

# STATE-BY-STATE STUDENT-TO-COUNSELOR RATIO REPORT 10-YEAR TRENDS

**NACAC**

National Association for  
College Admission Counseling



AMERICAN  
SCHOOL  
COUNSELOR  
ASSOCIATION

## Overview

The **National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)** and the **American School Counselor Association (ASCA)** compiled this report to provide a glimpse at the 10-year trends in student-to-counselor ratios from 2004-05 to 2014-15, the latest school years for which data is available. The data was downloaded from the National Center for Education Statistics' (NCES) Common Core of Data (CCD) (<https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/>). This data is submitted to the CCD by state departments of education on an annual basis.

Both NACAC and ASCA advocate for more state and federal funding to hire, train, and equip school counselors in public schools. Our intention in producing this data is to shed light on the often unmanageable caseloads public school counselors must serve. Research shows that access to a school counselor can make a significant difference in student persistence/retention, students' postsecondary aspirations, and students' likelihood of enrolling in postsecondary education. To realize such results, school counselors must operate in an environment free of overwhelmingly large student caseloads.

In addition to a high national student-to-counselor ratio (482:1), the federal government must take into account widely varying ratios among the states. Inequitable access to school counselors across the states suggests a federal role in equipping all students, regardless of their state of residence, with the resources they need to succeed.

States, which design and fund the bulk of K-12 education in the United States, must also increase their investment to ensure the full benefit of school counseling programs. ASCA recommends that schools strive to maintain a 250:1 student-to-counselor ratio. In this analysis, only three states (New Hampshire, Vermont, and Wyoming) maintain a ratio lower than 250:1.

## About NACAC

The **National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)**, founded in 1937, is an organization of nearly 16,000 professionals from around the world dedicated to serving students as they make choices about pursuing postsecondary education. NACAC is committed to maintaining high standards that foster ethical and social responsibility among those involved in the transition process, as outlined in the association's *Statement of Principles of Good Practice: NACAC's Code of Ethics and Professional Practices*.



National Association for  
College Admission Counseling

## About ASCA

The **American School Counselor Association (ASCA)** supports school counselors' efforts to help students focus on academic, career and social/emotional development so they achieve success in school and are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society. ASCA provides professional development, publications and other resources, research and advocacy to school counselors around the globe.



A M E R I C A N  
S C H O O L  
C O U N S E L O R  
A S S O C I A T I O N

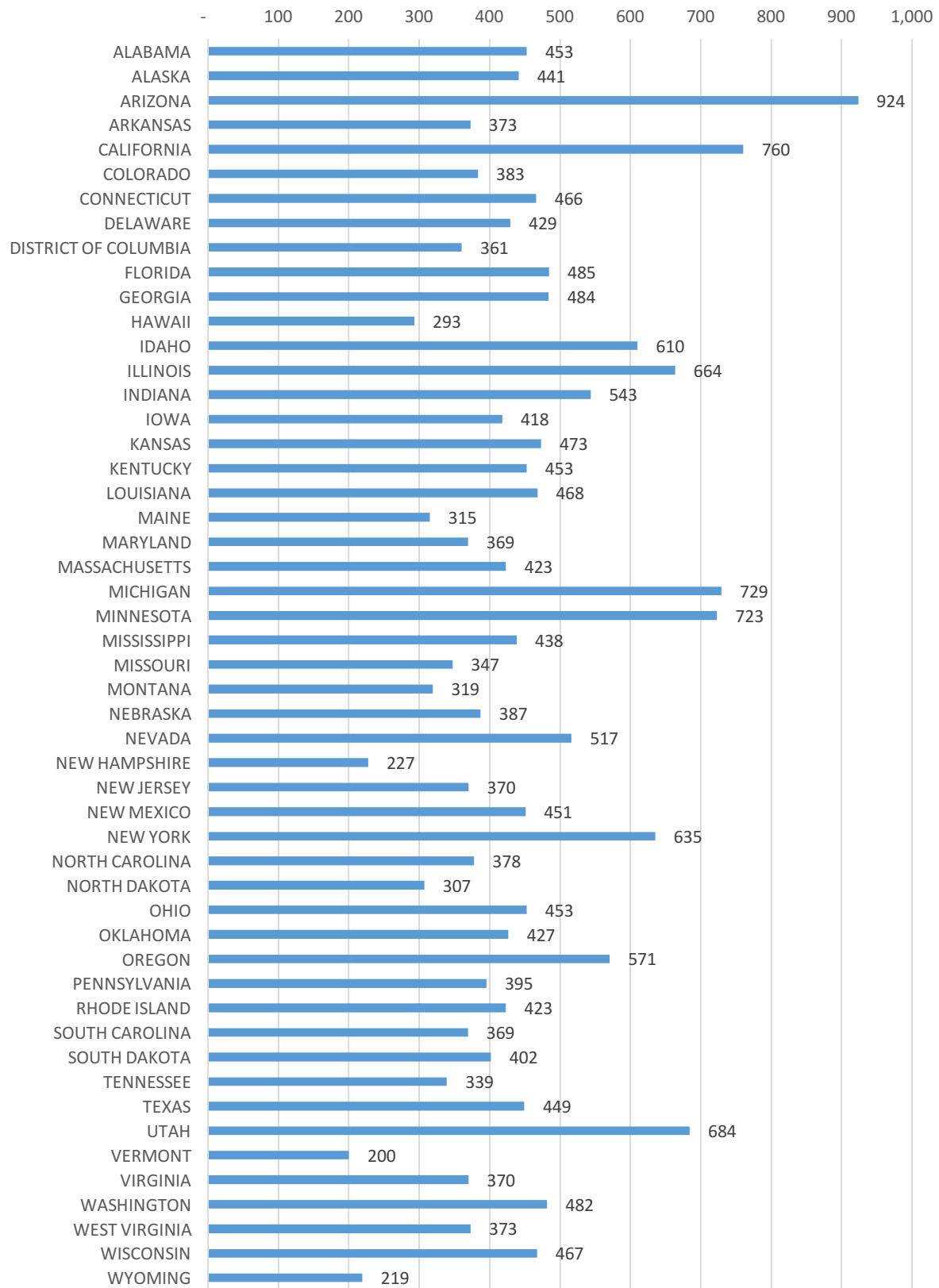
## Table of Contents

Student-to-Counselor Ratios, 2014–15 . . . . .	2
Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio, 2004–05 to 2014–15 . . . . .	3
Percent Change, Total Enrollment, 2004–05 to 2014–15 . . . . .	4
Percent Change, Number of Counselors, 2004–05 to 2014–15 . . . . .	5
National Student-to-Counselor Ratio . . . . .	6

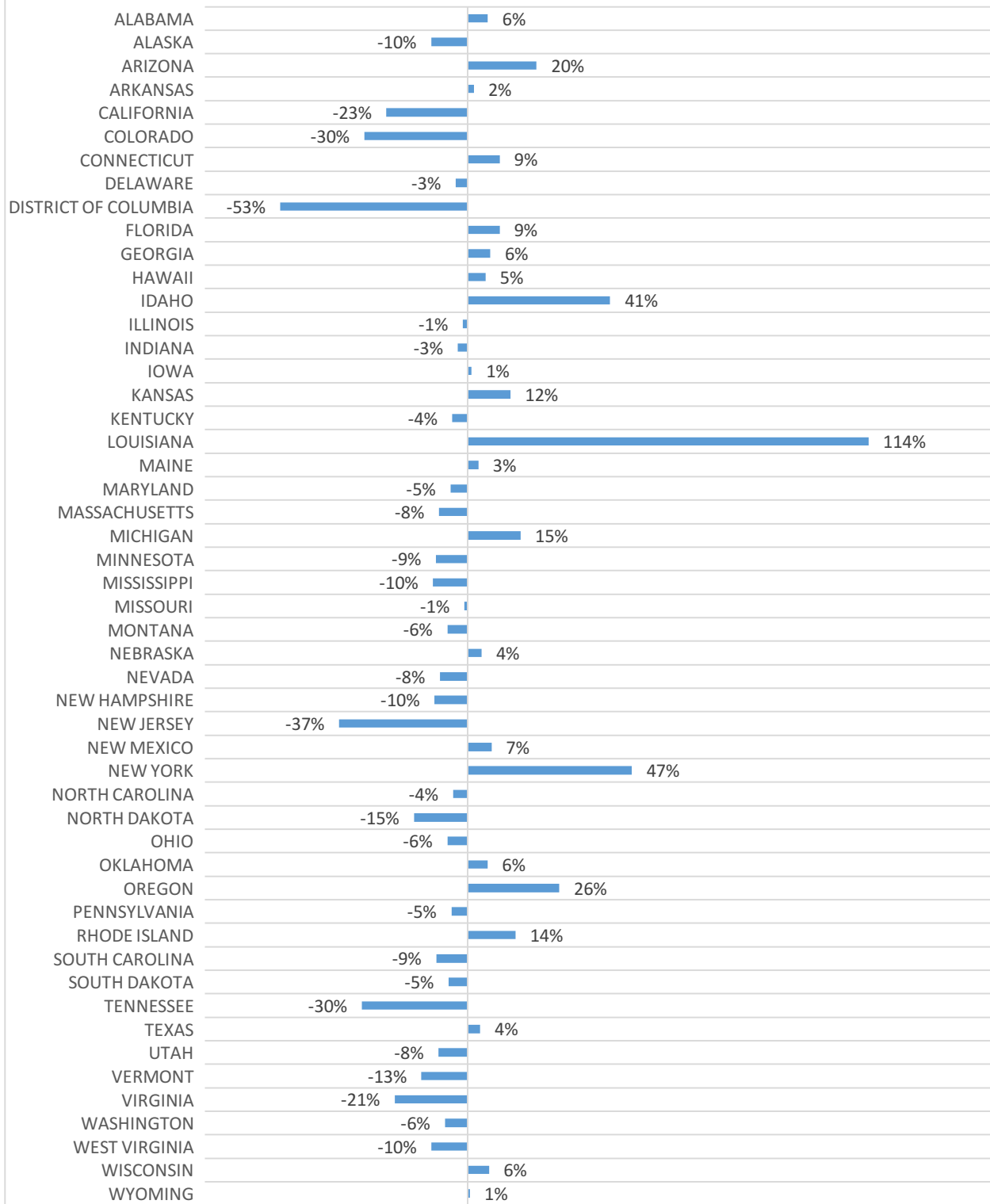
### States

Alabama . . . . .	7	Montana . . . . .	33
Alaska . . . . .	8	Nebraska . . . . .	34
Arizona . . . . .	9	Nevada . . . . .	35
Arkansas . . . . .	10	New Hampshire . . . . .	36
California . . . . .	11	New Jersey . . . . .	37
Colorado . . . . .	12	New Mexico . . . . .	38
Connecticut . . . . .	13	New York . . . . .	39
Delaware . . . . .	14	North Carolina . . . . .	40
District of Columbia . . . . .	15	North Dakota . . . . .	41
Florida . . . . .	16	Ohio . . . . .	42
Georgia . . . . .	17	Oklahoma . . . . .	43
Hawaii . . . . .	18	Oregon . . . . .	44
Idaho . . . . .	19	Pennsylvania . . . . .	45
Illinois . . . . .	20	Rhode Island . . . . .	46
Indiana . . . . .	21	South Carolina . . . . .	47
Iowa . . . . .	22	South Dakota . . . . .	48
Kansas . . . . .	23	Tennessee . . . . .	49
Kentucky . . . . .	24	Texas . . . . .	50
Louisiana . . . . .	25	Utah . . . . .	51
Maine . . . . .	26	Vermont . . . . .	52
Maryland . . . . .	27	Virginia . . . . .	53
Massachusetts . . . . .	28	Washington . . . . .	54
Michigan . . . . .	29	West Virginia . . . . .	55
Minnesota . . . . .	30	Wisconsin . . . . .	56
Mississippi . . . . .	31	Wyoming . . . . .	57
Missouri . . . . .	32		

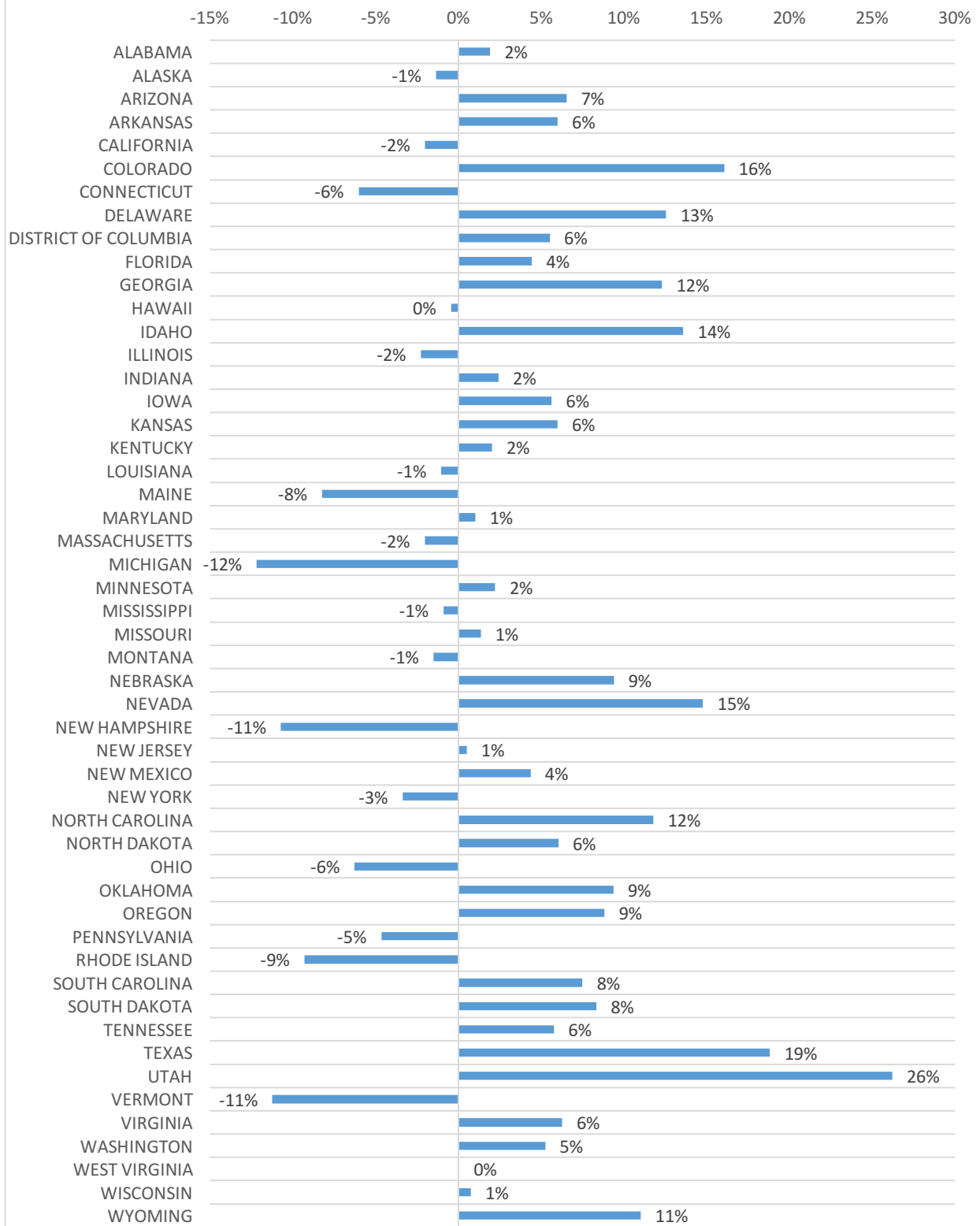
## Student-to-Counselor Ratios, 2014-15



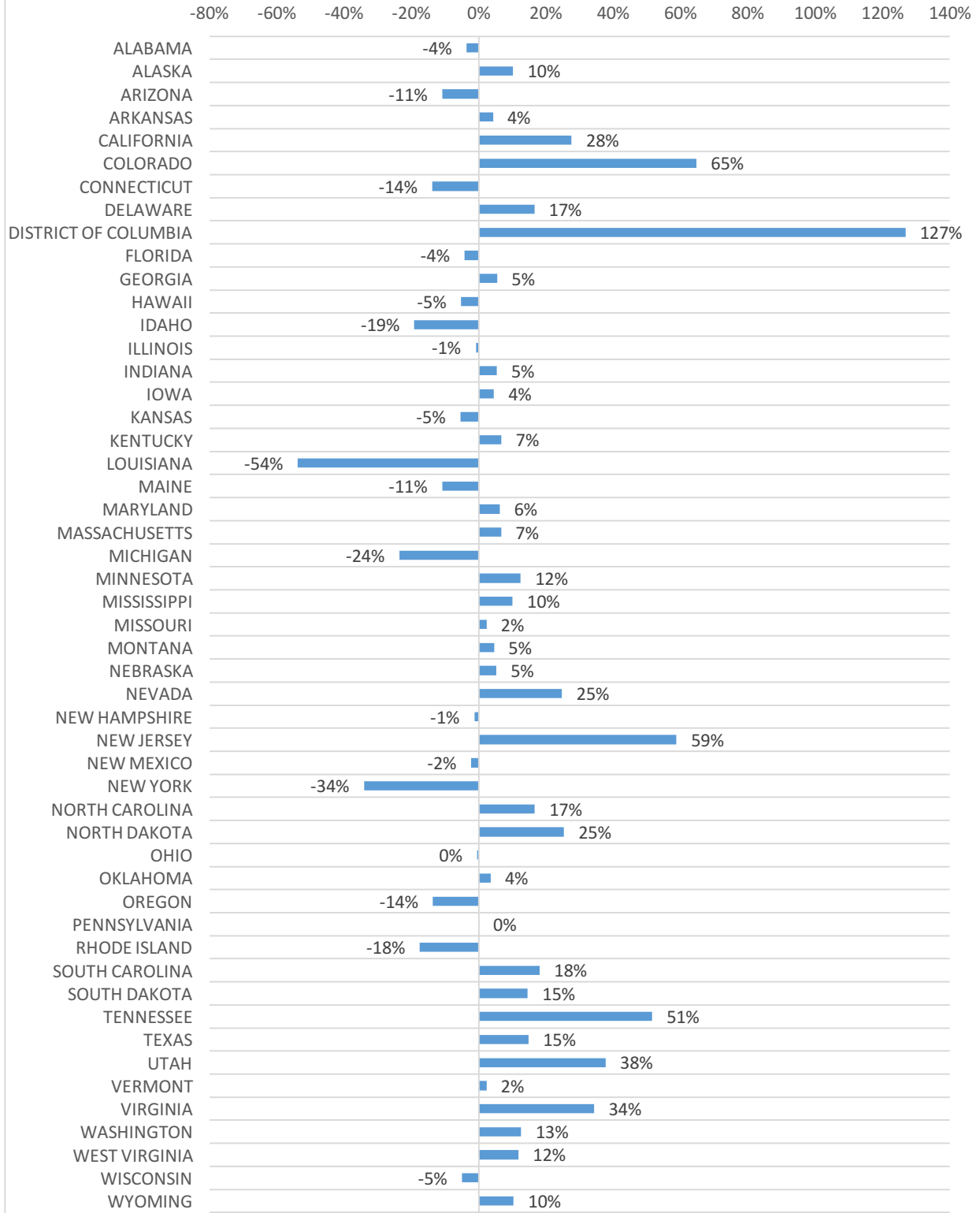
### Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio, 2004-05 to 2014-15



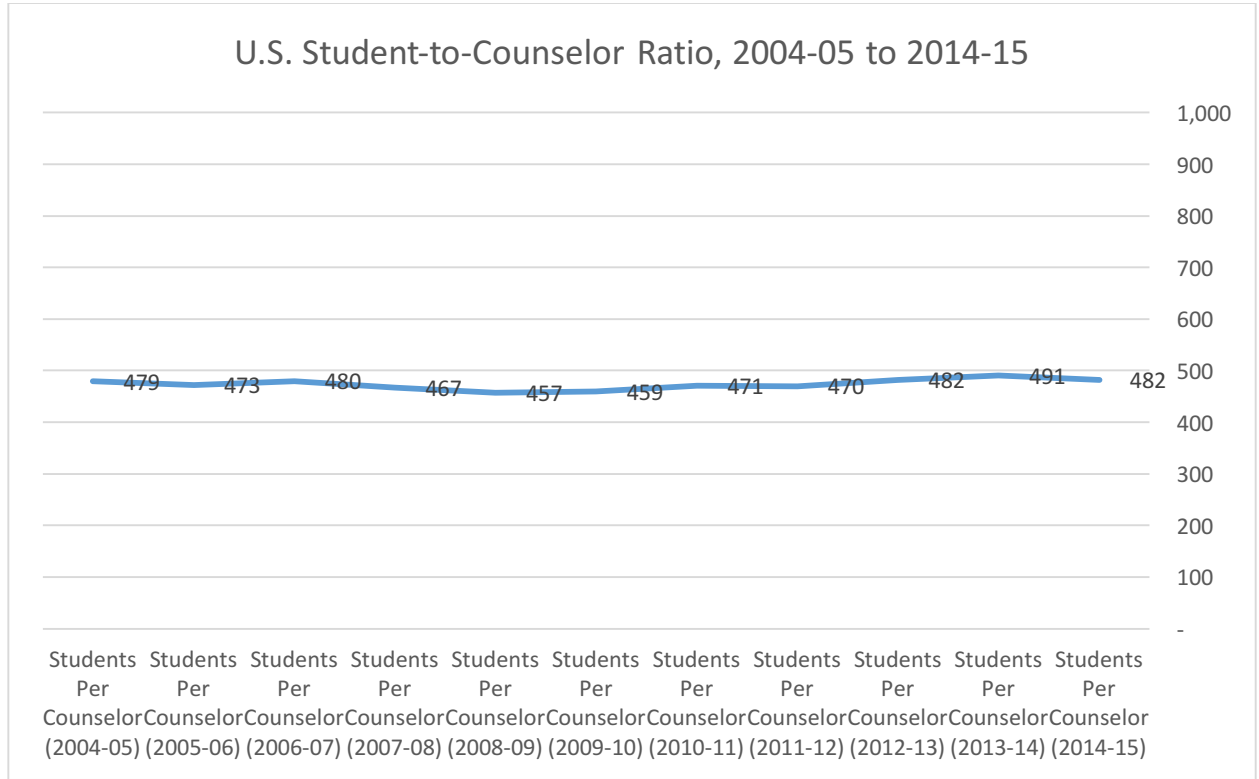
## Percent Change, Total Enrollment, 2004-05 to 2014-15



