

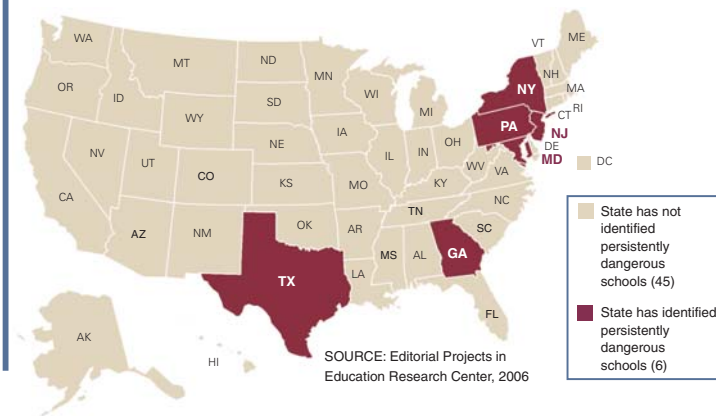
SCHOOL CLIMATE

	Overall grade for school climate		Engagement [15% of grade]			School Safety [20% of grade]				
			Percent of 8th graders in schools where a school official reports that the following are not problems or are minor problems (2003)			State surveys teachers, parents, and/or students about school conditions (2005-06)	School report cards include school safety information (2005-06) ¹	State law or regulations include provisions related to school bullying/harassment (2005-06)	State finances a program to reduce school bullying/harassment (2005-06)	State law enforces specific penalties for incidents of school violence (2005-06)
			Absenteeism	Tardiness	Classroom misbehavior					
Delaware	B	85	75	79	55	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Colorado	B	85	86	81	78	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maine	B	84	88	89	78	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wisconsin	B	84	86	85	79	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Minnesota	B	83	81	84	76	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wyoming	B	83	77	75	79	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rhode Island	B	83	89	78	75	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Missouri	B	83	85	83	77	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Iowa	B-	82	90	85	78	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kansas	B-	82	88	86	76	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Connecticut	B-	82	89	82	75	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
New Jersey	B-	82	93	77	73	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Massachusetts	B-	81	92	81	85	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vermont	B-	80	86	85	80	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
New Hampshire	B-	80	88	84	81	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nebraska	C+	79	87	89	81	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
West Virginia	C+	79	79	87	72	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oklahoma	C+	79	77	74	74	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Idaho	C+	78	82	80	74	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arkansas	C+	78	71	69	73	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Washington	C+	78	77	83	74	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Arizona	C+	78	62	67	74	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Illinois	C+	78	88	82	75	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Georgia	C+	78	67	72	65	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
South Carolina	C+	78	79	71	60	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ohio	C+	77	75	80	72	pilot	✓	✓	✓	✓
South Dakota	C+	77	79	83	82	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oregon	C+	77	68	74	74	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tennessee	C+	77	81	74	69	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
North Carolina	C+	77	71	75	60	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hawaii	C	76	76	73	44	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
New York	C	76	82	72	73	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pennsylvania	C	76	83	84	75	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Texas	C	76	86	72	67	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Utah	C	75	75	69	72	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Indiana	C	75	84	80	74	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
California	C	75	71	70	71	✓	✓ ²	✓	✓	✓
Louisiana	C	75	61	71	57	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
North Dakota	C	75	88	74	82	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kentucky	C	74	81	77	66	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Florida	C	74	64	70	54	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Virginia	C	73	86	81	65	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
New Mexico	C	73	53	72	64	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Michigan	C-	72	82	72	71	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Montana	C-	71	68	76	75	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nevada	C-	71	75	70	61	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
District of Columbia	C-	70	69	57	56	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alabama	C-	70	80	75	61	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mississippi	D+	68	68	68	66	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maryland	D+	67	79	72	66	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alaska	D+	67	58	72	84	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
U.S.	—	—	79	76	70	18	27	34	15	34

¹ The EPE Research Center used the most recently available school report cards in each state as of Oct. 21, 2005. Please see the Sources and Notes on Page 101 for report card

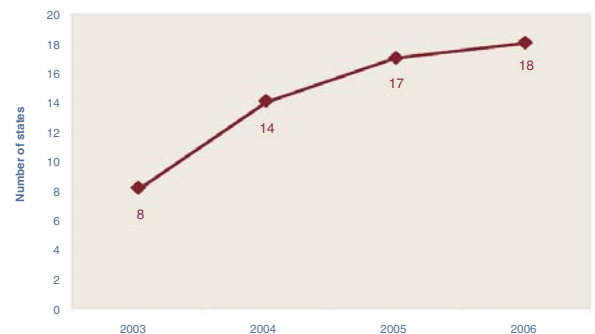
'Persistently Dangerous' Schools

The No Child Left Behind Act requires each state to define and identify "persistently dangerous" schools. During the 2005-06 school year, only 29 schools in six states were designated as persistently dangerous. The number of schools identified ranged from two in Georgia and Texas to 10 in Pennsylvania.



