

# The NWP as a National Infrastructure that Encourages Writing and the Teaching of Writing

NWP Annual Meeting 2005  
Inverness Research Associates

# Inverness Research Associates and our work with the NWP

Education research and evaluation group  
headquartered in Calif. Bay Area

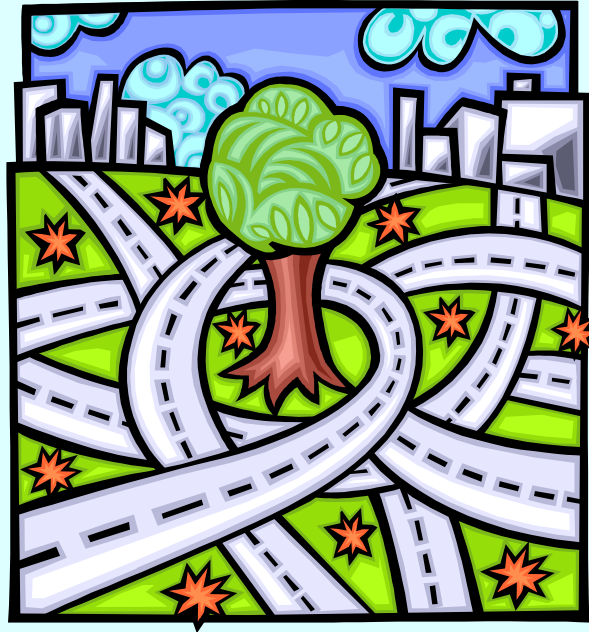
Annual site profile—data on all sites' programs  
since 1994-95

Annual surveys of institute participants

Studies of various NWP initiatives

Provide data and reports for NWP federal  
application, annual site reviews, spring meeting,  
annual meeting

# The NWP as a national infrastructure



# What do we mean by infrastructure?

- A foundational system that makes many kinds of work possible
- A unitary entity with thousands of connections
- Everyday examples—roads and highways, electricity, telephones, air flight systems, water systems

# Some criteria for assessing a national infrastructure

1. Provides broad and equitable **access**
2. Functions at large **scale**
3. Uses strong central capacity to ensure provision of customized **local services**—  
*e.g., encouraging writing and the teaching of writing*
4. Local services are of reliably high **quality**

# 1. BROAD ACCESS

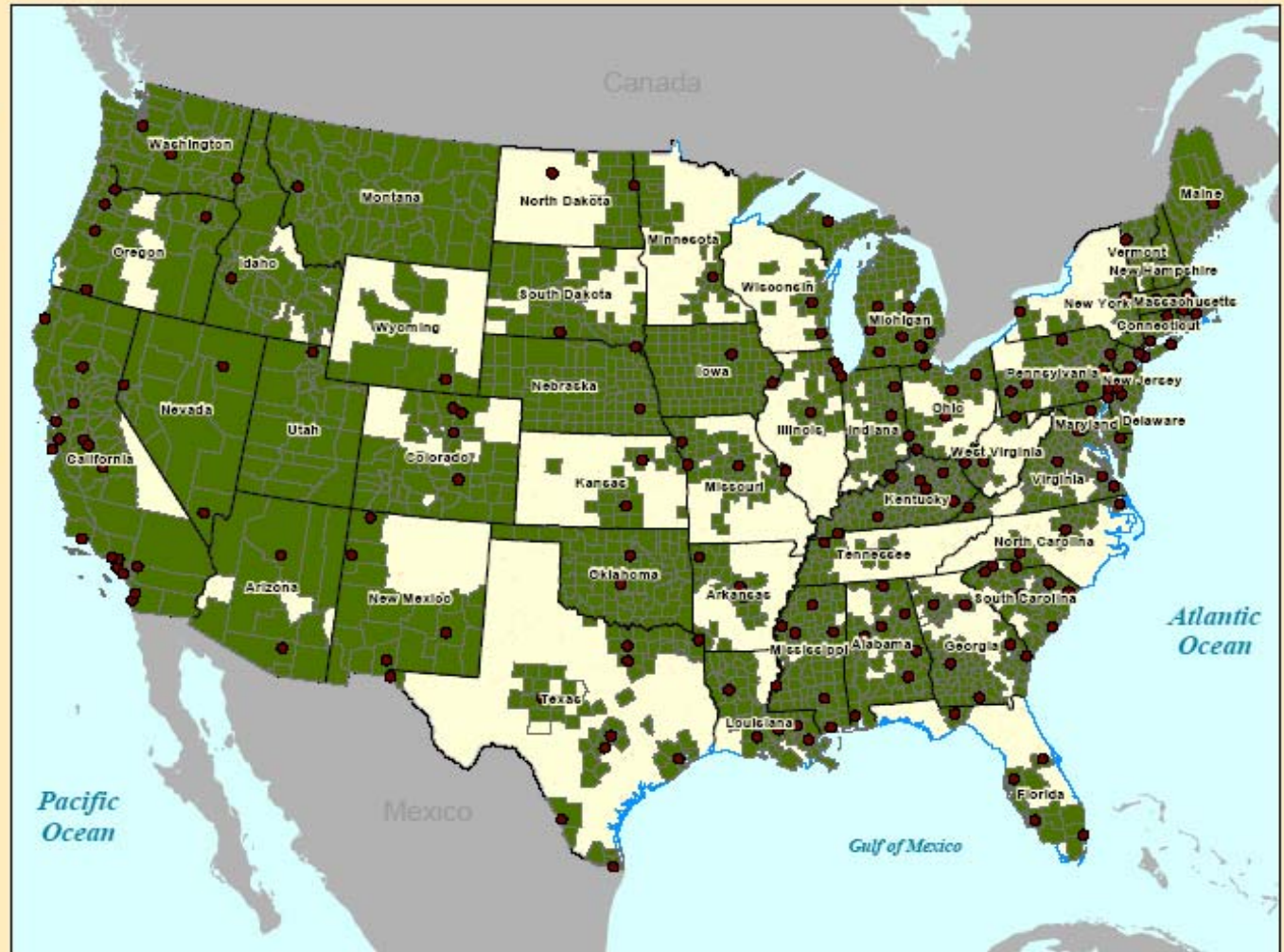


# NWP service area provides potential access to teachers in 2,024 counties

Alaska



Hawaii



# NWP service area offers broad potential access to teachers

	<u>In the U.S.</u>	<u>In NWP Service Area</u>
# counties	3,216	2,024
# districts	16,577	12,692
# schools	95,965	77,058
# students	47 million	41 million (87%)

