

Teacher Mobility in Rural Settings



Movement of Teachers from Rural and Nonrural Schools

Consistent with previous national-level research, a REL Central study found that, across four states, 82 percent of teachers stayed in the same schools, 8 percent moved to different schools or districts, and 10 percent left the teaching profession or a state public school system.



Mover

A classroom teacher who transfers to a classroom teaching position in a different school or district within a state public school system.



Movers

| State | Percentage |
|--------------|------------|
| Colorado | 7.2% |
| Missouri | 8.8% |
| Nebraska | 5.6% |
| South Dakota | 6.9% |

From Rural Schools

Leavers

| State | Percentage |
|--------------|------------|
| Colorado | 12.1% |
| Missouri | 8.9% |
| Nebraska | 6.9% |
| South Dakota | 9.0% |



Leaver

A classroom teacher who takes a nonteaching position, retires, or exits a state public school system. For example, a classroom teacher who becomes a principal in the same school is considered a leaver because he or she has left a teaching position.



Movers

| State | Percentage |
|--------------|------------|
| Colorado | 8.4% |
| Missouri | 8.0% |
| Nebraska | 7.0% |
| South Dakota | 7.7% |

From Nonrural Schools

Leavers

| State | Percentage |
|--------------|------------|
| Colorado | 12.9% |
| Missouri | 9.7% |
| Nebraska | 7.0% |
| South Dakota | 9.1% |

For further comparison and implications, please read the full report: <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/projects/project.asp?projectID=4569>

Note: A school is defined as rural based on the National Center for Education Statistics school locale classifications.

Source: REL Central analysis of data from state education agencies in Colorado, Missouri, and South Dakota and from the Common Core of Data.



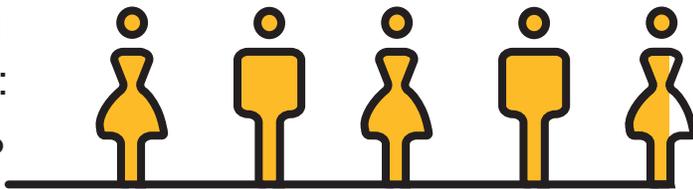
When Teachers Moved, Where Did They Go?

The REL Central study found that teachers were less likely to move to rural districts. Most teachers who transferred from rural districts moved to nonrural districts. Teachers who transferred from nonrural districts tended to move to other nonrural districts.

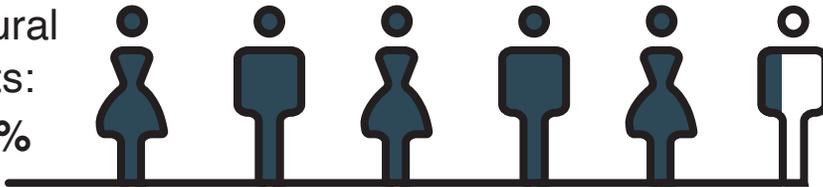


Teachers from Rural Districts Moved to ...

... Rural Districts:
46.3%

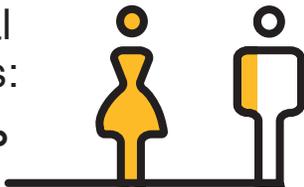


... Nonrural Districts:
53.7%

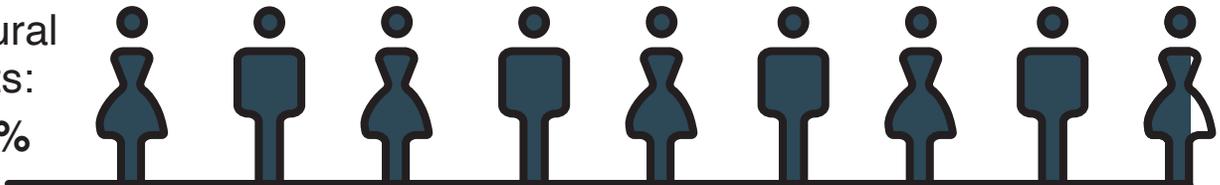


Teachers from Nonrural Districts Moved to ...

... Rural Districts:
12.4%



... Nonrural Districts:
87.6%



Mover

A classroom teacher who transfers to a classroom teaching position in a different school or district within a state public school system.

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