

In the following report, Hanover Research explores the academic and demographic factors of Grade 1-12 students which predict on-time graduation and the attainment of advanced vs standard diplomas within Arlington Public Schools based on the data for three graduating cohorts — 2013/14 through 2015/16.

This study is limited to two primary research questions and was not expanded to other potential areas for inquiry identified during the course of the investigation. As such, this study should be considered a starting point for research into factors contributing to graduation at APS.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND KEY FINDINGS

INTRODUCTION



METHODOLOGY

This study relies on behavioral and academic data for three of Grade cohorts 1-12 students. Hanover uses logistic regression models, which allow us to calculate the marginal effects at means of explanatory variables on the outcomes of interest. That is, can identify which variables—i.e. course grades, test scores, and attendance are correlated with graduating on-time and earning advanced diplomas. We can estimate the *degree* to which these outcomes change as a function of changes in predictor variables.

Beginning in early 2017, Hanover Research began a study to identify behavioral and academic factors that are correlated with successful outcomes for Arlington Public Schools (APS) students. This project addresses two primary research questions:¹



What factors correlate most strongly with on-time graduation?



What factors correlate most strongly with earning advanced diplomas (rather than standard diplomas)?

Currently, 65% of APS graduates earn advanced diplomas.



90%

Over 90% of APS students graduate on-time.

ADVANCED DIPLOMAS

ON-TIME GRADUATION

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ✓ Continue to emphasize reading and math skills in primary grades. Students who pass core subjects—reading, writing, and math—in early grades are more likely to earn advanced diplomas when they graduate from high school. APS should continue to support student learning in early elementary grades and ensure that students are meeting learning standards and benchmarks.
- ✓ Strengthen the early identification system for students who are at-risk of failing core subjects in middle and high school. Because failing core subjects is associated with a decreased likelihood of earning an advanced diploma, Hanover recommends further developing the early warning system to identify and support students who are failing or at-risk of failing math, English/language arts, science, and social studies courses in middle and high school.
- ✓ Provide additional supports for English learners who matriculated into APS at later grades. EL students who matriculate into the district in middle school and high school are significantly more likely to take HILT in high school and have much lower on-time graduation rates.

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¹ This study is limited to the two primary research questions elaborated on this page, and was not expanded to other potential areas for inquiry identified during the course of the investigation. As such, this study should be considered a starting point for research into factors contributing to graduation at APS.

KEY FINDINGS

Students are more likely to earn advanced diplomas when they...²

Pass classes in early grades.

Grade 2 students who pass core subjects are more likely to earn advanced diplomas.







Writing: 14% more likely

Reading: 16% more likely

Math: 24% more likely

Take Algebra I, Intensified in Grade 8.

Students who take **Algebra I, Intensified** in Grade 8 are

15% more likely

to earn an advanced diploma



than students who take Math 8.



Have higher SOL scores, especially in math.





Students are around 1% more likely to earn an advanced diploma for each 10-point increase in math SOL scores in Grades 3-8.

Students are around 1% more likely to earn an advanced diploma for each 30-point increase in reading SOL scores in Grade 7 only.

Do not fail core classes in later grades.

Students who fail the following subjects...

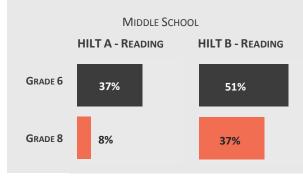
- Math in Grades 9 and 12
- ELA in Grades 8 and 11
- **Science** in Grade 7
- Social Studies in Grades 7, 9, and 10

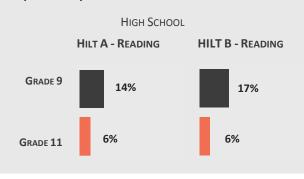
...are at least 10% less likely to earn an advanced diploma.

Take HILT classes early.

In both middle and high school, students who take HILT classes in **later grade**s are **less likely** to earn advanced diplomas.

EXAMPLE: STUDENTS WHO TAKE HILT READING CLASSES (BY GRADE) AND RECEIVE ADVANCED DIPLOMAS





² All findings highlighted in this report are statistically significant at at least the 90 percent confidence interval.

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Because APS has a relatively high on-time graduation rate, few factors—besides HILT participation—are associated with on-time graduation.

- Course grades and SOL scores are associated with just small increases in the likelihood of graduating on-time. For example, passing math in Grade 2 correlates with a 4 percent higher chance of graduating on-time, and receiving an "A" in English/Language Arts or science in Grade 10 is associated with a 2 percent higher chance. Higher math SOL scores are also positively associated with on-time graduation, but only for scores in Grades 4, 5, and 9.
- Like earning advanced diplomas, the earlier students take HILT classes, the more likely they are to graduate on time. Students who take HILT A/B Reading and English classes late in their high school career have particularly low on-time graduation rates.





Most students who take HILT/HILTEX classes late in middle or high school have been in the district for a short amount of time, often less than 2 years.

In both middle and high school, a notable proportion of students who take HILT/HILTEX classes have been in the district for less than two years. Over 40 percent of Grades 7 and 8 HILT/HILTEX students, over half of Grade 10 HILT/HILTEX students, and over one-third of Grade 11 HILT/HILTEX students have been in the district for under two years. Across these grades, a quarter to one-half of HILT/HILTEX students have been in the district for just two to three years.

HILT/HILTEX STUDENTS BY GRADE AND YEARS IN THE DISTRICT



Attendance has a small effect on both earning advanced diplomas and graduating on-time.

Students with more absences are less likely to graduate on-time and earn advanced diplomas, but the magnitude of this effect is quite small. When controlling for other student characteristics, attendance in Grades 6-9 and 11-12 is significantly associated with earning an advanced diploma, while attendance in Grades 5-8 and 11-12 is significantly associated with graduating on-time. However, each absence is correlated with less than a 0.5 percent decrease in the likelihood of these outcomes. For example:

vs

A student with just 1 unexcused absence in Grade 6...



...is **0.4% less likely** to earn an advanced diploma and **0.06% less likely** to graduate on-time (compared to having no unexcused absences).

A student with 10 unexcused absences in Grade 6...



...is just 4% less likely to earn an advanced diploma and 0.6% less likely to graduate on-time (compared to having no unexcused absences).

SECTION I: DATA AND METHODOLOGY

In this section, Hanover briefly summarizes the available data and discusses the methodology used in the analysis.

