

State Spending on the K-12 Standards of Quality: 2020 Update

Study mandate

- Standards of Quality (SOQ) annual spending reports
- Virginia Department of Education reports local spending
- JLARC reports state spending

§ 22.1-97 of the Code of Virginia

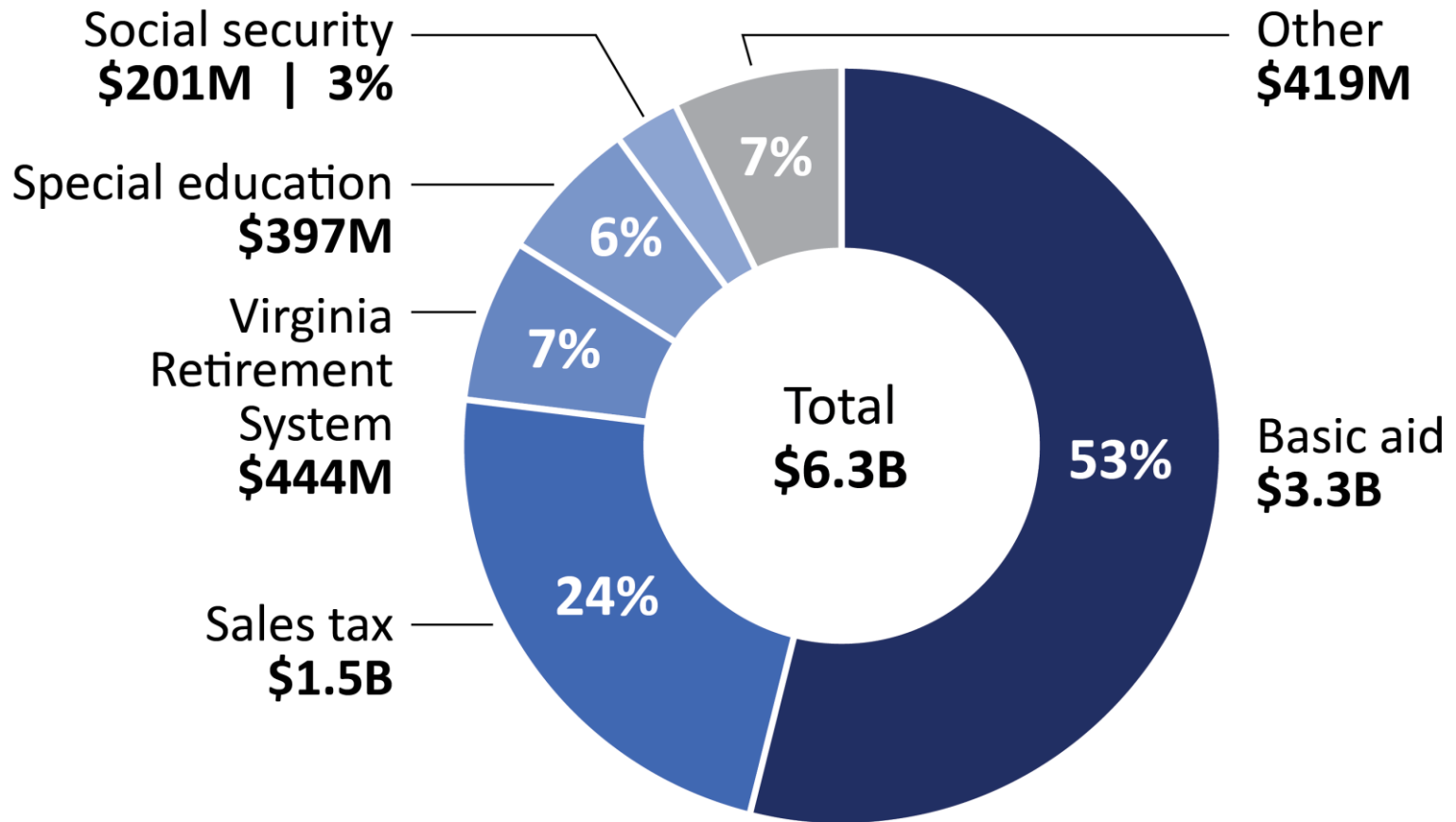
State and localities share cost of meeting the K-12 SOQ

- Virginia's Standards of Quality
 - Prescribed by State Board of Education; subject to General Assembly revision
 - Specify type and minimum number of staff
- General Assembly estimates cost to meet K-12 SOQ; apportions between state and localities

Several major factors drive K-12 SOQ spending

- Number of funded instructional and support positions
- Salaries and benefits
- Number of students
- Policy decisions

