



State Education Agency Funding

An Evidence Based Review

Purpose

Assess the expectations of state education agencies and the resources to meet those expectations.

Questions to Investigate

1. What did historical funding and staffing look like?
2. How have expectations changed?
3. What does current funding and staffing look like?

What Did Historical Funding and Staffing Look Like?

Historical Supports

In 1980, the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) funded an analysis of State Education Agency operations. Here were their findings:

State Education Agency
Average Expenditures Per Pupil*

\$108.50

State Education Agency
Average Staff per 100,000 Students

66

How have expectations changed
since 1980?

Federal Expansion of Education Support and Services

1984 – Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act

Significantly expanded career and technical education programs across the nation.

1994 – Improving America's Schools Act

Provided additional supports for bilingual and immigrant education.

2001 – No Child Left Behind

Requires annual state testing, expanded public data reporting requirements, and assessment of school quality.

2004 – The Individuals with Disabilities Improvement Act (IDEA)

Created modifications to the IEP process and requirements of the Response to Intervention (RTI) approach.

2009 – Development of More Rigorous Academic Standards

Work begins on what would later evolve to the Nevada Academic Content Standards.

2012 – Federal Waivers to No Child Left Behind

Provides more state autonomy in assessing school quality through the Nevada School Performance Framework.

2015 – Every Student Succeeds Act

Expands state autonomy in assessing school quality. Creates levels of evidence for research-based interventions.

Nevada Expansion of Education Support and Services

1997 – Nevada Education Reform Act

Called for the integration of technology as part of classroom instruction.

2001 – Distance Education

Established the creation of distance education courses that are delivered by means of video, computer, or the Internet.

2001 – Safe and Respectful Learning Environment

Legislation to ensure schools provide an environment in which persons of differing beliefs, characteristics and backgrounds can realize their full academic and personal potential.

2011 – Foster Care Academic Plans

Requires the creation of an academic plan for each student enrolled in elementary school who is a foster child.

2011 – Teachers and Leaders Council

Established the creation of a statewide performance evaluation system for teachers and administrators, the Nevada Educator Performance Framework.

2011 – Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement

Expanded supports and services to actively promote and support the participation and engagement of families and communities in a child's education.

Nevada Expansion of Education Support and Services

Expectations

2013 – English Mastery Council & Zoom Program

Established the creation of council to expand support for students for whom English is a second language.

2015 – Plan to Reorganize the Clark County School District

Superintendent of Public Instruction responsible to ensure cooperation of the school district.

2015 – Victory Program

Expanded supports for students living in poverty.

2015 – Read by Grade 3

Massively expanded supports and compliance reporting around early literacy.

2015 – Great Teaching and Leading Fund

Provides professional development, programs of preparation, peer assistance/review, and leadership training and development for teachers, administrators, and other licensed educational personnel. Also created programs to recruit, select, and retain effective teachers and principals.

