

Why Data Matters 2021

**Maine Department of Education
School Finance and Operations Team
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Why MDOE Collects Data

- Accountability and/or Required Reporting

\$ - EPS

\$F – Federal Funding

§ - Statutory Requirement

Data Collections

- Accountability and/or Required Reporting, - \$EPS, \$F – Federal Funding,
§ - Statutory Requirement

- Attendance - \$F, #
- Behavior - §, #
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) -
\$, \$F, §, #

Data Collections

- Accountability and/or Required Reporting, - \$EPS, \$F – Federal Funding,
§ - Statutory Requirement

- Certification - §, #



• Incorrect data entry could also have potential personal costs and/or frustrations for your staff



- Dropouts - §, #

- Economic Status - \$, \$F, #

Data Collections

- Accountability and/or Required Reporting, - \$EPS, \$F – Federal Funding,
§ - Statutory Requirement

- English Learners - \$, \$F, #
- Graduation - §, #
- Maine Schools/School Approval - \$,\$F,§,#
- Special Education - \$,\$F,§,#

Data Collections

- Accountability and/or Required Reporting, - \$EPS, \$F – Federal Funding,
§ - Statutory Requirement

- Staff - \$,\$F,§,#



- Incorrect data entry could also have potential personal costs and/or frustrations for your staff



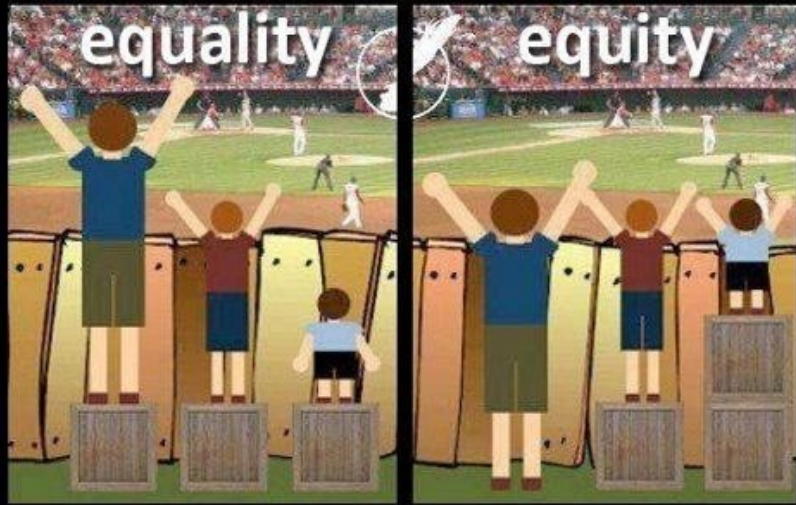
- Student Enrollment - \$,\$F,§,#

Data Collections

- Accountability and/or Required Reporting, - \$EPS, \$F – Federal Funding,
§ - Statutory Requirement

- Student Personal \$,\$F,§,#
- Truancy - §,#

Equity versus Equality



equality

equity

Equality = SAMENESS

Equity = FAIRNESS

Equality is about **SAMENESS**, it promotes fairness and justice by giving everyone the same thing.

EQUITY is about **FAIRNESS**, it's about making sure people get access to the same opportunities.

BUT it can **only work IF everyone starts from the SAME place**, in this example equality only works if everyone is the same height.

Sometimes our differences and/or history, can create barriers to participation, so we must **FIRST ensure EQUITY** before we can enjoy equality.

EPS Per-Pupil Rates – ED 279 Page 1

Elementary and secondary per-pupil rates are calculated for each school district. Elements used in this calculation:

- ❖ Number of students attending the schools in the district
- ❖ EPS Staff Positions:
 - Experience and education level of staff
 - Ratios of students to staff
 - Salary matrixes
- ❖ Percentages for benefits
- ❖ Other Support Per-Pupil Costs
 - Substitute Teachers; Supplies & Equipment; Professional Development; Instructional Leadership Support; Co- and Extra-Curricular Student Support; System Administration/Support; Operations & Maintenance
- ❖ Regional Adjustments

Operating Cost Allocations – ED 279 Page 2

Key components for operating allocations

- ❖ Subsidizable student counts:
 - PreK, K-8, and 9-12
 - Adult Ed course counts for 16-20 year olds
 - Equivalent instruction
- ❖ Weighted student Counts:
 - Economically Disadvantaged
 - English Learners
- ❖ Additional Targeted Funds:
 - Assessment
 - Technology Resources
 - PreK and K-2
 - Economically Disadvantaged
- ❖ Isolated Small School Adjustments

Other Allocations – ED 279 Page 3

Key components for other allocations

❖ Other Subsidizable Costs

- Approved Gifted & Talented programs
- Special Education – EPS Allocation
- Special Education – High Cost Out-of-District Allocation
- Transportation Operating – EPS Allocation
- **Approved Bus Purchases**

❖ Teacher Retirement – Normalized Cost (employer share)

❖ Debt Service Allocations

- Principal & Interest Payments approved for subsidy purposes
- Approved Leases
- Insured Value Factor

State and Local Shares – ED 279 Page 4

Key components for determining State and Local shares

- ❖ Subsidizable Student Counts
- ❖ Total Allocations
 - Operating Allocation
 - Other Subsidizable Cost Allocation
 - Teacher Retirement Allocation
 - Debt Service Allocation
- ❖ Fiscal Capacity – State Valuation by Town
 - Beginning in FY 20, Lesser of 3-Year Average Valuation or Previous year Valuation
- ❖ State Appropriation

Data Errors from FY 20 Subsidy Calculation


Data Error – Staff	Subsidy \$
1 FTE Ed Tech not identified as Special Ed	\$735.35
3 FTE Health Staff incorrectly identified as Special Ed	\$24,230.11
.5 FTE Librarian & .2 FTE Health did not count for EPS	\$10,831.52
Teacher incorrectly listed with Bachelor's Degree, actually has Master's Degree	\$5,661.60

Data Error – Students	Subsidy \$
34 Students not identified as English Learners	\$113,044.05
3 Students not identified as Economic Disadvantaged	\$1,473.84
24 Students not identified as Economic Disadvantaged	\$42,512.27
132 Students not identified as Economic Disadvantaged	\$1,093,873.50
58 Adult Education Courses missing from EF-M-39 A & B	\$42,780.80

Data Errors from FY 20 Subsidy Calculation

Data Error – Financials	Subsidy \$
Gifted & Talented Expenditures not uploaded in MEFS	\$2,755.00
Gifted & Talented Expenditures not uploaded in MEFS	\$20,000.00
Special Education High Cost Out-of-District Reporting Error	\$4,995.92

Data Error – CTE	Subsidy \$
Supplies incorrectly listed as Equipment in budget	\$15,000.00
Additional Square Footage not reported	\$56,739.95



If you have questions or ideas on how we can help you ensure accurate and complete data - Please contact us!

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#WhyDataMatters