

# 2020 Districts with the Best Teachers Methodology

The 2020 Districts with the Best Teachers ranking is based on rigorous analysis of academic and teacher data from the U.S. Department of Education along with millions of reviews from students and parents. [Learn where our data comes from](#). Note: Niche has a separate ranking for Best Places to Teach.

## Factors Considered

Factor	Description	Source	Weight
Academics Grade	Based on state assessment proficiency, SAT/ACT scores, and survey responses on academics from students and parents.	<a href="#">Multiple Sources</a>	30.0%
Parent/Student Surveys on Teachers	Niche survey responses scored on a 1-5 scale regarding teachers in the district.	Self-reported by Niche users	25.0%
Teacher Absenteeism	Percentage of teachers missing 10 or more days for sick or personal leave per school year.	<a href="#">Civil Rights Data Collection</a>	15.0%
Teacher Salary Index	Average teacher salary normalized by Median Household Income by county.	<a href="#">U.S. Department of Education</a>	10.0%
Teachers in First/Second Year	Percentage of teachers in their first or second year of teaching.	<a href="#">Civil Rights Data Collection</a>	10.0%
Average Teacher Salary	Average teacher salary in the district.	<a href="#">National Center for Education Statistics</a>	5.0%
Student-Teacher Ratio	Ratio of students to full-time teachers. Please note: Student-teacher ratio is not a representation of average class size.	<a href="#">National Center for Education Statistics</a>	5.0%

The same methodology is used to produce the Niche Teachers Grade for each ranked school district as well as additional school districts. Statistics obtained from the [U.S. Department of Education](#) represent the most recent data available, as self-reported by the school districts. Niche also collects data directly from schools via their Niche Partner Accounts. If you work for a school and would like to update your data, [please claim your school](#).

For more details about how we calculate our rankings, [click here](#).