



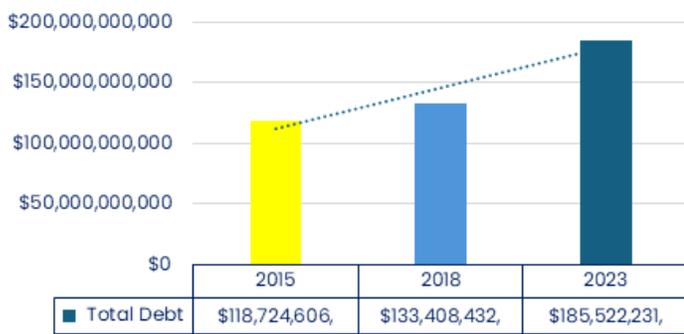
TEXAS PUBLIC POLICY FOUNDATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND DEBT

KEY FACTS:

- TEXAS SPENT \$92.4B OR \$16,792 PER STUDENT ON PUBLIC EDUCATION IN 2022-2023
- TEXAS PUBLIC ISDS OWE \$185.5B IN DEBT IN 2023 OR \$33,542 PER STUDENT
- SINCE THEN, A FURTHER \$17.1B IN DEBT HAS BEEN APPROVED

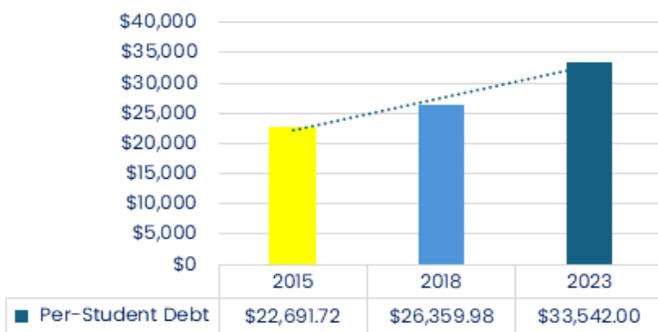
Total Statewide School District Bond Debt



Texas school districts are accumulating debt at an unsustainable rate. Total outstanding bond debt has skyrocketed by \$66.7 billion since 2015, from \$118.7 billion to a staggering \$185.5 billion in 2023. This comes out to an incredible \$33,542 in outstanding per-student debt. This debt accounts for 53.3% of all local debt in Texas.

Bond debt, often promoted as a means to improve education, is increasingly used for lavish construction projects like massive football stadiums and extravagant facilities.

Per-Student Statewide ISD Bond Debt



This spending is driven by a network of school bond campaign PACs, oftentimes funded by the same architecture, engineering, construction, and consulting firms that benefit from these bonds and from the constant flow of tax dollars into the public school system.

This unchecked spending lands squarely on the taxpayers. The \$18B of property tax relief passed by the Texas Legislature will have disappeared by the summer of 2025.

Note: Data from Texas Bond Review Board and TEA.

STEAM CENTER, ALLEN ISD



CY-FAIR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION STADIUM



The future of Texas education depends on responsible spending. We must act now to rein in school district bond debt and prioritize what truly matters: preparing our students for success.