

Characteristics of Private Schools in the United States: Results From the 2015–16 Private School Universe Survey

First Look

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Introduction

In 1988, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) developed a private school data collection that improved on the sporadic collection of private school data dating back to 1890 and at the same time developed an alternative to commercially available private school sampling frames. Since 1989, the U.S. Bureau of the Census has conducted the biennial Private School Universe Survey (PSS) for NCES. PSS is designed to generate biennial data on the total number of private schools, students, and teachers, and to build a universe of private schools to serve as a sampling frame of private schools for NCES sample surveys. For more information about the methodology and design of the PSS, please see the Technical Notes in appendix B of this report.

The target population for the PSS is all schools in the 50 states and the District of Columbia that are not supported primarily by public funds, provide classroom instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels), and have one or more teachers. Organizations or institutions that provide support for home schooling, but do not provide classroom instruction, are not included.

The 2015–16 PSS data were collected between September 2015 and September 2016. All data are for the 2015–16 school year except the high school graduate data, which are for the 2014–15 school year.

Because the purpose of this report is to introduce new NCES survey data through the presentation of tables containing descriptive information, only selected findings are listed below. These findings are purely descriptive in nature and are not meant to imply causality. These findings have been chosen to demonstrate the range of information available from the 2015–16 PSS rather than to discuss all of the observed differences, emphasize any particular issue, or make comparisons over time.

The tables in this report contain counts and percentages demonstrating bivariate relationships. All of the results have been weighted to reflect the sample design and to account for nonresponse and other adjustments. Comparisons drawn in the selected findings have been tested for statistical significance at the .05 level using Student's *t* statistics to ensure that the differences are larger than those that might be expected due to sampling variation. No adjustments were made for multiple comparisons. Many of the variables examined are related to one another, and complex interactions and relationships have not been explored. Statistical Analysis Software (SAS 9.2) and SUDAAN (10.0) were used to compute the statistics for this report.

Selected Findings

- In the fall of 2015, there were 34,576 private elementary and secondary schools with 4,903,596 students and 481,558 full-time-equivalent (FTE) teachers in the United States (table 1).
- Sixty-seven percent of private schools, enrolling 78 percent of private school students and employing 70 percent of private school FTE teachers in 2015–16, had a religious orientation or purpose (table 2).
- Sixty-eight percent of private schools in 2015–16 emphasized a regular elementary/secondary program, 10 percent emphasized a Montessori program, 3 percent emphasized a special program emphasis, 5 percent emphasized a special education program, 3 percent emphasized an alternative program, and 10 percent emphasized an early childhood program (table 3).
- In 2015–16 there were more private schools in suburban locations (12,662), followed by those in cities (11,476), followed by those in rural areas (7,539), and then by those in towns (2,900) (tables 1 and 4).
- More private school students in 2015–16 were enrolled in schools located in cities (2,140,625), followed by those enrolled in suburban schools (1,903,824), followed by those in rural areas (557,148), and then by those in towns (301,999) (tables 1 and 5).
- More private school students in 2015–16 were enrolled in kindergarten (466,475) than in any other grade level (table 6).
- The average school size in 2015–16 was 142 students across all private schools. Private school size differed by instructional level. On average, elementary schools had 100 students, secondary schools had 263 students, and combined schools had 199 students (table 7).
- Forty-six percent of all private schools in 2015–16 enrolled less than 50 students (table 8).
- Sixty-nine percent of private school students in 2015–16 were White non-Hispanic; 10 percent were Hispanic or Latino, regardless of race; 9 percent were Black or African American non-Hispanic; 6 percent were Asian non-Hispanic; 4 percent were of Two or more races non-Hispanic, and less than 1 percent was American Indian or Alaska Native non-Hispanic, or Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander non-Hispanic (table 9).
- Ninety-six percent of all private schools in 2015–16 were coeducational, while 2 percent enrolled all girls and 2 percent enrolled all boys (table 10).
- Seventy-eight percent of private school teachers in 2015–16 were full-time teachers; 5 percent taught less than full time, but at least three-quarter time; 9 percent taught less than three-quarter time, but at least one-half time; 5 percent taught less than one-half time, but at least one-quarter time; and 3 percent taught less than one-quarter time (table 11).

- The average pupil/teacher ratio in 2015–16 was 10.2 across all private schools. Private school pupil/teacher ratios differed by instructional level. On average, the pupil/teacher ratio was 11.1 in secondary schools, 10.8 in elementary schools, and 9.3 in combined schools (table 12).
- Ninety-seven percent of 12th-graders enrolled in private schools around October 1, 2014 graduated in 2014–15 (table 13).
- Of the 343,252 private high school graduates in 2014–15, some 65 percent attended 4-year colleges by the fall of 2015 (table 13).
- In 2015–16, there were 11,341 private schools that did not report membership in any private school association (table 14).
- In 2015–16, there were 200,000 or more students enrolled in private schools in each of California, Florida, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, and Texas (table 15).

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Tables

Table 1. Number and percentage distribution of private schools, students, and full-time-equivalent (FTE) teachers, by selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Schools		Students		FTE teachers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	34,576	100.0	4,903,596	100.0	481,558	100.0
Private school typology						
Catholic	7,008	20.3	1,901,474	38.8	143,186	29.7
Parochial	2,734	7.9	635,505	13.0	45,934	9.5
Diocesan	3,129	9.0	878,217	17.9	64,325	13.4
Private	1,145	3.3	387,752	7.9	32,928	6.8
Other religious	16,264	47.0	1,932,819	39.4	193,215	40.1
Conservative Christian	4,154	12.0	663,776	13.5	64,101	13.3
Other affiliated	3,156	9.1	511,893	10.4	54,799	11.4
Unaffiliated	8,954	25.9	757,150	15.4	74,315	15.4
Nonsectarian	11,304	32.7	1,069,303	21.8	145,156	30.1
Regular	5,287	15.3	713,572	14.6	90,037	18.7
Special emphasis	4,408	12.7	251,147	5.1	35,656	7.4
Special education	1,610	4.7	104,585	2.1	19,463	4.0
School level						
Elementary	21,907	63.4	2,190,500	44.7	202,628	42.1
Secondary	2,946	8.5	774,499	15.8	69,491	14.4
Combined	9,723	28.1	1,938,598	39.5	209,438	43.5
Program emphasis						
Regular elementary/ secondary	23,524	68.0	4,367,287	89.1	403,358	83.8
Montessori	3,449	10.0	126,362	2.6	20,454	4.2
Special program emphasis	1,017	2.9	148,477	3.0	17,495	3.6
Special education	1,857	5.4	117,541	2.4	21,831	4.5
Vocational/technical	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Alternative	1,147	3.3	87,947	1.8	9,451	2.0
Early childhood	3,563	10.3	53,886	1.1	8,766	1.8
Size (number of students)						
Less than 50	15,993	46.3	338,610	6.9	55,757	11.6
50–149	8,293	24.0	752,557	15.3	89,641	18.6
150–299	5,692	16.5	1,193,947	24.3	110,928	23.0
300–499	2,514	7.3	956,154	19.5	82,558	17.1
500–749	1,288	3.7	769,049	15.7	66,785	13.9
750 or more	796	2.3	893,279	18.2	75,889	15.8
Region						
Northeast	7,771	22.5	1,135,763	23.2	121,750	25.3
Midwest	8,985	26.0	1,216,479	24.8	103,904	21.6
South	11,328	32.8	1,654,391	33.7	172,504	35.8
West	6,491	18.8	896,964	18.3	83,399	17.3
Urbanicity type						
City	11,476	33.2	2,140,625	43.7	204,315	42.4
Suburban	12,662	36.6	1,903,824	38.8	185,456	38.5
Town	2,900	8.4	301,999	6.2	30,530	6.3
Rural	7,539	21.8	557,148	11.4	61,257	12.7

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

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 that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 2. Number and percentage distribution of private schools, students, and full-time-equivalent (FTE) teachers, by religious or nonsectarian orientation of school: United States, 2015–16

Religious or nonsectarian orientation	Schools		Students		FTE teachers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	34,576	100.0	4,903,596	100.0	481,558	100.0
Religious orientation	23,272	67.3	3,834,293	78.2	336,401	69.9
Roman Catholic	7,008	20.3	1,901,474	38.8	143,186	29.7
African Methodist Episcopal	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Amish	2,105 !	6.1	68,690 !	1.4 !	3,858 !	0.8!
Assembly of God	246	0.7	33,483	0.7	2,982	0.6
Baptist	1,863	5.4	193,381	3.9	19,762	4.1
Brethren	66	0.2	5,086	0.1	594	0.1
Calvinist	102	0.3	20,437	0.4	1,619	0.3
Christian (unspecified)	5,408	15.6	769,673	15.7	77,309	16.1
Church of Christ	117	0.3	25,139	0.5	2,288	0.5
Church of God	80	0.2	8,156	0.2	754	0.2
Church of God in Christ	20	0.1	1,882	#	123	#
Church of the Nazarene	70	0.2	6,173	0.1	594	0.1
Disciples of Christ	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Episcopal	354	1.0	87,649	1.8	11,092	2.3
Friends	89	0.3	22,414	0.5	2,995	0.6
Greek Orthodox	37	0.1	4,848	0.1	535	0.1
Islamic	293	0.8	40,485	0.8	4,873	1.0
Jewish	1,120	3.2	299,255	6.1	32,674	6.8
Latter Day Saints	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod	1,000	2.9	121,698	2.5	9,691	2.0
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America	130	0.4	9,408	0.2	953	0.2
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod	316	0.9	28,860	0.6	2,258	0.5
Other Lutheran	73	0.2	4,651	0.1	405	0.1
Mennonite	611	1.8	29,709	0.6	2,856	0.6
Methodist	289	0.8	18,341	0.4	2,001	0.4
Pentecostal	430!	1.2!	19,453	0.4	2,211	0.5
Presbyterian	323	0.9	37,597	0.8	3,765	0.8
Seventh-Day Adventist	795	2.3	50,202	1.0	3,997	0.8
Other	304	0.9	23,162	0.5	2,695	0.6
Nonsectarian	11,304	32.7	1,069,303	21.8	145,156	30.1

Rounds to zero.

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

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

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 that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 3. Percentage distribution of private schools, by program emphasis and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Regular elementary/secondary	Montessori	Special program emphasis	Special education	Vocational/technical programs	Alternative	Early childhood
Total	68.0	10.0	2.9	5.4	‡	3.3	10.3
Private school typology							
Catholic	95.3	0.8	1.4!	1.0	‡	0.5	1.0
Parochial	97.3	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Diocesan	96.3	0.6	0.7	1.3!	‡	‡	0.8
Private	88.0	3.1	‡	2.4	‡	‡	3.0
Other religious	84.8	1.1	2.5!	1.1	‡	2.7	7.8
Conservative							
Christian	92.3	‡	1.4	0.8	‡	2.8	2.3
Other affiliated	88.2	0.9	2.8	0.9	‡	1.6	5.6
Unaffiliated	80.0	1.5	‡	1.3	‡	3.1	11.1
Nonsectarian	27.1	28.4	4.5	14.2	‡	5.9	19.7
Regular	57.9	†	†	†	†	†	42.1
Special emphasis	†	72.9	11.7	†	‡	15.2	†
Special education	†	†	†	100.0	†	†	†
School level							
Elementary	65.0	14.1	2.2	1.4	‡	1.1	16.2
Secondary	74.3	‡	3.4	8.6	‡	12.5	†
Combined	73.0	3.4	4.6!	13.4	‡	5.5	‡
Size (number of students)							
Less than 50	48.0	16.6	2.6!	6.4	‡	4.6	21.7
50–149	76.5	7.1	3.5	8.1	‡	3.7	1.1
150–299	90.2	3.3!	3.1	2.4	‡	0.8	‡
300–499	93.7	‡	3.7	0.9	‡	1.1	0.0
500–749	97.3	0.0	1.9	‡	‡	‡	0.0
750 or more	95.8	0.0	2.6	‡	‡	‡	0.0
Region							
Northeast	64.1	7.1	2.0	9.8	‡	2.6	14.4
Midwest	80.7	6.3	1.5!	2.3	‡	3.1	6.1
South	65.9	11.3	4.0!	5.2	‡	3.7	9.9
West	58.9	16.2	4.3	4.7	‡	3.7	12.1
Urbanicity type							
City	65.3	11.1	3.8	5.3	‡	4.0	10.5
Suburban	57.5	13.9	2.3	7.3	‡	2.5	16.4
Town	82.6	5.1	1.4	3.2!	‡	3.7!	4.0
Rural	84.2	3.5	‡	3.1	‡	3.6	2.2

† Not applicable.

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

‡ Reporting standards not met. There are fewer than 15 sample cases, or CV for this estimate is 50 percent or greater.

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 that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 4. Number and percentage distribution of private schools, by urbanicity type and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Total		City		Suburban		Town		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	34,576	100.0	11,476	100.0	12,662	100.0	2,900	100.0	7,539	100.0
Private school typology										
Catholic	7,008	20.3	2,884	25.1	2,691	21.3	833	28.7	600	8.0
Parochial	2,734	7.9	1,021	8.9	1,116	8.8	354	12.2	244	3.2
Diocesan	3,129	9.0	1,356	11.8	1,142	9.0	415	14.3	215	2.9
Private	1,145	3.3	507	4.4	433	3.4	64	2.2	141	1.9
Other religious	16,264	47.0	4,552	39.7	4,604	36.4	1,632	56.3	5,476	72.6
Conservative										
Christian	4,154	12.0	1,054	9.2	1,485	11.7	659	22.7	955	12.7
Other affiliated	3,156	9.1	1,158	10.1	1,016	8.0	230	7.9	753	10.0
Unaffiliated	8,954	25.9	2,340	20.4	2,103	16.6	743	25.6	3,768	50.0
Nonsectarian	11,304	32.7	4,040	35.2	5,367	42.4	434	15.0	1,463	19.4
Regular	5,287	15.3	1,795	15.6	2,547	20.1	158	5.4	787	10.4
Special emphasis	4,408	12.7	1,715	14.9	2,028	16.0	188	6.5	477	6.3
Special education	1,610	4.7	530	4.6	792	6.3	89	3.1	199	2.6
School level										
Elementary	21,907	63.4	7,342	64.0	8,551	67.5	1,781	61.4	4,233	56.2
Secondary	2,946	8.5	1,217	10.6	930	7.3	198	6.8	601	8.0
Combined	9,723	28.1	2,917	25.4	3,181	25.1	921	31.8	2,704	35.9
Program emphasis										
Regular elementary/secondary	23,524	68.0	7,496	65.3	7,285	57.5	2,394	82.6	6,349	84.2
Montessori	3,449	10.0	1,278	11.1	1,756	13.9	147	5.1	267	3.5
Special program emphasis	1,017	2.9	432	3.8	292	2.3	40	1.4	‡	‡
Special education	1,857	5.4	605	5.3	924	7.3	94	3.2	235	3.1
Vocational/technical	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Alternative	1,147	3.3	456	4.0	316	2.5	106	3.7	268	3.6
Early childhood	3,563	10.3	1,204	10.5	2,079	16.4	117	4.0	164	2.2
Size (number of students)										
Less than 50	15,993	46.3	4,178	36.4	5,648	44.6	1,243	42.9	4,925	65.3
50–149	8,293	24.0	2,749	24.0	2,884	22.8	1,034	35.7	1,625	21.6
150–299	5,692	16.5	2,409	21.0	2,195	17.3	415	14.3	673	8.9
300–499	2,514	7.3	1,123	9.8	1,070	8.5	109	3.8	212	2.8
500–749	1,288	3.7	561	4.9	568	4.5	‡	‡	69	0.9
750 or more	796	2.3	456	4.0	298	2.4	‡	‡	35	0.5
Region										
Northeast	7,771	22.5	1,945	17.0	3,667	29.0	294	10.1	1,865	24.7
Midwest	8,985	26.0	2,428	21.2	2,639	20.8	1,201	41.4	2,717	36.0
South	11,328	32.8	4,173	36.4	3,998	31.6	921	31.8	2,235	29.6
West	6,491	18.8	2,930	25.5	2,357	18.6	483	16.7	722	9.6

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

‡ Reporting standards not met. There are fewer than 15 sample cases, or CV for this estimate is 50 percent or greater.

