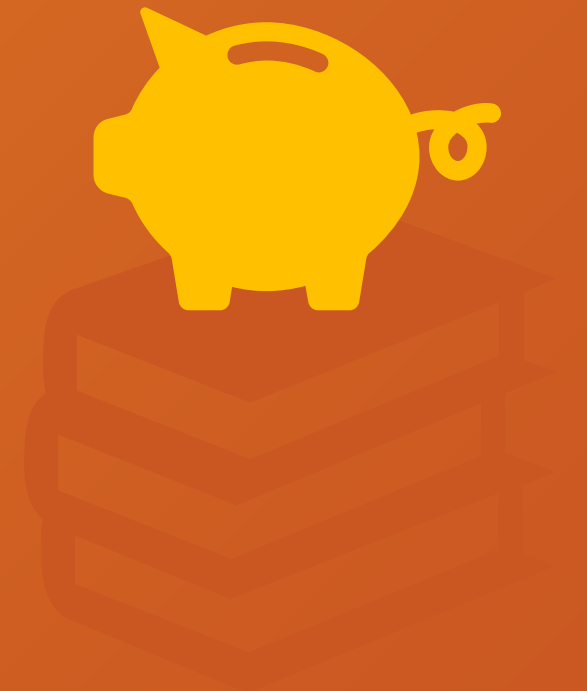


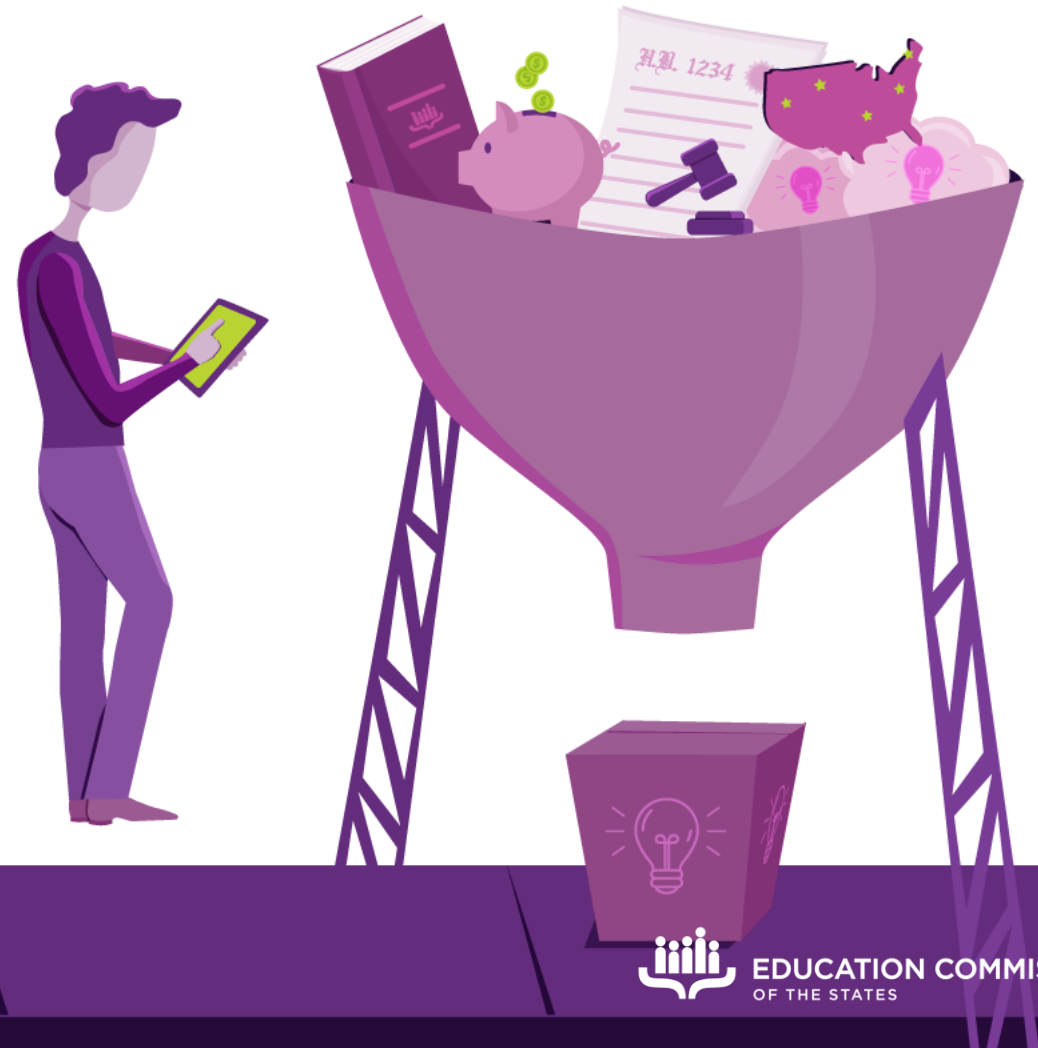
Funding K-12 Education

States' efforts in addressing school
funding policy challenges



Who we are.

The essential, indispensable member of any team addressing education policy.



What we do.

We believe in the power of learning from experience and we know informed policymakers create better education policy.



How we do it.

We research, report,
convene and counsel.



