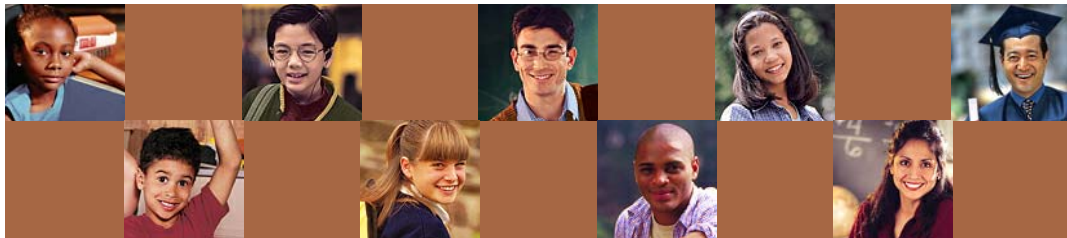


the condition of education 2005



INDICATOR 39

Public Effort to Fund Elementary and Secondary Education

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2005*. 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 2005*, visit the NCES website (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.sap?pubid=2005094>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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Financing for Elementary and Secondary Education

Public Effort to Fund Elementary and Secondary Education

After changing little throughout most of the 1990s, public revenue for elementary and secondary education as a percentage of gross domestic product increased each year from 1997–98 to 2001–02.

Two ways in which public fiscal support for education can be assessed include measuring the level of public investment per student and measuring the level of public investment in relation to the total value of goods and services produced in the domestic economy. This indicator discusses both measures, using total public revenues for education from the local, state, and federal levels as the level of public investment. The first measure is the average level of public resources devoted to the education of each public school student. The second measure is total public revenue for education expressed as a percentage of the gross domestic product (GDP). It can be interpreted as the public's share of total national economic resources devoted to elementary and secondary education, or as the level of governmental investment in elementary and secondary education in relation to the total production of goods and services in the United States.

Public revenue per student at the elementary and secondary levels generally increased between the 1969–70 and 2001–02 school years in constant dollars (see supplemental table 39-1). One exception to this pattern occurred from 1978–79 to

1981–82, when public revenues per student declined by 3 percent. The general increases in revenue per student over recent decades took place in both periods of declining and rising enrollments.

The changes in public revenue per student do not parallel shifts in the index of governmental effort for elementary and secondary education. After fluctuating in the early half of the 1970s, public revenue for elementary and secondary education as a percentage of GDP decreased over the next 9 years (see supplemental table 39-2). Since the mid-1980s public revenue for elementary and secondary education as a percentage of GDP has generally increased. After first declining and then increasing, public revenue as a percentage of GDP, was of similar magnitude in 2001–02 as it was in 1969–70 (4.08 and 3.98 respectively). Hence, while public revenues per student increased substantially from 1969–70 to 2001–02 (109 percent), public revenue as a percentage of GDP did not.

For comparisons of expenditures for elementary and secondary education in the United States with those of other countries, see NCES 2004–077, *indicator 36*.

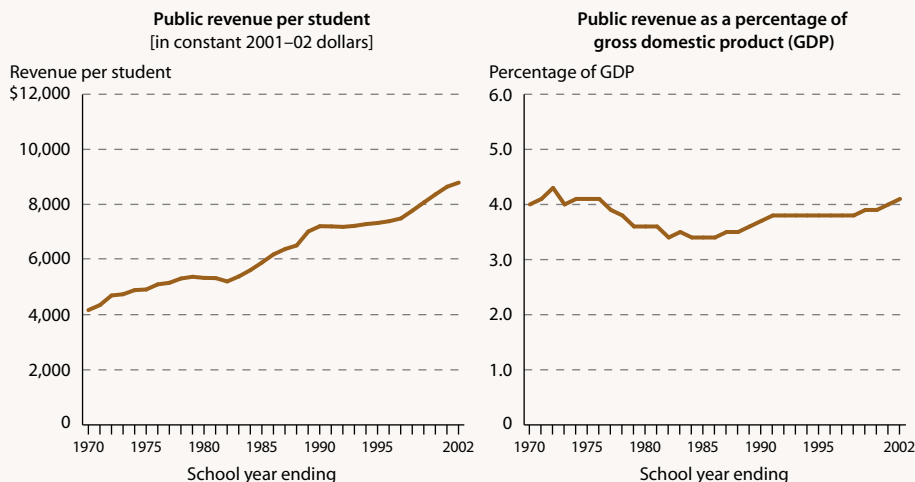
NOTE: Revenues are in constant 2001–02 dollars, adjusted using the Consumer Price Index (CPI). See *supplemental note 9* for information about the CPI. Public revenue is measured by total revenue received by school districts providing public elementary and secondary education. Elementary and secondary enrollment includes pupils in local public school systems.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, previously unpublished tabulation (November 2004); U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). (2004). *Digest of Education Statistics 2003* (NCES 2005–025), tables 3 and 156 and (forthcoming) *Digest of Education Statistics 2004* (NCES 2005–079), table 156; U.S. Department of Education, NCES, *Statistics of State School Systems and Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education*, Common Core of Data (CCD), "National Public Education Financial Survey" (NPEFS), 1987–88 to 2001–02.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
 Supplemental Notes 3, 9
 Supplemental Tables 39-1, 39-2
 NCES 2004–077, *indicator 36*
 Indicator 3



