

FISCAL YEAR 2024

ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Atlanta Independent School System

Popular Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 Atlanta, Georgia

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March 30,2024

Dear Colleagues and Friends:



We are pleased to present the Atlanta Public Schools Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. This report is designed to make the financial operations of our school district more understandable in a printed format.

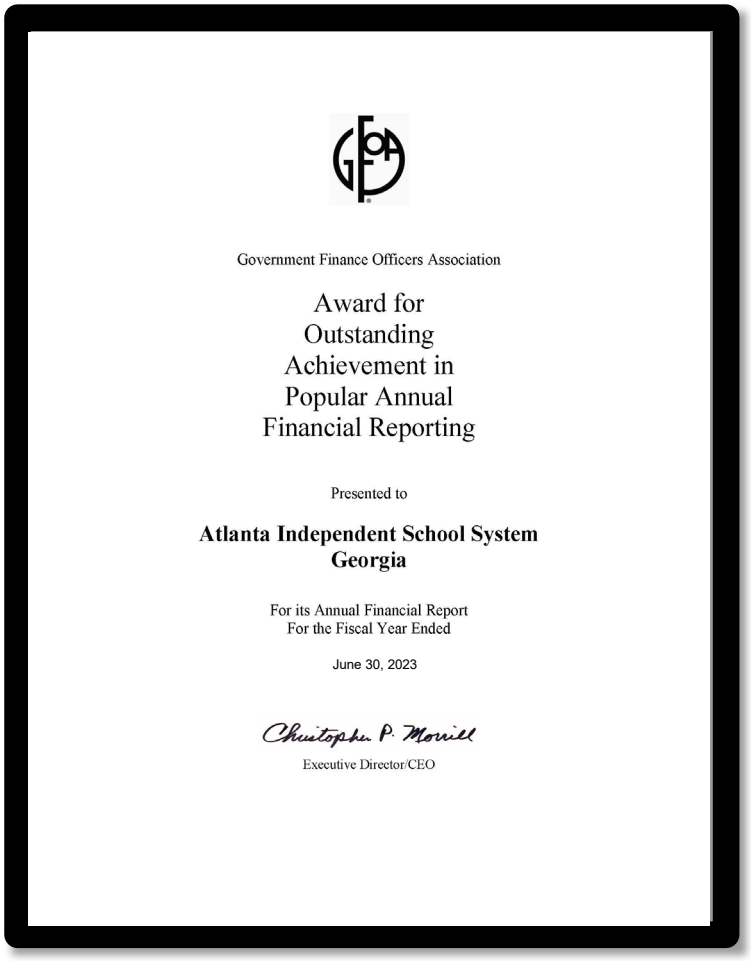
The PAFR summarizes the financial activities and operating results reported in the district's audited Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) The PAFR is unaudited and presented on a non-GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) basis, which primarily deals with full disclosure and segregated funds. The statements presented on pages two and three are the district-wide financial statements. These statements incorporate all of the district's financial activities into two statements. For more detailed financial information, a copy of the ACFR and PAFR is available at https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/59285

The PAFR should help community members understand how their tax dollars are being utilized to educate our students. Questions and comments regarding this report are encouraged and may be directed to the Finance Department at (404) 802-2400.

Respectfully,

Dr. Lisa Bracken
Chief Financial Officer

Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting



Government Finance Officers Association

Award for
Outstanding
Achievement in
Popular Annual
Financial Reporting

Presented to

Atlanta Independent School System
Georgia

For its Annual Financial Report
For the Fiscal Year Ended

June 30, 2023

Christopher P. Morrill

Executive Director/CEO

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has given an award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Atlanta Independent School System for its Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. The Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a PAFR, whose contents conform to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current report continues to conform to the PAFR requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA.

Atlanta Independent School System Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports for the years ended 2022-2023, from which the information on pages two through nine has been drawn, were awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by GFOA. The Certificate is the highest form of recogni-tion for excellence in state and local government financial reporting.

In order to be awarded the Certificate of Achievement, a government unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized annual comprehensive financial report (ACFR), whose contents conform to program standards. The ACFR must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our ACFR continues to conform to the Certificate of Achievement program requirements and we are submitting our ACFR for the current year to the GFOA.

A message from our **Superintendent**

Dear Students and Families of Atlanta Public Schools,

We are excited to welcome our students back for the 2024-2025 school year! We are grateful for your choice of Atlanta Public Schools, a place where every student is nurtured in a caring culture of trust, equity, and collaboration, and graduates are prepared for college, career, and life. Our unwavering commitment is to serve as a high-performing school district where students are passionate about learning, educators are a source of inspiration, families are not just engaged but are an integral part of our efforts, and the community has complete confidence in our system.

This year, we continue our work focused on growing a district and community of readers. We are confident that readers are leaders. Thus, we are building capacity among our teachers to ensure they are properly equipped to implement best practices in reading instruction.

As we continue to Lead Forward with CARE, we are dedicated to educating with compassion, ensuring that every student feels seen, heard, and valued as individuals with unique needs and potential. We hold ourselves accountable for the outcomes of our efforts, striving for excellence in every aspect of our educational mission. Respect for all stakeholders remains paramount as we recognize the diverse backgrounds, experiences, and viewpoints that enrich our community. By engaging with empathy, we cultivate meaningful connections, understanding, and support networks that empower every member to thrive and succeed.

As we embark on this new academic year, I sincerely hope for each of you to experience a safe, enriching, and productive school term. Remember, your success is our priority, and we are here to support you every step of the way. Let us embrace the opportunities ahead with enthusiasm, curiosity, and a commitment to excellence. Together, let's make this school year one filled with growth, achievement, and cherished memories. Wishing you all the very best for a successful year ahead.

