



2021 EdChoice Share: Where Are America's Students Getting Their Education?

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This series coins the term Educational Choice Share (or EdChoice Share) to represent the proportion of all K–12 students who are enrolled in an education savings account, school voucher or tax-credit scholarship program.

To get this number, EdChoice divides the total number of a state's educational choice program participants by the total number of K–12 students in the state, regardless of schooling sector. Not all program data are reported for the most recent school year, so carry-forward participation data are used for programs that don't yet have 2020–21 data.

This post also provides a state-by-state breakdown of public district school share, charter school share, home school share and “out of pocket” private school share—which we describe as “by other means” or “Other Private School Share.”

Additionally, evidence suggests that homeschooling figures have surged [during the past two school years](#). These figures are not yet able to be incorporated into our state-based calculations, but we suspect once they are both homeschooling and overall non-district enrollment percentages will rise.

The [charter school enrollment data](#) are for 2017–18 and the public district school enrollment data ([total public](#) minus charter) reflect the 2018–19 school year. The [private school enrollment data](#)* and [homeschooler estimates](#) are for 2017–18.

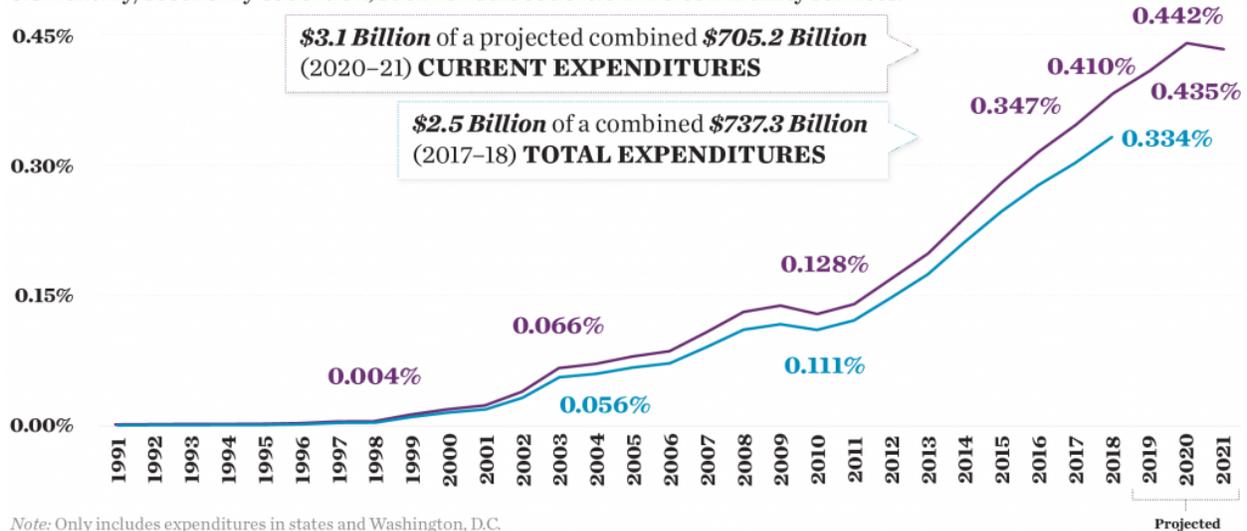
**New Mexico private school enrollment data did not meet the USDOE's reporting standards in 2017–18 so we used the 2015–16 private school enrollment data instead for that state.*

Why do we care about this?

Data from our 2020 national poll shows American parents—for myriad reasons—are not able to access the types of schools they would prefer for their children.

Spending on ESAs, Vouchers and Tax-Credit Scholarships as a percent of combined program and public K–12 current and total expenditures

Current expenditures include instruction, support services, food services and enterprise operations. Total expenditures include those categories and also capital outlay, interest payments on debts and programs outside of public elementary/secondary education, such as adult education and community services.



Note: Only includes expenditures in states and Washington, D.C.
 Sources: EdChoice (2021), *The ABCs of School Choice: The Comprehensive Guide to Every Private School Choice Program in America*, 2021 Edition; National Center for Education Statistics, Table 163. Total expenditures for public elementary and secondary education, by function and subfunction: 1989–90 to 1994–95, retrieved from nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d97/d97t163.asp; National Center for Education Statistics, Table 165. Summary of expenditures for public elementary and secondary education, by purpose: Selected years, 1919–20 through 2004–05, retrieved from nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d07/tables/dt07_165.asp; National Center for Education Statistics, Table 236.10. Summary of expenditures for public elementary and secondary education and other related programs, by purpose: Selected years, 1919–20 through 2013–14, retrieved from nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d16/tables/dt16_236.10.asp; https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d17/tables/dt17_236.10.asp; National Center for Education Statistics, Table 236.10. Summary of expenditures for public elementary and secondary education and other related programs, by purpose: Selected years, 1919–20 through 2015–16, retrieved from https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d18/tables/dt18_236.10.asp; National Center for Education Statistics, Table 236.10. Summary of expenditures for public elementary and secondary education and other related programs, by purpose: Selected years, 1919–20 through 2016–17, retrieved from https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d19/tables/dt19_236.10.asp; Stephen Q. Cornman, Lei Zhou, Malia Howell, Jeremy Phillips, and Jumaane Young (2020), *Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: FY 18* (NCES 2020–306), retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2020/2020306.pdf>; William J. Hussar and Tabitha M. Bailey (2020), *Projections of Education Statistics to 2028* (NCES 2020–024), retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2020/2020024.pdf#page=61>

If our K–12 education system is innovating and finding ways to better serve students and their families, then—as years pass—we would expect the numbers below to begin looking more and more like the chart above.

