

## Answers for Workplace Decisions Scenario

### Questions from the EdTrust data

1. Which state was designated the Highest Performing, Highest Improving state?
  - a. Florida
2. What was the scale score for Grade 8 reading in that state? What was the change between 2003 and 2015?
  - a. 257; 11.4
3. What were the three states with the highest improvement between 2003 and 2015?
  - a. Arizona then Florida and California (tied)
4. What was the Lowest Performing, Lowest Improving state? What was the change in scale score between 2003 and 2015?
  - a. Mississippi; -1.2
5. Picking any state, which group(s) of students had the highest growth between 2003 and 2015?
  - a. The question requires the respondent to select a specific state and answer based on that state. So, answers will vary depending upon which state is selected.

### Questions from the Grade 8 Math scores from the EdTrust Data

1. Which state was the Highest Performing, Highest Improving state?
  - a. Massachusetts
2. What was the scale score for Grade 8 Math in that state? What was the change between 2003 and 2015?
  - a. 279; 17.7
3. What were the three states with the highest improvement between 2003 and 2015?
  - a. Massachusetts and Tennessee
4. What was the Lowest Performing, Lowest Improving state? What was the change in scale score for Math between 2003 and 2015?
  - a. Connecticut; 0.9
5. Picking any state, which group(s) of students had the highest growth between the two periods above?
  - a. The question requires the respondent to select a specific state and answer based on that state. Answers will vary depending upon which state is selected.
6. Summarize the changes you observed when basing your search on Math.
  - a. Many more states fall into the Low Improving category than High Improving category. The most populated quadrant was Higher Performing/Low Improving and the least populated was the Higher Performing/Higher Improving. However, almost all states showed some improvement. Only North Dakota and South Dakota failed to show any improvement.

### Questions for Kids Count

1. The graduation rate. How much has the graduation rate in that state changed in the past 5 years?
  - a. Answers will depend on the state selected.
2. What other topics under Education and School Age (or other Topics or category) would you think could be relevant to your search?

- a. Pretty much any of the Education Indicators. Also of relevance would be the Test Score Indicators and the Other Education Indicators. The School Age Indicators seem peripheral at best. Some of the Family Structure Indicators might be relevant. Same with the Race and Ethnicity Indicators. Economic Well-Being Indicators about income would be relevant. In reviewing how students respond to this question, what is important is to observe what they consider to be relevant and why. What kind of relationships between factors do they see and how do they view that in terms of the larger purpose of the search?

### **General Questions**

1. Based on the research above, where are you planning to seek employment as a teacher? Which of the above factors were the most important to you? Explain your thinking.
  - a. This is totally open ended. The key scoring issue here is to see how the respondent rationalizes the decision based on the data presented. There might be several possible best answers but it depends on prioritization of factors and how explained.
2. Based on the factors you found most relevant and informative to your search, which data points support your thinking?
  - a. The NAEP scores provided in the EdTrust database, combined with graduation rates from Kids Count should be particularly helpful. The teacher salary information and loan forgiveness found in in Teacher Salaries in America and Teacher Cancellation should address the other key indicators of interest. Triangulating among these multiple and diverse data sets should provide the needed information to at least narrow down the search.
3. Are there data that these URLs do not cover that would help in your decision making process?
  - a. After looking at the databases noted above, respondent might then consider contacting some specific teacher unions and organizations in targeted areas to get more information to supplement the specifics about loan forgiveness and the other variables most of interest.