

YEAR IN REVIEW

2015

**FROM OUR CEO /** Last year was a productive and successful one for WestEd — especially as we addressed the diverse needs of our clients at the local, state, and national levels. With an enduring commitment to achieving equity and improving learning for all children, youth, and adults, in 2015 we provided high-impact technical support and professional learning, conducted rigorous research studies, and forged dynamic new partnerships, all while remaining fiscally strong.

Over the last year, WestEd made great strides in extending its position as a national leader in education research and technical assistance. For example, we supported state agencies across the country through two National Content Centers, three Regional Comprehensive Centers, and a Regional Educational Laboratory. We also launched the National Center for Systemic Improvement, which provided customized technical assistance plans to 42 states in 2015, helping them improve services for children with disabilities. In a testament to our expertise in early childhood development, we were awarded major partnership roles in two centers that are part of the federal early childhood training and technical assistance system.

In addition, WestEd continued to deliver high-impact professional learning to educators and administrators throughout the nation — improving their capacity to support struggling and underserved learners. For instance, our Academic Par-

ent-Teacher Teams program reached schools in 16 states and was recognized by the White House as a “Bright Spot in Hispanic Education.” And our Reading Apprenticeship program completed a five-year Investing in Innovation (i3) project that involved nearly 2,000 high school teachers serving approximately 600,000 students. Independent evaluations of this project showed positive changes in teacher practice and student learning outcomes.

We also continued to diversify our partnerships to increase WestEd’s impact in significant new ways over the past year. For example, we partnered on new grants from the U.S. Department of Justice, including a multiyear project to improve school safety in Atlanta Public Schools. We also worked on several federal Small Business Innovation Research projects aimed at developing educational technology, and we were selected as the research partner for an initiative that collaborates with entrepreneurs to develop cutting-edge digital tools for science and engineering education.

These are just a handful of examples of our accomplishments and high-quality work over the past year. As WestEd celebrates its 50th year of operation in 2016, we continue to expand the depth and range of our work, while never losing sight of our core mission of helping all learners — particularly struggling and underserved populations — to thrive in schools and communities.



**Glen H. Harvey,**  
Chief Executive Officer  
WestEd

# selected highlights

## College & Career

Helped California community colleges with strategic plans to integrate adult education and basic skills programs. Completed an evaluation of "Core to College," a multistate initiative to improve alignment between K-12 and postsecondary sectors.

## Health, Safety, & Well-Being

Co-sponsored a congressional briefing on school safety. Launched an evaluation of the No Bully System's effect on improving safety in elementary schools. Developed a series of reports on restorative justice practices in schools.

## Early Childhood Development & Learning

Led development of kindergarten readiness assessments for Maryland and Ohio. Created a developmental screening guide for early care providers, to help ensure young children receive the support and services they need.

## Literacy

Won a major federal grant to provide academic literacy training to teachers in high-needs districts, including Chicago and New York City. Completed an evaluation of an Investing in Innovation project to improve literacy by integrating arts into the curriculum.

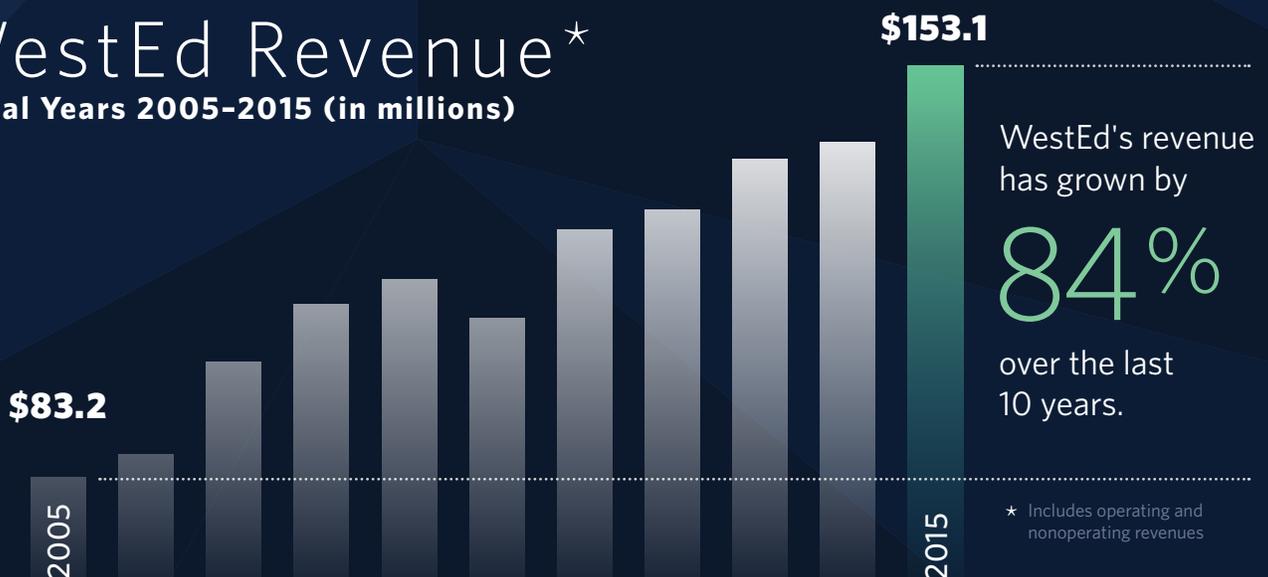
## English Language Learners

Authored *English Language Learners [ELL] and the New Standards*, offering strategies for engaging ELL students. Through our Quality Teaching for English Learners program, provided professional learning for 1,600 educators in 8 states, impacting 128,000 students.

