

Partnering with **state education agencies** to strengthen the **arts in education**

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
SAA Executive Directors Retreat
June 10, 2008

Sandra S. Ruppert
Senior Associate for Research and Policy

Arts
Education
Partnership



“The **longest stretch on earth** is the distance between education policymakers and what goes on in the heads of kids.”

-- Peter Schrag



I. State Roles & Responsibilities



II. Local Implementation



III. An ARTS Agenda



I.
State policy sets the
**terms and
conditions** for
advancing arts
education locally



States have primary **responsibility** for the **education** and **well-being** of their citizens.



Direction



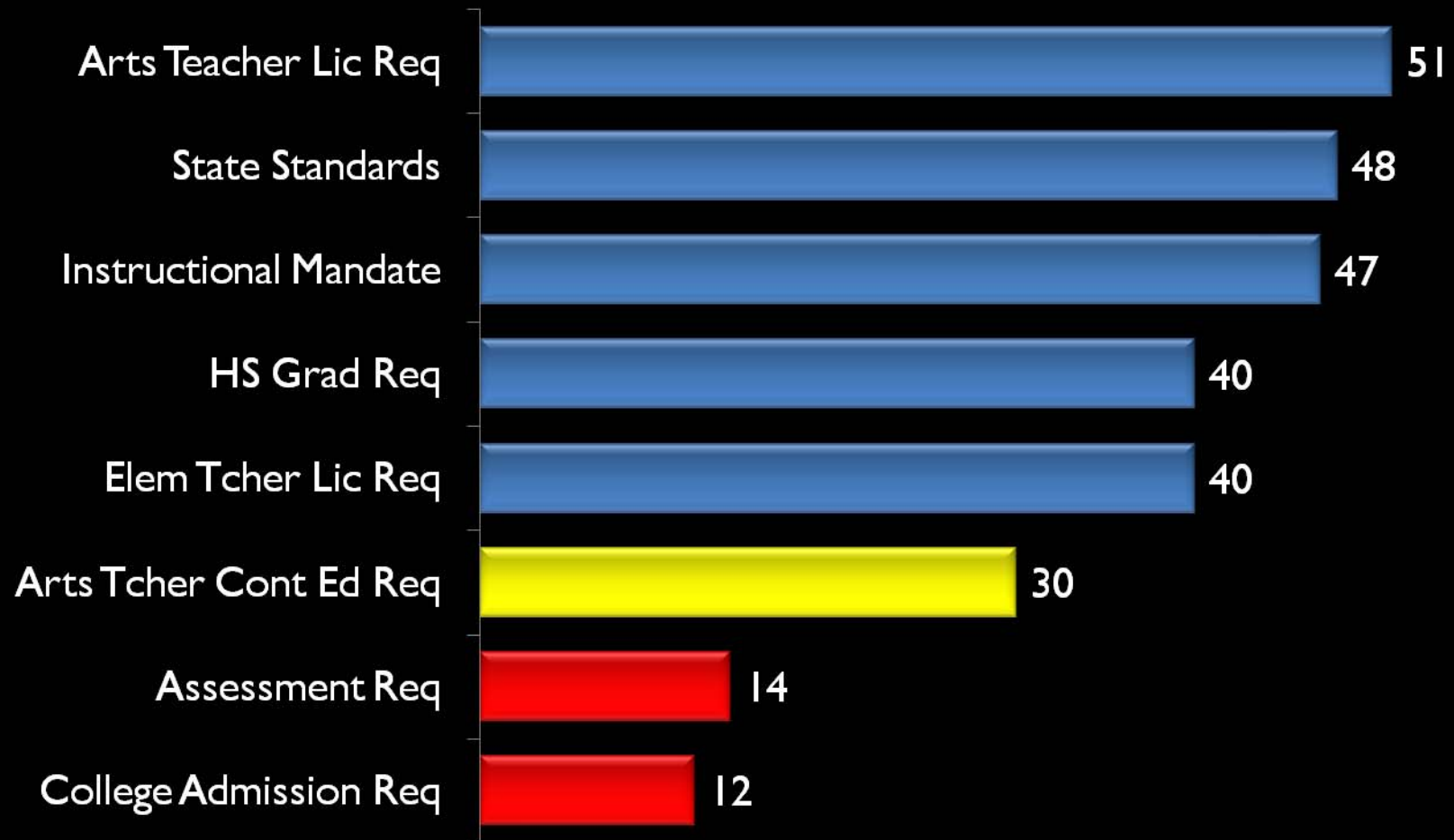
Resources

Legislation



State policy is
the **meat** in
the education
policy sandwich.

