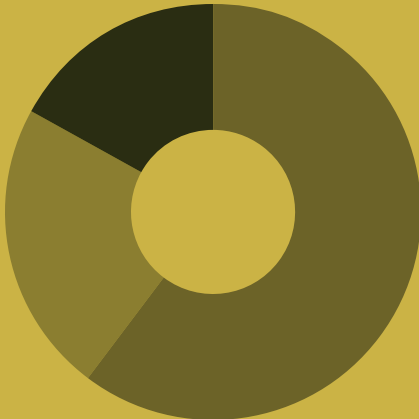


TENNESSEE DISTRICT LEADER SURVEY RESULTS

2016



146 surveys were administered in October 2016 via emailed survey, to all current Tennessee Directors of Schools.

68 (46.6%)^{+8.2%*} respondents answered the survey:

- 145 email addresses found
- 1 bounce-back
- 3 opt-out

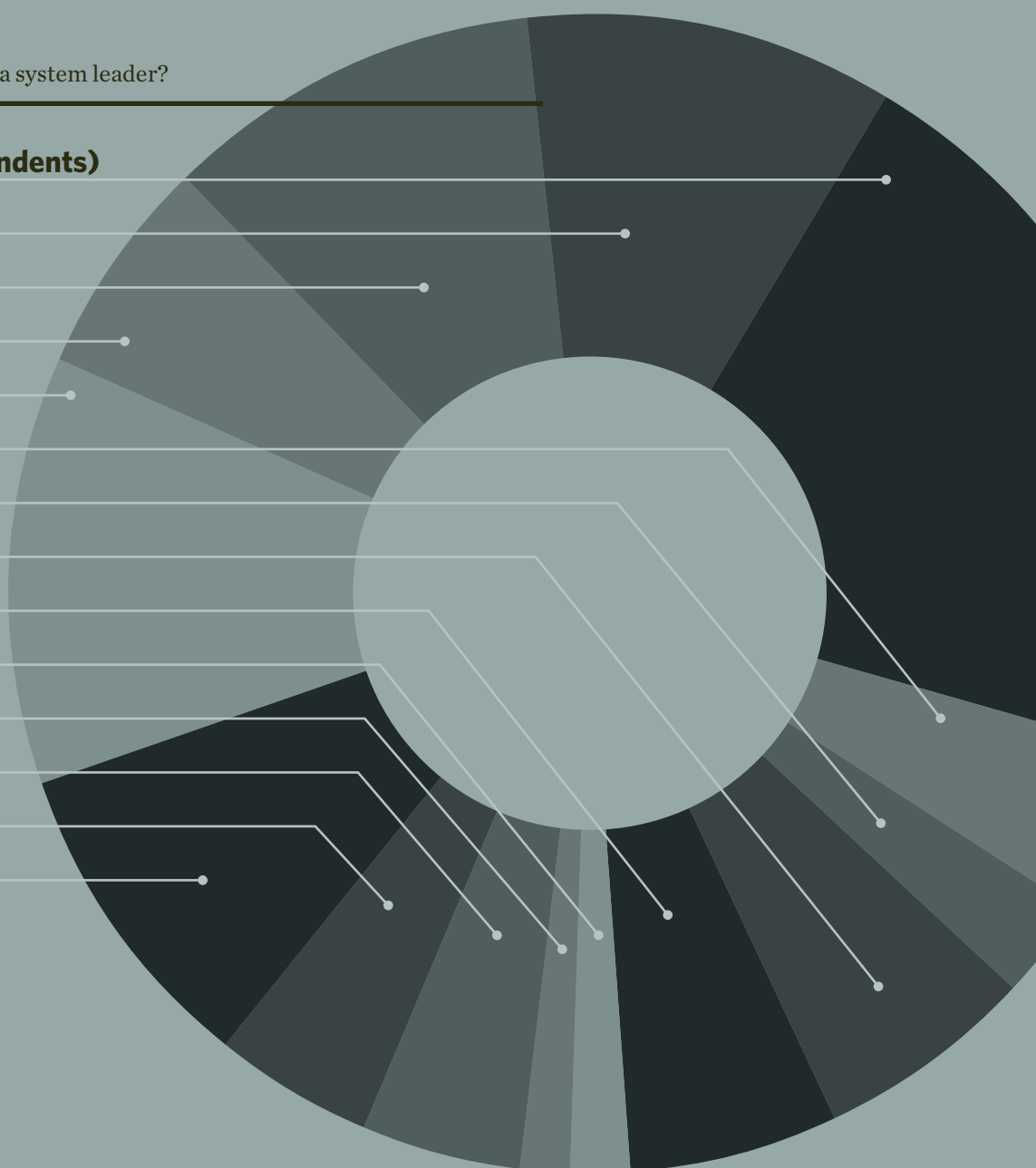
* +/- numbers show 2015 results, reflected as a percent increase or decrease year over year.

