

SCHOOL AND DISTRICTS

A Profile of Illinois Public Schools in 2008-09 Selections from School Report Card Files (regular public schools only)

SUMMARY

869 districts (regular public)
3,910 schools
2,070,125 students
42.9% low-income enrollment

87.1% graduation rate
3.5% dropout rate
13.5% mobility rate
8.0% LEP enrollment

TRENDS

Number of school districts declined. The number of operating school districts declined from 894 in 2000 to 869 in 2009; in 2009, there were 379 elementary districts, 100 high school districts, and 390 unit districts.

Slight increase in the number of public schools. The number of public schools increased slightly from 3,907 in 2000 to 3,910 in 2009. These figures include charter schools and regular public schools which issue school report cards.

Increase in average school size. The average school size increased by about 4 percent, from 508 in 2000 to 529 in 2009.

Student enrollment declined in 2009. Student enrollment in the regular Illinois public schools increased steadily from 1,983,991 in 2000 to 2,077,856 in 2007, then declined to 2,070,125 in 2009. (Enrollment reported here includes only students in regular public schools.)

Increase in low-income students. Low-income students increased from 36.7 percent of the enrollment in 2000 to 42.9 percent in 2009. Pupils are considered low-income if they are from families receiving public aid, are living in institutions for neglected or delinquent children, are being supported in foster homes with public funds, or are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches.

Mobility rate declined. The mobility rate declined from 17.5 percent in 2000 to 13.5 percent in 2009. The mobility rate is the sum of the students transferred out and students transferred in, divided by the average daily enrollment, multiplied by 100. A student may be counted more than once, depending on the number of transfers the student makes in the year.

Minority percentage increased. Students who are Black, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, Native American, or Multiracial/Ethnic, made up 46.7 percent of the enrollment in 2009, up from 39.0 percent in 2000. The increase in minority percentage is accounted for mainly by increases among Hispanic students.

LEP students increased in last decade. Limited-English-proficient (LEP) students increased from 6.1 percent in 2000 to 8.0 percent in 2009. LEP students include those who are eligible for bilingual education.

Dropout rate declined since 2000. The dropout rate declined from 5.8 percent in 2000 to 3.5 percent in 2009. Dropouts include students in grades 9-12 whose names have been removed from the district roster for any reason other than death, extended illness, graduation/completion of a program of studies, transfer to another school, or expulsion.

Increase in chronic truancy rate. The chronic truancy rate was 3.7 percent in 2009, compared to 2.4 percent reported for 2000. Chronic truants include students subject to compulsory attendance who have been absent without valid cause from such attendance for 10 percent or more of the previous 180 regular attendance days.

In the last decade, average class size generally declined at the elementary level but increased at the high school level. Between 2000 and 2009, the average class size for

Kindergarten declined from 21.3 to 20.5
Grade 1 declined from 21.6 to 20.9
Grade 3 declined from 22.4 to 21.8
Grade 6 declined from 23.9 to 22.0
Grade 8 declined from 22.9 to 21.4
High School (grades 9-12) increased from 18.4 to 19.2

Little change in the percentage of minority teachers in the last decade. Minorities account for 14.9 percent of the classroom teachers in 2009 compared to 15.0 percent in 2000. Minority teachers include those who are Black, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, or Native American.

Slight decline in the percentage of male classroom teachers. There is a downward trend in the percentage of male teachers, declining from 24.4 percent of the teaching force in 2000 to 22.9 percent in 2009.

Percentage of teachers with graduate degrees increased. In 2009, teachers who had a master's degree or higher accounted for 55.8 percent of the classroom teachers in Illinois public schools, up from 46.6 percent in 2000.

Decline in students per teacher at elementary and secondary levels in 2009. The elementary pupil-teacher ratio (PTR) declined from 19.3:1 in 2000 to 18.4:1 in 2009. The secondary PTR declined from 18.1:1 in 2000 to 18.0:1 in 2009.