## Percent Change, Number of Counselors, 2004-05 to 2014-15



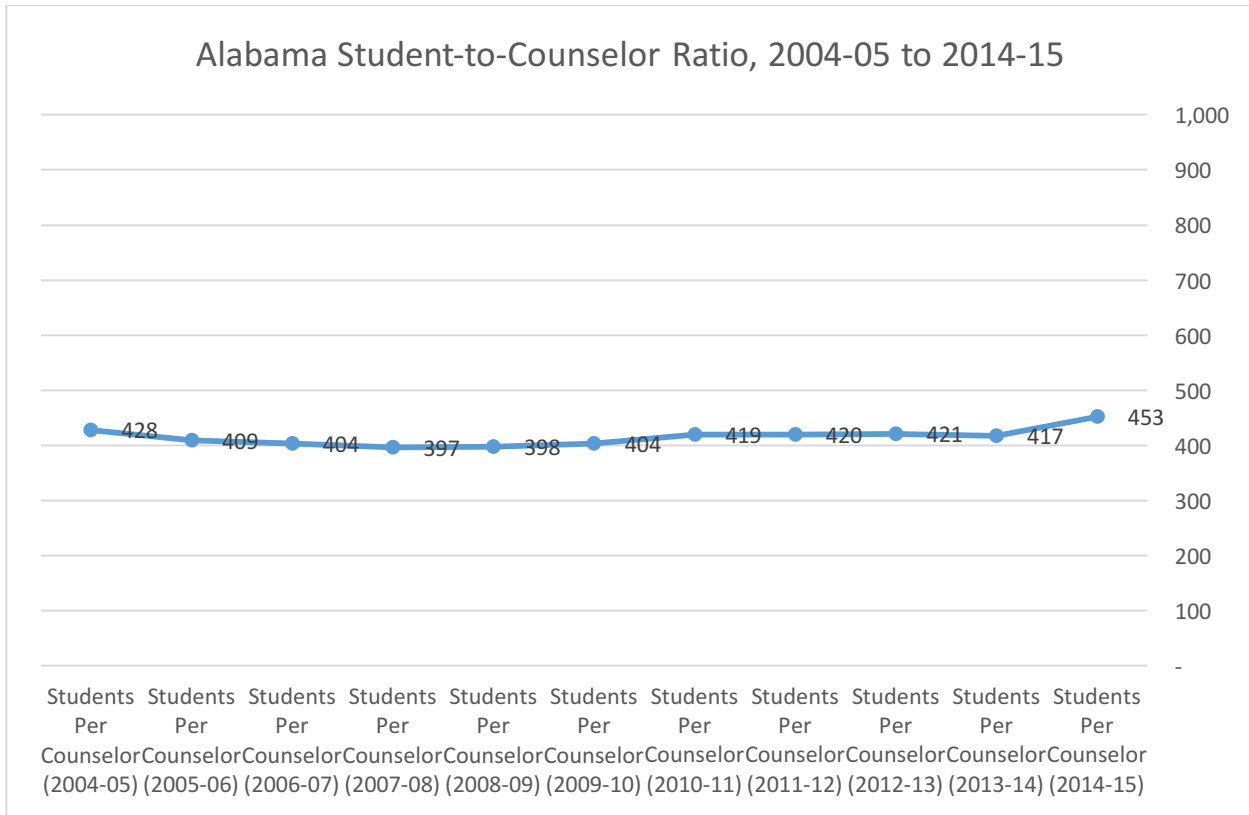
# National Student to Counselor Ratio



Percent Change Enrollment: +3%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +2%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +1%

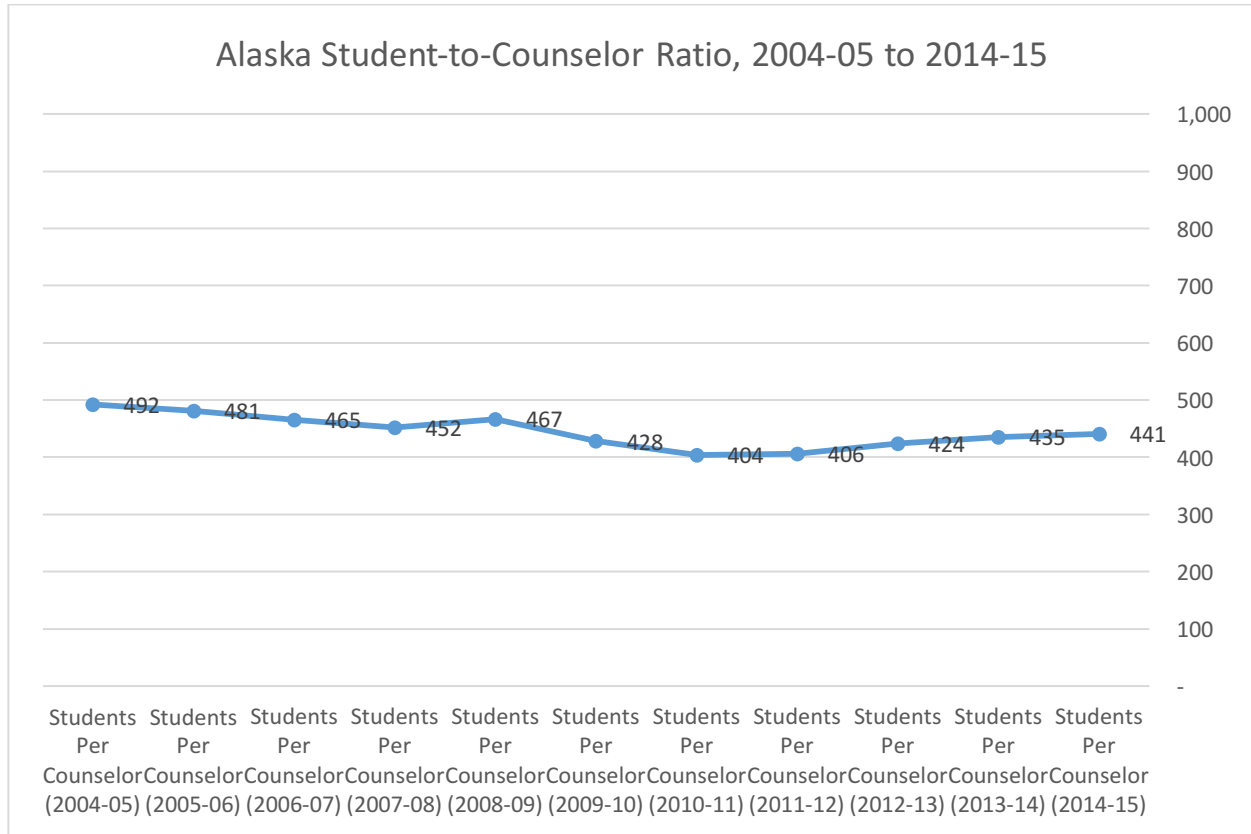


# Alabama



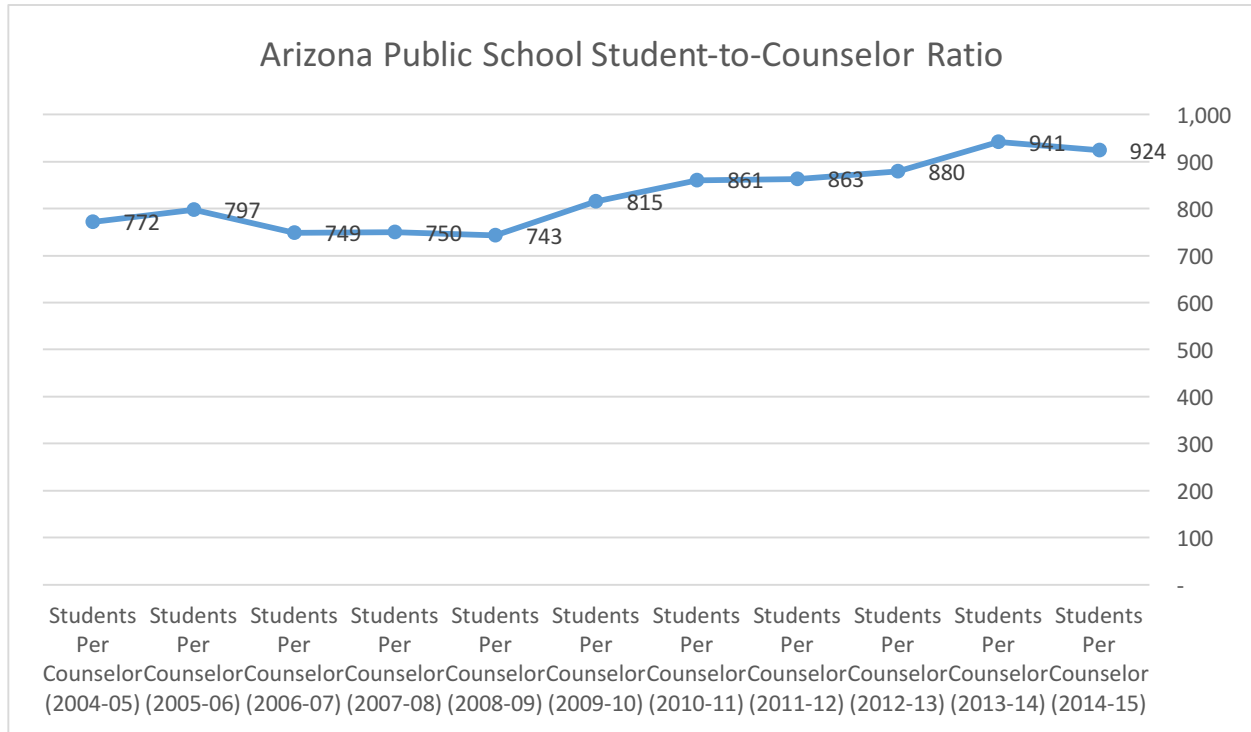
Percent Change Enrollment: +2%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: -4%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +6%

# Alaska



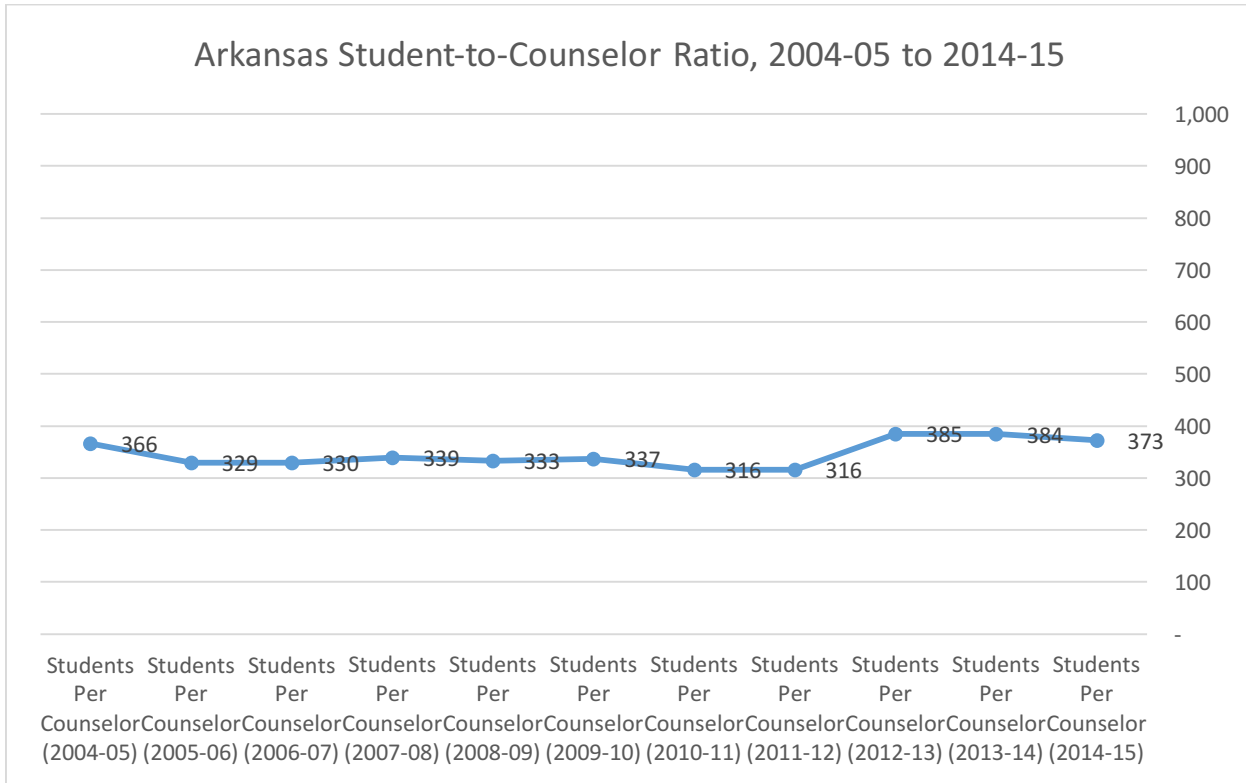
Percent Change Enrollment: **-1%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **+10%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **-10%**

# Arizona



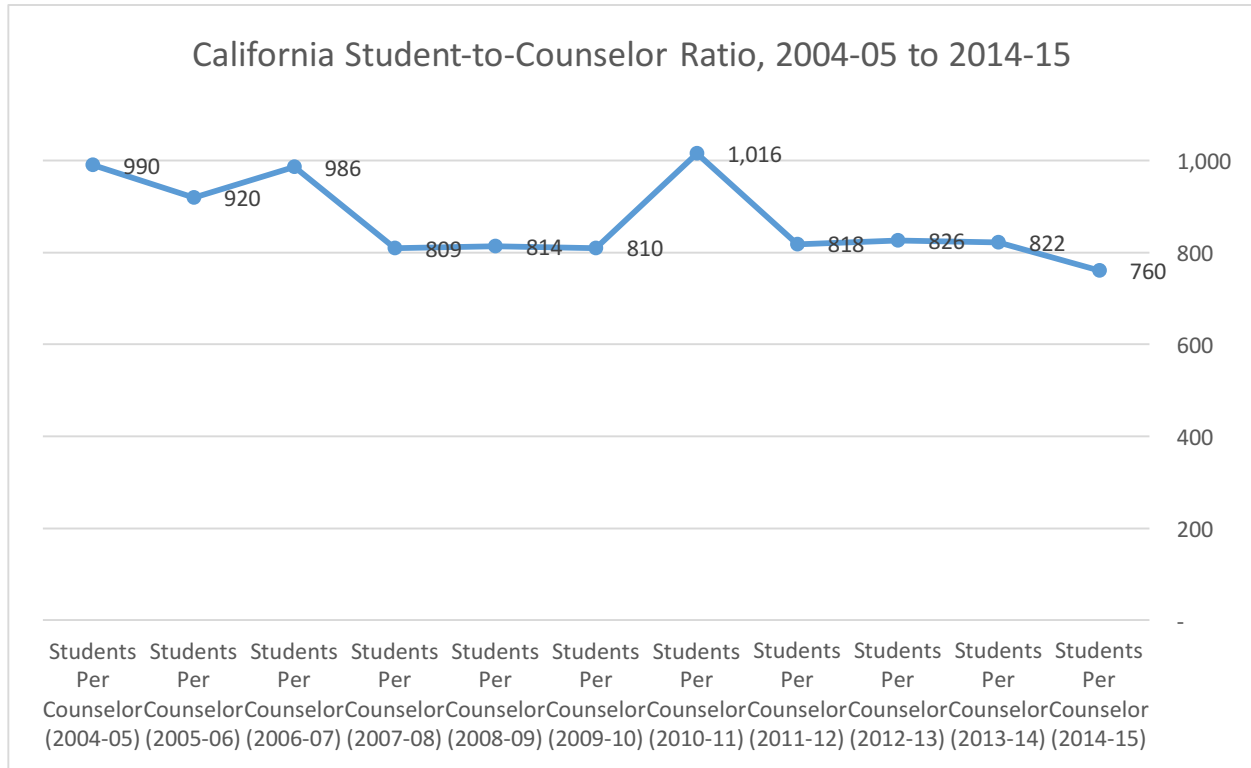
Percent Change Enrollment: +7%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: -11%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +20%

# Arkansas



Percent Change Enrollment: +6%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +4%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +2%

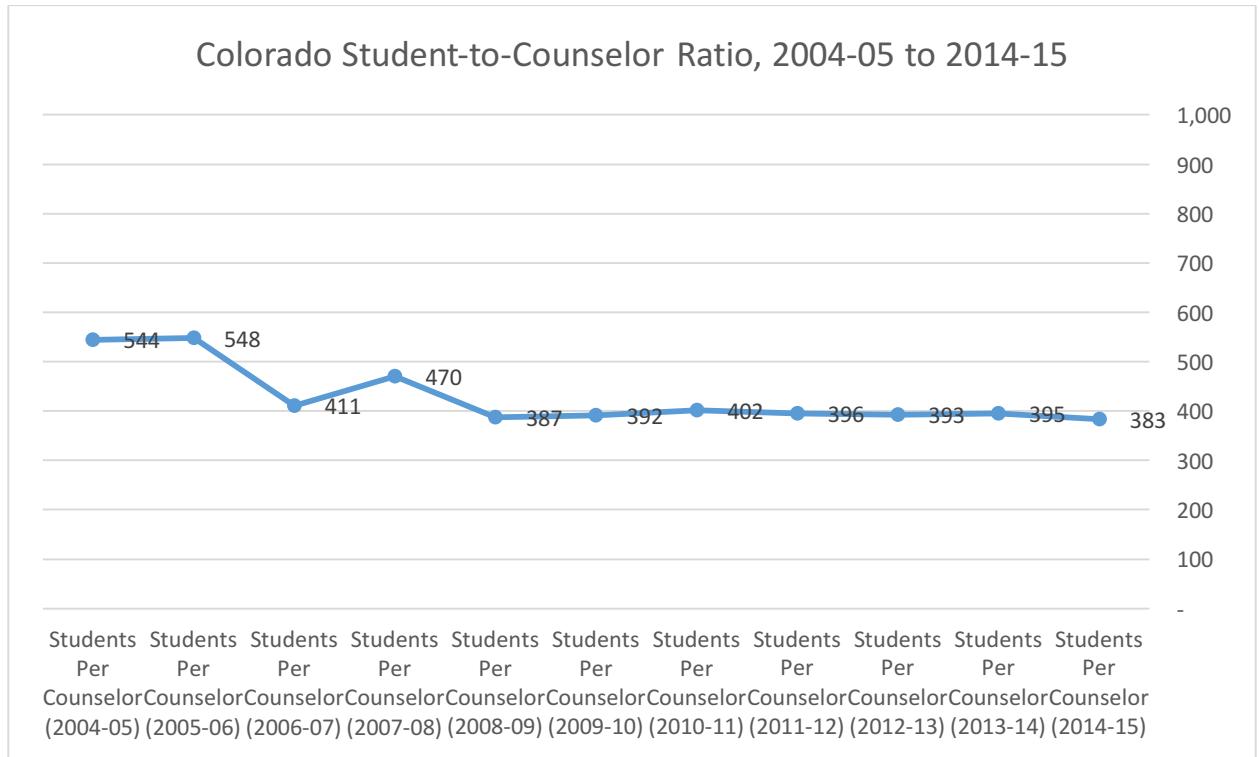
# California



Percent Change Enrollment: **-2%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **+28%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **-23%**

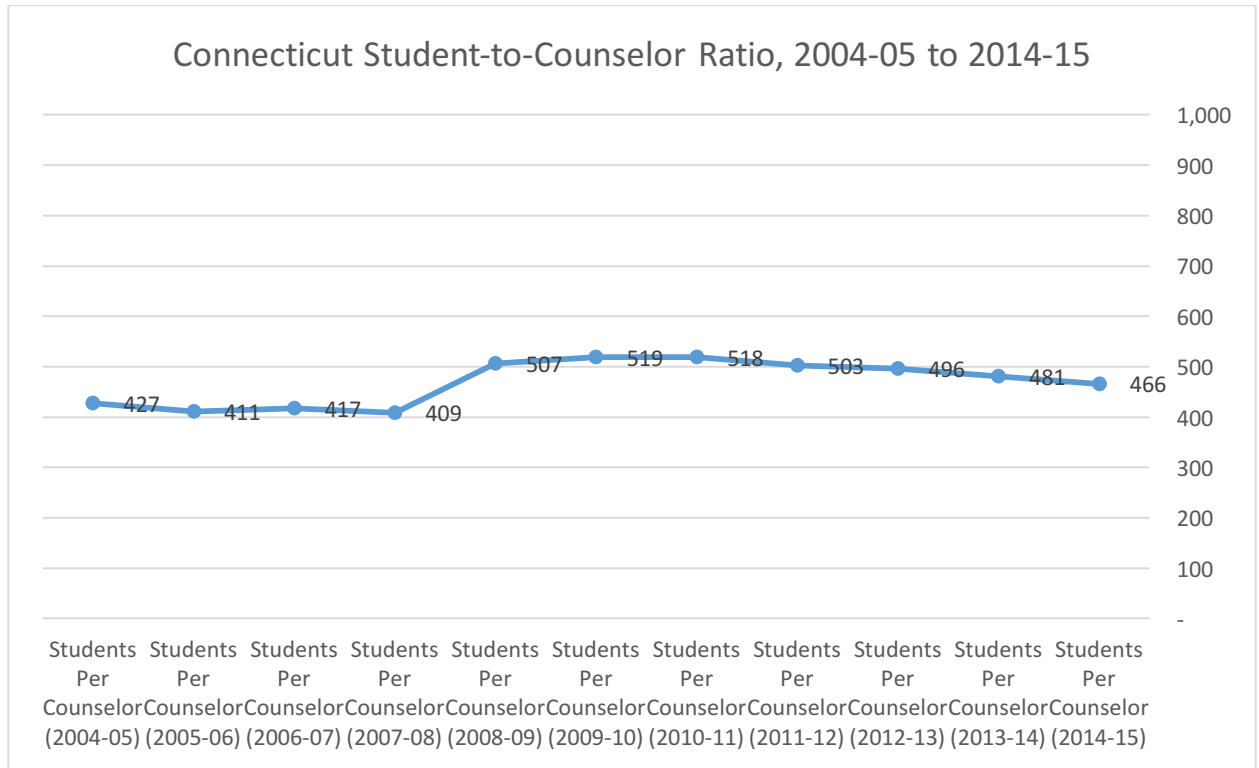
*\*Note: Large fluctuations or irregular data are likely due to state reporting errors or inconsistencies.*

