

**Table 57. Enrollment in foreign language courses compared with enrollment in grades 9 to 12 in public secondary schools: Selected years, fall 1948 to fall 2000**

[In thousands]

Language	Fall 1948	Fall 1960	Fall 1965	Fall 1968	Fall 1970	Fall 1974	Fall 1976	Fall 1982	Fall 1985	Fall 1990	Fall 1994	Fall 2000	Percent change in enrollment	
													1976 to 1990	1990 to 2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>Total enrollment, grades 9 to 12</b> .....	<b>15,602</b>	<b>8,589</b>	<b>11,610</b>	<b>12,718</b>	<b>13,336</b>	<b>14,103</b>	<b>14,314</b>	<b>12,405</b>	<b>12,388</b>	<b>11,338</b>	<b>12,213</b>	<b>13,514</b>	<b>-20.8</b>	<b>19.2</b>
All foreign languages <sup>2</sup>														
Number enrolled .....	1,170	2,522	3,659	3,890	3,779	3,295	3,174	2,910	4,029	4,257	5,002	5,898	34.1	38.6
Percent of all students .....	20.9	29.4	31.5	30.6	28.3	23.3	22.2	23.3	32.2	37.5	41.0	43.6	—	—
Modern foreign languages														
Number enrolled .....	741	1,867	3,068	3,518	3,514	3,127	3,023	2,740	3,852	4,093	4,813	5,721	35.4	39.8
Percent of all students .....	13.2	21.7	26.4	27.7	26.4	22.1	21.1	21.9	31.1	36.1	39.4	42.3	—	—
Spanish														
Number enrolled .....	443	933	1,427	1,698	1,811	1,678	1,717	1,563	2,334	2,611	3,220	4,058	52.1	55.4
Percent of all students .....	7.9	10.9	12.3	13.4	13.6	11.9	12.0	12.5	18.8	23.0	26.4	30.0	—	—
French														
Number enrolled .....	254	744	1,251	1,328	1,231	978	888	858	1,134	1,089	1,106	1,075	22.6	-1.3
Percent of all students .....	4.5	8.7	10.8	10.4	9.2	6.9	6.2	6.9	9.2	9.6	9.1	8.0	—	—
German														
Number enrolled .....	43	151	328	423	411	393	353	267	312	295	326	283	-16.2	-4.1
Percent of all students .....	0.8	1.8	2.8	3.3	3.1	2.8	2.5	2.1	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.1	—	—
Russian														
Number enrolled .....	—	10	27	24	20	15	11	6	6	16	16	11	46.6	-35.6
Percent of all students .....	—	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	#	#	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	—
Italian														
Number enrolled .....	—	20	25	27	27	40	46	44	47	40	44	64	-11.4	58.7
Percent of all students .....	—	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	—	—
Japanese <sup>3</sup>														
Number enrolled .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	42	51	—	102.5
Percent of all students .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.2	0.3	0.4	—	—
Other modern foreign languages <sup>4</sup>														
Number enrolled .....	1	9	9	18	15	23	9	3	18	15	59	179	73.0	1102.3
Percent of all students .....	#	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	#	0.1	0.1	0.5	1.3	—	—
Latin														
Number enrolled .....	429	655	591	372	265	167	150	170	177	164	189	177	8.9	8.3
Percent of all students .....	7.7	7.6	5.1	2.9	2.0	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.3	—	—

—Not available.  
# Rounds to zero.

<sup>1</sup> Estimated.

<sup>2</sup> Includes enrollment in ancient Greek (not shown separately). Fewer than 1,000 students were enrolled in this language in each of the years shown.

<sup>3</sup> Until 1990, student enrollment in Japanese courses was included in the Other modern foreign languages category.

<sup>4</sup> Includes students enrolled in unspecified modern foreign languages. In 1978, a relatively large number of students were not identified by field of study. Since 1990, enrollment in Japanese courses is reported as a separate category.

NOTE: Allocation of ungraded students to secondary levels based on proportions derived from prior years. Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. Percent change computed from unrounded numbers.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. The NCES Common Core of Data (CCD), 1982 through 2000; and American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, *Foreign Language Enrollments in U.S. Secondary Schools, Fall 2000*. (This table was prepared April 2002.)