2019 – Handle with Care Program

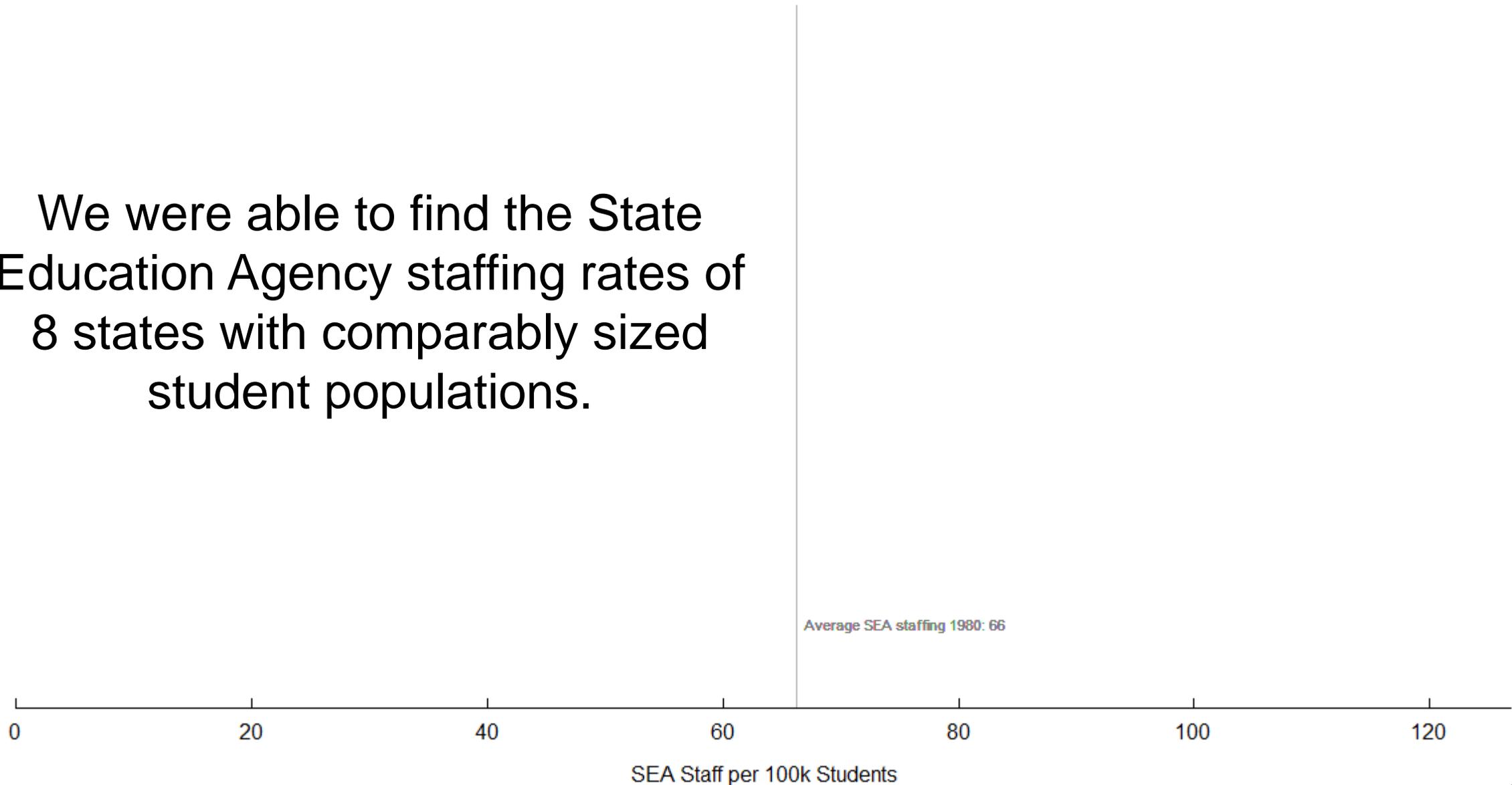
Expanded supports when a child is exposed to a traumatic events.

What Does Current Funding and
Staffing Look Like?

State Education Agency Staffing (2016)

