



# Annual Class Size Study

A Report of Class Size Patterns  
for the 2008-2009 School Year  
(Electronic Version)

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## FOREWARD

The Metro ECSU 2008-09 Class Size Study reports data describing both regional and local norms. We wish to emphasize the danger of making assumptions about a district's staffing pattern based on class size statistics alone.

Data for this study was exclusively collected in electronic format for the first time this year. As a result, the process was improved, and, we believe, the data more reliable. Subsequent years data will be collected at an earlier fall date, and, results will be made available in early 2010.

We hope that the information contained in this report will be useful to decision makers and interested citizens served by Metro ECSU. Questions or comments about this report should be directed to Cathy Macdonald at [cathy.macdonald@metroecsusd.org](mailto:cathy.macdonald@metroecsusd.org) or 612/638-1516.

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## INTRODUCTION

This report describes class size statistics for the school districts in the metro Twin Cities area submitting data to Metro ECSU. To enable the reader to interpret this report accurately, it is necessary to describe the report briefly in terms of data collection and reporting procedures.

### Sources of Data

The method of collecting class size information was updated this year to an electronic format. All metro area Superintendents were sent the “Memo to District Contacts: Directions for the Annual Class Size Study” (page 29) and three Excel spreadsheet formats (pages 32-34), one for each school type (elementary, junior secondary and senior secondary). A contact person appointed by the Superintendent in each district was responsible for collecting data from each building in the district, aggregating the data in each Excel file, and returning the data to the Metro ECSU for data processing and analysis. More details about this process are available in the memo as referred to above.

### Organization of the Report

For an overview, please refer to the Table of Contents at the beginning of the study. The Class Size Study contains a glossary (page 3) which should be read prior to the review of the tables. The study contains an introduction, a middle section with tables and results and a summary section. The “Report with Tables” section consisting of statistical highlights for metro schools aggregated as “regionwide” data and by school type—elementary, junior secondary and senior secondary. The highlights represent regional norms for all class size categories and are calculated by aggregating local data plus reports focusing on elementary, junior secondary and senior secondary programs.

Data were reported in some cases excluding special education, and, in others, including special education students. It should also be noted that consistent grade groupings have not been used for each district. (Of special note here is the fact that grades 5 and 6 may be included with elementary or junior secondary data depending upon local district configuration.)

### Limitations

The following considerations should be taken into account when reviewing data in the Annual Class Size Study:

- Class size data included in this report are based on student counts between October 1, 2008 and February 27, 2009.

- At the junior and senior secondary levels, no attempt has been made to include all subjects offered by all schools; only subject areas that are typically offered at the secondary level have been included.
- Music class data has not been included.

The information in this report represents a single year's view of the class size patterns of the participating school districts. Making comparative inferences for the future would not be judicious. Even with historical data available for trend analysis, the factors associated with class size trends produce variations among districts that are to be expected, but difficult to predict. This limitation does not suggest, however, that lay citizens, school practitioners, and others interested in public schools should not carefully analyze past trends and present conditions for the purpose of planning for the future.

In addition, it is tempting to interpret interdistrict comparisons in terms of relationships which suggest cause and effect. The reader should be careful in making such comparisons. Class size data among school districts will be different due to many factors, including educational philosophy, school facility design, school district organizations, economic stability, school district size, management methods, and utilization of specialists or paraprofessionals in conjunction with professional staff. Although the descriptions contained within the tables of this report demonstrate normative comparisons, the data reported simply describe *what* exists, not *why* differences exist among the districts.

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

### 1. Average (Mean) Class Size

Average (Mean) Class Size represents the class size which equals the arithmetic average of class sizes reported. The average is the total of reported class sizes divided by the number of classes reported. Averages are reported to the nearest one hundredth.

### 2. Class Size

Class Size refers to the number of students in a group or class organized for the purpose of instruction.

### 3. Class Size Range

Class Size Range represents the maximum and minimum class sizes reported for a given grade or subject area.

### 4. Class Types

Class types counted for this study differ for each school type. Class types for each are as follows:

<u>Elementary</u>	<u>Junior Secondary</u>	<u>Senior Secondary</u>
PreK	Art	Art
Kindergarten	English	Business Ed
Grade 1	World Languages	English
Grade 2	Home Economics	Family and Consumer Science
Grade 3	Industrial Technology	Industrial Technology
Grade 4	Interdisciplinary Courses	Math
Grade 5	Special Education	Physical Education
Grade 6	Math	Science
Special Education	Physical Education	Social Studies
Combo or Ungraded	Science	Special Education
	Social Studies	Work Experience Program
	Typing	World Language

### 5. Elementary

This grouping *may* include the following grades: pre-K, K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. Combination grades/ungraded (elementary) and special education classes may also be included. Depending on individual district grade organization, “elementary” *may not* include grades 5 or 6.

6. Grade Group

Grade groups include the school types—elementary, junior secondary and senior secondary, but also part of and combinations of those school type groups. For example, some of the data is reported for a combination of junior and senior secondary as one grade group.

7. Junior Secondary

This grouping includes students in middle schools, junior high schools, or the first part of an eight-year secondary program (i.e., grades 5-12).

8. Participating Districts

School districts in the metro Twin Cities area that submitted data for the current year of the study. These districts may or may not be members of Metro ECSU.

9. School Type

School types for this study are elementary, Junior Secondary, or Senior Secondary.

10. Senior Secondary

This grouping includes students at the senior high school level or in the second part of an eight-year secondary program (i.e., grades 5-12).

