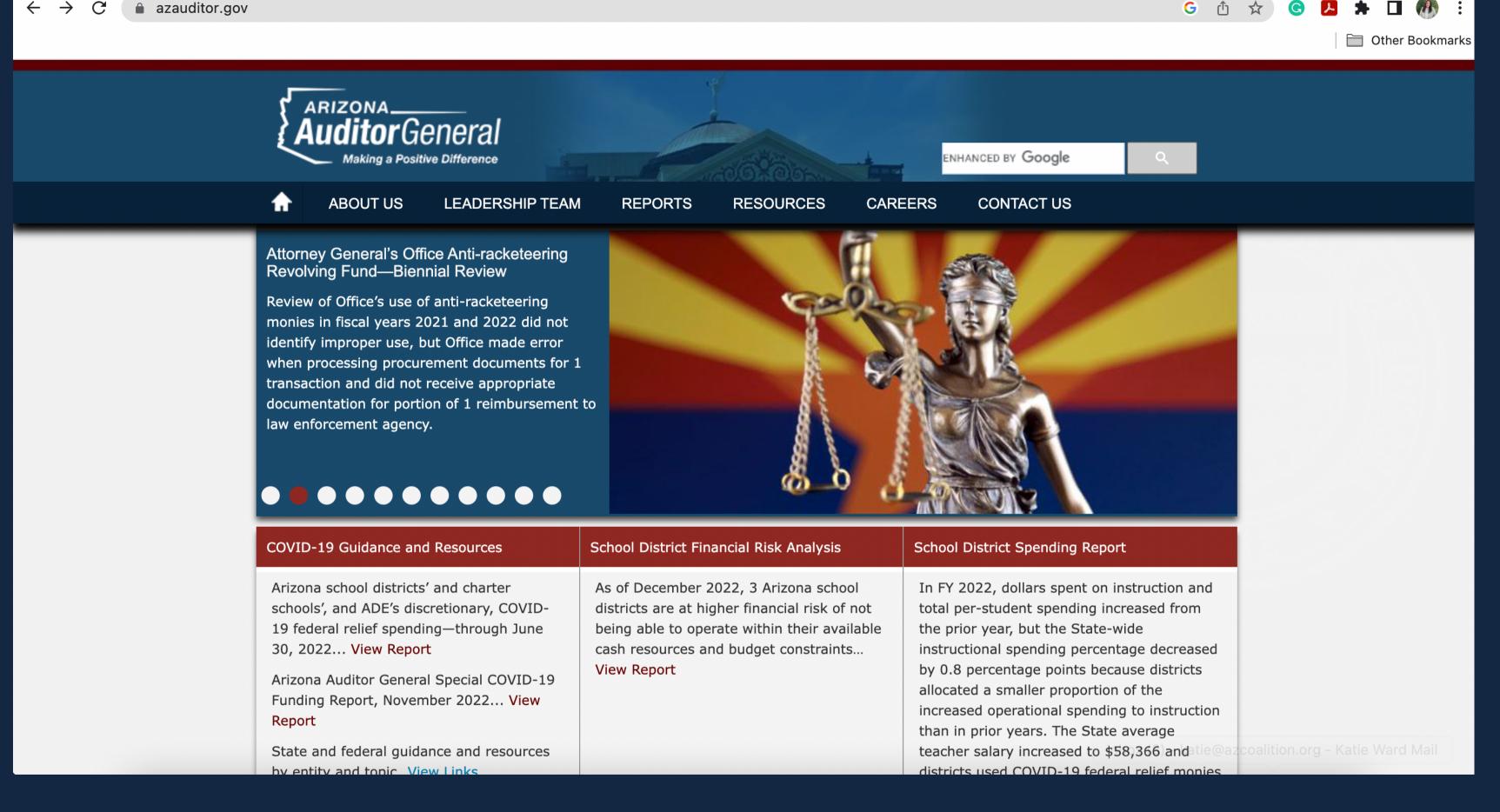
