

REDC

ASTI

A century of service

Senior Cycle Redevelopment Additional Assessment Components – survey of teachers

January 2025

JOB Ref: 752224/CM



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Methodology and principal findings



Research Objectives And Methodology



Why?

The research objective was to obtain teachers' views on Additional Assessment Components (AACs)* currently in their subject area(s) and on the Minister's proposal that there will be AACs in each subject of a minimum of 40%.

How Many?

2,758 ASTI members out of a sample of circa 14,000 took part in the survey. This represents a response rate of 20% - one of the strongest responses to an ASTI survey in recent years.

Who?

The participants includes 2,720 classroom teachers, 10 principals and 28 deputy principals who also had subject responsibility.

When?

Fieldwork was conducted in November 2024.

How?

The survey instrument was an online questionnaire sent by RED C to circa 14,000 ASTI members on email database.

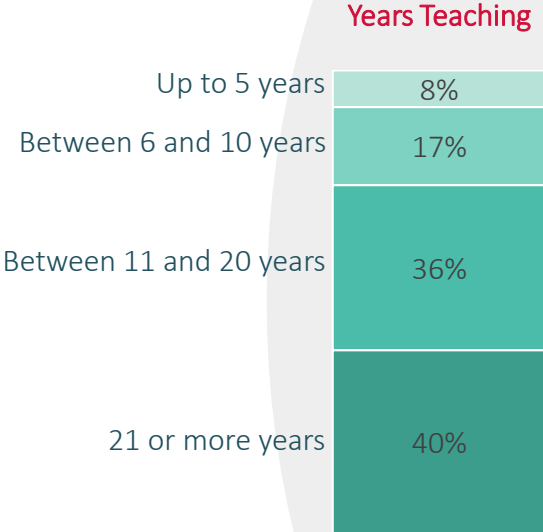
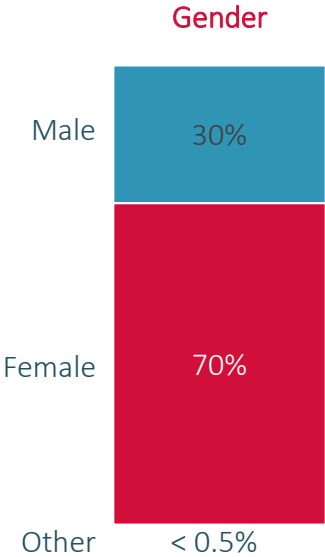
*The term Additional Assessment Component (AAC) is the umbrella term for any form of assessment in addition to the written examination.

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Profile of survey respondents



Profile Of Respondents

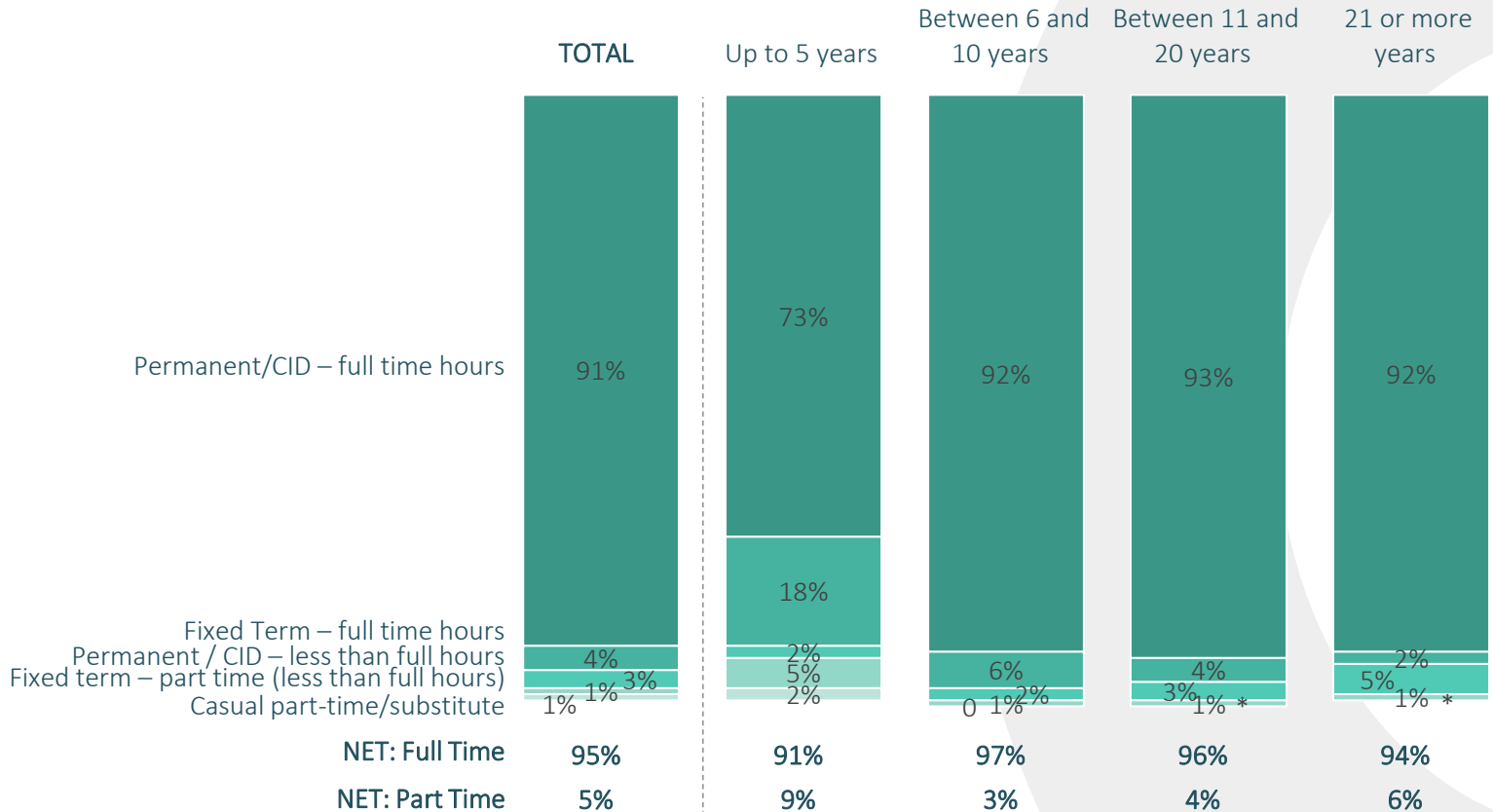


Q. Please select your gender

Q. How many years are you teaching?

(Base: All Respondents)

Employment Status



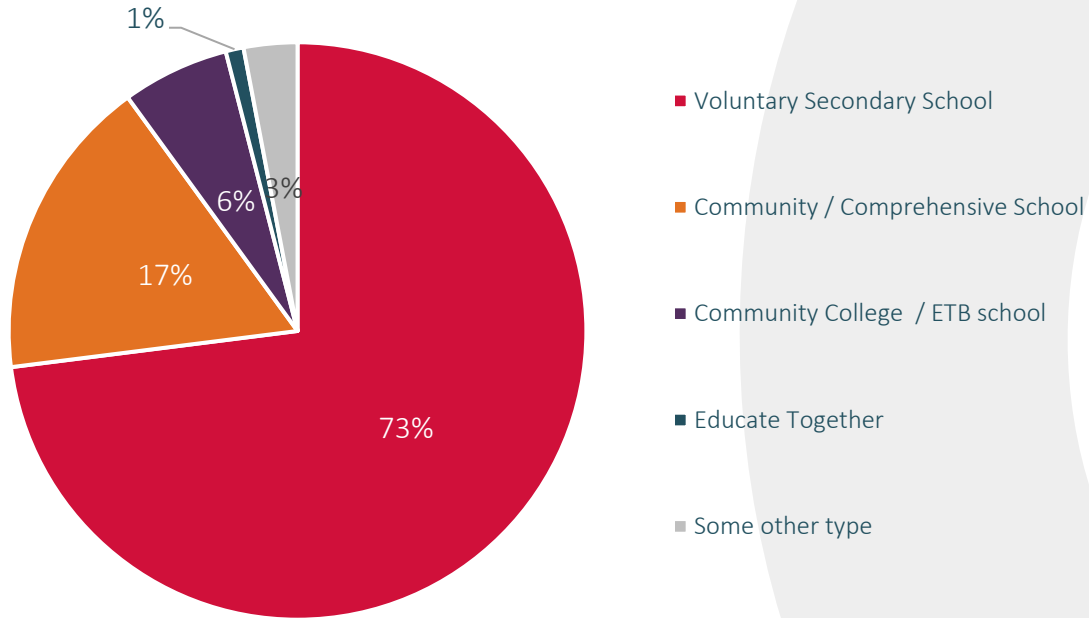
Q. What is your employment status?