TAKEAWAYS

- We continue to engage a greater number of district leaders from across the state representing a diverse set of districts.
- More district leaders perceive the state of education in Tennessee is improving.
- Budget and Staffing continue to be the largest perceived impediments to student success.
- More district leaders believe they have sufficient resources to attract and retain quality teachers, yet continue to think those teachers do not have enough time in their day to meet student needs.
- 2016 saw a significant increase in district leaders that support removing class size restrictions.
- The vast majority of district leaders support an extended school year or day.
- We continue to see a significant number of district leaders that do not consider prior teacher or student performance in student assignment decisions.

DISTRICT LEADER SURVEY RESULTS

How many years have you been a system leader?



1	20.59% (14 respondents)
2	10.29% (7)
3	10.29% (7)
4	5.88% (4)
5	11.76% (8)
6	4.41% (3)
7	2.94% (2)
8	5.88% (4)
10	5.88% (4)
12	1.47% (1)
14	1.47% (1)
16	4.41% (3)
17	4.41% (3)
20+	8.82% (6)

No significant shift
distribution from 2015

DISTRICT LEADER SURVEY RESULTS

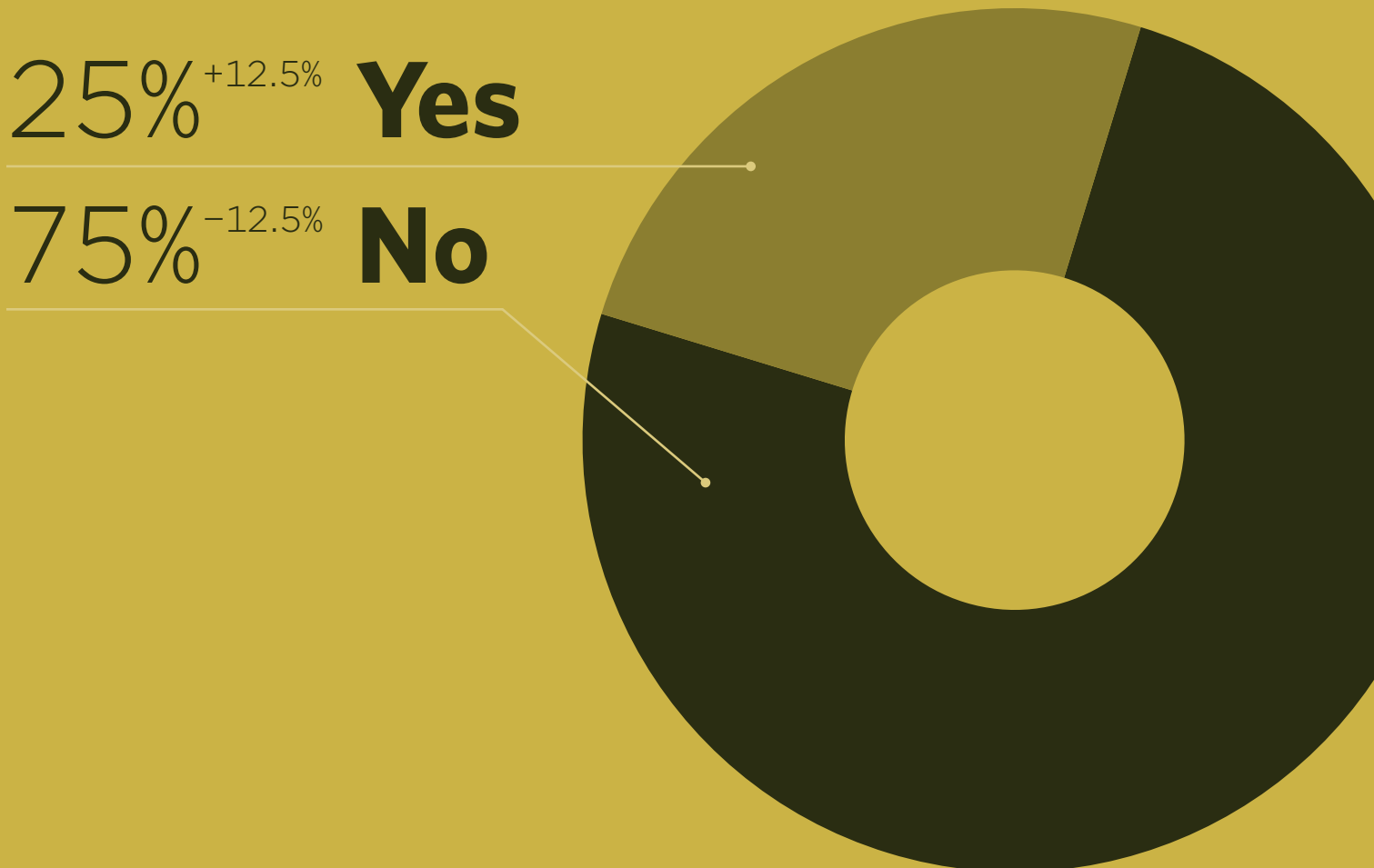
Have you been a classroom educator in the past?



Were you a school leader/principal before leading a district?

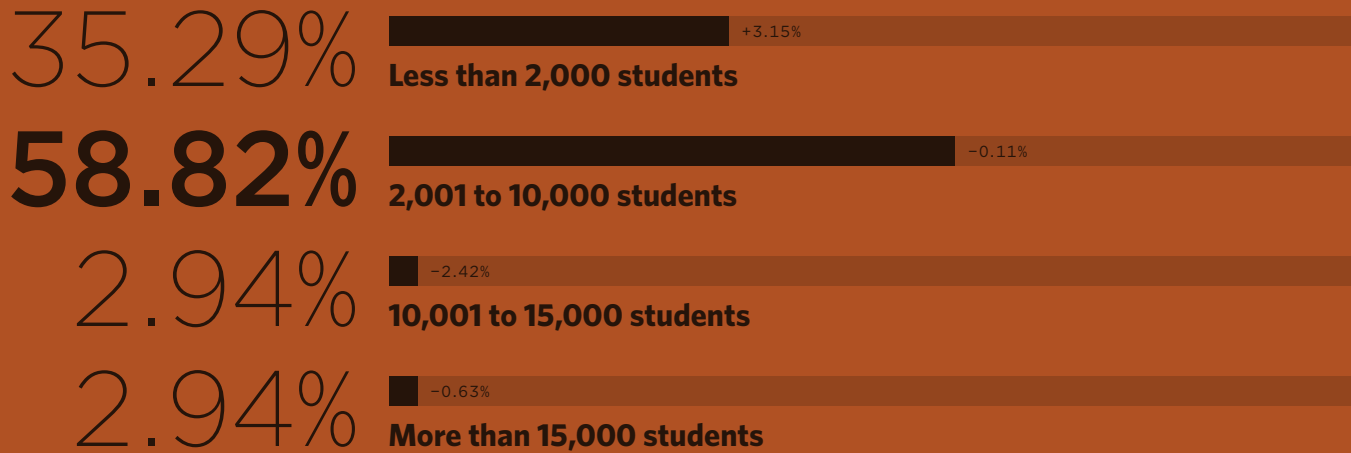


Have you ever lead a district other than the one you currently lead?

