



LOCAL // EDUCATION

The best and worst performing Houston-area charter schools in 2024, according to Children at Risk



By **Elizabeth Sander, Anastasia Goodwin**

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Yes Prep North Central, 13703 Aldine Westfield Rd., is shown Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025, in Houston. Melissa Phillip/Staff Photographer

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Across the Houston area, charter schools far outperformed traditional public schools at the middle and high school level. Although that was not the case at all campuses, as charter elementary schools generally performed worse, according to data from the Children at Risk ratings from the 2023-2024 school year.

Data from a Chronicle analysis shows Houston-area charter schools performed nine points higher on average than traditional campuses at

the middle school level, and 12 points at the high school level in 2024. However, average scores for charter elementary campuses were 16 points lower.

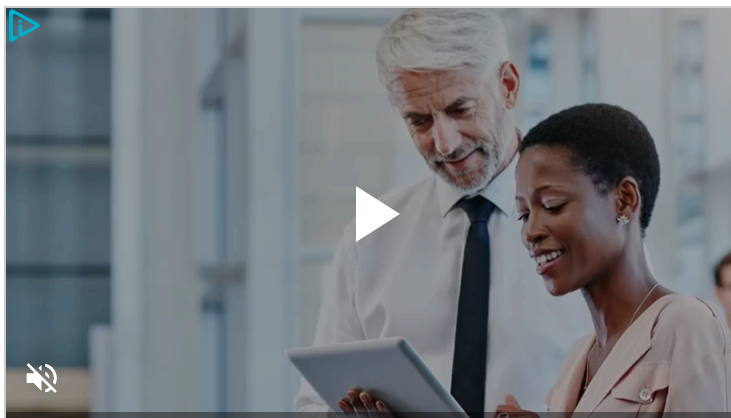
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NEWS: See how high-performing charter schools are making gains in latest Children at Risk rankings

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Children at Risk has been ranking Texas public schools for nearly 20 years, primarily using student performance on state math and reading tests, as well as high school achievement data. The 2024 rankings are based on school performance data from the 2023-24 school year.

For elementary and middle schools, the nonprofit assigns rankings using three metrics from each campuses' STAAR scores: raw student achievement, achievement relative to poverty levels, and year-over-year student growth. High schools are also ranked on a fourth metric of college readiness.

See how your charter school performed below:

All levels

Houston regional charter school rankings - **all schools**

See how your campus ranked among other Houston-area charter campuses in the 2024 Children At Risk rankings.

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Rank (All levels)	Campus	County	Level	Total Score	CAR Grade
1	Harmony Science Academy-Sugar Land	Fort Bend	Elementary	94	A
2	Harmony Science Academy-Katy	Harris	Middle	93	A
3	Harmony School Of Excellence - Sugar Land	Fort Bend	Middle	93	A
4	Ambassadors Preparatory Academy	Galveston	Middle	91	A
5	Harmony Science	Harris	Elementary	89	A

	Academy-Katy				
6	Harmony School Of Achievement - Houston	Harris	Elementary	88	A
7	Friends For Life Middle	Harris	Middle	88	A
8	Harmony School Of Innovation - Katy	Harris	High	86	A-
9	Harmony School Of Innovation-Sugar Land	Fort Bend	High	85	A-
10	Harmony School Of Innovation - Houston	Harris	Middle	83	A-

Data includes separate entries for combined campuses that were rated at more than one level.

Table: Anastasia Goodwin • Source: Children At Risk



Science projects line the hallways of Amigos Por Vida or Friends for Life charter school on Thursday, Feb. 20, 2025 in Houston.

Raquel Natalicchio/Staff photographer

Elementary schools

Houston regional charter school rankings - elementary schools

See how your campus ranked among other Houston-area charter elementary school campuses in the 2024 Children At Risk rankings.

