

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) data has historically been fragmented, limiting parents' ability to make informed school choices and reducing transparency for policymakers. To address these challenges, the Data Science Clinic at the University of Chicago partnered with Kids First Chicago, an education nonprofit dedicated to empowering parents and advancing policy to close equity gaps.

The team developed a comprehensive Chicago Public Schools Datahub that integrated CPS and Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) data into a single, interactive, public-facing platform for exploring school-level data. Using automated data pipelines, the team cleaned, standardized, and merged over a decade of demographic and performance data. The platform offers interactive tools such as searchable school report cards, helping parents explore and compare school-level data easily.

One analytical output examines the distribution of school quality for 13 CPS "networks", based on 2023 ISBE summative designations (Figure 1). These designations reflect overall school performance, based on factors like student achievement and graduation rates. Figure 1 helps parents understand the range of school performance in different areas of the city, supporting transparent, data-driven decision-making for families and community leaders.

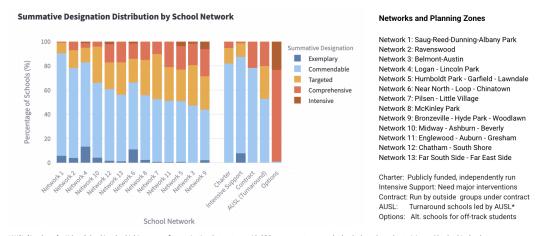


Figure 1: Distribution of 2023 ISBE Summative Designations Across CPS Networks

\*AUSL (Academy for Urban School Leadership) is a nonprofit organization that partners with CPS to manage turnaround schools through teacher training and leadership development

Overall, this Datahub bridges the gap between raw data and actionable insight, enabling community engagement and data-driven decision-making.