# Colorado



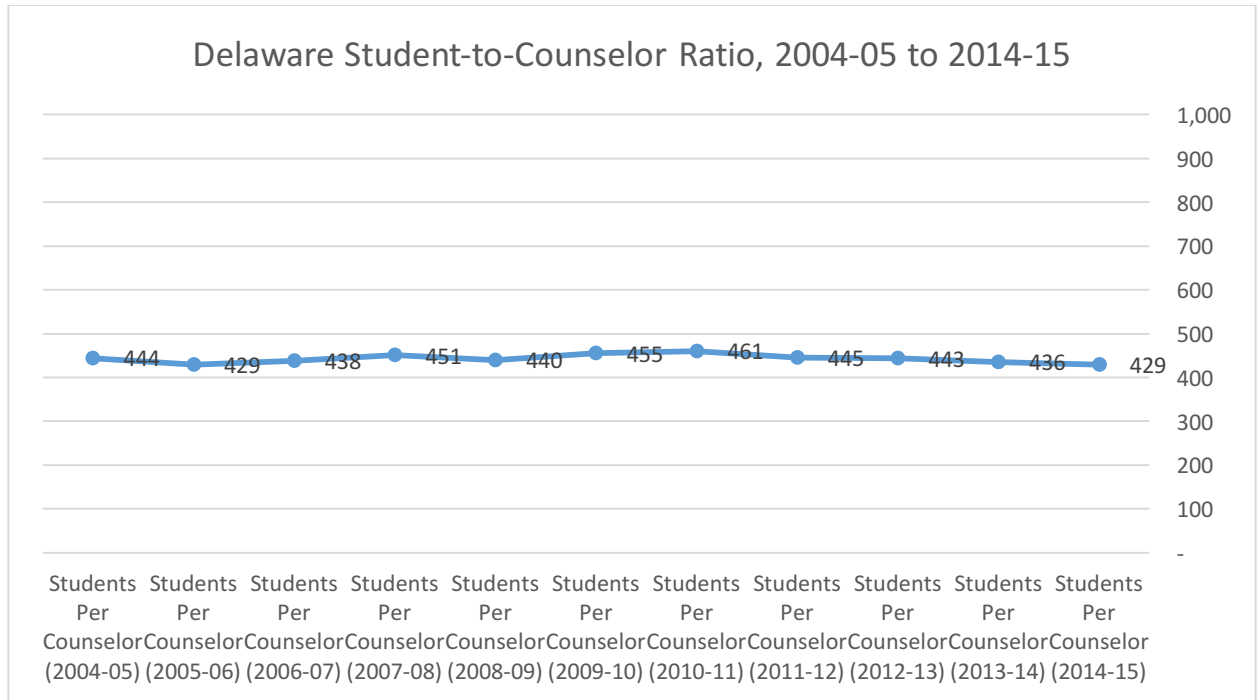
Percent Change Enrollment: +16%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +65%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -30%

# Connecticut



Percent Change Enrollment: **-6%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **-14%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **+9%**

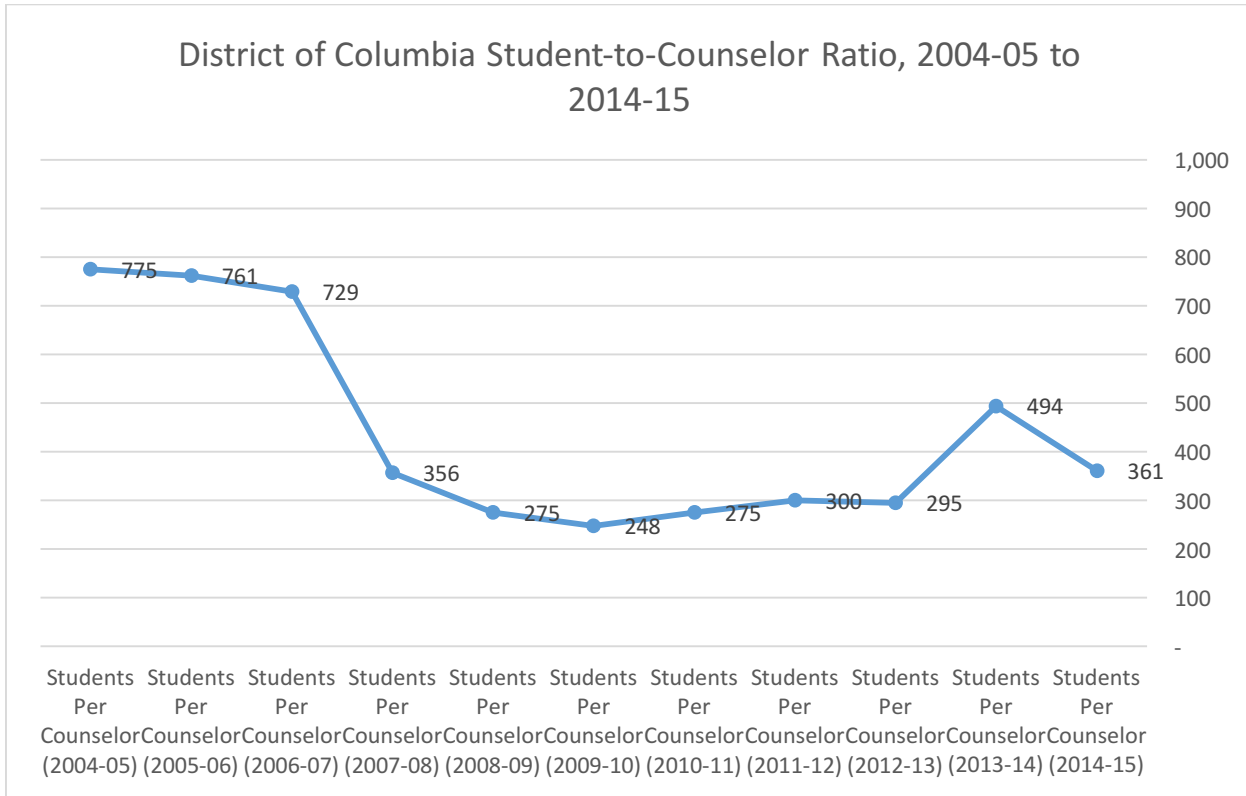
# Delaware



Percent Change Enrollment: +13%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +17%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -3%

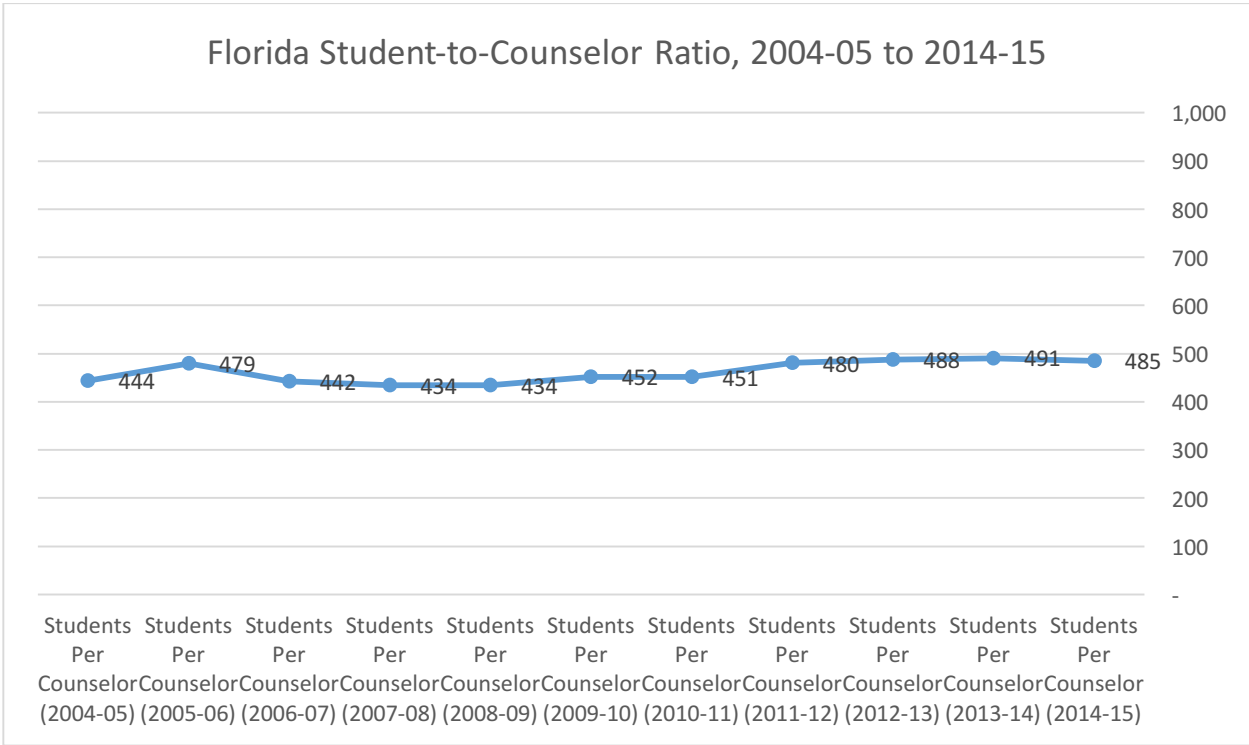


# District of Columbia



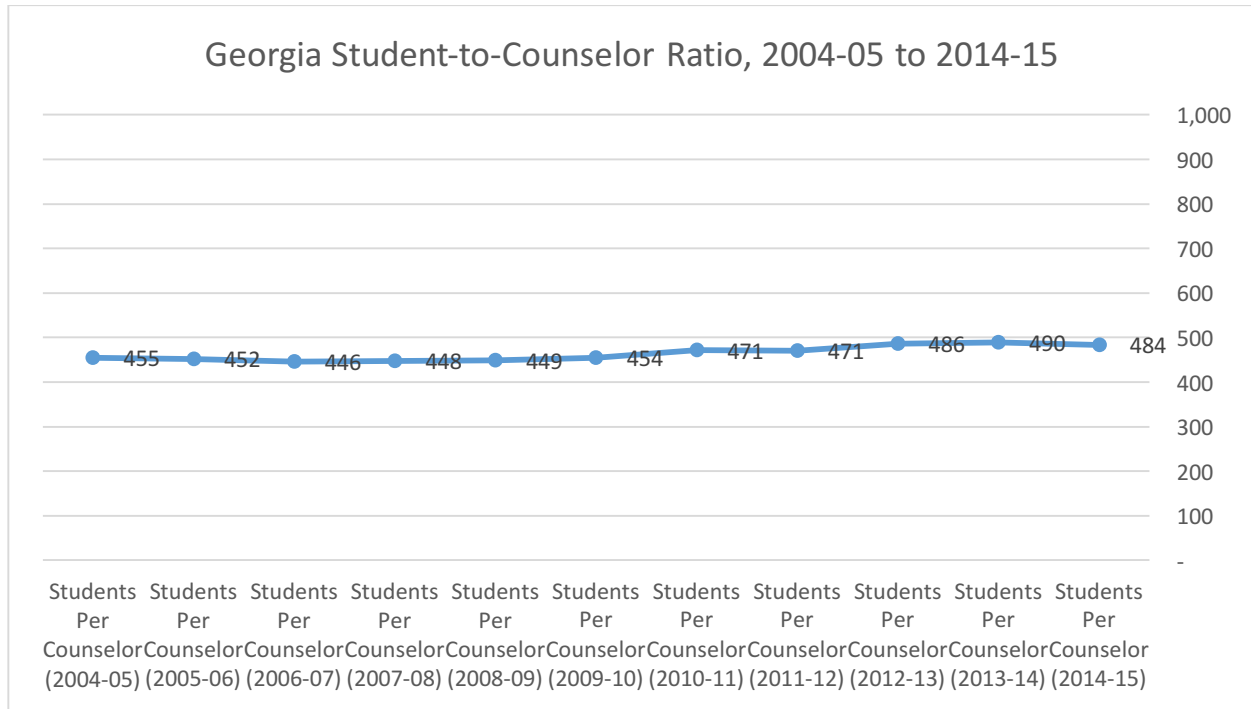
Percent Change Enrollment: +6%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +127%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -53%

# Florida



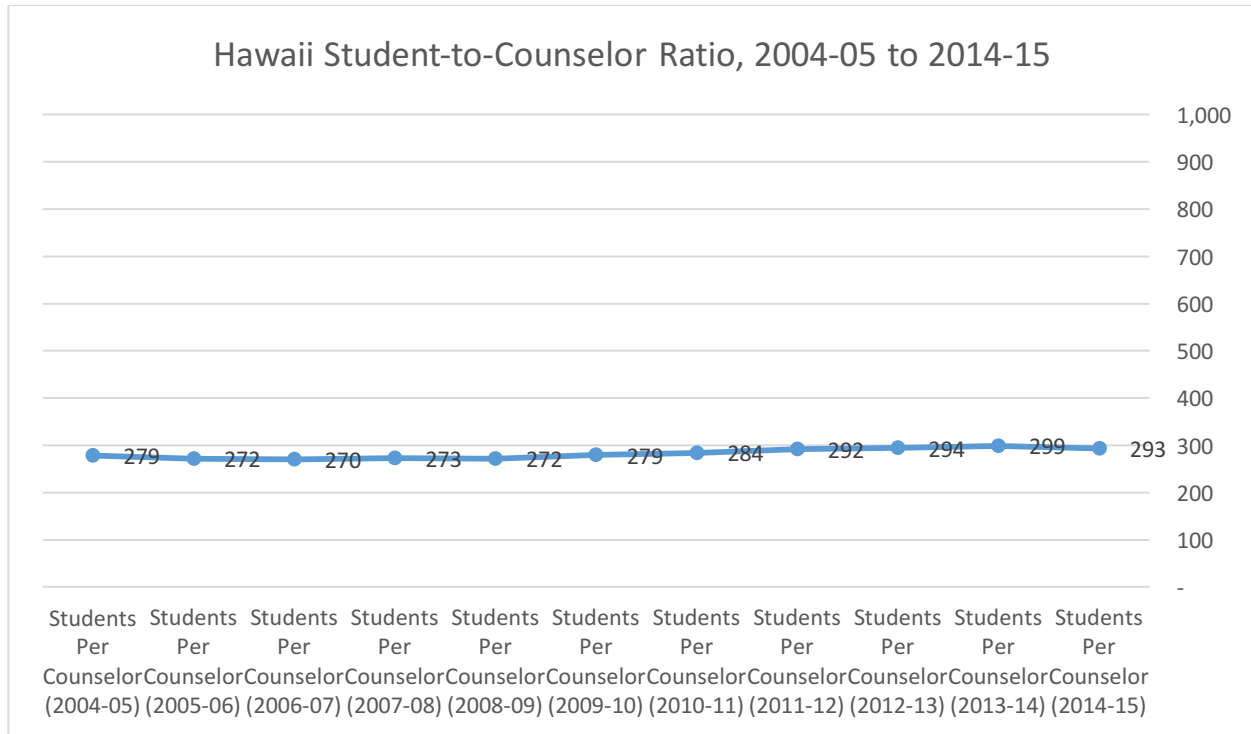
Percent Change Enrollment: +4%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: -4%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +9%

# Georgia



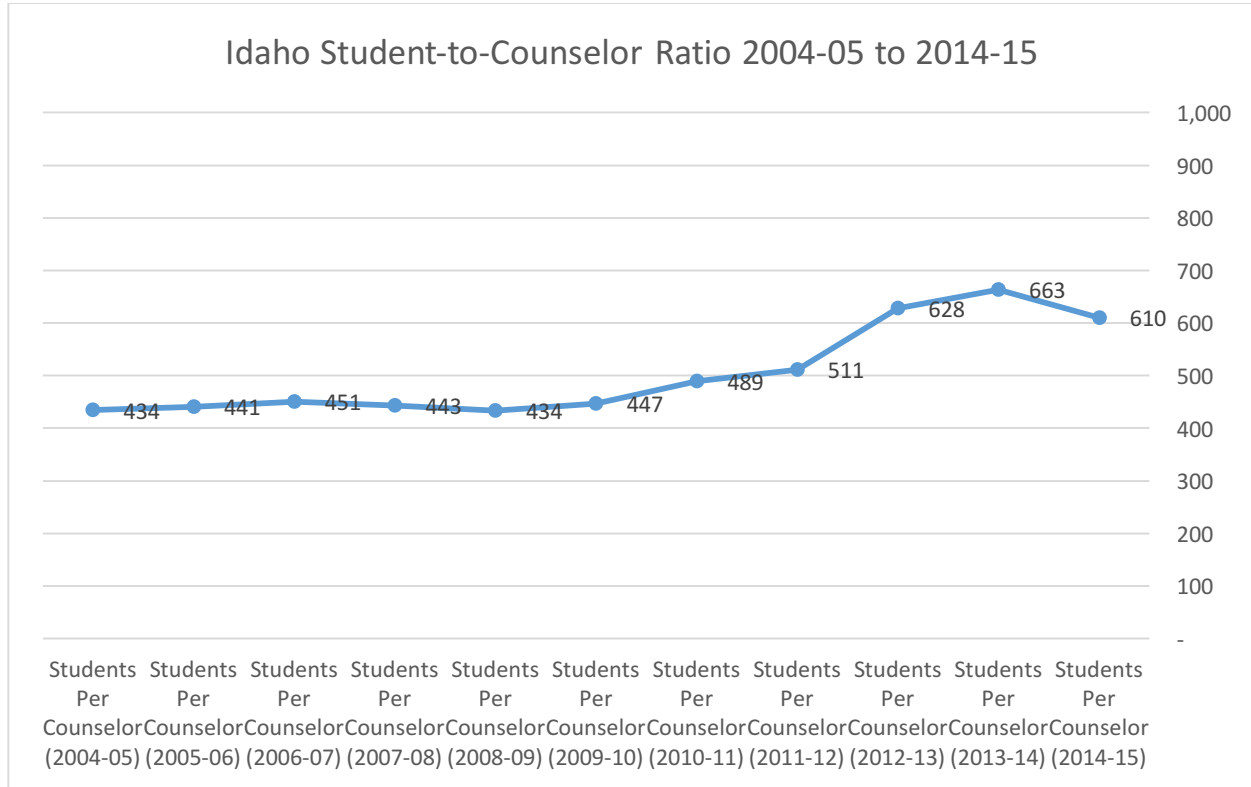
Percent Change Enrollment: +12%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +5%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +6%

# Hawaii



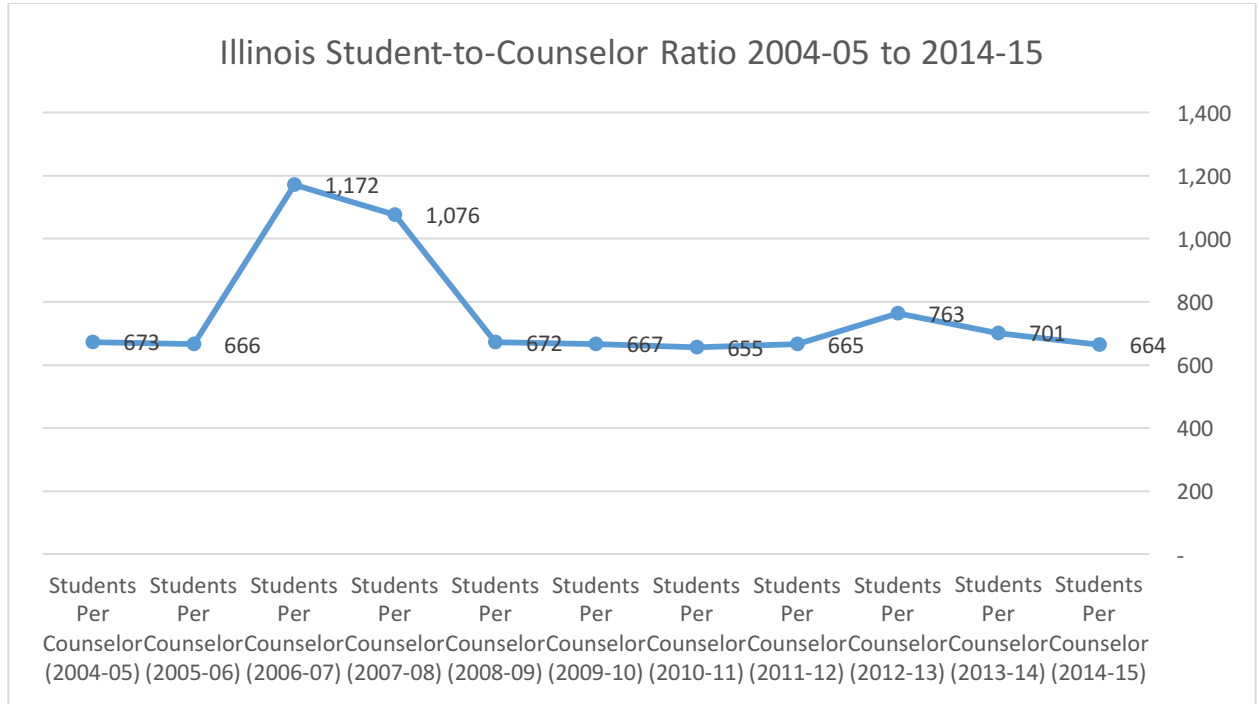
Percent Change Enrollment: 0%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: -5%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +5%

# Idaho



Percent Change Enrollment: +14%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: -19%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +41%

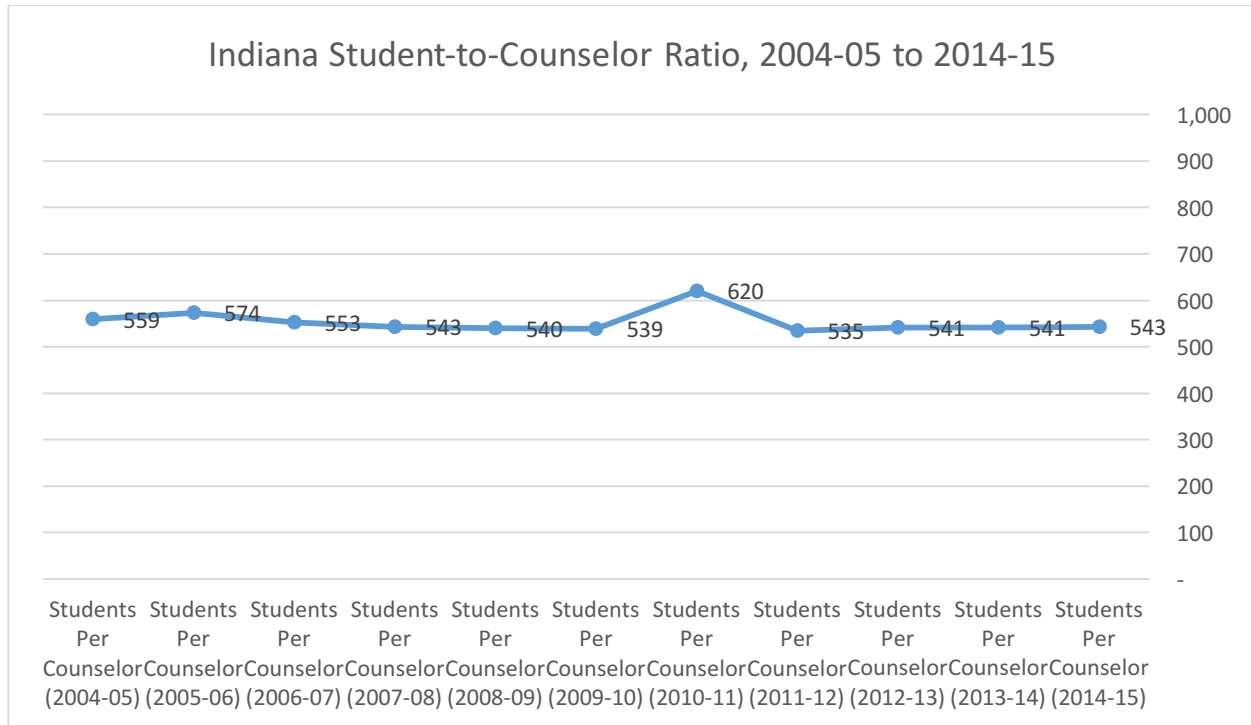
# Illinois



Percent Change Enrollment: **-2%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **-1%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **-1%**