DATA

APS has provided Hanover with the data that includes student ID, school, graduation cohort and status, type of diploma received, ethnicity/race, date of birth, gender, first and district entry dates, Standards of Learning (SOL) test date, name and subject, the level of proficiency achieved, score, and best score indicator, last school indicator, attendance-related variables, LEP, special education, free or reduced lunch (FRL), Gifted, Montessori, Language Immersion program, Title 1, and 504 Plan statuses, grade levels, course description and course mark.

VARIABLES OF INTEREST

ON-TIME GRADUATION

We construct the on-time graduation variable based on the information on whether each student who entered in a certain grade graduated with the same cohort. By graduation date these three cohorts are:

- 2014 Cohort (Grade 12 in 2013/14 academic year),
- 2015 Cohort (Grade 12 in 2014/15 academic year),
- 2016 Cohort (Grade 12 in 2015/16 academic year).

For example, a student entering the district as a Grade 6 student in the 2007/08 academic year is classified as an on-time graduate if he graduates in 2013/14. However, if he graduates in 2014/15, this student is not classified as an on-time graduate.

STANDARD VS ADVANCED DIPLOMA

We create this variable of interest based on the "Graduate Completer Type" variable. We retain values for advanced (Advanced Studies Diploma and IB Diploma) and standard diplomas (Standard Diploma and Modified Standard Diploma). Other completer types are not considered. The advantage of this variable is that, compared to the on-time graduation, it is more evenly distributed.

EXPLANATORY VARIABLES

COURSE MARKS

We only consider courses with sufficient enrollment (at least 200 students in at least one grade in Grades 6-8; at least 1,000 students overall in Grades 9-12, with the exception of AP Calculus and Pre-Calculus). We further recode the courses to include Special Education,

Montessori, Spanish Immersion, International Baccalaureate (IB), and Dual Enrollment versions of these classes.³

Out of these classes we only retain those that have letter marks A-F. We create a variable that divides students into three performance groups: those who received an "A," those who received a "B/B+" or a "C/C+," and those who received a "D/D+," an "E," or an "F" mark. In some instances, these courses have a "P" for Pass, or marks on the O/S/U scale (outstanding/satisfactory/unsuccessful). We ignore such observations.

METHODOLOGY

Since the variables of interest are binary (i.e., take on two values), we apply logistic regression models to the data. We use logistic regression models because these models are more useful when predicting students' probability of graduating on time or receiving a particular type of diploma, since they produce predicted probabilities that are bounded by 0 and 100 percent. The disadvantage of these models is that they can be difficult to interpret. To mitigate this, we report the results of the regressions primarily as marginal effects at the mean (MEMs).⁴

For numeric variables, such as number of absences, the MEMs show the effect on the probability of on-time graduation of a one point increase in the variable in question,⁵ for a student who is near the average for both the variable in question and for all other variables. For categorical variables, such as letter grades, the MEMs show the difference in predicted probability of graduation when moving from a reference category to the category in question (for example, from B to A) for a student who is average in terms of all other variables.

In both models, we control for an indicator for the student participating in the Language Immersion program, and demographic variables such as gender, race/ethnicity, LEP, Gifted, free/reduced lunch, and special education statuses, as well as course performance, math and English SOL scores, and attendance in every grade. We also control for the graduation cohort to capture cohort-specific trends.

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³ We control for special education status as described above, to make sure that we establish any differences between these courses and regular classes.

⁴ Regression tables can be found in the Appendix.

⁵ For SOL scores, we instead show the effect of a 10-point increase because one point represents such a small change on these tests.

SECTION II: MAIN FINDINGS ACROSS ALL SCHOOL LEVELS

ADVANCED DIPLOMA COMPARED TO STANDARD DIPLOMA ATTAINMENT

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Students with a Reading Level at or above their grade level in Grade 1 or who succeed in terms of Reading Level Achievement or Writing in Grade 2 are more likely to receive an advanced diploma.
- Students who perform at or above grade level in terms of their Mathematics Level in Grades 2 or 5 are more likely than those who perform below grade level to receive an advanced diploma rather than a standard diploma, by roughly 24 percent. The relationship is also positive, but not statistically significant, in other elementary school grade levels.
- When we break success down into three groups by letter marks, we find that, compared to students with a B or C mark, receiving an A mark in Science in Grades 4-5 or Writing in Grades 3-4 corresponds to a higher chance of a student receiving an advanced diploma. Similarly, receiving an A in Reaching Achievement in Grade 4 correlates with a higher chance of attaining an advanced diploma rather than a standard diploma (an increase of 4 percent).
- SOL scores are also positively correlated with the likelihood of graduating with an advanced diploma. For instance, for every 10-point increase on the reading assessment in Grade 5, the chance of receiving an advanced diploma increases by roughly 1 percent.
- Students who participate in the Language Immersion program in Grade 5 are 10 percent more likely than other students to graduate with an advanced diploma rather than a standard diploma.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Math SOL scores are positively correlated with the likelihood of attaining an advanced diploma relative to the standard diploma. A 10-point increase in math SOL score in Grade 8 would increase the chance of graduating with an advanced diploma by roughly 1 percent for the average student. Reading SOL scores show a similar but weaker relationship, but only in Grade 7.
- For most classes considered, better performance leads to higher chances of attaining an advanced diploma relative to a standard diploma. Taking classes of a higher level (for example, Algebra I rather than Math 8 in Grade 8) also results in a higher chance of graduating with an advanced diploma. On average, course performance in later grades is more likely to be correlated with the likelihood of attaining an advanced diploma.

- Students who take HILT classes in the 1st or 2nd levels (HILT A and B, respectively) become less likely to receive an advanced diploma the later they take these classes. For example, among students who graduated with a diploma, taking HILT A English in Grade 6 increases the likelihood of receiving an advanced diploma compared to taking this class in Grade 8.
 - It is important to note that only 37 percent of students have been at the district for 4 or more years by the time they took the recorded HILT/HILTEX classes (Figure 2). In Grades 7 and 8, 26 and 18 percent of HILT/HILTEX students, respectively, spent less than 1 year in the APS system. Hence, students taking HILT and HILTEX classes in later grades are more likely to have only recently started at APS.