(Base: All Respondents)

NOTE: Scores may not add exactly to 100% due to rounding

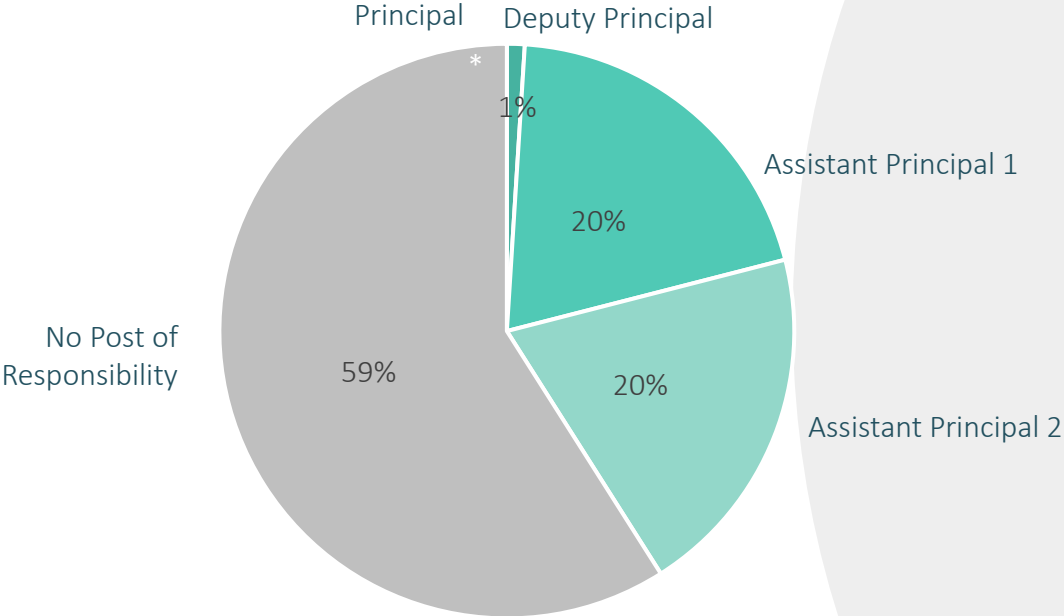
* = < 0.5%

Type Of School



Q. What type of school do you teach in?
(Base: All Respondents)

Post Of Responsibility



NOTE: Scores may not add exactly to 100% due to rounding

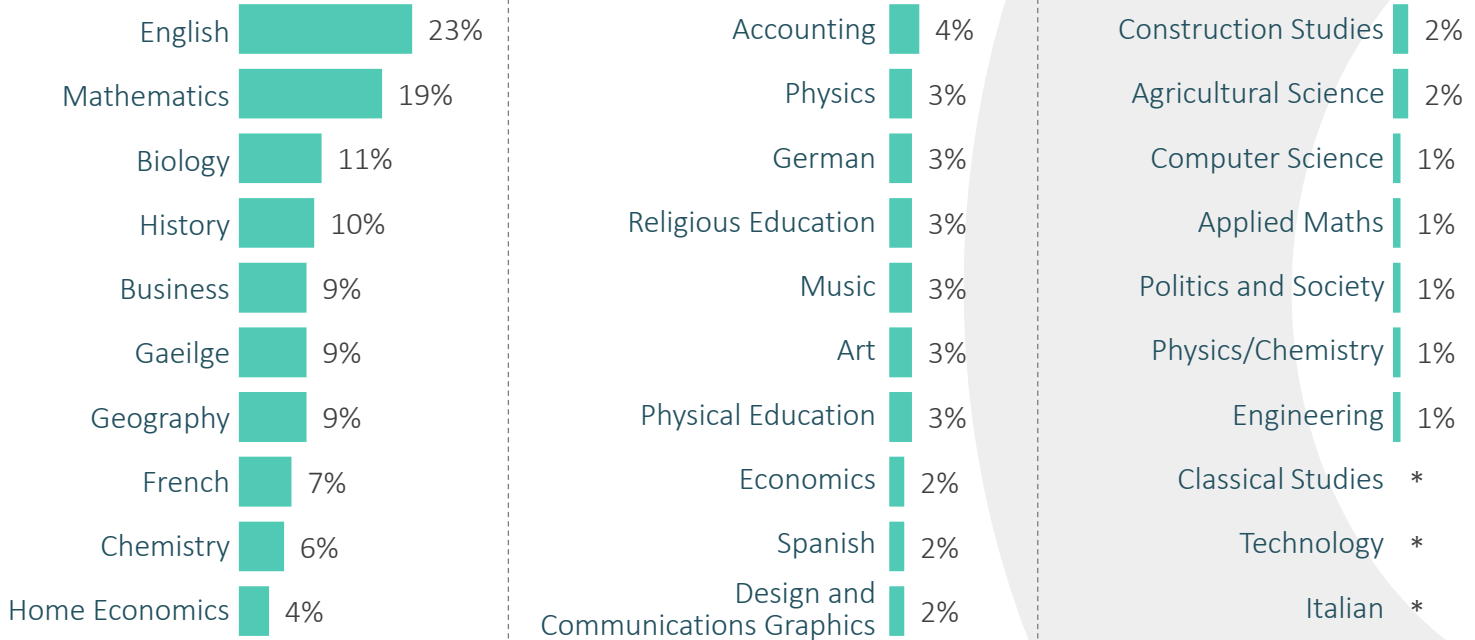
Q. Do you have a Post of Responsibility as follows?
(Base: All Respondents)

* = < 0.5%

Subjects Taught



Respondents were most likely to be teaching English or mathematics, though biology, history, business, Gaelge and geography are taught by around one in ten.



Q. Which of these Leaving Certificate subjects are you currently teaching? You may select up to two subjects. If you are teaching more than two Leaving Certificate subjects, please select your two main subjects.

