

REGION 6

Patterns in Textbook Selection

	BIOLOGY	HISTORY	SCIENCE	READING	MATH
65-66	67.1%	24.2%	70.3%	4.7%	42.2%
64-65	20.3	30.6	20.3	4.7	4.7
63-64	6.3	27.4	4.7	18.7	1.6
62-63	0	8.1	0	29.7	17.2
Prior	6.3	9.7	4.7	42.2	34.3

REASONS GIVEN FOR NOT ADOPTING NEW TEXTBOOKS WITHIN THE LAST THREE YEARS

Present text is good	40%	11.1%	25%	5.1%	3.9%
Present text weak—no new text better	0	11.1	25	0	0
Studying a change, study isn't complete	0	0	0	7.7	0
Reinforcing present text with supplementary materials	0	0	0	5.1	11.5
Adopt on a regular cycle, and cycle has not come up	60	77.8	50	82.1	84.6
School board budget too tight	0	0	0	0	0

gion 6 buying figures, over 93% of the districts in the region that wanted new biology series now have them. But the majority have lost up to three years in initiating these new curriculums, simply because they couldn't purchase the new biology texts earlier.

Most districts in Region 6 provide free textbooks to students. In fact, on the elementary level, over 98% do so. On the secondary level this figure dips to 62.9% of all districts, with all but 3% of the remaining districts operating

under a student purchase system. Rentals are virtually non-existent.

Paperback usage in Region 6 is significant for its absence. Only two-thirds of the region's districts use paperbacks at all, compared with a national figure of 87.9%. Region 6 districts that use paperbacks use them primarily as supplementary material. Only one district in five uses them as texts.

Cost figures

Region 6 is among the lowest in the nation in textbook spending.

The median district spends the same per student on both elementary and secondary texts: \$2.50. This is just over half the median national figure for elementary books. On the secondary level that figure means that, for every dollar Region 6 districts spend on secondary textbooks, the nation's districts spend \$2.50.

The top 25% of the districts in Region 6 spend only about half as much as the top quarter of national districts. One-quarter of Region 6 districts spend virtually no money