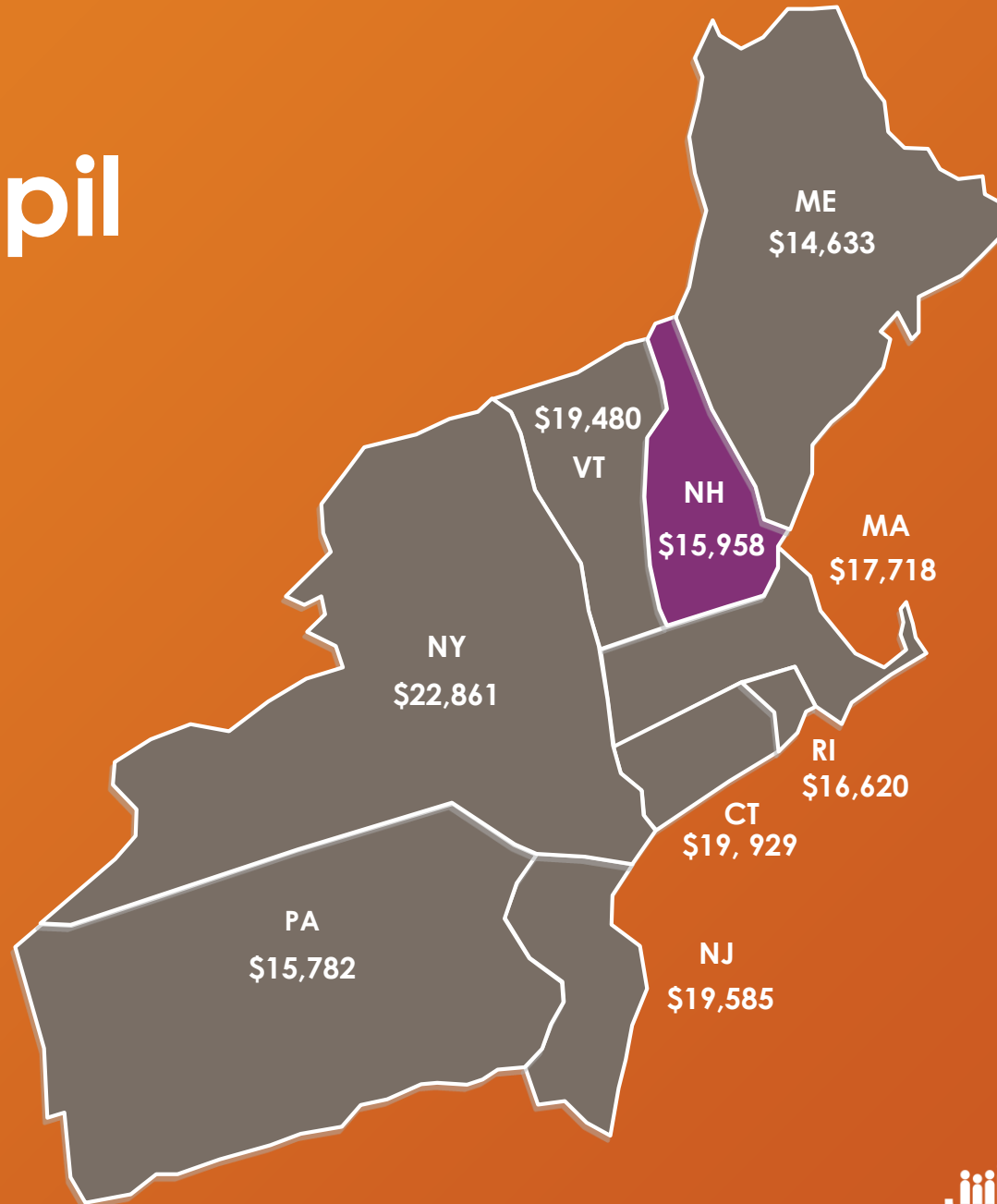
Presentation Topics

- Expenditures and Revenue for Education
- Distributing State Education Funding
- Policy Challenges
- Overcoming Policy Challenges
- Legislative Trends
- Funding for Competency-Based Education

