

**ASSESSING ADEQUACY:
HOW DO WE KNOW IF OUR SCHOOLS
ARE CONSTITUTIONALLY "ADEQUATE"**

**TTARA SCHOOL FINANCE SYMPOSIUM
MAY 12, 2010**

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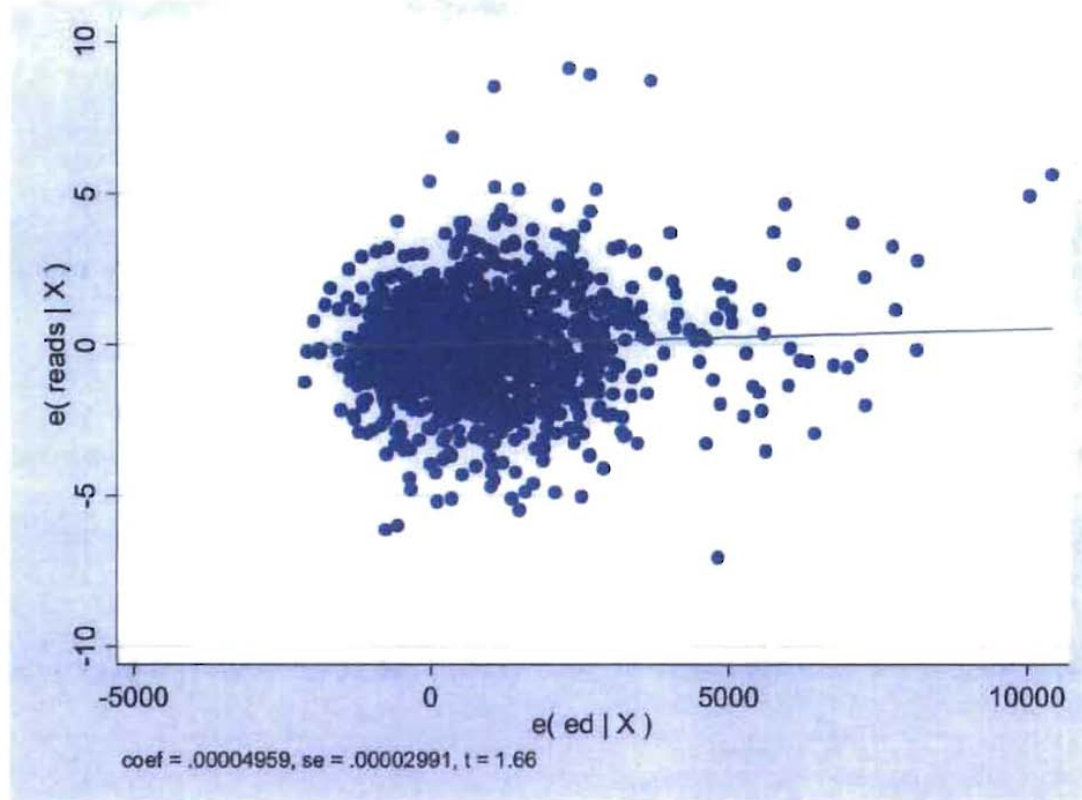
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DETERMINING "ADEQUATE" RESOURCES (INPUTS)

SOME ARGUE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE THROUGH "SCIENTIFIC" STUDIES THE LEVEL OF INPUTS NECESSARY TO DETERMINE A LEVEL OF "ADEQUATE" SPENDING