## Schools, Districts, & State Education Systems

Launched the School Turnaround Academy to deepen state capacity to support turnaround efforts. Conducted multistate technical assistance events in the Mid-Atlantic region on pressing issues such as teacher evaluation and college and career readiness.

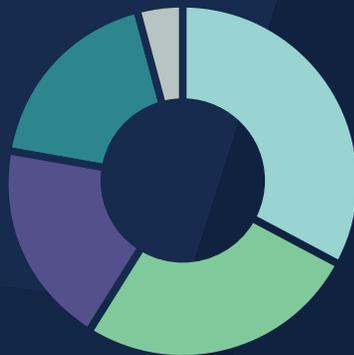
## WestEd Revenue<sup>\*</sup> Fiscal Years 2005-2015 (in millions)



# Contracts & Grants

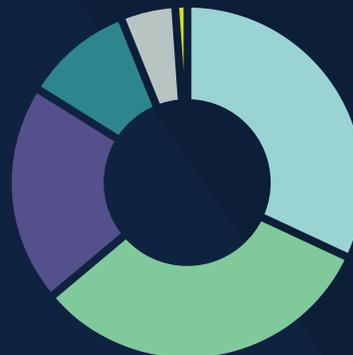
REVENUE BY SOURCE

U.S. Department of Education: 33%  
 Foundations, Businesses, & Other (Non-local) Agencies: 26%  
 Local Agencies: 19%  
 State Funders: 18%  
 Other Federal: 4%



# WestEd Core Work

Research & Development: 32%  
 Technical Assistance: 32%  
 Training: 20%  
 Evaluation: 10%  
 Dissemination: 5%  
 Policy: 1%



## Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics (STEM)

Awarded an NSF grant to produce *SimScientists* digital games for formative assessment in middle school science classes. Evaluated PBS KIDS learning materials, finding they increased family engagement and improved early math learning.

## Standards, Assessment, & Accountability

Provided research and technical assistance to over 20 states through the Center on Standards & Assessment Implementation. Launched an interactive six-month digital course on formative assessment, with 2,400 teachers from seven states participating.

## Special Education

Published a report to help educators identify and support English learner students with learning disabilities. To improve achievement for Arizona students with disabilities, helped develop training modules for the state's elementary school teachers.

## Teachers & Leaders

Published resources about the benefits and challenges of different approaches to teacher evaluation. Launched a formative evaluation to help the California State University system monitor and improve a major new teacher preparation initiative.



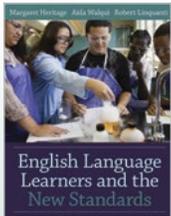
## WestEd.org

We made several updates to our agency website to offer even more timely research and information, including:

- New **Webinars section** provides free access to all upcoming and archived webinars
- New **Research Blog** highlights our agency's latest research and evaluation findings

←←← **R&D Alert Online** features in-depth monthly articles on pressing education issues

Over **90** new products and publications were added to WestEd's portfolio in 2015 (WestEd.org/bookstore). Below is a sample.



### English Language Learners and the New Standards: Developing Language, Content Knowledge, and Analytical Practices in the Classroom

Resource to help teachers engage English language learners with subject-area content, analytical practices, and language.



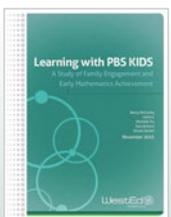
### What Further Research is Needed on Restorative Justice in Schools?

Recommendations for future research to advance implementation and understanding of restorative justice in K–12 schools.



### Practitioner Data Use in Schools: Workshop Toolkit

Toolkit to enable schools to conduct workshops on data use with school-based educators.



### Learning with PBS KIDS: A Study of Family Engagement and Early Mathematics Achievement

Study evaluating the effectiveness of a family-engagement model in increasing preschoolers' math skills.



### Moving Leadership Standards Into Everyday Work: Descriptions of Practice, Second Edition

Book illustrating key leadership knowledge and actions that help all students learn and thrive.

WestEd is a public, not-for-profit education and research agency created under a Joint Powers Agreement, pursuant to California government code section 6507. WestEd is tax exempt under Section 115(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code. With this status, WestEd's work meets the giving guidelines for philanthropic organizations.

## By the Numbers



### REVENUE

\$153.1m

(This figure includes operating revenue and nonoperating revenue.)



### CLIENTS & FUNDERS

635



### NEW CONTRACTS & GRANTS

678



### OFFICES

18 nationwide



### STAFF

650+

## Chairs of the Board of Directors

2014–15: Beverly Young

2015–16: Harold Levine

2016–17: Tacy Ashby

View our full board of directors at [WestEd.org/board](http://WestEd.org/board).

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