Current Per Pupil Expenditures

FY 2017

National
Average:
\$12,258

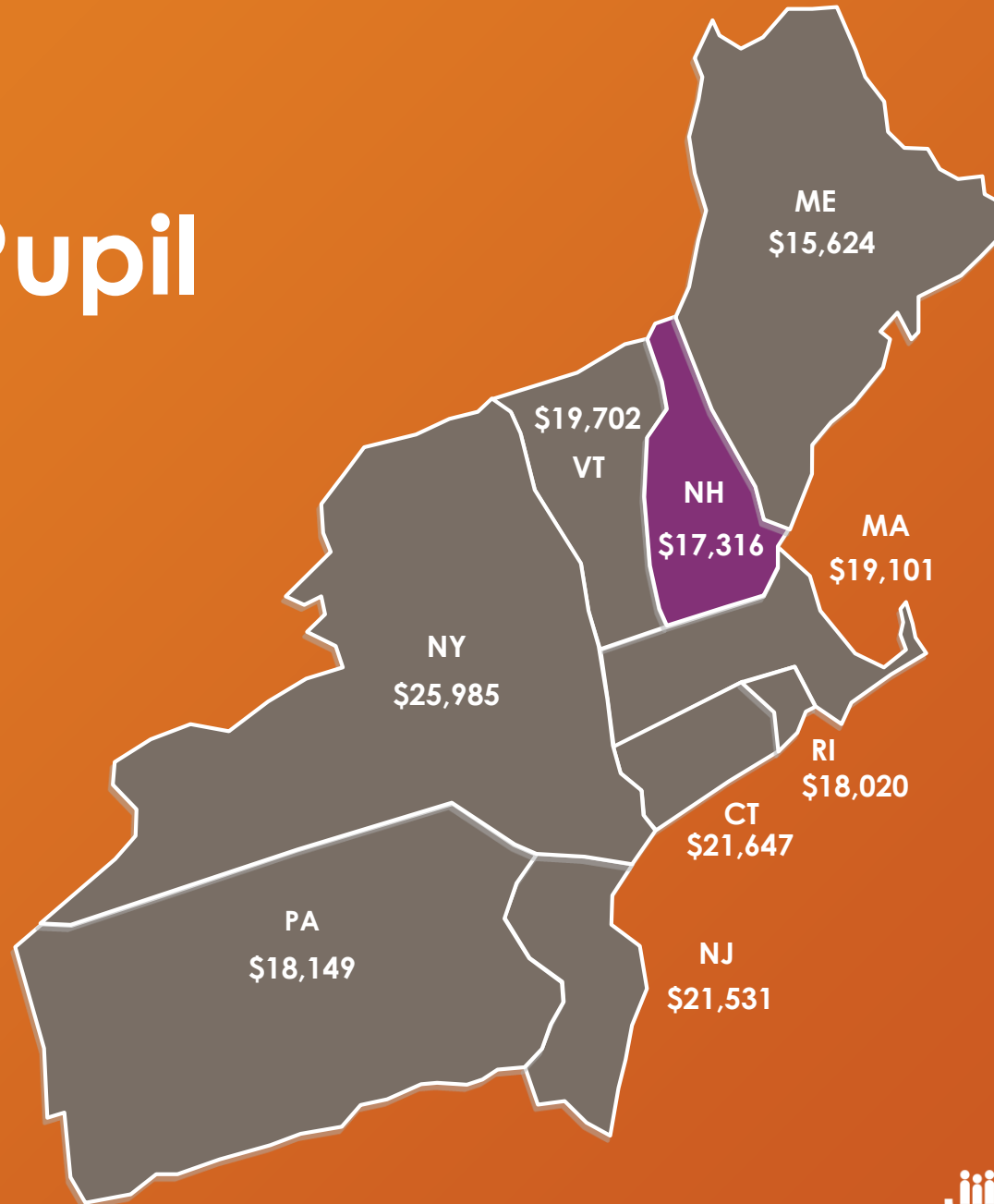


Source: NCES

Revenue Per Pupil

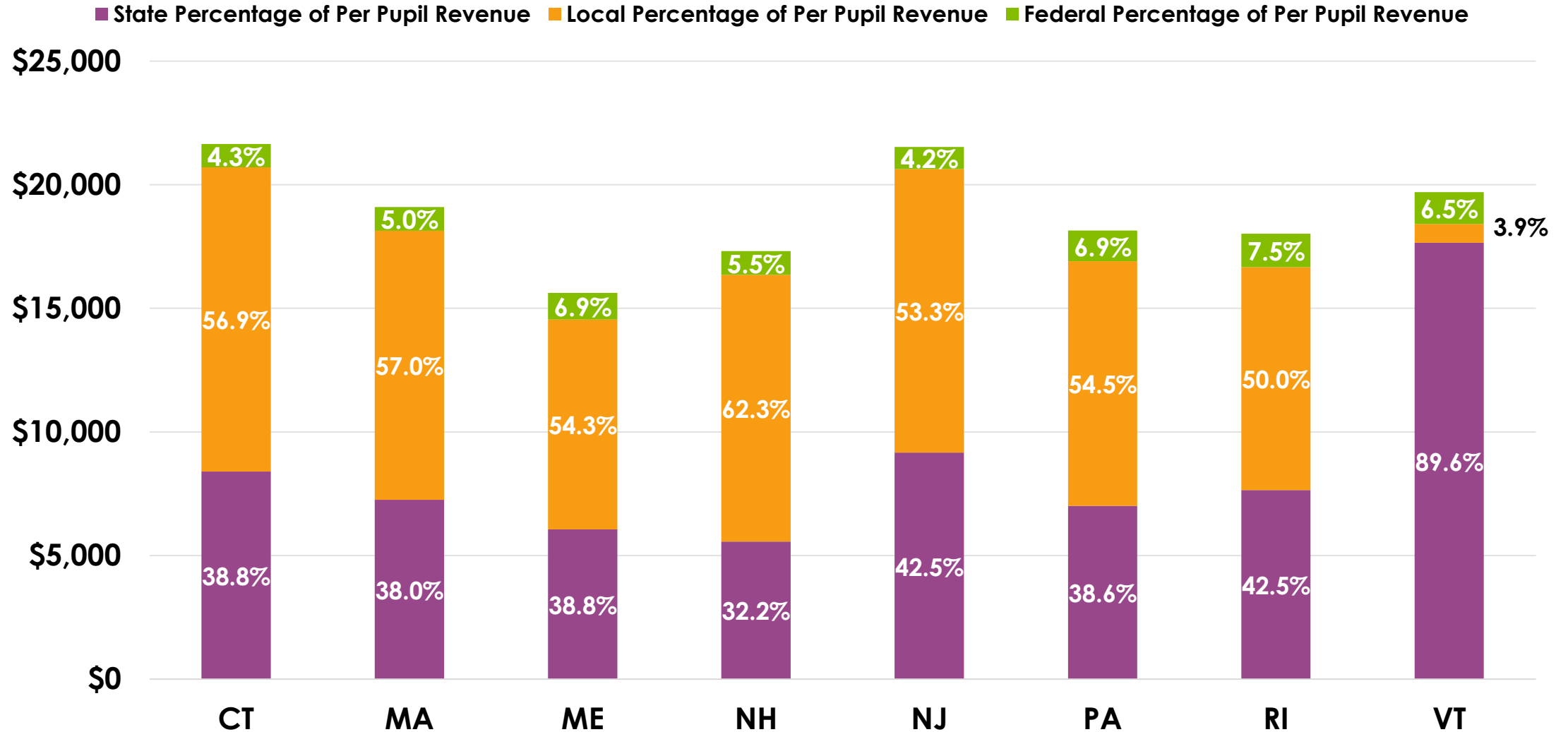