Sincerely,



Dr. Danielle Battle
Interim Superintendent



FISCAL YEAR 2024

Introductory Section

ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

APS BY THE NUMBERS

*As of August 2022



4,243 Total Teachers

3,052 Neighborhood + Partner School Teachers

1,191 Charter School Teachers

58 Neighborhood Schools
19 Charter Schools
5 Partner Schools
5 Alternative Programs



295 Bus routes transport
28,750 students
21,215 miles per day



Class of 2021

2,666 Graduates

$164,211,193.00 in scholarships offered

48,702 Students [Projected]

38,217 Neighborhood + Partner School Students

10,485 Charter School Students



Diversity

72.2% African-American
15.9% Caucasian
7.6% Hispanic
2.9% Multi-Racial
0.2% Indian
1.0% Asian
0.1% Pacific

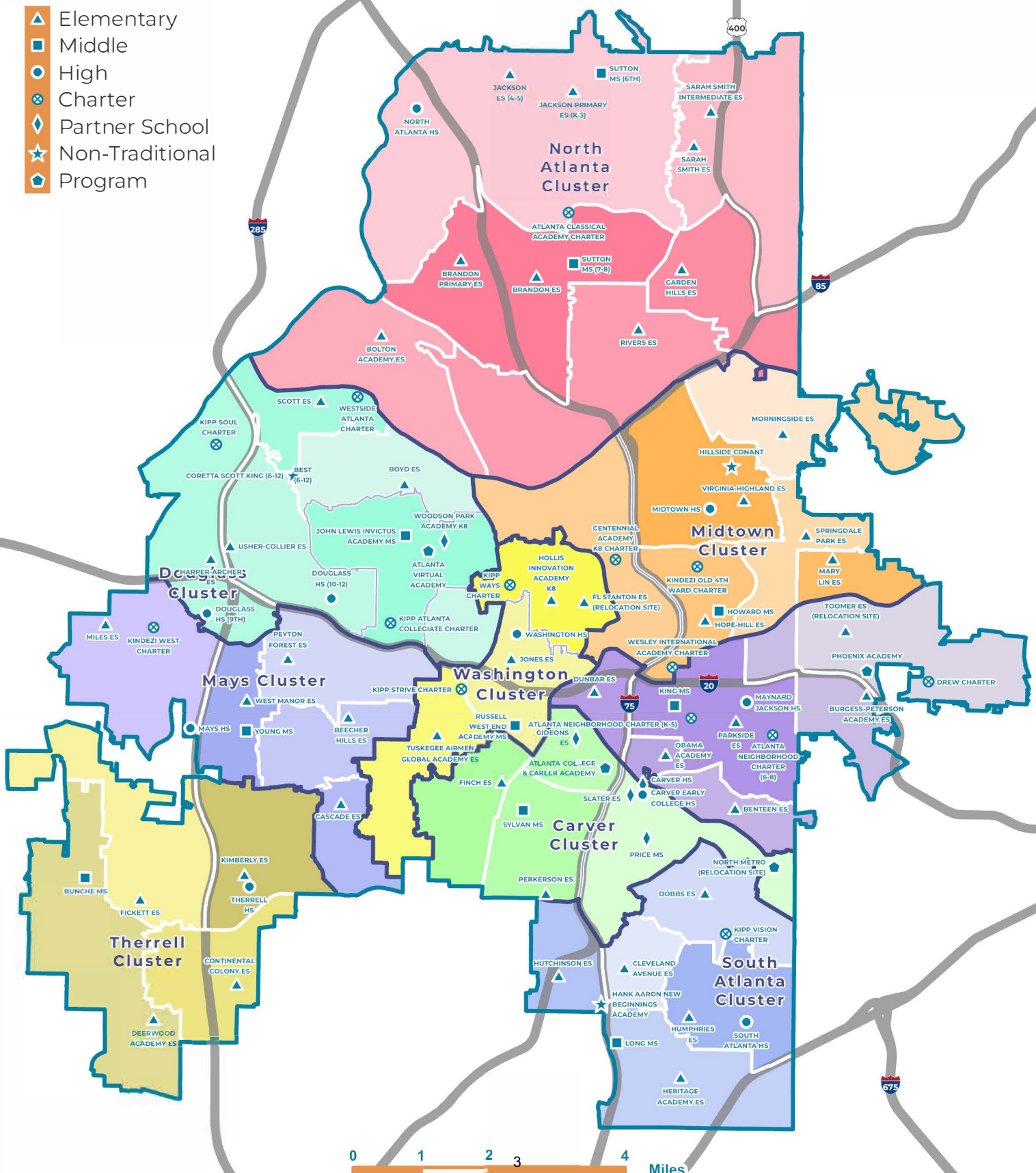


74.4% Qualify for free and reduced lunch

ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Attendance Zones: 2023-24

- Elementary
- Middle
- High
- Charter
- Partner School
- Non-Traditional
- Program



Demographic and Economic Information

This table presents demographic and economic information to assist users in understanding the socioeconomic environment within which the School System operates. This information is from City of Atlanta.

Atlanta Independent School System

Demographic Statistics from City of Atlanta
Last Ten Fiscal Years

Year	Population	Personal Income (in millions)	Per Capita Personal Income	Public School Enrollment	Unemployment Rate
2023	11,029,227	$ 646,108	$ 58,581	1,747,791	4%
2022	10,912,876	623,447	57,129	1,744,887	3.4%
2021	10,799,566	597,101	55,289	1,736,159	4.5%
2020	10,710,017	547,976	51,165	1,723,127	8.4%
2019	10,617,423	511,744	48,236	1,760,739	3.5%
2018	10,519,475	481,213	45,745	1,759,838	3.9%
2017	10,429,379	460,403	44,145	1,761,472	4.7%
2016	10,310,371	434,678	42,159	1,757,543	5.4%
2015	10,214,860	411,722	40,306	1,749,852	5.9%
2014	10,097,132	394,773	39,097	1,736,416	7.1%

Sources: Statistical section of the City of Atlanta, Georgia 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024.
Enrollment data from GA Department of Education
(1) Statistical Data from the City of Atlanta is one year in arrears.

