

Special Education Grants to States (IDEA Part B-611)

Federal Funding Gap

The average federal share per child has remained stagnant...

Average Federal Share Per Child
(current dollars)

\$1,736
FY 2010

\$1,743
FY 2014

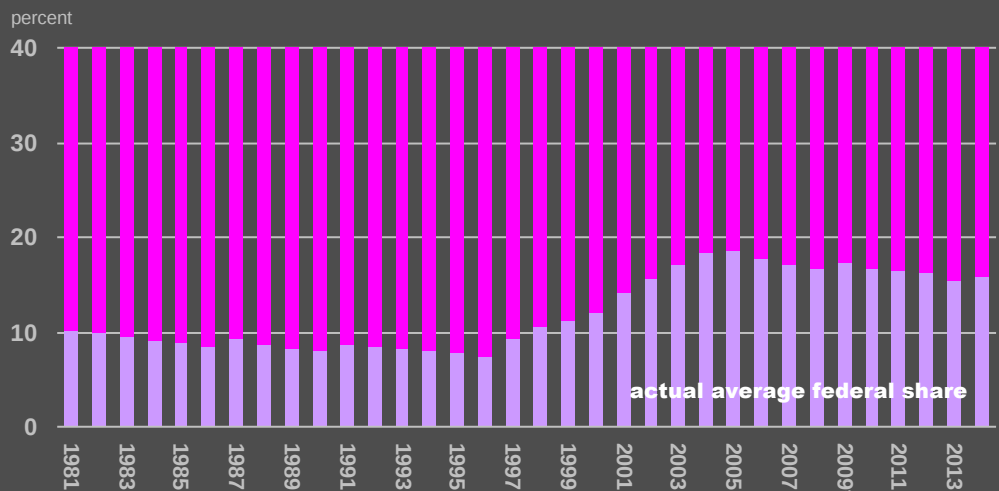
...while costs have increased modestly leaving a smaller federal contribution

Average Federal Share Per Child as a Percentage of the National Average Per Pupil Expenditure (APPE)

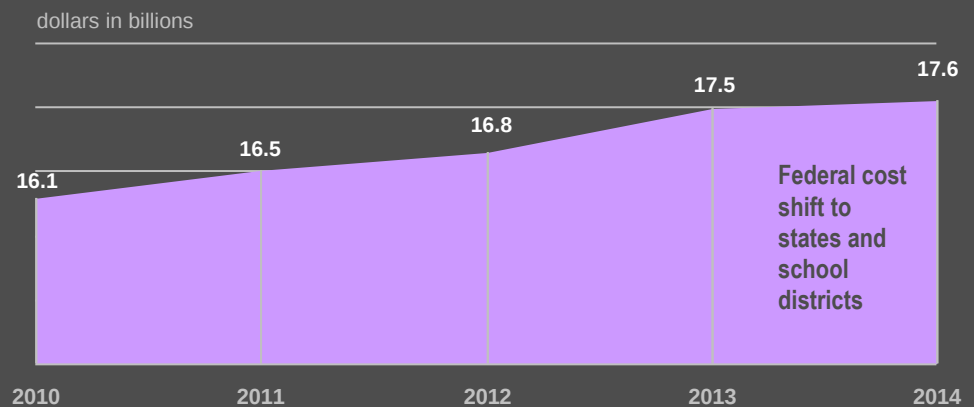
16.7%
FY 2010

15.8%
FY 2014

The average federal share has never reached even half of the federal commitment to cover 40 percent of the excess costs



Inadequate federal support ends up shifting the cost for educating students with special needs to states and districts



*Excludes one-time funds provided under the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act. Source: NEA calculations based on data from the U.S. Department of Education Budget Service and the Congressional Research Service. | April 8, 2014

