

Land Board Fiscal Year 2022

The Land Board oversees the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation's management of Trust Land resources, which in turn help fund Montana's public schools.

Surface Acres Managed	5.2 million
Mineral Acres Managed	6.2 million
Leases, Bonuses & Timber Sales	\$40,992,756 (approx.)
Mineral Royalties & Rights of Way	\$41,870,416 (approx.)

* Source: Montana DNRC Annual Report, Fiscal Year 2022, Trust Lands Management Division



About the Big Sky State

- **Population:** 1,122,867 (July 1, 2022 estimate)
- **Size:** 147,040 square miles (fourth largest state), 556 miles wide: 320 miles long
- **Population density:** 7.6 per square mile
- **State racial make up:** White 85.3%, American Indian 6.5%, Hispanic 4.5%, Asian 1.1%, Black 0.6%, Pacific Islander 0.1% and other 1.9% (July 1, 2022 estimate)
- **American Indian Tribes:** Eight Federally Recognized Tribes and Seven Indian Reservations
- **School racial makeup:** White 77.75%, American Indian 10.92% Hispanic 5.38%, Asian 0.73%, Black 0.77%, Pacific Islander 0.2%, and more than one race 4.25%
- **Elevation range:** 1,820 to 12,799 feet above sea level
- **Borders:** Three Canadian provinces and four states
- **Headwaters for two major rivers:** Missouri and Columbia
- **Primary industries:** agriculture, services, government (including education) and retail trade

For more school data:

- <http://GEMS.opi.mt.gov>

For more information about Montana:

- www.mt.gov
- Travel Montana 1-800-847-4868
- The Census & Economic Information Center (406) 841-2870 or <http://ceic.mt.gov>



Message from 2023 Montana Teacher of the Year

Teaching and learning are two of the most joyful and empowering adventures that human beings can take part in. No matter who you are, or into what circumstances you are born, that adventure awaits. A teacher can guide a student to discoveries and success that they may never have imagined, and vice versa. As a teacher your days are never the same, you are never bored, and you create relationships that last a lifetime. Being named the Montana Teacher Of The Year 2023 has allowed me the opportunity to celebrate amazing educators and students within our State and Nation and has demonstrated the positive impact that our profession has on our students, families, and society as a whole. I am inspired by what I have learned from this experience, I am so grateful to have had the opportunity and I am thrilled for the next Montana Teacher of the Year to begin their journey. Let the adventure begin!

Catherine Matthews
Bozeman, MT

Message from the Superintendent

The uniqueness of our over 800 Montana schools reflects the frontier nature of our great state. This is why local accountability through parent, family, and community engagement are important for strengthening the academic achievement of our Montana students. Last year math scores on the federally mandated assessments were slightly higher than the previous year but our reading scores are still trending down. I am dedicated to educational excellence for all our students, which is why I am revising our math and reading standards. **Thank you for joining me in putting our Montana students first!**



Elsie Arntzen
Elsie Arntzen
Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction

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Montana Office of Public Instruction's 2023 Facts About Montana Education



Putting Montana Students First



Recognizing Parents as Our First and Forever Teachers

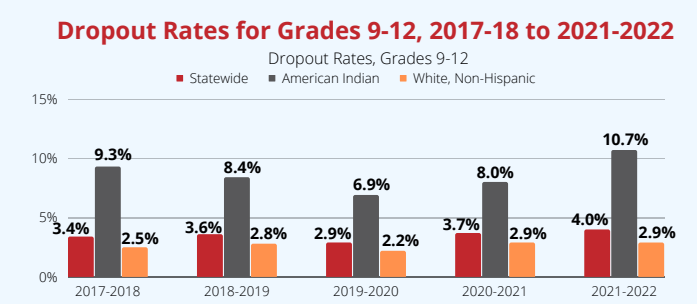
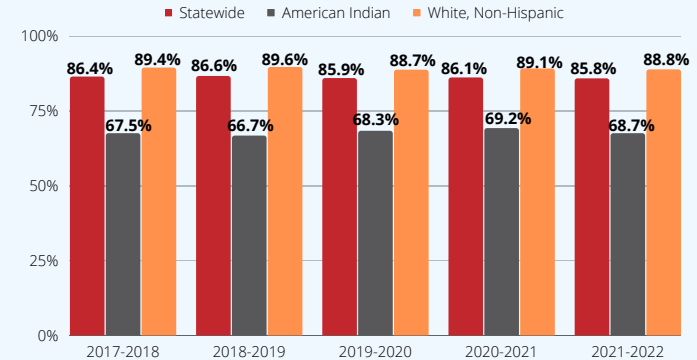


Facts About Montana Education 2023

High School Graduates	2021-2022
High School Graduates 2022	9,579
2022 HiSET recipients (ages 16 to 19)	728

Public and State-Funded Only: Montana 4 Year Cohort Graduation Rates

Overall high school graduation rates dropped slightly last year. The gap between American Indian students and all students combined is just over 17 percentage points. The gap between white students and American Indian students is around 20 percentage points.



