

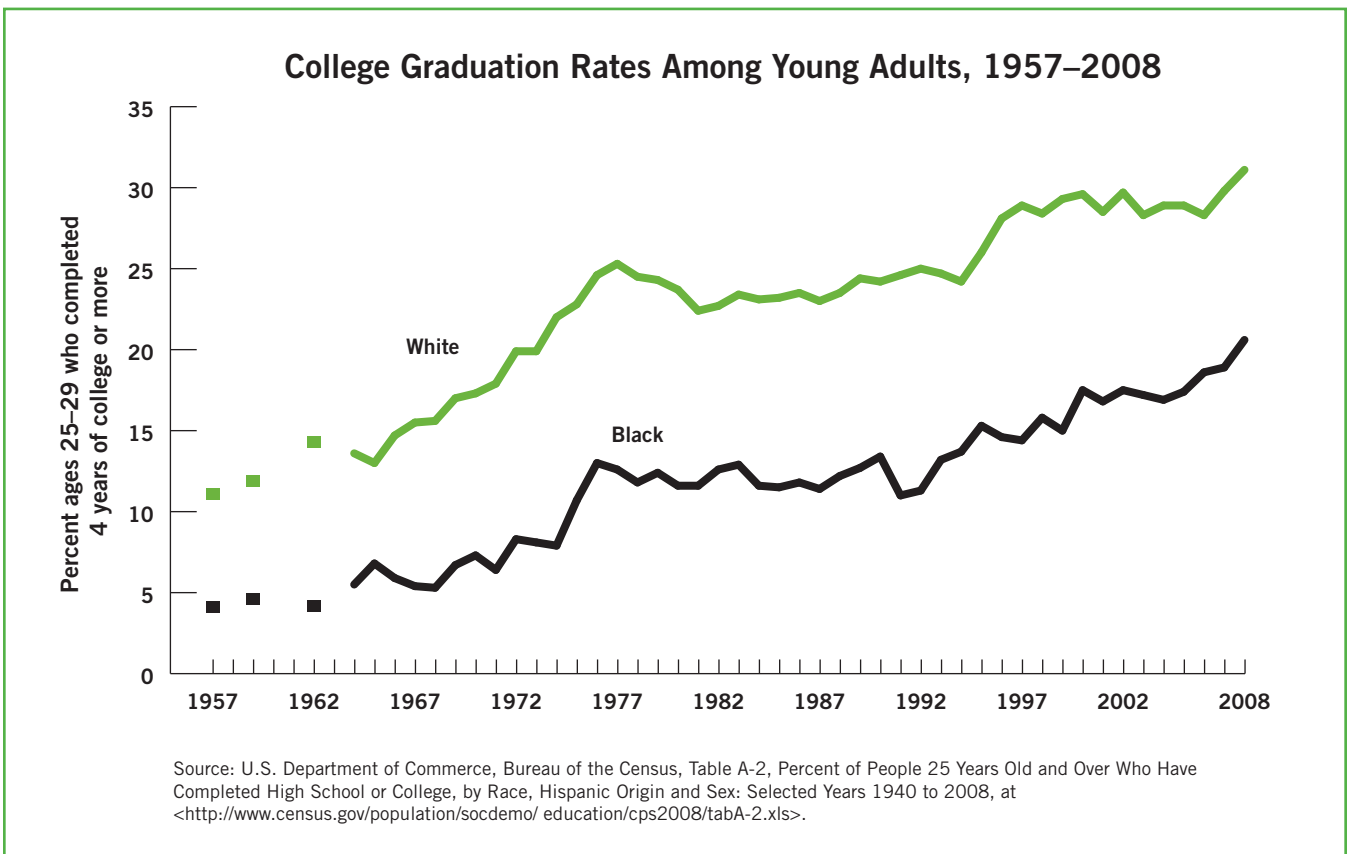
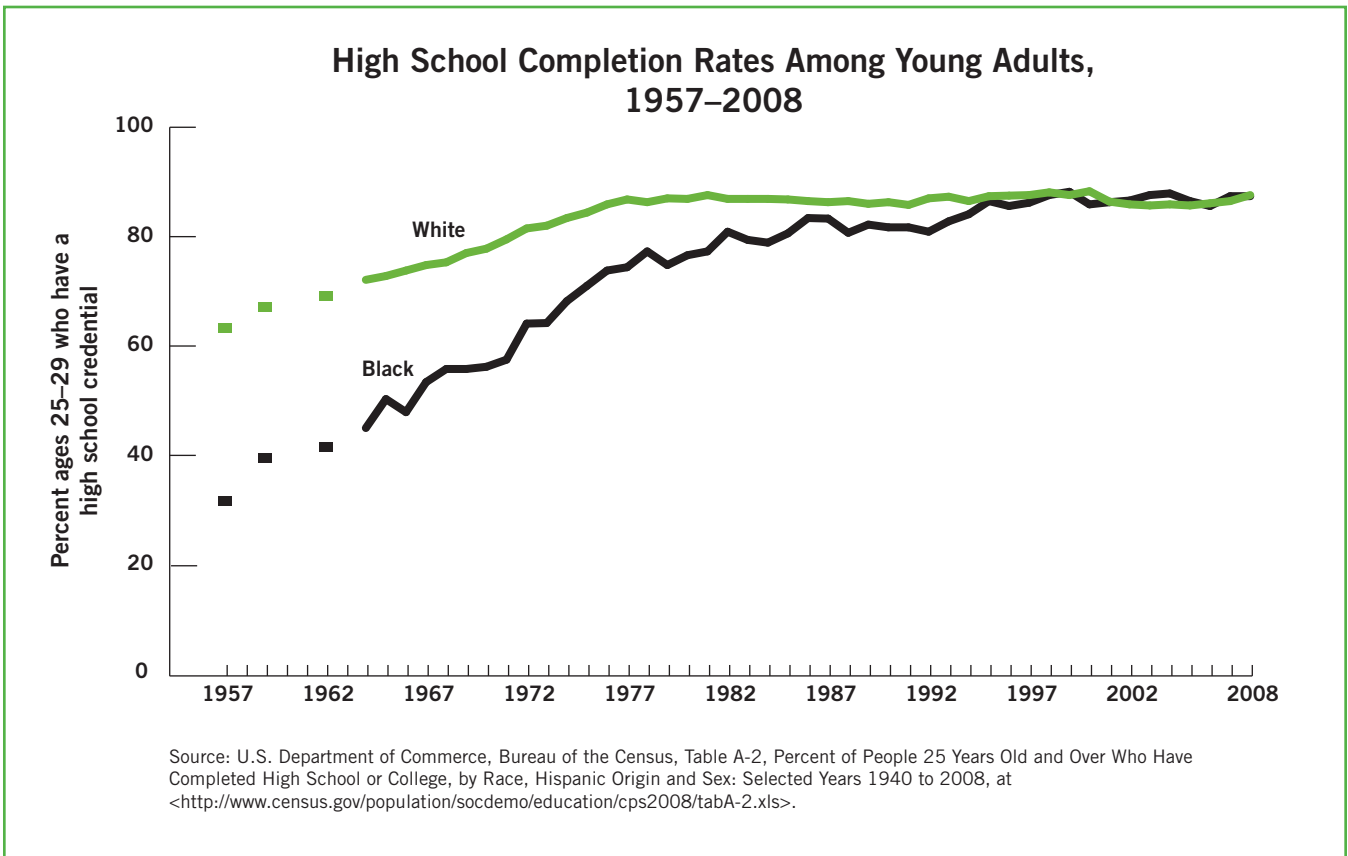


# Education

American education, which used to be the envy of the world, is in dire straits. The U.S. ranks 21st among 25 developed countries on overall educational achievement for 15-year-olds. Many public school students, kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, are struggling; minority children and poor children are struggling the most. Too often they fall behind in school and drop out, increasing their risk of entering the cradle to prison pipeline. Staying in school and receiving a quality education are the best deterrents to juvenile delinquency and the surest route towards responsible, productive adulthood.

- The U.S. spends almost three times as much per prisoner as per public school pupil.
- American schools are resegregating: 73 percent of Black students and 78 percent of Hispanic students are in predominantly minority schools.
- More than 60 percent of fourth grade public school students are reading or doing math below grade level. Eighty-five percent of Black and 84 percent of Hispanic students are reading below grade level. In math, 85 percent of Black and 79 percent of Hispanic students are achieving below grade level.
- Black students are more than three times as likely as White or Asian/Pacific Islander and twice as likely as Hispanic students to be suspended from school.
- 46 percent of Black high school students, 39 percent of Hispanic and 11 percent of White students attend the 2,000 “dropout factories” across our country, where less than 60 percent of the freshman class will graduate in four years with a regular diploma.
- Teachers in high poverty schools are more likely to have less experience, less training and fewer advanced degrees than teachers in low poverty schools.
- While the Black/White high school completion gap for young people 25–29 has closed, the Black/White gap in college completion persists. Lifetime earnings for a college graduate are almost twice those of a high school graduate.

Over the past 50 years, the high school completion rate for Blacks has risen sharply, closing the Black/White gap; the gap in college graduation rates persists.



College graduates earn more than twice as much as those with only a high school diploma and more than two and a half times the amount earned by high school dropouts. Lifetime earnings follow a similar pattern.