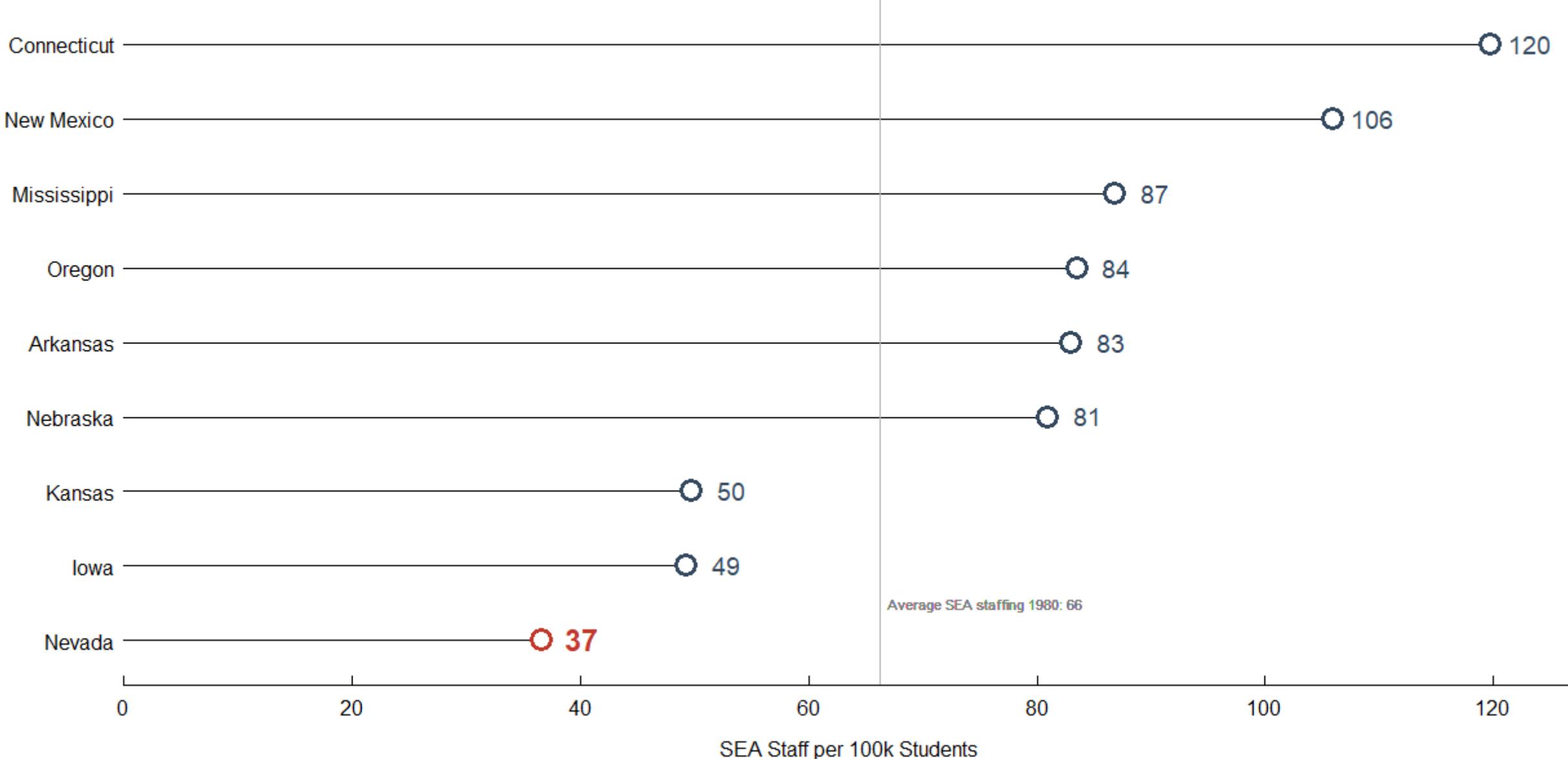
Staff per 100,000 Students Served

We were able to find the State Education Agency staffing rates of 8 states with comparably sized student populations.



State Education Agency Staffing (2016)

Staff per 100,000 Students Served



Current Staffing

| | <u>Average Staff per 100,000 Students</u> |
|---------------------------------|---|
| State Education Agencies - 1980 | 66 |
| Comparable Agencies - 2016 | 82 |
| Nevada - 2016 | 37 |

On average, comparable State Agencies have staffing rates **over 23% larger** than the national average in 1980.

The Nevada Department of Education's staffing rate is **45% below** the national average in 1980.

Current Staffing

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|---------------------------------|---|
| State Education Agencies - 1980 | 66 |
| Nevada - 2016 | 37 |

How many more staff would Nevada have if it staffed at the national average from 1980?

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144 More Staff

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How many more staff would Nevada have if it staffed at the average of states that serve similarly sized student populations?

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How many more staff would Nevada have if it staffed at the average of states that serve similarly sized student populations?

224 More Staff

How Does Funding Compare?

Current Funding

| | <u>Dollars Per Pupil</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| State Education Agencies - 1980 | \$108.50* |
| Nevada - 2020 | \$81.70 |

The Nevada Department of Education's funding would need to **increase by 33%** to meet the national average of 1980.

Current Funding

Dollars Per Pupil

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| State Education Agencies - 1980 | \$108.50* |
| Nevada - 2020 | \$81.70 |

How much would the Nevada Department of Education's budget increase if it was funded at the national average 40 years ago?

Current Funding

Dollars Per Pupil

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| State Education Agencies - 1980 | \$108.50* |
| Nevada - 2020 | \$81.70 |

How much would the Nevada Department of Education's budget increase if it was funded at the national average 40 years ago?

\$13.3 Million
Budget Increase

Sanity Check

Do these estimates align?

Staff at 1980 Levels: 144 More Staff

Fund at 1980 Levels: \$13.3 Million More

Sanity Check

Do these estimates align?

