

How Houston-area districts fared: TEA releases STAAR results, accountability grades

By Shelby Webb

The Texas Education Agency released its accountability ratings Wednesday morning, officially assigning districts an A-through-F letter grade for the first time. While 47 of 123 local charter and traditional districts were not given an official ranking after receiving accountability waivers tied to Hurricane Harvey, nearly 62 percent of those that were rated earned A's and B's, 26 percent were given C's and 12 percent received D's or F's.

Harmony School of Science - Houston, which includes one campus, and rural Devers ISD in Liberty County scored the highest of all Houston-area ISD or charter school districts, both earning a score of 96 and an A grade overall. Rounding out the top local districts were Barbers Hill ISD (95), Friendswood ISD (95), Houston Gateway Academy (94), Harmony School of Excellence (94) and Pearland ISD (94).

The lowest performing district in the state, A+ Unlimited Potential charters, is located in Harris County. It earned a score of 45. Damon ISD earned a score of 50, charter district Meyerpark Elementary earned a 62, Comquest Academy charter district received a 62 and Santa Fe ISD (the site of a mass shooting in May) earned a 63.

At the campus level, three Houston-area campuses received the highest scores of any schools in the state, earning a 99 out of 100: Spring Branch Academic Institute in Spring Branch ISD, and DeBakey and Carnegie Vanguard high schools in Houston ISD. Another nine local schools earned 98 out of 100 points.

The Lane School in Aldine ISD earned the third lowest rating in the state, a 34. Other local schools with low scores were A+Up University charter (44), Victory Prep Academy South charter (48), The Varnett School Southeast charter (49) and Kashmere High in Houston ISD (49).

If individual schools were assigned letter grades based on scale scores, 21 percent of those in the greater Houston area would have received A's, 33 percent would be rated as B's, 31 percent would have gotten C's, 10 percent would be labeled as D's and five percent, or 84 schools, would have been F's.

Nowhere were the ratings more consequential than in the Houston Independent School District, where four campuses must be rated as "met standard" or risk triggering school closures or a state takeover of the entire district.

All four campuses - Mading and Wesley elementaries, Woodson PK-8 and Worthing High - met the state's standard this year, staving off potential state action.

Local schools that were among the most devastated by Hurricane Harvey seemed to perform well. Kingwood and Summer Creek high schools in Humble ISD both met the state's academic standards after having to share one campus for most of the 2017-2018 school year. C.E. King High in Sheldon ISD, which flooded and saw more than 65 of its students lose their homes in the storm, also met the state's standard, scoring a 78 out of 100 possible points on the accountability system's scale score. Creech Elementary in Katy ISD, and Robinson, Braeburn, Scarborough, Kolter and Mitchell elementaries in Houston ISD also met the state's academic standard after their campuses flooded.

The state's new accountability system based 70 percent of each school and district rating on the highest scaled score earned among three categories: raw student achievement, student progress and performance relative to percentages of economically disadvantaged students. Another 30 percent of the grades were determined by schools' and districts' success in closing achievement gaps between different demographic groups, including at-risk students, English-language learners and students of different races.

Officials use those metrics to calculate an overall scale score that ranges from zero to 100, which match up with letter grades. Any scale scores below a 60 translate to F's, scores below 70 equate to D's, grades below 80 would be C's, scores below 90 would be B's and scores of 90 or above would be A's. Kashmere High in Houston ISD (49)

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SC 廣告
Daily News

休斯敦僑學界強烈反對蔡英文“過境” 休斯敦聯合聲明

2018年8月18日

臺灣地區領導人蔡英文將借8月12日到20日“訪問”巴拉圭、伯利茲之際，去程“過境”洛杉磯，回程“過境”休斯敦。蔡英文上任以來拒不承認以一個中國為核心意涵的“九二共識”，肆無忌憚地推行“文化臺獨”和“去中國化”，與其口頭表述的“維護臺海和平穩定”的說法背道而馳，執意在分裂的道路上越走越遠。如同去年一月所謂“過境”休斯敦鬧劇一樣，蔡英文把逗留美國當成是宣揚臺獨的政治舞臺。對此，美南地區及全美各地的廣大華僑、華人和留學生表示堅決反對，不歡迎麻煩制造者蔡英文“過境”休斯敦，並發表聲明如下。

