# Florida’s Growing Teacher Shortage 

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## By the Numbers: Advertised Teaching Vacancies in Florida

> August, 2015-16: 2,403
> August, 2016-17: 2,948
September: 1,370
September: 1,715
> January 2018: 1,482

The January 2018 vacancies represent over:

- 17,000 elementary students AND
- 120,000 secondary students
without a regular teacher the first week of second semester.


## The College Board asked

What profession are you planning to pursue with your degree?

Only $1 \%$ of college students express an interest in becoming a teacher.

## Nationwide Teacher Preparation Enrollment Down




Source: LPI analysis of the Title II Data Collection, 2004-14, U.S. Department of Education.

## Florida Teacher Preparation

Teacher Preparation Completers By Year


# Teacher attrition drives teacher demand. 



## Most attrition is not due to retirement.

## 2015-16

$\square$ Teacher demand due to pre-retirement attrition

- Teacher demand due to retirement

Teacher demand due to changes in


259,500 enrollment

Teacher demand due to pupil/teacher ratios

## Florida’s Growing Experience Gap

In 2009-10 school year the proportion of first-year teachers was 11.6\%.

In 2011-12 school year the proportion of first-year teachers was 19.4\%.

In 2013-14 school year the proportion of first-year teachers was 23\%.

More than $28 \%$ of teachers in Florida have only one or two years experience. Florida is first in this metric.

Teacher Preparation Completers and First Year Teachers by Year


## What else?

- $15 \%$ of teachers who finish their first year return for another year.
- Teachers who do not finish their first year are not counted in the number who return for a second year.
- Teachers who hold a temporary certificate and do not complete an alternative certification program are not part of a "program" count since they did not "complete" a program.
- $35 \%$ of the teachers with a temporary certificate do not earn full licensure.
- Positions filled by substitutes may not be advertised vacancies. The district "gives up" on hiring at some point to keep a teacher in the classroom.


## The Costs of Attrition

FEA

## Shortages undermine teacher quality and student achievement.



Teachers with little/no preparation


Higher attrition (2-3 times greater than those who are well-prepared)

Lower student outcomes

## Replacing a single teacher costs between $\$ 7,000$ and $\$ 15,000$

That means replacing the 37,000 teachers who left in 2014 cost Florida taxpayers over....

## $\$ 350,000,000$

## Attract and Retain: It does no good to attract untrained teachers who are not successful in our classrooms. Time to think is essential!

Teachers completing initial credentialing programs in Florida for 2012-13:

- Traditional

5,055
More than half of these teachers will not be teaching in 10 years.

- Alternative, not IHE-based 645
- Alternative, IHE-based 1,146
> Trained out of state 3,448
- Total Initial credentials 17,441
- Remainder: 6,698

More than half of these teachers were not teaching the next year.

# Student Achievement increases with 

Experienced teachers
Stable grade/subject level teams
Strong preparation and teacher support Planning, collaboration and teaching time Well-rounded curriculum

## Contributing Policy: Why Are They Leaving?

## Surveys say:

Working conditions:(large class size, lack of support, seeking more flexibility, excessive testing focus, loss of opportunity for professional judgement and creativity, regimented curriculum, lack of opportunities for leadership and advancement)

Job insecurity

Low salary compared to other professions

## Teacher retention increases with

Strong preparation and new teacher support Stable grade/subject level teams Planning, collaboration and teaching time Competitive salaries

Nicholas

