

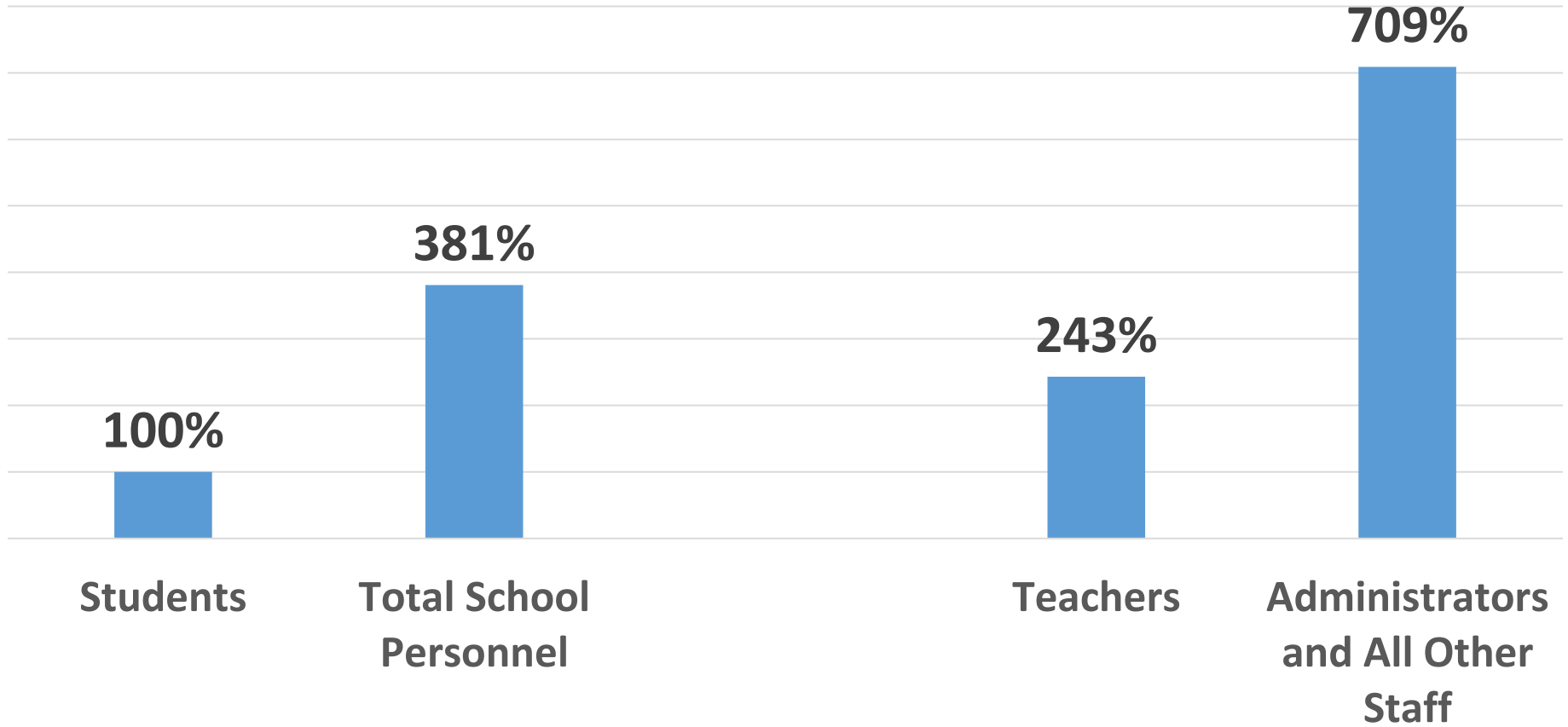
Back to the Staffing Surge

Ben Scafidi

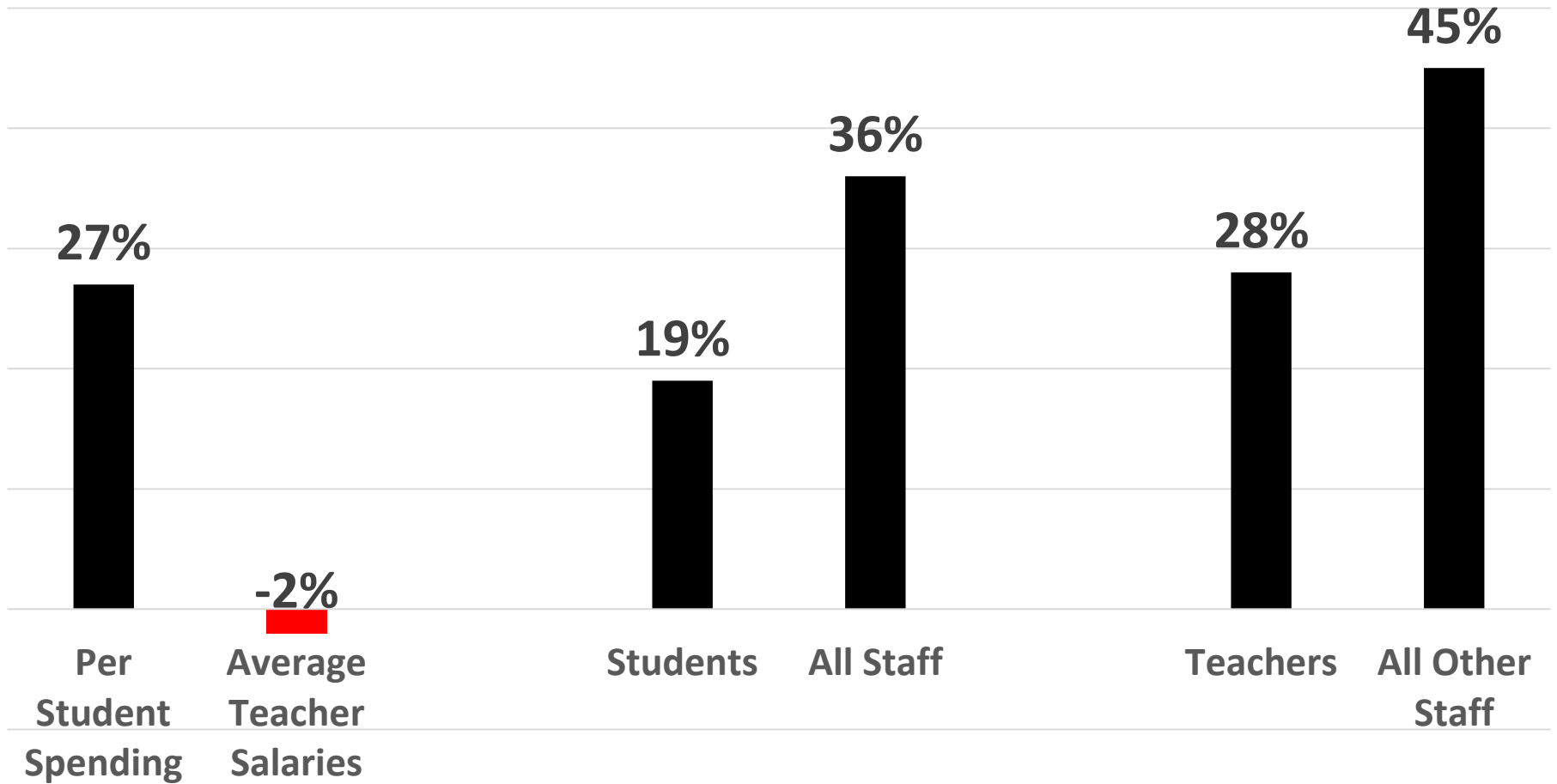
Kennesaw State University

Friedman Fellow, EdChoice

US, Staffing Surge, FY 1950 to 2015



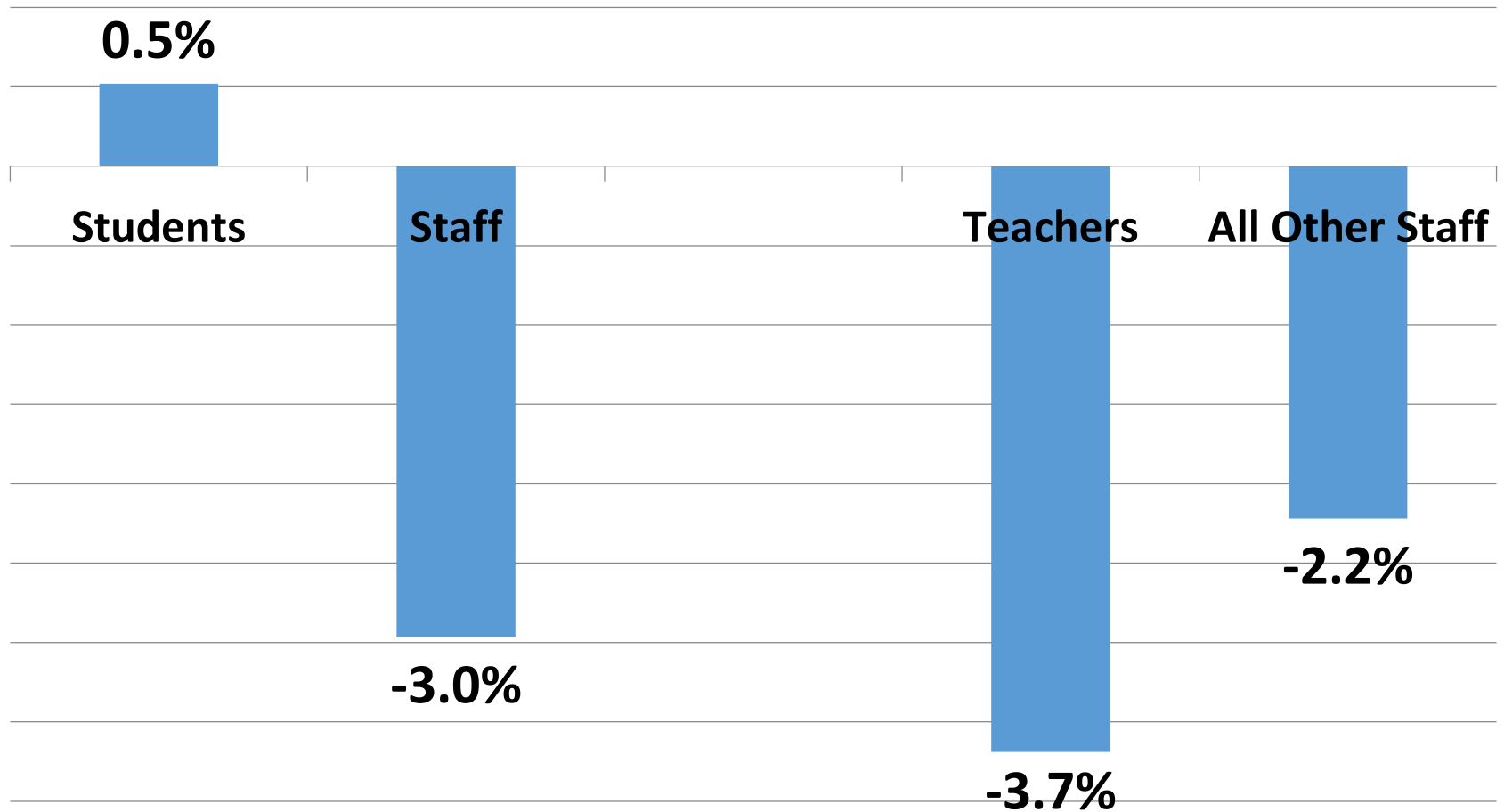
US, FY 1992 to 2014 Staffing Surge



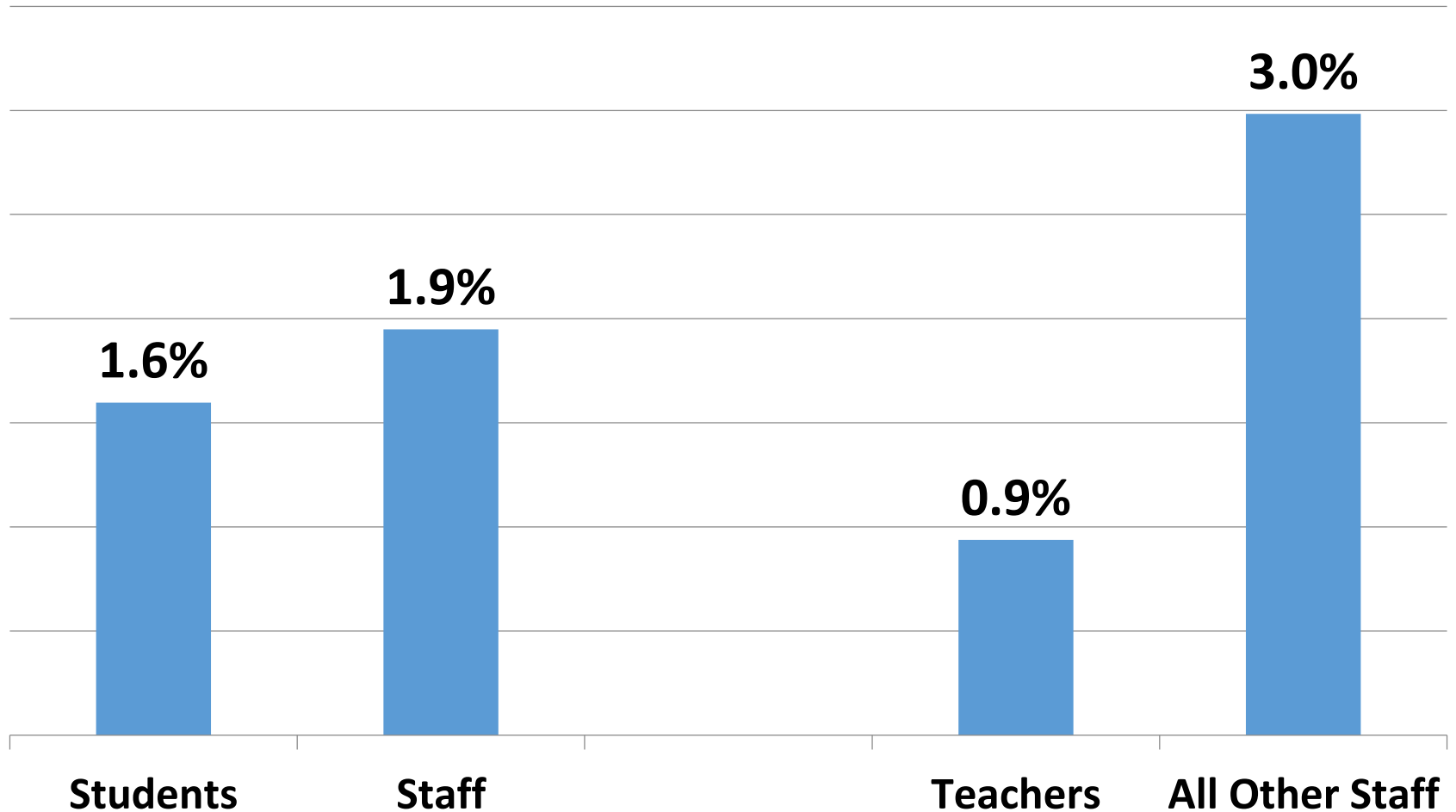
Some Notes About the Public School Hiring Spree

