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# State Financial Aid Redesign

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Connecticut Planning Commission for  
Student Financial Aid

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# Who we are

The essential, indispensable member of any team addressing education policy.



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# What we do

We believe in the power of learning from experience and we know informed policymakers create better education policy.



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# How we do it



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# Presentation Roadmap

- ✓ National Trends in Higher Education and State Aid
- ✓ Principles to Guide State Aid Policymaking
- ✓ 2015 Legislative Trends in State Aid Programs
- ✓ Questions and Discussion



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# Higher Education is Changing



In 2012,  
**4.6 million**  
undergraduate  
students were  
enrolled in distance  
education

**1/3 of all  
students**  
change institutions  
at some time before  
earning a degree

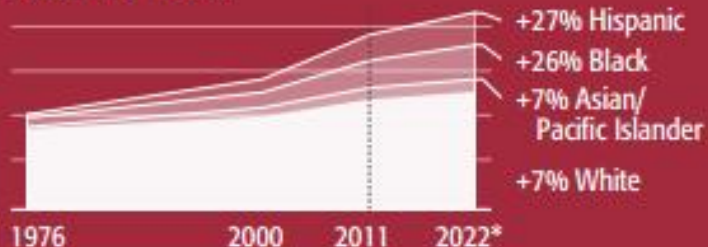


**Only 19%**  
of full-time students  
earn a bachelor's  
degree in four years

From 2000 to 2011,  
enrollment of students  
25 and older increased  
**41%**



Projected % *increases* in student enrollment  
from 2011–2022:\*



**38.3%**  
of students were  
enrolled part time  
in 2012

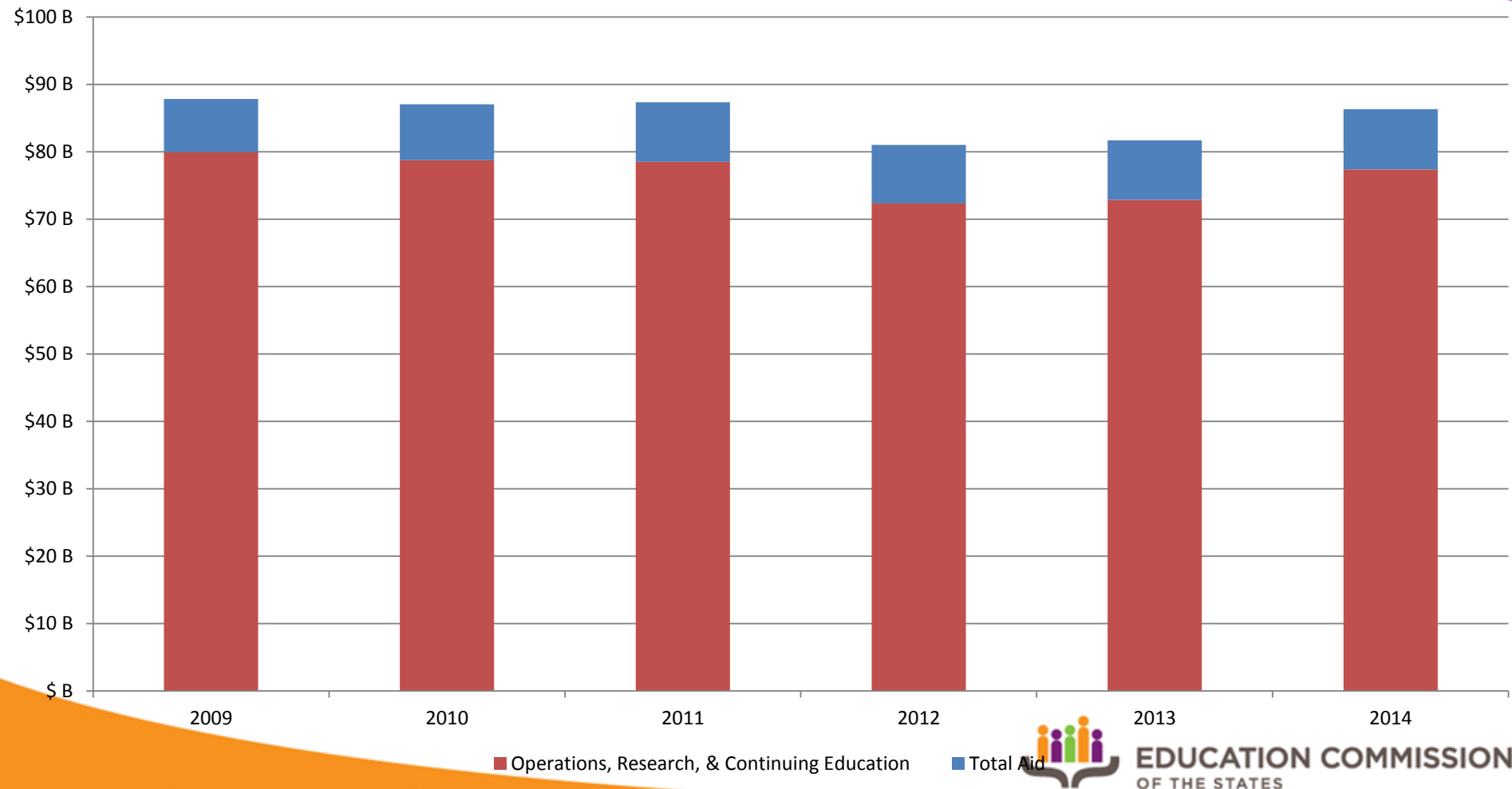
**21.76%**  
of American adults  
have some college  
credits but no  
college degree