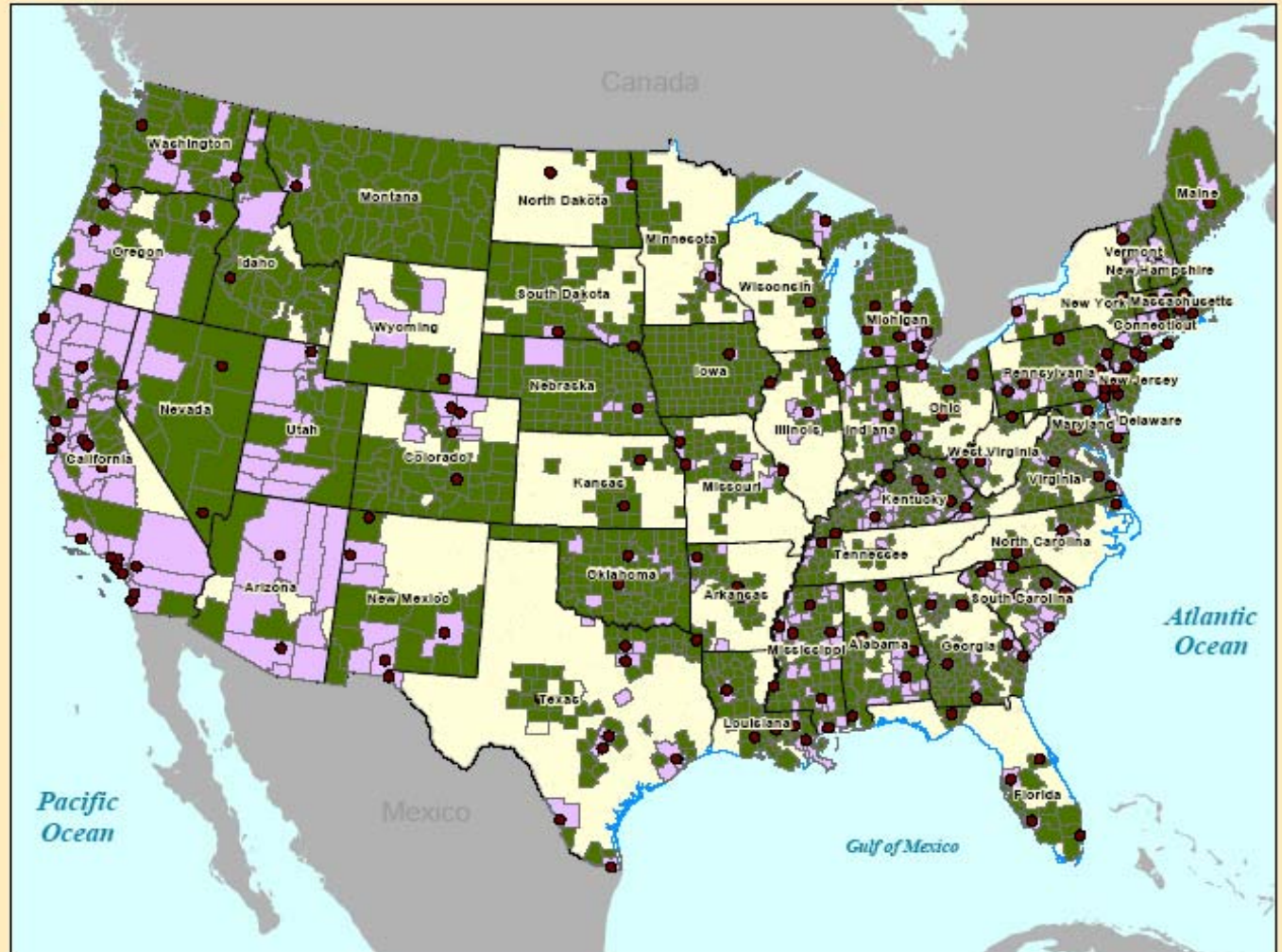


# NWP services actually reached teachers in 818 counties in 2003-04

Alaska



Hawaii



# NWP programs actually reached a substantial portion of the service area in 2003-04

	<u>In NWP Service Area</u>	<u>Served by NWP Programs</u>
# counties	2,024	818 (40%)
# districts	12,692	1,711 (13%)
# schools	77,058	2,967 (4%)
# students	41 million	2.4 million* (6%)

*\* # students represents those who are in the 2,967 schools served by NWP programs*

## 2. LARGE SCALE

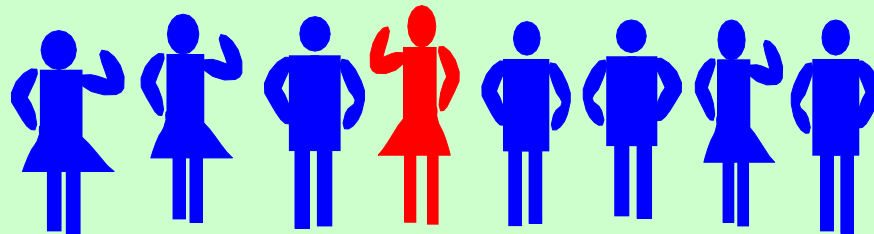


# Overall scale of work that NWP infrastructure supports in just one year

- 6,871 programs
- 12,238 active Teacher-Consultants
- 192,892 participants served
- 128,387 educator-participants served
- 86,858 individual educators served
- 20 hours on average per individual educator

# Percentage of teachers in the nation served each year

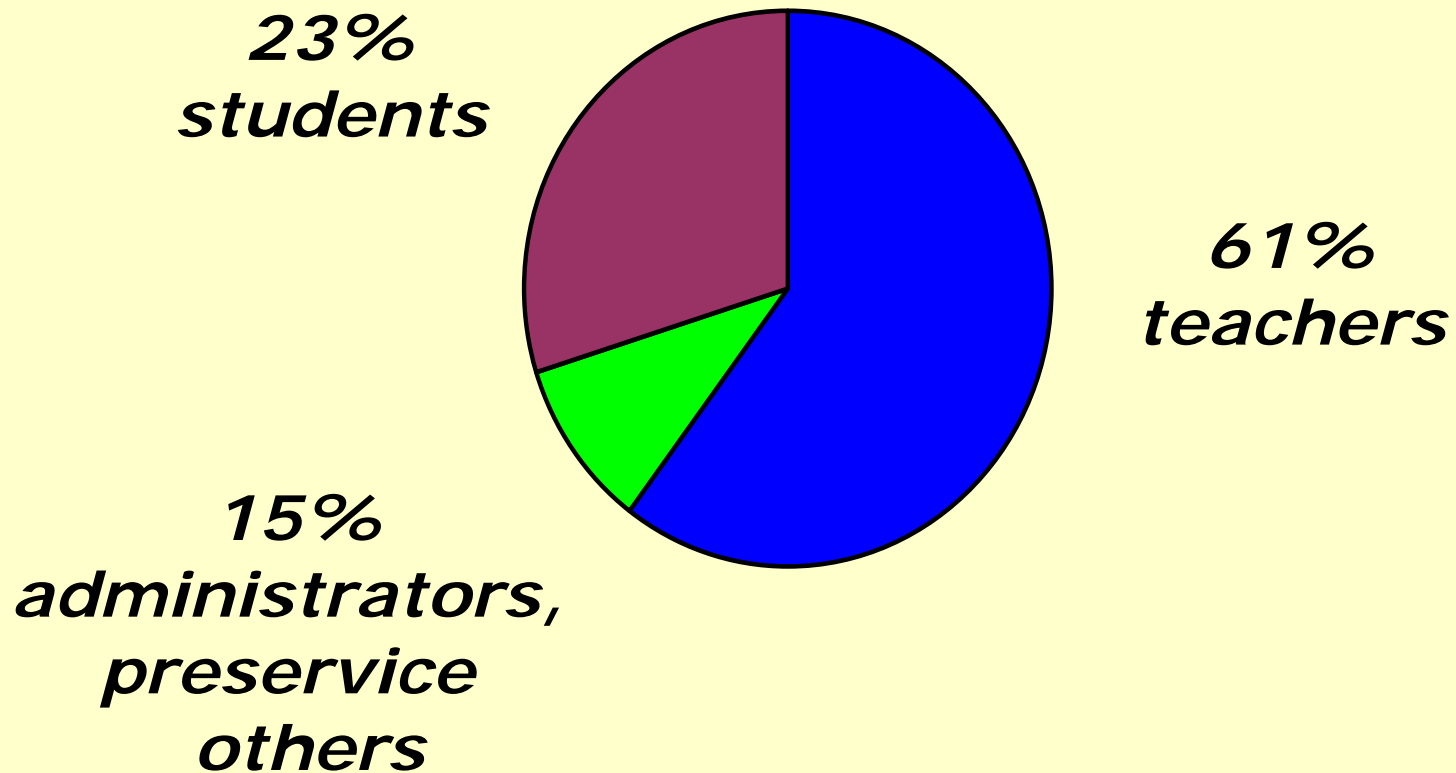
- 2.9% of total K-12 teaching force (1 in 35)
- Estimated 1 out of 8 who are directly responsible for teaching writing



