

KNOW MORE

...about class size

Premier Ford and Minister of Education Lisa Thompson plan to increase class size averages:

- By one student per class in Grades 4 to 8
- By six students per class in Grades 9 to 12

The government says the increases are no big deal, and might even be good for students.

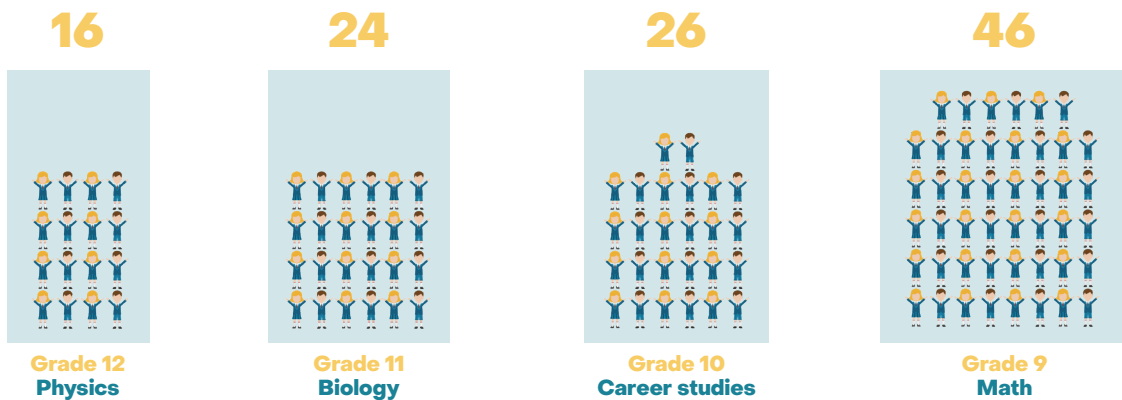
What do teachers and other experts say?

Course and program options for students will be reduced significantly, because thousands of teaching positions will be eliminated.

- Some classes must be kept small for safety reasons, practical considerations, or because they deal with specialized subject matter.
- If school boards no longer have enough funding or teachers for these courses, they will be lost.

Some classes will grow to 40 students or more.

- Because smaller classes are required in some areas, other classes will have to grow substantially, in order to maintain averages.
- This will include subjects such as math, a supposed priority for the government.



Teachers will be less able to ensure safe learning conditions or provide individual attention to students.

- Research shows that smaller classes allow teachers and students to develop better, more productive relationships.
- With larger class sizes, students who need extra support might not get the help they need.

The government is engaging in a race to the bottom.

- Ontario is world-renowned for our student achievement and our commitment to equity. Smaller class sizes have helped us reach these goals.
- Rather than going backward, we should be continuing to build on our success.

Want to know more about why class size matters?

Visit catholicteachers.ca/Where-We-Stand to find academic research and perspectives from teachers.

Go to KnowMore.ca to send a message to your MPP and tell them to invest in publicly funded education.