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# State Support for Higher Education

## Major Uses of State and Local Government Support for Higher Education

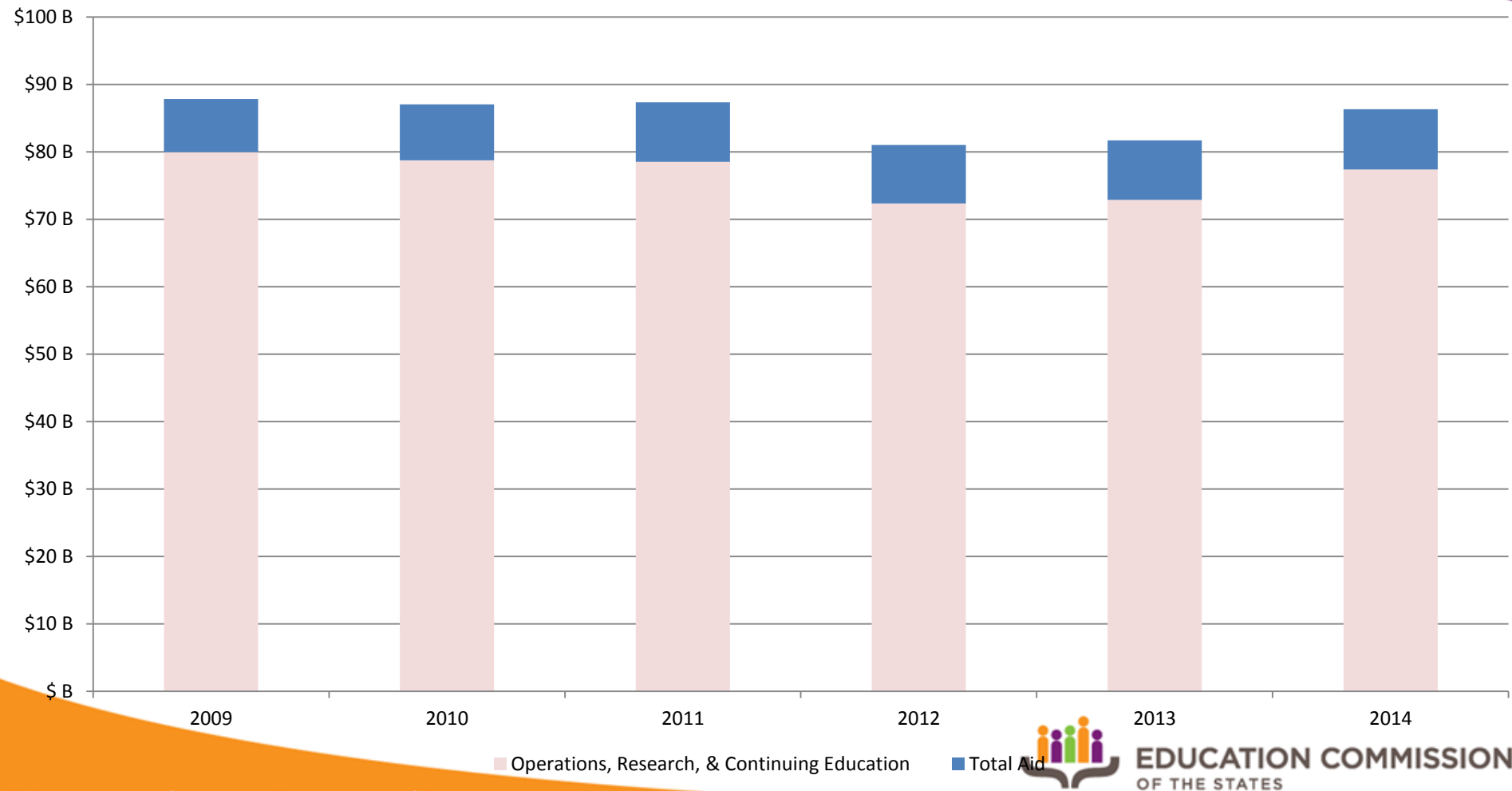


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Source: SHEEO

# State Support for Higher Education

## Major Uses of State and Local Government Support for Higher Education

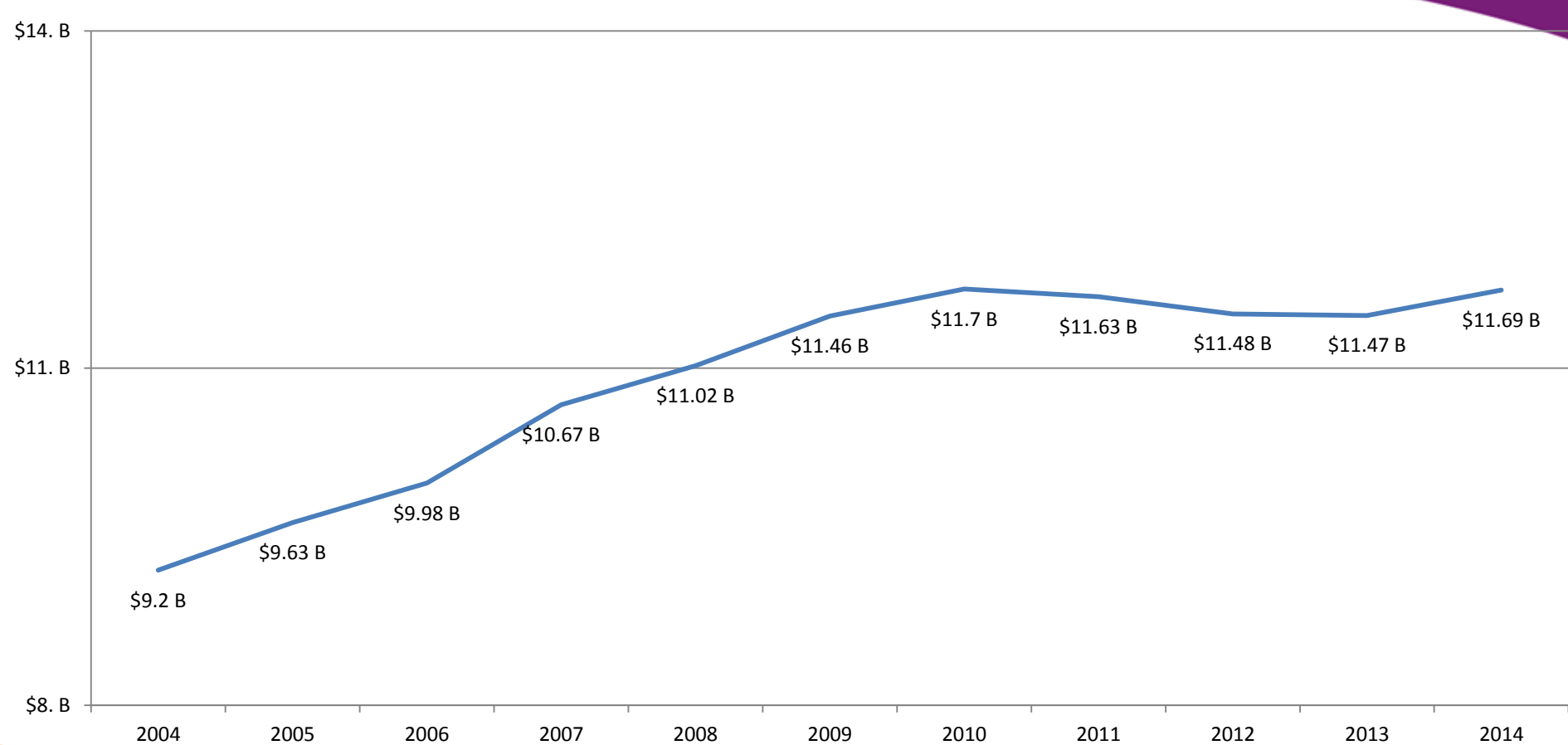


Your education policy team.

