

The Condition of Education 2016 At a Glance

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

Population Characteristics			
Educational Attainment of Young Adults	2014	2015	Change between years
Percentage of 25- to 29-year-olds with selected levels of educational attainment			
High school completion or higher	91%	91%	
Associate's or higher degree	44%	46%	
Bachelor's or higher degree	34%	36%	
Master's or higher degree	8%	9%	▲
International Educational Attainment	2012	2014	
Percentage of the population 25 to 34 years old who completed high school			
United States	89%	90%	
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries	82%	83%	▲
Percentage of the population 25 to 34 years old who attained a postsecondary degree			
United States	44%	46%	▲
OECD countries	39%	41%	▲
Annual Earnings of Young Adults	2013	2014	
Median annual earnings for 25- to 34-year-olds ¹			
Total	\$40,600	\$40,000	▼
With less than high school completion	\$24,300	\$25,000	
Who completed high school as highest level	\$30,500	\$30,000	▼
Who attained a bachelor's or higher degree	\$50,800	\$52,000	
Employment and Unemployment Rates by Educational Attainment	2014	2015	
Unemployment rates of 20- to 24-year-olds			
Total	15%	12%	▼
With less than high school completion	25%	20%	
Who completed high school as highest level	19%	16%	▼
Who attained a bachelor's or higher degree	7%	5%	

See notes at end of table.

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Family Characteristics of School-Age Children	2009	2014	Change between years
Highest level of education attained by parents of 5- to 17-year-olds			
Percentage whose parents' highest level of education was less than high school	11.2%	10.8%	▼
Percentage whose parents' highest level of education was a bachelor's or higher degree	35.2%	38.1%	▲
	2013	2014	
Percentage of 5- to 17-year-old children in families living in poverty	20.7%	20.3%	▼

Participation in Education

Enrollment Trends by Age	2013	2014	Change between years
Percentage of persons enrolled in school			
3- and 4-year-olds	55%	54%	
5- and 6-year-olds	94%	93%	
7- to 13-year-olds	98%	98%	
14- and 15-year-olds	98%	98%	
16- and 17-year-olds	94%	93%	
18- and 19-year-olds	67%	68%	
20- to 24-year-olds	39%	38%	
25- to 29-year-olds	13%	13%	
30- to 34-year-olds	7%	6%	
Preschool and Kindergarten Enrollment	2013	2014	
Percentage of children enrolled in preprimary education			
3-year-olds	42%	43%	
4-year-olds	68%	66%	
5-year-olds	84%	85%	
Public School Enrollment	2012–13	2013–14	
Number of students enrolled in public schools	49.77 million	50.04 million	▲
Prekindergarten through grade 8	35.02 million	35.25 million	▲
Grades 9 through 12	14.75 million	14.79 million	▲

See notes at end of table.

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At a Glance

	2012–13	2013–14	Change between years
Charter School Enrollment			
Number of students enrolled in public charter schools	2.3 million	2.5 million	▲
Percentage of public school students enrolled in charter schools	4.6%	5.1%	▲
Number of public charter schools	6,100	6,500	▲
Percentage of public schools that are charter schools	6.2%	6.6%	▲
Private School Enrollment			
	2011–12	2013–14	
Total number of students enrolled in private schools (Prekindergarten through grade 12)	5.3 million	5.4 million	▲
Prekindergarten through grade 8	4.0 million	4.1 million	▲
Grades 9 through 12	1.3 million	1.3 million	
Percentage of all students enrolled in private schools (Prekindergarten through grade 12)	9.6%	9.7%	▲
Racial/Ethnic Enrollment in Public Schools			
	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	
Percentage of public school students (Prekindergarten through grade 12)			
White	51.0%	50.3%	▼
Black	15.7%	15.6%	▼
Hispanic	24.3%	24.9%	▲
Asian/Pacific Islander	5.1%	5.2%	▲
American Indian/Alaska Native	1.1%	1.0%	▼
Two or more races	2.8%	3.0%	▲
English Language Learners in Public Schools			
	2012–13	2013–14	
Percentage of public school students who are English language learners	9.2%	9.3%	▲
Children and Youth with Disabilities			
	2012–13	2013–14	
Number of public school students ages 3–21 receiving special education services	6.4 million	6.5 million	▲
Percentage of public school students ages 3–21 receiving special education services	12.92%	12.92%	▼ ²
Undergraduate Enrollment			
	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	
Total enrollment	17.47 million	17.29 million	▼
Full-time enrollment	10.94 million	10.78 million	▼
Part-time enrollment	6.54 million	6.51 million	▼
Percentage enrolled in any distance education course	26%	28%	▲
Percentage enrolled exclusively in distance education	11%	12%	▲

See notes at end of table.

