



Praxis Cut Score Comparisons

Proposed Recommendations

- Raising scores related to the following assessments:
 - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)
 - Special Education (3 assessments)
 - German
- English as a Second Language
 - This assessment has been regenerated by ETS, which requires a shift in the cut score from what is currently approved.

Background

- Praxis exams are required for endorsements.
- National panel of experts recommend “cut scores,” or minimum passing scores.
- Most states use recommended cut scores.

Analyses

- Key Questions:
 - What is the demand for the areas being tested?
 - How many of the sample would not have passed at the recommended cut scores?
 - How would changing the cut score affect the quality of the educator pool?
- Sample:
 - 2014–15 TN educators who took Praxis 2011–2015

Category	Assessment	Current Cut Score	Recommended Cut Score	% Difference in supply
Occupational	Technology	156	159	2.5
Special Populations	Severe to Profound	153	158	2.5
PLT	Elementary (K-6)	158	160	2.7
PLT	Secondary (7-12)	155	157	2.9
PLT	Middle (5-9)	158	160	3.3
Special Populations	Core Knowledge	145	151	3.6
PLT	Early Childhood	155	157	4.4
World Languages	German	157	163	7.1
Special Populations	Mild to Moderate	153	158	9.6
World Languages	Latin	141	152	9.6
Science	Physics	144	149	10.0
Special Populations	ESOL	143	147	10.1
Science	Earth & Space	146	152	11.9
World Languages	Spanish	163	168	13.0
Fine Arts	Art	157	161	13.7
World Languages	French	156	162	13.8
Occupational	Marketing	160	169	24.3
Academic	PE	164	169	27.0
Academic	History	136	157	38.9

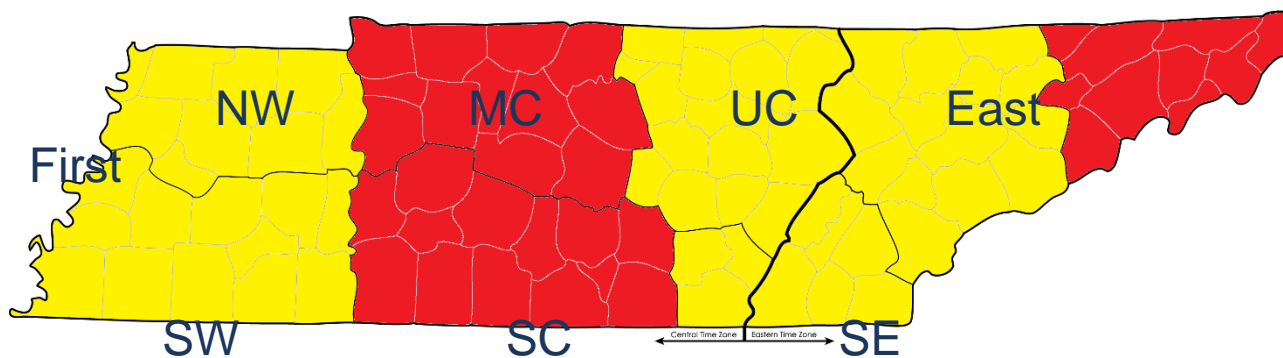
The logo consists of a red square containing the letters 'TN' in white, serif font. Below the red square is a dark blue horizontal bar.

TN

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**Tests with Changes
Recommended**

