



Statewide Census of Private Education: Complete Results

Prepared for the Minnesota Independent School Forum

O C T O B E R 2 0 1 6

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Introduction

The Minnesota Independent School Forum (MISF) contracted with Wilder Research to conduct a study of private K-12 education in Minnesota, referred to as the Statewide Census of Private Education (SCOPE). The Minnesota Independent School Forum conducted prior SCOPE surveys in 2000, 2002, 2003, and 2012. MISF also contracted with Wilder to conduct the prior iteration of this study in 2012, which captured data on the 2010-11 academic year.

For this study, private schools were defined as religiously-affiliated and independent schools in Minnesota that serve one or more grades from kindergarten through grade 12. Schools had to have at least 15 students enrolled as of fall 2014 to be included in this study. The purpose of the study is to provide a comprehensive statewide portrait of private K-12 schools to increase understanding of the reach and impact of private education in Minnesota. It also provides information about changes since the prior study in 2012 (covering the 2010-11 academic year) as well as comparisons with Minnesota public schools. The study was developed for use by funders, educators, advocacy organizations, and others interested in the education of children in Minnesota. Wilder worked in collaboration with MISF and a few additional stakeholders (including school principals and MISF Board members) to revise the survey instrument and the study protocol used in the prior iteration of the study.

As a part of 2014-15 SCOPE study, Wilder Research conducted a comprehensive statewide survey of private schools, which is supplemented by data from the Minnesota Department of Education. The survey was conducted during April and May of 2016 and gathered data on the 2014-15 school year. Topics include school characteristics and programs, enrollment, student characteristics, high school graduation requirements and graduation rates, school staffing, and school finances, as well as schools' perceptions of a few relevant policy items.

The mission of the study’s sponsor, MISF, is “to strengthen Minnesota’s K-12 independent schools through advocacy and advancement.” MISF carries out this mission by:

- Informing lawmakers, policymakers, and the general public about the contributions independent education makes to the state and society
- Increasing the capacity of K-12 independent schools for collective action and advancing positions of common interest on behalf of the sector
- Building relationships with donors to support targeted programs and research
- Providing member schools with resources, connections, education, and expertise in critical disciplines

MISF received funding from the Katherine B. Andersen Fund to conduct this study.

Methods

The data used in the study comes primarily from the 2014-15 SCOPE survey. The survey is very similar to that used during the prior iteration of the study. The survey was revised in consultation with MISF and with feedback from a few additional stakeholders (two board members, two external consultants, and an executive director from a private school).

The survey instrument was pre-populated, when possible, with basic information about the student population and school staff, based on information available from the Minnesota Department of Education's Fall Report form (fall 2014 data). Schools that responded to the survey could view the data that were available for their school and make any corrections needed.

Data collection methods and procedures

In April 2016, an invitation letter was sent to the principal/administrator at each of the schools in the sample (see Appendix I). An invitation was also sent to each principal/administrator via email.

In April and May 2016, up to four email reminders were sent to schools that had not completed their survey. During this time period, the Minnesota Independent School Forum and Wilder Research also made follow-up calls to schools that had not completed their survey to encourage them to respond. Several organizations (Minnesota Nonpublic School Accrediting Association, Catholic Schools Center of Excellence, Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, Roman Catholic Dioceses of Crookston, Duluth, New Ulm, St. Cloud and Winona, Association of Christian Schools International, and the GHR Foundation) also assisted with communication about the study to encourage schools to participate in the study.

Schools included in the study

All private schools listed in the Minnesota Department of Education’s Fall Report database or the Minnesota Independent School Forum’s database were included in the original sample. Schools with fewer than 15 students enrolled in the 2014-15 school year and schools that offered only preschool were excluded. This resulted in a total eligible sample of 431 schools. For the purposes of this analysis, a school was considered to have “completed” the survey if they a) answered a core set of five questions at the beginning of the survey regarding religious orientation, accreditation, primary description of school, coeducational status, and gender breakdown of enrolled students and b) completed at least 30 percent of the rest of the survey questions that were not already pre-populated with existing data from the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). Using these criteria, 149 schools completed the survey for a 35% percent response rate.

To understand whether the schools that completed the survey were representative of the full population of private schools in the state, we conducted a comparative analysis of a few characteristics of the schools including geographic location, grades served, and enrollment by grade. We compared the characteristics of the schools that completed the survey (N=149) to the characteristics of 388 schools for which we had comparable data. This included 385 schools for which data was available through the MDE Fall Report and three schools for which there was not MDE data but the school provided the necessary data in the SCOPE survey. We refer to the latter group of 388 schools as the “known population” of private schools or “all private schools” throughout this section of the analysis. However, this set of schools does not include 43 additional schools that MISF believes to be operating and were invited to complete the survey.¹

The regional distribution of survey completers was similar to the regional distribution of all private schools in the state. For example, 47 percent of the population of private schools are located in the seven-county metro area, and 50 percent of the survey completers are located in this region (Figure 1).

¹ There were five schools with enrollment of at least 15 students, based on MDE Fall Report data, but for which we did not have any contact information in order to invite them to complete the SCOPE survey. These five schools are not included in our count of “eligible schools” (N=431) nor are they included in the “known population” schools (N=388) included in our analysis of all private schools. Based on MDE Fall Report data, these five schools enrolled a total of 340 students.

1. Survey completers and all private schools by region (2014-15)

Region	Survey completers		All private schools	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Seven-county metro area	75	50%	182	47%
<i>Minneapolis</i>	6	4%	23	6%
<i>St. Paul</i>	10	7%	23	6%
<i>Suburbs</i>	59	40%	136	35%
Central	17	11%	53	14%
Northland	6	4%	13	3%
Northwest	1	1%	12	3%
Southern	30	20%	78	20%
Southwest	14	9%	34	9%
West Central	6	4%	16	4%
Total	149	100%	388	100%

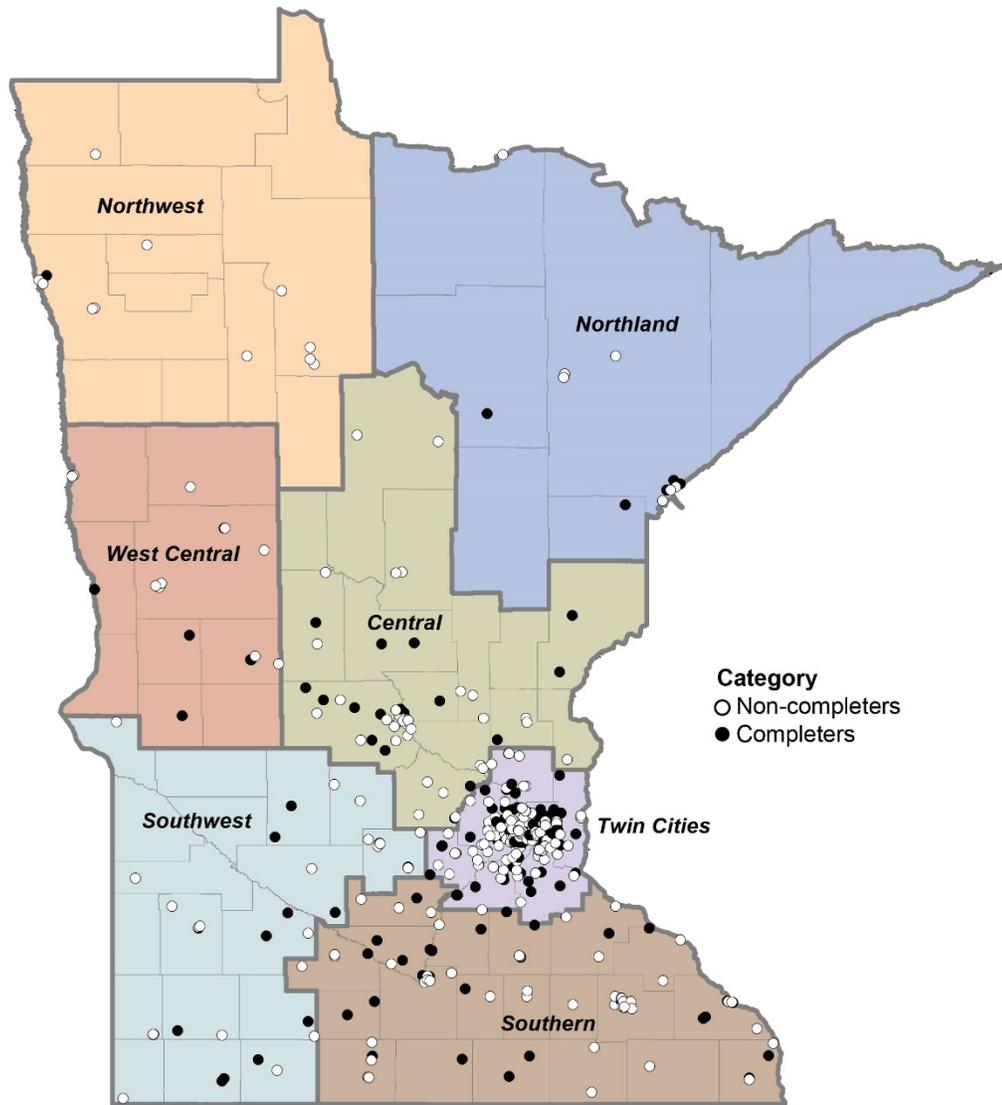
Within the seven-county metro area, the distribution of private schools that completed the survey is also quite similar to the distribution of the private school population (Figure 2). There are, however, a few moderate differences. Our survey completers underrepresent the population of schools in Hennepin County (28% of completers are in Hennepin County while 38% of all private schools are in Hennepin County) while they overrepresent the population of schools in Ramsey County (32% of completers are in Ramsey County while 23% of all private schools are in Ramsey County).

