



Good News about Public Schools in New Jersey

New Jersey's public schools are the best in the nation

A leading annual publication ranks New Jersey first in the country based on 19 factors that measure the quality of its public schools.

- Source: [Education State Rankings 2010-2011: Pre K-12 Education Across America](#).

A national leader in giving children the chance to succeed

New Jersey ranks second in the nation in *Education Week's* "Chance for Success Index," which measures a state's ability to give its children the greatest chance for success and shows that it is doing more in preparing young people for the challenges they will face as adults.

- Source: [Education Week. "Quality Counts 2010"](#)

Writing scores are the best in the nation

New Jersey eighth graders rank #1—far above any other state in the nation—in writing in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

- Source: [National Center for Education Statistics](#)

High school graduation rate is #1 in the nation

New Jersey ranks first in the nation in the percentage of students graduating high school.

- Source: [Education Week. "Diploma Counts 2010: Graduation by the Numbers – Putting Data to Work for Student Success," June 2010](#)

Highest AP Scores in the Nation

New Jersey is first in the nation in the average Advanced Placement (AP) score for public school students this year.

- Source: [College Board. "2010 AP New Jersey Summary Report"](#)

Reading scores are among the best in the nation

New Jersey average score on the fourth grade reading exam for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is the second highest in the nation. New Jersey ranks third in the nation for having the largest proportion of public school eighth graders scoring at the highest two levels in reading NAEP.

- Source: [National Center for Education Statistics](#)

Math Scores Are Among the Nation's Best

New Jersey ranks third in the nation for having the largest proportion of public school eighth graders scoring at the highest two levels in math in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and fifth in the nation among fourth graders.

- Source: [National Center for Education Statistics](#)

New Jersey students score higher than ever on AP exams

Not only is New Jersey first in the nation in the average Advanced Placement (AP) score for public school students for the third year in a row, this year's score is the highest any state has ever scored.

- Source: [College Board. "2010 AP New Jersey Summary Report"](#)

Public school students outperform private schools on AP exams

In New Jersey, public school students score higher than private school students on their AP exams.

- Source: [College Board. "2010 AP New Jersey Summary Report"](#)

New Jersey leads the nation in high graduation rates among minority students

New Jersey is first in the nation, with the highest percentage of African-American and Latino students graduating from high school.

- Source: [Education Week. "Diploma Counts 2010"](#)

New Jersey has made big gains in reading in the state's poorest districts

New Jersey has made "unprecedented" large-scale gains in third grade reading in its poorest school districts.

- Source: [Education Week](#)