



Graduate School of Education
PennGSE

Assessing Adequacy in Education Spending: A Summary of Key Findings

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Philadelphia City Council Committee on Education

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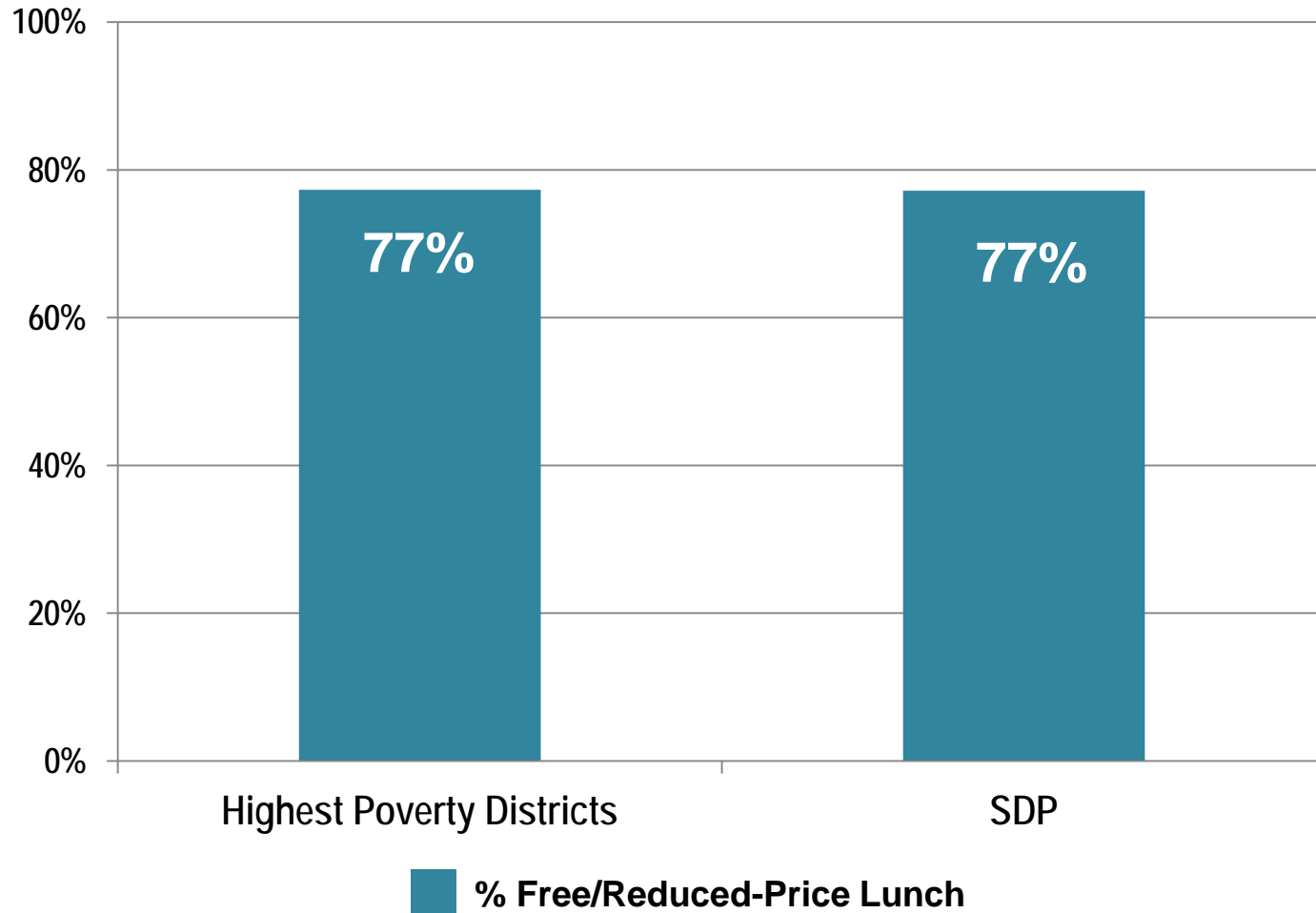
Our Investigation

