

School Finance

GRADE			EQUITY				SPENDING			
			Wealth Neutrality Score (2006) ¹	McLoone Index (2006) ¹	Coefficient of Variation (2006) ¹	Restricted Range (2006) ¹	Per-pupil expenditures (PPE), adjusted for regional cost differences (2006)	Percent of students in districts with PPE at or above U.S. average (2006) ¹	Spending Index (2006) ¹	Percent of total taxable resources spent on education (2006)
			Relationship between district funding and local property wealth (negative value indicates higher funding for poorer districts)	Actual spending as percent of amount needed to bring all students to median level	Amount of disparity in spending across districts (lower value indicates greater equity)	Difference in per-pupil spending levels at the 95th and 5th percentiles			Per-pupil spending levels weighted by the degree to which districts meet or approach national average for expenditures (cost and student-need adjusted)	
Rhode Island	A-	89.7	0.096	91.3	0.116	\$4,234	\$12,478	100.0	100.0	4.1
Wyoming	A-	89.7	-0.033	89.3	0.160	\$4,833	\$14,126	100.0	100.0	3.5
Vermont	B+	88.0	0.141	83.0	0.232	\$7,945	\$15,139	88.9	98.7	5.3
New Jersey	B+	87.9	-0.003	90.2	0.192	\$10,838	\$13,238	99.8	100.0	4.9
Connecticut	B+	87.4	0.036	89.9	0.141	\$7,236	\$11,885	100.0	100.0	4.0
New York	B+	87.2	0.093	92.0	0.155	\$8,744	\$13,064	100.0	100.0	4.2
Maine	B+	86.9	0.130	88.3	0.150	\$4,122	\$12,985	74.4	98.6	4.6
Wisconsin	B	86.4	0.062	92.1	0.103	\$3,531	\$10,529	79.6	99.0	4.1
Maryland	B	85.4	0.227	89.8	0.128	\$4,448	\$10,088	100.0	100.0	3.9
Massachusetts	B	85.1	0.052	88.9	0.190	\$8,202	\$11,545	99.2	100.0	3.9
West Virginia	B	83.8	0.103	93.8	0.082	\$1,895	\$11,150	40.3	96.5	4.6
Delaware	B-	82.0	0.150	91.7	0.139	\$5,736	\$11,426	93.3	99.8	2.4
Alaska	B-	81.9	-0.193	94.1	0.334	\$12,307	\$12,090	97.3	99.2	3.3
Pennsylvania	B-	81.5	0.173	89.6	0.168	\$4,867	\$11,252	63.2	96.8	4.1
Michigan	B-	81.1	0.163	90.6	0.132	\$3,826	\$9,809	49.4	95.2	4.6
New Hampshire	B-	80.5	0.158	85.8	0.194	\$6,631	\$11,169	70.1	97.0	4.0
Ohio	B-	80.2	0.069	90.0	0.166	\$4,681	\$10,119	47.7	94.7	4.3
Virginia	C+	79.5	0.186	89.5	0.136	\$4,455	\$8,725	73.6	97.5	3.3
Indiana	C+	79.1	-0.011	88.6	0.156	\$3,886	\$10,053	31.4	90.4	4.4
Kansas	C+	78.0	-0.004	87.4	0.162	\$3,634	\$10,216	28.5	90.5	4.1
Nebraska	C+	77.5	-0.090	93.3	0.181	\$3,583	\$11,023	23.4	87.3	3.6
Minnesota	C+	77.4	0.036	91.8	0.164	\$4,305	\$9,476	40.0	93.0	3.6
Georgia	C+	77.1	0.142	90.6	0.127	\$4,123	\$8,754	39.0	93.9	3.9
Arkansas	C	75.9	0.084	93.4	0.113	\$2,847	\$9,756	11.0	86.6	4.2
Iowa	C	74.9	0.042	92.7	0.124	\$2,811	\$9,977	11.4	86.1	3.5
Colorado	C	74.2	0.105	91.5	0.145	\$2,867	\$8,514	30.9	90.8	3.0
California	C	74.1	0.026	91.6	0.158	\$3,770	\$7,571	29.2	91.7	3.3
Montana	C	74.0	0.085	92.7	0.287	\$4,464	\$11,660	23.5	85.9	3.7
