



# EXPLORING OHIO'S PRIVATE EDUCATION SECTOR

Andrew D. **Catt**

DECEMBER **2014**

**The Friedman Foundation**  
for Educational Choice  
**edchoice.org**

## About the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*Exploring Ohio's Private Education Sector* is the second entry in the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice's *School Survey Series*. This report synthesizes information on Ohio's private schools collected by the U.S. Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Education (ODE).

Assuming the ODE's data are representative of the state's private schools accepting EdChoice voucher students, Ohio's private schools have enough empty seats to more than triple its number of EdChoice enrollees—totaling nearly 52,000 students, just shy of the 64,000 enrollment cap placed on the EdChoice program by the state legislature.

In 2012-13, if all 36,794 open seats in the EdChoice-accepting private schools analyzed had been filled, the \$65.5 million that accompanied EdChoice students would have been approximately \$216.6 million (see Appendix A).

Should individuals be looking to start private schools to serve more voucher-using families, it is important to note nearly one of three (29 percent) Ohio private schools serve grades PK-8 and nearly one out of 10 (9 percent) serve grades PK-12—that may indicate room in the private education sector for more high school providers.

To keep pace with their potential peers, school starters should note that Ohio private schools, on average, have 245 students enrolled, with 12.5 students per teacher and 14.3 students per full-time equivalent teacher. Schools run 6.7 hours per day for 180 days of the year, on average.

Policymakers interested in learning more about private schools should note most are in Cuyahoga County (107 schools) or Hamilton County (90 schools) and Cincinnati (89 schools) or Columbus (46 schools). Policymakers may also want to see what regulations associations place on their member schools, given

more than four out of five (82 percent) of Ohio's private schools belong to at least one association, 55 percent of which belong to the National Catholic Educational Association.

Ohio's private school sector has changed quite a bit over the years. Still, these schools all have one thing in common: a desire to serve more of Ohio's children and young adults.

# OVERVIEW

Private school choice has a rich history and encouraging future in Ohio. It is the home of the voucher program that was declared constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2002 in *Zelman v. Simmons-Harris*—setting in motion the enactment of such programs in other states. And, today, the state boasts the highest number of school choice programs nationwide.

Largest among those programs is the country's first statewide voucher program for students in underperforming public schools: Ohio's Educational Choice (EdChoice) Scholarship Program. It has seen enrollment grow each year except one since being enacted in 2005. In 2013, the EdChoice program was expanded by the legislature to include low-income students, starting with kindergartners. Each year, eligibility increases to include the next grade level.

When compared with voucher programs in 12 other states, EdChoice has the fourth-highest participation level: 17,936 students enrolled in 2013-14.<sup>1</sup> This comparison includes Ohio's other voucher programs: the Cleveland Scholarship Program (enacted 1995; 6,027 students enrolled in 2013-14); the Autism Scholarship Program (enacted 2003; 2,496 students enrolled in 2013-14); and the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program (enacted 2011; 2,204 students enrolled in 2013-14).<sup>2</sup>

Although Ohio's Department of Education (ODE) provides useful data on EdChoice students, including assessment data, little is known about the supply of private schools or open seats available for EdChoice students.<sup>3</sup> For more than 20 years, the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) has conducted its own survey of private schools. ODE also regularly collects extensive data from private schools. This report synthesizes information collected by both, starting with a short overview of the data sources followed by the key findings from the surveys and datasets.

Each data source offers key profile and demographic characteristics of Ohio's private school sector and should provide a healthy foundation for future policy decisions and any debated changes to Ohio's robust private school choice environment.

## Survey Data Sources and Brief Background

*U.S. Department of Education.* The federal government has conducted biennial surveys of private schools in each state for more than two decades. USDOE's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) started collecting data every other school year to generate information on the number of private schools, students, and teachers and to build a list of private schools starting with the 1989-90 school year through its Private School Universe Survey (PSS).<sup>4</sup> The most recent survey—with data publicly available—was conducted in the 2011-12 school year.<sup>5</sup>

Each year the USDOE has asked for information about certain school qualities, such as address and primary contact information, school district and county of residence, grade span, number of teachers, number of students, website, and any school association membership. According to the USDOE's most recent survey report, there are 968 nonpublic private schools in Ohio serving 190,810 students overall.<sup>6</sup> Of those, the USDOE received survey responses from 836 schools serving 174,577 K-12 students.<sup>7</sup> However, those numbers include 133 kindergarten-terminal (PK-K or K-only) schools serving 2,421 kindergartners and one Amish school serving 32 students in grades first through eighth.<sup>8</sup> Although the numbers do not include any ungraded schools, most years do.<sup>9</sup> Excluding kindergarten-terminal, ungraded, and Amish schools, the USDOE received survey responses from 702 schools serving 172,115 K-12 students.<sup>10</sup> Though there is a question in this brief asking which schools are religious and which denominations

are represented, not including Amish schools, Appendix B shows what the applicable figures would look like if the numbers included Amish schools.

*Ohio Department of Education.* ODE annually collects data from all of Ohio's chartered, nonpublic, private schools. For 2014-15, that included enrollment data on 735 private schools operating in Ohio, serving at least 175,690 students. Based on the USDOE's total number of Ohio private school students, it is estimated the ODE enrollment data cover approximately nine out of 10 private school students across the state (92 percent). Assuming the data collection minimized any non-response bias, the data should provide a meaningful representation of the state's private school sector.



# PART I

ODE Datasets 2006-07 to 2014-15

## How many of Ohio's private schools participate in the EdChoice and other voucher programs and do they have available seats for new EdChoice students?

In 2014-15, nearly half of the private schools in the state (43 percent; 471 of 1,045 schools) are registered with ODE to participate in the state's EdChoice voucher program.

Among the other voucher programs, 6 percent of the state's private schools (67 of 1,045 schools) are registered to participate in the Autism Scholarship Program, and 3 percent (34 of 1,045 schools) in the Cleveland Scholarship Program (CSP) and the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program (JPSN). Of those schools, two participate in all four programs, 46 in both the EdChoice and Autism Scholarship programs, 24 in EdChoice, CSP, and JPSN, and 8 in both CSP and JPSN.<sup>11</sup>

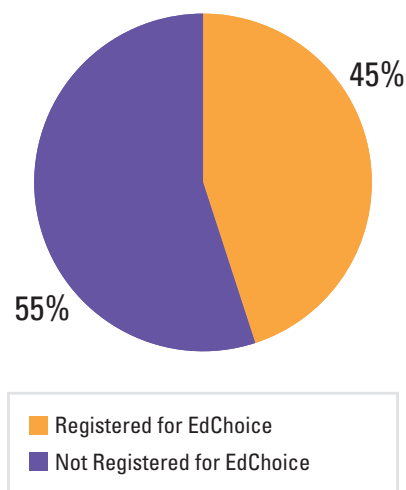
The proportion of Ohio's private schools enrolling EdChoice students has grown over time from more than one out of four to more than two out of five.<sup>12</sup>

Of the schools participating in the EdChoice program, an estimated 36,000 open seats—across K-12—are available in the state's private school sector. Note that is based solely on data provided directly by ODE on 334 EdChoice-accepting schools.<sup>13</sup>

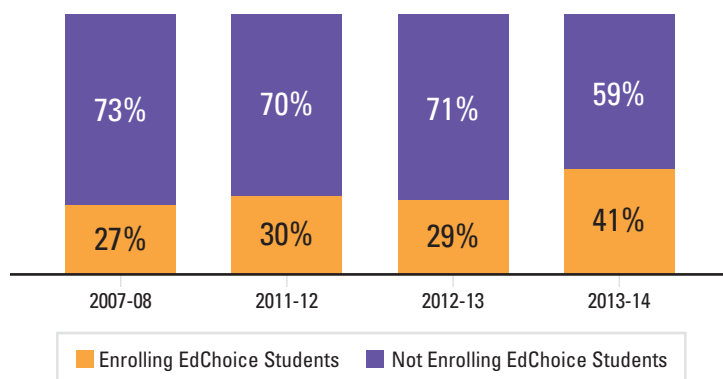
Ohio Private Schools Registered to Accept Vouchers (2014-15)

Voucher Program	Number of Registered Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
EdChoice Scholarship	471	45%
Autism Scholarship	67	6%
Cleveland Scholarship	34	3%
Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship	34	3%
None	547	52%

Proportion of Ohio Private Schools Registered to Enroll EdChoice Students (2014-15)



Ohio Private Schools Enrolling EdChoice Students (2007-08 to 2013-14)

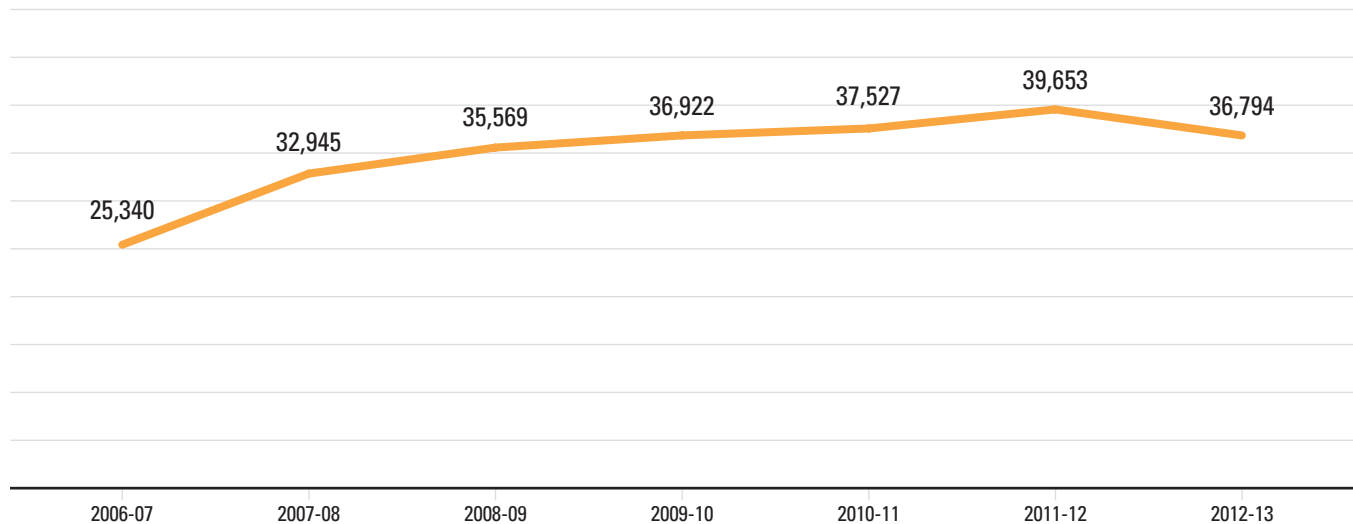


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Open Seats in EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools (2006-07 to 2012-13)

School Year	Average Daily Membership	Number of Open Seats	Number of EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools with Capacity Data Available	Average Number of Open Seats Per EdChoice-Accepting Private School
2006-07	74,695	25,340	250	101
2007-08	92,298	32,945	336	98
2008-09	91,467	35,569	326	109
2009-10	88,816	36,922	323	114
2010-11	87,904	37,527	323	116
2011-12	87,530	39,653	335	118
2012-13	86,903	36,794	334	110

Number of Open Seats in EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools (2006-07 to 2012-13)



## What geographic areas have the most open seats in EdChoice-accepting private schools?

Cincinnati, Hamilton County, and Cincinnati City School District had the most open seats in K-12 schools registered to participate in the EdChoice program in 2012-13.