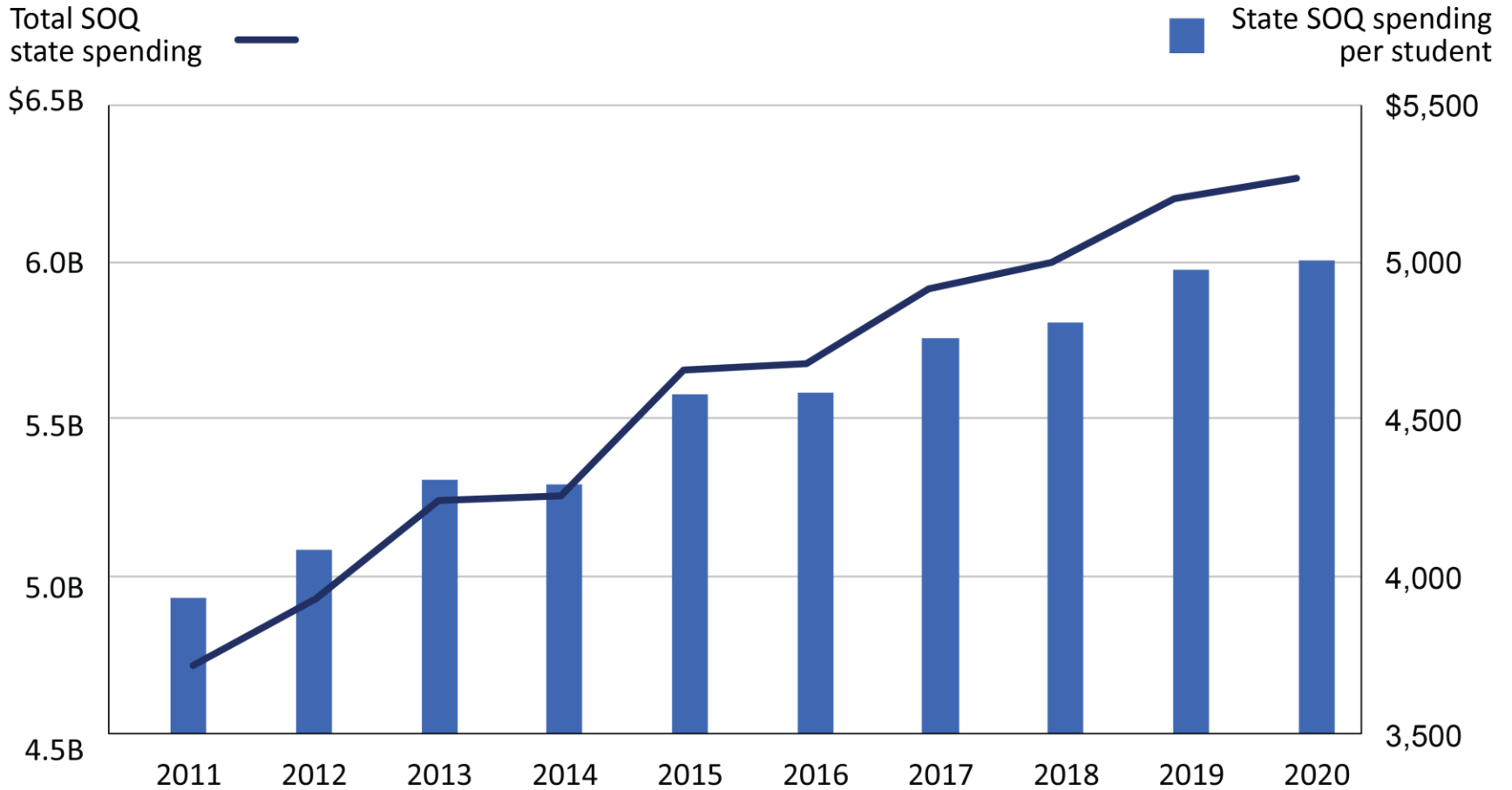
School divisions spent \$6.3B in state K-12 SOQ funds (FY20)



School divisions spent \$5,000 per student in state K-12 SOQ funds, on average (FY20)

- Per student amount is slightly higher than in FY19
- Enrollment increased by 5,850 students in FY20 after a slight decline from FY18 to FY19

Total spending and spending per student have steadily increased over time



Top 10 divisions by spending received 50% of total state SOQ funding (FY20)

Rank	Division	Total state SOQ \$	# of students	Per student \$
1	Fairfax (Co.)	\$653M	180,349	\$3,621
2	Prince William	487M	89,444	5,443
3	Loudoun	359M	83,274	4,316
4	Virginia Beach	326M	66,714	4,888
5	Chesterfield	325M	61,594	5,273
6	Henrico	253M	50,381	5,022
7	Chesapeake	226M	40,352	5,598
8	Norfolk	163M	26,835	6,056
9	Newport News	162M	27,663	5,865
10	Stafford	155M	29,364	5,283