1 Per Capita Personal Income is the average income earned per person in the City of Atlanta.

GRADUATION RATE



The APS Class of 2024 reports the highest percentage of on-time graduates to date as the district graduation rate increases by 1.8 percentage points from last year. This district graduation rate also surpassed the state's graduation rate by 3 percentage points

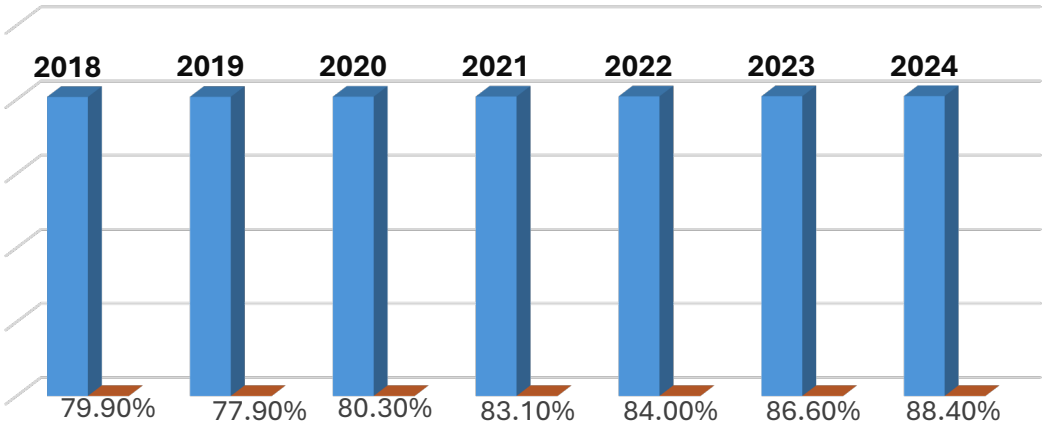
Atlanta Public Schools (APS) achieved an 88.4 percent graduation rate for cohort 2024, according to the Georgia Department of Education, which officially released graduation rates for the Class of 2024, Tuesday.

This marks the highest all-time graduation rate for the district and once again the district has surpassed the state's graduation rate of 85.4% by 3 percentage points.

A total of 2,873 students graduated on-time from APS in 2024. The percentage of students who graduated in 2024 is higher than any other year since 2012, when the state adopted the cohort graduation rate as required by federal law. This is an increase of 61 graduates from 2023. The 2024 cohort included 3,250 students, 3 larger than the 2023 cohort.

Atlanta Public Schools is one of the largest school districts in the state of Georgia, serving approximately 50,000 students across 87 learning sites, including 59 neighborhood schools, 5 partner schools, 19 charter schools, 2 citywide single-gender academies, and 2 alternative programs.

Atlanta Public Schools Four-year Graduation Rate



2024-2026

ATLANTA BOARD OF EDUCATION

bold leadership | student focused, community driven

District Schools Representative



Katie Howard
District 1

Elementary Schools: Barack & Michelle Obama Academy, Benteen, Dobbs, Hope Hill, Parkside, Slater

Middle Schools: King, Price, Howard

High Schools: Carver, Carver Early College, Midtown, Jackson

Charter Schools: Atlanta Neighborhood Charter School (K-8), The Kindezi School - Old Fourth Ward (K-8) Wesley International Academy (K-8)



Aretta Baldon
District 2

Elementary Schools: Dunbar, Hollis Innovation Academy (K-8), Jones, Stanton, Woodson Park Academy

Middle Schools: Herman J. Russell West End Academy

High Schools: Douglass, North Metro, Washington

Charter Schools: Centennial Academy (K-8), KIPP Strive Academy (K-8), KIPP WAYS Academy (K-8), KIPP Atlanta Collegiate (9-12)

Atlanta Virtual Academy



Ken Zeff
District 3

Elementary Schools: Burgess-Peterson Academy, Garden Hills, Mary Lin, Morningside, Springdale Park, Toomer, Virginia-Highland

High Schools: Adult Literacy Program (Peterson Building), East Atlanta Campus (Phoenix Academy)

Charter Schools: Drew Charter (K-12)

Residential Flexible Learning Program: Hillside Conant (Grades 2-12)



Jennifer McDonald
District 4, Vice Chair

Elementary Schools: Brandon, Brandon Primary, E. Rivers, Jackson, Jackson Primary, Smith, Smith Primary

Middle Schools: Sutton

High Schools: North Atlanta

Charter Schools: Atlanta Classical Academy



Erika Y. Mitchell
District 5, Chair

Elementary Schools: Beecher Hills, Bolton Academy, Boyd, Miles, Peyton Forest, Scott, Tuskegee Airmen Global Academy, Usher-Collier, West Manor, Harper-Archer

Middle Schools: John Lewis Invictus Academy, Jean Childs Young

High Schools: Mays, Douglass 9th Grade STEAM Academy

Single Gender Schools: B.E.S.T. Academy (6-12), Coretta Scott King Young Women's Leadership Academy (6-12)

Charter Schools: Kindezi West (K-8), Westside Atlanta Charter (K-6) KIPP Soul



Eshè P. Collins,
District 6

Elementary Schools: Cascade, Cleveland Avenue, Continental Colony, Deerwood Academy, Fickett, Finch, Heritage Academy, Humphries, Hutchinson, Kimberly, Kindezi at Gideons, Perkerson

Middle Schools: Bunche, Long, Sylvan Hills

High Schools: South Atlanta, Therrell

Non-Traditional Schools & Programs: Henry Louis "Hank" Aaron New Beginnings Academy (6-12), KIPP Vision Academy (K-8), Atlanta College and Career Academy

At-Large Members



Alfred Shivy Brooks
At-Large, Seat 7
Districts 1 & 2



Cynthia Briscoe Brown
At-Large, Seat 8
Districts 3 & 4



Jessica Johnson
At-Large, Seat 9
Districts 5 & 6



FISCAL YEAR 2024

Financial Section

ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Summarized Financial Reports

Readers of the Financial Position Statement (Benefits over Detriments) and Financial Activity Statement (Revenue over Expense) should keep in mind that the numbers in both reports are taken from the district's ACFR, but are presented in a non-GAAP format.

Governmental-type activities consist of programs and services that include instruction, pupil services, improvement of instruction, educational media, federal grant administration, general administration, school administration, business services, maintenance/operation of facilities, student transportation, central support and capital construction.

The following financial highlights present district-wide financial information for governmental activities.

Financial Highlights

Overall, net position in fiscal year 2024 increased by 1.2% over fiscal year 2023. This was primarily due to an increase in tax revenues. The key financial highlights for fiscal year 2022 as represented are the following: (See page 4.)

- Total net position for the School System decreased from $835.46 million in fiscal year 2023 to $825.31 million in fiscal year 2024, a decrease of approximately $10.15 million or 1.2% due to an increase in capital assets and a decrease in long-term debt.

- Total revenues increased from approximately $1,358.57 million in fiscal year 2023 to approximately $1458.21 million in fiscal year 2024, an increase of approximately $99.64 million or 7.3%.