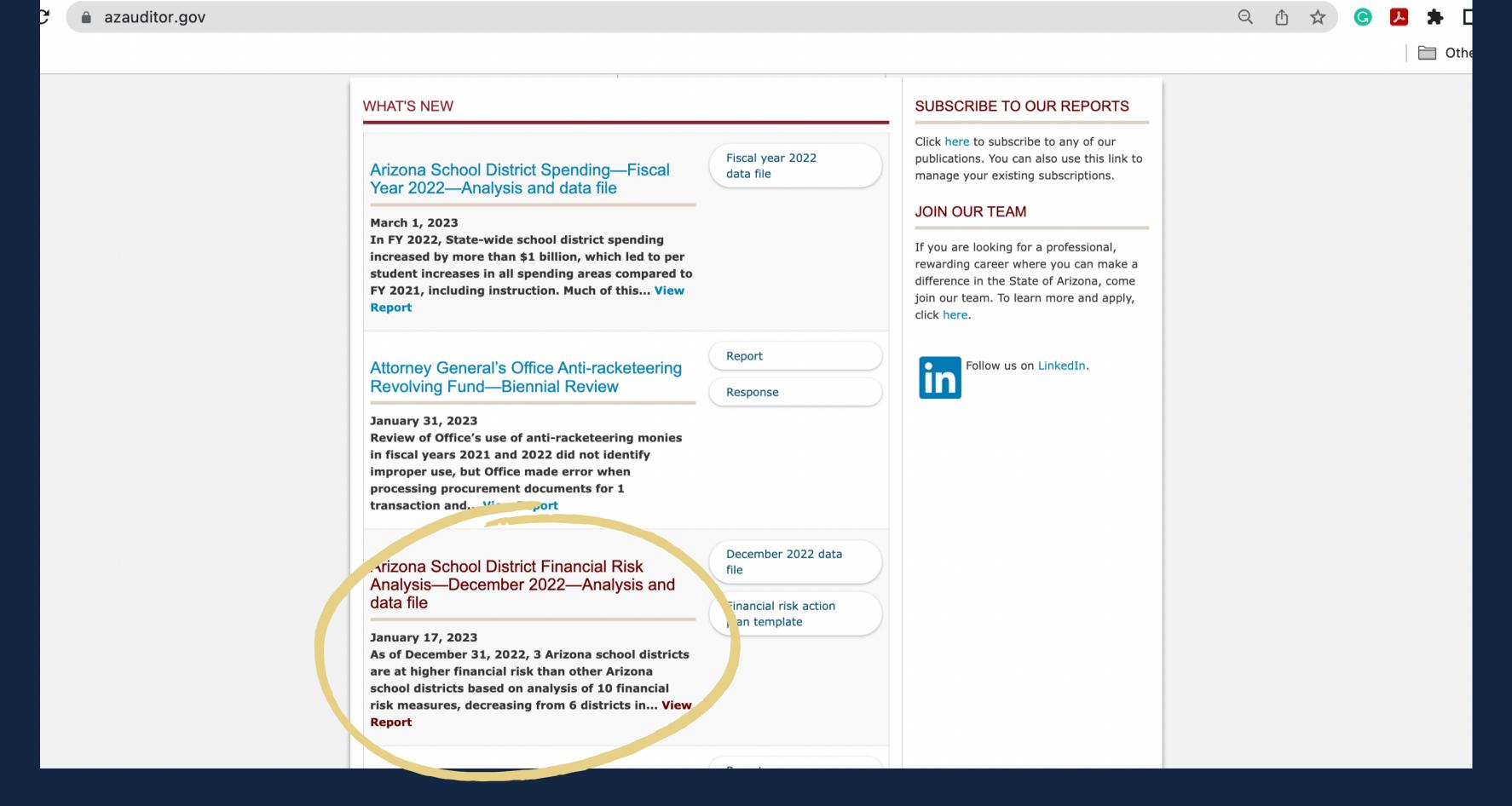