- A comprehensive (and ongoing) assessment of:
 1. The legislative, legal and policy context shaping education funding both locally and nationally;
 2. Funding trends – the sources of education funding and expenditures per-pupil – both locally and nationally; and
 3. Issues related to equitable and adequate funding, on a per-pupil basis, throughout the Commonwealth, with a focus on the School District of Philadelphia (SDP)

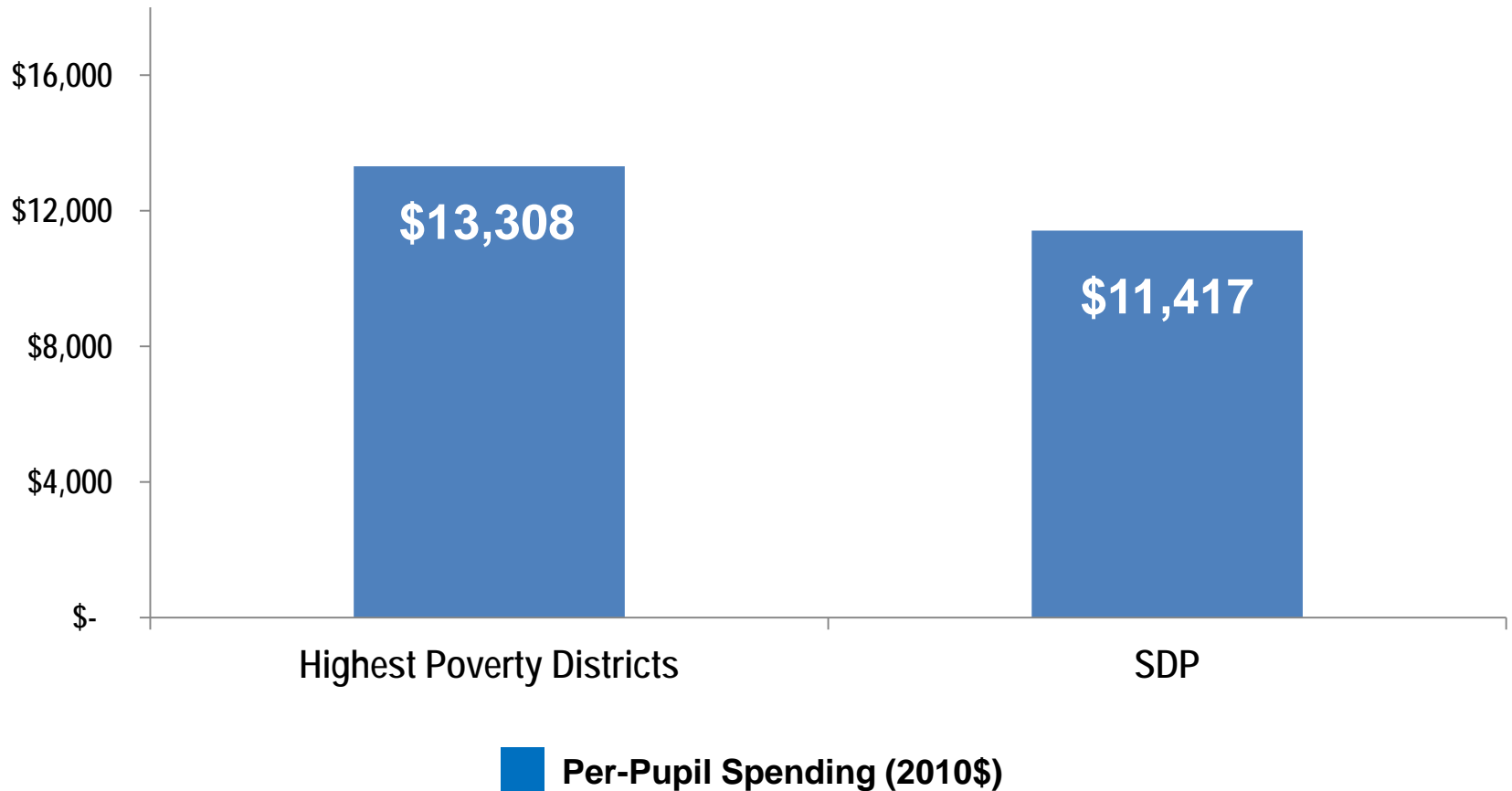
Our Findings

- Statewide, we find that:
 - The adequacy gap during the 2009-10 school year was largest in the poorest and lowest achieving districts
 - In 2009-10, the adequacy gap for all (non-charter) districts was, on average, \$751 per-pupil
