



DOES STUDENTS UNITED REALLY
HELP STATE FUNDING FOR
HIGHER EDUCATION: ANALYZING
THE STRENGTH OF STATE
STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS EFFECT
ON STATE HIGHER EDUCATION
FUNDING IN THE U.S.

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What are State Student Associations?

There are many different types of state student associations or SSAs that work as a form of student government. These organizations seek to represent their respective college or university while also being a voice for students. SSAs also lobby on big issues such as higher education funding at the state level.

Why Important?

- My past experience with student lobbying and state funding (M.U.S)
- An overall goal of SSA's is to achieve better affordability for college students
- Nationally it's important to evaluate the collective success U.S. states have on higher education funding

Introduction:

- I researched the effect State Student Associations or SSA types have on higher education funding across all 50 U.S. states.
- I learned the relationship between each U.S state and its SSA's groups while looking at the percent change in higher education funding collectively in the last 5 years.
- Specifically, looking at the overall effectiveness of these state student lobbying groups and their national impact on higher education funding.

Data:

GRAPEVINE DATA FROM ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Higher education percent change in funds allocated in all 50 U.S. States from 2013-2018

STUDENT EMPOWERMENT TRAINING PROJECT DATA

Guide of Student Senate Associations types in each U.S. State.

Variables:

Dependent Variable

- Higher education funding Percent Change from 2013-2018

Independent Variable

- State Student Senate Types

Unit of Analysis

- U.S. States

SSA Types:

1. None- State simply has no student association.
2. Informal- Activity at the state level varies year to year and has no full time staff.
3. System Organized- Is created through state legislature or an higher education state governing system. Also receives allocated state funding every cycle.
4. Independent- Has an institutionalized student fee that has been mandated by state statute for example Students United (MN).
5. Multiple- State has more than one form of student association.

Case Summaries

Reduced Funding -21 to -0.5 Percent

1. Alaska (**SYSTEM ORGANIZED**)
2. Arkansas (**NONE**)
3. Kansas (**SYSTEM ORGANIZED**)
4. Kentucky (**SYSTEM ORGANIZED**)
5. Louisiana (**SYSTEM ORGANIZED**)
6. Mississippi (**INFORMAL**)
7. New Mexico (**INFORMAL**)
8. Oklahoma (**SYSTEM ORGANIZED**)
9. Wisconsin (**INDEPENDENT**)
10. Wyoming (**NONE**)

