

SPECIAL EDUCATION IN CALIFORNIA

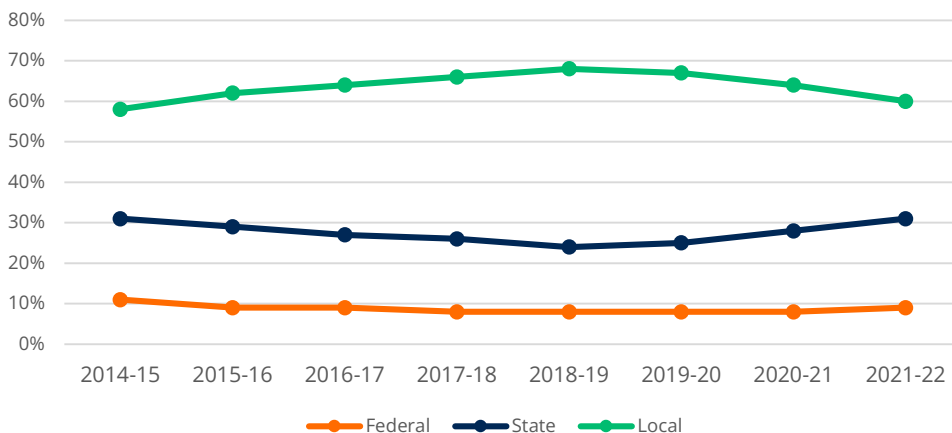


Almost 12% of California Students have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan.

California Legislative Analyst's Office, <https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4486>

The combination of flat or declining federal contributions and increasing special education costs has placed serious financial strain on state and local educational agencies as they attempt to cover the gap created by Congress' failure to meet their commitment of 40% funding.

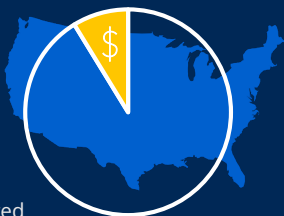
State, Federal, and Local Contributions to Special Education Expenditures



Coalition for Adequate Funding for Special Education, "2021-2022 Maintenance of Effort—Updated Special Education Funding Sources", 3/20/23



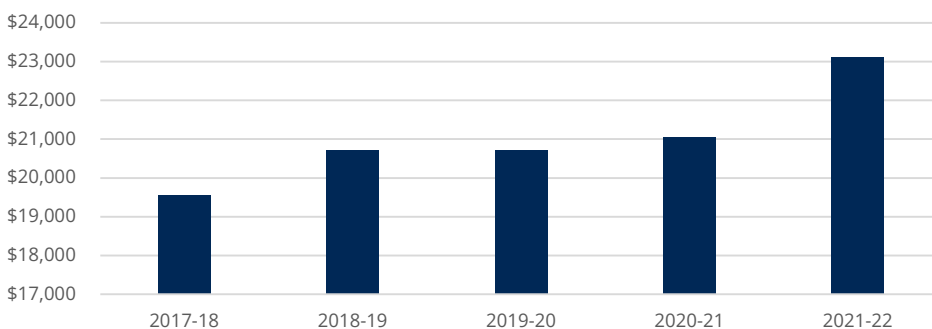
State funding covered 31.31% of the total cost.



Federal funding covered only 8.75% of the total cost. This percentage will decrease in 2022-23 as it reflects one-time funds in 2021-22 that were not carried into ongoing federal funds.

Increases in the identification of severe disabilities, cost of living, and litigation expenses have led to rising per pupil special education costs.

Special Education Expenses



Coalition for Adequate Funding for Special Education, "2021-2022 Maintenance of Effort—Updated Special Education Funding Sources", 3/20/23



The district general fund had to cover the remaining 59.94%.

Special education and early intervention are smart investments in California's future.



Participation in high-quality early intervention programs, like Head Start, reduces the likelihood of special education placement by 39%.



For every \$100 a county spends per pupil on early education intervention programs, special education placements drop by 1% to 3%, on average.

Coalition for Adequate Funding for Special Education, "2021-2022 Maintenance of Effort—Updated Special Education Funding Sources", 3/20/23