

DIGEST of EDUCATION STATISTICS

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Table 214.10. Number of public school districts and public and private elementary and secondary schools: Selected years, 1869-70 through 2018-19

School year	Regular public school districts ¹	Total, all public and private schools	Public schools ²				Private schools ^{2,3}			
			Total, all public schools ⁴	Total, schools with reported grade spans ⁵	Schools with elementary grades		Schools with secondary grades	Total, all private schools ⁴	Schools with elementary grades	Schools with secondary grades
					Total	One-teacher ⁶				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1869-70	---	---	116,312	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1879-80	---	---	178,122	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1889-90	---	---	224,526	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1899-1900	---	---	248,279	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1909-10	---	---	265,474	---	---	212,448	---	---	---	---
1919-20	---	---	271,319	---	---	187,948	---	---	---	---
1929-30	---	---	248,117	---	238,306	148,712	23,930	---	9,275 ⁷	3,258 ⁷
1939-40	117,108 ⁸	---	226,762	---	---	113,600	---	---	11,306 ⁷	3,568 ⁷
1949-50	83,718 ⁸	---	--	---	128,225	59,652	24,542	---	10,375 ⁷	3,331 ⁷
1959-60	40,520 ⁸	---	--	---	91,853	20,213	25,784	---	13,574 ⁷	4,061 ⁷
1961-62	35,676 ⁸	125,634	107,260	---	81,910	13,333	25,350	18,374	14,762 ⁷	4,129 ⁷
1963-64	31,705 ⁸	---	104,015	---	77,584	9,895	26,431	---	---	4,451 ⁷
1965-66	26,983 ⁸	117,662	99,813	---	73,216	6,491	26,597	17,849 ⁷	15,340 ⁷	4,606 ⁷
1967-68	22,010 ⁸	---	--	94,197	70,879	4,146	27,011	---	---	---
1970-71	17,995 ⁸	---	--	89,372	65,800	1,815	25,352	---	14,372 ⁷	3,770 ⁷
1973-74	16,730 ⁸	---	--	88,655	65,070	1,365	25,906	---	---	---
1975-76	16,376 ⁸	---	88,597	87,034	63,242	1,166	25,330	---	---	---
1976-77	16,271 ⁸	---	--	86,501	62,644	1,111	25,378	19,910 ⁷	16,385 ⁷	5,904 ⁷
1978-79	16,014 ⁸	---	--	84,816	61,982	1,056	24,504	19,489 ⁷	16,097 ⁷	5,766 ⁷
1979-80	15,944 ⁸	---	87,004	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

