

# Thousands of college students have considered teaching — why aren't they pursuing that career?

4,000 college students answered a survey on why they are (or are not) interested in a career as a teacher

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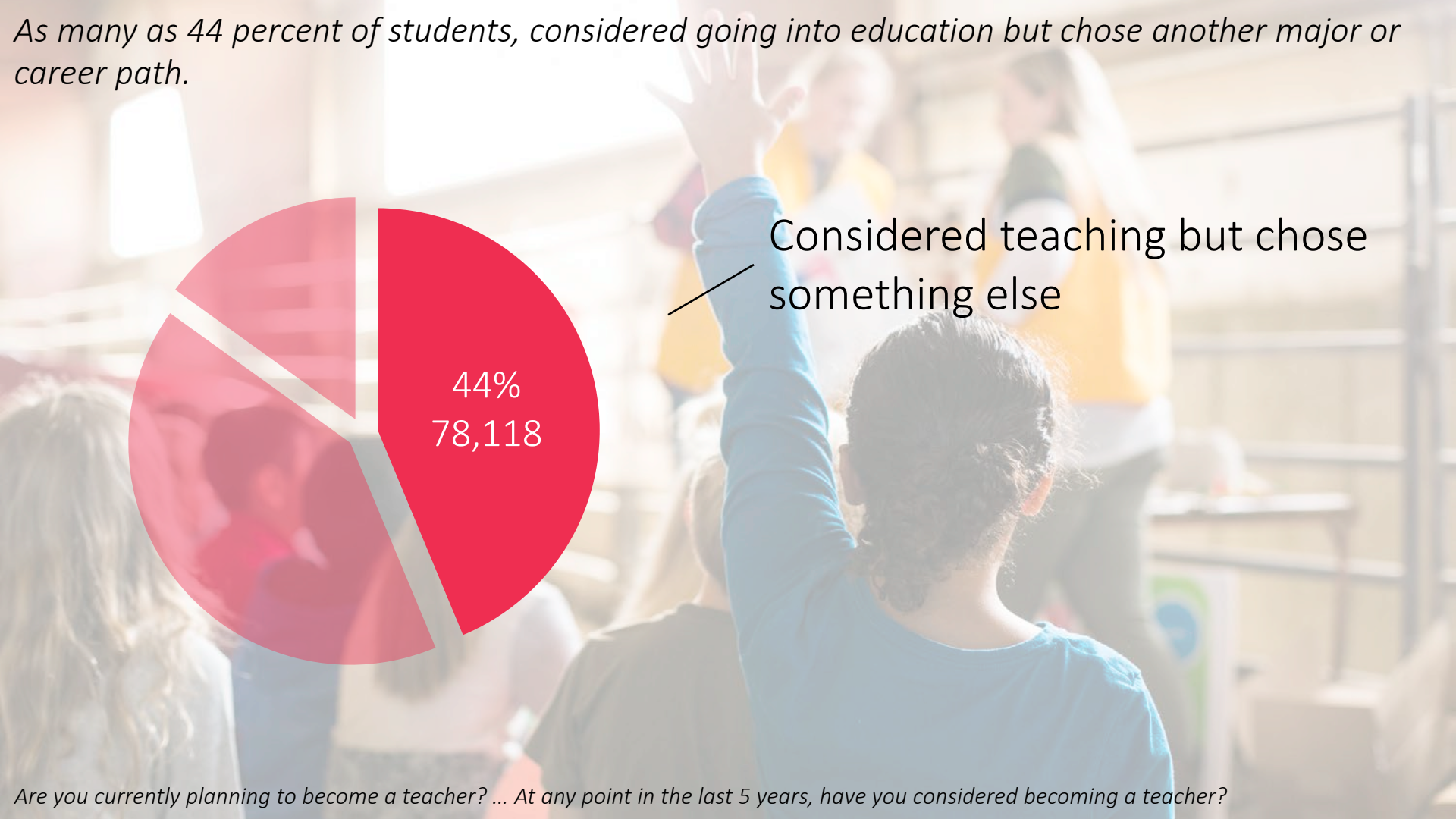


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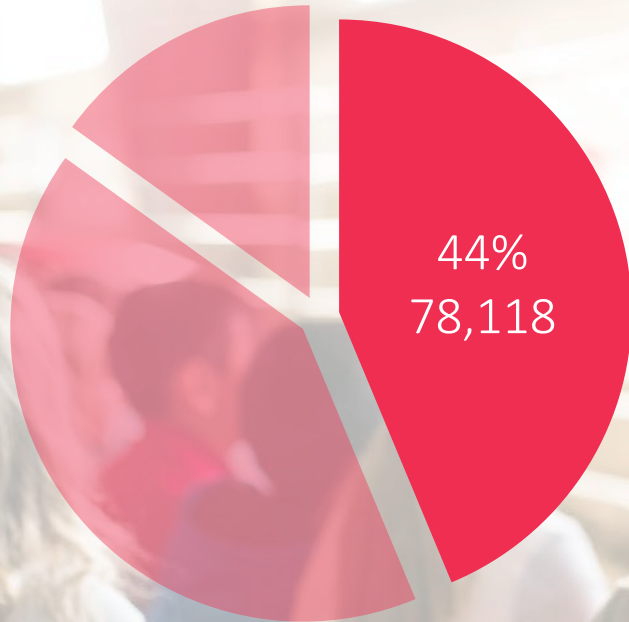
How we grow matters.

A blurred background image of a classroom. In the foreground, a student with dark hair in a blue shirt has their right hand raised. Other students are visible in the background, some wearing yellow vests. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