- **No evidence the “kids are worse”.**
- **No Child Left Behind did not make us do it.**
- **American public schools are more top-heavy than other wealthy nations.**

US, FY 2009 to 2012 Staffing Retreat



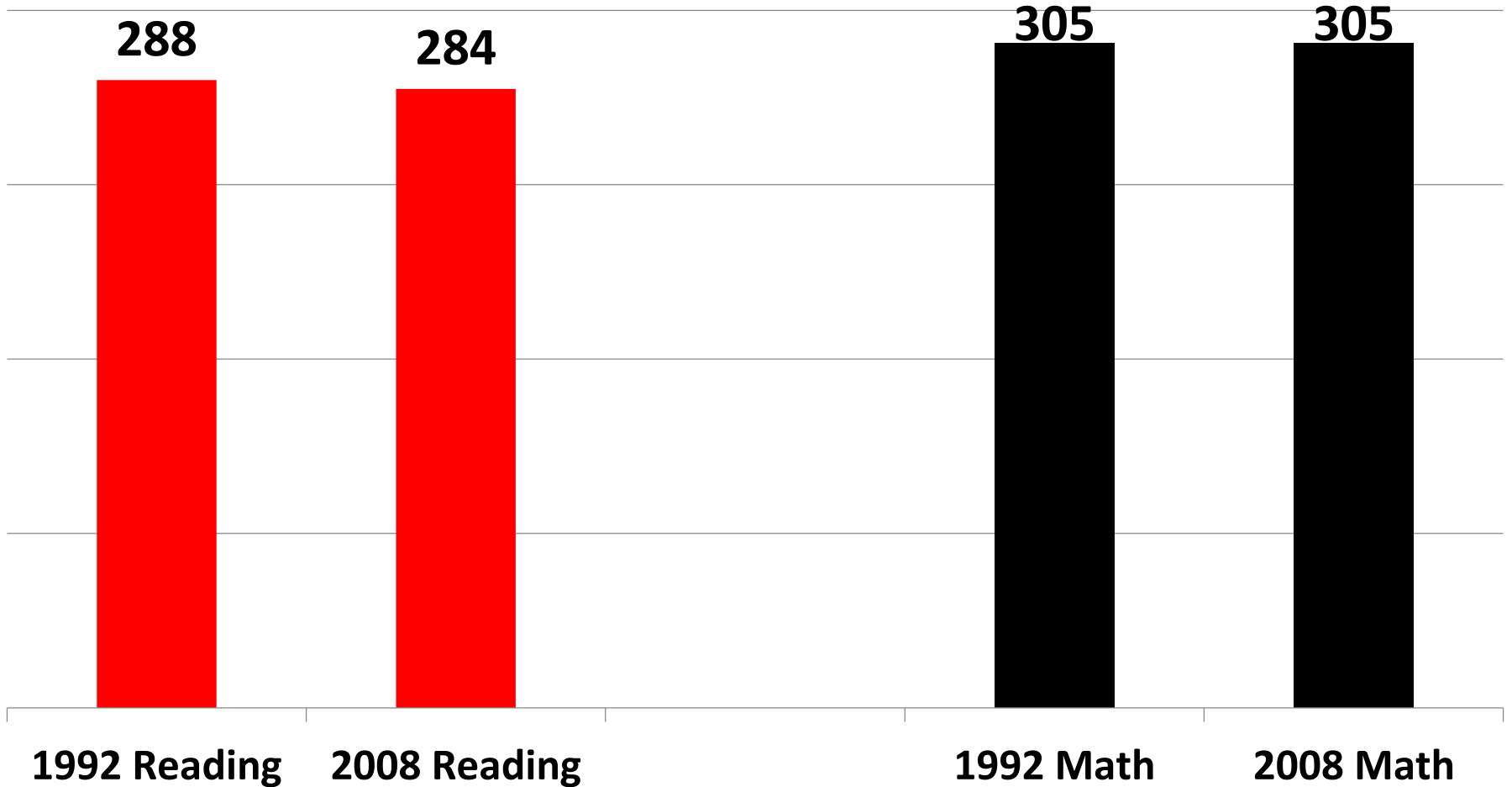
Back to the Staffing Surge US, FY 2012 to 2015



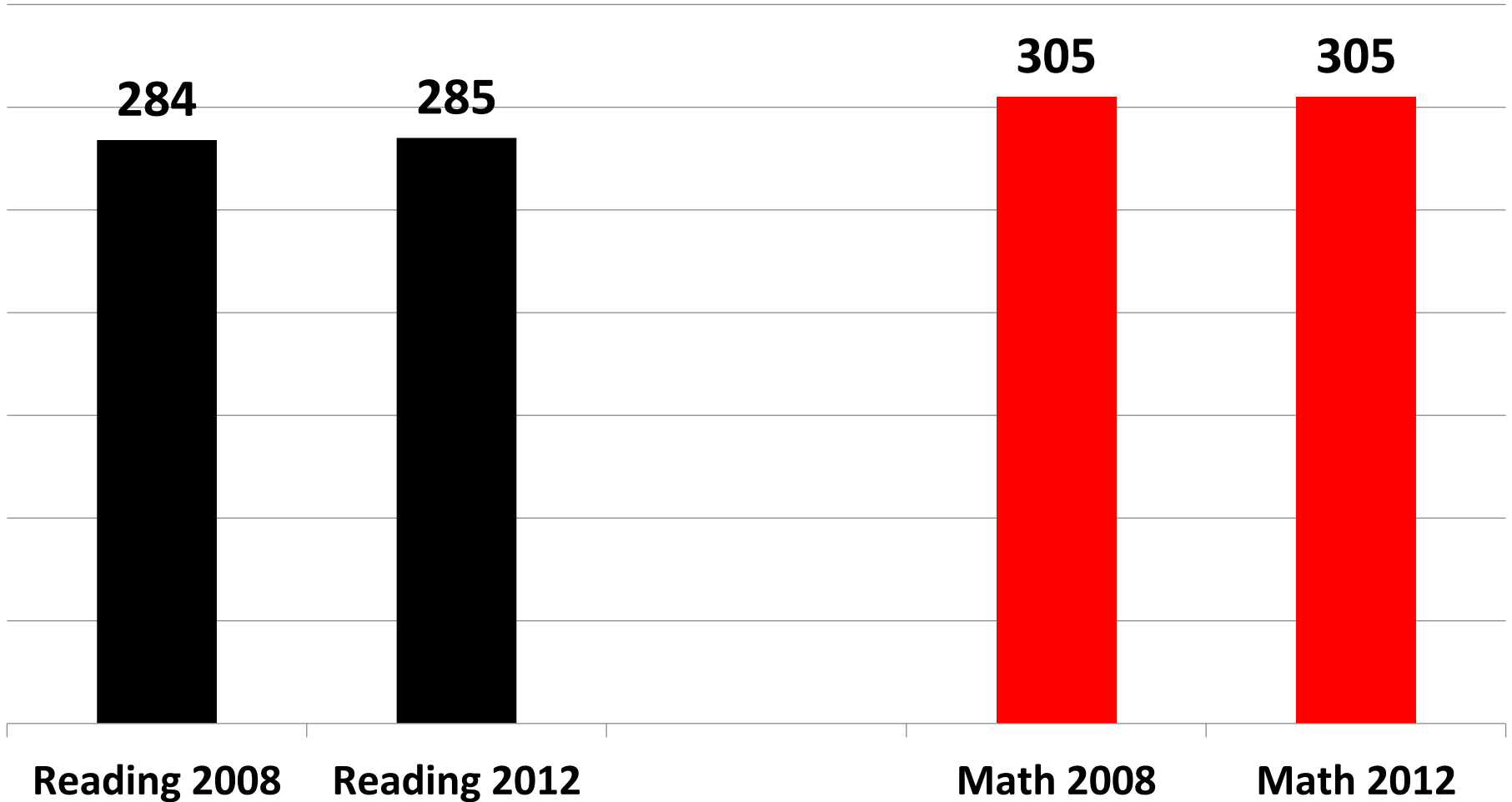
What about Student Achievement?

**Did student achievement skyrocket during
the staffing surge?**

NAEP Reading and Math Scores 1992 and 2008



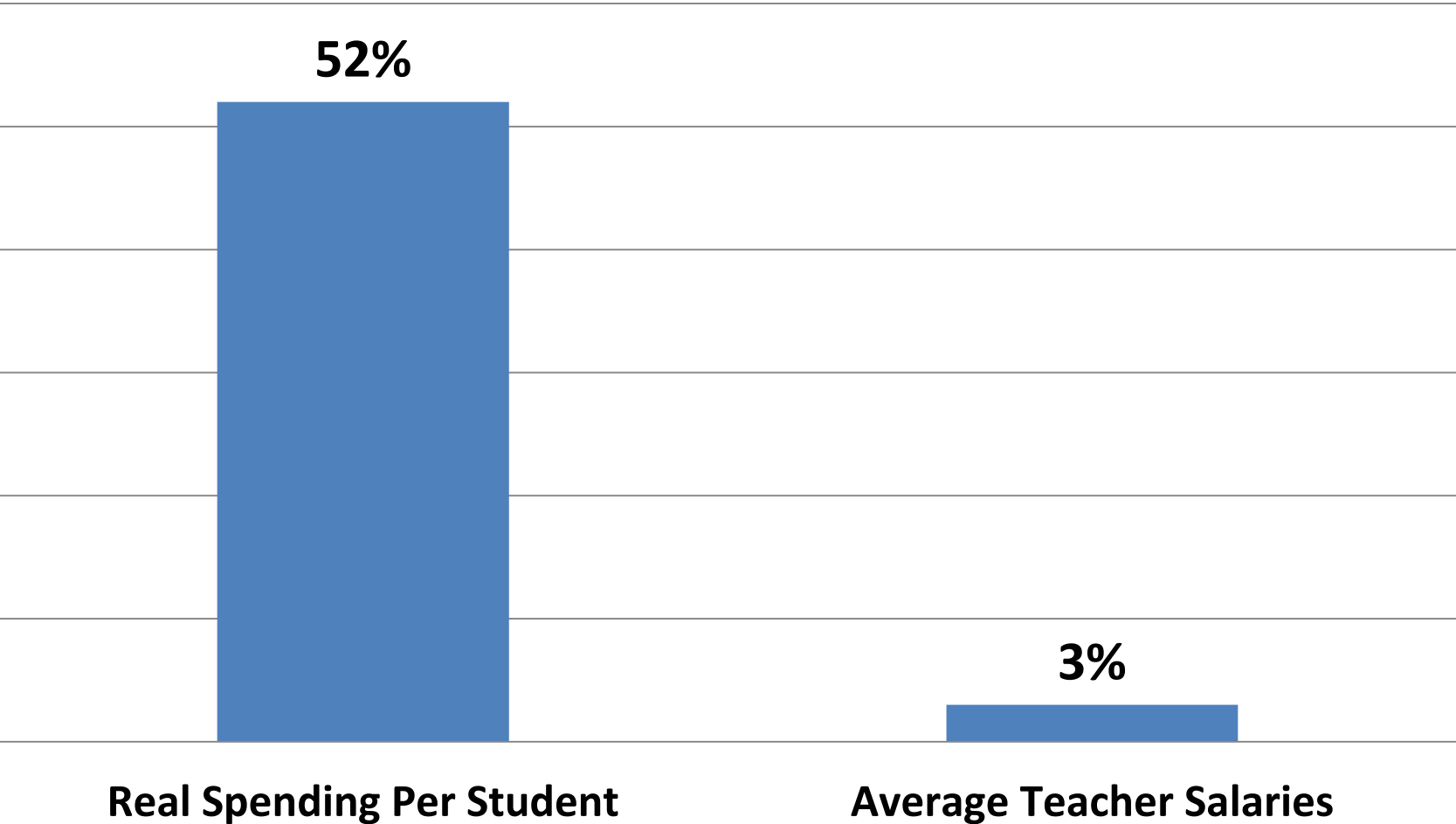
NAEP Reading and Math Scores 2008 and 2012



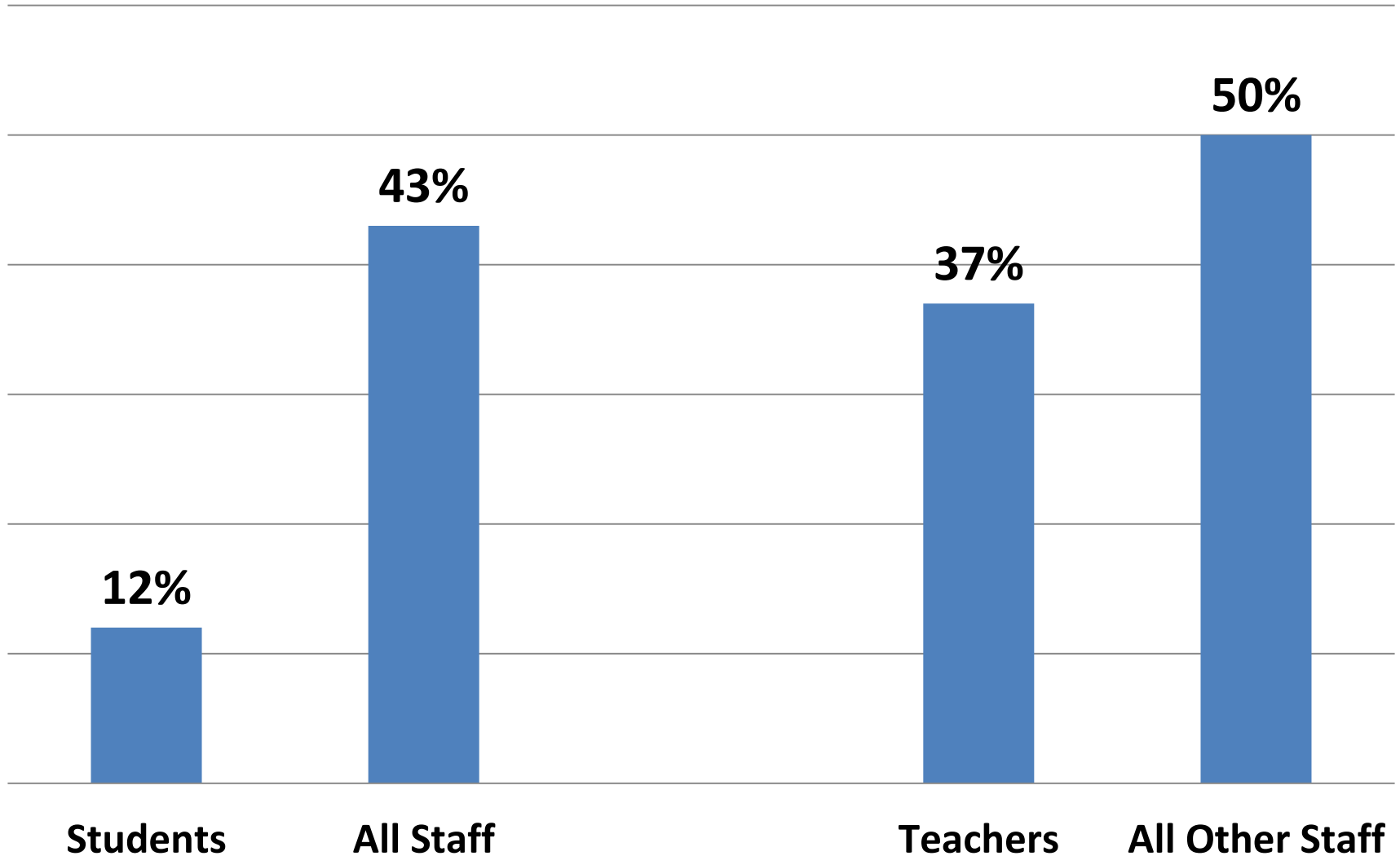
What if U.S. public schools had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- Would have saved U.S. public schools \$34,900,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings.
- What could U.S. public schools do with \$34.9 billion per year?
 - Offer over 4.3 million children \$8,000 scholarships to private schools
 - Give every teacher a \$11,100 raise
 - Reduce property taxes