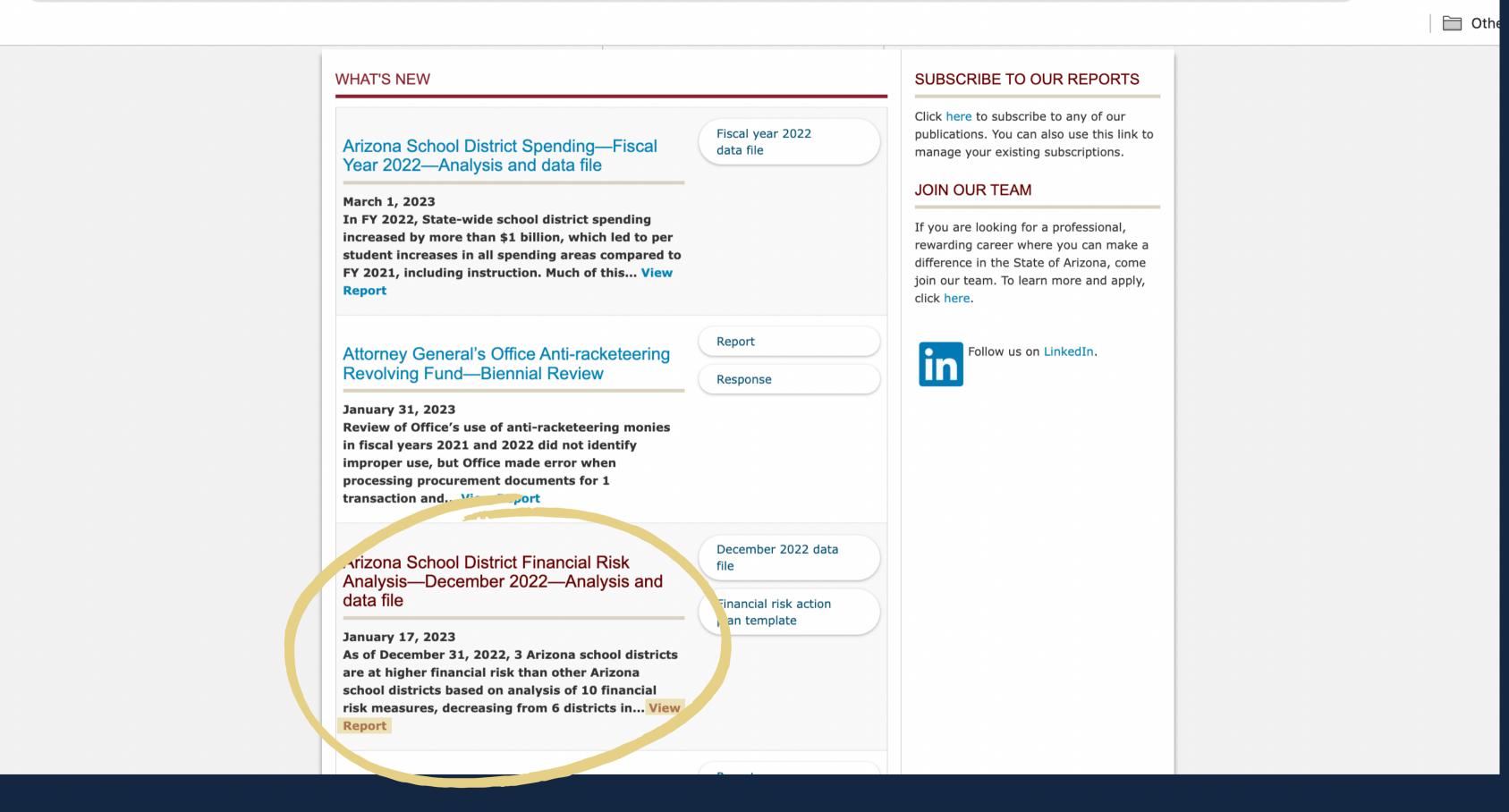
OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS



# Auditor General's Website Homepage

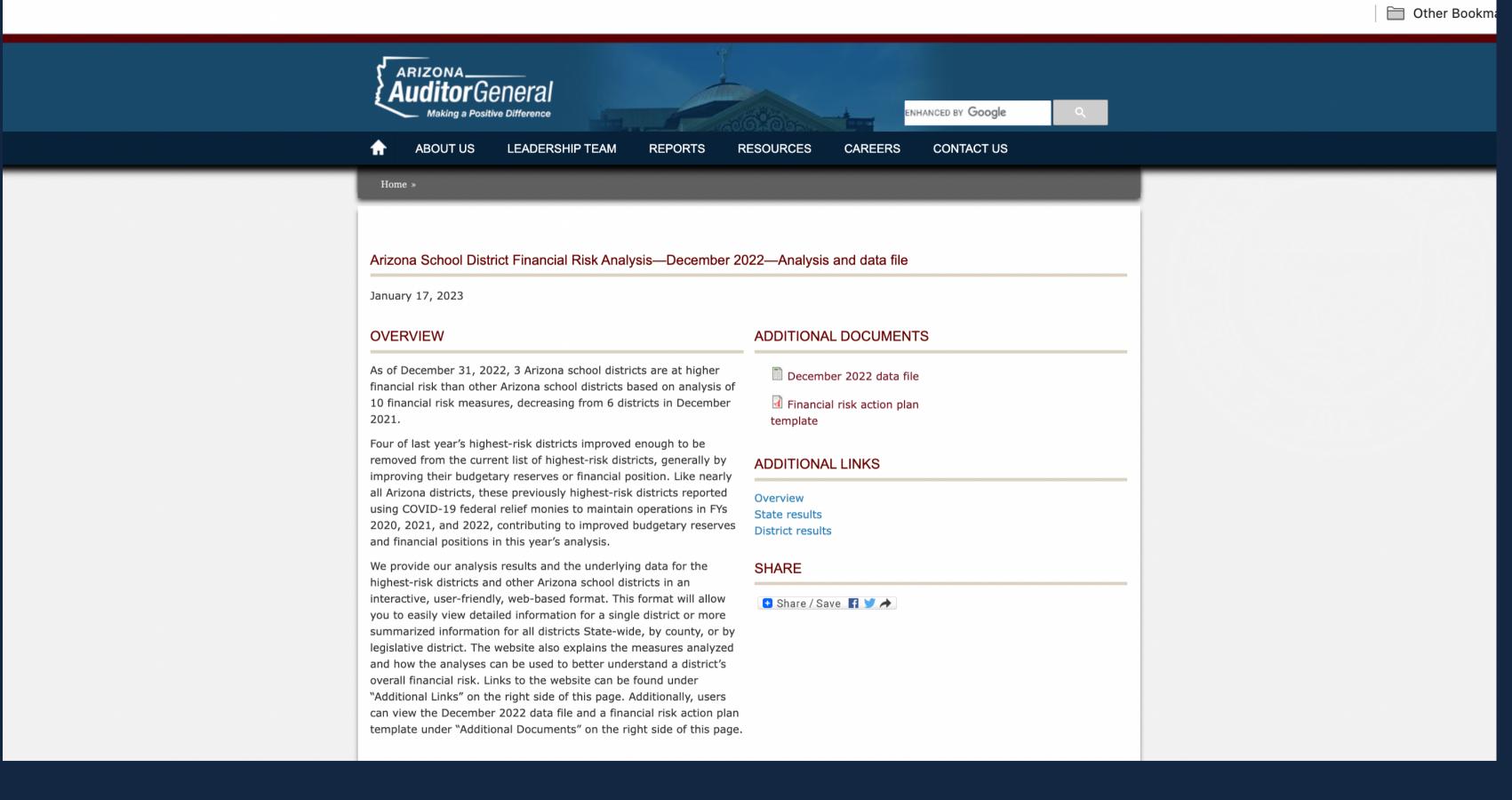


# Scroll down on the Homepage and locate the Financial Risk Analysis section



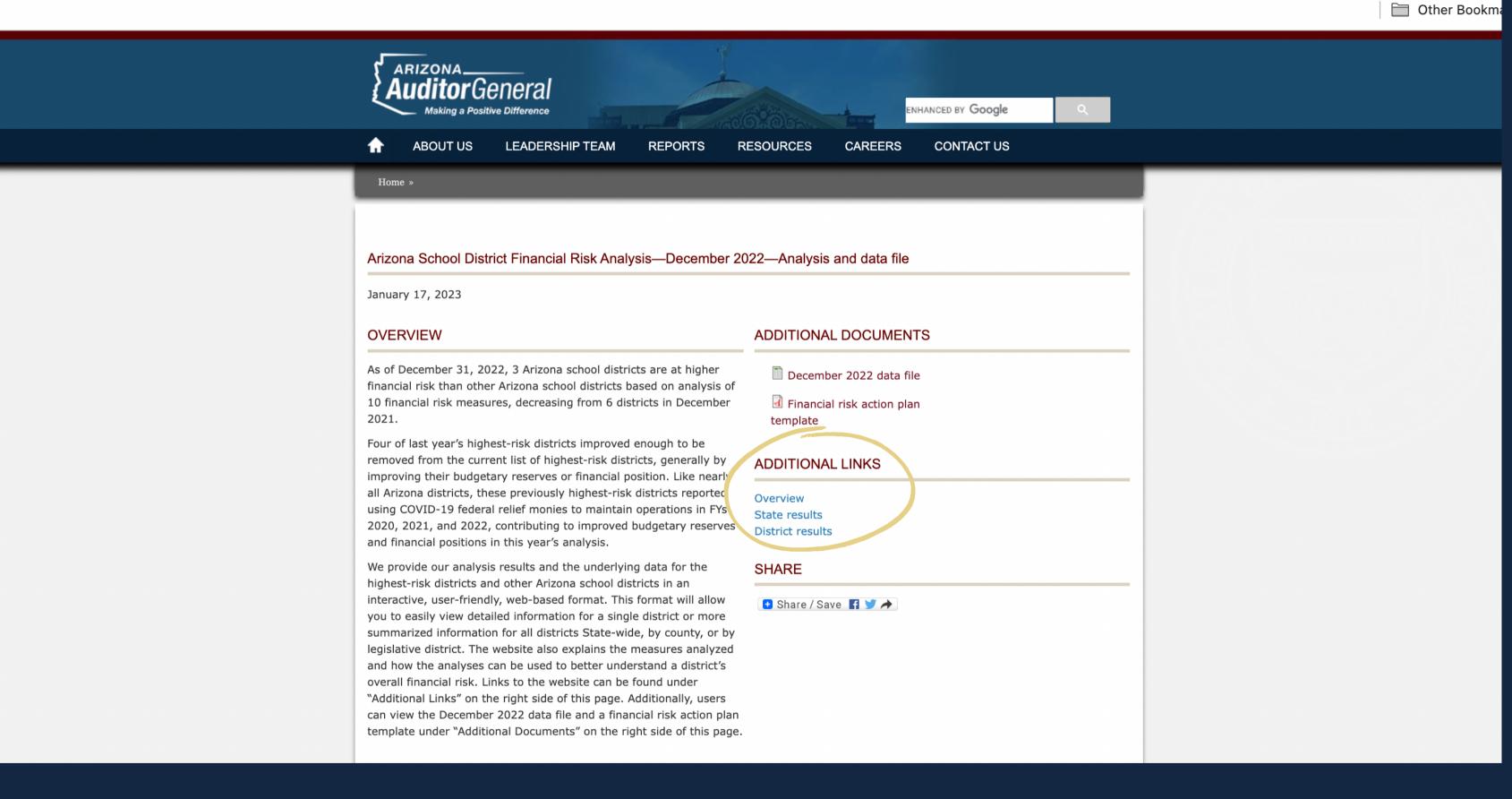
azauditor.gov

# View Report



azauditor.gov/reports-publications/school-districts/multiple-school-district/report/arizona-school-district-9

# FRISK Homepage



FRISK Homepage

azauditor.gov/reports-publications/school-districts/multiple-school-district/report/arizona-school-district-9

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#### **Overview**

As of December 31, 2022, 3 Arizona school districts are at higher financial risk than other Arizona school districts based on our analysis of 10 financial risk measures, decreasing from 6 districts in December 2021. Our analysis focused on identifying the districts at the highest risk based both on their current and potential future financial difficulties. Collectively, the measures relate to a district's overall financial risk of not being able to operate within its available cash resources and budget constraints. Four of last year's highest-risk districts improved enough to be removed from the current list of highest-risk districts, generally by improving their budgetary reserves or financial position. Like nearly all Arizona districts, these previously high-risk districts reported using COVID-19 federal relief monies to maintain operations through June 30, 2022, contributing to improved budgetary reserves and financial positions in this year's analysis. In accordance with laws 2021, Ch. 408, we published an interactive dashboard that compiled and reported school district spending and planned spending related to stimulus monies specified in the federal acts related to the COVID-19 pandemic through June 30, 2022. School districts reported spending \$1.8 billion of \$3.8 billion allocated COVID-19 federal relief grant monies through June 30, 2022.