### 3. CENTRAL CAPACITY TO PROVIDE CUSTOMIZED LOCAL SERVICES

*...Encouraging writing and the  
teaching of writing*

# Who participates in NWP programs





# Encouraging students

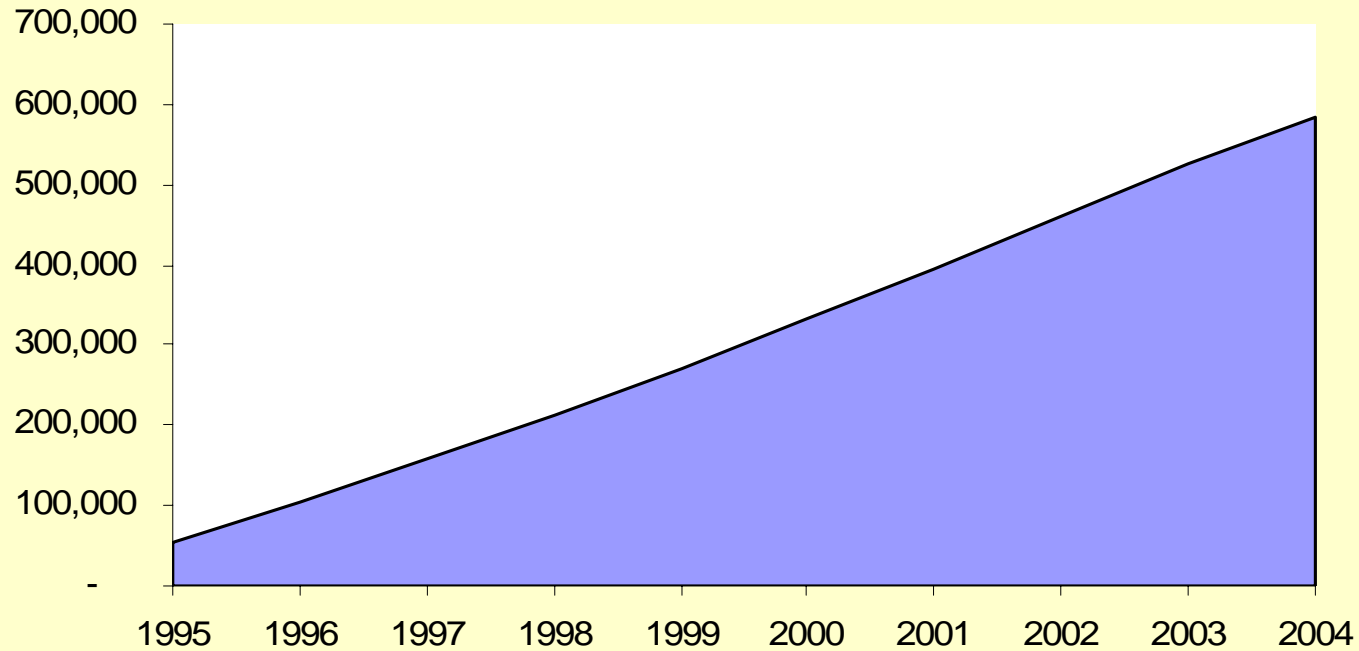




# Youth and community programs 2003-04

- 136 sites offered 707 Youth and Community programs.
- 45,267 students participated (~1 out of 1,000)

# ~600,000 students taught by Institute participants, 1995 - 2004

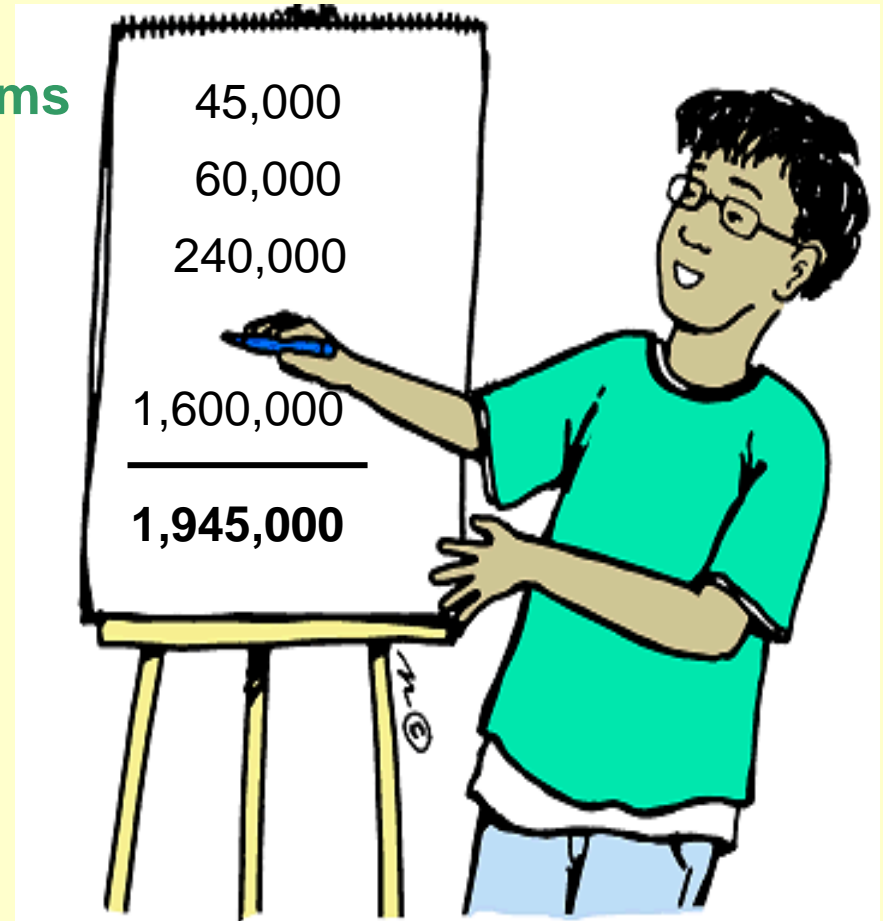


*Every year, Institute participants teach about 60,000 students*

# Estimating total numbers of students reached directly or indirectly in 1 year

- ✓ students in Young Writers programs
- ✓ students of Institute participants
- ✓ students of 12,000 active TCs
- ✓ students of Inservice participants