(Base: All Respondents)

* = < 0.5%

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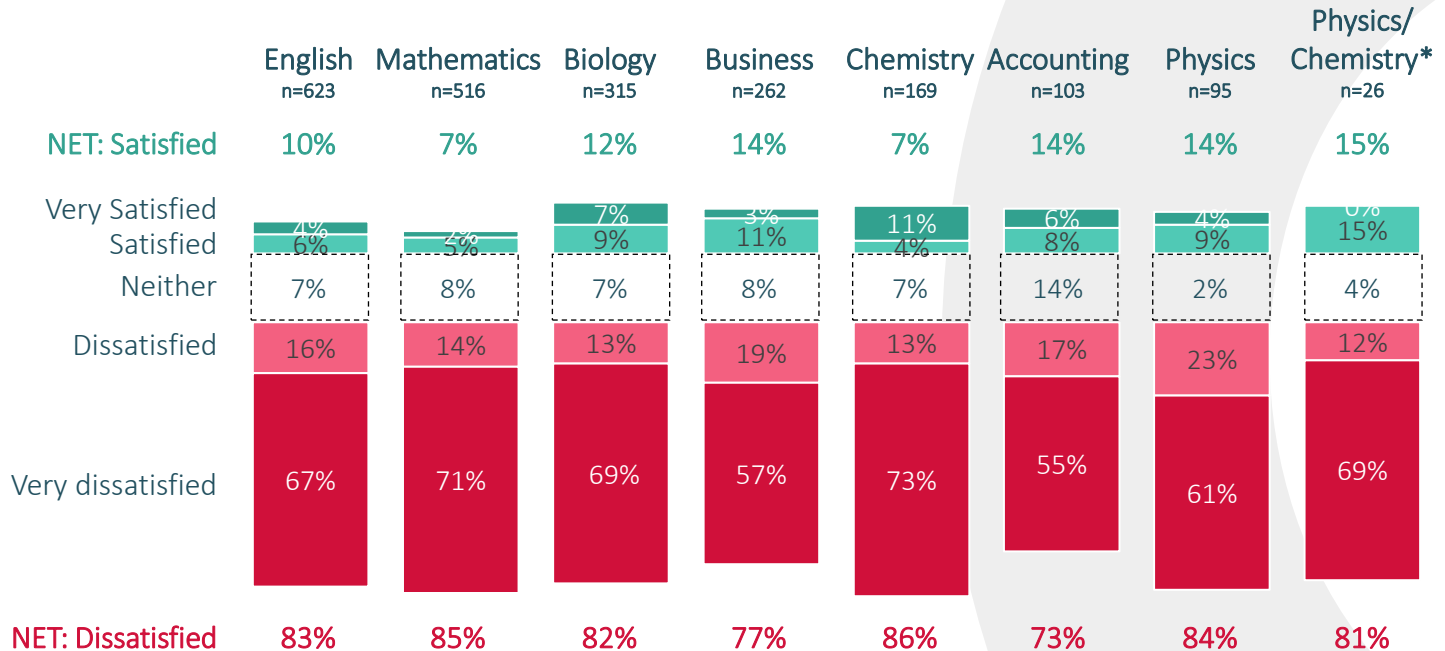
Teacher
satisfaction with
AAC allocation
of 40% in
revised
specifications



Satisfaction With Allocation of 40% In Revised Specification



Three in four (or more) are dissatisfied with the allocation of a minimum of 40% for the AAC in the revised specification for those subjects which currently have none.



*Beware: Low Base Size

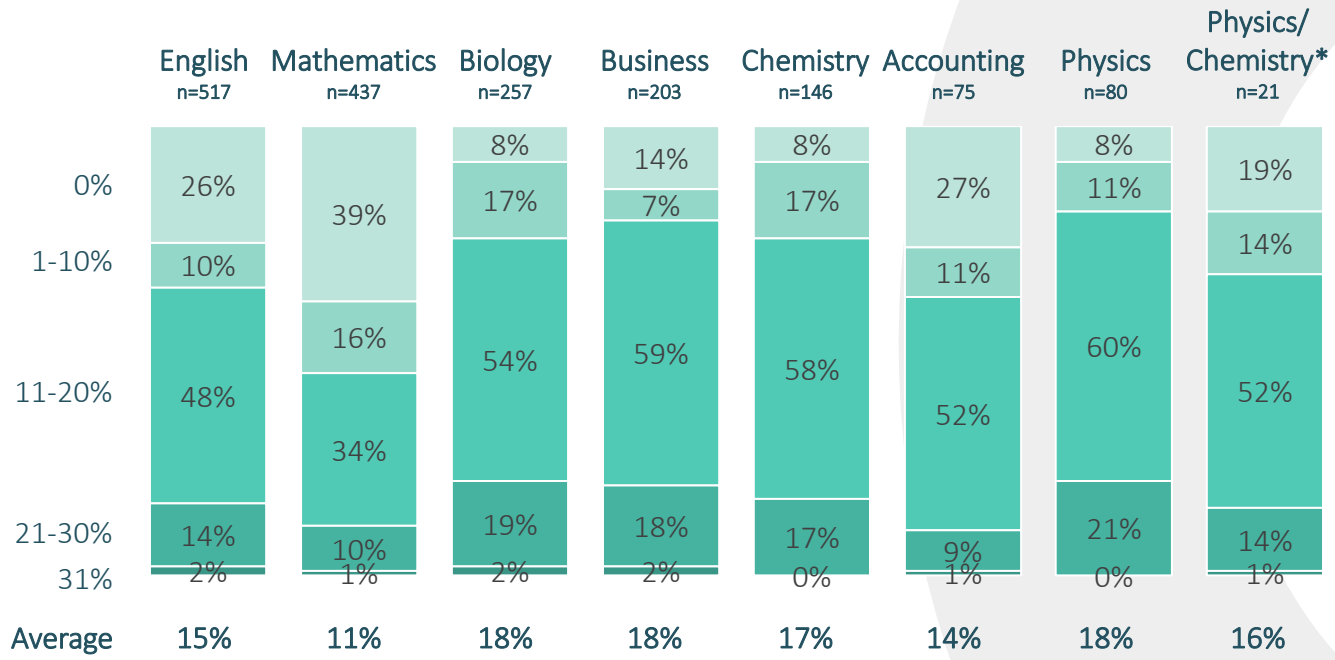
Q. Are you satisfied or not with the allocation of a minimum of 40% for the AAC in the revised specification for SUBJECT?

(Base: All Teaching Subject With No Current AAC)

* = < 0.5%

Preferred % Mark For The Additional Assessment Components (AACs)

Majority propose 20% or below across each of the subjects with many choosing 0%, while mathematics, accounting and English have the lowest proposed average % allocations.



*Beware: Low Base Size

Q. Please indicate your preferred % mark for the additional assessment components (AACs) in the box provided below?

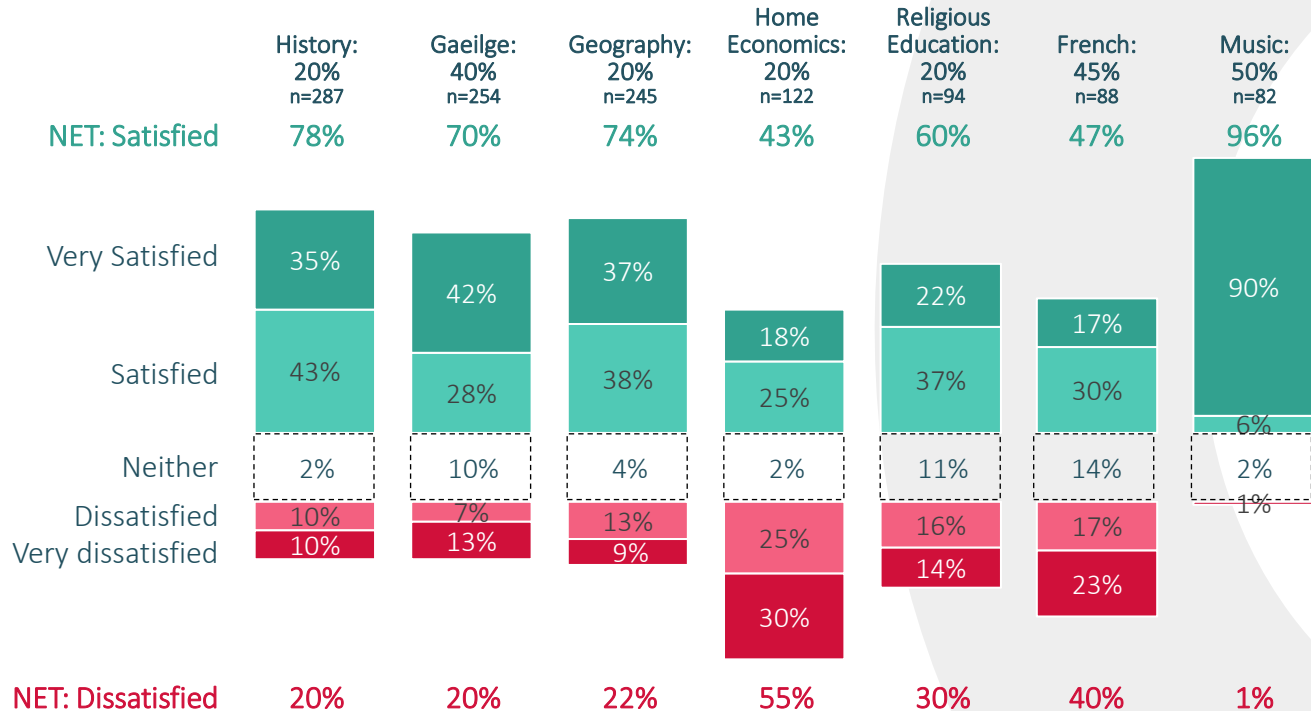
(Base = All Teaching Subject With No Current AAC and Dissatisfied With Minimum 40% Proposed)

