

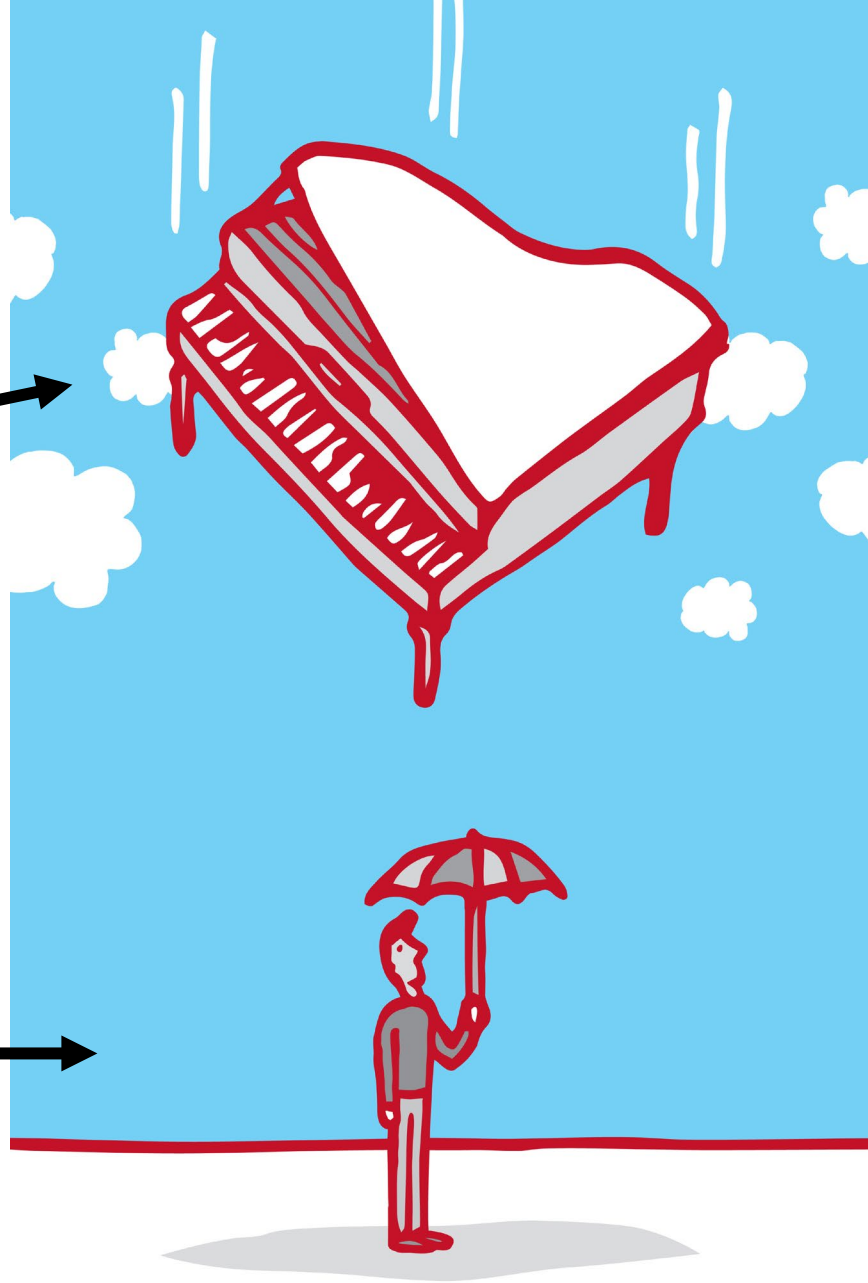


THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
EDUCATION LAB
Urban Labs

Overcoming Pandemic Learning Loss

Jens Ludwig
University of Chicago

Pandemic learning loss

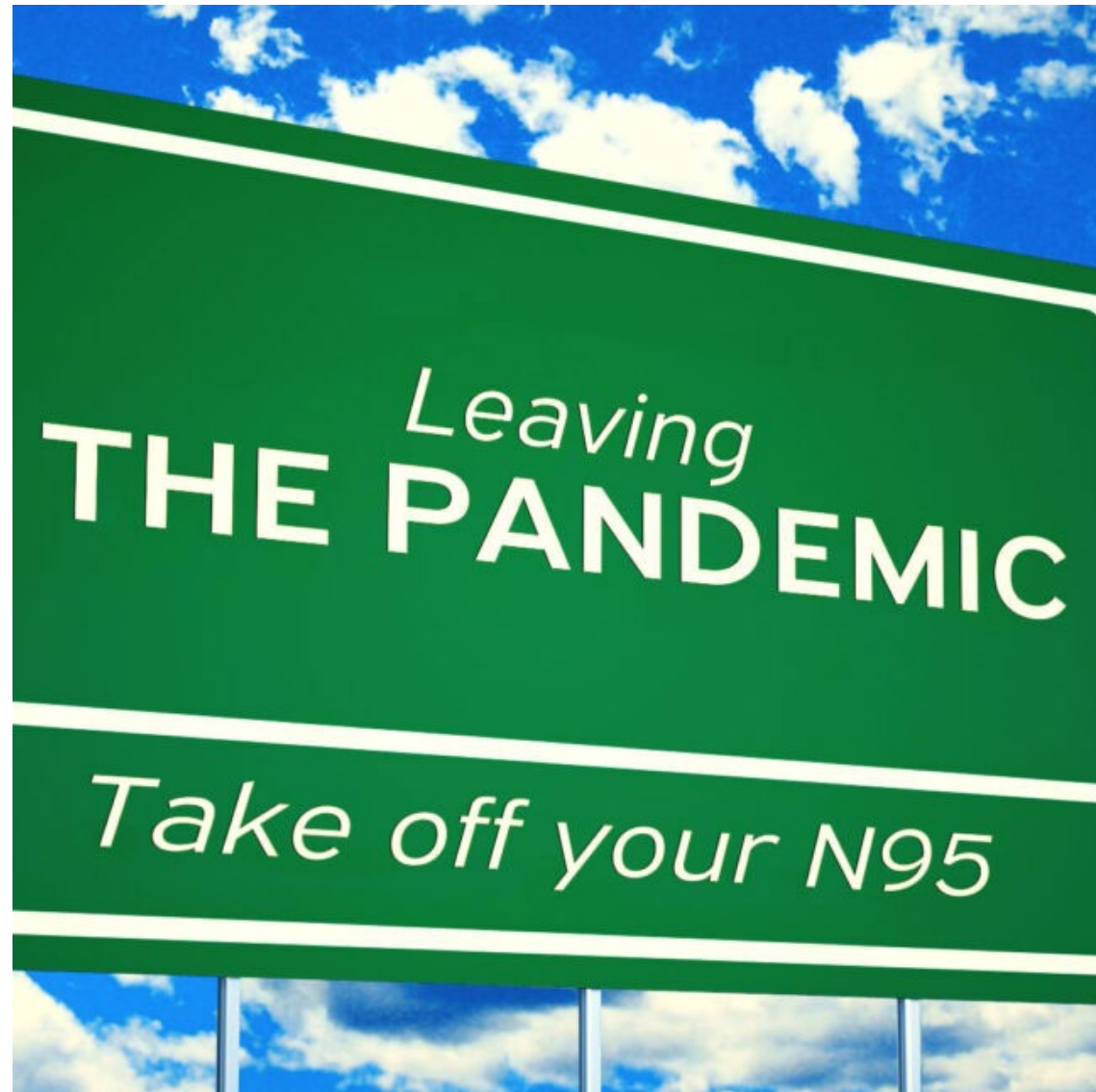


City of Chicago



Solution is known

It's just a want of \$



The New York Times

U.S. Students' Progress Stagnated Last School Year, Study Finds

Despite billions in federal aid, students are not making up ground in reading and math: “We are actually seeing evidence of backsliding.”