- Total expenses increased approximately $394.52 million or 36.77% from approximately $1,073.02 million in fiscal year 2023to approximately $1,467.54 million in fiscal year 2024.



Benefits over Detriments (District-Wide)



The Financial Position Statement reports the benefits (assets) available to provide services and the detriments (liabilities) for which the district is obligated to pay in the future (shown in millions). The difference between benefits and detriments equals the net worth of the district.

A glossary of the financial terminology is provided on page 15.

Financial Benefits	2024	2023	Restated 2022
Current and other assets	$ 698.33	$ 697.64	$ 594.35
Net capital assets and net pension asset	1,448.21	1,429.17	1,455.99
Total benefits	$ 2,146.54	$ 2,126.81	$ 2,050.34
Deferred outflows of resources	$ 447.64	$ 606.21	$ 332.74
Financial Detriments			
Long-term debt outstanding	$ 186.27	$ 139.30	$ 912.10
Other liabilities	1,402.70	1,539.75	141.13
Total detriments	$ 1,588.97	$ 1,679.05	$ 1,053.23
Deferred inflows of resources	$ 177.15	$ 218.51	$ 587.27
Net position			
Net investment in capital assets	$ 1,347.76	$ 1,339.86	$ 1,363.94
Restricted for athletics			-
Restricted for debt services			-
Restricted for capital projects	254.42	236.61	165.25
Restricted for school nutrition program	23.23	17.86	17.99
Restricted for state and local programs	11.33	7.56	10.16
Unrestricted	(808.68)	(766.43)	(814.77)
Total net position	$828.06	$835.46	$742.57

*Amounts shown in millions

Resources over Services (District-Wide)



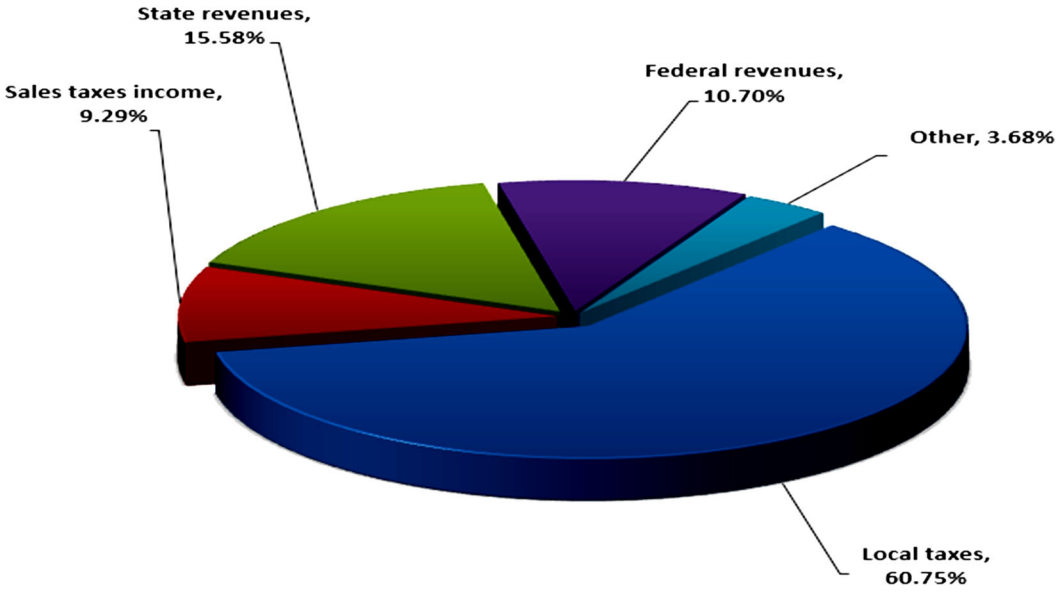
The Financial Activity Statement provides summary of the resources (revenues) and services (expenses) of the district (shown in millions).

A glossary of financial terminology is provided on page 15.

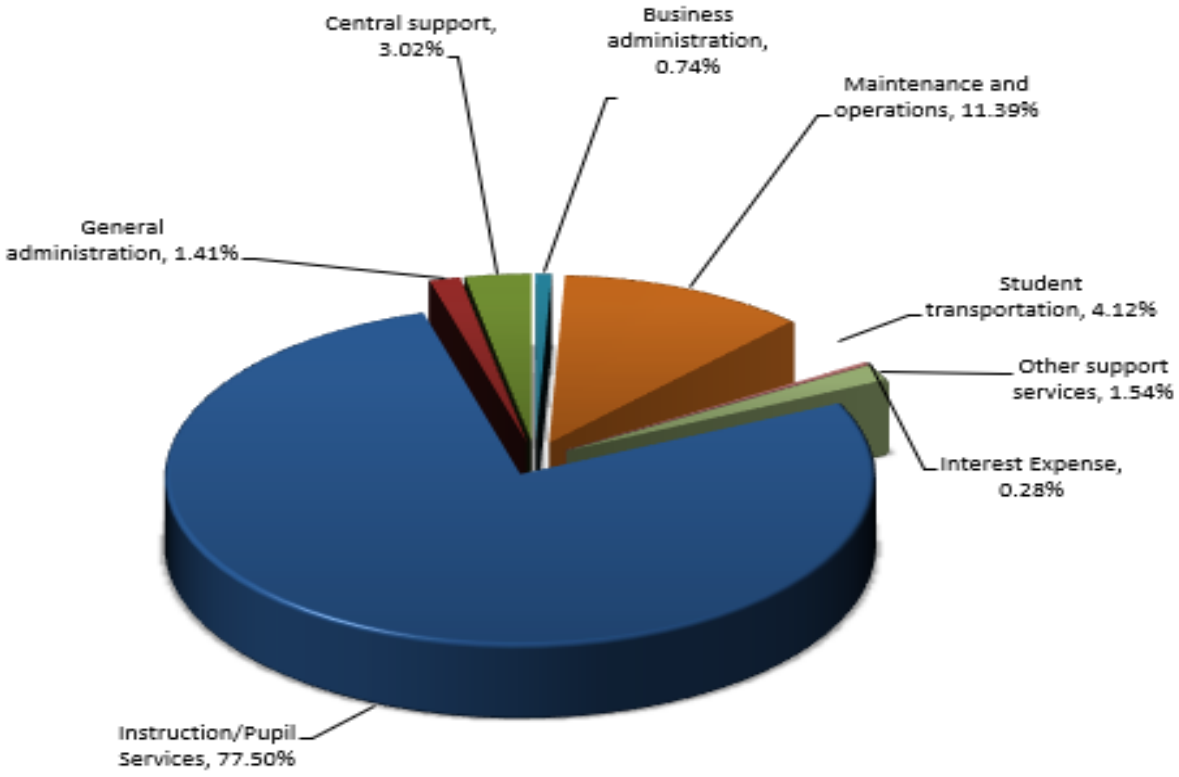
	2024	2023	Restated 2022
Resources Taken In			
Local taxes	$ 885.88	$ 804.14	$ 780.49
Sales taxes income	135.51	135.24	128.60
State revenues	229.96	205.70	200.15
Federal revenues	153.32	173.42	211.71
Investment income	28.42	16.41	(1.04)
Facility rental fees	2.09	4.39	1.26
Tuition charges	0.02	0.03	0.04
Charges for services	3.66	3.50	1.42
Other	19.35	15.70	17.14
Gains on the sale of capital assets		0.04	0.01
Special Item -Principal Forgiveness of Debt			-
Total Revenues & Resources	$ 1,458.21	$ 1,358.57	$ 1,339.78
Services Provided			
Instruction	$ 897.28	$ 780.41	$ 673.40
Support services:			
Pupil services	89.52	79.56	82.00
Improvement of instructional services	75.63	55.94	39.30
Educational media	10.57	8.59	4.92
Federal grant administration	3.95	3.88	2.56
General administration	20.76	15.14	12.57
School administration	57.85	48.01	36.92
Business administration	10.85	8.93	6.67
Maintenance and operation of facilities	167.16	131.61	114.18
Student transportation	60.44	53.78	41.29
Central support	44.38	41.33	26.77
Other support services	2.50	4.44	2.53
Nutrition	22.49	28.95	25.46
Interest Expense	4.16	4.47	4.45
Total Expenses & Service	$ 1,467.54	$ 1,073.02	$ 1,073.02
Revenues & Resources Over(Under) Expenses & Services	(9.33)	$ 266.90	$ 79.69