(一)、臺灣是中國領土不可分割的一部分。任何臺獨的企圖都是癡心妄想。在當今世界局勢之下，“臺獨”就是一個偽命題，

而臺獨份子終將受到歷史的審判。

(二)、“九二共識”是兩岸關係和平穩定的定海神針。離開一個中國原則空談維持現狀，就是空中樓閣。臺灣當局不要肆意挑釁、破壞兩岸和平。

(三)、美國和中國分別是世界上最大的發達國家和發展中國家。生活在美國的華僑華人有責任有義務推動祖(籍)國的和平統一，維護祖(籍)國同美國的友好合作關係，決不會坐視臺獨分裂行徑拉中美關係下水，損害中美關係大局。

(四)、實現祖國統一是中華民族偉大復興中國夢的重要內容，是全球炎黃子孫的共同期盼。我們旅美僑胞要團結一致，向美國政府和主流社會發出心聲，堅決反對臺獨，

維護祖國統一，堅決反對蔡英文借“過境”美國兜售臺獨理念。

(五)、海峽兩岸每個有良知的中國人都有責任、有義務推動實現祖國統一。越來越多的臺灣同胞真心希望兩岸和平統一、支持兩岸關係良性發展，不願意受到外來勢力的幹擾和破壞。

我們海外華人華僑熱切期盼祖(籍)國實現統一和繁榮。我們堅信，祖國統一是歷史潮流，只要海內外中華兒女團結一心，臺獨勢力一定不會得逞。兩岸同胞和海外僑胞攜手起來，一定可以共創更加光明璀璨的明天！