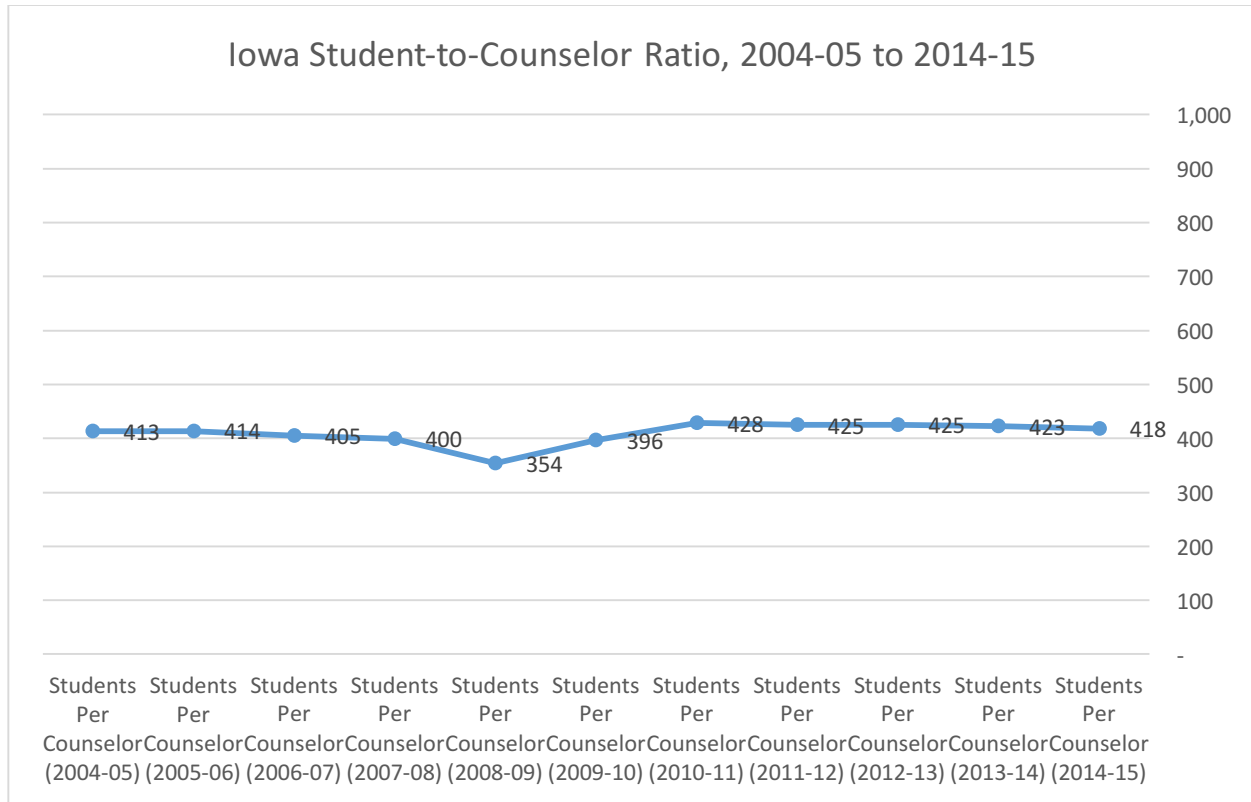
*\*Note: Large fluctuations or irregular data are likely due to state reporting errors or inconsistencies.*

# Indiana



Percent Change Enrollment: +2%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +5%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -3%

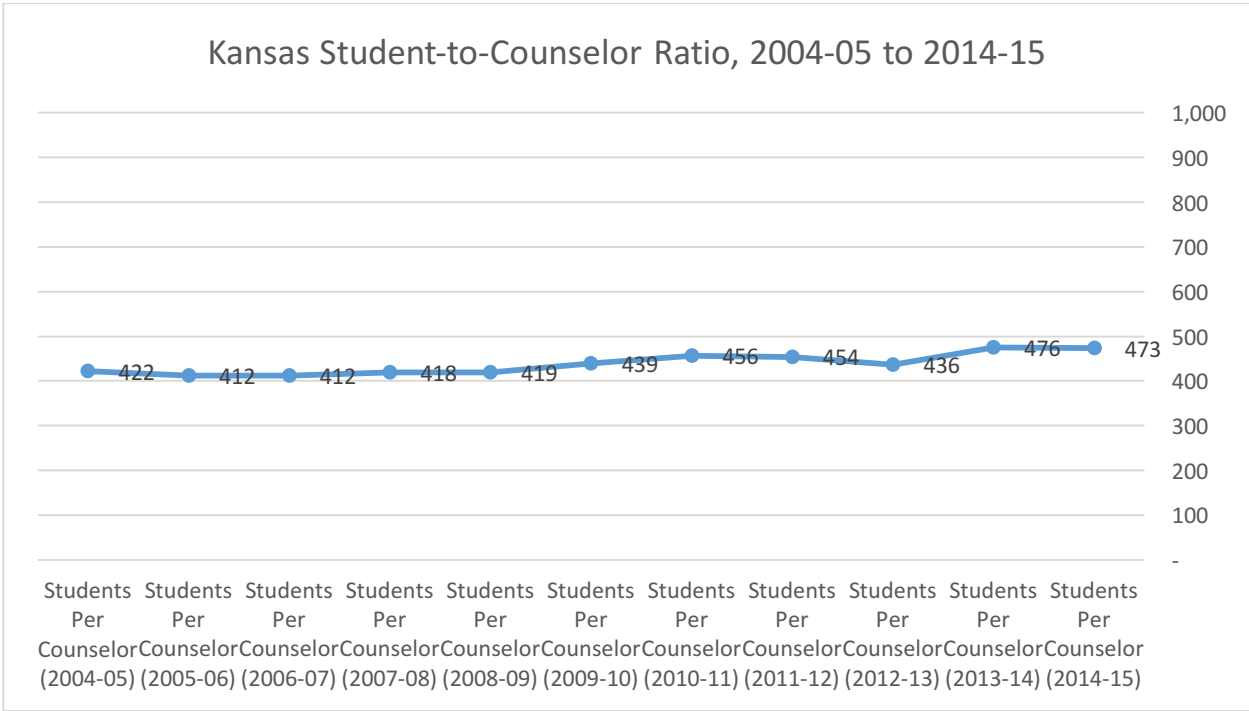
# Iowa



Percent Change Enrollment: +6%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +4%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +1%

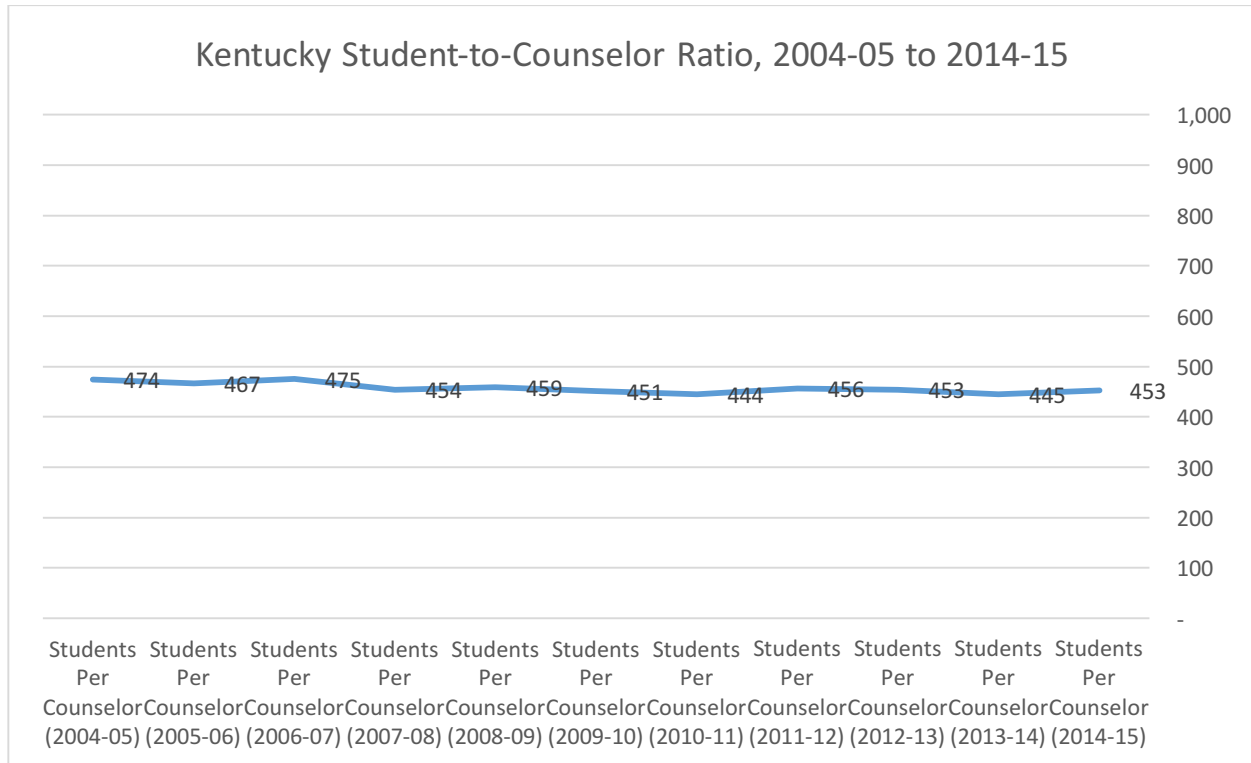


# Kansas



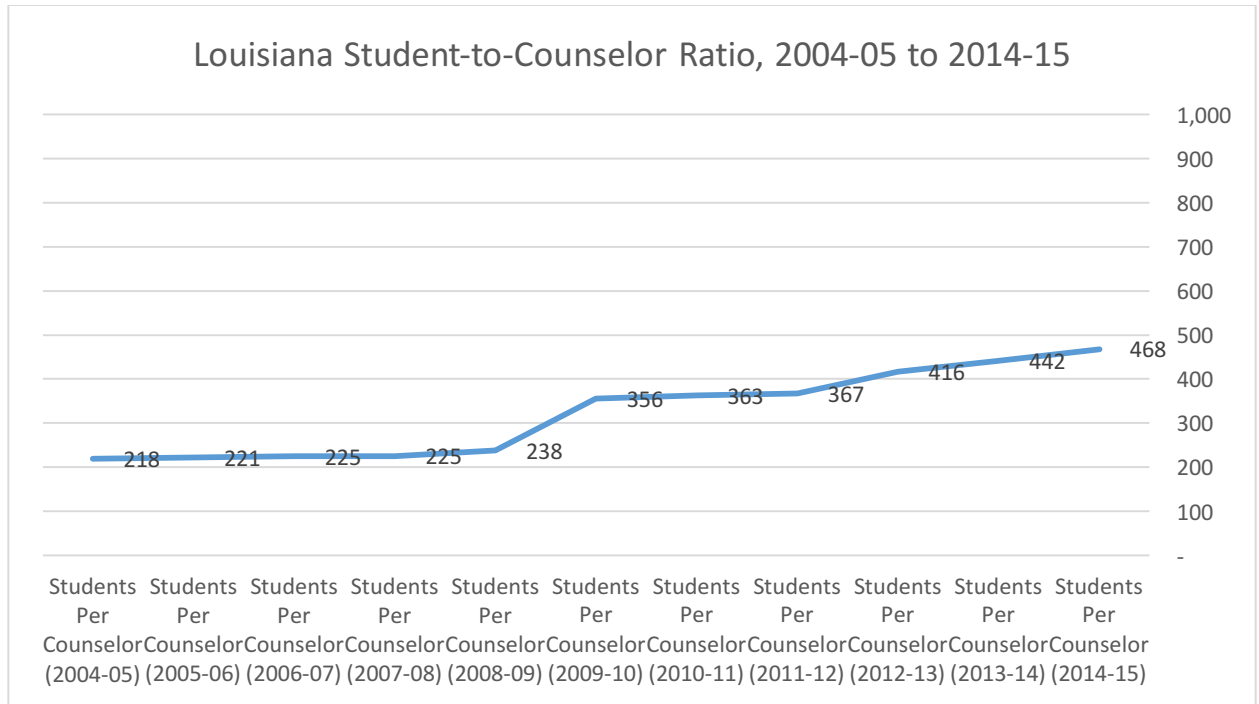
Percent Change Enrollment: +6%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: -5%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +12%

# Kentucky



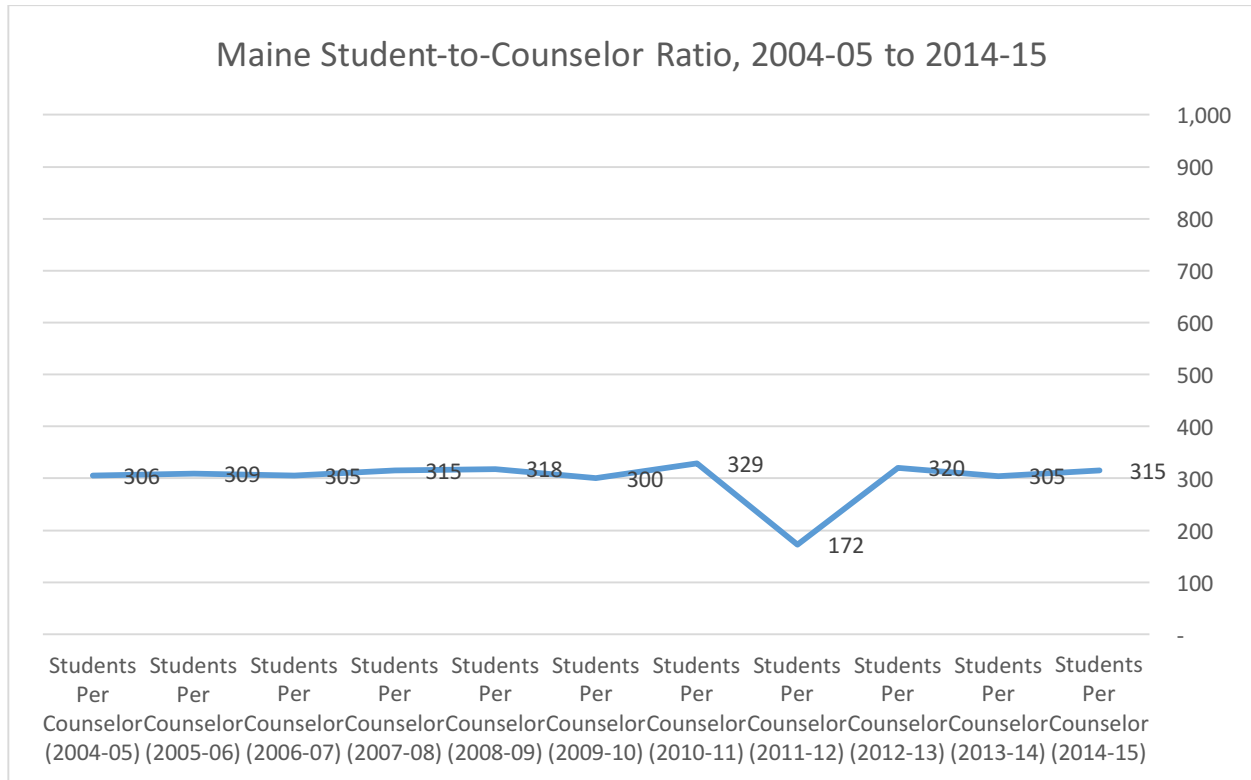
Percent Change Enrollment: +2%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +7%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -4%

# Louisiana



Percent Change Enrollment: **-1%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **-54%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **+114%**

# Maine



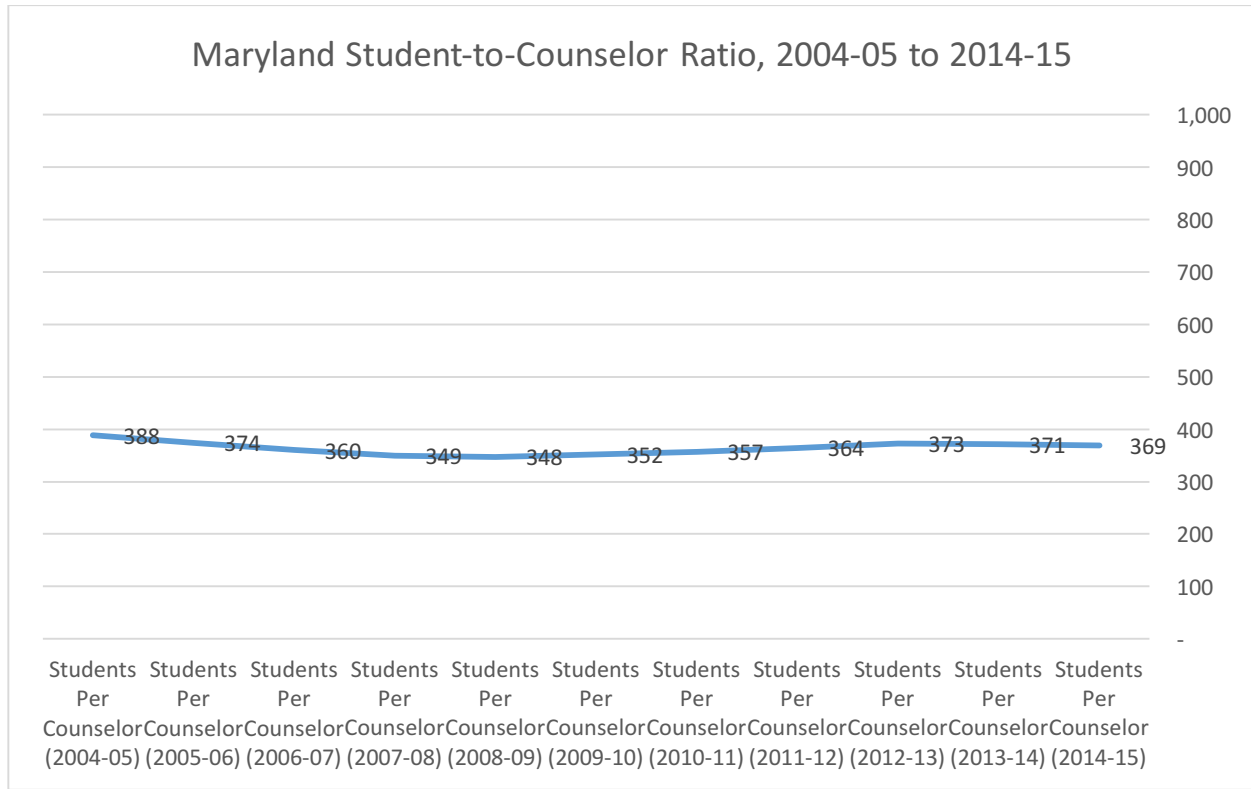
Percent Change Enrollment: **-8%**

Percent Change in Counselors: **-11%**

Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **+3%**

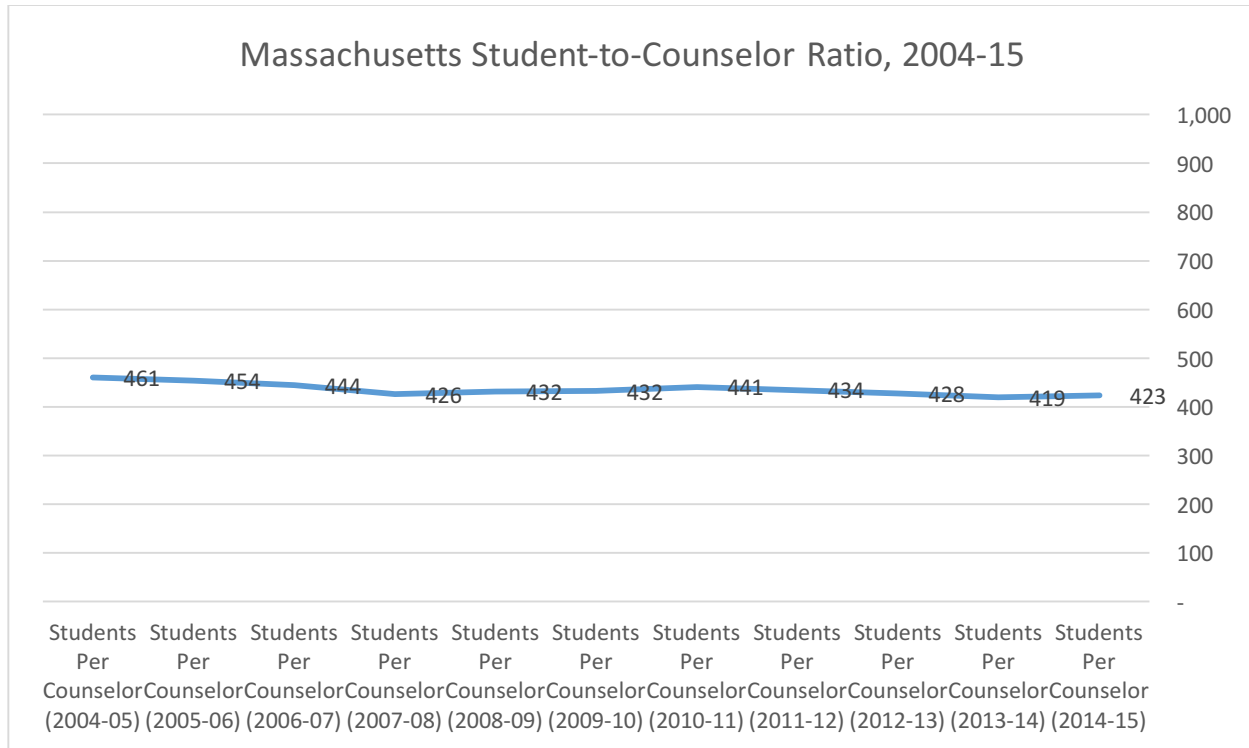
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# Maryland