 - These estimates suggest that an additional \$1.26 billion was required to account for the adequacy gap
- In the School District of Philadelphia (SDP),
 - Evidence suggests that rather than a story of failure, the district is a story of possibility
 - When comparing the SDP to peer districts in Pennsylvania that serve very similar students and produce very similar levels of educational outcomes, we find that:
 - The SDP is not only doing more, per-pupil, with its current resources, but also presents an opportunity for investment and growth

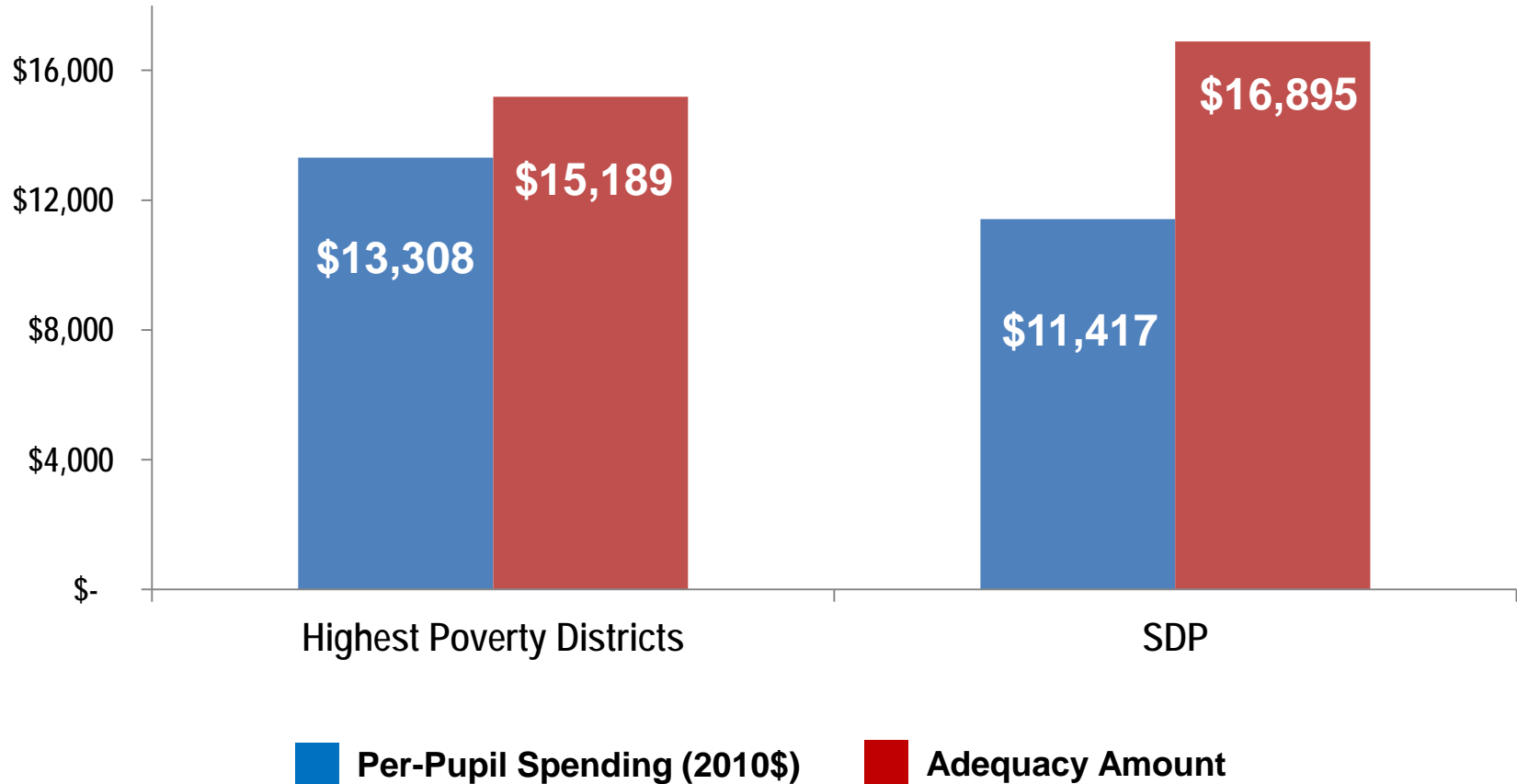
The Evidence: Education Spending by School Poverty



