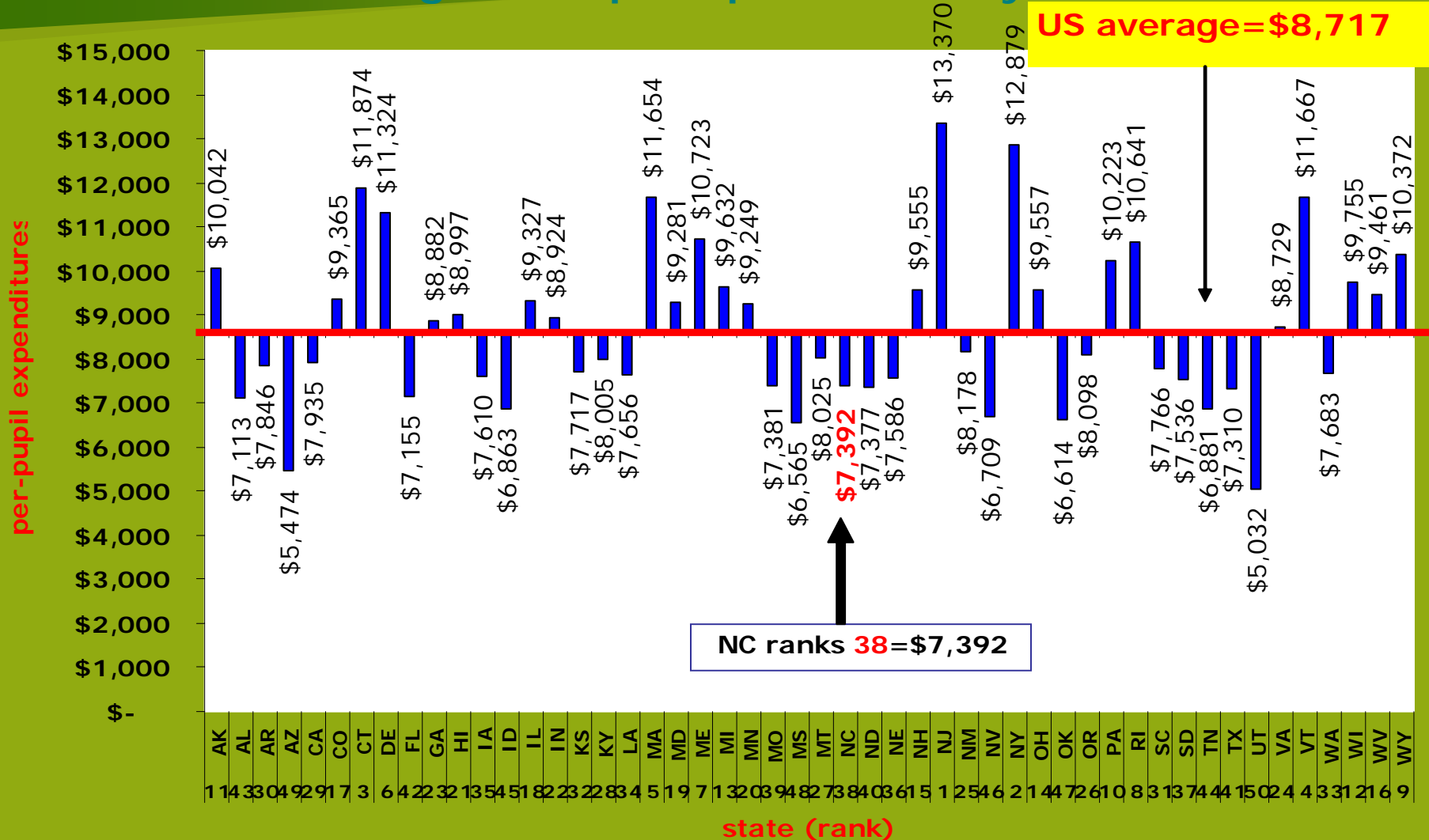


A Quick Look at School Funding in Wake County & North Carolina

John Dornan
Executive Director
Public School Forum of North Carolina

North Carolina is a Low-Spending State. In 2006-07, it ranked 38th...