Cuyahoga County had 80 percent the open seats Hamilton County had. Franklin and Lucas counties had approximately three-fifths the open seats Hamilton County had (64 percent and 56 percent, respectively). Montgomery County was the only other county with more than 2,000 open seats in K-12 schools registered for EdChoice in 2012-13. See Appendix A for open private school seats in each city, county, and district.

Private schools in Columbus City School District and Toledo City School District had approximately two-thirds the open seats (69 percent) Cincinnati City School District had (69 percent and 63 percent, respectively).<sup>14</sup>

Top 10 Ohio Cities Having Largest Number of Open Seats for EdChoice Students (2012-13)

City	Number of Open Seats in EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools
Cincinnati	5,680
Toledo	3,337
Columbus	2,796
Dayton	1,734
Cleveland	1,633
Canton	1,497
Lima	1,466
Elyria	1,064
Akron	864
Youngstown	708

Top 10 Ohio Counties Having Largest Number of Open Seats for EdChoice Students (2012-13)

County	Number of Open Seats in EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools
Hamilton	6,377
Cuyahoga	5,122
Franklin	4,062
Lucas	3,553
Montgomery	2,909
Stark	1,914
Lorain	1,462
Summit	1,422
Allen	1,213
Trumbull	1,147

Top 10 Ohio Public School Districts Having Largest Number of Open Seats for EdChoice Students (2012-13)

Public School District	Number of Open Seats in EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools
Cincinnati City	3,446
Columbus City School District	2,361
Toledo City	2,172
Cleveland Municipal	1,685
Elyria City Schools	1,064
Dayton City	915
Shawnee Local	681
Lima City	623
Akron City	581
Perry Local	560

## What geographic areas have the most private schools registered to participate in the EdChoice program?

Approximately one out of five (20 percent) of the state's EdChoice-accepting private schools are located in Cincinnati or Columbus (93 of 471 schools).

More than one-quarter (27 percent) of the state's private schools registered for the EdChoice program are in Cuyahoga or Hamilton counties (125 of 471 schools).

Nearly one out of five (18 percent) of the state's private schools accepting EdChoice students are in the Cincinnati City, Columbus City School District, or Cleveland Municipal public school district (84 of 471 schools).<sup>15</sup>

Top 11 Ohio Cities Having Largest Number of EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools (2014-15)

City	Number of EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools
Cincinnati	58
Columbus	35
Cleveland	27
Toledo	21
Dayton	14
Akron	10
Canton	8
Springfield	8
Youngstown	8
Elyria	7
Lima	7

Top 10 Ohio Counties Having Largest Number of EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools (2014-15)

County	Number of EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools
Cuyahoga	65
Hamilton	60
Franklin	50
Lucas	27
Montgomery	25
Summit	23
Stark	17
Lorain	11
Mahoning	10
Clark	9

Top 10 Ohio Public School Districts Having Largest Number of EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools (2014-15)

Public School District	Number of EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools
Cincinnati City	31
Columbus City School District	27
Cleveland Municipal	26
Toledo City	12
Akron City	8
Youngstown City Schools	8
Dayton City	7
Parma City	7
Elyria City Schools	6
Northwest Local	6

## What is the cost of tuition among EdChoice-accepting private schools?

Half of private schools for which tuition data are available charge \$4,600 or less for elementary and middle school grades. More than half of private schools for which tuition data are available charge less than \$8,000 for high school grades.<sup>16</sup> It appears there are some especially expensive schools at all levels that create the gaps between “average” and “median” private school tuition rates seen in the accompanying table.

Tuition Amounts for EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools (2014-15)

Grade(s)	Average Tuition	Median Tuition
Kindergarten	\$5,755	\$4,500
1-5	\$5,200	\$4,550
6-8	\$5,298	\$4,600
9-12	\$8,058	\$7,900

## What proportion of EdChoice-accepting private schools offer some form of financial assistance?

More than three out of four (77 percent) of the state’s EdChoice-accepting private schools for which tuition data are available provide some form of tuition discount. The majority of EdChoice-accepting schools (56 percent) include a multi-child discount.<sup>17</sup>

Discounts Provided by EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools (2014-15)

Form of Discount	Number of EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools	Percentage of EdChoice-Accepting Private Schools
Multi-Child	169	56%
Parishioner/Member	129	42%
Employee	106	35%
Early Registration	15	5%
Other	64	21%
No Discount	71	23%

# PART II

U.S. Department of Education:  
PSS Datasets 1989-1990 to 2011-12

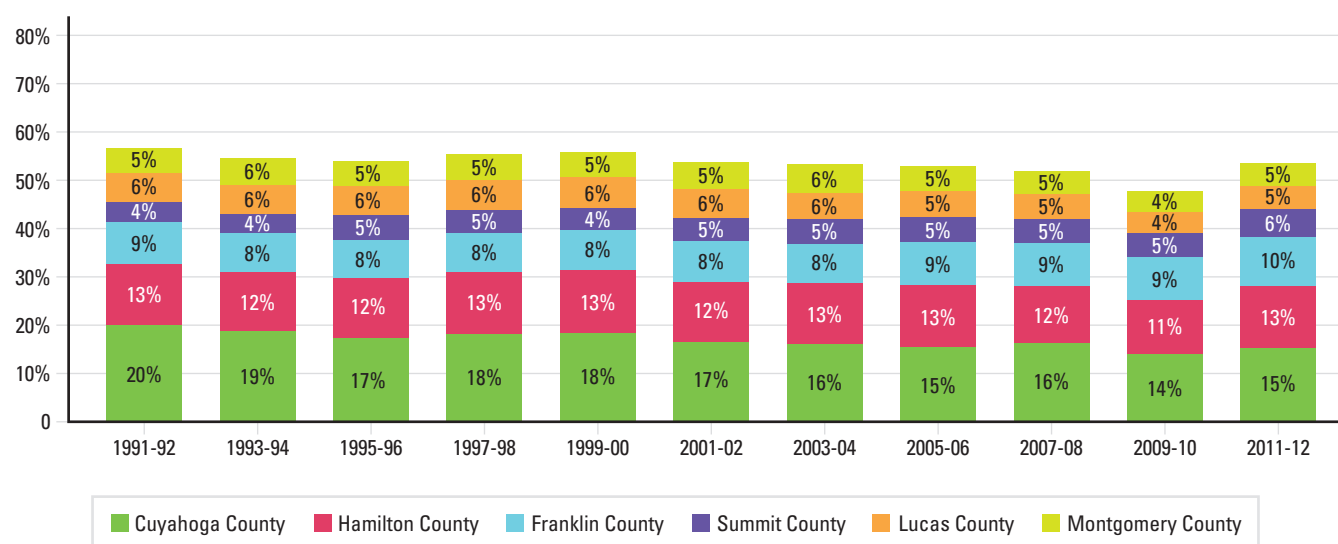
## What geographic areas have the most private schools?

Generally speaking, these three areas represent the cradles of private schools spread out across Ohio: Cuyahoga County has approximately 15 percent of the state's private schools (107 of 702 schools), Hamilton County has approximately 13 percent (90 of 702 schools), and Franklin County has approximately 10 percent (71 of 702 schools). However, Cuyahoga County's proportion of the state's private schools has decreased over time.<sup>18</sup>

Top 10 Ohio Counties Having Largest Number of Private Schools (2011-12)

County	Number of Private Schools	Number of Private School Students
Cuyahoga	107	32,080
Hamilton	90	28,899
Franklin	71	20,669
Summit	39	10,361
Lucas	34	10,989
Montgomery	34	9,594
Stark	17	3,304
Lorain	14	4,324
Mahoning	14	3,302
Butler	13	3,082

Proportion of Ohio Private Schools by County (1991-92 to 2011-12)





## What types of communities have the most private schools?

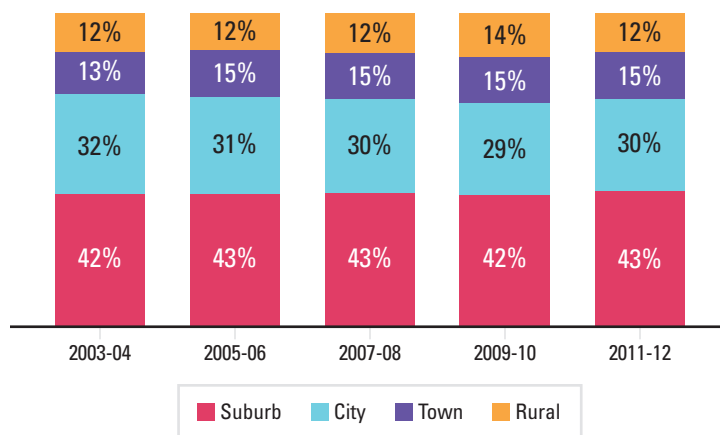
More than two out of five (43 percent) Ohio private schools are in a suburban area (304 of 702 schools) and nearly one out of three (30 percent) are in a city (208 of 702 schools). However, 52 percent of Ohio's private school *students* attend school in a suburban area, compared with 32 percent in a city, 8 percent in a town, and 7 percent in a rural area.

The distribution of Ohio's private schools by community type has differed little over time. However, there has been a slight increase in the share of schools in towns and a small drop in the share of schools in cities.

