

# To what extent did the Evidence-Based Funding (EBF) formula distribute new state funds equitably to school districts each year?



## EBF LEGISLATION

In 2017, the [Evidence-Based Funding for Student Success Act](#) was signed into law. It replaced one of the most regressive funding formulas in the country and was designed to address inequity in Illinois' school funding to ensure that all students have access to a high-quality education.

## THE 5-YEAR EVALUATIVE STUDY

The legislation calls for an evaluative study to be completed every five years by the EBF Professional Review Panel and submitted to the State Board of Education, the General Assembly, and the governor. It is intended to assess whether the EBF model is achieving state goals, including whether the formula is leading to the desired outcomes in student achievement, adequacy, and equity. See the full report [here](#).

## KEY FINDINGS

### To what extent did EBF distribute new state funds in a manner consistent with the goal of improving racial equity in the availability of school resources?

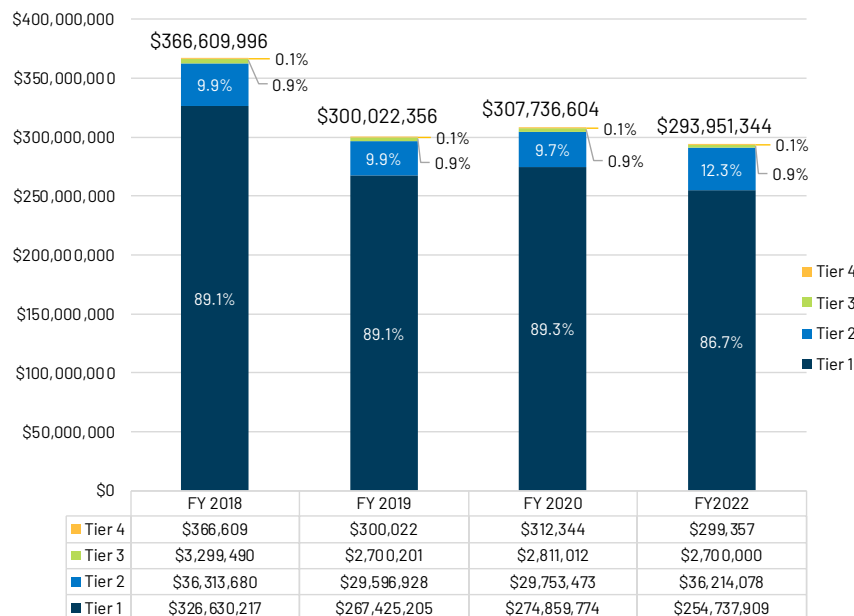
Changes in per pupil EBF between SY 2018-19 and SY 2019-20

Race	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
American Indian	\$5.52	\$4.84	\$6.03	\$0.03
Asian	\$16.41	\$5.90	\$5.62	\$0.02
Black or African American	\$5.11	\$6.22	\$6.03	\$0.02
Hispanic or Latino	-\$6.81	\$3.53	\$5.97	\$0.03
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	\$14.12	\$1.35	\$5.06	\$0.03
Two or More Races	-\$2.53	\$2.97	\$5.35	\$0.02
White	\$2.13	\$3.18	\$4.98	\$0.02

Districts with **lower Percent of Adequacy generally had larger proportions of students of color**, and **most races and ethnicities saw increases in per pupil tier funding** over the observed time period.

### To what extent did EBF distribute new funds to districts with the highest levels of need, as defined by those districts that are the furthest from full funding or "adequacy"?