The Nation's Report Card



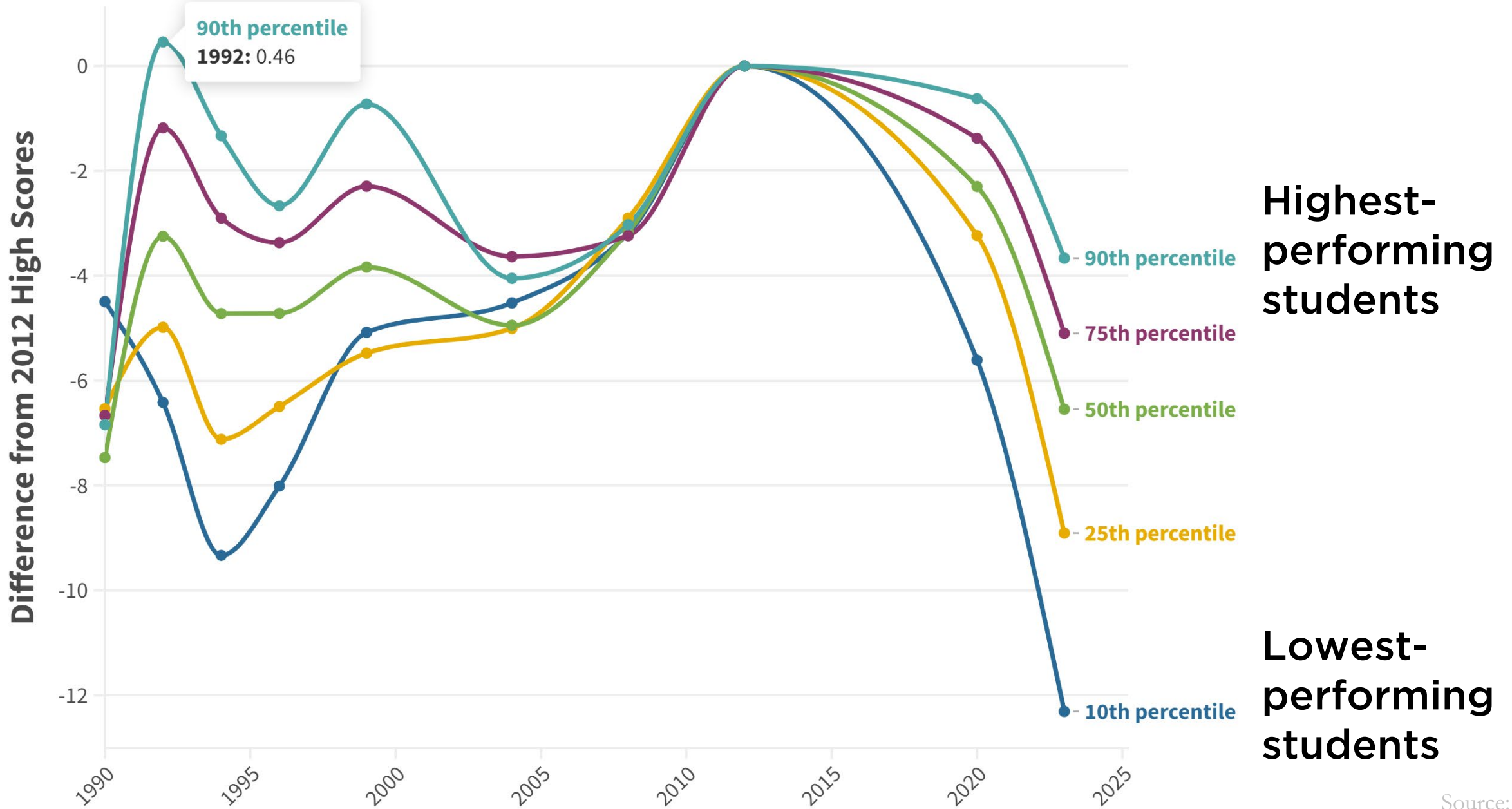
Pros:

1. Same types of students tested every year
2. Same type of test every year

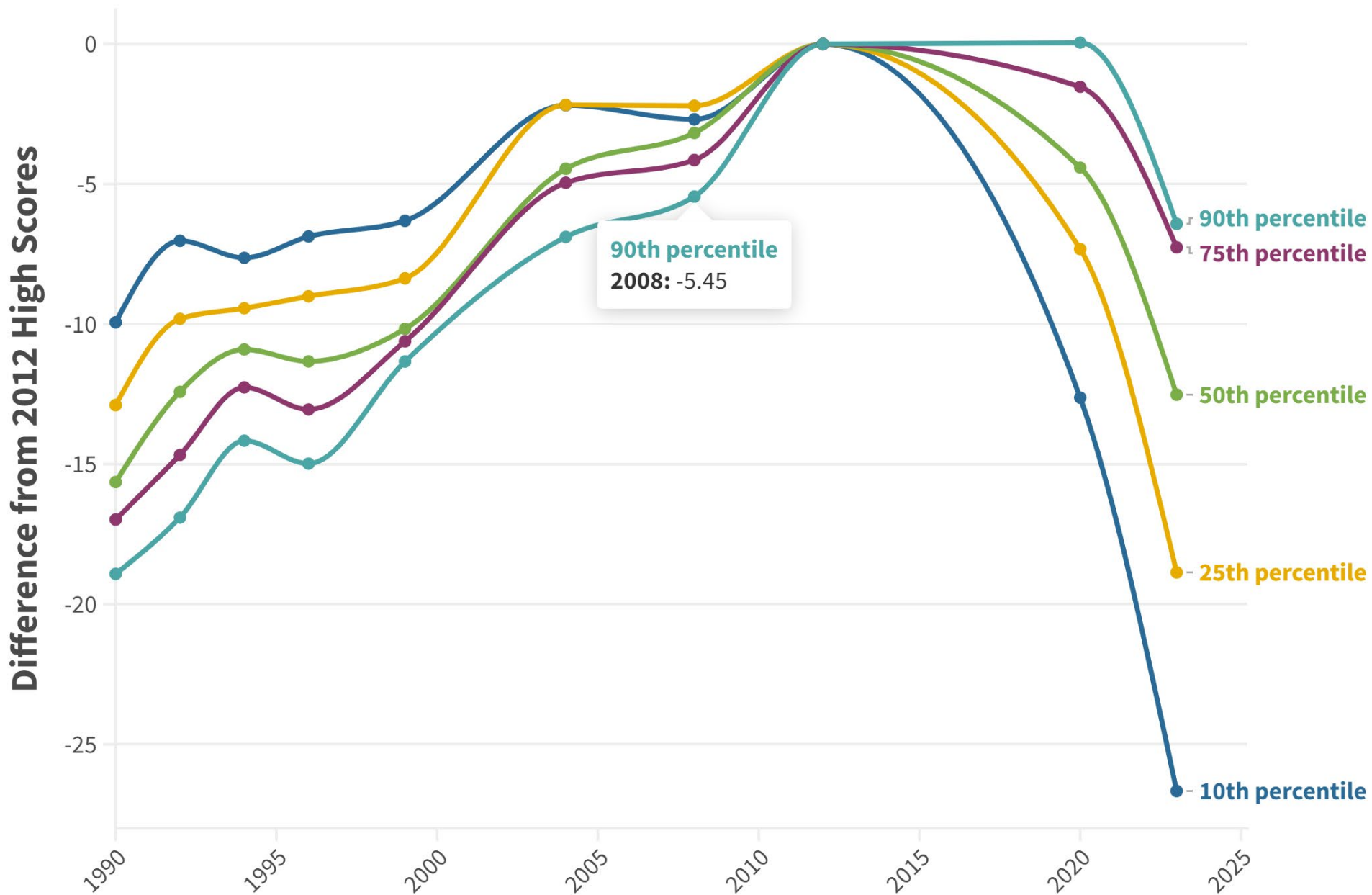
Cons:

1. National data (not specific to Chicago)

NAEP LTT Age 13 Reading Scores Relative to 2012: 1990-2023



NAEP LTT Age 13 Math Scores Relative to 2012: 1990-2023



Highest-performing students

Lowest-performing students





This will have lasting impacts (not a short-term blip...)

