

**STATE COMPARISONS: INDEX SCORES — PREPARATION**

	Category Grade	Category Index Score	High School Credential (20%)	Math Course Taking (10%)	Science Course Taking (15%)	Algebra in 8th Grade (10%)	Upper-Level Math in 12th Grade (5%)	Math Proficiency (4%)	Reading Proficiency (4%)	Science Proficiency (4%)	Writing Proficiency (4%)	Math Proficiency among Low-Income (4%)	College Entrance Exams (10%)	Advanced Placement Exams (10%)
Alabama	D-	61	87	60	59	43	70	47	55	52	55	24	63	25
Alaska	B+	87	<b>100</b>	<i>83</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>83</i>	88*	<i>83</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>83</i>	84	47
Arizona	D	66	78	<i>63</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>63</i>	62	74	57	68	43	66	37
Arkansas	D+	67	90	89	74	77	20	41	61	55	42	33	60	25
California	C-	71	88	60	46	<b>110</b>	46	53	58	36	65	19	67	86
Colorado	B	85	87	<i>82</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>82</i>	75*	79	<i>82</i>	87	52*	<b>104</b>	63
Connecticut	A	100	98	93	90	<b>93</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>111</b>	83	<b>142</b>	33	94	<b>99</b>
Delaware	C+	77	98	68*	64*	83*	74	56*	66	74	71	29*	64	74
Florida	C+	77	91	73	73	73	73	50*	61	73	61	29*	74	76
Georgia	C-	70	89	<i>67</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>67</i>	56	66	55	74	24	58	58
Hawaii	C-	72	98	<i>69</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>69</i>	47	50	36	48	38	67	62
Idaho	C-	71	93	72	44	67	46	79	<i>68</i>	90	<i>68</i>	81	81	32
Illinois	B+	89	93	<i>85</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>85</i>	79	<i>85</i>	71	<i>85</i>	57	<b>109</b>	64
Indiana	C-	72	95	77	77	37	52	91	<i>69</i>	83	<i>69</i>	62	64	30
Iowa	B	83	97	79	90	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	93*	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	84	23
Kansas	B	85	96	<i>82</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>82</i>	<b>100</b>	92	<i>82</i>	<i>82</i>	81	<b>100</b>	23
Kentucky	C-	72	92	93	74	40	<i>69</i>	62	76	69	68	38	69	35
Louisiana	F	56	87	81	59	20	<i>54</i>	35	47	43	39	19	59	17
Maine	B+	89	<b>101</b>	<i>86</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>86</i>	<b>94</b>	<b>111</b>	88	<b>103</b>	<b>95</b>	63	51
Maryland	B+	88	93	<i>84</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>84</i>	85	82	67	74	33	83	<b>100</b>
Massachusetts	A	<b>100</b>	97	<b>98</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	52	<b>96</b>	<b>95</b>
Michigan	B	83	95	77*	74*	90*	79	82	79	88	79	43	89	47
Minnesota	B-	81	98	63	56	43	77	<b>118</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>100</b>	81	<b>129</b>	96	41
Mississippi	D	66	89	96	<b>108</b>	47	<i>64</i>	24	50	36	35	14	44	14
Missouri	B-	80	<b>99</b>	89	79	73	76	65	76	86	55	43	87	29
Montana	A-	90	97	<i>86</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>86</i>	<b>109</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>110</b>	81	<b>119</b>	85	30
Nebraska	B	84	98	<b>105</b>	87	60	<i>80</i>	91	<i>80</i>	86	<i>80</i>	71	90	17
Nevada	D	63	84	60	64	43	<i>61</i>	59	63	55	55	29	66	41
New Hampshire	B	83	91	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>80</i>	83	55
New Jersey	A	97	96	<i>93</i>	<b>93</b>	<b>93</b>	<i>93</i>	<i>93</i>	<i>93</i>	<i>93</i>	<b>93</b>	<b>93</b>	87	92
New Mexico	D-	61	89	54	49	57	64	38	63	48	58	29	63	33
New York	B	86	93	84	87	47*	<i>82</i>	76	89	71	68	57	89	<b>102</b>
North Carolina	B+	89	92	<b>107</b>	77	83	<b>138</b>	88	82	64	87	62	61	76
North Dakota	B	84	<b>101</b>	93	87	50	94	91	<i>81</i>	<b>95</b>	<i>81</i>	<b>100</b>	88	18
Ohio	C+	78	94	82	51	73	75	91	75	<b>98</b>	75	48	95	39
Oklahoma	D+	67	91	75	62	30	<i>64</i>	56	76	62	81	38	69	35
Oregon	C	73	89	65	49	77	70	<b>94</b>	87	79	87	76	77	31
Pennsylvania	B-	81	95	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77	67	51
Rhode Island	C	76	94	73	73	73	73	71	79	69	81	33	68	52
South Carolina	D+	67	91	<i>64</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>64</i>	53	58	48	48	29	53	57
South Dakota	C	76	<b>100</b>	82	90	30	67	73	73	73	73	73	75	28
Tennessee	D-	62	94	61	49	0	<i>59</i>	50	68	60	77	33	79	44
Texas	C+	79	85	<b>98</b>	62	76	<b>100</b>	71	74	55	<b>100</b>	52	67	62
Utah	A	100	96	<b>100</b>	92	<b>177</b>	76	76	82	81	68	71	76	86
Vermont	B-	80	97	72	69	70	70	<b>94</b>	76	<b>95</b>	76	67	73	54
Virginia	B+	89	93	<i>85</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>85</i>	76	87	74	87	38	74	<b>107</b>
Washington	B-	80	93	76	76	76	76	77*	84	76	81	57*	82	40
West Virginia	C+	79	96	<b>98</b>	<b>100</b>	80	<b>98</b>	53	71	62	58	38	56	23
Wisconsin	A-	90	96	<b>98</b>	<b>95</b>	60	93	94*	87	<i>86</i>	90	<i>86</i>	<b>96</b>	52
Wyoming	C-	70	92	70	54	53	74	74	76	86	74	71	74	20