Teaching experience (years) declined since 2000. The average teaching experience of Illinois public school teachers declined from 14.8 years in 2000 to 12.5 years in 2009.

Illinois Public School Districts by Type
(105 ILCS 5/2-3.11)

School Year	Elementary Districts	Secondary Districts^a	Unit Districts	Total Districts^b
2008-09	378	100	390	868
2007-08	378	100	390	868
2006-07	376	100	395	871
2005-06	377	100	396	873
2004-05	379	101	399	879
2003-04	381	101	405	887
2002-03	383	103	407	893
2001-02	383	103	407	893
2000-01	383	103	408	894
1999-00	384	103	409	896
1998-99	385	104	408	897
1997-98	388	106	406	900
1996-97	392	107	405	904
1995-96	392	107	408	907
1994-95	395	110	410	915
1993-94	400	110	414	924
1992-93	406	111	415	932
1991-92	410	113	423	946
1990-91	415	114	424	953
1989-90	418	115	428	961

^a Does not include two non-operating districts.

^b Does not include five state-operated school systems (the Illinois Department of Corrections/Juvenile Justice school district, two state laboratory schools, the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, and the Illinois Department of Rehabilitation state schools).

**Comparison of Public School Districts by Type and Enrollment
1998-99 and 2008-09
(105 ILCS 5/2-3.11)**

District Enrollment	Elementary Districts		Secondary Districts		Unit Districts		Total Districts*	
	98-99	08-09	98-99	08-09	98-99	08-09	98-99	08-09
25,000 or more	0	0	0	0	3	5	3	5
10,000 to 24,999	3	4	2	2	12	12	17	18
5,000 to 9,999	11	10	7	12	25	25	43	47
2,500 to 4,999	48	55	23	23	28	33	99	111
1,000 to 2,499	99	96	30	26	127	112	256	234
600 to 999	61	56	17	16	95	82	173	154
300 to 599	59	58	11	12	102	96	172	166
Fewer than 300	104	99	12	9	16	25	132	133
Total	385	378	102	100	408	390	895	868

* Does not include two non-operating districts, Department of Corrections/Juvenile Justice district, state-operated districts, special education districts, and state charter districts.

Data source: Fall Housing Enrollment Report

**Comparison of Public and Nonpublic Attendance Centers
1998-99 and 2008-09
(105 ILCS 5/2-3.11)**

Public Attendance Centers			Nonpublic Attendance Centers		
	98-99	08-09		98-99	08-09
Elementary	2,630	2,623	Elementary	1,006	854
Junior High	596	613	Secondary	122	122
High School	657	679	Unit	157	124
Special Education and Others	368	411	Special Education	92	35
Total	4,251	4,326	Total	1,377	1,135

Data source: Fall Housing Enrollment Report

**Illinois State Board of Education
Public School Recognition Committee
Act or Omissions Status Report for the 2008-09 School Year
(105 ILCS 5/1A-4)**

County	District	Compliance Deficiency	Date of District Notification	Action taken by District/School
Adams	Quincy SD 172	Pending Further Review ▪ Certification Issues	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Alexander	Cairo USD 1	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
Bureau	Malden SD 84	Pending Further Review ▪ Teacher Qualifications	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Bureau	Cherry SD 92	Pending Further Review ▪ Teacher Qualifications	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Bureau	Ladd SD 94	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	March 2009 via certified mail	All teacher certification issues have been resolved.
Bureau	Dalzell SD 98	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All teacher qualification issues have been resolved.
Bureau	Spring Valley CCSD 99	Pending Further Review ▪ Teacher Qualifications	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Bureau	DePue USD 103	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All teacher qualification issues have been resolved and per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.

