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## United States Profile

# United States

U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20202

**Secretary of Education**

Richard W. Riley, Secretary  
(202) 401-3000

**National Center for Education Statistics**

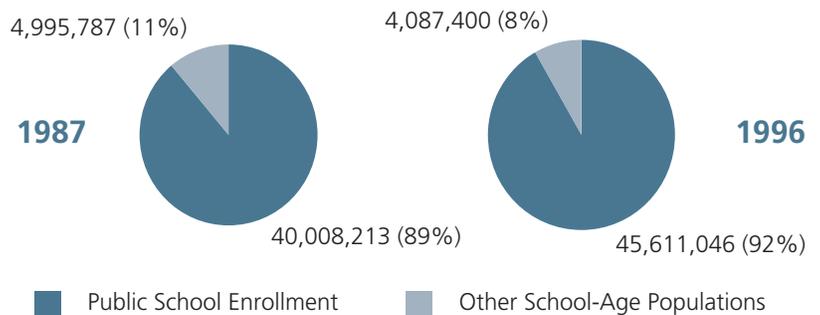
Gary W. Phillips, Acting Commissioner  
(202) 219-1763



## GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

1987	1996	Demographics
40,008,213	45,611,046	Students in public elementary and secondary schools
83,248	88,223	Public schools
2,279,241	2,667,419	Teachers in public elementary and secondary schools
3,615,136	3,615,136	Land area in square miles
11.1	12.6	Public school students per square mile
2.3	2.4	Public schools per 100 square miles

**Figure 1**  
School-age population in public elementary and secondary schools



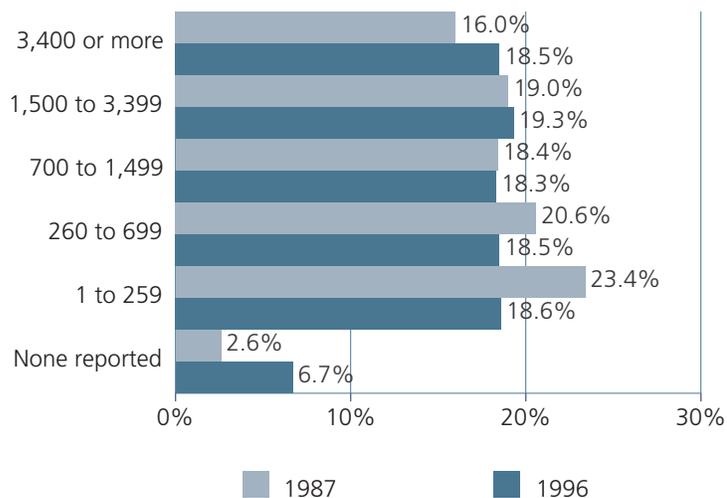
1987	1996	Fiscal summary
242,289	265,179	Population (in thousands)
\$2,214	\$3,884	State revenue per capita
\$1,982	\$3,338	State expenditure per capita
\$374	\$599	State expenditure for elem. and secondary education per capita
\$111,815	\$153,546	Gross domestic product per school-age child

**AGENCY/SCHOOL INFORMATION**

1987		1996		Distribution of agencies by type
100%	17,063	100%	16,359	Total public education agencies
91.3%	15,577	90.7%	14,841	Regular school districts
6.7%	1,144	7.1%	1,165	Regional service agencies
1.1%	183	1.2%	194	State-operated agencies
0.9%	159	1.0%	159	Federally operated and other types

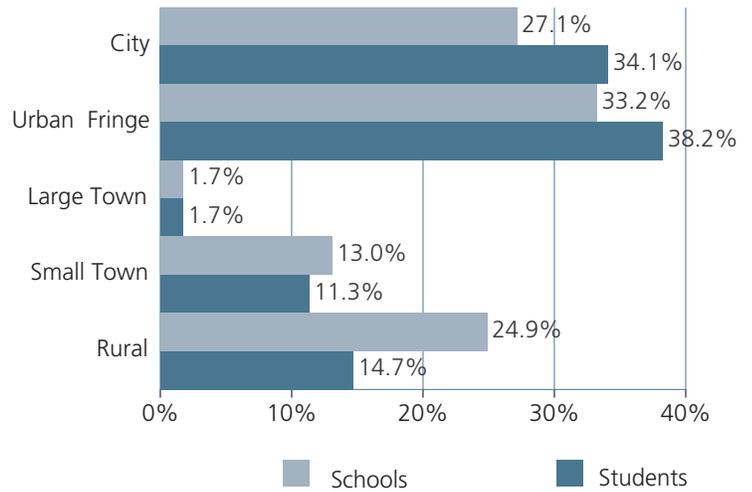
1987		1996		Distribution of agencies by number of schools
0.3%	47	0.3%	51	100 or more schools
1.9%	329	2.5%	405	25 to 99 schools
7.5%	1,277	8.1%	1,327	10 to 24 schools
17.6%	3,004	19.3%	3,157	5 to 9 schools
65.5%	11,177	63.9%	10,456	1 to 4 schools
7.2%	1,229	5.9%	963	No schools reported

