



National Parents Union - Coronavirus Impact Survey
Survey of N=1140 parents of public school students in grades kindergarten through 12th grade
Sampled from online web panel
Field Dates: September 21–29, 2020

COVID-19 AND CURRENT CONCERNS

1. [QCoronaConcern{A-K}] With regard to the current coronavirus situation, how much do you worry about each of the following as a parent or guardian? [RANDOMIZE A-G] [DISPLAY AS GRID OVER 2 PAGES]

	1. Worry a lot	2. Worry some	3. Worry a little bit	4. Do not worry much	5. Do not worry at all	6. Unsure				
				NOT A LOT/ SOME AT ALL	1. Worry a lot	2. Worry some	3. Worry a little bit	4. Do not worry much	5. Do not worry at all	6. Unsure
A. You or someone in your family getting the coronavirus	65%	17%	41%	17%	23%	17%	10%	7%	1%	
B. Making sure your child or children stay on track in school	64%	14%	39%	14%	25%	21%	10%	5%	1%	
C. Your kids missing important social interactions at school or with friends	61%	18%	31%	18%	29%	21%	11%	7%	1%	
D. How the situation is affecting your children’s mental health and emotional wellbeing	59%	18%	30%	18%	28%	23%	12%	6%	1%	
E. Being able to make ends meet	51%	25%	31%	25%	20%	23%	14%	11%	1%	
F. How the situation is affecting your mental health and emotional wellbeing	51%	28%	28%	28%	23%	20%	15%	13%	1%	
G. Figuring out what to do with your kids during the day	36%	42%	16%	42%	20%	21%	21%	21%	1%	

2. [QCoronaSick] Do you personally know anyone who has been sick with the coronavirus?

1. Yes	47%
2. No	51%
3. Unsure	2%

3. [QEmployment] What is your current employment status?	
1. Employed full-time	51%
2. Employed part-time	10%
3. Freelance, contract, or temporary work	1%
4. Furloughed or placed on temporary leave by my employer	1%
5. Unemployed and looking for work	7%
6. Unemployed and not currently looking for work	2%
7. Stay-at-home parent or caregiver	19%
8. Full time student	1%
9. Retired	5%
10. Something else (Please specify)	2%
11. Prefer not to say	*%

IF EMPLOYED [QEmployment=1-3], ASK:

4. [QWorkplace] Are you currently working from your home, or do you go to work at an office or other workplace? If you are working from an office or other workplace, do you have the option to work from home, or not? [RANDOMIZE 1-3, 3-1]	
	(n=763)
1. I currently work from home	37%
2. I currently go to work at an office or workplace, but I have the option to work from home	16%
3. I currently go to work at an office or workplace and do NOT have the option to work from home	47%
4. Prefer not to say	1%

EDUCATION QUALITY

IF HAS TWO OR MORE CHILDREN IN GRADES K-12 [QChildrenNumber=2-6], INSERT: [ParentIntroText] For the following questions, please respond regarding your [INSERT FIRST/SECOND/ETC] child in birth order (from oldest to youngest) of your children who are in grades kindergarten through high school. [RANDOMIZE WHICH CHILD IS ASKED ABOUT, SPLITTING EVENLY BASED ON NUMBER OF CHILDREN. FOR EXAMPLE, FOR PARENTS OF TWO CHILDREN, ASK 50% ABOUT FIRST CHILD (IN BIRTH ORDER FROM OLDEST TO YOUNGEST) WHO ATTENDS K-12 SCHOOL, 50% ABOUT SECOND CHILD WHO ATTENDS K-12 SCHOOL. PROGRAM FOR UP TO SIX CHILDREN.]

