

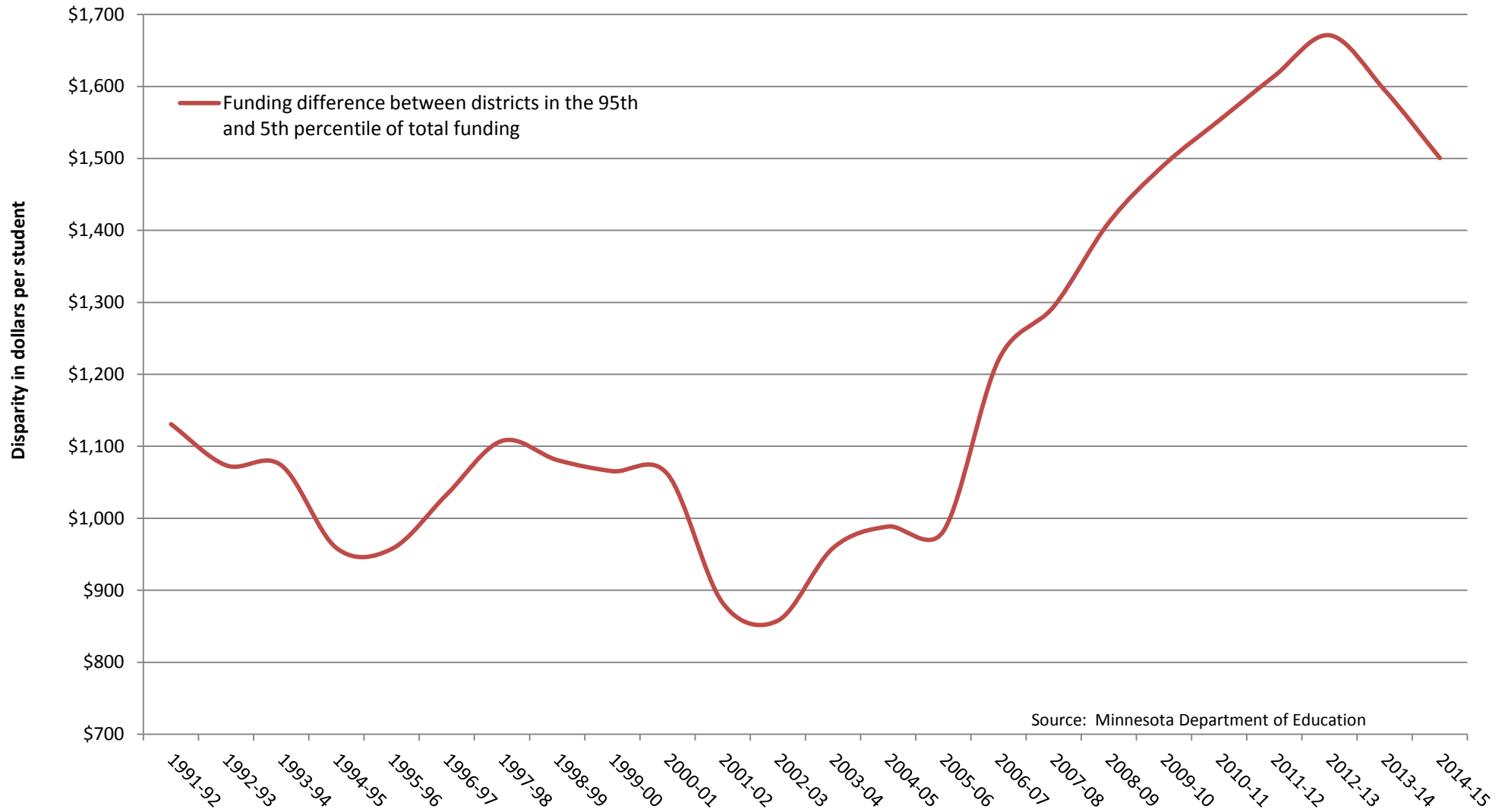


General Education Revenue Disparity Between Lowest and Highest Funded School Districts

Estimated General Education Revenue Per Weighted ADM

(Basic + Supplemental + Transition + Referendum + Local Option Revenue, Equity Revenue Transition Revenue Is Excluded After FY 2003)

"... it is the duty of the legislature to establish a general and uniform system of public schools." Minnesota State Constitution Article XIII, Section 1



The disparities in educational opportunities for students in different school districts are significant. In 2005, the legislature raised the maximum allowed referendum cap from 18% to 26% of the basic formula. That policy change set off rapid growth in the funding disparity between districts that are able to pass significant referendums and those districts that cannot. More recent legislation gives school boards the authority to access up to \$724 per pupil in local levy dollars to support the basic educational programs in their schools, which reduced the funding disparity. However, the gap in funding remains excessive and sets up an education system of ‘haves’ and ‘have-nots’ based merely on where a child lives.