

teacher pay raise in oklahoma

teacher pay raise in oklahoma has been a significant topic of discussion and legislative action in recent years. The demand for better compensation for educators has grown due to concerns about teacher retention, recruitment challenges, and the rising cost of living. Oklahoma, once noted for some of the lowest teacher salaries in the United States, has seen various efforts aimed at increasing teacher pay to improve educational quality and support the state's workforce. This article explores the history, current status, and future prospects of teacher pay raises in Oklahoma, including the impact on educators, students, and the community. Additionally, it examines government initiatives, union involvement, and comparisons with national averages. The comprehensive analysis provides valuable insight into why teacher pay raise in Oklahoma remains a critical issue for policymakers and stakeholders alike.

- Historical Context of Teacher Pay in Oklahoma
- Recent Legislative Efforts and Pay Raise Initiatives
- Impact of Teacher Pay Raises on Educators and Education Quality
- Challenges and Barriers to Implementing Pay Raises
- Future Outlook and Recommendations for Teacher Compensation

Historical Context of Teacher Pay in Oklahoma

Understanding the background of teacher salaries in Oklahoma is crucial to grasp the significance of the current discussions surrounding teacher pay raise in Oklahoma. Historically, Oklahoma has ranked near the bottom among U.S. states in terms of average teacher salaries. For many years, the state struggled with budget constraints and limited funding allocated to education, which directly affected teacher compensation.

During the early 2000s, Oklahoma teachers often earned salaries significantly lower than the national average. This disparity contributed to high turnover rates and difficulties in attracting qualified educators to the state's public schools. The teacher pay issues were compounded by the cost of living increases and inflation, which eroded the purchasing power of stagnant wages.

Factors Contributing to Low Teacher Salaries

Several factors historically contributed to low teacher pay in Oklahoma:

- Limited state education budgets and competing fiscal priorities

- Low tax revenue and economic challenges within the state
- Lack of political consensus on increasing education funding
- Insufficient advocacy and public awareness of teacher compensation issues

Recent Legislative Efforts and Pay Raise Initiatives

In response to mounting pressure from educators, parents, and advocacy groups, Oklahoma lawmakers have taken steps to address the issue of teacher pay raise in Oklahoma. Several legislative measures have been introduced and passed in recent years, aiming to increase teacher salaries and make the profession more financially viable.

One of the landmark moments was the 2018 teacher walkout, which brought national attention to Oklahoma's education funding crisis. This event catalyzed a series of legislative actions to boost teacher pay and improve school funding.

Key Legislation and Funding Increases

Following the 2018 protests, the Oklahoma Legislature approved significant pay raises for teachers through multi-year funding packages. These packages included:

1. Increased base salary schedules for starting and experienced teachers
2. Additional stipends for teachers in high-need subjects
3. Raises for support staff and school personnel
4. Enhanced funding for school infrastructure and resources

These legislative initiatives resulted in some of the largest teacher pay raises in Oklahoma's history, signaling a commitment to improving compensation.

Impact of Teacher Pay Raises on Educators and Education Quality

The implementation of teacher pay raise in Oklahoma has had measurable effects on the education system and the well-being of educators. Improved

salaries contribute to higher job satisfaction, better retention rates, and increased recruitment of qualified teachers.

Positive Outcomes of Increased Teacher Pay

- **Reduced Teacher Turnover:** Higher salaries help retain experienced teachers who might otherwise leave for better-paying opportunities in other states or professions.
- **Improved Recruitment:** Competitive pay attracts new educators, particularly in specialized subjects like science, math, and special education.
- **Enhanced Morale:** Recognition through better pay fosters a positive work environment and motivation among teachers.
- **Better Student Outcomes:** Stability and quality of teaching staff contribute to improved student achievement and learning experiences.

Increased teacher compensation is often correlated with higher educational standards and more robust school systems, which benefits the broader community.

Challenges and Barriers to Implementing Pay Raises

Despite progress, several challenges remain in fully realizing comprehensive teacher pay raise in Oklahoma. Funding limitations and political disagreements continue to complicate efforts to establish sustainable salary increases.

