

★ Minnesota Meeting

a program of The Minneapolis Foundation

# ALL KIDS LEARN



## Minnesota's K-12 education at a glance

### STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS

Number enrolled: 851,384  
Percent in Title I schools: 41.1%  
English Language Learners: 5.6%  
Special Needs students: 13%  
Percent eligible for free/reduced price lunch: 26.4%  
African/African American: 7.0%  
American Indian: 2.0%  
Asian/Pacific Islander: 5.2%  
Hispanic: 3.8%  
White: 82%

### SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS

Number of school districts: 343  
Number of schools: 2,408  
Number of charter schools: 77  
Per pupil expenditures: \$7,645  
Pupil/teacher ratio: 16:1  
Number of FTE teachers: 53,081

*U.S. Department of Education National Center for Education Statistics  
2001-02 school year*

# K-12 education



Welcome to *All Kids Learn*, a Minnesota Meeting series on K-12 education. We've gathered a few facts here from a variety of sources about the current state of education in Minnesota. Like all facts, they do not represent the whole picture. The purpose of Minnesota Meeting is to get beneath these statistics to learn more about what's needed to help all kids learn.

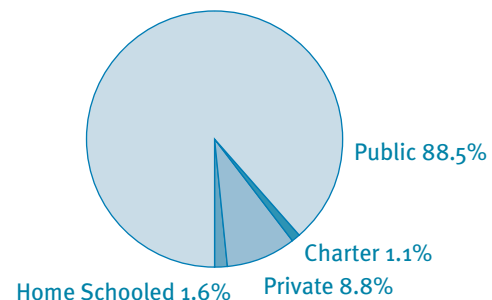
## Approximately 850,000 students are enrolled in Minnesota's public schools.

Enrollment in Minnesota's public schools increased by 11% in the 1990s. Statewide, enrollment is expected to decline about 1% between 2002 and 2010.

Enrollment dropped for public and private schools over the past 10 years, while rising for charter schools and home schooling.

Enrollment trends vary by region and district. The Minneapolis Public School District, for example, anticipates that between 2003 and 2008, district enrollment could drop from 43,169 to 32,500 students. *Minneapolis Public Schools*

ENROLLMENT BY SCHOOL TYPE 2001-02



Education Finance Task Force

## The number of students of color in Minnesota has doubled since 1990.

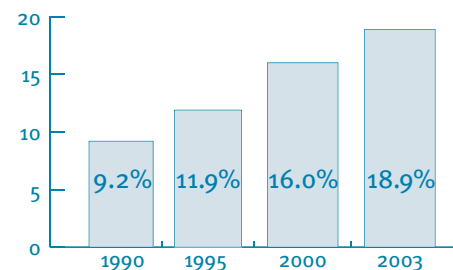
Much of the growth in minority enrollment has been among students whose primary language is not English, referred to as called English Language Learners (ELL) in school jargon.

While Minneapolis and St. Paul have the largest numbers of these students, many smaller districts – including many in Greater Minnesota – now have substantial numbers of ELL students.

PERCENTAGE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL STUDENTS) IN SELECT SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Minnesota:	9%	Richfield:	21%
Brooklyn Center:	29%	St. Paul:	41%
Madelia:	26%	Willmar:	21%
Minneapolis:	31%	Worthington:	35%
Pelican Rapids:	24%		

PERCENTAGE OF MINORITY STUDENTS IN MINNESOTA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Minnesota Department of Education

## Just over half of the state's school districts serve fewer than 1,000 students.

Minnesota's K-12 system is dominated by small school districts, which tend to have smaller administrative and support staffs, offer fewer special programs, and have fewer resources available to schools and students.

Nearly two-thirds (62%) of Minnesota's students attend a school district with fewer than 10,000 students

*Education Finance Task Force*

## K-12 and early education spending comprise 40% of the state's budget.

In 2003, Minnesota's ranks 15th nationally in per pupil spending.

Minnesota ranked 5th nationally in per pupil spending in 1970.

*Education Finance Task Force*

## Graduation rates reflect racial disparities in academic achievement.

Minnesota has one of the highest graduation rates in the nation.

Girls graduate at a higher rate than boys.

58% of low-income students (those eligible for meal programs) graduate in four years, compared to 86% of other students.

52% of English Language Learners (ELL students) graduate in four years, compared to 79% of other students.

GRADUATION RATES BY RACE/ETHNICITY	% Graduated in 4 years
African American (3,398)	39%
American Indian (1,297)	43%
Asian/Pacific Islander (2,893)	68%
Hispanic (1,264)	47%
White (56,532)	83%

*Number of 9th grade students served during the 1997-98 school year and their last reported status after the 2000-01 school year.  
Minnesota Department of Education*

## Minnesota students consistently test above average in math, reading, and science.

2003 TEST SCORES FOR MINNESOTA STUDENTS	rank	score	national average
Math - 4th grade	2nd (tie)	242	234
Math - 8th grade	1st	291	276
Reading - 4th grade	8th (tie)	223	216
Reading - 8th grade	7th (tie)	268	261

*U.S. Department of Education  
National Center for Education Statistics*

Additional copies of this fact sheet may be downloaded from [www.MinnesotaMeeting.com](http://www.MinnesotaMeeting.com).

# upcoming events

## Strategies for Closing the Racial Divide in Academic Achievement



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2004**  
11:30 A.M.–1:00 P.M. LUNCHEON  
MARRIOTT CITY CENTER  
30 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET,  
MINNEAPOLIS

William Ouchi, Ph.D., will discuss successful – and not so successful – efforts across the country to close the academic achievement gap between children of color and white children. A business professor at

UCLA, Dr. Ouchi has studied the organization and management of dozens of American schools. His recent study *Making Schools Work: A Revolutionary Plan to Get Your Children the Education They Need* applies business management principles (e.g., decentralization and accountability) to school reform.

A panel of Minnesota educators and advocates will reflect on Dr. Ouchi's strategies for closing the racial divide and discuss what is working in Minnesota schools.

## Invest Now or Lose Later: Improving Education for Economic Growth



**SPRING 2004**  
11:30 A.M.–1:00 P.M. LUNCHEON  
ROBERT REICH INVITED

What skills are local businesses lacking? Are our graduates prepared to enter and influence Minnesota industries? How essential are strong schools in creating an attractive business

climate? This event will explore the connections between education and business development, workforce readiness, and other concerns of Minnesota employers.

Robert Reich, former United States Secretary of Labor and perhaps the country's leading thinker on workforce issues, will speak about what Minnesota businesses need in order to remain competitive in the global economy. Mr. Reich will then interact with a panel of Minnesota business leaders and educators and take questions from the audience.

Register for either or both of these events at [www.MinnesotaMeeting.com](http://www.MinnesotaMeeting.com)

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