\* Numbers refer to data from *Measuring Up 2000*, because updated state information was not available.

Notes: Red bold numbers refer to best-performing states. Italicized numbers mean that the state is missing data; the italicized value is based on an average of the state's other scores in the category. For more information about sources and grading, see page 186.

## How to Read These Tables

The tables on these pages display index scores for all indicators on which grades are based.

The *category index score* is calculated from the state's index scores on all the indicators.

The *index scores* are based on state performance on the indicators.

The *category grade* is based on the category index score.

	Category Grade	Category Index Score	High School Credential (20%)	Math Course Taking (10%)
State Name	B+	56	91	46
State Name	A-		95	

Indicators have been assigned *weights* based on their importance, which is informed by research and policy experience.

**Indexing.** Indexing is a statistical method that allows for accurate comparisons of different measures. All indicator results have been converted to an indexed scale of 0 to 100, with the third-best state (median of the top five) scoring 100. This establishes a high, but achievable standard of performance.

### Grading Scale

A	93 and above	B-	80-82	D+	67-69
A-	90-92	C+	77-79	D	63-66
B+	87-89	C	73-76	D-	60-62
B	83-86	C-	70-72	F	Below 60

STATE COMPARISONS: INDEX SCORES — PARTICIPATION

	Category Grade	Category Index Score	High School to College Rate (40%)	Young Adult Enrollment (20%)	Working-Age Adult Enrollment (40%)
Alabama	D+	67	64	74	51
Alaska	D+	69	45	74	76
Arizona	B-	81	51	61	<b>102</b>
Arkansas	D+	67	73	59	50
California	B+	87	64	87	91
Colorado	B	85	72	62	91
Connecticut	A-	91	88	<b>104</b>	68
Delaware	B	84	79	72	76
Florida	D+	69	52	76	68
Georgia	F	55	57	59	40
Hawaii	B-	82	69	<b>101</b>	67
Idaho	C-	71	69	78	55
Illinois	A	97	90	79	<b>92</b>
Indiana	C+	77	80	84	55
Iowa	B+	88	<b>99</b>	85	59
Kansas	A-	92	83	<b>95</b>	80
Kentucky	C-	70	68	79	52
Louisiana	D	64	65	78	43
Maine	C+	78	81	68	63
Maryland	B+	87	76	84	82
Massachusetts	A	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	91	82
Michigan	B+	89	78	<b>93</b>	78
Minnesota	C+	78	76	89	58
Mississippi	D	65	63	82	46
Missouri	C+	78	73	76	68
Montana	D+	69	86	87	28
Nebraska	A	97	<b>96</b>	86	83
Nevada	C+	78	48	59	<b>100</b>
New Hampshire	B-	82	82	79	67
New Jersey	A-	92	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	59
New Mexico	A	95	69	72	<b>112</b>
New York	B	83	81	90	64
North Carolina	C+	77	73	74	66
North Dakota	B	84	<b>110</b>	92	36
Ohio	C+	77	75	80	61
Oklahoma	C+	77	68	68	73
Oregon	D+	67	59	60	64
Pennsylvania	B-	82	87	88	57
Rhode Island	A	99	88	88	<b>95</b>
South Carolina	D+	69	61	88	54
South Dakota	B-	80	90	82	51
Tennessee	D+	68	62	77	54
Texas	D+	68	58	64	66
Utah	C	76	64	82	68
Vermont	C+	77	75	81	60
Virginia	B	84	76	75	78
Washington	C-	72	69	80	57
West Virginia	C-	70	75	75	47
Wisconsin	B	84	81	81	69
Wyoming	B-	81	78	82	67

