

Students with disabilities, inclusion of

Question:

What percentage of students with disabilities are educated in regular classrooms?

Response:

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), enacted in 1975, mandates that children and youth ages 3–21 with disabilities be provided a free and appropriate public school education.

In fall 2013, some 95 percent of 6- to 21-year-old students with disabilities were served in regular schools; 3 percent were served in a separate school for students with disabilities; 1 percent were placed in regular private schools by their parents; and less than 1 percent each were served in one of the following environments: in a separate residential facility, homebound or in a hospital, or in a correctional facility.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (2016). *Digest of Education Statistics, 2015* (NCES 2016-014), Chapter 2.

Percentage distribution of students 6 to 21 years old served under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B, by educational environment and type of disability: Fall 2013									
Type of disability	All environments	Regular school, time inside general class			Separate school for students with disabilities	Separate residential facility	Parentally placed in regular private schools ¹	Homebound/hospital placement	Correctional facility
		Less than 40 percent	40–79 percent	80 percent or more					
All students with disabilities	100.0	13.8	19.4	61.8	2.9	0.3	1.1	0.4	0.3
Autism	100.0	33.3	18.2	39.7	7.4	0.4	0.7	0.3	#
Deaf-blindness	100.0	35.6	11.9	23.1	18.5	7.9	0.1	2.8	0.1
Developmental delay	100.0	16.1	19.4	63.0	0.8	#	0.5	0.2	#
Emotional disturbance	100.0	19.8	17.8	45.1	12.9	1.6	0.3	1.1	1.6
Hearing impairment	100.0	12.2	16.0	59.3	7.7	3.1	1.3	0.2	0.1
Intellectual disability	100.0	49.4	26.9	16.3	6.1	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2
Multiple disabilities	100.0	46.4	16.4	13.3	18.7	1.6	0.3	3.2	0.1
Orthopedic impairment	100.0	21.5	16.1	55.1	4.4	0.1	0.8	1.9	0.1
Other health impairment ²	100.0	9.6	21.9	64.5	1.7	0.2	1.0	0.8	0.3
Specific learning disability	100.0	6.1	24.4	67.8	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.3
Speech or language impairment	100.0	4.3	5.4	87.3	0.3	#	2.6	#	#
Traumatic brain injury	100.0	20.1	22.2	49.6	5.1	0.5	0.7	1.7	0.1
Visual impairment	100.0	10.8	13.0	64.8	6.1	3.5	1.2	0.6	#

Rounds to zero.

¹ Students who are enrolled by their parents or guardians in regular private schools and have their basic education paid through private resources, but receive special education services at public expense. These students are not included under "Regular school, time inside general class."

² Other health impairments include having limited strength, vitality, or alertness due to chronic or acute health problems such as a heart condition, tuberculosis, rheumatic fever, nephritis, asthma, sickle cell anemia, hemophilia, epilepsy, lead poisoning, leukemia, or diabetes.

NOTE: Data are for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Bureau of Indian Education schools. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (2016). *The Digest of Education Statistics, 2015* (NCES 2016-014), Table 204.60.

Related Tables and Figures: (Listed by Release Date)

- 2016, *Digest of Education Statistics 2015*, Table 204.30. Children 3 to 21 years old served under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B, by type of disability: Selected years, 1976–77 through 2013–14
- 2016, *Digest of Education Statistics 2015*, Table 204.70. Number and percentage of children served under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B, by age group and state or jurisdiction: Selected years, 1990–91 through 2013–14
- 2016, *The Condition of Education 2016: Children and Youth with Disabilities*

Other Resources: (Listed by Release Date)

- [2017, National Assessment of Educational Progress \(NAEP\): This site provides access to publications and data on the reading, mathematics, science, writing, U.S. history, civics, geography, and arts achievement of U.S. students.](#)
- [2017, Office of Special Education Programs \(OSEP\): This site provides information about federal programs for students with disabilities.](#)

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