Main Obstacles to Sustained Pay Raises

- **Budget Constraints:** State and local budgets may not consistently support ongoing salary enhancements without cuts to other programs.
- **Economic Fluctuations:** Economic downturns can reduce tax revenues, limiting available education funding.
- **Political Opposition:** Some policymakers prioritize alternative spending or oppose tax increases needed to boost education funding.
- **Inequities Between Districts:** Rural and urban districts may experience disparities in pay raises due to funding formulas and resource allocation.

Addressing these barriers requires a collaborative approach among government leaders, educators, and communities to prioritize education funding.

Future Outlook and Recommendations for Teacher Compensation

The future of teacher pay raise in Oklahoma depends on continued advocacy, legislative support, and innovative funding strategies. Ensuring competitive salaries is essential for the state's education system to thrive and meet the needs of its students.

Strategies to Sustain and Improve Teacher Pay

1. Implementing phased salary increases tied to performance and experience
2. Expanding state funding sources, including dedicated education taxes or bonds
3. Promoting partnerships between schools, businesses, and community organizations to supplement funding
4. Enhancing transparency and public engagement in education budget decisions
5. Investing in professional development and career advancement opportunities for teachers

By adopting these recommendations, Oklahoma can build on recent progress and continue to advance teacher pay raise initiatives, ultimately benefiting educators, students, and the broader society.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the current status of the teacher pay raise in Oklahoma?

As of 2024, Oklahoma has implemented incremental teacher pay raises following legislative approval, aiming to improve teacher retention and recruitment.

How much is the average teacher pay raise in Oklahoma this year?

The average teacher pay raise in Oklahoma for 2024 is approximately \$6,100

annually, depending on experience and district.

What prompted the recent teacher pay raise initiatives in Oklahoma?

Teacher shortages and previous low salary rankings compared to national averages have prompted Oklahoma lawmakers to increase teacher pay.

How does the new teacher pay in Oklahoma compare to neighboring states?

While Oklahoma's teacher salaries have improved, they still generally remain lower than some neighboring states like Texas and Colorado, but the gap is narrowing.

Are there any additional benefits included with the teacher pay raise in Oklahoma?

Some districts have also increased benefits such as health insurance and retirement contributions alongside the pay raises to better support teachers.

How have Oklahoma teachers responded to the recent pay raises?

Many Oklahoma teachers have welcomed the pay raises but continue to advocate for further increases and better working conditions.

What challenges remain despite the teacher pay raise in Oklahoma?

Challenges include funding sustainability, disparities between districts, and the need for ongoing increases to match inflation and cost of living.

Additional Resources

1. Raising the Bar: Teacher Pay and Education Reform in Oklahoma

This book explores the history and current challenges of teacher compensation in Oklahoma. It discusses the impact of pay raises on teacher retention and student outcomes. The author provides an analysis of policy efforts aimed at improving salaries for educators in the state.

2. Voices from the Classroom: Oklahoma Teachers Demand Better Pay

Through interviews and personal stories, this book gives a voice to Oklahoma teachers advocating for higher wages. It highlights the struggles faced by educators living on modest salaries and the grassroots movements pushing for change. The narrative sheds light on the human side of the pay raise debate.

3. *Economic Incentives and Education: The Case of Oklahoma Teacher Salaries*
Focusing on economic theory, this book examines how financial incentives influence teacher performance and career choices in Oklahoma. It reviews various pay raise proposals and their effectiveness in attracting and retaining quality teachers. The analysis includes comparisons with other states' compensation models.

4. *Teacher Pay Raises in Oklahoma: Policy, Politics, and Progress*
This comprehensive guide delves into the political landscape surrounding teacher pay raises in Oklahoma. It covers legislative battles, union involvement, and public opinion. The book also tracks the progress made over the years and what lies ahead for educators seeking fair compensation.

