OVERVIEW

Teacher Workforce Profile in South Carolina for 2021-2022

AUGUST 2023

An annual review of South Carolina's teacher workforce provides insight on data trends across a variety of factors. Utilizing statewide educational data from the 2021-2022 academic year, this report draws comparisons between South Carolina's teacher workforce and nationwide figures. Closer to home, this report provides a longitudinal view of state trends by comparing 2021-2022 teacher workforce characteristics with results from the 2020-2021 SC TEACHER workforce profile report.

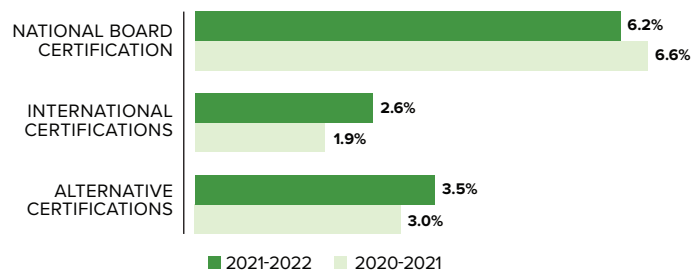
To learn more, access the report at sc-teacher.org/workforce-profile-2021-2022

EXPERIENCE, CERTIFICATIONS, AND DEGREES

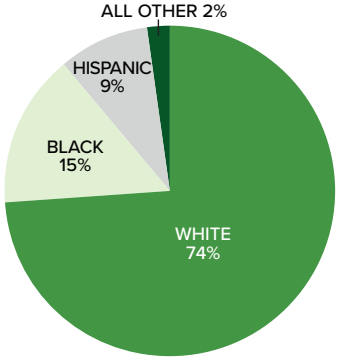
The average years of teaching experience decreased by nearly one year. The percentage of teachers who possess alternative (+0.5%) and international (+0.7%) certifications both increased over the course of one year, and the percentage of teachers with National Board Certification (-0.4%) decreased in the same period.

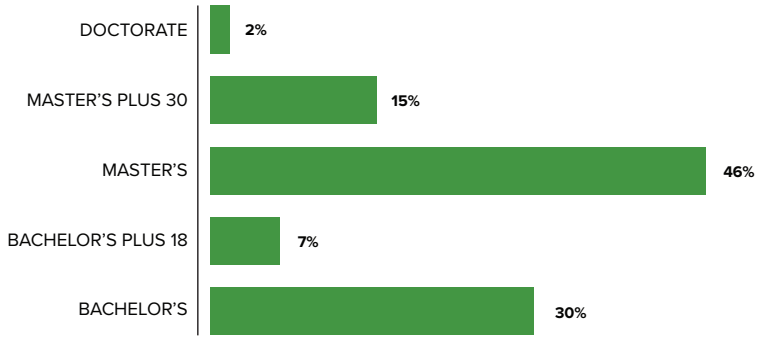
2020-2021
AVERAGE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
14.1 YEARS

2021-2022
AVERAGE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
13.2 YEARS



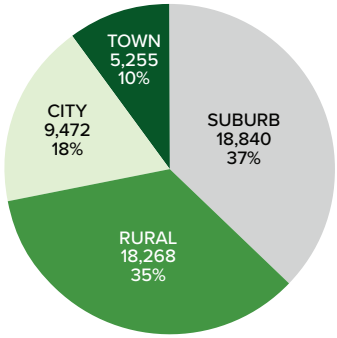
While the SC teacher workforce mirrors teachers in the United States in many ways, two key differences stand out. Black teachers comprise a larger percentage of SC teachers (15%) than nationwide (6%). More than 6 in 10 teachers (63%) in SC schools in the 2021-2022 school year had at least a postbaccalaureate degree.

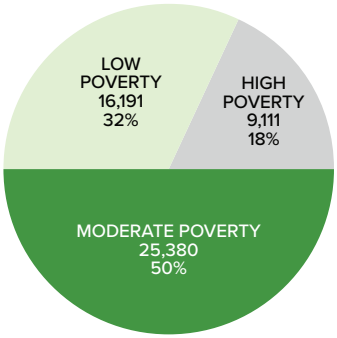




COMMUNITY TYPE AND POVERTY LEVELS

Nearly 3 out of 4 teachers (72%) work in schools located in rural or suburban communities. The smaller number of teachers in high-poverty schools compared to low-poverty schools suggests that high-poverty schools tend to have smaller student populations with fewer teachers.





KEY FINDINGS

#1 SLO SCORES

From 2020-21 to 2021-22, teachers scoring Exemplary on student learning objectives (SLOs) increased across all poverty levels. However, the percentage of teachers in low-poverty schools scoring Exemplary was twice that found in high-poverty schools.

EXEMPLARY ON SLOs

LOW POVERTY
48%

HIGH POVERTY
24%

#2 CERTIFICATION

From 2020-21 to 2021-22, SC schools located in cities and rural communities saw the largest increase in the number of alternatively certified teachers.

ALTERNATIVELY CERTIFIED TEACHERS

SOUTH CAROLINA
+0.5%

CITY
+0.9%

RURAL
+0.9%

#3 INTERNATIONAL

International teachers now represent 2.6% of the workforce. From 2020-21 to 2021-22, SC schools located in towns experienced the largest increase in international teachers.

INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS

SOUTH CAROLINA
+0.7%

TOWN
+0.7%

ABOUT SC TEACHER

SC TEACHER provides comprehensive research, visualized data profiles, and compelling stories to communicate impact of educator pipeline policies and promote transformative practices that inform policymakers, educators, and communities who care about education scaling economic opportunity.

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