



*SCHOOL SURVEY SERIES*

# EXPLORING INDIANA'S PRIVATE EDUCATION SECTOR

Andrew D. **Catt**

NOVEMBER **2014**

**The Friedman Foundation**  
for Educational Choice  
**edchoice.org**

A graphic element consisting of a thin, dark blue line that starts from the right side of the text 'for Educational Choice', curves upwards and then downwards to the left, ending with an arrowhead pointing towards the text 'edchoice.org'.

## **About the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice**

The Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and nonpartisan organization, solely dedicated to advancing Milton and Rose Friedman's vision of school choice for all children. First established as the Milton and Rose D. Friedman Foundation in 1996, the Foundation promotes school choice as the most effective and equitable way to improve the quality of K-12 education in America. The Friedman Foundation is dedicated to research, education, and outreach on the vital issues and implications related to school choice.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*Exploring Indiana's Private Education Sector*, the first entry in the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice's *School Survey Series*, synthesizes information collected in two unique surveys of Indiana private schools. One was conducted by the U.S. Department of Education, the other by the Indiana Non-Public Education Association (INPEA) and the Friedman Foundation.

Assuming the INPEA/Friedman Foundation survey's school sample is representative of the state's voucher-accepting private school sector, Indiana has enough empty seats to grow its number of Choice students by 141 percent, totaling approximately 41,000 Choice students.

In 2013-14, if all 21,304 open seats in voucher-accepting private schools analyzed had been filled, the \$36.2 million that accompanied Choice students would have been approximately \$120.6 million (see Appendix A).

Should individuals be looking to start private schools to serve more voucher-using families, it is important to note 23 percent of the open seats in voucher-accepting private schools are at the high school level—that may indicate room in the marketplace for more high school providers. That is further evidenced by the fact approximately one out of three (33 percent) Indiana private schools serve grades PK-8, and one out of 10 (10 percent) serve grades PK-12.

Should those school starters want to keep pace with their potential peers, they should note that Indiana private schools, on average, have 183 students enrolled, with 11.7 students per teacher and 14 students per full-time equivalent teacher, and have classes for 6.9 hours per day for 180 days of the year.

Policymakers interested in learning more about private schools should note most are in Marion County (78 schools) or Allen County (37 schools) and Indianapolis (76 schools) or Fort Wayne (22 schools). Policymakers

may also want to see what regulations associations place on their member schools, since approximately four out of five (80 percent) of Indiana's private schools belong to at least one association, 43 percent of which belong to the National Catholic Education Association.

And finally a recommendation for private schools: Tell your story. As more Indiana parents use their children's public funding to access your schools, the public will be interested to hear more about how you are serving such families, particularly if you have the capacity to serve more. And it appears you do.

# OVERVIEW

Indiana is at the national forefront on private school choice. With the broadest eligibility guidelines among the country's 22 other school voucher programs, Indiana's Choice Scholarship Program has seen enrollment more than double each year since being enacted in 2011. Today, when compared with voucher programs in 12 other states, Indiana has the highest participation level: 29,146 students enrolled in 2014-15.<sup>1</sup>

Among those participating in the program ("Choice students"), 49 percent are male and 51 percent are female. Also, more than one-half are white (56 percent), and approximately two-thirds live in a city (67 percent).<sup>2</sup>

But what about Indiana's private schools participating in the Choice Scholarship Program? What do they look like and what does the future hold for families wishing to access those schools?

Although Indiana's Department of Education (IDOE) has compiled a comprehensive report on Choice students, little is known on the supply of private schools or open seats available for Choice students. In recent years, the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE), the Indiana Non-Public Education Association (INPEA), and the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice have conducted their own surveys of Indiana's private schools, allowing for better-informed policies and decision-making.

This report synthesizes information collected in two unique surveys of Indiana's private schools, one by the USDOE and another by INPEA and the Friedman Foundation. It starts with a short overview of the data sources followed by the key findings from the two surveys.

Each survey offers key profile and demographic characteristics of Indiana's private school sector and should provide a healthy foundation for future policy

decisions and any debated changes to Indiana's robust private school choice environment.

## Survey Data Sources and Brief Background

*U.S. Department of Education.* The federal government has conducted biennial surveys of private schools in each state for more than two decades. USDOE's National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) started collecting data every other school year to generate information on the number of private schools, students, and teachers and to build a list of private schools starting with the 1989-90 school year through its Private School Universe Survey (PSS).<sup>3</sup> The most recent survey—with publicly available data—was conducted in the 2011-12 school year.<sup>4</sup>

Each year the USDOE has asked for information about certain school qualities, such as address and primary contact information, school district and county of residence, grade span, number of teachers, number of students, website, and any school association membership. According to the USDOE's most recent survey report, there are 969 nonpublic private schools in Indiana serving 111,872 students overall.<sup>5</sup> Of those, the USDOE received survey responses from 672 schools serving 91,680 K-12 students.<sup>6</sup> Notably, those numbers include 54 kindergarten-terminal (PK-K or K-only) schools serving 664 kindergarteners and 154 Amish schools serving 6,608 students in grades kindergarten through ninth.<sup>7</sup> Additionally, those numbers include three ungraded schools serving 62 ungraded students.<sup>8</sup> Excluding kindergarten-terminal, ungraded, and Amish schools, the USDOE received survey responses from 461 schools serving 84,346 K-12 students.<sup>9</sup> Although there is a question in this brief asking which schools are religious and which denominations are represented, not including Amish schools, an added question does include Amish schools and is the only part of the analysis in which they are included.

*INPEA/Friedman Foundation.* From October 14, 2013 to August 4, 2014, INPEA and the Friedman Foundation administered a survey of Indiana’s nonpublic, private schools. The purpose of that assessment was five-fold: (1) establish currently available seats and capacities to enroll additional students, both non-Choice and Choice students; (2) document how many schools supplement the voucher amount; (3) measure participation in the state’s voucher program; (4) measure how many Choice students have special needs; and (5) measure how many schools enroll Choice students with special needs.

The Friedman Foundation, in its role overseeing the capacity data collection and analysis, received responses from 367 private schools operating in Indiana, including responses to INPEA’s annual survey, serving at least 79,956 students. Based on the USDOE’s total number of Indiana private school students, the INPEA/Friedman Foundation estimates seven out of 10 private school students across the state (71 percent) were covered. There were 598 private

schools on the survey contact list that met at least three conditions: (1) the school had an email address or phone number; (2) the school had at least one grade level other than kindergarten; (3) the denomination of the school was not Amish. Therefore, the INPEA/Friedman Foundation survey had a 61 percent school-level response rate. Assuming the survey’s administration minimized any non-response bias, the survey’s sample should provide a meaningful representation of the state’s private school sector.



# PART I

INPEA/Friedman Foundation  
(2013-14)

## Do Indiana’s private schools have available seats for new students?

Of the schools taking part in the INPEA /Friedman Foundation survey, it’s estimated more than 23,000 open seats—across K-12—are available in the state’s private school sector. Note that this is based solely on data provided directly by 367 private schools in this survey.<sup>10</sup>

Open Seats in Indiana Private Schools (2013-14)

	Number of Open Seats
TOTAL	23,502
Elementary School	12,227
Middle School	6,194
High School	5,081

## How many of Indiana’s private schools participate in the voucher program and how many seats do they have available for new students?

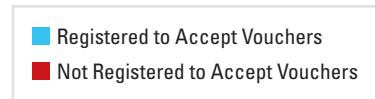
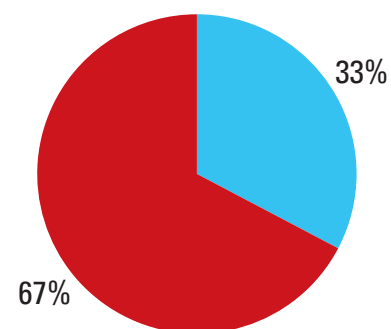
Approximately one-third of the schools in the state (33 percent; 317 of 969 schools) are registered with the Indiana Department of Education to participate in the state’s Choice Scholarship Program in 2014-15.<sup>11</sup> Those schools are mostly religious (97 percent; 306 of 317 schools) and slightly more than one out of two participating schools are Catholic (55 percent; 173 of 317 schools). The percentage of Indiana’s private schools enrolling Choice students has grown over time from one-quarter to nearly one-third.<sup>12</sup>

Indiana Private Schools Registered to Accept Vouchers (2014-15)

Registered to Accept Vouchers	Number of Private Schools
Yes	317
No	652

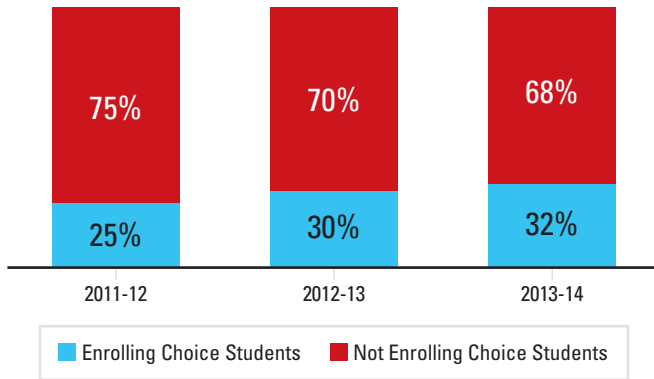
Of the voucher-accepting private schools taking part in the INPEA/Friedman Foundation survey, it’s estimated more than 21,000 open seats—across K-12—are available in the state’s private school sector. Note that this is based solely on data provided directly by 292 voucher-accepting private schools in this survey (92 percent). The projected estimate, based on 2013-14 enrollment data, is closer to 22,000 for the 317 private schools registered to participate in Indiana’s voucher program in 2014-15.<sup>13</sup>

Proportion of Indiana Private Schools Registered to Accept Vouchers (2014-15)



*Continued*

Proportion of Indiana Private Schools Enrolling Choice Students (2011-12 to 2013-14)



Open Seats in Indiana Voucher-Accepting Private Schools (2013-14)

	Number of Open Seats	Number of Open Seats (Projection)
TOTAL	21,304	22,362
Elementary School	10,881	11,446
Middle School	5,580	5,856
High School	4,843	5,060

What proportion of private schools supplement the voucher amount with local assistance dollars?

Of those schools that responded to this question, 55 percent (89 schools) provide students financial assistance on top of the voucher amount, which is a maximum of either \$4,800 (K-8) or \$4,500 (9-12) in 2014-15.<sup>14</sup> That may suggest, at least for some schools, voucher amounts are not adequate to cover the cost of enrolled Choice students.

Indiana Voucher-Accepting Private Schools Supplementing Voucher Funds (2013-14)

Supplement Voucher Funds	Number of Voucher-Accepting Private Schools	Percent of Voucher-Accepting Private Schools
Yes	89	55%
No	73	45%

## Which cities and counties have the most open seats in private schools registered to participate in the state’s voucher program?