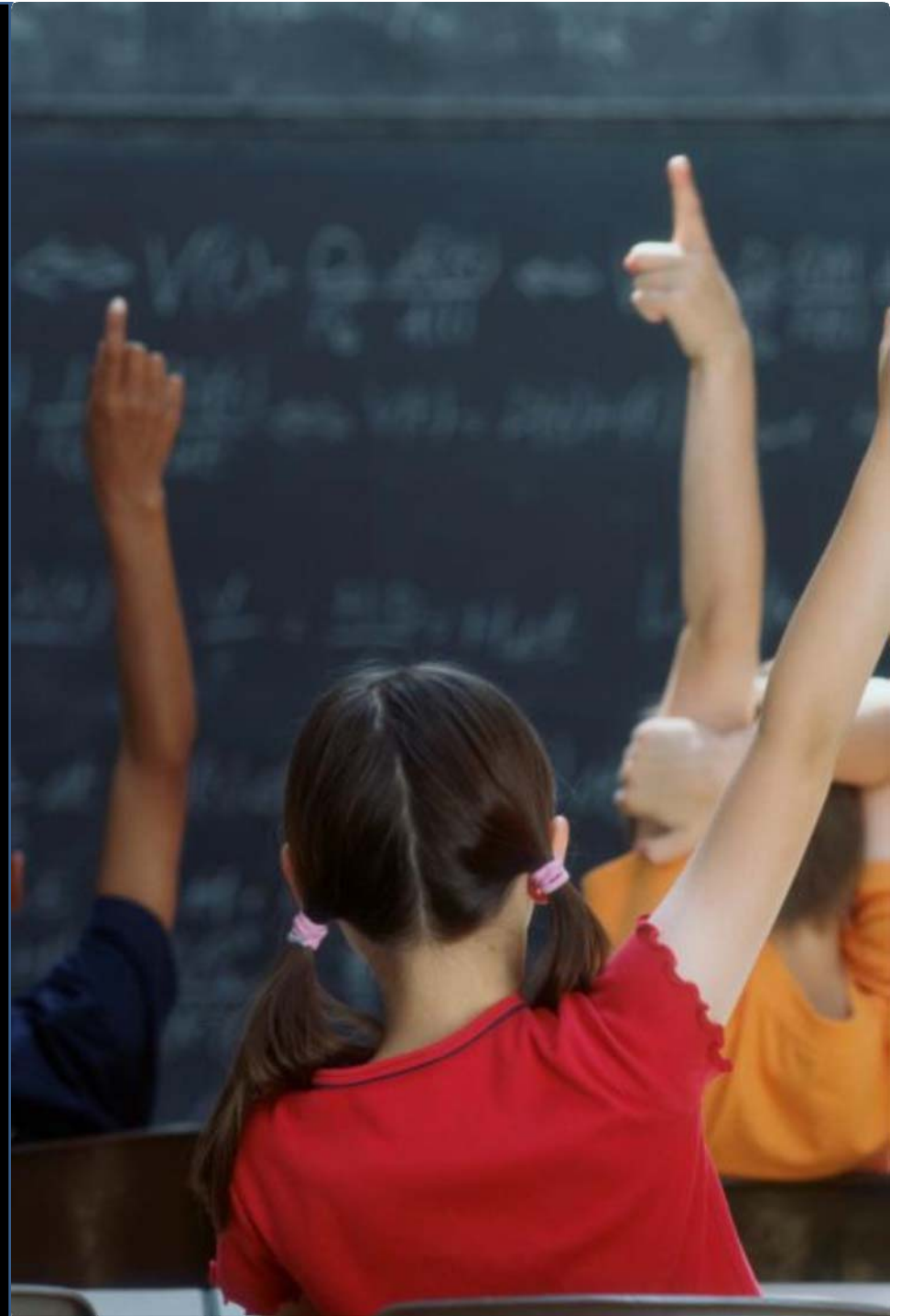
Where States Stand on Arts Education Policies



Source: AEP 2007-08 Arts Education
State Policy Survey, Fall/Winter 2007

II.
State policy for arts
education isn't
always the **problem**:

It's **local
compliance.**



NCLB is considered the **#1 barrier** to implementing **arts education** policies.