### Earnings by Educational Attainment, 2008 Mean Earnings of Persons Who Worked Full-Time, Year-Round

Highest Level of Education	Earnings	Increase	
		Amount	Percent
Some high school, no diploma	\$29,824		
High school, including GED	38,800	\$ 8,976	30.1%
Some college, no degree	44,011	5,211	13.4
Associate (2-year) degree	47,424	3,413	7.8
College degree or more	79,252	31,828	67.1

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2009 Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, Table PINC-04, Educational Attainment – People 18 Years Old and Over, by Total Money Earnings in 2008, Work Experience in 2008, Age, Race, Hispanic Origin, and Sex, at [http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/cpstables/032009/perinc/new04\\_001.htm](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/cpstables/032009/perinc/new04_001.htm). Calculations by Children’s Defense Fund.

### Expected Lifetime Earnings by Education Level

	Lifetime Earnings	Compared to High School Grad		Compared to High School Dropout	
		Ratio	Amount	Ratio	Amount
Not a high school graduate	\$ 941,370	0.74	\$ -325,360	1.00	
High school graduate	1,266,730	1.00		1.35	\$ 325,360
Some college, no degree	1,518,300	1.20	251,570	1.61	576,930
Associate degree	1,620,730	1.28	354,000	1.72	679,360
Bachelor’s degree	2,054,380	1.62	787,650	2.18	1,113,010
Bachelor’s degree or higher	2,284,110	1.80	1,017,380	2.43	1,342,740
Master’s degree	2,401,565	1.90	1,134,835	2.55	1,460,195
Doctoral degree	3,073,240	2.43	1,806,510	3.26	2,131,870
Professional degree	3,706,910	2.93	2,440,180	3.94	2,765,540

Source: College Board, *Education Pays: The Benefits of Higher Education for Individuals and Society, 2007* (2009), Appendix A, p. 44.

Fifty-six years after *Brown v. Board of Education* outlawed school segregation, American schools are resegregating racially.

## Racial Isolation of Black and Latino Students in the Public Schools, 1968–2006

	Percent of Black Students in:	
	Predominantly (>50%) Minority Schools	Intensely Segregated (90–100%) Minority Schools
1968	77%	64%
1980	63	33
1988	63	32
1991	66	34
2005	73	38
2006	73	39

Gary Orfield and Chungmei Lee, *Historic Reversals, Accelerating Resegregation, and the Need for New Integration Strategies* (2007), Tables 10 and 14; and Gary Orfield, *Reviving the Goal of an Integrated Society: A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenge* (January 2009), Table 23.

	Percent of Latino Students in:	
	Predominantly (>50%) Minority Schools	Intensely Segregated (90–100%) Minority Schools
1968	55%	23%
1980	68	29
1984	71	31
1988	74	33
1994	74	34
2005	78	39
2006	78	40

Gary Orfield and Chungmei Lee, *Historic Reversals, Accelerating Resegregation, and the Need for New Integration Strategies* (2007), Tables 16 and 17; and Gary Orfield, *Reviving the Goal of an Integrated Society: A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenge* (January 2009), Table 23.

Southern schools, which became the least segregated in the nation in the 50 years following *Brown*, are rapidly resegregating.

## Change in Black Segregation in the South, 1954–2005

### Percent of Black Students in Majority White Schools

1954	0.001%	(one in 100,000)
1960	0.1	(one in 1,000)
1964	2.3	
1967	13.9	
1968	23.4	
1970	33.1	(330 in 1,000)
1972	36.4	
1976	37.6	
1980	37.1	
1986	42.9	
1988	43.5	(435 in 1,000)
1991	39.2	
1994	36.6	
1996	34.7	
1998	32.7	
2000	31.0	
2001	30.2	
2005	27.0	(270 in 1,000)

Source: Gary Orfield and Chungmei Lee, *Historic Reversals, Accelerating Resegregation, and the Need for New Integration Strategies* (2007), Table 8.



The vast majority of children in fourth, eighth, and twelfth grades in public schools do not read or do math at grade level.

## Reading and Math Achievement

### Percent of Public School Students Not Reading or Doing Math at Grade Level

	Reading	Math
<b>4<sup>th</sup> graders</b>		
Total, all races	68%	62%
White	59	50
Black	85	85
Hispanic	84	79
Asian, Pacific Islander	52	39
American Indian, Alaska Native	78	77
<b>8<sup>th</sup> graders</b>		
Total, all races	70	67
White	61	57
Black	87	88
Hispanic	84	83
Asian, Pacific Islander	56	47
American Indian, Alaska Native	79	80
<b>12<sup>th</sup> graders</b>		
Total, all races	65	77
White	57	71
Black	84	94
Hispanic	80	92
Asian, Pacific Islander	64	64
American Indian, Alaska Native	74	94

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment of Educational Progress, *The Nation's Report Card: Reading 2007* (2007), Tables A-8, A-9, A-15, and A-16; U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment of Educational Progress, *The Nation's Report Card: Mathematics 2009* (2009), Tables A-1, A-12, A-19, and A-20; and U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment of Educational Progress, *The Nation's Report Card: 12th-Grade Reading and Mathematics 2005* (2007), pp. 5, 7, 15, and 17. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

More than 60 percent of fourth grade public school students are reading and doing math below grade level. For Black, Hispanic, and American Indian/Alaska Native students, the rates range from 77 to 85 percent.

## Reading and Math Achievement of 4<sup>th</sup> Graders, 2009

Percent of Fourth-Grade Public School Students Achieving Below Grade Level

	Reading						Math					
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian, Pacific Islander	American Indian, Alaska Native	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian, Pacific Islander	American Indian, Alaska Native
Alabama	72%	64%	87%	82%	—	—	76%	66%	93%	89%	—	—
Alaska	73	62	87	73	81%	91%	62	48	83	73	65%	86%
Arizona	75	63	80	86	59	88	72	56	81	85	55	87
Arkansas	71	65	86	84	—	—	64	54	88	74	—	—
California	76	61	86	89	52	—	70	49	87	86	39	—
Colorado	60	49	73	82	47	—	55	43	77	76	49	—
Connecticut	58	48	78	85	45	—	54	42	86	82	35	—
Delaware	65	53	81	76	43	—	64	50	83	78	34	—
District of Columbia	83	25	89	83	—	—	83	19	91	76	—	—
Florida	64	55	82	69	44	—	60	47	80	67	27	—
Georgia	71	60	85	80	47	—	66	52	85	74	40	—
Hawaii	74	58	82	73	78	—	63	49	67	72	65	—
Idaho	68	64	—	86	67	—	59	56	—	82	—	—
Illinois	68	56	89	84	37	—	62	48	89	80	27	—
Indiana	66	62	85	85	—	—	58	52	87	77	—	—
Iowa	66	64	78	80	54	—	59	55	83	83	34	—
Kansas	65	60	80	80	50	—	54	45	82	76	36	—
Kentucky	64	61	87	78	44	—	63	61	86	78	31	—
Louisiana	82	72	91	84	—	—	77	63	92	77	—	—
Maine	65	64	82	—	—	—	55	54	72	—	—	—
Maryland	63	50	81	70	41	—	56	40	79	68	33	—
Massachusetts	53	44	77	80	44	—	43	33	70	75	30	—
Michigan	70	64	91	83	58	—	65	57	91	80	45	—
Minnesota	63	57	88	87	66	80	46	39	75	71	56	73
Mississippi	78	65	90	81	—	—	78	63	92	—	—	—
Missouri	64	60	84	74	—	—	59	54	83	63	38	—
Montana	65	63	—	74	—	84	55	51	—	59	—	77
Nebraska	65	60	81	80	60	—	62	55	90	84	45	—
Nevada	76	66	86	87	62	—	68	54	88	81	55	—
New Hampshire	59	58	72	70	55	—	44	43	—	69	33	—
New Jersey	60	49	82	81	38	—	51	37	81	75	28	—
New Mexico	80	65	87	86	61	90	74	53	81	82	—	86
New York	64	55	82	78	48	—	60	50	81	75	33	—
North Carolina	68	56	86	83	48	82	57	41	82	73	38	70
North Dakota	65	63	—	—	—	84	55	51	—	—	—	83
Ohio	64	58	87	70	—	—	55	46	86	75	—	—
Oklahoma	72	67	89	83	—	73	67	60	86	80	—	71
Oregon	69	65	83	87	57	83	63	57	82	84	52	85
Pennsylvania	63	58	85	86	39	—	54	47	83	77	38	—
Rhode Island	64	56	83	86	70	—	61	50	85	86	60	—
South Carolina	72	62	89	83	—	—	66	54	86	72	—	—
South Dakota	67	63	—	71	—	89	58	53	83	73	—	85
Tennessee	72	66	88	84	—	—	72	64	93	81	—	—
Texas	72	57	80	82	48	—	62	39	77	74	29	—
Utah	69	64	86	90	70	83	59	52	85	84	61	83
Vermont	59	58	71	—	—	—	49	49	—	—	—	—
Virginia	62	53	82	74	43	—	57	46	84	72	36	—
Washington	67	60	79	86	65	73	57	49	76	80	44	79
West Virginia	74	74	84	—	—	—	72	72	80	—	—	—
Wisconsin	67	62	91	84	64	82	55	47	89	78	61	79
Wyoming	67	66	—	78	—	81	60	56	—	78	—	—
United States	68	59	85	84	52	78	62	50	85	79	39	77

— Data not reported because number of students too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment of Educational Progress, *The Nation's Report Card: Reading 2009* (2010), Tables A-11 and A-12; and U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment of Educational Progress, *The Nation's Report Card: Mathematics 2009* (2009), Tables A-11 and A-12. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.



