

THE **FUTURE** OF THE AMERICAN ECONOMY LIES IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

IF SOCIAL SECURITY IS THE "THIRD RAIL" OF NATIONAL politics, public education is definitely the "third rail" of local politics. Nothing can get people all riled up quite like a good old-fashioned debate about public schools.

It's a funny thing, though. While most of us think that our nation's public education system as a whole has serious problems, we also love our kids' teachers and think our local schools are the best in the world.

To us, it's the other folks who have the problems.

Even when the indicators of trouble are all around us, it's amazing how easily we can slip into denial.

When U.S. students consistently score lower than their counterparts throughout the world in science and math, we have a tendency to discount the importance of that fact, noting smugly that we were the first country to land a man on the moon — 35 years ago.

When our local school's valedictorian has a hard time even getting into the flagship state university because of low test scores, we refuse to acknowledge a problem that is staring us in the face.



THIS YEAR'S EDUCATION QUOTIENT™

RANKINGS INCLUDES 2,800 SCHOOL

DISTRICTS NATIONWIDE WITH A

COMBINED ENROLLMENT OF

34.5 MILLION STUDENTS.

2004

EDUCATION
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As a result, a large percentage of our children will enter adulthood unprepared to become full and active participants in the American Dream. When we fail to ensure that our children receive a decent education, it really doesn't matter whose fault it is.

And when I say "we fail," I do mean "we."

Not only does that uneducated youngster pay a stiff price for the rest of his or her life, so does the local community. That's because, while most of us tend to look at public education on an individual, personal level (i.e., how well our own children or grandchildren are doing), local businesses look upon it as the training ground for their future employees.

For the business community, education is more than just a local issue that compels otherwise mild mannered people to run for the school board. It is, above all else, the source of its future work force, and how well that district performs will go a long way in determining whether that company will remain in that city — or if it even remains in business at all.

Let's face it. Competition is no longer just local or regional. In today's global economy, competition comes from all around the world, and a company's ability to remain in business is dependent upon its ability to provide the best product/service at the lowest price. If the company can't show a profit, it will eventually cease to exist.

That's why successful businesses are absolutely ferocious when it comes to controlling costs and, for most of them, employee-related costs represent a huge chunk of their expenses.

Productivity gains (e.g., more output with fewer employees) are the hallmark of most businesses, not because they are greedy and hate their workers (although that might be true for a few), but because they need to do that in order to remain competitive.

The major driver of productivity gains is technology, which allows us to further automate functions that previously required many people. While this saves the company money, it also means that the remaining workers need to be smarter in order to operate the new

BY BILL KING,
CHIEF EDITOR and
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CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING	CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING
ALABAMA							Oceanside	Oceanside Unified School District	19	17	49	37	YELLOW
Anniston	Calhoun County School District	28	32	26	21	GREEN	Ontario	Chaffey Joint Union High School District	24	23	42	43	YELLOW
Auburn	Auburn City School District	78	80	45	53	BLUE	Orange	Orange Unified School District	18	17	38	69	YELLOW
Bay Minette	Baldwin County School District	23	22	42	48	YELLOW	Palm Springs	Palm Springs Unified School District	9	11	39	27	RED
Birmingham	Jefferson County School District	71	80	10	51	BLUE	Palo Alto	Palo Alto Unified School District	94	92	74	93	GOLD
Birmingham	Birmingham City School District	23	25	38	15	YELLOW	Pasadena	Pasadena Unified School District	5	3	47	57	RED
Columbiana	Shelby County School District	55	54	43	71	GREEN	Pleasanton	Pleasanton Unified School District	92	93	49	96	GOLD
Cullman	Cullman County School District	48	51	39	15	GREEN	Pomona	Pomona Unified School District	5	6	44	24	RED
Decatur	Decatur City School District	64	65	47	39	GREEN	Poway	Poway Unified School District	78	79	38	93	BLUE
Dothan	Dothan City School District	18	19	39	32	YELLOW	Redding	Shasta Union High School District	45	46	43	42	GREEN
Enterprise	Enterprise City School District	46	48	33	40	GREEN	Redlands	Redlands Unified School District	63	64	37	62	GREEN
Florence	Florence City School District	75	77	54	27	BLUE	Richmond	West Contra Costa Unified School District	19	17	45	49	YELLOW
Florence	Lauderdale County School District	36	38	36	29	GREEN	Ridgecrest	Sierra Sands Unified School District	72	75	35	56	BLUE
Gadsden	Etowah County School District	36	38	34	29	GREEN	Riverside	Riverside Unified School District	16	17	35	37	YELLOW
Huntsville	Madison County School District	61	65	28	59	GREEN	Sacramento	Sacramento City Unified School District	12	12	43	33	YELLOW
Mobile	Mobile County School District	2	3	29	32	RED	Salinas	Salinas Union High School District	6	7	40	27	RED
Montgomery	Montgomery County School District	39	41	35	38	GREEN	San Bernardino	San Bernardino City Unified School District	4	5	46	5	RED
Opelika	Lee County School District	4	6	31	34	RED	San Diego	San Diego City Unified School District	26	24	52	49	GREEN
Prattville	Autauga County School District	38	41	27	40	GREEN	San Francisco	San Francisco Unified School District	21	17	57	63	YELLOW
Rainsville	DeKalb County School District	26	28	37	6	GREEN	San Jose	San Jose Unified School District	62	59	58	61	GREEN
Talladega	Talladega County School District	21	23	43	10	YELLOW	San Juan Capistrano	Capistrano Unified School District	79	80	39	89	BLUE
Tuscaloosa	Tuscaloosa City School District	50	52	41	29	GREEN	San Mateo	San Mateo Union High School District	85	83	63	88	GOLD
ALASKA							Santa Ana	Santa Ana Unified School District	4	4	48	14	RED
Anchorage	Anchorage School District	50	53	41	19	GREEN	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara High School District	70	74	30	67	BLUE
Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star Borough School District	85	86	51	78	GOLD	Santa Clara	Santa Clara Unified School District	55	51	55	80	GREEN
Juneau	Juneau Borough Schools	69	68	45	85	BLUE	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz City High School District	91	97	29	73	GOLD
ARIZONA							Santa Rosa	Santa Rosa High School District	58	57	45	66	GREEN
Chandler	Chandler Unified District	68	72	23	71	BLUE	Simi Valley	Simi Valley Unified School District	59	60	37	76	GREEN
Flagstaff	Flagstaff Unified District	78	83	25	62	BLUE	Stockton	Stockton City Unified School District	6	7	50	4	RED
Gilbert	Gilbert Unified District	61	66	10	89	GREEN	Sunnyvale	Fremont Union High School District	75	73	50	89	BLUE
Mesa	Mesa Unified District	74	78	31	54	BLUE	Temecula	Temecula Valley Unified School District	49	48	38	79	GREEN
Peoria	Peoria Unified District	61	65	22	71	GREEN	Thousand Oaks	Conejo Valley Unified School District	78	80	38	88	BLUE
Phoenix	Paradise Valley Unified District	63	65	29	81	GREEN	Torrance	Torrance Unified School District	66	66	39	81	GREEN
Phoenix	Deer Valley Unified District	76	81	20	79	BLUE	Tracy	Tracy Joint Unified School District	32	33	31	60	GREEN
Phoenix	Scottsdale Unified District	75	78	31	87	BLUE	Vacaville	Vacaville Unified School District	68	70	33	61	BLUE
Prescott	Prescott Unified District	65	71	11	60	GREEN	Ventura	Ventura Unified School District	58	60	32	61	GREEN
Tempe	Tempe Union High School District	89	93	32	83	GOLD	Vista	Vista Unified School District	79	82	39	53	BLUE
Tucson	Tucson Unified District	73	80	21	39	BLUE	Walnut	Walnut Valley Unified School District	85	88	36	85	GOLD
ARKANSAS							Watsonville	Pajaro Valley Joint Unified School District	10	12	36	36	RED
Bentonville	Bentonville School District	52	55	28	61	GREEN	Yuba City	Yuba City Unified School District	65	69	36	28	GREEN
Cabot	Cabot School District	67	71	27	52	BLUE	COLORADO						
Conway	Conway School District	48	51	26	55	GREEN	Boulder	Boulder Valley RE 2 School District	67	66	47	87	BLUE
Fayetteville	Fayetteville School District	68	69	44	51	BLUE	Colorado Springs	Colorado Springs 11 School District	28	25	50	62	GREEN
Fort Smith	Fort Smith School District	56	60	34	25	GREEN	Colorado Springs	Academy 20 School District	84	84	48	96	GOLD
Hot Springs	Hot Springs School District	7	7	52	10	RED	Denver	Denver County 1 School District	4	1	56	45	RED
Jonesboro	Jonesboro School District	41	47	23	26	GREEN	Durango	Durango 9-R School District	28	22	60	73	GREEN
Little Rock	Little Rock School District	22	18	56	52	YELLOW	Englewood	Cherry Creek 5 School District	62	58	56	91	GREEN
Little Rock	Pulaski County Special	17	14	53	52	YELLOW	Fort Collins	Poudre R-1 School District	69	68	54	78	BLUE
North Little Rock	N. Little Rock School District	28	26	54	33	GREEN	Golden	Jefferson County R-1 School District	21	16	54	84	YELLOW
Pine Bluff	Pine Bluff School District	2	5	25	22	RED	Littleton	Littleton 6 School District	76	78	32	91	BLUE
Russellville	Russellville School District	53	55	36	44	GREEN	Loveland	Thompson R-2J School District	39	37	46	78	GREEN
Springdale	Springdale School District	46	51	20	33	GREEN	Monument	Lewis-Palmer 38 School District	87	89	39	95	GOLD
Texarkana	Texarkana School District	11	15	34	14	YELLOW	Pueblo	Pueblo City 60 School District	23	24	42	22	YELLOW
CALIFORNIA							CONNECTICUT						
Anaheim	Anaheim Union High School District	32	32	42	35	GREEN	Bridgeport	Bridgeport School District	13	9	67	12	YELLOW
Bakersfield	Kern Union High School District	23	26	37	8	YELLOW	Bristol	Bristol School District	54	49	68	51	GREEN
Brea	Brea-Olinda Unified School District	91	94	36	77	GOLD	Danbury	Danbury School District	47	41	72	59	GREEN
Burbank	Burbank Unified School District	38	39	36	59	GREEN	Darien	Darien School District	98	95	87	98	GOLD
Carmichael	San Juan Unified School District	72	73	45	66	BLUE	Fairfield	Fairfield School District	97	94	86	93	GOLD
Cerritos	ABC Unified School District	89	94	41	62	GOLD	Greenwich	Greenwich School District	95	93	71	93	GOLD
Chico	Chico Unified School District	66	67	40	51	GREEN	Groton	Groton School District	58	54	62	66	GREEN
Chula Vista	Sweetwater Union High School District	13	13	44	31	YELLOW	Hartford	Hartford School District	15	8	89	2	YELLOW
City of Industry	Hacienda La Puente Unified School District	39	40	42	43	GREEN	Meriden	Meriden School District	47	42	80	36	GREEN
Clovis	Clovis Unified School District	53	54	33	70	GREEN	Middletown	Middletown School District	34	31	52	63	GREEN
Compton	Compton Unified School District	1	1	33	3	RED	Monroe	Monroe School District	91	91	57	92	GOLD
Concord	Mount Diablo Unified School District	63	62	45	77	GREEN	New Canaan	New Canaan School District	99	99	85	98	GOLD
Covina	Covina-Valley Unified School District	46	47	38	49	GREEN	Stamford	Stamford School District	63	54	89	71	GREEN
Danville	San Ramon Valley Unified School District	89	92	37	98	GOLD	Trumbull	Trumbull School District	95	95	67	90	GOLD
Elk Grove	Elk Grove Unified School District	19	17	45	59	YELLOW	Wallingford	Wallingford School District	76	72	72	75	BLUE
Encinitas	San Dieguito Union High School District	80	81	40	92	BLUE	Waterbury	Waterbury School District	30	25	78	17	GREEN
Fairfield	Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District	20	20	35	59	YELLOW	Watertown	Watertown School District	72	70	58	74	BLUE
Fremont	Fremont Unified School District	90	92	44	85	GOLD	West Hartford	West Hartford School District	96	95	79	88	GOLD
Fresno	Fresno Unified School District	5	6	47	10	RED	West Haven	West Haven School District	27	22	66	47	GREEN
Fresno	Central Unified School District	12	13	35	40	YELLOW	Westport	Westport School District	98	96	92	97	GOLD
Glendale	Glendale Unified School District	54	55	39	50	GREEN	DELAWARE						
Hemet	Hemet Unified School District	26	28	38	16	GREEN	Claymont	Brandywine School District	81	81	56	74	BLUE
Hesperia	Hesperia Unified School District	19	21	36	23	YELLOW	Dover	Capital School District	50	47	59	39	GREEN
Huntington Beach	Huntington Beach Union High School District	71	72	44	71	BLUE	New Castle	Colonial School District	16	13	57	49	YELLOW
Inglewood	Inglewood Unified School District	1	1	40	17	RED	Newark	Christina School District	55	50	67	66	GREEN
Irvine	Irvine Unified School District	92	96	36	92	GOLD	Wilmington	Red Clay Consolidated School District	59	55	58	67	GREEN
La Mesa	Grossmont Union High School District	42	43	39	56	GREEN	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA						
Livermore	Livermore Valley Joint Unified	90	95	33	82	GOLD	Washington	District of Columbia Public Schools	22	16	74	36	YELLOW
Lodi	Lodi Unified School District	34	35	44	30	GREEN	FLORIDA						
Long Beach	Long Beach Unified School District	11	12	42	31	YELLOW	Bartow	Polk County School District	50	55	25	25	GREEN
Los Alamitos	Los Alamitos Unified School District	90	92	41	84	GOLD	Bradenton	Manatee County School District	60	66	19	42	GREEN
Los Angeles	Los Angeles Unified School District	5	5	48	23	RED	Deland	Volusia County School District	28	30	27	36	GREEN
Manhattan Beach	Manhattan Beach Unified School District	87	87	48	98	GOLD	Fort Lauderdale	Broward County School District	9	11	25	50	RED
Manteca	Manteca Unified School District	7	9	33	40	RED	Fort Myers	Lee County School District	28	31	21	44	GREEN
Modesto	Modesto City High School District	38	40	41	26	GREEN	Fort Walton Beach	Okaloosa County School District	52	56	20	57	GREEN
Monterey	Monterey Peninsula Unified School District	21	22	33	53	YELLOW	Fl. Pierce	St. Lucie County School District	16	17	42	26	YELLOW
Napa	Napa Valley Unified School District	57	57	42	55	GREEN	Gainesville	Alachua County School District	30	33	21	47	GREEN
Newport Beach	Newport-Mesa Unified School District	57	56	46	75	GREEN	Green Cove Springs	Clay County School District	64	69	21	60	GREEN
Norco	Corona-Norco Unified School District	15	14	42	56	YELLOW	Inverness	Citrus County School District	71	78	29	19	BLUE
Oakland	Oakland Unified School District	4	1	61	33	RED							

CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING	CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING
Jacksonville	Duval County School District	30	33	23	47	GREEN	Michigan City	Michigan City Area Schools	21	22	37	36	YELLOW
Key West	Monroe County School District	58	60	33	54	GREEN	Muncie	Muncie Community Schools	5	5	45	19	RED
Miami	Dade County School District	3	5	30	22	RED	Noblesville	Noblesville Schools	80	84	26	86	BLUE
Naples	Collier County School District	21	24	23	55	YELLOW	Plainfield	Plainfield Community Sch Corp.	84	91	25	62	GOLD
Ocala	Marion County School District	23	28	19	20	YELLOW	Portage	Portage Township Schools	8	11	23	48	RED
Orlando	Orange County School District	44	47	29	51	GREEN	Saint John	Lake Central School Corp.	74	77	25	85	BLUE
Panama City	Bay County School District	32	36	23	32	GREEN	South Bend	South Bend Community School Corp.	10	12	28	41	RED
Pensacola	Escambia County School District	20	24	18	35	YELLOW	Terre Haute	Vigo County School Corp.	25	28	27	35	YELLOW
Sanford	Seminole County School District	51	54	24	71	GREEN	IOWA						
Sarasota	Sarasota County School District	84	92	15	59	GOLD	Ames	Ames Community School District	88	94	24	75	GOLD
St. Augustine	St. Johns County School District	73	74	44	69	BLUE	Burlington	Burlington Community School District	65	70	28	38	GREEN
Tallahassee	Leon County School District	48	51	22	60	GREEN	Cedar Rapids	Cedar Rapids Community School District	69	73	24	72	BLUE
Tampa	Hillsborough County School District	68	73	30	46	BLUE	Davenport	Davenport Community School District	46	49	26	46	GREEN
Viera	Brevard County School District	64	68	25	54	GREEN	Des Moines	Des Moines Ind Community School District	40	42	32	51	GREEN
West Palm Beach	Palm Beach County School District	60	63	30	56	GREEN	Dubuque	Dubuque Community School District	86	93	21	58	GOLD
GEORGIA							Iowa City	Iowa City Community School District	91	98	25	75	GOLD
Albany	Dougherty County School District	8	8	48	16	RED	Sioux City	Sioux City Community School District	53	57	27	43	GREEN
Athens	Clarke County School District	14	9	68	35	YELLOW	Waterloo	Waterloo Community School District	48	53	21	38	GREEN
Atlanta	Fulton County School District	70	67	62	83	BLUE	West Des Moines	West Des Moines Community School District	91	96	28	92	GOLD
Atlanta	Atlanta City School District	7	1	75	32	RED	KANSAS						
Augusta	Richmond County School District	17	17	47	24	YELLOW	Emporia	Emporia School District	77	76	66	34	BLUE
Brunswick	Glynn County School District	30	27	58	41	GREEN	Kansas City	Kansas City School District	7	4	70	10	RED
Carrollton	Carroll County School District	19	18	51	29	YELLOW	Lawrence	Lawrence School District	93	92	66	67	GOLD
Columbus	Muscogee County School District	6	4	53	29	RED	Manhattan	Manhattan School District	87	85	67	64	GOLD
Cumming	Forsyth County School District	66	64	52	80	GREEN	Olathe	Olathe School District	87	84	67	89	GOLD
Dalton	Whitfield County School District	35	34	51	25	GREEN	Overland Park	Shawnee Mission Public Schools	93	91	66	88	GOLD
Decatur	Dekalb County School District	10	7	49	64	RED	Overland Park	Blue Valley School District	98	98	74	98	GOLD
Fayetteville	Fayette County School District	90	90	54	89	GOLD	Topeka	Topeka Public Schools School District	34	30	68	40	GREEN
Gainesville	Hall County School District	20	19	45	39	YELLOW	Topeka	Auburn Washburn School District	67	63	60	90	BLUE
Griffin	Spalding County School District	17	16	50	17	YELLOW	Wichita	Wichita School District	28	23	62	45	GREEN
Hinesville	Liberty County School District	8	7	47	30	RED	KENTUCKY						
Jonesboro	Clayton County School District	4	4	38	42	RED	Bowling Green	Warren County School District	41	47	18	48	GREEN
Lawrenceville	Gwinnett County School District	66	65	49	80	GREEN	Bowling Green	Bowling Green Independent School District	59	64	35	18	GREEN
Macon	Bibb County School District	2	2	37	27	RED	Buckner	Oldham County School District	84	91	18	78	GOLD
Marietta	Cobb County School District	78	77	53	83	BLUE	Elizabethtown	Hardin County School District	18	22	22	36	YELLOW
McDonough	Henry County School District	48	49	34	65	GREEN	Erlanger	Kenton County School District	37	41	18	75	GREEN
Perry	Houston County School District	50	49	55	46	GREEN	Florence	Boone County School District	59	63	18	69	GREEN
Rome	Floyd County School District	29	27	56	30	GREEN	Georgetown	Scott County School District	31	32	28	50	GREEN
Savannah	Chatham County School District	12	10	55	40	YELLOW	Hopkinsville	Christian County School District	30	35	20	17	GREEN
Valdosta	Lowndes County School District	26	25	48	35	GREEN	Lexington	Fayette County School District	70	70	53	59	BLUE
HAWAII							Louisville	Jefferson County School District	21	20	44	46	YELLOW
Honolulu	Hawaii Department of Education	74	72	65	61	BLUE	Owensboro	Daviess County School District	72	77	26	51	BLUE
IDAHO							Paducah	McCracken County School District	43	48	22	45	GREEN
Boise	Boise City Independent School District 1	83	86	44	67	GOLD	Pikeville	Pike County School District	6	9	36	3	RED
Coeur D'Alene	Coeur D'Alene School District 271	62	66	24	53	GREEN	Richmond	Madison County School District	6	11	22	29	RED
Idaho Falls	Idaho Falls School District 91	54	58	22	60	GREEN	Shepherdsville	Bullitt County School District	25	30	19	34	YELLOW
Idaho Falls	Bonneville Joint School District 93	69	76	17	60	BLUE	LOUISIANA						
Meridian	Meridian Joint School District 2	81	85	27	82	BLUE	Alexandria	Rapides Parish School Board	16	18	39	16	YELLOW
Nampa	Nampa School District 131	20	22	33	39	YELLOW	Baton Rouge	East Baton Rouge Parish School Board	37	38	41	46	GREEN
Pocatello	Pocatello School District 25	41	45	28	51	GREEN	Benton	Bossier Parish School Board	39	43	27	39	GREEN
ILLINOIS							Covington	Saint Tammany Parish School Board	51	50	48	60	GREEN
Arlington Heights	Township High School District 214	79	73	79	83	BLUE	Harvey	Jefferson Parish School Board	6	8	31	37	RED
Belleville	Belleville Township HS District 201	37	35	50	60	GREEN	Houma	Terrebonne Parish School Board	15	17	41	14	YELLOW
Champaign	Champaign Comm Unit School District 4	73	70	64	65	BLUE	Lafayette	Lafayette Parish School Board	30	28	47	40	GREEN
Chicago	City of Chicago School District 299	8	5	63	30	RED	Lake Charles	Calcasieu Parish School Board	27	28	35	28	GREEN
East Saint Louis	East St Louis School District 189	3	1	64	2	RED	Leesville	Vernon Parish School Board	51	54	39	22	GREEN
Edwardsville	Edwardsville CU School District 7	76	76	44	76	BLUE	Livingston	Livingston Parish School Board	43	47	31	30	GREEN
Elgin	School District 46	43	40	58	69	GREEN	Monroe	Ouachita Parish School Board	36	35	50	36	GREEN
Elmhurst	Elmhurst School District 205	89	85	75	91	GOLD	Natchitoches	Natchitoches Parish School Board	30	33	34	13	GREEN
Evanston	Evanston CC School Dist 65	98	96	89	83	GOLD	New Iberia	Iberia Parish School Board	28	28	50	9	GREEN
Granite City	Granite City CU School District 9	46	48	40	30	GREEN	New Orleans	Orleans Parish School Board	1	2	28	19	RED
Lake Zurich	Lake Zurich CU School District 95	95	94	61	97	GOLD	Opelousas	Saint Landry Parish School Board	41	45	43	3	GREEN
Moline	Moline Unit School District 40	37	34	60	47	GREEN	Shreveport	Caddo Parish School Board	14	14	46	25	YELLOW
Naperville	Naperville CU District 203	97	98	62	97	GOLD	Thibodaux	Lafourche Parish School Board	7	7	50	15	RED
Normal	McLean County Unit District 5	82	81	56	82	BLUE	MASSACHUSETTS						
Palatine	Township HS District 211	87	82	76	89	GOLD	Andover	Andover School District	97	95	79	94	GOLD
Peoria	Peoria School District 150	11	5	74	37	YELLOW	Boston	Boston School District	12	5	79	39	YELLOW
Plainfield	Plainfield School District 202	65	63	48	93	GREEN	Brockton	Brockton School District	20	18	59	24	YELLOW
Rock Island	Rock Island School District 41	32	29	59	32	GREEN	Cambridge	Cambridge School District	20	9	90	65	YELLOW
Rockford	Rockford School Dist 205	8	5	58	39	RED	Chelsea	Chelsea School District	3	1	61	4	RED
Springfield	Springfield School District 186	23	19	56	47	YELLOW	Fall River	Fall River School District	12	8	73	5	YELLOW
Urbana	Urbana School District 116	37	32	73	44	GREEN	Fitchburg	Fitchburg School District	58	55	68	20	GREEN
Waukegan	Waukegan CU School District 60	2	2	46	20	RED	Franklin	Franklin School District	90	88	60	92	GOLD
Wheaton	Community Unit School District 200	91	88	67	94	GOLD	Haverhill	Haverhill School District	34	32	53	55	GREEN
Winnetka	New Trier Township HS District 203	99	99	95	98	GOLD	Holyoke	Holyoke School District	11	8	64	11	YELLOW
INDIANA							Hyannis	Barnstable School District	81	80	62	64	BLUE
Anderson	Anderson Community School Corp.	13	15	38	32	YELLOW	Jefferson	Wachusett School District	77	75	52	90	BLUE
Bloomington	Monroe County Com School Corp.	58	61	27	58	GREEN	Lawrence	Lawrence School District	2	1	58	2	RED
Carmel	Carmel Clay Schools	85	89	29	98	GOLD	Leominster	Leominster School District	44	43	52	48	GREEN
Columbus	Bartholomew Cons. School Corp.	58	60	29	57	GREEN	Lexington	Lexington School District	99	99	85	93	GOLD
East Chicago	School City of East Chicago	15	19	35	3	YELLOW	Lowell	Lowell School District	25	22	64	22	YELLOW
Elkhart	Elkhart Community Schools	11	13	29	38	YELLOW	Lynn	Lynn School District	10	6	68	22	RED
Evansville	Evansville-Vanderburgh Sch Corp.	38	40	34	44	GREEN	Needham	Needham School District	97	97	73	97	GOLD
Fishers	Hamilton Southeastern Schools	90	95	27	97	GOLD	New Bedford	New Bedford School District	4	3	54	3	RED
Fort Wayne	Fort Wayne Community Schools	32	35	26	48	GREEN	Pittsfield	Pittsfield School District	29	27	52	37	GREEN
Fort Wayne	MSD Southwest Allen County	83	87	26	96	GOLD	Plymouth	Plymouth School District	67	62	65	71	BLUE
Gary	Gary Community School Corp.	1	1	46	7	RED	Quincy	Quincy School District	61	58	63	60	GREEN
Goshen	Goshen Community Schools	31	32	33	44	GREEN	Sharon	Sharon School District	97	98	62	94	GOLD
Indianapolis	Indianapolis Public Schools	5	6	43	18	RED	Springfield	Springfield School District	5	1	70	12	RED
Indianapolis	MSD Perry Township	40	43	22	66	GREEN	Wellesley	Wellesley School District	99	99	78	96	GOLD
Indianapolis	MSD Washington Township	75	78	29	84	BLUE	Worcester	Worcester School District	14	10	72	26	YELLOW
Kokomo	Kokomo-Center Township Consolidated	19	19	44	33	YELLOW							
Lafayette	Tiptecanoe School Corp.	59	62	22	72	GREEN							

