

# Population Characteristics

Series P-20, No. 179  
March 4, 1969

## FALL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT APPROXIMATELY 58.8 MILLION

(Advance data, October 1968 survey)

About 58.8 million persons 3 to 34 years old were enrolled in school or college in the United States in the fall of 1968, according to the results of the Current Population Survey conducted in October 1968 by the Bureau of the Census.

There were 4.1 million enrolled below the elementary school level (3.3 million in kindergarten and 800,000 in nursery school), 33.8 million enrolled in elementary school, 14.1 million in high school, and 6.8 million in college.

Compared with October 1964, total school enrollment had increased by 6.3 million, or 12 percent, nursery school enrollment had increased by 73 percent, kindergarten enrollment by 15 percent, elementary school enrollment by 6 percent, high school enrollment by 10 percent, and college enrollment by 46 percent.

The increased enrollment in nursery school and kindergarten was due primarily to increases in the percent enrolled among children 3 to 5 years old rather than to increases in the total population of

Table 1.--FALL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION 3 TO 34 YEARS OLD, BY LEVEL OF SCHOOL, TYPE OF CONTROL, AND AGE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: OCTOBER 1968 AND 1964

(Numbers in thousands. Minus sign (-) denotes decrease)

Level of school, type and age control,	1968	1964	Percent increase, 1964 to 1968
Total enrolled, 3 to 34 years old	58,791	52,491	12.0
Level and type of control:			
Nursery.....	816	471	73.2
Public.....	262	91	187.9
Private.....	554	380	45.8
Kindergarten.....	3,268	2,830	15.5
Public.....	2,709	2,349	15.3
Private.....	559	479	16.7
Elementary school (grades 1 to 8)....	33,761	31,734	6.4
Public.....	29,527	26,811	10.1
Private.....	4,234	4,923	-14.0
High school (grades 9 to 12).....	14,145	12,812	10.4
Public.....	12,793	11,403	12.2
Private.....	1,352	1,410	-4.1
College.....	6,801	4,643	46.5
Age:			
3 years old.....	317	182	74.2
4 years old.....	911	619	47.2
5 years old.....	3,144	2,814	
6 years old.....	4,097	4,028	1.7
7 to 13 years old.....	28,620	26,725	7.1
14 to 17 years old.....	14,118	13,014	8.5
18 to 24 years old.....	6,305	4,244	48.6
25 to 34 years old.....	1,280	835	53.3

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these ages. The increased enrollment in college was due to increases in the percent enrolled among persons in the age group 18 to 34 and to increases in the total population of these ages, with the increase in the enrollment rate being the more important. The increased enrollment in elementary and secondary schools was due primarily to increases in the population 6 to 17 years old rather than to changes in the percent of persons enrolled.

In October 1968, 13 percent of the children enrolled in grades 1 to 8 were in private schools, and 10 percent of those in grades 9 to 12 were in private schools. The number of students enrolled in private elementary schools decreased from 4.9 million in 1964 to 4.2 million in 1968--a decline of 14 percent.

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. Children enrolled in "Head Start" programs

or similar programs sponsored by local agencies to provide preschool education to young children are counted as enrolled in nursery school or kindergarten as appropriate. 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 interviews, 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 where the numbers shown are small. A more complete statement on the variability due to sampling, as well as more detailed information about the fall enrollment figures, will be issued in a later report in this series.

Table 2.--FALL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION 3 TO 34 YEARS OLD, BY LEVEL OF SCHOOL AND AGE, FOR THE UNITED STATES: OCTOBER 1964 TO 1968

(Numbers in thousands)

Level of school and age	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
<b>LEVEL OF SCHOOL</b>					
Total enrolled.....	58,791	57,656	56,162	54,700	52,490
Nursery.....	816	713	686	520	471
Kindergarten.....	3,268	3,312	3,114	3,056	2,830
Elementary school (grades 1 to 8).....	33,761	33,440	32,916	32,475	31,734
High school (grades 9 to 12).....	14,145	13,790	13,364	12,975	12,812
College.....	6,801	6,401	6,085	5,675	4,643
<b>AGE</b>					
<b>Number Enrolled</b>					
Total, 3 to 34 years old.....	58,791	57,656	56,162	54,700	52,490
3 and 4 years old.....	1,227	1,145	1,033	886	798
5 and 6 years old.....	7,241	7,352	7,215	7,040	6,874
7 to 13 years old.....	28,620	28,286	27,895	27,450	26,725
14 to 17 years old.....	14,118	13,638	13,293	13,033	13,014
18 and 19 years old.....	3,317	3,026	3,176	2,930	2,196
20 and 21 years old.....	1,893	1,935	1,533	1,378	1,358
22 to 24 years old.....	1,095	1,067	1,014	982	690
25 to 29 years old.....	863	781	720	658	559
30 to 34 years old.....	417	426	283	343	276
<b>Percent Enrolled</b>					
Total, 3 to 34 years old.....	56.7	56.6	56.1	55.5	54.5
3 and 4 years old.....	15.7	14.2	12.5	10.6	9.5
5 and 6 years old.....	87.6	87.4	85.8	84.9	83.7
7 to 13 years old.....	99.1	99.3	99.3	99.4	99.0
14 to 17 years old.....	94.2	93.7	93.7	93.2	93.1
18 and 19 years old.....	50.4	47.6	47.2	46.3	41.6
20 and 21 years old.....	31.2	33.3	29.9	27.6	26.3
22 to 24 years old.....	13.8	13.6	13.2	13.2	9.9
25 to 29 years old.....	7.0	6.6	6.5	6.1	5.2
30 to 34 years old.....	3.9	4.0	2.7	3.2	2.6