# Why Students Don't Choose Teaching

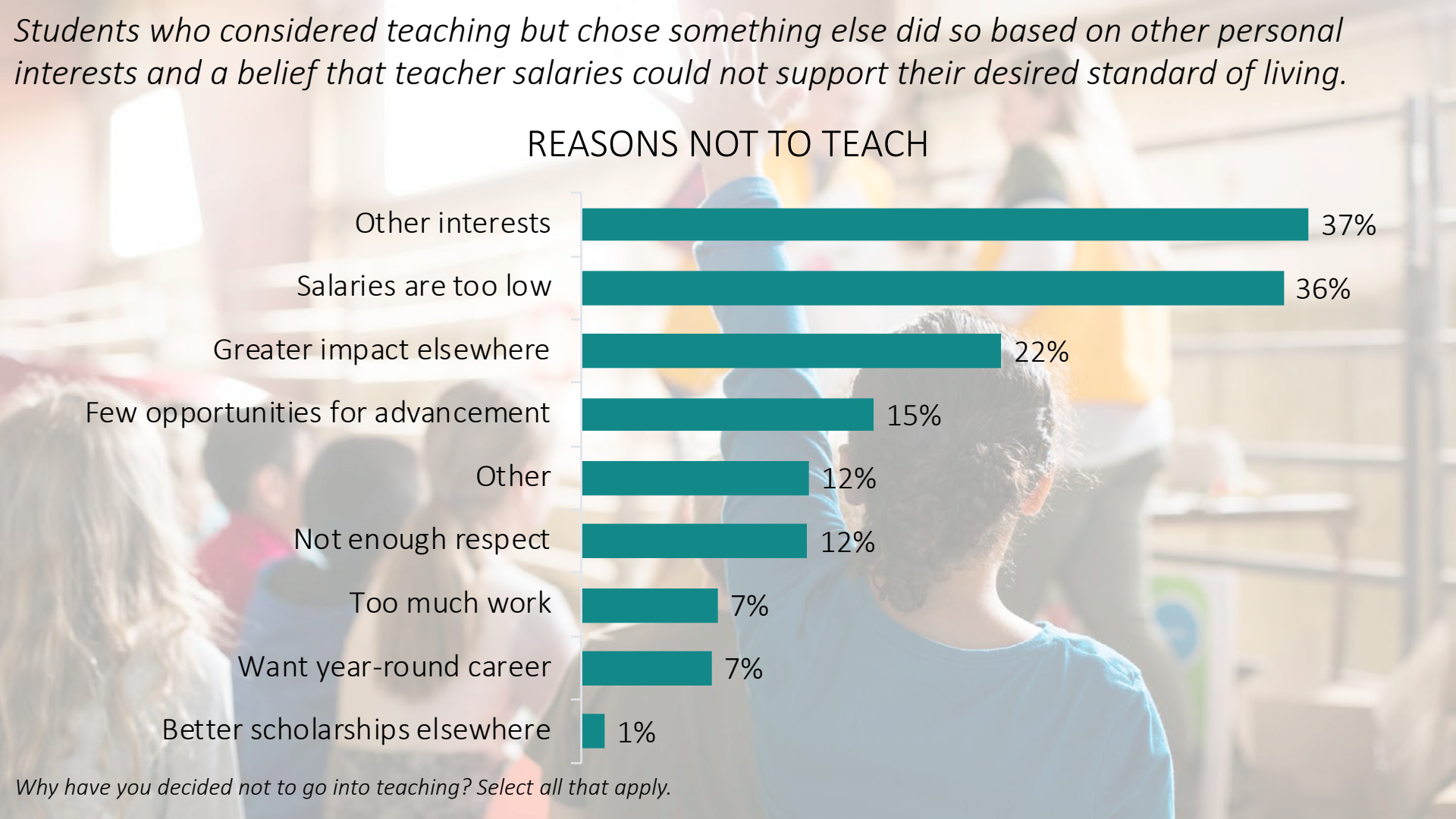


*As many as 44 percent of students, considered going into education but chose another major or career path.*



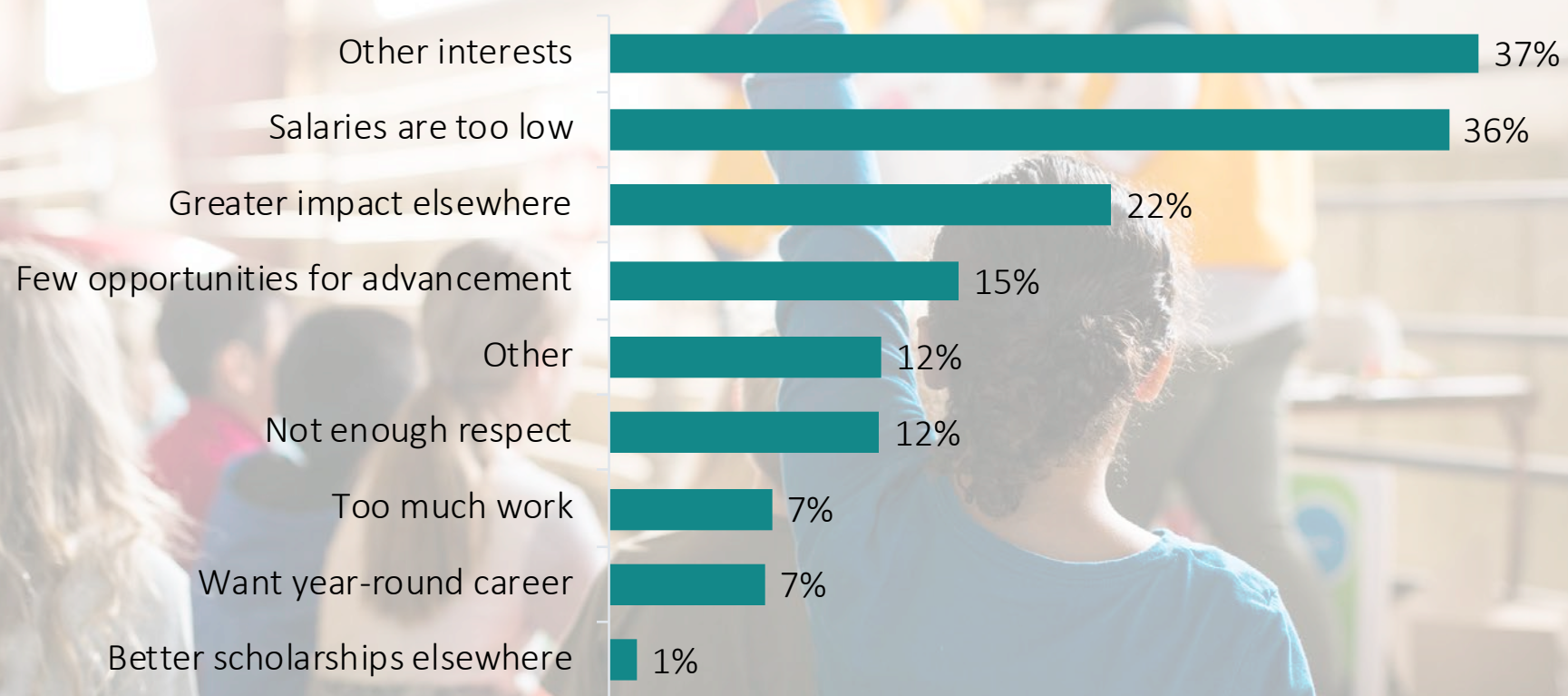
Considered teaching but chose something else

*Are you currently planning to become a teacher? ... At any point in the last 5 years, have you considered becoming a teacher?*