2. Survey completers and all private schools by county in seven-county metro area (2014-15)

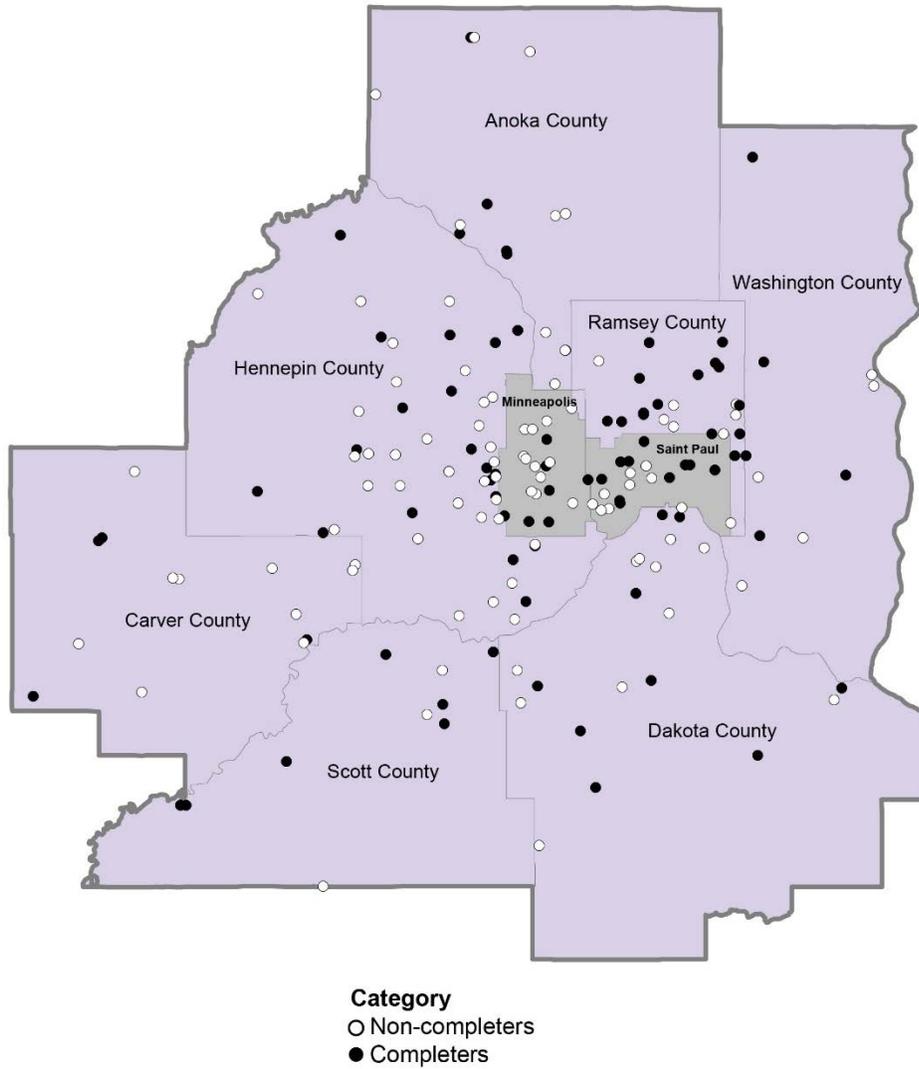
County	Survey completers		All private schools	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Anoka	6	8%	15	8%
Carver	4	5%	14	8%
Dakota	10	13%	23	13%
Hennepin	21	28%	70	38%
Ramsey	24	32%	42	23%
Scott	6	8%	10	5%
Washington	4	5%	8	4%
Twin Cities	75	100%	182	100%
<i>Minneapolis</i>	6	8%	23	13%
<i>St. Paul</i>	10	13%	23	13%
<i>Suburbs</i>	59	79%	136	75%

Figures 3 and 4 illustrate the geographic distribution of the population of private schools in the state and the seven-county metro area, respectively, by whether they completed the survey (“completers”) or not (“non-completers”).

3. Geographic distribution of completers and non-completers: Statewide distribution of completers and non-completers: Statewide



4. Geographic distribution of completers and non-completers: 7-county metro area



A comparison of the survey completers and the full population of private schools by grades served indicates that the survey sample represents all grade levels well, with the exception of high school grades, which are slightly underrepresented (24% of survey completers serve grades 9-12 and 28% of all private schools serve grades 9-12). See Figure 5.

5. Grades served by schools – completers vs. all private schools (2014-15)

Schools serving the following grades	Survey completers		All private schools	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Kindergarten	131	88%	339	86%
Grades 1-5 or 1-6	136	91%	356	91%
Grades 7-8	100	67%	273	70%
Grades 9-12	36	24%	109	28%
Total number of schools	149	100%	388	100%

Note. Many schools serve students in more than one grade range (i.e., some schools are counted in more than one grade range).

Further analysis of school size (total enrollment) and enrollment by grade again indicates that survey completers are quite representative of the population of private schools. However, survey completers have slightly greater enrollment, on average. Survey completers have, on average 183 students per school while the population of private schools have, on average, 168 students per school (Figure 6). It appears that most of this difference occurs in the high school grades. Survey completers serve, on average, between 54 to 61 students per grade in grades 9-12 while the population of private schools serve, on average, between 39 and 42 students per grade in grades 9-12. Together, Figures 5 and 6 show us that although a lower percentage of high schools responded to our survey, those that responded were bigger than average. This may be because larger schools had more capacity to compile the data necessary to complete the survey.

6. Enrollment in Minnesota private schools by grade: completers vs. all private schools (2014-15)^a

Grade	Number of schools	Survey completers			All private schools			
		Number of students enrolled in grade	Percent of students enrolled in grade	Average students per school	Number of schools	Number of students enrolled in grade	Percent of students enrolled in grade	Average students per school
Kindergarten	131	2,328	9%	18	339	5,714	9%	17
1	132	2,231	8%	17	339	5,592	9%	16
2	130	2,258	8%	17	340	5,707	9%	17
3	129	2,259	8%	18	340	5,728	9%	17
4	131	2,300	8%	18	342	5,742	9%	17
5	130	2,142	8%	16	334	5,595	9%	17
6	124	2,087	8%	17	323	5,344	8%	17
7	100	1,818	7%	18	268	4,767	7%	18
8	99	1,875	7%	19	260	5,061	8%	19
9	34	1,917	7%	56	104	4,057	6%	39
10	36	2,043	8%	57	104	4,214	6%	41
11	35	1,890	7%	54	97	4,074	6%	42
12	34	2,076	8%	61	97	4,097	6%	42
Total	149	27,224	100%	183	388	65,692	100%	169

^a Enrollment on October 1, 2014.

This analysis of schools that completed the survey compared with the known population of schools indicates that, overall, the survey data from this 2014-15 SCOPE survey provides a representative picture of the private schools in Minnesota. Hence, results from the SCOPE survey can be considered to provide sound estimates of characteristics and features of Minnesota private schools, students, and staff within an estimated margin of error of +/- 6 percent. The margin of error increases for the results of survey questions which had fewer responding schools.

Time period of data gathered

The data gathered for this survey reflect the 2014-15 school year for most questions. Some survey questions regarding policy matters ask for current information or opinions.

Minnesota Department of Education Fall Report (2014)

The 2014 Fall Report was completed by 446 non-public (i.e., private) schools in Minnesota and compiled by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). As indicated, some items in the SCOPE survey were pre-populated based on information from the Fall Report. Respondents to the SCOPE survey were asked to review the Fall Report data and make any necessary corrections. Items in the SCOPE survey that were pre-populated with Fall Report data include: student enrollment by grade; number of English Learner (EL; formerly Limited English Proficiency) students enrolled in the school; and number of instructional staff serving kindergarten, elementary, and secondary grades. For these items, results are reported for the 388 schools (with enrollments of 15 or more students and serving at least one grade higher than Pre-K) completing the Fall Report, including any revisions made to these data by survey respondents, as well as three schools who did not have MDE Fall Report data but provided this information in the SCOPE survey. These data are referred to as the “updated MDE Fall Report.” The number of students eligible for free- and reduced-price lunch (FRPL) is also collected in the MDE Fall Report and is included in this analysis. Updated counts of FRPL eligible students were not requested in the survey.

Comparisons to public schools

For some indicators, private schools are compared with public schools. This includes such indicators as: number of students served, school size, student characteristics, high school graduation rates, ACT and SAT results, ratio of students to teachers, characteristics of professional staff, teacher and principal salaries, and education costs per student. Public school data for these comparisons were drawn from the Minnesota Department of Education and the Minnesota Office of Higher Education.

Additional information about results tables

The tables in this data book primarily display results from the 2014-15 SCOPE. Some of the tables also display data from the 2010-11 SCOPE, the MDE Fall Report, and data on public schools from the Minnesota Department of Education and the Minnesota Office of Higher Education. The source of the data in each table is listed in the “source” notes below the table. Unless otherwise noted, figures reported do not include Pre-K enrollment.

Below some tables are bullet points with important notes about the data presented in the table. These notes provide important information about interpreting the findings in each table.

Results

School characteristics

7. Accreditation and religious affiliation, 2010-11 & 2014-15

		Percent of schools	
		2010-11	2014-15
Is the school accredited? ^a		70%	78%
Does this school have a religious orientation or purpose? ^a		92%	95%
Is this school affiliated with a religious organization or institution? ^b		83%	90%
Affiliation	Roman Catholic	42%	49%
	Lutheran	27%	29%
	Christian (no specific denomination)	7%	5%
	Other ^c	7%	7%

Source. 2010-11 & 2014-15 SCOPE

^a Based on 216 school reporting in 2010-11 and 149 schools reporting in 2014-15.

^b Based on 216 school reporting in 2010-11 and 142 schools reporting in 2014-15. Affiliation, however, was unknown for 14 of the 142 schools in 2014-15.

^c "Other" affiliations for 2014-15 include: Assembly of God (1), Baptist (4), Calvinist (1), Jewish (1), Seventh-Day Adventist (1), interdenominational (1), Covenant (1), and multi-denominational (Evangelical Free Church, Baptist, and Assembly of God) (1).

8. Description of school or program

	Number of schools	Percent of schools
Regular school – elementary or secondary	136	91%
Montessori school	6	4%
Special program emphasis school – such as a science or math school, performing arts school, talented or gifted school	5	3%
Special education school – primarily serves students with disabilities	1	1%
Alternative/other school – offers a curriculum designed to provide alternative or nontraditional education ^a	0	0%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=148)

^a One school indicated that it offered an "alternative" program, but was omitted from the analysis because the description of this program simply indicated a religious affiliation.

9. Type of school by grades served

School type	Number of schools	Percent of schools
Kindergarten only	1	<1%
K-5 or K-6 only	80	21%
K-8 only	163	42%
K-12	46	12%
7-12 only	9	2%
9-12 only	21	5%
Other	68 ^a	18%
Total	388	100%

Source. 2014-15 updated MDE Fall Report

^a These schools served a wide variety of different grades that do not align with the standard categories above.

