

The Condition of Education 2017 At a Glance

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

Population Characteristics			
Educational Attainment of Young Adults	2015	2016	Change between years
Percentage of 25- to 29-year-olds with selected levels of educational attainment			
High school completion or higher	91%	92%	
Associate's or higher degree	46%	46%	
Bachelor's or higher degree	36%	36%	
Master's or higher degree	9%	9%	
<hr/>			
International Educational Attainment	2014	2015	
Percentage of the population 25 to 34 years old who completed high school			
United States	90%	90%	
Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries	83%	84%	▲
Percentage of the population 25 to 34 years old who attained a postsecondary degree			
United States	46%	47%	
OECD countries	41%	42%	▲
<hr/>			
Annual Earnings of Young Adults	2014	2015	
Median annual earnings for 25- to 34-year-olds ¹			
Total	\$40,000	\$39,900	
With less than high school completion	\$24,000	\$25,000	
Who completed high school as highest level	\$30,000	\$30,500	
Who completed some college but did not attain a degree	\$31,900	\$34,600	▲
Who attained an associate's degree	\$35,000	\$36,900	
Who attained a bachelor's or higher degree	\$52,000	\$53,800	
Who attained a bachelor's degree	\$49,900	\$50,000	
Who attained a master's degree or higher	\$59,200	\$60,000	

See notes at end of table.

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

Employment and Unemployment Rates by Educational Attainment	2015	2016	Change between years
Employment rates of 20- to 24-year-olds			
Total	71%	72%	
With less than high school completion	51%	48%	
Who completed high school as highest level	67%	69%	
Who attained a bachelor's or higher degree	89%	88%	
Unemployment rates of 20- to 24-year-olds			
Total	12%	11%	▼
With less than high school completion	20%	17%	
Who completed high school as highest level	16%	12%	▼
Who attained a bachelor's or higher degree	5%	5%	
Characteristics of Children's Families	2010	2015	
Highest level of education attained by parents of children under age 18			
Percentage whose parents' highest level of education was less than high school	11.6%	10.5%	▼
Percentage whose parents' highest level of education was a bachelor's or higher degree	35.3%	39.0%	▲
	2014	2015	
Percentage of children under age 18 living in mother-only households	27.3%	27.0%	▼
Percentage of children under age 18 in families living in poverty	21.2%	20.3%	▼
Children's Access to and Use of the Internet	2013	2015	
Percentage of children ages 3 to 18 who use the Internet from home			
3- and 4-year-olds	31%	39%	▲
5- to 10-year-olds	50%	54%	▲
11- to 14-year-olds	65%	65%	
15- to 18-year-olds	77%	76%	
Participation in Education			
Preschool and Kindergarten Enrollment	2014	2015	Change between years
Percentage of children enrolled in preprimary education			
3-year-olds	43%	38%	▼
4-year-olds	66%	67%	
5-year-olds	85%	87%	

See notes at end of table.

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

At a Glance

	2013-14	2014-15	Change between years
Elementary and Secondary Enrollment			
Number of students enrolled in public schools	50.0 million	50.3 million	▲
Prekindergarten through grade 8	35.3 million	35.4 million	▲
Grades 9 through 12	14.8 million	14.9 million	▲
Public Charter School Enrollment			
Number of students enrolled in public charter schools	Fall 2013 2.5 million	Fall 2014 2.7 million	▲
Percentage of public school students enrolled in charter schools	5.1%	5.4%	▲
Number of public charter schools	6,470	6,750	▲
Percentage of public schools that are charter schools	6.6%	6.9%	▲
Private School Enrollment			
Total number of students enrolled in private schools (Prekindergarten through grade 12)	2011-12 5.3 million	2013-14 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			
Percentage of public school students (Prekindergarten through grade 12)	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	
White	50.3%	49.5%	▼
Black	15.6%	15.5%	▼
Hispanic	24.9%	25.4%	▲
Asian/Pacific Islander	5.2%	5.3%	▲
American Indian/Alaska Native	1.0%	1.0%	▼ ²
Two or more races	3.0%	3.2%	▲
English Language Learners in Public Schools			
Percentage of public school students who are English language learners	2013-14 9.3%	2014-15 9.4%	▲
Children and Youth With Disabilities			
Number of public school students ages 3–21 receiving special education services	2013-14 6.5 million	2014-15 6.6 million	▲
Percentage of public school students ages 3–21 receiving special education services	12.9%	13.0%	▲

See notes at end of table.

