

## Back to School: 2017-2018

Summertime is winding down and vacations are coming to an end, signaling that back-to-school time is here. It's a time that many children eagerly anticipate — catching up with old friends and making new ones, and settling into a new daily routine. Parents and children alike scan newspapers and websites looking for sales on a multitude of school supplies and the latest clothing fads and essentials. This edition of *Facts for Features* highlights the many statistics associated with the return to classrooms by our nation's students and teachers.

### Back-to-School Shopping

#### **\$8.5 billion**

The estimated sales at family clothing stores in August 2016. The sales at bookstores in August 2016 were estimated at \$1.6 billion.

Source: Monthly Retail Trade and Food Services

[www.census.gov/retail/mrts/www/mrtssales92-present.xls](http://www.census.gov/retail/mrts/www/mrtssales92-present.xls)

#### **\$1.6 billion**

The estimated sales at bookstores in August 2016. The sales at office supply and stationery stores in August 2016 were estimated at \$1.5 billion.

Source: Monthly Retail Trade and Food Services

[www.census.gov/retail/mrts/www/mrtssales92-present.xls](http://www.census.gov/retail/mrts/www/mrtssales92-present.xls)

#### **28,910**

The number of family clothing stores in 2015. For back-to-school shopping, choices of retail establishments were plenty. In 2015, there were 7,185 children and infants clothing stores; 25,027 shoe stores; 6,475 office supply and stationery stores; 6,870 bookstores; and 7,885 department stores.

Source: 2015 County Business Patterns, NAICS: 44813, 448210, 453210, 453210, 451211, 45211

<https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/BP/2015/00A1//naics~44813|44814|448210|451211|45211|453210>

#### **\$3.2 billion**

The third quarter 2016 after tax profit estimates for apparel and leather product manufacturing corporations, up \$1.6 billion from after tax profits in the second quarter of 2016.

Source: Quarterly Financial Report

[www.census.gov/econ/qfr/](http://www.census.gov/econ/qfr/)

#### **\$12.8 million**

The dollar value of U.S. imports of rubber erasers in 2016. The U.S. imported the majority of these rubber erasers, \$9.2 million, from China.

Source: International Trade Statistics, Harmonized Code: 4016920000

<https://usatrade.census.gov/>

### **\$2.3 million**

The dollar value of U.S. exports of rubber erasers in 2016. Most of these U.S. exports of rubber erasers, \$1.0 million, went to Mexico.

Source: International Trade Statistics, Harmonized Code: 4016920000

<https://usatrade.census.gov/>

### **\$247.7 million**

The dollar value of U.S. imports of binders and folders in 2016. More than half of these imports, \$139.0 million, came from China.

Source: International Trade Statistics, Harmonized Code: 482030

<https://usatrade.census.gov/>

### **\$35.0 million**

The dollar value of U.S. exports of binders and folders in 2016. The majority of these exports of binders and folders, \$24.1 million, went to Canada.

Source: International Trade Statistics, Harmonized Code: 482030

<https://usatrade.census.gov/>

## **Students**

### **77.1 million**

The number of children and adults enrolled in school throughout the country in October 2015 — from nursery school to college. They comprised 25.3 percent of the entire population age 3 and older.

Source: School Enrollment in the United States: October 2015, Table 1

<https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/demo/school-enrollment/2015-cps.html>

## **Schools**

### **\$89.4 billion**

The estimated dollar value of private and public educational construction in 2016.

Source: Value of Construction Put in Place Survey

[www.census.gov/construction/c30/xls/total.xls](http://www.census.gov/construction/c30/xls/total.xls)

## **Pre-K through 12 Enrollment**

### **48.5 million**

Fall enrollment for elementary and secondary public school systems in 2014.

Source: Public Elementary-Secondary School System Finances by Enrollment-Size Groups: Fiscal Year 2015, 2015 Annual Survey of School System Finances

<https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/SSF/2015/00A13>

**\$11,392**

The amount of current spending per pupil for elementary and secondary public school systems in the United States in 2015.

Source: Per Pupil Amounts for Current Spending of Public Elementary-Secondary School Systems by State: Fiscal Year 2015, United States, States, and 2015 Annual Survey of School System Finances

<https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/SSF/2015/00A08>

**73.5%**

The percentage of children 3 to 6 years old who were enrolled in school as of October 2015.

Source: School Enrollment in the United States: October 2015, Table 3

[www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/demo/school-enrollment/2015-cps.html](http://www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/demo/school-enrollment/2015-cps.html)

**79.8%**

The percentage of children ages 3 to 6 enrolled in kindergarten who attended all day, as of October 2015.

Source: School Enrollment in the United States: October 2015, Table 3

[www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/demo/school-enrollment/2015-cps.html](http://www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/demo/school-enrollment/2015-cps.html)

**26.0%**

The percentage of elementary through high school students who had at least one foreign-born parent in October 2015.

