

This is just one of the key findings from *School Planning & Management's* Sixth Annual School Construction Report. The report has been compiled in partnership with School Construction Alert, a service of Dun and Bradstreet's Market Data Retrieval division.

School Construction Alert gathers information for this report from survey forms and telephone calls to every school district in the United States. Information is gathered on individual projects over a three- and four-year period, as each project progresses. Each follow-up contact is designed to elicit more detailed information on costs, size and facilities.

SP&M takes the information and projects it, based on the number of districts responding and the point in their projects at which the information was collected. Districts are analyzed by region and size so accurate projections can be made.

Based on the School Construction

Alert surveys, this year's Construction Report provides estimates on construction completed in the year 2000, projected to be completed in 2001, and projects identified as starting in 2001.

The Big Picture

Public school districts in the U.S. (see Table 1) spent \$21,157,484,000 on construction projects completed during the 2000 calendar year. Of this, almost \$9.4 billion (44.4 percent) went into the design and erection of new schools; the balance was spent on enlarging (29 percent) and upgrading (26.6 percent) existing buildings.

This year (2001) school districts project completing just under \$20.9 billion worth of construction, indicating that school construction, like the economy in general, may be slowing slightly. But that could be a false reading. The amount expected to be spent on new buildings in

2001 exceeds last year's total, and as-yet-unreported additions and retrofit projects may push the projections higher.

In a sense, work to be completed in 2001 is history. Even if not yet reported, its scope has been determined

and it is probably well underway. To estimate school construction in the future, the report also examines construction expected to start in 2001. Some of that construction could end during the current year, but the bulk of it will be reported again as completions in 2002, 2003 and even 2004.

Reports of work starting in 2001 also show some signs that construction spending is softening, or at least reaching a plateau. School districts expect to start work totaling just under \$20.2 billion during the current calendar year. One year ago, when looking at construction expected to start in 2000, almost \$23 billion was projected. That could indicate a fall-off of as much as 12 percent.

On the other side of the coin, the amount of work on new schools projected to start this year, over \$10 billion, is the highest one-year total ever. Planning new buildings is often a longer process than planning for additions and retrofitting. It could be that it is the reporting, rather than the activity, that is lagging. Regardless, school construction over the next several years is expected to remain in the \$20 billion range, roughly double what it was just six years ago.

Examining 2000

School construction reached its highest levels ever, with almost \$21.2 billion

worth of construction put in place. As Table 2 shows, 44.4 percent of that total (\$9.4 billion) was spent on new school buildings. Another 29 percent (\$6.1 billion) went to providing additional space in existing schools. The remaining \$5.6 billion (just under 27 percent) was spent on upgrading of existing structures, including ADA compliance, new heating and ventilating systems, roofs, windows and the like.

It should come as no surprise that almost three quarters of the construction dollars were spent on providing new space (combining new buildings and additions). Increasing numbers of students have been the driving force behind the construction effort of the last decade.

The traditional school population, K-12, is now at its highest level ever. In addition, full-day kindergartens and pre-kinder-

TABLE 1
School Construction in the U.S.
(\$000's)

	2000 Completions	2001 Projected Completions	2001 Starts
New Schools	\$9,389,207	\$9,548,296	\$10,117,849
Additions	\$6,131,759	\$5,476,832	\$5,417,618
Renovations	\$5,636,518	\$5,835,419	\$4,648,925
Total	\$21,157,484	\$20,860,547	\$20,184,392

TABLE 2
School Construction Completed in 2000
(\$000's)

Region	(\$000's)				% of Spending for			Reg % of nation
	New	Addition	Renovation	Total	New	Addition	Renovation	
1	\$435,280	\$464,402	\$552,959	\$1,452,641	30.0%	32.0%	38.1%	6.9%
2	\$778,122	\$1,172,320	\$1,313,017	\$3,263,459	23.8%	35.9%	40.2%	15.4%
3	\$395,871	\$133,215	\$156,885	\$685,970	57.7%	19.4%	22.9%	3.2%
4	\$861,424	\$348,903	\$243,223	\$1,453,550	59.3%	24.0%	16.7%	6.9%
5	\$1,334,812	\$498,595	\$274,163	\$2,107,570	63.3%	23.7%	13.0%	10.0%
6	\$996,668	\$566,323	\$489,823	\$2,052,814	48.6%	27.6%	23.9%	9.7%
7	\$778,209	\$806,148	\$760,983	\$2,345,341	33.2%	34.4%	32.4%	11.1%
8	\$302,726	\$187,835	\$102,726	\$593,286	51.0%	31.7%	17.3%	2.8%
9	\$1,390,579	\$784,389	\$455,070	\$2,630,038	52.9%	29.8%	17.3%	12.4%
10	\$247,768	\$276,147	\$174,952	\$698,868	35.5%	39.5%	25.0%	3.3%
11	\$1,433,290	\$708,652	\$843,147	\$2,985,089	48.0%	23.7%	28.2%	14.1%
12	\$434,458	\$184,830	\$269,571	\$888,859	48.9%	20.8%	30.3%	4.2%
NATL	\$9,389,207	\$6,131,759	\$5,636,518	\$21,157,484	44.4%	29.0%	26.6%	100.0%

To Read This Table: Public schools in Region 1 (New England) completed new buildings worth more than \$435 million in 2000. They also put in place \$464 million in additions to existing buildings and spent \$553 million on renovations. School districts in Region 1 completed almost \$1.5 billion of school construction in 2000 with 30% of those dollars spent on new buildings, the balance on adding to and upgrading existing buildings. Region 1 accounted for 6.9% of all school construction dollars spent in the United States in 2000.

ANALYSIS BY REGION

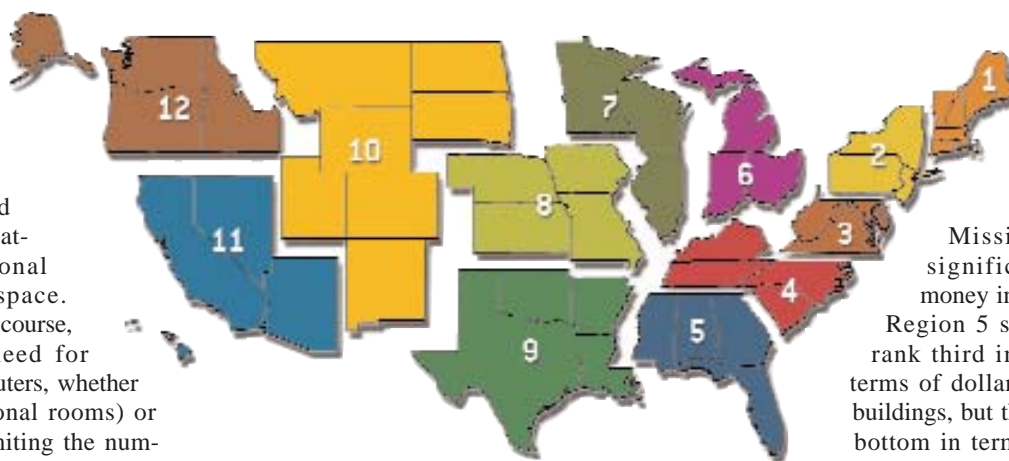
garten programs are proliferating everywhere and the number of special needs students being accommodated is growing, creating additional demands for space. Beyond that, of course, there is the need for space for computers, whether in labs (additional rooms) or classrooms (limiting the number of students who can be served). In addition, program changes and additional services at all school levels are demanding added space. Whether the student population continues to increase or not (and indications are that it will) the demand for additional space in schools is going to continue at least for the next several years.

Table 2 shows the national picture of construction spending in 2000. It also shows how much school districts in each of 12 regions of the nation (see map of regions above) spent on construction and how they spent it.

As Table 2 shows, school districts in the three states comprising Region 2 (New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania) spent more dollars on construction in 2000 than did school districts in any other region. That does not mean, necessarily, that they did more work than districts in other regions; only that more was spent. For example, costs of construction tend to be significantly higher in the northeast than in Texas or most parts of Georgia. So price differentials must be taken into account when the amount of activity is considered.

There is also a difference in how money is spent. Districts in Region 2 spent relatively little on building new schools, just 23.8 cents out of each construction dollar. Most of the money was spent on adding space in existing buildings and renovating those buildings.

By contrast, in Region 11 (California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii), 48 cents of every dol-



For a more detailed look at the 12 regions, turn to page 37

lar went into new construction, double the percentage spent by Region 2. While Region 11 was the second highest spending region at just under \$3 billion, more money (\$1.4 billion) went into new schools there than anywhere else.