5. *Investing in Educators: The Impact of Salary Increases on Oklahoma Schools*
Highlighting the connection between teacher pay and school quality, this book presents research on how salary raises affect student achievement in Oklahoma. It argues that investing in educators is crucial for long-term educational success. Case studies from various districts provide real-world insights.

6. *Breaking the Pay Ceiling: Strategies for Raising Teacher Salaries in Oklahoma*
This book offers practical strategies and policy recommendations aimed at breaking stagnant pay trends for Oklahoma teachers. It discusses innovative funding approaches and collaborative efforts between stakeholders. The author emphasizes sustainable solutions to ensure competitive wages.

7. *The Oklahoma Teacher Pay Crisis: Causes and Consequences*
An in-depth analysis of the factors contributing to low teacher salaries in Oklahoma, including budget constraints and economic pressures. The book also explores the consequences of inadequate pay, such as teacher shortages and declining morale. It calls for urgent reforms to address these issues.

8. *From Protest to Policy: The Oklahoma Teachers' Movement for Pay Raises*
Documenting the recent teacher strikes and protests in Oklahoma, this book chronicles how collective action has influenced public policy on teacher compensation. It provides a timeline of events and examines the role of teachers' unions. The narrative showcases the power of advocacy in shaping education funding.

9. *Equity and Excellence: Ensuring Fair Teacher Pay in Oklahoma*
This book focuses on the importance of equitable pay structures to promote excellence in education across Oklahoma's diverse communities. It discusses disparities in salary based on geography, experience, and demographics. The author proposes solutions to create a fair and motivating pay system for all educators.

Teacher Pay Raise In Oklahoma

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teacher pay raise in oklahoma: *Governing States and Localities* Kevin B. Smith, Alan Greenblatt, 2019-01-03 An easy-to-navigate, comparative book on state and local government. Very student-friendly and well-organized. —Jane Bryant, John A. Logan College The trusted and proven *Governing States and Localities* guides students through the contentious environment of state and local politics and focuses on the role that economic and budget pressures play in issues facing state and local governments. With their engaging journalistic writing and crisp storytelling, Kevin B. Smith and Alan Greenblatt employ a comparative approach to explain how and why states and localities are both similar and different. The Seventh Edition is thoroughly updated to account for such major developments as state versus federal conflicts over immigration reform, school shootings, and gun control; the impact of the Donald Trump presidency on intergovernmental relations and issues of central interest to states and localities; and the lingering effects of the Great Recession. A Complete Teaching and Learning Package SAGE coursepacks FREE! Easily import our quality instructor and student resource content into your school's learning management system (LMS) and save time. Learn more. SAGE edge FREE online resources for students that make learning easier. See how your students benefit.

teacher pay raise in oklahoma: Historic Documents of 2018 Heather Kerrigan, 2019-06-06 Published annually since 1972, the Historic Documents series has made primary source research easy by presenting excerpts from documents on the important events of each year for the United States and the World. Each volume pairs original background narratives with well over 100 documents to chronicle the major events of the year, from official reports and surveys to speeches from leaders and opinion makers, to court cases, legislation, testimony, and much more. Historic Documents is renowned for the well-written and informative background, history, and context it provides for each document. Each volume begins with an insightful essay that sets the year's events in context, and each document or group of documents is preceded by a comprehensive introduction that provides background information on the event. Full-source citations are provided. Readers have easy access to material through a detailed, thematic table of contents, and each event includes references to related coverage and documents from the last ten editions of the series. Events covered in the 2018 Edition include: Historic U.S. and South Korean diplomatic advances with North Korea Investigation of Russian influence in U.S. elections Chinese constitutional changes granting presidential terms for life March for Our Lives and gun control demonstrations Changes to U.S. immigration and trade policies Legalization of marijuana in Canada Resignation of Australian prime minister Pope declares death penalty inadmissible Volumes in this series dating back to 1972 are available as online editions on SAGE Knowledge.

teacher pay raise in oklahoma: *The Education Debate* David L. Kirp, Kevin Macpherson,

