

Teacher Pensions MYTHBUSTERS

Pension Myth All teachers prefer a traditional, defined benefit retirement plan.

The Facts

When options are available, teachers increasingly choose defined contribution plans.

- A recent nationally representative survey found the vast majority of teachers want a retirement plan that is fair, flexible, and offers stability regardless of its structure.
- Over 40% of new teachers are career changers who need flexibility in their pensions, so it makes sense that nearly a third would opt out of traditional, defined benefit retirement plans for more flexible options.
- In fact, a recent case study in Florida found that 30% of teachers entering the system between 2003-04 and 2008-09 selected a defined contribution option over the traditional defined benefit retirement plan.



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