Continued from page 7

CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING
MAINE						
Auburn	Auburn School Department	.36	.36	.48	.36	GREEN
Bangor	Bangor School Department	.62	.61	.51	.44	GREEN
Brunswick	Brunswick School District	.67	.68	.32	.83	BLUE
Lewiston	Lewiston School Department	.33	.35	.43	.14	GREEN
South Portland	South Portland School Department	.67	.64	.60	.70	BLUE
MARYLAND						
Annapolis	Anne Arundel County Public Schools	.74	.76	.59	.14	BLUE
Baltimore	Baltimore City Public School System	.9	.1	.78	.67	RED
Bel Air	Harford County Public Schools	.77	.76	.55	.73	BLUE
Cumberland	Allegany County Board of Education	.74	.72	.57	.76	BLUE
Elkton	Cecil County Board of Education	.63	.63	.61	.22	GREEN
Ellicott City	Howard County Public Schools System	.93	.96	.68	.18	GOLD
Frederick	Frederick County Board of Education	.88	.88	.56	.72	GOLD
Hagerstown	Washington County Board of Education	.75	.73	.60	.64	BLUE
La Plata	Charles County Board of Education	.72	.72	.48	.67	BLUE
Prince Frederick	Calvert County Public Schools	.83	.85	.60	.37	GOLD
Rockville	Montgomery County Public Schools	.92	.89	.80	.77	GOLD
Salisbury	Wicomico County Board of Education	.54	.50	.66	.59	GREEN
Towson	Baltimore County Public Schools	.83	.83	.66	.52	GOLD
Upper Marlboro	Prince Georges County Pub Schools	.40	.36	.61	.74	GREEN
Westminster	Carroll County Public Schools	.85	.87	.51	.67	GOLD
MICHIGAN						
Ann Arbor	Ann Arbor Public Schools	.78	.77	.61	.62	BLUE
Auburn Hills	Avondale School District	.73	.72	.61	.44	BLUE
Battle Creek	Battle Creek Public Schools	.4	.3	.51	.8	RED
Bay City	Bay City School District	.45	.45	.43	.49	GREEN
Clinton Township	Chippewa Valley Schools	.59	.58	.43	.86	GREEN
Dearborn	Dearborn City School District	.61	.59	.57	.42	GREEN
Detroit	Detroit City School District	.14	.13	.58	.12	YELLOW
East Lansing	East Lansing School District	.92	.94	.55	.64	GOLD
Farmington	Farmington Public School District	.79	.79	.58	.51	BLUE
Flint	Flint City School District	.7	.1	.52	.95	RED
Grand Blanc	Grand Blanc Community Schools	.57	.56	.38	.95	GREEN
Grand Rapids	Grand Rapids Public Schools	.8	.9	.45	.1	RED
Grand Rapids	Forest Hills Public Schools	.94	.99	.45	.58	GOLD
Grosse Pointe	Grosse Pointe Public Schools	.88	.86	.61	.97	GOLD
Holland	Holland City School District	.38	.37	.49	.58	GREEN
Howell	Howell Public Schools	.56	.56	.40	.79	GREEN
Jackson	Jackson Public Schools	.22	.20	.53	.33	YELLOW
Kalamazoo	Kalamazoo Public School District	.46	.44	.57	.43	GREEN
Kentwood	Kentwood Public Schools	.85	.88	.46	.67	GOLD
Lansing	Lansing Public School District	.25	.22	.62	.35	YELLOW
Livonia	Livonia Public Schools	.78	.77	.52	.82	BLUE

technology. More and more, even basic manufacturing jobs require at least some college, and many now require a bachelor's degree. Gone are the days when high school dropouts could reasonably expect to enjoy a comfortable middle class lifestyle.

Companies are now taking an even harder look at the local public education system before they decide whether to locate a new manufacturing facility in a particular community.

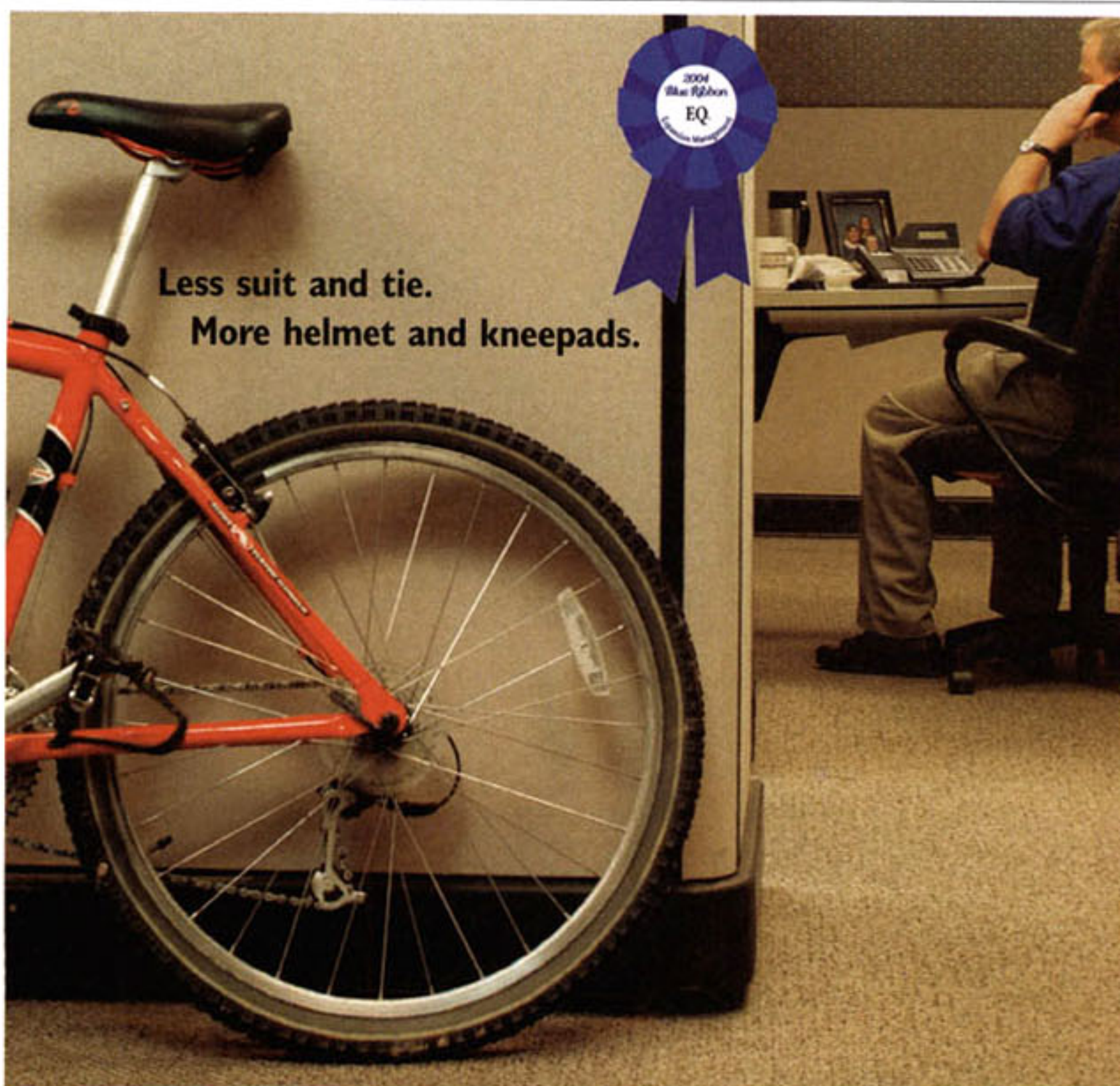
These days, corporate executives understand that the public school system is the basic training ground for a region's labor pool, and if the schools aren't very good, their employee training costs will be considerably higher in that location.

