

**2026 EDUCATIONAL  
ADEQUACY STUDY**

**TEACHERS ■  
SURVEY REPORT**



PREPARED FOR THE SENATE AND HOUSE INTERIM  
COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION  
NOVEMBER 3, 2025



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## INTRODUCTION

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Three surveys of Arkansas educators (one each for superintendents, principals and teachers) provide one category of evidence for the Arkansas Senate and House Education Committees' biennial educational adequacy study. These data are considered in conjunction with school- and district-level data provided by local education associations and the Arkansas Department of Education; related data from other states and the nation; and secondary research into educational topics and best practices.

In December, the Bureau of Legislative Research (BLR) sent an emailed questionnaire asking the state's public school classroom teachers to select one of three dates during the spring semester that would be most convenient for them to complete the survey. As a result, on January 27, the adequacy surveys were distributed to 32,702 Arkansas public school classroom teachers, media specialists and school counselors who had email addresses recorded in the Arkansas Department of Education's computer network system. To encourage responses, the BLR sent a flier to principals explaining that the survey was arriving and its purpose, accompanied by a request that the fliers be posted where teachers would see them. The fliers were also sent with the surveys to the teachers with the request that they share them with fellow teachers.

According to the BLR's survey software, the teachers survey successfully reached the email inbox of 32,702 teachers and were viewed by 12,156 of them. Teachers were asked to complete the survey and submit it to BLR by February 7, 2025. After that date, the BLR kept the survey open for another 2.5 weeks and sent four subsequent emails to both teachers and their administrators reminding them about the survey. The final survey was accepted on February 24, 2025, bringing the total number of responses to 4,830.

The response rate for the teachers survey was 15%. The margin of error is less than +1% at a 95 percent confidence level.<sup>1</sup> The 4,830 respondent teachers represented 254 of the state's 258 school districts and public charter school systems in 2025.

### Teachers Survey Information in a Glance:

Survey Distributed:	Jan. 27	<b>32,702</b>
Survey Due:	Feb. 7	
Final submittal:	Feb. 24	<b>4,830</b>
Response Rate:	<b>15%</b>	

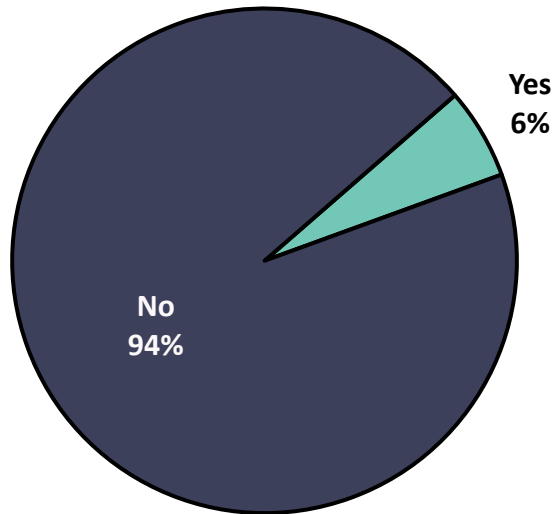
Each survey question appears below with the response options and the percentage of teachers responding to each option. Unless otherwise noted, 4,830 teachers responded to each question.

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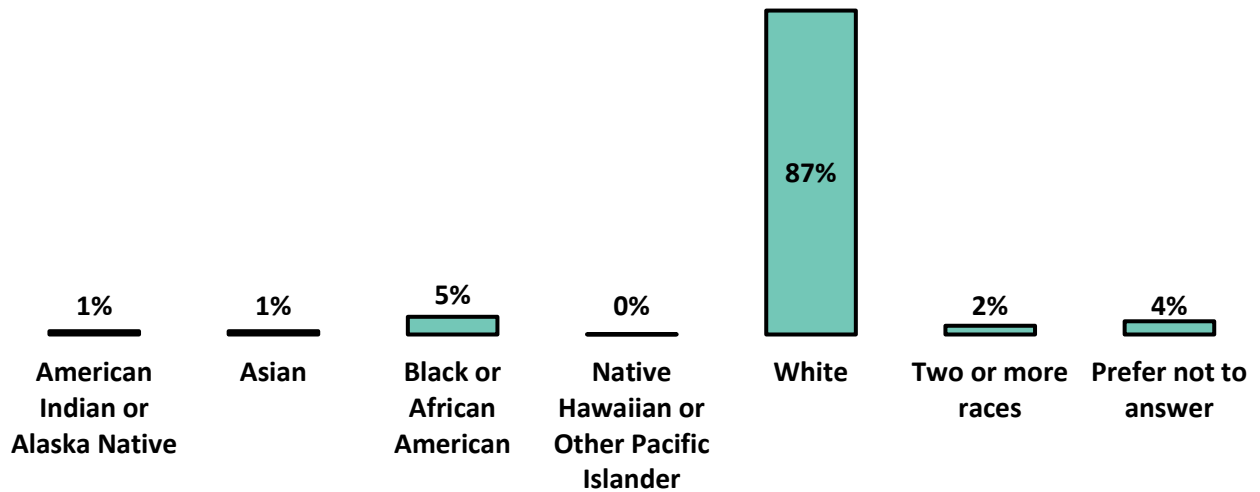
<sup>1</sup> The margin of error calculation incorporated a "finite population correction" (FPC) applied to the standard error (SE) calculation for a confidence level of 95% because the population of teachers was a known 32,702.

## BACKGROUND AND TEACHER PREPARATION

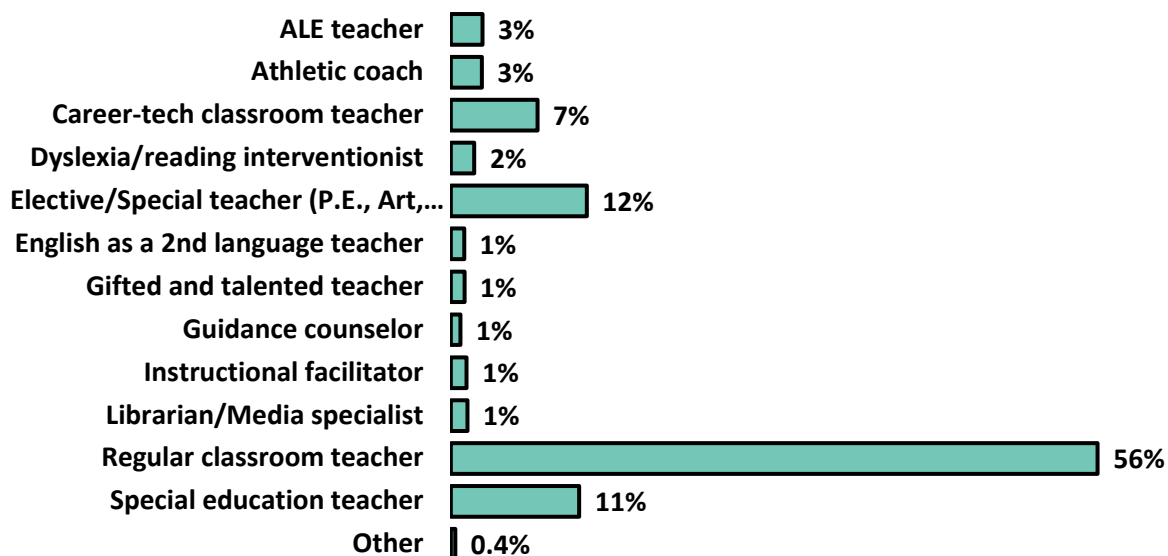
1. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?



2. How would you describe yourself?

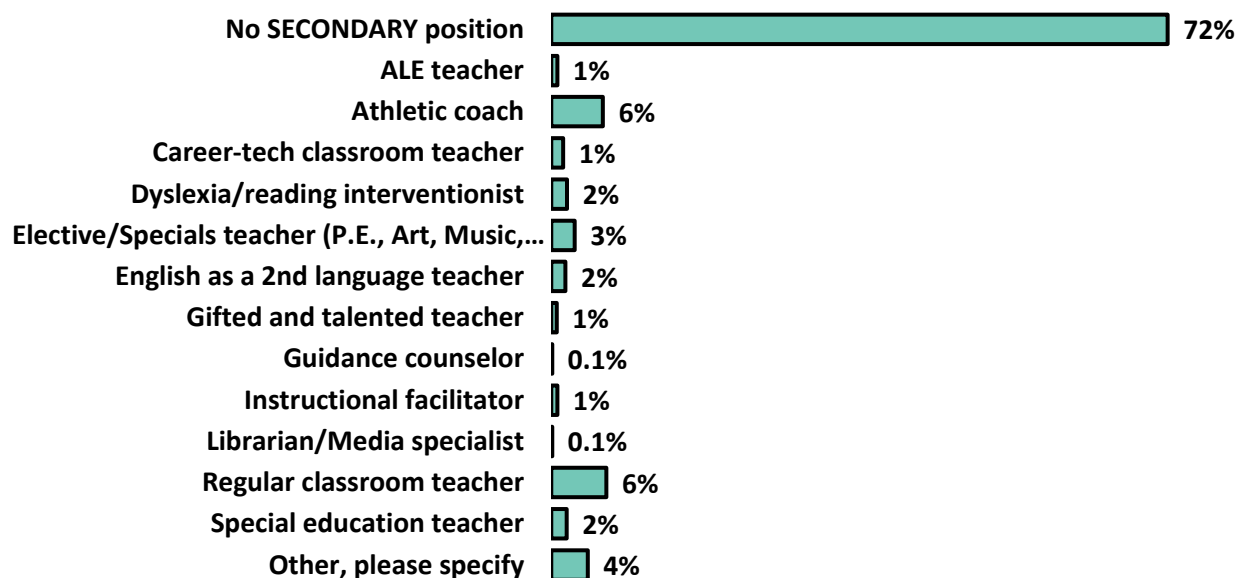


3. Current PRIMARY position:



“Other” includes JROTC army instructor; special education director/teacher; strategic reading teacher; technology director/teacher; virtual teacher.