State Surveys on School Conditions

Relatively few states survey teachers, parents, and/or students about school conditions. However, the number doing so has grown in recent years.



Note: The District of Columbia is included in the analysis. Total state count=51. SOURCE: Editorial Projects in Education Research Center, 2006

Shaded columns indicate data that were used to grade the states.

	Percent of students in schools where a school official reports that physical conflicts are not a problem or are a minor problem (2003)	
	4th grade	8th grade
DE	93	89
CO	96	91
ME	98	98
WI	92	92
MN	90	86
WY	91	90
RI	93	91
MO	97	90
IA	96	88
KS	97	89
CT	92	90
NJ	92	92
MA	94	92
VT	95	94
NH	99	100
NE	98	95
WV	97	81
OK	88	87
ID	94	99
AR	91	86
WA	97	92
AZ	88	80
IL	91	89
GA	94	83
SC	90	88
OH	92	85
SD	93	91
OR	96	89
TN	97	85
NC	99	82
HI	91	68
NY	88	87
PA	85	88
TX	95	84
UT	93	86
IN	89	88
CA	88	85
LA	81	74
ND	92	90
KY	97	89
FL	93	76
VA	97	88
NM	91	74
MI	90	85
MT	87	82
NV	94	73
DC	75	65
AL	95	74
MS	91	84
MD	93	84
AK	90	79
U.S.	92	86

FOOTNOTES:

Note: A dash (—) indicates data were not available or, in U.S. row, that a total was not appropriate. States are ranked by number grade to the nearest decimal.

1 The EPE Research Center used the most recently available school report cards in each state as of Oct. 21, 2005. Please see the Sources and Notes on Page 101 for report card years by state.

2 California requires its School Accountability Report Cards to include school safety data, but not all of the school report cards include the information.

CORRECTION:

Data in this table have been corrected and differ from print edition.

In the print edition of Quality Counts, Louisiana did not receive credit in the School Climate section for including information about parent involvement or school safety on its school report cards. Because Louisiana's 2003-04 school report cards do report such information, the state should receive credit for both indicators. This change raises the state's grade from a C-minus to a C in this section.

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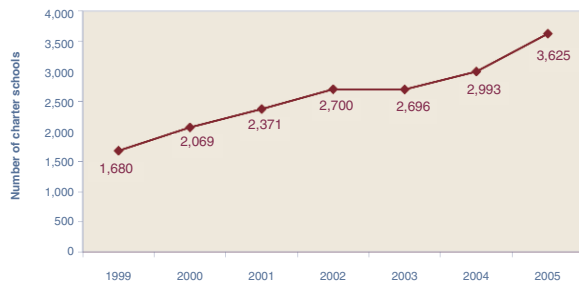
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SCHOOL CLIMATE

