

The background of the entire page is a photograph of various school supplies scattered on a light-colored wooden surface. The supplies include several yellow crayons with 'ZSIRKRÉTA' printed on them, a variety of colored pencils (orange, red, purple, pink, blue, yellow, green, black), two dice (one white, one grey), a purple ruler, a green sticky note, a pink sticky note, and some red circular objects at the bottom left.

*Data Release*

# BACK-TO-SCHOOL SNAPSHOT SILICON VALLEY

August 2019



SILICON VALLEY INSTITUTE  
for REGIONAL STUDIES



As nearly 550,000 Silicon Valley students head back to school for fall, Joint Venture Silicon Valley's Institute for Regional Studies takes a look at the numbers: how many students attend public schools versus private? What percentage of students have access to the internet at home?

The Institute has compiled a snapshot of back-to-school by the numbers. The data includes Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, unless otherwise indicated.

### **Notable:**

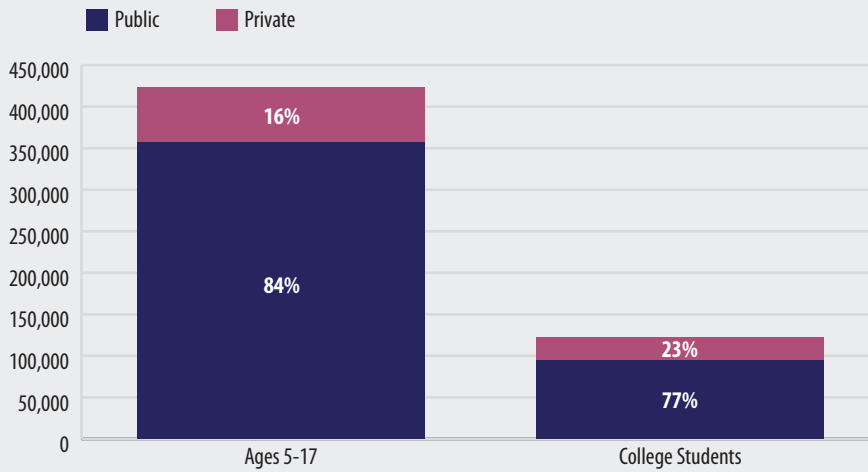
- The minimum cost of basic school supplies is estimated be \$12-55 for elementary school students, \$26-105 for middle school students, and \$64-221 for high school students; on average families spend close to \$700 for back-to-school supplies and clothing
- The cost of back-to-school supplies may present a hardship for 30% of Silicon Valley households that do not make enough money to meet their most basic needs
- While 93% of Silicon Valley children have a computer with broadband internet at home, nearly 13,000 do not have a computer at all
- Of households earning less than \$35,000 annually, only 75% have broadband internet access

### **STUDENTS: How many students are going back to school this fall? In which types of schools are they enrolled?**

- More than 423,000 school-aged children (ages 5-17) in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties will go back to school this fall
- About 84% of enrolled children attend public schools; 16% attend private schools
- There are more than 122,000 college students ages 18-24 living in Silicon Valley, 77% enrolled in public schools

## Students Enrolled in School, by School Type

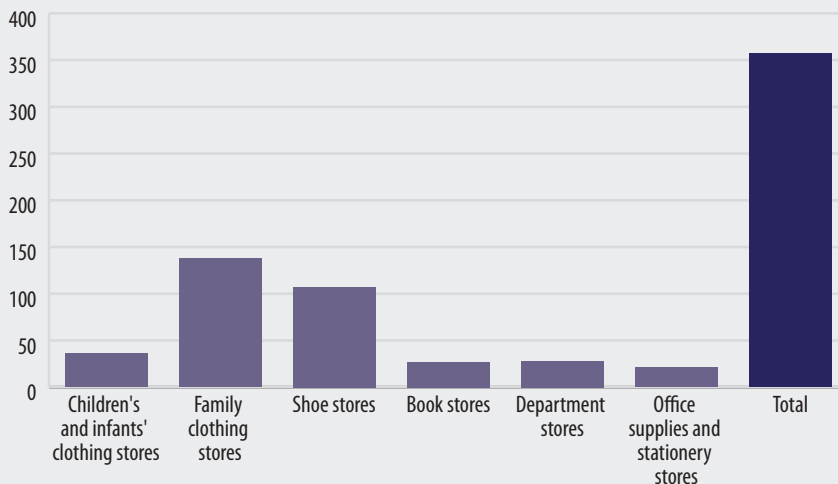
*Santa Clara & San Mateo Counties, 2017*