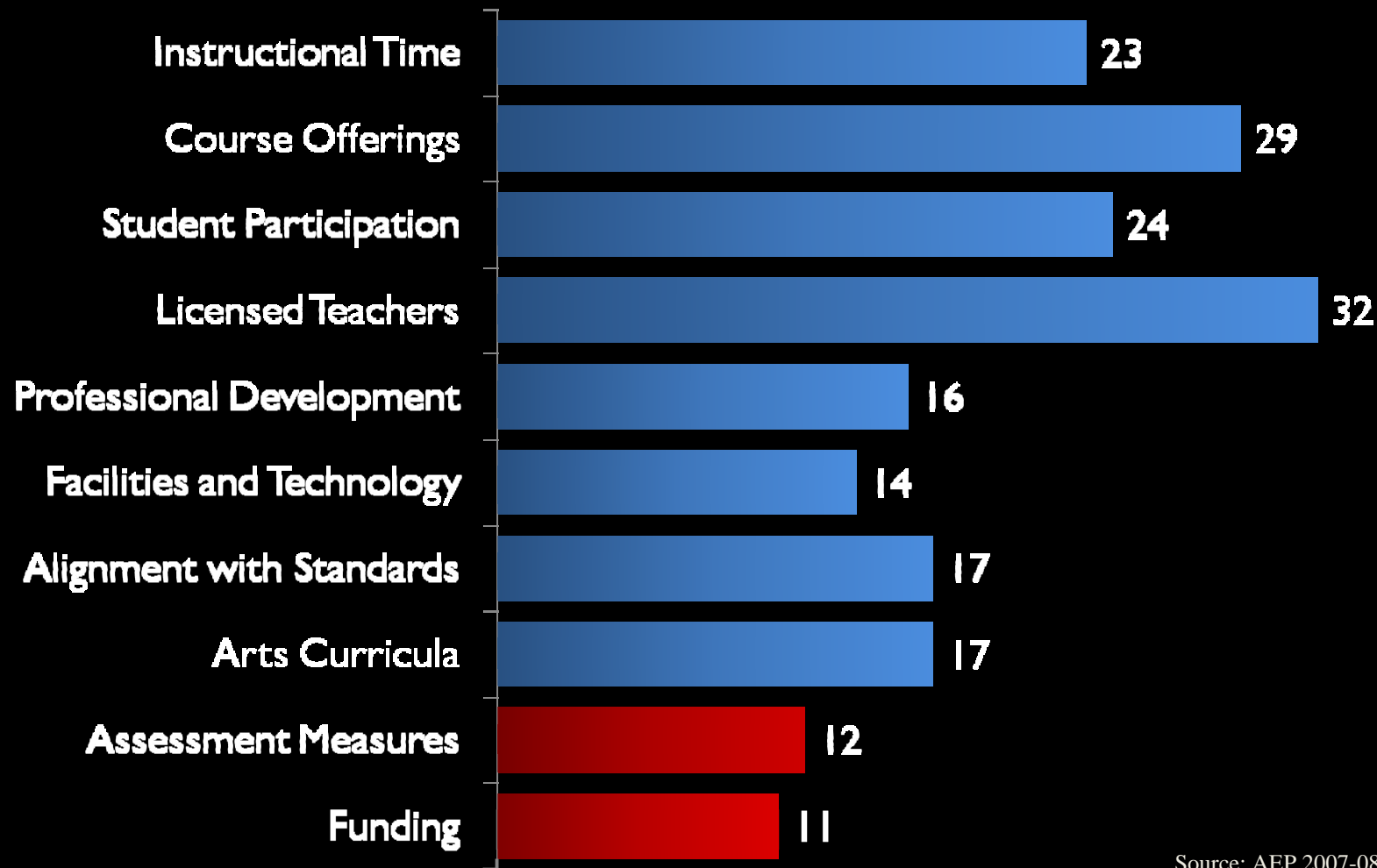
But NCLB is **not** the only barrier:

Other barriers
also affect
**what happens
in schools.**

- 
- ✓ Vague or voluntary state laws
 - ✓ Inadequate funding
 - ✓ Increased course or graduation requirements
 - ✓ Not enough qualified teachers
 - ✓ Implementation left to local district
 - ✓ Lack of accountability

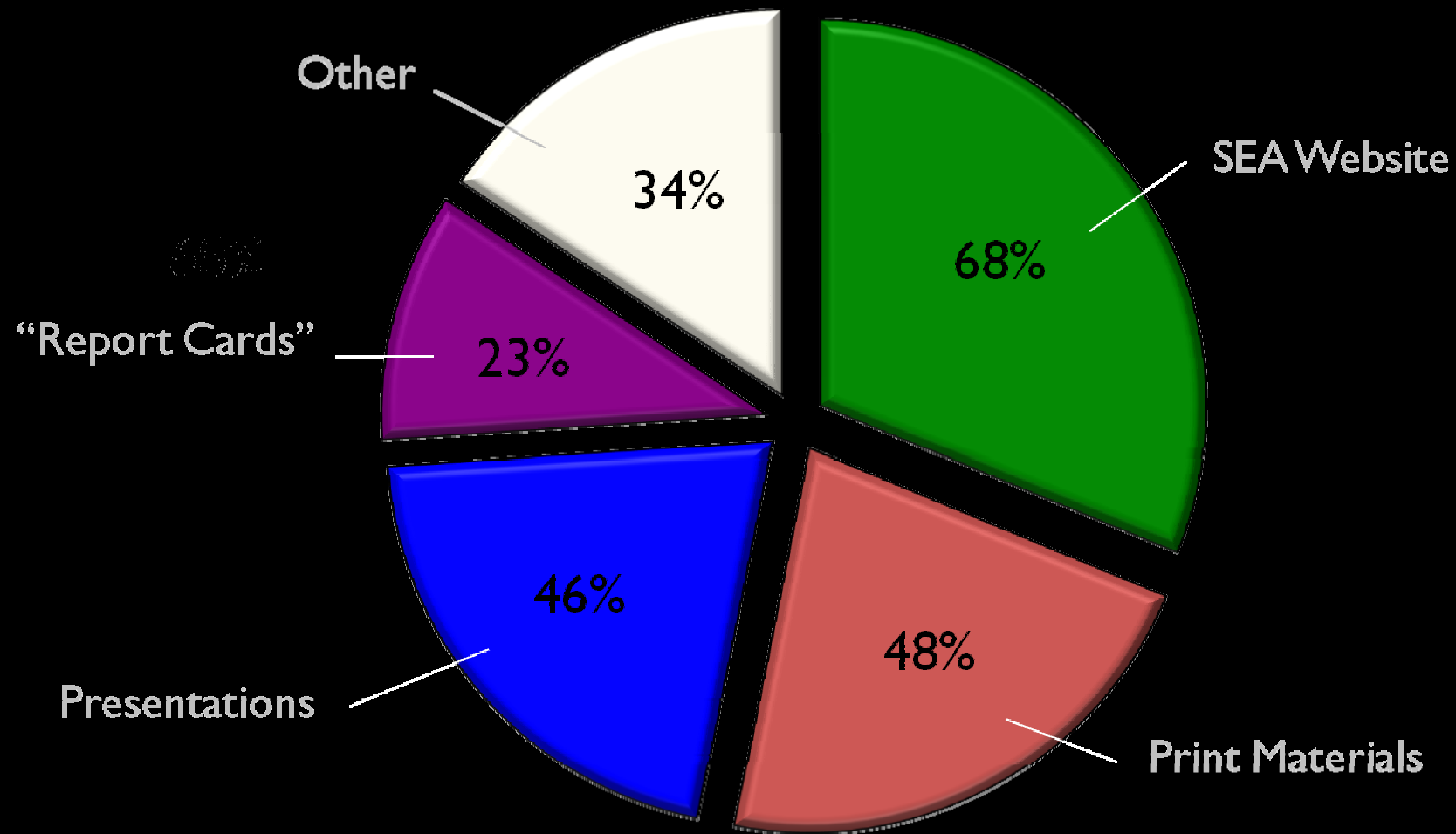
Common Core of Indicators

How many states collect this information?

