

Education Next — Program on Education Policy and Governance — Survey 2015

For details on the methodology behind these survey responses, please see “The 2015 EdNext Poll on School Reform: Public thinking on testing, opt out, common core, unions, and more” by Michael B. Henderson, Paul E. Peterson, and Martin R. West at <http://educationnext.org/>.

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Notes

For questions with both “a” and “b” versions, a random half of the respondents were assigned version “a” and the other half were assigned version “b”.

For questions with “a”, “b” and “c” versions, a random third of the respondents were assigned version “a”, “b” or “c”.

For questions with “a”, “b”, “c” and “d” versions, a random fourth of the respondents were assigned version “a”, “b”, “c” or “d”.

“Parents” are defined as respondents living in a household with one or more children between the ages of 6 and 17.

Due to rounding, column totals may not always sum to 100.

Knowledge About and Evaluations of Schools

1. Students are often given the grades A, B, C, D, and Fail to denote the quality of their work. Suppose the public schools themselves were graded in the same way. What grade would you give the public schools in your community?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
A	11%	16%	21%	15%	9%	11%
B	41	39	43	31	42	43
C	34	32	28	39	36	33
D	9	8	5	9	9	9
Fail	5	5	2	6	4	5

2. How about the public schools in the nation as a whole? What grade would you give them?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
A	2%	3%	2%	5%	4%	1%
B	21	25	30	24	32	18
C	53	50	52	55	44	56
D	17	17	13	14	13	19
Fail	6	6	3	3	7	6

Let's consider the public schools in your community once again. Some schools are good at teaching some students, but not so good at teaching other students. What grade would you give the public schools in your community for the specific task of attending to the needs of the following types of students?

3a/Part I. The most talented students?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
A	27%	33%	31%	36%	25%	26%
B	45	42	41	38	52	44
C	19	14	19	22	16	19
D	5	7	7	3	4	6
Fail	4	5	3	1	3	4

3a/Part II. The least talented students?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
A	7%	11%	12%	11%	3%	8%
B	22	29	38	18	26	23
C	39	32	29	38	43	38
D	21	18	13	23	16	21
Fail	11	10	8	9	12	10

Let's consider the public schools in your community once again. Some schools are good at teaching some students, but not so good at teaching other students. What grade would you give the public schools in your community for the specific task of attending to the needs of the following types of students?

3b/Part I. Girls?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
A	11%	13%	24%	14%	12%	11%
B	42	46	43	41	43	44
C	36	33	29	39	33	36
D	7	3	4	5	9	7
Fail	4	5	0	2	2	3

3b/Part II. Boys?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
A	9%	11%	22%	11%	9%	9%
B	39	41	42	28	39	41
C	39	35	26	44	40	38
D	9	7	9	11	9	9
Fail	4	6	1	5	3	3

Using a seven point scale where 1 means “a little” and 7 means “a lot”, how much do your local schools emphasize the following subjects:

4a/Part I. Reading

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	2%	1%	0%	2%	1%	2%
2	3	3	1	0	2	3
3	7	3	1	5	5	7
4	26	16	8	14	22	28
5	19	21	18	17	16	20
6	18	18	21	17	20	18
7 (A lot)	26	39	50	44	34	23
Average	5	6	6	6	5	5

4a/Part II. Math

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	2%	1%	0%	2%	3%	2%
2	3	1	0	1	1	2
3	6	4	3	5	4	6
4	22	13	5	15	19	24
5	22	22	16	16	20	23
6	20	22	25	18	19	21
7 (A lot)	26	37	51	44	34	22
Average	5	6	6	6	5	5

4a/Part III. The arts

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	8%	8%	11%	9%	8%	7%
2	12	14	18	8	11	13
3	18	14	18	11	15	20
4	28	21	22	26	25	29
5	17	21	16	21	22	17
6	9	12	9	13	9	9
7 (A lot)	8	10	5	13	11	6
Average	4	4	4	4	4	4