Source: SHEEO

# National Spending on Student Aid

**Total State Aid Expenditures**

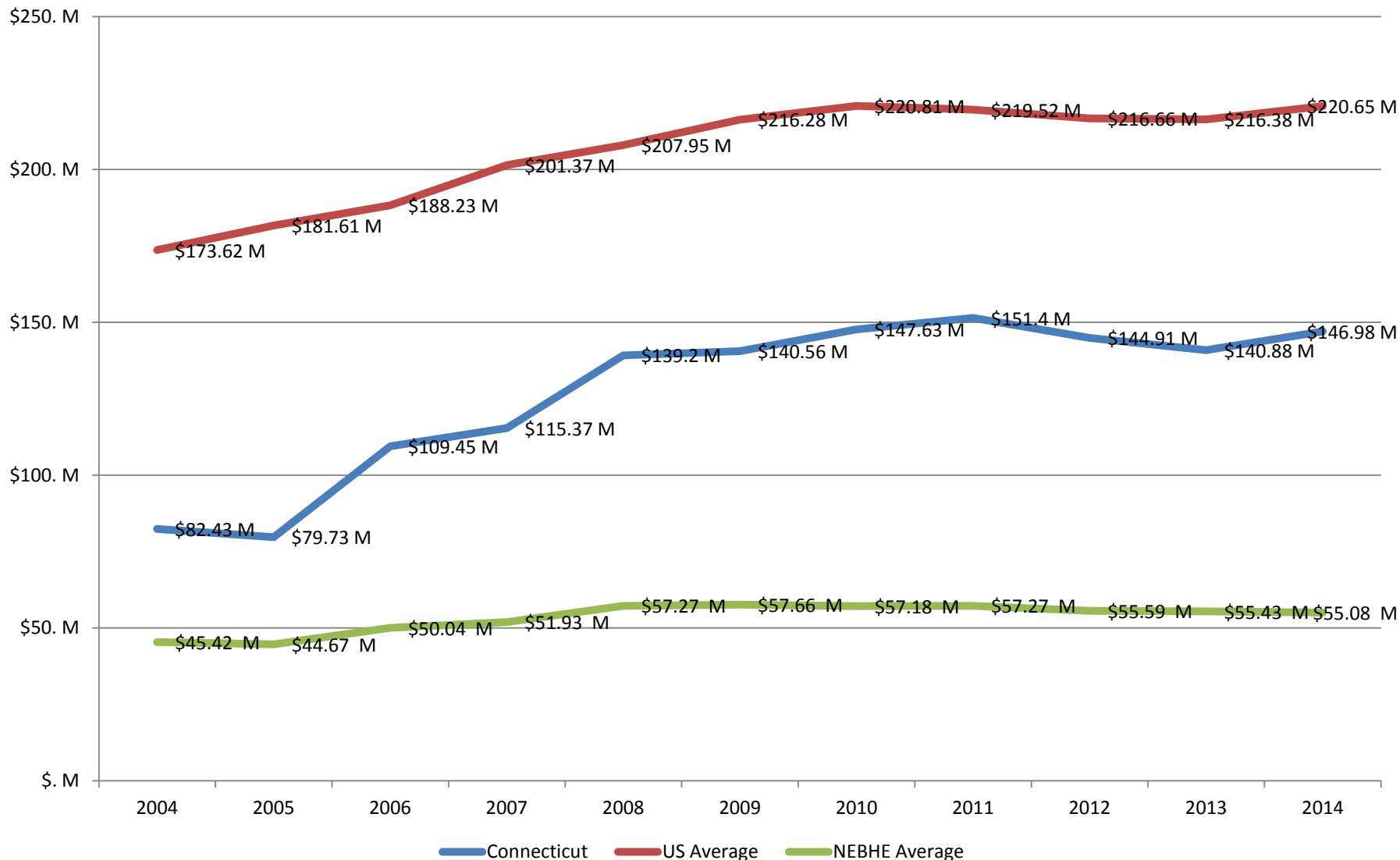


*In 2014 constant dollars*  
*Source: NASSGAP*



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# State Financial Aid Expenditures in Connecticut, US, and New England



