

Executive Summary

NEA Research collects, maintains, and analyzes data on issues and trends affecting the nation's public education systems and their employees. This report, *Rankings of the States 2014 and Estimates of School Statistics 2015*, contains data based on information from state departments of education and other, largely governmental, sources. Complete citations for sources in this report are provided in the References section. Significant highlights of these two reports are as follows:

Part I. *Rankings of the States 2014* Highlights

Population: State population data provide indicators of the relative demand for public education services and other public programs. From 2011 to 2012, the total U.S. resident population increased by seven-tenths percent (0.7%). States that experienced the greatest percentage gains in population were the North Dakota (2.5%), District of Columbia (2.5%), and Texas (1.5%). Rhode Island (-0.1%) and Vermont (-0.1%) experienced population declines (Table A-3). (All further references A-H refer to tables in the Rankings section.)

The total U.S. resident population increased by 9.1 percent during the decade from 2002 to 2012. Nevada (27.2%) experienced the greatest percentage gains in population over that 10-year period. Other states that had large 10-year gains include Arizona (20.2%) and Texas (20.0%) (A-4).

The most densely populated state in 2012 was New Jersey, with 1,195 persons per square mile of land area. The District of Columbia had a population density of 10,298 persons per square mile. The average population density for the United States and D.C. in 2012 was 89 persons per square mile. The least densely populated states in 2012: Alaska (1), Wyoming (6), and Montana (7) (A-11).

Enrollment: In fall 2013, U.S. public school enrollment was 49,568,215, up 0.3 percent over

fall 2012. The largest percentage enrollment changes from fall 2012 to fall 2013 were in Nevada (2.4%), Utah (2.0%), Idaho (1.6%), and Colorado (1.6%). Fifteen states experienced declines in student enrollment in fall 2013. The greatest declines were in Michigan (-3.8%), Rhode Island (-2.3%), New Hampshire (-1.2%), and Vermont (-1.0%) (B-2, B-3).

Classroom Teachers: Changes in the number of staff employed in education institutions as well as their levels of compensation reflect trends in enrollment; changes in the economy; and specific state, local, and national program priorities. There were 3,121,926 teachers in 2013–14 (C-5). The average number of students per teacher increased from 15.8 in 2012–13 to 15.9 in 2013–14. This ratio of students to teachers must not be confused with “Average Class Size,” which is the number of students assigned to a classroom for instructional purposes. Class size and student-teacher ratio are very different concepts and cannot be used interchangeably. According to recent studies, the difference between student-teacher ratio and average class size in K–3 is 9 or 10 students (Sharp 2002). Therefore, an elementary school with a schoolwide student-teacher ratio of 16:1 in kindergarten through third grade would typically have an average class size of 25 or 26 students in those same grades. The highest number of students enrolled per teacher in public elementary and secondary schools in fall 2013: Michigan (22.6), Utah (22.5), Oregon

(21.5), California (21.3), and Idaho (19.8). States with the lowest student–teacher ratios were Vermont (10.0), New Jersey (11.8), New Hampshire (11.9), North Dakota (12.1), and Maine (12.1). Thirty-three states and the District of Columbia had average student–teacher ratios below the U.S. average (15.9) (C-6).

Males comprised 23.8 percent of U.S. public school teachers in 2014. Many of them taught in Kansas (33.1%), Oregon (30.6%), or Vermont (30.2%). States with the lowest percentage of male faculty: Virginia (17.3%), Mississippi (18.3%), Louisiana (18.4%), and South Carolina (18.8%). The median was 24.2 percent (C-8).

Classroom Teacher Salaries: The U.S. average public school teacher salary for 2013–14 was \$56,610. State average public school teacher salaries ranged from those in New York (\$76,409), Massachusetts (\$73,195), and District of Columbia (\$73,162) at the high end to South Dakota (\$40,023), Mississippi (\$42,187), and Idaho (\$44,465) at the low end (C-11).

