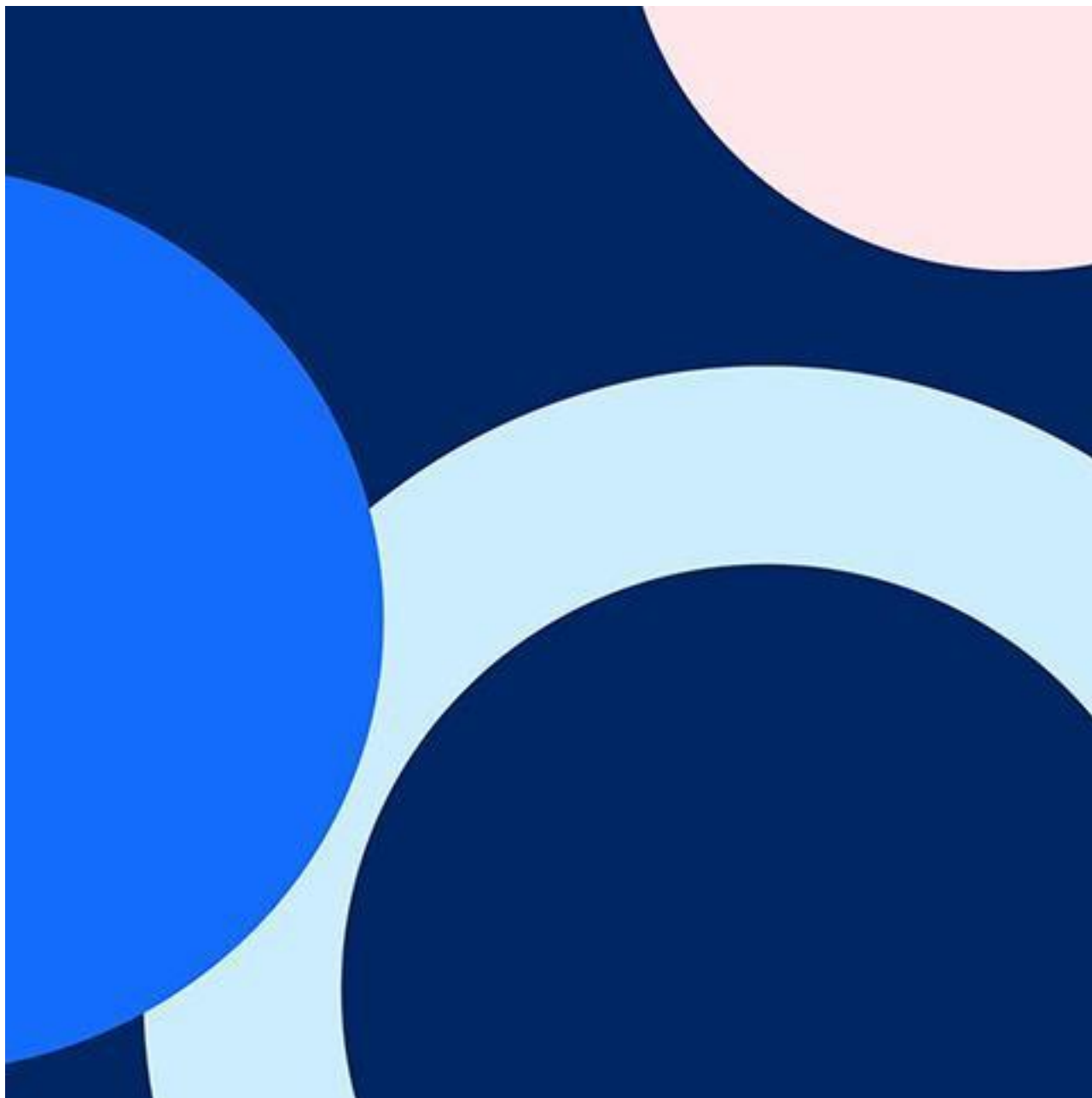


Average class size, 2024



Average class size, 2024

The Class Size Reduction Program has significantly reduced average class sizes for Kindergarten to Year 2.