4a/Part IV. History

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	4%	5%	3%	4%	5%	4%
2	6	3	10	4	5	6
3	13	15	13	11	11	14
4	31	23	26	20	26	34
5	21	21	24	24	20	22
6	12	16	14	17	13	11
7 (A lot)	12	17	9	19	20	10
Average	4	5	4	5	5	4

4a/Part V. Science

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	3%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%
2	4	5	4	3	4	3
3	9	7	9	7	7	9
4	28	24	20	17	27	30
5	24	20	25	24	22	25
6	16	18	21	21	16	16
7 (A lot)	17	24	19	27	21	15
Average	5	5	5	5	5	5

Using a seven point scale where 1 means “a little” and 7 means “a lot”, how much should your local schools emphasize the following subjects:

4b/Part I. Reading

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	1%	1%	0%	2%	2%	0%
2	1	1	0	0	2	1
3	2	1	1	2	2	1
4	9	11	3	10	9	7
5	7	7	4	5	5	8
6	16	16	17	10	15	17
7 (A lot)	65	65	75	70	63	66
Average	6	6	7	6	6	6

4b/Part II. Math

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	1%	0%	0%	3%	2%	0%
2	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	1	0	0	0	2	1
4	9	10	3	10	8	7
5	11	9	6	11	6	12
6	18	19	20	13	17	19
7 (A lot)	61	62	71	64	65	60
Average	6	6	7	6	6	6

4b/Part III. The arts

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	4%	2%	2%	3%	4%	4%
2	7	9	3	6	3	8
3	10	11	6	12	9	9
4	22	21	18	21	24	22
5	23	23	24	20	21	25
6	15	14	18	13	16	15
7 (A lot)	19	19	29	24	23	17
Average	5	5	5	5	5	5

4b/Part IV. History

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	2%	2%	1%	4%	3%	1%
2	2	2	2	0	2	2
3	6	6	5	7	8	5
4	16	18	13	15	14	16
5	21	20	21	15	18	23
6	22	24	26	18	23	23
7 (A lot)	30	28	32	40	32	29
Average	5	5	6	6	5	5

4b/Part V. Science

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	1%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%
2	1	1	0	0	2	0
3	2	1	4	1	2	2
4	11	12	5	15	8	10
5	15	19	12	13	19	15
6	21	19	28	21	17	24
7 (A lot)	48	48	50	48	50	48
Average	6	6	6	6	6	6

Using a seven point scale where 1 means “a little” and 7 means “a lot”, how much do your local schools emphasize the following:

5a/Part I. Character education

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	10%	10%	8%	10%	11%	9%
2	10	9	12	7	10	11
3	18	13	20	15	14	20
4	29	25	18	32	32	30
5	18	24	20	20	17	18
6	7	10	14	6	9	7
7 (A lot)	7	9	8	11	7	6
Average	4	4	4	4	4	4

5a/Part II. Creativity

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	7%	6%	6%	7%	6%	7%
2	9	11	14	9	9	8
3	17	13	20	14	12	18
4	31	28	25	26	26	34
5	18	21	21	20	23	17
6	10	11	10	10	10	10
7 (A lot)	8	11	6	14	13	7
Average	4	4	4	4	4	4

5a/Part III. Global warming

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	16%	17%	24%	18%	16%	15%
2	14	12	21	11	12	15
3	20	17	19	14	15	21
4	26	27	21	24	26	27
5	12	14	10	20	14	11
6	7	7	4	6	8	7
7 (A lot)	6	6	3	7	8	5
Average	3	4	3	4	4	3

5a/Part IV. Athletics

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	2%
2	3	4	5	2	5	3
3	8	10	7	8	11	7
4	24	18	22	23	19	25
5	22	27	20	21	22	23
6	19	17	21	15	18	19
7 (A lot)	22	23	23	30	22	21
Average	5	5	5	5	5	5

