

2015 ASPIRING EDUCATOR SURVEY REPORT UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

Approximately one-fourth of Delaware educators are considered “early career” educators, meaning they have five or fewer years of experience.¹ In the spring of 2015, the Delaware Department of Education administered for the first time ever an Aspiring Educator Survey. The survey was designed to learn more about the professional plans and preferences of aspiring teachers and recent graduates of educator preparation programs that have a history of preparing Delaware educators. 348 early career teachers (0-5 years teaching experience) responded to the survey. Respondents were current students or recent graduates from the following in-state institutions: University of Delaware (37%), Wilmington University (18%), Delaware State University (2%), and Wesley College (1%). Out-of-state institutions included Kutztown University, La Salle University, and West Virginia University.

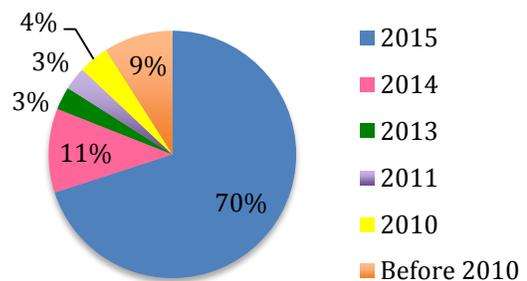
This report provides information specific to respondents from the University of Delaware. For results from the overall survey please see [The December 2015 Set: Where do Aspiring Educators Want to Work and Live?](#)²

Who Responded to the Survey from the University of Delaware?

Demographics

- 107 early career teachers (0-5 years of teaching experience)
- 89% female; 11% male
- 43% lived in Delaware before college
- 93% White/Caucasian
- 3% Black or African American
- 2% American Indian or Alaskan Native
- 2% Multiple ethnicity/other
- 1% Hispanic American

Graduation Year



¹ ‘The Set’: A Spotlight on Early Career Educators and Institutions of Higher Education
http://www.doe.k12.de.us/cms/lib09/DE01922744/Centricity/domain/271/the%20set/December_Set_2014.pdf

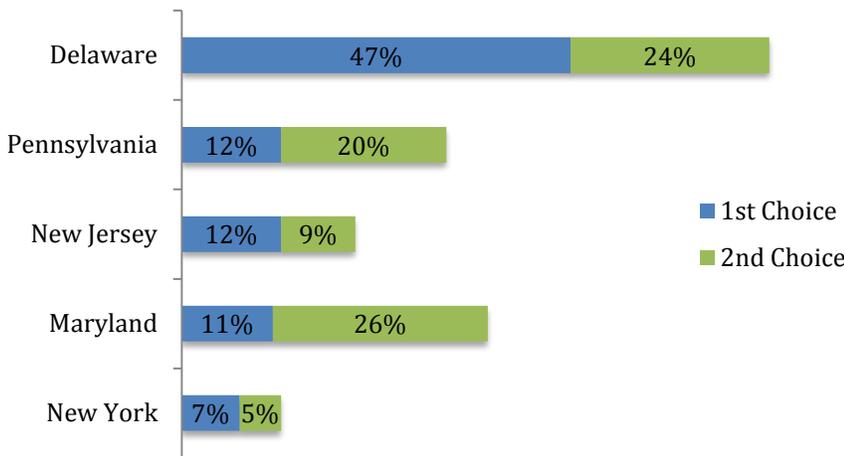
² ‘The Set’: Where do Aspiring Educators Want to Work and Live?
http://www.doe.k12.de.us/cms/lib09/DE01922744/Centricity/domain/37/the_set_monthly_data_briefs/The_December_2015_Set.pdf

Contact Shanna Ricketts at shanna.ricketts@doe.k12.de.us with questions or comments about this report.

Where do Aspiring Educators from the University of Delaware want to Work?

The top three states that respondents reported as their top choice teaching destinations were Delaware (47%), New Jersey (12%) and Pennsylvania (12%). 70% of the respondents who chose Delaware as their top choice destination lived in Delaware before college. Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania were the states respondents chose most often as their second choice destination for a teaching position.

Top Choice Teaching Destination



The top three reasons respondents chose for selecting their 1st and 2nd choice destinations were 1) “I have family and/or friends there (32%), 2) “I grew up there” (28%) and 3) “I did my student teaching there” (12%).

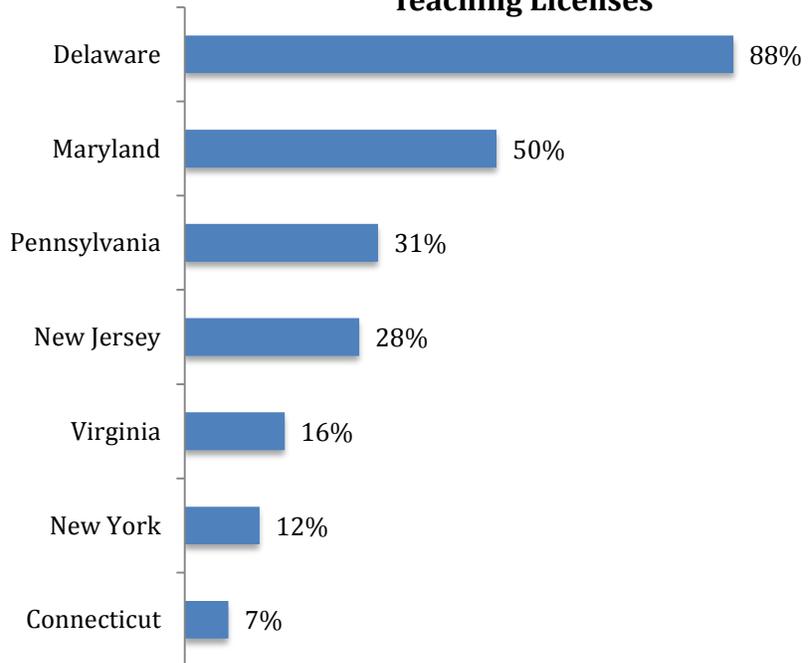
83% of respondents reported traditional public schools as their top choice school-type for a teaching position. 10% of respondents chose public

charter schools, 5% chose private schools, and 2% chose magnet school. No respondents chose boarding schools as their top choice school-type for a teaching position.