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

At a Glance

	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Change between years
Undergraduate Enrollment			
Total enrollment	17.3 million	17.0 million	▼
Full-time enrollment	10.8 million	10.6 million	▼
Part-time enrollment	6.5 million	6.4 million	▼
Percentage enrolled in any distance education course	27.7%	29.0%	▲
Percentage enrolled exclusively in distance education	12.1%	12.3%	▲
Postbaccalaureate Enrollment			
Total enrollment	2.91 million	2.94 million	▲
Full-time enrollment	1.67 million	1.69 million	▲
Part-time enrollment	1.24 million	1.25 million	▲
Percentage enrolled in any distance education course	33%	34%	▲
Percentage enrolled exclusively in distance education	25%	26%	▲
Elementary and Secondary Education			
Characteristics of Traditional Public Schools and Public Charter Schools			
	2013-14	2014-15	Change between years
Traditional public schools			
Total number of traditional public schools	91,810	91,430	▼
Percentage of traditional public schools			
With more than 50% White enrollment	59.8%	59.0%	▼
With more than 50% Black enrollment	9.1%	9.0%	▼
With more than 50% Hispanic enrollment	15.3%	15.7%	▲
Public charter schools			
Total number of public charter schools	6,470	6,750	▲
Percentage of public charter schools			
With more than 50% White enrollment	35.8%	35.7%	▼
With more than 50% Black enrollment	24.4%	23.6%	▼
With more than 50% Hispanic enrollment	23.4%	23.9%	▲
Concentration of Public School Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch			
	2013-14	2014-15	
Percentage of students attending public low-poverty schools ³	20.2%	20.4%	▲
Percentage of students attending public high-poverty schools ³	24.8%	24.3%	▼
School Crime and Safety			
	2013	2015	
Percentage of students ages 12-18 who reported criminal victimization at school during the previous 6 months	3%	3%	

See notes at end of table.

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

At a Glance

	2013-14	2014-15	Change between years
Teachers and Pupil/Teacher Ratios			
Number of public school teachers	3.11 million	3.13 million	▲
Pupil/teacher ratio at public schools	16.1	16.1	▼ ²
Number of private school teachers	441,000	436,000	▼
Pupil/teacher ratio at private schools	12.2	12.2	▼ ²
Public School Revenue Sources¹			
Total revenues	\$622 billion	\$632 billion	▲
Federal sources	\$58 billion	\$55 billion	▼
State sources	\$281 billion	\$292 billion	▲
Local sources	\$283 billion	\$284 billion	▲
Public School Expenditures¹			
Total expenditures	\$625 billion	\$634 billion	▲
Current expenditures per student	\$11,093	\$11,222	▲
Education Expenditures by Country (2013)			
	U.S.	OECD	Difference between the U.S. and OECD
Expenditure per full-time-equivalent (FTE) student			
Elementary and secondary education	\$11,800	\$9,200	▲
Postsecondary education	\$27,900	\$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%	
Science Performance			
	2009	2015	
Percentage of students who scored at or above <i>Proficient</i> ⁴			
4th-grade student	34%	38%	▲
12th-grade student	21%	22%	
	2011	2015	
8th-grade student	32%	34%	

See notes at end of table.

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

	2014	Change between years	
Technology and Engineering Literacy⁵	—		
Percentage of 8th-grade students who scored at or above <i>Proficient</i> ⁴	43%		
<hr/>			
	U.S. average score	International average score	Difference between the U.S. average and the international average
International Comparisons: Reading Literacy at Grade 4 (2011)			
Progress in International Reading Literacy Study			
Reading literacy scores of 4th-grade students	556	500	▲
<hr/>			
	U.S. average score	TIMSS scale centerpoint	Difference between the U.S. average and the TIMSS scale centerpoint
International Comparisons: U.S. 4th-, 8th-, and 12th-Graders' Mathematics and Science Achievement (2015)			
Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS)			
Mathematics scores of 4th-grade students	539	500	▲
Mathematics scores of 8th-grade students	518	500	▲
Science scores of 4th-grade students	546	500	▲
Science scores of 8th-grade students	530	500	▲
TIMSS Advanced			
Advanced Mathematics scores of 12th-grade students	485	500	▼
Physics Scores of 12th-grade students	437	500	▼
<hr/>			
	U.S. average score	OECD average score	Difference between the U.S. average and the OECD average
International Comparisons: Science, Reading, and Mathematics Literacy of 15-Year-Old Students (2015)			
Program for International Student Assessment			
Science literacy scores of 15-year-old students	496	493	
Reading literacy scores of 15-year-old students	497	493	
Mathematics literacy scores of 15-year-old students	470	490	▼

See notes at end of table.

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

At a Glance

	2013-14	2014-15	Change between years
Public High School Graduation Rates			
Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) ⁶	82%	83%	▲
Status Dropout Rates	2014	2015	
Percentage of 16- to 24-year-olds not enrolled in school who have not completed high school	6.5%	5.9%	
Youth Neither Enrolled in School nor Working	2015	2016	
Percentage of 20- to 24-year-olds neither enrolled in school nor working			
Total	17%	17%	
With less than high school completion	41%	42%	
High school completion	28%	26%	
Some college, no bachelor's degree	9%	9%	
Bachelor's or higher degree	8%	8%	
Immediate College Enrollment Rate	2014	2015	
Percentage of recent high school graduates enrolled in college	68%	69%	
2-year institutions	25%	25%	
4-year institutions	44%	44%	
College Enrollment Rates	2014	2015	
College participation rates for 18- to 24-year-olds			
Total, all students	40%	40%	
Male	37%	38%	
Female	43%	43%	
White	42%	42%	
Black	33%	35%	
Hispanic	35%	37%	
Asian	65%	63%	
Pacific Islander	41%	24%	
American Indian/Alaska Native	35%	23%	
Two or more races	32%	38%	

See notes at end of table.

