

# Colorado's Education PROBLEM

The Education Foundation of Eagle County exists because Colorado has a big problem when it comes to properly funding education.

## Funding

Colorado has a long history of underfunding public schools. **Reaching the national average would cost \$2.1 - \$2.8 billion annually.** We're not only behind the national average, current funding is \$572 million behind inflation from 2008.

## BS Factor

Introduced by the legislature in 2009, the **Budget Stabilization (BS) Factor has taken over \$11 billion away from public schools.** With the recent passage of Proposition 121 (income tax reduction), legislators will likely continue to use the BS Factor to balance the state budget on the shoulders/backs of our schools/students.

**2nd**  
strongest economy in the U.S.

**41st**  
in pupil-teacher ratio

**43rd**  
in spending on education (adjusted for regional cost differences)

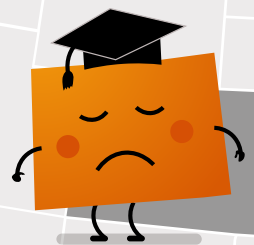
**45th**  
in % of taxable resources spent on education

**50th**  
in teacher wage competitiveness

## Per Pupil Funding

In 2018 (the most recent data available), **Colorado spent \$3,087 less per pupil** than the national average, continuing **a 30-year slide in national competitiveness.**

– Colorado School Finance Project



## Teacher Retention

**“It’s nearly impossible to make a living as a teacher in Colorado.** So what do they do? They go where they’re valued, which is happening at an alarming rate.”

– Phil Qualman, Superintendent of Eagle County Schools