

IDAHO EDUCATION BY THE NUMBERS

2024 EDITION





FOREWORD

DATA IN EDUCATION MATTERS. It can help state leaders make decisions as to what works and what doesn't in public policy. It can help district and charter network leaders see what's working in their schools and what might need improvement or replacement. Principals deserve information that helps support students, families, and educators while making informed decisions about how to best utilize resources. Finally, data can help parents and taxpayers better understand what's happening in their schools and with their children.

At Bluum, we use data to determine which school partners to support and to make determinations on where to allocate resources for things like professional development opportunities for school leaders. We use data to help school operators and funding partners decide where to open new schools or expand existing options. Leaders in Idaho also use data to determine which public charter schools or school district buildings to finance and at what sort of interest rate.

Data does indeed matter. The state of Idaho—through the State Board of Education and the State Department of Education—generates reams of data on anything from student enrollment numbers over time, student demographics, student achievement, student attendance, and teacher quality issues.

To help the end-users of education data in Idaho we asked the experts at Redfish Metrics in Boise to compile the most relevant data in one easy to access and read source. They did an outstanding job with this report Idaho by the Numbers. Garnering and synthesizing education data is time consuming and challenging work because there are many different sources from which to pull data and some of these sources require public records requests to get.

Redfish Metrics has done the heavy lifting here and for that we are appreciative. Idaho by the Numbers was inspired by my former colleagues at the Thomas B. Fordham Institute in Ohio, that have published their report Ohio by the Numbers annually for several years now. We owe a debt of gratitude to Fordham for inspiring us out in Idaho. We also extend thanks to the team at the State Board of Education in helping provide the data for this research and helping us navigate the public records request process and accessing the most recent data available.

Bluum is excited to share this report and to make it easier for Idahoans to access and use education data in their decision making, no matter what their role in education might be.

TERRY RYAN, CEO
October 2024

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ABBREVIATIONS

ELA	English Language Arts
FRL	Free and Reduced Lunch Status
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
IDE	Idaho Department of Education
ISAT	Idaho Standards Achievement Test
NAEP	National Assessment of Educational Progress
NCES	National Center for Educational Statistics
PRR	Public Records Request
SBOE	State Board of Education

STUDENT ENROLLMENT



IDAHO PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

Idaho has over 300,000 public school students of varying backgrounds and characteristics.

	STATEWIDE	
	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	PERCENT OF STUDENTS
TOTAL STUDENTS	314,216	100

RACE OR ETHNICITY		
White	229,994	73.2
Hispanic or Latino	62,101	19.8
Multiracial	10,732	3.4
Black/African American	3,706	1.2
Asian	3,425	1.1
Native American or Alaskan Native	3,202	1.0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1,056	0.3

GENDER		
Female	160,564	51.1
Male	153,652	48.9

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS		
Economically Disadvantaged	109,534	34.9
Students with Disabilities	39,632	12.6
English Learners	19,207	6.1
Homeless	6,899	2.2
Students from Migrant Families	4,521	1.4
Students from Military Families	2,969	0.9

Source: IDE PRR for Total, Race/Ethnicity, and Other Characteristics; IDE for gender percentage estimates (<https://idahoschools.org>). Note: Public school enrollment statistics include traditional district and public charter school students, but do not include students attending non-public schools or home-schooled students. Percentages in the "other characteristics" category do not total 100 because percentages are calculated from total number of students, and some students do not fall in any of these categories.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT BY GRADE LEVEL

Idaho has roughly 20,000 to 26,000 public school students per grade level.

GRADE LEVEL	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	PERCENT OF STUDENTS
Kindergarten	20,655	6.5
First Grade	22,704	7.1
Second Grade	23,658	7.4
Third Grade	23,775	7.5
Fourth Grade	24,031	7.5
Fifth Grade	24,272	7.6

TOTAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	139,095	43.6
Sixth Grade	24,191	7.6
Seventh Grade	24,704	7.8
Eighth Grade	25,070	7.9

TOTAL MIDDLE SCHOOL	73,965	23.3
Ninth Grade	25,885	8.1
Tenth Grade	26,275	8.2
Eleventh Grade	25,348	8.0
Twelfth Grade	24,013	7.5

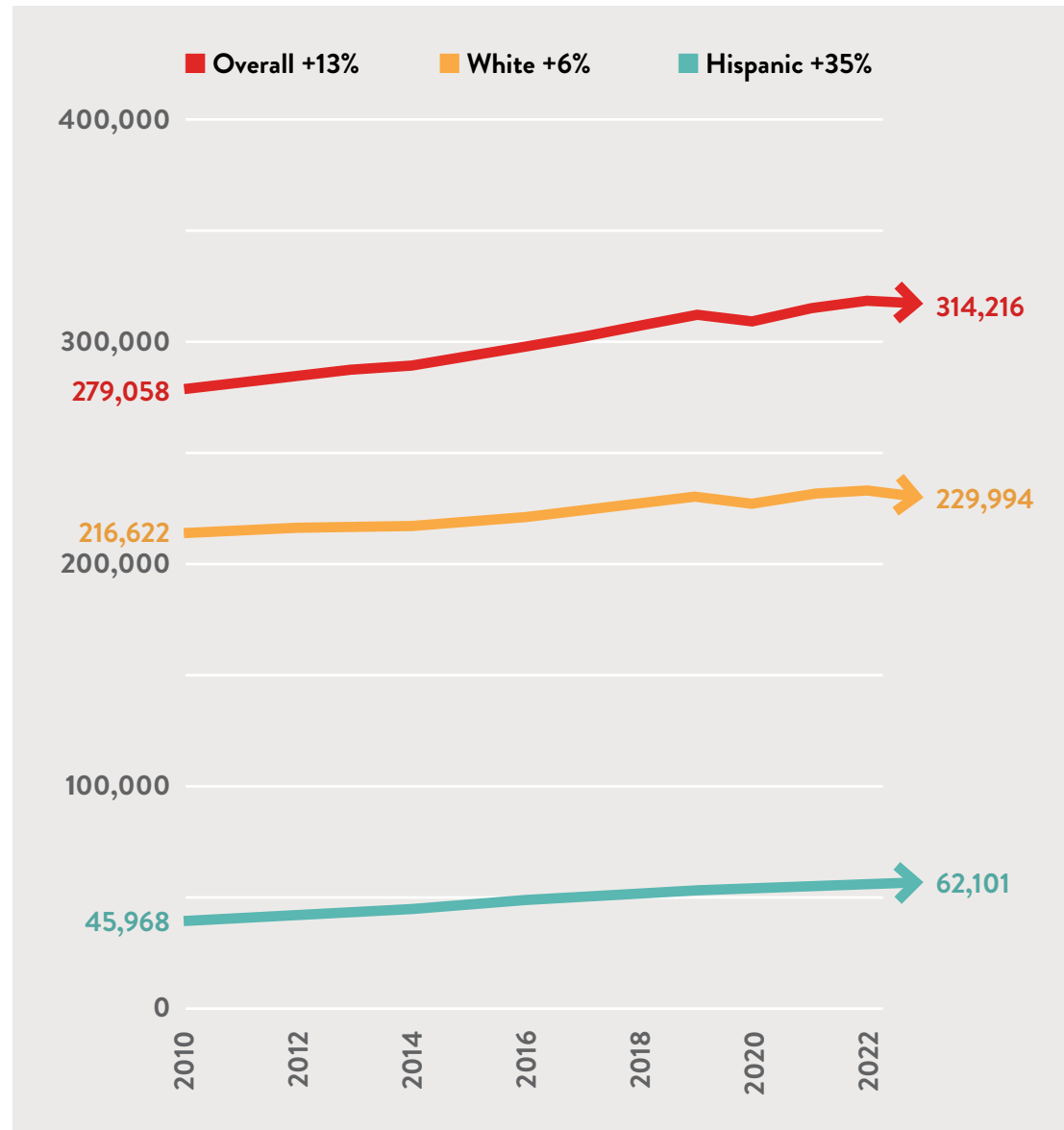
TOTAL HIGH SCHOOL	101,521	31.8
Preschool/Special Education	4,083	1.3

Source: IDE file Historical Enrollment by District or Charter Summary (<https://www.sde.idaho.gov/finance/files/attendance-enrollment/historical/Historical-Enrollment-by-District-or-Charter-Summary.xlsx>). Note: Some districts split elementary, middle, and high schools along different grade levels. Discrepancies in total enrollment across pages is due to differences in data sources from IDE.



PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT TRENDS

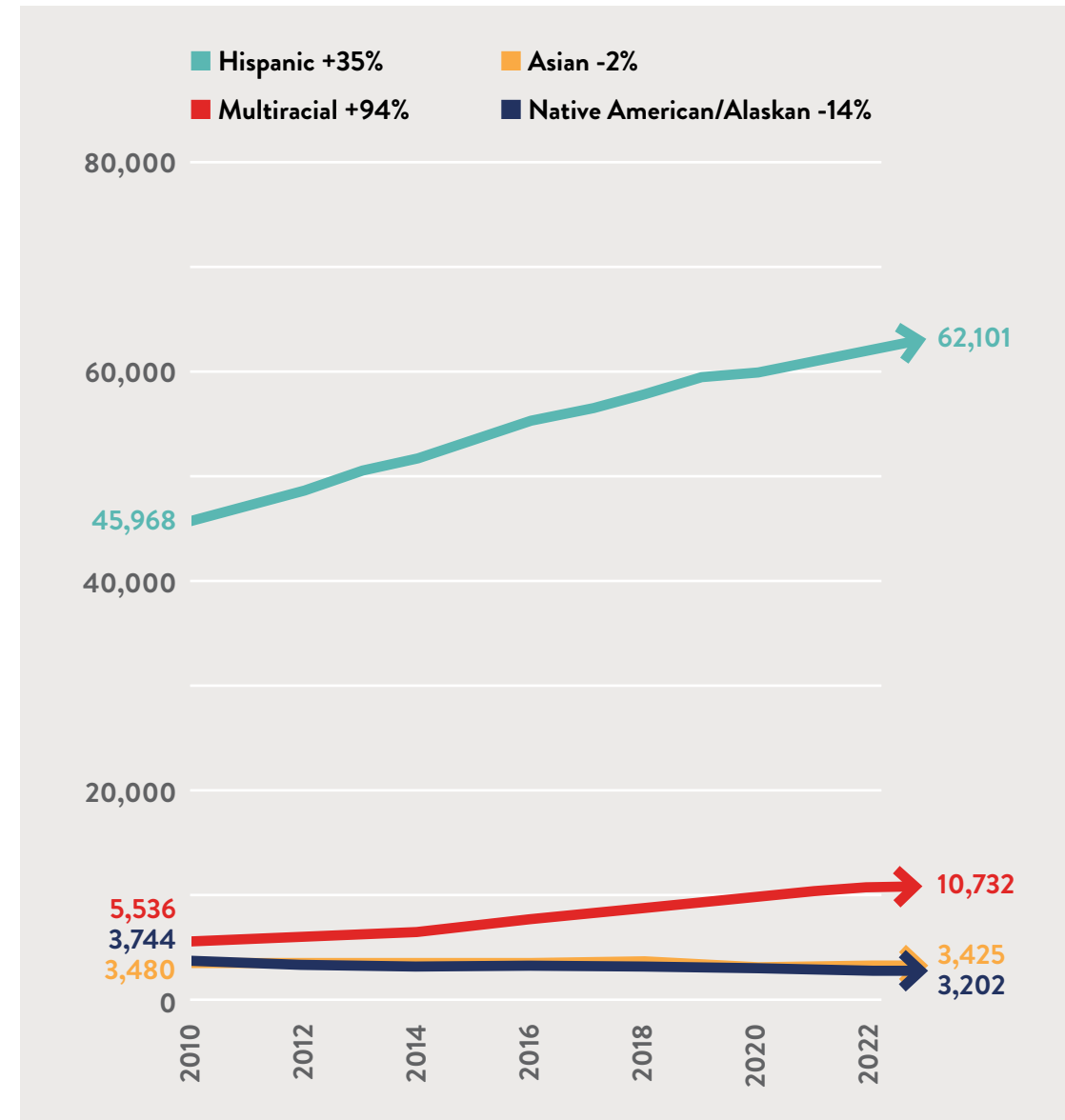
Since 2010-2011, overall public school enrollment in Idaho has increased by 11 percent. Enrollment for Idaho's largest race/ethnic groups (white and Hispanic students) have also increased, with Hispanic enrollment increasing at nearly six times the rate of white enrollment.



Source: IDE PRR for Total, Race/Ethnicity, and Other Characteristics.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT TRENDS BY ETHNICITY

Since 2010-2011, public school enrollment has increased significantly among Hispanic and multiracial students, but has remained flat for Asian/Pacific Islander and Native American/ Native Alaskan students.

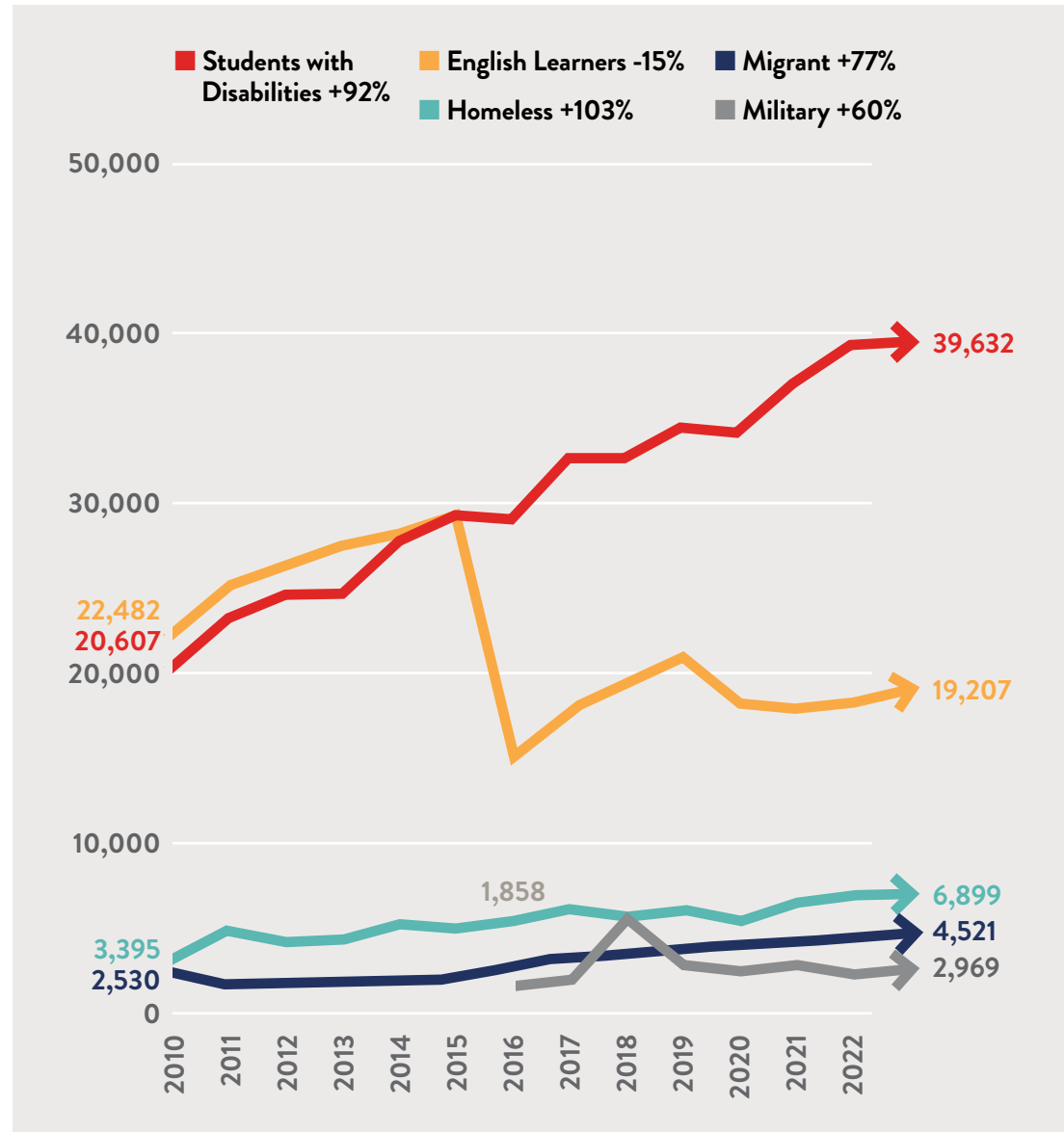


Source: IDE PRR for Total, Race/Ethnicity, and Other Characteristics.



PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT TRENDS BY SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS

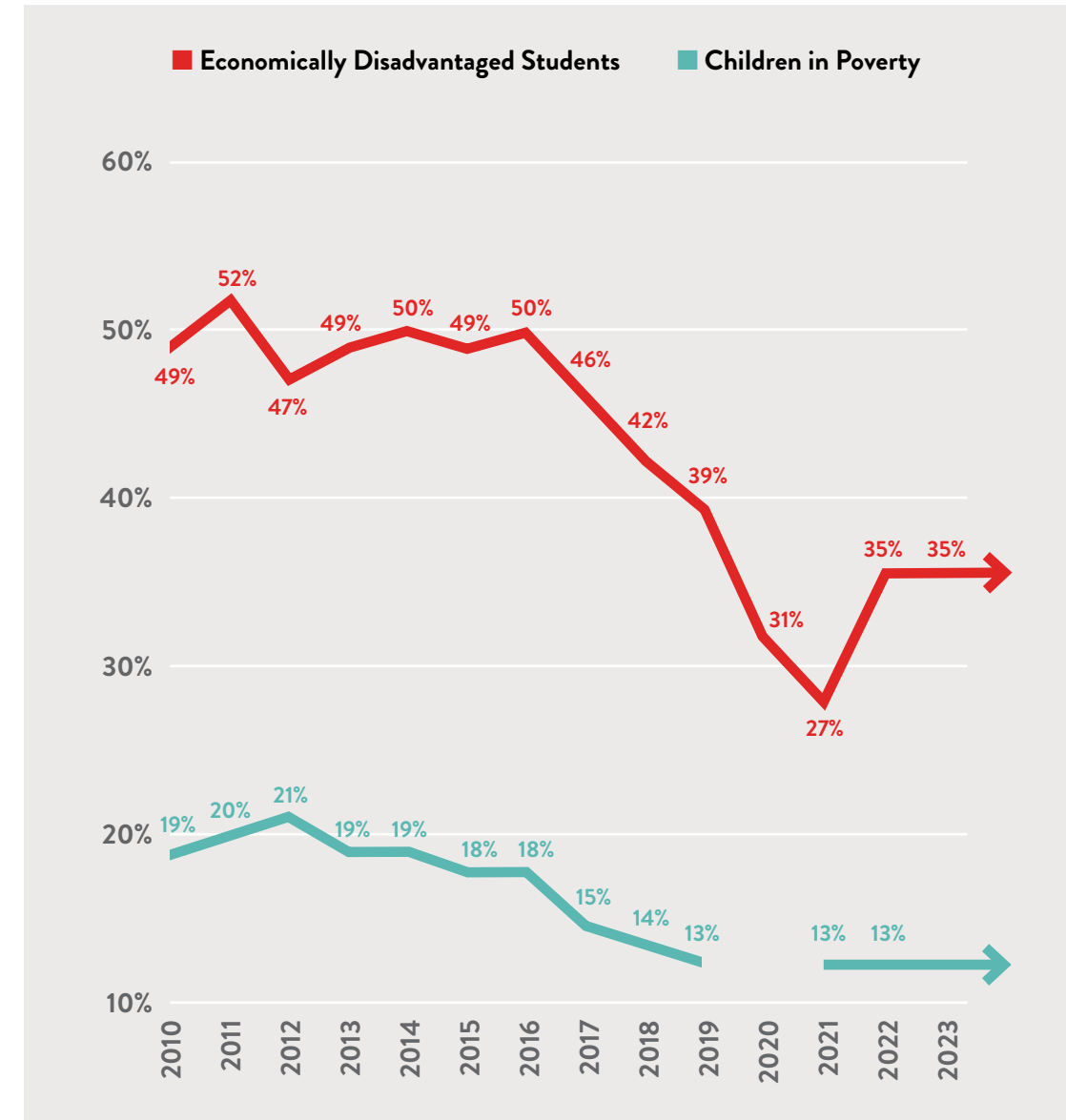
Since 2010-2011, the number of students in Idaho with disabilities has nearly doubled.



