

Public Education in the United States

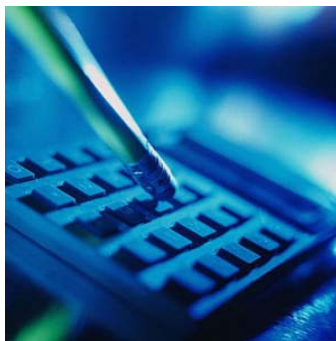


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PSCI 4211-001

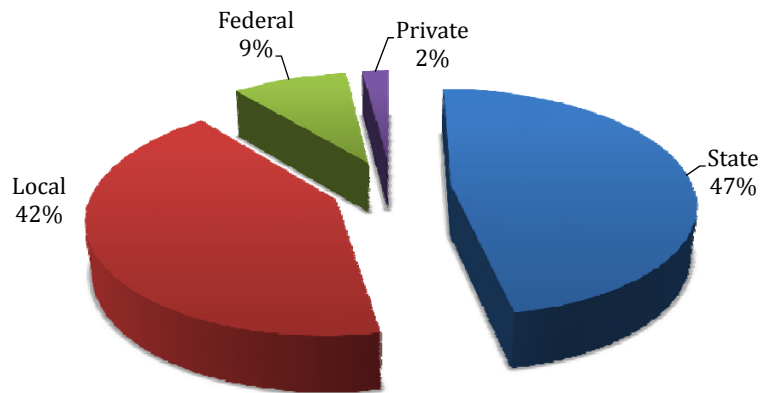
Quick Facts



- 49 million students in public education
- \$489 billion is spent every year
- 85% of American have a high school diploma
- Between \$5,000 - \$14,000 is spent per pupil ever year

Public Education in the United States

Funding for Schools



Public Education in the United States

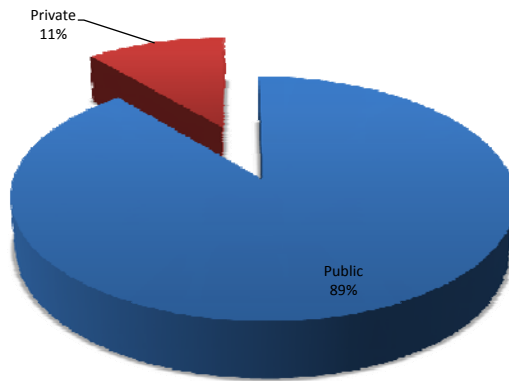
History

- Thomas Jefferson (1840s)
- Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)
- Education in all states (1918)
- Pierce v. Society of Sisters (1925)
- Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka (1954)



Public Education in the United States

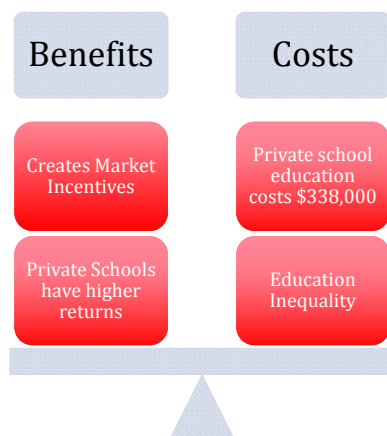
Private vs. Public Education



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Privatization Movement

- Educational Vouchers
- Open Enrollment
- Full Privatization



Public Education in the United States

Justification



Two Schools of Thought:

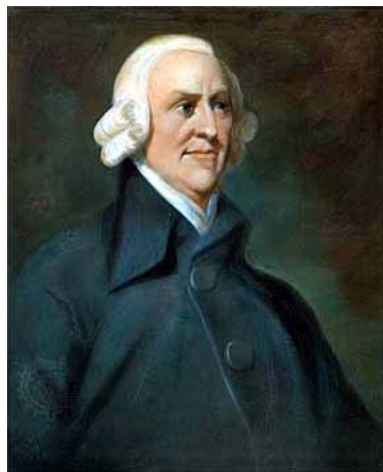
1. Society is main beneficiary of primary and secondary education
2. Some provision must be made for people to have ability to meet mandated level of education

Public Education in the United States

Adam Smith

An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations

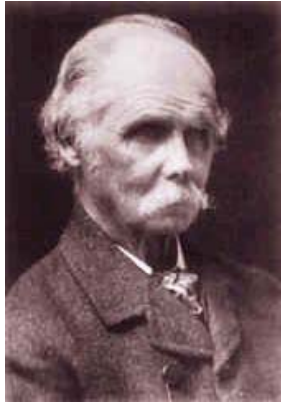
- Domestic tranquility
- Improved overall judgment
- Orderly and measured operation of society
 - Particularly in Democratic nations
- Social benefit justifies at least government financing



Public Education in the United States

Alfred Marshal

Principles of Economics



- Talented and vigor individuals become more productive
- Innovation and productivity
- Additional innovation and productivity more than pays for expense of public education

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Value of an Education

Figure 5

Lifetime Earnings By Education in the United States

Education Level	Estimated Lifetime Hours	2001 Hourly Earnings*	Estimated Work Life Earnings
Less than 9th Grade	83,200	\$9.46	\$787,400
9th to 12th non grad	83,200	\$10.75	\$894,000
High School Grad	83,200	\$14.03	\$1,167,480
Some College No degree	83,200	\$16.51	\$1,373,600
Associate Degree	83,200	\$17.50	\$1,455,960
Bachelor's Degree	83,200	\$22.58	\$1,878,760
Master's Degree	83,200	\$27.21	\$2,263,560
Professional Degree	83,200	\$39.63	\$3,296,840
Doctorate Degree	83,200	\$36.15	\$3,007,280

Source: 2002 Current Population Survey

*Divided annual median earnings by 2080 hours.

Public Education in the United States

Public Education Breakdown

Costs

- \$9,500 Average spending per student per year
- 13 years of education
- \$123,500 cost of K-12 Education

Benefits

- \$380,080 additional earning of a high school graduate
- Lower Welfare costs
 - \$564 Billion (2004)
- Lower Medicaid costs

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Beginnings of Reform



- A Nation at Risk (1983)
 - Ronald Reagan's Education Commission Report
 - Public School Inefficiency cited

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Goals 2000 (1990s)

- Clinton Administration
- 1990s to 2000
- Shift from State control to Federal
- Outcomes based
- Goals not met



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No Child Left Behind (2001)

Benefits

- ELSA(1965)
- Voucher programs
- Open Enrollment
- Mandatory testing
- Federal Funding
- Standardized K-12 curriculum

Problems

- 10th Amendment
- Teaching to test
- Disadvantages of urban and low performing schools
- Adequate funding

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Colorado Amendment 59

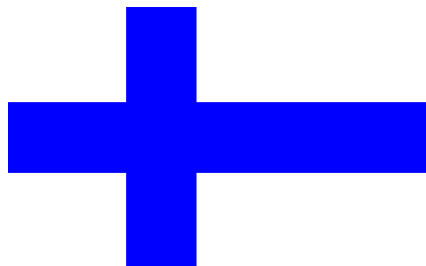


- November 2008 Election
- Lifts constitutional limits on state spending
- Direct additional revenue into an education fund

Public Education in the United States

Finland

- Ranked as best Public Education in the world
- 9 years of education (7-16)
- “Unified” education system
- Upper Secondary or Vocational School (16-19)
- First in Secondary Graduation Rate (90%)
- Matriculation Exam
- Free meals and University



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Questions?

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