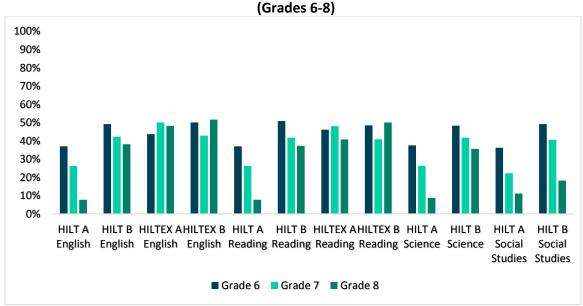


Figure 1: Share of Students in HILT/HILTEX Classes Receiving Advanced Diploma (Grades 6-8)

Figure 2: Shares of HILT/HILTEX Students by District Starting Grade (Grades 6-8)

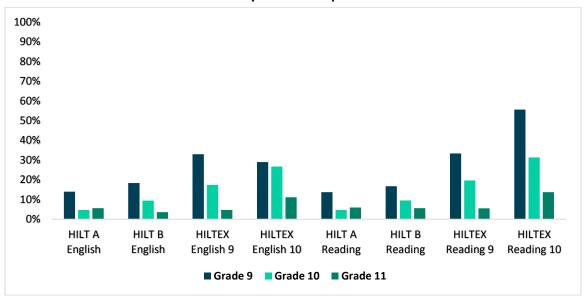
				HIL	T GRADE				
YEARS IN THE DISTRICT	G	RADE 6	Gi	RADE 7	G	RADE 8	TOTAL		
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	
0	43	16.54%	51	26.15%	29	17.68%	123	19.87%	
1	33	12.69%	32	16.41%	45	27.44%	110	17.77%	
2	38	14.62%	28	14.36%	27	16.46%	93	15.02%	
3	19	7.31%	22	11.28%	22	13.41%	63	10.18%	
4	19	7.31%	12	6.15%	11	6.71%	42	6.79%	
5	20	7.69%	12	6.15%	4	2.44%	36	5.82%	
6	88	33.85%	11	5.64%	6	3.66%	105	16.96%	
7	0	0.00%	27	13.85%	3	1.83%	30	4.84%	
8	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	17	10.37%	17	2.75%	
Total	260	100.00%	195	100.00%	164	100.00%	619	100.00%	

Note: These numbers are at student-year level, i.e. one student can take several HILT/HILTEX classes.

HIGH SCHOOL

- Students with higher history SOL scores in Grades 9 and 11 are more likely than those with lower scores to earn an advanced diploma rather than a standard diploma. An average student with a History SOL score that is 10 points higher in Grade 11 would be approximately 0.5 percent more likely to earn an advanced diploma. Math SOL scores show the same relationship for students in Grade 10.
- For most classes considered, students who obtain higher grades are more likely to earn an advanced diploma. Taking classes of a higher level (for example, Algebra II rather than Geometry in Grade 10) also results in a higher chance of graduating with an advanced diploma. However, the reverse (for example, taking Geometry rather than Algebra II in Grade 11) results in a lower chance of graduating with an advanced diploma. Marks in Social Studies classes are more important to the likelihood of earning an advanced diploma in Grades 9-10, and marks in math classes are relevant across all grades. Failing a World Language course in Grade 9 or 10 also has a negative impact on the likelihood of earning an advanced diploma.
- Similar to middle school findings, students who take HILT classes are less likely to receive an advanced diploma the later they take these classes. For example, among students who graduated with a diploma, those who take HILT A English in Grade 9 are more likely to receive an advanced diploma than those who take this class in Grade 11.
 - Roughly 12 percent of students have been at the district for 4 or more years by the time they took the recorded HILT/HILTEX classes (Figure 5). In Grades 10 and 11, 25 and 16 percent of HILT/HILTEX students, respectively, spent less than 1 year in the APS system. Hence, students taking HILT and HILTEX classes in later grades are more likely to have only recently started at APS.





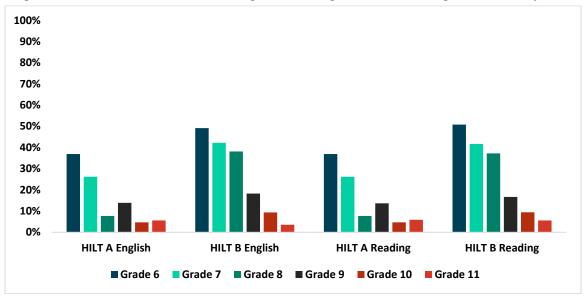


Figure 4: Share of Students in HILT English/Reading Classes Receiving Advanced Diploma

Figure 5: Shares of HILT/HILTEX Students by Years in the District (Grades 9-11)

				HILT	GRADE			
YEARS IN THE DISTRICT	G	RADE 9	GR	ADE 10	GR	ADE 11	TOTAL	
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
0	198	55.00%	82	25.23%	38	16.45%	318	34.72%
1	73	20.28%	110	33.85%	41	17.75%	224	24.45%
2	38	10.56%	64	19.69%	59	25.54%	161	17.58%
3	21	5.83%	36	11.08%	48	20.78%	105	11.46%
4	16	4.44%	15	4.62%	29	12.55%	60	6.55%
5	6	1.67%	7	2.15%	10	4.33%	23	2.51%
6	4	1.11%	6	1.85%	2	0.87%	12	1.31%
7	1	0.28%	2	0.62%	2	0.87%	5	0.55%
8	1	0.28%	2	0.62%	2	0.87%	5	0.55%
9	2	0.56%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	2	0.22%
10	0	0.00%	1	0.31%	0	0.00%	1	0.11%
Total	360	100.00%	325	100.00%	231	100.00%	916	100.00%

Note: These numbers are at student-year level, i.e. one student can take several HILT/HILTEX classes.

ON-TIME GRADUATION

Over 90 percent of students graduate on time in the three cohorts analyzed. Due to lower variation than we see with the advanced vs standard diploma attendance (65 percent of students who graduate with a diploma earn an advanced diploma) there are fewer student characteristics that strongly correlated with the on-time graduation.

Performing well on the Mathematics Level class in Grade 2 correlates with a higher chance of on-time graduation (passing this class is associated with a 4 percent higher likelihood of graduating on time), as well as performing well in US History/Civ/Eco 1865-Present and Science 7 classes in Grade 7.