There was a time when Sun Belt states were able to market themselves as a low-cost alternative to the industrial North-

The Final Rankings

EQ scores are based upon a district's relative ranking in the following major categories:

- > EQ — **Education Quotient.** Overall score as a percentile
- > GO — **Graduate Outcome.** What they learned and did they graduate
- > RI — **Resource Index.** Community's financial commitment to education.
- > CI — **Community Index.** Affluence and education level of the adult community



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CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING	CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING
Monroe	Monroe Public Schools	34	34	44	42	GREEN	Kansas City	Kansas City 33 School District	10	6	70	20	RED
Muskegon	Muskegon City School District	19	19	51	12	YELLOW	Kansas City	North Kansas City 74 School District	71	68	62	66	BLUE
Plymouth	Plymouth-Canton Community Schools	68	67	44	93	BLUE	Kansas City	Park Hill School District	89	87	62	85	GOLD
Pontiac	Pontiac City School District	1	1	42	20	RED	Kirkwood	Kirkwood R-VII School District	93	91	67	92	GOLD
Port Huron	Port Huron Area School District	43	45	42	34	GREEN	Lee's Summit	Lee's Summit R-VII School District	81	79	62	87	BLUE
Portage	Portage Public Schools	89	92	41	84	GOLD	Liberty	Liberty 53 School District	77	74	62	82	BLUE
Rochester	Rochester Community School District	86	86	47	95	GOLD	O'Fallon	Ft. Zumwalt R-II School District	55	54	47	79	GREEN
Saginaw	Saginaw City School District	6	6	51	8	RED	Raytown	Raytown C-2 School District	40	35	62	60	GREEN
Sterling Heights	Utica Community Schools	70	69	48	78	BLUE	Sedalia	Sedalia 200 School District	31	33	33	23	GREEN
Taylor	Taylor School District	22	21	48	29	YELLOW	Springfield	Springfield R-XII School District	65	64	52	43	GREEN
Traverse City	Traverse City Area Public School	55	56	35	70	GREEN	St. Charles	Francis Howell R-III School District	76	74	53	88	BLUE
Troy	Troy School District	95	95	58	95	GOLD	St. Elizabeth	St. Elizabeth R-4 School District	93	97	54	38	GOLD
Walled Lake	Walled Lake Consolidated Schools	59	54	60	87	GREEN	St. Joseph	St. Joseph School District	45	44	58	32	GREEN
Warren	Warren Consolidated Schools	50	46	58	62	GREEN	St. Louis	St. Louis City School District	7	2	76	13	RED
Waterford	Waterford School District	49	48	41	72	GREEN	Wentzville	Wentzville R-IV School District	53	49	63	67	GREEN
West Bloomfield	West Bloomfield School District	91	89	59	95	GOLD							

MINNESOTA

Bloomington	Bloomington School District	69	68	50	86	BLUE
Brainerd	Brainerd School District	56	55	48	54	GREEN
Burnsville	Burnsville School District	81	81	47	86	BLUE
Cottage Grove	South Washington County School District	90	91	46	93	GOLD
Duluth	Duluth School District	73	74	49	56	BLUE
Eden Prairie	Eden Prairie School District	84	85	39	97	GOLD
Edina	Edina School District	95	98	47	97	GOLD
Elk River	Elk River School District	60	60	37	82	GREEN
Mankato	Mankato School District	91	96	37	66	GOLD
Minneapolis	Minneapolis School District	20	14	67	50	YELLOW
North St. Paul	North St. Paul-Maplewood School District	50	50	36	80	GREEN
Rochester	Rochester School District	76	77	42	77	BLUE
Rosemount	Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan School Dist.	87	87	47	95	GOLD
St. Cloud	St. Cloud School District	51	49	51	67	GREEN
St. Paul	St. Paul School District	14	10	61	47	YELLOW
St. Paul	Mounds View School District	88	91	38	90	GOLD

MISSOURI

Blue Springs	Blue Springs R-IV School District	82	81	56	85	BLUE
Chesterfield	Parkway C-2 School District	88	86	61	95	GOLD
Columbia	Columbia 93 School District	77	75	62	63	BLUE
Eureka	Rockwood R-VI School District	84	81	64	96	GOLD
Florissant	Hazelwood School District	61	58	58	64	GREEN
Independence	Independence 30 School District	65	62	66	46	GREEN
Jefferson City	Jefferson City School District	62	63	41	59	GREEN
Joplin	Joplin R-VIII School District	46	45	57	32	GREEN

MISSISSIPPI

Biloxi	Biloxi Public School District	42	41	58	33	GREEN
Brandon	Rankin County School District	27	25	44	58	GREEN
Columbus	Lowndes County School District	16	18	31	30	YELLOW
Flora	Madison County School District	51	50	43	77	GREEN
Greenville	Greenville Public Schools	2	2	46	8	RED
Gulfport	Harrison County School District	5	9	25	30	RED
Gulfport	Gulfport School District	48	49	48	28	GREEN
Hattiesburg	Hattiesburg Public School District	4	3	49	24	RED
Hernando	Desoto County School District	17	15	44	49	YELLOW
Jackson	Jackson Public School District	20	23	32	29	YELLOW
Meridian	Meridian Public School District	8	5	63	10	RED
Natchez	Natchez-Adams School District	37	39	44	13	GREEN
Pascagoula	Pascagoula Separate School District	18	19	42	25	YELLOW
Raymond	Hinds County School District	32	34	31	40	GREEN
Tupelo	Tupelo Public School District	40	39	48	42	GREEN
Vanceleave	Jackson County School District	21	22	40	38	YELLOW
Vicksburg	Vicksburg Warren School District	3	3	42	26	RED

MONTANA

Billings	Billings HS School District	71	70	53	63	BLUE
Great Falls	Great Falls HS School District	50	51	39	52	GREEN
Missoula	Missoula HS School District	74	73	54	62	BLUE

NEBRASKA

Bellevue	Bellevue Public Schools	88	92	33	80	GOLD
Grand Island	Grand Island Public Schools	82	89	34	38	BLUE
Kearney	Kearney Public Schools	83	88	32	64	GOLD
Lincoln	Lincoln Public Schools	71	71	52	67	BLUE
Omaha	Omaha Public Schools	44	44	45	49	GREEN
Omaha	Millard Public Schools	93	98	33	96	GOLD
Papillion	Papillion-La Vista Public Schools	84	88	30	86	GOLD

NEVADA

Carson City	Carson City School District	50	56	20	46	GREEN
Elko	Elko County School District	24	27	26	47	YELLOW
Las Vegas	Clark County School District	52	57	16	43	GREEN
Reno	Washoe County School District	64	70	19	57	GREEN

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Concord	Concord School District	62	61	48	66	GREEN
Londonderry	Londonderry School District	73	72	47	93	BLUE
Manchester	Manchester School District	31	31	39	49	GREEN
Nashua	Nashua School District	28	25	43	72	GREEN

NEW JERSEY

Atlantic City	Atlantic City School District	52	46	91	4	GREEN
Bayonne	Bayonne City School District	45	38	83	47	GREEN
Brick Town	Brick Township School District	47	41	73	68	GREEN
Bridgewater	Bridgewater-Raritan Reg. School District	95	91	87	91	GOLD
Camden	Camden City School District	33	27	89	1	GREEN
Cherry Hill	Cherry Hill Township School District	99	98	86	90	GOLD
Clifton	Clifton City School District	62	55	81	59	GREEN
East Brunswick	East Brunswick Township School District	36	25	89	92	GREEN
East Orange	East Orange School District	66	60	93	19	GREEN
Edison	Edison Township School District	76	68	91	85	BLUE
Elizabeth	Elizabeth City School District	57	51	90	12	GREEN
Englishtown	Freehold Regional School District	45	35	82	89	GREEN
Fort Lee	Fort Lee Boro School District	78	70	90	75	BLUE
Hackensack	Hackensack City School District	50	40	94	58	GREEN
Hamilton Square	Hamilton Township School District	48	40	83	67	GREEN
Jersey City	Jersey City School District	42	34	93	33	GREEN
Long Branch	Long Branch City School District	67	61	89	30	BLUE
Matawan	Old Bridge Township School District	35	26	82	79	GREEN
Middletown	Middletown Township School District	91	85	89	88	GOLD
Monmouth Junction	South Brunswick Township School District	87	80	86	94	GREEN
Morristown	Morris School District	90	82	96	85	GOLD
Newark	Newark City School District	15	7	96	2	YELLOW
North Bergen	North Bergen Township School District	89	88	79	36	GOLD
Parsippany	Parsippany-Troy Hills Township School Dist.	93	87	92	86	GOLD
Passaic	Passaic City School District	12	4	94	11	YELLOW
Paterson	Paterson City School District	28	20	93	6	GREEN
Perth Amboy	Perth Amboy City School District	17	10	87	10	YELLOW
Piscataway	Piscataway Township School District	66	56	90	87	GREEN
Plainfield	Plainfield City School District	29	21	89	32	GREEN
Princeton Junction	W Windsor-Plainsboro Reg. School District	61	50	91	98	GREEN
Randolph	Randolph Township School District	95	90	85	98	GOLD
Ridgewood	Ridgewood Village School District	97	94	88	97	GOLD
Sewell	Washington Township School District	97	96	85	86	GOLD
Shamong	Lenape Regional School District	53	43	86	91	GREEN
Skillman	Montgomery Township School District	87	81	79	98	GOLD
Toms River	Toms River Regional School District	81	78	76	66	BLUE
Trenton	Trenton City School District	8	1	92	5	RED

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CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING
Union City	Union City School District	.40	.35	.87	.6	GREEN
Vineland	Vineland City School District	.65	.59	.90	.26	GREEN
Woodbridge	Woodbridge Township School District	.62	.53	.89	.74	GREEN

NEW MEXICO

Alamogordo	Alamogordo Public Schools	.29	.35	.15	.21	GREEN
Albuquerque	Albuquerque Public Schools	.26	.30	.17	.48	GREEN
Clovis	Clovis Municipal Schools	.5	.11	.20	.16	RED
Farmington	Farmington Municipal Schools	.22	.27	.18	.32	YELLOW
Gallup	Gallup-McKinley County School	.1	.1	.16	.3	RED
Las Cruces	Las Cruces Public Schools	.47	.53	.20	.29	GREEN
Los Alamos	Los Alamos Public Schools	.83	.84	.41	.94	GOLD
Rio Rancho	Rio Rancho Public Schools	.48	.52	.15	.73	GREEN
Roswell	Roswell Independent Schools	.32	.37	.20	.14	GREEN
Santa Fe	Santa Fe Public Schools	.5	.9	.14	.55	RED

