

2020 Houston Football Preview



Head Coach (Yr)
Dana Holgorsen (2)
Offensive Coord.
Shannon Dawson (1)
Brandon Jones (2)
Defensive Coord.
Joe Cautchen (2)
Doug Belk (2)
Conference/Div
American

Team Profile	#	Rk
2020 Team Power Rating	68.4	62
Power Ratings Diff vs Last Year	6.3	10
2020 Strength of Schedule	69.2	62
2020 Season Win Projection	6.3	67
Returning Starters (OFF/DEF)	19 (10/9)	1
Return Starting QB (YES/NO)	YES	
Returning Production %	83%	3
Returning Offense Production	73%	42
Returning Defense Production	93%	3
2020 Recruiting (Signees)	17	82
2020 Roster Talent Rank		71

2020 Offense/Defense Analysis

Dana Holgorsen's first season in Houston made headlines for all the wrong reasons. It started with star QB D'Eriq King and leading receiver Keith Corbin deciding to take a redshirt after four games to preserve eligibility. It was a bold strategy by Holgorsen but the Cougars would stumble to 4-8, their worst record since 2004. Houston's lack of depth showed as they outscored their opponents by 29 in the first half and were outscored by 69 points in the second half. While the season seemed like a big disappointment, note that Cougars were only favored in two games as they went 0-6 against ranked teams.

This season, Houston looks poised for a big bounce back thanks to the return of 18 starters. QB Clayton Tune got plenty of experience last year (1,533 yards, 11-9 ratio) with King out and leading rusher Kyle Porter (615 yards) also returns. The receiving corps returns their top three guys led by All-AAC Marquez Stevenson (907 yards and 9 TD's) and Corbin is also back. The offensive line brings back four starters and eight with starting experience. The defense struggled mightily last year as the Cougars allowed 6.8 yards per play (No. 127 in the country). For better or worse, most of their players return led by NB Grant Stuard (97 tackles, 9.5 TFL's) and there are many incoming transfers.

The Cougars have arguably the toughest schedule in the AAC as they play the top 5 teams in the league and four of those games are on the road. Mix in a couple of long road trips to BYU and Washington St in non-conference action and despite the much improved roster, Houston might struggle to get past 6-6.

2020 Schedule with BP Projected Lines

Date	Opponent	Line	Win %	Line	Total	Score	W/L/O/U
9/3	Rice	-16.2	89%				
9/12	at Wash St	6.7	33%				
9/19	at Memphis	10.4	26%				
9/26	North Texas	-16.3	89%				
10/3							
10/8	Tulane	-7.2	69%				
10/16	at BYU	4.1	38%				
10/24	at Navy	4.2	38%				
10/31	UCF	9.0	28%				
11/7	at Cincinnati	8.4	30%				
11/14	USF	-9.1	73%				
11/21	at SMU	2.1	45%				
11/28	Tulsa	-8.4	71%				
Projected Wins		6.29					

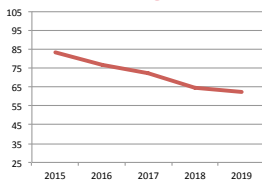
Last 5 Year Records

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Straight Up	13-1	9-4	7-5	8-5	4-8	41-23
Home	8-0	6-0	4-2	5-1	1-4	24-7
Away	4-1	2-3	3-2	3-3	3-3	15-12
Neutral	1-0	1-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	2-4
Conference	8-1	5-3	5-3	5-3	2-6	25-16
Non-Conf	5-0	4-1	2-2	3-2	2-2	16-7
ATS	9-5	4-8-1	6-6	6-7	6-6	31-32-1
Home Fav	3-4	0-4-1	4-2	4-2	0-1	11-13-1
Home Dog	1-0	1-0	0-0	0-0	1-3	3-3
Away Fav	3-1	2-3	1-3	2-3	0-1	8-11
Away Dog	1-0	0-0	1-0	0-1	4-1	6-2
Conference	5-4	1-6-1	4-4	4-4	3-5	17-23-1
Non-Conf	4-1	3-2	2-2	2-3	3-1	14-9
O/U	6-7-1	4-9	3-9	4-6	6-6	28-35-1

ATS Stat

After being favored in 33 of 37 games from 2016-18, Houston was only favored in 2 last year, their fewest since 2001!