#### **▲** Current highest-risk districts and their locations

- Cedar Unified School District in Navajo County
- **▼ Double Adobe Elementary School District** in Cochise County
- ▼ Isaac Elementary School District in Maricopa County

Download summary (PDF)

The downloadable summary contains the list of High-Risk measures for each of the highest-risk districts.

# Cedar USD Isaac ESD Double Adobe ESD

#### How to determine if your district is at financial risk and create a financial risk action plan

For our school district financial risk analysis, we analyze the most current data available for 10 financial risk measures in the 7 categories listed below to identify the Arizona districts with the highest financial risk. Clicking on the category names below will bring you to the applicable measure page where you can learn more about each measure, including how it contributes to a district's financial risk, how it is calculated, and how we identify districts at high risk for the measure.

Also included below is a financial risk action plan template that we developed based on meetings with Arizona's current and past highest-risk districts as a tool any district can use to plan and take action to reduce its financial risks. District decision-makers can use the information provided in our analysis and action plan template to better understand district financial risks when evaluating district budget and finance-related decisions.

# This page provides the general overview of the Financial Risk Analysis for the state.













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# To find the state results analysis use this tab.



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## **State results**

### Number of school districts at high risk for each measure

Use the dropdown to select whether you want to view State-wide results or results for a specific Arizona county or legislative district.

State-wide results (207 school districts)					
**	Change in weighted student count	<b>56</b> of 207	*	Operating budget limit reserve	<b>39</b> of 207
•	Capital budget limit reserves	<b>41</b> of 207	5	General Fund operating reserve ratio	<b>12</b> of 207
5	General Fund operating margin ratio	<b>22</b> of 207	5	General Fund change in fund balance	33 of 207
	Capital monies redirected to operations	<b>34</b> of 207	Ĥ	Small school budget limit adjustment	8 of 207
*0	Frozen tax rate	<b>15</b> of 207	R	Receivership	1 of 207

Additional information about each measure, including how each measure was calculated and how districts were identified as high risk for each measure, is available on the Measures page.