Ohio Private Schools by Community Type (2011-12)

Community Type	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
Suburb	304	43%
City	208	30%
Town	106	15%
Rural	84	12%

Proportion of Ohio Private Schools by Community Type (2003-04 to 2011-12)



## Which cities have the most private schools?

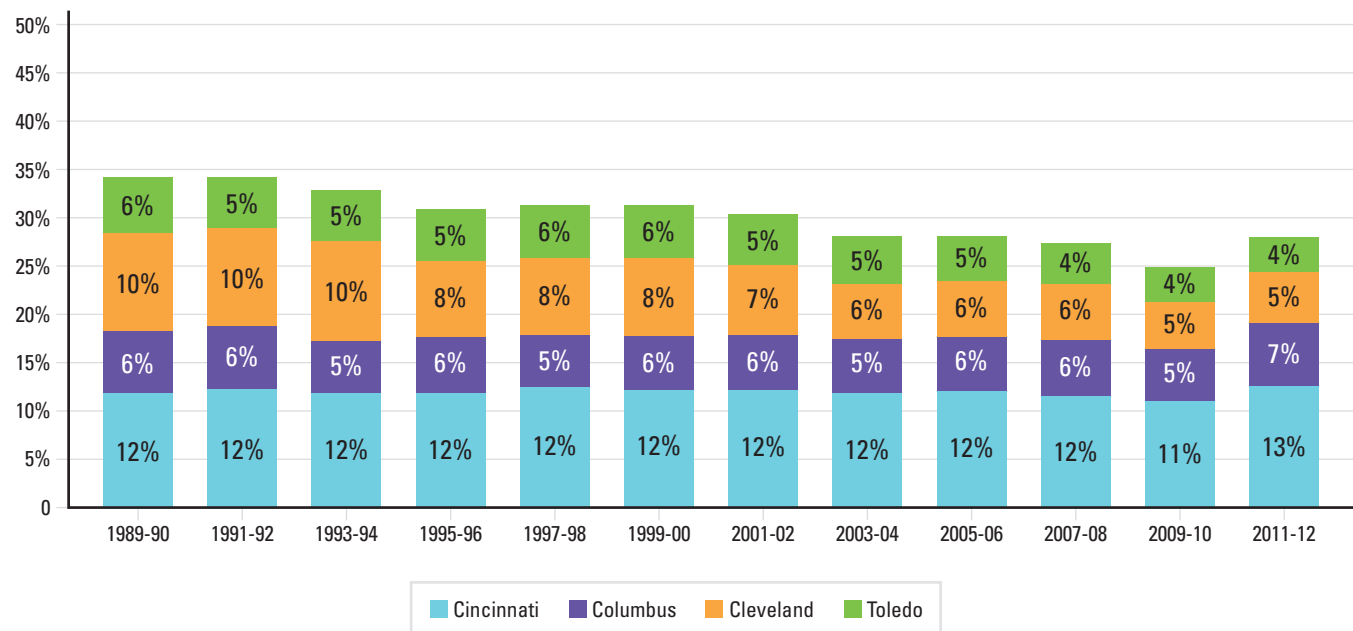
Approximately one-quarter (24 percent) of the state's private schools are in Cincinnati, Columbus, or Cleveland (171 of 702 schools).

The percentage of the state's private schools in Cincinnati and Columbus has fluctuated over time but has remained fairly consistent. The concentrations of schools in Cleveland and Toledo have decreased overall, with the percentage of schools in Cleveland being half of what it used to be. Those four areas have contained anywhere from one-quarter (25 percent in 2009-10) to approximately one-third (34 percent in 1989-90 and 1991-92) of the state's private schools over time.

Top 10 Ohio Cities Having Largest Number of Private Schools (2011-12)

City	Number of Private Schools	Number of Private School Students
Cincinnati	89	29,180
Columbus	46	11,702
Cleveland	36	9,238
Toledo	26	8,929
Dayton	21	5,355
Akron	19	4,492
Youngstown	12	2,936
Parma	10	3,113
Springfield	9	1,717
Lima	9	1,287

Proportion of Ohio Private Schools by City (1989-90 to 2011-12)

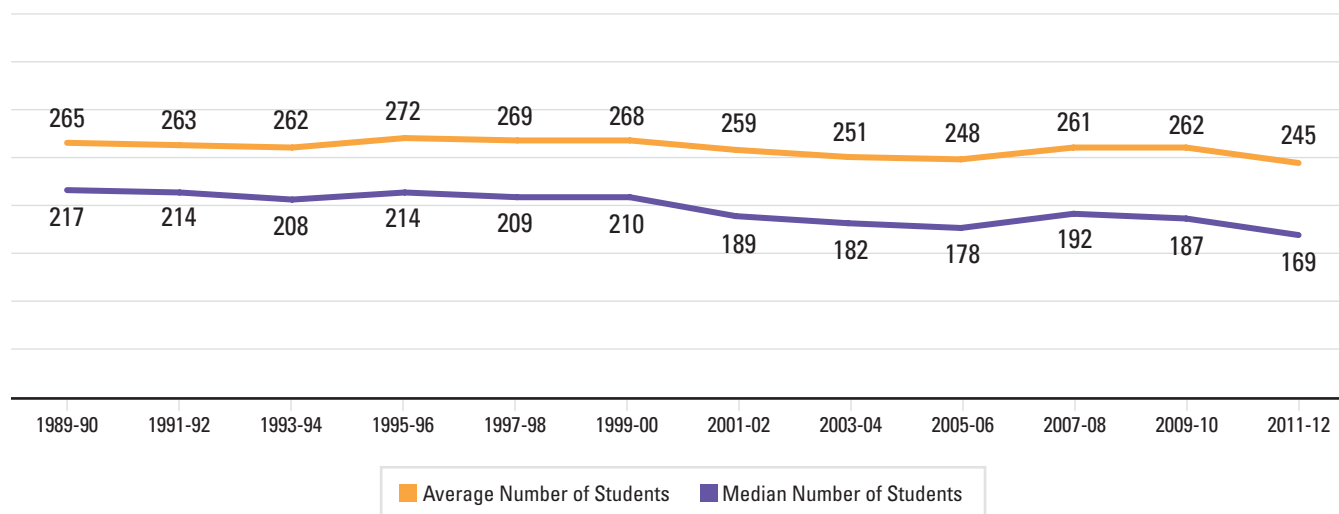


## What is the state's average and median private school size (enrollment)?

The average private school size in Ohio is 245 K-12 students, and the median private school size is 169 K-12 students (half of all private schools are above/below that enrollment number). The reason the median is so much lower than the average is most likely a result of there being 36 schools with fewer than 20 K-12 students.

After a very slight decline in the state's average private school size in the early 1990s, it increased to 272 students before a fluctuating decline to what it is today. The state's median private school size experienced a similar fluctuation. Speculative reasons for the change could be anything from a greater number of schools with fewer than 20 K-12 students responding in some years more than others to some schools with separate schooling levels (K-6 and 7-12) merging.

Enrollments of Ohio Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



## What are the most common grade spans for Ohio's private schools?

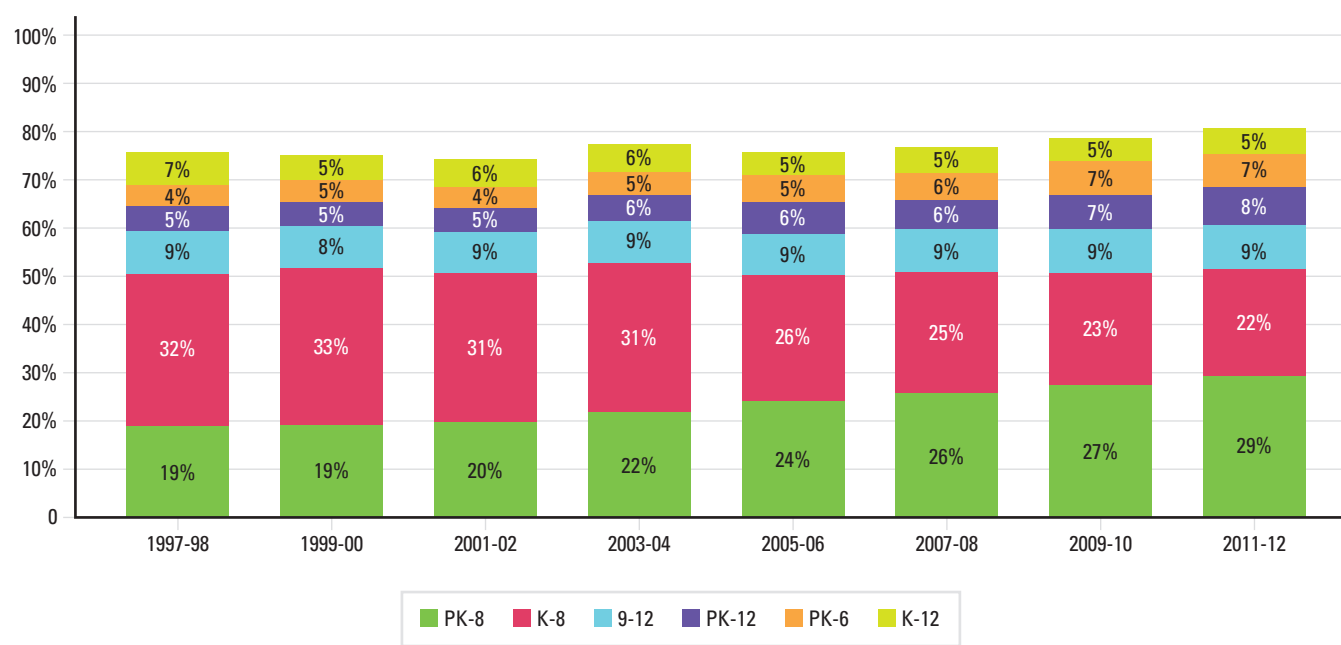
Nearly one out of three (29 percent) private schools (206 of 702 schools) has the grade span of pre-kindergarten through eighth grade (PK-8). More than one out of five (22 percent) private schools (156 of 702 schools) have the grade span of kindergarten through eighth grade (K-8). The numbers for those spans are significantly higher than the number of private schools in the state that span 9-12, PK-12, PK-6, and K-12 (9 percent, 8 percent, 7 percent, and 5 percent, respectively). The 702 private schools in Ohio have at least 46 different grade spans of the possible 102 combinations analyzed.

Although schools with the grade span of PK-8 account for between one out of three and one out of four of the private schools in Ohio (29 percent), they used to represent fewer than one out of five (19 percent). This may be explained by schools serving grades K-8 adding PK, since the percent of schools with this grade span used to be 32 percent but decreased to 22 percent.

