Response to information request



June 23, 2016 Jennifer Thomsen jthomsen@ecs.org

Your Question: You asked for state-level data around teacher attrition.

Our Response: Teacher attrition has been on the minds of many policymakers as they contemplate how to address teacher shortages. Education Commission of the States has released a number of reports examining the teacher shortage issue from various angles. In compiling research for those reports, we examined a good deal of data, but unfortunately have not found any state-level data on teacher attrition rates. The national data we used came primarily from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). Of particular interest was "<u>Career Paths of</u> <u>Beginning School Teachers</u>," which provides five-year longitudinal data on teacher attrition and mobility using data from the Beginning Teacher Longitudinal Study.

The first of our teacher shortage briefs, "<u>Teacher Shortages: What We Know</u>," examines data and research to provide context around issues such as teacher turnover. Please see page 4 of the brief for a discussion of teacher turnover.

Education Commission of the States offers a number of other resources that may be helpful to you. First and foremost, you can explore the rest of our teacher shortage briefs, which examine strategies states are using to recruit and retain teachers, including:

- <u>Alternative Certification</u>
- Financial Incentives
- Induction and Mentorship
- Evaluation and Feedback
- <u>Teacher Leadership</u>

Another excellent resource is our <u>State Legislation page on Teaching Quality</u>. Here you will find links to lists of legislation enacted in states that cover such recruitment and retention issues as certification and licensure, compensation and diversified pay, evaluation and effectiveness, induction and mentoring, preparation, professional development, and recruitment and retention.

You may also be interested in these Education Commission of the States reports:

- Statewide Teacher Salary Schedules
- Effectiveness-focused teacher preparation
- More on Pay-for-Performance: New developments in the field provide insights for policymaking

Education Commission of the States strives to respond to information requests within 24 hours. This document reflects our best efforts but it may not reflect exhaustive research. Please let us know if you would like a more comprehensive response. Our staff is also available to provide unbiased advice on policy plans, consult on proposed legislation and testify at legislative hearings as third-party experts.