**Arkansas Public Schools, Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**



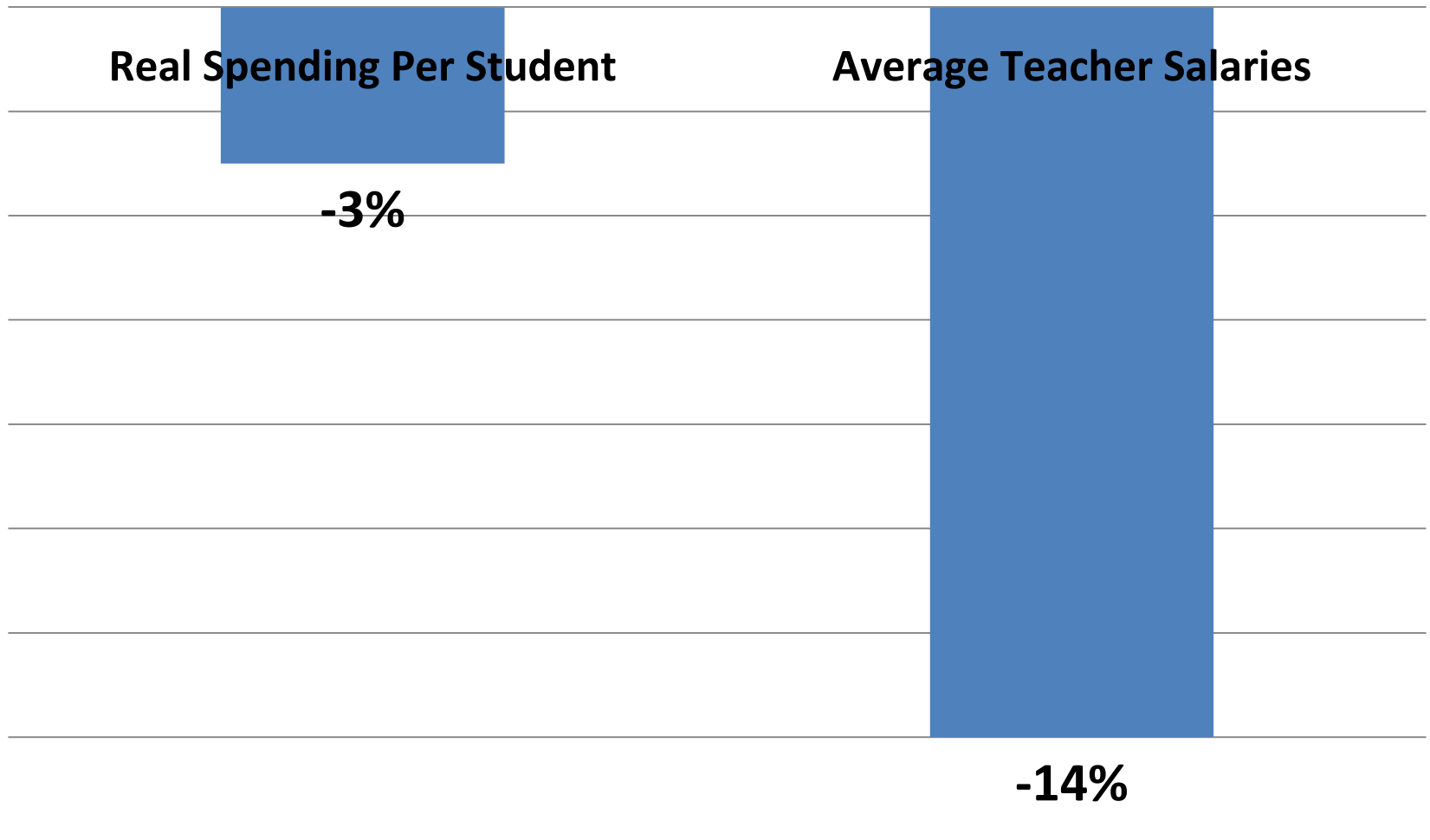
Arkansas Public School Staffing Surge FY 1992 to 2015



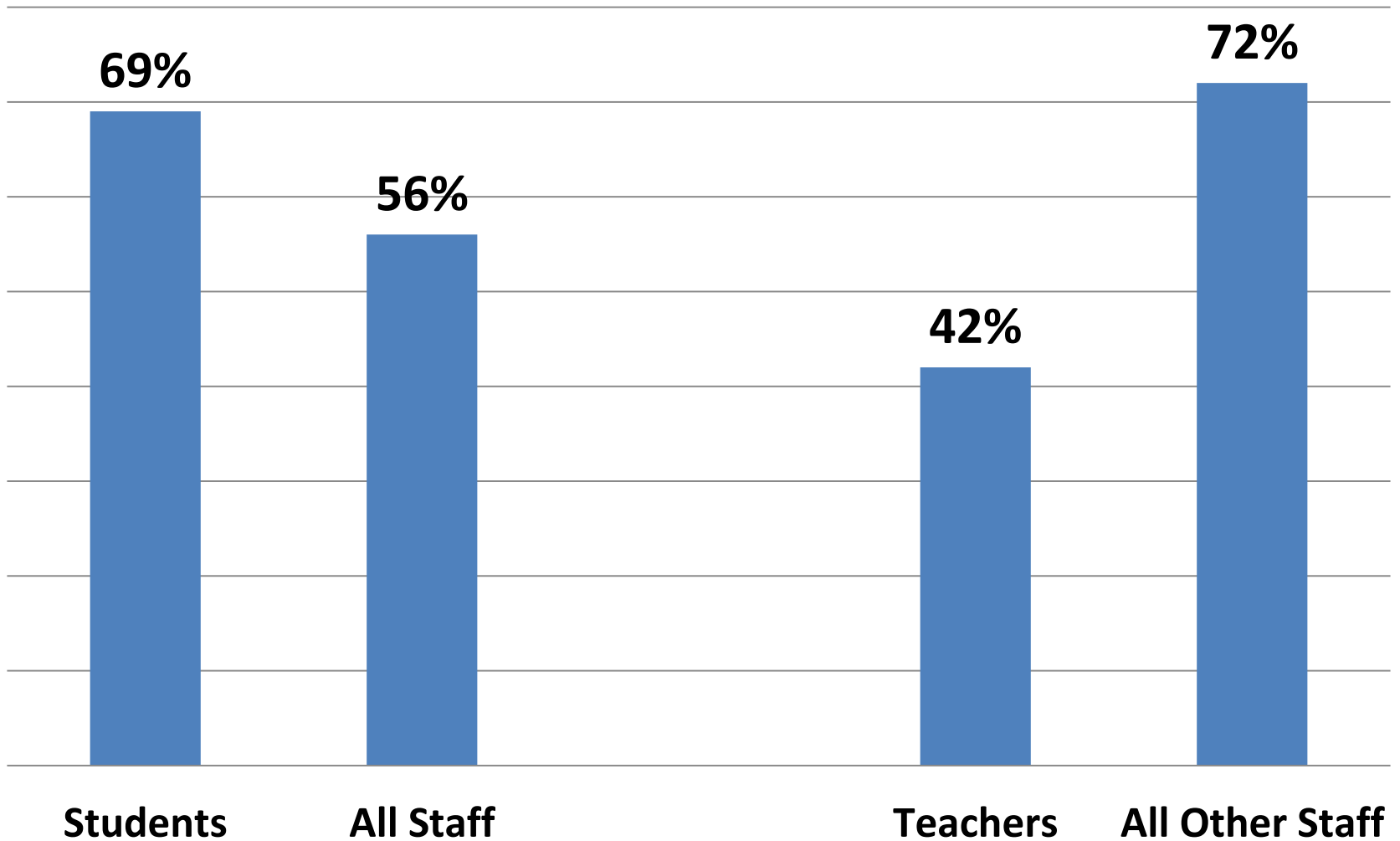
What if Arkansas public schools had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- Would have saved Arkansas public schools \$583,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings.
- What could Arkansas public schools do with \$485 million per year?
 - Offer 72,900 children \$8,000 scholarships to private schools
 - Give every teacher a \$16,460 raise
 - Reduce property taxes

**Arizona Public Schools, Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**



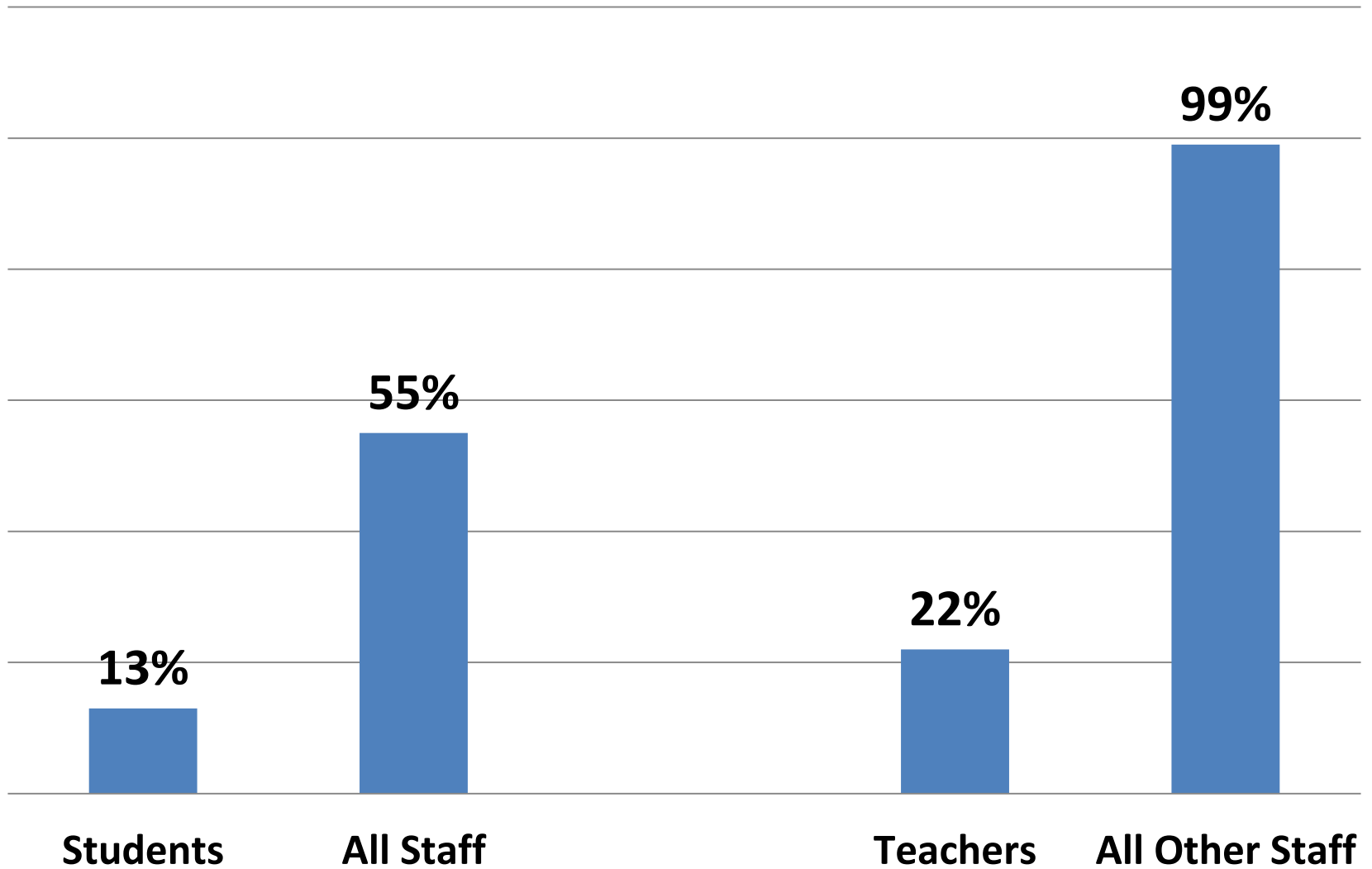
Arizona Public School Staffing Surge FY 1992 to 2015



What if Arizona public schools had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- Would have saved Arizona public schools **\$54,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings**.
- What could Arizona public schools do with **\$54 million per year**?
 - Offer 6,800 children \$8,000 scholarships to private schools
 - Give every teacher a \$1,100 raise
 - Reduce property taxes

