

WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

May 2008

Site of the Month

STEM

In this Newsletter I will recommend two reports, one that I have not read and one I have read. The former is *Technology Counts 2008*, which according to Education Week's Web site, examines the push to improve science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education in the U.S. It is a project of Education Week and the Editorial Projects in the Education Research Center (ERC). The latter report is the *Nevada Technology Report*, a supplement to the full *Technology Counts* report. This detailed state report provides information on student performance in STEM subjects and qualified teachers in STEM subjects. In addition, it gives the grades assigned to state leadership by ERC on the access, use, and capacity to use technology. As I have not purchased *Technology Counts 2008*, I will only be able to share with you highlights from the state report, which is available on-line only and is free.

The *Nevada Technology Report* shows that the state fared poorly on its Technology Report Card, receiving an overall grade of D, which is lower than the C+ average grade for the combined states. Nevada received a D on providing access to technology (e.g., number of students per instructional computer); a D+ on use of technology (e.g., student standards include technology); and an F on capacity to use technology efficiently (e.g., teacher standards). Although the grades appear dismal, they do not differ much from Nevada's neighboring states's grades which are displayed in the following table.

Nevada's and Neighboring States' Overall Technology Scores

	AZ	CA	ID	NV	OR	UT
Overall Technology	C+	D+	C	D	D	C
Grade	(78.2)	(69.3)	(75.8)	(64.3)	(65.8)	(74.0)
Access to Technology	D-	F	C+	D	F	D
Grade	(62.0)	(59.0)	(78.5)	(64.5)	(59.0)	(63.0)
Use of Technology	A	D+	A-	D+	B-	A
Grade	(100.0)	(69.3)	(89.8)	(69.3)	(79.5)	(100.0)
Capacity to Use Technology	C	B-	F	F	F	F
Grade	(72.7)	(79.5)	(59.0)	(59.0)	(59.0)	(59.0)

Created off the Education Week Technology Counts Detailed State Data Comparison custom table builder.
http://www.edweek.org/apps/tc2008/state_compare.html, as of 4/1/08.

Technology Counts 2008 can be purchased on the Education Week Web site for \$6.00. The *Nevada Technology Report* is available at: http://www.edweek.org/media/ew/tc/2008/30NV_STR2008.h27.pdf.

Rennae Daneshvary, PhD
Nevada KIDS COUNT