

1.4 EDUCATION

1.4.1 SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

A total of 14,664 persons attended school, which included full-time (12,576), part-time (1,877) and home-schooled (212). Public school attendance totalled 7,091, while private school was 7,362 (see Table 1.4A). School attendance includes schooling locally or overseas at all levels.

Table 1.4A: School Attendance by Age Group

	Total	Age Groups						
		0 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 and over	DK/NS
Total	68,811	3,566	3,582	3,804	3,149	3,437	50,774	498
Full-time School	12,576	1,729	3,433	3,673	2,396	791	536	17
Public	6,330	478	1,796	2,154	1,332	359	198	11
Private	6,246	1,251	1,637	1,519	1,064	432	338	6
Part-time School	1,877	127	28	33	164	265	1,258	1
Public	761	32	21	22	103	154	429	-
Private	1,116	96	7	10	61	112	829	1
Home-Schooled	212	35	57	53	37	3	27	-
Not attending school	53,830	1,629	53	36	550	2,362	48,838	361
DK/NS	317	46	11	10	2	15	114	119

Table 1.4B: School Attendance by Age Group, Percent (%)

	Total	Age Groups						
		0 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 and over	DK/NS
Percentage of age group total (%)								
Total	100.0							
Full-time School	18.3	48.5	95.8	96.6	76.1	23.0	1.1	3.5
Public	9.2	13.4	50.1	56.6	42.3	10.4	0.4	2.2
Private	9.1	35.1	45.7	39.9	33.8	12.6	0.7	1.2
Part-time School	2.7	3.6	0.8	0.9	5.2	7.7	2.5	0.2
Public	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.6	3.3	4.5	0.8	-
Private	1.6	2.7	0.2	0.3	1.9	3.3	1.6	0.2
Home-Schooled	0.3	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.2	0.1	0.1	-
Not attending school	78.2	45.7	1.5	0.9	17.5	68.7	96.2	72.4
DK/NS	0.5	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.2	23.9

Persons in the age groups 5 to 9 and 10 to 14 years had the highest schooling rates among all age groups. The schooling rate declined with working-age persons aged 15 to 19 and 20 to 24 years.

Part-time schooling increased from 5.2 percent in the age groups from 15 to 19 to 7.7 percent in the 20 to 24 age group and declined to 2.5 percent for persons aged 25 and over (see Table 1.4B).

Table 1.4C: School Attendance by Age Group, proportion of total (%)

	Total	Age Groups						
		0 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 19	20 - 24	25 and over	DK/NS
Percentage contribution to total (%)								
Total	100.0	5.2	5.2	5.5	4.6	5.0	73.8	0.7
Full-time School	100.0	13.7	27.3	29.2	19.1	6.3	4.3	0.1
Public	100.0	7.6	28.4	34.0	21.1	5.7	3.1	0.2
Private	100.0	20.0	26.2	24.3	17.0	6.9	5.4	0.1
Part-time School	100.0	6.8	1.5	1.7	8.7	14.1	67.0	0.1
Public	100.0	4.1	2.8	2.9	13.5	20.2	56.4	-
Private	100.0	8.6	0.6	0.9	5.5	10.0	74.3	0.1
Home-Schooled	100.0	16.3	26.9	25.0	17.3	1.4	13.0	-
Not attending school	100.0	3.0	0.1	0.1	1.0	4.4	90.7	0.7
DK/NS	100.0	14.4	3.5	3.2	0.6	4.8	35.9	37.5

Among those persons in full-time and home-schooling, the younger age groups dominate the distribution as the 0 to 4 up to 15-19 age groups accounted for 91.1 percent of public school attendance and 87.1 percent of private school. The reverse trend was observed for part-time education, where the older groups dominated.

Table 1.4D: School Attendance by Type of School or Institution

	Total	Type of School or Institution Attending								
		Nursery / Preschool	Primary School	Middle/High School	Vocational Institution	Community College	University/ College	Special Education	Others	DK/NS
Total	14,664	1,647	4,519	4,287	151	369	3,211	130	289	61
George Town	6,706	917	2,073	1,806	65	136	1,485	54	133	36
West Bay	2,945	286	952	908	38	71	576	39	65	10
Bodden Town	3,794	338	1,130	1,168	34	114	912	25	67	7
North Side	468	29	141	140	10	13	113	9	8	3
East End	306	26	93	106	3	12	52	1	8	5
Sister Islands	444	50	130	159	1	22	73	2	7	-
Cayman Brac	440	50	128	158	1	22	72	2	7	-
Little Cayman	4	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-

A total of 14,664 persons were attending schools or institutions. Nursery/pre-school/primary school (42.0%), middle/high school (29.2%) and university/college (21.9%) accounted for 93.1 percent of all school attendance (see Tables 1.4D and 1.4E).



Similar to the population count distribution, the overwhelming share of persons attending school was from George Town, with 45.7 percent, followed by Bodden Town, with 25.9 percent, and West Bay, with 20.1 percent.