More than two-thirds of eighth grade public school students are reading or doing math below grade level. For Black, Hispanic, and American Indian/Alaska Native students, the rates range from 79 to 88 percent.

## Reading and Math Achievement of 8<sup>th</sup> Graders, 2009

### Percent of Eighth-Grade Public School Students Achieving Below Grade Level

	Reading						Math					
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian, Pacific Islander	American Indian, Alaska Native	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian, Pacific Islander	American Indian, Alaska Native
Alabama	76%	69%	91%	77%	—	—	80%	71%	94%	90%	—	—
Alaska	73	64	88	75	79%	89%	67	56	83	77	69%	85%
Arizona	73	61	79	85	44	87	71	58	77	84	48	88
Arkansas	73	67	92	81	—	—	73	66	92	85	—	—
California	78	63	89	87	65	—	77	61	90	89	54	—
Colorado	68	59	85	84	57	—	60	49	84	82	45	—
Connecticut	57	49	89	81	36	—	60	51	90	86	39	—
Delaware	69	59	84	79	62	—	68	57	87	78	31	—
District of Columbia	86	—	90	79	—	—	89	—	92	82	—	—
Florida	68	60	85	73	36	—	71	61	87	78	45	—
Georgia	73	65	85	80	39	—	73	61	89	82	51	—
Hawaii	78	65	80	76	81	—	75	69	79	74	75	—
Idaho	67	63	—	89	—	—	62	57	—	85	—	—
Illinois	67	58	90	82	40	—	67	56	91	83	40	—
Indiana	68	64	85	85	—	—	64	59	86	81	—	—
Iowa	68	66	88	82	—	—	66	63	91	85	—	—
Kansas	67	61	86	84	64	75	61	55	85	78	—	—
Kentucky	67	65	85	70	—	—	73	71	92	78	—	—
Louisiana	80	72	90	—	—	—	80	71	93	—	—	—
Maine	65	65	78	—	—	—	65	64	86	—	—	—
Maryland	64	52	84	75	40	—	60	44	85	74	24	—
Massachusetts	57	51	83	83	50	—	48	41	77	79	34	—
Michigan	69	64	91	74	—	—	69	63	95	83	41	—
Minnesota	62	56	90	84	70	74	53	47	87	79	65	79
Mississippi	81	69	92	—	—	—	85	75	95	—	—	—
Missouri	66	62	86	75	—	—	65	61	89	63	—	—
Montana	62	60	—	—	—	80	56	53	—	73	—	84
Nebraska	65	61	88	81	—	—	65	59	90	90	—	—
Nevada	78	69	90	87	72	—	75	64	90	87	67	—
New Hampshire	61	60	—	73	—	—	57	56	—	78	38	—
New Jersey	58	49	83	80	36	—	56	46	83	78	23	—
New Mexico	78	62	84	86	—	88	80	61	87	88	—	90
New York	67	56	87	84	51	—	66	56	87	85	37	—
North Carolina	71	61	88	81	54	84	64	51	88	76	35	86
North Dakota	66	65	—	—	—	78	57	54	—	—	—	84
Ohio	63	58	87	84	—	—	64	59	89	84	—	—
Oklahoma	74	71	84	86	—	75	76	71	90	88	62	81
Oregon	67	63	—	86	52	72	63	59	88	85	50	75
Pennsylvania	60	54	84	88	40	—	60	55	87	82	40	—
Rhode Island	72	66	91	89	65	—	72	65	92	92	60	—
South Carolina	76	66	90	70	—	—	70	57	88	84	—	—
South Dakota	63	60	—	—	—	84	58	54	—	87	—	83
Tennessee	72	66	89	79	—	—	75	70	90	81	—	—
Texas	73	58	87	83	47	—	64	46	83	75	33	—
Utah	67	63	—	87	67	90	65	60	—	89	73	82
Vermont	59	59	—	—	—	—	57	56	—	—	—	—
Virginia	68	60	86	78	52	—	64	56	86	77	45	—
Washington	64	59	87	83	58	75	61	54	84	87	47	77
West Virginia	78	78	82	—	—	—	81	80	89	—	—	—
Wisconsin	66	61	91	85	66	—	61	55	89	80	60	—
Wyoming	66	64	—	77	—	—	65	62	—	85	—	—
United States	70	61	87	84	56	79	67	57	88	83	47	80

— Data not reported; number of students too small to calculate a reliable rate.

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment of Educational Progress, *The Nation's Report Card: Reading 2009* (2010), Tables A-19 and A-20; and U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment of Educational Progress, *The Nation's Report Card: Mathematics 2009* (2009), Tables A-19 and A-20. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Alaska, Delaware, New York, Wyoming and the District of Columbia spend more than twice as much per pupil as Utah but have lower graduation rates.

## Public School Education, Selected Indicators

	Pupil/ teacher ratio Fall 2006	Averaged freshman graduation rate* 2006–2007	Expenditures per pupil 2005–2006	
			Dollars	Rank
Alabama	13.2	67.1%	\$ 7,683	41
Alaska	16.8	69.1	11,476	9
Arizona	20.2	69.6	6,515	49
Arkansas	13.6	74.4	8,030	37
California	20.9	70.7	8,301	33
Colorado	16.9	76.6	8,166	35
Connecticut	14.7	81.8	13,072	4
Delaware	15.2	71.9	11,621	8
District of Columbia	13.5	54.9	13,752	3
Florida	16.4	65.0	7,812	39
Georgia	14.3	64.1	8,595	29
Hawaii	16.0	75.4	9,876	16
Idaho	18.1	80.4	6,469	50
Illinois	15.0	79.5	9,113	23
Indiana	17.1	73.9	8,929	24
Iowa	13.6	86.5	8,355	31
Kansas	13.3	78.9	8,640	27
Kentucky	15.8	76.4	7,668	42
Louisiana	16.6	61.3	8,486	30
Maine	11.5	78.5	10,841	12
Maryland	14.6	80.0	10,909	11
Massachusetts	13.2	80.8	12,564	7
Michigan	17.5	77.0	9,575	18
Minnesota	16.2	86.5	9,159	22
Mississippi	15.3	63.6	7,173	46
Missouri	13.7	81.9	8,273	34
Montana	13.9	81.5	8,626	28
Nebraska	13.4	86.3	9,324	21
Nevada	18.5	52.0	7,177	45
New Hampshire	13.1	81.7	10,396	14
New Jersey	12.4	84.4	14,954	1
New Mexico	14.9	59.1	8,354	32
New York	12.8	68.8	14,615	2
North Carolina	13.8	68.6	7,396	44
North Dakota	12.1	83.1	8,728	25
Ohio	16.6	78.7	9,692	17
Oklahoma	15.1	77.8	6,941	48
Oregon	21.3	73.8	8,645	26
Pennsylvania	15.2	83.0	10,723	13
Rhode Island	13.3	78.4	12,609	6
South Carolina	14.1	58.9	8,120	36
South Dakota	13.4	82.5	7,775	40
Tennessee	15.7	72.6	7,004	47
Texas	14.8	71.9	7,480	43
Utah	22.1	76.6	5,464	51
Vermont	10.8	88.6	12,805	5
Virginia	11.6	75.5	9,452	19
Washington	19.1	74.8	7,984	38
West Virginia	14.5	78.2	9,440	20
Wisconsin	14.8	88.5	9,993	15
Wyoming	12.6	75.8	11,437	10
United States	15.5	73.9	9,154	

\* Percent of 9th graders who graduate within four years with a regular diploma.

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Public School Graduates and Dropouts from the Common Core of Data: School Year 2006-07, First Look* (October 2009), Table 1; and U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics 2008* (March 2009), Tables 66 and 184. Ranks calculated by Children's Defense Fund.

The U.S. spends almost three times as much per prisoner as per public school pupil;  
three states spend five times as much or more.

