

2024 Tennessee Educator Survey Teacher Branch – Early Career

For teachers who indicate that they have 0, 1, 2, or 3 years' experience. Due to the time invariant nature of responses, individuals who answered in 2023 will skip this section.

This survey section asks teachers with three or fewer years' experience to reflect on their teacher preparation program. Please think about the college/university or other program that prepared you or is preparing you for your initial teaching license and answer the following.

TB_E01. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that each of the following aspects of your program prepared you for your current role.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
a. Coursework and program content (e.g., readings, lectures, projects) (Select one option)	1	2	3	4	5
b. Clinical experience and coaching/mentorship (e.g., student teaching, classroom observations, residency) (Select one option)	1	2	3	4	5

TB_E02. Please indicate the extent to which you felt prepared to complete the EdTPA by your college/university or other program. (Select one option)

- a. Not at all prepared
- b. A little prepared
- c. Somewhat prepared
- d. Prepared
- e. Very prepared
- f. Not Applicable

TB_E03. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that your college/university or other program prepared you for each of the following teaching competencies.

		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a.	Support all students' academic development	1	2	3	4
b.	Address students' learning difficulties	1	2	3	4
c.	Foster collaboration with families and colleagues	1	2	3	4
d.	Implement effective classroom management practices	1	2	3	4
e.	Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of content for the subject(s) I teach	1	2	3	4
f.	Practice content-specific pedagogy	1	2	3	4
g.	Effectively teach students how to read	1	2	3	4
h.	Identify and use high-quality instructional materials	1	2	3	4

TB_E04. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree that your college/university or other program prepared you for each of the following teaching competencies.

		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a.	Engage students in critical thinking	1	2	3	4
b.	Plan instruction that supports all students in meeting rigorous learning goals	1	2	3	4
C.	Differentiate instruction to support all students in meeting rigorous goals	1	2	3	4
d.	Use multiple assessment results to guide instructional decision making	1	2	3	4
e.	Engage students in using available technology in the learning process	1	2	3	4
f.	Adhere to the professional educator code of ethics	1	2	3	4
g.	Advocate for the needs of all my students	1	2	3	4
h.	Engage in ongoing professional learning	1	2	3	4
i.	Incorporate the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion in professional practice	1	2	3	4
j.	Use trauma-informed practices to support students' needs	1	2	3	4

TB E05. To what extent do you agree that you would recommend your college/university or other preparation program to someone who was considering entering teaching? (Select one option)

- a. Strongly Disagree
- b. Disagree
- c. Agree
- d. Strongly Agree

TB_E06. Which of the following did you have in the first year of teaching? [RANDOMIZE] (Select all that apply)

- a. Formal teacher mentor assigned by school or district leadership
- b. New teacher peer/reflection group
- c. Assistance in preparing for my observations
- d. Instructional coaching or professional development targeted to my needs
- e. Tuition support for ongoing education
- f. Financial support for teaching in a high needs area (e.g., science, math, special education)
- g. None of the above

TB_E07. Did you have a formal mentor assigned by your school or district this school year (2023-24)?

- a. Yes
- b. No

TB_E08. [Asked if answer to previous question = Yes] Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements about your mentor this school year.

		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a.	I felt comfortable going to my mentor for help. (Select one option)	1	2	3	4
b.	My mentor provided me with regular feedback on my teaching. (Select one option)	1	2	3	4
C.	Feedback from my mentor was useful in improving my practice. (Select one option)	1	2	3	4

TB E09. Which of the following best describes your path to becoming a teacher? (Select one option)

- a. I have wanted to be a teacher since I was young (before high school).
- b. I started thinking about becoming a teacher while in high school.
- c. I decided to enter an educator preparation program after starting college.
- d. I decided to enroll in a teaching certification program after receiving a degree in another field of study.
- e. I previously worked in another field; teaching was a career change for me.

TB_E10. Think about what motivated you to enter teaching. Please choose your top reason(s) for deciding to become a teacher. [RANDOMIZE] [Select up to three]

- a. I was motivated by family members who are/were teachers.
- b. I had positive experiences with teachers/school that motivated me to teach.
- c. I wanted to teach because I enjoy working with kids in other settings (i.e., coaching, tutoring, volunteering, etc.).
- d. I previously worked in a school setting.
- e. I was encouraged by an advisor/mentor or recruited to enroll in an educator preparation program.
- f. I wanted to give back to/fill a need in the community.
- g. I wanted to share my passion for my subject/content area.
- h. I was motivated to work with a particular student group (i.e., students with disabilities, ELL students, low-income students, etc.).
- i. Teaching was the best option for me due to family/life circumstances.

TB E11. Did you do any portion of your student teaching experience in the district in which you currently work? (Select one option)

- a. No 0
- b. Yes, some of my student teaching experience—1
- c. Yes, all of my student teaching experience 2
- d. I did not complete a student teaching experience. 3