

ORS 329.496 Report Physical Education

Participation and Facilities Report

February 1, 2025



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Executive Summary

[ORS 329.498](#) requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to collect annual data from all school districts and public charter schools on Physical Education Minutes and Physical Education Facilities. Furthermore, [ORS 329.499](#), requires ODE to submit a biennial report to the legislature detailing on the number of minutes students engage in physical education (PE) and the availability of suitable facilities for physical education instruction.

This report presents data submitted by school districts on PE minutes and facilities for the 2023-24 school year, along with comparison tables from previous years.¹ [ORS 329.496](#) requires 150 minutes per week for the entire school year at the K-5(6)² grade level, and an average of 150 minutes per week calculated over the school year for grades 6–8.

Key findings from the 2023-24 data include:

- **Increased Participation and Compliance:** There has been a notable increase in both the number of districts and schools submitting data (see Table 1). The percentage of schools meeting the PE minute requirements set by ORS 329.496 has also improved (see Tables 3 and 4).
- **Increased PE Minutes:** The statewide average of PE minutes provided to K-8 students in Oregon has risen in recent years. For elementary grades (K-5/6), the average number of minutes per week increased from 104 minutes in the 2020-21 school year to 114 minutes in 2023-24. For middle school grades (6-8), the average increased from 137 minutes in 2020-21 to 164 minutes in 2023-24 (see Table 2 and Figure 1). However, elementary-level minutes still fall short of the 150-minute weekly target. Although the average PE minutes provided remain below the goal of 150 minutes per week, there was an overall increase in all elementary grades in terms of minutes provided during the 2023-24 school year compared to previous years (See Figure 1).
- **Progress at the Middle School Level:** Middle schools (grades 6-8) are meeting the mandated 150-minute average per week, with even greater minutes reported for grades 7 and 8 in the 2023-24 school year (see Figure 1).
- **Facility Challenges:** While progress has been made in meeting PE minute requirements, school districts continue to report a need for more gymnasiums and covered exercise spaces to fully comply with the required PE minutes (see Table 8).

The Oregon Department of Education continues to collaborate with school districts to overcome barriers to meet the required physical education instructional minutes. ODE provides a [toolkit of resources](#) on the [Physical Education webpage](#), along with technical assistance and

¹[HB 4030](#) (2022) Section 13 suspended the collection of PE data for the 2022-23 school year. ²There are some schools that serve grades K-6 rather than K-5. These K-6 schools are required to follow the same instructional minutes as a K-5 school. K-8 Schools need to follow the requirements for K-5(6) schools and the requirements for 6-8 schools.

professional development to improve and expand physical education opportunities for all students. ODE also continues to help support districts to improve the reporting of data and assuring accuracy of data related to ORS 329.499 via regularly scheduled data meetings throughout the year.

Overall, while there are challenges, progress has been made in ensuring that students receive the required physical education minutes and that districts continue to work towards addressing facility needs.

Introduction

Physical education (PE) plays a vital role in a well-rounded education as it promotes healthy habits among students. It supports students' physical, social, emotional, intellectual, and mental well-being. Physical education helps students develop skills that enhance their overall health and foster student social connections, ultimately benefiting community health. Physical education may be the only opportunity that all students have to be physically active, as many students are not able to, or eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. To ensure all children in Oregon have equal access to physical education, Oregon statute (ORS 329.496) mandates that school districts provide a minimum amount of 150 minutes each week for students in grades K-8.

This legislative report summarizes data on PE minutes and facilities submitted by school districts for the 2023-24 school year. As required by law, both PE Minutes and Facilities data must be collected annually from all school districts and public charter schools as part of the data collections catalog. Additionally, [ORS 329.499](#) mandates ODE to submit a biennial report to the Legislature on PE, detailing the number of minutes students participate in PE and the availability of suitable facilities for PE instruction.

Data Collection

Requirements for the PE Minutes and Facilities data reports are delineated by House Bill 3141 (2007), codified as [ORS329.498](#) & [ORS 329.499](#).