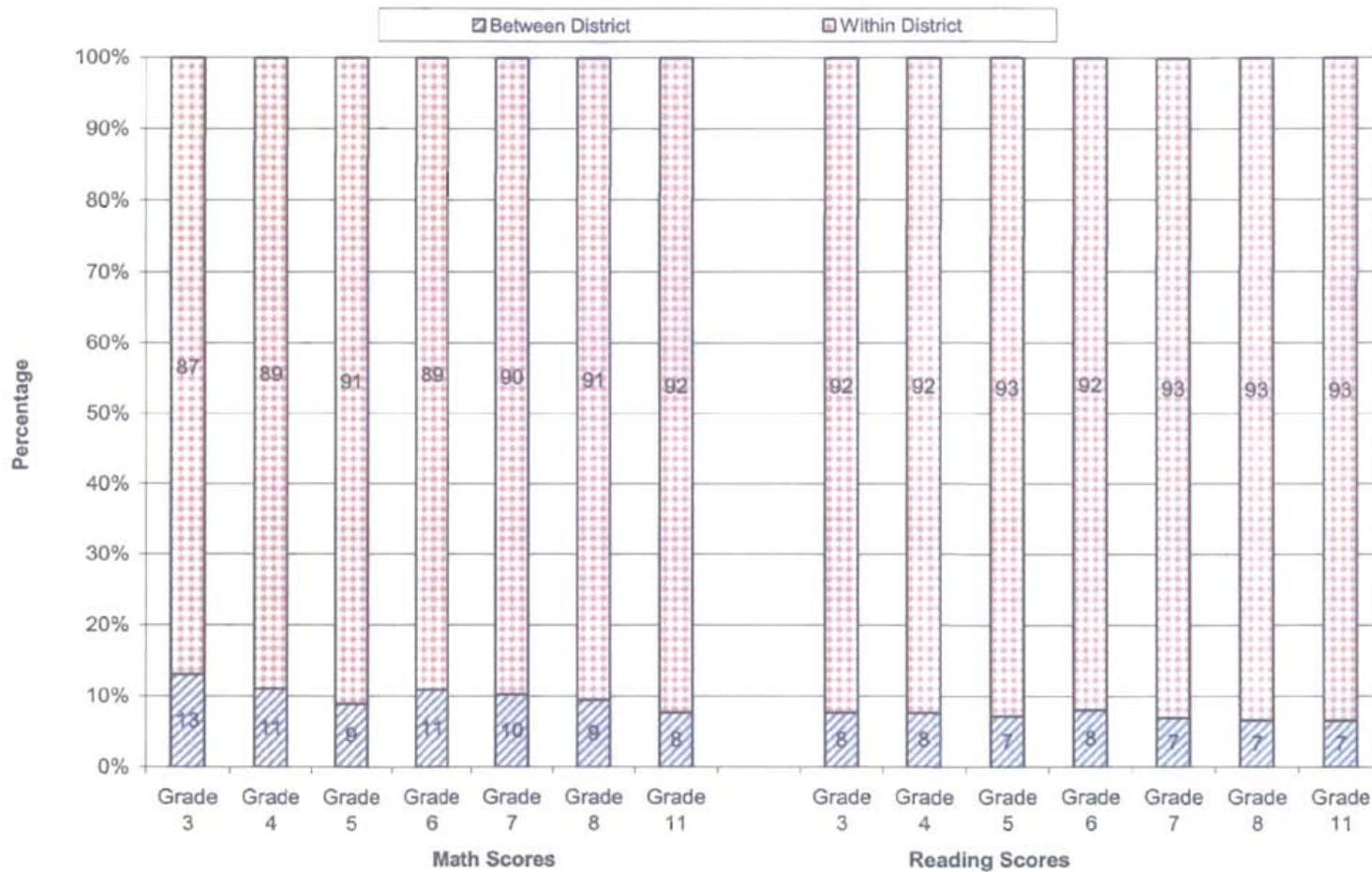
1. "Professional Judgement" Studies
2. "Evidence Based" Analysis
3. "Successful Schools" Method
4. "Cost Function" Studies

ONE PROBLEM – LITTLE DEMONSTRATED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SPENDING AND OUTCOMES



Marginal Effect of Educational Fund Spending, Reading 8th Grade

STEP Test Score Variation Between and Within Districts, 2007



COST STUDY METHODOLOGIES PRODUCE ILLOGICAL RESULTS

TOP 25 PERFORMERS BY 2002 MAP INDEX IN MISSOURI

<u>District</u>	<u>2002 MAP Index Score</u>	<u>Myers's new state funding needed per enrolled student</u>
HUDSON R-IX	243.8	\$8,189.00
PLEASANT VIEW R-VI	231.4	\$4,118.00
MIRABILE C-1	228.6	\$4,821.00
AVENUE CITY R-IX	224.1	\$4,167.00
KELSO C-7	219.0	\$4,653.00
AVERAGE (for all top 25 districts)		\$4,874.88

