

Abstract



The True Cost of Education in Florida 2.0

Snapshot of a new report by Florida TaxWatch

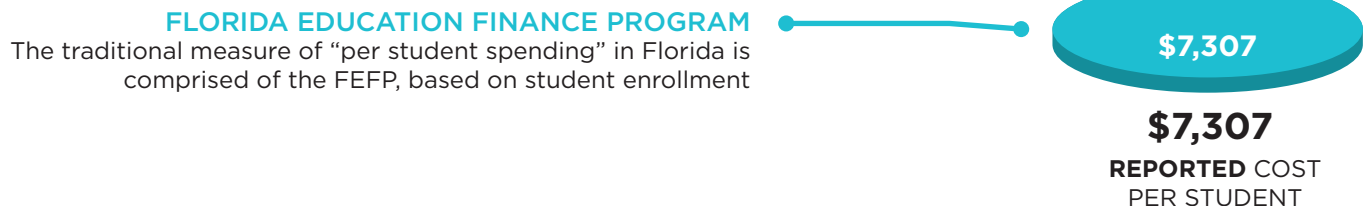
Per-student spending is an easy-to-use measure by which taxpayers can evaluate public school spending and efficiency. Most taxpayers, however, have little or no idea how much is spent per student in public schools. The most commonly reported per-student spending figures in Florida are based solely on funding provided through the **FLORIDA EDUCATION FINANCE PROGRAM (FEFP)**. For the 2017-18 school year, Florida public schools would have spent an average of \$7,307 “per student” in FEFP funding.

BUT THERE IS MORE TO CONSIDER

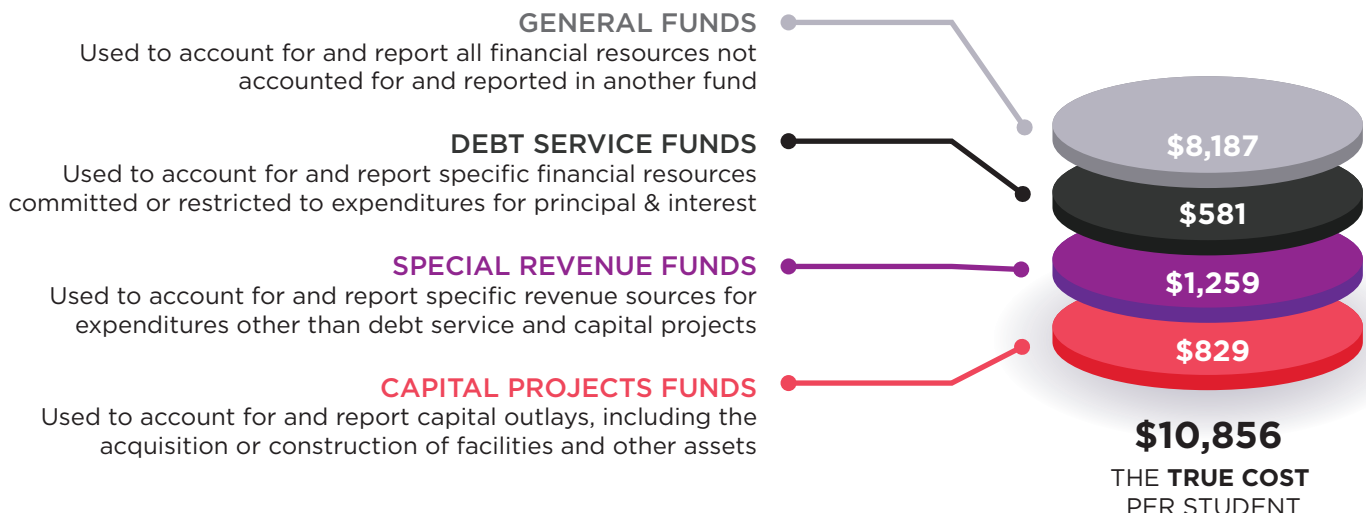
This figure, which is published in legislative budget summaries and widely cited by the media, can be misleading since it does not reflect total spending per student. Each school district is required to submit to the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) annual financial reports that include federal, state, and local revenue and expenditures.

Expenditures were reported for the following fund types for Fiscal Year 2017-18: **GENERAL FUNDS, DEBT SERVICE FUNDS, SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS,** and **CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS**, which should all be considered as part of the **TRUE COST**.

THE TRADITIONAL CALCULATION:



THE TRUE COST CALCULATION:



READ THE NEW REPORT @ FLORIDATAXWATCH.ORG