

USING DATA TOOLS TO UNDERSTAND EDUCATION FINANCE EQUITY IN WASHINGTON

What do we know and what questions should we be asking?

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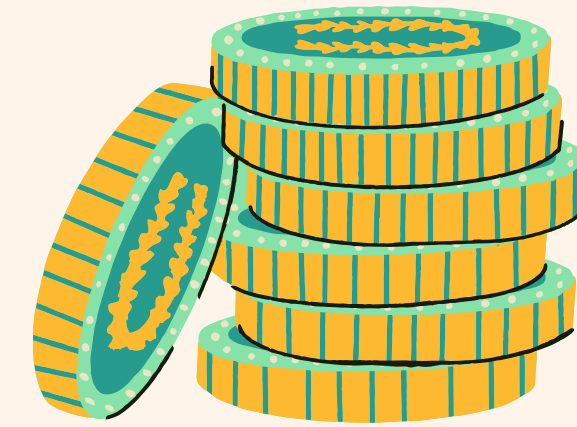
HOW MUCH DOES WASHINGTON SPEND ON K-12 EDUCATION?





48%

Proportion of state near general fund spent on K-12 education (2021-23)



\$28.3 Billion

State near general fund budget on the operation of K-12 public schools (2021-23)



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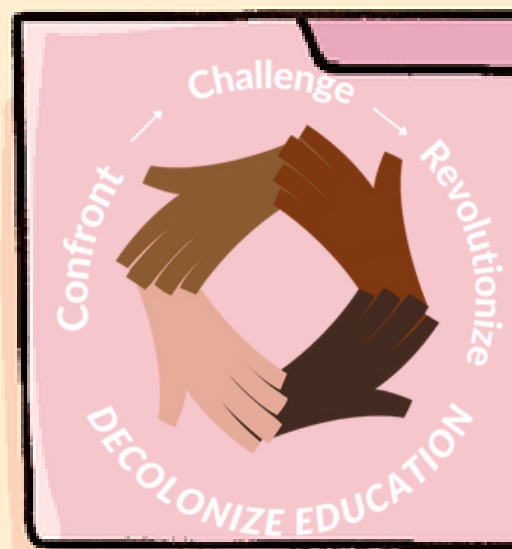
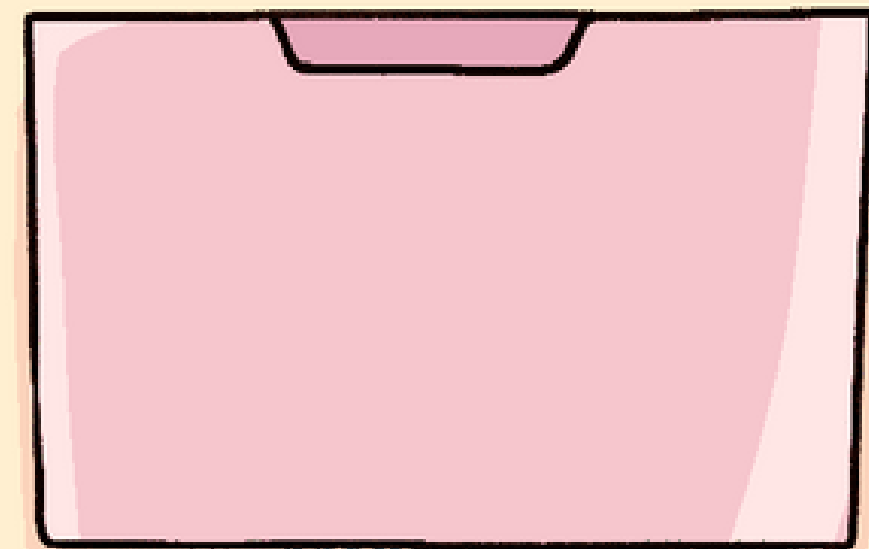
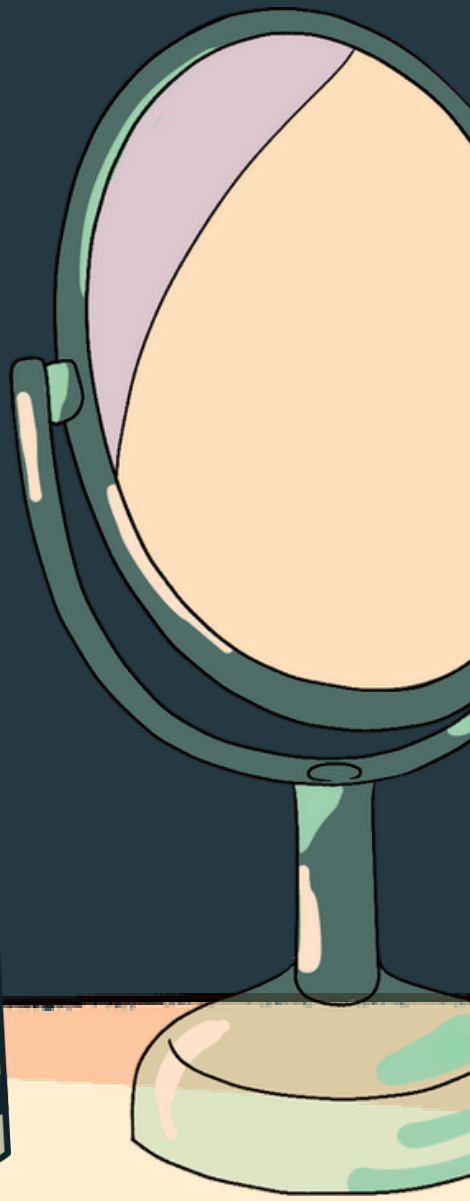
03