4. If you have another teaching role (e.g. You serve as an ESL teacher and you also teach a foreign language), please enter your SECONDARY position below:

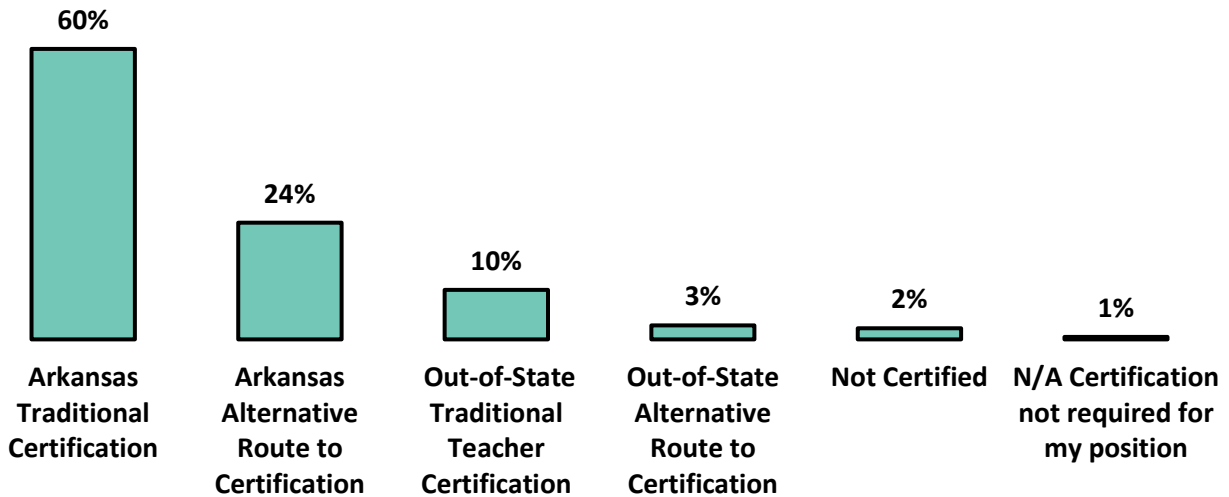


“Other” includes credit recovery, homebound instructor, in-school suspension, math interventionist, math teacher for newcomers, response-to-intervention (RTI) teacher; science instructional specialist, trauma-informed teacher, virtual teacher.

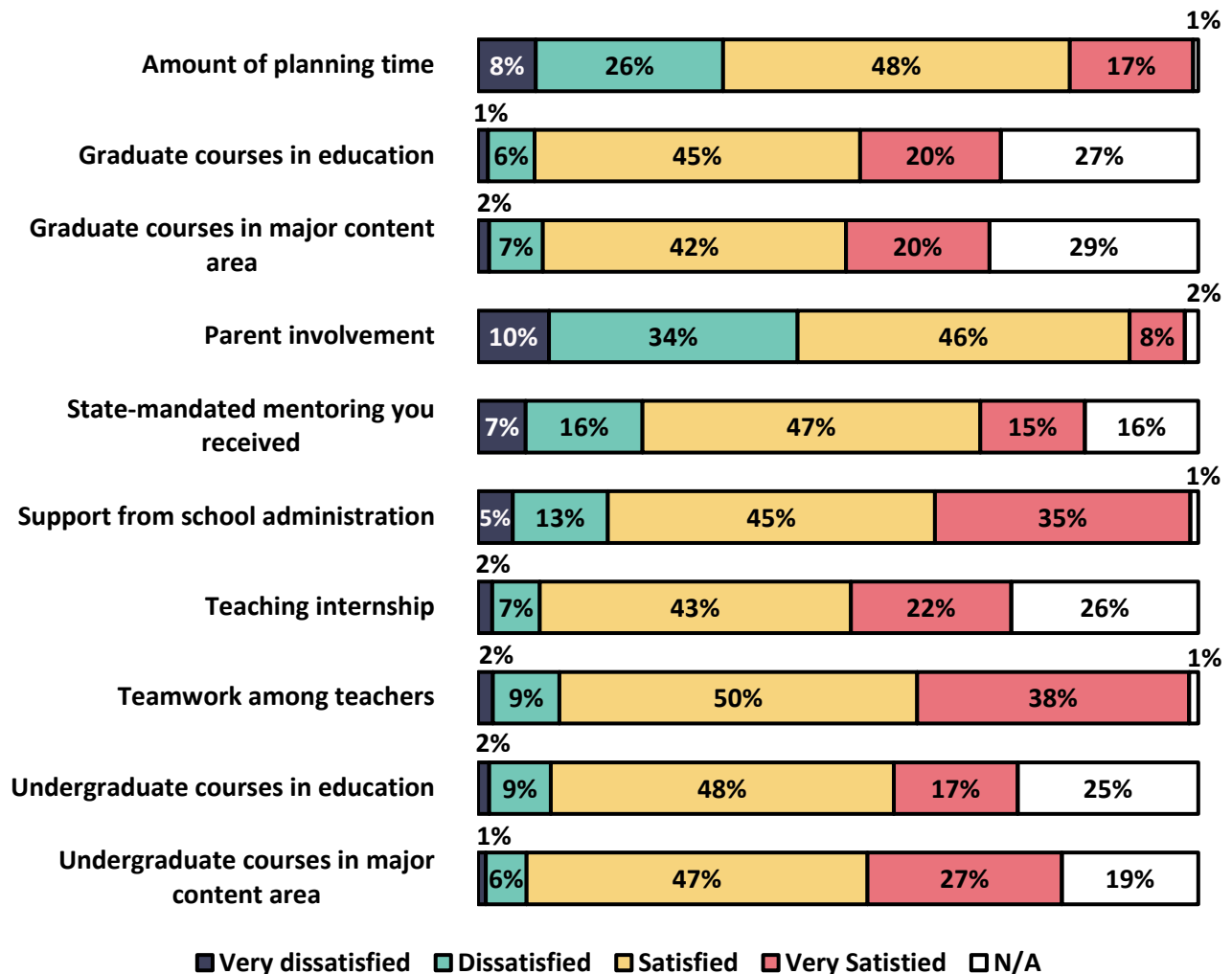
5. Total years of teaching experience, not including this year. (Enter “0” if 2024-2025 is your first year.)

- Average years teaching: 13.5
- 25% had 5 years or less teaching
- 16% had 3 years or less teaching

