

the condition of education 2004



INDICATOR 35

Public Elementary and Secondary Expenditures

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2004*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2004* visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004077>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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Financing for Elementary and Secondary Education

Public Elementary and Secondary Expenditures

Total expenditures per student, adjusted for inflation, increased between 1991–92 and 2000–01, with the largest increases in midsize cities and rural areas.

This indicator examines total expenditures per student in fall enrollment, adjusted for inflation, across seven location types between 1991–92 and 2000–01.¹ Total expenditures per student include all expenditures allocable to per student costs divided by fall enrollment. These allocable expenditures include current expenditures for regular school programs, interest on school debt, and capital outlay.

During this period, total expenditures per student increased by 25 percent from \$6,950 in 1991–92 to \$8,700 in 2000–01 (see supplemental table 35-1). Much of this increase occurred after 1995–96. In 2000–01, the highest total expenditures (\$9,450) were in large cities and in urban fringes of large cities (\$9,150). Expenditures per student in midsize cities (\$8,580) and in rural areas (\$8,420) were below the average, while those in urban fringes of midsize cities (\$7,900), small towns (\$7,700), and large towns (\$7,530) were the lowest. Expenditure variations may be partly attributable to variations in costs of living across different locations.

During this period, expenditures per student increased by 30 percent in rural areas and in midsize cities. Expenditures increased the least in urban fringes of midsize cities (11 percent). There was a shift in the profile of expenditures per student by location. For example, in 1991–92, expenditures per student in urban fringes of midsize cities were larger than expenditures in midsize cities and rural areas. In contrast, expenditures per student in midsize cities and rural areas in 2000–01 surpassed those in urban fringes of midsize cities.

Current expenditures per student reflect the shift observed for total expenditures by location. Overall, current expenditures per student rose 24 percent between 1991–92 and 2000–01, with the largest increases occurring in midsize cities (33 percent) and rural areas (28 percent) and the smallest increase in urban fringes of midsize cities (9 percent) (see supplemental table 35-2). As a result, current expenditures per student in midsize cities and rural areas surpassed those of urban fringes of midsize cities by 2000–01.

¹Total expenditures exclude expenditures for nonelementary and secondary programs that include community services, adult education, and other. See supplemental note 9 for further information on the accounting terms used in this indicator.

²Includes rural, within a metropolitan statistical area (MSA), and rural, outside an MSA.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Common Core of Data (CCD), "Public School District Universe Survey," 1991–92, 1992–93, and 1994–95 to 2000–01; "Public School District Financial Survey," 1991–92, 1992–93, and 1994–95 to 2000–01; and Geographic Cost of Education Indexes (GCEIs) available from the Education Finance Statistics Center (<http://nces.ed.gov/edfin/>).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- Supplemental Notes 1,3,9
- Supplemental Tables 35-1,35-2
- NCES 98–04
- NCES 2003–067, indicator 39
- NCES 2003–362
- NCES 2003–407



TOTAL EXPENDITURES PER STUDENT: Public school district expenditures per student (in constant 2000–01 dollars), by location: 1991–92, 1992–93, and 1994–95 to 2000–01



Public Elementary and Secondary Expenditures

Table 35-1. Total expenditures per student (in constant 2000–01 dollars) in fall enrollment in public school districts, by location: 1991–92, 1992–93, and 1994–95 to 2000–01

Location	Total expenditures per student ¹									GCEI adjusted expendi- tures ²	Percent change, total ex- penditures	Percent change, enrollment
	1991– 92	1992– 93	1994– 95	1995– 96	1996– 97	1997– 98	1998– 99	1999– 2000	2000– 01	1994– 95	1991–92 to 2000–01	1991–92 to 2000–01
Total³	\$6,945	\$7,148	\$7,352	\$7,318	\$7,445	\$7,697	\$8,045	\$8,377	\$8,700	\$7,268	25.3	12.0
Large city	7,730	8,061	7,685	7,566	7,644	7,910	8,503	8,867	9,452	7,156	22.3	21.7
Midsize city	6,602	6,715	7,172	7,128	7,241	7,480	7,898	8,298	8,577	7,171	29.9	-23.7
Urban fringe of a large city	7,685	7,988	7,955	7,883	7,848	8,279	8,444	8,824	9,151	7,365	19.1	115.1
Urban fringe of a midsize city	7,124	7,160	6,876	6,824	7,288	7,244	7,538	7,658	7,900	6,968	10.9	7.3
Large town	6,443	6,513	6,536	6,256	6,482	6,644	6,897	7,255	7,532	6,888	16.9	-51.2
Small town	6,422	6,608	6,612	6,483	6,856	6,887	7,259	7,567	7,697	7,175	19.8	-48.9
Rural ⁴	6,499	6,733	7,074	7,204	7,356	7,511	7,863	8,164	8,423	7,674	29.6	37.7

