

Resources for State Teachers of the Year

2018 National Forum
ON EDUCATION POLICY

YOUR EDUCATION POLICY CONVENING.

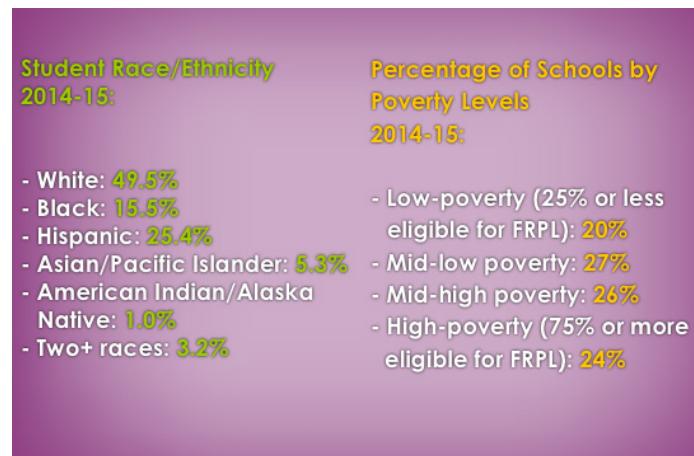
Education Policy National Overview



Student Demographics

Enrollment growth and decline
varies by region and state.

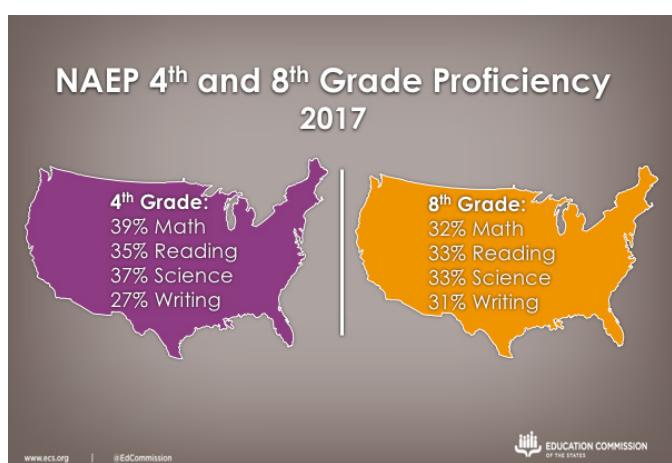
2014-15 (actual): 50.3 million (50,313,000)
2018-19 (projected): 50.8 million (50,759,000)



3.1 million students
estimated to be in charter schools.

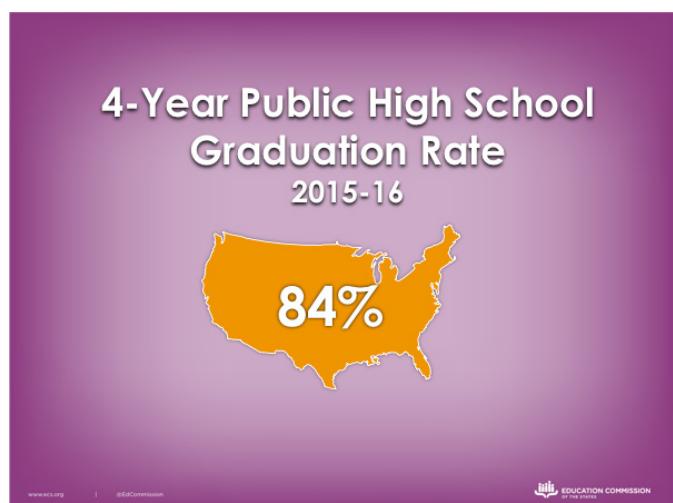
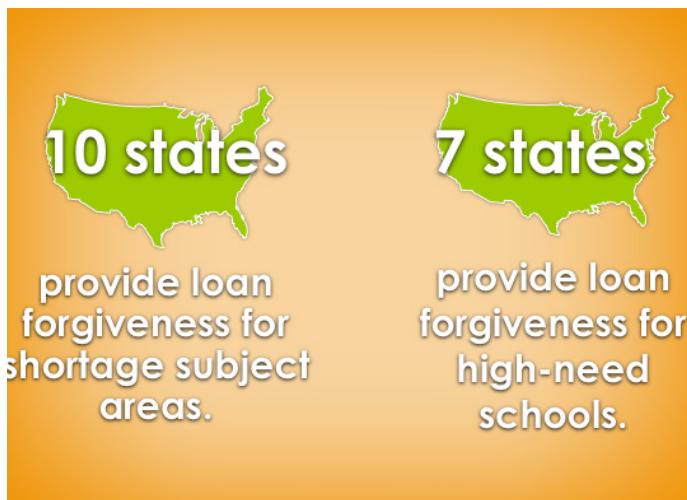
States with highest percentages of students enrolled in charter schools (10% or more):

