



Table 6. State rankings, percentage of full-time equivalent public school employees who are teachers, Fall 2001.

Just as with per-pupil spending, there is no “correct” ratio for the number of teachers compared to the number of non-teachers, but again we are faced with vast differences between the states in how they proportion their various employees.

Table 6 breaks down the public education work force (in full-time equivalents) of Fall 2001 into teachers and “non-teachers.” *Teachers* are those whose primary job is classroom instruction, including elementary specialists who may not have classrooms of their own.

The ranks of the “non-teachers” include every other public school employee: instructional aides, school staff (principals, assistant principals, librarians, school secretaries), other staff (bus drivers, custodians, security personnel, food service workers), district staff (officials, administrators, instruction coordinators) and employees that work at county or state education agencies.

Eighteen states and the District of Columbia had fewer teachers than non-teachers in their public education work force in 2001. That’s up from 12 states in 1998 and 7 states in 1995. In 1969-70, the percentage of the workforce who were teachers was 60%. In 2001, it was 50.8%. It is highly likely that today, in 2005, the United States employs more non-teachers than teachers in its public education system.



Table 6. State rankings, percentage of full-time equivalent public school employees who are teachers, Fall 2001 (Derived from Table 80 – Digest of Education Statistics 2003, National Center for Education Statistics, US Department of Education)

U.S. 50.78%					
1)	South Carolina	64.99	27)	Minnesota	50.678
2)	Rhode Island	59.75	28)	South Dakota	50.62
3)	Nevada	56.75	29)	Wyoming	50.48
4)	Hawaii	56.55	30)	Colorado	50.45
5)	Idaho	55.92	31)	New Hampshire	50.37
6)	Massachusetts	54.88	32)	Iowa	50.22
7)	Oklahoma	54.49	33)	Arkansas	49.68
8)	Maryland	54.16	34)	Oregon	49.418
9)	Virginia	54.05	35)	New York	49.416
10)	Utah	54.03	36)	Louisiana	49.22
11)	North Dakota	53.94	37)	Connecticut	49.21
12)	Wisconsin	53.66	38)	Maine	49.13
13)	New Jersey	53.59	39)	Arizona	48.96
14)	West Virginia	53.45	40)	Georgia	48.79
15)	Delaware	53.42	41)	New Mexico	48.56
16)	Montana	53.37	42)	Texas	48.55
17)	Ohio	53.09	43)	Alaska	47.98
18)	Alabama	53.07	44)	Mississippi	47.91
19)	California	52.96	45)	Florida	47.64
20)	Missouri	52.29	46)	Vermont	47.39
21)	Tennessee	52.14	47)	Washington	46.90
22)	Nebraska	52.00	48)	Indiana	46.27
23)	Pennsylvania	51.68	49)	Michigan	46.00
24)	North Carolina	51.57	50)	District of Columbia	43.46
25)	Kansas	50.78	51)	Kentucky	42.58
26)	Illinois	50.681			