

Table 3

Per Pupil Expenditure Summary

Disparity	NCEP 1998-99	NCEP 1999-2000	Unaudited NCEP 2000-01	RPENS 1998-99	RPENS 1999-2000	Unaudited RPENS 2000-01
95th Percentile Town	\$9,790	\$10,176	\$11,045	\$7,698	\$8,172	\$8,724
Median Town	\$7,843	\$8,117	\$8,537	\$5,982	\$6,257	\$6,531
5th Percentile Town	\$6,844	\$7,091	\$7,421	\$5,004	\$5,230	\$5,453
95:5 Percentile Ratio	1.43	1.44	1.49	1.54	1.56	1.60
Wealthiest Quintile	\$9,050	\$9,392	\$9,765	\$7,073	\$7,311	\$7,619
Poorest Quintile	\$9,122	\$9,639	\$10,171	\$5,164	\$5,425	\$5,674
Wealthiest:Poorest Quintile Ratio	0.99	0.97	0.96	1.37	1.35	1.34

The table above displays for 1998-99 through 2000-01 both the traditional net current expenditures per pupil (NCEP) and the MER-related regular program expenditures per need student (RPENS). As noted below, these measures of spending have very different statutory definitions that account in part for the different pattern in the wealthiest / poorest ratios.

The median town represents the middle town when ranked from lowest to highest. For the purpose of this analysis, the 95th percentile town represents the 9th highest-spending town, and the 5th percentile town represents the 9th lowest-spending town. A 95:5 ratio is a common measure of how great a disparity exists between low- and high-spending towns. The higher the ratio, the greater the disparity that exists between the two points of measurement. From 1998-99 through 2000-01, median NCEP increased by 8.8 percent, while RPENS increased by 9.2 percent. During this same period, the 95:5 ratio for NCEP increased from 1.43 to 1.49. The 95:5 ratio for RPENS increased from 1.54 to 1.60.

For the purpose of this analysis, the quintiles represent five equal groupings of resident students based on town wealth as defined in the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant. While each quintile contains 20 percent of the resident students in the state, the number of districts may vary among quintiles. Rather than focusing on single-town values as the 95:5 ratio does, the quintile figures focus on significant numbers of students from more than a dozen communities at opposite ends of the wealth spectrum. Note that the ratio for NCEP is decreasing and is now at .96 (a ratio below 1.00, indicating that the poorest group of towns is spending above the wealthiest group). Yet, the NCEP ratio between the 95th and 5th percentile town increased to 1.49. Although the gap between the highest- and lowest-spending towns increased and remains fairly wide, the supplemental federal and state aid that is targeted primarily to the group of poorer communities has raised their per pupil spending on average to a level above that of the state's most affluent communities. This is particularly true for some of the larger urban communities which educate the majority of the state's students in the poorest quintile. The same pattern does not hold for RPENS, primarily because state and federal funds and special education are discounted from regular program expenditures and the unit of measure in RPENS is weighted need students. Using weighted need students and not counting supplemental state and federal grants has a greater impact on RPENS in the neediest towns because of the relative concentration of student weighting supplemental state and federal aid, and special education in those towns. The 95:5 ratio increased slightly while the wealthiest:poorest quintile ratio decreased slightly in 2000-01.

**Resident Student-Based Quintiles
for Table 3 Data
Grouped by ECS Town Wealth**

Group 1 - Poorest				
015 BRIDGEPORT	064 HARTFORD	089 NEW BRITAIN	095 NEW LONDON	109 PLAINFIELD
058 GRISWOLD	069 KILLINGLY	093 NEW HAVEN	104 NORWICH	151 WATERBURY
				163 WINDHAM

Group 2				
002 ANSONIA	039 EASTFORD	078 MANSFIELD	123 SCOTLAND	147 VOLUNTOWN
003 ASHFORD	043 EAST HARTFORD	080 MERIDEN	124 SEYMOUR	156 WEST HAVEN
017 BRISTOL	044 EAST HAVEN	086 MONTVILLE	133 SPRAGUE	160 WILLINGTON
019 BROOKLYN	048 ELLINGTON	088 NAUGATUCK	134 STAFFORD	162 WINCHESTER
022 CANTERBURY	049 ENFIELD	104 NORWICH	136 STERLING	166 WOLCOTT
024 CHAPLIN	063 HAMPTON	111 PLYMOUTH	140 THOMASTON	
028 COLCHESTER	071 LEBANON	112 POMFRET	141 THOMPSON	
032 COVENTRY	072 LEDYARD	114 PRESTON	143 TORRINGTON	
037 DERBY	073 LISBON	116 PUTNAM	146 VERNON	

Group 3				
001 ANDOVER	041 EAST HADDAM	066 HARWINTON	096 NEW MILFORD	129 SOMERS
006 BEACON FALLS	042 EAST HAMPTON	067 HEBRON	099 NORTH BRANFORD	131 SOUTHINGTON
012 BOLTON	045 EAST LYME	070 KILLINGWORTH	100 NORTH CANAAN	132 SOUTH WINDSOR
013 BOZRAH	047 EAST WINDSOR	077 MANCHESTER	102 NORTH STONINGTON	138 STRATFORD
027 CLINTON	049 ENFIELD	079 MARLBOROUGH	108 OXFORD	142 TOLLAND
030 COLUMBIA	053 FRANKLIN	082 MIDDLEFIELD	110 PLAINVILLE	148 WALLINGFORD
033 CROMWELL	059 GROTON	083 MIDDLETOWN	113 PORTLAND	153 WATERTOWN
036 DEEP RIVER	062 HAMDEN	092 NEW HARTFORD	115 PROSPECT	165 WINDSOR LOCKS
038 DURHAM	065 HARTLAND	094 NEWINGTON	121 SALEM	169 WOODSTOCK

Group 4				
005 BARKHAMSTED	021 CANAAN	056 GRANBY	091 NEW FAIRFIELD	139 SUFFIELD
007 BERLIN	023 CANTON	060 GUILFORD	097 NEWTOWN	145 UNION
008 BETHANY	025 CHESHIRE	061 HADDAM	119 ROCKY HILL	155 WEST HARTFORD
009 BETHEL	026 CHESTER	074 LITCHFIELD	126 SHELTON	159 WETHERSFIELD
010 BETHLEHEM	029 COLEBROOK	084 MILFORD	128 SIMSBURY	164 WINDSOR
011 BLOOMFIELD	034 DANBURY	085 MONROE	130 SOUTHBURY	165 WINDSOR LOCKS
014 BRANFORD	040 EAST GRANBY	087 MORRIS	137 STONINGTON	168 WOODBURY
020 BURLINGTON	054 GLASTONBURY			

Group 5 - Wealthiest				
004 AVON	052 FARMINGTON	090 NEW CANAAN	118 RIDGEFIELD	150 WASHINGTON
016 BRIDGEWATER	055 GOSHEN	098 NORFOLK	120 ROXBURY	152 WATERFORD
018 BROOKFIELD	057 GREENWICH	101 NORTH HAVEN	122 SALISBURY	154 WESTBROOK
031 CORNWALL	061 HADDAM	103 NORWALK	125 SHARON	157 WESTON
035 DARIEN	068 KENT	105 OLD LYME	127 SHERMAN	158 WESTPORT
046 EASTON	075 LYME	106 OLD SAYBROOK	135 STAMFORD	161 WILTON
050 ESSEX	076 MADISON	107 ORANGE	144 TRUMBULL	167 WOODBRIDGE
051 FAIRFIELD	081 MIDDLEBURY	117 REDDING	149 WARREN	

Due to resident student quintile groupings, some towns appear in two quintile groups.