

# FAST FACTS



## EDUCATION SPENDING TRENDS AT A GLANCE



PALMETTO  
PROMISE  
INSTITUTE

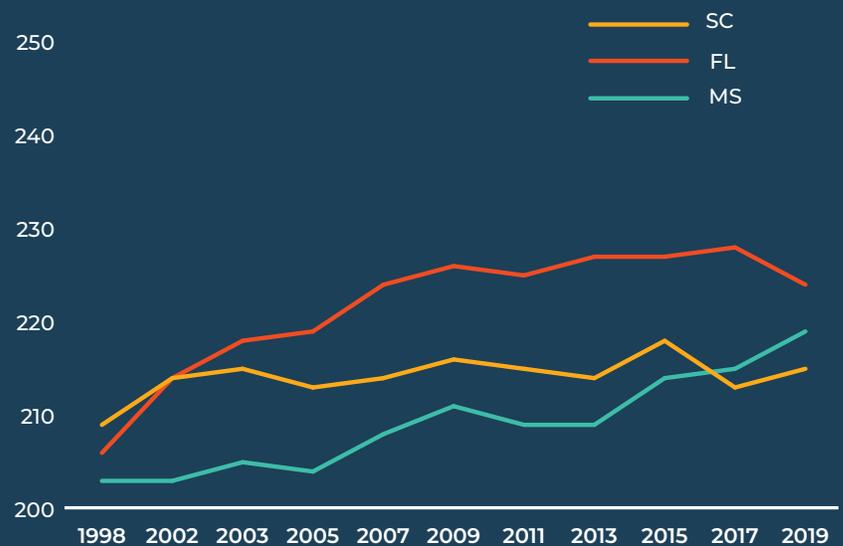
### PER PUPIL EXPENDITURES ARE HIGH...WHILE OUTCOMES ARE POOR.

2018 Public School Spending Per Student By State  
(Deep South States, FY 2018)

1	Virginia	\$12,216
2	Louisiana	\$11,452
3	South Carolina	\$10,856
4	Georgia	\$10,810
5	Arkansas	\$10,139
6	Alabama	\$9,696
7	Texas	\$9,606
8	North Carolina	\$9,377
9	Florida	\$9,346
10	Tennessee	\$9,344
11	Mississippi	\$8,935

Source: Governing; 2018 Annual Survey of School System Finances, U.S. Census Bureau

NAEP 4th Grade Reading Scores for SC, FL, MS  
1998-2019



Source: US Department of Education, National Center for Educational Statistics

### ANNUAL TOTAL FEDERAL, STATE & LOCAL EDUCATION SPENDING

Source: SC Revenue & Fiscal Affairs Office, FY 2020-2021 (est.)

**\$10,710,431,873 \* OR**  
**\$14,801 PER STUDENT**

\*Does not include \$1.4B in emergency COVID aid.

### EDUCATION SPENDING GROWTH IN SOUTH CAROLINA GENERAL FUND

Source: SC Revenue & Fiscal Affairs Office

**\$1.91B** → **\$3.18B**  
**2001** → **2019**

## SPEND SMART, NOT MORE

TEACHER PAY AND ADMIN DATA



# TEACHER COMPENSATION HAS INCREASED...

## ALL TEACHERS

2018-19 SC Avg \$50,882

2019-20 SC Avg \$53,329

Percent increase **4.8%**

Source: SC RFA, Sept. 1, 2020 letter to State Superintendent of Education

IN 2019-20, SOUTH CAROLINA'S AVERAGE TEACHER SALARY WAS **\$116 ABOVE THE SOUTHEASTERN AVERAGE**

Source: SC RFA, Sept. 1, 2020 letter to State Superintendent of Education

# ...AND ADMINISTRATIVE SPENDING IS

## HIGH

School Administrative Expenditure Rank Per Student (Southern States, FY 2018)

1	Virginia	\$715
2	Louisiana	\$696
3	South Carolina	\$691
4	Georgia	\$680
5	Alabama	\$607
6	Tennessee	\$586
7	North Carolina	\$562
8	Texas	\$552
9	Mississippi	\$539
10	Arkansas	\$527
11	Florida	\$511

Source: Governing, 2018 Annual Survey of School System Finances, U.S. Census Bureau

## AND GROWING

School District Expenditure Growth 1993-2019 Compared

Inflation + Population Growth	119%
State GDP Growth	227%
School District Expenditure Growth	272%

Source: Acuitas Economics; RFA Local Government Finance Report

## 14 DISTRICTS HAVE FEWER THAN 1,500 STUDENTS

Source: SCDE, 45-Day Active Headcount (2019-20)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER SAVINGS FROM CONSOLIDATING SMALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

SAVINGS → **\$338 MILLION OVER 5 YEARS**

Source: State of the State, 2018.