

ARIZONA K-12 EDUCATION FACTS

K-12 Education Per Pupil Funding

- Every national ranking of per pupil funding consistently shows Arizona at or near the bottom of the 50 states.
- In 2006-07 Arizona spent \$6,248 per pupil (ALEC), just over \$3000 less than the national average of \$9,389.
- In 2007-08 Arizona spent \$7,111 per pupil (EPE), just under \$3,000 less than the national average of \$9,963.
- From 1986-87 through 2006-07, Arizona's percentage change in expenditure per pupil has been -0.96%, while nationally it was 36.56%. This means Arizona actually spent less in 2007 (\$6,248) than it did in 1987 (\$6,309) when you adjust for inflation.

Source: American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) Report Card on American Education, 2006-07 figures.
EPE Research Center, Education Week, 2009 figures

K-12 Education Employee Salaries

- Arizona ranks 36th in the nation for public school teacher salaries with a teacher salary average of more than \$6500 below the national average.
- Arizona ranks 44th in the nation for public school instructional staff salaries with a salary average of almost \$9000 below the national average

Public school teachers comprise elementary school and secondary school classroom teachers. The most recent data available is available from the National Education Association – NEA Ranking of the States 2008.

Instructional staff comprises teachers, principals, supervisors, librarians, guidance and psychological personal and related instructional workers.

Source: National Education Association Ranking of the States, 2008

Class Size

- Arizona's class size average is second highest in the nation, with an average of 24.2 students per class, compared to a national average of 15.3.
- Arizona is one of only four states in the nation that have increased class sizes over the last ten years.
- Arizona increased its class size average 31.72% over the last 20 years, while the nationwide average fell 11.9% over the same time period.

Source: American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) Report Card on American Education, 2006-07 figures.

Student Enrollment Growth

- Arizona ranks second in the nation for percentage increase in public school enrollment, far outpacing the national average.
- Arizona's Average Daily Membership (ADM) has increased from 840,130 students in school year 1999-2000 to 1,044,785 students in school year 2007-08

Source: Annual Report of the Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 and NEA Ranking of the States 2008

Arizona K-12 Test Scores

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP):

Arizona's national rank for 2007 NAEP Scores in given content areas and grade levels:

Grade 4 Mathematics	Rank, 44
Grade 4 Reading	Rank, 47
Grade 8 Mathematics	Rank, 37
Grade 8 Reading	Rank, 42

ACT and SAT (Scores for Arizona's college-bound high school students)

The ACT and SAT exams are voluntary college entrance exams taken primarily by students applying for entrance into colleges and universities.

Arizona's ACT 2008 Composite Score ranks 21st in the nation.

Arizona's SAT Composite Score ranks 31st in the nation.

Arizona's student participation rates for the ACT and SAT exams are among the lowest in the nation.

Source: ALEC – American Legislative Exchange Council Report Card on American Education