

# Arizona Education by the Numbers: 2004

Alex Molnar

*Arizona State University Tempe Campus*

Daniel Allen

*Arizona State University Tempe Campus*

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## *Public School District Profile*

The following tables offer a statistical overview of the public education system in Arizona. The tables are divided into six categories: (1) public school district & charter holder characteristics, (2) public school characteristics, (3) public school student characteristics, (4) public school student dropout characteristics, (5) public school teacher characteristics, and (6) public school administrator characteristics. Data limitations for tables within each category are noted following the tables within that category.

Table 1: Total Public School Districts & Charter Holders

	2003
Elementary School Districts	97
High School Districts	15
Unified School Districts	95
Accommodation School Districts	7
<b><i>Total Districts</i></b>	<b>214</b>
Charter Holders	308
<b><i>Total Districts &amp; Charter Holders</i></b>	<b>522</b>

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Superintendent's Annual Report*. Retrieved April 23, 2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/Reports/>

Table 2: Total Public School Districts

	2003
Districts serving less than 100 students	30
Districts serving 100 to 500 students	49
Districts serving 501 to 1,000 students	20
Districts serving 1,001 to 2,500 students	46
Districts serving 2,501 to 5,000 students	27
Districts serving 5,001 to 10,000 students	21
Districts serving 10,001 or more students	24
<b><i>Total Districts with Enrollment Data</i></b>	<b>217</b>
<b><i>Total Districts</i></b>	<b>238</b>

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Superintendent's Annual Report*. Retrieved April 23, 2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/Reports/>

Table 3: Average Public School District School Size

	Average School Size
Districts serving less than 100 students	54.12
Districts serving 100 to 500 students	179.24
Districts serving 501 to 1,000 students	282.74
Districts serving 1,001 to 2,500 students	416.94
Districts serving 2,501 to 5,000 students	577.49
Districts serving 5,001 to 10,000 students	731.19
Districts serving 10,001 or more students	789.76
<b><i>Total Districts with Enrollment Data</i></b>	<b>647.64</b>

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Superintendent's Annual Report*. Retrieved April 23, 2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/Reports/>

## *Limitations: Public School District Profile*

For the 2002-03 school-year, enrollment data for 21 public school districts are not available. Consequently, the distribution of public school districts in Arizona according to enrollment size presented in Tables 2 and 3 does not include these 21 school districts

## *Public School Profile*

Table 4: Total Public Schools

	<b>2003</b>	
District Schools	1,512	71.66%
Charter Schools	598	28.34%
<b>Total Schools</b>	<b>2,110</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Superintendent's Annual Report*. Retrieved April 23,2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/Reports/>

Table 5: Total District Schools by Type

	<b>2003</b>	
Elementary Schools	1,138	75.26%
High Schools	271	17.92%
Combined Schools	78	5.16%
Accommodation Schools	25	1.65%
<b>Total District Schools</b>	<b>1,512</b>	<b>*</b>

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Superintendent's Annual Report*. Retrieved April 23,2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/Reports/>

Note: Accommodation schools are schools in which a district hosts or “accommodates” students from another district. This typically occurs when a rural district without a high school sends its students to a neighboring district school.

\* May not equal 100% due to rounding.

Table 6: Total Charter Schools by Type

	<b>2003</b>	
Elementary School Sites	291	48.66%
High School Sites	222	37.12%
Combined Sites	85	14.21%
<b><i>Total Charter Schools</i></b>	<b>598</b>	<b>*</b>

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Superintendent's Annual Report*.

Retrieved April 23, 2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/Reports/>

\* May not equal 100% due to rounding.

Table 7: Average Public School Size

	<b>2003</b>
Total Public Schools	2,110
Total Public School Enrollment	978,083
<b><i>Average Public School Size</i></b>	<b>463.5</b>
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Total District Schools	1,512
Total District Enrollment	937,955
<b><i>Average District School Size</i></b>	<b>620.3</b>
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Total Charter Schools	598
Total Charter Enrollment	71,680
<b><i>Average Charter School Size</i></b>	<b>119.9</b>

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Superintendent's Annual Report*.