Over the decade from 2003–04 to 2013–14, in constant dollars, average salaries for public school teachers changed -3.5 percent. Wyoming (13.6%), New York (9.9%), North Dakota (8.4%), Massachusetts (8.1%), and Iowa (7.6%) had the largest real increases in salaries during that 10-year period. Thirty-four states saw real declines in average teacher salaries over those years, adjusting for inflation. Those with average salaries declining 6.5 percent or more: North Carolina (-17.4%), Indiana (-12.9%), Idaho (-12.0%), Illinois (-12.0%), Colorado (-9.1%), Arizona (-9.0%), Georgia (-8.7%), Mississippi (-7.5%), Washington (-7.5%), West Virginia (-7.0%), Utah (-7.0%), South Carolina (-6.7%), Florida (-6.6%), and Ohio (-6.6%) (C-14).

The U.S. average one-year change in public school teacher salaries from 2012–13 to 2013–14 was 1.0%. The largest one-year decrease was in Louisiana (-4.5%) and the largest one-year increase was in Vermont (4.1%) (C-15).

Expenditures per Student: The U.S. average per student expenditure for public elementary and secondary schools in 2013–14 fall enrollment

was \$11,355. States with the highest per student expenditures: Vermont (\$21,263), New York (\$20,428), New Jersey (\$20,117), Alaska (\$19,244), and Rhode Island (\$18,627). Arizona (\$7,143), Utah (\$7,476), Oklahoma (\$7,925), Indiana (\$8,135), and North Carolina (\$8,632) had the lowest per student expenditures (H-11).

General Financial Resources: Total personal income data indicate the overall economic activity within a specific geographic area. It is the aggregate income from all sources received by persons residing in a state, and it has a significant effect on the total revenue or financial resources available to government jurisdictions through taxation. Personal income largely drives state tax systems; sales and income tax collections respond rapidly to its changes. Between 2011 and 2012, U.S. total personal income changed 5.2 percent to yield \$281,819 per student enrolled (D-2, D-7), whereas revenue per K–12 student increased by 0.4 percent that year. For 2013–14, revenue per K–12 student increased 2.2 percent (F-1, F-2).

Government Revenues: State and local government revenue shares show little annual variation; given this well-established reality, it is easy to see why economic growth is the key to substantive improvement in education finance. State and local tax revenues per \$1,000 of personal income for 2011–12 were \$100 versus \$101 the prior year. This number has been fairly level over the past decade (E-4).

School Revenues: School funding continues to be state oriented, although the federal share increased somewhat in recent years. Between school years 2012–13 and 2013–14, the local share of K–12 public education funding increased from 43.8 to 44 percent (F-7, F-8) and the state share remained at roughly 46.4 percent (F-9, F-10). The federal share decreased to 9.6 percent (F-11, F-12). Throughout the past 10 years, state and local governments have each provided between 43 and 48 percent of the total revenues.

Government Expenditures: Expenditures for elementary and secondary schools and for higher education can serve as indicators of state and local government “effort” to fund these services. Between 2002 and 2012, expenditures for

A-4. PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN TOTAL RESIDENT POPULATION, 2002-12