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

Postsecondary Education			
Characteristics of Degree-Granting Postsecondary Institutions	2014-15	2015-16	Change between years
Total number of degree-granting institutions with first-year undergraduates	4,207	4,147	▼
Number of 4-year institutions with first-year undergraduates	2,603	2,584	▼
Number of 2-year institutions with first-year undergraduates	1,604	1,563	▼
Characteristics of Postsecondary Students	2014-15	2015-16	
Total undergraduate enrollment	17.29 million	17.04 million	▼
4-year institutions			
Total enrollment	10.58 million	10.55 million	▼
Number enrolled full time	8.12 million	8.09 million	▼
Percentage enrolled full time	76.8%	76.7%	▼
2-year institutions			
Total enrollment	6.71 million	6.49 million	▼
Number enrolled full time	2.66 million	2.51 million	▼
Percentage enrolled full time	39.6%	38.7%	▼
Characteristics of Postsecondary Faculty	2013-14	2015-16	
Number of full-time instructional faculty ⁷	791,000	807,000	▲
Number of part-time instructional faculty	754,000	744,000	▼
Undergraduate Degree Fields	2013-14	2014-15	
Number of bachelor's degrees awarded			
Business	358,000	364,000	▲
Health professions and related programs	199,000	216,000	▲
Social sciences and history	173,000	167,000	▼
Graduate Degree Fields	2013-14	2014-15	
Number of master's degrees awarded			
Business	189,000	185,000	▼
Education	155,000	147,000	▼
Health professions and related programs	97,000	103,000	▲

See notes at end of table.

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

At a Glance

Undergraduate Retention and Graduation Rates	2013-14	2014-15	Change between years
4-year institutions			
Retention rate of first-time undergraduates	80.5%	80.8%	▲
Graduation rate (within 6 years of starting program) of first-time, full-time undergraduates	59.6%	59.4%	▼
2-year institutions			
Retention rate of first-time undergraduates	60.7%	61.2%	▲
Graduation rate (within 3 years of starting program) of first-time, full-time undergraduates	27.9%	29.1%	▲
<hr/>			
Postsecondary Certificates and Degrees Conferred	2013-14	2014-15	
Number of degrees/certificates conferred by postsecondary institutions			
Certificates below associate's degrees	969,000	961,000	▼
Associate's degrees	1.01 million	1.01 million	▲ ²
Bachelor's degrees	1.87 million	1.89 million	▲
Master's degrees	755,000	759,000	▲
Doctor's degrees	178,000	179,000	▲
<hr/>			
Price of Attending an Undergraduate Institution¹	2013-14	2014-15	
Average net price at 4-year institutions			
Public, in-state	\$12,800	\$13,200	▲
Private nonprofit	\$25,000	\$25,400	▲
Private for-profit	\$21,100	\$21,500	▲
<hr/>			
Loans for Undergraduate Students¹	2013-14	2014-15	
Average tuition and fees	\$11,200	\$11,600	▲
Average student loan amount	\$7,100	\$7,000	▼
<hr/>			
Sources of Financial Aid	2013-14	2014-15	
Percentage of students receiving any financial aid at 4-year institutions	85%	86%	▲
Percentage of students receiving any financial aid at 2-year institutions	76%	79%	▲

See notes at end of table.

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

At a Glance

	2013-14	2014-15	Change between years
Postsecondary Institution Revenues¹			
Revenue from tuition and fees per FTE student			
Public institutions	\$6,683	\$6,963	▲
Private nonprofit institutions	\$20,450	\$20,820	▲
Private for-profit institutions	\$19,586	\$15,089	▲
Postsecondary Institution Expenses¹			
Instruction expenses per FTE student			
Public institutions	\$8,126	\$8,433	▲
Private nonprofit institutions	\$17,135	\$17,426	▲
Private for-profit institutions	\$5,294	\$4,194	▼

— Not available.

¹ Data are reported in constant 2015–16 dollars, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

² Data are measurably different, although they round to the same number.

³ Low-poverty schools are defined as public schools where 25.0 percent or less of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch (FRPL). A high-poverty school is defined as a public school where more than 75 percent of the students are eligible for FRPL.

⁴ *Proficient* indicates demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter.

⁵ Comparisons against the prior year are not available, because the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) technology and engineering literacy (TEL) assessment was first administered in 2014.

⁶ The *Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate* (ACGR) is the number of students who graduate in 4 years with a regular high school diploma divided by the number of students who form the adjusted cohort for the graduating class. From the beginning of 9th grade (or the earliest high school grade), students who enter that grade for the first time form a cohort that 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.

⁷ Data are for full-time instructional faculty on 9-month contracts at 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 2017*.

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