

TABLE J-2
Public School Districts by Kind of District¹
New York State — Selected Years 1930-2014

Year ²	All Districts	Cities ³	Village Superintendencies ⁴	Central	Central High School	Union Free	Common	Non-Operating Schools	BOCES ⁵
1930	9,118	59	90	98	4	8,338		529	—
1935	8,258	59	96	158	5	629	6,626	685	—
1940	6,397	61	96	267	5	495	4,638	835	—
1945	5,112	62	97	319	4	415	2,547	1,668	—
1950	3,390	62	100	400	4	310	1,218	1,296	NA
1955	1,972	62	108	434	4	211	468	685	NA
1960	1,292	62	136	432	4	134	138	386	NA
1965	991	62	173	397	4	104	56	195	71
1970	758	62	214	342	4	86	28	22	51
1975	745	62	256	304	4	90	21	8	46
1976	744	62	261	299	4	92	19	7	45
1977	743	62	264	296	4	93	18	6	44
1978	742	62	268	292	4	93	17	6	44
1979	738	62	269	292	3	91	15	6	44
1980	736	62	271	289	3	91	14	6	44
1981	735	62	271	289	3	90	14	6	44
1982	735	62	271	289	3	90	14	6	44
1983	734	62	271	289	3	89	14	6	43
1984	731	62	271	287	3	88	14	6	43
1985	731	62	273	287	3	87	13	6	43
1986	728	62	272	286	3	87	13	5	42
1987	722	62	272	283	3	86	13	3	41
1988	721	62	273	283	3	84	13	3	41
1989	720	62	275	283	3	82	13	2	41
1990	719	62	275	282	3	83	13	1	41
1991	718	62	276	280	3	83	13	1	41
1992	717	62	276	279	3	83	13	1	41
1993	715	62	276	277	3	83	13	1	38
1994	712	62	277	275	3	82	12	1	38
1995	710	62	278	274	3	81	11	1	38
1996	707	62	278	271	3	81	11	1	38
1997	706	62	278	271	3	81	10	1	38
1998	706	62	278	271	3	81	10	1	38
1999	705	62	278	269	4	81	10	1	38
2000	704	62	278	268	4	81	10	1	38

2001	704	62	278	268	4	81	10	1	38
2002	702	62	278	268	4	79	10	1	38
2003	702	62	278	268	4	79	10	1	38
2004	699	62	280	266	3	77	10	1	38
2005	697	62	280	266	3	75	10	1	38
2006	697	62	280	266	3	75	10	1	37
2007	697	62	280	266	3	75	10	1	35
2008	696	62	280	266	3	75	9	1	37
2009	696	62	280	266	3	75	9	1	37
2010	696	62	280	266	3	75	9	1	37
2011	696	62	280	266	3	75	9	1	37
2012	696	62	280	266	3	75	9	1	37
2013	695	62	280	266	3	75	8	1	37
2014	695	62	280	266	3	75	8	1	37

— Represents zero.

NA Not available.

- 1 The local units charged with the administration of schools in New York State may be placed in three categories:
 - a The “common school district” dates from 1812 and is limited to providing education through the eighth grade. The district was originally set up in 1812 to render “common schooling” or the three Rs. The district was, and for the most part has continued to be, small in area. Some common districts have consolidated but continue to function as common school districts. The district is governed by a sole trustee or a board of three trustees.
 - b City school districts are subdivided into two fiscal categories. School districts of cities of population under 125,000 are fiscally independent. School districts of the “Big Five” cities (population over 125,000) are fiscally dependent and have boundaries that are coterminous with the city.
 - c The “union free district,” unlike the common district, may provide high school services when granted a charter by the Board of Regents, although some union free districts provide elementary school services only and in that regard function quite like common districts.
Central school districts and central high school districts, while organized under special provisions of the law, function thereafter as union free districts and may, therefore, properly be put in the category of union free districts. When a union free or central district employs its own superintendent of schools, it is called an independent village superintendency district. Its operation, however, is not changed materially.
- 2 Districts are counted annually in September.
- 3 Includes “Big Five” cities (New York, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and Yonkers), other smaller independent city districts, and city central districts.
- 4 Includes village central school districts.
- 5 BOCES (Boards of Cooperative Educational Services) are service organizations created by law to do for a district that which it cannot do by or for itself because of size, financial burden, etc. BOCES are not included in the “Total Districts” column because they function as providers of services to regional groups of school districts.

SOURCE: New York State Education Department, Information and Reporting Services.