

## **Education**

Education is a commodity that affects a community's/county's ability to grow and thrive. As the level of excellence and opportunities available to an area's youth grows, so grows the community. Vilas County has three (3) school districts within its boundaries – Northland Pines School District, Lakeland School District and the Phelps School District. All have experienced growth in the last several years, especially from 1990 to 1996 (from 3% in North Lakeland to more than 30% in Lac du Flambeau, Arbor Vitae/Woodruff, and Lakeland Union High School) as more families with children move into what was primarily a retirement area. The Lakeland Union High School, Phelps and Northland Pines School Districts have spent millions of dollars in the last five years on renovations and new buildings to accommodate the growth experienced in these areas. The Northland Pines School District recently passed a referendum for the construction of a new high school complex.

In addition to the facility improvements in the area districts, the educational opportunities have also improved. Phelps School District has recently received a technology grant to provide improved computer usage to its students. Several districts have been recognized statewide for the test results of their students (in relation to those of other school districts in the state) and for the programs offered to the variety of students attending these schools. While local monies available to more rural, less populated areas have severely curtailed the development of some program areas in local districts, the availability of technology (satellite feeds, technology grants, etc.) have given districts the ability to keep up with down-state schools.

In addition, there were two private schools (St. Peter & Christ Lutheran) located in Eagle River and one (the Conserve School) in Land O'Lakes. St. Peter's is scheduled to close at the end of the 2003-2004 school year and a new, non-denominational school is planned for the start of the 2004-2005 academic year.

The following tables provide information on the public educational environment of Vilas County.

**Table 18-1  
Public School Enrollment by District**

	Male			Female			PK-8			9-12			Total		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
North Lakeland (BJ)	126	122	135	121	125	124	247	247	259	---	---	---	247	247	259
Northland Pines	768	761	788	689	695	691	1,010	994	1,015	447	462	464	1,457	1,456	1,479
Lac du Flambeau	199	214	241	178	190	203	377	404	444	---	---	---	377	404	444
Lakeland Union HS	na	na	na	na	na	na	---	---	---	689	748	772	689	748	772
Phelps	118	120	116	81	93	100	148	161	157	51	52	59	199	213	216
Arbor Vitae/Woodruff*	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	483	463	498

\*Information not available as separate item - included in Woodruff District totals

SOURCE: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Center for Education Statistics; Lakeland Union HS and Arbor Vitae-Woodruff District offices

**Table 18-1 (continued)  
Public School Enrollment by District**

	Male			Female			PK-8			9-12			Total		
	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
North Lakeland (BJ)	131	135	145	132	116	109	263	251	254	---	---	---	263	251	254
Northland Pines	837	839	830	755	755	778	1,092	1,084	1,097	500	510	511	1,592	1,594	1,608
Lac du Flambeau	239	259	263	203	211	216	442	470	479	---	---	---	442	470	479
Lakeland Union HS	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	819	877	885
Phelps	117	117	118	97	98	103	144	138	138	70	77	83	214	215	221
Arbor Vitae/Woodruff	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	508	561	601

\*Information not available as separate item - included in Woodruff District totals

SOURCE: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Center for Education Statistics; Lakeland Union HS & Arbor Vitae-Woodruff District offices

**Table 18-1 (continued)**  
**Public School Enrollment by District**

	Male			Female			PK-8			9-12			Total		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
North Lakeland (BJ)	140	143	130	112	114	108	252	257	238	—	—	---	252	257	238
Northland Pines	862	870	849	797	786	774	1,143	1,118	1,065	516	538	558	1,659	1,656	1,623
Lac du Flambeau	243	258	259	202	216	218	445	474	477	—	—	---	445	474	477
Lakeland Union HS	476	468	487	425	438	458	—	—	---	901	906	945	901	906	945
Phelps	119	116	108	97	88	85	125	116	121	91	88	72	216	204	193
Arbor Vitae/Woodruff	313	340	356	298	326	310	611	666	666	—	—	---	611	666	666

\*Information not available as separate item - included in Woodruff District totals

SOURCE: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Center for Education Statistics; Lakeland Union HS & Arbor Vitae-Woodruff District offices

