These are the 40 best public high schools in Mass., according to US News & World Report

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Boston Latin School in Boston on April 17, 2025. CRAIG F. WALKER/GLOBE STAFF

Once again, Massachusetts has more public high schools ranked in the top 25 percent of the US News & World Report Best High Schools list than any other state in the country.

The annual national rankings considered more than 24,000 public and charter high schools, and released a list of the top 18,000 for 2025-2026, according to the publication.

Among all the schools in Massachusetts eligible for the list, 43 percent earned a spot in the top quarter of ranked schools nationwide, US News said. The Bay State was followed by Connecticut, with 41 percent if its public and charter high schools in the top quarter, and New Jersey, with 40 percent in the top quarter nationwide.

"Massachusetts once again took the lead for the state with the largest proportion of schools in the top 25% of the Best High Schools rankings," the news outlet said.

Boston Latin School was ranked the top public high school in Massachusetts, a repeat of last year's ranking.

Several of the state's top schools received better rankings this year than last, with a handful breaking into the top 10 statewide.

Among the top five public high schools in Massachusetts this year, Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School (ranked No. 2 in the state), Lexington High School (No. 3), Sturgis Charter Public School (No. 4), and O'Bryant School of Math & Science (No. 5) moved up in the nationwide rankings.

Boston Latin fell slightly in the national ranking, from 27th to 46th best public high school in the US.

Mystic Valley Regional Charter School, Pioneer Charter School of Science 2, Belmont High School, and Pioneer Charter School of Science broke into the top 10 in Massachusetts this year compared to last.

The 2025-2026 national public high school rankings were based on data points such as student achievement on state tests, graduation rates, and college readiness measures, US News & World Report said.

As with all school and college rankings, experts warn to interpret results with a grain of salt. In recent years, US News & World Report updated its criteria for college rankings in response to criticisms that it places a premium on prestige.

US News & World Report said its nationwide high school rankings use data to provide families with information needed to make informed education decisions.

“Students and families need data to help them make one of the most important decisions of their academic journey,” said LaMont Jones, managing editor for education at US News & World Report, in a release. “Our Best High Schools rankings provide the insights to help them identify schools that will prepare students for college success.”

The news outlet also said that schools were evaluated on how effectively they serve all students — including underserved populations — for college readiness, specifically measured through student participation and performance on Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams. The rankings consider curriculum breadth and overall student outcomes as well, the news outlet said.

Here are the top 40 public and charter high schools in Massachusetts, along with their national rankings, according to US News:

1. Boston Latin School (No. 46 nationally)
2. Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School, Amherst (No. 96 nationally)
3. Lexington High School (No. 118)
4. Sturgis Charter Public School, Hyannis (No. 158)
5. O’Bryant School of Math & Science, Boston (No. 181)
6. Mystic Valley Regional Charter School, Malden (No. 198)
7. Pioneer Charter School of Science 2, Saugus (No. 216)
8. Hopkinton High School (No. 224)
9. Belmont High School (No. 234)
10. Pioneer Charter School of Science, Everett (No. 256)

11. Dover-Sherborn Regional High School (No. 268)
12. Boston Latin Academy (No. 317)
13. Acton-Boxborough Regional High School (No. 319)
14. Algonquin Regional High School (No. 341)
15. Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School, Marlborough (No. 378)
16. The Bromfield School, Harvard (No. 381)
17. Winchester High School (No. 398)
18. Medfield Senior High School (No. 401)
19. Westborough High School (No. 445)
20. Wellesley High School (No. 481)
21. Cohasset High School (No. 495)
22. Wayland High School (No. 500)
23. Weston High School (No. 506)
24. Newton South High School (No. 575)
25. Westwood High School (No. 590)
26. Sharon High School (No. 612)
27. Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School (No. 626)
28. Brookline High School (No. 637)
29. Arlington High School (No. 648)
30. Concord-Carlisle High School (No. 686)
31. Needham High School (No. 760)
32. Westford Academy (No. 775)
33. Mt. Greylock Regional High School, Williamstown (No. 798)
34. Milton High School (No. 837)
35. Newton North High School (No. 852)
36. Lynnfield High School (No. 855)
37. Bedford High School (No. 857)
38. Groton Dunstable Regional High School (No. 873)
39. Hingham High School (No. 882)

40. Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School, Worcester (No. 900)

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