The mission of the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) is to ensure that all Rhode Island students are ready for success in college, careers, and life. In Fiscal Year 2014, RIDE has 357.4 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions distributed among four main functions: Administration of the Comprehensive Education Strategy (ACES); Davies Career and Technical School; School for the Deaf; and distribution of Education Aid to local education agencies (e.g., school districts, charter schools). RIDE also provides financial support to Central Falls and the Metropolitan Career and Technical School, but FTE positions in those systems are not RIDE employees.

Department of Education – Fiscal Year 2014

The majority of funding for RIDE in FY 2014 comes from general revenue (78.7 percent), followed by federal funds at 18.4 percent. Restricted receipts, capital plan funds and operating transfers account for 2.9 percent of funding. RIDE’s largest category of expenditure is aid to local government (89.4 percent), followed by personnel and contract services (7.2 percent). Operating supplies, other assistance and grants, and capital purchases collectively account for 3.4 percent of expenditures. The tables below illustrate the sources of funding for RIDE and how funds are budgeted in FY 2014.\(^1\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RIDE Budget by Source, FY 2014</th>
<th>RIDE Budget by Category, FY 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Revenue $964,706,909</td>
<td>Personnel &amp; Contract Services $87,767,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Funds $225,746,654</td>
<td>Operating Supplies &amp; Expenses $12,468,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Receipts $27,658,516</td>
<td>Assistance &amp; Grants $21,470,207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RI Capital Plan Funds $7,561,187</td>
<td>Capital Purchases &amp; Equipment $7,723,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Funds $300,000</td>
<td>Aid to Local Units of Government $1,096,543,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong> $1,225,973,266</td>
<td><strong>Total</strong> $1,225,973,266</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Figures for RIDE’s funding sources and budget categories are based on the FY 2014 budget as enacted (2013 R.I. Pub. Laws, Ch. 144).
The science areas assessed by the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) are reported by domains: Physical Science, Earth & Space Science, Life Science, and Scientific Inquiry. This measure reflects student performance on the NECAP elementary science test.

**NECAP – ELEMENTARY SCIENCE**

**Figure A: Average NECAP Science Proficiency Score for Students Entering 4th Grade**

Key Points:
- Since 2008, proficiency on the 4th grade Science NECAP has increased 4.5 percentage points. In 2013, students did not attain RIDE’s goal of 60.0 percent proficiency.
- In 2013, 10,749 4th graders took the science assessment. Students scored well on the Physical Science domain of the test but needed improvement in Scientific Inquiry. Scientific Inquiry requires students to answer questions based on the results of an actual scientific investigation.

The science areas assessed by the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) are reported by domains: Physical Science, Earth & Space Science, Life Science, and Scientific Inquiry. This measure reflects student performance on the NECAP middle school science test.

**NECAP – MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE**

**Figure B: Average NECAP Science Proficiency Score for Students Entering 8th Grade**

Key Points:
- Since 2008, proficiency on the 8th grade Science NECAP has increased 11.1 percentage points. In 2013, students did not attain RIDE’s goal of 38.0 percent proficiency.
- In 2013, 9,945 8th graders took the science assessment. Students scored well on the Life & Physical Science domains of the test but needed improvement in Scientific Inquiry.

**NOTE:** NECAP reading and math tests are administered each October. NECAP science tests are administered in May. Data are graphed by the calendar year in which a test is conducted.
The science areas assessed by the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) are reported by domains: Physical Science, Earth & Space Science, Life Science, and Scientific Inquiry. This measure reflects student performance on the NECAP high school science test.

**Figure C: Average NECAP Science Proficiency Score for Students Entering 11th Grade**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key Points:**
- Since 2008, proficiency on the 11th grade Science NECAP has increased 13.7 percentage points. In 2013, students did not attain RIDE’s goal of 49.0 percent proficiency.
- In 2013, 10,065 11th graders took the science assessment. Students scored well on the Life Science domain of the test but needed improvement in Scientific Inquiry.

The mathematics areas assessed by NECAP are reported in four subject areas or strands: Numbers and Operation, Geometry and Measurement, Functions and Algebra, and Data, Statistics and Probability. This measure reflects the performance of the NECAP elementary math test.