Indianapolis has the most open K-12 seats in private schools registered to participate in the Choice Scholarship Program in 2014-15, based on 2013-14 enrollment. In fact, the open seats in Indianapolis are more than double those for any other city—even more than the next two cities combined. Note that those numbers are based solely on data provided directly by 292 voucher-accepting private schools in this survey (92 percent).

Marion County has the most open K-12 seats in schools registered to participate in the Choice Scholarship Program in 2014-15. In addition to Indianapolis, this includes Beech Grove (19 open seats) and Speedway (25 open seats). Allen County has more than one-half (53 percent) of the open seats Marion County does. In addition to Fort Wayne, this includes Monroeville (145 open seats), New Haven (182 open seats), Woodburn (115 open seats), and Yoder (48 open seats). St. Joseph and Lake counties have slightly less than one-half the open seats Marion County does (45 percent and 43 percent, respectively). In addition to South Bend and Mishawaka, St. Joseph’s count includes Granger (189 open seats) and North Liberty (54 open seats). Lake County’s open seats are spread across Crown Point (135 open seats), East Chicago (35 open seats), Gary (108 open seats), Griffith (66 open seats), Hammond (228 open seats), Highland (197 open seats), Hobart (118 open seats), Merrillville (255 open seats), Munster (155 open seats), Schererville (122 open seats), St. John (175 open seats), and Whiting (95 open seats). Vanderburgh County is the only other Indiana county with more than 600 open K-12 seats in private schools registered to participate in the Choice Scholarship Program in 2014-15 and that includes only the open seats in Evansville. These data are based solely on responses provided directly by the 292 voucher-accepting private schools in this survey (92 percent).

Top 10 Indiana Cities Having Largest Number of Open Seats for Choice Students (2013-14)

City	Number of Open Seats in Voucher-Accepting Private Schools
Indianapolis	3,880
Fort Wayne	1,602
Evansville	1,292
South Bend	1,106
Anderson	554
Mishawaka	410
Greenwood	374
Elkhart	355
Columbus	339
New Albany	336

Top 10 Indiana Counties Having Largest Number of Open Seats for Choice Students (2013-14)

County	Number of Open Seats in Voucher-Accepting Private Schools
Marion	3,924
Allen	2,092
St. Joseph	1,759
Lake	1,689
Vanderburgh	1,292
Madison	594
Elkhart	571
Hendricks	466
Clark	455
Johnson	436

## Which cities have the most private schools registered to participate in the state's voucher program and which enroll the most Choice students?

More than one-fourth (28 percent) of the state's private schools registered for the Choice Scholarship Program are located in Indianapolis or Fort Wayne (89 of 317 schools).

Although the number of registered schools in Indianapolis is about twice that of Fort Wayne, 2,786 Choice students lived in the district for Fort Wayne Community Schools in 2013-14, more than the 2,657 that lived in the district for Indianapolis Public Schools. However, the number of Choice students residing in any Indianapolis school district was 4,967 in 2013-14 (including the eight township school districts) and the number of Choice students residing in any Fort Wayne school district was 3,449 (including the districts for East Allen County Schools, Northwest Allen County Schools, and MSD Southwest Allen County Schools).

The other top five cities for the number of voucher-accepting private schools had 920 Choice students (Evansville), 1,570 Choice students (South Bend), and 504 Choice students (Anderson).<sup>15</sup>

Top 10 Indiana Cities Having Largest Number of Voucher-Accepting Private Schools (2014-15)

County	Number of Voucher-Accepting Private Schools
Indianapolis	60
Fort Wayne	29
Evansville	17
South Bend	17
Anderson	8
Lafayette	7
Bloomington	6
Gary	5
Michigan City	5
Mishawaka	5

Choice Students by School District in Indianapolis and Fort Wayne (2013-14)

School District	Number of Choice Students
INDIANAPOLIS TOTAL	4,967
Indianapolis Public Schools	2,657
MSD Lawrence Township	432
MSD Perry Township	407
MSD Warren Township	382
MSD Pike Township	339
MSD Washington Township	282
MSD Wayne Township	207
Franklin Township Community School Corp.	201
MSD Decatur Township	60
FORT WAYNE TOTAL	3,449
Fort Wayne Community Schools	2,786
East Allen County Schools	424
Northwest Allen County Schools	132
MSD Southwest Allen County Schools	107

Source: Office of School Finance, *Choice Scholarship Program Annual Report: Participation and Payment Data: 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014*, rev. ed. (Indianapolis: Ind. Dept. of Education, Office of School Finance, 2014), pp. 23-30, appendix A, <http://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/choice/choice-scholarship-program-annual-report-061614.pdf>.

## How many Choice students have special needs?

For the schools that responded to this question, it's estimated nearly one-tenth of the available private school seats (8 percent; 985 students) were filled by Choice students with special needs in 2013-14.<sup>16</sup> That is less than the approximately 15 percent of Indiana public school seats being filled by students with special needs in 2013-14.<sup>17</sup>

Choice Students with Special Needs (2013-14)

Student Profile	Number of Choice Students	Percent of Choice Students
With Special Needs	985	8%
Without Special Needs	10,719	92%

## What proportion of voucher-accepting private schools enroll Choice students with special needs?

Of those schools that responded to the previous question, 85 percent (138 of 163 schools) enrolled at least one Choice student with special needs in 2013-14.

Indiana Private Schools Enrolling Choice Students with Special Needs (2013-14)

Enrolled Choice Student(s) with Special Needs	Number of Voucher-Accepting Private Schools	Percent of Voucher-Accepting Private Schools
Yes	138	85%
No	25	15%

# PART II

U.S. Department of Education:  
PSS Datasets 1989-1990 to 2011-12

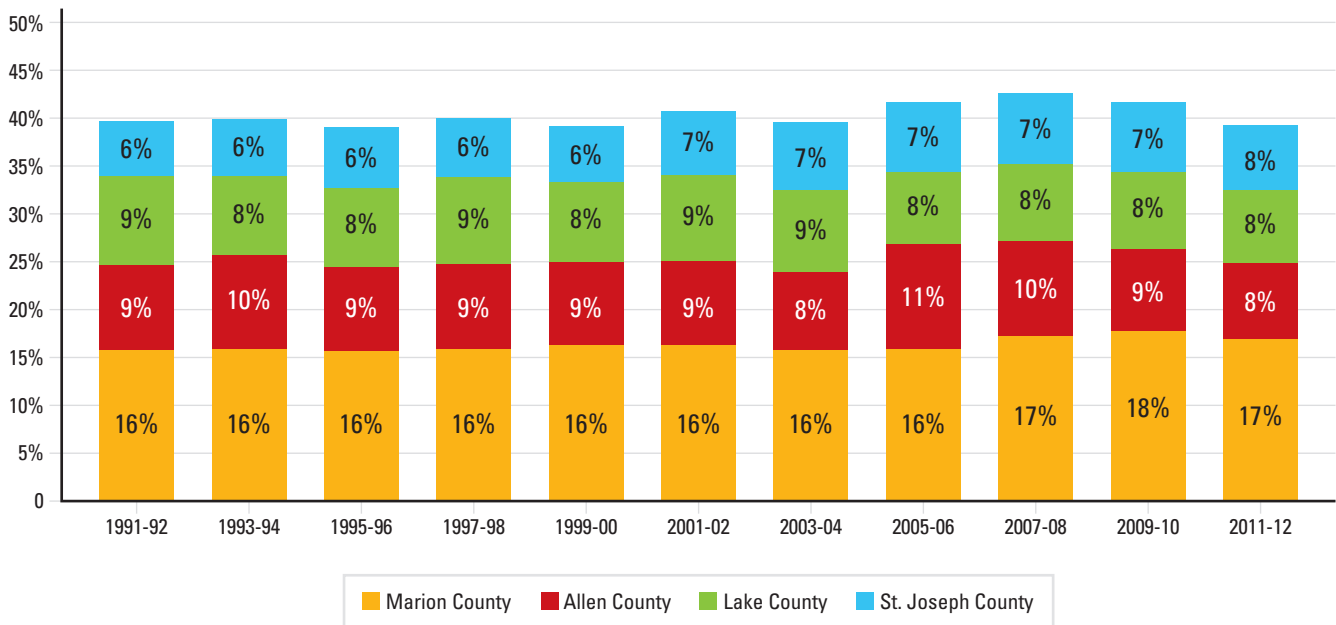
## What geographic areas have the most private schools?

Marion County has approximately 17 percent of the state’s private schools (78 of 461 schools). Allen County and Lake County each has approximately 8 percent of the state’s private schools (37 schools and 35 schools, respectively), whereas St. Joseph County has approximately 7 percent of the state’s private schools (31 schools). Generally speaking, those four areas represent the cradles of private schools spread out across the state. Marion County’s proportion of the state’s private schools has changed little over time.<sup>18</sup>

Top 11 Indiana Counties Having Largest Number of Private Schools (2011-12)

County	Number of Private Schools	Number of Private School Students
Marion	78	21,005
Allen	37	9,396
Lake	35	7,395
St. Joseph	31	6,971
Elkhart	21	2,209
Hamilton	17	3,561
Vanderburgh	15	4,408
Porter	13	1,706
Tippecanoe	11	1,982
LaPorte	9	1,214
Howard	9	573

Proportion of Indiana Private Schools by County (1991-92 to 2011-12)





## What types of communities have the most private schools?

Nearly two out of five (38 percent) private schools in Indiana are located in a city (176 of 461 schools). Nearly one out of four (23 percent) of the state’s private schools are located in a rural area (107 of 461 schools). However, 50 percent of Indiana’s private school students attend school in a city, compared with 25 percent in a suburban area, 14 percent in a rural area, and 10 percent in a town. Comparatively, nearly two out of three (67 percent) Choice students live in a city, 18 percent live in a suburban area, 8 percent live in a rural area, and 7 percent live in a town.<sup>19</sup>

The distribution of Indiana’s private schools by type of community has differed little over time, although there has been slight growth of the share of schools in cities and a small drop in the share of schools in towns.

