

# RESOURCE ALLOCATION- DISTRICT-LEVEL RESOURCES

Monday, March 11, 2024



2024 ADEQUACY STUDY

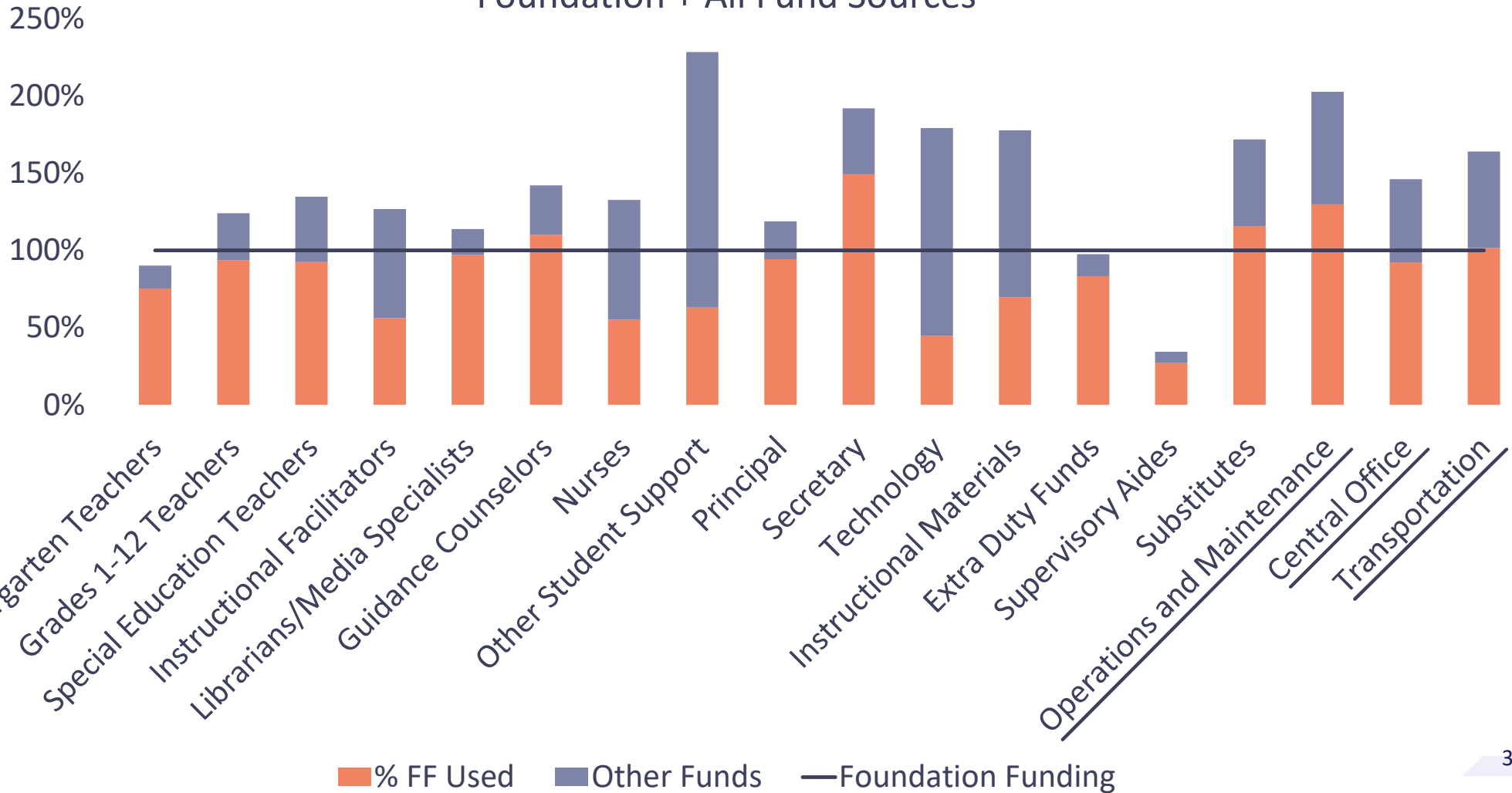


# MATRIX – DISTRICT-LEVEL RESOURCES

	<b>FY23</b>	<b>FY24</b>	<b>FY25</b>
<b>District-Level Resources</b>			
Operations & Maintenance	741.3	766.4	\$786
Central Office	456.5	472.7	\$483
Transportation	321.2	329	\$337
<b>District-Level Resources Per Student</b>	<b>1,519.0</b>	<b>1,568.1</b>	<b>1,605.4</b>

# MATRIX SPENDING LEVELS

Foundation + All Fund Sources



■ % FF Used    ■ Other Funds    — Foundation Funding

## District Level Resources Include the Following Expense Categories & Per-Student Funding Rates:

- OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE \$ 741.30
- CENTRAL OFFICE \$ 456.50
- TRANSPORTATION \$ 321.20

**Total Per  
Student Rate =  
\$1,519**



# Foundation Funding: Operations and Maintenance

2023 / 2024 / 2025	2023 Funding Amount
\$741 / \$766 / \$786	\$353,090,130



# Foundation Funding vs. Spending: Operations and Maintenance

Funding

\$353,090,130

Total Spending = \$715.4 Million  
or \$1,513 per student

Expenditures

\$458,249,852

\$0      \$200,000,000      \$400,000,000      \$600,000,000      \$800,000,000

■ Foundation    ■ Categorical    ■ Supplemental    ■ Other State or Local    ■ Federal

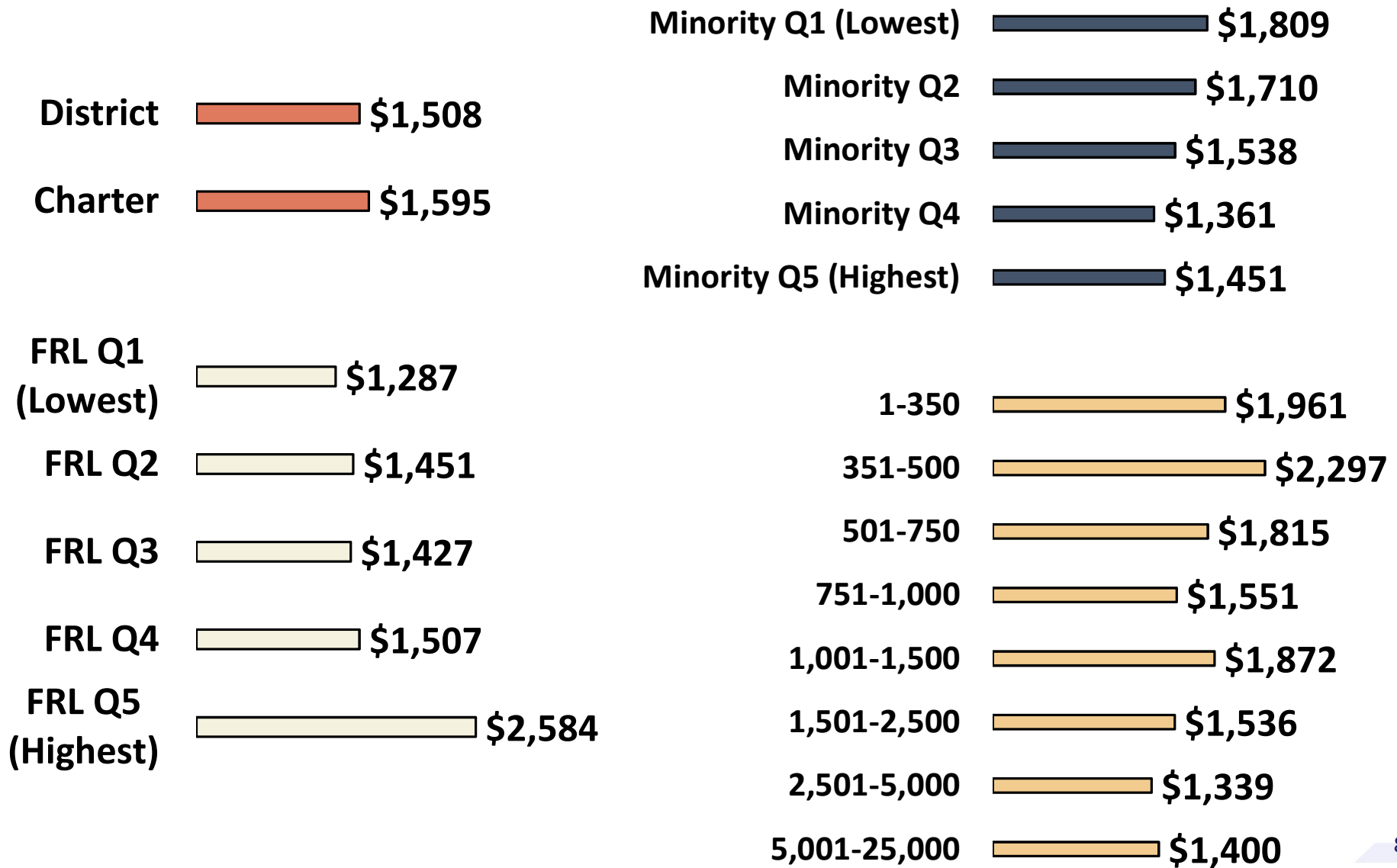
# OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

