



Population Characteristics

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SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IN THE UNITED STATES: 1970

(Advance data, October 1970 survey)

There were 60.4 million students enrolled in school or college in the fall of 1970. These students comprised 56 percent of persons 3 to 34 years old. The number of students represents an increase of 10 percent over the 54.7 million enrolled in October 1965. These results are based on the Current Population Survey conducted in October 1970 by the Bureau of the Census.

School enrollment rates continued to rank high for the compulsory attendance ages (7 to 17) and especially high for ages 7 to 13. About 99 percent of persons 7 to 13 were enrolled in school. Similar enrollment rates were reported for white and Negro persons in this age group.

The school enrollment rates of children 3 and 4 years old almost doubled over the past 5 years. In

Table 1. FALL SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION 3 TO 34 YEARS OLD, BY LEVEL OF SCHOOL, TYPE OF CONTROL, AND AGE: OCTOBER 1970 AND 1965

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

Level of school, type of control, and age	1970	1965	Percent increase, 1965 to 1970
Total enrolled, 3 to 34 years old.....	60,357	54,700	10.3
Level and type of control:			
Nursery.....	1,096	520	110.4
Public.....	333	127	162.2
Private.....	763	393	94.1
Kindergarten.....	3,183	3,044	4.2
Public.....	2,647	2,426	9.1
Private.....	536	618	-13.3
Elementary school (grades 1 to 8).....	33,950	32,487	4.5
Public.....	30,001	27,609	8.7
Private.....	3,949	4,878	-19.0
High school (grades 9 to 12).....	14,715	12,975	13.4
Public.....	13,545	11,517	17.6
Private.....	1,170	1,457	-19.7
College.....	7,413	5,875	30.6
Age:			
3 years old.....	455	203	124.1
4 years old.....	1,007	683	47.4
5 years old.....	3,056	2,964	3.1
6 years old.....	3,945	4,077	-3.2
7 to 13 years old.....	28,943	27,450	5.4
14 to 17 years old.....	14,796	13,033	13.5
18 to 24 years old.....	6,681	5,290	26.3
25 to 34 years old.....	1,477	1,001	47.6

1965, 886,000 children 3 and 4 years old, or 11 percent of those in this age group, were enrolled in nursery school or kindergarten. In 1970, this figure had increased to 1.5 million or 21 percent of the age group.

In 1965, the number of college students was 5.7 million but in 1970 there were 7.4 million college students, an increase of 31 percent. Among those 18 to 24 years old, 4.5 million, or 24 percent of the age group, were enrolled in college in 1965, compared with 5.8 million, or 26 percent of the age group, in 1970.

The number of Negroes enrolled in college has increased greatly. In 1965, there were 274,000 Negroes enrolled in college, but in 1970 this number had increased to 522,000, or by 91 percent. Among Negroes 18 to 24 years old, 210,000, or 10 percent of the age group, were enrolled in college in 1965, compared with 416,000, or 15 percent of the age group, in 1970.

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 pre-school 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, AGE, AND RACE: OCTOBER 1965 TO 1970

(Numbers in thousands)

Level of school and age	1970			1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
	All races	White	Negro					
LEVEL OF SCHOOL								
Total enrolled.....	60,357	51,719	7,829	59,913	58,791	57,656	56,162	54,700
Nursery.....	1,096	893	178	860	816	713	686	520
Kindergarten.....	3,183	2,706	426	3,276	3,268	3,312	3,114	3,044
Elementary school (grades 1 to 8)....	33,950	28,638	4,868	33,788	33,761	33,440	32,916	32,487
High school (9 to 12).....	14,715	12,723	1,834	14,553	14,145	13,790	13,364	12,975
College.....	7,413	6,759	522	7,435	6,801	6,401	6,085	5,675
AGE								
Number Enrolled								
Total, 3 to 34 years old.....	60 357	51,719	7,829	59,913	58,791	57,656	56,162	54,700
3 and 4 years old.....	1,461	1,181	250	1,195	1,227	1,145	1,033	886
5 and 6 years old.....	7,000	5,899	999	7,155	7,241	7,352	7,215	7,040
7 to 13 years old.....	28,943	24,564	3,998	28,844	28,620	28,286	27,895	27,450
14 to 17 years old.....	14,796	12,769	1,862	14,452	14,118	13,638	13,293	13,033
18 and 19 years old.....	3,322	2,924	352	3,351	3,317	3,026	3,176	2,930
20 and 21 years old.....	1,949	1,750	174	2,033	1,893	1,935	1,533	1,378
22 to 24 years old.....	1,410	1,305	84	1,347	1,095	1,067	1,014	982
25 to 29 years old.....	1,011	910	68	1,012	863	781	720	658
30 to 34 years old.....	466	416	41	524	417	426	283	343
Percent Enrolled								
Total, 3 to 34 years old.....	56.4	56.2	57.4	57.0	56.7	56.6	56.1	55.5
3 and 4 years old.....	20.5	19.9	22.7	16.1	15.7	14.2	12.5	10.6
5 and 6 years old.....	89.5	90.3	84.9	88.4	87.6	87.4	85.8	84.9
7 to 13 years old.....	99.2	99.2	99.3	99.2	99.1	99.3	99.3	99.4
14 to 17 years old.....	94.1	94.5	91.9	94.0	94.2	93.7	93.7	93.2
18 and 19 years old.....	47.7	48.7	40.1	50.2	50.4	47.6	47.2	46.3
20 and 21 years old.....	31.9	33.1	22.8	34.1	31.2	33.3	29.9	27.6
22 to 24 years old.....	14.9	15.7	8.0	15.4	13.8	13.6	13.2	13.2
25 to 29 years old.....	7.5	7.7	4.8	7.9	7.0	6.6	6.5	6.1
30 to 34 years old.....	4.2	4.2	3.4	4.8	3.9	4.0	2.7	3.2