5a/Part V. Bullying prevention

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	8%	6%	5%	9%	10%	6%
2	8	5	6	7	6	8
3	17	13	11	15	11	18
4	27	22	27	26	28	28
5	18	22	21	16	16	19
6	12	18	19	10	17	12
7 (A lot)	11	16	11	16	12	9
Average	4	5	5	4	4	4

Using a seven point scale where 1 means “a little” and 7 means “a lot”, how much should your local schools emphasize the following:

5b/Part I. Character education

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	3%	2%	4%	3%	2%	3%
2	3	2	2	3	1	3
3	7	6	6	4	5	8
4	19	15	13	16	19	18
5	18	22	19	24	14	19
6	21	24	23	13	23	24
7 (A lot)	29	29	33	39	36	25
Average	5	5	5	5	6	5

5b/Part II. Creativity

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	2%	1%	1%	3%	1%	1%
2	2	1	1	2	2	2
3	5	5	5	6	5	5
4	15	14	11	15	15	15
5	21	19	22	19	15	23
6	24	27	25	19	26	26
7 (A lot)	31	33	35	36	36	28
Average	5	6	6	5	6	5

5b/Part III. Global warming

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	14%	14%	16%	6%	6%	17%
2	9	9	9	5	4	11
3	12	10	13	7	12	12
4	22	24	23	25	17	23
5	18	16	15	22	15	17
6	12	11	14	16	19	9
7 (A lot)	14	15	10	20	27	10
Average	4	4	4	5	5	4

5b/Part IV. Athletics

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
2	5	3	5	2	2	6
3	11	9	12	5	10	13
4	23	23	19	25	16	24
5	26	26	28	25	20	27
6	18	19	19	18	26	17
7 (A lot)	15	17	14	23	24	10
Average	5	5	5	5	5	5

5b/Part V. Bullying prevention

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (A little)	4%	2%	3%	2%	4%	4%
2	3	2	2	3	1	3
3	7	6	9	1	5	9
4	16	17	18	17	10	18
5	16	17	16	15	12	17
6	15	16	25	9	16	17
7 (A lot)	38	40	27	52	52	33
Average	5	6	5	6	6	5

School Spending

6. Based on your best guess, what is the average amount of money spent each year for a child in public schools in your local school district?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
\$	6307	5540	7186	5585	5956	6435

7. How sure are you that your answer is close to correct?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (Very unsure)	38%	35%	27%	38%	36%	40%
2	15	12	12	11	14	16
3	13	13	14	17	17	12
4	17	18	22	17	18	17
5	10	12	18	10	8	10
6	4	8	5	5	5	4
7 (Very sure)	2	1	2	2	3	2

8. Based on your best guess, what is the average amount of money spent each year for a child in public schools in the United States as a whole?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
\$	7056	6938	6783	8836	6633	6970

9. How sure are you that your answer is close to correct?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
1 (Very unsure)	43%	40%	33%	41%	37%	46%
2	18	17	13	17	17	19
3	15	15	18	14	15	14
4	14	14	26	19	17	13
5	6	8	6	4	8	5
6	2	4	3	2	4	2
7 (Very sure)	1	2	1	3	2	1

10a. [Guess/With info] According to the most recent information available, \$[<INSERT PPS>] is being spent each year per child attending public schools in your district. Do you think that government funding for public schools in your district should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Greatly Increase	11%	15%	20%	9%	14%	8%
Increase	31	31	35	38	31	29
Stay about the Same	48	45	40	48	46	52
Decrease	7	6	5	2	6	7
Greatly Decrease	3	4	0	2	3	4

10b. [No guess/With info] According to the most recent information available, \$[<INSERT PPS>] is being spent each year per child attending public schools in your district. Do you think that government funding for public schools in your district should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Greatly Increase	14%	12%	22%	17%	18%	13%
Increase	34	41	41	42	43	31
Stay about the Same	43	38	29	37	29	46
Decrease	7	8	5	3	8	7
Greatly Decrease	2	1	3	0	2	2

