



Education by the Numbers

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It is not difficult to hear or engage in a debate on the influence that a celebrity, politician, or an athlete have in society. However, outside of the immediate home environment, a teacher is the most influential person in the life of a person. They act as role models and offer guidance to our children. Teachers are the backbone of society. Teachers are the people responsible for social and economic development of a society.

What do we know about teachers in our public schools? According to the most reliable data, there are approximately 3.7 million (3.2 million public and 0.5 million private) full-time and part-time elementary and secondary school teachers in the United States. Teacher characteristics are often associated with other variables related to student's success.

Reference

Unauthored (2021). The importance of teachers in our society. Merrimack College. Retrieved on March 18, 2021, from <https://online.merrimack.edu/importance-of-teachers/>

U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, (2020). Characteristics of Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Teachers in the United States. Retrieved on March 18, 2021, from <https://nces.edu.gov/pubs2020/2020142rev.pdf>

Teacher Characteristics: Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Teachers

Table 1: Percentage Distribution of Teachers

		Percent of Teachers by Race/Ethnicity						
Type of Schools		Hispanic, regardless of race	White, Non-Hispanic	Black or African American, Non-Hispanic	Asian, Non-Hispanic	Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	American Indian, Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic	Two or more races, non-Hispanic
All Schools		9.1	80.0	6.3	2.2	0.2	0.5	1.7
	All Public Schools	9.3	79.3	6.7	2.1	0.2	0.5	1.8
	Traditional	9.0	80.0	6.5	2.1	0.2	0.5	1.7
	Charter	15.6	68.0	10.4	3.0	0.4	0.4	2.3
	Community Type							
	City	14.0	68.5	11.8	3.1	0.2	0.3	2.1
	Suburban	9.8	79.6	5.5	2.7	0.3	0.3	1.8
	Town	5.8	86.8	3.7	0.9	0.3	0.9	1.7
	Rural	3.8	89.7	3.6	0.5	0.1	1.0	1.3
Private		97.2	85.1	3.2	2.7	0.1	0.3	1.3
	Community Types							
	City	8.0	80.9	4.9	3.8	0.2	0.2	1.9
	Suburban	8.2	85.8	2.4	2.3		0.2	1.0
	Town	3.3	92.5	#	#	#	#	1.1
	Rural	3.1	93.8	1.2	0.8	#	#	0.6

No Credible Data

Note: Teachers include both full-time and part-time teachers