

## ISS ESG MUNI QUALITYSCORE

ISS ESG's Muni QualityScore provides a detailed assessment of socioeconomic risks faced by upwards of 29,000 U.S. cities/towns, 341 counties, 13,500 school districts and all 50 states.

Currently utilizing seventy-two (72) scores from the respective datasets: the individual scores determine the ranking for each City/Town, County, State, and School District, both statewide, and nationally, for each data input. Each individual score is then combined to create one final value (total score) per City/Town, County, State, and School District – the total or final score is then utilized to determine the final Ranking, and ESG score for each these respective entities.

Scores are calculated by summing the total from all Cities/Towns, Counties, States, and School Districts for the variable in question and then determining the individual City/Town, County, State, or School Districts weight, or contribution to the total. By determining the relative value for each variable (i.e. score), the ISS ESG Muni QualityScore can determine the appropriate final Ranking and ESG score for each City/Town, County, State, and School District, while not simply depending on the underlying ranking.

### Outputs

ISS ESG Muni QualityScore rankings are updated no later than thirty days following standard fiscal quarter dates to reflect the new releases of any Census data and data utilized from quasi government sources. Data is provided in flat file format (ASCII, CSV) on a quarterly basis, with history from 2009 onwards.

The scores are decile scores, 1 – 10, as well as letters (AAA – CCC), which represent a relative measure based on the raw score calculations of the other similarly situated municipal entities. A score in the 1st decile indicates relatively higher quality disclosure and transparency practices, and conversely, a score in the 10th decile indicates relatively lower quality. A score of “AAA”, indicates the highest possible quality, where a score of “CCC” indicates the lowest possible quality.

### Research Process

The Muni QualityScore does not survey obligors, and instead relies entirely on non-interpretive data from government, quasi-government, and special interest groups.

The research process can be broken down as follows:

- Data collection: Muni QualityScore collects data from a range of sources including: FBI, CDC, U.S. Census, DOI, EPS, FEMA, EIA, as well as other publicly available datasets.
- Quality assurance: Experienced analysts review the accuracy of collected data, normalize the data, and compare the data to previous collections, as well as to their data of their peers.
- Data verification: If a dataset is deemed to have unresolved questions, it is held and not utilized until it can be confirmed and then put into the next quarter cycle for utilization.

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for long-term and sustainable growth by providing  
high-quality data, analytics, and insight.**

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