	Parent Involvement [15% of grade]					Choice and Autonomy [20% of grade]			
	School report cards include information on parent involvement (2005-06) ¹	Percent of students in schools where a school official reports that (2003):				State has a public school open-enrollment program (2003)	State law allows charter schools (2005)	Strength of charter school law (2004) ²	Number of charter schools (2005)
		Lack of parent involvement is not a problem or is a minor problem		More than half of parents participate in parent-teacher conferences					
		4th grade	8th grade	4th grade	8th grade				
Delaware	✓	62	24	90	28	statewide	✓	4.0	15
Colorado		75	69	99	68	statewide	✓	3.0	116
Maine		75	67	100	92	limited			
Wisconsin		77	63	99	86	statewide	✓	3.0	188
Minnesota		81	65	100	88	statewide	✓	4.0	126
Wyoming	✓	66	57	98	87	limited	✓	2.0	3
Rhode Island	✓	66	52	85	62	limited	✓	1.0	11
Missouri		74	61	98	76	limited	✓	3.0	26
Iowa		70	75	99	93	statewide	✓	0.0	7
Kansas		72	70	100	88	limited	✓	1.0	33
Connecticut		70	68	94	82	limited	✓	2.0	15
New Jersey		72	61	86	71	limited	✓	3.0	52
Massachusetts		79	75	94	62	limited	✓	4.0	57
Vermont		76	62	100	83	limited			
New Hampshire		80	67	93	70	limited	✓	2.0	6
Nebraska		71	79	100	92	statewide			
West Virginia		74	68	64	41	limited			
Oklahoma	✓	66	66	91	57	statewide	✓	2.0	13
Idaho		68	62	100	75	limited	✓	2.0	23
Arkansas		53	45	96	63	statewide	✓	1.0	17
Washington		65	46	100	45	statewide			
Arizona		56	45	96	50	statewide	✓	4.0	449
Illinois	✓	63	69	96	85	limited	✓	2.0	41
Georgia		53	55	73	57	statewide	✓	2.0	49
South Carolina	✓	56	44	88	78	limited	✓	2.0	26
Ohio		64	55	86	55	limited	✓	3.0	277
South Dakota		74	65	99	94	statewide			
Oregon		64	58	100	82	limited	✓	3.0	62
Tennessee		61	50	54	49	limited	✓	2.0	12
North Carolina		68	49	93	56	limited	✓	3.0	100
Hawaii	✓	52	20	99	37	limited	✓	2.0	27
New York		68	56	94	66	limited	✓	3.0	79
Pennsylvania		73	59	92	47	limited	✓	3.0	115
Texas		69	57	79	46	limited	✓	3.0	259
Utah		71	70	99	76	statewide	✓	2.0	39
Indiana		63	52	98	69	limited	✓	3.0	29
California		63	65	94	50	limited	✓	3.0	592
Louisiana	✓	46	36	67	46	limited	✓	2.0	21
North Dakota		82	80	100	98	limited			
Kentucky	✓	61	48	79	46				
Florida		60	45	77	57	limited	✓	3.0	326
Virginia		75	67	90	50		✓	1.0	5
New Mexico		54	34	98	61	limited	✓	3.0	51
Michigan		64	59	94	87	limited	✓	4.0	233
Montana		77	64	99	75	statewide			
Nevada	✓	63	55	95	41	limited	✓	2.0	20
District of Columbia		47	36	76	66		✓	4.0	65
Alabama		54	44	69	39				
Mississippi		59	45	77	52	limited	✓	0.0	1
Maryland		65	60	84	44		✓	1.0	15
Alaska	✓	63	50	96	78		✓	1.0	24
U.S.	11	66	58	89	61	44	41	—	3,625

Charter School Growth

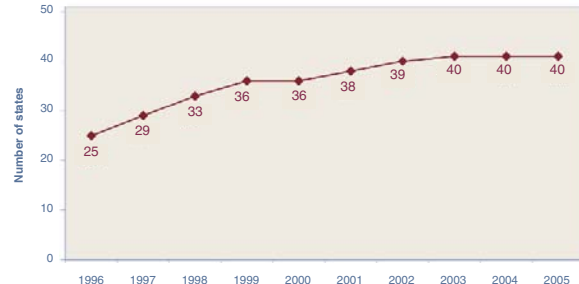
Charter schools are an increasingly popular reform option for states. The number of charter schools in the United States has more than doubled since 1999. More than 1 million students are now enrolled in charter schools nationwide.



Note: The District of Columbia is included in the analysis. Total state count=51.
SOURCE: Center for Education Reform, 1999-2005

State Charter School Laws

Over the past decade, more states have passed laws allowing charter schools. The number of states with laws allowing charter schools has steadily grown, from 25 in 1996 to 40 in 2005. There is considerable variation in when states passed these laws. For example, Minnesota passed its charter law in 1991, while Maryland did so in 2003.



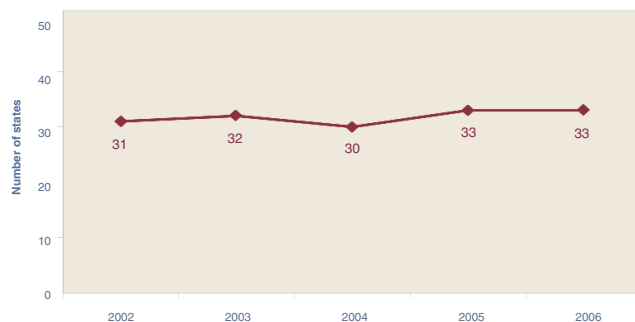
Note: The District of Columbia is not included in the analysis. Total state count=50.
SOURCE: Education Commission of the States, 1996, and Center for Education Reform, 1997-2005

Shaded columns indicate data that were used to grade the states.