5. [QKidGrade] What grade level is your child currently in (2020–2021 school year)? [DROP DOWN: Kindergarten–12th grade]

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. Kindergarten | 10% |
| 2. 1st grade | 7% |
| 3. 2nd grade | 6% |
| 4. 3rd grade | 7% |
| 5. 4th grade | 7% |
| 6. 5th grade | 8% |
| 7. 6th grade | 8% |
| 8. 7th grade | 7% |
| 9. 8th grade | 9% |
| 10. 9th grade (Freshman) | 7% |
| 11. 10th grade (Sophomore) | 8% |
| 12. 11th grade (Junior) | 7% |
| 13. 12th grade (Senior) | 9% |

6. [QKidSchoolOptions] What options is your child’s school currently offering for ways your child could attend school? Please select all options that your child’s school is offering, regardless of how your child is currently attending school. [ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES] [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Students can attend in person in a classroom or on campus full-time | 34% |
| 2. Students can attend remotely or online full-time | 70% |
| 3. Students can attend part-time in person, part-time remotely or online | 29% |
| 4. Something else (Please specify) | 3% |

7. [QKidSchoolType] How is your child currently attending school? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Only in person, on their school campus | 23% |
| 2. Only remotely or online | 58% |
| 3. Part-time in person, part-time remotely or online | 18% |
| 4. Something else (Please specify) | 1% |

8. [QDecisionFactors] What would you say were the one or two biggest reasons you chose to have your child attend school the way they currently are? [SELECT UP TO TWO] [RANDOMIZE 1-7]

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. I wanted to reduce my child's risk of getting COVID-19 | 42% |
| 2. My child's school didn't offer any other options | 26% |
| 3. I worried about my child missing social interaction | 25% |
| 4. I worried my child would not learn as much any other way | 24% |
| 5. I worried about my child missing sports or other school activities | 9% |
| 6. I needed to go to work and didn't want my child to be home alone | 9% |
| 7. I had difficulties with my child being able to access online learning options | 7% |
| 8. Other reasons (Please specify) | 4% |

9. [QSchoolTypeFuture] Even if neither of the following is perfect, which of the following would you prefer? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. I would rather my child's school stick to a consistent plan for whether students receive remote or in-person learning throughout the year, rather than changing gears based on the number of coronavirus cases in my area. | 54% |
| 2. I would rather my child's school adjust whether in-person instruction is offered based on coronavirus cases in my area, even if it means going back and forth between in-person and remote learning throughout the year. | 34% |
| 3. Unsure | 13% |

10. [QDecision] Do you feel your child's school included parents in the decision-making process about the school's plans for reopening and options they would offer for this school year? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|-----------|-----|
| 1. Yes | 55% |
| 2. No | 31% |
| 3. Unsure | 14% |

11. [QPlanGrade] What grade would you give your child's school on their back-to-school plan and how well they prepared for the beginning of the school year? "A" is the best grade you can give, and "F" is a failing grade.

- | | |
|-----------|-----|
| 1. A | 26% |
| 2. B | 36% |
| 3. C | 23% |
| 4. D | 8% |
| 5. F | 4% |
| 6. Unsure | 3% |

12. [Time Battery] Thinking about your child’s daily school schedule, do you think your child is getting too much, about the right amount, or not enough time for each of the following? [DISPLAY AS GRID] [RANDOMIZE A-C] [RANDOMIZE 1-3, 3-1]

	1. Too much	2. About the right amount	3. Not enough	4. Unsure
			2. About the right amount	
	1. Too much		3. Not enough	4. Unsure
A. Time receiving instruction from their teacher(s)	6%	65%	25%	4%
B. Time to communicate directly with their teacher(s), ask questions, or get help with assignments	6%	61%	29%	4%
C. Time to interact and communicate with other students	5%	52%	38%	5%

13. [QLearningMoreLess] At this point in the school year, do think your child is learning more than they normally would, less than they normally would, or about the same amount as they normally would when attending school? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

1. Learning more	17%
2. Learning less	38%
3. About the same amount	40%
4. Unsure	5%

14. [Ratings Battery] How would you currently rate how your child’s school is doing on each of the following? [DISPLAY AS GRID OVER TWO PAGES] [RANDOMIZE A-H] [RANDOMIZE 1-4, 4-1]

1. Excellent 2. Good 3. Only fair 4. Poor 5. Unsure

	EXCELLENT/ GOOD	FAIR/ POOR	1. Excellent	2. Good	3. Only fair	4. Poor	5. Unsure
A. Handling health and safety measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19	72%	22%	29%	43%	17%	5%	6%
B. Quality of teaching and instruction	70%	28%	23%	47%	22%	6%	2%
C. Communication with parents	68%	30%	27%	40%	21%	9%	2%
D. Assessing my child’s progress and level of learning	66%	30%	22%	44%	24%	7%	3%
E. Providing additional resources and support to help your child continue learning	65%	31%	23%	42%	23%	8%	4%
F. Managing online learning programs or resources for remote learning	65%	30%	21%	44%	22%	8%	5%
G. Providing resources to support students’ mental health and emotional wellbeing	57%	37%	19%	39%	25%	12%	6%

15. [QHelpSchoolwork] Other than your child’s public school teacher(s), who is the primary person who helps your child do schoolwork?