## Spending on Prisoners vs. Spending on Public School Students, 2006

	Expenditure per prisoner	Expenditure per pupil	Ratio
Alabama	\$ 12,545	\$ 7,683	1.6
Alaska	64,129	11,476	5.6
Arizona	22,346	6,515	3.4
Arkansas	23,929	8,030	3.0
California	31,358	8,301	3.8
Colorado	21,395	8,166	2.6
Connecticut	45,007	13,072	3.4
Delaware	44,178	11,621	3.8
District of Columbia*		13,752	
Florida	19,375	7,812	2.5
Georgia	20,543	8,595	2.4
Hawaii	37,599	9,876	3.8
Idaho	22,419	6,469	3.5
Illinois	20,738	9,113	2.3
Indiana	19,479	8,929	2.2
Iowa	25,652	8,355	3.1
Kansas	26,430	8,640	3.1
Kentucky	19,472	7,668	2.5
Louisiana	10,252	8,486	1.2
Maine	48,482	10,841	4.5
Maryland	38,460	10,909	3.5
Massachusetts	59,594	12,564	4.7
Michigan	28,570	9,575	3.0
Minnesota	23,756	9,159	2.6
Mississippi	13,249	7,173	1.8
Missouri	16,885	8,273	2.0
Montana	29,625	8,626	3.4
Nebraska	19,089	9,324	2.0
Nevada	16,545	7,177	2.3
New Hampshire	27,806	10,396	2.7
New Jersey	34,915	14,954	2.3
New Mexico	32,885	8,354	3.9
New York	31,968	14,615	2.2
North Carolina	28,871	7,396	3.9
North Dakota	38,742	8,728	4.4
Ohio	22,612	9,692	2.3
Oklahoma	17,208	6,941	2.5
Oregon	26,540	8,645	3.1
Pennsylvania	30,668	10,723	2.9
Rhode Island	72,356	12,609	5.7
South Carolina	16,417	8,120	2.0
South Dakota	25,253	7,775	3.2
Tennessee	14,827	7,004	2.1
Texas	16,660	7,480	2.2
Utah	39,238	5,464	7.2
Vermont	30,012	12,805	2.3
Virginia	21,380	9,452	2.3
Washington	34,452	7,984	4.3
West Virginia	35,725	9,440	3.8
Wisconsin	31,504	9,993	3.2
Wyoming	33,448	11,437	2.9
United States	24,354	9,154	2.7

\* The District of Columbia does not have a prison system.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Justice Expenditure and Employment Abstracts, 2006 (December 2008), Table cjee0610, Detail of direct expenditure for correctional activities of State governments by character and object, fiscal 2006, at <<http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=1022>>; U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear 2006* (June 2007), Appendix Table 2; and U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics 2008* (March 2009), Table 184. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

**Black students are more than three times as likely as White or Asian/Pacific Islander students and more than twice as likely as Hispanic students to be suspended.**

## School Discipline, 2006

### Number of Suspensions per 100 Public School Students

	Total, all races	American Indian, Alaska Native	Asian, Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black	White
Alabama	10.113	4.835	3.188	4.289	18.272	5.801
Alaska	5.895	8.209	4.609	5.944	10.014	4.564
Arizona	5.892	9.973	2.609	6.359	11.805	4.462
Arkansas	7.313	4.684	3.492	4.879	15.892	5.011
California	7.507	12.238	3.268	7.876	17.093	5.962
Colorado	6.031	8.652	3.242	8.138	13.153	4.544
Connecticut	6.838	5.218	2.386	11.407	17.182	4.019
Delaware	10.938	—	3.312	9.216	20.058	6.384
District of Columbia	0.360	—	—	—	0.400	—
Florida	10.459	7.170	2.871	7.702	19.334	7.863
Georgia	8.831	3.742	2.110	5.424	15.007	4.798
Hawaii	5.473	5.996	5.528	5.655	7.008	4.879
Idaho	3.585	8.607	1.649	5.105	3.486	3.278
Illinois	6.439	2.906	1.664	5.971	14.478	3.758
Indiana	7.377	6.063	1.791	7.383	17.266	5.957
Iowa	2.963	5.181	1.605	3.190	11.432	2.432
Kansas	5.091	5.807	2.921	6.559	14.614	3.824
Kentucky	6.565	3.791	1.514	3.982	13.324	5.809
Louisiana	10.349	6.791	2.618	4.716	14.643	7.063
Maine	4.565	6.365	2.935	5.732	8.956	4.453
Maryland	7.087	8.543	2.156	12.907	8.176	5.760
Massachusetts	5.563	4.976	2.520	11.952	10.277	4.230
Michigan	8.205	6.754	2.202	7.422	17.782	6.091
Minnesota	3.731	10.016	2.463	5.350	14.432	2.427
Mississippi	10.216	12.689	3.000	4.259	14.757	5.548
Missouri	7.286	6.999	2.888	5.366	20.153	4.573
Montana	4.475	9.597	2.333	3.501	4.919	3.737
Nebraska	3.702	6.712	1.913	5.047	12.584	2.564
Nevada	7.400	6.612	3.859	8.482	15.476	5.139
New Hampshire	5.567	—	2.235	12.104	8.733	5.365
New Jersey	5.670	3.654	1.433	6.897	12.371	3.668
New Mexico	5.265	8.282	2.526	5.388	6.988	3.951
New York	3.799	4.473	0.690	2.790	7.285	3.350
North Carolina	10.763	14.883	2.661	7.206	20.027	6.480
North Dakota	2.173	8.047	—	3.139	5.003	1.478
Ohio	6.246	3.724	2.055	5.970	14.602	4.558
Oklahoma	4.887	3.992	1.778	5.309	12.056	3.910
Oregon	4.942	7.169	2.091	5.479	8.807	4.780
Pennsylvania	6.786	3.425	2.669	8.694	18.903	4.165
Rhode Island	8.380	11.771	7.162	12.576	14.617	6.664
South Carolina	11.882	9.571	2.873	6.500	19.220	6.892
South Dakota	2.686	6.841	2.988	4.310	7.122	1.934
Tennessee	7.240	3.415	2.694	5.351	12.847	5.538
Texas	5.563	3.053	1.625	5.730	12.674	2.887
Utah	3.197	6.859	4.210	6.662	7.759	2.432
Vermont	3.994	—	—	4.121	5.838	3.989
Virginia	7.233	4.039	2.065	5.598	13.939	4.723
Washington	5.947	11.305	3.689	7.158	11.979	5.255
West Virginia	10.206	8.201	2.369	11.208	21.493	9.683
Wisconsin	4.970	13.506	2.119	7.528	19.721	2.714
Wyoming	2.850	6.416	—	3.102	3.168	2.721
United States	6.864	7.931	2.712	6.777	14.982	4.760

— Number too small to calculate a stable rate.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

## A Look at America's "Dropout Factories"

Over 50 percent of our nation's dropouts come from just 2,000 American high schools. These high schools have been identified by Johns Hopkins University researchers as "dropout factories" because 60 percent or fewer of the students in any given ninth grade class will graduate in four years. The students attending these "dropout factories" are overwhelmingly minority and overwhelmingly poor.

- Students in these dropout factories represent a large percentage of the total minority student population in America: 46 percent of the nation's Black students and 39 percent of its Latino students (and only 11 percent of its White students). (2004)
- 20 percent of high school students in the United States are likely to attend a dropout factory. (2005)
- Nearly 90 percent of the nation's dropout factories educate large numbers of low-income students. However, only about one-quarter of these schools currently receives Title 1 funds. (2005)
- 70 percent of these schools are found in just 17 states, and these states produce about 70 percent of the nation's dropouts. (2009)
- In many cities and rural counties, the only public high school available to students is a dropout factory. (2004)
- Around 900 dropout factories are located in cities, and close to 800 are located in towns and rural areas. (2005)
- Dropout factories come in all sizes: 250 are small high schools (fewer than 300 students) and 300 are large high schools (more than 2,000 students). (2005)

Sources: "Locating the Dropout Crisis: Which High Schools Produce the Nation's Dropouts? Where Are They Located? Who Attends Them?" Robert Balfanz and Nettie Legters of Johns Hopkins University, Center for Research on the Education of Students Placed at Risk (CRESPAR), 2004; "The Graduation Gap: Using Promoting Power to Examine the Number and Characteristics of High Schools with High and Low Graduation Rates in the Nation and Each State," Robert Balfanz and Nettie Legters, The Johns Hopkins Center for the Social Organization of Schools, 2005; "The Graduation Rate Crisis We Know and What Can be Done About It," Robert Balfanz and Nettie Legters, *Education Week* Commentary, July 12, 2006; and "Graduating America: Meeting the Challenge of Low Graduation-Rate High Schools," by Robert Balfanz, Cheryl Almeida, Adria Steinbert, Janet Santos, and Joanna Hornig Fox, Everyone Graduates Center: 2009.

Nevada and Louisiana have the highest dropout rates among 16- to 19-year-olds; Minnesota and New Hampshire have the lowest. Almost two-thirds of teen dropouts do not have a job.