Source: IDE PRR for Total, Race/Ethnicity, and Other Characteristics. Note: In the mid-2010s (1) Idaho changed its proficiency assessments for ELL classification, and (2) new federal guidance was issued for treatment of ELL students. See <https://www.sde.idaho.gov/assessment/elpa/files/new-dtc/ELPA-Navigating-WIDA-Screener-ACCESS.pdf> and <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-el-201501.pdf>.

LOW INCOME STUDENTS

The percentage of students identified as economically disadvantaged has decreased since 2010-2011, largely due to changes in the method used for identification. At the same time, the percentage of Idaho children living in poverty has decreased by six points.



Source: IDE PRR for Total, Race/Ethnicity, and Other Characteristics for enrollment data. Kids Count Data Center data based on US Census poverty estimates for poverty data. Note: Poverty data were not reported for 2020 and were not yet available for 2023.



PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS BY TYPOLOGY

Fifty-four percent of Idaho students reside in suburban communities and forty-three percent are from rural areas; nearly half of Idaho's students reside in low poverty communities, with less than five percent residing in high poverty areas.

TPOLOGY	NUMBER OF DISTRICTS	NUMBER OF CHARTER SCHOOLS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	PERCENT OF TOTAL STUDENTS
URBAN				
High Poverty	0	1	46	<1.0
Average Poverty	0	3	635	<1.0
Low Poverty	0	2	1,656	<1.0
SUBURBAN				
High Poverty	0	2	800	<1.0
Average Poverty	9	7	72,011	22.5
Low Poverty	6	30	101,914	32.0
RURAL				
High Poverty	20	5	14,282	4.5
Average Poverty	59	10	82,014	26.0
Low Poverty	21	8	39,644	12.4
Online Charter Schools	0	6	5,606	1.8
TOTAL	94	74	318,608	100

Source: IDE file Historical Enrollment by District or Charter Summary. Note: Urban/Suburban/Rural status is based on school district zip code tabulation area population density, classified primarily according to a dataset assembled by Jed Kolko (<https://jedkolko.com/datasets/>). Poverty information is based on district FRL information when available, and on zip code tabulation area census-based under-18 poverty rates when unavailable. Poverty cutoffs are based on the 25th and 75th FRL quantiles, with under 20% of students participating in FRL listed as Low Poverty, 20-50% of students participating listed as Average Poverty, and above 50% of students participating listed as High Poverty.

IDAHO'S 25 LARGEST DISTRICTS BY ENROLLMENT

SCHOOL DISTRICT	COUNTY	2019-20 ENROLLMENT	2023-24 ENROLLMENT	ENROLLMENT CHANGE VS. 2019
1 West Ada	Ada	40,326	38,670	-4.1%
2 Boise	Ada	25,484	22,495	-11.7%
3 Bonneville	Bonneville	13,325	13,665	2.6%
4 Nampa	Canyon	14,039	13,149	-6.3%
5 Pocatello	Bannock	12,505	11,992	-4.1%
6 Idaho Falls	Bonneville	10,272	10,290	0.2%
7 Vallivue	Canyon	9,540	10,014	5.0%
8 Coeur d'Alene	Kootenai	11,075	9,679	-12.6%
9 Twin Falls	Twin Falls	9,620	9,242	-3.9%
10 Oneida	Oneida	3,329	8,805	164.5%
11 Jefferson County	Jefferson	6,319	6,750	6.8%
12 Post Falls	Kootenai	6,175	5,911	-4.3%
13 Kuna	Ada	5,618	5,800	3.2%
14 Madison	Madison	5,419	5,787	6.8%
15 Cassia County	Cassia	5,487	5,541	1.0%
16 Caldwell	Canyon	6,125	5,396	-11.9%
17 Lakeland	Kootenai	4,590	4,601	0.2%
18 Lewiston	Nez Perce	4,788	4,581	-4.3%
19 Minidoka County	Minidoka	4,315	4,414	2.3%
20 Middleton	Canyon	4,066	4,331	6.5%
21 Jerome	Jerome	4,141	4,082	-1.4%
22 Blackfoot	Bingham	3,811	3,871	1.6%
23 Lake Pend Oreille	Bonner	3,800	3,734	-1.7%
24 Mountain Home	Elmore	3,919	3,680	-6.1%
25 Blaine County	Blaine	3,391	3,234	-4.6%

Source: IDE file Historical Enrollment by District or Charter Summary. Note: Non-weighted Fall enrollments. Non-weighted means students are counted more than once when concurrently enrolled in multiple districts.



SCHOOL OPTIONS



ENROLLMENT BY EDUCATIONAL MODEL

Roughly three-quarters of Idaho students attend traditional public school districts, while more than 32,000 students attend charter schools and almost 40,000 students attend non-public schools or homeschool.

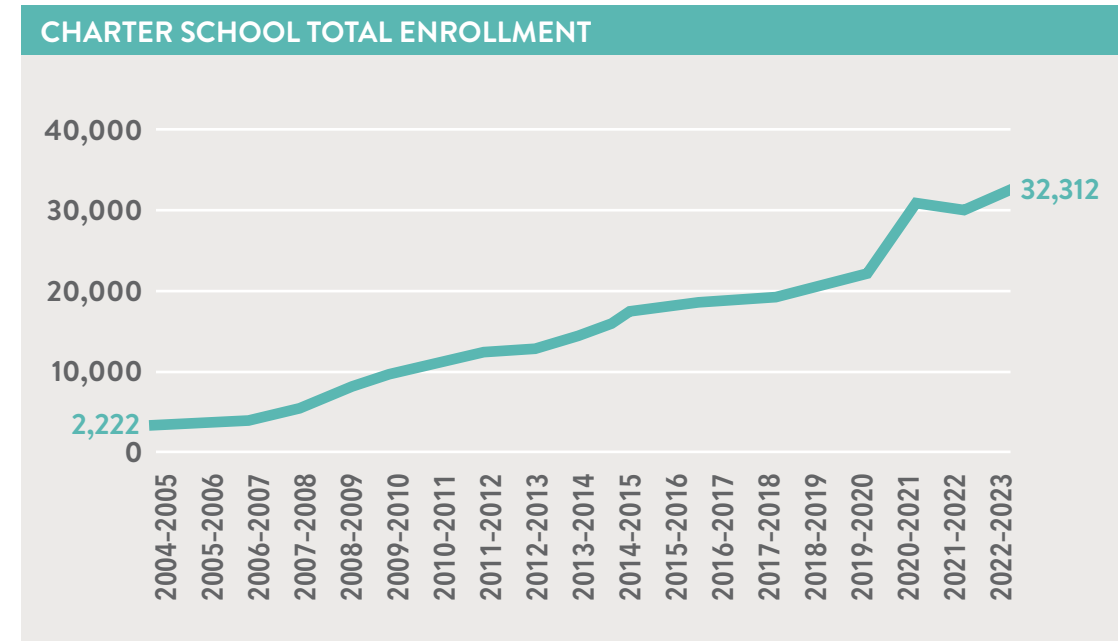
SCHOOL OPTION	SCHOOLS	ENROLLMENT	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
TRADITIONAL SCHOOLS			
Traditional Public Schools (Non-magnet/non-alternative)	705	267,608	Public schools operated by a tax funded district that has the ability to levy taxes.
Magnet Schools	21	8,905	Public “schools of choice” operated by tax funded districts and which have a specific instructional theme, curriculum or method.
Alternative Schools	68	9,783	Non-traditional high schools with curriculum and schedules clearly designed for at-risk students.
OTHER SCHOOLS			
Charter Public Schools	78	32,312	Public schools operated by independent boards with permission from an approved authorizer but unable to levy taxes.
Private Schools	155	16,843	Non-profit or for-profit educational organizations that are operated independently of the public education system.
Home Schools	Not applicable	22,226	Education directed by the parent/guardian.

Source: IDE reports for Traditional, Charter, and Magnet School data. SBOE for Private school data (<http://boardofed.idaho.gov/resources/idahos-private-school-landscape-a-brief-overview/>). Note: Homeschool enrollment was calculated based on a percentage estimate (6.3%) from research conducted at Johns Hopkins University and from an estimate of the total population of school-aged children (352,804) from the US Census Bureau 2022 American Community Survey (<https://education.jhu.edu/edpolicy/policyresearch-initiatives/homeschoolhub/states/idaho/#:~:text=State%20Data&text=U.S.%20Census%20estimates%20indicate%20that,in%20the%20state%20were%20homeschooled>).

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

Idaho has 78 public charter schools serving more than 32,000 students.

2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR	NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	PERCENT OF CHARTER STUDENTS
BRICK AND MORTAR SCHOOLS			
K-12	17	10,870	33.6
Elementary Only	5	1,291	4.0
High School Only	5	596	1.8
Other Grade Combos without HS	28	8,632	26.7
Other Grade Combos with HS	13	5,044	15.6
ONLINE			
K-12	4	3,483	10.8
High School Only	4	727	2.2
Middle School + High School	2	1,669	5.2
TOTALS	78	32,312	100



Source: IDE file Historical Enrollment by District or Charter Summary.



CHARACTERISTICS OF CHARTER SCHOOL STUDENTS

Three quarters of Idaho charter school students are white and over half attend brick-and-mortar schools in suburban areas.

	STATEWIDE	
	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	PERCENT OF STUDENTS
RACE OR ETHNICITY		
White	24,769	75.4
Hispanic	5,656	17.2
Multiracial	1,370	4.2
Asian or Pacific Islander	489	1.5
American Indian or Alaskan Native	299	<1.0
Black/African American	251	<1.0

GENDER		
Female	16,483	50.2
Male	16,351	49.8

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS		
Economically Disadvantaged	10,501	32.0
Students with Disabilities	3,744	11.4
English Learner	931	2.8
Military	373	1.1
Homeless	360	1.1
Migrant	10	<1.0

TPOLOGY		
Urban: Brick-and-Mortar	2,337	7.1
Suburban: Brick-and-Mortar	17,652	53.8
Rural: Brick-and-Mortar	6,717	20.5
Online	5,606	17.1

Source: IDE PRR for Total, Race/Ethnicity, and Other Characteristics. Note: See note on p.11 (Public School Students by Typology) for description of methodology used to determine district typologies. Discrepancies in total enrollment across pages is due to differences in data sources from IDE.

INTERDISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT

In the 2023-2024 school year, Idaho school districts accepted 87.5 percent of applications for transfer.

SCHOOL YEAR	TOTAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	PERCENT OF APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED	TOTAL NUMBER OF DISTRICTS REPORTING
2019-2020	18,064	88.2%	91
2020-2021	21,523	86.1%	91
2021-2022	11,070	82.9%	76
2022-2023	2,560	80.4%	26
2023-2024	27,026	87.5%	126

Source: For all years prior to 2023-2024, IDE 2022-2023 Open Enrollment Report—<https://www.sde.idaho.gov/superintendent/files/leg-priorities/reports/2023/Open-Enrollment-33-1402.pdf>. For 2023-2024, SBOE Report on School District Capacity and Transfer Data. <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/dataresearch/research/> Note: Until the 2023-2024 school year, Idaho Code 33-1402 required IDE to conduct an annual survey of districts offering in-district and out-of-district enrollment options (Open Enrollment), with voluntary reporting by the districts. Senate Bill 1125, which became law on July 1, 2023, now requires all school districts to report transfer data to the Idaho State Board of Education four times per school year. Reported data for 2023-2024 is a cumulative total of applications received and accepted through April 1, 2024.

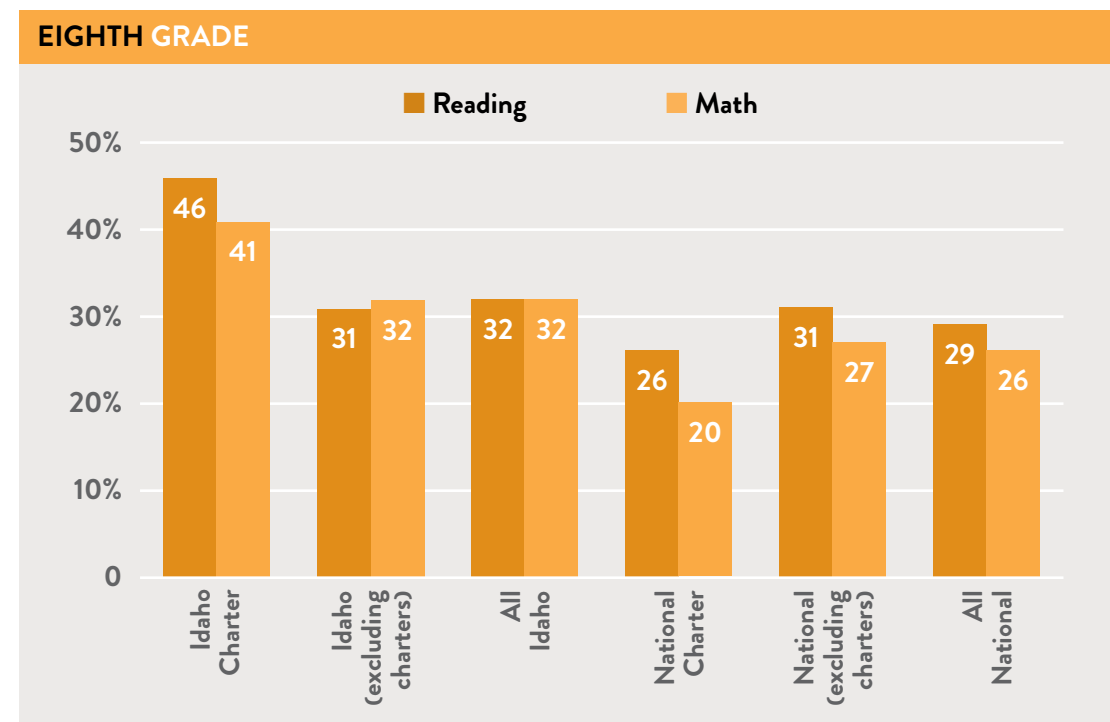
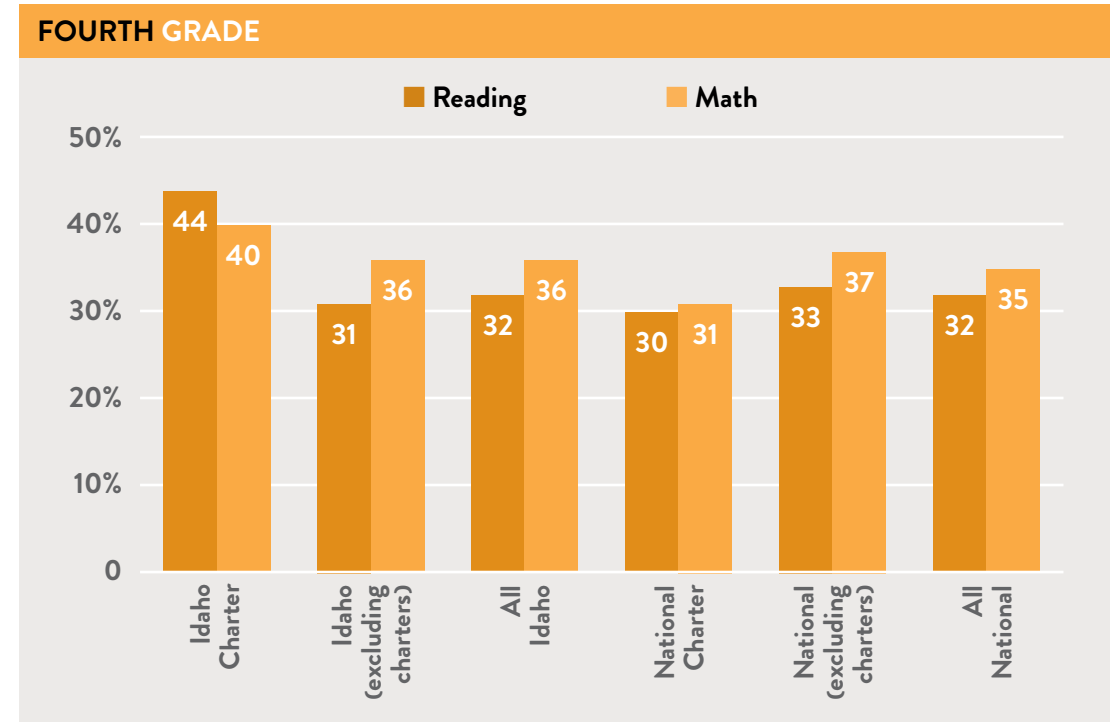


STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT: NATIONAL EXAMS



NATIONAL EXAMS: NAEP 2022

Approximately a third of Idaho students reach the national standard for proficiency, slightly above the national average. Just under half of Idaho charter school students reach the national standard for proficiency, well above the national average.



Source: NAEP Data Explorer (2022).

NATIONAL EXAMS: IDAHO COMPARED TO OTHER STATES

Nationally, Idaho ranks between 4th and 33rd in fourth and eighth grade math and reading. Idaho's national position based on 8th grade scores has risen dramatically since the COVID-19 pandemic, up to the top 5 in math and top 10 in reading. This is particularly noteworthy because Idaho's national position for 8th grade math has been between 20th and 25th for the past two decades.

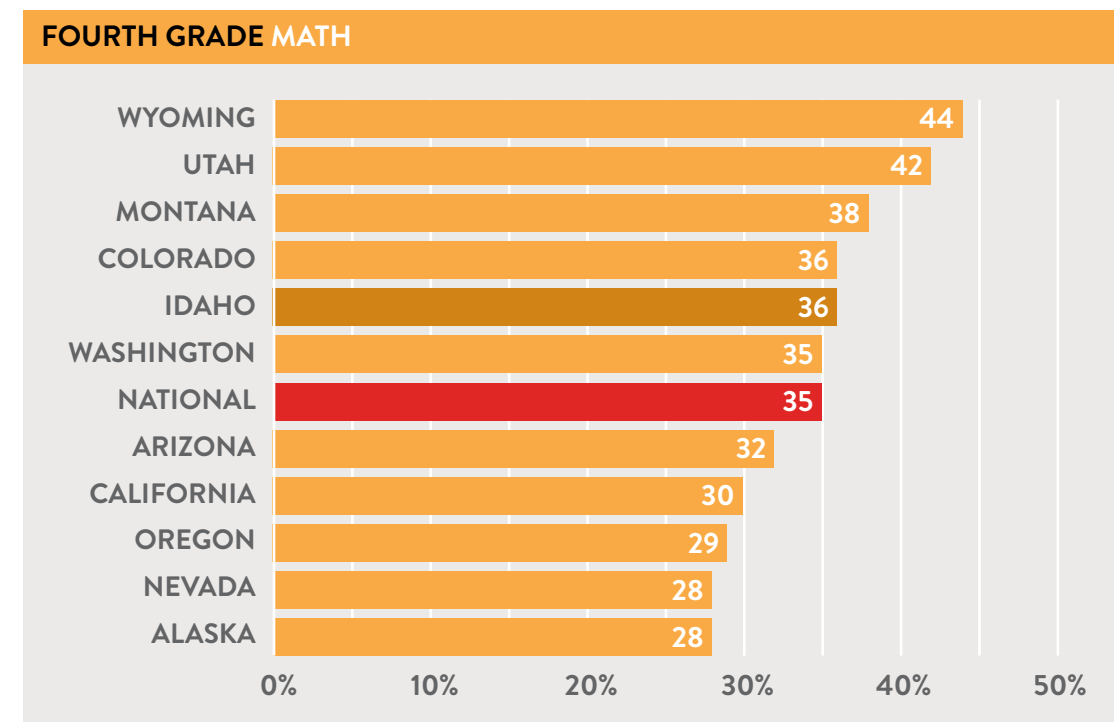
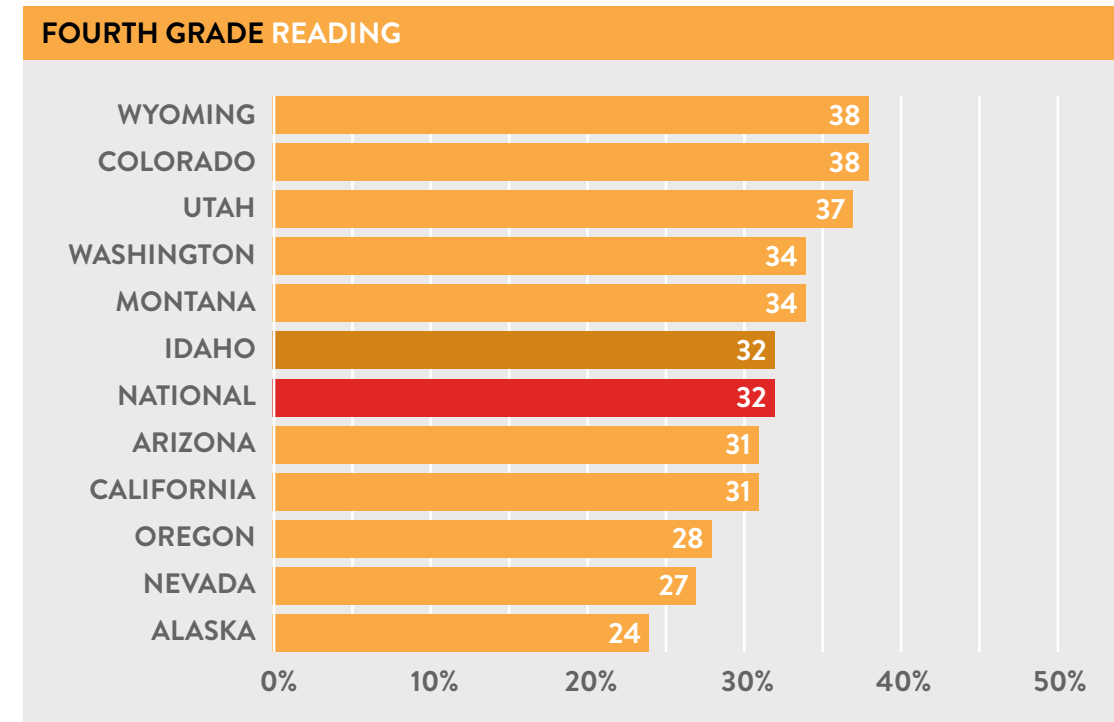
		NATIONAL RANK									
		2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2022
4th Grade Reading		32	20	23	29	26	33	33	23	12	31
4th Grade Math		30	13	25	22	30	32	32	26	16	24
8th Grade Reading		27	24	23	29	17	14	14	10	11	7
8th Grade Math		25	25	26	16	21	22	24	22	12	4

Source: NAEP Data Explorer (2022).



