

Table 138.—Distribution of elementary and secondary school children, by average grades, by selected child, parent, and school characteristics: 1996 and 1999

Characteristics of children, parents, and schools 1	Distribution of children, by parental reports of average grades in all subjects							
	1996				1999			
	Mostly A's	Mostly B's	Mostly C's	Mostly D's or F's	Mostly A's	Mostly B's	Mostly C's	Mostly D's or F's
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Total	39.5	37.7	18.5	4.2	40.3 (0.5)	37.7 (0.5)	17.8 (0.4)	4.3 (0.2)
Sex of child								
Male	32.5	38.3	23.5	5.7	33.7 (0.7)	38.3 (0.7)	21.9 (0.6)	6.2 (0.4)
Female	46.9	37.2	13.2	2.7	47.0 (0.8)	37.1 (0.8)	13.5 (0.5)	2.4 (0.2)
Race/ethnicity of child								
White, non-Hispanic	43.7	36.1	16.5	3.7	44.6 (0.7)	36.1 (0.7)	15.8 (0.5)	3.4 (0.3)
Black, non-Hispanic	27.0	41.0	26.2	5.8	27.5 (1.2)	40.3 (1.4)	26.4 (1.2)	5.8 (0.7)
Hispanic	31.9	43.6	19.6	4.9	33.3 (1.2)	42.7 (1.3)	17.4 (1.0)	6.5 (0.7)
Other non-Hispanic	44.7	33.7	17.1	4.5	45.8 (2.4)	35.8 (2.4)	14.2 (2.0)	4.2 (1.2)
Highest education level of parents								
Less than high school	29.0	39.0	23.9	8.1	26.3 (1.6)	40.8 (1.8)	22.3 (1.6)	10.5 (1.3)
High school graduate	30.5	40.5	23.1	5.9	31.6 (1.0)	39.5 (1.1)	23.3 (0.9)	5.6 (0.5)
Some postsecondary	36.9	40.1	19.1	3.9	38.9 (0.9)	39.0 (0.9)	18.3 (0.7)	3.8 (0.4)
College graduate	52.5	32.9	12.7	1.9	51.1 (1.3)	34.9 (1.2)	12.1 (0.9)	1.8 (0.3)
Graduate/professional	58.2	30.9	9.8	1.1	54.8 (1.3)	33.0 (1.2)	10.3 (0.8)	1.9 (0.4)
Family income								
\$5,000 or less	28.9	38.8	23.3	8.9	25.0 (2.6)	42.9 (3.5)	24.4 (2.8)	7.7 (1.8)
\$5,001 to \$10,000	26.6	41.9	24.6	6.9	32.1 (2.4)	36.5 (2.4)	24.0 (2.1)	7.4 (1.3)
\$10,001 to 15,000	28.0	39.8	26.0	6.2	30.3 (2.0)	38.9 (2.2)	23.7 (1.9)	7.1 (1.2)
\$15,001 to 20,000	32.7	38.4	21.6	7.3	32.0 (2.0)	40.0 (2.1)	22.3 (1.9)	5.7 (0.9)
\$20,001 to 25,000	34.4	40.8	20.6	4.2	32.8 (1.8)	38.9 (1.9)	21.6 (1.6)	6.7 (1.1)
\$25,001 to 30,000	33.0	42.0	19.8	5.2	37.4 (1.9)	37.4 (1.9)	19.7 (1.5)	5.4 (0.9)
\$30,001 to 35,000	40.0	38.0	18.1	3.9	38.2 (1.9)	38.8 (2.0)	19.2 (1.5)	3.8 (0.8)
\$35,001 to 40,000	40.4	37.3	19.4	2.8	37.5 (1.8)	42.1 (1.9)	17.4 (1.4)	3.0 (0.6)
\$40,001 to 50,000	43.2	36.0	16.8	4.0	45.0 (1.5)	35.1 (1.4)	16.6 (1.1)	3.3 (0.5)
\$50,001 to 75,000	50.2	32.7	14.9	2.2	45.8 (1.2)	36.8 (1.2)	14.5 (0.8)	2.9 (0.4)
Over \$75,000	51.0	36.8	10.9	1.3	51.9 (1.2)	35.4 (1.1)	10.9 (0.7)	1.8 (0.3)
Child attending public schools								
Elementary (kindergarten to grade 8)	38.2	37.9	19.3	4.6	39.0 (0.6)	37.8 (0.6)	18.5 (0.4)	4.7 (0.3)
Secondary (grades 9 to 12)	43.2	36.6	16.3	3.9	43.5 (0.7)	36.6 (0.7)	15.9 (0.5)	4.1 (0.3)
Child attending private schools								
Elementary (kindergarten to grade 8)	29.6	40.2	24.5	5.7	31.8 (0.9)	39.9 (0.9)	22.7 (0.8)	5.6 (0.5)
Secondary (grades 9 to 12)	50.8	36.1	11.8	1.3	51.9 (1.6)	36.1 (1.5)	11.0 (1.1)	1.0 (0.3)
Elementary (kindergarten to grade 8)	55.7	35.3	7.5	1.4	56.2 (1.9)	34.4 (1.8)	9.0 (1.2)	0.5 (0.2)
Secondary (grades 9 to 12)	40.9	37.7	20.4	1.0	41.2 (3.1)	40.6 (3.0)	15.9 (2.3)	2.2 (0.8)

NOTE: Includes children enrolled in grades 1 through 12. Excludes children whose programs have no classes with lettered grades. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Standard errors appear in parentheses.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Household Education Survey, 1996 and 1999, unpublished data. (This table was prepared June 2001.)