- Students who do well in ELA and science classes in Grade 10 are more likely to graduate on time. Getting an "A" in either of these subjects increases the chance of on-time graduation by roughly 2 percent. Performance in most other classes in Grades 9-12 does not appear to significantly impact on-time graduation.
- For every day a student is absent in Grade 5, the likelihood of graduating on time declines by 0.01 percent. In Grade 6 the likelihood declines by 0.06 percent per every day absent. The likelihood of on-time graduation declines to a lesser extent in Grades 7 and 8, indicating that attendance in earlier middle school grades has a more significant impact on on-time graduation. The highest correlation between on-time graduation and attendance is found in Grade 12, where every missed day results in a 0.1 percent lower chance of graduating on time.
- Students with higher math and science SOL scores are more likely to graduate on time. However, the relationship does not hold consistently over all grade levels, and the magnitude of effect is not meaningfully large.
- Students in HILT classes are less likely to graduate on time if they take these courses in later grades.⁶

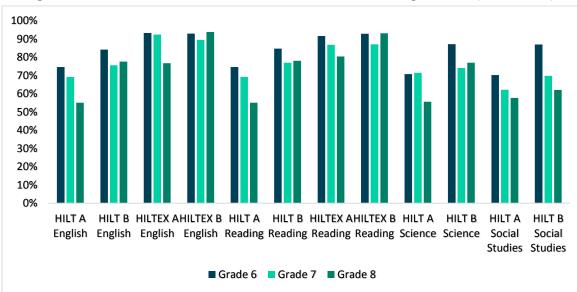


Figure 6: Share of Students in HILT/HILTEX Classes Graduating on Time (Grades 6-8)

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⁶ See Figure 2 and Figure 5 for a discussion of students' residence time in the district and HILT/HILTEX enrollment in middle school.

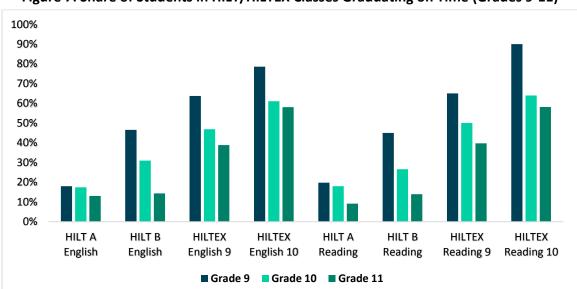
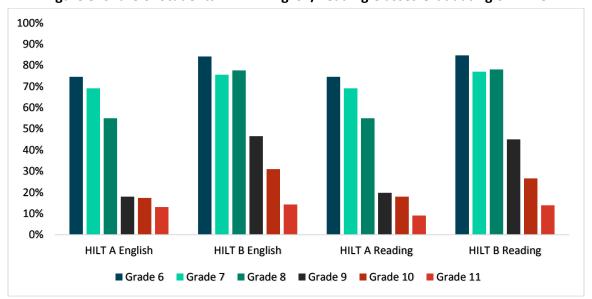


Figure 7: Share of Students in HILT/HILTEX Classes Graduating on Time (Grades 9-11)





APPENDIX: REGRESSION RESULTS

Figures A.1-A.4 display the course part of regression analyses across three school levels, while Figures A.5-A.6 show the remainder of the analyses, including demographic variables and SOL scores. Some courses and demographic variables have been omitted from the figures as they are not statistically significant predictors of the two outcomes. Under each figure, we list variables that are omitted.

For courses where students are separated into three groups, the reference group is those students who received a B or a C mark, and the MEMs represent the effect of earning the given grade (e.g., an A or a D/E) instead of a B or C.

In addition to the letter grades in each subject, Hanover controls for the specific courses that each student takes, using the most enrolled-in course in a particular department in a particular grade as the reference course (for example, English 9 would be the "reference" class for Grade 9 in ELA) and including indicators for whether the student opted for a different class in that semester using dummy variables such as "Algebra I Taken." Only one class per student/grade/department combination is possible. The reference class in the brackets denotes the comparison. For example, the AP Calculus coefficient shows the likelihood of attaining the outcome of interest if the student takes AP Calculus instead of Algebra II in Grade 11 (holding the student's mark in the course and other characteristics constant).

Figures A.7-10 show the descriptive analysis for the English for Speakers of Other Languages/High Intensity Language Training (ESOL/HILT) program. As the courses for this program are scored on a different scale than regular courses (O/S/U rather than A-F letter grades), we are not able to include them in the regression analysis used for other courses.

⁷ A small share of students has multiple classes per department. We retain the highest-level class in those cases (for example, Algebra II over Algebra I).

Figure A. 1: Advanced vs Standard Diploma Analysis: Courses in Grades 1-5 (MEM)

Variables	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5
		Courses	•		
Mathamatica Laval	0.0764	0.2399**	0.1278	0.0953	0.2385**
Mathematics Level	(0.0746)	(0.1043)	(0.1312)	(0.0705)	(0.1195)
Dooding Lovel	0.1137*			-0.0024	0.0305
Reading Level	(0.0594)	(0.0419)	(0.0469)	(0.0310)	(0.0421)
Reading Achievement (A in	0.0548	0.1554***	0.0400	0.0404*	0.0277
Grades 3-5; Pass in Grades 1-2)	(0.0439)	(0.0558)	(0.0346)	(0.0219)	(0.0238)
Panding Achievement (D. or E)			0.0593	-0.0964	-0.1113
Reading Achievement (D or E)			(0.0935)	(0.1134)	(0.1070)
Science (A in Grades 3-5; Pass		0.0431	-0.0119	0.0414*	0.0773***
in Grade 2)		(0.1273)	(0.0325)	(0.0220)	(0.0234)
Science (D or E)			-0.0784	-0.0307	-0.1566
Science (D or E)			(0.1218)	(0.0771)	(0.1020)
Social Studies (A in Grades 3-5;		0.0514	0.0273	0.0135	0.0200
Pass in Grade 2)		(0.0885)	(0.0313)	(0.0219)	(0.0231)
Social Studies (D. or E)			-0.0839	-0.0225	0.0639
Social Studies (D or E)			(0.1738)	(0.0451)	(0.0390)
Writing (A in Grades 3-5; Pass	0.0822	0.1413***	0.0746**	0.0394*	0.0354
in Grades 1-2)	(0.0550)	(0.0534)	(0.0350)	(0.0230)	(0.0233)
Writing (D or E)			-0.2296	-0.0652	-0.0727
Writing (D or E)			(0.2562)	(0.1026)	(0.1063)
Oral Communication	-0.0766*	-0.0625			
Oral Communication	(0.0426)	(0.0405)			
Observations	2,194	2,312	694	1,606	1,631

Note: Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1.