10. Admission requirements

	Number of schools	Percent of schools
No special requirements ^a	98	66%
Commitment to school mission	39	26%
Personal interview	36	24%
Record of prior behavior	34	23%
Academic record	34	23%
Recommendations	26	17%
Academic test(s) or entrance exam(s)	25	17%
Special student aptitudes, skills, or talents	12	8%
Other ^b	12	8%

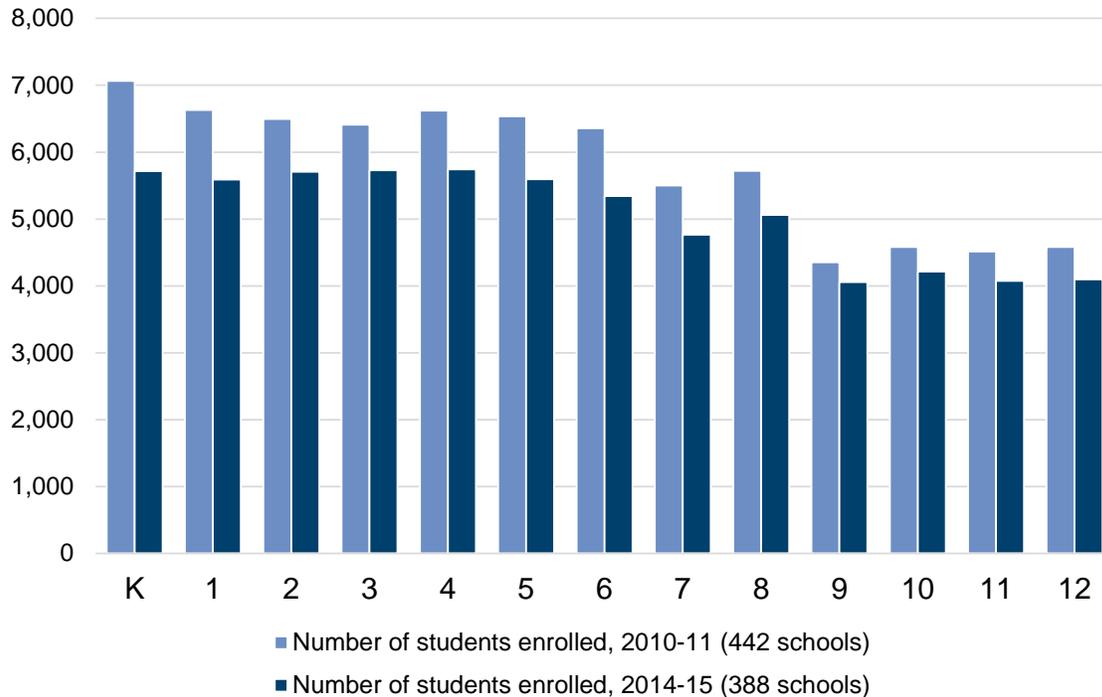
Source. 2014-15 SCOPE (N=149)

^a These schools have no requirements for admission other than proof of immunization, age, and residence.

^b Other types of requirements included: birth certificates (1), interviews as needed or for transfer students only (3), transcripts for transfer students only (1), financial need (1), financial capacity to pay (1), faith statements (1), essays (1), church attendance (1), baptism certificates (1), TOEFL scores when applicable (1), and religious affiliation that aligns with the school (2).

Enrollment and capacity

11. Enrollment in Minnesota private schools by grade and year



Source. Updated MDE Fall Report (2010-11 and 2014-15)

Notes

- Based on updated MDE Fall Report data for schools in our eligible sample in each year, total student enrollment in private schools was 75,406 on October 1, 2010 and 65,692 on October 1, 2014.
- This figure excludes 2,802 pre-kindergarten students enrolled in 92 schools that completed the 2010-11 SCOPE survey and 2,611 pre-kindergarten students enrolled in 94 schools that completed the 2014-15 SCOPE survey.
- Total enrollment declined in all grades. The largest declines in enrollment occurred in grades K – 8 where enrollment fell by 11 – 19%. In grades 9 – 12, enrollment fell by 7-11%.
- This analysis does not include 43 schools that were part of our eligible sample and that MISF believed to be operating in 2014-15, but that are not included in MDE Fall Report data and did not complete the SCOPE survey.

12. K-12 school enrollment in Minnesota^a

Grade	Public schools	Private schools	Total
Kindergarten	92%	8%	100%
1-6	92%	8%	100%
7-8	93%	7%	100%
9-12	94%	6%	100%
Total	93%	7%	100%
Total number	842,062	65,692	907,754

Source. 2014-15 Updated MDE Fall Report and Minnesota Department of Education Data Center, October 1, 2014 count.

^a This table excludes students who were home-schooled and students who attended private schools serving fewer than 15 students.

Notes

- In 2010-11, private schools accounted for 8% of students enrolled in kindergarten through 12th grade in Minnesota (excluding home-schooled students and students attending schools with fewer than 15 students enrolled).

13. Enrollment per school, 2010-11 & 2014-15

Total enrollment	2010-11		2014-15	
	Number of schools	Percent of all schools	Number of schools	Percent of all schools ^a
Less than 50	104	24%	90	23%
50-99	104	24%	97	25%
100-199	106	24%	93	24%
200-299	59	13%	45	12%
300-499	37	8%	41	11%
500 or more	33	7%	22	6%
Total	443	100%	388	100%

Source. 2010-11 and 2014-15 Updated MDE Fall Report

^a May not sum to 100% due to rounding.

14. Average enrollment of public and private Minnesota schools: K-12

	Public schools	Private schools
Total number of students enrolled	842,062	65,692
Total number of schools	2,017	388
Mean enrollment	417	169

Sources. Public school data from Minnesota Department of Education Data Center, October 1, 2014 count. Private school data from the 2014-15 Minnesota Department of Education Fall Report with updated data for SCOPE respondents.

15. Capacity in Minnesota private schools by grade

Grade	Number of schools reporting maximum capacity data	Enrollment, October 1, 2014	Maximum capacity, October 1, 2014	Percent of seats filled ^a
Kindergarten	95	1,809	2,668	68%
1	96	1,759	2,631	67%
2	94	1,771	2,581	69%
3	94	1,752	2,640	66%
4	96	1,826	2,658	69%
5	94	1,700	2,570	66%
6	94	1,651	2,648	62%
7	77	1,519	2,355	65%
8	77	1,526	2,363	65%
9	30	1,735	2,051	85%
10	31	1,828	2,082	88%
11	30	1,693	2,103	81%
12	29	1,904	2,151	89%
Total^b	--	22,473	31,501	71%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a Share of seats filled is only calculated using enrollment and capacity of schools who also reported maximum capacity data.

^b In total, 111 schools provided maximum capacity data for at least one grade.

Notes

- Among schools that reported maximum capacity data, 71% of seats are filled and approximately 9,000 seats are available.
- If we assume that schools that did not participate in the SCOPE survey were able to serve additional students in roughly similar numbers, we can conservatively estimate that there are 27,000 seats available statewide in private schools.
- In 2010-11, we conservatively estimated that there were about 25,000 additional seats available statewide in private schools.

16. Capacity in Minnesota private schools by geographic area

Region	Number of schools reporting maximum capacity data	Enrollment, October 1, 2014	Maximum capacity, October 1, 2014	Percent of seats filled ^a
Seven-county metro region	64	16,110	21,732	74%
Greater Minnesota	47	6,363	9,769	65%
Total	111	22,473	31,501	71%

Source: 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a Percentage of seats filled is only calculated using enrollment and capacity of schools who also reported maximum capacity data.

Student characteristics

17. Gender of enrolled students

	Number of students	Percent of students
Female	13,636	50%
Male	13,701	50%
Total	27,337	100%

Source: 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=149)

Notes

- All schools (N=149) identified as coeducational, meaning they serve both male and female students.

18. Race/ethnicity of enrolled students in private and public schools, 2014-2015

	Private schools		Public schools ^a	
	Number of students	Percent of students ^b	Number of students	Percent of students
American Indian/Alaskan Native	161	1%	19,768	2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,246	5%	61,108	7%
Hispanic	1,106	4%	70,370	8%
Black, not Hispanic	1,717	7%	97,015	12%
White, not Hispanic	21,597	84%	593,801	71%
Total	25,827	100%	842,062	100%

Sources: Public school data from Minnesota Department of Education Data Center, October 1, 2014 count. Private school data from the 2014-2015 SCOPE (N=144).

^a Public school numbers are based on 2,017 schools.

^b May not sum to 100% due to rounding.

19. Race/ethnicity of enrolled students in private and public schools, 2010-11 & 2014-15

	Private schools ^a		Public schools ^b	
	2010-11	2014-15	2010-11	2014-15
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1%	1%	2%	2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	4%	5%	7%	7%
Hispanic	4%	4%	7%	8%
Black, not Hispanic	5%	7%	10%	12%
White, not Hispanic	87%	84%	74%	71%

Sources. Public school data from Minnesota Department of Education Data Center, October 1, 2010 count and October 1, 2014 count. Private school data from 2010-11 and 2014-15 SCOPE.

^a Private school data from 2010-11 is based on 183 schools reporting with 34,323 students enrolled. Private school data from 2014-15 is based on 144 schools reporting with 25,827 students enrolled.

^b Public school data from 2010-11 is based on 1,969 schools reporting with 824,333 students enrolled. Public school data from 2014-15 is based on 2,017 schools reporting with 842,062 students enrolled.

20. Race/ethnicity of enrolled students in private schools by geographic area, 2014-15

	Seven-county metro region		Greater Minnesota	
	Number of students	Percent of students	Number of students	Percent of students ^a
American Indian/Alaskan Native	126	1%	35	<1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	915	5%	331	4%
Hispanic	862	5%	244	3%
Black, not Hispanic	1,362	8%	355	4%
White, not Hispanic	13,560	81%	8,037	89%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=144)

^a May not sum to 100% due to rounding.

21. English Learner (EL), special education, and free- and reduced-price lunch status

	Private schools ^a	Public schools ^b
English Learner (EL)	3%	8%
Special education	6%	13%
Free- and reduced-price lunch	11%	38%

Sources. Public school data from Minnesota Department of Education Data Center, October 1, 2014 count. Private school data from the 2010-2011 Minnesota Department of Education Fall Report (free/reduced-price meals; EL, with updated Fall Report data for SCOPE respondents) and SCOPE survey (special education).

^a Special education is based on SCOPE survey (144 schools reporting; 26,701 students). English Learner is based on the updated MDE Fall Report (387 schools; 65,613 students). Free/reduced-price meals is based on the MDE Fall Report (385 schools; 64,748 students).