Region 9 (Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana and Oklahoma) was the third highest spending region at just over \$2.6 billion, but it ranks second in new construction. Districts in these states put almost 53 percent of their construction dollars into new schools.

Districts in Region 4 (North Carolina,

South Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee) and Region 5 (Florida, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi) invest significantly more money in new buildings. Region 5 school districts rank third in the nation in terms of dollars put into new buildings, but they are near the bottom in terms of fixing up their existing buildings. That is not a criticism. Student growth in those eight states has been significant over the last 20 years and, as population moves from metropolitan areas and farms are converted to subdivisions, new schools must follow. As the region's schools reach 20 and 25 years of age, they may invest more in buildings that have begun to deteriorate.

Region 3 (Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, West Virginia and the District of Columbia) is one of the lower spending regions, but it, too, spent more than half its funds on new buildings in 2000.

While Region 2 spent the smallest percentage of its dollars on new buildings,

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TABLE 3
School Construction Expected To Be completed in 2001
(\$000's)

Region	Total				% of Spending for			Region% of nation
	New	Addition	Renovation	Total	New	Addition	Renovation	
1	\$634,172	\$440,734	\$465,988	\$1,540,895	41.2%	28.6%	30.2%	7.4%
2	\$745,987	\$1,230,505	\$1,216,882	\$3,193,373	23.4%	38.5%	38.1%	15.3%
3	\$422,178	\$283,442	\$224,820	\$930,440	45.4%	30.5%	24.2%	4.5%
4	\$939,456	\$299,915	\$238,842	\$1,478,213	63.6%	20.3%	16.2%	7.1%
5	\$1,146,951	\$463,548	\$532,291	\$2,142,791	53.5%	21.6%	24.8%	10.3%
6	\$1,202,782	\$587,856	\$637,851	\$2,428,488	49.5%	24.2%	26.3%	11.6%
7	\$780,041	\$529,787	\$797,227	\$2,107,055	37.0%	25.1%	37.8%	10.1%
8	\$308,828	\$267,347	\$163,650	\$739,825	41.7%	36.1%	22.1%	3.5%
9	\$1,443,352	\$569,898	\$642,967	\$2,656,218	54.3%	21.5%	24.2%	12.7%
10	\$355,144	\$105,478	\$96,677	\$557,299	63.7%	18.9%	17.3%	2.7%
11	\$1,276,285	\$561,692	\$620,559	\$2,458,536	51.9%	22.8%	25.2%	11.8%
12	\$293,119	\$136,630	\$197,666	\$627,415	46.7%	21.8%	31.5%	3.0%
NATL	\$9,548,296	\$5,476,832	\$5,835,419	\$20,860,547	45.8%	26.3%	28.0%	100.0%

To Read This Table: In 2001, public schools in Region 1 (New England) are expecting to complete new buildings worth slightly more than \$634 million. They also expect to complete additions worth \$441 million and renovations valued at \$466 million. Total spending in Region 1 is projected at \$1.541 billion, with 41.2% of the dollars for new buildings, the balance for additions and renovations. New England is projected to account for 7.4% of all school construction dollars spent in the nation.

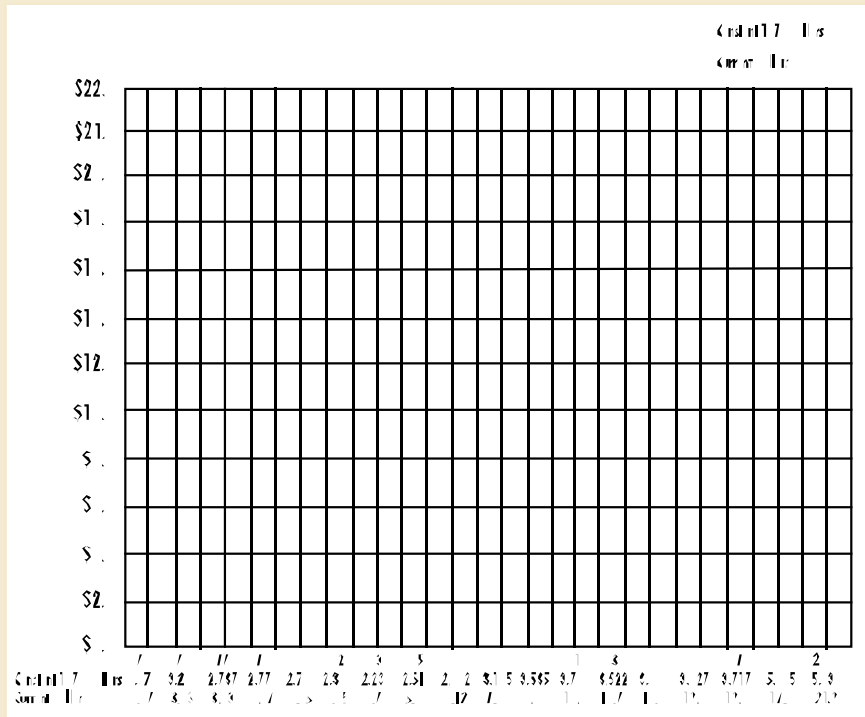
Inflation (Or, What Is That in Today's Dollars?)

There has been a tremendous increase in overall construction spending in the last two years, from \$15.5 billion in 1998 to \$18 billion in 1999 to \$21.16 billion in 2000. That is actually a continuation of the strong growth in the school construction market that started in 1995, when \$10.3 billion worth of construction was recorded. But that is only part of the picture.

The author of this report has been tracking school construction annually since 1974, when school districts completed just under \$4.9 billion of construction. That was the last year of building specifically to accommodate the Post-War Baby Boom and was the high point of school construction until it started to pick up again more than a decade later. Since 1985, with some minor backsliding, school construction has increased year by year in terms of current dollars spent.

But current dollars are inflated dollars. To understand how much is really being spent on education construction year by year, it is useful to convert current dollar spending to constant dollars and then to see whether what was spent in 2000 really was more than in any previous year.

The table at right tells the story. From 1974 through 1998, inflation ate away at the school construction dollar to the point that 1974 remained the largest school construction year in our history. In terms of real 1974 dollars, the \$4.9 billion spent that year was never



again reached.

Last year, for the first time in two and a half decades, spending for school construction, in real dollars, exceeded the 1974 total, with just under 5.1 billion 1974 dollars spent on construction put in place. This year, with an

increase of almost \$3.2 billion in current spending, inflation was outstripped again. The year 2000, by any measure, really was the biggest school construction year ever. The \$21.2 billion spent this year was the equivalent of \$5.84 billion in 1974.

TABLE 4
School Construction Starting in 2001
((\$000's))

Region	New	Addition	Renovation	Total	% of Spending for			% region is of nation
					New	Addition	Renovation	
1	\$682,940	\$446,554	\$195,005	\$1,324,499	51.6%	33.7%	14.7%	6.6%
2	\$914,088	\$1,314,453	\$1,252,624	\$3,481,165	26.3%	37.8%	36.0%	17.2%
3	\$343,198	\$238,413	\$135,403	\$717,015	47.9%	33.3%	18.9%	3.6%
4	\$962,278	\$357,501	\$221,794	\$1,541,573	62.4%	23.2%	14.4%	7.6%
5	\$1,160,970	\$410,175	\$553,415	\$2,124,560	54.6%	19.3%	26.0%	10.5%
6	\$1,357,310	\$478,743	\$327,737	\$2,163,790	62.7%	22.1%	15.1%	10.7%
7	\$742,446	\$601,904	\$438,914	\$1,783,263	41.6%	33.8%	24.6%	8.8%
8	\$397,377	\$149,516	\$149,403	\$696,295	57.1%	21.5%	21.5%	3.4%
9	\$1,424,933	\$673,170	\$613,026	\$2,711,128	52.6%	24.8%	22.6%	13.4%
10	\$327,990	\$77,692	\$31,699	\$437,381	75.0%	17.8%	7.2%	2.2%
11	\$1,406,224	\$503,951	\$535,240	\$2,445,414	57.5%	20.6%	21.9%	12.1%
12	\$398,095	\$165,547	\$194,666	\$758,308	52.5%	21.8%	25.7%	3.8%
NATL	\$10,556,017	\$7,486,178	\$4,758,872	\$22,801,065	44.1%	35.0%	20.9%	100.0%

To Read This Table: In the year 2001, school districts in Region 1 (New England) expect to start construction on new buildings worth more than \$680 million. They will also start work on \$446 million in additions to existing buildings and renovations valued at \$195 million. Altogether, school districts in Region 1 predict they will start \$1.3 billion worth of school construction in 2001, with 51.6% of the dollars devoted to new schools, the balance to additions and renovations. Region 1's spending is about 6.6% of all school construction spending projected to start in 2001.

other regions also tended to put their money where their existing schools are. Districts in Region 1 (the six New England states) invested 70 percent of their construction dollars in enlarging and fixing up existing structures. Schools in Region 7 (Wisconsin, Minnesota and Illinois) put two out of every three dollars into existing structures. This was the fourth highest spending district in the nation.

