

FAQ

Education Choice



Tennessee

How does Tennessee perform on the Nation's Report Card?

	Tennessee	Nation
4th grade reading	33	35
4th grade science	41	37
4th grade mathematics	36	40
8th grade reading	31	35
8th grade science	37	33
8th grade mathematics	30	33

http://bit.ly/tn_naep

Where do Tennessee schools rank nationally and compared to its neighbors?

	Reason Foundation		<i>US News and World Report</i>
	Quality Rank	Efficiency	
Virginia	1	3	12
Georgia	7	5	35
Kentucky	22	18	24
Missouri	26	31	19
Tennessee	29	19	29
Mississippi	33	24	47
Arkansas	47	44	38
Alabama	50	49	39

<https://reason.com/assets/db/15371947647072.pdf>

What education choice options are available in neighboring states?

	Charters	TCS	Voucher	ESA	IETC
Alabama	✓	✓			✓
Arkansas	✓		✓		
Georgia	✓	✓	✓		
Kentucky	✓				
Mississippi	✓		✓	✓	
Missouri	✓				
Tennessee	✓			✓	
Virginia	✓	✓			

<https://www.edchoice.org/school-choice/school-choice-in-america>

Where does Tennessee rank on the problem of bullying in schools?

	Rank
Alabama	2
Arkansas	3
Georgia	12
Kentucky	16
Mississippi	18
Missouri	30
Tennessee	33
Virginia	45

<http://bit.ly/bullyrank>

Would an ESA drain district school funds?

No, it would increase per pupil funding at the district school. Here is an example:

Without Education Choice Programs

	Students	Per Pupil Spending*	Total Revenue
District School	1000	\$10,340	\$13,620,000

With Education Choice Program

	Students	Revenue	Per Pupil	Per Pupil Increase
District School	90	\$961,000	\$10,678	\$338
ESA Participants	10	\$73,000	\$7,300**	

* Tennessee per pupil spending (2018), <http://bit.ly/tnperpupil>

** <http://www.capitol.tn.gov/Bills/111/Fiscal/FM0916.pdf>

Individualized Education Account Program (IEA)

2018/19 State Average Value*	\$6,957
2018/19 Actual Average Value**	\$6,463
Students Participating***	137
First Time Kindergarten	11
Attending Private School	96 (70%)
Independently Homeschooled	41 (30%)
School Participating	14

* https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/iea/iea_per_pupil_funding_2018-19_parents.pdf

** Calculated from data provided by Rebecca Wright, director, Individualized Education Account Program at the TN Department of Education

Formula: (Monthly average account deposit - 6% admin fee) x 10 months = (\$687.57 - \$41) x 10

*** https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/iea/iea_program_student_enrollment_data_2018-19.pdf