* = < 0.5%

Satisfaction With Current Mark Allocated To AACs



With the exceptions of home economics and French, the majority are satisfied with the AAC % currently allocated to the more mainstream subjects. Music has highest satisfaction.



Q. Are you satisfied or not with the mark currently allocated for the AAC in SUBJECT , which is X %?

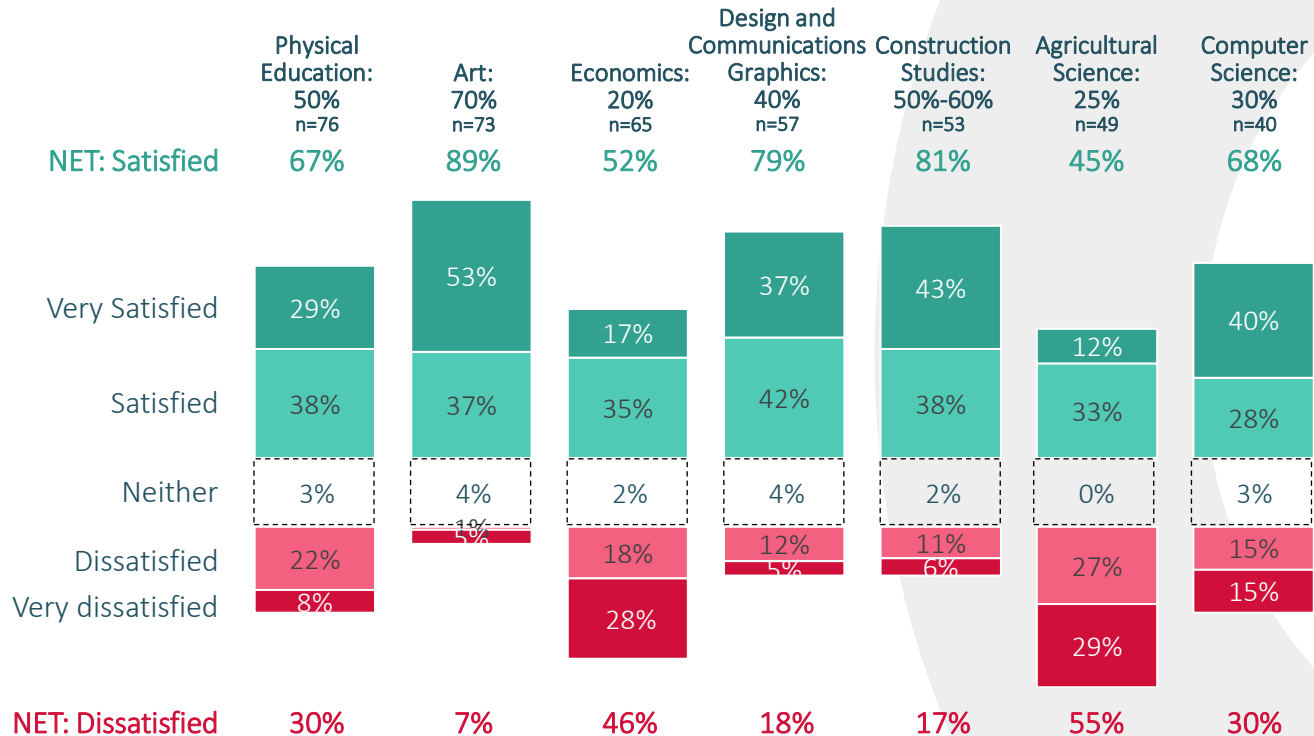
Ranked in Order of Number of Teachers Teaching Subject

(Base: All Teaching Subject With Current AAC)

Satisfaction With Current Mark Allocated To AACs



Majority also happy with less mainstream subjects though there is polarisation evident with economics and agricultural science with almost equal levels satisfied and dissatisfied.



Q. Are you satisfied or not with the mark currently allocated for the AAC in SUBJECT , which is X%?

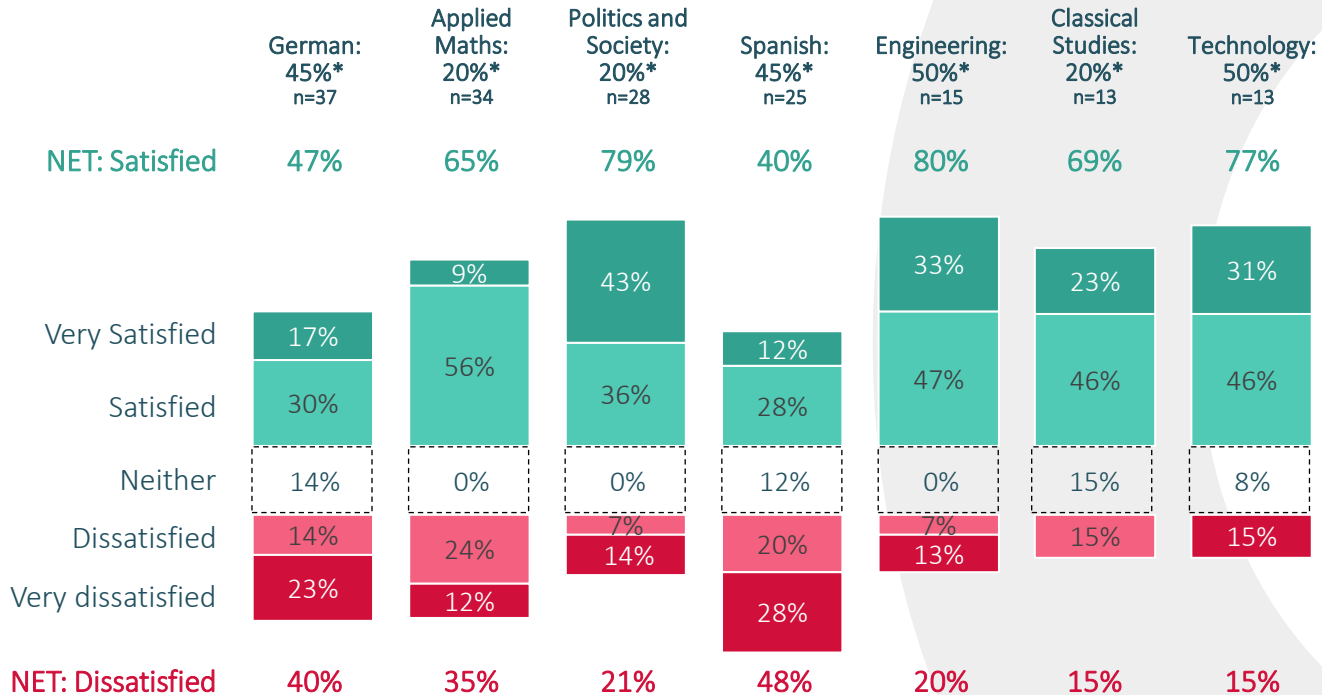
Ranked in Order of Number of Teachers Teaching Subject

(Base: All Teaching Subject With Current AAC)

Satisfaction With Current Mark Allocated To AACs



Some dissatisfaction evident with the current allocation for Spanish, German, and applied maths.



