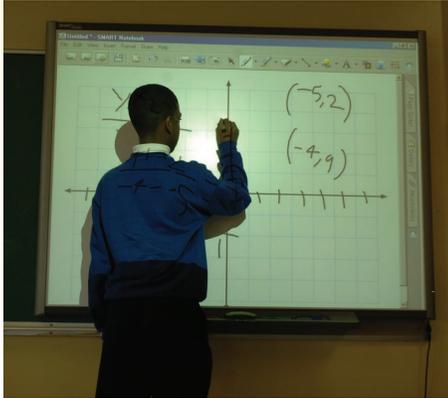


Statistics on Non-public Education in the United States



- About 4.7 million students are in private schools, which is approximately 9.5 percent of all U.S. elementary and secondary school students (2009–10);
- About 33,366 schools are private, which is approximately 25 percent of all U.S. schools (2009–10);
- About 80 percent of private school students attend religious schools, and 20 percent attend nonsectarian schools (2009–10);
- About 68 percent of private schools are religiously affiliated, and 32 percent are nonsectarian (2009–10); and
- About 1.5 million students were homeschooled in spring 2007, which is approximately 2.9 percent of U.S. students ages 5–17, with a grade equivalent of kindergarten–grade 12.

Sources: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Characteristics of Private Schools in the United States: Results From the 2009–2010 Private School Universe Survey, First Look* (2011) (includes schools for which kindergarten is the highest grade, referred to as K-terminal schools, as well as schools for which the highest grade was at least the first grade); and *Issue Brief: 1.5 Million Homeschooled Students in the United States in 2007* (2008).

How To Contact ONPE

Mailing Address

Office of Non-Public Education
Office of Innovation and Improvement
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave. S.W.
Washington, DC 20202-5940

Phone: 202-401-1365

Fax: 202-401-1368

Email: ONPE@ed.gov

Website: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oii/nonpublic/index.html>

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The ONPE Listserv is a free subscription service providing information on K–12 education issues affecting the non-public school community. To subscribe, visit the ONPE website.





OFFICE OF NON-PUBLIC EDUCATION (ONPE)

Office of Innovation and Improvement
U.S. Department of Education

Liaison to the Non-public School Community for the U.S. Department of Education

Independent Private Schools • Faith-based Private Schools • Homeschools

ONPE Mission and Activities

Since the initial passage of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)* in 1965, private school students and teachers have been eligible to participate in certain federal education programs. In this context, ONPE fosters maximum participation of non-public school students and teachers in federal education programs and initiatives by:



- Representing the U.S. Department of Education to the non-public school community;
- Offering advice and guidance within the Department on all matters affecting non-public education;
- Communicating with national, state and local education agencies and associations on non-public education topics;
- Communicating the interests and concerns of the non-public school community to the Department;
- Providing parents with information regarding education options for their children; and
- Providing technical assistance, workshops and publications.