^b Based on 2,017 schools reporting with 842,062 students enrolled.

Notes

- Many private schools (34%) do not participate in the free- and reduced-price lunch program (see Figure 26) which may have resulted in the percentages of free- and reduced-price lunch eligible students being under reported in private schools.

22. English Learner (EL), special education, and free- and reduced-price lunch status: 2010-11 & 2014-15

	Private schools	
	2010-11 ^a	2014-15 ^b
English Learner (EL)	1%	3%
Special education	3%	6%
Free- and reduced-price lunch	11%	11%

Sources. 2010-2011 and 2014-15 Minnesota Department of Education Fall Report (free/reduced-price meals; EL, with updated Fall Report data for SCOPE respondents) and 2010-11 and 2014-15 SCOPE survey (special education).

^a Special education is based on SCOPE survey (189 schools reporting; 34,165 students). English Learner is based on the updated MDE Fall Report (417 schools; 71,620 students). Free/reduced-price meals is based on the MDE Fall Report (443 schools; 75,406 students).

^b Special education is based on SCOPE survey (144 schools reporting; 26,701 students). English Learner is based on the updated MDE Fall Report (387 schools; 65,613 students). Free/reduced-price meals is based on the MDE Fall Report (385 schools; 64,748 students).

Student services and programs

23. English Learner (EL) students served in EL program at their private school

October 1, 2014

Number of schools reporting	149
Total enrollment of schools reporting	27,224
Number of schools with EL students	40 (27%)
Total number of EL students reported	645
Percent EL students	2%
Total number of EL students served in EL program at private school	398
Percent EL of students served in EL program at private school	62%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

Notes

- The MDE Fall Report no longer collects information about EL students served in an EL program at their private school. Hence, this analysis focuses only on schools that completed the SCOPE survey in which this question is asked.
- Numbers and percentages of EL students reported in Figures 21 and 22 use data on 387 schools for which we have updated MDE Fall Report data. Figure 23 limits its focus in order to present only information collected in the SCOPE survey regarding numbers of students served in EL programs at the private school as opposed to those who may be served by a public school district.

24. Special education students^a

October 1, 2014

Number of schools reporting	144
Total enrollment of schools reporting	26,701
Number of schools with special education students	121 (84%)
Total number of special education students reported	1,689
Percent special education students	6%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=144)

^a This analysis excludes two schools that said they have special education students but did not report the number of special education students at their school.

Notes

- In 2010-11, 84% of private schools enrolled special education students.
- 3% of all students enrolled were special education students.
- Of special education students, 27% had all of their special education services provided or paid for by their school while 22% had some but not all services provided or paid for by their schools.

25. Private school payment for and provision of special education services^a

October 1, 2014

Total number of special education students for which school provided and paid for all special education services	755
Total number of special education students for which school provided and paid for some but not all special education services	401
Percent of special education students for whom all services were provided or paid for by their school	45%
Percent of special education students for whom some but not all services were provided or paid for by their school	24%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=142).

^a This analysis excludes two schools that reported the total number of special education students enrolled at their school but did not answer the survey questions about payment for and provision of special education services.

Notes

- In 2010-11, 84% of private schools enrolled special education students. 3% of all students enrolled were special education students.
- Of special education students, 27% had all of their special education services provided or paid for by their school while 22% had some but not all services provided or paid for by their schools.

26. Participation in state and federal programs

Does the school participate in...	Percent reporting yes
Nonpublic Pupil Aid, including counseling services, health services, and textbooks and instructional materials?	92%
Free and reduced price lunches (Federal school lunch program)?	66%
District-provided transportation?	85%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=136 – 148)

Notes

- SCOPE results from 2010-11 are not substantially different than those from the 2014-15 survey.

27. Title 1 services

Type of Title 1 service	Schools with students receiving Title 1 service ^a		Students who received Title 1 service at their school ^b		Students who received Title 1 service somewhere else ^c	
	Percent of schools		Number	Percent of students	Number	Percent of students
Reading or language arts	61%		807	95%	43	5%
Mathematics	43%		487	99%	4	1%
English as a Second Language (ESL)	3%		56	97%	2	3%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a Based on 148 schools reporting for reading or language arts and 147 schools reporting for math and ESL.

^b Omits 8 schools that did not report the number of youth receiving Title 1 services at their school for reading or language arts and 7 schools that did not report the number of youth receiving Title 1 services at their school for math.

^c Omits 20 schools that did not report the number of youth receiving Title 1 services elsewhere for reading or language arts and 18 schools that did not report the number of youth receiving Title 1 services elsewhere for math.

Notes

- SCOPE results from 2010-11 are not substantially different than those from the 2014-15 survey.

28. Shared-Time Program participation

During the 2014-15 school year...	Percent reporting yes
Were you aware that students who attend your school could participate in public school classes through the state's Shared-Time Program?	57%
Did any of your students participate in the state's Shared-Time Program through their resident district?	20%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=127)

Notes

- SCOPE results from 2010-11 are not substantially different than those from the 2014-15 survey.

29. School choice options: SCOPE survey 2014-15

Would your school participate in a school choice program that provided partial or full tuition funding to children whose families have low or moderate incomes if...	Percent reporting yes
It was a tuition voucher program?	83%
Tuition was an allowable expense as an individual tax credit for parents who pay tuition?	94%
It allowed donors who contribute to a student scholarship program to participate in the Equity and Opportunity in Education Tax Credit?	95%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=123)

Notes

- Comparisons to 2010-11 SCOPE are not made because of change in response options from Yes/No/Don't know to Yes/No.

Technology

30. Technology available in the school

Type of technology	Schools providing
Computers (desktop or laptop computers)	99%
Tablet computers (e.g., iPad – do not include hand held devices)	69%
Interactive whiteboards (e.g., SMART Board, Activboard)	79%
Audio-visual equipment (e.g., LCD or DLP projectors)	89%
Digital cameras	73%
Other ^a	5%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=149)

^a Technology falling into the "Other" category included Apple TVs (4), automated response devices (2), and eReaders (1).

Notes

- Comparisons to 2010-11 SCOPE are not made because of change in the survey question content and structure.

31. 1:1 Schools, 2010-11 & 2014-15

	2014-15 ^b	2010-11 ^a
School provides each student with a laptop or tablet for their own use (this is sometimes called being a "1:1 School")	15%	6%

Sources. 2010-11 & 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a Based on 219 schools reporting

^b Based on 149 schools reporting

32. Wireless network access in schools

Type of wireless network access	Percent of schools
Wireless network access was available in the whole school	78%
Wireless network access was available in part of the school	20%
The only wireless connections were from laptops to a cart, with the cart connected to a wall port	1%
No network access of any kind	1%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=148)

Notes

- Comparisons to 2010-11 SCOPE are not made because this is a new survey question in the 2014-15 SCOPE.

33. Online learning methods used by students

Online learning method	Percent of schools
Supplemental online learning (online resources used to supplement face-to-face course)	36%
Hybrid or blended courses (partially online and partially face-to-face)	11%
Fully online post-secondary courses	8%
Fully online K-12 courses	5%
Other ^a	3%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=146)

^a Online learning methods falling into the "Other" category include PSEO classes (1) and online Rosetta Stone (2).

Notes

- Comparisons to 2010-11 SCOPE are not made because of change in the survey question structure.

High school requirements and student performance

34. Credit requirements for high school graduation

For high school graduates of the class of 2015, how many credits ^a were required in...	Schools reporting	Percent of schools requiring credits	Credits required		
			Average	Median	Range
Language arts (English)	35	100%	4.34	4.00	4 - 8
Mathematics	35	100%	3.37	3.00	2 - 6
Social sciences, social studies (e.g., history, geography, economics)	35	100%	3.77	3.50	2 - 6
Physical or biological sciences	35	100%	3.43	3.00	2 - 10
Arts	34	85%	1.15	1.00	0 - 3
Computer science	33	30%	0.27	0.00	0 - 2
Foreign languages	34	62%	1.32	1.50	0 - 4
Physical education	35	91%	1.36	1.50	0 - 3.5
Electives	35	94%	5.04	4.50	0 - 14
Other ^b	26	100%	4.28	4.00	1.2 - 8.5
Total^c	35	--	27.15	25.00	18.5 - 51

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=35)

^a One credit is equivalent to one academic year of instruction successfully completed in the subject area.

^b Other credit requirements included classes in the Bible (11), religion (9), theology (8), financial literacy (1), social emotional learning (1), and rhetoric (1), as well as independent projects (1).

^c The average total number of credits (27.15) is not equal to the sum of the averages for each field of credits due to missing values for schools that did not report on credits required in each field.

Notes

- 49% of schools (17 out of 35) had a community service or service learning requirement for 2015 graduates.

35. On-time high school graduation rates by race/ethnicity

Race/ethnicity	Public schools (2015)		Private schools (2015)	
	Number graduating	Percent graduating	Number graduating ^a	Percent graduating
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	798	52%	-- ^b	--
Asian/Pacific Islander	3,728	83%	112	100%
Hispanic	2,969	66%	67	97%
Black, not Hispanic	4,119	62%	100	98%
White, not Hispanic ^c	42,641	87%	780	>99%
Total^d	54,255	82%	1,641	99%

Sources. Public school data from Minnesota Department of Education Data Center. Private school data from 2014-15 SCOPE survey.

^a The number of private schools providing data for graduation rates for any given race or ethnicity ranges from 17 – 20 schools.

^b Data not reported due to low number of students (<10).

^c Two schools were omitted from the analysis because they provided data that resulted in graduation rates greater than 100%.

^d Based on 34 schools reporting. This N is different from the Ns used for each individual race or ethnicity category, so the total number of graduating students is not equal to the sum of the numbers from each race or ethnicity category.

Notes

- Graduation rates are calculated using the National Governors Association model which has been adopted by Minnesota. “On-time” graduation refers to students graduating within four years of entering the ninth grade. The numerator for the calculation of the graduation rate is the number of students who graduated in 2015. The denominator is the number of students in the ninth grade class in fall 2011, plus the number of students who transferred into the class between 9th and 12th grade, minus the students who transferred out during that period.
- Private school graduation rates by race and ethnicity are not substantially different between 2010-11 and 2014-15. However, because of the small number of private schools providing graduation rates for the race/ethnicity categories, these rates should be viewed with caution as they may not be representative of all private schools granting diplomas.

