STATEWIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN VIRGINIA

This profile shows key information and trends about the demographics, staffing, and funding for public schools in Virginia.

STUDENTS

Enrollment since 2008-2009:

- Virginia public schools had 1,195,326 students in 2008-2009.
- Virginia public schools are projected to have 1,252,434 students in 2018-2019.

- 13% of all school-aged children lived in poverty in 2015-2016
- 44% of all students got free or reduced lunch in 2017-2018
- 12% of all students were English learners in 2017-2018
- 70% of slots with state funding for the Virginia Preschool Initiative were filled in 2017-2018

Four-year olds have state funding for the Virginia Preschool Initiative in 2018-2019

5% More students

Virginia public schools are expected to have 1,252,434 students in 2018-2019.

STAFFING

Overall staffing levels for Virginia Public Schools have decreased compared to enrollment from 2008-2009 to 2016-2017. There are now:

- 715 More teachers and instructors
- 143 More principals and assistant principals
- 25 Fewer school counselors and librarians
- 449 More teacher aides
- 2,524 Fewer support staff
- 1,242 Fewer staff
- 53,376 More students

FUNDING

State direct aid has fallen for Virginia Public Schools, adjusting for inflation.

The local, state, and federal shares of school operations funding have shifted since 2008-2009.

Local governments have taken on a larger share of funding.

Did you know ....

...that Virginia localities invested $4.0 billion above the required local effort for SOQ programs in 2016-2017?

State required local expenditures: $3.6 billion
Actual local expenditures: $7.6 billion

Sources: Virginia Department of Education, U.S. Census Bureau, The Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis, September 2018