County	District	Compliance Deficiency	Date of District Notification	Action taken by District/School
Bureau	Princeton Elem SD 115	Pending Further Review ▪ Teacher Qualifications	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Bureau	Neponset CCSD 307	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All noncompliance issues have been resolved.
Bureau	Bureau Valley CUSD 340	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All teacher qualification issues have been resolved.
Bureau	Princeton High SD 500	Pending Further Review ▪ Teacher Qualifications	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Bureau	Hall SD 502	Pending Further Review ▪ Teacher Qualifications	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Cass	Beardstown SD 15 -Gard Elem -Beardstown Junior Senior HS	Pending Further Review ▪ Paraprofessional Certification	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Champaign	Rantoul Twp HSD 193	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	May 2009 via certified mail	The district has submitted their school improvement plan as required.
Cook	Skokie SD 73.5 -Elizabeth Meyer School -John Middleton Elem -Oliver McCracken MS	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	July 2009 via certified mail	School and district personnel submitted the 2008-2009 Applications for Recognition as required.

County	District	Compliance Deficiency	Date of District Notification	Action taken by District/School
Cook	Lindop SD 92 -Lindop Elem	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	March 2009 via certified mail	School and district personnel submitted the 2008-2009 Application for Recognition as required.
Cook	LaGrange SD 105 South -Hodgkins Elem	Pending Further Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School and district administrators did not submit the 2008-2009 Application for Recognition as required. 	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Cook	Ridgeland SD 122 -Harnew Elem	Pending Further Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School and district administrators did not submit the 2008-2009 Application for Recognition as required. 	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Cook	Sunnybrook SD 171 -Heritage MS -Nathan Hale Elem	Pending Further Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School and district administrators did not submit the 2008-2009 Applications for Recognition as required. 	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Cook	Northfield Twp High SD 225 -Glenbrook Evening HS	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	March 2009 via certified mail	School and district personnel submitted the 2008-2009 Application for Recognition as required.
DuPage	West Chicago Elem SD 33	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	June 2009 via certified mail	All paraprofessional certification issues have been resolved.
DuPage	Hinsdale CCSD 181 -Clarendon Hills MS -Hinsdale MS	Pending Further Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No daily physical education 	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Greene	Carrollton CUSD 1 -Carrollton HS	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All certification issues have been resolved.

County	District	Compliance Deficiency	Date of District Notification	Action taken by District/School
Grundy	Morris Elem SD 54	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
Hancock	Southeastern CUSD 337	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
Henry	Colona SD 190	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	March 2009 via certified mail	All teacher qualification issues have been resolved.
Henry	Orion SD 223	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	March 2009 via certified mail	All teacher qualification issues have been resolved.
Henry	AlWood SD 225	Pending Further Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teacher Qualifications 	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Henry	Geneseo CUSD 228	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All teacher qualification issues have been resolved.
Henry	Kewanee SD 229	Pending Further Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teacher Qualifications 	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Johnson	Buncombe Consolidated SD 43	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
Kankakee	Kankakee SD 111	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
Lake	Big Hollow SD 38	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All noncompliance issues cited in the April 2007 visit report have been corrected.
Lake	Gurnee SD 56	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All noncompliance issues cited in the December 2006 visit report have been corrected.

County	District	Compliance Deficiency	Date of District Notification	Action taken by District/School
Lake	Waukegan SD 60	Pending Further Review ▪ Certification Issues	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Lake	Diamond Lake SD 76	Pending Further Review ▪ Certification Issues	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Lake	Round Lake SD 116	Pending Further Review ▪ Certification Issues	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Lake	Mundelein High SD 120	From On Probation to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	The district now employs a full-time superintendent.
Lake	North Chicago SD 187	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All noncompliance issues have been resolved.
LaSalle	Allen Otter Creek SD 65	From On Probation to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
LaSalle	Miller Twp SD 210	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
Logan	Lincoln CHSD 404	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
Madison	Venice CUSD 3	Pending Further Review ▪ Ongoing Compliance Issues	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Marion	Sandoval CUSD 501	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.