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 that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 5. Number and percentage distribution of private school students, by urbanicity type and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Total		City		Suburban		Town		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	4,903,596	100.0	2,140,625	100.0	1,903,824	100.0	301,999	100.0	557,148	100.0
Private school typology										
Catholic	1,901,474	38.8	901,264	42.1	786,755	41.3	127,934	42.4	85,520	15.3
Parochial	635,505	13.0	271,577	12.7	289,457	15.2	52,463	17.4	22,008	4.0
Diocesan	878,217	17.9	429,487	20.1	346,713	18.2	66,894	22.2	35,122	6.3
Private	387,752	7.9	200,200	9.4	150,586	7.9	8,577	2.8	28,389	5.1
Other religious	1,932,819	39.4	747,006	34.9	710,067	37.3	141,566	46.9	334,181	60.0
Conservative Christian	663,776	13.5	189,387	8.8	295,978	15.5	77,206!	25.6!	101,205	18.2
Other affiliated	511,893	10.4	217,152	10.1	203,349	10.7	22,890	7.6	68,502!	12.3
Unaffiliated	757,150	15.4	340,467	15.9	210,740	11.1	41,470	13.7	164,473	29.5
Nonsectarian	1,069,303	21.8	492,355	23.0	407,002	21.4	32,499	10.8	137,447	24.7
Regular	713,572	14.6	334,433	15.6	259,059	13.6	21,965	7.3	98,115	17.6
Special emphasis	251,147	5.1	119,666	5.6	95,892	5.0	7,443	2.5	28,147	5.1
Special education	104,585	2.1	38,256	1.8	52,052	2.7	3,091	1.0	11,185	2.0
School level										
Elementary	2,190,500	44.7	952,192	44.5	913,095	48.0	129,611	42.9	195,601	35.1
Secondary	774,499	15.8	393,480	18.4	283,639	14.9	24,549	8.1	72,831	13.1
Combined	1,938,598	39.5	794,953	37.1	707,090	37.1	147,839	49.0	288,716	51.8
Program emphasis										
Regular elementary/secondary	4,367,287	89.1	1,915,371	89.5	1,663,718	87.4	285,916	94.7	502,281	90.2
Montessori	126,362	2.6	58,740	2.7	54,362	2.9	3,539	1.2	9,721	1.7
Special program emphasis	148,477	3.0	71,979	3.4	54,735	2.9	3,863	1.3	17,899	3.2
Special education	117,541	2.4	41,519	1.9	60,856	3.2	3,220	1.1	11,947	2.1
Vocational/technical	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Alternative	87,947	1.8	32,661	1.5	37,932	2.0	4,106	1.4	13,248	2.4
Early childhood	53,886	1.1	18,893	0.9	31,633	1.7	1,355	0.4	2,006	0.4
Size (number of students)										
Less than 50	338,610	6.9	82,907	3.9	103,439	5.4	24,455	8.1	127,809	22.9
50–149	752,557	15.3	261,885	12.2	262,972	13.8	92,890	30.8	134,809	24.2
150–299	1,193,947	24.3	506,026	23.6	464,964	24.4	84,908	28.1	138,049	24.8
300–499	956,154	19.5	429,744	20.1	406,028	21.3	40,017	13.3	80,365	14.4
500–749	769,049	15.7	343,182	16.0	332,634	17.5	‡	17.0!	41,791	7.5
750 or more	893,279	18.2	516,881	24.1	333,786	17.5	‡	‡	34,325	6.2
Region										
Northeast	1,135,763	23.2	441,498	20.6	563,159	29.6	24,759	8.2	106,346	19.1
Midwest	1,216,479	24.8	452,134	21.1	458,293	24.1	152,004	50.3	154,048	27.6
South	1,654,391	33.7	750,814	35.1	581,048	30.5	89,967	29.8	232,562	41.7
West	896,964	18.3	496,179	23.2	301,325	15.8	35,269	11.7	64,191	11.5

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

‡ Reporting standards not met. There are fewer than 15 sample cases, or CV for this estimate is 50 percent or greater.

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 that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 6. Number and percentage distribution of private school students, by grade and private school typology: United States, 2015–16

Private school typology	Kindergarten ¹		First grade		Second grade		Third grade		Fourth grade	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	466,475	100.0	373,853	100.0	368,452	100.0	364,288	100.0	357,821	100.0
Catholic	148,249	31.8	141,446	37.8	144,702	39.3	144,158	39.6	143,145	40.0
Parochial	67,941	14.6	65,040	17.4	66,585	18.1	65,910	18.1	64,936	18.1
Diocesan	67,330	14.4	64,751	17.3	66,322	18.0	66,071	18.1	65,984	18.4
Private	12,977	2.8	11,655	3.1	11,794	3.2	12,177	3.3	12,225	3.4
Other religious	190,541	40.8	165,897	44.4	159,361	43.3	156,886	43.1	152,498	42.6
Conservative Christian	61,669	13.2	52,899	14.1	52,316	14.2	52,168	14.3	51,369	14.4
Other affiliated	48,081	10.3	42,469	11.4	41,355	11.2	40,437	11.1	39,899	11.2
Unaffiliated	80,791	17.3	70,529	18.9	65,690	17.8	64,281	17.6	61,230	17.1
Nonsectarian	127,685	27.4	66,510	17.8	64,389	17.5	63,244	17.4	62,177	17.4
Regular	77,319	16.6	43,410	11.6	42,354	11.5	41,675	11.4	41,899	11.7
Special emphasis	48,474	10.4	20,943	5.6	18,883	5.1	17,528	4.8	15,356	4.3
Special education	1,891	0.4	2,158	0.6	3,152	0.9	4,042	1.1	4,922	1.4

Private school typology	Fifth grade		Sixth grade		Seventh grade		Eighth grade		Ninth grade	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	354,706	100.0	372,753	100.0	367,919	100.0	363,836	100.0	367,805	100.0
Catholic	143,178	40.4	148,826	39.9	144,192	39.2	142,722	39.2	152,787	41.5
Parochial	65,008	18.3	64,280	17.2	61,410	16.7	59,832	16.4	13,679	3.7
Diocesan	65,674	18.5	67,466	18.1	64,744	17.6	64,024	17.6	71,930	19.6
Private	12,495	3.5	17,081	4.6	18,037	4.9	18,865	5.2	67,178	18.3
Other religious	148,221	41.8	154,783	41.5	151,969	41.3	147,741	40.6	130,544	35.5
Conservative Christian	49,576	14.0	52,769	14.2	52,251	14.2	51,387	14.1	48,153	13.1
Other affiliated	38,618	10.9	40,431	10.8	39,906	10.8	37,710	10.4	36,665	10.0
Unaffiliated	60,027	16.9	61,582	16.5	59,812	16.3	58,644	16.1	45,726	12.4
Nonsectarian	63,307	17.8	69,144	18.5	71,758	19.5	73,374	20.2	84,474	23.0
Regular	43,172	12.2	49,735	13.3	52,940	14.4	53,748	14.8	63,201	17.2
Special emphasis	14,706	4.1	12,704	3.4	11,200	3.0	11,435	3.1	11,689	3.2
Special education	5,429	1.5	6,705	1.8	7,617	2.1	8,191	2.3	9,584	2.6

Private school typology	Tenth grade		Eleventh grade		Twelfth grade		Ungraded	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	367,252	100.0	356,153	100.0	348,602	100.0	73,681	100.0
Catholic	151,294	41.2	146,851	41.2	143,826	41.3	6,097	8.3
Parochial	13,475	3.7	13,251	3.7	13,036	3.7	1,121	1.5
Diocesan	72,218	19.7	70,139	19.7	68,705	19.7	2,857	3.9
Private	65,601	17.9	63,461	17.8	62,086	17.8	2,119	2.9
Other religious	126,215	34.4	122,091	34.3	116,955	33.5	9,118	12.4
Conservative Christian	47,209	12.9	45,049	12.6	42,948	12.3	4,012	5.4!
Other affiliated	35,851	9.8	35,305	9.9	33,859	9.7	1,306	1.8
Unaffiliated	43,155	11.8	41,737	11.7	40,148	11.5	3,799	5.2
Nonsectarian	89,743	24.4	87,211	24.5	87,821	25.2	58,466	79.4
Regular	65,834	17.9	66,058	18.5	66,323	19.0	5,904	8.0
Special emphasis	14,792	4.0	12,711	3.6	11,487	3.3	29,239!	39.7
Special education	9,117	2.5	8,442	2.4	10,011	2.9	23,324	31.7

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

¹The count for kindergarten students also includes transitional kindergarten and transitional first-grade students.

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 that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 7. Average private school size, by school level and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Average number of students			
	Total	Elementary	Secondary	Combined
Total	141.8	100.0	262.9	199.4
Private school typology				
Catholic	271.3	218.0	532.2	356.0
Parochial	232.4	220.6	447.8	335.2
Diocesan	280.7	223.7	569.6	319.4
Private	338.7	177.0	511.7	388.2
Other religious	118.8	69.4	124.7	190.9
Conservative Christian	159.8	90.7	113.7	196.5
Other affiliated	162.2	108.9	184.5	242.6
Unaffiliated	84.6	53.2	94.7	161.2
Nonsectarian	94.6	47.7	127.4	193.5
Regular	135.0	55.0	186.2	357.7
Special emphasis	57.0	39.5	107.7	113.8
Special education	65.0	51.6	44.3	72.2
Program emphasis				
Regular elementary/ secondary	185.7	137.6	326.1	238.8
Montessori	36.6	31.5	‡	84.2
Special program emphasis	146.0	107.3	145.3	187.2!
Special education	63.3	50.8	43.5	70.0
Vocational/technical	‡	‡	‡	‡
Alternative	76.7	57.7	86.4	78.8
Early childhood	15.1	15.1	†	‡
Size (number of students)				
Less than 50	21.2	19.6	21.3	26.2
50–149	90.8	92.0	88.5	89.0
150–299	209.8	208.2	215.6	211.5
300–499	380.3	376.8	386.0	383.3
500–749	597.1	568.4	610.4	607.5
750 or more	1,121.8	922.7	1,082.8	1,166.6
Region				
Northeast	146.1	93.8	253.8	237.3
Midwest	135.4	107.2	319.6	175.3
South	146.0	95.2	231.1	193.5
West	138.2	102.4	257.2	199.9
Urbanicity type				
City	186.5	129.7	323.3	272.5
Suburban	150.4	106.8	305.1	222.3
Town	104.2	72.8	124.1	160.5
Rural	73.9	46.2	121.1	106.8

† Not applicable.

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

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

NOTE: These estimates include private schools that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 8. Number and percentage distribution of private schools, by school size and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

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	15,993	46.3	8,293	24.0	5,692	16.5	2,514	7.3	1,288	3.7	796	2.3
Private school typology												
Catholic	428	6.1	1,764	25.2	2,653	37.9	1,305	18.6	547	7.8	310	4.4
Parochial	157 !	5.7 !	721	26.4	1,183	43.3	443	16.2	196	7.2	34	1.3
Diocesan	124	4.0	806	25.8	1,178	37.7	649	20.7	221	7.1	150	4.8
Private	147	12.9	237	20.7	292	25.5	213	18.6	130	11.4	125	10.9
Other religious	8,411	51.7	4,210	25.9	2,058	12.7	783	4.8	531	3.3	270	1.7
Conservative Christian	1,443	34.7	1,314	31.6	726	17.5	335	8.1	254 !	6.1	81	2.0
Other affiliated	1,148	36.4	912	28.9	644	20.4	235	7.5	117	3.7	101	3.2
Unaffiliated	5,821	65.0	1,985	22.2	688	7.7	212	2.4	160	1.8 !	88	1.0
Nonsectarian	7,154	63.3	2,318	20.5	980	8.7	426	3.8	209	1.9	217	1.9
Regular	3,182	60.2	822	15.5	565	10.7	332	6.3	190	3.6	196	3.7
Special emphasis	3,092	70.2	913	20.7	290	6.6	72	1.6	‡	‡	21	0.5
Special education	880	54.6	583	36.2	125	7.8	22	1.3	‡	‡	0	0.0
School level												
Elementary	11,572	52.8	5,019	22.9	3,576	16.3	1,319	6.0	364	1.7	58	0.3
Secondary	903	30.6	660	22.4	466	15.8	380	12.9	280	9.5	258	8.7
Combined	3,519	36.2	2,613	26.9	1,650	17.0	816	8.4	644	6.6	481	4.9
Program emphasis												
Regular elementary/secondary	7,675	32.6	6,342	27.0	5,135	21.8	2,357	10.0	1,253	5.3	763	3.2
Montessori	2,662	77.2	588	17.1	187 !	5.4 !	‡	‡	0	0.0	0	0.0
Special program emphasis	410 !	40.3	293	28.8	177	17.4	93	9.1	24	2.4	21	2.1
Special education	1,026	55.3	668	36.0	138	7.4	23	1.2	‡	‡	‡	‡
Vocational/technical	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Alternative	742	64.7	309	27.0	46	4.0	27	2.4	‡	‡	‡	‡
Early childhood	3,469	97.3	87	2.5	‡	‡	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Region												
Northeast	3,772	48.5	1,689	21.7	1,295	16.7	515	6.6	298	3.8	202	2.6
Midwest	3,906	43.5	2,493	27.7	1,433	15.9	663	7.4	351	3.9	140	1.6
South	5,297	46.8	2,630	23.2	1,788	15.8	839	7.4	455	4.0	319	2.8
West	3,019	46.5	1,481	22.8	1,175	18.1	496	7.6	185	2.8	136	2.1
Urbanicity type												
City	4,178	36.4	2,749	24.0	2,409	21.0	1,123	9.8	561	4.9	456	4.0
Suburban	5,648	44.6	2,884	22.8	2,195	17.3	1,070	8.5	568	4.5	298	2.4
Town	1,243	42.9	1,034	35.7	415	14.3	109	3.8	‡	‡	‡	‡
Rural	4,925	65.3	1,625	21.6	673	8.9	212	2.8	69	0.9	35	0.5

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

‡ Reporting standards not met. There are fewer than 15 sample cases, or CV for this estimate is 50 percent or greater.

