



# Texas Data Diagnostic and Planning Project

Communities Foundation of Texas

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## Project Synopsis:

UPD managed all aspects of the planning and execution of the investigation into the data use practices and processes used to improve student achievement in the eight largest urban school districts in the State of Texas as well as the IDEA Charter Schools in the Rio Grande Valley.

**Lead Firm:** UPD Consulting  
**Project Manager:** Bryan Richardson  
**Project Partners:** Mizuni, Inc  
**Project Time Frame:** March 2009 to January 2010

## Project Background:

The Gates Foundation provided a grant to the Texas High School Project and the Big Eight Superintendent's Council to study each district's data use capabilities and needs. Existing state and district-level systems provided a wide range of information, but significant gaps existed, and systems did not fully meet the needs of educators and students. This project sought to identify these gaps by understanding the current state of data systems, use, and practices in the participating districts, the desired future state, and the strategies to realize the districts' potential.

## Project Outcomes:

For each district, UPD prepared a 100- to 150-page gap analysis report detailing the current state and desired future state for data use in the district and the gaps separating the two. The report concluded with short and long term recommendations to fill the gaps specific to each district. The report also included the results of a Data Health Diagnostic for the 106 component data elements of the study, an analysis of survey results from teachers, campus administrators, and central office administrators, and detailed scoring of the district against UPD's data diagnostic rubric.

**References:** John Fitzpatrick  
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