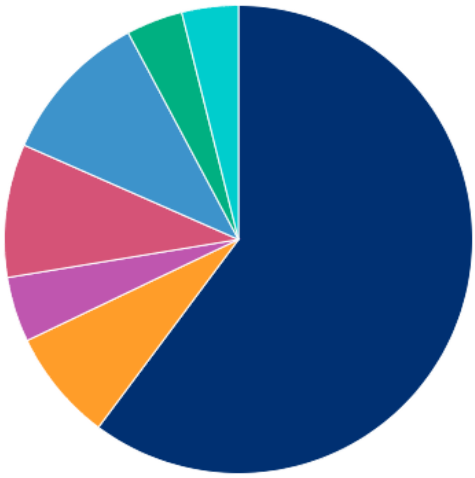
Deer Valley Unified School District

District demographic information

District's spending by operational area



Classroom spending, 72.4%
- Instruction, 60.2%
- Student support, 7.7%
- Instruction support, 4.5%

Nonclassroom spending, 27.6%
- Administration, 9.2%
- Plant operations, 10.6%
- Food service, 3.9%
- Transportation, 3.9%

For definitions of what is included in operational spending and each of the operational areas, see the “Spending areas” section on the **Glossary page**.

Every year, school districts must decide where to allocate their resources. This pie chart shows how Deer Valley Unified School District spent its funding by operational area, including the percentage it spent in the classroom and specifically on instruction.

We categorize districts with certain similar qualities into **operational peer groups** in order to help create meaningful comparisons across districts. Deer Valley Unified School District’s peer group had an average instructional spending percentage of 56.0%. This number can help provide context for Deer Valley Unified School District’s own instructional spending percentage.

Instructional spending percentage highlights (FYs 2001-2023)

We have monitored instructional spending since FY 2001. Below are highlights from Deer Valley Unified School District’s instructional spending trend showing the most recent year-to-year change and the years it spent its highest and lowest percentages on instruction. Reviewing these instructional spending percentage highlights can provide insight into short-term (year-to-year comparison) and long-term (highest and lowest comparison) trends of a district's allocation of monies to instruction. Depending on how much a district spends in total, even small changes in a district’s percentage spent on instruction can equate to large changes in the actual dollars the district spent.

Prior fiscal year
FY 2022
59.4%

Current fiscal year
FY 2023
60.2%

Highest fiscal year
FY 2004
62.8%

Lowest fiscal year
FY 2014
58.3%

Why monitor school district spending?

Most school district funding is based on the number of students attending, and districts can choose how to spend most funding, so every decision a school district makes to spend on one operational area directly impacts its ability to spend on another. For example, if a district has higher spending in plant operations, it will have fewer dollars to spend on instruction.

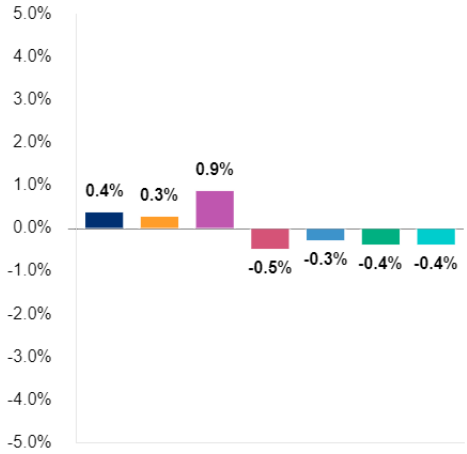
The bar chart below, "Percentage point change in spending by area," illustrates how Deer Valley Unified School District's spending by area has changed from the prior fiscal year and 5 fiscal years ago.

To put the spending percentages in context, it also can be helpful to review a district's per student spending in dollars. For example, 2 districts may spend the same percentage of their resources on instruction, but on a per student basis, 1 district may spend hundreds or even thousands of dollars more than the other.

