

REGION 8

Patterns in Textbook Selection

	BIOLOGY	HISTORY	SCIENCE	READING	MATH
65-66	29.7%	11.3%	36.3%	15.5%	30.8%
64-65	30.7	21.7	25.5	24.3	26.9
63-64	15.8	24.7	15.6	18.5	16.3
62-63	12.9	19.6	10.8	12.6	8.7
Prior	10.9	22.7	11.8	29.1	17.3

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

Present text is good	40.0%	29.4%	29.4%	24.3%	9.1%
Present text weak—no new text better	0	8.8	5.9	2.7	0
Studying a change, study isn't complete	20.0	14.7	41.2	21.7	27.3
Reinforcing present text with supplementary materials	20.0	11.8	0	18.9	0
Adopt on a regular cycle, and cycle has not come up	20.0	32.4	23.5	29.7	63.6
School board budget too tight	0	2.9	0	2.7	0

another story. Though the median district in Region 8 spends slightly more than the national average, the nation leads everywhere else. The low quarter of Region 8 districts spends 53 cents less per pupil on secondary texts than the national low quarter. The top quarter spending runs 50 cents below the nation's top quarter.

Region 8, alone among all the nation's regions, has this marked discrepancy between elementary

and secondary textbook spending.

Library book spending for the region is pretty consistent—and pretty good. The region exceeds the nation at every checkpoint. The median district spends \$3.20 for elementary library books, compared to a national median of \$2.25. One of every 10 districts in the region spends \$6.20 or more on elementary library books, far above the \$4.63 spent by the nation's top 10%.

Secondary libraries are also quite well-supported. The median district in the region spends \$3.33 per pupil, nothing exceptional, but 10% of the districts spend \$8.29 or more per pupil on secondary library books, a very high figure.

The comments of Region 8 administrators show why library purchases rate high.

"We are moving toward multiple texts," says one administrator. "They are becoming more of 'one