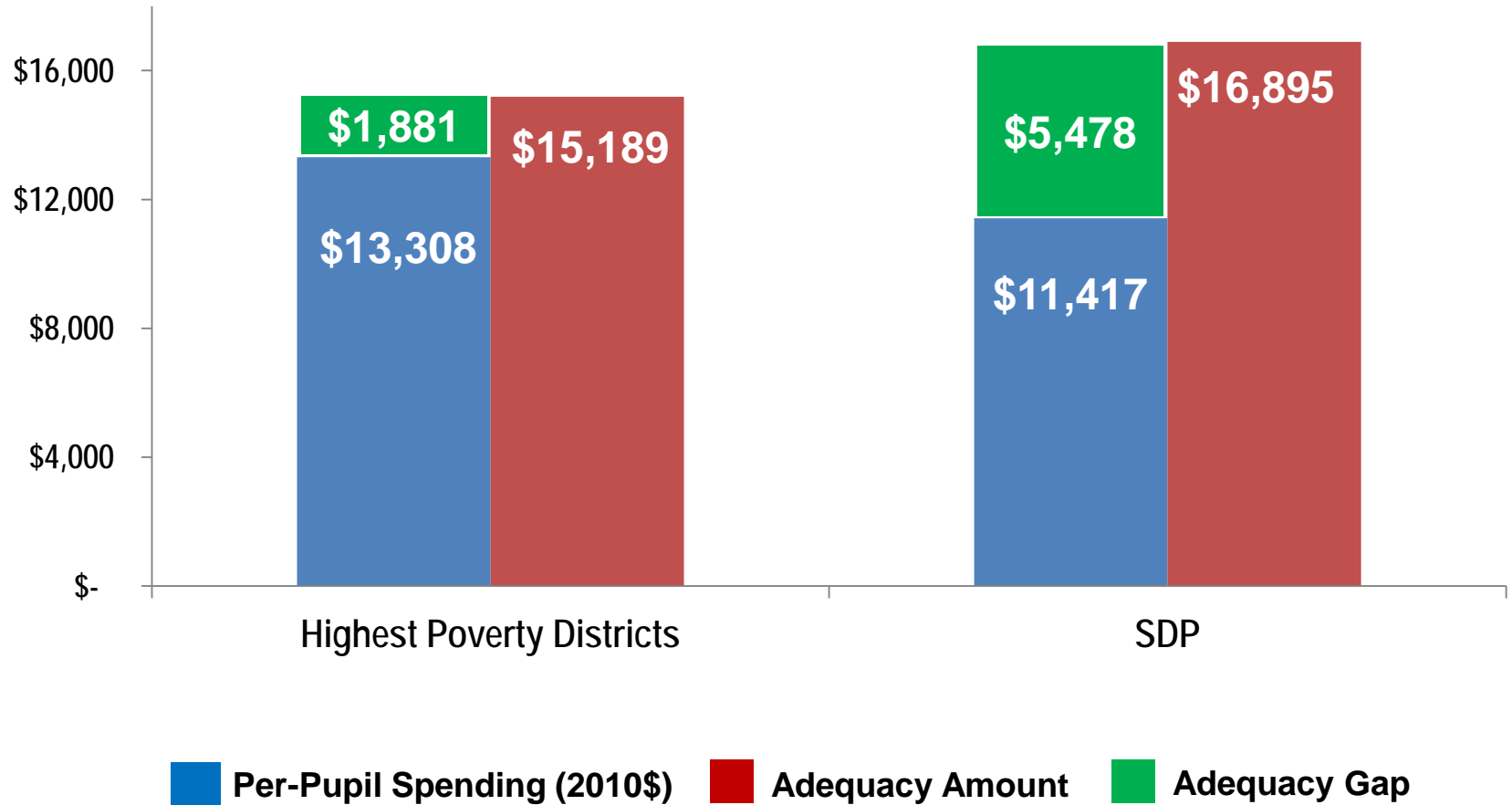
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