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 that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 9. Percentage distribution of private school students, by racial/ethnic background and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Non-Hispanic						Two or more races
	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Black	Pacific Islander	White	
Total	10.4	0.5	6.2	9.3	0.7	68.6	4.3
Private school typology							
Catholic	15.6	0.5	5.2	7.8	0.6	65.9	4.3
Parochial	16.2	0.5	4.9	6.9	0.6	67.1	3.9
Diocesan	15.2	0.5	5.0	7.5	0.5	66.7	4.5
Private	15.6	0.6	6.3	10.0	0.7	62.4	4.4
Other religious	6.6	0.4	5.4	10.6	0.5	73.1	3.3
Conservative Christian	8.1	0.5	6.2	10.6	0.5	70.2	3.9
Other affiliated	6.6	0.3	5.4	8.2	0.3	76.1	3.1
Unaffiliated	5.4	0.4	4.7	12.2	0.6	73.7	2.9
Nonsectarian	8.0	0.5	9.4	9.3	1.4	65.2	6.2
Regular	7.0	0.5	9.6	8.3	1.7	66.2	6.6
Special emphasis	8.5	0.6	11.5	7.8	1.0	64.6	6.1
Special education	13.1	0.6	3.3	19.8	0.5	59.4	3.2
School level							
Elementary	12.5	0.5	5.7	8.9	0.5	67.2	4.6
Secondary	12.2	0.4	7.4	9.0	0.5	66.8	3.8
Combined	7.3	0.6	6.3	9.7	1.0	70.9	4.2
Program emphasis							
Regular elementary/secondary	10.4	0.5	6.0	9.0	0.7	69.1	4.3
Montessori	9.8	0.5	11.7	6.7	0.5	65.6	5.2
Special program emphasis	7.4	0.5	10.3	6.7	1.1	68.1	5.9
Special education	12.9	0.6	3.1	19.1	0.5	60.7	3.1
Vocational/technical	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Alternative	11.7	0.9	6.5	14.9	0.4	60.6	5.1
Early childhood	10.5	0.5	7.3	10.7	0.6	66.0	4.5
Size (number of students)							
Less than 50	8.1	0.8	4.5	11.3	0.5	71.8	2.9
50–149	10.9	0.7	5.2	13.3	0.4	65.6	3.8
150–299	13.5	0.4	6.2	11.1	0.6	63.6	4.5
300–499	11.0	0.5	6.5	6.9	0.5	70.2	4.3
500–749	7.6	0.4	6.3	8.1	0.4	73.3	4.0
750 or more	8.5	0.3	7.3	6.1	1.7	70.8	5.3
Region							
Northeast	7.6	0.2	6.4	9.1	0.2	72.7	3.9
Midwest	7.0	0.5	3.6	8.6	0.2	76.8	3.3
South	11.3	0.4	4.6	12.4	0.4	67.6	3.3
West	16.8	1.1	12.6	4.5	2.7	54.2	8.1
Urbanicity type							
City	12.4	0.4	7.1	11.7	1.0	62.2	5.1
Suburban	10.6	0.3	6.5	8.8	0.5	69.0	4.4
Town	6.2	0.7	2.8	3.6	0.7	83.7	2.2
Rural	4.4	1.5	3.6	4.5	0.3	83.5	2.3

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

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 that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels). Hispanic includes Latino, American Indian includes Native American, Black includes African American, and Pacific Islander includes Native Hawaiian.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 10. Percentage male enrollment in private schools and percentage distribution of private schools by coeducational category and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Male enrollment	Coeducational category		
		Coed schools	All-girls schools	All-boys schools
Total	51.5	95.8	1.8	2.4
Private school typology				
Catholic	51.0	93.8	3.3	2.9
Parochial	50.6	98.6	0.9	‡
Diocesan	51.0	97.8	1.1	1.1
Private	52.0	71.3	15.1	13.6
Other religious	51.5	96.1	1.4	2.5
Conservative Christian	51.4	99.5	‡	‡
Other affiliated	50.6	92.5	3.5	4.1
Unaffiliated	52.3	95.9	1.2	2.9
Nonsectarian	52.5	96.5	1.4	2.1
Regular	50.7	96.4	1.9	1.8
Special emphasis	51.0	97.7	0.9	1.4
Special education	67.7	93.7	1.3	5.0!
School level				
Elementary	51.2	98.7	0.6	0.8
Secondary	52.4	72.5	11.8	15.8
Combined	51.5	96.4	1.5	2.1
Program emphasis				
Regular elementary/secondary	51.3	95.2	2.2	2.6
Montessori	49.9	99.6	‡	‡
Special program emphasis	48.0	96.0	‡	2.2
Special education	67.3	92.8	1.5	5.7
Vocational/technical	‡	‡	‡	‡
Alternative	54.7	88.4	3.3	8.3
Early childhood	44.6	99.6	‡	‡
Size (number of students)				
Less than 50	52.3	97.5	0.9	1.6
50–149	54.0	96.2	1.2	2.6
150–299	51.3	95.9	2.1	2.0
300–499	50.0	92.6	4.2	3.2
500–749	49.6	87.8	7.3	4.9
750 or more	52.7	79.5	7.4	13.1
Region				
Northeast	52.2	90.7	3.8	5.5
Midwest	51.2	97.9	0.8	1.3
South	51.8	97.1	1.3	1.6
West	50.6	96.6	1.6	1.8
Urbanicity type				
City	51.4	93.8	2.8	3.3
Suburban	51.2	96.4	1.7	1.9
Town	52.3	98.1	‡	‡
Rural	52.6	96.9	0.8	2.3

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

‡ Reporting standards not met. There are fewer than 15 sample cases, or CV for this estimate is 50 percent or greater.

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 that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 11. Number and percentage distribution of private school teachers (headcount), by work status and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Work status											
	Total		Full time		3/4 time but less than 100%		1/2 time but less than 3/4		1/4 time but less than 1/2		Less than 1/4 time	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	532,922	100.0	416,974	78.2	25,943	4.9	48,296	9.1	24,821	4.7	16,887	3.2
Private school typology												
Catholic	153,460	100.0	128,899	84.0	6,077	4.0	10,528	6.9	5,271	3.4	2,686	1.8
Parochial	49,434	100.0	41,010	83.0	2,192	4.4	3,449	7.0	1,889	3.8	895	1.8
Diocesan	68,759	100.0	57,839	84.1	2,747	4.0	4,982	7.2	2,138	3.1	1,054	1.5
Private	35,267	100.0	30,050	85.2	1,139	3.2	2,097	5.9	1,244	3.5	738	2.1
Other religious	221,589	100.0	159,148	71.8	12,030	5.4	27,611	12.5	13,267	6.0	9,534	4.3
Conservative Christian	72,046	100.0	54,831	76.1	3,831	5.3	6,390	8.9	4,032	5.6	2,963	4.1
Other affiliated	64,241	100.0	43,591	67.9	3,430	5.3	9,733	15.2	4,653	7.2	2,834	4.4
Unaffiliated	85,302	100.0	60,726	71.2	4,770	5.6	11,488	13.5	4,582	5.4	3,737	4.4
Nonsectarian	157,872	100.0	128,928	81.7	7,836	5.0	10,157	6.4	6,284	4.0	4,667	3.0
Regular	97,041	100.0	81,081	83.6	4,284	4.4	5,381	5.5	4,056	4.2	2,239	2.3
Special emphasis	40,447	100.0	29,566	73.1	2,989	7.4	3,976	9.8	1,870	4.6	2,046	5.1
Special education	20,384	100.0	18,280	89.7	563	2.8	800	3.9	359	1.8	382	1.9
School level												
Elementary	224,255	100.0	172,995	77.1	12,829	5.7	22,106	9.9	9,545	4.3	6,780	3.0
Secondary	76,971	100.0	60,951	79.2	3,363	4.4	6,103	7.9	3,744	4.9	2,810	3.7
Combined	231,696	100.0	183,029	79.0	9,751	4.2	20,086	8.7	11,533	5.0	7,297	3.1
Program emphasis												
Regular elementary/secondary	445,403	100.0	350,693	78.7	20,204	4.5	40,300	9.0	21,251	4.8	12,954	2.9
Montessori	22,982	100.0	16,885	73.5	1,870	8.1	2,314	10.1	896	3.9	1,017	4.4
Special program emphasis	20,048	100.0	14,351	71.6	1,409	7.0	2,161	10.8	1,128	5.6	999	5.0
Special education	23,044	100.0	20,245	87.9	769	3.3	1,036	4.5	525	2.3	470	2.0
Vocational/technical	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
Alternative	11,065	100.0	7,632	69.0	747	6.8	1,338	12.1	615	5.6	734	6.6
Early childhood	10,144	100.0	7,017	69.2	910	9.0	1,124	11.1	389	3.8	703	6.9
Size (number of students)												
Less than 50	65,579	100.0	45,041	68.7	4,386	6.7	7,152	10.9	4,814	7.3	4,185	6.4
50–149	103,527	100.0	74,060	71.5	6,492	6.3	10,516	10.2	6,755	6.5	5,705	5.5
150–299	123,368	100.0	94,857	76.9	6,593	5.3	11,445	9.3	7,097	5.8	3,375	2.7
300–499	88,104	100.0	74,056	84.1	4,012	4.6	6,191	7.0	2,449	2.8	1,395	1.6
500–749	71,046	100.0	60,796	85.6	2,521	3.5	4,587	6.5	2,036	2.9	1,106	1.6
750 or more	81,298	100.0	68,165	83.8	1,939	2.4	8,404	10.3	1,670	2.1	1,121	1.4

See notes at end of table.

Table 11. Number and percentage distribution of private school teachers (headcount), by work status and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16—Continued

Selected characteristic	Work status											
	Total		Full time		3/4 time but less than 100%		1/2 time but less than 3/4		1/4 time but less than 1/2		Less than 1/4 time	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Region												
Northeast	136,200	100.0	103,073	75.7	6,519	4.8	16,128	11.8	6,101	4.5	4,378	3.2
Midwest	115,283	100.0	90,738	78.7	5,303	4.6	9,220	8.0	5,789	5.0	4,234	3.7
South	189,038	100.0	152,010	80.4	8,321	4.4	14,651	7.8	8,787	4.6	5,268	2.8
West	92,401	100.0	71,153	77.0	5,800	6.3	8,297	9.0	4,144	4.5	3,007	3.3
Urbanicity type												
City	224,740	100.0	177,584	79.0	11,059	4.9	20,345	9.1	9,091	4.0	6,661	3.0
Suburban	204,186	100.0	160,435	78.6	10,282	5.0	19,285	9.4	8,358	4.1	5,826	2.9
Town	34,423	100.0	26,133	75.9	1,704	5.0	3,140	9.1	1,943	5.6	1,503	4.4
Rural	69,573	100.0	52,822	75.9	2,899	4.2	5,526	7.9	5,429!	7.8	2,897	4.2

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

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

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding or missing values in cells with too few sample cases. The teacher estimates in this table are headcounts. These estimates include private schools that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 12. Pupil/teacher ratio of private schools, by school level and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Total	School level		
		Elementary	Secondary	Combined
Total	10.2	10.8	11.1	9.3
Private school typology				
Catholic	13.3	13.7	13.3	10.8
Parochial	13.8	14.1	12.3	11.1
Diocesan	13.7	13.7	14.0	11.4
Private	11.8	11.4	12.6	10.4
Other religious	10.0	10.1	9.0	10.1
Conservative Christian	10.4	9.8	10.9	10.5
Other affiliated	9.3	9.6	8.8	9.3
Unaffiliated	10.2	10.5	8.8	10.2
Nonsectarian	7.4	6.7	7.7	7.7
Regular	7.9	7.5	7.2	8.3
Special emphasis	7.0	6.0	11.0	8.1
Special education	5.4	4.8	5.4	5.5
Program emphasis				
Regular elementary/secondary	10.8	11.9	11.4	9.6
Montessori	6.2	5.5	‡	10.5
Special program emphasis	8.5	8.3	7.3	8.8
Special education	5.4	4.9	5.3	5.5
Vocational/technical	‡	‡	‡	‡
Alternative	9.3	7.4	13.2	8.2
Early childhood	6.1	6.2	†	‡
Size (number of students)				
Less than 50	6.1	6.4	4.8	5.6
50–149	8.4	9.1	7.8	7.4
150–299	10.8	12.1	9.2	9.1
300–499	11.6	13.3	10.7	10.0
500–749	11.5	15.2	12.0	10.0
750 or more	11.8	14.6	14.6	10.6
Region				
Northeast	9.3	10.3	9.6	8.4
Midwest	11.7	12.2	13.0	10.1
South	9.6	9.6	11.4	9.3
West	10.8	11.1	11.5	9.9
Urbanicity type				
City	10.5	11.0	11.8	9.4
Suburban	10.3	10.7	11.6	9.3
Town	9.9	10.2	9.7	9.7
Rural	9.1	10.8	8.0	8.5

† Not applicable.

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

NOTE: These estimates include private schools that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 13. Percentage of private schools with 12th-graders, number of graduates, graduation rate, and percentage of graduates who attended 4-year colleges, by selected characteristics: United States, 2014–15

Selected characteristic	Percent of schools with 12th-graders in 2014–15	Number of 2014–15 graduates	2014–15 graduation rate ¹	Percent of 2014–15 graduates who attended 4-year colleges by fall 2015
Total	29.0	343,252	97.2	64.5
Private school typology				
Catholic	19.3	143,745	99.2	86.5
Parochial	6.2	13,405	98.0	86.3
Diocesan	19.1	68,314	99.3	85.9
Private	51.2	62,026	99.3	87.2
Other religious	34.8	113,552	97.5	63.0
Conservative Christian	59.4	42,508	97.7	67.1
Other affiliated	32.5	32,713	98.2	75.0
Unaffiliated	24.3	38,331	96.6	52.6
Nonsectarian	26.5	85,956	93.9	56.8
Regular	26.8	66,546	98.7	80.8
Special emphasis	13.0	13,407	92.9	47.9
Special education	62.9	6,003	61.7	21.3
School level				
Elementary	†	†	†	†
Secondary	89.8	185,656	98.3	69.7
Combined ²	74.3	157,596	96.0	62.7
Program emphasis				
Regular elementary/secondary	32.8	315,109	98.8	72.9
Montessori	1.3	398!	95.7	67.9
Special program emphasis	46.6	8,777	95.9	51.2!
Special education	60.0	6,593	62.3	22.6
Vocational/technical	‡	‡	‡	‡
Alternative	58.4	11,958	87.3	30.6
Early childhood	†	†	†	†
Size (number of students)				
Less than 50	17.0	8,902	84.0	38.5
50–149	31.9	25,727	87.4	56.9
150–299	33.0	47,126	96.6	76.3
300–499	45.3	59,028	98.2	85.4
500–749	71.0	79,766	99.3	85.8
750 or more	91.8	122,703	99.1	90.3
Region				
Northeast	27.5	93,626	96.4	62.7
Midwest	22.6	75,381	97.9	66.5
South	37.2	113,376	97.7	64.5
West	25.3	60,869	96.9	64.4
Urbanicity type				
City	29.4	161,217	98.0	69.2
Suburban	25.8	127,895	96.4	65.1
Town	34.0	16,345	98.0	63.4
Rural	31.7	37,795	96.5	57.7

† Not applicable.