2023 A compelling overview of the major debates in contemporary education policy. In statehouses, school boards, and communities across the US, battles are raging over the direction of education policy--from the standards that are shaping what students learn to how test results are being used to judge a teacher's performance. These battles are being waged against a backdrop of shifting demographics, rapidly developing technology, a transforming economy and workplace. What's more, the COVID-19 pandemic is prompting educators to rethink the school's mission in society. In *The Education Debate: What Everyone Needs to Know(R)*, nationally recognized education authority David Kirp and Kevin Macpherson provide a balanced, accessible overview of the key policy and practice issues in pre k-12 education today. They expose the fault lines of the major debates--what values should guide education and how can those values best be incorporated in policy and practice. They focus on equity and equality of opportunity as well as the tension between market and bureaucratic mechanisms as drivers of school improvement. Many of the topics they address, including racial integration, charter schools, student rights and teachers' unions, are hotly contested. In an area where partisanship reigns, Kirp and Macpherson take an approach guided by research and not driven by ideology. A primer for educational policymakers and administrators, parents, and undergraduate and graduate students in education courses, *The Education Debate* offers a solid grasp of the major debates in contemporary education policy.

teacher pay raise in oklahoma: At the Schoolhouse Gate Nancy C. Patterson, Prentice T. Chandler, 2022-01-01 The objective of this edited volume is to shed light upon K-12 perspectives of various school stakeholders in the current unique context of increasing political polarization and heightened teacher and student activism. It is grounded in academic freedom case law and the majority of opinion of the Supreme Court in the *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District* (1969) that held that certain forms of expression are protected by the First Amendment. Justice Fortas wrote in the majority opinion that "it can hardly be argued that either students or teachers shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate." This volume is timely and instructive, as protections afforded by the First Amendment are a topic of enduring concern, with such freedoms requiring vigilant advocacy and protection from each generation. Paulo Freire stated, "Citizenship is not obtained by chance: It is a construction that, never finished, demands we fight for it" (1998, p. 90). There is confusion and much debate in and outside of schools about how and when these and other rights described in the First Amendment may or may not be limited, and the time is now to clarify the place of such rights in public education. *At the Schoolhouse Gate* is divided into three sections: Foundations, Case Studies of Rights in Schools, and Choices to Act. The "Foundations" section presents the case law pertaining to the rights of both teachers and students, setting the tone for what presently is permissible and chronicling the ongoing struggle with defining rights and responsibilities in schools. In "Case Studies of Rights in Schools," various authors examine teacher and student interactions with rights and responsibilities in schools, including the interest of students in participating with their teachers in the democratic experiment of schooling, the promise of student-led conferences, a new teacher's success with democratizing her classroom, and student views of news and technology. "Choices to Act" includes a portrait of teacher activism during the Oklahoma Walkout, a general counsel's advice to teachers for availing themselves of their rights, a story of a civic education curriculum generating student agency, and vignettes of two public high school students who took action in their schools and communities.

teacher pay raise in oklahoma: Producers, Parasites, Patriots Daniel Martinez HoSang, Joseph E. Lowndes, 2019-04-09 The shifting meaning of race and class in the age of Trump The profound concentration of economic power in the United States in recent decades has produced surprising new forms of racialization. In *Producers, Parasites, Patriots*, Daniel Martinez HoSang and Joseph E. Lowndes show that while racial subordination is an enduring feature of U.S. political history, it continually changes in response to shifting economic and political conditions, interests, and structures. The authors document the changing politics of race and class in the age of Trump across a broad range of phenomena, showing how new forms of racialization work to alter the

economic protections of whiteness while promoting some conservatives of color as models of the neoliberal regime. Through careful analyses of diverse political sites and conflicts—racially charged elections, attacks on public-sector unions, new forms of white precarity, the rise of black and brown political elites, militia uprisings, multiculturalism on the far right—they highlight new, interwoven deployments of race in the ascendant age of inequality. Using the concept of “racial transposition,” the authors demonstrate how racial meanings and signification can be transferred from one group to another to shore up both neoliberalism and racial hierarchy. From the militia movement to the Alt-Right to the mainstream Republican Party, *Producers, Parasites, Patriots* brings to light the changing role of race in right-wing politics.