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## **REPORTS WITH TABLES**

## **A. REGIONWIDE CLASS SIZE STATISTICS**

Averages and class size ranges for specific school types and selected subject areas for the participating districts as a whole are reported in Table 1 (page 8). Summary data for the entire region appears in Table 2 and Table 3 (page 9). Special education, which typically has smaller class sizes, was excluded from Table 2.

Average class size data by selected grade groupings (i.e., Elementary, Junior Secondary, Senior Secondary, Junior and Senior Secondary combined, and for all Pre K - 12) for class sizes excluding special education and including special education are shown in Table 4 (page 10) and Table 5 (page 11) respectively. Individual district data are available in these tables.

**Table 1. Class Sizes Regionwide by Class Type and Grade Group**

**Elementary**

Class Type	Avg.	Min.	Max.
PreK	12.4	9	20
Kindergarten	19.9	9	29
Grade 1	21.5	14	28
Grade 2	23.5	16	29
Grade 3	24.2	16	32
Grade 4	25.8	13	33
Grade 5	26.4	15	34
Grade 6	27.0	19	31
Combo or Ungraded	26.0	23	30
Special Education	4.6	1	17

**Jr Secondary**

Class Type	Avg.	Min.	Max.
Art	26.8	1	59
English	26.1	5	37
World Languages	25.5	4	36
Home Economics	26.2	13	36
Industrial Technology	26.0	10	35
Interdisciplinary Courses	20.6	1	55
Math	26.4	1	41
Physical Education	29.2	2	52
Science	28.7	10	37
Social Studies	28.2	10	38
Special Education	5.7	1	26
Typing	25.9	16	33

**Sr Secondary**

Class Type	Avg.	Min.	Max.
Art	26.3	1	77
Business Ed	26.9	1	78
English	27.7	3	40
Family and Consumer Science	26.0	1	39
Industrial Tech	24.5	2	52
Math	28.2	2	52
Physical Education	30.7	3	46
Science	28.1	6	52
Social Studies	29.7	6	43
Special Education	6.6	1	30
Work Experience Program	16.1	2	36
World Language	26.7	3	38

**Table 2. Class Sizes Regionwide by Grade Group (Excluding Special Education)**

	<b>Avg.</b>	<b>Min.</b>	<b>Max.</b>
<b>Elementary</b>	23.3	1	34
<b>Jr. Secondary</b>	27.2	1	59
<b>Sr. Secondary</b>	27.9	1	78

**Table 3. Class Sizes Regionwide by Grade Group (Including Special Education)**

	<b>Avg.</b>	<b>Min.</b>	<b>Max.</b>
<b>Elementary</b>	22.7	1	34
<b>Jr. Secondary</b>	25.5	1	59
<b>Sr. Secondary</b>	26.5	1	78

**Table 4. Class Sizes by Grade Group for Reporting Districts (Excluding Special Education)**

Elementary		Jr Secondary		Sr Secondary		Jr & Sr Secondary		Pre K - 12	
Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.
108	18.93	108	22.60	111	23.85	108	22.60	108	21.40
276	20.21	13	22.70	16	23.89	13	23.59	13	23.27
271	21.26	111	23.57	13	24.19	111	23.75	111	23.73
277	21.91	6	24.19	14	24.91	6	24.72	6	24.37
13	22.05	271	24.84	6	25.08	273	25.29	16	24.93
280	22.45	273	24.87	277	25.33	16	25.37	273	25.10
16	22.65	280	25.26	276	25.33	277	25.66	280	25.32
14	22.77	197	25.30	831	25.67	280	25.85	277	25.42
197	22.79	270	26.46	280	26.20	14	25.97	271	25.43
831	22.90	277	26.47	273	26.22	197	26.02	14	25.62
6	23.05	16	26.72	197	26.69	271	26.20	197	25.68
111	23.37	11	26.94	194	27.50	831	26.70	276	25.79
11	23.55	14	26.98	623	27.53	276	26.77	831	26.15
279	23.69	623	26.99	271	28.10	623	27.33	623	26.69
273	23.75	831	27.17	719	28.18	194	27.52	11	27.05
194	23.84	194	27.54	11	28.95	11	27.75	194	27.05
622	24.30	192	28.75	192	29.21	270	28.73	719	28.24
623	24.31	276	29.12	270	29.86	719	28.85	270	28.25
270	24.51	719	29.62	279	30.27	192	28.91	192	28.39
719	24.62	279	30.03	622	30.37	279	30.15	279	28.64
192	25.13	622	31.26			622	30.59	622	30.01
				27.90					
	23.28		27.20	Regionwide			27.56		26.91
	Regionwide		Regionwide				Regionwide		Regionwide

**Table 5. Class Sizes by Grade Group for Reporting Districts (Including Special Education)**

Elementary		Jr Secondary		Sr Secondary		Jr & Sr Secondary		Pre K - 12	
Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.
108	18.93	280	20.57	14	21.87	13	21.95	108	21.40
276	20.08	13	20.96	6	22.48	280	22.24	13	21.84
271	21.26	108	22.60	13	22.61	14	22.26	280	22.27
13	21.39	14	22.63	276	22.77	108	22.60	14	22.31
279	21.45	270	22.87	280	23.38	6	23.12	6	23.10
277	21.91	111	23.18	16	23.80	111	23.61	111	23.59
194	22.27	277	23.80	111	23.85	277	24.22	277	24.09
280	22.45	6	24.19	831	24.01	194	24.73	276	24.30
192	22.57	197	24.22	194	24.06	276	24.98	194	24.42
16	22.65	11	24.27	277	24.41	197	25.15	16	24.86
14	22.77	271	24.84	719	25.07	16	25.28	197	24.91
197	22.79	273	24.87	197	26.04	273	25.29	831	24.99
831	22.90	719	25.53	273	26.22	719	25.29	11	25.06
6	23.05	194	25.54	11	26.95	831	25.32	273	25.10
111	23.37	831	25.95	623	27.53	11	25.33	719	25.21
11	23.55	16	26.64	192	28.01	271	26.20	271	25.43
273	23.75	623	26.99	271	28.10	270	26.34	270	26.15
622	24.30	192	27.02	270	28.26	623	27.33	192	26.64
623	24.31	279	28.75	279	30.27	192	27.37	623	26.69
270	24.51	276	29.12	622	30.37	279	29.47	279	27.48
719	24.62	622	31.26			622	30.59	622	30.01
	<b>22.70</b>			<b>26.47</b>					
<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>25.49</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>25.99</b>		<b>25.51</b>	
		<b>Regionwide</b>				<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>	

