



# Learning from Philadelphia's School Reform

## By the Numbers: What We Know about Teacher Quality in Philadelphia

Philadelphia schools will not be able to improve student performance dramatically without more teachers who have the skills, experience, and rich content knowledge needed to help every student achieve at high levels. A new report, *Once & For All: Placing a Highly Qualified Teacher in Every Philadelphia Classroom*, identifies a number of important indicators related to teacher quality.

Number of students in district (estimated), 2003-04	188,000
Number of teachers in district (estimated), 2003-04	11,700
Number of teacher vacancies in mid-September 2002	138
Percent of fully certified teachers, Fall 1999	93%
Percent of fully certified teachers, Fall 2002	89%
Percent of new teachers hired by October 1, 2002, who were not fully certified	48%
Percent of emergency-certified teachers passing basic skills test in math, 2002-03	49%
Percent of emergency-certified teachers passing basic skills test in reading, 2002-03	67%
Percent of emergency-certified teachers passing basic skills test in writing, 2002-03	58%
Percent of certified teachers at middle schools, 2002-03	83%
Percent of certified teachers at schools with less than half minority enrollment, 2002-03	96%
Percent of certified teachers at schools with at least 90 percent minority enrollment, 2002-03	86%
Percent of teachers remaining in the same school, from fall 1999 through fall 2002	64%
Percent of teachers in highest-poverty middle schools staying in same school, from fall 1999 through fall 2002	49%
Percent of teachers in fall 1999 leaving the school district by fall 2002	23%
Percent of new emergency-certified teachers in fall 1999 leaving the school district by fall 2002	57%
Percent of new fully certified teachers in fall 1999 leaving the school district by fall 2002	48%
Percent of new teachers in fall 1999 leaving the District after just one year	27%
Percent of new teachers in fall 1999 leaving the district after three years	51%
Percent of Bucks County teachers who earn more than \$70,000 per year, 2002-03	47%
Percent of Montgomery County teachers who earn more than \$70,000 per year, 2002-03	35.5%
Percent of Philadelphia teachers who earn more than \$70,000 per year, 2002-03	1%
Percent of teachers at high-poverty schools with five or fewer years' experience	51%
Percent of new teachers who had not met with their mentor teacher by late October 2002	39%
Average number of years high school teachers have taught in Philadelphia, 2002-03	17
Average number of years middle school teachers have taught in Philadelphia, 2002-03	11

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