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- 知青聯誼會

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廣告由美國梁氏基金會贊助

Friday, August 17, 2018

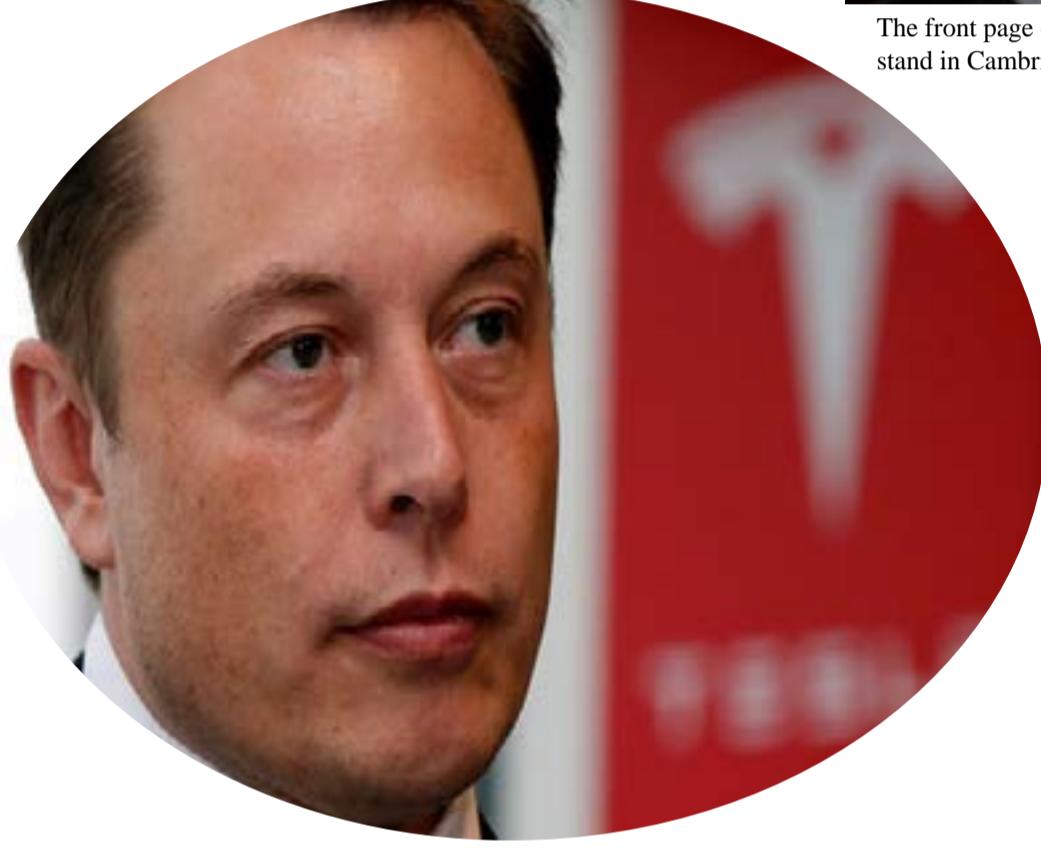
Editor's Choice



FILE PHOTO: People gather in front of the Presidential Palace during a protest in Warsaw



The front page of the Boston Globe newspaper references their editorial defense of press freedom at a newsstand in Cambridge



FILE PHOTO: Tesla Motors Inc Chief Executive Elon Musk pauses during a news conference in Tokyo



FILE PHOTO: The Nordstrom store is pictured in Broomfield



U.S. President Trump holds a cabinet meeting at the White House in Washington



A trader works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shortly after the opening bell in New York



A boy lies on a giant waterlily leaf during an annual leaf-sitting event in Taipei



A Walmart logo is displayed above the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shortly after the opening bell in New York



Each year, roughly 40 million Americans, or about 14% of the U.S. population, move at least once. Much of that movement includes younger people relocating within cities, but it is trends of Americans moving to warmer climates, more affordable areas, and better job opportunities that have largely determined migration patterns in recent decades.

Because of those long-term patterns, as well as the recent period of economic recovery, cities in some parts of the country have lost tens of thousands of residents. To highlight the U.S. metropolitan areas that have had the largest net decline in population as a result of migration between 2010 and 2017, the Wall Street Journal reviewed population figures from the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program.

The cities where the most people are moving away from can primarily be found in the Northeast, Midwest, and West Coast, particularly in states like Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, and New York. Among the cities where people are leaving in droves are places such as Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis, New York, and Los Angeles.

In some U.S. cities, everyday comfort and happiness is much harder to attain than in others.

William Frey, demographer at the Brookings Institution, a nonprofit public policy research group, explained that these cities that have been losing thousands of residents due to migration are part of the long-term trend of movement from the Northeast and the Midwest to warmer climates, a trend that has increased in recent years.

"The story of the broader migration pattern in the U.S. is from Snow Belt to Sun Belt," Frey said. "That migration has slowed a little bit in the early part of the decade, when we were still dealing with the aftermath of the recession, but it's coming back."

Detailed findings

Not all the cities with the largest net declines in population from migration since 2010 are necessarily the fastest shrinking cities. However, among the U.S. metropolitan areas with the highest net population declines due to migration, the vast majority have had the largest overall decreases in population.

Two notable exceptions are New York and Los Angeles. While tens of thousands more people moved out of each city than moved in, both cities have still had among the highest net increases in population. This is because of natural population growth -- hundreds of thousands more people in these cities have been born than died. Notably, Los Angeles had a net migration loss of 93,959, but the overall population increased by over three-quarters of a million people because of births.

Fairbanks, Alaska

- Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,011
- Population change, 2010-2017: +2.2% (97,585 to 99,703)
- Natural growth, 2010-2017:

12,364 births, 3,417 deaths

• Median home value: \$226,900

Johnstown, Pennsylvania

- Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,707

- Population change, 2010-2017: -7.4% (143,674 to 133,054)

- Natural growth, 2010-2017: 9,624 births, 13,203 deaths

- Median home value: \$93,400

Hinesville, Georgia

- Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,171

- Population change, 2010-2017: +3.2% (77,919 to 80,400)

- Natural growth, 2010-2017: 12,218 births, 3,030 deaths

- Median home value: \$133,600

El Centro, California

- Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017:

Every Year, Almost 40 Million Americans Pick Up And Move Creating An Economic Impact On Many Of The Country's Largest Cities

Population Migration Patterns: Here Are Some Of The U.S. Cities Americans Are Abandoning

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

-7,219

- Population change, 2010-2017: +4.8% (174,528 to 182,830)

- Natural growth, 2010-2017: 22,531 births, 7,106 deaths

- Median home value: \$170,900

Frey explained that movement from New York and Los Angeles to many of the cities with the largest net migration increases is due to residents of these cities getting pushed out because of rising populations and prices, the latter of which is a product of the economic recovery. "Now that things are picking up again, people are moving out of cities. As the housing market is coming back, people are being sucked out of pricey areas to where it is more affordable again."