**Figure D: Average NECAP Mathematics Proficiency Score for Students Entering 4th Grade**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Score</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key Points:**
- Since 2007, proficiency on the 4th grade Math NECAP has increased 10.6 percentage points. In 2012, students did not attain RIDE’s goal of 77.0 percent proficiency.
- In 2012, 10,763 4th graders took the math assessment. Students scored well on the Numbers and Operations strand of the test but needed improvement in Functions and Algebra, and Data, Statistics and Probability.
The mathematics areas assessed by NECAP are reported in four subject areas or strands: Numbers and Operation, Geometry and Measurement, Functions and Algebra, and Data, Statistics and Probability. This measure reflects student performance on the NECAP middle school math test.

**NECAP – MIDDLE SCHOOL MATHEMATICS**

**Key Points:**

- Since 2007, proficiency on the 8th grade Math NECAP has increased 10.0 percentage points. In 2012, students did not attain RIDE’s goal of 66.0 percent proficiency.
- In 2012, 9,922 8th graders took the math assessment. Students scored well on the Functions and Algebra strand of the test but needed improvement in Geometry and Measurement.

**NECAP – HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS**

The mathematics areas assessed by NECAP are reported in four subject areas or strands: Numbers and Operation, Geometry and Measurement, Functions and Algebra, and Data, Statistics and Probability. This measure reflects student performance on the NECAP high school math test.

**Key Points:**

- Since 2007, proficiency on the 11th grade Math NECAP has increased 12.0 percentage points. In 2012, students did not attain RIDE’s goal of 50.0 percent proficiency.
- In 2012, 10,438 11th graders took the math assessment. Students scored well on the Functions and Algebra and Geometry and Measurement strand of the test but needed improvement in Numbers and Operations.
The reading areas assessed by NECAP are reported five subject areas or strands: Word Identification/Vocabulary, Literary Text, Informational Text, Initial Understanding Comprehension, and Analysis and Interpretation Comprehension. This measure reflects the performance of the NECAP elementary reading test.

**Figure G: Average NECAP Reading Proficiency Score for Students Entering 4th Grade**

**Key Points:**

- Since 2007, proficiency on the 4th grade Reading NECAP has increased 5.4 percentage points. In 2012, students did not attain RIDE’s goal of 81.0 percent proficiency.
- In 2012, 10,685 4th graders took the reading assessment. Students scored well on the Word Identification and Vocabulary strand of the test but needed improvement in Analysis and Interpretation.

The reading areas assessed by NECAP are reported five subject areas or strands: Word Identification/Vocabulary, Literary Text, Informational Text, Initial Understanding Comprehension, and Analysis and Interpretation Comprehension. This measure reflects student performance on the NECAP middle school reading test.

**Figure H: Average NECAP Reading Proficiency Score for Students Entering 8th Grade**

**Key Points:**

- Since 2007, proficiency on the 8th grade Reading NECAP has increased 15.8 percentage points. In 2012, students did not attain RIDE’s goal of 82.0 percent proficiency.
- In 2012, 9,781 8th graders took the reading assessment. Students scored well on the Word Identification and Vocabulary strand of the test but needed improvement in Informational Text.
The reading areas assessed by NECAP are reported five subject areas or strands: Word Identification/Vocabulary, Literary Text, Informational Text, Initial Understanding Comprehension, and Analysis and Interpretation Comprehension. This measure reflects student performance on the NECAP high school reading test.

Figure I: Average NECAP Reading Proficiency Score for Students Entering 11th Grade

![Bar chart showing average NECAP reading proficiency scores for students entering 11th grade from 2007 to 2012.](chart_image)

Key Points:
- Since 2007, proficiency on the 11th grade Reading NECAP has increased 16.8 percentage points. In 2012, students did not attain RIDE’s goal of 83.0 percent proficiency.
- In 2012, 10,390 11th graders took the reading assessment. Students scored well on the Word Identification and Vocabulary strand of the test but needed improvement in Analysis and Interpretation.

RIDE seeks to ensure that Rhode Island students who earn a high school diploma or its equivalent are ready for entry into college or post-secondary education and training programs.

Figure J: Percent of Students Graduating within Four Years of Entering High School

![Bar chart showing percent of students graduating within four years of entering high school from 2008 to 2012.](chart_image)

Key Points:
- Since 2008, graduation rates have increased 1.1 percentage points. In 2012, students did not attain RIDE’s goal of 80.0 percent.
- In 2012, 9,562 students graduated from Rhode Island public schools.