ORS 329.498 establishes the requirements for the report as follows:

(1) The Department of Education shall collect data from school districts on:

- (a) The number of minutes of physical education that are provided to students in kindergarten through grade eight each school week in each public school within the district
- (b) The physical capacity of public schools to provide students with the number of minutes of physical education specified by ORS 329.496 (2); and

(c) The additional facilities required by public schools to provide physical education to students as described in paragraph (b) of this subsection.

(2) The department shall collect the data described in subsection (1) of this section:

(a) Annually, for data described in subsection (1)(a) of this section.

(b) Whenever a public school increases or decreases the school's physical capacity to provide students with physical education, for data described in subsection (1)(b) and (c) of this section.

This report reflects the data that districts provided for the 2023-2024- school year, with data from the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years included for context.³ For additional context, data from previous years is included in the appendices.

Background

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other nationally recognized health and education organizations recommend the minutes required by ORS 329.496 to enhance the physical, social, emotional and mental health and well-being of students. As mentioned in the introduction, PE may be the only opportunity for students to participate in physical activity during the day. Research has also demonstrated the many benefits between physical activity and increased academic success.

The Oregon Legislature and State Board of Education have made several changes over the years to balance the importance of PE while taking into consideration challenges faced by districts. These include:

- **2007 Statute (ORS 329.496):** Established instructional time requirements for PE to provide equitable opportunities for all students. The intent was to ensure students could develop motor skills and gain physical, cognitive, and social benefits from instruction in physical education.
- **2017 Revision (ORS 329.496):** This revision included a phase-in period of the minutes over several years, with full implementation at all grades K-8 scheduled for completion by the 2022-23 school year.
- **2023 Amendment ([House Bill 3199](#)):** The amendment updated the PE minute requirements to the currently required instructional minutes (150 per week grades K-5(6) and an average of 150 minutes per week for students in grades 6-8 averaged over the school year and applied these changes to PE data reporting requirements.
- **2023 Revision of [OAR 581-022-2263](#) and [OAR 581-022-2265](#)** took effect on **July 1, 2023, to reflect changes in the minute requirements** outlined in HB 3199.
- **2023 [ORS 329.496](#)** includes changes made over the years.

³ [HB 4030](#) (2022) Section 13 suspended the collection of PE data for the 2022-23 school year.

General Requirements

- School districts and public charter schools shall offer instruction in PE that meets the academic content standards for PE adopted by the State Board of Education under ORS 329.496.
- School districts and public charter schools shall devote at least 50 percent of PE class time to actual PE in each school week, with as much class time as possible spent in moderate physical activity.

For Grades K – 5(6), ORS 329.496 requires 150 minutes of PE per week for the entire school year (120 minutes for 4-day school week). For this grade band, licensed Physical Education teachers and/or Multiple Subject endorsed Elementary teachers can teach PE that is aligned to state standards.

For grades 6-8, ORS 329.496 requires 150 minutes of PE per week averaged over the year (120 minutes for 4-day school week). For this grade band, only licensed Physical Education teachers can teach PE at this grade level.

Results

Part 1: Physical Education MinutesAs noted earlier, the PE collections were suspended for the 2022-23 school year as directed by HB 4030 (2022) Section 13. Despite these data collection interruptions, the data demonstrate increases in the percentage of school districts and the number of schools that submitted reports. Table 1 below provides data on the number of districts and schools submitting reports for each school year, 2020-21 through 2023-24.

Table 1: Number of Districts and Schools Submitting Reports

<i>School Year</i>	<i>Districts Submitting</i>	<i># Districts Required to Submit</i>	<i>Schools With Data Submitted</i>	<i># School Required to Submit</i>
2020-21	118 (60%)	197	674 (64%)	1049
2021-22	128 (65%)	197	756 (71%)	1061
2022-23	NA	NA	NA	NA
2023-24	131 (66%)	197	798 (75%)	1063

Overall, there is a consistent increase in the number of school districts reporting data (66%), and the percentage of schools submitting data, reached 75% in 2023-24. This increase may be at least in part attributable to ODE's expanded efforts to leverage the Division 22 process to provide targeted assistance to school districts and increase communication about the PE data collection process.