10c. [Guess/Without info] Do you think that government funding for public schools in your district should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Greatly Increase	14%	15%	23%	20%	22%	11%
Increase	44	47	47	46	48	41
Stay about the Same	34	26	26	29	24	37
Decrease	6	9	3	5	3	7
Greatly Decrease	2	3	0	0	3	3

10d. [No guess/Without info] Do you think that government funding for public schools in your district should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Greatly Increase	14%	14%	29%	20%	21%	12%
Increase	43	44	45	49	38	43
Stay about the Same	35	38	18	28	32	37
Decrease	5	3	6	2	4	6
Greatly Decrease	3	2	2	2	4	3

11a. Based on your best guess, what percent of funding for schools currently comes from each level of government? Your answers should add to 100%.

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Federal government	32%	34	30%	36%	39%	29%
State government	36	37	41	32	34	37
Local government	32	29	29	31	27	34

11b. What percent of funding for schools should come from each level of government? Your answers should add to 100%.

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Federal government	37%	39%	35%	40%	41%	36%
State government	35	33	40	34	31	36
Local government	28	28	26	26	27	29

Accountability and the Common Core State Standards

12a. As you may know, in the last few years states have been deciding whether or not to use the Common Core, which are standards for reading and math that are the same across the states. In the states that have these standards, they will be used to hold public schools accountable for their performance. Do you support or oppose the use of the Common Core standards in your state?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Strongly Support	16%	14%	11%	14%	21%	14%
Somewhat Support	33	33	29	36	37	30
Somewhat Oppose	16	17	18	18	15	18
Strongly Oppose	19	24	31	9	9	23
Neither Support nor Oppose	16	11	10	23	19	16

12b. As you may know, in the last few years states have been deciding whether or not to use standards for reading and math that are the same across the states. In the states that have these standards, they will be used to hold public schools accountable for their performance. Do you support or oppose the use of these standards in your state?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Strongly Support	18%	15%	13%	18%	24%	17%
Somewhat Support	36	34	35	35	39	35
Somewhat Oppose	20	22	19	22	12	22
Strongly Oppose	10	12	26	4	9	12
Neither Support nor Oppose	16	16	8	21	16	14

12c. As you may know, in the last few years states have been deciding whether or not to use the Common Core, which are standards for reading and math that are the same across the states. Do you support or oppose the use of the Common Core standards in your state?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Strongly Support	11%	15%	15%	15%	21%	7%
Somewhat Support	29	22	30	34	37	26
Somewhat Oppose	17	22	24	16	12	19
Strongly Oppose	20	24	19	9	10	24
Neither Support nor Oppose	23	17	13	26	20	24

13. As far as you know, are the Common Core standards being implemented in your district?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Yes	34%	49%	73%	25%	27%	37%
No	8	12	13	7	9	8
Unsure	58	39	14	68	64	55

14. Has implementation of the Common Core standards in your district had a generally positive impact on schools, or do you think it has had a generally negative impact?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Strongly Positive	5%	6%	7%	10%	10%	4%
Somewhat Positive	23	22	25	27	31	20
Somewhat Negative	32	29	32	29	27	35
Strongly Negative	19	24	17	10	13	21
Neither Positive nor Negative	21	19	20	25	18	21

*Note: This question was asked only of respondents who said yes to question 16, which asked: “As far as you know, are the Common Core standards being implemented in your district?”

Based on your best guess, what level of government currently plays the biggest role in each of the following:

15a/Part I. Setting educational standards for what students should know.