**Dropout odds
increase...**

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4x

If can't read at grade level by 3rd grade

Source: Hernandez (2011), Schachter (2013)

This will have lasting impacts (not a short-term blip...)

Dropout odds increase...

4x

If can't read at grade level by 3rd grade

5x

If don't pass 9th grade required math (algebra)

Source: Hernandez (2011), Schachter (2013)

Lost lifetime income from lost half a year of school...

Hispanic students **\$104,313**

Black students **\$102,014**

Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce analysis of the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2019; Oreopoulos (2006)

Lost lifetime income from lost half a year of school...

Hispanic students **\$104,313**

Black students **\$102,014**

Educational inequality = Future income inequality

Source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce analysis of the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2009-2019; Oreopoulos (2006)

○ For the rest of city: More violent crime in the future

0.5

year of lost
education



14%

increase in
homicide rate



85

more murders per
year, every year

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Not fixing pandemic learning loss guarantees that gun violence remains our #1 concern 10 years in the future

**Crime and safety are the top issues
for nearly half of Chicago voters**



**Crime Tops Chicago Voters' List of
Issues in Mayoral Race, Poll Shows**



Source: Lochner and Moretti (2004),
NBC Chicago (2023); WBEZ Chicago (2023)

○ Two most important predictors of city economic growth

Two most important predictors of city economic growth



Two most important predictors of city economic growth



Two most important predictors of city economic growth





We already know the
pedagogical solution.



“And I’d like to challenge all of our district leaders to set a **goal of giving every child that fell behind** during the pandemic at least 30 minutes per day, three times per week, with a **well-trained tutor...**”

– Miguel Cardona,
Secretary of Education



“This is a rare opportunity. Research doesn’t often supply significant evidence that points to the promise of a specific academic intervention.

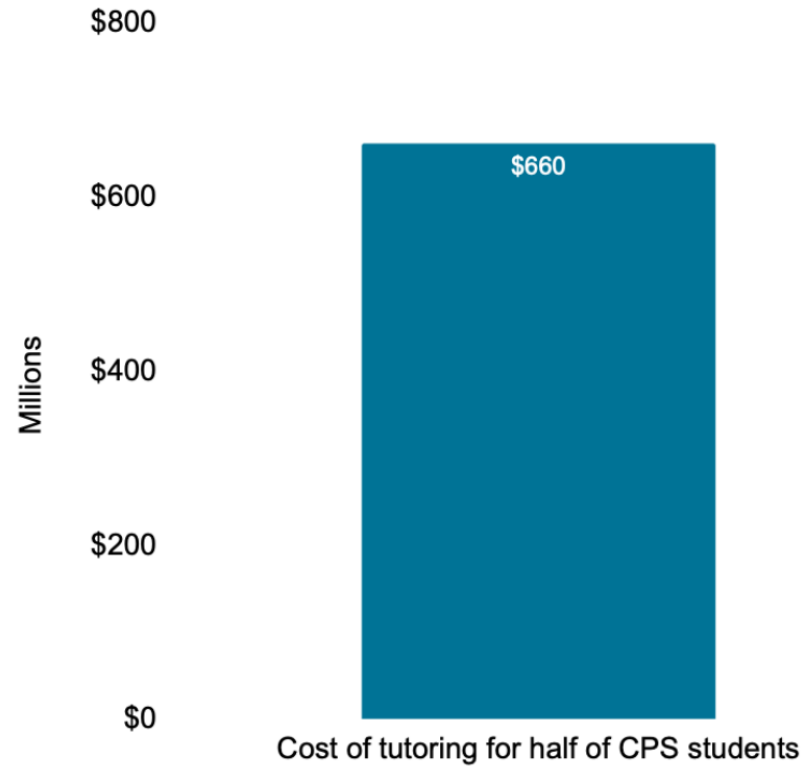
Yet, findings over several years show strongly positive effects of tutoring across grade levels and subject areas ranging from half a year to more than a year of learning over one academic year of tutoring. Often, these results are based on studies of students who are far behind grade level.