**Table 18-1 (continued)**  
**Public School Enrollment by District**

	Male			Female			PK-8			9-12			Total		
	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2000-01	2001-03	2002-03
North Lakeland (BJ)	137	121	104	108	103	98	245	224	202	---	--	--	245	224	202
Northland Pines	831	830	836	774	756	743	1,040	1,016	1,016	565	570	563	1,605	1,586	1,579
Lac du Flambeau	275	265	267	237	237	246	512	502	513	---	--	--	512	502	513
Lakeland Union HS	528	505	510	444	462	457	---	--	--	972	967	967	972	967	967
Phelps	104	98	91	91	81	86	128	115	111	67	64	66	195	179	177
Arbor Vitae/Woodruff	320	313	320	294	286	272	614	599	592	---	--	--	614	599	592

\*Information not available as separate item - included in Woodruff District totals

SOURCE: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction website, public enrollment

**Table 18-2  
Public School District Enrollments  
(as of September of year noted)**

	North Lakeland (BJ)	Northland Pines	Lac du Flambeau	Pheelps	Lakeland Union HS	Arbor Vitae- Woodruff
1983	228	1457	304	167	817	384
1984	221	1397	309	154	773	387
1985	215	1378	334	163	731	410
1986	227	1339	329	193	722	412
1987	253	1389	345	186	674	406
1988	225	1377	338	195	632	397
1989	231	1393	346	197	649	413
1990	246	1418	357	197	661	444
1991	247	1457	377	199	689	483
1992	247	1456	404	213	748	463
1993	259	1479	444	216	772	498
1994	263	1592	442	214	819	508
1995	251	1594	470	215	877	561
1996	254	1608	479	221	885	601
1997	252	1659	445	216	901	611
1998	257	1656	474	204	906	666
1999	238	1623	477	193	945	666
2000	245	1605	512	195	972	614
2001	224	1586	502	179	967	599
2002	202	1579	513	177	967	592

Source: 1990 Vilas County Economic Indicator Report; Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction website; public enrollment

**Table 18-3**  
**Pupil/Teacher & Pupil/Staff Ratios**

	Teachers			Pupil/Teacher Ratios			Professional Staff			Pupil/Prof Staff Ratio	Pupil/Total Staff Ratio
	Elem	Sec.	Total	Elem.	Sec.	Total	Admin	Other	Total		
1995-96											
North Lakeland (BJ)	18.86	---	18.86	13.31	---	13.31	1.70	4.50	6.20	40.48	10.02
Northland Pines	65.15	35.03	100.18	16.64	14.56	15.91	7.00	12.49	19.49	81.79	13.32
Lac du Flambeau	39.37	---	39.37	11.94	---	11.94	3.45	4.70	8.15	57.67	9.89
Phelps	9.85	8.85	18.70	14.01	8.70	11.50	1.20	2.20	3.40	63.24	9.73
Lakeland Union HS	---	62.76	62.76	---	13.97	13.97	3.36	6.55	9.91	88.50	12.07
Arbor Vitae-Woodruff*											
Wisconsin State Total	36267.48	18552.47	54819.95	16.63	14.40	15.87	3381.64	7820.88	11202.52	77.68	13.18
1996-97											
North Lakeland (BJ)	18.72	---	18.72	13.57	---	13.57	1.15	4.55	5.70	44.56	10.40
Northland Pines	66.05	35.68	101.73	16.61	14.32	15.81	8.00	10.75	18.75	85.76	13.35
Lac du Flambeau	45.47	---	45.47	10.53	---	10.53	3.45	5.70	9.15	52.35	8.77
Phelps	8.85	11.20	20.05	15.59	7.41	11.02	1.60	1.94	3.54	62.43	9.37
Lakeland Union HS	---	63.83	63.83	---	13.86	13.86	3.00	8.35	11.35	77.97	11.77
Arbor Vitae-Woodruff*											
Wisconsin State Total	36964.10	18897.67	55861.77	16.38	14.50	15.74	3382.49	7871.73	11254.22	78.13	13.10
1997-98											
North Lakeland (BJ)	19.06	---	19.06	13.22	---	13.22	1.15	3.72	4.87	51.75	10.53
Northland Pines	71.10	35.73	106.83	16.08	14.44	15.53	8.00	11.75	19.75	84.00	13.11
Lac du Flambeau	42.86	---	42.86	10.38	---	10.38	2.50	8.10	10.60	41.98	8.32
Phelps	8.75	11.20	19.95	14.29	8.13	10.83	1.60	2.85	4.45	48.54	8.85
Lakeland Union HS	---	64.25	64.25	---	14.02	14.02	4.60	9.10	13.70	65.77	11.56
Arbor Vitae-Woodruff*	43.63	---	43.63	14.00	---	14.00	2.00	4.25	6.25	97.76	12.25
Wisconsin State Total	37651.41	19365.90	57017.31	16.03	14.36	15.46	3450.39	8083.75	11534.14	76.44	12.86
1998-1999											
North Lakeland (BJ)	22.31	---	22.31	11.52	---	11.52	1.50	1.82	3.32	77.41	10.03
Northland Pines	72.10	33.50	105.60	15.51	16.06	15.68	7.00	7.25	14.25	116.21	13.82
Lac du Flambeau	44.50	---	44.50	10.65	---	10.65	2.50	9.30	11.80	40.17	8.42
Phelps	9.65	10.60	20.25	12.02	8.30	10.07	1.50	3.35	14.85	42.06	8.13
Lakeland Union HS	---	64.63	64.63	---	14.02	14.02	4.00	8.40	12.40	73.06	11.76
Arbor Vitae-Woodruff*	45.83	---	45.83	14.53	---	14.53	2.00	4.80	6.80	97.94	12.65
Wisconsin State Total	38123.04	19581.25	57704.29	15.75	14.23	15.23	3513.93	8481.18	11995.41	73.29	12.61