*Amounts shown in millions

Our Resources: **Where Does the Money Come From?**



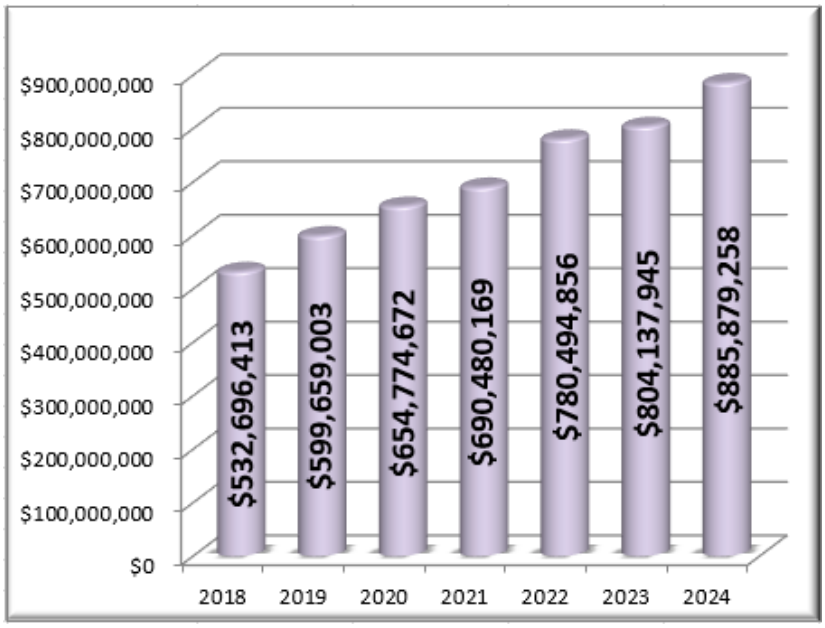
Our Services: **Where Does the Money Go?**



SOURCES OF FUNDING: **Where Does the Money Come From?**

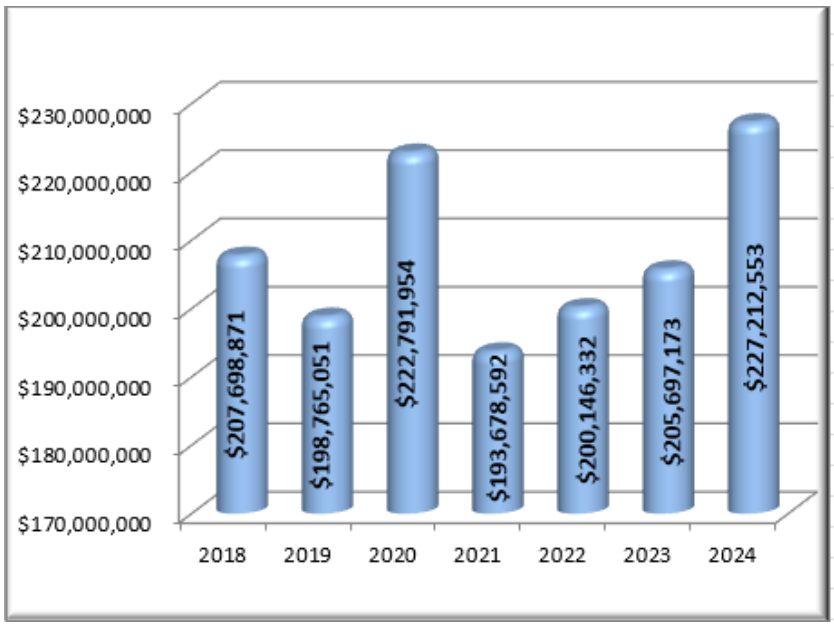
Local Taxes:

The Atlanta Public Schools (APS) district is financed through a combination of local, state and federal sources. The current property tax rate is 20.5 mills, which has been the same since 2022. During fiscal year 2024, Atlanta Public Schools revenue totaled $1,358.52 million. APS received 59.19% of its revenue from local taxes. Property taxes provide a majority of the local revenue to operate and maintain our schools. The graph to the right represents the amount of local revenue received.



