

Pennsylvania Department of Education statistics show new schools cost nearly twice as much as renovating/adding to existing schools

Pennsylvania Department of Education
 Approved Projects, 2003-2006*
 New Schools
 Average cost per square foot \$212.99

County	School District	Building Type	Type Work	Total Project Costs	Area	Project Cost Per Sq. Ft.
Allegheny	East Allegheny School District	Middle School	New	\$26,325,347	135,363	\$194.48
Beaver	Ambridge Area School District	High School	New	\$48,533,801	245,325	\$197.83
Beaver	Center Area School District	Elementary School	New	\$14,009,217	64,232	\$218.10
Berks	Daniel Boone Area School District	Middle School	New	\$36,803,980	206,125	\$178.55
Berks	Wilson School District	Elementary School	New	\$15,371,539	89,792	\$171.19
Blair	Altoona Area School District	Middle School	New	\$48,429,942	297,968	\$162.53
Butler	Mars Area School District	Elementary School	New	\$10,253,034	69,600	\$147.31
Cambria	Richland School District	High School	New	\$40,128,034	191,000	\$210.09
Centre	State College Area School District	Elementary School	New	\$11,221,571	62,998	\$178.13
Chester	Downingtown Area School District	Elementary School	New	\$22,856,787	86,926	\$262.95
Chester	Phoenixville Area School District	Elementary School	New	\$23,442,000	100,033	\$234.34
Chester	West Chester Area School District	High School	New	\$79,086,345	259,850	\$304.35
Cumberland	Shippensburg Area School District	Elementary School	New	\$19,501,696	100,150	\$194.72
Dauphin	Middletown Area School District	Middle School	New	\$29,171,621	173,122	\$168.50
Dauphin	Steelton-Highspire School District	Elementary School	New	\$17,348,953	124,993	\$138.80
Delaware	Chichester School District	Elementary School	New	\$20,133,557	67,620	\$297.75
Delaware	Haverford Township School District	Elementary School	New	\$15,154,516	69,120	\$219.25
Erie	Corry Area School District	Elementary School	New	\$13,773,213	85,100	\$161.85
Fayette	Uniontown Area School District	Elementary School	New	\$5,067,460	25,432	\$199.26
Franklin	Chambersburg Area School District	Elementary School	New	\$16,216,382	83,190	\$194.93
Lebanon	Annville-Cleona School District	High School	New	\$37,194,047	158,332	\$234.91
Monroe	Pocono Mountain School District	High School	New	\$49,012,528	285,750	\$171.52
Montgomery	Abington School District	Elementary School	New	\$16,328,076	73,328	\$222.67
Montgomery	Abington School District	Elementary School	New	\$15,809,460	73,328	\$215.60
Montgomery	Spring-Ford Area School District	Elementary School	New	\$22,159,741	89,825	\$246.70
Montgomery	Upper Merion School District	Middle School	New	\$49,401,742	266,588	\$185.31
Philadelphia	Philadelphia School District	Elementary/Middle School	New	\$25,917,424	102,300	\$253.35
Philadelphia	Philadelphia School District	Elementary School	New	\$10,696,276	25,390	\$421.28
Philadelphia	Philadelphia School District	High School	New	\$60,168,866	211,515	\$284.47
Schuylkill	North Schuylkill School District	Elementary School	New	\$21,485,210	104,850	\$204.91
Westmoreland	Norwin School District	Elementary School	New	\$15,915,366	75,200	\$211.64
York	South Western School District	Elementary School	New	\$14,937,902	86,600	\$172.49
York	Spring Grove Area School District	High School	New	\$57,442,887	340,350	\$168.78
Totals				\$909,298,520	4,431,295	

Average cost per square foot \$212.99

Pennsylvania Department of Education
 Approved Projects, 2003-2006*
 Additions and/or Renovations
 Average cost per square foot \$114.16

