

A DOE inspector general's audit released on 22 May blames the project's escalating costs and schedule slippages on a combination of an "immature design," understating the difficulty of

David Kramer

Over the past three decades, the percentage of US high school students who take physics has steadily climbed—from 20% in 1986 to 33% in 1997 to 39% in 2013. In that same period, the proportion of high school seniors attending a school where physics was taught at least every other year has hovered around 95%. In the map above, states in yellow hold closely to that national average in availability, while states in blue exceed the average and those in red fall significantly below it; Hawaii opted out of the nationwide survey. More details from the survey can be found in *High School Physics Availability* by the American Institute of Physics's Statistical Research Center; the report can be downloaded at <http://www.aip.org/statistics/highschool>.

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In his blog, PHYSICS TODAY's online editor Charles Day writes about predicting the success of emerging technologies, a competition for energy startups, engaging people who believe in astrology, and the modern history of passive solar heating.

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