*Beware: Low Base Size

Q. Are you satisfied or not with the mark currently allocated for the AAC in SUBJECT , which is X%?

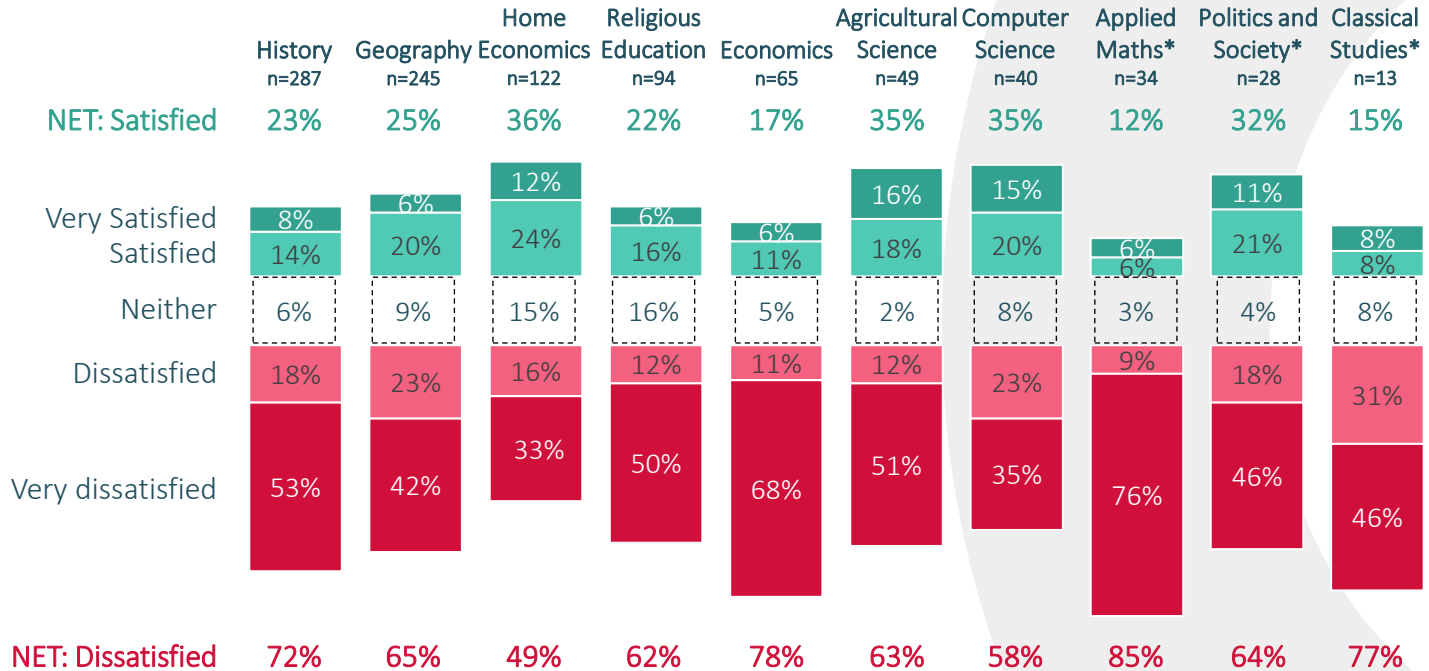
Ranked in Order of Number of Teachers Teaching Subject

(Base: All Teaching Subject With Current AAC)

Satisfaction With Proposed Mark Of Minimum 40% For AACs



For those subjects with a current AAC of less than 40%, there is high dissatisfaction with a proposed allocation of a minimum of 40% for each subject.



*Beware: Low Base Size

Q. Are you satisfied or not with the allocation of a minimum of 40% for the AAC in the proposed specification for SUBJECT?

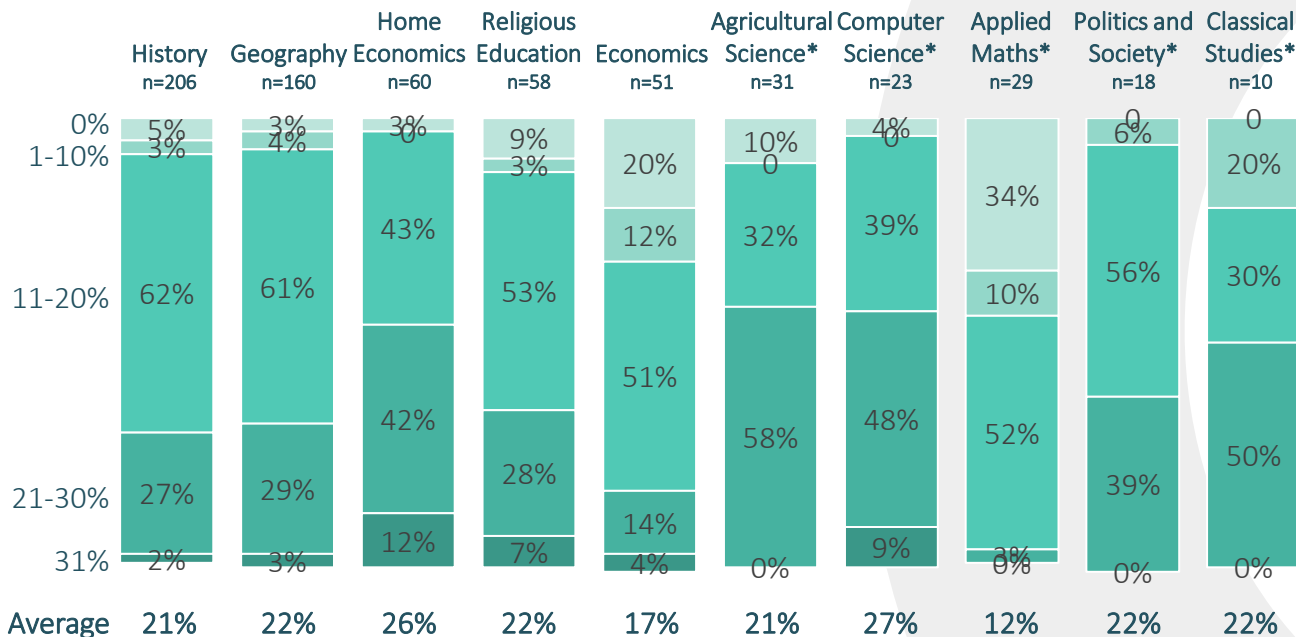
(Base: All Teaching Subject With Current AAC Below 40%)

* = < 0.5%

Preferred % For AACs



The majority of teachers of subjects which currently have an AAC would prefer to retain the current % mark.



