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EDUCATION

SIMPLIFIED BUDGET - 2024

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH CENTER (EDRC)

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ABOUT THE INITIATIVE

The Economic Development and Research Center (EDRC), the Armenian Lawyers' Association and “Agora Central Europe” (Czech Republic) are jointly implementing the “Budgets 4 Citizens” (B4C) project with the financial support of the European Union.

B4C project aims to enhance civil society participation in budget processes and promote inclusive, transparent budgeting in Armenia.

The EDRC is a non-partisan think tank specializing in the monitoring and analysis of public programmes and policies. By focusing on efficiency, effectiveness, and targeting beneficiary satisfaction, the EDRC seeks to contribute professionally to policymaking and public discourse.

As part of the B4C project, the EDRC undertakes initiatives to: Increase the awareness and literacy of civil society organizations (CSOs) regarding budget processes; Strengthen CSO capacities in budget monitoring and analysis; Support effective CSO participation in policy development and implementation; Simplify budget information to foster public understanding.

The 2024 Education Simplified Budget is an analytical publication designed for a broad audience across various social groups. Its goal is to raise public awareness and facilitate informed dialogue between civil society and the public sector.

The main sources of information are the Budget Laws of the RA and reports on the implementation of the Annual Budget, as well as other official documents and data. Data on the Annual Budget for 2024 are programmatic, while data for 2023 and all previous years are actual. The document identifies expenditures for education sector with the amount of expenditures allocated to the Education and Science budget programmes.

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
CE	Council of Europe
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EDRC	Economic Development and Research Center
EI	Educational institution
EU	European Union
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
MoESCS	Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports
MTAI	Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure
MTEF	Medium-Term Expenditure Framework
PSE	Preschool Education
PVE	Primary Vocational (handicraft) education
PSVE	Primary (Craftsmanship) and Secondary Vocational Education
RA	Republic of Armenia
SNCO	State Non-Commercial Organization
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
SVE	Secondary Vocational Education
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
mln	million
bln	billion

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General Overview

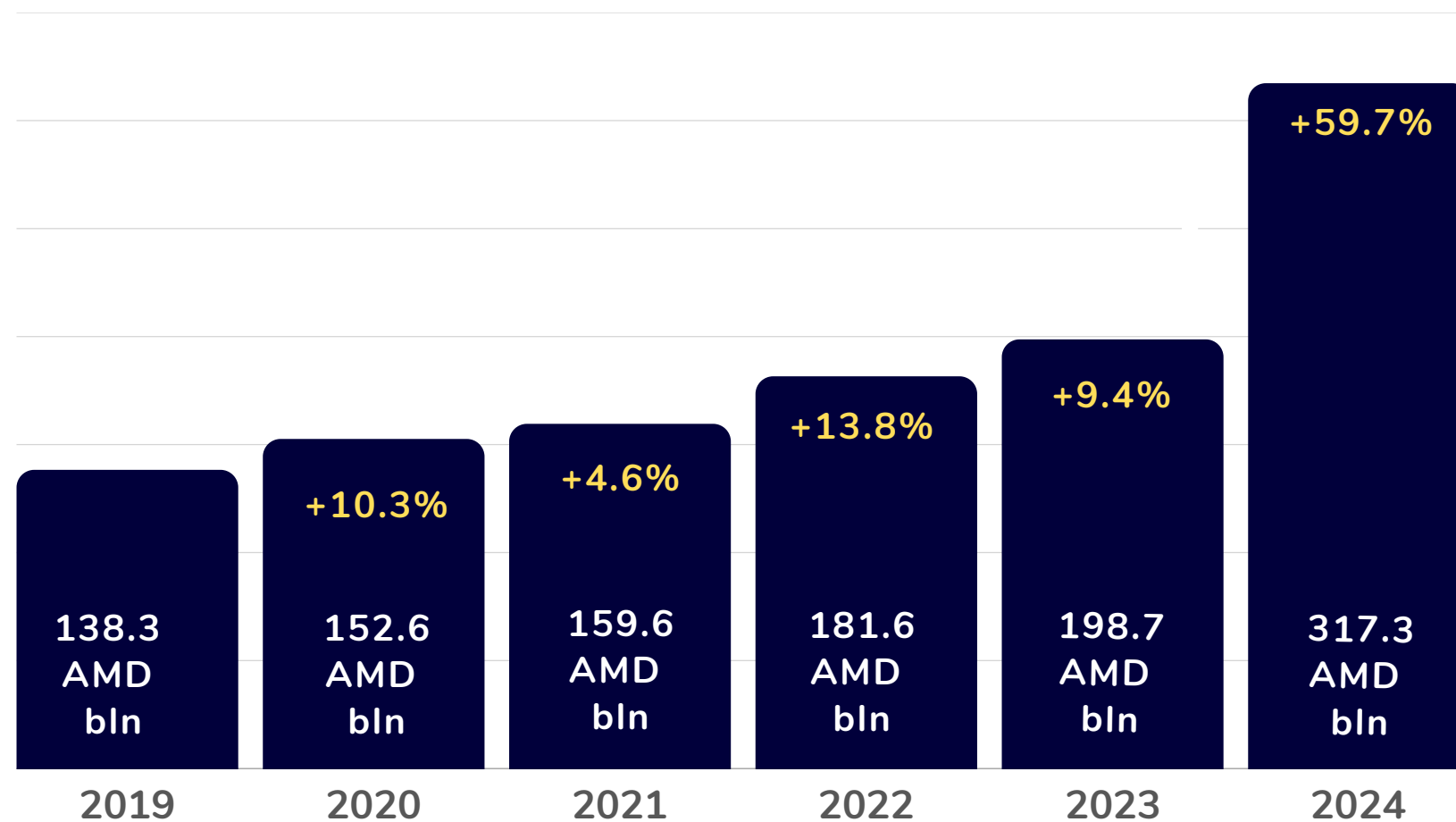
- The 2024 Annual Budget Law of the Republic of Armenia outlines key fiscal parameters, including AMD 2,723.6 billion in revenues, AMD 3,206.5 billion in expenditures, and a deficit of AMD 482.9 billion, which represent 25.9%, 30.5%, and 4.6% of GDP, respectively.
- Expenditures in the Education Sector are allocated to the Education and Science activity programs, coordinated by the RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sports (MoESCS).
- The development of education is a key government priority. State policy at all education levels focuses on improving education quality and enhancing accessibility.
- During the MTEF (Medium-Term Expenditure Framework) period, reforms initiated in the general education sector will continue. These reforms aim to enhance the quality of secondary education, ensure equitable access to quality education for all segments of the population, and improve system efficiency. The policy objectives include:
 - Enhancing teachers' professional skills and improving their social status
 - Modernizing educational content
 - Upgrading the infrastructure of general education.
- Efforts to increase preschool enrollment and align the infrastructure and equipment of preschool institutions with established requirements will continue in the field of preschool education.
- In higher professional education, measures will be implemented to:
 - Enhance the quality of professional education
 - Integrate it into the European educational space
 - Improve accessibility and availability for socially vulnerable groups.
- The government places emphasis on strengthening educational capacities within the Diaspora and improving the content of materials on patriotic studies.
- The development of science focuses on creating a favorable research environment and establishing conditions for the efficient use of human and physical resources. Key priorities include:
 - Promoting intergovernmental agreements in scientific and technical fields
 - Fostering Armenia's participation in European Framework Programmes
 - Supporting scientific research initiatives
 - Ensuring the availability of researchers trained in leading global scientific centers.

- Allocations to Education Sector Programs in 2024 are projected at AMD 317.3 billion, exceeding the previous year's level by AMD 118.6 billion (59.7%).
- In 2024, education allocations will represent 3% of GDP, compared to an average of 2.2% during 2019-2023. They will also account for 9.9% of total annual budget expenditures, up from the 5-year average of 8.1%.
- The Education Sector has experienced significant growth in funding during 2020-2023, with an unprecedented increase in 2024. The average annual increase in Education Sector funding from 2020 to 2024 is 19.6%, outpacing the average annual increase in total budget expenditures by 4.9 percentage points.
- The 2024 state education policy will be implemented through 14 budget programs.
- The "General Education Program" receives the largest allocation, comprising 62.4% (more than AMD 121.9 billion) of the total education budget.
- Following this is the "Creation, Construction, and Improvement of Public Educational and Preschool Institutions" program, accounting for 47.1% of the education budget, with an allocation of over AMD 92 billion.
- The "Scientific and Scientific-Technical Research" program ranks third, with 18.3% of funding (AMD 35.8 billion).
- It should be noted that in 2024, two new educational programs have been launched: the "Creation, Construction, and Improvement of Public Educational and Preschool Institutions" and the "Preschool Education" Programs. Additionally, the "School Seismic Safety Improvement" Program was transferred from the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure to the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sports.
- In 2024, budget funding for nearly all programs in the sector will increase, with the exceptions being the "Safe School" and "School Seismic Safety Improvement" programs.
- In terms of the increase in program funding, the "Ensuring Quality Education," "Scientific and Scientific-Technical Research," and "Primary (Craftsmanship) and Secondary Vocational Education" programs rank in the top three, with growth rates of 72.8%, 57.8%, and 38.5%, respectively.
- Regarding the absolute growth in budget financing, priority areas in the sector include the establishment, construction, and improvement of general education and preschool institutions, as well as the development of science and scientific research. These program areas will account for approximately 93.9% of the increase in sector funding.
- A total of AMD 102.3 billion will be allocated for the construction of schools under the "Creation, Construction, and Improvement of Public Educational and Preschool Institutions" and "Seismic Safety Improvement of Schools" programs.

- As a result, construction work on 117 + 30 school buildings, and 74 educational complexes will be carried out in 2024 within the framework of the two mentioned budget programs of the republic
- Significant resources are also allocated for the reconstruction and major repairs of school and kindergarten buildings. Specifically, more than AMD 13.4 billion is allocated for the renovation and repair of kindergartens, while AMD 519.4 million is designated for schools.
- Funding for the re-equipment of scientific centers with modern technology and the establishment of joint-use scientific equipment centers will increase significantly, reaching AMD 4.2 billion. Additionally, approximately AMD 940 million will be allocated for the renovation of scientific centers and expenses related to the 'Academic City' project.
- The implementation of scientific and technical-scientific research is a priority. Funding for both scientific and technical-scientific contract research, as well as targeted program research, will increase, reaching AMD 9.3 billion and AMD 152.9 million, respectively.
- Additional funds will be allocated for the introduction of an attestation system for pedagogical staff in PSVE educational institutions and the provision of supplementary payments. Additionally, extra payments will be provided to general education school teachers who have obtained a category qualification through attestation.
- Additional funds are planned to increase state scholarships for students pursuing bachelor's and master's degrees at RA universities in fields of primary and significant importance to the state.
- The funds allocated for salary increases for STEM teachers (excluding mathematics) in all state general education institutions of the Republic of Armenia will rise by more than 2.8 times, reaching AMD 1.7 billion.
- AMD 462.2 million will be allocated to compensate the tuition fees of students forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh after September 19, 2023, who are pursuing Primary (Craftsmanship) and Secondary Vocational Education (PSVE) in the RA. Additionally, AMD 440.2 million will be allocated for students receiving higher and postgraduate professional education. As a result, 2,524 PSVE students and 2,190 higher education students who were forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh will receive full or partial tuition fee compensation.
- A measure aimed at assisting teachers forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh will be launched. A total of AMD 309 million will be allocated to provide additional payments to 500 teachers working in schools across the RA marzes under this initiative

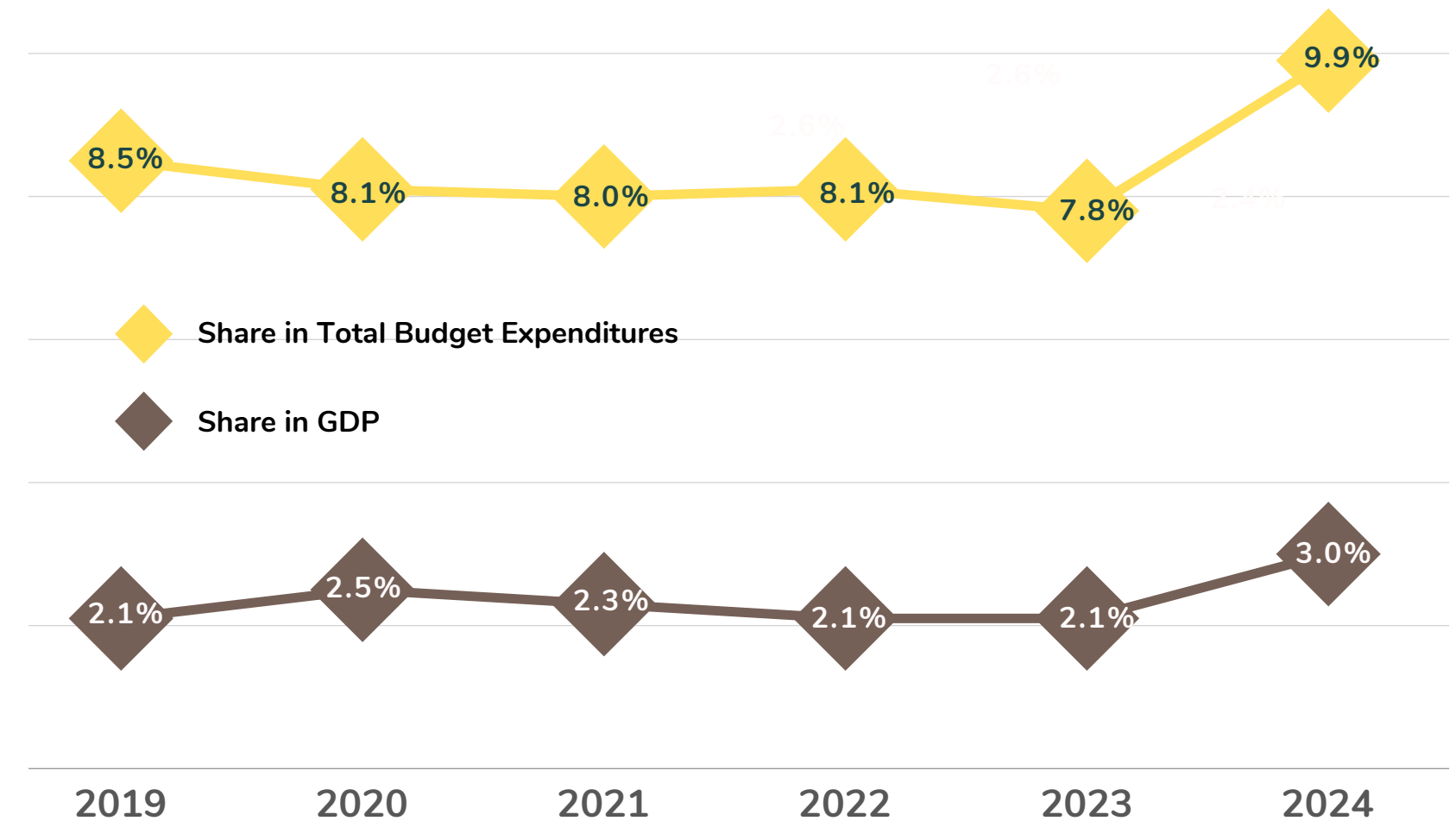
EDUCATION SECTOR BUDGET

Education Sector Budget and its annual growth (%) in 2019-2024



Source: RA Ministry of Finance

Share of the Education Sector Budget in Total Budget Expenditures and GDP, %, 2019-2024



Source: RA Ministry of Finance. RA Statistical Committee

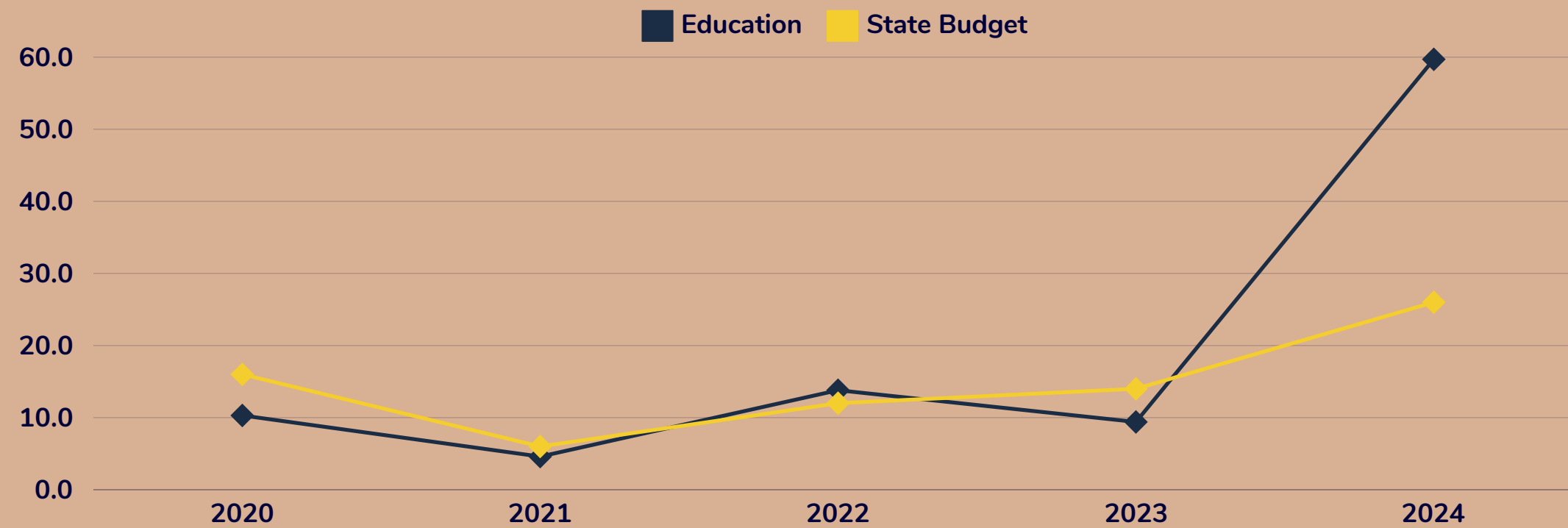
- In this simplified guide, the Education Sector budget has been identified with the sum of expenditures of all budget programmes implemented in the sector of education and science.
- All programmes in the education sector, with the exception of intra-sectoral/departmental programmes for professional training and capacity-building trainings carried out by various departments, are implemented by the RA Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Armenia.

