Math and Science Partnership Program: Intermediate Trends in Math and Science Partnership Changes in Student Achievement With Management Information System

Client: The National Science Foundation

Project Overview

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Math and Science Partnership (MSP) program responds to a growing national concern about improving the educational performance of U.S. children in mathematics and science. Through MSP, NSF awards competitive merit-based grants to teams composed of institutions of higher education, local K-12 school systems, and their supporting partners.

The goals of the MSP are to:

- Enhance schools' capacity to provide challenging curricula for all students and encourage more students to succeed in advanced courses in mathematics and science.
- Increase the number, quality, and diversity of mathematics and science teachers.
- Engage and support scientists, mathematicians, and engineers at local universities and local industries to work with K-12 educators and students.
- Contribute to a greater understanding of how students learn mathematics and science effectively and how teacher preparation and professional development can be improved.
- Promote institution and organizational change in education systems to sustain partnerships' promising practices and policies.

For this study, Insight conducts trend analyses of student achievement data from the inception of MSP projects through each new reporting year. Both the operations/logistics and the technical aspects of the study are reviewed. Operations/logistics are tested to assess timeliness, completeness, management, cost containment, and communication. Insight also engages subject matter experts/practitioners for input to ensure the findings are useful for MSP study stakeholders. Insight will develop 2 interim reports and 2 briefings to address the progress to date, preliminary analysis, and emerging issues as well as a final technical report and dissemination plan. The final technical report will describe the study and its findings regarding accountability, program improvement, and learning.

Core Activities

Program Evaluation; Data Collection; Data Analysis and Simulations; Stakeholder Engagement and Coordination of Advisory Committees and Technical Expert Panels; Report Development and Presentation; Developing/Synthesizing Recommendations

Products

- An interim report of findings was submitted in June 2013.
- An interim report was submitted in June 2014.
- A final technical report and dissemination plan will be submitted in June 2015.