

Who wants to be a headteacher? This, and more findings...

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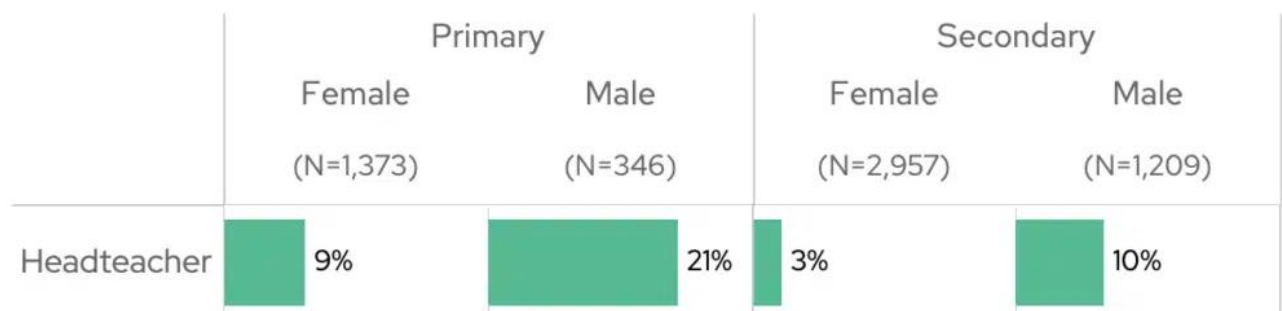
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[1. Who wants to be a headteacher?](#)

Last week, [we reported](#) the alarming headline, that male teachers were more than twice as likely to aspire to be headteachers than female teachers, across both phases. We wanted to dive deeper into this result to see if we could understand a bit more about why this might be!

If you are still working in education in ten years, which job would you like to be doing?

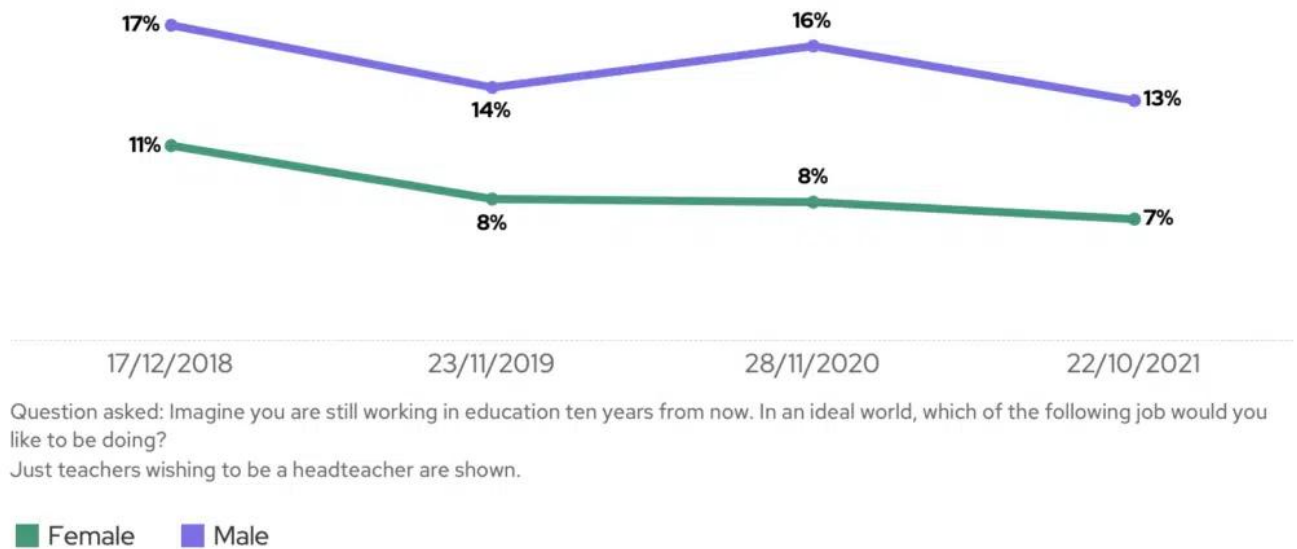


Question answered by teachers on 22/10/2021 (results weighted to reflect national teacher and school demographics)

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Firstly, the percentage of teachers wanting to become a headteacher has been decreasing for the past four years across both genders. However, the gender gap has not narrowed in this time. In 2018, 17% of male teachers and 11% of female teachers wanted to become heads. Now, the gap remains at six percentage points, but only 13% of men and 7% of women want to become headteachers.

