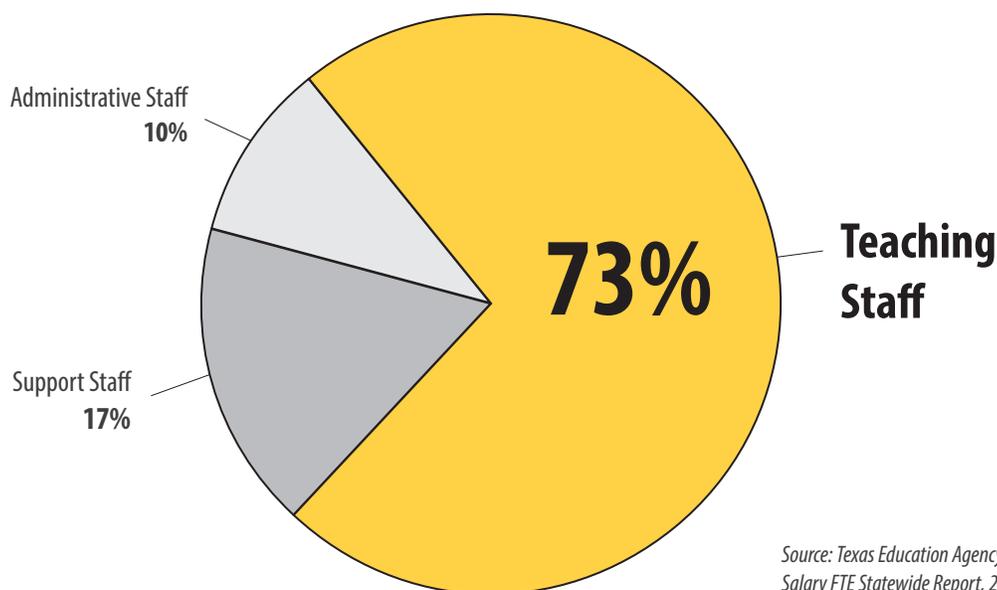


## Teacher Salaries are the Main Piece of School Budgets

Fifty-nine percent of school operating expenditures are spent on payroll salaries and benefits.<sup>1</sup> Out of money spent on professional salaries (i.e. teachers, support staff, and administration) statewide, **73% goes toward paying teachers.**<sup>2</sup>

### Teacher Pay Accounts for the Majority of Professional Salaries



Administrative salaries make up the smallest proportion of professional salaries at just **10%**.<sup>3</sup> This means public schools are operating efficiently to put the greatest salary resources toward the people directly educating students—teachers.

Unfortunately, public schools are still experiencing a squeeze on staffing from massive state budget cuts that the Legislature passed in 2011. With increasing student growth, Texas schools **need 11,000 more teachers** to reach the same student-teacher ratios from nearly a decade ago.<sup>4</sup> Improving student-teacher ratios will require additional funding.

<sup>1</sup> TXSmartSchools.org, "Texas Public Education by the Numbers."

<sup>2</sup> Texas Education Agency, PEIMS Staff Salary FTE Statewide Reports.

<sup>3</sup> Administrative salaries include school campus leadership and district office administrative positions.

<sup>4</sup> Center for Public Policy Priorities (2018, April). Staffing Levels in Schools: What the Numbers Do (and Don't) Tell Us