Indiana Private Schools by Community Type (2011-12)

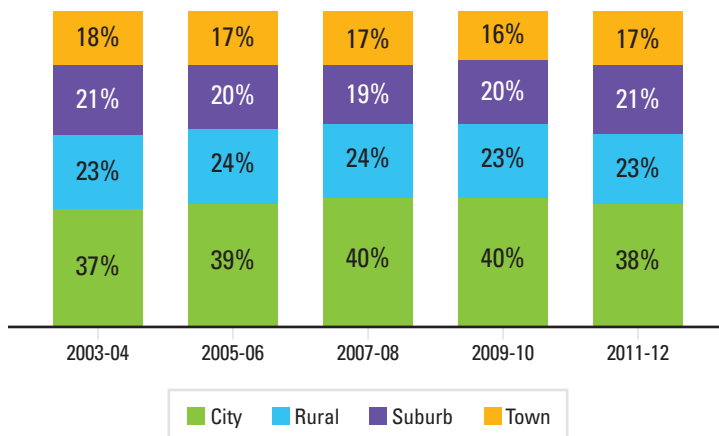
Community Type	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
City	176	38%
Rural	107	23%
Suburb	98	21%
Town	80	17%

Indiana Students by Community Type: Comparing All Private School Students and Choice Students

Community Type	Number of Private School Students (2011-12)	Percent of State's Private School Students (2011-12)	Number of Choice Students (2013-14)	Percent of State's Choice Students (2013-14)
City	42,010	50%	13,175	67%
Suburb	21,481	25%	3,525	18%
Rural	12,058	14%	1,669	8%
Town	8,797	10%	1,440	7%

Source: Office of School Finance, *Choice Scholarship Program Annual Report: Participation and Payment Data: 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014*, rev. ed. (Indianapolis: Ind. Dept. of Education, Office of School Finance, 2014), p. 10, <http://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/choice/choice-scholarship-program-annual-report-061614.pdf>.

Proportion of Indiana Private Schools by Community Type (2003-04 to 2011-12)



## Which cities have the most private schools?

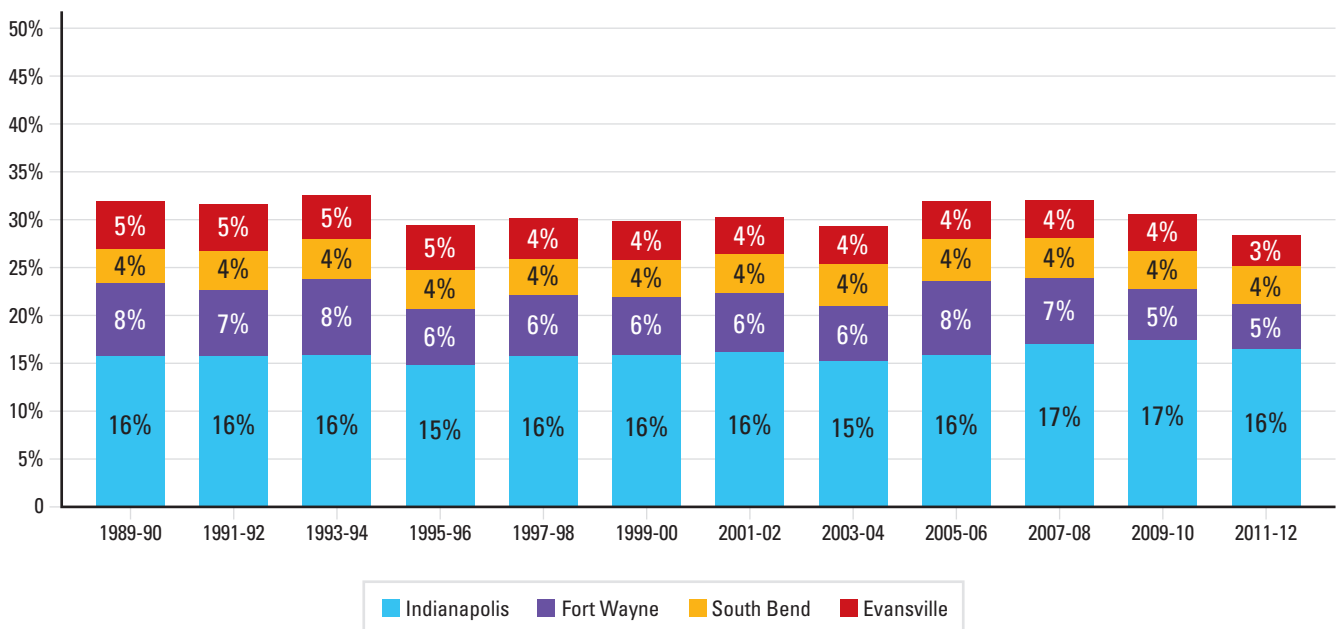
Approximately one-quarter (25 percent) of the state’s private schools are located in Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, or South Bend (116 of 461 schools).

The percentage of the state’s private schools located in Indianapolis and South Bend have fluctuated over time but have remained fairly consistent, whereas the concentrations of schools in Fort Wayne has fluctuated to the point of diminishment and the concentration of schools in Evansville has decreased over time. These four areas have contained anywhere from more than one-quarter (28 percent in 2011-12) to approximately one-third (33 percent in 1993-94) of the state’s private schools over time.

Top 10 Indiana Cities Having Largest Number of Private Schools (2011-12)

City	Number of Private Schools	Number of Private School Students
Indianapolis	76	20,722
Fort Wayne	22	8,019
South Bend	18	4,560
Evansville	15	4,408
Lafayette	9	1,928
Kokomo	9	573
Mishawaka	8	1,673
Columbus	8	1,235
Bloomington	8	1,137
Goshen	8	797

Proportion of Indiana Private Schools by City (1989-90 to 2011-12)

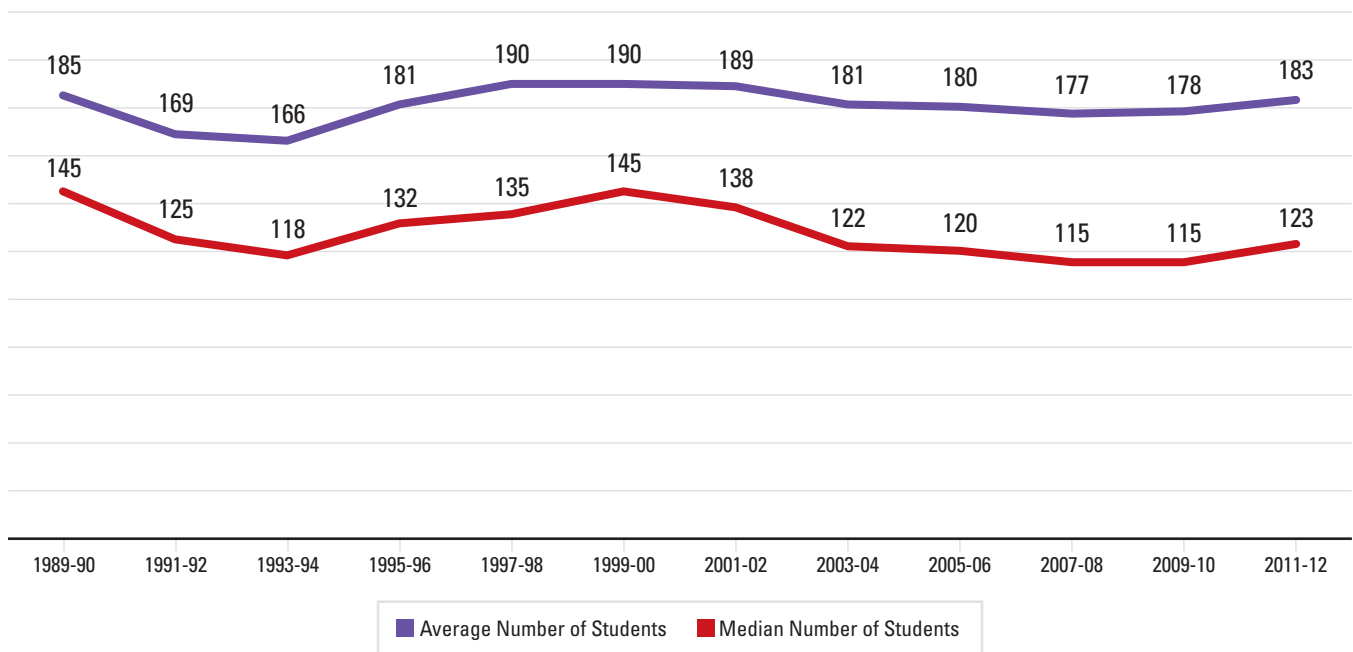


## What is the state's average and median private school size (enrollment)?

The average private school size in Indiana is 183 K-12 students, and the median private school size in Indiana is 123 K-12 students (half of all private schools are above/below that enrollment number). The reason the median is so much lower than the average is most likely a result of there being 53 schools with fewer than 20 K-12 students.

After a decline in the state's average private school size in the early 1990s, it increased and leveled out to what it is today. After a similar decline in the state's median private school size in the early 1990s, it also increased and leveled out to what it is today. Speculative reasons for the change could be anything from a greater number of schools with fewer than 20 K-12 students responding in some years more than others to some schools with separate levels (K-6 and 7-12) merging.

Enrollment in Indiana Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



## What are the most common grade spans for Indiana's private schools?

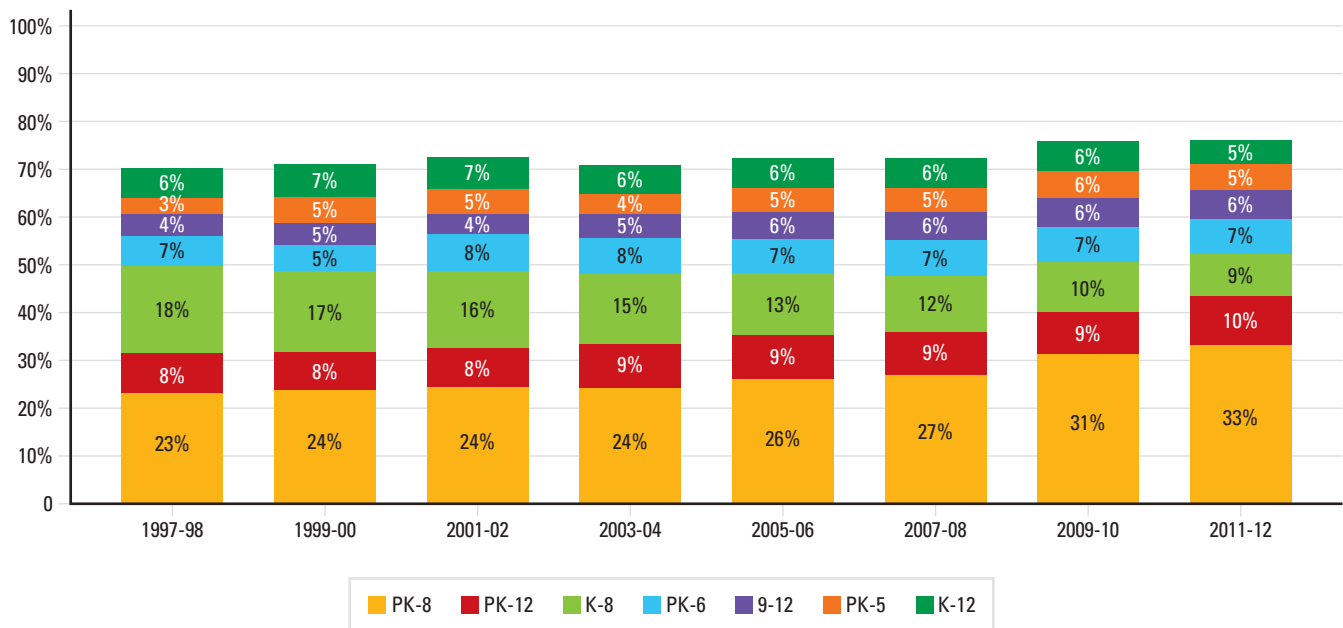
Approximately one out of three (33 percent) private schools (153 of 461 schools) has the grade span of pre-kindergarten through eighth grade (PK-8). That is significantly higher than the number of private schools in the state spanning PK-12 (10 percent), K-8 (9 percent), PK-6 (7 percent), or 9-12 (6 percent). The 461 private schools in Indiana have at least 45 different grade spans of the possible 102 combinations analyzed.