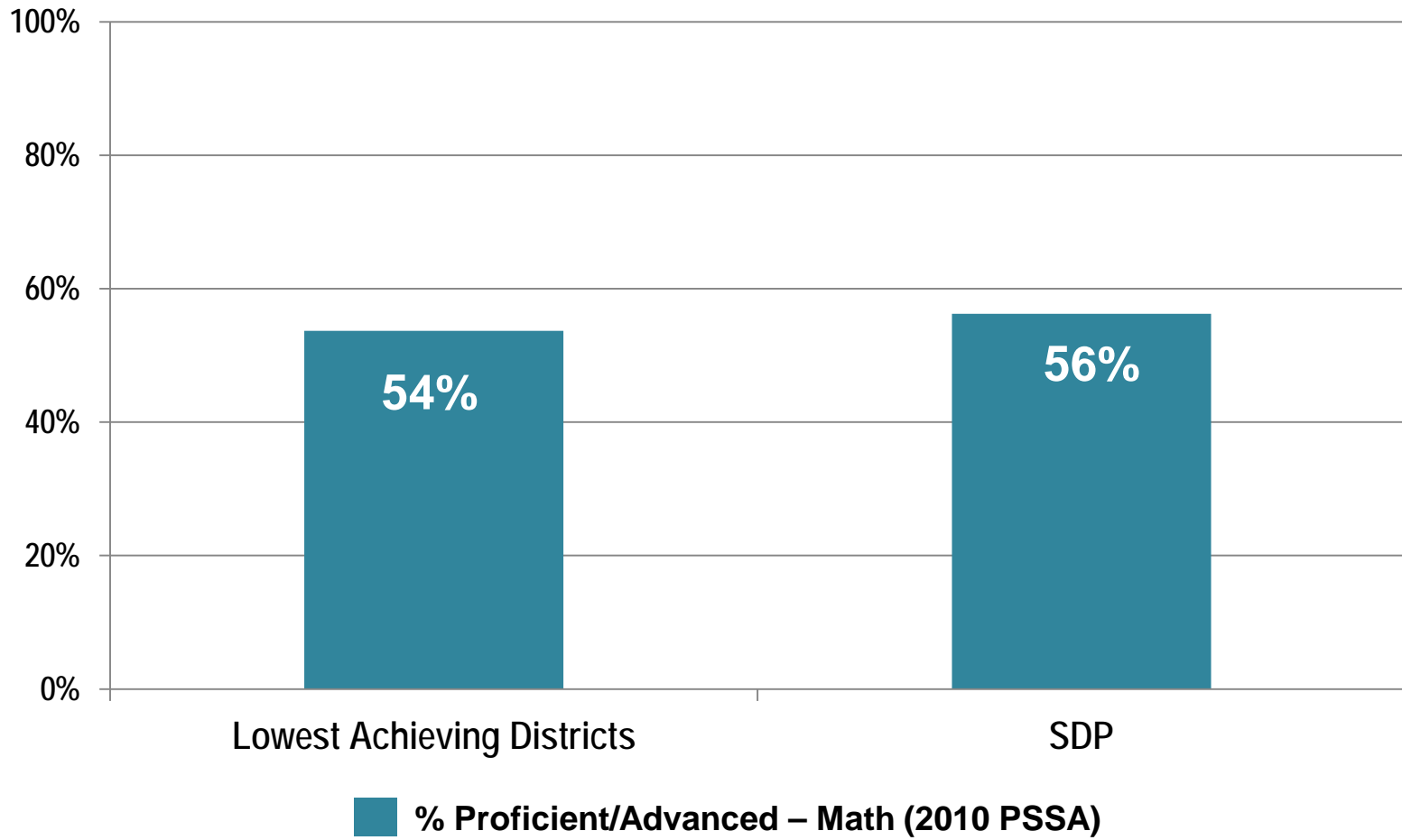
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