Notes: Red bold numbers refer to best-performing states. For information about sources and grading, see page 186.

## STATE COMPARISONS: INDEX SCORES — AFFORDABILITY

	Category Grade	Category Index Score	Family Ability to Pay (50%)			Need-Based Financial Aid (20%)	Low-Priced Colleges (20%)	Low Student Debt (10%)
			At Community Colleges*	At Public 4-Year Colleges*	At Private 4-Year Colleges*			
Alabama	F	57	78	75	74	1	47	91
Alaska	D	63	83	83	<b>100</b>	0	59	96
Arizona	D-	62	71	69	59	2	<b>97</b>	82
Arkansas	C	74	95	88	<b>83</b>	32	67	96
California	A	<b>100†</b>	68	62	42	44	<b>293</b>	83
Colorado	C-	72	88	87	53	39	74	81
Connecticut	C-	71	83	71	53	<b>89</b>	64	78
Delaware	F	54	75	60	78	8	60	72
Florida	D-	60	71	77	52	15	64	95
Georgia	D	65	91	<b>95</b>	58	0	71	88
Hawaii	D	65	84	72	70	2	<b>92</b>	84
Idaho	D+	69	94	89	81	1	72	92
Illinois	B	85	88	76	63	<b>123</b>	70	87
Indiana	D+	69	74	72	61	72	51	93
Iowa	C	73	85	90	70	56	51	<b>100</b>
Kansas	C-	72	97	92	78	16	71	94
Kentucky	C	74	95	92	80	34	62	<b>98</b>
Louisiana	D	63	97	82	39	1	70	91
Maine	F	56	70	69	51	37	40	91
Maryland	D-	62	80	70	56	39	54	79
Massachusetts	D-	62	78	71	41	83	52	77
Michigan	D+	68	83	68	<b>85</b>	45	60	97
Minnesota	B	85	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	68	<b>100</b>	49	97
Mississippi	D	64	85	78	75	1	66	<b>102</b>
Missouri	D+	67	<b>98</b>	81	68	18	71	91
Montana	F	51	65	67	67	6	37	93
Nebraska	D	66	90	80	70	12	67	97
Nevada	D+	68	75	76	61	25	82	85
New Hampshire	F	45	67	61	56	6	31	78
New Jersey	C-	72	74	64	62	<b>98</b>	49	87
New Mexico	C-	70	83	77	43	24	84	98
New York	F	56	55	59	42	86	30	83
North Carolina	C	75	89	88	55	29	<b>100</b>	87
North Dakota	D	65	87	87	<b>118</b>	3	46	<b>105</b>
Ohio	F	55	68	61	59	35	43	87
Oklahoma	C	74	<b>98</b>	<b>102</b>	71	15	67	95
Oregon	F	53	66	60	44	21	54	85
Pennsylvania	D+	67	76	59	51	<b>102</b>	44	85
Rhode Island	F	43	58	50	40	18	46	73
South Carolina	D+	67	91	68	71	33	67	89
South Dakota	F	59	83	87	73	0	35	<b>100</b>
Tennessee	D-	61	79	74	60	19	62	91
Texas	D+	67	81	72	59	17	89	91
Utah	B	86	<b>103</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>156</b>	3	75	98
Vermont	F	56	59	47	52	84	32	74
Virginia	B-	81	<b>102</b>	85	75	42	<b>100</b>	84
Washington	C-	70	80	77	57	63	58	85
West Virginia	F	57	63	68	57	27	43	95
Wisconsin	C	76	94	<b>95</b>	65	61	49	95
Wyoming	D	66	85	87	0	0	66	98

