

**Physics Teacher Candidate Survey, Illinois State University**  
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N = 24 (PTE Majors)

Score **Why become a teacher in general?**

- 1.71 experiences with teaching others
- 1.62 experiences with good teachers
- 1.42 the chance to make a difference in the world
- 1.37 ready job mobility
- 1.37 nine-month work schedule with summer vacation
- 1.37 my desire to do good for others
- 1.33 opportunity to be creative
- 1.29 the high esteem I hold for teachers
- 1.25 the growing need for teachers
- 1.25 ability of the teacher to make a difference in others' lives
- 1.25 the possibility of influencing others for good
- 1.21 consistent with my natural abilities
- 1.08 inspiration of a friend, parent, or teacher
- 1.08 the experience of helping others academically
- 0.75 advice of parent(s)/guardian(s)
- 0.62 one or more interesting school projects
- 0.54 the high esteem others hold for teachers
- 0.46 advice of friends or relatives (not parents or teachers)
- 0.42 expected work load
- 0.42 advice of teachers
- 0.42 experience with public speaking
- 0.12 good overall grade point average
- 0.25 recommendation of a school counselor
- 0.38 teacher salaries

**Interpreting Mean Scores**

+2 = strong positive influence

+1 = weak positive influence

0 = no influence or NA

(-1) = weak negative influence

(-2) = strong negative influence

**Why become a physics teacher in particular?**

- 1.71 experiences with a high school physics teacher
- 1.67 my interest in physics in particular
- 1.50 experiences with a high school physics course
- 1.21 applicability of physics to every-day life
- 1.08 interest in science in general
- 1.08 my experiences with physics demonstrations
- 1.08 my experiences with physics labs
- 1.00 ability to apply my good math skills
- 0.96 good grades in physics
- 0.71 my experiences with technology
- 0.62 recommendation of a high school physics teacher
- 0.58 prestige of a physics-related job
- 0.58 upward mobility of physics teacher in school administration
- 0.46 recommendation of parent(s)/guardian(s)
- 0.33 my experiences with a physicist not my teacher
- 0.29 recommendation of friends
- 0.25 information found on the World Wide Web
- 0.21 reading popular science magazines
- 0.21 taking an Advanced Placement physics course
- 0.00 recommendation of a school counselor