36. ACT and SAT results for class of 2015

	Minnesota overall	Private schools
Students taking ACT	46,862 (78% ^a)	1,375 (92% ^b)
Average ACT score	22.7	24.5 ^c
Students taking SAT	1,230 (5% ^a)	93 (9% ^b)
Average SAT English score	572	584 ^d
Average SAT math score	599	647 ^d

Sources. Minnesota overall from Minnesota Office of Higher Education. Private school data from 2014-15 SCOPE survey.

^a Based on high school seniors who took the test in 2015.

^b 24 schools reported the number of students who took the ACT and 20 schools reported the number of students who took the SAT. Percentage is based on members of the senior class at these schools who took the test.

^c Based on average scores provided by 24 schools.

^d Based on average scores provided by 9 schools.

Notes

- Because of the small number of private schools reporting information, the private school student results should be interpreted with caution.
- Relative to 2010-11, more students are taking the ACT (increased from 72% to 78% for Minnesota overall; increased from 88% to 92% in private schools) and fewer students are taking the SAT (decreased from 7% to 5% for Minnesota overall; decreased from 31% to 9% in private schools).

37. Class of 2015 graduates' post-secondary enrollment

	Students of color	White	Total enrolling in college	Total graduates	Percent of graduates attending college type
Four year college ^a	209	730	939	1,168	80%
Two year college or votech/business school ^a	21	102	123	1,168	11%
Total enrolled in any post-secondary school^a	230	832	1,062	1,168	91%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey.

^a Based on 24 schools reporting. Excludes 5 schools that reported a greater number of students enrolling in college than students graduating. One school reported all of the requested information except the number of students of color who enrolled in a four-year college. For this analysis this school was assumed to have had 0 students of color who attended four-year post-secondary schools.

Notes

- The most recent available data on college enrollment among public school graduates, for the class of 2014, indicates a post-secondary enrollment rate of 75% within 16 months of graduation (Minnesota Department of Education).
- 27 private schools reported the number of graduates who enrolled in four-year private colleges in Minnesota. They reported that 35% of their graduates enrolled in this type of school (490 students out of 1,140 total graduates). Three additional schools reported data for this survey question but were excluded from this analysis because they reported a greater number of students enrolling in college than students graduating.

Staffing

38. Number of teachers^a

Grade level	Number of full-time teachers	Number of part-time teachers	Number of full-time equivalents (FTE)
Kindergarten	434*	176**	506**
Elementary: grades 1-6	2,210*	693**	2,515***
Secondary: grades 7-12	2,002*	799**	2,352***
Total	4,646	1,668	5,373

Source. 2014-15 updated MDE Fall Report.

^a Includes classroom teachers; those who teach subjects such as art, music, physical education, or special education; and principals or administrators who teach a regular class at the school.

* 388 schools reporting

** 387 schools reporting

*** 386 schools reporting

39. Ratio of students to teachers

Private schools	
Kindergarten^a	
Students enrolled	5,706
Teachers (full-time equivalent)	506
Student/teacher ratio	11.28
Grades 1-6^b	
Students enrolled	33,580
Teachers (full-time equivalent)	2,510
Student/teacher ratio	13.38
Grades 7-12^c	
Students enrolled	26,236
Teachers (full-time equivalent)	2,352
Student/teacher ratio	11.15

Source. 2014-15 updated MDE Fall Report.

^a Based on 338 schools reporting data on teachers and enrollment in these grades.

^b Based on 354 schools reporting data on teachers and enrollment in these grades.

^c Based on 294 schools reporting data on teachers and enrollment in these grades.

Notes

- Data on student/teacher ratios for these grade ranges in public schools for 2014-15 was not available for this report at the time of comparison.
- Based on the 2014-15 SCOPE, the average student/teacher ratio in private schools is 12.21. Based on analysis of 2014-15 MDE data regarding administrator and teacher demographics as well as student enrollment, we calculate an overall public school student/teacher ratio of 15.17 (based on 55,518 teachers and 842,062 students).
- In 2010-11, the private school student/teacher ratio in grades 1-6 was 13.2 while the student/teacher ratio in grades 7-12 was 12.2.

40. Valid teaching license

Teachers holding valid teaching license on October 1, 2014 for the grade(s) they were teaching

Number of teachers with valid licenses	1,734
Number of teachers in schools reporting ^a	2,269
Percent of teachers with valid licenses	76%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=141).

^a Includes part-time and full-time teachers.

Notes

- Percent of teachers with valid licenses is similar to that found in 2010-11 (79%).

41. Other school positions

Positions as of October 1, 2014	Number of schools reporting position	Total number of FTEs reported	Mean number of FTEs per school reporting
a. Principals or school heads	123	146	1.19
b. Vice principals and assistant principals or school heads	28	36	1.29
c. Other managers, such as business manager, development director, director of admissions	55	147	2.67
d. Instructional coordinators and supervisors, such as curriculum specialists	17	52	3.06
e. Library media specialists or librarians	40	44	1.10
f. School/guidance counselors, excluding psychologists and social workers	27	44	1.63
g. Student support services professional staff (nurses, social workers, psychologists, speech therapists, other professional staff)	30	58	1.93
h. Aides	65	180	2.77
i. Administrative support staff and other clerical support staff	96	215	2.24
j. Food service personnel	74	172	2.32
k. Custodial, maintenance, and security personnel	97	199	2.05
l. Other employees not reported above	28	154	5.50
m. Total managers (a + b + c)	123	329	2.7

Source: 2014-15 SCOPE survey

42. Characteristics of instructional and administrative staff in Minnesota public and private schools

October 1, 2014	Public schools ^a	Private schools ^c
Race/ethnicity		
American Indian	<1%	<1%
Asian	2%	1%
Hispanic	1%	1%
Black	1%	2%
White	96%	96%
Education (highest degree)		
Less than BA	<1%	6%
BA	43%	60%
MA or higher	55%	34%
Total professional staff	58,491^b	2,453-2,592^d

Sources. Public school data from Minnesota Department of Education Data Center. Private school data from 2014-15 SCOPE survey.

^a Includes licensed teachers and administrators. Some of these staff were missing information on education (2%).

^b Full-time equivalents.

^c Includes teachers, managers, and administrators.

^d Based on full-time and part-time paid professionals, with 137 schools reporting race/ethnicity information and 140 schools reporting education information.

Notes

- Results from the 2010-11 SCOPE study are not substantially different from 2014-15.

43. Tenure of instructional and administrative staff in Minnesota public and private schools

October 1, 2014	Public schools ^a	Private schools ^c
Tenure at school		
New (less than 1 year)	4%	8%
1 to 5 years	22%	26%
6 to 10 years	19%	21%
11 to 20 years	33%	27%
21+ years	22%	18%
Total professional staff	59,886^b	2,415^d

Sources. Public school data from Minnesota Department of Education Data Center. Private school data from 2014-15 SCOPE survey.

^a Includes licensed teachers and administrators.

^b Full-time equivalents.

^c Includes teachers, managers, and administrators.

^d Based on full-time and part-time paid professionals, with 138 schools reporting tenure information.

Staff compensation

44. Teacher salaries by education level

Education levels	Number of schools reporting	Annual Salary (full-time)		
		Mean	Median	Range
a. Beginning BA or BS ^a	118	\$28,973	\$29,000	\$16,200 - \$45,000
b. Maximum BA or BS ^a	102	\$39,845	\$39,712	\$16,200 - \$66,100
c. Beginning MA or MS ^a	102	\$33,781	\$33,060	\$16,200 - \$53,247
d. Maximum MA or MS ^b	93	\$46,137	\$45,450	\$16,200 - \$75,000

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey.

^aThree schools reporting salaries of less than \$10,000 are omitted.

^bOne school reporting salary of less than \$10,000 is omitted.

45. Average teacher salaries by education level, 2010-11 & 2014-15

Education levels	2010-11		2014-15	
	Number of schools reporting	Mean Salary ^a	Number of schools reporting	Mean salary
a. Beginning BA or BS	118	\$28,979	118	\$28,973
b. Maximum BA or BS	102	\$42,288	102	\$39,845
c. Beginning MA or MS	102	\$32,807	102	\$33,781
d. Maximum MA or MS	93	\$50,161	93	\$46,137

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey.

^aMean salaries from 2010-11 have been adjusted to account for inflation. They are reported here in 2014 dollars.

46. Teacher salaries in income categories

Annual salary (full-time)	Number of teachers	Percent of teachers
Less than \$18,000	21	1%
\$18,000-\$29,999	257	15%
\$30,000-\$44,999	920	55%
\$45,000-\$59,999	371	22%
\$60,000-\$74,999	95	6%
\$75,000 and over	15	1%
Total	1,679	100%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=125).

Notes

- The average salary of private school teachers is estimated to be around \$40,500.
- The average public school teacher salary in 2014-15 was \$56,670 (Minnesota Department of Education Data Center).

47. School administrators' salaries

Full-time position	Number of schools reporting	Annual Salary	
		Mean salary	Range
Principal ^a	94	\$60,854	\$10,000 - \$128,000
President or headmaster ^b	22	\$89,970	\$29,000 - \$222,000
Co-principal	-- ^c	--	--
Assistant principal	14	\$56,588	\$25,000 - \$76,938

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^aOne school reporting salary of less than \$10,000 is omitted.

^bTwo schools reporting salaries of less than \$10,000 are omitted.

^cData suppressed due to small number of schools reporting.

Notes

- Average salaries for principals in Minnesota public schools in 2014-15 were as follows: elementary school: \$102,728; middle school: \$109,531; high school: \$99,617 (Minnesota Department of Education Data Center).
- In 2010-11, the average private school principal salary was \$60,756 (after accounting for inflation, reported by 111 schools). This is very similar to the average principal salary in 2014-15.

48. School administrators' salaries by position and years of experience

Full-time position	Number of schools reporting	Annual Salary	
		Mean salary	Range
Principal^a			
0-5 years	33	\$49,378	\$10,000 - \$83,040
6-10 years	15	\$73,083	\$42,300 - \$113,264
11-20 years	25	\$71,649	\$33,000 - \$128,000
21+	15	\$59,904	\$31,500 - \$97,750
President or headmaster^b			
0-10 years	8	\$81,144	\$29,000 - \$212,160
11+ years	13	\$95,620	\$45,000 - \$222,000

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^aOne school reporting salary of less than \$10,000 is omitted.

^bTwo schools reporting salaries of less than \$10,000 are omitted.