## **B. ELEMENTARY CLASS SIZE STATISTICS**

Elementary class size data are reported for each participating district for grades pre-K, K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, multi-age groups/combination grades, and Special Education.

Table 6 (page 13) reports the average class sizes for each school district. Districts are ranked from low to high according to the average calculated.

Table 7 (pages 14 - 15) reports class size maximums and minimums for each school district. Districts are ranked from low to high based upon the maximum class size, not the difference between the maximum and minimum class sizes.

Individual districts that did not submit data required for these tables were excluded from that portion of a table(s).

**Table 6. Elementary Class Size Averages Regionwide for Reporting Districts**

PreK		Kindergarten		Grade 1		Grade 2		Grade 3		Grade 4		Grade 5		Grade 6		Combo or Ungraded		Special Education	
Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.
279	10.00	276	15.94	108	17.00	108	17.00	108	20.00	271	22.14	111	22.60	270	24.55	192	23.00	279	2.00
108	17.00	831	17.64	276	17.61	271	20.63	6	21.45	108	23.00	13	22.89	6	25.11	197	23.50	194	5.95
16	17.31	277	17.78	280	20.67	6	20.83	271	22.67	197	23.00	276	23.71	831	26.74	622	25.33	13	8.00
	<b>12.44</b>	108	18.00	271	20.91	276	20.87	280	22.82	276	23.13	271	23.96	279	28.00	273	26.42	276	9.00
<b>Regionwide</b>		271	18.73	11	20.98	831	21.48	16	23.13	277	24.00	280	24.10	623	28.00	623	26.83	192	9.90
		11	19.04	13	21.09	280	21.93	111	23.17	273	24.59	273	24.23						
		13	19.08	831	21.30	16	21.94	13	23.22	831	24.70	270	24.65		<b>26.99</b>		<b>26.00</b>		<b>4.55</b>
		623	19.35	14	21.40	13	22.00	276	23.32	14	24.75	108	25.00		<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>
		16	19.94	622	21.53	277	22.14	197	23.36	13	25.22	11	26.46						
		192	20.17	197	21.60	622	23.11	14	23.43	6	25.56	623	26.93						
		14	20.60	194	21.69	194	23.13	279	24.00	280	25.90	831	26.94						
		719	20.96	111	21.71	273	23.57	719	24.09	270	26.00	6	27.11						
		279	21.00	623	21.94	192	23.85	270	24.29	622	26.20	194	27.35						
		194	21.03	279	22.00	623	23.90	194	24.39	194	26.23	622	27.44						
		273	21.14	6	22.08	111	24.40	831	24.50	111	26.25	192	27.76						
		197	21.19	719	22.55	14	24.63	623	24.53	11	26.61	279	28.00						
		280	21.19	16	22.80	719	24.64	273	24.91	192	26.78	16	28.17						
		6	21.38	277	22.86	11	24.81	11	25.02	279	27.00	719	29.58						
		622	22.61	273	23.42	270	24.86	192	25.14	16	27.08								
		270	23.81	270	23.50	279	25.00	277	25.20	719	27.20								
			<b>19.89</b>	192	24.29	197	25.23	622	25.81	623	27.25								
		<b>Regionwide</b>			<b>21.50</b>		<b>23.50</b>		<b>24.19</b>		<b>25.79</b>								
				<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>									



**Table 7. Elementary Class Size Maximum/Minimum Regionwide for Reporting Districts**

PreK			Kindergarten			Grade 1			Grade 2			Grade 3			Grade 4			Grade 5			
Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	
279	10	10	108	18	18	108	17	17	108	17	17	108	20	20	108	23	23	111	24	20	
108	17	17	277	20	13	276	21	15	280	23	21	111	24	23	14	26	24	108	25	25	
16	20	9	13	21	16	111	22	21	6	23	19	279	24	24	271	26	17	276	26	21	
20	9		276	21	12	14	22	21	111	25	23	197	25	22	111	27	26	280	26	21	
Regionwide			279	21	21	279	22	22	13	25	19	276	25	21	197	27	19	13	27	18	
			16	22	17	13	23	18	14	25	24	6	25	18	273	27	23	273	27	21	
			271	23	10	11	24	15	16	25	17	14	26	19	276	27	20	279	28	28	
			623	23	13	271	24	17	271	25	16	277	26	24	279	27	27	16	29	27	
			719	23	19	280	24	18	276	25	17	280	26	21	16	28	26	270	29	21	
			831	23	11	6	24	19	279	25	25	719	26	22	270	28	22	271	29	17	
			14	24	17	831	24	14	277	26	19	16	28	20	277	28	19	6	30	25	
			192	24	17	16	25	20	831	26	18	192	28	23	280	28	25	623	30	25	
			194	24	14	197	25	18	192	27	21	271	28	18	6	28	23	11	31	18	
			197	24	14	277	25	22	194	27	17	273	28	22	831	29	22	192	31	25	
			6	24	18	623	25	17	197	27	23	831	28	20	13	30	22	194	33	15	
			273	25	16	719	25	19	273	27	21	13	29	19	623	30	19	622	33	21	
			280	25	9	194	26	15	623	27	20	270	29	20	11	31	16	719	33	26	
			622	26	19	622	26	17	622	28	17	623	29	21	622	31	20	831	34	23	
			11	29	14	270	27	19	719	28	22	622	30	20	194	32	13				
			270	29	18	273	27	20	11	29	16	194	31	16	719	32	22				
			29	9		192	28	21	270	29	21	11	32	19	192	33	22				
			Regionwide				28	14		29	16		32	16		33	13				
						Regionwide			Regionwide			Regionwide			Regionwide						
																				34	15
																					Regionwide

