

Appendix table 1-21

**Professional commitment of public middle and high school teachers, by teachers' perceptions of working conditions:
Academic year 2003–04**

(Percent)

Teacher perception of working conditions	I plan to remain in teaching as long as I am able			If I could start over, I would certainly become a teacher again		
	Mathematics	Science	Other	Mathematics	Science	Other
<i>Principal lets staff know expectations</i>						
Yes	47.9	46.3	46.6	46.4	37.3	44.0
No	28.6	31.0	36.4	24.2	42.3	37.2
<i>Administration is supportive and encouraging</i>						
Yes	48.2	45.2	47.9	48.8	40.1	45.2
No	21.8	26.8	32.0	20.2	22.2	30.6
<i>I am satisfied with my teaching salary</i>						
Yes	50.2	43.8	52.5	59.8	51.3	58.9
No	30.7	35.1	33.5	28.3	22.9	27.4
<i>I received a great deal of support from parents</i>						
Yes	57.5	51.2	53.8	58.3	44.3	53.4
No	31.1	37.9	36.7	27.4	26.2	34.6
<i>Necessary instructional materials are available</i>						
Yes	45.7	40.4	45.1	47.5	36.6	45.0
No	41.3	42.4	41.8	36.4	28.7	33.0
<i>Principal enforces school rules</i>						
Yes	48.3	47.6	48.6	49.8	37.9	45.1
No	24.3	37.0	38.8	20.9	21.9	32.5
<i>There is a great deal of cooperative effort among staff</i>						
Yes	48.1	45.2	49.2	46.0	40.3	45.1
No	18.5	29.7	33.0	20.2	20.0	32.6
<i>Staff are recognized for job well done</i>						
Yes	52.2	46.3	51.9	52.0	42.3	48.8
No	22.1	35.8	31.5	20.9	19.0	31.4
<i>I am satisfied with being a teacher at this school</i>						
Yes	51.5	52.0	51.3	54.5	45.8	50.8
No	26.8	28.9	26.5	24.1	16.8	30.9
<i>Student tardiness is a serious problem</i>						
Yes	38.2	43.0	38.4	37.4	30.0	37.6
No	48.8	42.2	46.0	53.4	47.0	44.0
<i>Student absenteeism is a serious problem</i>						
Yes	39.2	41.0	38.4	38.4	27.9	37.6
No	51.2	52.2	47.6	56.2	49.4	43.6
<i>Student class cutting is a serious problem</i>						
Yes	35.7	39.6	40.2	35.7	25.0	37.7
No	43.5	40.1	44.8	44.5	35.8	44.5
<i>Students dropping out is a serious problem</i>						
Yes	41.0	37.3	41.0	41.8	22.5	36.7
No	44.2	39.6	43.1	44.0	35.2	42.0
<i>Student apathy is a serious problem</i>						
Yes	36.1	37.9	35.6	33.4	29.7	31.6
No	55.6	50.8	50.9	59.5	50.7	47.4
<i>Students coming to school unprepared to learn is a serious problem</i>						
Yes	42.0	38.2	37.6	37.5	25.6	33.4
No	61.3	52.7	54.0	54.4	59.0	49.1

NOTES: Teachers asked about how long they planned to remain in teaching. Response categories included "as long as I am able," "until I am eligible for retirement," "will probably continue unless something better comes along," "definitely plan to leave teaching as soon as I can," and "undecided at this time." In addition, teachers asked whether they would become a teacher again if they could go back to college days and start over again. Response categories included "certainly," "probably," "chance about even for and against," "probably not," and "certainly not."

SOURCES: National Center for Education Statistics, Schools and Staffing Survey, 2003–04; and National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics, special tabulations.