

The Condition of Education 2023 At a Glance

More information is available at nces.ed.gov/programs/coe.

Family Characteristics

Characteristics of Children's Families	2019	2021	Change between years
Highest level of education attained by parents of children under age 18			
Percentage of children living in households in which no parent had completed high school	9.0%	8.3%	▼
Percentage of children living in households in which at least one parent had attained a bachelor's or higher degree	42.6%	45.0%	▲
Percentage of children under age 18 living with related female householders (no spouse present)	26.2%	25.8%	▼
Percentage of children under age 18 in families living in poverty	16.3%	16.7%	▲

Preprimary, Elementary, and Secondary Education

Enrollment Rates of Young Children	2020	2021	Change between years
Percentage of 3- to 5-year-olds enrolled in school			
3- to 4-year-olds	40%	50%	▲
5-year-olds	84%	86%	
Public School Enrollment	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	
Number of students enrolled in public schools	49.37 million	49.43 million	▲
Prekindergarten through grade 8	34.06 million	34.00 million	▼
Grades 9 through 12	15.31 million	15.44 million	▲
Public Charter School Enrollment	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	
Number of students enrolled in public charter schools	3.68 million	3.67 million	▼
Percentage of public school students enrolled in charter schools	7.50%	7.49%	▼
Number of public charter schools	7,600	7,800	▲
Percentage of public schools that are charter schools	7.75%	7.91%	▲
English Learners in Public Schools	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	
Percentage of public school students who were English learners	10.4%	10.3%	▼
Racial/Ethnic Enrollment in Public Schools	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	
Percentage of public school students			
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.93%	0.92%	▼
Asian	5.43%	5.39%	▼
Black	15.00%	14.94%	▼
Hispanic	28.05%	28.43%	▲
Pacific Islander ¹	0.37%	0.37%	▲
White	45.72%	45.22%	▼
Two or more races	4.49%	4.72%	▲
Private School Enrollment	Fall 2017	Fall 2019	
Number of students enrolled in private schools	4.9 million	4.7 million	▼
Percentage of all students enrolled in private schools	9.1%	8.6%	▼
Students With Disabilities	2020–21	2021–22	
Number of students ages 3-21 receiving special education services through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (in thousands)	7,183	7,259	▲
Students ages 3-21 receiving special education services, as a percentage of public school students ²	14.5%	14.7%	▲

See notes at end of table.

LEGEND: ▲ = Higher, ▼ = Lower, Blank = Not measurably different

At a Glance

	2020–21	2021–22	Change between years
Violent Deaths at School and Away From School, School Shootings, and Active Shooter Incidents			
Number of school shootings ³	146	327	▲
With deaths	43	57	▲
With injuries only	50	131	▲
With no casualties	53	139	▲
Criminal Incidents Recorded by Public Schools and Those Reported to Sworn Law Enforcement			
	2017–18	2019–20 ⁴	
Percentage of public schools			
Recording incidents of crime ⁵ at school	80%	77%	
Reporting incidents of crime ⁵ at school to sworn law enforcement	47%	47%	
Rate of crime incidents ⁵ at school per 1,000 students			
Recorded by public schools	29	29	
Reported to sworn law enforcement by public schools	9	10	▲
Safety and Security Practices at Public Schools			
	2017–18	2019–20 ⁴	
Percentage of public schools reporting selected safety and security practices			
A written plan for procedures to be performed in the event of a pandemic disease	46%	52%	▲
A written plan for procedures to be performed in the event of an active shooter	92%	96%	▲
One or more security staff ⁶ present at least once a week	61%	65%	
Children's Internet Access at Home			
	2019	2021	
Percentage of 3- to 18-year-olds who had home internet access	95%	97%	▲
Percentage of 3- to 18-year-olds who had home internet access through a computer	88%	93%	▲
Characteristics of Public School Teachers			
	2017–18	2020–21	
Total number of public school teachers	3.5 million	3.8 million	▲
At the elementary instructional level	1.8 million	1.9 million	▲
At the secondary instructional level	1.8 million	1.9 million	▲
Percentage of public school teachers			
Who are female	76.5%	76.8%	
Who are male	23.5%	23.2%	
Who held a postbaccalaureate degree	58.0%	61.0%	▲
Who held a regular teaching certificate	90.4%	89.8%	▼
Annual base salary of full-time public school teachers ⁷	\$65,900	\$66,000	
Reading Performance			
	2019	2022	
Percentage of students who scored at or above <i>NAEP Proficient</i> ⁸			
4th-grade students	35%	33%	▼
8th-grade students	34%	31%	▼
12th-grade students	37%	37%	
Mathematics Performance			
	2019	2022	
Percentage of students who scored at or above <i>NAEP Proficient</i> ⁸			
4th-grade students	41%	36%	▼
8th-grade students	34%	26%	▼
12th-grade students	25%	24%	
Science Performance			
	2015	2019	
Percentage of students who scored at or above <i>NAEP Proficient</i> ⁸			
4th-grade students	38%	36%	▼
8th-grade students	34%	35%	
12th-grade students	22%	22%	

See notes at end of table.

