

Land Board Fiscal Year 2021

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	\$46,573,056 (approx.)
Mineral Royalties & Rights of Way	\$31,034,270 (approx.)

* Source: Montana DNRC Annual Report, Fiscal Year 2021, Trust Lands Management Division



About the Big Sky State

- **Population:** 1,084,225 (2020 Census)
- **Size:** 147,040 square miles (fourth largest state), 556 miles wide: 320 miles long
- **Population density:** 7.4 per square mile
- **State racial make up:** White 84.5%, American Indian 6.2%, Hispanic 4.2%, Asian 0.8%, Black 0.5%, Pacific Islander 0.1% and other 1.3%(2020 Census)
- **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 2022 Montana Teacher of the Year

Montana really is the greatest place to teach. We are blessed with amazing wildlife, scenery, and culture that we can easily bring into our classrooms. As Montana's Teacher of the Year, it has been extremely rewarding to promote the amazing educators across our state and to advocate for all of Montana's students. I know the past two years have been difficult, but one thing that has stayed strong is our public schools.

Bill Stockton
Arlee, MT

Message from the Superintendent

The spirit of Montana is unique and so are our schools. Our public school enrollment and our graduation rates are stable. I am proud of the work my office has done in serving all of our Montana teachers, students, and families. There is still more work to do as we focus on student learning and the basics of math, science, and reading. Together we can help our students achieve educational excellence **by putting our Montana students first!**



Elsie Arntzen

Elsie Arntzen
Montana Superintendent of Public Instruction

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Facts About Montana Education 2022



Putting Montana Students First



Facts About Montana Education 2022

High School Graduates

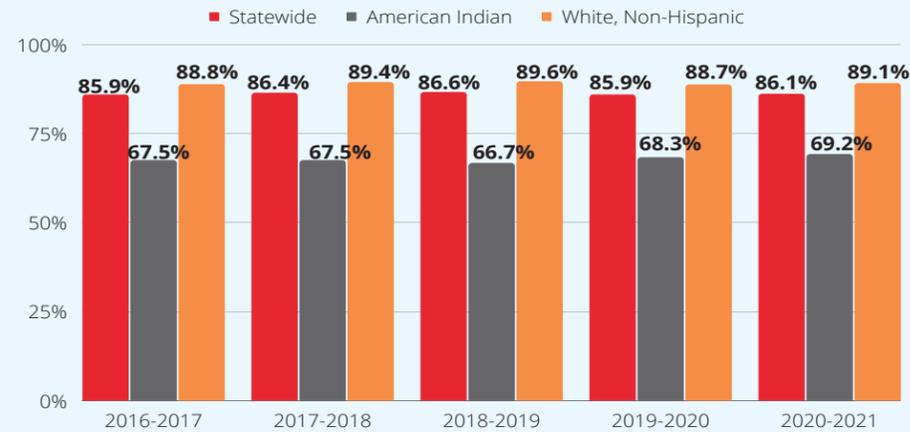
High School Graduates 2021
2021 HiSET recipients (ages 16 to 19)

2020-2021

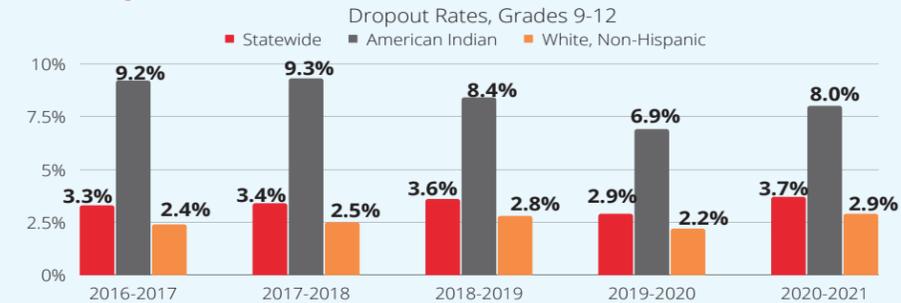
9,271
711

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

Overall high school graduation rates have improved over the past five years. The gap between American Indian students and all students combined is just under 17 percentage points. The gap between white students and American Indian students is around 20 percentage points.



Dropout Rates for Grades 9-12, 2016-17 to 2020-2021



Licensed K-12 Staff and Paraprofessionals

2020-2021

Teachers- Classroom, Title I, Special Ed. 10,977
Other Educator Staff 146
Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents 168
Principals and Assistant Principals 548
Other Administrative Staff 96
Education Specialists (Library, Guidance Counselors) 959
Licensed Professional (Noneducator) 373
Paraprofessionals 3,322

Total Licensed and Paraprofessional Staff **16,588**

Student/Teacher Ratio

	2019	2020	2021
Montana average	14.1	14.0	13.4
National average	15.9	15.9	16.3

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

Please note: the 2021-2022 graduation, dropout, and licensed staff data will be released at the beginning of 2023.

Montana Public School Enrollment

Elementary	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	%Change
Prekindergarten	1,146	946	744	-18.18%
Kindergarten	12,398	11,649	12,825	10.10%
Grades 1-6	69,449	65,988	67,247	1.91%
Grades 7-8	23,551	23,483	23,744	1.11%
Total Elementary	106,544	102,066	104,590	2.44%
High School	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	%Change
Grades 9-12	42,590	43,516	44,544	2.36%
Total High School	42,590	43,516	44,544	2.36%
State-Funded Schools	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	%Change
Elementary (PK-8)	12	19	20	5.26%
High School (9-12)	35	31	44	41.94%
Total State-Funded Schools	47	50	64	28.00%
Total Public School Enrollment	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	%Change
Enrollment	149,181	145,632	149,198	2.45%

School Size and Enrollment

2021-2022

School Size	#of Schools	% of Schools	Enrollment	% Enrollment
500 plus	59	7.14%	50,129	33.60%
250 to 499	157	19.01%	54,732	36.68%
100 to 249	170	20.58%	28,685	19.23%
50 to 99	129	15.62%	8,949	6.00%
less than 50	311	37.65%	6,703	4.49%
Total	826	100.00%	149,198	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 2019

Public School Districts

2021-2022

K-12 districts	64
Elementary districts	*235
High school districts	*98
State-Funded Districts	2
Nonoperating Districts	3

Total Districts 402

*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 August 2, 2022

School Data

Elementary Schools	435
Middle, 7&8, Junior High Schools	218
High Schools	173
Total Schools	826

Nonpublic School Enrollment

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% of Change Enrollment
Private	7,845	7,600	8,634	13.61%
Homeschool	5,815	9,868	7,368	-25.33%
Total	13,660	17,468	16,002	-8.39%

Federal COVID Relief Dollars



Montana received Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) and Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS) funds in May 2020. These funds are allocated to our public and non-public schools. For allocation and expenditure information, please visit <https://opi.mt.gov/COVID-19-Information/ESSER>.