NATIONAL EXAMS: IDAHO COMPARED TO NEARBY STATES

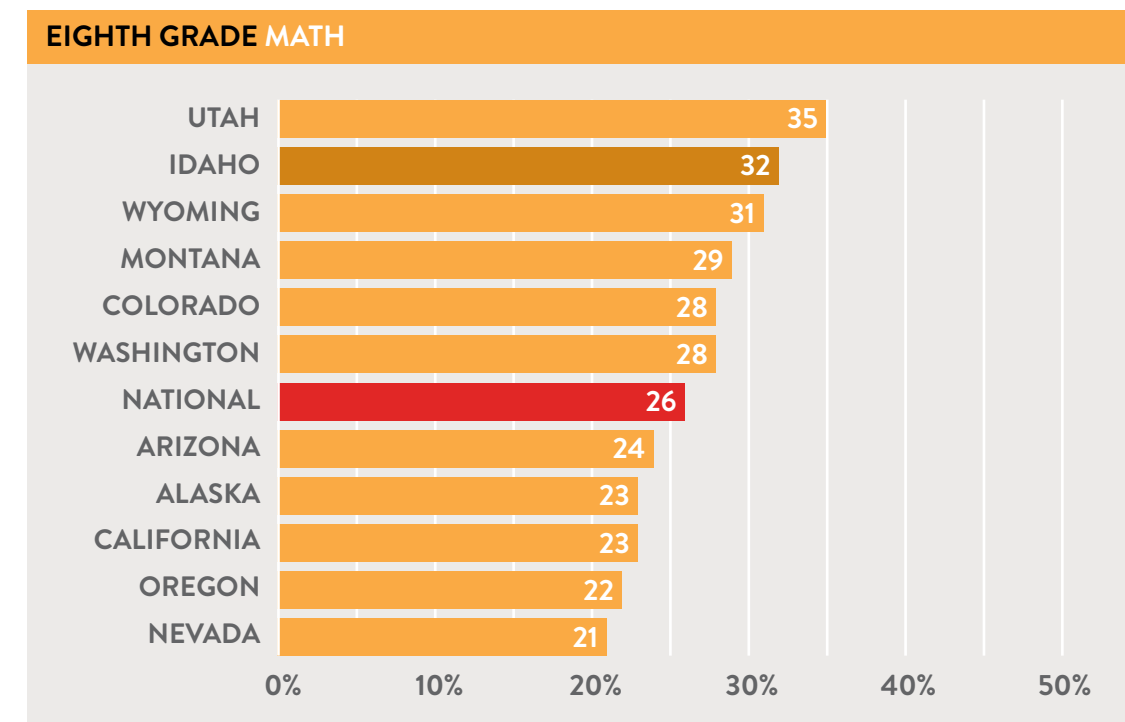
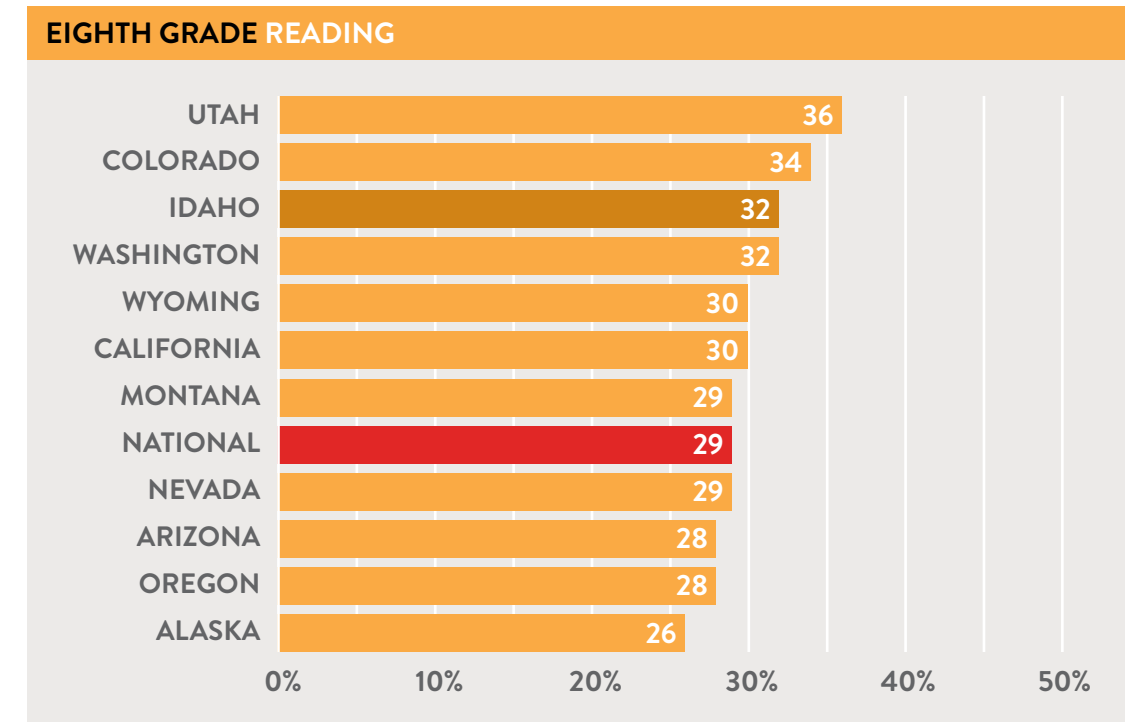
When compared to nearby states, Idaho ranks 6th out of 11 in fourth grade reading and is tied for 4th in **fourth grade** math proficiency.



Source: NAEP Data Explorer (2022).

NATIONAL EXAMS: IDAHO COMPARED TO NEARBY STATES

When compared to nearby states, Idaho is tied for 3rd out of 11 in eighth grade reading and ranks 2nd in **eighth grade** math proficiency.

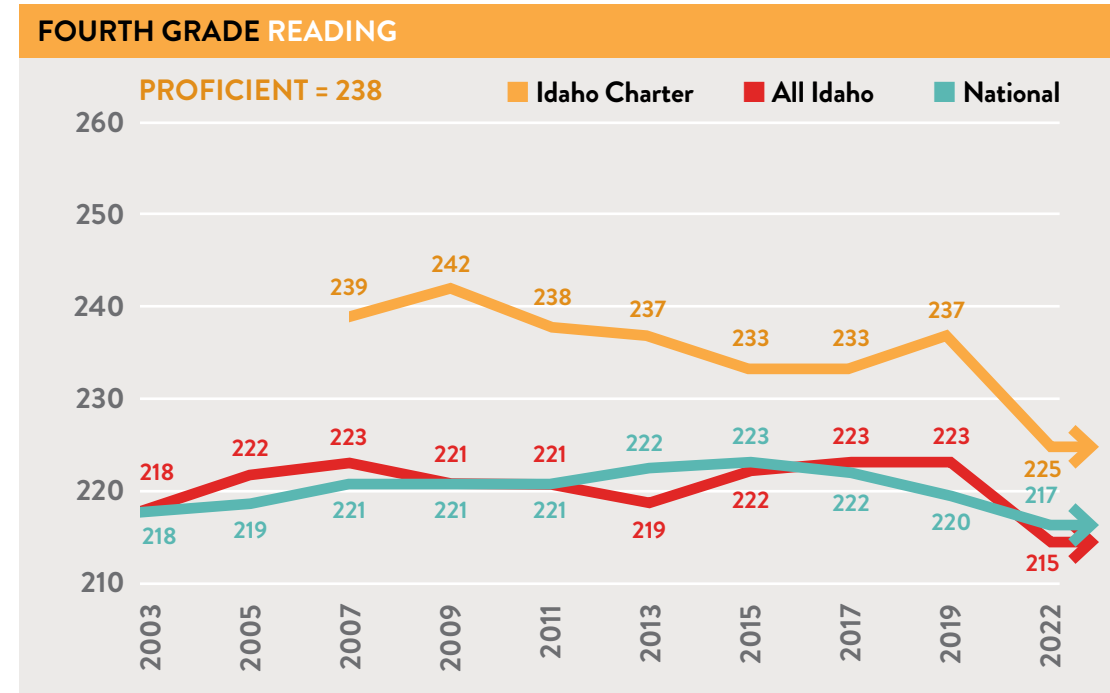


Source: NAEP Data Explorer (2022).



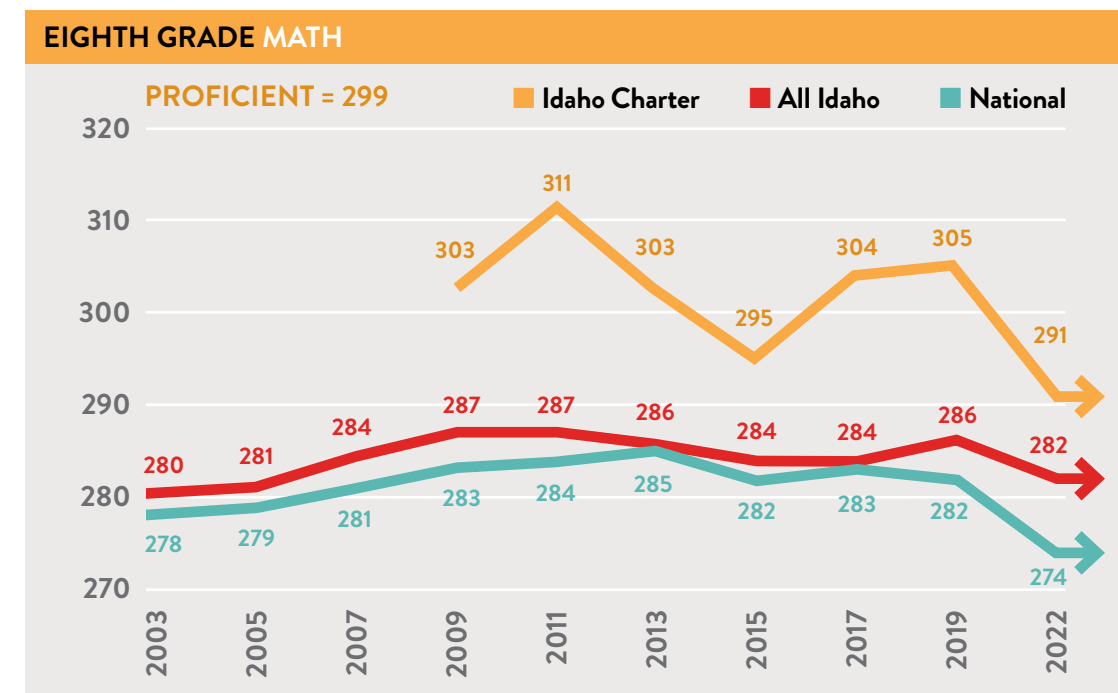
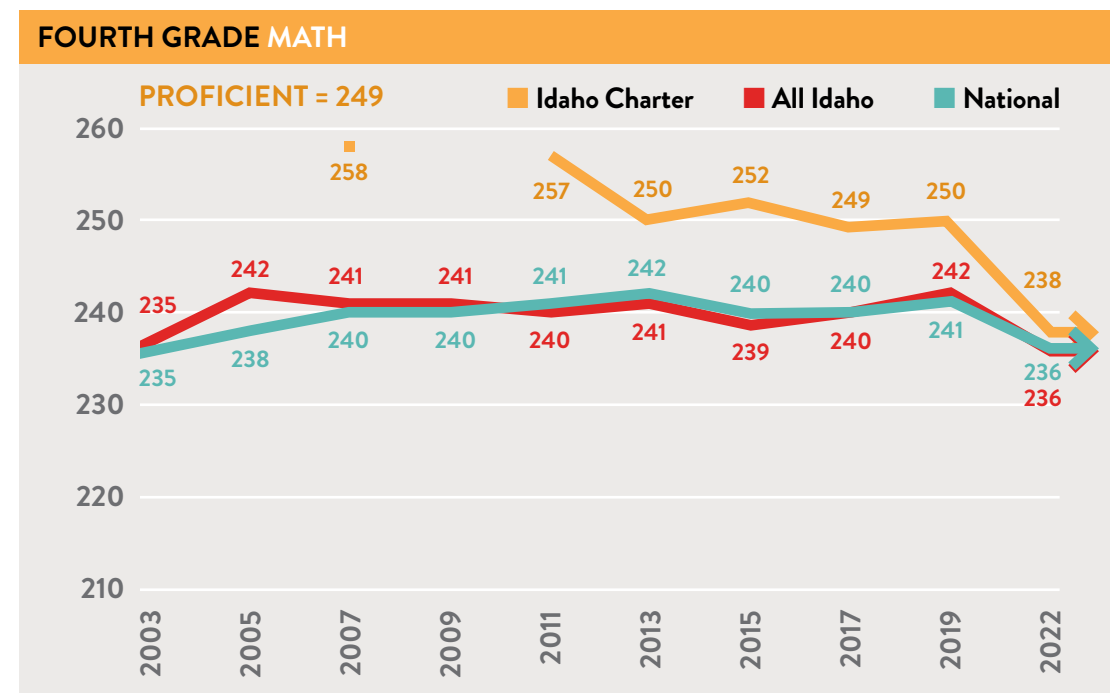
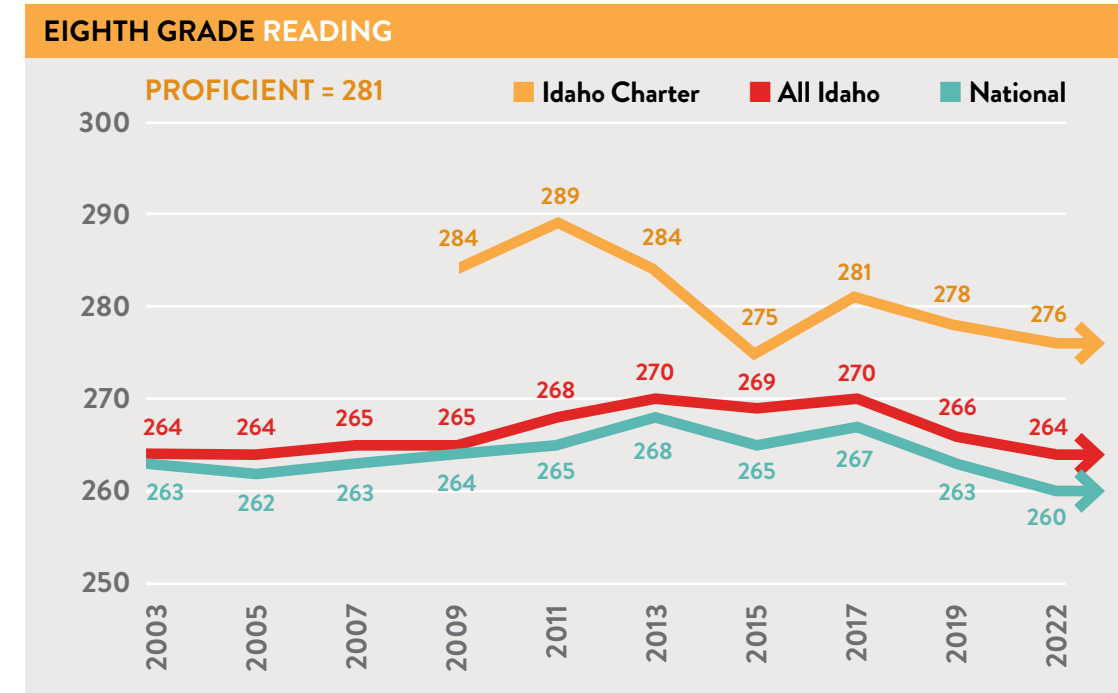
NATIONAL EXAMS: IDAHO SCORES OVER TIME

Idaho's **fourth grade** reading and math scores have been largely flat until recent declines that follow national trends. Idaho charter schools fourth grade scores have been consistently higher than the average of all Idaho schools.



NATIONAL EXAMS: IDAHO SCORES OVER TIME

Idaho's **eighth grade** reading and math scores have been above the national average for the past 20 years. Idaho charter schools eighth grade scores have been consistently higher than the average scores of all Idaho schools.



