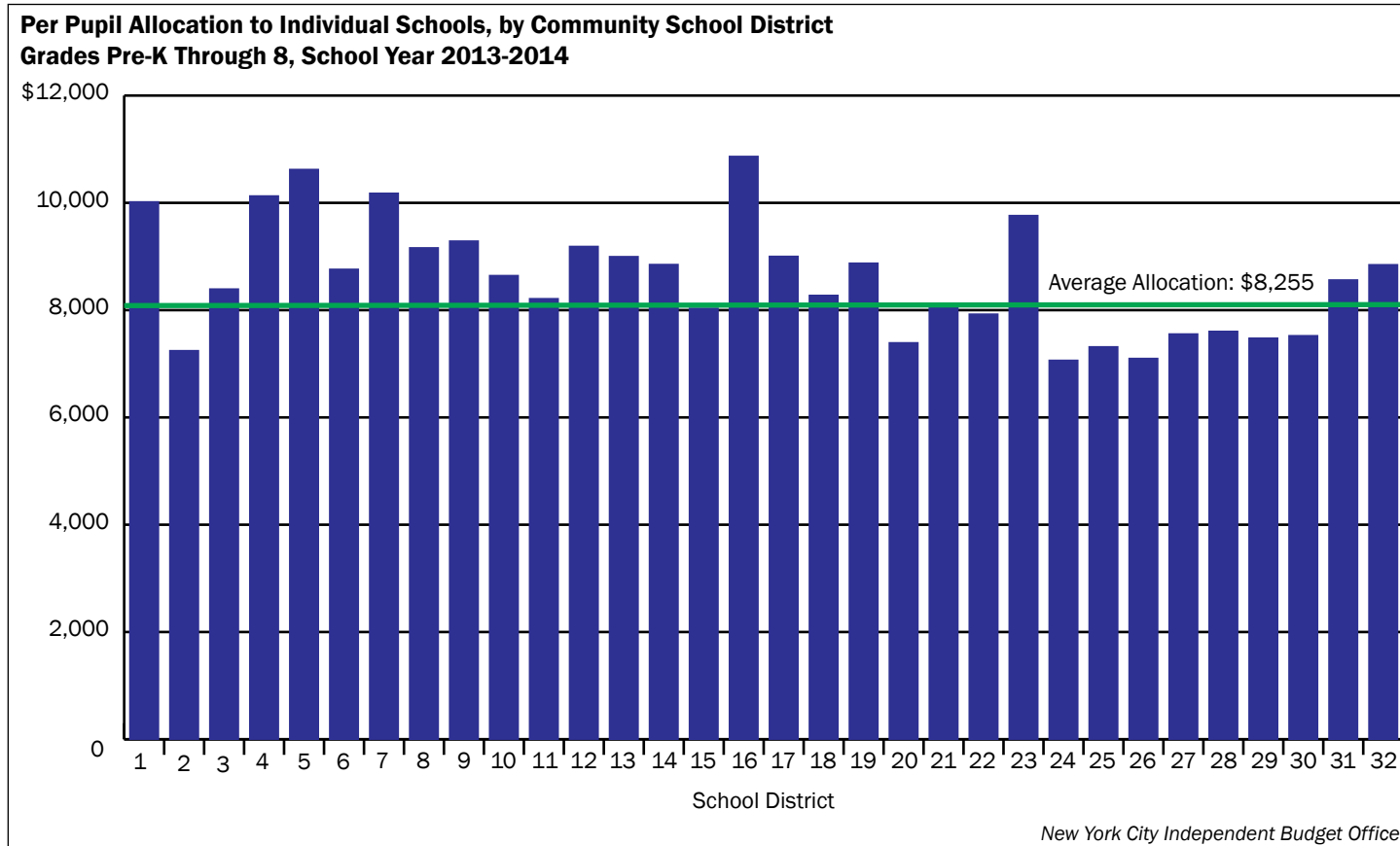


## How Much Do Public School Budgets Vary Across the City's School Districts and Boroughs?

There is a great deal of variation in average per pupil allocations across community school districts. In 2013-2014, the last school year in which budgets were set by the Bloomberg Administration, school district allocations averaged \$8,255 per student in grades pre-k through 8. The difference in per pupil allocations between the district with the highest average allocation (district 16, Bedford-Stuyvesant) and the lowest (district 24, Corona/Elmhurst) was \$3,800.

