



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools

FROM: Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Commissioner of Education *CRJ*

DATE: May 22, 2023

SUBJECT: Racial Composition Statistics for Connecticut Public Schools 2022-2023

The racial composition statistics for each school under the jurisdiction of your local or regional board of education are now available on the State Department of Education's Web site at [Racial Imbalance](#). Once on this page, select 2022 Public School Enrollment by District. The racial statistics are based upon enrollment numbers for each district as of October 1, 2022. Each district should use this information to analyze any disparity in racial diversity that may exist among its schools as a preventative measure in managing significant disparity that could result in one or more schools being found to be racially imbalanced.

Pursuant to Section 10-226e-3 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, racial imbalance exists when the proportion of students of color for any school exceeds 25 percentage points more than the comparable proportion for the school district. For all grades of a given school, the total number of students of color enrolled in the same grades throughout the school district is divided by the district-wide total student enrollment in such grades, and the resulting percentage is the comparable proportion for the school district. If a school is identified as racially imbalanced, the board of education must file a plan to correct the imbalance with the State Board of Education within 120 days of receipt of the notice. Impending racial imbalance exists when the proportion for a school falls outside a range from 15 percentage points less to 15 percentage points more than the comparable proportion for the school district. Although a board of education is not required to file a plan to address impending imbalance, boards are strongly encouraged to address the matter in a proactive manner to avoid future identification as racially imbalanced. Boards of education should strive to maintain balanced schools so that each child has the advantage of attending a school that is as diverse as possible.

Please note that districts have another important responsibility with regard to reducing racial, ethnic and economic isolation. Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-4a requires the State Board of Education to ensure that all school districts take action to provide equitable educational opportunities for their students to interact with students and teachers from other racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds. These opportunities may include participation in the following programs: interdistrict magnet schools, Open Choice opportunities; charter schools, after-school, Saturday and summer programs, gifted and advanced learning programs, sister-school projects and intradistrict public school choice programs; and many other experiences to increase awareness of the diversity of individuals and cultures. This is particularly important for districts with small populations where such interaction might otherwise not take place.

I hope you see the potential in creating equitable opportunities for your students. If you have any questions, please contact Attorney Laura L. Anastasio, Division of Legal and Governmental Affairs, at 860-713-6520 or laura.anastasio@ct.gov.

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