*In 2014 constant dollars*

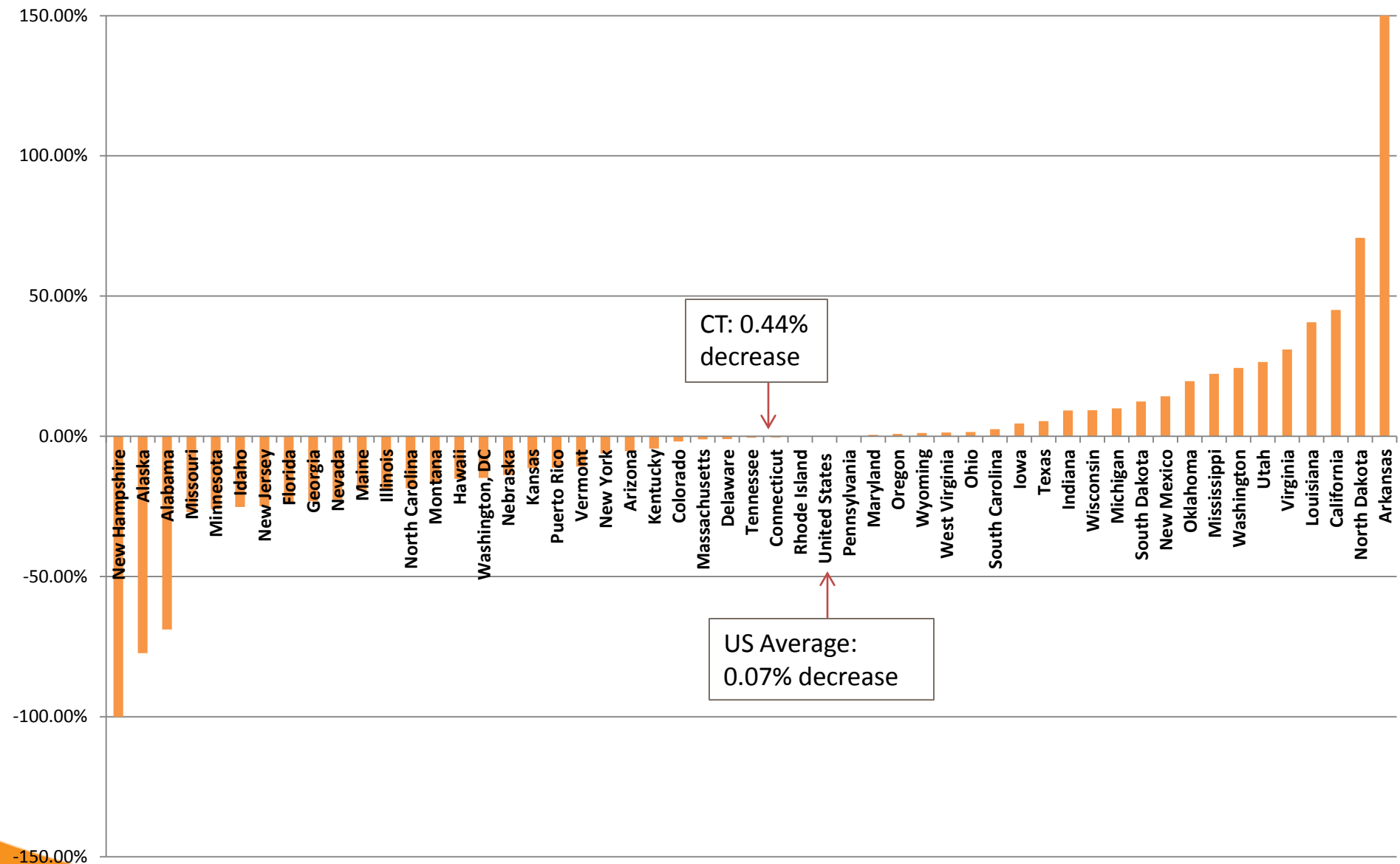
*Source: NASSGAP*



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# 5-Year Percent Change in State Aid Expenditures by State, 2010-2014



