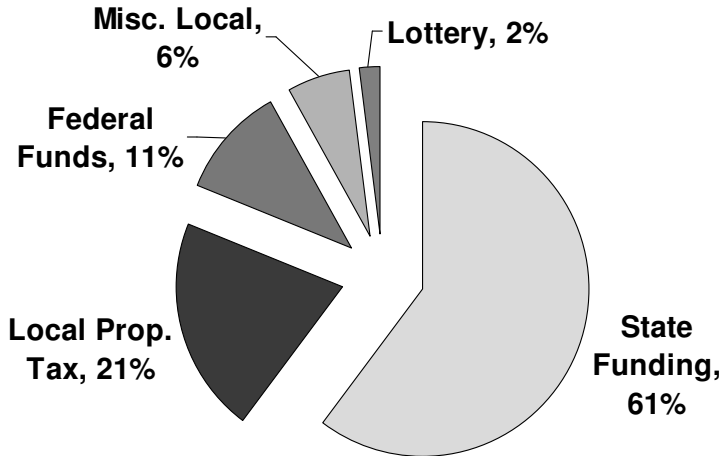


# California Public School Funding Overview

## Where the Money Comes From



The large ratio of state funding to local is the opposite of what most states have. The governor and the legislature determine what part of local property taxes go to the schools as well as what state revenue is spent on education.

Prior to Prop. 13 (1978), local property taxes were the primary source of funding for schools in California. Control was also local.

Note: State funding is adjusted for each area in relation to local property taxes to total the budgeted "revenue limit" amount, so these figures are averages.

## Where California Ranks

	National Average	California	California Ranking (out of 51)
Number of Students		<b>6,298,769 pupils</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>
Per Pupil Spending by Enrollment	\$ 8,248	\$ 7,584	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>
Per Pupil Spending by ADA	\$ 8,807	\$ 7,860	<b>33<sup>rd</sup></b>
Average Teacher Salary	\$46,752	\$56,444	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>
Number of Students per Teacher	15.8	20.6	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> worst student/ teacher ratio
Per Capita Personal Income	\$30,804	\$32,845	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
State Expenditures on Education per \$1,000 Personal Income	\$ 18	\$ 15	<b>41<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Source: National Education Association's <i>Rankings and Estimates</i>, June 2005, based mostly on school year 2003-04</b>			

## Important Events

### Serrano v. Priest - 1976

California Supreme Court decision declared the local property tax-based system of school funding to be unconstitutional, violating the equal protection clause. Required basic per pupil funding of school districts (within categories of districts) to be equal or within a small margin. Categorical funding is excluded from the formula.

### Proposition 13 – 1978

Constitutional amendment passed by California voters. Capped property tax rate & limited increases in assessed values. Required two-thirds vote for new local taxes. Local property taxes no longer the major source of school funding—shift to state funding. The governor and the legislature took over the allocation of local property taxes to schools, cities, counties, and special districts.

### Proposition 98 – 1988

Constitutional amendment passed by California voters. Guarantees a minimum funding level for K-14 public education, figured by a complex formula based on tax revenue. The Prop 98 guarantee may be suspended for a year by a two-thirds vote of the legislature with the governor's signature.