**(~ 1 in 25 students)**



# Encouraging teachers



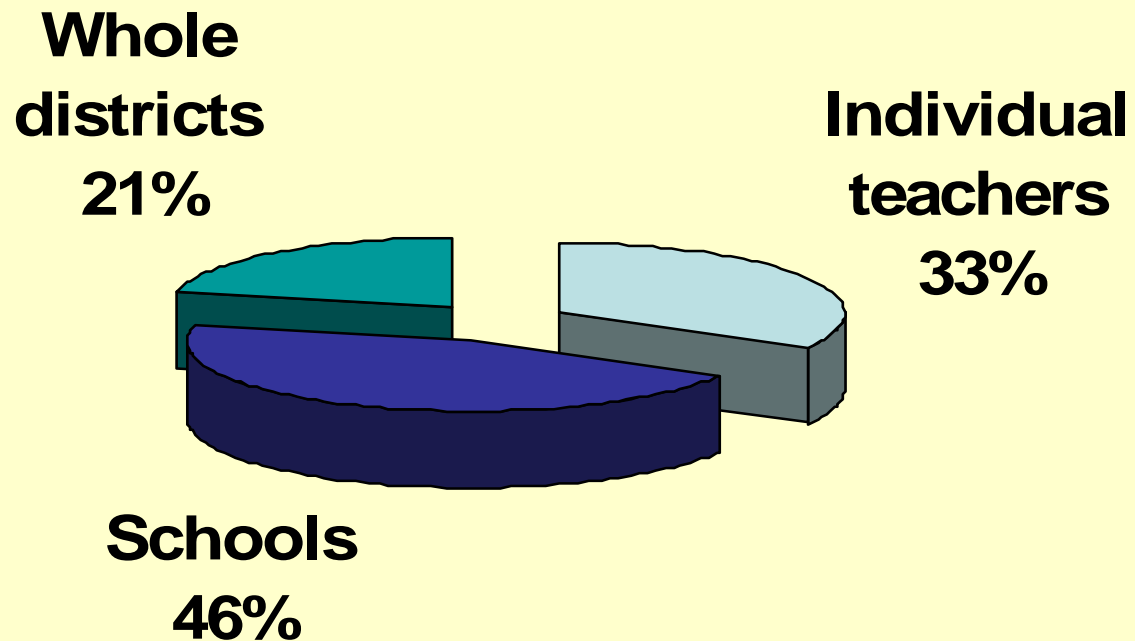
Each site creates a program of varied offerings for local teachers

*The average site offers—*

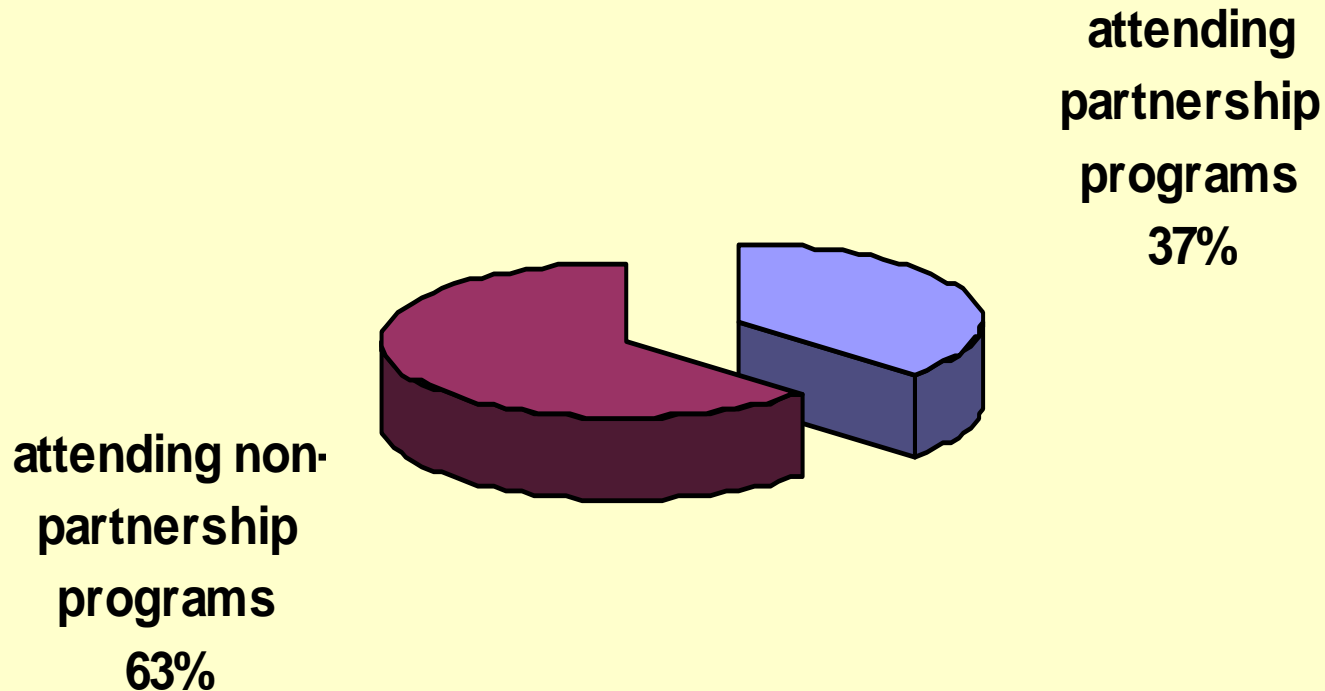
- 1 Invitational institute
- 12 Continuity programs
- 21 Inservice programs
- 4 Youth and community programs