Although schools with grade spans of PK-8 account for one out of three Indiana private schools (33 percent), according to the latest data, they used to represent fewer than one out of four (23 percent). This may be explained by schools serving grades K-8 adding PK, since the percent of schools with this grade span used to be 18 percent but was cut in half to 9 percent.

10 Most Common Grade Spans of Indiana Private Schools (2011-12)

Grade Span	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
PK-8	153	33%
PK-12	47	10%
K-8	41	9%
PK-6	33	7%
9-12	29	6%
PK-5	24	5%
K-12	23	5%
1-8	13	3%
1-12	11	2%
7-12	11	2%

Most Common Grade Spans of Indiana Private Schools (1997-98 to 2011-12)



## What proportion of the state’s private schools also offer pre-kindergarten? How many schools?

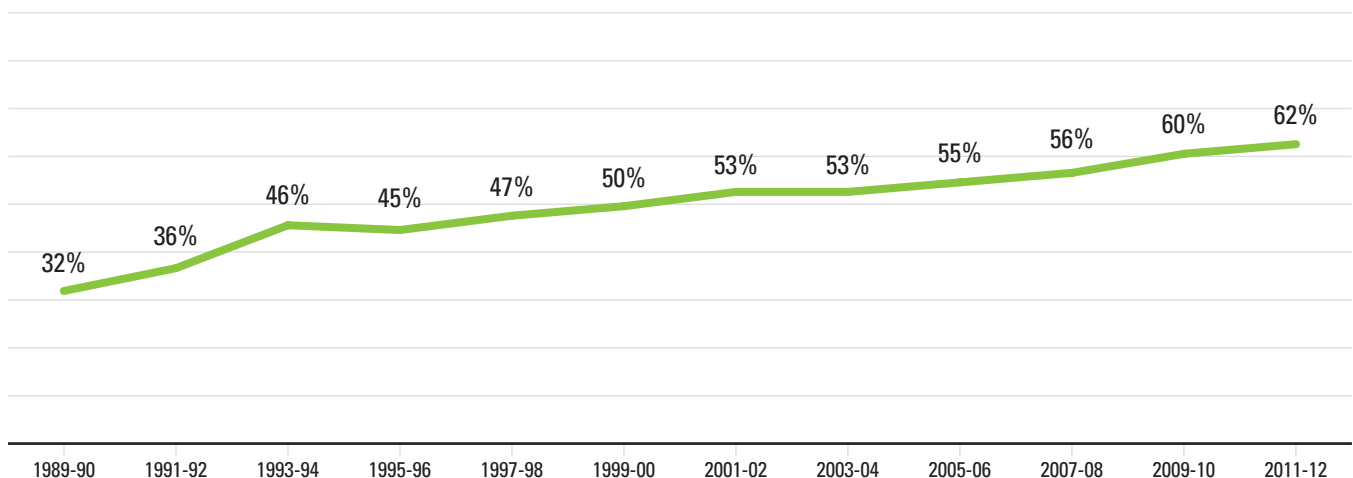
It is estimated that 285 private schools in Indiana already offer pre-kindergarten, representing more than three out of five (62 percent) of the state’s private schools. By comparison, 221 public schools in Indiana already offer pre-kindergarten, representing a little more than one out of 10 (12 percent) of the state’s public schools.<sup>20</sup>

The share of private schools offering PK jumped from nearly one out of three (32 percent) in 1989-90, to more than one out of two (53 percent) in 2001-02, before gradually increasing to what it is today. This suggests an increase in demand for PK over time.

Indiana Schools Offering Pre-Kindergarten (2011-12)

Offer PK	Number of Public Schools	Percent of State's Public Schools	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
Yes	221	12%	285	62%
No	1,684	88%	176	38%

Proportion of Indiana Private Schools Offering Pre-Kindergarten (1989-90 to 2011-12)



## What is the racial makeup of the state's private schools?

More than eight of 10 private school students (82 percent) are white. That is more than the approximately 72 percent of Indiana's public school students identified as white that same year.<sup>21</sup> Comparatively, approximately one out of two (56 percent) Choice students are white, nearly one out of five (18 percent) are Hispanic or Latino, and nearly one out of five (17 percent) are black.<sup>22</sup>

From 2005-06 to 2011-12, the population size of Indiana's white private school students decreased by 16 percent, compared with the population size of Indiana's white public school students decreasing by 6 percent and the overall population size of Indiana's white citizens only minutely decreasing (less than one-tenth of a percent) from 2006 to 2012. Conversely, the population size of the state's black private school students has decreased by 16 percent, compared with the population size of Indiana's black public school students increasing by 1 percent and the overall population size of Indiana's black citizens increasing by 7 percent. During these same timeframes, the state's population of Asian or Pacific Islander private school students increased 88 percent, while the population of similar public school students increased 50 percent and the population of similar Indiana citizens increased by 35 percent. The state's population of Hispanic private school students increased 25 percent, while the state's population of Hispanic public school students increased 58 percent and the state's Hispanic citizen population increased 37 percent. The state's population of American Indian or Alaska Native private school students decreased 47 percent, the state's population of similar public school students increased 2 percent, and the population of similar citizens in Indiana increased 34 percent.<sup>23</sup>

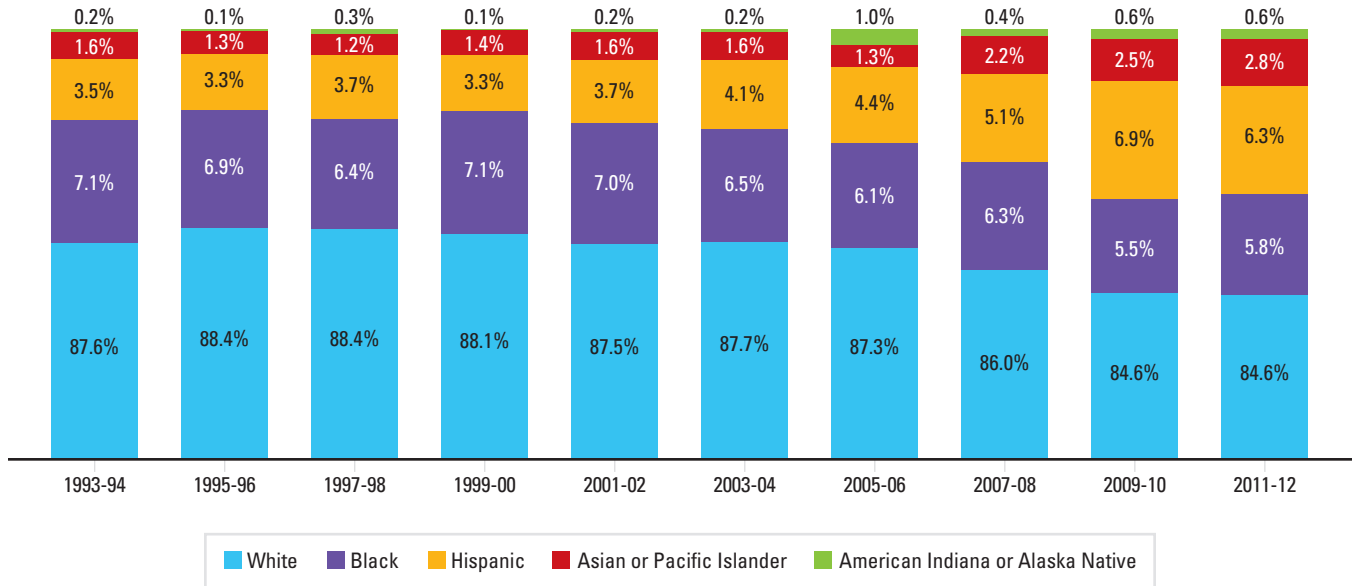
### Indiana Students by Race and Ethnicity: Comparing All Private School Students and Choice Students

	Number of Private School Students (2011-12)	Percent of State's Private School Students (2011-12)	Number of Choice Students (2013-14)	Percent of State's Choice Students (2013-14)
White	68,470	82.1%	11,173	56.4%
Hispanic or Latino	5,073	6.1%	3,648	18.4%
Black	4,731	5.7%	3,373	17.0%
Two or More	2,463	3.0%	1,277	6.4%
Asian	2,092	2.5%	275	1.4%
American Indian/Alaska Native	472	0.6%	48	0.2%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	138	0.2%	15	0.1%

Source: Office of School Finance, *Choice Scholarship Program Annual Report: Participation and Payment Data: 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014*, rev. ed. (Indianapolis: Ind. Dept. of Education, Office of School Finance, 2014), p. 9, table 8, <http://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/choice/choice-scholarship-program-annual-report-061614.pdf>.

Continued

Racial and Ethnic Composition of Indiana Private Schools (1993-94 to 2011-12)



## How long is each year and day for students attending the state’s private schools?

Students attend Indiana’s private schools for approximately 6.7 hours per day for 177 days of the year, on average.

Though the median number of school days per year has remained constant over time, the average number of school days per year has fluctuated over time. That implies there may be a portion of private schools with more than 180 school days per year that have adjusted the length of their school years over time, although that also could be explained by different private schools responding to the survey in different years.