Statewide Average Number of Physical Education Minutes per School Week

Table 2 below contains data collected on the average number of PE instructional minutes over a complete academic year.

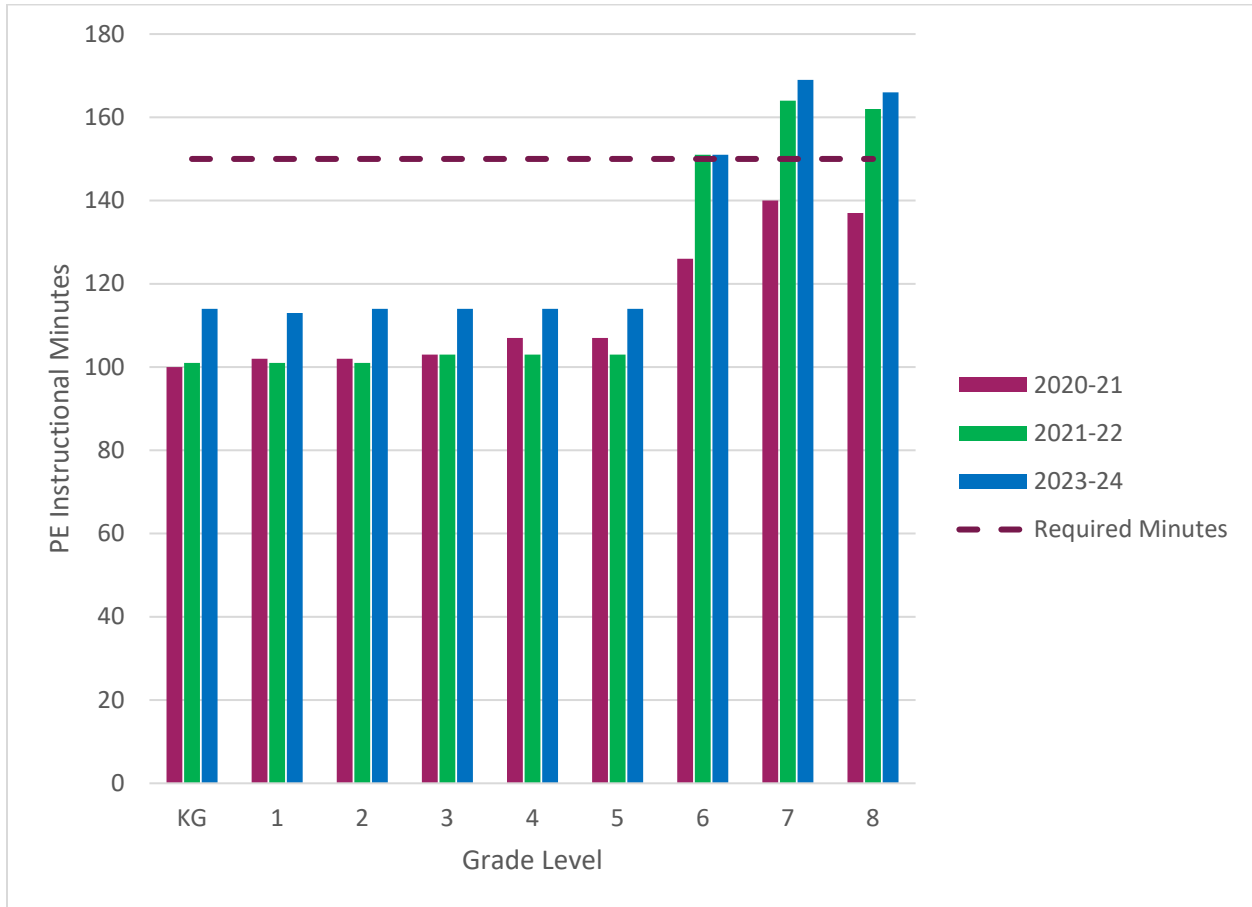
Table 2: The average number of minutes per school week of physical education instruction by grade level for the 2020-21, 2021-22 and the 2023-24 school year, for those reporting instruction