1.	NEVADA	27.2
2.	UTAH	22.3
3.	ARIZONA	20.2
4.	TEXAS	20.0
5.	IDAHO	18.9
6.	NORTH CAROLINA	17.2
7.	WYOMING	16.0
8.	FLORIDA	15.8
9.	GEORGIA	15.5
10.	COLORADO	15.2
11.	SOUTH CAROLINA	15.1
12.	DELAWARE	14.1
13.	WASHINGTON	13.9
14.	ALASKA	13.6
15.	HAWAII	13.2
16.	NEW MEXICO	12.6
17.	VIRGINIA	12.4
18.	TENNESSEE	11.2
19.	OREGON	10.9
20.	NORTH DAKOTA	10.6
21.	MONTANA	10.5
22.	OKLAHOMA	9.5
24.	SOUTH DAKOTA	9.5
25.	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	9.2
26.	UNITED STATES	9.1
25.	ARKANSAS	9.1
26.	CALIFORNIA	9.0
27.	MARYLAND	8.2
28.	ALABAMA	7.7
29.	NEBRASKA	7.6
30.	MINNESOTA	7.2
31.	KENTUCKY	7.1
32.	KANSAS	6.4
33.	INDIANA	6.3
34.	MISSOURI	6.0
35.	WISCONSIN	5.1
36.	IOWA	5.0
37.	MISSISSIPPI	4.5
38.	CONNECTICUT	4.2
39.	NEW HAMPSHIRE	4.0
40.	NEW JERSEY	3.8
41.	PENNSYLVANIA	3.6
42.	MASSACHUSETTS	3.2
44.	WEST VIRGINIA	3.0
44.	LOUISIANA	3.0
45.	MAINE	2.7
46.	ILLINOIS	2.5
47.	NEW YORK	2.2
48.	VERMONT	1.8
49.	OHIO	1.2
50.	RHODE ISLAND	-1.5
51.	MICHIGAN	-1.6

U.S. Census Bureau (2014a).

A-5. POPULATION AGES 5-17, 2012 (THOUSANDS)

1.	CALIFORNIA	6,699
2.	TEXAS	5,044
3.	NEW YORK	3,096
4.	FLORIDA	2,931
5.	ILLINOIS	2,248
6.	PENNSYLVANIA	2,020
7.	OHIO	1,969
8.	GEORGIA	1,815
9.	MICHIGAN	1,691
10.	NORTH CAROLINA	1,667
11.	NEW JERSEY	1,499
12.	VIRGINIA	1,347
13.	ARIZONA	1,181
14.	INDIANA	1,166
15.	WASHINGTON	1,142
16.	TENNESSEE	1,090
17.	MASSACHUSETTS	1,086
18.	MISSOURI	1,024
19.	MARYLAND	979
20.	WISCONSIN	967
21.	MINNESOTA	928
22.	COLORADO	894
23.	ALABAMA	819
24.	LOUISIANA	803
25.	SOUTH CAROLINA	783
26.	KENTUCKY	739
27.	OKLAHOMA	675
28.	UTAH	630
29.	OREGON	628
30.	CONNECTICUT	600
31.	MISSISSIPPI	542
32.	IOWA	527
33.	KANSAS	521
34.	ARKANSAS	517
35.	NEVADA	480
36.	NEW MEXICO	371
37.	NEBRASKA	331
38.	IDAHO	311
39.	WEST VIRGINIA	281
40.	HAWAII	214
41.	NEW HAMPSHIRE	209
42.	MAINE	199
43.	MONTANA	161
43.	RHODE ISLAND	161
45.	DELAWARE	149
46.	SOUTH DAKOTA	145
47.	ALASKA	132
48.	NORTH DAKOTA	108
49.	WYOMING	97
50.	VERMONT	93
51.	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	71
	UNITED STATES	53,728

U.S. Census Bureau (2014a).

A-6. POPULATION AGES 5-17 AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION, 2012