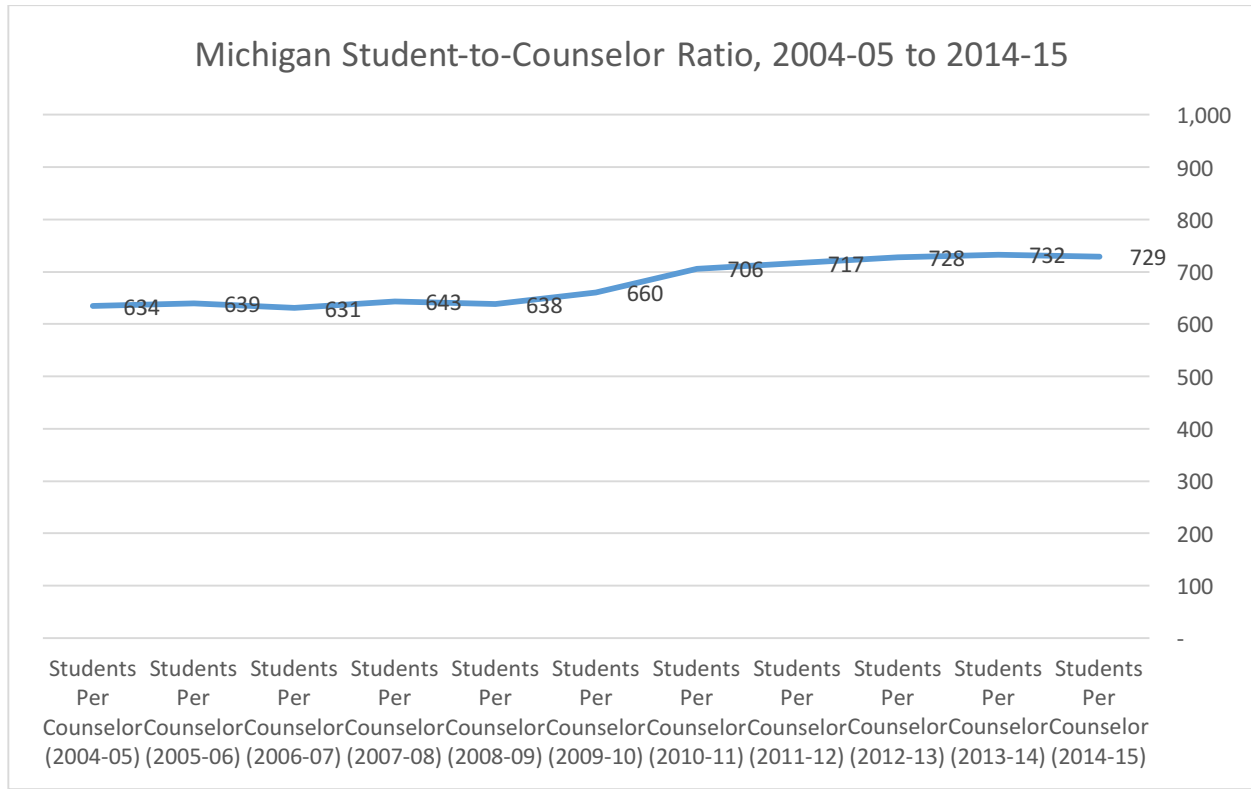
Percent Change Enrollment: +1%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +6%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -5%

# Massachusetts



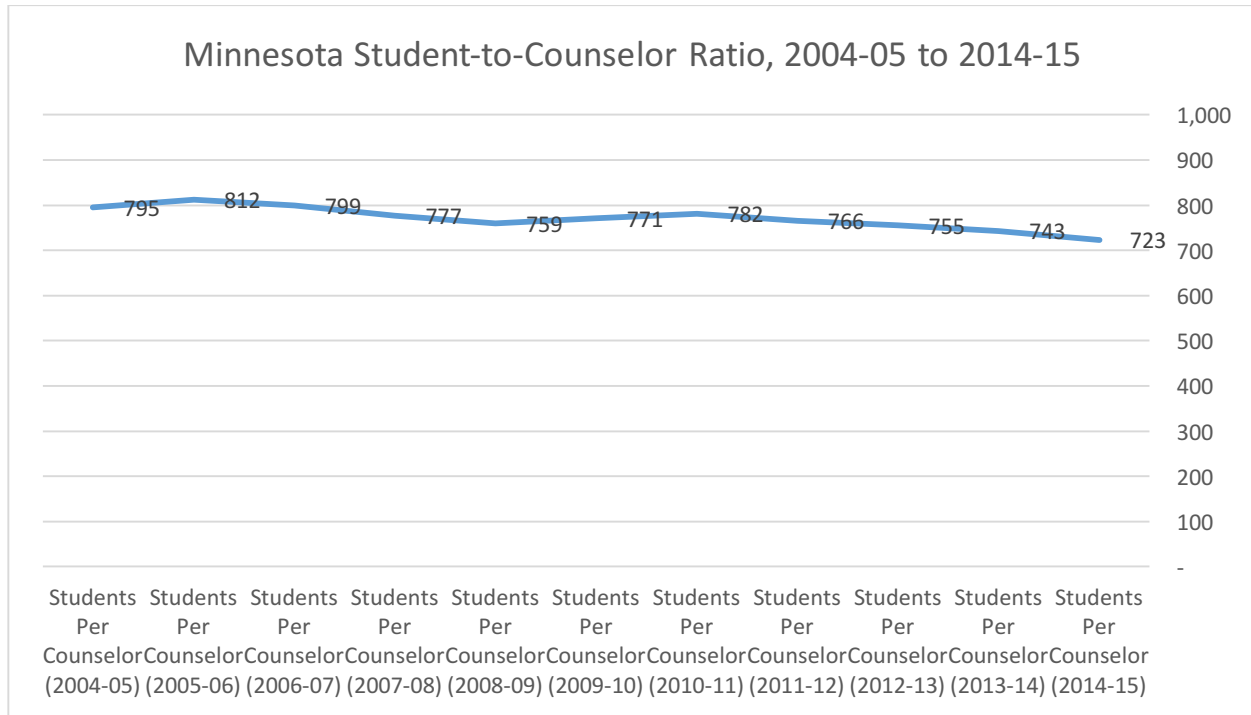
Percent Change Enrollment: -2%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +7%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -8%

# Michigan



Percent Change Enrollment: **-12%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **-24%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **+15%**

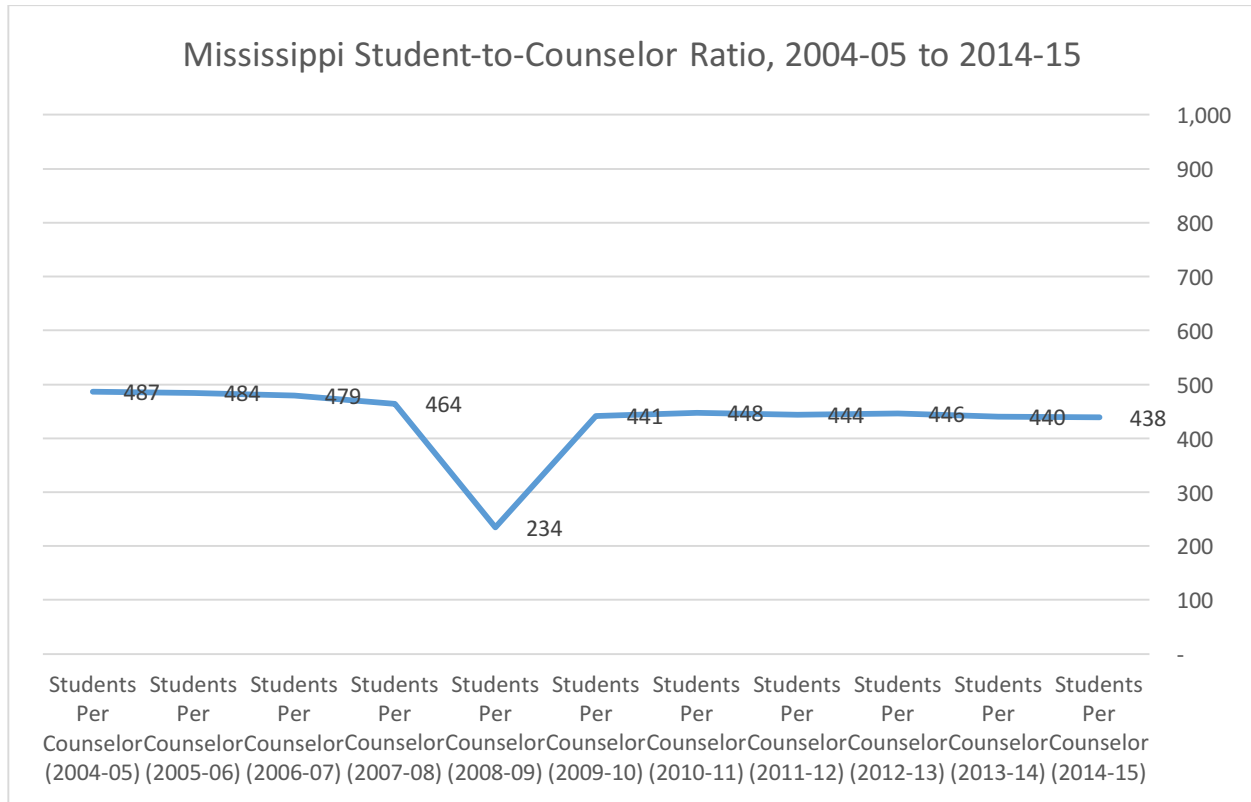
# Minnesota



Percent Change Enrollment: +2%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +12%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -9%



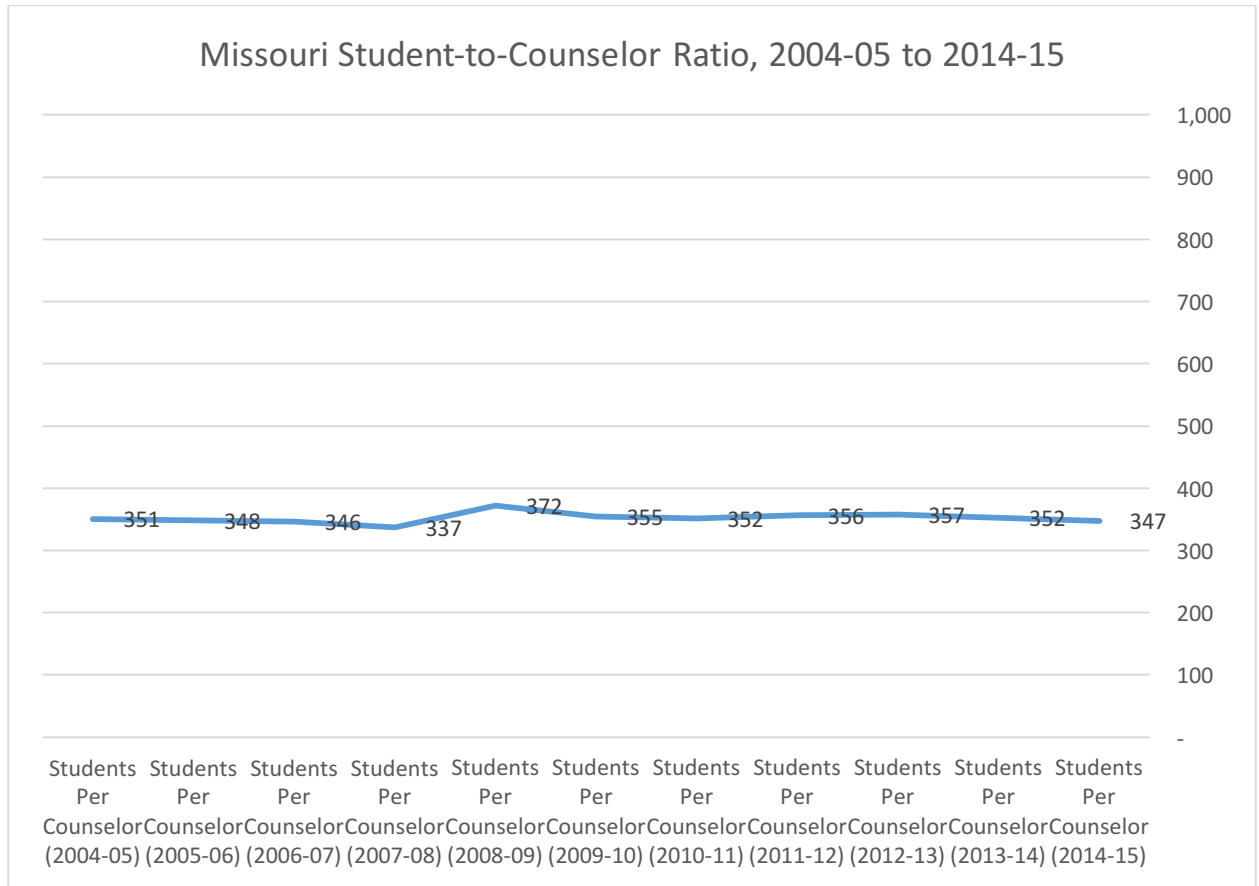
# Mississippi



Percent Change Enrollment: **-1%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **+10%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **-10%**

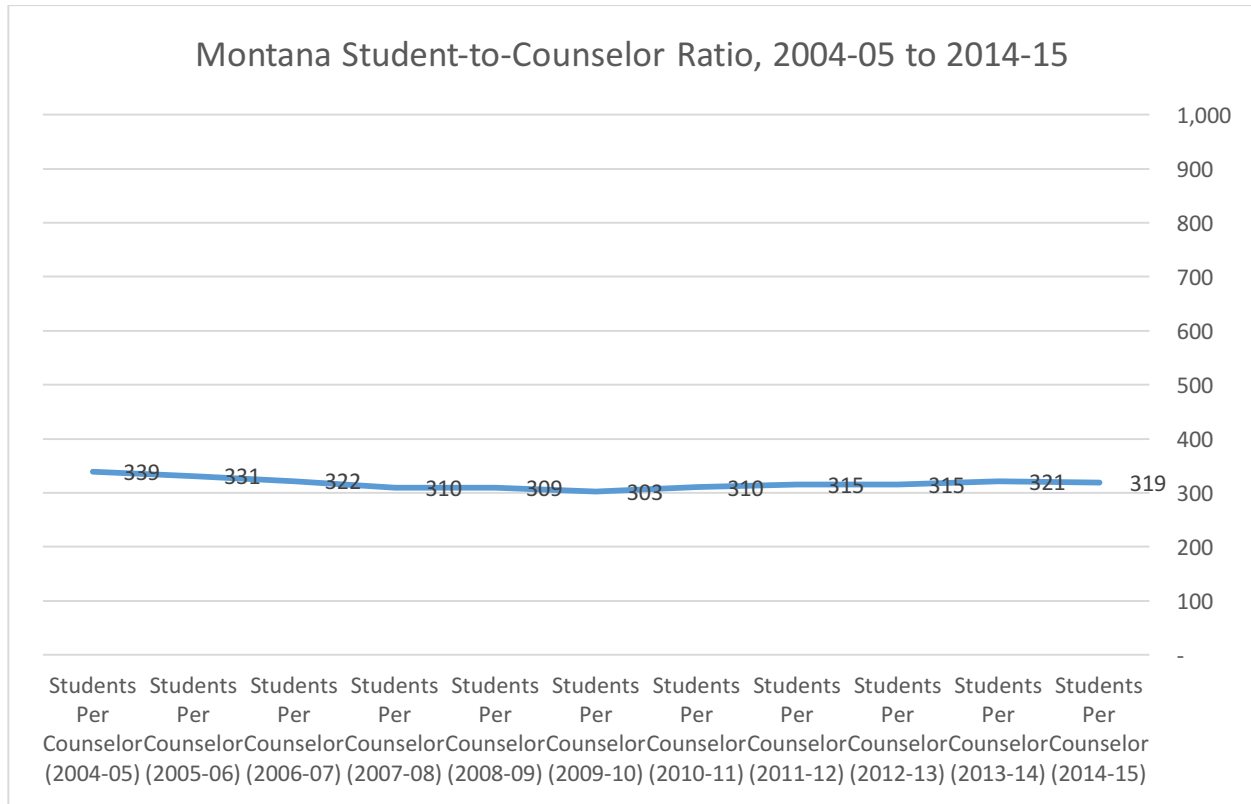
*\*Note: Large fluctuations or irregular data are likely due to state reporting errors or inconsistencies.*

# Missouri



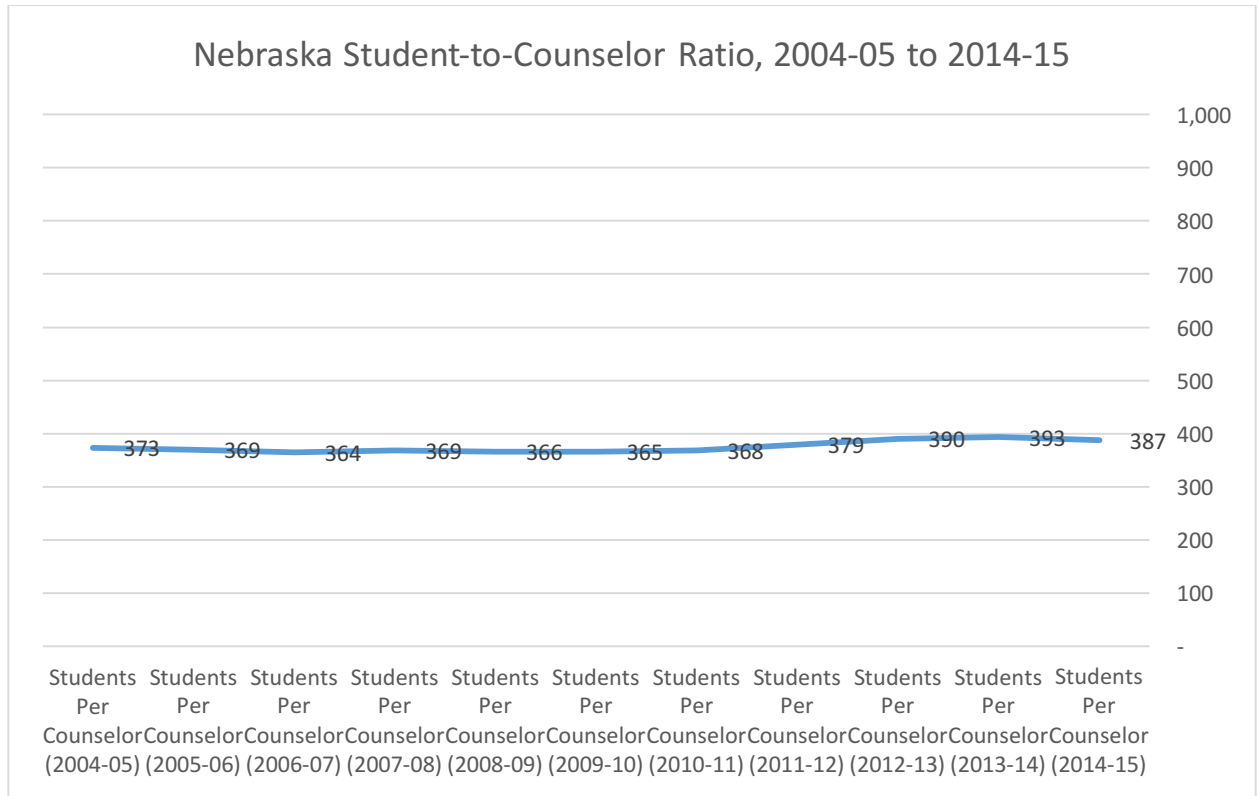
Percent Change Enrollment: +1%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +2%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -1%

# Montana



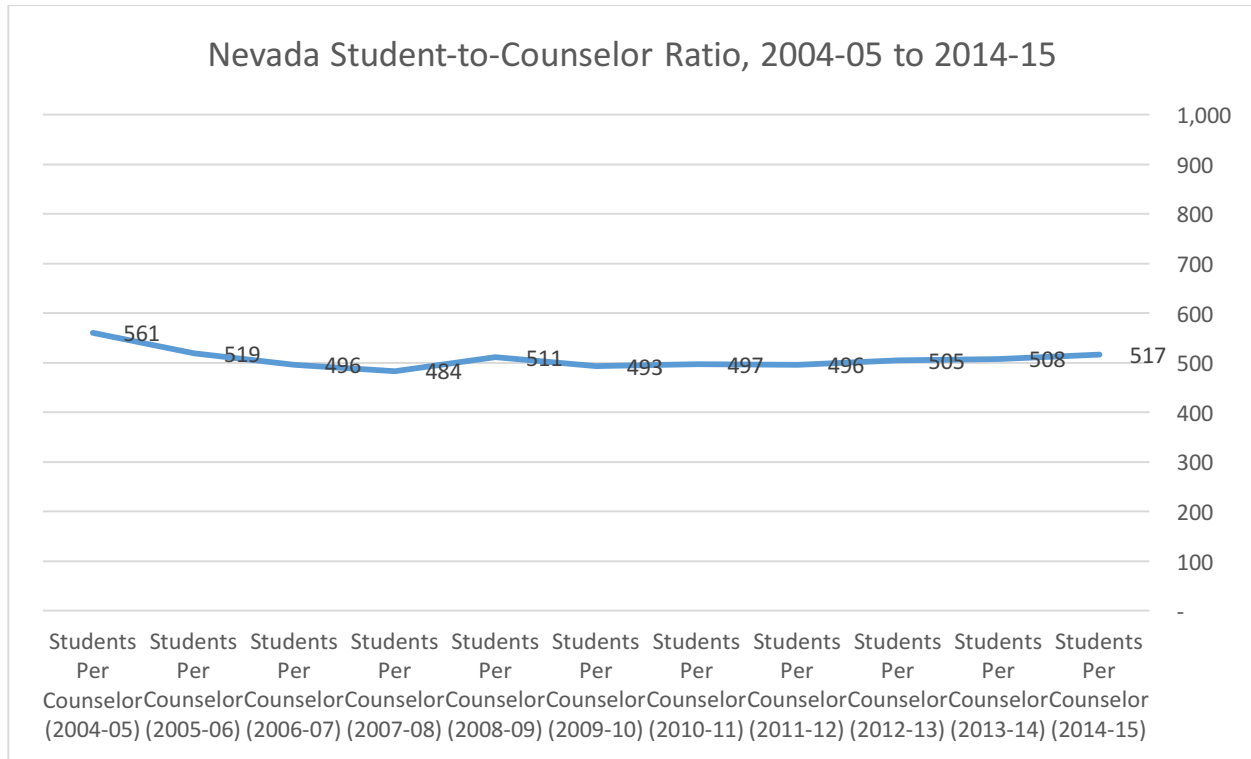
Percent Change Enrollment: **-1%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **+5%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **-6%**