Calculated in 2014 constant dollars  
Source: NASSGAP



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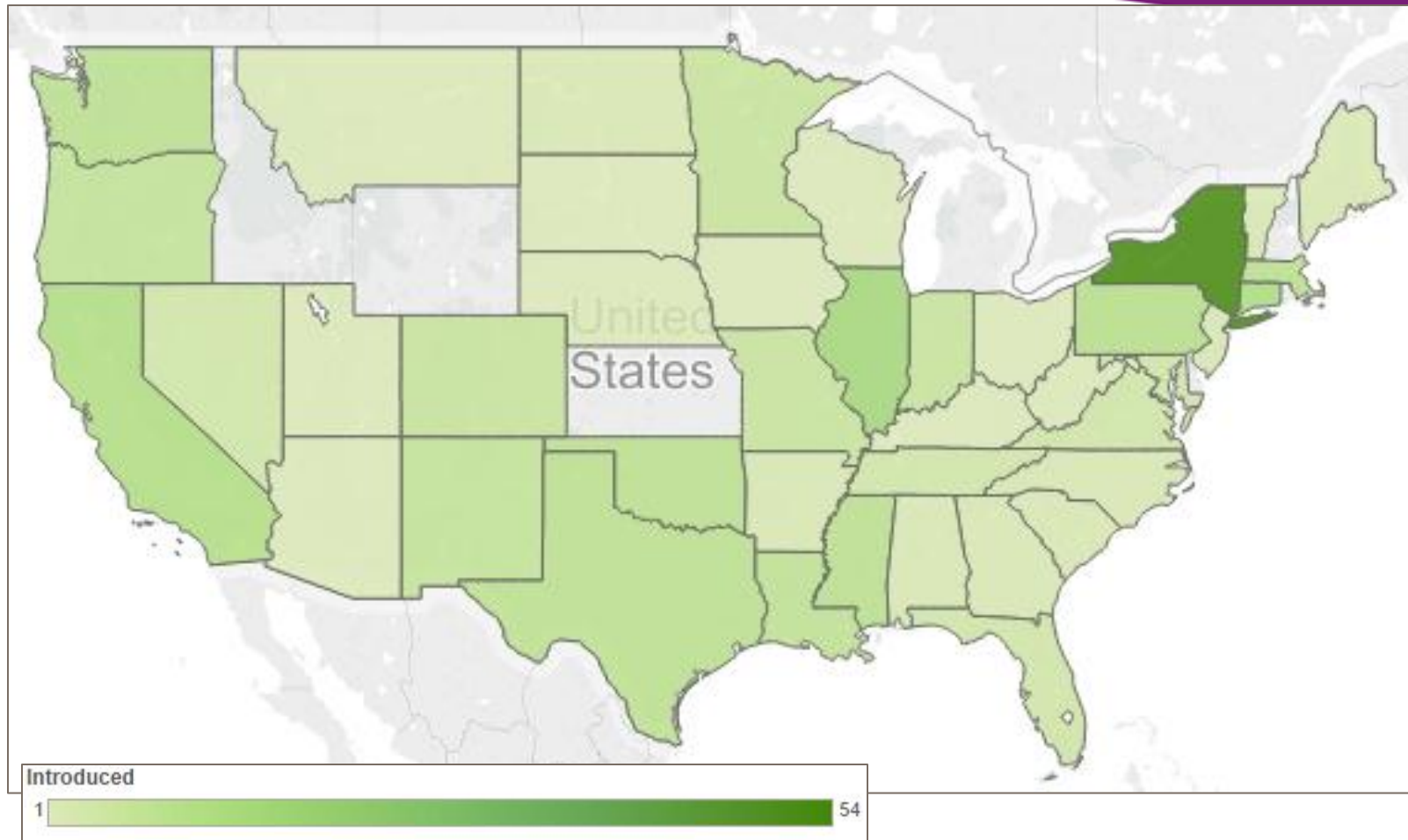
# States Provide Significant Support



