


	Current Number of Workers 2006	Projected Number of Workers 2016	% Change to 2016	Average Annual Openings	 Secondary School Teachers SOC # 25-2031	
Regional	1900	2550	34.20%	120		
Texas	94,250	125,250	32.90%	5905		
Education/ Training Time	Is License Required?	Wage Rate \$/Hr. 2008 Statewide	Percent Female	Average Age	Job Turnover	Why Most Job Openings Occur
Bachelors +	Yes	\$22.17	62.2%	42.3	Average	Growth

### JOB DESCRIPTION

Instruct students in secondary public or private schools in one or more subjects at the secondary level, such as English, mathematics, or social studies. May be designated according to subject matter specialty, such as typing instructors, commercial teachers, or English teachers.

### WHERE DO WORKERS FIND JOBS?

Elementary and Secondary Schools

### RELATED COLLEGE PROGRAMS

CIP 131203 Junior High/Intermediate/Middle School Education and Teaching  
 CIP 131205 Secondary Education and Teaching  
 CIP 131206 Teacher Education, Multiple Levels (Alternative Certification)  
 CIP 1313\*\* Teacher Subject Matter Specialty

### IMPORTANT KNOWLEDGE

#### ARTS AND HUMANITIES

\* English Language

#### BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

\* Clerical

\* Customer and Personal Service

#### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

\* Education and Training

#### MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

\* Mathematics

\* Psychology

\* Sociology and Anthropology

### IMPORTANT SKILLS

#### CONTENT

\* Active Listening

\* Reading Comprehension

\* Speaking

#### PROCESS

\* Active Learning

\* Critical Thinking

\* Learning Strategies

\* Monitoring

#### RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SKILLS

\* Time Management

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

\* Instructing

\* Social Perceptiveness

### IMPORTANT ABILITIES

#### AUDITORY AND SPEECH ABILITIES

\* Speech Clarity

\* Speech Recognition

#### IDEA GENERATION AND REASONING ABILITIES

\* Deductive Reasoning

\* Inductive Reasoning

\* Problem Sensitivity

#### VERBAL ABILITIES

\* Oral Comprehension

\* Oral Expression

\* Written Comprehension

\* Written Expression

## **NATURE OF THE WORK: Secondary School Teachers**

Teachers act as facilitators or coaches, using interactive discussions and “hands-on” approaches to help students learn and apply concepts in subjects such as science, mathematics, or English. They utilize “props” or “manipulatives” to help children understand abstract concepts, solve problems, and develop critical thought processes. For example, they teach the concepts of numbers or of addition and subtraction by playing board games. As the children get older, the teachers use more sophisticated materials, such as science apparatus, cameras, or computers.

To encourage collaboration in solving problems, students are increasingly working in groups to discuss and solve problems together. Preparing students for the future workforce is a major stimulus generating changes in education. To be prepared, students must be able to interact with others, adapt to new technology, and think through problems logically. Teachers provide the tools and the environment for their students to develop these skills.

Middle school teachers and secondary school teachers help students delve more deeply into subjects introduced in elementary school and expose them to more information about the world. Middle and secondary school teachers specialize in a specific subject, such as English, Spanish, mathematics, history, or biology. They also can teach subjects that are career oriented. Vocational education teachers, also referred to as career and technical or career-technology teachers, instruct and train students to work in a wide variety of fields, such as healthcare, business, auto repair, communications, and, increasingly, technology. They often teach courses that are in high demand by area employers, who may provide input into the curriculum and offer internships to students. Many vocational teachers play an active role in building and overseeing these partnerships. Additional responsibilities of middle and secondary school teachers may include career guidance and job placement, as well as follow-ups with students after graduation.

Computers play an integral role in the education teachers provide. Resources such as educational software and the Internet expose students to a vast range of experiences and promote interactive learning. Through the Internet, students can communicate with other students anywhere in the world, allowing them to share experiences and differing viewpoints. Students also use the Internet for individual research projects and to gather information. Computers are used in other classroom activities as well, from solving math problems to learning English as a second language. Teachers also may use computers to record grades and perform other administrative and clerical duties. They must continually update their skills so that they can instruct and use the latest technology in the classroom.

Teachers often work with students from varied ethnic, racial, and religious backgrounds. With growing minority populations in most parts of the country, it is important for teachers to work effectively with a diverse student population. Accordingly, some schools offer training to help teachers enhance their awareness and understanding of different cultures. Teachers may also include multicultural programming in their lesson plans, to address the needs of all students, regardless of their cultural background.

Teachers design classroom presentations to meet students’ needs and abilities. They also work with students individually. Teachers plan, evaluate, and assign lessons; prepare, administer, and grade tests; listen to oral presentations; and maintain classroom discipline. They observe and evaluate a student’s performance and potential and increasingly are asked to use new assessment methods. For example, teachers may examine a portfolio of a student’s artwork or writing in order to judge the student’s overall progress. They then can provide additional assistance in areas in which a student needs help. Teachers also grade papers, prepare report cards, and meet with parents and school staff to discuss a student’s academic progress or personal problems.

In addition to conducting classroom activities, teachers oversee study halls and homerooms, supervise extracurricular activities, and accompany students on field trips. They may identify students with physical or mental problems and refer the students to the proper authorities. Secondary school teachers occasionally assist students in choosing courses, colleges, and careers. Teachers also participate in education conferences and workshops.

In recent years, site-based management, which allows teachers and parents to participate actively in management decisions regarding school operations, has gained popularity. In many schools, teachers are increasingly involved in making decisions regarding the budget, personnel, textbooks, curriculum design, and teaching methods.