



## Board Monitoring System: Indicator B

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

---

#### 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 improve the dropout rate and completion rate among students as measured by the Texas Education Agency (Goal 1, Section B). Additionally, five-year graduation rates are reported for HISD and the State of Texas for the first time.

#### Findings

##### *Annual Dropout Rate*

- In the 2008–2009 school year, the annual dropout rate (grades 7 and 8) increased from 0.5 percent in the 2007–2008 school year to 0.6 percent (Figure 1).
- HISD's dropout rate of 0.6 percent exceeded the state's dropout rate of 0.3 percent (Table 1).
- The HISD 2008–2009 African American and white student dropout rates increased from the 2007–2008 school year, while the Hispanic and economically disadvantaged student groups' dropout rates remained the same. The African-American student dropout rate was 0.7 percent and the white student dropout rate was 0.2 percent, up from 0.6 percent and 0.0 percent, respectively, from the 2007–2008 school year.
- By the end of the 2010–2011 school year, the district goal is to lower the grades 7 and 8 annual dropout rates to 0.1 percent. This year's performance is above that target by 0.5 percentage points and has increased slightly from the previous year.

##### *Four-Year Longitudinal Completion Status*

- The percentage of students in the ninth-grade cohort who dropped out of school by the end of four years decreased from 18.7 percent for the Class of 2008 to 15.8 percent for the Class of 2009 (Table 2).
- The percentage of students who graduated in the Class of 2009 cohort increased over the Class of 2008. The graduation rate for the Class of 2009 was 70.0 percent,

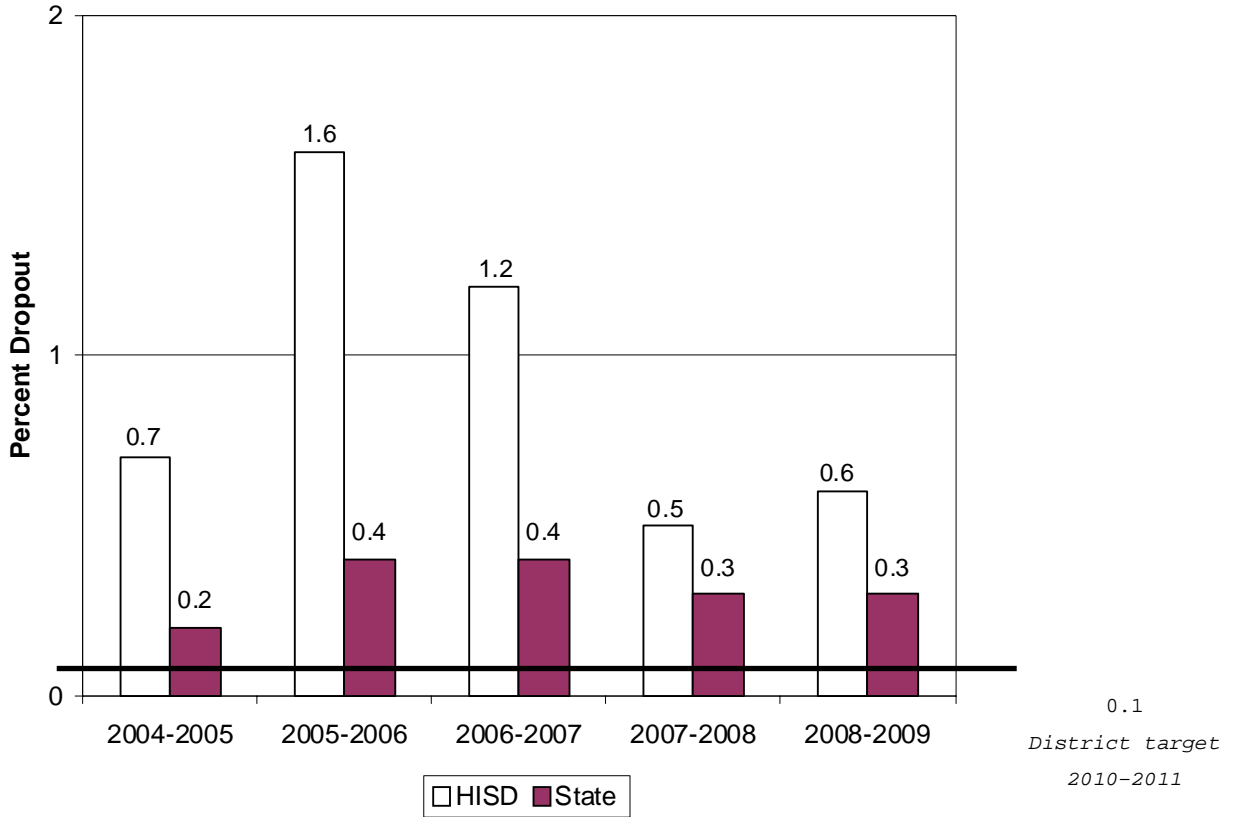
which is 1.8 percentage points higher than last year's graduation rate of 68.2 percent (Figure 3).