Percentage point change in spending by area

Compare District's FY 2023 spending to:

District's FY 2018 spending (5-year comparison)



Change in classroom spending, 1.6%

Instruction, 0.4%
Student support, 0.3%
Instruction support, 0.9%

Change in nonclassroom spending, -1.6%

Administration, -0.5%
Plant operations, -0.3%
Food service, -0.4%
Transportation, -0.4%

Per student spending by area

Compare District's FY 2023 spending to:

District's FY 2022 spending (1-year comparison)

Area	District FY 2022	District FY 2023	1-year change
Classroom spending			
Instruction	$5,674	$6,500	+$826
Student support	$774	$825	+$51
Instruction support	$410	$490	+$80
Nonclassroom spending			
Administration	$916	$990	+$74
Plant operations	$1,000	$1,144	+$144
Food service	$387	$425	+$38
Transportation	$392	$420	+$28
Total operational	**$9,553**	**$10,794**	+$1,241
Land and buildings	$1,185	$883	-$302
Equipment	$436	$651	+$215
Interest	$247	$269	+$22
Other	$139	$165	+$26
Total nonoperational	**$2,007**	**$1,968**	-$39
Total per student spending	**$11,560**	**$12,762**	+$1,202

Operational efficiency measures

Performance measures, such as those shown below, can be used in addition to the instructional spending percentage to assess a district's operational efficiency. We have classified the District's spending relative to its peer districts' average as very low, low, comparable, high, very high, or N/A (not available or applicable). High or very high spending when compared to peer averages may signify an opportunity for improved efficiency in that area. A district's data may not be available or applicable if they did not operate a program in that operational area. For example, not all districts operate food service or transportation programs.

For more information on how we calculate these measures, see the "Operational efficiency measure calculations" section on the **Glossary page**.

Operational area	Measure	State average	Peer average	District	District spending relative to the peer average
Administration	Spending per student	$1,207	$1,015	$990	Comparable
	Students per administrative position	62	73	86	N/A
Plant operations	Spending per square foot	$8.05	$8.09	$7.76	Comparable
	Square footage per student	169 ft²	158 ft²	147 ft²	N/A
Food service	Spending per meal	$4.12	$4.00	$4.15	Comparable
	Meals per student	128	97	102	N/A

Transportation performance measures are compared using different peer groups because we have found there are other factors, such as the number of miles a district averages for each rider, that impact transportation spending. For more information on how we create transportation peer groups see the "District peer groups" section on the **Glossary page**.

Operational area	Measure	State average	Peer average	District	District spending relative to the peer average
Transportation	Spending per mile	$6.19	$6.88	$7.03	Comparable
	Spending per rider	$2,039	$1,960	$1,920	Comparable

Why monitor average teacher salary?

Teacher salaries are one of a school district's most substantial costs and have been a topic of high interest in recent years in Arizona. Therefore, we have expanded our reporting on average teacher salary in FY 2023 to provide additional information based on stakeholder feedback. The breakdown below shows Deer Valley Unified School District's average teacher salary and amount from Classroom Site Fund (CSF) monies as we have reported in prior years. In FY 2023, we have also reported the average base salary for teachers depending on their years of experience. This differs from the average teacher salary. Specifically, average base salary represents the average of only base salaries paid to the teachers within the presented categories of years of experience, meaning it does not reflect additional pay teachers may receive, such as performance pay and stipends or additions to base pay unrelated to additional duties. Neither the average teacher salary nor the average base salary includes payments for additional nonteaching duties a teacher may perform for additional pay, such as tutoring, cocurricular activities, or athletics. A district's average base salary may not be available if the District did not have teachers during the fiscal year for one of the categories of years of experience. For some districts, the data did not meet our criteria for reporting, which is indicated by NR (not reliable).

The additional teacher salary information we report this year can provide a better picture of how a district pays its teachers. For example, if a district has a large difference between the average base salary for teachers in their first 3 years and the average base salary of teachers in their 4th year or later, it indicates that the district's salary schedule provides additional base compensation to teachers as they gain additional teaching experience. If the district's total average teacher salary is substantially higher than the base salary amounts, it indicates that the district pays teachers more in performance pay and one-time payments than a district whose overall average teacher salary is similar to its base salary amounts. Further, not all districts recognize a teacher's classroom experience outside of their school district when determining a teacher's pay. The graphic below indicates whether the district reported recognizing classroom experience outside of the district, and if so, whether the district reported compensating teachers for classroom experience through placement on the district's salary schedule, meaning the teacher's experience resulted in a higher base pay, and/or by making additional payments to teachers in addition to their base pay, such as a stipend.

Additionally, it is important to consider the proportion of experienced teachers in a district's **teacher population**, which can impact a district's average teacher salary. For example, a district's total average teacher salary may have decreased since the prior year if its most experienced teachers have left district employment and the district has hired less experienced teachers to replace them. Smaller districts generally have more variation in average teacher salary and other teacher measures due to their smaller teacher population where replacing one experienced teacher with a less experienced teacher can have a more substantial year-to-year impact on reported amounts.