Most districts report not having enough Special Education teachers

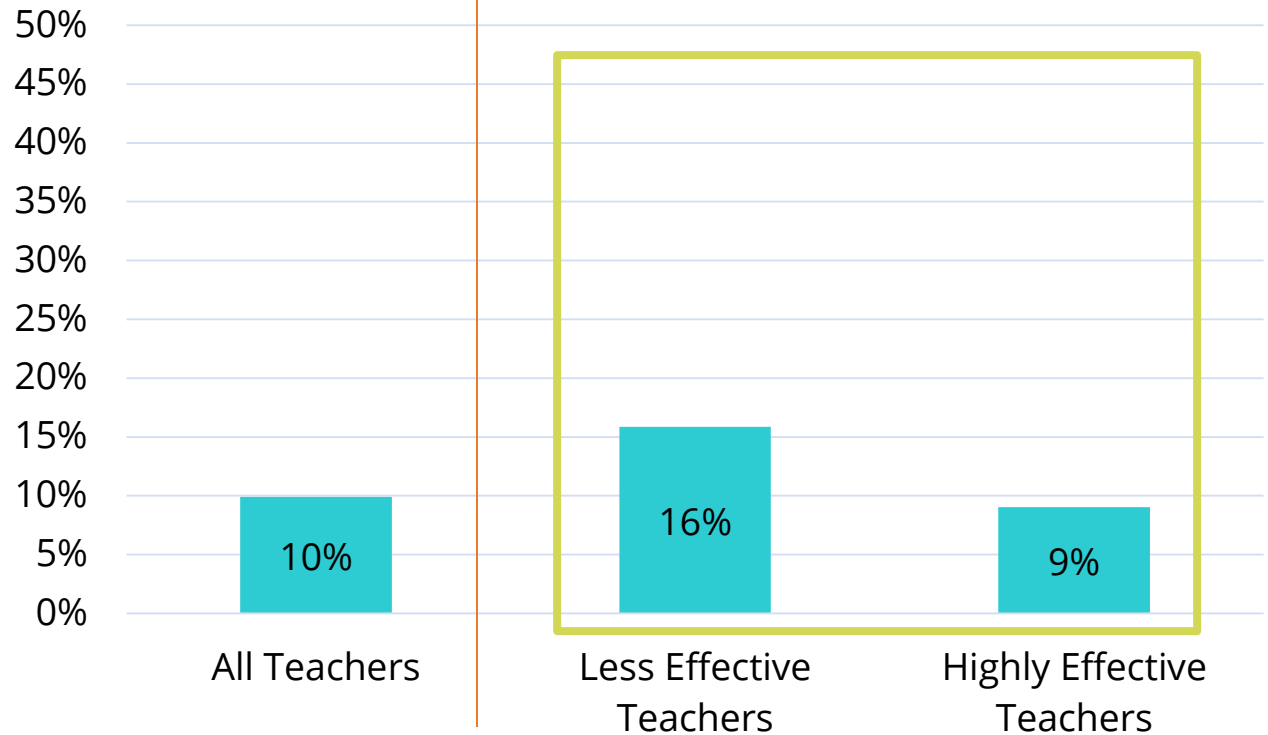


CORE	East	First	MC	NW	SC	SE	SW	UC	all
% Fail Mild/Mod	7%	5%	7%	9%	9%	8%	15%	9%	9.6%
% Fail Sev/Prof	2%	0%	4%	0%	0%	2%	4%	3%	2.5%
% Fail Core	0%	6%	3%	0%	0%	3%	7%	5%	3.6%

16% of Less Effective teachers would have failed the SpEd: Mild/Moderate at the recommended cut score.

Failure Rates at Recommended Cut Score

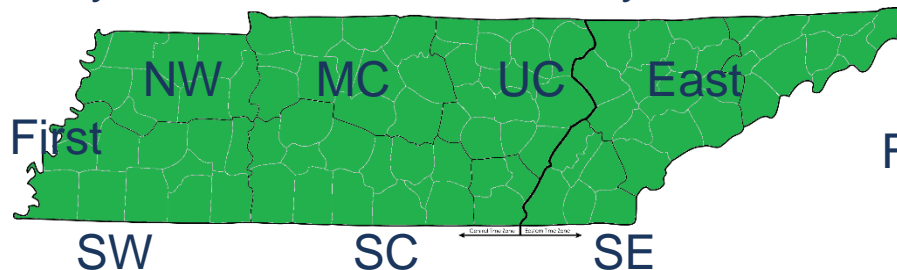
Total 2011–2015 test takers with 2014–15 LOEs: 1,683



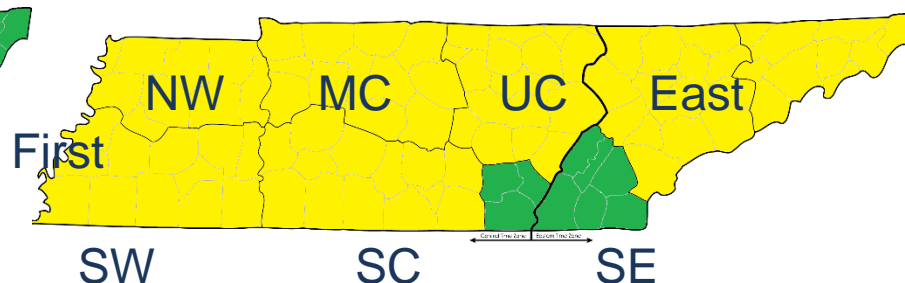
TN cut score	Rec cut score	Average	Less Effective	Highly Effective
153	158	170.1	167.1	170.7