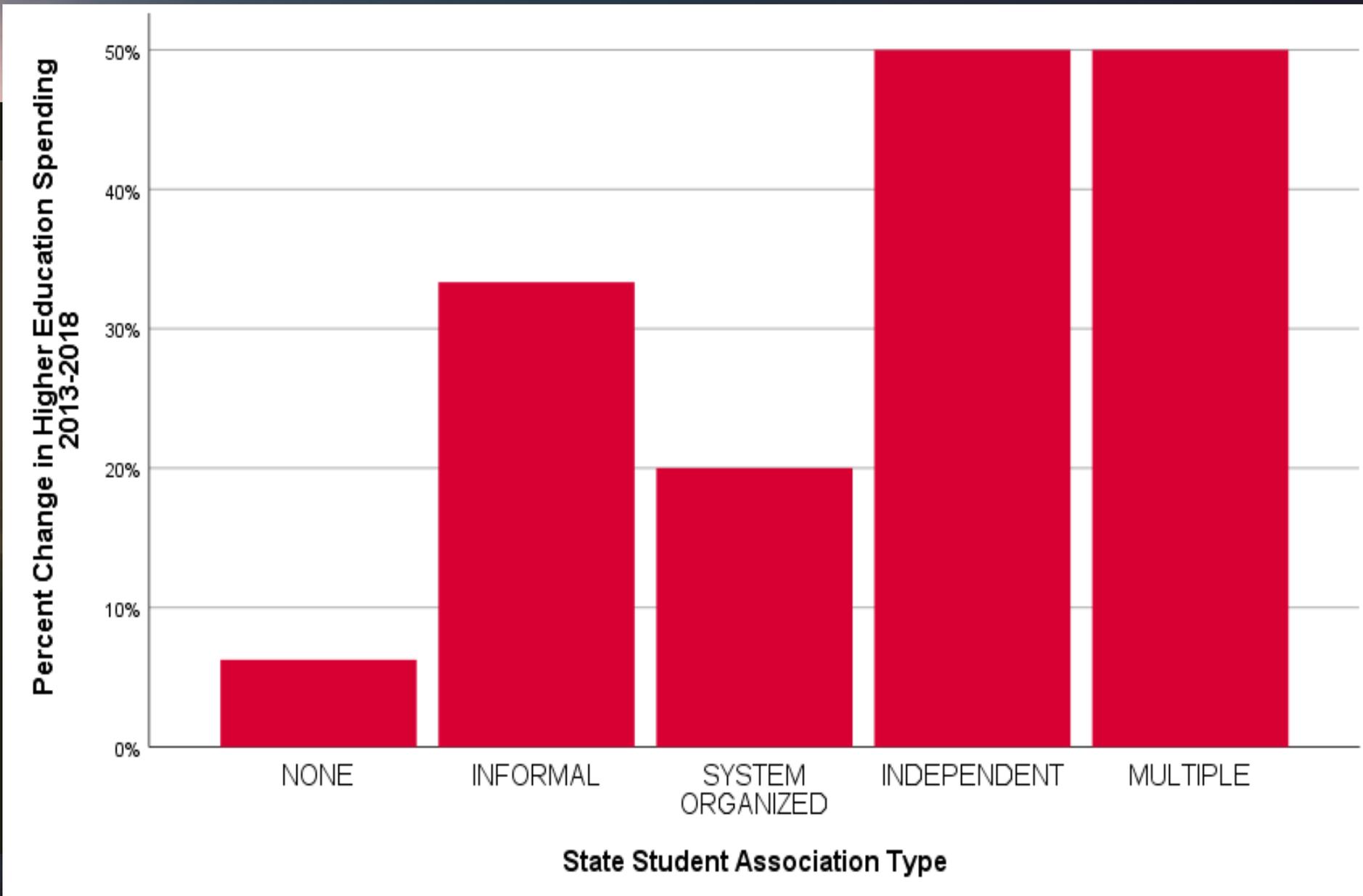
Total N of U.S. States=10

(MN is in the 16% to 31% Increase in Funding)

Increase in Funding 32 to 60 Percent

1. California (**MULTIPLE**)
2. Colorado (**INDEPENDENT**)
3. Florida (**INDEPENDENT**)
4. Hawaii (**SYSTEM ORGANIZED**)
5. Idaho (**INFORMAL**)
6. New Hampshire (**NONE**)
7. Nevada (**SYSTEM ORGANIZED**)
8. Oregon (**INDEPENDENT**)
9. Utah (**INFORMAL**)
10. Washington (**MULTIPLE**)

Total N of U.S. States=10



SSA Type and % of Increased Funding (20-13-2018)

Literature:

- Jennifer A. Delaney and William R. Doyle
- Testing higher education funding
- Looking at competing theories
- Many factors affect allocated funds