Average teacher salary and other teacher measures (FY 2023)

District's average teacher salary

$62,751

Amount from CSF: $10,701

District's average teacher salary is

-$183

compared to the State average

District reported that it paid any of its teachers for prior classroom experience outside the District.	**Yes**
If yes, the district reported these payments as:	
Included in base salary by being accounted for with salary schedule placement:	**Yes**
In addition to, but separate from, base salary:	**No**

Average years of teacher experience

12.5 years

Percentage of teachers in their first 3 years

21%

Average base salary of teachers in their first 3 years

$50,000

Percentage of teachers in their 4th year or later

79%

Average base salary of teachers in their 4th year or later

$60,203

Students per teacher

16.4

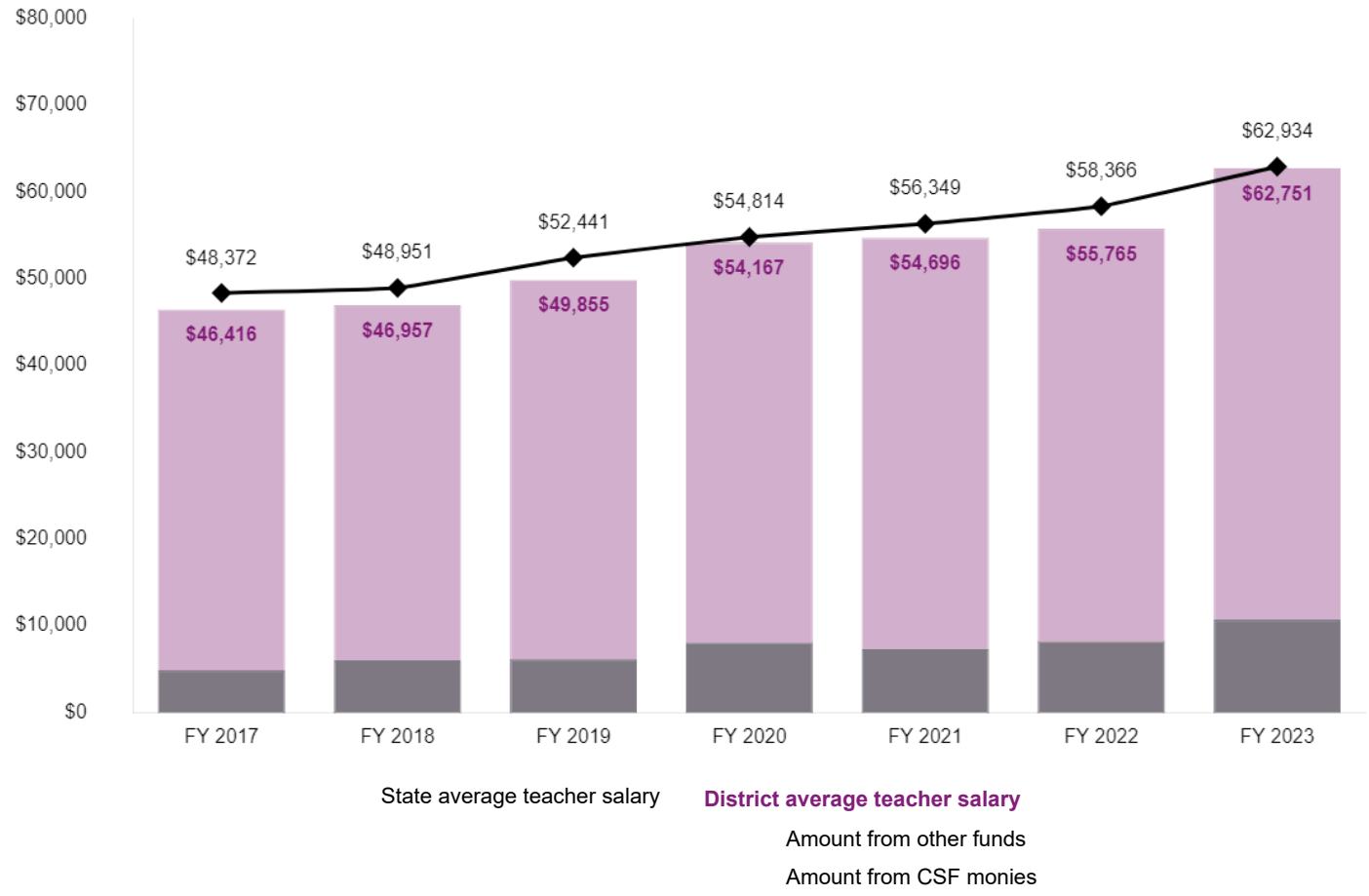
Students per teacher is total students attending divided by total certified teachers. Total certified teachers includes special-area teachers such as art, music, and physical education teachers.