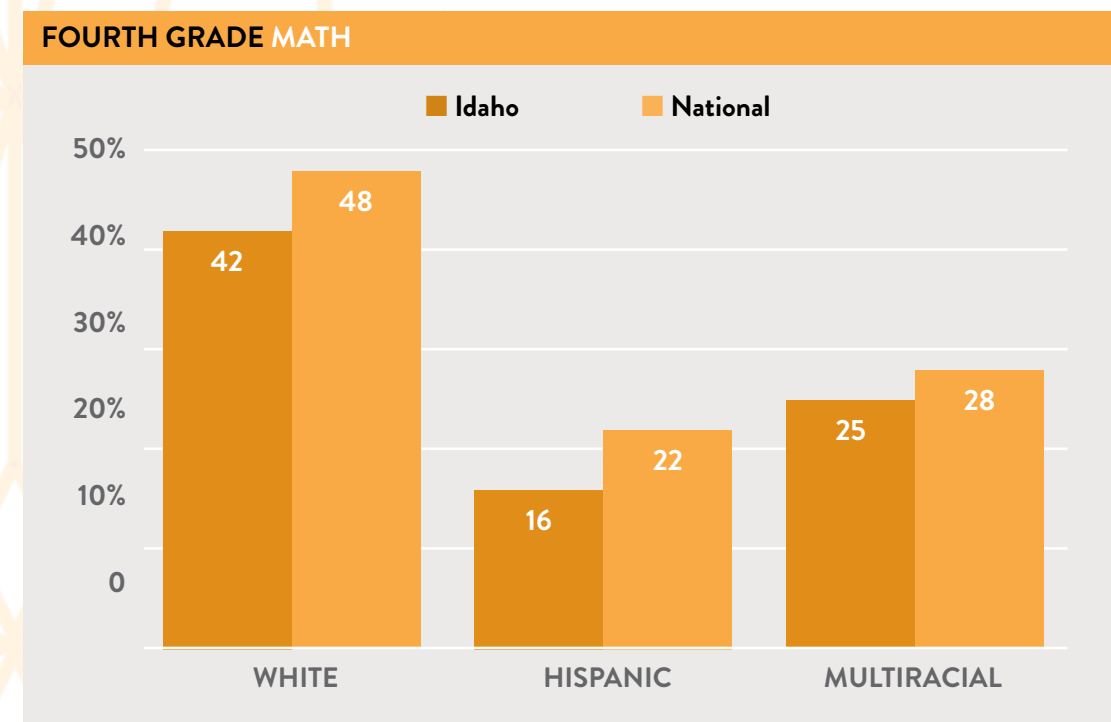
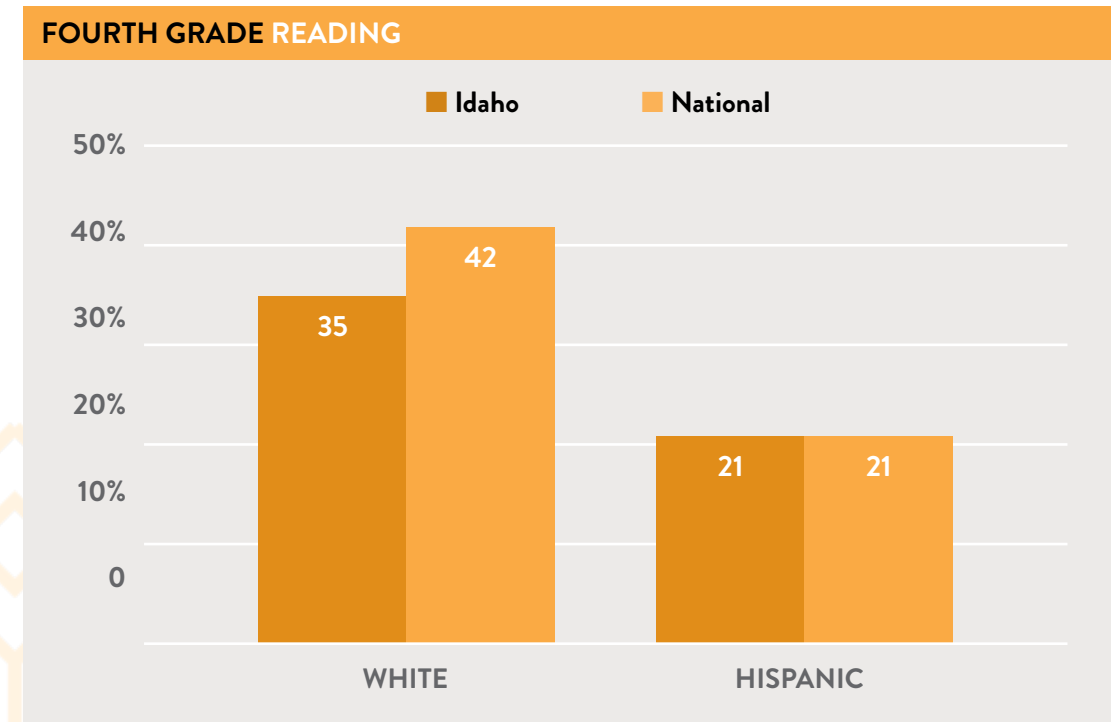
Source: NAEP Data Explorer (2022).

Source: NAEP Data Explorer (2022).



NATIONAL EXAMS: ACHIEVEMENT BY RACE/ETHNICITY

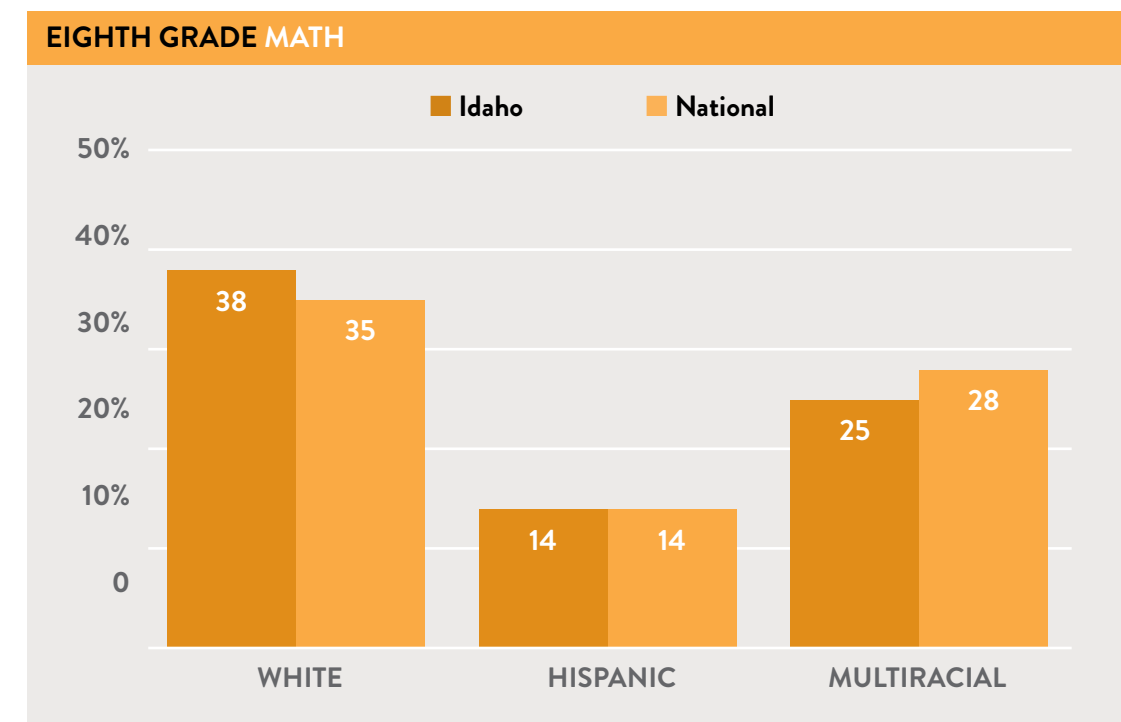
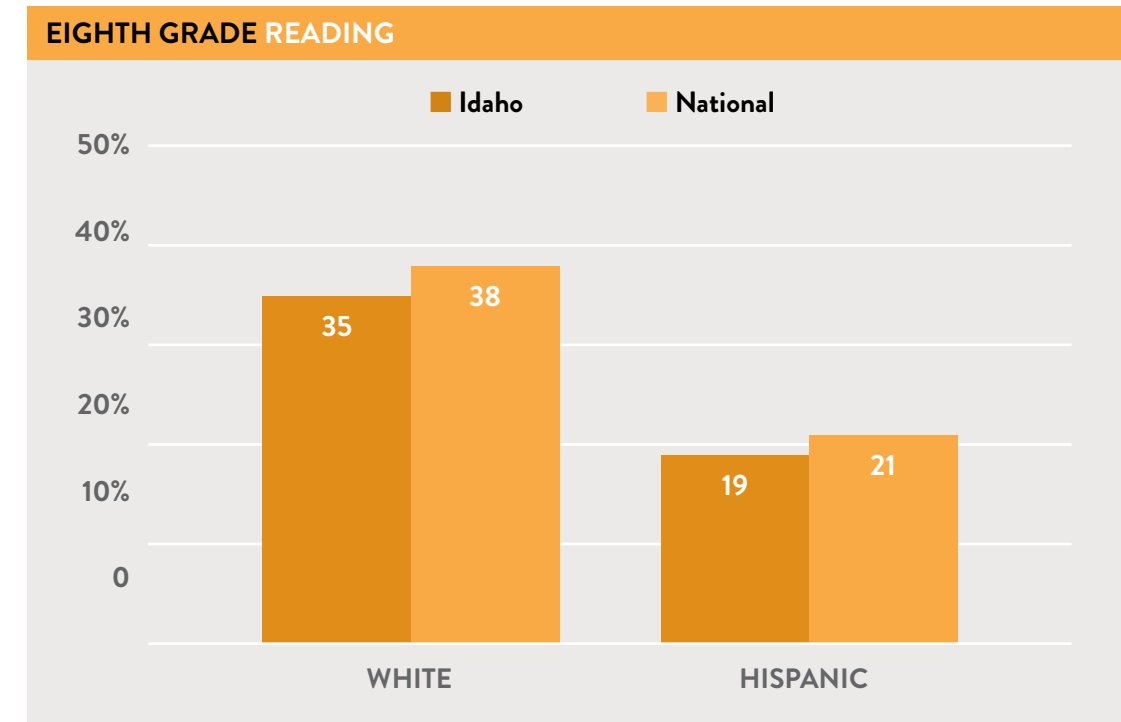
Thirty-five percent of Idaho's white **fourth grade** students achieve proficiency on NAEP, but only about 20 percent of Idaho's Hispanic students do so.



Source: NAEP Data Explorer (2022).

NATIONAL EXAMS: ACHIEVEMENT BY RACE/ETHNICITY

Just under 40 percent of Idaho's white **eighth grade** students achieve proficiency on NAEP, but fewer than 20 percent of Hispanic students do so.



Source: NAEP Data Explorer (2022).

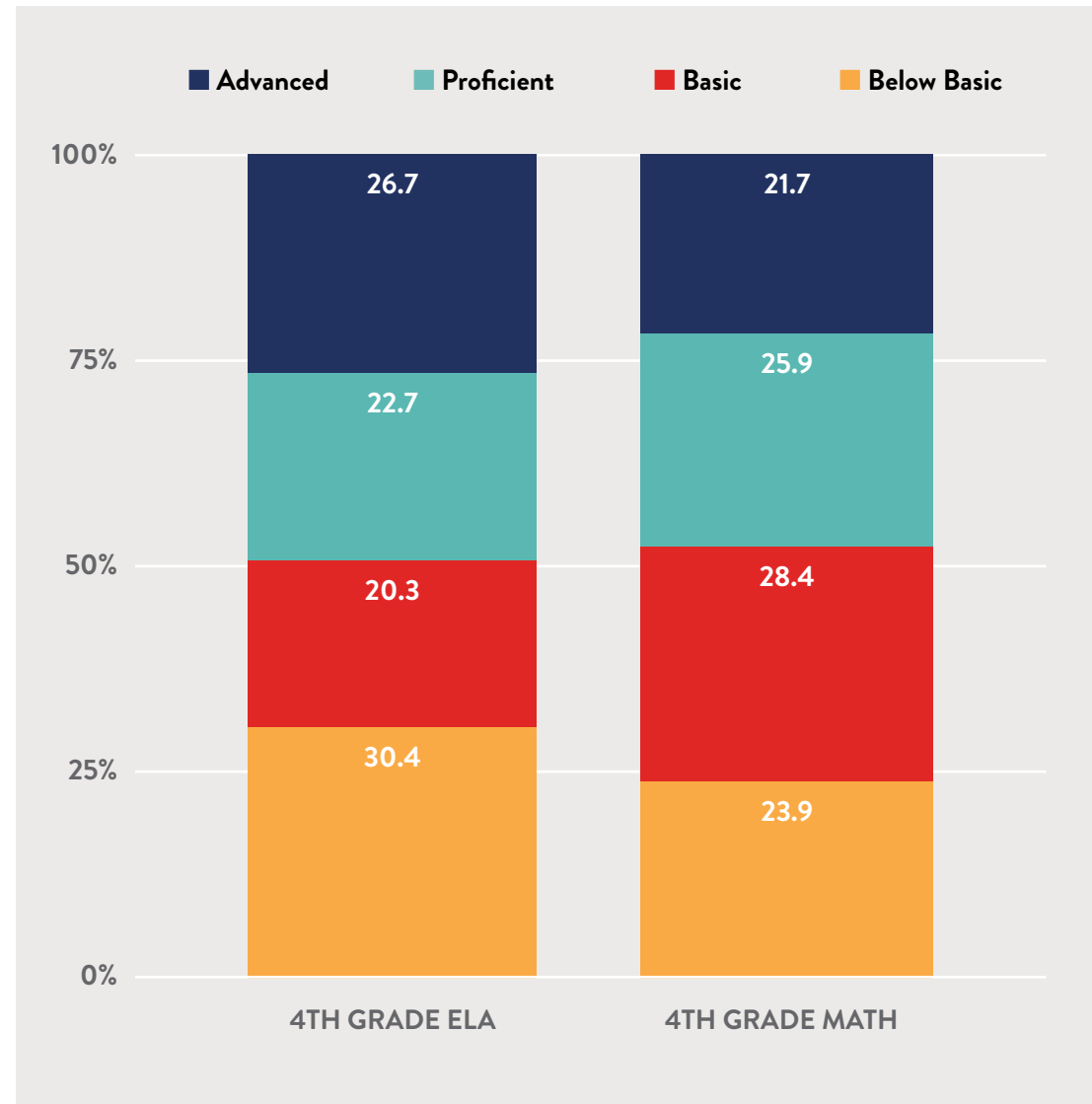


STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT: STATE EXAMS



STATEWIDE ACHIEVEMENT IN SELECTED GRADES AND SUBJECTS

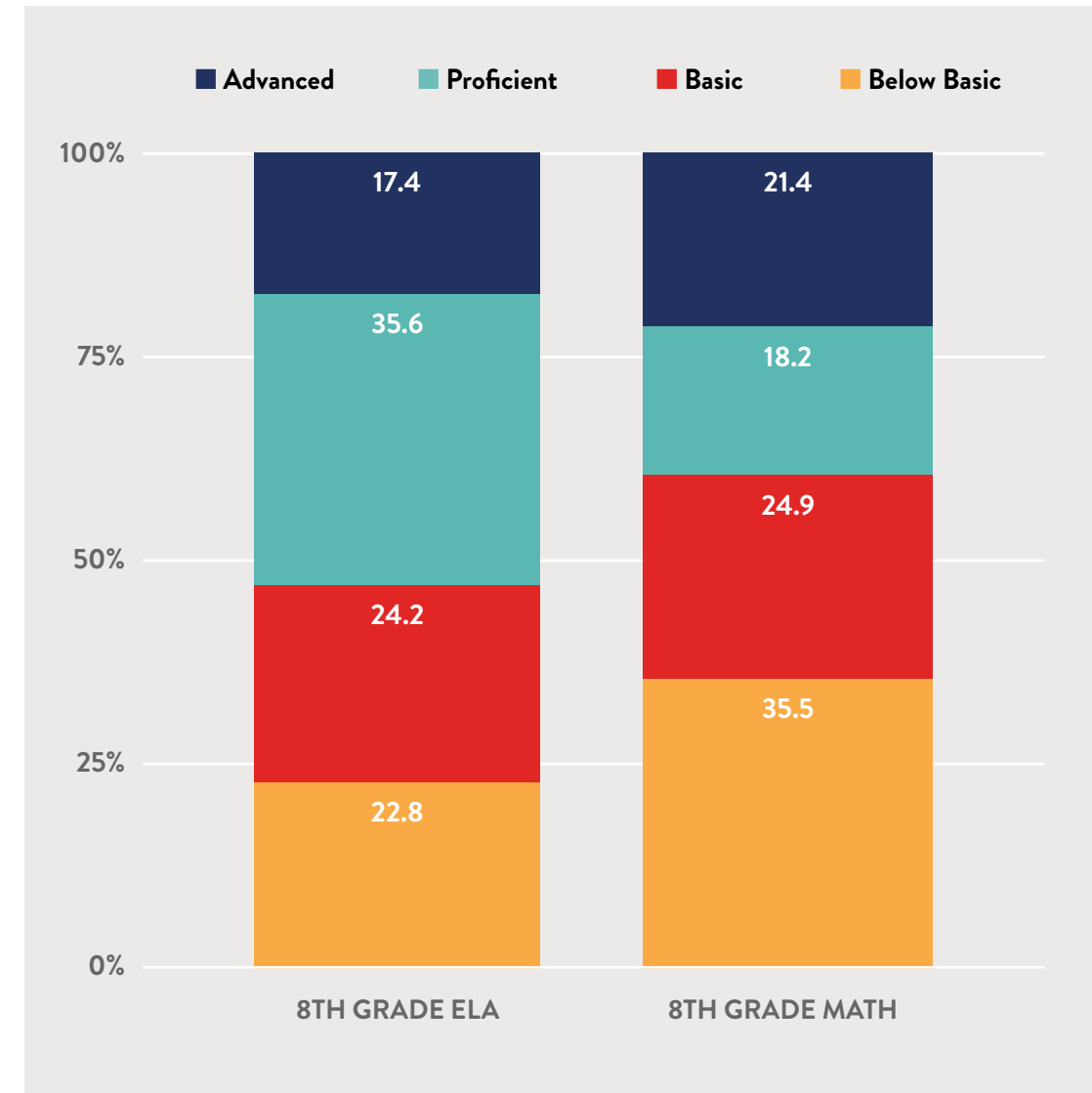
About 50 percent of Idaho **fourth grade** students reach proficient or above on state English language arts (ELA) and math exams.



Source: IDE 2024 ISAT Results.

STATEWIDE ACHIEVEMENT IN SELECTED GRADES AND SUBJECTS

53 and 40 percent of Idaho **eighth grade** students reach proficient or above on state English language arts (ELA) and math exams, respectively.

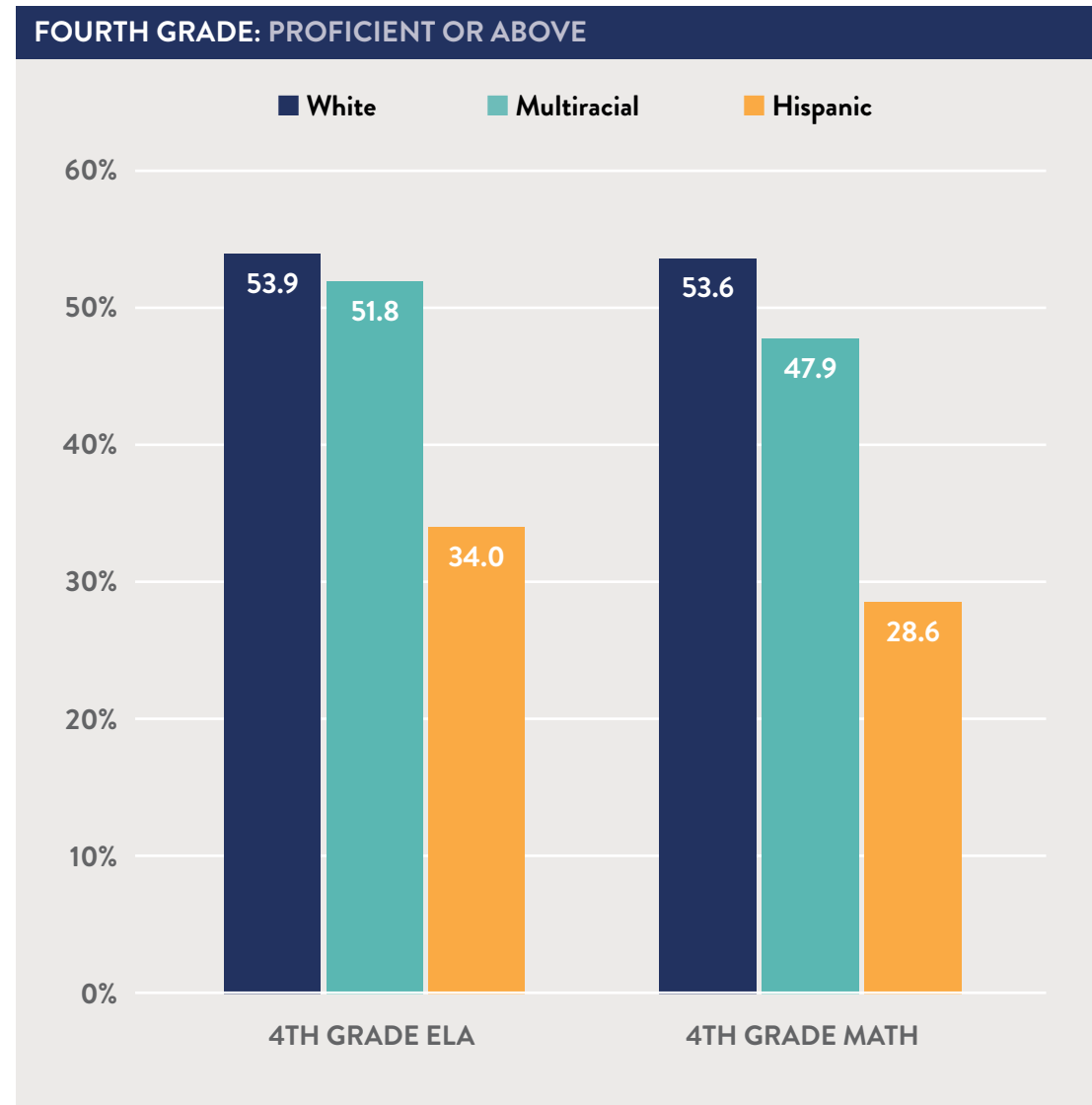


Source: IDE 2024 ISAT Results.