More districts report not having enough middle grade than early/elem. grade teachers

Early Childhood & Elementary Grades



Middle Grades

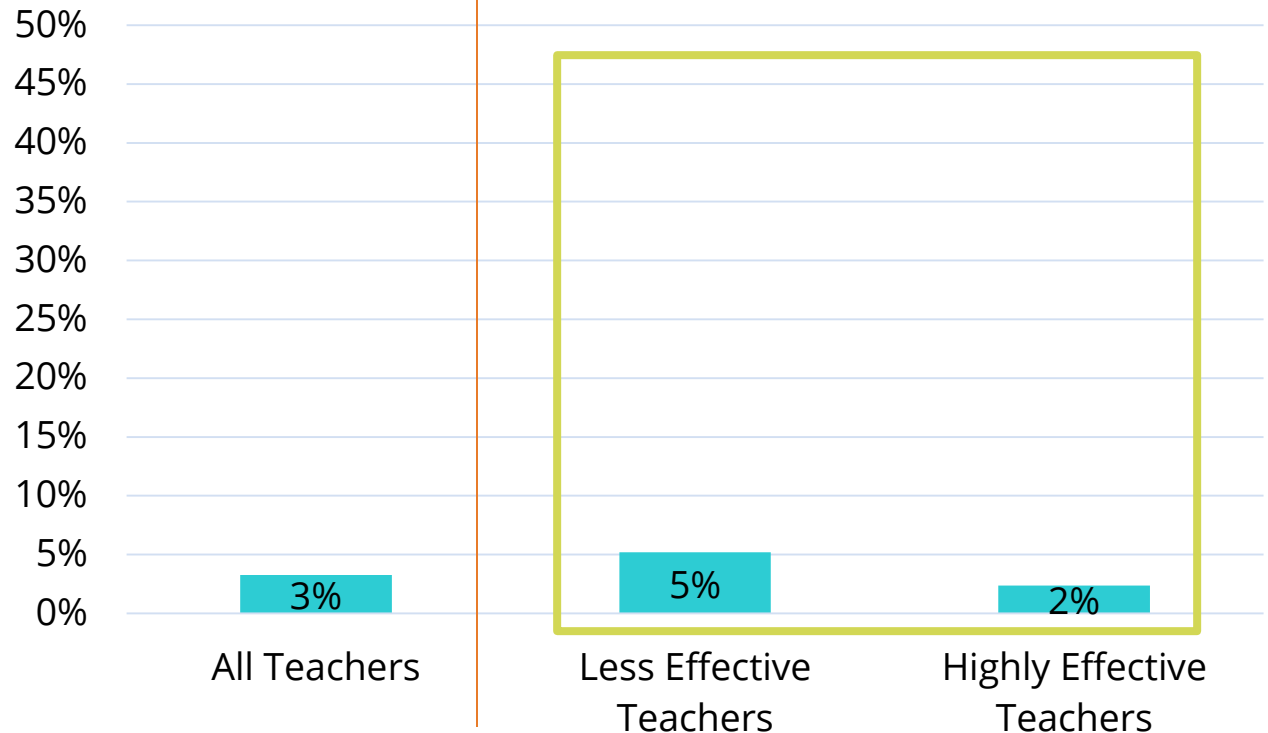


CORE	East	First	MC	NW	SC	SE	SW	UC	all
% Fail EC	2%	3%	3%	0%	8%	6%	6%	0%	4.4%
% Fail K-6	3%	3%	3%	2%	4%	3%	4%	5%	2.7%
% Fail 5-9	3%	5%	3%	11%	5%	4%	4%	6%	3.3%
% Fail 7-12	3%	4%	1%	5%	2%	3%	4%	6%	2.9%

5% of Less Effective teachers would have failed the PLT: K–6 test at the recommended cut score.

Failure Rates at Recommended Cut Score

Total 2011–2015 test takers with 2014–15 LOEs: **4,030**



TN cut score	Rec cut score	Average	Less Effective	Highly Effective
158	160	174.2	172.5	174.8

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