Connecticut Public School Staffing Surge FY 1992 to 2015



**Connecticut Public Schools, Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**

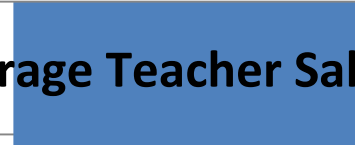
45%



Real Spending Per Student

Average Teacher Salaries

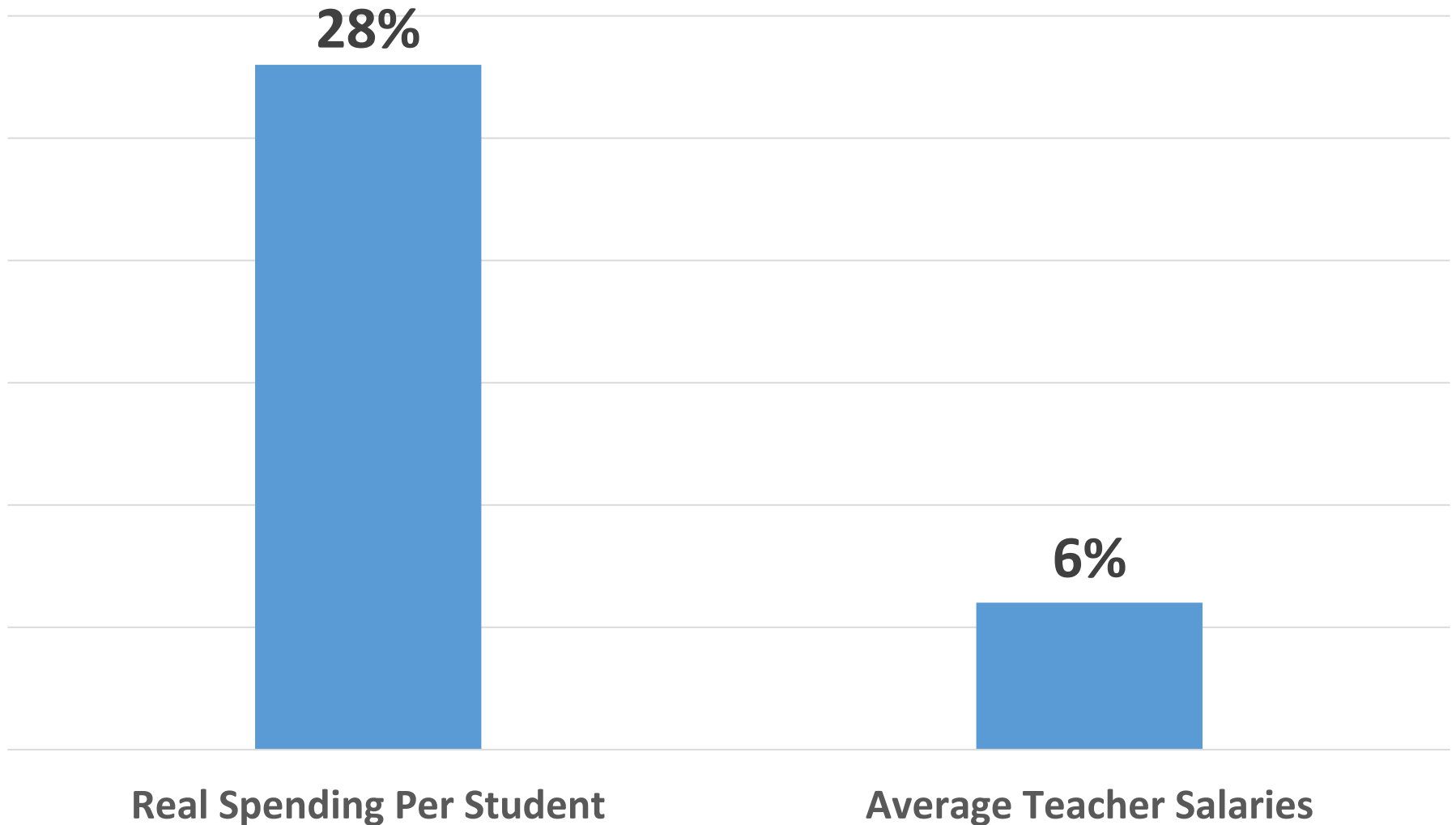
-11%



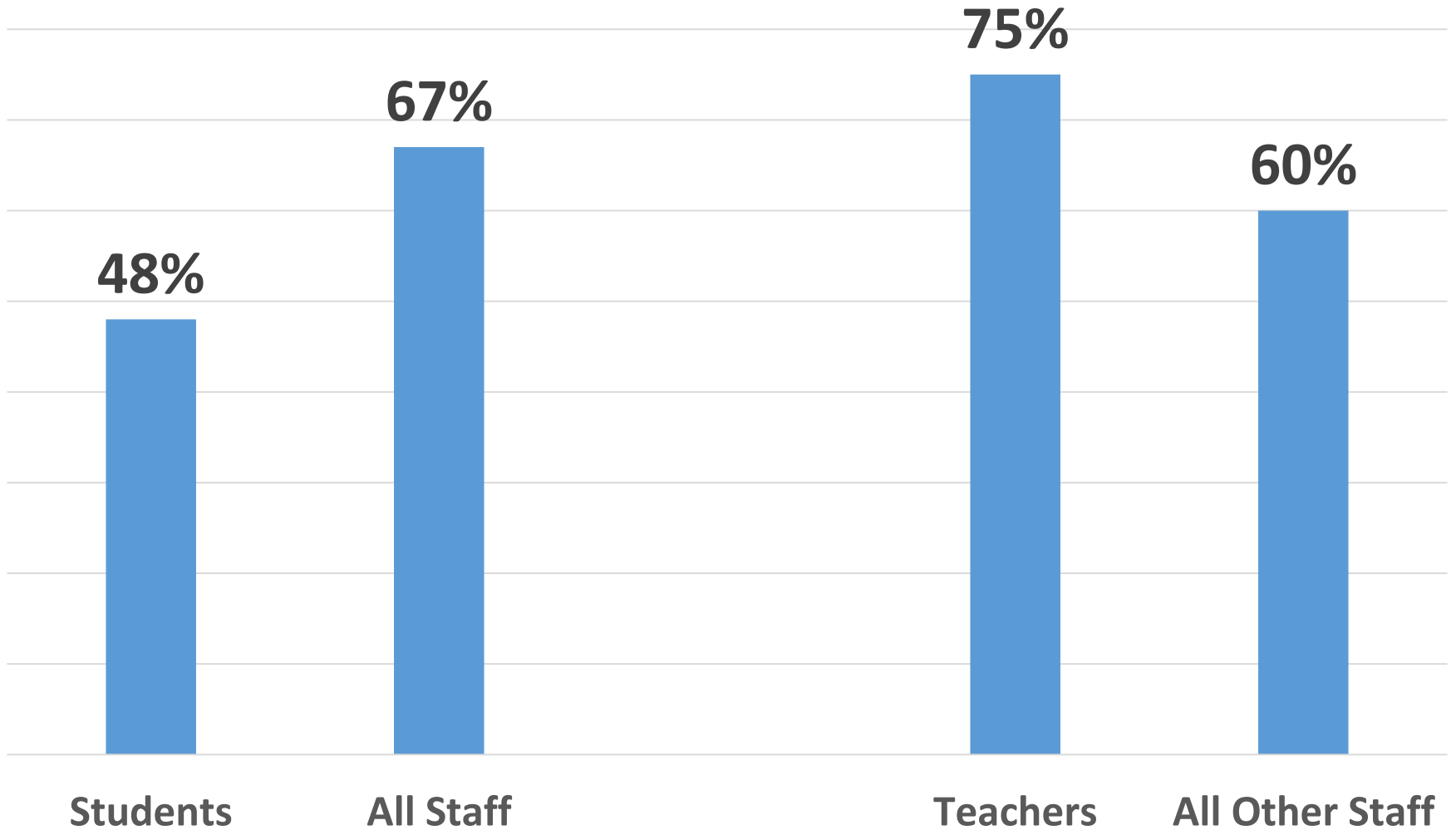
What if Connecticut public schools had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- Would have saved Connecticut public schools \$1,300,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings.
- What could Connecticut public schools do with \$1.3 billion per year?
 - Offer 169,000 children \$8,000 scholarships to private schools
 - Give every teacher a \$32,000 raise
 - Reduce property taxes

**Georgia Public Schools, Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**



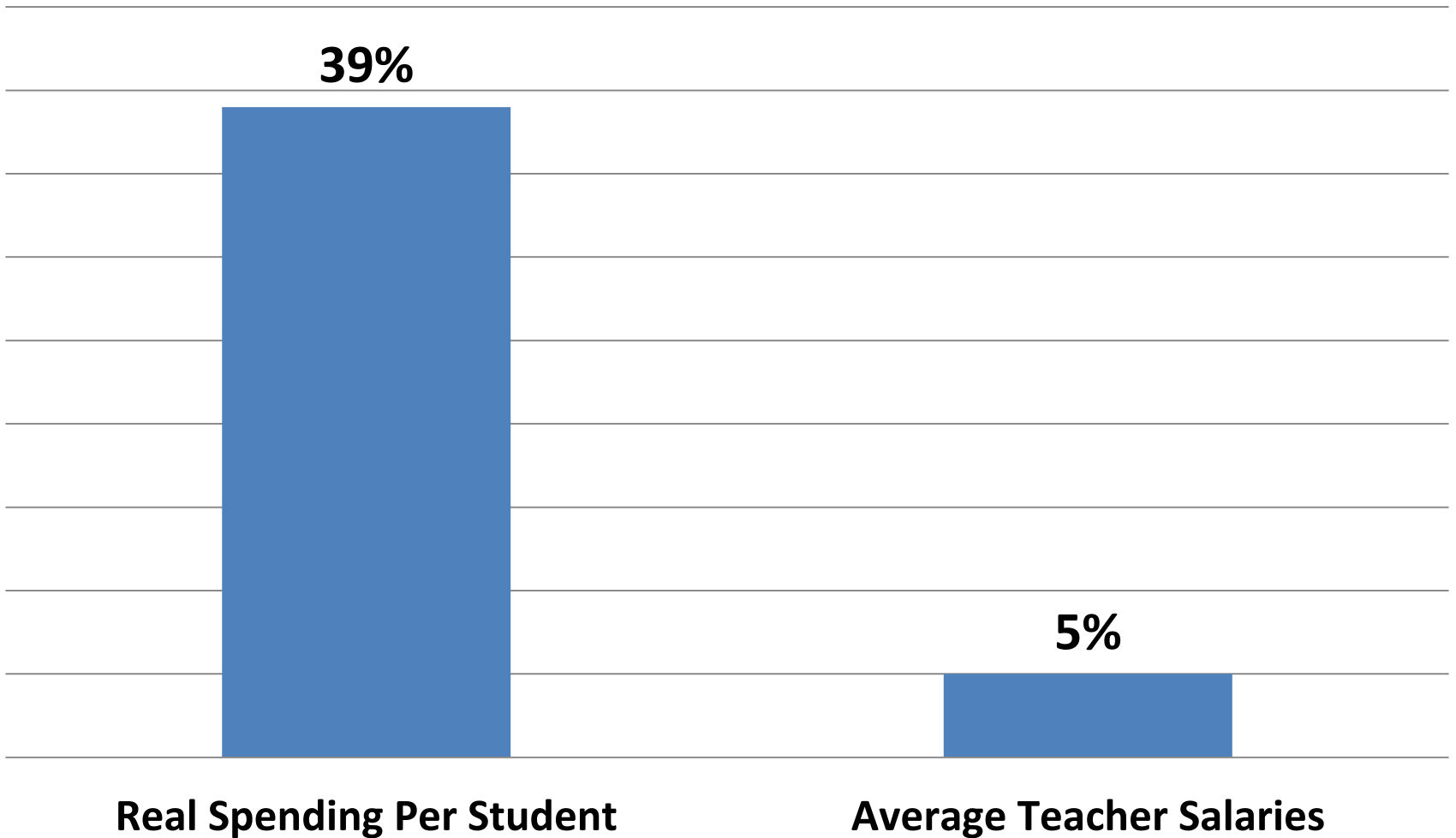
Georgia Public School Staffing Surge FY 1992 to 2015



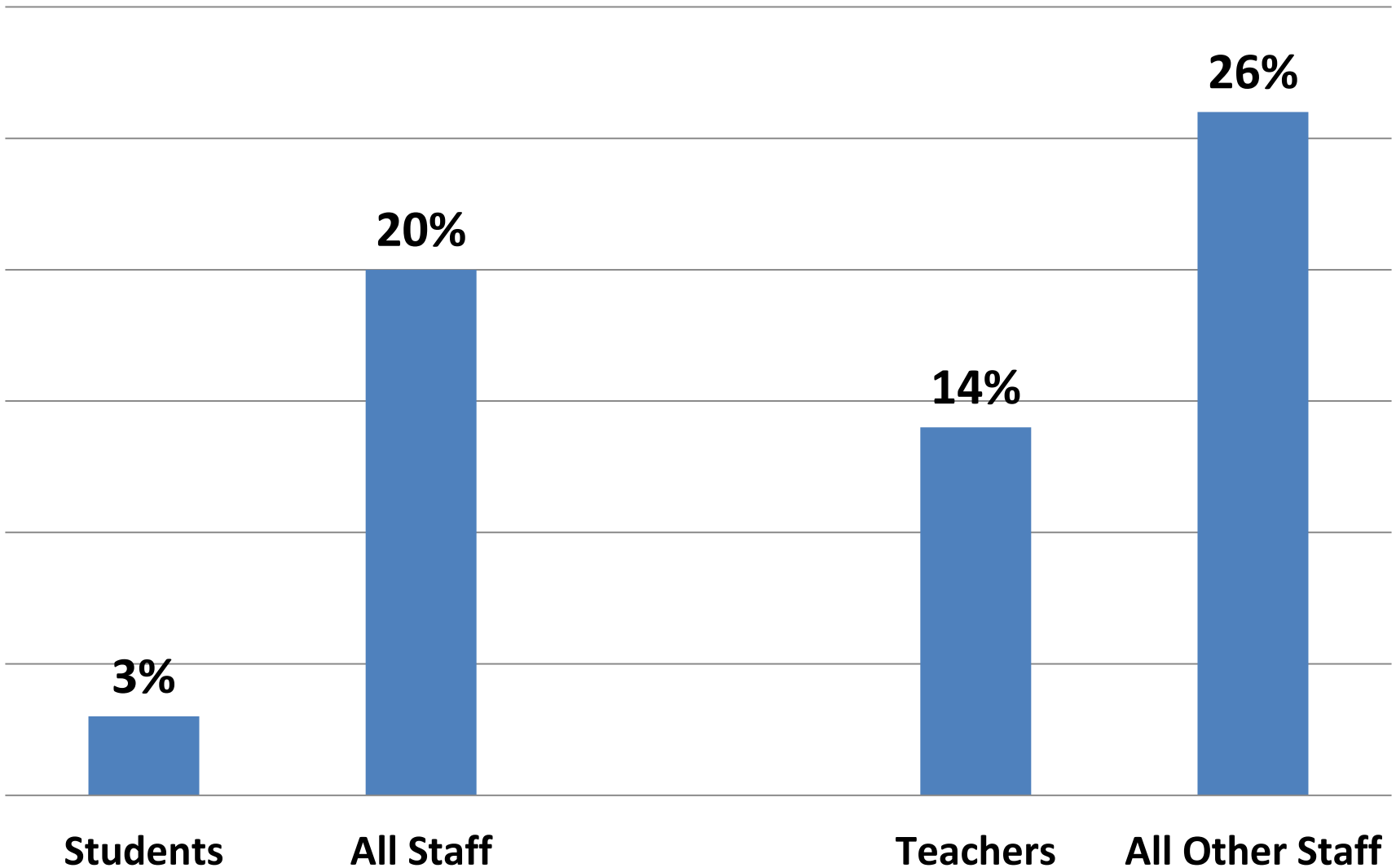
What if Georgia public schools had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- Would have saved Georgia public schools \$485,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings.
- What could Georgia public schools do with \$485 million per year?
 - Offer 60,600 children \$8,000 scholarships to private schools
 - Give every teacher a \$4,300 raise
 - Reduce property taxes

