



Where We Stand: 8th Edition

White Paper 2: School Resources

November 28, 2018

This white paper explores financial resources for schools in the St. Louis region, of which there are two sides: expenditures and revenues. As with other topics explored in *Where We Stand*, the St. Louis region often ranks near the middle of the peer regions on many of the measures explored in this section. However, there are some areas in this section in which the region stands out.

On the expenditures side, the St. Louis region ranks close to the national and peer averages in terms of total school spending per student, but has relatively high levels of administrative spending per student, particularly administrative spending on central offices. School spending is relatively even across the region's richest and poorest school districts (based on the median household income), however there are key distinctions with how school funds are spent. Poorer districts in the region tend to spend more on administrative expenses and support services, whereas wealthier districts tend to spend more on areas such as instruction and building construction.

On the revenue side, similar to expenditures, the distribution of school funding is relatively even across the richest and poorest school districts. This is thanks, in part, to the existence of state and federal funding, which allocates more funding for districts with lesser incomes. However, over the last decade, state funding for the poorest districts in the region has actually declined, and districts in the St. Louis region are becoming increasingly reliant on local sources of funding. The percentage of school funding that comes from local sources of revenue, such as property taxes, is above the national average in St. Louis. State funding for schools, meanwhile, is low relative to the peer regions.

Schools are often evaluated by the amount of per pupil spending. While per pupil spending is not the sole factor contributing to a student’s success, it is found to be important.

Greater per pupil spending can be an indication of a more quality education since experienced teachers, up-to-date computers, labs, textbooks, and nicer facilities all come with costs. However, greater school spending may also be an indication of greater need. Schools with a higher percentage of students living in poverty, with limited English proficiency, or with disabilities receive more financial support from the state and federal government and therefore tend to spend more per pupil (Ladd and Loeb, 2013).

Regardless, more school spending per pupil has been linked with several important long-term outcomes in adulthood, including higher educational attainment, higher wages, and reduced poverty (Jackson, Johnson, and Persico, 2016). As shown in Table 1, schools in the St. Louis area spent an average of around \$13,000 per student during the 2015-2016 school year. This level of spending is close to the national rate and ranks 20th among the peer regions.

“More school spending per pupil has been linked with several important long-term outcomes in adulthood, including higher educational attainment, higher wages, and reduced poverty.”

**Table 1
Education Spending**

Total spending per pupil, 2015-2016

1	New York	26,092
2	Hartford	22,032
3	Philadelphia	21,716
4	Buffalo	21,411
5	Pittsburgh	19,422
6	Boston	19,006
7	Cleveland	17,144
8	Chicago	16,968
9	Providence	16,919
10	Washington, D.C.	16,194
11	Minneapolis	15,859
12	Baltimore	15,737
13	New Orleans	15,427
14	Seattle	14,879
15	San Francisco	14,775
16	San Jose	14,627
17	Columbus	14,597
18	Los Angeles	14,079
	United States	13,928
19	Milwaukee	13,902
20	St. Louis	13,479
21	Detroit	13,440
22	Cincinnati	13,317
23	Portland	13,287
24	San Diego	13,256
25	Austin	12,928
26	Riverside	12,891
27	Sacramento	12,691
28	Kansas City	12,150
29	Louisville	12,137
30	Houston	11,835
31	Virginia Beach	11,730
32	Dallas	11,546
33	Indianapolis	11,544
34	Atlanta	11,338
35	San Antonio	11,338
36	Denver	11,295
37	Richmond	10,930
38	Birmingham	10,456
39	Tampa	10,372
40	Raleigh	10,336
41	Miami	10,142
42	Nashville	10,076
43	Charlotte	9,978
44	Memphis	9,944
45	Orlando	9,938
46	Jacksonville	9,480
47	Las Vegas	9,452
48	Oklahoma City	8,811
49	Phoenix	8,377
50	Salt Lake City	8,129

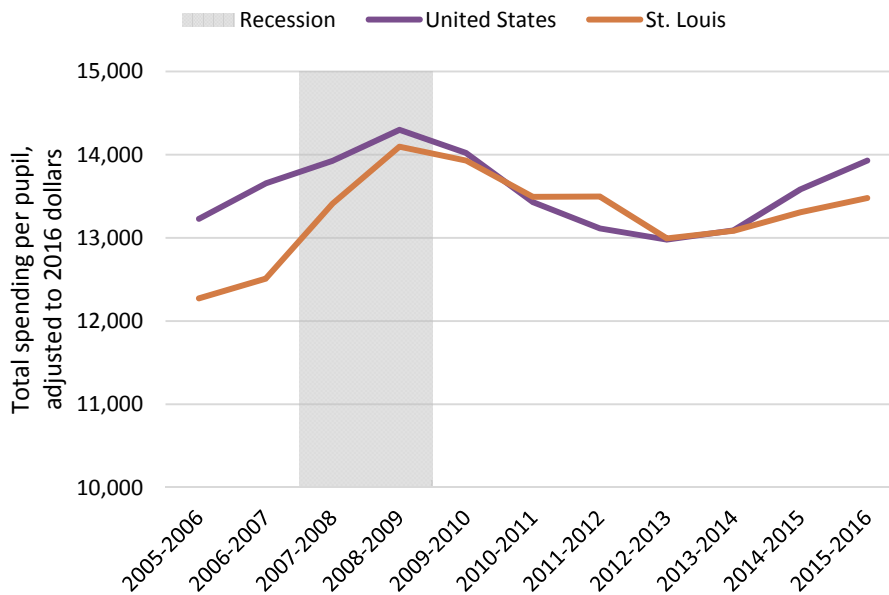
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

Over the last decade, per pupil spending has fluctuated both locally and nationally. This can be seen in Figure 1. In the years leading up to the last recession, and through it, St. Louis saw strong growth in per pupil spending. Between the 2005-2006 and 2008-2009 school years, per pupil spending increased by around 15 percent in the MSA and about 8 percent nationally, after accounting for inflation.

Following the recession, however, per pupil spending in the St. Louis region waned, experiencing a decline of around 4 percent between 2008-2009 and 2015-2016. Nevertheless, in comparison with 2005-2006 levels, per pupil spending in 2015-2016 was still higher by around 10 percent in St. Louis. As shown in Table 2, this is one of the largest increases in per pupil spending over the last decade, ranking 12th, and is about twice as much as the national increase in per pupil spending.

Figure 1: Education Spending

St. Louis MSA and the United States,
2005-2006 to 2015-2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances; Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Table 2
Change in
Education Spending**

Percent change in dollars per pupil, 2005-2006 to 2015-2016, adjusted to 2016 dollars

1	Hartford	29.7
2	Chicago	26.0
3	Seattle	26.0
4	New York	19.8
5	Pittsburgh	18.7
6	Buffalo	17.4
7	Cleveland	15.8
8	Portland	15.8
9	Philadelphia	14.4
10	Baltimore	10.7
11	Boston	10.5
12	St. Louis	9.8
13	Minneapolis	9.8
14	Providence	9.6
15	San Jose	8.3
16	Los Angeles	8.0
17	Louisville	7.1
18	Riverside	6.3
19	San Francisco	6.0
20	Columbus	5.9
United States		5.3
21	Salt Lake City	5.1
22	Houston	4.8
23	Nashville	3.1
24	Milwaukee	1.9
25	Kansas City	1.1
26	Washington, D.C.	0.1
27	Virginia Beach	-0.3
28	New Orleans	-0.9
29	Austin	-1.3
30	Sacramento	-1.3
31	San Diego	-3.0
32	Cincinnati	-3.2
33	Dallas	-3.6
34	Oklahoma City	-3.7
35	Memphis	-4.2
36	Richmond	-4.5
37	Charlotte	-4.9
38	San Antonio	-5.0
39	Tampa	-6.2
40	Denver	-6.8
41	Jacksonville	-7.3
42	Atlanta	-7.7
43	Raleigh	-8.0
44	Birmingham	-9.1
45	Detroit	-10.6
46	Orlando	-12.9
47	Indianapolis	-15.9
48	Phoenix	-16.0
49	Las Vegas	-19.4
50	Miami	-21.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances; Bureau of Labor Statistics

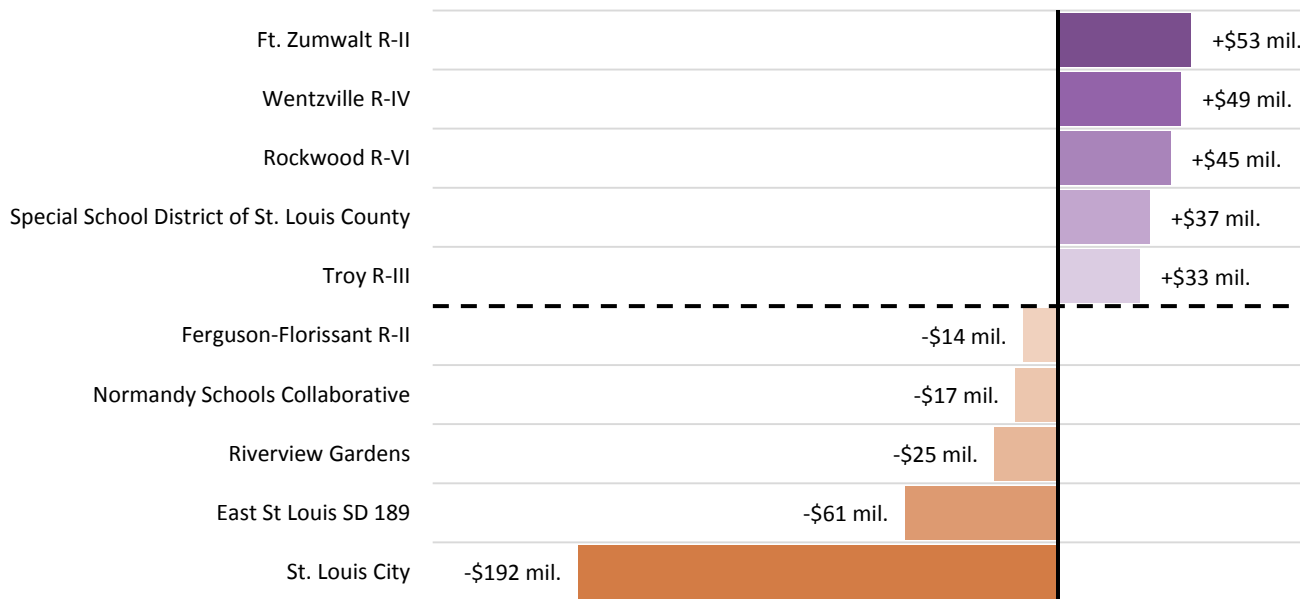
Changes in Spending within the St. Louis Region

Within the St. Louis region, districts with the biggest increases in overall spending tend to be in areas that have seen the fastest population growth (see Figure 2). Increases in total school spending from the 2005-2006 to 2015-2016 school years were greatest in Troy, Rockwood, Wentzville, and Fort Zumwalt. In St. Louis County, the Special School District also saw a sizeable increase in overall spending, increasing expenditures from around \$360 million in 2005-2006 to nearly \$400 million in 2015-2016 (adjusted for inflation).

Many of the districts with the biggest decreases in total spending also experienced declining enrollment. Many of these districts are also at the forefront of the region’s biggest challenges (Vision for Children at Risk, 2017). Declines in overall spending were greatest in the following school districts: Ferguson-Florissant, Normandy, Riverview Gardens, East St. Louis, and in St. Louis Public Schools (SLPS). The decline in spending within SLPS also coincides with many changes over the last decade, including the proliferation of charter school districts within the city. This is discussed in more detail on page 21.

Figure 2: Difference in Total Spending

Districts with the biggest increases and decreases in total spending in the St. Louis MSA, 2005-2006 to 2015-2016, adjusted to 2016 dollars



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances; Bureau of Labor Statistics

It not only matters how much schools spend; it also matters how the money is spent. Research suggests that emphasizing spending on certain areas, over others, can positively affect educational outcomes. As one researcher put it, “how money is spent affects what takes place in the classroom, which, in turn, affects students’ learning” (Elliot, 1998). However, what is unclear (and also the subject of some debate) is where exactly education spending can be most effective. Adding to the muddiness, the most effective use of school funding also varies to some extent by school and grade level (Odden and Picus, 2000).

Despite these complications, researchers have found patterns between certain types of school spending and student outcomes. In particular, research finds that increased spending on instruction and on areas that support instruction tend to correspond with improved educational outcomes. In one example, a 1997 study published in the journal *Sociology of Education* found that higher levels of instructional spending can positively influence educational outcomes, especially when such spending leads to smaller class sizes (Wenglinsky, 1997). A year later, the same journal published a paper with findings that educational outcomes improve when schools spend more on areas that enhance or improve classroom instruction. For example, higher levels of spending on education equipment, such as lab equipment, can enhance teacher effectiveness, particularly in subjects such as math or science. School spending on instructional support or teacher training were also linked with improved student outcomes (Elliott, 1998).

Some areas of school spending appear to have a lesser impact on student outcomes. In his 1997 paper, Harold Wenglinsky found that “neither spending on capital outlays nor spending on school-level administration has an impact on students’ achievement,” although, of course, some argue otherwise (Wenglinsky, 1997).

Categories of School Spending in St. Louis

The data on school finances divides expenditures according its numerous purposes. Some of the major categories include expenditures on instruction, administrative offices, student support services, instructional support services, capital spending, and debt.

Among these categories, spending on instruction, administrative offices, and support services are broadly categorized as curriculum spending. In the St. Louis region, curriculum spending accounts for over 80 percent of total school expenditures, which translates to around \$11,000 per student. As shown in Table 3, this level of spending is close to the national average and ranks in the upper half of the peer regions. Among the various subcategories of curriculum spending, the St. Louis region is close to the national average on instruction and support services spending, but the region has a higher than average level of administrative spending per pupil. These subcategories of spending are discussed on the following pages.

**Table 3
Education Curriculum
Spending**

Dollars per pupil, 2015-2016

1	New York	22,875
2	Hartford	18,881
3	Buffalo	18,494
4	Philadelphia	17,885
5	Boston	16,580
6	Pittsburgh	15,894
7	Providence	15,410
8	Chicago	14,506
9	Cleveland	14,280
10	Washington, D.C.	13,584
11	Baltimore	13,553
12	Columbus	12,348
13	Minneapolis	11,923
14	New Orleans	11,719
United States		11,469
15	St. Louis	11,433
16	Los Angeles	11,422
17	Detroit	11,293
18	San Francisco	11,275
19	San Jose	11,224
20	Seattle	11,182
21	Milwaukee	11,181
22	Cincinnati	10,942
23	Portland	10,914
24	Riverside	10,583
25	San Diego	10,431
26	Sacramento	10,323
27	Virginia Beach	10,250
28	Louisville	10,247
29	Richmond	9,692
30	Kansas City	9,599
31	Atlanta	9,449
32	Indianapolis	9,369
33	Denver	9,284
34	Birmingham	8,856
35	Nashville	8,648
36	Miami	8,597
37	Tampa	8,465
38	Memphis	8,455
39	Austin	8,413
40	San Antonio	8,397
41	Houston	8,379
42	Dallas	8,336
43	Jacksonville	8,249
44	Las Vegas	8,237
45	Orlando	8,194
46	Charlotte	8,178
47	Raleigh	8,124
48	Oklahoma City	7,138
49	Phoenix	7,023
50	Salt Lake City	6,592

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

A majority of curriculum expenditures are allocated for instruction. This category includes spending on the wages, salaries, and benefits of classroom instructors, as well as classroom materials and supplies (U.S. Census Bureau, 2017). In St. Louis, spending on instruction amounts to nearly \$7,000 per student. It makes up over 60 percent of curriculum spending in the region and around 50 percent of overall spending by schools. This level of spending is slightly below the national average, but ranks 16th among the peer regions, as shown on Table 4.

Much of the growth in overall school spending was due to increased spending on instruction. Between 2005-2006 and 2015-2016, per pupil spending on instruction increased by around \$821 in inflation-adjusted dollars, making up around 68 percent of the overall increase in per pupil spending in the region.

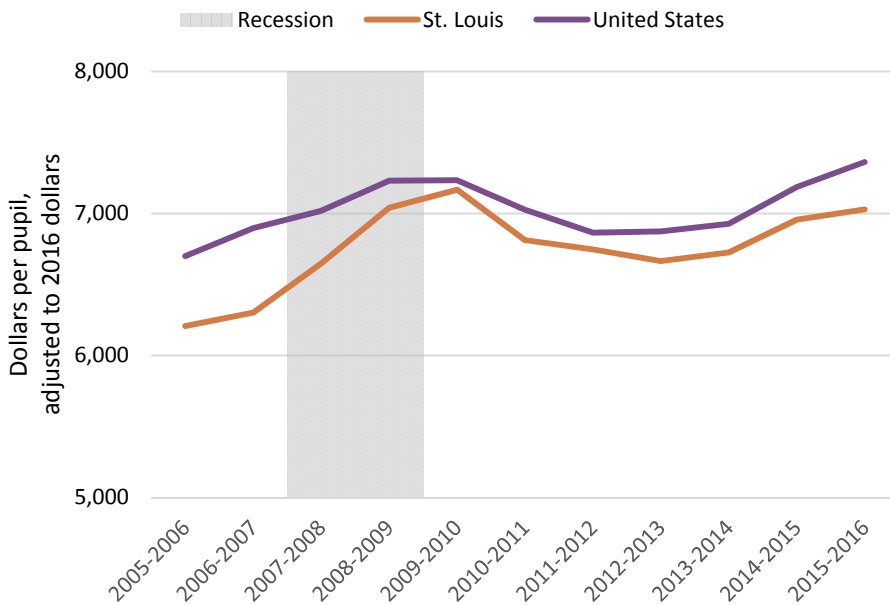
**Table 4
Instruction Spending
per Pupil**

Dollars per pupil, 2015-2016

1	New York	16,417
2	Buffalo	12,675
3	Hartford	12,167
4	Philadelphia	11,869
5	Boston	11,094
6	Pittsburgh	10,358
7	Providence	9,788
8	Chicago	9,234
9	Cleveland	8,898
10	Baltimore	8,723
11	Washington, D.C.	8,658
12	Minneapolis	8,278
13	Columbus	7,696
	United States	7,362
14	Los Angeles	7,146
15	San Jose	7,144
16	St. Louis	7,029
17	San Francisco	6,911
18	Detroit	6,901
19	Cincinnati	6,724
20	Riverside	6,719
21	New Orleans	6,699
22	Seattle	6,646
23	Portland	6,630
24	Milwaukee	6,599
25	Sacramento	6,449
26	San Diego	6,431
27	Virginia Beach	6,384
28	Atlanta	6,245
29	Richmond	6,182
30	Louisville	6,072
31	Kansas City	5,918
32	Miami	5,760
33	Indianapolis	5,734
34	Raleigh	5,553
35	Nashville	5,549
36	Tampa	5,492
37	Birmingham	5,481
38	San Antonio	5,474
39	Dallas	5,467
40	Houston	5,440
41	Denver	5,438
42	Austin	5,368
43	Memphis	5,351
44	Charlotte	5,345
45	Jacksonville	5,313
46	Orlando	5,181
47	Las Vegas	5,050
48	Salt Lake City	4,388
49	Oklahoma City	4,344
50	Phoenix	4,106

Figure 3: Instruction Spending per Pupil

St. Louis MSA and the United States,
2005-2006 to 2015-2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances; Bureau of Labor Statistics

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

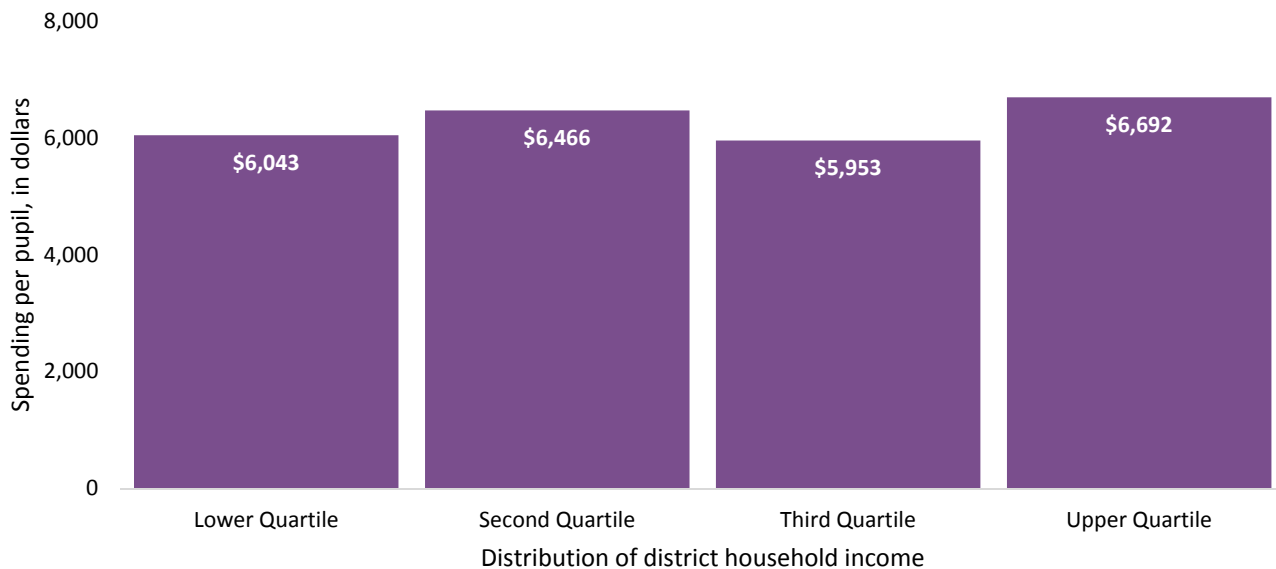
In looking at levels of instruction spending across the income distribution, the poorest districts in the region tend to spend less on instruction than the richest districts, with an average difference of around \$600 per pupil. Figure 5 shows average per pupil spending on instruction by income quartile. The lowest quartile are those districts that are in the bottom quarter of the distribution of median household income in the region (see note on page 24 with further details on the distribution of median household income). Districts in this quartile spend an average of around \$6,000 per student on instruction, whereas districts in the upper quartile spend nearly \$6,700 per pupil.

There is, however, a considerable level of variation in instruction spending among St. Louis districts and within each income grouping. Many of the districts with the highest levels of instructional spending, for example, are not necessarily the richest districts in the region. Clayton, Venice Community Unit School District (CUSD) 3, Brentwood, Central Community High School District (CHSD) 71, Valley Park, and East St. Louis are among the districts with the highest levels of instructional spending in the region. The Clayton School District has the highest levels of instruction spending in the St. Louis MSA, with expenditures of around \$12,000 per pupil. The Brentwood School District spends roughly \$11,500 per pupil on instruction, which is the third highest level in the region. The median household incomes of the East St. Louis School District and Venice CUSD 3 are among the lowest in the region (around \$21,000 and \$26,000, respectively), but their levels of instruction spending rank second and sixth among school districts within the region.

Many of the school districts with the lowest levels of instructional spending are located in the southwestern portion of the St. Louis region. With the exception of Riverview Gardens, all districts in the lower half of Figure 6 are located in Franklin or Jefferson counties. The Sunrise School District of DeSoto spends the least on instruction per pupil—around \$3,500.

Figure 5: Average Per Pupil Spending on Instruction by Median Household Income

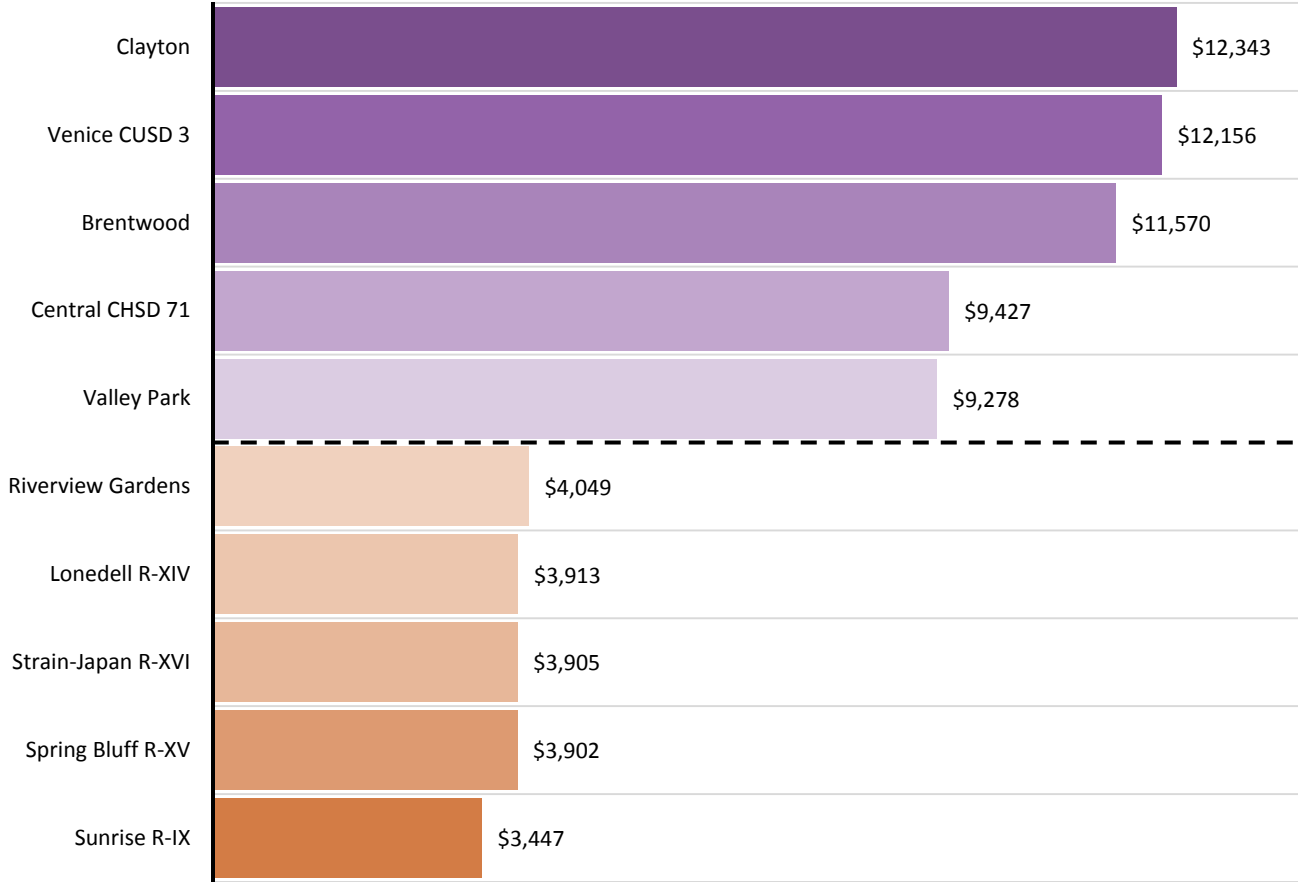
Districts in the St. Louis MSA, 2015-2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012-2016 5-Year Estimates (B19013) and the Annual Survey of School System Finances

Figure 6: Instructional Spending Per Pupil

Districts with the highest and lowest levels of instructional spending per pupil in the St. Louis MSA, 2015-2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

Spending on supportive services makes up the next largest share of spending in the region, accounting for around 28 percent of curriculum spending. Supportive services includes spending on instructional staff support (curriculum development, staff training, etc.), and supportive services for students (library, counselors, social workers, etc.) (U.S. Census Bureau, 2017).

Of the money spent on supportive services in the region, only a small percentage goes towards instructional staff support and pupil support services. Roughly, 13 percent of supportive services spending goes to instruction staff support, and another 19 percent pays for pupil support services.

**Table 5
Supportive Services
Spending per Pupil**

Dollars per pupil, 2015-2016

1	New York	5,291
2	Hartford	5,136
3	Philadelphia	4,837
4	Providence	4,690
5	Buffalo	4,657
6	Boston	4,554
7	Pittsburgh	4,346
8	Cleveland	4,239
9	Chicago	4,079
10	Washington, D.C.	3,779
11	Seattle	3,735
12	Columbus	3,723
13	Baltimore	3,666
14	New Orleans	3,638
15	Milwaukee	3,630
16	Detroit	3,619
17	Portland	3,481
18	San Francisco	3,475
19	Los Angeles	3,336
20	Louisville	3,336
21	Cincinnati	3,326
United States		3,230
22	St. Louis	3,228
23	San Diego	3,221
24	San Jose	3,156
25	Virginia Beach	3,078
26	Riverside	3,061
27	Sacramento	3,012
28	Denver	3,005
29	Kansas City	2,882
30	Indianapolis	2,864
31	Richmond	2,814
32	Minneapolis	2,792
33	Birmingham	2,556
34	Atlanta	2,486
35	Las Vegas	2,457
36	Phoenix	2,453
37	Jacksonville	2,429
38	Orlando	2,426
39	Austin	2,417
40	Tampa	2,390
41	Nashville	2,360
42	San Antonio	2,332
43	Houston	2,314
44	Miami	2,289
45	Memphis	2,261
46	Dallas	2,256
47	Charlotte	2,216
48	Oklahoma City	2,204
49	Raleigh	1,977
50	Salt Lake City	1,707

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

**Table 6
Instructional Staff
Support Spending
per Pupil**

Dollars per pupil, 2015-2016

1	Louisville	938
2	Seattle	925
3	San Francisco	921
4	Boston	890
5	Washington, D.C.	848
6	Orlando	751
7	Virginia Beach	739
8	Richmond	723
9	Los Angeles	715
10	Buffalo	708
11	San Diego	698
12	Minneapolis	685
13	Baltimore	681
14	San Jose	666
15	Milwaukee	663
16	Denver	658
17	Providence	651
18	Tampa	644
19	Detroit	630
20	Cleveland	610
21	Hartford	607
22	Sacramento	606
23	Chicago	593
24	Austin	563
United States		561
25	Portland	551
26	Columbus	550
27	Nashville	549
28	Jacksonville	547
29	Philadelphia	538
30	Las Vegas	533
31	San Antonio	532
32	Riverside	516
33	New Orleans	507
34	Pittsburgh	495
35	Kansas City	491
36	Dallas	490
37	New York	487
38	Memphis	476
39	Atlanta	475
40	Cincinnati	464
41	Miami	455
42	St. Louis	434
43	Birmingham	429
44	Indianapolis	401
45	Houston	397
46	Phoenix	391
47	Oklahoma City	349
48	Salt Lake City	308
49	Charlotte	288
50	Raleigh	279

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

**Table 7
Student Support
Services Spending
per Pupil**

Dollars per pupil, 2015-2016

1	Providence	1,495
2	Hartford	1,318
3	Boston	1,212
4	Philadelphia	1,210
5	New York	1,129
6	Chicago	1,069
7	Cleveland	959
8	Detroit	947
9	Portland	908
10	Seattle	872
11	Columbus	819
12	Buffalo	816
13	Pittsburgh	792
14	Cincinnati	782
15	New Orleans	764
16	Los Angeles	698
17	Washington, D.C.	698
United States		680
18	San Jose	668
19	Baltimore	664
20	Riverside	659
21	San Diego	653
22	San Francisco	625
23	St. Louis	622
24	Phoenix	609
25	Milwaukee	608
26	Sacramento	597
27	Birmingham	574
28	Oklahoma City	532
29	Virginia Beach	517
30	Dallas	492
31	Louisville	490
32	Jacksonville	487
33	Denver	486
34	Kansas City	484
35	Memphis	483
36	Richmond	482
37	San Antonio	481
38	Charlotte	470
39	Atlanta	469
40	Indianapolis	447
41	Houston	436
42	Nashville	433
43	Austin	431
44	Raleigh	422
45	Minneapolis	404
46	Las Vegas	401
47	Tampa	397
48	Miami	395
49	Orlando	327
50	Salt Lake City	272

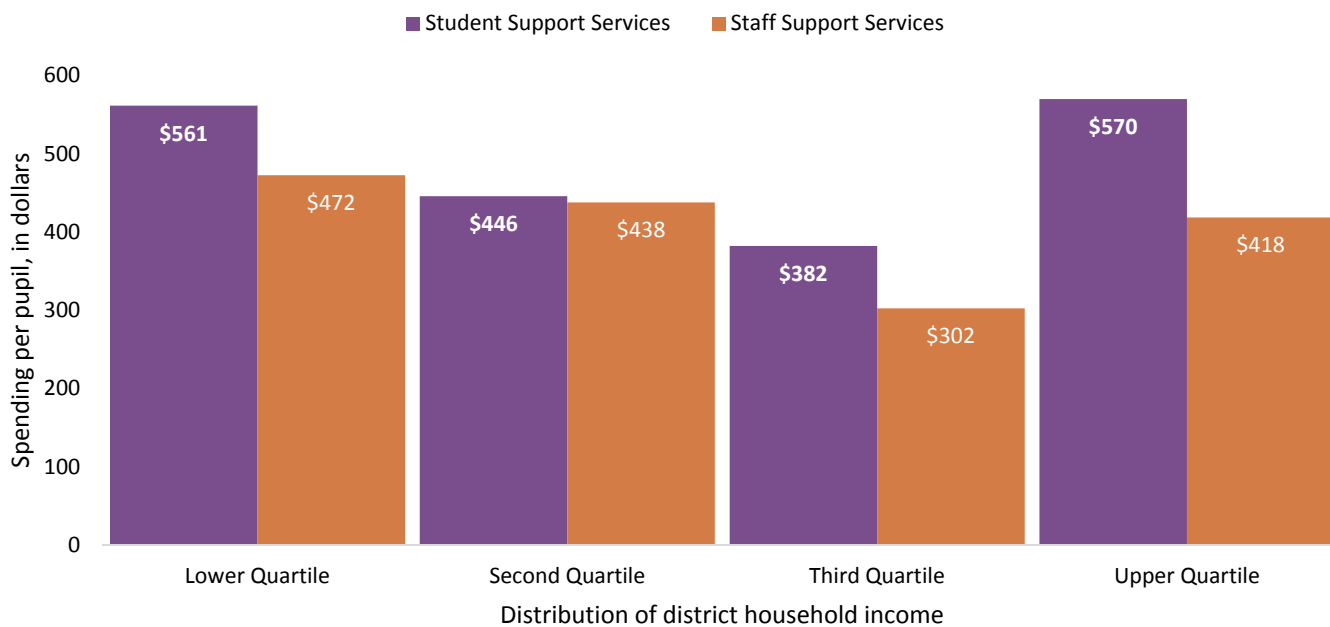
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

The supportive services category of spending also includes various other services such as business support and central office support (U.S. Census Bureau, 2017). Spending in these other areas make up the remaining 68 percent of support services spending. Per pupil, schools within the St. Louis region spend around \$434 on instructional staff support. Table 6 (page 9) shows that this is one of the lowest levels of the peer regions, ranking 42nd. On student support services, Table 7 (page 9) shows that schools in the St. Louis MSA spend around \$622 per pupil. This is closer to the national average, and ranks about in the middle of the peer regions.

Within the region, districts in the lowest quartile of the income distribution tend to spend more on supportive services than other districts. The poorest districts in the region also tend to spend more on instructional support, business support, and central office support than other districts. As shown in Figure 7, spending on student support services also tends to be higher in the poorest districts in the region; however, it is less than the average spending levels of districts in the upper quartile. Districts in the upper quartile of the income distribution spend an average of around \$570 per pupil on student services, compared with \$561 among districts in the lower quartile.

Figure 7: Average Per Pupil Spending on Support Services by Median Household Income

Districts in the St. Louis MSA, 2015-2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012-2016 5-Year Estimates (B19013) and the Annual Survey of School System Finances

The last component of curriculum spending is administrative spending. Table 8 shows that the St. Louis region has a relatively high level of administrative spending per pupil, around \$1,100 per pupil, which equates to roughly 10 percent of curriculum spending in the region. This level of spending ranks 6th among the peer regions.

Administrative spending can be broken down into spending on school-level administration (i.e. principals) or central office administration (i.e. board of education, superintendents, etc.).

Although most administrative spending pays for school-level administration (roughly 60 percent), spending levels on central office administration are relatively high in the St. Louis region compared with the peer regions. In St. Louis, schools spend \$470 per pupil on central office administration, a rate of spending that is fourth highest among the peer regions and over twice as high as the national average (see Table 9).

**Table 8
Administration
Spending per Pupil**

Dollars per pupil, 2015-2016

1	Hartford	1,578
2	New Orleans	1,381
3	Chicago	1,194
4	Pittsburgh	1,190
5	Philadelphia	1,179
6	St. Louis	1,176
7	New York	1,167
8	Baltimore	1,164
9	Buffalo	1,162
10	Washington, D.C.	1,147
11	Cleveland	1,143
12	Milwaukee	952
13	Los Angeles	940
14	Providence	932
15	Boston	931
16	Columbus	929
17	San Jose	925
18	Cincinnati	892
19	San Francisco	888
	United States	877
20	Sacramento	861
21	Minneapolis	854
22	Memphis	843
23	Denver	842
24	Louisville	840
25	Birmingham	818
26	Portland	804
27	Riverside	804
28	Seattle	801
29	Kansas City	798
30	Virginia Beach	788
31	San Diego	779
32	Detroit	774
33	Indianapolis	771
34	Nashville	740
35	Las Vegas	730
36	Atlanta	718
37	Richmond	696
38	Austin	629
39	Houston	625
40	Charlotte	617
41	Dallas	613
42	Raleigh	594
43	Oklahoma City	591
44	San Antonio	591
45	Orlando	587
46	Tampa	584
47	Miami	548
48	Jacksonville	508
49	Salt Lake City	497
50	Phoenix	464

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

**Table 9
Central Office
Administration
Spending per Pupil**

Dollars per pupil, 2015-2016

1	New Orleans	613
2	Pittsburgh	533
3	Hartford	473
4	St. Louis	470
5	Chicago	442
6	Cleveland	399
7	Philadelphia	394
8	Milwaukee	358
9	Minneapolis	357
10	Buffalo	318
11	Columbus	315
12	Cincinnati	308
13	New York	307
14	Washington, D.C.	260
15	Kansas City	244
16	Memphis	230
	United States	226
17	Boston	216
18	Providence	209
19	Birmingham	207
20	Indianapolis	198
21	Virginia Beach	177
22	Oklahoma City	162
23	Los Angeles	160
24	Nashville	151
25	Baltimore	142
26	Detroit	141
27	San Jose	140
28	San Francisco	138
29	Portland	119
30	Louisville	117
31	Austin	116
32	Richmond	115
33	Phoenix	113
34	Denver	108
35	Sacramento	107
36	Las Vegas	102
37	Dallas	97
38	San Antonio	97
39	Atlanta	95
40	Seattle	94
41	Houston	92
42	San Diego	92
43	Charlotte	84
44	Orlando	80
45	Riverside	76
46	Tampa	72
47	Miami	69
48	Jacksonville	63
49	Salt Lake City	54
50	Raleigh	52

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

**Table 10
School
Administration
Spending per Pupil**

Dollars per pupil, 2015-2016

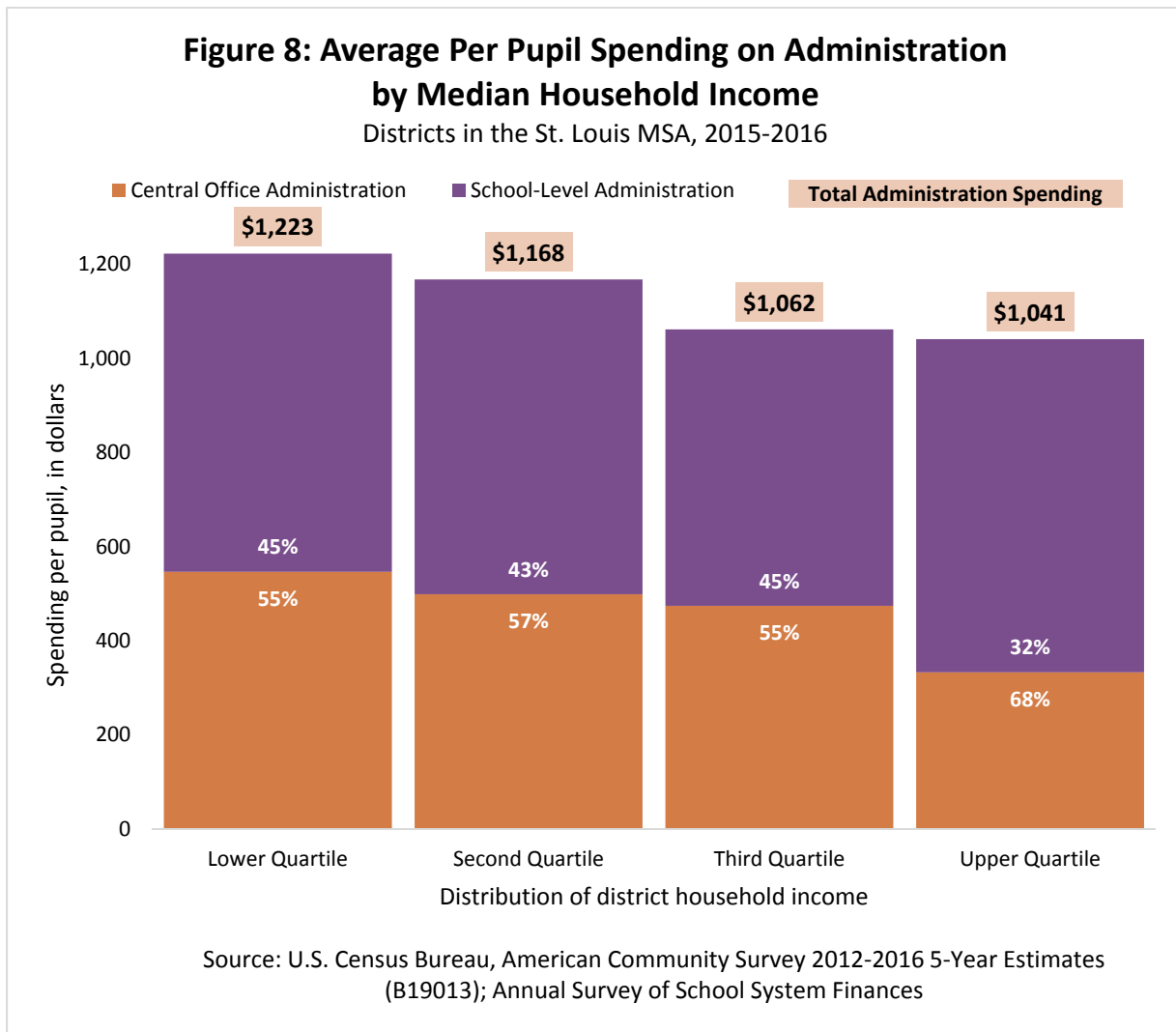
1	Hartford	1,105
2	Baltimore	1,022
3	Washington, D.C.	887
4	New York	860
5	Buffalo	844
6	San Jose	785
7	Philadelphia	785
8	Los Angeles	779
9	New Orleans	768
10	Sacramento	754
11	Chicago	752
12	San Francisco	750
13	Cleveland	744
14	Denver	733
15	Riverside	728
16	Louisville	723
17	Providence	723
18	Boston	715
19	Seattle	707
20	St. Louis	706
21	San Diego	688
22	Portland	685
23	Pittsburgh	657
	United States	651
24	Detroit	633
25	Las Vegas	628
26	Atlanta	623
27	Columbus	614
28	Memphis	613
29	Virginia Beach	611
30	Birmingham	611
31	Milwaukee	594
32	Nashville	589
33	Cincinnati	584
34	Richmond	581
35	Indianapolis	573
36	Kansas City	555
37	Raleigh	542
38	Houston	533
39	Charlotte	533
40	Dallas	516
41	Austin	513
42	Tampa	512
43	Orlando	507
44	Minneapolis	497
45	San Antonio	494
46	Miami	479
47	Jacksonville	445
48	Salt Lake City	443
49	Oklahoma City	428
50	Phoenix	351

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

Although research on the impact of administrative spending is somewhat inconclusive, some have found the higher spending on central office administration can have a positive impact on educational outcomes (Wenglinsky, 1997). High

levels of spending on central office administration seem “to shape teacher-student ratios, possibly indicating that `a well-supported central administration makes better decisions about the allocation of resources that lead to improved teacher-student ratios’” (Condrón and Roscigno, 2003).

Figure 8 shows that St. Louis districts in the lower quarter of income distribution tend to spend more on overall administration as well as more on central office administration than the other districts. However, schools in the upper quarter of the income distribution tend to spend the most on school-level administrators, compared with other districts. On average, school districts in this upper quartile spend over \$700 per pupil on school-level administration. Meanwhile, districts in the lower quartile spend a bit less on school level-administration--around \$670 per pupil.

