



The Facts

About School Administrator Ratios

The future of California's public education system depends upon the quality of its leadership. School leadership is second only to classroom instruction among all school-related factors that contribute to what students learn at school.

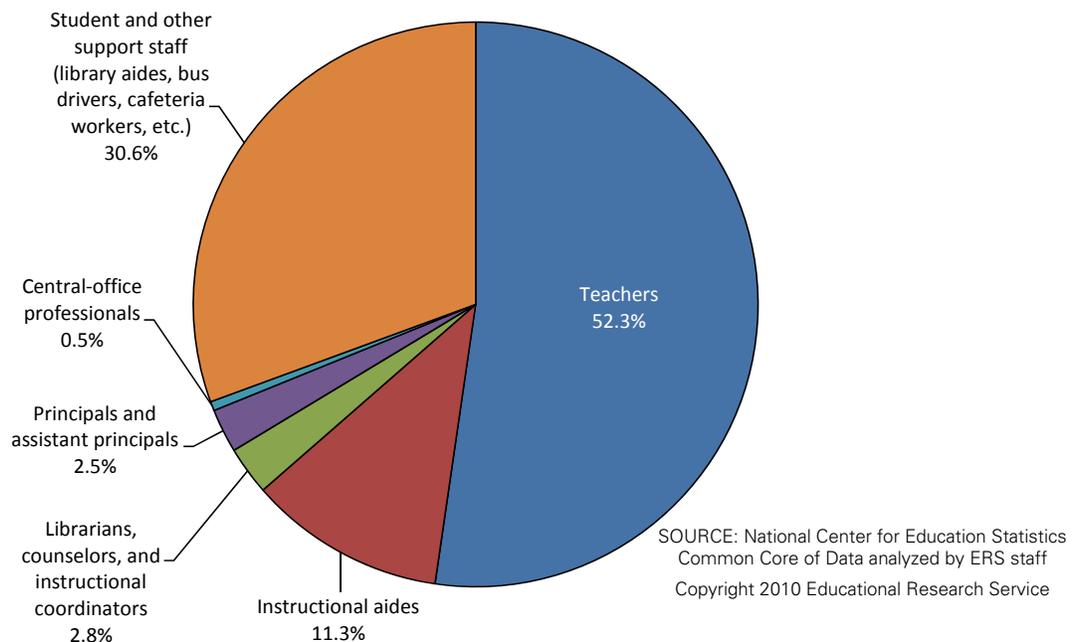
School district administrators account for only 0.5 percent of personnel employed in California's schools, compared with teachers at 52.9 percent; student and other support staff (including library aides, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, etc.) at 29.4 percent; instructional aides at 12.4 percent; librarians, counselors, and instructional coordinators at 2.5 percent and principals and assistant principals at 2.3 percent.

Compared to national standards, California schools are woefully under administered. Nationally, there is one district-level administrator for every 761 students, in California the ratio is 1 to 2,366. California ranks 49th in the nation for its principal/assistant principal to student ratio, with 1 principal/assistant principal for 447 students compared to the national average of 1 to 306.

State law prohibits California's public education system from having too many administrators. Education is the only division of government in the state with a statutory limit on the size of its management corps.

Public schools operate with lean management systems. Across the nation, public schools employ fewer managers and supervisors that most public and private sector industries including transportation, food service, manufacturing, utilities, construction, publishing and public administration.

Personnel Employed in California School Districts, School Year 2007-08



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