## Top Ten Spending Categories

Category of Expense	Expenditures	% of Total
<b>Classified (Salaries and Employee Benefits)</b>	\$216,321,009	30.2%
<b>Non-Technology-Related Repairs and Maintenance</b>	\$109,064,442	15.2%
<b>Electricity</b>	\$96,632,318	13.5%
<b>Custodial</b>	\$52,484,387	7.3%
<b>General Supplies and Materials</b>	\$49,353,222	6.9%
<b>Property Insurance</b>	\$28,254,980	3.9%
<b>Natural Gas</b>	\$24,734,186	3.5%
<b>Rental of Land and Buildings</b>	\$22,600,270	3.2%
<b>Other Professional and Technical Services</b>	\$21,245,237	3.0%
<b>Security</b>	\$16,829,654	2.4%

# OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

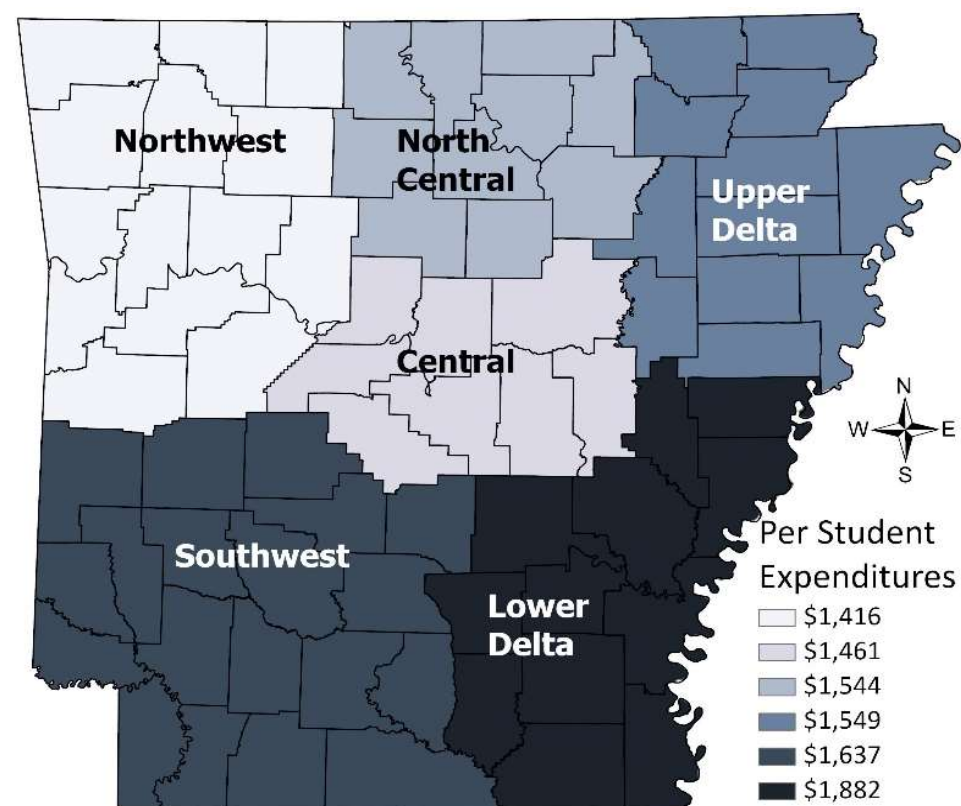
## Per-Pupil Spending





On average, the **lowest** per-student spending in districts was in the **Northwest** region at **\$1,416**

On average, the **highest** per-student spending in districts was in the **Lower Delta** region at **\$1,882**



Public School Facilities, Maintenance, Repair and Renovation Manual recommends the following staffing levels for custodians, grounds/general labor personnel, and maintenance personnel:

<b>Operations and Maintenance Position</b>	<b>Recommended Staffing Level</b>
<b>Custodians</b>	1 FTE per 18,000-20,000 square feet
<b>Grounds/General Labor Personnel</b>	1 FTE per 18-20 acres
<b>Maintenance Personnel</b>	1 FTE per 80,000-90,000 square feet

District Size	Gross Square Feet	Recommended Staffing Levels	Actual Staffing Levels	% of Recommended
1-350	1,043,725	64	40	63%
351-500	4,828,369	295	217	74%
501-750	10,153,110	620	454	73%
751-1000	8,663,829	529	358	68%
1001-1500	10,131,568	619	379	61%
1501-2500	15,713,280	960	666	69%
2501-5000	23,126,041	1,413	746	53%
5001-25000	35,574,486	2,174	1,887	87%
<b>Total</b>	<b>109,234,408</b>	<b>6,675</b>	<b>4,747</b>	<b>71%</b>

\*This table reflects recommended and actual number of custodial and maintenance staff for regular school districts only due to incomplete square footage data for Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Systems.

Source: Square Footage Data - Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation Master Planning Tool as of 1/3/2024, and Staffing Data - Arkansas Public School Computer Network.