COST STUDY METHODOLOGIES PRODUCE ILLOGICAL RESULTS

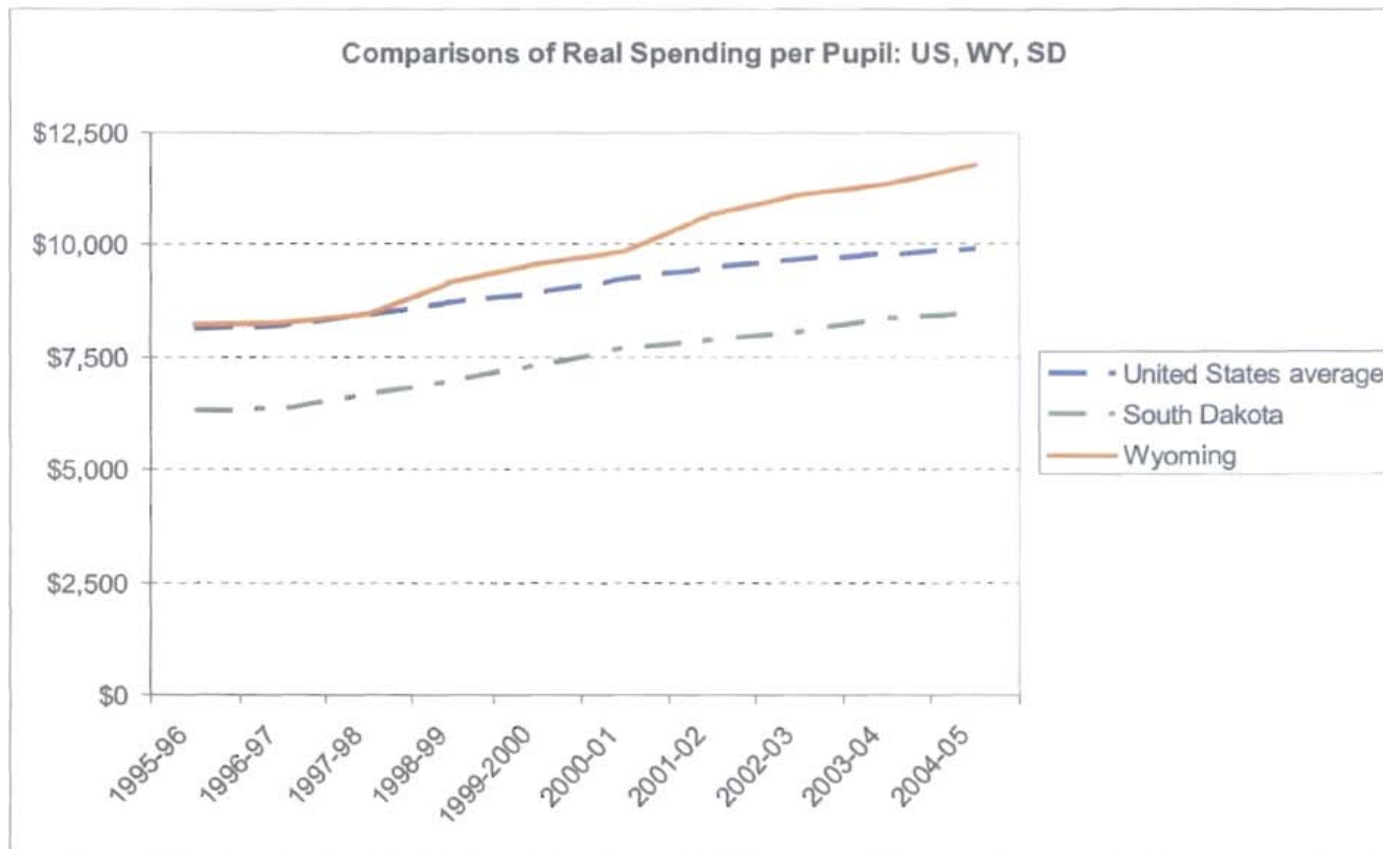
BOTTOM 25 PERFORMERS BY 2002 MAP INDEX IN MISSOURI

	2002 MAP <u>District Index Score</u>	Myers's new state funding <u>needed per enrolled student</u>
RISCO R-II	170.7	\$1,514.00
OREGON-HOWELL R-III	170.7	\$1,818.00
NAYLOR R-II	170.5	\$2,682.00
CLIMAX SPRINGS R-IV	170.3	\$0.00
N. PEMISCOT CO. R-I	170.1	\$1,882.00
AVERAGE (for all bottom 25 districts)		\$2,551.38