**Table 7. Elementary Class Size Maximum/Minimum Regionwide for Reporting Districts**

<b>Grade 6</b>			<b>Combo or Ungraded</b>			<b>Special Education</b>		
<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>
6	27	23	192	23	23	279	2	2
279	28	28	197	24	23	13	8	8
270	29	19	622	27	24	276	9	9
623	31	24	623	29	23	194	15	1
831	31	23	273	30	24	192	17	5
<b>31</b>	<b>19</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>23</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Regionwide</b>			<b>Regionwide</b>			<b>Regionwide</b>		

### **C. JUNIOR SECONDARY CLASS SIZE STATISTICS**

Junior secondary class size data are reported for each participating district in selected subject areas (see page 3 in the Glossary of Terms for a list).

Table 8 (page 17 - 18) reports the average class sizes for each school district. Districts are ranked from low to high according to the average calculated.

Table 9 (pages 19 - 20) reports class size maximums and minimums for each school district. Districts are ranked from low to high based upon the maximum class size, not the difference between the maximum and minimum class sizes.

Individual districts that did not submit data required for these tables were excluded from that portion of a table(s).

**Table 8. Jr. Secondary Class Size Averages Regionwide for Reporting Districts**

Art		English		World Languages		Home Economics		Industrial Technology		Interdisciplinary Courses		Math		Physical Education		Science		Social Studies	
Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.
6	20.33	13	21.70	13	10.00	111	22.90	13	16.00	270	14.47	13	17.07	108	22.50	108	22.50	108	22.50
108	23.00	271	22.39	831	22.55	108	23.00	6	19.00	111	22.09	108	22.50	111	25.00	6	23.05	111	23.33
16	23.23	197	22.48	14	23.05	197	23.63	197	19.90	277	25.67	6	22.95	280	25.17	111	23.33	6	24.05
273	24.64	108	22.50	273	23.23	271	23.87	111	22.90			831	23.31	197	25.24	13	23.73	271	24.39
277	24.72	280	22.77	192	24.03	273	24.30	108	23.00	<b>20.63</b>		111	23.33	194	25.74	273	26.10	13	25.33
111	25.00	6	23.04	276	25.00	192	24.93	270	24.58	<b>Regionwide</b>		273	23.95	273	26.42	271	26.35	16	25.55
271	25.90	111	23.33	280	25.00	623	25.17	271	24.97			277	24.45	13	26.50	280	26.43	623	25.89
279	26.00	273	24.21	197	25.20	16	25.23	831	25.02			197	24.48	6	26.50	623	27.00	273	25.92
831	26.02	11	25.13	271	25.98	277	25.58	280	25.50			271	24.88	270	27.31	197	27.02	280	25.97
13	26.57	623	25.56	11	26.24	279	26.00	719	25.69			16	24.98	271	28.37	16	27.45	197	26.48
192	26.65	270	25.84	719	26.43	831	26.39	279	26.00			280	25.27	277	28.72	14	27.79	270	27.66
719	27.06	14	26.92	16	27.00	194	26.54	14	26.25			11	25.67	14	28.92	270	27.92	277	27.94
11	27.23	277	27.59	270	27.13	270	27.06	194	26.67			623	26.04	11	29.22	277	28.05	11	27.99
194	27.63	194	27.90	194	27.77	719	27.13	11	27.10			14	26.18	276	29.32	11	28.43	14	28.15
270	27.67	279	28.00	6	28.60	11	27.24	623	27.25			270	26.68	192	30.00	831	28.53	194	28.27
14	27.92	16	28.29	279	29.00	13	28.00	192	27.57			194	27.73	623	30.22	194	28.63	192	29.85
623	28.18	719	28.83	623	29.40	276	28.21	276	28.40			276	27.80	831	30.73	192	30.09	831	29.89
280	28.67	192	28.94			6	28.67	622	30.12			192	29.04	719	31.61	276	30.56	276	30.10
197	30.05	622	29.47	<b>25.49</b>		622	30.71					719	29.10	16	31.64	719	31.74	622	30.48
276	30.15	276	29.57	<b>Regionwide</b>				<b>26.05</b>				279	30.00	622	32.73	279	32.25	719	31.58
622	32.00	831	29.58				<b>26.21</b>	<b>Regionwide</b>				622	31.52	279	33.00	622	32.37	279	32.61
	<b>26.80</b>		<b>26.11</b>				<b>Regionwide</b>						<b>26.39</b>		<b>29.22</b>		<b>28.66</b>		<b>28.18</b>
	<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>										<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>

**Table 8. Jr. Secondary Class Size Averages Regionwide for Reporting Districts**

<b>Special Education</b>		<b>Typing</b>	
<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Avg.</b>	<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Avg.</b>
16	2.00	108	23.00
270	4.10	277	24.27
719	4.48	16	24.65
14	4.64	111	25.00
13	5.00	719	25.50
277	5.33	831	27.15
194	5.59	6	28.67
197	5.94	192	31.40
831	5.95		<b>25.90</b>
11	5.95		<b>Regionwide</b>
192	6.29		
279	6.98		
280	7.00		
111	9.00		
	<b>5.68</b>		
	<b>Regionwide</b>		