10 Most Common Grade Spans of Ohio Private Schools (2011-12)

Grade Span	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
PK-8	206	29%
K-8	156	22%
9-12	64	9%
PK-12	57	8%
PK-6	48	7%
K-12	37	5%
7-12	14	2%
PK-5	11	2%
K-6	10	1%
1-8	9	1%

Most Common Grade Spans of Ohio Private Schools (1997-98 to 2011-12)



## What proportion of the state's private schools also offer pre-kindergarten? How many schools?

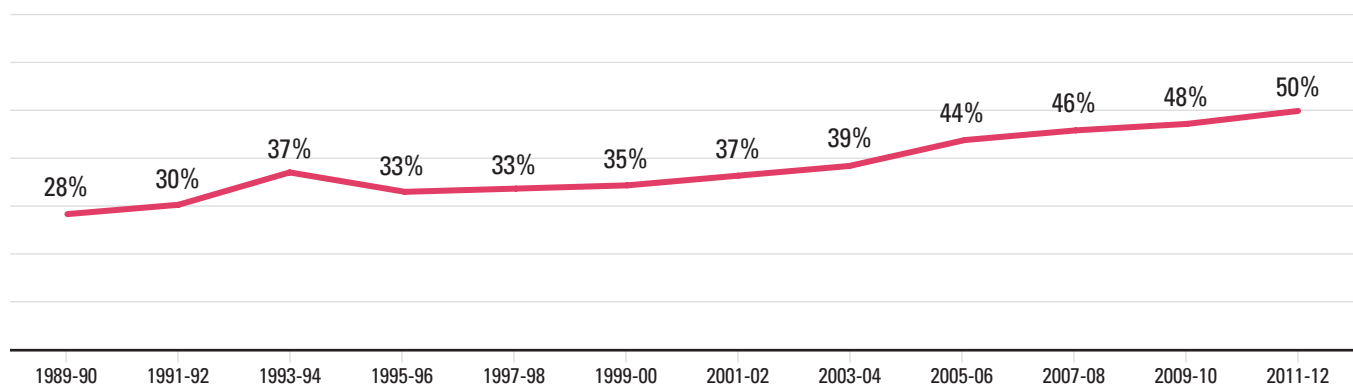
An estimated 351 private schools in Ohio offer pre-kindergarten, representing half of the state's private schools. By comparison, 992 public schools in Ohio provide pre-kindergarten, representing a little more than one out of four (28 percent) of the state's public schools.<sup>19</sup>

The share of private schools offering PK jumped from more than one out of four (28 percent) in 1989-90 to nearly two out of five (37 percent) in 1993-94 before decreasing to one out of three (33 percent) in 1995-96 then increasing to what it is today. This suggests an increase in demand of PK over time.

Ohio Private Schools Offering Pre-Kindergarten (2011-12)

Offer PK	Number of Public Schools	Percent of State's Public Schools	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
Yes	992	28%	351	50%
No	2,577	72%	351	50%

Proportion of Ohio Private Schools Offering Pre-Kindergarten (1989-90 to 2011-12)



## What is the racial makeup of the state's private schools?

Approximately eight of 10 Ohio private school students (80 percent) are white compared with 78 percent of Ohio's public school students identified as white.<sup>20</sup>

From 2005-06 to 2011-12, the population size of Ohio's white private school students fell by 25 percent, compared with Ohio's white public school students decreasing by 5 percent and the overall size of Ohio's white citizenry dropping by 2 percent from 2006 to 2012.

Conversely, the state's number of black private school students increased by 3 percent, compared with Ohio's black public school students decreasing by 6 percent and the overall size of Ohio's black citizenry increasing by 3 percent. Meanwhile, Hispanic private school students increased 7 percent, while the state's population of Hispanic public school students increased 52 percent and the state's Hispanic citizen population increased 41 percent.

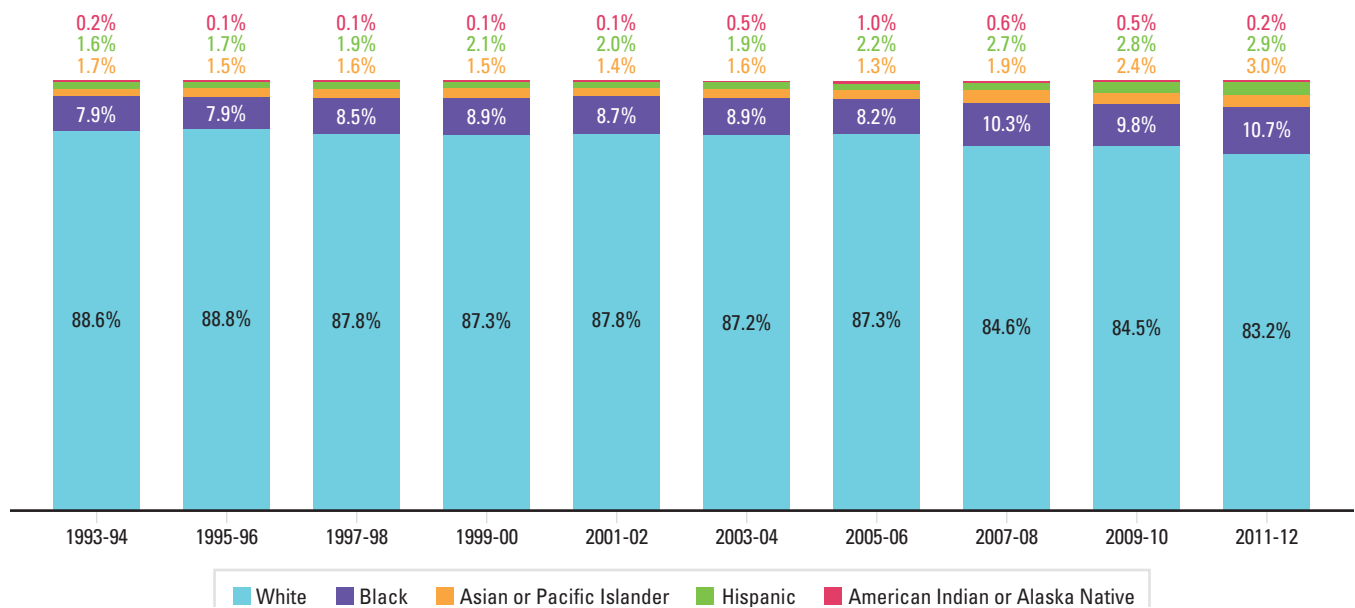
During these same timeframes, the state's population of Asian or Pacific Islander private school students increased 83 percent, while the population of similar public school students increased 26 percent and the population of similar Ohio citizens increased 16 percent. The population of American Indian or Alaska Native private school students decreased 88 percent; the state's population of similar public school students increased 54 percent, and the population of similar citizens in Ohio decreased 11 percent.<sup>21</sup>

*Continued*

### Ohio Students by Race and Ethnicity (2011-12)

	Number of Private School Students	Percent of State's Private School Students	Number of Public School Students	Percent of State's Public School Students
White	134,657	80.4%	1,399,218	74.7%
Black	17,318	10.3%	289,983	15.5%
Two or More	5,729	3.4%	79,069	4.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4,803	2.9%	31,931	1.7%
Hispanic or Latino	4,748	2.8%	69,358	3.7%
American Indian/Alaska Native	244	0.1%	2,658	0.1%

### Racial and Ethnic Composition of Ohio Private Schools (1993-94 to 2011-12)



## How long is each year and day for students attending the state's private schools?

Students attend Ohio's private schools for approximately 6.7 hours per day for 180 days of the year, on average.

Although the median number of school days per year has remained constant over time, the average number has somewhat fluctuated over time. This implies there may be a portion of schools with more than 180 school days per year that have adjusted the length of their school year over time; though this also could be explained by different schools responding to the survey in different years.

Since the early 1990s, private schools have gradually increased the length of their school day by a modest amount. The median number of hours per school day started at 6.0 in the early 1990s and increased to 6.7 in 2009-10, which was the year after the average number of hours per school day increased to 6.7.

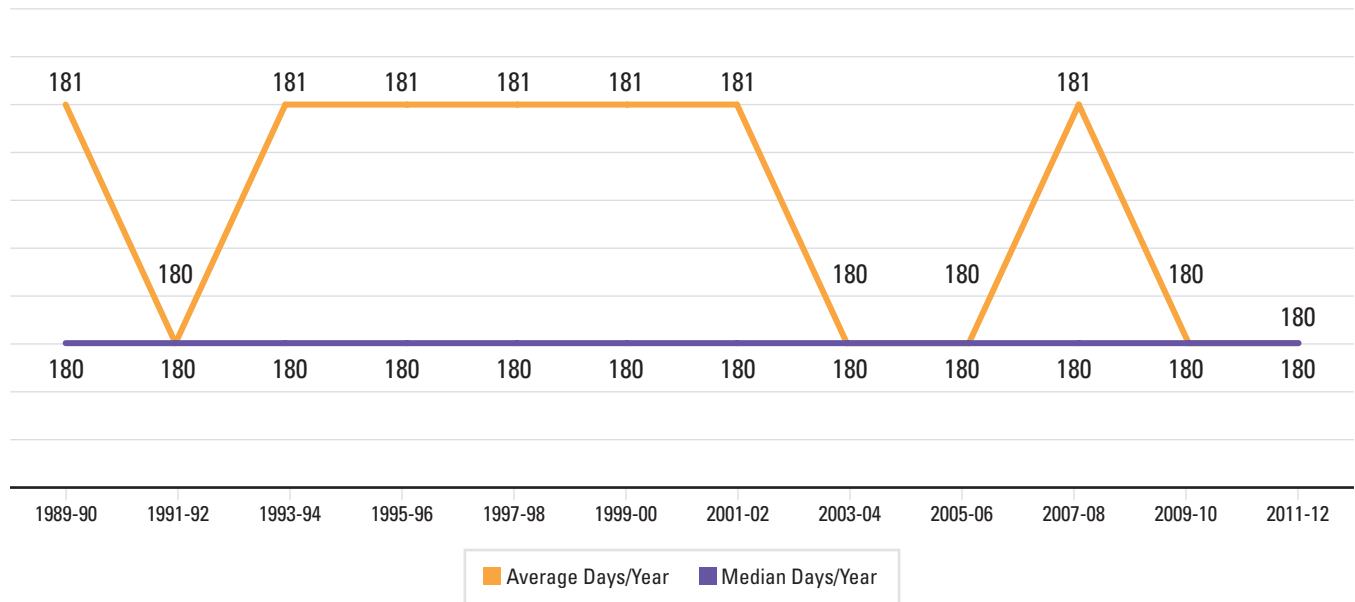
Length of School Year and Day for Ohio Private Schools (2011-12)

	Average	Median
Number of School Days/Year	180	180
Number of School Hours/Day	6.7	6.7