OTHERS ARGUE THAT THE ONLY TRUE MEASURE OF SCHOOL ADEQUACY IS STUDENT OUTCOMES, MEASURED BY A VARIETY OF METHODS

1. State Test Scores (e.g., TCAS)
2. College Attendance Rates
3. High School Graduation Rates
4. National Achievement Comparisons (NAEP)
5. Role of Improvement in Test Scores

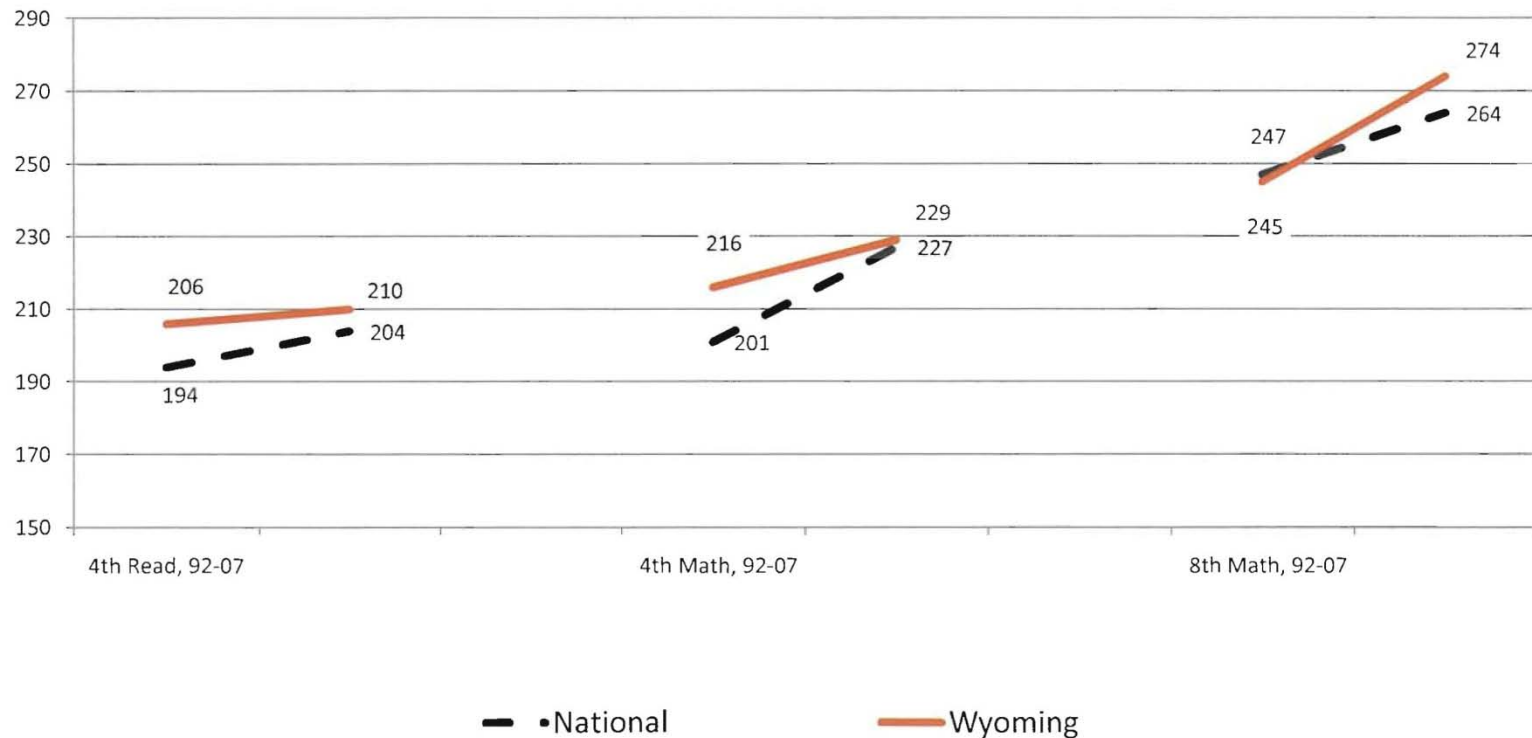
COURT-ORDERED INCREASES IN SPENDING HAVE NOT PRODUCED SUBSTANTIAL RESULTS



Source: U.S. Department of Education (2008), Table 175

COURT-ORDERED INCREASES IN SPENDING HAVE NOT PRODUCED SUBSTANTIAL RESULTS

Wyoming and National NAEP Trends for Hispanic Students, 1992 to 2007



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