

Table 254. Distance Education in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools: 2002–2003

[For the school year. Distance education courses are for-credit classes offered to students enrolled in the district where the teacher and student were in different locations. They could be delivered via audio, video, Internet, or other computer technologies. Reasons for districts providing these courses include offering courses not otherwise available, offering Advanced Placement courses, addressing growing populations and space limitations, reducing scheduling conflicts for students, and permitting students who failed a course to take the course again. Excludes such things as virtual field trips, online homework, or a course delivered mainly by written correspondence. Based on the Fast Response Survey System and subject to sampling error; see source for details]

District characteristic	Number of districts		Enrollments in distance education courses							
	With students enrolled in distance education courses	Total ¹	Curriculum							High school level
			English/ language arts	Social studies/ social sciences	Computer sciences	Natural/ physical sciences	Math	Foreign language		
All public school districts ²	15,040	5,480	327,670	61,590	74,570	11,660	38,920	49,210	39,090	222,090
District enrollment size:										
Less than 2,500	11,080	4,060	117,730	21,480	25,550	3,060	12,900	15,060	22,300	74,160
2,500 to 9,999	3,100	1,010	85,640	15,810	18,950	1,970	11,090	13,480	9,290	44,780
10,000 or more	820	410	124,300	24,300	30,070	6,630	14,930	20,670	7,500	103,150
Region: ³										
Northeast	3,040	640	42,070	6,060	8,280	3,020	4,830	4,730	5,300	17,420
South	1,750	790	59,010	10,240	12,490	1,420	5,400	8,920	11,120	50,410
Midwest	5,390	2,500	108,140	21,250	21,500	2,750	14,270	17,040	14,250	60,560
West	4,850	1,540	118,450	24,040	32,290	4,470	14,420	18,520	8,410	93,700
Poverty concentration: ⁴										
Less than 10 percent	4,850	1,620	77,380	15,300	17,350	2,140	6,900	10,590	9,600	57,320
10 to 19 percent	5,330	2,220	97,300	18,370	23,820	3,000	10,720	15,030	10,600	77,810
20 percent or more	3,690	1,560	93,280	17,800	22,770	6,290	11,800	14,150	15,330	83,100

¹ Includes other curriculum not shown separately. ² Includes districts and enrollments where enrollment size and poverty concentration were not known. ³ For composition or regions, see map inside front cover. ⁴ Percentage of children in the district ages 5 to 17 in families living below the poverty level.