



# Poor Children Are More Likely to Disappear from Schools in Texas



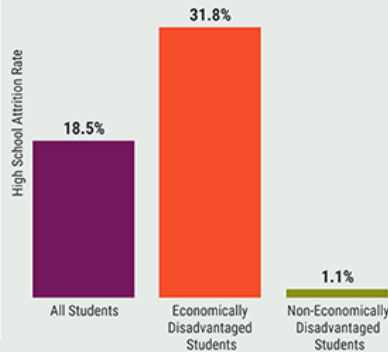
**6 in 10**

Texas students are economically disadvantaged



Texas has more students in poverty than 21 states have people.

The attrition rate for economically disadvantaged students is about **29 times higher** than that of their peers



Being poor or minority means you are more likely to be in an underfunded school with teachers who are not well prepared, and you are more likely to be affected by policies and practices that don't work effectively to keep students in school through graduation.

## Texas' most underfunded districts lose students at higher rates



**25% lost**

The state's poorest 10 percent of school districts lost 25 percent of their Class of 2018



**18% lost**

The state's wealthiest 10 percent of school districts lost 18 percent of their Class of 2018

## It doesn't have to be this way

Some school districts are taking big steps to hold on to students...

Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD leaders transformed the district by increasing curriculum rigor and connecting all students to college. Over 90% of students are poor. The district is keeping 97% of students in school.

East Central ISD took a hard look at how it was approaching attendance and truancy and made a concrete, systemic shift that has led truancy rates to plummet.

South San Antonio, Ector County and San Antonio ISDs are pivoting the typical view of students deemed at risk of dropping out by giving them the responsibility of tutoring younger students through the Coca-Cola Valued Youth Program, which has a 98% retention rate.

**Learn more!**

See "College Bound and Determined" (pdf)  
<https://budurl.me/2-IDRAcdb>

**Learn more!**

Listen to "District Innovation Reverses Truancy" (podcast)  
<https://idra.news/Pod188>

**Learn more!**

See Coca-Cola Valued Youth Program website  
<https://budurl.me/IDRAvypw>

## Texas must fund education

What would it be like if the state of Texas fully funded public education?