Trends From the 2019 Legislative Sessions

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Hot Topic: Early Childhood Education

Access to high-quality pre-K can have a strong positive impact on future educational attainment.
Hot Topic: K-12 Funding

Additional funding for high-need student populations is linked to increased academic achievement.
Hot Topic: School Climate and Culture

Improving school climate can lead to reduced teacher turnover and increased student achievement.
Hot Topic: Teachers

Effective teachers are the most important factor contributing to student achievement.
Hot Topic: Career and Technical Education

Quality high school CTE programs can help students prepare for both postsecondary education and careers.
The World Economic Forum analyzed 1,000 jobs that accounted for 96% of US employment; only 2% of workers could transition to new jobs with a matched skillset.
Hot Topic: College Affordability

The typical college graduate now has about $25,000 in student debt.
Early Childhood Education by the Numbers

24 governors highlighted early childhood education in state of the state addresses.

More than 550 bills introduced in 47 states + DC. More than 60 were enacted.
K-12 Funding by the Numbers

Every governor who delivered a state of the state address mentioned K-12 funding.

Nearly 750 bills introduced in 49 states + DC. Almost 60 were enacted.
School Climate and Culture by the Numbers

27 governors highlighted the issue in state of the state addresses.

More than 1,650 bills introduced in all 50 states + DC, including bills related to school counselors, discipline, health, school safety and social/emotional learning. More than 240 were enacted.
Teacher Issues by the Numbers

Governors in 30 states + DC highlighted teacher issues in state of the state addresses.

Nearly 1,500 bills introduced in 49 states + DC. More than 200 were enacted.
Career and Technical Education by the Numbers

Governors in 25 states + DC talked about CTE in state of the state addresses.

More than 400 bills introduced in 49 states + DC. More than 70 were enacted.
Workforce Readiness by the Numbers

29 governors talked about workforce issues in their state of the state addresses.

275 bills introduced in 49 states. Nearly 40 enacted.
Governors in 30 states + DC highlighted college affordability issues in state of the state addresses.

More than 725 bills introduced in 48 states + DC. Nearly 90 were enacted.
State Education POLICY TRACKING

Search for enacted and vetoed education bills across the country.
Education Commission of the States in the States
ECS tracked more than 100 education-related bills in NV in the 2019 session. Nearly 50 were enacted.

What were the hot topics?
Table Talk

• Which issues were hot in your state?

• Did your state come up with innovative policies to address the big issues?

• Which stakeholders were a presence in your statehouse and how did they add to the discussion?

• How and what can you learn from one another?
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