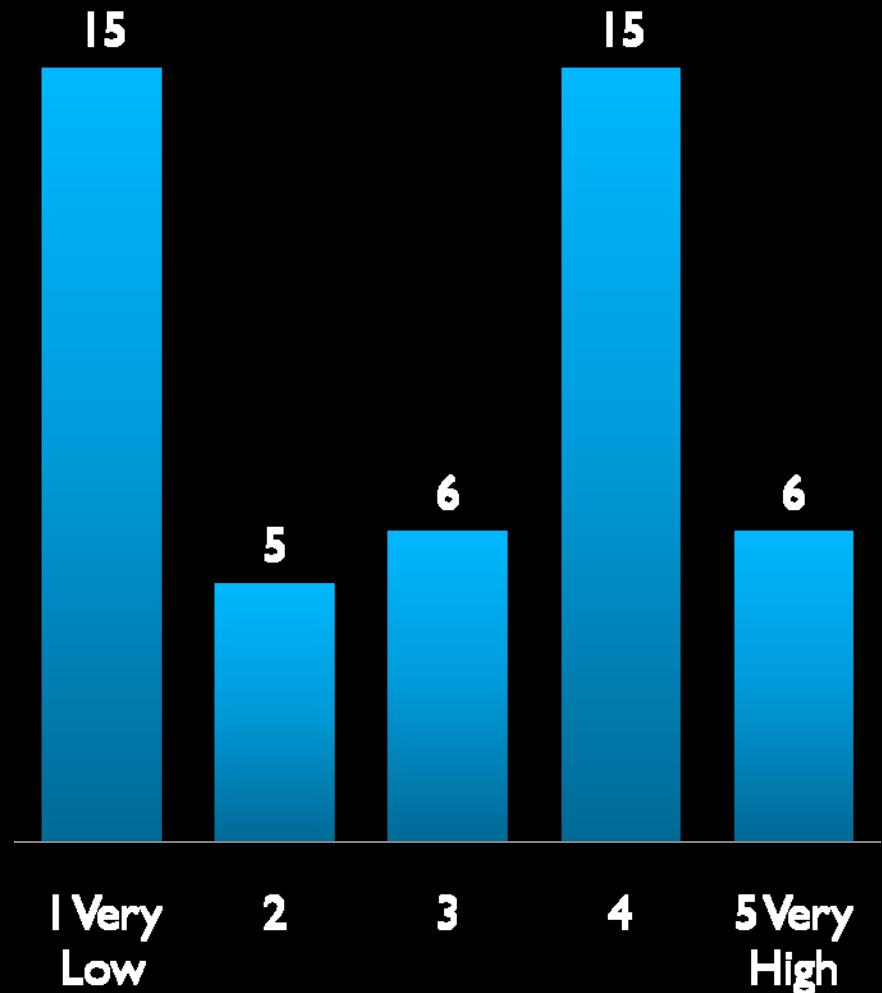


Source: AEP 2007-08 Arts Education
State Policy Survey, Fall/Winter 2007

Formats Used to Publicly Report State Level Information about Arts Ed



What is the
likelihood state
policy
changes in
2008 will affect
arts education?



Source: AEP 2007-08 Arts Education
State Policy Survey, Fall/Winter 2007



**Every 26 seconds a
teen drops out of school.**

III.

A state
ARTS Agenda to
strengthen
arts
education
in public schools



Raise public
awareness
and deepen
understanding
of the **benefits** of
arts education.



Awareness



Call for
and contribute to
**better state level
research**
and data to inform
policy and practice.