- In 2024, Kindergarten classes have a statewide average of 18.1 students. This is an average reduction of 4.0 students in the 20 years since the staged implementation of the Class Size Reduction Program commenced in 2004.
- The average class size, Kindergarten to Year 6, is 23.2 students in 2024. This is 3.0 students fewer than in 2004 when the Class Size Reduction Program commenced. Although the program achieved its target in 2007, class sizes continue to decrease. Since then, the average class size has been reduced by 1.1 students.

Table 1: Average class sizes by year: NSW Government schools (2004–2024)

Year	K	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	K–6
2004	22.1	24.6	25.4	26.4	26.6	26.8	26.8	26.2
2005	19.8	23.8	25.4	26.3	26.6	26.9	27.0	25.3
2006	19.5	21.5	24.2	26.2	26.6	26.9	26.9	24.7
2007	19.2	21.1	22.6	25.7	26.2	26.5	26.5	24.3
2008	19.2	21.2	22.5	25.7	26.1	26.5	26.5	24.2
2009	19.3	21.3	22.6	25.8	26.2	26.5	26.5	24.3
2010	19.2	21.2	22.7	25.6	26.2	26.4	26.4	24.2 ⁱ
2019	18.8	21.1	22.3	25.7	25.9	26.1	26.1	23.9
2020	18.8	21.0	22.2	25.4	25.6	25.9	25.9	23.8
2021	18.6	20.9	22.0	25.1	25.4	25.6	25.7	23.6
2022	18.4	20.7	21.8	24.9	25.2	25.5	25.5	23.4
2023	18.4	20.6	21.6	24.8	25.1	25.4	25.5	23.3
2024	18.1	20.6	21.5	24.6	24.9	25.1	25.2	23.2

ⁱ Kindergarten to Year 6 class sizes remained relatively stable from 2011 to 2018.

- In 2024, schools with over 700 students have a statewide average Kindergarten class size of 19.7.
- Schools with fewer than 26 students have a state-wide Kindergarten to Year 6 average class size of 9.8 students. This is under half of the statewide average of 23.2 students in Kindergarten to Year 6 classes.

Table 2: Average class sizes by school size (primary enrolments), 2024

School size	K	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	K–6
Greater than 700 students	19.7	22.0	23.5	28.0	28.0	27.9	28.1	25.0
451 to 700 students	19.3	21.7	22.8	27.0	27.4	27.2	27.5	24.3
301 to 450 students	18.6	21.6	22.6	26.0	26.2	26.6	26.8	23.6
160 to 300 students	17.9	21.1	21.8	24.3	24.5	24.9	24.8	22.5
26 to 159 students	16.1	17.8	18.9	20.3	20.8	21.2	20.8	19.4
Less than 26 students	10.5	10.4	10.4	11.4	11.4	11.2	11.2	9.8
Central/community schools	15.3	16.8	17.4	18.8	19.5	20.2	19.8	18.6

Notes:

- Class size audits are conducted by CESE (Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation) in March each year. Audits were not conducted in 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001. Data for 1997, 2002 to 2003 and 2011 to 2018 is available on request.
- Data for 2020 should be treated with caution. The collection took place in March when schools were impacted by COVID-19, so fewer data checks were carried out.
- Students attending schools for specific purposes (SSPs), students in support classes in regular schools and distance education students are excluded from average class size calculations.
- The average class size for each grade is calculated by taking the number of students in all classes that a student from that grade is in (including composite/multi age classes) divided by the total number of classes that includes a student from that grade. This can result in a lower Kindergarten to Year 6 average class size than any individual year level.
- From 2017, school size is based on primary enrolment rather than school classification.
- Schools change size, so data in Table 2 is not necessarily comparable to previous iterations in earlier fact sheets.