ACHIEVEMENT GAPS

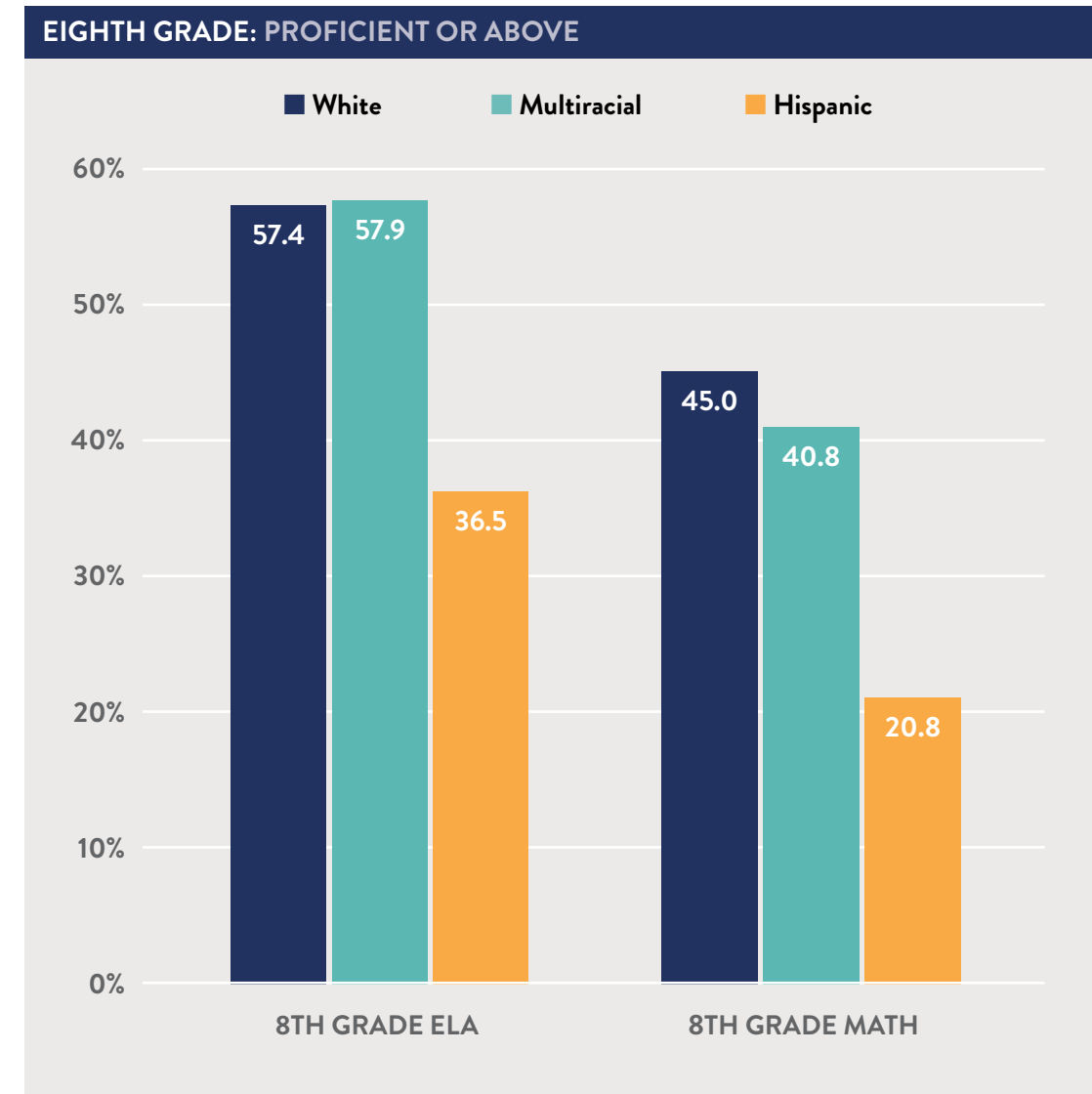
On average, Hispanic students achieve at lower levels than white and multiracial students on **fourth grade** state exams.



Source: IDE 2024 ISAT Results.

ACHIEVEMENT GAPS

On average, Hispanic students achieve at lower levels than white and multiracial students on **eighth grade** state exams.

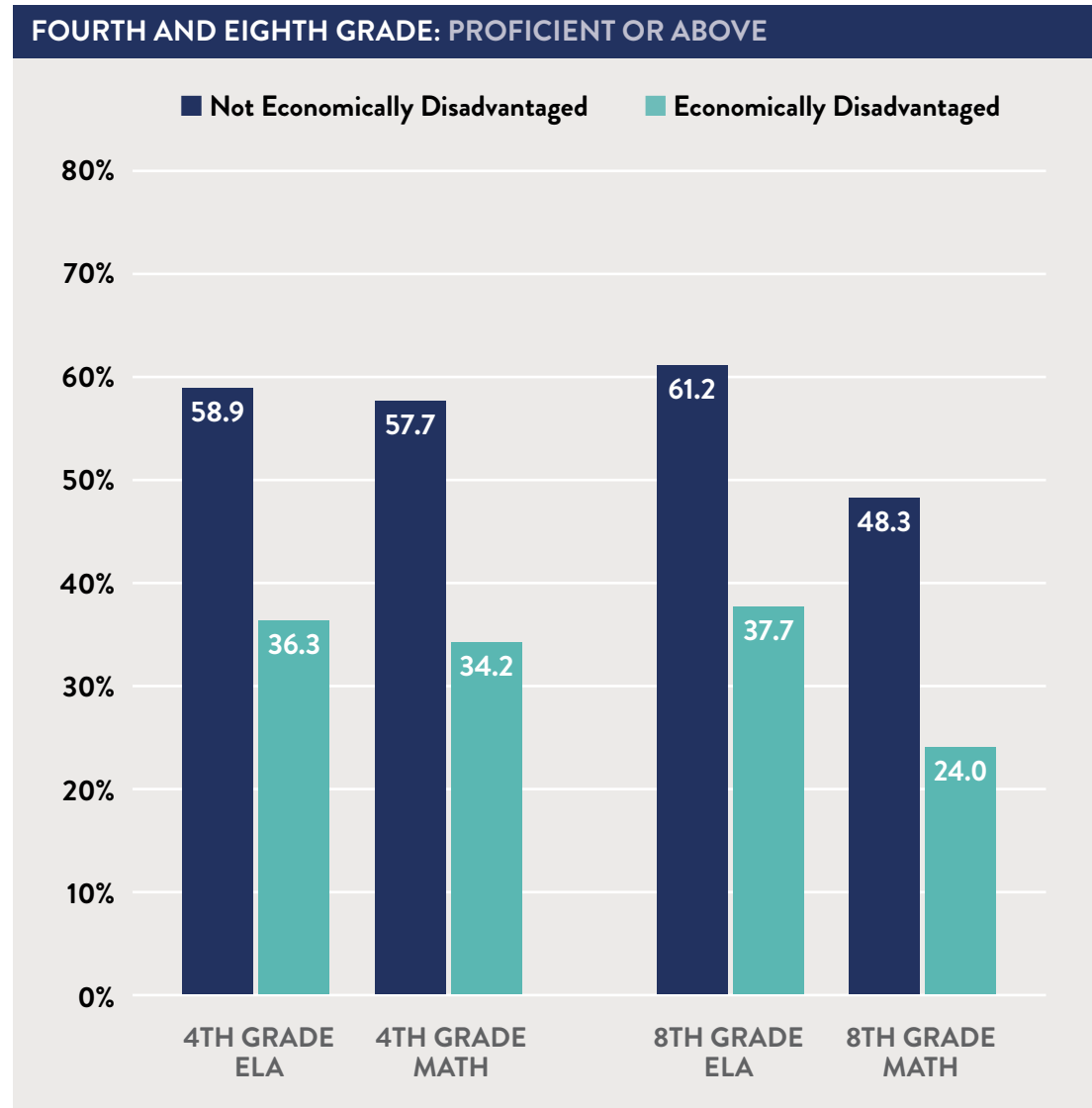


Source: IDE 2024 ISAT Results.



ACHIEVEMENT GAPS

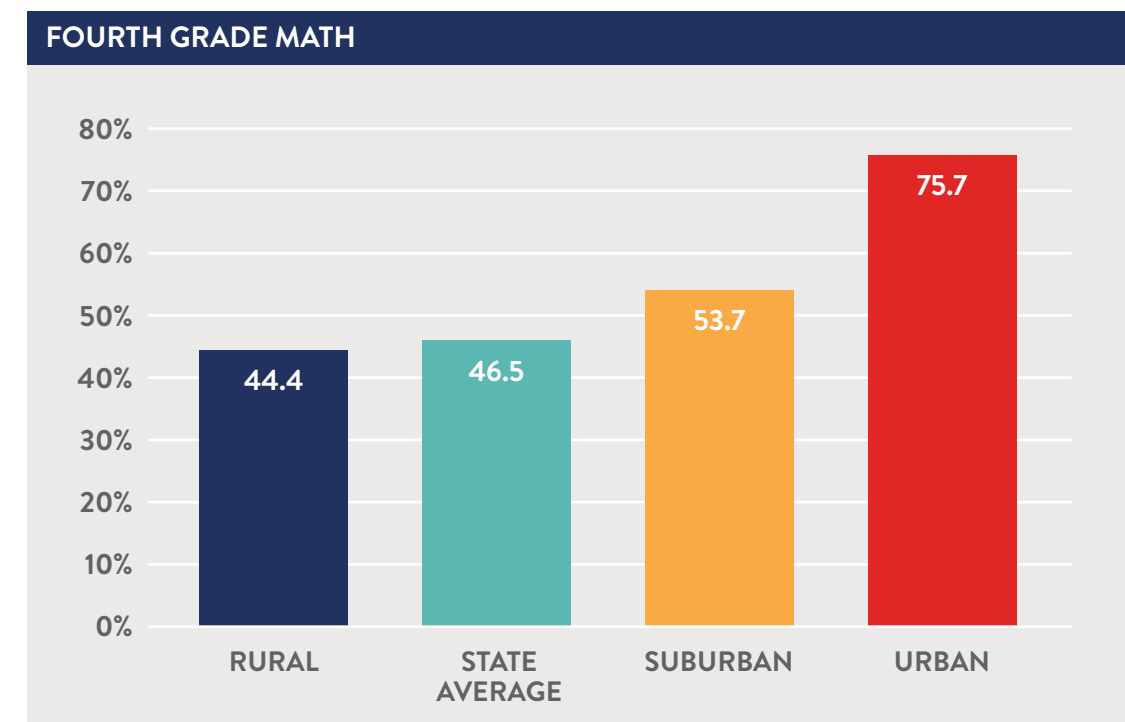
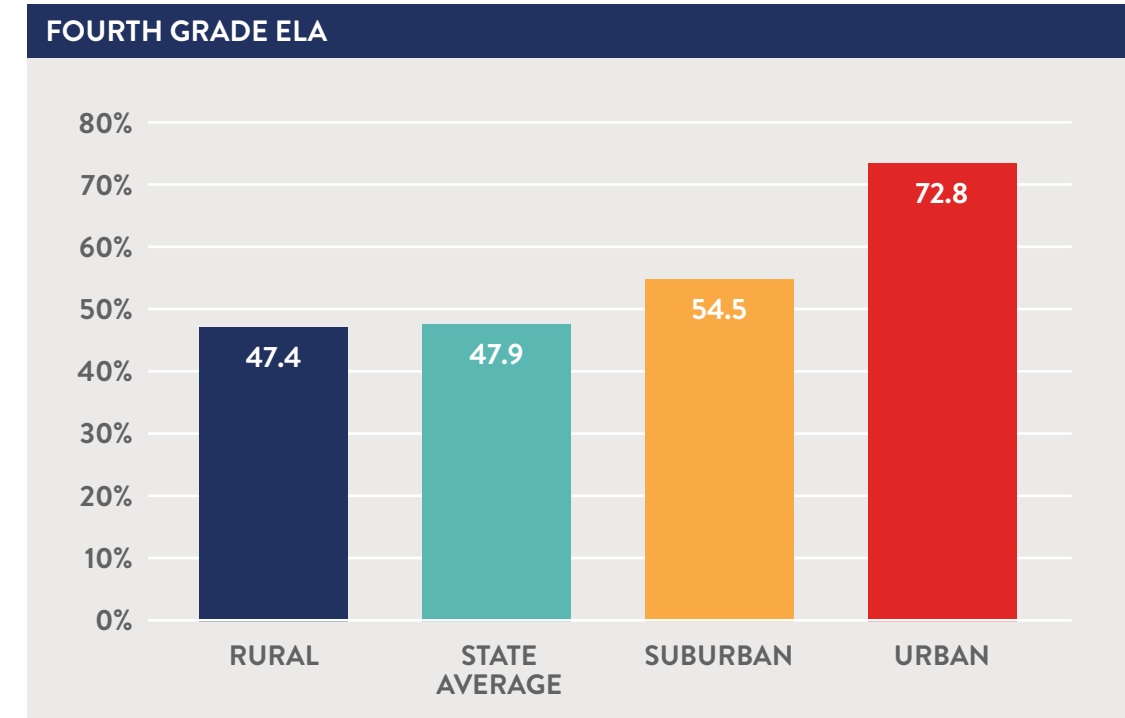
On average, economically disadvantaged students achieve at lower levels than their peers on **fourth** and **eighth** grade state exams.



Source: IDE 2024 ISAT Results.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT BY DISTRICT TYPOLOGY

Fourth grade proficiency rates are lowest in Idaho's rural areas and highest in urban areas.

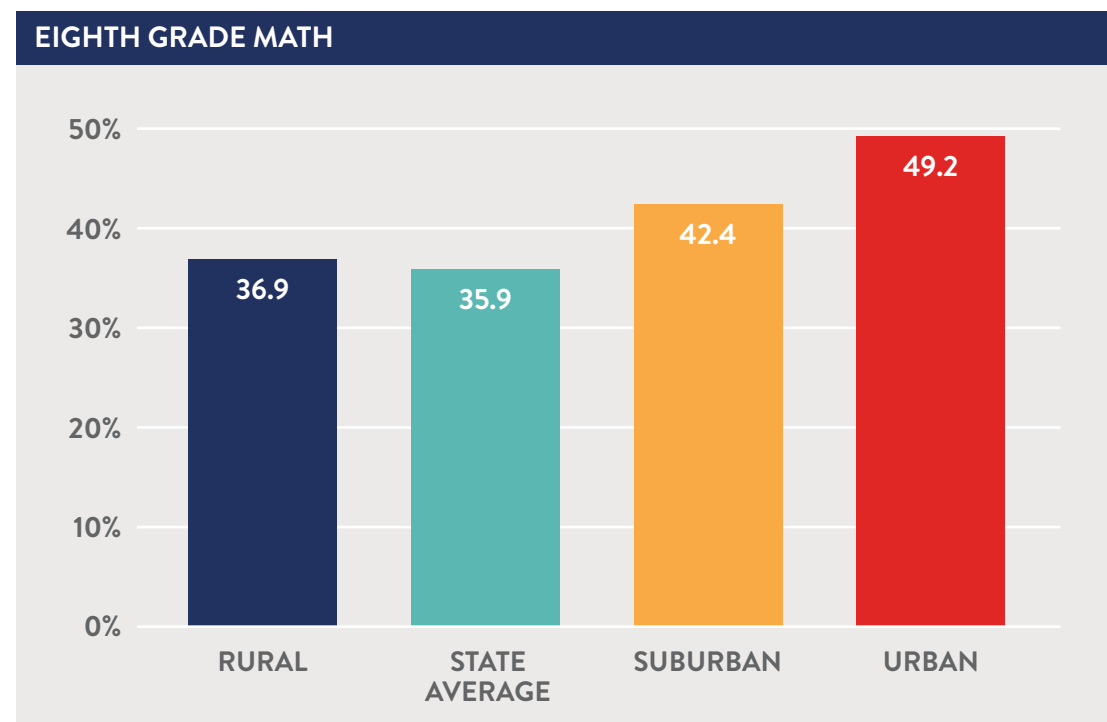
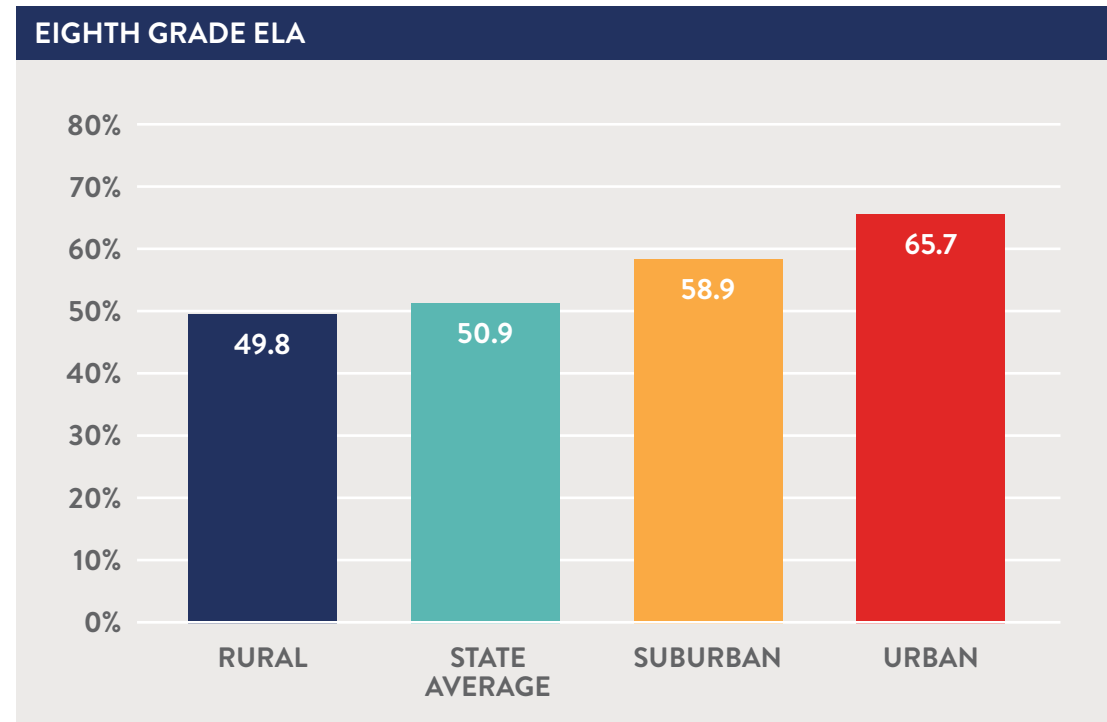


Source: IDE 2024 ISAT Results. Note: See note on p.10 (Public School Students by Typology) for description of methodology used to determine district typologies.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT BY DISTRICT TYPOLOGY