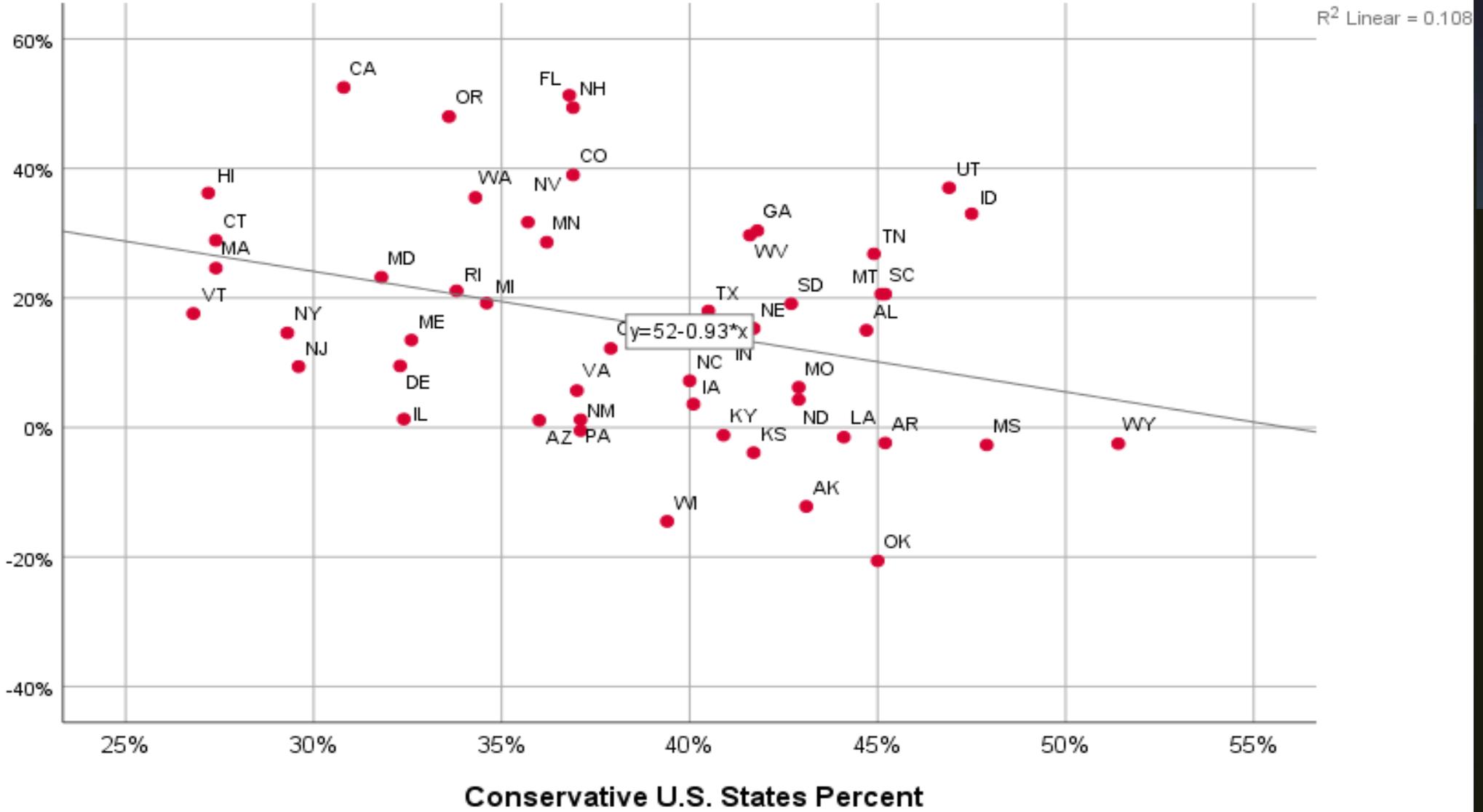
Main theories I looked at:

-Balance Wheel Model

-Political Business Cycle Model

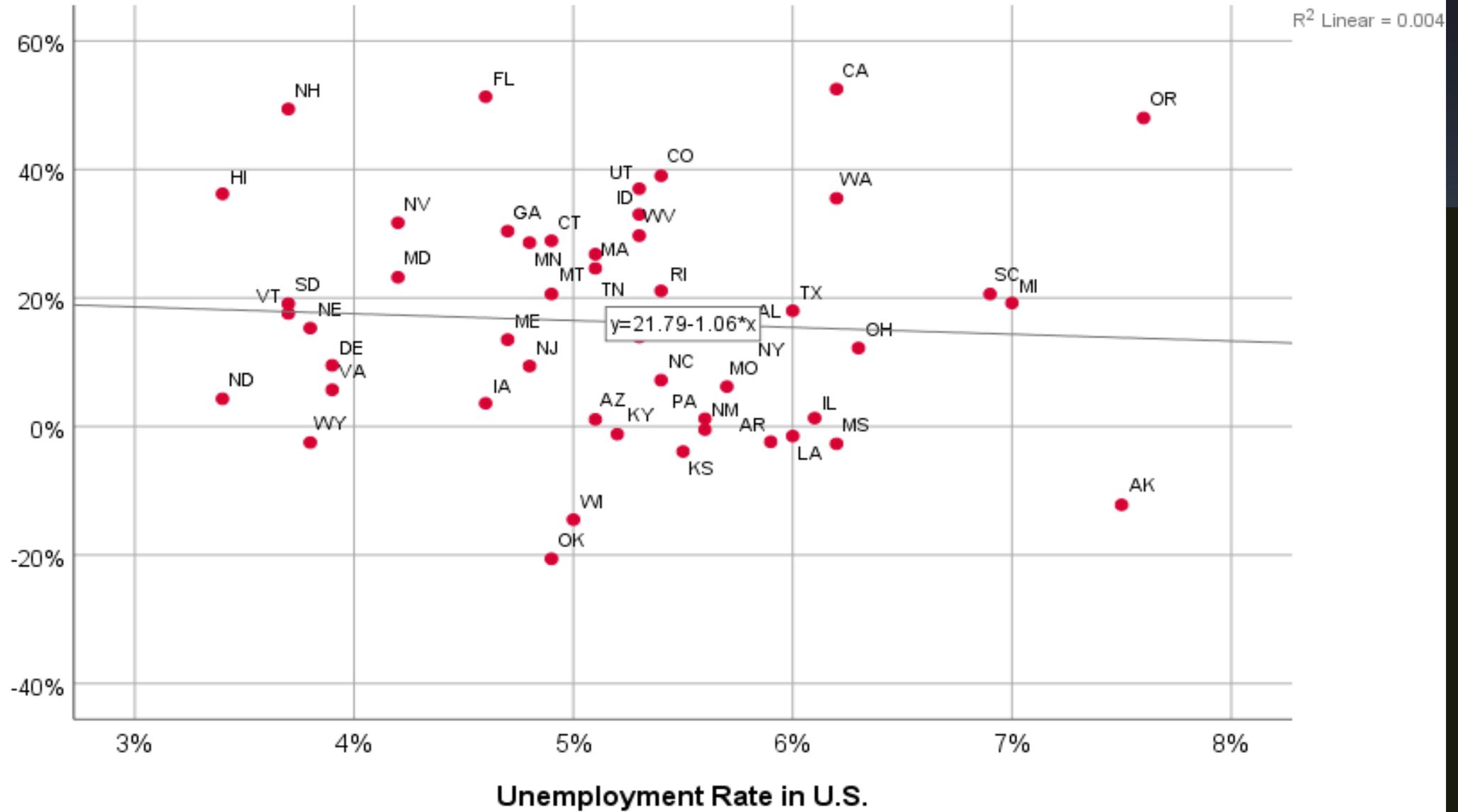


Higher Education Funding in U.S. 2013-2018

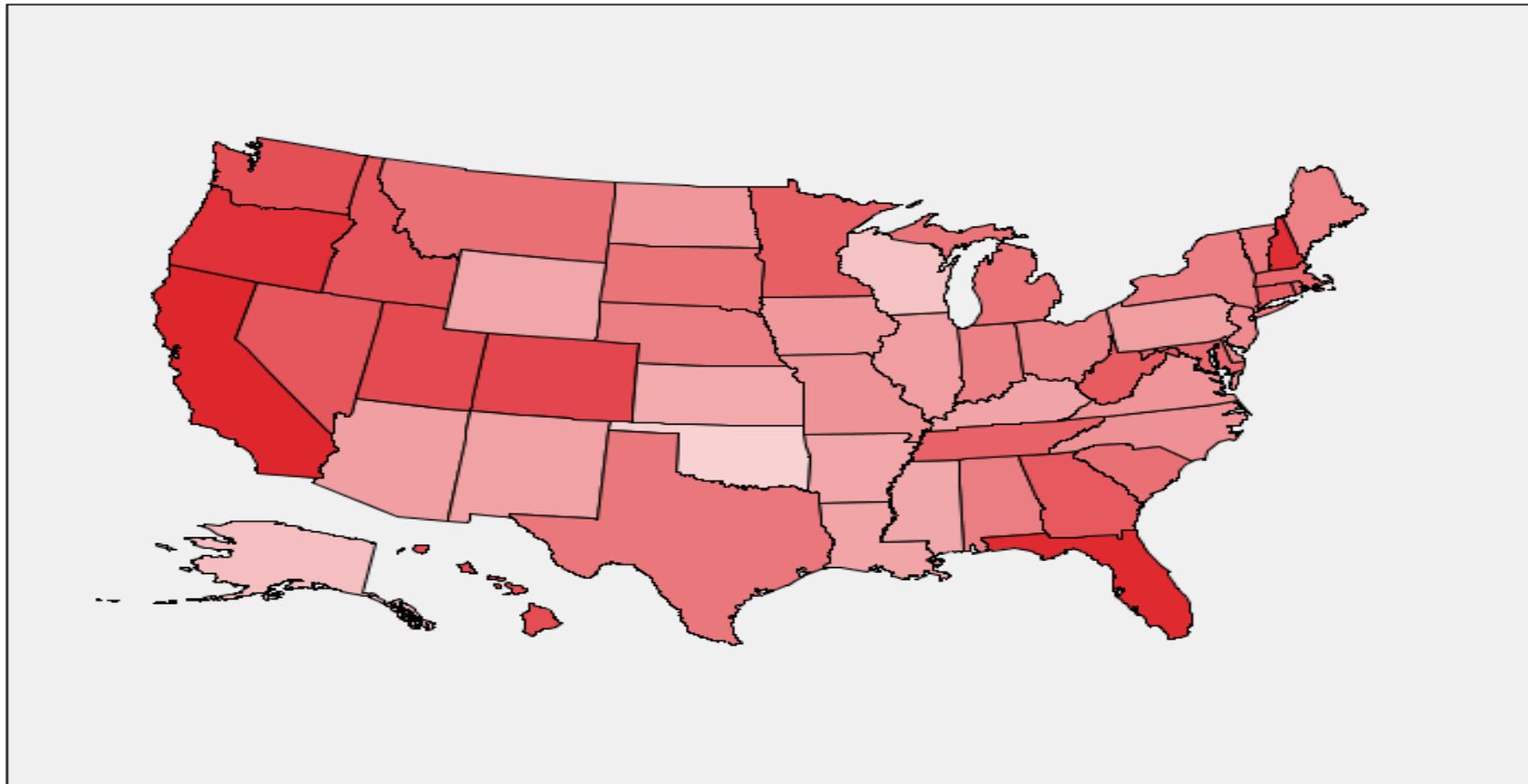


Balance Wheel Model

Higher Education Funding in U.S. 2013-2018



Political Business Cycle Model



Higher Education Funding in U.S. 2013-2018
 60% 40% 20% 0% (20%) (40%)

Higher Education Funding in U.S. 2013-2018

Conclusion (2013-2018)

- The U.S. states better at funding appear to be toward the western coast, but some states are scattered geographically (CA, OR, FL, NH). It's possible this is due to population growth and or potential student enrollment increase. Further research is needed.
- The best states with higher education funding have been SSA type, Independent (such as Students United) and Multiple .
- With mixed results and some inconsistencies the Balance Wheel Model and Political Business Cycle Model do not completely explain higher education funding in all U.S. states.
- Overall 40/50 U.S. states have sustained or increased funding from 2013-2018
- However the U.S. states with SSA type System Organized reduced the most in funding and must work harder to achieve better higher education funding nationally.

QUESTIONS?

