

# STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS

**DEFINITION:** Children enrolled in nonpublic schools, disaggregated by race.

*Note that the percentages reflect the percentage of children enrolled in non-public schools that identify as black or white, not the percentage of white or black children enrolled in public schools.*



## SIGNIFICANCE

According to Census data, 17% of Louisiana children enrolled in grades K-12 attended a private school in 2007. By comparison, 11% of U.S. children enrolled in grades K-12 attended a private school in 2007.<sup>1</sup>

Enrollment in nonpublic schools varies widely among Louisiana's parishes, from zero children in 14 parishes to over 22,000 children in Jefferson Parish.

## DISPROPORTIONALITY

White children are overrepresented in private schools in comparison to black children. White children represent 55% of the school-age child population in Louisiana, but they represent 82% of the private school population in Louisiana. By contrast, black children comprise 39% of the school-age child population in the state, but just 13% of children attending private school.

Data collected by the National Center for Education Statistics shows similar over- and under-representation at the national level as well. Nationally, white students make up 75% of the private school population, but just 57% of the public school population. Black students make up just 10% of the nation's private school enrollment, but 17% of its public school enrollment.<sup>2</sup>

Black students in Louisiana are more likely than their white counterparts to attend a public school. While 39% of the child population in Louisiana is black, 46% of public school students are black. By contrast, 55% of the child population in Louisiana is white, but only 49% of the public school population is white. While a majority of public school students are black in 22 parishes, black students are not the majority at nonpublic schools in any parish. About half of Louisiana's parishes have public school populations that are majority-white, but white students represent the overwhelming majority of students in nonpublic schools in each of the 50 parishes that have nonpublic schools.

## DATA SOURCE

Department of Education, Division of Planning, Analysis, and Information Resources, by special request

## RATE CALCULATION

$100 * (\text{number of black children enrolled in nonpublic schools} \div \text{total enrollment in nonpublic schools})$

$100 * (\text{number of white children enrolled in nonpublic schools} \div \text{total enrollment in nonpublic schools})$

<sup>1</sup> Agenda for Children's analysis of U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "Table C14002: School Enrollment by Level of School by Type of School for the Population Three Years and Over," U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, retrieved from [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) on 8/1/2009.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Private School Universe Survey (PSS), 2007-08, and U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Common Core of Data (CCD), "State Nonfiscal Survey of Public Elementary/Secondary Education, 2006-07," U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, retrieved from <http://nces.ed.gov> on 8/1/2009.

# STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS BY RACE

SY 2006	TOTAL		BLACK		WHITE	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	
<b>LOUISIANA</b>	<b>125,844</b>	<b>16,526</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>103,391</b>	<b>82</b>	
Acadia	2,177	55	3	2,099	96	
Allen	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
Ascension	1,665	191	11	1,458	88	
Assumption	263	38	14	223	85	
Avoyelles	1,097	29	3	1,062	97	
Beauregard	10	<5	LNE	6	60	
Bienville	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
Bossier	100	<5	LNE	95	95	
Caddo	4,334	725	17	3,382	78	
Calcasieu	3,118	458	15	2,546	82	
Caldwell	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
Cameron	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
Catahoula	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
Claiborne	324	<5	1	313	97	
Concordia	190	17	9	172	91	
De Soto	181	<5	LNE	177	98	
East Baton Rouge	20,653	2,967	14	16,935	82	
East Carroll	187	<5	LNE	165	88	
East Feliciana	508	23	5	478	94	
Evangeline	787	0	0	780	99	
Franklin	276	0	0	270	98	
Grant	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
Iberia	2,283	261	11	1,946	85	
Iberville	985	112	11	848	86	
Jackson	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
Jefferson	22,873	2,291	10	18,347	80	
Jefferson Davis	450	20	4	407	90	
Lafayette	7,479	773	10	6,572	88	
Lafourche	2,880	122	4	2,702	94	
La Salle	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
Lincoln	826	29	4	758	92	
Livingston	145	11	8	131	90	
Madison	287	<5	0	277	97	
Morehouse	316	0	0	315	100	
Natchitoches	386	13	3	346	90	
Orleans	17,550	5,672	32	10,927	62	
Ouachita	2,718	286	11	2,308	85	
Plaquemines	276	<5	LNE	268	97	
Pointe Coupee	1,323	94	7	1,215	92	
Rapides	2,732	211	8	2,408	88	
Red River	298	<5	LNE	295	99	
Richland	338	<5	LNE	334	99	
Sabine	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
St. Bernard	313	<5	LNE	275	88	
St. Charles	842	113	13	702	83	
St. Helena	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
St. James	272	44	16	227	83	
St. John the Baptist	2,786	656	24	1,987	71	
St. Landry	2,952	435	15	2,463	83	
St. Martin	1,412	184	13	1,189	84	
St. Mary	1,067	51	5	897	84	
St. Tammany	7,447	176	2	7,051	95	
Tangipahoa	2,391	94	4	2,233	93	
Tensas	190	<5	LNE	176	93	
Terrebonne	3,044	198	7	2,744	90	
Union	273	<5	LNE	267	98	
Vermilion	858	62	7	769	90	
Vernon	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
Washington	1,058	10	1	1,015	96	
Webster	463	46	10	400	86	
West Baton Rouge	461	28	6	431	93	
West Carroll	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
West Feliciana	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	
Winn	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	

LNE Percentages were not calculated for any number less than five.