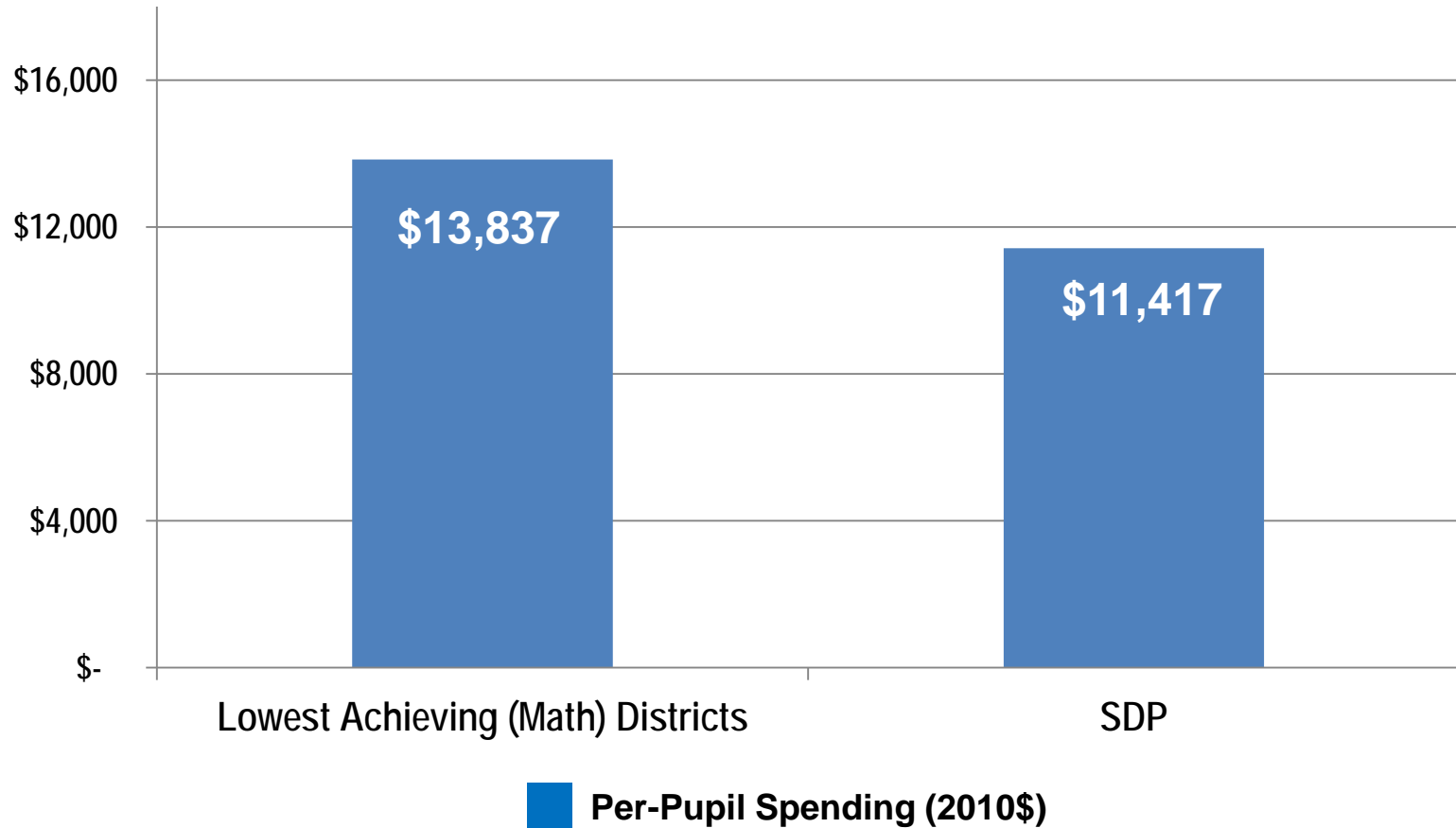
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