



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