- Allocations to the Education Sector Programmes in 2024 will amount to AMD 317.3 bln, which exceeds the level of the previous year by more than AMD 118.6 bln or 59.7 %.
- In 2024, the volume of funding of the Education Sector will exceed the level of 2019 by more than 2.3 times.
- The share of budget expenditures allocated at Education Sector programmes in the Total budget expenditures in 2024 is 9.9 % compared to the level of 7.8 % in 2023 and the average annual of 8.1 % during 2019-2023. Allocations to the Education Sector Programmes in 2024 will amount to 3.0 % of GDP, which exceeds by 0.9 percentage points compared to the previous year.

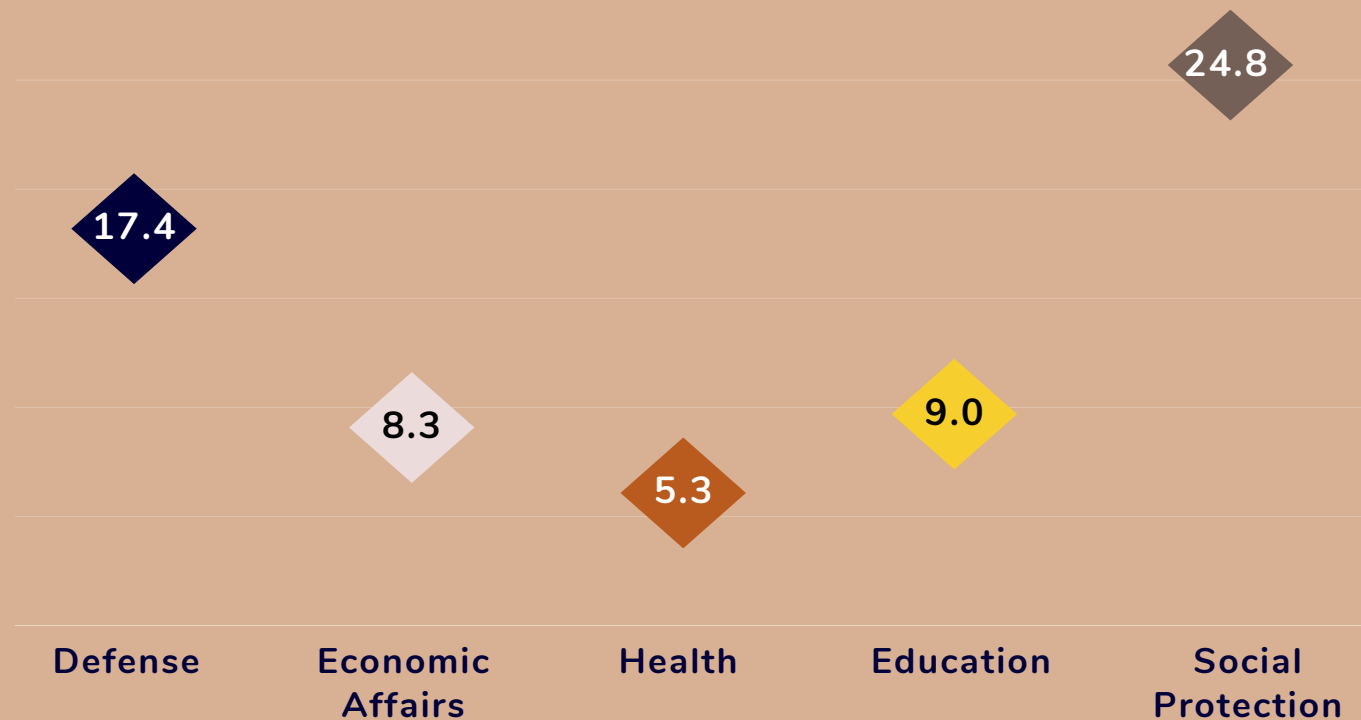
GROWTH OF THE EDUCATION SECTOR BUDGET

- High growth rates in Education Sector financing were recorded in 2021-2023. The average growth rate of funding for the Education Sector from 2020 to 2024 is 19.6%, which is 4.9 percentage points higher than the average growth rate of the Annual Budget for the same period.
- The planned growth for 2024 is exceptionally high, at 59.7%.
- As a result, the share of the Education Sector in total budget expenditures is 9%, placing it in third position after the Social Protection and Defense sectors.

Trends of the increase in expenditures of the Annual Budget and the Education Sector Budget, in 2020-2024, functional classification, percentage

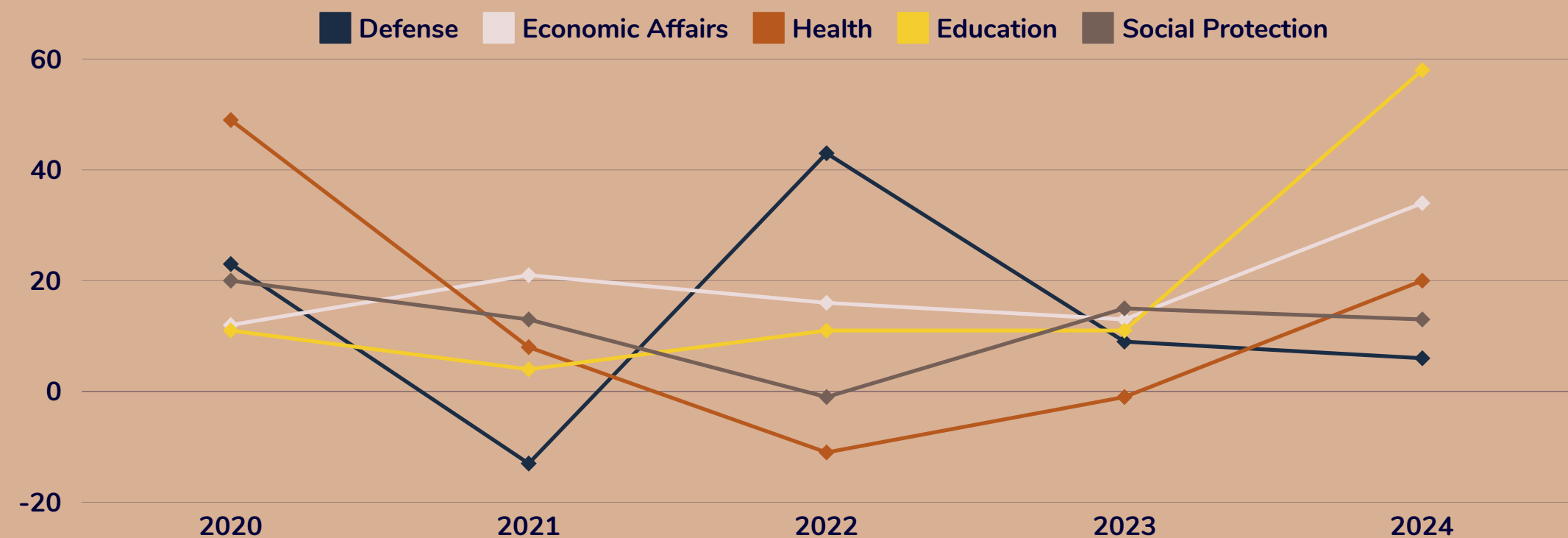


Share of budget expenditures of individual sectors in 2024, functional classification, percentage



Source: RA Ministry of Finance

Share of the increase in budget expenditures of individual sectors in 2024, functional classification, percentage



Source: RA Ministry of Finance

BUDGET PROGRAMMES IN EDUCATION SECTOR

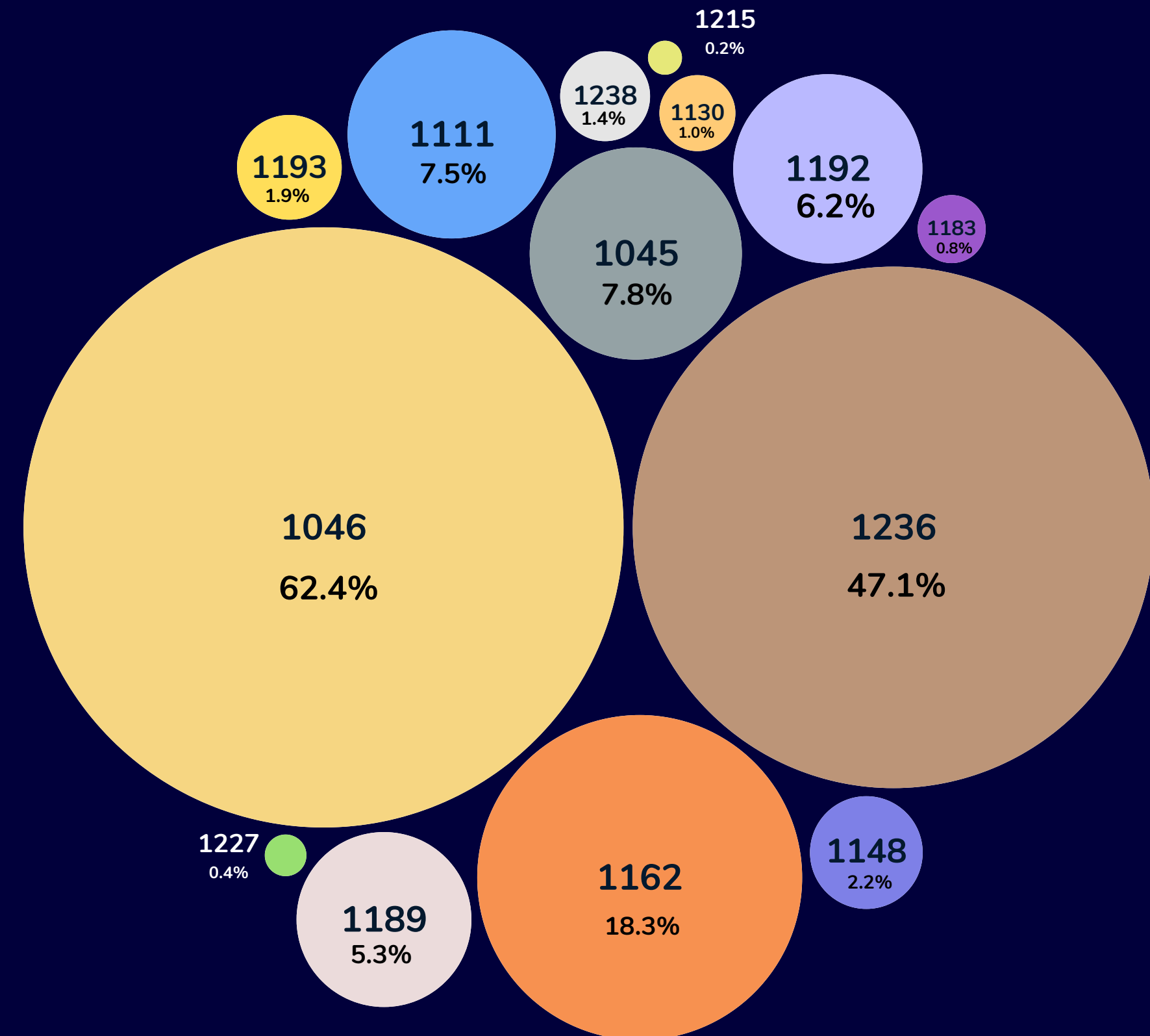
In 2024, the state policy for the Education Sector will be implemented through 14 budget programs.

CODE	PROGRAMME	2023 AMD mln	2024 AMD mln	2024 %	2024/2023 %
	EDUCATION SECTOR PROGRAMMES	198,722.30	317,271.70	100.0	59.7
1146	General Education Programme	115,332.5	121,906.0	62.4	5.7
1045	Primary (Craftsmanship) and Secondary Vocational Education Programme	10,955.8	15,176.1	7.8	38.5
1111	Higher and Postgraduate Professional Education Programme	12,725.4	14,642.3	7.5	15.1
1148	Extracurricular Upbringing Programme	4,189.3	4,268.6	2.2	1.9
1183	Safe School Programme	7,667.5	1,512.3	0.8	-80.3
1189	School Seismic Safety Improvement Programme	12,210.7	10,286.2	5.3	-15.8
1192	Ensuring Quality Education Programme	6,975.0	12,050.8	6.2	72.8
1193	Introduction of Universal Inclusive Education System ¹	3,195.3	3,767.7	1.9	17.9
1162	Scientific and Scientific-Technical Research Programme	22,664.8	35,776.0	18.3	57.8
1130	Development of state policy, coordination and monitoring of programmes in the fields of education, science, culture and sports	1,847.4	1,964.8	1.0	6.4
1215	Expanding international cooperation in the field of education, culture and sports, strengthening the educational potential of Armenia in the Diaspora and in foreign countries	366.6	403.1	0.2	10.0
1227	Introduction of Information and Communication Technologies in Education Sector	592.0	736.3	0.4	24.4
1236	Creation, Construction, Improvement of Public Educational and Preschool Institutions	-	92,033.9	47.1	-
1238	Preschool Education	-	2,747.6	1.4	-

Source: RA Ministry of Finance

STRUCTURE OF THE EDUCATION SECTOR BUDGET BY PROGRAMMES

- The leader among the Education Programmes in terms of funding is the "General Education Programme (1046)," with a budget comprising 62.4% of the total Education Programmes budget, or more than AMD 121.9 billion.
- Next is the "Creation, Construction, and Improvement of Public Educational and Preschool Institutions Programme (1236)," with a share of 47.1% and an allocation of more than AMD 92 billion.
- The third is the "Scientific and Scientific-Technical Research (1162)" Programme, with a share of 18.3% and an allocation of AMD 35.8 billion.
- The MoESCS will launch two new programmes in 2024: the "Creation, Construction, and Improvement of Public Educational and Preschool Institutions" and the "Preschool Education" Programmes.
- Additionally, the "School Seismic Safety Improvement" Programme, originally under the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure (MTAI), will henceforth be coordinated by the MoESCS.



