

Anti-Racist Teaching: What Educators Really Think

By The EdWeek Research Center

September 25, 2020

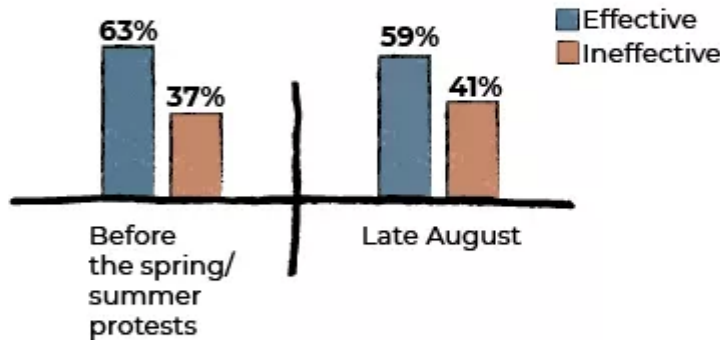
As part of the new special report “[Big Ideas for Confronting Racism in Education](#),” we wanted to know how educators are thinking and talking about equity in schools. Are schools doing enough to bridge the equity gaps? Have the Black Lives Matter protests of the past several months shifted the opinions of teachers, principals, and district leaders on what an “anti-racist” education looks like? And do they have the preparation and resources they need for that work? Here are some key takeaways about the state of equity in education.

-  [Printer-Friendly](#)
-  [Email Article](#)
-  [Reprints](#)
-  [Comments](#)

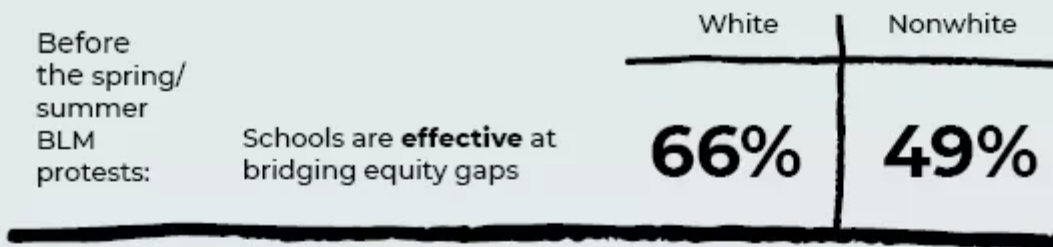
When It Comes to Equity and Anti-Racist Teaching, How Do Educators Feel?

In late August of 2020, the EdWeek Research Center conducted a nationally representative survey of more than 800 teachers, principals, and district leaders to learn more about their views on school-based equity.

Educators were asked how effective they thought schools were at **bridging equity gaps** before the Black Lives Matter spring/summer protests, and how effective they think they are now.



Before the protests, white educators were much more likely than nonwhite educators to believe schools had been **successful in addressing equity**.



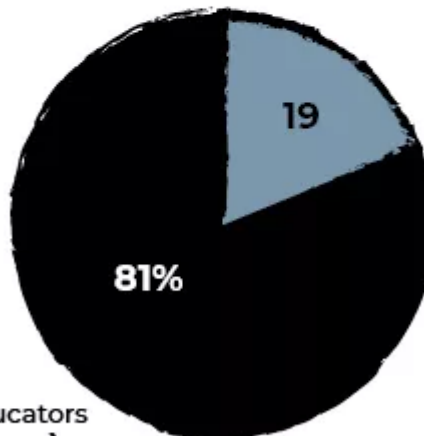
By late August, following the protests, the share of white educators seeing

By late August, following the protests, the share of white educators seeing schools as effective on equity had **declined by six points**. By contrast, nonwhite educators' confidence in schools had a **six-point increase**.

In response to an open-ended survey question, educators most often

(46%) say

an anti-racist/abolitionist educator teaches multiple perspectives and treats everyone fairly.



Most educators

(81%)

identify themselves as anti-racist/abolitionist educators.

95% of nonwhite teachers see themselves as anti-racist/abolitionist educators ...

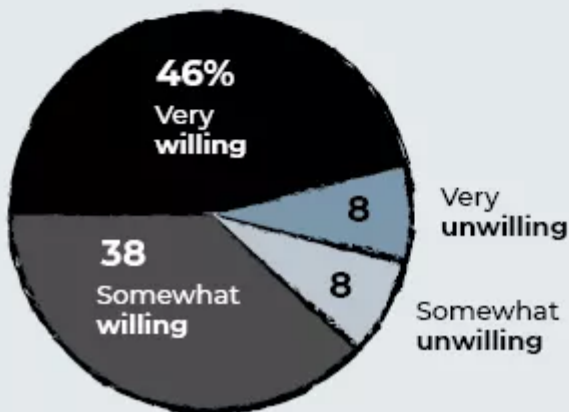
compared with **82%** of their white peers.

When asked to define an anti-racist curriculum in an open-ended survey question, educators most commonly

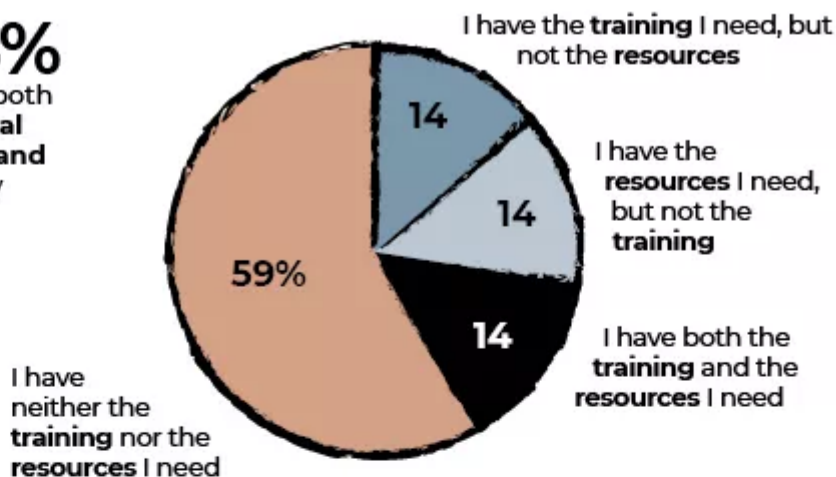
(53%) say:

It's a curriculum promoting diversity and equality.

Most educators
(84%)
are at least
somewhat
willing to teach
or support the
implementation
of an **anti-racist**
curriculum.



But only **14%**
say they have both
the **professional**
development and
resources they
need to do so.



Only **18%** say
they have received
anti-racist/abolitionist
training in their
educator preparation
program ...

with just **30%**
saying they got
such **professional**
development in their
districts or schools.

Note: Because approximately 80 percent of educators are white, we did not receive enough responses from people of any other race or ethnicity to provide a further breakdown beyond "nonwhite."

BREAKDOWN BEYOND THE WHITE.

SOURCE: EdWeek Research Center, 2020