County	School District	Building Type	Type Work	Total Project Costs	Area	Project Cost Per Sq. Ft.
Adams	Bermudian Springs School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$27,760,583	201,452	\$137.80
Allegheny	Allegheny Valley School District	Elementary School/Administration offices	Addition/Renovation	\$5,691,750	84,137	\$67.65
Allegheny	Baldwin-Whitehall School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$65,015,683	395,667	\$164.32
Allegheny	Chartiers Valley School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$8,394,745	117,022	\$71.74
Allegheny	Chartiers Valley School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$7,000,226	136,274	\$51.37
Allegheny	Fox Chapel Area School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$4,128,885	78,524	\$52.58
Allegheny	Gateway School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$25,575,455	408,350	\$62.63
Allegheny	McKeesport Area School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$13,321,620	105,249	\$126.57
Allegheny	Mt Lebanon School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$8,856,587	63,996	\$138.39
Allegheny	Mt Lebanon School District	Elementary School	Renovation	\$6,182,297	51,411	\$120.25
Allegheny	Mt Lebanon School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$6,404,652	67,127	\$95.41
Allegheny	Quaker Valley School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$16,759,490	100,459	\$166.83
Allegheny	South Fayette Township School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$21,541,029	181,300	\$118.81
Armstrong	Freeport Area School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$13,565,162	81,177	\$167.11
Beaver	South Side Area School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$7,783,902	89,041	\$87.42
Berks	Antietam School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$13,010,276	103,143	\$126.14
Berks	Schuylkill Valley School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$10,339,202	188,306	\$54.91
Berks	Wilson School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$8,956,157	84,357	\$106.17
Blair	Tyrone Area School District	Elementary/Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$10,691,217	280,971	\$38.05
Bradford	Wyalusing Area School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$11,790,878	142,387	\$82.81
Bucks	Middle Bucks Institute of Technology	Area Vocational Technical School	Addition/Renovation	\$15,865,700	148,311	\$106.98
Bucks	New Hope-Solebury School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$9,682,961	73,783	\$131.24

