

Students with **Disabilities** by State

The 7.5 million students served under IDEA — what share of each state's students receive special education, and how that has grown. One page per state. NCES/OSEP, 2022–23.



ABOUT K12 ACADEMICS

The world's largest education resource.

Online since 2004, K12 Academics has helped millions of families, students and educators **find the right school, college, camp, business and program in their community** — including families navigating special education.

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Years online, since 2004

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Directories, national & global

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People reached each year

185

Countries reached monthly

1 IN 7 STUDENTS

Roughly **1 in 7** U.S. public-school students receives special education under the IDEA — and the share keeps rising. But it varies a lot by state, from under 12% to over 21%. This volume maps that landscape.

SEE ALSO

The Special Education Journey (the IEP process) · A Parent's Rights Handbook · K-12 Enrollment by State

WHAT THIS IS

The special-education map.

Every state's page shows what **share of its public-school students** are served under the IDEA, **how many** students that is, and how much that share has **grown since 2000** — plus the national mix of disability types.

A RISING SHARE

In 2022–23, **7,525,941** students ages 3–21 were served under IDEA — **15.2%** of public-school enrollment, an all-time high, up from 13% two decades ago. Rates run highest in the Northeast (Pennsylvania 21.1%, New York 20.7%, Maine 20.6%) and lowest in Hawaii (11.7%) and Texas (12.7%).

ON EACH PAGE

- **Share served under IDEA** — % of public-school students, vs the U.S.
- **Students served** — the head count, ages 3–21
- **20-year growth** — how much the share has changed since 2000

Source. U.S. Dept of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), IDEA Part B data, & NCES CCD, **2022–23** (Digest 2023, Table 204.70). Share = students 3–21 served, as % of public-school enrollment.



Alabama

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13.3%
Students served	99,921
National rank	#40 of 51
Change since 2000	+0.1%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13.3%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Alabama serves **13.3%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **99,921** students, **#40 of 51**. Its special-education share has **held roughly steady** since 2000 (+0.1%).

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Alaska

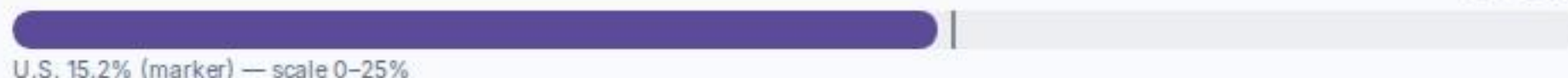
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	14.8%
Students served	19,368
National rank	#30 of 51
Change since 2000	+9.5%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

14.8%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, **~32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Alaska serves **14.8%** of its students under IDEA — **about** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **19,368** students, **#30 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+9.5%).

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Arizona

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13.2%
Students served	149,811
National rank	#42 of 51
Change since 2000	+55.3%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13.2%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Arizona serves **13.2%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **149,811** students, **#42 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+55.3%).

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Arkansas

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	16.3%
Students served	80,226
National rank	#23 of 51
Change since 2000	+28.9%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

16.3%



U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Arkansas serves **16.3%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **80,226** students, **#23 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+28.9%).

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STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES — #38 OF 51 BY SHARE

California

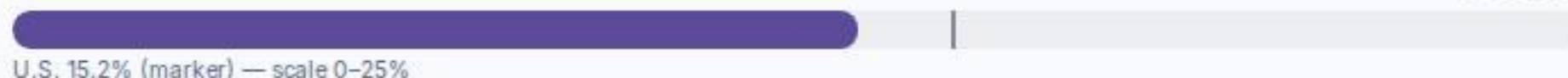
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13.6%
Students served	805,289
National rank	#38 of 51
Change since 2000	+24.8%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13.6%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

California serves **13.6%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **805,289** students, **#38 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+24.8%).

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Colorado

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13%
Students served	113,289
National rank	#47 of 51
Change since 2000	+43.9%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Colorado serves **13%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **113,289** students, **#47 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+43.9%).

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Connecticut

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	17.3%
Students served	88,635
National rank	#15 of 51
Change since 2000	+20%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

17.3%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Connecticut serves **17.3%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **88,635** students, **#15 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+20%).

