**Making the Grade 2021**

**Tennessee**

**State Demographics**
- Enrollment: 750,562
- District Poverty (Census): 19%
- Percent Asian: 2%
- Percent Black: 34%
- Percent Hispanic/Latino: 10%
- Percent Native American: 0%
- Percent White: 50%

**Funding Level**
State and local revenue per pupil, adjusted for regional cost differences.

Tennessee ranked 44 out of 51 on funding level with $11,139 in cost-adjusted per pupil revenue. That is $3,975 below the national average of $15,114.

**Funding Distribution**
The allocation of funds to school districts relative to the concentration of student poverty. States are classified as progressive, regressive, or flat.

Tennessee’s funding distribution was flat: on average, high poverty districts receive 3% or $389 less per pupil than low poverty districts.

**Funding Effort**
Funding allocated to support PK-12 education as a percentage of the state’s economic activity (GDP).

Tennessee makes a lower than average effort to fund schools. The state’s fiscal capacity (GDP per capita) is lower than average.