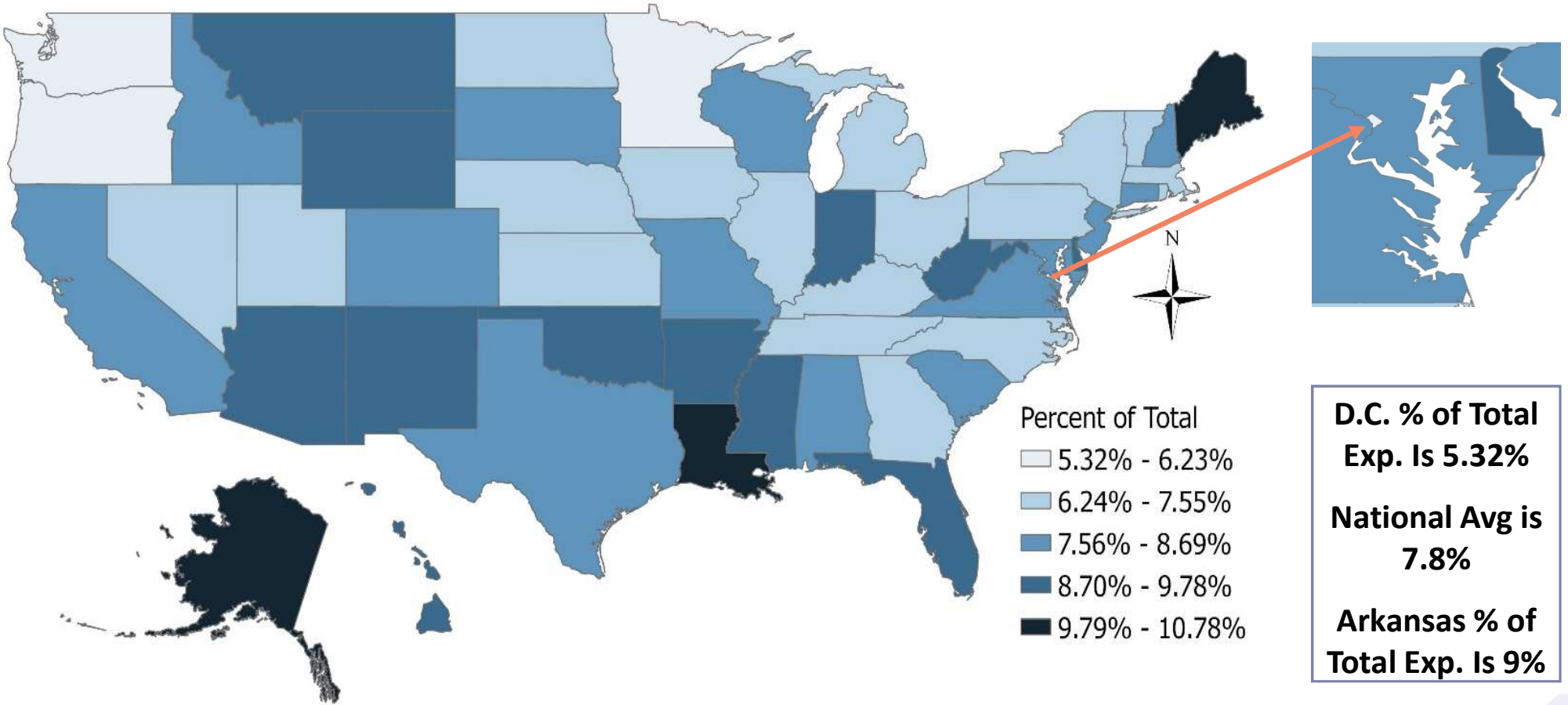


## Research and Best Practices

- Arkansas Statute requires districts to spend at least 9% of their Foundation Funding for Operations & Maintenance.
- According to a study by American School & University, the median school district allocated 9.57% of their total district expenditures to maintenance and operations.
- According to Census data, the percentage of total K-12 spending for maintenance and operations ranged from 5.32% in D.C. to 10.78% in Louisiana.

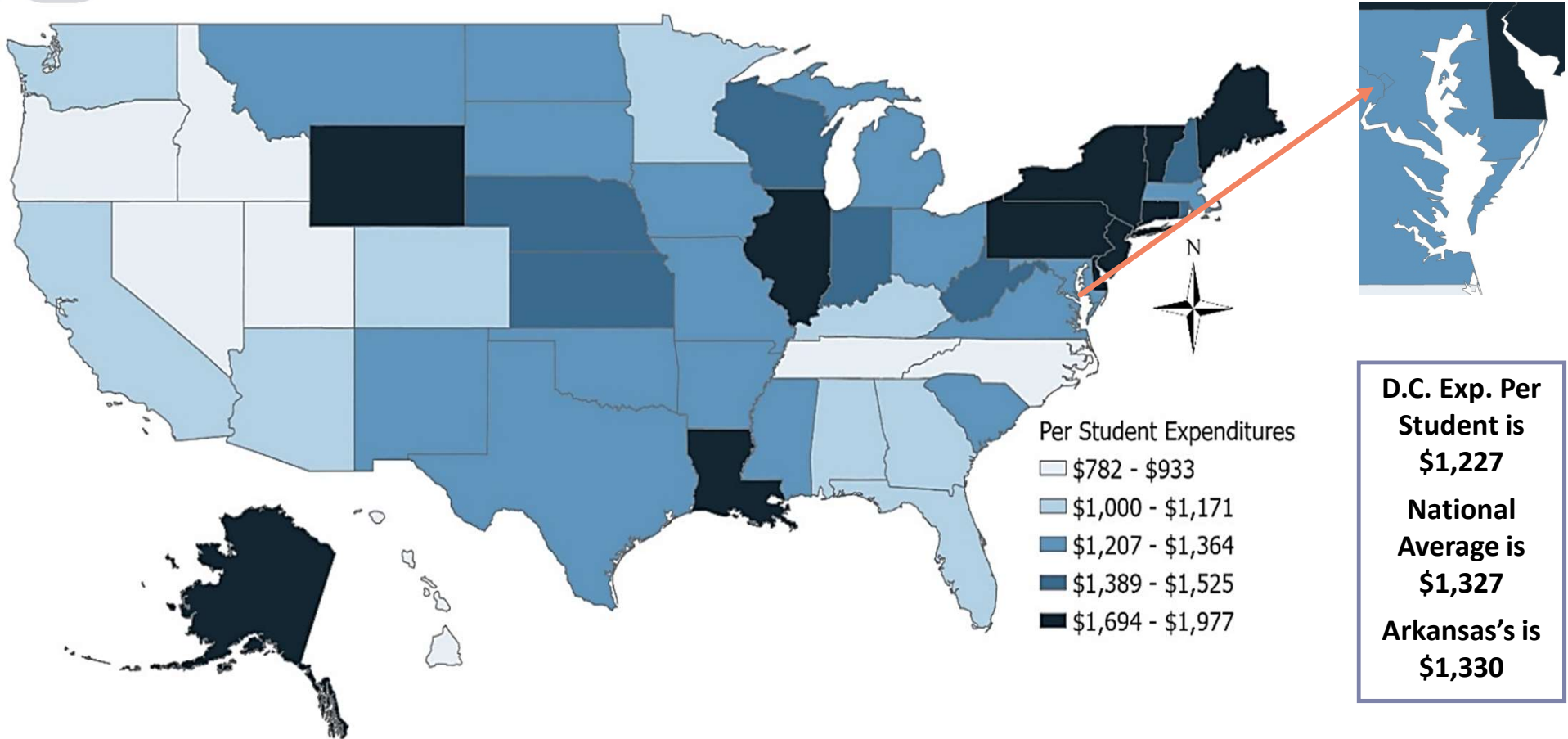


# Research and Best Practices





# Research and Best Practices



\*Expenditures adjusted for Inflation using the [Missouri Economic Research and Information Center \(MERIC\) Index](#).



## Arkansas Educators' Feedback

- Almost 72% of all superintendents reported a moderate to extreme need for additional O&M funding.
- Districts and charter systems expressed different degrees of concern regarding their need for more funding with 74% of regular districts reporting a moderate or extreme need for more funding compared to 48% of charter systems.