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

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

¹ The 2014–15 graduation rate is the percentage of 12th graders enrolled around October 1, 2014 who graduated in 2014–15.

² Includes the schools that reported 12th-grade enrollment for 2014–15, but were elementary in 2015–16 (less than 1 percent).

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 that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 14. Number of private schools, students, and teachers (headcount), by school membership in private school associations: United States, 2015–16

Association	Schools	Students	Teachers
Total	34,576	4,903,596	532,922
None	11,341	783,562	91,647
Religious			
Accelerated Christian Education	814	35,442	4,963
American Association of Christian Schools	765	73,428	8,925
Association of Christian Schools International	2,745	572,519	60,161
Association of Christian Teachers and Schools	166	18,675	2,227
Association of Classical and Christian Schools	359!	39,912	5,530
Christian Schools International	279	65,531	6,334
Evangelical Lutheran Education Association	142	12,632	1,339
Friends Council on Education	66	17,339	2,635
General Conference of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church	551	38,485	3,387
Islamic School League of America	88	14,778	1,925
Jesuit Secondary Education Association	72	51,030	4,164
National Association of Episcopal Schools	234	69,461	9,581
National Catholic Educational Association	5,331	1,531,053	121,827
National Christian School Association	131	34,772	3,374
National Society for Hebrew Day Schools	265	86,136	11,359
Oral Roberts University Educational Fellowship	40	7,797	842
The Jewish Community Day School Network	143	29,812	5,012
Solomon Schechter Day School Association	39	8,580	1,365
Southern Baptist Association of Christian Schools	112	33,248	3,292
Other religious school associations	1,608	295,282	32,251
Special emphasis			
American Montessori Society	1,491	74,269	13,823
Association Montessori International	696	25,454	3,591
Other Montessori associations	711	29,190	5,778
Association of Military Colleges and Schools	26	5,607	554
Association of Waldorf Schools of North America	128	21,476	3,561
National Association of Private Special Education Centers	238	23,467	3,968
Other associations for exceptional children	158	15,035	2,514
European Council for International Schools	‡	‡	‡
National Association for the Education of Young Children	1,156	81,243	11,313
National Association of Laboratory Schools	‡	‡	‡
National Coalition of Girls' Schools	117	45,525	5,956
Other special emphasis school associations	1,183	153,787	19,139
Other school associations or organizations			
Alternative School Network	22	2,234	262
National Association of Independent Schools	1,597	673,248	93,091
State or regional independent school association	1,911	600,525	72,493
National Independent Private School Association	212	33,139	3,730
The Association of Boarding Schools	254	90,534	13,182
Other school associations	6,407	1,117,333	126,126

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

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

NOTE: Details do not sum to total because private schools may belong to more than one association. These estimates include private schools that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table 15. Number of private schools, students, full-time-equivalent (FTE) teachers, and 2014–15 high school graduates, by state: United States, 2015–16

State	Schools	Students	FTE teachers	High school graduates 2014–15
United States	34,576	4,903,596	481,558	343,252
Alabama	352	63,920	5,867	4,708
Alaska	53	4,518	480	‡
Arizona	320	46,252	4,107	3,033
Arkansas	333!	30,607	3,667	1,798
California	3,425	544,800	49,530	36,943
Colorado	604!	47,875	5,677	2,787
Connecticut	422	60,353	7,774	7,142
Delaware	97	17,310	1,652	1,177
District of Columbia	93!	15,856	2,054	1,495
Florida	2,201	325,425	30,487	22,048
Georgia	1,217	168,718	19,947	11,748
Hawaii	142	41,703	3,726	3,513
Idaho	255!	13,901	1,425	643
Illinois	1,498	231,275	19,599	16,802
Indiana	1,664!	149,460	11,937	7,126
Iowa	509!	59,419	5,116	2,581
Kansas	210	37,835	3,210	2,548
Kentucky	329	61,766	5,673	4,519
Louisiana	578	152,955	12,635	11,419!
Maine	143	17,273	2,023	2,695
Maryland	764	122,189	13,810	9,128
Massachusetts	755	105,960	14,441	9,270
Michigan	886	151,909	13,551	10,962
Minnesota	473	68,496	5,876	5,152
Mississippi	182	38,168	3,535	2,699
Missouri	867	110,040	10,342	8,538
Montana	122	9,604	984	403
Nebraska	346!	43,985	3,121	2,463
Nevada	146	19,166	1,540	1,239
New Hampshire	259	19,993	2,670	2,426
New Jersey	1,269	172,214	19,167	14,317
New Mexico	171	19,571	2,014	1,439
New York	1,939	461,297	46,138	35,598
North Carolina	646	110,106	11,813	7,485
North Dakota	49	6,404	629	‡
Ohio	1,356	222,863	18,381	12,921
Oklahoma	183	26,977	2,737	1,573
Oregon	413	47,127	4,216	3,471
Pennsylvania	2,741	271,234	26,367	19,638
Rhode Island	131	18,104	1,898	1,459
South Carolina	375	48,393	5,308	3,130
South Dakota	72	8,758	828	‡
Tennessee	502	79,902	8,731	6,041
Texas	2,398	269,157	30,423	16,533
Utah	162	17,636	1,799	1,494

See notes at end of table.

Table 15. Number of private schools, students, full-time-equivalent (FTE) teachers, and 2014–15 high school graduates, by state: United States, 2015–16—Continued

State	Schools	Students	FTE teachers	High school graduates 2014–15
Vermont	113	9,335	1,274	1,082
Virginia	951	109,991	12,831	7,021
Washington	642	83,322	7,682	5,649
West Virginia	128	12,951	1,334	854
Wisconsin	1,054	126,035	11,314	5,541
Wyoming	36	1,488	219	‡

! Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation for this estimate is between 30 and 50 percent (i.e., the standard error is at least 30 percent and less than 50 percent of the estimate).

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

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 that provide instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Appendix A—Glossary

Full-time-equivalent (FTE)

Full-time-equivalent (FTE) quantifies teachers in proportion to a full-time teacher. Private school teachers are assigned an FTE based on respondent-provided information on the number of teachers in each full-time and part-time work status category in item 11.

- *FTE = 1.000*: A teacher works full time.
- *FTE = .875*: A teacher works at least 3/4 time but less than full time.
- *FTE = .625*: A teacher works at least 1/2 time but less than 3/4 time.
- *FTE = .375*: A teacher works at least 1/4 time but less than 1/2 time.
- *FTE = .125*: A teacher works less than 1/4 time.

The number of FTE teachers is calculated by summing the number of FTEs in each work status category.

Graduation rate

The graduation rate is the number of 2014–15 graduates divided by the number of 12th-grade students enrolled around October 1, 2014.

Kindergarten-terminal school

A school is kindergarten-terminal (k-terminal) if kindergarten is the highest grade offered at the school.

Private school

A private school is a school that is not supported primarily by public funds. It must provide classroom instruction for one or more of grades K–12 (or comparable ungraded levels) and have one or more teachers. Organizations or institutions that provide support for home schooling but do not offer classroom instruction for students are not included.

Program emphasis

Private schools are classified by respondents in item 12a according to one of seven types of program emphasis that best describes the school:

- *Regular*: The Private School Survey (PSS) questionnaire does not provide a definition of this term. Regular schools do not specialize in special, vocational/technical, or alternative education; or in having a Montessori or special program emphasis, although they may offer these programs in addition to the regular curriculum.
- *Montessori*: The PSS questionnaire does not provide a definition of this term. Montessori schools provide instruction using Montessori teaching methods.

- *Special program emphasis:* A science/mathematics school, a performing arts high school, a foreign language immersion school, and a talented/gifted school are examples of schools that offer a special program emphasis.
- *Special education:* Special education schools primarily serve students with disabilities.
- *Career/Technical/Vocational:* Career/technical/Vocational schools primarily serve students who are being trained for occupations.
- *Alternative:* Alternative schools provide nontraditional education. They fall outside the categories of regular, special education, and vocational education.
- *Early childhood:* Early childhood program schools serve students in prekindergarten, kindergarten, transitional (or readiness) kindergarten, and/or transitional first (or prefirst) grade.

Region

Private schools are assigned to one of four geographic regions:

- *Northeast:* Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania;
- *Midwest:* Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas;
- *South:* Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; and
- *West:* Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, and Hawaii.

School level

Private schools are classified using respondent-provided highest and lowest grades in the school according to one of three instructional levels:

- *Elementary:* A school is elementary if it has one or more of grades K–6 and does not have any grade higher than grade 8; for example, schools with grades PK–K, K–6, 1–3, or 6–8 are classified as elementary schools.
- *Secondary:* A school is secondary if it has one or more of grades 7–12 and does not have any grade lower than grade 7; for example, schools with grades 9–12, 7–8, 10–12, or 7–9 are classified as secondary schools.
- *Combined:* A school is classified as combined if it has one or more of grades K–6 and one or more of grades 9–12; for example, schools with grades K–12, 6–12, 6–9, or 1–12 are classified as having combined grades. Schools in which all students are ungraded (i.e., not classified by standard grade levels) are also classified as combined.

Teacher

Any full-time or part-time school staff member who teaches one or more regularly scheduled classes in any of grades K–12 (or comparable ungraded levels).

Transitional kindergarten or transitional first

Extra year of school for either kindergarten-age children who are judged not ready for kindergarten, or for children who have attended kindergarten but have been judged not ready for the first grade.

Typology

Private schools are assigned to one of three major categories (Catholic, other religious, or nonsectarian) and, within each major category, one of three subcategories based on the school's religious affiliation provided by respondents in item 14.

- *Catholic*: Catholic schools are categorized according to governance, provided by Catholic school respondents in item 14c, into *parochial*, *diocesan*, and *private* schools.
- *Other religious*: Other religious schools have a religious orientation or purpose, but are not Roman Catholic. Other religious schools are categorized according to religious association membership, provided by respondents in item 15, into Conservative Christian, other affiliated and unaffiliated schools. *Conservative Christian* schools are those “Other religious” schools with membership in at least one of four associations: Accelerated Christian Education, American Association of Christian Schools, Association of Christian Schools International, or Oral Roberts University Education Fellowship. *Other affiliated* schools are those “Other religious” schools not classified as Conservative Christian with membership in at least 1 of 11 associations—Association of Christian Teachers and Schools, Christian Schools International, Evangelical Lutheran Education Association, Friends Council on Education, General Conference of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Islamic School League of America, National Association of Episcopal Schools, National Christian School Association, National Society for Hebrew Day Schools, Solomon Schechter Day School Association, Southern Baptist Association of Christian Schools—or indicating membership in “other religious school associations.” *Unaffiliated* schools are those “Other religious” schools that have a religious orientation or purpose, but are not classified as Conservative Christian or affiliated.
- *Nonsectarian*: Nonsectarian schools do not have a religious orientation or purpose and are categorized according to program emphasis, provided by respondents in item 12a, into regular, special emphasis, and special education schools. *Regular* schools are those that have a regular elementary/secondary or early childhood program emphasis. *Special emphasis* schools are those that have a Montessori, career/technical/vocational, alternative, or special program emphasis. *Special education* schools are those that have a special education program emphasis.

Ungraded students

Ungraded students are those who are not assigned to a particular grade level (kindergarten, first grade, second grade, etc.). For example, special education centers and alternative schools often

classify their students as ungraded. Students in Montessori schools are also considered ungraded if the school assigns them to “primary” and “intermediate” levels instead of specific grades.

Urbanicity type

Urbanicity type is derived from the 12-category, urban-centric locale code (ULOCAL). The urban-centric locale code is based on the school’s physical address (or mailing address if the physical address is not reported) and is a measure of a school’s location relative to populous areas. For this report, the urban-centric locale codes were aggregated into four urbanicity types:

- *City*: The territory inside an urbanized area and inside a principal city (ULOCAL = 11, 12, or 13);
- *Suburb*: The territory outside a principal city and inside an urbanized area (ULOCAL = 21, 22, or 23);
- *Town*: Territory inside an urban cluster (ULOCAL = 31, 32, or 33); and
- *Rural*: Census-defined rural territory (ULOCAL = 41, 42, or 43).

Appendix B—Technical Notes

Background

The Private School Universe Survey (PSS) is conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) of the US Department of Education in order to collect basic information on American private elementary and secondary schools. PSS grew out of a proposal in 1988, to develop a private school data collection that would improve on the sporadic collection of private school data dating back to 1890 and improve on commercially available private school sampling frames. The PSS is currently designed to generate biennial data on the total number of private schools, teachers, and students and to build a universe of private schools to serve as a sampling frame for the NCES sample surveys. PSS was first collected by the U.S. Census Bureau in the 1989-90 school year, with data collections every two years since.

Target Population

The target population for PSS is all schools located in the 50 states and the District of Columbia that are not supported primarily by public funds, provide classroom instruction for one or more of grades kindergarten through 12 (or comparable ungraded levels), and have one or more teachers. Organizations or institutions that provide support for home schooling, but do not provide classroom instruction are not included.

Content

The 2015–16 PSS instrument consisted of a single school questionnaire designed to be filled out by school administrators and is available on the PSS website at <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pss>. Data collected included enrollment by grade, enrollment by race/ethnicity and sex, number of high school graduates from the previous year, number of teachers, program emphasis, school religious orientation or affiliation, association membership, existence and type of kindergarten program, number of days in the school year and length of the school day, and whether the school has a library media center. This cycle included new questions about participation in the National School Lunch Program and Title I services.

Frame Creation

Because the THE PSS attempts to include every private school in the United States, a universe list of private schools meeting the PSS definition had to be created for the 2015–16 PSS. Since 1983, NCES has used a dual-frame approach for building its private school universe (Beller 1984). The dual frame consists of a list frame and an area frame.

List Frame

The list-building component was the primary means for improving coverage of private schools. The basis for the 2015–16 PSS list frame was the 29,245 private schools from the 2013–14 PSS list frame and the certainty portion of the area frame. In order to provide coverage of private schools founded since 2013 and to improve coverage of private schools existing in 2013, NCES received and processed membership lists from 30 private school associations and religious denominations. The departments of education from 47 states (including the District of Columbia) provided lists of private schools. Additional private schools that contacted NCES to be included in the PSS were added as list frame cases.

Schools on private school association membership lists and the state lists were compared to the base list, and any school that did not match a school on the base list was added to the universe list. Additionally, 4,760 programs identified in the 2013–14 PSS as prekindergarten only were included in the 2015–16 list

frame. This was done in case any of these programs included at least a kindergarten in the 2015–16 school year. A total of 39,397 schools were included in the 2015–16 list frame (table B-1).

Table B-1. Number of responding and nonresponding schools, out-of-scope cases, and school response rate, by frame: 2015–16

Response status	List frame	Area frame	Total frame
Total			
Base-weighted	39,397	14,376	53,773
Unweighted	39,397	2,992	42,389
Response			
Base-weighted	22,155	1,783	23,938
Unweighted	22,155	273	22,428
Nonresponse			
Base-weighted	6,194	4,444	10,638
Unweighted	6,194	1,013	7,207
Out-of-scope			
Base-weighted	11,048	8,149	19,197
Unweighted	11,048	1,706	12,754
Response rate			
Base-weighted	78.2 percent	28.6 percent	69.2 percent
Unweighted	78.2 percent	21.2 percent	75.7 percent

Note: Weighted using the inverse of the probability of selection.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Area Frame

To identify private schools that may have been overlooked in the list-building component, a group of geographic areas was selected to be searched for private schools. The United States is divided by the Census Bureau into 2,062 primary sampling units (PSUs), each PSU consisting of a single county, independent city, or group of contiguous counties. The area frame consists of a sample of these 2,062 PSUs.

