

# Issues for Hearing

Ensuring Equity Through Spending: School-Level Spending Reported Pursuant to the Federal Every Student Succeeds Act  
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## Summary

- The federal Every Student Succeeds Act requires a school’s report card to include expenditures of federal funds and state and local funds per student.
- Advocates proposed this provision to urge school districts to evaluate spending across individual school sites within a school district and start funding equity conversations within school districts.
- This summer, PED released per-pupil expenditure (PPE) data for FY19<sup>1</sup>. The spending data includes amounts for instruction, student support services, and centralized costs, but excludes food service, capital outlay, and debt services.

**Total Per Pupil Expenditures by School District Size**

|                    | Large School Districts | Medium School Districts | Small School Districts | Very Small School Districts | State-Chartered Charter Schools |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Number of Entities | 15                     | 35                      | 20                     | 18                          | 51                              |
| Highest PPE        | \$12,451               | \$17,701                | \$27,526               | \$55,040                    | \$59,835                        |
| Average PPE        | \$9,421                | \$10,848                | \$14,395               | \$26,619                    | \$9,756                         |
| Median PPE         | \$9,199                | \$10,707                | \$13,661               | \$19,419                    | \$10,776                        |
| Lowest PPE         | \$8,038                | \$8,862                 | \$8,740                | \$16,297                    | \$6,044                         |

Source: New Mexico Vistas (newmexicoschools.com)

**Total Per Pupil Expenditures by School Type**

|                    | Elementary Schools | Middle Schools | High Schools | K-8 Schools | K-12 Schools |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Number of Entities | 430                | 160            | 122          | 28          | 12           |
| Average PPE        | \$9,954            | \$9,461        | \$9,825      | \$8,959     | \$8,666      |
| Median PPE         | \$10,126           | \$10,139       | \$9,331      | \$9,158     | \$8,962      |

Source: New Mexico Vistas (newmexicoschools.com)

## Data Limitations

- Comparability of data across school districts is limited because school districts are able to choose their method for allocating central costs.
- Only one year of data is available for analysis; these data may be inconsistent from year to year. In addition, school districts may not have considered site-level spending prior to this year.
- The data includes spending for special programs or populations of students that may not be uniform across school sites, such as special education.

<sup>1</sup> Data is available for all school districts and charter schools, apart from Vaughn Municipal Schools