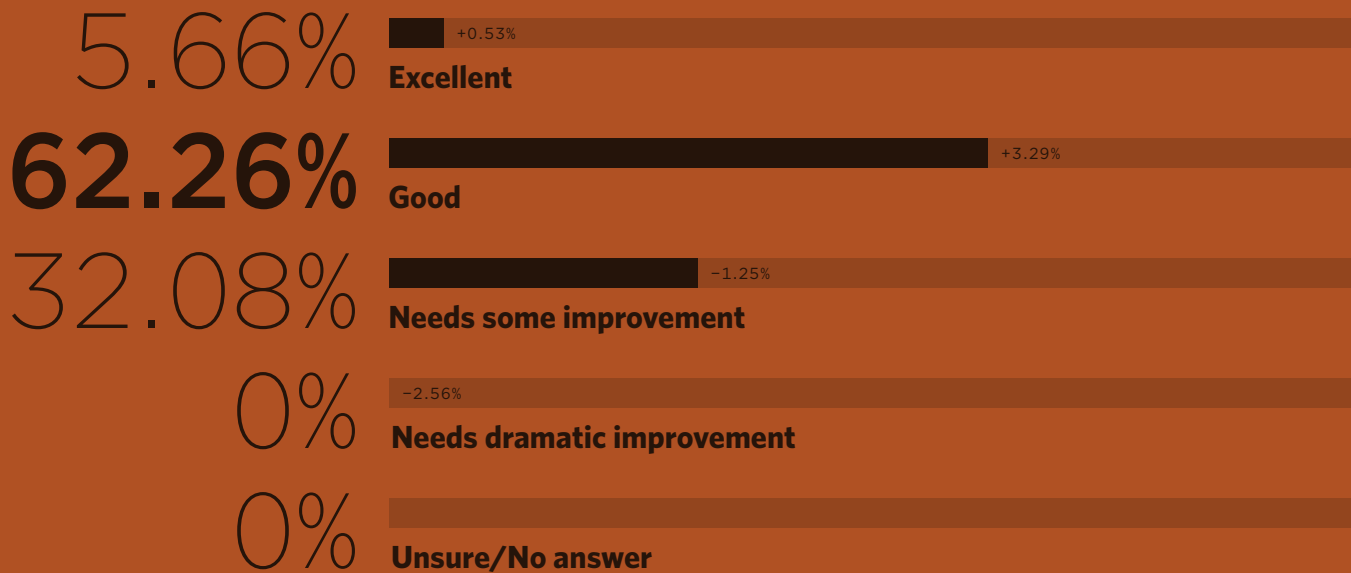


DISTRICT LEADER SURVEY RESULTS

What is the size of your district? How many students attend your district?

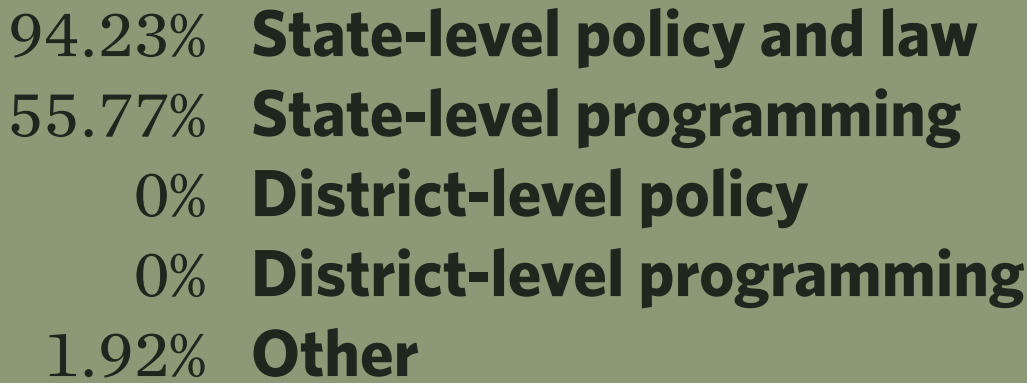


What is your perception of the state of education in Tennessee?