# Nebraska



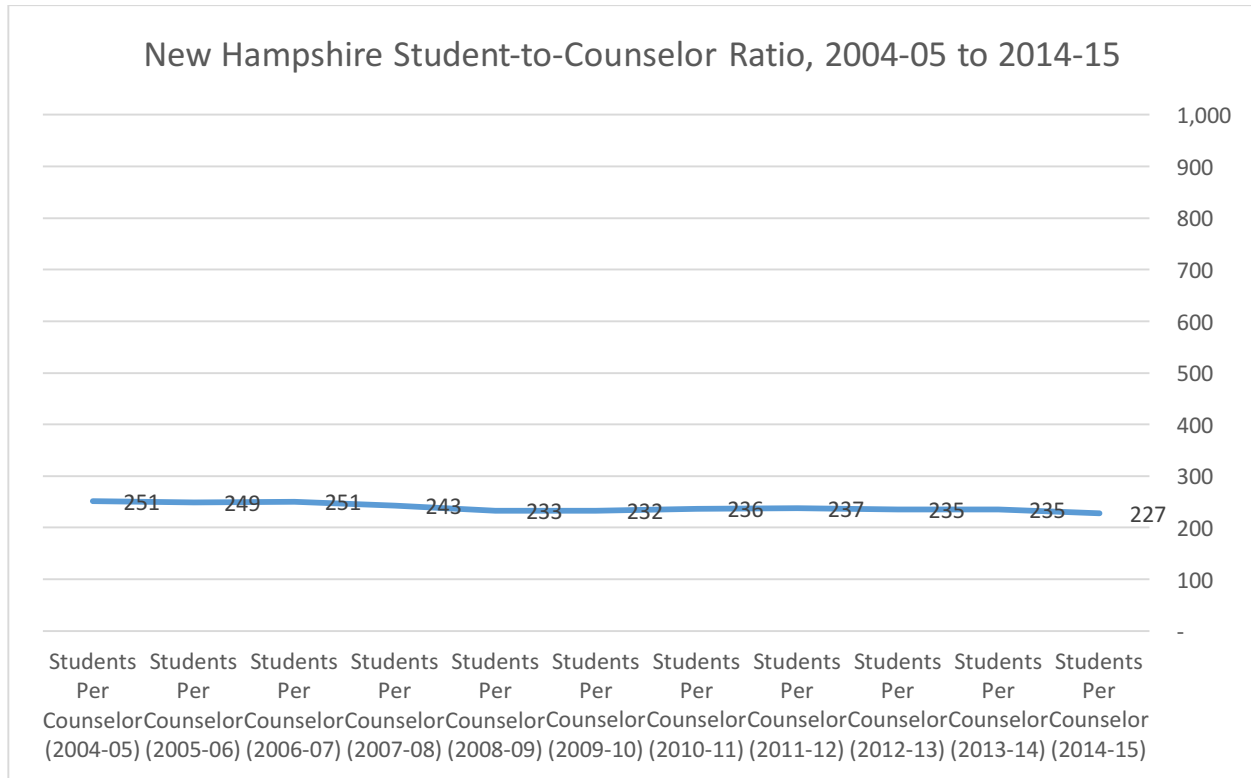
Percent Change Enrollment: +9%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +5%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +4%

# Nevada



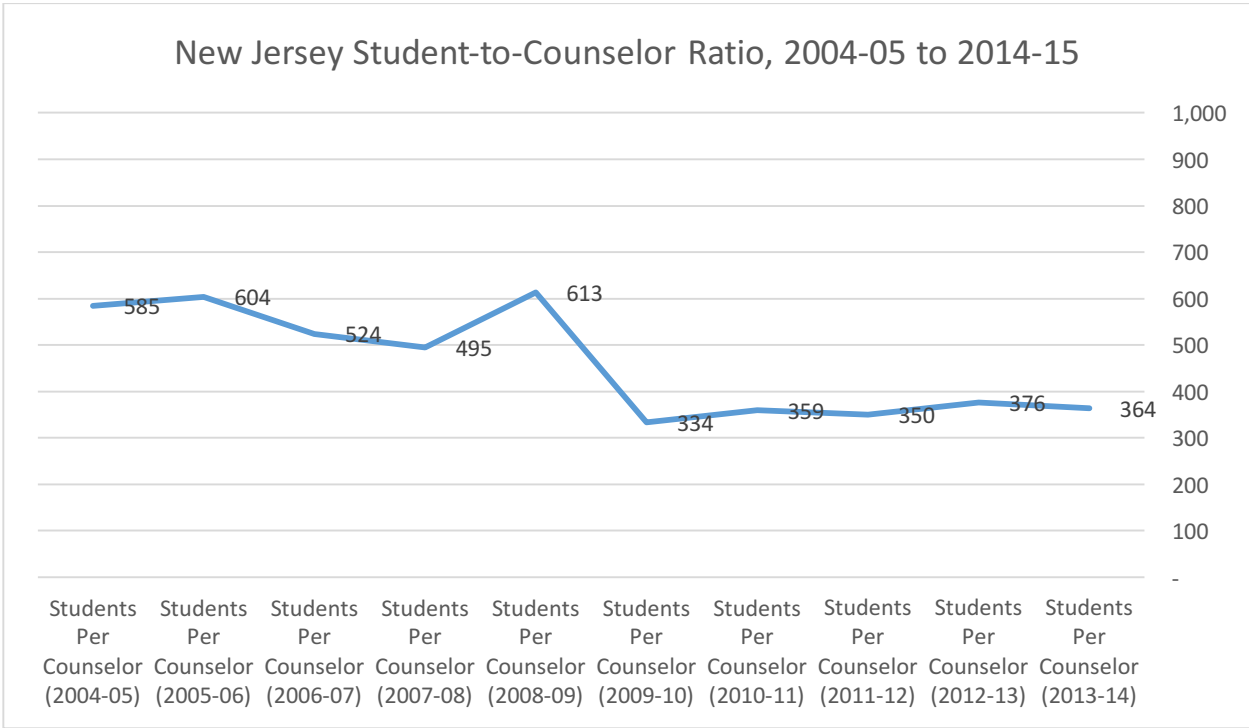
Percent Change Enrollment: +15%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +25%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -8%

# New Hampshire



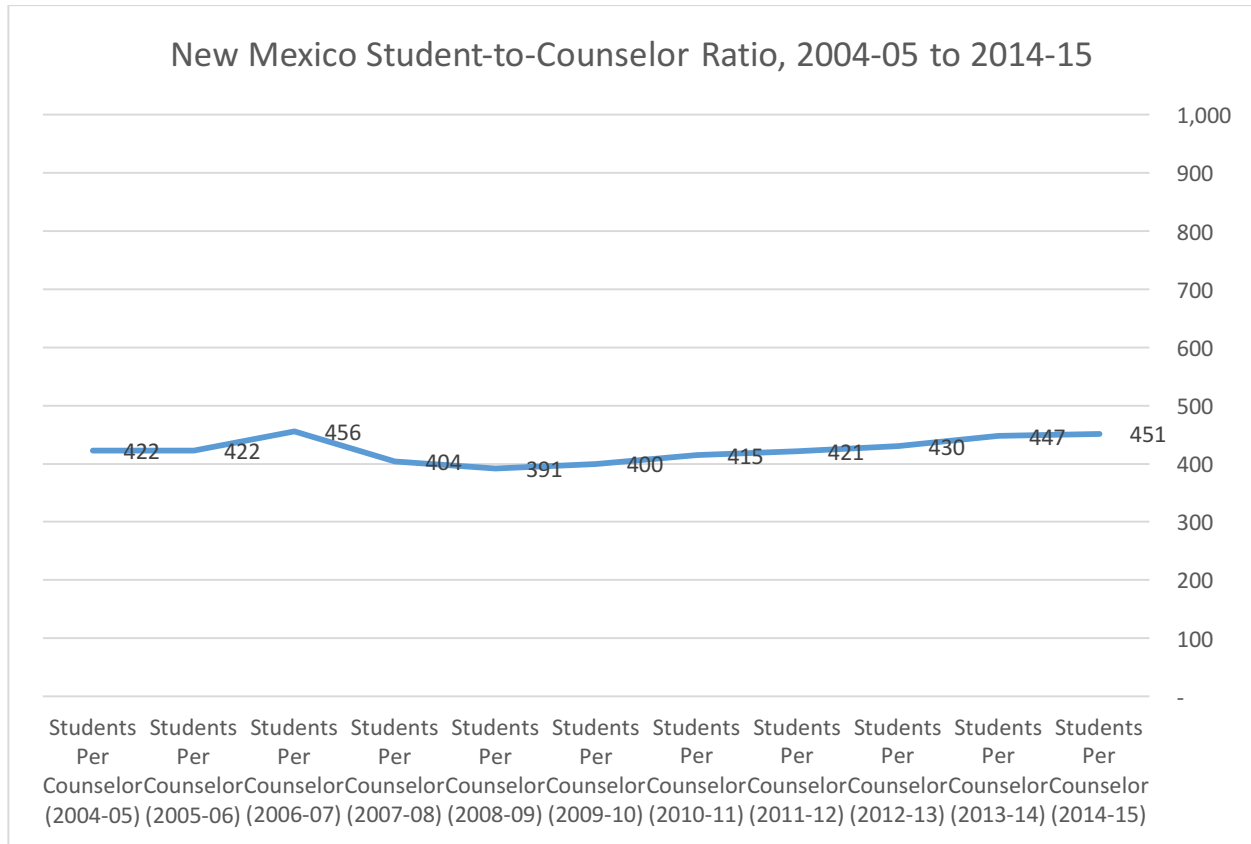
Percent Change Enrollment: **-11%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **-1%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **-10%**

# New Jersey



Percent Change Enrollment: +1%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +59%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -37%

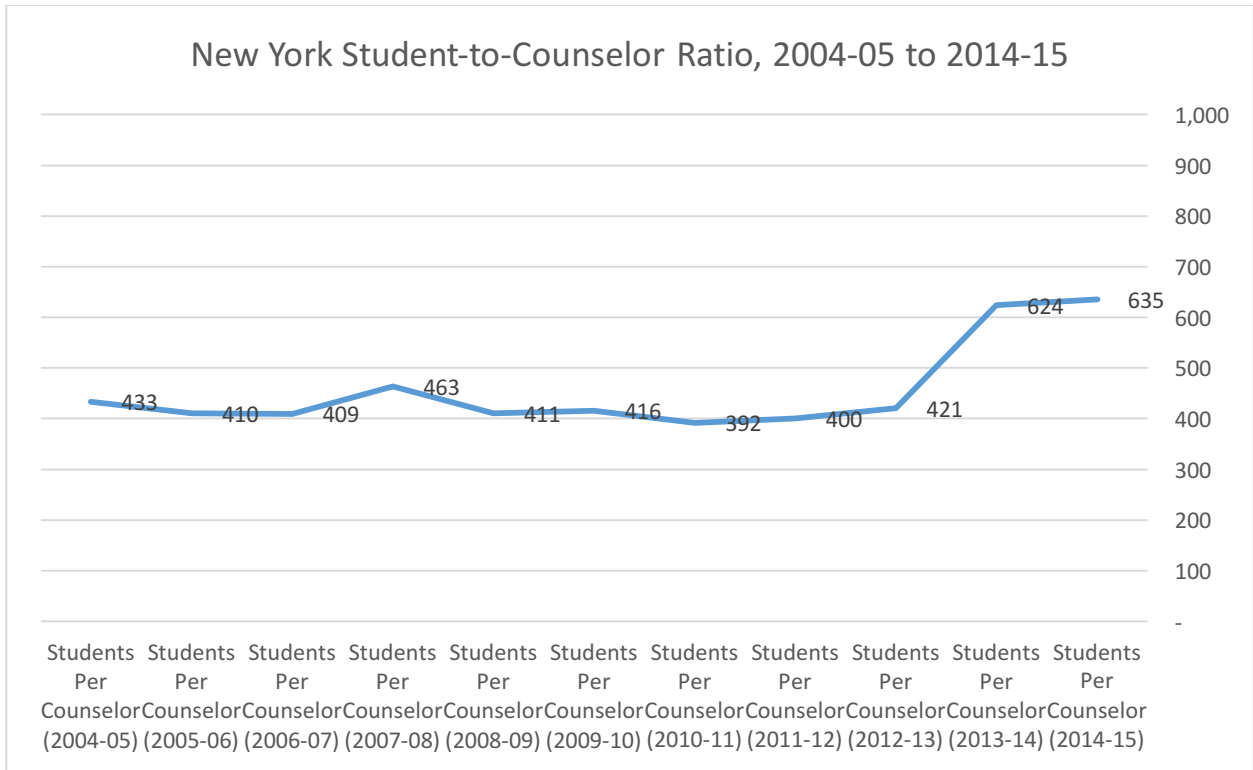
# New Mexico



Percent Change Enrollment: +4%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: -2%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +7%

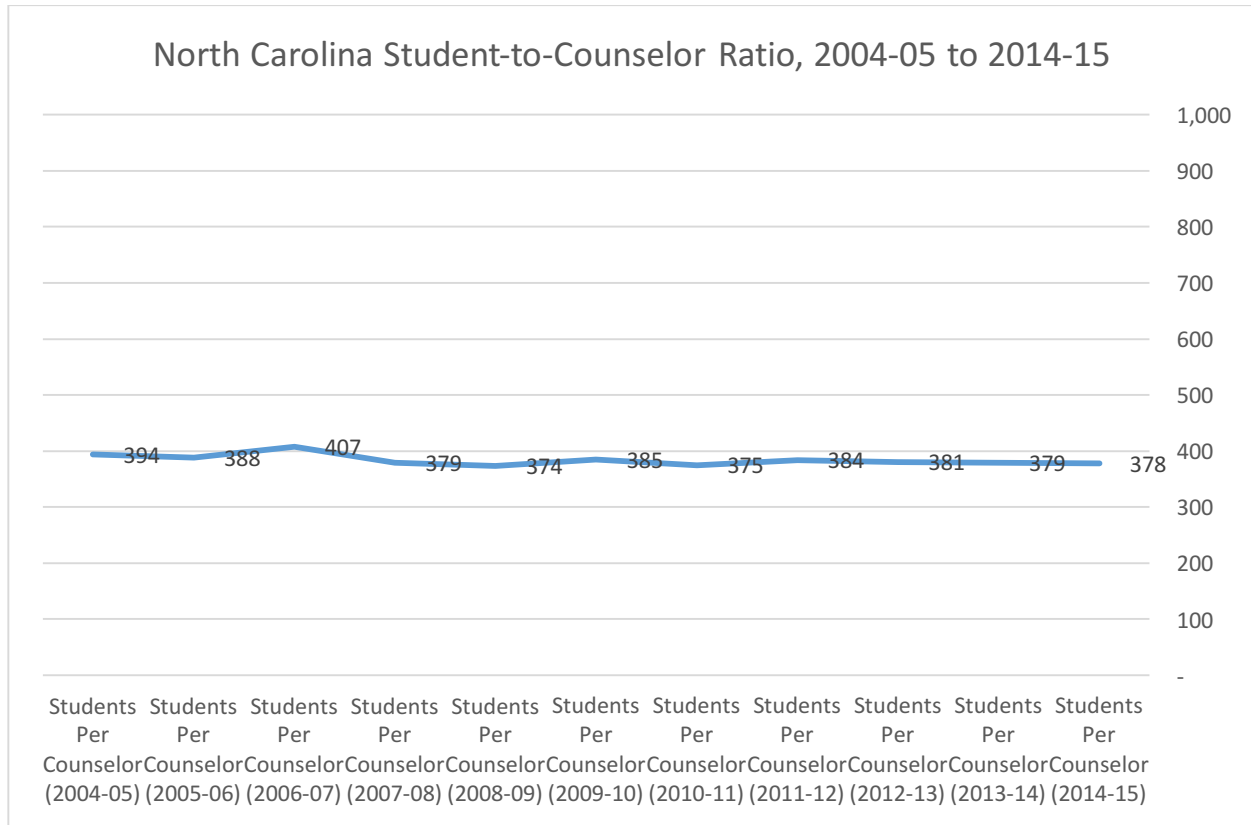


# New York



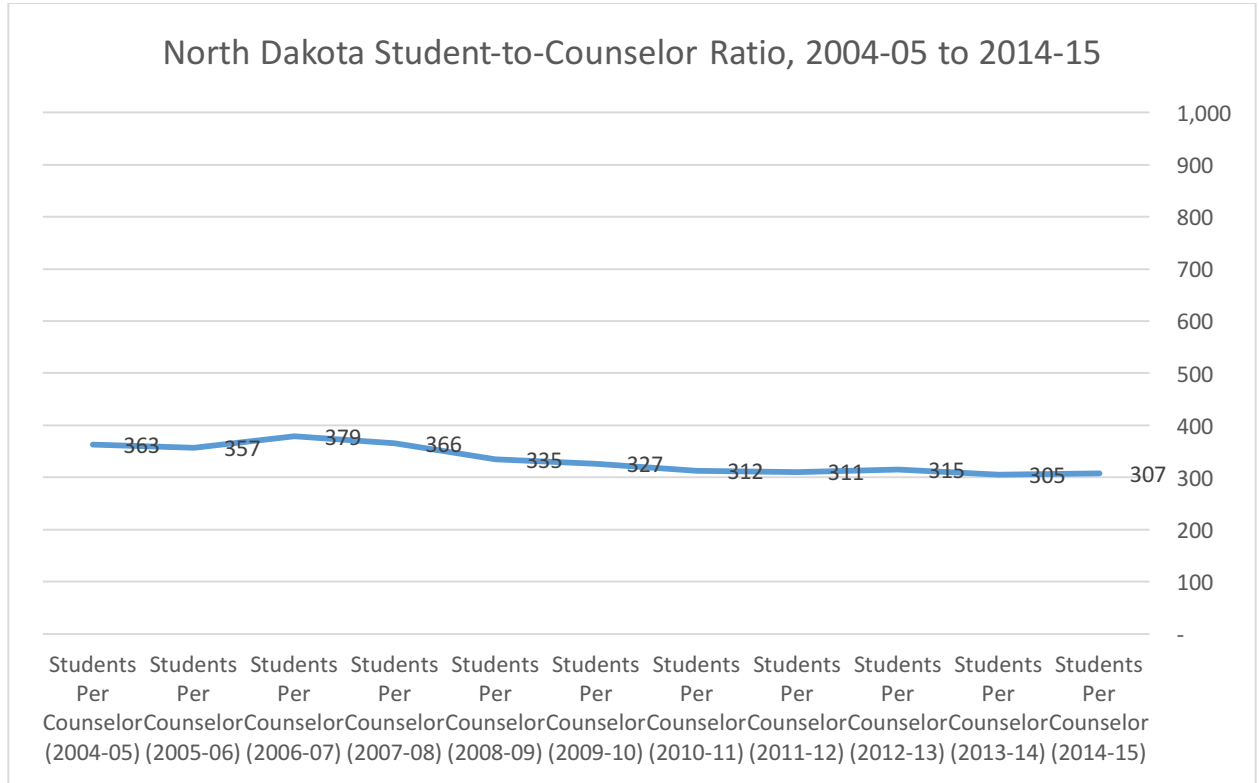
Percent Change Enrollment: **-3%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **-34%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **+47%**

# North Carolina



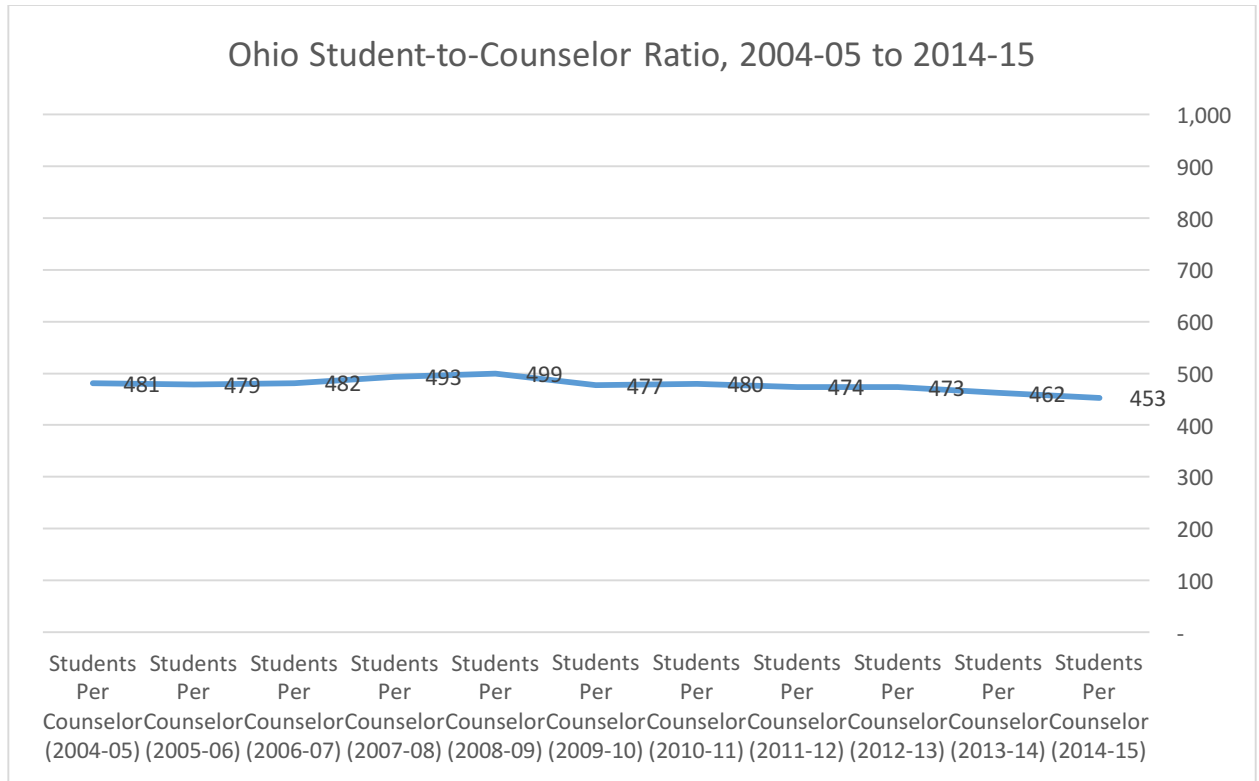
Percent Change Enrollment: +12%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +17%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -4%

