

# 'The Set': Who are Delaware's School Leaders? (SY 2012-2013)

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Monthly Data Briefs from the Delaware Dept. of Education's Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Unit

Delaware has 217 principals or heads of school. This brief provides a snapshot of the composition of Delaware's current group of school leaders.

## Demographics

- 55% of Delaware's current principals are female and 45% are male
- 74% are white, 24% are black, and 2% are Latino/Hispanic
- Of the white principals, 53% are female and 47% are male. Of the black principals, 60% are female and 40% are male. (Figure 1)
- 50% of principals are between the ages of 38 and 52 and the average principal is 45 years old.
- 50% of principals have between 12 and 24 years of education experience and the average years of total experience is 18 years.
- Of the 157 principals with updated education records in DEEDS, 19% have a doctorate degree and 81% have a master's degree as their highest degree.
  - Of these 157 principals, 8% received their highest degree from Delaware State University, 15% from University of Delaware, 4% from Salisbury State University and 47% from Wilmington University.

## Position Type

- 72% of our elementary school principals are female and 72% of our high school principals are male.
- 43% of principals in the bottom quartile of total years of education experience are leading schools in the top two quartiles of shares of students receiving Free and Reduced Price Lunch (FRPL). 64% of principals in the 2nd quartile of experience are leading such schools as compared to 49% and 40% in the 3rd and 4th quartiles of education experience, respectively.
- 66% of black principals are working in schools in the top two quartiles of share of students receiving free and reduced price lunch as compared to 43% of white principals. (Figure 2)
- The percent of minority students in the schools led by white principals is 45% on average as compared to 65% for black principals.

## Retention and Transfer

- 74% of principals were in their current position in their current school during the previous school year. Another 8% were in the same school but in different positions in the previous school year. (Figure 3)
- Overall, 82% of principals remained in the same school from school year 11-12 to school year 12-13 and 12% moved to another school within the same district. 2% moved to a new district and 4% were not working in the DE public school system in the previous school year.
- 31% of DE's current principals have switched schools at least once since the 2009-2010 school year and 59% have been in the same school since 2009-2010. The other 10% of principals were not principals in the Delaware public education system in 2009-2010.
- Of the 34 DE principals working in a new school in 2012-2013, 65% are in schools in the lowest two quartiles of student achievement (using DCAS math scores).
- 43 or (20%) of Delaware's current principals were not working as principals during the previous school year.
  - 7% of the principals not in a principal role last year were working in district positions, another 74% were working in assistant principal roles, and 19% were not working in the Delaware public education system.

Distribution of Principal Gender (by Race)

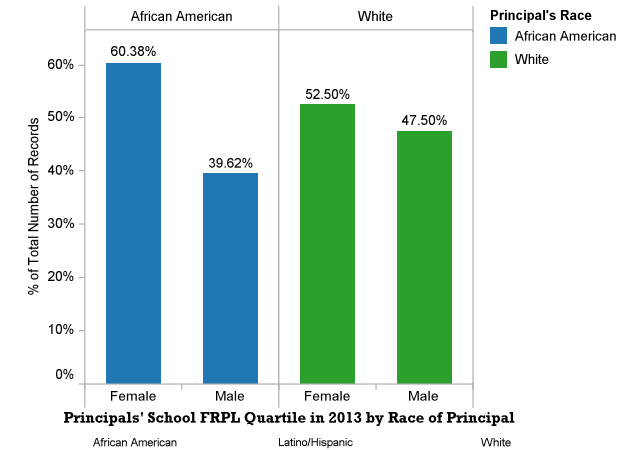


Figure 1

Principals' School FRPL Quartile in 2013 by Race of Principal

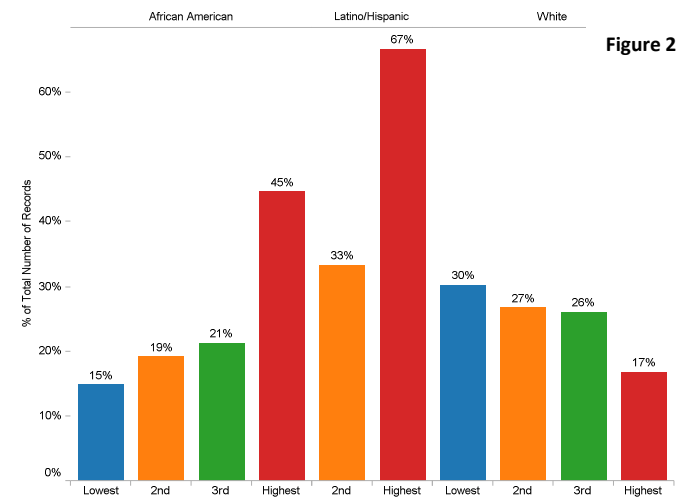


Figure 2

Principal's Position Status in School Year 2012-2013

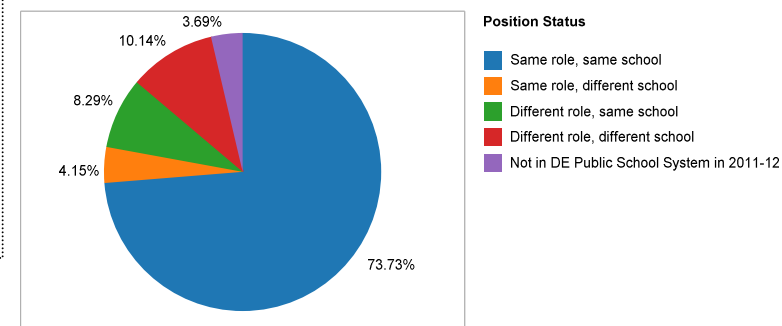


Figure 3