New Mexico	C	74.0	-0.020	93.4	0.220	\$4,049	\$9,525	17.9	84.5	3.7
Oregon	C	74.0	0.068	91.4	0.139	\$3,284	\$9,460	17.3	89.6	3.2
South Carolina	C	73.6	0.203	90.8	0.131	\$3,425	\$9,008	14.8	86.6	4.1
Missouri	C	73.4	0.082	88.3	0.159	\$3,930	\$9,146	18.7	85.3	3.7
North Dakota	C	72.7	0.110	88.2	0.223	\$3,145	\$10,885	17.1	87.7	3.1
Illinois	C-	72.4	0.172	88.4	0.149	\$6,209	\$8,829	27.8	91.4	3.5
Kentucky	C-	72.3	0.059	86.3	0.130	\$3,118	\$8,681	7.2	85.2	3.6
Washington	C-	72.3	0.076	92.6	0.143	\$2,803	\$7,688	17.3	89.3	3.0
South Dakota	C-	72.1	-0.010	89.4	0.187	\$3,507	\$10,223	13.2	82.1	2.9
Alabama	C-	72.0	0.155	92.9	0.102	\$2,550	\$8,769	5.1	83.3	3.5
Florida	C-	71.2	0.190	94.6	0.096	\$2,200	\$8,437	6.6	85.3	3.1
Texas	D+	69.3	0.123	91.1	0.198	\$4,639	\$7,561	15.4	84.3	3.3
Oklahoma	D+	69.2	0.036	90.5	0.184	\$2,947	\$8,255	4.3	73.7	3.2
Arizona	D+	67.9	0.059	93.1	0.191	\$2,811	\$7,112	3.8	71.5	3.3
Mississippi	D+	67.8	0.335	88.5	0.180	\$3,782	\$8,635	4.9	77.3	3.9
North Carolina	D+	67.8	0.244	93.3	0.129	\$3,165	\$7,835	8.5	83.3	2.6
Tennessee	D+	67.7	0.143	91.1	0.118	\$2,726	\$7,620	1.0	77.6	2.8
Utah	D+	66.7	-0.010	96.1	0.165	\$2,333	\$5,964	1.4	61.2	3.2
Idaho	D	65.8	0.323	88.2	0.215	\$2,941	\$8,034	4.4	72.5	3.5
Nevada	D	65.1	-0.015	NA ²	0.164	\$3,882	\$7,213	8.9	81.5	2.8
Louisiana	D	64.1	0.394	94.0	0.473	\$2,716	\$9,787	13.3	88.6	2.7
District of Columbia ³	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$11,193	100.0	100.0	NA ⁴
Hawaii ³	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	\$10,426	100.0	100.0	4.2
U.S.⁵	C+	77.2	0.097	90.7	0.168	\$4,387	\$9,963	42.6	90.0	3.7

NOTES:

- Figures in this column are adjusted to reflect regional cost differences and weighted for student needs. The national average for adjusted per-pupil expenditures is \$9,644.
- The Clark County school district enrolls the majority of students in Nevada, making its per-pupil spending the statewide median. In addition, Clark County is Nevada's lowest-spending district, with adjusted per-pupil expenditures of \$7,703. Because of these two factors, a value for the McLoone Index comparable to other states cannot be calculated. Nevada's grade is based on all other available indicators.
- The District of Columbia and Hawaii are single-district jurisdictions. As a result it is not possible to calculate measures of financial equity, which capture the distribution of funding across districts within a state. The District of Columbia and Hawaii do not receive grades for school finance.
- The District of Columbia does not have a state-level revenue source.
- The U.S. row reports the indicator value for the average state.

SOURCE: EPE Research Center, 2009

QUALITY COUNTS 2009 online at www.edweek.org/go/qc09