

# Facts about Washington's K-12 public schools

PREPARED BY THE EVERGREEN FREEDOM FOUNDATION, 2005

## HOT FACTS

- FTE\* student enrollment: 976,466
- Total annual per-pupil spending: \$9,687.77
- FTE elementary/secondary teachers: 47,857
- FTE total K-12 staff: 99,763
- Average teacher salary: \$45,444
- Average teacher salary+benefits: \$62,653
- Ratio of students to FTE teachers: 20.4 / 1
- Annual cost for class of 20: \$193,755.40
- Cost for one student K-12: \$116,253.24
- Beginning teacher salary: \$29,149

## 1. GENERAL FACTS

Number of school districts: 296  
Number of schools: 2,212

## 2. TEACHER COMPENSATION

- a. Total average teacher compensation: \$62,653
- Salary: \$45,444
  - Benefits: \$10,944
  - Mandatory: \$5,086
  - Local (insurance): \$5,858
  - Additional salary: \$6,264
- b. Average per capita income (WA): \$34,585
- c. FTE teacher salary as % of education \$: 23.0%
- d. FTE teacher compensation as % of ed \$: 31.7%
- e. Beginning teacher salary: \$29,149

## 3. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Average FTE enrollment: 976,466

## 4. EDUCATION EMPLOYEES

Total number of K-12 staff: 158,019

- Elementary/Secondary teachers: 59,186
- Other certificated: 24,846
- Classified staff: 70,558
- Other: 3,429

Total full-time equivalent K-12 staff: 99,763

- Elementary/Secondary teachers: 47,857
- Other certificated: 15,680
- Classified staff: 36,042
- Other: 184.52

Ratio of students to all teachers: 16.5/1  
Ratio of students to all staff: 6.2/1  
Ratio of students to FTE teachers: 20.4/1  
Ratio of students to all FTE staff: 9.8/1

## 5. EDUCATION EXPENDITURES

ALL FUNDS expenditures: \$9,459,780,112

PURPOSE

- General: \$7,418,903,273 (78.4%)
- Basic Instruction: \$4,004,362,817 (53.9%)
- Special ed: \$737,005,189 (9.9%)
- Vocational skills: \$266,448,722 (3.6%)
- Pupil transportation: \$293,993,195 (4.0%)

- Food services: \$256,086,829 (3.5%)
- Compensatory ed: \$646,115,372 (8.7%)
- Other: \$113,690,817 (1.5%)
- Community service: \$38,337,727 (0.5%)
- Support services: \$1,062,862,605 (14.3%)
- Capital: \$1,130,550,296 (12.0%)
- School debt service: \$751,128,578 (7.9%)
- Transportation vehicle: \$26,963,286 (0.3%)
- Associated student body: \$115,641,638 (1.2%)
- Other: \$16,593,043 (0.2%)

All funds per-pupil spending: \$9,687.77

Basic education as % of ALL expenditures: 42.3%

GENERAL FUND expenditures: \$7,418,903,273

### SOURCES

- State: 69.7%
- Local: 19.8%
- Federal: 9.8%
- Fees/other: 0.7%

GF per-pupil spending: \$7,597.70

Basic education as a % of GF expenditures: 53.9%

Salaries/benefits as % of GF expenditures: 82.3%

- Certificated salaries: 48.4%
- Classified salaries: 18.0%
- Benefits (cert and class): 15.9%
- a. Education as % of General Fund-State: 55.3%
- K-12: 43.7%
- Higher ed: 11.6%

## 6. CLASS SIZE

Legislative class size allocation ratio:

- Grades K-4: 18.8 / 1
- Grades 5-12: 21.7 / 1

## 7. SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

- a. High school graduation rate: 72% (2002)
- African American: 59%
  - Hispanic: 53%
  - White: 74%
  - National Average: 71%
- b. Washington graduation rate national rank: 31st
- c. HS graduates college ready: 34%
- d. Recent HS grads in CC remedial basics: 55%
- e. WASL scores (2004)\*
- \*Proficiency standards lowered in 2004
  - Proficient in MATH
  - 4<sup>th</sup> grade: 59.9%
  - 7<sup>th</sup> grade: 46.4%
  - 10<sup>th</sup> grade: 44.0%
  - Proficient in READING
  - 4<sup>th</sup> grade: 74.4%
  - 7<sup>th</sup> grade: 60.5%
  - 10<sup>th</sup> grade: 64.6%
  - Proficient in WRITING
  - 4<sup>th</sup> grade: 55.8%
  - 7<sup>th</sup> grade: 58.0%
  - 10<sup>th</sup> grade: 65.4%
- f. Number of schools failing NCLB standards: 282\*
- \*Per OSPI, after standards lowered 2004
- g. Schools failing before standards lowered: 577+