**Table 18-3**  
**Pupil/Teacher & Pupil/Staff Ratios**

1999-2000											
North Lakeland (BJ)	21.37	—	21.37	11.14	—	11.14	1.50	2.27	3.77	63.13	9.47
Northland Pines	80.00	35.55	115.55	13.31	1.70	14.05	8.0	12.50	20.50	79.17	11.93
Lac du Flambeau	49.00	—	49.0	9.73	—	9.73	1.95	8.05	10.00	47.70	8.08
Phelps	9.90	10.38	20.28	12.22	6.94	9.52	1.10	3.25	4.35	44.37	7.84
Lakeland Union HS	—	66.33	66.33	—	14.25	14.25	4.00	8.40	12.40	76.21	12.00
Arbor Vitae-Woodruff*	45.63	—	45.63	14.60	—	14.60	2.00	4.10	6.10	109.18	12.87
Wisconsin State Total	39193.03	19428.33	58621.36	15.21	14.47	14.96	3504.53	8624.10	12128.63	72.33	12.40
2000-2001**											
North Lakeland (BJ)	20.37	--	20.37	12.03	--	12.03	1.64	2.53	4.17	58.75	9.98
Northland Pines	83.46	35.35	118.81	12.46	15.98	13.51	7.00	13.50	20.50	78.29	11.52
Lac du Flambeau	51.00	--	51.00	10.04	--	10.04	3.00	8.00	11.00	46.55	8.26
Phelps	8.00	9.74	17.74	16.00	6.88	10.99	.40	2.75	3.15	61.90	9.33
Lakeland Union HS	--	66.13	66.13	--	14.70	14.70	4.00	7.10	11.10	87.57	12.59
Arbor Vitae-Woodruff*	46.08	--	46.08	13.32	--	13.32	2.00	5.50	7.50	81.87	11.46
Wisconsin State Total	40108.59	19663.28	59771.87	14.78	14.39	14.65	3528.21	8683.68	12211.89	71.72	12.17
2001-2002											
North Lakeland (BJ)	22.74	--	22.74	9.85	--	9.85	1.50	2.30	3.80	58.95	8.44
Northland Pines	78.60	39.00	117.60	12.93	14.62	13.49	6.00	13.88	19.88	79.78	11.54
Lac du Flambeau	50.50	--	50.50	9.94	--	9.84	4.00	8.00	12.00	41.83	8.03
Phelps	8.15	9.84	17.99	14.11	6.50	9.95	.50	1.50	2.00	89.50	8.95
Lakeland Union HS	--	66.68	66.68	--	14.50	14.50	5.00	7.39	12.39	78.05	12.23
Arbor Vitae-Woodruff*	46.67	--	46.67	12.83	--	12.83	2.00	5.50	7.50	79.87	11.06
Wisconsin State Total	40760.97	19732.52	60493.49	14.46	14.49	14.47	3643.06	8735.00	12378.06	70.72	12.01
2002-2003											
North Lakeland (BJ)	21.74	--	21.74	9.29	--	9.29	1.00	2.70	3.70	54.59	7.94
Northland Pines	80.08	39.40	119.48	12.69	14.29	13.22	6.00	15.26	21.26	74.27	11.22
Lac du Flambeau	52.00	0.13	52.13	9.87	--	9.84	3.50	7.80	11.30	45.40	8.09
Phelps	8.10	9.95	18.05	13.70	6.63	9.81	1.00	1.14	2.14	82.71	8.77
Lakeland Union HS	--	68.04	68.04	--	14.21	14.21	4.02	9.17	13.19	73.31	11.90
Arbor Vitae-Woodruff*	46.58	--	46.58	12.71	--	12.71	3.40	4.90	8.30	71.33	10.79
Wisconsin State Total	41200.72	19901.40	61102.12	14.27	14.46	14.33	3614.37	8768.44	12382.81	70.71	11.92

