

**Table 85. Number of public school districts and public and private elementary and secondary schools: Selected years, 1869–70 to 2001–02**

School year	Regular public school districts <sup>1</sup>	Public schools <sup>2</sup>				Private schools <sup>2,3</sup>			
		Total, all schools <sup>4</sup>	Total, schools with reported grade spans <sup>5</sup>	Schools with elementary grades		Schools with secondary grades	Total <sup>4</sup>	Schools with elementary grades	Schools with secondary grades
				Total	One-teacher				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1869–70	—	116,312	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1879–80	—	178,122	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1889–90	—	224,526	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1899–1900	—	248,279	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1909–10	—	265,474	—	—	212,448	—	—	—	—
1919–20	—	271,319	—	—	187,948	—	—	—	—
1929–30	—	248,117	—	238,306	148,712	23,930	—	9,275	3,258
1931–32	—	245,941	—	—	143,445	—	—	—	—
1933–34	—	242,929	—	236,236	138,542	24,714	—	9,992	3,327
1935–36	—	237,816	—	—	130,708	—	—	—	—
1937–38	119,001	229,394	—	221,660	121,178	25,467	—	9,992	3,327
1939–40	117,108	226,762	—	—	113,600	—	—	11,306	3,568
1941–42	—	222,660	—	—	107,692	—	—	—	—
1945–46	101,382	—	—	160,227	86,563	24,314	—	9,863	3,294
1947–48	94,926	—	—	146,760	75,096	25,484	—	10,071	3,292
1949–50	83,718	—	—	128,225	59,652	24,542	—	10,375	3,331
1951–52	71,094	—	—	123,763	50,742	23,746	—	10,666	3,322
1953–54	63,057	—	—	110,875	42,865	25,637	—	11,739	3,913
1955–56	54,859	—	—	104,427	34,964	26,046	—	12,372	3,887
1957–58	47,594	—	—	95,446	25,341	25,507	—	13,065	3,994
1959–60	40,520	—	—	91,853	20,213	25,784	—	13,574	4,061
1961–62	35,676	—	—	81,910	13,333	25,350	—	14,762	4,129
1963–64	31,705	—	—	77,584	9,895	26,431	—	—	4,451
1965–66	26,983	—	—	73,216	6,491	26,597	17,849	15,340	4,606
1967–68	22,010	—	94,197	70,879	4,146	27,011	—	—	—
1970–71	17,995	—	89,372	65,800	1,815	25,352	—	14,372	3,770
1973–74	16,730	—	88,655	65,070	1,365	25,906	—	—	—
1975–76	16,376	88,597	87,034	63,242	1,166	25,330	—	—	—
1976–77	16,271	—	86,501	62,644	1,111	25,378	19,910	16,385	5,904
1978–79	16,014	—	84,816	61,982	1,056	24,504	19,489	16,097	5,766
1979–80	15,929	87,004	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1980–81	15,912	85,982	83,688	61,069	921	24,362	20,764	16,792	5,678
1982–83	15,824	84,740	82,039	59,656	798	23,988	—	—	—
1983–84	15,747	84,178	81,418	59,082	838	23,947	27,694	20,872	7,862
1984–85	—	84,007	81,147	58,827	825	23,916	—	—	—
1985–86	—	—	—	—	—	—	25,616	20,252	7,387
1986–87	7 15,713	83,455	82,190	60,784	763	23,389	—	—	—
1987–88	7 15,577	83,248	81,416	59,754	729	23,841	26,807	22,959	8,418
1988–89	7 15,376	83,165	81,579	60,176	583	23,638	—	—	—
1989–90	7 15,367	83,425	81,880	60,699	630	23,461	—	—	—
1990–91	7 15,358	84,538	82,475	61,340	617	23,460	24,690	22,223	8,989
1991–92	7 15,173	84,578	82,506	61,739	569	23,248	25,998	23,523	9,282
1992–93	7 15,025	84,497	82,896	62,225	430	23,220	—	—	—
1993–94	7 14,881	85,393	83,431	62,726	442	23,379	26,093	23,543	10,555
1994–95	7 14,772	86,221	84,476	63,572	458	23,668	—	—	—
1995–96	7 14,766	87,125	84,958	63,961	474	23,793	27,686	25,153	10,942
1996–97	7 14,841	88,223	86,092	64,785	487	24,287	—	—	—
1997–98	7 14,805	89,508	87,541	65,859	476	24,802	27,402	24,915	10,779
1998–99	7 14,891	90,874	89,259	67,183	463	25,797	—	—	—
1999–2000	7 14,928	92,012	90,538	68,173	423	26,407	27,223	24,685	10,693
2000–01	7 14,859	93,273	91,691	69,697	411	27,090	—	—	—
2001–02	7 14,559	94,112	92,696	70,516	408	27,468	—	—	—

—Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Includes operating and nonoperating districts.

<sup>2</sup> Schools with both elementary and secondary programs are included under elementary schools and also under secondary schools.

<sup>3</sup> Data for most years are partly estimated.

<sup>4</sup> Includes regular schools and special schools not classified by grade span.

<sup>5</sup> Includes elementary, secondary, and combined elementary/secondary schools.

<sup>6</sup> These data are from sample surveys and should not be compared directly with the data for earlier years.

<sup>7</sup> Because of expanded survey coverage, data are not directly comparable with figures prior to 1986.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Annual Reports of the Commissioner of Education, 1870 through 1910; Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1919–20 through 1949–50; Statistics of State School Systems, 1959–60 through 1967–68; Statistics of Public Elementary and Secondary School Systems, 1970–71 through 1980–81; Statistics of Nonpublic Elementary and Secondary Schools, 1970–71 through 1979–80; Private Schools in American Education; Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS), "Private School Questionnaire," 1987–88 and 1990–91; Private School Universe Survey, 1991–92 through 1999–2000; and The NCES Common Core of Data (CCD), 1982–83 through 2001–02. (This table was prepared July 2003.)*