## 8. TRENDS 1994-2004

- a. GF per-pupil \$ increase (real \$): 33.3%
- b. GF per-pupil \$ increase (infl. adjusted): 12.9%
- c. GF \$ increase (actual): 44.7%
- d. GF \$ increase (infl. adjusted): 22.6%
- e. Teachers with MA+: 39% ('93) - 56% ('04)
- f. Student/teacher (FTE) ratio: 19.0/1 - 18.0/1
- g. Growth in student enrollment: 7.9%
- h. Growth in number of teachers: 14.1%
- i. Growth in classified staff: 18.2%
- j. Growth in administrative staff: 11.5%

## 9. AT CURRENT SPENDING LEVELS:

- Cost for one student (K-12): \$116,253.24
- One-year cost per class of 20 students: \$193,755.40
- Annual cost per person in WA: \$1,604.95
- Annual cost per household: \$4,164.74
- Lifetime cost per person: \$88,272.25
- Lifetime cost per household: \$229,033.75

\*FTE = Full-time equivalent

*Prepared March 2005 (all data from 2003-04 school year unless noted)*

## ENDNOTES

1. Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. "Organization and Financing of Washington Public Schools," February 2004.
- 2a. Mann, Michael. Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program. Email dated February 25, 2005.
- 2b. Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. "Historical Comparison of Statewide School District Personnel." Table 1: Annualized Average Base Salaries and Per Capita Income. School year 2003-04.
- 2c-d. Evergreen Freedom Foundation staff, analysis and calculation, February 2005. Numbers derived by multiplying total FTE elementary and secondary teachers (47,857) by average salary/benefits (\$45,444 / \$62,653) and dividing by total expenditures (\$9,459,780,112).
- 2e. Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. "Organization and Financing of Public Schools," p. 105. February 2004.
3. Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. "Statewide Average Financial Tables and Charts: Table Seven." School year 2003-04. Link: <http://www.k12.wa.us/safs/PUB/FIN/0304/FinSum1.pdf>
4. Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. "School District Personnel Summary Files, 2003-04, Table Seven."
5. Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. "Statewide Average Financial Tables and Charts." School year 2003-04. Link: <http://www.k12.wa.us/safs/PUB/FIN/0304/FinSum1.pdf>
- 5a. Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program. "Expenditure History – Operating: General Fund-State," 2003-05 biennium. Published November 2, 2004 at 11:29am.
6. Washington State 2003-05 Operating Budget. General Apportionment, Section 502, Subsection 2a(ii - v).
- 7a-c. Green, Jay P. and Winters, Marcus A. "Public High School Graduation and College-Readiness Rates: 1991-2002." Manhattan Institute, February 2005.
- 7d. State Board for Community and Technical Colleges; Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; and Higher Education Coordinating Board. "Pre-College (Remedial) Course Taking in Washington Postsecondary Education: Causes and Solutions." A report submitted to the Washington State Legislature, December 2004.
- 7e-f. Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. "School Report Card," 2003-04.
- 7g. Evergreen Freedom Foundation analysis and calculation, 2005.
- 8a-b. Evergreen Freedom Foundation analysis and calculation, 2005. Based on the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's "Statewide Average Financial Tables and Charts: Table Seven." School year 2003-04.
- 8c-d. Evergreen Freedom Foundation analysis and calculation, 2005. Based on the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's "Statewide Average Financial Tables and Charts." School year 2003-04.
- 8e. Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. "School Report Card," 2003-04.
- 8f-j. Evergreen Freedom Foundation analysis and calculation, 2005. Based on the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's "Historical Comparison of Statewide School District Personnel."
9. Evergreen Freedom Foundation analysis and calculation, 2005. Based on 2000 U.S. Census Bureau figures (Washington population: 5,894,121; total households: 2,271,398), total education spending for 2003-04 (\$9,459,780,112), and an estimated 55-yr taxpayer lifespan (adults).

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