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Delaware

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	19.4%
Students served	27,502
National rank	#5 of 51
Change since 2000	+64.1%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

19.4%



U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Delaware serves **19.4%** of its students under IDEA — **well above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **27,502** students, **#5 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+64.1%).

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Florida

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	15.1%
Students served	432,391
National rank	#28 of 51
Change since 2000	+17.7%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

15.1%



U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0-25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, **~32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Florida serves **15.1%** of its students under IDEA — **about** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **432,391** students, **#28 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+17.7%).

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Georgia

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13.2%
Students served	230,363
National rank	#43 of 51
Change since 2000	+34.5%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13.2%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Georgia serves **13.2%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **230,363** students, **#43 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+34.5%).

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Hawaii

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	11.7%
Students served	19,920
National rank	#51 of 51
Change since 2000	-16.8%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

11.7%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Hawaii serves **11.7%** of its students under IDEA — **well below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **19,920** students, **#51 of 51**. Its special-education share has **declined** since 2000 (-16.8%).

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Idaho

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	12.1%
Students served	38,298
National rank	#50 of 51
Change since 2000	+31.3%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

12.1%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Idaho serves **12.1%** of its students under IDEA — **well below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **38,298** students, **#50 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+31.3%).

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Illinois

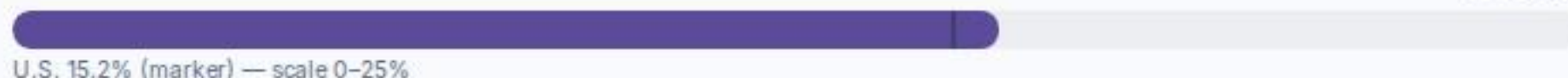
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	15.9%
Students served	295,261
National rank	#24 of 51
Change since 2000	-0.7%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

15.9%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, **~32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Illinois serves **15.9%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **295,261** students, **#24 of 51**. Its special-education share has **held roughly steady** since 2000 (-0.7%).

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Indiana

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	18.2%
Students served	188,078
National rank	#9 of 51
Change since 2000	+20.3%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

18.2%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Indiana serves **18.2%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **188,078** students, **#9 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+20.3%).

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Iowa

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	14%
Students served	71,801
National rank	#34 of 51
Change since 2000	-0.9%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

14%

U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Iowa serves **14%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **71,801** students, **#34 of 51**. Its special-education share has **held roughly steady** since 2000 (-0.9%).

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Kansas

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	16.6%
Students served	81,063
National rank	#19 of 51
Change since 2000	+32.3%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

16.6%

U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~32% have a specific learning disability, 19% speech/language, 15% other health impairment, and 13% autism.

Kansas serves **16.6%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **81,063** students, **#19 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+32.3%).

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Kentucky

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	16.6%
Students served	109,749
National rank	#20 of 51
Change since 2000	+16%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

16.6%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Kentucky serves **16.6%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **109,749** students, **#20 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+16%).

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Louisiana

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13.5%
Students served	96,916
National rank	#39 of 51
Change since 2000	-1%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13.5%

U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Louisiana serves **13.5%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **96,916** students, **#39 of 51**. Its special-education share has **held roughly steady** since 2000 (-1%).

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Maine

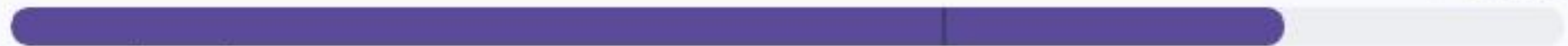
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	20.6%
Students served	35,828
National rank	#3 of 51
Change since 2000	+0.5%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

20.6%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Maine serves **20.6%** of its students under IDEA — **well above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **35,828** students, **#3 of 51**. Its special-education share has **held roughly steady** since 2000 (+0.5%).

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Maryland

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	12.9%
Students served	114,732
National rank	#48 of 51
Change since 2000	+2.4%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

12.9%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Maryland serves **12.9%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **114,732** students, **#48 of 51**. Its special-education share has **held roughly steady** since 2000 (+2.4%).