## Dropouts, 2008

### Persons Ages 16–19 Who Are Not Enrolled in School and Do Not Have a High School Credential

	Number of dropouts	Percent of all 16- to 19-year-olds	Percent in the labor force (labor force participation rate)	Percent with a job (employment-population ratio)	Percent of the labor force that is unemployed (unemployment rate)
Alabama	20,702	7.7%	50.5%	30.2%	40.2%
Alaska	4,201	9.6	54.6	43.4	20.5
Arizona	31,658	8.9	45.3	34.4	24.1
Arkansas	14,610	8.6	52.1	30.7	41.1
California	140,940	6.2	54.2	37.9	30.0
Colorado	20,376	7.7	56.5	36.3	35.7
Connecticut	10,104	5.0	50.2	31.3	37.7
Delaware	3,501	6.9	65.3	26.9	58.8
District of Columbia	2,596	6.9	45.3	30.2	33.4
Florida	64,834	6.9	53.4	36.1	32.4
Georgia	49,270	8.5	49.2	27.4	44.4
Hawaii	5,256	7.8	55.9	40.4	27.7
Idaho	5,767	6.1	60.4	47.8	20.9
Illinois	43,617	5.6	54.0	35.6	34.0
Indiana	29,902	8.0	58.6	38.8	33.8
Iowa	6,108	3.5	61.0	36.4	40.3
Kansas	7,829	4.8	62.6	48.4	22.6
Kentucky	15,975	6.8	48.1	24.9	48.2
Louisiana	27,381	10.2	46.1	32.5	29.6
Maine	4,461	6.4	65.0	35.7	45.1
Maryland	19,909	5.9	53.9	33.2	38.5
Massachusetts	17,170	4.5	63.2	38.0	40.0
Michigan	36,558	5.9	46.9	21.0	55.3
Minnesota	8,352	2.8	50.3	34.4	31.6
Mississippi	14,322	7.5	57.1	33.1	42.0
Missouri	21,987	6.5	55.5	36.7	33.9
Montana	5,166	9.1	67.6	54.6	19.2
Nebraska	4,721	4.5	78.4	65.5	16.5
Nevada	13,226	9.8	57.6	38.5	33.1
New Hampshire	2,598	3.4	78.8	52.7	33.0
New Jersey	18,352	3.9	52.7	38.4	27.2
New Mexico	11,294	9.5	52.5	42.9	18.4
New York	61,605	5.3	46.0	29.9	35.0
North Carolina	41,259	7.8	51.8	35.2	32.1
North Dakota	2,684	6.9	38.5	27.1	29.6
Ohio	32,245	4.9	54.8	31.5	42.6
Oklahoma	17,926	8.1	59.8	42.9	28.3
Oregon	12,673	6.4	44.4	29.1	34.6
Pennsylvania	37,289	5.0	52.4	34.5	34.3
Rhode Island	3,648	5.7	67.8	30.4	55.2
South Carolina	18,299	6.7	61.2	37.1	39.4
South Dakota	2,758	5.5	67.2	44.3	34.0
Tennessee	22,942	6.7	58.9	34.7	41.0
Texas	105,380	7.3	51.3	41.2	19.6
Utah	12,189	7.0	69.5	57.8	16.9
Vermont	1,368	3.6	51.1	26.6	—
Virginia	19,352	4.4	62.5	37.9	39.3
Washington	24,986	6.9	53.1	38.1	28.3
West Virginia	8,235	8.4	43.9	32.8	25.4
Wisconsin	12,225	3.8	47.3	35.3	25.3
Wyoming	2,004	6.2	51.5	46.8	—
United States	1,121,810	6.3	53.3	35.7	33.0

— Sample too small to calculate a reliable number or rate.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2008 American Community Survey, Table B14005. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Many states and local school districts with high poverty rates receive less Title I funding per pupil than wealthier districts because of an outdated formula for directing funds. Title I, a program meant to level the playing field, instead fosters inequality.

## Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act

	Number of pupils served, 2003–2004	Total allocations, 2008 (in 1,000s)	Percent of pupils who are eligible, 2008–2009	Grant per eligible pupil, 2008–2009
Alabama	321,823	\$ 226,337	13.5%	\$ 2,108
Alaska	24,908	47,060	21.9	1,344
Arizona	403,842	292,505	22.3	1,477
Arkansas	173,293	155,015	19.6	1,363
California	3,254,327	1,883,812	18.5	1,310
Colorado	144,579	147,827	13.8	1,531
Connecticut	105,477	120,892	14.6	1,833
Delaware	37,990	40,431	29.1	2,082
District of Columbia	70,805	48,785	12.5	2,336
Florida	1,033,041	703,197	17.0	1,364
Georgia	639,088	470,040	18.5	1,586
Hawaii	110,474	46,618	11.8	1,731
Idaho	44,845	52,499	12.5	1,267
Illinois	673,508	613,591	14.6	1,225
Indiana	126,868	261,215	17.5	1,850
Iowa	66,219	77,472	15.9	1,515
Kansas	101,481	109,774	14.9	1,574
Kentucky	340,639	223,604	20.9	1,508
Louisiana	390,981	309,163	26.3	1,373
Maine	25,953	54,329	15.7	1,847
Maryland	157,048	198,786	11.0	1,866
Massachusetts	274,244	243,726	14.8	1,763
Michigan	610,029	551,994	18.2	1,727
Minnesota	141,628	133,032	11.6	1,532
Mississippi	317,805	195,828	18.8	1,337
Missouri	200,139	236,207	27.2	1,318
Montana	47,606	46,039	17.4	1,663
Nebraska	55,606	67,513	19.4	1,261
Nevada	67,558	84,215	12.0	2,822
New Hampshire	19,631	40,008	13.5	1,652
New Jersey	304,024	299,771	9.8	2,252
New Mexico	142,218	118,239	14.9	1,769
New York	820,602	1,269,809	23.3	1,387
North Carolina	414,782	379,106	14.3	1,472
North Dakota	19,894	35,285	20.8	2,034
Ohio	503,615	532,497	17.3	1,640
Oklahoma	288,023	155,535	19.8	1,274
Oregon	139,168	155,357	16.8	1,342
Pennsylvania	450,832	590,980	17.3	1,796
Rhode Island	33,992	55,184	17.9	1,807
South Carolina	273,558	214,862	20.7	1,356
South Dakota	28,295	43,805	15.2	2,004
Tennessee	337,325	249,559	19.7	1,380
Texas	2,869,777	1,406,279	22.8	1,352
Utah	78,837	64,928	10.1	1,298
Vermont	31,163	35,190	12.9	1,591
Virginia	181,011	235,732	12.2	2,885
Washington	255,733	214,539	14.2	1,298
West Virginia	90,568	103,392	13.9	1,825
Wisconsin	180,113	206,485	23.0	1,423
Wyoming	2,758	33,545	11.6	3,149
United States	17,427,723	14,081,595		

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development, *State ESEA Title I Participation Information for 2003–04* (2007), Table 4; U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics 2008* (March 2009), Table 379; and Rural School and Community Trust, analysis of data from the Congressional Research Service. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

More than 6.9 million children and youths with disabilities ages birth through 21 receive special education and related services under IDEA.

## Children Receiving Services Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), by Age, 2007

	Part C			Part B		
	Ages 0-2	Ages 3-5	Ages 6-11	Ages 12-17	Ages 18-21	Ages 3-21
Alabama	2,716	7,111	33,539	38,936	5,186	84,772
Alaska	620	1,954	7,827	6,876	878	17,535
Arizona	5,510	14,097	57,025	54,172	5,842	131,136
Arkansas	2,838	11,795	24,311	26,938	2,921	65,965
California	38,530	68,002	273,987	298,052	30,863	670,904
Colorado	4,069	10,802	34,301	33,585	4,389	83,077
Connecticut	4,182	7,660	26,543	31,386	3,398	68,987
Delaware	860	2,264	7,942	8,298	931	19,435
District of Columbia	271	567	3,549	5,834	913	10,863
Florida	11,691	32,819	159,882	178,372	20,019	391,092
Georgia	5,383	18,454	83,152	80,595	7,223	189,424
Hawaii	3,856	2,477	7,497	9,823	644	20,441
Idaho	1,938	3,976	11,982	10,915	1,116	27,989
Illinois	17,765	36,957	129,220	140,099	15,392	321,668
Indiana	9,014	19,530	76,593	73,578	9,375	179,076
Iowa	3,185	5,872	26,700	33,156	3,476	69,204
Kansas	3,210	9,608	27,036	26,142	2,926	65,712
Kentucky	4,237	20,591	48,572	36,221	3,803	109,187
Louisiana	3,155	10,151	38,902	34,677	4,423	88,153
Maine	996	3,889	13,795	15,250	1,491	34,425
Maryland	6,991	11,752	41,664	46,502	4,667	104,585
Massachusetts	15,112	15,920	66,711	76,275	7,841	166,747
Michigan	9,388	24,097	96,472	103,427	12,580	236,576
Minnesota	3,924	14,286	47,447	50,513	7,086	119,332
Mississippi	1,790	8,422	27,796	26,247	3,252	65,717
Missouri	3,450	15,629	57,862	57,381	7,420	138,292
Montana	633	1,971	7,293	8,107	787	18,158
Nebraska	1,361	5,179	20,047	18,295	2,166	45,687
Nevada	1,986	5,715	20,372	20,446	1,799	48,332
New Hampshire	1,658	2,523	11,337	15,718	2,696	32,274
New Jersey	9,389	19,580	105,315	113,232	11,972	250,099
New Mexico	3,589	6,337	18,187	19,353	2,507	46,384
New York	29,765	63,040	168,162	198,598	23,915	453,715
North Carolina	8,237	19,914	84,498	78,231	9,025	191,668
North Dakota	811	1,560	5,721	5,678	657	13,616
Ohio	13,118	23,137	102,462	126,397	17,746	269,742
Oklahoma	3,065	7,617	40,309	42,834	4,563	95,323
Oregon	2,553	8,572	33,605	32,241	3,846	78,264
Pennsylvania	16,029	28,145	109,932	139,348	16,440	293,865
Rhode Island	1,690	2,967	11,286	13,366	1,414	29,033
South Carolina	3,848	10,472	44,438	43,276	5,545	103,731
South Dakota	1,132	2,683	8,331	6,153	804	17,971
Tennessee	4,461	12,264	51,579	51,002	6,080	120,925
Texas	24,869	37,528	183,620	227,607	23,994	472,749
Utah	2,989	8,023	28,941	23,681	2,421	63,066
Vermont	762	—	—	—	—	—
Virginia	6,023	16,845	66,317	76,027	9,307	168,496
Washington	4,573	13,529	54,459	49,706	6,004	123,698
West Virginia	2,951	5,849	20,720	18,902	2,384	47,855
Wisconsin	5,597	14,867	49,526	56,247	5,856	126,496
Wyoming	960	2,842	5,760	5,025	627	14,254
United States	316,730	699,841	2,682,524	2,892,720	330,610	6,605,695

