DESE DATA

OVERVIEW

The DESE EPIMS (Education Personnel Information Management System) requires each school to report data on individual staff members, including job classification and assignments. The School Librarian category is included in the Job Classification data element. All data are from 2017-18.

Library staff

- In 2017-18, Massachusetts had 1847 public schools (including charter schools).
- Overall, 39% of schools reported an FTE library staff.
- 24% of schools reported at least 1.0 FTE library staff.

DESE provided additional data on the number of FTE librarians who are licensed.

Licensed Librarian staff

- Overall, 33% of schools reported an FTE licensed librarian staff.
- 21% of schools reported at least a 1.0 FTE licensed librarian staff.

These percentages differ by the performance level of the school and the demographics of the student population.

PERFORMANCE

- 1624 schools have 2018 accountability determinations
- Schools identified as in need of support are less likely to have librarian staff and licensed librarian staff compared to all schools and to schools with higher levels of performance

Percentage of schools with licensed library staff

2018 Accountability Categories
Only 7% of the designated underperforming and chronically underperforming schools have at least a 1.0 FTE librarian.

**ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE**

- Schools with high poverty rates are less likely to have librarians and licensed librarians.
  - 16 percent of schools with a majority of economically disadvantaged students report having librarians; 54% of low poverty schools (less than 25% of the enrollment) report having librarians.
  - The comparable numbers for the percentage of schools with licensed librarians show a large disparity – 10% of high poverty schools report having a licensed librarian compared to almost 50% of low poverty schools.
Only 7% of schools with high poverty rates report having a 1.0 FTE licensed librarian; 30% of low poverty schools do.