6. Please select the option that best describes how you obtained your certification to teach.



7. Please indicate your satisfaction with the following components of your teacher preparation and current position.

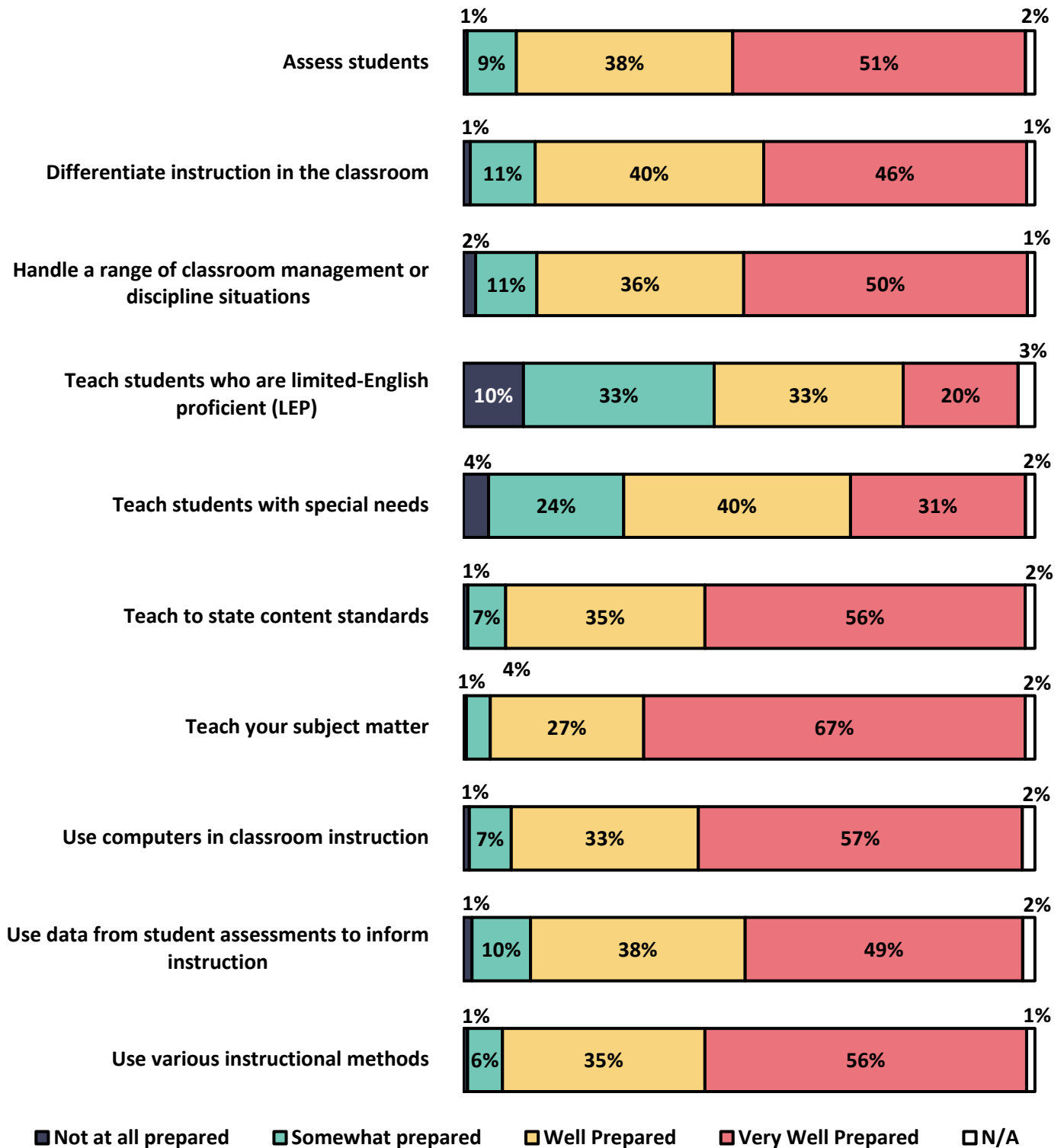




8. In your FIRST year of teaching, how well prepared were you to:



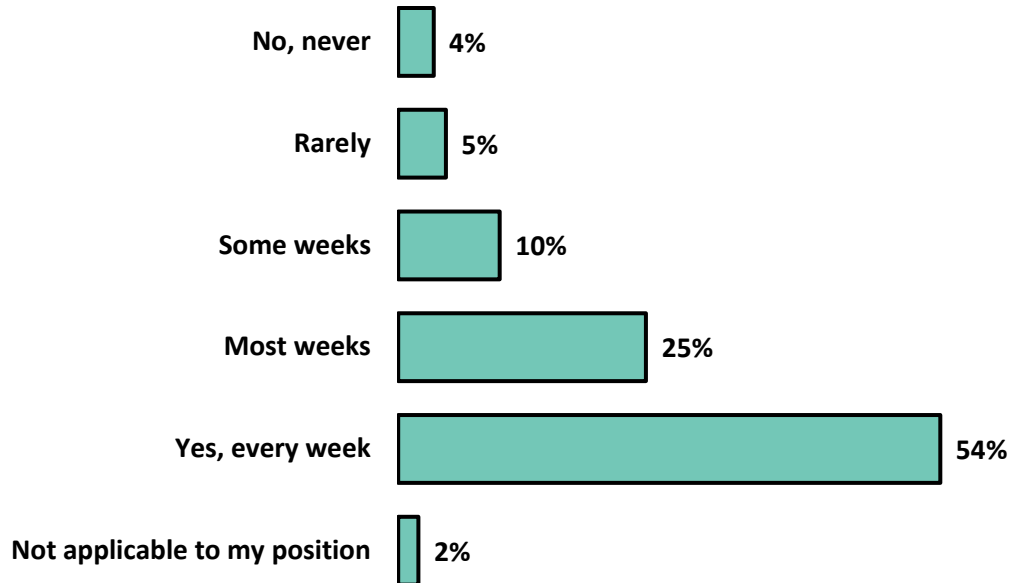
9. THIS YEAR, how well prepared are you to:



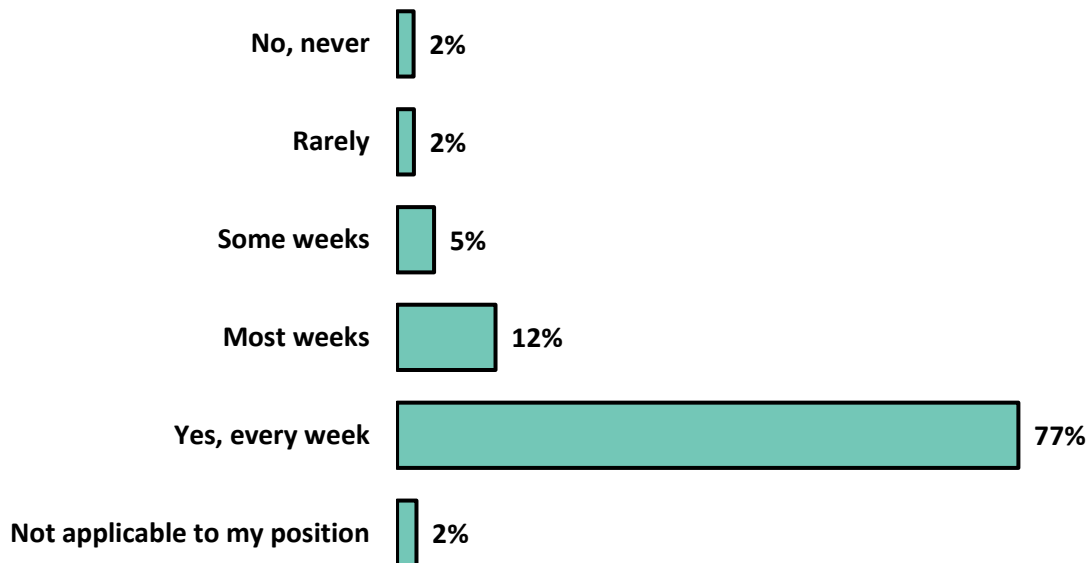
10. BACKGROUND AND PREPARATION: Respondents were allowed to make comments about the preceding topic.

## TEACHING ENVIRONMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS

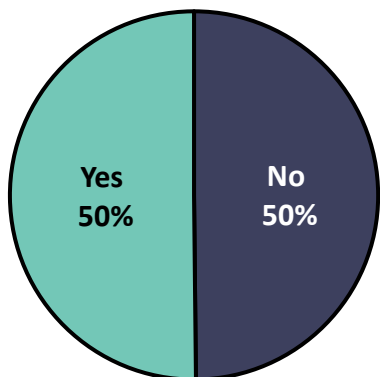
11. Do you receive at least 200 minutes of planning time per week to schedule conferences and plan instruction?