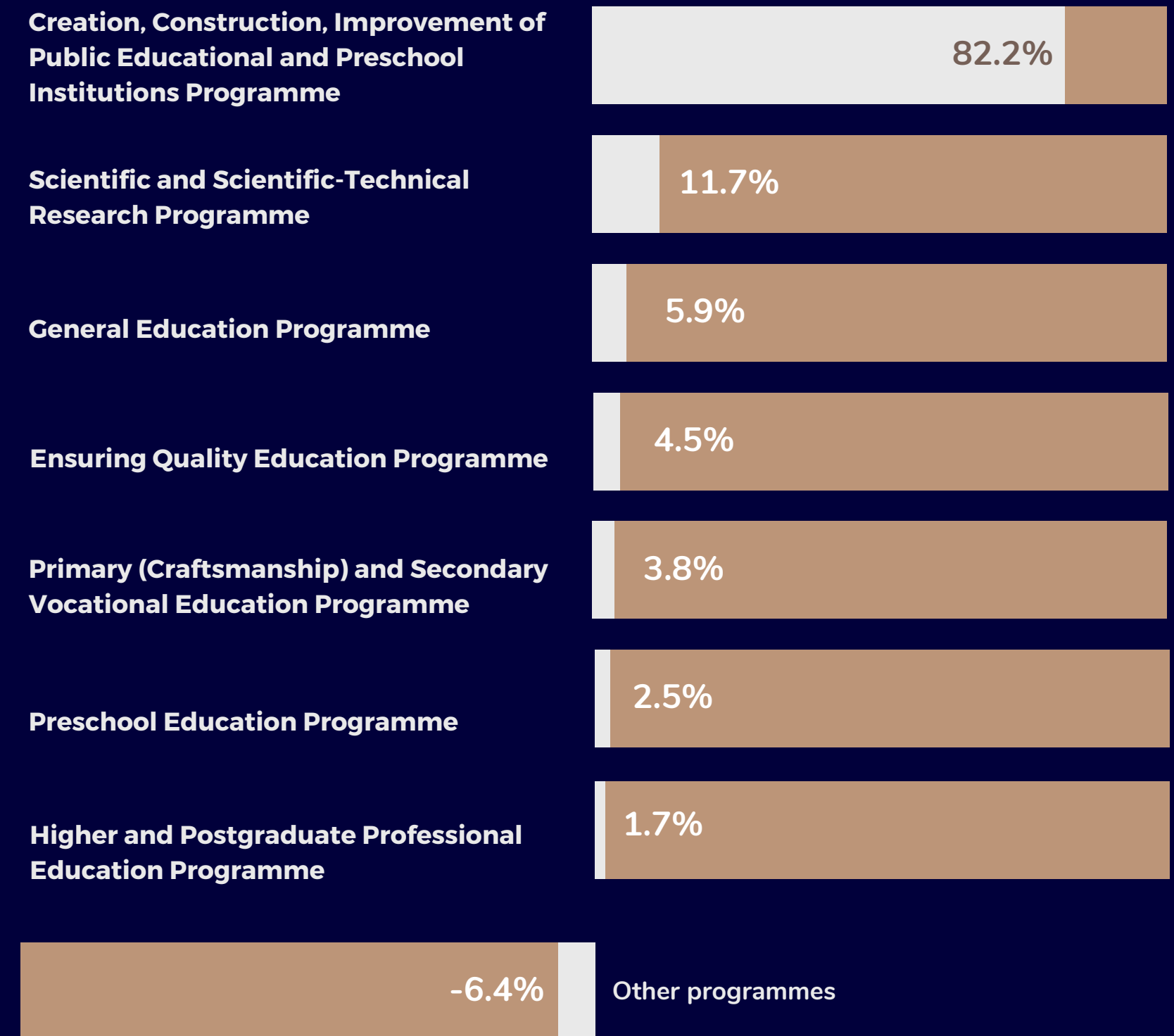
*See page 10 for codes by programme name.

Source: RA Ministry of Finance

STRUCTURE OF THE EDUCATION BUDGET GROWTH BY PROGRAMMES

- "The major portion of the increase in resources allocated to the sector in 2024 will be directed toward the creation, construction, and improvement of public educational and preschool institutions, as well as the development of science and scientific research. Together, these two programmes will account for approximately 93.9% of the increase in funding for the sector.
- AMD 92.0 billion will be allocated to the "Creation, Construction, and Improvement of Public Educational and Preschool Institutions" Programme, while the increase in the budget for the "Scientific and Scientific-Technical Research" Programme in 2024 will amount to AMD 13.1 billion.
- The "General Education" Programme, which accounts for 5.9% of the sector's budget increase, ranks second in terms of absolute funding increase. Its budget will grow by approximately AMD 6.6 billion, reaching a total of AMD 121.9 billion.
- The "Ensuring Quality Education," "Scientific and Scientific-Technical Research," and "Primary (Craftsmanship) and Secondary Vocational Education" Programmes top the list in terms of funding increase rates, with growth rates of 72.8%, 57.8%, and 38.5%, respectively.

Structure of the Education Budget Growth by Programmes 2024, %



Source: RA Ministry of Finance

1146 GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME

121.9 AMD bln

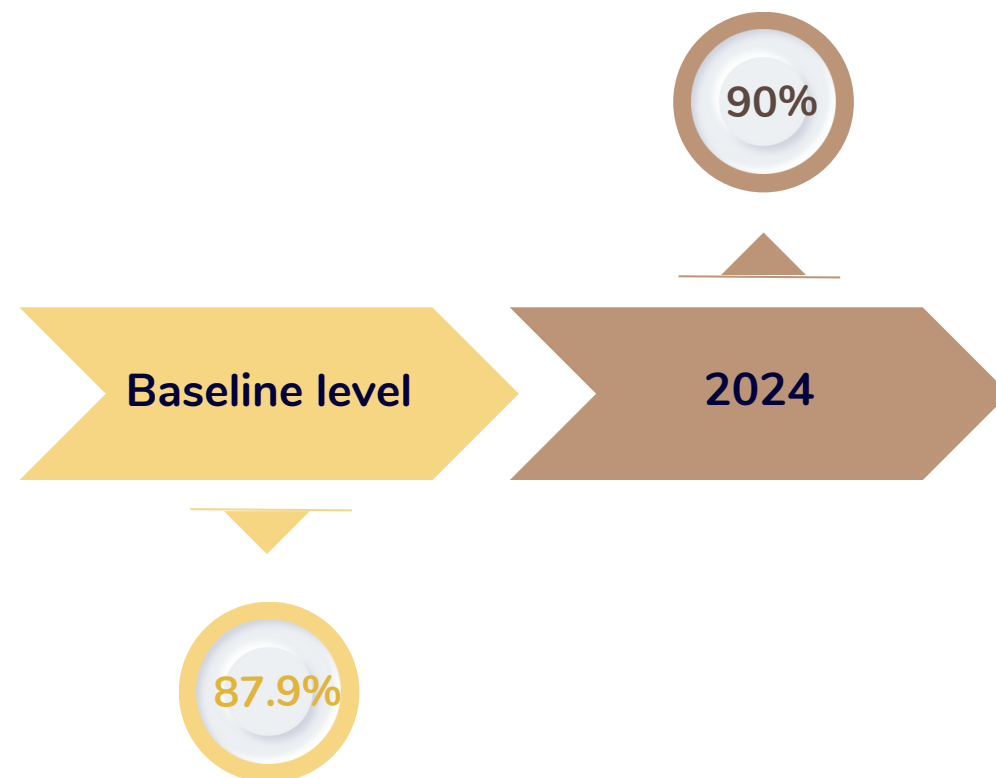
OBJECTIVE

- Ensure free of charge and quality education

OUTCOME

- The formation of a person with proper behavior and conduct, educated in the spirit of patriotism, statehood, and humanism, through the comprehensive and harmonious development of their mental, spiritual, physical, and social abilities

Proportion of children at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics



- The budget for the "General Education" Programme will increase by 5.7% in 2024, amounting to more than AMD 121.9 billion.
- The majority of the budget increase, 92.0%, will be directed towards the implementation of various general education programmes. Specifically, AMD 105.9 billion (87.7% of the programme budget) will be allocated to general education; AMD 1.2 billion (1.0% of the budget) to special general education; and AMD 4.0 billion (3.3%) to specialized education.
- These funds are intended to support the education of 403,722 students in 20,100 classes across 1,335 general education schools, as well as 542 students in special education schools and 3,911 students in specialized general education schools.
- The allocated resources will cover the provision of textbooks and educational materials for students in general education institutions, as well as transportation cost compensation for teachers and school-age children. The programme also includes funding for participation in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), additional payments for STEM teachers (excluding mathematics) in all state general education institutions, schools with fewer than 100 students in rural areas, teachers in multi-component classes in the Syunik region, and support for teachers displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh in 2023.

- In 2024, financial resources allocated for providing students of educational institutions with textbooks and educational materials will nearly double, reaching AMD 2.3 billion.
- Additionally, AMD 33.6 million will be allocated to reimburse textbook fees for children from border communities in the Republic of Armenia who are receiving social assistance, and AMD 23.9 million will be allocated to provide educational institutions with educational and methodological materials.
- Funding for school Olympiads will remain unchanged at AMD 58 million. It is expected that 15 medalists will emerge from the international subject Olympiads.
- An allocation of AMD 116.7 million is designated to ensure participation in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).
- Furthermore, AMD 858.6 million will be allocated for the development of robotics and engineering education in schools, with the number of engineering laboratories participating in the initiative reaching 630.

PROGRAMME/MEASURE	2023 AMD mln	2024 AMD mln	2024/2023 %
GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME	115,332.5	121,906.0	5.7
Elementary General Education	37,398.1	38,029.9	1.7
Basic General Education	44,650.5	46,962.1	5.2
Secondary General Education	18,345.7	21,941.4	19.6
Special Elementary General Education	327.4	370.3	13.1
Special Basic General Education	535.5	503.6	-6.0
Special Secondary General Education	359.9	355.5	-1.2
Specialized Elementary General Education	228.3	216.0	-5.4
Specialized Basic General Education	1,655.3	1,670.7	0.9
Specialized Secondary General Education	1,746.0	2,149.7	23.1
Preschool Education	786.4	-	-100.0
Implementation of Innovative Pedagogical Approaches in General Education	126.4	126.4	0.0
Holding School Olympiads	56.0	58.0	3.6
Providing the students of educational institutions with textbooks and educational materials	1,168.2	2,310.3	97.8
Providing the educational institutions with teaching and educational materials	31.9	23.9	-25.2
Implementation of STEM education and development of robotics in schools	858.6	858.6	0.0
Implementation of the subject "National Song and Dance" in general education institutions	7.7	-	-100.0
Secondary general education in evening school (Shirak Marz)	14.6	-	-100.0
Assessment and testing services	601.8	669.8	11.3
Participation in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)	102.4	116.7	14.0
Conducting expertise of development programmes of candidates for the position of director of a state general educational institution	15.0	15.0	0.0
Funding of experts involved in the work of the Republican Commission on Granting Qualification Category (in accordance with the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No. 1509-N of 29 September, 2022)	4.2	-	-100.0

Source: RA Ministry of Finance

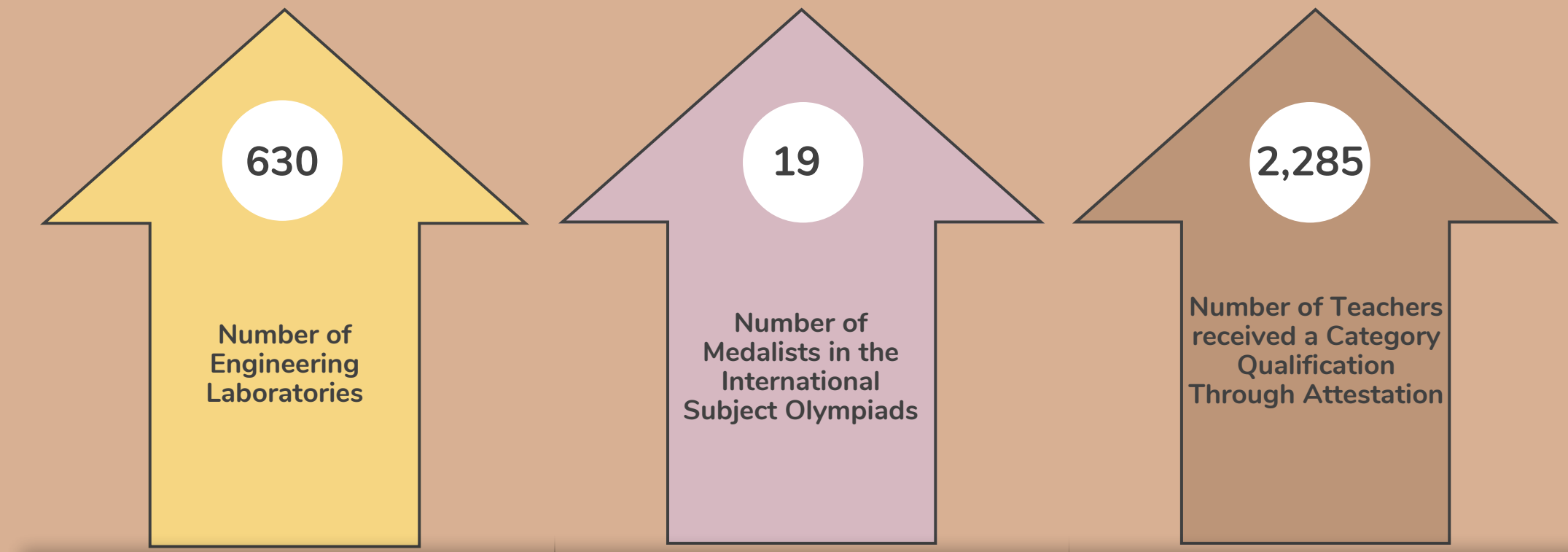
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- In 2024, resources allocated for increasing salaries for teachers in the STEM field (excluding mathematics) across all state general education institutions in the Republic of Armenia will increase by more than 2.8 times, amounting to AMD 1.7 billion.
- An allocation of AMD 368.1 million will be designated for additional payments to teachers who have received a qualification category through attestation, representing a 43% increase compared to the previous year. The number of teachers receiving a qualification category through attestation is expected to reach 2,285 individuals.
- Resources for additional payments to teachers working in state educational institutions with fewer than 100 students in rural areas will increase by more than five times.
- Moreover, AMD 27.1 million will be allocated for additional payments to teachers working in multi-component classes in the Syunik region of the Republic of Armenia.

PROGRAMME/MEASURE	2023 AMD mln	2024 AMD mln	2024/2023 %
GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME	115,332.5	121,906.0	5.7
Innovative solutions: Improve the quality of education in the field of STEM	4.5	-	-100.0
Compensation to teachers of the state general education schools working in other settlement	7.5	6.3	-16.9
Compensation of transportation costs for teachers of general education schools and school-age children	521.2	523.3	0.4
Compensation for textbooks fees for children from border communities of the Republic of Armenia receiving social assistance	29.7	33.6	13.1
Ensuring provision of additional payment to the teachers who have received a qualification category through attestation	257.4	368.1	43.0
Providing nominal scholarships to students of general education schools	42.0	42.5	1.1
"Modular" kindergartens	3,553.4	-	-100.0
Awarding the teachers of general education institutions within the framework of the "Best of the Year" measure	11.0	11.0	0.0
Providing pre-school education for children aged 1.5-5 years of certain social groups	783.2	-	-100.0
Establishing a clear, increased salary scale for teachers teaching in the field of STEM (except mathematics) in all state general education institutions of the Republic of Armenia	615.0	1,745.7	183.9
Establishing additional payments to teachers working in state educational institutions with up to 100 students in rural areas of the Republic of Armenia	468.2	2,461.5	425.8
Establishing additional payments to teachers working in multi-component classes in the Syunik region of the Republic of Armenia	-	27.1	-
Programme to assist the teachers forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh in 2023	-	309.0	-

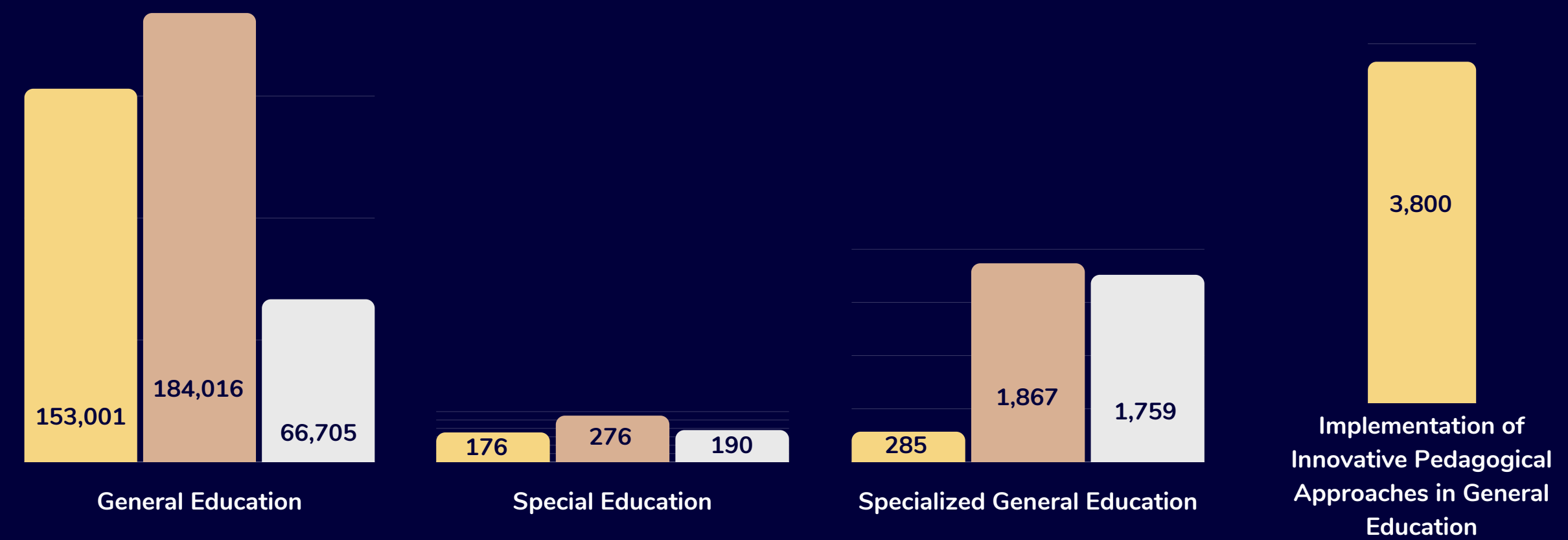
Source: RA Ministry of Finance

- In 2024, AMD 11 million will be allocated to award teachers in general education institutions through the "Best of the Year" initiative.
- The programme to support teachers forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh will continue in 2024, with AMD 309 million allocated. These resources will provide 500 teachers in the regions of Armenia with an average monthly additional payment of AMD 51,500 to their salaries.
- An allocation of AMD 523.3 million will be dedicated to compensating transportation costs for teachers in general education schools and for school-age children.
- It should be noted that measures for ensuring Preschool Education, previously part of the General Education Programme, have been separated into a distinct budget under the "1238-Preschool Education" Programme (details are presented in the 1238 programme section).