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Federal Funding Gap

State	FY 2014 (in millions)		Federal Funding Gap & Cost Shift to States & Districts	Students Served (ages 3 to 21)
	Appropriation	Full Funding (40% of the excess cost)		
Alabama	\$179.2	\$456.7	-\$277.5	79,705
Alaska	36.1	92.1	-55.9	17,959
Arizona	188.1	479.5	-291.4	128,281
Arkansas	110.4	281.3	-170.9	64,698
California	1,205.8	3,073.1	-1,867.4	688,346
Colorado	154.5	393.8	-239.3	89,280
Connecticut	131.3	334.6	-203.3	69,730
Delaware	34.5	87.9	-53.4	19,224
District of Columbia	17.3	44.2	-26.8	12,585
Florida	634.5	1,617.2	-982.7	354,352
Georgia	328.4	837.0	-508.6	185,037
Hawaii	39.2	100.0	-60.8	19,696
Idaho	55.4	141.1	-85.7	27,086
Illinois	499.3	1,272.5	-773.2	292,430
Indiana	255.2	650.5	-395.3	168,815
Iowa	120.6	307.3	-186.7	65,882
Kansas	105.3	268.4	-163.1	67,369
Kentucky	155.9	397.4	-241.5	97,555
Louisiana	186.0	474.0	-288.0	81,238
Maine	54.0	137.7	-83.7	32,194
Maryland	197.4	503.2	-305.8	103,429
Massachusetts	280.3	714.5	-434.1	166,437
Michigan	394.0	1,004.1	-610.2	203,427
Minnesota	187.2	477.1	-289.9	123,785
Mississippi	118.2	301.2	-183.0	64,860
Missouri	224.3	571.7	-347.4	123,655
Montana	36.9	94.0	-57.1	16,450
Nebraska	73.7	187.9	-114.2	45,564
Nevada	70.8	180.3	-109.6	50,332
New Hampshire	46.9	119.4	-72.6	29,329
New Jersey	357.0	909.8	-552.8	232,317
New Mexico	89.9	229.2	-139.3	46,498
New York	749.1	1,909.2	-1,160.1	450,794
North Carolina	327.0	833.5	-506.5	190,098
North Dakota	28.0	71.3	-43.3	13,234
Ohio	430.7	1,097.7	-667.0	255,953
Oklahoma	146.4	373.3	-226.8	100,893
Oregon	127.0	323.8	-196.7	82,183
Pennsylvania	420.4	1,071.5	-651.1	295,502
Rhode Island	43.2	110.1	-66.9	24,165
South Carolina	174.6	445.1	-270.5	99,530
South Dakota	33.3	85.0	-51.6	18,316
Tennessee	234.5	597.7	-363.2	127,407
Texas	982.9	2,505.1	-1,522.2	439,635
Utah	109.7	279.7	-169.9	78,270
Vermont	27.0	68.8	-41.8	13,873
Virginia	280.4	714.7	-434.3	161,498
Washington	217.7	554.8	-337.1	130,778
West Virginia	75.0	191.1	-116.1	44,487
Wisconsin	205.3	523.2	-317.9	123,287
Wyoming	28.3	72.2	-43.8	11,883
Puerto Rico	115.0	293.1	-178.1	130,212
Outlying Areas	40.8	93.3	-52.5	7,928
Bureau of Indian Education	93.8	93.8	0.0	6,504
Technical Assistance	15.0	15.0	0.0	-
Other	-	-	-	-
National	\$11,472.8	\$29,061.5	-\$17,588.6	6,573,975

The assumption underlying the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its predecessor legislation is that, on average, the cost of educating children with disabilities is twice the average cost (measured as the national average per pupil expenditure or APPE) of educating other children. Congress determined that the federal government would pay up to 40 percent of this "excess" cost, which is referred to as full funding. Since 1981, the first year for which full funding was 40 percent of APPE, the federal share has remained less than half of the federal commitment based on regular appropriations. As a result, states and school districts are forced to absorb the additional costs not funded by the federal government to meet the needs to which these students are legally entitled. In 2014 alone this cost is almost \$17.6 billion.