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Postbaccalaureate Enrollment	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Change between years
Total enrollment	2.90 million	2.91 million	▲
Full-time enrollment	1.66 million	1.67 million	▲
Part-time enrollment	1.24 million	1.24 million	▲ ²
Percentage enrolled in any distance education course	31%	33%	▲
Percentage enrolled exclusively in distance education	23%	25%	▲

Elementary and Secondary Education			
Characteristics of Traditional Public and Public Charter Schools	2012–13	2013–14	Change between years
Traditional public schools			
Total number of traditional public schools	92,375	91,806	▼
Percentage of traditional public schools			
With more than 50% White enrollment	60.4%	59.8%	▼
With more than 50% Black enrollment	9.3%	9.1%	▼
With more than 50% Hispanic enrollment	14.9%	15.3%	▲
Public charter schools			
Total number of public charter schools	6,079	6,465	▲
Percentage of public charter schools			
With more than 50% White enrollment	36.6%	35.8%	▼
With more than 50% Black enrollment	24.9%	24.4%	▼
With more than 50% Hispanic enrollment	22.6%	23.4%	▲

Concentration of Public School Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch	2011–12	2012–13	
Percentage of students attending high-poverty public schools ³	19%	24%	▲

School Crime and Safety	2013	2014	
Nonfatal victimization rate per 1,000 students			
Victimization occurred at school	55	33	▼
Victimization occurred away from school	30	24	

Teachers and Pupil/Teacher Ratios	Fall 2012	Fall 2013	
Number of public school teachers	3.11 million	3.11 million	▲ ²
Pupil/teacher ratio at public schools	16.0	16.1	▲
Number of private school teachers	431,000	441,000	▲
Pupil/teacher ratio at private schools	12.4	12.2	▼

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Public School Revenue Sources¹	2011–12	2012–13	Change between years
Total revenues	\$622 billion	\$618 billion	▼
Federal sources	\$63 billion	\$57 billion	▼
State sources	\$280 billion	\$279 billion	▼
Local sources	\$279 billion	\$281 billion	▲
Public School Expenditures¹	2011–12	2012–13	
Total expenditures	\$626 billion	\$620 billion	▼
Current expenditures per student	\$11,074	\$11,011	▼
Education Expenditures by Country (2012)	U.S.	OECD	Difference between the U.S. and OECD
Expenditure per full-time-equivalent (FTE) student			
Elementary and secondary education	\$11,700	\$9,000	▲
Postsecondary education	\$26,600	\$14,800	▲
Reading Performance	2013	2015	Change between years
Percentage of students who scored at or above <i>Proficient</i> ⁴			
4th-grade students	35%	36%	
8th-grade students	36%	34%	▼
12th-grade students	38%	37%	
Mathematics Performance	2013	2015	
Percentage of students who scored at or above <i>Proficient</i> ⁴			
4th-grade students	42%	40%	▼
8th-grade students	35%	33%	▼
12th-grade students	26%	25%	

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	U.S. average score	International average score	Difference between the U.S. average and the international average
International Assessments			
Program for International Student Assessment (2012)			
Mathematics literacy of 15-year-olds	481	494	▼
Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (2011)			
Mathematics scores of 4th-grade students	541	500	▲
Mathematics scores of 8th-grade students	509	500	▲
Science scores of 4th-grade students	544	500	▲
Science scores of 8th-grade students	525	500	▲
Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (2011)			
Reading literacy of 4th-grade students	556	500	▲
High School Coursetaking			
	2005	2009	Change between years
Percentage of high school graduates who took selected mathematics courses			
Algebra II/trigonometry	71%	76%	▲
Analysis/precalculus	29%	35%	▲
Percentage of high school graduates who took selected science courses			
Biology and chemistry	64%	68%	▲
Biology, chemistry, and physics	27%	30%	▲
Public High School Graduation Rates			
	2011–12	2012–13	
Number of graduates with a regular diploma	3.1 million	3.2 million	▲
Averaged Freshman Graduation Rate (AFGR) ⁵	81%	82%	▲
	2012–13	2013–14	
Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) ⁶	81%	82%	▲

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At a Glance

Status Dropout Rates	2013	2014	Change between years
Percentage of 16- to 24-year-olds not enrolled in school who have not completed high school	7%	7%	
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Young Adults Neither Enrolled in School nor Working	2014	2015	
Percentage of 20- to 24-year-olds neither enrolled in school nor working			
Total	19%	17%	▼
With less than high school completion	46%	41%	
High school completion	31%	28%	
Some college, no bachelor's degree	10%	9%	
Bachelor's or higher degree	9%	8%	
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Immediate College Enrollment Rate	2013	2014	
Percentage of recent high school graduates enrolled in college	66%	68%	
2-year institutions	24%	25%	
4-year institutions	42%	44%	
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College Participation Rates	2013	2014	
College participation rates for 18- to 24-year-olds			
Total, all students	40%	40%	
Male	37%	37%	
Female	43%	43%	
White	42%	42%	
Black	34%	33%	
Hispanic	34%	35%	
Asian	62%	65%	
Pacific Islander	33%	41%	
American Indian/Alaska Native	32%	35%	
Two or more races	45%	32%	▼