Table 1.4E: School Attendance by Type of School and Institution, District, the proportion of the total (%)

	Total	Type of School or Institution attending								
		Nursery / Preschool	Primary School	Middle/High School	Vocational Institution	Community College	University/ College	Special Education	Others	DK/NS
Total	100.0	11.2	30.8	29.2	1.0	2.5	21.9	0.9	2.0	0.4
George Town	100.0	13.7	30.9	26.9	1.0	2.0	22.1	0.8	2.0	0.5
West Bay	100.0	9.7	32.3	30.8	1.3	2.4	19.6	1.3	2.2	0.3
Bodden Town	100.0	8.9	29.8	30.8	0.9	3.0	24.0	0.7	1.8	0.2
North Side	100.0	6.3	30.2	30.0	2.2	2.8	24.1	2.0	1.7	0.7
East End	100.0	8.6	30.2	34.6	1.0	4.0	16.9	0.3	2.7	1.7
Sister Islands	100.0	11.2	29.3	35.7	0.2	5.0	16.5	0.5	1.6	-
Cayman Brac	100.0	11.3	29.1	35.8	0.2	5.1	16.4	0.5	1.6	-
Little Cayman	100.0	-	50.0	25.0	-	-	25.0	-	-	-

Table 1.4F: School Attendance by Type of School and Institution, and District, percent (%)

	Total	Type of School or Institution attending								
		Nursery / Preschool	Primary School	Middle/High School	Vocational Institution	Community College	University/ College	Special Education	Others	DK/NS
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
George Town	45.7	55.7	45.9	42.1	43.2	36.9	46.2	41.4	46.1	58.3
West Bay	20.1	17.4	21.1	21.2	25.0	19.3	17.9	29.7	22.5	16.7
Bodden Town	25.9	20.5	25.0	27.2	22.3	30.9	28.4	19.5	23.2	11.7
North Side	3.2	1.8	3.1	3.3	6.8	3.6	3.5	7.0	2.8	5.0
East End	2.1	1.6	2.0	2.5	2.0	3.3	1.6	0.8	2.8	8.3
Sister Islands	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.7	0.7	6.1	2.3	1.6	2.5	-
Cayman Brac	3.0	3.0	2.8	3.7	0.7	6.1	2.2	1.6	2.5	-
Little Cayman	0.03	-	0.05	0.02	-	-	0.03	-	-	-

The highest grade completed is dominated by high school, post-secondary and university/college, accounting for 88.8 percent of total education attainment (see Table 1.4G).

As displayed in Table 1.4G, among the working-age population (age 15 +), 9.1 percent of persons completed below high school, with 0.4 percent completed 'no grade'. Consequently, Caymanians made up the majority of the working-age population with no grade completed (72.1%), up to high school (57.8%) and others³ (59.7%). Non-Caymanians were the majority among those with post-secondary (vocational and community college) and college/university education.

³ The "Other" category is made up of predominantly special education.



Table 1.4G: Educational Attainment by Type of School and Institution, District, Proportion of total (%)

Highest Grade Completed	Total		Caymanian		Non-Caymanian		Distribution	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	Caymanian %	Non-Caymanian %
Total	57,360	100.0	29,108	100.0	28,252	100.0	50.7	49.3
None	244	0.4	176	0.6	68	0.2	72.1	27.9
Primary and below	1,732	3.0	1,138	3.9	594	2.1	65.7	34.3
Middle	3,270	5.7	1,647	5.7	1,623	5.7	50.4	49.6
High	20,944	36.5	12,096	41.6	8,848	31.3	57.8	42.2
Post Secondary	12,675	22.1	6,262	21.5	6,412	22.7	49.4	50.6
College / University	17,317	30.2	7,077	24.3	10,240	36.2	40.9	59.1
Other	273	0.5	163	0.6	110	0.4	59.7	40.3
Not Stated	905	1.6	549	1.9	356	1.3	60.7	39.3



1.4.2 HIGHEST EXAMINATION COMPLETED

The majority of the working-age population 15 years and older completed at least one examination; however, 13.8 percent did not pass any. The proportion of working-age persons who did not complete at least one examination is distributed between Caymanians and Non-Caymanians, 15.0 percent and 12.6 percent, respectively (see Table 1.4H).

