

CLASS SIZE SURVEY
2006-07

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Data Analysis and Progress Reporting Division
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Foreword

This survey was conducted in the fall of 2006 pursuant to HR 1148 to ascertain the need for state assistance to reduce class sizes to no more than 20 students in grades K through 3. Data were collected to determine the number of classrooms that would need funding and the potential cost for this effort.

This survey was based on the assumption that local district administrators will optimize the use of resources at their disposal. Questions on the survey may be directed to Richard Yong of the Data Analysis and Progress Reporting Division at 217/782-3950.

CLASS SIZE SURVEY - 2006-07

A total of 772 districts¹, including 376 elementary and 396 unit districts, were surveyed. Six hundred and nineteen (80.2%) districts indicated that they had classrooms in grades K through 3 with enrollments that exceeded 20 students. This survey found that:

1. To reduce class sizes to no more than 20 students in grades K through 3, there is a need to fund another 5,409 classrooms.
2. The estimated total cost to reduce class sizes to no more than 20 students in grades K through 3 is \$3.1 billion, of which, \$2.7 would be for providing additional physical classroom space.

I. Classrooms with enrollments exceeding 20 students

Within the 619 districts, there were 18,058 classrooms that had more than 20 students. The data are broken down by grade level below.

	Districts reporting	Classrooms having more than 20 students
Kindergarten	405	3,995
Grade 1	433	4,451
Grade 2	463	4,736
Grade 3	485	4,876
All four grades		18,058

To reduce class sizes to no more than 20 students in grades K through 3, resources will have to be provided for an additional 78,550 students. The data are broken down by grade level below.

	Districts reporting	Students beyond 20 per class
Kindergarten	405	19,534
Grade 1	433	18,549
Grade 2	463	19,405
Grade 3	485	21,062
All four grades		78,550

To reduce class sizes to no more than 20 students in grades K through 3, there is a need to add a total of 5,409 classrooms. The data are broken down by grade level below.

	Districts indicating need	Classrooms to be added
Kindergarten	376	1,307
Grade 1	396	1,303
Grade 2	429	1,356
Grade 3	446	1,443
All four grades		5,409

II. Potential total cost to reduce class sizes to no more than 20 students

The estimated total cost² to reduce class sizes to no more than 20 students per class in grades K-3 in the 619 districts is \$3.1 billion. The data are broken down by cost category below.

Personnel (teachers and other staff)	\$308 million
Physical classroom space	\$2,694 million
Other costs (equipment, supplies, books, etc.)	\$85 million
Total estimated cost	\$3,087 million

Endnotes

1. Districts were asked to provide data based on actual counts, not average class sizes.
2. Estimated costs were collected for the district as a whole, not by grade level.

The Survey Instrument

SURVEY ON CLASS SIZES WITH ENROLLMENTS EXCEEDING 20 STUDENTS IN 2006-07

This survey is conducted pursuant to HR 1148 to ascertain the need for state assistance to reduce class sizes. Please provide data based on actual counts, not averages. The deadline for completion is **October 15, 2006**. If you have any questions, please call 217/782-3950.

1. In your district, are there any classrooms in grades kindergarten through 3 with enrollments that exceed 20 students for the 2006-07 school year?

- ☐ No If you selected No, please proceed to the bottom and click on the "submit survey" button.
☐ Yes If you selected Yes, please proceed to #2 below and complete the rest of this survey.

2. Classrooms in your district with enrollments exceeding 20 students.

	Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
2a. Number of classrooms having more than 20 students (For each grade in your district, enter the number of classrooms that have more than 20 students.)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2b. Number of students beyond 20 per class (e.g. if your district has only two Grade 1 classes, and if there are 25 students in Grade 1A and 24 students in Grade 1B, then please enter "9" in the space provided for Grade 1)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2c. Number of classrooms you need to add in your district (to reduce class sizes to no more than 20 students per class)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

3. Potential total district cost to reduce class sizes to no more than 20 students in grades K-3.

Based on data provided in #2 above, please provide estimated additional costs to reduce class sizes in the district for the following items.

3a. Personnel in the district (teachers and other staff)	<input type="text" value="\$"/>
3b. Physical classroom space in the district (please check only one of the two boxes below) <input type="checkbox"/> We currently have sufficient space to accommodate all additional classrooms. <input type="checkbox"/> We currently do NOT have sufficient space to accommodate all additional classrooms and the estimated cost (for new buildings, rentals, reconfiguration, transportation, etc.) is	<input type="text" value="\$"/>
3c. Other costs in the district (equipment, supplies, books, etc.)	<input type="text" value="\$"/>

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY.