

These statistics are a snapshot of the WELS school system. They represent information gathered with an online form completed by school personnel. The statistics are only as accurate as the information that was reported. In some instances, data from the previous year was used for schools that failed to complete the statistics form for 2022. (Please note that multi-site schools are counted as one unit.)

Number of forms not returned this collection cycle: ECM - 0, LES - 0, LHS - 0.

LHS includes ALHS, LPS and MLS

Schools and Enrollment

	Schools	Enrollment	Average Enrollment
Standalone Early Childhood Ministries (ECM)	109	4,341	40
Standalone Lutheran Elementary Schools (LES)	31	1,866	60
Combined ECM & LES	253	33,380	132
Area Lutheran High Schools (ALHS)	27	6,413	238
Preparatory High Schools (LPS & MLS)	2	601	301
Totals	422	46,601	

Total Early Childhood Ministries	362	12,009	
Total Lutheran Elementary Schools	284	27,578	
ECM with Year Round Child Care	105		

Enrollment by District

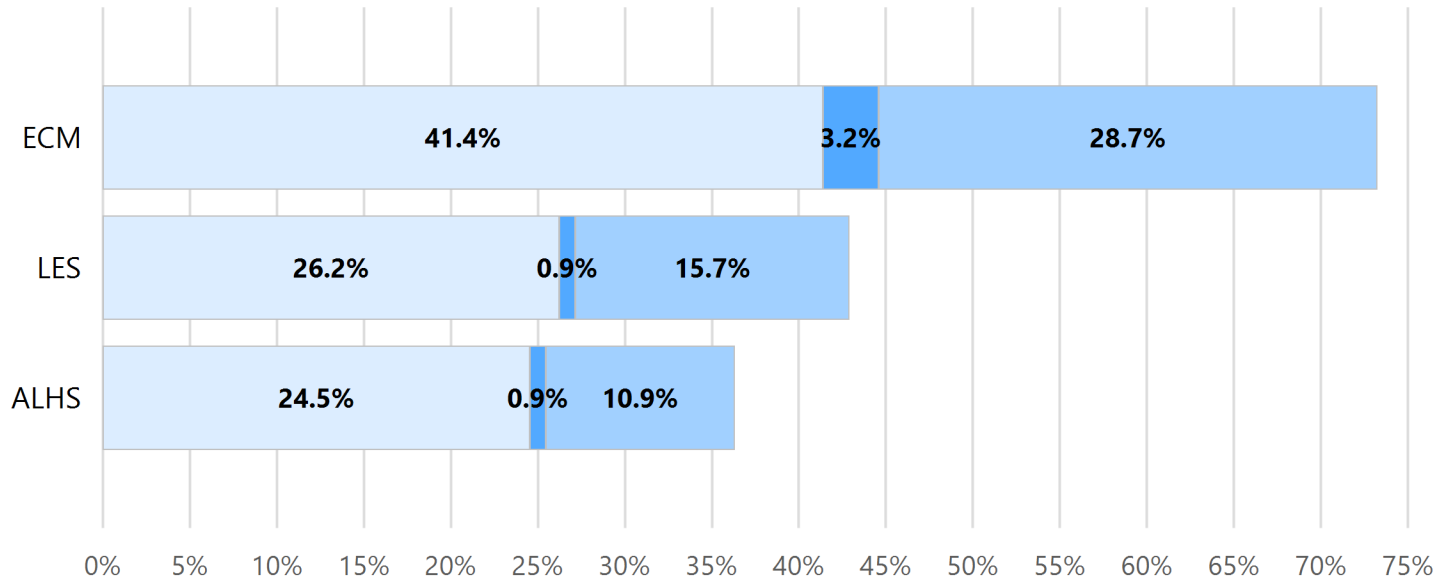
WELS Districts	ECM		LES		ALHS		LPS & MLS
	Schools	Enrollment	Schools	Enrollment	Schools	Enrollment	Enrollment
Arizona-California	21	850	20	1,732	3	379	
Dakota-Montana	8	361	6	411	1	129	
Michigan	33	849	33	1,774	2	160	194
Minnesota	42	1,234	31	2,726	4	799	
Nebraska	25	712	15	793	2	115	
North Atlantic	5	168	2	116	0	0	
Northern Wisconsin	54	1,790	44	4,525	3	1,287	
Pacific Northwest	15	418	7	681	1	94	
South Atlantic	30	1,311	17	2,343	2	412	
South Central	8	384	7	673	1	36	
Southeastern Wisconsin	66	2,114	56	7,857	5	2,186	
Western Wisconsin	55	1,818	46	3,947	3	816	407
Totals	362	12,009	284	27,578	27	6,413	601

International <i>(Subset of the total above)</i>	0	0	6	22	19	342	16
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Enrollment by Church Affiliation

	Governing Congregation(s)		Other WELS/ELS Congregations		Other Christian Congregations		Non-Christian		No church affiliation	
ECM	2,538	21.1%	675	5.6%	4,970	41.4%	385	3.2%	3,441	28.7%
LES	13,917	50.5%	1,837	6.7%	7,234	26.2%	257	0.9%	4,333	15.7%
ALHS	3,934	61.3%	151	2.4%	1,574	24.5%	58	0.9%	696	10.9%