49. Staff benefits

Did this school contribute to the following benefit programs for staff in the 2014-15 school year?	Number of schools reporting	Percent reporting yes
Health insurance	137	89%
Retirement or pension	136	85%
Tuition discount for children of employee	137	77%
Employee continuing education	134	67%
Life insurance	136	60%
Dental insurance	137	55%
Flexible benefits plan	135	50%
Unemployment compensation	136	43%
Paid healthcare after retirement	134	4%
Merit pay	134	4%
Other ^a	133	5%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a Other benefits include housing (2), a stipend in lieu of health insurance (1), short-term disability (1), paid time off (1), funeral leave (1), paid holidays (1), and university tuition (1).

Notes

- Due to a change in the structure and content of the questions regarding staff benefits on the SCOPE survey, comparisons are not made over time.

Tuition and financial aid

50. Average tuition paid per student^a

Grades served by school	Number of schools reporting	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Kindergarten only	--	--	--	--	--
K-5 or 6 only	29	\$3,161	\$2,338	\$869	\$16,667
K-8 only	47	\$2,841	\$3,053	\$24	\$6,435
K-12	10	\$5,316	\$4,950	\$1,939	\$12,603
7-12 only or 9-12 only ^b	12	\$9,583	\$8,077	\$4,768	\$23,756
Other	9	\$9,056	\$9,199	\$1,250	\$24,575
Overall	107	\$4,438	\$3,451	\$24	\$24,575

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a Tuition paid per student is calculated at each school as the total income from tuition divided by the total number of students enrolled.

^b Schools that serve grades 7-12 only are combined with schools that serve grades 9-12 only in this analysis due to small numbers of schools reporting in the individual categories.

Notes

- Almost all schools (139 out of 140) indicated they charged tuition for students in 2014-15. 107 schools indicated the total amount of tuition income they received.

51. Tuition discounts

In the 2014-15 school year, did this school have a policy for modifying or discounting tuition rates for...	Number of schools reporting	Percent reporting yes
Financial need?	137	91%
Additional students from the same family?	137	80%
Church membership?	138	54%
Student's family member(s) volunteer at the school?	135	12%
Academic merit?	135	7%
Other reasons? ^a	133	8%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a Other tuition discounts were given to children of those involved in ministry (3), children of staff (2), transfer students (1), referrals (1), children of alumni (1), children who have earned scholarships (1), and those who paid tuition in full (1). Additionally, meeting parents at a price point that they can afford (1) was mentioned.

Notes

- Results are not substantially different between the 2010-11 SCOPE and the 2014-15 SCOPE, with a couple of exceptions. The percentage of schools reporting a policy of tuition discounting based on student's family members volunteering at the school fell from 19% to 12%. The percentage of schools reporting a policy of tuition discounting based on academic merit increased from 1% to 7%.
- Almost all schools (139 out of 140) indicated they charged tuition for students in 2014-15.

52. Students receiving need-based or merit-based financial aid

Need-based aid	Number of schools reporting	Students receiving aid	
		Number of students receiving aid	Percent of enrolled students
Grades K-8	118	3,604 ^a	23%
Grades 9-12	28	2,045 ^b	39%
Merit-based aid			
Grades K-8	115	76 ^c	<1%
Grades 9-12	29	536 ^d	10%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a Out of 15,546 students enrolled.

^b Out of 5,299 students enrolled.

^c Out of 15,322 students enrolled.

^d Out of 5,477 students enrolled.

Notes

- In 2010-11, only 1 school reported providing merit-based aid to financial aid students whereas, in 2014-15, 5 schools reported doing so.
- In 2010-11, 24% of students in grades 9-12 were receiving need-based financial aid (N=31 schools) compared to 39% in 2014-15. However, caution should be used in interpreting this finding given the relatively small number of schools reporting on need-based aid for these grade ranges in each year.

School finances

53. Income and expenses per school

Total income or expenses	Income		Expenses	
	Number of schools ^a	Percent	Number of schools ^a	Percent ^b
Less than \$250,000	15	14%	13	13%
\$250,000-\$499,999	20	19%	14	14%
\$500,000-\$999,999	28	26%	32	33%
\$1,000,000-\$1,999,999	21	19%	17	17%
\$2,000,000-\$4,999,999	16	15%	14	14%
\$5,000,000 or more	8	7%	8	8%
Total	108	100%	98	100%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a Three schools that reported \$0 total income and \$0 total expenses were excluded from this analysis.

^b May not sum to 100% due to rounding.

54. School income sources and total income

Source of income	Number of schools reporting	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Tuition	107	\$1,174,617	\$383,794	\$6,000	\$14,850,362
Fees (boarding, technology, etc.)	62	\$130,526	\$25,403	\$75	\$1,657,775
Fundraising and donations	104	\$211,803	\$94,275	\$80	\$2,371,687
Church/congregation subsidies and gifts	86	\$265,148	\$201,500	\$100	\$2,156,288
Endowment income	46	\$128,255	\$28,073	\$127	\$2,595,335
All other income	61	\$142,749	\$76,339	\$554	\$1,280,000
Total income^a	108	\$1,789,022	\$796,269	\$6,700	\$17,445,697

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a Three schools that reported \$0 total income were excluded from this analysis.

55. Percentage of income from sources

Source	Number of schools with income from this source	Percent of total income ^a
Tuition	107	65%
Church/congregation subsidies and gifts	86	12%
Fundraising and donations	104	11%
All other income	61	5%
Fees (boarding, technology, etc.)	62	4%
Endowment income	46	3%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=108)

^a Based on total income received across all private schools (N=108; \$193,214,329). May not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Notes

- Comparisons to 2010-11 SCOPE are not made because of change in the survey question structure and content.

56. School expense categories and total expenses

Expense categories	Number of schools reporting	Mean	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Personnel	98	\$1,097,108	\$530,751	\$426	\$11,109,282
Instructional	90	\$168,862	\$37,485	\$2,000	\$4,440,000
Co-curricular/extra-curricular	57	\$107,892	\$15,000	\$283	\$1,437,774
Administrative	86	\$174,573	\$41,500	\$1,000	\$3,005,581
Operations	88	\$312,977	\$79,291	\$1,200	\$6,654,000
Development and fundraising	60	\$101,096	\$10,500	\$500	\$1,683,083
Other expenses	59	\$140,476	\$50,000	\$580	\$1,712,349
Total expenses^a	98	\$1,895,644	\$858,916	\$108,400	\$20,487,070

Source: 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a Three schools that reported \$0 in total expenses were excluded from this analysis. One school with low outlier values for expenses was also omitted.

57. Percentage of expenses by category

Source	Number of schools with expenses in this category	Percent of total expenses ^a
Personnel	98	58%
Operations	88	15%
Instructional	90	8%
Administrative	86	8%
Other expenses	59	4%
Co-curricular/extra-curricular	57	3%
Development and fundraising	60	3%

Source: 2014-15 SCOPE survey (N=99)

^a Based on total expenses reported across all private schools (N=99; \$185,773,136). May not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Notes:

- Comparisons to 2010-11 SCOPE are not made because of change in the survey question structure and content.

58. Per student expenses by school type

Grades served by school	Number of schools reporting	Mean cost per student	Median cost per student
Kindergarten only	-- ^a	--	--
K-5 or 6 only	26	\$7,236	\$5,671
K-8 only	42	\$6,233	\$6,252
K-12	9	\$8,321	\$7,733
7-12 only or 9-12 only ^b	12	\$13,346	\$12,597
Other	9	\$13,919	\$13,506
Overall	98	\$8,268	\$6,640

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a No kindergarten only schools completed the SCOPE survey.

^b Schools that serve grades 7-12 only are combined with schools that serve grades 9-12 only in this analysis due to small numbers of schools reporting in the individual categories.

Notes:

- For public schools, including charter schools, PK-12 general fund expenditures were \$10,878 per student in fiscal year 2015 (Minnesota Department of Education Data Center).

59. Per student expenses by geographic area

Grades served by school	Number of schools reporting	Mean cost per student	Median cost per student
7-county metro region	48	\$8,733	\$6,829
Greater Minnesota	50	\$7,821	\$6,039
Overall	98	\$8,268	\$6,640

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

60. Schools with endowment by school type

Grades served by school	Number of schools reporting	Percent with endowment
Kindergarten only	-- ^a	--
K-5 or 6 only	33	67%
K-8 only	61	39%
K-12	11	45%
7-12 only & 9-12 only ^b	12	75%
Other	12	25%
Overall	129	49%

Source. 2010-11 & 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a No kindergarten only schools completed the 2014-15 SCOPE survey.

^b Schools that serve grades 7-12 only are combined with schools that serve grades 9-12 only in this analysis due to small numbers of schools reporting in the individual categories.

61. Value of school endowments

Value on June 30, 2015	Number of schools	Percent of schools
\$100,000 or less	12	24%
\$100,001-\$250,000	8	16%
\$250,001-\$750,000	10	20%
\$750,001-\$1,000,000	6	12%
\$1,000,001-\$3,000,000	8	16%
\$3,000,001 or more	6	12%
Total	50	100%

Source. 2014-15 SCOPE survey

62. Value of school endowments by school type

Grades served by school	Number of schools reporting amount	Average endowment among schools with endowment	Median endowment among schools with endowment
Kindergarten only	-- ^a	--	--
K-5 or 6 only	17	\$447,059	\$468,000
K-8 only	19	\$542,881	\$160,000
K-12	5	\$2,492,600	\$1,126,000
7-12 only or 9-12 only ^b	7	\$16,916,533	\$2,401,358
Other	-- ^c	--	--
Overall	50	\$3,270,964	\$500,000

Source: 2014-15 SCOPE survey

^a No kindergarten only schools completed the SCOPE survey.

^b Schools that serve grades 7-12 only are combined with schools that serve grades 9-12 only in this analysis due to small numbers of schools reporting in the individual categories.

^c Data suppressed due to small number of schools reporting.

Appendix

SCOPE invitation letter



March 29, 2016

«NAME»
«TITLE»
«SCHOOL»
«STREET»
«CITYSTATE» «ZIP»

Dear «NAME»:

The Minnesota Independent School Forum (MISF) is partnering with Wilder Research to conduct the Statewide Census of Private Education (SCOPE).

We're asking you to complete a survey about various aspects of your school, including students, staff, programs, financial information, and your school's stance on some important policy questions that affect Minnesota's non-public schools. All private and independent schools in Minnesota are being invited to participate in this study. The results will be **used to demonstrate the importance of private education in Minnesota to the Minnesota Legislature, policy-makers, and funders**. When your school participates in this survey, you may use the resulting summary report to **see how your school compares to other private schools in Minnesota**.

