

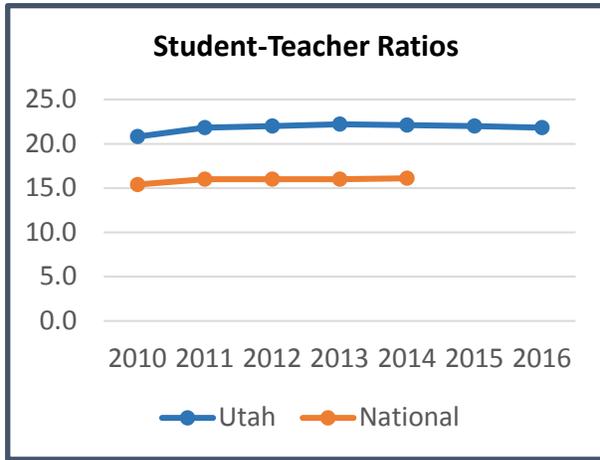


# Utah State Board of Education

## Utah's Student-Teacher Ratio and Class Size, School Year 2015-16

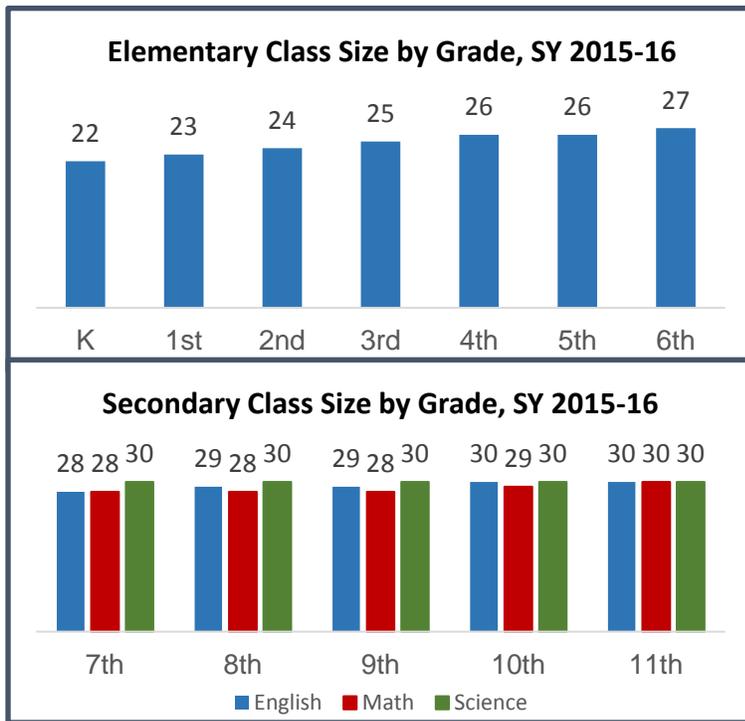
### Student-Teacher Ratio

Student-teacher ratios are calculated by taking the total number of students enrolled and dividing by the total number of teachers. **Over the past five school years, the student-teacher ratio for Utah public schools has remained around 22 students for every 1 teacher (22:1).** This is higher than the national average of 16:1.<sup>1</sup>



### Class Size

Class size estimates differ from student-teacher ratios in that they are based on actual counts of students in classrooms. Nontraditional classes (such as online, special education, youth in custody, or limited English proficiency classes) are not included in these calculations.<sup>2</sup>



For school year 2015-16, Utah's average class size was 25 for elementary schools and 29 for secondary.<sup>3</sup> Charter and district schools had the same average class size for elementary schools, 25 students, though charter schools tended to have smaller class sizes in secondary schools with an average class size of 22.

For secondary schools science classes were the largest with an average class size of 30 students, followed by English courses with an average of 29 students, and math courses with 28.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> National Center for Education Statistics. (2016, February). *Digest of Education Statistics – Table 208.20*. Retrieved from [https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d15/tables/dt15\\_208.20.asp?current=yes](https://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d15/tables/dt15_208.20.asp?current=yes).

<sup>2</sup>Board Rule R277-463.

<sup>3</sup> Elementary included grades K-6, and secondary included grades 7-12. Secondary estimates included only the core courses of English, Math, and Science.

<sup>4</sup> Graph shows the math or science course that is most commonly taken by students in that grade. For math 9<sup>th</sup> grade corresponds with Secondary Math I, 10<sup>th</sup> grade with Secondary Math II, and 11<sup>th</sup> with Secondary Math III. For science this is Biology in 9<sup>th</sup>, Chemistry in 10<sup>th</sup>, and Physics in 11<sup>th</sup>.