School Year	Elementary Grades Average Minutes	Middle Grades Average Minutes
2020-21	104	137
2021-22	102	163
2022-23	NA	NA
2023-24	114	164

Table 2 shows the average number of minutes per school week of PE instruction by grade level for the 2020-21, 2021-22, and 2023-24 school years. For those reporting instruction, the number of average minutes per week at primary grades increased from 104 minutes to 114 minutes, and the middle grades average increased from 137 minutes to 164 minutes. However, with only 74% of schools reporting, it is not clear if this represents a statewide increase.

Another way to look at the average number of PE instructional minutes is to compare the years side-by-side to spotlight progress made in reaching the instructional minutes requirements, as seen in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Average number of physical education instructional minutes per school week by grade level for the 2020-21, the 2021-22 and the 2023-24 school years in a side-by-side comparison.



The following points summarize the findings regarding the average number of PE minutes per school week by grade level for the 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2023-24 school years (Figure 1):

- The minutes reported at the middle school level (grades 6-8) signal that schools are meeting the required minutes (150 minutes per week averaged over the school year) and the minutes have increased for grades 7 and 8 in the 2023-24 school year.
- The average minutes reported at the elementary level (K-5(6)) are still below the goal of 150 minutes per week. However, there was an overall increase in all elementary grades in terms of minutes provided during the 2023-24 school year compared to previous years.

Number of Schools Providing Required Number of PE Minutes

The tables below show the total number of schools that provided data on PE minutes. Tables 3 and 4 below display the number of schools that reported meeting the required PE minutes by grade level.

Table 3: Schools Providing Required Number of Minutes in Elementary Grades

School Year	Number of Schools Reported	Number of Schools Meeting Requirements	Percentage of Schools Meeting Requirements
2020-2021	522	132	25%
2021-2022	587	119	20%
2022-2023	NA	NA	NA
2023-2024	604	268	44%

This data includes every grade K – 5(6) that met the 150 minute per week requirement or 120 minutes for a 4-day week.

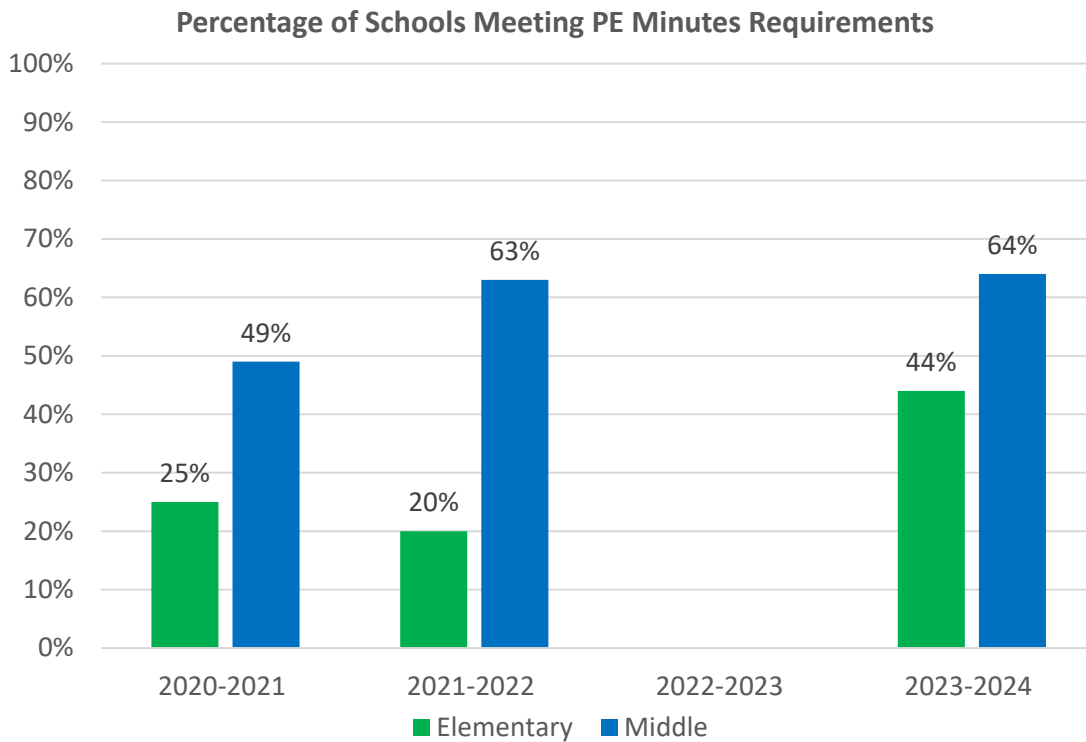
Table 4: Schools Providing Required Number of Minutes in Middle School Grades