# Local sites reach out to teachers in different contexts

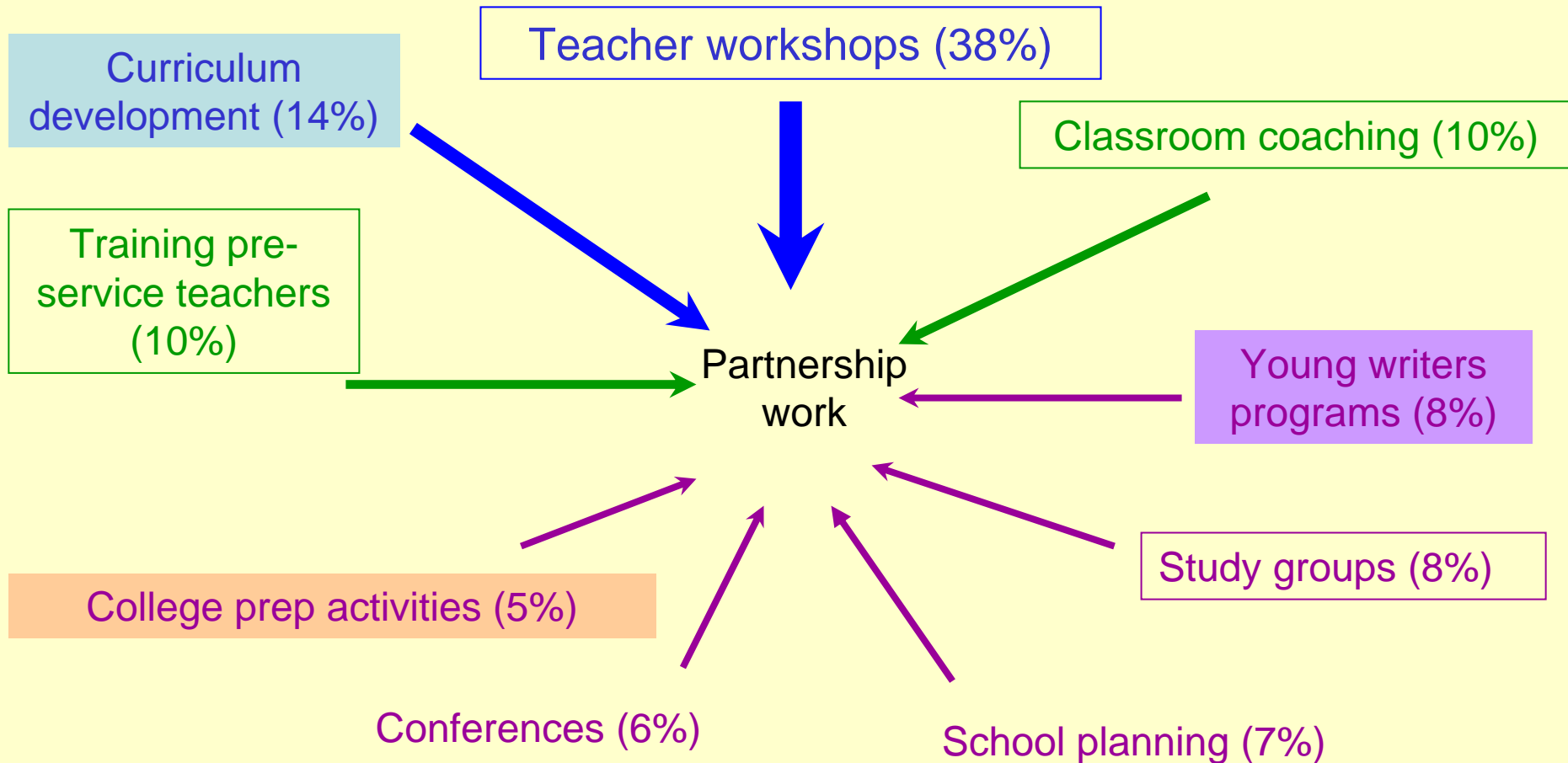


# 37% of all teacher participants receive inservice in the context of a long-term partnership





# Partnerships involve a wide range of activities customized for local context



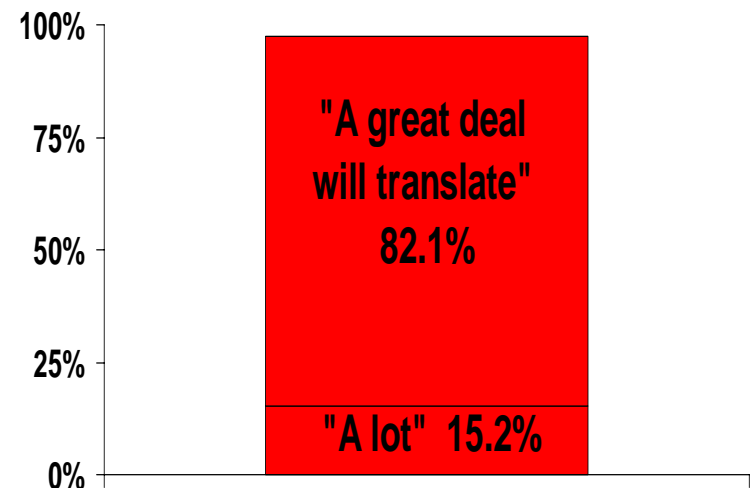
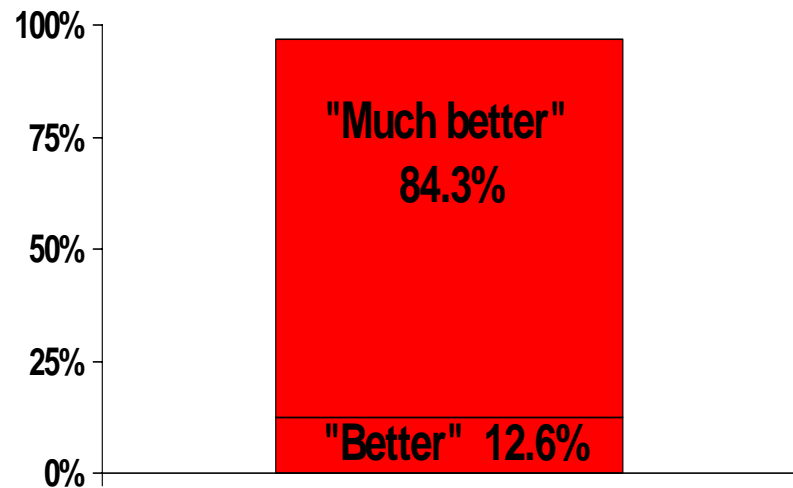
*22% of partnership work involved other activities such as coaching TCs, writing assessments, continuity work, other youth and community programs.*



