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Data from the state or school year unless otherwise noted (2010-11)

Academic Performance Index (API) for Sonoma County, 1999 to 2009

- The API is a numeric scale, ranging from 200 to 1000, that measures the academic progress of public schools based on results of state tests.
- Fifty-two percent of Sonoma County schools are at or above the performance target of 700.

Achievement gap
Grade 3 Reading-Language Arts, proficient or above
Economically disadvantaged students 29%
English learners 33%
Hispanic or Latino students 27%
White students 61%

Algebra I, proficient or above
Economically disadvantaged students 23%
English learners 14%
Hispanic or Latino students 24%
White students 42%

School ranks
Percent of schools in the top five ranks
Statewide Ranks 59%
Similar School Ranks 46%

About the Sonoma County Office of Education
The mission of the Sonoma County Office of Education (SCOE) is to foster student success through service to students, schools, and the community. SCOE functions as an educational service agency and strategic partner to the county’s 40 districts and their 174 schools. Programs and services are designed to help districts meet legal mandates and operate cost-effectively, assist in improving instruction and achievement, and bring new educational resources to the county. SCOE provides fiscal oversight to districts and delivers instruction via special education, alternative education, and career technical education programs. The office operates under the direction of the elected county superintendent of schools.
Number of school districts in Sonoma County

- Elementary
- High

Size of school districts

- Under 500 students: 15
- 500 to 999: 6
- 1,000 to 1,999: 8
- 2,000 to 4,999: 7
- Over 5,000 students: 4

Number of public schools

- Elementary: 98
- Middle/junior high: 24
- High: 18
- Alternative: 27
- Independent study: 7

There are now 35 locally approved charter schools in Sonoma County: 1 elementary, 8 middle, 1 high, and 5 independent study. These public schools are included in the 744 count above. Two additional charter schools, approved outside of the county, are also operating in Sonoma County.

There are 59 private schools in Sonoma County serving 5,758 students (less than 8% of the K-12 population).

English learners: 16,725 (24%)
Special education students: 8,674 (12%)
Charter school students: 10,503 (15%)
Economically disadvantaged*: 28,609 (40%)
* Students receiving free or reduced-price meals

SAT scores of public school students

- Critical Reading: 539
- Math: 545
- Writing: 510

Number of graduates by ethnicity

- African American: 129 (94%)
- Asian: 279 (34%)
- Hispanic or Latino: 1,162 (1,122%)
- Native American: 76 (47%)
- White: 3,392 (2,905%)
- Multiple or no response: 219 (107%)

California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE)

- Grade 10 percent passing: 25%
- County: 94%
- State: 89%
- National: 89%

All public school students are required to pass this exam to earn a high school diploma. Students take the test for the first time in grade 10 and can re-take the exam in grades 11-12.

25% of graduates met UC/CSU admission requirements

Student performance

- English-Language Arts: 25%
- Science: 27%
- History/Social Science: 25%
- Mathematics: 27%
- Physical Science: 25%
- Biological Science: 25%
- Foreign Language: 25%
- Physical Education: 25%
- Visual Performing Arts: 25%

In a typical year, 85% of Sonoma County’s graduating seniors pass a CAHSEE exam. The passing rate for the state is 89% and for the nation is 89%.

Number of public school students

- Total: 31,286 students, 25%
- Native American: 2,001 students, 6%
- African American: 1,452 students, 4%
- Multiple or no response: 1,608 students, 4%
- Asian: 279 students, 0.9%
- Pacific Islander: 34 students, 0.1%
- Filipino: 23 students, 0.1%

Racial & ethnic diversity of students

- White: 20,569 students, 67%
- Hispanic or Latino: 7,055 students, 22%
- Asian, Pacific Islander, and Filipino: 288 students, 1%

Number of K–12 public school students

- Total: 73,698
- 2008-09: 72,867
- 2009-10: 71,868
- 2010-11: 70,994
- 2011-12: 70,049
- 2012-13: 71,412
- 2013-14: 71,868
- 2014-15: 71,412
- 2015-16: 71,010

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