*Beware: Low Base Size

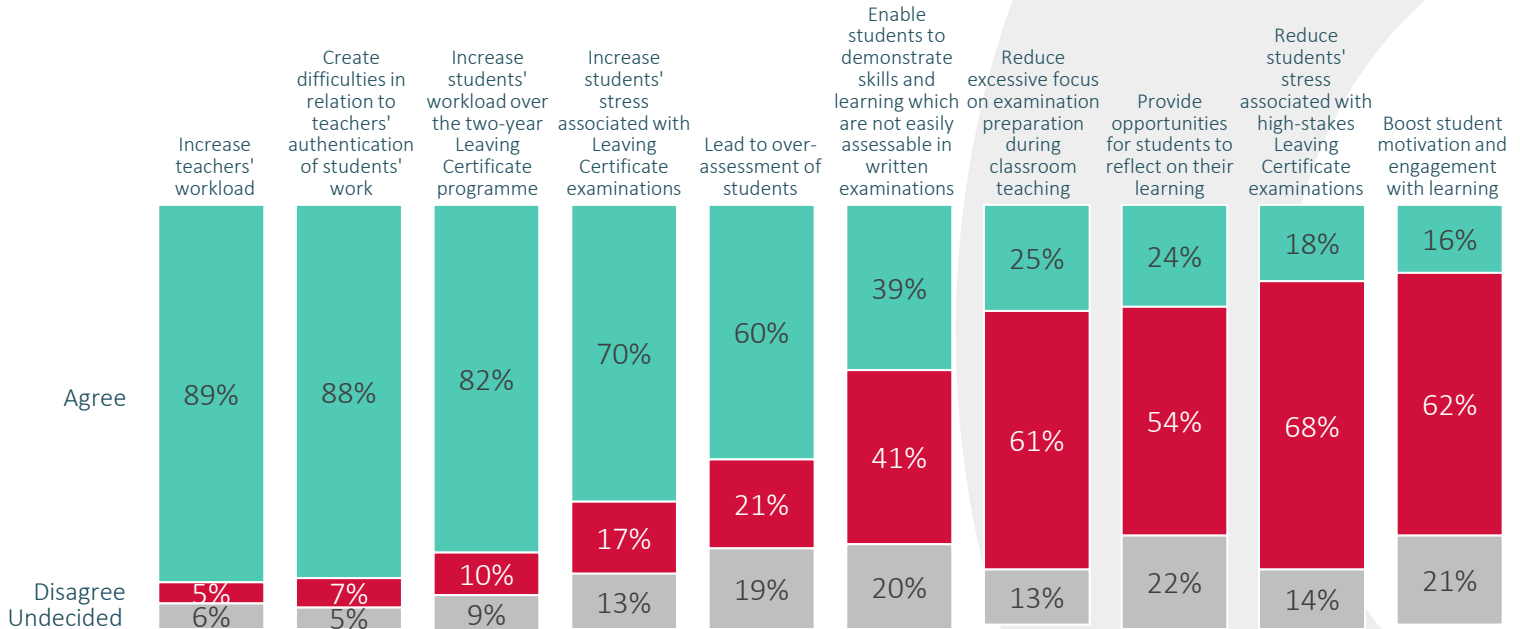
Q. Please indicate your preferred % mark for the additional assessment components (AAC) in the box provided below?

(Base: All Teaching Subject With Current AAC Below 40% and Dissatisfied With Minimum 40% Proposed)

An AAC Of 40% In Your Subject(s) Would.....



High agreement with negative impacts and high disagreement with positive impacts of a minimum of 40% AAC being applied.

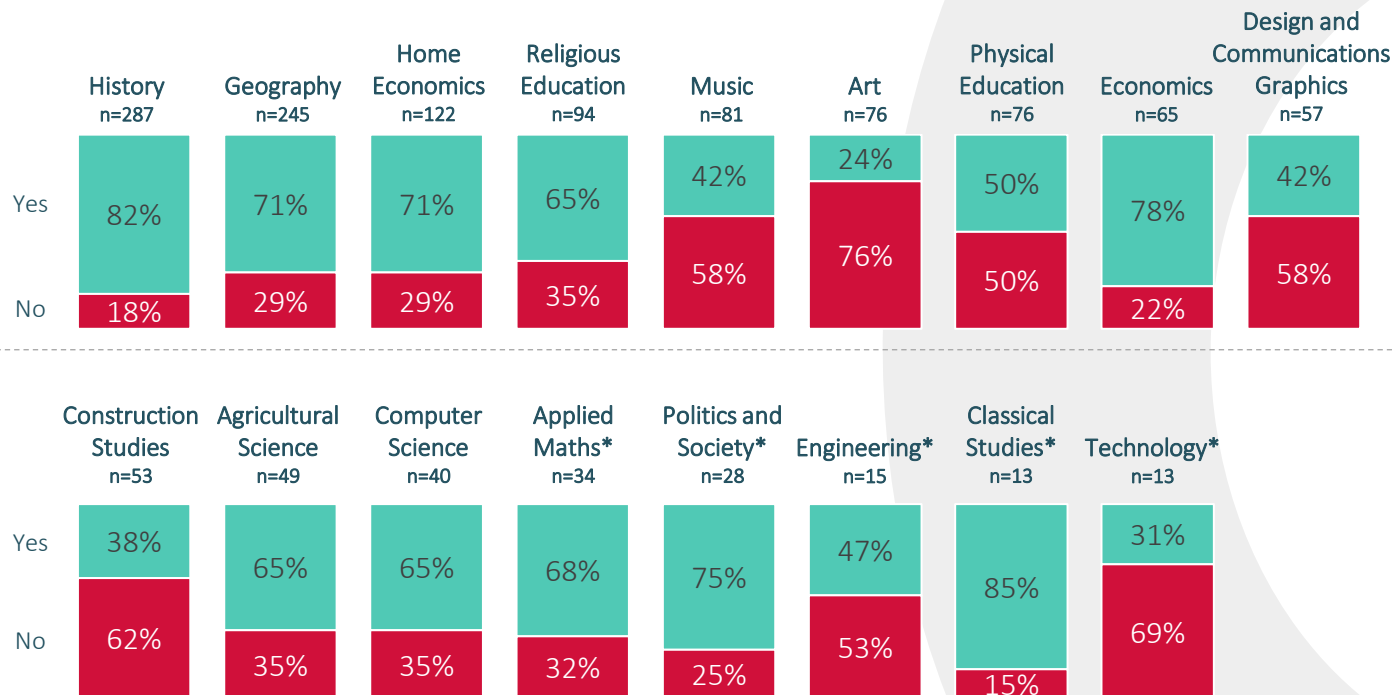


Q.12 Please select how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements (Please click on the Agree, Disagree or Undecided button for each statement)
(Base: All Respondents)

Concerns About Authenticating Students' Work



Though there are some exceptions in certain subjects below (particularly art), in the main, many teachers have concerns about authenticating students' work submitted as part of the AAC.



