

State funding for schools:

- Looking at the **increase over the prior year for combined categorical and general aids (the middle column)**, FY06 was the year with the **greatest** increase in dollars (\$301.6 million) and in percent increase (6.2 percent). These increases were driven largely by the significant increase in state general/equalization aid (\$296.4M). The revenue limit adjustment for FY06 was \$248.48 per pupil.
- Looking at the increase over the prior year **only for categorical aids**, it appears FY19 was the year with the greatest dollar increase (\$190.3M) and FY18 was the year with the greatest percent increase (22.1 percent). It's important to note that these increases were driven largely by a significant increase in [the per-pupil categorical aid program](#) (2017 Act 9 increased this specific aid payment from \$250 per pupil in FY17 to \$450 per pupil in FY18 and \$654 per pupil in FY19 – this generated a biennial increase of \$505M).
- It may be possible that those who claim the “historic increase” are referring to the increase in state aids on a biennial basis (meaning the total dollar change for the two years of a biennium compared to the “base year doubled”). That said, the same pattern holds true: The 2005-07 biennial budget **showed the largest dollar and percent increases for state general aid and for combined categorical and general aids**. The 2017-19 budget contained **the largest dollar and percent increase for categorical aids** (largely due to the change in per pupil aid as referenced above).