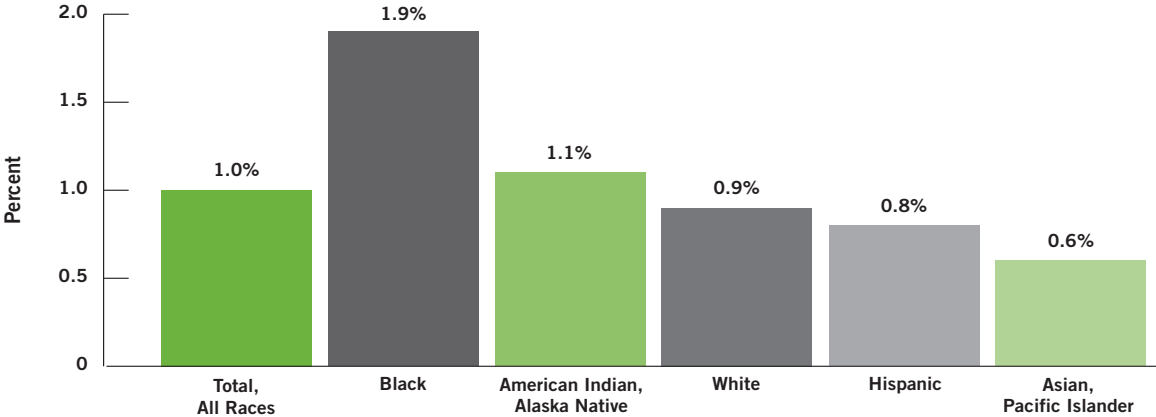
— Data not available.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, Data Analysis System (DANS), Tables AR 1-1 <[https://www.ideadata.org/TABLES31ST/AR\\_1-1.xls](https://www.ideadata.org/TABLES31ST/AR_1-1.xls)> and AR 8-1 <[https://www.ideadata.org/TABLES31ST/AR\\_8-1.xls](https://www.ideadata.org/TABLES31ST/AR_8-1.xls)>. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.



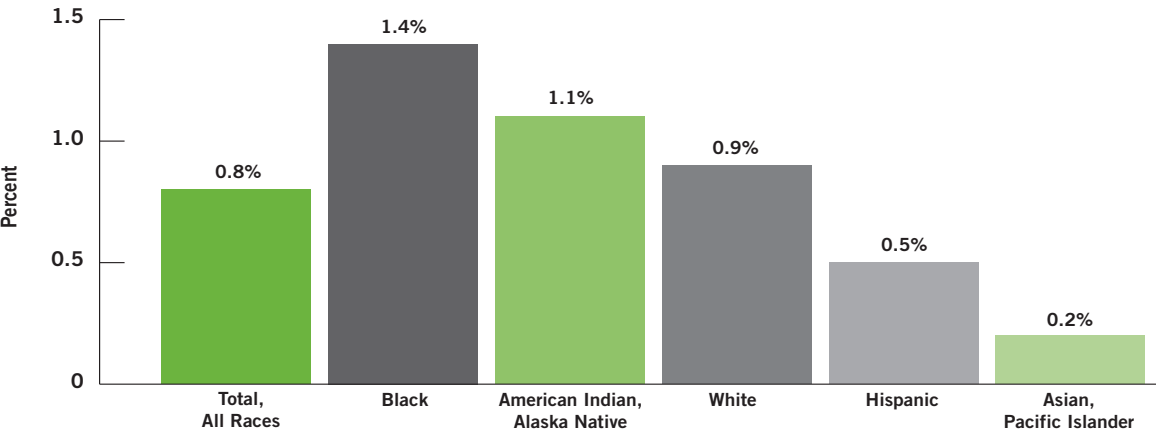
Black students are far more likely than other students to be enrolled in special education classes for children with mental retardation and emotional disturbances. American Indian/Alaska Native and Black students are more likely to be enrolled in classes for students with learning disabilities.

### Enrollment in Classes for Students with Mental Retardation, by Race, 2006



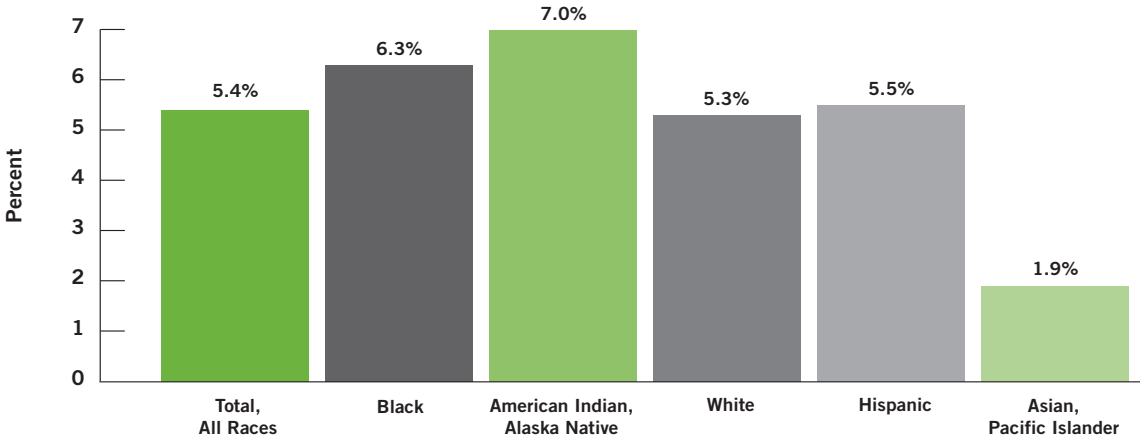
Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

### Enrollment in Classes for Students with Emotional Disturbances, by Race, 2006



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

### Enrollment in Classes for Students with Learning Disabilities, by Race, 2006



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

In all but seven of 44 states, Black students are overrepresented in programs for students with mental retardation, often by a ratio of 2:1 or greater. American Indian/ Alaska Native students also are overrepresented in these classes.

## Enrollment in Classes for Students with Mental Retardation,\* 2006

### Percent Enrolled

	Total, all races	American Indian, Alaska Native	Asian, Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black	White
Alabama	1.051%	0.649%	—	0.378%	1.530%	0.822%
Alaska	0.433	0.741	—	—	—	0.324
Arizona	0.867	1.252	0.511%	0.961	1.447	0.688
Arkansas	1.777	1.064	0.518	1.046	3.399	1.387
California	0.748	0.864	0.842	0.734	1.135	0.629
Colorado	0.440	0.613	0.229	0.563	0.888	0.352
Connecticut	0.445	—	0.240	0.497	0.703	0.394
Delaware	1.764	—	—	1.390	2.953	1.205
District of Columbia	0.597	—	—	—	0.664	—
Florida	1.241	0.944	0.602	0.895	2.358	0.897
Georgia	1.437	—	0.502	0.863	2.201	0.973
Hawaii	0.841	—	0.919	0.732	—	0.516
Idaho	0.667	0.742	—	0.764	—	0.650
Illinois	1.150	—	0.489	0.866	2.329	0.835
Indiana	1.846	2.058	0.497	1.350	3.891	1.595
Iowa	1.213	1.313	0.646	1.292	2.081	1.167
Kansas	0.914	0.753	0.390	0.749	2.070	0.832
Kentucky	2.506	—	0.505	0.933	3.517	2.441
Louisiana	1.281	0.951	0.313	0.429	1.881	0.819
Maine	0.437	—	—	—	—	0.434
Maryland	0.626	—	—	0.620	0.943	0.418
Massachusetts	1.547	1.195	0.793	3.832	5.483	0.793
Michigan	1.593	1.445	0.686	1.294	3.159	1.254
Minnesota	1.044	1.715	0.733	1.067	1.858	0.963
Mississippi	0.864	—	—	0.335	1.211	0.508
Missouri	1.182	—	0.498	0.745	2.145	1.002
Montana	0.771	1.187	—	0.996	—	0.693
Nebraska	1.622	2.789	0.871	1.701	2.615	1.504
Nevada	0.456	0.612	0.390	0.435	0.742	0.406
New Hampshire	0.436	—	—	0.634	—	0.430
New Jersey	0.499	—	0.235	0.648	0.921	0.348
New Mexico	0.546	0.630	—	0.566	0.816	0.464
New York	0.526	0.646	0.274	0.574	0.876	0.415
North Carolina	1.578	2.868	0.499	0.891	2.978	0.925
North Dakota	1.084	1.919	—	—	1.720	0.974
Ohio	1.674	1.712	0.371	1.932	3.233	1.358
Oklahoma	1.112	1.050	0.392	0.792	2.117	1.023
Oregon	0.745	1.098	0.490	0.607	1.433	0.750
Pennsylvania	1.272	—	0.414	1.516	2.127	1.101
Rhode Island	0.711	—	0.649	1.289	1.169	0.526
South Carolina	1.442	—	0.501	0.493	2.324	0.866
South Dakota	0.877	1.568	—	1.489	1.333	0.751
Tennessee	0.757	—	0.245	0.355	0.823	0.770
Texas	0.692	0.735	0.424	0.598	1.299	0.597
Utah	0.626	0.654	0.399	0.667	1.013	0.621
Vermont	1.008	—	—	—	1.926	1.000
Virginia	0.878	0.717	0.491	0.657	1.565	0.613
Washington	0.524	0.973	0.330	0.590	0.789	0.494
West Virginia	2.864	—	—	1.596	3.155	2.877
Wisconsin	1.235	1.651	0.995	1.193	2.529	1.067
Wyoming	0.610	—	—	0.674	—	0.602
United States	1.027	1.107	0.599	0.768	1.919	0.885

\* According to the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD): "Intellectual disability is the currently preferred term for the disability historically referred to as mental retardation." Frequently Asked Questions on Intellectual Disability and the AAIDD Definition, at <[http://www.aamr.org/Policies/faq\\_intellectual\\_disability.shtml](http://www.aamr.org/Policies/faq_intellectual_disability.shtml)>; accessed November 2008.