Number of students

Elementary Basic Secondary



1148 EXTRACURRICULAR UPBRINGING PROGRAMME

4.3 AMD bln

OBJECTIVE

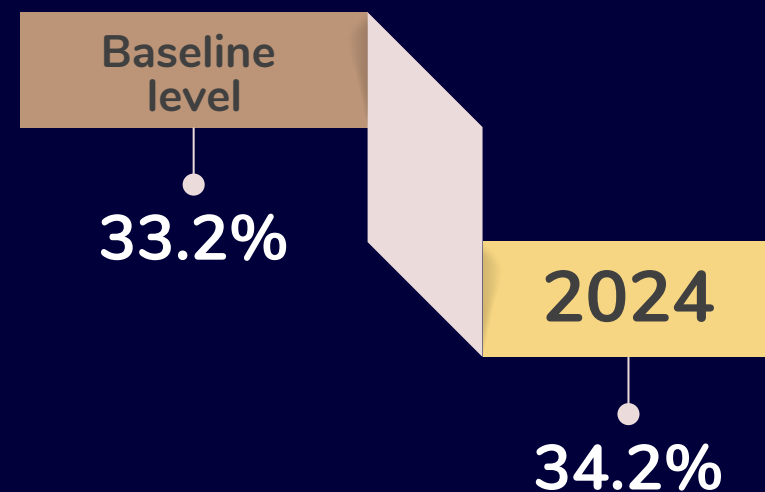
- Contribute to creating conditions that foster the spiritual, aesthetic, and physical development of children, while also promoting the acquisition of environmental and applied knowledge within the general education system.

OUTCOME

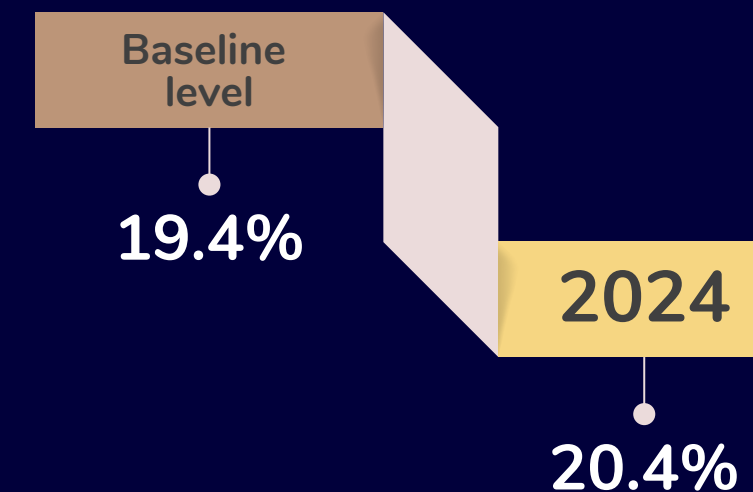
- Create conditions that enable the discovery, formation, and development of students' interests through the organization of their leisure time.

- The budget for the Extracurricular Upbringing Programme will increase by 1.9% in 2024, amounting to approximately AMD 4.3 billion.
- Of the programme's budget, 65.8% (more than AMD 2.8 billion) will be allocated to the implementation of various extracurricular upbringing programmes by state institutions.
- An additional AMD 768.9 million will be allocated to extracurricular upbringing programmes implemented by non-governmental organizations.

The involvement rate of 6-18 years aged children in the extracurricular upbringing programmes



The involvement rate of 6-18 years aged children in rural, particularly border settlements in the extracurricular upbringing programmes



- One of the important expenditure directions of the programme is the organization of summer recreation for schoolchildren, to which 9.2 % of the programme budget or AMD 390.8 mln is allocated.
- The resources allocated to the organization of military-sports training camps for the 11th grade students of educational institutions implementing general education programmes in the Republic of Armenia will increase more than 2 times, amounting to AMD 108 mln. This will provide the organization of a military-sports training camp for 1,029 students of the 11th grade.
- Resources allocated to the implementation of a new voluntary attestation system to improve the quality of teaching staff in extracurricular institutions will increase sharply by about 5 times. The number of pedagogical workers of extracurricular upbringing institutions who received additional payments as a result of the attestation will be 179.
- AMD 8.1 mln will be allocated for the training of coach-educators.
- Expenditures of ensuring the participation of Armenian schoolchildren in the World and European School Sports Events and World Gymnasiades and their organization in Armenia will amount to AMD 29.9 mln.
- Financing of measures "Your Art at School", Classical Music "Class A", and "Implementation of the Educational and Sports Process in Sports Schools" will cease from 2024.

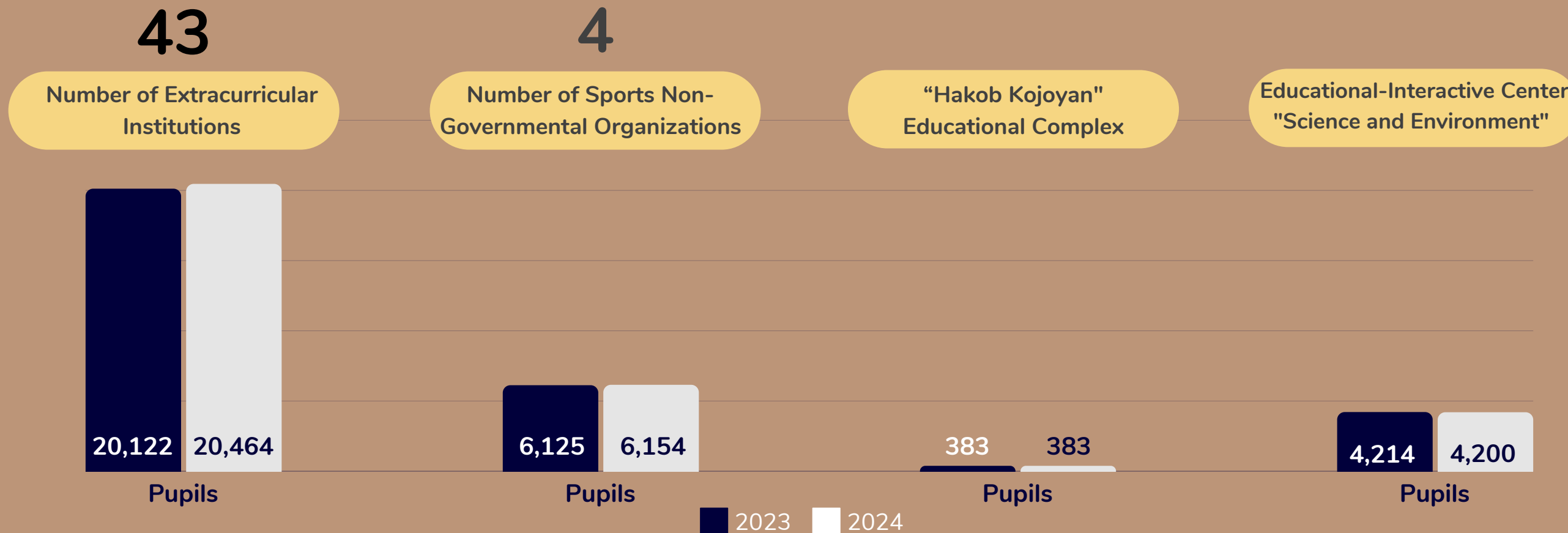
PROGRAMME/MEASURE	2023 AMD mln	2024 AMD mln	2024/2023 %
EXTRACURRICULAR UPBRINGING PROGRAMME	4,189.3	4,268.6	1.9
Extracurricular upbringing	2,708.6	2,807.3	3.6
Organization of summer recreation for schoolchildren and reimbursement of transportation expenditures	393.9	390.8	-0.8
Extracurricular upbringing by non-governmental organizations	797.5	768.9	-3.6
Organization of training for coach-educators	-	8.1	-
«Organizing extracurricular upbringing at "Hakob Kojoyan" Educational Complex SNCO	6.8	6.8	-
"Your Art at School"	70.6	-	-
Classical Music "Class A"	32.5	-	-
Participation of the Armenian schoolchildren in the World and European School Sports Events and World Gymnasiades, and ensuring their organization in Armenia	29.6	29.9	1.1
School in the scientific environment	15.7	16.0	2.5
Organization of military-sports training camps for the 11th grade students of educational institutions implementing general education programmes in the Republic of Armenia	50.7	108.0	112.9
Implementation of the Educational and Sports Process in Sports Schools	55.9	-	-
Introducing of a new voluntary attestation system to improve the quality of teaching staff in extracurricular institutions	26.9	132.9	394.7
Improving the building conditions of organizations providing extracurricular education.	0.7	-	-

Source: RA Ministry of Finance



Number of the 11th grade students from educational institutions implementing general education programmes in the Republic of Armenia participating in the military-sports training camp

EXTRACURRICULAR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS BY THE NUMBER OF THEIR PUPILS



Number of children spending summer recreation in camps

1238 PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

2.7 AMD bln

OBJECTIVE	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure accessible and quality preschool education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All children have equal access to quality preschool education and development services.

- The "Preschool Education" Programme to which AMD 2.7 bln is allocated has been launched in 2024.
- The programme is based on the measures separated from the "General Education Programme" that are related to the organization of preschool education.
- The largest share of the programme budget, 66.9%, will be directed to provide preschool education (PSE) for the children aged 1.5-5 from certain social groups.
- Including providing PSE for 360 children with special educational and developmental needs; 3,385 children of the families with a vulnerability score above the threshold of 28 vulnerability points; and 1,677 children of servicemen
- The number of 5-6 year old children that are beneficiaries of the preparation for primary school at the preschool education level is 7,585.

Total inclusion of children aged 3-5 in preschool institutions



PROGRAMME/MEASURE	2024 AMD mln	2024 share
PRESCHOOL EDUCATION	2,747.6	100.0
Ensuring accessibility and quality of preschool education	831.7	30.3
Retraining for teachers of educational institutions implementing preschool programmes	36.0	1.3
Providing preschool education for children aged 1.5-5 years from certain social groups	1,839.2	66.9
Introducing an integrated system of professional development and remuneration through the process of granting qualification category to the teachers preschool institutions	40.7	1.5

Source: RA Ministry of Finance

1193 INTRODUCTION OF UNIVERSAL INCLUSIVE EDUCATION SYSTEM

3.8 AMD bln

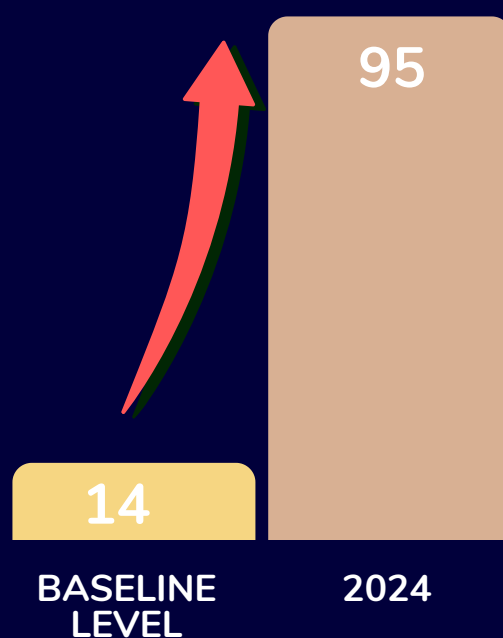
OBJECTIVE

- Ensuring accessibility, equal participation opportunities, and the quality of education for every child by creating the necessary conditions tailored to their developmental needs

OUTCOME

- Ensuring the inclusion of children from vulnerable groups in general education institutions.

- The allocations to the budget of the “Introduction of Universal Inclusive Education System Programme” will increase by 17.9 % in 2024 and amount to approximately AMD 3.8 bln.
- More than 97.8 % of the programme budget will be allocated to the provision pedagogical-psychological support services and the implementation of measures aimed to support the organization of education for children with special educational needs.
- AMD 82 mln will be allocated to provide pedagogical-psychological support services to children with autism and developmental disorders.

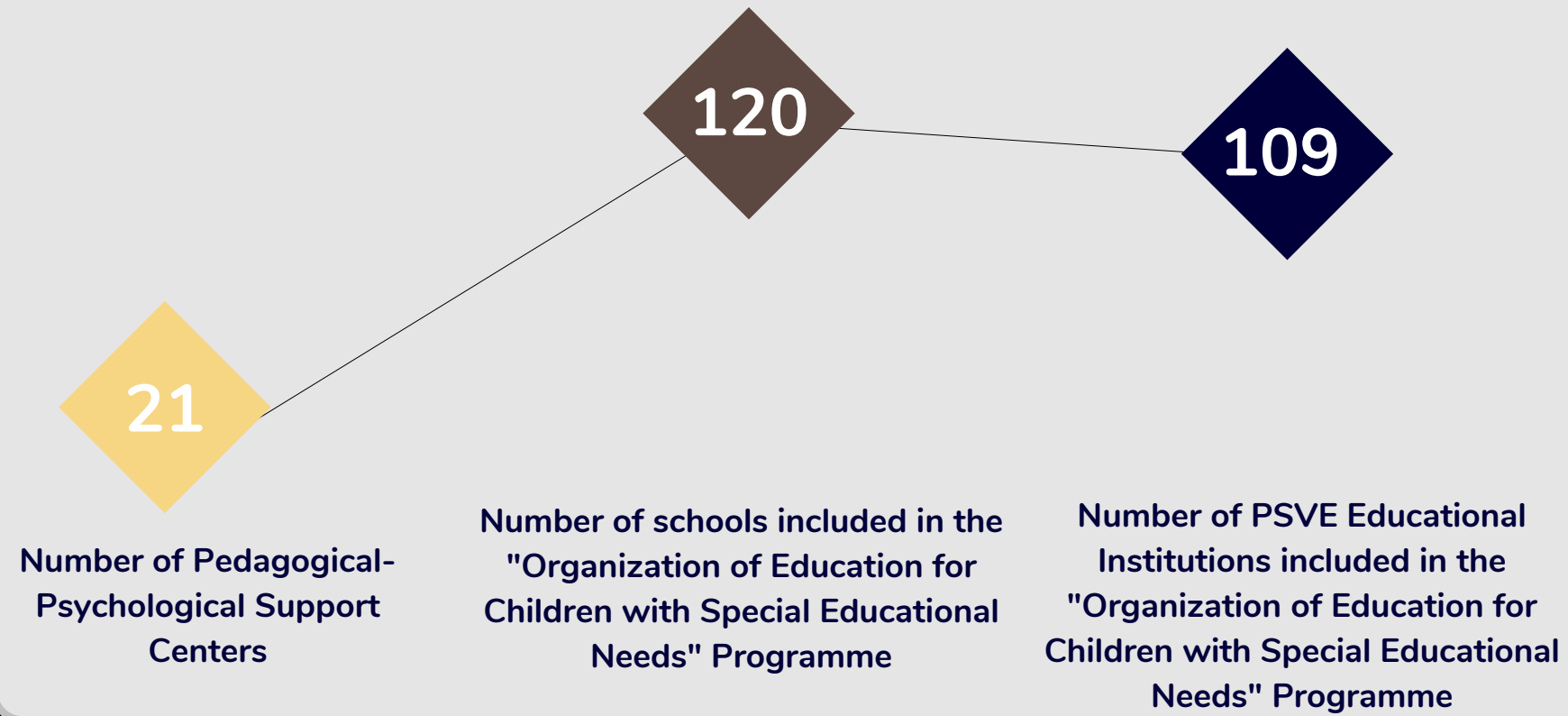


The share of children with special educational needs attending general education schools in the total number of children with special educational needs