That Region 10 districts (Colorado, Utah, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, North Dakota and South Dakota) put just 35 percent of their construction dollars into new buildings is something of a surprise. That region regularly is among the smaller spenders and there seems to be no regular pattern from year to year. A year ago, districts in this region spent

almost half their dollars on new buildings.

Region 6 (Michigan, Indiana and Ohio) spent over \$2 billion last year, spread almost evenly between new and old buildings. Districts in Region 12 (Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska) also split their dollars relatively evenly between new and existing buildings, but spent less than half of what was spent in Region 6.

Schools in Region 8 (Kansas, Iowa, Missouri and Nebraska) made up the lowest spending region last year. There is no specific explanation for this, but it is notable that the region's school districts expected to spend somewhat more. The shortfall appears to have been in projects involving existing buildings, since new construction outstripped the predictions.

What's Underway Now

Table 3 looks at construction projected to be completed during the current calendar year. As noted earlier, the total is somewhat less than was completed in 2000, which may indicate some slowing in construction is underway. On the other hand, the amount being spent on new schools is up slightly to \$9.5 billion, and the amount projected to be spent on renovations is also up. The shortfall, if there is one, would be in the segment of the school construction dollar that is being spent to add new space to existing buildings.

In terms of a regional perspective, Region 2 remains the largest construction area, with almost \$3.2 billion. Region 9 (\$2.7 billion), Region 11 (\$2.5 billion) and Region 6 (\$2.4 billion) follow closely behind. Two other regions (5 and 7) expect to spend more than \$2 billion on construction this year. New England projects spending \$1.5 billion and Region 3, which was a relatively low spender in the year 2000, expects to put almost \$1 billion worth of construction in place in

2001.

In terms of percentage of dollars spent, there is a slight increase in the amount going to new construction and a decrease in additions. In Regions 10 and 4, almost two of every three dollars go into new buildings. By contrast, in Region 2, better than 75 percent will go into existing buildings.

What Is in the Future?

Table 4 looks at construction projected to start in 2001 and likely to be completed over the next two and three years. The total projected, \$20.2 billion, represents 10 percent less construction activity than was projected to start in 2000. That certainly suggests a significant slow-down in school construction planning.

It is notable, however, that more than half the dollars projected for projects starting in 2001 are going into new school buildings. Over the last several years, new construction has accounted

for less than 50 percent of the construction dollars, and it is possible that later reporting could increase the overall spending on projects to start this year.

School districts in Region 2 once again report the greatest dollar activity. If all goes as expected, they will start almost \$3.5 billion worth of school construction this year. School districts in Region 9 (\$2.7 billion) and Region 11 (\$2.4 billion) also expect to be very active. Interestingly, there is no one region of the nation that one could look at and say, "That is where construction is slowing." In 10 of the 12 regions, the amount of construction expected to start in 2001 is less than the amount that was expected to start in the year 2000. The exceptions are Region 5 and Region 7.

School administrators and suppliers to the school market are going to want to watch very carefully this spring as bond issues and construction projects get underway. One question will be whether

the change in administration, and attitude towards education that has taken place in Washington, will affect the ability or desire of local school districts to continue providing added and improved space for their local school programs.

What Goes Into a School?

Table 5 provides a profile of new schools currently being built and expected to be completed during the current calendar year. The figures shown in Table 5 are medians. That means, for example, that of the elementary schools being constructed in the nation today, half of them will cost \$113.03 per square foot or more, and half will cost \$113.03 or less. By using medians rather than averages, we are able to minimize the influence of special case schools that may be extremely expensive or inexpensive.

It is also important to understand that only entirely new schools are included and, as shown in

TABLE 5
Profile of New Schools Currently Underway
(School Construction Ending 2001)

National Medians	\$/Sq. Ft.	\$/Student	Sq. Ft./ Student	No. Students	Building Size (Sq. Ft.)	Building Cost (\$000's)
Elementary	\$113.03	\$12,583	111.6	650	70,500	\$8,561
Middle	\$117.65	\$16,667	142.5	650	100,000	\$11,000
High	\$122.31	\$17,778	164.4	1500	210,000	\$26,000
Low Quartile	\$/Sq. Ft.	\$/Student	Sq. Ft./ Student	No. Students	Building Size (Sq. Ft.)	Building Cost (\$000's)
Elementary	\$88.89	\$10,000	100.0	500	54,000	\$5,300
Middle	\$85.42	\$11,605	125.0	600	77,500	\$8,500
High	\$90.52	\$14,545	143.8	1000	163,000	\$16,800
High Quartile	\$/Sq. Ft.	\$/Student	Sq. Ft./ Student	No. Students	Building Size (Sq. Ft.)	Building Cost (\$000's)
Elementary	\$155.79	\$16,667	125.8	800	90,000	\$12,240
Middle	\$157.89	\$25,000	166.7	900	148,000	\$18,500
High	\$140.00	\$24,320	185.0	1800	265,000	\$35,000
Top 10 Percent	\$/Sq. Ft.	\$/Student	Sq. Ft./ Student	No. Students	Building Size (Sq. Ft.)	Building Cost (\$000's)
Elementary	\$175.07	\$29,545	136.5	1000	100,000	\$16,900
Middle	\$211.76	\$39,000	185.0	1250	182,000	\$26,600
High	\$170.10	\$30,000	215.4	2200	330,000	\$42,000

To Read This Table: The national median cost per square foot for construction of an elementary school being completed in 2001 is \$113.03. Cost per student is \$12,583 and the median school provides 111.6 square feet per student. One quarter of all school districts (the Low 25%) is spending \$88 per square foot or less while one quarter of all districts spends \$155 per square foot or more. One in ten school districts estimated their cost per square foot for a new elementary school at over \$175.

Base: 220 Elementary Schools; 88 Middle Schools; 84 High Schools.

Table 3, while new school construction is taking place everywhere, a preponderance of the money spent on new schools is coming from southern and western states. If your district is building or planning to build and you are in one of the higher spending areas of the nation, the medians are likely to be below your costs.

Table 5 shows that the median elementary school cost \$113.03 per square foot to build. Median spending was \$12,583 per pupil and the median school provided 111.6 sq.ft. for each student.

Looking at middle schools, the cost was almost \$118 a square foot and \$16,667 per student, providing almost 143 sq.ft. for each of the 650 students it houses. Note that in finding medians, each variable is looked at separately so that the school that cost \$117.65 per square foot is not necessarily the one that spends \$16,667 per student. Thus, still at the middle school level, if one divides the median building size (100,000 sq. ft.) by the median number of students accommodated (650) the number of square feet provided for each student would be almost 154. But the fact is, the median among those schools in terms of square feet per student is 142.5.

The cost of the median high school is \$122.31 per square foot and \$17,778 is being spent per pupil. The median high school provides almost 165 sq.ft. for each of its students.

Your district may not be a median district in terms of aspirations, local costs or what it puts into a building. The low quartile shown in Table 5 is the point at which 75 percent of the reporting schools are higher and 25 percent are lower. Thus, 25 percent of elementary schools

TABLE 6
School Construction: Where the Money Goes, by Building Type
(\$000's)