A total of 124 distinct PSUs (155 counties) were in the 2015–16 PSS area frame sample. Within each of these PSUs, the Census Bureau attempted to find all eligible private schools. A block-by-block listing of all private schools in a sample of PSUs was not attempted. Rather, National Processing Center (NPC) staff created the frame by using such sources as online yellow pages (yp.com), local Catholic dioceses, local education agencies, and local government offices. The Census Bureau also obtained a list of eligible private schools for area frame sample PSUs from the InfoUSA database.¹ Once the area search lists were constructed, they were matched with the NCES private school universe list. Schools that did match the universe list were deleted from the area frame. A total of 2,992 schools were added to the universe from the area frame (table B-1).

Data Collection

The list frame was essentially divided into three data collection tracks: schools included in the branding experiment, nonexperimental schools, and schools that do not use Internet or telephones (primarily Amish and Mennonite schools). Experimental schools received mailing material with either Census branding or Department of Education branding. Like the Amish and Mennonite schools, these experimental schools did not receive access to the internet instrument. In the case of the experimental schools, this was to simplify the internet instrument development, avoiding the need to develop additional, branded, internet

¹ See <http://www.infousa.com/>.

instruments. The experiment ceased after January 13, 2016, and all remaining nonresponding schools were granted access to Internet, and were included in the computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) and field nonresponse follow-up (Field) workloads, where pertinent. No significant differences were found in the mail response rates of the cases receiving mailing materials with Census versus Department of Education branding. Area Frame cases were not included in the mailings, but went directly to CATI, and then to field for follow-up.

The 2015–16 PSS data collection began on October 1, 2015 with the internet instrument deployment, and the mailing of a letter to non-experimental schools describing how to respond to the 2015–16 PSS online with a user ID and password. At this time, experimental and Amish/Mennonite schools received their first paper questionnaire. On October 28, the second mailing occurred. Here, non-experimental schools received a paper questionnaire and experimental and Amish/Mennonite schools received their second paper questionnaire. Reminder postcards were sent 1 week after each questionnaire mailing.

Because Amish and Mennonite schools do not often possess telephones, a field nonresponse follow up effort targeting these schools ran from January 13 until February 17, 2016. CATI follow-up of nonresponding control and experimental schools was conducted from January 13 to February 26, 2016. A second CATI wave for the area search frame cases took place from February 9 to March 18, 2016. Finally, from April 4 through May 13, a field nonresponse follow-up of nonresponding CATI cases, targeting all list frame and area frame nonresponse cases, concluded data collection. The online option was kept open throughout data collection. Data collection for the 2015–16 PSS ended on June 3, 2016.

Of the 42,389 schools included in the 2015–16 PSS, 12,754 cases were considered as out-of-scope (not eligible for the PSS). A total of 22,428 private schools completed a PSS interview, while 7,207 schools failed to respond resulting in an unweighted response rate of 75.7 percent.²

Of the 53,773 base-weighted schools included in the 2015–16 PSS, 19,197 cases were considered as out-of-scope (not eligible for the PSS). A total of 23,938 base-weighted private schools completed a PSS interview, while 10,638 base-weighted schools failed to respond resulting in a base-weighted response rate of 69.2 percent.³

Unit nonresponse bias analysis

Because NCES Statistical Standard 4-4 requires analysis of unit nonresponse bias for any survey stage with a base-weighted response rate of less than 85 percent, the 2015-16 PSS data file was evaluated for potential bias. Comparisons between the frame and respondent populations were made before and after the noninterview weighting adjustments were applied in order to evaluate the extent to which the adjustments reduced or eliminated nonresponse bias. The following section explains the methodology and summarizes the conclusions.

As outlined in appendix B of the *NCES Statistical Standards*, the degree of nonresponse bias is a function of two factors: the nonresponse rate and how much the respondents and nonrespondents differ on survey variables of interest. The mathematical formulation to estimate bias for a sample mean of variable y is as follows:

$$B(\bar{y}_R) = \bar{y}_R - \bar{y}_T = \left(\frac{n_M}{n_T} \right) (\bar{y}_R - \bar{y}_M)$$

² The unweighted response rate is calculated as follows: number of unweighted responding schools divided by the number of unweighted responding schools plus the number of unweighted nonresponding schools.

³ The base-weighted response rate is calculated as follows: number of base-weighted responding schools divided by the number of base-weighted responding schools plus the number of base-weighted nonresponding schools.

where

\bar{y}_T = the estimated mean based on all eligible sample cases

\bar{y}_R = the estimated mean based only on respondent cases

\bar{y}_M = the estimated mean based only on nonrespondent cases

n_T = the estimated number of cases (i.e., $n_T = n_R + n_M$)

n_M = the estimated number of nonrespondents

n_R = the estimated number of respondents

A variable-free estimate of the bias, referred to as a relative bias, was used to compare biases across all variables included in the analysis. The relative bias for an estimated mean using only the respondent data, \bar{y}_R , is calculated using the following formula:

$$RelB(\bar{y}_R) = \frac{B(\bar{y}_R)}{\bar{y}_R}$$

Relative bias was estimated for variables known for respondents and nonrespondents. There is a very limited amount of information available about nonresponding private schools. The variables used in the PSS unit nonresponse bias analysis were affiliation (20 categories), community type (4 categories), enrollment (6 categories), and grade level of the school (4 categories).

The following steps were followed to compute the relative bias. First, the nonresponse bias was estimated and tested to determine if the bias is significant at the 5 percent level. Second, noninterview adjustments were applied, with the variables listed above included in the nonresponse models. The noninterview adjustments, which are included in the weights, were designed to significantly reduce or eliminate unit nonresponse bias for variables included in the models. Third, after the weights were computed, any remaining bias was estimated for the variables listed above and statistical tests were performed to check the remaining significant nonresponse bias. For this comparison, nonresponse bias was calculated as the difference between the base-weighted sample proportion and the nonresponse-adjusted respondent proportion, which evaluates the effectiveness of each noninterview adjustment in mitigating nonresponse bias. Schools found to be ineligible for the THE PSS were excluded from the analysis.

As shown in table B-2, the weighting adjustments eliminated most, but not all, significant bias. For all respondents, approximately 79 percent of the variable categories were significantly biased before nonresponse weighting adjustments, and approximately 14 percent were significantly biased after adjustments. The average bias was reduced by 79 percent, from 23 percent to 5 percent.

Table B-2. Summary of 2015-16 PSS nonresponse bias statistics

Nonresponse bias statistic	Total
Before nonresponse adjustment ¹	
Mean estimated absolute percent relative bias	23.35
Median estimated absolute percent relative bias	11.62
Percent of variable categories significantly biased	78.57
After nonresponse adjustment ²	
Mean estimated absolute percent relative bias	5.02
Median estimated absolute percent relative bias	1.45
Percent of variable categories significantly biased	14.29

¹ The difference between the base-weighted respondents and the base-weighted sample.

² The difference between the nonresponse-adjusted respondents and the base-weighted sample.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, "Private School Survey (PSS) Data File," 2015-16.

Quality Control and Editing

Data from the interviews went through several edits; the edits consisted of

- range check to eliminate out-of-range entries;
- pre-edits to check for anomalous results;
- consistency edits to compare data in different fields for consistency;
- edits to verify that skip patterns on the questionnaire had been followed; and
- logic edits where data was added to the questionnaire using information from the same PSS record or from the previous PSS record.

Logic Edits

In the logic edits, data were added to questionnaire records when information was missing or incomplete from these sources:

- *Other items on the 2015–16 PSS*—Based on entries from related items on the questionnaire, assumptions were made about how the respondent should have answered items with missing values. For example, if the respondent did not answer item 9a (length of school day for kindergarten, transitional kindergarten, transitional first grade) and item 4 indicated that the school did not have students enrolled in any of those grades, zero (school does not offer kindergarten) was assigned to item 9a.
- *Data from the 2013–14 PSS*—Data from the 2013–14 PSS were used to fill the items with missing values whenever possible. For example, if the type of school was not reported in item 11 and it had been reported on the 2013–14 PSS, the 2013–14 response was copied to item 11.

In addition to filling items where values were missing, some inconsistencies between items were corrected by ratio adjustment. For records where the number of students in item 6 (students by race) did not equal the enrollment in item 5, excluding prekindergarten, the item 6 entries were adjusted to be consistent with

item 5 (i.e., each entry in item 6 was multiplied by the ratio of the student count in item 6 to the enrollment in item 5, excluding prekindergarten).

Weighting

The survey data from the area frame component were weighted to reflect the sampling rates (probability of selection) of the PSUs. There were 22,428 interviews and 7,207 cases that were noninterviews. After applying the PSU weight, these became 23,938 interviews and 10,638 noninterviews—the weighted response rate was 69.2 percent (table B-1).

Imputation

Item Response

The weighted item response rates for the variables used in this report are all greater than 89 percent. Values were imputed to items with missing data to compensate for item nonresponse.

Imputation

Items still blank after the logic edit were imputed using donor imputation. The imputation process used a hot-deck imputation methodology by extracting data from the record for a school (donor) similar to the nonrespondent. Variables that describe certain characteristics of the schools (e.g., religious affiliation, size, instructional level) were created and used to sort the records and to match incomplete records to those with complete data. Items 12b (whether or not the school was located in a private home that was used primarily as a family residence) and 14 (school association membership) did not go through the donor imputation program. If, after the logic edit, the item was still incomplete, the assumption was made for item 12b that the school was not in a private home, and for item 14 that the school did not belong to any associations. Items 13a and 13c (religious orientation and affiliation) did not go through the donor imputation program. Rather, if values were still missing after the logic edit, the records were reviewed and imputed by an analyst.

Analyst Imputation

For a few items, there were cases where entries were imputed by analysts during data review. The data record, sample file record, and the questionnaire were reviewed and an entry consistent with the information from those sources was imputed. This procedure was used when (1) there was no suitable donor found, (2) the computer method produced an imputed entry that was unacceptable, and (3) the nature of the item required an actual review of the data rather than a computer-generated value.

Sampling Error

The standard error indicates how much variability there is in the population of possible estimates of a parameter for a given sample size. Standard errors are used as a measure of the precision expected from a particular sample. If all possible samples were surveyed under similar conditions, intervals of 1.96 standard errors below to 1.96 standard errors above a particular statistic would include the true population parameter being estimated in about 95 percent of the samples. This is a 95 percent confidence interval.

Estimates of standard errors were computed using a technique known as half-sample replication. As with any replication method, half-sample replication involves constructing a number of subsamples (replicates) from the full sample and computing the statistic of interest for each replicate. The mean squared error of the replicate estimates around the full sample provides an estimate of the variance of the statistic (Wolter 1985). A computer program (SUDAAN), developed by Research Triangle Institute, was used to calculate the estimates of standard errors. For PSS, only the area frame contributes to the standard error. Since all list frame cases are included in the THE PSS, the list frame component of the standard error is always zero (0). Standard errors for statistics in each table are presented in corresponding tables in appendix C.

Tests of Significance

The tests of significance used in this analysis are based on Student's *t* statistics. The statistic between estimates from various independent subgroups presented in the tables can be computed by using the following formula:

$$t = \frac{x_1 - x_2}{\sqrt{SE_1^2 + SE_2^2}}$$

where x_1 and x_2 are the estimates to be compared (e.g., the means of two groups) and SE_1 and SE_2 are their corresponding standard errors.

As the number of comparisons that are conducted at the same significance increases, it becomes more likely that at least one of the estimated differences becomes significant merely by chance, that is, will be erroneously identified as significantly different from zero. Even when there is no statistical difference between the estimates or percentages being compared, there is a 5 percent chance of getting a significant *t* value of 1.96 from sampling error alone. As the number of comparisons increases, the incidence of this type of error also increases.

Nonsampling Error

Survey estimates are also subject to errors of reporting and errors made in the collection of the data. These errors, called nonsampling errors, can sometimes bias the data. Nonsampling errors may include such things as differences in the respondents' interpretation of the meaning of the questions, differences related to the particular time the survey was conducted, or errors in data preparation. While sampling theory can be used to estimate the sampling variability of an estimate, nonsampling errors usually require either an experiment conducted as part of the data collection procedure or use of data external to the study.

Undercoverage in the list and area frames is another possible source of nonsampling error. To reduce the possible bias caused by undercoverage in the list frame, the area frame was used to complement the list frame through the identification of schools missing from the list frame.

Publication Criteria for PSS Estimates

NCES criteria for the publication of an estimate are based on two category types: (1) surveys based on a sample from the frame or (2) surveys based on the entire frame (universe surveys). To publish an estimate for a sample survey, at least 30 cases must be used in developing the estimate; for a universe survey, at least three cases must be used in developing the estimate. PSS has pieces of both categories: (1) an area-frame sample of 124 PSUs which collects data on schools not on the list frame and (2) a complete census of schools belonging to the list frame. Since a significant component of a PSS estimate comes from the census of the list frame, the criterion of at least 30 cases seems unnecessarily high. However, since the area-frame component of an estimate can have a large sampling error, some indication of a large sampling error is appropriate. Based on these two concerns, the estimates reported in a PSS table must be based on at least 15 schools. Some of the estimates in this report are footnoted with "Interpret data with caution. The coefficient of variation is between 30 and 50 percent." The coefficient of variation measures the precision of an estimate and is defined as the standard error of an estimate divided by the value of the estimate.