\* Weights within the Family Ability to Pay indicators are based on enrollment by type of institution. The zero score for Wyoming on Family Ability to Pay at Private 4-Year Colleges is weighted at zero, and as a result does not affect the state's overall grade for affordability.

† Actual Index Score is over 100.

Notes: Red bold numbers refer to best-performing states. For information about sources and grading, see page 186.

**STATE COMPARISONS: INDEX SCORES — COMPLETION**

	Category Grade	Category Index Score	Students Returning at 2-Year Colleges (10%)	Students Returning at 4-Year Colleges (10%)	Bachelor's Degree Completion within 5 Years (15%)	Bachelor's Degree Completion within 6 Years (15%)	All Degree Completion (50%)
Alabama	A	96	77	89	70	74	<b>116</b>
Alaska	F	43	<i>43</i>	<i>43</i>	29	40	48
Arizona	C+	78	77	86	66	80	80
Arkansas	C-	72	88	85	58	56	75
California	C+	77	76	<b>101</b>	80	98	65
Colorado	C+	77	75	90	75	77	75
Connecticut	B+	87	76	<b>100</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100</b>	80
Delaware	B	86	76	<b>99</b>	<b>101*</b>	98	77
Florida	B+	88	<b>100</b>	95	78	86	87
Georgia	B	84	88	87	63	66	94
Hawaii	C	75	70	87	56	78	79
Idaho	B-	80	<i>80</i>	81	46	70	93
Illinois	B-	80	82	92	81	89	75
Indiana	B-	82	74	93	71	86	84
Iowa	A	93	77	98	90	99	94
Kansas	B-	80	81	88	69	76	82
Kentucky	C	73	82	85	66	62	73
Louisiana	D+	68	68	83	48	56	75
Maine	B	84	<b>100</b>	92	85	90	78
Maryland	B-	80	92	99	89	90	67
Massachusetts	A-	91	92	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>103</b>	83
Michigan	C	76	79	93	72	90	70
Minnesota	B+	88	88	96	83	85	89
Mississippi	C+	79	92	89	67	72	80
Missouri	B-	82	86	90	73	81	82
Montana	C	76	<i>76</i>	80	57	62	85
Nebraska	C+	79	84	91	65	71	83
Nevada	F	54	<i>79*</i>	91	45	61	42
New Hampshire	A	<b>100†</b>	<b>106</b>	97	<b>100</b>	99	<b>102</b>
New Jersey	B-	81	95	98	88	94	69
New Mexico	D	63	83	83	45	58	61
New York	B+	88	<b>100</b>	94	81	84	88
North Carolina	B	85	81	97	87	91	80
North Dakota	B	84	<i>84</i>	87	57	69	<b>97</b>
Ohio	B-	80	89	90	82	82	76
Oklahoma	C-	70	75	85	60	61	72
Oregon	C	75	64	95	78	82	70
Pennsylvania	A	98	97	99	92	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Rhode Island	A	95	<i>95</i>	97	97	<b>105</b>	91
South Carolina	B	84	84	93	79	88	83
South Dakota	B-	82	<i>82</i>	78	69	69	92
Tennessee	C+	77	87	88	71	77	74
Texas	C-	70	65	89	62	74	69
Utah	C+	79	<i>63*</i>	88	56	85	86
Vermont	A	97	<b>97</b>	93	<b>99</b>	98	<b>98</b>
Virginia	B	84	87	98	89	95	76
Washington	A-	90	78	<b>100</b>	85	<b>100</b>	88
West Virginia	C-	72	83	86	58	62	75
Wisconsin	B	85	79	97	85	88	82
Wyoming	B	84	88	91	62	81	89

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## STATE COMPARISONS: INDEX SCORES — BENEFITS