1.	UTAH	22.1
2.	IDAHO	19.5
3.	TEXAS	19.4
4.	GEORGIA	18.3
5.	ALASKA	18.1
	KANSAS	18.1
8.	MISSISSIPPI	18.1
8.	ARIZONA	18.0
9.	INDIANA	17.8
	NEBRASKA	17.8
	NEW MEXICO	17.8
12.	OKLAHOMA	17.7
13.	CALIFORNIA	17.6
14.	ARKANSAS	17.5
	ILLINOIS	17.5
16.	LOUISIANA	17.4
	NEVADA	17.4
	SOUTH DAKOTA	17.4
19.	COLORADO	17.2
	MINNESOTA	17.2
21.	UNITED STATES	17.1
	IOWA	17.1
	MICHIGAN	17.1
	NORTH CAROLINA	17.1
24.	ALABAMA	17.0
	MISSOURI	17.0
27.	OHIO	17.0
	KENTUCKY	16.9
	NEW JERSEY	16.9
	TENNESSEE	16.9
	WISCONSIN	16.9
31.	WYOMING	16.8
32.	CONNECTICUT	16.7
33.	MARYLAND	16.6
	SOUTH CAROLINA	16.6
	WASHINGTON	16.6
36.	VIRGINIA	16.5
37.	DELAWARE	16.2
38.	OREGON	16.1
39.	MONTANA	16.0
40.	NEW HAMPSHIRE	15.8
	NEW YORK	15.8
	PENNSYLVANIA	15.8
43.	MASSACHUSETTS	15.6
44.	NORTH DAKOTA	15.5
45.	HAWAII	15.4
	RHODE ISLAND	15.4
47.	FLORIDA	15.2
48.	WEST VIRGINIA	15.1
49.	MAINE	15.0
50.	VERMONT	14.9
51.	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	11.1

Computed from Tables A-1 and A-5.

C-10. AVERAGE SALARIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AS PERCENTAGE OF NATIONAL AVERAGE, 2012-13 (REVISED)

1.	NEW YORK	134.3 *
2.	MASSACHUSETTS	127.7
3.	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	126.5 *
4.	CALIFORNIA	123.8
5.	CONNECTICUT	123.8
6.	NEW JERSEY	120.3
7.	ALASKA	116.8
8.	MARYLAND	114.6
9.	RHODE ISLAND	113.2 *
10.	PENNSYLVANIA	112.4
11.	MICHIGAN	109.8
12.	DELAWARE	106.4 *
13.	ILLINOIS	105.4 *
14.	OREGON	102.7
15.	WYOMING	101.3
16.	MINNESOTA	100.4 *
	UNITED STATES	100.0 *
18.	NEVADA	99.8 *
19.	NEW HAMPSHIRE	99.2 *
20.	HAWAII	96.9
21.	WISCONSIN	96.0
22.	VERMONT	95.8
23.	GEORGIA	94.3
24.	WASHINGTON	93.2
25.	LOUISIANA	91.6 *
26.	IOWA	90.9
27.	KENTUCKY	89.5
28.	INDIANA	89.3
29.	COLORADO	88.9 *
30.	VIRGINIA	87.4
31.	MONTANA	87.1
	NEBRASKA	87.1
	TEXAS	87.1
34.	MAINE	86.4
35.	SOUTH CAROLINA	86.3
36.	ALABAMA	85.5
37.	MISSOURI	84.8 *
	TENNESSEE	84.8
39.	KANSAS	84.7 *
40.	NORTH DAKOTA	84.4 *
41.	ARKANSAS	83.2
42.	FLORIDA	83.1
43.	NORTH CAROLINA	81.6
44.	UTAH	81.2
45.	NEW MEXICO	81.1
	WEST VIRGINIA	81.1
47.	ARIZONA	80.7
48.	IDAHO	79.7
49.	OKLAHOMA	79.1
50.	MISSISSIPPI	74.6
51.	SOUTH DAKOTA	69.6
	MEDIAN	90.9
	RANGE	64.7
	SDEV.	15.4
	CV	16.1

Computed from NEA Research, Estimates Database (2014).

