



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable John Curran, Senate Minority Leader
The Honorable Don Harmon, Senate President
Honorable Tony McCombie, House Minority Leader
The Honorable Emanuel “Chris” Welch, Speaker of the House

FROM: Dr. Tony Sanders 
State Superintendent of Education
Illinois State Board of Education

Tamakia Edwards
Executive Director
Capital Development Board 

DATE: December 30, 2024

SUBJECT: Capital Needs Assessment Survey

The Illinois State Board of Education and the Capital Development Board are required to assess school construction needs every two years. The attached report provides the results of a survey compiled in October 2024. This report is mandated by Public Act 93-0489.

For additional information, please contact Dana Stoerger, Executive Director, Legislative Affairs at (217) 782-6510 or dstoerge@isbe.net.

cc: The Honorable JB Pritzker, Governor
John W. Hollman, Clerk of the House
Tim Anderson, Secretary of the Senate
Legislative Research Unit
State Government Report Center

2024 Capital Needs Assessment Survey Report

December 2024



Capital Needs Assessment Survey Results

The School Construction Law (105 ILCS 230/5-60) requires the Illinois State Board of Education and the Capital Development Board to file a comprehensive assessment report of the capital needs of all school districts with the General Assembly every two years. To compile this assessment needs report, the two agencies requested that all school districts complete and submit a Capital Needs Assessment Survey.

Overview

Capital Needs Assessment Survey responses were collected from June through September 2024. Responses were submitted by 429 elementary, secondary, and unit school districts. Districts reported approximately \$9 billion of capital needs for new construction, repairs to existing facilities, health/life safety work, and other capital projects for the next two years.

Significant findings of the survey include:



More than \$3.5 billion is needed for health/life safety repairs, replacements, or renovations.



Other capital projects, including asbestos abatement, school security measures, energy conservation, and accessibility measures, total nearly \$1.1 billion.



More than \$1.6 billion is needed for other facility repair projects.



Districts reported using 256 temporary classrooms for instructional purposes.



More than \$1.5 billion is needed to build 45 new school buildings. An additional \$1.2 billion is needed for 110 building additions.



A total of 402 additional classrooms are needed for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classes.

Capital Development Board

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Executive Director

Illinois State Board of Education

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State Superintendent of Education

Work Needed within the Next Two Years

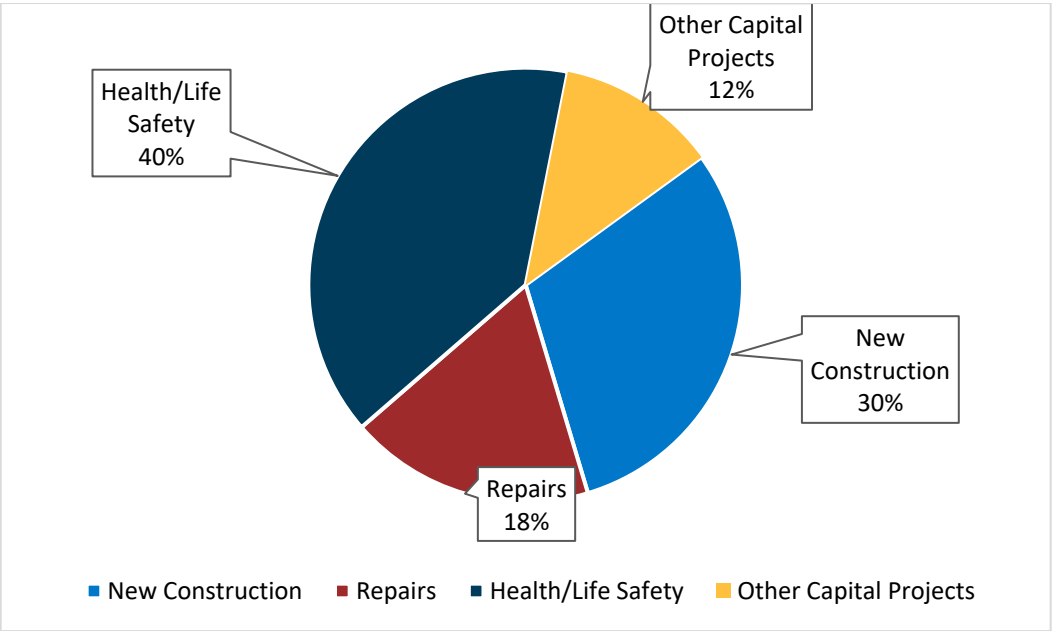
The following tables provide the results from the Capital Needs Assessment Survey for the 2024 survey year. These tables report the data relating to projects expected to be needed or started within fiscal years 2025 or 2026.