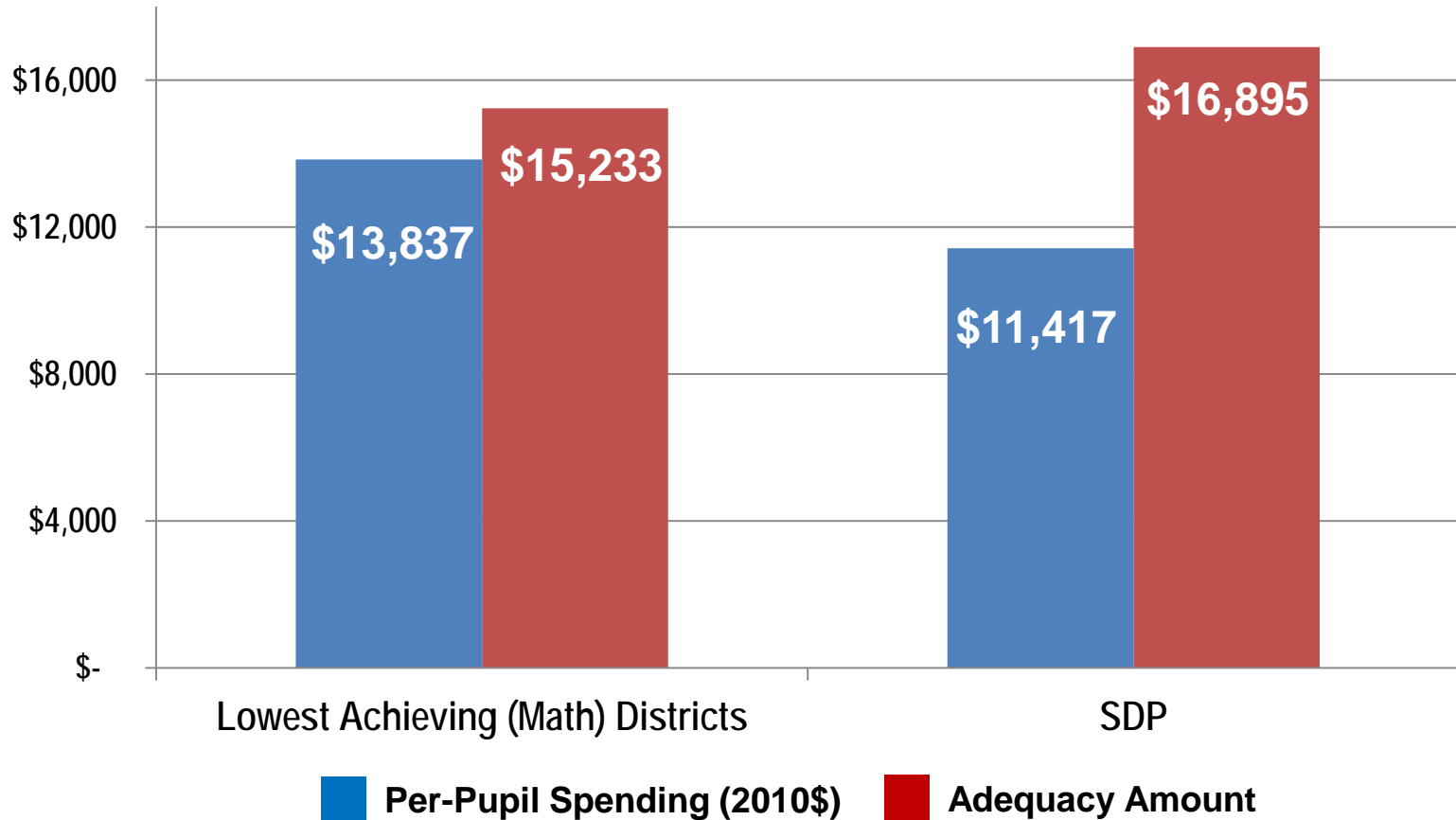
The Evidence: Education Spending by School Achievement