School year	Regular public school districts ¹	Total, all public and private schools	Public schools ²					Private schools ^{2,3}			
			Total, all public schools ⁴	Total, schools with reported grade spans ⁵	Schools with elementary grades		Schools with secondary grades	Total, all private schools ⁴	Schools with elementary grades	Schools with secondary grades	
					Total	One-teacher ⁶					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1980-81	15,912 ⁸	106,746	85,982	83,688	61,069	921	24,362	20,764 ⁷	16,792 ⁷	5,678 ⁷	
1982-83	15,824 ⁸	---	84,740	82,039	59,656	798	23,988	---	---	---	
1983-84	15,747 ⁸	111,872	84,178	81,418	59,082	838	23,947	27,694	20,872	7,862	
1984-85	---	---	84,007	81,147	58,827	825	23,916	---	---	---	
1985-86	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	25,616	20,252	7,387	
1986-87	15,713	---	83,421	82,316	60,811	763	23,481	---	---	---	
1987-88	15,577	110,055	83,248	81,416	59,754	729	23,841	26,807	22,959	8,418	
1988-89	15,376	---	83,165	81,579	60,176	583	23,638	---	---	---	
1989-90	15,367	110,137	83,425	81,880	60,699	630	23,461	26,712	24,221	10,197	
1990-91	15,358	109,228	84,538	82,475	61,340	617	23,460	24,690	22,223	8,989	
1991-92	15,173	110,576	84,578	82,506	61,739	569	23,248	25,998	23,523	9,282	
1992-93	15,025	---	84,497	82,896	62,225	430	23,220	---	---	---	
1993-94	14,881	111,486	85,393	83,431	62,726	442	23,379	26,093	23,543	10,555	
1994-95	14,772	---	86,221	84,476	63,572	458	23,668	---	---	---	
1995-96	14,766	121,519	87,125	84,958	63,961	474	23,793	34,394	32,401	10,942	
1996-97	14,841	---	88,223	86,092	64,785	487	24,287	---	---	---	
1997-98	14,805	123,403	89,508	87,541	65,859	476	24,802	33,895	31,408	10,779	
1998-99	14,891	---	90,874	89,259	67,183	463	25,797	---	---	---	
1999-2000	14,928	125,007	92,012	90,538	68,173	423	26,407	32,995	30,457	10,693	
2000-01	14,859	---	93,273	91,691	69,697	411	27,090	---	---	---	
2001-02	14,559	130,007	94,112	92,696	70,516	408	27,468	35,895	33,191	11,846	
2002-03	14,465	---	95,615	93,869	71,270	366	28,151	---	---	---	
2003-04	14,383	130,407	95,726	93,977	71,195	376	28,219	34,681	31,988	11,188	
2004-05	14,205	---	96,513	95,001	71,556	338	29,017	---	---	---	
2005-06	14,166	132,436	97,382	95,731	71,733	326	29,705	35,054	32,127	12,184	
2006-07	13,856	---	98,793	96,362	72,442	313	29,904	---	---	---	
2007-08	13,838	132,656	98,916	97,654	73,011	288	30,542	33,740	30,808	11,870	
2008-09	13,809	---	98,706	97,119	72,771	237	29,971	---	---	---	
2009-10	13,625	132,183	98,817	97,521	72,870	217	30,381	33,366	30,590	11,941	
2010-11	13,588	---	98,817	97,767	73,223	224	30,681	---	---	---	
2011-12	13,567	129,189	98,328	97,357	73,000	205	30,668	30,861	28,184	11,165	
2012-13	13,515	---	98,454	97,331	73,037	196	30,623	---	---	---	
2013-14	13,491	131,890	98,271	97,290	73,223	193	30,256	33,619	30,919	11,110	
2014-15	13,601	---	98,176	97,601	73,420	165	30,528	---	---	---	
2015-16	13,584	132,853	98,277	97,586	73,546	197	30,828	34,576	31,630	12,669	
2016-17	13,598	---	98,158	97,434	73,620	203	30,597	---	---	---	
2017-18	13,551	130,930	98,469	97,568	73,686	188	30,160	32,461	29,616	12,371	
2018-19	13,452	---	98,755	98,064	74,192	185	30,458	---	---	---	

---Not available.

¹ Regular districts exclude regional education service agencies and supervisory union administrative centers, state-operated agencies, federally operated agencies, and other types of local education agencies, such as independent charter schools.

² Schools with both elementary and secondary grades are included under elementary schools and also under secondary schools.

³ Data for most years prior to 1976-77 are partly estimated. Prior to 1995-96, excludes schools with highest grade of kindergarten.

⁴ Includes schools not classified by grade span, which are not shown separately.

⁵ Includes elementary, secondary, and combined elementary/secondary schools.

⁶ Excludes alternative schools, academies, hospitals, virtual schools, prisons, and juvenile detention facilities.

⁷ These data cannot be compared directly with the data for years after 1980-81.

⁸ Because of expanded survey coverage, data are not directly comparable with data for years after 1983-84.

NOTE: Data in this table represent the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Annual Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1870 through 1910; Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1919-20 through 1949-50; Statistics of State School Systems, 1951-52 through 1967-68; Statistics of Public Elementary and Secondary School Systems, 1970-71 through 1980-81; Statistics of Public and Nonpublic Elementary and Secondary Day Schools, 1968-69; Statistics of Nonpublic Elementary and Secondary Schools, 1970-71; Private Schools in American Education; Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS), "Private School Questionnaire," 1987-88 and 1990-91; Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 1989-90 through 2018-19; and Common Core of Data (CCD), "Local Education Agency Universe Survey" and "Public Elementary/Secondary School Universe Survey," 1982-83 through 2018-19. (This table was prepared September 2020.)

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