

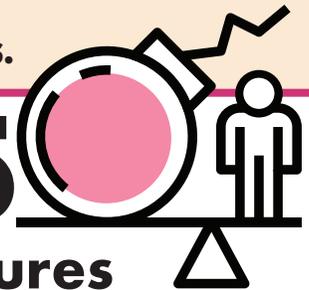
AT A GLANCE

2020 State of Education



The State of Education report is intended to be a barometer of not only the key indicators of public school performance, such as standardized test scores and school finances, but also the timely challenges that public schools are facing and how they are coping with them. Data for the report comes from publicly available data sources and surveys of chief school administrators.

This year's survey results include responses from 65% of school districts.



TOP 3 challenges

 **77%**
Budget pressures

 **29%**
Recruiting and retaining teachers

 **21%**
Teacher/Administrator workload

TOP 5 budget pressures

70% Charter school tuition payments

55% Special education costs

45% Pension costs

40% Inadequate state funding

19% Health insurance increases

TOP 5 ways to balance budgets

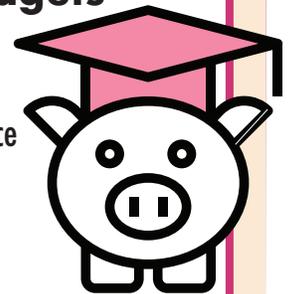
77% Raising property taxes

71% Drawing from fund balance

36% Reducing staffing levels

34% Increasing class sizes

26% Combining programs with other districts



National Perspective



Mandated Expenses

Critics say Pennsylvania spends more per student than the national average.

\$12,201
National average

\$15,798
Pennsylvania

32%
of that is for
pensions and benefits
3rd highest in U.S.

Education spending increases are being driven by costly mandates — especially pensions, charter school tuition payments, and special education.



Critics overlook the impact of those investments on national assessments.

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
PA National Rank



6th Grade 4 reading



7th Grade 4 math



16th Grade 8 reading



8th Grade 8 math



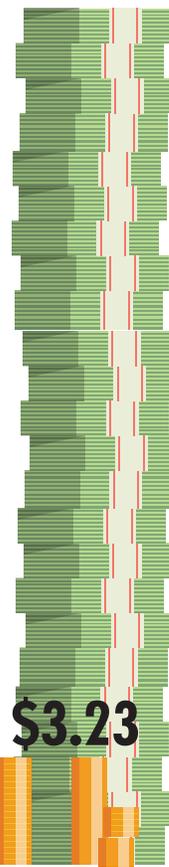
44th

PA Rank
State share of education revenue

Critics also fail to mention that the state's contribution is among the lowest in the US, leaving local taxpayers to fill the void.

Increases over the last 10 years

627%

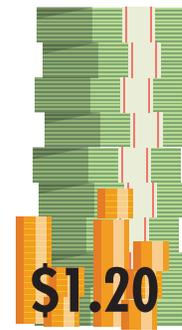


\$3.23

Pensions

\$ in Billions

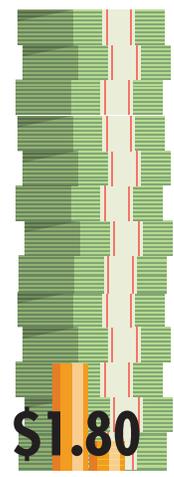
194%



\$1.20

Charter School
Tuition

65%



\$1.80

Special
Education

These **three mandated costs** were the biggest sources of budget pressure for school districts in 2020.