Retrieved April 23, 2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/Reports/>

### ***Limitations: Public School Profile***

Tables 4, 6, and 7 all include Arizona charter school information, including total number of charter school sites and average size of charter schools. However, the total number of charter schools reported by the ADE in the *2002-03 Superintendent's Annual Report* does not match the total number of charter schools listed on the Charter School List located on the ADE website. The ADE provides the following disclaimer associated with the Charter School List to explain the discrepancy:

*“Disclaimer : The following information is self reported and is not an exhaustive list. If the school does not have a Mission Statement in the database it will not show up in the search.”*

### ***Public School Student Profile***

**Table 8: Student Population – All Schools**

	<b>2003</b>	
White (non-Hispanic)	491,519	50.25%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	63,306	6.47%
Hispanic	355,290	36.33%
Black (non-Hispanic)	46,859	4.79%
Pacific Islander or Asian	21,109	2.16%
<b><i>Total Public School Students</i></b>	<b><i>978,083</i></b>	<b><i>100%</i></b>

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Superintendent's Annual Report*. Retrieved April 30, 2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/Reports/>

Table 9: Student Population by School Type

	All Public Schools	District Schools	Charter Schools
White (non-Hispanic)	50.25%	48.26%	54.26%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	6.47%	6.75%	6.54%
Hispanic	36.33%	37.88%	30.20%
Black (non-Hispanic)	4.79%	5.00%	7.29%
Pacific Islander or Asian	2.16%	2.12%	1.73%

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Superintendent's Annual Report*. Retrieved April 30, 2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/Reports/>

Table 10: Public School Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Lunches – All Schools

	2003
Total Public School Students	850,216
Total Public School Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Lunches	433,714
<b><i>% of Total Public School Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Lunches</i></b>	<b><i>51.01%</i></b>

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2003, December). "Free & Reduced Price Lunches Data Counts," provided by the ADE Research & Policy Division.

Table 11: Public School ELL Students – All Schools

	2003
Total Public School Students	978,083
Total Public School ELL Students	151,970
<b><i>% of Total Public School Students who are ELL</i></b>	<b><i>15.54%</i></b>

Sources: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Superintendent's Annual Report*. Retrieved April 16, 2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/Reports/>

Arizona Department of Education (2004, February). "ELL Student Counts Data," provided by the English Acquisition Services Unit.

**Table 12: Public School Students With Disabilities – All Schools**

	<b>2002</b>
Total Public School Students	922,242
Total Public School Students with Disabilities	103,488
<b><i>% of Total Public School Students who have Disabilities</i></b>	<b><i>11.22%</i></b>

Sources: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Superintendent's Annual Report*.

Retrieved April 16, 2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/schoolfinance/Reports/>

Arizona Department of Education (2004, January & April). "Disability Data Counts," provided by the Exceptional Student Services Division.

Note: Public School Students with disabilities are not yet available for 2003 (personal communication, April 28, 2004, ADE Exceptional Student Services Division)

### ***Limitations: Public School Student Profile***

The total enrollment figures presented in Table 8 do not match the total enrollment figures presented in Table 10. The total enrollment figures in these two tables are taken from different reports; Table 8 includes the enrollment figures found in the *2002-03 Superintendent's Annual Report* while Table 10 includes enrollment figures found in the "Free/Reduced Price Lunch" database figures provided by the Research and Policy Division of the ADE. The Research and Policy Division of the ADE verbally confirmed (Personal Communication, 01/04) that the "Free/Reduced Price Lunch" database figures only include reporting school districts and charter schools; therefore, the total enrollment figures in Table 8 are substantially higher than those found in Table 10 (978,083 and 850,216 respectively). Additionally, the Free/Reduced Price Lunch database includes figures for entities that are neither district schools nor charter schools (for example, "Winslow Residential Hall" is a school included on the Free/Reduced Price Lunch list, but is not listed by the ADE as a charter school or as a district school). Therefore, the "Free/Reduced Price Lunch" figures provided in Table 10 cannot be said to precisely reflect the "Free/Reduced Price Lunch" population in Arizona's Public Schools.

