

Appendix I – Data Sources

This appendix provides data sources for the indicators used in the state accountability system, including those used to assign Distinction Designations. The information is arranged by type of data (assessment, graduation, dropout, etc.).

The primary sources for all data used in the state accountability system are the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data collection, the various assessment companies, and the General Educational Development (GED) data file

Organization Name	Description
ACT, Inc.	The ACT, Inc. annually provides the agency with the ACT participation and performance data of graduating seniors from Texas public schools. Only one record is sent per student. If a student takes an ACT test more than once, the agency receives the record for the most recent examination taken. The ACT data as of the June administration is used in creating the SAT/ACT indicator.
College Board	The College Board annually provides the agency with the SAT participation and performance data of graduating seniors from Texas public schools. Only one record is sent per student. If a student takes an SAT test more than once, the agency receives the record for the most recent examination taken. The SAT data as of the June administration is used in creating the SAT/ACT indicator. In addition, the College Board provides the agency with the Advanced Placement (AP) examination results of Texas public school students each year. The AP data as of the May administration is used in creating the AP/IB indicator.
International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO)	The International Baccalaureate Organization provides the agency with the International Baccalaureate (IB) examination results of Texas public school students each year. The IB data as of the May administration is used in creating the AP/IB indicator.
Pearson	Pearson is the contractor for the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR), Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS), and Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) testing programs. After each test administration, the TEA Student Assessment Division receives student-level assessment data from Pearson.
TEA GED Database	A TEA database containing information about examinee performance on the GED tests is maintained by the TEA GED Unit. Unlike the information in most other TEA data files, which is reported annually, receipt of a GED test(s) is reported as soon as the test is scored. A certificate is mailed once the examinee has passed all five tests, and the information is stored in a database. Candidates take GED tests at centers throughout the state in school districts, colleges and universities, education service centers, and correctional facilities. Tests are given year-round, and the results are transmitted electronically to TEA from the University of Texas Scoring Center.

Assessment Data

Consolidated Accountability File (CAF) - All STAAR, STAAR Modified, STAAR L, STAAR Alternate, TAKS, and TELPAS data for a student will be combined into one record on the consolidated file for accountability, including both English and Spanish. Students can test with varying assessments; however, the results will be merged together to create one record in the individual student record file. Records for which the student could not be assigned a Portal Access Code will not be merged with data from another administration. The data file format for the 2012-13 Consolidated Accountability File (CAF) is posted on the Student Assessment website at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/datafileformats>. Districts are able to access their 2012-13 CAF data file from the Texas Assessment Management System (TAMS) in mid-July.

Graduation Data

The four-year graduation rate follows a cohort of first-time students in grade 9 through their expected graduation three years later. The five-year graduation rate follows the same cohort of students for one additional year. 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. Students who transfer out of the Texas public school system over the four or five years for non-graduate reasons are removed from the class.

Methodology. The four-year and five-year graduation rate measures the percent of graduates in a class.

Number of Graduates (*from PEIMS 101, 110, and 203 records*)

Number of Graduates + Continuers + GED Recipients + Dropouts (*from PEIMS 101, 110, 203, 400, and 500 records and GED*)

Alternative Education Accountability Graduation and GED Rates - The four-year graduation and GED rate follows a cohort of first-time students in grade 9 through their expected graduation three years later. The five-year graduation rate follows the same cohort of students for one additional year. The six-year graduation rate continues to follow the same cohort of students for one additional year. 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. Students who transfer out of the Texas public school system over the four, five, or six years for non-graduate, non-dropout reasons are removed from the class.

Methodology. The graduation and GED rate measures the percent of graduates and GED recipients in a cohort.

Number of Graduates + GED Recipients (*from PEIMS 101, 110, and 203 records and GED*)

Number of Graduates + Continuers + GED Recipients + Dropouts (*from PEIMS 101, 110, 203, 400, and 500 records and GED*)

Diploma Programs

Recommended High School Program (RHSP)/ Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP) - The State Board of Education has by rule defined the graduation requirements for Texas public school students. The rule delineates specific requirements for three levels: minimum requirements, the Recommended High School Program (RHSP), and the Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP).

The race and ethnicity classifications used for RHSP/DAP for 2013 accountability are based on the federal definition. RHSP graduates are students with PEIMS type codes of 19, 22, 25, or 28; DAP graduates are students with type codes of 20, 23, 26, or 29

Dropout Rate

Annual Dropout Rates - The annual dropout rate is calculated by dividing the number of students in grades 9-12 designated as dropout by the number of students enrolled in grades 9-12 at any time during the 2011-12 school year.

Methodology.

Number of students who dropped out during the school year (from PEIMS 203)

Number of students enrolled during the school year (from PEIMS 110, 400,
and 500)

2013 Accountability System – School Types

Campuses are divided into types according to the range of grades offered. The chart below shows the possible combinations of low and high grades for each of the campus types. For example, a campus offering a low grade of K, found along the left edge of the grid, and a high grade of 8, found along the top edge of the grid, is classified as an elementary school, while a school with a low grade of 7 and a high grade of 12 is classified as a high school. For most reports, middle schools and junior high schools are grouped together as one category.

A table showing the distribution of grade spans used in the 2013 accountability system is shown on the following page. Current counts of the number of schools with each low and high grade combination are shown in the cells.

2013 Accountability System School Types

Elementary		Middle School			Junior High				Elementary/Secondary				High School			
		High Grade														
		EE	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Low Grade	EE	13	60	53	48	66	48	156	1031	120	0	11	1	2	2	24
	PK		39	12	5	24	38	184	1059	195	6	66	2	1	1	133
	K			1	7	16	18	139	604	140	7	47	8	5	9	62
	1				0	13	24	9	36	22	1	4	0	0	2	12
	2					3	24	12	18	4	1	0	0	3	2	7
	3						1	12	83	13	2	2	1	0	2	5
	4							1	61	41	2	12	2	0	6	8
	5								12	141	4	71	4	3	6	15
	6									38	13	1083	21	8	26	132
	7										8	271	18	7	22	149
	8											13	7	6	18	42
	9												52	38	28	1270
	10													9	4	43
	11														13	29
12															17	