More male than female teachers would like to be a headteacher in ten years time

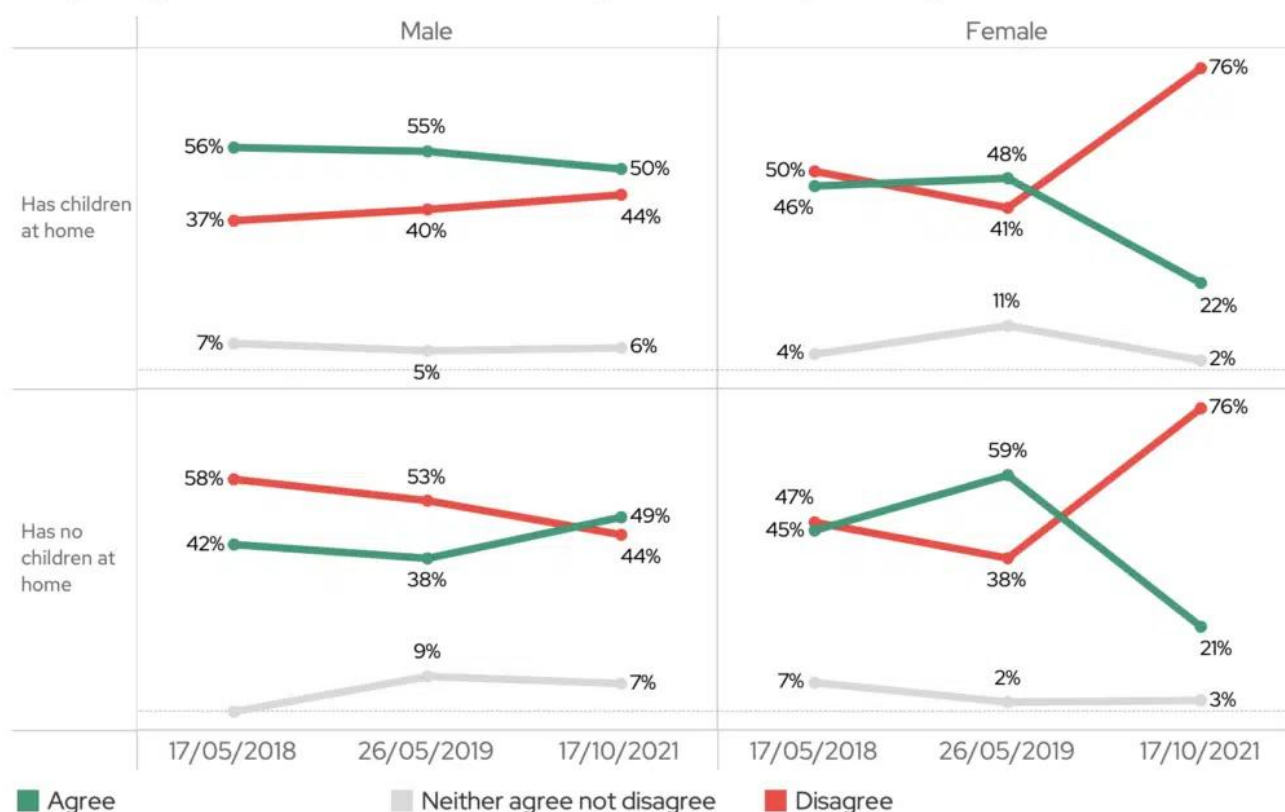


Until recently, male and female headteachers have shared a similar view on the stress levels of headship.

In 2019, 53% of female heads and 52% of male heads agreed that the stress levels were acceptable for the job. However, these views have changed dramatically since. In 2021, 76% of female headteachers reported that it was unacceptable for their job, compared with 45% of male heads.

The pandemic has caused a particular burden on families, with many parents having to juggle their own work and homeschooling. Are these newfound stress levels affected by whether you have children or not? Apparently not, as the results remain the same regardless of whether a headteacher has children or not.

