See how closely Ohio school report card grades trend with district income
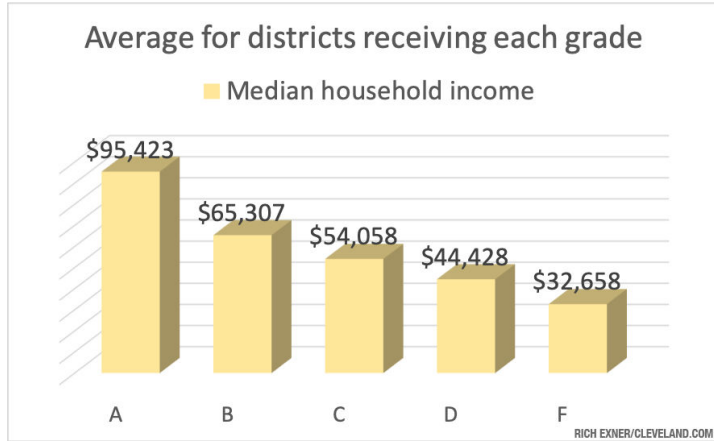
By **Rich Exner, cleveland.com**   September 17, 2019

Average for districts receiving each grade

■ Median household income

$95,423 — A
$65,307 — B
$54,058 — C
$44,428 — D
$32,658 — F

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	Overall grade			Adults living in the district		
Grade	Districts receiving grade	Median household income	Child poverty rate	HS degree or above	Bachelor's degree or above	Graduate or professional degree
A	31	$95,423	3.7%	96.8%	53.7%	24.2%
B	169	$65,307	11.6%	91.9%	27.0%	10.1%
C	282	$54,058	18.2%	89.0%	18.9%	6.7%
D	122	$44,428	28.1%	86.9%	16.8%	6.1%
F	4	$32,658	47.5%	83.7%	13.8%	4.9%
Total	608	$57,221	17.8%	89.8%	22.5%	8.4%

CLEVELAND, Ohio - The latest set of Ohio school report cards not only provided a scorecard for each district statewide - they once again drove home the point that wealthier districts do better on such reports. For example, incomes in the "A" districts were three times higher than those in the "F" districts, and the child poverty rate was 13 times higher in the worst performing districts, cleveland.com found.
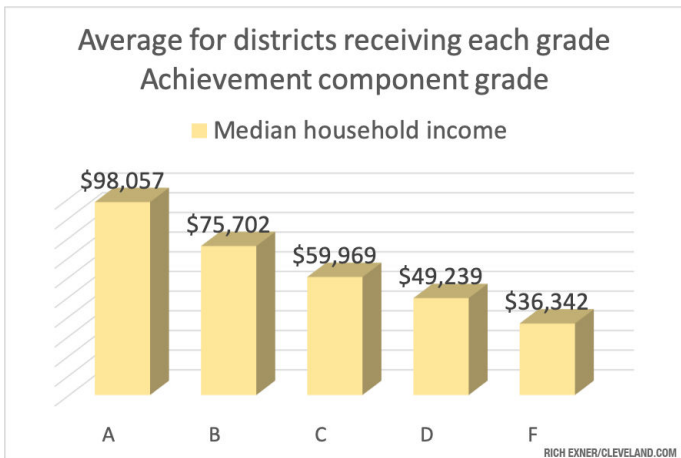
To get an idea of how closely report card grades from the Ohio Department of Education follow demographic factors, cleveland.com compared those grades to U.S. Census Bureau community data for household income, child poverty and the education level of the adults.

In nearly every key report card category, the trends followed census data closely. For example, taking the median household income for each district, the average among those getting "A" overall grades was $95,423. It was $65,307 for B-graded districts, $54,058 for C-graded districts, $44,428 for D-graded districts and $32,658 for F-graded districts. In the A districts, 58.5% of the adults age 25 and older have at least a bachelor's degree. That share drops to 17.1% for D-graded districts and 16.3% for F-graded districts.
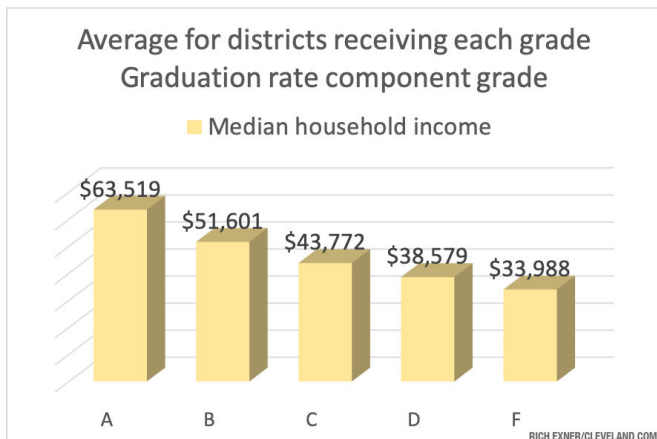
There are outliers, of course. They are highlighted at this link, ranking each Ohio school district while factoring in income. But overall, the trends hold true.