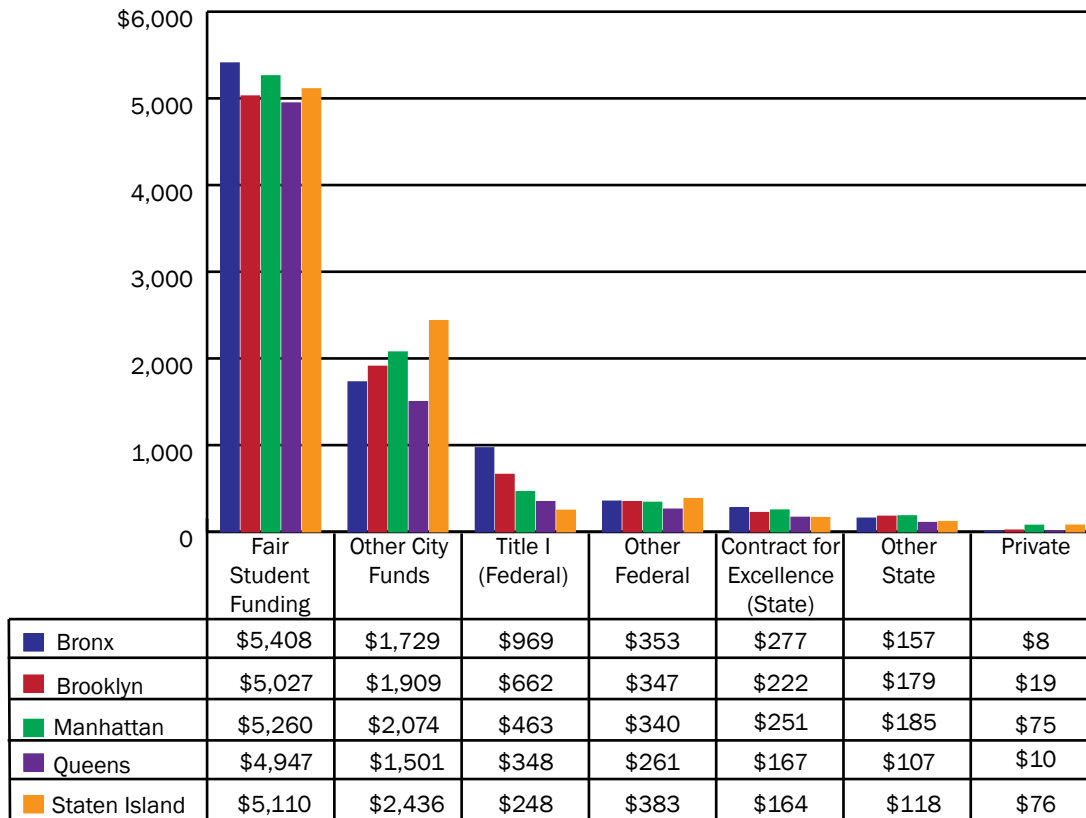
This variation is not unexpected. Schools receive funding from a variety of state, city, and federal sources, many of these funding streams attempt to direct resources to students deemed to have greater needs. Moreover, per pupil spending is also a function of school size, with large schools generally receiving less funding per pupil than schools with fewer students.



- Some part of the difference in allocations relates to the relative socio-economic status of the communities within each district.
- The largest per pupil allocations are found in the South Bronx (district 7), Central Brooklyn (district 16), Upper Manhattan (districts 4 and 5), and the Lower East Side (district 1). The lowest per student allocations are found in Queens (districts 24, 25, and 26) and Manhattan (district 2).

The results displayed by borough and funding source shed more light on these differences.

**Borough Differences in Per Pupil School Funding by Source  
Grades Pre-K Through 8, School Year 2013-2014**



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- The three largest funding streams for schools, Fair Student Funding, other city funds, and Federal Title 1, drive the major difference across boroughs. Schools in Queens receive, on average, \$1,310 less per pupil from these combined sources than schools in the Bronx.

School size also contributes to the differences in per pupil allocations across districts and boroughs. Generally, large schools receive less funding in per pupil terms than small schools. This is likely because schoolwide costs are being shared over a greater number of students. Queens, with the largest average school size, had the lowest per pupil allocations, while Manhattan and the Bronx, with the two smallest average school sizes, had the two largest per pupil allocations.

<b>School Size and Per Student Allocations Grades Pre-K Through 8, School Year 2013-2014</b>		
<b>Borough</b>	<b>Per Pupil Allocation</b>	<b>Average School Size</b>
Bronx	\$8,902	558
Manhattan	\$8,647	442
Staten Island	\$8,536	710
Brooklyn	\$8,365	573
Queens	\$7,341	773
<b>Citywide</b>	<b>\$8,255</b>	<b>601</b>

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SOURCE: IBO analysis of Department of Education data

NOTES: Excludes high schools and schools in the citywide special education district (district 75) because they are not evenly distributed across community school districts. Spending allocated to school budgets exclude fringe benefits.

Prepared by Raymond Domanico  
New York City Independent Budget Office

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