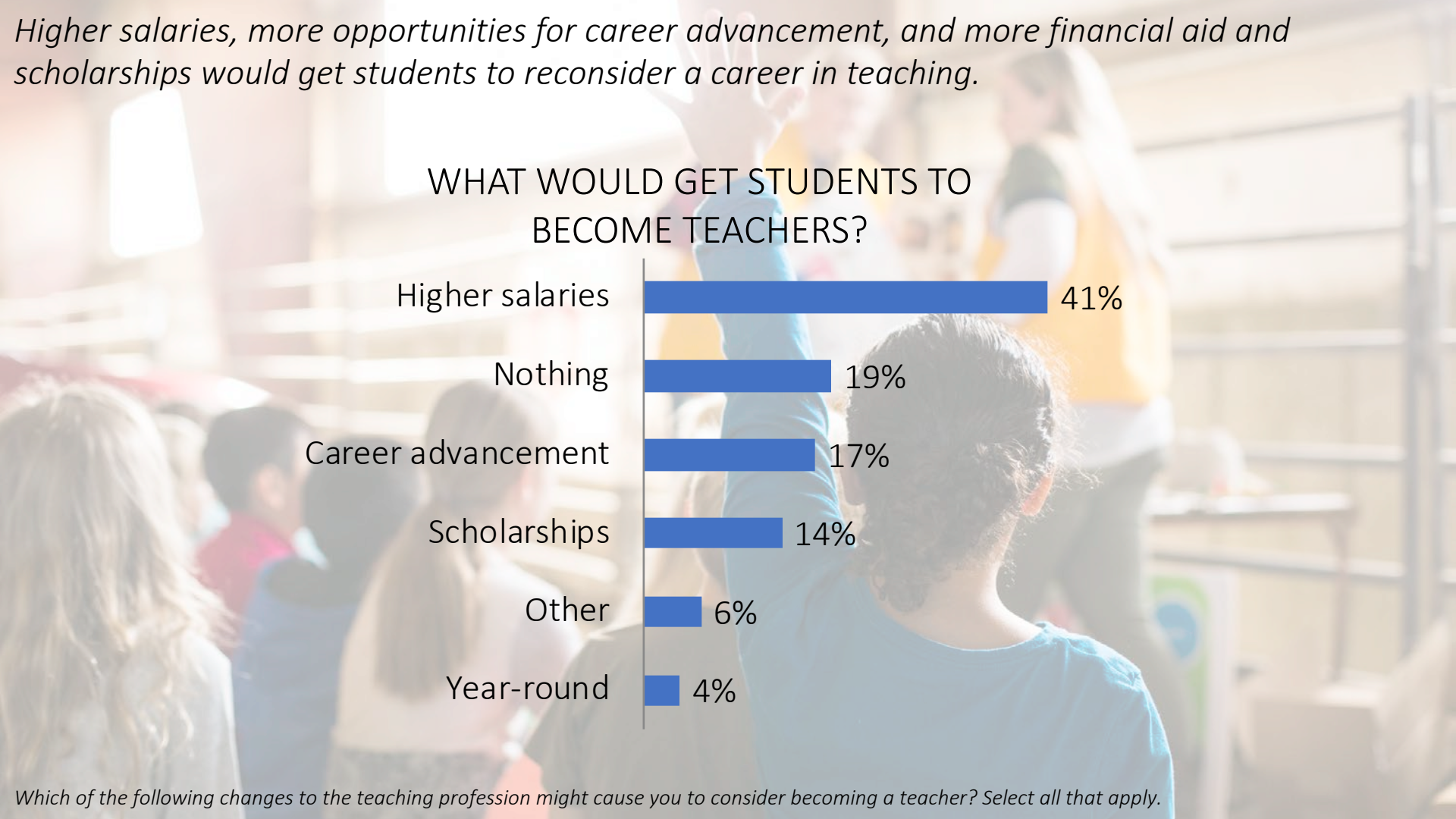


*Students who considered teaching but chose something else did so based on other personal interests and a belief that teacher salaries could not support their desired standard of living.*

REASONS NOT TO TEACH

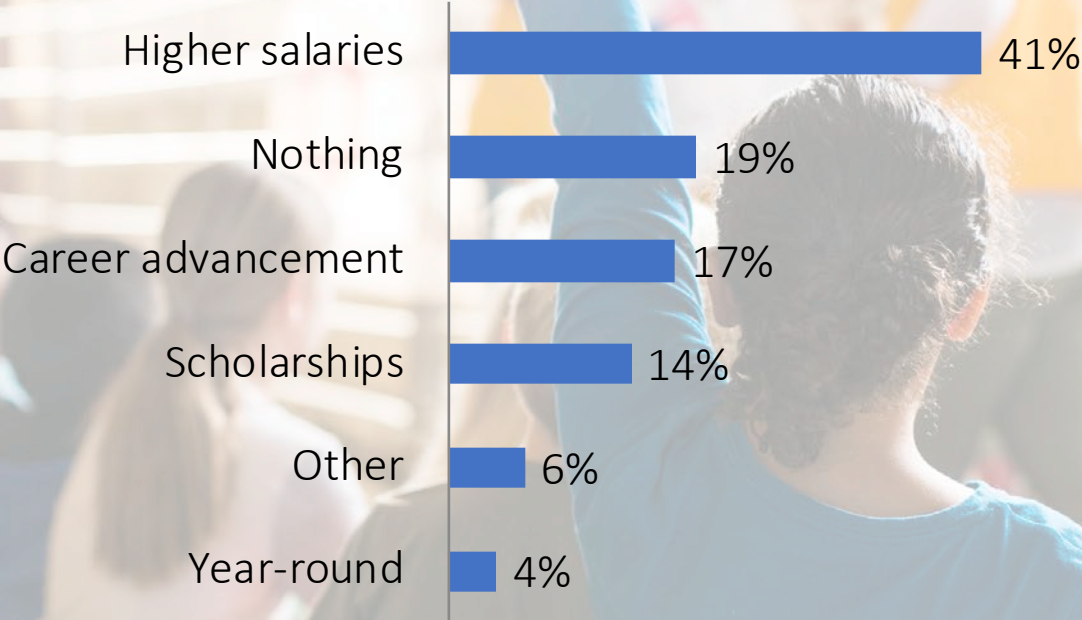


*Why have you decided not to go into teaching? Select all that apply.*



*Higher salaries, more opportunities for career advancement, and more financial aid and scholarships would get students to reconsider a career in teaching.*