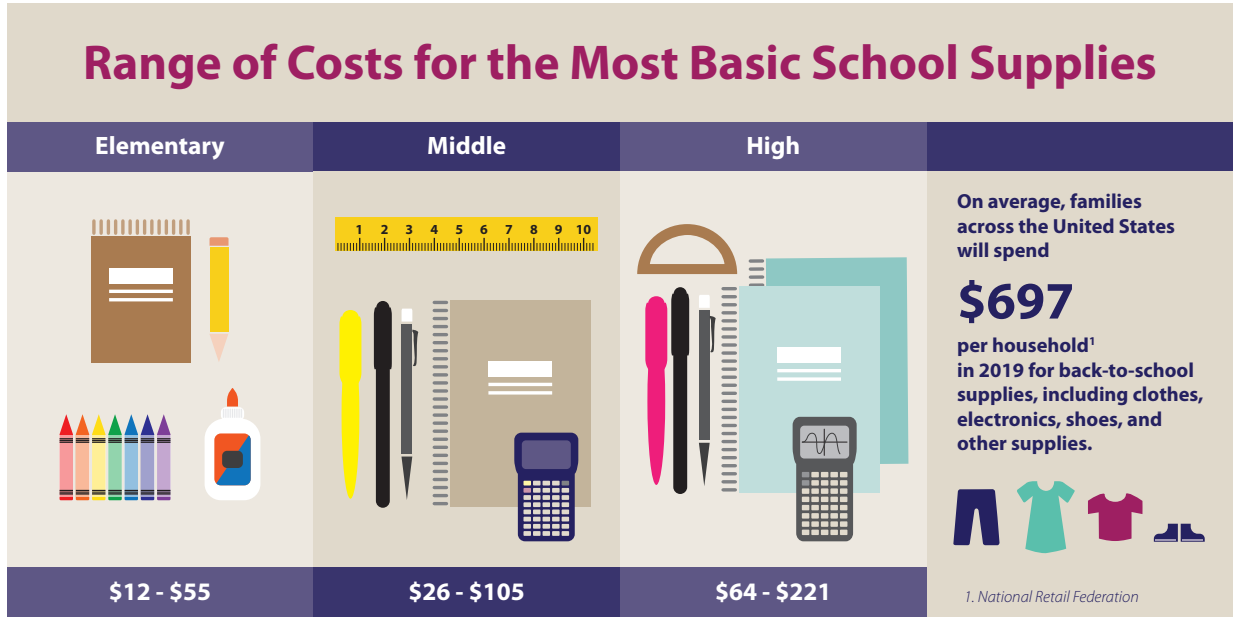


**SCHOOL SUPPLIES: What school supplies are expected?  
How much do they cost? Can Silicon Valley residents here  
afford those costs?**

## Back-to-School Supply Retailers

*Santa Clara & San Mateo Counties, 2016*





Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties have about 350 back-to-school supply retailers, that provide clothing, books, and stationary supplies. These establishments have nearly 11,000 employees and an annual payroll of more than \$227 million.

On average, it is anticipated that families will spend \$697 per household in 2019 for back-to-school supplies. This cost estimate includes clothes, electronics, shoes, and articles such as notebooks, writing utensils, and lunch boxes. Teens will each spend about \$31 of their own money. Back-to-college shoppers are expected to spend even more.