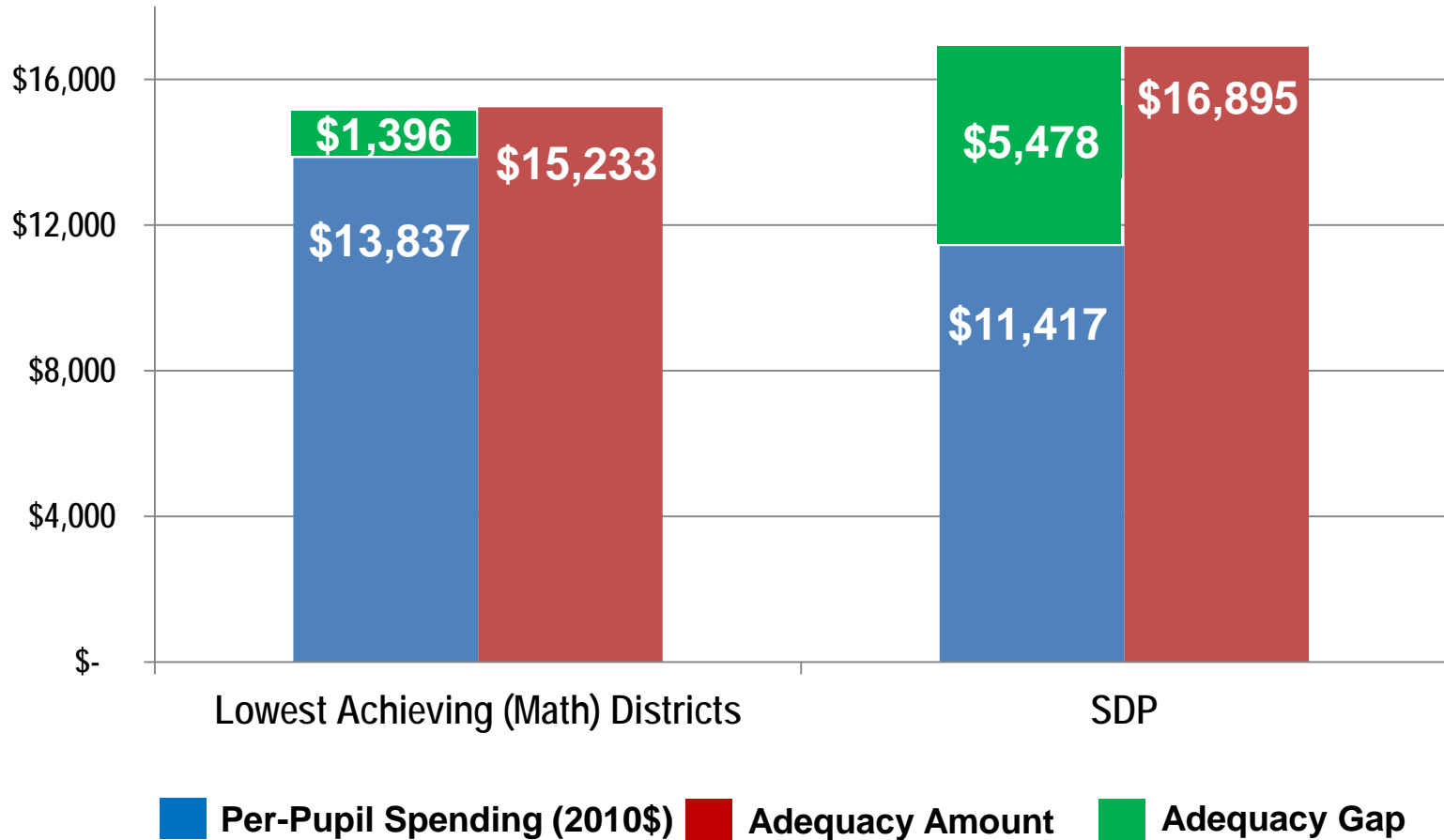
The Evidence: Education Spending by School Achievement



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The Evidence: Education Spending by School Achievement



The Possibility

- The SDP did more with less compared to peer districts
- Still, only half of the district's students were proficient in math and reading
- Therefore, adequate levels of resources are necessary so that all of the district's students can be successful academically



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Thank You

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