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Level rank (Elementary only)	Campus	County	Level	Total Score	CAR grade
1	Harmony Science Academy-Sugar Land	Fort Bend	Elementary	94	A
2	Harmony Science Academy-Katy	Harris	Elementary	89	A

3	Harmony School Of Achievement - Houston	Harris	Elementary	88	A
4	KIPP Shine Prep	Harris	Elementary	82	A-
5	KIPP Connect Houston Primary	Harris	Elementary	79	B+
6	Harmony School Of Exploration-Houston	Harris	Elementary	74	B+
7	Harmony School Of Fine Arts And Technology-Houston	Harris	Elementary	74	B
8	Ser-Ninos Charter EL II	Harris	Elementary	73	B
9	KIPP Sharp Prep	Harris	Elementary	69	B
10	KIPP 3d Academy	Harris	Elementary	69	B

Data includes separate entries for combined campuses that were rated at more than one level.



Sixth grade reading teacher Graciela De Cardenas teaches a class of students at the Amigos Por Vida or Friends for Life charter school on Thursday, Feb. 20, 2025 in Houston.

Raquel Natalicchio/Staff photographer

Middle schools

Houston regional charter school rankings - middle schools

See how your campus ranked among other Houston-area charter middle school campuses in the 2024 Children At Risk rankings.

Level rank (Middle only)	Campus	County	Level	Total Score	CAR grade
1	Harmony Science Academy-Katy	Harris	Middle	93	A
2	Harmony School Of	Fort Bend	Middle	93	A

Excellence - Sugar Land					
3	Ambassadors Preparatory Academy	Galveston	Middle	91	A
4	Friends For Life Middle	Harris	Middle	88	A
5	Harmony School Of Innovation - Houston	Harris	Middle	83	A-
6	YES Prep - North Central	Harris	Middle	80	A-
7	KIPP Academy Middle	Harris	Middle	80	B+
8	Alief Montessori Community School	Harris	Middle	80	B+
9	Harmony School Of Excellence- Houston	Harris	Middle	79	B+
10	Harmony School Of Fine Arts And Technology- Houston	Harris	Middle	77	B+



Principal Lillian Macias is shown at Yes Prep North Central, 13703 Aldine Westfield Rd., Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2025, in Houston.

Melissa Phillip/Staff Photographer

High schools

Houston regional charter school rankings - **high schools**

See how your campus ranked among other Houston-area charter high school campuses in the 2024 Children At Risk rankings.

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Level rank (High only)	Campus	County	Level	Total Score	CAR grade
1	Harmony School Of Innovation - Katy	Harris	High	86	A-
2	Harmony School Of	Fort Bend	High	85	A-

	Innovation-Sugar Land				
3	YES Prep - North Central	Harris	High	83	A-
4	KIPP Houston H S	Harris	High	77	B+
5	Harmony Science Academy-Houston	Harris	High	76	B+
6	YES Prep - Southwest	Harris	High	75	B+
7	YES Prep - 5th Ward	Harris	High	74	B
8	YES Prep - Southeast	Harris	High	71	B
9	YES Prep - East End	Harris	High	68	B
10	Early College T-Stem Academy	Harris	High	68	B

Table: Anastasia Goodwin • Source: Children At Risk



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Elizabeth Sander

EDUCATION REPORTER



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Previously, Elizabeth was a Hearst fellow covering education, local politics and breaking news for the Houston Chronicle and the San Antonio Express-News.



Anastasia Goodwin

SENIOR DATA REPORTER, EDUCATION



Anastasia Goodwin is a senior data reporter for the Houston Chronicle's education team. Her work focuses on the education system in Texas spanning from primary schools to higher education institutions, with a focus on the Houston Independent School District. She can be reached at ana.goodwin@houstonchronicle.com.

Ana joined the Chronicle in 2022 after previously working as a frontend developer and UX designer in the tech space. She graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in journalism.

Editor's Picks



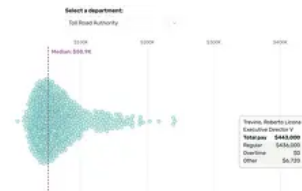
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