Do you agree that stress levels are acceptable for the job that you do?



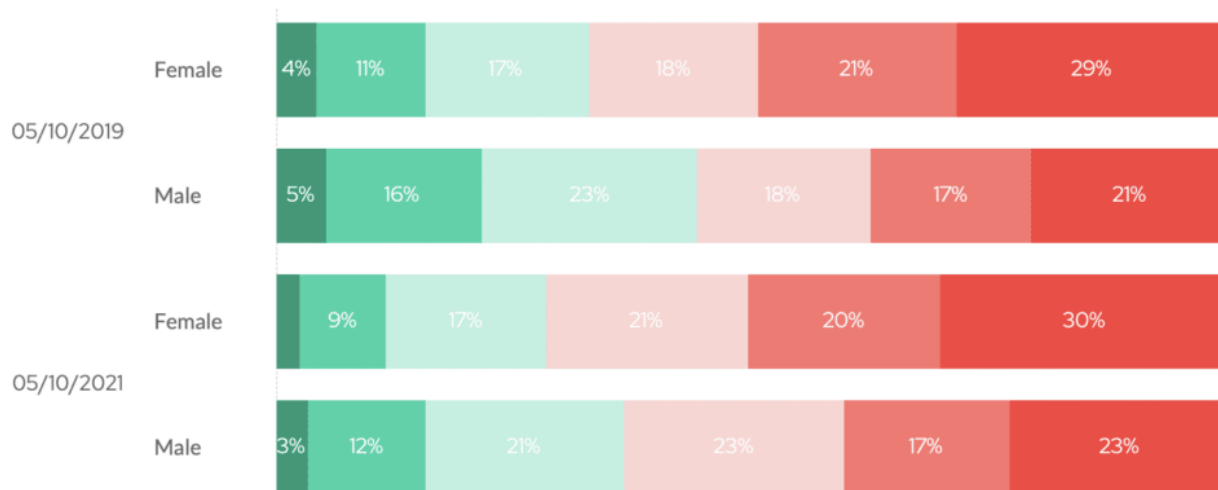
So, it seems unlikely that child-related stress levels are a main contributing factor to the difference between the percentage of male and female teachers who want to become heads.

However, male teachers do consistently report wanting more challenging things to do in their working life than female teachers.

When asked back in 2019, 43% of male teachers reported wanting more challenging things to do, compared to 32% of female teachers. While the pandemic has curtailed your want of challenge somewhat, the pattern is still present now - 36% of male teachers want more challenge, compared to 28% of female teachers.

Once again, breaking this down by whether or not teachers have children does not make a difference to these results.

I would like more challenging things to do in my working life



Teacher responses vary from 1,610 to 4,500, depending on date asked (results weighted to reflect national teacher and school demographics)

■ Strongly agree ■ Slightly agree ■ Somewhat disagree
■ Somewhat agree ■ Slightly disagree ■ Strongly disagree

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2. How was your half-term?

Do you remember what you did in half-term? It seemed to be over in the blink of an eye...

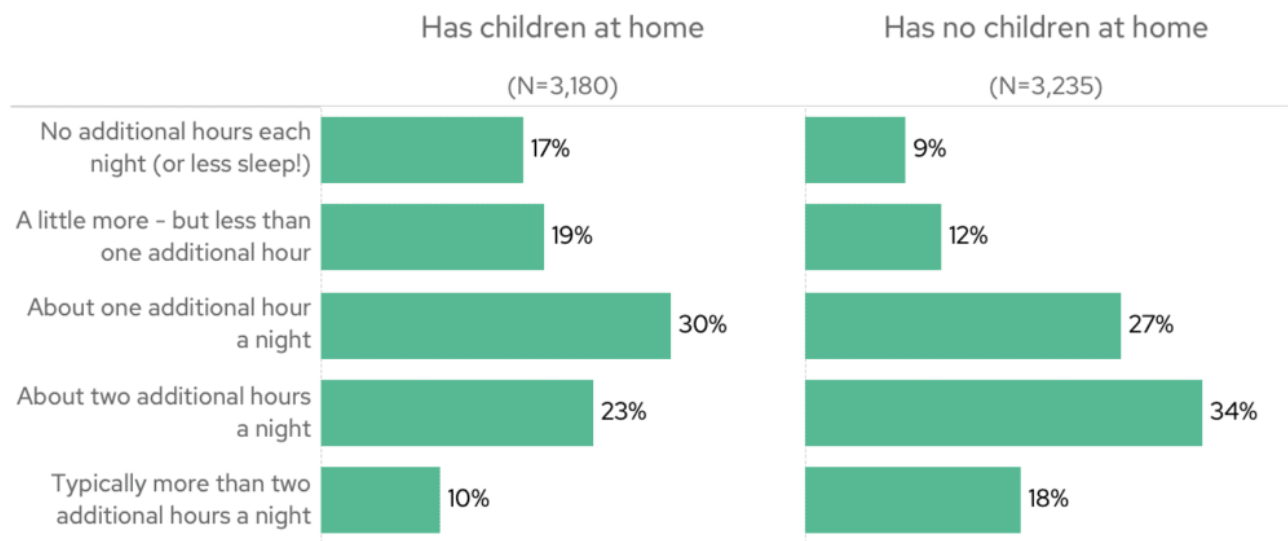
Perhaps it went by so quickly because you were all catching up on lost sleep from the previous term **!!!**