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At a Glance

	2009	2019	Change between years
High School Mathematics and Science Course Completion			
Percentage of high school graduates who had completed a course			
Algebra II ⁹	80%	85%	▲
Males	77%	83%	▲
Females	82%	87%	▲
Calculus	18%	16%	▼
Males	19%	16%	▼
Females	18%	16%	▼
Biology, chemistry, and physics ¹⁰	30%	35%	▲
Males	31%	36%	▲
Females	28%	33%	▲
Status Dropout Rates			
Percentage of 16- to 24-year-olds not enrolled in school who have not completed high school			
Male	6.0%	6.1%	
Female	4.2%	4.2%	
American Indian/Alaska Native	9.6%	10.2%	
Asian	1.8%	2.1%	
Black	5.6%	5.9%	
Hispanic	7.7%	7.8%	
Pacific Islander	8.0%	7.6%	
White	4.1%	4.1%	
Two or more races	5.1%	4.9%	
Public High School Graduation Rates			
Adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR) ¹¹			
	2018–19	2019–20	
	86%	87%	▲
Public School Revenue Sources⁷			
2018–19 2019–20			
Total	\$858 billion	\$871 billion	▲
Federal	\$67 billion	\$66 billion	▼
State	\$404 billion	\$414 billion	▲
Local	\$387 billion	\$391 billion	▲
Public School Expenditures⁷			
2018–19 2019–20			
Total expenditures	\$856 billion	\$870 billion	▲
Total expenditures per pupil (in fall enrollment)	\$16,743	\$17,013	▲
Postsecondary Education			
Immediate College Enrollment Rate			
2020 2021 Change between years			
Immediate college enrollment rate of high school completers			
2-year institutions	20%	19%	
4-year institutions	43%	43%	
Undergraduate Enrollment			
Fall 2020 Fall 2021			
Total enrollment	15.9 million	15.4 million	▼
Full-time enrollment	9.8 million	9.5 million	▼
Part-time enrollment	6.0 million	5.9 million	▼
Percentage enrolled in any distance education course	75%	61%	▼
Percentage enrolled exclusively in distance education	44%	28%	▼
Postbaccalaureate Enrollment			
Fall 2020 Fall 2021			
Total enrollment	3.143 million	3.211 million	▲
Full-time enrollment	1.766 million	1.831 million	▲
Part-time enrollment	1.377 million	1.381 million	▲
Percentage enrolled in any distance education course	71%	56%	▼
Percentage enrolled exclusively in distance education	52%	40%	▼

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At a Glance

	2020–21	2021–22	Change between years
Characteristics of Degree-Granting Postsecondary Institutions			
Total number of degree-granting institutions with first-year undergraduates	3,567	3,542	▼
Number of 4-year institutions with first-year undergraduates	2,278	2,267	▼
Number of 2-year institutions with first-year undergraduates	1,289	1,275	▼
Criminal Incidents at Postsecondary Institutions			
	2019	2020 ¹²	
Number of on-campus crimes at degree-granting postsecondary institutions ¹³	27,190	21,240	▼
Burglary ¹⁴	8,920	6,840	▼
Motor vehicle theft ¹⁵	3,060	2,490	▼
Forcible sex offense ¹⁶	11,710	9,370	▼
Number of on-campus crimes per 10,000 full-time-equivalent (FTE) students at degree-granting postsecondary institutions ¹³	18.8	15.0	▼
Burglary ¹⁴	6.2	4.8	▼
Motor vehicle theft ¹⁵	2.1	1.8	▼
Forcible sex offense ¹⁶	8.1	6.6	▼
Characteristics of Postsecondary Faculty			
	2020	2021	
Number of full-time instructional faculty	836,600	837,100	▲
Number of part-time instructional faculty	652,900	662,100	▲
Postsecondary Certificates and Degrees Conferred			
	2019–20	2020–21	
Number of degrees/certificates conferred by postsecondary institutions			
Certificates ¹⁷	966,600	991,400	▲
Associate's degrees	1,019,000	1,036,400	▲
Bachelor's degrees	2,038,700	2,066,400	▲
Master's degrees	843,500	866,900	▲
Doctor's degrees ¹⁸	190,100	194,100	▲
Undergraduate Degree Fields			
	2019–20	2020–21	
Number of bachelor's degrees conferred (top three bachelor's programs)			
Business ¹⁹	387,900	391,400	▲
Health professions and related programs	257,300	268,000	▲
Social sciences and history	161,200	160,800	▼
Graduate Degree Fields			
	2019–20	2020–21	
Number of master's degrees conferred (top three master's programs)			
Business ²⁰	197,400	202,300	▲
Education	147,000	153,800	▲
Health professions and related programs	135,300	142,000	▲
Postsecondary Outcomes for Nontraditional Undergraduate Students			
	2012–13	2013–14	
8-year completion rate ²¹ for 4-year institutions by entry cohort			
First-time, full-time students	58.8%	60.3%	▲
First-time, part-time students	19.2%	20.5%	▲
Non-first-time, full-time students	58.3%	59.8%	▲
Non-first-time, part-time students	34.3%	35.2%	▲
8-year completion rate ²¹ for 2-year institutions by entry cohort			
First-time, full-time students	36.1%	37.2%	▲
First-time, part-time students	18.9%	19.3%	▲
Non-first-time, full-time students	43.0%	44.7%	▲
Non-first-time, part-time students	24.2%	24.4%	▲
Price of Attending an Undergraduate Institution⁷			
	2019–20	2020–21	
Average net price at 4-year institutions for first-time, full-time undergraduate students			
Public, in-state or in-district ²²	\$15,180	\$14,710	▼
Private nonprofit	\$30,090	\$28,420	▼
Private for-profit	\$24,610	\$24,600	▼
Sources of Financial Aid			
	2019–20	2020–21	
Percentage of students receiving any financial aid at 4-year institutions	86.69%	86.73%	▲
Percentage of students receiving any financial aid at 2-year institutions	82.13%	81.95%	▼