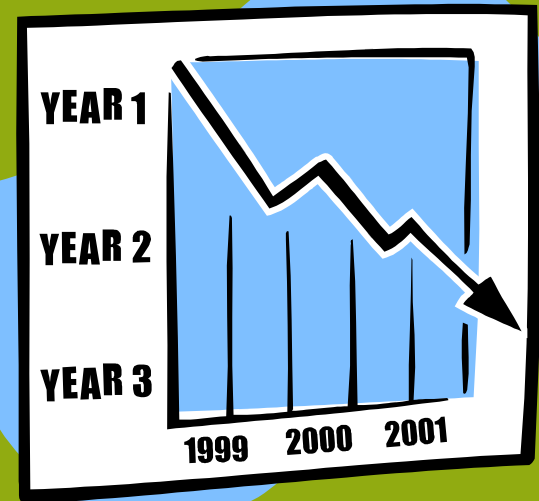
Ranking Per-Pupil Expenditures by State



In 2007-08, North Carolina dropped to 40th in School Spending

2007-08 Data:

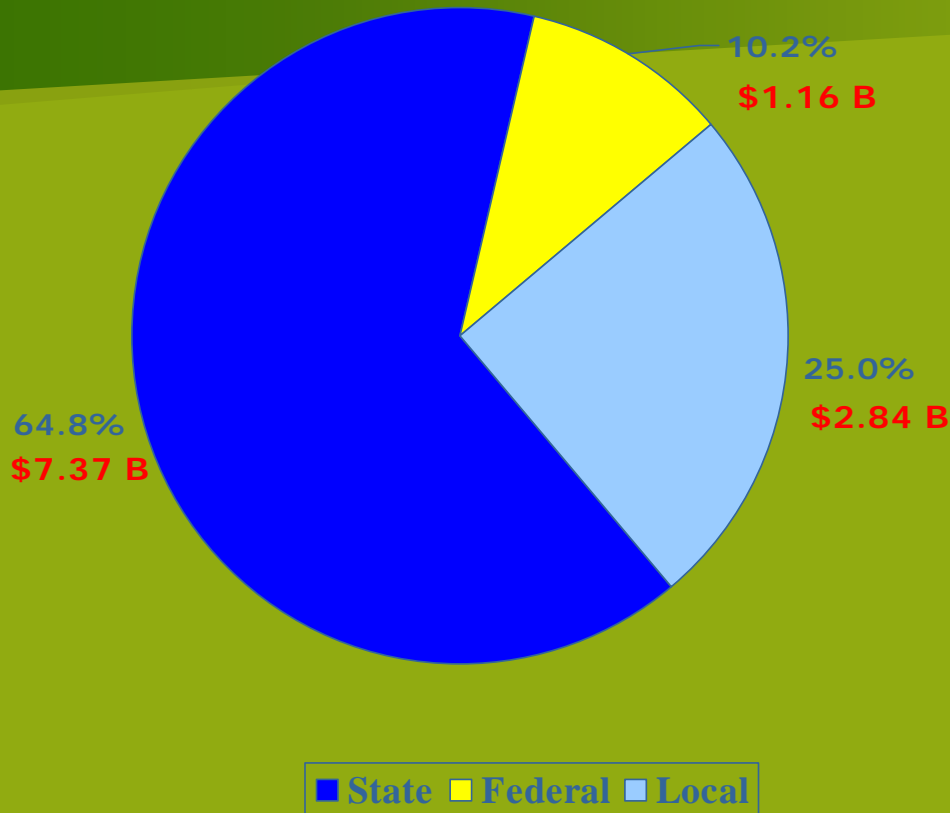
- North Carolina = \$8,615
- U.S. Average = \$9,963
 - Difference of \$1,348



Local Homeowners Benefit from High State Contribution to Schools



NC's 2007-08 Sources of School Funding



National Average:

State = 47.9%

Local = 43.3%

Federal = 8.8%

New Jersey:

State = 36.1%

Local = 60.6%

Federal = 3.3%

Pennsylvania:

State = 36.4%

Local = 56.6%

Federal = 7.0%

Wake County Supports Relatively High Per Pupil Spending with Low Tax Effort



Per Pupil Expenditure Ranking:

| County | Rank | Total Current Spending per Pupil | County | Rank | Total Current Spending per Pupil |
|-------------|------|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Orange | 1 | \$3,817 | Wake | 11 | \$2,007 |
| Dare | 2 | \$3,780 | Brunswick | 12 | \$1,995 |
| Durham | 3 | \$2,662 | Forsyth | 13 | \$1,886 |
| Mecklenburg | 4 | \$2,424 | Transylvania | 14 | \$1,828 |
| New Hanover | 5 | \$2,360 | Buncombe | 15 | \$1,805 |
| Chatham | 6 | \$2,354 | Haywood | 16 | \$1,685 |
| Guilford | 7 | \$2,205 | Moore | 17 | \$1,659 |
| Watauga | 8 | \$2,114 | Hyde | 18 | \$1,638 |
| Currituck | 9 | \$2,108 | Union | 19 | \$1,629 |
| Carteret | 10 | \$2,061 | Polk | 20 | \$1,628 |

