

Good Evening Chairs Representative Smith Warner and Senator Roblan,
My name is Jennifer Cappalong and I am a board member with Decoding Dyslexia Oregon.

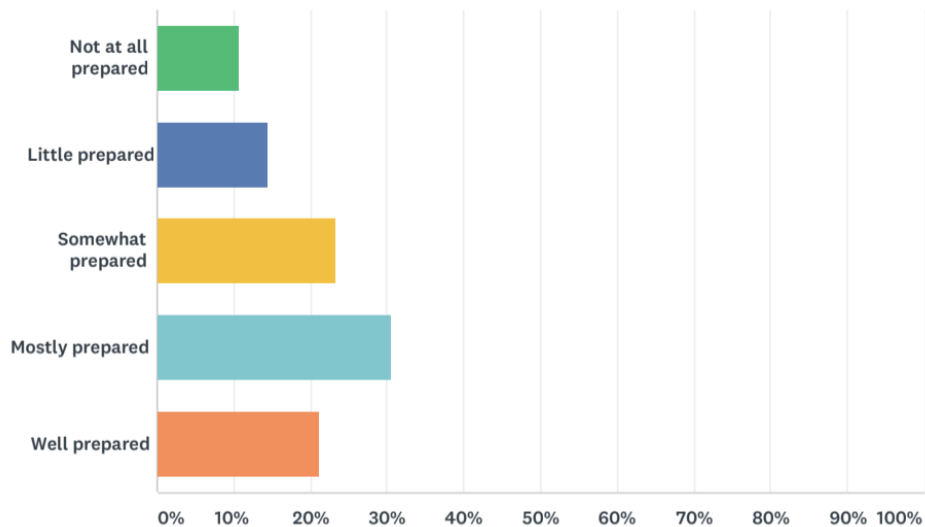
Many of you sponsored or supported landmark dyslexia legislation in 2015 and 2017 that has led to over 800 elementary school teachers receiving training on understanding and recognizing dyslexia, the foundational skills of reading, and intensifying reading instruction.

These skills are applicable far beyond the 20% percent of students with some degree of dyslexia. These skills allow these newly trained teachers to provide evidence-based, explicit, systematic reading instruction across all tiers of instructional support. All children benefit when teachers are knowledgeable and able to focus on the needs of children with dyslexia

More than 800 teachers who completed this training completed an ODE survey.

Q12 How prepared did you feel to teach struggling readers, including students with dyslexia, upon completion of your college program?

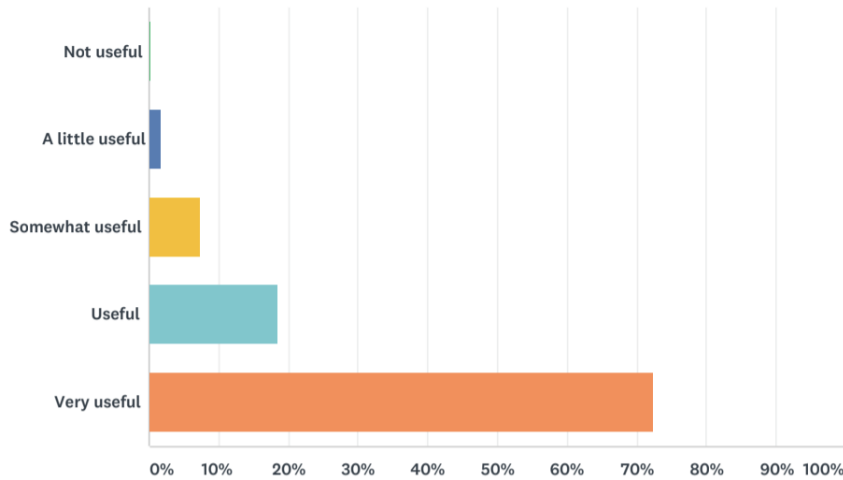
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Only 21% stated they were well prepared.

Q13 How useful was the information you received in the dyslexia training?

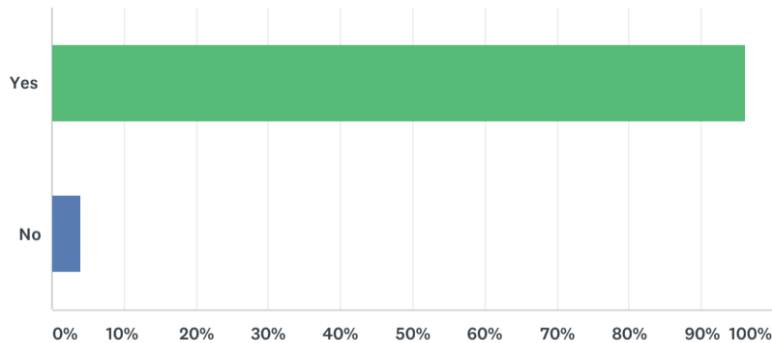
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Over 90% of teachers said that the information they received in training was useful or very useful.

Q14 Would you recommend that other teachers and staff in your building complete the dyslexia training?

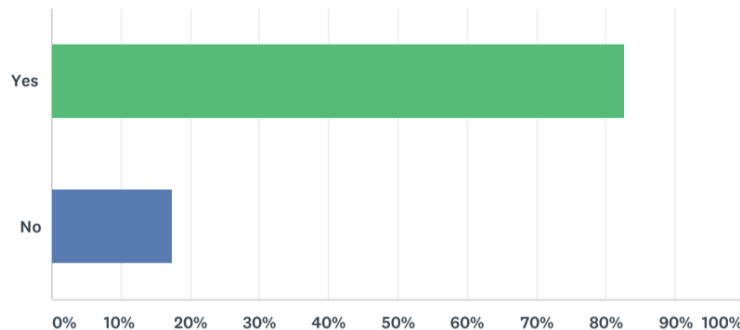
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Over 96% would recommend the training to other staff in their building.

Q18 Have the changes in your teaching as a result of the training had an impact on your students?

Answered: 776 Skipped: 241



And over 82% said that the training had already had an impact on their students.

And this training changes student outcomes. As one teacher expressed, “This fall, after implementing what I learned during the dyslexia training, I thought that something was wrong with my assessments, because for the first time in my many years of teaching, all my students were meeting reading benchmarks.”

As important as this is, one teacher trained in each school cannot address the 20% of students with dyslexia nevertheless the 53% of 3rd grade students who are not able to read at grade level.

So, I ask you to invest in teachers so that students can learn to read. Please allocate funds so that more teachers in every school can take the dyslexia training so that they are able to teach reading to all of their students. For the last biennium, \$1.9 million was allocated for this training. Reallocation a similar amount for dyslexia training is an investment in the reading skills of Oregon’s children.