Staff at 1980 Levels: 144 More Staff

Fund at 1980 Levels: \$13.3 Million More

Calculates to average all in costs of:

\$92,361 per employee

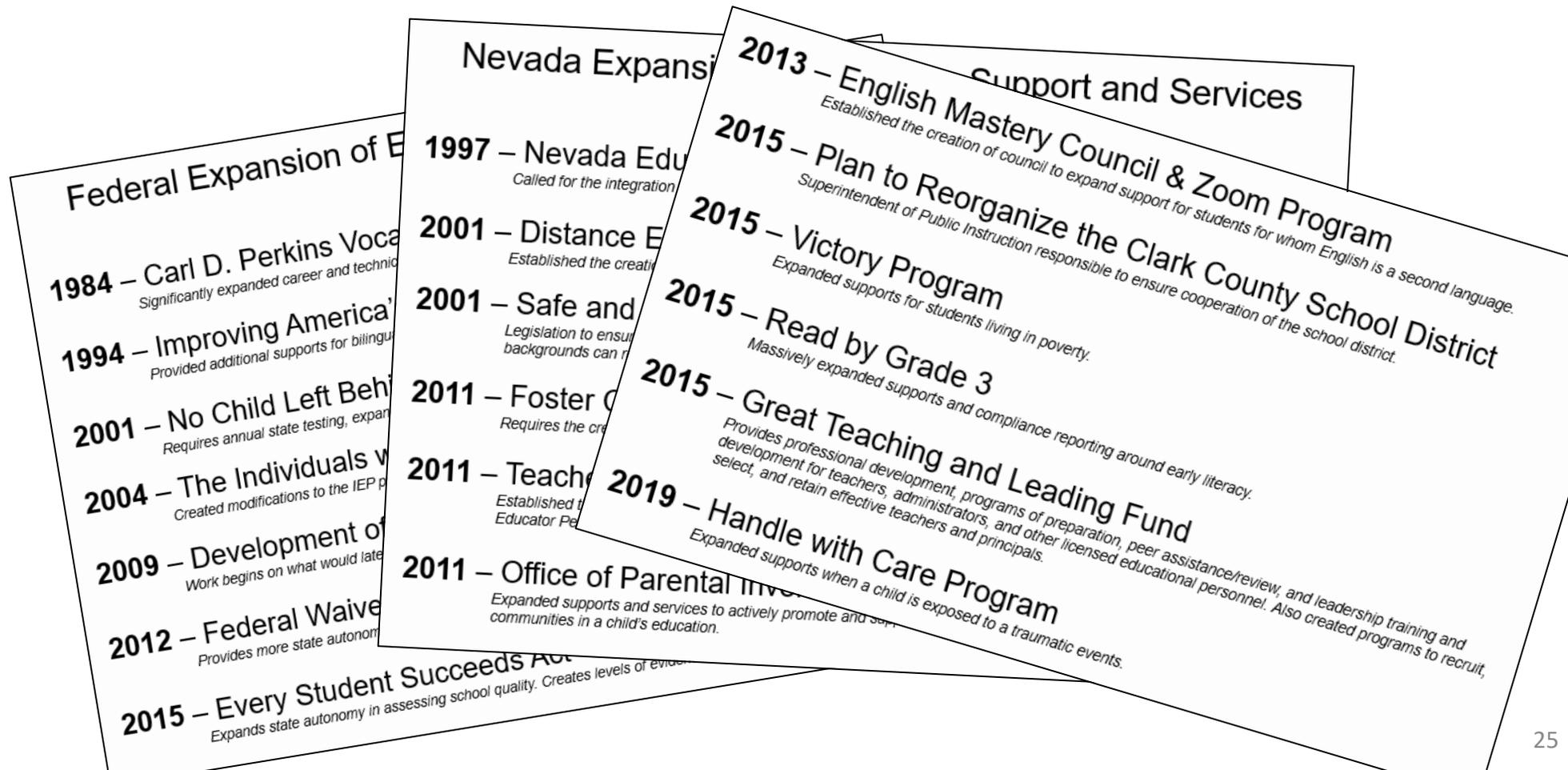
*These estimates do reasonably align.
This would be enough money to pay for staff
and peripheral costs to employ those staff.*

So What?

What are the consequences of underfunding and understaffing?