Districts received additional State monies intended to increase average teacher salary

In FYs 2018 through 2021, the State provided additional monies to districts to increase teacher salaries by 20 percent from the FY 2017 base year. The bar chart below shows how Deer Valley Unified School District's average teacher salary changed during this time frame and immediately after the annual State increases from FYs 2018 through 2021 ended, as well as how it compared to the State-wide average. Additionally, the chart shows the portion of the District's average teacher salary paid with CSF monies.

We have also included a table that displays other student- and teacher-related measures that may provide additional context regarding changes to Deer Valley Unified School District's average teacher salary during this timeframe. For instance, changes in a district's teacher population can impact the district's average teacher salary.

District average teacher salary compared to State average (FYs 2017-2023)



Prior years' District average teacher salary and other teacher measures

Year	District average teacher salary	Students per teacher	Average years of teacher experience	Percentage of teachers in first 3 years
FY 2023	$62,751	16.4	12.5	21%
FY 2022	$55,765	16.2	12.6	13%
FY 2021	$54,696	15.9	12.3	15%
FY 2020	$54,167	17.0	12.5	15%
FY 2019	$49,855	17.1	12.5	15%
FY 2018	$46,957	17.2	12.5	16%
FY 2017	$46,416	17.2	12.3	16%

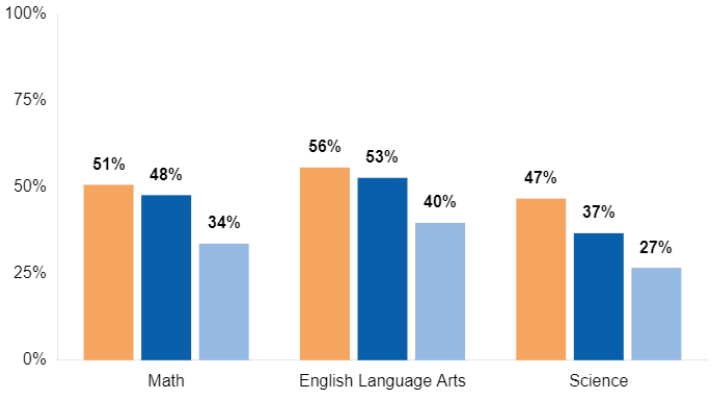
Student achievement

For FY 2023, we present an achievement peer group weighted average and the State average for comparison to the individual districts' percentage of students who passed State assessments in Math, English Language Arts (ELA), and Science assessments. We report a passage rate consistent with ADE's publicly available data file, and therefore, some individual districts' results may not be available due to ADE's redaction standards. For

FY 2023, we also present an achievement peer group weighted average and the State average for comparison. For more information on how we create achievement peer groups, see the “District peer groups” section on the **Glossary page**.

Additionally, we have included the district’s percentage passing for each of the past 5 fiscal years, excluding FYs 2020 and 2021, for Math, ELA, and Science assessments. In FYs 2020 and 2021 State assessment testing was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, with school districts being exempted from conducting State assessments in FY 2020 and not all eligible students participating in FY 2021.

District, District peer group, and State-wide student passing percentage (FY 2023)

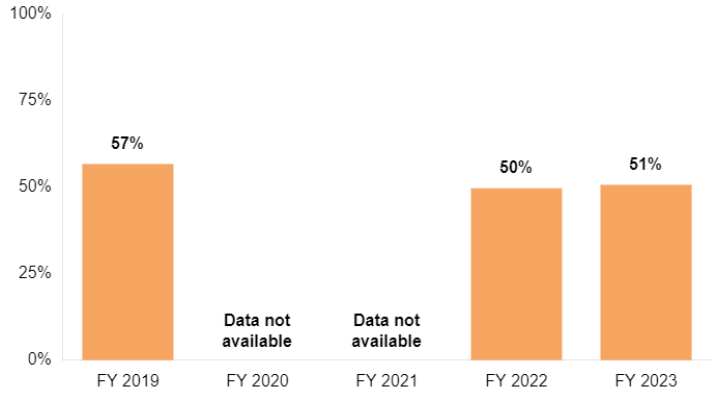


District Peer group State-wide

District’s student achievement (5-year trend)

View the percentage of District students who passed State assessments for:

Math



District students who passed the State assessment for Math