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Federal government	39%	43%	28%	33%	45%	40%
State government	48	48	64	47	41	48
Local government	13	9	8	20	15	12

15a/Part II. Deciding whether or not a school is failing

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Federal government	19%	22%	17%	23%	31%	15%
State government	60	61	63	48	43	65
Local government	22	17	20	29	26	20

15a/ Part III. Deciding how to fix failing schools

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Federal government	19%	25%	19%	25%	28%	16%
State government	54	52	57	42	45	57
Local government	28	24	24	34	27	27

What level of government should play the biggest role in each of the following:

15b/Part I. Setting educational standards for what students should know

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Federal government	41%	38%	32%	46%	44%	40%
State government	43	45	50	39	39	46
Local government	15	16	18	15	17	15

15b/Part II. Deciding whether or not a school is failing

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Federal government	18%	17%	9%	23%	18%	16%
State government	50	48	55	42	46	53
Local government	32	35	36	35	36	31

15b/Part III. Deciding how to fix failing schools

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Federal government	20%	21%	11%	23%	29%	17%
State government	51	50	54	47	46	52
Local government	30	29	36	30	25	31

16. Do you support or oppose the federal government continuing to require that all students be tested in math and reading each year in grades 3-8 and once in high school?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	35%	37%	15%	37%	42%	32%
Somewhat Support	32	29	32	32	25	35
Somewhat Oppose	14	14	26	11	13	15
Completely Oppose	7	8	20	4	5	8
Neither Support nor Oppose	13	11	7	16	14	11

17. Some people say that ALL students should take state tests in math and reading. Others say that parents should decide whether or not their children take these tests. Do you support or oppose letting parents decide whether to have their children take state math and reading tests?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	10%	14%	14%	11%	14%	8%
Somewhat Support	16	18	17	17	16	16
Somewhat Oppose	23	21	25	19	17	24
Completely Oppose	36	31	32	31	34	38
Neither Support nor Oppose	16	16	11	22	19	14

18a. How good of a job do you think state tests do at measuring what students learn in reading and math?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Very good	5%	8%	1%	10%	10%	3%
Good	24	27	12	21	23	24
Fair	38	36	38	38	33	40
Poor	16	14	26	13	17	16
Very poor	7	8	19	3	9	7
Not sure	10	7	4	15	7	11

18b. Do you support or oppose using the same standardized tests in every state?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	27%	28%	18%	31%	29%	24%
Somewhat Support	34	33	33	29	31	38
Somewhat Oppose	13	15	19	14	8	14
Completely Oppose	9	8	22	6	8	10
Neither Support nor Oppose	17	16	8	20	25	14

School Choice Policies

19a. As you may know, many states permit the formation of charter schools, which are publicly funded but are not managed by the local school board. These schools are expected to meet promised objectives, but are exempt from many state regulations. Do you support or oppose the formation of charter schools?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	19%	18	18%	14%	17%	20%
Somewhat Support	32	34	22	31	30	33
Somewhat Oppose	18	19	27	18	17	18
Completely Oppose	9	10	26	5	8	9
Neither Support nor Oppose	22	20	7	32	27	20

19b. Do you support or oppose the formation of charter schools?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	16%	14%	11%	18%	14%	17%
Somewhat Support	31	34	31	26	25	33
Somewhat Oppose	13	10	24	13	12	13
Completely Oppose	6	5	17	3	4	6
Neither Support nor Oppose	35	36	18	40	45	31

20. A proposal has been made to offer a tax credit for individual and corporate donations that pay for scholarships to help low-income parents send their children to private schools. Would you favor or oppose such a proposal?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	20%	24%	15%	27%	29%	17%
Somewhat Support	35	33	28	33	33	36
Somewhat Oppose	14	14	21	10	10	16
Completely Oppose	12	10	25	6	8	14
Neither Support nor Oppose	19	18	10	24	20	18

21a. A proposal has been made that would give all families with children in public schools a wider choice, by allowing them to enroll their children in private schools instead, with government helping to pay the tuition. Would you favor or oppose this proposal?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	19%	26%	16%	27%	26%	17%
Somewhat Support	27	25	19	31	39	23
Somewhat Oppose	19	16	22	12	8	22
Completely Oppose	17	14	35	6	5	21
Neither Support nor Oppose	18	20	7	24	23	17

