sociological science

Supplement to:

Lee, Jiwan, Margot Jackson, Taryn Morrissey, and Christopher Wimer. 2026. “State-Level Investments in Children and Disparities in Material Hardship” Sociological Science 13: 1404-1430.

Online Supplement: State-Level Investments in Children and Disparities in Material Hardship

Appendix A. Percentage Change in State Spending per Child, 2012 to 2018

FigureA1-A. Total spending

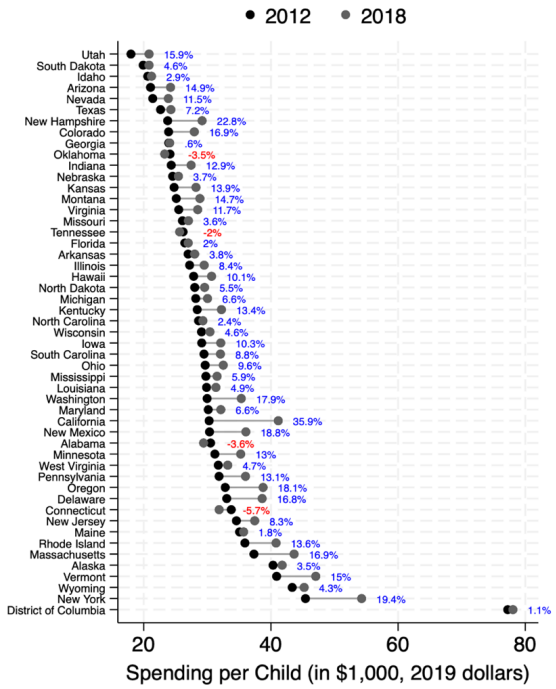


Figure A1-B. Education spending

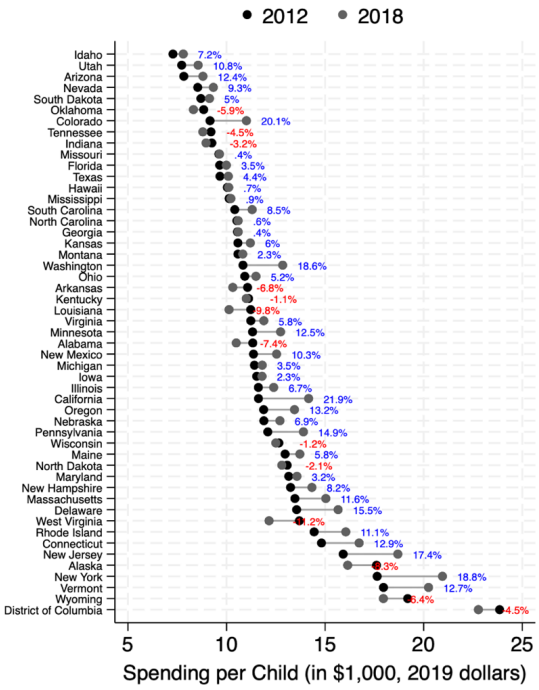


Figure A1-C. Cash and in-kind transfers spending

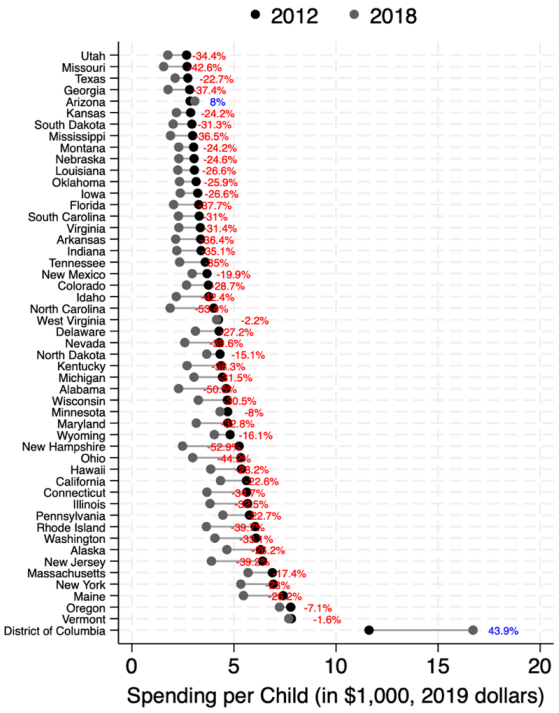


Figure A1-D. Tax credit spending

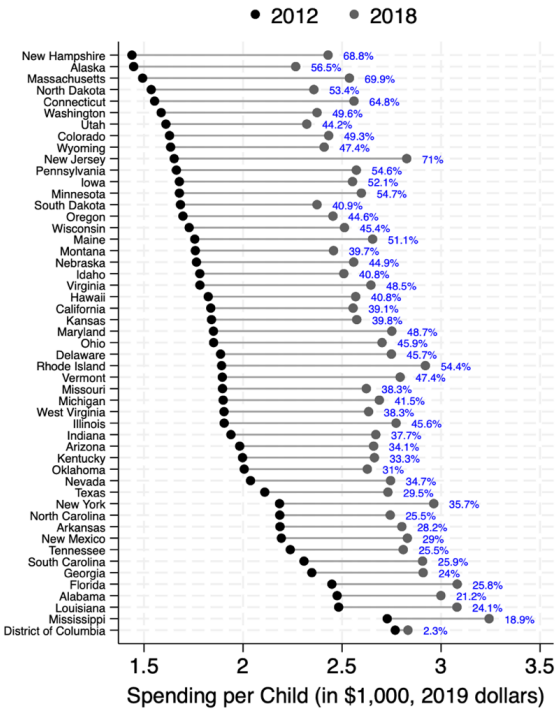


Figure A1-E. Health spending

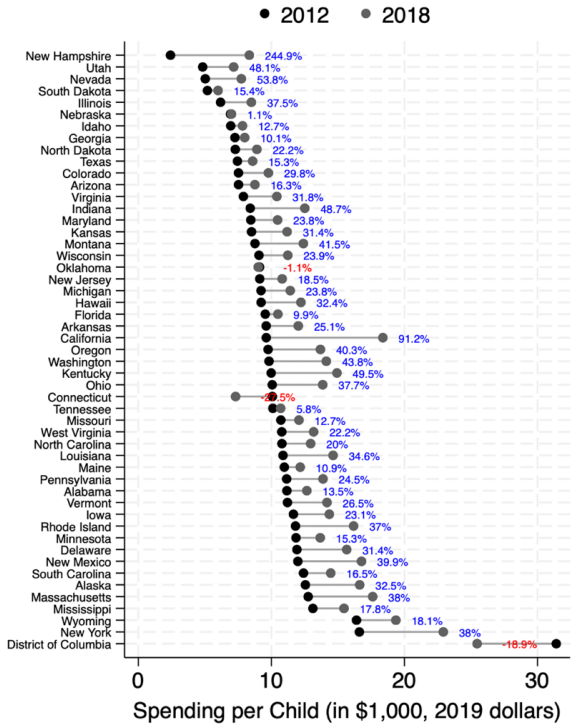
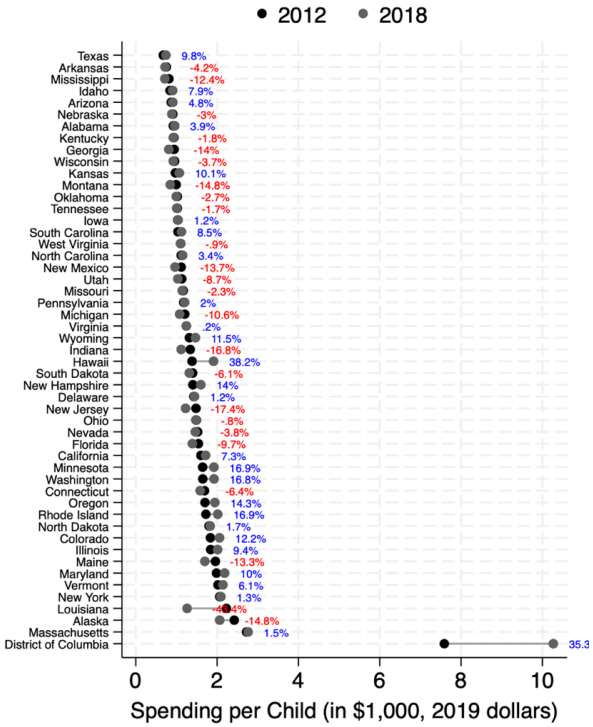


