

# CHANGING THE NARRATIVE SCHOOL INVESTMENTS

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#weLIVEhere

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## THE BROKEN NARRATIVE

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- “The only way to lower property taxes is to control spending”
  - Decades old echo chamber

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## EXPENSE VS. INVESTMENT

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- We need to examine 2 issues
- How MUCH are we spending
- HOW are we spending

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## HOW MUCH ARE WE SPENDING? SINCE 2011 **AVERAGE** GROWTH

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- |                                     |   |       |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------|
| • State Budget                      | - | 3.17% |
| • “We lived within our means”       |   |       |
| • Total Annual Costs <u>Schools</u> | - | 3.00% |
| • Cost per pupil                    | - | 2.11% |

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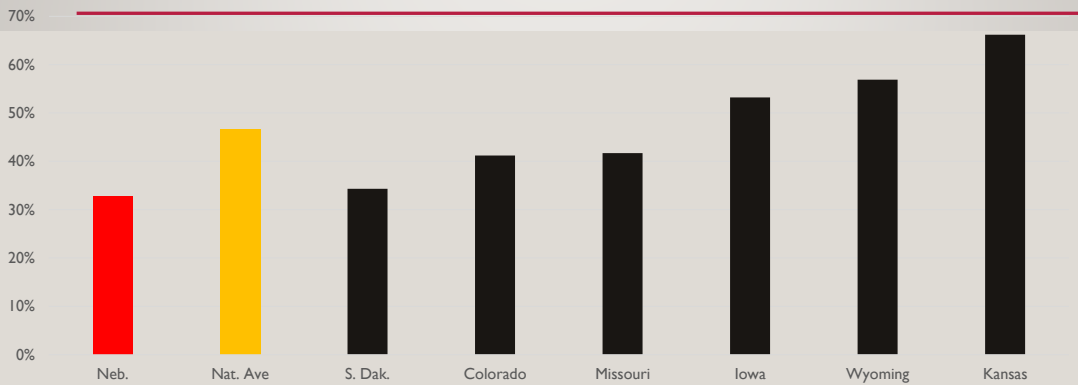
## STATE'S SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION AS A PERCENTAGE

- State Support for Public Education, bottom 10
  - 50 – New Hampshire – 31.3% (No Income Tax)
  - **49 – Nebraska – 32.8%**
  - 48 – Texas – 33.7% (No Income Tax)
  - 47 – South Dakota – 34.3% (No Income Tax)
  - 46 – Connecticut – 37.8%
  - 45 – Massachusetts – 38%
  - 44 – Pennsylvania – 38.3%
  - 43 – Maine – 38.6%
  - 42 – Florida – 39.2% (No Income Tax)
  - 41 – New York – 39.6%

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## PERCENT OF SCHOOL FUNDING FROM THE STATE SURROUNDING STATES



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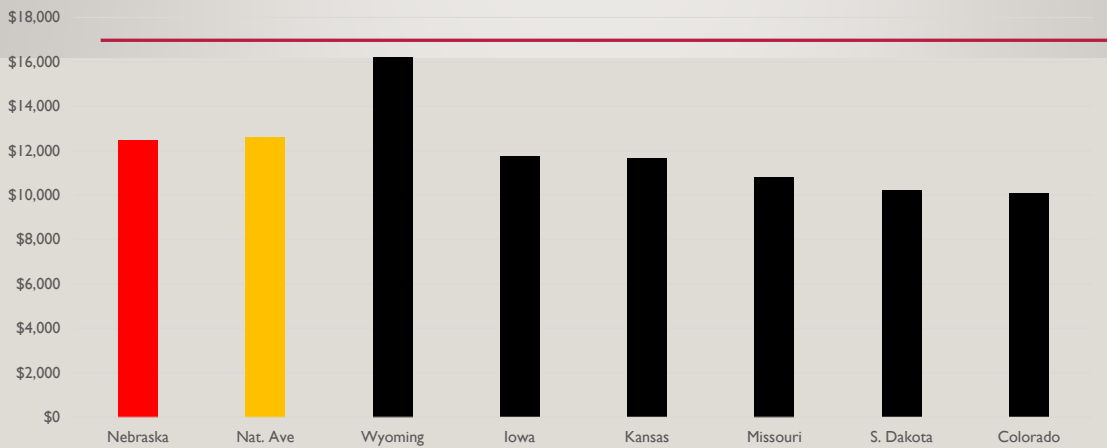
## COST PER STUDENT

