

Resources: Spending

	Unadjusted per-pupil expenditures (2003)	Per-pupil expenditures (PPE), adjusted for regional cost differences (2003)				Percent of total taxable resources spent on education (2003)	Percent of students in districts with PPE at or above U.S. avg. (\$6,786) ²	Spending index (2003) ²		
		State average		Percent of U.S. average	Percent change from 2002				RANK	
		RANK								
Alabama	\$6,300	\$7,058	41	87.8	4.5	3.49	35	11.3	90.8	37
Alaska	\$9,870	\$7,791	29	96.9	3.2	3.81	23	23.5	87.6	41
Arizona	\$6,282	\$6,331	50	78.7	5.3	3.55	32	5.5	73.4	50
Arkansas	\$6,482	\$7,439	39	92.5	3.3	3.87	17	22.3	90.5	38
California	\$7,552	\$6,765	43	84.1	1.6	3.57	31	6.1	85.6	43
Colorado	\$7,384	\$7,490	37	93.2	6.4	3.13	44	29.0	93.6	29
Connecticut	\$11,057	\$9,605	6	119.4	4.5	3.86	18	99.5	100.0	6
Delaware	\$9,693	\$9,472	8	117.8	4.4	2.17	50	100.0	100.0	1
District of Columbia	\$11,847	\$11,031	1	137.2	-2.1	NA ¹	NA ¹	100.0	100.0	1
Florida	\$6,439	\$6,729	45	83.7	3.6	3.07	45	0.6	84.7	45
Georgia	\$7,774	\$8,346	20	103.8	5.3	3.85	19	62.2	98.4	14
Hawaii	\$8,100	\$8,123	25	101.0	10.9	4.09	10	100.0	100.0	1
Idaho	\$6,081	\$6,609	48	82.2	1.2	3.8	24	20.4	83.3	47
Illinois	\$8,287	\$8,030	28	99.9	4.2	3.51	34	32.9	92.5	31
Indiana	\$8,057	\$8,620	18	107.2	4.2	3.43	38	67.0	97.5	17
Iowa	\$7,574	\$8,586	19	106.8	3.2	3.83	22	54.1	97.9	15
Kansas	\$7,454	\$8,334	21	103.6	1.6	3.97	14	60.2	97.1	18
Kentucky	\$6,661	\$7,451	38	92.7	2.1	3.32	40	34.2	92.2	32
Louisiana	\$6,922	\$7,746	32	96.3	5.4	3.34	39	34.3	94.6	26
Maine	\$9,344	\$9,521	7	118.4	6.0	4.82	3	83.7	99.1	11
Maryland	\$9,153	\$8,968	13	111.5	5.3	3.79	25	95.4	99.9	10
Massachusetts	\$10,460	\$8,921	14	110.9	2.2	3.73	28	73.2	98.5	13
Michigan	\$8,781	\$8,646	17	107.5	1.5	4.6	4	55.7	96.8	21
Minnesota	\$8,109	\$8,270	22	102.8	4.8	3.74	27	45.2	95.9	24
Mississippi	\$5,792	\$6,646	47	82.6	8.2	3.84	21	5.7	83.7	46
Missouri	\$7,349	\$7,741	33	96.3	3.0	3.64	29	23.4	90.0	39
Montana	\$7,496	\$8,249	23	102.6	6.1	4.03	12	40.3	91.7	34
Nebraska	\$8,074	\$9,117	12	113.4	4.3	3.55	33	52.4	97.0	19
Nevada	\$6,092	\$6,394	49	79.5	0.2	2.89	47	2.9	82.8	48
New Hampshire	\$8,579	\$8,186	24	101.8	8.1	3.85	20	59.9	95.1	25
New Jersey	\$12,568	\$10,908	2	135.6	6.6	4.59	5	99.2	100.0	7
New Mexico	\$7,125	\$7,668	34	95.4	3.5	4	13	18.9	86.4	42
New York	\$11,961	\$10,665	3	132.6	6.6	4.21	7	100.0	100.0	5
North Carolina	\$6,562	\$7,153	40	89.0	1.0	2.69	49	13.7	90.9	36
North Dakota	\$6,870	\$8,056	27	100.2	2.4	3.24	41	42.9	94.1	28
Ohio	\$8,632	\$8,735	16	108.6	7.0	4.26	6	54.9	96.8	20
Oklahoma	\$6,092	\$6,756	44	84.0	-2.2	3.59	30	9.5	82.0	49
Oregon	\$7,491	\$7,753	31	96.4	-2.0	3.49	36	25.5	91.7	33
Pennsylvania	\$8,997	\$8,777	15	109.1	5.4	3.9	16	53.0	96.4	22
Rhode Island	\$10,349	\$9,386	10	116.7	6.7	4.14	9	73.6	97.9	16
South Carolina	\$7,040	\$7,776	30	96.7	0.3	4.04	11	35.4	94.1	27
South Dakota	\$6,547	\$7,663	35	95.3	1.9	2.97	46	32.0	90.9	35
Tennessee	\$6,118	\$6,704	46	83.4	2.7	2.71	48	3.0	84.9	44
Texas	\$7,136	\$7,570	36	94.1	5.4	3.79	26	23.2	92.7	30
Utah	\$4,838	\$5,067	51	63.0	-1.3	3.45	37	1.2	66.6	51
Vermont	\$10,454	\$10,571	4	131.5	6.6	5.21	1	89.0	99.0	12
Virginia	\$7,822	\$8,071	26	100.4	4.3	3.16	43	42.7	96.4	23
Washington	\$7,252	\$6,985	42	86.9	3.0	3.23	42	5.9	88.0	40
West Virginia	\$8,319	\$9,286	11	115.5	6.1	4.88	2	95.7	100.0	8
Wisconsin	\$9,004	\$9,414	9	117.1	4.3	4.2	8	98.1	99.9	9
Wyoming	\$8,985	\$9,811	5	122.0	3.9	3.94	15	100.0	100.0	1
U.S.	\$8,041	\$8,041	—	100.0	4.0	3.69	—	44.7	93.2	—