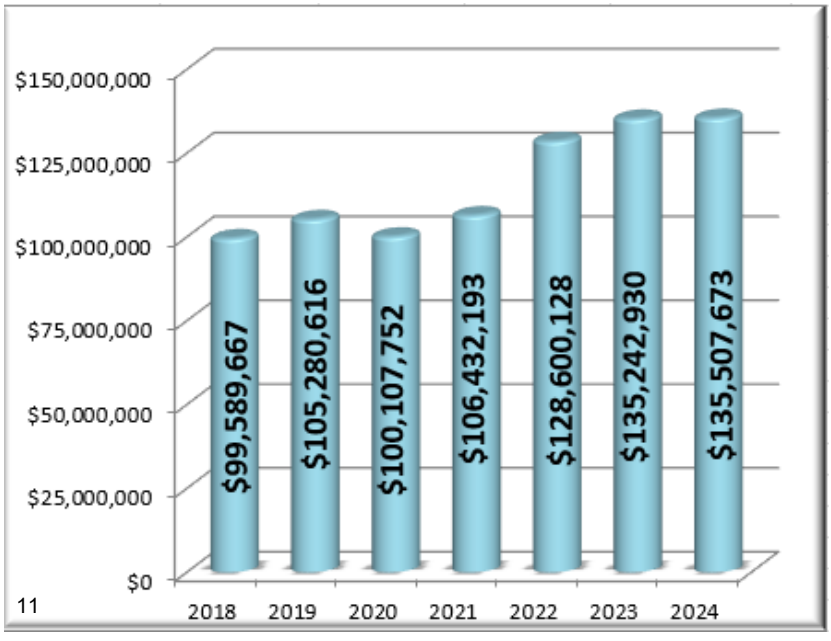
SPLOST (Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax):

On Nov 2, 2021, the SPLOST VI referendum was approved. It is estimated that SPLOST VI will generate approximately $650.8 million for APS that will fund numerous Capital Improvement projects and liquidate debt for the Certificates of Participation issued in 2011.



State Funding:

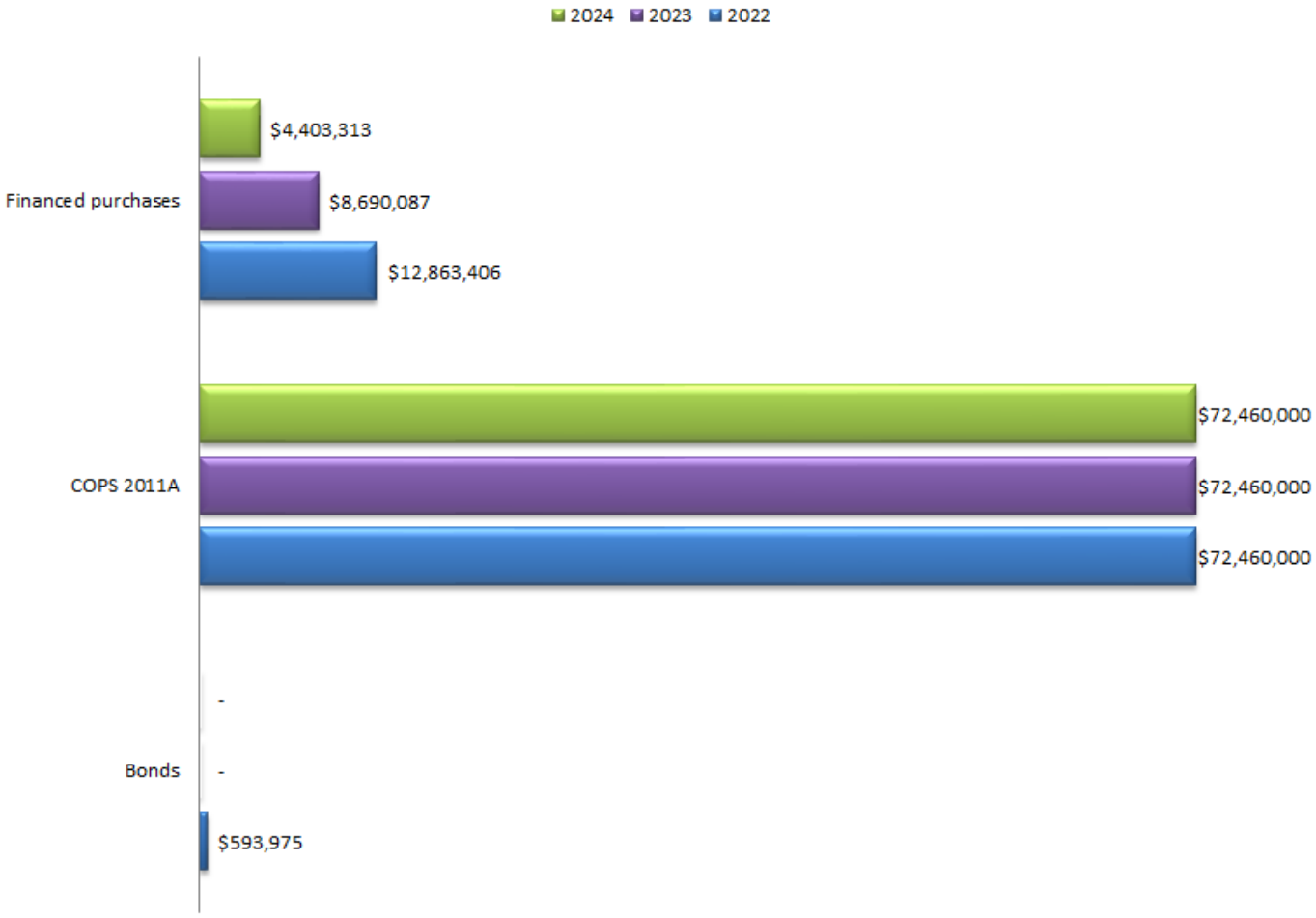
The chart to the right displays the District's Governmental Funds received from the State of Georgia. Funds received from the state are to ensure that all children in the state receive a quality basic educational experience.