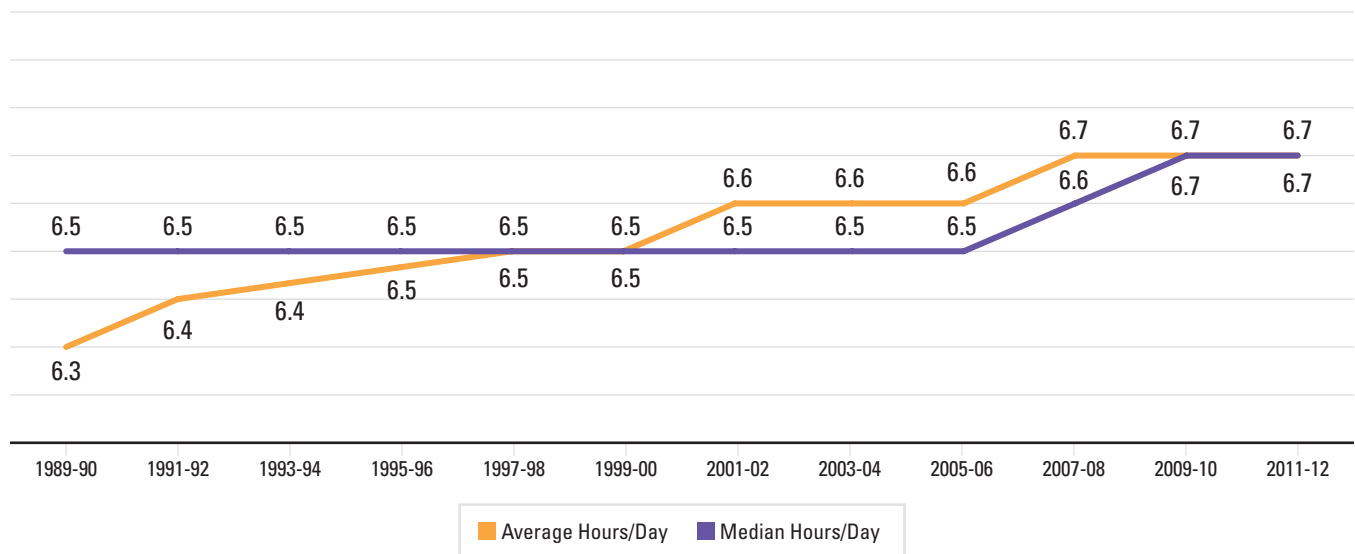


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School Days Per Year in Ohio Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



School Hours Per Day in Ohio Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



## What is the average class size in Ohio schools?

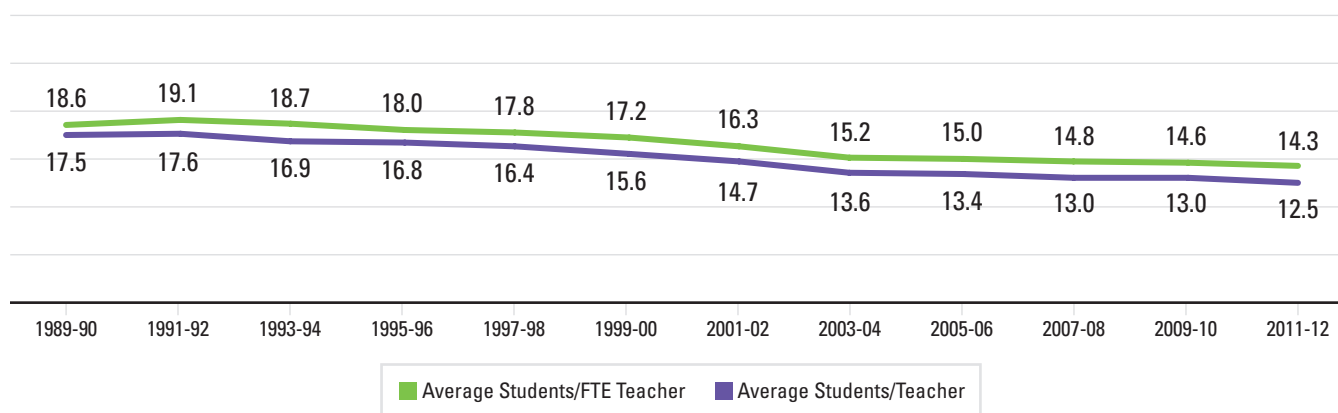
On average, there are nearly 13 students per teacher (12.5:1) in Ohio's private schools. However, when considering only full-time equivalent teachers, this increases to more than 14 students per teacher (14.3:1). By comparison, there are 18 students per teacher (18.0:1) in Ohio's public schools.<sup>22</sup>

Since the early 1990s, private schools have gradually increased the number of teachers per student, including all teachers and their full-time equivalent. Though the average number of students per teacher has decreased over time (17.5:1 to 12.5:1), the average number of students per full-time equivalent teachers increased from 18.6:1 to 19.1:1 in the early 1990s before declining to the most recent level (14.3:1).

Student-Teacher Ratios in Ohio Schools (2011-12)

	Average	Median
Number of Students/FTE Teacher (Public)	18.0	17.6
Number of Students/FTE Teacher (Private)	14.3	14.0
Number of Students/Teacher (Private)	12.5	12.6

Student-Teacher Ratios in Ohio Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



## How many private schools are religious and what denominations are represented?

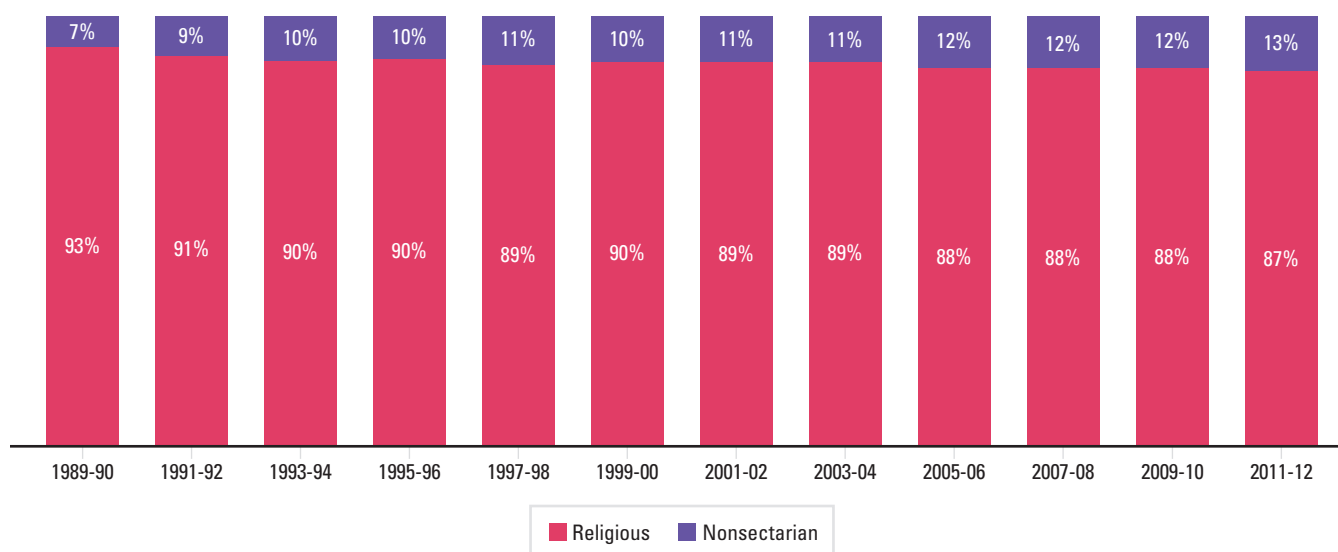
Nearly nine of 10 Ohio private schools are religious in origin (87 percent; 612 of 702 schools). Ohio's private schools have consistently been mostly religious in origin, although the population of nonsectarian schools has grown from 7 percent to 13 percent of the state's total private school marketplace. Of those schools that are religious, most are Roman Catholic (63 percent; 386 of 612 schools).

Of the top five denominations, the percent of non-denominational Christian schools has grown the most (64 of 872 schools in 1989-90; 76 of 702 in 2011-12). The percent of Ohio's private schools that self-identify as Roman Catholic has decreased from nearly two out of three in 1989-90 (63 percent; 550 of 872 schools) to a little more than one out of two (55 percent; 386 of 702 schools). On average, over time, more than three out of four private schools (78 percent) in Ohio have belonged to one of these five denominations: Roman Catholic, Christian (no specific denomination), Baptist, Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, and Jewish.

Religiosity of Ohio Private Schools (2011-12)

School Type	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
Religious	612	87%
Nonsectarian	90	13%

Religiosity of Ohio Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)

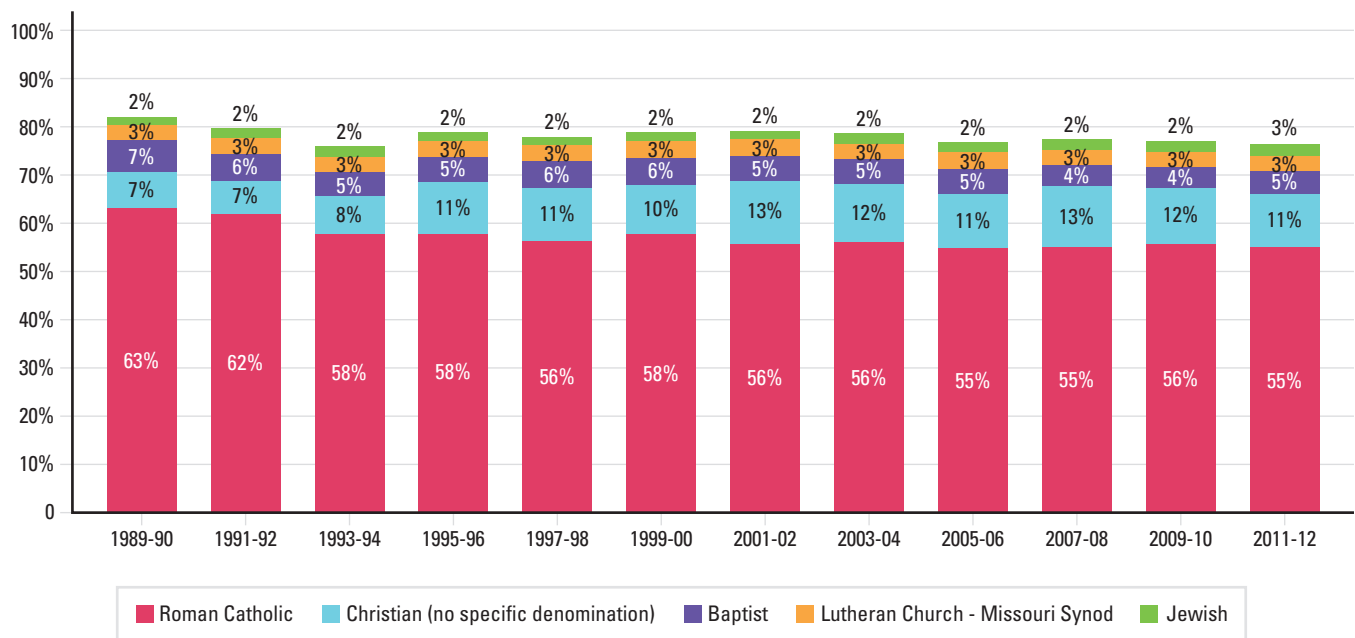


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Five Most Common Denominations of Ohio Private Schools  
(2011-12)

Denomination	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
Roman Catholic	386	55%
Christian (no specific denomination)	76	11%
Baptist	35	5%
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod	20	3%
Jewish	18	3%

