

OEPI Ohio School Voucher Summary

July 2026

This brief report provides an overview of Ohio voucher program participation and cost from FY14 through FY26. FY14 was the first year of the EdChoice Expansion program, which is now the largest of Ohio's 5 voucher programs.

Table 1 shows the number of voucher participants in each program from FY14 through FY26 revealing that the total number of students receiving vouchers in Ohio increased from 30,062 in FY14 to 173,025 in FY26. The largest increase in voucher participation came in FY24 with an increase of 67,991 students *which was larger than the increase in voucher participation over the preceding 10 years* (FY14 to FY23). Over 95% of the FY24 voucher increase was attributable to the 64,831 student increase in EdChoice Expansion which resulted from the elimination of the EdChoice Expansion income eligibility limit that nearly quadrupled the number of EdChoice Expansion vouchers from 23,272 in FY23 to 88,103 in FY24. The number of voucher recipients has continued to increase in FY25 and FY26 but at a much lower rate than in FY24.

Table 1: Number of Participants in Ohio Voucher Programs, FY14-FY26

Fiscal Year	Cleveland Participants	EdChoice Participants	EdChoice Expansion Participants	Autism Participants	Peterson Special Ed. Participants	All Voucher Participants
FY14	6,352	17,076	1,057	2,976	2,601	30,062
FY15	6,816	19,147	3,517	3,169	3,404	36,053
FY16	7,531	20,668	5,677	3,323	4,207	41,406
FY17	7,977	21,766	7,561	3,500	4,887	45,691
FY18	7,682	22,608	9,532	3,670	5,622	49,114
FY19	7,438	23,482	10,830	3,813	6,437	52,000
FY20	7,621	30,097	12,320	3,982	6,857	60,877
FY21	7,793	33,131	17,155	4,229	7,407	69,715
FY22	7,899	36,714	20,702	4,405	7,791	77,511
FY23	7,802	39,034	23,272	4,698	8,186	82,992
FY24	8,029	41,233	88,103	5,067	8,551	150,983
FY25	8,345	42,605	100,938	6,016	8,680	166,584
FY26*	8,323	42,872	105,918	6,754	9,158	173,025
FY14-FY23 Increase	1,450	21,958	22,215	1,722	5,585	52,930
FY23-FY24 Increase	227	2,199	64,831	369	365	67,991
FY24-FY25 Increase	316	1,372	12,835	949	129	15,601
FY25-FY26 Increase	-22	267	4,980	738	478	6,441
FY14-FY26 Increase	1,971	25,796	104,861	3,778	6,557	142,963

* FY26 data is current as of July 2026 and is subject to change. All data from DEW (formerly ODE).

Table 2 shows the voucher payment amounts for each of Ohio's 5 voucher programs from FY14 through FY26. Total voucher payments are nearly 7 times higher in FY26 (\$1.174 billion) than they were in FY14 (\$174.8 million) resulting in a voucher expenditure increase of almost exactly \$1 billion.

Table 2 also shows that, as was the case with voucher participation, more than half (53.0%) of the voucher payment increase is due to the dramatic increase in spending on the EdChoice Expansion program. However, 21.5% of the FY14-FY26 increase is attributable to the EdChoice voucher program, while the Autism and John Peterson Special Needs voucher programs were responsible for 13.6% and 9.2% of the nearly \$1 billion increase in voucher costs from FY14 through FY26. The voucher payment amounts for the Autism and John Peterson Special Needs voucher programs are significantly higher than for the Cleveland, EdChoice and EdChoice Expansion programs, which is why the relatively small increase in student participation in these programs results in a significant increase in voucher spending.

Table 2: Ohio Voucher Program Payments, FY14-FY26

Fiscal Year	Cleveland Payments	EdChoice Payments	EdChoice Expansion Payments	Autism Payments	Peterson Special Ed. Payments	Total Voucher Payments
FY14	\$28,093,675	\$70,447,176	\$3,774,035	\$50,537,962	\$21,974,525	\$174,827,373
FY15	\$30,618,098	\$79,737,365	\$13,016,145	\$54,507,201	\$29,899,745	\$207,778,555
FY16	\$34,290,456	\$94,362,348	\$22,393,227	\$74,514,171	\$40,235,262	\$265,795,464
FY17	\$36,805,629	\$102,299,793	\$30,854,588	\$79,555,109	\$48,329,305	\$297,844,425
FY18	\$37,360,805	\$107,650,285	\$39,004,781	\$84,412,259	\$55,742,267	\$324,170,397
FY19	\$37,215,447	\$112,879,763	\$44,574,099	\$87,788,307	\$64,105,165	\$346,562,690
FY20	\$38,195,609	\$147,837,322	\$50,926,831	\$89,485,100	\$67,796,952	\$394,241,814
FY21	\$38,942,438	\$163,673,216	\$72,313,294	\$96,502,832	\$73,039,813	\$444,471,593
FY22	\$46,014,315	\$212,551,175	\$102,935,946	\$116,462,084	\$76,568,073	\$554,531,593
FY23	\$46,135,526	\$229,257,493	\$124,418,775	\$128,646,623	\$81,773,729	\$610,232,145
FY24	\$53,378,781	\$272,325,235	\$405,287,198	\$137,476,762	\$95,348,512	\$963,816,488
FY25	\$55,155,296	\$283,137,080	\$492,857,370	\$160,018,883	\$103,944,388	\$1,095,113,017
FY26*	\$55,013,127	\$285,308,565	\$533,550,070	\$186,490,530	\$113,689,329	\$1,174,051,621
FY14-FY23 Increase	\$18,041,851	\$158,810,317	\$120,644,740	\$78,108,661	\$59,799,204	\$435,404,772
FY23-FY24 Increase	\$7,243,256	\$43,067,742	\$280,868,423	\$8,830,139	\$13,574,783	\$353,584,343
FY24-FY25 Increase	\$1,776,514	\$10,811,845	\$87,570,173	\$22,542,121	\$8,595,876	\$131,296,529
FY25-FY26 Increase	(\$142,169)	\$2,171,485	\$40,692,700	\$26,471,647	\$9,744,941	\$78,938,604
FY14-FY26 Increase	\$26,919,452	\$214,861,389	\$529,776,035	\$135,952,568	\$91,714,804	\$999,224,248
% of FY14-26 Increase	2.7%	21.5%	53.0%	13.6%	9.2%	100.0%

* FY26 data is current as of July 2026 and is subject to change. All data from DEW (formerly ODE).