Table 9. Jr. Secondary Class Size Maximum/Minimum Regionwide for Reporting Districts

Art			English			World Languages			Home Economics			Industrial Technology			Interdisciplinary Courses			Math		
Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min
108	23	23	108	24	20	13	10	10	108	23	23	13	16	16	270	15	14	13	18	16
279	26	26	111	25	21	16	29	26	111	25	21	6	22	16	277	32	20	108	24	20
6	26	13	13	25	19	279	29	29	279	26	26	108	23	23	111	55	1	111	25	21
13	27	26	280	27	14	280	30	15	13	28	28	111	25	21				280	28	22
277	28	19	279	28	28	273	32	10	197	29	16	279	26	26		55	1	279	30	30
194	30	24	277	31	22	6	32	25	277	29	23	197	28	10		<b>Regionwide</b>		277	32	8
111	31	21	623	31	17	623	32	25	194	30	19	280	29	19				273	33	13
270	31	22	197	33	5	197	33	20	270	31	16	831	29	17				16	34	1
11	32	14	270	33	16	276	33	12	6	31	27	270	30	16				270	34	14
273	32	10	194	34	18	14	34	4	271	32	13	14	31	18				271	34	16
16	33	13	276	34	22	192	34	14	273	32	19	194	31	22				6	34	12
192	33	17	14	35	18	194	34	22	623	32	19	192	32	21				623	34	17
280	33	23	192	35	14	11	35	14	11	33	18	276	33	20				831	34	2
623	33	20	271	35	10	271	35	11	192	33	13	11	34	15				14	35	16
719	33	17	273	35	15	719	35	19	276	33	19	623	34	20				192	35	15
831	33	1	6	35	14	831	35	5	719	33	15	719	34	15				197	35	10
14	34	19	622	35	20	270	36	16	16	34	20	271	35	16				11	36	10
276	34	19	11	36	10				831	34	17	622	35	26				276	36	13
271	35	10	719	36	10	<b>36</b>	<b>4</b>		622	36	23							622	36	24
622	36	27	16	37	11	<b>Regionwide</b>						<b>35</b>	<b>10</b>					194	41	3
197	59	11	831	37	18				<b>36</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>						719	41	6
									<b>Regionwide</b>											
	<b>59</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>37</b>	<b>5</b>														<b>41</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Regionwide</b>			<b>Regionwide</b>															<b>Regionwide</b>	

**Table 9. Jr. Secondary Class Size Maximum/Minimum Regionwide for Reporting Districts**

Physical Education			Science			Social Studies			Special Education			Typing		
Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min
108	24	20	108	24	20	108	24	20	16	2	2	108	23	23
13	29	24	111	25	21	111	25	21	13	5	5	277	27	20
111	31	21	13	28	20	13	29	23	280	7	7	111	31	21
194	31	10	280	30	18	277	30	25	111	9	9	831	32	16
280	32	16	277	31	22	280	30	19	194	10	1	16	33	19
270	33	19	6	32	11	194	32	21	197	10	1	192	33	30
279	33	33	623	32	20	273	32	17	270	10	1	6	33	24
14	34	23	194	33	23	6	32	15	719	10	1			
192	35	26	271	33	17	16	33	10	14	11	1		<b>33</b>	<b>16</b>
273	35	14	273	33	13	279	33	32	192	12	3		<b>Regionwide</b>	
277	35	22	279	33	32	11	34	13	277	12	2			
6	35	15	11	34	10	270	34	18	831	13	1			
16	37	23	16	34	10	271	34	14	279	19	1			
276	37	16	270	34	16	623	34	18	11	26	1			
622	38	23	192	35	22	14	35	20						
719	38	20	831	35	18	192	35	22		<b>26</b>	<b>1</b>			
831	38	21	719	36	25	276	36	24		<b>Regionwide</b>				
623	39	17	14	37	20	622	36	21						
271	40	20	197	37	19	197	37	18						
11	41	14	276	37	25	719	37	21						
197	52	2	622	37	28	831	38	21						
	<b>52</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>37</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>38</b>	<b>10</b>						
	<b>Regionwide</b>			<b>Regionwide</b>			<b>Regionwide</b>							

## **D. SENIOR SECONDARY CLASS SIZE STATISTICS**

Senior secondary class size data are reported for each participating district in selected subject areas (see page 3 in the Glossary of Terms for a list). This year there were some updates made to class types for Senior Secondary data. Distinction between vocational and nonvocational classes was no longer made, Speech was collapsed into English, Home Economics became Family and Consumer Science and Typing/Keyboarding was collapsed into Business Ed.

Table 10 (pages 22 – 23) reports the average class sizes for each school district. Districts are ranked from low to high according to the average calculated.

Table 11 (pages 24 - 25) reports class size maximums and minimums for each school district. Districts are ranked from low to high based upon the maximum class size, not the difference between the maximum and minimum class sizes.

Individual districts that did not submit data required for these tables were excluded from that portion of a table(s).



