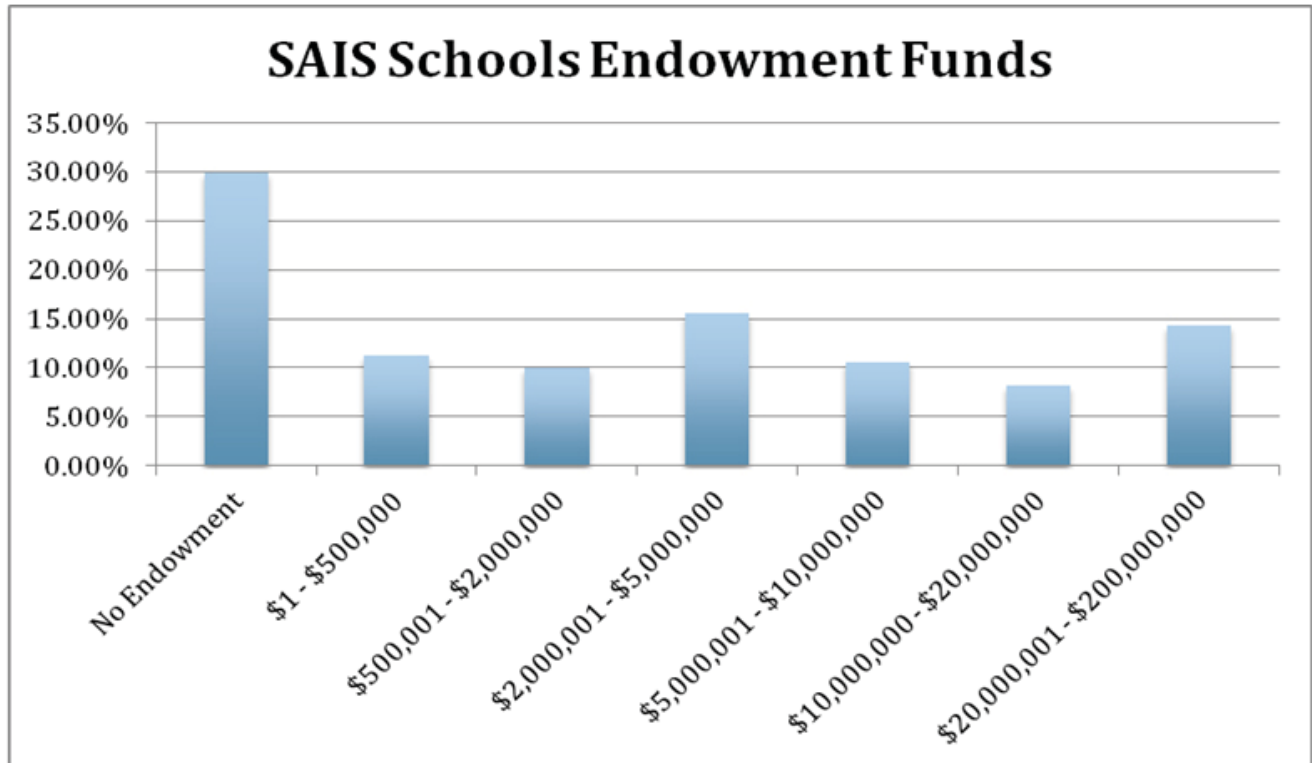


# FAST FACTS

OCTOBER 2011

“*Endowments:*  
what’s the typical financial endowment  
for SAIS member schools?”



In this edition of FAST FACTS we take a brief look at endowments (restricted and unrestricted) for SAIS schools. From this analysis you might note the following. First, the median (or middle score in this distribution) is approximately two million dollars. But note the wild disparity among SAIS schools in terms of endowment amounts.\* For example, almost one third of SAIS schools do not have any endowment, and approximately one third have endowments of greater than five million dollars. Furthermore, almost half of that top one third have endowments of 20 plus million dollars. **Where does your school fit in?**

Of course, financial freedom and flexibility come with larger endowments. But endowments are generally market dependent, so this source of potential revenue is volatile, especially in the short-term. Thus, financially prudent schools never tie endowment into necessary operating expenses e.g., salaries, utilities.

*\*Analysis is based on data collected from 160 (out of 350) SAIS schools that participated in the NAIS StatsOnline data collection in 2010-2011.*

All good  
RESEARCH  
starts with a good  
QUESTION.



FAST FACTS provides SAIS members with fast, readable, and pertinent information based on the quantitative analysis of one important question.

FAST FACTS encourages members to submit questions for future issues. If you have questions you would like answered via FAST FACTS please send to [angela@sais.org](mailto:angela@sais.org).