FY 2017

National
Average:
\$13,962



Source: NCES

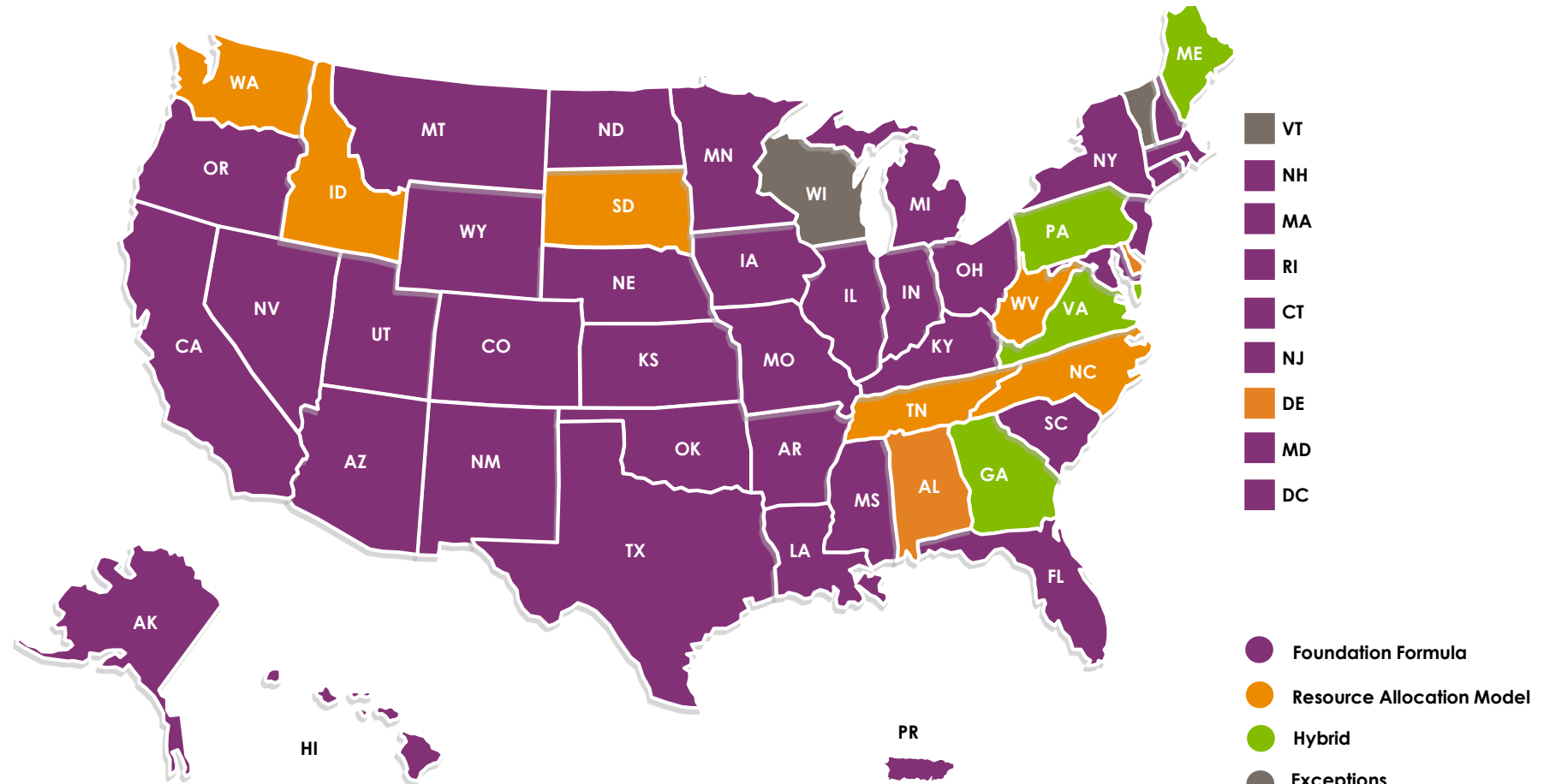
Source Percentage Share of Per Pupil Revenue for Public Elementary and Secondary Education, FY 17



