

ERRATA SHEET

Public School Teacher Spending on Classroom Supplies (NCES 2018-097rev)

MAY 20221

An error in weights for the 2015–16 National Teacher and Principal Survey (NTPS) Public School Teacher Data File was discovered in the spring of 2019. The 2015–16 file was reweighted to address the issue, and a description of the weighting issue and how it was addressed follows. While this change corrected counts of teachers (for example, the estimated total number of public school teachers in the United States), some minor variations in percentages, means, and percentiles also occurred.

The sum of the weights from the Teacher Questionnaire is used to estimate the total number of teachers (teacher head count) in the United States. The earlier version of these weights showed a substantial increase from the 2011–12 Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS); however, the parallel Common Core of Data (CCD) files used to develop the NTPS and SASS sampling frames did not show this same pattern for teacher full-time equivalents (FTE).

Review of the NTPS weighting process revealed that one of the final steps in the original weighting process used for the NTPS 2015-16 was a raking adjustment that relied on teacher base weights, rather than teacher weights after adjusting for Teacher Listing Form (TLF) nonresponse. Since TLF nonresponse was adjusted for in an earlier weighting step, this effectively double-adjusted for TLF nonresponse. Further, when the final NTPS teacher counts were adjusted to teacher FTE control totals from the school sampling frame, teacher estimates from NTPS out-of-scope schools were excluded, although the frame control totals included out-of-scope schools. The issue was addressed by changing the weight used in the raking process, adjusting teacher final weights to the teacher counts reported on the NTPS School Questionnaire, and including teachers from out-of-scope schools in the raking process. More details on the weighting adjustments used in the revised 2015–16 NTPS School Teacher Data File are available in the *User's Manual for the 2015–16 National Teacher and Principal Survey, Volumes 1–4* (NCES 2017-131rev through 2017-134rev3).

The corrected and original supporting tables are shown below.

CORRECTED: Percent of public school teachers who spent any of their own money on classroom supplies without reimbursement during the 2014–15 school year and among those teachers, mean amount spent and percentage distribution, by selected school characteristics: 2015–16

Selected school and teacher characteristic	Percent of teachers who spent their own money	Average amount spent among teachers who spent their own money	Median amount spent among teachers who spent their own money	Percent of teachers who spent their own money				
				\$250 or less	\$251–\$500	\$501–\$750	\$751–\$1000	More than \$1000
All public schools	94.0	478	297	43.9	36.2	5.1	7.6	7.3
School classification								
Traditional public	94.4	479	297	43.6	36.4	5.0	7.6	7.3
Charter school	88.0	460	296	47.8	32.6	5.2	7.7	6.6
Community type								
City	93.7	529	297	40.4	36.7	5.5	8.5	8.8
Suburban	94.5	469	297	45.2	35.0	5.1	7.5	7.2
Town	93.5	447	294	44.4	38.6	4.5	6.6	5.8
Rural	93.8	443	296	45.9	36.2	4.6	7.2	6.2
Instructional level								
Elementary	95.4	525	299	38.5	37.7	5.8	9.5	8.5
Secondary	92.6	430	291	49.5	34.5	4.3	5.7	6.0
Percent of K–12 students who were approved for free or reduced-price lunches								
0–34	94.0	434	295	48.9	33.8	4.5	6.5	6.2
35–49	94.5	452	291	45.2	36.9	4.4	6.9	6.5
50–74	94.2	477	296	42.9	37.1	5.2	7.7	7.2
75 or more	94.5	550	299	37.2	38.2	6.0	9.3	9.2
School did not participate in free or reduced-price lunch program	86.3	406	244	53.9	31.2	3.9	6.4	4.5

NOTE: Interpret data on city teachers with caution. After nonresponse adjustments, the nonresponse bias for this category is greater than for other characteristics. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Teacher and Principal Survey (NTPS), "Public School Teacher Data File," 2015–16.

ORIGINAL: Percent of public school teachers who spent any of their own money on classroom supplies without reimbursement during the 2014–15 school year and among those teachers, mean amount spent and percentage distribution, by selected school characteristics: 2015–16

Selected school and teacher characteristic	Percent of teachers who spent their own money	Average amount spent among teachers who spent their own money	Median amount spent among teachers who spent their own money	Percent of teachers who spent their own money				
				\$250 or less	\$251–\$500	\$501–\$750	\$751–\$1000	More than \$1000
All public schools	94.0	\$479	\$297	43.9	36.0	5.1	7.7	7.3
School classification								
Traditional public	94.4	480	297	43.7	36.2	5.1	7.7	7.3
Charter school	88.0	460	296	48.1	32.2	5.2	7.8	6.7
Community type								
City	93.7	526	297	40.6	36.7	5.5	8.6	8.7
Suburban	94.5	468	297	45.4	34.8	5.1	7.5	7.2
Town	93.5	445	294	44.7	38.6	4.4	6.6	5.7
Rural	93.7	442	296	46.0	36.1	4.6	7.2	6.2
School level								
Elementary	95.4	526	299	38.5	37.6	5.8	9.5	8.5
Secondary	92.6	430	286	49.6	34.4	4.3	5.7	6.0
Percent of K–12 students who were approved for free or reduced-price lunches								
0–34	94.0	434	295	48.9	33.8	4.6	6.5	6.3
35–49	94.4	454	291	45.1	36.9	4.5	7.0	6.5
50–74	94.3	477	296	42.9	37.0	5.2	7.7	7.2
75 or more	94.5	554	300	37.2	38.1	6.0	9.4	9.3
School did not participate in free or reduced-price lunch program	86.1	404	243	54.3	30.8	4.0	6.5	4.4

NOTE: Interpret data on city teachers with caution. After nonresponse adjustments, the nonresponse bias for this category is greater than for other characteristics. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Teacher and Principal Survey (NTPS), "Public School Teacher Data File," 2015–16.