

Education



The quality of a community's schools is central to any family's aspirations. Public education has largely been a local matter for school boards and states that allocate most of their funding. Yet for the past several decades, the federal government has entered the field: With the [No Child Left Behind Act](#), President George W. Bush put in place annual testing requirements for states that showed for the first time glaring achievement gaps [+ Read More](#)



Rankings: Education × Filters/Sort 0

50 States

New Jersey

#1 in Education
#19 in Best States Overall



The home of native musical legends such as Bruce Springsteen, Jon Bon Jovi, Frank Sinatra and Whitney Houston, New Jersey is known for more than producing popular hit-makers. It has [world-class universities](#), leadin [READ MORE »](#)

#1 Pre-K-12 #27 Higher Education

Massachusetts

#2 in Education
#9 in Best States Overall



Separatists fleeing religious persecution in England arrived aboard the Mayflower at Plymouth Harbor in 1620. A year after the Pilgrims arrived, they celebrated their first successful harvest, now known as Thanksgiving [READ MORE »](#)

#2 Pre-K-12 #25 Higher Education

Florida

#3 in Education
#10 in Best States Overall



Florida attained statehood in 1845, yet not until a pair of railroad barons built lines down the Atlantic and Gulf coasts in the late 1800s and early 1900s did the state take off, spurring the [phenomenal growth](#) of what's no [READ MORE »](#)

#16 Pre-K-12 #1 Higher Education



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Washington

🏆 #4 in Education
#1 in Best States Overall

Washington, the only state named after a U.S. president, gained its statehood [in 1889](#).



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#11 Pre-K-12

#2 Higher Education

Colorado

🏆 #5 in Education
#16 in Best States Overall

Colorado is the eighth-largest state in terms of landmass. While its geographic diversity and natural resources have been an economic boon as well as a draw for tourism, the state's government has made efforts to



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#7 Pre-K-12

#5 Higher Education

Connecticut

🏆 #6 in Education
#20 in Best States Overall

One of the original 13 colonies, Connecticut played a prominent role in the development of the U.S. [The Hartford Courant](#), the nation's oldest continuously operating newspaper, was an influential voice for the reb



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#3 Pre-K-12

#43 Higher Education

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North Carolina

🏆 #7 in Education
#13 in Best States Overall

North Carolina, which was at one time [combined with South Carolina](#) to form a single territory, was one of the original 13 colonies and became the 12th state in 1789. It [sent the most troops](#) to fight in the Civil War as



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#15 Pre-K-12

#7 Higher Education

Wisconsin



1600s. Samuel de Champlain, governor of what was then New France and now [Canada](#), dispatched

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#8 Pre-K-12

#15 Higher Education

Nebraska

#9 in Education
#6 in Best States Overall



Nebraska is a major beef and corn producing state where cattle outnumber people by more than 3 to 1.

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#13 Pre-K-12

#10 Higher Education



Lyra

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Utah

#10 in Education
#3 in Best States Overall



Utah was dubbed "Deseret" by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who settled this remote western realm in the mid-1800s, fleeing from religious discrimination in the East.

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#21 Pre-K-12

#6 Higher Education

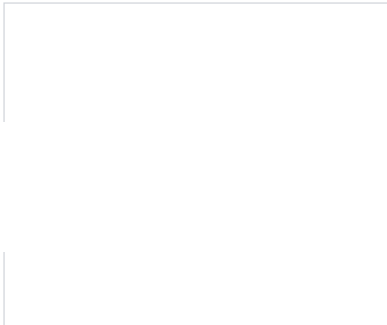
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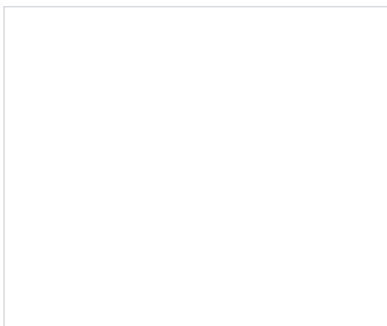
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