End of Season Power Rating 2015-19



2019 Stats

	UH	Rk	Opp	Rk
Rushing				
YPC	4.9	34	5.2	117
YPG	188.2	37	179.1	85
Passing				
Comp %	56.1%	99	61.2%	80
YPA	7.8	52	8.4	118
YPG	203.3	91	288.4	124
TD-INT	19-12		29-8	
Total				
UH	Rk	Opp	Rk	
YPP	6.0	53	6.8	127
YCPG	391.5	78	467.5	118
Scoring				
PPG	30.7	51	34.0	113
3rd Down				
UH	Rk	Opp	Rk	
%	34.8%	108	39.9%	72
Red Zone				
UH	Rk	Opp	Rk	
TD %	51.2%	109	75.6%	127
Scoring %	88.4%	35	88.9%	110
KO Ret				
UH	Rk	Opp	Rk	
Avg	21.7	47	17.6	14
Punt Ret				
UH	Rk	Opp	Rk	
Avg	11.4	28	7.2	62
Sacks				
By	Rk	Vs	Rk	
#	21	96	35	108
TFL's				
By	Rk	Vs	Rk	
#	67	92	95	120
Net Punt				
UH	Rk			
Avg	43.6	2		
4th Down				
Off	Rk			
Att P/Gm	1.4	82		
Turnovers				
Margin	-7	109		
Penalties				
Per Game	4.8	18		

Scoring Quarter-By-Quarter

	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	OT	Total
UH	106	114	55	93	0	368
Opp	87	104	116	101	0	408

2019 Stat Margins

Margins	+/-	Rk
Rush YPC	-0.3	89
Pass YPA	-0.7	86
YPP	-0.8	107
YPG	-76.0	110
Scoring	-3.3	91

2019 Individual Stats

	Att	Yds	%	Ratio
Passing				
Clayton Tune	179	1533	59.2	11-9
D'Eriq King	110	663	52.7	6-2
Rushing				
Att Yds	YPC	TD		
Kyle Porter	130	615	4.7	3
Patrick Carr	67	380	5.7	4
Mulbah Carr	59	375	6.4	3
Receiving				
Rec Yds	YPC	TD		
M. Stevenson	52	907	17.4	9
Jeremy Singleton	26	381	14.7	3
Tre'von Bradley	16	326	20.4	1
Defense				
Tkl	Sks	TFL	Int	
Grant Stuard	97	1	8.5	0
D. Williams	73	0	5.5	2
Donavan Mutin	61	0	4.5	1
Gervarrius Owens	54	0.5	0	1
Deontay Anderson	48	0	1.5	0
Derek Parish	38	2	3.5	0
Kicking				
FG	LG	XP		
D. Witherspoon	20-24	46	40-40	
Punting				
Avg	120	50+	BLK	
Dane Roy	46.9	30	22	0

