According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the average expenditure per pupil increased to $8,701 in 2005, up five percent from the previous year. The national No Child Left Behind Act, which places great emphasis on academic performance, financially penalizes school districts for not improving student standardized testing scores over time. According to the Brookings Institution, there is not a strong correlation between higher per pupil spending and greater test scores. The top spending district in the country, Washington D.C., has some of the lowest standardized test scores, while some states have students who perform very well on the tests, yet spend the least on its students.