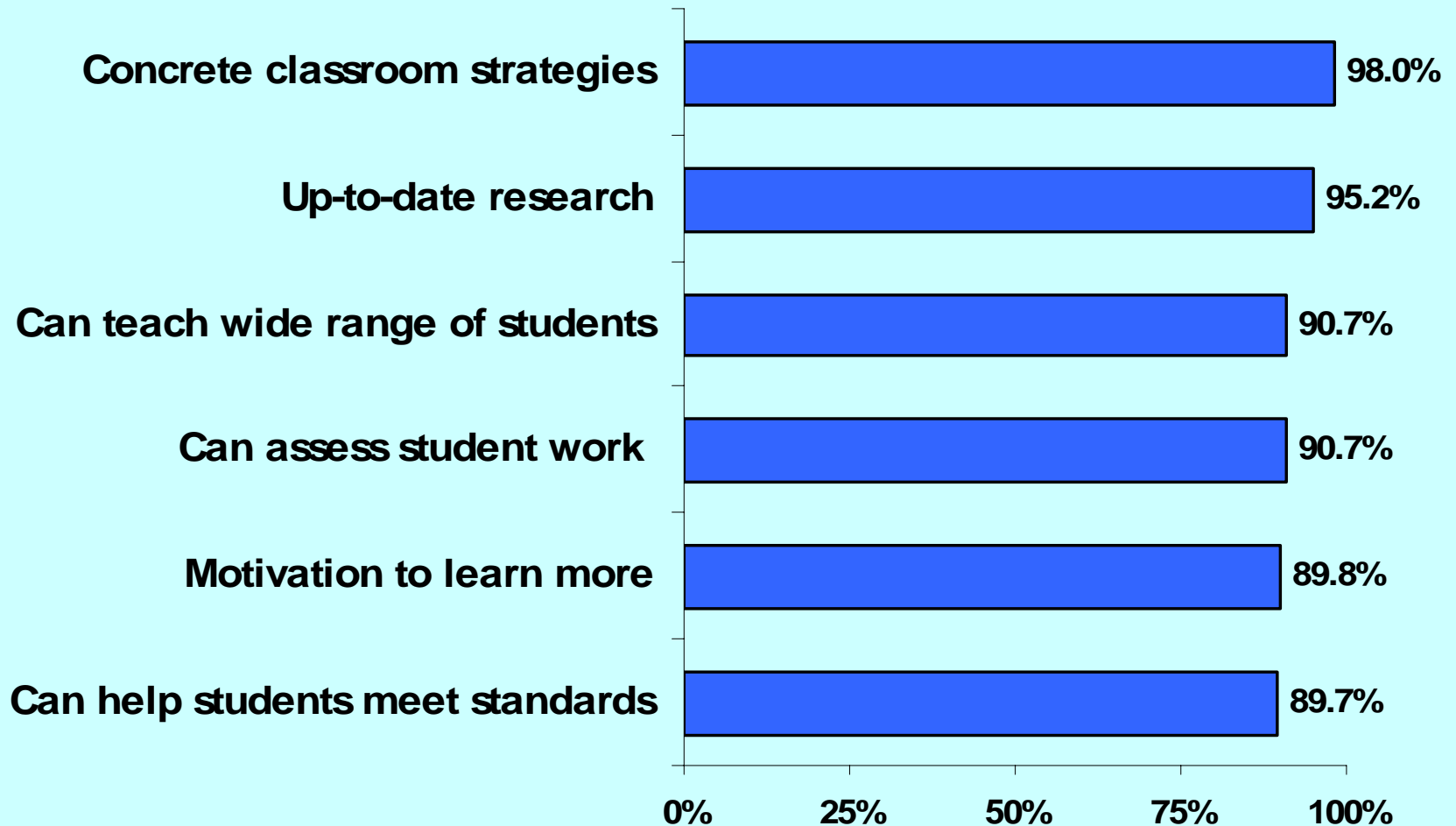
# 97% of teachers at NWP institutes say—

**NWP is better than other professional development**

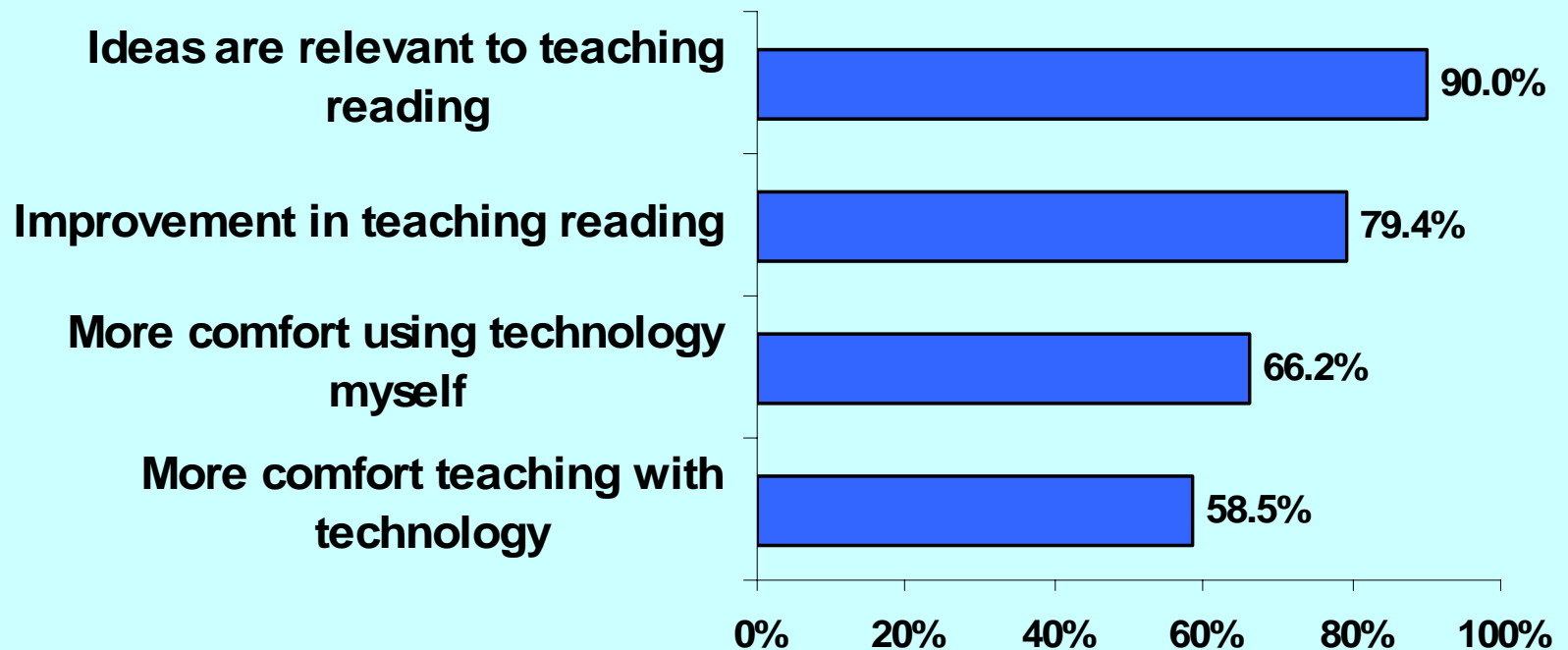
**What they learn translates into improved writing skills for their students**