		PreK-8		High School		District Total	
		Number of Buildings Affected	Estimated Cost of Work	Number of Buildings Affected	Estimated Cost of Work	Number of Buildings Affected	Estimated Cost of Work
New Construction	New School Building Construction	28	836,755,000	17	686,450,126	45	1,523,205,126
	School Building Additions/Extensions	75	500,386,511	35	695,391,586	110	1,195,778,097
	New Construction Subtotal	103	1,337,141,511	52	1,381,841,712	155	2,718,983,223
Repairs	General Repair/Remodeling	1,134	878,423,478	264	355,607,873	1,398	1,234,031,351
	Repair of sidewalks, playgrounds, etc.	984	281,251,515	227	119,543,223	1,211	400,794,738
	Repairs Subtotal	2,118	1,159,674,993	491	475,151,096	2,609	1,634,826,089
Health/Life Safety	Health/Life Safety Urgent or Required Projects	565	933,155,055	132	591,885,009	697	1,525,040,064
	Health/Life Safety Recommended Projects	544	1,347,040,179	110	661,578,350	654	2,008,618,529
	Health/Life Safety Subtotal	1,109	2,280,195,234	242	1,253,463,359	1,351	3,533,658,593
Other Capital Projects	Accessibility Measures	430	593,733,420	113	76,194,365	543	669,927,785
	School Security Measures	484	66,766,250	92	102,700,635	576	169,466,885
	Energy Conservation	234	104,633,954	47	74,053,136	281	178,687,090
	Asbestos Abatement	160	37,554,609	54	8,744,300	214	46,298,909
	Other Capital Projects Subtotal	1,308	802,688,233	306	261,692,436	1,614	1,064,380,669
Total, All Capital Needs		4,638	5,579,699,971	1,091	3,372,148,603	5,729	8,951,848,574