- Arizona
- Colorado
- District of Columbia
- Delaware
- Florida
- Louisiana
- Michigan
- Utah



Teachers Leaving Profession 2011-12 to 2012-13







Constituent Profiles

LARRY The Legislator

State Representative



- New legislator assigned to the education committee, among others.
- Retired after a 35-year career in insurance. No background in education, government or policy.
- He is passionate about education generally, but aside from attending school events for his children and grandchildren, he has had little exposure to schools and education policy.

Nathan THE NEW GEPA

Governor's Education Policy Advisor



- Has worked as a governor's education policy advisor for about 1.5 years.
- He is in his early 30s and has worked in politics and policy for his entire career.
- Nathan's role as a policy advisor to the governor requires him to quickly learn about many different issues.
- Nathan has a strong understanding of the political landscape, if not education policy.

Barbara THE BOARD MEMBER

Member of a State Board of Education



- State board of education member for four years. She previously served as a local school board member and on various state-level committees and task forces.
- Retired educator and school administrator with a strong record in school turnaround.
- She has developed a strong understanding of how local, state and federal education policies interact.

Governor SANTOS

Governor of a Midwestern State



- Governor nearing the end of his first term.
- Previously served several terms in the legislature and was a successful businessman.
- Education has been among his top priorities and he understands the education policy landscape generally, but lacks a strong, sophisticated grasp of specific education issues.
- He has political aspirations and is keenly aware of the economic and political importance of education in those plans.



Practice Scenarios

- a. A state board member sits next to you at lunch and learns you're a Teacher of the Year. She tells you she used to teach middle school and believes that most of the time when students aren't succeeding, it's the parents fault, and there's nothing a teacher can do. How do you respond?
- b. You're in a buffet line beside a tall man who introduces himself as Governor Martinez from Oklahoma. You're very intimidated but know this is a perfect opportunity to talk about a policy you're passionate about. What do you say, and how do you engage with him as you go through the buffet line?
- c. During a cocktail reception, you find a legislator from your state who sits on an education committee. When she's not serving as a legislator, she's the CEO of a grocery store chain. You want to encourage her to support more funding for teacher professional development. How do you introduce yourself and broach that topic?

<p>Where and how interact with policymakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Meals.2. Sessions.3. Breaks and receptions.4. Targeted interactions.<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. See participant list.b. State relations can help!5. Avoid "clumping."	<p>Types of interactions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Those with whom you strongly agree or disagree.2. Don't know TOYs exist; don't seem to care.3. Excited to speak with a teacher.
<p>Questions to start conversations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. What are the big education issues you've been seeing this year in your state?2. What are your top priorities for education right now?3. Why did you decide to run for office?	<p>Tips for interacting with policymakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Don't make assumptions about the person or their level of experience, perspective, etc.2. Remember that policymakers all have very different experiences, depths of knowledge about these topics, backgrounds, etc.3. Remember they're all at the National Forum and doing what they are doing because they care about education.4. Ask questions to avoid giving your opinion or when you are in difficult conversations.5. When discussing policy issues, remember policymakers have to balance many competing interests.

Discussion Questions

- a. Who do you want to connect with at the National Forum?
- b. What is an education policy you do not understand?
- c. What will success look like for you at the conference?