

While most districts we talked to adopted textbooks for English language arts (ELA) and mathematics by school year 2017-18, only 10% have stopped using teacher-created materials.

For more of *The Center's CA Insights* on INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS, visit us at [TheCenter.WestEd.org/instructional-materials](http://TheCenter.WestEd.org/instructional-materials).

Instructional materials play an essential part in linking strong instructional practice with the knowledge and skills expectations of the California State Standards. Districts must make important decisions regarding which materials are best aligned to the rigors of the standards. In this domain, we hear from district leaders, principals, and teacher leaders on how the complex process of instructional materials adoption continues to unfold in California schools.

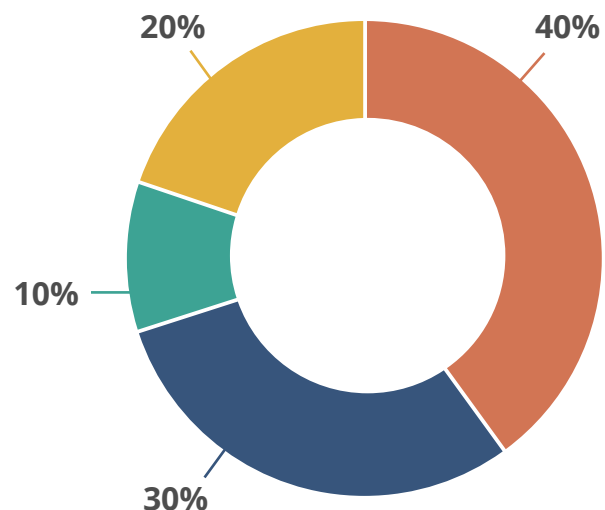
### HAS YOUR DISTRICT ADOPTED TEXTBOOKS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) AND MATH?



- Yes - We have adopted
- Yes - We have adopted but not for all grades
- No - We have not adopted but are piloting
- No - We have not adopted and are not piloting

Source: 2017 District Interviews

### DOES YOUR DISTRICT USE TEACHER-CREATED MATERIALS?



- Yes - As our primary curriculum
- Yes - As supplementary curriculum
- No - Discontinued after textbook adoption
- No - Never used teacher-created materials

N=40 Source: 2017 District Interviews



### EMBRACING TEACHER-CREATED MATERIALS... AND SLOWLY WEANING OFF THEM



*"We did a lot of teacher-created materials when we were in the doldrums, waiting for the state to adopt [textbooks]. That was a big process especially [with] the ELA program that we designed."*  
- District Leader



*"We're trying to have zero [teacher-created materials] at this point. We have enough state-adopted material. [We want to] use those right now."*  
- District Leader



*"We spent a year... developing [ELA] modules with teachers. [We] ended up allowing teachers to choose which curriculum they wanted to use. About half the teachers chose the district modules and half the teachers chose a formal adoption. Having learned from that experience... we're not going to go through [that] with math."*  
- District Leader



*"We're probably [leaning] more towards the teacher created materials or old materials but moving toward the use of our adopted materials...[which, for] some teachers it was a welcome relief to them because they were working so hard."*  
- District Leader