# Foundation Funding: Central Office

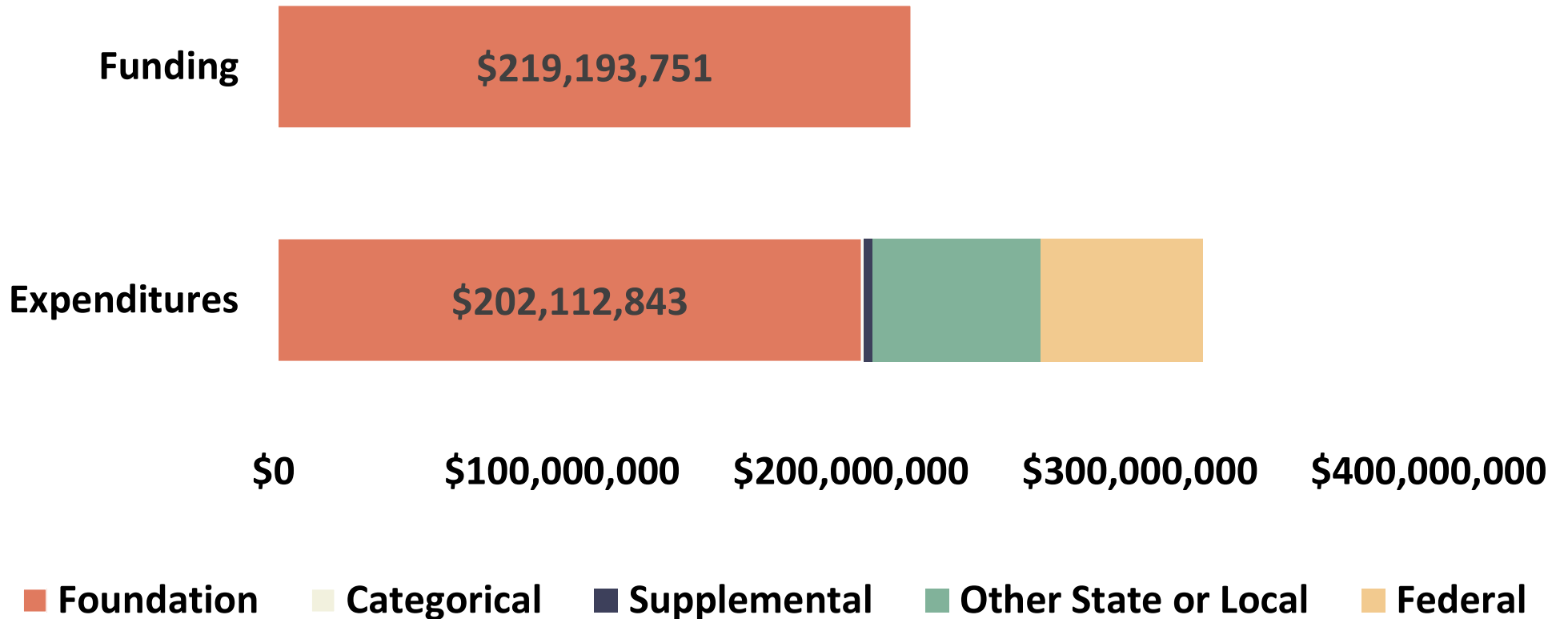
2023 / 2024 / 2025	2023 Funding Amount
<b>\$457 / \$473 / \$483</b>	<b>\$219,193,751</b>





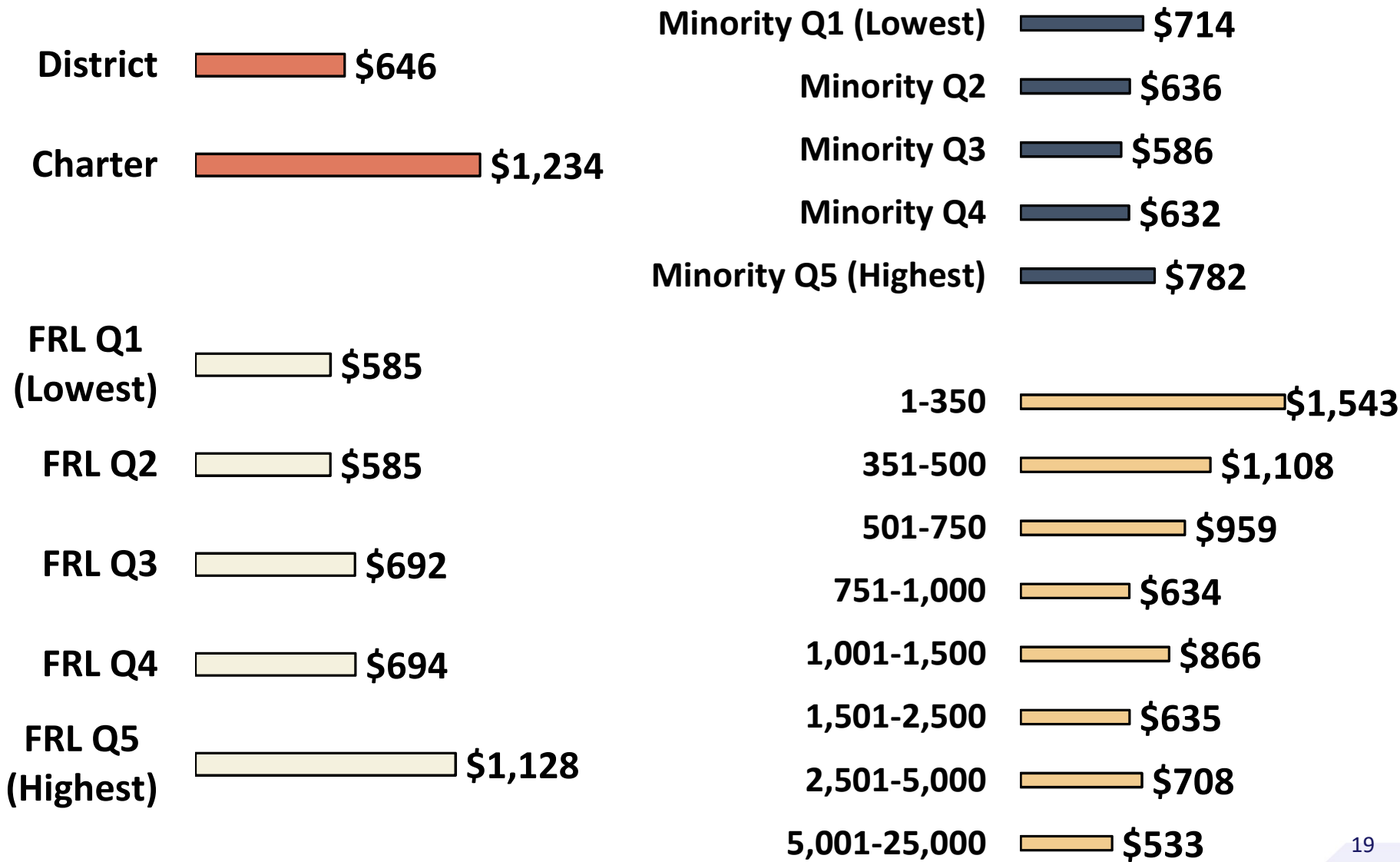
# Foundation Funding vs. Spending: Central Office

Total Spending = \$320 Million  
or \$677 per student



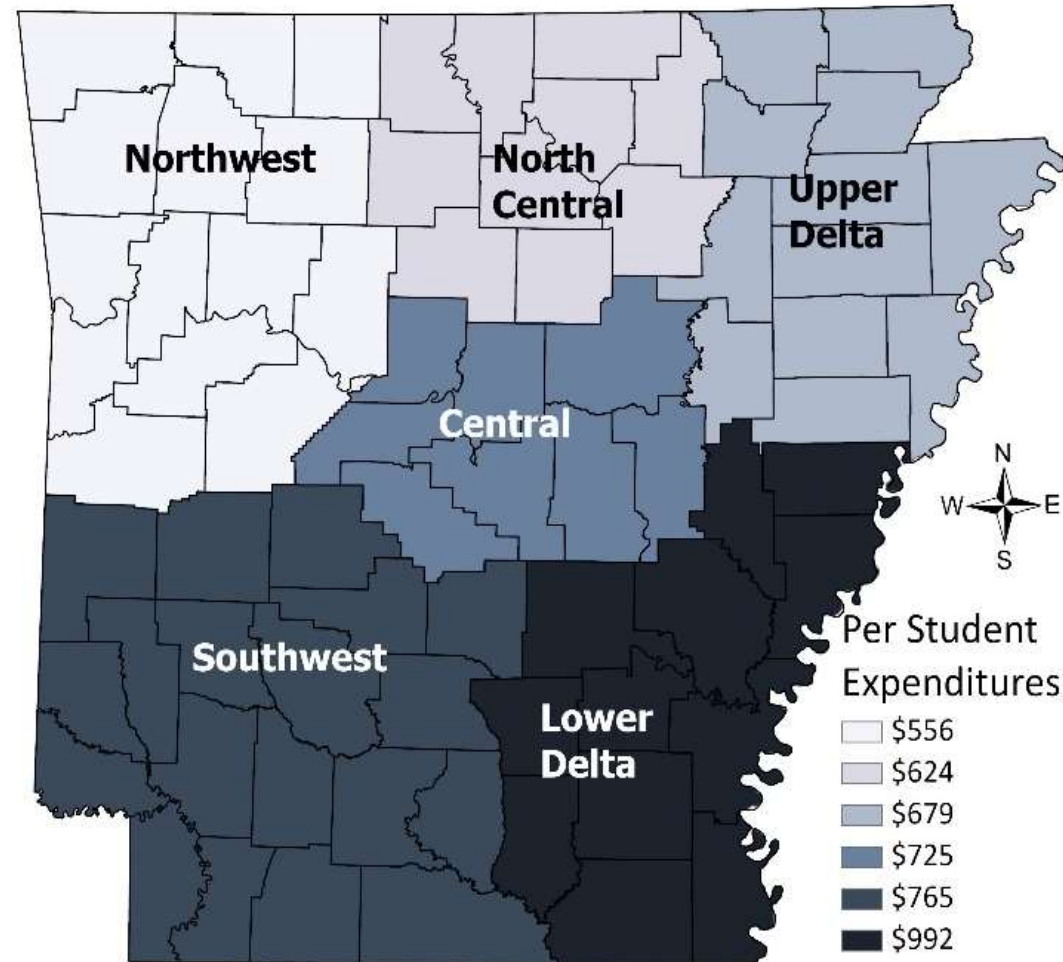
Category of Expense	Expenditures	% of Total
Certified (Salaries & Employee Benefits)	\$135,906,491	42.4%
Classified (Salaries & Employee Benefits)	\$107,855,043	33.7%
Other Professional and Technical Services	\$9,929,806	3.1%
Management Service-Consulting	\$9,139,083	2.9%
Indirect Cost	\$8,756,031	2.7%
General Supplies and Materials	\$7,874,677	2.5%
Dues and Fees	\$5,809,584	1.8%