C-11. AVERAGE SALARIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS, 2013-14 (\$)

1.	NEW YORK	76,409
2.	MASSACHUSETTS	73,195
3.	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	73,162 *
4.	CALIFORNIA	71,396
5.	CONNECTICUT	70,583
6.	NEW JERSEY	68,238
7.	ALASKA	65,891
8.	RHODE ISLAND	64,696 *
9.	MARYLAND	64,546
10.	PENNSYLVANIA	63,701
11.	MICHIGAN	62,166
12.	ILLINOIS	60,124 *
13.	DELAWARE	59,305
14.	OREGON	58,638
15.	NEW HAMPSHIRE	57,057 *
	UNITED STATES	56,610 *
16.	WYOMING	56,583
17.	HAWAII	56,291
18.	VERMONT	55,958
19.	CHIO	55,913
20.	NEVADA	55,813
21.	MINNESOTA	54,752
22.	WISCONSIN	53,679
23.	WASHINGTON	52,969
24.	GEORGIA	52,924
25.	IOWA	52,032
26.	KENTUCKY	50,560
27.	INDIANA	50,289
28.	MONTANA	49,893 *
29.	VIRGINIA	49,826 *
30.	TEXAS	49,690
31.	COLORADO	49,615
32.	NEBRASKA	49,539
33.	MAINE	49,232
34.	LOUISIANA	49,067
35.	ALABAMA	48,720
36.	NORTH DAKOTA	48,666 *
37.	SOUTH CAROLINA	48,430
38.	KANSAS	48,221 *
39.	FLORIDA	47,780
40.	TENNESSEE	47,742
41.	ARKANSAS	47,319
42.	MISSOURI	46,750
43.	NEW MEXICO	45,727
44.	UTAH	45,695
45.	ARIZONA	45,335 *
46.	WEST VIRGINIA	45,086
47.	NORTH CAROLINA	44,990
48.	OKLAHOMA	44,549
49.	IDAHO	44,465
50.	MISSISSIPPI	42,187 *
51.	SOUTH DAKOTA	40,023
	MEDIAN	50,560
	RANGE	36,386
	SDEV.	8,964
	CV	17

NEA Research, Estimates Database (2014).

C-12. AVERAGE SALARIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AS PERCENTAGE OF NATIONAL AVERAGE, 2013-14

1.	NEW YORK	135.0
2.	MASSACHUSETTS	129.3
3.	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	129.2 *
4.	CALIFORNIA	126.1
5.	CONNECTICUT	124.7
6.	NEW JERSEY	120.5
7.	ALASKA	116.4
8.	RHODE ISLAND	114.3 *
9.	MARYLAND	114.0
10.	PENNSYLVANIA	112.5
11.	MICHIGAN	109.8
12.	ILLINOIS	106.2 *
13.	DELAWARE	104.8
14.	OREGON	103.6
15.	NEW HAMPSHIRE	103.8 *
	UNITED STATES	100.0 *
16.	WYOMING	100.0
17.	HAWAII	99.4
18.	CHIO	98.8
	VERMONT	98.8
20.	NEVADA	98.6
21.	MINNESOTA	96.7
22.	WISCONSIN	94.8
23.	WASHINGTON	93.6
24.	GEORGIA	93.5
25.	IOWA	91.9
26.	KENTUCKY	89.3
27.	INDIANA	88.8
28.	MONTANA	88.1 *
29.	VIRGINIA	88.0 *
30.	TEXAS	87.8
31.	COLORADO	87.6
32.	NEBRASKA	87.5
33.	MAINE	87.0
34.	LOUISIANA	86.7
35.	ALABAMA	86.1
36.	NORTH DAKOTA	86.0 *
37.	SOUTH CAROLINA	85.6
38.	KANSAS	85.2 *
39.	FLORIDA	84.4
40.	TENNESSEE	84.3
41.	ARKANSAS	83.6
42.	MISSOURI	82.6
43.	NEW MEXICO	80.8
44.	UTAH	80.7
45.	ARIZONA	80.1 *
46.	WEST VIRGINIA	79.6
47.	NORTH CAROLINA	79.5
48.	OKLAHOMA	78.7
49.	IDAHO	78.5
50.	MISSISSIPPI	74.5 *
51.	SOUTH DAKOTA	70.7
	MEDIAN	89.3
	RANGE	64.3
	SDEV.	15.8
	CV	16.5

Computed from NEA Research, Estimates Database (2014).