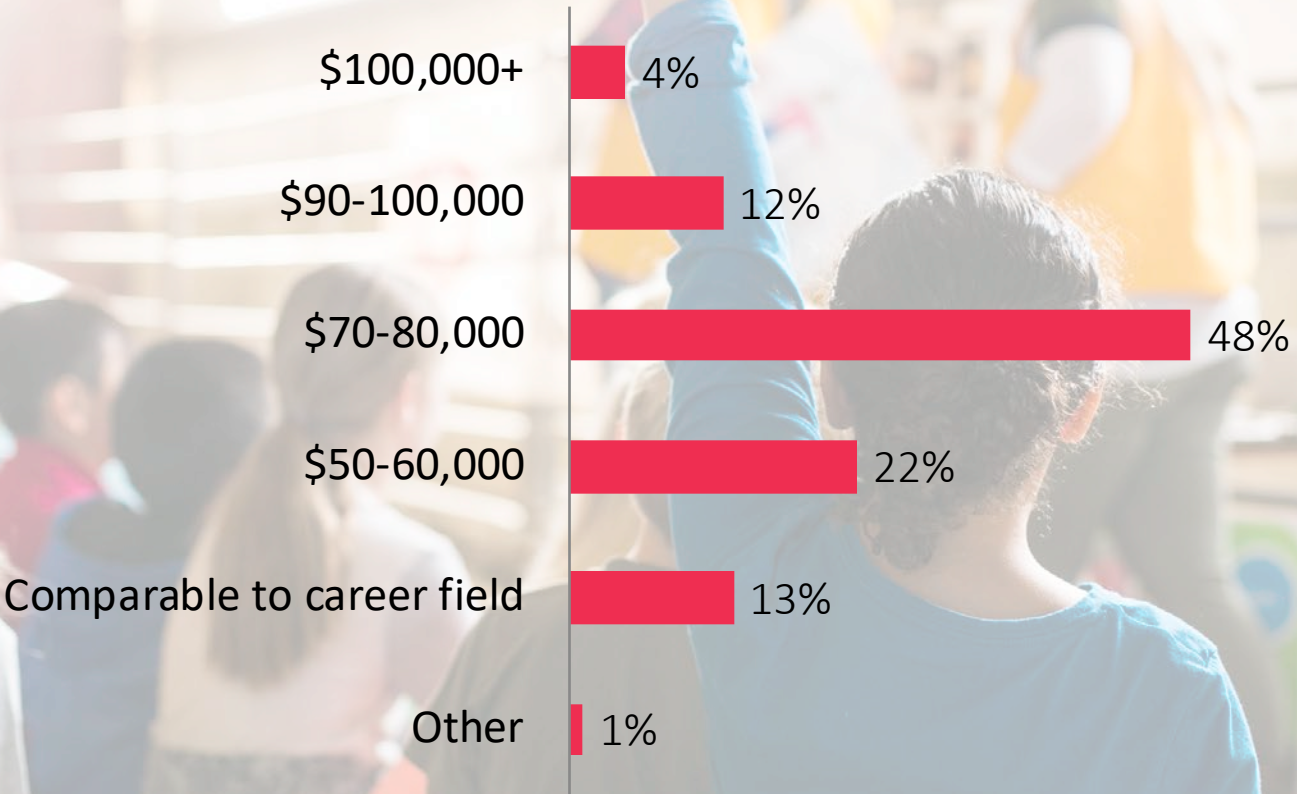
WHAT WOULD GET STUDENTS TO  
BECOME TEACHERS?




*Which of the following changes to the teaching profession might cause you to consider becoming a teacher? Select all that apply.*

*Students who are not in teacher training programs say starting salaries of \$70-80,000 would entice them to become teachers.*

**Lowest Teacher Salary**



*What is the lowest salary that would entice you to become a teacher?*



# 6.25% of students

GPA 3.5+

ACT 30+

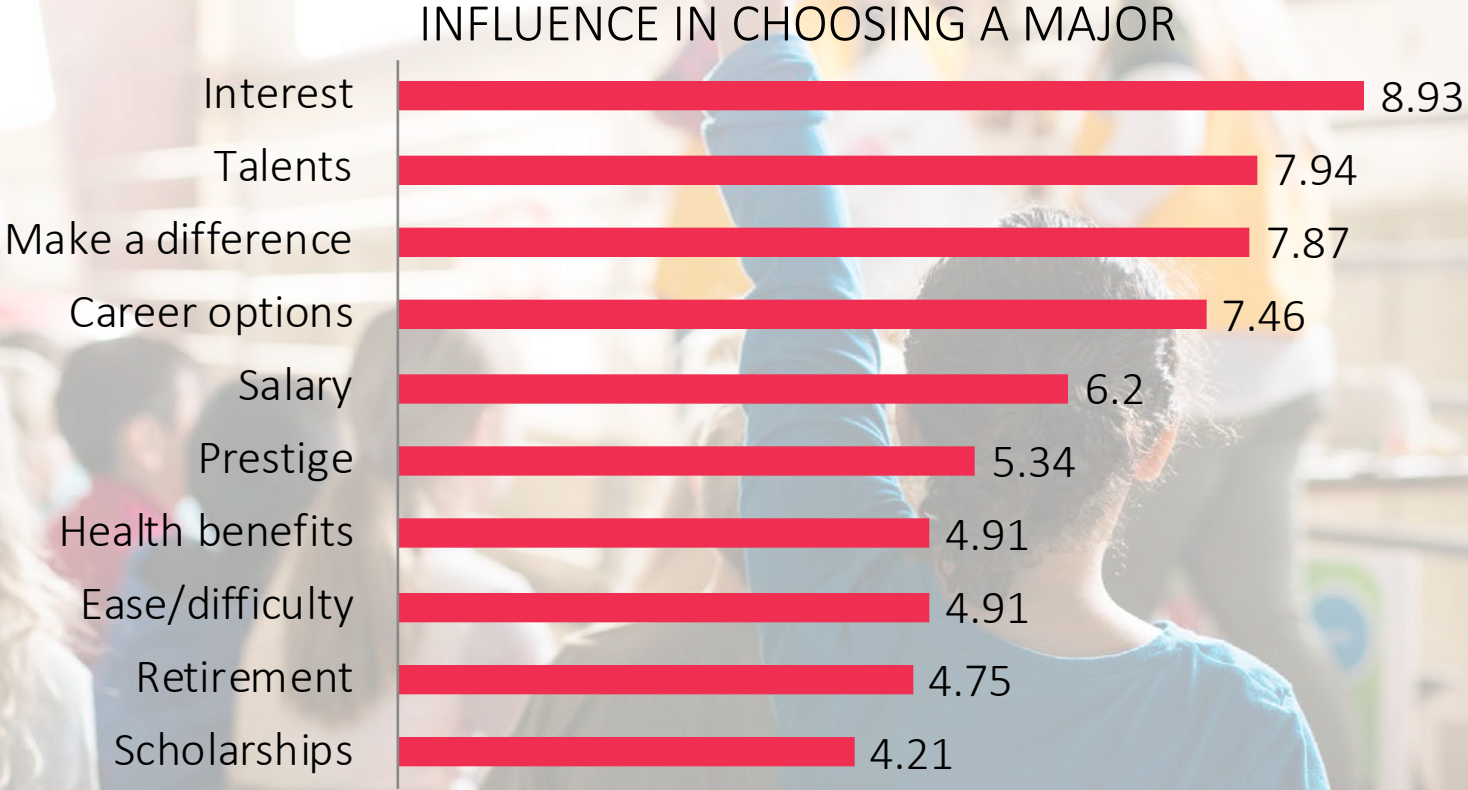
are not going into teaching but would if there were