**Figure 2**  
Regular school districts by student membership size

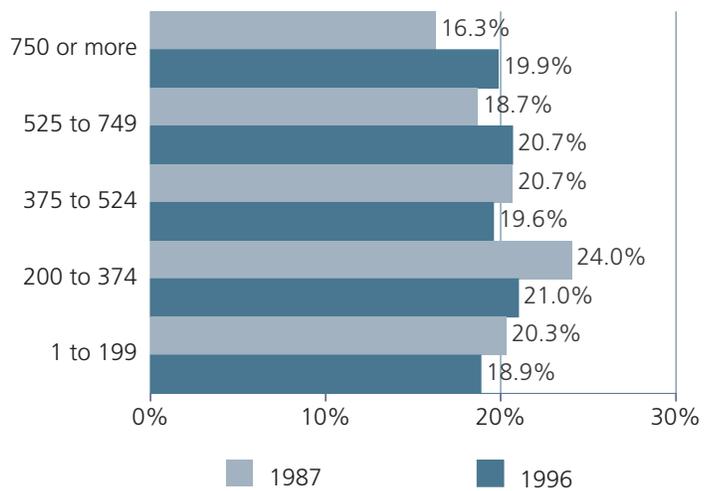


1987		1996		Distribution of schools by type
100%	83,248	100%	88,223	Total public elementary and secondary schools reported
95.2%	79,292	92.7%	81,803	Regular schools
2.1%	1,775	2.3%	2,058	Special education schools
1.4%	1,196	1.1%	934	Vocational schools
1.2%	985	3.9%	3,428	Other and alternative schools

**Figure 3**  
Distribution of public schools and students by type of locale: 1996-97



**Figure 4**  
Public schools by size of student membership

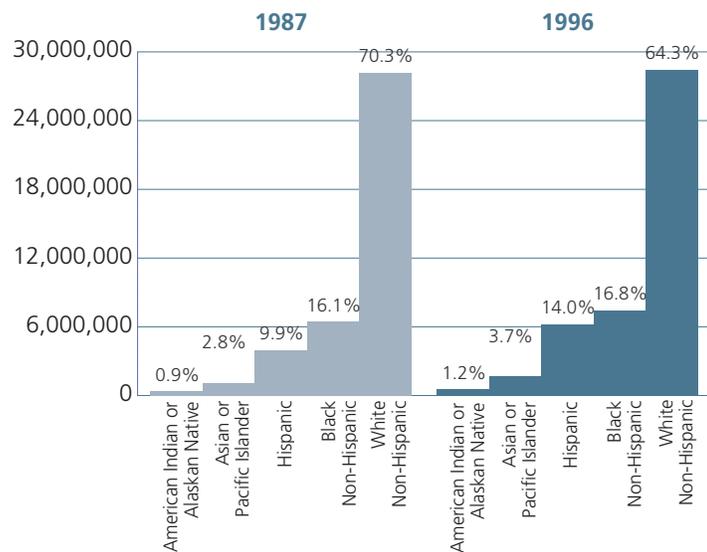


	1987	1996	Number of public schools by grade span category	
47.6%	39,598	46.5%	41,058	PK, K, 1 to 3, 4, 5, 6
6.7%	5,552	5.1%	4,543	PK, K, 1 to 8
9.2%	7,641	11.9%	10,499	4, 5, 6, to 6, 7, 8
5.9%	4,900	4.2%	3,707	7 to 8, 9
4.9%	4,048	4.1%	3,614	7, 8 to 12
13.6%	11,349	14.2%	12,518	9, 10, 11 to 12
8.9%	7,424	10.7%	9,479	Other grades
1.2%	1,000	0.7%	640	Ungraded
2.1%	1,736	2.5%	2,165	Not reported

