

**House Appropriations Committee on Education and the Senate Appropriations Committee on Education/Higher Education**

*Follow up information on questions posed during the February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023, joint committee meeting.*

**Does the per-pupil expenditure figure include funds going to current retirees?**

The beneficiaries of the Teachers and State Employees Retirement System (TSERS) receive funds arising from the collective assets of TSERS Trust Fund. These assets include current and prior employee contributions, employer contributions made by the State as well as local public school units from a variety of fund sources, as well as earnings from the fund’s investments. As a result, it would be impossible to say with any certainty that a given dollar calculated in the per-pupil expenditure figure would or would not go to a current retiree of the public school system in any given fiscal year.

**What is the national average of instructional support ratios?**

The table below compares the current ratio of certain State-funded instructional support positions to students against the recommendations made by the professional agencies since current national average data for these positions is generally not available.

<b>Position</b>	<b>FY 2021-22 Ratio</b>	<b>Recommended Ratio</b>	<b>Source</b>
School Counselor	1:408	1:250	American School Counselor Association
School Psychologist	1:2,543	1:500	National Association of School Psychologists
School Social Worker	1:1,680	1:250	National Association of Social Workers
School Nurse	1:2,085	1:633	National Association of School Nurses

Caveat: This table only represents positions funded with State funds. Schools can also use non-State funds like federal grants and local appropriations to increase these positions as well as use State and non-State funds to contract out for the services that these positions would provide. Additionally, the National Association of School Nurses recommends a 1:1 nurse-to-school ratio; the ratio presented here is a conversion for comparison purposes.

**What are the most recent enrollment figures for homeschool and private schools?**

According to data from the Division of Non-Public Education within the NC Department of Administration, there were 160,528 students in 100,904 homeschools and 115,311 students in 828 private schools in FY 2021-22.

**What is the number of Career and Technical Education teachers funded by the months of employment?**

For FY 2022-23, the formula generated 73,747.5 months of employment. While many CTE are on 12-month contracts, this amount would be the equivalent of 7,375 10-month CTE positions.