1. **higher salaries**
2. **more opportunities for advancement**
3. **more financial aid and scholarships**



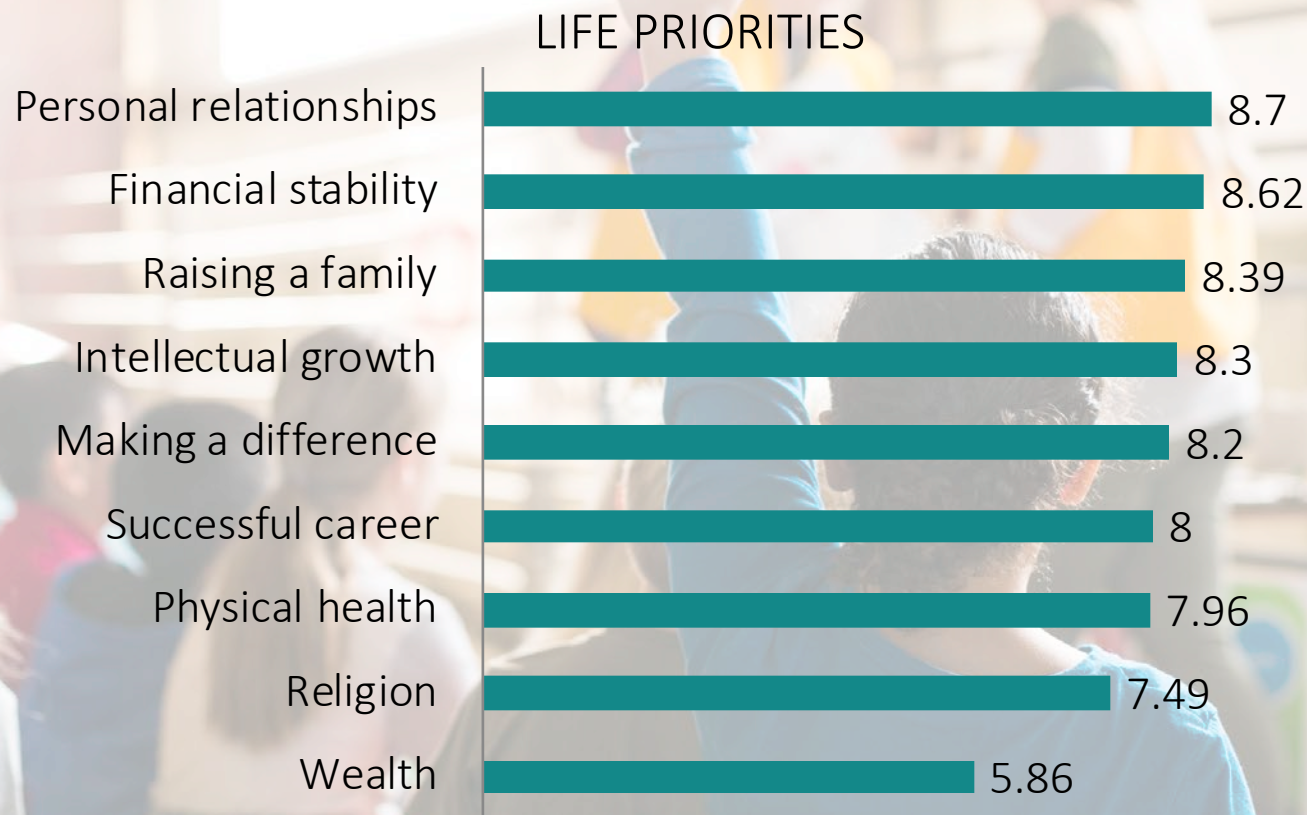
# Factors in Student Career Decisions

*Students prioritize their own interests and abilities as well as opportunities to make a difference and career options when choosing a field of study.*



*For you personally, how influential are/were each of the following factors in choosing a major or career field? Please rank each factor on a 1 to 10 scale where 1 means "not influential," and 10 means "extremely influential."*

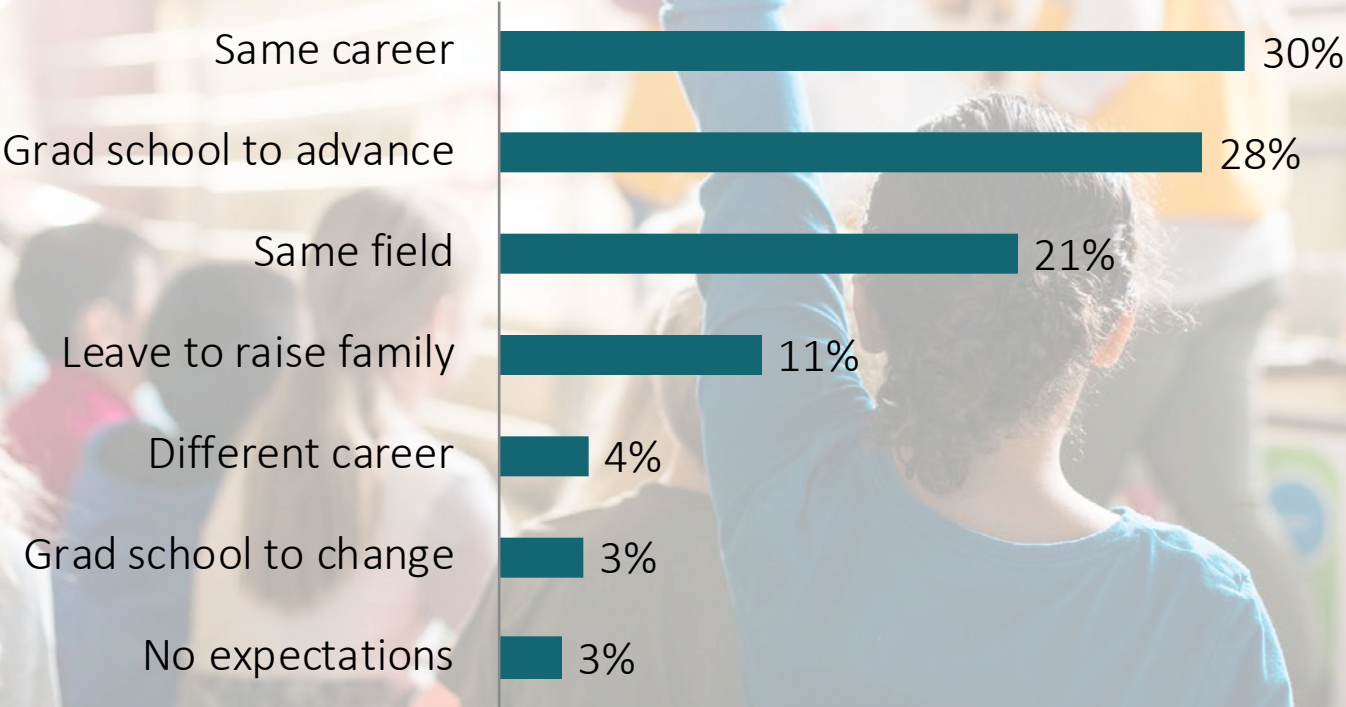
*Students place high priority on a wide array of values, ranking personal relationships and financial stability highest by a small margin.*



