



Christie Administration Releases the 2017 Taxpayers' Guide to Education Spending

For Immediate Release

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Trenton, NJ - The Department of Education today released the *2017 Taxpayers' Guide to Education Spending*. "The annual spending guide is a tool designed to provide transparency to New Jerseyans about how schools spend their taxpayer dollars to educate students," said Acting Education Commissioner Kimberley Harrington.

The *Taxpayers' Guide to Education Spending* includes two types of total expenditures for school districts' annual budgets:

- Total Spending Per Pupil - Comprises all district expenditures, including costs paid by the state on behalf of districts, as well as fees and tuition paid for out-of-district programs; and
- Budgetary Cost Per Pupil - Comprises costs borne by the school district, excluding costs that aren't comparable among school districts, such as transportation and facilities costs.

For the 2015-16 school year, the average Total Spending Per Pupil in the state, which includes pension payments made by the state and other ancillary costs that vary by district, is \$20,385. This is 3.8 percentage points higher than the prior year's average of \$19,641.

The Budgetary Cost Per Pupil, which does not include pension payments made by the state and other district-specific costs, increased by 1.4 percentage points, from \$14,736 in the 2014-15 school year to \$14,939 in 2015-16.

The *Taxpayers' Guide to Education Spending* can be found [online](#).