A GUIDE TO THE EXPLORE PAGE: STATE OF OUR CITIES

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A quality K-12 education system plays an important role in a city's economic success, but it can be challenging for local policymakers to access the data they need to make informed decisions about education issues. *State of Our Cities* aggregates this data in a single platform where users can view data and compare profiles of the public education system in each of the 114 cities featured in the tool.

Dig more deeply into the full data set and explore data metrics and demographic factors through the Explore page and its comparison feature.

Data for Understanding

The Explore page in *State of Our Cities* affords users the ability to compare city data across multiple topics and across demographics. Analyze the data in the Explore page to begin to answer questions such as:

- How do teacher salaries relate to student assessment scores?
- How do high school graduation rates in my city compare with others in my state?
- What is the relationship between spending per student and student subgroup achievement in my state?
- I want to understand what's working to improve student outcomes. Which cities have similar demographics to our own that I can research further?

The dynamic interface of *State of Our Cities* enables a user to create a customized report that explores the full data set within the tool.

Users may select up to two topics for the comparison table, as well as a demographic factor. In this example, the user chooses to compare 2012 levels of spending per student to performance on reading assessments for the 2013-2014 school year to see the relationship of these two metrics to child poverty.
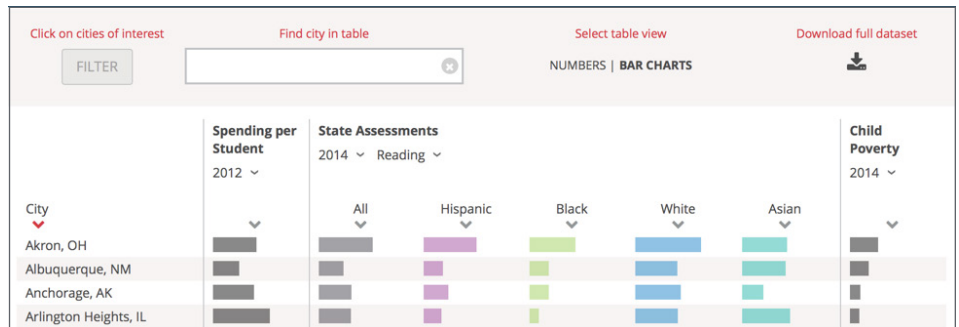
City	All	Hispanic	Black	White	Asian	
Akron, OH	▬		▬	▬		▬
Albuquerque, NM	▬	▬		▬		▬
Anchorage, AK	▬	▬		▬	▬	▬
Arlington Heights, IL	▬	▬		▬		▬
Arlington, TX	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬
Arlington, VA	▬	▬		▬		▬
Atlanta, GA	▬		▬			▬
Austin, TX	▬	▬	▬			▬
Baltimore, MD	▬		▬	▬		▬
Baton Rouge, LA	▬		▬	▬		▬
Beaverton, OR	▬	▬		▬	▬	▬
Billings, MT						▬
Birmingham, AL	▬		▬	▬		▬
Boise, ID	▬			▬		▬
Boston, MA	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬
Bridgeport, CT	▬	▬	▬			▬
Buffalo, NY	▬	▬	▬	▬		▬
Burlington, VT	▬					▬
Chandler, AZ	▬	▬		▬		▬
Charleston, SC	▬		▬			▬
Charleston, WV	▬			▬		▬
Charlotte, NC	▬	▬	▬		▬	▬
Cheyenne, WY	▬			▬		▬
Chicago, IL	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬
Cincinnati, OH	▬		▬			▬
Cleveland, OH	▬	▬	▬			▬
Colorado Springs, CO	▬	▬		▬		▬
Columbia, SC	▬		▬	▬		▬
Columbus, GA	▬		▬	▬		▬
Columbus, OH	▬		▬	▬		▬
Dallas, TX	▬	▬	▬	▬		▬
Davenport, IA	▬			▬		▬

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Users can download and view full data sets, or they can select cities of interest using the dynamic table to filter and compare across cities.

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STATE OF OUR CITIES   OUR TAKE   CITY REPORTS   SPOTLIGHT   EXPLORE   COMPARE YOUR DISTRICT

Explore and compare city data ⓘ

Select first topic for table	Select second topic for table	Select demographic ⓘ
Spending per Student ⌄	State Assessments ⌄	Child Poverty ⌄

The interface provides a numerical data table or bar charts, depending on user preference.

Click on cities of interest   Find city in table   Select table view   Download full dataset
FILTER   [   ]   NUMBERS | **BAR CHARTS**   ⬇

City ⌄	Spending per Student 2012 ⌄	State Assessments 2014 ⌄ Reading ⌄ All ⌄	Hispanic ⌄	Black ⌄	White ⌄	Asian ⌄	Child Poverty 2014 ⌄
Akron, OH	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬
Albuquerque, NM	▪	▪	▪	▪	▬	▬	▪
Anchorage, AK	▬	▬	▪	▪	▬	▬	▪
Arlington Heights, IL	▬	▬	▪	▪	▬	▬	▪

The Explore tool defaults to show all cities in *State of Our Cities*, but users can filter their view to select only cities of interest.

Click on cities of interest   Find city in table   Select table view   Download full dataset
RESET   [   ]   **NUMBERS** | BAR CHARTS   ⬇

City ⌄	Spending per Student 2012 ⌄	State Assessments 2014 ⌄ Reading ⌄ All ⌄	Hispanic ⌄	Black ⌄	White ⌄	Asian ⌄	Child Poverty 2014 ⌄
Arlington, TX	$8,485	70%	65%	63%	83%	83%	23%
Austin, TX	$12,118	73%	66%	59%	93%	83%	25%
Dallas, TX	$11,105	63%	64%	55%	83%	55%	36%
El Paso, TX	$9,064	71%	69%	74%	86%	87%	31%
Houston, TX	$10,310	65%	64%	59%	87%	84%	32%
Irving, TX	$10,247	67%	66%	67%	73%	83%	28%
San Antonio, TX	$11,097	58%	58%	54%	69%	56%	40%

The user can further customize the data display by using sorting arrows at the top of each column of data.

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Arlington, TX	$8,485	70%	65%	63%	83%	83%	23%

Table in number view, sorted by child poverty rate.