¹Per student expenditures are in constant 2000–01 dollars, adjusted using the Consumer Price Index (CPI). See *supplemental note 9* for information about this index.

²The Geographic Cost of Education Index (GCEI) adjusts for differences in educational costs across geographical regions of the United States. The most recent GCEIs are from 1993–94, so only data for 1994–95 are adjusted using this index.

³Total excludes school districts that have not been assigned a location.

⁴Includes rural, within a metropolitan statistical area (MSA), and rural, outside an MSA.

NOTE: Total expenditures per student in fall enrollment include all expenditures allocable to per students costs divided by fall enrollment. These allocable expenditures include current expenditures for regular school programs, interest on school debt, and capital outlay. Expenditures for nonelementary and secondary programs that include community services, adult education, and other are excluded. See *supplemental note 1* for information on location.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Common Core of Data (CCD), "Public School District Universe Survey," 1991–92, 1992–93, and 1994–95 to 2000–01; "Public School District Financial Survey," 1991–92, 1992–93, and 1994–95 to 2000–01; and Geographic Cost of Education Indexes (GCEIs) available from the Education Finance Statistics Center (<http://nces.ed.gov/edfin/>).

Public Elementary and Secondary Expenditures

Table 35-2. Current expenditures per student (in constant 2000–01 dollars) in fall enrollment in public school districts, by location: 1991–92, 1992–93, and 1994–95 to 2000–01

Location	Current expenditures per student ¹									GCEI adjusted expenditures ²	Percent change, current expenditures
	1991–92	1992–93	1994–95	1995–96	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99	1999–2000	2000–01	1994–95	1991–92 to 2000–01
Total³	\$5,871	\$6,304	\$6,185	\$6,191	\$6,328	\$6,474	\$6,701	\$6,865	\$7,268	\$6,126	23.8
Large city	6,696	7,298	6,520	6,494	6,543	6,749	7,122	7,326	7,892	6,082	17.9
Midsized city	5,555	5,924	6,073	6,123	6,286	6,417	6,663	6,986	7,401	6,088	33.2
Urban fringe of a large city	6,405	6,999	6,577	6,590	6,615	6,864	7,010	7,133	7,542	6,088	17.8
Urban fringe of a midsized city	6,042	6,361	5,734	5,725	6,102	5,953	6,173	6,293	6,559	5,824	8.5
Large town	5,427	5,816	5,664	5,429	5,689	5,730	6,033	6,181	6,477	5,967	19.3
Small town	5,425	5,779	5,664	5,540	5,855	5,860	6,146	6,275	6,598	6,155	21.6
Rural ⁴	5,462	5,818	5,964	5,983	6,152	6,266	6,464	6,608	6,974	6,489	27.7

¹Per student expenditures are in constant 2000–01 dollars, adjusted using the Consumer Price Index (CPI). See *supplemental note 9* for information about this index.

²The Geographic Cost of Education Index (GCEI) adjusts for differences in educational costs across geographical regions of the United States. The most recent GCEIs are from 1993–94, so only data for 1994–95 are adjusted using this index. For more information on the GCEI, see <http://nces.ed.gov/edfin>.

³Total excludes school districts that have not been assigned a location.

⁴Includes rural, within a metropolitan statistical area (MSA), and rural, outside an MSA.

NOTE: See *supplemental note 1* for information on location. See the Glossary for the definition of “current expenditure.”

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES, Common Core of Data (CCD), “Public School District Universe Survey,” 1991–92, 1992–93, and 1994–95 to 2000–01 and “Public School District Financial Survey,” 1991–92, 1992–93, and 1994–95 to 2000–01.