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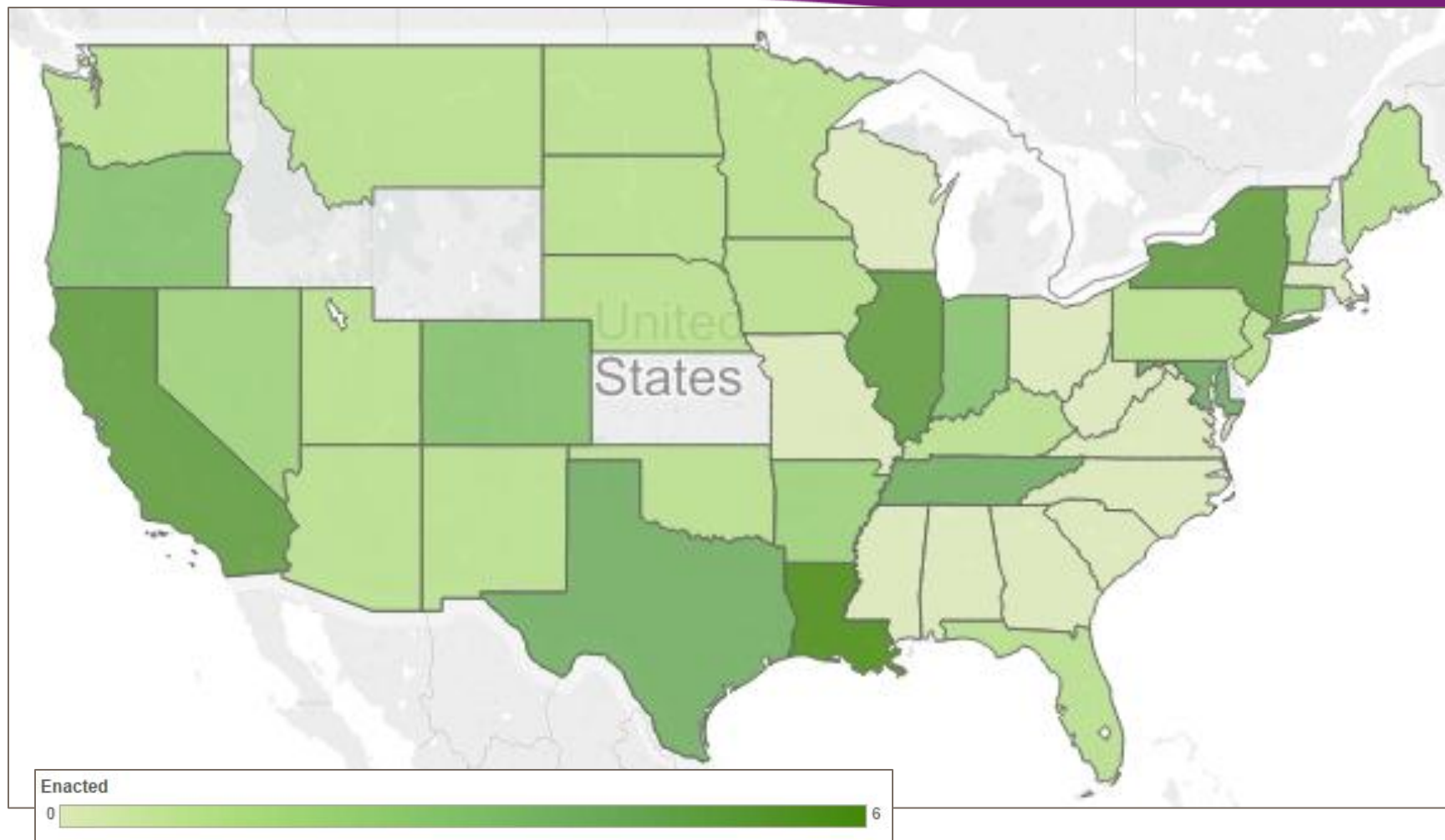
# 2015 Legislation Across the States: Introduced



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# 2015 Legislation Across the States: Enacted



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# What did these bills intend to do?