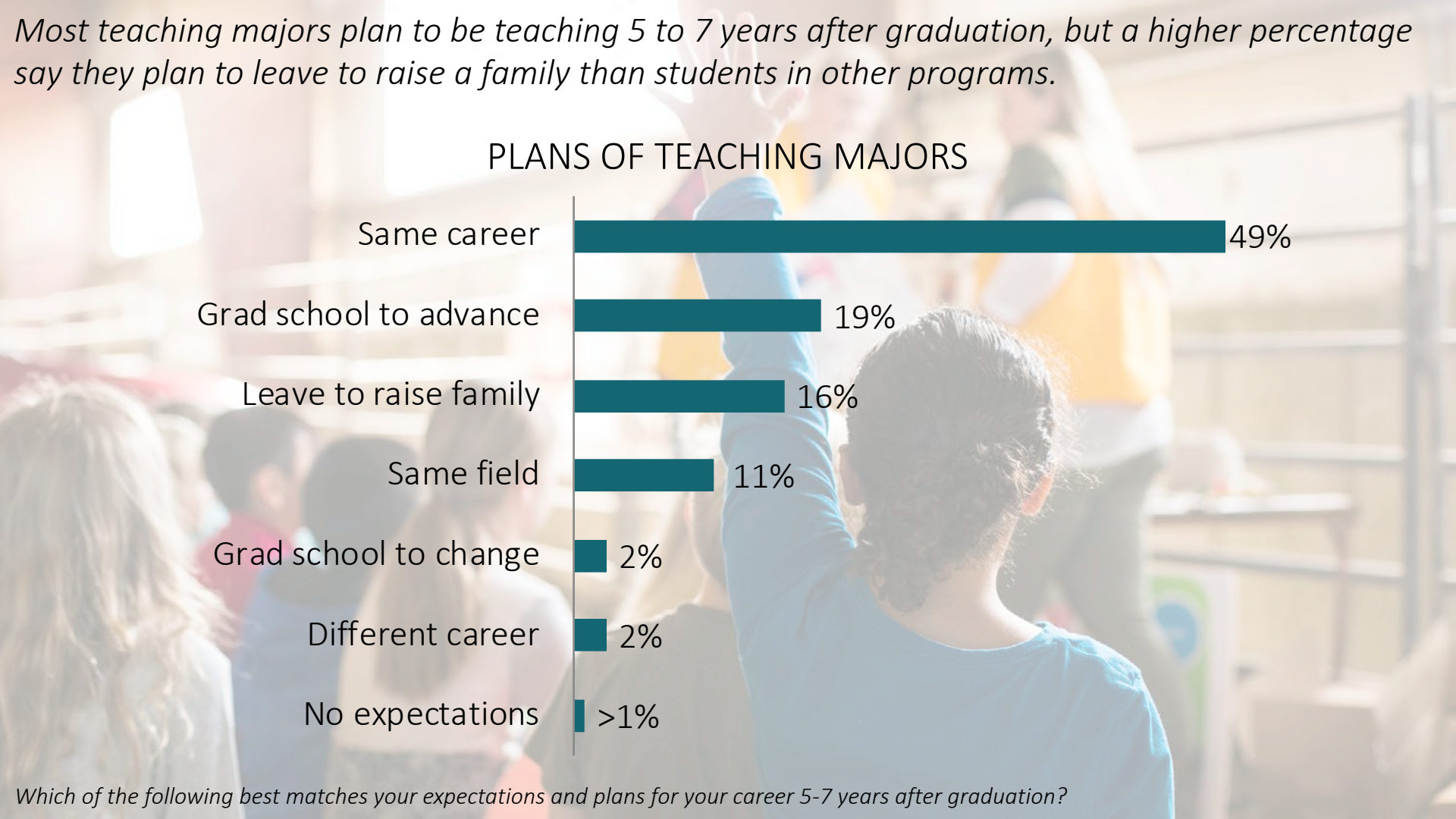
*For you personally, how important are the following items in your life? Please rank each one on a scale from 1 to 10 where 1 means "not a priority" and 10 means "one of my highest priorities."*

*Most students plan to be in the same career field, if not the same career, 5 to 7 years after graduation from college, or to have gone to graduate school to advance in that career.*

PLANS 5-7 YEARS AFTER GRADUATION  
(THE MILLENNIAL MINDSET)