NEW YORK

Albany	Albany City School District	.24	.17	.82	.29	YELLOW
Binghamton	Binghamton City School District	.19	.14	.75	.15	YELLOW
Brentwood	Brentwood UFSD	.7	.2	.74	.32	RED
Brooklyn	New York City Public Schools	.14	.8	.82	.29	YELLOW
Buffalo	Buffalo City School District	.6	.1	.74	.11	RED
Central Valley	Monroe-Woodbury Cons. School District	.85	.79	.83	.84	GOLD
Chappaqua	Chappaqua Consolidated School District	.99	.97	.97	.97	GOLD
Clifton Park	Shenendehowa Consolidated School District	.90	.85	.78	.88	GOLD
Dix Hills	Half Hollow Hills Cons. School District	.99	.99	.92	.88	GOLD
East Meadow	East Meadow UFSD	.81	.73	.91	.79	BLUE
East Setauket	Three Village Consolidated School District	.98	.98	.83	.93	GOLD
Elmira	Elmira City School District	.69	.68	.68	.20	BLUE
Elmont	Sewanhaka Central HS District	.55	.46	.82	.72	GREEN
Hempstead	Hempstead UFSD	.54	.50	.78	.16	GREEN
Holbrook	Sachem Consolidated School District	.89	.82	.93	.76	GOLD
Ithaca	Ithaca City School District	.88	.84	.82	.61	GOLD
Jamestown	Jamestown City School District	.50	.45	.80	.14	GREEN
Kingston	Kingston City School District	.16	.9	.82	.41	YELLOW
Lancaster	Lancaster Consolidated School District	.78	.75	.67	.69	BLUE
Lawrence	Lawrence UFSD	.96	.90	.97	.75	GOLD
Levittown	Levittown UFSD	.58	.47	.94	.84	GREEN
Liverpool	Liverpool Consolidated School District	.72	.67	.80	.70	BLUE
Manlius	Fayetteville-Manlius Cons. School District	.98	.98	.78	.92	GOLD
Massapequa	Massapequa UFSD	.97	.93	.92	.91	GOLD
Mastic Beach	William Floyd UFSD	.29	.23	.75	.35	GREEN
Middle Island	Longwood Consolidated School District	.54	.45	.91	.63	GREEN
Mount Vernon	Mt Vernon City School District	.42	.36	.80	.36	GREEN
New City	Clarkstown Consolidated School District	.69	.60	.89	.94	BLUE
New Rochelle	New Rochelle City School District	.69	.63	.84	.60	BLUE
Newburgh	Newburgh City School District	.45	.38	.85	.34	GREEN
Niagara Falls	Niagara Falls City School District	.9	.6	.69	.9	RED
North Syracuse	North Syracuse Consolidated School District	.42	.35	.77	.63	GREEN
Pittsford	Pittsford Consolidated School District	.99	.98	.80	.97	GOLD
Poughkeepsie	Arlington Consolidated School District	.90	.88	.68	.79	GOLD
Poughkeepsie	Poughkeepsie City School District	.14	.8	.81	.13	YELLOW
Rochester	Rochester City School District	.11	.6	.75	.13	YELLOW
Rome	Rome City School District	.33	.26	.83	.24	GREEN
Saratoga Springs	Saratoga Springs City School District	.85	.81	.80	.70	GOLD
Schenectady	Schenectady City School District	.9	.5	.69	.16	RED
Smithtown	Smithtown Consolidated School District	.88	.80	.91	.89	GOLD
Syosset	Syosset Consolidated School District	.99	.99	.97	.95	GOLD
Syracuse	Syracuse City School District	.60	.58	.70	.15	GREEN
Troy	Troy City School District	.20	.14	.80	.25	YELLOW
Utica	Utica City School District	.25	.22	.66	.8	YELLOW
Wappingers Falls	Wappingers Consolidated School District	.63	.56	.73	.81	GREEN
Webster	Webster Consolidated School District	.86	.80	.80	.86	GOLD
West Seneca	West Seneca Consolidated School District	.34	.27	.75	.61	GREEN
Williamsville	Williamsville Consolidated School District	.96	.94	.81	.88	GOLD
Yonkers	Yonkers City School District	.18	.9	.90	.35	YELLOW

NORTH CAROLINA

Asheville	Buncombe County Schools	.29	.31	.27	.46	GREEN
Beaufort	Carteret County Schools	.43	.42	.49	.40	GREEN
Burlington	Alamance-Burlington Schools	.18	.21	.23	.41	YELLOW
Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools	.84	.83	.58	.73	GOLD
Charlotte	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	.36	.37	.35	.69	GREEN
Concord	Cabarrus County Schools	.61	.65	.24	.58	GREEN
Durham	Durham Public Schools	.29	.28	.39	.55	GREEN
Eden	Rockingham County Schools	.17	.21	.24	.17	YELLOW
Fayetteville	Cumberland County Schools	.10	.14	.24	.41	RED
Gastonia	Gaston County Schools	.16	.20	.20	.29	YELLOW
Greensboro	Guilford County Schools	.29	.30	.30	.57	GREEN
Greenville	Pitt County Schools	.17	.20	.29	.35	YELLOW
Hendersonville	Henderson County Schools	.53	.57	.26	.45	GREEN
Jacksonville	Onslow County Schools	.26	.30	.20	.31	GREEN
Lenoir	Caldwell County Schools	.25	.29	.26	.19	YELLOW
Monroe	Union County Public Schools	.30	.33	.19	.56	GREEN
Morganton	Burke County Schools	.33	.37	.28	.22	GREEN
Nashville	Nash-Rocky Mount Schools	.8	.10	.35	.23	RED
New Bern	Craven County Schools	.31	.34	.30	.36	GREEN
Raleigh	Wake County Schools	.76	.79	.30	.79	BLUE
Salisbury	Rowan-Salisbury Schools	.16	.20	.23	.32	YELLOW
Sanford	Lee County Schools	.22	.25	.26	.32	YELLOW
Washington	Beaufort County Schools	.27	.28	.39	.17	GREEN
Wilmington	New Hanover County Schools	.60	.63	.33	.56	GREEN
Winston Salem	Forsyth County Schools	.25	.26	.35	.53	YELLOW

NORTH DAKOTA

Bismarck	Bismarck 1 School District	.66	.72	.13	.69	GREEN
Fargo	Fargo 1 School District	.77	.83	.20	.68	BLUE
Grand Forks	Grand Forks 1 School District	.60	.64	.23	.57	GREEN

east and Midwest. Nowadays, those same states are facing stiff competition from abroad, and any U.S. community that thinks it can compete as a low-cost alternative to Mexico, China or India has clearly lost its mind.

No, for us to continue to enjoy our present standard of living, we need to remain at the forefront of innovation, never losing sight of the fact that today's high-tech, high-margin products are tomorrow's low-margin commodities, destined for production facilities somewhere in the Third World.


That requires a first-class public education system.

For those communities with outstanding public schools, the future is very bright. On the other hand, for those with poor public schools, the future is exceedingly dim.

As a way of providing our readers with a means to compare the work force in various communities throughout the United States, *Expansion Management*, for the 14th consecutive year, presents its *Education Quotient™ (EQ)* ratings of secondary school districts nationwide.


HOW WE SELECTED THE DISTRICTS

THIS YEAR'S EQ INCLUDES ALL HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE-GRANTING SECONDARY school districts in the United States that have an enrollment of at least 3,300 students. Enrollment figures used to determine eligibility were taken from the U.S.




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CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING	CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING
OHIO							Enid	Enid School District	67	71	20	88	BLUE
Akron	Akron City School District	65	63	68	22	GREEN	Jenks	Jenks School District	77	88	13	15	BLUE
Berea	Berea City School District	78	78	54	65	BLUE	Lawton	Lawton School District	22	26	20	38	YELLOW
Bowling Green	Bowling Green City School District	84	87	51	57	GOLD	Midwest City	Mw/Del City School District	56	59	24	72	GREEN
Brecksville	Brecksville-Broadview Heights School Dist.	96	96	59	88	GOLD	Moore	Moore School District	52	57	12	76	GREEN
Brunswick	Brunswick City School District	94	98	42	72	GOLD	Muskogee	Muskogee School District	44	51	15	38	GREEN
Canton	Canton City School District	60	58	72	8	GREEN	Norman	Norman School District	69	75	15	62	BLUE
Centerville	Centerville City School District	96	99	51	93	GOLD	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma City School District	9	12	24	41	RED
Cincinnati	Cincinnati City School District	19	13	77	26	YELLOW	Ponca City	Ponca City School District	88	94	20	87	GOLD
Cincinnati	Northwest Local School District	77	78	47	69	BLUE	Stillwater	Stillwater School District	80	90	13	18	BLUE
Cincinnati	Forest Hills Local School District	95	97	48	94	GOLD	Tulsa	Tulsa School District	36	42	16	34	GREEN
Cleveland	Cleveland Municipal School District	7	2	80	5	RED	OREGON						
Columbus	Columbus City School District	12	8	68	31	YELLOW	Albany	Greater Albany School District 8J	49	53	22	51	GREEN
Dayton	Dayton City School District	10	7	67	13	RED	Beaverton	Beaverton School District 48J	66	69	24	81	GREEN
Dublin	Dublin City School District	96	96	66	96	GOLD	Bend	Bend Admin School District 1	65	70	22	61	GREEN
Elyria	Elyria City School District	70	71	55	32	BLUE	Corvallis	Corvallis School District 509J	80	85	24	71	BLUE
Fairfield	Fairfield City School District	64	64	42	78	GREEN	Eugene	Eugene School District 04J	81	86	24	66	BLUE
Hamilton	Hamilton City School District	12	15	40	22	YELLOW	Fairview	Reynolds School District 007	56	59	34	39	GREEN
Hilliard	Hilliard City School District	79	76	56	93	BLUE	Gresham	Gresham-Barlow School District 10J	35	39	15	64	GREEN
Lewis Center	Olentangy Local School District	92	93	50	95	GOLD	Hillsboro	Hillsboro School District 01J	61	64	25	69	GREEN
Lima	Lima City School District	15	14	60	8	YELLOW	Klamath Falls	Klamath Co School District	40	44	28	29	GREEN
Lorain	Lorain City School District	73	74	63	9	BLUE	Medford	Medford School District 549	37	41	23	43	GREEN
Mansfield	Mansfield City School District	65	64	67	10	GREEN	Milwaukie	North Clackamas School District 012	41	44	24	64	GREEN
Mason	Mason City School District	95	97	47	95	GOLD	Portland	Portland School District 1J	40	41	40	62	GREEN
Massillon	Massillon City School District	55	55	53	28	GREEN	Portland	David Douglas School District 40	14	16	30	29	YELLOW
Mentor	Mentor Ex VIII School District	99	91	59	81	GOLD	Salem	Salem/Keizer School District 24J	52	57	21	46	GREEN
Millford	Millford Ex VIII School District	83	86	36	80	GOLD	Springfield	Springfield School District 019	42	47	23	33	GREEN
Parma	Parma City School District	84	85	57	57	GOLD	Tigard	Tigard-Tualatin School District 23J	89	95	21	82	GOLD
Pickerington	Pickerington Local School District	94	97	45	94	GOLD	PENNSYLVANIA						
Piqua	Piqua City School District	38	41	33	23	GREEN	Abington	Abington School District	81	75	81	85	BLUE
Shaker Heights	Shaker Heights City School District	83	78	79	82	GOLD	Allentown	Allentown City School District	9	8	52	16	RED
Solon	Solon City School District	96	95	71	95	GOLD	Allentown	Parkland School District	92	91	66	79	GOLD
Springfield	Springfield City School District	21	19	58	14	YELLOW	Altoona	Altoona Area School District	37	36	58	24	GREEN
Toledo	Toledo City School District	53	49	74	20	GREEN	Ardmore	Lower Merion School District	99	97	97	95	GOLD
University Hts	Cleveland Hts-Univ Hts City School District	53	44	80	80	GREEN	Bensalem	Bensalem Township School District	56	49	79	65	GREEN
West Chester	Lakota Local School District	89	90	45	93	GOLD	Berwyn	Tredyffrin-Easttown School District	99	99	80	97	GOLD
Westerville	Westerville City School District	89	89	53	90	GOLD	Bethlehem	Bethlehem Area School District	66	63	69	50	GREEN
Willoughby	Willoughby-Eastlake City School District	86	86	56	60	GOLD	Boyertown	Boyertown Area School District	68	65	61	67	BLUE
Worthington	Worthington City School District	97	96	74	96	GOLD	Butler	Butler Area School District	76	77	53	46	BLUE
OKLAHOMA							Chambersburg	Chambersburg Area School District	74	74	56	40	BLUE
Bartlesville	Bartlesville School District	83	90	19	69	GOLD	Coatesville	Coatesville Area School District	59	54	77	56	GREEN
Edmond	Edmond School District	81	93	11	16	BLUE							

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Department of Education's Common Core of Data.

This year's study includes slightly more than 2,800 school districts with a combined enrollment of 34.5 million students. For reasons of space, we are only able to publish about 1,000 of those districts in this issue.