- Nebraska - \$12,491
  - Ranks 21<sup>st</sup> in the nation
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Washington - \$12,995
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Minnesota - \$12,975
- 20<sup>th</sup> – California - \$12,498
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Michigan - \$12,345
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Wisconsin - \$12,285

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## COST PER STUDENT – SURROUNDING STATES



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## HOW MUCH ARE WE SPENDING?

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- How much we spend and how we evaluate:
- Per Pupil Investment
  - Nebraska ranks 21st highest in the Nation at \$12,491
- Nebraska ranks 14<sup>th</sup> smallest in population
- Nebraska ranks 16<sup>th</sup> largest in geographic area.
- Nebraska ranks 8<sup>th</sup> smallest in population density

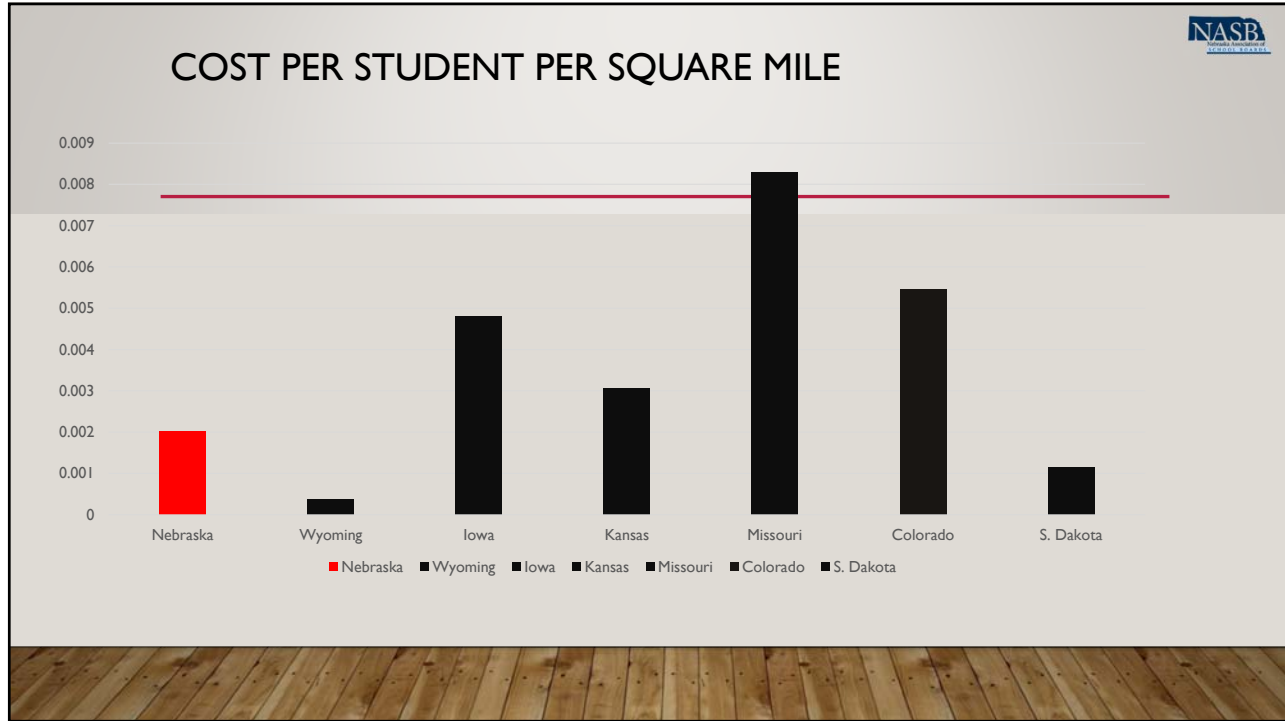
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## POPULATION DENSITY 2020 CENSUS POPULATION BY SQUARE MILE