	School Size [10% of grade]			Class Size [10% of grade]				School Facilities [10% of grade]		
	Percent of students in elementary schools with 350 or fewer students (2004)	Percent of students in middle schools with 800 or fewer students (2004)	Percent of students in high schools with 900 or fewer students (2004)	School report cards include information on class size or pupil-teacher ratio (2005-06) ³	State has implemented a class-size-reduction program and/or limits class size by statute (2005-06)	Average class size for self-contained classes in elementary schools (2000)	Median pupil-teacher ratio in primary-level schools (2003)	State tracks condition of all school facilities (2005-06)	State provides grants/debt service for capital outlays or construction (2005-06)	State funding dedicated to capital outlays or construction for FY 2006
Delaware	11	56	12	✓	✓	20.6	15.8	✓	✓	\$124,678,800
Colorado	25	64	25	✓	✓	23.2	16.2	✓	✓	—
Maine	64	94	65		✓	18.0	12.7	✓	✓	\$61,700,000
Wisconsin	36	75	39		✓	20.8	14.1	✓	✓	\$322,000,000 ⁴
Minnesota	22	48	41		✓	22.0	15.5		✓	\$220,300,000
Wyoming	81	76	63	✓		18.1	12.0	✓	✓	\$152,400,000
Rhode Island	44	61	22	✓		20.0	—	✓	✓	\$47,200,000
Missouri	32	72	43	✓		20.9	13.8	✓		
Iowa	55	86	60		✓	20.1	13.3			
Kansas	49	85	50			18.4	14.4		✓	\$74,200,000
Connecticut	21	61	29	✓		20.0	14.3	✓	✓	\$737,540,000
New Jersey	20	58	20	✓	✓	20.5	14.1	✓	✓	—
Massachusetts	26	64	32	✓		21.0	—		✓	—
Vermont	62	100	49	✓		18.1	11.5		✓	\$13,520,000
New Hampshire	32	52	39	✓		20.0	13.3			
Nebraska	58	73	51			17.5	12.2			
West Virginia	54	86	55	✓		19.4	14.4	✓	✓	\$45,000,000
Oklahoma	35	76	60		✓	18.6	16.0	✓		
Idaho	28	62	47			22.1	18.3		✓	\$2,000,000
Arkansas	31	83	74		✓	19.8	14.8	✓	✓	\$70,000,000
Washington	16	59	26		✓	23.9	18.4		✓	\$294,000,000
Arizona	11	42	26		✓	24.5	18.1	✓	✓	\$70,000,000
Illinois	23	64	25	✓		22.3	16.5	✓		
Georgia	5	32	14	✓	✓	19.7	15.8	✓	✓	\$132,600,000
South Carolina	10	57	26	✓	✓	17.9	14.9	✓	✓	\$18,100,000
Ohio	29	78	47		✓	22.7	16.4	✓	✓	\$655,700,000
South Dakota	58	86	66			18.8	12.2			
Oregon	29	70	31	✓		23.9	20.3		✓	\$17,500,000
Tennessee	17	60	30		✓	19.7	—	✓	✓	\$221,500,000
North Carolina	14	55	21	✓	✓	20.9	14.4	✓	✓	
Hawaii	11	30	10	✓	✓	23.1	16.7	✓	✓	\$215,000,000
New York	10	37	30	✓	✓	22.3	—	✓	✓	\$1,500,000,000
Pennsylvania	23	52	33		✓	22.2	16.3		✓	\$294,500,000
Texas	9	47	23	✓	✓	18.5	15.0		✓	\$765,000,000
Utah	6	33	19	✓	✓	23.7	22.2		✓	\$27,800,000
Indiana	23	62	39	✓	✓	21.4	17.3			
California	7	23	10	✓	✓	22.7	19.7		✓	\$6,260,000,000
Louisiana	20	79	41	✓	✓	18.9	14.6	✓		
North Dakota	66	68	72			17.8	11.7			
Kentucky	25	69	44	✓	✓	20.8	15.6	✓	✓	\$161,070,000
Florida	4	13	5		✓	23.1	17.0	✓	✓	\$190,334,280
Virginia	14	37	20		✓	19.4	12.1		✓	\$27,500,000
New Mexico	30	78	28		✓	19.9	14.4	✓	✓	\$230,000,000
Michigan	29	69	37		✓	22.0	18.1			
Montana	65	88	55		✓	18.2	13.0			
Nevada	4	14	13	✓	✓	20.7	17.5			
District of Columbia	34	92	69			21.7	—	✓	✓	\$114,178,000
Alabama	19	70	52		✓	18.7	14.6	✓	✓	\$130,000,000
Mississippi	14	70	54			20.4	16.9	✓	✓	\$782,291
Maryland	12	37	9		✓	22.2	15.9	✓	✓	\$263,161,000
Alaska	29	67	39			22.0	16.2	✓	✓	\$192,000,000
U.S.	19	51	29	25	33	21.2	15.9	27	37	—

Reducing Class Sizes

The number of states with class-size-reduction programs has remained steady in recent years.



Note: The District of Columbia is included in the analysis. Total state count=51.
SOURCE: Editorial Projects in Education Research Center, 2006

FOOTNOTES:

³ The strength of the charter school law, as rated by the Center for Education Reform, is reported by the EPE Research Center using a standard 4-point scale (i.e., A=4.0, B=3.0, C=2.0, D=1.0, F=0.0).

⁴ This figure is for fiscal 2005.