For the data sources tracked (U.S. Census Bureau, Profile Data, Education Week Quality Counts, & National Center for Education Statistics) Colorado’s gap between per pupil funding and the national average has grown from less than $500 per student in the early to mid-90s to between $1,800 and $2,700 less per pupil by FY 2011.
In the 19 years between 1992 and 2011, Colorado’s student population increased by over 222,800 students to 808,139 students (CSFP State Profile data). As the number of public school students has increased, Colorado’s per pupil spending has fallen farther and farther behind the national average.

Find out more:
- Colorado’s PK-12 student population trends: Go to CSFP Student Trends.
  - Includes English Language Learners, Free Lunch and Reduced Lunch, Gifted & Talented, Homeless populations
- Education reforms have increased: CAP4K, Educator Effectiveness, Common Core standards, CSAP/PARCC Testing, graduation requirements. Go to the CSFP Timeline for School Finance & Education Reform.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, NCES, Profile Data (Augenblick, Palaich & Associates), Education Week Quality Count