Other Bookmarks



## School District Financial Risk Analysis—December 2022

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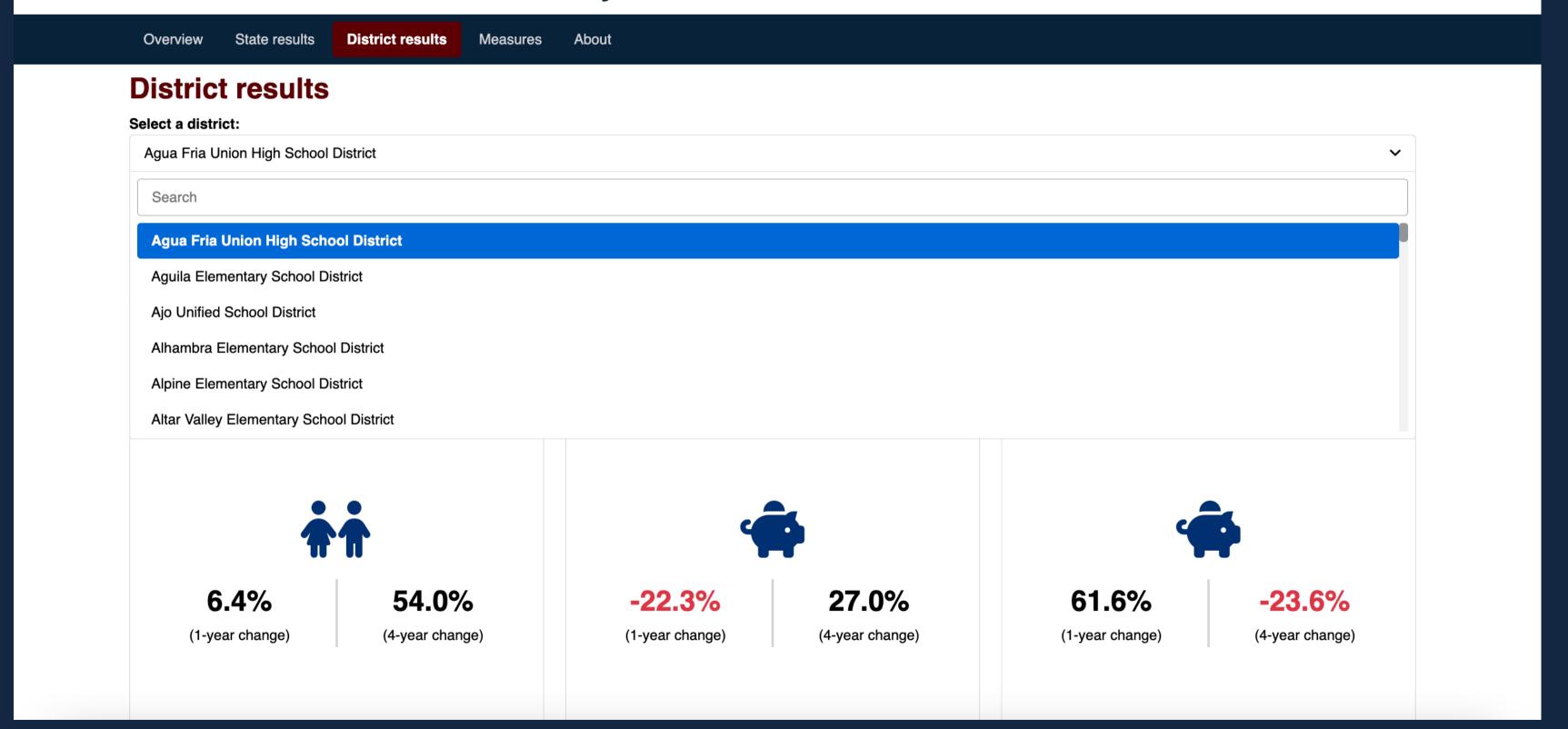
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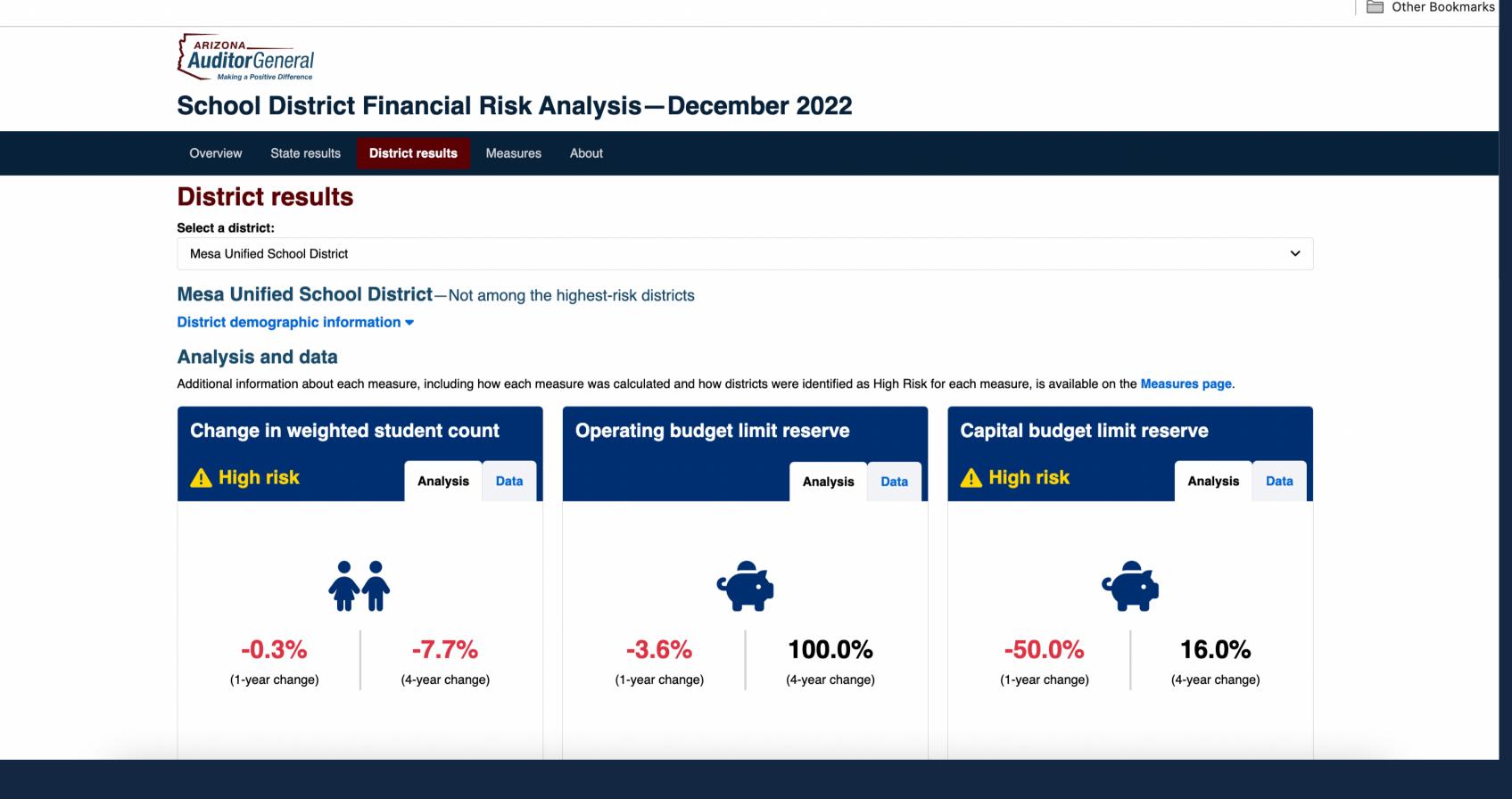
# To find the district results analysis use this tab.