***Applying
theory***

***Exploring district
funding using EdBuild's
Dividing Lines tool***

UNDERSTANDING SOURCES

*Where does the money **come from**?*



Washington K-12 Financing

2021-23 Biennium

1
STATE REVENUES
\$160 Billion
Predominantly obtained through tax revenue and federal grants

2
STATE BUDGET
\$156 Billion
Consists of the State Operating Budget, Capital Budget, Transportation Budget, & Reappropriated Funds

3
STATE OPERATING BUDGET
\$137 Billion
Largest component of the State Budget. 24% (\$33 billion) allocated for K-12 schools)

4
STATE GENERAL FUND
\$60 Billion
Mainly financed through retail & sales tax, B&O tax, and state property taxes

5
TOTAL NEAR GENERAL FUND
\$59 Billion
Comprises of the State General Fund, Opportunity Pathways a/c, Education Legacy Trust a/c, & the Pension Funding Stabilization a/c. 48% (\$28.3 billion) allocated for K-12 education

6
DISTRICT GENERAL FUND
\$34 Billion
Predominantly financed through the state, local property taxes, and federal sources.

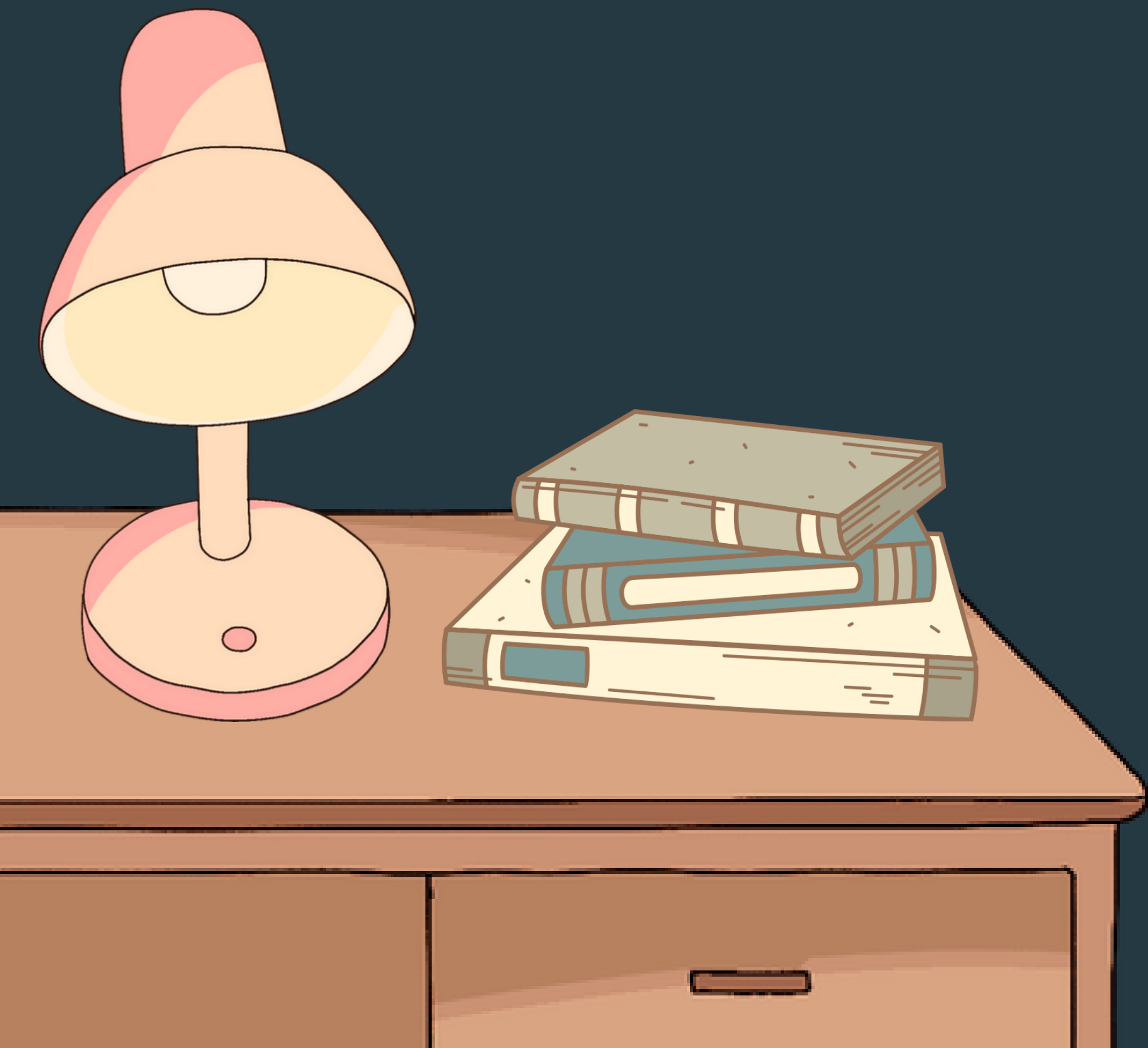


Sources: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Washington Office of Financial Management, Senate Ways and Means Committee