12. Is your planning time provided in increments of at least 40 minutes during the instructional day?

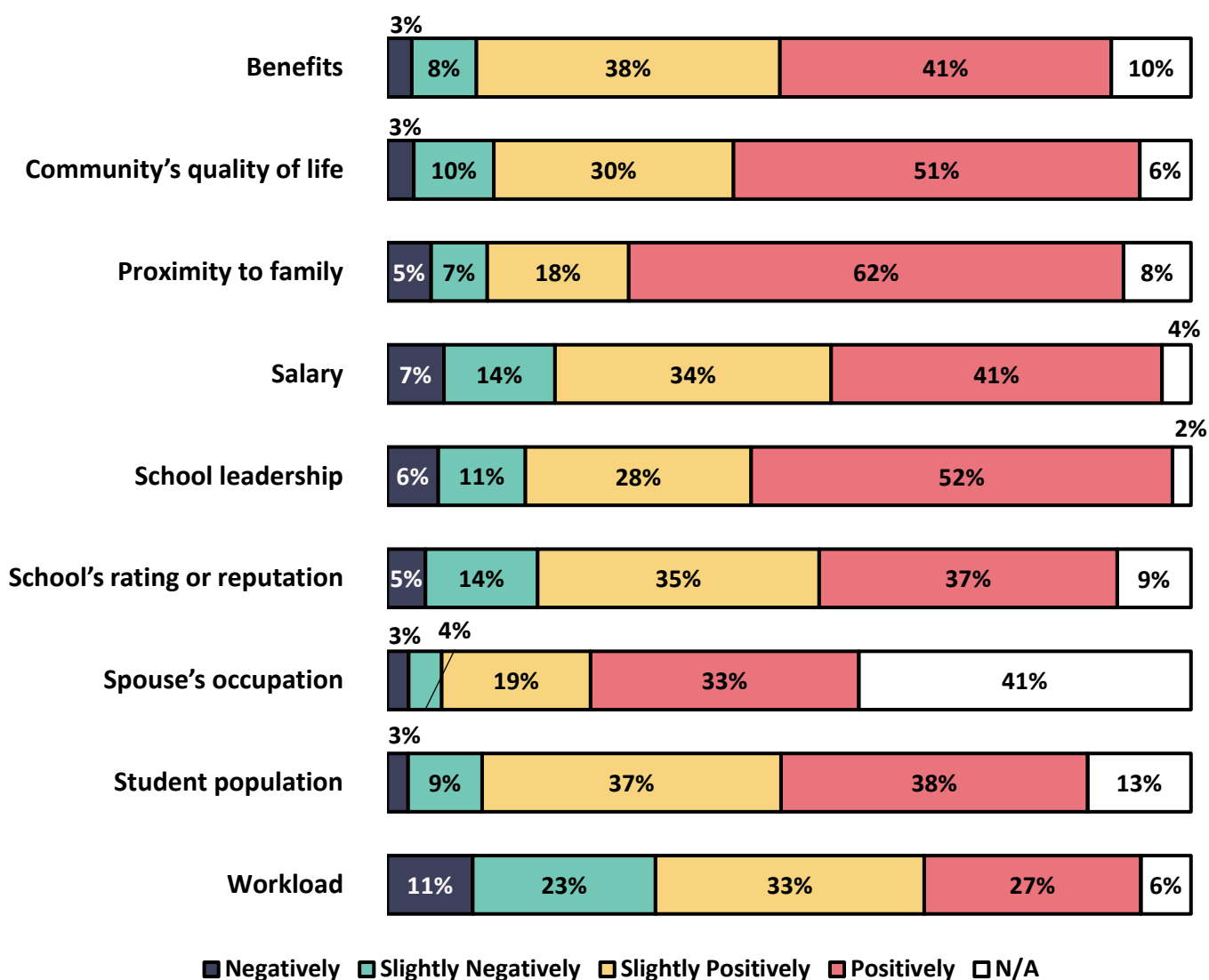


13. Is the planning time you receive during the instructional day sufficient?

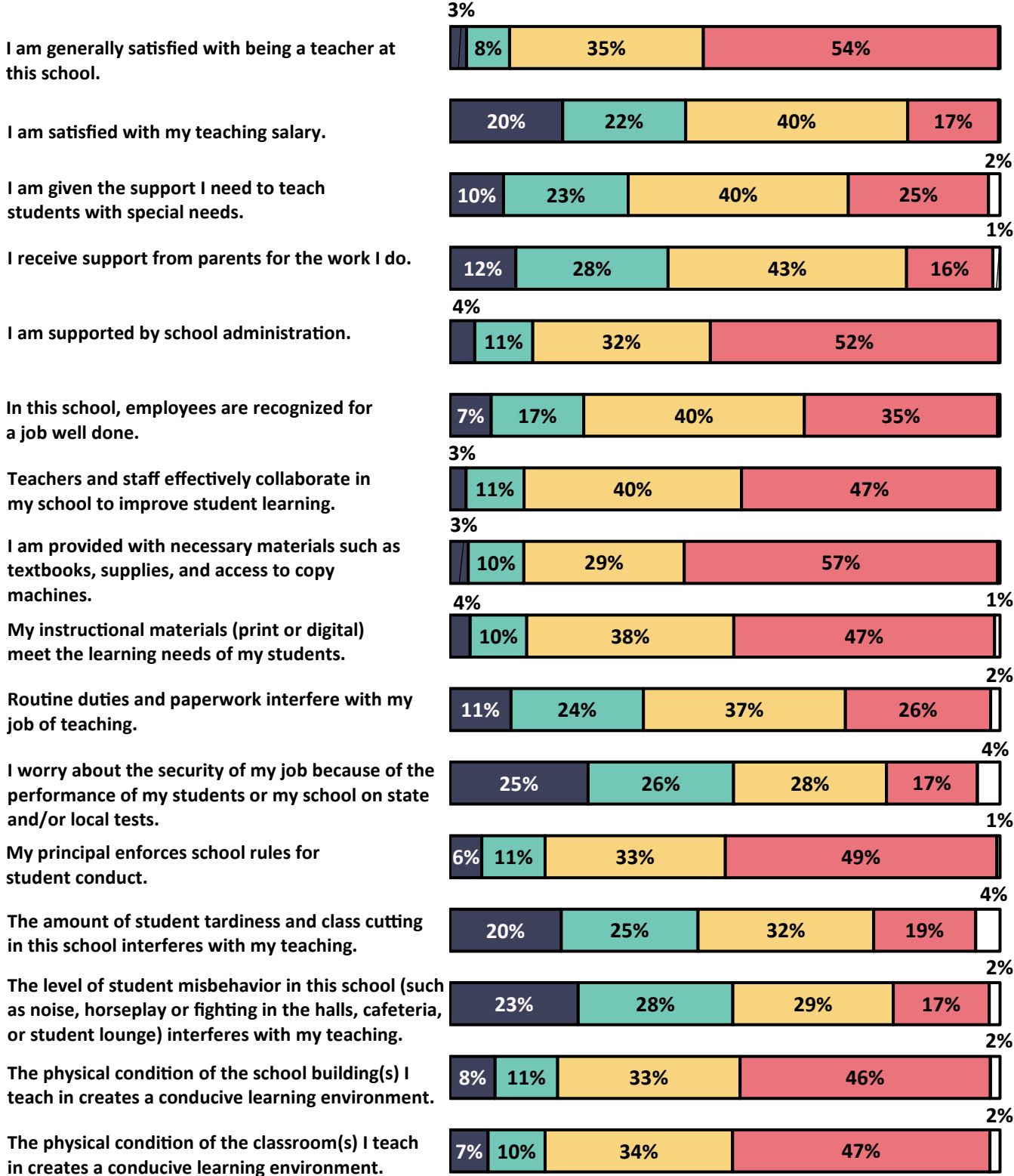


14. During your most recent FULL WEEK of teaching at THIS school, what is the average number of students you taught at any one time in a single class? **The average of all responses was 22 students.**

15. How do each of the following items impact your decision to teach at your current school?

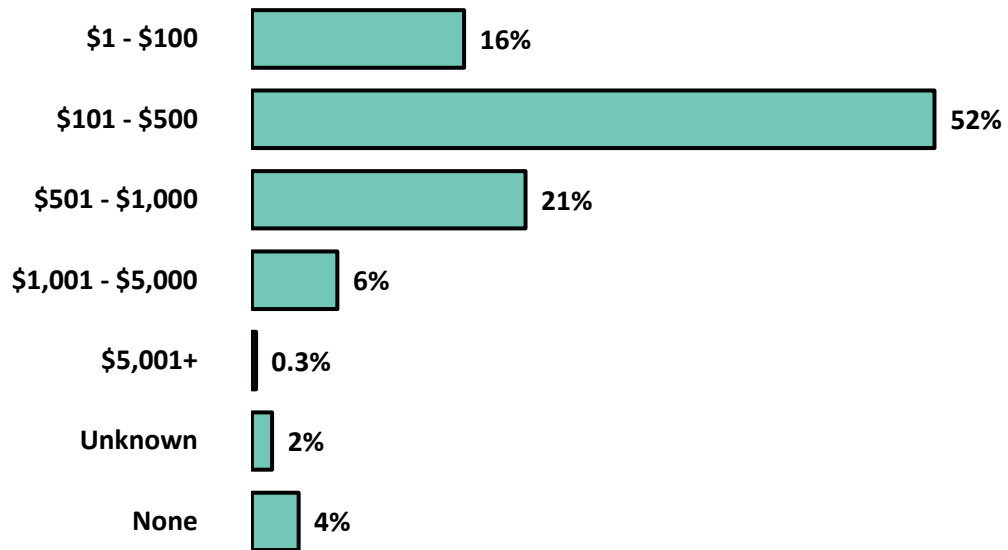


16. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?



Strongly disagree
  Somewhat disagree
  Somewhat agree
  Strongly agree
  N/A

17. During the 2024-25 school year, how much of your own money do you anticipate spending on classroom supplies, without reimbursement? (Please use your best estimate for anticipated costs. If none, please mark None.)



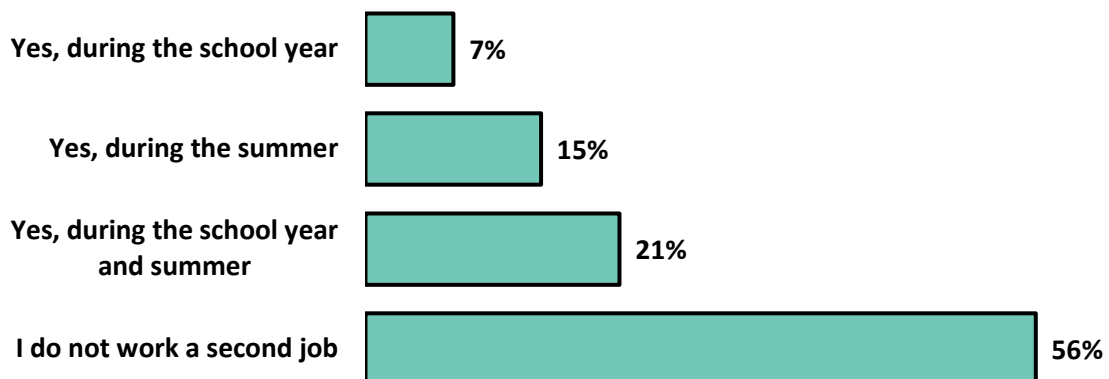
18. **TEACHING ENVIRONMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS:** Respondents were allowed to make comments about the preceding topic.

## GENERAL EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

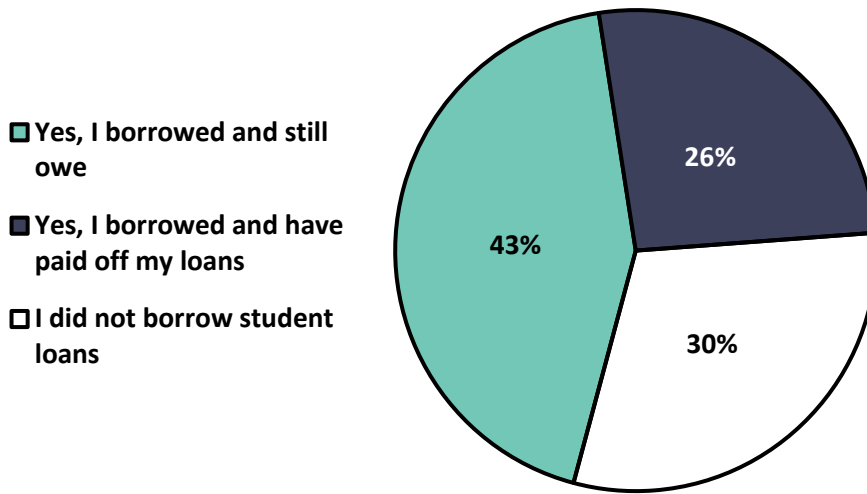
19. During the 2024-25 school year, what is your base (excluding benefits) teaching salary for the entire school year?