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At a Glance

	2019–20	2020–21	Change between years
Postsecondary Institution Revenues⁷			
Revenue from tuition and fees per full-time-equivalent (FTE) student			
Public institutions	\$8,740	\$8,720	▼
Private nonprofit institutions	\$24,870	\$23,990	▼
Private for-profit institutions	\$18,900	\$18,080	▼
Postsecondary Institution Expenses⁷			
Instruction expenses per full-time-equivalent (FTE) student			
Public institutions	\$12,080	\$12,090	▲
Private nonprofit institutions	\$20,960	\$19,950	▼
Private for-profit institutions	\$5,100	\$4,730	▼

Population Characteristics and Economic Outcomes

	2021	2022	Change between years
Educational Attainment of Young Adults			
Percentage of 25- to 29-year-olds with selected levels of educational attainment			
At least high school completion ²³	94%	95%	
Associate's or higher degree	49%	49%	
Bachelor's or higher degree	39%	40%	
Master's or higher degree	9%	10%	
Employment and Unemployment Rates by Educational Attainment			
Employment rates of 25- to 34-year-olds			
Total	76%	80%	▲
Who had not completed high school	53%	61%	▲
Who completed high school as highest level	68%	73%	▲
Who attained a bachelor's or higher degree	86%	87%	▲
Unemployment rates of 25- to 34-year-olds			
Total	7%	4%	▼
Who had not completed high school	11%	10%	▼
Who completed high school as highest level	10%	7%	▼
Who attained a bachelor's or higher degree	4%	2%	▼
Annual Earnings by Educational Attainment			
Median annual earnings for 25- to 34-year-olds ²⁴			
Total	\$52,300	\$50,000	▼
Who completed less than high school	\$31,200	\$32,500	
Who completed high school as highest level ²⁵	\$38,300	\$39,700	
Who completed some college, but did not attain a degree	\$41,700	\$41,000	
Who attained an associate's degree	\$46,200	\$45,000	
Who attained a bachelor's or higher degree	\$64,000	\$65,000	
Who attained a bachelor's degree	\$62,500	\$61,600	
Who attained a master's or higher degree	\$73,000	\$74,600	

International Comparisons

	U.S. average score	TIMSS scale centerpoint	U.S. average score in comparison with TIMSS scale centerpoint
International Comparisons: Mathematics and Science Achievement at Grades 4 and 8 (2019)			
Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS)			
Mathematics scores of 4th-grade students	535	500	▲
Mathematics scores of 8th-grade students	515	500	▲
Science scores of 4th-grade students	539	500	▲
Science scores of 8th-grade students	522	500	▲

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At a Glance

International Educational Attainment	2020	2021	Change between years
Percentage of the population 25 to 34 years old who had completed high school as of the reporting year			
United States	94.0%	93.7%	
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries	86.0%	85.8%	▼
Percentage of the population 25 to 34 years old who had attained a postsecondary degree as of the reporting year			
United States	51.9%	51.2%	
OECD countries	45.9%	47.1%	▲

¹ Although the percentages for Pacific Islander students rounded to 0.37 percent for both years, the percentage was higher for fall 2021 than for fall 2020 (0.3672 vs. 0.3666 percent).