	Category Grade	Category Index Score	Adults with Bachelor's Degree or Higher (30%)	Increased Income from Education: Bachelor's Degree (15%)	Increased Income from Education: Some College or Associate's Degree (10%)	Population Voting (12.5%)	Charitable Contributions (12.5%)	Quantitative Literacy (6.7%)	Prose Literacy (6.7%)	Document Literacy (6.6%)
Alabama	C	73	66	65	41	93	99	72	72	72
Alaska	C+	79	76	66	57	<b>100</b>	91	78	78	78
Arizona	B-	80	73	75	83	68	96	81	84	80
Arkansas	D-	60	58	48	31	77	92	57	46	45
California	A-	90	86	91	<b>100</b>	73	96	86	87	82
Colorado	A	<b>100</b>	<b>102</b>	68	28	89	93	<b>171</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>138</b>
Connecticut	A-	90	<b>100</b>	<b>94</b>	36	84	<b>100</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>88</b>
Delaware	A	99	80	<b>100</b>	<b>103</b>	83	99	<b>129</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>119</b>
Florida	C	76	77	59	79	76	94	75	65	62
Georgia	D+	68	72	58	60	73	96	48	47	41
Hawaii	B-	80	82	72	60	74	97	79	79	79
Idaho	C	74	65	52	56	83	90	87	<b>100</b>	87
Illinois	B-	81	80	73	56	85	96	84	80	76
Indiana	C	74	68	72	40	83	90	81	79	76
Iowa	C+	79	75	55	51	97	94	<b>98</b>	84	80
Kansas	C+	78	82	67	59	84	95	76	64	60
Kentucky	C-	72	62	54	74	83	93	70	70	70
Louisiana	C-	71	65	64	65	86	95	64	56	49
Maine	D+	68	63	47	35	<b>99</b>	94	67	67	67
Maryland	A	94	<b>98</b>	<b>106</b>	51	87	99	92	<b>92</b>	<b>92</b>
Massachusetts	A-	90	<b>104</b>	85	52	89	<b>99</b>	70	79	77
Michigan	B+	87	72	<b>97</b>	<b>110</b>	92	97	87	73	60
Minnesota	A-	90	92	79	52	<b>111</b>	98	<b>88</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>88</b>
Mississippi	C	76	63	57	<b>94</b>	84	95	74	74	74
Missouri	D+	67	80	46	7	93	93	64	56	44
Montana	C	75	77	68	22	97	90	74	74	74
Nebraska	C	76	81	53	38	87	97	74	74	74
Nevada	C-	72	61	66	83	67	93	78	70	61
New Hampshire	B	83	89	66	53	88	95	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>
New Jersey	B+	89	<b>97</b>	<b>103</b>	46	76	<b>101</b>	81	77	77
New Mexico	C	75	69	74	49	83	90	73	73	73
New York	C+	78	88	76	35	78	<b>101</b>	67	64	58
North Carolina	D+	68	68	72	57	78	95	38	40	34
North Dakota	C+	79	79	56	52	<b>106</b>	93	78	78	78
Ohio	C	76	71	71	50	86	90	81	77	76
Oklahoma	C	74	68	69	66	83	96	71	68	53
Oregon	B	85	74	76	<b>100</b>	90	90	<b>83</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>83</b>
Pennsylvania	B-	81	79	87	59	80	97	83	68	70
Rhode Island	A-	90	87	81	84	91	<b>100</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>88</b>
South Carolina	C	76	68	63	68	89	97	75	75	75
South Dakota	D+	68	76	46	2	92	92	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>
Tennessee	D+	69	60	67	74	74	94	60	50	52
Texas	C+	78	77	83	75	68	92	66	65	60
Utah	B	84	87	72	61	81	98	<b>82</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>82</b>
Vermont	B-	81	93	57	36	96	89	79	79	79
Virginia	B	83	87	68	76	74	96	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>
Washington	B	85	87	68	49	88	92	<b>100</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100</b>
West Virginia	F	53	50	52	16	74	87	45	35	31
Wisconsin	C+	78	73	68	30	<b>99</b>	94	<b>93</b>	90	72
Wyoming	D	66	63	42	37	98	86	65	65	65

Notes: Red bold numbers refer to best-performing states. Italicized numbers mean that the state is missing data; the italicized value is based on an average of the state's other scores in the category. For information about sources and grading, see page 186.