EXPLORING DESTINATIONS

*Where does the money **go**?*

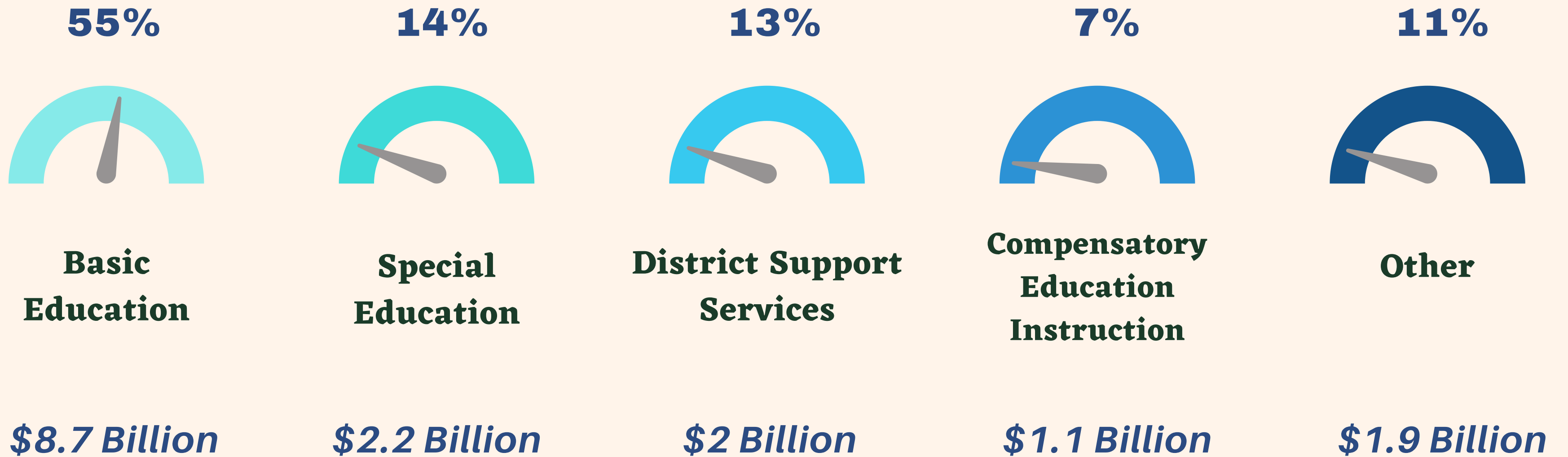


District General Fund Allocations

2018-19 Academic Year



More than **half** of the District General Fund finances **Basic Education**



Note: Other includes Vocational/Skills Center Education, Community Services, Student Transportation, Food Services, and Other Instructional Programs

Sources: Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

WASHINGTON

- Funds are distributed using a **resource-based funding formula**
- The formula is based on the cost of inputs (e.g. salaries), student enrollment, and staffing ratios
- This is despite expert recommendations in 2009 to provide funding based on student needs (e.g. Special-Ed, ELL, students in poverty)

TENNESSEE

- Revised formula introduced in February 2022
- K-12 public schools now follow a **student-based funding approach**
- Base amount for each student with additional weights for factors like income and disability
- Outcome based incentives based on student achievement



Where do you
notice **inequities**
in education?

Inequities in education can also exist through



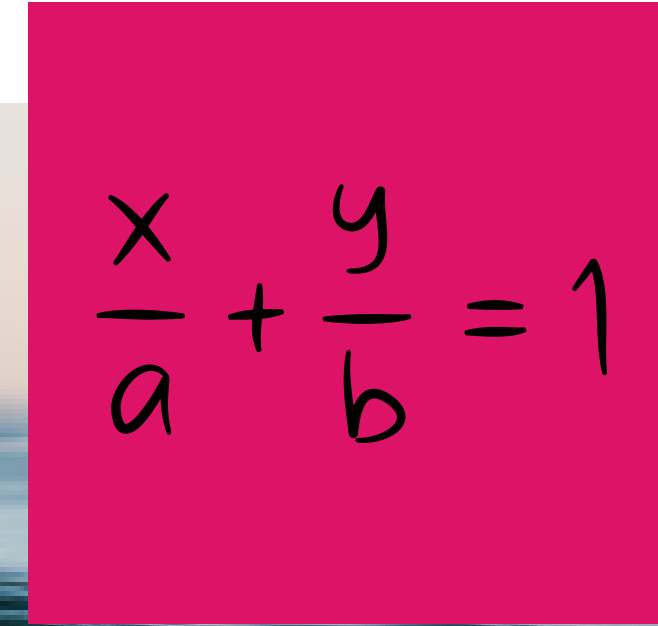
Property Taxes

Disparities in assessed district values result in vastly different per-student levy resources being collected



Regionalization Factors

Money is sent to districts with higher property values despite them being able to earn higher levy amounts at lower tax rates



Resource-based Funding Formulas

School prototypical funding models do not allocate funding based on student needs (e.g., Special Ed or Poverty)