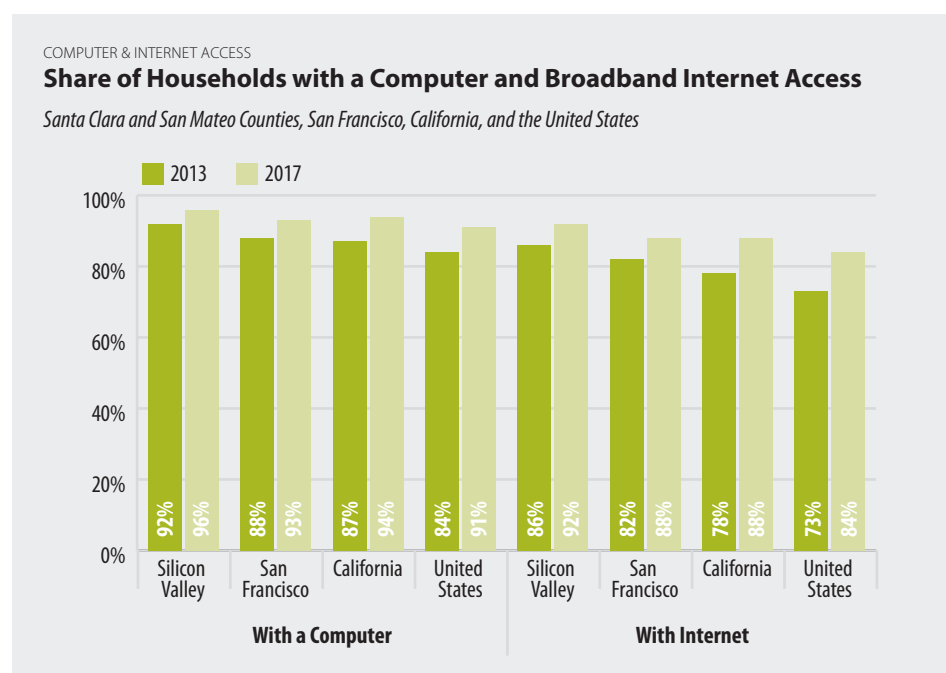
Required school supplies vary significantly by school and grade level, though the minimum cost of basic supplies is estimated be \$12-55 each for elementary school students; \$26-105 for middle-schoolers; and \$64-221 for high-schoolers, based on August 2019 prices at Target.

While most families are able to afford the most basic supplies required for each grade, only a small share of Silicon Valley households would be able to cover a \$697 price tag. According to the [Self-Sufficiency Standard for California 2018](#) dataset, 30% of Silicon Valley households do not make enough money to meet their most basic needs for housing, food, childcare, and transportation, let alone absorb additional seasonal spending for back-to-school clothes and shoes.

## COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACCESS: Do children have the necessary technology to be successful in school?

In Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties in 2017, 96% of all households —comprised of family and non-family— had a computer and 86% had access to broadband internet. However, of households earning less than \$35,000 annually, only 25% had access to broadband at home.

Presumably some homework, particularly at higher grade levels, requires internet access for research and learning tools. Among children in Silicon Valley, 93% have a computer and broadband internet access at home; 5% (more than 28,000 children) have a computer without an internet subscription; and 2% (nearly 13,000 children) have no computer in their home at all.



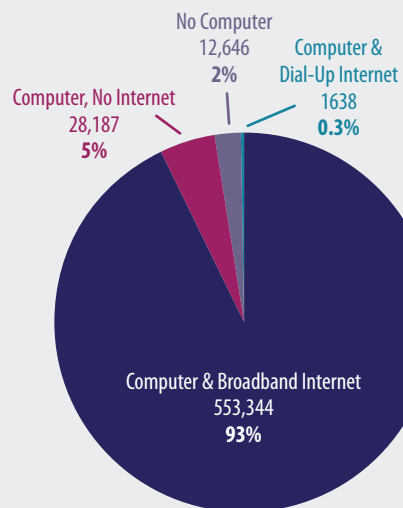
## Share of Households Without Internet Access At Home, by Income Range

*Santa Clara & San Mateo Counties, San Francisco, California, and the United States | 2017*

	Low-Income	Moderate-Income	High-Income
<b>Silicon Valley</b>	25%	12%	3%
<b>San Francisco</b>	35%	16%	3%
<b>California</b>	29%	12%	4%
<b>United States</b>	34%	14%	5%