School Year	Number of Schools Reporting	Number of Schools Meeting Requirements	Percentage of Schools Meeting Requirements
2020-2021	278	136	49%
2021-2022	299	189	63%
2022-2023	NA	NA	NA
2023-2024	303	195	64%

This data includes every grade 6-8 that met the average of 150 minutes per week requirement, or an average of 120 minutes for a 4-day week.

The percentages of schools that met the requirements is also shown in the chart below.

Figure 2: Percentage of Schools Meeting PE Minutes Requirements



The most recent data show that:

- In the 2023-24 school year in grades K–5(6) there were significantly more schools (268) reporting that they met the required PE minutes than in the 2021-22 school year (132). Forty-four percent (44%) of schools that reported data met the PE minute requirement.
- In the 2023-24 school year in grades 6 - 8 there were slightly more schools (195) reporting that they met the required PE minutes than in the 2021-22 school year (136). Sixty-four percent (64%) of schools that reported data met the PE minute requirements.

Number of Students with Access to PE Instructional Minutes

Another important data point is the number of students with access to PE. Table 5 below contains data submitted by the districts on the number of students receiving and not receiving PE instruction. The data in this table represents the number of students receiving *any instruction* in PE, not necessarily the required number of minutes outlined in [ORS 329.496](#).

Table 5: Number of Students Receiving and Not Receiving PE Instruction

<i>Grade Level</i>	<i>Number Receiving Instruction in 2023-24</i>	<i>Number Not Receiving Instruction in 2023-24</i>
KG	28,399 (>99.9%)	9 (<0.1%)
1	30,224 (99.8%)	63 (0.2%)
2	31,490 (99.9%)	17 (0.1%)
3	31,451(99.9%)	30 (0.1%)
4	32,292 (99.8)	52 (0.2%)
5	32,514 (99.9%)	44 (0.1%)
6	31,642 (98.5%)	472 (1.5%)
7	33,746 (96.5%)	1,215 (3.5%)
8	33,043 (96.0%)	1,381 (4.0%)
Total	284,810 (98.9%)	3,283 (1.1%)

The following is a summary of the findings regarding the number of students receiving and not receiving instruction for K – 8 students in the 2023-24 school year:

- There was a consistently high percentage (98.9%) of students receiving PE instruction in grades K-8.
- The percentage of students *not* receiving PE instruction is highest among 7th graders (3.5%) and 8th graders (4%).
- Districts are consistently reporting that most students in all grades are receiving PE at some level, with only 1.1% of students overall not receiving instruction.

Part II: Physical Education Facilities

The data included in this section highlights the number of PE facilities that currently exist, the number of facilities needed to offer PE, and the types of facilities being used for PE purposes. Table 6 below shows the number of districts and schools reporting facility data.

Table 6: Total number of districts and schools reporting PE facility data in the 2020-21,2021-22 and 2023-24 school years.

School Year	Districts Submitting	Schools Submitted	Schools Expected to Submit	Percentage of Schools Submitted
2020-21	115	666	1047	64%
2021-22	127	729	1059	69%
2022-23	NA	NA	NA	NA
2023-24	131	701	1061	66%

The following is a summary of the findings in Table 6:

- The number of districts and schools submitting PE facility data increased from the 2020-21 school year compared to the 2023-24 school year.
- The percentage of schools submitting PE facilities data remained consistent ranging from 64% in 2020-21 to 66% in 2023-24 school years.

