

# 13,000 Districts, 13,000 Realities

## What Numbers Reveal

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### Why it matters

While people often think of school districts in terms of large city systems, the reality is that the 13,619 US school districts are far more varied than perceptions suggest.

**8**

school districts in the US serve over 200,000 students.

**17**

school districts in the US operate over 200 schools.

**4,247**  
Districts

over 31% of all districts in the US serve fewer than 500 students.

**7,240**  
Districts

over 53% of all districts in the US operate three (3) or fewer schools.

### The range of district settings reflect the diversity of the US.

61% of school districts are rural, yet 41% of students are concentrated in suburban districts. City districts make up the smallest proportion of districts in the country 875 districts in total.<sup>1</sup>

## Number of Districts by State



