The number of students enrolled in Colorado’s public schools has increased by over 30% (162,545 students) from 1992-93 to 2007-08. While total student enrollment in the state continues to increase, over 100 of 178 districts are declining in enrollment.

At-Risk students (free lunch): 29% of the total FTE enrollment, 224,137 students.
Special Ed students: 11% of the total FTE enrollment, 82,607 students.
ELPA students (students counted, districts funded by the state for 2 years): 10% of the total FTE enrollment (up from 6% in 04-05). Students served in 134 districts. Over 180 different languages spoken.

As the overall population of students grows, so does the number of students requiring special services.