1. I am	71%
2. My child's other parent	15%
3. Another family member	4%
4. An adult who is not a relative	1%
5. My child handles it on their own	8%
6. Unsure	1%

IF CHILD ATTENDING SCHOOL ONLY REMOTELY OR ONLINE, PART-TIME, OR SOMETHING ELSE [QKidSchoolType], ASK:

16. [QLearningResources] Is your child’s school offering any of the following for remote or online learning? Please choose all that apply. [ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES] [RANDOMIZE 1-10]

	(n=884)
1. Laptops or tablets for students to take home	58%
2. Live online classes with their teacher(s)	56%
3. Emailed assignments from teachers	38%
4. Tutorials for students on how to access and use online learning programs	28%
5. Pre-recorded online video lessons by their teacher(s)	27%
6. IT support to help address problems with laptops or tablets or difficulty accessing online learning programs	25%
7. Self-paced online courses provided through a service or app	20%
8. Hot spots or access to high speed internet for students at home	20%
9. Training or information sessions for parents on how to help students continue learning from home	19%
10. Activities or resources that do not require the use of a computer or Internet, such as printed learning materials or phone calls with their teacher(s)	18%
11. Something else (Please specify)	*%
12. None of the above	4%
13. Unsure	5%

ASK ALL:

17. [QDisability] Does your child have a disability for which they usually receive specialized instruction or therapy? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

1. Yes	15%
2. No	83%
3. Unsure	2%

IF HAS MORE THAN ONE CHILD [QChildrenNumber=2-6], SHOW TRANSITION TEXT: For the remaining questions, you may consider any and all children in your household when answering these questions.

ASK ALL:

18. [QLearningPod] Some families have chosen to form learning “pods” with other families, where a small group of children meet in-person to do remote or online learning with an adult who helps them with their schoolwork or other educational activities. Are any children in your household participating in a learning “pod” like this, or not? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- 1. Yes 14%
- 2. No 81%
- 3. Unsure 5%

IF YES, PARTICIPATING IN POD [QLearningPod=1], ASK:

19. [QPodHelping] So far, how helpful has the learning pod been for your children in terms of their education? [RANDOMIZE 1-4, 4-1]

- (n=182)**
- VERY/SOMEWHAT HELPFUL 89%
- NOT THAT HELPFUL/NOT HELPFUL AT ALL 10%
- 1. Very helpful 52%
- 2. Somewhat helpful 37%
- 3. Not that helpful 8%
- 4. Not helpful at all 1%
- 5. Unsure 2%

IF NOT PARTICIPATING IN POD OR UNSURE [QLearningPod=2-3], ASK:

20. [QPodPossible] If you had the opportunity and resources, would you want any of your children to participate in a learning pod? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- (n=958)**
- 1. Yes 30%
- 2. No 36%
- 3. Unsure 34%

PRIORITIES, TRUST, AND REIMAGINING

ASK ALL:

21. [QFocusTradeoff] Even if neither one perfectly describes your views, which of the following statements do you agree with more? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Schools should be focused on trying to get back to the way things were before the COVID-19 crisis as soon as it is safe to do so | 33% |
| 2. Schools should be focused on rethinking how we educate students, coming up with new ways to teach children moving forward as a result of the COVID-19 crisis | 60% |
| 3. Unsure | 7% |

22. [QPriorityTradeoff] If you could send a message to people who make decisions about education policy and public schools, which of the following do you think they should prioritize this school year? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Providing access to consistent, high-quality remote or online learning for public school students this school year | 54% |
| 2. Trying to get public school students back into the classroom this school year and implementing health and safety measures | 37% |
| 3. Unsure | 9% |