PUBLIC EFFORT: Indicators of public effort to fund elementary and secondary education: 1969–70 to 2001–02



Public Effort to Fund Elementary and Secondary Education

Table 39-1. Total public revenue, fall enrollment, and public revenue per student in elementary and secondary schools: 1969–70 to 2001–02

[In constant 2001–02 dollars]			
School year ending	Total public revenue (in billions of dollars)	Fall enrollment (in millions)	Public revenue per student in fall enrollment
1970	\$190	45.6	\$4,170
1971	200	45.9	4,351
1972	217	46.1	4,701
1973	217	45.7	4,745
1974	223	45.4	4,896
1975	222	45.1	4,918
1976	229	44.8	5,105
1977	229	44.3	5,161
1978	232	43.6	5,317
1979	229	42.6	5,380
1980	222	41.7	5,339
1981	218	40.9	5,332
1982	209	40.0	5,211
1983	213	39.6	5,392
1984	221	39.3	5,622
1985	231	39.2	5,899
1986	244	39.4	6,194
1987	254	39.8	6,388
1988	261	40.0	6,519
1989	282	40.2	7,025
1990	293	40.5	7,218
1991	297	41.2	7,211
1992	302	42.0	7,193
1993	310	42.8	7,230
1994	317	43.5	7,294
1995	324	44.1	7,336
1996	332	44.8	7,400
1997	342	45.6	7,500
1998	359	46.1	7,784
1999	376	46.5	8,083
2000	393	46.9	8,377
2001	408	47.2	8,653
2002	420	47.7	8,802

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. Revenues are in constant 2001–02 dollars, adjusted using the Consumer Price Index (CPI). See *supplemental note 9* for information about the CPI. Public revenue is measured by total revenue received by school districts providing public elementary and secondary education. Elementary and secondary enrollment includes pupils in local public school systems. See *supplemental note 3* for more information about the Common Core of Data (CCD).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). (2004). *Digest of Education Statistics 2003* (NCES 2005–025), tables 3 and 156 and (forthcoming) *Digest of Education Statistics 2004* (NCES 2005–079), table 156; U.S. Department of Education, NCES, *Statistics of State School Systems and Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education*, Common Core of Data (CCD), “National Public Education Financial Survey” (NPEFS), 1987–88 to 2001–02.

Public Effort to Fund Elementary and Secondary Education

Table 39-2. Gross domestic product (GDP), total public revenue in elementary and secondary schools, and total public revenue in elementary and secondary schools as a percentage of GDP: 1969–70 to 2001–02

[In current dollars]

School year ending	Gross domestic product (in billions of dollars)	Total public revenue for education (in billions of dollars)	Total public revenue as a percentage of GDP
1970	\$1,013	\$40	3.98
1971	1,080	45	4.12
1972	1,177	50	4.25
1973	1,311	52	3.98
1974	1,439	58	4.05
1975	1,561	64	4.13
1976	1,739	71	4.10
1977	1,917	75	3.93
1978	2,151	81	3.79
1979	2,436	88	3.61
1980	2,679	97	3.62
1981	2,961	106	3.58
1982	3,201	110	3.44
1983	3,364	118	3.49
1984	3,749	126	3.36
1985	4,078	137	3.37
1986	4,349	149	3.43
1987	4,586	159	3.46
1988	4,917	170	3.45
1989	5,305	192	3.62
1990	5,658	209	3.69
1991	5,888	223	3.79
1992	6,154	235	3.81
1993	6,505	248	3.81
1994	6,854	260	3.80
1995	7,246	273	3.77
1996	7,589	288	3.79
1997	8,058	305	3.79
1998	8,524	326	3.82
1999	8,996	347	3.86
2000	9,571	373	3.90
2001	9,992	401	4.02
2002	10,286	420	4.08

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. GNP and total public revenue are in current dollars and have not been adjusted for the effects of inflation. Public revenue is measured by total revenue received by school districts providing public elementary and secondary education. See *supplemental note 3* for more information about the Common Core of Data (CCD).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, and previously unpublished tabulation (November 2004); U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). (2004). *Digest of Education Statistics 2003* (NCES 2005–025), tables 3 and 156 and (forthcoming) *Digest of Education Statistics 2004* (NCES 2005–079), table 156; U.S. Department of Education, NCES, *Statistics of State School Systems and Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education*, Common Core of Data (CCD), "National Public Education Financial Survey" (NPEFS), 1987–88 to 2001–02.