- Average salary: \$57,238 (based on 4,785 valid responses)
- Highest salary: \$72,000 (based on 4,785 valid responses)

20. Do you work a second job to supplement your teaching income?



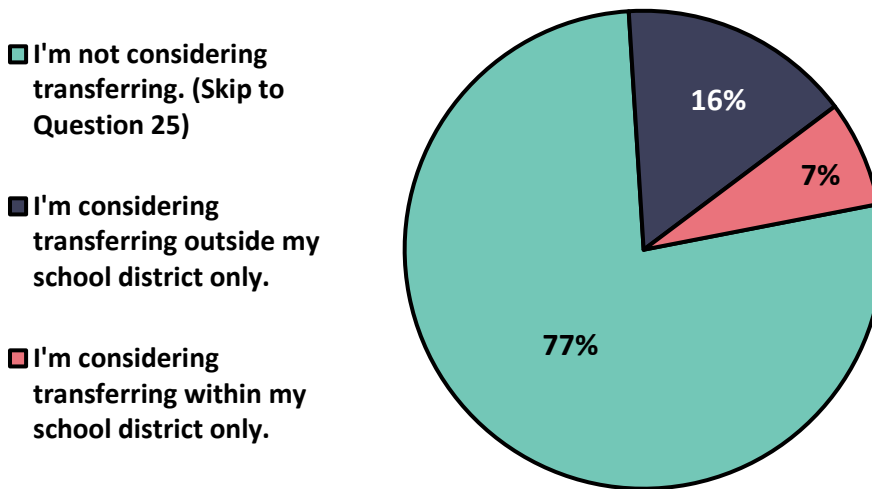
21. Did you borrow student loans to help pay for your education?



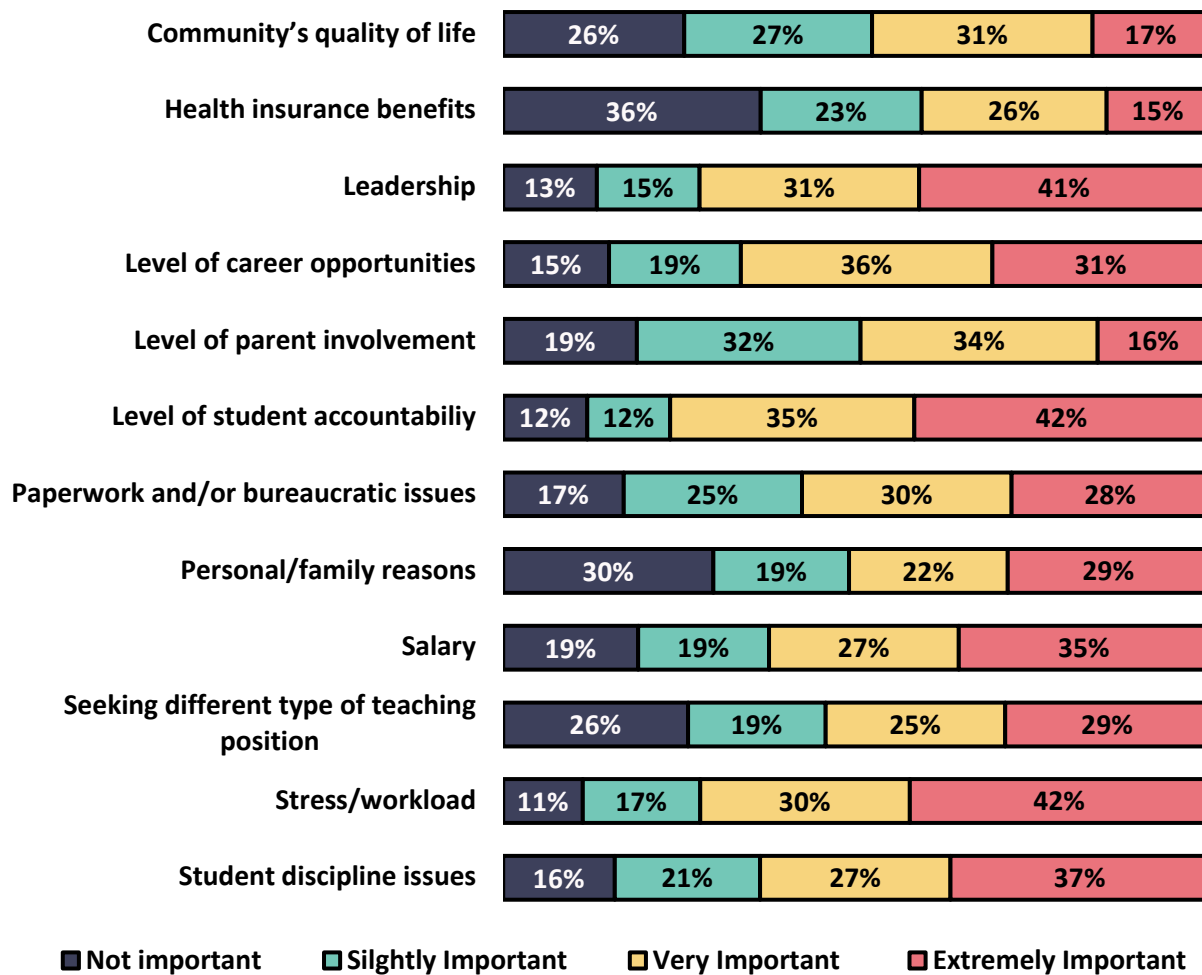
22. GENERAL EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION: Respondents were allowed to make comments about the preceding topic.

## CAREER/RETIREMENT

23. Please select the statement that best applies to your position on transferring. (If not considering transferring, skip to question 25.)

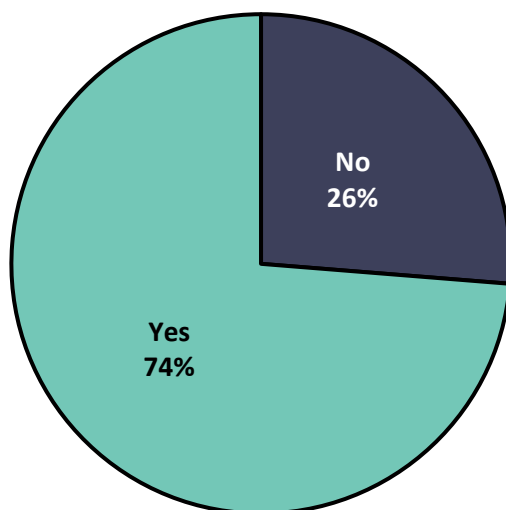


24. Please RATE the importance of the following options as to why you are currently considering transferring to another school or school district.\*



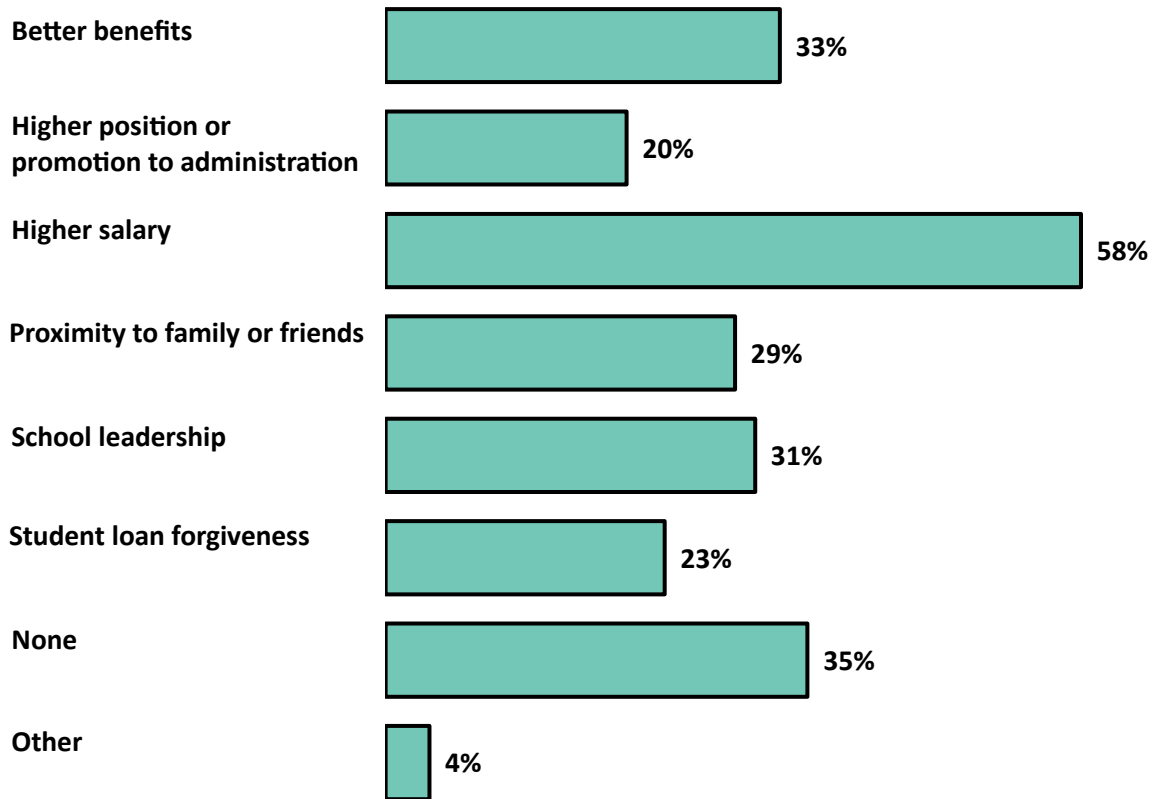
\* Responses from 1,108 teachers; 43 listed other reasons including

