



# 2009-10 Updated Class Size Report

Based on 1/27/2010 Audited Register

February 2010



**Department of  
Education**

*Joel I. Klein, Chancellor*

# Class Size Context in 2009-10

- Schools experienced both a reduction in funding by 4.9% and an increase in costs, largely due to increases in teacher salaries and costs of special education.
- Given the fiscal crisis, schools might have anticipated class size increases on par with 4.9% budget cuts.
- However, schools were urged to minimize reductions to their instructional program and eliminated teaching positions only when necessary to meet their budget cuts. (Please note that no teacher was laid off).
- This emphasis successfully mitigated an excessive rise in class sizes.
- Preliminary data suggests that NYC average class sizes did not grow as rapidly as similar districts (e.g., LA is projecting increases of 2-4 students across all grades).
- Continued decline in fiscal resources will significantly reduce the capacity of schools to meet annual class size targets in the future.

# Class Size – Summary Data

## 2009-10 Average Class Size - Updated

(Based on 1/27/2010 audited register)

	All*	GE*	CTT*	G&T*						
<b>Gen Ed, CTT, G&amp;T</b>	K-3	22.1	22.2	21.6	21.8					
	4-5	24.6	24.7	24.1	24.3	<i>English</i>	<i>Math</i>	<i>Social Studies</i>	<i>Science</i>	<i>All Acad</i>
	6-8**	26.3	26.5	24.5	28.5	26	25.9	26.5	26.3	26.2
	9-12***	26.6	26.7	26.3		26.1	25.9	27.1	27.1	26.6
<b>Special Class</b>	K-8	}	6:1:1	6.0		9-12 English			12.5	
			8:1:1	7.2		9-12 Math			12.9	
			12:1	10.5		9-12 Social Studies			13.1	
			12:1:1	10.1		9-12 Science			13.2	

\* Official class, except for high school. Excludes Special Class (Self-Contained Special Education) classes. CTT is Collaborative Team Teaching, with two teachers sharing a class that combines General Ed and Special Education students.

\*\* Includes 9th grades residing in Jr. High Schools (i.e. 6-9 schools)

\*\*\* HS courses are all academic classes, as reported in STARS

# Class Size – Change over time

Grade Level	FY2010	FY2009	FY2008	FY2007	FY2006	FY2005	FY2004
K	21.7	20.7	20.6	20.7	20.9	20.8	20.9
1	22.0	21.3	21.1	21.3	21.2	21.7	21.6
2	22.2	21.4	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.2	21.6
3	22.5	21.9	21.0	21.3	21.4	21.5	22.2
4	24.4	23.4	23.5	23.9	24.0	24.3	24.6
5	24.8	24.2	24.1	25.0	25.5	26.2	26.4
6	26.1	25.6	25.5	26.0	26.4	26.7	27.1
7	26.8	26.5	26.2	27.2	27.3	28.0	28.3
8	27.5	26.8	26.6	27.2	27.3	28.0	28.1

Middle School Core	26.2**	25.2**	-	-	-
HS Core	26.6*	26.2*	26.1*	25.6	26.2

\* Starting in FY08, HS average class size methodology was no longer comparable to historical class data. In FY09, changes to CTT reporting further shifted methodology.

\*\* Class size information for middle school academic courses became available for the first time in FY09.

# Reporting Methodology

- In 2009-10, all Middle Schools moved to the HSST/STARS data system. In the short term, the change to HSST/STARS has resulted in somewhat inconsistent data as principals were using the system for the first time. In the longer term, this change should result in more accurate reporting of core and elective courses.
- In previous years, accurate reporting of CTT courses required a manual matching process to make sure that single classes with two teachers were not being reported as two different classes. This year, updates to HSST/STARS permitted schools to more accurately report CTT classes as one section without the matching process. While reporting of CTT classes improved, further system enhancements and user training will be required to ensure that CTT classes are being properly reported.