Figure A1-F. Other spending



Appendix B. Alternative models of association between total spending and hardship

Hardship:	Food (1)	Housing (2)	Utility (3)	Food (4)	Housing (5)	Utility (6)
Total spending	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.002	-0.001	-0.000
	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.002)
< 100% SPM	0.190**	0.106**	0.160**	0.162**	0.125**	0.178**
	(0.027)	(0.021)	(0.024)	(0.041)	(0.030)	(0.034)
100-200% SPM	0.109**	0.040**	0.061**	0.090**	0.010	0.027
	(0.018)	(0.014)	(0.016)	(0.024)	(0.019)	(0.023)
< 100% * Total spending	-0.003**	-0.001*	-0.002**	-0.002	-0.002*	-0.003**
	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)
100-200% * Total spending	-0.001	0.000	-0.000	-0.001	0.001	0.001
	(0.001)	(0.000)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)	(0.001)
Observations	42,436	42,436	42,436	19,887	19,887	19,887
R-squared	0.122	0.049	0.087	0.120	0.053	0.095
Current year spending	Y	Y	Y			
Prior year SPM status				Y	Y	Y

Note: Data from SIPP surveys 2013-2019 and State-by-State Spending on Kids Dataset 2012-2018 (2013-2019 for columns 1-3). Sample restricted to householder with at least one child under 18. Estimates from columns 1-3 are from a model examining the contemporaneous association between current state-year total child spending and hardships. Estimates from columns 4-6 are from a model using households' SPM poverty status in the prior year. Demographic controls include the age, race and ethnicity, education level, household type, employment status, metropolitan area, and citizenship and immigrant status of householder, as well as the number of adults and children, presence of person aged 65 and older and disabled person in household. Spending is scaled to $1,000 increments. All models include the interaction between total spending and poverty status measured by SPM (reference group: above 200% of SPM). Standard errors are clustered at the household level. ** p<0.01, * p<0.05.

Appendix C. Association between total spending and hardships: Households without children

Hardship:	Food	Housing	Utility
Total spending	-0.0003	-0.0010*	-0.0007
	(0.0006)	(0.0005)	(0.0005)
< 100% SPM	0.1827**	0.0522**	0.0872**
	(0.0177)	(0.0120)	(0.0143)
100-200% SPM	0.1310**	0.0263**	0.0717**
	(0.0133)	(0.0081)	(0.0099)
< 100% * Total spending	-0.0023**	-0.0004	-0.0008
	(0.0006)	(0.0004)	(0.0005)
100-200% * Total spending	-0.0011**	0.0000	-0.0008**
	(0.0004)	(0.0003)	(0.0003)
Observations	100,700	100,700	100,700
R-squared	0.1381	0.0431	0.0668

Note: Data from SIPP surveys 2013-2019 and State-by-State Spending on Kids Dataset 2012-2018. Sample restricted to householder *without* any child under 18. Demographic controls include the age, race and ethnicity, education level, household type, employment status, metropolitan area, and citizenship and immigrant status of householder, as well as the number of adults, presence of person aged 65 and older and disabled person in household. Spending is scaled to $1,000 increments. All models include the interaction between total spending and poverty status measured by SPM (reference group: above 200% of SPM). Standard errors are clustered at the household level. ** p<0.01, * p<0.05.