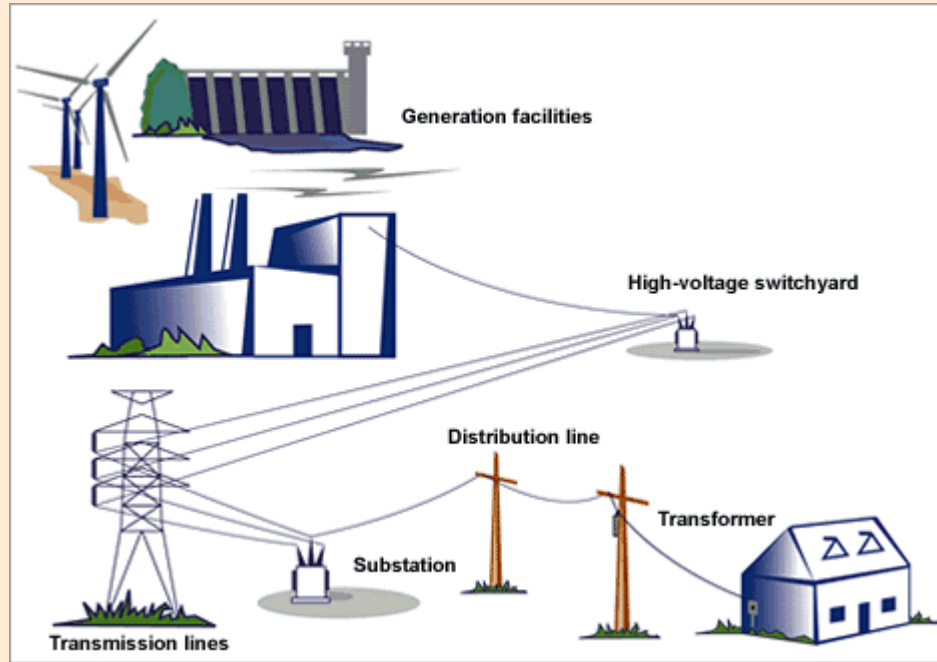


# Institute participants say they gain knowledge and skills for teaching writing



# Institute participants also get help with reading and technology

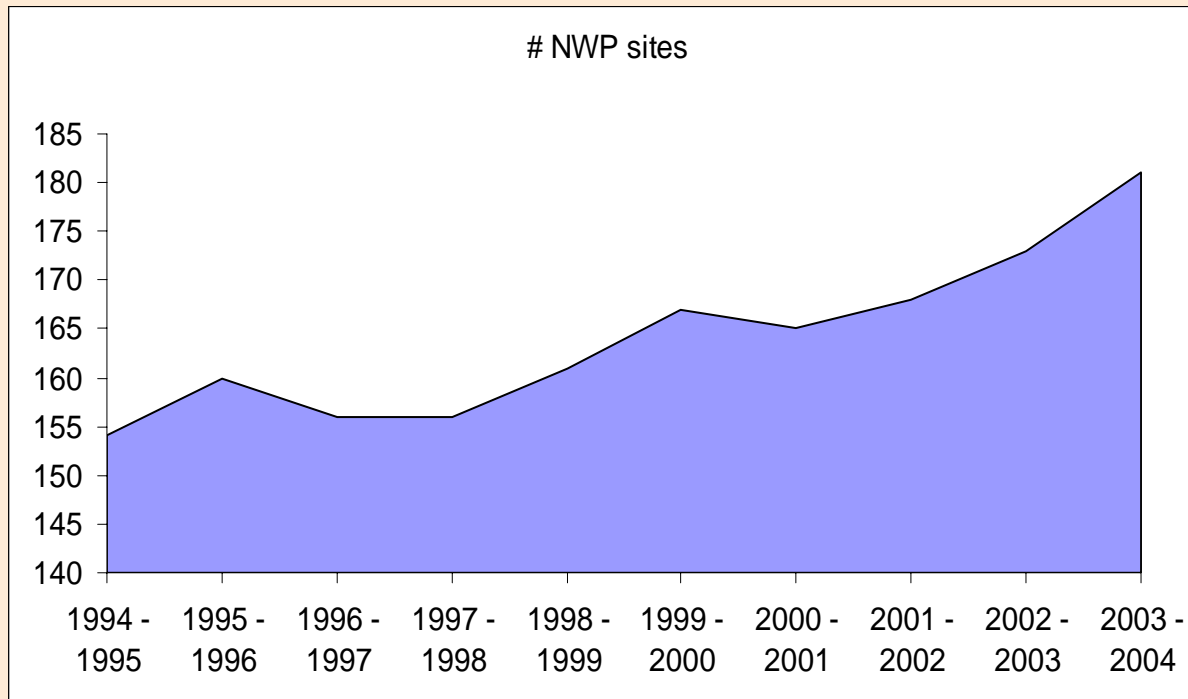




Promoting the growth and vitality  
of the national NWP  
infrastructure

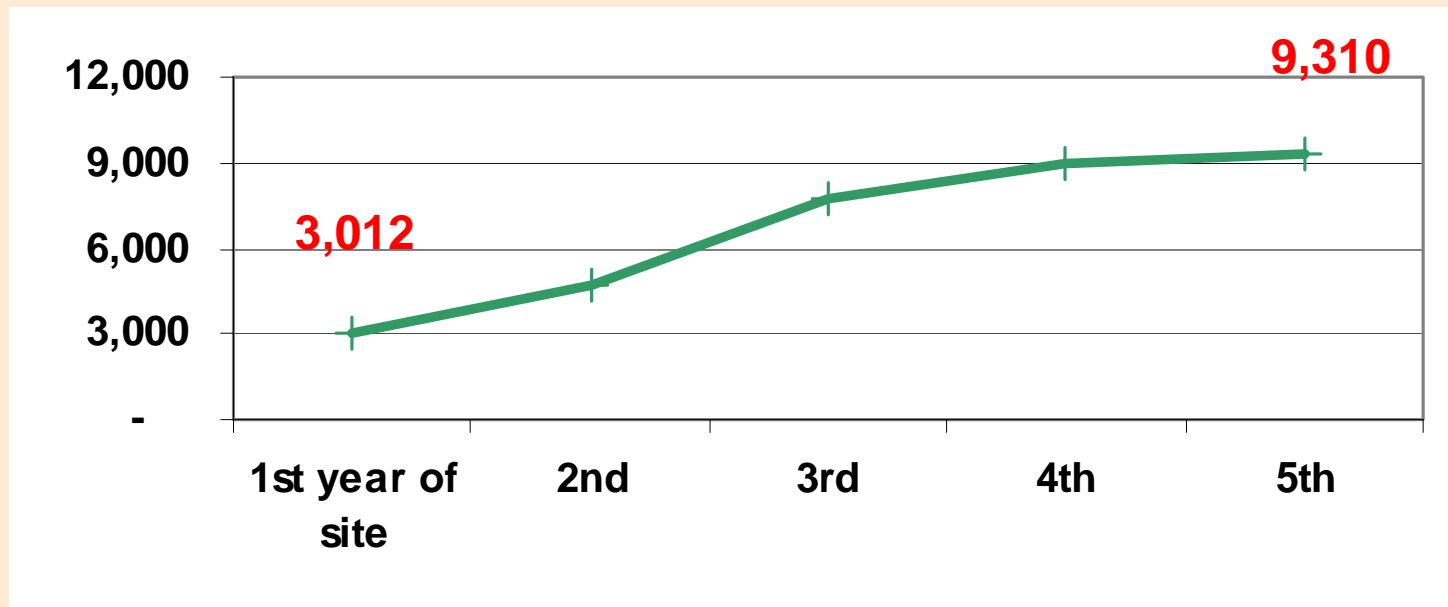
# The NWP continues to grow while maintaining quality

