

GROWING CONCERNS ABOUT CLASS SIZE

Educational Institutes

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➔ Adding Up the Benefits of Smaller Class Sizes

As tighter budgets continue to be the norm at the state and local level, classrooms all over the country continue to burst at the seams at an alarming rate. While many lawmakers have argued that class size doesn't matter, the evidence supporting smaller classrooms is staggering.

Smaller Classes. Larger Benefits.

Studies from Tennessee and Wisconsin have indicated that students who are in smaller classes in grades K-3 score higher on tests, attain better grades, and have improved attendance. The Institute of Education Sciences, the research arm of the United States Department of Education, has concluded that class size reduction is one of only four, evidence-based reforms that have been proven to increase student achievement.

Study the Studies.

In the five largest school districts in California (excluding Los Angeles) researchers found that class size reduction raised the proportion of third graders who exceeded the national median by 10.5 percent in math, and 8.4 percent in reading, after controlling for all other factors. Even better scores occurred in schools with high numbers of low income students.

Benefits for Every Age and Stage.

A comprehensive report completed for the United States Department of Education, carefully analyzed the achievement levels of students in 2,561 schools around the country. After controlling for student background, the only objective factor found to be positively correlated with student performance was smaller classes (not school size or teacher qualifications, nor any other variable that the researchers could identify). In fact, student achievement was even more strongly linked to class size reduction in the upper grades than the lower grades.

Get Educated on Insurance

Do larger classrooms mean increased liability for schools? What are the risks? From A to Z, your experienced Kapnick Insurance Representative can help with all your insurance-related questions.