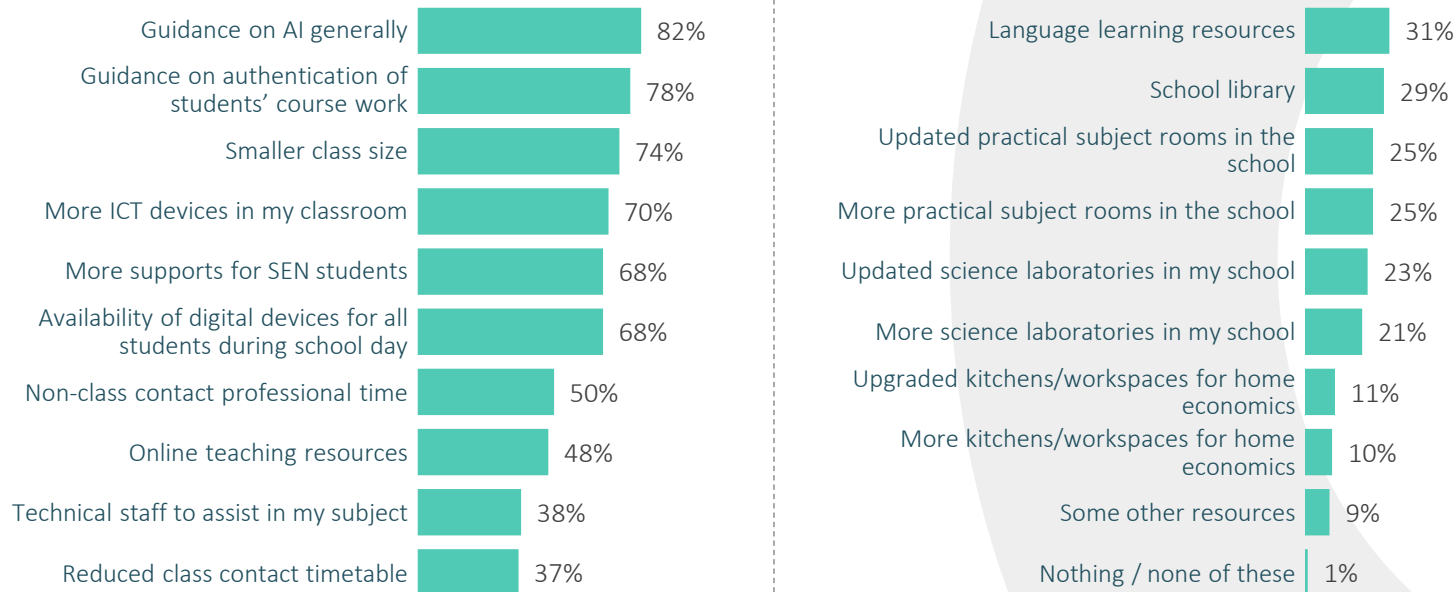
*Beware: Low Base Size

Q. Have you any concerns about authenticating students' work submitted as part of the AAC for SUBJECT?

(Base: All Teaching Subject With Current AAC except MFL and Gaeilge)

Resources Needed To Respond To New Marking System C

A multitude of resources have been deemed necessary by teachers to support them in responding to a new marking system of 40% for AAC in their subject(s).



Q.13 What resources are necessary to respond to a new marking system of 40% for AAC in your subject(s)? Please select all that apply. (Base: All Respondents)

4

Digital submission of coursework



Digital Booklets



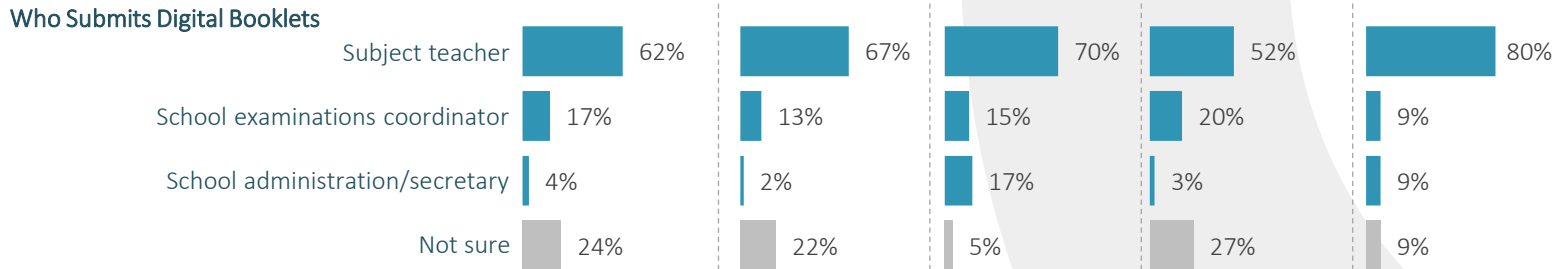
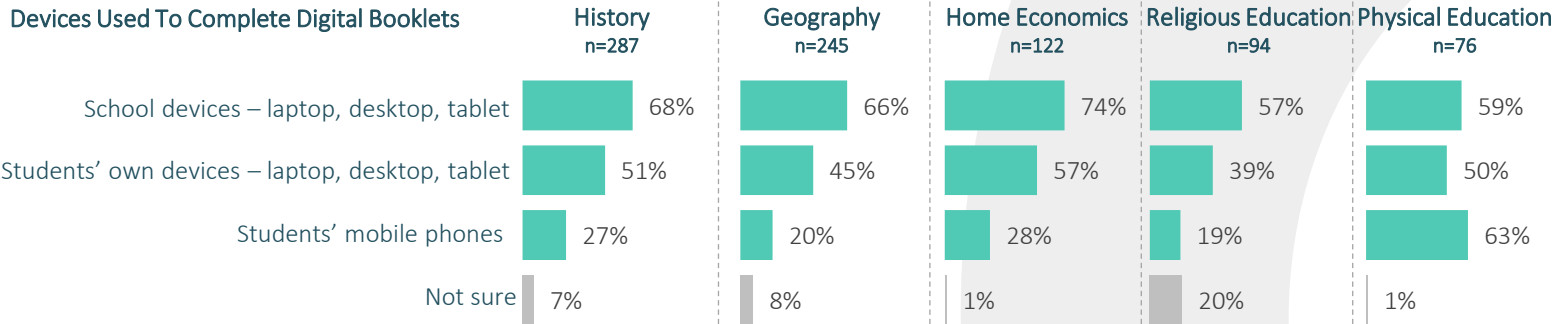
Currently, project work in 10 Leaving Certificate subjects is submitted to the State Examinations Commission (SEC) in the format of an SEC-standardised digital booklet:

- Economics
- Physical education
- Agricultural science
- Politics and society
- Applied mathematics
- Classical studies
- Geography
- History
- Religious education
- Home economics

Digital Booklets



School devices are most used for digital booklet completion, though many students use their own phones for physical education. Subject teachers in the main submit the digital booklets to the State Examinations Commission.



