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**Delaware Education News**  
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**Quality Counts**

**2008 - Delaware**

Edweek's Editorial Projects in Education Research Center States awarded overall letter grades based on ratings across six areas of performance and policy: chance-for-success; K-12 achievement; standards, assessments, and accountability; transitions and alignment; the teaching profession; and school finance.

**QUALITY COUNTS 2008 GRADING SUMMARY**

**Delaware**

Chance for success	<b>B</b>
K-12 achievement	<b>C-</b>
Standards, assessments, and accountability	<b>B+</b>
Transitions and alignment	<b>D</b>
The teaching profession	<b>C+</b>

School finance

**B**

**OVERALL GRADE: C+**

Full **Delaware** Report:

<http://www.edweek.org/media/ew/qc/2008/18shr.de.h27.pdf>

The national Report is here:

<http://www.edweek.org/media/ew/qc/2008/18shr.us.h27.pdf>

State Reports are here:

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/01/10/18shr.h27.html>

### **Mapping Educational Progress 2008**

Data on student achievement in reading and math, high school graduation rates, schools making adequate yearly progress, highly qualified teachers, parents taking advantage of tutoring and choice options, state participation in flexibility options, and more.

National Report:

<http://www.ed.gov/nclb/accountability/results/progress/nation.html>

Full **Delaware** Report:

<http://www.ed.gov/nclb/accountability/results/progress/delaware.pdf>

## Delaware Flunks on School Food Report

Kentucky and Oregon top the nation in healthy school foods policies, but two-thirds of states have no or weak nutrition standards to limit junk-food and soda sales out of vending machines, school stores, and other venues outside of school meals, according to a school foods report card

(<http://cspinet.org/new/pdf/2007schoolreport.pdf>) from the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI).

No states received an A grade, though two states (Kentucky and Oregon) received an A-; six states received a B+ (Nevada, Alabama, Arkansas, California, Washington and New Mexico); nine states earned a B or B-, including Texas and Arizona; six states and the District of Columbia received Cs; seven states got Ds; including NC (D+) VA (D) and Georgia (D-) and 20 states got Fs, including Massachusetts, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Most improved honors go to Oregon, which upgraded from an F in last year's report card to an A-, and Washington state, which moved from an F to a B+. Since CSPI's last report card in 2006 (<http://cspinet.org/new/200606201.html>), Oregon passed a comprehensive school snack and beverage policy which limits calories, saturated and trans fat, and sugars in snacks in K-12 schools and limits the sale of most sugary beverages in schools. Both states previously had no guidelines beyond USDA's bare-bones rules.

CSPI found that only 11 states have comprehensive food and beverage standards that apply to the whole campus, the whole school day, for all grade levels. Thirteen states limit portion sizes for snacks, and only 11 states limit portion sizes for beverages. Fifteen states limit the saturated-fat content of school snacks, and only ten address trans fat. Just five states set limits on sodium in school foods.

"The majority of states still rely on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's outdated school nutrition standards," said Wootan. "Those national standards limit only the sale of jelly beans, lollipops, and other so-called 'foods of minimal nutritional value.' Those standards don't address calories, saturated and trans fat, sodium, or other key nutrition concerns for children today."

CSPI based its grades on five key considerations:

- Beverage nutrition standards
- Food nutrition standards
- Grade levels to which policies apply
- Time during the school day to which policies apply
- Locations on campus to which policies apply

Over the last 20 years, obesity rates have tripled in children and adolescents, and only 2 percent of children eat a healthy diet, according to key nutrition recommendations by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Despite that, about a third of elementary schools, 71 percent of middle schools, and 89 percent of high schools sell items such as sugary drinks, snack cakes, candy, and chips out of vending machines, school stores, or a la carte lines in the cafeteria, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 2006 School Health Policies and Programs Study:

**[http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/shpps/2006/factsheets/pdf/FS\\_FoodandBeverages\\_SHPPS2006.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/shpps/2006/factsheets/pdf/FS_FoodandBeverages_SHPPS2006.pdf)**

Full Report Card:

**<http://cspinet.org/new/pdf/2007schoolreport.pdf>**