Any research project of this magnitude obviously relies upon the cooperation of many people, and we would like to thank the many state and local education officials upon whom we relied for much of the data. We were able to gather all of the data we required for 94.2 percent of the school districts that met our enrollment criteria.

For whatever reason, 163 districts (accounting for 2.3 percent of the survey population) declined to provide us with district-wide college board data despite multiple requests, and their districts, therefore, were not included in the study results.

While this constitutes a relatively small number, it is still disappointing. For a profession that lives and breathes on research studies, we only hope that these few educators receive better cooperation when

they conduct their own research studies than they were willing to provide us.

HOW WE EVALUATED THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS

A SCHOOL DISTRICT'S EQ RATING IS broken out into three major categories.

The **Graduate Outcome (GO)** index is the most important component of the EQ and attempts to measure the results of the district's educational efforts in comparison to the other 2,800 districts nationwide. It consists of the district's average college board score — ACT or SAT — as well as its graduation rate.

For us, the bottom line is about results. After all, the primary function of our schools is to educate our children.

Why do we use college board scores as a way of comparing how much students in a particular district learned? Because they are still the only common test that high school students around the country take.

While there may be other, better tests taken by high school students, those tests are generally limited to a particular state or states and, consequently, are not comparable nationwide.

The GO also includes the district's graduation rate. The armed forces have long used graduation from high school as a predictor of future success, not because it means that high school graduates are rocket scientists, but rather because it demonstrates that they finish what they start. This is a highly valued characteristic among employers, for whom the reliability of their workers is a non-negotiable standard.

Since there is no established standard to calculate a district's graduation rate, it was necessary for us to establish our own definition in order to ensure comparability when we examined districts across the country.

Therefore, we compared a district's 11th grade students in the fall semester of the 2001-02 school year with the number of students who graduated in the spring semester of 2002-03 school year.

Finally, because it is at the core of what our public schools are all about, the GO is by far the most heavily weighted component of the EQ.

The second major category is the **Resource Index (RI)**, which attempts to measure a community's financial commitment to public education.

The RI includes such things as per-pupil expenditures and the student-teacher ratio, as well as the beginning and average teachers' salaries. We were able to gather this data for all 2,800 districts that met our established enrollment criteria.

The final category, which we use primarily as a benchmark for sociological observations, is the **Community Index (CI)**. The category looks at the educational and income levels of the adult population and accounts for only 5 percent of the overall EQ score.

The CI includes the percentage of the adult population in the district with at least a high school degree, the percentage of the adult population with at least a college degree, the average household income in the district, and the district's childhood poverty level.

The overall ranking is called the **Education Quotient (EQ)**, and is a weighted combination of the above three categories.

WHAT THE SCORES MEAN

IN CALCULATING THE FINAL EQ SCORE, each school district was compared against the other 2,800 districts (i.e., ranked 1 to 2,800) in each component (i.e., college board scores, graduation rates, per-pupil expenditures, etc.) in order to come up with a ranking for that component. The components were then grouped together in their appropriate category —

WHAT THE RATINGS MEAN

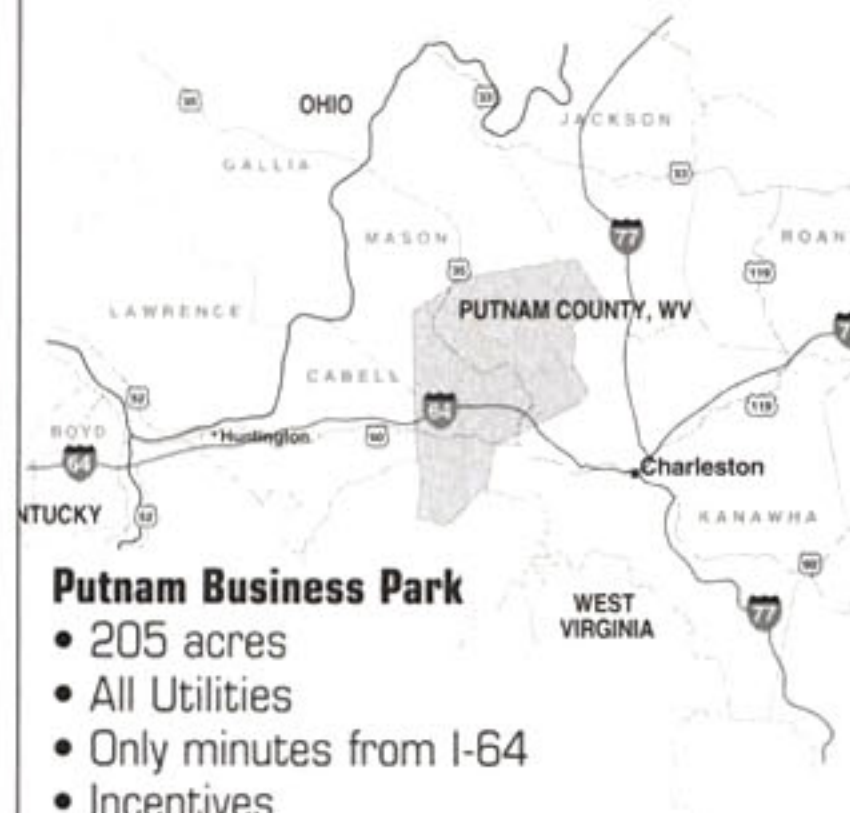
	SCORE	NATIONAL RANKING
Gold	83-99	Top 17%
Blue	67-82	Top 33%
Green	26-66	The Great Middle
Yellow	11-25	Bottom 25%
Red	1-10	Bottom 10 %

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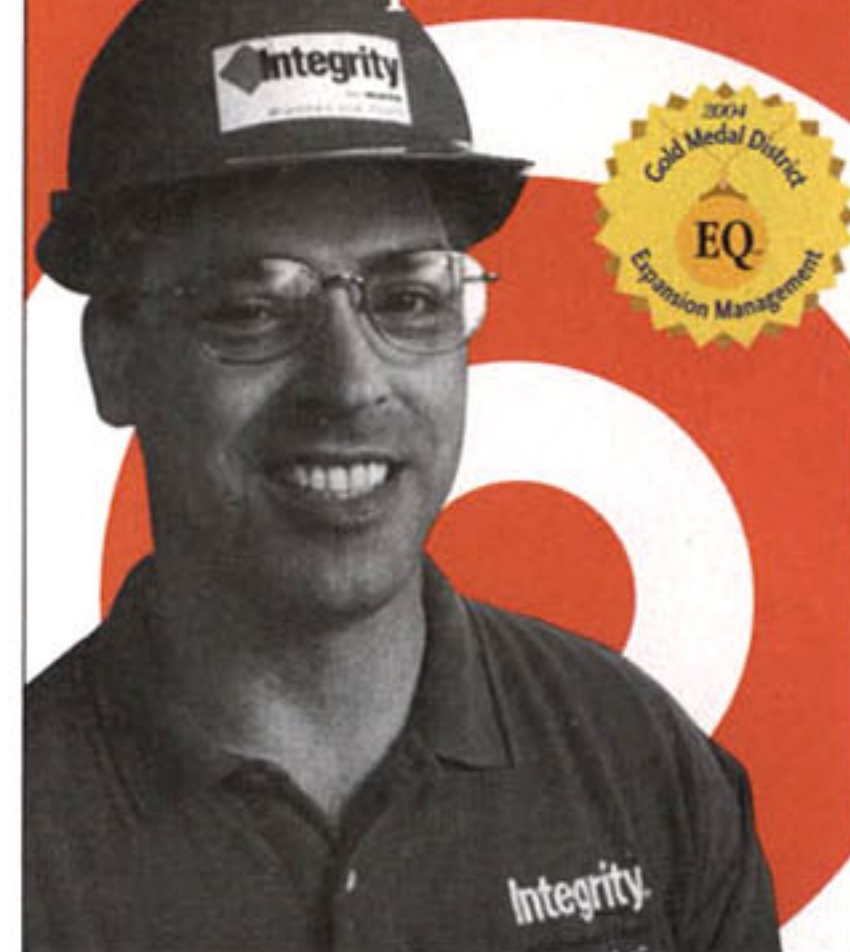
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- David Wenzel

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CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING	CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING
Downingtown	Downingtown Area School District	85	80	76	96	GOLD	York	York City School District	6	3	67	4	RED
Doylestown	Central Bucks School District	87	84	68	92	GOLD	RHODE ISLAND						
Drexel Hill	Upper Darby School District	27	21	68	56	GREEN	Bristol	Bristol-Warren Regional District	49	43	79	47	GREEN
Easton	Easton Area School District	73	71	67	52	BLUE	Cranston	Cranston School District	59	54	74	55	GREEN
Emmaus	East Penn School District	91	90	69	84	GOLD	East Providence	East Providence School District	31	24	78	40	GREEN
Erie	Erie City School District	24	19	72	20	YELLOW	North Kingstown	North Kingstown School District	95	93	74	80	GOLD
Erie	Millcreek Township School District	91	90	63	74	GOLD	Pawtucket	Pawtucket School District	25	20	72	14	YELLOW
Fallsington	Pennsbury School District	89	84	82	86	GOLD	Providence	Providence School District	9	4	77	12	RED
Ford City	Armstrong School District	51	46	79	21	GREEN	Warwick	Warwick School District	54	46	81	63	GREEN
Gettysburg	Gettysburg Area School District	80	77	74	49	BLUE	SOUTH CAROLINA						
Greensburg	Hempfield Area School District	86	82	78	61	GOLD	Aiken	Aiken County School District	30	32	28	34	GREEN
Harmony	Seneca Valley School District	66	60	68	85	GREEN	Anderson	Anderson County School District 05	46	48	40	30	GREEN
Harrisburg	Central Dauphin School District	79	75	72	70	BLUE	Ballentine	Lexington County School District 05	80	80	46	86	BLUE
Harrisburg	Harrisburg City School District	7	1	85	9	RED	Beaufort	Beaufort County School District	42	41	49	63	GREEN
Havertown	Haverford Township School District	94	91	75	92	GOLD	Camden	Kershaw County School District	63	69	30	31	GREEN
Hazleton	Hazleton Area School District	30	29	53	31	GREEN	Charleston	Charleston County School District	33	34	40	44	GREEN
Kennett Square	Unionville-Chadds Ford School District	98	97	83	96	GOLD	Columbia	Richland County School District 01	20	16	59	39	YELLOW
Lancaster	Lancaster School District	9	5	71	19	RED	Columbia	Richland County School District 02	67	67	42	77	BLUE
Landisville	Hempfield School District	83	81	63	77	GOLD	Conway	Horry County School District	61	62	45	36	GREEN
Langhorne	Neshaminy School District	82	78	76	82	BLUE	Darlington	Darlington County School District	7	8	44	13	RED
Lansdale	North Penn School District	88	85	71	86	GOLD	Florence	Florence County School District 01	50	51	40	35	GREEN
Latrobe	Greater Latrobe School District	68	67	55	54	BLUE	Georgetown	Georgetown County School District	34	33	54	27	GREEN
Lebanon	Lebanon School District	12	14	45	7	YELLOW	Greenville	Greenville County School District	46	48	30	49	GREEN
Levittown	Bristol Township School District	38	32	82	43	GREEN	Lancaster	Lancaster County School District	25	28	35	17	YELLOW
Lewistown	Mifflin County School District	44	43	59	21	GREEN	Lexington	Lexington County School District 01	78	80	42	62	BLUE
Mechanicsburg	Cumberland Valley School District	95	95	64	84	GOLD	Moncks Corner	Berkeley County School District	52	56	32	35	GREEN
Nazareth	Nazareth Area School District	81	80	64	68	BLUE	Rock Hill	York County School District 03	67	70	34	45	BLUE
New Cumberland	West Shore School District	73	69	66	72	BLUE	Spartanburg	Spartanburg County School District 06	81	87	34	44	BLUE
Norristown	Norristown Area School District	35	26	88	49	GREEN	Spartanburg	Spartanburg County School District 02	41	46	21	39	GREEN
North Warren	Warren County School District	72	71	63	41	BLUE	Summerville	Dorchester County School District 02	64	68	26	61	GREEN
Perkasie	Pennridge School District	86	84	67	74	GOLD	Sumter	Sumter County School District 17	50	53	30	30	GREEN
Philadelphia	Philadelphia City School District	24	21	60	32	YELLOW	SOUTH DAKOTA						
Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh School District	15	7	91	27	YELLOW	Aberdeen	Aberdeen 06-1 School District	57	63	15	56	GREEN
Pittsburgh	North Allegheny School District	97	94	86	95	GOLD	Rapid City	Rapid City 51-4 School District	65	71	15	56	GREEN
Pittsburgh	Mt Lebanon School District	99	98	82	94	GOLD	Sioux Falls	Sioux Falls 49-5 School District	60	65	18	65	GREEN
Pittsburgh	Upper Saint Clair School District	98	98	76	98	GOLD	TENNESSEE						
Reading	Reading School District	1	1	36	2	RED	Blountville	Sullivan County School District	26	27	42	34	GREEN
Richboro	Council Rock School District	97	96	82	97	GOLD	Chattanooga	Hamilton County School District	30	28	47	45	GREEN
Scranton	Scranton School District	54	50	77	21	GREEN	Clarksville	Montgomery County Schools	36	39	29	45	GREEN
Souderton	Souderton Area School District	86	82	76	79	GOLD	Clinton	Anderson County School District	34	35	49	18	GREEN
State College	State College Area School District	97	98	74	73	GOLD	Columbia	Maury County School District	23	23	43	34	YELLOW
Swiftwater	Pocono Mountain School District	43	39	67	56	GREEN	Covington	Tipton County School District	38	42	27	36	GREEN
Warminster	Centennial School District	76	71	75	72	BLUE	Dandridge	Jefferson County School District	20	23	32	17	YELLOW
West Chester	West Chester Area School District	93	89	80	94	GOLD	Dickson	Dickson County School District	31	34	32	27	GREEN
Wilkes-Barre	Wilkes-Barre Area School District	51	47	76	22	GREEN	Franklin	Williamson County School District	68	68	41	91	BLUE
Williamsport	Williamsport Area School District	26	20	82	22	GREEN	Gallatin	Sumner County School District	57	60	31	51	GREEN