County	School District	Building Type	Type Work	Total Project Costs	Area	Project Cost Per Sq. Ft.
Bucks	Penridge School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$29,016,074	142,165	\$204.10
Burlter	Butler Area School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$17,244,471	303,159	\$56.88
Butler	Moniteau School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$16,466,570	191,061	\$86.18
Butler	Seneca Valley School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$9,379,286	235,492	\$39.83
Carbon	Jim Thorpe Area School District	Elementary/Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$13,617,258	107,155	\$127.08
Centre	Bellefonte Area School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$35,081,432	258,499	\$135.71
Centre	Central PA Institute	Area Vocational Technical School	Addition/Renovation	\$6,777,572	137,266	\$49.38
Chester	Downingtown Area School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$6,939,330	73,106	\$94.92
Chester	Downingtown Area School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$6,021,425	77,395	\$77.80
Chester	Great Valley School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$16,698,322	77,039	\$216.75
Chester	Kennett Consolidated School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$37,579,510	219,780	\$170.99
Chester	Owen J Roberts School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$33,523,088	314,206	\$106.69
Chester	Oxford Area School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$25,299,054	142,528	\$177.50
Clearfield	Clearfield County School District	Area Vocational Technical School	Addition/Renovation	\$8,396,440	95,291	\$88.11
Clearfield	Moshannon Valley School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$3,478,716	99,130	\$74.34
Clearfield	West Branch Area School District	Elementary/Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$15,671,970	142,328	\$110.11
Columbia	Central Columbia School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$22,463,870	151,800	\$147.98
Crawford	Conneaut School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$3,478,594	65,995	\$52.71
Crawford	Conneaut School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$6,014,834	69,175	\$86.95
Crawford	Conneaut School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$11,087,783	113,232	\$97.92
Cumberland	Mechanicsburg Area School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$5,191,507	50,398	\$103.01
Cumberland	South Middleton School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$13,818,154	200,024	\$69.08
Dauphin	Central Dauphin School District	Middle School	Renovation	\$22,259,761	169,207	\$131.55
Dauphin	Central Dauphin School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$16,573,789	130,666	\$126.84
Dauphin	Lower Dauphin School District	District Administration Office	Renovation	\$390,935	10,240	\$38.18
Erie	Erie City School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$6,540,733	60,407	\$108.28
Fayette	Brownsville Area School District	Elementary/Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$20,704,156	223,263	\$92.73
Fayette	Laurel Highlands School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$8,779,709	52,783	\$166.34
Forest	Forest Area School District	Elementary/Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$11,222,240	115,160	\$97.45
Franklin	Tuscarora School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$13,262,459	118,131	\$112.27
Indiana	Indiana Area School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$18,944,592	193,672	\$97.82
Indiana	Indiana County Technology Center	Area Vocational Technical School	Renovation	\$5,025,000	79,850	\$62.93
Indiana	Penns Manor Area School District	Elementary School/Administration offices	Addition/Renovation	\$9,995,919	96,045	\$104.08
Jefferson	Jefferson County School District	Area Vocational Technical School	Addition/Renovation	\$12,939,493	153,114	\$84.51
Lancaster	Columbia Borough School District	Elementary School	Renovation	\$2,977,066	37,370	\$79.66
Lancaster	Columbia Borough School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$6,561,326	82,076	\$79.94
Lancaster	Hempfield School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$17,007,225	147,000	\$115.70
Lebanon	Cornwall-Lebanon School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$11,950,516	106,091	\$112.64
Lebanon	Eastern Lebanon School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$8,450,233	53,500	\$157.95
Lebanon	Eastern Lebanon School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$16,446,012	127,243	\$129.25
Lebanon	Lebanon School District	Elementary School	Renovation	\$9,719,893	104,420	\$93.08
Lebanon	Lebanon School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$6,253,140	56,458	\$110.76
Lebanon	Palmyra Area School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$34,073,621	277,012	\$123.00
Lehigh	Catasauqua Area School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$7,576,680	100,147	\$75.66
Lehigh	East Penn School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$30,500,926	199,834	\$152.63
Lehigh	Parkland School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$21,916,657	218,180	\$100.45
Luzerne	Hazleton Area School District	Elementary/Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$20,602,790	139,304	\$147.90
Mercer	Lakeview School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$7,084,662	74,705	\$94.84
Monroe	East Stroudsburg School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$15,889,560	74,884	\$212.19
Monroe	East Stroudsburg School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$90,965,954	360,135	\$252.59
Monroe	Pleasant Valley School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$6,038,335	46,300	\$130.42
Monroe	Pocono Mountain School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$11,779,206	145,337	\$81.05
Montgomery	Center for Technical Studies	Area Vocational Technical School	Addition/Renovation	\$20,300,759	142,284	\$142.68
Northampton	Career Institute of Technology	Area Vocational Technical School	Addition/Renovation	\$18,565,385	140,367	\$132.26
Northampton	Easton Area School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$92,329,445	561,456	\$164.45
Northampton	Northampton Area School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$46,073,579	302,850	\$152.13
Philadelphia	Philadelphia School District	Elementary School	Renovation	\$5,486,020	83,197	\$65.94
Philadelphia	Philadelphia School District	Middle School	Renovation	\$9,932,565	185,113	\$53.66
Philadelphia	Philadelphia School District	High School	Renovation	\$20,351,739	343,000	\$59.33
Philadelphia	Philadelphia School District	Elementary/Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$17,578,599	59,025	\$297.82
Philadelphia	Philadelphia School District	Elementary/Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$14,397,866	79,856	\$180.30
Philadelphia	Philadelphia School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$9,629,561	68,717	\$140.13
Philadelphia	Philadelphia School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$15,734,571	212,079	\$74.19
Philadelphia	Philadelphia School District	High School	Addition	\$83,983,569	292,229	\$287.39
Somerset	Berlin-Brothersvalley School District	Elementary/Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$10,504,536	147,599	\$71.17
Somerset	Somerset County Technology Center	Area Vocational Technical School	Addition/Renovation	\$6,190,000	80,073	\$77.30
Venango	Franklin Area School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$3,622,633	25,120	\$144.21
Venango	Valley Grove School District	Elementary School	Addition/Renovation	\$15,150,000	97,620	\$155.19
Washington	Trinity Area School District	High School	Addition/Renovation	\$28,243,522	277,301	\$101.85
Westmoreland	Norwin School District	Middle School	Addition/Renovation	\$18,171,395	138,479	\$131.22
Wyoming	Tunkhannock Area School District	Elementary School	Renovation	\$3,651,413	39,160	\$93.24
Wyoming	Tunkhannock Area School District	Elementary School	Renovation	\$5,434,347	64,400	\$84.38
Totals				\$1,583,218,809	13,541,127	

Average cost per square foot \$114.16**

* The only years for which figures are available

** Eleven Addition/Renovation projects whose cost per square foot was \$35 or less were excluded as being atypical, or the average cost would be even lower