

AUGUST 21, 2023



# High-Quality K-8 Math Curricula Have an Expanding Footprint in U.S. Districts

*First-of-its-kind Study Sheds Light on District Selection of High-Quality Math Curricula*

**SAN DIEGO – August 15, 2023:** There are important signs of a large-scale shift toward more widespread use of high-quality math curricula in the coming years, according to new research published in two reports from the nonprofit Center for Education Market Dynamics (CEMD). CEMD's groundbreaking segmentation analysis of school districts and the definition of the "Impact Core" indicate that high-quality materials are taking hold in districts serving outsized portions of historically underserved students.

"High-quality curriculum is one of the best tools teachers can use to help students achieve at higher levels in math," said Lora Kaiser, Interim Executive Director of CEMD. "We hope this research will encourage what we see as a sector-wide shift toward engaging, standards-aligned materials that will help accelerate math learning for students in the years to come."

The two reports—***K-8 Math Curriculum Quality: The State of District-Led Selection*** and ***K-8 Math Curriculum Products and Publishers: The State of District-Led Selection***—are based on data CEMD gathered from a subset of districts they call the "Impact Core"—934 districts across the country that in total serve more than 52% of the nation's students, including an oversample of Black and Latino students, multilingual learners and students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunch. CEMD used EdReports' "green" rating as the designation for a high-quality curriculum. Other research has shown that using a top-rated math program in elementary school can lead to student achievement gains of 3.6 percentile points.

Key findings from the reports include:

36% of school districts within the sample dataset selected exclusively green-rated math curriculum for elementary school and about 22% for middle school.

The Big Three publishers (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, McGraw Hill and Savvas) produce over 55% of curricula selected by districts, with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt being the most prevalent at both the elementary and middle school levels.

Today's K-8 math curriculum market shows signs of destabilization and transition. The new products competing meaningfully with the Big Three's offerings look different in a few ways. Many of these products are more streamlined, and some are digital-first; several are also open educational resources (OERs), which are freely accessible online.

Great Minds, which publishes Eureka Math, has grown rapidly over the past few years to become the third most prevalent elementary math curriculum publisher in the studied districts.

Eureka Math was also the most selected green-rated math curriculum at the elementary school level.

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