Figure A. 2: On-Time Graduation Analysis: Courses in Grades 1-5 (MEM)

Variables	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5
		Courses			
Mathamatica Lavel	0.0280	0.0398*		0.0035	0.0014
Mathematics Level	(0.0177)	(0.0240)		(0.0056)	(0.0022)
Oral Communication	-0.0015	-0.0010			
Oral Communication	(0.0075)	(0.0054)			
Donding Lovel	0.0010	0.0067	-0.0056	-0.0008	-0.0045***
Reading Level	(0.0091)	(0.0090)	(0.0037)	(0.0013)	(0.0017)
Science (A in Grades 3-5; Pass		0.0062	-0.0012	-0.0001	-0.0008
in Grade 2)		(0.0133)	(0.0042)	(0.0016)	(0.0017)
Science /D or F)			0.0040	-0.0020	-0.0028
Science (D or E)			(0.0039)	(0.0038)	(0.0042)
Social Studies (A in Grades 3-5;		0.0278	0.0015	0.0071**	0.0006
Pass in Grade 2)		(0.0273)	(0.0036)	(0.0035)	(0.0017)
Social Studies (D or E)			-0.1306	-0.0021	-0.0158
Social Studies (D of E)			(0.0956)	(0.0055)	(0.0149)
Reading Achievement (A in	0.0150	-0.0024		0.0014	
Grades 3-5; Pass in Grades 1-2)	(0.0128)	(0.0047)		(0.0023)	
Reading Achievement (D or E)				-0.0009	
Reading Achievement (D or E)				(0.0047)	
Writing (A in Grades 3-5; Pass	0.0019	0.0090		-0.0016	0.0025
in Grades 1-2)	(0.0084)	(0.0091)		(0.0027)	(0.0022)
Writing (D.or.E)				0.0008	-0.0029
Writing (D or E)				(0.0018)	(0.0074)
a l "	2 22 4	2.220	505	4.624	2.400
Observations	2,224	2,339	696	1,624	2,488

Note: Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1.

Figure A. 3: Regression Analysis: Courses in Grades 6-8 (MEM)

		DIPLOMA		On	I-TIME GRADUAT	ION
Variables	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
		Subjects				
Control Charling (A)	0.0603***	0.0721***	0.0248	0.0015	0.0050*	-0.0021
Social Studies (A)	(0.0204)	(0.0177)	(0.0167)	(0.0045)	(0.0027)	(0.0032)
Social Studies (D/F)	-0.1045*	-0.1302**	-0.0450	-0.0089	-0.0142*	-0.0068
Social Studies (D/E)	(0.0633)	(0.0541)	(0.0371)	(0.0091)	(0.0083)	(0.0045)
FLA (A)	0.0110	0.0288	0.0802***	0.0056	-0.0007	0.0013
ELA (A)	(0.0196)	(0.0181)	(0.0192)	(0.0037)	(0.0022)	(0.0029)
ELA (D/E)	-0.0152	-0.0377	-0.1586***	-0.0111	-0.0015	-0.0125*
ELA (D/F)	(0.0431)	(0.0347)	(0.0468)	(0.0123)	(0.0022)	(0.0070)
Math (A)	0.0193	0.0706***	0.0434**	-0.0026	0.0012	0.0009
Math (A)	(0.0223)	(0.0164)	(0.0193)	(0.0040)	(0.0025)	(0.0036)
Math (D/E)	-0.0220	-0.0623	-0.0949**	-0.0068	-0.0069	-0.0058
Math (D/E)	(0.0272)	(0.0411)	(0.0389)	(0.0079)	(0.0043)	(0.0039)
Science (A)	0.0151	0.0085	0.0202	0.0035	0.0035	0.0002
Science (A)	(0.0222)	(0.0182)	(0.0241)	(0.0037)	(0.0030)	(0.0036)
Science (D/E)	-0.0203	-0.1114***	-0.0671**	-0.0059	-0.0020	-0.0053
Science (D/E)	(0.0289)	(0.0415)	(0.0269)	(0.0080)	(0.0032)	(0.0038)
Donding (A)	0.0686***			-0.0035		
Reading (A)	(0.0215)			(0.0037)		
Dooding (D/F)	-0.1167*			0.0023		
Reading (D/E)	(0.0615)			(0.0016)		
	In	dividual Cour	ses			
Math 7 Taken [Ref=Math 6]	0.0580***			-0.0004		
iviatii 7 Takeii [Kei-iviatii oj	(0.0174)			(0.0030)		
Math 8 Taken [Ref Grade 6=Math 6,	0.0432	0.0463**		-0.0122	-0.0045	
Ref Grade 7=Math 7]	(0.0394)	(0.0183)		(0.0154)	(0.0041)	
Algebra I Taken [Ref=Math 8]			0.0892***			0.0017
Algebia i Takeii [Nei-iviatii o]			(0.0145)			(0.0028)
Algebra I, Intensified Taken [Ref Grade		0.0645***	0.1528***		-0.0024	0.0032
7=Math 7, Ref Grade 8=Math 8]		(0.0248)	(0.0178)		(0.0069)	(0.0044)
Geometry, Intensified Taken			0.0950***			0.0029
[Ref=Math 8]			(0.0227)			(0.0043)
Science 7 Taken [Ref=Life Science]		0.0693			0.0039**	
Science / Taken [her-Line Science]		(0.0570)			(0.0018)	
Observations	2,309	2,816	3,041	2,325	2,853	3,083

Note: Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1. Also controlled for: Grade 6 - American Studies 6 [Ref=History 6], Grade 7 - American Studies 7 [History 7]. None of these courses are statistically significant predictors of outcomes of interest.

Figure A. 4: Regression Analysis: Courses in Grades 9-12 (MEM)