EBF funding distributions by tier for all school districts, FY 2018-22

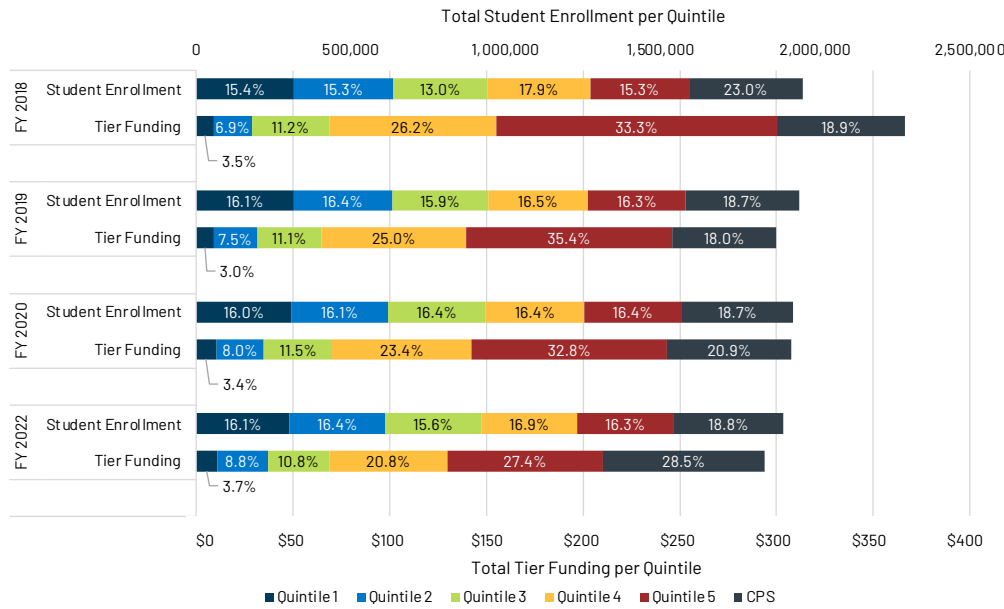


**EBF is working as intended to target new funds to the highest-needs school districts that were furthest from their Adequacy Targets; however, gaps in funding adequacy remain.**

## 2022 5-YEAR EVALUATIVE STUDY

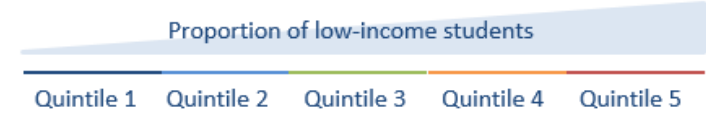
### To what extent did EBF distribute new state funds to districts serving the greatest number of students from low-income households and districts with the least property wealth/local resources?

#### Total tier funding and student enrollment per low-income quintile



#### ANALYSIS

Districts were assigned to one of five quintiles containing approximately one-fifth of the student population in Illinois (not including Chicago Public Schools) based on the proportion of low-income students enrolled.



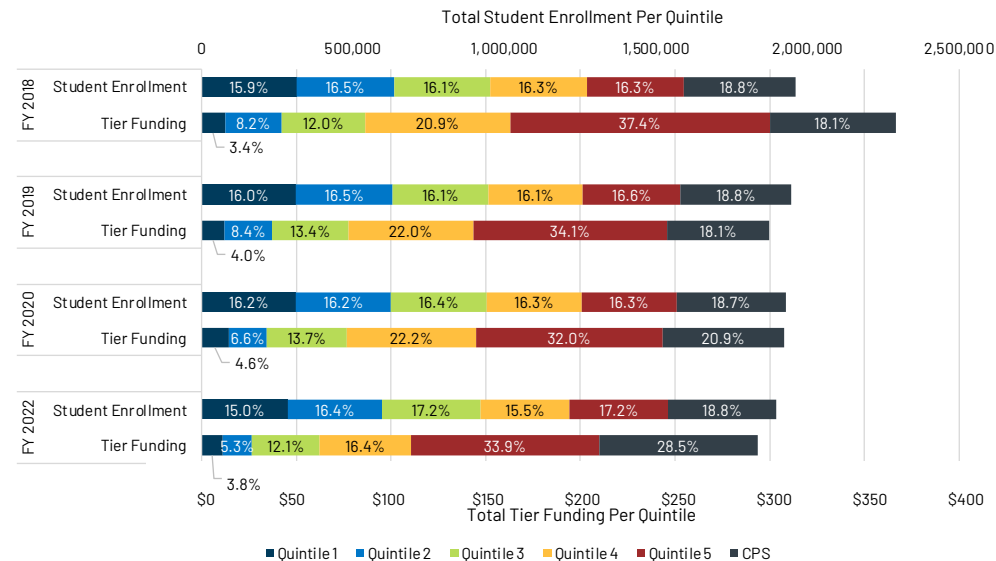
#### KEY FINDING

EBF is effectively disbursing tier funding in an equitable manner with respect to districts' proportions of low-income students.

#### EXAMPLE

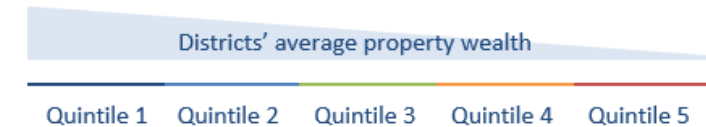
In 2018, **Quintile 5** enrolled 15.3% of Illinois students and received 33.3% of the EBF tier funding. **Quintile 1** enrolled 15.4% of Illinois students yet received only 3.5% of new tier funding that same year.

#### Total tier funding and student enrollment per wealth quintile



#### ANALYSIS

Districts were assigned to one of five quintiles containing approximately one-fifth of the student population in Illinois (not including Chicago Public Schools) based on each district's average property wealth, as measured by average adjusted equalized assessed value.



#### KEY FINDING

EBF is effectively disbursing tier funding in an equitable manner with respect to districts' levels of property wealth.

#### EXAMPLE

In 2022, **Quintile 5** enrolled 17.2% of Illinois students and received 33.9% of the EBF tier funding. **Quintile 1** enrolled 15.0% of Illinois students yet received only 3.8% of new tier funding that same year.