Table 1.4H: Highest Examination Completed of 15 years old and over

Highest Examination Completed	Total		Caymanian		Non-Caymanian	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total	57,360	100.0	29,108	100.0	28,252	100.0
None	7,941	13.8	4,378	15.0	3,563	12.6
COEA, Entry Level	284	0.5	132	0.5	152	0.5
CSEC/CSE, CXC Basic	2,042	3.6	1,164	4.0	879	3.1
CSEC/GCE/GCSE/IGCSE 'O Level/Gen/Tech Prof (1 or 2 subjects)	768	1.3	432	1.5	336	1.2
CSEC/GCE/GCSE/IGCSE 'O Level/Gen/Tech Prof (3 or 4 subjects)	1,131	2.0	713	2.4	418	1.5
CSEC/GCE/GCSE/IGCSE 'O Level/Gen/Tech Prof (5 or more subjects)	2,157	3.8	1,528	5.2	630	2.2
High School Diploma or Equivalent Certificate (American/Canadian)	5,240	9.1	3,090	10.6	2,150	7.6
GCE 'A' Level/CAPE/HSC/HND (1 or 2 subjects)	171	0.3	108	0.4	63	0.2
GCE 'A' Level/CAPE/HSC/HND (3 or more subjects)	532	0.9	354	1.2	178	0.6
IB Diploma	394	0.7	215	0.7	179	0.6
Other Secondary/High School Qualification	4,459	7.8	2,350	8.1	2,110	7.5
Vocational/Trade Certificate or Diploma	7,985	13.9	3,388	11.6	4,597	16.3
Associate Degree	4,692	8.2	2,844	9.8	1,848	6.5
Bachelor Degree	10,243	17.9	4,192	14.4	6,051	21.4
Professional Qualification/License (eg. Computer, Accounting, Finance)	2,065	3.6	848	2.9	1,217	4.3
Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma	657	1.1	260	0.9	397	1.4
Postgraduate Degree (eg. Masters, Degree in Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary, Law)	4,453	7.8	1,886	6.5	2,567	9.1
Earned Doctorate (Ph.D)	435	0.8	192	0.7	243	0.9
Other	246	0.4	131	0.5	115	0.4
DK/NS	1,465	2.6	904	3.1	560	2.0

Among the examinations passed, the top three completed examinations were bachelor's degree (17.9%), vocational/trade certificate or diploma (13.9%), followed by high school diploma or equivalent certificate (9.1%). In addition, post-graduate certificates or diplomas or master's degrees (8.9%) and professional qualifications (3.6%) also had a high completion count.

Bachelor's degree and vocational/trade certificate were the highest among the examinations completed for Caymanians and Non-Caymanians. The third highest examination level achieved was high school diplomas (11.6%) for Caymanians and post-graduate degrees (9.1%) for Non-Caymanians.

1.4.3 EDUCATIONAL LITERACY

In its broadest sense, literacy describes "particular ways of thinking about and doing reading and writing" to understand or express thoughts or ideas in written form in some specific context of use. Literacy is best assessed in the general population through a national assessment of adult literacy survey. In the absence of a national literacy survey for the Cayman Islands, self-reported literacy relied upon collected information from Census 2021.

Persons 10 years and older self-reported literacy were at 98.6 percent, which was relatively consistent with Caymanians and Non-Caymanians. The literacy rate deviated slightly by gender, with 98.4 percent among males and 98.8 for females.

Table 1.4I: Literacy by Sex and Status (10 years and older)

	Total	Non-			DK/NS	
		Caymanian	Caymanian	Male		Female
Total	61,164	32,022	29,142	30,937	30,215	12
Read Only	106	69	37	55	51	-
Read & Understand	143	95	49	82	61	-
Write Only	55	21	34	44	11	-
Read, Write & Understand	60,309	31,486	28,822	30,438	29,859	11
None	235	194	41	131	104	-
DK/NS	316	157	160	186	129	1
Percentage (%)						
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
Read Only	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	
Read & Understand	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	
Write Only	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	
Read, Write & Understand	98.6	98.3	98.9	98.4	98.8	
None	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.4	0.3	
DK/NS	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	

As depicted in Table 1.4J, persons aged 30 to 34 and 35 to 39 recorded the highest literacy rate of 99.3 percent. The age groups 10 to 14, 15 to 19 and 55 and older were the age groups below the national average.



Table 1.4J: Literacy Rates by Age Group (in percent)

	Total	Read Only	Read & Understand	Write Only	Read, Write & Understand	None
Total	100.0	0.17	0.23	0.09	98.6	0.38
10 - 14	100.0	0.61	0.29	0.03	96.6	0.53
15 - 19	100.0	0.29	0.16	0.03	98.4	0.26
20 - 24	100.0	0.03	0.18	-	99.1	0.18
25 - 29	100.0	0.04	0.06	0.02	99.2	0.21
30 - 34	100.0	0.09	0.11	0.02	99.3	0.20
35 - 39	100.0	0.10	0.07	0.07	99.3	0.13
40 - 44	100.0	0.14	0.15	0.12	99.2	0.11
45 - 49	100.0	0.18	0.14	0.08	99.0	0.21
50 - 54	100.0	0.16	0.19	0.18	98.7	0.37
55 - 59	100.0	0.13	0.44	0.13	98.5	0.46
60 - 64	100.0	0.13	0.28	0.09	98.3	0.56
65+	100.0	0.32	0.85	0.24	96.5	1.58