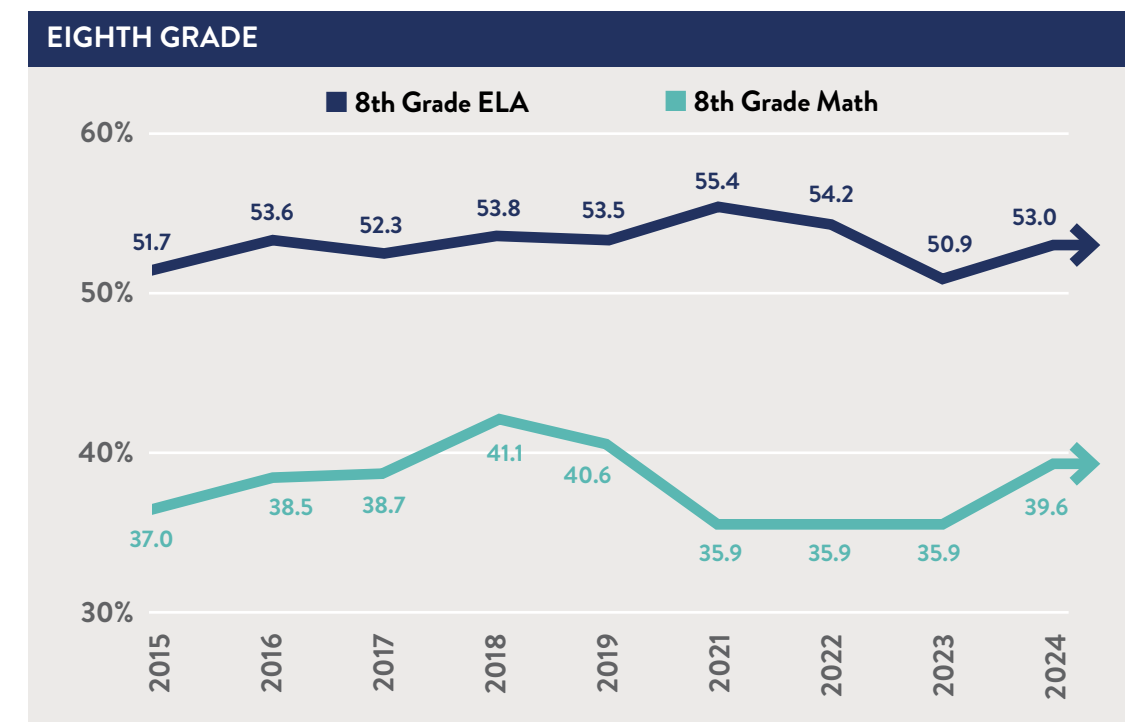
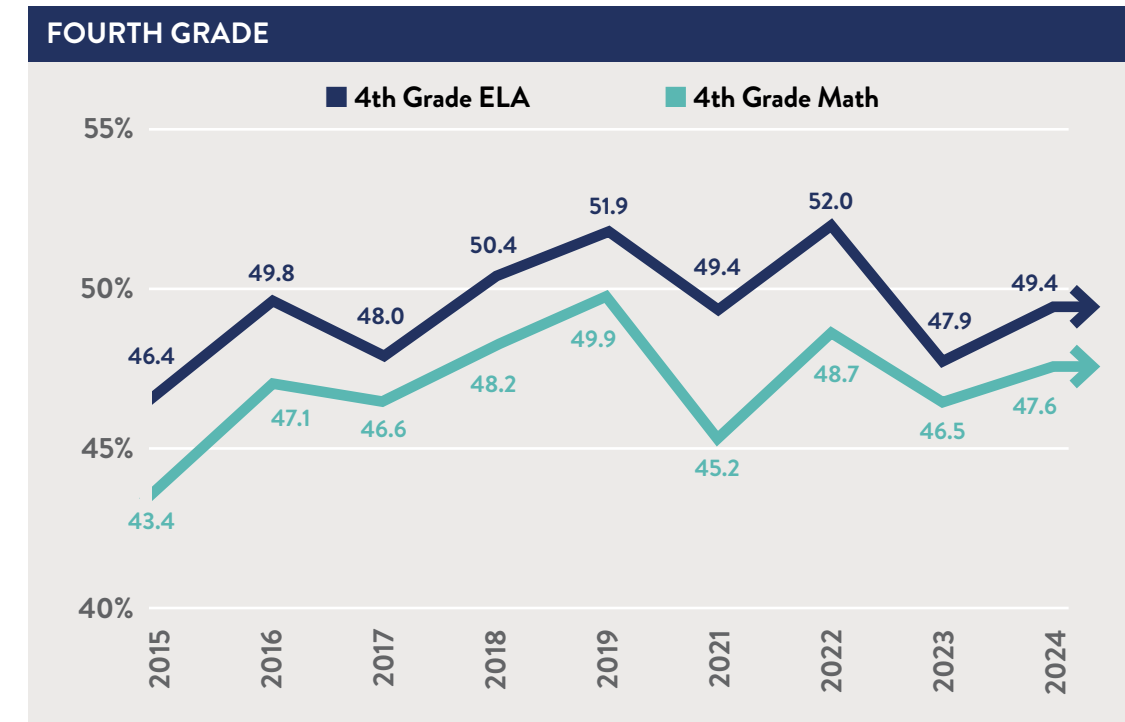
Eighth grade proficiency rates are lowest in Idaho's rural areas and highest in urban areas.



Source: IDE 2024 ISAT Results. Note: See note on p.10 (Public School Students by Typology) for description of methodology used to determine district typologies.

PROFICIENCY TRENDS IN FOURTH AND EIGHTH GRADES

Proficiency rates on state exams dipped in 2020-2021, reflecting COVID-related disruptions, but both ELA and math scores are approaching or have rebounded to pre-pandemic levels.



Source: IDE 2015-2024 ISAT Results.

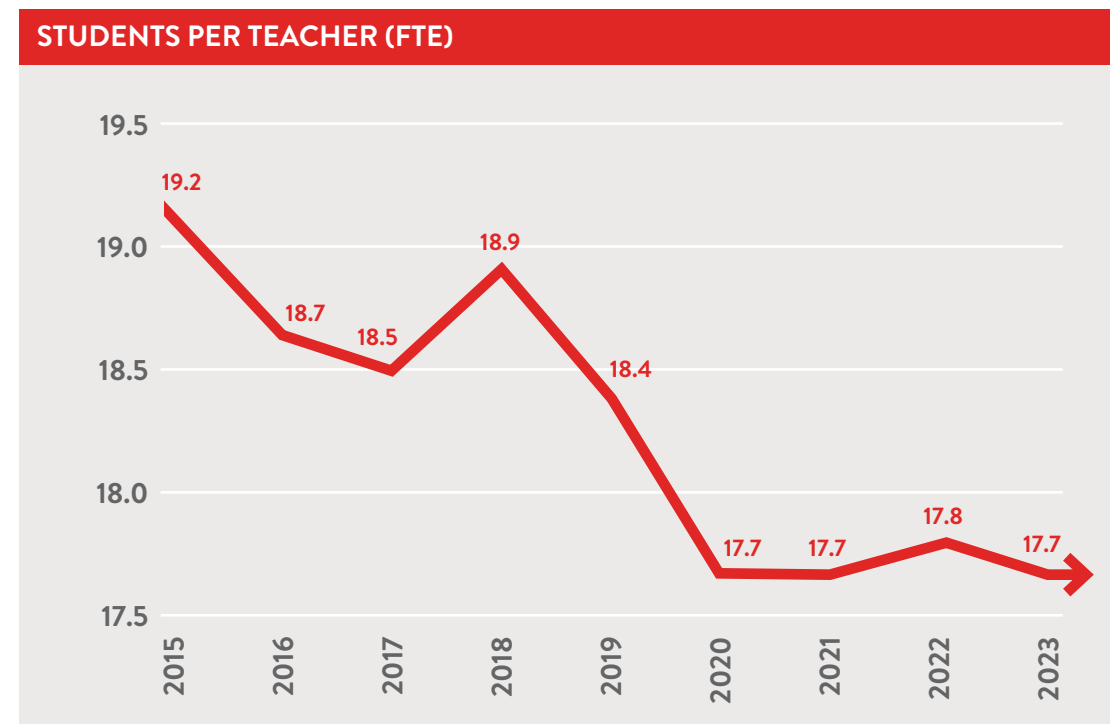
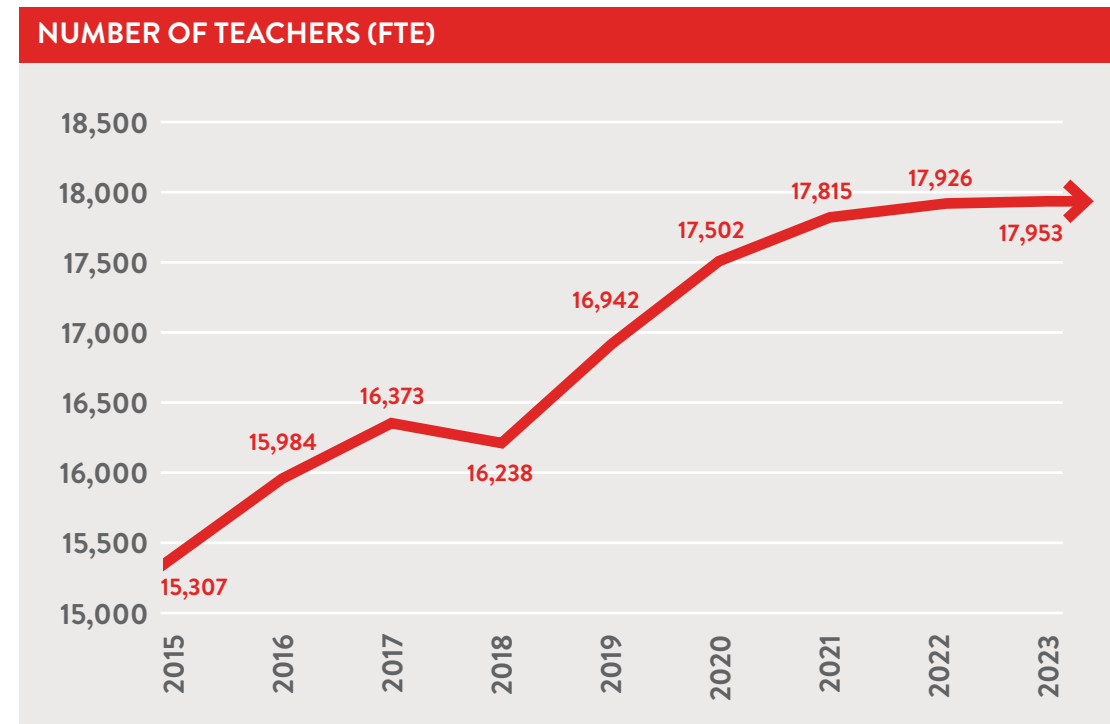


IDAHO'S EDUCATORS



PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

Idaho public schools employ roughly 18,000 teachers, or about 18 students per teacher.



Source: IDE Public School Finance Staffing, Staff Salary Summaries (<https://sde.idaho.gov/finance/>).
 Note: Numbers represent Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions rather than unique total teachers.

CHARACTERISTICS OF IDAHO TEACHERS

More than three in four Idaho teachers are female, and over 90 percent are white. Almost all Idaho teachers hold a bachelor's degree or higher.

	STATEWIDE	
	NUMBER OF TEACHERS	PERCENT OF TEACHERS
TOTAL TEACHERS	18,648	100

RACE OR ETHNICITY		
White	17,417	93.4
Hispanic or Latino	765	4.1
Multiracial	261	1.4
Other	205	1.1

GENDER		
Female	13,827	76.5
Male	4,247	23.5

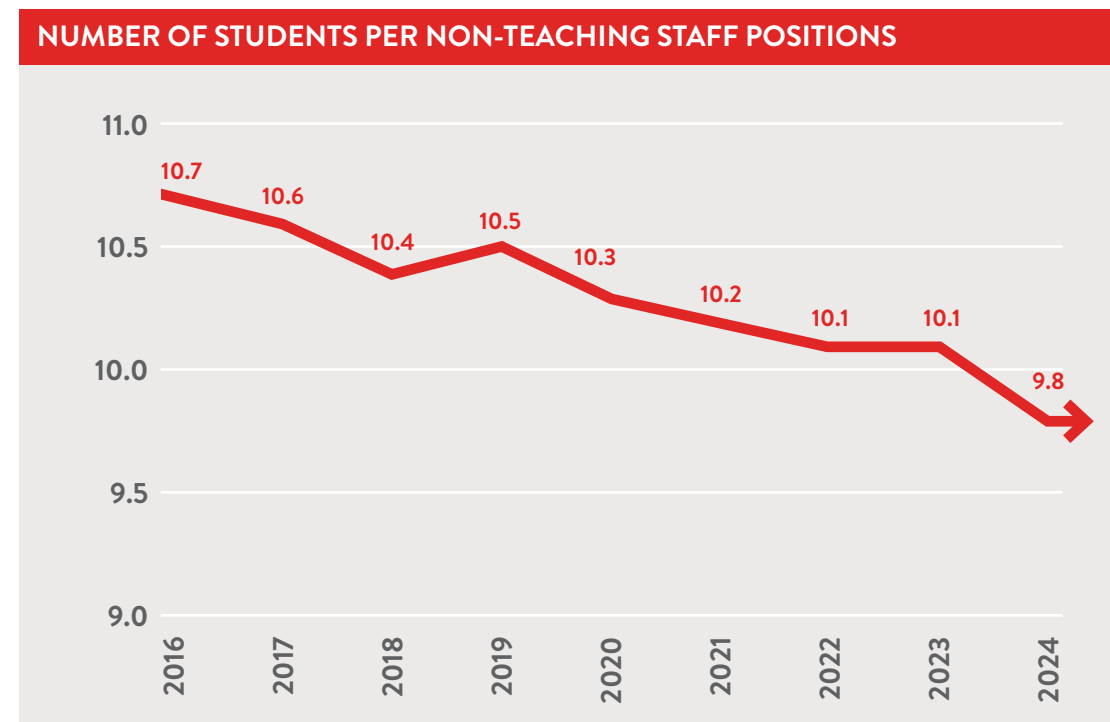
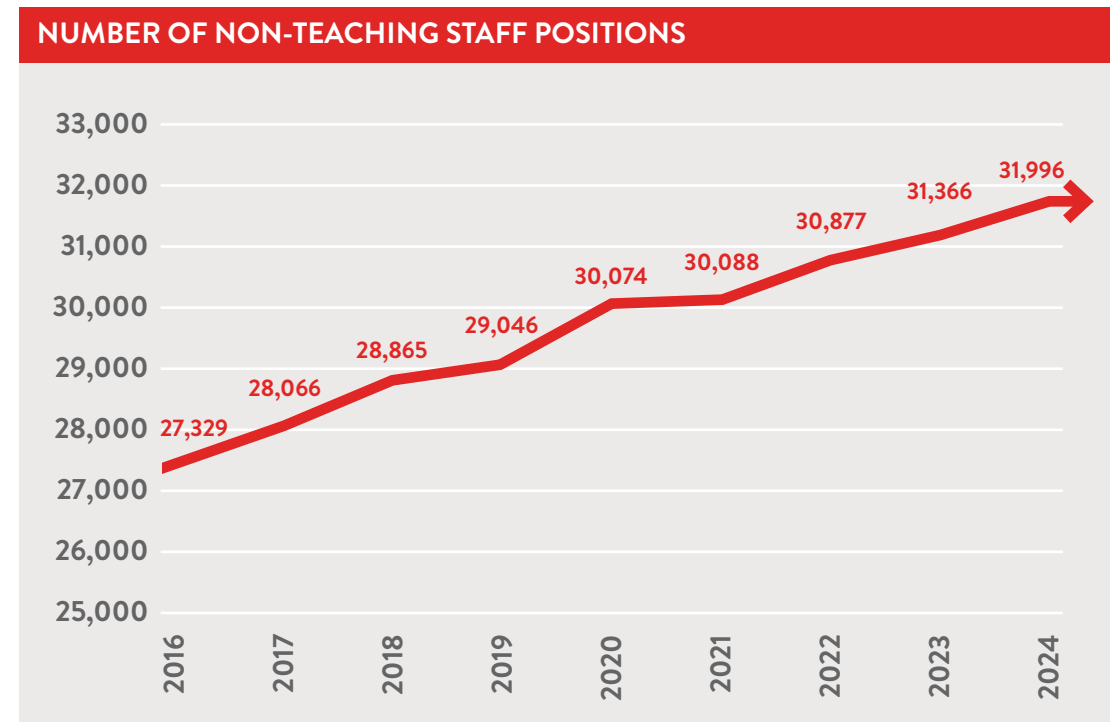
HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		
Doctorate	1,012	5.6
Master's	6,651	36.8
Bachelor's	9,670	53.5
Other Degree or Certificate	741	4.1

Source: Characteristics: NCES Report: Teachers' race/ethnicity: Percentage distribution of public K-12 school teachers, by race/ethnicity and state: 2020-21 (https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/ntps/estable/table/ntps/ntps2021_sflt01_t1s); NCES Report: Average and median age of public school teachers and percentage distribution of teachers by age category, sex, and state: 2017-18 (https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/ntps/tables/ntps1718_ftable02_t1s.asp); and NCES Report: Percentage distribution of public school teachers, by highest degree earned and state: 2017-18 (https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/ntps/tables/ntps1718_ftable04_t1s.asp). Note: Race/Ethnicity as of 2020, Gender and Educational Attainment data as of 2017, reflecting the most up-to-date data from NCES. The number of total teachers is shown for 2020.



NON-TEACHING STAFF POSITIONS

Idaho public schools have approximately 32,000 FTE non-teaching staff positions, or about 10 students per FTE non-teaching position.



Source: IDE Public School Finance Staffing, Staff Salary Summaries (<https://sde.idaho.gov/finance/>). Note: Numbers represent Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions rather than unique total staff members.

STAFF POSITIONS IN IDAHO SCHOOLS

Classroom teachers represent about one half of the total staff positions in Idaho’s public schools. Other common staffing positions include those that support students and teachers in the classroom (like paraprofessionals), pupil services staff (like nurses, social workers, and advisors), and custodial staff.

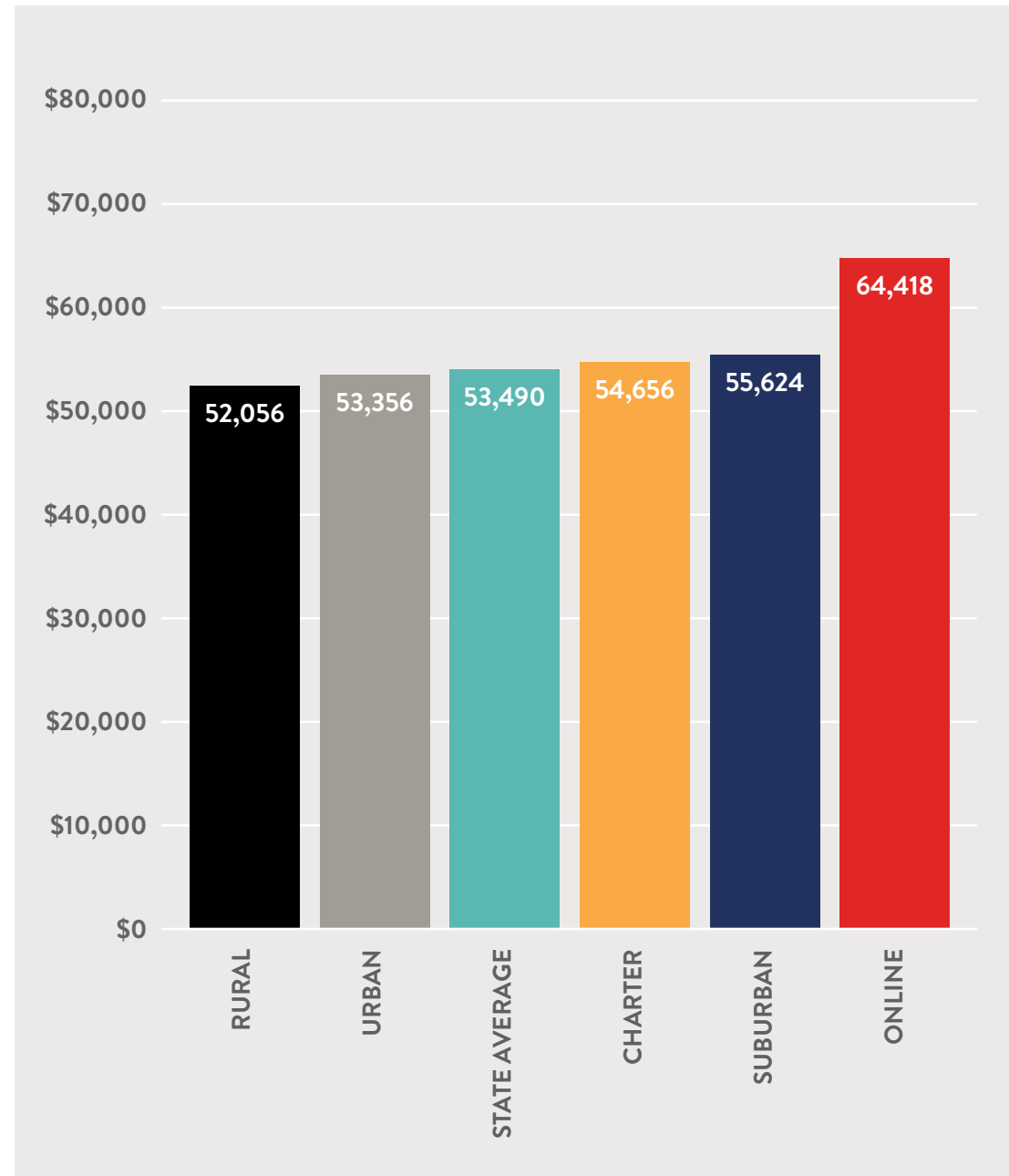
POSITION DESCRIPTION	NUMBER OF STAFF POSITIONS	PERCENT OF ALL STAFF POSITIONS
District Administrators	452	1.1
School Administrators	1,047	2.5
Teachers	18,897	45.3
School Counselors	835	2.0
Other Pupil Services	1,610	3.9
Paraprofessionals	6,906	16.5
Food Service Professionals	2,078	5.0
Clerical Staff	2,388	5.7
Transportation Staff	1,566	3.8
Safe Environment Staff (Crossing guards, Security, etc)	1,484	3.6
Athletic Staff	705	1.7
Custodial Staff	1,727	4.1
Library Professionals	454	1.1
Classroom Assistants	128	<1.0
Information Technology Professionals	485	1.2
Facilities and Grounds Maintenance Professionals	627	1.5
All Other Positions	349	<1.0
TOTAL	41,738	100

Source: IDE Public School Finance Staffing, Staff Salary Summaries (<https://sde.idaho.gov/finance/>).