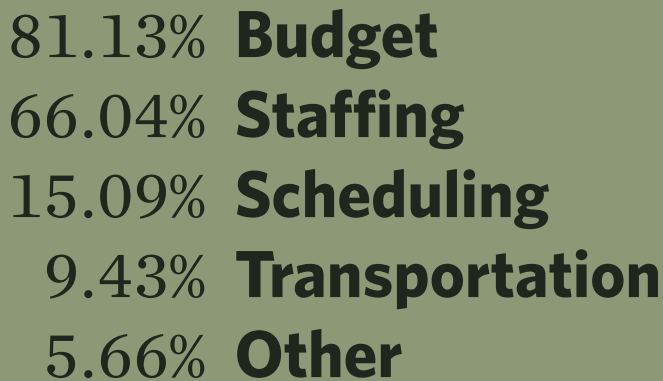
DISTRICT LEADER SURVEY RESULTS

What areas of work do you feel are outside of your influence? Choose all that apply.



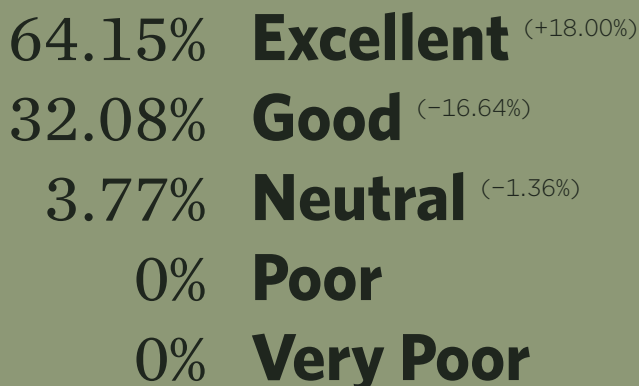
In 2015, this question was asked in an open-response format.

What limitations or constraints do you feel hinder your ability to reach the next level of success with students? Choose all that apply.



In 2015, this question was asked in an open-response format.

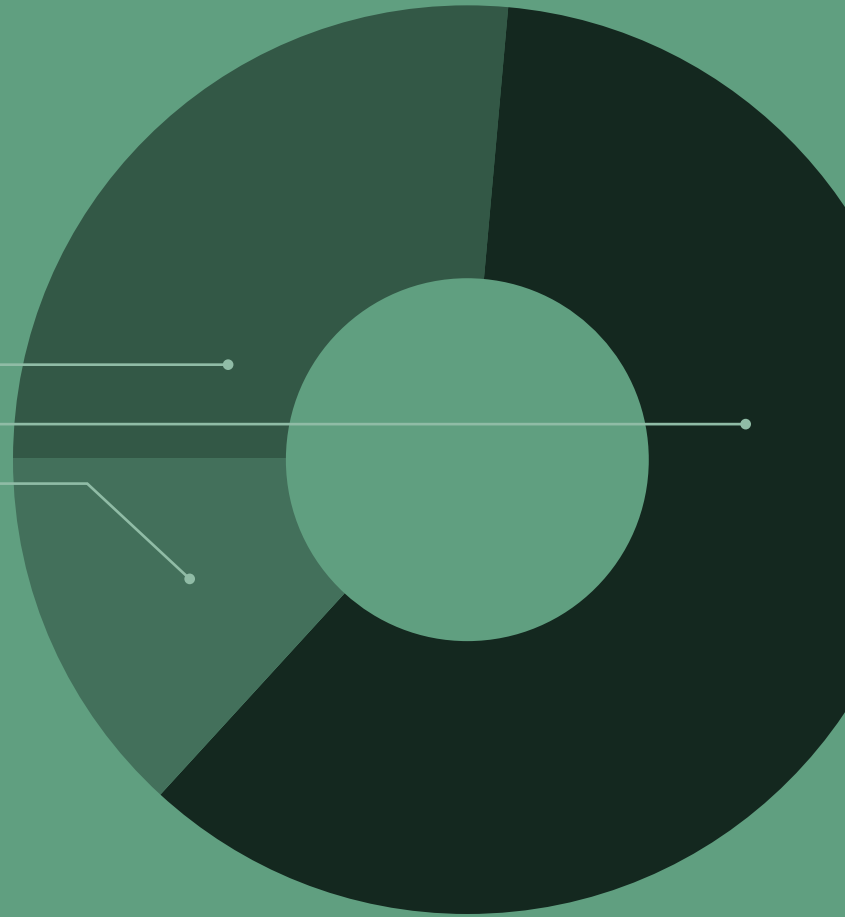
How would you describe your relationship with your school board?