## Computer and Internet Access at Home, Residents Under Age 18

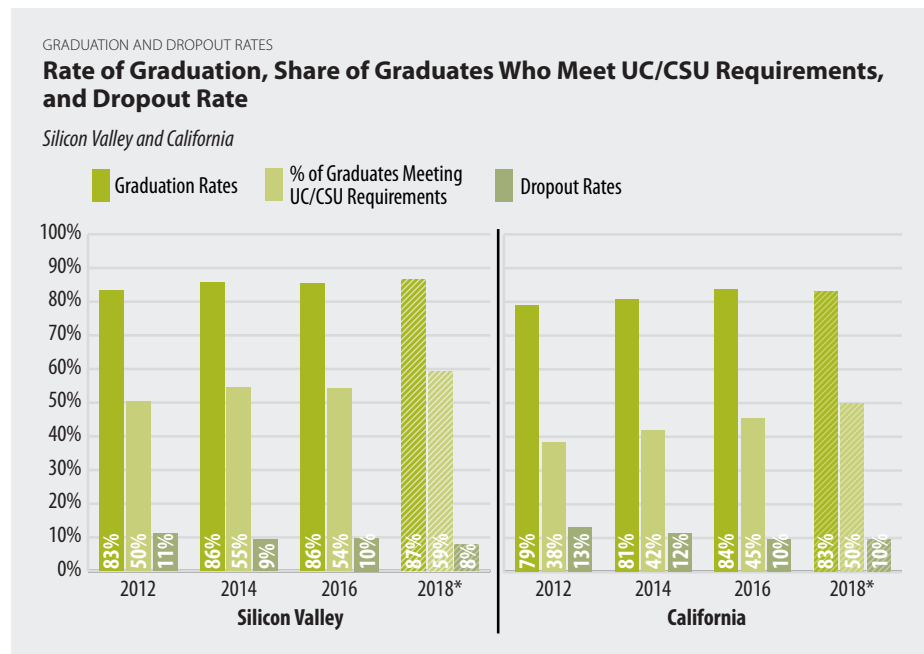
*Santa Clara & San Mateo Counties, 2013-2017*



## PERFORMANCE:

### How well are students meeting or exceeding academic standards? How well are they preparing for college?

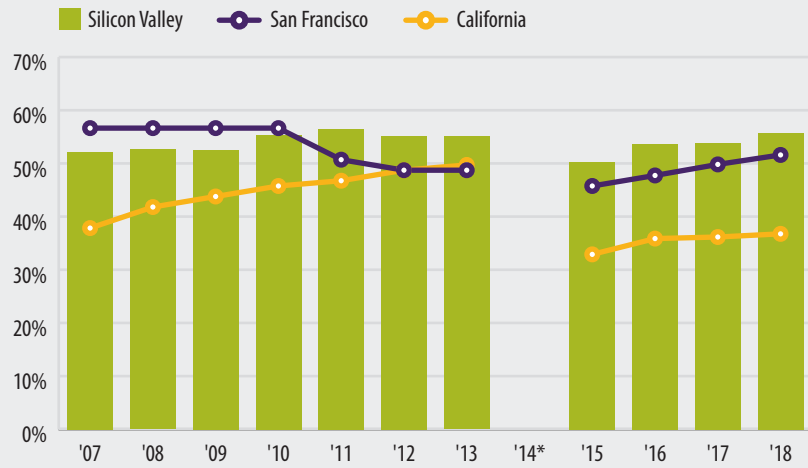
- 56% of eighth-graders in the region were proficient in math in 2018, compared to 37% in California overall
- Eighth-grade math proficiency in the region rose in 2018 for the third year in a row
- The high school dropout rate in Silicon Valley\* was 8% in 2018, nearly 2% lower than in the state overall; high school graduation rates increased slightly in 2018 (reaching nearly 87%) as did the share of students meeting University of California or Cal-State University entrance requirements
- 59% of Silicon Valley\* high school graduates in 2018 met the UC/CSU entrance requirements, only 39% of Hispanic or Latino students met the requirements