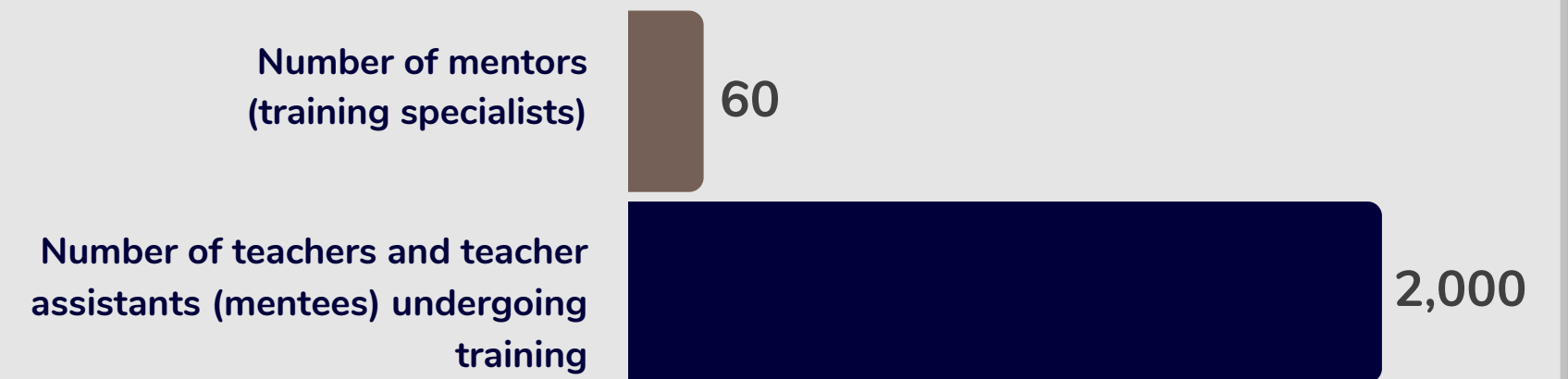
PROGRAMME/MEASURE	2023 AMD mln	2024 AMD mln	2024/2023 %
INTRODUCTION OF UNIVERSAL INCLUSIVE EDUCATION SYSTEM	3,195	3,768	17.9
Pedagogical-psychological support services and activities supporting the organization of education	2,973	3,686	24.0
Provision of pedagogical-psychological support services to children with autism and developmental disorders	81	82	1.4
Ensuring the development of inclusive teaching skills of teachers and teacher assistants in general education schools	127	-	-
USAID-supported "Introducing an Inclusive Education System" grant programme	14	-	-

Source: RA Ministry of Finance

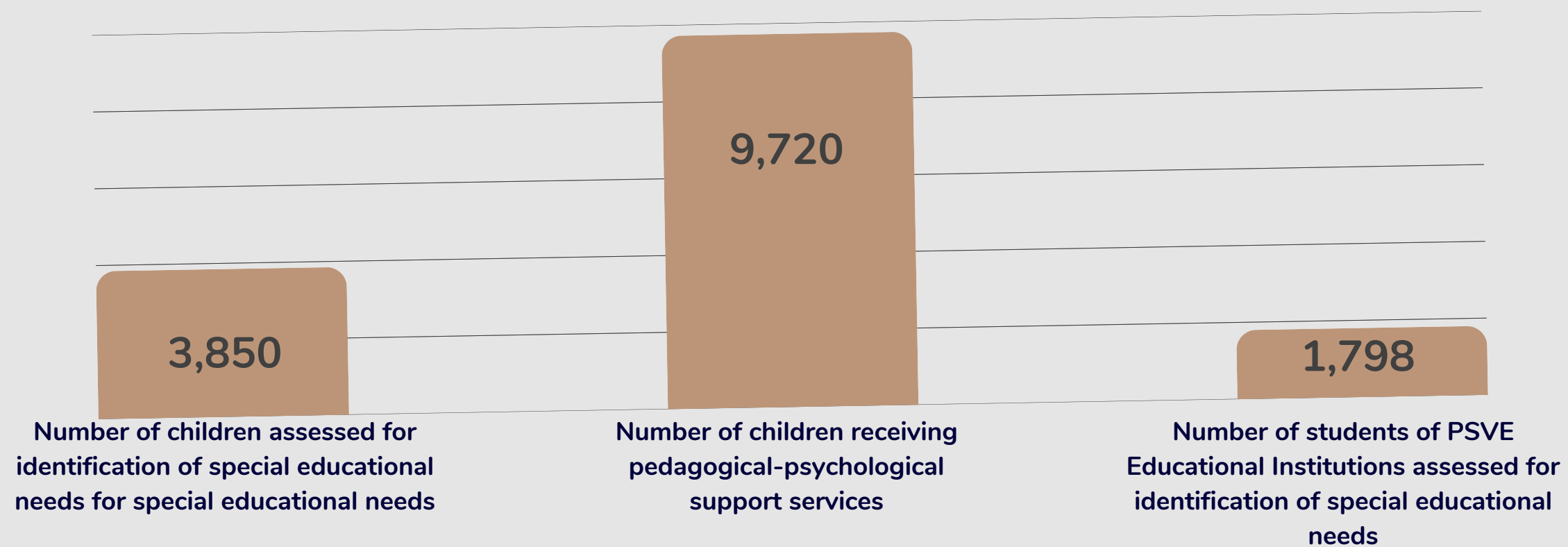
NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS



TRAININGS



NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES



1236

CREATION, CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL AND PRESCHOOL INSTITUTIONS

92.0 AMD bln

OBJECTIVE

- Implementation of projects for the construction, reconstruction, and major repairs of at least 300 schools and 500 kindergartens under the framework of the RA Annual Budget.

OUTCOME

- Improving the educational environment.

- The implementation of the “Creation, Construction, Improvement of Public Educational and Preschool Institutions” Programme was launched in 2024. It consolidates the relevant measures previously implemented within the framework of various educational programmes. More than AMD 92.0 bln is allocated to the implementation of the programme in 2024.
- 46.7 % of the programme budget, or about AMD 43.0 bln, is allocated to the construction of new buildings for the general education schools. The next major area of expenditures is the construction of educational complexes, to which 21.7 % of the programme budget, or about AMD 20.0 bln is allocated. AMD 6.3 bln is allocated for the construction of new buildings for kindergarten.

13

Number of preschool institutions, the construction of which will be completed in 2024

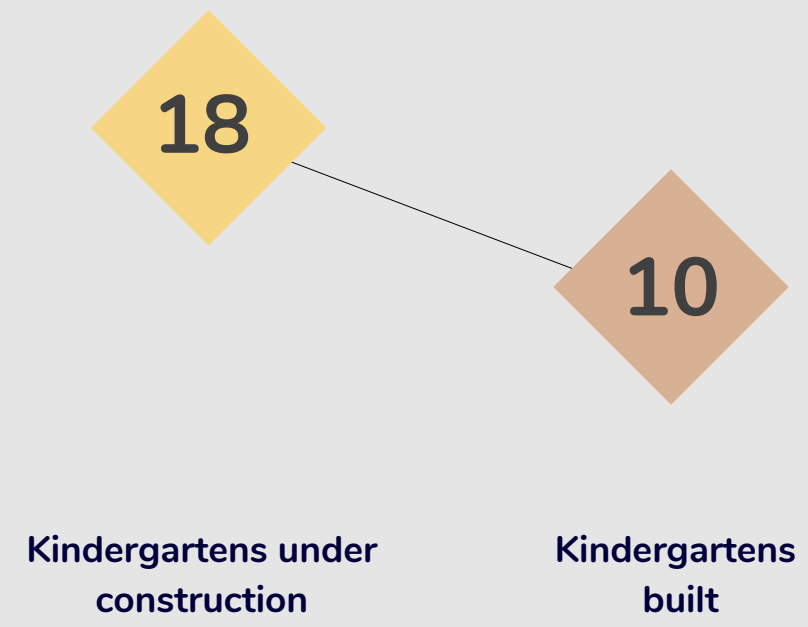
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The number of settlements in which, within the framework of the programme to ensure the availability of quality educational services in the Republic of Armenia, the educational services in 2026, will be provided in newly built or reconstructed educational institutions.

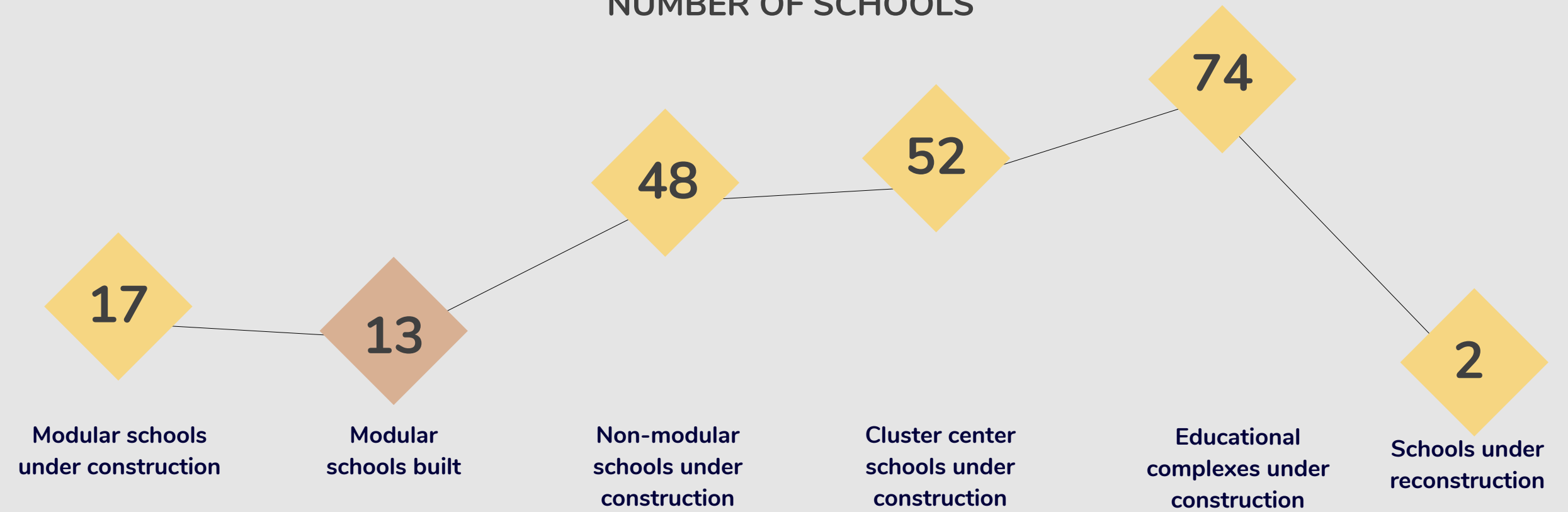
PROGRAMME/MEASURE	2024 AMD mln	2024 share
CREATION, CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL AND PRESCHOOL INSTITUTIONS	92,033.9	100.0
Construction of new kindergarten buildings	6,326.1	6.9
Reconstruction and major repair of kindergarten buildings	13,445.1	14.6
Construction of new buildings of general education schools	42,965.3	46.7
Reconstruction and major repair of general education schools	519.4	0.6
Construction of educational complexes	19,964.3	21.7
Providing general education schools, kindergartens and educational complexes with property and equipment	8,813.8	9.6

Source: RA Ministry of Finance

NUMBER OF KINDERGARTENS

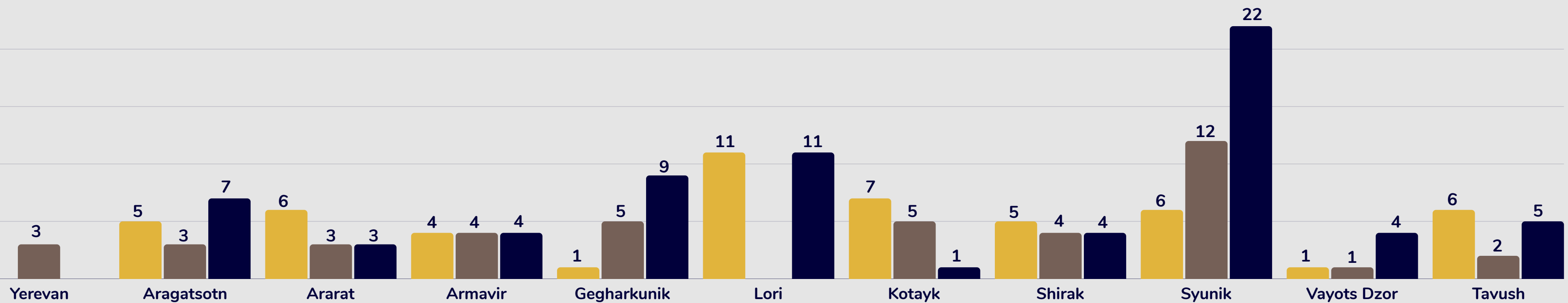


NUMBER OF SCHOOLS



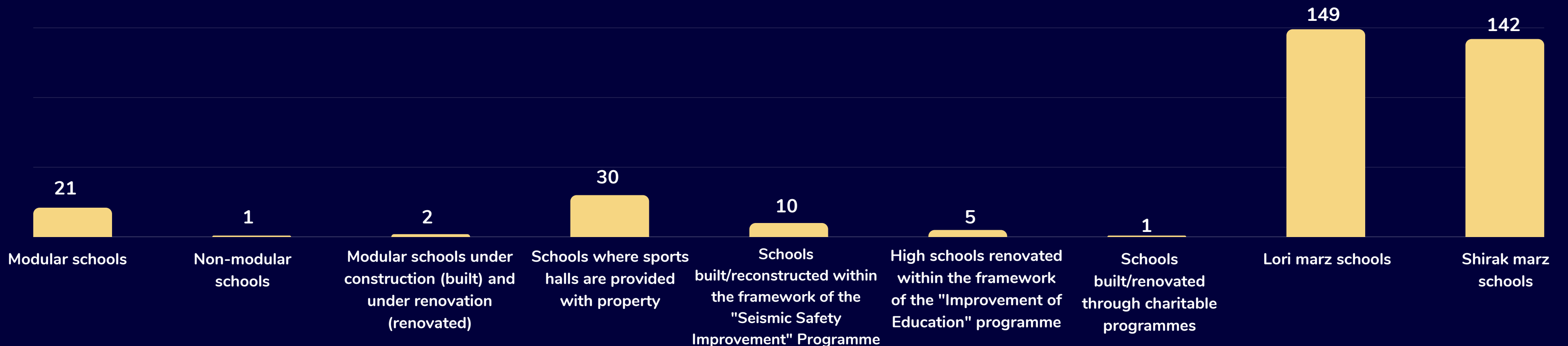
PROGRAMME TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES IN THE MARZES OF THE RA
NUMBER OF SCHOOLS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Cluster center schools Schools Educational complexes



- As a result, the construction work of 117 schools and 74 educational complexes will be carried out in the republic within the framework of the programme in 2024. As a result of the construction and reconstruction of the sports hall and conference hall buildings, two schools will be reconstructed and seven schools will be put into full operation.
- 18 kindergartens are under construction within the framework of the programme. It should be noted, however, that these are only a part of the state budget resources, as most of them are being built within the framework of the Subvention Programme provided to communities by the state under the programmes of the MTAI of the Republic of Armenia.
- Considerable resources will be allocated to carry out reconstruction and major renovation repairs of the school and kindergarten buildings as well. In particular, more than AMD 13.4 bln will be allocated for major renovations and reconstructions of the kindergartens, and AMD 519.4 mln for schools.
- It should also be noted that major renovation of 4 schools and the construction of gyms in 3 schools will be carried out within the framework of the "Safe School" Programme.
- More than AMD 8.8 bln of budgetary funds will be allocated to provide general education schools, kindergartens and educational complexes with property and equipment. A total of 361 schools will be provided with the necessary property and equipment.

