

Appendix A

District and Community Demographics

INTRODUCTION

Chicago has a rich history of economic growth and transformation. Our city set a global standard in the 19th century as an industrial giant as it developed a strong base of esteemed manufacturing firms, robust supply chains, and an efficient transport and logistics infrastructure. By the late 20th century, the focus of the city and the region had expanded to embrace a knowledge-based economy while developing a highly-skilled workforce. Today, the Chicago region has emerged as a major hub for national and global corporation headquarters and thriving finance, insurance, law, information technology, marketing, and logistics business communities.

The economy of Chicago and the region remains large and diverse, boasting a strong foundation of physical, technological, and institutional business assets. If the Chicago region were a country, it would be the 21st-largest economy in the world. Our city and region are global in character, with a substantial and growing foreign-born population and non-stop flights to over 200 destinations around the world.

CHICAGO POPULATION

There are approximately 2.7 million people and 1.1 million households in Chicago, the third largest city in the United States.¹ An estimated 20.4 percent of the city's population is under 18 years old.

CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS ENROLLMENT

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) is the nation's fourth-largest school district. In the 2022–23 school year, CPS enrollment was 322,106, a decline of 8,305 students from the prior school year. CPS has a higher proportion of students of color, low-income students, and English learners as compared to the city's population as a whole and school districts in the rest of the state.

Race and Ethnicity: 46.5 percent of CPS students are Hispanic, 35.8 percent are African American, 11.0 percent are White, 4.4 percent are Asian, and 2.3 percent are multi-racial or other.

English Learners: English learners are students eligible for transitional bilingual education, and for whom English is not their native language. 72,029 CPS students were English learners during the 2022–23 school year, which is 22.4 percent of the District's total student enrollment.

Income and Poverty: CPS students are disproportionately low-income as compared to the rest of the state. Students ages 3 to 17 meet the low-income criteria if they receive or live in households that receive public aid from SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or TANF (Targeted Assistance for Needy Families); are classified as homeless, migrant, runaway, Head Start, or foster children; or live in a household where the household income meets United States Department of Agriculture guidelines to receive free or reduced-price meals. There are 234,283 students that qualify as low-income based on Family Income Information Form submissions, representing over 72 percent of the CPS student population.

¹ As of the 2020 US Census.

Table 1: CPS Enrollment 2013 - 2023

	Fall 2013 (FY14)	Fall 2014 (FY15)	Fall 2015 (FY16)	Fall 2016 (FY17)	Fall 2017 (FY18)	Fall 2018 (FY19)	Fall 2019 (FY20)	Fall 2020 (FY21)	Fall 2021 (FY22)	Fall 2022 (FY23)
School- based PK*	23,671	22,873	22,555	20,673	19,441	17,668	17,492	11,494	15,430	16,403
Elementary Schools (K-8)	264,845	261,803	258,563	251,623	244,589	237,779	232,931	223,967	210,278	203,308
High schools (9-12)	112,029	112,007	111,167	109,053	107,352	105,867	104,733	105,197	104,703	102,270
Total Enrollment	400,545	396,683	392,285	381,349	371,382	361,314	355,156	340,658	330,411	321,981