

INNOVATIVE STATE EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSESSMENT INITIATIVES

**CCSSO Student Assessment
Conference**

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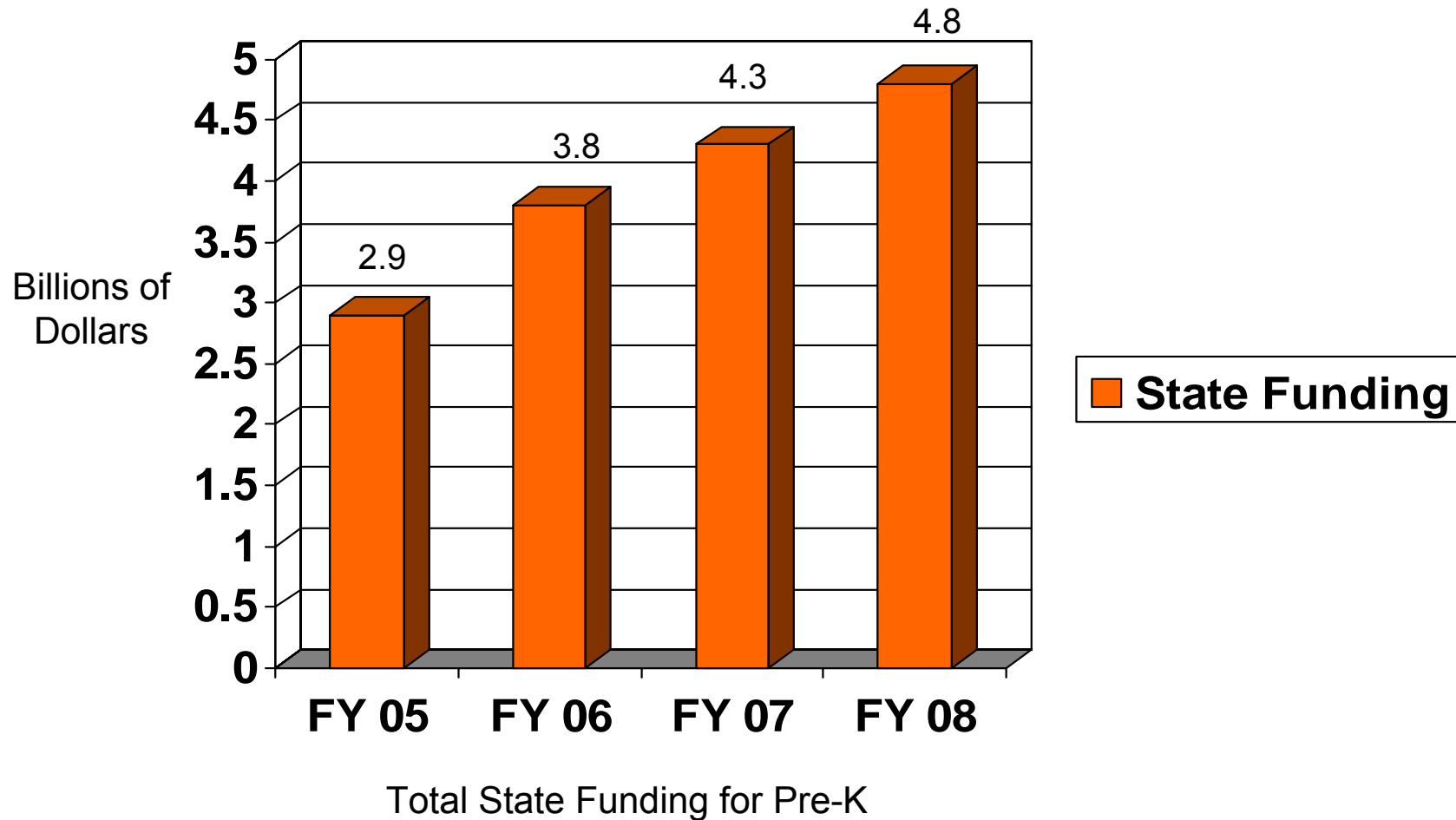
Road Map

- **Context for State Early Childhood Assessments**
- **State Assessments At-A-Glance**
- **Introduce State Leaders**

Context for State Early Childhood Assessments

- Expanding state investments
- Significance, persistence and early onset of achievement disparities
- Era of accountability