Licensed K-12 Staff and Paraprofessionals 2021-22

Teachers- Classroom, Title I, Special Ed.	10,797
Other Educator Staff	135
Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents	159
Principals and Assistant Principals	545
Other Administrative Staff	88
Education Specialists (Library, Guidance Counselors)	951
Licensed Professional (Noneducator)	352
Paraprofessionals	2,989
Total Licensed and Paraprofessional Staff	16,016

Student/Teacher Ratio

	2020	2021	2022
Montana average	14.0	13.4	13.6
National average	15.9	16.3	15.3

<https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/elsi/quickFacts.aspx>

Please note: the 2022-2023 graduation, dropout, and licensed staff data will be released at the beginning of 2024.

Montana Public School Enrollment 2020-2023

Elementary	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	%Change
Prekindergarten	946	744	916	18.35%
Kindergarten	11,649	12,825	12,471	-2.76%
Grades 1-6	65,988	67,247	68,808	2.32%
Grades 7-8	23,483	23,744	23,071	-2.83%
Total Elementary	102,066	104,590	105,266	0.65%
High School				
Grades 9-12	43,516	44,544	45,243	1.57%
Total High School	43,516	44,544	45,243	1.57%
State-Funded Schools				
Elementary (PK-8)	19	20	20	0%
High School (9-12)	31	44	44	0%
Total State-Funded Schools	50	64	64	0%
Total Public School Enrollment	145,632	149,198	150,573	0.92%

School Size and Enrollment 2022-2023

School Size	#of Schools	% of Schools	Enrollment	% Enrollment
500 plus	58	7.02%	49,875	33.12%
250 to 499	159	19.25%	56,296	37.39%
100 to 249	170	20.58%	28,780	19.11%
50 to 99	128	15.50%	8,960	5.95%
less than 50	311	37.65%	6,662	4.42%
Total	826	100.00%	150,573	100.00%

Poverty Indicators

Poverty Indicators	MT	National	Rank
Age 5-17 in Families in Poverty*	13.4%	14.9%	25th
Percent Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch**	39.0%	52.3%	11th

*US Census Bureau 2020
**National Center for Education Statistics 2020

Public School Districts 2022-2023

K-12 districts	64
Elementary districts	*234
High school districts	*98
State-Funded Districts	2
Nonoperating Districts	3
Total Districts	401

*94 of these districts are "combined elementary-high school districts" which means the elementary and high school districts of a community are combined into a single school system for district administration purposes.

Please note: all data is current as of October 5, 2023

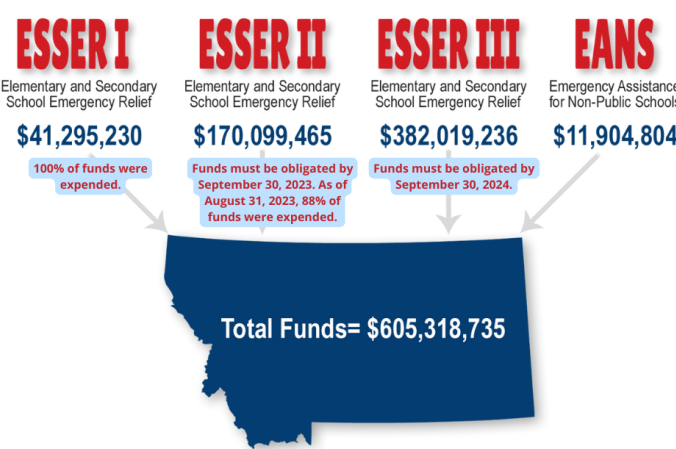
School Data 2022-2023

Elementary Schools	433
Middle, 7&8, Junior High Schools	220
High Schools	173
Total Schools	826

Nonpublic School Enrollment 2020-2023

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	% of Total Enrollment
Private	7,600	8,634	8,906	5.33%
Homeschool	9,868	7,368	7,799	4.66%
Total	17,468	16,002	16,705	9.99%

Federal COVID Relief Dollars



Montana received Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) and Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS) funds in March 2021. These funds are allocated to our public and non-public schools. For monthly allocation and expenditure information, please visit <https://opi.mt.gov/COVID-19-Information/ESSER>.

