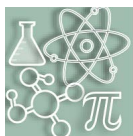


Report Looks at Gender Differences in STEM Interest Among High School Grads



A higher percentage of male than female high school graduate students reported having interest in science and mathematics, according to new analysis of 2009 data by AIR and Activate Research, Inc. for the National Center for Education Statistics. Fifty-nine percent of male graduates said they liked mathematics, compared with 53 percent of female graduates. For science, the difference widens: 70 percent of males versus 59 percent of females. The study also finds that higher percentages of female high school graduates took algebra II, precalculus, advanced biology, chemistry and health science/technology courses.

Community College Students Much Less Likely to Transfer Far for School



In Florida, community college transfer students are considerably less likely than recent high school graduates to choose a four-year institution that's far away, a new paper by AIR and the National Center for Analysis of Longitudinal Data in Research Education Research finds. Of Miami-Dade College students heading to a four-year institution, for example, 80 percent moved to Florida International University (14 miles away). Only 4 percent transferred to the University of Florida (336 miles away). Results also show that students who attend a two-year college far from any four-year institutions are less likely to transfer at all.

Brief: Focusing Only on Content Standards Gives False Picture of Achievement



A new AIR Education Policy Center brief urges lawmakers to not only focus on content standards for teaching materials, but also on student performance standards to measure academic success. *Aiming High: Setting Performance Standards for Student Success* cites evidence from a recent AIR study, which found that state performance standards vary widely. Students in the states with the lowest standards performed three to four grades level below their peers in states with the highest standards.



Watch [Rebecca Stone](#) describe how AIR developed a remedial reading and writing program to help Egyptian students learn foundational literacy skills.

IN THE NEWS

Investing in Teacher Pay Could Spur Big Gains for California Students

[Dan Goldhaber](#) says California public schools should consider paying teachers \$125,000 a year as New York has tried.

[Los Angeles Times, 3/9/15](#)

What's Pushing Family Homelessness to Record Levels?

[John McGah](#) calls child homelessness in the United States an epidemic.

[Marketplace, 3/2/15](#)

> [Read more AIR media coverage](#)

IN BRIEF

A paper co-written by [David Seidenfeld](#) on income transfers and maternal health in Zambia [appears](#) in *Health Economics*.

Better Understanding Literacy in Multilingual Environments



In many developing countries with multilingual populations, questions remain about which languages should be taught—and how and when. AIR researchers are examining the process of acquiring literacy in multilingual environments in a new study, one of the first on formative, pre-intervention research to form a theory of change for multilingual learners in the developing world.

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