



## Tips for Parents: Class Size

***A common approach to school budget shortfalls has been to hire fewer teachers and increase class size. However, it has become widely accepted that the smaller a class size is, the greater the learning in the classroom. Smaller class size, or student-to-teacher ratio, means that each individual student receives more one-on-one time from the teacher and that means increased academic success.***

***Nationally, most classrooms average between 22 and 25 students. The National Education Association supports class sizes of 15 or smaller. Class size has decreased somewhat, but experts say that the student-to-teacher ratio must be meaningfully smaller to optimize student learning.***

For more information:

### **Web links:**

National Education Association <http://www.nea.org/classsize/>

US Department of Education's "A Descriptive Evaluation of the Federal Class-Size Reduction Program": <http://www.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/other/class-size/index.html>

### **Book:**

Krueger, Alan B.; Hanushek, Eric A.; King Rice, Jennifer. "The Class Size Debate". EPI, 2002. <http://shop.epinet.org/cgi-bin/shop.cgi?command=listitems&pos=0&type=search&search=The%20Class%20Size%20Debate>

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