## STUDENT INFORMATION

1987	1996	Public school membership by grade
191,669	670,373	Prekindergarten
3,195,533	3,532,263	Kindergarten
3,407,072	3,770,420	First
3,172,777	3,600,076	Second
3,046,374	3,523,762	Third
2,937,636	3,453,769	Fourth
2,900,558	3,452,853	Fifth
2,811,047	3,493,631	Sixth
2,910,432	3,463,954	Seventh
2,838,513	3,402,615	Eighth
3,143,179	3,801,220	Ninth
3,020,018	3,323,171	Tenth
2,935,626	2,930,297	Eleventh
2,680,843	2,586,448	Twelfth
816,669	606,194	Ungraded

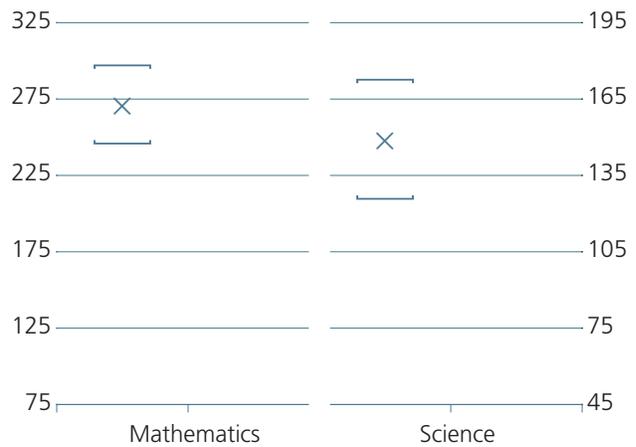
**Figure 5**  
Public school student membership by racial/ethnic category



1987	1996	
—	—	Students in special education with IEPs
—	—	School membership eligible for free lunch
—	18.8%	School-age children below poverty

1987		1995		High school completers and dropouts
93.3%	2,428,803	91.4%	2,273,109	Regular diploma
0.8%	19,898	2.4%	58,771	Other diploma
5.5%	143,467	5.3%	132,463	High school equivalency
0.4%	10,928	0.9%	23,191	Other completers
—	—	—	—	Dropouts
				Dropouts who were male
				Dropouts who were minority

**Figure 6**  
Grade 8 1996 Mathematics and Science average scale scores and the 25th (—) and 75th (—) percentiles

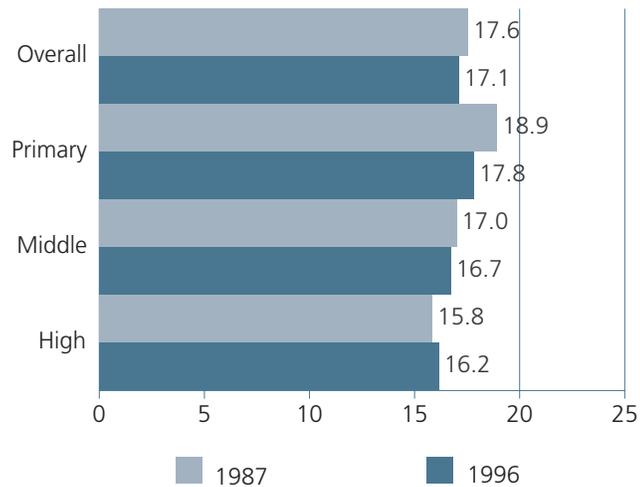


Grade 4	Grade 8	1996 Mathematics and Science achievement levels
222.3	270.5	Average Mathematics scale score [scale 0 to 500]
37.8%	39.1%	Students below basic level
62.2%	60.9%	Students at or above basic level
19.9%	22.6%	Students at or above proficient level
0.2%	3.6%	Students at advanced level
—	148.5	Average Science scale score [scale 0 to 300]
	40.4%	Students below basic level
	59.6%	Students at or above basic level
	27.3%	Students at or above proficient level
	2.8%	Students at advanced level

## STAFF INFORMATION

1987		1996		Educational staff
100%	4,267,740	100%	5,091,205	<b>Total education staff</b>
				<b>Instructional staff</b>
53.4%	2,279,241	52.4%	2,667,419	Teachers
7.9%	335,991	10.1%	516,356	Instructional aides
				<b>Support staff</b>
1.6%	70,282	1.7%	88,607	Guidance counselors/directors
1.7%	71,636	1.8%	93,326	Librarians/library support
6.9%	293,529	6.9%	353,964	Administrative support
23.8%	1,016,943	22.9%	1,165,824	Other support services
				<b>Administrators</b>
3.0%	125,927	2.4%	123,734	School-based
1.7%	74,191	1.6%	81,975	School district officials/administrators

