



COMMITTEE FOR
EDUCATION FUNDING

CEF Legislative Conference Webinar

The Outlook for Education as COVID-Relief Ends and Spending Caps Take Effect

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 2:00-4:00 p.m. ET

The conference will start shortly

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Five notes on ESSER and Covid



1. Education is expensive

- About \$17,000 per pupil annually
- Recent meta-analysis ~\$4,000 gets you 0.03 SD of achievement
 - Average annual growth in achievement in grades 4 to 8 is about 0.30 and 0.39 SD in reading and math, respectively
 - 0.03 SD is about 8% to 10% of a year's growth of average annual reading and math achievement in grades 4 to 8

2. COVID-19 Disrupted Student Learning

- **NWEA:** 0.2 to 0.27 SD reduction in mathematics
- **NAEP:** 0.16 and 0.23 SD reduction in 4th and 8th grade math scores compared to 2019 scores
- **State-Administered Assessments:** ~50% annual learning or about 0.15 to 0.2 SD

All assessments show greater losses in mathematics and greater losses for economically disadvantaged students

3. ESSER insufficient for full recovery of learning loss

- To estimate ESSER amount needed for full recovery, need two numbers: cumulative learning loss per person & cost to remediate; estimates for these numbers vary widely
 - **Conservatively:** 100% of ESSER devoted to learning recovery would be about adequate
 - My own work suggests ESSER needed to be 3X larger
- Regardless, ESSER would likely be **insufficient** for two reasons:
 - Only about 25% of ESSER going to learning recovery
 - ESSER allocation followed Title I formula and not targeted to learning loss

4. Urgency of learning loss never resonated

- **Parents**

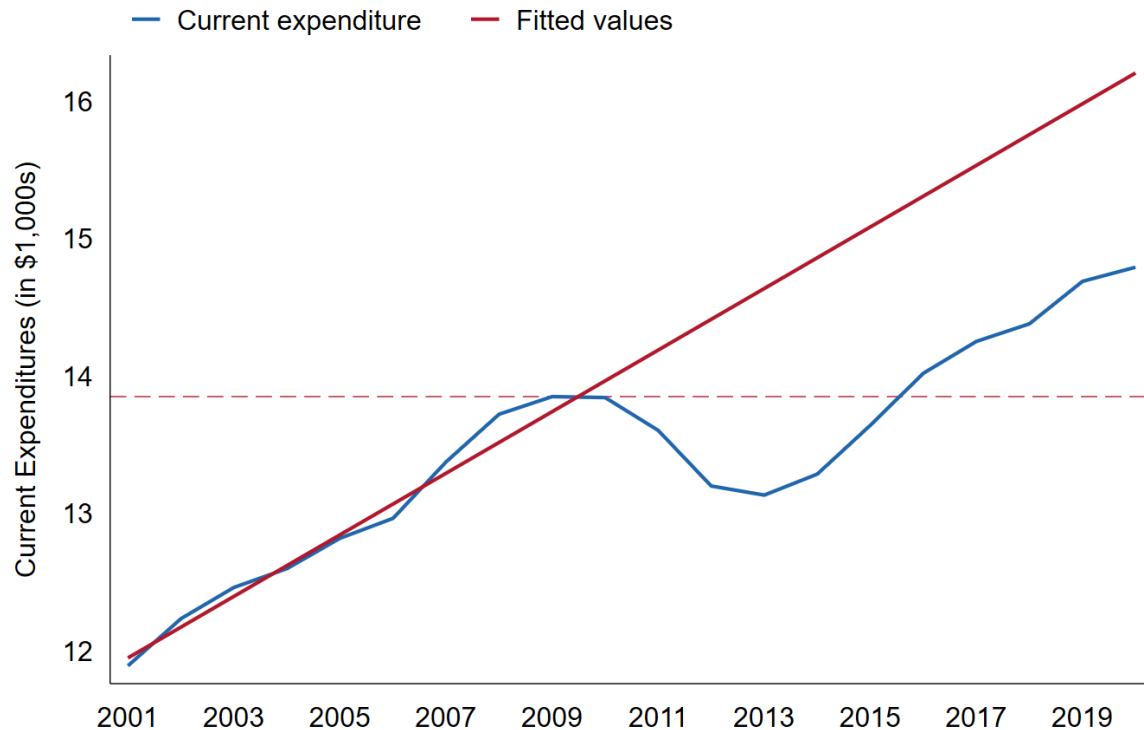
- Most parents report students are doing well in school and that their children did not experience learning loss or that learning loss will be easily recovered; demand for supplemental instruction is low