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- Ted Melnik
President, Novozymes Biological

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SOURCE OF ITS
FUTURE WORK
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TEXAS													
Abilene	Abilene Independent School District	49	48	46	61	GREEN	Abilene	Abilene Independent School District	49	48	46	61	GREEN
Alief	Alief Independent School District	30	31	46	9	GREEN	Allen	Allen Independent School District	86	92	46	5	GOLD
Allen	Allen Independent School District	86	92	46	5	GOLD	Amarillo	Amarillo Independent School District	67	66	40	95	BLUE
Amarillo	Amarillo Independent School District	67	66	40	95	BLUE	Arlington	Arlington Independent School District	69	74	38	33	BLUE
Arlington	Arlington Independent School District	69	74	38	33	BLUE	Austin	Austin Independent School District	63	65	49	17	GREEN
Austin	Austin Independent School District	63	65	49	17	GREEN	Baytown	Goose Creek Independent School District	45	44	44	76	GREEN
Baytown	Goose Creek Independent School District	45	44	44	76	GREEN	Beaumont	Beaumont Independent School District	25	24	48	42	YELLOW
Beaumont	Beaumont Independent School District	25	24	48	42	YELLOW	Bedford	Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD	63	64	41	75	GREEN
Bedford	Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD	63	64	41	75	GREEN	Brownsville	Brownsville Independent School District	27	26	46	44	GREEN
Brownsville	Brownsville Independent School District	27	26	46	44	GREEN	Bryan	Bryan Independent School District	74	79	43	3	BLUE
Bryan	Bryan Independent School District	74	79	43	3	BLUE	Carrollton	Carrollton-Farmers Branch	78	79	49	68	BLUE
Carrollton	Carrollton-Farmers Branch	78	79	49	68	BLUE	College Station	College Station Independent School District	92	97	48	26	GOLD
College Station	College Station Independent School District	92	97	48	26	GOLD	Conroe	Conroe Independent School District	83	86	43	67	GOLD
Conroe	Conroe Independent School District	83	86	43	67	GOLD	Corpus Christi	Corpus Christi Independent School District	49	50	40	51	GREEN
Corpus Christi	Corpus Christi Independent School District	49	50	40	51	GREEN	Dallas	Dallas Independent School District	20	16	48	82	YELLOW
Dallas	Dallas Independent School District	20	16	48	82	YELLOW	Del Rio	San Felipe-Del Rio Consolidated ISD	22	24	40	5	YELLOW
Del Rio	San Felipe-Del Rio Consolidated ISD	22	24	40	5	YELLOW	Denton	Denton Independent School District	69	69	60	21	BLUE
Denton	Denton Independent School District	69	69	60	21	BLUE	Duncanville	Duncanville Independent School District	34	34	54	13	GREEN
Duncanville	Duncanville Independent School District	34	34	54	13	GREEN	Eagle Pass	Eagle Pass Independent School District	5	6	29	64	RED
Eagle Pass	Eagle Pass Independent School District	5	6	29	64	RED	Edinburg	Edinburg Consolidated ISD	26	27	49	1	GREEN
Edinburg	Edinburg Consolidated ISD	26	27	49	1	GREEN	El Paso	El Paso Independent School District	37	39	48	14	GREEN
El Paso	El Paso Independent School District	37	39	48	14	GREEN	El Paso	Ysleta Independent School District	28	30	38	9	GREEN
El Paso	Ysleta Independent School District	28	30	38	9	GREEN	Fort Worth	Fort Worth Independent School District	34	31	44	82	GREEN
Fort Worth	Fort Worth Independent School District	34	31	44	82	GREEN	Freeport	Brazosport Independent School District	58	59	38	63	GREEN
Freeport	Brazosport Independent School District	58	59	38	63	GREEN	Frisco	Frisco Independent School District	82	79	64	95	BLUE
Frisco	Frisco Independent School District	82	79	64	95	BLUE	Galveston	Galveston Independent School District	59	61	48	17	GREEN
Galveston	Galveston Independent School District	59	61	48	17	GREEN	Garland	Garland Independent School District	54	58	36	19	GREEN
Garland	Garland Independent School District	54	58	36	19	GREEN	Grand Prairie	Grand Prairie Independent School District	44	43	50	51	GREEN
Grand Prairie	Grand Prairie Independent School District	44	43	50	51	GREEN	Grapevine	Grapevine-Colleyville ISD	87	91	46	37	GOLD
Grapevine	Grapevine-Colleyville ISD	87	91	46	37	GOLD	Haltom City	Birdville Independent School District	66	68	38	43	GREEN
Haltom City	Birdville Independent School District	66	68	38	43	GREEN	Harlingen	Harlingen Cons Independent School District	14	17	40	1	YELLOW
Harlingen	Harlingen Cons Independent School District	14	17	40	1	YELLOW							

WHAT THE RATINGS MEAN

	SCORE	NATIONAL RANKING
Gold	83-99	Top 17%
Blue	67-82	Top 33%
Green	26-66	The Great Middle
Yellow	11-25	Bottom 25%
Red	1-10	Bottom 10 %

graduate outcome, resource index and community index — and compared against the other 2,800 districts in order to come up with an overall ranking.

These rankings were then converted into percentile rankings — 99 being the highest, 1 being the lowest — to show how that district compares to other districts nationwide within that category. (*These percentile numbers are shown for each district in the charts accompanying this article.*)

Finally, for ease of comparison, the districts are divided into five groups according to their final EQ score.

School districts ranking in the upper 16 percent were awarded **Gold Medals**, while districts ranking in the upper one-third were awarded **Blue Ribbons**. These are the most outstanding school districts in the United States.

On the opposite end of the scale, school districts that ranked in the bottom 25 percent were given a **Yellow Light**, while districts in the bottom 10 percent received a **Red Light** designation.

The remaining school districts — accounting for 42 percent of all districts surveyed — were given a **Green Light** designation. These districts can be considered average.

LESSONS LEARNED

WITH ALL OF THE DATA WE COLLECTED for this study, there is always the temptation to draw some conclusions and, not surprisingly, we succumbed to that temptation.

For us, the most important thing to try to get a handle on is the importance of spending on the overall success of a school district, as well as the impact of the local adult community on that success or failure.

Were there any insights to be gained?

In order to do this, we divided the school districts into five groups (quintiles) according to their graduate outcome (average college board score and graduation rate) score. Then we calculated the group's average in each of the various spending and demographic sub-categories to see if there were any trends we could identify.

Minimum Teacher's Salary. The two highest achieving groups (quintiles 1 and 2) of districts — at \$32,113 and \$30,121 respectively — had the highest average starting salaries for teachers, followed by the lowest achieving group (quintile 5), at \$29,910.

Average Teacher's Salary. The three top performing groups of districts also ranked 1, 2, 3 in terms of their average teacher's salary. Once again, the quintile 5 group had a higher average salary for its teachers than did the quintile 4 group of districts.

What observations can we draw from salaries? Clearly, for the top 60 percent of school districts, their teachers, on average, earn higher salaries than do teachers in the two lowest quintiles. It is also clear that teachers in the lowest quintile earn more than do teachers in the next higher group (quintile 4).

One problem with comparing salaries in the abstract is that it doesn't take into consideration the differences in living costs in various communities throughout the United States. Interestingly, when we compared the average teacher's salary with the median household income of families residing in that district, we found that, in roughly half the districts (49.1 percent), the average teacher's salary was actually higher than the median household income for the adults residing in that community.

Student-Teacher Ratio. When it comes to the student-teacher ratio, what we found was almost the inverse of conventional wisdom, with the lowest performing districts having the lowest — and therefore most favorable — ratio of students to teacher, while the highest performing districts had the highest, and least favorable, ratio.

While it would be counterintuitive to argue that larger classes are better than smaller classes, it is also clear that basing a strategy for improving a district's

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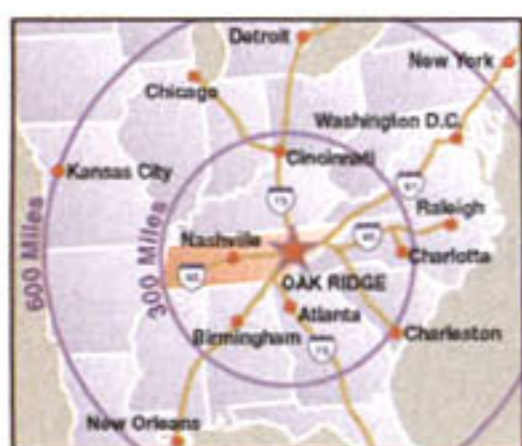
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performance by focusing on class size is probably not the path to success, either.

Per-Pupil Expenditures. Once again, the results show that the two highest-achieving groups spent more money, on average, per pupil than did the other three groups. Similarly, the lowest-performing group ranked third in spending, followed by the districts in quintiles 3 and 4.

Clearly, a community's financial commitment to education (Resource Index) seems to have an impact on the success of the top 40 percent of districts. However, for the districts that ranked in the bottom 20 percent, higher public spending on education alone does not seem to guarantee success.

It is clear, however, that the income and education levels of the parents and other adults seem to have a direct correlation to the success of the students in a public school district.

Districts that finished in the top 20 percent (quintile 1) had the highest percentage of adults in the community with at least a high school degree, followed in order by the districts in quintiles 2, 3, 4 and 5. The same is true when you look at adults in the community with college degrees and household incomes.