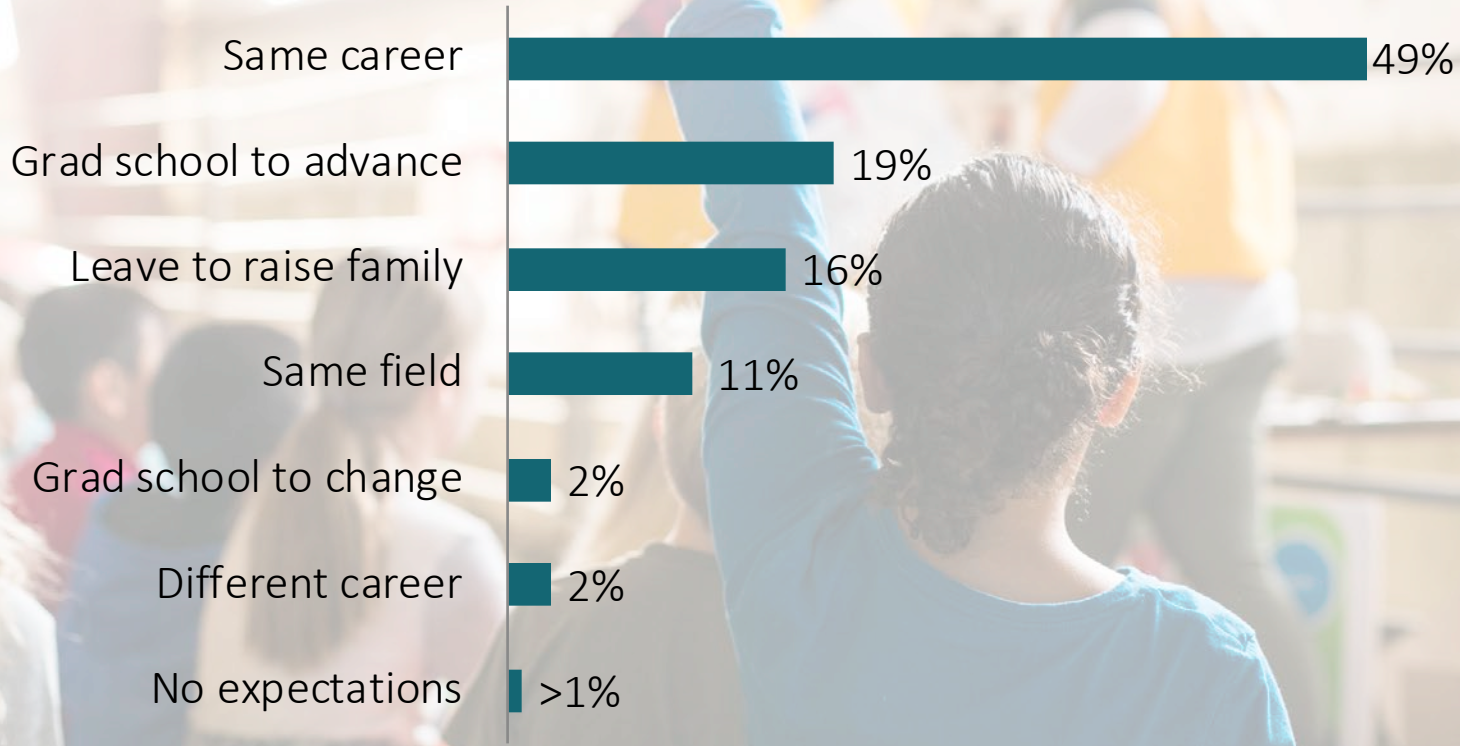


*Which of the following best matches your expectations and plans for your career 5-7 years after graduation?*



*Most teaching majors plan to be teaching 5 to 7 years after graduation, but a higher percentage say they plan to leave to raise a family than students in other programs.*

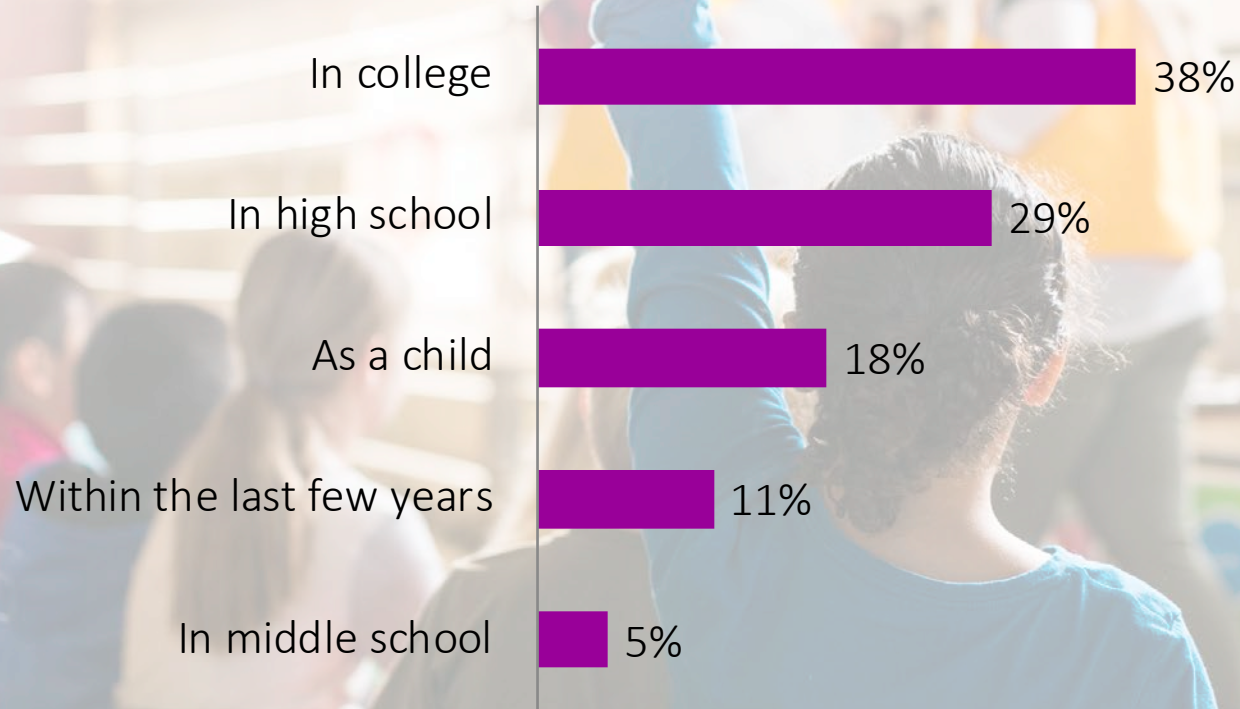
PLANS OF TEACHING MAJORS



*Which of the following best matches your expectations and plans for your career 5-7 years after graduation?*

*Most education majors decided to pursue teaching in high school or college.*

## STUDENTS CHOSE TEACHING CAREER...



*When did you decide to become a teacher?*

*Most teaching students' own experiences in school motivated them to become teachers.*

