

## Catholic Education

The Catholic Church runs the largest network of private schools in the United States. Total Catholic elementary/middle and high school enrollment for the 2012-2013 academic year: **2,001,740.**<sup>i</sup>

- Elementary/middle schools: 5,472 schools educating 1,415,244 students
- High schools: 1,213 schools educating 586,496 students
- 6,685 total Catholic (elementary and high) schools in the United States

### Other Religious Education

- Non-residential schools for disabled students: 53 schools educating 6,047 students
- Public school students receiving religious education:<sup>ii</sup>
  - Elementary /middle school students: 2,776,777
  - High School students: 635,142<sup>iii</sup>

### *Did you know?*

- 2,166 Catholic schools or 32.4% had waiting lists for admission for the 2012-2013 academic year.<sup>iv</sup>
- Non-Catholic enrollment for the 2012-2013 academic year was 317,470 or 15.9% of the total enrollment.<sup>v</sup>
- 31.5% of all Catholic high schools are single gender and 1.2% of all Catholic elementary schools are single gender.<sup>vi</sup>
- 99.4 % of Catholic secondary school students graduate and 84.9% go on to college, compared to 39.5% of public school graduates.<sup>vii</sup>
- The District of Columbia and 12 states offer 18 different voucher/scholarship programs benefiting about 104,000 recipients; 11 states offer tax credit scholarship programs benefiting 150,000 students; 6 states provide tax credits or deductions for education expenses that benefit about 850,000 taxpayers.<sup>viii</sup>
- Dioceses with the largest enrollments are: Chicago, Philadelphia, New York, Los Angeles, Cleveland, Brooklyn, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Boston, and New Orleans.<sup>ix</sup>

- During the academic year 2012-2013, 28 new Catholic schools opened and 148 schools closed or consolidated.<sup>x</sup>

### **Student Race and Ethnicity in 2011-2012**

- 74.1% or 1,482,723 students enrolled in Catholic elementary/middle and secondary schools were Caucasian.<sup>xi</sup>
- 4.9% or 97,300 students enrolled in Catholic elementary/middle and secondary schools were Asian.<sup>xii</sup>
- 7.5% or 150,517 students enrolled in Catholic elementary/middle and secondary schools were African American.<sup>xiii</sup>
- 5.3% or 105,726 students enrolled in Catholic elementary/middle and secondary schools were multiracial.<sup>xiv</sup>
- 14.3% or 285,543 students enrolled in Catholic elementary/middle and secondary schools were Hispanic/Latino.<sup>xv</sup>

### **Tuition and Costs**

- Based on the average public school cost of \$10,652 per student, Catholic schools provide nearly 21 billion dollars a year savings for U.S. taxpayers.<sup>xvi</sup>
- Tuition fees paid by families constitute a portion of the actual per pupil expenses.<sup>xvii</sup>
- The average per pupil tuition in parish elementary schools is \$3,673, which is approximately 62.2 % of actual costs per pupil of \$5,387.<sup>xviii</sup>
- About 93.9% of elementary schools provide some form of tuition assistance.<sup>xix</sup>
- The secondary school mean freshman tuition is \$9,622, which is about 81.6% of actual costs per pupil of \$11,790.<sup>xx</sup>
- About 97% of secondary schools provide some form of tuition assistance.<sup>xxi</sup>
- The difference between the per pupil cost and the tuition charged is obtained in many ways, primarily through direct subsidy from parish, diocesan or religious congregation resources and from multi-faceted development programs and fundraising activities.<sup>xxii</sup>

## Staffing of Catholic Schools

There are 151,405 total full time equivalent teaching staff in Catholic elementary/middle and secondary schools.<sup>xxiii</sup> The student/teacher ratio is 13:1.

### 3.3% Religious:

- 3,341 or 2.2% Sisters
- 775 or 0.5% Clergy
- 737 or 0.5% Brothers

### 96.8% Lay

- 112,835 or 74.5% female lay
- 33,717 or 22.3% male lay

More information is available at the National Catholic Education Association at [www.ncea.org](http://www.ncea.org).

## Catholic Colleges and Universities

- There are 262 colleges and universities educating more than 940,000 students.<sup>xxiv</sup>
- About 65% of undergraduate students at Catholic colleges and universities self-identify as Catholic.<sup>xxv</sup>
- There are 14 Catholic women's colleges.<sup>xxvi</sup>
- The average tuition cost at Catholic colleges and universities for the 2012-2013 academic year was \$26,300.<sup>xxvii</sup>
- There are 16 Catholic two-year colleges with more than 5,100 students enrolled. The median enrollment is 492, and the average cost of tuition and fees is \$9,835.<sup>xxviii</sup>
- The first Catholic higher education institution in the United States was Georgetown University in Washington DC, founded by the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in 1789.<sup>xxix</sup>
- The newest Catholic institution is Holy Spirit College in Atlanta, founded in 2010.
- Nearly 12.5% of the world's Catholic colleges and universities are located in the United States.<sup>xxx</sup>
- There are approximately 1,861 Catholic colleges and universities worldwide.<sup>xxxi</sup>

In the United States, Catholic institutions of higher learning include:<sup>xxxii</sup>

- Medical schools: 5
- Law schools: 28
- Pharmacy schools: 9<sup>xxxiii</sup>
- Colleges and universities that offer engineering programs: 41
- Colleges and universities that offer education programs: 163
- Institutions with doctoral programs in theology, religion and ministry: 16
- Colleges, universities, and hospital-related nursing schools that offer a bachelor's degree in nursing: 128.<sup>xxxiv</sup>

More information is available at the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities at [www.accunet.org](http://www.accunet.org).

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<sup>i</sup> McDonald, Dale, PBVM, Ph.D. and Margaret Schultz, *Annual Statistical Report 2012-2013*, National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA), 2013.

<sup>ii</sup> The Official Catholic Directory 2013, General Summary.

<sup>iii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>iv</sup> National Catholic Educational Association, *Annual Statistics Report 2012 -2013*, p.18.

<sup>v</sup> Ibid, p.22.

<sup>vi</sup> Ibid, p.11.

<sup>vii</sup> Ibid, p. 5.

<sup>viii</sup> Ibid, p. 1.

<sup>ix</sup> Ibid, p.15

<sup>x</sup> Ibid, p.12.

<sup>xi</sup> Ibid. p.21

<sup>xii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xiii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xiv</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xv</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xvi</sup> Ibid, p.18.

<sup>xvii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xviii</sup> Ibid, p. 3.

<sup>xix</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xx</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xxi</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xxii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xxiii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xxiv</sup> Association of Catholic colleges and Universities, *Catholic Higher Education Frequently Asked Questions*, (accessed on 8/4/13) <http://www.accunet.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3797#Enrolled>

<sup>xxv</sup> Association of Catholic colleges and Universities, *Catholic Higher Education Frequently Asked Questions*, (accessed on 8/1/13) <http://www.accunet.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3513#international>

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<sup>xxvi</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xxvii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xxviii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xxix</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xxx</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xxx</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xxxii</sup> Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, *Special Programs*, (accessed on 8/4/13.)

<http://www.accunet.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3549>)

<sup>xxxiii</sup> Association of Catholic colleges and Universities, (accessed on 8/1/13)

<http://www.accunet.org/i4a/pages/Index.cfm?pageID=3616>

<sup>xxxiv</sup> Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, *Catholic Higher Education Frequently Asked Questions*.