2000 Completions	Elementary	Middle	High	District	Total
New	\$3,763,912	\$2,275,860	\$3,217,460	\$131,975	\$9,389,207
Additions	\$2,592,025	\$964,313	\$2,346,490	\$228,932	\$6,131,760
Renovation	\$2,246,873	\$1,155,233	\$1,767,199	\$467,213	\$5,636,518
Total	\$8,602,810	\$4,395,406	\$7,331,149	\$828,120	\$21,157,485
% of Year's Dollars	40.7%	20.8%	34.7%	3.9%	100.0%
2001 Projected Completions	Elementary	Middle	High	District	Total
New	\$3,470,541	\$2,276,029	\$3,686,412	\$115,314	\$9,548,296
Additions	\$2,170,024	\$1,000,893	\$2,198,146	\$107,769	\$5,476,832
Renovation	\$2,247,497	\$986,902	\$2,217,198	\$383,823	\$5,835,420
Total	\$7,888,062	\$4,263,824	\$8,101,756	\$606,906	\$20,860,548
% of Year's Dollars	37.8%	20.4%	38.8%	2.9%	100.00%
2001 Starts	Elementary	Middle	High	District	Total
New	\$3,209,792	\$3,059,246	\$3,720,251	\$128,560	\$10,117,849
Additions	\$2,064,382	\$1,229,028	\$1,859,491	\$264,716	\$5,417,617
Renovation	\$1,684,475	\$976,702	\$1,627,028	\$360,720	\$4,648,925
Total	\$6,958,649	\$5,264,976	\$7,206,770	\$753,996	\$20,184,391
% of Year's Dollars	34.5%	26.1%	35.7%	3.7%	100.0%
Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District	Total
New	\$10,444,245	\$7,611,135	\$10,624,123	\$375,849	\$29,055,352
Additions	\$6,826,431	\$3,194,234	\$6,404,127	\$601,417	\$17,026,209
Renovation	\$6,178,845	\$3,118,837	\$5,611,425	\$1,211,756	\$16,120,863
Total	\$23,449,521	\$13,924,206	\$22,639,675	\$2,189,022	\$62,202,424
% of Year's Dollars	37.7%	22.4%	36.4%	3.5%	100.0%

To Read This Table: Of the \$9.389 billion spent on new buildings in 2000, \$3.763 billion went into elementary schools, \$2.275 billion was spent on middle schools and \$3.217 billion on high schools. Another \$131 million was spent on district buildings encompassing multiple grades, special programs or administrative functions.

being completed this year will cost \$88.89 per square foot or less. One quarter of the elementary schools will provide just 100 sq.ft. per student or less. It is interesting to note at the high school level that just 25 percent of the new high schools will provide less than 144 sq.ft. per student. Six or seven years ago, that is what the median high school provided, indicating that as new schools are being constructed, new spaces are being added.

If your district is in a high spending area or feels that it is a high-quality district in terms of how it spends its money and how it builds its buildings, you may want to look at the high quartile numbers. They show, for example, that 25 percent of the new elementary schools being constructed cost \$155.79 per sq.ft.; 75 percent cost less. Fully one quarter of the elementary schools are providing more than 126 sq.ft. per student and at the high

school level 25 percent of the new buildings will provide 185 sq.ft. per student.

Is your district in the top 10 percent of the nation? If so, you may be spending \$175 per square foot on your elementary schools and providing 136 sq.ft. per student. Table 5 gives you an opportunity to compare your district with other districts around the country. It is meant as an indicator, not an arbitrator. There is no right or wrong in terms of spending or space.

Where Pressure Is Greatest

School districts – especially those that are growing – face multiple pressures for spending construction dollars. Which is more important, to build a new elementary school to relieve overcrowding, to remodel an existing junior high school so that a middle school program can be installed, or to add to the high school ahead of the crush of larger incoming classes? Should technology be upgraded across the board or only in some buildings? Can we afford to do everything at once? These are the kinds of questions school boards must answer as they plan their building programs.

Table 6 looks at how those questions were answered, in terms of dollars. It shows the school level at which construction took place and the type of construction that was undertaken.

For example, among school construction projects completed in 2000, 40.7 percent of the total dollars went into elementary schools, 34.7 percent into high schools, 20.8 percent into middle schools and a little less than four percent was either spread around the district in such a way that it could not be defined or for projects at the district level.

TABLE 7
**What New Schools Starting in
 2001 Will Provide**

(% of school additions that contain facility, by grade level)

Core Facilities	Elementary	Middle/JHS	High School
Classrooms	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Library	79.9%	84.6%	81.0%
Media Center	35.3%	81.5%	84.1%
Computer Lab	10.9%	92.3%	96.2%
Science Lab	3.8%	89.2%	96.2%
Music	76.6%	75.4%	77.9%
Arts/Crafts	89.7%	73.8%	61.3%
Gymnasium	84.8%	100.0%	100.0%
Multipurpose Room	23.9%	24.6%	12.7%
Stage	25.5%	46.2%	72.9%
Auditorium/Theater	20.1%	40.0%	69.8%
Special ed/resource	67.4%	61.0%	74.6%
Home Arts	0.0%	67.2%	58.1%
Industrial Tech.	0.0%	74.0%	60.7%
Vocational Shops	0.0%	1.5%	36.5%
Photo Lab	0.0%	0.0%	3.2%
TV/Radio Studio	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%
Support Facilities			
Offices	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Infirmiry/Clinic	99.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cafeteria	94.5%	100.0%	100.0%
Kitchen	91.8%	100.0%	100.0%
Lockers	28.3%	95.3%	100.0%
Technology Support			
LANs	91.3%	93.8%	93.7%
Fiber Optics/Cable	92.4%	95.4%	96.8%
Phone Lines in Class	4.3%	10.8%	19.0%
Technology Lab	1.1%	6.2%	38.1%
Language Lab	0.0%	4.6%	23.8%
Televised PA	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%
WANs	32.6%	36.9%	60.3%
Athletic Support			
Locker Rooms	18.5%	87.7%	100.0%
Bleachers	32.6%	83.1%	90.5%
Track	0.0%	3.1%	12.7%
Field House	0.0%	1.5%	1.6%
Fitness Center	0.0%	3.1%	9.5%
Tennis	0.5%	1.5%	11.1%
Pool	0.0%	0.0%	4.8%
Stadium	0.0%	1.5%	1.6%
Athletic fields/playground	100.0%	71.9%	76.4%
Other facilities			
Day Care/nursery	12.0%	1.5%	0.0%
Elevators	1.1%	7.7%	26.7%
Portables	1.6%	0.0%	3.2%
Security equipment	98.9%	100.0%	100.0%

It is not surprising that more money goes into elementary schools – there are many more of them – but the large classes that emerged from the Baby Boomlet of the 1980s are now well into the secondary schools. Will most money begin to switch to secondary projects? It would appear that some movement may be taking place. The percentage of the school construction dollar projected to be spent on elementary schools being completed this year drops to 37.8 percent and among projects starting this year it drops further, down to 34.5 percent.

High school construction consistently accounts for a little more than one of every three dollars spent. Over the three years covered in this report, 36.4 cents of every construction dollar are put into high school buildings.

Middle schools have been the forgotten building type, but that may be changing. More than a quarter of the dollars to be expended on construction to start this year will be at the middle school level. That's a huge improvement over the 20 percent allocated in the past.

Table 6 not only shows the level at which construction dollars are spent, but the purpose. For example, of the \$8.6 billion spent last year on elementary schools, almost 44 percent (\$3.8 billion) was on new buildings. At the middle school level last year, more than half the dollars (51.7 percent) were invested in new structures. Relatively little went into expanding existing buildings.

High school spending was more evenly divided among new buildings (43.9 percent) and additions (32 percent). Many districts, faced with expanding high school populations, have to make a decision between creating a second high school or allowing the existing building to be expanded. Obviously, in many districts, the decision is to expand.

Providing Facilities

New school buildings have great similarities. All have classrooms and offices. Virtually all have facilities for physical education. Some kind of infirmiry or nurse's station is a regular feature of all school buildings. They also have some differences, often a result of the age of the children they serve. High schools almost always have science labs, gymnasiums and computer labs. Middle schools tend to have those facilities, but elementary schools do not. Table 7 reports on the percentage of new schools planned to start in 2001 that will have specific facilities.

All elementary schools will have classrooms and offices. It is probable that all will also have a library, whether it is called a library (79.9 percent) or a media center (35.3 percent). Likewise, whether called a gym (84.8 percent) or a multi-purpose room (23.9 percent), there will be a space for physical education and for food service, even though only 94.5 percent report that they will specifically have a cafeteria.

As recently as a year ago, more than half the elementary schools were reporting that they planned to install computer labs. This year that has dropped to just 10.9 percent, which almost certainly means that technology is moving out of specialized labs and into the classroom.

The continuing use of computers in the educational program is borne out by the fact that better than 91 percent of all new elementary schools will have local area networks (LANs) and 92.4 percent are installing fiber optics and cable. Almost one-third of the new elementary schools will be wired to wide area networks (WANs).

Middle schools tend to be better equipped than elementary and sometimes better equipped than high schools. Better than 90 percent have computer labs, and almost as many plan to have science laboratories. All will have gymnasiums. Libraries and media centers (obviously some people check off both) are standard items, as are cafeterias, home arts and industrial technology rooms and music and art facilities.

In the area of technology, besides having computer labs and technology labs, middle schools will have LANs, fiber optics and cable, and 37 percent will be connected to WANs.