**CENTRAL OFFICE**  
Per-Pupil Spending



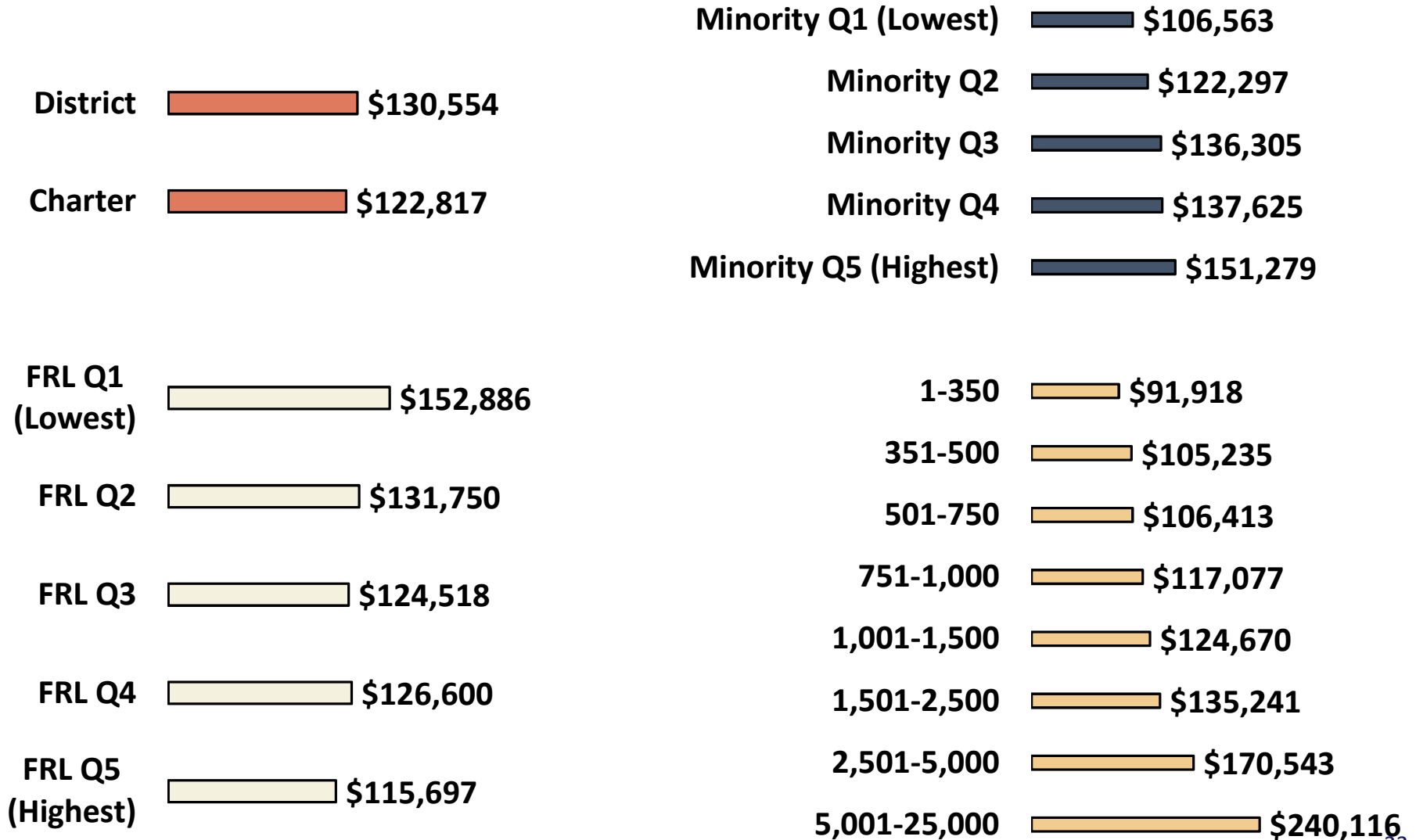
On average, the **lowest** per-student spending in districts was in the **Northwest region** at **\$556**

On average, the **highest** per-student spending in districts was in the **Lower Delta region** at **\$992**



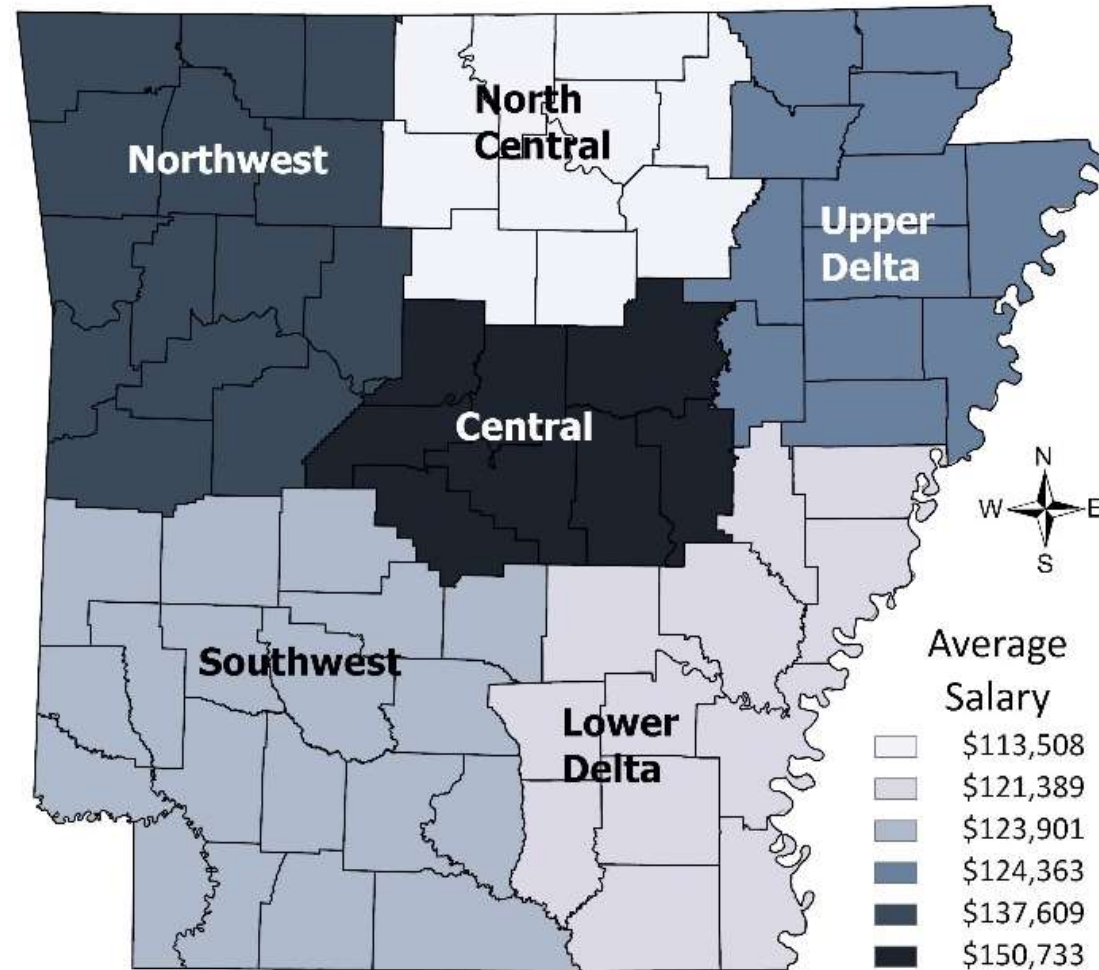
Arkansas Standards of Accreditation require a full-time superintendent to “oversee all operations of the public school district”.

