

PA's 2008-2009 Highly Qualified Teacher Data Results

The PA Department of Education used the results of staff assignments public schools submitted on the Elementary and Secondary Professional Personnel 2004-2005 school year report for analyzing the number of core academic assignments that were highly qualified in order to comply with No Child Left Behind's highly qualified teacher requirements.

In 2007-2008, PA's public schools submitted data to a new data management system, PA Information Management System or PIMS. The PIMS system enabled schools to submit class-level data rather than assignment level-data to comply with No Child Left Behind. Three templates submitted to PIMS are analyzed for calculating a school's highly qualified teacher results. The templates are:

- Course Template
- Course Instructor Template
- Student Course Enrollment Template

Each public school reviews its highly qualified teacher data results and processes data revisions to ensure the data are of the highest quality. As with any good data management system, the PA Department of Education has made annual refinements to its highly qualified teacher data collection processes. PA continues to increase in the total number of all core academic classes that are taught by highly qualified teachers.

The following table compares PA's final 2008-2009 highly qualified teacher data results for high- and low-poverty schools.

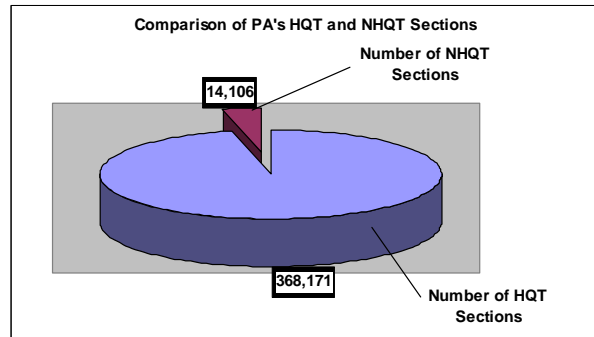
Poverty Level	Core Course Section Count (Denominator)	HQT Section Count (Numerator)	NHQT Section Count	HQT Percentage (Numerator divided by Denominator)
High-Poverty (Quartile 4)	64,716 (16.60%)	56,986 (15.48%)	4,927 (34.93%)	88.06%
Low-Poverty (Quartile 1)	127,282 (32.65%)	123,909 (33.66%)	2,293 (16.26%)	97.35%
Neither High- nor Low-Poverty (Quartiles 2 and 3)	190,788 (48.93%)	181,970 (49.43%)	5,650 (40.05%)	95.38%
No Poverty Information Available	7,097 (1.82%)	5,306 (1.44%)	1,236 (8.76%)	74.76%
Combined State Total for PA's Schools (3,300)	389,883	368,171	14,106	94.43%

Data Highlights for PA's 2008-2009 Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) Data

Statewide:

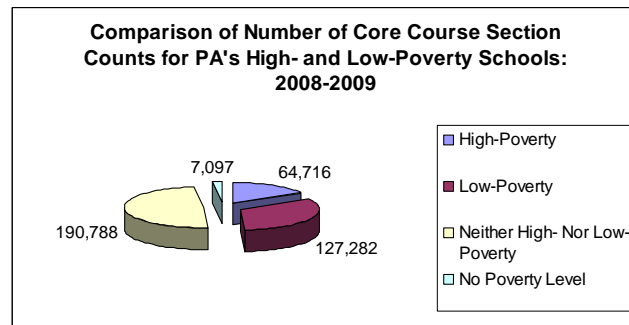
- ✓ Statewide, PA schools offer 389,883 classes in the core academic subjects of English, Reading/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Arts, Foreign Language, Geography, Civics & Government, Economics, History.

- ✓ Statewide, PA schools have a total of 368,171 or 96% of its core academic classes are taught by teachers who are highly qualified.
- ✓ Statewide, PA schools have a total of 14,106 or 4% of its core academic classes taught by teachers who are not highly qualified.
- ✓ In 2008-2009 2,650 or 78% of PA's schools achieved an HQT percentage equal to or greater than 95%.
- ✓ In 2008-2009 2,854 or 84% of PA's schools achieved an HQT percentage greater than 90%.

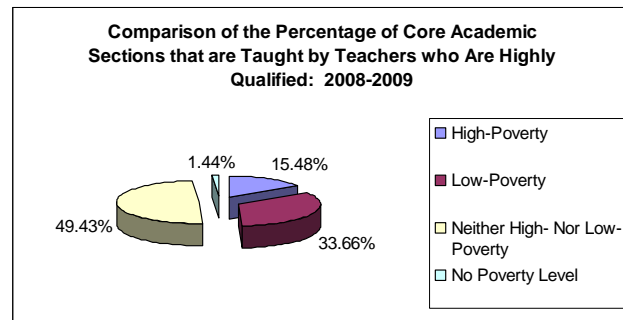


Comparisons between PA's High- and Low-Poverty Schools:

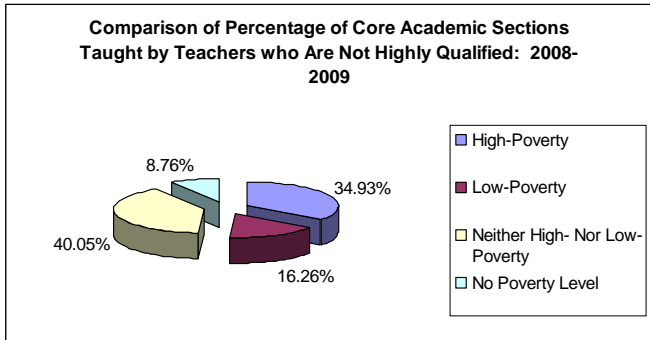
- ✓ A total of 606 or 21% of the schools whose HQT percentage was equal to or greater than 90% were high-poverty schools compared to 768 or 27% low-poverty schools.
- ✓ 75% of all high-poverty schools achieved an HQT percentage rate of 90% or higher.
- ✓ 421 or 52% of all of PA's high-poverty schools had 100% of their core academic sections taught by teachers who met PA's highly qualified teacher requirements. Ten charter schools, one comprehensive technical center, four special program jointures and 406 schools in PA districts achieved the 100% HQT benchmark for their core content classes.
- ✓ PA's low-poverty schools offered nearly twice as many core academic classes as did PA's high-poverty schools (123,633 compared to 56,986 core academic classes).



- ✓ Nearly 35% of the core academic classes offered by PA's low-poverty schools are taught by teachers who were highly qualified, while 15.5% of the core academic classes offered by PA's high-poverty schools are taught by teachers who were highly qualified.



- ✓ High-poverty schools had approximately 35% of its core academic classes taught by teachers who were not highly qualified, while 16% of the core academic classes taught by low-poverty schools were taught by teachers who were not highly qualified.



An excel spreadsheet listing the poverty quartile and highly qualified data for each school building in the Commonwealth is available for downloading. The data in the spreadsheet may be filtered or sorted a number of ways depending on data needs. The following clarifies why HQT data might not be associated with a school listed on the spreadsheet:

- the data were incomplete and could not be analyzed;
- the school closed or merged with another school during the 2008-2009 school year;
- the school offered no core academic content (as is the case with some of PA's comprehensive technical centers or area vocational technical schools);
- data were not submitted by the LEA.

Explanations to aid in understanding some of the data on the excel spreadsheet follow:

- A school building code of "9999" indicates an "off-site" location reported and used by the LEA.
- Intermediate units were not required to submit poverty data for 2008-2009 school year; consequently no poverty data are included.
- Dual enrollment courses taught by college faculty or others who are not teachers of the LEA are not evaluated for HQT purposes; consequently, these courses are reported in the column entitled "Not Evaluated Section Count" in the excel spreadsheet.

For additional information, please contact:

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