County	District	Compliance Deficiency	Date of District Notification	Action taken by District/School
Mason	Illini Central CUSD 189	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	The district now employs a full-time superintendent.
McHenry	Riley CCSD 18	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
McHenry	Cary CCSD 26	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	The district now employs a full-time superintendent.
McHenry	Harvard SD 50	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	The district now employs a full-time superintendent.
Peoria	Peoria SD 150	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	March 2009 via certified mail	All noncompliance issues have been resolved.
Pike	Pleasant Hill CUSD 3	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
Putnam	Putnam County SD 535	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	The district now employs a full-time superintendent.
Scott	Winchester CUSD 1 -Winchester HS	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All teacher certification issues have been resolved.
Scott	Scott Morgan CUSD 2	Pending Further Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Certification Issues 	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Stark	Bradford CUSD 1	Pending Further Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teacher Qualification Issues 	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Stark	Stark County SD 100	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All teacher qualification issues have been resolved.
St. Clair	East St. Louis SD 189 -Clark MS	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	All health life safety issues have been resolved.

County	District	Compliance Deficiency	Date of District Notification	Action taken by District/School
Tazewell	Delevan SD 703	On Probation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance Issues 	February 2009 via certified mail	Districts/schools placed on probation are required to have a conference with the State Superintendent of Education to discuss the compliance issues which led to this lowered recognition status. Within 60 days following the conference the district is required to submit to their regional superintendent of schools and the State Superintendent of Education a time-specific plan for removing the deficiencies. A school or district which fails to correct cited deficiencies within the time set forth in its plan shall be non-recognized.
Union	Lick Creek CCSD 16	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
Union	Shawnee CUSD 84	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	The district now employs a full-time superintendent.
Vermilion	Catlin CUSD 5	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
Whiteside	Rock Falls Elem SD 13	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	April 2009 via certified mail	All certification issues have been resolved.
Winnebago	Rockford SD 205	Pending Further Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance Issues indicated during the March 2008 compliance visit. 	February 2009 via certified mail	In the public school recognition cycle schools/districts are notified of compliance deficiencies annually. In general, schools/districts are given until the end of the school year in which they were notified to correct these deficiencies.
Woodford	Riverview CCSD 2	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	The district now employs a full-time superintendent.
Woodford	El Paso Gridley CUSD 11	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	Per ISBE Policy employment of an interim superintendent was not an area to affect recognition for this school year.
Woodford	Germantown Hills Elem SD 69	From Pending Further Review to Full Recognition	February 2009 via certified mail	The district now employs a full-time superintendent.

Interim Superintendents for the 2008-2009 School Year
(105 ILCS 5/10-21.4)

The Illinois School Code requires all school districts “to employ a superintendent who shall have charge of the administration of the schools under the direction of the board of education” (105 ILCS 5/10-21.4). The School Code does not, however, further define the ways in which school districts are permitted to employ a superintendent—for example, the School Code does not require, on its face, that a school district superintendent be hired “full-time,” nor does the School Code, on its face, prohibit a school district from retaining a retired district superintendent to work in that school district for less than 120 days in a school year.

The Illinois State Board of Education (the “Agency”) has done its best, despite the lack of clarity in the law, to determine what is and what is not an acceptable employment practice—and has historically taken action pursuant to Section 1.20 of its administrative rules (23 Ill. Admin. Code 1.20) to reduce the recognition status of school districts that have not shown a commitment to employing a full-time district superintendent. Furthermore, despite little statutory guidance, Regional Superintendents have done an excellent job to best ensure compliance consistently across the state.

The Agency, though, believes that before further action is taken by the Agency to negatively impact a school district’s recognition status due to this issue, more clarity is necessary. Therefore, for the 2008-2009 school year and for the coming school year (2009-2010) only, the Agency has decided that no school district’s recognition status will be negatively affected due to its employment of an “interim” superintendent. This moratorium by the Agency should not be interpreted as an endorsement of school districts employing an “interim” superintendent.

The Agency intends to work with stakeholders to establish clear standards for the employment of district superintendents, and hopes to incorporate the resulting standards into either Illinois law or rule. The standards will be then applied for purposes of determining a school district’s recognition status for the 2010-2011 school year.