## Motivation to Teach

School was primary motivation

43%

School somewhat motivating

43%

School not motivating

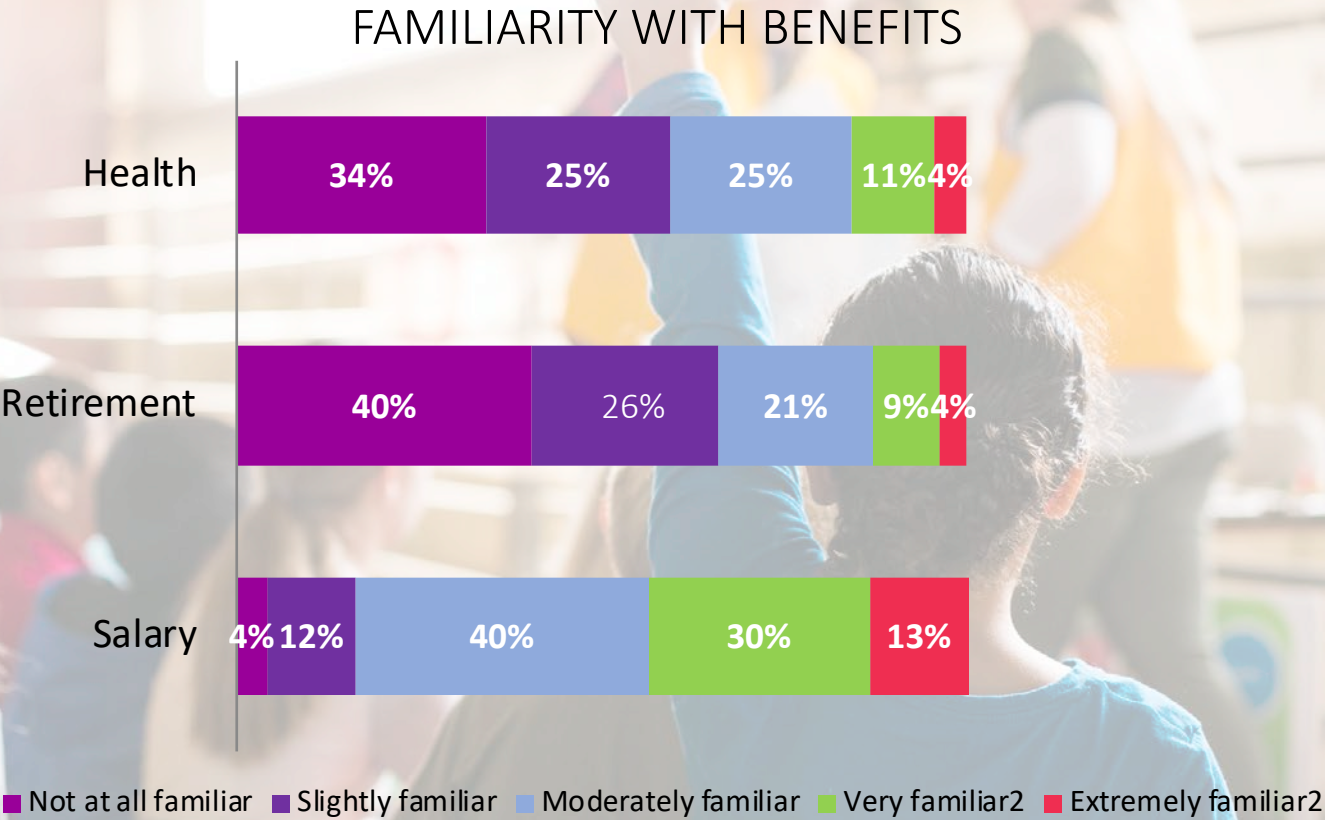
14%

*To what extent did your own experience in school motivate you to become a teacher?*

A blurred background image of a classroom. In the foreground, a student with dark hair in a blue shirt has their right hand raised. Other students are visible in the background, some wearing yellow vests. The text "How Students Think About Benefits" is overlaid in a large, bold, dark teal font.

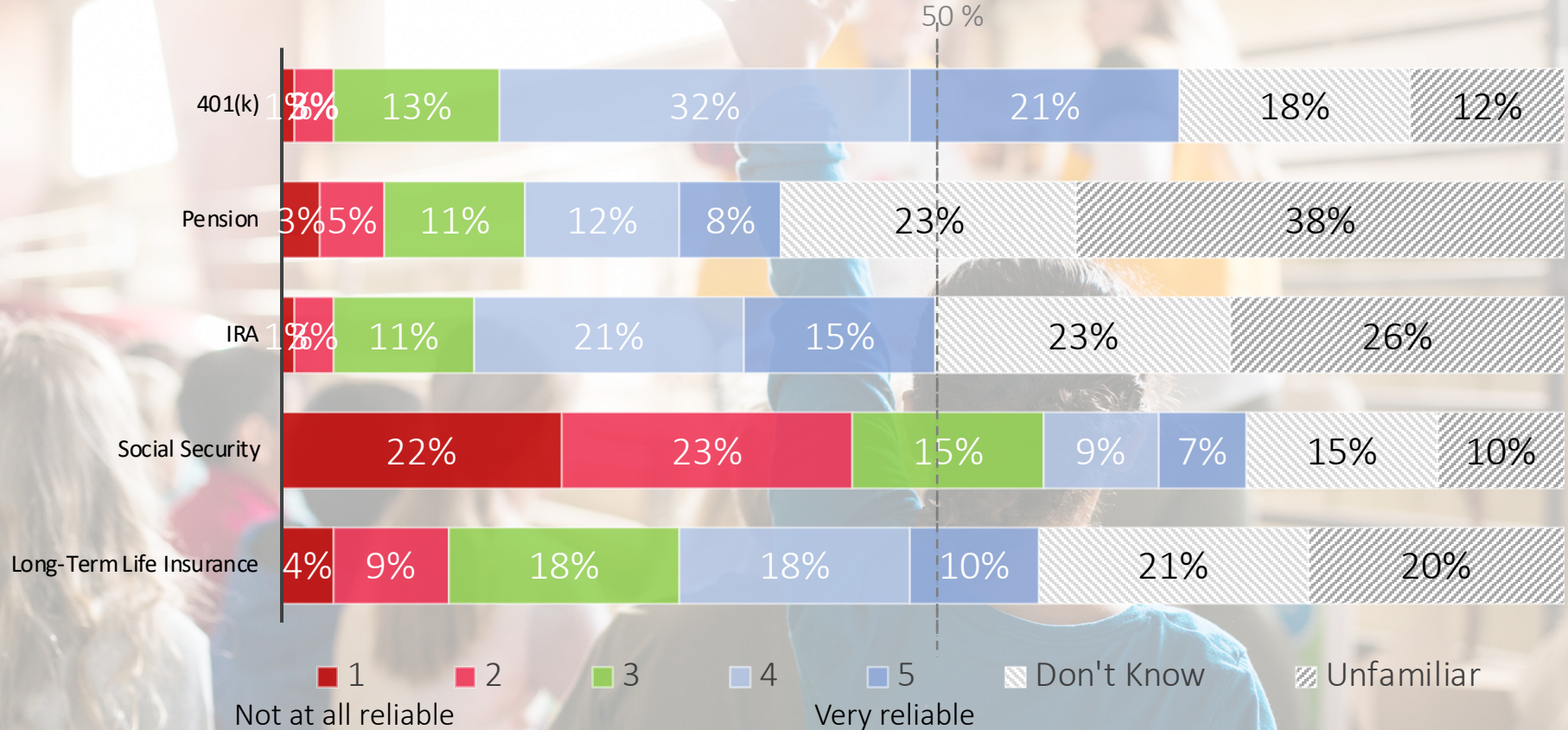
# How Students Think About Benefits

*Students believe they are generally familiar with potential salary in their career field, but significantly less knowledgeable about potential health and retirement benefits.*



*How familiar would you say you are with standard salaries/retirement benefits/health benefits in your chosen career field or in fields you're considering?*

## PERCEIVED RELIABILITY OF RETIREMENT PLANS



*How reliable do you believe the following retirement savings plans are? Please rate each option on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means "not at all reliable" and 5 means "very reliable." You may also select "Don't Know" if you don't know or "Unfamiliar" if you aren't familiar with a particular retirement savings plan listed.*