Appendix C—Standard Error Tables

Table C-1. Standard errors for number and percentage distribution of private schools, students, and full-time-equivalent (FTE) teachers, by selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Schools		Students		FTE teachers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	953.3	†	74,475.6	†	7,265.4	†
Private school typology						
Catholic	121.4	0.6	35,590.2	0.7	1,957.9	0.5
Parochial	101.8	0.4	19,968.0	0.4	828.8	0.2
Diocesan	71.0	0.3	17,621.8	0.4	1,315.8	0.3
Private	54.3	0.2	12,815.9	0.2	1,052.3	0.2
Other religious	870.8	1.5	62,845.7	0.8	6,432.6	0.9
Conservative Christian	164.5	0.6	47,245.0	0.9	4,617.9	0.9
Other affiliated	209.8	0.6	22,113.4	0.4	3,256.1	0.6
Unaffiliated	826.9	1.8	44,724.2	0.8	3,803.2	0.7
Nonsectarian	424.2	1.2	20,667.3	0.5	2,801.5	0.6
Regular	194.2	0.6	11,755.5	0.3	1,942.1	0.4
Special emphasis	296.7	0.8	15,095.2	0.3	1,521.2	0.3
Special education	59.4	0.2	1,944.1	0.0	458.2	0.1
School level						
Elementary	831.1	1.1	47,007.4	0.8	3,653.8	0.7
Secondary	120.5	0.3	6,323.1	0.2	703.2	0.2
Combined	377.4	1.1	63,551.7	0.9	6,315.2	0.8
Program emphasis						
Regular elementary/ secondary	776.9	1.0	71,151.8	0.4	6,733.3	0.4
Montessori	252.3	0.7	13,492.4	0.3	1,389.7	0.3
Special program emphasis	150.1	0.4	7,695.9	0.2	711.8	0.2
Special education	63.4	0.2	1,668.4	0.0	408.9	0.1
Vocational/technical	†	†	†	†	†	†
Alternative	119.3	0.3	4,424.2	0.1	504.8	0.1
Early childhood	141.7	0.4	2,175.3	0.0	783.2	0.2
Size (number of students)						
Less than 50	797.1	1.1	22,856.4	0.4	2,698.0	0.5
50–149	227.8	0.5	16,122.5	0.4	2,035.5	0.5
150–299	156.0	0.5	29,915.8	0.5	3,583.6	0.6
300–499	62.4	0.3	20,572.0	0.5	1,408.2	0.4
500–749	102.9	0.3	59,356.0	1.0	5,118.1	0.9
750 or more	6.8	0.1	7,834.4	0.3	746.4	0.3
Region						
Northeast	230.8	0.8	31,165.9	0.6	2,877.8	0.6
Midwest	721.1	1.6	47,621.5	0.8	4,096.4	0.7
South	543.6	1.3	47,102.5	0.8	5,092.5	0.8
West	200.0	0.7	9,426.3	0.3	1,338.1	0.3
Urbanicity type						
City	398.3	1.0	47,350.9	0.8	4,100.9	0.8
Suburban	273.2	1.1	45,785.0	0.8	3,847.9	0.8
Town	216.5	0.6	31,530.6	0.6	3,366.4	0.7
Rural	724.8	1.6	32,933.5	0.6	3,835.3	0.7

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-2. Standard errors for number and percentage distribution of private schools, students, and full-time-equivalent (FTE) teachers, by religious or nonsectarian orientation of school: United States, 2015–16

Religious or nonsectarian orientation	Schools		Students		FTE teachers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	953.3	†	74,475.6	†	7,265.4	†
Religious orientation	877.7	1.20	72,107.1	0.47	6,711.5	0.58
Roman Catholic	121.4	0.63	35,590.2	0.68	1,957.9	0.50
African Methodist Episcopal	†	†	†	†	†	†
Amish	637.4	1.73	24,245.9	0.49	1,551.9	0.32
Assembly of God	0.0	0.02	0.0	0.01	0.0	0.01
Baptist	152.8	0.49	7,627.5	0.17	716.5	0.17
Brethren	0.0	0.01	0.0	#	0.0	#
Calvinist	0.0	0.01	0.0	0.01	0.0	0.01
Christian (unspecified)	347.4	0.85	61,672.4	1.08	6,296.1	1.11
Church of Christ	0.0	0.01	0.0	0.01	0.0	0.01
Church of God	0.0	0.01	0.0	#	0.0	#
Church of God in Christ	0.0	#	0.0	#	0.0	#
Church of the Nazarene	0.0	0.01	0.0	#	0.0	#
Disciples of Christ	†	†	†	†	†	†
Episcopal	0.0	0.03	0.0	0.03	0.0	0.03
Friends	0.0	0.01	0.0	0.01	0.0	0.01
Greek Orthodox	4.1	0.01	289.2	0.01	28.9	0.01
Islamic	44.0	0.13	1,303.1	0.03	335.1	0.07
Jewish	73.9	0.23	11,304.3	0.25	1,269.3	0.28
Latter Day Saints	†	†	†	†	†	†
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod	45.3	0.13	5,275.5	0.11	364.2	0.08
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America	0.0	0.01	0.0	#	0.0	#
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod	0.0	0.03	0.0	0.01	0.0	0.01
Other Lutheran	0.0	0.01	0.0	#	0.0	#
Mennonite	137.5	0.38	3,528.7	0.07	433.8	0.09
Methodist	25.6	0.07	281.9	0.01	25.6	0.01
Pentecostal	142.9	0.41	3,701.0	0.08	413.6	0.09
Presbyterian	65.1	0.18	1,845.8	0.04	273.9	0.06
Seventh-Day Adventist	45.7	0.10	377.5	0.02	45.7	0.01
Other	80.0	0.23	799.7	0.02	239.9	0.05
Nonsectarian	424.2	1.20	20,667.3	0.47	2,801.5	0.58

† Not applicable.

Rounds to zero.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-3. Standard errors for percentage distribution of private schools, by program emphasis and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Regular elementary/secondary	Montessori	Special program emphasis	Special education	Vocational/technical programs	Alternative	Early childhood
Total	1.01	0.70	0.43	0.20	†	0.29	0.40
Private school typology							
Catholic	0.39	0.11	0.54	0.19	†	0.11	0.02
Parochial	1.35	†	†	†	†	†	†
Diocesan	0.45	0.01	0.02	0.42	†	†	0.02
Private	1.32	0.65	†	0.11	†	†	0.14
Other religious							
Conservative Christian	0.98	0.07	0.88	0.10	†	0.47	0.59
Other affiliated	0.31	†	0.05	0.03	†	0.11	0.09
Unaffiliated	1.07	0.06	0.19	0.06	†	0.11	0.86
Nonsectarian	1.76	0.16	†	0.20	†	0.83	1.24
Regular	1.19	1.43	0.17	0.59	†	0.57	0.72
Special emphasis	1.49	†	†	†	†	†	1.49
Special education	†	1.47	0.80	†	†	1.30	†
	†	†	†	0.00	†	†	†
School level							
Elementary	1.60	0.94	0.22	0.08	†	0.06	0.74
Secondary	2.17	†	0.14	0.68	†	2.42	†
Combined	1.77	0.92	1.41	0.69	†	0.87	†
Size (number of students)							
Less than 50	2.46	1.30	0.89	0.43	†	0.52	1.13
50–149	0.61	0.64	0.11	0.24	†	0.43	0.03
150–299	1.22	1.10	0.67	0.12	†	0.02	†
300–499	0.27	†	0.24	0.02	†	0.03	0.00
500–749	0.23	0.00	0.15	†	†	†	0.00
750 or more	0.04	0.00	0.02	†	†	†	0.00
Region							
Northeast	1.21	0.57	0.12	0.45	†	0.08	0.83
Midwest	1.41	1.10	0.45	0.36	†	0.83	0.87
South	2.08	1.55	1.23	0.26	†	0.59	0.67
West	1.44	1.38	0.16	0.34	†	0.12	0.21
Urbanicity type							
City	1.70	1.47	0.40	0.22	†	0.68	0.76
Suburban	0.95	0.88	0.07	0.35	†	0.32	0.50
Town	2.01	0.50	0.10	1.07	†	1.38	0.31
Rural	2.36	0.92	†	0.36	†	0.36	0.46

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-4. Standard errors for number and percentage distribution of private schools, by urbanicity type and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Total		City		Suburban		Town		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	953.3	†	398.3	†	273.2	†	216.5	†	724.8	†
Private school typology										
Catholic	121.4	0.63	106.7	1.04	52.4	0.52	7.6	2.18	55.1	1.04
Parochial	101.8	0.36	46.9	0.46	48.5	0.44	7.6	0.95	52.1	0.75
Diocesan	71.0	0.31	76.6	0.67	12.8	0.19	0.0	1.08	0.0	0.29
Private	54.3	0.18	16.1	0.20	48.7	0.37	0.0	0.17	18.0	0.29
Other religious	870.8	1.49	205.2	1.31	149.0	0.89	213.3	3.33	705.1	3.05
Conservative Christian	164.5	0.58	67.6	0.61	74.5	0.60	126.7	3.68	29.7	1.28
Other affiliated	209.8	0.57	40.6	0.48	28.7	0.18	0.0	0.60	203.8	2.69
Unaffiliated	826.9	1.83	165.4	1.03	136.1	0.96	171.6	4.59	674.3	4.85
Nonsectarian	424.2	1.20	277.2	1.60	199.0	0.99	35.9	1.53	150.2	2.44
Regular	194.2	0.62	76.0	0.74	92.5	0.57	0.0	0.41	133.2	1.89
Special emphasis	296.7	0.81	246.0	1.75	132.7	0.87	10.1	0.58	66.2	1.02
Special education	59.4	0.18	16.5	0.20	47.7	0.35	31.3	1.07	0.0	0.27
School level										
Elementary	831.1	1.08	260.0	0.86	218.9	0.72	176.1	2.84	697.7	4.93
Secondary	120.5	0.27	44.0	0.36	45.5	0.39	40.9	1.43	69.1	1.15
Combined	377.4	1.13	164.8	0.88	122.2	0.77	88.7	2.59	298.5	4.47
Program emphasis										
Regular elementary/ secondary	776.9	1.01	202.4	1.70	141.5	0.95	209.7	2.01	704.2	2.36
Montessori	252.3	0.70	198.2	1.47	132.8	0.88	10.1	0.50	66.2	0.92
Special program emphasis	150.1	0.43	47.3	0.40	5.5	0.07	0.0	0.10	†	†
Special education	63.4	0.20	16.5	0.22	49.8	0.35	31.3	1.07	12.8	0.36
Vocational/technical	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
Alternative	119.3	0.29	88.3	0.68	40.2	0.32	40.2	1.38	0.0	0.36
Early childhood	141.7	0.40	94.6	0.76	91.3	0.50	0.0	0.31	30.5	0.46
Size (number of students)										
Less than 50	797.1	1.12	288.8	1.43	220.1	0.93	183.8	3.63	616.1	2.39
50–149	227.8	0.53	100.3	0.75	114.9	0.91	61.9	2.94	122.7	1.23
150–299	156.0	0.55	88.8	0.69	60.3	0.51	0.0	1.08	112.1	1.60
300–499	62.4	0.33	47.7	0.48	43.6	0.39	7.6	0.38	14.9	0.33
500–749	102.9	0.30	47.4	0.42	73.4	0.56	†	†	0.0	0.09
750 or more	6.8	0.07	6.8	0.15	0.0	0.05	†	†	0.0	0.05
Region										
Northeast	230.8	0.80	97.8	0.91	93.5	0.78	0.0	0.77	171.1	2.95
Midwest	721.1	1.61	166.7	1.32	99.7	0.76	143.7	3.68	632.4	5.70
South	543.6	1.29	326.8	1.95	221.4	1.26	159.2	4.08	293.4	3.81
West	200.0	0.69	120.6	1.16	83.5	0.66	29.7	1.50	99.7	1.53

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-5. Standard errors for number and percentage distribution of private school students, by urbanicity type and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Total		City		Suburban		Town		Rural	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	74,475.6	†	47,350.9	†	45,785.0	†	31,530.6	†	32,933.5	†
Private school typology										
Catholic	35,590.2	0.68	20,657.1	0.94	28,351.3	1.17	2,340.5	4.51	6,192.2	1.23
Parochial	19,968.0	0.38	8,014.9	0.40	17,721.5	0.76	2,340.5	1.94	1,172.4	0.32
Diocesan	17,621.8	0.39	17,638.6	0.75	89.8	0.44	0.0	2.36	0.0	0.38
Private	12,815.9	0.25	1,539.9	0.20	11,176.1	0.50	0.0	0.30	6,080.2	1.05
Other religious	62,845.7	0.85	35,599.7	1.15	34,940.5	1.28	31,436.2	5.64	31,075.8	2.53
Conservative Christian	47,245.0	0.88	5,955.8	0.34	34,799.9	1.57	31,364.4	7.87	1,363.9	1.10
Other affiliated	22,113.4	0.43	1,772.1	0.26	1,653.4	0.26	0.0	0.81	21,980.1	3.54
Unaffiliated	44,724.2	0.82	35,644.7	1.40	9,804.5	0.55	2,123.3	1.58	21,925.3	3.05
Nonsectarian	20,667.3	0.47	18,470.9	0.77	6,705.7	0.56	681.5	1.16	5,804.8	1.55
Regular	11,755.5	0.31	10,549.4	0.51	5,598.1	0.40	0.0	0.77	4,966.8	1.20
Special emphasis	15,095.2	0.30	14,001.3	0.62	2,755.6	0.18	10.1	0.26	2,884.1	0.56
Special education	1,944.1	0.05	1,012.1	0.05	1,516.3	0.10	675.3	0.25	0.0	0.12
School level										
Elementary	47,007.4	0.83	24,457.5	0.94	30,007.4	1.19	2,282.1	4.17	27,138.5	3.69
Secondary	6,323.1	0.24	4,931.3	0.38	2,387.4	0.40	2,501.7	1.15	207.3	0.80
Combined	63,551.7	0.93	36,490.1	1.12	35,063.8	1.31	30,167.4	5.01	23,357.9	3.46
Program emphasis										
Regular elementary/secondary	71,151.8	0.35	41,709.8	0.67	45,509.2	0.36	31,510.8	0.67	32,444.7	0.95
Montessori	13,492.4	0.27	12,414.9	0.56	2,804.1	0.15	10.1	0.12	2,884.1	0.51
Special program emphasis	7,695.9	0.16	6,539.4	0.30	1,663.7	0.11	0.0	0.14	3,700.8	0.68
Special education	1,668.4	0.05	1,012.1	0.05	1,811.8	0.11	675.3	0.25	77.0	0.13
Vocational/technical	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
Alternative	4,424.2	0.09	3,124.9	0.13	2,248.5	0.14	883.3	0.33	0.0	0.15
Early childhood	2,175.3	0.05	1,524.4	0.07	1,437.2	0.08	0.0	0.05	274.3	0.05
Size (number of students)										
Less than 50	22,856.4	0.45	6,845.9	0.29	3,089.1	0.20	2,540.2	0.83	19,694.7	2.76
50–149	16,122.5	0.38	11,545.3	0.49	8,315.1	0.61	4,270.0	3.37	5,343.6	1.19
150–299	29,915.8	0.53	15,658.3	0.70	13,871.2	0.59	0.0	2.99	21,101.7	3.01
300–499	20,572.0	0.50	16,690.4	0.73	13,089.4	0.77	2,340.5	1.55	5,954.3	1.18
500–749	59,356.0	1.03	34,231.4	1.36	38,679.7	1.65	†	8.27	0.0	0.46
750 or more	7,834.4	0.31	7,834.4	0.60	0.0	0.42	†	†	0.0	0.38
Region										
Northeast	31,165.9	0.58	12,983.1	0.65	33,606.2	1.34	0.0	0.87	3,541.0	1.26
Midwest	47,621.5	0.79	22,649.4	0.93	29,904.6	1.27	31,098.1	5.26	21,409.0	3.05
South	47,102.5	0.75	39,240.6	1.27	6,007.8	0.76	5,176.8	3.34	22,666.1	2.96
West	9,426.3	0.32	4,552.9	0.54	6,042.3	0.46	533.7	1.25	9,999.0	1.74

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-6. Standard errors for number and percentage distribution of private school students, by grade and private school typology: United States, 2015–16