TABLE 8
**What Additions Starting
 in 2001 Will Provide**

(% of school additions that contain facility, by grade level)

Core Facilities	Elementary	Middle/JHS	High School
Classrooms	75.4%	71.0%	56.4%
Library	7.9%	14.5%	4.6%
Media Center	7.5%	6.5%	2.7%
Computer Lab	5.7%	6.5%	5.5%
Science Lab	1.3%	4.8%	12.7%
Music	3.9%	8.1%	10.9%
Arts/Crafts	3.9%	4.8%	3.6%
Gymnasium	14.9%	27.4%	27.3%
Multipurpose Room	8.8%	0.0%	1.8%
Stage	1.3%	11.3%	13.6%
Auditorium/Theater	0.9%	11.3%	12.7%
Special ed/resource	2.6%	6.5%	2.7%
Home Arts	0.4%	3.2%	0.9%
Industrial Tech.	0.0%	1.6%	2.7%
Vocational Shops	0.0%	0.0%	7.3%
Support Facilities			
Offices	5.3%	11.3%	9.1%
Infirmiry/Clinic	0.4%	3.2%	1.8%
Cafeteria	7.9%	11.3%	8.2%
Kitchen	7.5%	3.2%	8.2%
Lockers	1.8%	9.7%	14.5%
Technology Support			
LANs	13.6%	14.5%	13.6%
Fiber Optics/Cable	28.5%	22.6%	30.0%
Technology Lab	0.0%	3.2%	4.5%
Language Lab	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
WANs	7.9%	11.3%	10.0%
Athletic Support			
Locker Rooms	1.8%	9.7%	14.5%
Bleachers	1.3%	11.3%	12.7%
Track	0.0%	1.6%	4.5%
Field House	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Fitness Center	0.0%	0.0%	5.5%
Pool	0.0%	3.2%	5.5%
Athletic fields/Playground	0.9%	3.2%	4.5%
Building upgrades			
ADA Compliance	90.4%	93.5%	89.1%
Alarm systems	96.5%	95.2%	91.8%
Bathrooms	45.6%	40.3%	44.5%
Controls	78.9%	79.0%	74.5%
Electric overhaul	98.7%	100.0%	96.4%
HVAC	96.9%	95.3%	90.9%
Lighting	97.4%	98.4%	96.4%
Plumbing	59.2%	46.8%	64.5%
Security equipment	84.2%	88.7%	90.0%
Windows	97.8%	95.4%	92.7%

High schools are also being well equipped, in most cases better equipped than the middle schools (none of this speaks to the question of sophistication of equipment, just availability of space). A little better than one-third will have vocational facilities and all will have locker rooms for their athletic teams.

On the technology front, high schools will have computer labs (96.2 percent), LANs (93.7 percent), fiber optics and cabling (96.8 percent), technology labs (38.1 percent) and WANs (60.3 percent). The language lab, once considered a dinosaur, appears to be making a comeback.

What's to Be Added

Table 8 details information collected on additions to existing schools. While that will not be consistent – in each case what is needed may be totally different – some trends may be observed in the table.

For example, while classrooms are the basic addition in the elementary schools, 15 percent are adding a gymnasium, almost nine percent a multi-purpose room and almost eight percent a cafeteria.

The other obvious addition is in terms of technology — not specifically computer labs, but while they are adding, these schools are increasing their technology support. As the bottom section shows, most additions also lead to general building upgrades. In reporting on the spending for additions and retrofit, we have tried to separate the costs to the extent possible but, as this table indicates, often additions are the catalyst for general improvements.

Better than a quarter of middle schools and high schools are adding physical education space. Each school addition, of course, is an individual affair, but the list shown here indicates that while the need to house more students may provide the initial impetus for adding to existing buildings, the opportunity to provide more and better program space is an important sidebar.

A Closer Look at Regions

National figures are always instructive, but from the point of view of the local school administrator or school board it may be more important to know what your neighbors are doing.

On the following pages figures are given for each of the 12 regions of the United States. They show the total amount of construction activity by year, and how that money was spent, on new schools, additions or renovations. They also show by year what percentage of money in your region goes into elementary schools, middle schools, high schools and district projects.

Finally, for new schools only, you can see the median cost per square foot, cost per student, and square feet per student for elementary schools, middle schools and high schools in your region. Also shown is the median project size including overall cost, number of students accommodated and size of the building.

The purpose of this report is to provide you with data that can help you understand not only what your own district needs, but also what others are doing and how much their projects cost. The regional tables allow you to measure yourself against your neighbors. The national tables, particularly Table 5, allow you to compare with districts with similar aspirations. With this information you will have the data necessary to make your own plans and, in many cases, to help the public understand what you are building, why you are doing it and what it is likely to cost. Remember, there is no right or wrong. These are guidelines that need to be applied to your own local needs.

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REGION 1

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont

Construction Activity (\$000's)

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

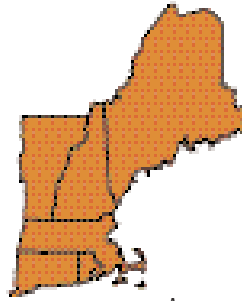
	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$435,280	\$464,402	\$552,959	\$1,452,641
Completions in 2001	\$634,172	\$440,734	\$465,988	\$1,540,894
Starting in 2001	\$682,940	\$446,554	\$195,005	\$1,324,499
Total Activity	\$1,752,392	\$1,351,690	\$1,213,952	\$4,318,034
% of Total	40.58%	31.30%	28.11%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$1,452,641	34.1%	30.8%	31.8%	3.3%
Completions in 2001	\$1,540,894	35.1%	18.9%	44.2%	1.8%
Starting in 2001	\$1,324,499	44.4%	22.9%	29.8%	3.0%
Total Activity	\$4,318,034	37.6%	24.1%	35.6%	2.7%

NEW SCHOOLS ONLY

	Cost/ sq. ft.	Cost/ student	Sq. ft./ student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$139.62	\$13,771	110.3	\$11,000	775	83,500
Middle/JHS	\$201.38	\$39,500	183.0	\$19,800	550	110,750
High School	\$168.17	\$26,786	186.7	\$56,000	1,500	180,000



Region 1 completed almost \$1.5 billion worth of construction in the year 2000, just slightly less than had been projected. Districts in the region are projecting that they will complete about the amount of construction this year just slightly less, \$1.3 billion. Activity in the region will reach some neighborhood of \$4.3 billion.

A year ago it was noticeable that Region 1 school districts were spending a significant portion of their money on middle schools. But for completions in 2001, it appears that high schools will get the bulk of the dollars. Projects currently planned to start this year seem to favor elementary schools.

School districts in Region 1 to provide more space per pupil in their middle and high schools than do median districts throughout the nation. Among middle schools, those reported in New England rank high in terms of spending, cost per student and square feet per student. In this case, however, they accommodate fewer students than the national median, meaning that unlike the elementary schools, large spaces are spread among a smaller base, driving up both the cost per student and amount of space provided.

The region's high schools, too, tend to be more expensive than those at the national median. In this case, the number of students is at the national median, indicating that New England region school districts, when they build new high schools, tend to spend far more.

Based on total dollars and average cost, New England completed about 25 new schools in 2000 and will put another 35 on line in 2001. Another 35 new buildings are projected to be started this year.

REGION 2

New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania

Construction Activity (\$000's)

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

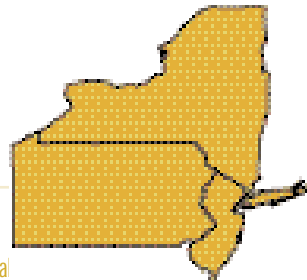
	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$778,122	\$1,172,320	\$1,313,017	\$3,263,459
Completions in 2001	\$745,987	\$1,230,505	\$1,216,882	\$3,193,374
Starting in 2001	\$914,088	\$1,314,453	\$1,252,624	\$3,481,165
Total Activity	\$2,438,197	\$3,717,278	\$3,782,523	\$9,937,998
% of Total	24.53%	37.40%	38.06%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$3,263,459	45.6%	16.0%	29.8%	8.5%
Completions in 2001	\$3,193,374	41.4%	17.0%	41.5%	0.1%
Starting in 2001	\$3,481,165	36.3%	23.2%	39.6%	0.8%
Total Activity	\$9,937,998	41.0%	18.8%	37.0%	3.1%

NEW SCHOOLS ONLY

	Cost/ sq. ft.	Cost/ student	Sq. ft./ student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$168.46	\$25,556	129.0	\$20,800	700	90,000
Middle/JHS	\$158.33	\$29,556	155.6	\$18,000	800	180,000
High School	\$143.61	\$29,867	172.0	\$25,000	836	170,000



The census shows that the states in Region 2 are growing, but not as fast as those in other regions. They have a lot of aging buildings, and costs of construction in this region tend to be among the highest in the nation. This combination shows them

spending more money on construction than in any other region. Region 2 school districts do not spend a great deal of money on new schools; about 75 percent of the money goes into upgrading and increasing the size of existing buildings.

