

# Data Resources and Research on Teacher Training in Florida

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## I. Key Features of Florida's K-20 Education Data Warehouse

- A. One of only a handful of *statewide* longitudinal databases that are fully functional**
  - i. Can follow students and teachers across districts
- B. Matches students and teachers to specific classrooms at *all* grade levels, including time spent in each classroom**
  - i. Allows linkage of student achievement to teachers who are carrying out instruction in the relevant subject area
    - 1. Even in elementary school, students can have multiple teachers
- C. Tracks students over time from Pre-K *through college***
  - i. Permits analysis of impact of schools and teachers on high-school completion and college enrollment
- D. Students are matched to post-educational employment outcomes through unemployment insurance records**
  - i. Can use labor market outcomes as an additional measure of student success
- E. Teachers can be matched to all of their professional development course work**
  - i. Can evaluate impact of quantity and type of in-service teacher training on teacher effectiveness
- F. Teachers who attended a Florida public college or university can be matched to their college transcripts, identifying all courses taken, major and degree, grades received and college entrance exam scores**
  - i. Allows comparison of effectiveness of teachers who graduated from traditional teacher preparation programs versus alternative routes
  - ii. Can compare effects of different types of coursework on later teacher effectiveness
  - iii. Entrance exam scores can be used to distinguish between innate ability of teachers and the impact of their pre-service education

## II. Research on Teacher Preparation in Florida

- A. Regular Education**
  - i. Initial findings suggest content-focused in-service professional development enhances teacher effectiveness in middle and high school
  - ii. College major and coursework show no consistent relationship with later effectiveness in boosting achievement test scores
- B. Special Education**
  - i. In proposal stage