TEACHER SALARIES BY DISTRICT TYPOLOGY

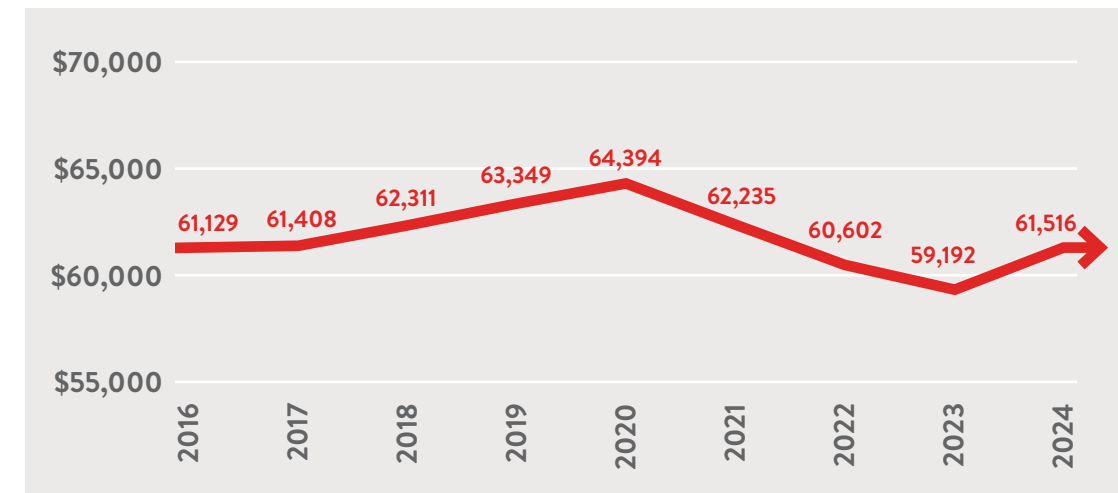
In Idaho, teachers in suburban districts and online charter schools typically have higher salaries than their peers at other types of schools.



Source: 2022-2023 Unadjusted Teacher Salaries from Idaho Ed News (<https://www.idahoednews.org/salary-data/>). Note: See note on p.11 (Public School Students by Typology) for description of methodology used to determine district typologies.

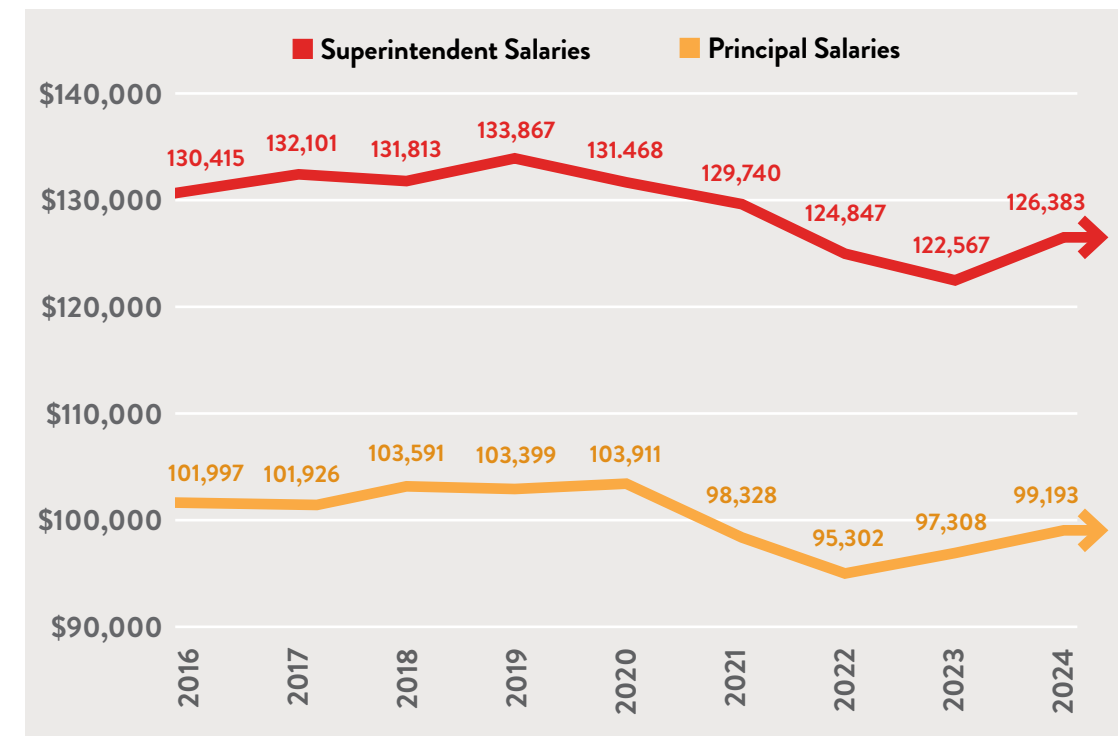
TRENDS IN TEACHER SALARIES

Adjusted for inflation, average teacher salaries in Idaho have ranged between approximately \$60,000 and \$65,000 per year since 2016.



TRENDS IN SUPERINTENDENT AND PRINCIPAL SALARIES

Adjusted for inflation, average superintendent salaries have remained fairly stable near \$130,000 per year since 2016, while principal salaries have remained fairly stable near \$100,000 per year.



Source for all charts on this page: IDE Public School Finance Staffing, Staff Salary Summaries (<https://sde.idaho.gov/finance/>). Note: The FY16 to FY24 salary data were adjusted to 2024 price levels using the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index—<https://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/cpicalc.pl>.

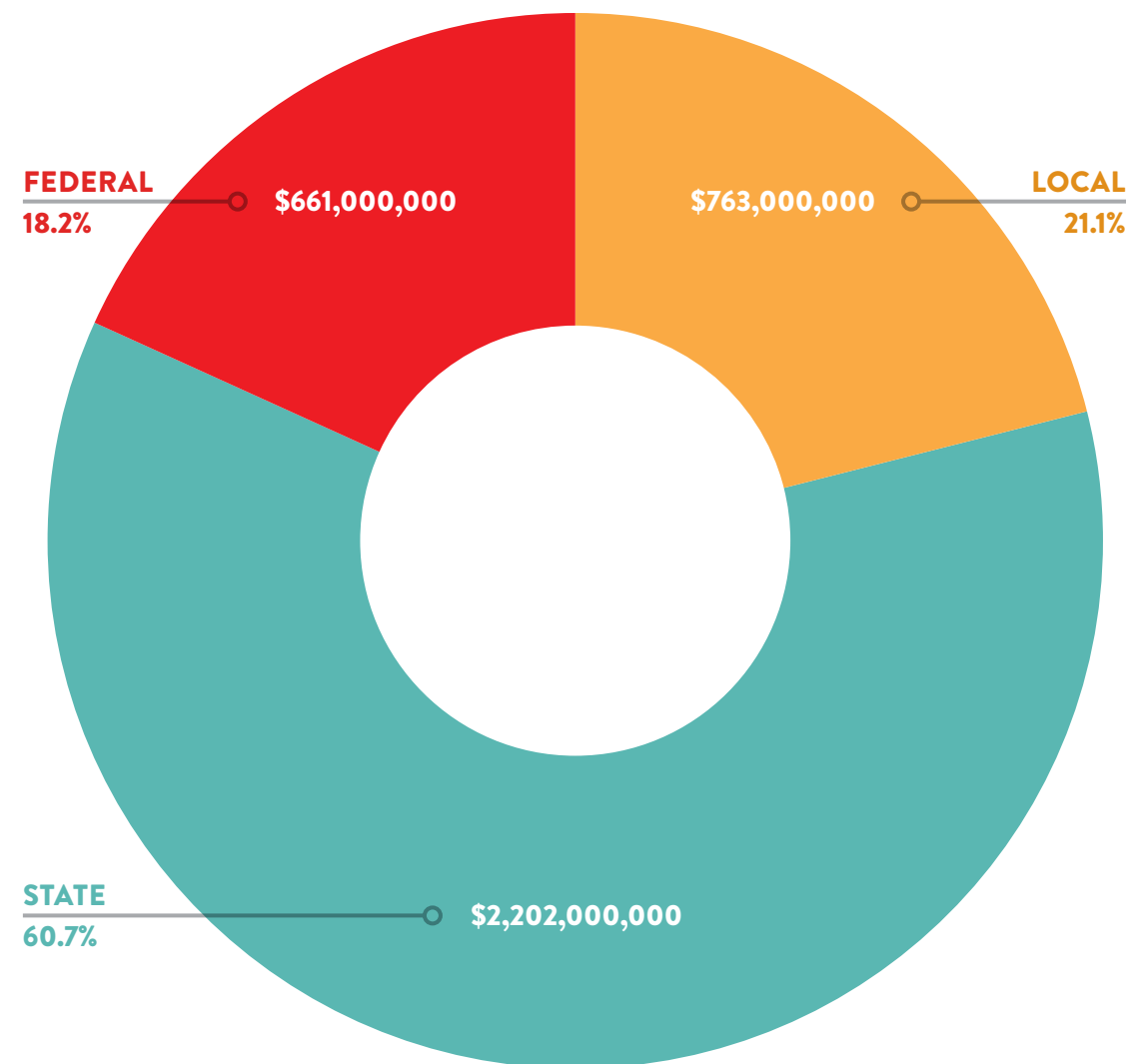


SCHOOL FUNDING



HOW IDAHO FUNDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

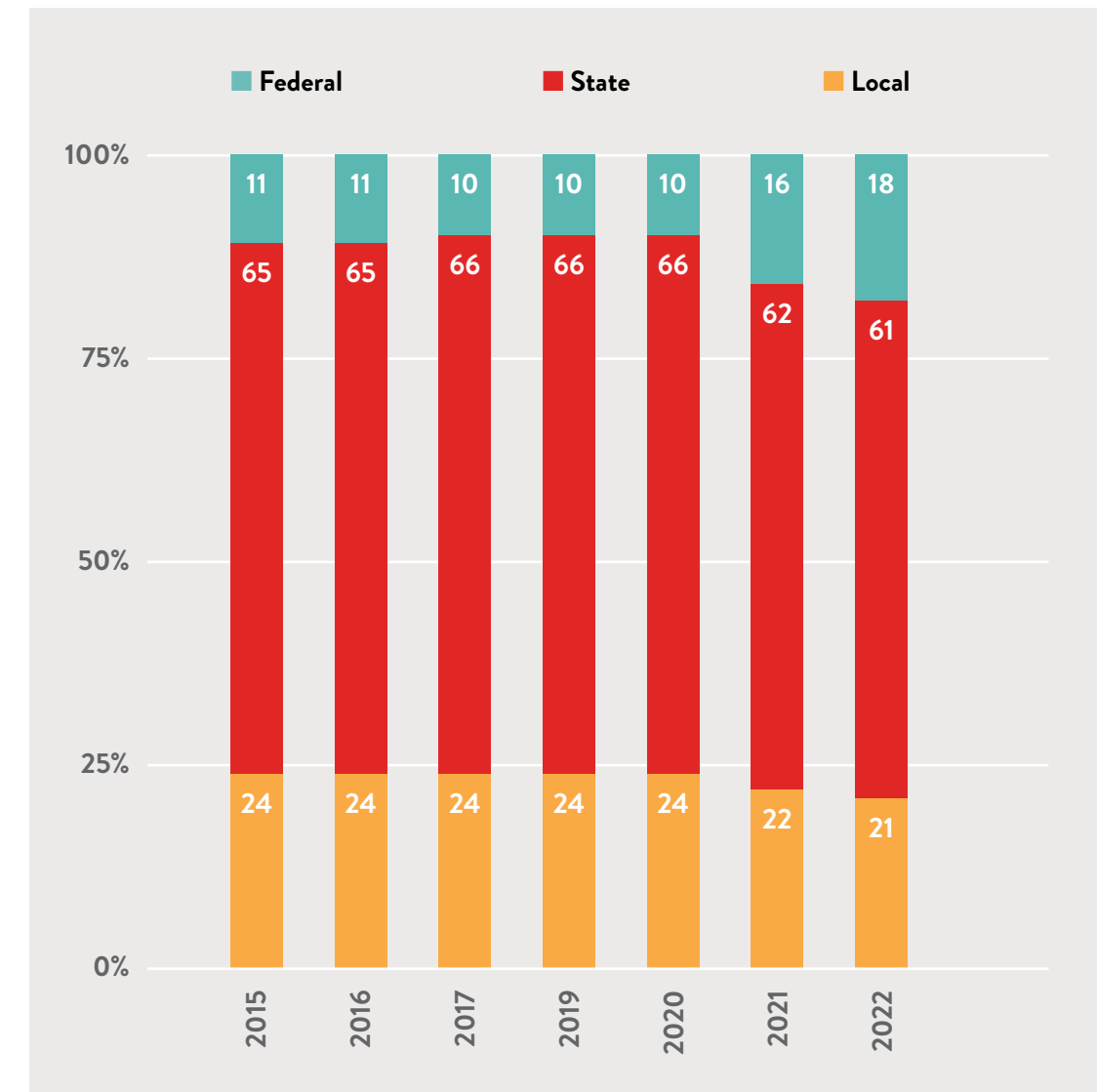
Idaho public schools receive about \$3.5 billion per year via local, state, and federal tax revenues. In Fiscal Year 2022, state funds provided, on average, 60 percent of total revenues for school districts, while local taxes contributed 21 percent. Federal sources provided the rest.



Source: NCES (<https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2024/2024301.pdf>).

HOW IDAHO FUNDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS: TRENDS OVER TIME

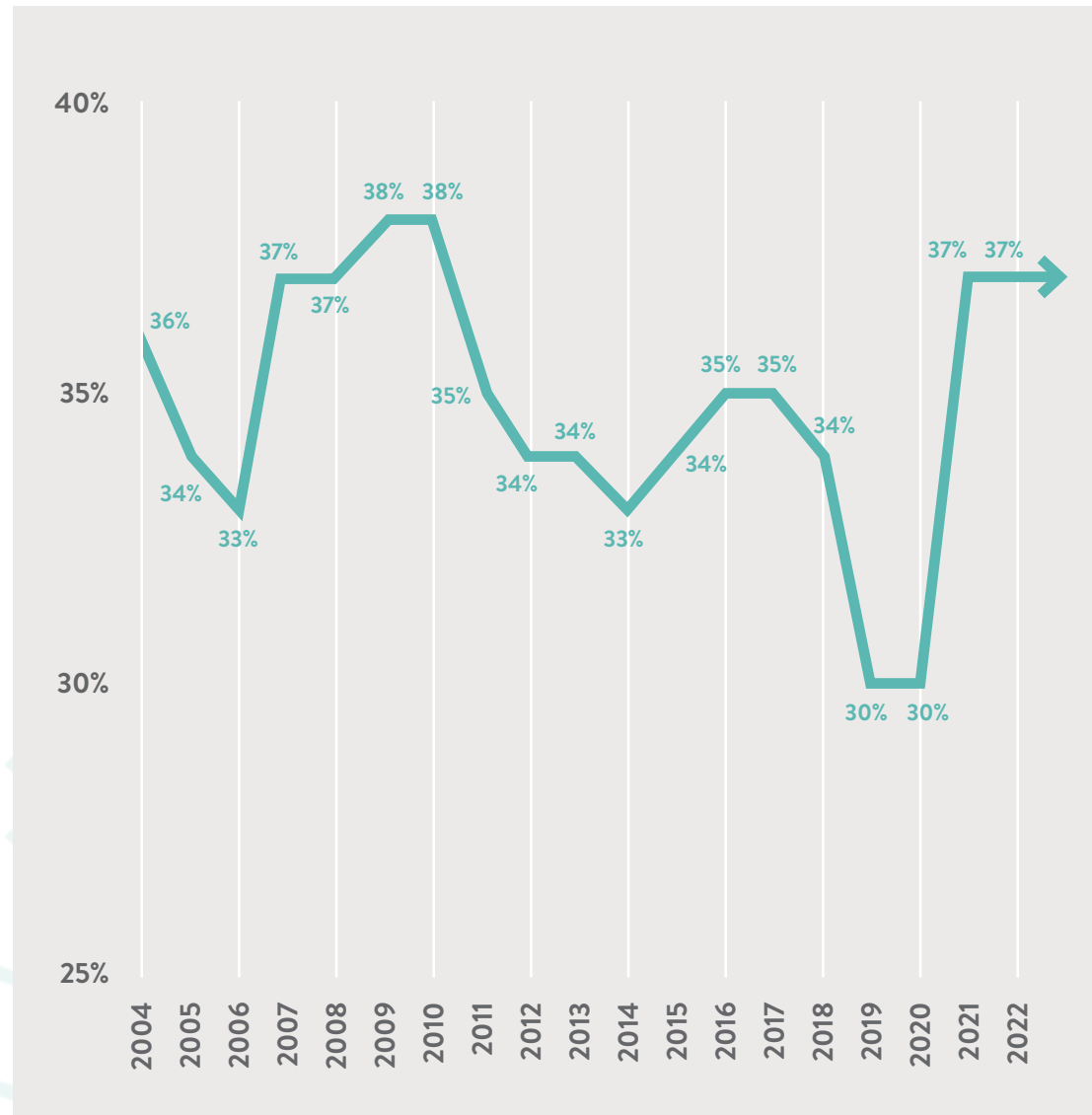
State and local taxpayer dollars provide the bulk of funding for K-12 public education in Idaho. Federal revenues provide a smaller share of funding, though pandemic-relief aid increased federal support in 2021 and 2022.



Source: NCES Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: School Years 2014-15 thru 2021-22.
 Note: Fiscal Year 2018 data was not reported.