		DIPL	.OMA			On-TIME	GRADUATION	
VARIABLES	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
			Subje	ects				
Carial Charling (A)	0.0610***	0.0472***	0.0239*	0.0284			-0.0045*	-0.0020
Social Studies (A)	(0.0213)	(0.0174)	(0.0131)	(0.0183)			(0.0026)	(0.0048)
Conial Chudian (D/F)	-0.1051**	-0.1460**	-0.0696**	-0.0638**			-0.0040	0.0010
Social Studies (D/E)	(0.0436)	(0.0592)	(0.0330)	(0.0314)			(0.0033)	(0.0046)
ΓΙΑ / Λ \	0.0325	0.0340**	0.0200	0.0127		0.0023*	-0.0001	-0.0061
ELA (A)	(0.0235)	(0.0171)	(0.0129)	(0.0199)		(0.0013)	(0.0021)	(0.0054)
ELA (D/E)	-0.0201	-0.0307	-0.1107***	-0.0619**		0.0005	0.0016	0.0004
ELA (D/E)	(0.0333)	(0.0280)	(0.0344)	(0.0280)		(0.0015)	(0.0016)	(0.0043)
0.4a+la (0.)	0.0198	0.0049	-0.0353**	0.0191	-0.0004	0.0006	-0.0014	0.0021
Math (A)	(0.0187)	(0.0203)	(0.0168)	(0.0203)	(0.0016)	(0.0020)	(0.0020)	(0.0037)
Math (D/F)	-0.1009**	-0.0490*	-0.0590***	-0.1045***	-0.0076	-0.0005	-0.0052	0.0012
Math (D/E)	(0.0424)	(0.0298)	(0.0215)	(0.0237)	(0.0054)	(0.0014)	(0.0041)	(0.0042)
Coiomas (A)	0.0358*	0.0364**			-0.0057	0.0024*		
Science (A)	(0.0200)	(0.0181)			(0.0035)	(0.0013)		
Science (D/E)	-0.0144	-0.0530			0.0001	-0.0004		
Science (D/E)	(0.0267)	(0.0395)			(0.0011)	(0.0018)		
Morld Languages (A)	-0.0113	-0.0161			0.0027	-0.0008		
World Languages (A)	(0.0173)	(0.0189)			(0.0017)	(0.0020)		
World Languages (D/E)	-0.1463***	-0.0703**			0.0006	-0.0015		
World Languages (D/E)	(0.0442)	(0.0310)			(0.0029)	(0.0020)		
Math Courses	[Ref Groups: 0	Grade 9=Algeb	ra I, Grade 10=	Geometry, Gra	de 11=Algeb	ra II, Grade	12=AP Calcul	us]
Geometry Taken	0.0749***		-0.2815***					
Geometry raken	(0.0162)		(0.0885)					
Algebra II Taken		0.0761***		-0.4786***				
Aigebra ii Takeii		(0.0171)		(0.0647)				
Algebra II/Trig,	0.0672***	0.0876***						
Intensified Taken	(0.0243)	(0.0231)						
Pre-Calculus Taken			0.0758***	-0.1026**				
Pre-Calculus Taken			(0.0136)	(0.0440)				
AP Calculus Taken			0.0454***					
Ar Calculus Takell			(0.0174)					
Mathematics			0.0599***	-0.1130**				
Analysis/Trig Taken			(0.0112)	(0.0463)				
Statistics Taken				-0.1453***				
Statistics Taken				(0.0393)				

Variables		DIPI	LOMA		On-Time Graduation						
ELA Courses [Ref Groups: G	irade 9=English	n 9, Grade 10=I	English 10, Gra	de 11= Englis	h 11, Grade	12=English 12	2]			
Facilish 11 Takan				-0.1657*							
English 11 Taken				(0.0921)							
AP English or English,	-0.0268	0.0123	0.0264**	0.0695***							
Intensified	(0.0356)	(0.0187)	(0.0133)	(0.0179)							
Science Courses [Ref Groups: Grade 9=Biology, Grade 10=Chemistry, Grades 11-12=Physics]											
Forth Chase Taken		-0.0624**	-0.0360	-0.0134							
Earth Space Taken		(0.0267)	(0.0338)	(0.0387)							
Social Studies Courses [I	Ref Groups: G					and Persona	al Finance, Gra	ade 11=US &			
	T	VA Histo	ry, Grade 12=L	JS & VA Gover	nment]	1	T	T			
World History Taken	-0.0936**	0.0229									
vvoria mistory rakem	(0.0423)	(0.0168)									
World History,		0.0669***									
Intensified Taken		(0.0178)									
AP US & VA History			0.0884***								
Taken			(0.0164)								
AP US & VA		0.0377		0.0522***							
Government Taken		(0.0257)		(0.0153)							
Observations	1,799	1,349	2,423	2,235	2,141	2,158	2,434	2,164			

Note: Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1. Also controlled for: Grade 9 -Biology Intensified, Grade 10 - Algebra I, Grade 12 - AP Statistics, Economics and Personal Finance, Grades 10-12 - Chemistry, Intensified. None of these courses are statistically significant predictors of diploma attainment.

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Figure A. 5: Advanced vs Standard Diploma: SOL Scores and Demographic Variables

								- Cinograpin				
Variables	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5	GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
						SOL Scores						
Math score			0.0110***	0.0100***	0.0100***	0.0087***	0.0084***	0.0095***	0.0018	0.0020**		
Matif score			(0.0021)	(0.0021)	(0.0022)	(0.0013)	(0.0016)	(0.0020)	(0.0014)	(0.0008)		
Dooding coore			0.0050**	0.0050***	0.0080***	0.0021	0.0036**	0.0025			0.0030	
Reading score			(0.0022)	(0.0023)	(0.0024)	(0.0013)	(0.0015)	(0.0016)			(0.0036)	
M/riting score					0.0030**			0.0025			0.0013	
Writing score					(0.0011)			(0.0016)			(0.0017)	
C-i								0.0010	0.0034	0.0017		
Science score								(0.0022)	(0.0027)	(0.0017)		
I Paka masa ana							0.0025	0.0040	0.0056**		0.0050**	
History score							(0.0016)	(0.0032)	(0.0024)		(0.0020)	
						Other Variables						
Cifted						-0.0264	-0.0183	-0.0467**	-0.0332*	0.0016	0.0139	0.0385**
Gifted						(0.0191)	(0.0179)	(0.0200)	(0.0189)	(0.0172)	(0.0135)	(0.0172)
Free/Reduced						-0.0574**	-0.0686***	-0.0599***	-0.0204	-0.0811***	-0.0300*	-0.0278
Lunch						(0.0243)	(0.0227)	(0.0216)	(0.0190)	(0.0263)	(0.0166)	(0.0192)
Language					0.1032***	-0.0301	0.0078	0.0620***	-0.0174	0.0203		
Immersion					(0.0214)	(0.1994)	(0.0944)	(0.0189)	(0.0318)	(0.0359)		
Limited English	-0.1365***	-0.1324***	0.0030	-0.0251	-0.0376	0.0159	0.0142	0.0108	0.0118	-0.0048	-0.0233	-0.1619***
Proficiency	(0.0304)	(0.0306)	(0.0400)	(0.0268)	(0.0284)	(0.0201)	(0.0187)	(0.0195)	(0.0171)	(0.0176)	(0.0192)	(0.0525)
Special	-0.3257***	-0.3354***	-0.1449**	-0.1468***	-0.1132***	-0.0732	-0.1435***	-0.2336***	-0.0856	-0.0474	-0.1143**	-0.1753***
Education	(0.0346)	(0.0353)	(0.0613)	(0.0382)	(0.0373)	(0.0522)	(0.0403)	(0.0475)	(0.0548)	(0.0439)	(0.0574)	(0.0613)
Special						-0.0878***	-0.1099***	-0.0891***	-0.1125**	-0.0721*	-0.0246	-0.0860**
Education, No Classes						(0.0336)	(0.0405)	(0.0327)	(0.0506)	(0.0426)	(0.0255)	(0.0431)
Unexcused					-0.0009	-0.0036*	-0.0032*	-0.0033**	-0.0033**	-0.0016	-0.0034***	-0.0035*
Absence Count					(0.0010)	(0.0020)	(0.0019)	(0.0015)	(0.0013)	(0.0011)	(0.0011)	(0.0021)
Observations	2,194	2,312	694	1,606	1,631	2,309	2,816	3,041	1,799	1,349	2,423	2,235
Nie	Ani Dalaira		:	heses *** no	40 01 ** ·* 40	NOE *	Ales sessional	6	/ - +	the same of the same of		

Note: Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1. Also controlled for gender, race/ethnicity, and graduation cohort.