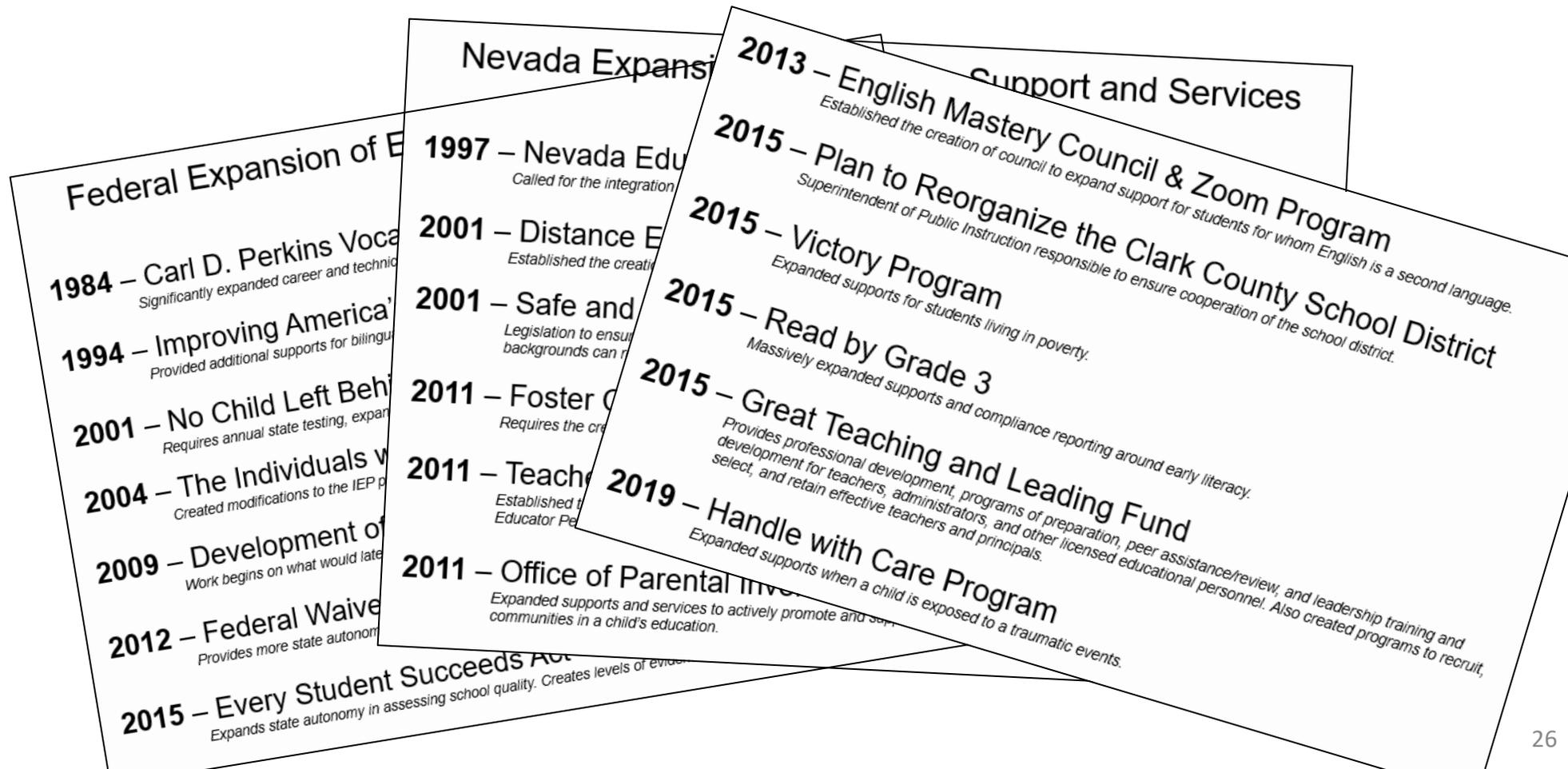
So What?

Education Laws are Written with the Intent to Improve Lives



So What?

Underfunding agencies responsible for the implementation of laws, runs the risk of meeting compliance with the laws without meeting the intent of the laws:
Improving our students' lives



Conclusion

- Education laws have significantly expanded over the last 40 years to improve students' lives.
- The Nevada Department of Education is staffed significantly below historic national averages.
- The Nevada Department of Education is funded significantly below historic national averages.

Conclusion

What Would It Take To Improve Supports?

| | <u>Staffing Increase</u> | <u>Budget Increase</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Meet 1980 Levels | 159 More Staff | \$13.3 Million |
| Meet Recent Comparable Agencies | 224 More Staff | \$20.7 Million |



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