DISTRICT LEADER SURVEY RESULTS

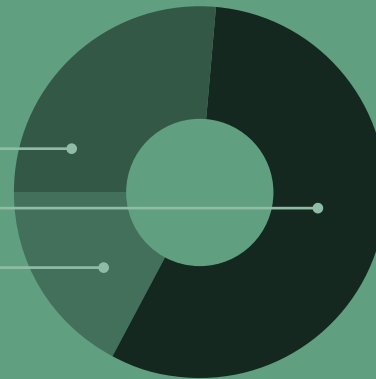
Do you have the resources and support from the state to attract and retain quality school leaders?

26.42% **Yes** (+8.47%)
60.38% **No** (+11.66%)
13.21% **Depends** (-20.12%)



Do you have the resources and support from the state to attract and retain quality teachers?

26.42% **Yes** (+23.86%)
56.60% **No** (-10.07%)
16.98% **Depends** (-13.79%)



Do you have the resources and support to build and maintain adequate facilities?

33.96% *Yes* (+13.45%) **vs.** **66.04%** *No* (-0.63%)

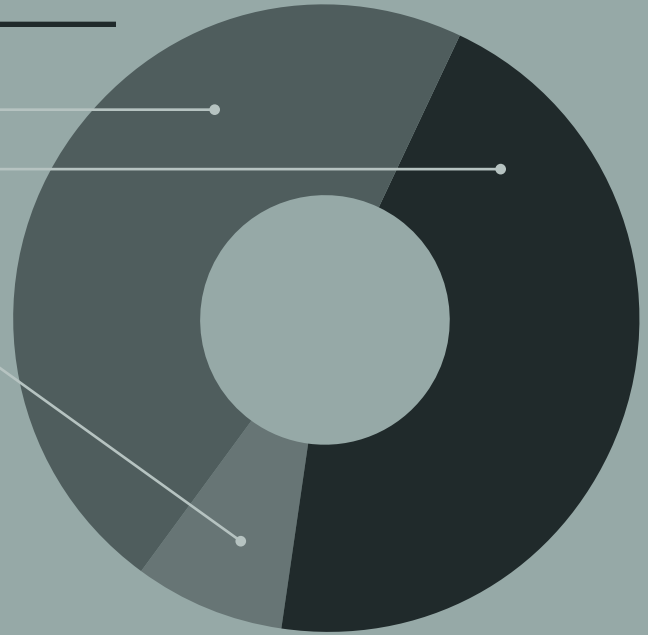
DISTRICT LEADER SURVEY RESULTS

True or False? Removing class-size mandates in order to receive more funding flexibility is a policy you would support?

47.17% **Yes** (+16.4%)

45.28% **No** (+1.69%)

7.55% **Depends** (-18.09%)



Do you agree or disagree: Teachers and schools have enough time in their day and school year to meet the needs of our students?