Source: School Enrollment in the United States: October 2015, Table 1

[www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/demo/school-enrollment/2015-cps.html](http://www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/demo/school-enrollment/2015-cps.html)

## Languages

**11.9 million**

The number of school-age children (ages 5 to 17) who spoke a language other than English at home; 8.6 million of these children spoke Spanish at home.

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

[https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/15\\_1YR/B16004](https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/15_1YR/B16004)

## Public Education Employment

**11.0 million**

The number of full- and part-time employees in public education in 2015. They comprised 57.0 percent of all public employees in state and local government.

Source: 2015 Annual Survey of Public Employment & Payroll

<http://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/GEP/2015/00A4>

## Elementary and Secondary Education Employment

### 7.7 million

The number of full- and part-time employees in elementary and secondary public education in 2015. This includes 5.2 million full- and part-time instructional staff.

Source: 2015 Annual Survey of Public Employment & Payroll

<http://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/GEP/2015/00A4>

## Higher Education Employment

### 3.2 million

The number of full- and part-time employees in higher education in 2015.

Source: 2015 Annual Survey of Public Employment & Payroll

<http://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/GEP/2015/00A4>

## Colleges

### 4,788

The number of colleges, universities and professional schools in the United States in 2014. There were 1,041 junior colleges.

Source: 2015 County Business Patterns

<https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/BP/2015/00A1//naics~ALL-6112|ALL-6113>

### 13.4%

The percentage of college and graduate school students age 35 and older in October 2015. They made up 29.8 percent of those attending school part time.

Source: School Enrollment in the United States: October 2015, Table 5

[www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/demo/school-enrollment/2015-cps.html](http://www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/demo/school-enrollment/2015-cps.html)

### 40.5%

The percentage of 18- to 24-year-olds enrolled in college or graduate school in 2015.

Source: School Enrollment in the United States: October 2015, Table 1

[www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/demo/school-enrollment/2015-cps.html](http://www.census.gov/data/tables/2015/demo/school-enrollment/2015-cps.html)

## Work Status

### 52.1%

The percentage of students enrolled in college who worked less than full time, year-round in 2011; 19.6 percent worked full time, year-round.

Source: School Enrollment and Work Status: 2011, Appendix Table 1-A

[www.census.gov/prod/2013pubs/acsbr11-14.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/2013pubs/acsbr11-14.pdf)

### **3.1 million**

The number of enrolled high school students who worked less than full time, year-round in 2011; 146,000 students in high school worked full time, year-round.

Source: School Enrollment and Work Status: 2011, Appendix Table 1-A

[www.census.gov/prod/2013pubs/acsbr11-14.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/2013pubs/acsbr11-14.pdf)

## **Field of Degree**

### **13.6 million**

The number of people age 25 and over who held a bachelor's degree in business in 2015. Business degrees were reported by 20.5 percent of the population with a bachelor's degree, followed by education (12.7 percent); science and engineering related fields (9.3 percent); engineering (7.9 percent); social sciences (7.7 percent); biological, agricultural and environmental sciences (6.2 percent); and liberal arts and history (5.0 percent).

Source: 2015 American Community Survey

[https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/15\\_1YR/B15010](https://factfinder.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/15_1YR/B15010)

### **74.3%**

The percentage of those in 2012 who had a bachelor's degree in science, technology, engineering or math — commonly referred to as STEM — and were not employed in STEM occupations.

Source: 2012 American Community Survey

[www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2014/cb14-130.html](http://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2014/cb14-130.html)

## **Rewards of Staying in School**

### **\$87,562**

The average earnings of full-time, year-round workers age 18 and older with a bachelor's degree or higher in 2015. Those whose highest degree was a bachelor's had mean earnings of \$76,310. Mean earnings for full-time, year-round workers with a high school diploma (includes GED certificate) was \$43,061, while those with less than a ninth grade education had \$35,551 average earnings.

Source: 2016 Annual Social and Economic Supplement, Table PINC-04

[www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/cps-pinc.html](http://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/income-poverty/cps-pinc.html)

*Following is a list of observances typically covered by the Census Bureau's Facts for Features series:*

African-American History Month (February)  
Super Bowl (1st Sunday in February)  
Valentine's Day (Feb. 14)  
Women's History Month (March)  
September  
Irish-American Heritage Month (March)/  
St. Patrick's Day (March 17)  
Earth Day (April 22)

Labor Day (1st Monday in September)  
Grandparents Day (1st Sunday after Labor Day)  
Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15-Oct. 15)  
Unmarried and Single Americans Week (3rd week of  
September)  
Halloween (Oct. 31)  
American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month  
(November)

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month (May)  
Older Americans Month (May)  
Mother's Day (2nd Sunday in May)  
Hurricane Season Begins (June 1)  
Father's Day (3rd Sunday in June)  
The Fourth of July (July 4)  
Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act (July 26)  
Back to School (August)

Veterans Day (Nov. 11)  
Thanksgiving Day (4th Thursday in November)  
The Holiday Season (December)

**Editor's note:** The preceding data were collected from a variety of sources and may be subject to sampling variability and other sources of error. Facts for Features are customarily released about two months before an observance in order to accommodate magazine production timelines.

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