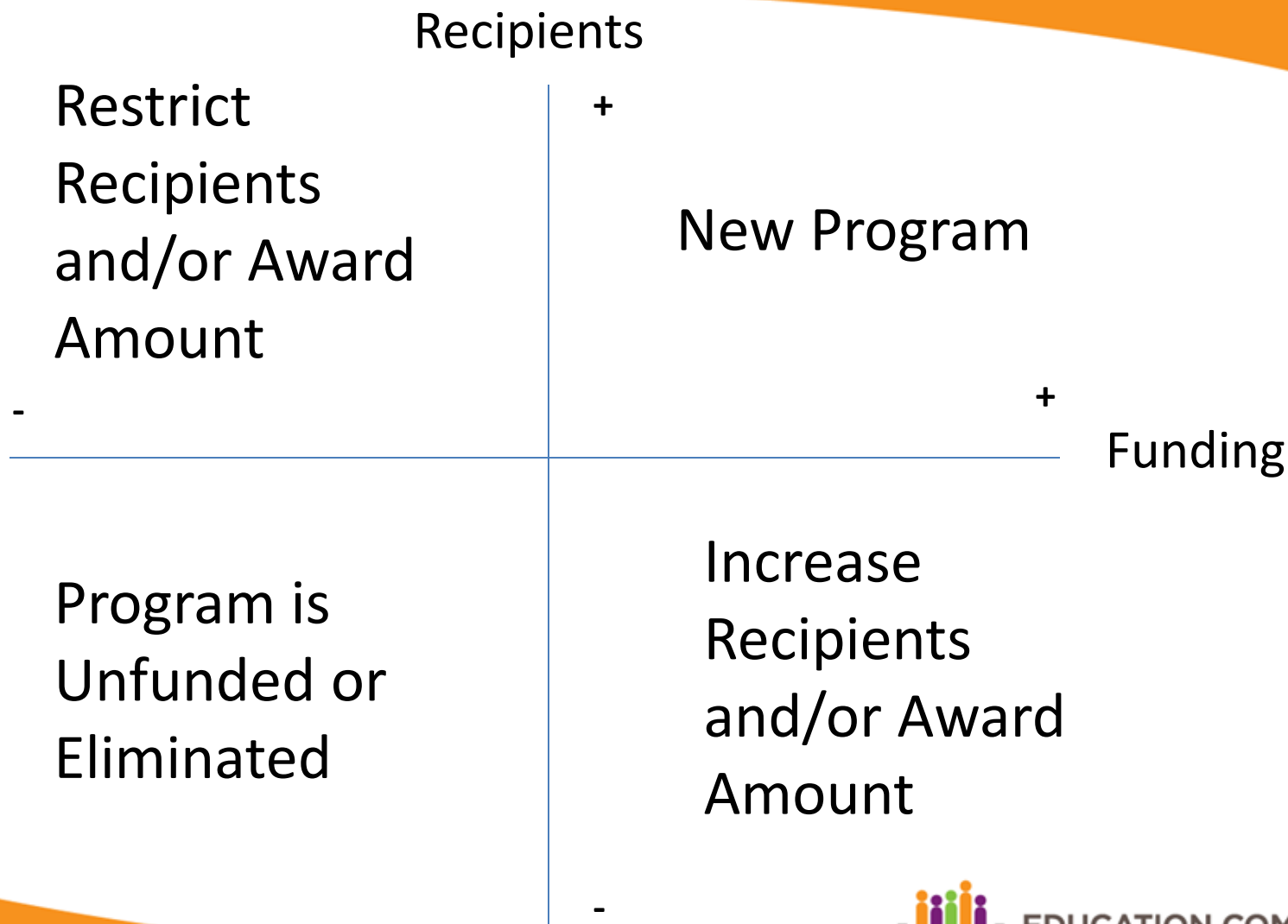
# Creating New Programs, Revising Existing

- 1 in 2 bills considered in states in 2015 intend to create a new program
- At least 17 new state aid programs have been authorized or created in to-date in 2015
- 16 changes proposed to existing eligibility requirements across the states



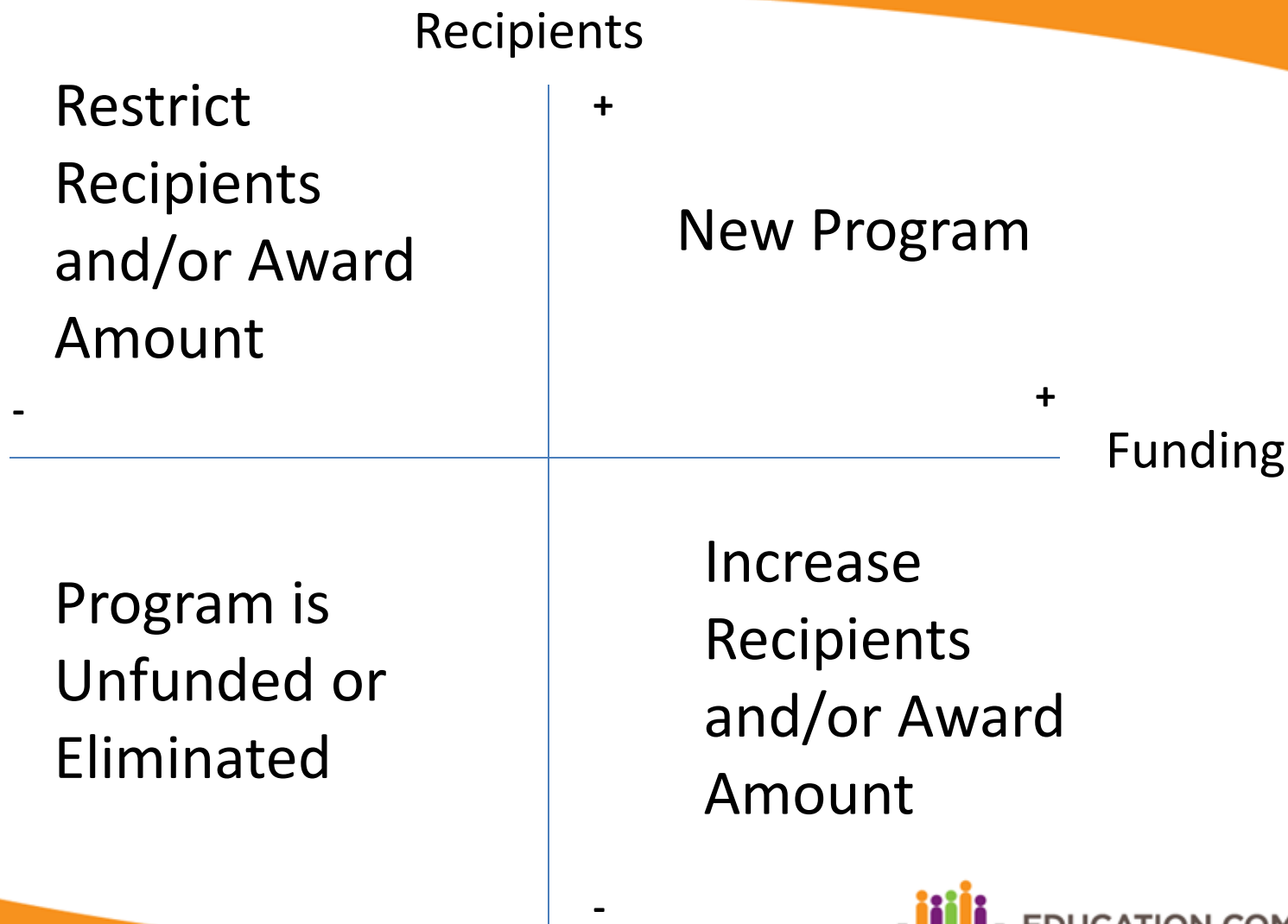
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# Common State Policy Responses



