Massachusetts

State Snapshot of Specific Learning Disabilities

US Public School Enrollment, 2022–2023: 49.6 Million Students

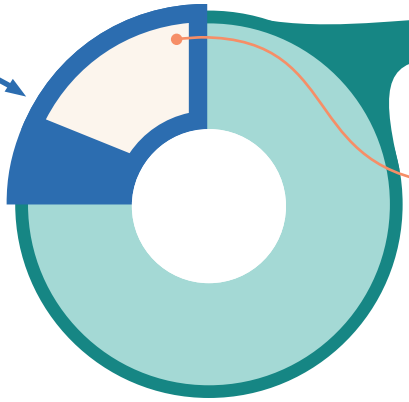
What is a Specific Learning Disability (SLD)?

An **SLD** is a brain-based disorder that affects an individual's ability to read, write, and do math (e.g., dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia). Students identified with **SLD** receive special education services under the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**, a law that provides a free and appropriate public education to children with disabilities. Of the **14%** of the U.S. school-age population who received disability services under **IDEA** in the 2022–2023 academic year, **34%** received services for **SLD** as the primary disability.

MA Public School Enrollment, 2022–2023: 923,349 Students

SLD: 25%

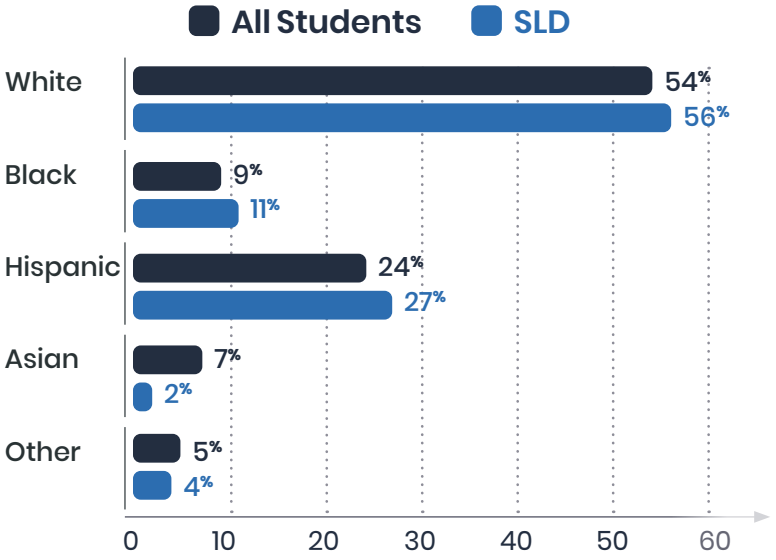
MA Students with **SLD** (43,189) represent the largest proportion of students served under **IDEA** (169,921) in 2022 - 2023.



IDEA: 18%

67% of MA Students with **SLD** spend 80% or more of their school day with their general education classroom.

MA Racial / Ethnic Demographics, 2022 - 2023

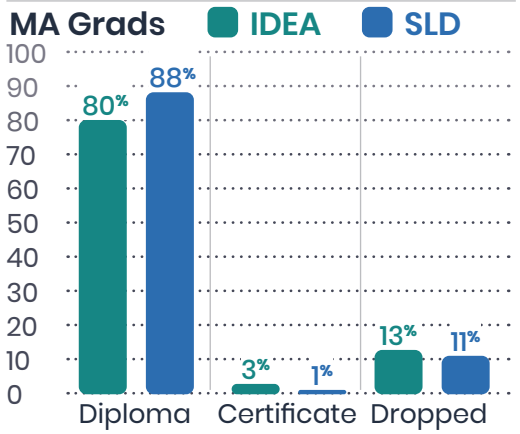


Graduation Rates, 2022 - 2023

Totals:

87%

90%



For full State Snapshot citations and more info, visit NCLD.org

Publication date 08/12/25 © 2025 National Center for Learning Disabilities