- All districts but one reported having a superintendent in 2023 in APSCN
- Eleven of twenty-one charters employ a superintendent
- Remaining ten charters either had a waiver of the requirement or a waiver from the superintendent licensure requirement



On average, the **lowest** superintendent salary was in districts in the **North Central region at \$113,508**

On average, the **highest** superintendent salary was in districts in the **Central region at \$150,733**



# CENTRAL OFFICE

## Staffing: Other Central Office Staff

<b>Position</b>	<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>Average Salary</b>	<b># of Districts/Charters</b>
<b>Certified Assistant Superintendent</b>	104	\$121,768	72
<b>Classified Assistant Superintendent</b>	47	\$41,664	28
<b>Business Manager</b>	61	\$73,188	57
<b>Finance Officer</b>	347	\$53,573	183
<b>Bookkeeper/Accountant</b>	308	\$45,537	133
<b>Director of Federal Programs</b>	47	\$46,576	60
<b>Personnel Director</b>	136	\$47,313	53
<b>Purchasing Agent</b>	48	\$48,225	16
<b>Secretary/Clerk Non-Instructional (includes school-level and district-level)</b>	2563	\$32,034	253
<b>Administrative Technology</b>	529	\$50,938	173
<b>Other Central Support Services</b>	71	\$52,275	78





## Research and Best Practices

- Overall, Odden and Picus recommend 8 administrative and 15 classified central office positions for a prototypical 3,900 student district.
- Arkansas's central office foundation funding rate was established based on average number of personnel and the average per student expenditures for a district size of between 3,000 and 4,000 students.



# Research and Best Practices

## NATIONAL COMPARISON

- American Association of School Administrators found in a 2023 study the national average salary for superintendents was \$156,468
- Arkansas's statewide average salary for 2023 was \$130,207
- In FY2023, the highest superintendent salary in Arkansas was \$289,644 and the lowest was \$58,589.



## Arkansas Educators' Feedback

41% of all superintendents reported a moderate to extreme need for more central office funding.

19% reported no need for additional funding.

Districts and charter systems expressed different degrees of concern regarding their need for more funding with 40% of regular districts reporting a moderate or extreme need for more funding compared to 52% of charter systems.



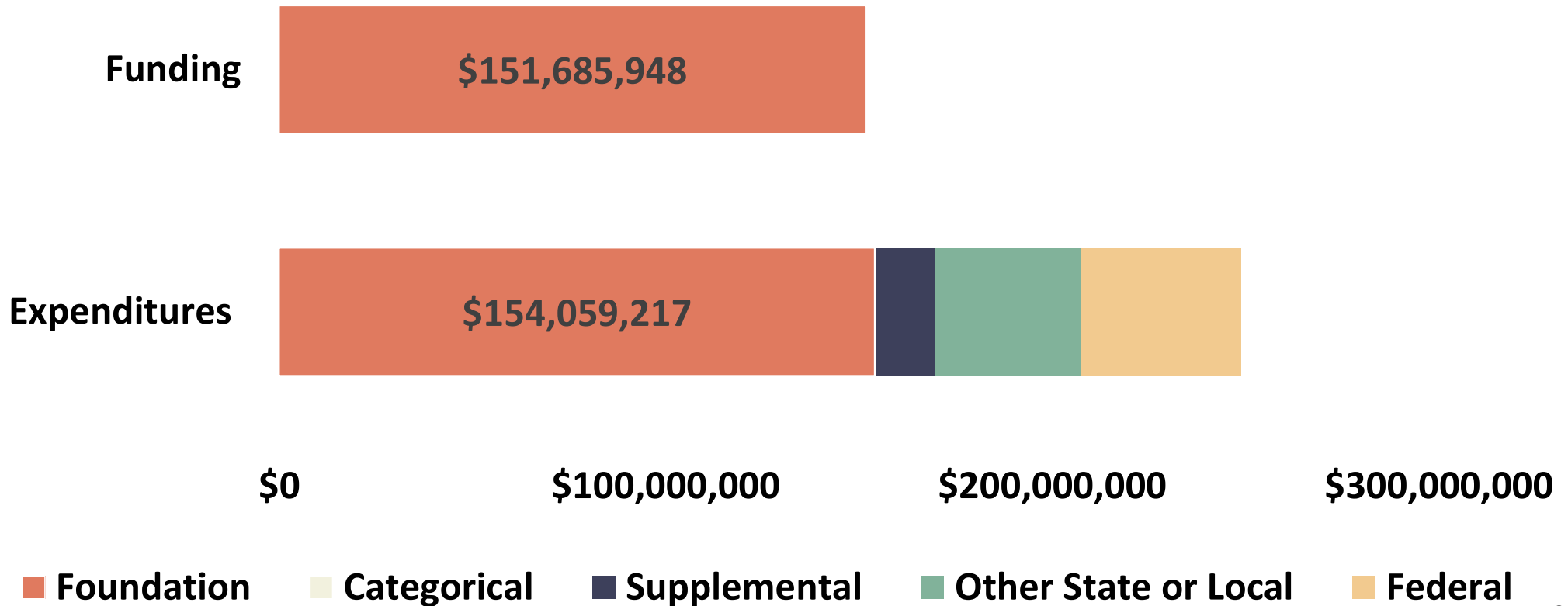
# Foundation Funding: Transportation

2023 / 2024 / 2025	2023 Funding Amount
<b>\$321 / \$329 / \$337</b>	<b>\$151,685,948</b>