**Table 10. Sr. Secondary Class Size Averages Regionwide for Reporting Districts**

Art		Business Ed		English		Family and Consumer Science		Industrial Tech		Math		Physical Education		Science		Social Studies		Special Education	
Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.	Dist.	Avg.
831	18.55	13	19.43	16	23.86	719	21.05	16	12.29	16	22.15	13	21.00	16	23.89	13	22.25	16	3.00
111	20.00	16	22.00	111	24.00	273	21.30	111	19.00	111	23.00	6	23.63	111	24.00	277	22.74	194	4.71
277	20.08	280	22.08	13	24.00	197	21.63	280	19.00	831	24.59	273	25.67	276	24.99	14	25.08	6	5.50
194	21.25	6	22.83	276	25.05	6	22.67	6	19.71	277	24.75	197	25.93	13	25.14	16	25.23	276	5.53
6	22.20	111	23.00	6	25.13	280	23.30	14	19.73	14	25.60	14	26.81	277	25.48	111	26.00	719	6.15
623	22.64	192	23.92	197	25.25	194	24.00	276	20.80	276	25.63	111	28.00	14	25.48	276	26.81	831	6.23
13	24.61	197	24.00	273	26.22	831	24.73	194	21.13	6	25.96	831	28.47	831	25.61	280	27.11	270	6.46
14	25.13	194	24.08	280	26.56	13	24.75	719	21.58	273	26.12	276	28.81	6	26.00	6	27.62	11	6.66
16	25.29	719	25.00	14	26.82	14	25.13	831	22.19	13	26.45	270	29.67	280	26.53	271	28.30	14	7.08
270	26.00	14	25.33	279	27.00	623	25.73	277	22.33	197	27.29	623	29.77	623	26.54	831	28.90	197	7.09
192	26.07	831	25.33	277	27.26	111	26.00	623	23.65	271	27.71	277	30.00	273	26.70	719	28.93	13	8.00
276	26.42	623	25.50	831	27.31	270	26.80	622	26.12	280	27.82	280	30.14	197	27.24	273	28.97	280	9.00
273	26.50	277	26.58	271	27.53	16	27.00	197	26.30	623	27.92	16	30.54	192	27.51	197	29.71	192	9.60
280	26.80	273	26.67	719	27.91	11	27.38	192	26.70	194	28.54	11	30.72	194	27.98	194	29.98	277	12.41
719	28.06	276	28.33	270	28.09	271	27.48	11	27.30	192	29.49	719	30.88	719	28.63	11	30.10		
11	28.11	11	29.13	194	28.80	192	27.83	271	27.33	719	29.75	194	32.12	11	28.66	623	30.33		<b>6.55</b>
271	29.18	270	29.14	623	28.83	279	28.00	270	29.35	11	29.80	271	32.74	271	28.72	270	31.55		<b>Regionwide</b>
279	30.00	622	29.25	11	29.38	276	28.20	279	30.00	270	30.22	622	33.49	279	30.00	622	32.83		
622	30.94	271	29.89	192	29.57	622	28.51			279	30.35	192	33.95	270	31.31	192	32.87		
197	32.06	279	30.00	622	30.27				<b>24.47</b>	622	30.65	279	34.00	622	31.85	279	34.00		
							<b>26.00</b>	<b>Regionwide</b>											
	<b>26.34</b>		<b>26.81</b>		<b>27.70</b>					<b>28.25</b>		<b>30.73</b>		<b>28.14</b>		<b>29.72</b>			
<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>						<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>		<b>Regionwide</b>			

**Table 10. Sr. Secondary Class Size Averages Regionwide for Reporting Districts**

<b>Work Experience Program</b>		<b>World Language</b>	
<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Avg.</b>	<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Avg.</b>
13	4.00	273	19.29
280	8.00	14	20.76
194	8.29	276	23.13
271	11.00	197	23.47
622	11.31	280	23.76
276	13.00	277	24.45
16	13.57	6	25.29
270	19.00	16	25.84
719	20.00	623	26.21
831	20.00	194	26.35
11	20.85	13	26.50
	<b>16.12</b>	831	26.56
<b>Regionwide</b>		622	26.80
		192	26.88
		271	26.97
		11	28.47
		719	28.92
		279	30.00
		270	30.23
			<b>26.67</b>
		<b>Regionwide</b>	

Table 11. Sr. Secondary Class Size Maximum/Minimum Regionwide for Reporting Districts

Art			English			Family and Consumer Science			Industrial Tech			Math			Physical Education			Science		
Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min	Dist.	Max	Min
111	20	20	16	31	19	13	27	24	276	28	11	111	23	23	13	21	21	111	24	24
16	28	17	276	33	5	276	30	18	270	39	9	16	28	2	111	28	28	13	30	21
623	29	15	277	35	14	719	32	12				13	29	24	6	30	14	279	30	30
13	30	17	831	35	12	270	35	13		39	9	279	31	30	14	34	12	16	31	11
279	30	30	719	37	9	622	37	18		Regionwide		273	33	9	16	34	16	276	31	8
6	30	8	622	40	15							831	33	12	279	34	34	273	32	15
276	31	16		40	5		37	12				276	34	9	831	35	23	280	32	10
277	31	12		Regionwide			Regionwide					277	34	12	194	36	24	6	32	16
280	32	23										14	35	11	273	36	11	14	33	12
831	32	1										271	35	14	280	37	12	277	33	16
14	33	15										194	36	16	623	38	16	831	33	16
192	33	15										6	36	15	11	39	16	192	34	20
194	33	3										623	36	9	270	39	12	194	34	16
11	35	12										270	37	17	276	39	6	623	34	13
271	35	18										280	37	12	277	39	4	719	34	15
273	35	15										719	37	22	719	39	20	271	35	13
719	35	16										192	39	19	271	40	19	197	37	10
270	36	9										197	39	7	197	43	3	270	38	6
622	37	18										622	39	15	622	43	19	622	40	20
197	77	5										11	52	12	192	46	22	11	52	14
	77	1											52	2		46	3		52	6
	Regionwide												Regionwide			Regionwide			Regionwide	