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Massachusetts

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	19.7%
Students served	182,105
National rank	#4 of 51
Change since 2000	+12.3%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

19.7%

U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Massachusetts serves **19.7%** of its students under IDEA — **well above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **182,105** students, **#4 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+12.3%).

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Michigan

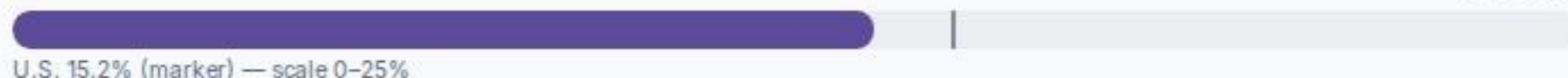
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13.9%
Students served	199,856
National rank	#36 of 51
Change since 2000	-9.8%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13.9%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~32% have a specific learning disability, 19% speech/language, 15% other health impairment, and 13% autism.

Michigan serves **13.9%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **199,856** students, **#36 of 51**. Its special-education share has **declined** since 2000 (-9.8%).

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Minnesota

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	17.5%
Students served	151,845
National rank	#14 of 51
Change since 2000	+38.2%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

17.5%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Minnesota serves **17.5%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **151,845** students, **#14 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+38.2%).

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STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES — #25 OF 51 BY SHARE

Mississippi

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	15.7%
Students served	69,280
National rank	#25 of 51
Change since 2000	+11.2%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

15.7%



U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, **~32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Mississippi serves **15.7%** of its students under IDEA — **about** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **69,280** students, **#25 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+11.2%).

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Missouri

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	14.3%
Students served	127,376
National rank	#31 of 51
Change since 2000	-7.3%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

14.3%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Missouri serves **14.3%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **127,376** students, **#31 of 51**. Its special-education share has **declined** since 2000 (-7.3%).

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Montana

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	14%
Students served	21,112
National rank	#35 of 51
Change since 2000	+9.3%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

14%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Montana serves **14%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **21,112** students, **#35 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+9.3%).

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Nebraska

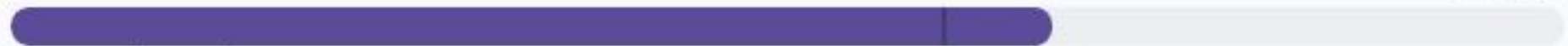
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	16.8%
Students served	55,212
National rank	#17 of 51
Change since 2000	+29%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

16.8%



U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Nebraska serves **16.8%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **55,212** students, **#17 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+29%).

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Nevada

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13.2%
Students served	64,032
National rank	#44 of 51
Change since 2000	+67.8%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13.2%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~32% have a specific learning disability, 19% speech/language, 15% other health impairment, and 13% autism.

Nevada serves **13.2%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **64,032** students, **#44 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+67.8%).

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New Hampshire

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	18.3%
Students served	30,917
National rank	#8 of 51
Change since 2000	+2.8%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

18.3%

U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

New Hampshire serves **18.3%** of its students under IDEA — **well above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **30,917** students, **#8 of 51**. Its special-education share has **held roughly steady** since 2000 (+2.8%).

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New Jersey

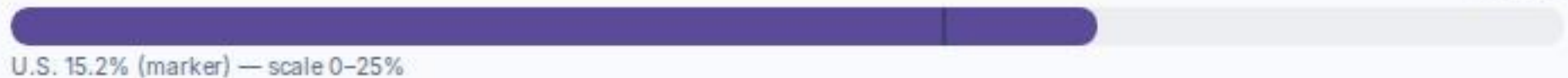
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	17.6%
Students served	243,035
National rank	#13 of 51
Change since 2000	+9.6%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

17.6%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

New Jersey serves **17.6%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **243,035** students, **#13 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+9.6%).

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New Mexico

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	17.8%
Students served	56,195
National rank	#11 of 51
Change since 2000	+7.5%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

17.8%

U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

New Mexico serves **17.8%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **56,195** students, **#11 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+7.5%).