- The district goal was to increase the graduation rate to 85 percent. The district has fallen short of this target by 15.0 percentage points.
- By the end of the 2010–2011 school year, the district goal is to increase the four-year completion rate for the ninth-grade cohort to 95 percent. This includes students who graduate or are still in school (continued). This year's completion rate was 83.2 percent, an increase of 2.6 percentage points from the Class of 2008 at 80.6 percent (Figure 4).

#### *Five-Year Graduation Rates*

- HISD's All Students and each student group's five-year graduation rates are lower than the State's five-year graduation rates for the Class of 2008 (Table 3).
- The largest graduation gap between HISD (74.1) and the state (83.4) is the All Students group with a 9.3 percentage point difference.

**Figure 1: HISD's Annual Dropout Rate for All Students in Grades 7–8, 2004–2005 to 2008–2009**



Source: *Secondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools 2008–2009*; Texas Education Agency, District Dropout and Completion Summary Tables 6/18/2010.

Table 1: Annual Dropout Rate for Grades 7 and 8 for HISD and the State by Student Demographics, 2005–2006 to 2008–2009

	2005–2006		2006–2007		2007–2008		2008–2009	
	<u>HISD</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>HISD</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>HISD</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>HISD</u>	<u>State</u>
<b>All Students</b>	1.6	0.4	1.2	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.3
<b>African Am.</b>	1.9	0.8	1.4	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.5
<b>Hispanic</b>	1.5	0.6	1.2	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4
<b>White</b>	1.0	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1
<b>Eco. Disad.</b>	1.3	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3

Note:

$$\text{Annual Dropout Rate Grades 7 and 8} = \frac{\text{Number of seventh- and eighth-grade students who dropped out at any time during the school year}}{\text{Number of seventh- and eighth-grade students who were in attendance at any time during the school year}} \times 100$$

Source: *Secondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools 2008–2009*; Texas Education Agency, District Dropout and Completion Summary Tables 6/18/2010.

**Figure 2 : Annual Dropout Rate (Gr. 7-8) for All Students and Student Groups in HISD, 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.**

