



ACE State Summary – Houston

March 2019

Key Academic Findings

- **A higher rate of ACE scholars are proficient at reading and math** – a higher proportion of ACE scholars are proficient in reading and math than their FRL-eligible peers in the select Houston school districts. The largest differences between ACE and public school students is in third grade reading, where third-grade ACE scholars' proficiency is 17.5 to 35.5 points higher than the performance of their FRL-eligible peers. Math proficiency rates are comparable between ACE affiliated private and Houston area public schools, with approximately 43% of 8th grade students scoring at or above proficiency.
- **Students at ACE-affiliated schools graduate from high school at a higher rate** – the graduation rate for students at ACE-affiliated schools is 97.2%, which is notably higher than the graduation rate for FRL-eligible students at the five select school districts in Houston.
- **ACE schools report higher college matriculation rates than Houston school districts** – nearly all students at ACE-affiliated schools went on to college (99.8%), which is 37.3 to 57.6 points higher than the college matriculation rate for any of the select school districts in the Houston area.

Key Findings from Parents

- **Academics and safety are driving factors for choice** – most ACE parents choose private schools due to the better academics (88.1%), the faith-based curriculum (83.3%), and the safer environment (82.7%).
- **Children in ACE households are poorer than the average household in Houston** – The median household income for ACE households is \$28,809 compared to an annual median income of \$52,127 for Houston households with school-aged children.

ACE-affiliated Building Findings

- **ACE-affiliated schools are at 72.4% capacity** – 2,529 seats at ACE-affiliated Houston schools are empty