When asked which setting was their top choice for a teaching position, 80% of respondents chose suburban, 16% chose urban, and 4% chose rural.

34% of respondents were at least “moderately interested” in teaching in a school which is designated as high poverty.

States Respondents Intended to Apply For Teaching Licenses

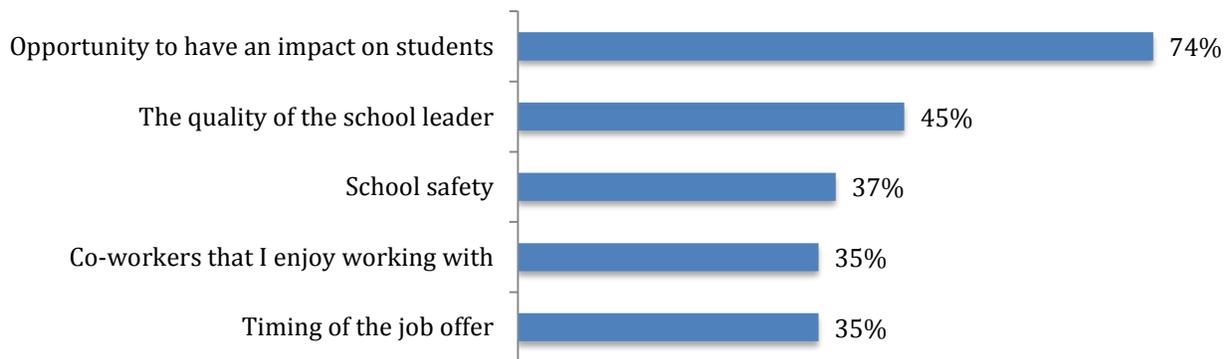


64% of respondents reported having a teaching license in at least one state. The states in which respondents reported having a teaching license were Delaware (35%), Pennsylvania (4%), Maryland (3%), New Jersey (3%), Massachusetts (1%), and New York (1%). Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Virginia were the states that the most respondents reported as being places where they intended to apply for teaching licenses.

What are the Most Important Factors for Aspiring Educators from the University of Delaware in Deciding to Accept a Teaching Position?

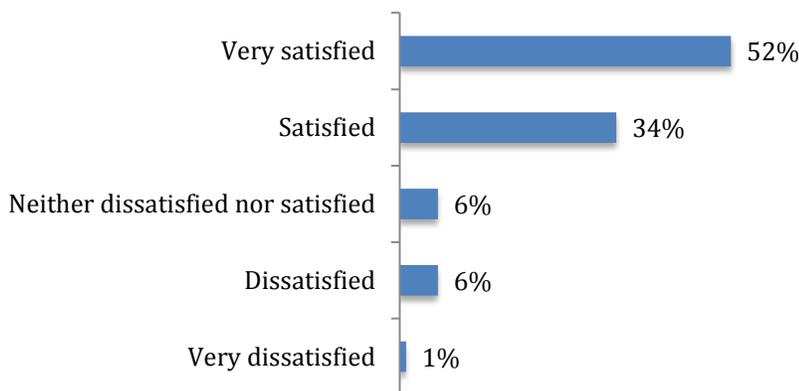
The top three factors that respondents rated as being “extremely important” in deciding to accept a teaching position were 1) “the opportunity to have an impact on students” (74%), 2) “the quality of the school leader” (45%), and 3) “school safety” (37%).

Factors Rated "Extremely Important" in Deciding to Accept a Teaching Position



How Satisfied are Aspiring Educators from the University of Delaware with their Student Teaching Experience?

Satisfaction with Student Teaching Experience



55% of respondents reported that they had completed their student teaching. 38% reported that they were currently doing their student teaching. 5% of respondents reported that they will start their student teaching later. Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and Florida were the states in which respondents reported doing their student teaching.

90% of respondents reported that they completed their student teaching in a traditional public school.

When asked which setting describes the setting of the school where they completed their student teaching, 61% of respondents reported suburban, 27% reported urban, and 12% reported rural.

The top three school districts that respondents reported as being the district where they completed their student teaching were Red Clay (24%), Appoquinimink (22%), and Colonial (18%).

52% of respondents reported their level of satisfaction with their overall student teaching experience as being “very satisfied”.

How do Aspiring Educators from the University of Delaware Learn about Employment Opportunities?

The top three districts respondents reported being in contact with about employment opportunities were Red Clay (38%), Appoquinimink (36%), and Colonial (36%).

The top five sources respondents cited using to learn about employment opportunities in education were online postings (78%), school district websites (77%), friends/family (76%), recruitment fairs (76%) and career services (58%).

37% of respondents reported being “extremely familiar” with how to get certified to teach in Delaware. 11% reported being “extremely familiar” with starting salaries in Delaware. 11% of respondents also reported being “extremely familiar” with professional development opportunities in Delaware. 8% of respondents reported being “extremely familiar” with incentive programs in Delaware.