Oregon state law requires reporting on existing and needed facilities to indicate whether facility availability is impacting the school's ability to offer the required PE minutes. The data on facilities available and needed is presented below.

Number of Existing Facilities by Facility Type Code

Data collected on the number of existing facilities and needed facilities by facility type code by school year is presented in Table 7 and 8 below. Schools can report more than one facility.

Table 7: Total number of existing physical education facilities reported by facility type code in the 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2023-24 school years.

Existing Facilities	2020-21	2021-22	2023-24
Number of Districts Who Submitted Data	115	127	131
Number of Schools in Submitted Data	666	729	701
Facility Type Code			
Covered Exercise Area (CA)	130	140	107
Empty Classroom (EC)	12	11	9
Gym (GY)	643	685	687
Multipurpose Room (MP)	227	263	211
Uncovered Exercise Area (UA)	107	107	104
Total Number of Existing Facilities	1119	1210	1118

Based on the data in Table 7, it is difficult to draw any conclusions about facilities as the number of schools reporting decreased during the 2023-24 school year.

The table below indicates the total number of new/additional facilities that schools indicated were needed to serve students and meet the P.E. minute requirements. Schools can report more than one needed facility. For example, a school may report an existing gym, however they

may report needing another gym to accommodate all students being able to participate in P.E. during the school day.

Table 8: The total number of needed physical education facilities reported by facility type code in the 2021-22 school year.

Reported Needed Facilities	2020-21	2021-22	2023-24
Number of Districts Who Submitted Data	115	127	131
Number of Schools in Submitted Data	666	729	701
Facility Type Code			
Covered Exercise Area (CA)	13	13	10
Empty Classroom (EC)	2	3	2
Gym (GY)	101	105	97
Multipurpose Room (MP)	11	8	2
Uncovered Exercise Area (UA)	3	2	3
Total Number of Needed Facilities	130	131	114

Following is a summary of the findings from Table 8 regarding the total number of needed facilities reported by facility type code:

- Since the 2020-21 school year, the most needed types of facilities have remained consistent. In the 2023-24 school year, districts continue to report a high demand for Gyms (GY) and Covered Exercise Areas (CA) as the primary facility type needs for providing physical education.

Conclusion

The PE Minutes and Facilities report includes data submitted from districts to ODE for the 2020-21, 2021-22 and the 2023-24 school years. This report demonstrates that since the passage of the law in 2007 and subsequent refinement of the number of required PE minutes, there has been a steady increase in the number of school districts and public charter schools reporting data, as well as the number of schools reporting that they are meeting the required PE instructional minutes provided to K-8 students.

Looking at data from the 2020-21 school year compared to the data for the 2023-24 school year, the data illustrates:

- An increase in the average number of PE minutes provided per week to all grade levels K-8 (Table 2 and Figure 1)
- An increase in the number of schools reporting data and an increase in the number of schools meeting the PE minutes requirements for grades K-5 and grades 6-8. (Tables 3 and 4)
- Consistency in the percentage of K-8 students receiving PE instructional minutes (Table 5)

- Consistency in district reporting of needing more gymnasiums and covered exercise areas to support school districts in meeting the required PE instructional minutes (Table 8)

It remains important to emphasize that, due to several data quality challenges—such as inconsistencies in the number and method of districts reporting data—drawing concrete conclusions from the findings in this report is difficult.

ODE collaborates with school districts to overcome barriers to meeting required PE instructional minutes by providing guidance in the following ways: a toolkit of resources on the Physical Education website, through technical assistance via the Division 22 process, and various professional development opportunities to enhance physical education quality and comprehensiveness. ODE also continues to help districts improve the reporting of data and ensure accuracy of data related to [ORS 329.499](#) via regularly scheduled data meetings throughout the year.

Overall, Oregon schools are making strides in meeting the goals set forth by the Oregon legislature to ensure that every child has the opportunity to have their physical education needs met.