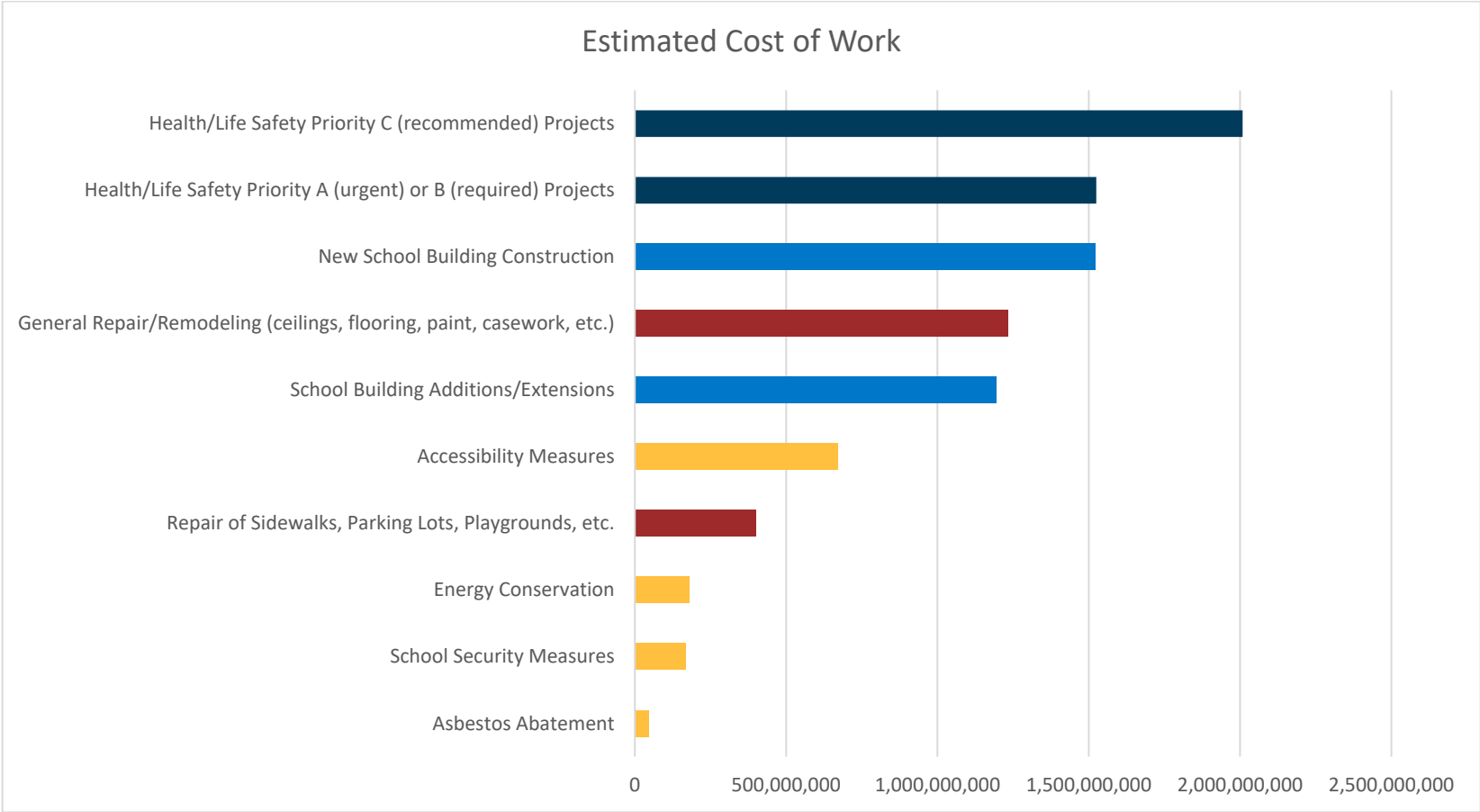
Capital Needs Reported

As summarized in the following charts, 40% of all reported future school capital needs are related to health/life safety repairs and renovations of current facilities. This category encompasses a range of work types that include structural repairs, roof work, heating and cooling systems, and plumbing repairs. Districts may utilize the fire prevention and safety tax levy or a bond issue to fund health/life safety repairs, but also may use other funding sources, such as the operations and maintenance fund tax levy, personal property replacement tax, county school facilities occupation tax, Evidenced-Based Funding, or other revenue sources.

The need for new school construction or building additions is significant, accounting for 30% of all capital needs reported. New construction needs were split nearly equally, with 56% of new construction needs being new school building construction needs and 44% being school building addition or extension needs.



Districts reported the highest need in the health/life safety area of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, with over \$1.7 billion of reported need. Respondents plan to use \$225 million in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds for these projects, leaving approximately \$1.5 billion to be funded from other revenue sources. The total of all remaining projects was approximately \$6.3 billion, with districts planning to use \$183 million in ESSER funds, leaving approximately \$6.1 billion to be funded from other revenue sources.



History of Needs

The Illinois State Board of Education and the Capital Development Board conducted the first Capital Needs Assessment Survey in 2004. That survey, which was answered by 690 districts, showed estimated capital needs of \$6.7 billion. The 2024 survey showed estimated total capital needs of \$9 billion, with 429 school districts responding. That is an average of \$20.9 million per district. Compared to the 2022 survey, the current survey shows \$3.6 million more capital need per district, but with fewer districts reporting capital needs. This is represented in the chart below.

Survey Year	Number of District Responses	Estimated Need (billions)	Average Need per District (millions)
2004	690	\$6.7	\$9.7
2006	450	\$8.2	\$18.2
2008	456	\$7.6	\$16.6
2010	618	\$9.9	\$16.1
2012	385	\$7.2	\$18.9
2014	558	\$8.0	\$14.3
2016	406	\$7.5	\$18.5
2018	350	\$9.4	\$26.8
2020	251	\$6.9	\$27.5
2022	462	\$8.0	\$17.3
2024	429	\$9.0	\$20.9

Temporary Units

Districts use temporary modular or manufactured unit facilities to provide classrooms for their students when their school building capacity is not sufficient to accommodate their enrollment. Reporting districts are using 256 temporary classrooms for instruction, an average of less than one temporary classroom per responding district.

Elementary (PreK – 8) Temporary Classrooms	198
High School Temporary Classrooms	58
Total	256

Prekindergarten and Kindergarten Programs

Seventy-five of the 345 districts that responded to a survey question about prekindergarten programs reported that they provide full-day prekindergarten classes, 222 districts provide half-day prekindergarten classes, and 48 districts provide both full- and half-day classes.

A total of 344 of the 374 districts that responded to a survey question about kindergarten programs provide full-day kindergarten classes, nine districts provide half-day kindergarten classes, and 21 districts provide both full- and half-day classes.

The survey reflects the need for 269 additional classrooms for prekindergarten and 133 classrooms for kindergarten.

Other Survey Responses

School districts reported 12 schools as having a natural or man-made disaster during the survey period. A total of \$4.9 million was needed to replace or rehabilitate these school buildings.

The following pages provide statewide totals for all survey questions.

Capital Needs Assessment Survey

I. School District/Joint Agreement Information

District Name:	Statewide CNAS - 429 Responding Districts
RCDT Code:	
Contact Name:	
Phone Number:	

Confirm the # of Buildings in the District:

PreK-8 Buildings:	1793
HS Buildings:	438

II. Current Projects

For projects that are **currently in progress or were completed in fiscal year 2024**, enter in the number of buildings affected and the overall actual (or estimated for incomplete projects) cost in dollars, at each school level (i.e., PreK-8 or High School).

		PreK-8		High School		District Total	
		Number of Buildings Affected	Estimated Cost of Work	Number of Buildings Affected	Estimated Cost of Work	Number of Buildings Affected	Estimated Cost of Work
Type of Work							
1	New School Building Construction	14	96,344,403	9	49,721,629	23	146,066,032
2	School Building Additions/Extensions	91	475,758,068	48	198,855,055	139	674,613,123
3	General Repair/Remodeling (ceilings, flooring, paint, casework, etc.)	648	344,484,006	187	153,911,350	835	498,395,356
4	Health/Life Safety Priority A (urgent) or B (required) Projects	255	113,790,347	77	53,907,164	332	167,697,511
5	Health/Life Safety Priority C (recommended) Projects	170	41,650,562	38	20,765,660	208	62,416,222
6	Accessibility Measures	65	5,906,546	25	5,459,293	90	11,365,839
7	School Security Measures	403	41,216,586	84	14,790,705	487	56,007,291
8	Energy Conservation	194	80,114,921	47	25,887,152	241	106,002,073
9	Repair of Sidewalks, Parking Lots, Playgrounds, etc.	490	55,263,232	103	36,272,507	593	91,535,739
10	Asbestos Abatement	140	11,359,927	45	4,140,513	185	15,500,440

From the totals listed above, report how many projects and the dollar amount of projects:

Designed to replace or rehabilitate school buildings destroyed or damaged by natural or man-made disasters	7	1,201,000	5	3,728,032	12	4,929,032
Designed to alleviate a shortage of classrooms due to population growth	35	172,763,343	6	30,291,509	41	203,054,852
Designed to replace or rehabilitate aging school buildings	347	343,726,450	102	229,198,020	449	572,924,470
Resulting from school district consolidation	2	2,425,103	0	-	2	2,425,103

III. Future Projects

For projects that are **expected to be needed or started within the next two fiscal years (FY 2025 & FY 2026)**, enter in the number of buildings that will be affected and the overall estimated cost in dollars at each school level (i.e., PreK-8 or High School).

Type of Work		PreK-8		High School		District Total	
		Number of Buildings Affected	Estimated Cost of Work	Number of Buildings Affected	Estimated Cost of Work	Number of Buildings Affected	Estimated Cost of Work
1	New School Building Construction	28	836,755,000	17	686,450,126	45	1,523,205,126
2	School Building Additions/Extensions	75	500,386,511	35	695,391,586	110	1,195,778,097
3	General Repair/Remodeling (ceilings, flooring, paint, casework, etc.)	1134	878,423,478	264	355,607,873	1398	1,234,031,351
4	Health/Life Safety Priority A (urgent) or B (required) Projects	565	933,155,055	132	591,885,009	697	1,525,040,064
5	Health/Life Safety Priority C (recommended) Projects	544	1,347,040,179	110	661,578,350	654	2,008,618,529
6	Accessibility Measures	430	593,733,420	113	76,194,365	543	669,927,785
7	School Security Measures	484	66,766,250	92	102,700,635	576	169,466,885
8	Energy Conservation	234	104,633,954	47	74,053,136	281	178,687,090
9	Repair of Sidewalks, Parking Lots, Playgrounds, etc.	984	281,251,515	227	119,543,223	1211	400,794,738
10	Asbestos Abatement	160	37,554,609	54	8,744,300	214	46,298,909

From the totals listed above, report how many projects and the dollar amount of projects:

Designed to replace or rehabilitate school buildings destroyed or damaged by natural or man-made disasters	10	35,455,000	2	1,130,000	12	36,585,000
Designed to alleviate a shortage of classrooms due to population growth	31	270,918,750	11	565,000,000	42	835,918,750
Designed to replace or rehabilitate aging school buildings	881	3,992,461,267	189	1,951,270,570	1070	5,943,731,837
Resulting from school district consolidation	0	-	4	710,000	4	710,000

IV. Temporary Classrooms (Portables)

PreK-8 Classrooms	198
High School Classrooms	58

V. Pre-K and Kindergarten Classroom Needs

Does the district provide half-day and/or full-day prekindergarten classes?

Full-Day	Half-Day	Both	N/A
75	222	48	64

Does the district provide full-day kindergarten classes?

Full-Day	Half-Day	Both	N/A
344	9	21	34

Does the district need additional classrooms to provide this instruction?

Yes	No
112	251

If Yes, how many additional prekindergarten classrooms are needed?

269

If Yes, how many additional kindergarten classrooms are needed?

133
