

Explanation of Data and Ratios Used in “Report on Act 60 of 2013 Minimum Ratios for Student-to-Staff and Student-to-Course”

A. Recommendations 1 – 3 for Minimum Course Size in the Four Core Subjects

For the purposes of the study, a course was considered to be a teacher in a classroom teaching one of the four core courses - English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Science.

B. Recommendations for Students to Various Personnel Groupings

In all of the following ratios, the student counts are based on the enrollments of individual schools. Enrollment is the actual headcount of students enrolled in a school on October 1.

Recommendation 4:

The minimum student/teacher ratio for direct instruction teachers should be eight students to one licensed teacher.

Direct instruction teachers are licensed teachers actively engaged in teaching. The five broad teacher categories used were pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, elementary, secondary, and teachers of ungraded classes (generally special education).

Recommendation 5:

The minimum student/staff ratio for district level personnel as defined above should be 5.5 students to one staff member.

Staff includes all paid non-administrative personnel employed by a school district with the following exclusions:

1. central services business office personnel;
2. operations and maintenance personnel;
3. transportation personnel;
4. food service personnel; and
5. enterprise or community service operations personnel.

Teachers and teacher aides were included.

Recommendation 6:

The minimum student/school level administrators ratio as defined above should be 75 students to one staff member. An exception could be made for those schools that have part-time principals.

School administrators include principals, assistant principals, Title I coordinators, special education directors, and essential early education directors (EEE). The school level personnel consist primarily of principals and assistant principals.

There are a few special education directors and Title I coordinators at the school level who are also included.

Recommendation 7:

The minimum student/superintendent and assistant superintendent ratio as defined above should be 700:1 students to one superintendent/assistant superintendent. An exception could be made for those supervisory unions that have part-time superintendents.

Superintendents and assistant superintendents are responsible for both resident students and non-resident students enrolled in schools within the supervisory union. Therefore, enrollments at the school level were aggregated to the S.U. level.