✓ **To complete the survey:**

Go to: <https://wilderresearch.org/go/scope>

Enter password: «PIN»

Your participation is voluntary and confidential – results of the survey will be presented in summary form only, and your school will not be identified in any reporting associated with this study. You may choose to skip any question that you would rather not answer. The survey will take approximately 30-45 minutes to complete. You may log in and out of the survey and your responses will be saved. The survey collects data about your school and its students during the 2014-15 academic year.

A copy of the survey is available on the login page. We encourage you to print a paper copy and fill it out (some questions may require you to look up information). Then, log on to enter your responses in the web survey, or return the paper survey to: Wilder Research, 451 Lexington Pkwy N, Saint Paul, MN 55104.

Please complete your survey by 4/29/2016. If you are not the right person to fill out this survey, please pass on this invitation to the person at your school who is best able to answer the questions. If you have any questions about the study, please call **Wilder Research at 1-888-328-2972 and ask for Dan Swanson**.

Thank you in advance for your help to highlight the importance of private education in Minnesota!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Benz".

Tim Benz, CFRE
President, Minnesota Independent School Forum

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francie Streich".

Francie Streich, PhD
Research Scientist, Wilder Research

SCOPE survey instrument



MINNESOTA STATEWIDE CENSUS OF PRIVATE EDUCATION

AFFILIATIONS AND ENROLLMENT

First we have some basic questions about this school, its affiliations and accreditations, and its enrollment and capacity.

1. **Please fill in all information below:**

School Name _____
School Address _____
School Address 2 _____
School City _____
School Zip Code _____
School County _____
School Phone _____
Name of Head of School (Principal, Co-principal, etc.) _____
School Lead Administrative Support Staff Name _____
Head of School E-mail Address _____
School Web Address _____

2a. Does this school have a religious orientation or purpose?

- ¹ Yes (Go to Q2b)
² No (Go to Q3)

2b. Is this school affiliated with a religious organization or institution?

- ¹ Yes (Go to Q2c)
² No (Go to Q3)

2c. What is this school's religious affiliation? (Select one)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ¹ African Methodist Episcopal | <input type="checkbox"/> ⁹ Church of God | <input type="checkbox"/> ¹⁸ Latter Day Saints |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ² Amish | <input type="checkbox"/> ¹⁰ Church of God in Christ | <input type="checkbox"/> ¹⁹ Lutheran |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ³ Assembly of God | <input type="checkbox"/> ¹¹ Church of the Nazarene | <input type="checkbox"/> ²⁰ Mennonite |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ⁴ Baptist | <input type="checkbox"/> ¹² Disciples of Christ | <input type="checkbox"/> ²¹ Methodist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ⁵ Brethren | <input type="checkbox"/> ¹³ Episcopal | <input type="checkbox"/> ²² Pentecostal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ⁶ Calvinist | <input type="checkbox"/> ¹⁴ Friends | <input type="checkbox"/> ²³ Presbyterian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ⁷ Christian (no specific denomination) | <input type="checkbox"/> ¹⁵ Greek Orthodox | <input type="checkbox"/> ²⁴ Roman Catholic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ⁸ Church of Christ | <input type="checkbox"/> ¹⁶ Islamic | <input type="checkbox"/> ²⁵ Seventh-Day Adventist |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> ¹⁷ Jewish | <input type="checkbox"/> ²⁶ Other (specify) |
- _____

3. Is the school accredited?
¹ Yes
² No
4. Which of the following best describes this school or program? (Select one)
¹ Regular school – elementary or secondary
² Montessori school
³ Special program emphasis school – such as a science or math school, performing arts school, talented or gifted school, foreign language immersion school, etc.
⁴ Special education school – primarily serves students with disabilities
⁵ Career/technical/vocational school – primarily serves students being trained for occupations
⁶ Early childhood program or day care center – such as kindergarten only, prekindergarten and kindergarten only, kindergarten and transitional first grade only, day care and transitional kindergarten only, etc.
⁷ Alternative/other school – offers a curriculum designed to provide alternative or nontraditional education; does not specifically fall into the categories of regular, special program emphasis, special education, or vocational school (please describe)
-
5. How many students were enrolled in each of the following grade levels on October 1, 2014? Report only for the school named on the front of this questionnaire. Do NOT include postsecondary or adult education students, or children who are enrolled only in day care at this school.

All students should be reported in a grade. If any students attend ungraded classes, place them in the grade level according to their age at the beginning of the school year, using the table below.

Age	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Student grade level equivalent	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

a. On October 1, 2014, did this school have students in this grade?	IF YES: →		b. Enrollment on October 1, 2014	c. Maximum number of students this grade could hold at capacity or per the school's policy on October 1, 2014
	Yes	No		
1. Pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
2. Kindergarten	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
3. 1 st grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
4. 2 nd grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
5. 3 rd grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
6. 4 th grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
7. 5 th grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
8. 6 th grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
9. 7 th grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
10. 8 th grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
11. 9 th grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
12. 10 th grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
13. 11 th grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
14. 12 th grade	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		

STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS

Now we have a few questions about the students who attend this school.

6. In 2014-15, was this school coeducational?
- ¹ Yes (Go to Q7)
- ² No, it was an all-female school (Go to Q8)
- ³ No, it was an all-male school (Go to Q8)

7. On October 1, 2014, how many students enrolled in **grades K-12 and comparable ungraded levels** were of the following genders? Do NOT include postsecondary or adult education students.

Gender	Enrollment on October 1, 2014
a. Female	_____
b. Male	_____
c. Other	_____

8. On October 1, 2014, how many students enrolled in **grades K-12 and comparable ungraded levels** were from the following racial/ethnic groups? (Do NOT include postsecondary or adult education students. Each student must be assigned to **one race category only**.)

Race/ethnicity	Number of students
a. American Indian or Alaskan Native	_____
b. Asian or Pacific Islander	_____
c. Hispanic	_____
d. Black, not of Hispanic origin	_____
e. White, not of Hispanic origin	_____
f. TOTAL number of students	_____

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Next we have some questions about the programs and services offered by this school.

9. Please list the number of English Learner (EL; formerly Limited English Proficiency) students enrolled in your school on October 1, 2014. (EL students are identified on the basis of the home language questionnaire AND developmentally appropriate measures.)

Number of EL students enrolled in your school on October 1, 2014: _____ (If 0, go to Q11a)

10. Please report the number of EL students served in an EL program in your school on October 1, 2014. Exclude EL students served by a public school district and therefore counted as shared-time students.

Number of EL students served in an EL program in your school as of October 1, 2014: _____

- 11a. Of the students enrolled in this school on October 1, 2014, did any students have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), Individualized Service Plan (ISP), or 504 Plan?

¹ Yes (Go to Q11b)

² No (Go to Q12)

11b. How many students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), Individualized Service Plans (ISPs), or 504 Plans were enrolled in this school on October 1, 2014? _____

11c. For how many of these students did your school provide and pay for some or all of the special education services for the 2014-2015 school year?

Number of students

1. All special education services were provided and paid for by this school

2. Some but not all special education services were provided and paid for by this school

12. Does the school participate in any of the following public (state or federal) programs for students?

	Yes	No
a. Nonpublic Pupil Aid, including counseling services, health services, and textbooks and instructional materials	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
b. Free and reduced price lunches (Federal school lunch program)	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
c. District-provided transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²

13. Title I is a federally funded program that provides educational services, such as remedial reading or remedial math, to children who live in areas with high concentrations of low-income families. During the 2014-2015 school year, how many of your students received each of the following Title I services, and where did they receive those services?

a. During the 2014-2015 school year, did any of your students receive these Title I services?	IF YES: →		b. Number of students who received Title I services in this subject at this school	c. Number of students who received Title I services in this subject somewhere else (e.g., a public school or learning center not funded by this school)
	Yes	No		
1. Reading or language arts?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
2. Mathematics?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		
3. English as a Second Language (ESL)?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²		

14a. During the 2014-15 school year, did your school have the following types of technology? (Select all that apply)

- ¹ Computers (desktop or laptop computers)
- ² Tablet computers (e.g., iPad – do not include hand held devices)
- ³ Interactive whiteboards (e.g., SMART Board, Activboard)
- ⁴ Audio-visual equipment (e.g., LCD or DLP projectors)
- ⁵ Digital cameras
- ⁶ Other, specify: _____
- ⁷ Other, specify: _____

14b. Which of the following best describes the wireless network access that your school had during the 2014-15 school year? (Select one)

- ¹ No network access of any kind
- ² The only wireless connections were from laptops to a cart, with the cart connected to a wall port
- ³ Wireless network access was available in part of the school
- ⁴ Wireless network access was available in the whole school

15. During the 2014-15 school year, did your school provide each student with a laptop or tablet for their own use? (This is sometimes called being a "1:1 School.")
- ¹ Yes
- ² No
16. During the 2014-15 school year, did students from your school participate in any of the following types of online learning? (Select all that apply)
- ¹ Fully online K-12 courses
- ² Hybrid or blended courses (partially online and partially face-to-face)
- ³ Supplemental online learning (online resources used to supplement face-to-face course)
- ⁴ Fully online post-secondary courses
- ⁵ Other, please describe: _____

SCHOOL POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Next, we would like to ask you a few questions about this school's admissions policies and practices.

17. During the 2014-15 school year, did this school have any special requirements for admission other than proof of immunization, age, or residence?
- ¹ Yes (Go to Q18)
- ² No (Go to Q19)

18. During the 2014-15 school year, did this school use the following requirements for admission?

	Yes	No
a. Academic test(s) or entrance exam(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
b. Academic record	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
c. Special student aptitudes, skills, or talents	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
d. Personal interview	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
e. Recommendations	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
f. Commitment to the school's mission	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
g. Record of prior behavior	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
h. Other (specify: _____)	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²

ACHIEVEMENT

Now we'd like to ask you about student achievement.

INSTRUCTIONS: This section applies only to secondary schools. Schools that do not have students in 9th-12th grade should skip to Question 25 (on page 8).

19. For high school graduates of the class of 2015, how many credits were required in each of the following areas for a standard diploma? For our purposes, one credit is equivalent to one academic year of instruction successfully completed in that subject area. Record the number to one decimal place (e.g., 3.0, 2.5, etc.).