# North Dakota



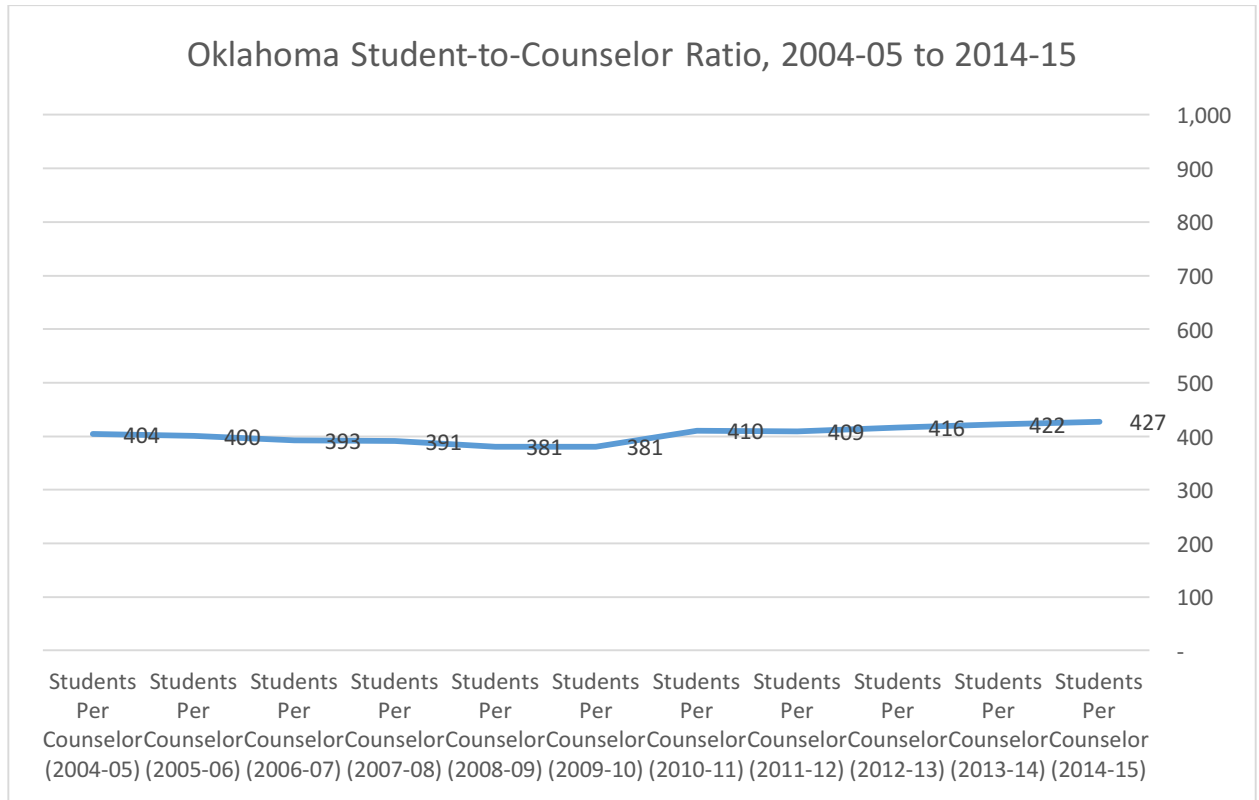
Percent Change Enrollment: +6%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +25%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -15%

# Ohio



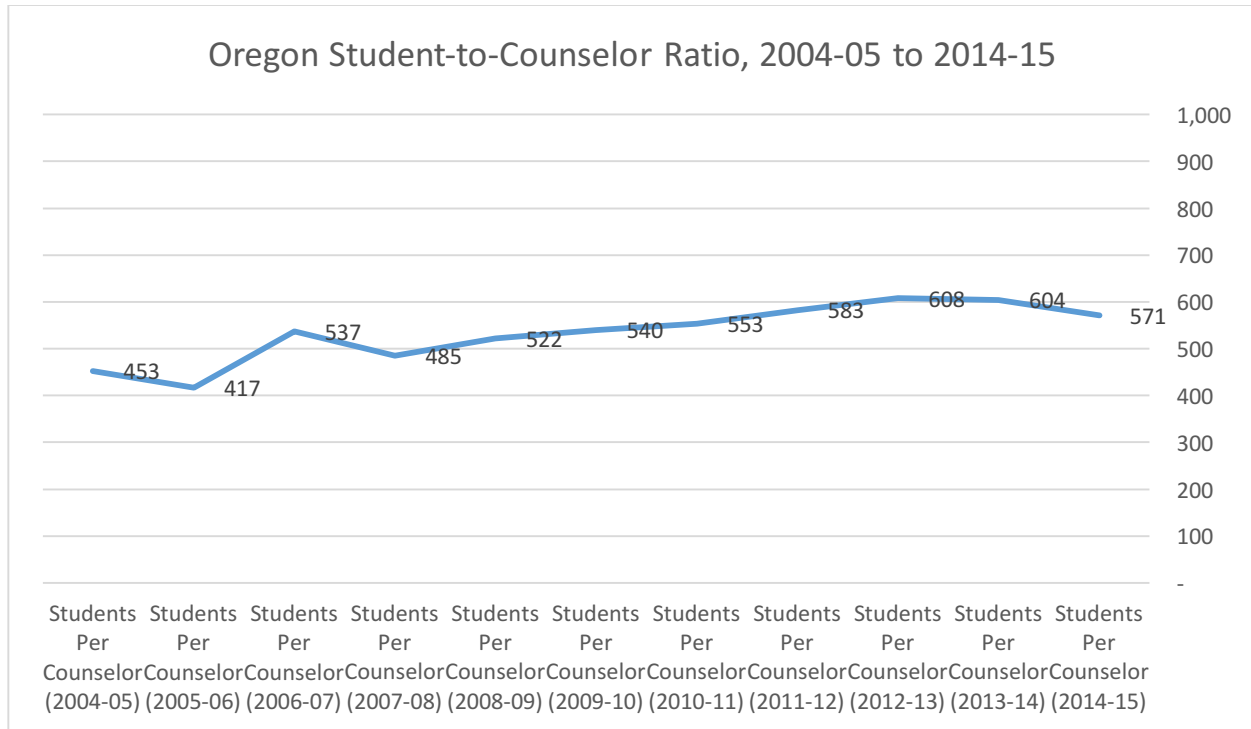
Percent Change Enrollment: **-6%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **0%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **-6%**

# Oklahoma



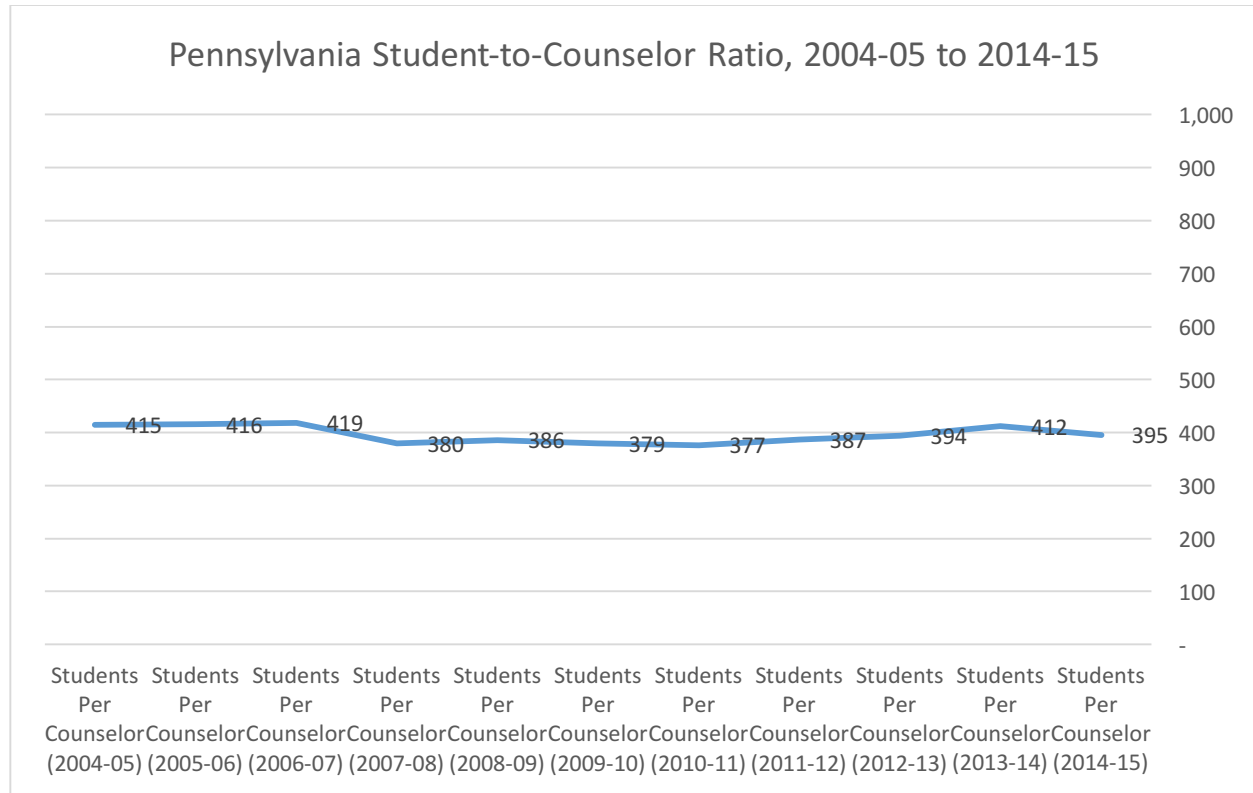
Percent Change Enrollment: +9%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +4%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +6%

# Oregon



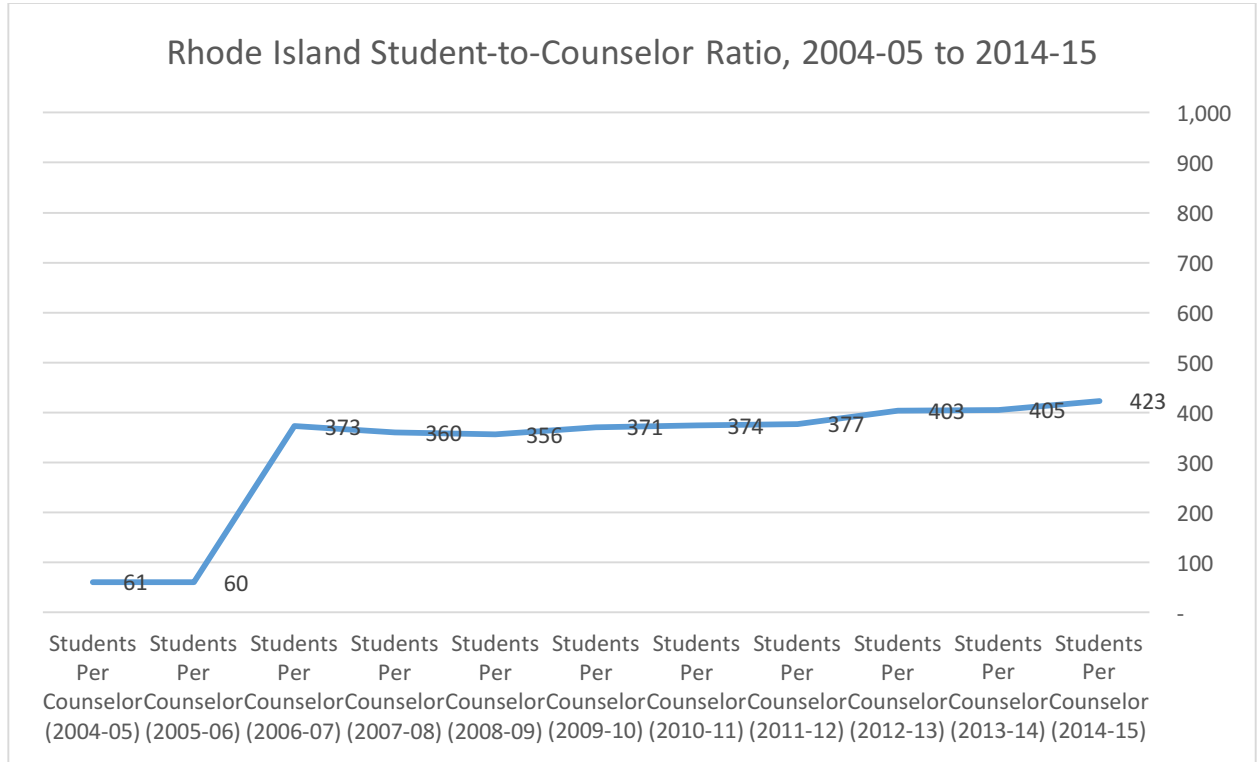
Percent Change Enrollment: +9%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: -14%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +26%

# Pennsylvania



Percent Change Enrollment: -5%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: 0%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -5%

# Rhode Island

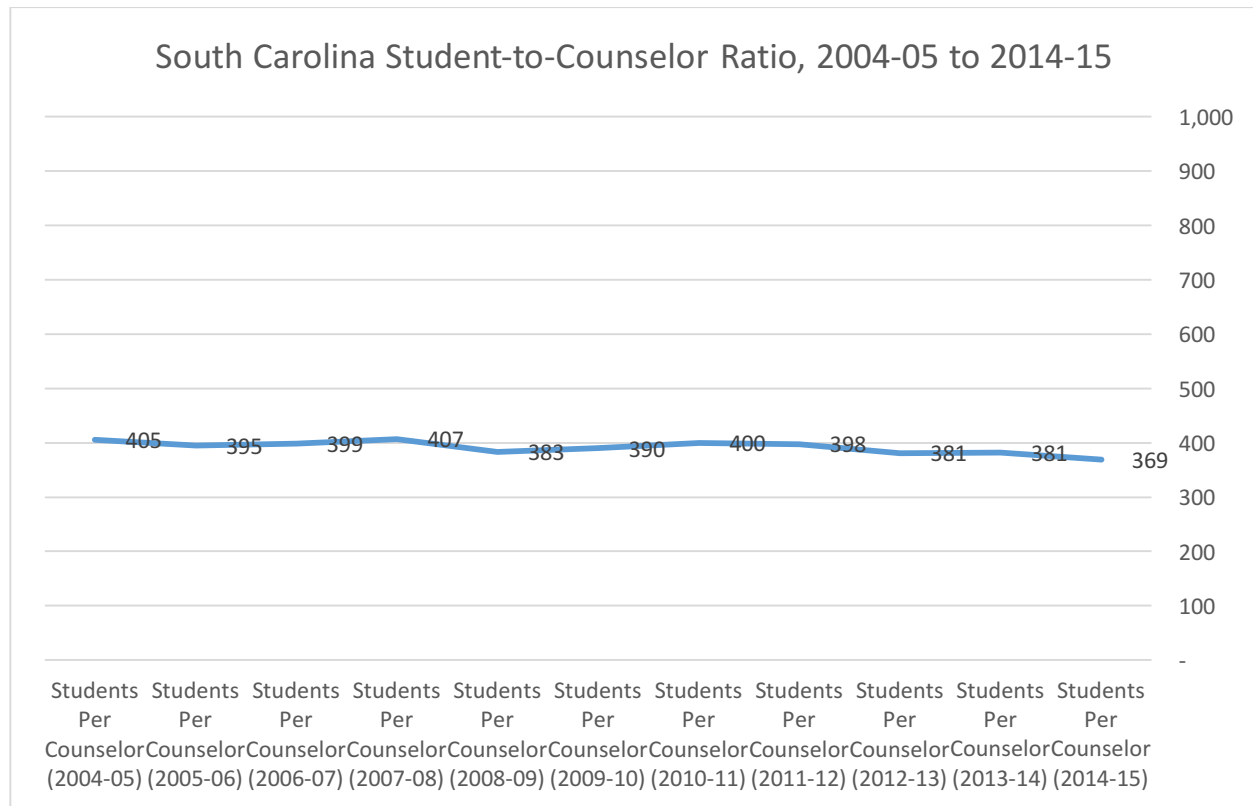


Percent Change Enrollment: **-9%**  
 Percent Change in Counselors: **-18%**  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: **14%**

*\*Note: Large fluctuations or irregular data are likely due to state reporting errors or inconsistencies.*

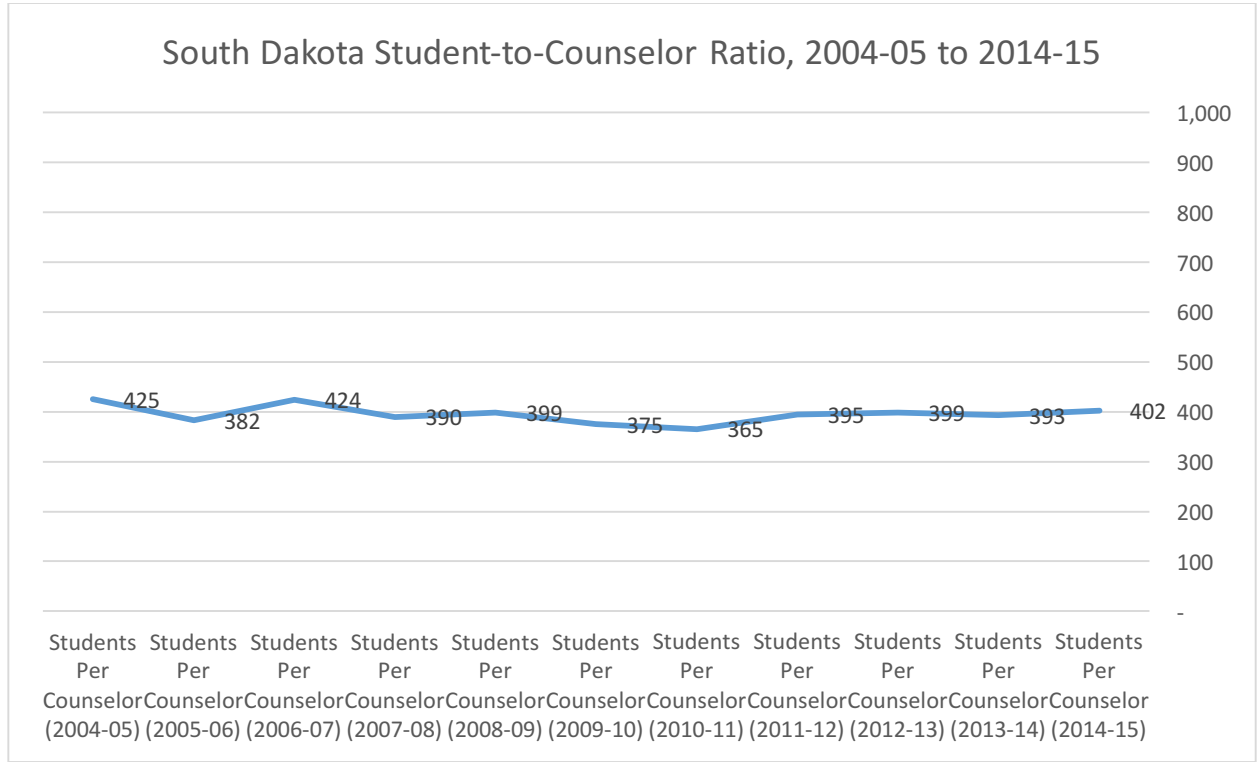


# South Carolina



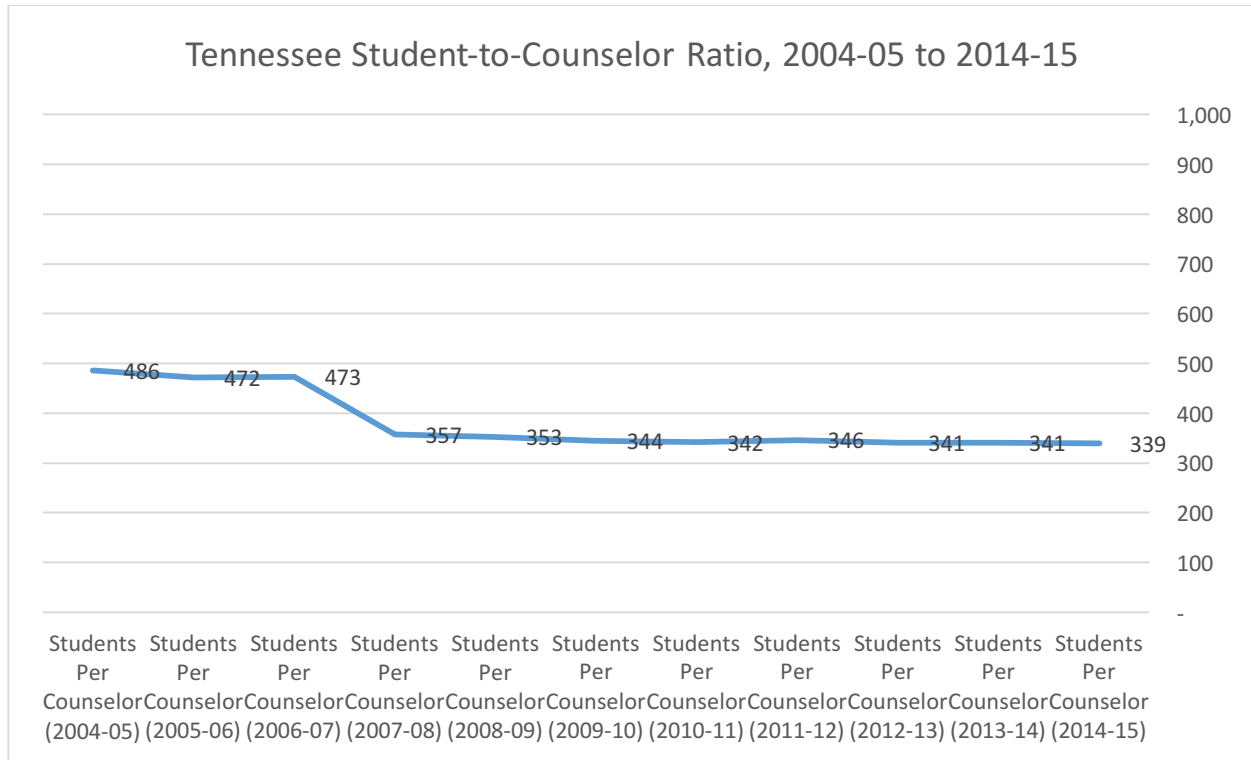
Percent Change Enrollment: +8%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +18%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -9%

# South Dakota



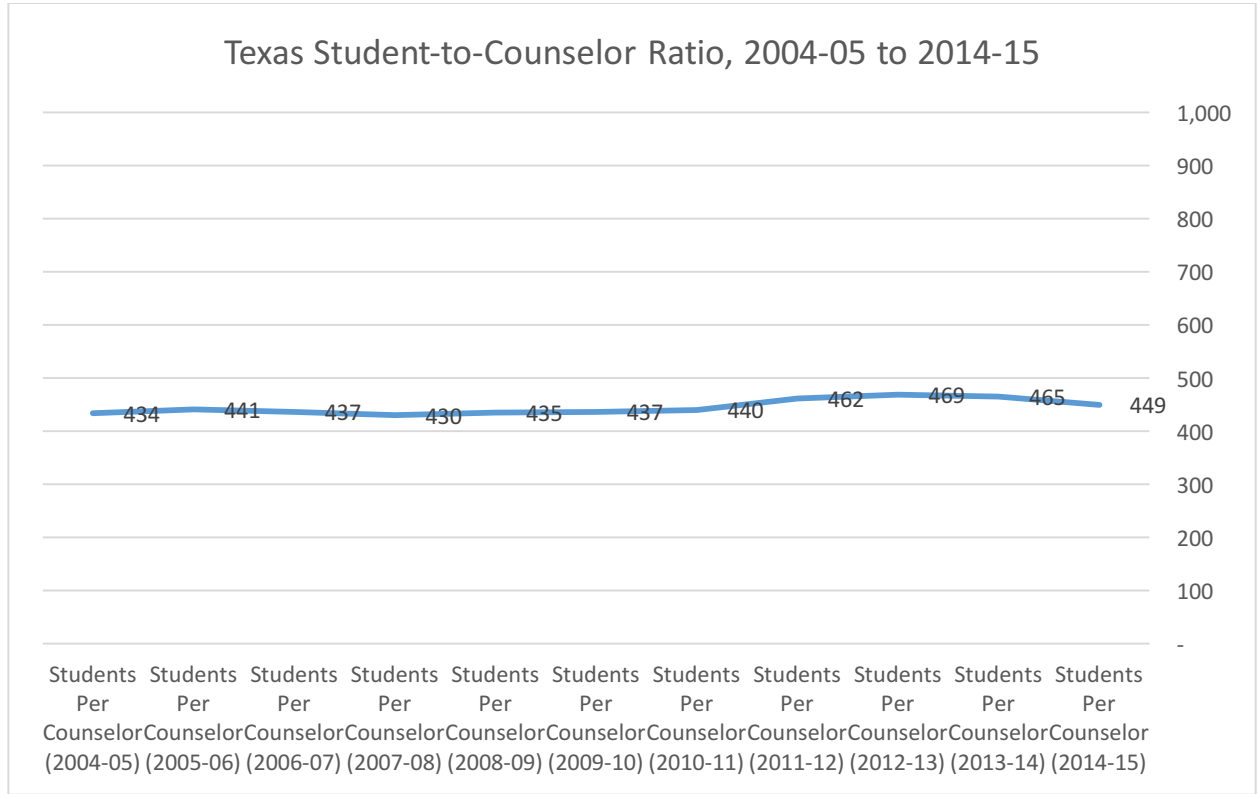
Percent Change Enrollment: +8%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +15%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -5%