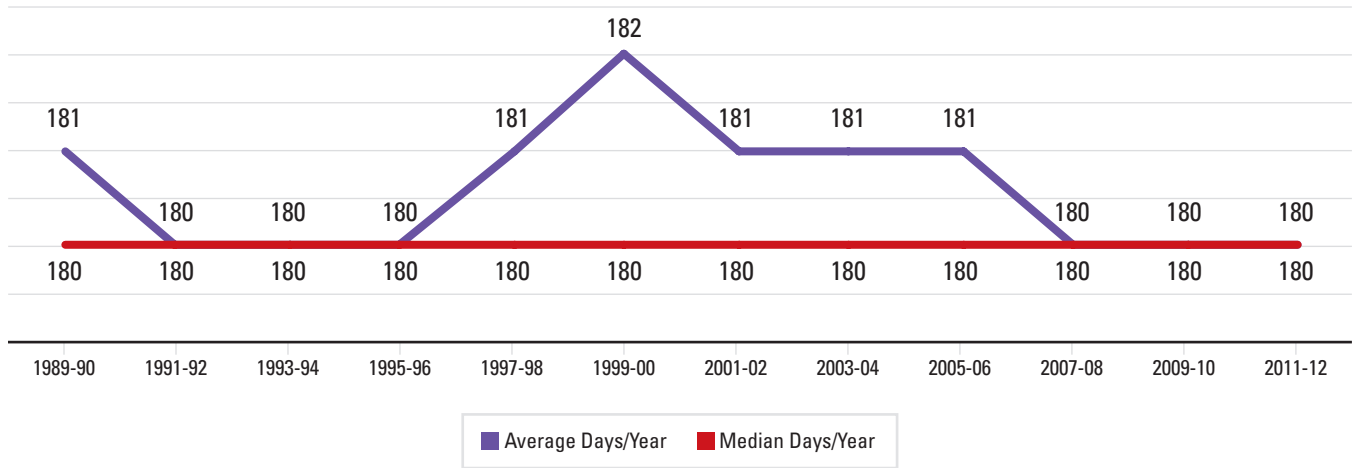
Since the early 1990s, private schools have gradually increased the length of their school day by a modest amount. The median of hours per school day started at 6.0 in the early 1990s and increased to 7.0 in 2005-06, which was also the first year the average hours per school day increased to more than 6.5.

Length of School Year and Day for Indiana Private Schools (2011-12)

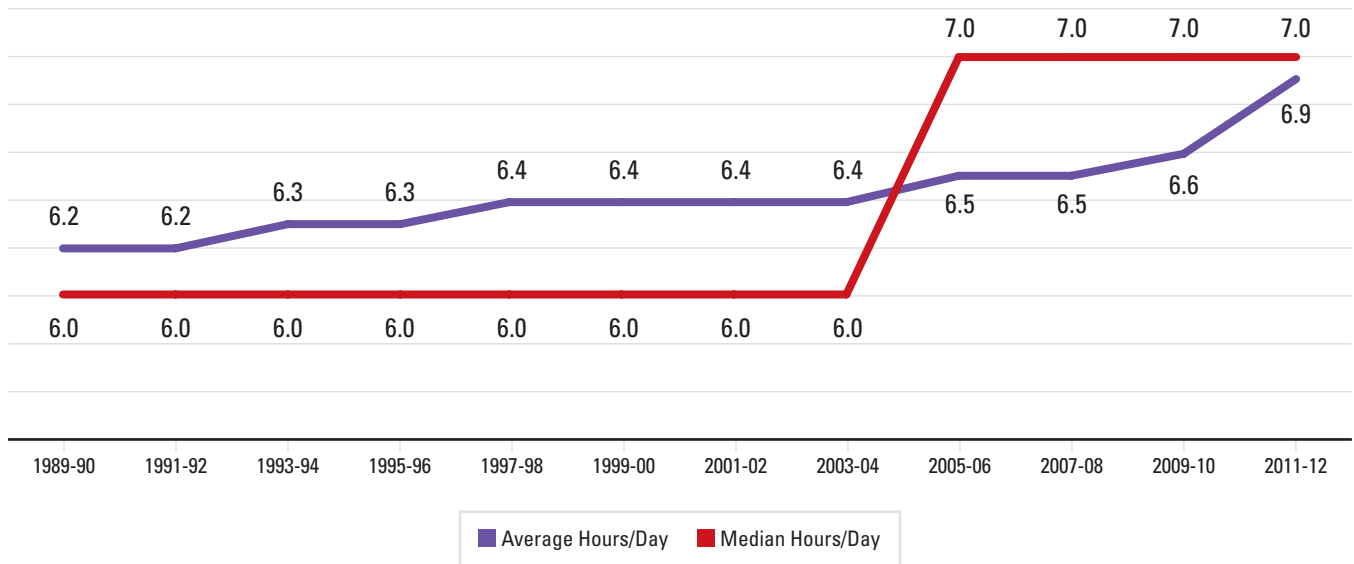
	Average	Median
Number of School Days/Year	180	180
Number of School Hours/Day	6.9	7.0

Continued

School Days Per Year in Indiana Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



School Hours Per Day in Indiana Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)





## What is the average class size in Indiana’s schools?

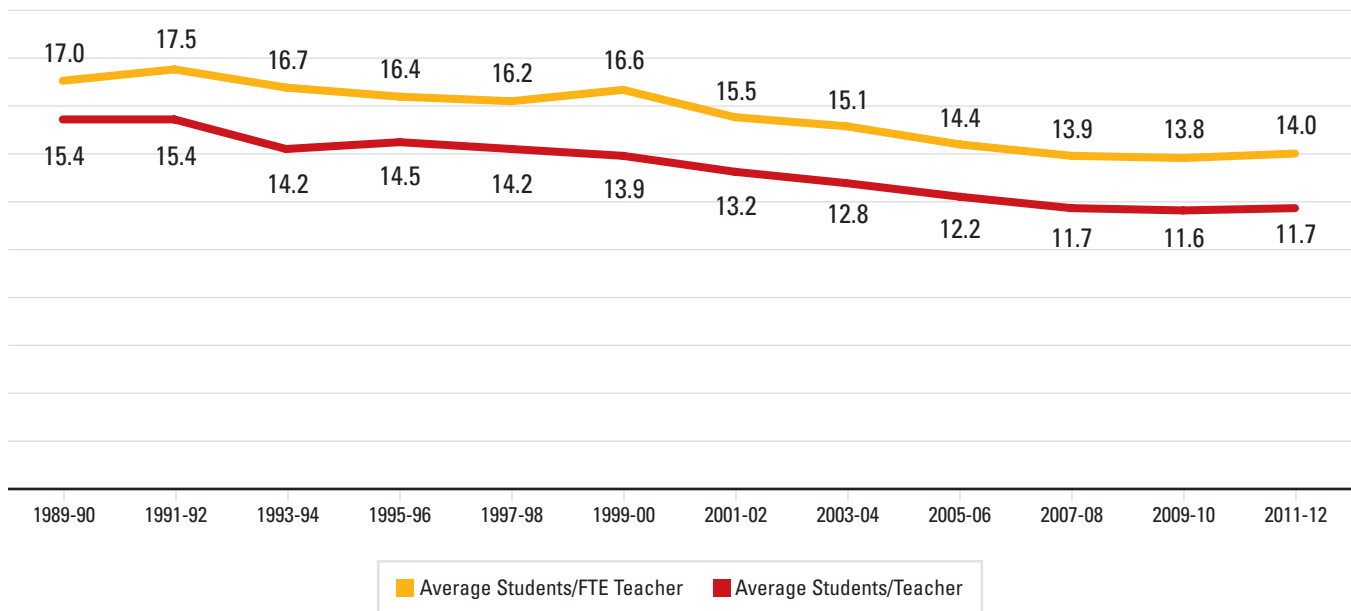
On average, there are nearly 12 students per teacher (11.7:1) in Indiana’s private schools. However, when considering only full-time equivalent teachers, that increases to 14 students per teacher (14.0:1). By comparison, there are nearly 17 students per full-time equivalent teacher (16.6:1) in Indiana’s public schools.<sup>24</sup>

Since the early 1990s, private schools have gradually increased the number of teachers per student, including all teachers and their full-time equivalent. Although the average number of students per teacher has decreased over time (15.4:1 to 11.7:1), the average number of students per full-time equivalent teachers increased from 17.0:1 to 17.5:1 in the early 1990s before declining to the most recent level (14.0:1).

Student-Teacher Ratios in Indiana Schools (2011-12)

	Average	Median
Number of Students/FTE Teacher (Public)	16.6	16.8
Number of Students/FTE Teacher (Private)	14.0	14.1
Number of Students/Teacher (Private)	11.7	12.2

Student-Teacher Ratios in Indiana Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



## How many private schools are religious and what denominations are represented?

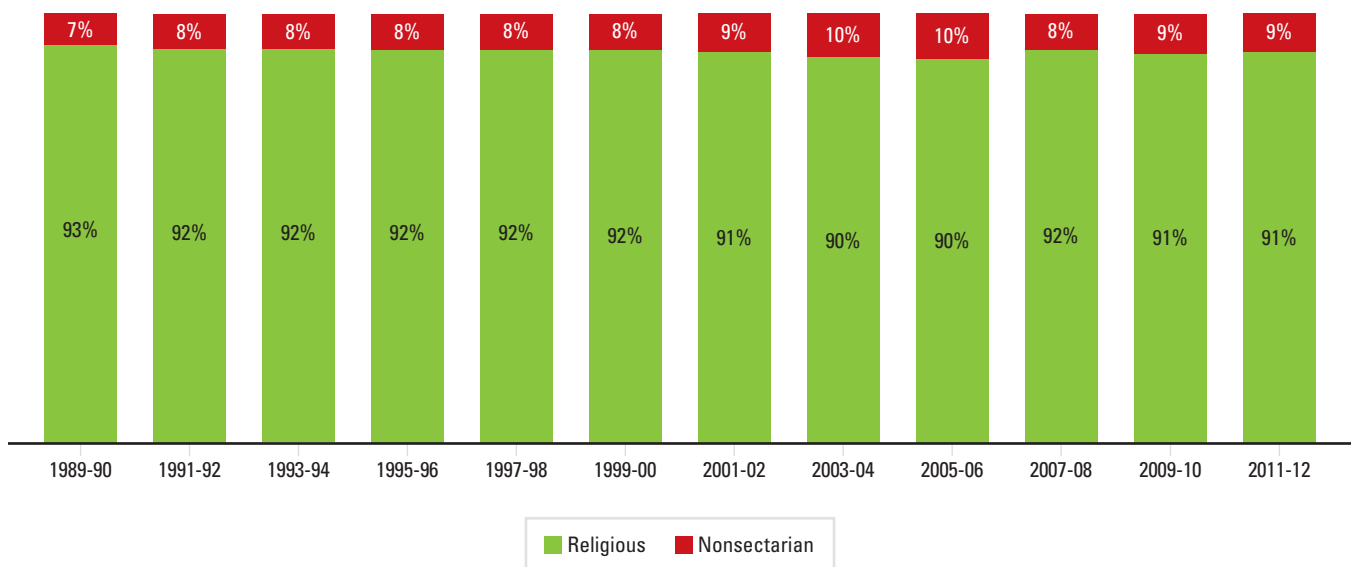
More than nine of 10 of Indiana’s private schools are religious in origin (91 percent; 421 of 461 schools). Indiana’s private schools have consistently been mostly religious in origin, with the population of religious schools accounting for 90 percent to 93 percent of the state’s total private school marketplace. Of those schools that are religious, most are Roman Catholic (39 percent; 179 of 575 schools).