MATH PROFICIENCY

### Share of Eighth-Graders Who Met or Exceeded the Standard in Math

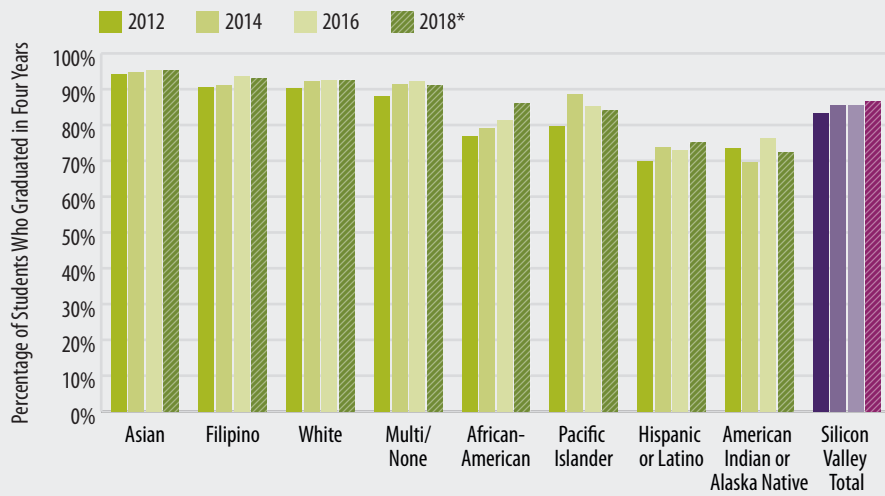
*Santa Clara & San Mateo Counties, San Francisco, and California*



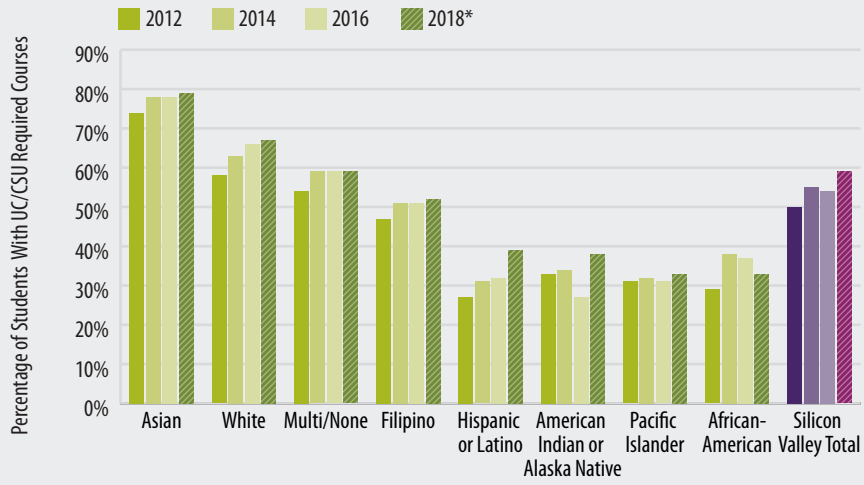
GRADUATION AND DROPOUT RATES

### High School Graduation Rates, by Race and Ethnicity

*Silicon Valley*





**Share of Graduates Who Meet UC/CSU Requirements, by Race and Ethnicity***Silicon Valley*

This report was prepared by Rachel Massaro, Director of Research at the Silicon Valley Institute for Regional Studies. Jill Jennings created the report's layout; Robin Doran served as copy editor.

## Data Sources

- California Department of Education ([www.cde.ca.gov](http://www.cde.ca.gov))
- Ed-Data ([www.ed-data.org](http://www.ed-data.org))
- National Retail Federation ([nrf.com](http://nrf.com))
- Self Sufficiency Standard for California ([www.selfsufficiencystandard.org](http://www.selfsufficiencystandard.org))
- Shots for Schools ([www.shotsforschool.org](http://www.shotsforschool.org))
- U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 County Business Patterns and 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates ([www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov))

\*Includes the city-defined Silicon Valley region.

Silicon Valley includes Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties unless otherwise indicated.

## Silicon Valley Institute for Regional Studies

The Silicon Valley Institute for Regional Studies provides research and analysis on a host of issues facing Silicon Valley's economy and society. The Institute is housed within Joint Venture Silicon Valley.

## Joint Venture Silicon Valley

Established in 1993, Joint Venture Silicon Valley brings together established and emerging leaders—from business, government, academia, labor and the broader community—to spotlight issues, launch projects, and work toward innovative solutions. For more information, visit [www.jointventure.org](http://www.jointventure.org).



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