Figure A. 6: On-Time Graduation: SOL Scores and Demographic Variables

VARIABLES	0											
	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5	GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
					S	OL Scores						
Math score			0.0001	0.0000*	0.0000*	-0.0000	0.0002	0.0000	0.0003**	-0.0000		
Matil Score			(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0002)	(0.0002)	(0.0002)	(0.0001)	(0.0000)		
Science score								0.0002	-0.0001	0.0004*		
Science score								(0.0002)	(0.0002)	(0.0002)		
History score							0.0001	-0.0000	0.0003		0.0004	
History score							(0.0001)	(0.0003)	(0.0003)		(0.0004)	
Doodingsoons			-0.0000	-0.0000	-0.0000	-0.0001	-0.0001	-0.0001			-0.0003	
Reading score			(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0000)	(0.0002)	(0.0001)	(0.0002)			(0.0006)	
\A/witing coops					0.0000			0.0007			0.0002	
Writing score					(0.0000)			(0.0005)			(0.0003)	
					Oth	er Variables						
Gifted						-0.0034	-0.0016	-0.0051	-0.0031	-0.0003	0.0010	0.0042
Girtea						(0.0038)	(0.0024)	(0.0036)	(0.0025)	(0.0014)	(0.0021)	(0.0042)
Free/Reduced						-0.0011	-0.0005	0.0002	-0.0038	0.0010	0.0023	0.0001
Lunch						(0.0040)	(0.0020)	(0.0021)	(0.0030)	(0.0010)	(0.0015)	(0.0040)
Language					0.0015			-0.0024				
Immersion					(0.0019)			(0.0049)				
Limited English	-0.0065	-0.0073	-0.0149	-0.0024	-0.0048	-0.0040	-0.0029	-0.0018	-0.0048	-0.0031	-0.0229*	-0.0567***
Proficiency	(0.0065)	(0.0064)	(0.0175)	(0.0030)	(0.0043)	(0.0066)	(0.0030)	(0.0029)	(0.0042)	(0.0033)	(0.0123)	(0.0198)
Consider Education	-0.0138	-0.0090	0.0017	-0.0015	-0.0077*	-0.0101	-0.0030	-0.0124	-0.0011	-0.0057	0.0023	
Special Education	(0.0085)	(0.0074)	(0.0053)	(0.0031)	(0.0045)	(0.0105)	(0.0040)	(0.0083)	(0.0039)	(0.0055)	(0.0019)	
Special Education,						-0.0081	-0.0018	0.0004	-0.0118	-0.0046	-0.0089	0.0012
No Classes						(0.0070)	(0.0043)	(0.0029)	(0.0089)	(0.0072)	(0.0102)	(0.0084)
Unexcused					-0.0001**	-0.0006**	-0.0003**	-0.0002**	-0.0001	-0.0001	-0.0003**	-0.0010***
Absence Count					(0.0001)	(0.0002)	(0.0001)	(0.0001)	(0.0001)	(0.0001)	(0.0001)	(0.0003)
Observations	2,224	2,339	696	1,624	2,488	2,325	2,853	3,083	2,141	2,158	2,434	2,164

Note: Robust standard errors in parentheses. *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1. Also controlled for gender, race/ethnicity, and graduation cohort.

Figure A. 7: Standard vs Advanced Diploma Attainment for HILT Students in Grades 6-8

					,					Grades 0-0		
HILT COURSE		GRA Indard oloma		anced Ioma		GR/ ndard loma		anced Ioma		GRA andard ploma	Adv	anced oloma
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
					Eng	lish						
HILT A English	29	63.04%	17	36.96%	31	73.81%	11	26.19%	24	92.31%	2	7.69%
HILT B English	30	50.85%	29	49.15%	26	57.78%	19	42.22%	26	61.90%	16	38.10%
HILTEX A English	40	56.34%	31	43.66%	18	50.00%	18	50.00%	14	51.85%	13	48.15%
HILTEX B English	27	50.00%	27	50.00%	20	57.14%	15	42.86%	15	48.39%	16	51.61%
					Read	ding						
HILT A Reading	29	63.04%	17	36.96%	31	73.81%	11	26.19%	24	92.31%	2	7.69%
HILT B Reading	30	49.18%	31	50.82%	28	58.33%	20	41.67%	27	62.79%	16	37.21%
HILTEX A Reading	55	53.92%	47	46.08%	40	51.95%	37	48.05%	32	59.26%	22	40.74%
HILTEX B Reading	34	51.52%	32	48.48%	29	59.18%	20	40.82%	21	50.00%	21	50.00%
				Scie	nce, Soc	ial Studies	, Math					
HILT A Science	30	62.50%	18	37.50%	28	73.68%	10	26.32%	21	91.30%	2	8.70%
HILT B Science	30	51.72%	28	48.28%	28	58.33%	20	41.67%	29	64.44%	16	35.56%
HILT A Social Studies	30	63.83%	17	36.17%	21	77.78%	6	22.22%	16	88.89%	2	11.11%
HILT B Social Studies	29	50.88%	28	49.12%	22	59.46%	15	40.54%	18	81.82%	4	18.18%
HILT Math Level I	21	77.78%	6	22.22%	19	73.08%	7	26.92%	13	100.00%	0	0.00%
HILT Math Level II	27	69.23%	12	30.77%	21	72.41%	8	27.59%	13	81.25%	3	18.75%
Total	441	56.47%	340	43.53%	362	62.52%	217	37.48%	293	68.46%	135	31.54%

Figure A. 8: Standard vs Advanced Diploma Attainment for HILT Students in Grades 9-11