**Iowa Public Schools, Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**



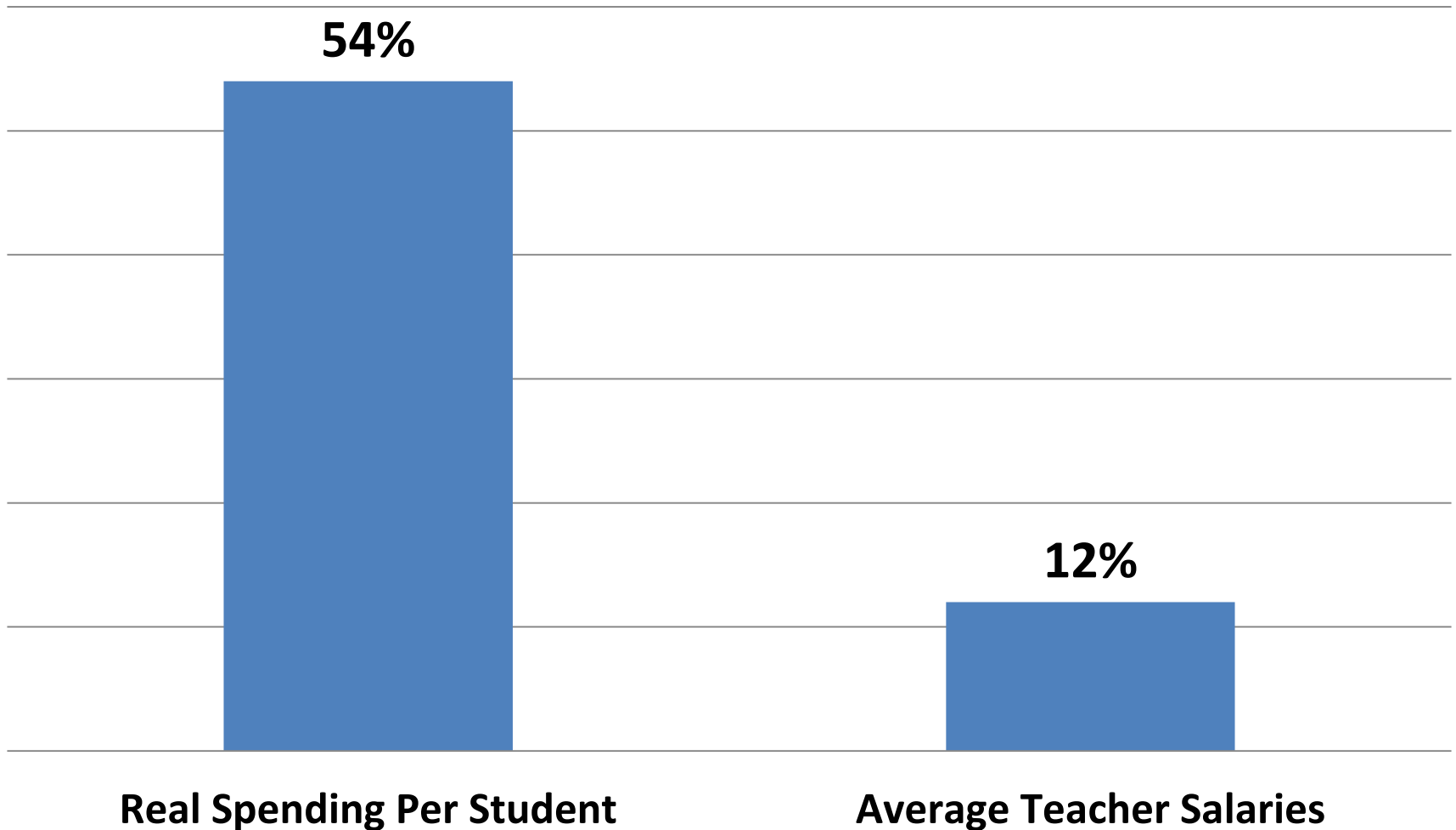
Iowa Public School Staffing Surge FY 1992 to 2015



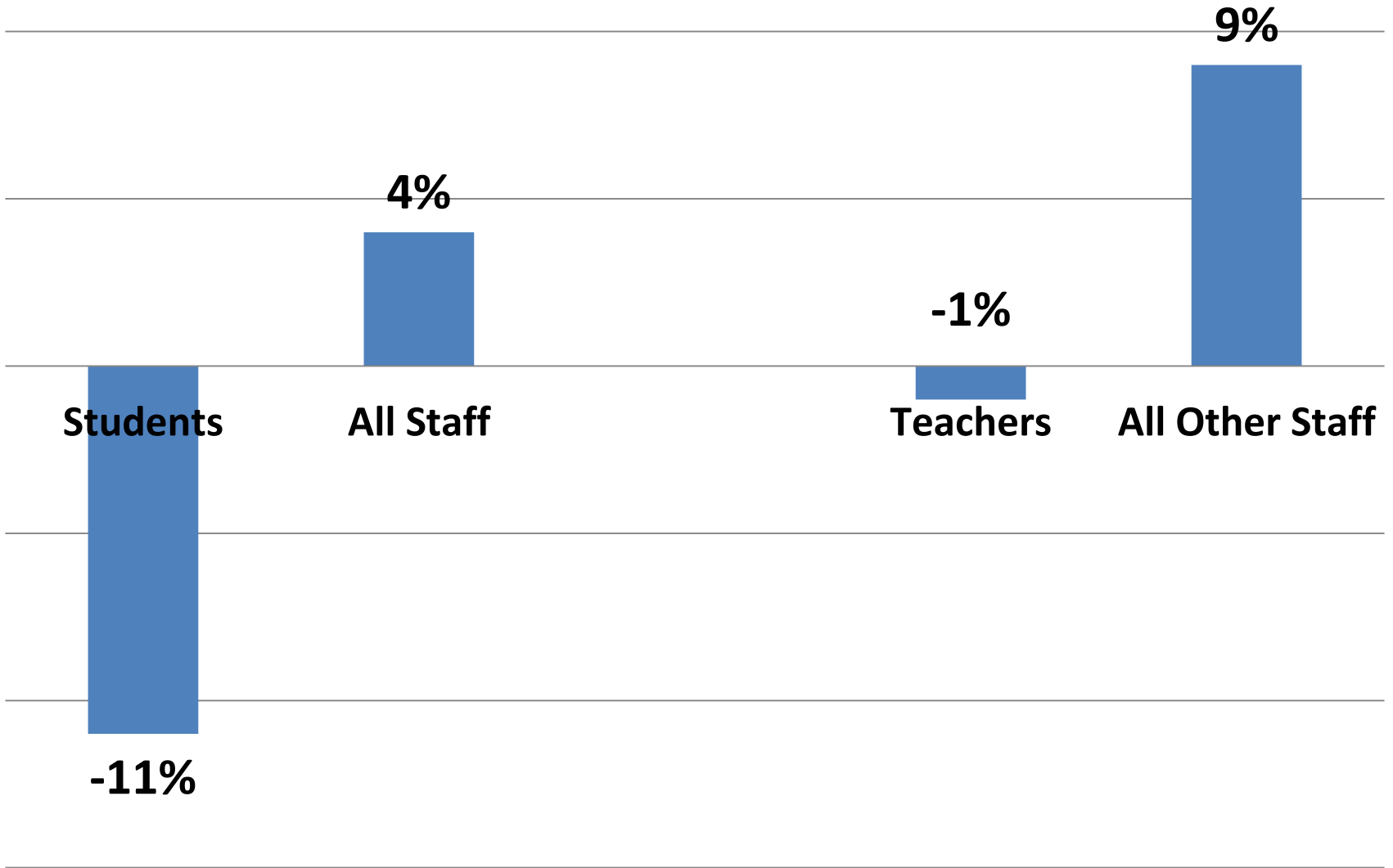
What if Iowa public schools had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- Would have saved Iowa public schools \$402,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings.
- What could Iowa public schools do with
- \$402 million per year?
 - Offer 50,000 children \$8,000 scholarships to private schools
 - Give every teacher a \$11,200 raise
 - Reduce property taxes

**Louisiana Public Schools, Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**



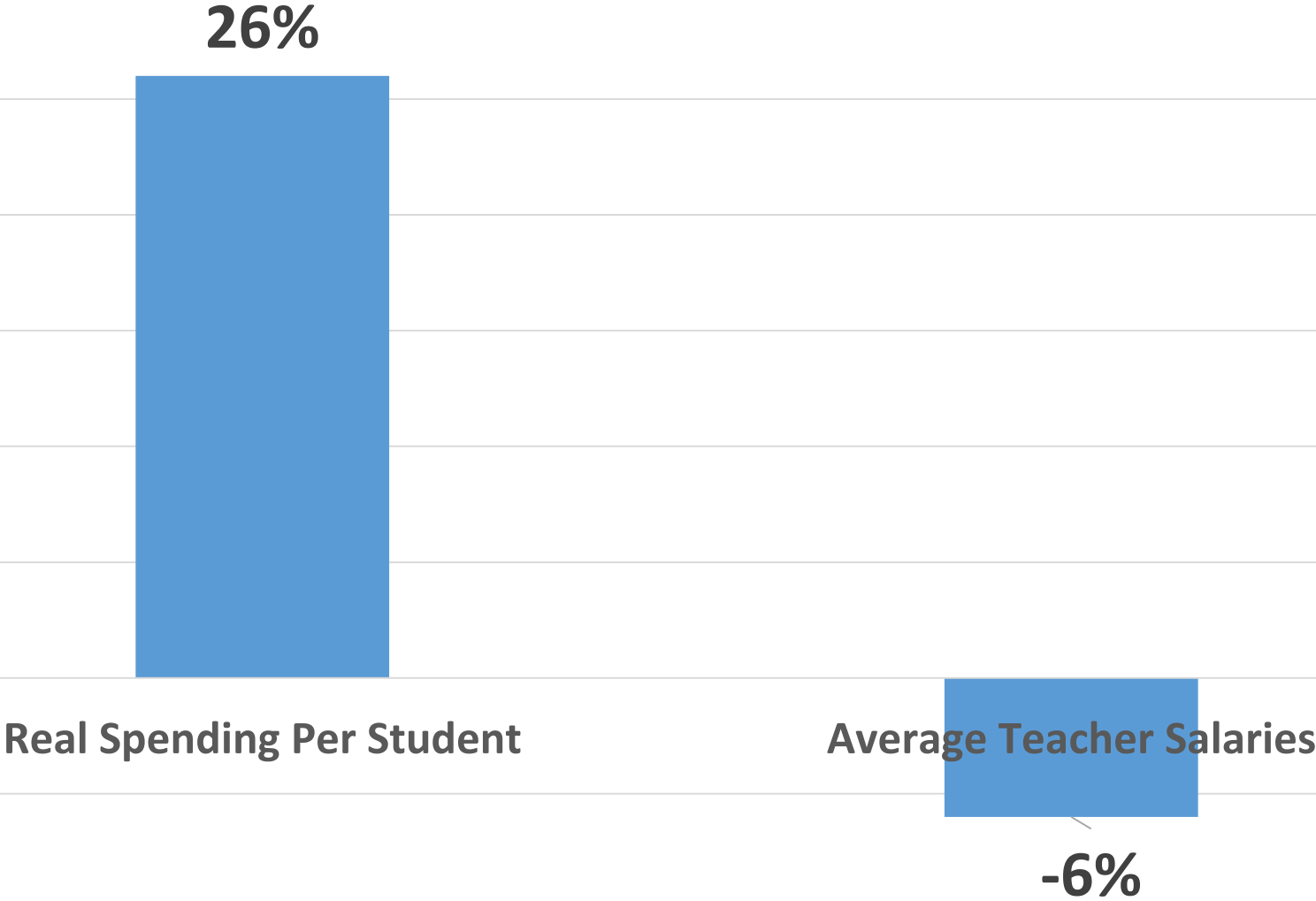
**Louisiana Public School Staffing Surge
FY 1992 to 2015**



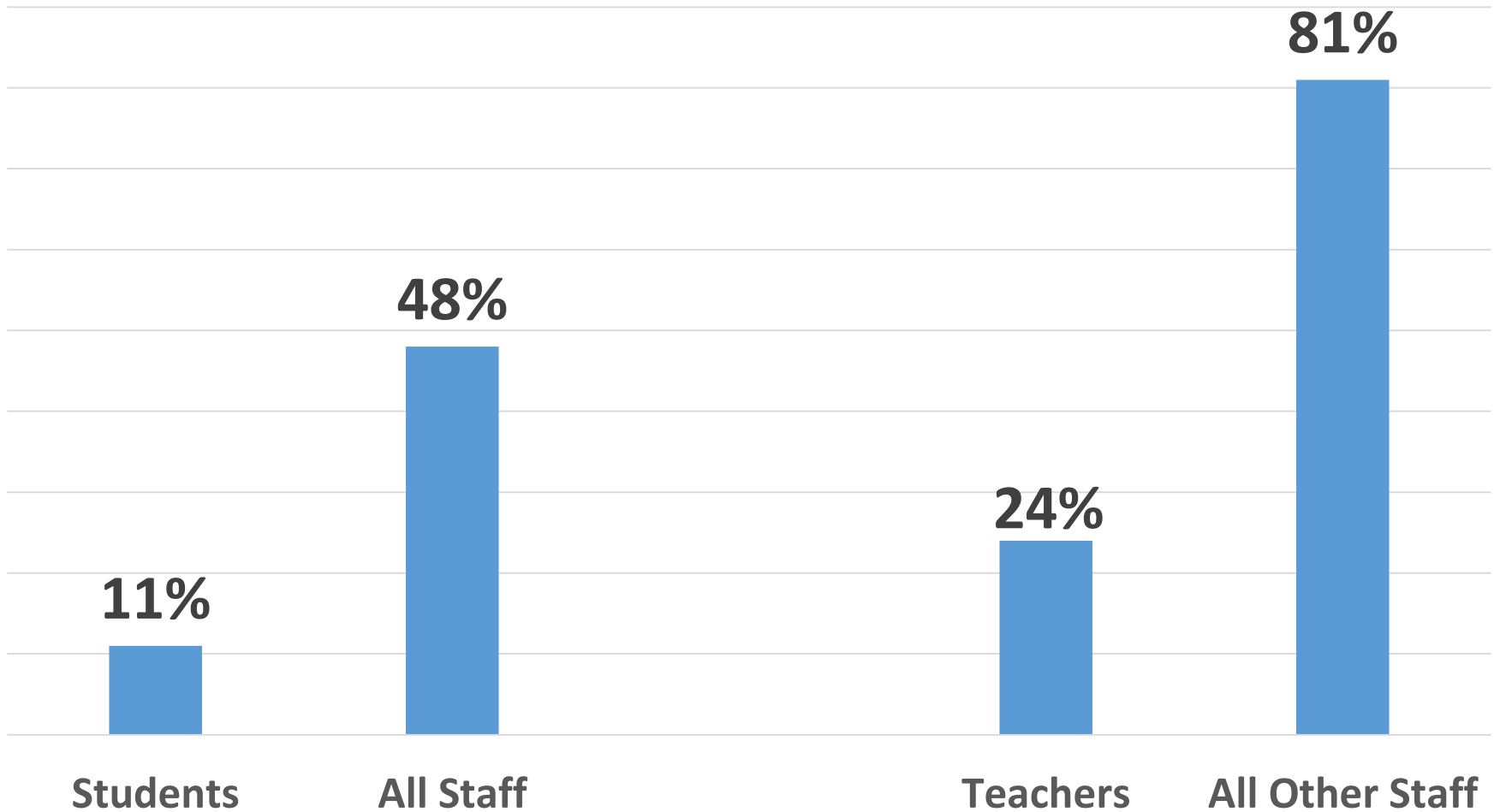
What if Louisiana had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- **Would have saved Louisiana public schools over \$532,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings.**
- **What could Louisiana public schools do with \$532 million per year?**
 - **Provide 66,600 students with \$8,000 scholarships to attend the school of their choice**
 - **Give every teacher a \$11,500 raise**
 - **Reduce state or local taxes**