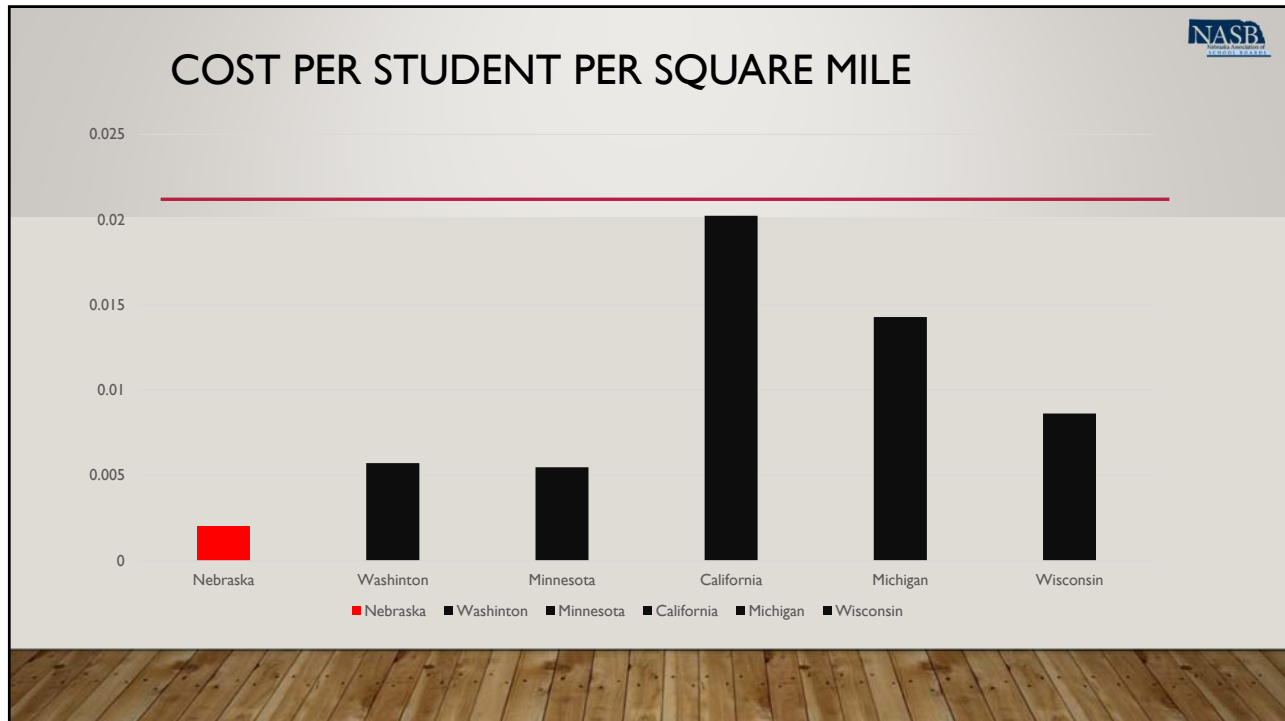
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- Nebraska – 25.2 - \$12,491
- Wyoming – 6 - \$16,224
- Iowa 56.5 - \$11,732
- Kansas - 35.6 - \$11,653
- Missouri – 89.52 - \$10,810
- Colorado – 55.6 - \$10,202
- S. Dakota – 11.7 - \$10,073

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## HOW ARE WE SPENDING???

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- How are we spending and how to we evaluate?
- For businesses this is a more important question.

