

the condition of education 2004



INDICATOR 3

Trends in Full- and Half-Day Kindergarten

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2004*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2004* visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004077>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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Elementary/Secondary Education

Trends in Full- and Half-Day Kindergarten

Enrollment among 4- to 6-year-olds in kindergarten increased from 1977 to 2001. During this period, the proportion of students enrolled in full-day kindergarten increased and by 1995 was larger than the proportion enrolled half day.

Total enrollment in kindergarten among children ages 4–6 increased from 3.2 million in 1977 to 4 million in 1992, before decreasing to 3.7 million in 2001 (see supplemental table 3-1). Similarly, the percentage of 4- to 6-year-olds attending kindergarten rose from 1977 to 1992, before declining to 31 percent in 2001. Age 5 was the most common age to be enrolled in kindergarten. Seventy-three percent of all 5-year-olds were enrolled in kindergarten in 2001, compared with 7 percent of 4-year-olds and 13 percent of 6-year-olds (see supplemental table 3-2).

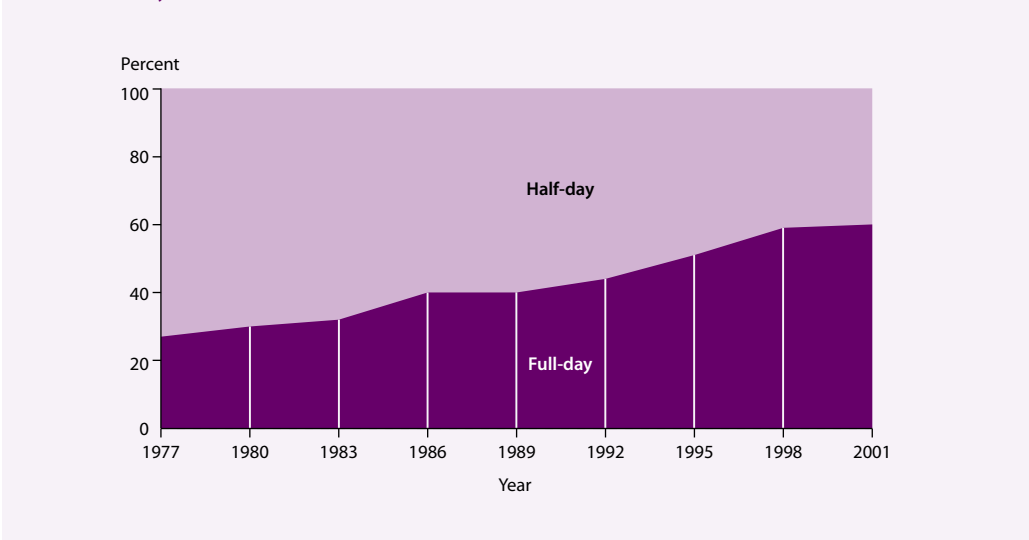
Between 1977 and 2001, a shift occurred in the type of kindergarten attended. In 1977, a higher percentage of children attended a half-day than a full-day program (73 vs. 27 percent). By 1995, this distribution had reversed, and in 2001, 40 percent of children ages 4–6 enrolled in kindergarten attended half day, compared with 60 percent attending full day.

In 2001, full-day kindergarten was generally more common than half-day kindergarten throughout different segments of the popula-

tion. There were some differences in attendance patterns by subgroups, however. For example, children ages 4–6 enrolled in kindergarten in the South were more likely to attend full-day kindergarten (78 percent) than children in the Northeast, Midwest, and West (60, 53, and 43 percent, respectively). Children in the West were the only group in which a higher proportion was enrolled in half-day than in full-day kindergarten (57 vs. 43 percent).

In addition, in 2001, Black kindergartners (76 percent) were more likely than their White (56 percent), Hispanic (60 percent), and Asian/Pacific Islander (57 percent) peers to be enrolled in full-day programs. Children in families with incomes less than \$50,000 were more likely to attend full-day kindergarten than children with higher family incomes. The type of school attended was also related to children’s enrollment. Sixty-eight percent of children ages 4–6 enrolled in private kindergartens attended a full-day program, compared with 59 percent of children in public kindergartens.

KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT: Percentage distribution of children ages 4–6 enrolled in kindergarten, by type of program: October selected years 1977–2001



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October Supplement, selected years 1977–2001, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Supplemental Notes 1,2
Supplemental Tables 3-1,3-2



Trends in Full- and Half-Day Kindergarten

Table 3-1. Number (in thousands) and percentage distribution of children ages 4–6 enrolled in kindergarten, by type of program: October selected years 1977–2001

Kindergarten type	1977	1980	1983	1986	1989	1992	1995	1998	2001
Number (in thousands)									
Kindergarten enrollment	3,160	3,143	3,301	3,914	3,809	4,036	3,815	3,776	3,713
Full-day	868	949	1,065	1,555	1,518	1,763	1,954	2,226	2,241
Half-day	2,292	2,194	2,236	2,359	2,292	2,273	1,860	1,550	1,472
Percentage									
Kindergarten enrollment	32.3	34.2	33.3	36.0	34.5	35.4	30.8	30.8	31.2
Full-day	8.9	10.3	10.7	14.3	13.7	15.5	15.8	18.1	18.8
Half-day	23.4	23.9	22.5	21.7	20.8	19.9	15.0	12.6	12.4
Percentage distribution									
Kindergarten enrollment	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Full-day	27.5	30.2	32.3	39.7	39.8	43.7	51.2	58.9	60.3
Half-day	72.5	69.8	67.7	60.3	60.2	56.3	48.8	41.1	39.7

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. The Current Population Survey (CPS) questions used to obtain educational attainment were changed in 1992. In 1994, the survey methodology for the CPS was changed and weights were adjusted. See *supplemental note 2* for further discussion.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October Supplement, selected years 1977–2001, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Trends in Full- and Half-Day Kindergarten

Table 3-2. Number (in thousands) and percentage distribution of children ages 4–6 enrolled in kindergarten, by type of program and selected characteristics: October 2001

Characteristic	Total population, ages 4–6 (in thousands)	Total kindergarten		Full-day		Half-day	
		Enrollment (in thousands)	Percent	Enrollment (in thousands)	Percent	Enrollment (in thousands)	Percent
Total	11,901	3,713	100.0	2,241	60.3	1,472	39.7
Sex							
Male	6,074	1,951	100.0	1,169	59.9	782	40.1
Female	5,827	1,762	100.0	1,072	60.8	690	39.2
Age							
4	3,927	285	100.0	174	61.2	111	38.8
5	3,987	2,914	100.0	1,754	60.2	1,160	39.8
6	3,987	514	100.0	312	60.7	202	39.3
Race/ethnicity ¹							
Asian/Pacific Islander	537	168	100.0	96	57.3	72	42.7
Black	1,790	563	100.0	426	75.7	137	24.3
White	7,219	2,246	100.0	1,267	56.4	979	43.6
Hispanic	2,205	700	100.0	422	60.2	278	39.8
Parents' education							
Less than high school	1,424	477	100.0	302	63.2	176	36.8
High school diploma or equivalent	3,108	965	100.0	600	62.2	365	37.8
Some college, including vocational/technical	3,458	1,060	100.0	633	59.7	428	40.3
Bachelor's degree or higher	3,910	1,211	100.0	706	58.3	504	41.7
Family income							
Less than \$15,000	1,812	540	100.0	330	61.2	210	38.8
\$15,000–29,999	2,238	674	100.0	496	73.6	178	26.4
\$30,000–49,999	2,732	858	100.0	529	61.7	329	38.3
\$50,000–74,999	2,360	765	100.0	422	55.2	343	44.8
\$75,000 or more	2,759	876	100.0	463	52.8	413	47.2
Region							
Northeast	2,052	622	100.0	372	59.8	250	40.2
Midwest	2,674	848	100.0	451	53.2	397	46.8
South	4,124	1,281	100.0	999	78.0	282	22.0
West	3,051	963	100.0	419	43.5	544	56.5
Control of school							
Public	7,931	3,139	100.0	1,848	58.9	1,291	41.1
Private	2,276	574	100.0	393	68.4	181	31.6

¹Black includes African American, Pacific Islander includes Native Hawaiian, and Hispanic includes Latino. Racial categories exclude Hispanic origin. Other race/ethnicities are included in the total but are not shown separately. NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. The Current Population Survey (CPS) questions used to obtain educational attainment were changed in 1992. In 1994, the survey methodology for the CPS was changed and weights were adjusted. See *supplemental note 2* for further discussion. See *supplemental note 1* for information on parents' education, family income, and the states in each region. SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), 2001 October Supplement, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Trends in Full- and Half-Day Kindergarten