21b. A proposal has been made that would use government funds to pay the tuition of low-income students who choose to attend private schools. Would you favor or oppose this proposal?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	12%	18%	8%	20%	20%	8%
Somewhat Support	22	20	10	22	30	22
Somewhat Oppose	22	17	31	15	11	25
Completely Oppose	27	25	45	10	16	33
Neither Support nor Oppose	16	20	6	33	23	12

21c. A proposal has been made that would give low-income families with children in public schools a wider choice, by allowing them to enroll their children in private schools instead, with government helping to pay the tuition. Would you favor or oppose this proposal?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	14%	21%	7%	33%	23%	9%
Somewhat Support	27	24	22	33	36	24
Somewhat Oppose	19	15	22	7	12	23
Completely Oppose	23	28	35	10	17	27
Neither Support nor Oppose	17	13	13	17	13	17

21d. A proposal has been made that would use government funds to pay the tuition of all students who choose to attend private schools. Would you favor or oppose this proposal?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	11%	13%	8%	28%	14%	6%
Somewhat Support	16	21	11	17	20	16
Somewhat Oppose	20	18	14	20	19	21
Completely Oppose	38	36	59	16	26	45
Neither Support nor Oppose	15	12	8	19	22	12

22. About what share of instructional time in high school do you think students should spend receiving instruction independently through or on a computer?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
None	6%	6%	6%	5%	8%	5%
10%	13	16	22	8	13	14
20%	22	22	29	15	18	24
30%	22	21	22	17	18	23
40%	10	8	8	13	9	10
50%	15	15	7	23	17	14
60%	4	4	3	6	4	3
70%	4	3	2	4	5	3
80%	2	3	1	3	3	2
90%	1	2	0	2	2	1
100%	2	1	0	3	3	2

23. Thinking about the school-age children who currently live with you, what kinds of schools have they attended?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Traditional public school	85%	85%	84%	91%	85%	83%
Charter school	9	9	10	10	11	8
Private school	14	14	22	14	8	18
Home school	6	6	8	7	4	7

Personnel Policies

24a. Suppose you had to grade each teacher in your local schools for the quality of their work using the grades A, B, C, D, and F. What percent of teachers in your local schools would you give each grade? Your answers should add to 100%.

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
A	27%	33%	38%	28%	32%	25%
B	26	25	28	26	23	28
C	25	22	20	22	23	27
D	12	11	8	14	12	12
F	9	9	6	10	10	9

24b. Suppose you had to grade each teacher across the country for the quality of their work using the grades A, B, C, D, and F. What percent of teachers across the country would you give each grade? Your answers should add to 100%.

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
A	22%	23%	28%	26%	26%	20%
B	25	24	29	22	23	26
C	28	27	24	25	25	29
D	14	14	11	14	15	14
F	11	12	8	13	11	11

25. Based on your best guess, what is the average yearly salary of a public school teacher in your state?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
\$	38294	36854	46326	31849	32452	40451

26a. Do you think that public school teacher salaries should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Greatly Increase	15%	18%	43%	18%	16%	14%
Increase	48	49	40	62	51	46
Stay About the Same	32	30	15	19	29	34
Decrease	4	3	2	0	4	5
Greatly Decrease	1	0	0	0	0	1

26b. As it turns out, public school teachers in your state are paid an average annual salary of \$<INSERT PAY>. Do you think that public school teacher salaries should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Greatly Increase	9%	9%	33%	12%	14%	7%
Increase	36	36	50	45	36	34
Stay About the Same	48	50	15	40	43	51
Decrease	6	5	0	3	4	7
Greatly Decrease	1	1	2	0	2	1

26c. Do you think taxes to fund public school teacher salaries should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Greatly Increase	9%	10%	24%	7%	17%	7%
Increase	36	37	39	48	32	35
Stay About the Same	45	42	30	41	43	47
Decrease	6	8	3	3	6	7
Greatly Decrease	3	2	4	1	2	4