Private school typology	Kindergarten		First grade		Second grade		Third grade		Fourth grade	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	8,411.4	†	6,900.7	†	6,624.9	†	6,478.8	†	6,202.4	†
Catholic	4,591.6	0.83	4,074.7	0.90	4,638.7	0.93	3,821.8	0.87	4,267.5	0.87
Parochial	2,804.1	0.53	2,306.3	0.55	2,859.7	0.64	2,302.0	0.55	2,349.6	0.54
Diocesan	2,199.8	0.46	2,104.2	0.53	2,267.4	0.57	1,726.1	0.48	2,162.4	0.56
Private	1,603.6	0.33	1,547.1	0.40	1,464.2	0.38	1,432.8	0.38	1,538.3	0.40
Other religious	4,799.5	0.79	5,400.3	0.96	4,671.0	0.93	5,175.7	0.95	4,499.3	0.90
Conservative Christian	3,990.6	0.79	3,262.8	0.82	3,168.6	0.81	3,927.6	0.97	3,645.6	0.95
Other affiliated	1,626.2	0.36	1,368.7	0.39	1,372.3	0.39	960.6	0.31	1,439.1	0.41
Unaffiliated	3,062.7	0.61	4,744.4	1.10	4,018.6	0.98	3,809.0	0.93	3,611.3	0.94
Nonsectarian	4,512.7	0.76	1,788.6	0.52	1,534.4	0.48	1,469.2	0.46	1,143.8	0.42
Regular	2,504.5	0.49	1,248.6	0.38	1,276.5	0.39	1,192.1	0.37	914.1	0.32
Special emphasis	2,872.9	0.52	1,132.8	0.30	776.0	0.21	751.2	0.21	636.9	0.18
Special education	59.2	0.01	144.0	0.04	280.9	0.08	186.6	0.05	158.6	0.05

Private school typology	Fifth grade		Sixth grade		Seventh grade		Eighth grade		Ninth grade	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	5,903.5	†	7,276.5	†	6,574.3	†	7,047.3	†	6,278.8	†
Catholic	3,731.0	0.81	4,622.7	0.94	3,462.8	0.80	3,446.5	0.85	605.9	0.70
Parochial	1,990.0	0.48	2,379.9	0.54	2,264.5	0.55	1,669.5	0.44	457.4	0.14
Diocesan	1,964.6	0.53	2,374.9	0.61	1,780.9	0.49	1,970.7	0.54	25.7	0.33
Private	1,373.6	0.36	1,729.6	0.42	945.6	0.23	1,248.7	0.32	396.6	0.31
Other religious	4,520.2	0.87	5,440.0	1.00	5,354.2	0.94	5,918.6	1.04	6,197.0	1.12
Conservative Christian	3,313.6	0.88	3,610.9	0.91	3,561.2	0.90	3,813.4	0.97	4,236.0	1.03
Other affiliated	1,495.8	0.42	1,885.4	0.49	2,476.2	0.62	1,717.2	0.46	2,259.0	0.58
Unaffiliated	3,844.6	0.98	4,399.1	1.05	3,988.7	0.97	4,922.5	1.19	4,187.0	1.02
Nonsectarian	1,015.3	0.39	980.0	0.41	935.7	0.39	1,228.1	0.47	1,462.6	0.51
Regular	693.0	0.28	706.9	0.30	725.2	0.29	863.1	0.35	1,326.0	0.43
Special emphasis	702.4	0.20	535.5	0.15	355.8	0.11	713.1	0.20	0.0	0.05
Special education	82.9	0.03	203.3	0.06	242.4	0.07	203.8	0.07	292.4	0.08

Private school typology	Tenth grade		Eleventh grade		Twelfth grade		Ungraded	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	6,040.7	†	5,905.8	†	5,651.5	†	11,164.3	†
Catholic	535.3	0.67	484.7	0.68	544.0	0.66	0.0	1.34
Parochial	404.1	0.12	350.7	0.11	449.8	0.14	0.0	0.25
Diocesan	0.0	0.32	0.0	0.33	12.8	0.32	0.0	0.63
Private	351.1	0.29	334.6	0.30	305.7	0.29	0.0	0.46
Other religious	5,983.8	1.10	5,881.5	1.12	5,641.1	1.11	1,183.6	2.38
Conservative Christian	3,894.8	0.95	3,679.6	0.93	3,678.1	0.95	1,183.6	1.75
Other affiliated	2,257.0	0.58	2,271.3	0.60	2,266.2	0.61	0.0	0.29
Unaffiliated	4,185.7	1.03	4,176.6	1.05	3,912.6	1.02	0.0	0.83
Nonsectarian	1,450.8	0.51	1,326.7	0.51	1,371.1	0.53	11,101.3	3.47
Regular	1,335.3	0.43	1,192.2	0.42	1,241.7	0.44	0.0	1.29
Special emphasis	0.0	0.07	0.0	0.06	0.0	0.05	11,100.7	9.60
Special education	166.4	0.06	170.2	0.06	202.0	0.07	58.9	5.11

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-7. Standard errors for average private school size, by school level and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Average number of students			
	Total	Elementary	Secondary	Combined
Total	3.45	2.76	9.58	7.04
Private school typology				
Catholic	4.43	5.39	1.91	9.97
Parochial	10.18	10.55	9.97	0.00
Diocesan	2.64	3.46	0.00	25.60
Private	8.01	12.22	1.76	0.00
Other religious	5.91	3.21	11.45	9.54
Conservative Christian	7.17	4.69	7.64	11.13
Other affiliated	7.14	2.68	1.89	34.72
Unaffiliated	6.09	2.73	16.10	16.04
Nonsectarian	2.33	1.13	4.17	10.39
Regular	4.01	1.64	10.43	35.05
Special emphasis	1.88	1.75	0.00	15.76
Special education	1.50	0.97	1.79	2.44
Program emphasis				
Regular elementary/secondary	5.69	6.12	11.50	9.17
Montessori	2.28	1.73	†	19.67
Special program emphasis	17.70	6.38	0.00	60.52
Special education	1.52	2.08	1.66	2.23
Vocational/technical	†	†	†	†
Alternative	4.31	0.82	11.10	7.85
Early childhood	0.25	0.26	†	†
Size (number of students)				
Less than 50	0.53	0.68	1.51	0.94
50–149	1.08	1.43	2.84	1.06
150–299	0.87	1.00	0.79	2.23
300–499	1.65	1.43	1.68	4.57
500–749	6.81	7.09	1.99	12.69
750 or more	0.95	0.00	0.00	1.60
Region				
Northeast	5.05	2.97	9.42	12.83
Midwest	9.98	8.62	35.76	15.88
South	5.49	3.67	22.00	11.85
West	3.45	3.14	5.42	5.36
Urbanicity type				
City	5.04	3.54	9.18	14.17
Suburban	3.59	3.44	12.52	8.28
Town	8.80	6.14	23.02	24.25
Rural	4.46	2.16	13.84	8.70

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-8. Standard errors for number and percentage distribution of private schools, by school size and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

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	797.1	1.12	227.8	0.53	156.0	0.55	62.4	0.33	102.9	0.30	6.8	0.07
Private school typology												
Catholic	37.9	0.50	96.2	1.26	68.9	0.78	47.4	0.63	41.6	0.60	0.0	0.08
Parochial	52.1	1.74	78.8	2.67	53.1	1.16	7.6	0.65	41.6	1.63	0.0	0.05
Diocesan	12.8	0.45	60.9	1.56	14.5	0.89	44.1	1.18	0.0	0.16	0.0	0.11
Private	15.0	1.11	18.1	1.31	41.4	2.82	15.4	1.39	0.0	0.54	0.0	0.52
Other religious	751.5	2.03	193.3	0.95	117.7	0.90	43.6	0.50	94.4	0.59	5.5	0.10
Conservative Christian	92.1	1.47	62.2	1.55	0.0	0.69	43.3	1.01	81.8	1.81	5.5	0.15
Other affiliated	177.4	3.81	12.8	1.98	111.3	3.03	0.0	0.51	0.0	0.25	0.0	0.22
Unaffiliated	684.1	2.09	182.6	1.30	35.0	0.77	5.5	0.23	47.1	0.55	0.0	0.09
Nonsectarian	361.1	0.98	56.8	0.67	73.0	0.54	17.5	0.20	4.1	0.08	4.1	0.08
Regular	181.0	1.29	6.7	0.57	33.9	0.59	17.5	0.40	4.1	0.15	4.1	0.15
Special emphasis	234.4	1.41	55.8	1.28	64.6	1.24	0.0	0.11	†	†	0.0	0.03
Special education	57.6	1.61	8.3	1.29	0.0	0.29	0.0	0.05	†	†	0.0	0.00
School level												
Elementary	668.3	1.15	198.5	0.61	88.1	0.66	44.2	0.30	42.0	0.20	0.0	0.01
Secondary	87.6	1.90	52.4	1.25	6.3	0.68	8.7	0.60	4.1	0.42	0.0	0.36
Combined	322.8	2.26	102.8	1.28	127.0	1.25	43.3	0.49	94.0	0.94	6.8	0.21
Program emphasis												
Regular elementary/ secondary	682.7	1.89	186.8	0.76	135.5	0.84	62.8	0.52	102.9	0.45	6.8	0.11
Montessori	195.7	1.87	56.1	1.47	64.6	1.67	†	†	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Special program emphasis	144.7	8.90	4.1	4.44	38.9	4.08	5.5	1.50	0.0	0.37	0.0	0.32
Special education	63.1	1.51	8.3	1.24	6.3	0.46	0.0	0.04	†	†	†	†
Vocational/technical	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
Alternative	96.7	2.96	40.9	2.68	0.0	0.44	0.0	0.26	†	†	†	†
Early childhood	141.7	0.11	0.0	0.10	†	†	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Region												
Northeast	222.1	1.49	35.6	0.78	39.6	0.62	4.1	0.20	60.4	0.78	4.1	0.09
Midwest	612.3	3.47	192.4	1.64	63.8	1.43	61.8	1.15	69.0	0.80	0.0	0.13
South	426.8	1.83	111.7	0.87	133.6	1.08	7.6	0.36	46.2	0.43	0.0	0.14
West	170.0	1.26	33.8	0.38	29.3	0.66	1.8	0.24	6.7	0.13	5.5	0.11
Urbanicity type												
City	288.8	1.43	100.3	0.75	88.8	0.69	47.7	0.48	47.4	0.42	6.8	0.15
Suburban	220.1	0.93	114.9	0.91	60.3	0.51	43.6	0.39	73.4	0.56	0.0	0.05
Town	183.8	3.63	61.9	2.94	0.0	1.08	7.6	0.38	†	†	†	†
Rural	616.1	2.39	122.7	1.23	112.1	1.60	14.9	0.33	0.0	0.09	0.0	0.05

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-9. Standard errors for percentage distribution of private school students, by racial/ethnic background and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Non-Hispanic						Two or more races
	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Black	Pacific Islander	White	
Total	0.15	0.01	0.06	0.31	0.02	0.34	0.08
Private school typology							
Catholic	0.30	0.01	0.08	0.23	0.01	0.50	0.07
Parochial	0.67	0.02	0.12	0.65	0.02	1.04	0.12
Diocesan	0.25	0.01	0.08	0.15	#	0.51	0.08
Private	0.49	0.04	0.25	0.14	0.02	0.68	0.10
Other religious	0.16	0.03	0.10	0.74	0.03	0.73	0.15
Conservative Christian	0.48	0.04	0.51	0.49	0.04	1.32	0.40
Other affiliated	0.27	0.01	0.21	0.24	0.01	0.79	0.08
Unaffiliated	0.19	0.06	0.41	1.81	0.08	1.79	0.15
Nonsectarian	0.12	0.01	0.08	0.12	0.02	0.21	0.16
Regular	0.09	0.01	0.11	0.09	0.03	0.25	0.20
Special emphasis	0.41	0.03	0.36	0.38	0.07	0.65	0.32
Special education	0.09	0.05	0.05	0.29	0.01	0.35	0.07
School level							
Elementary	0.30	0.01	0.16	0.28	0.02	0.60	0.11
Secondary	0.11	0.01	0.08	0.06	#	0.28	0.04
Combined	0.18	0.02	0.20	0.70	0.04	0.71	0.16
Program emphasis							
Regular elementary/ secondary	0.17	0.01	0.06	0.34	0.02	0.39	0.08
Montessori	0.79	0.05	0.61	0.89	0.15	1.08	0.52
Special program emphasis	0.33	0.09	0.54	0.51	0.06	1.01	0.34
Special education	0.16	0.05	0.05	0.26	0.01	0.49	0.09
Vocational/technical	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
Alternative	0.73	0.04	0.25	1.52	0.02	1.42	0.14
Early childhood	0.30	0.02	0.27	0.41	0.05	0.97	0.22
Size (number of students)							
Less than 50	0.55	0.11	0.31	0.90	0.12	1.77	0.19
50–149	0.24	0.04	0.09	0.87	0.01	0.82	0.10
150–299	0.41	0.02	0.13	0.43	0.02	0.72	0.09
300–499	0.23	0.02	0.15	0.12	0.01	0.52	0.16
500–749	0.44	0.03	0.42	1.65	0.06	1.56	0.29
750 or more	0.07	#	0.35	0.04	0.01	0.44	0.20
Region							
Northeast	0.23	0.01	0.09	0.13	0.01	0.41	0.14
Midwest	0.20	0.03	0.06	0.57	0.01	0.75	0.13
South	0.25	0.02	0.07	0.74	0.03	0.60	0.08
West	0.40	0.02	0.08	0.04	0.06	0.39	0.29
Urbanicity type							
City	0.19	0.02	0.10	0.62	0.04	0.45	0.15
Suburban	0.30	0.01	0.07	0.24	0.01	0.50	0.09
Town	0.39	0.08	0.09	0.12	0.08	0.68	0.29
Rural	0.39	0.12	0.29	0.22	0.02	1.01	0.11

† Not applicable

Rounds to zero.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-10. Standard errors for percentage male enrollment in private schools and percentage distribution of private schools, by coeducational category and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Male enrollment	Coeducational category		
		Coed schools	All-girls schools	All-boys schools
Total	#	0.18	0.05	0.15
Private school typology				
Catholic	#	0.15	0.06	0.13
Parochial	#	0.05	0.03	†
Diocesan	#	0.05	0.02	0.03
Private	#	1.36	0.71	0.85
Other religious	#	0.31	0.08	0.27
Conservative Christian	#	0.02	†	†
Other affiliated	#	0.54	0.24	0.33
Unaffiliated	0.53	0.53	0.12	0.47
Nonsectarian	#	0.26	0.08	0.25
Regular	#	0.18	0.14	0.06
Special emphasis	0.52	0.16	0.06	0.09
Special education	#	1.74	0.05	1.76
School level				
Elementary	#	0.12	0.04	0.10
Secondary	#	1.20	0.49	0.91
Combined	#	0.33	0.06	0.31
Program emphasis				
Regular elementary/secondary	#	0.21	0.08	0.15
Montessori	1.06	0.19	†	†
Special program emphasis	#	0.62	†	0.34
Special education	#	1.61	0.05	1.64
Vocational/technical	†	†	†	†
Alternative	0.52	1.37	0.36	1.08
Early childhood	0.75	0.01	†	†
Size (number of students)				
Less than 50	0.62	0.22	0.06	0.20
50–149	#	0.32	0.03	0.31
150–299	#	0.23	0.06	0.22
300–499	#	0.24	0.11	0.18
500–749	#	1.11	0.60	0.63
750 or more	#	0.18	0.06	0.11
Region				
Northeast	#	0.58	0.14	0.47
Midwest	#	0.23	0.07	0.18
South	#	0.15	0.06	0.10
West	#	0.37	0.05	0.41
Urbanicity type				
City	#	0.29	0.10	0.23
Suburban	#	0.20	0.06	0.15
Town	#	1.02	†	†
Rural	#	0.36	0.08	0.29

