

About
CAPE

What's
New?

Public
Policy

Outlook
Newsletter

Blog
Editor
Comments

Private
School
Media



Council for American Private Education

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Voice of the Nation's Private Schools



The Council for American Private Education (CAPE) is a coalition of national organizations and state affiliates serving private elementary and secondary schools. One in four of the nation's schools is a private school; eleven percent of all students attend them. That translates into 27,000 schools and nearly 6 million students. CAPE member organizations represent about 75 percent of private school enrollment nationwide.

Founded in 1971 to provide a coherent voice for private education, CAPE is dedicated to fostering communication and cooperation within the private school community and with the public sector to improve the quality of education for all of the nation's children. CAPE speaks as one voice on behalf of its members as it:

- **promotes the vital role of private schools in American education and their significant contributions to educating the public and promoting the common good;**
- **promotes the rights of parents to educate their children in the schools of their choice;**
- **encourages excellence and pluralism in education and promotes the right of private schools to fulfill their unique missions;**
- **fosters the participation of the private school community in shaping the nation's education agenda, and develops and promotes positions on national education policy;**
- **advocates the equitable opportunity of private school students to participate in appropriate state and federal education programs;**
- **monitors and analyzes legislation and regulations affecting private schools;**
- **provides information about private education to policymakers and the public;**
- **keeps the private school community informed on issues and programs.**

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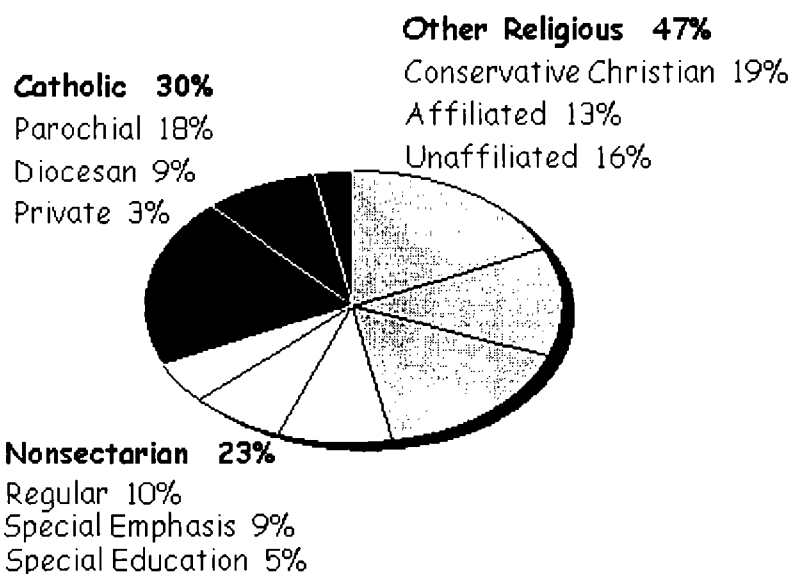
[About Us](#)[Major Activities](#)[Contact Us](#)[Statistics](#)[Publications](#)[Related Links](#)[Resources](#)[What's New](#)

Statistics About Non-Public Education in the United States

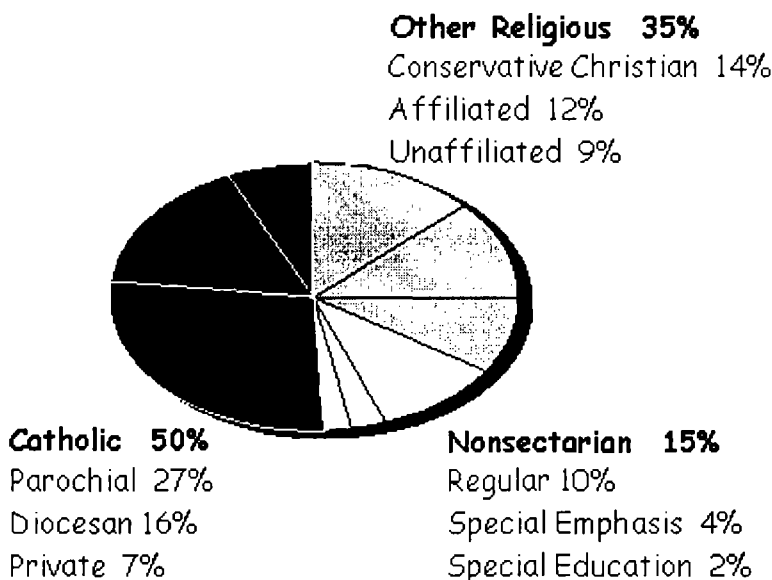
In the fall of 1995, there were 27,686 private elementary and secondary schools, 5,032,200 students, and 361,909 full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers in the U.S., according to the Private School Universe Survey, 1995-96 of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). Private schools include about one-fourth of the elementary and secondary schools and approximately 10 percent of the elementary and secondary enrollment in the U.S.

The percentage of private schools in each of the nine typologies that NCES uses to describe private schools are depicted in the following chart:

**Private Schools in the United States
(Percentage by Type of Control)**



**Private School Enrollment
in the United States
(Percentage by Type of Control)**



Note: For detailed statistics on private education, go to [Private School Universe Survey, 1995-96](#), [Private Schools in the United States: A Statistical Profile, 1993-4](#), and other statistical documents in [Publications](#)

Statistics on Private Education

- [Private Schools in the United States: A Statistical Profile, 1993-94](#)
- [Private Schools in the United States: A Statistical Profile, 1990-91](#)
- [Private School Universe Study](#)
- [Private School Universe Survey \(PSS\), 1995-96](#)
- [Findings from The Condition of Education 1997: Public and Private Schools: How Do They Differ?](#)
- [How Different, How Similar? Comparing Key Organizational Qualities of American Public and Private Secondary Schools](#)
- [Advanced Telecommunications in U.S. Private Schools, K-12 Fall 1995](#)
- [Teachers' Sense of Community: How Do Public and Private Schools Compare?](#)
- [Collection of Private School Finance Data: Development of a Questionnaire](#)
- [The Patterns of Teacher Compensation](#)

General Education Statistics (including private education)

- [Digest of Education Statistics 1997](#)
- [The Condition of Education 1997](#)
- [Department of Education Publications and Products](#)
- [Education Resources Information Center \(ERIC\)](#)
- [National Library of Education \(NLE\)](#)

HOME