NERDS
NATIONAL EDUCATION RESOURCE DATABASE on SCHOOLS

A provision in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) introduced a requirement for states to report per-student spending by school. NERDS compiles the data into one easy-to-access, permanent location hosted by Georgetown University.

IF YOU’VE EVER HAD BIG QUESTIONS ABOUT SCHOOL SPENDING...

How does spending compare across schools in a district?
Between similar schools in different districts or states?

What is the relationship between spending and student outcomes?

NERDS

A compiled national data set from all states and districts
Normalized data for apples-to-apples comparisons
Preserves data from multiple years
Displays downloadable research-ready data

YOU’RE ABOUT TO HAVE ANSWERS

Timely and relevant student-level spending data traditionally has been hard—and at times, impossible—to access. In June 2020, the nation started to receive annual spending reports for:

+50M public school students
+98K public schools
+14K school districts

SCHOOL-BY-SCHOOL EXPENDITURE DATA WILL PROVIDE TRANSPARENCY & KNOWLEDGE

SEEING SCHOOL FUNDING’S BIGGER PICTURE

Spending data can be merged with national datasets to give insight into complex questions.

SPENDING EQUITY
Explore how district policies impact the distribution of dollars across schools

COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS
Investigate and evaluate investments in education components and programs

PRODUCTIVITY & INNOVATION
Examine the relationship between spending and outcomes across different school populations and contexts

STATE FINANCE FORMULAS
Learn what kinds of funding models yield the most equitable and productive systems

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP
Help leaders understand costs and identify spending tradeoffs to improve schooling

For more information visit edunomicslab.org or contact us at nerds@georgetown.edu