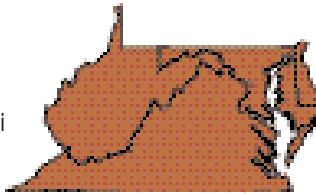
Almost \$3.3 billion worth of construction was put in place in 2000, slightly less than had been projected. Almost as much is expected to be completed during the current year and starts will be close to \$3.5 billion.

The emphasis in Region 2 is upgrading and expanding existing buildings, so it is not surprising to find the money following population trends. With the larger and largest classes moving into the high schools, the spending seems to be moving in that direction. School districts in these three industrial states are grappling with demands to provide full-day kindergarten and other services to younger children, which may explain why more than 40 percent of the construction dollars still go into the elementary schools.

When they build new schools, these districts tend to provide somewhat more space per student than the national median. Costs per square foot in this region are consistently among the highest.

About 35 new buildings were put on line during 2000 and another 35 will be completed in 2001. Districts in the region project starting work on 45 new buildings this year.

In terms of school construction, Region tends to be one of the less active regions the nation, completing just under \$686 million worth of construction in 2000. It projects spending significantly more on work to be completed in 2001 (just under \$1 billion), but work starting this year slips back to \$717 million. Most of the construction that does take place is in two states: Maryland and Virginia.

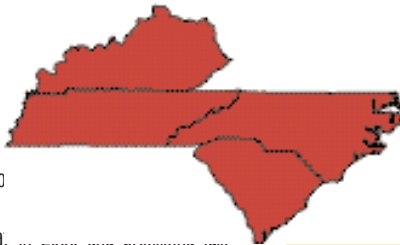


Overall, Region 3 tends to spend about half its money on new buildings, and the balance on adding to and renovating existing structures. Its emphasis last year and this year will be on high school construction (almost 50 percent). High schools will also account for the bulk of the dollars in construction starting this year, though there seems to be even emphasis on elementary and middle schools. Region 3 districts tend to be around the national median in terms of cost per square foot, and low in terms of cost per student at the elementary and middle school levels.

At the elementary level the reason may be that its schools provide significantly less space per pupil than districts in almost any other region. As a matter of fact, the median elementary school will provide less space at the elementary level than 75 percent of the districts nationwide. It may be that districts in this region, in an effort to get more construction done, are skimping on spaces they provide for their elementary school students. It is an issue that superintendents and state officials may wish to examine.

Indications are that school districts in Region 3 completed 25 new schools in 2000 and will complete another 35 this year. They are projecting starting 25 new schools in 2001.

Region 4 has been very active in terms of school construction over the last decade, though it completed less work in 2000 than had been projected. In 2000 the region appears to spend \$1.5 billion on construction, coming up just short of that projected for 2000 and projecting just slightly less in 2001. In terms of activity starting this year, school districts think they will be doing a little more construction.



By far the greatest amount of money in Region 4 goes into the construction of new school buildings, with just 22 percent going into additions and less than 16 percent being spent on renovations.

Region 4 school districts have been spending the bulk of their dollars at the elementary school level, but in work scheduled to start this year, the emphasis appears to be on middle schools. Whether that is simply a one-year aberration or the beginning of a trend will not be known for a few years. It would not be surprising to see school districts in this region paying attention to the middle grades both because of the number of students who are entering those grades and because many of these districts have not in the past had individual schools at this grade level.

Region 4 districts tend to be slightly below the median in their construction cost per square foot and near the median in terms of cost per student and space per student. As a matter of fact, if one wanted to find a part of the nation that represented the median, Region 4 would do very well.

Indications are that this four-state region completed about 70 new schools in 2000, fewer than had been projected. Districts report that they will be completing a few more schools during the current year and starting 90 new school projects in 2001.

REGION 3

District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia

Construction Activity (\$000's)

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$395,871	\$133,215	\$156,885	\$685,971
Completions in 2001	\$422,178	\$283,442	\$224,820	\$930,440
Starting in 2001	\$343,198	\$238,413	\$135,403	\$717,014
Total Activity	\$1,161,247	\$655,070	\$517,108	\$2,333,425
% of Total	49.77%	28.07%	22.16%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$685,971	36.2%	11.8%	48.4%	3.6%
Completions in 2001	\$930,440	28.8%	22.3%	48.7%	0.1%
Starting in 2001	\$717,014	35.4%	22.2%	38.4%	4.0%
Total Activity	\$2,333,425	33.0%	19.2%	45.4%	2.3%

NEW SCHOOLS ONLY

	Cost/sq. ft.	Cost/student	Sq. ft./student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$117.76	\$11,329	96.2	\$8,500	700	60,400
Middle/JHS	\$136.00	\$15,692	160.0	\$12,500	750	120,000
High School	\$135.49	\$23,067	170.3	\$28,250	1,225	208,500

REGION 4

Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee

Construction Activity (\$000's)

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$861,424	\$348,903	\$243,223	\$1,453,550
Completions in 2001	\$939,456	\$299,915	\$238,842	\$1,478,213
Starting in 2001	\$962,278	\$357,501	\$221,794	\$1,541,573
Total Activity	\$2,763,158	\$1,006,319	\$703,859	\$4,473,336
% of Total	61.77%	22.50%	15.73%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$1,453,550	42.8%	22.3%	33.4%	1.5%
Completions in 2001	\$1,478,213	50.9%	20.3%	25.1%	3.6%
Starting in 2001	\$1,541,573	34.8%	40.1%	24.2%	0.9%
Total Activity	\$4,473,336	42.7%	27.8%	27.5%	2.0%

NEW SCHOOLS ONLY

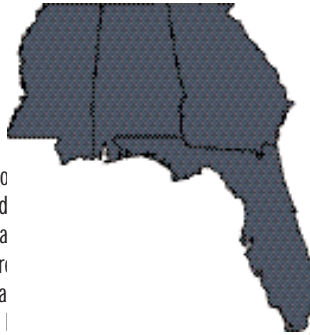
	Cost/sq. ft.	Cost/student	Sq. ft./student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$97.37	\$12,211	114.3	\$8,500	700	84,000
Middle/JHS	\$101.67	\$14,929	142.7	\$10,000	650	95,000
High School	\$110.00	\$20,238	166.9	\$32,380	1,600	230,000

REGION 5

Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Mississippi

Construction Activity (\$000's)

Region 5 has undertaken a great deal of construction activity over the last decade as its school districts scrambled to meet an exploding population.



In the year 2000, the school districts of this region completed worth of construction, almost exactly projected a year ago. In the current year, they completed slightly more, and they spent a similar amount. Altogether, almost \$6.4 billion

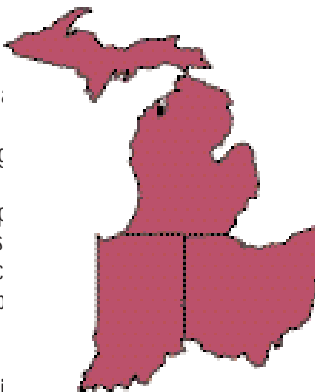
is going to take place over the reporting period in these four states. The bulk (57 percent) will go into constructing new schools. At the same time, the balance of the money will be split almost evenly between adding to existing buildings and renovating them.

In terms of grade level, the region seems to spend quite evenly. Considering the fact that population in these states is growing so rapidly and across the board, it is not surprising that the school districts are responding by constructing at all levels.

Fortunately for the taxpayers, school construction in Region 5 is well below the national median, with \$75 per square foot at the elementary level and even less in the secondary schools. Cost per student, too, falls well below national levels.

Indications are that this four-state region completed about 150 new schools in 2000, another 120 are scheduled for completion and 120 are said to be starting during the current year.

While these three Midwestern states are often thought of as industrial, they also have agricultural areas and there are differences in the school building within the states themselves.



Last year, this region completed over \$2 billion worth of construction, about 10 percent less than projected. The shortfall came in the completion of new buildings.

This year, school districts in the region are expected to complete \$2.4 billion worth of construction and to start almost \$2.2 billion. Assuming that those numbers hold up, Region 6 will be among the highest in the nation.

At the moment, more money is being spent on high schools. Among schools expected to start this year, there seems to be a slight shifting of funds.