Pre-K Funding Trends

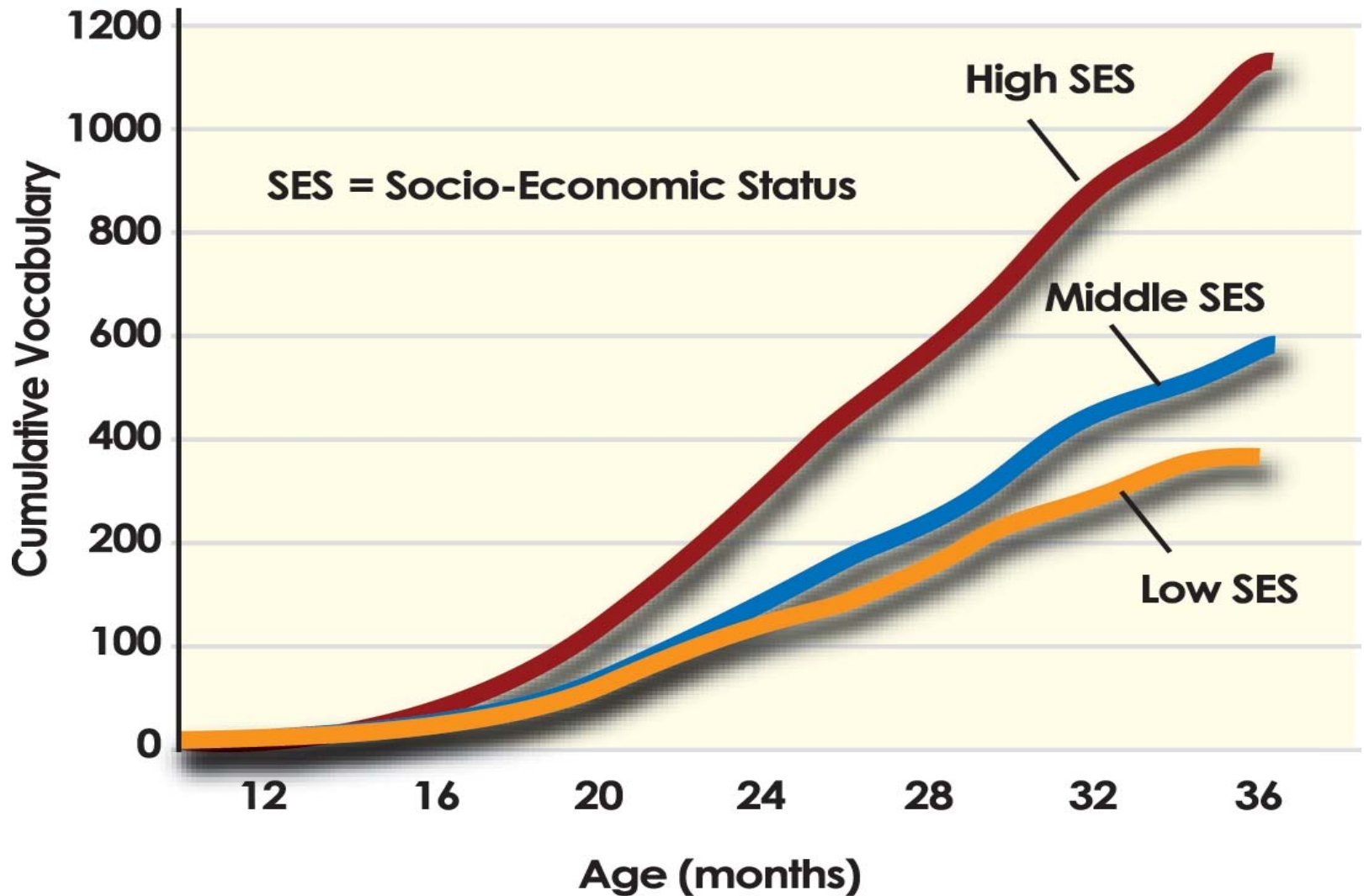


Source: Votes Count: Legislative Action on Pre-K Fiscal Year 2008, Pre-K Now

Increased State Investments

- \$13.6 billion overall state investment -
↑ \$1.2 billion from 2006-7
- \$8.46B child care - ↑ \$672M
- \$281M parent education - ↑\$31M
- \$347M early learning strategies -
↑\$26M.
- Early childhood special education
estimated @ additional \$6 billion

SES Differences in Early Vocabulary Growth



Era of Accountability

- Government Performance & Results Act
- No Child Left Behind
- Good Start/Grow Smart
- Results-Based Accountability/Kids Count
- Early childhood leaders skeptical & apprehensive about downward extension of high stakes child assessments

State Early Childhood Assessments

	Child Care	Head Start	State Pre-K	Special Education
Program Quality Standards	State Licensing Standards (49 states) Quality Rating Systems (QRS) (14 states + 29 pilots)	Program Performance Standards	State Program Standards (39 states)	IDEA regulations State program standards
Assessing Program Quality	Licensing Visits QRS Assessments	Federal Reviews	Program Monitoring (30 states)	State Program Monitoring (50 states)
Standards for Children's Learning	Early Learning Guidelines (49 states)	Child Outcomes Framework	Early Learning Guidelines (49 states)	3 functional goals
Child Assessments	No current requirements	National Reporting System*	Pre-K Assessments (13 states) Kg. Assessments (17 states)	States report % of children in 5 categories on 3 goals (50 states)
Research/Evaluations	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Kindergarten to Grade 3 Standards, Assessments, Data

Highlights/Challenges

- Assessments of program quality/inputs more established/wide-spread than assessments of children.
- Costs, burdens, confusion of multiple standards, assessments, & reports.
- Multiple new initiatives all at once.
- Pre-K standards, assessments, data aren't aligned/connected to K-3 and beyond.

Implications for State Leadership

- Move from multiple standards & assessments to a unified accountability system for all children/ programs.
- Align/link ECE & K-12 assessments/data.
- Combine & use data from program, classroom and child assessments.
- Resources for high quality assessments and data-driven program improvement.