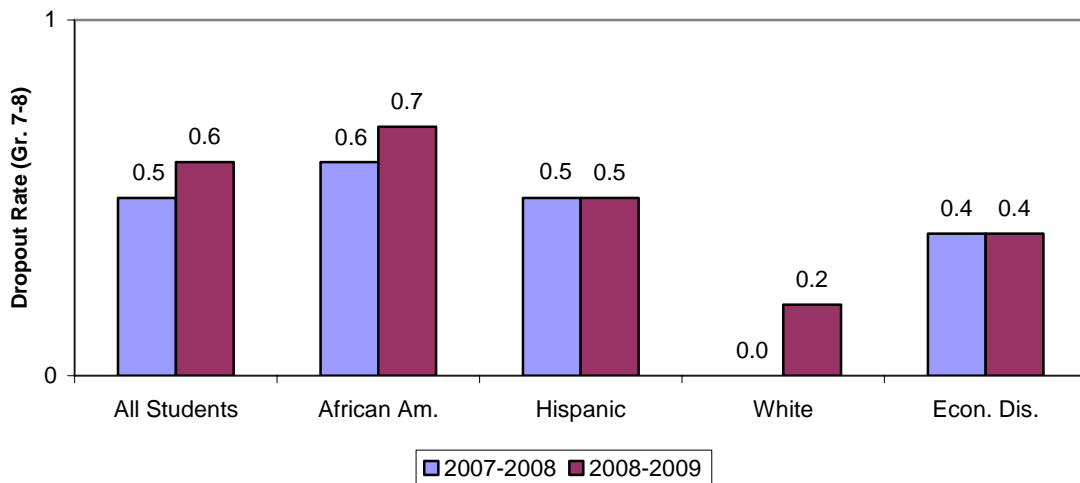


Table 2: Four-Year Longitudinal Completion Status for HISD by Student Demographics,  
Class of 2007–2009

		<u>2007</u>				<u>2008</u>				<u>2009</u>			
		Grad	GED	Cont	Drop	Grad	GED	Cont	Drop	Grad	GED	Cont	Drop
<b>All Students</b>	<b>HISD</b>	64.3	1.1	12.5	22.1	68.2	0.7	12.4	18.7	70.0	0.9	13.2	15.8
	<b>STATE</b>	78.0	2.0	8.7	11.4	79.1	1.5	8.9	10.5	80.6	1.4	8.6	9.4
<b>African Am.</b>	<b>HISD</b>	66.7	1.1	9.6	22.6	68.0	0.5	11.6	20.0	68.4	1.0	12.8	17.8
	<b>STATE</b>	70.7	1.6	10.5	17.2	71.8	1.1	11.0	16.1	73.8	1.1	10.3	14.8
<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>HISD</b>	55.6	0.8	16.8	26.8	62.8	0.6	15.3	21.2	65.9	0.8	15.9	17.4
	<b>STATE</b>	68.5	1.8	13.3	16.4	70.8	1.5	13.3	14.4	73.5	1.4	12.7	12.4
<b>White</b>	<b>HISD</b>	86.9	2.5	3.8	6.7	84.7	1.7	4.7	8.9	87.4	1.4	5.2	6.0
	<b>STATE</b>	88.2	2.4	4.1	5.3	88.8	1.8	4.2	5.1	89.7	1.7	4.1	4.5
<b>Asian</b>	<b>HISD</b>	87.8	0.6	6.4	5.1	88.0	0.5	5.3	6.2	87.9	0.6	4.3	7.2
	<b>STATE</b>	91.5	0.5	4.2	3.8	91.2	0.3	4.8	3.6	92.4	0.3	4.3	3.0
<b>Eco. Disadv.</b>	<b>HISD</b>	59.9	1.0	13.2	25.9	65.0	0.6	14.5	19.9	74.6	0.6	11.2	13.6
	<b>STATE</b>	68.8	2.1	11.7	17.3	70.4	1.7	12.2	15.7	78.3	1.2	9.7	10.9

Note:

Grad = High School Graduate

GED = Received General Educational Development Certificate

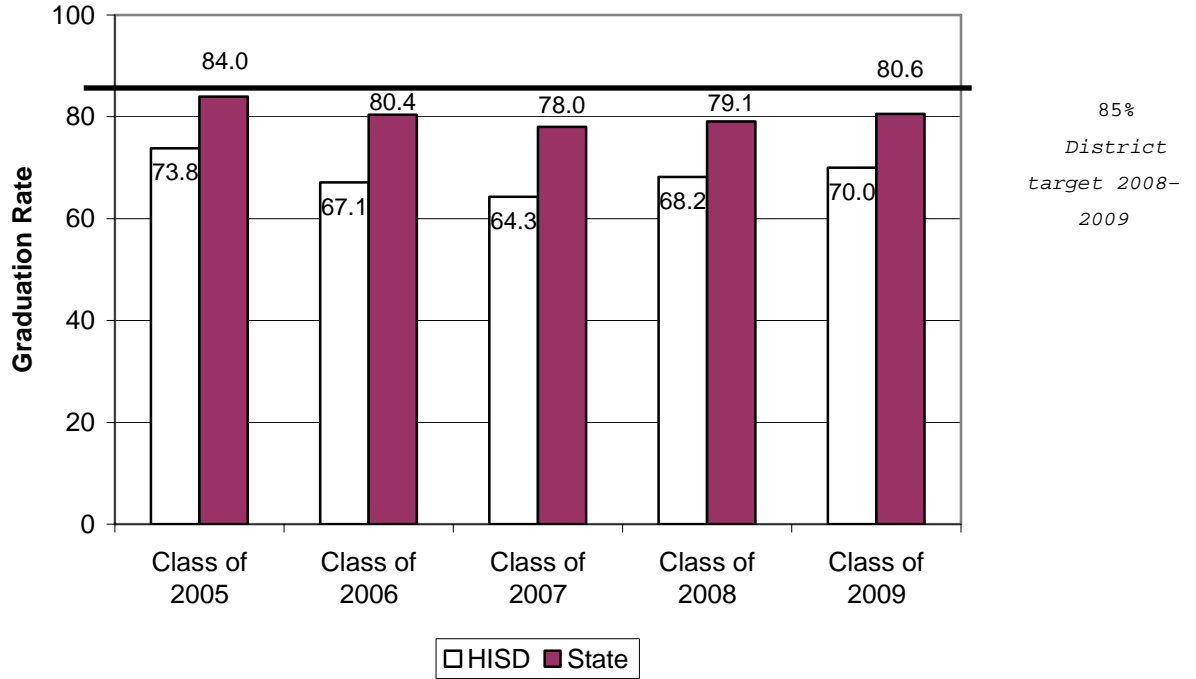
Cont = Still in school after four years

Drop = Dropout

$$\text{Longitudinal Dropout Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of students from the ninth-grade cohort who dropped out before the end of twelfth grade}}{\text{Number of students in the 2005–2006 cohort}} \times 100$$

Source: *Secondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools 2008–2009*; Texas Education Agency, District Dropout and Completion Summary Tables 6/18/2010.

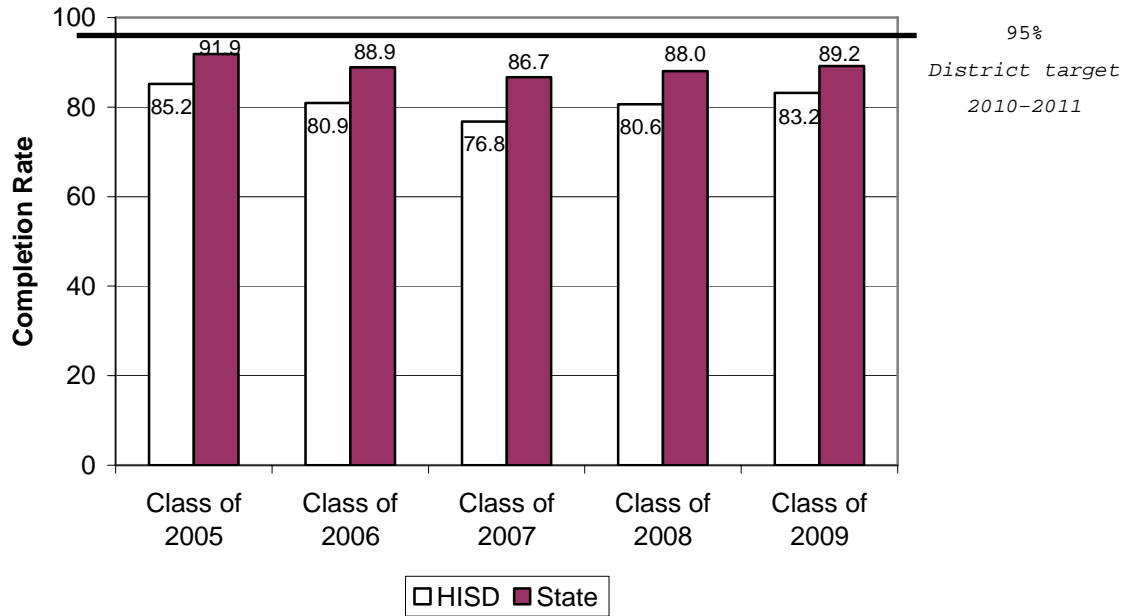
**Figure 3: Four-Year Longitudinal Graduation for All Students in HISD and the State, Class of 2005–2009**



