

Best Public Schools in Boston 2015 — Sortable Chart

Our exclusive ranking of 125 school districts in the Greater Boston area.

For our annual public school rankings, we made a few changes. This year's list focuses on the top districts inside or boxed by 1–495. As always, we used statisticians to crunch numbers provided by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (see more on methodology below), and rewarded schools that have smaller class size, lower student-to-teacher ratios, and higher rates of per-pupil spending, among other characteristics. In response to criticism of such rankings, we've also tried to diversify our test results. We still take standardized test scores into account—but we reduced the weight of those scores within the overall rankings. We also changed the way we measure Advanced Placement scores. Previously, we considered only the percentage of Advanced Placement test takers who scored highly on the AP exam. This year, we also looked at the percentage of students in each school who took the exam in the first place.

See where your district landed in our exclusive ranking below. Sort 125 school districts by enrollment, test scores, student-teacher ratio, graduation rate, and more.

DISTRICT	Rank	Enrollment	Avg. Class Size	Student-to-Teacher Ratio	Per-Pupil Spending	Graduation Rate (%)	Attending College (%)	Avg. SAT Reading	Avg. SAT Writing	Avg. SAT Math	AP Participation	AP Scoring 3-5 (%)	3rd Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on MCAS Reading (%)	3rd Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on MCAS Math (%)	5th Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on MCAS English (%)	5th Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on MCAS Math (%)	5th Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on MCAS Science (%)	8th Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on MCAS English (%)	8th Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on MCAS Math (%)	8th Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on MCAS Science (%)	10th Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on MCAS English (%)	10th Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on MCAS Math (%)	10th Graders Scoring Proficient or Higher on MCAS Science (%)
Dover-Sherborn	1	2,036	16.7	11.9	\$18,052	97.3	91.9	611	621	628	191	95.1	88	93	92	87	82	95	80	69	99	97	98
Weston	2	2,253	17.2	11.5	\$20,579	99.5	85.6	597	594	618	291	82.8	91	92	82	86	73	96	72	76	96	95	81
Lexington	3	6,785	19.6	12.4	\$16,812	94.9	86.5	624	630	651	747	92.3	79	87	92	90	80	96	86	79	99	98	95
Wayland	4	2,659	17.1	13.0	\$16,177	96.5	87.1	600	601	631	165	89.9	81	86	88	82	76	96	82	78	99	96	91
Bedford	5	2,522	14.8	11.5	\$16,993	94.6	85.1	574	574	595	135	95.2	71	89	78	76	60	89	69	54	97	92	89
Concord-Carlisle	6	4,010	17.9	12.9	\$17,852	95.5	87.5	589	586	606	178	97.1	80	83	90	90	83	95	82	78	97	95	94
Harvard	7	1,143	17.1	12.9	\$14,691	97.1	88.2	592	591	589	118	84.6	72	85	89	84	90	90	70	77	100	95	96
Wellesley	8	5,067	17.4	13.4	\$17,232	97.3	88.9	598	596	612	308	94.5	80	87	89	87	69	93	74	59	99	94	82
Westborough	9	3,624	17.3	13.4	\$14,306	97.1	91.9	572	569	599	197	95.8	80	87	85	75	75	93	77	66	97	94	93
Newton	10	12,674	18.6	12.0	\$17,141	95.3	85.3	588	589	608	803	94.7	78	86	84	80	71	93	77	63	97	94	89
Sharon	11	3,483	18.6	13.6	\$14,659	95.5	90.6	584	590	608	264	96.1	84	89	89	89	81	95	80	61	97	93	89
Medfield	12	2,638	18.2	13.3	\$12,321	97.5	92.4	585	580	610	275	86.0	77	85	79	74	66	96	74	65	99	98	97
Lincoln-Sudbury	13	5,732	19.0	12.7	\$16,042	97.1	87.9	591	593	617	246	93.5	75	82	83	84	78	93	75	71	97	94	85
Holliston	14	2,824	16.5	13.6	\$12,548	99.0	88.5	566	561	591	147	92.3	84	80	80	71	69	95	83	67	98	95	92
Winchester	15	4,505	19.0	13.5	\$12,380	98.5	93.8	576	576	611	224	77.3	82	91	86	85	82	92	69	69	100	99	95
Manchester Essex	16	1,507	17.6	12.0	\$14,317	96.6	84.1	562	573	586	144	84.4	76	80	88	79	75	96	79	60	98	97	90
Marblehead	17	3,245	16.8	12.6	\$12,706	96.5	89.0	568	560	572	238	83.6	76	81	83	83	78	95	64	72	97	89	89
Northboro-Southboro	18	4,604	17.4	13.0	\$13,864	96.9	91.0	554	560	572	326	87.8	73	80	81	71	75	89	64	60	96	93	92
Westford	19	5,139	19.1	14.3	\$11,838	98.0	89.8	577	574	606	353	92.8	80	87	83	86	79	96	85	81	98	97	95
Brookline	20	7,508	17.1	13.0	\$16,924	91.0	82.0	588	590	618	388	93.0	72	77	82	81	67	93	81	66	96	93	87
Westwood	21	3,204	19.6	13.8	\$14,827	99.1	91.0	558	552	575	260	87.8	76	88	91	88	86	93	76	54	98	97	93
Needham	22	5,519	19.1	14.5	\$14,320	97.5	91.0	586	590	605	369	92.1	79	84	82	75	63	94	74	70	97	95	92
Hamilton-Wenham	23	1,864	18.2	12.7	\$15,057	96.7	84.2	575	573	576	222	67.3	82	91	83	81	83	92	66	66	99	95	92
Masconomet	24	4,087	17.1	13.8	\$13,558	98.6	89.6	544	548	577	276	85.6	78	82	82	80	72	88	67	68	97	94	91
Acton-Boxborough	25	5,658	21.0	15.6	\$13,962	96.8	90.3	614	620	639	475	97.2	78	81	86	88	81	94	76	72	98	96	96
Andover	26	6,076	18.7	13.3	\$14,377	94.9	89.9	563	559	586	487	77.7	75	82	84	84	76	95	73	60	97	92	82
Newburyport	27	2,352	17.7	13.0	\$13,428	95.7	90.7	555	546	567	135	90.6	72	76	83	75	65	93	75	54	96	89	79
Hopkinton	28	3,463	20.1	13.7	\$13,005	98.7	89.4	563	551	577	457	80.8	76	85	85	79	78	93	82	70	98	95	93
Nashoba	29	3,475	18.5	14.0	\$13,107	94.4	86.4	568	556	591	302	89.9	73	84	79	77	68	92	75	60	97	92	90