**Minnesota Public Schools, Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**



Minnesota Public School Staffing Surge FY 1992 to 2015

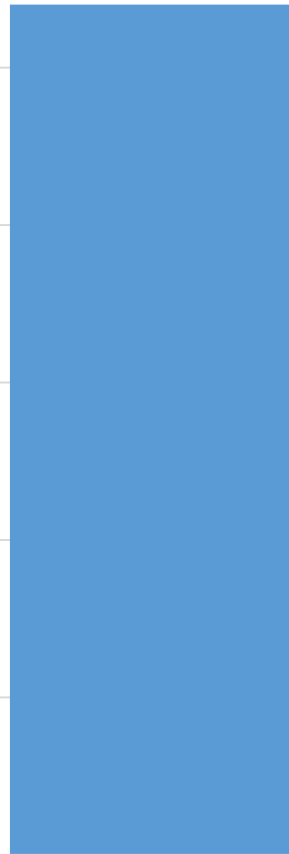


What if Minnesota had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- Would have saved Minnesota public schools over **\$1,400,000,000** per year in annual recurring savings.
- What could Minnesota public schools do with **\$1.4 billion** per year?
 - Provide 174,900 students with \$8,000 scholarships to attend the school of their choice
 - Give every teacher a \$25,100 raise
 - Reduce state or local taxes

**Mississippi Public Schools, Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**

54%



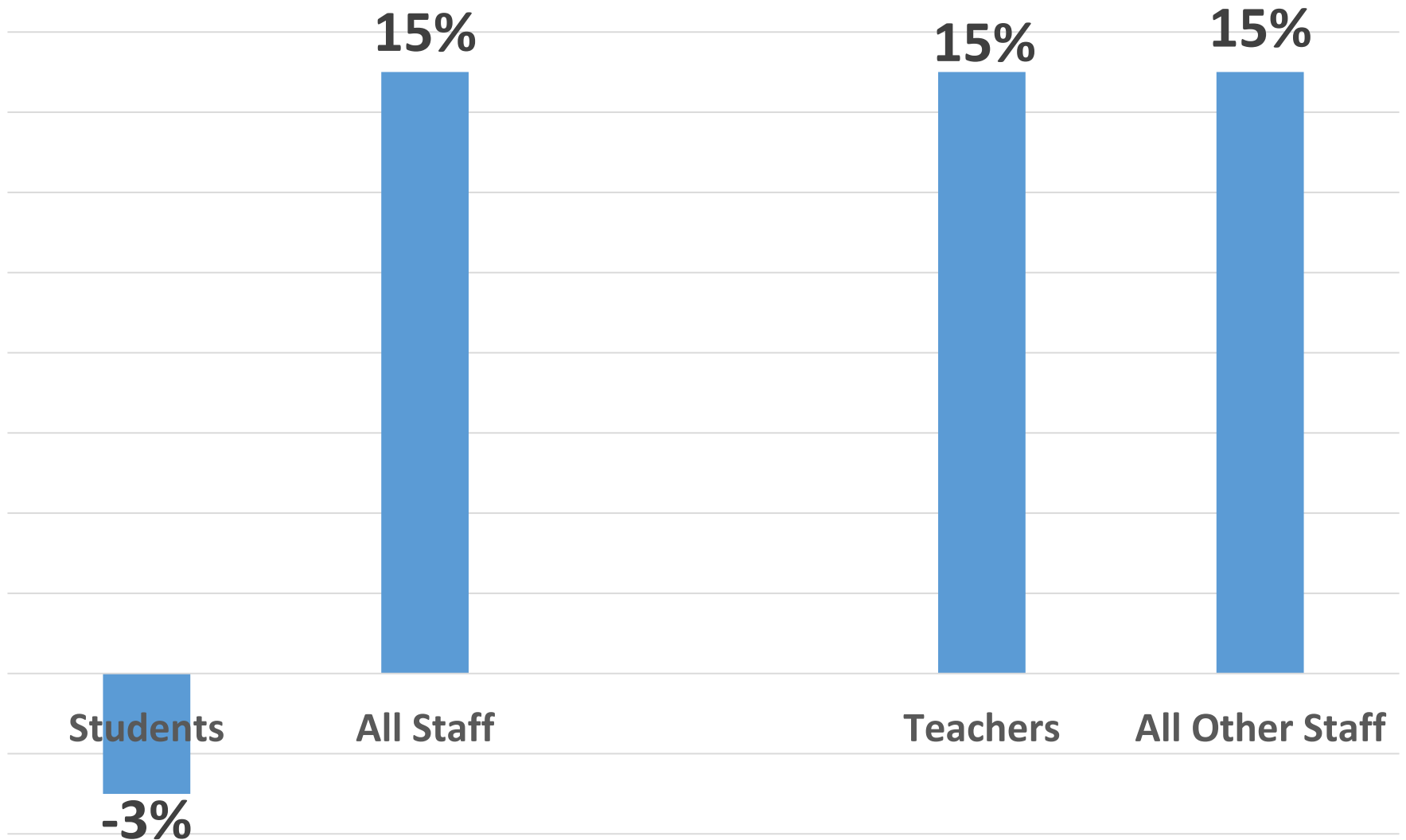
Real Spending Per Student

2%



Average Teacher Salaries

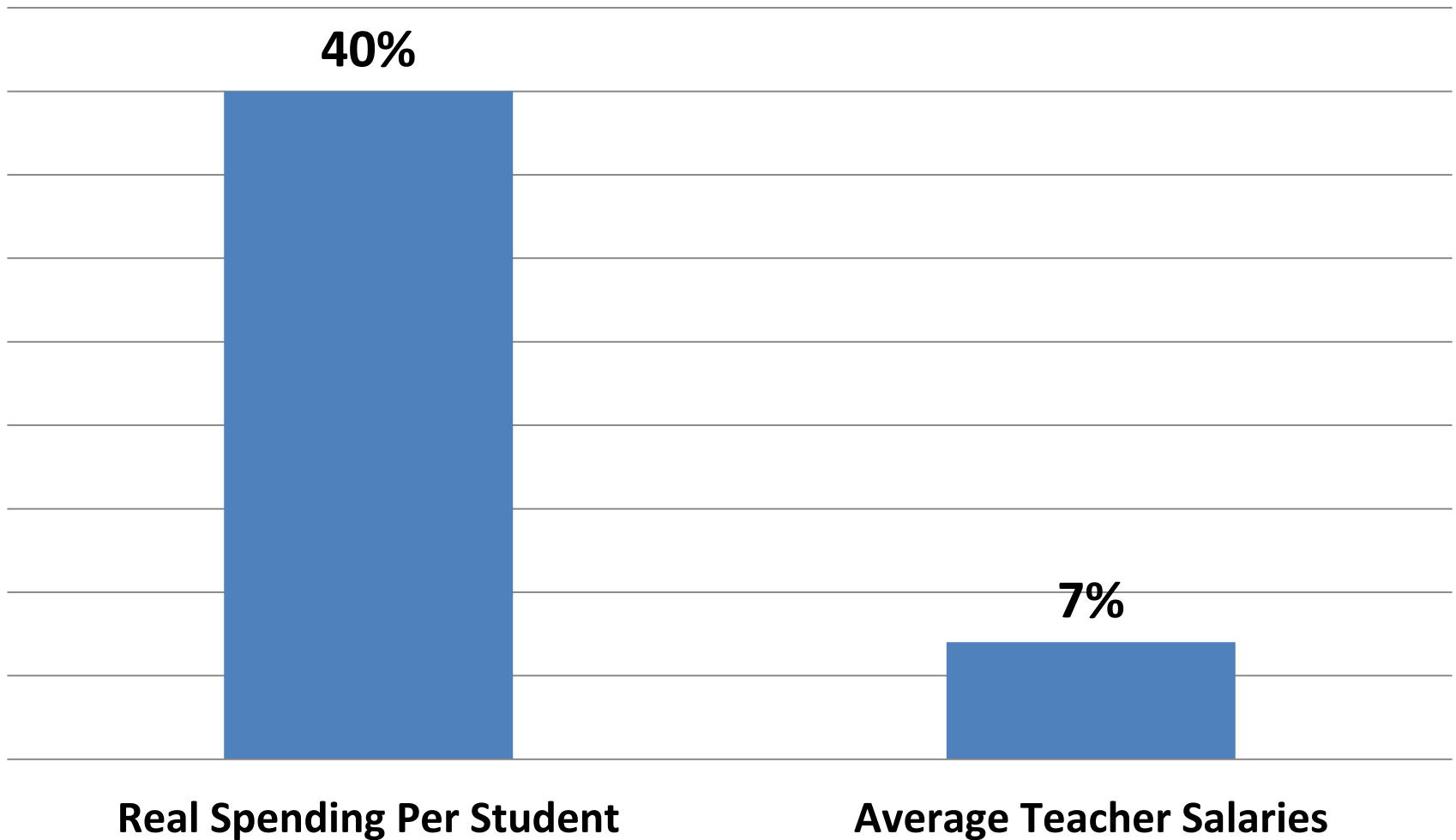
Mississippi Public School Staffing Surge FY 1992 to 2015



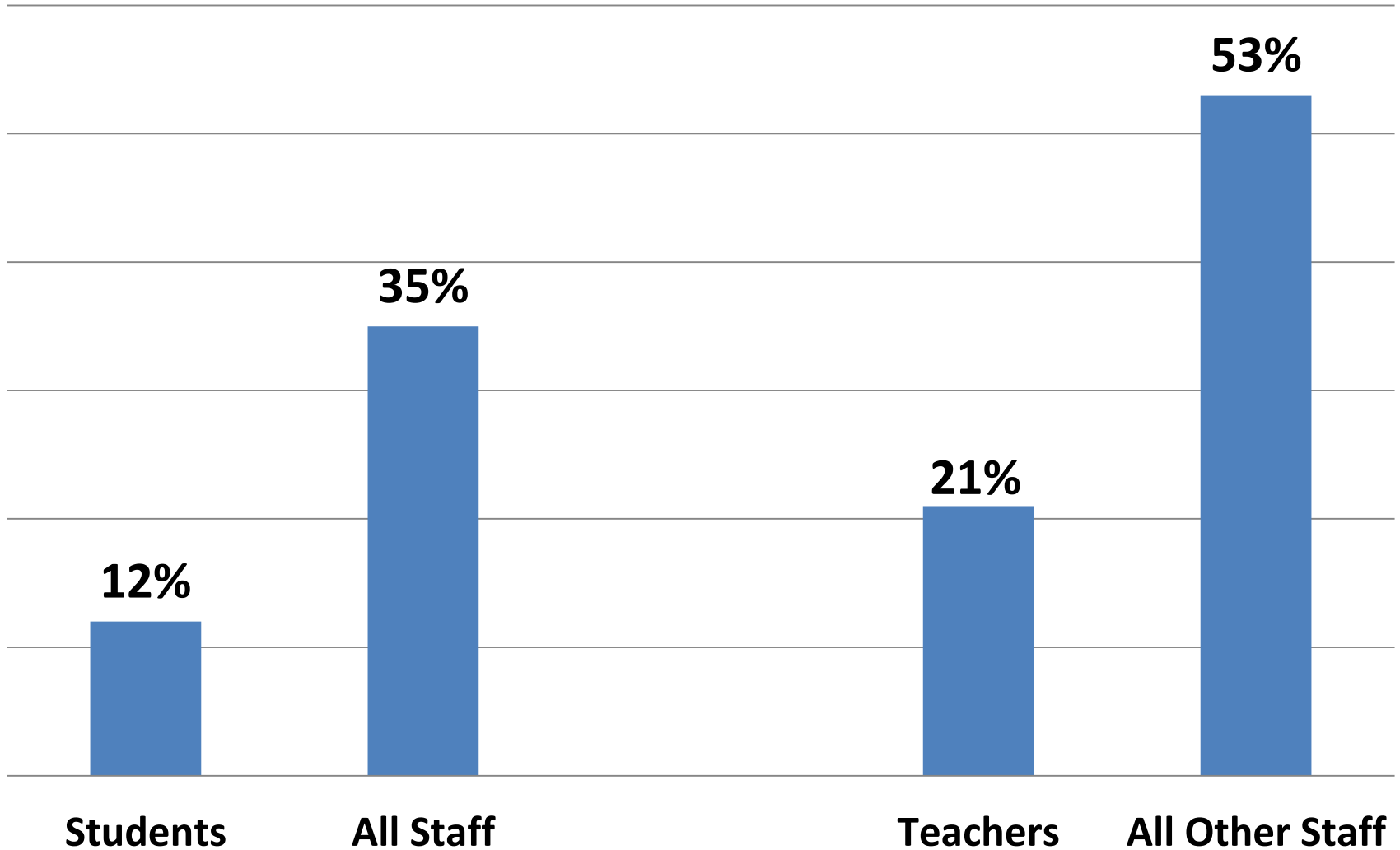
What if Mississippi had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- **Would have saved Mississippi public schools over \$324,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings.**
- **What could Mississippi public schools do with \$324 million per year?**
 - **Provide 40,600 students with \$8,000 scholarships to attend the school of their choice**
 - **Give every teacher a \$10,000 raise**
 - **Reduce state or local taxes**