Most Common Denominations of Ohio Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



# How many private schools belong to an association and to what associations do they belong?

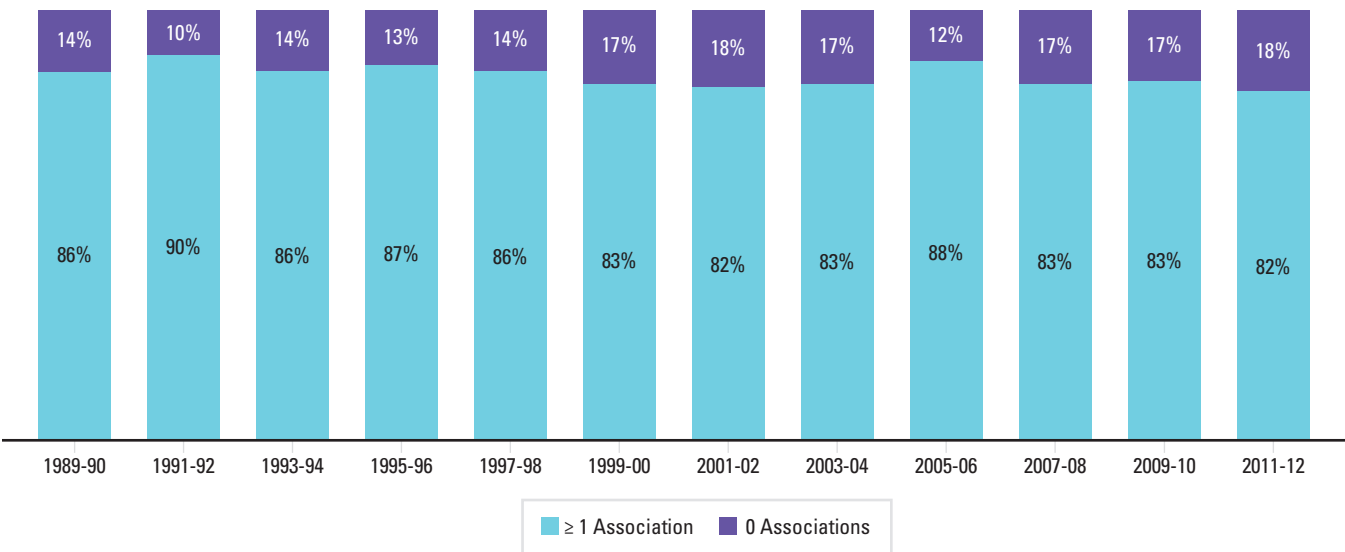
More than four out of five Ohio private schools belong to at least one association (82 percent; 574 of 702 schools). More than four out of five schools have typically belonged to at least one association. Of those schools, most belong to the National Catholic Educational Association (55 percent; 317 of 574 schools).<sup>23</sup>

Of Ohio private schools' top five individual association memberships in 2011-12, the proportion of schools belonging to the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) has grown the most over time, from 11 percent in 1989-90 (96 of 872 schools) to 14 percent (101 of 702 schools). The percent of schools belonging to the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) has decreased the most over time, from a little more than one out of two schools in 1989-90 (54 percent; 469 of 872 schools) to a little fewer than one out of two schools (45 percent; 317 of 702 schools). Aside from 1991-92 and 2005-06, when NCEA, ACSI, and the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) represented 71 percent and 72 percent of the private schools in Ohio, respectively, approximately two out of three private schools in Ohio have belonged to at least one of these three associations in each school year analyzed.

Association Affiliation of Ohio Private Schools (2011-12)

Affiliation	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
Belong to ≥ 1 Association	574	82%
Belong to 0 Associations	128	18%

Association Affiliations of Ohio Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)

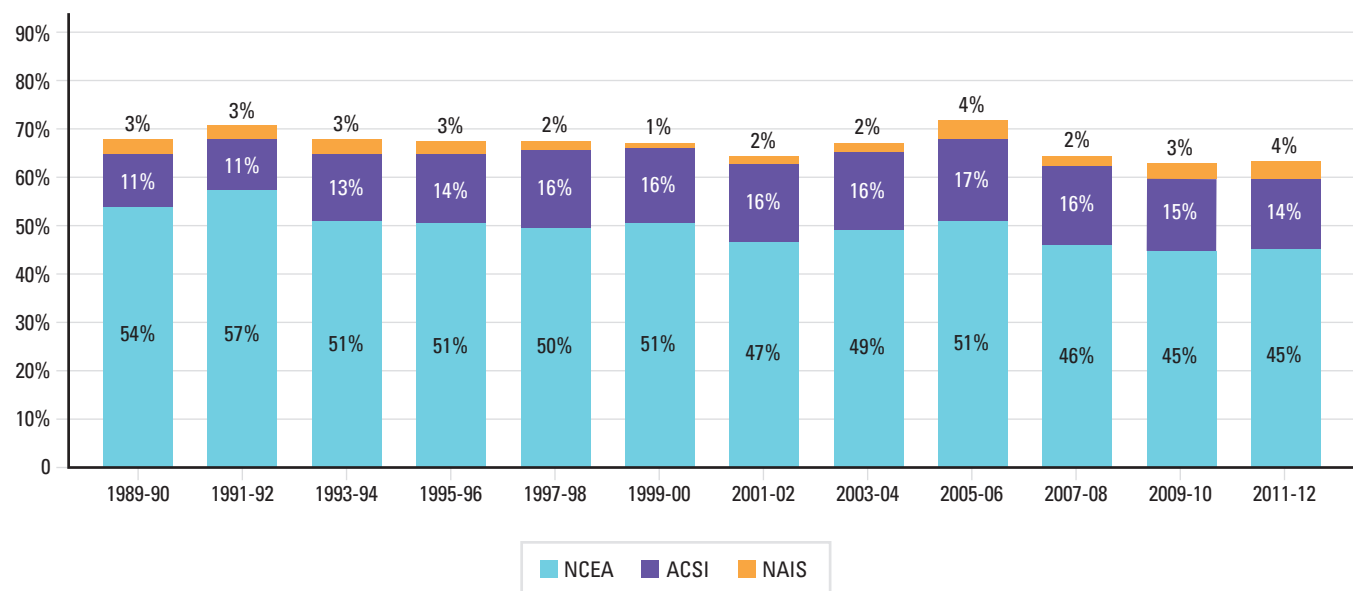


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### 10 Most Common Association Affiliations of Ohio Private Schools (2011-12)

Association	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA)	317	45%
Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)	101	14%
State or regional independent school association	33	5%
National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)	26	4%
American Montessori Society (AMS)	23	3%
American Association of Christian Schools (AACS)	21	3%
General Conference of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church (GCSDAC)	12	2%
National Society for Hebrew Day Schools (Torah U'Mesorah)	9	1%
Accelerated Christian Education (ACE)	8	1%
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)	8	1%

### Most Common Association Affiliations of Ohio Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



# APPENDIX A

**Table 1:** Number of Open Seats and Accompanying EdChoice Funds (based on 2012-13 average amount) by County

County	Open K-12 Seats (2012-13)	EdChoice Funds
Hamilton	6,377	\$26,178,223
Cuyahoga	5,122	\$21,026,322
Franklin	4,062	\$16,674,916
Lucas	3,553	\$14,585,420
Montgomery	2,909	\$11,941,736
Stark	1,914	\$7,857,161
Lorain	1,462	\$6,001,656
Summit	1,422	\$5,837,452
Allen	1,213	\$4,979,486
Trumbull	1,147	\$4,708,550
Mahoning	844	\$3,464,704
Richland	634	\$2,602,633
Muskingum	551	\$2,261,910
Clark	501	\$2,056,655
Erie	486	\$1,995,079
Butler	447	\$1,834,980
Lake	387	\$1,588,674
Huron	356	\$1,461,416
Warren	328	\$1,346,473
Ashtabula	319	\$1,309,527

County	Open K-12 Seats (2012-13)	EdChoice Funds
Greene	304	\$1,247,950
Columbiana	303	\$1,243,845
Scioto	236	\$968,804
Morrow	208	\$853,861
Marion	193	\$792,284
Miami	190	\$779,969
Wood	190	\$779,969
Fulton	168	\$689,657
Licking	157	\$644,501
Delaware	122	\$500,822
Jefferson	113	\$463,876
Medina	109	\$447,456
Darke	106	\$435,141
Pike	88	\$361,249
Clermont	71	\$291,462
Geauga	70	\$287,357
Knox	55	\$225,781
Fairfield	48	\$197,045
Jackson	29	\$119,048

**Table 2:** Number of Open Seats and Accompanying EdChoice Funds (based on 2012-13 average amount) by City

City	Open K-12 Seats (2012-13)	EdChoice Funds
Cincinnati	5,680	\$23,316,968
Toledo	3,337	\$13,698,719
Columbus	2,796	\$11,477,860
Dayton	1,734	\$7,118,243
Cleveland	1,633	\$6,703,628
Canton	1,497	\$6,145,335
Lima	1,466	\$6,018,077
Elyria	1,064	\$4,367,826
Akron	864	\$3,546,806
Youngstown	708	\$2,906,411
Mansfield	634	\$2,602,633
Warren	554	\$2,274,225
Zanesville	551	\$2,261,910
Euclid	510	\$2,093,601
Springfield	483	\$1,982,763
Sandusky	464	\$1,904,766
Cleveland Heights	386	\$1,584,569
Middletown	365	\$1,498,362
Kettering	356	\$1,461,416
Norwalk	356	\$1,461,416
Solon	352	\$1,444,995
Cuyahoga Falls	346	\$1,420,365
Strongsville	337	\$1,383,419
Maple Heights	329	\$1,350,578
Reading	320	\$1,313,632
Westlake	309	\$1,268,476
Miamisburg	307	\$1,260,266
Canal Winchester	286	\$1,174,059
Centerville	271	\$1,112,482
Ashtabula	267	\$1,096,062
Parma	260	\$1,067,326
Gahanna	257	\$1,055,011
Girard	246	\$1,009,855
Garfield Heights	243	\$997,539
Bedford	239	\$981,119
Portsmouth	236	\$968,804
Hubbard	227	\$931,858
Huber Heights	221	\$907,227
Louisville	214	\$878,491
Mount Gilead	208	\$853,861
Willoughby	205	\$841,546
Newtown	204	\$837,440