- **Schools**

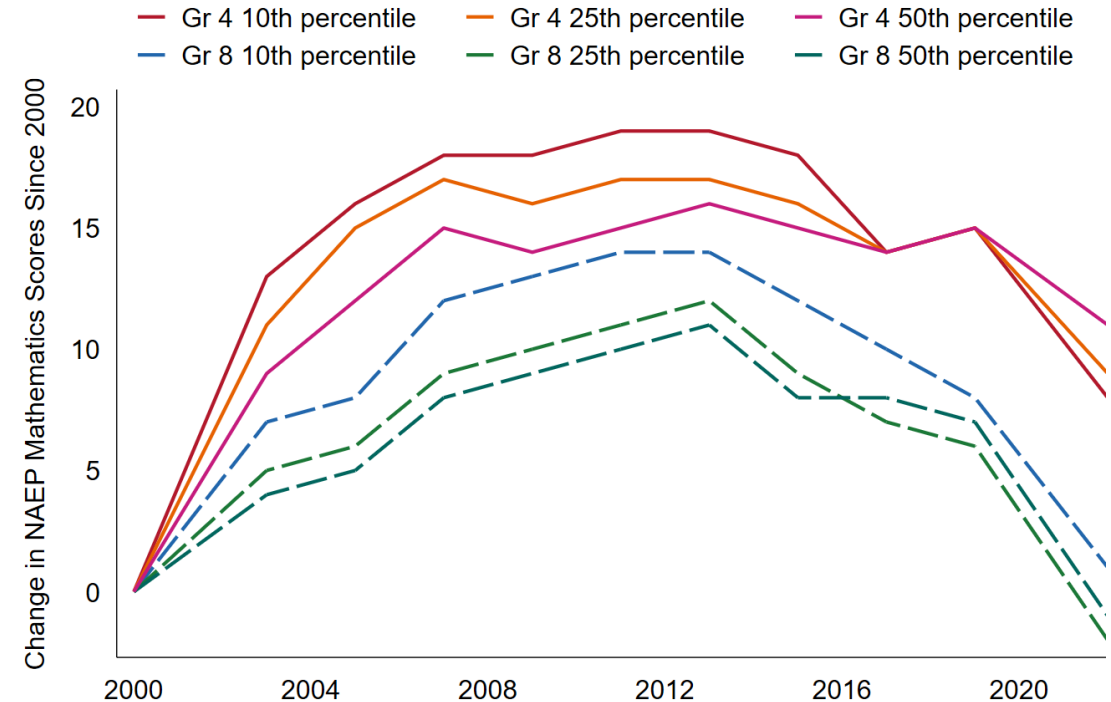
- Less than half of parents reported school-based opportunities for supplemental learning
- Districts are devoting about 25% of ESSER to academic recovery

5. Federal policy during the Great Recession and COVID “went big” but the crises were unprecedented in scale

Great Recession Disrupted Investments in Education



COVID-19 Disrupted Academic Learning





Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds



ESSER I

\$111 million
Survive

ESSER II

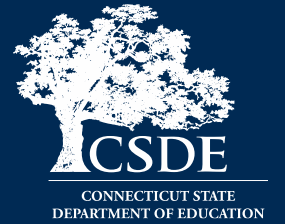
\$492 million
Thrive

ARP ESSER

\$1.1 billion
Transform



ESSER State-Level Priorities



- ✓ Learning Acceleration, Academic Renewal, and Student Enrichment

- ✓ Family & Community Connections

- ✓ Social, Emotional, & Mental Health of Students & School Staff

- ✓ Strategic use of Technology, Staff Development, & the Digital Divide

- ✓ Building Safe & Healthy Schools



Evaluating Effectiveness for Sustainability



- Summer Enrichment (2020-2022) Evaluation
- Investigating variations in ARP-ESSER funding applications
- Theories of Action in ARP-ESSER plans
- Teachers' and Leaders' Perceptions, Turnovers, and Supply
- Remote Learning Audit
- Learner Engagement and Attendance Program (LEAP)
- Identifying Effective and Equitable Socio-Emotional Supports for Students and Educators
- High-Dosage Tutoring
- Equity in Academic Recovery
- Advanced Course Taking Patterns in Connecticut High Schools
- Categorizing and Understanding Facilities and Long-term (Capital) Investments
- Evaluation of the Behavioral Health Pilot (BHP)





Data Transparency



EdSight: Expenditure Dashboard



EdSight: Recovery Dashboard