2019 Game-By-Game Recap

Teams	Open	Close	Score	ATS
Houston	80	80.5	31	Cover: 4.5
Oklahoma	-26	-22.5	49	Under: 0.5
-OU had a 686-408 yard edge including 354-241 rushing.				
-The Sooners were -2 in TO's and missed 2 FG's.				
-"Four years ago, they were good," Holgorsen said. "A year later, they were the best offense in college football. A year later, with a new QB, they're the best offense in college football. A year later, with a new quarterback, they looked the same to me."				
Prairie View AM	77.5	77.5	17	Cover: 16
Houston	-37	-36	37	Under: 23.5
-Houston only had 20-16 first down and 380-318 yard edges.				
-The Cougars did lead 34-10 at halftime and they put the offense away in the second half.				
Washington State	-10	-9.5	31	Under: 19
Houston	74	74	24	Cover: 2.5
-Washington St had a 489-367 yard edge and rallied from a 14-7 halftime deficit.				
Houston	63.5	57.5	31	Over: 11.5
Tulane	-1	-4.5	38	Cover: 2.5
Bad Beat: UH backers were covering every second of the game until Tulane hit a 53-yard TD pass with :03 left.				
-The Cougars blew a 28-7 lead and also missed two FG's.				
-Houston finished with a 533-511 yard edge.				
-Houston QB D'Eriq King broke former Florida quarterback Tim Tebow's FBS record for the most consecutive games (15) with at least one passing and rushing touchdown.				
-It was the 21st straight game the Houston defense recorded a turnover, the longest active streak in the country.				
Houston	-3	59	46	Cover: 28.5
North Texas	67.5	-7.5	25	Over: 12
-NT had a 456-359 yard edge but did get out-rushed 233-96.				
-Houston QB Clayton Tune (Houston QB D'Eriq now taking a RS this year) was 16 of 20 for 124 yards and TD.				
Cincinnati	-5	-8.5	38	Cover: 6.5
Houston	55	51	23	Over: 10
Misleading Final: Houston had a 424-394 yard edge including 190-131 on the ground but were -4 in TO's.				
-Houston played 3 different QB's but they only combined to go 10 of 30 for 234 yards and while they threw 3 TD's, they had 4 INT's.				
Houston	-21	-21.5	24	Under: 16
Connecticut	58.5	57	17	Cover: 14.5
Misleading Final: UConn had 23-16 first down and 438-284 yard edges. UConn had a TO in Houston territory (returned 38 yards), was stopped on downs at the Houston 2-yard line and missed a FG.				
-Houston QB Logan Holgorsen got the start over Clayton Tune, who suffered a hamstring injury that limited his practice during the week.				
SMU	-13.5	-13	34	Under: 0.5
Houston	66.5	65.5	31	Cover: 10
Misleading Final: Houston had a 510-385 yard edge but were -2 in TO's.				
-Houston QB Clayton Tune was 18 of 33 for 407 yards and 2 TD's while WR Marquez Stevenson had 211 receiving yards and 2 TD's on just 5 catches.				
-The Mustangs took advantage of Houston's three turnovers, converting them into 14 points. SMU had seven sacks for 51 yards and 13 tackles for loss.				
Houston	70	72.5	29	Cover: 6.5
Central Florida	-23.5	-21.5	44	Over: 0.5
-Houston had a 20-16 first down edge but UCF had a 468-419 yard edge. Houston had a 41-31-18:29 TOP edge.				
Houston led 23-21 at HT before UCF scored 3 straight TD's.				
Memphis	-10	-10	45	Cover: 8
Houston	65.5	71.5	27	Over: 0.5
-Memphis had 29-14 first down and 531-256 yard edges.				
-Houston got a blocked TD late in the game.				
Houston	57.5	57.5	24	Cover: 14.5
Tulsa	-3	-4.5	14	Under: 19.5
Misleading Final: Tulsa had 18-12 first down and 380-231 yard edges but were -3 in TO's.				
-Houston got a 25-yard interception return TD and a 94-yard kickoff return TD.				
-Houston did have a 131(-1) rushing yard edge.				
Navy	-7.5	-9	56	Cover: 6
Houston	55	57.5	41	Over: 39.5
-Houston had a 21-20 first down edge but Navy a 554-527 yard edge.				
-Navy was +5 in TO's and scored 3 TD's off those TO's.				
-UH QB Clayton Tune threw for 393 yards and 4 TD's but also 4 INT's.				
-Houston finished 4-8, the worst record for the Cougars since finishing 3-8 in 2004. Coach Dana Holgorsen finished with his second career losing record after going 4-8 in 2013 at West Virginia.				
-The Cougars went 0-6 against ranked teams this season.				
-"We didn't give up on the season," Holgorsen said. "We didn't quit coaching. We didn't quit practicing. We didn't quit preparing. We didn't quit playing. Ever. Not in 12 games."				

2015 (SU: 13-1, ATS: 9-5, O/U: 6-7-1)					2016 (SU: 9-4, ATS: 4-8-1, O/U: 4-9)					2017 (SU: 7-5, ATS: 6-6, O/U: 3-9)					2018 (SU: 8-5, ATS: 6-7, O/U: 9-4)					2019 (SU: 4-8, ATS: 6-6, O/U: 6-6)				
Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U
9/5	Tennessee Tech	-37	52-24	W	9/3	† Oklahoma	+13	33-23	W	9/2	at UTSA	Cancelled	0-0	0	9/1	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	9/1	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U
9/12	at Louisville	+13	34-31	W	9/10	Lamar	-42	42-0	L	9/9	at Arizona	-1	19-16	W	9/8	at Rice	-25	45-27	L	9/8	at Oklahoma	+22	31-49	W
9/19					9/15	at Cincinnati	-7	40-16	W	9/16	Rice	-22	38-3	W	9/15	Arizona	-3	45-18	W	9/7	Prairie View A&M	-36	37-17	L
9/26	Texas St	-16	59-14	W	9/24	at Texas St	-31	64-3	W	9/23	Texas Tech	-6	24-27	L	9/22	at Texas Tech	-1	49-63	L	9/13	† Washington St	+9	24-31	W
10/3	at Tulsa	-7	38-24	W	9/29	Connecticut	-28	42-14	P	9/30	at Temple	-12	20-13	L	9/29	Texas Southern	-55	70-14	W	9/19	at Tulane	+4	31-38	L
10/8	SMU	-25	49-28	L	10/8	at Navy	-17	40-46	L	10/7	SMU	-9	35-22	W	10/4	Tul								