City	Open K-12 Seats (2012-13)	EdChoice Funds
Marion	193	\$792,284
Lorain	190	\$779,969
Perrysburg	190	\$779,969
Troy	190	\$779,969
East Liverpool	184	\$755,338
Hamilton	181	\$743,023
Alliance	169	\$693,762
Swanton	168	\$689,657
Xenia	167	\$685,552
Grove City	162	\$665,026
Fairfield	157	\$644,501
Pataskala	157	\$644,501
Rocky River	152	\$623,975
Dublin	145	\$595,240
North Ridgeville	141	\$578,819
Struthers	136	\$558,294
Walton Hills	131	\$537,768
Wickliffe	126	\$517,243
Niles	120	\$492,612
Columbiana	119	\$488,507
Harrison	114	\$467,981
Wintersville	113	\$463,876
Groveport	110	\$451,561
Greenville	106	\$435,141
South Euclid	100	\$410,510
Brice	98	\$402,300
Beavercreek	94	\$385,879
Oregon	92	\$377,669
Waverly	88	\$361,249
Worthington	85	\$348,934
Copley	82	\$336,618
Westerville	80	\$328,408
Barberton	77	\$316,093
Galloway	73	\$299,672
Pleasant Plain	72	\$295,567
Sharonville	71	\$291,462
Chardon	70	\$287,357
Amherst	67	\$275,042
Maumee	67	\$275,042
Brunswick	59	\$242,201
Sylvania	57	\$233,991
Mount Vernon	55	\$225,781



Table 2: Continued

City	Open K-12 Seats (2012-13)	EdChoice Funds
Geneva	52	\$213,465
Wadsworth	50	\$205,255
Lakewood	48	\$197,045
Thornville	48	\$197,045
Shaker Heights	46	\$188,835
Richmond Heights	44	\$180,624
Fairborn	43	\$176,519
Loveland	41	\$168,309
New Albany	38	\$155,994
Kirtland	37	\$151,889
Hartville	34	\$139,573
Hilliard	30	\$123,153
Wellston	29	\$119,048
Lewis Center	24	\$98,522
Huron	22	\$90,312
Tallmadge	22	\$90,312
Clayton	20	\$82,102
Mentor	19	\$77,997
New Carlisle	18	\$73,892
Norwood	18	\$73,892
Fairlawn	16	\$65,682
Uniontown	15	\$61,577
Lyndhurst	3	\$12,315
Delphos	-253*	-\$1,038,590

\*Applicable school reported over capacity.

**Table 3: Number of Open Seats and Accompanying EdChoice Funds (based on 2012-13 average amount) by Public District Location**

Public District Location	Open K-12 Seats (2012-13)	EdChoice Funds	Public District Location	Open K-12 Seats (2012-13)	EdChoice Funds
Cincinnati City	3,446	\$14,146,175	Parma City	260	\$1,067,326
Columbus City School District	2,361	\$9,692,141	Gahanna-Jefferson City	257	\$1,055,011
Toledo City	2,172	\$8,916,277	Mad River Local	256	\$1,050,906
Cleveland Municipal	1,685	\$6,917,094	Upper Arlington City	253	\$1,038,590
Elyria City Schools	1,064	\$4,367,826	Girard City School District	246	\$1,009,855
Dayton City	915	\$3,756,167	Sylvania City	242	\$993,434
Shawnee Local	681	\$2,795,573	Portsmouth City	236	\$968,804
Lima City	623	\$2,557,477	Huber Heights City	221	\$907,227
Akron City	581	\$2,385,063	Cuyahoga Falls City	214	\$878,491
Perry Local	560	\$2,298,856	Louisville City	214	\$878,491
Youngstown City Schools	559	\$2,294,751	Maumee City	214	\$878,491
Zanesville City	551	\$2,261,910	Groveport Madison Local	208	\$853,861
Canton City	550	\$2,257,805	Mount Gilead Exempted Village	208	\$853,861
Euclid City	510	\$2,093,601	Willoughby-Eastlake City	205	\$841,546
Indian Hill Exempted Village	507	\$2,081,286	Forest Hills Local	204	\$837,440
Sandusky City	464	\$1,904,766	Marion City	193	\$792,284
Northwest Local	457	\$1,876,031	St Bernard-Elwood Place City	193	\$792,284
Kettering City	452	\$1,855,505	Hubbard Exempted Village	192	\$788,179
Springfield Local	445	\$1,826,770	Garfield Heights City Schools	191	\$784,074
Washington Local	439	\$1,802,139	Lorain City	190	\$779,969
Oak Hills Local	395	\$1,621,515	Perrysburg Exempted Village	190	\$779,969
Plain Local	387	\$1,588,674	Troy City	190	\$779,969
Cleveland Heights-University Heights City	386	\$1,584,569	Howland Local	189	\$775,864
Miamisburg City	380	\$1,559,938	East Liverpool City	184	\$755,338
Bedford City	370	\$1,518,887	Hamilton City	181	\$743,023
Middletown City	365	\$1,498,362	Alliance City	169	\$693,762
Warren City	365	\$1,498,362	Swanton Local	168	\$689,657
Norwalk City	356	\$1,461,416	Coventry Local	167	\$685,552
Solon City	352	\$1,444,995	Xenia Community City	167	\$685,552
Springfield City	344	\$1,412,154	Elida Local	162	\$665,026
South-Western City	342	\$1,403,944	Fairfield City	157	\$644,501
Finneytown Local	340	\$1,395,734	Southwest Licking Local	157	\$644,501
Strongsville City	337	\$1,383,419	Rocky River City	152	\$623,975
Beavercreek City	333	\$1,366,998	Austintown Local	149	\$611,660
Maple Heights City	329	\$1,350,578	Dublin City	145	\$595,240
Madison Local	327	\$1,342,368	North Ridgeville City	141	\$578,819
Reading Community City	320	\$1,313,632	Struthers City	136	\$558,294
Westlake City	309	\$1,268,476	Wickliffe City	126	\$517,243
Mansfield City	307	\$1,260,266	Columbiana Exempted Village	119	\$488,507
Canal Winchester Local	286	\$1,174,059	Southwest Local	114	\$467,981
Centerville City	271	\$1,112,482	Indian Creek Local	113	\$463,876
Ashtabula Area City	267	\$1,096,062	Trotwood-Madison City	112	\$459,771

Table 3: Continued

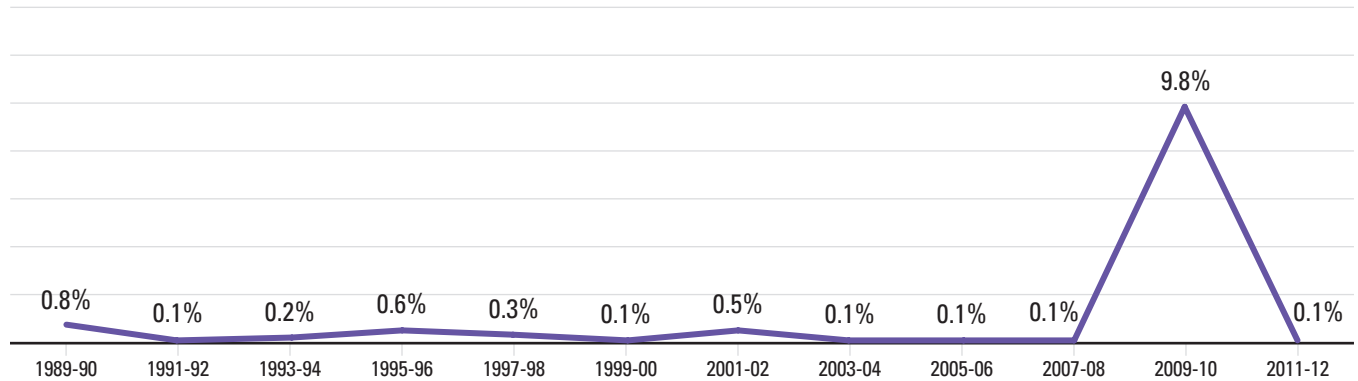
Public District Location	Open K-12 Seats (2012-13)	EdChoice Funds
Greenville City	106	\$435,141
South Euclid-Lyndhurst City	103	\$422,825
Big Walnut Local	98	\$402,300
Copley-Fairlawn City	98	\$402,300
Oregon City	92	\$377,669
Madeira City	91	\$373,564
Northeastern Local	90	\$369,459
Waverly City	88	\$361,249
Fairborn City	86	\$353,039
Princeton City	85	\$348,934
Liberty Local	80	\$328,408
Woodridge Local	78	\$320,198
Barberton City	77	\$316,093
Niles City	75	\$307,883
Goshen Local	72	\$295,567
West Clermont Local	71	\$291,462
Chardon Local	70	\$287,357
Amherst Exempted Village	67	\$275,042
Ottawa Hills Local	65	\$266,832
Sycamore Community City	60	\$246,306
Brunswick City	59	\$242,201
Mt Healthy City	58	\$238,096
Mount Vernon City	55	\$225,781
Hudson City	54	\$221,675
Geneva Area City	52	\$213,465
Highland Local	50	\$205,255
Clark-Shawnee Local	49	\$201,150
Fairfield Union Local	48	\$197,045
Lakewood City	48	\$197,045
Shaker Heights City	46	\$188,835
Richmond Heights Local	44	\$180,624
Worthington City	42	\$172,414
Loveland City	41	\$168,309
New Albany-Plain Local	38	\$155,994
Kirtland Local	37	\$151,889
Lake Local	34	\$139,573
Whitehall City	32	\$131,363
Columbus City Schools	31	\$127,258
Hilliard City	30	\$123,153
Mariemont City	30	\$123,153
Wellston City	29	\$119,048
Westerville City	25	\$102,628

Public District Location	Open K-12 Seats (2012-13)	EdChoice Funds
Olentangy Local	24	\$98,522
Huron City Schools	22	\$90,312
Tallmadge City	22	\$90,312
Northmont City	20	\$82,102
Mentor Exempted Village	19	\$77,997
Norwood City	18	\$73,892
Tecumseh Local	18	\$73,892
Wyoming City	18	\$73,892
Green Local	15	\$61,577
Bexley City	12	\$49,261
Delphos City	-253*	-\$1,038,590

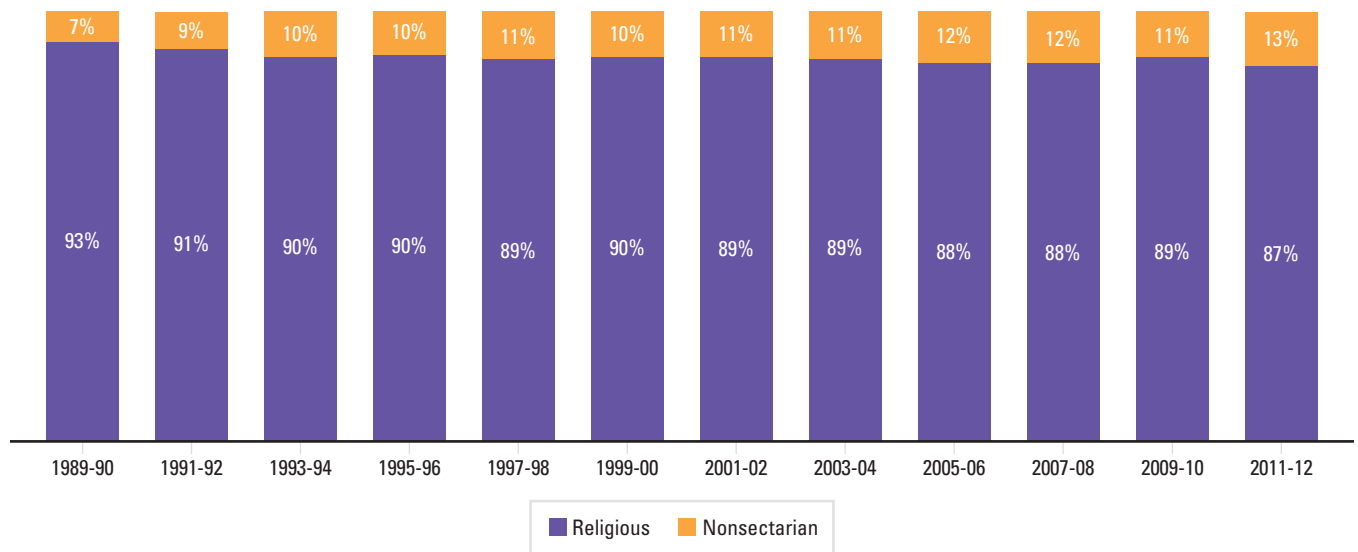
\*Applicable school reported over capacity.