	Number of credits
a. Language arts (English)	
b. Mathematics	
c. Social sciences, social studies (e.g., history, geography, economics)	
d. Physical or biological sciences	
e. Arts	
f. Computer science	
g. Foreign languages	
h. Physical education	
i. Electives	
j. Other (specify: _____)	
k. Other (specify: _____)	
l. TOTAL credits	

20. For high school graduates of the class of 2015, did this school have a community service or service learning requirement for a standard diploma?

- ¹ Yes
² No

21. Please provide the following information to help us calculate the four-year graduation rate for each of the following groups of students in this school.

	a. Number of students in the 9 th grade class on 10/1/11	b. Number of students who transferred into the 2015 graduating class between 10/1/11 and graduation	c. Number of students who transferred out of the 2015 graduating class between 10/1/11 and graduation	d. Number of students who graduated in Spring 2015
Number of students				

22. Next, please provide the following information to help us calculate the four-year graduation rate for each of the following race/ethnicity groups.

	a. Number of students in the 9 th grade class on 10/1/11	b. Number of students who transferred into the 2015 graduating class between 10/1/11 and graduation	c. Number of students who transferred out of the 2015 graduating class between 10/1/11 and graduation	d. Number of students who graduated in Spring 2015
1. American Indian or Alaskan Native				
2. Asian or Pacific Islander				
3. Hispanic				
4. Black, not of Hispanic origin				
5. White, not of Hispanic origin				
6. TOTAL (Rows 1-5) <i>(The totals should equal those provided in Q21.)</i>				

23. Please provide the following information for the class of 2015 regarding college entrance tests. Include only students enrolled at this school and count each student only once per test, even if they have taken the test more than once.

a. Unduplicated number of students in the class of 2015 taking the ACT test	
b. Average ACT score for the class of 2015	
c. Unduplicated number of students in the class of 2015 taking the SAT test	
d. Average SAT English score for the class of 2015	
e. Average SAT Math score for the class of 2015	

- 24a. What number of graduates from the class of 2015 enrolled in postsecondary educational institutions? (For our purposes, students of color are all students not classified as "White.")

What number of graduates from the class of 2015 fit into each category?	a. Students of color	b. White students	c. All students (Total of a & b)
1. Number attending 4 year college			
2. Number attending 2 year college or votech/business school			

- 24b. What number of graduates from the class of 2015 enrolled in a 4-year private institution in Minnesota?
- _____

NUMBER AND ROLES OF STAFF

Now we'd like to ask about the teachers, administrators, and other school staff at your school.

25. On October 1, 2014, how many people were teaching in grades K-12 and/or comparable ungraded levels at this school in the following time categories? Consider only the amount of time a person works as a teacher during a typical week at THIS school.

Include:

- Regular classroom teachers
- Teachers who teach subjects such as music, art, physical education, and special education
- Teaching principals or administrators who teach a regularly scheduled class at this school

Do NOT include:

- Teachers who teach ONLY nursery, prekindergarten, postsecondary, or adult education
- Student teachers, teacher aides, day care aides, or short-term substitute teachers
- Counselors, library media specialists or librarians, speech therapists, social workers, or administrators UNLESS they also teach a regularly scheduled class at THIS school

	a. Number of full-time teachers	b. Number of part-time teachers	c. Total teachers (a & b)	d. Teacher Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)
1. Kindergarten				
2. Elementary (Grades 1-6)				
3. Secondary (Grades 7-12)				

26. On October 1, 2014, how many of this school's teachers held a valid Minnesota teaching license for the grade(s) that they were teaching?
- _____

27. On October 1, 2014, how many FTEs (full-time equivalents) did your school have in each of the following categories? (Do NOT include public school teachers who provide Title I or special education services at this school.)

	Number of FTEs
a. Principals or school heads	
b. Vice principals and assistant principals or school heads	
c. Other managers, such as business manager, development director, director of admissions	
d. Instructional coordinators and supervisors, such as curriculum specialists	
e. Library media specialists or librarians	
f. School/guidance counselors, excluding psychologists and social workers	
g. Student support services professional staff (nurses, social workers, psychologists, speech therapists, other professional staff)	
h. Aides	
i. Administrative support staff and other clerical support staff	
j. Food service personnel	
k. Custodial, maintenance, and security personnel	
l. Other employees not reported above	

STAFF BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

Next we have a few questions about the background and experience of the instructional and administrative staff.

28. Of the full-time and part-time teachers, managers, and administrators, on October 1, 2014, how many were...

	Number of staff
a. American Indian or Alaskan Native	
b. Asian or Pacific Islander	
c. Hispanic	
d. Black, not of Hispanic origin	
e. White, not of Hispanic origin	
f. TOTAL	

29. Please provide the number of full-time and part-time teachers, managers, and administrators at this school on October 1, 2014, by their highest degree achieved.

	Number of staff
a. Less than a Bachelor's degree	
b. Bachelor's degree	
c. Master's degree or higher	
d. TOTAL	

30. On October 1, 2014, how long had this professional staff (again, only including teachers, managers, and administrators) been at this school? Please provide a total number in each category that applies.

	Number of staff
a. New (less than 1 year at this school)	
b. 1 to 5 years at this school	
c. 6 to 10 years at this school	
d. 11 to 20 years at this school	
e. 21+ years at this school	
f. TOTAL	

STAFF COMPENSATION

Next, we have some questions about the compensation offered to staff at this school. This information will enable us to provide a complete and accurate summary of Minnesota’s private schools. Remember, your responses are confidential, and results of this study will be presented in summary form only. This school will never be individually identified in any reports or presentations associated with this study.

31. Please provide the dollar amount for the salary you paid teachers in each category of education/ experience in the 2014-2015 school year. Fill in all that apply. If you do not have a SALARY SCALE please indicate the starting salary of your most recently hired full-time teacher in each category.

	Salary amount
a. Beginning BA or BS	\$
b. Maximum BA or BS	\$
c. Beginning MA or MS	\$
d. Maximum MA or MS	\$

32. Please provide the number of full-time TEACHERS in each salary range in the 2014-2015 school year.

	Number of full-time teachers
a. Less than \$18,000	
b. \$18,000 to \$29,999	
c. \$30,000 to \$44,999	
d. \$45,000 to \$59,999	
e. \$60,000 to \$74,999	
f. \$75,000 and Over	
g. TOTAL FULL-TIME TEACHERS	

33. Please provide salary and years of experience for ADMINISTRATORS at your school in the 2014-2015 school year. This information will be kept confidential, shared only as part of a range of salaries and not as an individual salary.

	a. Salary	b. Years of admin experience
1. Full-time PRESIDENT or HEADMASTER	\$	
2. Full-time PRINCIPAL	\$	
3. Full-time COPRINCIPAL	\$	
4. Full-time ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	\$	

34. Did this school contribute to benefit programs for staff in the 2014-2015 school year? Select yes or no for each benefit listed below.

	Yes	No
a. Life insurance	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
b. Dental insurance	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
c. Health insurance	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
d. Retirement or pension	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
e. Paid healthcare after retirement	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
f. Merit pay	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
g. Employee continuing education	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
h. Unemployment compensation	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
i. Flexible benefits plan	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
j. Tuition discount for children of employee	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
k. Other (specify: _____)	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²

TUITION RATES AND FINANCIAL AID

Next, we have some questions about the cost of attending this school and the availability of financial aid and tuition reductions.

35. Did this school charge tuition for any students in the 2014-2015 school year?

- ¹ Yes (Go to Q36)
² No (Go to Q40)

36. In the 2014-2015 school year, did this school have a policy for lowering or discounting tuition rates for any of the following reasons?

	Yes	No
a. Additional students from the same family	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
b. Financial need	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
c. Church membership	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
d. Student's family member(s) volunteer at the school	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
e. Academic merit	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
f. Other (specify _____)	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²

37. How many students received need-based financial aid for the 2014-2015 school year?

	Number of students
a. Grades K-8	
b. Grades 9-12	

38. How many students received merit-based financial aid for the 2014-2015 school year?

	Number of students
a. Grades K-8	
b. Grades 9-12	

39. What was the total amount of financial aid distributed by the school to students in 2014-2015?

EXPENSES AND INCOME

Next, we have a couple of questions about this school’s expenses and income. We understand the sensitive nature of this information, and we would like to remind you that your responses are confidential, and results of this study will be presented in summary form only.

It is very important that we gather this information from all private schools so that the study results provide an accurate picture of the range of private schools in Minnesota. Summary data will be available to respondent schools so that they may see how they compare to other schools.

40. What was this school's ACTUAL INCOME for the 2014-2015 academic year?

	Actual income
a. Tuition	\$
b. Fees (boarding, technology, etc.)	\$
c. Fundraising and donations	\$
d. Church/congregation subsidies and gifts	\$
e. Endowment income	\$
f. All other income	\$
g. TOTAL ACTUAL INCOME	\$

41. What were this school's ACTUAL EXPENSES for the 2014-2015 academic year?

	Actual expenses
a. Personnel	\$
b. Instructional	\$
c. Co-curricular/extra-curricular	\$
d. Administrative	\$
e. Operations	\$
f. Development and fundraising	\$
d. Other expenses	\$
e. TOTAL ACTUAL EXPENSES	\$

42. Does this school have an endowment?

- ¹ Yes → 42b. What was the value of the school's endowment on June 30, 2015? \$ _____
- ² No

POLICY QUESTIONS

Finally, we have a few questions about your school's current participation in and interest or willingness to participate in a couple of specific programs.

43. Would your school participate in a school choice program that provided partial or full tuition funding to children whose families have low or moderate incomes if...

	Yes	No
a. It was a tuition voucher program (the money goes with the student, not with the school)?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
b. Tuition was an allowable expense as an individual tax credit for parents who pay tuition?	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²
c. It allowed donors who contribute to a student scholarship program to participate in the Equity and Opportunity in Education Tax Credit? (This proposed program would create a contribution tax credit for corporations, small businesses, and individuals to encourage donations to scholarship-granting organizations.)	<input type="checkbox"/> ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> ²

- 44a. During the 2014-15 school year, were you aware that students who attend your school could participate in public school classes through the state's Shared-Time Program? This program allows nonpublic school students to attend public school programs for part of the regular school day.

- ¹ Yes (Go to 44b)
² No (End)

- 44b. During the 2014-15 school year, did any of your students participate in the state's Shared-Time Program through their resident district?

- ¹ Yes
² No

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey! Study results will be released in October 2016.

If you have any questions about the survey or would like to request an electronic copy of the report, please contact Dan Swanson at Wilder Research. If you would like to know more about the purpose of the study and how the results will be used, please contact Tim Benz at the Minnesota Independent School Forum.

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