PSS *Private School Universe Survey (PSS)*

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Table 8. Number and percentage distribution of private schools, by school size and selected characteristics: United States, 2019–20

Selected characteristic	Less than 50 students		50-149 students		150-299 students		300-499 students		500-749 students		750 or more students	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	12,636	41.4	8,223	27.0	5,271	17.3	2,460	8.1	1,064	3.5	838	2.7
Private school typology												
Catholic	360	5.6	1,732	26.9	2,428	37.6	1,175	18.2	447	6.9	307	4.8
Parochial	102	4.6	647	29.5	945	43.0	378	17.2	105	4.8	‡	‡
Diocesan	123	4.0	838	27.2	1,175	38.1	598	19.4	210	6.8	137	4.4
Private	135	11.5	246	21.0	308	26.3	199	17.0	131	11.2	152	13.0
Other religious	6,289	45.6	3,999	29.0	1,966	14.3	848	6.1	387	2.8	304	2.2
Conservative Christian	1,179	31.9	1,267	34.3	704	19.0	312	8.4	144	3.9	91	2.5
Other affiliated	1,011	32.2	1,003	32.0	597	19.1	265	8.5	134	4.3	123	3.9
Unaffiliated	4,100	58.9	1,728	24.8	664	9.5	271	3.9	108	1.6	90	1.3
Nonsectarian	5,986	58.4	2,492	24.3	877	8.6	437	4.3	230	2.2	227	2.2
Regular	2,666	53.5	1,016	20.4	544	10.9	347	7.0	215	4.3	197	3.9
Special emphasis	2,350	67.7	822	23.7	199	5.7	58	1.7	‡	0.3	30	0.9
Special education	971	54.1	654	36.5	134	7.5	32	1.8	‡	0.2	0	0.0
School level[1]												
Elementary/Middle	9,113	48.2	4,975	26.3	3,264	17.3	1,209	6.4	262	1.4	67	0.4
Secondary/High	1,143	32.9	744	21.4	499	14.3	474	13.6	327	9.4	292	8.4
Combined/Other	2,380	29.3	2,504	30.8	1,508	18.6	777	9.6	475	5.9	480	5.9
Program emphasis												
Regular elementary/ secondary	5,824	27.6	6,312	29.9	4,806	22.8	2,315	11.0	1,035	4.9	791	3.8
Montessori	1,938	75.5	517	20.2	95	3.7	‡	‡	0	0.0	‡	‡
Special program emphasis	305	32.8	334	36.0	165	17.8	79	8.5	‡	‡	29	3.1
Special education	1,097	54.2	744	36.8	149	7.3	32	1.6	‡	‡	0	0.0
Vocational/technical	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Alternative	534	63.4	229	27.1	35	4.1	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Early childhood	2,931	96.6	83	2.7	‡	‡	‡	‡	0	0.0	0	0.0
Region												
Northeast	3,042	45.1	1,698	25.2	1,126	16.7	461	6.8	244	3.6	167	2.5
Midwest	2,604	36.9	2,144	30.4	1,326	18.8	604	8.6	232	3.3	146	2.1
South	4,540	42.5	2,771	26.0	1,674	15.7	896	8.4	421	3.9	369	3.5
West	2,451	40.7	1,609	26.7	1,144	19.0	498	8.3	167	2.8	156	2.6
Urbancity type												
City	3,476	33.3	2,690	25.8	2,161	20.7	1,098	10.5	534	5.1	486	4.7
Suburban	4,820	41.3	2,988	25.6	2,086	17.9	1,033	8.8	441	3.8	303	2.6
Town	844	34.1	1,071	43.3	420	17.0	108	4.4	23	0.9	‡	‡
Rural	3,497	59.3	1,473	25.0	603	10.2	221	3.7	66	1.1	41	0.7

‡ Reporting standards not met. There are fewer than 15 sample cases.

[1] Schools are assigned to one of three school level categories in the 2019–20 PSS: Elementary/Middle, High/secondary, and Combined/other. Elementary/middle schools are defined as schools that enroll students in more of grades K through 4 than in higher grades or that enroll students in more of grades 5 through 8 than in higher or lower grades. High/secondary schools are defined as schools that enroll students in more of grades 9 through 12 than in lower grades. Combined/other schools include all other combinations of grades, including K-12 schools. School level categories in the 2019–20 PSS differ from those in previous survey administrations; caution should be exercised when comparing estimates by level over time.

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding or missing values in cells with too few sample cases. These estimates include private schools which provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through twelve (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2019–20.

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