

# Population Characteristics

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## FALL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT APPROXIMATELY 53.8 MILLION

(Advance data, October 1965 survey)

About 53.8 million persons 5 to 34 years old were enrolled in school or college in the United States in the fall of 1965, according to the results of the Current Population Survey conducted in October 1965 by the Bureau of the Census. This represents an increase of 7.5 million, or 16 percent, over the 46.3 million enrolled in October 1960.

The increase in enrollment varied considerably by level of school. The number of kindergarten pupils this fall reached approximately 2.6 million (table 1). There were 32.5 million enrolled at the elementary level (grades 1

to 8), 13.0 million at the high school level (grades 9 to 12), and 5.7 million in college or professional schools. These figures represent a gain over 1960 enrollment figures of about 26 percent at the kindergarten level, 7 percent at the elementary school level, and 27 and 59 percent at the high school and college levels, respectively.

Whereas the largest numerical increase was at the high school level, the greatest relative increase since 1960 has been at the college level. Increased enrollment in elementary and high schools was due primarily to increases in

Table 1.--FALL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION 5 TO 34 YEARS OLD, BY LEVEL OF SCHOOL AND AGE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: OCTOBER 1965 AND 1960

(Numbers in thousands)

Level of school and age	1965	1960	Percent increase, 1960 to 1965
Total enrolled, 5 to 34 years old..	53,769	46,259	16.2
Level of school:			
Kindergarten.....	2,645	2,092	26.4
Elementary school (grades 1 to 8).....	32,475	30,349	7.0
High school (grades 9 to 12).....	12,975	10,249	26.6
College or professional school.....	5,675	3,570	59.0
Age:			
5 to 13 years.....	34,445	32,059	7.4
5 and 6 years.....	6,995	6,438	8.7
7 to 13 years.....	27,450	25,621	7.1
14 to 34 years.....	19,324	14,201	36.1
14 to 17 years.....	13,033	10,242	27.3
18 to 24 years.....	5,290	3,167	67.0
25 to 34 years.....	1,001	792	26.4

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the population 6 to 17 years old rather than to changes in the percent of persons enrolled. Increased enrollment in colleges and professional schools, however, reflects both an increase in the percent enrolled among persons 18 to 34 years old, and an increase in the total population at these ages (table 2 and unpublished estimates).

Enrollment statistics shown in this report refer to the civilian noninstitutional population reported as enrolled in regular public and private schools and colleges by the middle of October, when the Current Population Survey was conducted. The statistics include both full-time and part-time students and persons who were working in addition to attending school. These figures may differ from figures on school enrollment reported by other sources, largely because (1) the Bureau of the Census collects data by household interview, whereas information from other sources is generally based on reports from school systems and institutions of higher learning; and (2) there are often differences

in definitions and time references. Also, enrollment as of October will usually be lower than enrollment for the whole school year because the latter provides a cumulative count of persons who enter school at different times throughout the year.

Since the figures presented in this report are based on sample data, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census. The sampling variation may be relatively large for small numbers, and for the increases in numbers between one year and the next. (See Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 148, for approximate level of sampling variability.) For example, although the data indicate beyond doubt that between 1964 and 1965, college enrollment increased by a greater amount than between other successive years since 1960, the amount of this increase indicated by the numbers in table 2 may differ substantially from the figure that would have been obtained in a complete enumeration.

Table 2.—FALL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION 5 TO 34 YEARS OLD, BY LEVEL OF SCHOOL AND AGE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: OCTOBER 1960 TO 1965

(Numbers in thousands. Figures are rounded to the nearest thousand without being adjusted to group totals, which are independently rounded)

Level of school and age	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
<b>LEVEL OF SCHOOL</b>						
Total enrolled.....	53,769	51,660	50,356	48,704	47,708	46,259
Kindergarten.....	2,645	2,469	2,340	2,319	2,299	2,092
Elementary school (grades 1 to 8).....	32,475	31,734	31,247	30,661	30,718	30,349
High school (grades 9 to 12).....	12,975	12,812	12,433	11,516	10,959	10,249
College and professional school.....	5,675	4,643	4,336	4,208	3,731	3,570
<b>AGE</b>						
<b>Number Enrolled</b>						
Total, 5 to 34 years old.....	53,769	51,660	50,356	48,704	47,708	46,259
5 to 13 years old.....	34,445	33,567	32,971	32,285	32,439	32,059
5 and 6 years old.....	6,995	6,842	6,768	6,651	6,638	6,438
7 to 13 years old.....	27,450	26,725	26,203	25,634	25,801	25,621
14 to 17 years old.....	13,033	13,014	12,517	11,740	11,163	10,242
18 and 19 years old.....	2,930	2,196	2,061	2,144	1,952	1,817
20 to 24 years old.....	2,360	2,048	2,014	1,725	1,468	1,350
20 and 21 years old.....	1,378	1,358	1,269	1,070	936	817
22 to 24 years old.....	982	690	745	655	532	533
25 to 29 years old.....	658	559	518	522	456	514
30 to 34 years old.....	343	276	275	288	230	278
<b>Percent Enrolled</b>						
Total, 5 to 34 years old.....	59.7	58.7	58.5	57.8	56.8	56.4
5 to 13 years old.....	95.9	95.3	95.4	95.2	95.1	95.1
5 and 6 years old.....	84.4	83.3	82.7	82.1	81.7	80.7
7 to 13 years old.....	99.4	99.0	99.3	99.3	99.3	99.5
14 to 17 years old.....	93.2	93.1	92.9	92.0	91.4	90.3
18 and 19 years old.....	46.3	41.6	40.9	41.8	38.0	38.4
20 to 24 years old.....	19.0	16.8	17.3	15.6	13.7	13.1
20 and 21 years old.....	27.6	26.3	25.0	23.0	21.5	19.4
22 to 24 years old.....	13.2	9.9	11.4	10.3	8.4	8.7
25 to 29 years old.....	6.1	5.2	4.9	5.0	4.4	4.9
30 to 34 years old.....	3.2	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.0	2.4