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS PROVIDED WITH PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT



1189 “SCHOOL SEISMIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENT” PROGRAMME

10.3 AMD bln

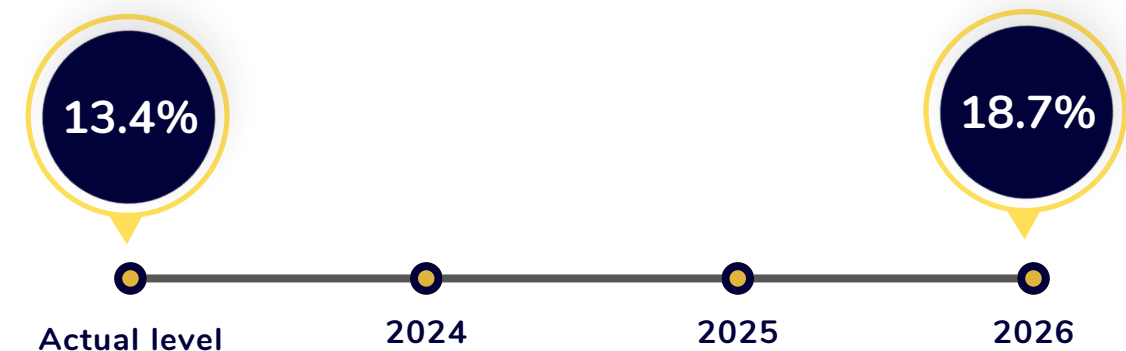
OBJECTIVE

- To contribute to ensuring the seismic resilience of the country and enhancing the level of individual and public safety

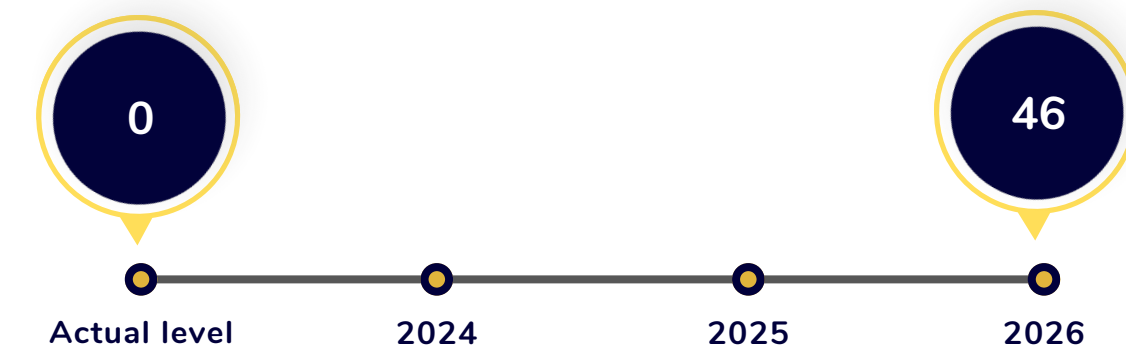
OUTCOME

- Enhanced seismic resilience of school buildings

Percentage of students studying in school buildings that meet the earthquake resistance international seismic safety standards for MSK 9 (IX)



Number of schools reconstructed in accordance with government’s seismic safety standards, and with conditions meeting the energy efficiency requirements



- The project objective is to contribute to ensuring the seismic resistance of the country and increasing the level of individual and public safety. The programme is implemented with the financial support of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Until 2024, the programme was coordinated by the RA MTAI.
- AMD 10.3 bln is allocated to the implementation of the programme in 2024, which is a decrease by 15.8 % compared to the previous year.
- Construction work of 30 schools will continue and construction of 7 schools will be completed in 2024.

PROGRAMME/MEASURE	2023 AMD mln	2024 AMD mln	2024/2023 %
SEISMIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENT OF SCHOOLS” PROGRAMME	12,211	10,286	-15.8
Management of the ADB-supported School Seismic Protection Programme	121	225	85.1
Measures aimed at improving seismic safety of schools in the Republic of Armenia within the framework of the ADB-supported School Seismic Protection Programme	12,089	4,737	-60.8
Measures aimed at improving seismic safety of schools in the Republic of Armenia within the framework of additional financing for the ADB-supported School Seismic Protection Programme	-	5,325	-

Source: RA Ministry of Finance

1045

PRIMARY (CRAFTSMANSHIP) AND SECONDARY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME

15.2 AMD bln

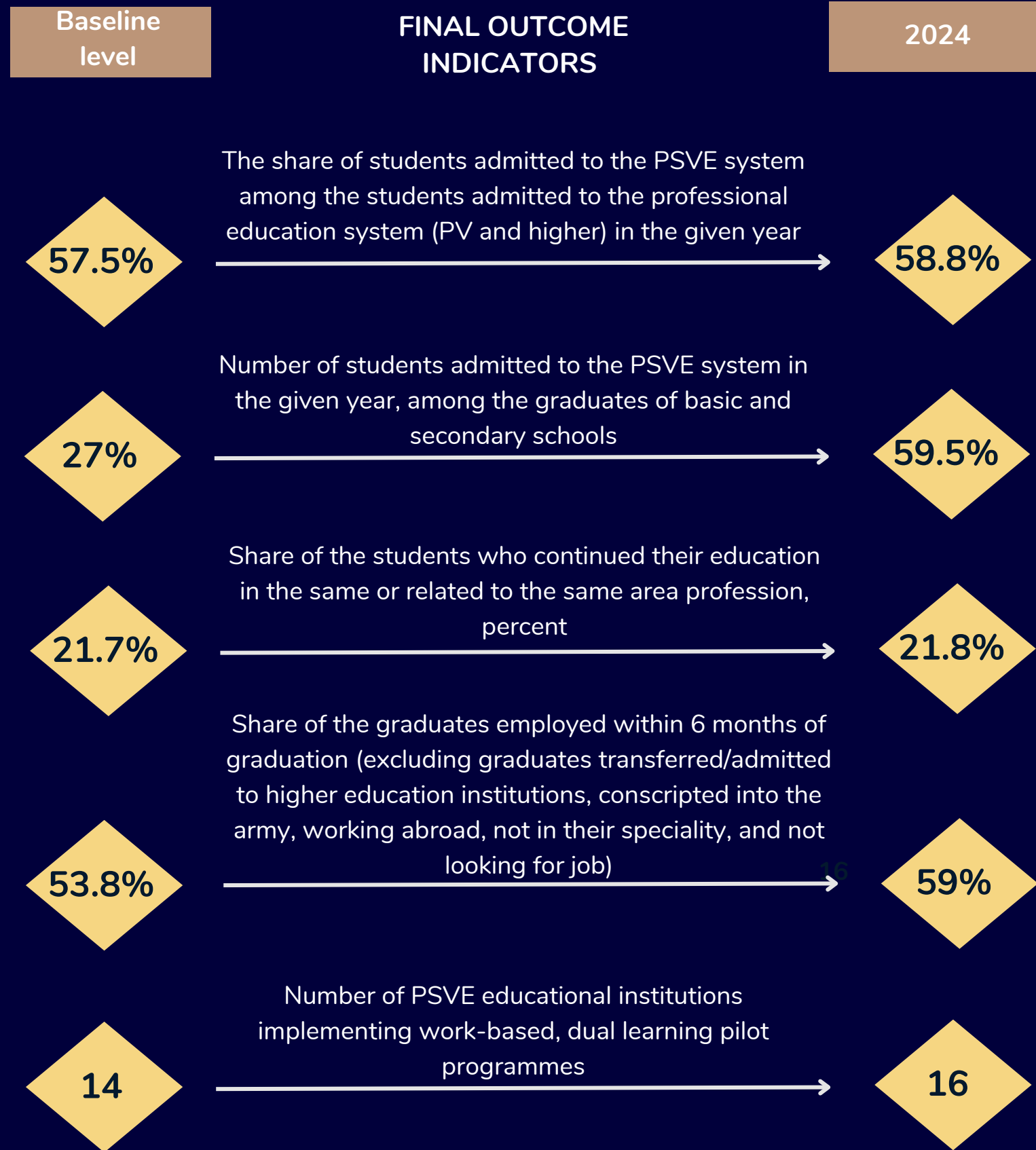
OBJECTIVE

OUTCOME

- Training specialists in primary vocational (craftsmanship) and secondary vocational education, aligning with current labor market demands and ensuring educational accessibility.

- Enhancing the appeal of primary (vocational) and secondary vocational education.

- Resources allocated to primary (vocational) and secondary vocational (PSVE) education will increase by 38.5 % in 2024 and amount to approximately AMD 15.2 bln.
- 67.89 % of the programme budget has been allocated to the expenditures for providing student benefits under the PSVE. The increase of these expenditures in 2024 will amount to 12.6 % or AMD 1.1 bln and provide about a 26.5 % increase of the programme budget.
- Additional funds have been allocated to increase the amount of scholarships provided to students accepted on the basis of basic education according to the list of specialties in priority and important sectors approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia. In 2024, AMD 1.8 bln has been allocated to scholarships for students receiving the PSVE, which is more than twice the level of the previous year.

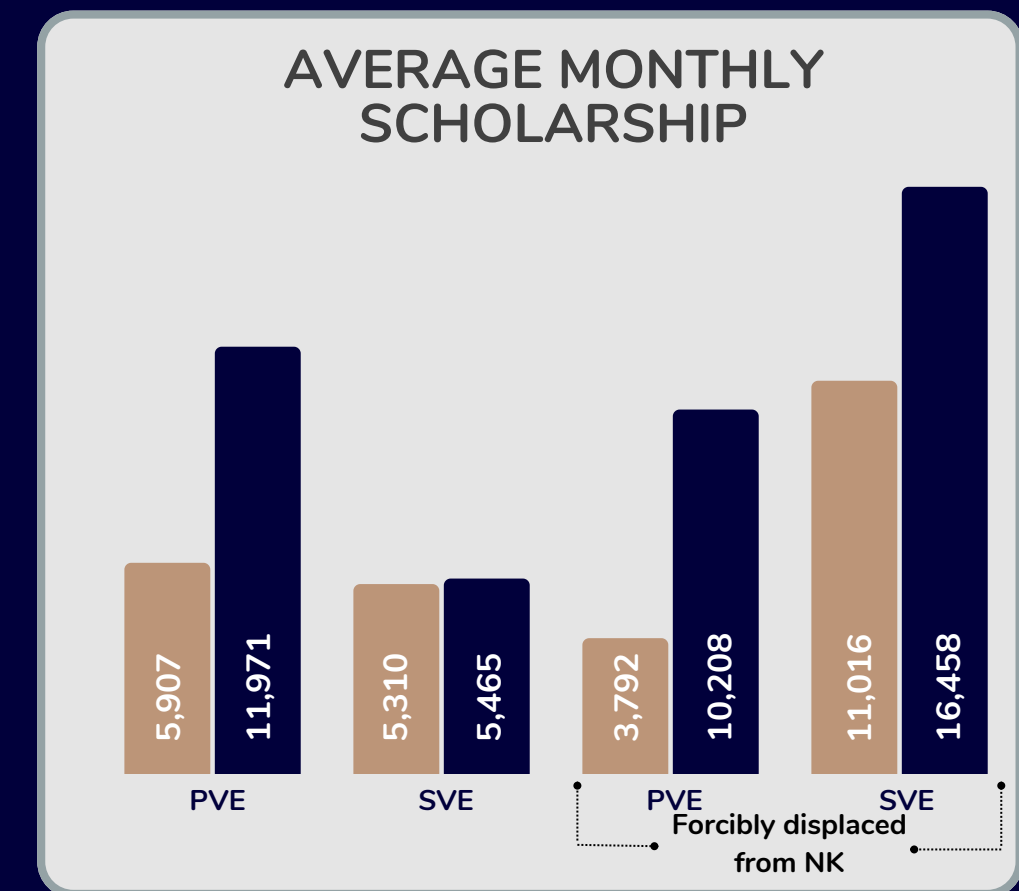
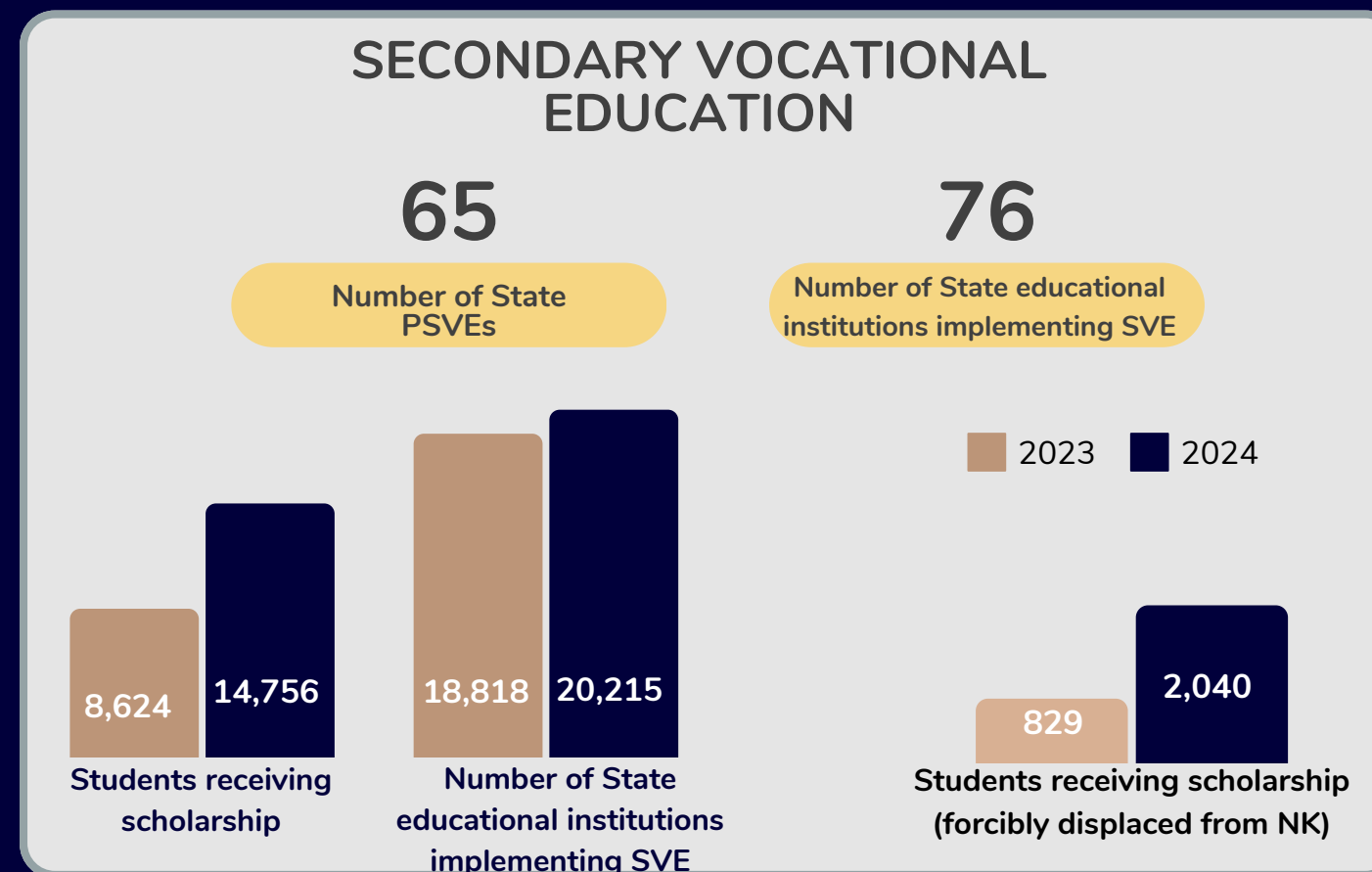
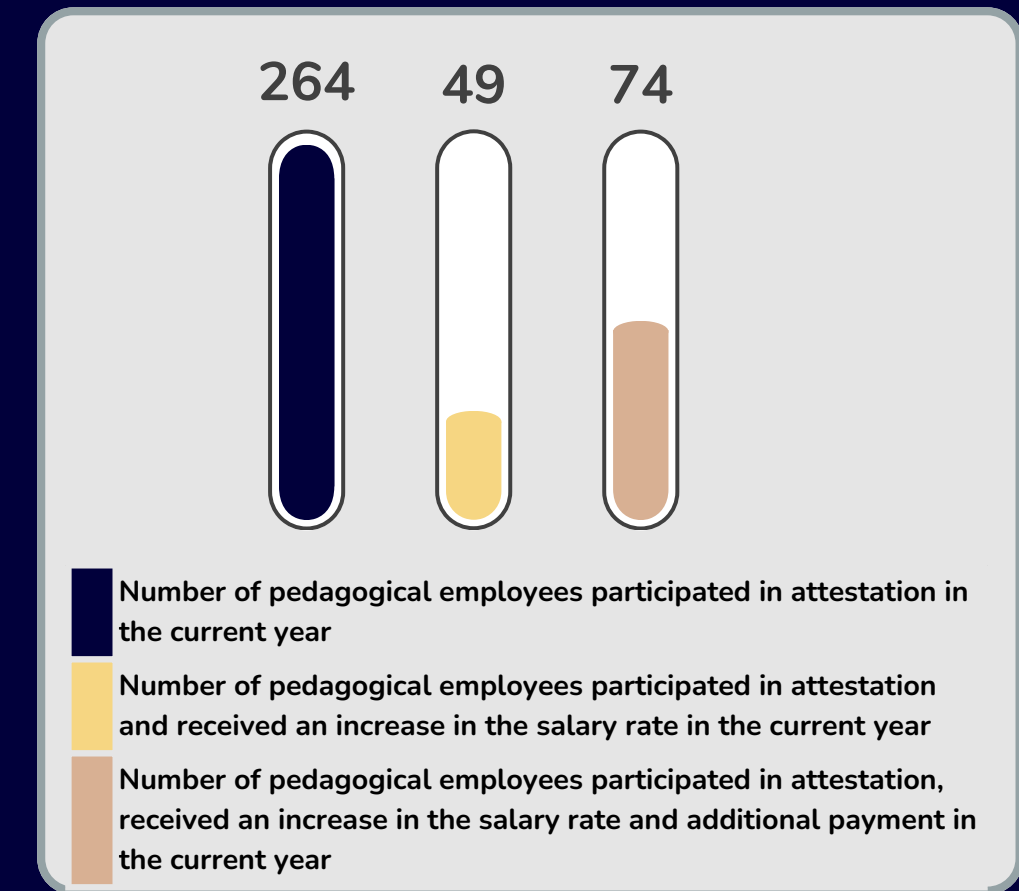
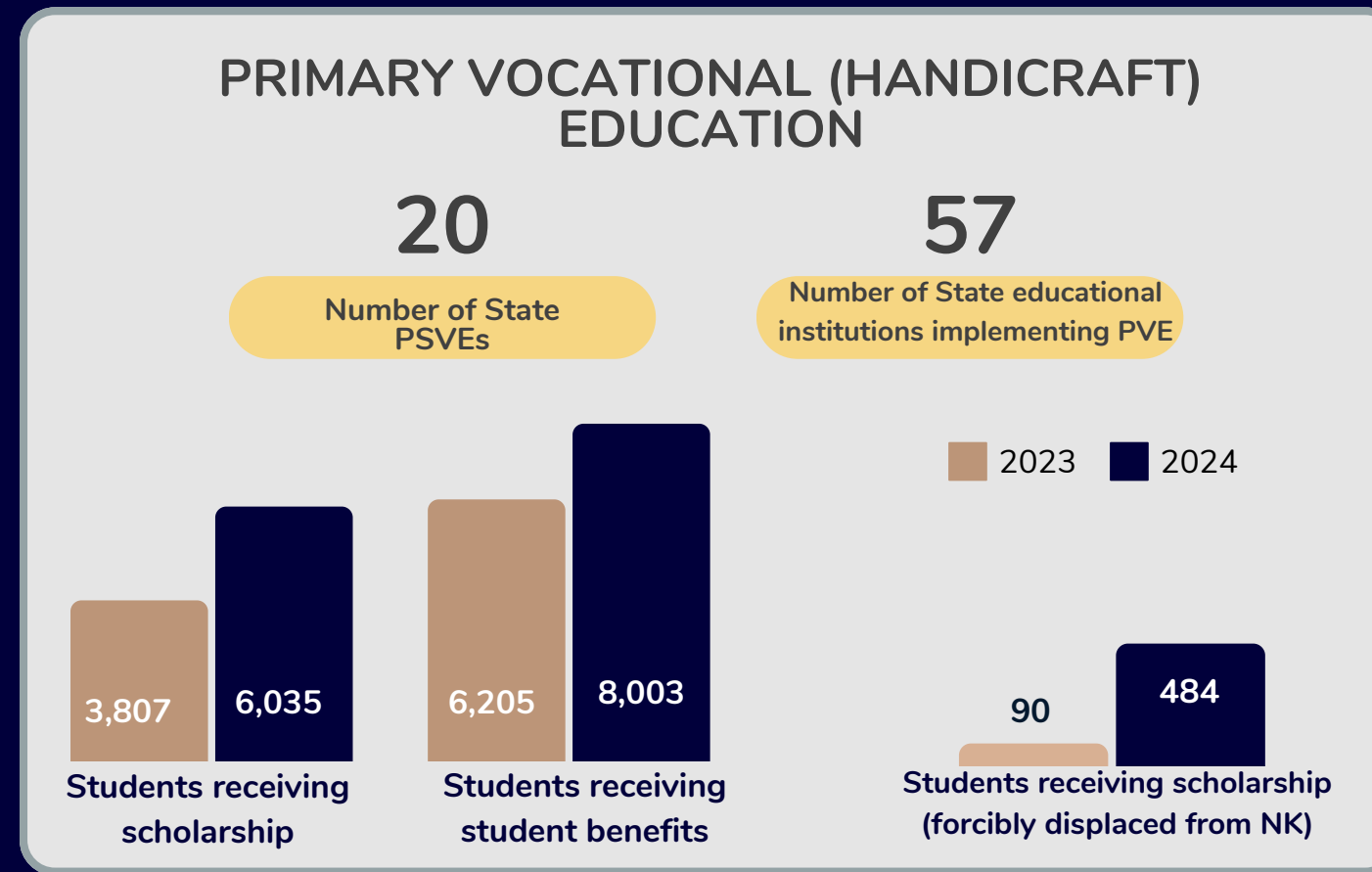