Table S3. Standard errors for the percentage distribution of children ages 4–6 enrolled in kindergarten, by type of program: October selected years 1977–2001

Kindergarten type	1977	1980	1983	1986	1989	1992	1995	1998	2001
Full-day	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.06	0.07	0.04	0.01	0.10	0.12
Half-day	0.40	0.32	0.26	0.11	0.11	0.06	0.01	0.07	0.07

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October Supplement, selected years 1977–2001, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Trends in Full- and Half-Day Kindergarten

Table S3-1. Standard errors for the number (in thousands) and percentage distribution of children ages 4–6 enrolled in kindergarten, by type of program: October selected years 1977–2001

Kindergarten type	1977	1980	1983	1986	1989	1992	1995	1998	2001
	Number (in thousands)								
Kindergarten enrollment	69.8	69.4	75.5	85.1	86.7	92.1	95.7	102.1	97.8
Full-day	37.6	39.5	44.1	55.0	55.4	61.8	69.0	79.2	76.9
Half-day	59.4	57.6	61.9	65.9	67.5	69.4	67.2	65.4	61.4
	Percentage								
Kindergarten enrollment	0.60	0.62	0.63	0.63	0.65	0.66	0.65	0.70	0.69
Full-day	0.37	0.41	0.42	0.47	0.47	0.50	0.52	0.59	0.58
Half-day	0.54	0.56	0.55	0.54	0.55	0.55	0.50	0.50	0.49
	Percentage distribution								
Kindergarten enrollment	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
Full-day	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.06	0.07	0.04	0.01	0.10	0.12
Half-day	0.40	0.32	0.26	0.11	0.11	0.06	0.01	0.07	0.07

†Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), October Supplement, selected years 1977–2001, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).

Trends in Full- and Half-Day Kindergarten

Table S3-2. Standard errors for the number (in thousands) and percentage distribution of children ages 4–6 enrolled in kindergarten, by type of program and selected characteristics: October 2001

Characteristic	Total population, ages 4–6 (in thousands)	Total kindergarten		Full-day		Half-day	
		Enrollment (in thousands)	Percent	Enrollment (in thousands)	Percent	Enrollment (in thousands)	Percent
Total	87.2	97.8	†	76.9	0.12	61.4	0.07
Sex							
Male	97.8	67.2	†	53.6	0.19	44.1	0.11
Female	98.6	64.4	†	52.1	0.23	41.0	0.13
Age							
4	231.8	28.6	†	23.0	0.97	17.3	#
5	231.4	79.6	†	65.1	0.14	52.7	0.12
6	225.9	34.4	†	26.6	0.47	22.2	0.29
Race/ethnicity							
Asian/Pacific Islander	39.9	23.2	†	16.0	0.81	16.9	0.62
Black	69.3	40.5	†	35.3	2.23	20.3	0.54
White	91.6	66.2	†	52.7	0.10	44.9	0.07
Hispanic	76.4	46.7	†	36.2	0.44	30.2	0.27
Parents' education							
Less than high school	60.0	36.6	†	29.1	0.81	22.6	0.42
High school diploma or equivalent	81.1	49.0	†	39.1	0.42	30.8	0.23
Some college, including vocational/technical	83.5	50.5	†	40.4	0.29	31.9	0.17
Bachelor's degree or higher	86.1	53.7	†	42.1	0.21	35.0	0.14
Family income							
Less than \$15,000	64.8	36.8	†	29.0	0.57	23.2	0.33
\$15,000–29,999	72.0	42.2	†	36.6	1.61	21.7	0.44
\$30,000–49,999	76.4	46.2	†	37.3	0.43	28.3	0.24
\$50,000–74,999	71.2	42.9	†	32.8	0.17	28.6	0.13
\$75,000 or more	76.9	47.1	†	34.4	0.08	33.1	0.07
Region							
Northeast	62.5	36.6	†	29.4	0.43	22.4	0.25
Midwest	69.2	42.0	†	31.1	0.09	29.3	0.08
South	95.1	58.5	†	52.1	1.44	28.3	0.30
West	83.7	51.6	†	34.6	0.14	39.3	0.19
Control of school							
Public	102.0	82.2	†	66.7	0.11	55.5	0.07
Private	69.6	37.0	†	30.9	1.13	20.9	0.43

†Not applicable.

#Rounds to zero.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey (CPS), 2001 October Supplement, previously unpublished tabulation (December 2003).