

History of Colorado School District Consolidation & Deconsolidation 1886 - 2019					
Year	# of Districts	Legislative Action	Actions - Legislature / Districts	Districts Vote: Pass/Fail	County / Comment
1886	685				
1935	2,105				
1946 & 1947		X	Legislature General Assembly: Study of school districts identified two problems: 1) school district structure and 2) finance for schools. Resulted in School District Reorganization Act of 1949.		
Prior to 1949			Consolidation was a simple process, two or more boards would meet, decide to consolidate, and have an election		
1949	1,721	X HB49-900	Legislature: School District Reorganization Act of 1949 - required educational planning and county planning committee study organization in county. Each county school people to appoint county school reorganization committee to draft plans to reorganize into as few new, but larger districts as possible. Counties must vote to approve.		
1953		X	Legislature revised School District Reorganization Act of 1949		
1956	967				
1957	School districts included: 239 non-operating school districts; 203 one-room school districts	X	Legislature revised School District Reorganization Act of 1949. Indicated reorganization of school districts number one education problem. Recommended no county have more than 6 school districts. Encouraged school districts have 12 grades. Recommended abolish non-operating districts.		
1961	275				
1963		X	Legislature revised School District Reorganization Act of 1949		
1965	181	X	Legislature revised School District Reorganization Act of 1949. Boards of Cooperative Services Act (BOCES) enacted.		BOCES: provided teachers for students receiving special education services, cooperative purchasing, shared management services.
1974		X	Legislature integrated Consolidation Act into School District Reorganization Act, required all consolidations include educational plans.		
1983	180		Arriba and Flagler consolidated (Arriba-Flagler)	Consolidate Passed	Kit Carson
1984	179		Vona / Seibert consolidated (Hi-Plains School District)	Consolidate Passed	Kit Carson

1956 - 1965: Mountains & Western Slope: several countywide districts formed. Eastern Plains & El Paso County less interested in consolidation.

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1986	178		Arapahoe School District into Cheyenne Wells	Consolidate Passed	Cheyenne
1986	177		Egnar 18 into Dolores County Schools	Consolidate Passed	Dolores
1986	176		Genoa and Hugo consolidated into Genoa-Hugo	Consolidate Passed	Lincoln
1989	176		Del Norte and Monte Vista explored consolidation. Did not move forward.	Consolidate Did not move forward.	Rio Grande
1992	176	HB92-1003 General Assembly	School District Organization - Concerning Changes Relating to the Organization of School Districts. First time Deconsolidation allowed. Added more steps to consolidate or deconsolidate.		
1993	176		Gunnison-Watershed into 2 districts.	Deconsolidate Failed	Gunnison
1995	176		1995 School Finance Interim Committee on School District Size, Boundary, and Organizational Issues		
1996	176	HB96-1012	Legislation simplifies the organization planning process of HB92-1003		
1998	176		Weld County Re-3(J) to create 2 or more districts.	Deconsolidate Failed	Weld
2000	177		Dissolved West Yuma and formed Yuma School District and Liberty School District.	Deconsolidate Passed	Yuma
2000	178		Dissolved East Yuma into Wray and Idalia.	Deconsolidate Passed	Yuma
2003	178		Colorado Department of Education: Manual of procedures for School Organization Act of 1992		CDE: Manual of procedures for School Organization Act of 1992
2004	178	HB04-1362	Legislature created the State Charter School Institute to authorize charter schools.		HB04-1362 Fiscal Note
2017	178		Office of Legislative Legal Services Memorandum: Overview of statutory process for reorganizing school district boundaries.		OLLS Memorandum
2019	178				
Data - History of Colorado School District Organization CDE 2002 CSFP - Overview of Consolidation of District Services CSFP - Additional Information on district consolidation / deconsolidation Colorado School Finance Project					

January 2019 update