1

Becoming a Teacher

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TEACHERS, SCHOOLS, AND SOCIETY
TENTH EDITION
## 1.1 BECOMING A TEACHER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Good News</th>
<th>The Bad News</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improved salary</td>
<td>Salary still behind other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>professions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognized worth</td>
<td>Status inferior to other professions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excitement of working with youth</td>
<td>Little contact with adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student appreciation</td>
<td>Little recognition from adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual stimulation</td>
<td>Repetition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creativity</td>
<td>Routine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making a difference</td>
<td>Loss of idealism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### WHY BECOME A TEACHER?

#### Student-Generated Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITIVE</th>
<th>NEGATIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### 1.3 WHY TEACH?

![Figure 1.1](image_url)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons Teachers Teach</th>
<th>Teachers Agreeing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desire to work with young people</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value or significance of education to society</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest in subject-matter field</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of teacher in elementary or secondary school</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Influence of family</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WHERE TEACHERS TEACH

Figure 1.2

Where Teachers Teach

- 26% Rural
- 31% City
- 19% Suburb

Figure 1.3

PUBLIC TRUST IN VARIOUS PROFESSIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctors</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientists</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police officers</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military officers</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judges</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TV newscasters</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalists</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyers</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOURCE: Statistics from The Harris Poll #61, August 8, 2006.
NEW TEACHER SATISFACTION

Percent of Teachers Who Say

- Teaching is work they love to do: 96%
- Teaching is a life-long choice: 75%
- They get a lot of satisfaction out of teaching: 68%
- They would choose teaching again if starting over: 60%
- They fell into teaching by chance: 12%

ESSENTIAL TO TEACH...

• Lifelong learning and update skills
• Kids to be active learners
• Hold high expectations
• Know content
• Versed in child development
• With limited resources or if kids are not ready to learn
• Trained in pragmatic issues (time and behavior management)
• Maintain order and discipline
• Stress correct grammar, spelling, punctuation
• Expect students to be neat, on time, and polite

### Number of Teachers Certified Through Alternate Routes

**Table**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number Certified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1985-86</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-91</td>
<td>5,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-95</td>
<td>6,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-01</td>
<td>20,355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>25,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-03</td>
<td>33,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-04</td>
<td>38,519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004-05</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>59,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>57,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>62,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>59,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Graph**

![Number of Teachers Certified Through Alternate Routes](image-url)

**Source:** Adapted from National Center for Education Information. Alternative Teacher Certification: A State-by-State Analysis 2010.
ASPECTS OF TEACHER PREPARATION CONSIDERED “VERY EFFECTIVE”

Aspects of Teacher Preparation Program Rated "Very Effective" - All Teachers

Discussion with fellow teachers: 75%
Actual teaching part of the program: 75%
Practical experiences of instructor: 71%
Assistance provided by mentors at the school: 66%
Working with other school district staff: 50%
Assistance provided by instructors: 46%
Knowledge and background of instructions: 44%
Education courses taken after beginning teaching: 44%
Learning materials provided by instructor: 44%
Lectures/learning sessions with experts in particular areas of teaching: 37%
Education courses before teaching in the program: 36%
On-going assessments of my progress in the program: 34%
Group study seminars/meetings: 31%
Working with college faculty in the school where I was teaching: 27%
Practical experiences of instructor: 25%
Working with other school district staff: 25%
On-going assessments of my progress in the program: 25%
Group study seminars/meetings: 20%
Knowledge and background of instructions: 16%
Lectures/learning sessions with experts in particular areas of teaching: 14%
Learning materials provided by instructor: 14%
Education courses before teaching in the program: 14%
Education courses taken after beginning teaching: 14%
Assistance provided by instructors: 14%
Assistance provided by mentors at the school: 14%
Actual teaching part of the program: 14%
Discussion with fellow teachers: 14%

SOURCE: Adapted from: Profile of Teachers in the U.S. 2011, National Center for Education Information.
1.10 THE PUBLIC’S VIEW ON WHO SHOULD BECOME A TEACHER

- High-achieving students should be recruited to teaching
- Encourage the brightest person they know to become a teacher
- Would like to have their child take up teaching

SOURCE: Phi Delta Kappan/Gallup poll in Phi Delta Kappan, September 2011.
COMPETENCE COMES WITH EXPERIENCE

1.11

Competition Comes with Experience

When Began Teaching

Now

Dealing with administrative hierarchy
Ability to manage time
Classroom discipline
Ability to motivate students
Dealing with fellow teachers
Classroom management
Organizing instruction
Ability to teach the subject matter

SOURCE: Adapted from: Profile of Teachers in the U.S. 2011, National Center for Education Information.

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CRITICAL SKILLS

Percentage of Teens Who Feel They Have Learned Critical Skills While in High School

- Problem solving: 77%
- Teamwork: 72%
- Learning to be creative: 71%
- Leadership: 61%
- Budgeting money: 32%