In terms of cost per square foot, Region 6 elementary schools seem to be very close to the national median, but their middle schools and high schools are more expensive. Schools in this region tend to provide more space per student than those in other regions. In the past, most of the reporting from Ohio, Indiana and Michigan has been coming from some of the larger districts building larger high schools. There seems to be some shift this year to smaller high schools as a result of some change in philosophy or because the majority of districts reporting are from outlying areas.

Indications are that this region has been building between 50 and 60 new schools annually as many as 70 schools could be completed in the current year and the same number gotten underway.

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$1,334,812	\$498,595	\$274,163	\$2,107,570
Completions in 2001	\$1,146,951	\$463,548	\$532,291	\$2,142,790
Starting in 2001	\$1,160,970	\$410,175	\$553,415	\$2,124,560
Total Activity	\$3,642,733	\$1,372,318	\$1,359,869	\$6,374,920
% of Total	57.14%	21.53%	21.33%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$2,107,570	40.4%	25.5%	32.9%	1.2%
Completions in 2001	\$2,142,790	32.9%	25.8%	33.5%	7.8%
Starting in 2001	\$2,124,560	32.5%	27.2%	39.3%	1.0%
Total Activity	\$6,374,920	35.2%	26.2%	35.2%	3.4%

NEW SCHOOLS ONLY

	Cost/ sq. ft.	Cost/ student	Sq. ft./ student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$75.00	\$8,571	111.8	\$6,500	700	80,000
Middle/JHS	\$72.23	\$9,826	126.7	\$8,982	825	124,500
High School	\$73.43	\$12,637	163.6	\$17,690	1,350	189,250

REGION 6

Indiana, Ohio and Michigan

Construction Activity (\$000's)

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$996,668	\$566,323	\$489,823	\$2,052,814
Completions in 2001	\$1,202,782	\$587,856	\$637,851	\$2,428,489
Starting in 2001	\$1,357,310	\$478,743	\$327,737	\$2,163,790
Total Activity	\$3,556,760	\$1,632,922	\$1,455,411	\$6,645,093
% of Total	53.52%	24.57%	21.90%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$2,052,814	36.8%	15.2%	44.2%	3.8%
Completions in 2001	\$2,428,489	29.1%	16.1%	52.3%	2.6%
Starting in 2001	\$2,163,790	33.3%	22.0%	32.3%	12.4%
Total Activity	\$6,645,093	32.8%	17.7%	43.3%	6.2%

NEW SCHOOLS ONLY

	Cost/ sq. ft.	Cost/ student	Sq. ft./ student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$112.41	\$13,971	130.0	\$10,000	700	80,000
Middle/JHS	\$154.64	\$21,333	156.0	\$23,500	700	105,148
High School	\$171.72	\$31,250	165.2	\$29,500	1,200	189,750

REGION 7 Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin

Construction Activity (\$000's)

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$778,209	\$806,148	\$760,983	\$2,345,340
Completions in 2001	\$780,041	\$529,787	\$797,227	\$2,107,055
Starting in 2001	\$742,446	\$601,904	\$438,914	\$1,783,264
Total Activity	\$2,300,696	\$1,937,839	\$1,997,124	\$6,235,659
% of Total	36.90%	31.08%	32.03%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$2,345,340	52.2%	14.0%	28.4%	5.4%
Completions in 2001	\$2,107,055	57.7%	11.8%	30.2%	0.3%
Starting in 2001	\$1,783,264	27.7%	23.0%	43.5%	5.8%
Total Activity	\$6,235,659	47.1%	15.8%	33.3%	3.8%

NEW SCHOOLS ONLY

	Cost/ sq. ft.	Cost/ student	Sq. ft./ student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$123.46	\$16,000	113.7	\$11,000	550	59,000
Middle/JHS	\$117.65	\$22,667	192.0	\$16,000	750	148,000
High School	\$138.39	\$19,792	164.7	\$35,000	1,500	250,000



Last year, Region 7 school districts completed better

\$2.3 billion worth of construction, notably more than had been projected. The bulk of the added dollars seems to have come among new schools and renovation projects.

A year ago, it appeared that school districts had slowed their construction. It now appears that at least some of this may have been the result of buildings not being completed during 1999 and, therefore, pushing forward into 2000.

School districts in the region expect to put about \$2.1 billion of construction

in place this year, slightly less than in 2000, and to start a little less than \$1.8 billion. This would appear to indicate that districts are beginning to slow their construction activity. When Region 7 districts do build, they spread their money evenly among new schools, additions and renovation projects.

This year and last year, elementary schools accounted for the bulk of the region's construction activity, but it appears that starting in 2001, activity may swing towards the high schools.

School districts in Region 7 tend to spend above the national median in terms of cost per square foot and tend to spend more per pupil. Only at the middle-school level do these districts provide significantly more space than the national median.

Indications are that this region completed about 50 new schools during 2000 and will complete another 50 schools this year. Projections are to start about 40 schools this year.

REGION 8 Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska

Construction Activity (\$000's)

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

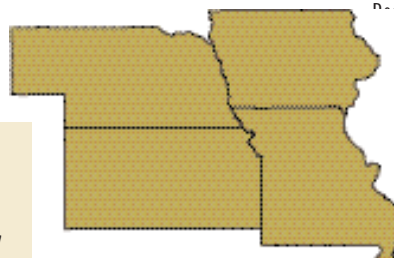
	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$302,726	\$187,835	\$102,726	\$593,287
Completions in 2001	\$308,828	\$267,347	\$163,650	\$739,825
Starting in 2001	\$397,377	\$149,516	\$149,403	\$696,296
Total Activity	\$1,008,931	\$604,698	\$415,779	\$2,029,408
% of Total	49.72%	29.80%	20.49%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$593,287	33.8%	17.5%	40.8%	7.9%
Completions in 2001	\$739,825	46.3%	12.1%	36.3%	5.2%
Starting in 2001	\$696,296	37.0%	20.3%	42.7%	0.0%
Total Activity	\$2,029,408	39.5%	16.5%	39.8%	4.2%

NEW SCHOOLS ONLY

	Cost/ sq. ft.	Cost/ student	Sq. ft./ student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$135.14	\$14,286	121.0	\$6,128	400	48,400
Middle/JHS	\$145.10	\$24,500	152.8	\$7,400	400	60,000
High School	\$121.21	\$30,000	200.0	\$40,000	1,300	143,000



Region 8 is one of the

smaller regions of the nation in terms of total school construction activity.

In 2000, Region 8 school districts completed just under \$600 million

worth of construction, the lowest total from any region. If, as projected,

school districts in these four states complete \$740 million of work in the current year, that will move them up a notch on the national scale but still leave them one of the smaller regions.

When Region 8 districts do build, they put almost half of their dollars into new schools. There does not seem to be any pattern, however. The one school type that seems to get the least funding is middle schools, with just 16.5 percent of the total dollars.

Reporting school districts indicate that they provided 121 sq. ft. per student at the elementary level, compared to a national median of about 111 sq. ft. They are also 10 feet per student above the national median in terms of space at the middle and high school levels.

Given the amount of space provided, it is not surprising that the cost per student of new schools exceeds the national median.

Based on total dollars and average costs, indications are that this region completed about 30 new schools last year and will complete about the same number the current year. It is possible that construction will start this year on as many as 40 new schools.

In terms of school construction, Region 9 dominates. It has been the fastest-growing and fastest-states, and its construction has risen at an extremely high level.

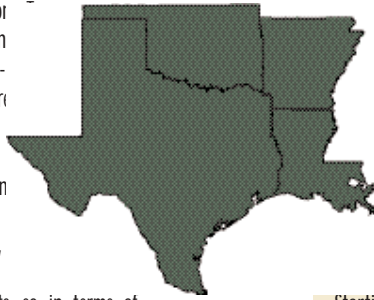
As a result, the region ranks second or third in total spending year after year.

It should be noted, too, that some regions are spending more dollars on significantly higher building costs, so in terms of actual construction activity, school districts in Region 9 probably put more construction in place than anywhere else in the nation.

Region 9 school districts put \$2.6 billion worth of construction in place in 2000, slightly less than had been projected. But they project spending another \$2.7 billion on construction completed in 2001 and slightly more than that on construction starting this year.

The bulk of the region's money goes into new school buildings. The districts also tend to spread their money quite evenly among elementary schools, middle schools and high schools. Elementary schools spend significantly below the national median in terms of cost per square foot and slightly below in terms of cost per student. The districts tend to be at about the median size at the elementary and high school but are quite large at the middle school level.

Based on total dollars and average costs, indications are that school districts in Region 9 completed as many as 95 school buildings during the year 2000 and expect to complete another 100 this year. They have projected starting slightly more than 90 new schools, almost evenly divided between elementary schools and secondary schools, during the current year.



