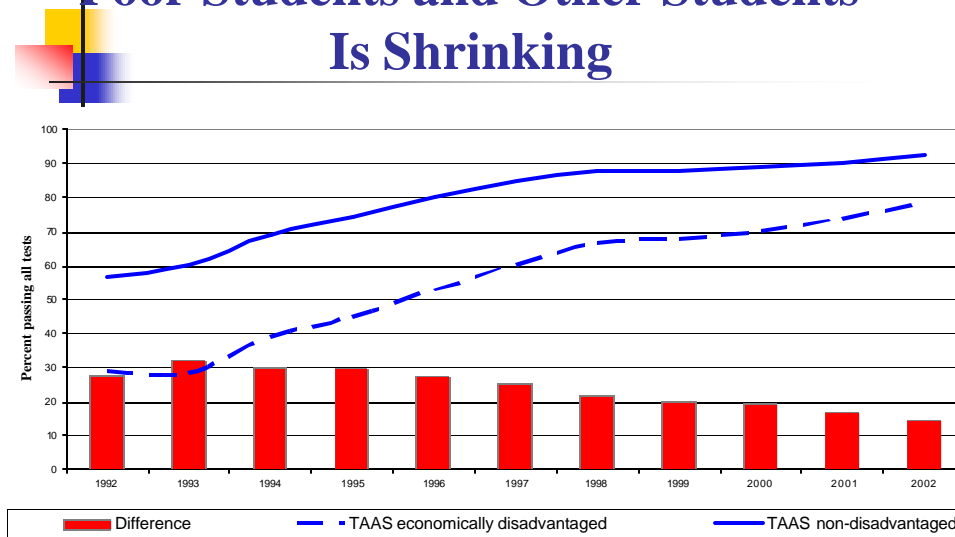


The Gap In Passing Rates Between Poor Students and Other Students Is Shrinking



SOURCE: Center for Public Policy Priorities using data from the Texas Education Agency

5

Equity Works

While rigorous academic standards demonstrate Texas' commitment to high expectations for all of its students, as the chart above demonstrates, so has equity. Since 1992, the gap in passing rates on the TAAS between economically disadvantaged students and non-disadvantaged students has been closing. Just as Robin Hood has helped narrow the gap in school funding between poor and rich schools, equity in school finance has also narrowed the performance gap as well. Increased funding provided through Robin Hood has helped property poor districts reduce class sizes, pay for quality teachers, and implement the latest technology to improve education standards for all of their children. Robin Hood and equity have developed schools in Texas into places where every child matters. Equitable school funding helps ensure that factors such as a child's race, language, family income, and where she resides are not barriers to a great education. We must continue to demand that public schools are given the resources to meet the needs and successes of all of our children in Texas – not just some.