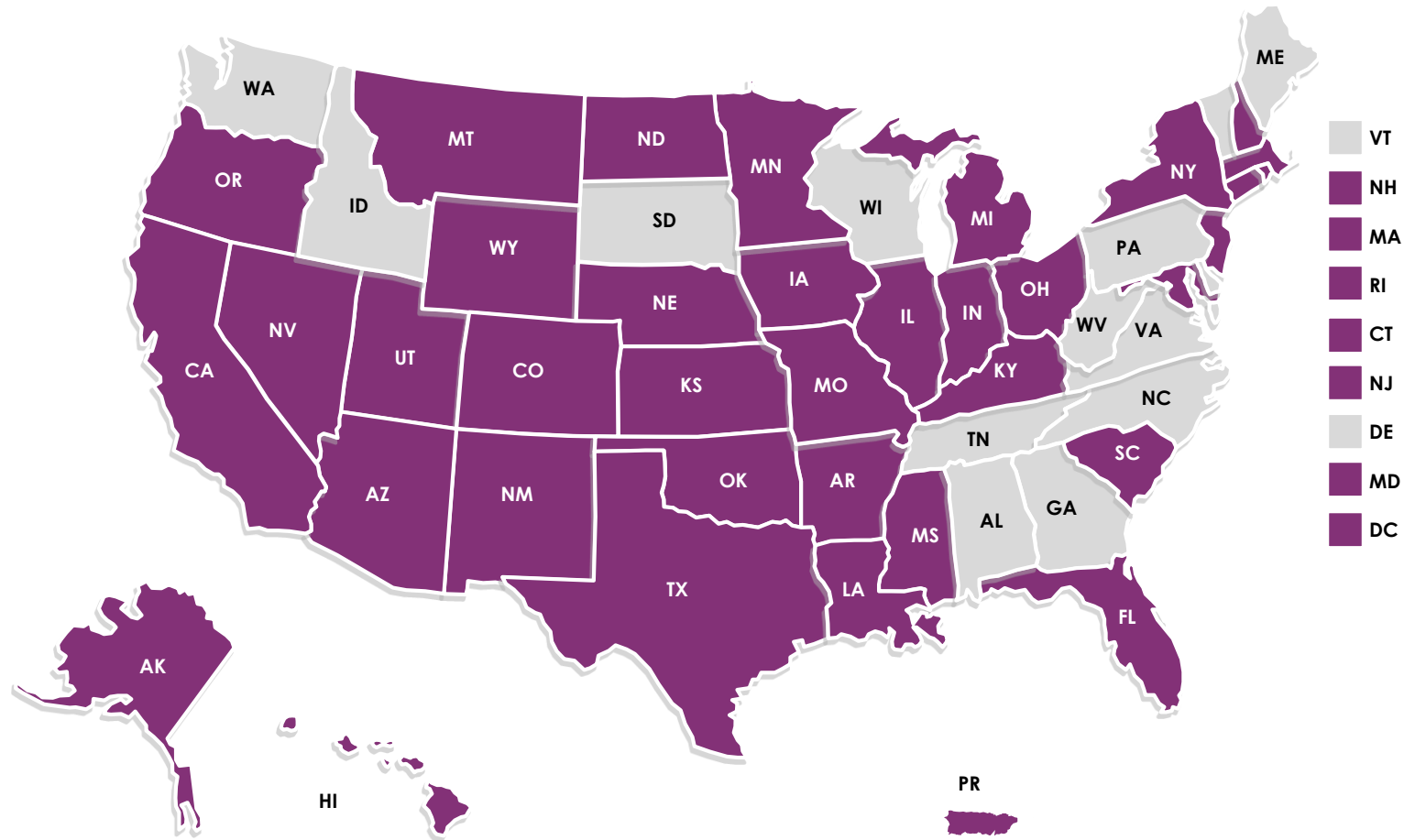
Source: NCES

Distributing State Education Funding

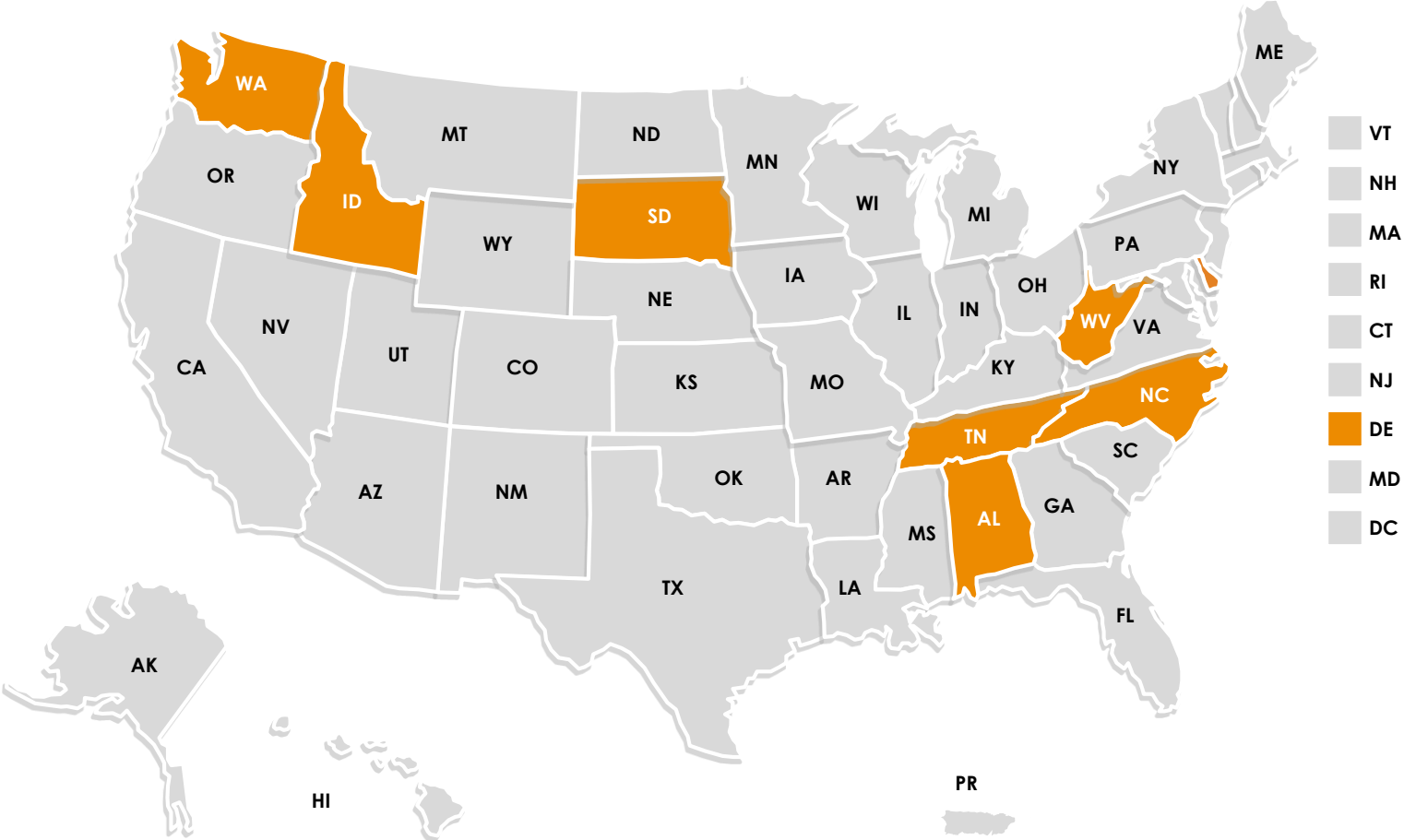
Distributing State Education Funding



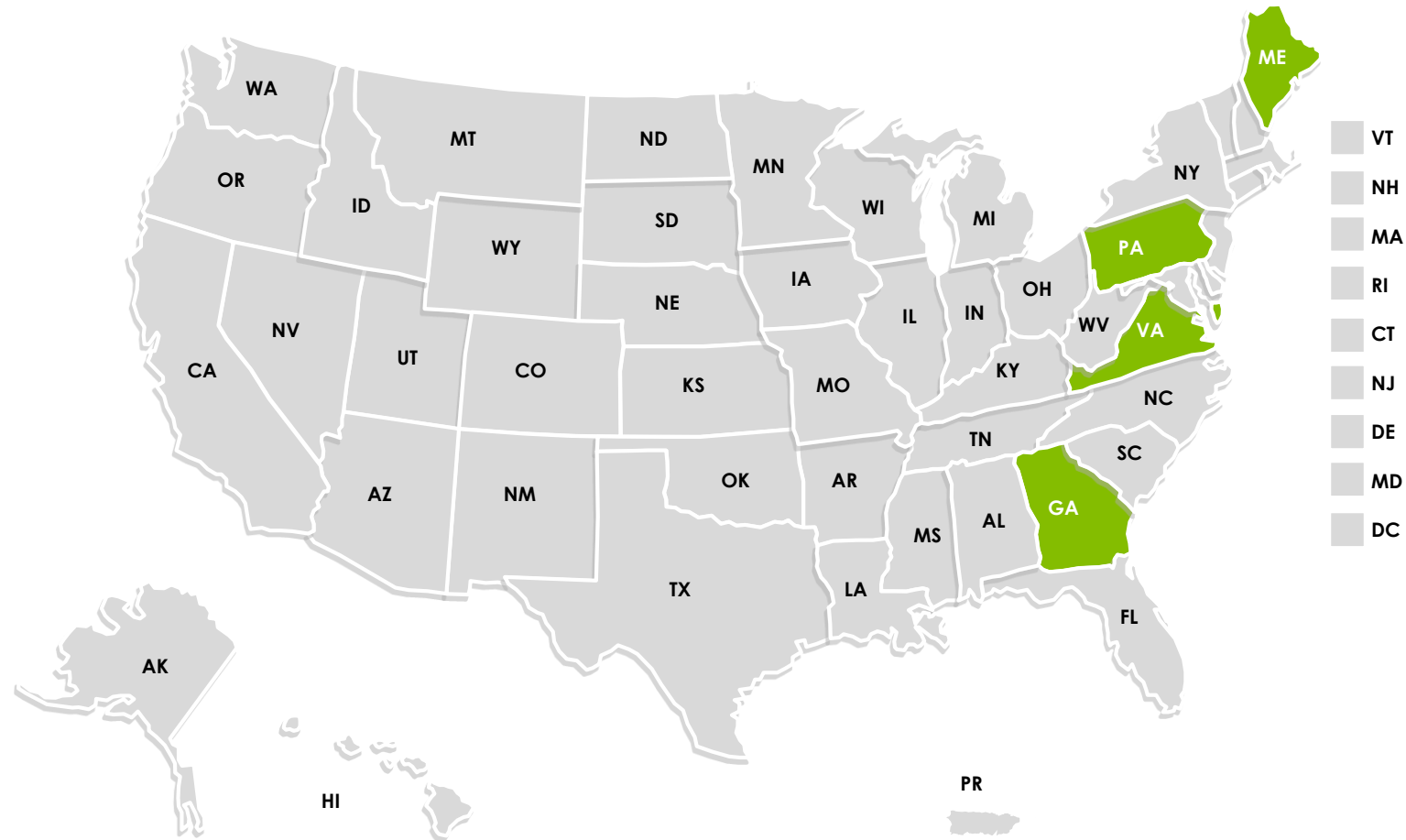
Foundation Formula



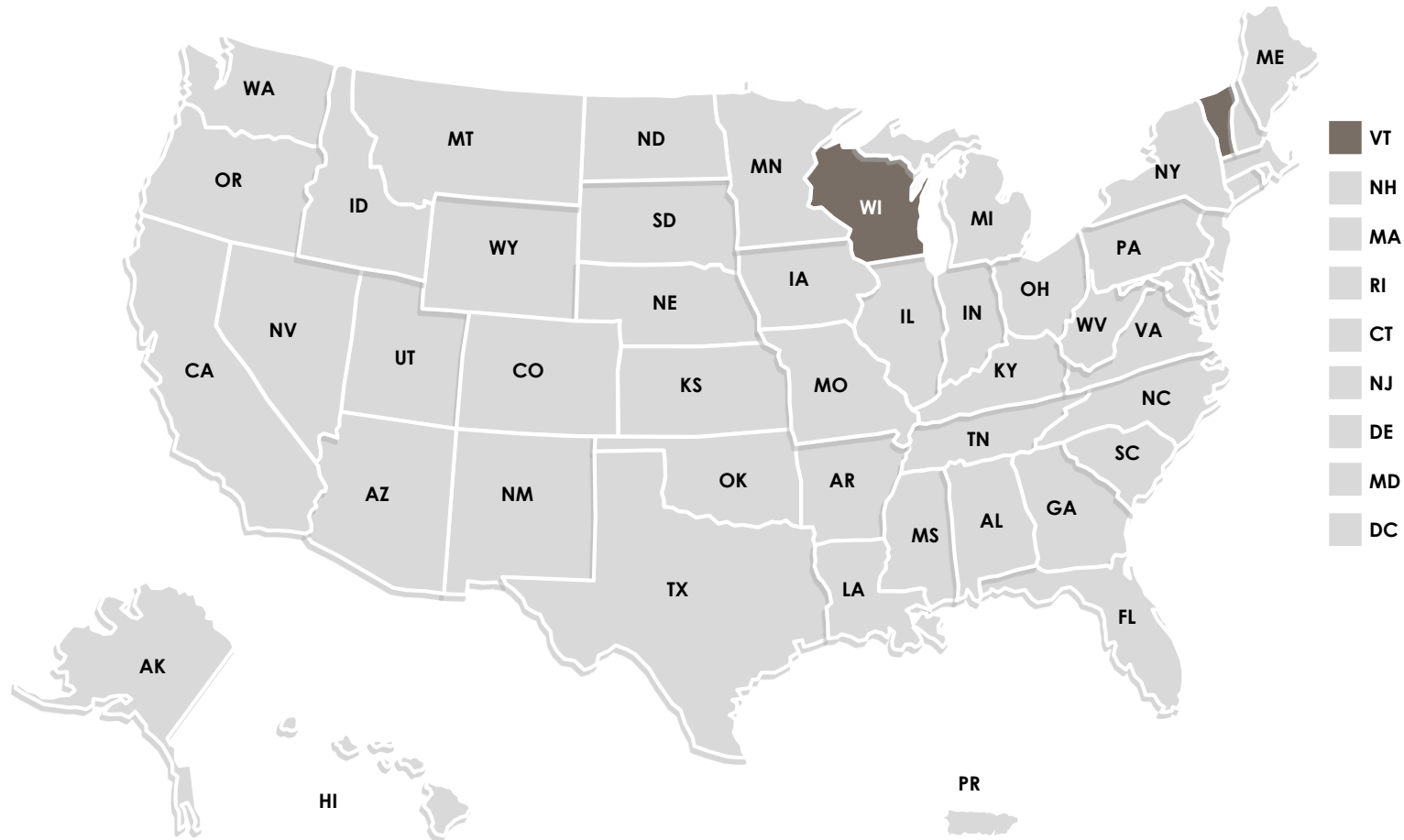
Resource-Allocation Models



Hybrid Models



Exceptions



