



Cost Per Day for Extended School Year

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January 2007

Cost Per Day Estimations

Extending the school year has become a topic of interest to many states and the nation. The school year runs about 180 days in most states, but for teachers the year is longer due to inservice and other non-contact days. The national average for instruction expenditures in 2004 reflected 66% of the total cost.¹ One of the first concerns any state looking to extend their school year must consider is the expenditure associated with extension of the school year.

The table below gives a rough estimate of what the cost-per-day for school operation can run in each state. It is important to caution that this is a rough estimate only; there are a number of constraints outside the scope of this StateNote that a state must consider when calculating a real number for analytical purposes.

State	Length of School Year in Days (2004)	Estimated Expenditures for Public School (2005-06)	Estimated Cost Per Day ²
Alabama	175	\$5,393,206,000	\$30,818,000
Alaska	180	\$1,357,132,000	\$7,540,000
Arizona	175	\$5,641,181,000	\$32,235,000
Arkansas	178	\$2,859,102,000	\$16,062,000
California	180	\$52,708,454,000	\$292,825,000
Colorado*	170	\$6,462,481,000	\$38,015,000
Connecticut	180	\$7,172,760,000	\$39,849,000
Delaware*	180	\$1,381,509,000	\$7,675,000
District of Columbia	180	\$975,401,000	\$5,419,000
Florida	180	\$20,423,192,000	\$113,462,000
Georgia	180	\$14,621,549,000	\$81,231,000
Hawaii	183	\$1,598,285,000	\$8,734,000
Idaho	170	\$1,750,313,000	\$10,296,000
Illinois	185	\$20,883,960,000	\$112,886,000
Indiana	180	\$9,286,834,000	\$51,594,000
Iowa	180	\$3,774,475,000	\$20,969,000
Kansas	186	\$3,820,670,000	\$20,541,000
Kentucky*	180	\$5,231,828,000	\$29,066,000
Louisiana	177	\$5,764,307,000	\$32,567,000
Maine	180	\$2,246,974,000	\$12,483,000
Maryland	180	\$8,403,423,000	\$46,686,000
Massachusetts	180	\$11,931,302,000	\$66,285,000

State	Length of School Year in Days (2004)	Estimated Expenditures for Public School (2005-06)	Estimated Cost Per Day ²
Michigan	185	\$17,538,367,000	\$94,802,000
Minnesota*	180	\$8,084,054,000	\$44,911,000
Mississippi	180	\$3,263,115,000	\$18,128,000
Missouri	174	\$6,896,078,000	\$39,633,000
Montana	180	\$1,215,829,000	\$6,755,000
Nebraska*	180	\$2,278,598,000	\$12,659,000
Nevada	180	\$2,927,724,000	\$16,265,000
New Hampshire	180	\$2,097,948,000	\$11,655,000
New Jersey	180	\$19,221,853,000	\$106,788,000
New Mexico	180	\$2,820,624,000	\$15,670,000
New York	180	\$38,154,030,000	\$211,967,000
North Carolina	180	\$10,321,842,000	\$57,344,000
North Dakota	173	\$753,646,000	\$4,356,000
Ohio	182	\$18,691,654,000	\$102,701,000
Oklahoma	180	\$4,279,749,000	\$23,776,000
Oregon*	180	\$4,504,286,000	\$25,024,000
Pennsylvania	180	\$18,227,059,000	\$101,261,000
Rhode Island	180	\$1,788,028,000	\$9,933,000
South Carolina	180	\$5,851,625,000	\$32,509,000
South Dakota	170	\$954,684,000	\$5,616,000
Tennessee	180	\$6,618,388,000	\$36,769,000
Texas	180	\$33,328,502,000	\$185,158,000
Utah	180	\$2,591,060,000	\$14,395,000
Vermont	175	\$1,166,029,000	\$6,663,000
Virginia	180	\$11,266,427,000	\$62,591,000
Washington	180	\$8,439,946,000	\$46,889,000
West Virginia	180	\$2,739,047,000	\$15,217,000
Wisconsin	180	\$8,814,481,000	\$48,969,000
Wyoming	175	\$1,002,040,000	\$5,726,000

*These states do not have a statewide policy for the number of days in the school year. 180 days was used for calculations.

References

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¹National Center for Education Statistics, *Overview of Public Elementary and Secondary Students, Staff, Schools, School Districts, Revenues, and Expenditures: School Year 2004-05 and Fiscal Year 2004* Washington, DC: NCES November 2006.

http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2007/overview04/tables/table_8CT.asp?referer=table

² Estimated Cost Per Day (\$) calculated using Estimated Expenditures for Public Schools (2005-06) and Length of School Year in Days (2004).