Data Source: 2008 Local School Finance Study (FY 2006-07)

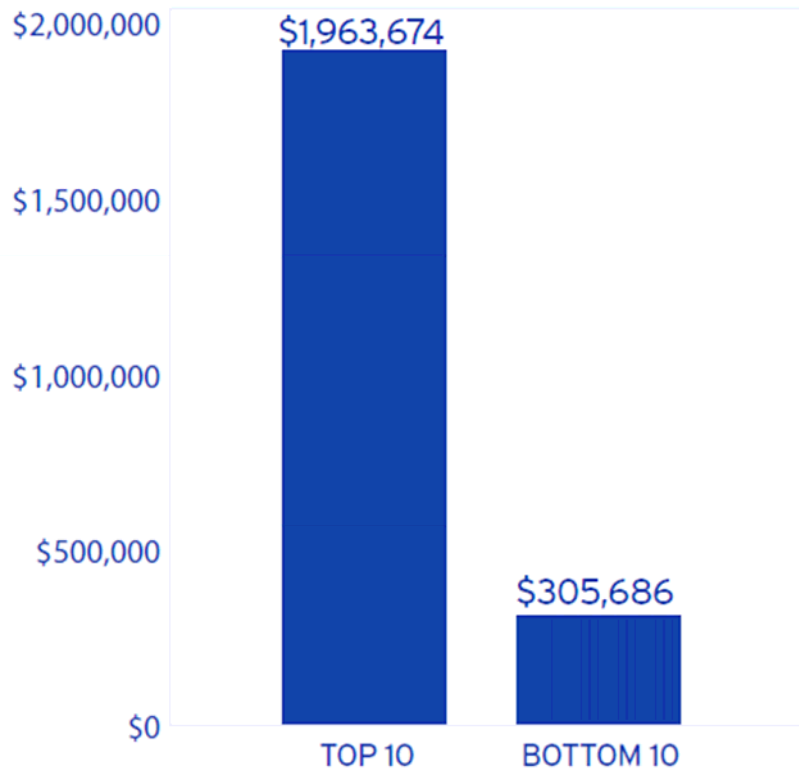
Average Effective Tax Rate:

- Wake County = \$0.531
- State Average = \$0.573



Adjusted Property Tax Base per Student:

Taxable Real Estate Wealth Available Per Child in the Wealthiest & Poorest Counties



- Wake County = \$715,770
- State Average = \$602,180
- Top 10 = \$1,963,674
- Bottom 10 = \$305,686

Contrary to Popular Opinion, Wake's Transportation Costs are Comparable to or Lower than Other "Urbans"...

| District | Buses | Pupils | Miles | Cost | Cost per Pupil | Cost per Mile |
|----------|-------|--------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------|
| Wake | 798 | 66,151 | 14,906,356 | 35,824,518 | 541.56 | 2.40 |
| CMS | 1,149 | 80,584 | 22,699,476 | 52,516,629 | 651.70 | 2.31 |
| Forsyth | 372 | 27,433 | 6,929,603 | 15,701,686 | 572.36 | 2.27 |
| Durham | 263 | 16,883 | 3,720,790 | 12,950,137 | 767.05 | 3.48 |
| Guilford | 618 | 38,703 | 9,403,547 | 26,429,812 | 682.89 | 2.81 |

And Wake's Per Pupil Spending is Lower than Charlotte, which has Gone to Neighborhood Schools

Per Pupil Spending Analysis

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Charlotte-Mecklenburg | \$8,595 / pupil |
|-----------------------|-----------------|

| | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Wake County | \$8,117 / pupil |
|-------------|-----------------|

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| Difference | \$478 / pupil |
|------------|---------------|

If Wake spent as much as Charlotte-Mecklenburg, the overall budget would increase by \$65,964,000.

To Sum it Up...

1. NC & Wake County spend less per pupil than other states
2. NC Homeowners spend less on schools than those in other states
3. Because of its high tax base, Wake can support schools with a low tax rate
4. Wake's bussing costs are in line with or lower than other urban school districts
5. Wake is spending less per pupil than urban neighborhood districts