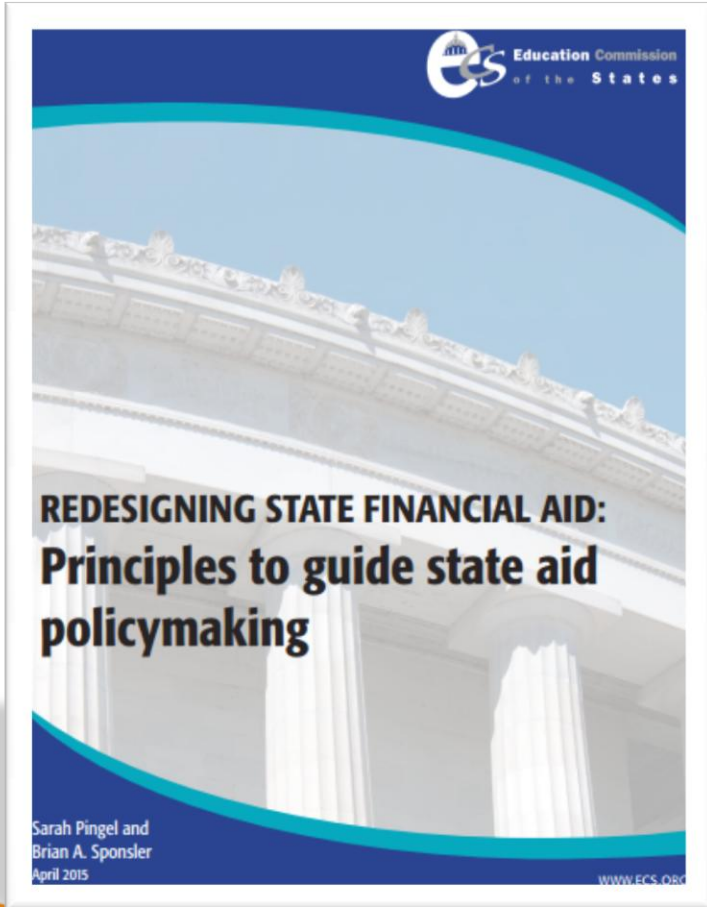
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# Common State Policy Responses



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# Redesigning State Financial Aid



## Organizations represented:

- Each of the regional higher education compacts: SREB, MHEC, WICHE, NEBHE
- Oklahoma State Regents
- California Legislative Analyst's Office
- National Governors Association
- American Enterprise Institute
- Urban Institute

# Redesigning State Financial Aid: Principles to guide state aid policymaking

Student centered

Goal driven,  
data informed

Timely and flexible

Broadly inclusive



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# Student-Centered

- Simplifying application processes
  - California A.B. 1091
- Foster Care Students
  - Alabama H.B. 148/ S.B. 157
  - Arizona H.B. 2022
- Undocumented Students
  - California A.B. 206
  - Connecticut H.B. 5797, H.B. 5800, S.B. 398

# Goal-Driven, Data Informed

- Student Information Tools
  - California A.B. 721
  - Indiana H.B. 1042
- Legislative Reports
  - Connecticut S.B. 393
  - Florida H.B. 7125
- Institutional Eligibility
  - California A.B. 25



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# Timely and Flexible

- Award Duration
  - Arkansas H.B. 1011
  - Tennessee H.B. 118
- Rethinking Deadlines
  - Oregon H.B. 2407
- Credit Hour Loads
  - Oklahoma H.B. 2180



# Broadly Inclusive

- Competency-Based Education
  - Oklahoma S.B. 504
  - Texas H.B. 3027/ S.B. 1312
- Career and Technical Education
  - Colorado H.B. 1275
- Alternative Eligibility Pathways
  - Ohio S.B. 78



# Questions?

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[www.ecs.org](http://www.ecs.org)

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