The full version of past reports and supporting documentation is available on the [ODE Physical Education Laws and Regulations](#) page under Meeting the Minutes – Reporting section. For questions regarding this report, contact Suzanne Hidde at suzanne.hidde@ode.oregon.gov.

Appendix A

This appendix includes average PE minutes from 2017-18 to the present.

Table A.1 Statewide Average Number of PE Minutes Per School Week by Grade Band

Grade Level	2017-18	2018-19	2020-21	2021-22	2023-24
Primary Grades	77 minutes	84 Minutes	104 minutes	102 minutes	114 minutes
Middle Grades	170 minutes	166 Minutes	137 minutes	163 minutes	164 minutes

Table A.2 Statewide Average Number of PE Minutes Per School Week by Grade

Grade Level	2017-18	2018-19	2020-21	2021-22	2023-24
KG	74 minutes	80 minutes	100 minutes	101 minutes	114 Minutes
1	75 minutes	84 minutes	102 minutes	101 minutes	113 Minutes
2	76 minutes	84 minutes	102 minutes	101 minutes	114 Minutes
3	77 minutes	83 minutes	103 minutes	103 minutes	114 Minutes
4	77 minutes	84 minutes	107 minutes	103 minutes	114 Minutes
5	78 minutes	85 minutes	107 minutes	103 minutes	114 Minutes
6	147 minutes	146 minutes	126 minutes	151 minutes	151 Minutes
7	159 minutes	158 minutes	140 minutes	164 minutes	169 Mintes
8	151 minutes	153 minutes	137 minutes	162 minutes	166 Minutes
Primary Grades	77 minutes	84 Minutes	104 minutes	102 minutes	114 minutes
Middle Grades	170 minutes	166 Minutes	137 minutes	163 minutes	164 minutes

Statewide average number of physical education minutes per school week by grade level for the 2017-18; 2018-19; 2020-21,2021-22, and 2023-24 school years.

The data in Table A1 shows the number of minutes allocated for various grade levels across different school years:

- For Kindergarten through Grade 5, the time gradually increases from around 74-80 minutes in 2017-18 to 114 minutes in 2023-24.
- For Grades 6 through 8, the minutes fluctuate more, with a general trend of longer durations over the years, especially in Grades 7 and 8, which rise from 146 minutes to 169 minutes by 2023-24.

The overall pattern indicates an increase in instructional minutes for both lower grades (KG-5) as well as for middle school grades (6-8).

Appendix B

This appendix shows historic PE facility data back to the 2017-18 school year.

Table B.1 Number of Existing Facilities

Facility Type Code	2017-18	2018-19	2020-21	2021-22	2023-24
Number of Districts Who Submitted Data	156	174	115	127	131
Number of Schools in Submitted Data	815	907	666	729	701
Covered Exercise Area (CA)	158	191	130	140	107
Empty Classroom (EC)	19	19	12	110	9
Gym (GY)	793	891	643	685	687
Multipurpose Room (MP)	181	193	227	263	211
Uncovered Exercise Area (UA)	112	132	107	111	104
Total	1263	1426	1119	1210	1118

Number of existing facilities reported by facility type code in the 2017-18; 2018-19; 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years.

Appendix C

This appendix includes historical data on needed PE facilities, starting with the 2017-18 school year.

Table C.1 Number of Needed Facilities

	2017-18	2018-19	2020-21	2021-22	2023-24
Number of Districts Who Submitted Data	156	174	115	127	131
Number of Schools in Submitted Data	815	907	666	729	701
Facility Type Code					
Covered Exercise Area (CA)	17	28	13	13	10
Empty Classroom (EC)	3	3	2	3	2
Gym (GY)	135	158	101	105	97
Multipurpose Room (MP)	28	32	11	8	2
Uncovered Exercise Area (UA)	5	11	3	2	3
Total	188	232	130	131	114

Number of needed physical education facilities reported by facility type code in the 2017-18; 2018-19; 2020-21 and the 2021-22 school years.