EDUCATION IN THE STATE BUDGET

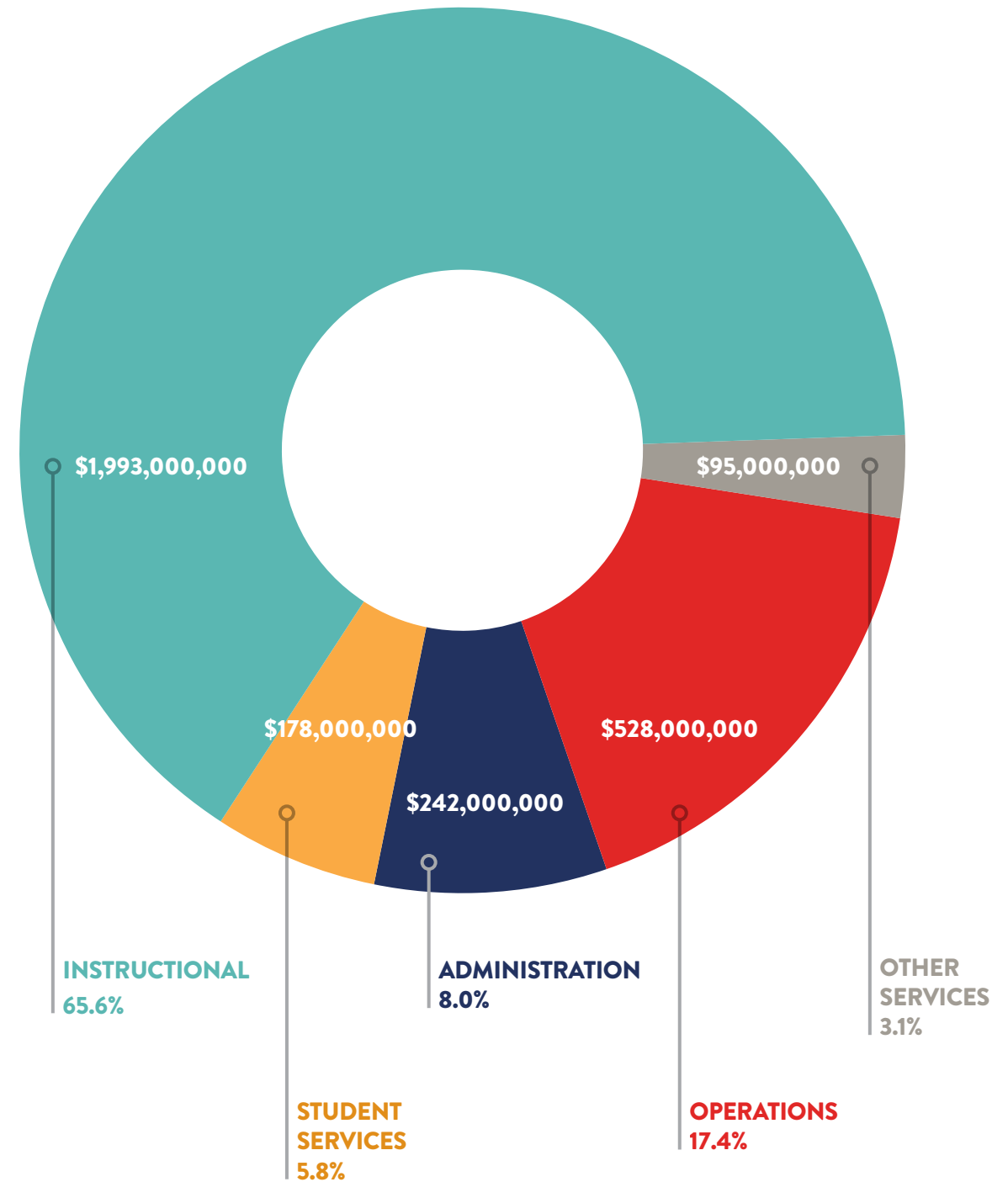
Between 30 and 40 percent of Idaho's total state budget is spent on K-12 education each year.



Source: National Association of State Budget Officers 1991-2023 State Expenditure Report Data (<https://www.nasbo.org/reports-data/historical-data>).

HOW FUNDS ARE SPENT

Over 65 percent of education funding in Idaho is spent on classroom instruction. The remainder supports administration, operations, and support activities.

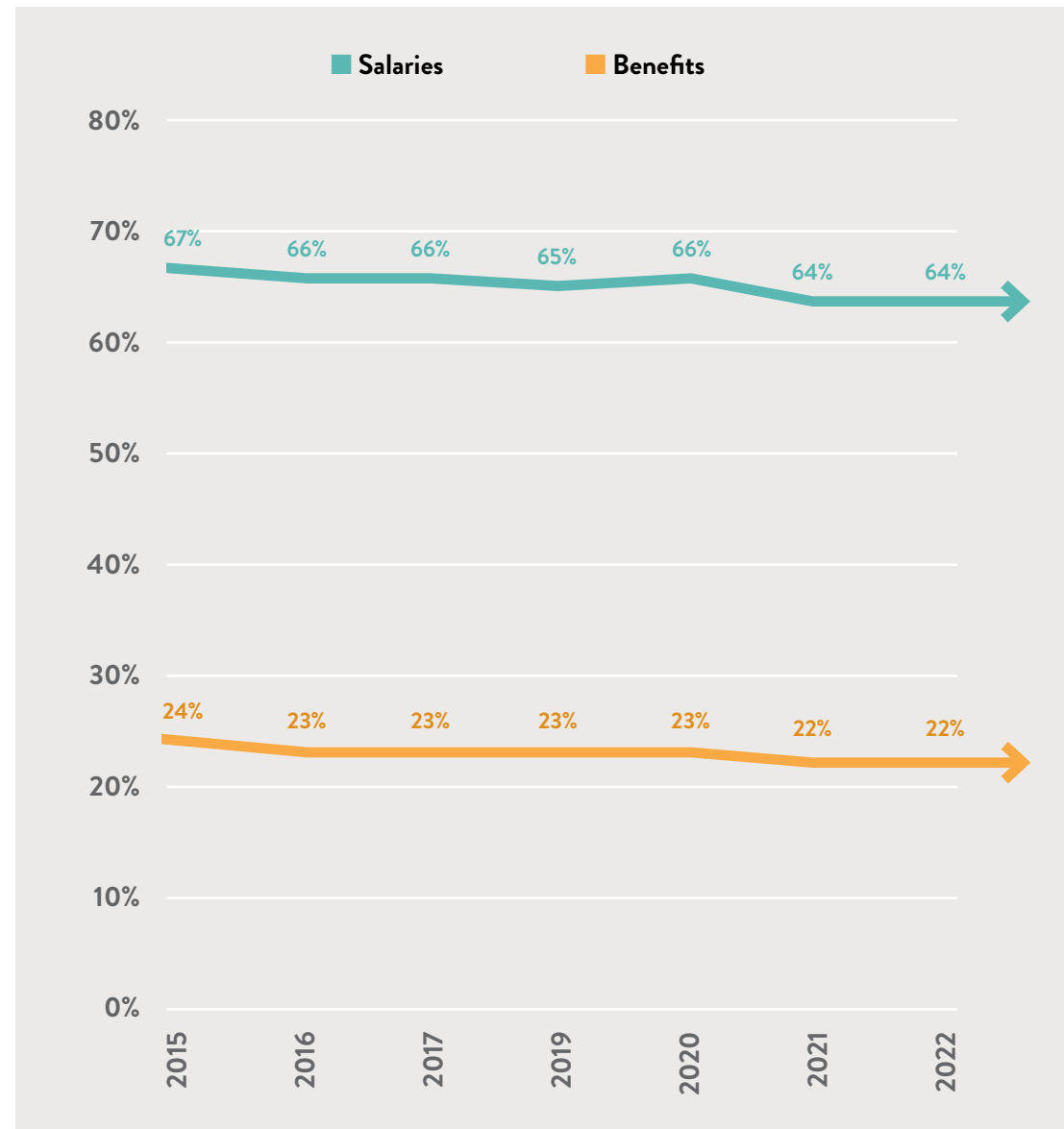


Source: NCES (<https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2024/2024301.pdf>).



HOW FUNDS ARE SPENT: SALARIES AND BENEFITS

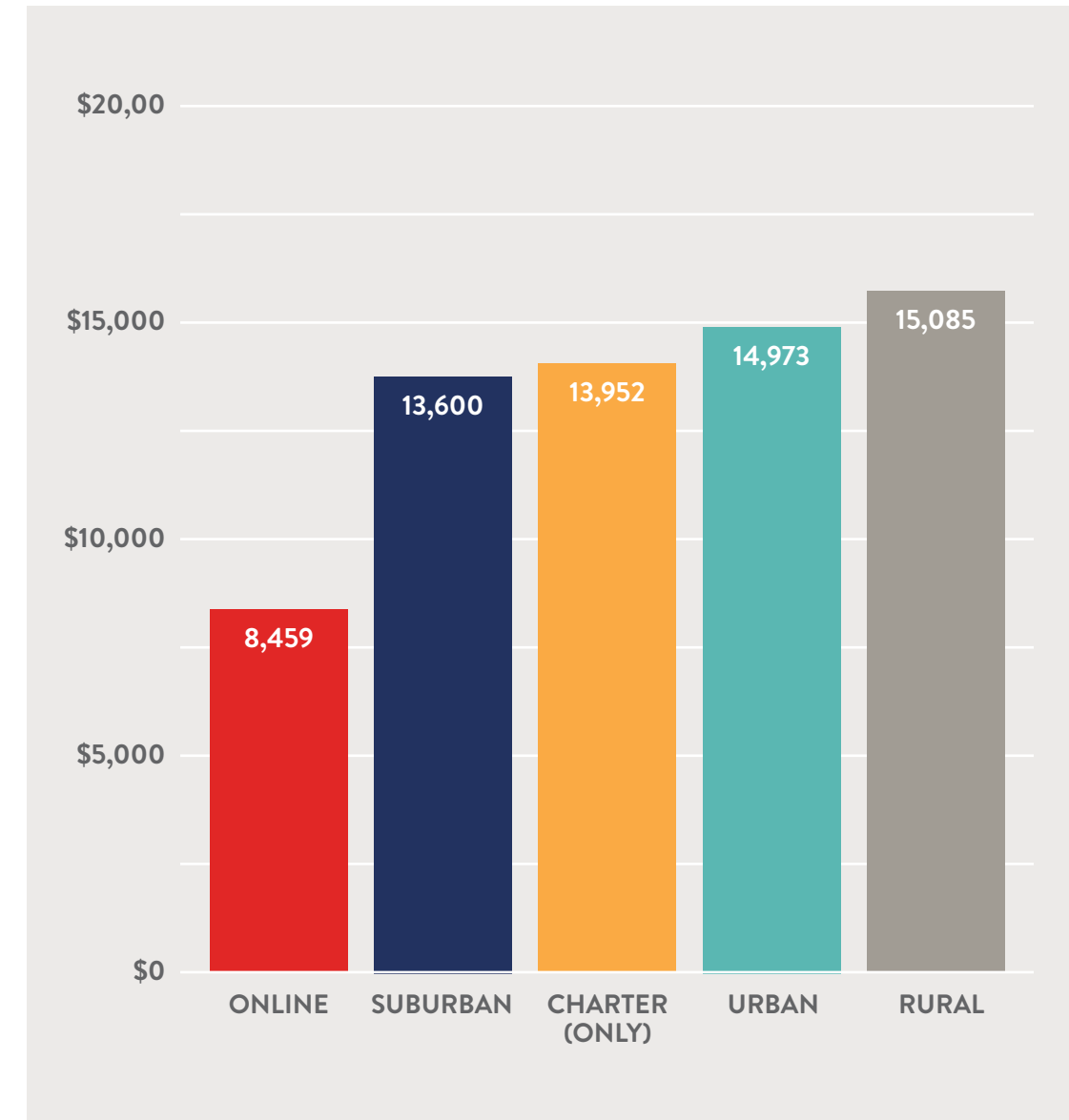
About 65 percent of public schools' instructional expenditures are spent on salaries and about 23 percent on benefits. These shares have remained largely consistent since 2015.



Source: NCES Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: School Years 2014-15 thru 2021-22.
 Note: Fiscal Year 2018 data was not reported.

EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL

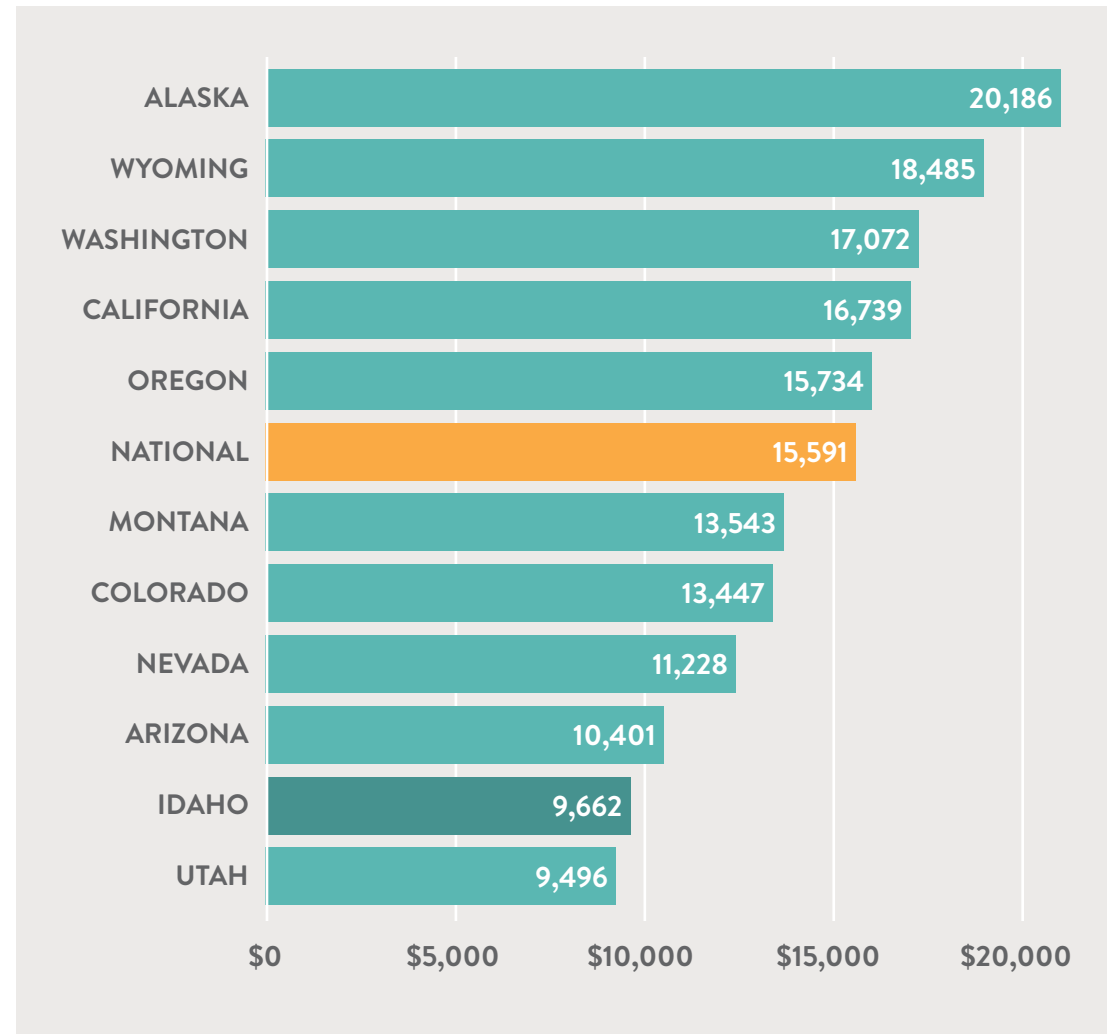
On average, Idaho school districts spent about \$13K per pupil in total operational expenses in FY22. Rural districts had the highest per pupil expenditures (\$15,085), while online districts spent the least (\$8,469).



Source: IDE Public School Finance Staffing, Staff Salary Summaries (<https://sde.idaho.gov/finance/>).

EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL COMPARED TO NEARBY STATES

Idaho spends roughly half the national average and much less than most other Western states per pupil each year.



Source: NCES Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: School Years 2014-15 thru 2021-22. **Note:** To allow for comparisons with other states, this chart relies on federally-reported operational expenditures (excluding capital expenses such as construction and interest on debt). Due to differences in source, the spending data here do not match precisely with state and district-level data presented elsewhere.

PUBLIC SCHOOL EXPENDITURES OVER TIME

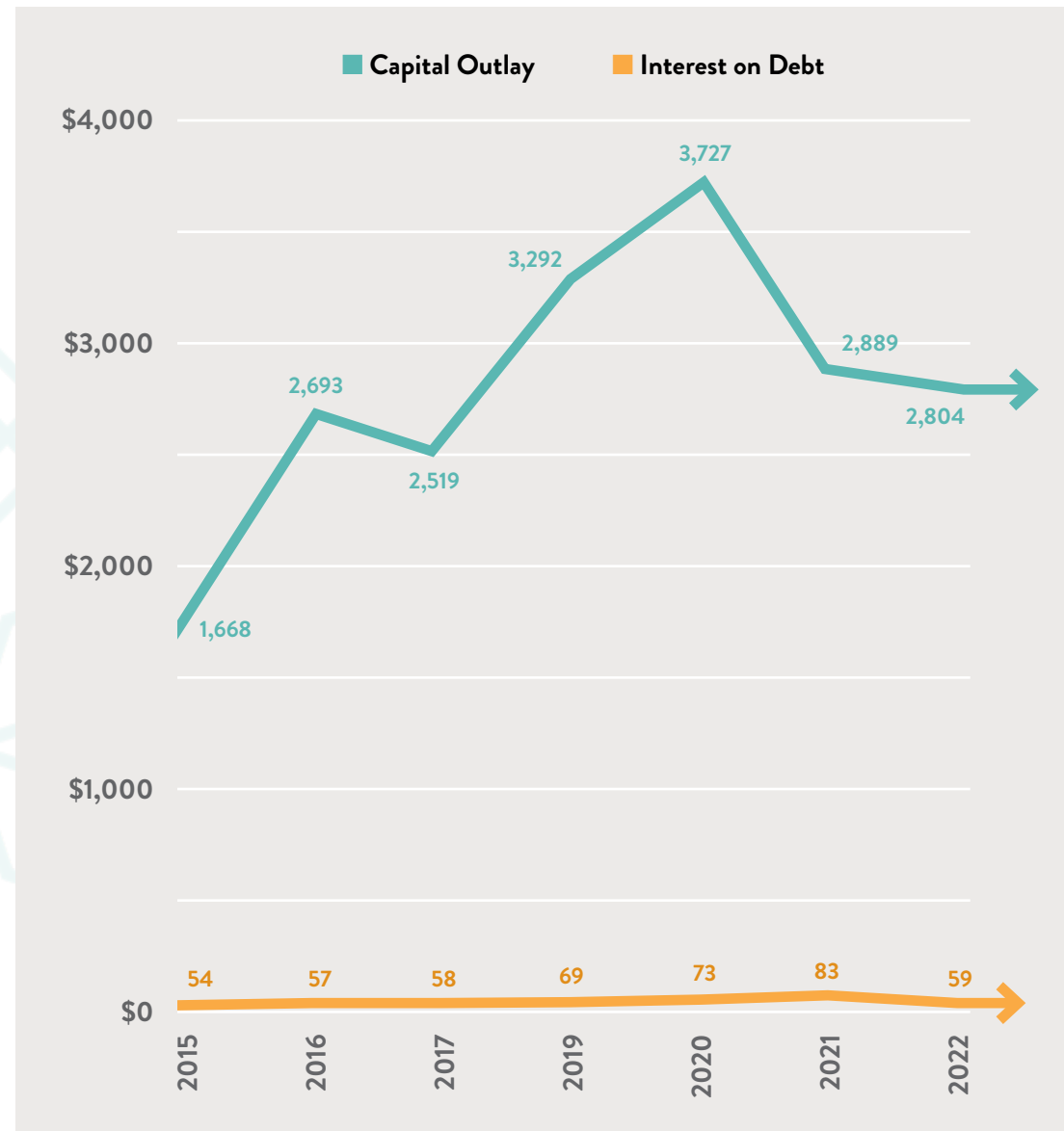
Adjusted for inflation, expenditures per pupil have steadily increased in Idaho between 2015 and 2022.



Source: NCES Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: School Years 2014-15 thru 2021-22. **Note:** Fiscal Year 2018 data was not reported. Expenditure data were adjusted to 2022 levels using the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index.

CAPITAL OUTLAY AND DEBT SERVICE

Over the past decade, Idaho public schools have spent between \$1.5B and \$3.7B per year on capital outlay—expenditures on construction, land, and equipment—and between \$500M and \$800M per year on interest on debt.



Source: NCES Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: School Years 2014-15 thru 2021-22.
Note: Numbers are in thousands of dollars. Fiscal Year 2018 data was not reported.



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100% (\$13,200.00) of this project was funded by Federal CSP Grant dollars; 0% (\$0.00) of this report/event is funded by non-governmental sources; total cost \$13,200.00.