85% of you were able to get a well-deserved bit of extra sleep each night, but those with kids found it harder! It's much easier to get that bit of extra sleep when you don't have kids begging to go to World of Adventures each morning.

91% of teachers without children were able to get a bit more sleep over half-term, compared to 83% of those with. Over 50% of teachers without children got two or more extra hours of sleep each night over half term.

Regardless of whether you managed to get some more sleep or not, we hope you're feeling recharged for the half-term ahead!

Over the half-term holiday, how many additional hours of sleep did you get per night over and above the amount you usually get during term time?



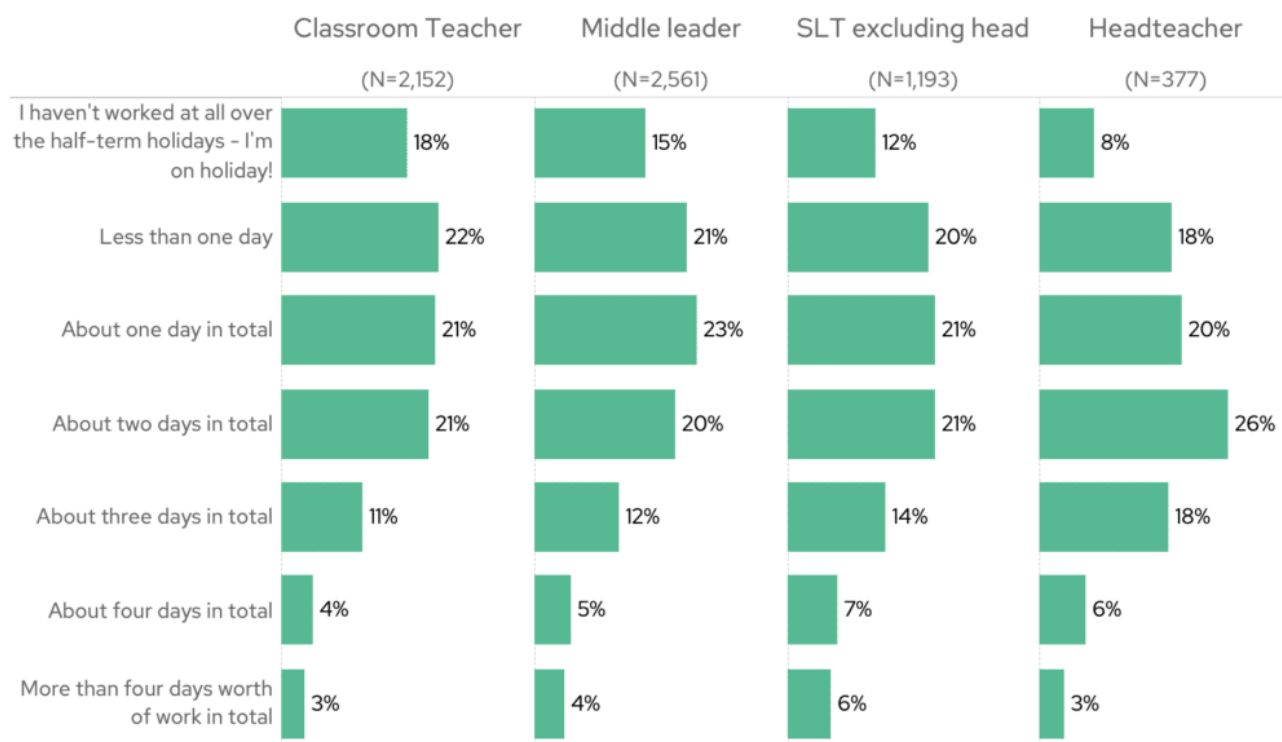
Question answered by 6,535 teachers on 31/10/2021 (results weighted to reflect national teacher and school demographics)