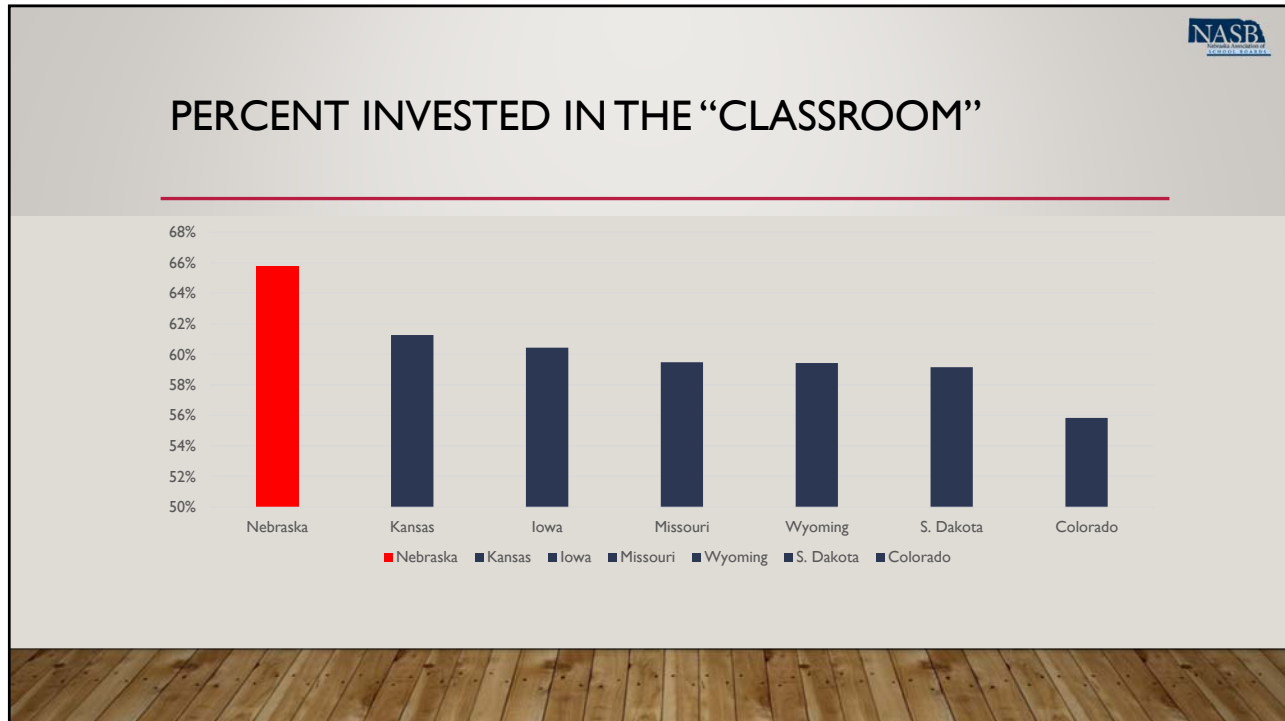
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## HOW ARE NEBRASKA SCHOOL'S INVESTING?


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- Nebraska is 2<sup>nd</sup> highest in percent of funding invested in the classroom
  - 1) New York – 69.31%
  - **2) Nebraska – 65.78%**
  - 3) Minnesota – 64.91%
  - 4) Utah – 63.3%
  - 5) North Carolina – 62.88%

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## ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

- Nebraska is 36<sup>th</sup> highest in percent of investment in “school administration”
- Nebraska ranks 12<sup>th</sup> highest in “general administration”

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# HOW IS THE STATE SPENDING?

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# 20 YEAR TREND. AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE STATE BUDGET – WHAT IS GROWING AND WHAT IS SHRINKING?

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- **Headline in OWH in December 2020:**
    - **“Nebraska moves forward with plan for new \$230 million prison to relieve overcrowding”**
  - \$10,000 Hiring bonus for new correctional employees

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## INVESTMENT VS. EXPENSE

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- Investment – “what is the rate of return”
- Expenses – “manage and limit”
- School Board Members Want Property Tax Relief Too – 75% of school board members have a relationship with the agriculture industry.
- Invite NASB to your community!!!!

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