

MINNESOTA - One in three public schools in Minnesota is located in a rural area, serving a rural student population of close to 150,000 (more than one in six of the state's public school students). Measures of student and family diversity are all at or below national averages, except for the percentage of rural students qualifying for special education. The educational policy context is generally favorable, but educational outcomes and measures of college readiness are mixed; overall NAEP scores rank Minnesota's rural students in the highest quartile and the poverty performance gap is relatively small, but relatively little improvement is seen between grades 4 and 8, and fewer than one in 20 of rural high school juniors and seniors has earned AP credit.

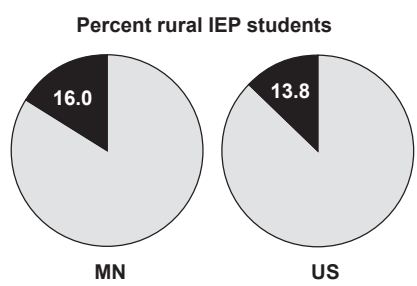
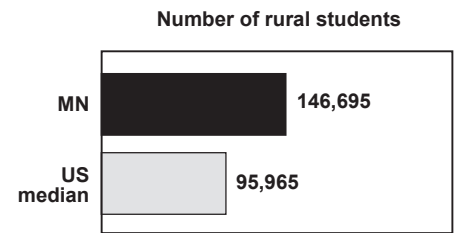
PRIORITY RANKING

30

GAUGE 1: Notable | Important | Very Important | Crucial

Importance 30

	MN	Rank*
Percent rural schools	33.1%	27
Percent small rural districts	42.9%	25
Percent rural students	17.9%	28
Number of rural students	146,695	22
Percent state education funds to rural districts	17.8%	30



GAUGE 2: Fair | Serious | Critical | Urgent

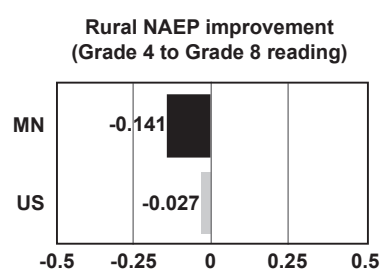
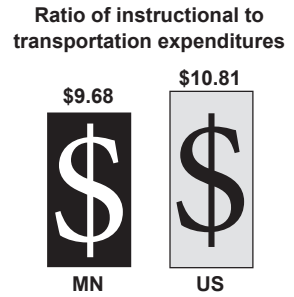
Student and Family Diversity 31

	MN	Rank*
Rural diversity index	22.1%	29
Poverty level in rural school communities	295%	37
Percent rural IEP students	16.0%	10
Percent of rural school-aged children in poverty	9.0%	39
Percent rural mobility	10.3%	28

GAUGE 3: Notable | Important | Very Important | Crucial

Educational Policy Context 40

	MN	Rank*
Rural instructional expenditures per pupil	\$6,803	32
Ratio of instructional to transportation expenditures	\$9.68	18
Median organizational scale (x 100)	1,459	30
State revenue to schools per local dollar	\$2.70	41
Rural adjusted salary expenditures per instructional FTE	\$75,494	31



GAUGE 4: Fair | Serious | Critical | Urgent

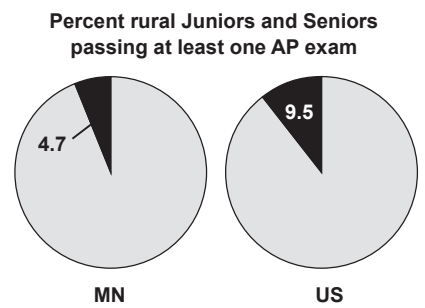
Educational Outcomes 23

	MN	Rank*
Rural NAEP improvement (Grade 4 to Grade 8 math)	-0.080	21
Rural NAEP improvement (Grade 4 to Grade 8 reading)	-0.141	4
Rural NAEP performance (Grade 4 and Grade 8, math and reading)	0.210	39
Rural NAEP poverty disadvantage	-0.490	35
Rural advantage for NAEP performance	0.004	21

GAUGE 5: Fair | Serious | Critical | Urgent

College Readiness 19

	MN	Rank*
Estimated graduation rate in rural districts	88.0%	21
Percent rural Juniors and Seniors in dual enrollment (males)	18.6%	26
Percent rural Juniors and Seniors in dual enrollment (females)	26.0%	25
Percent rural Juniors and Seniors passing at least one AP exam	4.7%	15
Percent rural Juniors and Seniors who took the ACT or SAT	46.3%	21



* A rank of 1 is most crucial or most urgent.
 **See full report for a detailed definition of each indicator.