**Figure 7**  
Average number of students per teacher, by grade level



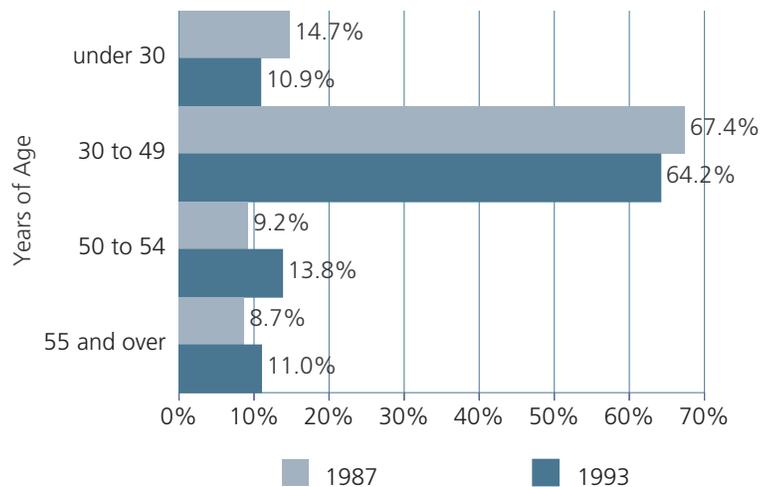
1987	1996	
1.1	1.1	Teacher to all other staff ratio
11.4	13.0	Teacher to administrator ratio

**Figure 8**  
Average salary of full-time teachers  
by years of experience



1987	1996	
\$18,517	\$25,012	Average beginning teacher salary
\$28,071	\$38,436	Average teacher salary

**Figure 9**  
Distribution of public school teachers  
by age

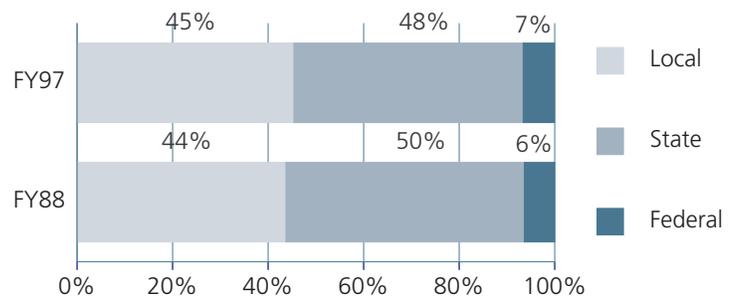


1987	1993	Preparation of teachers: highest degree earned
0.2%	0.6%	Public school teachers with no degree
52.5%	52.1%	Public school teachers with a Bachelor's or lower degree
40.1%	42.0%	Public school teachers with a Master's degree
7.2%	5.3%	Public school teachers with a degree beyond Master's

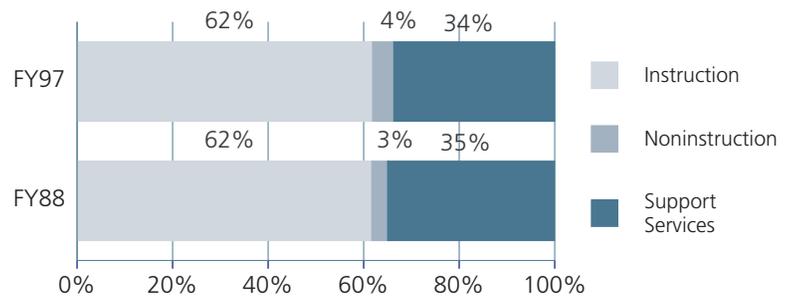
## FISCAL INFORMATION

FY88	FY97	Federal aid to education under selected programs (in thousands of current dollars)
\$2,678,404	\$5,397,613	National school lunch
\$446,566	\$1,188,979	National school breakfast
\$4,143,433	\$6,871,278	Title I
\$1,247,462	\$3,321,191	Education for the handicapped
\$954,751	\$1,326,853	Vocational and adult education
\$763,922	\$1,607,608	School improvement
\$632,429	\$639,608	School assistance (federally affected areas)
\$130,007	\$183,480	Bilingual education
\$60,081	\$1,567	Indian education

**Figure 10**  
Revenues by source



**Figure 11**  
Current expenditures by function



FY88	FY97	Revenues and expenditures (in current dollars)
\$165,621,610	\$305,051,963	Revenues (in thousands of dollars)
\$4,140	\$6,691	Revenue per pupil in membership
\$157,097,951	\$270,151,583	Current expenditures (in thousands of dollars)
\$3,927	\$5,925	Current expenditure per pupil in membership