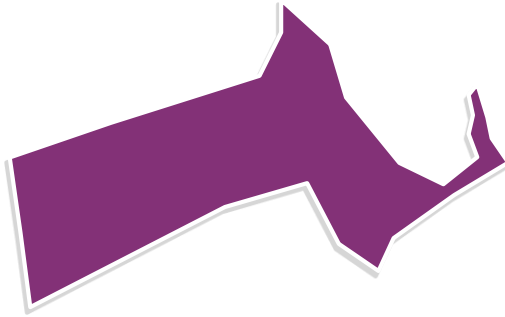
New Hampshire



Foundation Formula

Base per pupil
amount: \$3708.78 (for
FY 2020-2021; adjusted for inflation
every 2 years)

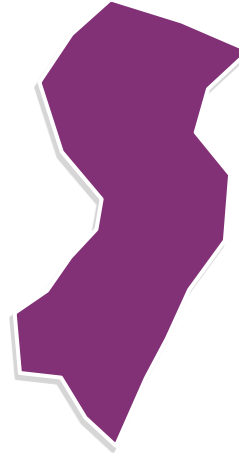
MA



Foundation Formula

Base per pupil amount:
Derived by enrollment
categories and different cost
function areas.

NJ



Foundation Formula

Base per pupil
amount: \$11,775

VT



District budgets are
approved at the local level
but mostly funded through
the statewide education
fund. The state does not
use a fixed base funding
amount per student.

Policy Challenges

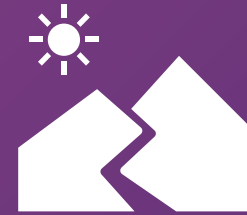
Student and School Attributes



Different students and districts have different needs or requirements.