Graduation Rate: Based on the ninth grade cohort, this shows the percentage who received their high-school diploma on time or earlier by the end of their twelfth-grade year.

Source: *Secondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools 2008–2009*; Texas Education Agency, District Dropout and Completion Summary Tables 6/18/2010.

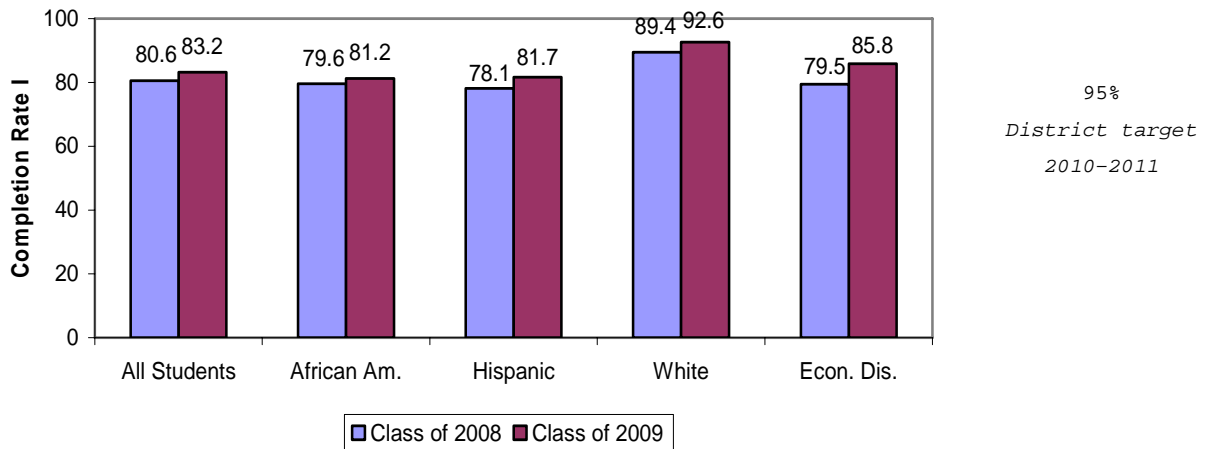
**Figure 4: Longitudinal Completion Rate I\* for All Students in HISD and the State, Class of 2005–2009**



\* Note: Completion Rate I includes graduates and continuers.

Source: Secondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools 2008–2009; Texas Education Agency, Secondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools 2008-09.

**Figure 5: Four-Year Completion Rates for All Students and Student Groups in HISD, Class of 2008 and 2009**



Note: Two completion-rate measures have been defined for Texas public-school accountability beginning in 2004. Completion Rate I includes graduates and continuing enrollment. Completion Rate I is used in determining campus and district accountability ratings. Completion Rate II includes students who received a GED and is used for rating alternative education campuses.

Completion Rate I formula:

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

Source: *Secondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools 2008–2009*; Texas Education Agency, *Secondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools 2008-09*.



**Table 3: HISD and State All Students and Student Groups 5-Year Graduation Rates:, Class of 2008**

<b>Student Group</b>	<b>HISD</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>All Students</b>	74.1%	83.4%
<b>African American</b>	73.1%	76.5%
<b>Hispanic</b>	69.9%	77.0%
<b>White</b>	87.6%	91.1%
<b>Asian</b>	91.9%	94.2%
<b>Economic. Disad.</b>	72.9%	76.6%

Source: *Secondary School Completion and Dropouts in Texas Public Schools 2008–2009*; Texas Education Agency, District Dropout and Completion Summary Tables 6/18/2010.