

March 2016



[State Standards Vary Despite Common Core's Aim of Uniformity](#)

State achievement standards vary widely, with only a few found to be as rigorous as the “proficient” standard on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, according to an AIR analysis. The study examined standards for college and career readiness in English and math in grades four and eight.



[How Can Social Science Inform the Real World?](#)

Seven AIR experts from various fields reflect on how research can be applied to practice and policy. They address the high, but surmountable, hurdles of applying research practices to real-world settings, and offer advice on how scholars can better serve research’s beneficiaries.

[Deeper Learning Instruction Yields Higher Graduation Rates](#)

A follow-up study confirms that students attending high schools with instruction focused on deeper learning graduate at higher rates than their peers. The positive effects hold up regardless of gender or achievement level upon entering high school, AIR researchers found.

[Primer Addresses How US Health Care is Provided and Paid For](#)

A new primer by AIR and Kaiser Family Foundation experts describes the framework and concepts of three payment models being tested within traditional Medicare: medical homes, affordable care organizations and bundled payments. The primer seeks to inform those calling for delivery system reform—or changes in how health care is administered.

[1 in 4 Newark Teachers Says New Pay Structure is 'Fair'](#)

The first report from a three-year study of Newark Public Schools shows teachers and school leaders having positive views of its overhauled evaluation system, but only one in four teachers says the new compensation structure is “reasonable, fair and appropriate.” Teachers receiving higher ratings were more likely to remain in Newark schools, AIR researchers also found.

Arts Integration Can Lead to Better Math Achievement

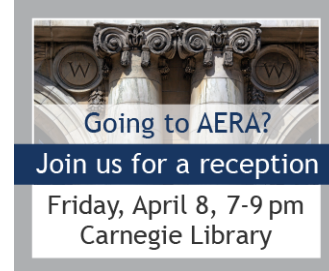
Elementary students outperform their peers in mathematics when taught by teachers using an arts-integration approach, finds a four-year evaluation of a Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts teacher professional development program. The results are from a randomized controlled trial in 22 Virginia elementary schools.



[Listen](#) to the inaugural episode, which covers what's at stake for high school dropouts. Follow [@RELMidwest](#) for future episodes.



[Karen Francis](#) shares how the juvenile justice system can better respond to the needs of its growing population of young women.



[AIR at AERA](#): As the American Educational Research Association marks its centennial year, AIR is also celebrating—as we turn 70.

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