26d. As it turns out, public school teachers in your state are paid an average annual salary of \$<INSERT PAY>. Do you think taxes to fund public school teacher salaries should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Greatly Increase	7%	9%	20%	14%	11%	5%
Increase	25	22	41	22	32	24
Stay About the Same	57	61	37	58	47	60
Decrease	9	6	2	5	7	9
Greatly Decrease	2	2	0	1	3	1

27. Do you favor or oppose basing part of the salaries of teachers on how much their students learn?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Favor	15%	18%	3%	11%	17%	14%
Somewhat Favor	36	32	16	33	35	38
Somewhat Oppose	21	21	28	25	15	22
Completely Oppose	13	15	47	12	14	13
Neither Favor nor Oppose	16	14	6	20	20	13

28. [Order of pro and con statements randomized] Teachers with tenure cannot be dismissed unless a school district follows detailed procedures. Some say that tenure protects teachers from being fired for arbitrary reasons. Others say that it makes it too difficult to replace ineffective teachers. Do you favor or oppose giving tenure to teachers?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Strongly Favor	6%	6%	28%	7%	7%	6%
Somewhat Favor	22	21	29	27	23	21
Somewhat Oppose	30	31	25	27	25	32
Strongly Oppose	21	21	9	7	14	25
Neither Favor nor Oppose	21	21	10	31	31	16

29. [Order of pro and con statements randomized] In some states, all teachers must pay fees for union representation even if they choose not to join the union. Some say that all teachers should have to contribute to the union because they all get the pay and benefits the union negotiates with the school board. Others say teachers should have the freedom to choose whether or not to pay the union. Do you support or oppose requiring all teachers to pay these fees even if they do not join the union?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	14%	13%	19%	15%	15%	14%
Somewhat Support	21	19	19	22	22	20
Somewhat Oppose	18	22	20	18	19	18
Completely Oppose	25	25	30	13	15	28
Neither Support nor Oppose	23	22	13	32	29	20

30. Some people say that teacher unions are a stumbling block to school reform. Others say that unions fight for better schools and better teachers. What do you think? Do you think teacher unions have a generally positive effect on schools, or do you think they have a generally negative effect?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Strongly Positive Effect	7%	6%	22%	8%	8%	7%
Somewhat Positive Effect	23	22	36	31	28	22
Somewhat Negative Effect	23	25	18	16	19	25
Strongly Negative Effect	16	16	8	3	9	20
Neither Positive nor Negative Effect	30	31	17	41	35	27

School Discipline

31a. Do you support or oppose school district policies that prevent schools from expelling or suspending black and Hispanic students at higher rates than other students?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	8%	9%	9%	17%	13%	5%
Somewhat Support	11	11	9	19	12	9
Somewhat Oppose	18	18	22	16	15	19
Completely Oppose	31	31	35	19	28	36
Neither Support nor Oppose	32	31	25	29	32	31

31b. Do you support or oppose federal policies that prevent schools from expelling or suspending black and Hispanic students at higher rates than other students?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Completely Support	10%	11%	7%	29%	15%	5%
Somewhat Support	11	12	16	13	17	9
Somewhat Oppose	20	18	25	8	19	22
Completely Oppose	31	35	34	15	25	36
Neither Support nor Oppose	29	24	18	36	25	29

Respondents' Background

32. Apart from weddings and funerals, how often would you say that you attend religious services?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
More than once a week	10%	11%	11%	15%	12%	8%
Once a week	25	30	35	29	24	25
Once a month	8	10	9	9	11	7
A few times a year	25	24	21	24	30	22
Never	33	25	23	23	24	37

33. Would you say that you have been born again or have had a born-again experience -- that is, a turning point in your life when you committed yourself to Jesus Christ?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Yes	39%	45%	37%	65%	41%	34%
No	61	55	63	35	59	66

34. Are you a member of a union or an employee association similar to a union?

	Public	Parents	Teachers	African Americans	Hispanics	Whites
Yes, I am currently a member of a union	8%	9%	46%	9%	9%	8%
No, but I previously was a member of a union	20	16	19	21	16	21
No, I have never been a member of a union	72	76	34	70	75	71