- AMD 462.2 mln is allocated for full or partial compensation of tuition fees for students forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh after 19 September, 2023, and receiving PSVE in the Republic of Armenia. Allocation for the previous year was AMD 120.6 mln.
- Resources allocated to improving building conditions and constructing buildings of PSVE educational institutions will increase sharply, amounting to AMD 855.2 mln and AMD 982.6 mln, respectively, about 2 and 3 times more than the last year. Resources will be directed to the construction of 3 SVE Educational Centers.
- Additional AMD 62.7 mln will be allocated to the introduction of an attestation system for pedagogical workers of PSVE educational institutions and the provision of additional payments. AMD 103.9 mln will be allocated to the compensation of transportation expenses for students and pedagogical workers of PSVE educational institutions operating in the regions.

PROGRAMME/MEASURE	2023 AMD mln	2024 AMD mln	2024/2023 %
PRIMARY (CRAFTSMANSHIP) AND SECONDARY VOCATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME	10,955.8	15,176.1	38.5
SVE quality assurance services	48.6	66.9	37.6
Strengthening gender equality in employment at the local government level	10.0	-	-100.0
“Hot Kitchen”	10.0	-	-100.0
Scholarship for students receiving PVE	269.9	866.9	221.2
Scholarship for students receiving SVE	549.5	967.7	76.1
Provision of student benefits in the field of PVE	2,409.0	2,764.7	14.8
Provision of student benefits in the field of SVE	6,769.6	7,530.0	11.2
Introduction of certification system for pedagogical staff of PSVE educational institutions aimed at increasing the quality of pedagogical staff and their remuneration	-	62.7	-
Compensation of transportation expenses for students and pedagogical workers of PSVE educational institutions operating in the regions.	-	103.9	-
Introduction of a new voluntary attestation system to improve the quality of pedagogical workers teaching general education subjects in PSVE educational institutions	15.2	352.1	2,214.7
Providing scholarship for compensation of tuition fees to students forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh after 19 September, 2023 and receiving PVE in the RA	4.1	59.3	1,347.7
Providing scholarship for full or partial compensation of tuition fees to students forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh after 19 September, 2023 and receiving SVE in the RA	109.6	402.9	267.7
Compensation of tuition fees for the students from the families forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh after 19 September, 2023 and studying at educational institutions implementing PSVE programmes in the Republic of Armenia	6.9	-	-100.0
Improving the building conditions of PSVE educational institutions	437.2	855.2	95.6
Providing educational and production base for PSVE educational institutions	-	161.1	-
Construction of buildings for PSVE educational institutions	316.2	982.6	210.7

Source: RA Ministry of Finance

- The expenditures under the programme have been planned for the education of 8,003 students enrolled in vocational education in 20+57 PVE educational institutions, and 20,215 students enrolled in secondary vocational education in 65+76 institutions.
- 6,035 students of PVE and 14,756 students of SVE institutions will receive scholarships. Compared to the previous year, the number of scholarship recipients will increase by 58.5% and 71.1%, respectively.
- The average monthly scholarship for recipients of PVE and SVE educational institutions will be AMD 11,971 and AMD 5,465 respectively, which is an increase of 101.7% and 2.9% compared to last year.
- The number of students forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh is 484 and 2,040 respectively, and the average scholarships are AMD 10,208 and AMD 16,458.
- 264 pedagogical employees will participate in the attestation in the current year. The number of teachers who have passed the attestation and received increase in the salary this year is 49, and the number of those who have also received additional payment as well is 74.



1111 HIGHER AND POSTGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME

14.6 AMD bln

OBJECTIVE

Provide affordable, high-quality and competitive higher and postgraduate professional education.

OUTCOME

Train specialists with higher and postgraduate professional qualifications, in line with the modern requirements of the knowledge economy and scientific development.

- The budget of the “Higher and Postgraduate Professional Education” Programme will increase by 15.1 % in 2024, and amount to AMD 14.6 bln.
- 79.5% and 11.4% percent of the programme budget will be allocated to providing benefits and scholarships to individuals receiving higher and postgraduate professional education, respectively. Compared to the previous year, these expenses will increase by approximately 39 and 12 percent.
- AMD 440.2 mln will be allocated for scholarships to fully or partially reimburse tuition fees for students forcibly displaced from Nagorno-Karabakh after 19 September, 2023 and receiving higher and postgraduate professional education in the RA.
- AMD 66.3 mln will be allocated for partial reimbursement of interest payments on student loans, and AMD 35 mln for reimbursement of accommodation fees in Yerevan for regional and foreign students.
- Additional funds are planned to increase the amounts of state scholarships provided to students studying at bachelor’s and master's degrees at the RA universities in specialties (educational programmes) that are of primary and significant importance to the state.
- Additional resources will be allocated for the implementation of construction works of the "Yerevan Komitas State Conservatory" SNCO and the Student city found “Zeitun”.

FINAL OUTCOME INDICATORS



Baseline level



2024

The share of students receiving social support among those receiving education, %



Baseline level



2024

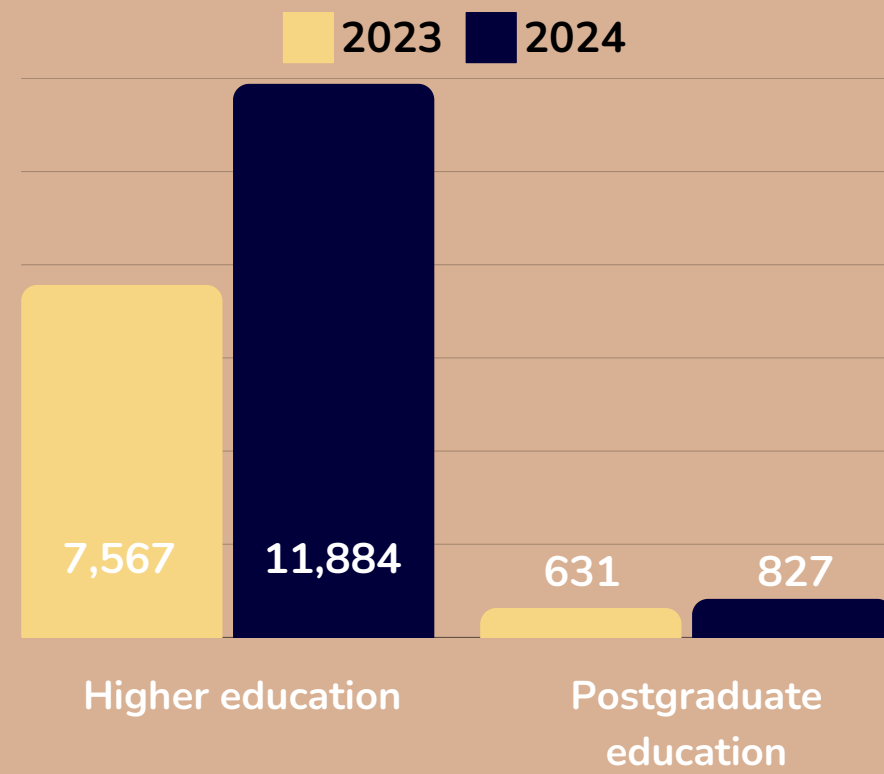
Competitive graduates with higher education, meeting the requirements of the labor market, who will work in their specialty, percentage

- The programme expenses are planned for partial reimbursement of tuition fees for more than 12.5 thousand students receiving higher and postgraduate education, students who participated in combat operations, and students with two or more minor children.
- 11,732 and 1,168 students will receive benefits for higher and postgraduate education, respectively.
- The number of students forcibly displaced from NK after 19 September, 2023 and receiving reimbursement of tuition for higher education programmes in the RA is 2,190.
- 11,884 and 827 will receive scholarships for higher and postgraduate education, respectively. The average scholarship for students receiving higher education will be AMD 7,447, and AMD 61,446 for the students of postgraduate education.
- 23,812 beneficiaries will receive partial reimbursement of interest payments on student loans. The number of students living in the dormitory is 240.

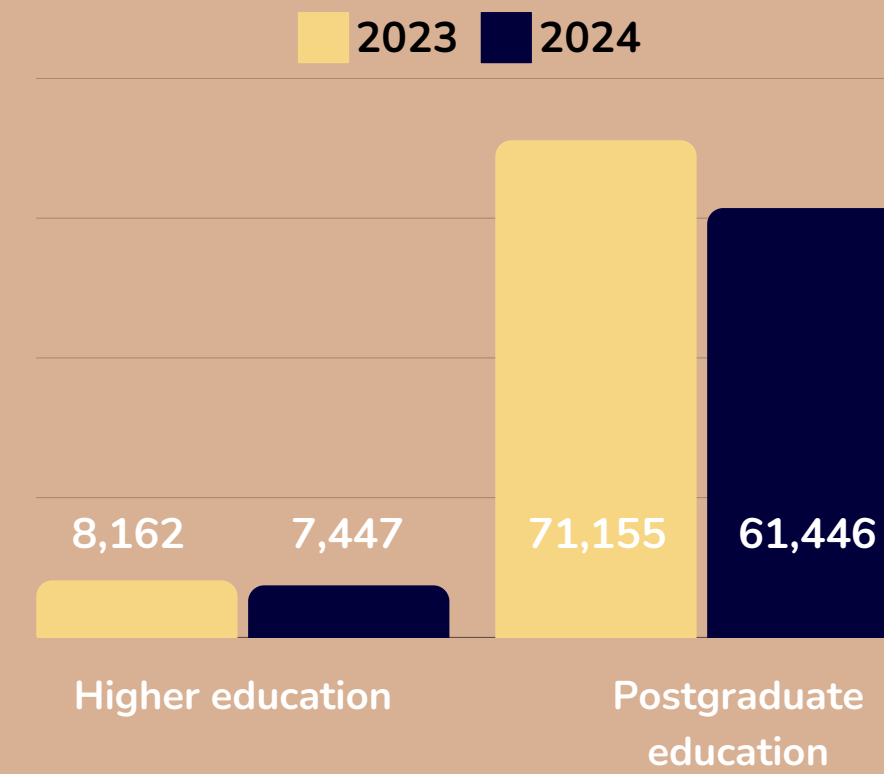
PROGRAMME/MEASURE	2023 AMD mln	2024 AMD mln	2024/2023 %
HIGHER AND POSTGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMME	12,725.4	14,642.3	15.1
Academic Recognition and Mobility services	43.1	43.1	-
Education Quality Assurance Services	60.0	60.0	-
Reimbursement of tuition fees for students of educational institutions implementing higher education programmes due to wartime conditions	15.4	-	-
Ensuring normal functioning of state bodies located on the territory of higher educational institution	2.9	-	-
Conducting the Armenian-Russian scientific and educational forum	22.7	-	-
Scholarship for students receiving HPS	741.2	1,062.0	43.3
Scholarships for students receiving postgraduate professional education in higher education institutions	406.3	520.7	28.2
Postgraduate scholarships for students at scientific institutions	55.3	89.0	61.1
Providing student benefits to HPS students	9,902.5	11,096.5	12.1
Providing of benefits for postgraduate professional education at higher education institutions	464.9	502.8	8.2
Providing of benefits for postgraduate professional education in scientific and educational institutions	20.5	35.6	73.9
Providing access to higher education in Yerevan for students from the regions, reimbursement of accommodation fees for students from the regions and foreign students	35.0	35.0	-
Partial reimbursement of interest payments on student loans	74.2	66.3	-10.6
Providing scholarships to fully or partially reimburse tuition fees for students forcibly displaced from NK after 19 September, 2023 and receiving higher professional education in the RA	439.3	440.2	0.2
Compensation of tuition fees for the students from the families forcibly displaced from NK after 19 September, 2023 and studying at educational institutions implementing higher and postgraduate education in the RA	254.2	-	-
Improving building conditions of higher education institutions and the Student city found "Zeitun"	137.9	691.0	401.2
Replenishment of the material and technical base of higher educational institutions and the Student city found "Zeitun" and provision of property	50.0	-	-