Of the top five denominations—Roman Catholic, Christian (no specific denomination), Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, Baptist, and Mennonite—the percent of non-denominational Christian schools has grown the most, more than doubling over two decades (33 of 450 schools in 1989-90; 82 of 461 schools in 2011-12). The percent of Indiana’s private schools that self-identify as Roman Catholic has decreased from nearly one out of two in 1989-90 (48 percent; 214 of 450 schools) to a little fewer than two out of five. On average, over time, three out of four private schools in Indiana have belonged to one of these five denominations.

Religiosity of Indiana Private Schools (2011-12)

School Type	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
Religious	421	91%
Nonsectarian	40	9%

Religiosity of Indiana Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)

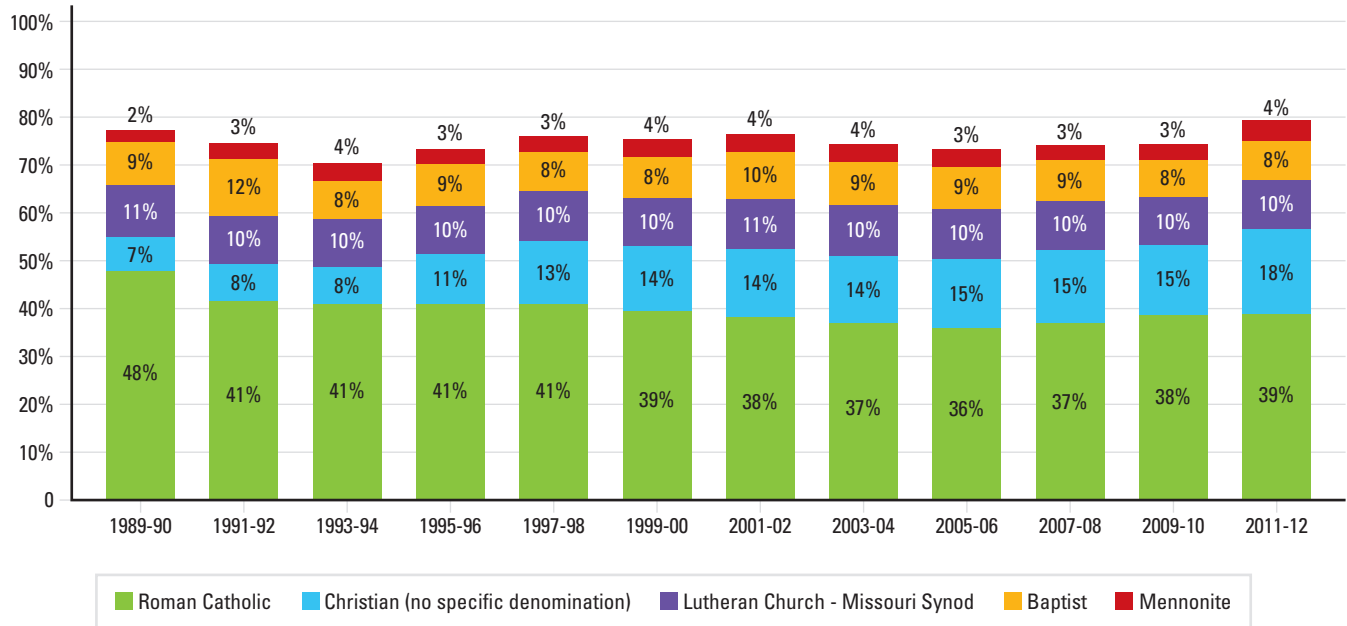


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Five Most Common Denominations of Indiana Private Schools (2011-12)

Denomination	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
Roman Catholic	179	39%
Christian (no specific denomination)	76	16%
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod	45	10%
Baptist	37	8%
Mennonite	19	4%

Most Common Denominations of Indiana Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



## Including Amish schools, how many private schools are religious and what denominations are represented?

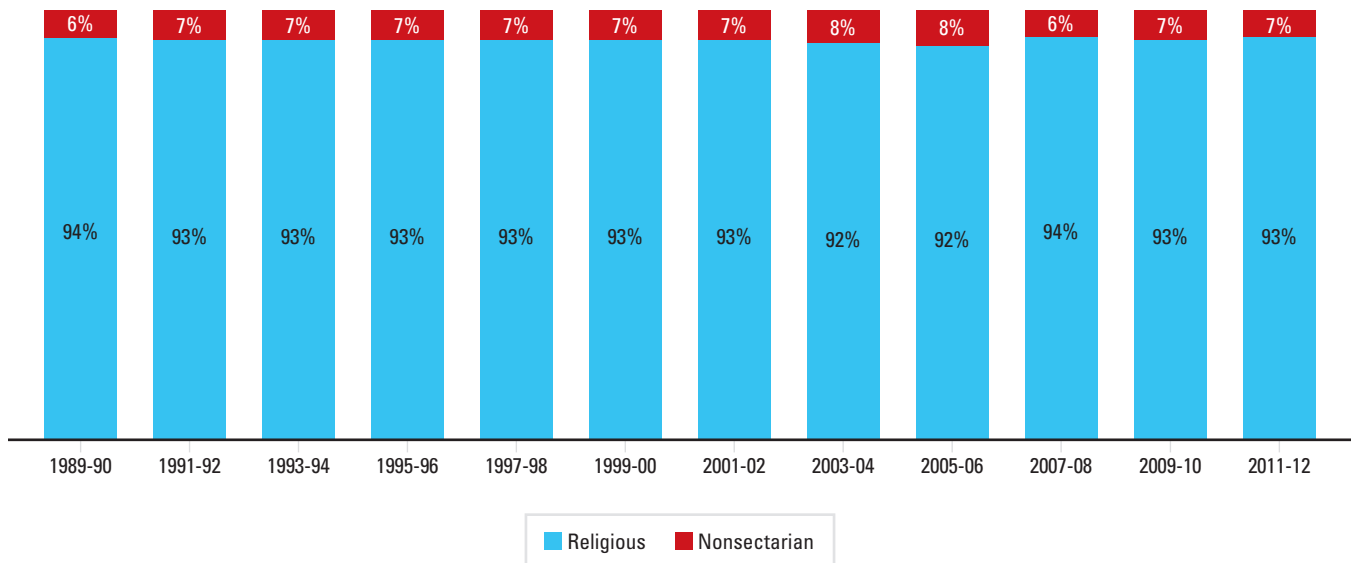
When including the Amish schools in Indiana’s private school population (see Appendix B), there is a slight increase in the proportion of private schools that are religious, from 91 percent to 93 percent (575 of 615 schools).

When including the Amish schools, Indiana’s religious private school affiliations over time have only slightly increased, with the population of religious schools accounting for 92 percent to 94 percent of the state’s total private school marketplace. Of those schools that are religious, most are Roman Catholic (29 percent; 179 of 615 schools). Of the top five denominations, the percent of Amish schools has grown the most, more than doubling over two decades (50 of 500 schools in 1989-90; 154 of 615 schools in 2011-12). As of 2009-10, Indiana had nearly two out of five of all Amish schools in the nation (19 percent; 159 of 827 schools). The percent of Indiana’s private schools that self-identify as Roman Catholic has decreased from more than two out of five in 1989-90 (43 percent; 214 of 500 schools) to a little more than one out of four.

Religiosity of Indiana Private Schools, Including Amish Schools (2011-12)

School Type	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
Religious	575	93%
Nonsectarian	40	7%

Religiosity of Indiana Private Schools, Including Amish Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)

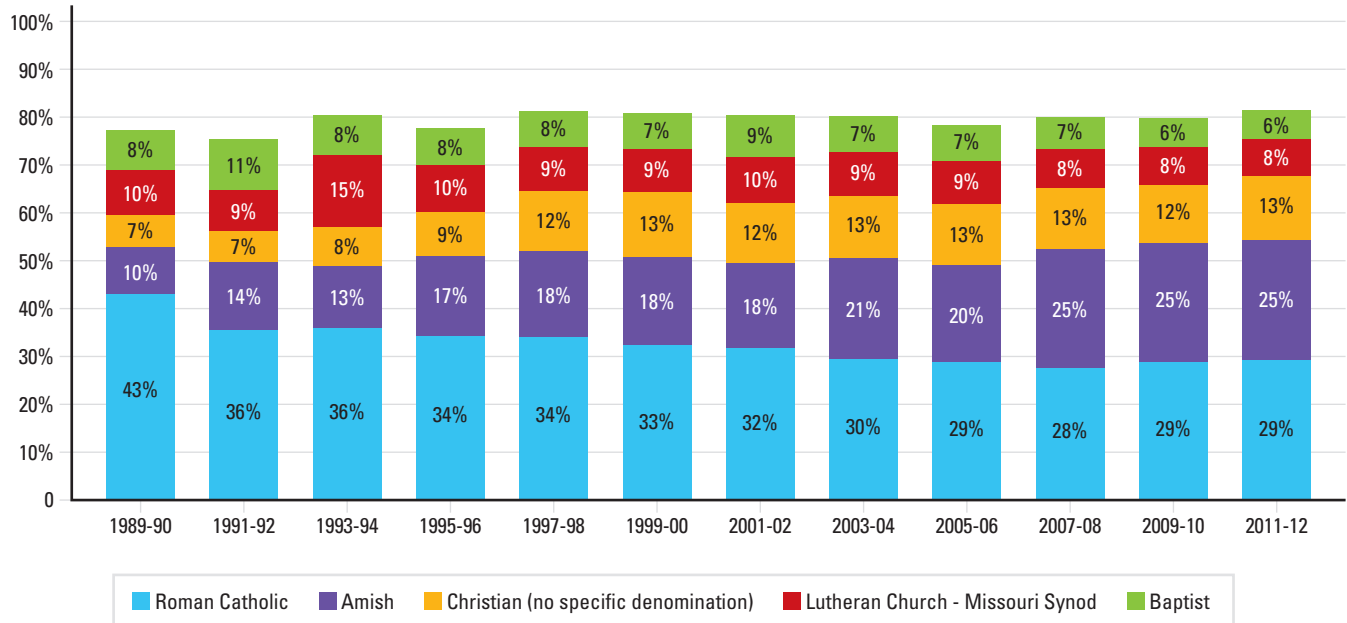


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Five Most Common Denominations of Indiana Private Schools, Including Amish Schools (2011-12)

Denomination	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
Roman Catholic	179	29%
Amish	154	25%
Christian (no specific denomination)	76	12%
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod	45	7%
Baptist	37	6%

Most Common Denominations of Indiana Private Schools, Including Amish Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



## How many private schools belong to an association and to what associations do they belong?

Approximately four out of five Indiana private schools belong to at least one association (80 percent; 369 of 461 schools). Although there has been a bit of fluctuation over time in the percent of schools belonging to at least one association, from 79 percent to 86 percent, approximately four out of five schools have consistently belonged to at least one association.

