

## School Rankings 2011 – Description of Variables

Variable Name	Description	Year	Weight
<b>HIGH SCHOOL</b>			
TAKS Commended Reading	The percentage of 11th grade students who achieved “Commended Performance” on the English/Language Arts (ELA) section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	2.5%
TAKS Commended Math	The percentage of 11th grade students who achieved “Commended Performance” on the Mathematics section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	2.5%
TAKS Commended Social Studies	The percentage of 11th grade students who achieved “Commended Performance” on the Social Studies section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	2.5%
TAKS Commended Science	The percentage of 11th grade students who achieved “Commended Performance” standards on the Science section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	2.5%
Recommended High School Program	The percentage of graduates who were reported as having satisfied the course requirements for the Texas State Board of Education Recommended High School Program.	2009	5%
Advanced Courses	The percentage of students in grades 9-12 who received credit for at least one advanced course (including Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Dual Enrollment, and others).	2009	6%
AP/IB Test-Takers	The percentage of students in grades 11 and 12 taking at least one AP or IB examination.	2009	5%
AP/IB Students Passing	The percentage of students who have taken one or more AP or IB exam(s) and scored at or above the criterion score (3 on AP or 4 on IB) on at least one exam.	2009	6%
Attendance Rate	The rate of attendance for all students over one school year, calculated as total number of days students were present divided by the total number of days students were in membership during the most recent school year.	2009	10%
CHILDREN AT RISK Graduation Rate	The percentage of first-time freshmen who graduated from any public high school in Texas within four, five, or six years of entering ninth grade.	2009	25%
SAT/ACT Test-Takers	The percentage of graduates that have taken either the ACT or the SAT college admissions exam.	2009	5%
SAT Score	The average score for all students taking the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test).	2009	5%
ACT Score	The average score for all students taking the ACT (American College Test).	2009	5%
Economically Disadvantaged	The percentage of students that are economically disadvantaged, i.e. the percentage of students coded as eligible for free or reduced-price lunch or eligible for other public assistance.	2010	18%
<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>			
TAKS Commended Reading	The percentage of 8th grade students who achieved “Commended Performance” on the English/Language Arts (ELA) section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	10%
TAKS Commended Math	The percentage of 8th grade students who achieved “Commended Performance” on the Mathematics section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	10%
TAKS Commended Social Studies	The percentage of 8th grade students who achieved “Commended Performance” on the Social Studies section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	10%
TAKS Commended Science	The percentage of 8th grade students who achieved “Commended Performance” standards on the Science section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	10%
TAKS Commended Writing	The percentage of 7th grade students who achieved “Commended Performance” standards on the Writing section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	10%

TAKS Commended All Tests	The percentage of 8th grade students who achieved "Commended Performance" standards on all sections of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	12%
Attendance Rate	The rate of attendance for all students over one school year, calculated as total number of days students were present divided by the total number of days students were in membership during the most recent school year.	2009	15%
Retention Rate (Grade 7)	The percentage of students "held back" a grade, or the percent of students who enrolled in the fall of 2008-09 in the same grade as their grade in the last reported six-week period of the prior year.	2009	2.5%
Retention Rate (Grade 8)	The percentage of students "held back" a grade, or the percent of students who enrolled in the fall of 2008-09 in the same grade as their grade in the last reported six-week period of the prior year.	2009	2.5%
Economically Disadvantaged	The percentage of students that are economically disadvantaged, i.e. the percentage of students coded as eligible for free or reduced-price lunch or eligible for other public assistance.	2010	18%
<b>ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</b>			
TAKS Commended Reading	The percentage of 5th grade students who achieved "Commended Performance" on the English/Language Arts (ELA) section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	11%
TAKS Commended Math	The percentage of 5th grade students who achieved "Commended Performance" on the Mathematics section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	11%
TAKS Commended Science	The percentage of 5th grade students who achieved "Commended Performance" standards on the Science section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	11%
TAKS Commended Writing	The percentage of 4th grade students who achieved "Commended Performance" standards on the Writing section of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	11%
TAKS Commended All Tests	The percentage of 5th grade students who achieved "Commended Performance" standards on all sections of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) examination.	2010	13%
Attendance Rate	The rate of attendance for all students over one school year, calculated as total number of days students were present divided by the total number of days students were in membership during the most recent school year.	2009	15%
Class Size (Grade 1)	The average first grade class size.	2010	2%
Class Size (Grade 2)	The average second grade class size.	2010	1.5%
Class Size (Grade 3)	The average third grade class size.	2010	1.5%
Retention Rate (Grade 1)	The percentage of students "held back" a grade, or the percent of students who enrolled in the fall of 2008-09 in the same grade as their grade in the last reported six-week period of the prior year.	2009	1%
Retention Rate (Grade 2)	The percentage of students "held back" a grade, or the percent of students who enrolled in the fall of 2008-09 in the same grade as their grade in the last reported six-week period of the prior year.	2009	1%
Retention Rate (Grade 3)	The percentage of students "held back" a grade, or the percent of students who enrolled in the fall of 2008-09 in the same grade as their grade in the last reported six-week period of the prior year.	2009	1%
Retention Rate (Grade 4)	The percentage of students "held back" a grade, or the percent of students who enrolled in the fall of 2008-09 in the same grade as their grade in the last reported six-week period of the prior year.	2009	1%
Retention Rate (Grade 5)	The percentage of students "held back" a grade, or the percent of students who enrolled in the fall of 2008-09 in the same grade as their grade in the last reported six-week period of the prior year.	2009	1%
Economically Disadvantaged	The percentage of students that are economically disadvantaged, i.e. the percentage of students coded as eligible for free or reduced-price lunch or eligible for other public assistance.	2010	18%