**Table 11. Sr. Secondary Class Size Maximum/Minimum Regionwide for Reporting Districts**

<b>Social Studies</b>			<b>Special Education</b>			<b>Work Experience Program</b>			<b>World Language</b>		
<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>Dist.</b>	<b>Max</b>	<b>Min</b>
111	26	26	16	3	3	13	4	4	273	23	10
13	26	18	13	8	8	280	8	8	13	29	24
16	32	21	280	9	9	271	12	10	279	30	30
14	33	15	6	11	2	276	13	13	280	31	11
273	34	19	276	12	1	194	14	4	16	32	11
276	34	6	831	12	1	16	17	11	277	32	11
279	34	34	194	14	1	270	19	19	623	33	17
280	34	16	270	14	1	719	20	20	192	34	12
271	35	14	11	15	1	831	20	20	276	34	9
277	35	9	197	17	3	622	27	2	6	34	12
6	35	11	192	18	5	11	36	10	194	35	4
623	35	16	719	19	1				271	35	15
719	35	21	277	29	5	<b>36</b>	<b>2</b>		11	36	10
194	36	16	14	30	1	<b>Regionwide</b>			197	36	3
831	36	12							831	36	12
11	39	16	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>					622	37	7
270	39	7	<b>Regionwide</b>						719	37	19
192	43	19							14	38	12
197	43	12							270	38	15
622	43	18									
	<b>43</b>	<b>6</b>							<b>38</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Regionwide</b>									<b>Regionwide</b>		

## **DATA OBSERVATIONS**

Twenty-two Twin Cities metro area school districts participated in the 2008-2009 Class Size Study. Individual districts that did not submit data required for these tables were excluded from that portion of a table(s).

For Elementary data, highest average class sizes increased with grade level. In general, class size ranges were not as variable as those for Secondary data.

For Junior Secondary data, highest average class sizes regionwide were for Science, Social Studies, and Physical Education. Class size ranges showed wide variability.

For Senior Secondary data, highest average class sizes regionwide were for “core” academic subjects (English, Math, Science, and Social Studies) along with Physical Education. Class size ranges showed wide variability.

## APPENDIX

## PARTICIPATING DISTRICTS

<u>Alphabetical Listing</u>	<u>District Number Listing</u>
11 Anoka-Hennepin	6 South St. Paul
271 Bloomington	11 Anoka-Hennepin
108 Central Public Schools	13 Columbia Heights
13 Columbia Heights	14 Fridley
273 Edina	16 Spring Lake Park
192 Farmington	108 Central Public School
831 Forest Lake	111 Watertown-Mayer
14 Fridley	192 Farmington
270 Hopkins	194 Lakeville
194 Lakeville	197 West St. Paul
276 Minnetonka	270 Hopkins
622 North St. Paul/Maplewood/Oakdale	271 Bloomington
279 Osseo	273 Edina
719 Prior Lake-Savage	276 Minnetonka
280 Richfield	277 Westonka
623 Roseville	279 Osseo
6 South St. Paul	280 Richfield
16 Spring Lake Park	622 North St. Paul/Maplewood/Oakdale
111 Watertown-Mayer	623 Roseville
197 West St. Paul	719 Prior Lake-Savage
277 Westonka	831 Forest Lake



Metro ECSU  
3055 Old Highway 8  
Suite 302  
St. Anthony, MN 55418

Website: [www.ecsu.k12.mn.us](http://www.ecsu.k12.mn.us)  
Main phone: 612/638-1500

DATE: February 3, 2009  
TO: Class Size Study District Contact Persons  
FROM: Cathy Macdonald, Metro ECSU Director of Operations  
RE: Directions for the Annual Class Size Study 2008-09

Metro ECSU is again collecting school district data for the 7-county metro area Class Size Study. This study gives districts a point of comparison for class size across the metro area. Metro ECSU would greatly appreciate your help in collecting the data for this study.

**Reporting Format:**

Please find enclosed three different Excel spreadsheets for data reporting. Each file is designed for one school type (level) as follows:

- Elementary (Pre K – 6)
- Junior Secondary, Middle School, OR First Part of Six-Year Secondary
- Senior Secondary OR Second Part of Six-Year Secondary.

**File Format:**

Each entry in Excel consists of: District Number, Class Type (elementary grades or secondary subjects), Number of Classes and Class Size. These are called fields.

Each file contains a data entry sample and a list of acceptable values for the Class Type field. Note that the Class Type field has a pop-up list of values from which to choose (click on the up/down arrows); you do not have to type them.

If your school does not have a particular Class Type, do not enter it at all. For example, if your elementary school does not have a Pre-K class, start with your K class. If your junior secondary school does not offer foreign language classes, skip foreign language.

**Example:**

Suppose St. Paul Public Schools (district 625) had the following English classes in a junior high school: one class of 18, four classes of 22, and twelve classes of 24.

- Use the Junior Secondary Excel Spreadsheet.
- Enter three lines of data, as follows.

District	Class Type	Nbr Classes	Class Size
625	English	1	18
625	English	4	22
625	English	12	24

**Mode of Collection:**



*If data is compiled at the district level (or with only 1 elementary, 1 middle/junior secondary and 1 senior secondary), use one of each of the Excel files to record the data.*

*If data is collected from a number of building level contacts, please distribute the appropriate Excel file(s) to each school. Also include a copy of page 1 of this memo. Instruct building contacts to respond in a timely fashion—we suggest that you give them a due date of 2/13/2009. (Metro ECSU’s due date is 2/27/09.)*

Once the data from each building is collected, please aggregate the data for the district into your three Excel files (elementary, jr./mid secondary and sr. secondary). Please send only the three *district* aggregate data files (along with any comments) to Metro ECSU.