teacher pay raise in oklahoma: Beaten Down, Worked Up Steven Greenhouse, 2020-07-21 “A page-turning book that spans a century of worker strikes.... Engrossing, character-driven, panoramic.” —The New York Times Book Review We live in an era of soaring corporate profits and anemic wage gains, one in which low-paid jobs and blighted blue-collar communities have become a common feature of our nation’s landscape. Behind these trends lies a little-discussed problem: the decades-long decline in worker power. Award-winning journalist and author Steven Greenhouse guides us through the key episodes and trends in history that are essential to understanding some of our nation’s most pressing problems, including increased income inequality, declining social mobility, and the concentration of political power in the hands of the wealthy few. He exposes the modern labor landscape with the stories of dozens of American workers, from GM employees to Uber drivers to underpaid schoolteachers. Their fight to take power back is crucial for America’s future, and Greenhouse proposes concrete, feasible ways in which workers’ collective power can be—and is being—rekindled and reimagined in the twenty-first century. *Beaten Down, Worked Up* is a stirring and essential look at labor in America, poised as it is between the tumultuous struggles of the past and the vital, hopeful struggles ahead. A PBS NewsHour Now Read This Book Club Pick

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teacher pay raise in oklahoma: Monthly Labor Review United States. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1990 Publishes in-depth articles on labor subjects, current labor statistics, information about current labor contracts, and book reviews.

teacher pay raise in oklahoma: Where Teachers Thrive Susan Moore Johnson, 2020-07-29 2020 PROSE Award Winner, Education Theory Category 2019 Outstanding Academic Title, Choice In *Where Teachers Thrive*, Susan Moore Johnson outlines a powerful argument about the importance of the school as an organization in nurturing high-quality teaching. Based on case studies conducted in fourteen high-poverty, urban schools, the book examines why some schools failed to make progress, while others achieved remarkable results. It explores the challenges that administrators and teachers faced and describes what worked, what didn’t work, and why. Johnson draws on vivid portraits of schools to highlight an array of school-based systems and practices that support

teachers' professional growth and effectiveness. These include a rich and interactive hiring process; team-based curriculum planning and assessment; and informative feedback and ongoing professional learning. Critical to all of these is the role of the principal as an essential agent in a school's success. Although these elements may vary from school to school, Johnson argues that together these systems provide a comprehensive, mutually reinforcing set of well-orchestrated strategies that can help schools deliver results that exceed the sum of teachers' individual efforts. Since 2000, policy makers and education officials have diligently sought to improve schools by improving the quality of individual teachers. However, even if those teachers are skilled and committed, the schools where they work are all too often disjointed, dysfunctional organizations that serve no one well. Where Teachers Thrive explains clearly how educators within a school can join together to adopt systems of practice that ensure growth and success by all teachers and their students.

teacher pay raise in oklahoma: Walkout! Diana D'Amico Pawlewicz, 2022-08-01 Teacher unions and their members have long stood as polarizing figures in a vast educational landscape. As in the Western films of the 1920s, policymakers, education reformers, and onlookers often assign union leaders and the teachers they represent either the white hats of heroes or the black hats of villains. Politicized efforts to reductively classify teacher unions as beneficial or dangerous have only served to obscure the extent to which labor militancy and teacher activism have become part and parcel of the American public school system and the primary mechanisms by which teachers' voices are heard – and heeded – in the policy arena. Teacher unions have grown in tandem with and in response to the expansion of the school bureaucracy and the acceleration of accountability reforms, and teachers' calls for recognition and reform are inseparable from broader movements for social change. Far more than either good or bad, teacher unions are the inevitable outgrowth of American public education as it stands today. This book offers an interdisciplinary exploration of the state of modern teacher unions, the complex spaces they operate in, and the connections between militancy, activism, and school reform. Breaking free from the white hat/black hat dyad that has for so long colored the lenses we use to understand unions, the chapters of this book engage a set of fundamental questions: Where did the modern moment of militancy come from, and in what ways is it a continuation or a departure from the approaches of previous organized teachers?; What is at stake in modern expressions of militancy for teachers, communities, and schools?; Beyond the flashpoint of the walkout, what is the effect of teacher activism?