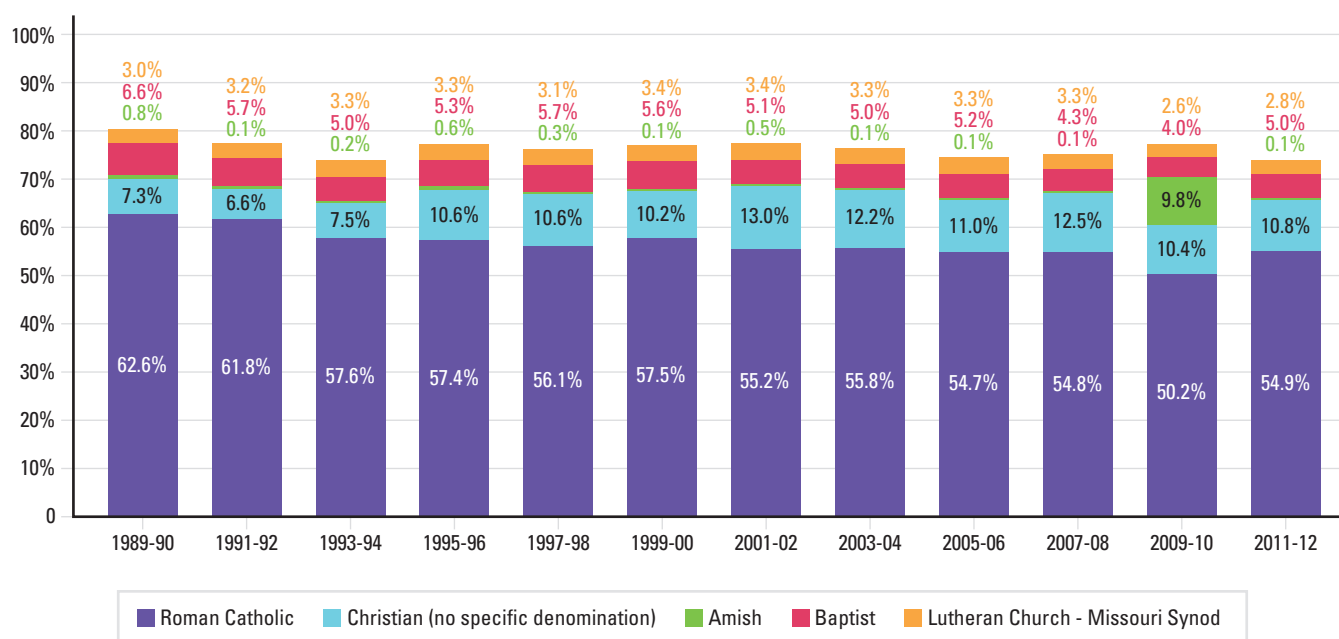
# APPENDIX B

**Figure 1:** Proportion of Amish Schools Among Ohio Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



**Figure 2:** Religiosity of Ohio Private Schools, Including Amish Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



**Figure 3:** Most Common Denominations of Ohio Private Schools, Including Amish Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)

# NOTES

1. The only larger programs are Indiana's Choice Scholarship Program (29,146 students in 2014-15), Florida's John M. McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program (28,370 students in 2013-14), and Wisconsin's Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (26,930 students in 2014-15).

2. The Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, National Catalogue of School Choice Programs.

3. "EdChoice and Cleveland Scholarships: Assessment Data," Ohio Dept. of Education, accessed Oct. 29, 2014, <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/EdChoice-Scholarship-Program/EdChoice-Cleveland-Assessment-Data>.

4. "Private School Universe Survey (PSS)," National Center for Education Statistics, accessed Oct. 2, 2014, <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pss/index.asp>.

5. Stephen P. Broughman and Nancy L. Swaim, *Characteristics of Private Schools in the United States: Results From the 2011-12 Private School Universe Survey*, NCES 2013-316 (Washington, DC: US Dept. of Education, National Center for Educational Statistics), <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2013/2013316.pdf>.

6. Ibid., table 15, p. 20.

7. US Dept. of Education, PSS Private School Universe Survey data for the 2011-12 school year, <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pss/privateschoolsearch>.

8. "A school is kindergarten-terminal (k-terminal) if kindergarten is the highest grade offered at the school." Broughman and Swaim, *Results From the 2011-12 Private School Universe Survey*, p. A-1.

9. "Ungraded students are those who are not assigned to a particular grade level (kindergarten, first grade, second grade, etc.) For example, special education centers and alternative schools often classify their students as ungraded. Students in Montessori schools are also considered ungraded if the school assigns them to 'primary' and 'intermediate' levels instead of specific grades." Ibid., pp. A-3-4.

10. We exclude Amish schools from the data we use because of the inconsistency in number of respondents. In 2009-10, there were 84 Amish respondents, but there were only one to seven for all other school years analyzed.

11. Author's calculations; Ohio Dept. of Education, e-mail message to author, Sept. 9, 2014; "Non-Chartered Non-Tax School Information," Ohio Dept. of Education, accessed Nov. 14, 2014, <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/School-Choice/Private-Schools/Non-Chartered-Non-Tax-School-Information>.

12. Ibid.; Author's calculations; The Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, National Catalogue of School Choice Programs; Broughman, Swaim, and Patrick W. Keaton, *Characteristics of Private Schools in the United States: Results From the 2007-08 Private School Universe Survey*, NCES 2009-313 (Washington, DC: US Dept. of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics), table 15, p. 20, <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009313.pdf>. The NCES PSS estimate of Ohio private schools for 2009-10 (1,759) had a coefficient of variation larger than 25 percent and was therefore not used.

13. These are only the numbers for schools registered to participate in the program. Counts of schools that enrolled EdChoice students were 269 in 2006-07, 319 in 2007-08, 309 in 2008-09, 307 in 2009-10, 310 in 2010-

11, 327 in 2011-12, and 331 in 2012-13. See The Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, National Catalogue of School Choice Programs.

14. Author's calculations; "Search Organization," Ohio Dept. of Education, accessed Oct. 23, 2014, <http://webapp2.ode.state.oh.us/oeds-r/query/default.asp>; Ohio Dept. of Education, e-mail message to author.

15. Ibid.

16. Ohio Department of Education provided tuition data for 304 schools registered to participate in the EdChoice Scholarship Program in 2014-15; Ohio Dept. of Education, e-mail message to author.

17. Ibid.

18. Cuyahoga County accounted for 107 of 769 PSS respondents we looked at in 2009-10, 128 of 796 in 2007-08, 127 of 823 in 2005-06, 142 of 885 in 2003-04, 154 of 933 in 2001-02, 162 of 889 in 1999-2000, 160 of 890 in 1997-98, 152 of 884 in 1995-96, 162 of 873 in 1993-94, and 180 of 908 in 1991-92. The 872 respondents in 1989-90 did not have counties attributed to them.

19. Does not include 63 PK-only or K-terminal schools or 53 schools without this data. "Search for Public Schools," National Center for Education Statistics, accessed Oct. 29, 2014, <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/schoolsearch/index.asp>.

20. "Enrollment Data," Ohio Dept. of Education, accessed Oct. 13, 2014, <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Data/Frequently-Requested-Data/Enrollment-Data>.

21. Ibid.; "American FactFinder," United States Census Bureau, 2006 ACS and 2012 ACS 1-year estimates, table DP05, <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml>.

22. Does not include 63 PK-only or K-terminal schools or 138 schools without this data. See note 19 above.

23. The only specific school associations that the PSS has as options are ACE, the American Association of Christian Schools (AACS), ACSI, the Association of Christian Teachers and Schools (ACTS), the Association of Classical and Christian Schools (ACCS), Christian Schools International (CSI), the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association (ELEA), Friends Council on Education (FCE), the General Conference of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church (GCSDAC), the Islamic School League of America (ISLA), the Jesuit Secondary Education Association (JSEA), the National Association of Episcopal Schools (NAES), NCEA, the National Christian School Association (NCSA), the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools (Torah U'Mesorah), Oral Roberts University Educational Fellowship (ORUEF), The Jewish Community Day School Association (SSDSA), the Solomon Schechter Day Schools Association (SSDSA), the Southern Baptist Association of Christian Schools (SBACS), the American Montessori Society (AMS), Association Montessori International (AMI), the Association of Military Colleges and Schools (AMCS), the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA), the National Association of Private Special Education Centers (NAPSEC), the European Council for International Schools (ECIS), the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the National Association of Laboratory Schools (NALS), the National Coalition of Girls' Schools (NCGS), the Alternative School Network (ASN), the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), the National Coalition of Alternative Community Schools (NCACS), the National Independent Private School Association (NIPSA), and The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS).

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Andrew D. Catt is the Research Analyst for the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice. In that role, Drew conducts analyses on private school choice programs and supports quality control as the Foundation's research and data verifier.

Prior to joining the Friedman Foundation, Drew served as the Program Associate for The Clowes Fund, a private family foundation located in Indianapolis that awards grants to nonprofits in Seattle, Greater Indianapolis, and Northern New England.

Drew graduated from Vanderbilt University in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in Human and Organizational Development, specializing in Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness. While at Vanderbilt, Drew served as Research Assistant for North Star Destination Strategies, a community branding organization. During that time, Drew also researched the effects of homeschooling on socialization.

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The views expressed in this report are the author's and do not necessarily represent the views of the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice.

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The author welcomes any and all questions related to methods and findings.





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