Aggregate the data by copying the individual buildings’ data into your three Excel files. For example, when you receive files from junior secondary schools, proceed as follows.

1. Open your empty district ECSU Jr Secondary file.
2. Open the first building’s ECSU Jr Secondary file.
3. Review the building contact’s data entry and make corrections if necessary.
4. Select all of the data entered in columns A-D (not including the titles in Row A).
5. Switch to your district Jr Secondary file (you may choose it in the Window menu.)
6. Click in the first empty cell in column A and paste in the data that you just copied.
7. Open the next building’s ECSU Jr Secondary file.
8. Repeat steps 3-7 until you have copied all of the Jr Secondary files into the district file.
9. Save your district Jr Secondary file.

*Do not total the data for your district. Send the raw data from each school.*

*Do not commingle elementary, junior secondary, or senior secondary data. Keep each type of data in its respective Excel file.*

In each of your three aggregate Excel files, *also include a list of Class Types that are not provided in your district at all.* Please list them in the space indicated, just below your contact information. Simply type the names of the Class Types that you do not offer.

#### **Excel File Names and Format**

Please rename your three Excel files *before* you use or distribute them; add your district number to the file name as per this example:

<b>Original File Name</b>	<b>Renamed File Name</b>
ECSU Elementary.xls	ECSU 625 Elementary.xls
ECSU Jr Secondary.xls	ECSU 625 Jr Secondary.xls
ECSU Sr Secondary.xls	ECSU 625 Sr Secondary.xls

The file must remain in “.xls” format. Newer versions of Excel may ask if you want to save the file in another format, such as “.xlsx”. *Do not change the file to this new format.*

**Comments/Assumptions:**

If you wish to submit any comments or explanations about your district's data, you may submit these in a Word document along with your Excel files. Such comments will be edited and included in the Class Size Study Appendices.

**DEADLINE:**

*Submit your data to Metro ECSU by February 27, 2009.*

Make sure that you include your contact information in the space provided (with email) with the data, so that we know where to send any proofs or to ask questions about the data.

If you do not submit your data by February 27, we cannot guarantee that your data will be included in the study.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Cathy Macdonald, Metro ECSU, [cathy.macdonald@metroecsusd.org](mailto:cathy.macdonald@metroecsusd.org) or 612/638-1516. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Data Collection Format: Elementary

District Nbr	Class Type	Nbr Classes	Class Size

Class Type Values
PreK
K
1
2
3
4
5
6
Special Education
Combo or Ungraded

Example Table			
Nbr	Class Type	Nbr Classes	Class Size
625	PreK	2	18
625	K	2	17
625	1	1	19
625	1	2	21
625	2	2	20
625	2	1	21
625	2	1	23
625	3	1	23
625	3	3	22
625	4	2	28
625	5	1	26
625	6	1	29
625	Special Education	2	8
625	Combo or Ungraded	1	18
Etc.			

Please enter your contact information	
Contact Person Name	
Position	
School (or District Office)	
Phone	
Email	

**District Office Only:** Please list below all Class Types that are NOT provided in your district

**Data Collection Format: Junior Secondary**

District Nbr	Class Type	Nbr Classes	Class Size

Class Type Values
Art
English
Foreign Language
Home Economics
Industrial Technology
Interdisciplinary Courses
Special Education
Math
Physical Education
Science
Social Studies
Typing

Example Table			
District Nbr	Class Type	Nbr Classes	Class Size
625	Art	2	18
625	English	2	17
625	English	2	24
625	English	1	25
625	Foreign Language	1	29
625	Home Economics	2	20
625	Home Economics	1	23
625	Industrial Technology	1	24
625	Interdisciplinary Courses	2	28
625	Math	1	29
625	Math	4	25
625	Physical Education	2	30
625	Science	1	27
625	Science	3	28
625	Social Studies	2	21
625	Social Studies	3	24
625	Special Education	1	11
625	Special Education	3	10
625	Typing	1	21
625	Typing	1	31
Etc.			

Please enter your contact information	
Contact Person Name	
Position	
School (or District Office)	
Phone	
Email	

**District Office Only:** Please list below all Class Types that are NOT provided in your district

**Data Collection Format: Senior Secondary**

District Nbr	Class Type	Nbr Classes	Class Size

**Class Type Values\***

- Art
- Business Ed NonVocational
- Business Ed Vocational
- English
- Home Ec Vocational
- Home Ec NonVocational
- Industrial Tech NonVocational
- Industrial Tech Vocational
- Math
- Physical Education
- Science
- Social Studies
- Speech
- Special Education
- Typing Keyboarding
- Work Experience Program
- World Language

\*Prior to updates made to class types in reporting phase

**Example Table**

District Nbr	Class Type	Nbr Classes	Class Size
625	Art	2	18
625	Business Ed NonVocational	2	17
625	Business Ed Vocational	1	19
625	English	2	20
625	English	2	24
625	English	1	25
625	Home Ec NonVocational	2	28
625	Home Ec Vocational	1	24
625	Industrial Tech NonVocational	1	26
625	Industrial Tech Vocational	3	25
625	Math	2	30
625	Physical Education	4	28
625	Science	2	21
625	Social Studies	1	21
625	Social Studies	3	24
625	Special Education	4	10
625	Speech	1	23
625	Typing Keyboarding	1	31
625	Work Experience Program	4	25
625	World Language	2	16

Etc.

<b>Please enter your contact information</b>	
Contact Person Name	
Position	
School (or District Office)	
Phone	
Email	

**District Office Only:** Please list below all Class Types that are NOT provided in your district