

# High Schools in Minnesota

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## GENERAL SCHOOL DATA

	<i>Minnesota</i>	<i>National</i>
Public Schools <sup>1</sup>		
All Schools (K–12)	2,503	95,920
High Schools (9–12)	636	17,545
Average High School Enrollment <sup>1</sup>	435	754
Number of High School Students <sup>2</sup>	279,190	13,878,879
Percent of Eighth Graders Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch <sup>1</sup>	26%	36%

## EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Successful Minnesota high schools include **Robinsdale Cooper Senior High School**, in New Hope, **Eden Prairie Senior High School**, in Eden Prairie, and **Mayo Senior High School**, in Mayo.<sup>8</sup> In 2002, the Minneapolis school district, supported by the McKnight Foundation, launched **Transforming the High School Experience**, an initiative aimed at improving graduation rates. In Minneapolis, every ninth grader selects a small learning community at his or her high school in which to participate.<sup>9</sup>

## FUNDING<sup>3</sup>

Average spending per pupil = \$7,889; national rank = 23

## TEACHERS<sup>3</sup>

**86% of Minnesota teachers have a major in the subject they teach**, compared to 64% nationally.

### Teacher Pay: Minnesota ranks 18th<sup>3</sup>

	<i>Minnesota</i>	<i>National</i>
Beginning Teacher Salary	\$28,600	\$29,564
Average Teacher Salary	\$44,745	\$45,771



ALLIANCE FOR  
EXCELLENT EDUCATION

## GRADUATION RATES: Minnesota ranks 5th<sup>5</sup>

	<i>Minnesota</i>	<i>National</i>
<b>All Students</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>71%</b>
White	88%	78%
Hispanic	—	52%
Black	54%	56%

## COLLEGE READINESS

To be considered “college ready,” students must graduate from high school, have basic literacy skills, and have taken the minimum high school courses required to be admitted to college.<sup>5</sup>

	<i>Minnesota</i>	<i>National</i>
<b>All Students</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>34%</b>
White	37%	40%
Hispanic	—	20%
Black	15%	23%

10% of students took the SAT, and 66% took the ACT.<sup>6</sup>

## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

### 2003 NAEP Reading Scores for Eighth-Grade Students<sup>1</sup>

	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
White	17%	42%	38%	3%
Black	49%	39%	12%	0%
Hispanic	54%	30%	14%	2%
Asian	36%	38%	23%	2%
American Indian	—	—	—	—
Total	22%	41%	34%	3%

**22% of Minnesota eighth graders read significantly below grade level**, lower than the national average of 28%.

**51% of Minnesota public schools offer AP courses**, an increase of 2% from one year earlier, and below the 65% national average.<sup>7</sup>

In 2002, **49% of Minnesota high school students took upper-level math** courses, compared to 48% nationally, and **30% took upper-level science** courses, compared to 31% nationally.<sup>3</sup>

Minnesota is one of fifteen states that require and finance remediation for students failing end-of-course exams.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> National Center for Education Statistics.

<sup>2</sup> Common Core of Data.

<sup>3</sup> Education Week.

<sup>4</sup> Urban Institute.

<sup>5</sup> Manhattan Institute for Policy Research.

<sup>6</sup> Education Vital Signs.

<sup>7</sup> The College Board.

<sup>8</sup> Education Trust.

<sup>9</sup> Minneapolis Public Schools.

Data represented in charts may differ based on data source.