,052,675	1,044,406
Chavez HS	1,963,276	3,511,819	4,083,054
CLC	18,900	34,800	32,100
Davis HS	1,118,174	1,123,149	1,200,998
East Early HS		632,327	1,071,064
Eastwood HS	154,200	246,350	204,500
Empowerment HS	184,100	121,372	190,500
Furr HS	1,815,464	2,144,730	1,608,644
HAIS		414,100	436,000
Hope Academy		16,000	57,700
HSLECJ	244,700	828,100	463,699
HSPVA	2,599,506	9,702,182	13,038,832
International HS @ Sharpstown			573,200
Jones HS	786,800	719,600	783,468
Kashmere HS	505,354	296,498	409,828
Lamar HS	7,557,164	8,290,092	16,872,148
Leaders Academy		91,500	9,000
Lee HS	691,300	978,234	1,362,379
Liberty HS	16,150	34,000	41,100
Madison HS	2,492,242	3,050,737	3,509,206
Michael DeBakey HS	5,107,672	14,953,846	18,186,177
Milby HS	3,323,100	2,413,850	4,187,242
Mount Carmel Academy	105,330	506,517	943,538
Reach HS	133,000	160,920	16,000
Reagan HS	879,950	2,445,226	2,852,138
Sam Houston MST	1,523,600	2,158,790	1,758,665
Scarborough HS	215,270	240,939	1,159,494
Sharpstown HS	758,100	1,748,233	2,591,508
Stephen F. Austin HS	718,814	1,893,009	1,383,444
Sterling HS	2,415,505	1,854,002	2,192,600
Waltrip HS	1,473,216	1,386,938	2,330,308
Westbury HS	483,750	961,262	1,337,323
Westside HS	2,111,587	7,468,226	21,116,996
Wheatley HS	1,330,471	2,190,540	2,197,192
Worthing HS	1,289,056	1,567,083	571,187
Yates HS	1,385,630	3,387,712	2,145,999
<b>HISD</b>	<b>51,430,434</b>	<b>97,133,202</b>	<b>129,583,837</b>

Source: HISD Department of College, Career, and Counseling

**Appendix A**

College Application, Acceptance, and Enrollment– July 5, 2011									
Org.	School	Enrolled Class of '10		Accepted Class of '11			Applied Class of '11		
		2 Year	4 Year	2 Year	4 Year	Either	2 Year	4 Year	Either
	<b>HISD</b>	30%	23%	66%	50%	88%	69%	67%	95%
1	Austin	52%	35%	91%	38%	90%	91%	72%	90%
2	Bellaire	21%	75%	32%	71%	94%	32%	75%	95%
322	Carnegie Vanguard	3%	96%	6%	99%	100%	6%	99%	100%
323	Challenge*	19%	78%	100%	87%	100%	100%	92%	100%
27	Chavez	56%	35%	80%	59%	99%	80%	71%	99%
29	CLC HS	16%	7%	42%	11%	46%	77%	58%	88%
13	Comm. Serv.	0%	0%	0%	25%	25%	25%	25%	50%
3	Davis	34%	31%	81%	45%	90%	81%	78%	100%
26	DeBakey	4%	94%	0%	91%	91%	0%	100%	100%
345	East Early College*	100%	63%	100%	81%	100%	100%	94%	100%
301	Eastwood	60%	40%	100%	92%	100%	100%	100%	100%
325	Empowerment	5%	95%	100%	78%	100%	100%	100%	100%
4	Furr	35%	35%	91%	53%	94%	98%	84%	98%
348	HAIS	8%	84%	100%	82%	100%	100%	96%	100%
94	Harper	0%	0%	33%	0%	33%	100%	0%	100%
329	Hope Academy	25%	0%	30%	9%	30%	39%	16%	50%
310	Houston M/S/T	12%	19%	100%	33%	100%	100%	45%	100%
34	HSLECJ	25%	43%	48%	62%	100%	49%	72%	100%
25	HSPVA	5%	75%	12%	92%	98%	12%	98%	100%
452	Int'l @ Sharpstown	N/A	N/A	90%	58%	100%	90%	67%	100%
6	Jones	18%	21%	95%	44%	95%	95%	60%	95%
33	Jordan	17%	30%	62%	50%	84%	70%	73%	96%
7	Kashmere	3%	29%	90%	42%	90%	90%	89%	90%
8	Lamar	17%	60%	63%	71%	95%	63%	80%	96%
326	Leader's Academy	13%	20%	100%	98%	100%	95%	90%	95%
9	Lee	11%	19%	97%	47%	97%	97%	84%	97%
324	Liberty	31%	2%	86%	23%	86%	86%	23%	86%
10	Madison	28%	61%	98%	45%	100%	98%	70%	100%
11	Milby	38%	34%	71%	34%	97%	71%	38%	97%
311	Mount Carmel	49%	46%	49%	53%	100%	62%	66%	100%
327	New Aspirations	12%	25%	17%	11%	24%	44%	9%	53%
349	REACH	10%	20%	61%	3%	61%	69%	25%	69%
12	Reagan	38%	36%	86%	60%	91%	86%	77%	97%
24	Scarborough HS	17%	26%	92%	30%	97%	93%	54%	100%
23	Sharpstown HS	14%	25%	94%	55%	94%	94%	81%	94%
14	Sterling	19%	25%	30%	32%	58%	34%	77%	95%
15	Waltrip	43%	31%	70%	32%	98%	70%	49%	98%
16	Washington	7%	93%	100%	98%	100%	100%	98%	100%
17	Westbury	23%	29%	55%	27%	82%	55%	39%	94%
36	Westside	21%	46%	36%	47%	77%	38%	67%	96%
18	Wheatley	10%	18%	88%	39%	85%	88%	63%	85%
19	Worthing	52%	35%	40%	68%	90%	90%	72%	90%
20	Yates	17%	50%	65%	67%	77%	67%	78%	95%