teacher pay raise in oklahoma: People Grate Vine, 2017-11-07 Dear readers, Things said in this book have and will continue to move rapidly. You should observe these and other particular lifestyles of ordinary people in all magnitudes. The writer therefore urges you to please not prejudge other people or their lifestyles. The events and characters you are about to read about per God, in whom we trust and obey, had to happen, and its called blessings from God and may or may not be isolated incidents that are in full operation today as it were in the past. The majority of this book deals with revealing a unique structural lifestyle pattern mainly with drugs. Such is Gods will, which is normal activities for Gods people and essential lifestyle qualities of life. I should try and imagine if it were them. Would you want others to look down on you as if you were a waste of human flesh?

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analyzes the profound impact of these strikes on wages, working conditions, and educational policies, assessing both the intended and unintended consequences of teacher activism. Through diverse sources like archival documents, government reports, and oral histories, *Teacher Strikes* offers a nuanced perspective on the complex dynamics of teacher activism and its lasting effects on the school system.

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teacher pay raise in oklahoma: *Strike for the Common Good* Rebecca Kolins Givan, Amy Schrager Lang, 2020-10-08 In February 2018, 35,000 public school educators and staff walked off the job in West Virginia. More than 100,000 teachers in other states—both right-to-work states, like West Virginia, and those with a unionized workforce—followed them over the next year. From Arizona, Kentucky, and Oklahoma to Colorado and California, teachers announced to state legislators that not only their abysmal wages but the deplorable conditions of their work and the increasingly straitened circumstances of public education were unacceptable. These recent teacher walkouts affirm public education as a crucial public benefit and understand the rampant disinvestment in public education not simply as a local issue affecting teacher paychecks but also as a danger to communities and to democracy. *Strike for the Common Good* gathers together original essays, written by teachers involved in strikes nationwide, by students and parents who have supported them, by journalists who have covered these strikes in depth, and by outside analysts (academic and otherwise). Together, the essays consider the place of these strikes in the broader landscape of recent labor organizing and battles over public education, and attend to the largely female workforce and, often, largely non-white student population of America's schools.

teacher pay raise in oklahoma: *How Did We Get Here?* Henry Tran, Douglas A. Smith, 2022-06-01 Teacher attrition is endemic in education, creating teacher quantity and quality gaps across schools that are often stratified by region and racialized nuance (Cowan et al., 2016; Scafidi et al., 2017). This reality is starkly reflected in South Carolina. Not too long ago, on May 1, 2019, a sea of approximately 10,000 people, dressed in red, convened at the state capital in downtown Columbia, SC (Bowers, 2019b). This statewide teacher walkout was assembled to call for the improvement of teachers' working conditions and the learning conditions of their students. The gathering was the largest display of teacher activism in the history of South Carolina and reflected a trend in a larger wave of teacher walkouts that have rippled across the nation over the last five years. The crowd comprised teachers from across South Carolina, who walked out of their classrooms for the gathering, as well as numerous students, parents, university faculty, and other community members that rallied with teachers in solidarity. Undergirding this walkout and others that took hold across the country is a perennial and pervasive pattern of unfavorable teacher working conditions that have contributed to what some are calling a teacher shortage "crisis"