Outstanding Debt at Year End: **What We Owe?**

The chart below captures the district's long-term debt obligations. Over the years, the City of Atlanta has issued various general obligation bonds and general obligation refunding bonds on behalf of APS. In October 2006, Education Resource Services (ERS) issued certificates of participation (COPS) on behalf of the school system to finance renovations and improvements to the Instructional Service Center. COPS is different from a general obligation bond because in COPS, only the building associated with the project is pledged as collateral, not the full taxing authority of the government. In June 2011, ERS issued COPS to finance the construction and renovation of North Atlanta High School.

Outstanding Debt	2024	2023	2022
Long-term debt			
Intergovernmental agreement- City of Atlanta	-	-	593,975.00
ERS, Inc. (COPS, Series 2011A)	72,460,000.00	72,460,000.00	72,460,000.00
Financed purchases	4,403,313.00	8,690,087.00	12,863,406.00
Total long-term debt	$ 76,863,313	$ 81,150,087	$ 85,917,381



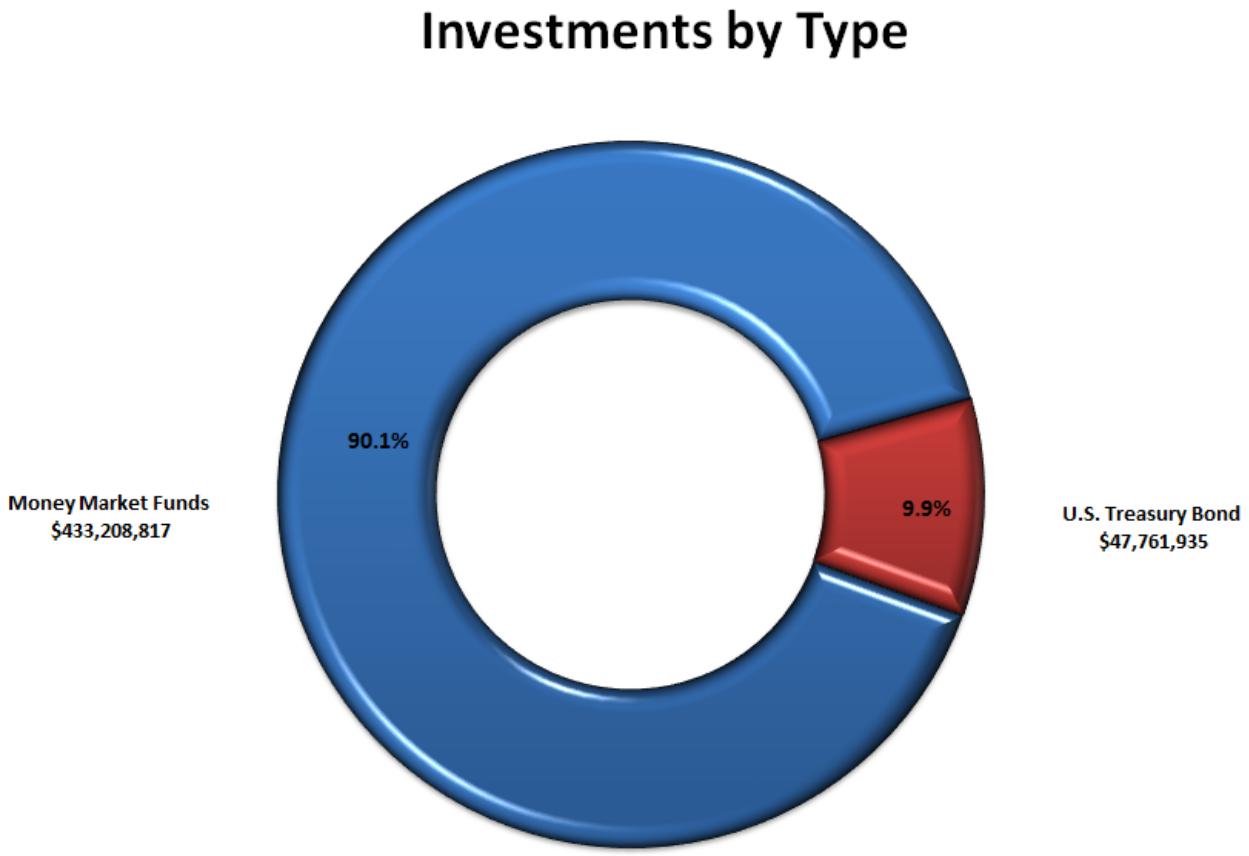
Investments: **How Safe is our Money?**

Investors who purchase municipal bonds use debt ratings as an indicator of the financial stability of an organization and consequently the safety and security of the debt sold by that organization. In general, higher credit ratings often result in lower borrowing costs via reduced interest rates paid on municipal bonds. Strong ratings also promote a wider market by attracting more buyers of municipal bonds.

There are three major rating agencies that assign ratings to municipal debt Standard & Poor, Moody's Investors Services and Fitch Ratings .

As of June 30, 2022, APS' GA Fund 1 investments were rated AAAf and Aa2 by Standard and Poor 's and Moody's Investor Service, respectively.

Credit Risk	Moody's	Fitch	S&P
Investment grade			
Highest grade credit	Aaa	AAA	AAA
Very high grade credit	AA1, Aa2, Aa3	AA+, AA, AA-	AA+, AA, AA-
High grade credit	A1, A2, A3	A+, A, A-	A+, A, A-
Good credit grade	Baa1, Baa2, Baa3, Baa4	BBB+, BBB, BBB-	BBB+, BBB, BBB-
Speculative grade credit	Ba1, Ba2, Ba3	BB+, BB, BB-	BB+, BB, BB-
Very speculative credit	B1, B2, B3	B+, B, B-	B+, B, B-
Substantial risks - In default	Caa1, Caa2, Caa3, Ca	CCC, CC, C, RD, D	CCC+, CCC, CCC-, CC, C, D



As of June 30, 2024, the district had $416,666,129 in investments and $39,375814in bonds. Investments subject to credit quality risk are reflected below.