Scroll below to learn more. *The descriptions for each category shown below are from the Ohio Department of Education. The census data cleveland.com used to make the calculations is from the 2017 American Community Survey.*

Average for districts receiving each grade
Achievement component grade

■ Median household income

$98,057 — A
$75,702 — B
$59,969 — C
$49,239 — D
$36,342 — F

RICH EXNER/CLEVELAND.COM

Achievement component grade   The Achievement component represents whether student performance on state tests met established thresholds and how well students performed on tests overall. A new indicator measures chronic absenteeism.

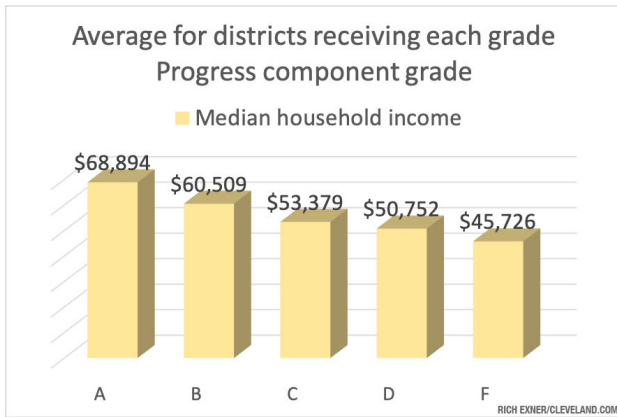|	Achievement component grade			Adults living in the district		
Grade	Districts receiving grade	Median household income	Child poverty rate	HS degree or above	Bachelor's degree or above	Graduate or professional degree
A	20	$98,057	3.6%	97.0%	58.5%	28.1%
B	71	$75,702	6.9%	93.7%	35.9%	13.8%
C	209	$59,969	14.1%	91.0%	22.4%	8.1%
D	289	$49,239	22.5%	87.8%	17.1%	6.1%
F	19	$36,342	42.2%	84.9%	16.3%	5.5%
Total	608	$57,221	17.8%	89.8%	22.5%	8.4%

Average for districts receiving each grade
Graduation rate component grade

■ Median household income

$63,519 — A
$51,601 — B
$43,772 — C
$38,579 — D
$33,988 — F

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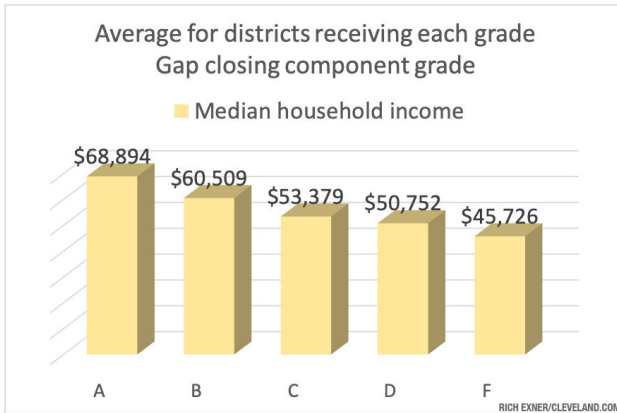|	Graduation rate component grade			Adults living in the district		
Grade	Districts receiving grade	Median household income	Child poverty rate	HS degree or above	Bachelor's degree or above	Graduate or professional degree
A	363	$63,519	13.4%	91.3%	25.5%	9.7%
B	156	$51,601	20.0%	88.8%	18.9%	6.8%
C	56	$43,772	28.9%	86.2%	16.5%	5.9%
D	24	$38,579	35.2%	84.2%	16.3%	5.5%
F	9	$33,988	41.6%	84.5%	16.8%	6.2%
Total	608	$57,221	17.8%	89.8%	22.5%	8.4%

Graduation rate component The Graduation rate component looks at the percent of students who are successfully finishing high school with a diploma in four or five years.

Progress component The Progress component looks closely at the growth that all students are making based on their past
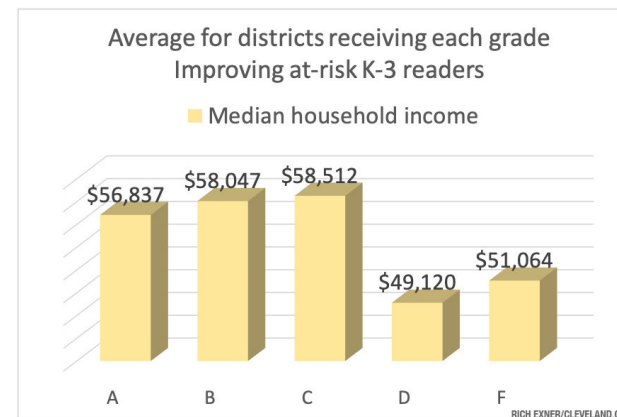
performances.