# Tennessee



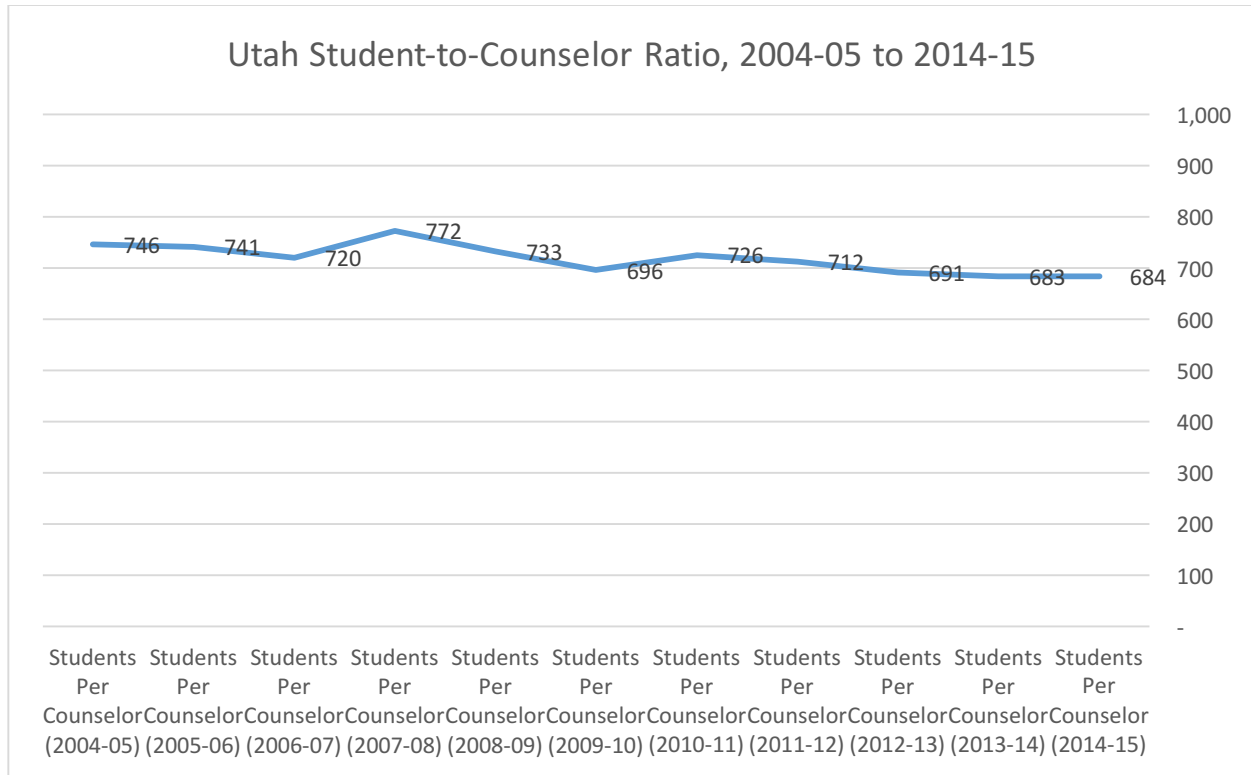
Percent Change Enrollment: +6%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +51%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -30%

# Texas



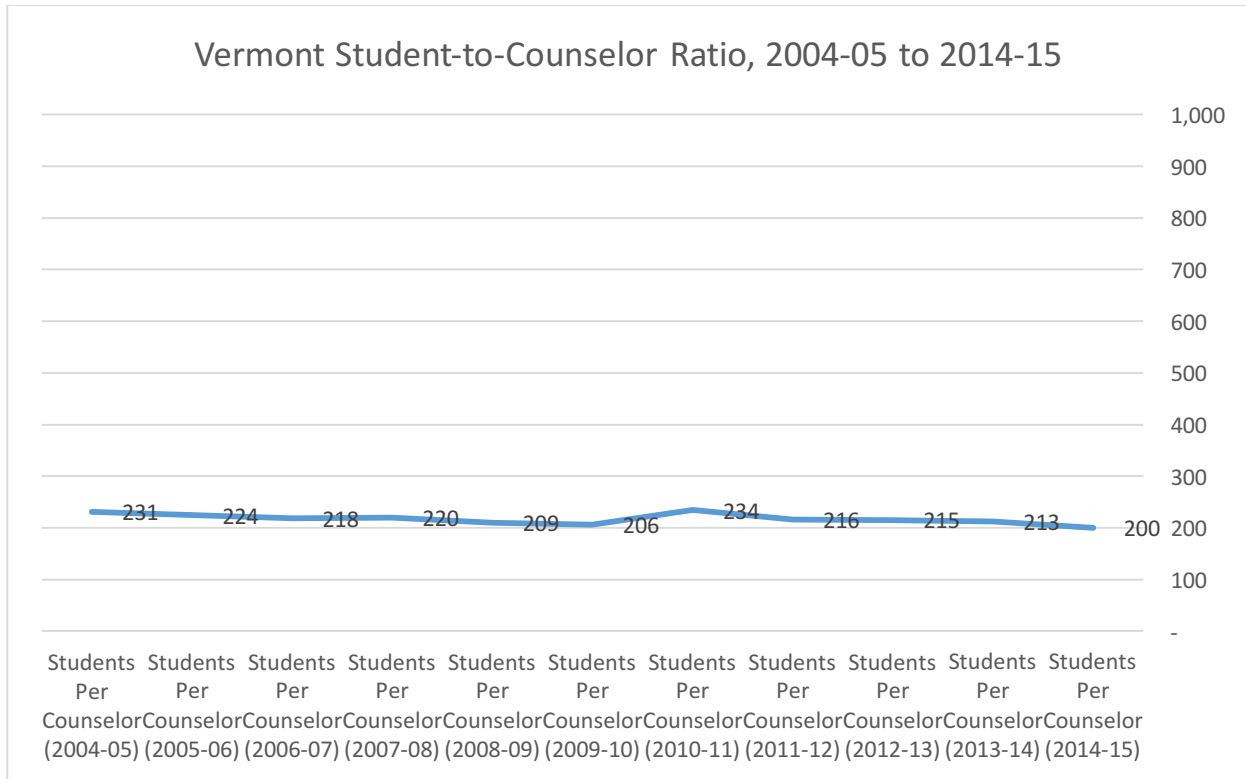
Percent Change Enrollment: +19%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +15%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +4%

# Utah



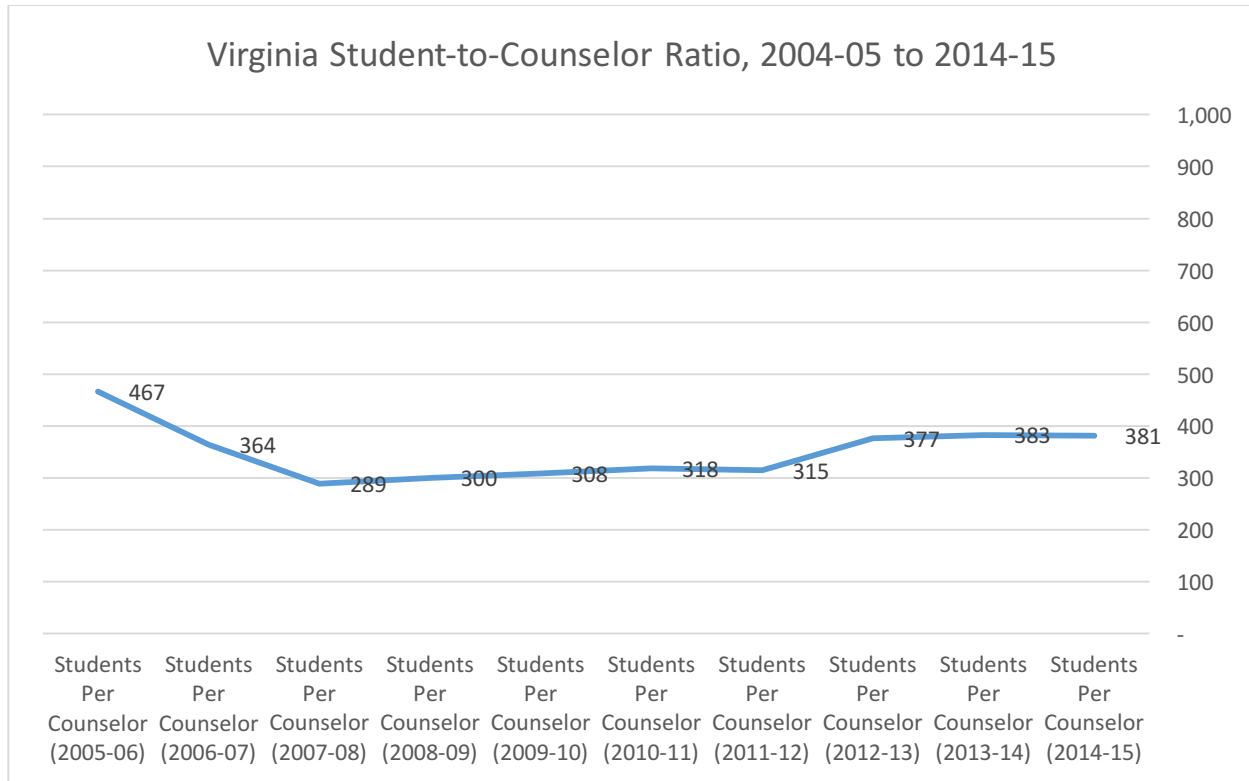
Percent Change Enrollment: +26%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +38%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -8%

# Vermont



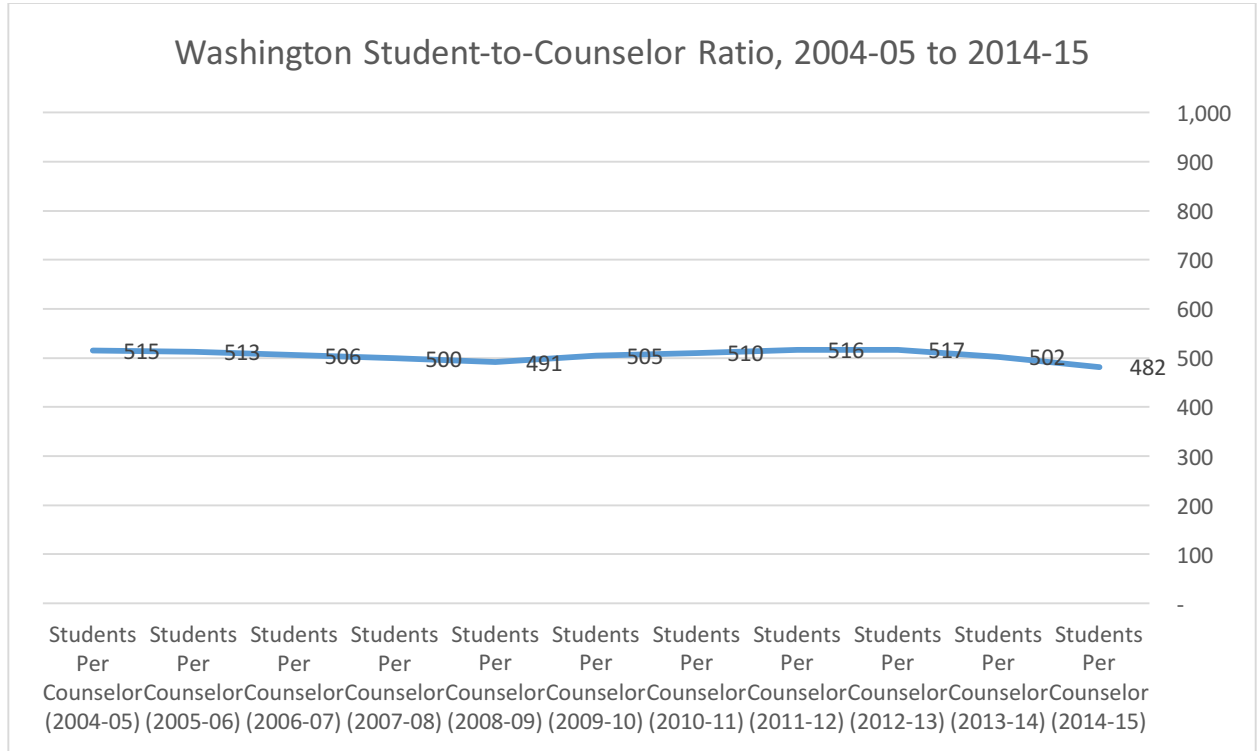
Percent Change Enrollment: -11%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +2%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -13%

# Virginia



Percent Change Enrollment: +6%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +34%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -21%

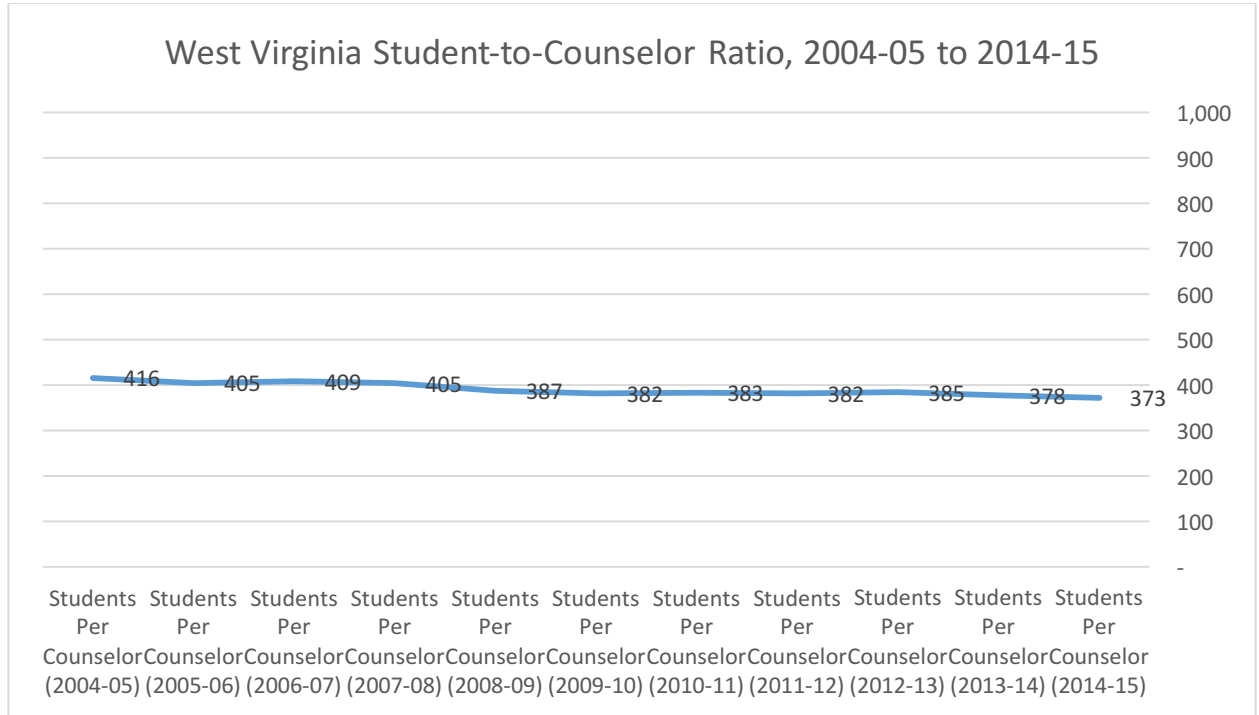
# Washington



Percent Change Enrollment: +5%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +13%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -6%

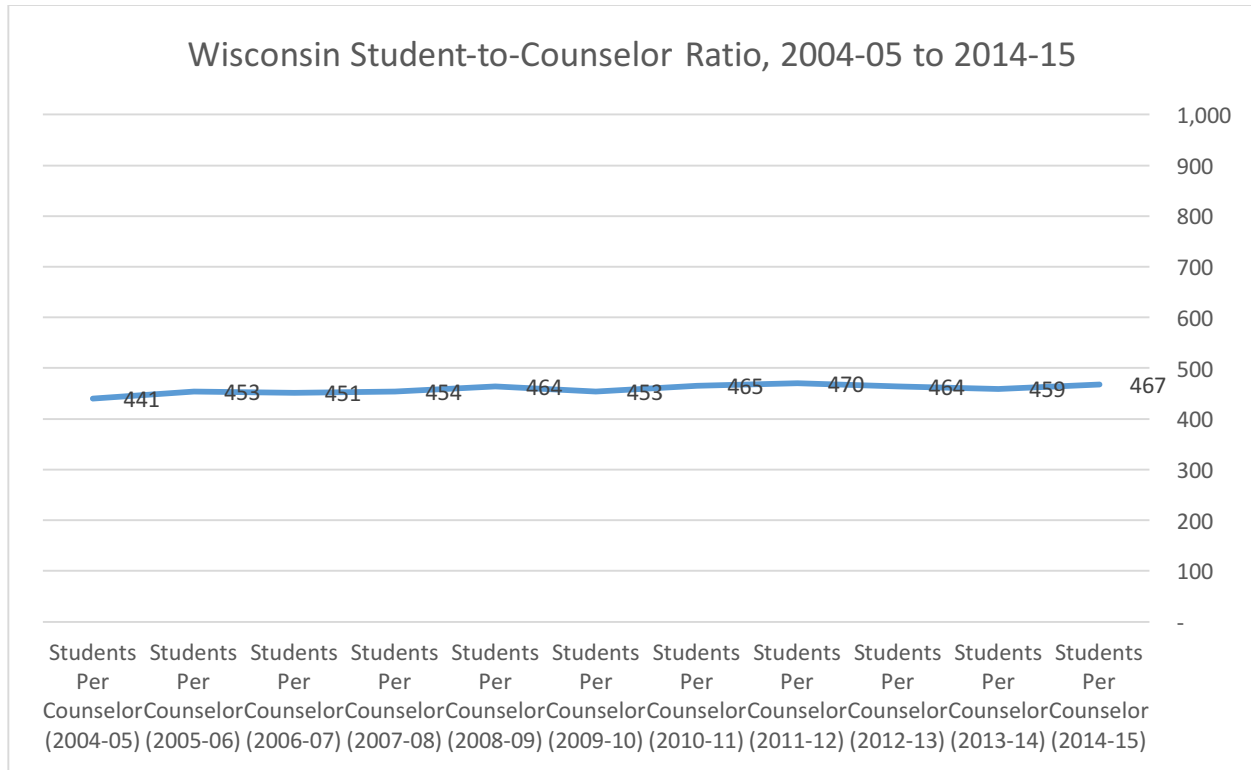


# West Virginia



Percent Change Enrollment: 0%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +12%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: -10%

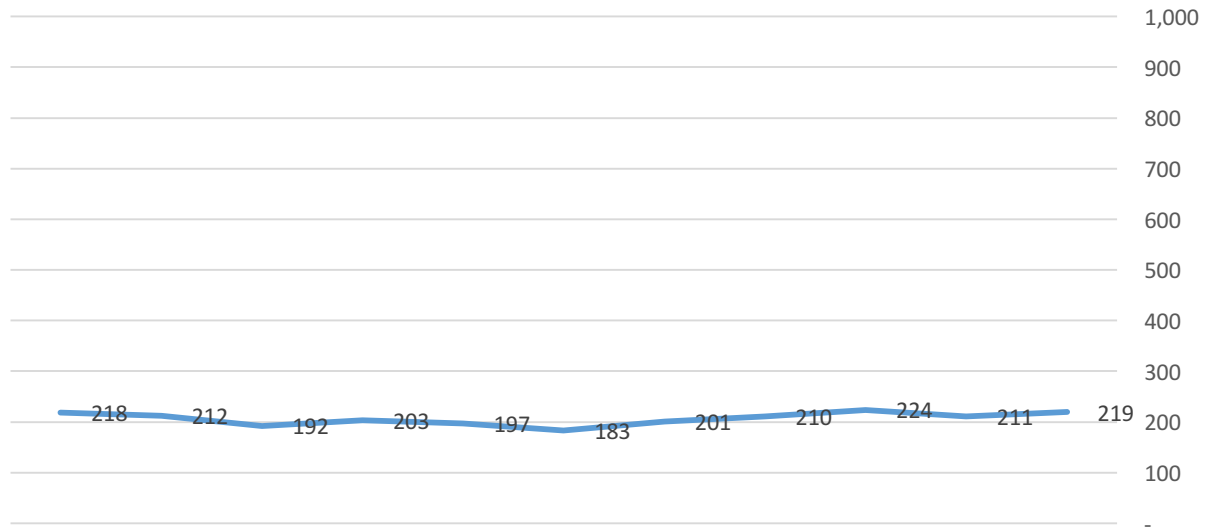
# Wisconsin



Percent Change Enrollment: +1%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: -5%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +6%

# Wyoming

Wyoming Student-to-Counselor Ratio, 2004-05 to 2014-15



Students Per Counselor (2004-05) 218  
 Students Per Counselor (2005-06) 212  
 Students Per Counselor (2006-07) 192  
 Students Per Counselor (2007-08) 203  
 Students Per Counselor (2008-09) 197  
 Students Per Counselor (2009-10) 183  
 Students Per Counselor (2010-11) 201  
 Students Per Counselor (2011-12) 210  
 Students Per Counselor (2012-13) 224  
 Students Per Counselor (2013-14) 211  
 Students Per Counselor (2014-15) 219

Percent Change Enrollment: +11%  
 Percent Change in Counselors: +10%  
 Percent Change in Student-to-Counselor Ratio: +1%



**NACAC**

National Association for  
College Admission Counseling



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