		GRAI	DE 9			GRAD	E 10		GRADE 11			
HILT Course		ndard oloma		vanced ploma		indard oloma		vanced ploma	Standard Diploma		Advanced Diploma	
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
English												
HILT A English 62 86.11% 10 13.89% 41 95.35% 2 4.65% 17 94.44% 1 5.56%												5.56%
HILT B English	58	81.69%	13	18.31%	68	90.67%	7	9.33%	27	96.43%	1	3.57%
HILTEX English 9	53	67.09%	26	32.91%	67	82.72%	14	17.28%	61	95.31%	3	4.69%
HILTEX English 10	27	71.05%	11	28.95%	55	73.33%	20	26.67%	88	88.89%	11	11.11%
					Readi	ing						
HILT A Reading	63	86.30%	10	13.70%	41	95.35%	2	4.65%	16	94.12%	1	5.88%
HILT B Reading	40	83.33%	8	16.67%	48	90.57%	5	9.43%	17	94.44%	1	5.56%
HILTEX Reading 9	32	66.67%	16	33.33%	41	80.39%	10	19.61%	52	94.55%	3	5.45%
HILTEX Reading 10	4	44.44%	5	55.56%	33	68.75%	15	31.25%	57	86.36%	9	13.64%
				Scien	ce, Soci	al Studies						
HILT A Science	56	84.85%	10	15.15%	37	97.37%	1	2.63%	14	93.33%	1	6.67%
HILT B Science	35	85.37%	6	14.63%	42	87.50%	6	12.50%	15	93.75%	1	6.25%
HILT A Social Studies	54	87.10%	8	12.90%	34	97.14%	1	2.86%	14	93.33%	1	6.67%
HILT B Social Studies	15	93.75%	1	6.25%	27	87.10%	4	12.90%	14	93.33%	1	6.67%
HILTEX Biology	33	63.46%	19	36.54%	45	67.16%	22	32.84%	48	94.12%	3	5.88%
Total	532	78.81%	143	21.19%	579	84.16%	109	15.84%	440	92.24%	37	7.76%

Figure A. 9: On-Time Graduation for HILT Students in Grades 6-8

rigure A. J. On-Time Graduation for the Students in Grades 0-0													
HILT COURSE		GRADE	€ 6			GRADE	7		Grade 8				
	Did not Graduate on Time		Graduated on Time		Did not Graduate on Time		Graduated on Time		Did not Graduate on Time		Graduated on Time		
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	
English													
HILT A English	14	25.45%	41	74.55%	17	30.91%	38	69.09%	18	45.00%	22	55.00%	
HILT B English	10	15.87%	53	84.13%	12	24.49%	37	75.51%	11	22.45%	38	77.55%	
HILTEX A English	5	6.76%	69	93.24%	3	7.69%	36	92.31%	7	23.33%	23	76.67%	
HILTEX B English	4	7.14%	52	92.86%	4	10.53%	34	89.47%	2	6.25%	30	93.75%	
Reading													
HILT A Reading	14	25.45%	41	74.55%	17	30.91%	38	69.09%	18	45.00%	22	55.00%	
HILT B Reading	10	15.38%	55	84.62%	12	23.08%	40	76.92%	11	22.00%	39	78.00%	
HILTEX A Reading	9	8.41%	98	91.59%	11	13.25%	72	86.75%	12	19.67%	49	80.33%	
HILTEX B Reading	5	7.25%	64	92.75%	7	12.96%	47	87.04%	3	6.98%	40	93.02%	
Science, Social Studies, Math													
HILT A Science	17	29.31%	41	70.69%	14	28.57%	35	71.43%	16	44.44%	20	55.56%	
HILT B Science	8	12.90%	54	87.10%	14	25.93%	40	74.07%	12	23.08%	40	76.92%	
HILT A Social Studies	17	29.82%	40	70.18%	14	37.84%	23	62.16%	11	42.31%	15	57.69%	
HILT B Social Studies	8	13.11%	53	86.89%	13	30.23%	30	69.77%	11	37.93%	18	62.07%	
HILT Math Level I	14	41.18%	20	58.82%	11	32.35%	23	67.65%	11	52.38%	10	47.62%	
HILT Math Level	17	36.96%	29	63.04%	14	35.90%	25	64.10%	10	40.00%	15	60.00%	
Total	152	17.63%	710	82.37%	163	23.94%	518	76.06%	153	28.65%	381	71.35%	

Figure A. 10: On-Time Graduation for HILT Students in Grades 9-11

- I Sure At 101 On Time Graduation for the Stadents in Grades 5 11													
	GRADE 9				GRADE 10				GRADE 11				
HILT COURSE	Did not Graduate		Gra	duated	Did not Graduate		Graduated		Did not Graduate		Graduated		
THE COURSE	on Time		on Time		on Time		on Time		on Time		on Time		
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	
English													
HILT A English	164	82.00%	36	18.00%	76	82.61%	16	17.39%	20	86.96%	3	13.04%	
HILT B English	62	53.45%	54	46.55%	87	69.05%	39	30.95%	42	85.71%	7	14.29%	
HILTEX English 9	37	36.27%	65	63.73%	59	53.15%	52	46.85%	52	61.18%	33	38.82%	
HILTEX English 10	9	21.43%	33	78.57%	37	38.95%	58	61.05%	52	41.94%	72	58.06%	
Reading													
HILT A Reading	146	80.22%	36	19.78%	73	82.02%	16	17.98%	20	90.91%	2	9.09%	
HILT B Reading	44	55.00%	36	45.00%	69	73.40%	25	26.60%	31	86.11%	5	13.89%	
HILTEX Reading 9	21	35.00%	39	65.00%	36	50.00%	36	50.00%	44	60.27%	29	39.73%	
HILTEX Reading 10	1	10.00%	9	90.00%	22	36.07%	39	63.93%	36	41.86%	50	58.14%	
Science, Social Studies													
HILT A Science	134	80.72%	32	19.28%	53	79.10%	14	20.90%	17	94.44%	1	5.56%	
HILT B Science	26	42.62%	35	57.38%	61	74.39%	21	25.61%	19	79.17%	5	20.83%	
HILT A Social Studies	131	81.37%	30	18.63%	53	77.94%	15	22.06%	19	100.00%	0	0.00%	
HILT B Social Studies	15	51.72%	14	48.28%	34	69.39%	15	30.61%	16	72.73%	6	27.27%	
HILTEX Biology	20	31.75%	43	68.25%	32	36.36%	56	63.64%	43	64.18%	24	35.82%	
Total	810	63.68%	462	36.32%	692	63.25%	402	36.75%	411	63.43%	237	36.57%	

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