

RATING THE BURBS



EDUCATION: Stellar Public School Systems

DISTRICT	Rank	Enrollment	Schools	Per-pupil spending	State Rating	Teacher Ratio	Teachers w/ Masters	Percentage Disadvantaged	Percent Gifted
Indian Hill	1	2,204	4	13,378	Excellent	14	65	2	56.9
Mason	2	9,778	6	\$9,335	Excellent	17	62	4	41.5
Wyoming	3	1,939	5	\$10,677	Excellent	15	73	4	39.4
Mariemont	4	1,604	5	\$11,732	Excellent	15	79	6	37.4
Forest Hills	5	7,373	9	\$9,388	Excellent	17	68	5	30.7
Lakota	6	16,780	19	\$8,523	Excellent	18	62	8	26.4
Sycamore	7	5,397	7	\$13,025	Excellent	16	82	9	43.0
Madeira	8	1,411	3	\$10,318	Excellent	14	71	4	36.4
Milford	9	6,169	8	\$8,610	Excellent	18	71	12	27.9
Loveland	10	4,676	6	\$8,717	Excellent	20	71	7	20.8
Beechwood, Ky.	11	1,037	2	\$7,421	N/A	14	63	8	N/A
Springboro	12	5,010	5	\$8,105	Excellent	18	57	4	36.6
Kings	13	3,615	6	\$9,829	Excellent	17	57	10	16.3
Cincinnati Public	14	33,881	51	\$12,604	Cont Imp	15	62	64	11.2
Ross	15	2,798	4	\$7,857	Effective	18	67	11	16.0
Little Miami	16	3,592	6	\$8,866	Excellent	18	52	11	23.0
Princeton	17	5,197	10	\$14,434	Cont Imp	13	65	45	15.0
Three Rivers	18	1,828	4	\$10,237	Effective	16	57	15	26.9
Lebanon	19	5,316	6	\$7,182	Excellent	21	60	17	5.9
Boone Co., Ky.	20	6,697	20	\$6,697	N/A	17	61	23	N/A
Talawanda	21	2,949	5	\$9,878	Effective	17	38	18	27.3
Southwest	22	3,705	8	\$8,555	Effective	19	53	19	18.1
Wayne	23	1,403	3	\$7,975	Excellent	15	56	7	23.9
West Clermont	24	8,646	12	\$8,411	Cont Imp	18	73	16	24.5
Kenton Co., Ky.	25	13,509	18	\$8,551	N/A	18	56	26	30.0
Sunman-Dearborn, Ind.	26	4,338	7	\$9,700	Progress	19	N/A	14	8.0

Best of Class

The school systems listed stand out in many ways. Here's a sampling from our analysis:

- Highest average composite score on the American College Test:
INDIAN HILL (24.9)
- Highest percentage of teachers with master's degrees:
SYCAMORE (82 percent)
- Best teacher/student ratio:
PRINCETON (13 teachers per student)
- Highest per-pupil spending:
PRINCETON (\$14,434)
- Lowest per-pupil spending:
BOONE COUNTY (\$6,697)
- Best Ohio academic rating (Performance Index composite score):
WYOMING (109.3)
- Best state composite academic ranking out of possible perfect score:
BEECHWOOD Ky. (112.5 out of possible 120, or 93.8 percent)

The Fab Four

Four neighborhoods included in last year's Top 15 didn't make the cut this year. Nonetheless, they are great communities worth attention:

GLENDALE The village of Glendale was the first planned community in the area and one of the first in America. Laid out in 1851, it still looks like it belongs in the 19th century, with gas streetlamps on winding lanes and distinctly elegant homes surrounded by white rail fences.

MADEIRA The town has its own charm with specialty shops and small-community feel. The heart of the community is the vintage railroad depot, once a regular stop. Madeira was recently recognized as one of the "Best Place to Raise Kids" in America.

TURTLE CREEK TOWNSHIP The historical area includes the Golden Lamb, the state's oldest inn, as well as the Cincinnati Railway Co.

VILLA HILLS, KY. The city's slogan "A special place to live" is easy to understand. The homes here are a mix of large and small, older and new, with some terrific views of the Ohio River.

State Measures Met	Academic Rating	Attendance Rate	Graduation Rate	SAT	ACT	AP Classes	% Take AP Exams	AP High Scores	Extracurricular	Sports
30 of 30	106.7	96.3	98.9	1151	24.9	21	55	83	50	51
30 of 30	108.3	96.2	97.4	1131	23.7	16	26.3	91	76	107
30 of 30	109.3	96.5	99.4	1123	23.8	16	72	76	45	54
30 of 30	106.0	95.8	97.5	1123	24.8	14	36	94	13	16
30 of 30	106.0	96.3	96.2	1103	23.8	13	28	88	93	24
29 of 30	102.5	96.3	95.3	1106	23.3	18	32	93	49	86
30 of 30	106.7	96.0	96.5	1007	24.8	22	47.3	88	34	117
30 of 30	106.5	96.1	100.0	1099	23.5	12	35	78	24	50
26 of 30	101.1	95.3	88.2	1080	23.1	9	20.5	91	21	40
29 of 30	104.5	95.7	96.2	1089	23.4	9	30	78	37	22
7 of 7	112.5	96.6	97.6	1165	22.5	10	29	57	30	36
29 of 30	103.3	96.7	96.4	1091	23.6	6	8	77	42	23
29 of 30	103.7	96.0	92.8	1115	22.9	9	30	65	17	22
8 of 30	80.7	94.7	77.2	963	19.4	43	29	76	100	65
27 of 30	98.5	96.8	93.6	1019	21.9	4	37.6	75	14	23
28 of 30	100.6	95.8	98.6	1085	22.0	4	19	79	18	20
22 of 30	92.9	94.9	96.3	1035	20.9	13	27	54	22	120
26 of 30	98.5	94.4	96.2	1050	22.2	7	18	67	13	44
28 of 30	100.2	95.3	92.5	1109	21.7	6	23	62	35	50
25 of 25	97.8	95.9	86.7	N/A	21.5	15	9.5	52	29	38
26 of 30	99.1	95.1	90.8	1122	22.8	4	21	63	23	45
26 of 30	98.4	94.6	92.8	997	21.1	8	24	66	37	29
30 of 30	102.8	95.6	98.3	1012	21.4	N/A	N/A	43	N/A	N/A
26 of 30	95.9	95.2	90.6	1025	21.2	13	42.5	30	32	77
12 of 14	90.7	95.8	90.3	1078	21.4	19	27	44.5	35	17
N/A	N/A	95.0	84.0	1007	22.4	11	18	43	25	19



All information based on 2006-07 school year, unless otherwise noted. N/A = comparable data not applicable or available. Ohio state district ratings: "Cont. Imp." = "Continuous Improvement," the level below "Excellent" and "Effective." % Teachers with masters = the percentage of teachers in the district who have master's degrees. % Disadvan. = economically disadvantaged students who qualify for free/reduced lunch prices. % Gifted refers to percentage of students identified as academically gifted or advanced. State indicators met: Ohio and Kentucky also measure districts' progress with these measures. "Academic Rating" based on Ohio's composite, weighted "Performance Index" for each school and district based on state assessment measures, and a similar composite measure for Kentucky schools. In both states, a score of 100 is the desired goal (with 140 being a perfect score in Ohio, 120 in Kentucky). Similar data was collected and weighted for Southeast Indiana schools for comparison. Attendance rate is the combined rate for all schools in a district. Graduation rate is for high school(s) in the district. See "Behind the Numbers" on Page 41 for more information.