Average for districts receiving each grade
Progress component grade
Median household income

				Progress component grade			Adults living in the district		
Grade				Districts receiving grade	Median household income	Child poverty rate	HS degree or above	Bachelor's degree or above	Graduate or professional degree
A				111	$68,894	11.9%	92.2%	31.7%	12.6%
B				196	$60,509	14.8%	90.9%	23.5%	8.7%
C				83	$53,379	19.3%	88.4%	18.3%	6.5%
D				176	$50,752	22.0%	88.2%	17.9%	6.6%
F				42	$45,726	26.2%	87.6%	20.1%	7.4%
Total				608	$57,221	17.8%	89.8%	22.5%	8.4%

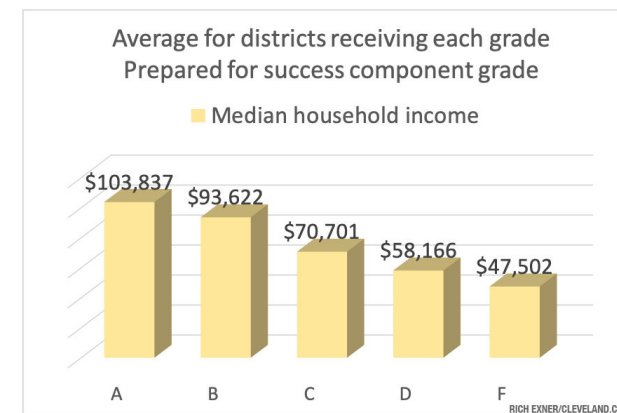Chart bars A–F: $68,894, $60,509, $53,379, $50,752, $45,726

Gap closing component The Gap closing component shows how well schools are meeting the performance expectations for our most vulnerable students in English language arts, math, graduation and English language proficiency.

Average for districts receiving each grade
Gap closing component grade
Median household income

Chart bars A–F: $68,894, $60,509, $53,379, $50,752, $45,726

	Gap closing component grade			Adults living in the district		
Grade	Districts receiving grade	Median household income	Child poverty rate	HS degree or above	Bachelor's degree or above	Graduate or professional degree
A	202	$67,399	11.6%	91.9%	29.2%	11.5%
B	249	$55,561	17.9%	89.6%	20.4%	7.2%
C	62	$49,797	23.7%	88.2%	19.8%	7.5%
D	44	$46,521	24.0%	88.0%	16.6%	5.9%
F	51	$43,266	28.9%	85.8%	13.9%	5.0%
Total	608	$57,221	17.8%	89.8%	22.5%	8.4%

Improving at-risk K-3 readers component This component looks at how successful the school is at improving at-risk K-3 readers.

Average for districts receiving each grade
Improving at-risk K-3 readers
Median household income

Chart bars A–F: $56,837, $58,047, $58,512, $49,120, $51,064

	Improving at-risk K-3 readers component grade			Adults living in the district		
Grade	Districts receiving grade	Median household income	Child poverty rate	HS degree or above	Bachelor's degree or above	Graduate or professional degree
A	11	$56,837	14.5%	90.4%	22.5%	8.0%
B	71	$58,047	17.3%	89.3%	20.2%	7.2%
C	293	$58,512	16.2%	90.2%	22.7%	8.4%
D	163	$49,120	24.3%	87.9%	18.7%	6.7%
F	8	$51,064	21.0%	87.4%	16.6%	5.8%
NR	62	$72,333	9.1%	93.3%	34.3%	14.7%
Total	608	$57,221	17.8%	89.8%	22.5%	8.4%

Prepared for success component Whether training in a technical field or preparing for work or college, the prepared for success component looks at how well prepared Ohio's students are for all future opportunities.

Average for districts receiving each grade
Prepared for success component grade
Median household income

Chart bars A–F: $103,837, $93,622, $70,701, $58,166, $47,502

	Prepared for success component grade			Adults living in the district		
Grade	Districts receiving grade	Median household income	Child poverty rate	HS degree or above	Bachelor's degree or above	Graduate or professional degree
A	11	$103,837	2.5%	97.4%	64.3%	31.3%
B	25	$93,622	4.9%	96.4%	52.6%	22.7%
C	62	$70,701	8.6%	94.1%	33.4%	13.0%
D	253	$58,166	15.1%	90.3%	21.8%	7.9%
F	257	$47,502	24.6%	87.2%	15.7%	5.4%
Total	608	$57,221	17.8%	89.8%	22.5%	8.4%

Rich Exner, data analysis editor for cleveland.com, writes about numbers on a variety of topics. Follow on Twitter @RichExner. Go to cleveland.com/datacentral for other data-related stories and analysis.

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