25. Do you work in a high-poverty or rural community? (If yes, skip to question 27.)



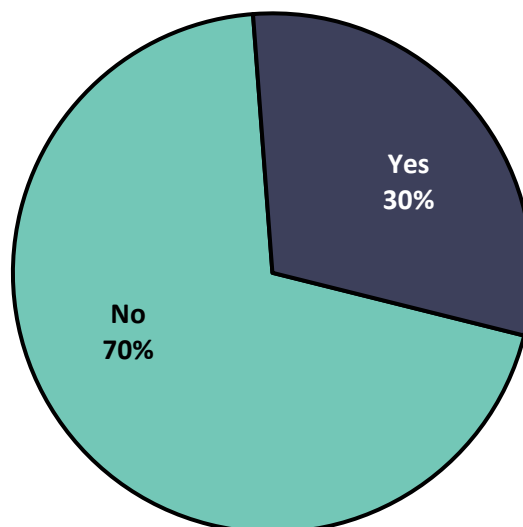


26. If no, under what conditions, if any, would you be willing to relocate to teach at a school in a high poverty or rural community?\*

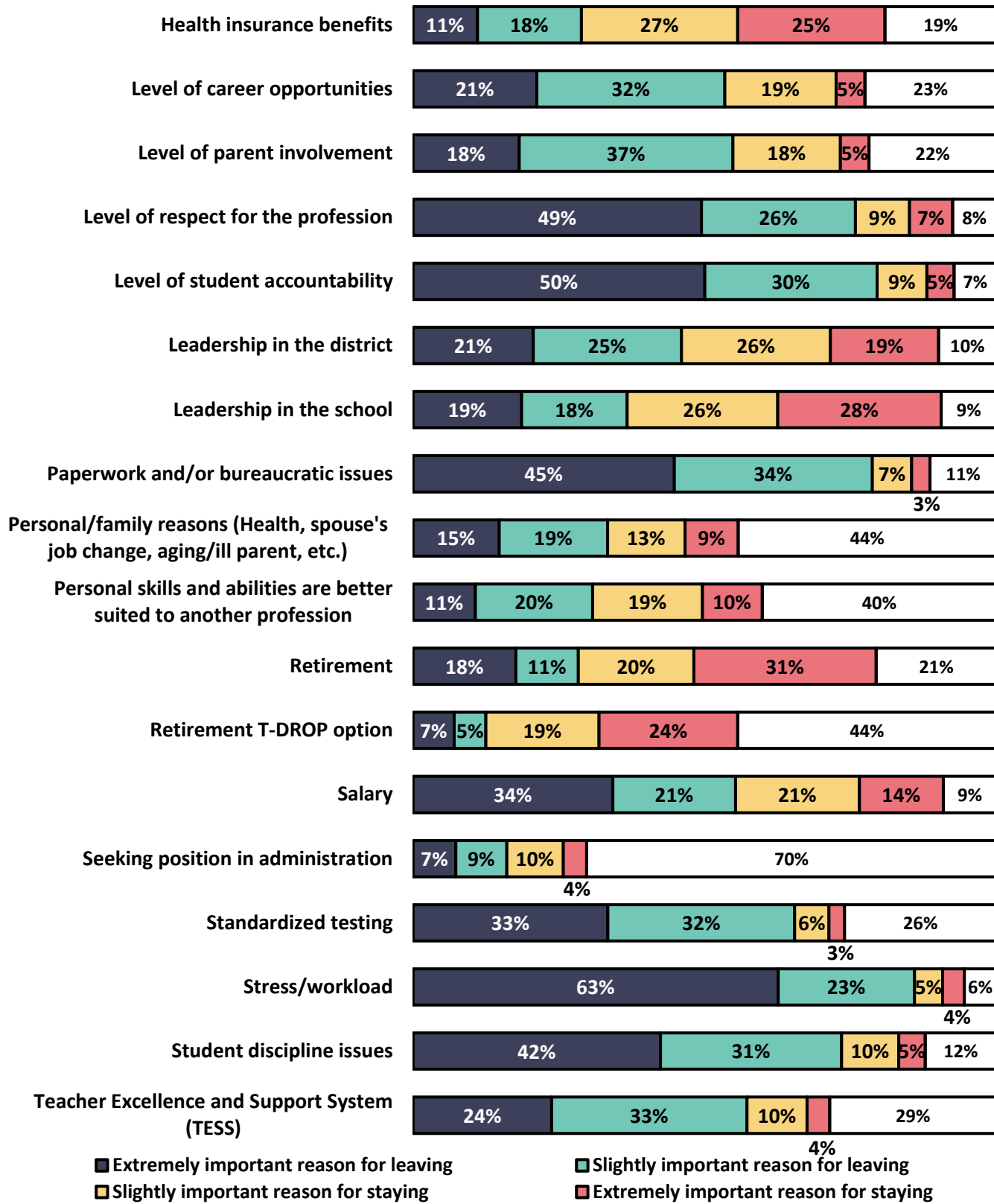


\* Multiple responses from 1,269 teachers

27. Are you currently considering leaving the profession? (If no, skip to question 29.)

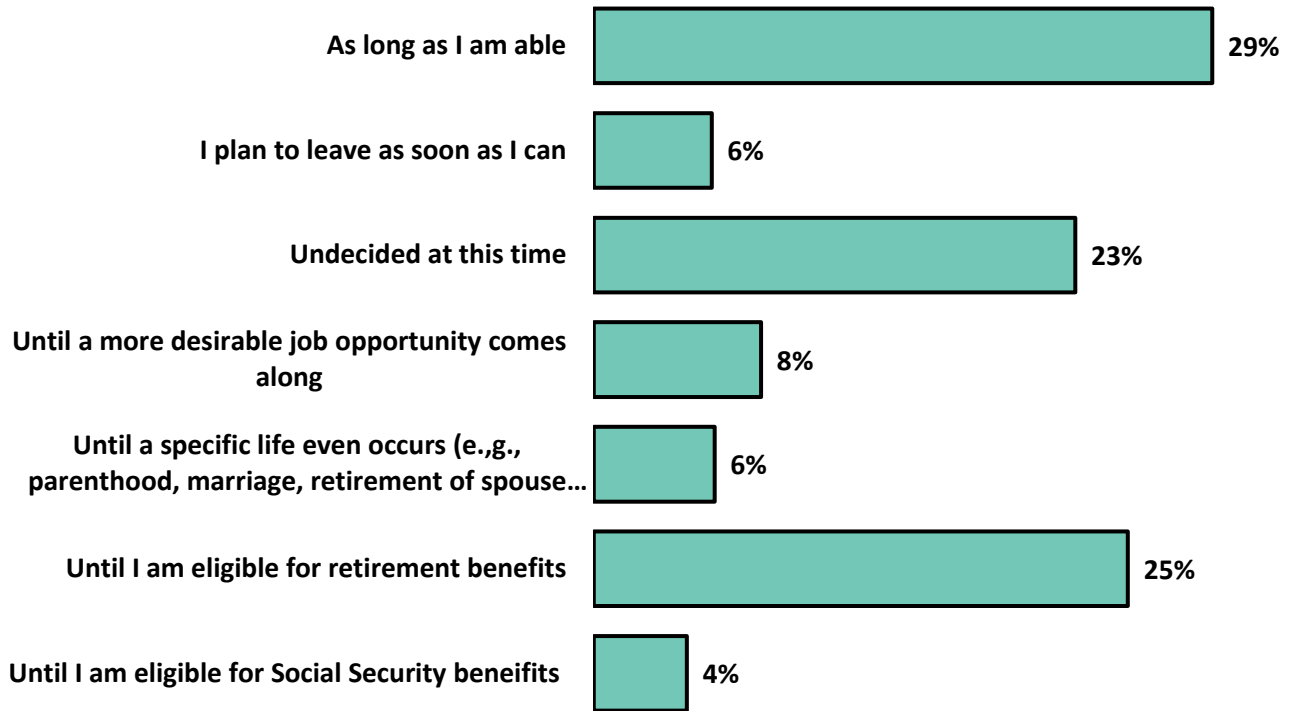


28. Please RATE how the following options influence your current considerations for leaving the teaching profession.

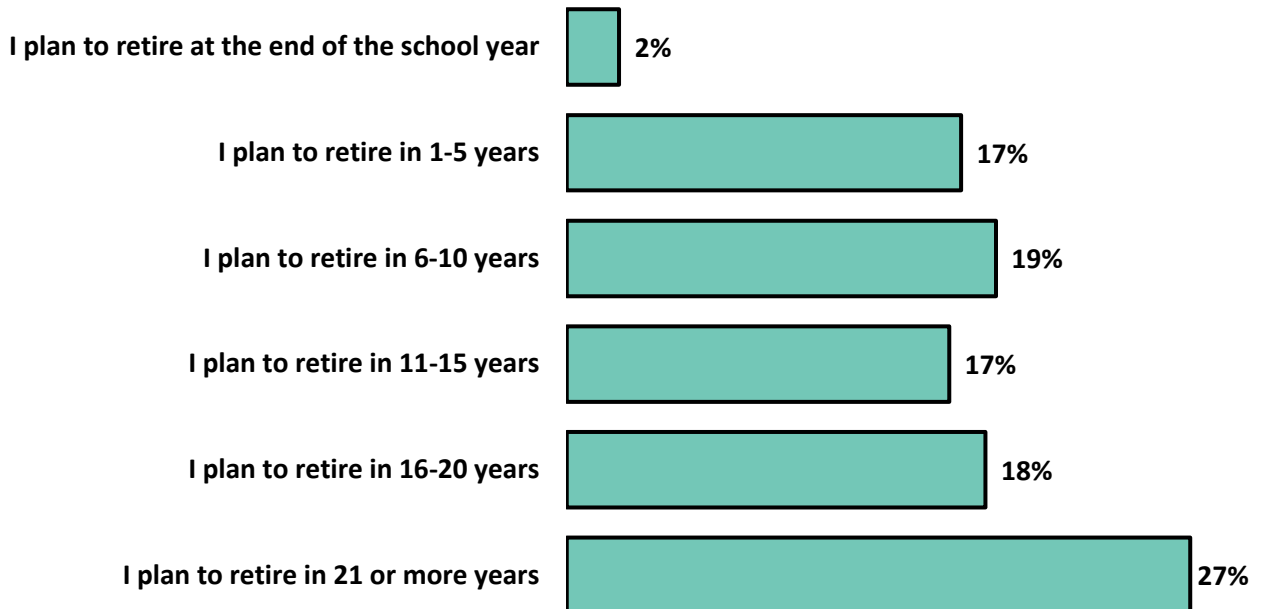


