







Kansas

School Management	F	
Finance	B	
Staffing: Hiring & Evaluation	D	
Staffing: Removing Ineffective Teachers	C	
Data	C	
Pipeline to Postsecondary	D	
Technology	D	
State Reform Environment	?	
Gold Stars		

School Management. Kansas fails to manage its schools in a way that encourages thoughtful innovation. Ninety-four percent of teachers report that routine duties and paperwork interfere with their teaching, and the state has a very weak charter school law.

Finance. Overall, Kansas earns a solid grade in this category. The state gets an above-average mark for the online accessibility of its financial data, and districts in Kansas have full authority over teacher pay. Kansas does not have a performance pay program for teachers.

Staffing: Hiring & Evaluation. Kansas receives a below-average mark for its teacher hiring and evaluation system. Four percent of teachers enter the profession through an alternative certification program, compared with the national average of 13%. The state also receives a low mark for its work with national programs to recruit nontraditional teachers.

Staffing: Removing Ineffective Teachers. Kansas receives a mediocre score on the ability to remove poor-performing teachers from the classroom. Sixty-four percent of principals say that teacher unions or associations are a barrier to the removal of ineffective teachers, 3 percentage points above the national average of 61%.

Data. Kansas gets a middling mark for its state data system. Although the state provides educators with access to an interactive school-level database for analysis, Kansas does not have a P-20 longitudinal data system.

Pipeline to Postsecondary. Kansas receives a below-average mark for its efforts to improve college and career readiness. Seventy-two percent of its schools report offering dual-enrollment programs, which allow students to earn high school and college credits simultaneously. That is 7 percentage points above the national average of 65%. However, the state does not have high school exams that gauge college and career readiness. Kansas also does not require a college- and career-ready diploma or offer a standard high school diploma with a career specialization.

Technology. Kansas receives a low grade in this category. The state has not established a virtual school and does not offer a computer-based assessment. Kansas also needs to significantly improve how it evaluates its return on investments in technology.

State Reform Environment. There are few reliable state-by-state data on local education advocacy and research efforts—a reflection of the lack of overall commitment to this issue. As a result, we are unable to issue a meaningful grade. However, Kansas supports common academic standards.