**Nebraska Public Schools, Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**



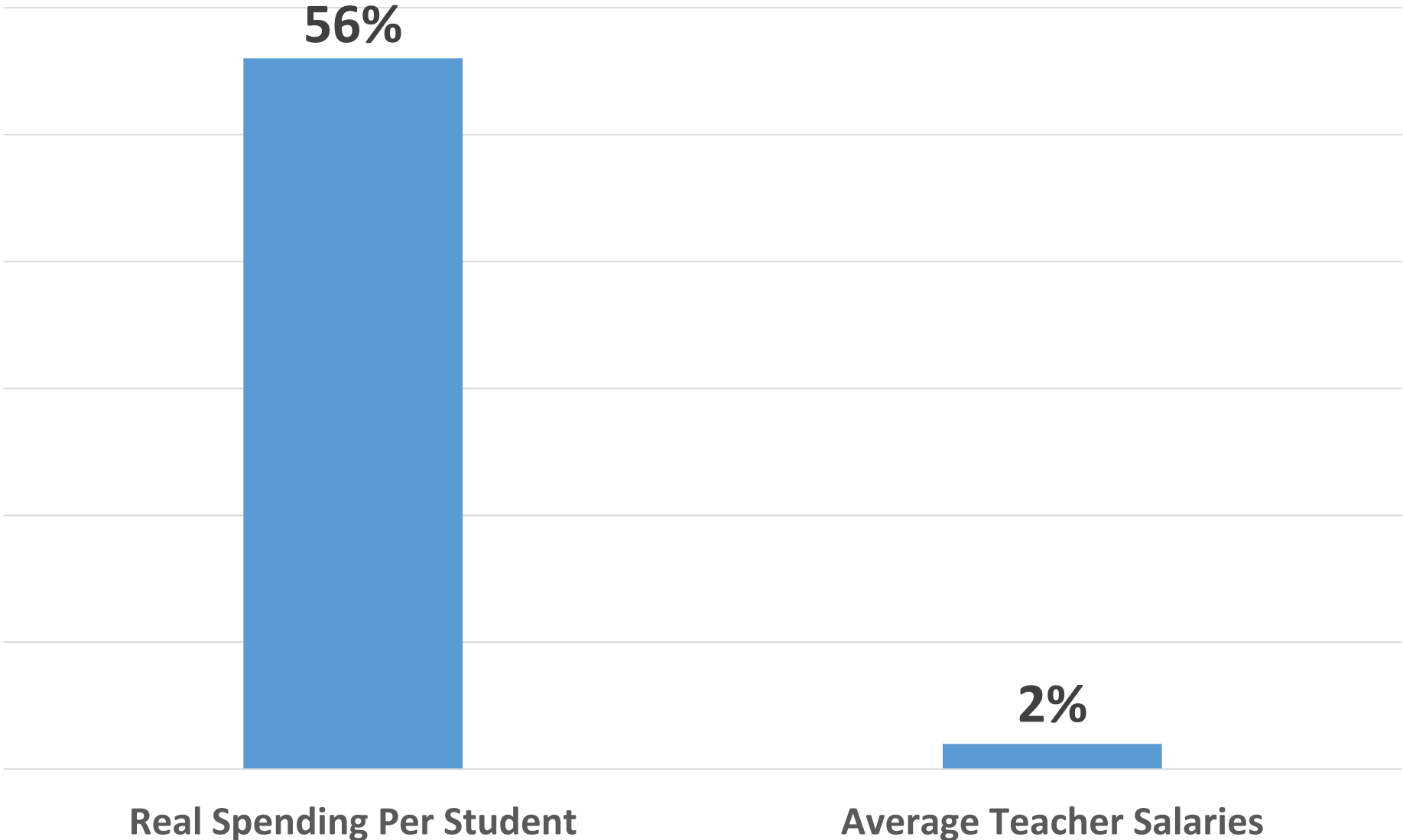
Nebraska Public School Staffing Surge FY 1992 to 2015



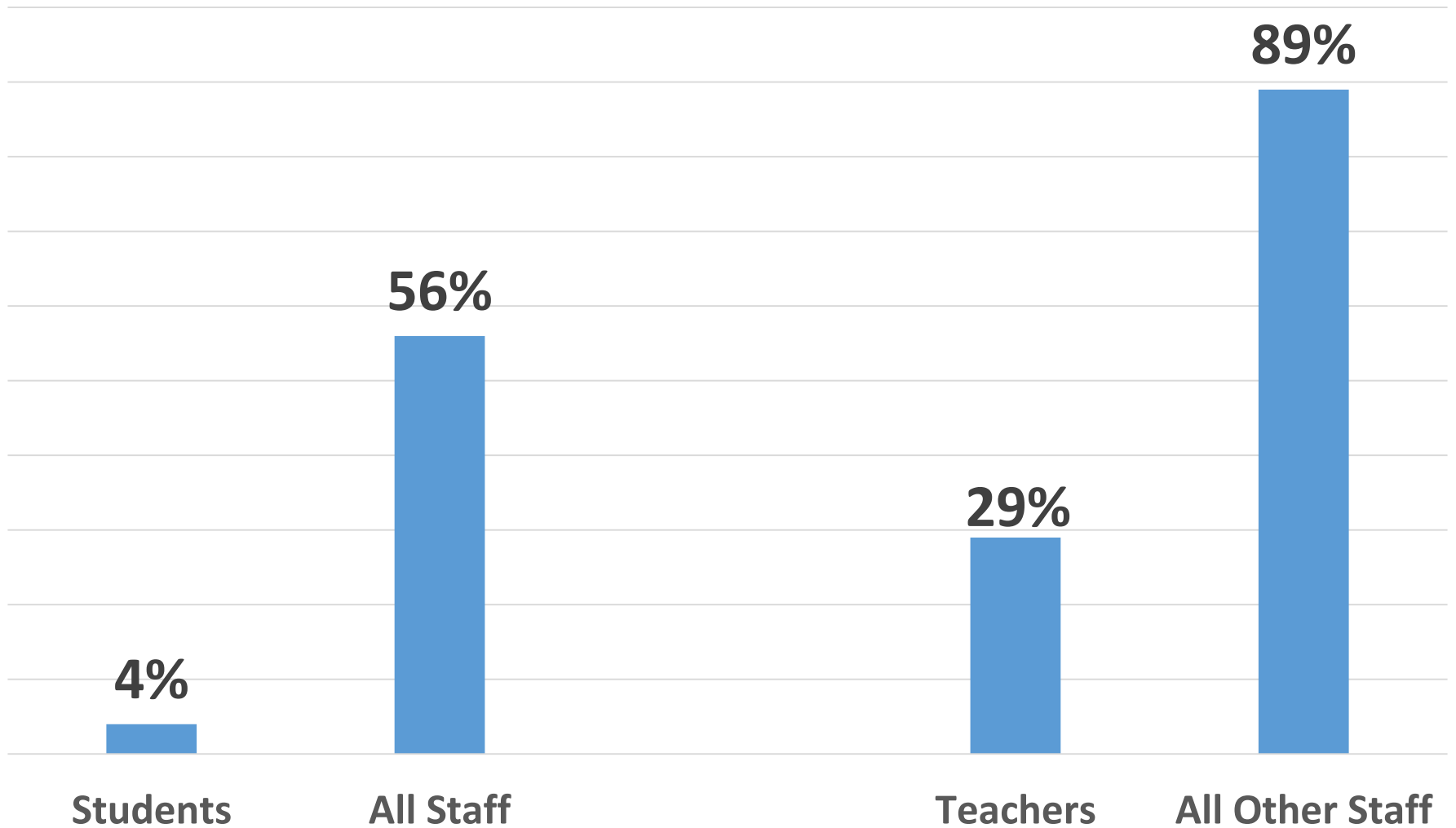
What if Nebraska had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- **Would have saved Nebraska public schools over \$389,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings.**
- **What could Nebraska public schools do with \$389 million per year?**
 - **Provide 48,600 students with \$8,000 scholarships to attend the school of their choice**
 - **Give every teacher a \$17,000 raise**
 - **Reduce state or local taxes**

**New Hampshire Public Schools Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**



New Hampshire Public School Staffing Surge FY 1992 to 2015



What if New Hampshire had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- **Would have saved New Hampshire public schools over \$460,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings.**
- **What could New Hampshire public schools do with \$460 million per year?**
 - **Provide 57,500 students with \$8,000 scholarships to attend the school of their choice**
 - **Give every teacher a \$31,100 raise**
 - **Reduce state or local taxes**

**North Carolina Public Schools, Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**

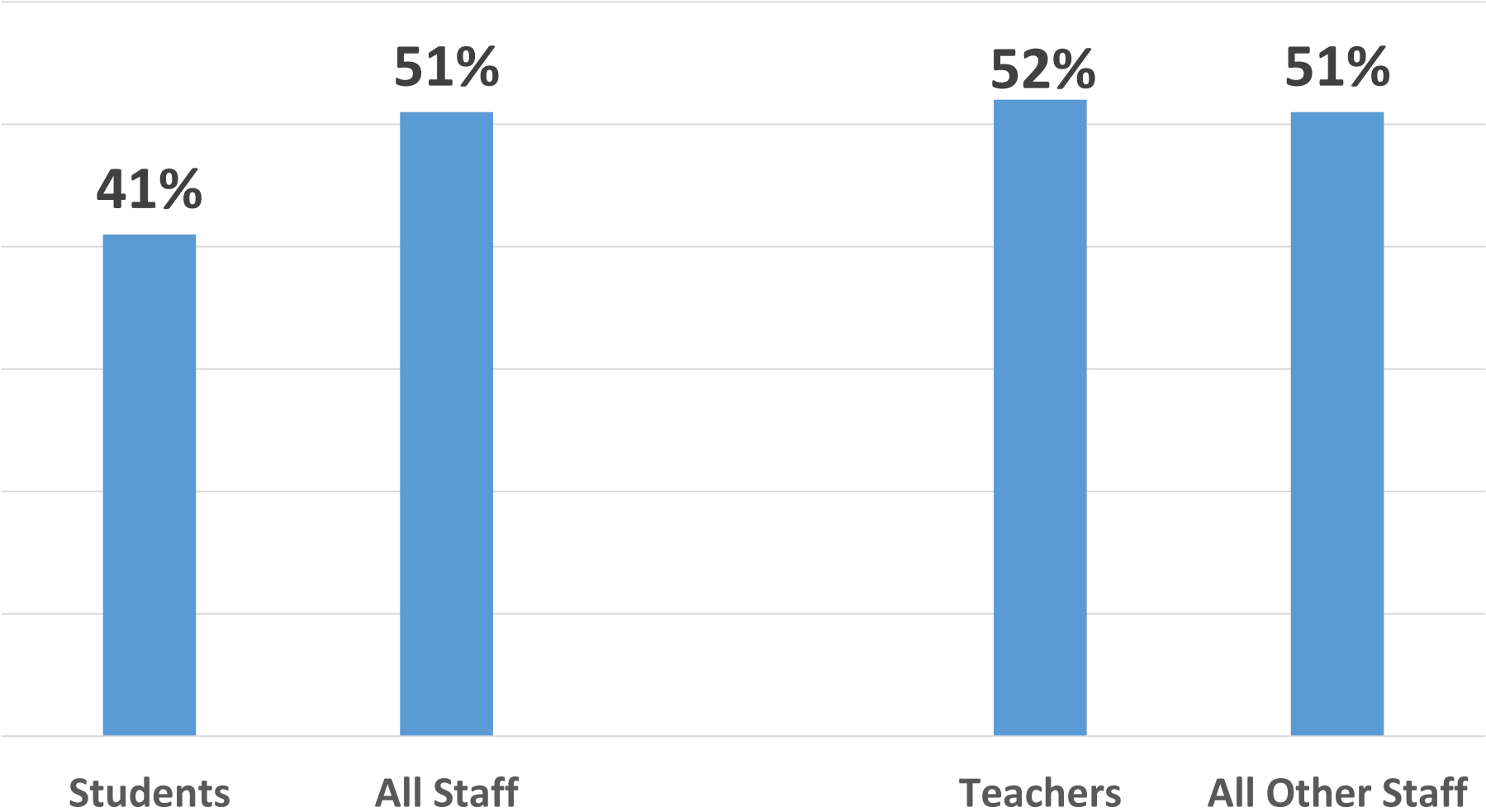
1%

Real Spending Per Student

Average Teacher Salaries

-8%

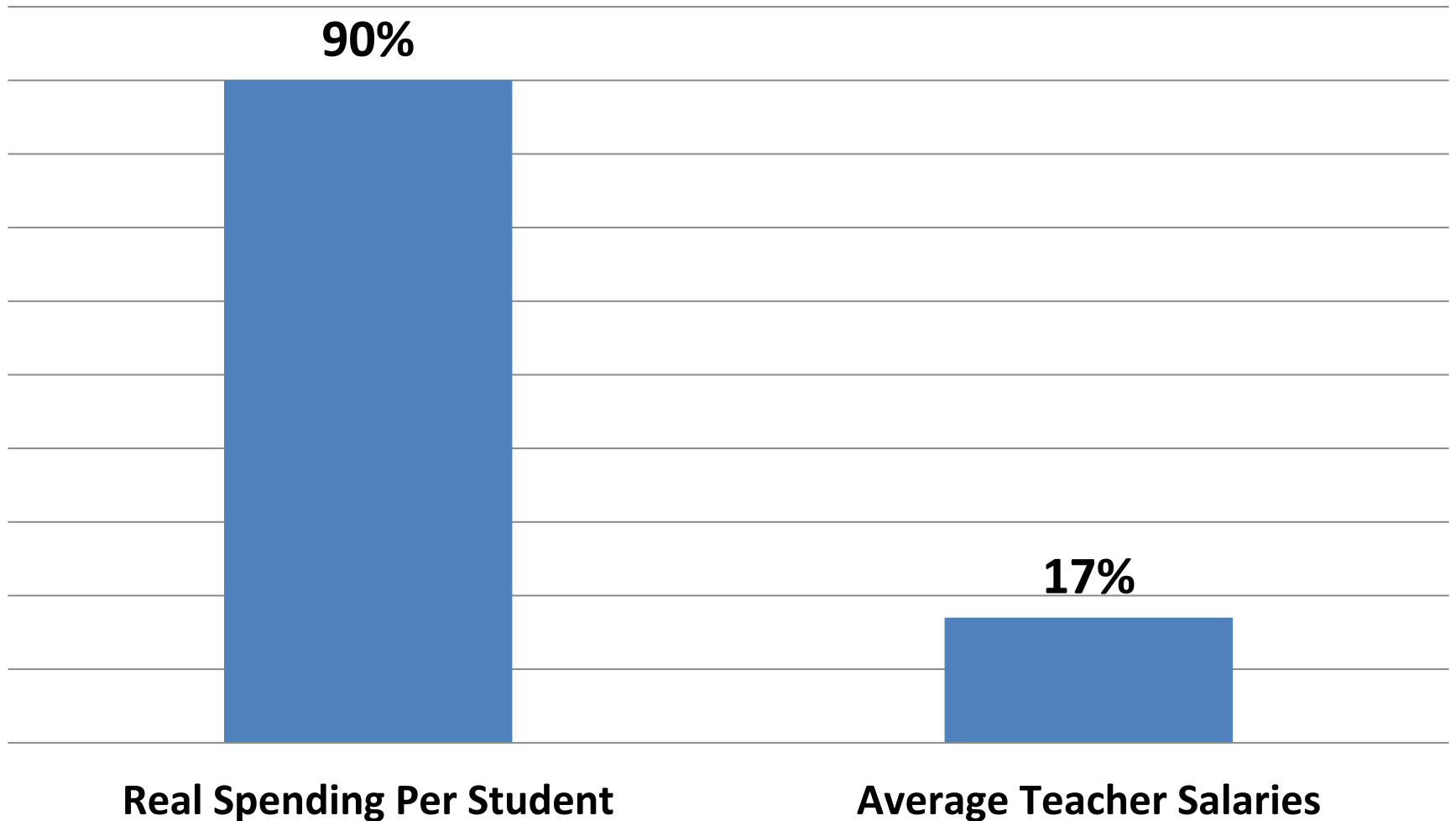
North Carolina Public School Staffing Surge FY 1992 to 2015



