



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 | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |
| 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.

- 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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