In fact, the only community index subcategory that the districts in the lowest quintile have a lead is in child poverty. For these districts, the average child poverty rate is 21.8 percent, compared with 16.3 percent for quintile 4 districts and 7 percent for quintile 1 districts.

THE BOTTOM LINE

SO WHAT DOES ALL THIS TELL US ABOUT what makes for a high-achieving school district?

First, it tells us that communities with the most successful districts spend more money on their public schools.

Their teachers start out at slightly higher salaries and they continue to earn more money than do their counterparts in the lower rated districts. Successful districts, on average, also spend more money per pupil. That's a pretty clear picture, at least for those districts that ranked in the top 40 percent.

After that, however, the relationship between spending and achievement gets considerably more muddled, particularly at the bottom end of the scale. In fact, for some of our country's worst performing school districts, no amount of money seems to be able to turn the tide.

While not discounting the importance of providing sufficient resources for our public schools, it is arguable that the real solution lies on the family side of the equation. The data shows clearly that there is a direct correlation between the education level of the parents and the success of the students.

Why? Probably because people with higher formal education tend to place a greater value on it than do people who do not have the same level of education, and they tend to pass that attitude on to their children.

Likewise, children from families with a higher household income tend to do much better in school than do children from families with lower incomes. In a country where education and hard work generally translate into higher lifetime earnings, it's hard to separate the two.

On the opposite end of the scale, communities with lower performing school districts tend to be characterized by adults with lower income and education levels, and higher levels of child poverty.

The real question is: What are we going to do about it? How are we as a society going to fix the problem?

Unfortunately, the debate seems to revolve almost entirely around money. While money certainly is important, if we don't also address it from the "family" side by creating an environment where kids understand, and truly believe, that how well they do in school will determine what kind of a future they have, the gap between the "haves" and the "have nots" will only widen.



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CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING	CITY	SCHOOL DISTRICT	EQ	GO	RI	CI	RATING
Houston	Houston Independent School District	24	25	41	27	YELLOW	Puyallup	Puyallup School District	43	43	35	73	GREEN
Houston	Cypress-Fairbanks ISD	65	64	45	75	GREEN	Redmond	Lake Washington School District	78	79	35	95	BLUE
Houston	Aldine Independent School District	21	20	51	30	YELLOW	Seattle	Seattle School District	68	67	51	71	BLUE
Houston	Spring Branch Independent School District	88	90	55	51	GOLD	Seattle	Highline School District	56	57	41	52	GREEN
Houston	Spring Independent School District	59	57	53	65	GREEN	Silverdale	Central Kitsap School District	70	71	42	73	BLUE
Humble	Humble Independent School District	72	73	43	87	BLUE	Spanaway	Bethel School District	27	27	34	57	GREEN
Huntsville	Huntsville Independent School District	49	52	35	23	GREEN	Spokane	Spokane School District	71	72	49	47	BLUE
Irving	Irving Independent School District	39	37	58	42	GREEN	Tacoma	Tacoma School District	27	25	48	43	GREEN
Katy	Katy Independent School District	94	95	58	91	GOLD	Vancouver	Evergreen (Clark) School District	52	52	36	66	GREEN
Keller	Keller Independent School District	75	76	41	93	BLUE	Vancouver	Vancouver School District	47	48	38	49	GREEN
Kilgore	Kilgore Independent School District	47	48	52	26	GREEN	Yakima	Yakima School District	31	32	47	12	GREEN
Killeen	Killeen Independent School District	13	10	55	45	YELLOW	WEST VIRGINIA						
Klein	Klein Independent School District	75	76	43	85	BLUE	Beckley	Raleigh County School District	35	36	49	10	GREEN
La Joya	La Joya Independent School District	62	66	43	1	GREEN	Charles Town	Jefferson County School Dist	48	49	42	46	GREEN
Laredo	United Independent School District	33	36	34	15	GREEN	Charleston	Kanawha County School District	38	38	49	31	GREEN
Laredo	Laredo Independent School District	24	25	48	1	YELLOW	Huntington	Cabell County School District	55	56	50	24	GREEN
League City	Clear Creek Independent School District	70	71	41	77	BLUE	Logan	Logan County School District	18	18	54	2	YELLOW
Leander	Leander Independent School District	78	76	55	91	BLUE	Martinsburg	Berkeley County School Dist	54	55	46	32	GREEN
Lewisville	Lewisville Independent School District	88	87	55	91	GOLD	Morgantown	Monongalia School District	51	52	47	37	GREEN
Longview	Longview Independent School District	35	35	48	23	GREEN	Parkersburg	Wood County School District	41	43	46	28	GREEN
Mansfield	Mansfield Independent School District	73	71	54	81	BLUE	Wheeling	Ohio County School District	39	39	50	33	GREEN
McAllen	McAllen Independent School District	42	44	40	21	GREEN	Winfield	Putnam County School District	70	72	48	50	BLUE
McKinney	McKinney Independent School District	80	78	57	73	BLUE	WISCONSIN						
Mesquite	Mesquite Independent School District	68	69	42	54	BLUE	Appleton	Appleton Area School District	92	90	73	75	GOLD
Midland	Midland Independent School District	60	62	38	43	GREEN	Beloit	Beloit School District	86	84	79	26	GOLD
Mission	Mission Consolidated ISD	7	7	51	1	RED	Brookfield	Elmbrook School District	82	78	77	68	BLUE
Nacogdoches	Nacogdoches Independent School District	76	79	51	18	BLUE	Eau Claire	Eau Claire Area School District	91	86	78	95	GOLD
New Braunfels	Cornal Independent School District	72	76	54	1	BLUE	Fond Du Lac	Fond Du Lac School District	81	77	78	60	BLUE
Odessa	Ector County Independent School District	11	13	33	29	YELLOW	Green Bay	Green Bay Area School District	70	65	77	57	BLUE
Pasadena	Pasadena Independent School District	18	19	40	20	YELLOW	Janesville	Janesville School District	64	59	76	61	GREEN
Pearland	Pearland Independent School District	72	72	45	82	BLUE	Kenosha	Kenosha School District	76	73	74	53	BLUE
Pflugerville	Pflugerville Independent School District	75	74	45	86	BLUE	La Crosse	La Crosse School District	78	73	81	71	BLUE
Pharr	Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD	27	29	43	2	GREEN	Madison	Madison Metropolitan School District	90	87	82	52	GOLD
Plano	Plano Independent School District	93	93	59	93	GOLD	Milwaukee	Milwaukee School District	12	2	77	87	YELLOW
Richardson	Richardson Independent School District	75	74	52	71	BLUE	Neenah	Neenah School District	87	83	70	92	GOLD
Rosenberg	Lamar Consolidated ISD	62	64	41	45	GREEN	Oshkosh	Oshkosh Area School District	94	92	72	77	GOLD
Round Rock	Round Rock Independent School District	82	82	51	91	BLUE	Racine	Racine School District	52	46	76	51	GREEN
San Antonio	Alamo Heights Independent School District	95	97	59	59	GOLD	Sheboygan	Sheboygan Area School District	94	93	77	52	GOLD
San Antonio	Northside Independent School District	62	61	51	64	GREEN	Stevens Point	Stevens Point Area School District	95	95	72	65	GOLD
San Antonio	San Antonio Independent School District	6	6	51	2	RED	Waukesha	Waukesha School District	96	94	74	83	GOLD
San Antonio	North East Independent School District	63	62	51	70	GREEN	Wausau	Wausau School District	77	74	78	53	BLUE
San Marcos	San Marcos Consolidated ISD	47	49	42	34	GREEN	WYOMING						
Seguin	Seguin Independent School District	60	60	55	21	GREEN	Casper	Natrona County School District #1	53	51	55	50	GREEN
Stephenville	Stephenville Independent School District	42	45	32	41	GREEN	Cheyenne	Laramie County School District #1	61	60	53	59	GREEN
Sugar Land	Fort Bend Independent School District	80	83	38	55	BLUE	Laramie	Albany County School District #1	75	74	59	60	BLUE
Sulphur Springs	Sulphur Springs Independent School District	55	56	48	22	GREEN							
Temple	Temple Independent School District	77	80	51	29	BLUE							
Tyler	Tyler Independent School District	57	59	43	32	GREEN							
Victoria	Victoria Independent School District	64	67	39	31	GREEN							
Waco	Waco Independent School District	26	27	43	9	YELLOW							
Wichita Falls	Wichita Falls Independent School District	77	80	48	33	BLUE							
UTAH													
American Fork	Alpine School District	42	47	7	81	GREEN							
Farmington	Davis School District	56	61	11	82	GREEN							
Logan	Cache School District	75	83	7	76	BLUE							
Ogden	Weber School District	62	68	9	74	GREEN							
Provo	Provo School District	54	59	12	61	GREEN							
Salt Lake City	Granite School District	33	38	11	61	GREEN							
Salt Lake City	Salt Lake City School District	35	40	25	20	GREEN							
Sandy	Jordan School District	46	51	8	85	GREEN							
St George	Washington School District	55	61	8	52	GREEN							
VIRGINIA													
Alexandria	Alexandria City Public Schools	36	26	89	71	GREEN							
Arlington	Arlington County Public Schools	85	77	93	79	GOLD							
Ashland	Hanover County Public Schools	77	77	51	78	BLUE							
Charlottesville	Albemarle County Public Schools	90	88	70	75	GOLD							
Chesapeake	Chesapeake City Public Schools	70	70	52	63	BLUE							
Chesterfield	Chesterfield County Public Schools	71	71	49	79	BLUE							
Fairfax	Fairfax County Public Schools	93	89	80	90	GOLD							
Hampton	Hampton City Public Schools	46	44	55	48	GREEN							
Harrisonburg	Rockingham County Public Schools	84	86	56	39	GOLD							
Leesburg	Loudoun County Public Schools	93	89	78	95	GOLD							
Manassas	Prince William County Public Schools	74	72	53	81	BLUE							
Manassas	Manassas City Public Schools	83	80	71	68	GOLD							
Newport News	Newport News City Public Schools	38	37	51	41	GREEN							
Norfolk	Norfolk City Public Schools	24	20	64	24	YELLOW							
Portsmouth	Portsmouth City Public Schools	10	9	57	20	RED							
Richmond	Henrico County Public Schools	76	76	50	71	BLUE							
Richmond	Richmond City Public Schools	18	14	66	29	YELLOW							
Roanoke	Roanoke City Public Schools	71	71	62	23	BLUE							
Roanoke	Roanoke County Public Schools	91	91	63	70	GOLD							
Spotsylvania	Spotsylvania County Public Schools	48	45	53	68	GREEN							
Stafford	Stafford County Public Schools	83	85	45	82	GOLD							
Suffolk	Suffolk City Public Schools	26	26	46	35	GREEN							
Virginia Beach	Virginia Beach City Public Schools	54	50	54	72	GREEN							
Williamsburg	Williamsburg-James City County Public	85	83	67	75	GOLD							
VERMONT													
Burlington	Burlington School District	63	60	64	52	GREEN							
WASHINGTON													
Auburn	Auburn School District	35	36	35	56	GREEN							
Bellevue	Bellevue School District	75	75	43	91	BLUE							
Bothell	Northshore School District	82	84	41	92	BLUE							
Everett	Mukilteo School District	56	57	34	68	GREEN							
Federal Way	Federal Way School District	38	39	33	72	GREEN							
Issaquah	Issaquah School District	79	80	33	96	BLUE							
Kennewick	Kennewick School District	57	58	41	53	GREEN							
Kent	Kent School District	59	60	36	75	GREEN							
Lacey	North Thurston School District	46	46	41	69	GREEN							
Lakewood	Clover Park School District	15	13	49	44	YELLOW							
Lynnwood	Edmonds School District	44	44	35	77	GREEN							

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