— Number too small to calculate a stable rate.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

**Black children are more than three times as likely as Hispanic children and more than seven times as likely as Asian/Pacific Islander children to be in classes for students with emotional disturbances.**

## Enrollment in Classes for Students with Emotional Disturbances, 2006

### Percent Enrolled

	Total, all races	American Indian, Alaska Native	Asian, Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black	White
Alabama	0.215%	—	—	0.085%	0.226%	0.221%
Alaska	0.404	0.510%	0.151%	0.202	0.773	0.372
Arizona	0.731	0.640	0.216	0.382	1.568	0.994
Arkansas	0.174	—	—	0.068	0.162	0.194
California	0.325	0.858	0.091	0.174	0.809	0.514
Colorado	0.910	1.785	0.259	0.637	1.804	0.964
Connecticut	0.794	1.555	0.160	0.992	1.238	0.695
Delaware	0.709	—	—	0.397	0.917	0.667
District of Columbia	0.559	—	—	—	0.624	—
Florida	1.111	0.982	0.091	0.600	1.805	1.083
Georgia	1.354	—	0.183	0.358	1.721	1.306
Hawaii	1.118	—	1.051	1.299	1.268	1.392
Idaho	0.506	—	—	0.193	—	0.560
Illinois	1.101	0.772	0.247	0.542	1.888	1.058
Indiana	1.317	1.272	0.219	0.396	2.122	1.288
Iowa	0.855	—	—	0.603	2.324	0.799
Kansas	0.733	0.956	—	0.319	1.318	0.749
Kentucky	0.883	—	—	0.277	1.933	0.769
Louisiana	0.437	—	—	—	0.607	0.314
Maine	1.361	—	—	—	1.595	1.368
Maryland	0.749	—	0.082	0.556	1.039	0.630
Massachusetts	1.137	1.608	0.347	1.569	2.432	0.976
Michigan	1.121	1.280	0.213	0.673	1.482	1.091
Minnesota	1.993	5.677	0.410	1.451	5.084	1.729
Mississippi	0.302	—	—	—	0.271	0.341
Missouri	0.872	—	—	0.332	1.468	0.779
Montana	0.679	0.809	—	—	—	0.661
Nebraska	0.734	2.411	—	0.319	1.825	0.668
Nevada	0.484	0.627	0.140	0.164	0.969	0.674
New Hampshire	1.163	—	0.133	0.580	0.936	1.211
New Jersey	0.694	—	0.117	0.557	1.341	0.614
New Mexico	0.685	0.742	—	0.587	1.147	0.810
New York	1.288	1.970	0.191	1.384	2.692	0.889
North Carolina	0.770	1.204	—	0.168	1.367	0.557
North Dakota	1.044	1.526	—	—	2.241	0.977
Ohio	0.931	—	0.113	0.855	1.742	0.777
Oklahoma	0.809	0.671	—	0.241	1.111	0.903
Oregon	0.790	1.254	0.204	0.365	1.683	0.868
Pennsylvania	1.183	—	0.201	1.036	2.059	1.036
Rhode Island	1.207	3.264	—	1.195	2.148	1.113
South Carolina	0.698	—	—	0.168	0.987	0.534
South Dakota	1.055	—	—	1.291	0.590	—
Tennessee	0.316	—	—	0.082	0.293	0.342
Texas	0.747	1.053	0.150	0.484	1.183	0.967
Utah	0.507	0.863	0.209	0.391	1.520	0.515
Vermont	1.956	—	—	—	1.926	1.994
Virginia	0.795	1.052	0.167	0.454	1.126	0.737
Washington	0.448	0.821	0.119	0.215	1.050	0.471
West Virginia	0.760	—	—	—	1.689	0.719
Wisconsin	1.732	5.691	0.325	0.995	2.844	1.632
Wyoming	1.011	2.308	—	0.895	2.550	0.962
United States	0.845	1.114	0.203	0.460	1.426	0.857

— Number too small to calculate a stable rate.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections.  
Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

About 1 in 20 public school students is in a class for students with learning disabilities.

## Enrollment in Classes for Students with Learning Disabilities, 2006

### Percent Enrolled

	Total, all races	American Indian, Alaska Native	Asian, Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Black	White
Alabama	5.357%	4.113%	1.228%	3.724%	7.135%	4.484%
Alaska	3.692	5.844	1.105	2.381	2.254	3.182
Arizona	5.434	9.013	1.662	5.719	6.588	4.820
Arkansas	4.779	4.836	1.323	3.775	5.441	4.765
California	4.613	5.868	1.473	5.064	7.901	4.239
Colorado	3.898	5.662	1.449	4.579	5.267	3.570
Connecticut	3.719	4.566	0.988	4.419	4.479	3.571
Delaware	8.007	—	2.024	8.576	10.556	6.752
District of Columbia	1.393	—	—	1.780	1.369	1.040
Florida	6.484	6.524	1.885	6.458	6.605	6.663
Georgia	3.334	2.946	1.088	3.384	3.329	3.468
Hawaii	5.046	5.443	5.032	6.424	5.381	4.765
Idaho	4.199	8.558	1.474	4.760	4.835	4.067
Illinois	6.674	6.857	1.919	6.431	7.850	6.638
Indiana	6.122	6.063	1.594	4.487	6.515	6.283
Iowa	7.848	8.792	3.288	7.166	10.378	7.843
Kansas	5.659	6.994	2.631	5.168	7.296	5.632
Kentucky	2.309	—	0.488	1.872	2.101	2.367
Louisiana	4.097	4.757	0.637	2.173	5.383	3.121
Maine	5.420	6.506	2.138	3.992	4.531	5.505
Maryland	3.887	3.745	0.992	5.307	4.237	3.692
Massachusetts	6.684	7.127	2.446	7.574	7.509	6.756
Michigan	5.502	7.563	1.409	6.073	6.371	5.374
Minnesota	3.969	6.405	2.969	5.594	5.793	3.675
Mississippi	5.477	6.250	1.017	2.594	6.558	4.466
Missouri	5.118	4.287	1.514	3.431	6.120	5.053
Montana	5.831	8.102	2.640	6.006	6.114	5.516
Nebraska	5.449	8.249	2.462	4.978	5.413	5.545
Nevada	6.116	10.851	2.291	5.704	9.419	6.110
New Hampshire	6.629	6.346	1.836	7.030	5.047	6.757
New Jersey	6.899	5.592	1.686	7.392	8.962	6.770
New Mexico	6.001	7.237	3.098	6.105	7.816	5.350
New York	6.148	7.700	1.854	6.598	7.432	6.068
North Carolina	4.343	4.805	1.786	4.216	4.733	4.234
North Dakota	5.313	8.934	—	6.475	4.846	4.970
Ohio	5.516	6.550	1.564	5.716	5.786	5.529
Oklahoma	7.326	7.163	2.214	5.950	9.684	7.322
Oregon	5.102	7.522	1.619	4.965	6.342	5.242
Pennsylvania	7.905	6.245	2.121	9.345	9.410	7.692
Rhode Island	7.397	11.474	3.435	9.273	8.637	6.958
South Carolina	6.487	5.701	1.645	4.176	7.173	6.271
South Dakota	5.370	9.508	3.071	5.564	4.998	4.811
Tennessee	4.245	3.610	0.952	2.477	3.302	4.744
Texas	5.068	5.225	1.213	5.230	6.910	4.469
Utah	5.429	10.114	2.948	7.281	7.658	5.092
Vermont	4.725	—	—	—	3.970	4.793
Virginia	5.039	5.760	2.193	6.231	5.964	4.690
Washington	4.474	7.476	2.337	5.727	6.739	4.170
West Virginia	5.848	10.582	—	6.166	6.497	5.843
Wisconsin	4.847	7.671	3.317	4.688	6.366	4.670
Wyoming	5.357	9.116	—	6.732	5.873	5.133
United States	5.353	6.995	1.906	5.503	6.322	5.261

