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who WE are

Over 50 years ago, the United States military established schools for the children of occupying forces in Europe and the Pacific while also maintaining some schools on military bases within the continental United States. Originally administered by various branches of the service, the administration of the growing number of schools was soon transferred to civilian managers. The schools were then organized in two separate but parallel systems: the Department of Defense Dependents Schools (DoDDS) overseas, and the Section 6, or more recently named the Department of Defense Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools (DDESS) in the United States. In 1994, the two systems united under the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) to achieve the educational goals set out in the DoDEA Community Strategic Plan.

In 1997-98, DoDEA operated 231 public schools serving the children of military and civilian Department of Defense personnel. Its schools served 115,056 students in seven states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and 14 foreign countries. DoDEA is unique among all other public school organizations in the world. With student bodies representing every state and territory in the United

- States, and as ethnically diverse as the country itself, DoDDS and DDESS are truly “America’s school systems.”

- For the past fifty years, Department of Defense schools have been on the cutting edge of many educational innovations. They now join those U.S. school systems taking the lead on raising expectations for student performance through standards based reform. Graduation requirements have been increased, academic programs are more rigorous, and school success is now measured along an array of quality indicators. These indicators, identified by thousands of school systems as critical to student progress, include teacher preparation, academic performance, use of technology, school readiness and parental participation. They are among the areas benchmarked in the DoDEA Community Strategic Plan, and DoDEA’s progress on many of them is presented in this report.

- DoDEA’s commitment to continually improve learning environments and academic opportunities for students is paired with the pledge to report all such efforts and their results to its stakeholders. The *DoDEA 1997-98 Accountability Report* reflects the soundness of these efforts and their success in preparing students for the challenges of the next millennium.

The Department of Defense Education Activity's commitment to serving a large, highly mobile worldwide community sets it apart from the vast number of school systems nationwide.

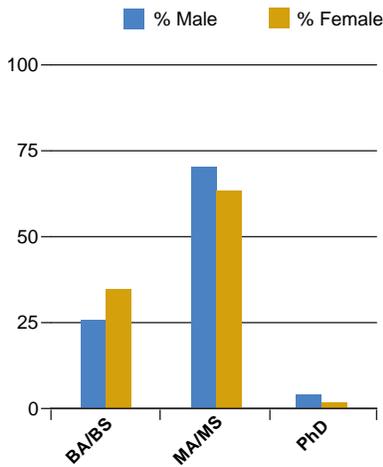




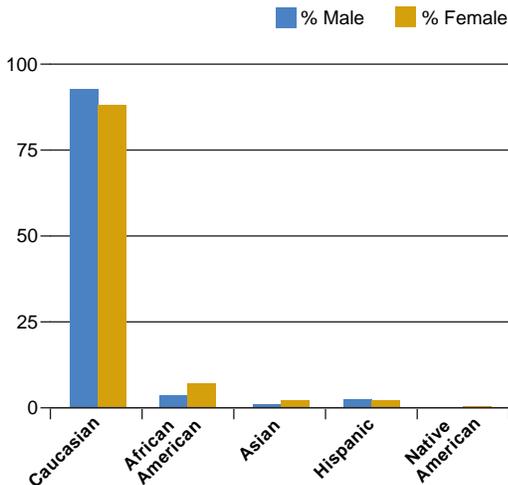
The instructional staff is highly educated. Overall, 68% of DoDDS and 63% of DDESS instructional staff have obtained a master's degree or higher in comparison with a national percentage of 47%.

DoDDS Instructional Staff

BY EDUCATION

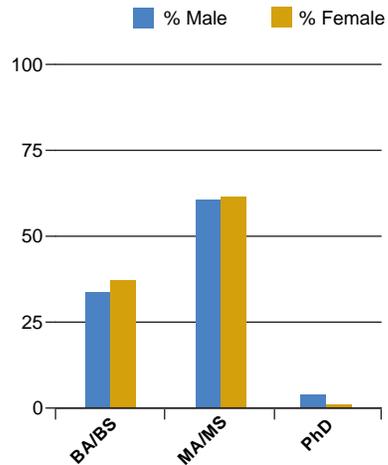


BY ETHNICITY



DDESS Instructional Staff

BY EDUCATION



BY ETHNICITY

