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ASCA Releases Updated Student-to-School-Counselor Ratio Data

School counselor numbers increase but ratio remains above recommended average.

ALEXANDRIA, VA – The number of school counselors serving the nation’s K-12 students has increased slightly but the student-to-school-counselor ratio remains well above the ratio recommended by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), according to the most recent data available.

ASCA has compiled student-to-school-counselor ratio data from the 2014-15 school year. The ratios were compiled from the most recent available data collected in the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics state nonfiscal public elementary/secondary education survey.

According to the survey, the national student-to-school-counselor ratio was 482-to-1 in 2014-15, compared with 491-to-1 the previous year. Although the national average has decreased, it’s still nearly twice ASCA’s recommended ratio of 250 students per school counselor.

Other key findings in the report include:

- California is most improved state: California's student-to-school-counselor ratio shows the most improvement; dropping 9 percent since the 2013–2014 school year from 822-to-1 (2013-2014) to 760-to-1 (2014-2015).
- Alabama loses nearly 150 school counselors: Since the 2013–2014 report, Alabama lost nearly 150 school counselors while the number of students remained consistent. As a result, Alabama's ratio increased 9 percent from 417-to-1 (2013–2014) to 453-to-1 (2014–2015).

The full report is available on the [ASCA website](#). Previous year reports are available upon request.

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About the American School Counselor Association

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) professional organization based in Alexandria, Va. ASCA promotes student success by expanding the image and influence of school counseling through leadership, advocacy, collaboration and systemic change. ASCA helps school counselors guide their students toward academic achievement, career planning and social/emotional development to help today's students become tomorrow's productive, contributing members of society. Founded in 1952, ASCA, the school counseling division of the American Counseling Association, has a network of 50 state associations and a membership of more than 33,000 school counseling professionals. For additional information on the American School Counselor Association, visit www.schoolcounselor.org.