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New York

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	20.7%
Students served	524,993
National rank	#2 of 51
Change since 2000	+19%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

20.7%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

New York serves **20.7%** of its students under IDEA — **well above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **524,993** students, **#2 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+19%).

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North Carolina

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13.1%
Students served	202,310
National rank	#45 of 51
Change since 2000	+16.9%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13.1%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

North Carolina serves **13.1%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **202,310** students, **#45 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+16.9%).

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North Dakota

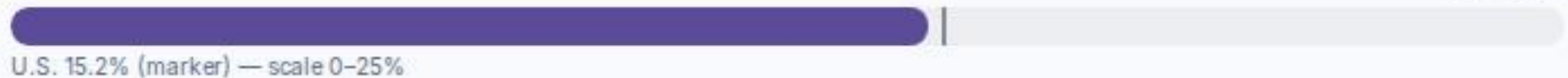
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	14.9%
Students served	17,654
National rank	#29 of 51
Change since 2000	+29.3%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

14.9%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, **~32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

North Dakota serves **14.9%** of its students under IDEA — **about** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **17,654** students, **#29 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+29.3%).

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Ohio

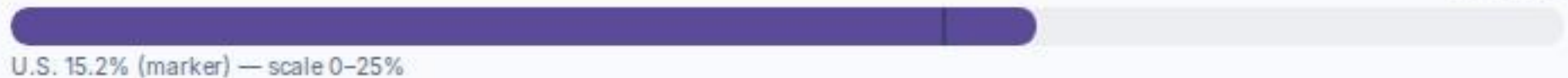
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	16.6%
Students served	278,916
National rank	#21 of 51
Change since 2000	+17.4%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

16.6%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Ohio serves **16.6%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **278,916** students, **#21 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+17.4%).

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Oklahoma

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	17.2%
Students served	120,920
National rank	#16 of 51
Change since 2000	+41.3%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

17.2%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, **~32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Oklahoma serves **17.2%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **120,920** students, **#16 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+41.3%).

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Oregon

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	15.2%
Students served	87,648
National rank	#26 of 51
Change since 2000	+16.5%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

15.2%



U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Oregon serves **15.2%** of its students under IDEA — **about** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **87,648** students, **#26 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+16.5%).

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Pennsylvania

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	21.1%
Students served	357,917
National rank	#1 of 51
Change since 2000	+47.5%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

21.1%



U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Pennsylvania serves **21.1%** of its students under IDEA — **well above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **357,917** students, **#1 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+47.5%).

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Rhode Island

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	17.9%
Students served	24,650
National rank	#10 of 51
Change since 2000	-19.8%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

17.9%

U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Rhode Island serves **17.9%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **24,650** students, **#10 of 51**. Its special-education share has **declined** since 2000 (-19.8%).

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South Carolina

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	14.2%
Students served	112,142
National rank	#32 of 51
Change since 2000	+5.9%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

14.2%



U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~32% have a specific learning disability, 19% speech/language, 15% other health impairment, and 13% autism.

South Carolina serves **14.2%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **112,142** students, **#32 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+5.9%).

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South Dakota

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	16.4%
Students served	23,232
National rank	#22 of 51
Change since 2000	+38.1%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

16.4%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

South Dakota serves **16.4%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **23,232** students, **#22 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+38.1%).

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Tennessee

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13.1%
Students served	132,339
National rank	#46 of 51
Change since 2000	+5.1%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13.1%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Tennessee serves **13.1%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **132,339** students, **#46 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+5.1%).

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Texas

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	12.7%
Students served	703,058
National rank	#49 of 51
Change since 2000	+43%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

12.7%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Texas serves **12.7%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **703,058** students, **#49 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+43%).

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Utah

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13.3%
Students served	91,715
National rank	#41 of 51
Change since 2000	+70.1%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13.3%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Utah serves **13.3%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **91,715** students, **#41 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+70.1%).

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Vermont

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	18.5%
Students served	15,471
National rank	#7 of 51
Change since 2000	+13.6%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

18.5%

U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Vermont serves **18.5%** of its students under IDEA — **well above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **15,471** students, **#7 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+13.6%).