Investments subject to credit quality risk are reflected here:

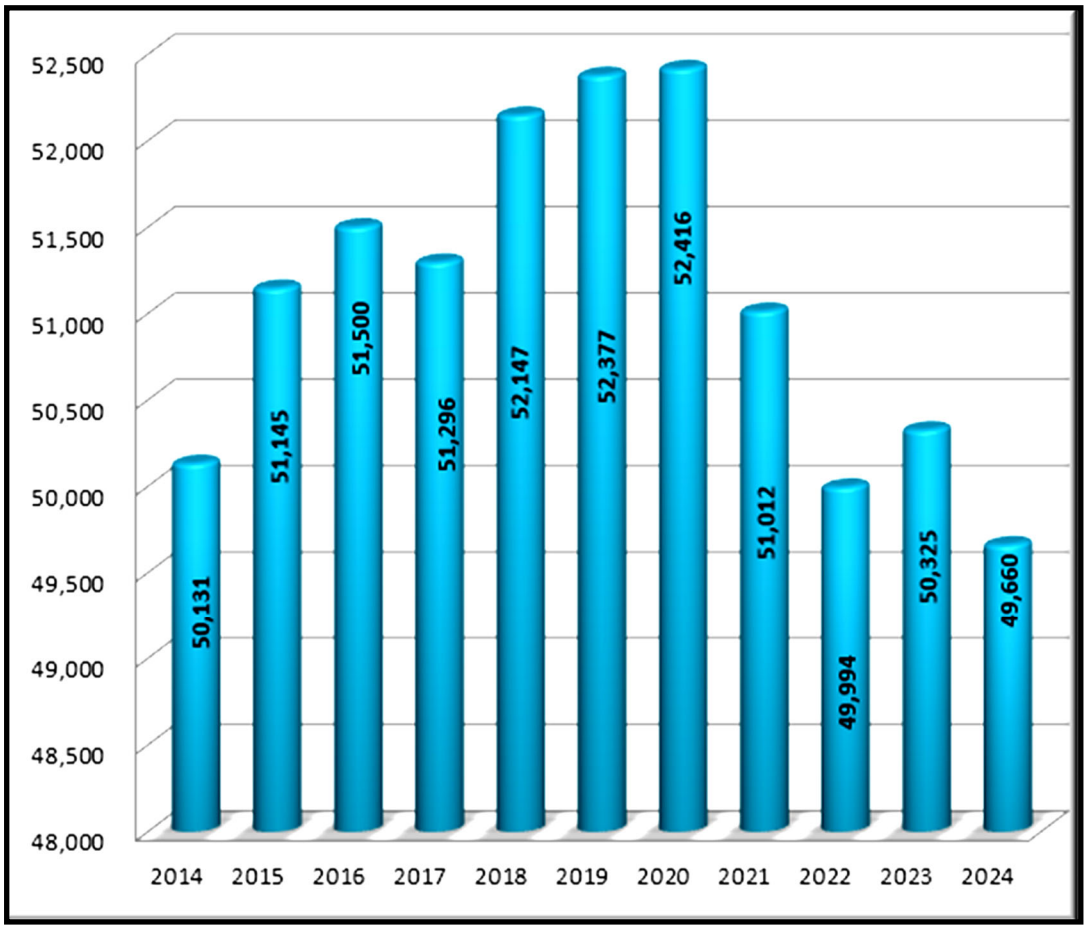
Issuer	Investment Type	Amount	Percent	Quality Rating by Agency S&P	Moody's
US MONEY MARKET- Georgia Fund 1	Money Market Funds	$ 416,666,129	91.37%	AAAf	Aa2
U.S. Treasury Bond	U.S. Treasury Bond	$ 39,375,814	8.63%	AA-	Aa3
		$ 456,041,943	100.00%		

Student Enrollment

Student enrollment (including charter schools) in the district has increased over the last 10 years due in part to demographic changes. Those changes led to school closings in some cases and new schools or expansions in other areas. These changes constitute a high mobility rate for students in our district. Nearly one-third of APS students relocated within and outside the district during the shifts.



The district's budget provides funding for academic and special services that support our diverse student enrollment. APS students represent several ethnic, economic and special needs groups.



Source: GA Department of Education, Enrollment by Grade report, based on the October count of each fiscal year. CAFR Statistical Schedule 21

Glossary of Financial Terminology

INSTRUCTION is the largest expenditure category and relates directly to the classroom instruction of children, including teacher salaries.

PUPIL SERVICES comprise all guidance, counseling, testing, attendance, social work, and health services.

IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES consists of activities designed primarily for assisting instructional staff in planning, developing and evaluating the process of providing challenging learning experiences for students.

EDUCATIONAL MEDIA SERVICES costs are concerned with directing, managing, and operating educational media centers; included are school libraries and educational television.

FEDERAL GRANT ADMINISTRATION consists of activities concerned with the demands of the Federal Programs Grant Management**.**

GENERAL & SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION costs represent the Atlanta Board of Education's operation of the District. Also included in this area are administrative support personnel, deputy, associate, or assistant superintendent, principals, assistant principals, and clerical staff.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION expenditures include business services such as budgeting and reporting, accounting, payroll, accounts payable, auditing, warehousing, purchasing, and office support.

MAINTENANCE AND PLANT OPERATION expenditures relate to the safe and efficient environment of the school, including building maintenance, energy, grounds and custodial services.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION expenditures relate to providing transportation to students who live in the APS district.

CENTRAL SUPPORT costs include personnel services, information technology maintenance staff and computer network maintenance contracts, and risk management.

OTHER SUPPORT & NUTRITION includes the preparation and serving of regular and incidental meals or snacks in connection with school activities.

CAPITAL ASSETS are assets used in operations with an initial useful life extending beyond one reporting period.

CAPITAL OUTLAYS includes acquisitions of land and buildings, renovating buildings, and construction of buildings.

DEBT SERVICE includes payments of principal and interest on capital leases and long-term debt.

NET INVESTMENT IN CAPITAL ASSETS: Total capital assets, less accumulated depreciation, less debt directly related to capital assets (i.e. bond issues or donations for capital assets).

RESTRICTED: Resources where use is restricted externally for specific purposes.

UNRESTRICTED: Assets with no external restriction as to use or purpose. They can be employed for any purpose designated by the governing board.

CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION (COPS): Tax-exempt bonds that are issued by state entities usually secured with revenue from an equipment or facility lease.

COLLEGE AND CAREER READY PERFORMANCE INDEX (CCRPI): A comprehensive school improvement, accountability , and communication platform for all educational stakeholders that will promote college and career readiness for all Georgia public schools students.