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TEACH-NOW'S FIRST EVER "MOBILITY SURVEY" SHOWS MAJORITY OF U.S. CANDIDATES GOING THROUGH THE ONLINE TEACHER PREPARATION CERTIFICATE PROGRAM ARE TEACHING ABROAD BEFORE RETURNING TO THE U.S. TO TEACH

December 18, 2019 – TEACH-NOW, which challenged the traditional teacher education model eight years ago with its innovative, activities-based, collaborative online teacher preparation program, today announced the results of its first ever "Mobility Trends Survey" of teachers and candidates enrolled in its programs. The full report can be accessed [here](#).

"We wanted to find out why people from all over the world who already hold at least a bachelor's degree were enrolling in TEACH-NOW in rapidly increasing numbers during a time when enrollments in teacher preparation programs in the U.S. have been plummeting," renown education innovator and TEACH-NOW founder Dr. Emily Feistritzer explained. "TEACH-NOW has experienced explosive enrollment growth, high retention rates and is turning out teachers who are committed to teaching for the long haul, not just getting a credential when it is harder and harder to keep public school teachers in their jobs. Our first ever Mobility Survey questioned this diverse but focused cadre of TEACH-NOW candidates and graduates."

As stated in the Executive Summary, one of the most interesting findings of the survey is the large number of U.S. citizens who go abroad to teach. While 61% of TEACH-NOW enrollees are U.S. citizens, only one-third of them (35%) actually go through the program in the U.S.

The Survey findings also showed that a freedom of mobility and desire to live abroad, coupled with better quality of life, employment opportunities and higher pay animated both American students and students who were not born in the U.S. to teach "abroad" from their home country.

When Survey data was analyzed in more detail, certification itself emerged as a major influence on the career decisions particularly of U.S. teachers, driving many teachers abroad, as well as creating a roadblock to entry into the profession for young, new teachers. These are the same teachers who later turn out to be highly qualified and dedicated to the teaching profession. The implication is that the teacher preparation, credentialing, and hiring processes—as currently operated in U.S. colleges of education and school systems—are themselves a contributing factor to the shortage of teachers in U.S. classrooms.

"With a backdrop of the U.S. facing a teaching shortage, and fewer international students enrolling in American universities to receive degrees, the results of this survey echo a growing trend of students moving away from university programs offering degrees in education, and highlights a general interest in finding more direct ways to get teaching certificates and earn experience that prepares these men and women for the classroom," Dr. Feistritzer said. "In general terms, TEACH-NOW graduates are veteran teachers and highly mobile, with experience teaching in multiple school settings and in multiple countries. They are also highly dedicated to the teaching profession, with an overwhelming majority currently teaching and planning to teach into the future."

The global market is where TEACH-NOW has seen its most significant growth, with TEACH-NOW candidates going through the program in 130 different countries and holding citizenship from 112.

Of the candidates in the study, 76% are based outside the United States, the majority are in Asia. Additionally, 39% of candidates were citizens of countries other than the United States.

When asked why they chose to teach abroad, regardless of where they were moving from or to, about half (48%) of all candidates said, “better quality of life” with “better employment opportunities” and “higher pay” close behind. The #1 reason everybody gave, with U.S. citizens leading at 82%, was “desire to live abroad.”

“Clearly, mobility is a big factor for people attracted to TEACH-NOW, which is an online, anywhere, anytime teacher preparation program,” Dr. Feistritzer said.

TEACH-NOW surveyed its candidates and graduates via email link to Survey Monkey October 18-29, 2019. 460 individuals completed the survey. Throughout the analysis this 460-person sample held up as a reliable representation of all TEACH-NOW candidates.

Dr. Feistritzer has built TEACH-NOW into one of the fastest growing teacher education programs in the country. Its custom-built learning platform’s unique approach to teacher preparation clears the way for college graduates, veterans and other career-switchers to be certified to teach in the United States and overseas. Its success led to the creation of the TEACH-NOW Graduate School of Education, which enables candidates to earn a Master’s degree in education as well as obtain a teaching license recognized all over the world.

ABOUT TEACH-NOW

Founded in 2011, TEACH-NOW Graduate School of Education is a collaborative, activity-based, technology-centric teacher preparation program and degree-granting institution whose mission is to empower tomorrow’s teachers for tomorrow’s students in tomorrow’s world. TEACH-NOW offers a nine-month post-baccalaureate teacher preparation certificate program and 12-month Master’s in Education degree programs with seven focus areas: Globalization of Education, Educational Research, Early Childhood Education, Special Education, Teaching Multilingual, Educational Technology and Educational Leadership. TEACH-NOW boasts a 90 percent program completion rate and nearly 100 percent of graduates who want to teach can do so through certification and placement assistance. TEACH-NOW has enrolled over 4,000 students from 130 countries and 98 percent of graduates say they would recommend the program to others. For more information, visit us at <https://teach-now.edu/> or call us at 844-283-2246.

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