REGION 9 Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas

Construction Activity (\$000's)

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$1,390,579	\$784,389	\$455,070	\$2,630,038
Completions in 2001	\$1,443,352	\$569,898	\$642,967	\$2,656,217
Starting in 2001	\$1,424,933	\$673,170	\$613,026	\$2,711,129
Total Activity	\$4,258,864	\$2,027,457	\$1,711,063	\$7,997,384
% of Total	53.25%	25.35%	21.40%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$2,630,038	39.0%	19.4%	41.6%	0.0%
Completions in 2001	\$2,656,217	33.8%	28.4%	32.4%	5.4%
Starting in 2001	\$2,711,129	31.1%	30.6%	37.6%	0.7%
Total Activity	\$7,997,384	34.6%	26.2%	37.2%	2.0%

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

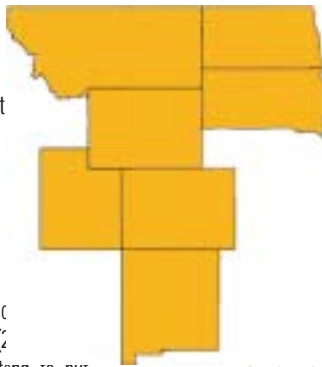
	Cost/ sq. ft.	Cost/ student	Sq. ft./ student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$102.08	\$12,417	105.2	\$9,713	700	72,800
Middle/JHS	\$92.33	\$13,941	138.8	\$16,000	1075	155,000
High School	\$107.66	\$16,053	155.9	\$25,000	1,500	222,500

Region 10 has more states, but it has a relatively small, scattered population. Its construction activity is always among the lowest recorded. In 2000, districts completed almost \$700 million worth of construction, just about what had been projected. Districts do not expect to spend as much this year, just \$557 million, and they are projecting only \$437 million will start this year.

They put their money into new construction (55 percent) as opposed to additions (22 percent) or renovations (18 percent). They also tend to put 40 percent or more of their dollars on high school projects and then split the balance among the other levels.

There were not enough middle school projects in Region 10 with full information to be able to report that this year. Among elementary schools, Region 10 districts tend to spend a little more per square foot and per student than the national medians, but they provide slightly less space. When one looks at high schools, the costs tend to be well below the national median and the space provided is extremely low. As indicated, the number of projects being undertaken in this region, and the number providing sufficient information for projecting, is marginal and figures need to be taken in that context.

Indications are that school districts in this region completed just 20 new buildings last year and will complete between 25 and 30 this year. Projections are that they might start as many as 25 new schools during the current year.



REGION 10 Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming

Construction Activity (\$000's)

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$247,768	\$276,147	\$174,952	\$698,867
Completions in 2001	\$355,144	\$105,478	\$96,677	\$557,299
Starting in 2001	\$327,990	\$77,692	\$31,699	\$437,381
Total Activity	\$930,902	\$459,317	\$303,328	\$1,693,547
% of Total	54.97%	27.12%	17.91%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$698,867	35.2%	15.3%	44.2%	5.3%
Completions in 2001	\$557,299	34.0%	20.5%	40.2%	5.3%
Starting in 2001	\$437,381	28.3%	27.4%	42.7%	1.5%
Total Activity	\$1,693,547	33.0%	20.1%	42.5%	4.3%

NEW SCHOOLS ONLY

	Cost/ sq. ft.	Cost/ student	Sq. ft./ student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$130.77	\$14,167	108.3	\$8,500	500	56,000
Middle/JHS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
High School	\$108.25	\$11,150	103.0	\$22,300	2,000	206,000

While California is obviously the dominant state among the four in Region 11, growth and construction are significant in both Arizona and Nevada. In terms of dollar volume, the state ranks consistently in the top two or three of the nation.



Districts in Region 11 reported putting almost \$3 billion worth of construction in place last year, significantly more than had been projected. This may be due to a lag in reporting or may be because many districts in this region are in areas where construction can take place all year long and, therefore, can be completed more quickly.

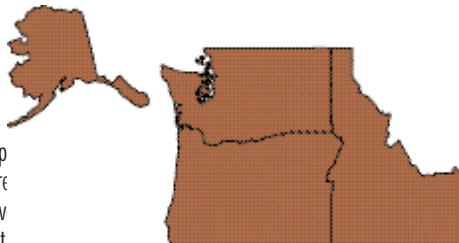
Districts in the region expect to complete slightly less construction (\$2.5 billion) during the current year. They project starting \$2.45 billion worth of construction during the current year.

Region 11 districts put more than half of their money into new buildings and then spread the rest between additions and renovations. They also spread their money relatively evenly among the grade levels.

In terms of cost per square foot, the districts spend a little less for elementary and high schools, and a little more at the middle school level. They spend less per pupil at all levels and provide less space per student than other regions. The latter is due in part to the climate and the fact that many districts send students outdoors when they change classes rather than building indoor corridors, accounting for the fact that the region's schools are smaller in terms of sq. ft.

Indications are that Region 11 districts completed more than 150 buildings last year and will complete slightly fewer during 2001. They may start as many as 160 new schools during the current year.

Region 12 completed \$889 million worth of construction in 2000, somewhat less than had been projected about as much as the region is doing over the last several years. Projections are that the region will complete just over \$600 million worth of construction this year and start less than \$800 million. Slightly less than half of the region's money goes into new school buildings and almost three out of ten dollars go into renovations.



In terms of school type, spending is relatively evenly distributed among elementary and high schools, with middle schools getting the short end of the stick. That may not be true, however, with projects currently underway. Reporting school districts indicate that one out of three dollars completed projects this year will be spent on their middle schools.

Region 12 school districts tend to be well above the national median in terms of cost, whether it is figured as cost per square foot or cost per student. This is despite the fact that at the elementary and middle school levels, schools in Region 12 tend to provide less space per pupil than those nationally. At the high school level, on the other hand, Region 12 schools tend to provide more space per pupil than districts elsewhere.

Indications are that school districts in Region 12 completed just under 40 new buildings last year and will complete another 25 this year. They are projecting that they will start work on 30 new buildings during the current calendar year.

REGION 11 Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada

Construction Activity (\$000's)

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$1,433,290	\$708,652	\$843,147	\$2,985,089
Completions in 2001	\$1,276,285	\$561,692	\$620,559	\$2,458,536
Starting in 2001	\$1,406,224	\$503,951	\$535,240	\$2,445,415
Total Activity	\$4,115,799	\$1,774,295	\$1,998,946	\$7,889,040
% of Total	52.17%	22.49%	25.34%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$2,985,089	36.6%	32.8%	27.9%	2.8%
Completions in 2001	\$2,458,536	29.4%	22.9%	46.3%	1.4%
Starting in 2001	\$2,445,415	36.1%	26.7%	30.1%	7.1%
Total Activity	\$7,889,040	34.2%	27.8%	34.3%	3.7%

NEW SCHOOLS ONLY

	Cost/ sq. ft.	Cost/ student	Sq. ft./ student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$101.27	\$10,556	93.3	\$5,300	600	50,000
Middle/JHS	\$125.68	\$11,606	99.9	\$8,988	626	62,750
High School	\$115.11	\$15,972	147.2	\$25,000	1,800	220,000

REGION 12 Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington

Construction Activity (\$000's)

HOW MUCH IS BEING SPENT?

	New Schools	Additions	Renovations	Total
Completions in 2000	\$434,458	\$184,830	\$269,571	\$888,859
Completions in 2001	\$293,119	\$136,630	\$197,666	\$627,415
Starting in 2001	\$398,095	\$165,547	\$194,666	\$758,308
Total Activity	\$1,125,672	\$487,007	\$661,903	\$2,274,582
% of Total	49.49%	21.41%	29.10%	

WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING?

	Total	Elementary	Middle	High	District
Completions in 2000	\$888,859	39.4%	16.2%	7.7%	6.7%
Completions in 2001	\$627,415	35.9%	32.9%	24.9%	6.3%
Starting in 2001	\$758,308	40.2%	22.2%	31.1%	6.4%
Total Activity	\$2,274,582	38.7%	22.8%	32.0%	6.5%

NEW SCHOOLS ONLY

	Cost/ sq. ft.	Cost/ student	Sq. ft./ student	Median Cost (\$000's)	Median # Students	Median Size (Sq. ft.)
Elementary	\$151.87	\$15,385	108.4	\$8,505	500	53,500
Middle/JHS	\$137.32	\$19,906	130.4	\$13,855	763	99,417
High School	\$151.88	\$26,000	200.0	\$21,000	500	142,000