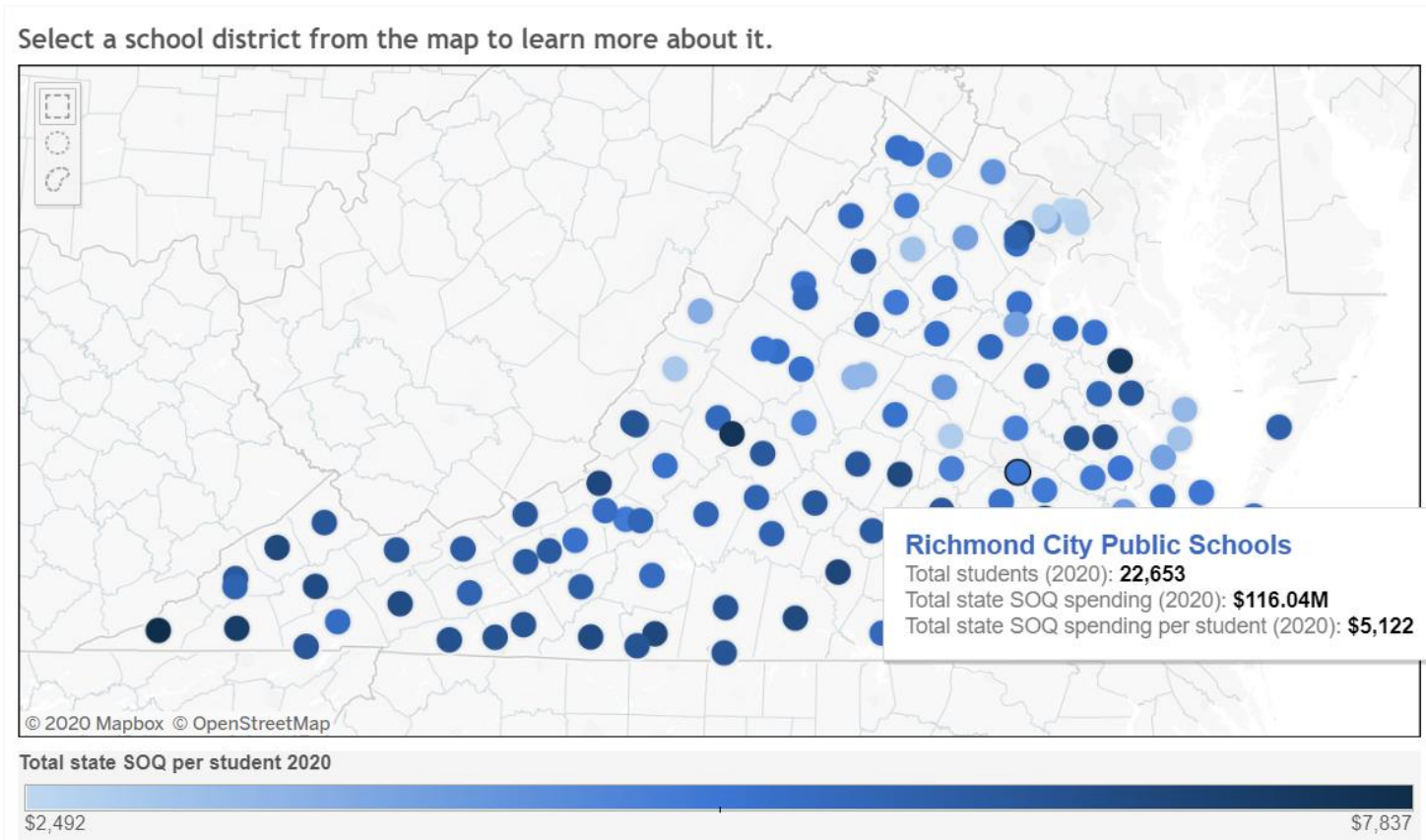
State SOQ spending per student ranged from \$7,837 to \$2,492, primarily due to ability to pay

Top 5 divisions	Per student \$	Local composite index
Lee	\$7,837	0.1754
Buena Vista	7,579	0.1849
Westmoreland	7,415	0.4743
Scott	7,246	0.1917
Nottoway	6,976	0.2385

Bottom 5 divisions	Per student \$	Local composite index
Falls Church	\$2,492	0.8000
Arlington	2,627	0.8000
Alexandria	2,697	0.8000
Fairfax (City)	2,756	0.8000
Goochland	2,769	0.8000

Interactive K-12 SOQ state spending data on JLARC website

- Includes annual trends, rankings, and interactive map



JLARC staff for this report

Justin Brown, Senior Associate Director

Ellen Miller, Chief Analyst

Nathan Skreslet, Information Graphics Designer