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Postsecondary Education

Characteristics of Degree-Granting Postsecondary Institutions	2013–14	2014–15	Change between years
Total number of degree-granting institutions with first-year undergraduates	4,294	4,207	▼
Number of 4-year institutions with first-year undergraduates	2,634	2,603	▼
Number of 2-year institutions with first-year undergraduates	1,660	1,604	▼
Characteristics of Postsecondary Students	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	
Total undergraduate enrollment	17.47 million	17.29 million	▼
4-year institutions			
Total enrollment	10.51 million	10.58 million	▲
Number enrolled full time	8.11 million	8.12 million	▲
Percentage enrolled full time	77.2%	76.8%	▼
2-year institutions			
Total enrollment	6.97 million	6.71 million	▼
Number enrolled full time	2.83 million	2.66 million	▼
Percentage enrolled full time	40.7%	39.6%	▼
Characteristics of Postsecondary Faculty	Fall 2011	Fall 2013	
Number of full-time instructional faculty	762,100	791,400	▲
Number of part-time instructional faculty	762,400	752,700	▼
	2013–14	2014–15	
Average salary for full-time instructional faculty at public institutions ^{1, 7}	\$75,800	\$77,000	▲
Average salary for full-time instructional faculty at private nonprofit institutions ^{1, 7}	\$87,400	\$88,200	▲
Average salary for full-time instructional faculty at private for-profit institutions ^{1, 7}	\$51,100	\$49,900	▼
Undergraduate Degree Fields	2012–13	2013–14	
Number of bachelor's degrees awarded			
Business	360,900	358,100	▼
Health professions and related programs	181,100	198,800	▲
Social sciences and history	177,800	173,100	▼
Graduate Degree Fields	2012–13	2013–14	
Number of master's degrees awarded			
Business	188,600	189,300	▲
Education	164,700	154,600	▼
Health professions and related programs	90,900	97,400	▲

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	2012–13	2013–14	Change between years
Undergraduate Retention and Graduation Rates			
4-year institutions			
Retention rate of first-time undergraduates	79.6%	80.5%	▲
Graduation rate (within 6 years of starting program) of first-time, full-time undergraduates	59.4%	59.6%	▲
2-year institutions			
Retention rate of first-time undergraduates	60.0%	60.7%	▲
Graduation rate (within 3 years of starting program) of first-time, full-time undergraduates	29.4%	27.9%	▼
Degrees Conferred by Public and Private Institutions			
Number of degrees/certificates conferred by postsecondary institutions			
Certificates	967,214	969,353	▲
Associate's degrees	1,007,427	1,003,364	▼
Bachelor's degrees	1,840,381	1,869,814	▲
Master's degrees	751,718	754,475	▲
Doctor's degrees	175,026	177,580	▲
Price of Attending an Undergraduate Institution¹			
Average net price at 4-year institutions			
Public, in-state	\$12,930	\$12,750	▼
Private nonprofit	\$24,620	\$24,690	▲
Private for-profit	\$22,000	\$21,000	▼
Loans for Undergraduate Students¹			
Average tuition and fees			
	\$11,200	\$11,500	▲
Average student loan amount			
	\$7,058	\$7,063	▲
Sources of Financial Aid			
Percentage of students receiving any financial aid at 4-year institutions			
	85.0%	85.1%	▲
Percentage of students receiving any financial aid at 2-year institutions			
	78.3%	78.4%	▲
Postsecondary Institution Revenues¹			
Revenue from tuition and fees per FTE student			
Public institutions	\$6,461	\$6,639	▲
Private nonprofit institutions	\$20,010	\$20,293	▲
Private for-profit institutions	\$16,252	\$19,480	▲

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Postsecondary Institution Expenses¹	2012–13	2013–14	Change between years
Instruction expenses per FTE student			
Public institutions	\$7,870	\$8,070	▲
Private nonprofit institutions	\$16,552	\$17,003	▲
Private for-profit institutions	\$3,921	\$5,266	▲

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¹ Data are reported in constant 2014–15 dollars, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

² Despite appearances, the unrounded estimates are significantly different.

³ A high-poverty school is defined as a public school where more than 75 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.

⁴ *Proficient* represents solid academic performance. Students reaching this level have demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter.

⁵ The *Averaged Freshman Graduation Rate* (AFGR) is the number of high school diplomas awarded expressed as a percentage of the estimated freshman class 4 years earlier.

⁶ The *Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate* (ACGR) uses detailed student-level data to determine the percentage of students who graduate within 4 years of starting 9th grade for the first time.

⁷ Data are for full-time faculty on 9-month contracts in degree-granting postsecondary institutions.

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

SOURCE: *The Condition of Education 2016*.