Frey gave the example of one common migration pattern: Los Angeles to Las Vegas, the latter of which had the 15th highest net population increase due to migration. Los Angeles has always lost residents to Las Vegas, but when the recession hit and housing prices fell, that movement slowed significantly.

Bakersfield, California

- Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,314

- Population change, 2010-2017: +6.4% (839,621 to 893,119)

- Natural growth, 2010-2017: 102,106 births, 41,099 deaths

- Median home value: \$204,200

Norwich-New London, Connecticut

- Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -7,365

- Population change, 2010-2017: -1.8% (274,059 to 269,033)

- Natural growth, 2010-2017: 19,518 births, 17,252 deaths

- Median home value: \$242,000

Now that housing prices have recovered in Los Angeles and have become too expensive for many residents, people are once again moving out of the city in droves. As of 2016, Los Angeles had the seventh highest median home value of any metropolitan area, at \$578,200. Las Vegas' median home value is just slightly more than half that, at \$233,700.

"The same sort of thing is true for a place like New York," Frey added. "There has always been huge movement going from New York to Florida, but during the Great Recession period that slowed up quite a bit, and now it is picking up again."

Frey added that the reasons behind the decline in population in cities like Los Angeles and New York -- overcrowding and high prices -- are very different than the reasons for decreases in other cities on this list, notably Rust Belt cities like Flint, Michigan; Toledo, Ohio; and Rockford, Illinois; and even larger cities like St. Louis, Cleveland, and Milwaukee. These cities have been losing domestic migrants for decades due to stagnating economic conditions stemming from the decline of American manufacturing.

Methodology

To identify America's Fastest Declining Cities, 24/7

COMMUNITY

deaths

- Median home value: \$124,900

- Charleston, West Virginia

- Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -9,772

- Population change, 2010-2017: -5.6% (227,061 to 214,406)

- Natural growth, 2010-2017: 18,078 births, 20,856 deaths

- Median home value: \$111,300

Saginaw, Michigan

- Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -10,001

- Population change, 2010-2017: -9.3% (100,278 to 90,963)

- Natural growth, 2010-2017: 8,244 births, 7,701 deaths

- Median home value: \$84,700

- Montgomery, Alabama

- Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -10,317

- Population change, 2010-2017: -0.2% (374,541 to 373,903)

- Natural growth, 2010-2017: 35,032 births, 25,380 deaths

- Median home value: \$135,700

- Wichita, Kansas

- Population decrease due to migration, 2010-2017: -10,335

- Population change, 2010-2017: +2.3% (630,924 to 645,628)

- Natural growth, 2010-2017: 65,873 births, 40,647 deaths

- Median home value: \$132,400



Additional cities Americans are leaving include the following:

Watertown-Fort Drum, New York, Albany, Georgia, New Haven-Milford, Connecticut, Visalia-Torerville, California, Shreveport-Bossier City, Louisiana, Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford, Connecticut, Youngstown-Warren-Boardman, Ohio-Pennsylvania, Peoria, Illinois, Hartford-Corcoran, California, Rochester, New York, Brownsville-Harlingen, Texas, Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, Virginia, North Carolina, Syracuse, New York, Toledo, Ohio, Rockford, Illinois, New York-Newark-Jersey City, New York-New Jersey, Pennsylvania, El Paso, Texas, Flint, Michigan, Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, Wisconsin, Memphis, Tennessee, Mississippi-Arkansas, Cleveland-Elyria, Ohio, St. Louis, Missouri, Illinois, Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, Michigan, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, California, Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, Illinois, Indiana-Wisconsin.

For additional information, go here: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/economy/2018/06/13/50-worst-cities-to-live-in/35909271/>

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Chinese Rival To Tesla Poised To Go Public In The U.S.**China's 'Tesla-Fighter' Plans To Go Public In New York**

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



NIO boasts that the ES8 also offers NIO some Tesla-esque features and perks.

