

2025-26 Class Size Reporting Methodology

Note that to align with the class size methodology used for the new class size law, a number of changes were made starting with the 2023-24 class size calculations for the City Council Report that have increased the average class size:

- **Including bridge classes in K-5**
- **Including non-core courses in 6-12 including arts and physical education**
- **Including labs**
- **Including D75 inclusion students and shared instruction classes**
- **Grades 7-8 are only represented in the STARS scheduling data; grade 6 may be included in either ATS and STARS data depending on the school's scheduling method.**
- **For MS and HS, identifying classes based on students meeting in the same place (room number or teacher when room number not available) at the same time (scheduled day and period, rather than section indicated in STARS.**

Source for K-5: ATS snapshot as of 103125

Source for 6-12 Courses: STARS Term 1 data snapshot as of 103125

Data reported by:

- Grade level (including "bridge" classes of more than one grade level)
- Program type
- Subject and course (for grades 6-12)

Program types:

- General Education (Gen Ed)
- Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT)
- Self-contained Special Education (SC) for all grades and by setting for grades K-8
- Gifted and Talented (G&T) for grades K-5 and accelerated core courses for grades 6-8
- Gifted and Talented and ICT (G&T and ICT)

Methodology:

- Average Class size is calculated by dividing the number of students in a program and grade (for ATS) or subject (for STARS) by the number of official classes (ATS) or classes, as defined as students meeting at the same time in the same place in STARS in that program and grade or subject.
- ICT and Self Contained official classes are those identified as such by the CAP class code in the Child Assistance Program (CAP) data system where schools designate a class as ICT or SC.
- ICT and Self Contained courses are identified by their designation in the section properties of STARS.
 - G&T classes are identified as classes in grades K-5 where students have been placed through the DOE's G&T screening process

- Accelerated classes are defined as high school credit-bearing courses offered to middle school students.
- For High Schools that organize their year into more than one term (i.e., semesters), the report captures the course classes and registers for the first term.
- For schools where course data is available for grades 6-12 (as reported in STARS), average class size is calculated by dividing the number of students in all classes for a given subject by the number of classes in that subject, regardless of the grade level of the students enrolled. Classes are defined as students meeting at the same time (based on period and day) in the same place (based on room number or, when valid room number is not available, the assigned teacher).
 - Any course sections of different subjects that meet at the same time (based on period and day) and in the same place (based on room number or teacher) are combined into one “Interdisciplinary” class.
- All official classes in Kindergarten through 5th grade and all courses in STARS that have active student enrollment and active teacher assigned as of 10/31 except for exam prep courses and functional courses (e.g. lunch, related services, etc.) are included. There are some outliers in the data that are excluded:
 - General education and ICT classes and course sections with more than 100 students
 - General education and ICT classes and course sections with fewer than 5 students
 - Self-contained classes with fewer than 2 students