



# 2013-14 Preliminary Class Size Report

Based on 10/31/2013 Unaudited Register

November 2013



**Department of  
Education**

*Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor*

# Preliminary Average Class Size Report

- The NYCDOE reports on class size twice a year: a preliminary report in November and an updated report in February.
  - This Preliminary report is based on early data in ATS and STARS – schools’ register and scheduling systems – from the October 31, 2013 unaudited register.
- Class size summaries report the number of students (“seats filled”) and number of sections in grades K-8 and core courses<sup>1</sup> in Middle Schools and High Schools.
  - ATS data reflects official class (e.g. homeroom/advisory) organizations for grades K-8.
  - STARS reflects the registers of core courses for grades 6-12.
- School-level data from ATS and STARS from October 31<sup>th</sup> are unaudited. Middle Schools and High Schools typically update their schedules in STARS through the end of each term.
  - Historically, early data analysis includes long-term absences, incomplete scheduling data, and other characteristics that are updated by schools in the February report.
- All school-level and citywide data and trends from this report must be considered preliminary.

<sup>1</sup> Core courses are defined for the purpose of this report as: English, Math, Social Studies, Science

# Class Size Context

- In 2013-14, schools' overall budgets were held relatively stable, with additional dollars supporting the implementation of the Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS), the provision of Academic Intervention Services (AIS) to students underperforming on the 2013 Common Core-aligned state tests, and increasing school budget equity. Some schools may have experienced further adjustments in their budgets depending on changes in their student and staff composition.
- The number of Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) classes continues to grow, while the number of General Education (GE) and Self-contained Special Education classes has decreased.
  - Independent of class size trends, more students are being served by two teachers in the class. For example, a school with one General Education class with 30 pupils will show a class size of 30. If, in the next year, this one class changes to an ICT class with 30 pupils and two teachers, their class size remains unchanged, but the ratio of pupils to teachers is now 15:1, not 30:1.
- From FY13 to FY14 the Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) for GE and ICT increased by 0.1 students per teacher. This growth is driven by student growth in the elementary grades.

# Class Size Context (continued)

- Citywide, average class size<sup>1</sup> increased by 0.6% from 26.4 to 26.5, an increase of 0.1 students per class
  - Elementary School average class size increased by 0.4 students from 24.8 to 25.2 average students per class
  - Middle School average class size decreased by 0.3 students from 27.2 to 27.0 average students per class
  - High School average class size increased by 0.4 students from 26.2 to 26.6 average students per class
- Over 55% of schools experienced no increases<sup>2</sup> in class size
  - 845 schools either decreased or had minimal<sup>2</sup> increases in class size
  - 670 schools experienced increases in class size

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

<sup>2</sup> Minimal increases are defined as any increase that is less than 1%.

# 2013-2014 Average Class Size - Preliminary

(Based on 10/31/2013 unaudited register and scheduling data)

	ALL <sup>1</sup>	GE <sup>1</sup>	ICT <sup>1,2</sup>	G&T <sup>1</sup>	<u>GE and ICT</u>					
<b>Gen Ed, ICT, G&amp;T</b>	K-3	<b>24.9</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>26.8<sup>5</sup></b>					
	4-5	<b>26.0</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>26.7<sup>5</sup></b>	<i>English</i>	<i>Math</i>	<i>Science</i>	<i>Social Studies</i>	<i>All Core</i>
	6-8 <sup>3</sup>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>28.6<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>26.8</b>	<b>26.8</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>26.9</b>
	9-12 <sup>4</sup>	<b>26.7</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>26.0</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>26.4</b>
<b>Self-contained</b>	<u>Self-Contained K-8</u>				<u>Self-Contained</u>		<u>6-8</u>	<u>9-12</u>		
	6:1:1			5.6	English		9.5	10.7		
	8:1:1			8.1	Math		9.6	11.7		
	12:1			9.9	Science		9.5	11.9		
	12:1:1			10.0	Social Studies		9.5	11.3		

1. Official class, except for High School. Excludes Self-Contained Special Education classes.
2. ICT is Integrated Co-Teaching, with two teachers sharing a class that combines General Ed and students with disabilities.
3. Includes 5<sup>th</sup> grade in Middle schools with a 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
4. High School courses are all core academic classes, as reported in STARS.
5. Classes where students have been placed through the DOE G&T screening process
6. Middle school accelerated courses and courses approved through the DOE'S High School Preparatory Course Certification (HSPCC) process.

# Class Size – Change over time

*(General Education and ICT classes only)*

Grade Level	Preliminary FY2014	FY2013	FY2012	FY2011	FY2010	FY2009	FY2008	FY2007	FY2006	FY2005	FY2004
<b>K</b>	23.1	23.1	22.8	22.1	21.7	20.7	20.6	20.7	20.9	20.8	20.9
<b>1</b>	25.3	24.6	23.9	22.9	22.0	21.3	21.1	21.3	21.2	21.7	21.6
<b>2</b>	25.5	24.7	24.2	23.2	22.2	21.4	21.1	21.1	21.1	21.2	21.6
<b>3</b>	25.6	25.2	24.5	23.7	22.5	21.9	21.0	21.3	21.4	21.5	22.2
<b>4</b>	26.0	25.5	25.3	25.0	24.4	23.4	23.5	23.9	24.0	24.3	24.6
<b>5</b>	26.0	25.9	25.8	25.4	24.8	24.2	24.1	25.0	25.5	26.2	26.4
<b>6</b>	26.8	26.8	27.0	26.2	26.1	25.6	25.5	26.0	26.4	26.7	27.1
<b>7</b>	27.4	27.6	27.2	27.1	26.8	26.5	26.2	27.2	27.3	28.0	28.3
<b>8</b>	27.9	27.6	27.4	27.3	27.5	26.8	26.6	27.2	27.3	28.0	28.1

<b>MS Core<sup>(3)</sup></b>	26.8 <sup>(4)</sup>	27.2 <sup>(4)</sup>	26.9	26.7	26.2	25.2 <sup>(2)</sup>	NA <sup>(2)</sup>	NA <sup>(2)</sup>	NA <sup>(2)</sup>
<b>HS Core</b>	26.7 <sup>(4)</sup>	26.3 <sup>(4)</sup>	26.4	26.5	26.6	26.2 <sup>(1)</sup>	26.1 <sup>(1)</sup>	25.6 <sup>(1)</sup>	26.2 <sup>(1)</sup>

- (1) Starting in FY08, High School average class size methodology was no longer comparable to historical class data. In FY09, changes to ICT reporting further shifted the methodology.
- (2) Class size information for middle school academic courses became available for the first time in FY09.
- (3) In 2011-12, almost all Middle Schools had moved to the STARS scheduling system. Previously, the transition to STARS resulted in somewhat inconsistent data as principals used the system for the first time. In the longer term, this change will result in more accurate reporting of core and elective courses.
- (4) Starting in FY13 Middle and High School core courses are defined centrally, rather than being indicated as core by schools.