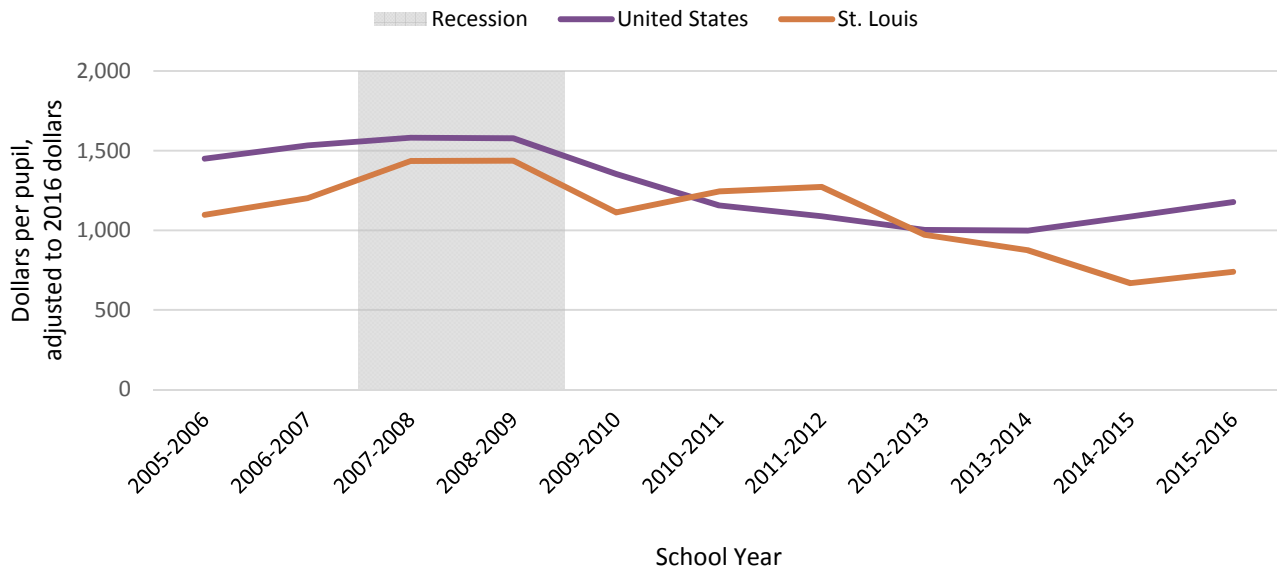


Non-curricular Expenditures

Districts also have expenditures that are not directly related to school curriculum. The two biggest non-curricular expenditures include capital outlays and interest payments on debt. Included within capital outlays are expenditures related to building construction, the purchase of existing buildings, and equipment purchases (U.S. Census Bureau, 2017). Combined, these two expenditures account for less than 10 percent of total school expenditures in the region. Interest payments make up around 3 percent of total school funding, and capital expenditures are around 5.5 percent. Since the end of the last recession, capital spending has steadily declined in the St. Louis region and nationally (see Figure 9).

Figure 9: Capital Spending per Pupil

St. Louis MSA and the United States,
2005-2006 to 2015-2016



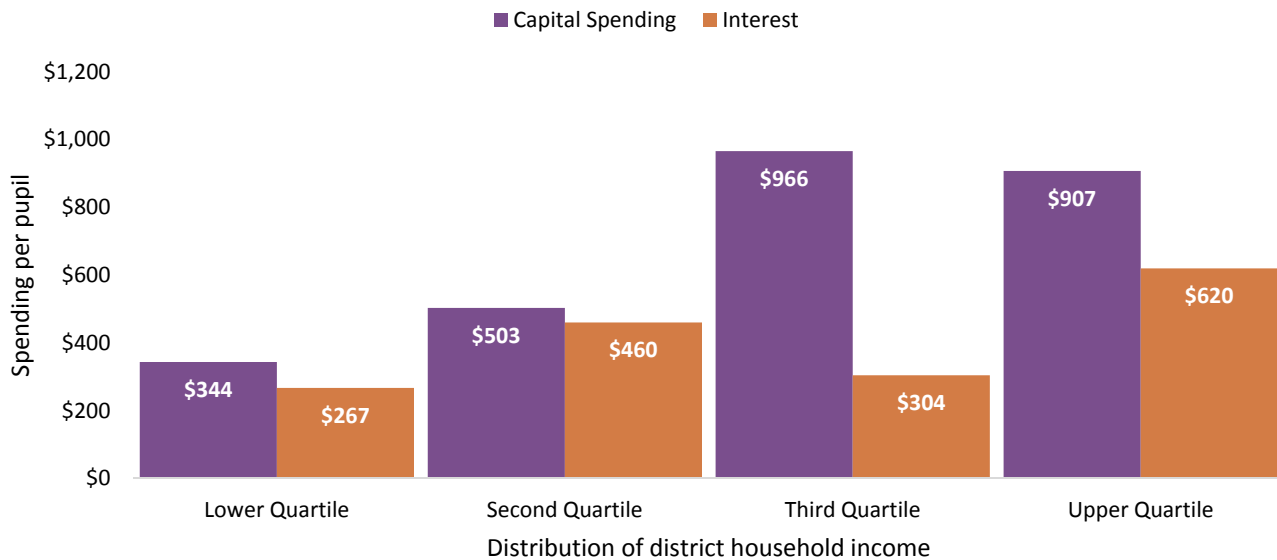
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances;
Bureau of Labor Statistics

Across districts in the region, capital outlays and interest payments tend to be higher among wealthier districts. Districts in the upper half of the income distribution (the third and upper quartiles), spend nearly three times as much on capital outlays as districts in the lowest quartile of the income distribution. See Figure 10.

Since the end of the last recession, capital spending has steadily declined in the St. Louis region and nationally

Figure 10: Average Per Pupil Spending on Capital Outlays and Interest by Median Household Income

Districts in the St. Louis MSA, 2015-2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012-2016 5-Year Estimates (B19013) and the Annual Survey of School System Finances

Schools are only able to spend the resources they have available. Schools pull in financial resources primarily from three funding sources: local revenues, state funds, and federal funds. In the 2015-2016 school year, 92 percent of all school funding in the country was from state and local sources. State and local sources cover around the same percentage of funds in St. Louis, although, as shown in Table 11, local funding plays a bigger role in this region relative to the peer regions.

Over the last decade, much has changed with school funding, both within the St. Louis region and nationally. Following the last recession, per pupil spending declined in many parts of the country. A recent report from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) documented how state funding for schools declined in over half of all U.S. states since the last recession. In many states, reduced funding was due to states cutting education spending to cover budget deficits. Additionally, with the collapse of the U.S. housing market, property values, and thereby property tax revenues, declined in many parts of the country (Leachman, Masterson, and Figueroa, 2017). Property taxes make up a significant portion of education funding throughout the country (nearly a third of all funding).

School districts in the St. Louis region fared somewhat better than many of those in the peer regions, however—regarding funding from both state and local sources. Additionally, according to the CBPP report, there has actually been an increase in overall state funding for schools in Missouri and Illinois since the last recession.

**Table 11
Local Funding
for Schools**

Local funds as a percent of total school revenue, 2015-2016

1	Austin	72.1
2	Washington, D.C.	63.7
3	Boston	62.4
4	Columbus	62.2
5	San Jose	61.9
6	Cleveland	60.4
7	New York	59.6
8	Philadelphia	58.8
9	Chicago	58.3
10	Miami	57.7
11	Houston	57.7
12	New Orleans	57.5
13	Dallas	56.9
14	Pittsburgh	56.0
15	San Francisco	53.7
16	St. Louis	53.3
17	Cincinnati	52.4
18	Hartford	52.3
19	Denver	51.1
20	Providence	50.5
21	Orlando	50.1
22	Atlanta	49.3
23	San Antonio	49.2
24	Nashville	48.9
25	Baltimore	48.5
26	Phoenix	48.1
27	Richmond	47.7
	United States	45.4
28	Oklahoma City	45.4
29	San Diego	44.6
30	Virginia Beach	44.5
31	Milwaukee	44.2
32	Salt Lake City	44.0
33	Kansas City	43.0
34	Louisville	42.0
35	Portland	41.3
36	Jacksonville	41.3
37	Tampa	40.4
38	Memphis	38.8
39	Birmingham	38.8
40	Seattle	37.1
41	Buffalo	36.6
42	Detroit	35.6
43	Charlotte	34.3
44	Indianapolis	33.1
45	Minneapolis	31.9
46	Sacramento	30.6
47	Los Angeles	30.5
48	Raleigh	29.4
49	Las Vegas	29.1
50	Riverside	23.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

**Table 12
State Funding
for Schools**

State funds as a percent of total school revenue, 2015-2016

1	Riverside	67.7
2	Minneapolis	63.5
3	Las Vegas	62.3
4	Raleigh	62.2
5	Sacramento	61.2
6	Indianapolis	60.3
7	Los Angeles	60.2
8	Buffalo	56.7
9	Detroit	56.4
10	Seattle	56.4
11	Charlotte	56.3
12	Portland	52.1
13	Birmingham	52.0
14	Kansas City	50.2
15	Jacksonville	48.5
16	Louisville	48.1
17	Milwaukee	47.6
18	San Diego	47.6
19	Salt Lake City	47.4
20	Memphis	47.2
21	Tampa	46.7
	United States	46.6
22	Virginia Beach	46.6
23	Baltimore	45.4
24	Oklahoma City	45.0
25	Richmond	44.8
26	Hartford	44.0
27	Providence	42.9
28	Atlanta	42.8
29	Denver	42.2
30	Nashville	42.1
31	Phoenix	40.8
32	San Francisco	40.6
33	Orlando	40.0
34	Cincinnati	39.9
35	St. Louis	39.2
36	San Antonio	39.1
37	Pittsburgh	38.1
38	Philadelphia	36.0
39	New York	35.9
40	Chicago	35.0
41	Dallas	34.5
42	Boston	33.7
43	Houston	33.5
44	Cleveland	32.7
45	San Jose	32.0
46	Columbus	31.6
47	Miami	31.4
48	Washington, D.C.	31.1
49	New Orleans	29.5
50	Austin	20.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

States vary considerably on the amount of funding they devote to schools. Amounts range from \$3,272 per pupil in South Dakota to over \$18,000 in Vermont. The statewide average of per pupil funding is higher in Illinois than in Missouri, with Illinois spending \$5,935 per pupil compared to \$5,125 in Missouri. Sunbelt states tend to offer lower support for schools than states in other parts of the country. Aside from South Dakota, the other five states at the bottom of the rankings include Arizona, Florida, Oklahoma, and Texas (U.S. Census Bureau, 2016).

The St. Louis MSA ranks 25th out of the peer regions on state funding per pupil. School districts in the region receive an average of \$5,418 per pupil. This is about \$1,000 lower than the national average (see Table 13). State funding collectively accounts for a little under 40 percent of all funding for schools in the region. As shown in Table 12 (page 15), this percentage ranks 35th among the peer regions and is about 7 points lower than the national average.

Over the last decade, state funding per student increased by nearly 6.2 percent in St. Louis after adjusting for inflation. As shown in Table 14, this is lower than the national average (9.4 percent) but higher than many of the peer regions. After adjusting for inflation, 16 MSAs have seen declines in state support. Three Texas peer regions saw increases of 29.7 percent or more in state funding, with Dallas topping the list with an increase of 53.4 percent. In part, this reflects increases in property values that subsequently generate more property taxes. In Texas, most of the increase in property taxes went to the state government, which in turn distributed it to districts according to a formula. This appears to account for much of the increase in state funding in Texas (Dickson and Sakelar, 2018).

Chicago is another region that saw a dramatic increase in state funding. Much of this increase appears to be due to changes in the poverty funding formula through which the state's General State Aid grants funneled resources to districts with high proportions of families in poverty (Klingner, 2013).

Table 13
State Funding per Pupil

Dollars per pupil, 2015-2016

1	Buffalo	12,554
2	Hartford	10,374
3	Minneapolis	9,693
4	New York	9,176
5	Riverside	9,143
6	Los Angeles	8,865
7	Detroit	8,302
8	Sacramento	8,296
9	Seattle	8,070
10	Philadelphia	7,885
11	Indianapolis	7,775
12	Providence	7,553
13	Pittsburgh	7,340
14	Baltimore	7,239
15	Portland	6,819
16	Milwaukee	6,635
	United States	6,546
17	San Diego	6,523
18	Boston	6,486
19	Kansas City	6,298
20	Las Vegas	6,153
21	San Francisco	6,137
22	Chicago	5,950
23	Louisville	5,947
24	Cincinnati	5,466
25	St. Louis	5,418
26	Cleveland	5,406
27	Birmingham	5,404
28	Raleigh	5,391
29	Virginia Beach	5,365
30	Charlotte	5,363
31	Richmond	5,191
32	Washington, D.C.	5,020
33	San Jose	4,901
34	Atlanta	4,897
35	Denver	4,868
36	New Orleans	4,810
37	Memphis	4,712
38	Tampa	4,623
39	Columbus	4,614
40	Jacksonville	4,571
41	San Antonio	4,393
42	Orlando	4,223
43	Nashville	4,122
44	Salt Lake City	4,061
45	Dallas	3,944
46	Oklahoma City	3,940
47	Houston	3,716
48	Phoenix	3,640
49	Miami	3,165
50	Austin	2,613

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

Table 14
Change in State Funding per Pupil

Percent change in state funding per pupil, 2005-2006 to 2015-2016, adjusted to 2016 dollars

1	Dallas	53.4
2	Chicago	50.0
3	Hartford	43.7
4	Austin	34.3
5	Pittsburgh	31.4
6	Houston	29.7
7	Buffalo	28.8
8	Indianapolis	25.7
9	Seattle	24.0
10	San Jose	21.6
11	Baltimore	20.9
12	Sacramento	20.4
13	Washington, D.C.	19.8
14	Philadelphia	18.5
15	Portland	18.1
16	Riverside	18.0
17	Nashville	15.5
18	Los Angeles	15.0
19	New York	14.8
20	Kansas City	13.1
21	Louisville	9.7
	United States	9.4
22	San Francisco	7.4
23	Cincinnati	6.4
24	St. Louis	6.2
25	Providence	5.0
26	Denver	4.8
27	San Diego	4.5
28	Las Vegas	4.4
29	San Antonio	4.4
30	Detroit	4.0
31	Minneapolis	3.9
32	Richmond	1.6
33	Milwaukee	1.2
34	Atlanta	1.0
35	Salt Lake City	-0.9
36	Charlotte	-1.2
37	Birmingham	-1.7
38	Raleigh	-3.0
39	Jacksonville	-4.2
40	Cleveland	-4.2
41	Virginia Beach	-6.7
42	Columbus	-7.1
43	Boston	-7.3
44	Oklahoma City	-8.1
45	Tampa	-8.2
46	Memphis	-10.6
47	Orlando	-13.7
48	Phoenix	-18.6
49	New Orleans	-19.1
50	Miami	-27.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances; Bureau of Labor Statistics

While St. Louis ranks below the national average on state funding for education, the region ranks just above the national average on local funding. Northeastern regions tend to have the highest levels of local funding for education. The six regions at the top of the ranking are all in states on the Atlantic Coast. The bottom fifth is made up of Sunbelt regions from the South or Southwest.

Table 15 shows that St. Louis ranks 17th, with an average of \$7,372 per pupil from local sources. Local funding makes up 53 percent of funding for schools in the region. As shown on Table 11 (page 15), the share of school funding from local revenue sources is about eight points higher than the national average (45.4 percent).

Nineteen MSAs saw declines in local funding for schools, after adjusting for inflation, between 2005-2006 and 2015-2016. In St. Louis, local funding per pupil increased by nearly 14 percent, a rate that ranks 18th among the peer regions and is larger than the national average (see Table 16).

**Table 15
Local Funding
per Pupil**

Dollars per pupil, 2015-2016

1	New York	15,207
2	Philadelphia	12,879
3	Hartford	12,331
4	Boston	12,006
5	Pittsburgh	10,787
6	Washington, D.C.	10,268
7	Cleveland	9,967
8	Chicago	9,891
9	San Jose	9,479
10	New Orleans	9,381
11	Austin	9,196
12	Columbus	9,062
13	Providence	8,888
14	San Francisco	8,123
15	Buffalo	8,111
16	Baltimore	7,743
17	St. Louis	7,372
18	Cincinnati	7,177
19	Dallas	6,493
20	Houston	6,399
United States		6,381
21	Milwaukee	6,150
22	San Diego	6,107
23	Denver	5,894
24	Miami	5,829
25	Atlanta	5,637
26	San Antonio	5,524
27	Richmond	5,523
28	Portland	5,409
29	Kansas City	5,387
30	Seattle	5,312
31	Orlando	5,286
32	Detroit	5,235
33	Louisville	5,195
34	Virginia Beach	5,122
35	Minneapolis	4,863
36	Nashville	4,797
37	Los Angeles	4,493
38	Phoenix	4,293
39	Indianapolis	4,263
40	Sacramento	4,150
41	Birmingham	4,029
42	Tampa	3,999
43	Oklahoma City	3,974
44	Jacksonville	3,900
45	Memphis	3,877
46	Salt Lake City	3,774
47	Charlotte	3,272
48	Riverside	3,194
49	Las Vegas	2,875
50	Raleigh	2,554

Source: U.S. Census Bureau,
Annual Survey of School System
Finances

**Table 16
Change in Local
Funding per Pupil**

Percent change in local
funding per pupil, 2005-2006
to 2015-2016, adjusted to 2016
dollars

1	Memphis	61.1
2	Los Angeles	44.6
3	New York	28.8
4	Minneapolis	28.3
5	San Francisco	27.5
6	Seattle	25.8
7	Hartford	24.2
8	Buffalo	23.9
9	Philadelphia	22.9
10	San Jose	19.7
11	Providence	19.1
12	Salt Lake City	18.2
13	Boston	17.9
14	Chicago	15.1
15	Columbus	14.9
16	Portland	14.8
17	Cleveland	14.2
18	St. Louis	13.9
19	San Diego	13.2
20	Pittsburgh	11.0
21	Baltimore	8.6
United States		7.8
22	Riverside	7.5
23	Virginia Beach	5.3
24	San Antonio	4.4
25	Detroit	2.2
26	Austin	0.8
27	Cincinnati	0.5
28	Richmond	0.5
29	Nashville	0.3
30	Denver	0.3
31	New Orleans	0.2
32	Milwaukee	-0.1
33	Louisville	-0.5
34	Oklahoma City	-1.0
35	Houston	-1.3
36	Orlando	-2.2
37	Miami	-6.5
38	Washington, D.C.	-6.7
39	Birmingham	-9.2
40	Kansas City	-9.6
41	Phoenix	-9.6
42	Sacramento	-10.1
43	Tampa	-13.6
44	Jacksonville	-13.8
45	Dallas	-13.9
46	Atlanta	-16.6
47	Charlotte	-17.0
48	Las Vegas	-27.1
49	Indianapolis	-34.2
50	Raleigh	-36.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau,
Annual Survey of School System
Finances; Bureau of Labor Statistics

Many regions also saw a decline in property tax revenues (a subset of local revenues), but in St. Louis property tax revenues per pupil increased by nearly 20 percent (18.2 percent) over the last decade. This is nearly twice as high as the increase in property taxes nationally (11.0 percent) and ranks 14th among the peer regions as shown in Table 17. Figure 11 shows that property tax revenues per pupil actually increased slightly during the recession and held steady in the following years.

It should be noted that states have a variety of policies that regulate property taxes. These policies may have had some impact on the changes in revenue observed in Table 17. Examples of such policies include limitations on tax rates, assessed value growth, and the amount of revenue that can be collected. In Missouri, local governments calculate current year tax collections based on the amount collected in the previous year. They can collect at least the amount of revenue collected in the previous year and are capped on how much additional revenue they can collect (Galloway, 2017).

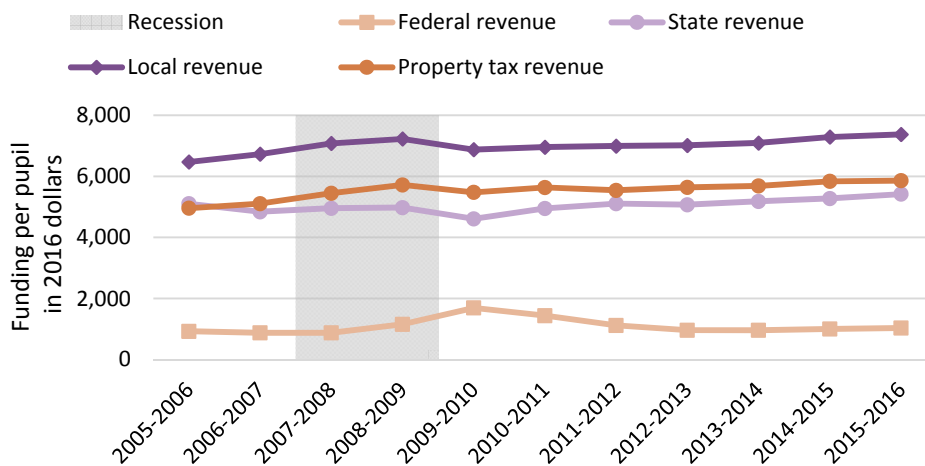
Table 17
Change in Property Tax Revenue per Pupil

Percent change in property taxes per pupil, 2005-2006 to 2015-2016, adjusted to 2016 dollars

1	Minneapolis	65.9
2	Los Angeles	56.1
3	Seattle	37.2
4	San Francisco	36.5
5	Portland	34.0
6	Buffalo	31.4
7	New Orleans	29.3
8	Boston	25.9
9	Riverside	24.5
10	Philadelphia	23.7
11	San Jose	22.4
12	San Diego	21.6
13	Salt Lake City	21.0
14	St. Louis	18.2
15	Chicago	17.9
16	New York	17.7
17	Providence	17.3
18	Pittsburgh	15.9
19	Cleveland	12.6
United States		11.0
20	San Antonio	10.5
21	Columbus	10.5
22	Charlotte	10.4
23	Oklahoma City	9.9
24	Sacramento	8.6
25	Birmingham	6.5
26	Orlando	5.0
27	Denver	4.4
28	Austin	4.2
29	Houston	3.1
30	Detroit	2.6
31	Louisville	2.2
32	Washington, D.C.	1.8
33	Miami	1.2
34	Cincinnati	0.1
35	Phoenix	-4.6
36	Milwaukee	-6.0
37	Dallas	-11.0
38	Tampa	-13.9
39	Kansas City	-15.0
40	Atlanta	-16.6
41	Jacksonville	-17.1
42	Las Vegas	-18.2
43	Indianapolis	-43.5
44	Memphis	-60.3

Figure 11: Per Pupil Funding by Revenue Source

St. Louis MSA, 2005-2006 to 2015-2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances; Bureau of Labor Statistics

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Survey of School System Finances

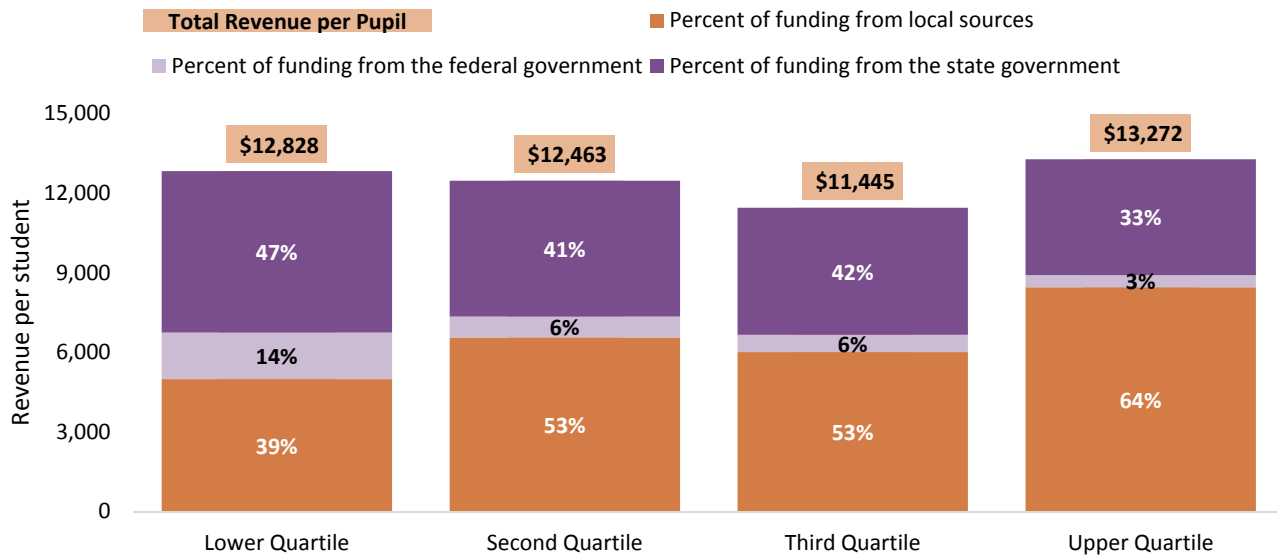
School Funding Distribution

Across the income distribution, the poorest districts in the region tend to receive more funding from state and federal sources, whereas wealthier districts are more reliant on local sources of revenue, particularly property tax revenues. This is shown in Figure 12. For districts in the lowest quartile of the income distribution, 47 percent of school funding comes from state government and another 14 percent comes from the federal government. Because of state and federal funds, districts in the lowest quartile take in nearly as much funding per student as districts in the upper quartile. The difference in per pupil funding between districts in the lower and upper quartiles is less than \$500.

However, with funding changes over the past decade, districts in St. Louis have become more reliant on local sources of funding. Although state funding increased for the region as a whole over the past 10 years, it has decreased for districts in the lowest income quartile. Meanwhile, districts in the highest income quartile have seen growth in total funding per student, fueled by increases in both state and local sources of revenue.

Figure 12: Total School Funding by Revenue Source and Household Income

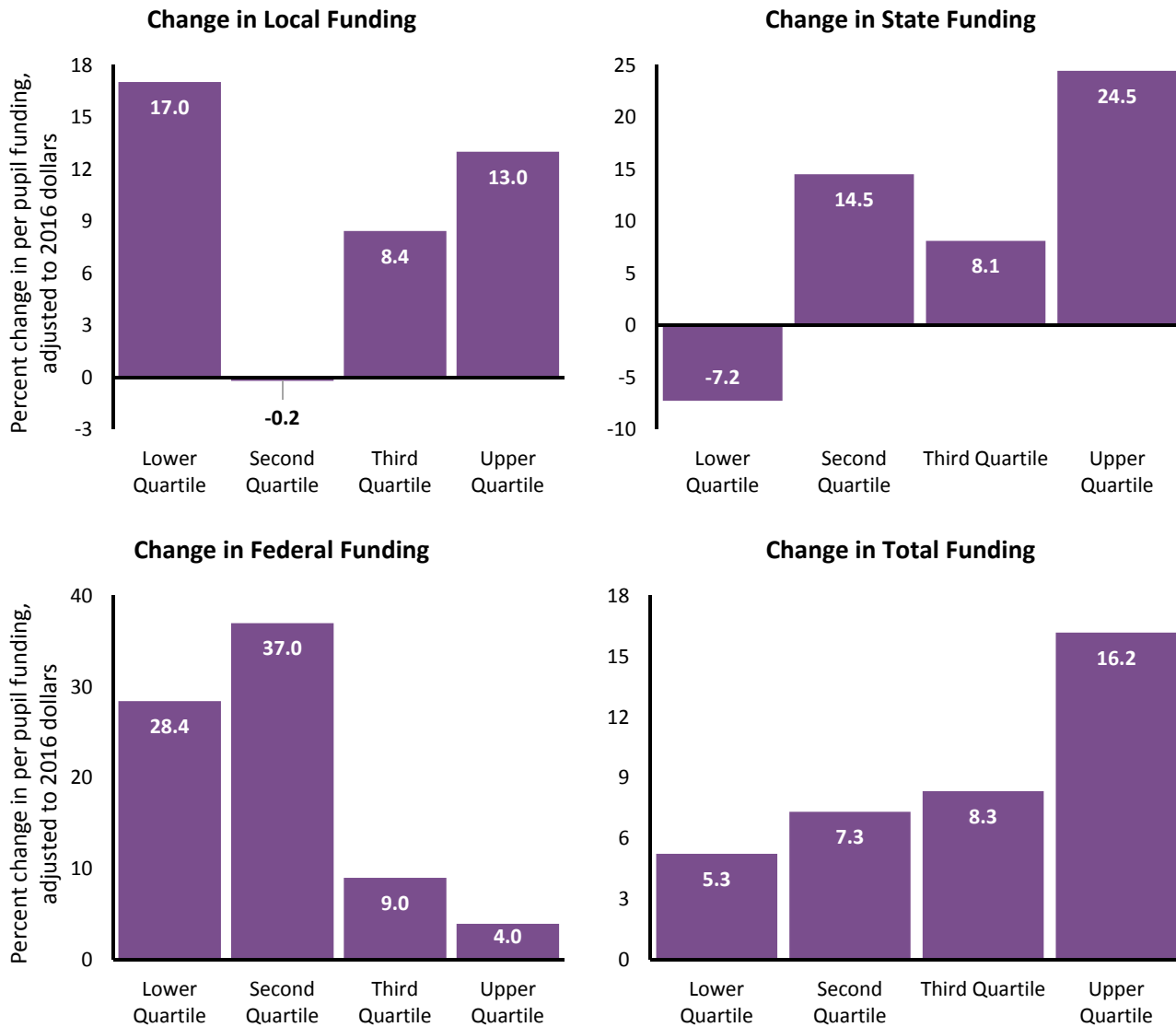
Districts within the St. Louis MSA, 2015-2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American-Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates (B19013); Annual Survey of School System Finances

As shown in the Figure 13, schools in the bottom quartile of the income distribution saw the smallest increase in overall funding over the last decade. Meanwhile, districts in the upper quartile saw the biggest increase. Between 2005-2006 and 2015-2016, state funding for schools in the lowest quartile declined by around 7 percent, after accounting for inflation, but it increased by 24 percent for districts in the highest income quartile.

Figure 13: Change in School Funding by Median Household Income
 Districts within the St. Louis MSA, 2005-2006 to 2015-2016



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American-Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates (B19013);
 Annual Survey of School System Finances

Charter Schools, SLPS Accreditation, and School Funding within the City of St. Louis

Some of the trends outlined in this paper may be related to the proliferation of charter schools and independent charter school districts. Charter schools have existed within the St. Louis region for two decades now. According to data from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the first charter school in the region operated within the Cahokia School District in 1998. This followed passage of Illinois legislation in 1996 that permitted charter schools in select parts of the state (Illinois State Charter School Commission, 2014).

In 1998, the state of Missouri passed similar legislation permitting charter schools to operate within the city of St. Louis and Kansas City. The first charter schools in the city of St. Louis begin to show up in NCES data starting in 2000. At this point, charter schools operated within the St. Louis Public School district (SLPS). As a result, charter school enrollment and funding were counted as SLPS enrollment and funding (Shuls, 2017). However, in 2005, legislation was passed in the state of Missouri permitting charter schools to form their own independent school districts (Thaman, 2018). Charter districts began to appear in the city of St. Louis starting in 2007 (see Figures 14 through 17 on pages 22 and 23).

It is difficult to quantify the exact impact that charter schools have had on school funding within the city of St. Louis. The emergence of charter school districts coincides with several important events: the state's takeover of SLPS and the loss of its state accreditation in 2007; changes to the state funding formula for schools in the 2006-2007 school year; and the economic recession of 2007-2009, which affected property tax revenues for schools (Gay, 2007; Shuls, 2017; Adams, 2013).

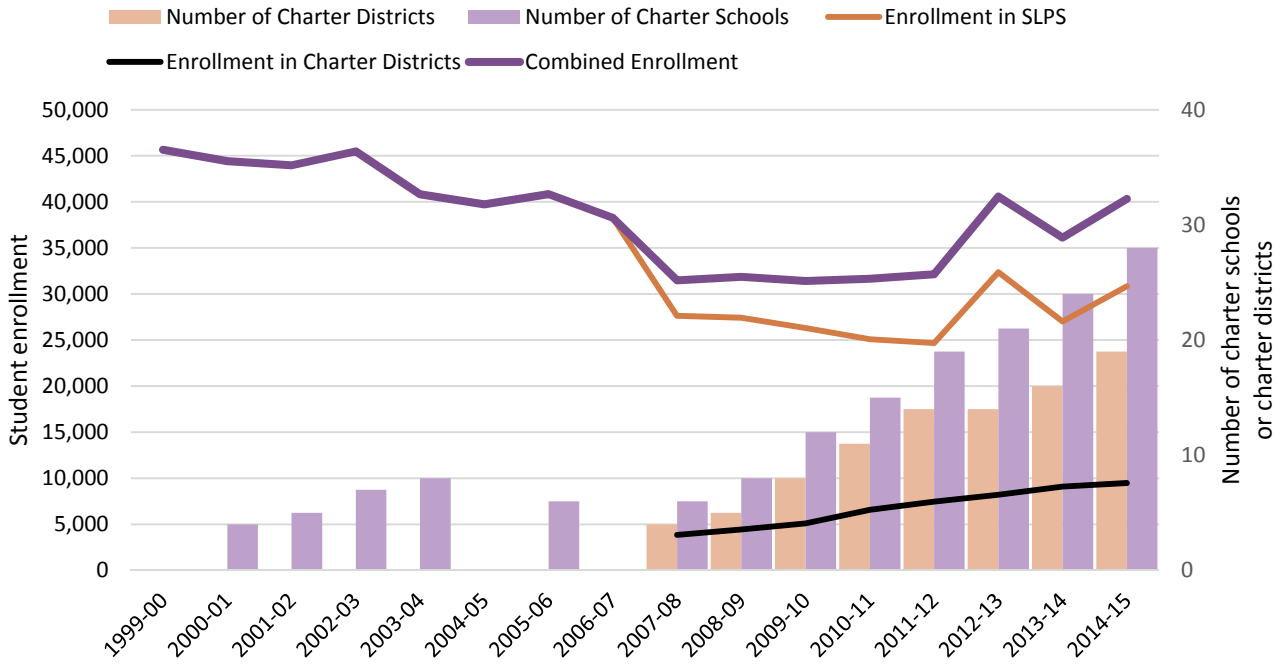
Between 2006-2007 and 2007-2008, enrollment at SLPS declined by around 10,600 students, and in 2007, charter districts began enrolling around 3,800 students. Overtime, enrollment in charter districts slowly increased to around 10,000 students (see Figure 14, page 22). With the loss of students, funds that were once allocated to SLPS were gradually moved to charter districts, and this was largely a transfer of state funds; charter districts receive most of their funding from the state (nearly 70 percent in 2014-2015).

Meanwhile, beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, the state of Missouri adjusted its funding formula for elementary and secondary schools. Under the previous funding formula, "poorer school districts leveraged local tax dollars with matching state aid" (Podgursky and Springer, 2006). However, this changed with the revised funding formula. Starting in 2006-2007, the state assumed a standard local effort with a "performance tax levy at \$3.43 per \$100 of assessed valuation" (based on assessed valuations from 2004), regardless of each district's actual tax levy (Shuls, 2017). In 2006, the tax levy within the city of St. Louis was \$3.972 per \$100 of assessed valuation (DESE, 2018). Under the new funding formula, the extra 54 cents in the city's tax levy could not be leveraged for more state funding.

Along with the arrival of charter districts, changes in the state's funding formula may have also contributed to the decline in state funding per pupil allocated to SLPS, observed in Figure 16 (page 23). Between 2006-2007 and 2014-2015, state funding per pupil declined by around 48 percent in SLPS, after adjusting for inflation, whereas local funding per pupil increased by 13 percent (see Figure 17, page 23). Among all districts in the city of St. Louis, including charter districts, state funding per pupil declined by 4 percent. Total funding per pupil among all districts in the city declined by 2.4 percent.

Figure 14: District Enrollment

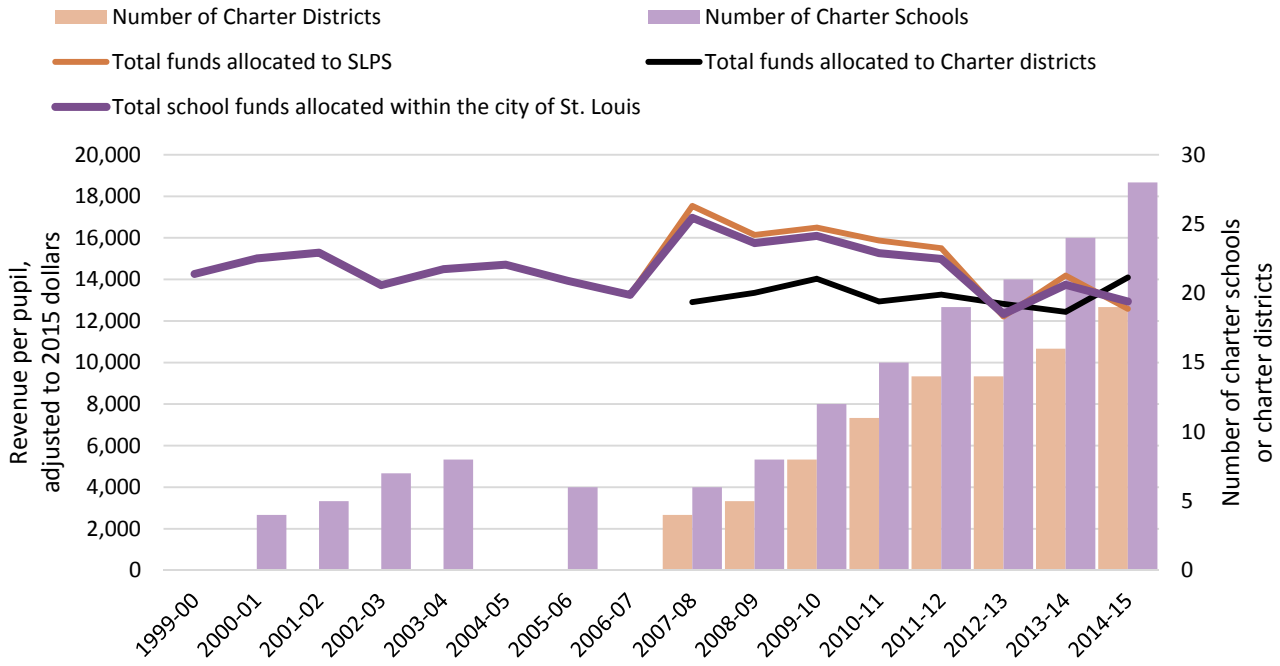
Districts within the city of St. Louis, 1999-2000 to 2014-2015



Source: National Center for Education Statistics

Figure 15: Total School Funding Per Pupil

Districts within the City of St. Louis, 1999-2000 to 2014-2015



Source: National Center for Education Statistics

Figure 16: State Funding per Pupil
 Districts within the City of St. Louis, 1999-2000 to 2014-2015

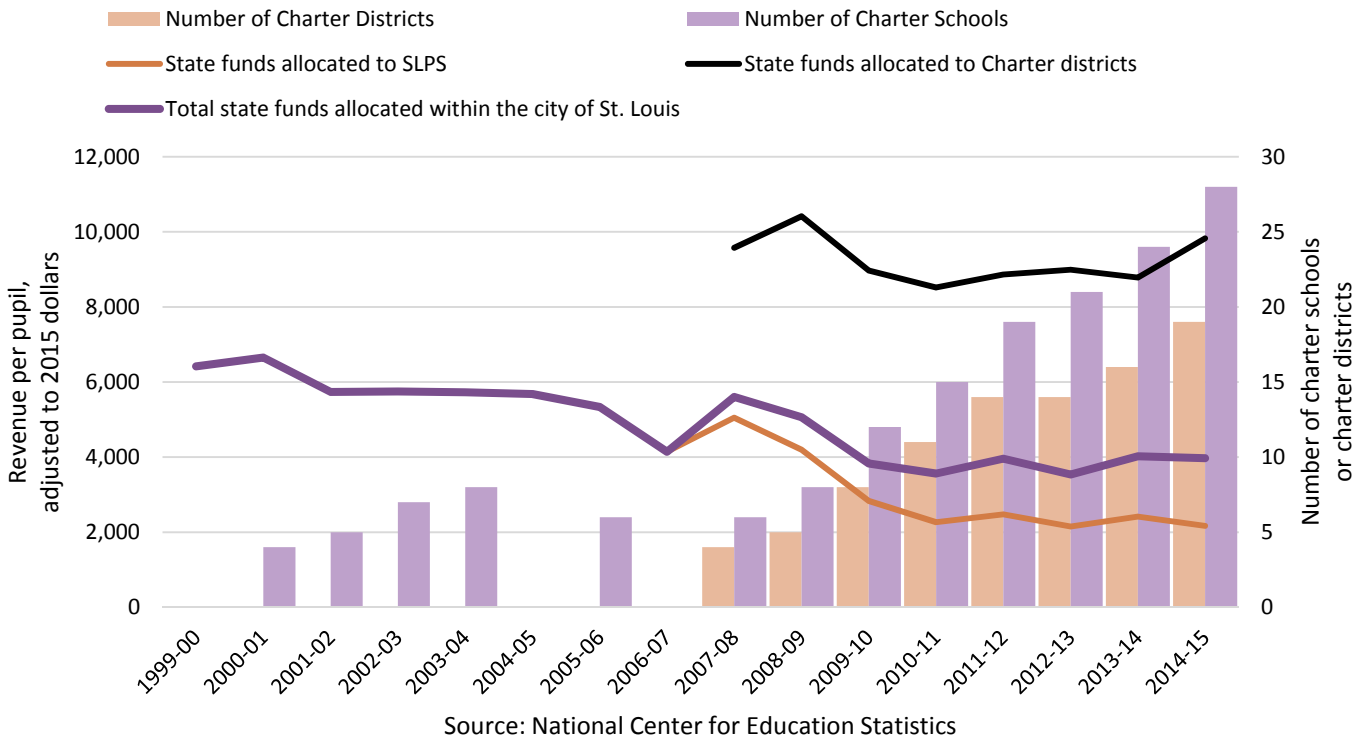
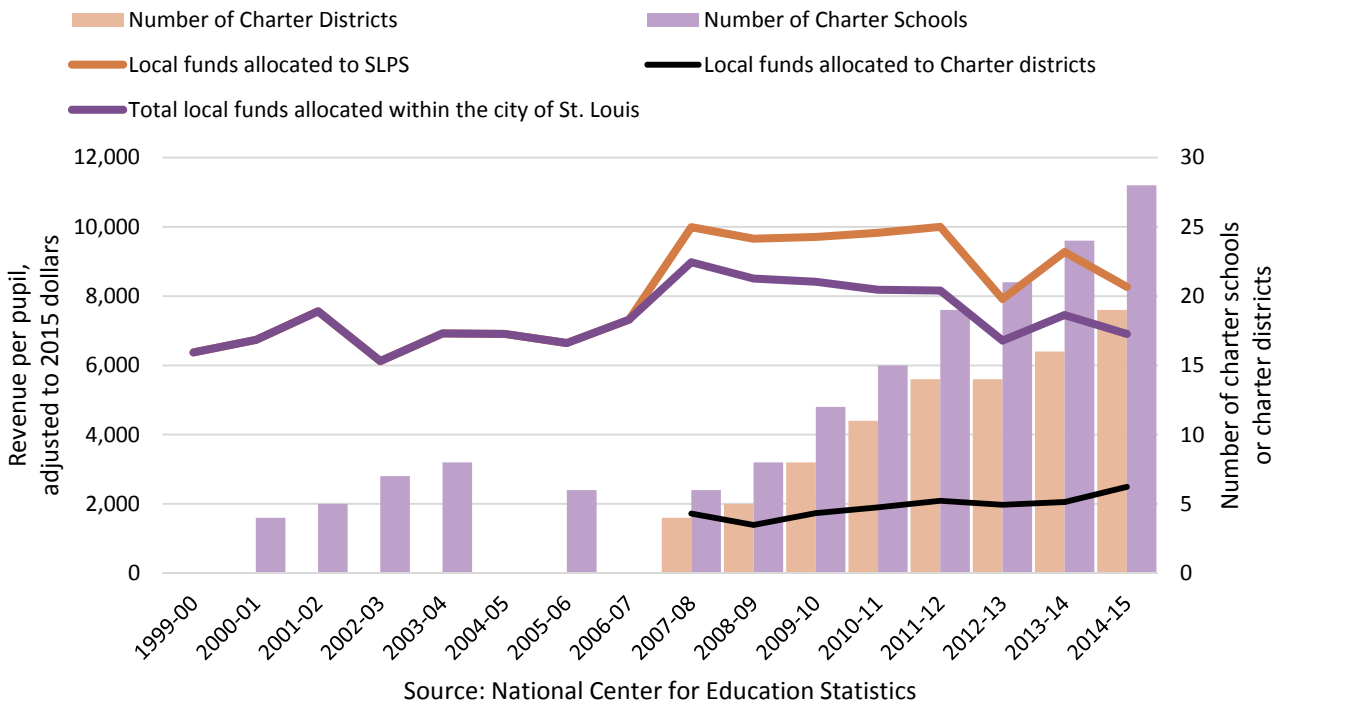


Figure 17: Local Funding per Pupil
 Districts within the City of St. Louis, 1999-2000 to 2014-2015



Note: Within the St. Louis MSA, there are 123 school districts with data on median household income. As a result, each income quartile has at least 30 school districts. For 2016, the quartiles are defined as having the following median household incomes: the lowest quartile has less than \$49,601; the second quartile has between \$49,602 to \$54,875; the third quartile has between \$54,875 and \$68,940; and the upper quartile has levels greater than \$68,940. The richest districts in the St. Louis region, by median household income, include Ladue, Rockwood, Kirkwood, Wolf Branch, and the O'Fallon Community Consolidated School District. The poorest districts in the region, by this measure, include Brooklyn, East. St. Louis, Madison, Cahokia, and Venice school districts, all of which are located in St. Clair or Madison counties.

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