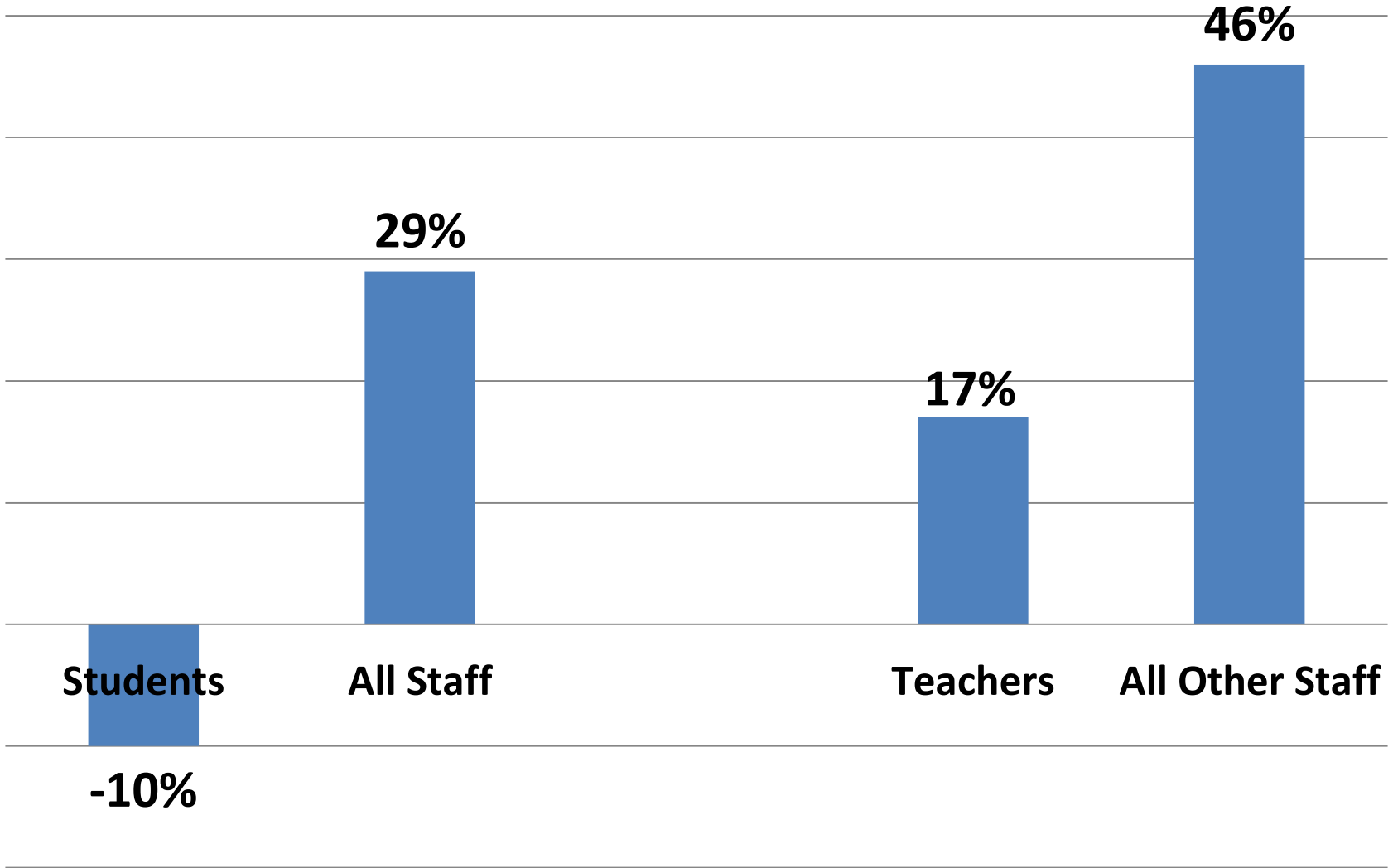
What if North Carolina had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- **Would have saved North Carolina public schools over \$354,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings.**
- **What could North Carolina public schools do with \$354 million per year?**
 - **Provide 44,000 students with \$8,000 scholarships to attend the school of their choice**
 - **Give every teacher a \$3,500 raise**
 - **Reduce state or local taxes**

**North Dakota Public Schools, Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**



North Dakota Public School Staffing Surge
FY 1992 to 2015

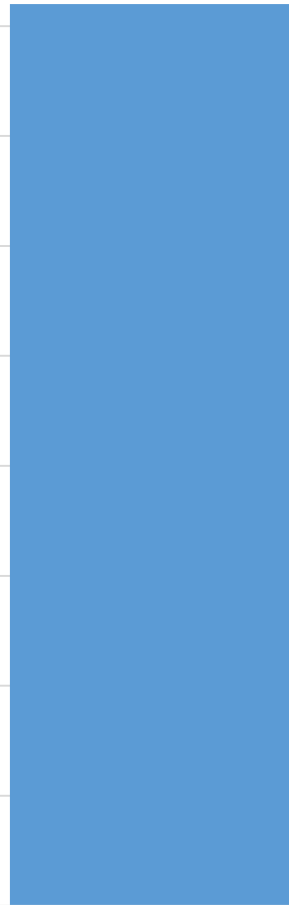


What if North Dakota had increased non-teaching staff at the same rate as its increase in students?

- **Would have saved North Dakota public schools over \$196,000,000 per year in annual recurring savings.**
- **What could North Dakota public schools do with \$196 million per year?**
 - **Provide 24,500 students with \$8,000 scholarships to attend the school of their choice**
 - **Give every teacher a \$21,700 raise**
 - **Reduce state or local taxes**

**South Carolina Public Schools Change in
Real (inflation-adjusted) Terms, FY 1992 to 2014**

41%



Real Spending Per Student

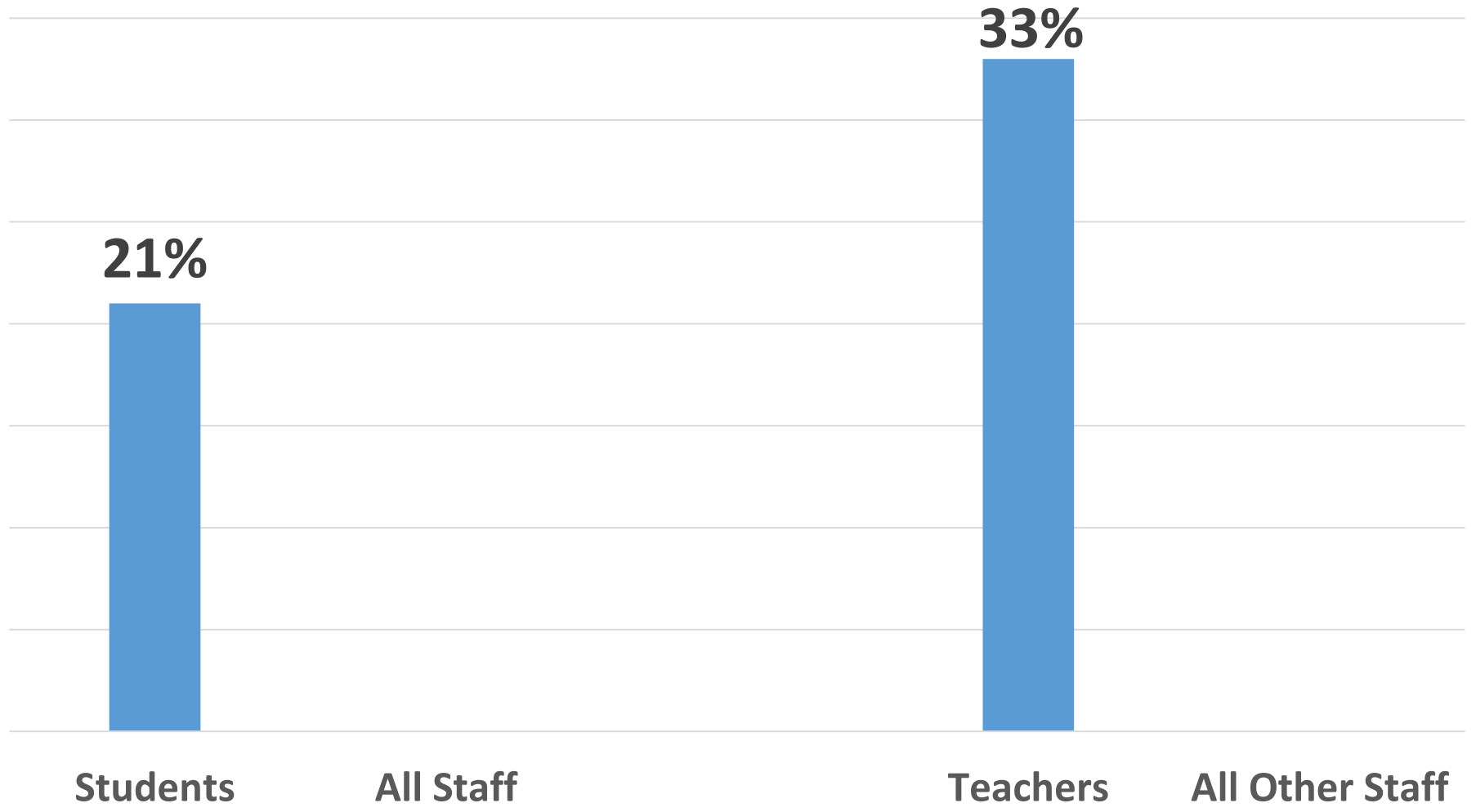
2%



Average Teacher Salaries

**South Carolina Consistently Cannot
Tell the U.S. Department of
Education How Many Non-Teachers
are Employed in its Public Schools**

South Carolina Public School Staffing Surge FY 1992 to 2015



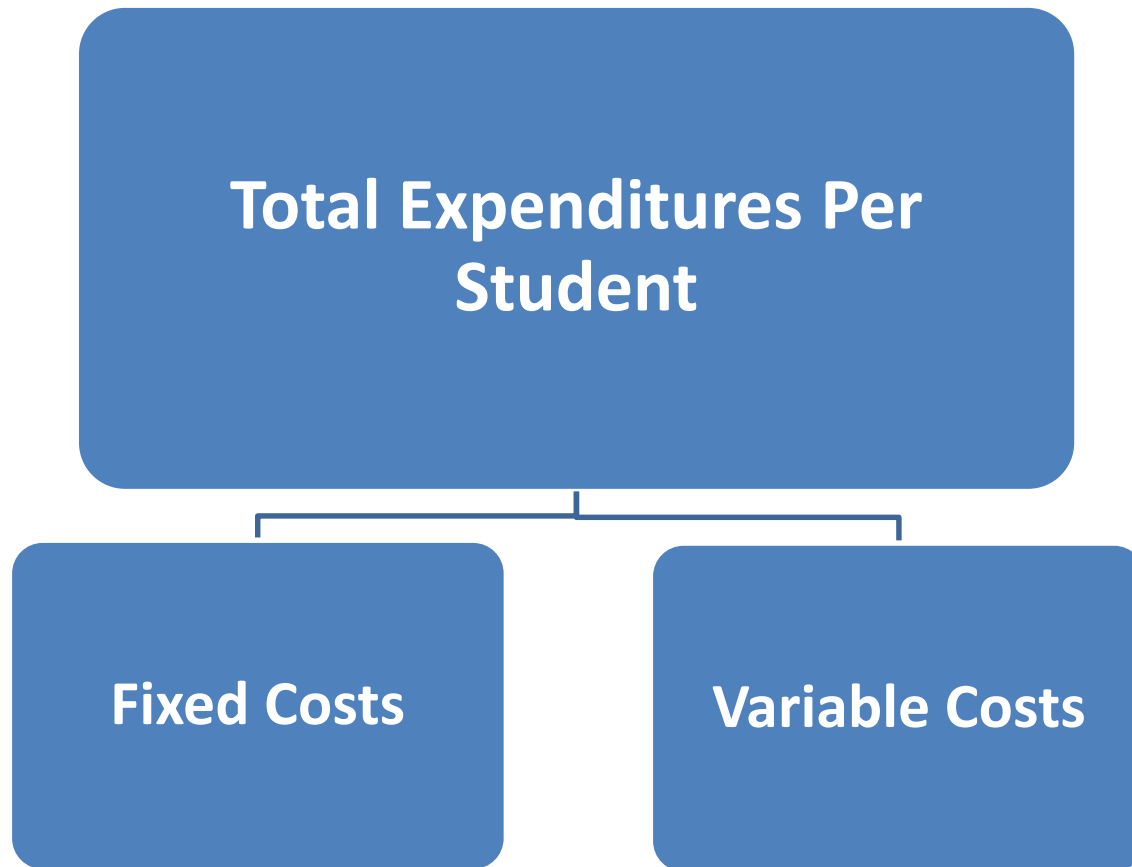
Fiscal Effects of School Choice on State and Local Budgets

It is straightforward to design a school choice program that saves the state money ...

Make state funds that follow the child less than average state spending per student.

The Fiscal Effects of School Choice Programs on Public School Districts

All Costs are Either Fixed or Variable



- **Capital Expenditures**
- **Interest**
- **General Administration**
- **School Administration**
- **Operations & Maintenance**
- **Transportation**
- **"Other" Support Services**
- **Instruction**
- **Student Support**
- **Instructional Staff Support**
- **Enterprise Operations**
- **Food Service**

Fixed Costs (in short-run)

- Capital Expenditures
- Interest
- General Administration
- School Administration
- Operations & Maintenance
- Transportation
- "Other" Support

Variable Costs (in short-run)

- Instruction
- Student Support
- Instructional Staff Support
- Enterprise Operations
- Food Service

Money that follows the child that is less than this amount improves the finances of school districts--even in the very short-run.

What about the United States?

- In FY 2009, U.S. public schools spent an average of \$12,450 per student.
- Using the methodology in my report, 64% of this \$12,450 are short-run variable costs (\$7,967).
- The other \$4,483 per student are short-run fixed costs that states could let school districts retain when they lost students via school choice.
- In the long-run, all costs are variable.

Thus, any school choice program where \$7,967 per student or less follows a child to the school of his or her choice improves the fiscal situation of a public school district, on average. And, students who remain in public schools would have more resources devoted to their education.

FY 2009 Cost Estimates

	S-R Fixed Costs	S-R Variable Costs	% S-R Variable Costs
Arkansas	\$3,359	\$6,793	66.9%
Arizona	\$3,715	\$5,892	61.3%
Connecticut	\$5,925	\$11,537	66.1%
Georgia	\$3,961	\$7,507	65.5%
Iowa	\$4,082	\$7,644	65.2%
Louisiana	\$4,276	\$7,799	64.6%
Minnesota	\$5,050	\$8,505	62.7%
Mississippi	\$2,977	\$5,971	66.7%
Nebraska	\$4,228	\$8,487	66.7%
New Hampshire	\$3,713	\$9,705	72.3%
North Carolina	\$3,157	\$6,572	67.6%
North Dakota	\$3,795	\$7,248	65.6%
South Carolina	\$4,551	\$7,116	61.0%

Keep in Mind ...

By letting school districts retain funds for students they no longer serve,

THEY WILL BE GETTING PAID FOR
STUDENTS THEY NO LONGER
SERVE!!!!

How many other industries have that “business” model?

EdChoice Reports are available ...

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Then, click on “research”