# children at Risk

# Texas Public School Rankings Methodology

CHILDREN AT RISK aims to help parents, educators, and community members understand how their schools are performing and spark dialogue on the quality of public education across Texas.

To meet this goal, CHILDREN AT RISK has ranked Texas public schools for the past 17 years based on school performance, student growth, college readiness, and more.



CHILDREN AT RISK ranks all Texas elementary and middle schools across 3 main areas and all high schools across 4 main areas.









ELEMENTARY + MIDDLE SCHOOLS

#### HIGH SCHOOLS

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



children at Risk + POVERTY



STUDENT GROWTH



**COLLEGE READINESS** 



**TEXAS SCHOOL GUIDE** 

#### How CHILDREN AT RISK grades schools:









Elem & Middle = 33% High = 25%

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Student Achievement

How students do on state standardized tests (STAAR)

Elem & Middle = 33%High = 25%

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m II}$ 

Achievement +Poverty

How a school compares in test scores to schools with similar levels of poverty

Elem & Middle = 33% High = 25%



Student Growth

How students improve on their STAAR tests in a school year

Elem & Middle = 0% High = 25%



College Readiness

How many high school students are graduating on time and participating in other college readiness activities



#### I- Student Achievement:

TEA uses STAAR exam results to understand how many students at each school are meeting certain benchmarks.

















#### Does not meet

Students are unlikely to succeed in the next grade without significant academic intervention / do not demonstrate basic understanding of knowledge and skills

#### **Approaches**

Students are likely to succeed in the next grade with targeted academic intervention / generally demonstrate ability to apply knowledge and skills in familiar situations

#### Meets

Students have high likelihood of success in the next grade but may still some intervention / have ability to think critically and apply skills / "sufficiently prepared" for success after high school

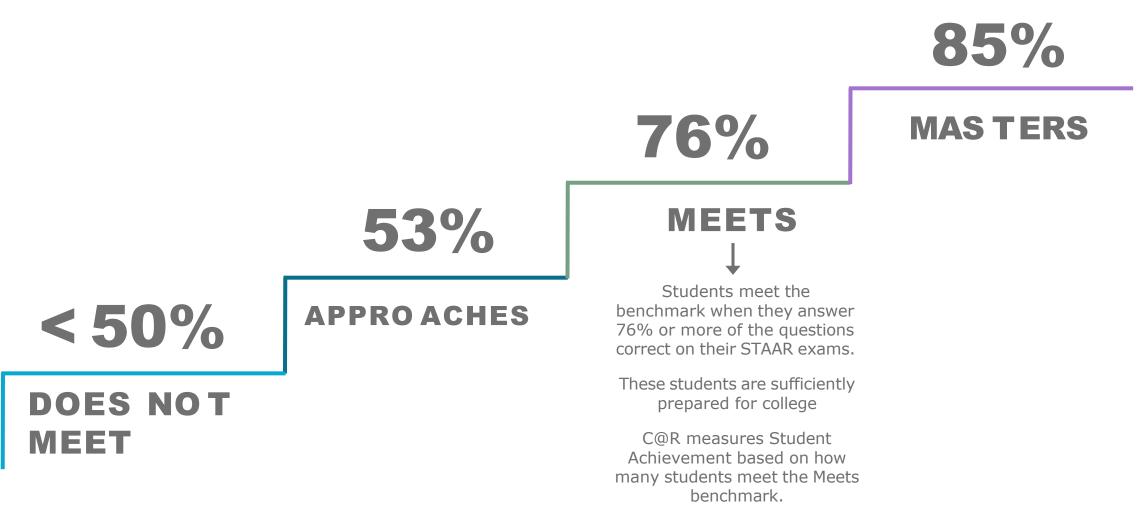
#### Masters

Students expected to succeed in the next grade with no intervention / have ability to think critically and apply skills in unfamiliar situations / "well prepared" for success after high school





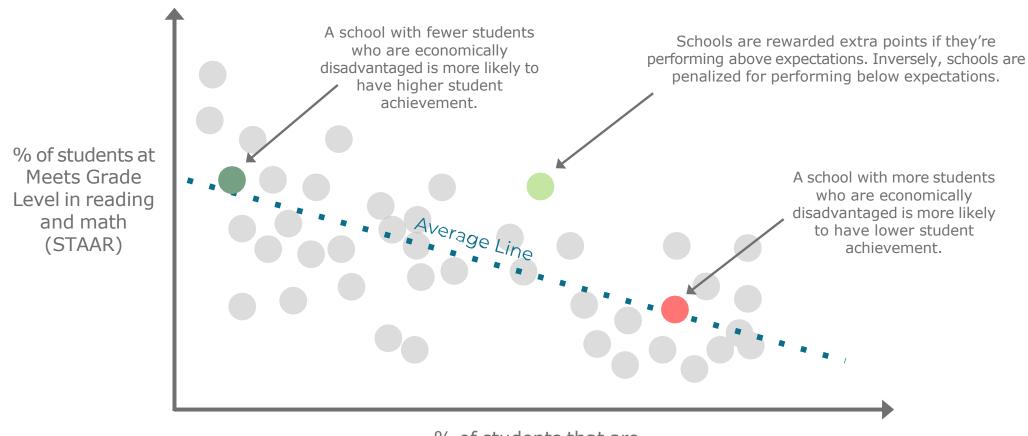
#### I- Student Achievement: Student performance on STAAR exams





#### II- Campus Performance: Compares schools with similar levels of poverty

Students in poverty are more likely to face challenges in completing their education compared to their wealthier peers. Schools that successfully serve students in poverty and address these challenges deserve special recognition.



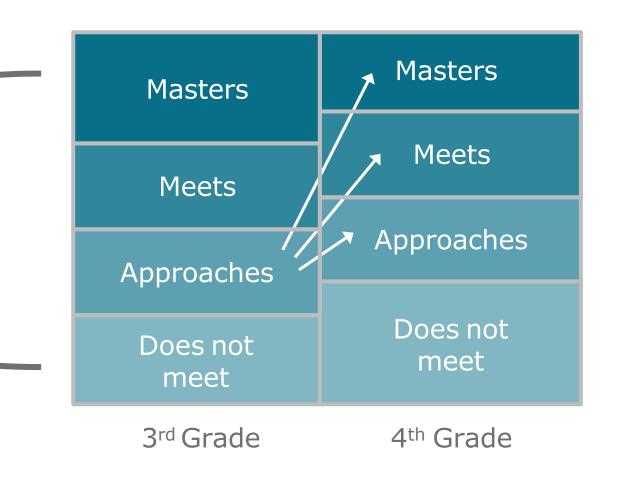


**TEXAS SCHOOL GUIDE** 

## III- Student Growth: How much students improve on STAAR exams over one school year

Student Growth looks at how students are improving over time on their STAAR exams.

C@R measures Student
Growth based on how
much a school's students
improve year to year on
their exams.





#### IV- College Readiness: Evaluates how well schools are preparing their students for college

C@R thinks every student should have the opportunity to be successful in college or a career of choice.

To account for this, high schools are also evaluated on how they prepare students for college.

### COLLEGE READINESS SCORE

60% C@R Graduation Rate – the best of the 4, 5, or 6 year graduation rates at a school

10% How many students take the SAT/ACT

10% How many students take AP/IB exams

% of test takers at a school that pass the AP/IB exams

5 Average SAT total score

Average ACT composite score





#### How CHILDREN AT RISK assigns final letter grades to schools:



### C@R School Grade



Questions or comments?

Please email <a href="mailto:SchoolRankings@childrenatrisk.org">SchoolRankings@childrenatrisk.org</a>

