

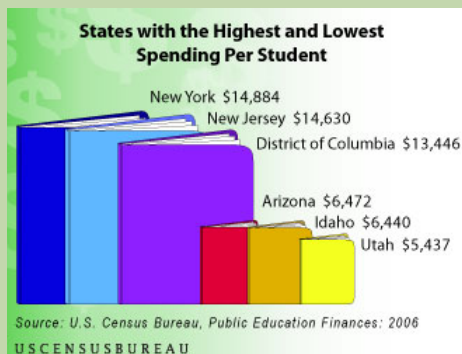
## Public Schools Finances 2006

District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) rank third among states in per capita spending on students. DCPS spent an average of \$13,446 per student in fiscal year 2006, an increase of \$467 from 2005, according to a U.S. Census Bureau. The publication entitled **Public Education Finances: 2006** from the U.S. Census Bureau, provides a comprehensive look at the revenues and expenditures of public school districts at the national and state levels. The publication includes detailed tables that allow for the calculation of per pupil expenditures. Highlights from these tables include spending on instruction, support services, construction, salaries and benefits of the more than 15,000 school districts. However, this report presents selected indicators of public school finances nationally and in the District of Columbia. Public school districts include elementary and secondary school systems.

### National Indicators

- Public school systems received \$521.1 billion in funding from federal, state and local sources in 2006, a 6.7 percent increase over 2005. Total expenditures reached \$526.6 billion, a 6 percent increase.

Figure 1:



- State governments contributed the greatest share of funding to public school systems (47 percent), followed by local sources (44 percent) and the federal government (9 percent).
- School district spending per pupil was highest in New York (\$14,884), followed by New Jersey (\$14,630) and the District of Columbia (\$13,446) (Figure 1). States where school districts spent the lowest amount per pupil were Utah (\$5,437), Idaho (\$6,440) and Arizona (\$6,472).

### District of Columbia Public Schools Finances

- DCPS received \$1.09 billion in funding from federal and local sources in 2006, a 1.5 percent increase over 2005.
- Total expenditure reached \$1.08 billion, a 0.3 percent decrease from 2005.
- Local government contributed the major share of funding to the public school system (88.3 percent), and the federal government contributed the rest (11.7 percent).
- District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) spent an average of \$13,446 per student in fiscal year 2006, an increase of \$467 from 2005. As depicted in the graph above, DCPS was the third largest spender per pupil among states.
- Expenditure for elementary and secondary education, and current spending made up \$952 million (88 percent) and capital outlay \$126.8 million (12 percent). From current spending, DCPS allotted \$478.7 million to elementary and secondary instructions. Of that amount, \$280.9 million (59 percent) went to salaries and \$26.0 million went to employee benefits (5.4 percent). Another \$434 million went to support services.
- Of the \$434 million spent on support services,

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28.5 percent went to operations and maintenance, and 4 percent went to general administration. Of the \$127 million in capital outlay, \$95 million (75 percent) was spent on construction, and \$31 million (12 percent) went to equipment.

- Of the total expenditures for elementary and secondary education, current spending made up \$451 billion (85.7 percent) and capital outlay \$59 billion (11.2 percent).
- From current spending, school districts allotted \$271.8 billion to elementary and secondary instruction. Of that amount, \$184.4 billion (68 percent) went to salaries and \$58.5 billion went to employee benefits (22 percent). Another \$156 billion went to support services.
- Of the \$156 billion spent on support services, 28 percent went to operations and maintenance, and 5 percent went to general administration. Of the states that used 10 percent or more of their support services on general administration expenditures, North Dakota topped the list at 14 percent. General administration includes the activities of the boards of education and the offices of the superintendent.
- Of the \$59 billion in capital outlay, \$45 billion (77 percent) was spent on construction, \$5 billion (8 percent) was spent on land and existing structures, and \$8.7 billion (15 percent) went to equipment.
- State government contributions per student averaged \$5,018 nationally. Hawaii had the largest revenue from state sources per pupil (\$13,301). South Dakota had the least state revenue per student (\$2,922).
- The percentage of state government financing for public education was highest in Hawaii (89.9 percent) and lowest in Nebraska (31.4 percent).
- The average contribution per pupil from local

sources was \$4,779, with the highest amount from the District of Columbia (\$16,195), which comprises a single urban district (and therefore does not receive state financing). The state with the smallest contribution from local sources was Hawaii (\$265).

- The percentage of local revenue for school districts was highest in Illinois (59.1 percent) and lowest in Hawaii (1.8 percent).
- On average, the federal government contributed \$974 per student enrolled in public school systems. Federal contributions ranged from \$2,181 per student in Alaska to \$627 in Nevada.

- The percentage of public school system revenues from the federal government was highest in Mississippi (20.1 percent) and lowest in New Jersey (4.3 percent). Spending on transportation represented 12.4 percent of support services. New York and West Virginia spent the largest percent from support services on transportation (21 percent). Hawaii (5.4 percent) and California (7.2 percent) spent the least.
- Total school district debt increased by 8.5 percent from the prior year to \$322.7 billion in fiscal year 2006.

**Table 1: Summary of District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) Finances: FY 2006**

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| <b>Total Revenues</b>                         | <b>\$1,092,863,000</b> |
| Federal Sources                               | \$127,371,000          |
| Local sources                                 | \$965,492,000          |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>                     | <b>\$1,078,931,000</b> |
| Current spending                              | \$952,124,000          |
| Capital Outlay                                | \$126,807,000          |
| <b>Revenues from Federal Sources</b>          |                        |
| Total   | \$127,371,000 (11.7%)  |
| Distributed through State                     | \$125,898,000          |
| Compensatory (Title 1)                        | \$64,248,000           |
| Special Education                             | \$10,035,000           |
| Child nutrition                               | \$15,446,000           |
| Vocational                                    | \$5,960,000            |
| Other   | \$30,209,000           |
| Direct Federal Aid                            | \$1,473,000            |
| <b>Revenue from Local Sources</b>             |                        |
| Total   | \$965,492,000 (88.3%)  |
| Parent government contribution                | \$938,293,000          |
| School lunch charges                          | \$989,000              |
| Tuition and Transportation                    | \$558,000              |
| Other charges                                 | \$8,859,000            |
| Other local revenue                           | \$16,793,000           |
| <b>Current Spending</b>                       |                        |
| Total   | \$952,124,000          |
| Instruction                                   | \$478,688,000          |
| Support Services                              | \$433,933,000          |
| Other   | \$39,508,000           |
| Support services                              | \$433,933,000          |
| Pupil support services                        | \$54,667,000           |
| Instructional staff support services          | \$69,705,000           |
| General administration                        | \$19,272,000           |
| School administration                         | \$51,475,000           |
| Operation & maintenance of plant              | \$123,886,000          |
| Pupil transportation                          | \$73,125,000           |
| Other   | \$41,803,000           |
| <b>Per Pupil Amounts for Current Spending</b> |                        |
| Total   | \$13,446.00            |
| Instruction                                   | \$5,729.00             |
| Salaries & Wages                              | \$4,712.00             |
| Employee Benefits                             | \$436.00               |
| Support Services                              | \$7,279.00             |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Annual Survey of Local Government Finances FY 2006

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Government of the District of Columbia