Importantly, school closures stemming from the coronavirus pandemic caused swarms of new parents to explore educational alternatives for their children. While new private school choice data for the 2020–21 school year are still being reported as state agencies and scholarship organizations prepare for a new semester, we will be sure to monitor and report on how future enrollment changes affect the country’s and states’ EdChoice Share throughout this year.

On a national level:

- 1.0 percent of students are utilizing an educational choice program
- 7.5 percent attend private school by other means
- 83.4 percent attend a public district school
- 5.5 percent attend a charter school, and
- 2.6 percent are homeschooled.

On a state level:

State	Number of Programs	EdChoice Share	Other Private School Share	Public District School Share	Charter School Share	Home School Share
Arizona	5	6.6%	<1%	77.9%	15.5%	2.6%
Florida	5	5.5%	6.5%	76.4%	8.9%	2.7%
Wisconsin	5	4.5%	8.6%	80.6%	4.2%	2.1%
Indiana	3	3.8%	6.7%	83.0%	3.9%	2.5%
Vermont	1	3.8%	4.8%	89.1%	-	2.3%
Ohio	5	3.5%	7.5%	81.6%	5.8%	1.6%
Maine	1	2.2%	6.2%	87.9%	1.1%	2.6%
Pennsylvania	2	3.0%	9.2%	78.5%	6.8%	2.6%
Iowa	2	2.2%	5.7%	89.6%	<0.1%	2.5%
District of Columbia	1	1.7%	11.0%	48.0%	37.3%	2.1%
Louisiana	4	1.1%	14.0%	73.9%	9.4%	1.6%
Georgia	2	1.0%	5.9%	86.1%	3.7%	3.3%
North Carolina	3	1.0%	5.1%	80.7%	5.6%	7.6%
Alabama	2	0.6%	6.0%	90.3%	-	2.6%
South Dakota	1	0.5%	6.1%	90.0%	<0.1%	2.6%
Oklahoma	2	0.5%	3.1%	90.0%	3.9%	2.5%
South Carolina	2	0.4%	9.2%	82.0%	5.4%	2.5%
Illinois	2	0.4%	11.8%	83.6%	1.7%	2.5%
Virginia	1	0.3%	7.0%	90.0%	<0.1%	2.6%
Rhode Island	1	0.3%	9.8%	82.0%	5.4%	2.5%
Maryland	1	0.2%	12.4%	82.6%	2.3%	2.5%
Nevada	1	0.2%	3.7%	84.9%	8.6%	2.5%
New Hampshire	2	0.2%	12.0%	83.6%	1.7%	2.5%
Utah	2	0.1%	2.5%	84.2%	10.6%	2.5%
Mississippi	3	0.1%	7.7%	89.3%	0.2%	2.7%
Arkansas	1	<0.1%	4.5%	86.0%	5.8%	3.6%
Tennessee	2	<0.1%	7.6%	86.4%	3.4%	2.6%
Kansas	1	<0.1%	7.0%	89.8%	0.6%	2.5%
Montana	1	<0.1%	5.2%	91.5%	-	3.3%
Minnesota	2	Not Available	11.1%	81.5%	5.6%	1.9%
Delaware	0	-	13.8%	75.0%	9.4%	1.8%

State	Number of Programs	EdChoice Share	Other Private School Share	Public District School Share	Charter School Share	Home School Share
Hawaii	0	-	16.6%	75.8%	5.0%	2.6%
New York	0	-	13.1%	80.0%	4.4%	2.5%
California	0	-	8.0%	80.7%	9.0%	2.4%
Michigan	0	-	7.6%	81.1%	8.7%	2.6%
Colorado	0	-	4.4%	82.3%	12.6%	0.7%
New Jersey	0	-	11.1%	83.5%	3.1%	2.4%
Missouri	0	-	11.0%	84.2%	2.2%	2.6%
Massachusetts	0	-	10.0%	85.1%	4.2%	0.7%
Oregon	0	-	6.5%	85.2%	5.0%	3.4%
Nebraska	0	-	12.1%	85.5%	-	2.4%
Idaho	0	-	5.0%	86.1%	6.3%	2.6%
Connecticut	0	-	9.5%	86.3%	1.7%	2.5%
New Mexico	0	-	5.5%	87.0%	7.4%	<0.1%
Texas	0	-	4.8%	87.2%	5.6%	2.4%
Kentucky	0	-	9.7%	87.8%	-	2.5%
Alaska	0	-	2.5%	89.9%	5.1%	2.5%
Washington	0	-	6.7%	91.4%	0.2%	1.7%
North Dakota	0	-	6.2%	91.4%	-	2.4%
West Virginia	0	-	4.4%	93.1%	-	2.5%
Wyoming	0	-	1.6%	95.1%	0.6%	2.7%

Showing 1 to 51 of 51 entries

Notes: U.S. territories were not included in these calculations, nor were data on individual tax credit or deduction programs, unless it was a refundable credit (such as [Alabama's Parent Taxpayer Refundable Tax Credits](#)), which is why Minnesota's EdChoice Share is Not Available. EdChoice assumes 20 percent of tax-credit scholarships went to multi-scholarship students in Arizona, whereas other tax-credit scholarship programs are assumed to have a 1:1 student-to-scholarship ratio for the purposes of these rankings.