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Virginia

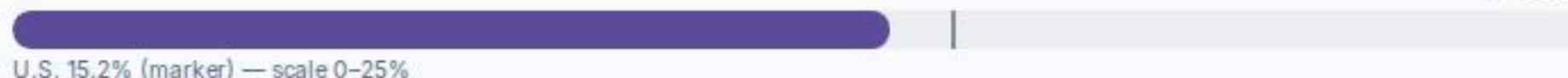
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	14.1%
Students served	177,836
National rank	#33 of 51
Change since 2000	+9.6%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

14.1%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~32% have a specific learning disability, 19% speech/language, 15% other health impairment, and 13% autism.

Virginia serves **14.1%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **177,836** students, **#33 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+9.6%).

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STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES — #37 OF 51 BY SHARE

Washington

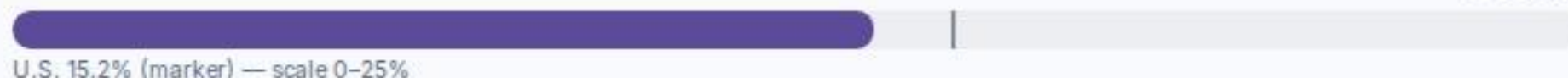
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	13.9%
Students served	151,949
National rank	#37 of 51
Change since 2000	+27.8%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

13.9%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Washington serves **13.9%** of its students under IDEA — **below** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **151,949** students, **#37 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+27.8%).

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Washington, D.C.

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	16.6%
Students served	15,126
National rank	#18 of 51
Change since 2000	+43.3%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA **16.6%**



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, **~32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Washington, D.C. serves **16.6%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **15,126** students, **#18 of 51**. Its special-education share has **risen sharply** since 2000 (+43.3%).

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West Virginia

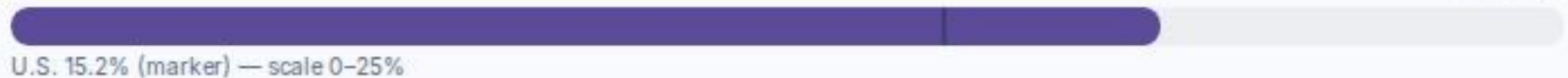
NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	18.7%
Students served	46,973
National rank	#6 of 51
Change since 2000	-6.7%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

18.7%



MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

West Virginia serves **18.7%** of its students under IDEA — **well above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **46,973** students, **#6 of 51**. Its special-education share has **declined** since 2000 (-6.7%).

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Wisconsin

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	15.2%
Students served	125,334
National rank	#27 of 51
Change since 2000	+0%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

15.2%



U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Wisconsin serves **15.2%** of its students under IDEA — **about** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **125,334** students, **#27 of 51**. Its special-education share has **held roughly steady** since 2000 (+0%).

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Wyoming

NCES/OSEP 2022-23 — AT A GLANCE

Share served (IDEA)	17.7%
Students served	16,352
National rank	#12 of 51
Change since 2000	+24.3%

SHARE SERVED VS. THE NATION

Students served under IDEA

17.7%

U.S. 15.2% (marker) — scale 0–25%

MOST COMMON NATIONALLY

Of students served, ~**32%** have a specific learning disability, **19%** speech/language, **15%** other health impairment, and **13%** autism.

Wyoming serves **17.7%** of its students under IDEA — **above** the U.S. 15.2% — totaling **16,352** students, **#12 of 51**. Its special-education share has **grown** since 2000 (+24.3%).

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The National Disability Mix

Across all 7,525,941 students served under IDEA, these are the categories they’re served under — nationally, 2022–23.



Specific learning disabilities — conditions like dyslexia — remain by far the largest category, though **autism** has grown fastest over the past two decades. See our **Special Education Journey** guide for the full 13 IDEA categories.

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Navigating special education? Our **Special Education Journey** and **Parent's Rights** guides walk you through it — among **1,297 free guides** at our resource library.

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DATA SOURCE

U.S. Dept of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), IDEA Part B; NCES CCD, 2022–23 (Digest 2023, Table 204.70). 7,525,941 students 3–21 served; 15.2% of enrollment.

