

# VIRGINIA ARTS EDUCATION ENROLLMENT AND TRENDS 2019 - 2023



## Sources:

- **Public Data Dashboard:** Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education - Arts Ed Data Dashboard
- **Report:** Chronic Absenteeism and the Arts in Virginia Public Schools, A Statistical Review, from Quadrant Research
- Internal reports from Master Schedule Collection data

# Fine Arts

Dance Arts, Music,  
Theatre Arts, and Visual Arts

In the 2022-2023 school year,  
**771,354**  
of Virginia's 1.1 million students  
were enrolled in at least one fine  
arts course.

That's **71%** of Virginia students that were enrolled in at least one fine arts course.

# **Fine Arts enrollment between 2019 and 2023 is steady.**

In 2019, 71% of Virginia students were enrolled in at least one fine arts course.  
In 2023, 71% of Virginia students were enrolled in at least one fine arts course.

# FINE ARTS IN HIGH SCHOOL

In 2023, over **38%** of high school students were enrolled in a fine arts course.

# AP AND IB FINE ARTS ENROLLMENT

Enrollment in AP and IB fine arts courses  
has risen **17%** over five years.

# FINE ARTS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

In 2023, over **74%** of middle school students were enrolled in a fine arts course.

# FINE ARTS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

[8VAC20-131-80](#) requires that each school shall provide instruction in art and music at the elementary level.



# #ATTENDANCEMATTERSVA: CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM AND THE ARTS IN VIRGINIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- Seniors enrolled in **four years of fine arts courses** each year since 2020 demonstrate a **32% to 50% lower absenteeism rate** than those who did not take a fine arts course during high school.
- These findings hold true when comparing data across fine arts disciplines and for key variables such as **race/ethnicity, enrollment in Free and Reduced-Price Meals programs, and English Learners.**

IN 2023, **42%**  
OF VIRGINIA GRADUATES EARNED  
AT LEAST ONE FINE ARTS CREDIT

That's is a **31% increase** over the last 5 years.