89 sites were started up during the last ten years  
51 sites were “decommissioned” during the same period



# NWP infrastructure supports new site development

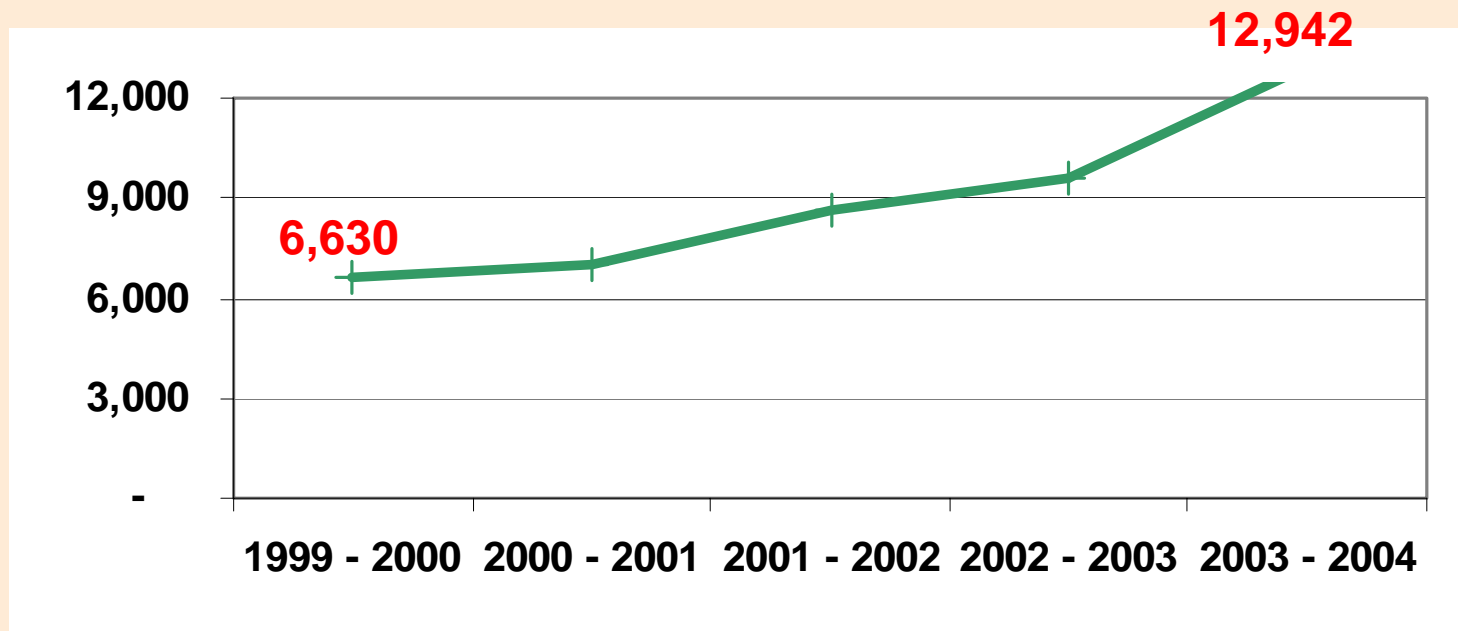
Average participant contact hours triple over first  
five years for new sites:





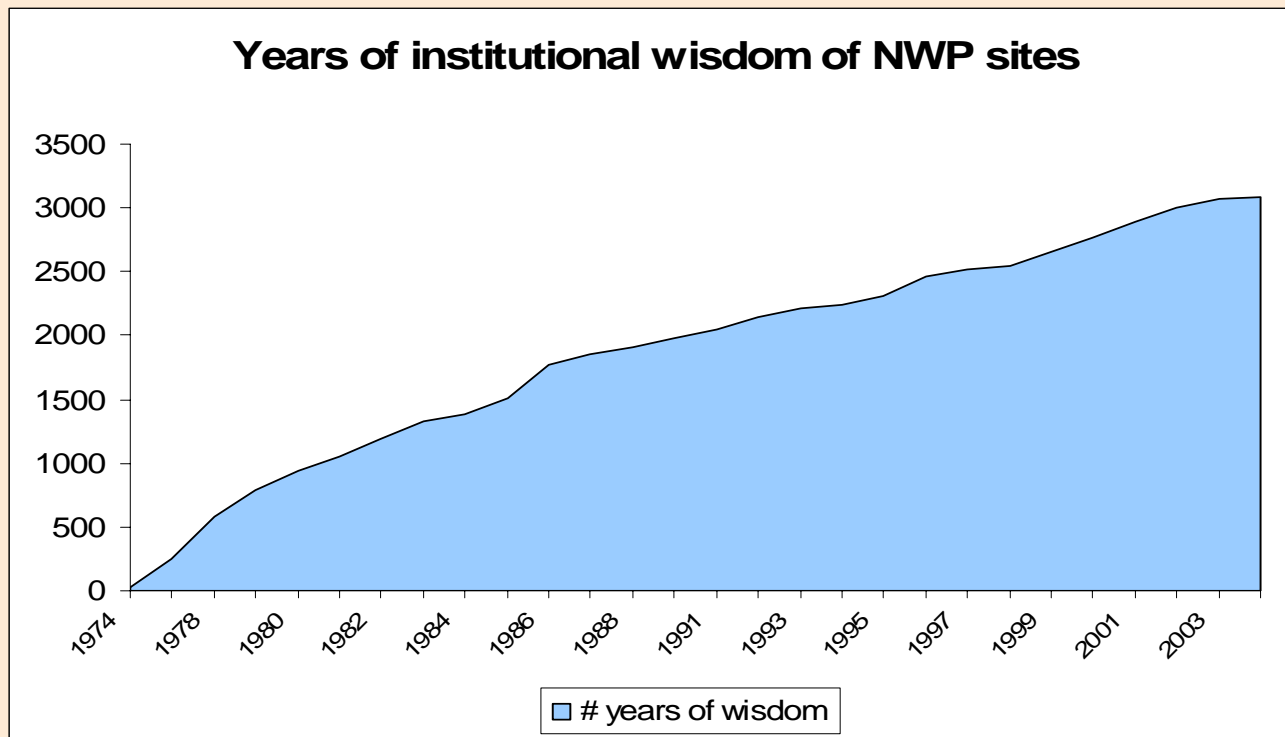
# Young sites continue to become more productive as they mature

Average participant contact hours double for sites 5-10 years old:



# One way to think about Jim Gray's legacy

The NWP network has accumulated 3,126  
“site-years” of experience!



# Summary points

- The NWP is a national infrastructure that supports the work of local sites
- Local sites serve students, individual teachers, schools, and districts in a wide range of ways that encourage writing and promote effective practice
- The NWP is well designed to grow larger, with attention to high quality

The evidence suggests that the NWP is a wise federal investment in educational improvement