Teachertapp

The half-term holiday isn't just for sleeping though, it's also about...working?

A whopping 80% of teachers reported working at least some of the half-term break. Headteachers, in particular, had a busy half-term, with over 50% of heads working two days or more over the break. That said, classroom teachers didn't have a much easier time of it, with over 50% of classroom teachers working at least one day in half-term.

Over the half-term holiday, how many days in total have you spent working?

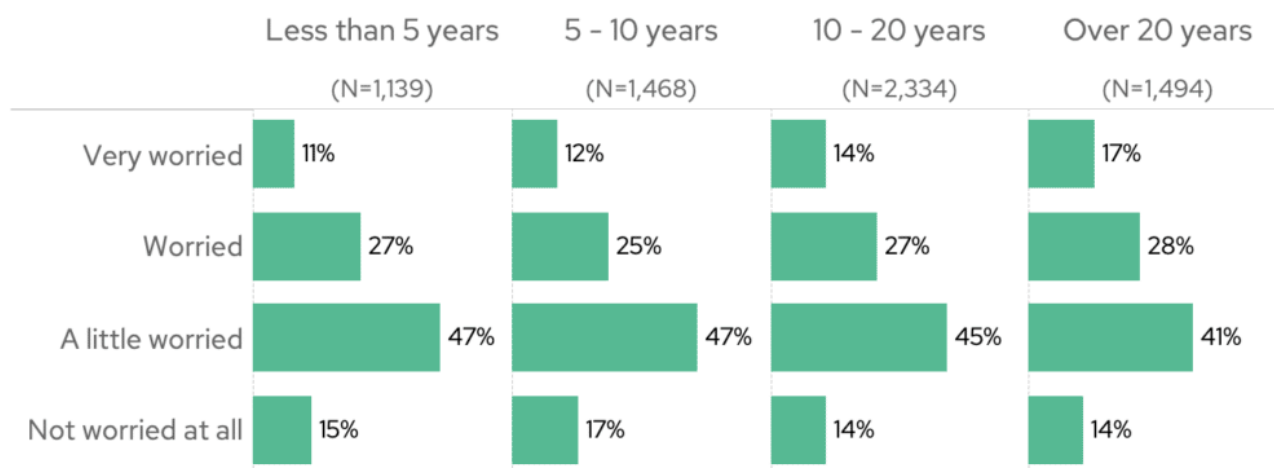


Question answered by 6,504 teachers on 31/10/2021 (results weighted to reflect national teacher and school demographics)

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With half-term behind us, there are now seven weeks in this new half-term, but how worried are you it? More experienced teachers reported being more worried about this half-term than those with less than five years experience. What do they know that we don't? ■■

How worried are you about the next half-term?



Question answered by 6,477 teachers on 30/10/2021 (results weighted to reflect national teacher and school demographics)

