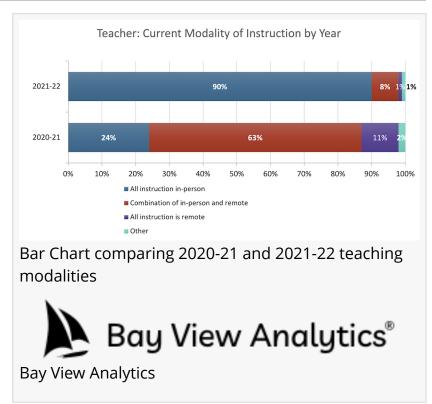


Survey Finds Public Schools Aren't Abandoning Digital Resources Despite Return to In-Person Instruction

Satisfaction with Digital Materials Remains High, While Widespread Familiarity Remains Low

OAKLAND, CA, USA, June 30, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- While almost all teachers have returned to their classrooms this school year, their reversion to textbooks and other physical instructional materials they preferred before the pandemic hasn't been nearly as swift, an <u>annual survey</u> of educators by <u>Bay View Analytics</u> found.

More than nine in 10 teachers reported having returned to in-person instruction. But only 30 percent of teachers report their instructional



materials are entirely or predominantly physical, down significantly from 2018-19 prior to the pandemic when 68 percent said physical materials were the norm. The largest group of teachers (42 percent) reported an even split among digital and physical materials compared to 20 percent pre-pandemic.

"Pandemic teaching disrupted K-12 schools. After returning to the classroom this year, teachers and administrators are figuring out what methods used during remote teaching should stick around. It may take a few years for classrooms to settle post pandemic," said Julia Seaman, Director of Research at Bay View Analytics and author of the report. "However, it is quite clear that completely physical textbooks and materials are now things of the past – including digital resources in the classroom will be the standard going forward."

Bay View Analytics in partnership with the Online Learning Consortium and funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1,469 U.S. teachers and administrators in April 2022. This year's study is the fourth in a series investigating K-12 curricula discovery, selection and adoption processes in the United States.



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Julia Seaman, Director of Research

The continued use of digital materials comes despite most teachers (61 percent) saying they prefer to use physical materials and nearly the same number (59 percent) expressing a belief that students learn better with physical materials. However, most teachers (55 percent) also believe that their students prefer digital materials.

While teachers are using digital materials more, many remain unfamiliar with a common form of those materials called open educational resources (OER). OER are teaching, learning, and research materials that are either in the

public domain or licensed in a manner that provides everyone with free and perpetual permission to engage in the "five R" activities (retain, reuse, revise, remix and/or redistribute them). Half of all teachers are unaware of OER at any level. For the half of teachers who are aware, many are at a low level of awareness: 19 percent have "heard of" OER, and 14 percent are "somewhat aware."

The complete report, Coming Back Together Educational Resources in U.S. K-12 Education, 2022, is released under a Creative Commons license and is available for download at https://www.bayviewanalytics.com/reports/k-12 oer comingbacktogether.pdf. An associated infographic is available at https://www.bayviewanalytics.com/reports/k-12 oer comingbacktogether infographic.pdf. The study also examined educators' views on curriculum adoption and professional development.

The full series of reports for this project, including reports on higher education, are available on the OER section of the Bay View Analytics webpage, https://www.bayviewanalytics.com/oer.html.

About Bay View Analytics

Bay View Analytics is a statistical research firm focusing on survey design, implementation and analysis. Formerly known as the Babson Survey Research Group, the scope of Bay View Analytics' consulting engagements includes scientific statistical analyses, clinical trial statistics and survey designs for a range of topics, with a particular focus on online education. Bay View Analytics has been conducting research and publishing annual reports on the state of online education in U.S. higher education for thirteen years. Visit www.bayviewanalytics.com for more information or contact us at info@bayviewanalytics.com.

About Online Learning Consortium

The Online Learning Consortium (OLC) is a collaborative community of education leaders and innovators, dedicated to advancing quality digital teaching and learning experiences designed to reach and engage the modern learner – anyone, anywhere, anytime. The growing OLC

community includes faculty members, administrators, trainers, instructional designers and other learning professionals, as well as educational institutions, professional societies and corporate enterprises. Visit onlinelearningconsortium.org for more information.

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