



## Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D)

**For Prelims:** Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D), Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE +), National Achievement Survey (NAS).

**For Mains:** PGI-D, Related Initiatives, Performance of School Education System in Districts.

### Why in News?

Recently, the Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education (MoE) released the **Centre's first-ever Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D)** for 2018-19 and 2019-20.

- In June, 2021, the Union Education Minister has approved the release of [Performance Grading Index \(PGI\) 2019-20 for States and Union Territories](#).

## THE GRADING INDEX

### PARAMETERS CONSIDERED

Learning outcomes, Effective classroom transaction, infrastructure facilities and student's entitlements, school safety and child protection, digital learning and governance process



### OVERALL SCORE

Percentage	Districts
Over 90%	0
* 81-90%	3
71-80%	86
61-70%	276
51-60%	238
41-50%	87
31-40%	39
*21-30%	3
* 11-20%	2

### DIGITAL LEARNING SCORE

Percentage	Districts
71-80%	8
61-70%	41
51-60%	71
41-50%	79
31-40%	83
21-30%	125
11-20%	146
Below 10%	180

### DISTRICT SCORES

#### 11-20%

Shi Yomi (Arunachal Pradesh), Lawngtlai (Mizoram)

#### 21-30%

KraDaadi and Longding (Arunachal Pradesh), Mamit (Mizoram)

#### 81-90%

Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Jaipur (all in Rajasthan)

## What is the Index All About?

### ▪ About:

- PGI-D assesses the performance of the school education system at the **district level by creating an index for comprehensive analysis**.
- The PGI-D assessed district-level performance in school education based on the data collected from various sources, including [Unified District Information System for Education Plus \(UDISE +\)](#), [National Achievement Survey \(NAS\)](#), 2017 and data provided by respective districts.

### ▪ Methodology:

- **Structure:** The PGI-D structure **comprises a total weightage of 600 points across 83 indicators**, which are grouped under **six categories**:
  - Outcomes, Effective Classroom Transaction, Infrastructure Facilities & Student's Entitlements, School Safety & Child Protection, Digital Learning and Governance Process.
    - Two categories — digital learning and effective classroom transaction have been **added in the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic**. However, these categories were not part of the state-level PGI.
  - These **categories are further divided into 12 domains**.

- **Assessment Grades:** The PGI-D grades the districts into 10 grades. **The highest achievable grade is 'Daksh'**, which is for districts scoring more than 90% of the total points in that category or overall.
  - It is followed by **'Utkarsh'** (81% to 90%), **'Ati Uttam'** (71% to 80%), **'Uttam'** (61% to 70%), **'Prachesta-1'** (51% to 60%) and **'Prachesta-2'** (41% to 50%).
  - The lowest grade in PGI-D is **'Akanshi-3'** which is for scores upto 10% of the total points.
    - None of the districts figured in the highest 'Daksh' grade in both these years.
- **Significance:**
  - The indicator-wise PGI score **shows the areas where a district needs to improve**. The PGI-D will reflect the relative performance of all the districts in a uniform scale which **encourages them to perform better**.
  - At the same time, it will also **act as a good source of information for best practices followed by States and UTs** which can be shared.
  - It **helps all the stakeholders in the school education system**, including the students, parents, teachers, and administrators to know the performance of their district vis-à-vis other districts.

## What are the Key Highlights of the Report?

- **Best Performers:**
  - Three **districts from Rajasthan performed the best** in the assessment.
    - According to the report, the **three districts — Sikar, Jhunjhunu, and Jaipur figured in 'Utkarsh' grade** in 2019-20 in contrast to a year before when no district featured in that category.
  - Rajasthan has the highest 24 districts in this grade, **followed by Punjab (14), Gujarat (13), and Kerala (13)**.
- **Lowest Performers:**
  - The **districts with the lowest scores (1 out of 50) in this category were:**
    - South Salmara-Mankachar (Assam), Alirajpur (Madhya Pradesh), North Garo Hills and South Garo Hills in Meghalaya, and Khowai (Tripura) in 2019-20.
  - The 12 states/ UTs which **don't have a single district in the Ati-Uttam and Uttam are:**
    - Bihar, Goa, Jammu and Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttarakhand.
- **Progress:**
  - As per the report, **the number of districts in all categories has increased**.
    - In the **'Ati Uttam' grade**, the number of districts increased from 49 to 86 during 2018-19 to 2019-20 **showing "remarkable improvements"**.
    - 33 districts improved their score in outcomes, but there is **no grade-level improvement**.
      - The outcomes category includes **learning outcomes of students, teachers' availability and professional outcomes**.
    - **Digital Learning Category:** As compared to 2018-19, **20 districts have shown over 20% improvement** while 43 districts bettered their **score by over 10%** during 2019-20.
    - **Infrastructural Facilities:** 478 districts improved their score in 2019-20 as compared to 2018-19.
      - Out of these 478, 37 districts made an improvement of over **20% improvement in score and 115 districts** made an improvement of over **10% implying grade-level improvement**.

## What are the Other Government Initiatives in this Direction?

- [National Education Policy, 2020](#): It aims at making **"India a global knowledge superpower"** by introducing several changes from the school to college level in the Indian education system.
- [Samagra Shiksha](#): It is an integrated **scheme for school education extending from pre-school to class XII** to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education.
- [Mid Day Meal Scheme](#): It provides that every child within the **age group of six to fourteen**

**years studying in classes I to VIII** who enrolls and attends the school, shall be provided hot cooked nutritional meals, free of charge every day except on school holidays.

- [Eklavya Model School and Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme \(RGNF\)](#): These aim to **encourage the students belonging to Scheduled Tribes** (ST) community to pursue higher education.

[Source: TH](#)

PDF Referenece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/performance-grading-index-for-districts-pgi-d>