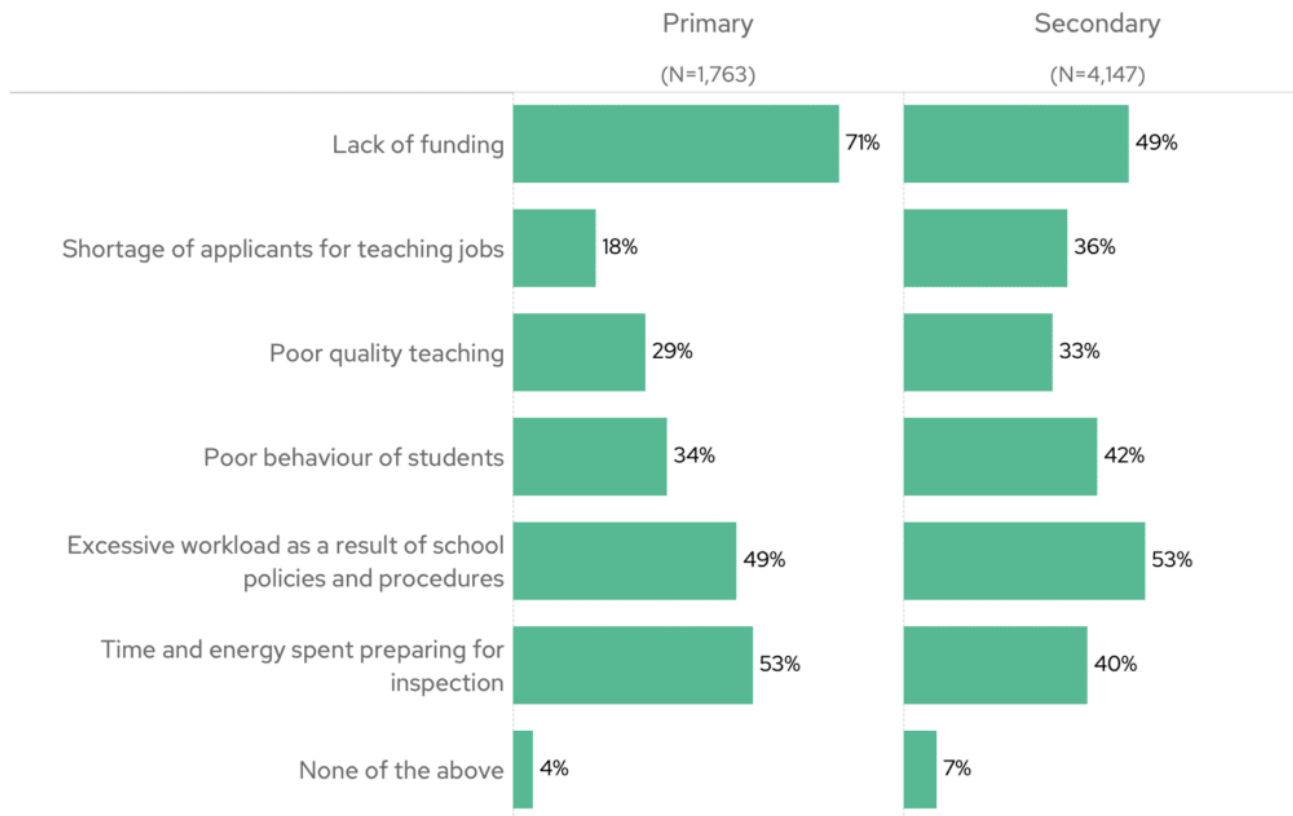
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3. Which problems would YOU fix in your school?

Last week, you told us about some of the biggest problems facing your school. Nearly three-quarters of primary school teachers said that funding was a problem in their current school. The situation wasn't much better in secondary schools, where 50% of teachers reported the same problem.

Overall, you said that your school's own policies and procedures were the second most common problem you faced – 50% of you reported as such.

Which of these do you feel are problems currently facing YOUR SCHOOL?