\* 1,453 teachers responding

29. Which statement best describes how long you plan to keep teaching?



30. Which statement best applies to when you plan to retire?

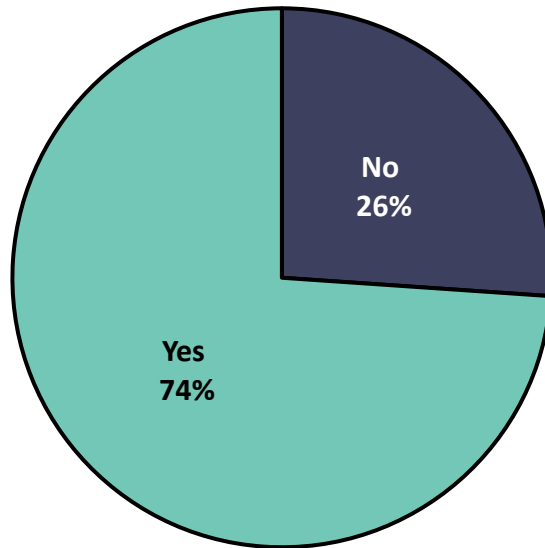


\* 1,453 teachers responding

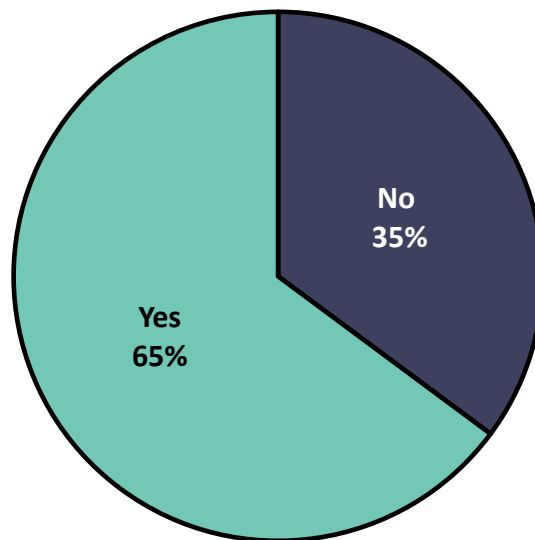
31. CAREER/RETIREMENT: Respondents were allowed to make comments about the preceding topic.

## EVALUATION AND SUPPORT

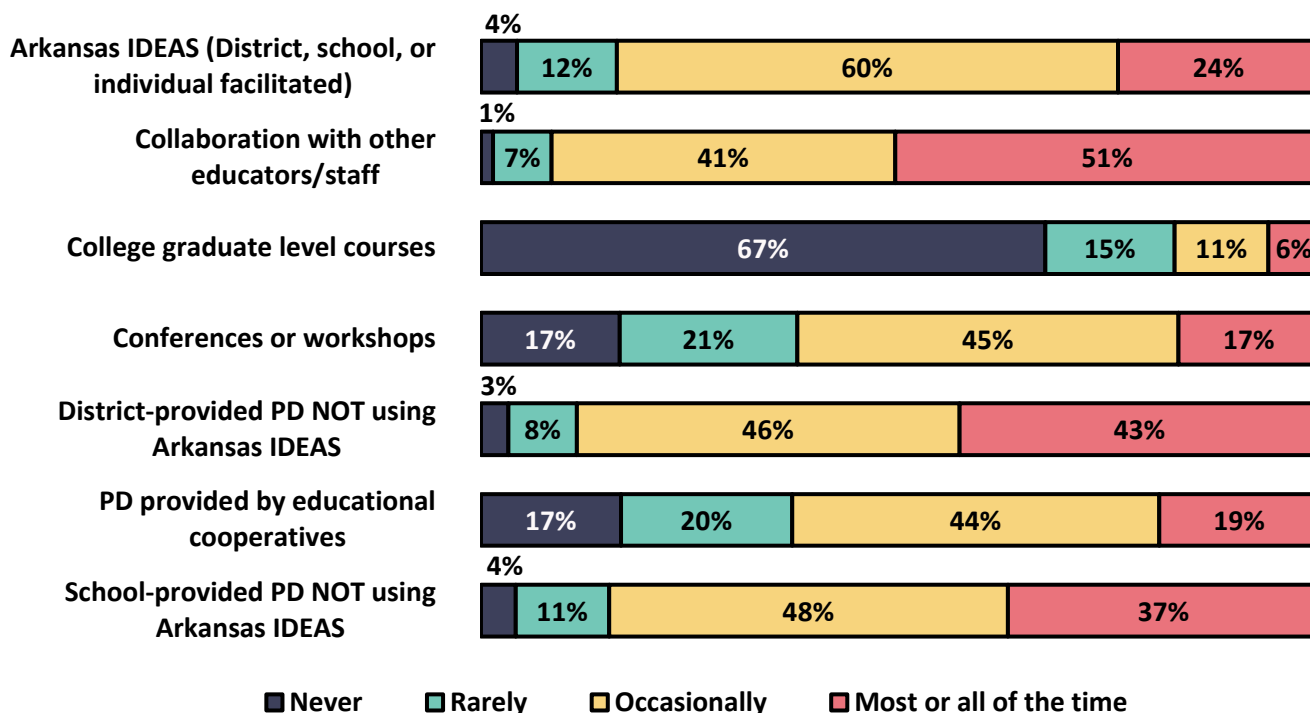
32. Do you believe that teachers in your school are **evaluated fairly**?



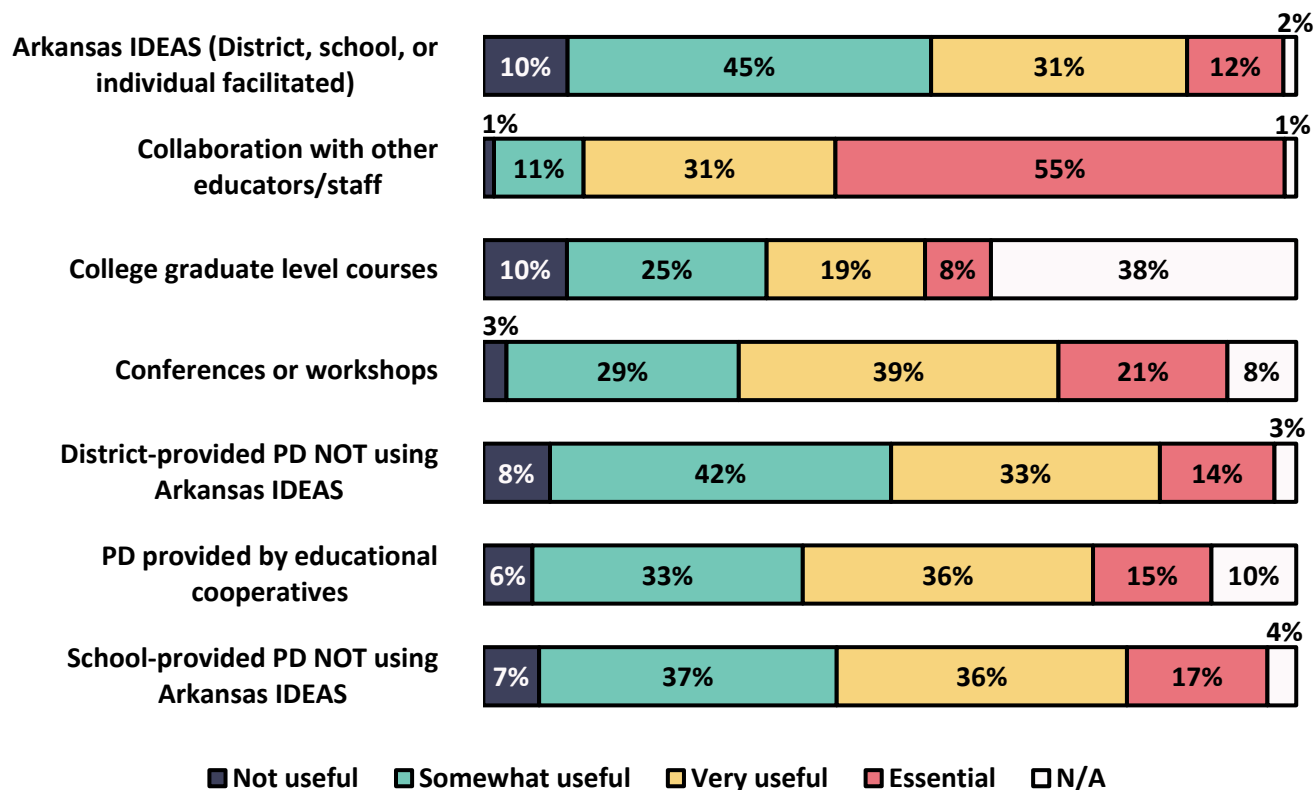
33. Do you believe that teachers in your school are **evaluated consistently**?



