

When learning isn't accessible, students lose

Education is going digital, but accessibility gaps are shutting students out — and exposing school districts and public universities to legal risk.



Most school districts and universities get a failing grade for accessibility

As part of our [2025 Digital Accessibility Index](#), we scanned **53,336 pages across 1,193 education websites** and found that the average page had 297 accessibility violations that could impact students and expose public school districts and universities to the risk of legal action.

BY THE NUMBERS

297.2
average accessibility issues per page.

66.6%
of pages have inaccessible images, one of the highest rates across industries

15%
of students in the United States receive support under the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**



TOP ISSUES

Student success starts with equal access

From student portals to online courses, education is going digital — but common accessibility barriers like poor color contrast and inaccessible images can make it difficult for students with disabilities to enjoy equal access.

“Purchasing assistive technology to even the playing field for myself was a particular struggle.”

CHARLES HISER
AUDIOEYE ALLIANCE MEMBER



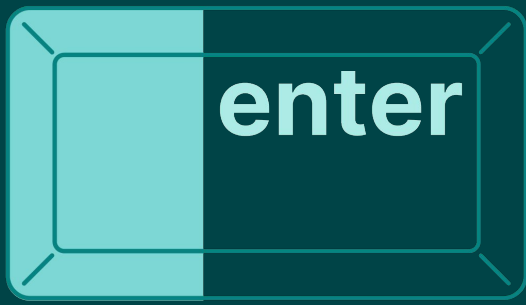
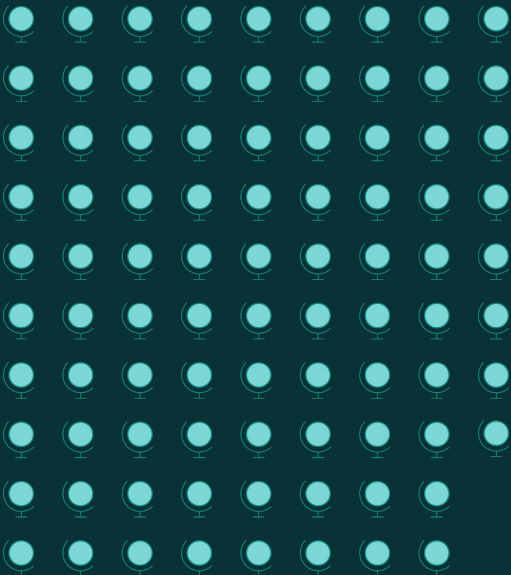
38%
OF IMAGES HAVE VAGUE OR MISSING IMAGE ALT TEXT

Students rely on visuals — such as graphs, charts, and diagrams — to understand complex topics, yet education websites had an average of 17.5 inaccessible images per page.

Without clear, descriptive alt text, students with visual disabilities struggle to engage with key learning materials — putting them at a disadvantage in the classroom and beyond.

87.7
VIOLATIONS OF WCAG'S MINIMUM COLOR CONTRAST REQUIREMENTS PER PAGE

Poor color contrast can make it difficult for students with low vision to navigate student portals, access key information online, or fully engage with course materials.

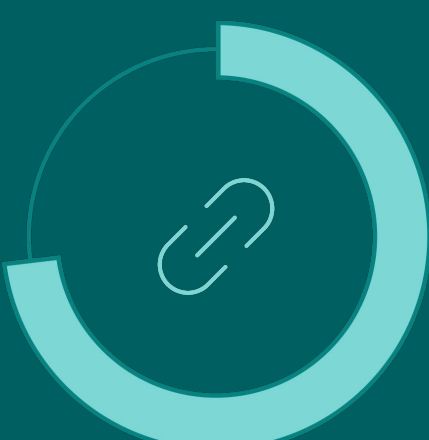


38%
OF PAGES HAVE KEYBOARD ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES

When menus, buttons, and forms can't be accessed without a mouse, students with visual or mobility disabilities struggle to navigate portals, complete assignments, or even register for classes.

73%
OF ALL PAGES HAVE LINKS THAT ARE NOT CLEAR TO ALL USERS

When a link's purpose isn't clear, it can be difficult for students to find class materials, access academic calendars, or locate support services.



LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Accessibility isn't just good business; it's the law

With recent updates to accessibility laws like the **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** and the **European Accessibility Act (EAA)**, it's critical for school districts and universities to understand their digital accessibility requirements.

Under **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act**, schools must provide accessible websites and digital services.

Under **Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**, schools must follow WCAG 2.1 guidelines.

Under the **European Accessibility Act (EAA)**, higher education institutions must meet accessibility standards by June 2025.

Open your digital doors to every student

At AudioEye, we help schools detect and fix accessibility issues before they can impact students or expose them to legal risks.

Check out a [demo of our tools and services](#) or [talk to an expert](#) about your accessibility needs.

▼ **67%**

AudioEye customers saw a **67% reduction in valid legal claims**, compared to other industry solutions.