NEW MEXICO LFC PUBLIC EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Public School Teacher Compensation & Hard-to-Staff Positions



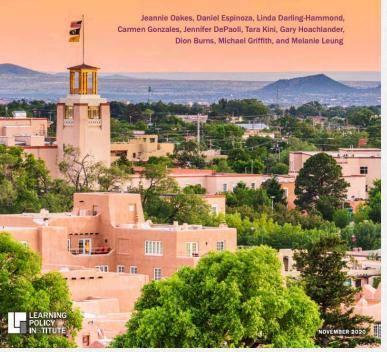
Daniel Espinoza 09/21/2021

Overview

- Impact of teacher qualifications, experience, and turnover
- ▷ What matters for teacher retention
- Teacher compensation in New Mexico
- State example of solving shortages through comprehensive reform

Improving Education the New Mexico Way

An Evidence-Based Approach



EDUCATION

New Mexico to hire 500 educational assistants amid teacher shortage

Miranda Cyr Las Cruces Sun-News Published 4:42 p.m. MT Sep. 9, 2021 Updated 4:58 p.m. MT Sep. 9, 2021

New Mexico looks to the Philippines amid teacher shortage

By Sam Ribakoff / Farmington Daily Times Posted Nov 17, 2019 at 9:00 AM

JOBS

APS continues to face teacher, staff shortage; works to fill positions

by: KRQE Staff, Madison Conner

Posted: Aug 3, 2021 / 06:40 AM MDT / Updated: Aug 3, 2021 / 07:09 AM MDT

EDUCATION

New Mexico school districts facing teacher, staff shortfall with hybrid-learning return

by: Chris McKee

Posted: Feb 2, 2021 / 06:35 PM MST / Updated: Feb 3, 2021 / 05:34 AM MST

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Teacher Qualifications Matter

- Teacher certification is strongly related to student achievement
- Teacher experience is positively associated with student achievement gains

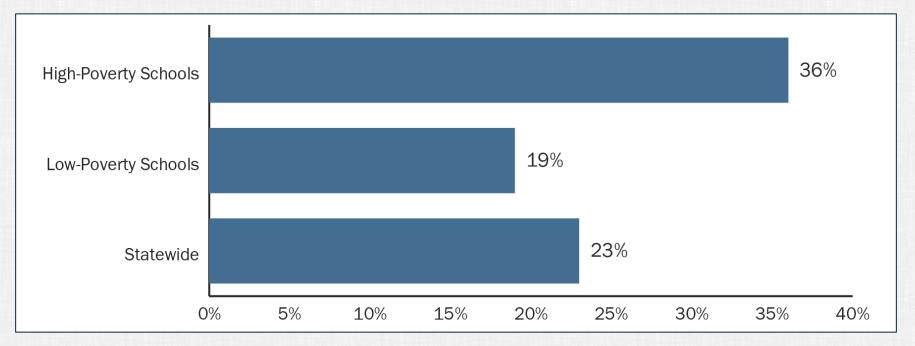
- Teachers with little or no preparation are more likely to leave the profession
- Teachers with little or no preparation are correlated with lower student learning outcomes

Impacts of Teacher Turnover

Turnover impacts the achievement of all students

- (Ronfeldt, Loeb & Wyckoff, 2013; Jackson & Bruegmann, 2009; Kraft and Papay, 2014;
 Sorensen & Ladd, 2020)
- Financial costs
 - \$9,000/rural teacher, \$20,000/urban teacher
 - (Barnes, Crowe, & Schaefer, 2007; Milanowski & Odden, 2007; Shockley, Guglielmino & Watlington, 2006)
- Losing out on the benefits of experienced teachers
 - O (Kini & Podolsky, 2016)

Average % Inexperienced Teachers by Schools Serving the Most and the Fewest Students from Low-Income Families, 2018–19



Note: Analysis compares schools in which at least 75% of students are eligible for the Free and Reduced-Price Lunch program with schools in which up to 25% are eligible Data source: New Mexico Public Education Department, New Mexico Vistas.

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What Matters for Teacher Retention?

▷ Teacher Compensation

Working conditions & collegial environments

▷ Administrative supports

Quality of teacher preparation

Quality of early career mentoring & induction

Teacher Compensation in New Mexico

Salary increases each of the last four years

- ▷ Salaries are still unequal
 - Range of average teacher salaries in 2018–19 of \$43,192 to \$60,783

Average Salaries in Neighboring States

	2018-19 Rank	2018–19 Average	2019-20 Rank	2019–20 Average
Arizona	43	\$50,353	46	\$50,782
Colorado	27	\$54,935	25	\$57,706
New Mexico	49	\$47,826	32	\$54,256
Oklahoma	34	\$52,397	34	\$54,096
Texas	29	\$54,121	27	\$57,090
Utah	36	\$51,858	31	\$54,678
United States		\$62,355		\$64,133

LEARNING POLICY INSTITUTE Source: National Education Association. (2021). Rankings of the states 2020 and estimates of school statistics 2021.

Teacher Compensation in New Mexico

Salary increases each of the last four years

- Salaries are still unequal
 - Range of average teacher salaries in 2018–19 of \$43,192 to \$60,783
- Raising minimum salary to \$41,000



Connecticut reforms to build a strong, stable, and diverse educator workforce

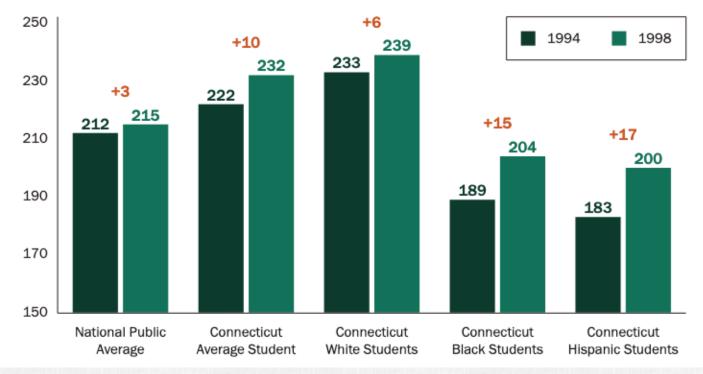
Connecticut Reforms to Strengthen the Educator Workforce

- Raised beginning teacher salaries
- Equalized salaries across the state
- Eliminated emergency certifications
- Improved teacher certification and licensure standards
- Launched a statewide teacher mentoring program, including training for all mentors
- Service scholarships, attracted teachers to shortage fields and teachers of color
- > New standards for principal preparation, mentoring, and evaluation

LEARNING POLICY INSTITUTE Source: Darling-Hammond, L. (2019). Investing for student success: Lessons from state school finance reforms. https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/product/investing-student-success-school-finance-reforms-report

Impacts of Investing in Teacher Quality

Connecticut Achievement Trends (NAEP 4th Grade Reading Scores)



Source: Darling-Hammond, L. (2019). Investing for student success: Lessons from state school finance reforms.

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Progress in New Mexico

- Increased salaries
- Residencies & Grow-Your-Own programs
- Service scholarships
- Teacher mentoring

- Further improvements to competitive compensation
- Examining the impacts of the teacher cost index reform
- Making teacher preparation affordable & highly accessible

Additional Resources

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