Tu Le,

head of research firm Sino Auto Insights, said Nio was one of a number of electric vehicle makers in China "that could make life much more difficult for Tesla." But he added that "it's still too early to tell how they're doing."

Nio only started delivering its SUVs to customers in June and about 17,000 of the vehicles are on order with customers.

NIO boasts that the ES8 also offers NIO some Tesla-esque features and perks.

The firm didn't provide a time frame for the proposed IPO and said its estimates on how much money it wants to raise could change. It plans to trade under the ticker "NIO."

The company's president, Lihong Qin,

told CNN in December last year that it

wants to "target the middle class in the big cities in China," predicting that market

will double in size in the next few years.

Global Ambitions

Nio also wants to eventually expand sales

beyond China, including to the United States. It already has offices around the globe, including in California, London and Munich.

One reason for listing in New York is that it could make it easier for Nio to position itself as a company with global ambitions, Le said.

China is already the world's biggest market for electric vehicles, but Nio faces a crowded playing field. As well as Tesla, it also faces competition from other local auto companies like BYD(BYDDF) and Geely (GELYF).

Despite the buzz around the company, its filing Monday revealed that Nio only began generating revenue this year. In the first half of 2018, it recorded just \$7 million in sales and made a loss of \$503 million.

By comparison, Tesla already has about \$2 billion in annual sales in China even though its US-made vehicles face hefty

import tariffs. Tesla hopes to eventually build as many as 500,000 cars a year in China by setting up a huge factory in Shanghai. (Courtesy <https://money.cnn.com>)**Related****Elon Musk confirms next Tesla Gigafactory will be in China**

Speaking during the Q1 2018 earnings call, Elon Musk announced that Tesla's next Gigafactory would be built in China. What's more, Musk stated that all future Gigafactories would support the manufacture of the company's vehicles.

Musk's update on its factory plans in China came as a response to a question from CNBC's Phil LeBeau, who asked for more details about Tesla's plans regarding the Model Y, the Tesla Semi, and company's future vehicles. Musk's response to the question was direct, stating that the next Gigafactory will be established in China. "It has to be later this year. Maybe next quarter, but not later than fourth quarter for Model Y. We also expect to announce the location of a Tesla Gigafactory in China soon. In the future, all Gigafactories will include vehicle production. So, right now, vehicle production and battery production, like battery production and motor and power electronics and charger production are at Giga, and then, we

have our Fremont car factory. But future Gigafactories will all incorporate vehicle production."

Musk also extended Tesla's gratitude to the Chinese government over its decision to lift ownership restrictions for factories operated by foreign car manufacturers. When Chinese President Xi Jinping announced the country's intention to reduce import tariffs and remove ownership restrictions for foreign-operated facilities, Musk stated on Twitter that China's decision will "benefit all countries."

**Tesla CEO Elon Musk**

"We're very appreciative of the fact that the government of China has announced that they will be allowing full ownership of manufacturing facilities in China. We'd like to express our appreciation to the Chinese government in that regard."

Even before Musk's announcement of its next Gigafactory, expectations were high that the facility Tesla's China facility would be tasked with the manufacture of the company's two mass-market electric cars — the Model Y and the Model 3. During Tesla's Q3 2017 earnings call last November, Musk stated that having a factory in China is "really the only way to make cars affordable" in the country. Musk also noted that the upcoming facility "won't be making Model S and Model X, but probably Model 3, probably Model Y primarily for the local Chinese market." Musk's update on Tesla's next Gigafactory in China was in line with his statements back in February during the Q4 2017 earnings call. During the Q&A session, Musk teased that Tesla will begin investing in the Model Y sometime later this year.

"We are going to make some capital investments towards the end of this year related to Model Y. I don't want to jump the gun on those, but I think we've got a good plan. I'm pretty excited about how we're designing Model Y. It's really taking a lot of lessons learned from Model 3 and saying how do we design something to be easy to manufacture instead of how to manufacture or difficult, really," Musk said. (Courtesy <https://www.teslarati.com/>)**HOUSTON 2019**

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