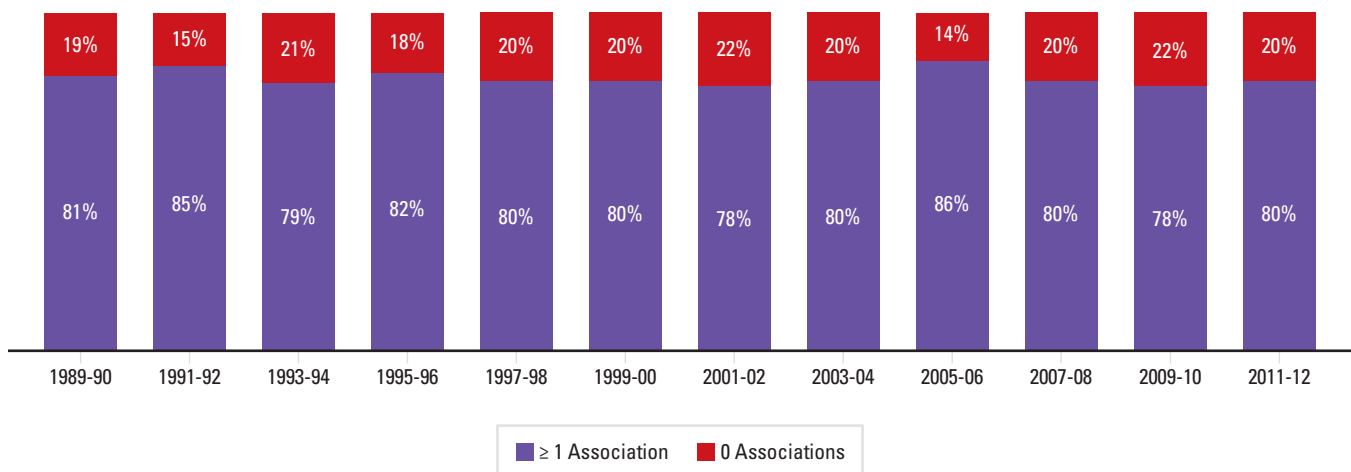
Of those schools in at least one association, most belong to the National Catholic Educational Association (43 percent; 160 of 369 schools).<sup>25</sup>

Of Indiana private schools' top three association memberships in 2011-12, the proportion of schools belonging to the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) has grown the most over time, from 7 percent in 1989-90 (30 of 450 schools) to 11 percent (50 of 672 schools). The percent of schools belonging to the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) has decreased the most over time, from approximately two out of five schools in 1989-90 (40 percent; 182 of 450 schools) to a little more than one out of three schools (35 percent; 160 of 461 schools). Aside from 2009-10, when NCEA, ACSI, and Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) represented 49 percent of Indiana's private schools, slightly more than one out of two private schools in Indiana have belonged to at least one of these three associations in each school year analyzed.

Association Affiliation of Indiana Private Schools (2011-12)

Affiliation	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
Belong to ≥ 1 Association	369	80%
Belong to 0 Associations	92	20%

Association Affiliation of Indiana Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)

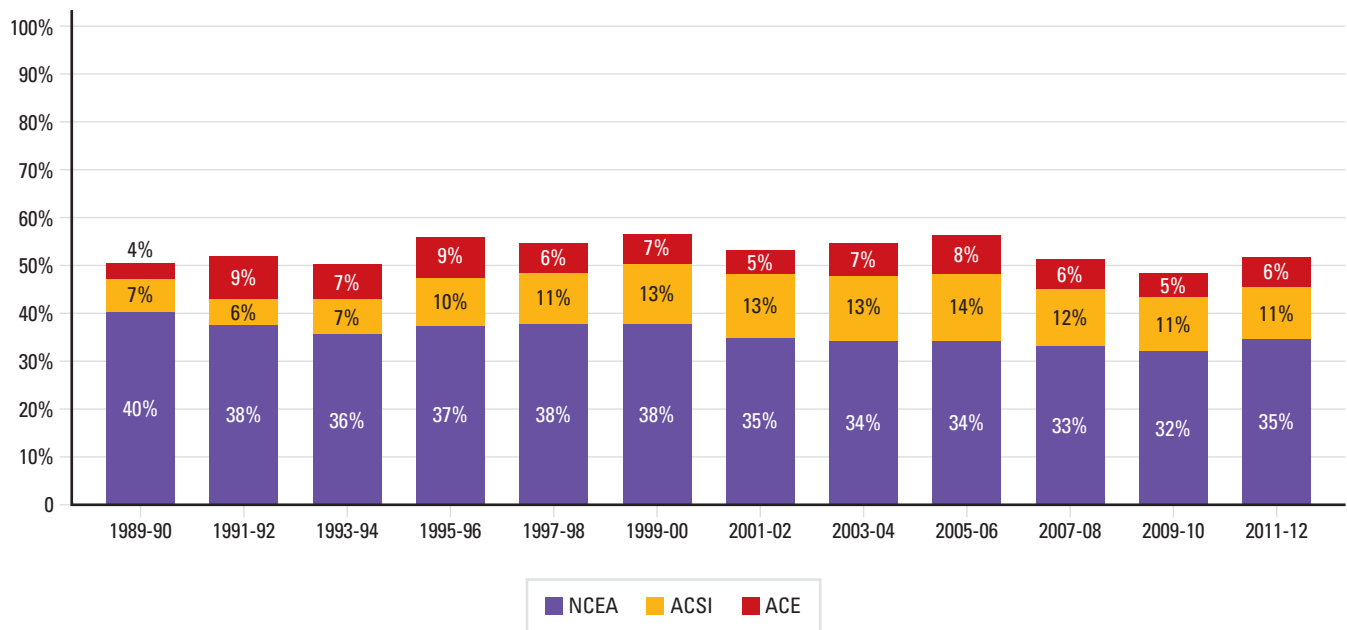


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Nine Most Common Association Affiliations of Indiana Private Schools (2011-12)

Association	Number of Private Schools	Percent of State's Private Schools
National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA)	160	35%
Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)	50	11%
State or regional independent school association	44	10%
Accelerated Christian Education (ACE)	29	6%
American Association of Christian Schools (AACS)	23	5%
American Montessori Society (AMS)	16	3%
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)	12	3%
General Conference of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church (GCSDAC)	11	2%
National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)	10	2%

Most Common Association Affiliations of Indiana Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



# APPENDIX A

**TABLE 1:** Number of Open Seats and Accompanying Choice Funds (based on 2012-13 average amount) by County

County	Open K-12 Seats (2013-14)	Choice Funds	County	Open K-12 Seats (2013-14)	Choice Funds
Marion	3,924	\$15,547,594	Wabash	116	\$459,613
Allen	2,092	\$8,288,881	Vigo	109	\$431,878
St. Joseph	1,759	\$6,969,475	Ripley	96	\$380,369
Lake	1,689	\$6,692,122	Harrison	95	\$376,407
Vanderburgh	1,292	\$5,119,137	LaGrange	94	\$372,445
Madison	594	\$2,353,535	Kosciusko	71	\$281,315
Elkhart	571	\$2,262,405	Franklin	66	\$261,504
Hendricks	466	\$1,846,376	Rush	66	\$261,504
Clark	455	\$1,802,792	Spencer	65	\$257,542
Johnson	436	\$1,727,510	Hancock	63	\$249,617
Floyd	426	\$1,687,889	Marshall	63	\$249,617
LaPorte	410	\$1,624,494	Shelby	58	\$229,806
Hamilton	387	\$1,533,364	Benton	57	\$225,844
Porter	373	\$1,477,893	Fayette	52	\$206,033
Bartholomew	339	\$1,343,179	Jennings	49	\$194,147
Posey	327	\$1,295,633	Starke	49	\$194,147
Monroe	320	\$1,267,898	Lawrence	47	\$186,222
Tippecanoe	308	\$1,220,351	Fountain	43	\$170,374
Grant	298	\$1,180,730	Adams	42	\$166,412
Delaware	297	\$1,176,767	Cass	19	\$75,281
Boone	263	\$1,042,053			
Howard	262	\$1,038,091			
DeKalb	258	\$1,022,242			
Morgan	257	\$1,018,280			
Jefferson	241	\$954,885			
Wayne	215	\$851,869			
Gibson	196	\$776,587			
Dearborn	194	\$768,663			
Decatur	179	\$709,230			
Dubois	169	\$669,608			
Knox	159	\$629,987			
Noble	150	\$594,327			
Jackson	140	\$554,705			
Warrick	140	\$554,705			
Daviess	139	\$550,743			
Huntington	138	\$546,781			
Jasper	121	\$479,424			



**TABLE 2:** Number of Open Seats and Accompanying Choice Funds (based on 2012-13 average amount) by City

City	Open K-12 Seats (2013-14)	Choice Funds
Indianapolis	3,880	\$15,373,258
Fort Wayne	1,602	\$6,347,412
Evansville	1,292	\$5,119,137
South Bend	1,106	\$4,382,171
Anderson	554	\$2,195,048
Mishawaka	410	\$1,624,494
Greenwood	374	\$1,481,855
Elkhart	355	\$1,406,574
Columbus	339	\$1,343,179
New Albany	336	\$1,331,292
Bloomington	320	\$1,267,898
Lafayette	308	\$1,220,351
Muncie	297	\$1,176,767
Marion	276	\$1,093,562
Michigan City	274	\$1,085,637
Whitestown	263	\$1,042,053
Clarksville	262	\$1,038,091
Kokomo	262	\$1,038,091
Noblesville	256	\$1,014,318
Merrillville	255	\$1,010,356
Mt. Vernon	245	\$970,734
Madison	241	\$954,885
Hammond	228	\$903,377
Goshen	216	\$855,831
Richmond	215	\$851,869
Avon	198	\$784,512
Highland	197	\$780,549
Granger	189	\$748,852
Valparaiso	185	\$733,003
New Haven	182	\$721,117
Greensburg	179	\$709,230
St. John	175	\$693,382
Jasper	169	\$669,608
Vincennes	159	\$629,987
Munster	155	\$614,138
Brownsburg	150	\$594,327
Monroeville	145	\$574,516
Garrett	144	\$570,554
Newburgh	140	\$554,705
Seymour	140	\$554,705
Washington	139	\$550,743
Portage	137	\$542,819