Outreach



Groupings by Enrollment - ECM

Enrollment Range	0-25	26-50	51-100	101-150	151+
Total Schools	174	122	58	6	2
Percent Schools	48.1%	33.7%	16.0%	1.7%	0.6%
Smallest/Largest	2				205
Total Enrollment	2,506	4,371	4,037	708	387

Groupings by Enrollment - LES

Enrollment Range	0-50	51-100	101-150	151-200	201-250	251+
Total Schools	78	115	40	29	10	12
Percent Schools	27.5%	40.5%	14.1%	10.2%	3.5%	4.2%
Smallest/Largest	5					929
Total Enrollment	2,501	8,345	4,805	5,033	2,210	4,684

Groupings by Enrollment - ALHS

Enrollment Range	0-100	101-200	201-300	301-400	401-500	501+
Total Schools	10	4	5	3	1	4
Percent Schools	37.0%	14.8%	18.5%	11.1%	3.7%	14.8%
Smallest/Largest	6					938
Total Enrollment	538	523	1,111	1,100	402	2,739

Enrollment Growth/Decline - 10 Years

	2013 2014	2014 2015	2015 2016	2016 2017	2017 2018	2018 2019	2019 2020	2020 2021	2021 2022	2022 2023
ECM	10,694	10,595	10,911	10,754	11,126	11,270	11,447	9,803	11,672	12,009
LES	24,245	24,453	24,410	24,335	24,485	24,348	24,394	24,618	26,586	27,578
ALHS	5,141	5,093	5,174	5,320	5,493	5,619	5,793	5,874	6,041	6,413
LPS/MLS	682	675	643	645	616	611	599	581	605	601

Number of Called Workers Currently Serving

	ECM	LES	LHS	Total
	469	1,881	628	2,978

Continued Education

Approximately 57.9% of our preschoolers and kindergartens go onto or come from a WELS/ELS school.

Last year's LES graduates attending

ALHS	1,253	50.2%
LPS & MLS	124	5.0%
Other	1,119	44.8%
Total LES graduates reported for 2021 - 2022	2,496	

Last year's high school graduates attending

	ALHS		LPS & MLS	
MLC pastor track	9	0.6%	26	18.3%
MLC teacher track	54	3.9%	35	24.6%
MLC staff minister track	2	0.1%	1	0.7%
WLC	96	6.9%	19	13.4%
Bethany	34	2.5%	3	2.1%
Other	1,191	85.9%	58	40.8%
Total high school graduates reported for 2021 - 2022	1,386		142	

*Martin Luther College (MLC)
Wisconsin Lutheran College (WLC)
Bethany Lutheran College (Bethany)*

Yearly Operating Cost per Student

	Average
ECM	\$5,609.60
LES	\$7,311.66
LHS	\$13,654.97

Average Annual Percent of Financial Support

	Church Budget		
ECM	15.5%		
LES	47.2%		
	Federation/Congregation	Tuition	Other
LHS	12.7%	66.1%	21.2%

Average Kindergarten Tuition

	Congregation Member	Other WELS/ELS	Non-WELS/ELS
Arizona-California	\$5,500.07	\$5,977.13	\$6,479.47
Dakota-Montana	\$1,501.67	\$2,389.00	\$3,131.86
Michigan	\$1,813.71	\$2,862.35	\$3,195.74
Minnesota	\$2,318.96	\$3,322.41	\$3,883.68
Nebraska	\$2,236.19	\$2,727.83	\$2,799.39
North Atlantic	\$7,177.50	\$9,796.50	\$9,796.50
Northern Wisconsin	\$1,440.00	\$3,098.29	\$3,235.71
Pacific Northwest	\$3,718.86	\$4,510.29	\$5,486.29
South Atlantic	\$7,126.53	\$7,414.93	\$8,134.60
South Central	\$7,072.14	\$8,084.17	\$8,439.29
Southeastern Wisconsin	\$2,170.53	\$4,039.33	\$4,670.18
Western Wisconsin	\$1,532.87	\$2,738.93	\$3,374.23

Average Elementary Tuition

	Congregation Member	Other WELS/ELS	Non-WELS/ELS
Arizona-California	\$5,569.50	\$5,946.50	\$6,602.33
Dakota-Montana	\$2,031.25	\$3,167.60	\$4,207.60
Michigan	\$1,866.65	\$2,979.85	\$3,337.04
Minnesota	\$2,615.61	\$3,658.21	\$4,196.31
Nebraska	\$2,741.27	\$3,395.94	\$3,497.00
North Atlantic	\$7,177.50	\$9,796.50	\$9,796.50
Northern Wisconsin	\$1,447.27	\$3,077.65	\$3,219.12
Pacific Northwest	\$3,797.83	\$4,721.17	\$6,026.50
South Atlantic	\$7,553.60	\$7,928.67	\$8,648.33
South Central	\$8,110.50	\$9,467.22	\$9,577.50
Southeastern Wisconsin	\$2,107.54	\$4,205.02	\$4,856.54
Western Wisconsin	\$1,579.41	\$2,878.48	\$3,554.79

Average High School Tuition

	Federation	Other WELS/ELS	Non-WELS/ELS	International
	\$8,897.72	\$9,798.93	\$13,580.36	\$17,139.85