



2011-12 Updated Class Size Report

Based on 1/30/2012 schedule and register

February 2012



**Department of
Education**

Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

2011-2012 Updated Class Size Definition

- The NYCDOE reports on class size twice a year – a preliminary report in November and an updated report in February.
 - This February updated report is based on a *snapshot* of Fall Term data in ATS (schools' register system) and STARS (schools' scheduling system) as of January 30, 2012.
 - School-level data from ATS and STARS are generated by the schools and are reviewed and updated throughout the year.
 - All school-level and citywide data and trends from this report must be considered as of January 30, 2012.

- Class size summaries report the following data:
 - Number of students (“seats filled”)
 - Number of sections (individual classes) in grades K-8
 - Number of sections of Core courses (English, Math, Science, and Social Studies) in Middle Schools and High Schools
 - Pupil-teacher ratio for each school



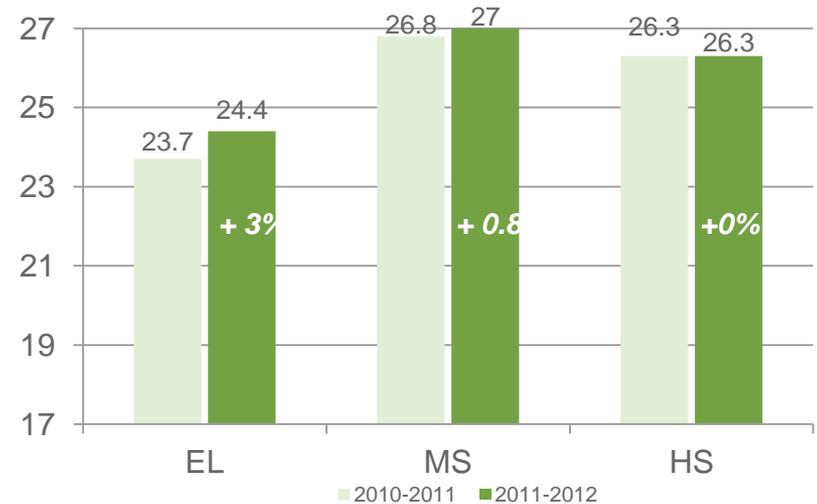
Class Size Context in 2011-12

- Schools experienced both a reduction in funding by 2.4% 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 commensurate with 2.4% budget cuts.
- As in prior years, schools were urged to minimize reductions to their instructional programs and eliminate teaching positions only when absolutely necessary to meet their budget cuts.
- Due to increased City funding of \$2 billion to offset the loss of Federal Stimulus funds (ARRA) and New York State revenue, no teachers have been laid off. In addition, an agreement with the UFT provided additional resources that helped reduce cuts to the schools.
- Schools' ability to maintain or improve class sizes in the future depends largely on federal and state revenues.

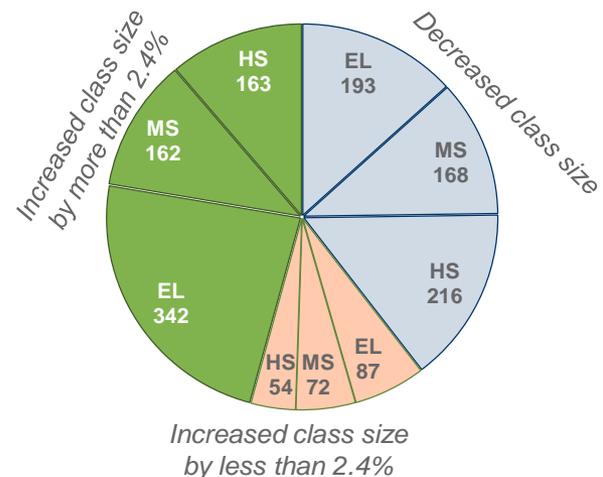


Class Size Context in 2011-12 (continued)

- From 2010-2011 to 2011-2012, citywide average class size increased by 0.7%, a difference of 0.2 students per class. ¹
 - Elementary Schools increased by 3%
 - 23.7 to 24.4 average students per class
 - Middle Schools increased by 0.8%
 - 26.8 to 27.0 average students per class
 - High Schools **remained flat**
 - 26.3 to 26.3 average students per class



- Over half of schools (54%) decreased school-wide class size or increased it less than the budget cut of 2.4%.
 - 577 schools decreased
 - 213 schools increased by less than 2.4%
 - 667 schools increased by more than 2.4%



 50% of High Schools (216 of 433) **decreased** their school-wide class size.

¹ Citywide changes are based on General Education and Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) students and sections.

Class Size – Summary Data

2011-12 Average Class Size - Updated

(Based on 01/30/2012 register and scheduling data)

		All*	GE*	ICT*	G&T*	<u>GE and ICT</u>				
Gen Ed, ICT, G&T	K-3	23.9	23.9	23.2	24.8	English	Math	Science	Social Studies	All Core
	4-5	25.5	25.7	25.0	24.9					
	6-8**	27.2	27.4	26.2	28.6	26.8	26.9	27.2	27.1	26.9
	9-12***	26.4	26.5	26.3	n/a	26.5	26.4	27.3	27.4	26.4
	Special Class									
	K-8		6:1:1		6.0	9-12 English			12.1	
			8:1:1		7.8	9-12 Math			13.1	
			12:1		10.2	9-12 Science			13.3	
			12:1:1		9.6	9-12 Social Studies			12.8	

* Official class, except for High School. Excludes Special Class (Self-Contained Special Education) classes. ICT is Integrated Co-Teaching (a.k.a. CTT or Collaborative Team Teaching) 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).

*** High School courses are all Core academic classes, as reported in STARS.

Class Size – Change over time

(General Education and ICT classes only)

Grade Level	FY2012	FY2011	FY2010	FY2009	FY2008	FY2007	FY2006	FY2005	FY2004
K	22.8	22.1	21.7	20.7	20.6	20.7	20.9	20.8	20.9
1	23.9	22.9	22	21.3	21.1	21.3	21.2	21.7	21.6
2	24.2	23.2	22.2	21.4	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.2	21.6
3	24.5	23.7	22.5	21.9	21	21.3	21.4	21.5	22.2
4	25.3	25	24.4	23.4	23.5	23.9	24	24.3	24.6
5	25.8	25.4	24.8	24.2	24.1	25	25.5	26.2	26.4
6	27.0	26.2	26.1	25.6	25.5	26	26.4	26.7	27.1
7	27.2	27.1	26.8	26.5	26.2	27.2	27.3	28	28.3
8	27.4	27.3	27.5	26.8	26.6	27.2	27.3	28	28.1

Middle School Core	26.9	26.7	26.2	25.2**	- **	- **	- **
HS Core	26.4	26.5*	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 ICT reporting further shifted methodology.

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



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Reporting Methodology in 2011-2012

- In the continuing effort to update school-level data, Middle Schools and High Schools were instructed over the summer to confirm their course data based on a standardized list of general course names and subjects. This year, class size reports are organized by this updated data in STARS – CoreSubjectID. This process will continue to make course-level data more accurate.
- In 2010-11, nearly all Middle Schools moved to the STARS (formerly HSST) scheduling data system. In the short term, the change to STARS resulted in somewhat inconsistent data as principals used 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 ICT courses required a manual matching process to make sure single sections with two teachers were not being reported as two different sections. The accurate reporting of ICT courses continues to improve significantly due to updates to STARS and an increased training initiative guiding support networks and schools.