## *Public School Student Dropout Profile*

Table 13: Public School Dropout Rate – Grades 7–12 – All Schools

	2003	
<b>White (non-Hispanic)</b>	11,029	4.4%
<b>Native American</b>	14,212	11.7%
<b>Hispanic</b>	3,677	8.7%
<b>Black (non-Hispanic)</b>	1,990	8.0%
<b>Pacific Islander or Asian</b>	301	2.9%
<b><i>Total Public School Students who Dropped Out</i></b>	<b>31,209</b>	<b>6.5%</b>

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2003). *Dropout Rate Study Report*.

Retrieved April 16, 2004, from <http://www.ade.az.gov/researchpolicy/DropoutInfo/>

### *Limitations: Public School Student Dropout Profile*

Table 13 presents data from the *Annual Dropout Rate Report* issued annually by the ADE. It is important not to confuse this dropout rate with other dropout rates which are not annual drop out rates. The ADE offers the following explanation in distinguishing its Annual Dropout Rates from other dropout rates:

*It is important to note that this particular study produces a “snapshot” of Arizona dropout activity, in that it provides information only on students who drop out and fail to return during one school year. Students who drop out during one academic year and return in a subsequent year to complete their high school education are not taken into account in this annual snapshot.*

## *Public School Teacher Profile*

**Table 14: Public School Teacher Population – District Schools Only**

	<b>2003</b>	
White (non-Hispanic)	41,384	84.46%
Native American	1,075	2.19%
Hispanic	5,177	10.57%
Black (non-Hispanic)	889	1.81%
Pacific Islander or Asian	472	0.96%
<b><i>Total District School Teacher Population</i></b>	<b>48,997</b>	<b>*</b>

Source: Arizona State Department of Education (2003). *School District Employee Report*, School Year 2002-2003, Racial Ethnic Report by Sex and Primary Position.

\* May not equal 100% due to rounding.

**Table 15: Public School Teachers by Gender – District Schools Only**

	<b>Elementary</b>		<b>Secondary</b>		<b>Total</b>	
Male	5,260	16.27%	5,724	45.61%	10,984	24.48%
Female	27,067	83.73%	6,826	54.39%	33,894	75.53%
<b><i>Total Public School Teachers</i></b>	<b>32,327</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>12,550</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>44,878</b>	<b>*</b>

Source: Arizona State Department of Education (2003). *School District Employee Report*, School Year 2002-2003, Teacher by Gender and Grade Level Report.

\* May not equal 100% due to rounding.

Table 16: Public School Teachers by Years of Experience – District Schools Only

	2003	
1	3,945	8.84%
2	3,317	7.43%
3	3,162	7.09%
4	2,970	6.25%
5	2,721	6.10%
6	2,365	5.30%
7	2,301	5.16%
8	2,066	4.63%
9	2,026	4.54%
10	1,685	3.78%
11	1,519	3.40%
12	1,313	2.94%
13+	15,418	34.55%
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,808</b>	<b>*</b>

Source: Arizona State Department of Education (2003). *School District Employee Report*, School Year 2002-2003, Teacher Experience Index Detail.

\* May not equal 100% due to rounding.

### ***Limitations: Public School Teacher Profile***

Tables 14, 15, and 16 describe Arizona public school teachers based on race/ethnicity, gender, and years of experience, respectively. The data for all three of these tables were taken from the ADE annual *School District Employee Report*. The ADE reports three different figures for the total number of public school teachers: Table 14 reports 48,997 public school teachers in Arizona, Table 15 reports 44,878, and Table 16 reports 44,808. The ADE does not provide an explanation for this discrepancy.

## *Public School Administrator Profile*

Table 17: Public School Administrator Population – District Schools Only

	<b>2003</b>	
Superintendent	190	8.49%
Assistant Superintendents	114	5.10%
Principal	1,189	53.15%
Assistant Principal	744	33.26%
<b><i>Total Administrative Positions</i></b>	<b><i>2,237</i></b>	<b><i>100%</i></b>

Source: Arizona State Department of Education. (2003). *School District Employee Report*, School Year 2002-2003, FTE and Employee Count by Main and Second Position.