# Foundation Funding vs. Spending: Transportation

Total Spending = \$248.8 Million  
or \$526 per student



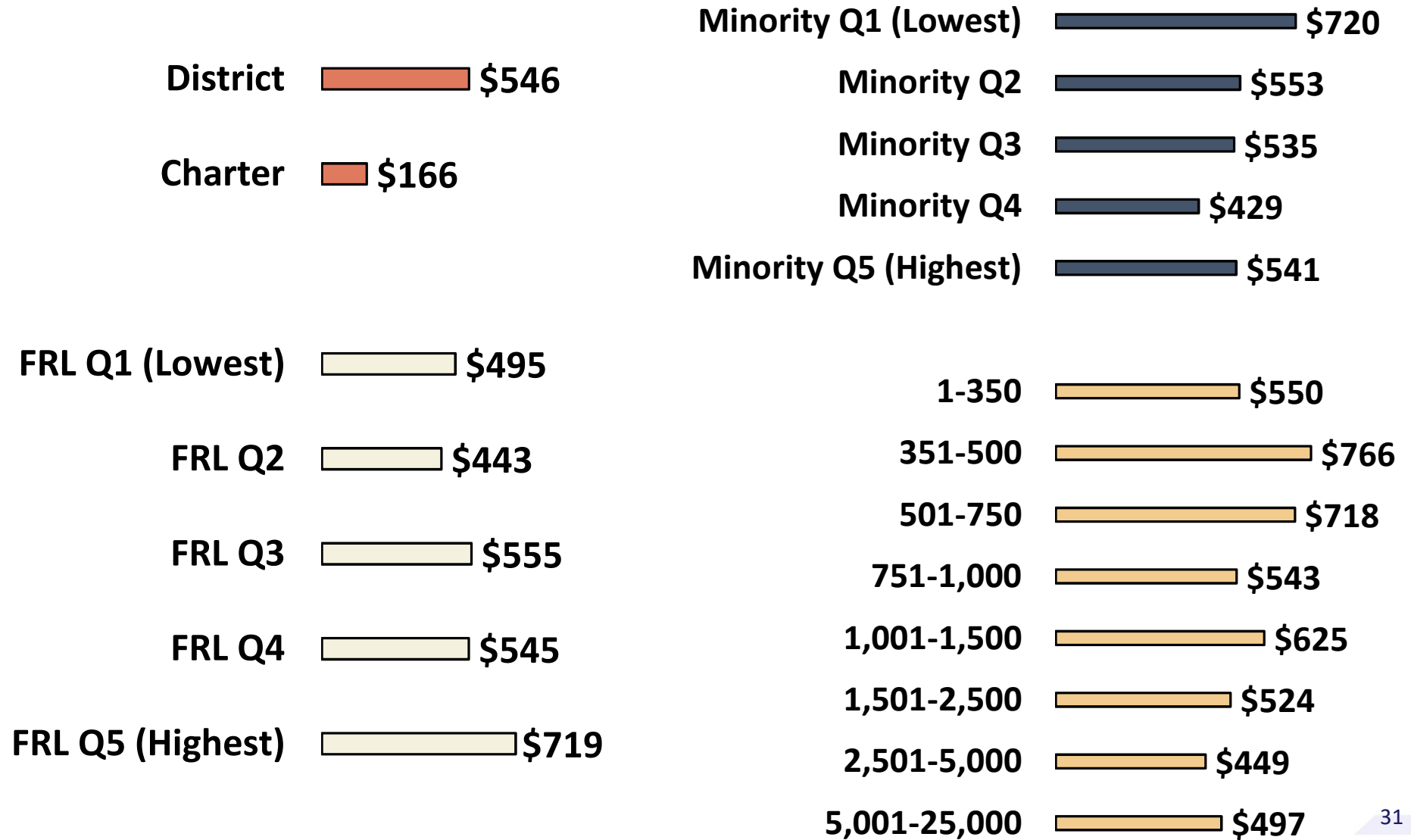
# TRANSPORTATION

## Top Spending Categories

Category of Expense	Expenditures	% of Total
<b>Classified (Salaries and Employee Benefits)</b>	\$133,442,316	53.6%
<b>Vehicles</b>	\$47,366,445	19.0%
<b>Gasoline</b>	\$19,714,419	7.9%
<b>General Supplies and Materials</b>	\$14,290,258	5.7%
<b>Student Transportation Purchased from Other Sources</b>	\$11,209,779	4.5%
<b>Non-Technology-Related Repairs and Maintenance</b>	\$5,940,022	2.4%
<b>Fleet Insurance</b>	\$4,222,984	1.7%
<b>Rental of Equipment and Vehicles</b>	\$2,849,748	1.1%
<b>Certified</b>	\$2,801,454	1.1%

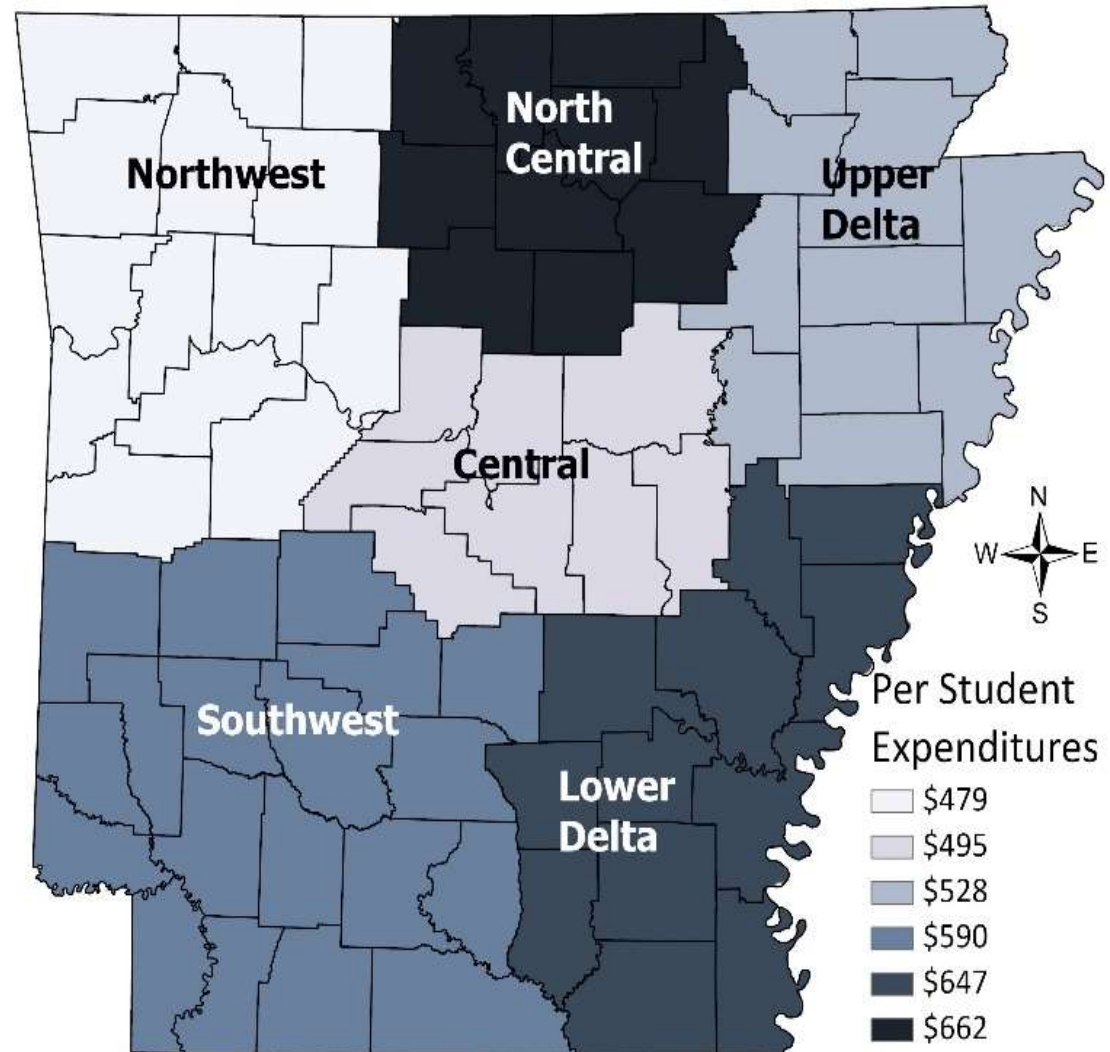
# TRANSPORTATION

## Per-Pupil Spending



On average, the **lowest** per-student spending in districts was in the **Northwest region at \$479**

On average, the **highest** per-student spending in districts was in the **North Central region at \$662**





Position	Total FTE	Average Salary	# of Districts/ Charter Systems
Director of Pupil Transportation	188	\$54,312	157
Bus Mechanic	313	\$42,242	176
Bus Driver	4,599	\$16,794	243
Bus Monitor	516	\$11,105	73



## Research and Best Practices

Three primary transportation service models:

- District-provided
- Contracting with a private transportation provider
- Relying on existing public transit



## Research and Best Practices

Three primary ways states share in the cost of transportation:

Formulas based on:

- Actual costs
- Number of students
- Linear density or mileage



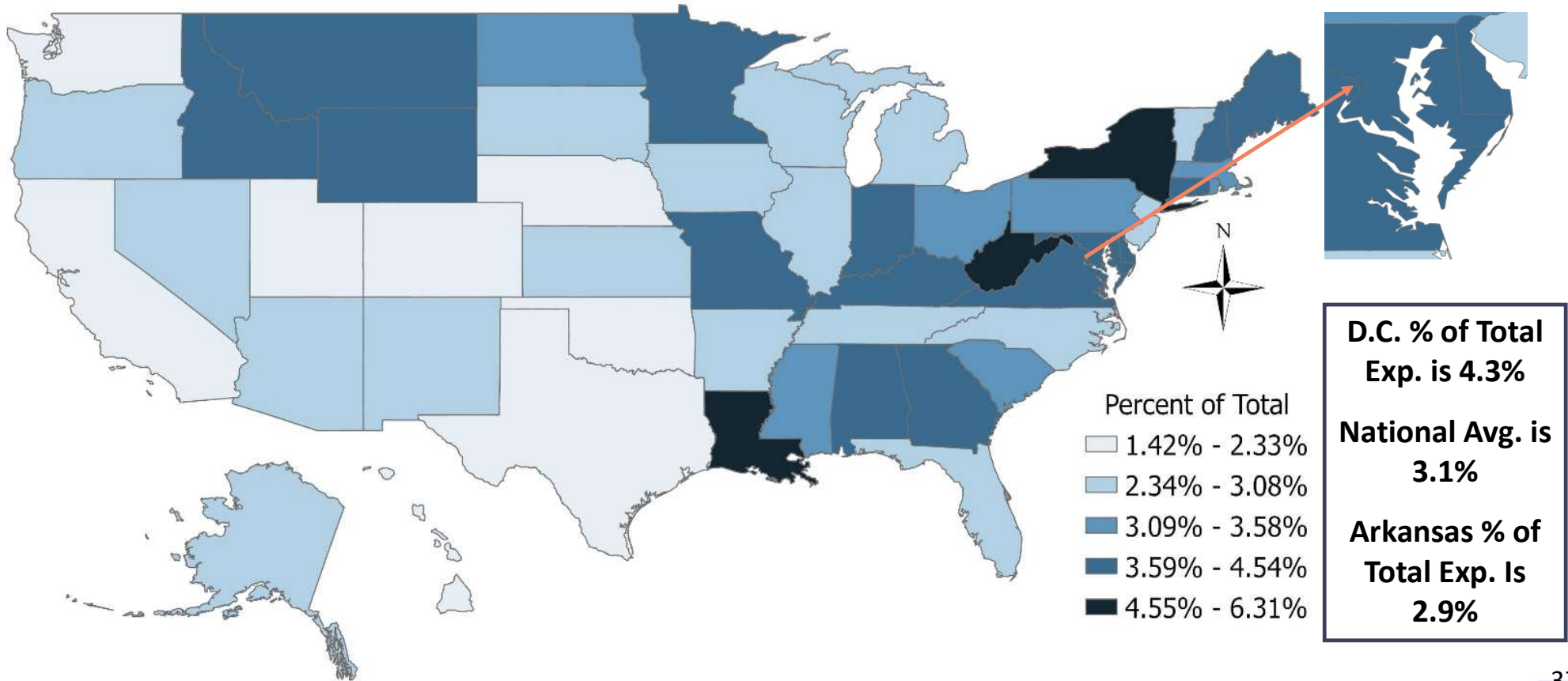
## Research and Best Practices

In 2014, Odden and Picus recommended Arkansas use a transportation model based on need rather than a flat rate per student with the funding formula based on costs for:

- Miles driven,
- Number of school bus riders, and
- Average Daily Membership (ADM)

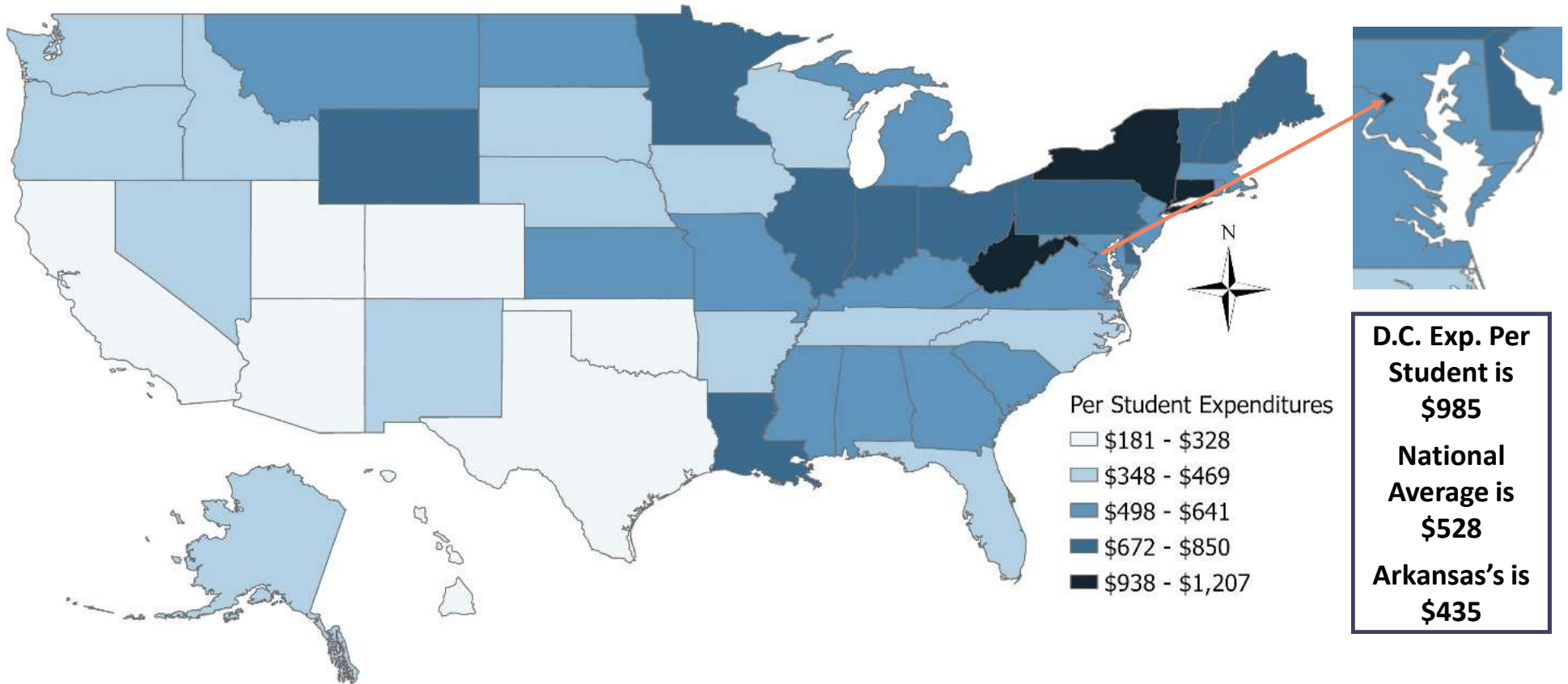


# Research and Best Practices





# Research and Best Practices



\*Expenditures adjusted for Inflation using the [Missouri Economic Research and Information Center \(MERIC\) Index](#).



## Arkansas Educators' Feedback

- 71% of all superintendents reported a moderate to extreme need for more transportation funding.
- Districts and charter systems expressed different degrees of concern regarding their need for more funding with 77% of regular districts reporting a moderate or extreme need for more funding compared to 14% of charter systems.

# TRANSPORTATION

## Upcoming Transportation Developments

Act 237 of 2023, or the “LEARNNS Act,” created a Transportation Modernization Grant Program to:

- Improve access to transportation for students attending a public school district, an open-enrollment public charter school, or a licensed childcare center serving publicly funded students; and
- Support transportation innovations and efficiency solutions.





THANK YOU

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