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 13% of the U.S. school-age population who received disability services under IDEA in the 2020–2021 academic year, 34% received services for SLD as the primary disability.

**AZ Public School Enrollment, 2020–2021: 1,116,034 Students**

- SLD: 40%
- IDEA: 12%

AZ Students with SLD (54,630) represent the largest proportion of students served under IDEA (136,277) in 2020–2021. 77% of AZ Students with SLD spend 80% or more of their school day with their general education classroom.

**AZ Racial / Ethnic Demographics, 2020 - 2021**

- **White**: 37% (30% SLD)
- **Black**: 5% (6% SLD)
- **Hispanic**: 45% (53% SLD)
- **Asian**: 3% (1% SLD)
- **Other**: 10% (11% SLD)

**Graduation Rates, 2019 - 2020**

- **AZ Grads**
  - IDEA: 82%
  - SLD: 82%
  - Diploma: 87%
  - Certificate: 18%
  - Dropped: 18%

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