Looking for a Diverse Teacher Force

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Looking for a Diverse Teacher Force

One out of every 3 students in Nebraska comes from a diverse background. Less than one out of 30 teachers is diverse.

Proportions of diverse students, following a cohort of Nebraska students starting in 2008.

- **20.6%** Minority 9th Graders
- **16%** High School Graduates
- **10.3%** Fall Enrollment in State/Independent Universities
- **6.3%** Enrollment in Teacher Education

In Nebraska there is a correlation between concentration of ethnic minorities, underrepresentation of minorities in teaching, and academic outcomes. The example below shows a mismatch in 5 school districts.

At some point over the next 10 to 12 years, the nation’s public school student body will have no one clear racial or ethnic majority. But the makeup of the nation’s teacher workforce is not keeping up with these changing demographics. At the national level, students of color make up more than 40 percent of the public school population. In contrast, teachers of color - teachers who are not non-Hispanic white – are only 17 percent of the teaching force. (Boser, 2011 - Teacher Diversity Matters)

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**Proportional Representation in Nebraska Schools**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian / Alaskan Native</td>
<td>5.02%</td>
<td>.17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White, Not Hispanic</td>
<td>16.04%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>6.67%</td>
<td>.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>.74%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>.36%</td>
<td>.17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Diverse Student Proportions by School**

- **Scottsbluff Public Schools**
- **Winnebago Public Schools**
- **Omaha Public Schools**
- **Lexington Public Schools**
- **Lincoln Public Schools**

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**Student Enrollment: 2009 - 2010**

- **91% - 100%**
- **76% - 90%**
- **51% - 75%**
- **25% - 50%**

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**Percent White (by County)**

- **91% - 100%**
- **76% - 90%**
- **51% - 75%**
- **25% - 50%**