— Number too small to calculate a stable rate

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

**Black, Hispanic and American Indian/Alaska Native children are less likely than Asian/Pacific Islander or White students to be in gifted and talented programs.**

**Enrollment in Programs for the Gifted and Talented, 2006**

**Percent Enrolled**

	<b>Total, all races</b>	<b>American Indian, Alaska Native</b>	<b>Asian, Pacific Islander</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>White</b>
Alabama	5.469%	6.147%	10.221%	2.923%	2.776%	7.091%
Alaska	4.109	1.090	4.961	2.536	2.544	5.769
Arizona	6.319	3.688	14.232	3.545	3.431	9.056
Arkansas	9.548	8.181	10.311	5.763	7.279	10.703
California	8.279	5.845	16.067	4.784	4.259	11.903
Colorado	6.835	4.337	10.408	3.785	4.963	8.205
Connecticut	3.793	4.315	7.328	1.790	2.309	4.308
Delaware	5.616	3.665	13.155	3.539	3.630	6.759
District of Columbia	—	—	—	—	—	—
Florida	4.747	5.008	9.303	4.410	1.964	6.087
Georgia	9.269	9.594	19.277	3.112	4.080	14.056
Hawaii	6.240	4.797	5.785	3.935	2.942	9.742
Idaho	4.194	0.989	6.095	1.328	2.024	4.716
Illinois	5.839	5.132	13.314	3.122	4.152	6.983
Indiana	7.888	3.930	14.128	3.895	4.098	8.675
Iowa	8.204	2.919	12.204	3.149	3.853	8.771
Kansas	3.022	1.796	5.394	0.830	0.960	3.569
Kentucky	14.605	7.172	21.305	5.739	6.959	15.792
Louisiana	3.361	2.657	11.747	3.285	1.562	4.758
Maine	3.221	3.112	5.616	2.252	1.106	3.251
Maryland	16.083	12.580	37.771	14.667	6.960	21.107
Massachusetts	0.682	0.543	1.674	0.474	0.718	0.640
Michigan	3.422	1.203	8.065	1.381	1.863	3.801
Minnesota	8.763	4.612	16.486	5.398	6.678	8.773
Mississippi	6.112	3.693	13.450	4.528	2.900	9.599
Missouri	3.553	2.391	9.097	1.330	1.452	4.013
Montana	5.161	2.115	8.226	3.871	2.249	5.663
Nebraska	11.404	3.120	18.197	3.947	4.811	13.268
Nevada	1.935	1.090	3.078	0.796	0.860	2.953
New Hampshire	2.572	2.058	5.934	0.852	1.077	2.588
New Jersey	6.978	4.762	13.855	3.453	3.493	8.413
New Mexico	3.979	2.070	12.035	2.426	2.814	7.144
New York	2.903	1.522	5.541	1.475	2.433	3.287
North Carolina	10.757	6.205	17.275	3.150	4.261	15.447
North Dakota	2.818	3.333	5.432	1.373	1.720	2.789
Ohio	7.288	5.437	14.024	3.274	4.713	7.843
Oklahoma	13.694	11.845	21.454	6.762	7.419	16.221
Oregon	6.938	3.900	11.121	1.967	3.453	7.982
Pennsylvania	4.518	1.894	9.727	1.712	2.394	4.981
Rhode Island	1.412	0.297	2.262	0.969	1.237	1.504
South Carolina	10.987	8.159	19.287	4.614	5.074	15.945
South Dakota	2.666	1.421	4.232	0.666	0.916	2.924
Tennessee	1.687	1.366	4.204	0.606	0.676	2.047
Texas	7.563	7.093	15.961	5.468	4.354	10.817
Utah	5.018	2.657	11.990	4.137	4.589	4.948
Vermont	0.846	0.000	1.350	1.333	0.467	0.843
Virginia	12.615	13.289	26.392	7.456	5.174	15.616
Washington	3.872	1.393	5.770	1.690	1.446	4.392
West Virginia	2.200	2.910	10.934	0.943	1.598	2.174
Wisconsin	6.423	3.172	6.113	3.528	3.686	7.133
Wyoming	2.157	0.978	6.719	0.920	2.009	2.265
United States	6.675	5.225	13.051	4.184	3.564	8.009

— Data not reported.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2006 Civil Rights Data Collection, projections. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

Only three-fifths of U.S. high school math teachers majored in math.

### High School Teachers with Undergraduate Major in Subject Matter Taught, 2003–2004

Teaching Field	Percent with Undergraduate Major in Field
Arts, music	87.7%
English, language arts	71.0
Foreign languages	65.3
Health, physical education	85.6
Math	61.3
Natural sciences	77.5
Social sciences	71.4

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics 2008* (March 2009), Table 70.

### Teacher Quality in High Poverty Schools

High poverty and majority minority schools—the schools most in need of good teachers—are routinely assigned the most ineffective and poorly prepared teachers.

- Schools with the fewest poor children are most likely to have teachers with advanced degrees.
- Schools with more poor children tend to have less experienced teachers.
- A study of teachers in North Carolina found that teachers in the poorest schools were less experienced, less well prepared and less likely to have a regular teaching license or board certification than teachers in low-poverty schools.

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Characteristics of Public, Private, and Bureau of Indian Education Elementary and Secondary School Teachers in the United States: Results From the 2007–08 Schools and Staffing Survey, First Look* (June 2009), Tables 4 and 5; and Charles Clotfelter, Helen F. Ladd, Jacob Vigdor and Justin Wheeler, *High-Poverty Schools and the Distribution of Teachers and Principals*, National Center for Analysis of Longitudinal Data in Education Research, Working Paper 1 (March 2007).

## State Overview of Education Data

States	States where more than 68% of 4th grade public school students are reading below grade level (G-7)	States where more than 62% of 4th grade public school students are doing math below grade level (G-7)	States where more than 70% of 8th grade public school students are reading below grade level (G-8)	States where more than 67% of 8th grade public school students are doing math below grade level (G-8)	States where more than 30% of 9th graders do not graduate within 4 years with a regular diploma (G-9)
Alabama	X	X	X	X	X
Alaska	X		X		X
Arizona	X	X	X	X	X
Arkansas	X	X	X	X	
California	X	X	X	X	
Colorado					
Connecticut					
Delaware		X		X	
District of Columbia	X	X	X	X	X
Florida				X	X
Georgia	X	X	X	X	X
Hawaii	X	X	X	X	
Idaho					
Illinois					
Indiana					
Iowa					
Kansas					
Kentucky		X		X	
Louisiana	X	X	X	X	X
Maine					
Maryland					
Massachusetts					
Michigan	X	X		X	
Minnesota					
Mississippi	X	X	X	X	X
Missouri					
Montana					
Nebraska					
Nevada	X	X	X	X	X
New Hampshire					
New Jersey					
New Mexico	X	X	X	X	X
New York					X
North Carolina			X		X
North Dakota					
Ohio					
Oklahoma	X	X	X	X	
Oregon	X	X			
Pennsylvania					
Rhode Island			X	X	
South Carolina	X	X	X	X	X
South Dakota					
Tennessee	X	X	X	X	
Texas	X		X		
Utah	X				
Vermont					
Virginia					
Washington					
West Virginia	X	X	X	X	
Wisconsin					
Wyoming					

States with per pupil expenditures below the national average (G-9)	States spending at least three times as much per prisoner as per public school pupil (G-10)	States with more than 7 suspensions per 100 public school students (G-11)	States where Black students are more than 3 times as likely as White students to be suspended (G-11)	States where the dropout rate is more than 6.3% (G-13)	States where Black students are overrepresented in programs for students with mental retardation by a ratio of 2:1 or greater (G-17)	States where Black students are overrepresented in classes for students with emotional disturbance by a ratio of 2:1 or greater (G-18)	States
X		X	X	X			Alabama
	X			X		X	Alaska
X	X			X	X		Arizona
X	X	X	X	X	X		Arkansas
X	X	X					California
X				X	X		Colorado
	X		X				Connecticut
	X	X	X	X	X		Delaware
				X			District of Columbia
X		X		X	X		Florida
X		X	X	X	X		Georgia
	X			X			Hawaii
X	X						Idaho
X			X		X		Illinois
X		X		X	X		Indiana
X	X		X			X	Iowa
X	X		X		X		Kansas
X				X		X	Kentucky
X		X		X	X		Louisiana
	X			X			Maine
	X	X			X		Maryland
	X				X	X	Massachusetts
	X	X			X		Michigan
			X			X	Minnesota
X		X		X	X		Mississippi
X		X	X	X	X		Missouri
X	X			X			Montana
			X			X	Nebraska
X		X		X			Nevada
							New Hampshire
			X		X	X	New Jersey
X	X			X			New Mexico
					X	X	New York
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	North Carolina
X	X		X	X		X	North Dakota
			X		X	X	Ohio
X			X	X	X		Oklahoma
X	X			X			Oregon
			X				Pennsylvania
	X	X			X		Rhode Island
X		X		X	X		South Carolina
X	X		X			X	South Dakota
X		X		X			Tennessee
X			X	X	X		Texas
X	X		X	X		X	Utah
							Vermont
		X			X		Virginia
X	X			X		X	Washington
	X	X		X		X	West Virginia
	X		X		X		Wisconsin
						X	Wyoming