

Why Size Matters in the Virtual Classroom

WHAT'S THE IDEAL NUMBER OF LEARNERS IN A VIRTUAL CLASSROOM?

It comes down to this: what results do you want from your virtual sessions?

If your goal is to deliver information but not necessarily enable learners to act on that information, then enroll as many people as you like.

They can watch a recording when they need to get some background information, and then move on.

But, if you want your learners to be able to apply what they've learned in a meaningful way and be able to evaluate that learning, a large class size is not the way to go. If you wouldn't do it in the "real classroom," you shouldn't do it in the virtual classroom either.

Digi-Val Study found:

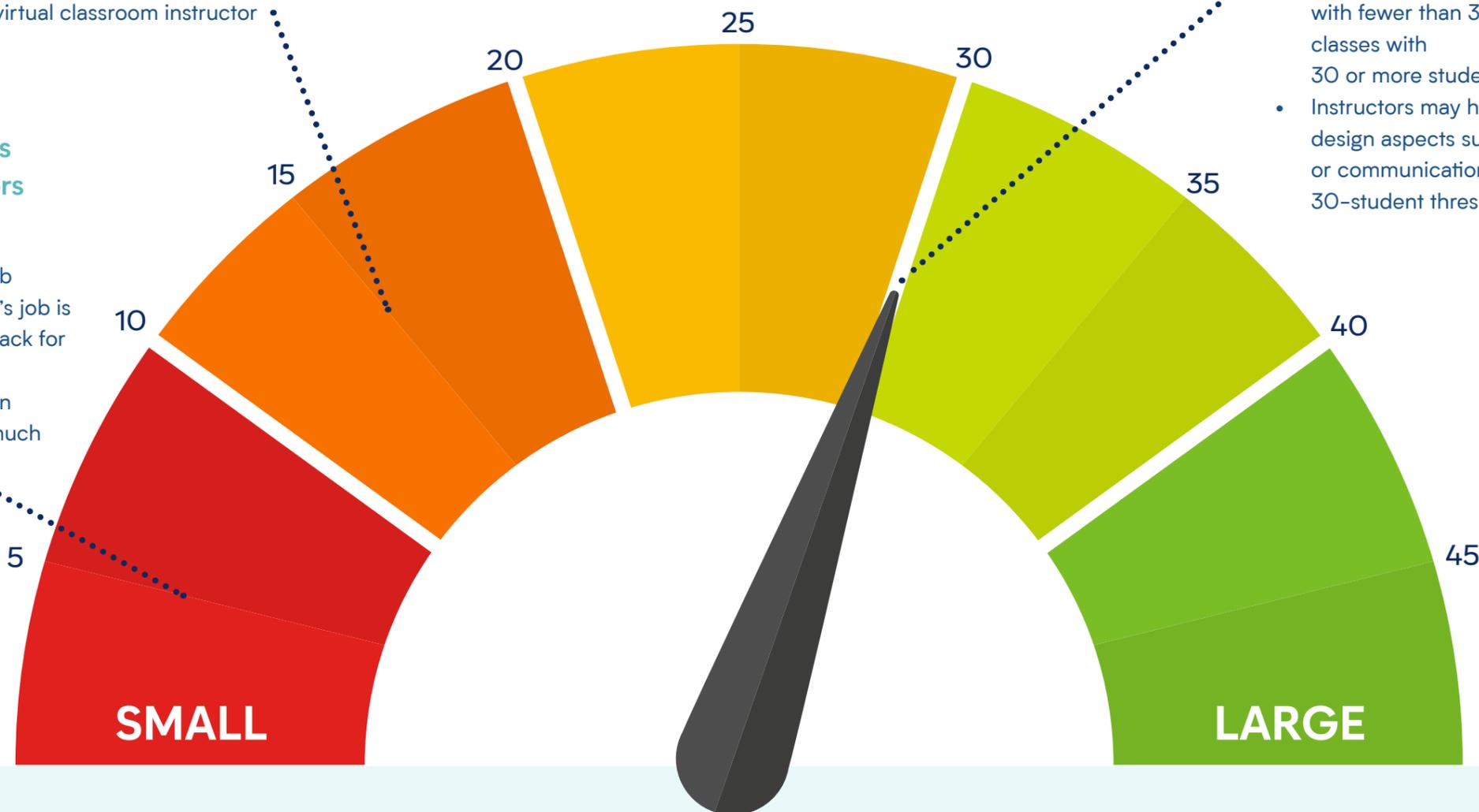
- Optimal size to achieve effective learning is 8 to 20 students per virtual classroom instructor

Theories suggest smaller is optimal because instructors are better able to:

- Use hands-on instruction in lab activities, where the instructor's job is to facilitate and provide feedback for learners.
- If a class becomes too large, an instructor cannot provide as much individualized attention.

Oregon State study found:

- Final grades in courses were higher in classes with fewer than 30 students compared to classes with 30 or more students.
- Instructors may have to change course design aspects such as learning outcomes or communication once courses exceed the 30-student threshold.



As an industry leader for 20 years, InSync relies on the latest virtual learning research data. to inform our class sizes. Our 140 producers and facilitators ensure your learners receive individualized attention and world-class Virtual Training.