(Chuck, 2019). We have focused our work specifically on the illustrative case of South Carolina, given the extreme teacher staffing challenges the state is facing. Across numerous metrics, the South Carolina teacher shortage has reached critical levels, influenced by teacher recruitment and retention challenges. For instance, the number of teacher education program completers has declined annually, dropping from 2,060 in 2014-15 to 1,642 in the 2018-19 school year. Meanwhile, the number of teachers leaving the teaching field has increased from 4,108.1 to 5,341.3 across that same period (CERRA, 2019). These trends are likely to continue as COVID-19 has put additional pressure on the already fragile teacher labor market. Some of the hardest-to-staff districts are often located in communities with the highest diversity and poverty. To prosper and progress, reformers and public stakeholders must have a vested interest in maintaining full classrooms and strengthening the teaching workforce. An important element of progress towards tackling these longstanding challenges is to gain a comprehensive understanding of the problem. While teacher shortages are occurring nationwide (Garcia & Weiss, 2019), how they manifest regionally is directly influenced by its localized historical context and the evolution of the teaching profession's reputation within a state. Thus, the impetus of this book is to use South Carolina as an illustrative example to discuss the context and evolution that has shaped the status of the teaching profession that has led to a boiling point of mass teacher shortages and the rise of historic teacher walkouts.

teacher pay raise in oklahoma: Research Methods in Practice Dahlia K. Remler, Gregg G. Van Ryzin, 2014-03-24 The Second Edition of *Research Methods in Practice: Strategies for Description and Causation* sets an entirely new standard for presenting and learning research methods. The perspective gained from this text makes it a truly necessary tool for such applied disciplines as public affairs and administration, public policy, psychology, urban affairs, education, sociology, social work, business, public health, political science, economics, communications and criminal justice. Imbued with a deep commitment to make social and policy research methods accessible and meaningful, the Second Edition of *Research Methods in Practice: Strategies for Description and Causation* compels and inspires students to truly grasp the logic—and limits—of the latest research appearing in academic journals, government reports, and the media. Authors Dahlia K. Remler and Gregg G. Van Ryzin cover the most pertinent issues and methods, emphasizing the critical interpretation and practical application of research findings. Both causation and description—and the distinction between them—are emphasized and maintained thematically throughout the text. Concepts are taught through in-depth examples, such as “Fighting Malaria in Kenya,” “The U.S. Poverty Measure,” “The Fallout from Hurricane Katrina,” “Family Dinners and Teenage Substance Abuse,” and “The Effect of Poverty on Mental Health.” The realistic trade-offs, uncertainties, habits, and excitement of the research experience come through on every page. “This is the best text available for teaching students the fundamentals of research design and statistics, and for introducing them to the difficulties inherent in evaluation research and causal inference.” —Dave E. Marcotte, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

teacher pay raise in oklahoma: Speaker Jim Wright J. Brooks Flippen, 2018-04-01 The rise and fall of a Texas Democrat: “A definitive, richly detailed biography [and] an engrossing history that sheds light on our own fractious times.” —Kirkus Reviews (starred review) A former Golden Gloves boxer and WWII bombardier, Jim Wright entered Congress to fight a different kind of battle, making his mark on virtually every major policy issue of the later twentieth century: energy, education, taxes, transportation, environmental protection, civil rights, criminal justice, and foreign relations among them. He played a significant role in peace initiatives in Central America and in the Camp David Accords, and was the first American politician to speak live on Soviet television. A Democrat representing Texas’s twelfth district (Fort Worth), he served in the US House of Representatives from the Eisenhower administration to the presidency of George H.W. Bush, including twelve years as majority leader and speaker—and his long congressional ascension and sudden fall in a highly partisan ethics scandal spearheaded by Newt Gingrich mirrored the evolution of Congress as an institution. Speaker Jim Wright traces the congressman’s long life and career in a highly readable narrative grounded in extensive interviews with Wright and access to his personal diaries. A skilled

connector who bridged the conservative and liberal wings of the Democratic Party while forging alliances with Republicans to pass legislation, Wright ultimately fell victim to a new era of political infighting, as well as to his own hubris and mistakes. J. Brooks Flippen shows how Wright's career shaped the political culture of Congress, from its internal rules and power structure to its growing partisanship, even as those new dynamics eventually contributed to his political demise. To understand Jim Wright in all his complexity is to understand the story of modern American politics.

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