– Becky Pringle,
NEA President



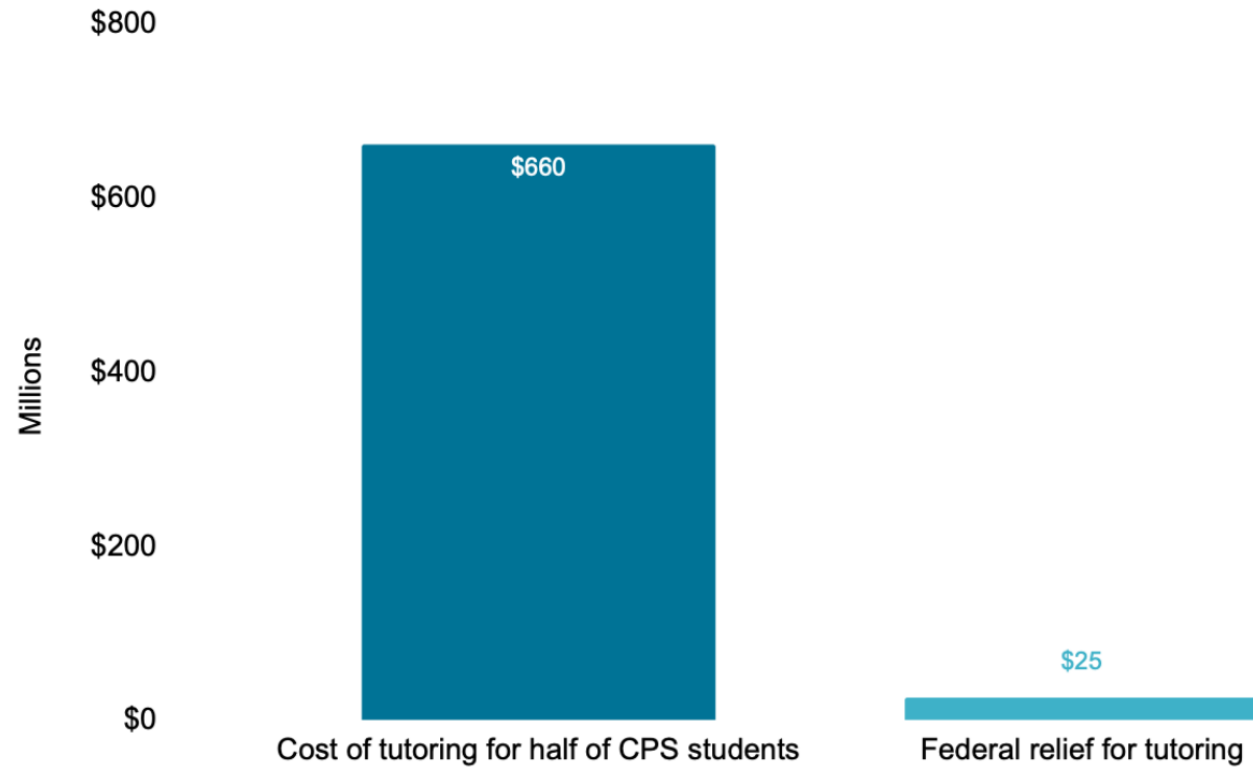


Current federal \$ not enough to solve this problem





Current federal \$ not enough to solve this problem



○ Funding more tutoring should be *everyone's* priority

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Federal
government

○ Funding more tutoring should be *everyone's* priority



Federal
government



State
government

○ Funding more tutoring should be *everyone's* priority



Federal
government



State
government



Local
philanthropy



Thank You

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Learn more at educationlab.uchicago.edu