The cost to educate some students may be higher than others, especially multiple high-cost populations.



Education in schools with geographical or other attributes may also be costly.

Allocating funding for attributes in New Hampshire

At-risk funding: (Free and Reduced-price Lunch funding in NH)
Flat weight system

Small size or isolated adjustment:
None

Special Education:
Flat weight system

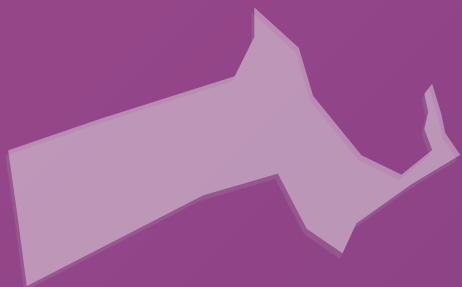
English Language Learner funding (ELL):
Flat weight system



*New Hampshire also allocates additional funding for 3rd grade pupils that score below proficient on the statewide assessment if that student is not counted in another category.



MA



Special Ed:

Census-based system and high cost

At-risk:

Multiple weights system

ELL:

Multiple weights system

Small or isolated:

None

NJ



Special Ed:

Census-based system

At-risk:

Multiple weights system

ELL:

Flat weight system

Small or isolated:

None

VT



Special Ed:

Reimbursement system and resource-allocation model

At-risk:

Flat weight system

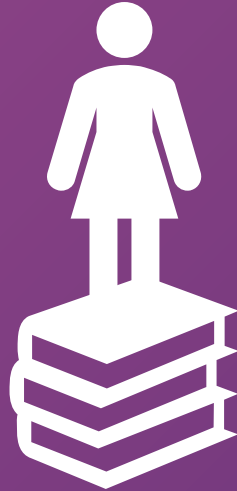
ELL:

Flat weight system

Small or isolated:

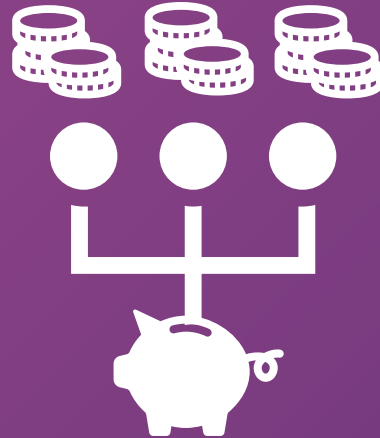
Multiple weights system

Adequacy and Equity



What is considered adequate and equitable funding for education differs across states. Generally, such funding might account for disparities in costs between schools and districts as well as their ability to cover those costs.

Revenue



A states' fiscal context, economic conditions, constitutional obligations, policy and other factors influence the local, state and federal share of school funding. Additionally, revenue streams may fluctuate over time.

Cost Factors



Facilities



Materials



Staff



Transportation



Technology

Overcoming Funding Challenges



Legislative Action



Many states create legislative interim committees, task forces or commissions on school finance. However, significant changes to education funding through legislative action take time. Incremental adjustments through budgets and legislation are more common.



Voter Initiative



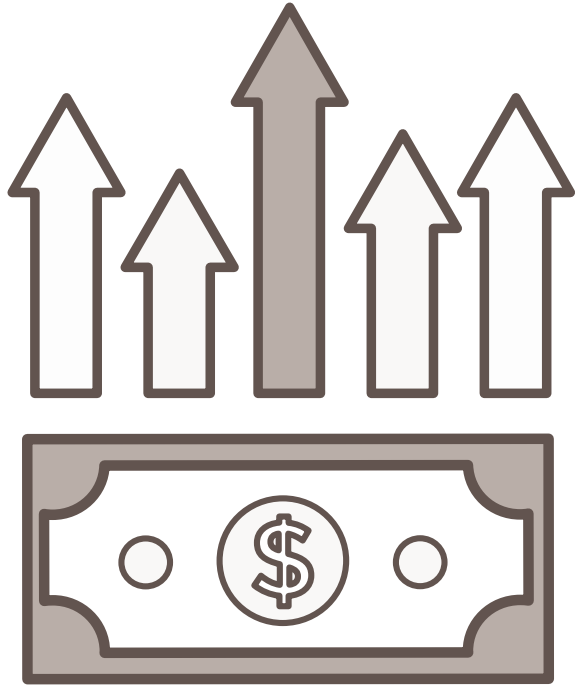
Voters may bring about change to education funding through specific initiatives.



Court Mandate



Almost every state has encountered litigation challenging their education finance system. The outcomes of and states responses to these court cases vary depending on the states' context, constitutional obligations and the court's interpretations.



Legislative Trends



What Are States Doing?

- Modifying existing revenue sources
- Addressing equitable distribution of high-need funding
- Investing in school facilities

Competency-Based Education



Funding for Competency-Based Education



Iowa and Utah fund competency-based instruction and professional development through grants or other sources. While there is growing interest in aligning funding with student outcomes, states have not supported these programs through their funding systems.



The CBE Funding Puzzle



Performance
Metrics



Performance
Standards



Funding
Sources and
Limitations on
Distributions

Selected Resources



Highlights/Recent:

- [EdNote Blog Series: School Funding \(01/2020\)](#)
- [50-State Comparison: K-12 Funding \(08/2019\)](#)
- [Funding Transparency Under ESSA \(02/2018\)](#)
- [The Importance of At-Risk Funding \(06/2016\)](#)

Thank you!

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