Source: RA Ministry of Finance

AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS RECEIVING SCHOLARSHIPS

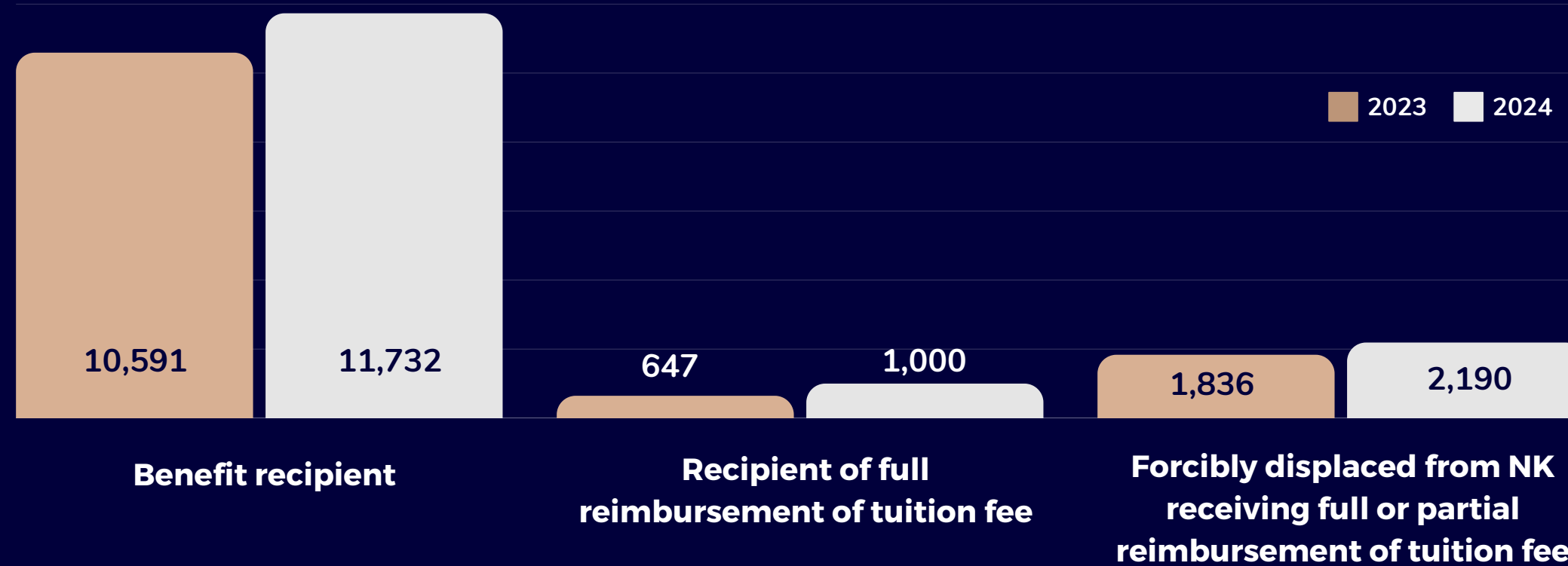


AMOUNT OF AVERAGE MONTHLY SCHOLARSHIP, AMD

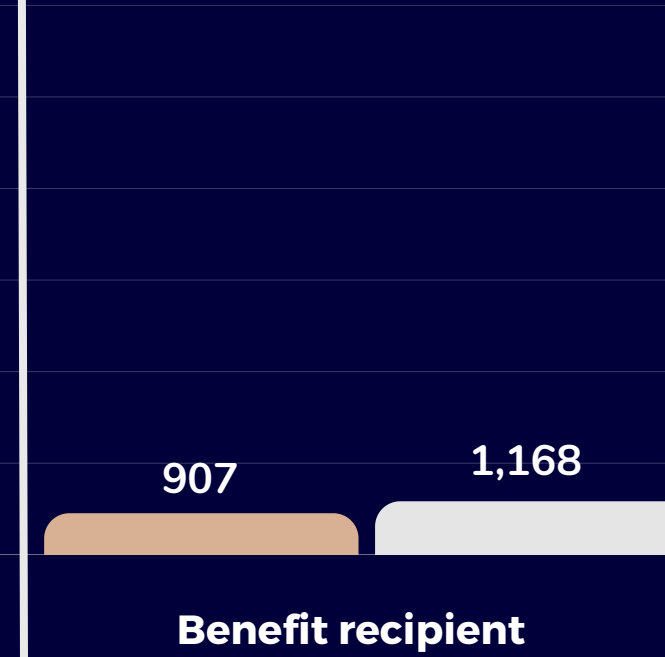


BENEFICIARIES OF STUDENT BENEFITS

HIGHER EDUCATION



POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION



1162

SCIENTIFIC AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME

35.8 AMD bln

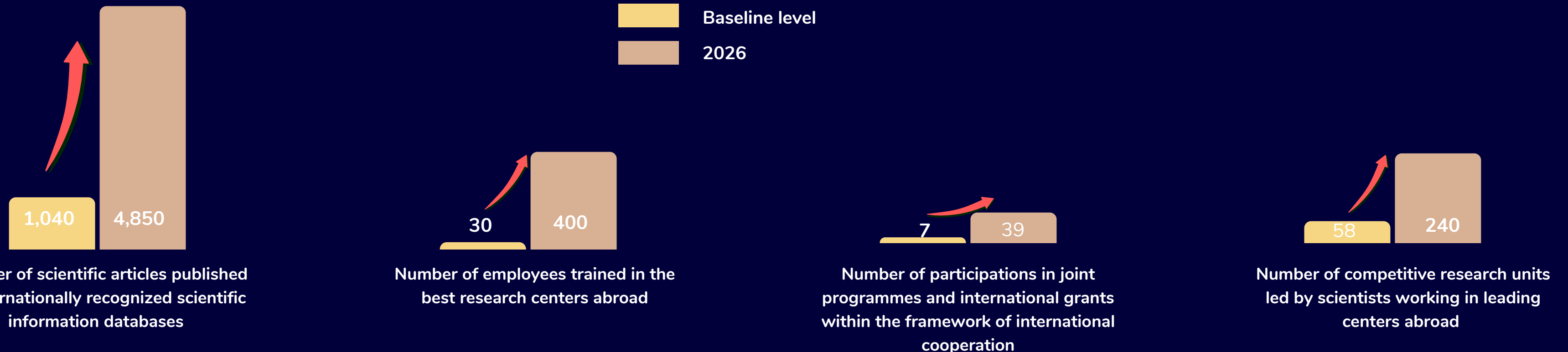
OBJECTIVE

- Implement fundamental, applied, and thematic research in scientific and technical activities, preserve and develop infrastructure and scientific assets of national importance, and ensure the continuous development of scientific potential.

OUTCOME

- Conduct research in priority areas of science and technology development, enhance scientific potential, and preserve scientific assets of national significance.

- The budget of “Scientific and Scientific-Technical” Programme will increase by 57.8 % in 2024 and amount to more than AMD 35.8 bln.
- 38.5 % of the programme budget, or about AMD 13.8 bln, will be allocated to the modernization of scientific infrastructure. These allocations will increase by 15.1 % compared to the previous year.
- The next major direction of the programme is the implementation of scientific and scientific-technical research. In particular, AMD 9.3 bln (26 % of the programme budget) is allocated to scientific and scientific-technical contractual (thematic) research, and AMD 152.9 mln for targeted and programmatic research, which have increased by 56.7% and 12.4 %, respectively, compared to the previous year.

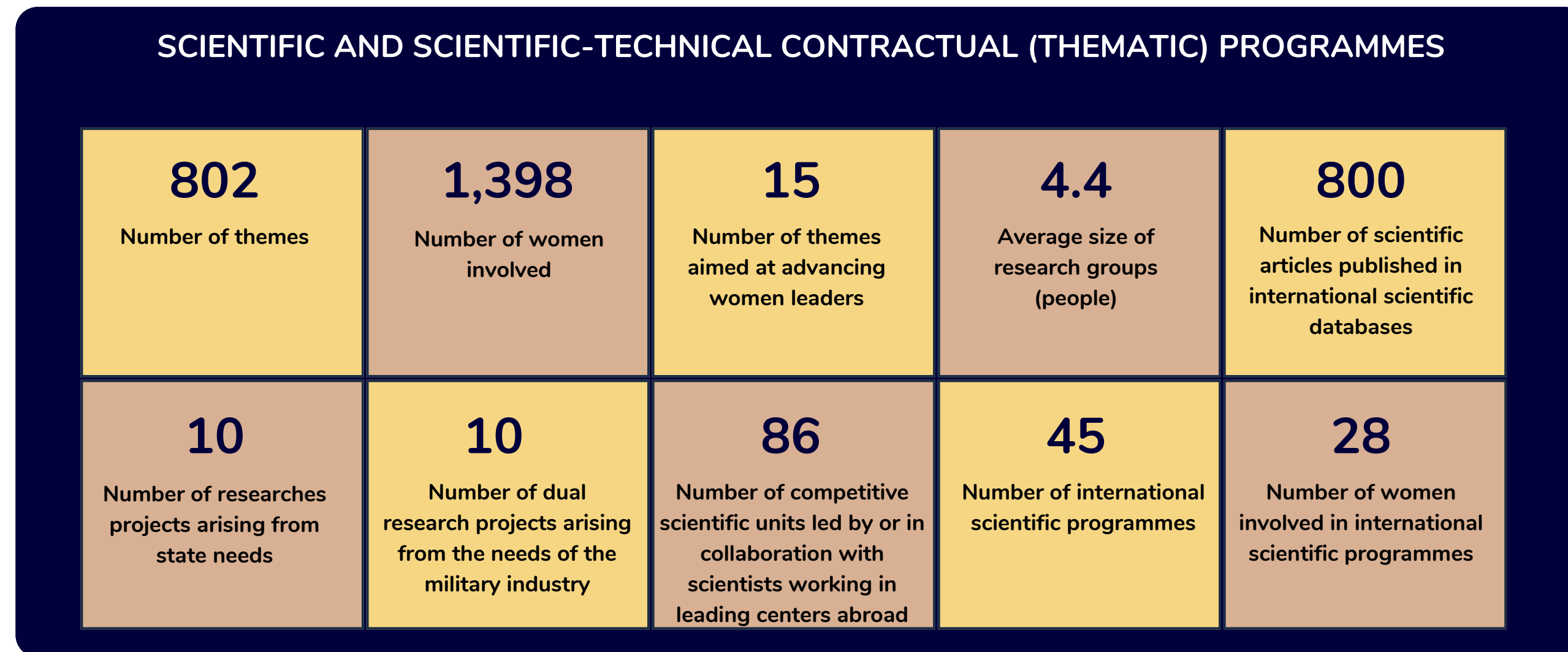
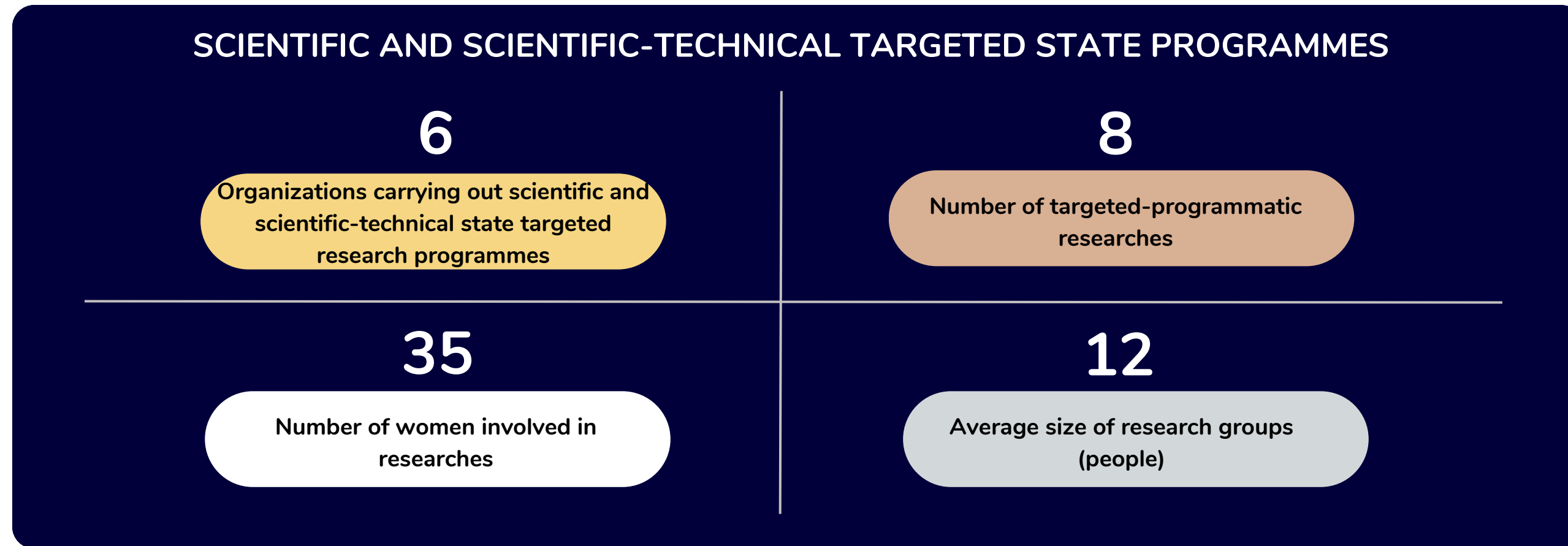


- 802 contractual/thematic research projects will be implemented in 2024. They will involve 1,398 female researchers. The average size of research groups is 4.4 people.
- Scientific and scientific-technical state targeted research is carried out by 6 organizations. 8 research-studies will be conducted in 2024. 35 female researchers will participate in them. The average size of research groups is 12 people.
- Funds for the preservation of scientific objects of national importance, the modernization of infrastructure in the field of high-energy physics, the developing of accelerator technologies, the maintenance and development of antenna standards, and the provision of scientific library services are planned within the framework of the programme.

PROGRAMME/MEASURE	2023 AMD mln	2024 AMD mln	2024/2023 %
SCIENTIFIC AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME	22,664.8	35,776.0	57.8
Services for developing state policy, coordinating programmes and monitoring in the field of science	262.0	409.0	56.1
Modernization of scientific infrastructure	11,981.7	13,788.3	15.1
Preservation of scientific objects of national importance	908.2	940.3	3.5
Scientific and scientific-technical contractual (thematic) research	5,932.3	9,295.7	56.7
Scientific and scientific-technical targeted and programmatic research	136.0	152.9	12.4
Publishing of scientific journals and monographs	-	95.6	-
Modernization of infrastructure in the field of high-energy physics	870.1	948.5	9.0
Developing Accelerator Technologies	228.6	244.3	6.9
Maintenance and development of antenna standards	45.0	45.0	0.0
Scientific library services	128.3	150.6	17.4
Scientific and technical library services	157.4	-	-100.0
Formation and development of knowledge-based economy ecosystem in the Republic of Armenia	-	173.0	-
Additional payments to researchers for academic degrees	769.4	842.0	9.4
Providing honorary payments to full and corresponding members of the NAS RA	139.2	112.2	-19.4
Improving the technical equipment of the Higher Education and Science Committee of the RA MoESCS	-	4.5	-
Renovation of scientific centers, provision of urgent expenses incurred within the framework of the implementation of the "Academic City" project	86.2	940.0	990.4
Re-equipping of scientific centers with modern equipment and creating joint-use scientific equipment centers	940.7	4,200.0	346.5
Modernization of the Artificial Intelligence Research Center	-	3,434.0	-

Source: RA Ministry of Finance

- AMD 940.0 mln will be allocated to cover urgent expenses incurred within the framework of the renovation of scientific centers and the implementation of the "Academic City" project.
- AMD 4.2 bln will be allocated for the re-equipping of scientific centers with modern equipment and creating joint-use scientific equipment centers, compared to the AMD 940.7 mln in the previous year.
- Measures the formation and development of the knowledge-based economy ecosystem in the RRA, as well as the modernization of the Artificial Intelligence Research Center, will be launched. It is planned to allocate AMD 173.0 mln and AMD 3.4 bln respectively.
- AMD 95.6 mln is allocated for the publication of scientific journals and monographs.
- AMD 842.0 mln and AMD 112.2 mln are planned to providing additional payments for academic degrees to researcher, and honorary payments to full and corresponding members of the NAS RA, respectively.





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