² The number of children served as a percentage of total enrollment is based on total public school enrollment in prekindergarten through grade 12. However, not all students served under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) receive education services in public school environments.

³ “School shootings” include all incidents in which a gun is brandished or fired on school property or a bullet hits school property for any reason, regardless of the number of victims (including zero), time, day of the week, or reason (e.g., planned attack, accidental, domestic violence, gang-related). Data are from the K-12 School Shooting Database, which relies on open-source data, such as media reporting. As a result, the completeness of these data is subject to the completeness of these public sources, which may vary over time or by type of incident. The numbers of school shootings in 2021-22 are outliers (more than double the previous peak from just the year before), and users should interpret these data with caution. Deaths and injuries include both shooters and victims.

⁴ The coronavirus pandemic affected the 2019-20 data collection activities. The change to virtual schooling and the adjusted school year may have impacted the data collected by the School Survey on Crime and Safety. Readers should use caution when comparing 2019-20 estimates with those from earlier years. For more information, see *Crime, Violence, Discipline, and Safety in U.S. Public Schools in 2019-20: Findings From the School Survey on Crime and Safety* (NCES 2022-029).

⁵ Incidents of crime include violent incidents, thefts of items valued at \$10 or greater without personal confrontation, and other criminal incidents.

“Violent incidents” include rape or attempted rape; sexual assault other than rape; physical attacks or fights with or without a weapon; threat of physical attacks with or without a weapon; and robbery with or without a weapon. “Other incidents” include possession of a firearm or explosive device; possession of a knife or sharp object; distribution, possession, or use of illegal drugs or alcohol; inappropriate distribution, possession, or use of prescription drugs; and vandalism.

⁶ Security staff include security officers, security personnel, School Resource Officers (SROs), and sworn law enforcement officers who are not SROs.

“Security officers” and “security personnel” do not include law enforcement. SROs include all career law enforcement officers with arrest authority who have specialized training and are assigned to work in collaboration with school organizations.

⁷ Data are reported in constant 2021-22 dollars, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and adjusted to a school-year basis.

⁸ *NAEP Proficient* demonstrates solid academic performance and competency over challenging subject matter.

⁹ Includes courses that taught both algebra II and trigonometry.

¹⁰ Indicates graduate earned credits in all three subjects of biology, chemistry, and physics.

¹¹ The adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR) is the percentage of public school 9th-graders who graduate with a regular diploma, or a state-defined alternate high school diploma for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities, within 4 years of starting 9th grade. Students who are entering 9th grade for the first time form a cohort for the graduating class. This cohort is “adjusted” by adding any students who subsequently transfer into the cohort and subtracting any students who subsequently transfer out, emigrate to another country, or die. In 2019-20, some states may have changed their requirements for a regular high school diploma to account for the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. These changes are at the discretion of each state but may have resulted in less comparability in the ACGRs between 2019-20 and prior school years.

¹² Caution should be used when comparing on-campus data for 2020 with those of earlier years due to the switch to online learning in many postsecondary institutions in 2020 as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

¹³ Includes other reported crimes not separately shown.

¹⁴ Unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft.

¹⁵ Theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

¹⁶ Any sexual act directed against another person forcibly and/or against that person’s will.

¹⁷ Data are for certificates below the associate’s degree level.

¹⁸ Includes Ph.D., Ed.D., and comparable degrees at the doctoral level. Includes most degrees formerly classified as first-professional, such as M.D., D.D.S., and law degrees.

¹⁹ “Business” is defined as business, management, marketing, and related support services, as well as culinary, entertainment, and personal services.

²⁰ In order to be consistent with the definition of “business” for bachelor’s degree data, “business” is defined as business, management, marketing, and related support services, as well as culinary, entertainment, and personal services.

²¹ Awards include certificates, associate’s degrees, and bachelor’s degrees. Includes only those awards that were conferred by the reporting institution (i.e., the institution that the student entered in the particular entry year); excludes awards conferred by institutions to which the student later transferred.

²² The average net price at public 4-year institutions uses the lower of in-district or in-state average net price.

²³ High school completion includes those who graduated from high school with a diploma as well as those who completed high school through equivalency programs, such as a GED program.

²⁴ Data are reported in constant 2021 dollars, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

²⁵ Includes equivalency credentials, such as the GED.

NOTE: Includes selected indicators only. All calculations within the At a Glance are based on unrounded numbers. Race categories exclude persons of Hispanic ethnicity.

SOURCE: *The Condition of Education 2023*.

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