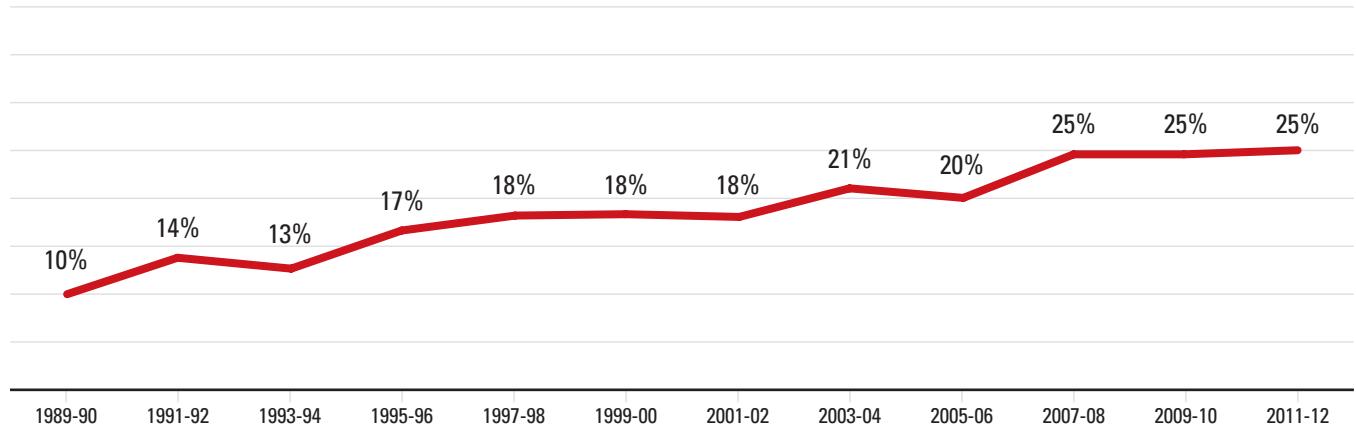
City	Open K-12 Seats (2013-14)	Choice Funds
LaPorte	136	\$538,856
Crown Point	135	\$534,894
Mooreville	132	\$523,008
Sellersburg	128	\$507,159
Martinsville	125	\$495,273
Schererville	122	\$483,386
Haubstadt	119	\$471,499
Hobart	118	\$467,537
Plainfield	118	\$467,537
Wabash	116	\$459,613
Woodburn	115	\$455,651
Auburn	114	\$451,689
Huntington	111	\$439,802
Terre Haute	109	\$431,878
Gary	108	\$427,915
Batesville	96	\$380,369
DeMotte	96	\$380,369
Fishers	96	\$380,369
Whiting	95	\$376,407
Howe	94	\$372,445
Avilla	92	\$364,521
Floyds Knobs	90	\$356,596
Lawrenceburg	87	\$344,710
Wadesville	82	\$324,899
Griffith	66	\$261,504
Rushville	66	\$261,504
Jeffersonville	65	\$257,542
Rockport	65	\$257,542
Greenfield	63	\$249,617
Plymouth	63	\$249,617
Franklin	62	\$245,655
Guilford	60	\$237,731
Kendallville	58	\$229,806
Shelbyville	58	\$229,806
Fowler	57	\$225,844
North Liberty	54	\$213,958
Connersville	52	\$206,033
Chesterton	51	\$202,071
North Judson	49	\$194,147
North Vernon	49	\$194,147
Lanesville	48	\$190,185
Yoder	48	\$190,185

**TABLE 2: Continued**

City	Open K-12 Seats (2013-14)	Choice Funds
Aurora	47	\$186,222
Bedford	47	\$186,222
Corydon	47	\$186,222
Oldenburg	44	\$174,336
Winona Lake	44	\$174,336
Convington	43	\$170,374
Decatur	42	\$166,412
Princeton	41	\$162,449
Alexandria	40	\$158,487
Fort Branch	36	\$142,638
Cicero	35	\$138,676
East Chicago	35	\$138,676
Roanoke	27	\$106,979
Warsaw	27	\$106,979
Rensselaer	25	\$99,055
Speedway	25	\$99,055
Brookville	22	\$87,168
Jonesboro	22	\$87,168
Beech Grove	19	\$75,281
Logansport	19	\$75,281

# APPENDIX B

Proportion of Amish Schools Among Indiana Private Schools (1989-90 to 2011-12)



# NOTES

1. With 28,370 voucher students participating in 2013-14, only Florida's John M. McKay Scholarships for Students with Disabilities Program is second largest, and it was enacted in 1999.
2. Office of School Finance, *Choice Scholarship Program Annual Report: Participation and Payment Data: 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014*, rev. ed. (Indianapolis: Ind. Dept. of Education, Office of School Finance, 2014), <http://www.doe.in.gov/sites/default/files/choice/choice-scholarship-program-annual-report-061614.pdf>.
3. "Private School Universe Survey (PSS)," National Center for Education Statistics, accessed Oct. 2, 2014, <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pss/index.asp>.
4. Stephen P. Broughman and Nancy L. Swaim, *Characteristics of Private Schools in the United States: Results From the 2011-12 Private School Universe Survey*, NCES 2013-316 (Washington, DC: US Dept. of Education, National Center for Educational Statistics, 2013), <http://nces.ed.gov/pubst2013/2013316.pdf>.
5. *Ibid.*, table 15, p. 20.
6. US Dept. of Education, PSS Private School Universe Survey data for the 2011-12 school year, <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/pss/privateschoolsearch>.
7. "A school is kindergarten-terminal (k-terminal) if kindergarten is the highest grade offered at the school." Broughman and Swaim, *Results From the 2011-12 Private School Universe Survey*, p. A-1.
8. "Ungraded students are those who are not assigned to a particular grade level (kindergarten, first grade, second grade, etc.) For example, special education centers and alternative schools often classify their students as ungraded. Students in Montessori schools are also considered ungraded if the school assigns them to 'primary' and 'intermediate' levels instead of specific grades." *Ibid.*, pp. A-3-4.
9. We exclude Amish schools from the data we use because, although 23 percent of the responses are from Amish schools, they are not representative of the average private school. All of these schools are rural, 99 percent of their students are white, they have an average of 43 students per school, they have an average of 2.4 teachers per school, they have an average student per full-time equivalent teacher rate of 18.8, and 82 percent of them do not belong to an association. Moreover, other than 20 Kindergarteners and three ninth-graders, all of the students served are in grades one through eight.
10. The estimate, based on projections, is closer to 38,000 seats for the 598 private schools in the survey. However, we are not confident that the non-respondents are similar enough to the respondents. This is even more so the case for a projection of close to 62,000 seats for the 969 private schools in the state, as we know there are at least 200 Amish schools in the state, based on INPEA's mater database.
11. "Participating Schools," Ind. Dept. of Education, accessed Sept. 12, 2014, <http://www.doe.in.gov/choice/participating-schools>.
12. Author's calculations; The Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, National Catalogue of School Choice Programs; see note 2 above.
13. Assumes capacities are similar based on enrollment size; author divided the enrollment of all Choice schools by the enrollment of the Choice respondents and multiplied the result by the number of open seats. Enrollment for non-respondents was found using Ind. Dept. of Education Compass database, <http://compass.doe.in.gov>.
14. The INPEA annual survey asked this question, but the Friedman survey did not.
15. Office of School Finance, *Choice Scholarship Program Annual Report*, pp. 23-30, appendix A.
16. See note 13 above.
17. "DOE Compass," Ind. Dept. of Education, accessed Oct. 2, 2014, <http://compass.doe.in.gov/dashboard/enrollment.aspx>.
18. Marion County accounted for 87 of 488 PSS respondents we looked at in 2009-10, 85 of 493 in 2007-08, 82 of 516 in 2005-06, 81 of 516 in 2003-04, 84 of 514 in 2001-02, 79 of 486 in 1999-2000, 78 of 490 in 1997-98, 77 of 492 in 1995-96, 81 of 509 in 1993-94, and 81 of 516 in 1991-92.
19. Office of School Finance, *Choice Scholarship Program Annual Report*, p. 10, table 9.
20. Does not include 20 PK-only or K-terminal schools. "Search for Public Schools," National Center for Education Statistics, accessed Oct. 6, 2014, <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/schoolsearch/index.asp>.
21. See note 17 above.
22. Office of School Finance, *Choice Scholarship Program Annual Report*, p. 9, table 8.
23. *Ibid.*; "American FactFinder," United States Census Bureau, 2006 ACS and 2012 ACS 1-year estimates, table DP05, <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml>.
24. Does not include 20 PK-only or K-terminal schools or 130 schools without this data. See note 20 above.
25. INPEA is not specifically listed as an association by the PSS, because they are most likely lumped into the category of state or regional independent school association. The only specific school associations that the PSS has as options are ACE, the American Association of Christian Schools (AACS), ACSI, the Association of Christian Teachers and Schools (ACTS), the Association of Classical and Christian Schools (ACCS), Christian Schools International (CSI), the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association (ELEA), Friends Council on Education (FCE), the General Conference of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church (GCSDAC), the Islamic School League of America (ISLA), the Jesuit Secondary Education Association (JSEA), the National Association of Episcopal Schools (NAES), NCEA, the National Christian School Association (NCSA), the National Society for Hebrew Day Schools (Torah U'Mesorah), Oral Roberts University Educational Fellowship (ORUEF), The Jewish Community Day School Association (SSDSA), the Solomon Schechter Day Schools Association (SSDSA), the Southern Baptist Association of Christian Schools (SBACS), the American Montessori Society (AMS), Association Montessori International (AMI), the Association of Military Colleges and Schools (AMCS), the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA), the National Association of Private Special Education Centers (NAPSEC), the European Council for International Schools (ECIS), the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the National Association of Laboratory Schools (NALS), the National Coalition of Girls' Schools (NCGS), the Alternative School Network (ASN), the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), the National Coalition of Alternative Community Schools (NCACS), the National Independent Private School Association (NIPSA), and The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS).

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Andrew D. Catt is the Research Analyst for the Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice. In that role, Drew conducts analyses on private school choice programs and supports quality control as the Foundation’s research and data verifier.

Prior to joining the Friedman Foundation, Drew served as the Program Associate for The Clowes Fund, a private family foundation located in Indianapolis that awards grants to nonprofits in Seattle, Greater Indianapolis, and Northern New England.

Drew graduated from Vanderbilt University in 2008 with a bachelor’s degree in Human and Organizational Development, specializing in Leadership and Organizational Effectiveness. While at Vanderbilt, Drew served as Research Assistant for North Star Destination Strategies, a community branding organization. During that time, Drew also researched the effects of homeschooling on socialization.

Drew obtained his master’s degree in Nonprofit Management at Indiana University’s School of Public and Environmental Affairs in Indianapolis. He also completed his Master of Arts in Philanthropic Studies through the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. While in graduate school, Drew’s research focused on teacher performance incentives and collaborative initiatives involving all three sectors.

Drew is a native of central Indiana and currently resides in downtown Indianapolis.

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The author welcomes any and all questions related to methods and findings.



One American Square  
Suite 2420  
Indianapolis, IN 46282  
(317) 681-0745  
**edchoice.org**

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