† Not applicable

Rounds to zero.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-11. Standard errors for number and percentage distribution of private school teachers (headcount), by work status and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Work status											
	Total		Full time		3/4 time but less than 100%		1/2 time but less than 3/4		1/4 time but less than 1/2		Less than 1/4 time	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	8,550.8	†	6,498.6	0.45	670.9	0.13	1,042.7	0.18	2,009.4	0.33	815.4	0.13
Private school typology												
Catholic	2,083.3	†	1,771.8	0.22	199.5	0.10	337.5	0.22	182.5	0.10	48.8	0.03
Parochial	917.0	†	772.2	0.19	133.9	0.27	153.0	0.34	106.2	0.16	54.5	0.09
Diocesan	1,396.7	†	1,127.9	0.45	147.9	0.16	284.5	0.34	0.0	0.06	0.0	0.03
Private	1,167.4	†	971.4	0.20	0.0	0.11	83.9	0.23	173.2	0.39	20.1	0.08
Other religious	7,690.3	†	5,684.9	0.95	573.2	0.28	943.5	0.34	1,563.8	0.57	801.6	0.30
Conservative Christian	5,024.6	†	4,267.1	1.18	502.0	0.68	368.6	0.55	363.9	0.18	166.0	0.21
Other affiliated	4,503.6	†	2,451.6	1.18	158.3	0.44	476.2	0.34	1,333.5	1.60	333.4	0.24
Unaffiliated	4,337.9	†	3,516.4	1.94	275.4	0.33	726.8	0.70	731.1	0.76	709.8	0.76
Nonsectarian	3,233.1	†	2,476.3	0.63	287.0	0.15	304.1	0.22	1,241.6	0.74	115.1	0.08
Regular	2,440.6	†	1,701.3	1.01	69.1	0.10	86.8	0.15	1,239.7	1.20	36.3	0.06
Special emphasis	1,611.4	†	1,306.6	0.66	264.1	0.43	281.1	0.76	66.6	0.17	77.5	0.20
Special education	481.4	†	435.4	0.34	8.3	0.06	34.9	0.11	4.1	0.04	76.9	0.37
School level												
Elementary	3,869.2	†	3,305.7	0.35	387.8	0.13	723.2	0.31	296.3	0.11	75.0	0.06
Secondary	758.6	†	662.4	0.30	215.2	0.27	65.0	0.08	83.9	0.10	50.7	0.06
Combined	7,682.8	†	5,545.1	1.00	516.9	0.23	751.2	0.25	1,984.3	0.75	803.7	0.30
Program emphasis												
Regular elementary/secondary	8,030.7	†	6,036.1	0.54	582.0	0.14	1,005.8	0.20	2,007.6	0.40	803.1	0.16
Montessori	1,465.6	†	1,175.5	1.13	264.1	0.79	319.2	1.43	67.8	0.30	52.9	0.31
Special program emphasis	721.6	†	639.3	0.81	146.1	0.60	12.4	0.39	0.0	0.20	0.0	0.18
Special education	436.0	†	386.7	0.32	13.0	0.08	34.9	0.09	13.5	0.07	78.0	0.33
Vocational/technical	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
Alternative	542.9	†	466.1	0.89	0.0	0.33	64.7	0.21	0.0	0.28	29.7	0.27
Early childhood	786.0	†	770.4	2.37	83.2	0.96	12.7	0.86	6.3	0.30	0.0	0.54
Size (number of students)												
Less than 50	3,066.8	†	2,353.9	1.22	279.4	0.39	563.2	0.87	1,245.0	1.78	93.7	0.30
50–149	2,926.2	†	1,365.4	1.45	494.3	0.39	671.1	0.39	724.7	0.58	708.9	0.59
150–299	4,784.4	†	2,811.2	0.95	209.0	0.24	474.8	0.15	1,355.8	0.90	337.2	0.18
300–499	1,434.1	†	1,253.5	0.17	220.8	0.20	75.7	0.13	15.4	0.05	0.0	0.03
500–749	5,439.3	†	4,927.0	0.64	124.8	0.30	255.5	0.51	334.2	0.30	173.2	0.18
750 or more	751.7	†	739.5	0.14	0.0	0.02	16.4	0.09	5.5	0.02	0.0	0.01

See notes at end of table.

Table C-11. Standard errors for number and percentage distribution of private school teachers (headcount), by work status and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16—Continued

Selected characteristic	Work status											
	Total		Full time		3/4 time but less than 100%		1/2 time but less than 3/4		1/4 time but less than 1/2		Less than 1/4 time	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Region												
Northeast	2,968.3	†	2,894.1	0.62	201.7	0.19	433.6	0.41	196.4	0.08	49.1	0.08
Midwest	4,790.6	†	3,800.2	1.42	296.4	0.28	611.0	0.47	808.8	0.57	725.3	0.56
South	6,253.0	†	4,300.9	0.86	523.7	0.26	651.4	0.28	1,827.7	0.87	368.1	0.13
West	1,502.0	†	957.2	0.24	217.7	0.14	318.7	0.21	68.6	0.08	29.8	0.05
Urbanicity type												
City	4,681.4	†	3,804.9	0.77	364.5	0.16	618.8	0.21	740.2	0.29	718.9	0.29
Suburban	4,062.5	†	3,647.3	0.35	262.3	0.13	560.4	0.30	270.1	0.07	91.5	0.06
Town	3,792.7	†	3,032.8	1.97	433.2	1.21	442.0	1.13	303.0	0.29	165.9	0.18
Rural	5,182.5	†	2,944.7	2.02	208.7	0.39	576.4	0.43	1,821.0	2.18	336.2	0.28

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-12. Standard errors for pupil/teacher ratio of private schools, by school level and selected characteristics: United States, 2015–16

Selected characteristic	Total	School level		
		Elementary	Secondary	Combined
Total	0.05	0.08	0.03	0.08
Private school typology				
Catholic	0.10	0.16	#	0.01
Parochial	0.33	0.37	0.01	0.00
Diocesan	0.06	0.10	0.00	0.04
Private	0.04	0.19	0.01	0.00
Other religious	0.09	0.18	0.09	0.13
Conservative Christian	0.12	0.19	0.08	0.15
Other affiliated	0.16	0.02	0.02	0.30
Unaffiliated	0.18	0.35	0.22	0.20
Nonsectarian	0.06	0.13	0.01	0.09
Regular	0.08	0.23	0.02	0.08
Special emphasis	0.18	0.20	0.00	0.46
Special education	0.03	0.06	0.07	0.05
Program emphasis				
Regular elementary/ secondary	0.07	0.11	0.03	0.10
Montessori	0.33	0.25	†	1.46
Special program emphasis	0.13	0.38	0.00	0.05
Special education	0.03	0.07	0.07	0.04
Vocational/technical	†	†	†	†
Alternative	0.06	0.06	0.84	0.10
Early childhood	0.51	0.52	†	†
Size (number of students)				
Less than 50	0.22	0.33	0.12	0.20
50–149	0.08	0.12	0.19	0.12
150–299	0.12	0.10	0.02	0.21
300–499	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.12
500–749	0.18	0.47	0.11	0.19
750 or more	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.03
Region				
Northeast	0.06	0.08	0.05	0.17
Midwest	0.13	0.18	0.12	0.14
South	0.09	0.08	0.05	0.15
West	0.10	0.19	0.01	0.13
Urbanicity type				
City	0.05	0.09	0.05	0.12
Suburban	0.06	0.11	0.03	0.09
Town	0.20	0.20	0.29	0.37
Rural	0.24	0.58	0.04	0.22

† Not applicable.

Rounds to zero.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-13. Standard errors for percentage of private schools with 12th-graders, number of graduates, graduation rate, and percentage of graduates who attended 4-year colleges, by selected characteristics: United States, 2014–15

Selected characteristic	Percent of schools with 12th-graders in 2014–15	Number of 2014–15 graduates	2014–15 graduation rate	Percent of 2014–15 graduates who attended 4-year colleges by fall 2015
Total	0.99	6,331.3	0.16	1.47
Private school typology				
Catholic	0.35	448.2	0.01	0.10
Parochial	0.35	327.8	0.01	0.40
Diocesan	0.44	0.0	0.00	0.00
Private	2.42	305.7	0.02	0.21
Other religious	2.06	5,765.6	0.48	2.37
Conservative Christian	1.27	4,074.8	0.22	1.65
Other affiliated	2.99	1,626.6	0.09	2.01
Unaffiliated	2.47	3,808.4	1.33	4.80
Nonsectarian	1.18	3,281.7	0.23	2.20
Regular	1.91	3,179.8	0.18	1.81
Special emphasis	0.66	25.4	0.01	2.34
Special education	1.85	150.1	0.59	0.96
School level				
Elementary	†	†	†	†
Secondary	2.32	2,893.9	0.27	1.17
Combined	1.98	5,717.5	0.14	1.89
Program emphasis				
Regular elementary/secondary	1.58	6,401.0	0.06	1.05
Montessori	0.21	126.6	1.89	1.71
Special program emphasis	7.96	148.9	0.07	18.13
Special education	1.82	109.2	0.39	0.91
Vocational/technical	†	†	†	†
Alternative	3.77	241.8	3.16	3.61
Early childhood	†	†	†	†
Size (number of students)				
Less than 50	1.42	759.4	0.72	4.46
50–149	1.06	1,156.4	1.70	1.49
150–299	1.45	1,715.9	0.12	1.02
300–499	1.25	1,146.1	0.03	0.57
500–749	3.15	6,127.3	0.13	4.46
750 or more	0.48	616.4	#	0.07
Region				
Northeast	0.93	4,006.1	0.10	1.24
Midwest	2.24	2,715.8	0.70	3.69
South	2.15	4,038.5	0.14	2.92
West	0.85	593.0	0.02	0.69
Urbanicity type				
City	0.90	4,763.6	0.05	1.56
Suburban	0.71	3,257.8	0.41	1.10
Town	3.08	2,414.5	0.47	4.37
Rural	4.04	1,751.4	0.32	4.81

† Not applicable.

Rounds to zero.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-14. Standard errors for number of private schools, students, and teachers (headcount), by school membership in private school associations: United States, 2015–16

Association	Schools	Students	Teachers
Total	953.3	74,475.6	8,550.8
None	732.9	43,618.3	3,953.0
Religious			
Accelerated Christian Education	65.8	1,380.9	394.5
American Association of Christian Schools	62.7	1,827.5	369.9
Association of Christian Schools International	116.5	46,433.5	4,855.4
Association of Christian Teachers and Schools	0.0	0.0	0.0
Association of Classical and Christian Schools	170.9	6,834.4	1,196.0
Christian Schools International	0.0	0.0	0.0
Evangelical Lutheran Education Association	0.0	0.0	0.0
Friends Council on Education	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Conference of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church	40.2	361.4	40.2
Islamic School League of America	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jesuit Secondary Education Association	0.0	0.0	0.0
National Association of Episcopal Schools	0.0	0.0	0.0
National Catholic Educational Association	112.5	25,050.7	1,647.9
National Christian School Association	0.0	0.0	0.0
National Society of Hebrew Day Schools	6.3	1,734.9	227.9
Oral Roberts University Educational Fellowship	0.0	0.0	0.0
The Jewish Community Day School Network	0.0	0.0	0.0
Solomon Schechter Day School Association	0.0	0.0	0.0
Southern Baptist Association of Christian Schools	5.5	5,765.8	425.5
Other religious school associations	114.8	20,956.0	4,335.7
Special emphasis			
American Montessori Society	77.5	3,960.4	881.5
Association Montessori International	66.1	222.2	98.2
Other Montessori associations	32.9	458.1	79.5
Association of Military Colleges and Schools	0.0	0.0	0.0
Association of Waldorf Schools of North America	6.7	3,003.4	468.2
National Association of Private Special Education Centers	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other associations for exceptional children	0.0	0.0	0.0
European Council for International Schools	†	†	†
National Association for the Education of Young Children	41.4	248.2	744.5
National Association of Laboratory Schools	†	†	†
National Coalition of Girls' Schools	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other special emphasis school associations	171.5	9,064.3	1,276.7
Other school associations or organizations			
Alternative School Network	0.0	0.0	0.0
National Association of Independent Schools	0.0	0.0	0.0
State or regional independent school association	34.4	7,651.1	828.5
National Independent Private School Association	7.8	15.5	31.0
The Association of Boarding Schools	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other school associations	384.0	51,425.4	5,970.6

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.

Table C-15. Standard errors for number of private schools, students, full-time-equivalent (FTE) teachers, and 2014-15 high school graduates, by state: United States, 2015–16

State	Schools	Students	FTE teachers	High school graduates 2014–15
United States	953.3	74,475.6	7,265.4	6,331.3
Alabama	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Alaska	0.0	0.0	0.0	†
Arizona	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Arkansas	134.5	4,630.3	1,018.5	134.5
California	58.5	10,388.1	1,000.8	543.8
Colorado	183.1	5,220.1	1,172.0	0.0
Connecticut	61.2	2,569.2	409.9	632.1
Delaware	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
District of Columbia	31.0	1,915.6	285.4	15.5
Florida	69.1	207.3	69.1	0.0
Georgia	307.8	25,151.2	3,722.0	1,555.7
Hawaii	10.9	7,429.6	661.7	660.0
Idaho	112.6	948.0	228.8	0.0
Illinois	51.3	14,806.2	921.5	132.4
Indiana	677.9	11,520.6	773.8	1,023.6
Iowa	180.4	11,699.1	999.2	20.2
Kansas	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kentucky	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Louisiana	149.8	33,948.6	2,721.0	3,619.7
Maine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Maryland	17.7	3,157.9	20.6	0.0
Massachusetts	43.2	864.8	242.1	0.0
Michigan	120.1	31,816.5	3,270.7	2,377.4
Minnesota	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mississippi	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missouri	173.3	7,530.5	935.1	810.9
Montana	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nebraska	132.7	5,442.1	132.7	0.0
Nevada	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
New Hampshire	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
New Jersey	96.7	11,450.1	1,154.0	835.8
New Mexico	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
New York	88.0	15,322.6	1,833.9	3,485.1
North Carolina	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
North Dakota	0.0	0.0	0.0	†
Ohio	132.8	32,305.0	2,651.6	0.0
Oklahoma	26.5	1,061.5	53.1	212.3
Oregon	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pennsylvania	220.9	32,618.0	3,070.2	3,078.4
Rhode Island	19.1	2,214.6	217.6	0.0
South Carolina	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
South Dakota	0.0	0.0	0.0	†
Tennessee	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Texas	373.3	17,006.4	1,643.7	850.5
Utah	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Vermont	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Virginia	118.8	10,396.6	920.8	0.0
Washington	24.0	71.9	47.9	0.0
West Virginia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wisconsin	114.2	9,030.0	1,127.8	0.0
Wyoming	0.0	0.0	0.0	†

† Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2015–16.