34. During the 2024-25 school year, how often did you receive professional development provided by the following options:



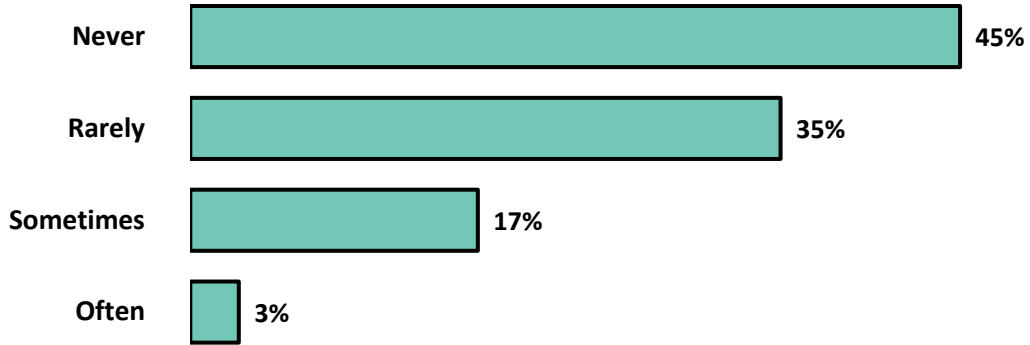
35. Please RATE the usefulness of each form of professional development in terms of enhancing your teaching and knowledge.



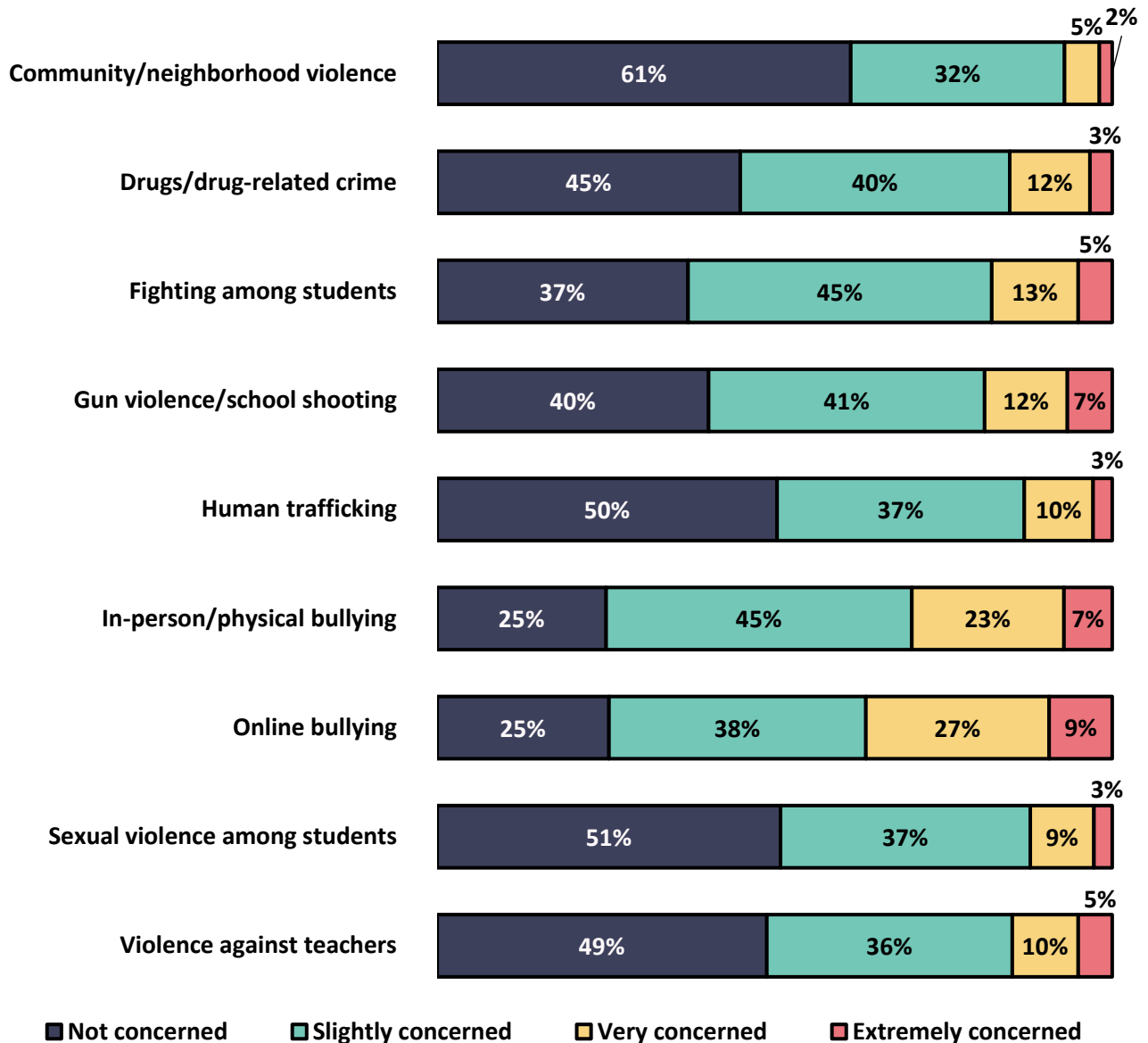
36. EVALUATION AND SUPPORT: Respondents were allowed to make comments about the preceding topic.

## SCHOOL SAFETY

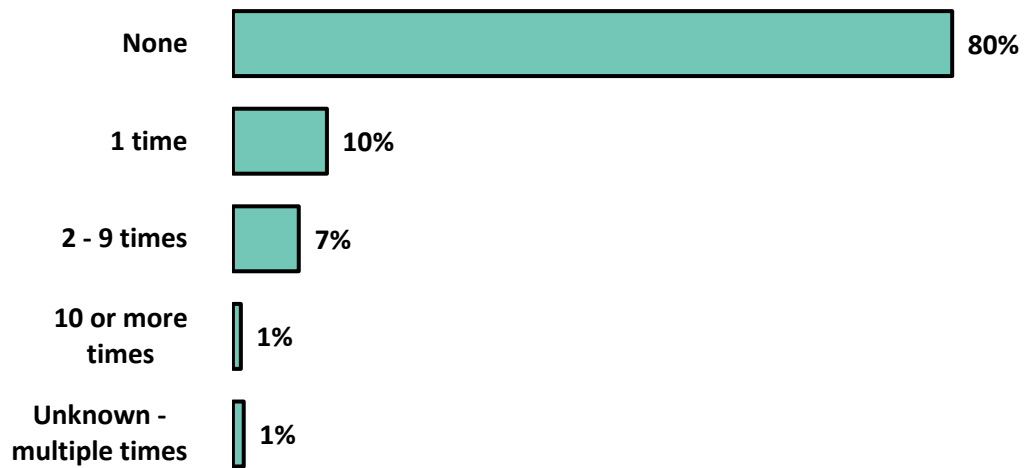
37. When you are at school, how often do you fear for your own physical safety?



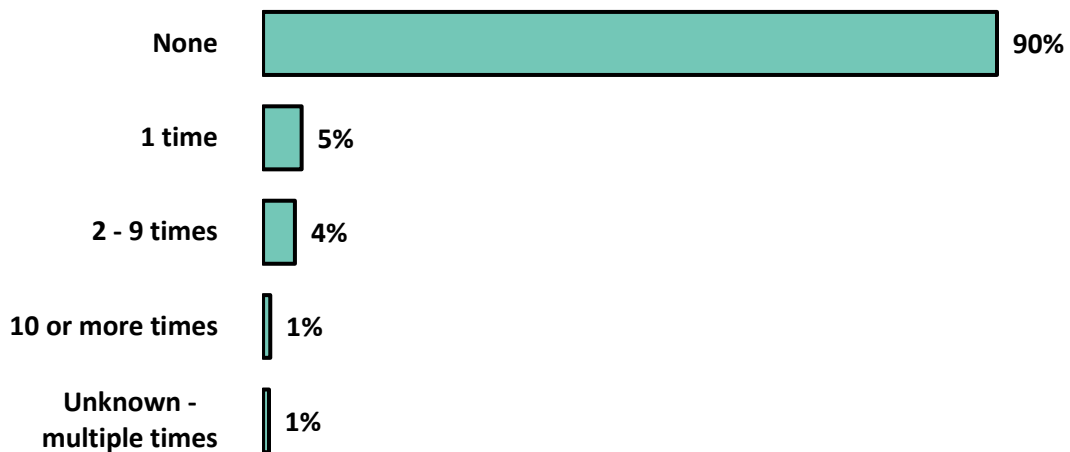
38. Please RATE the extent to which you are concerned with the following safety issues.



39. How many times has a student from this school **threatened** to injure you in the past 12 months?



40. How many times has a student from this school **physically attacked** you in the past 12 months?



41. **SCHOOL SAFETY:** Respondents were allowed to make comments about the preceding topic.

## COMMENTS

42. Finally, please provide any comments you would like to make to legislators that would help them in making decisions about improving the teaching environment or student achievement.

Respondents were allowed to make overall comments.