*Beware: Low Base Size

Q. Which devices did students use to complete their digital booklet for SUBJECT? Please select all that apply.

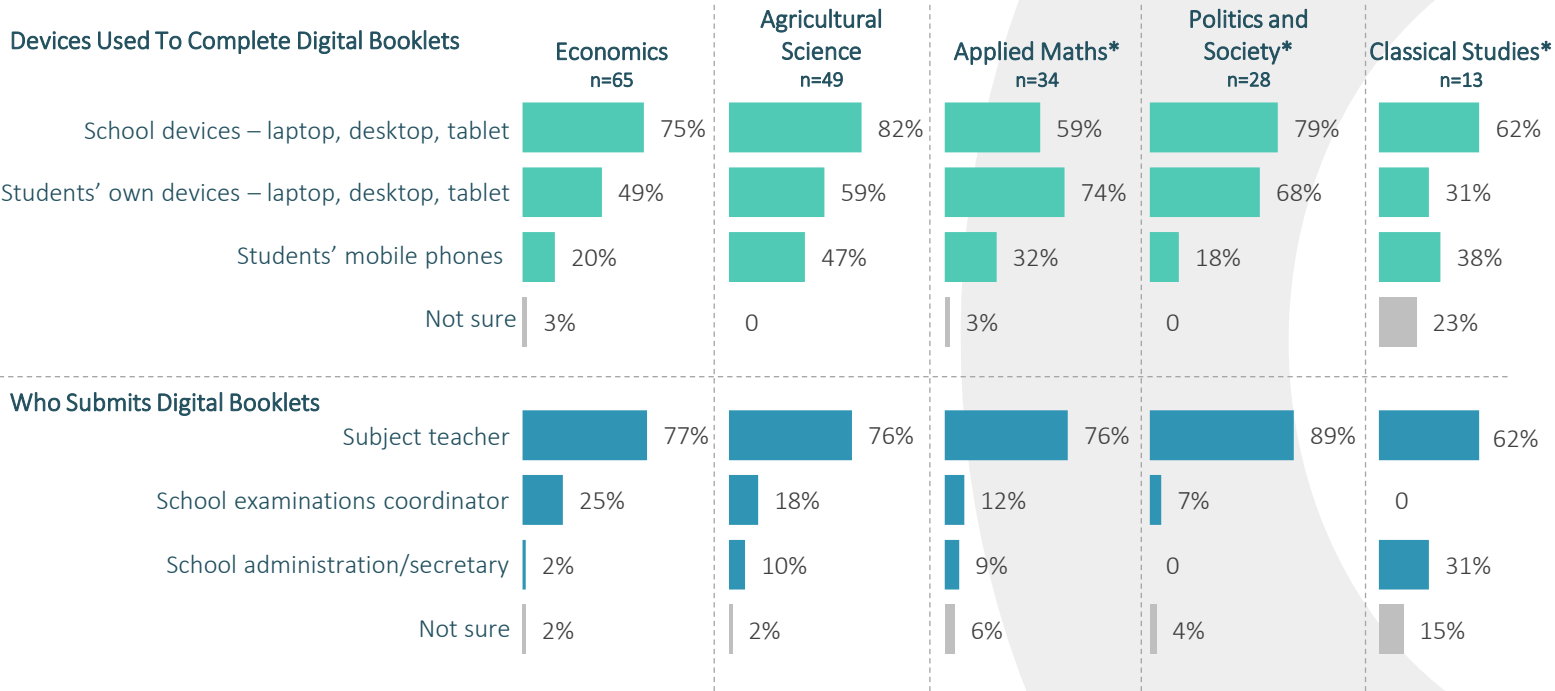
Q. Who submits the digital booklets for SUBJECT to the SEC Portal? Please select all that apply.

(Base: All Teaching Subject With Current AAC Below 40% and Dissatisfied With Minimum 40% Proposed)

Digital Booklets



School devices are most used for digital booklet completion, though many students use their own devices for many of the less mainstream subjects. Subject teachers in the main submit the digital booklets to the State Examinations Commission.



*Beware: Low Base Size

Q. Which devices did students use to complete their digital booklet for SUBJECT? Please select all that apply.

Q. Who submits the digital booklets for SUBJECT to the SEC Portal? Please select all that apply.

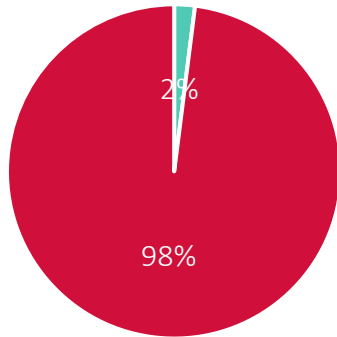
(Base: All Teaching Subject With Current AAC Below 40% and Dissatisfied With Minimum 40% Proposed)

Submission of Digital Booklets



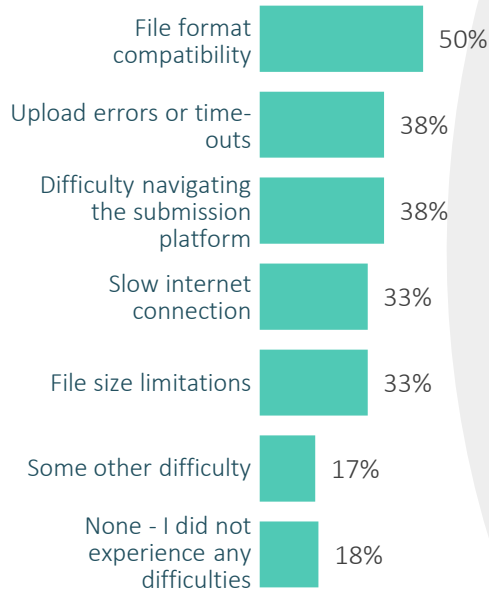
Despite high levels of submissions made by subject teachers, only 2% have received training on how to do it. Eight in ten experience technical difficulties when submitting. Only three in ten believe the IT system can do the processing securely.

Received Training For Submission of Digital Booklets

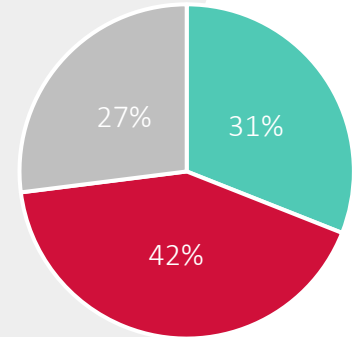


■ Yes ■ No

Technical Difficulties Experienced



Satisfied IT System Can Process Booklets Securely



■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q. Did you receive any training for the submission of digital booklets to the SEC Portal?

Q. Which, if any of the below technical difficulties did you experience when submitting digital booklets via the SEC Portal? Please select all that apply.

Q. Thinking again about digital booklet submissions, are you satisfied that the IT system in your school can process the digital booklets securely?

(Base: All Teaching Subject with Digital Booklet Submission)

* = < 0.5%

5

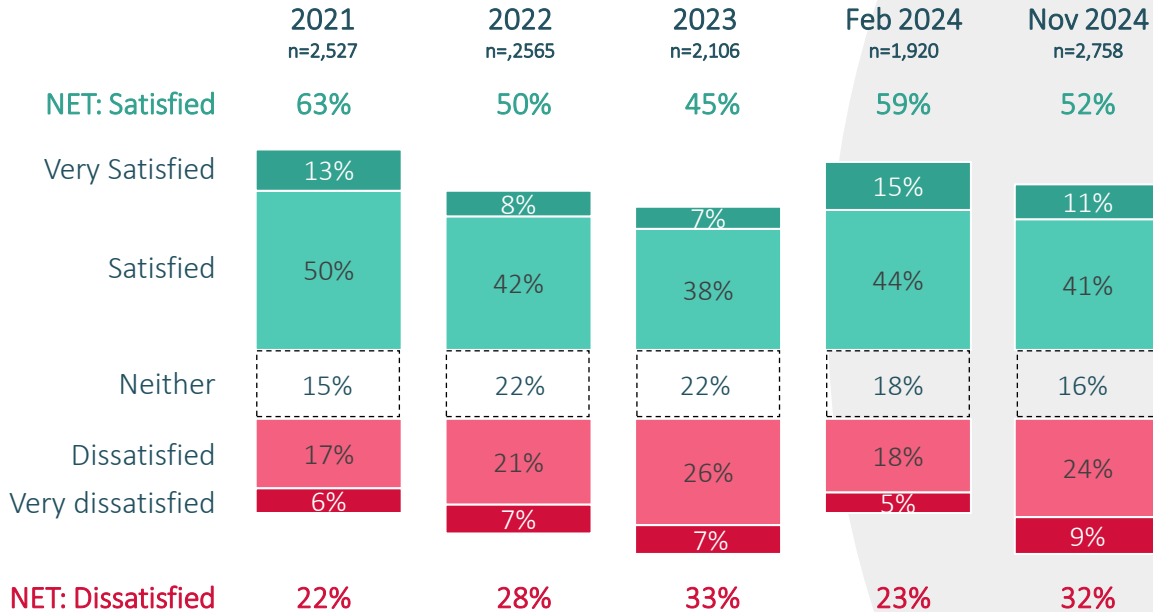
Job satisfaction



Job Satisfaction



Satisfaction levels have declined since earlier this year and have returned to the lower levels of 2022 and 2023.



NOTE: Scores may not add exactly to 100% due to rounding

Q. Taking into account your current work duties and work environment, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your job?

(Base: All Respondents)

6

Key themes



THANK YOU

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