\*information not available for Arbor Vitae-Woodruff alone - included in Woodruff total

\*\*does not include 2R Charter Schools

NOTE: Pupils = total enrollments of grades 1-12; one-half enrollment for kindergarten and pre-kindergarten

Teachers = Full-time equivalency (FTE) of all classroom teachers. Guidance counselors & librarians are not included

Total staff = FTE of all staff, including teachers

SOURCE: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Center for Education Statistics

**Table 18-4  
Public High School Graduates**

	Lakeland Union HS	Northland Pines	Phelps
1976	181	91	14
1980	219	138	14
1985	172	135	12
1990	139	105	9
1991	130	98	9
1992	143	99	12
1993	162	97	6
1994	158	94	5
1995	159	119	15
1996	178	112	14
1997	173	95	15
1998	184	113	23
1999	204	118	24
2000	187	126	17
2001	205	107	19
2002	183	116	16

Source: 1990 Vilas County Economic Indicator; Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction website; graduation rates

**Table 18-5  
Graduates Intending to Enter College\***

	Northland Pines				Pineaps				Lakeland Union High School			
	Male	Female	Total	% of Grads	Male	Female	Total	% of Grads	Male	Female	Total	% of Grads
1987	22	25	47	43.9	3	2	5	55.5	37	44	81	46.0
1988	30	27	57	43.8	1	4	5	55.5	25	37	62	32.8
1989	30	42	72	58.1	3	5	8	66.7	39	48	87	58.0
1990	43	29	72	68.6	3	1	4	44.4	49	45	94	67.6
1991	31	33	64	65.3	nr	nr	nr	nr	36	38	74	56.9
1992	23	27	50	50.5	9	3	12	100.0	37	39	76	53.1
1993	24	25	49	50.5	2	3	5	83.3	50	62	112	69.1
1994	24	30	54	57.4	2	3	5	100.0	60	57	117	74.1
1995	na	na	96	80.7	na	na	12	80.0	na	na	128	80.5
1996	na	na	84	75.0	na	na	9	64.3	na	na	128	71.9
1997	na	na	60	63.1	na	na	11	73.4	na	na	125	72.3
1998	na	na	89	78.8	na	na	18	78.2	na	na	135	73.4
1999	na	na	118	67.0	na	na	24	75.0	na	na	204	83.3
2000	na	na	75	59.6	na	na	11	64.7	na	na	148	79.1
2001	na	na	66	61.7	na	na	12	63.2	na	na	142	69.3
2002	na	na	81	69.8	na	na	11	68.8	na	na	138	75.4

\*Indicates students who said they were planning on entering post-graduate education of two years or more. There is no guarantee that students actually entered a college or vocational school.

nr- data not reported by district

SOURCE: 1990 Vilas County Economic Indicator Report; Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Center for Education Statistics website; post graduate intentions