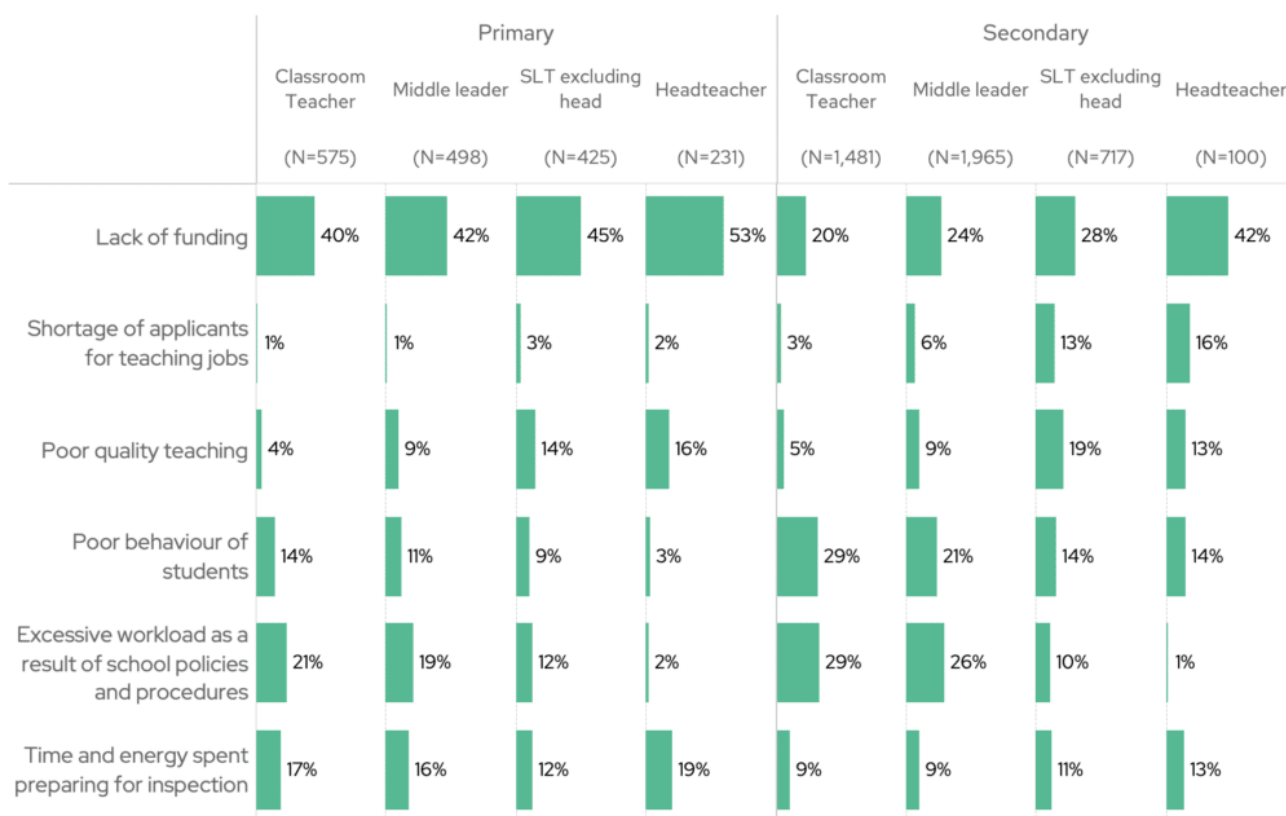
Question answered by 6,112 teachers on 23/10/2021 (results weighted to reflect national teacher and school demographics)

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Which problem would you most like to fix? Funding still came out as the winner, especially for primary schools.

Your job role also matters, though. Only 2% of headteachers would fix the excessive workload caused by school policies, but 25% of classroom teachers said that they would fix this problem if they had one choice. (In fact, more secondary classroom teachers would pick workload than funding).

If you could wave a magic wand and fix one problem currently facing YOUR SCHOOL, which of the following list would you pick? Please tick just one.



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4. Teacher Tapp mentions in the wild ■■

A critical aspect of you answering questions on Teacher Tapp is that it unlocks research that gets shared with you on the app, but also goes out into the wild and knocks ministers, policymakers and other decision people upside the head with your views!

Here are a few mentions we had in the press over the past week.

- See media reports on our findings about gender differences in headship ambitions
 - [Male teachers 'twice as likely to want headship'](#) (from TES)
 - [Survey reveals headship ambition gender gap](#) (from School Management Plus)
- And read about how we worked with the ONS to show which subjects were hit hardest in the pandemic
 - [Why arts subjects were hit so hard in the pandemic](#) (from TES)
 - [Remote schooling through the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic, England](#) (raw dataset from the ONS)

Finally... we know you love the daily read, so here are the ones from

last week

The most read tip this week was: [How can you make whole-class feedback work?](#)

And here are the rest for your reference:

- [Could you really explain how a toilet works?](#)
- [Can 'Do Now' exercises help make the first few minutes of a lesson more effective?](#)
- [How were schools affected in the Budget?](#)
- [How to break your worst teacher habits!](#)
- [Don't think that these things are effective!](#)