16.98%

Agree (-11.23%)

vs.

83.02%

Disagree (+11.23%)

DISTRICT LEADER SURVEY RESULTS

True or False? With additional resources and state support, you would adopt an extended school year or school day?

73.58%

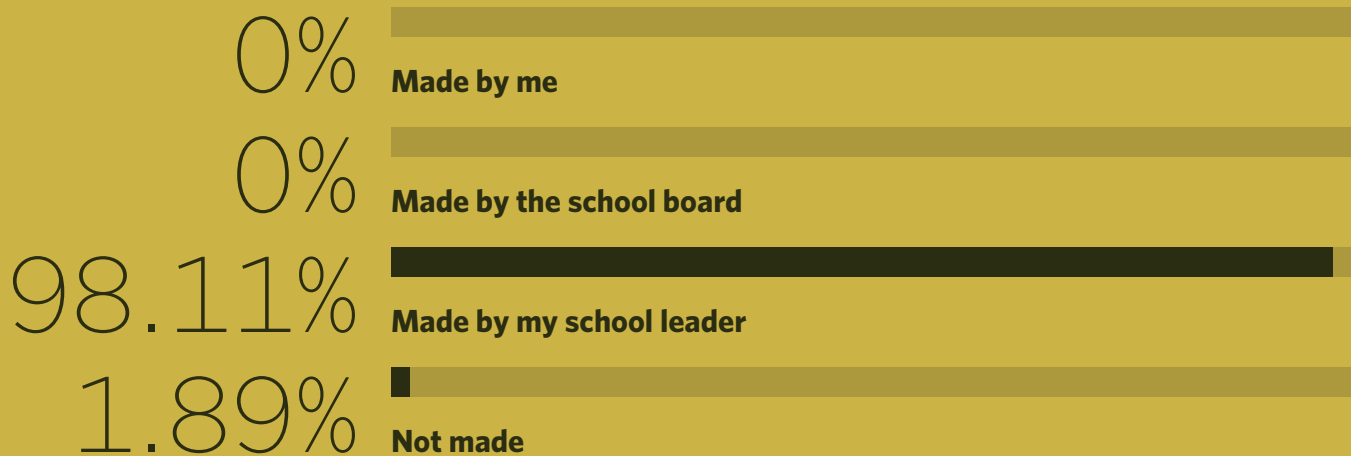
True (+1.79%)

vs.

26.42%

False (-1.79%)

Student assignment/placement decisions in my district are...



In 2015, this question was not asked.

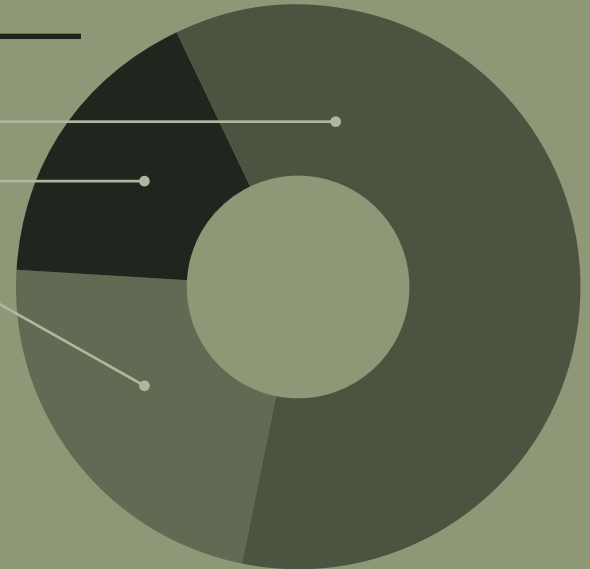
DISTRICT LEADER SURVEY RESULTS

When assigning students to classrooms, do you consider the effectiveness of the teacher/classroom the student had the previous year relative to the effectiveness of the teacher/classroom you would place the in for the coming year?