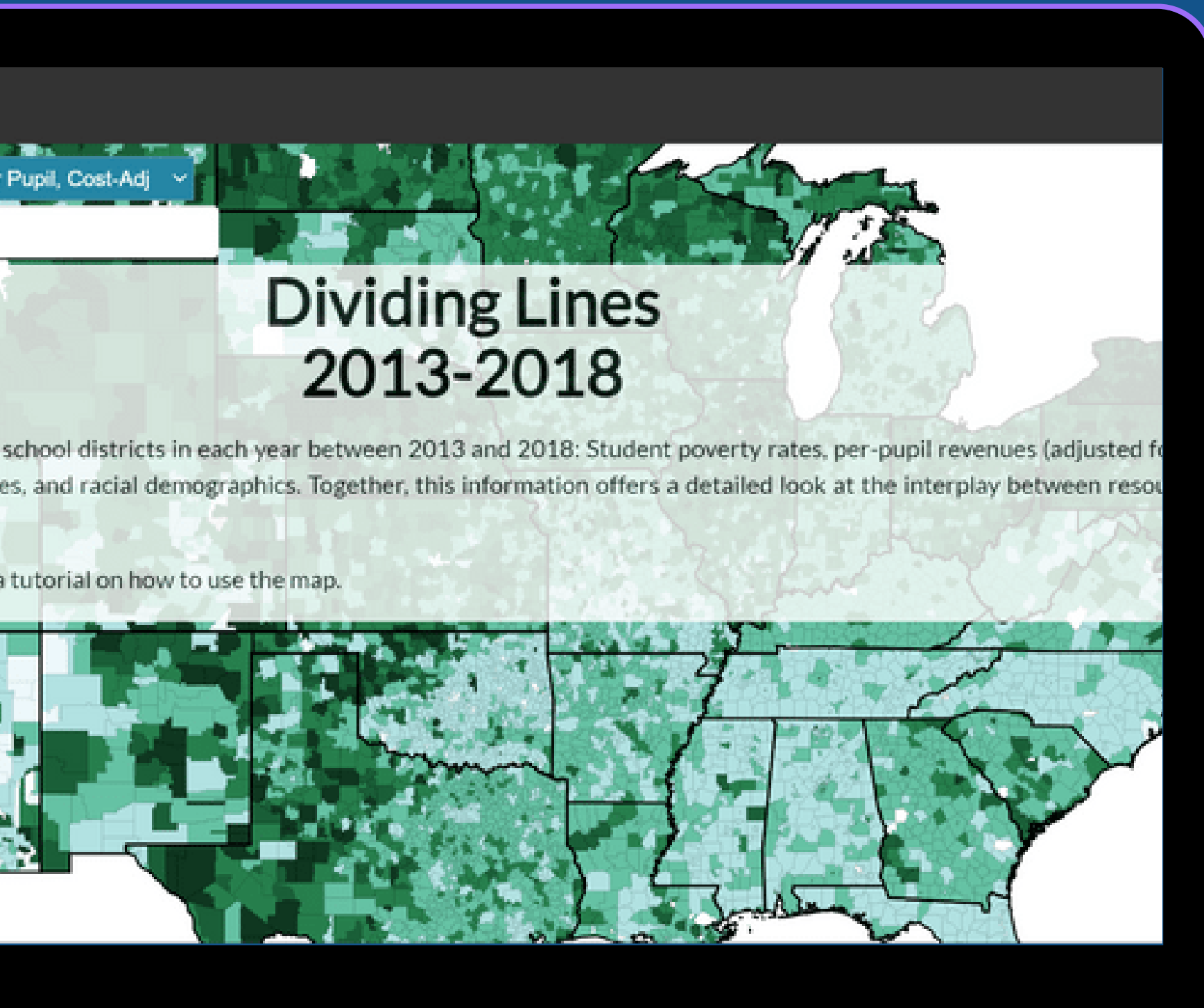


APPLYING THEORY

*Understanding equity issues
using EdBuild's
Dividing Lines Tool*



HOW TO ACCESS THE TOOL?



Enter
www.edbuild.org
into your search bar



Scroll down and select
"Tools to Guide You"



Find the **Dividing Lines**
tool and select
"Click here to launch"



TURN & TALK

How does your school district compare to that of your neighbor's?



GUIDING QUESTIONS



1

What is the cost-adjusted **revenue per pupil** for your school district?

2

How does that compare to **adjoining** school districts?

3

Do you notice any interesting **themes** for Washington state?

4

Are these themes related to measures like **race & poverty rates**



Thank You

Let's stay in touch!



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