**District Analysis** 

Use search bar to find your district



frisk.azauditor.gov/District

Mesa Unified School District Example







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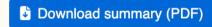
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District results

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# To find the measures and explanations of what was looked at and why use this tab.













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#### **Measures**

#### Select a measure:

Budget limit reserves - Capital budget limit reserves

### **Budget limit reserves – Capital budget limit reserves**



**A** 41 of 207 districts are at high risk for this measure

For our analysis, we look at 2 different measures to assess a district's budget limit reserves and its spending within its budget limits. Every Arizona school district annually adopts statutorily prescribed Maintenance and Operation (M&O) and Unrestricted Capital Outlay (UCO) Fund budget limits that are, in part, based on the number of students attending its district. At the end of each fiscal year, any unspent operating or capital budget capacity is carried forward as a reserve in the applicable fund and increases the following years' total operating or capital budget limit. A negative reserve amount indicates a district spent beyond its budget limit in the current year or has not reduced spending enough to compensate for overspending in a prior year.

The M&O and UCO Funds' budget limit reserves do not include COVID-19 federal relief monies districts received beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2020. Districts account for those federal relief monies in separate federal grant funds. However, some districts' operating and capital budget limit reserves may have increased when they used federal relief monies for allowable M&O- and UCO-type spending. In total, State-wide district operating and capital budget limit reserves continued to increase in FY 2022, increasing 38.4 percent and 82.1 percent, respectively, since FY 2020. In FYs 2020 through 2022, nearly half of Arizona school districts reported using at least some of their federal relief monies for allowable grant purposes in place of available State and local monies (see the District, charter, and ADE COVID-19 spending special report).

Arizona school districts may be required to reduce their FY 2023 budgeted spending from local revenues by approximately 17.5 percent as current district budgets indicate they have exceeded the State-wide aggregate expenditure limitation. A.R.S. §15-911 allows the Arizona Legislature to authorize spending in excess of the limitation for the current fiscal year by March 1. State-wide, not including any other budgetary impacts, this potential budget reduction could result in proportional FY 2023 operating and capital budget limit reserve decreases.