60.38% **Yes**

16.98% **No**

22.64% **Not Applicable**



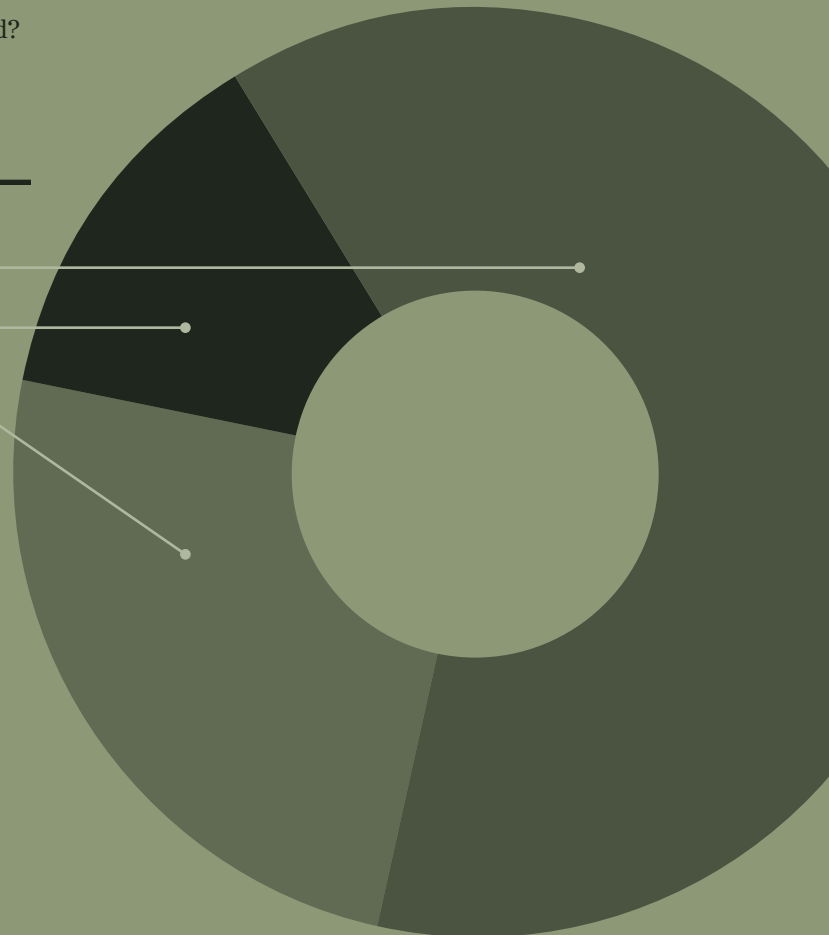
In 2015, this question was not asked.

Alternatively, when assigning students to classrooms, do you give consideration to the student's individual achievement levels from the previous year relative to the teacher/classroom performance where they will be assigned? (Ex. Student X is somewhat behind from the past year so they should be placed in one of your higher performing classrooms in the coming year).

62.26% **Yes**

13.21% **No**

24.53% **Other**



In 2015, this question was not asked.

DISTRICT LEADER SURVEY RESULTS

How often do you contact elected officials?

Never

3.77%
(+3.77%)



Once or twice a year

24.53%
(-6.24%)



Once a month

41.51%
(+18.43%)



Multiple times per month

30.19%
(-15.96%)



About TennesseeCAN

TennesseeCAN: The Tennessee Campaign for Achievement Now, formerly StudentsFirst Tennessee, has been active in Tennessee since 2011. We are a nonprofit education organization that advocates to ensure every Tennessee student has access to a high-quality education through great teachers and great schools. We work to advance policies and programs that prioritize positive impacts for students statewide—especially those with the greatest needs.

More information is available at tn-can.org

For more detailed survey information, including data from open-ended responses, or for other inquiries please contact Daniel Zavala, Deputy Director, at [*daniel.zavala@tn-can.org*](mailto:daniel.zavala@tn-can.org).