Note: A dash (—) in U.S. row indicates that a total was not appropriate.

¹The District of Columbia does not have a state revenue source.

²Figures were adjusted to reflect regional cost differences and weighted for student needs. Students in poverty receive a weight of 1.2, and students in special education receive a weight of 1.9. State Spending Index values were ranked to the third decimal place.

SOURCE: Editorial Projects in Education Research Center, 2006

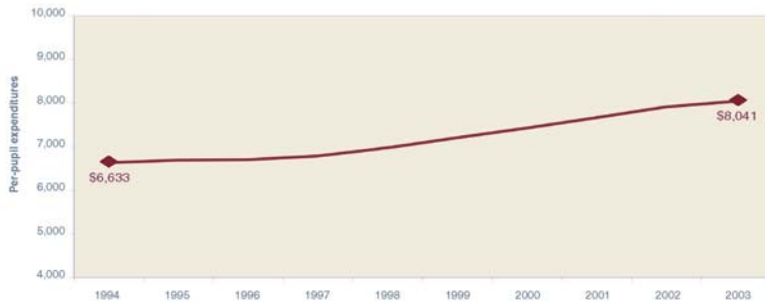
Quality Counts at 10: A Decade of Standard-Based Education
Editorial Projects in Education Research Center, 2006

Data in this table have been corrected and differ from print edition.

In the print edition of Quality Counts, data in the column titled "Percent of U.S. average" representing each state's adjusted per-pupil spending as a percent of the U.S. average were calculated incorrectly.

10-Year Trend: Per-Pupil Expenditures

Per-pupil expenditures have grown steadily over the past 10 years despite a lack of consensus about the effect of money on students' educational outcomes.



Note: Expenditures are adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Price Index-Urban from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics and are expressed in 2002-03 U.S. dollars.
SOURCE: Editorial Projects in Education Research Center, 2006

Interpretation

SPENDING INDEX: While no consensus exists about how much money is necessary to provide an "adequate" education, it is clear that districts with certain characteristics tend to need more aid. Specifically, districts enrolling more students with special needs require more money. The National Center for Education Statistics

estimates that students in poverty, for example, need 1.2 times as much funding as other students do. The Center for Special Education Finance estimates that students with disabilities need 1.9 times as much money. After adjusting per-student-spending figures for each school

district in the United States to reflect regional cost differences and student needs, the Editorial Projects in Education Research Center found that the average per-pupil expenditure in the nation for the 2002-03 school year (the most recent data available at the district level) was \$6,786. We use that amount as a benchmark against which to gauge each state's spending.

Our spending index takes into account both the proportion of students enrolled in districts with spending at the national average, and the degree to which spending is below that benchmark in districts where per-pupil expenditures fall below the national average.

Each district in which the per-pupil-spending figure (adjusted for student needs and cost differences) was equal to or exceeded the national average received a score of 1 times the number of students in the district. A district whose adjusted spending per pupil was below the national average received a score equal to its per-pupil spending divided by the national average and then multiplied by the number of pupils in the district. The spending index is the sum of district scores divided by the total number of students in the state. If all districts spent above the U.S. average, the state attained a perfect index of 100.

Example:

District Enrollment	Per-pupil spending
1 400	\$8,000
2 450	\$7,000
3 500	\$6,000
4 300	\$5,000
5 350	\$4,000
Total 2,000	

Districts 1 and 2 are the only ones providing at least an average level of spending on education (i.e., equal to or above \$6,786). Scores for those districts are equal to their respective student enrollments.

District Score
1 400
2 450

Then the number of students attending schools in these districts (850) is divided by the total state enrollment (2,000). This indicates that 42.5 percent of students in the state attend schools in districts spending at least the national average. The calculations below account for how close spending levels in the remaining three districts are to the U.S. average. Districts 3 through 5 have spending below the U.S. average, so assigning a score to each district will tell us how "far" it is from average spending across the nation. The score is equal to the district's average spending, divided by the U.S. average, and multiplied by the number of pupils in the district.

District Score
3 442.08 = (\$6,000 / \$6,786) * 500
4 221.04 = (\$5,000 / \$6,786) * 300
5 206.31 = (\$4,000 / \$6,786) * 350
Total 1,719.43 (for all five districts)
Spending index = (1,719.43 / 2,000) * 100
#

That value represents an index against which we can compare the relative spending of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. This year, values for the spending index range from 66.6 to 100.