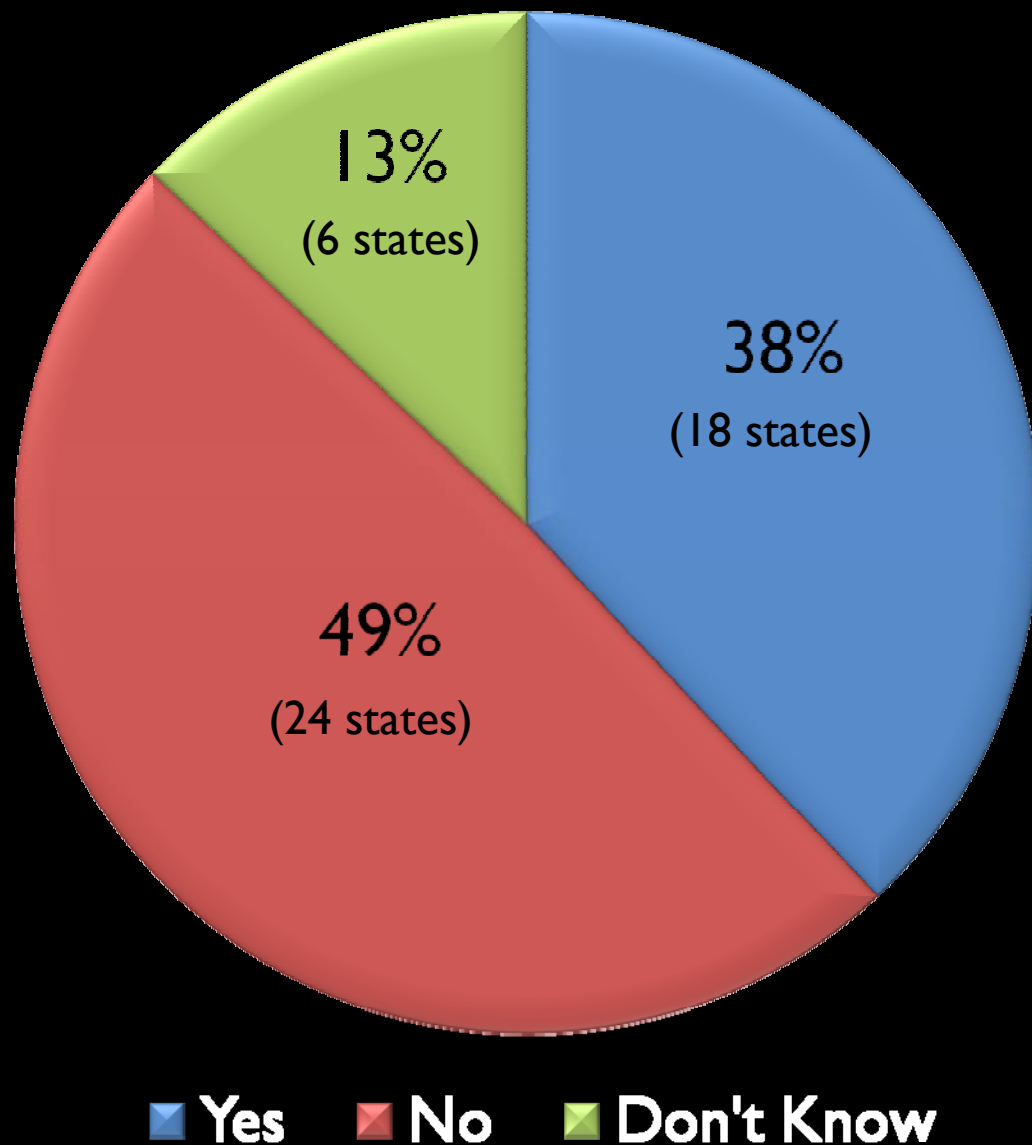
Awareness



Research



18 States
are planning
Research or
Data
Collection
Studies
for
2007-08



Develop
tools
and strategies
for
high quality
arts education
programs.



Awareness



Research



Tools



Exercise
**state
leadership**
in arts education
to ensure
access, equity and
excellence
for all students.



Awareness



Research



Tools



State
Leadership