

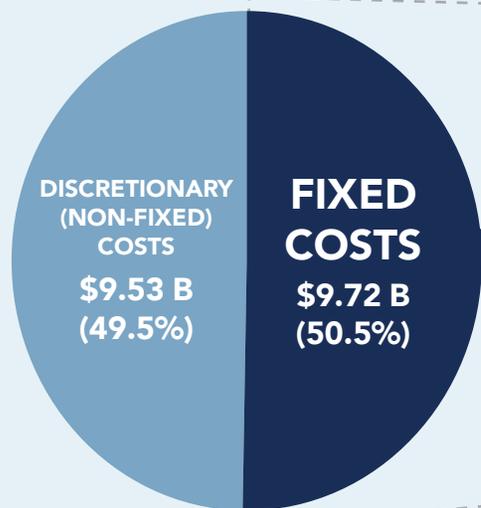
CONNECTICUT'S FIXED COSTS

In fiscal year 2019, Connecticut's total General Fund expenditures were approximately \$19.25 billion. Over half of those expenditures were categorized as "fixed costs."

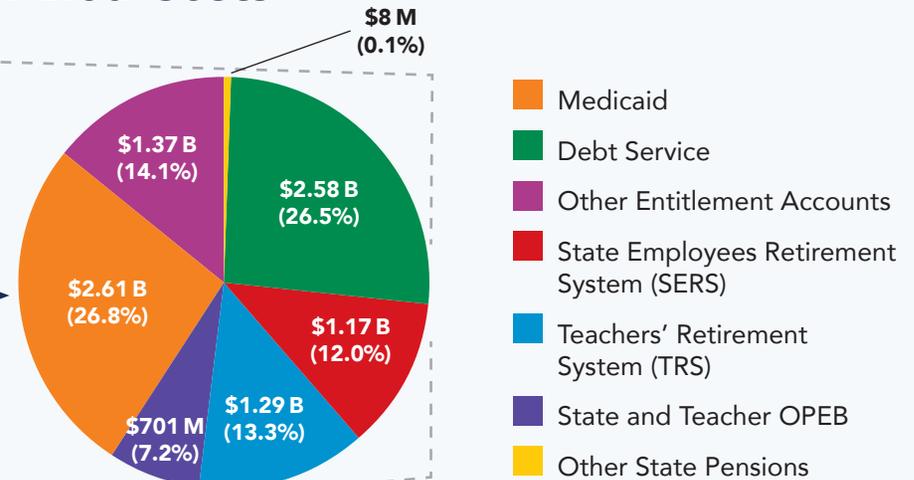
As the State's fixed costs are increasing, the amount of money available for the discretionary —or non-fixed—portion of Connecticut's General Fund is shrinking.

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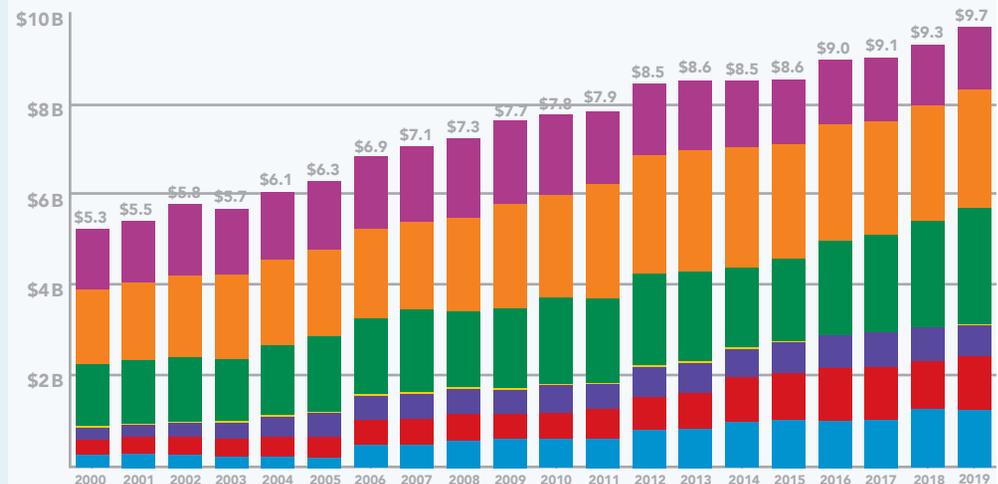
General Fund Expenditures



Fixed Costs



Growth of CT's Fixed Costs (in 2019-adjusted dollars) (in billions)



- Connecticut's fixed costs have increased from 35.2% of General Fund expenditures in FY 2000 to 50.5% of General Fund expenditures in FY 2019.
- In terms of total dollars, Connecticut's fixed costs have risen from \$5.28 billion in FY 2000 to \$9.72 billion in FY 2019 — a 84% increase. During the same time period, Connecticut's total General Fund discretionary spending, or non-fixed costs, decreased by \$180 million.
- Contributing to this increase have been the State's rising contributions to the State Employees Retirement System (SERS) and Teachers' Retirement System (TRS), as well as increases in debt service payments.
- Since FY 2000, the State's contributions to SERS and TRS have increased by \$851 million (269%) and \$988 million (325%), respectively.
- While in FY 2000 contributions to SERS and TRS accounted for 11.8% of Connecticut's total fixed costs, they accounted for 25.3% in FY 2019.
- Additionally, since FY 2000, debt service payments have increased from roughly \$1.38 billion to \$2.58 billion in FY 2019 — an increase of \$1.2 billion or 87.4%.

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Founded in 2015, the School and State Finance Project is a nonpartisan, nonprofit policy organization, focused on education funding and state finance issues, with a commitment to providing independent analysis, building public knowledge, improving transparency, and developing fair, sustainable solutions.