23. [QSafetyAssessment] Who would you trust most to establish and evaluate school safety procedures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in your children's schools? [RANDOMIZE 1-12]

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) | 15% |
| 2. Local public health officials | 12% |
| 3. Local school district leaders (school board, superintendent) | 11% |
| 4. State public health officials | 11% |
| 5. My children's school principal | 7% |
| 6. President Donald J. Trump | 7% |
| 7. State Department of Education | 6% |
| 8. U.S. Department of Education | 5% |
| 9. State governor | 5% |
| 10. Independent/non-government medical associations | 5% |
| 11. State legislature | 1% |
| 12. U.S. Congress | 1% |
| 13. Other (Please specify) | 1% |
| 14. Unsure | 12% |

24. [QStandardTest] There has been some debate about whether or not schools should administer state-level standardized academic tests this school year. Even if neither one perfectly describes your views, which of the following statements do you agree with more? [RANDOMIZE ORDER 1-2]

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Even though we are in challenging times, we should continue to assess how well students are learning using standardized tests so that we can compare results to previous years and help make sure students are making progress. | 47% |
| 2. Since we are in challenging times, we should take a break from standardized testing this year so that teachers and students have one less thing to worry about. | 43% |
| 3. Unsure | 10% |

PUBLIC SCHOOL RIGHT

25. [QPubSchoolAccess] Would you support or oppose changing laws to establish a right to quality public education as a civil right in the same way that the right to vote is, meaning the government would be obligated by law to provide every child access to a quality education, and that the government could be challenged in court if that right is infringed upon?

STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	75%
STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	9%
1. Strongly support	42%
2. Somewhat support	33%
3. Somewhat oppose	6%
4. Strongly oppose	3%
5. Unsure	16%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Finally, we have a few questions for demographic purposes.

26. [QParty] Regardless of how you typically vote, would you say you consider yourself a ... ?

[RANDOMIZE SCALE R>D, D>R]

STRONG/NOT VERY STRONG REPUBLICAN	33%
STRONG/NOT VERY STRONG DEMOCRAT	39%
1. Strong Republican	21%
2. Not very strong Republican	12%
3. Independent	23%
4. Not very strong Democrat	14%
5. Strong Democrat	25%
6. A member of another party	*%
7. Unsure	4%

IF INDEPENDENT OR UNSURE [QParty=3 OR 7], ASK:

27. [QPartyLean] Which of the following statements would you say best describes you?

[RANDOMIZE SCALE]

	(n=294)
VOTE FOR REPUBLICANS	17%
VOTE FOR DEMOCRATS	26%
1. I almost always vote for Republican candidates	6%
2. I vote for Republicans more often than I vote for Democrats	11%
3. I vote for Democrats more often than I vote for Republicans	17%
4. I almost always vote for Democratic candidates	10%
5. I vote equally for Democrats and Republicans	21%
6. Unsure	36%

ASK ALL:

28. [QIdeology] Regardless of how you typically vote, would you say you consider yourself to be...? [RANDOMIZE SCALE CONSERVATIVE>LIBERAL, LIBERAL>CONSERVATIVE]

VERY/SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE	32%
VERY/SOMEWHAT LIBERAL	25%
1. Very conservative	15%
2. Somewhat conservative	17%
3. Moderate	38%
4. Somewhat liberal	13%
5. Very liberal	12%
6. Unsure	5%

29. [QSocial] Which social media platforms or apps do you use? [SELECT MULTIPLE]

[RANDOMIZE 1-9]

1. Facebook	83%
2. YouTube	72%
3. Instagram	52%
4. Twitter	37%
5. Pinterest	34%
6. Snapchat	30%
7. LinkedIn	22%
8. WhatsApp	19%
9. Reddit	13%
10. Something else (Please specify)	1%
11. None of these	3%

30. [QIncome] Which range includes your annual household income?

1. Less than \$30,000 per year	23%
2. \$30,000 to \$49,999 per year	24%
3. \$50,000 to \$74,999 per year	18%
4. \$75,000 to \$125,000 per year	19%
5. More than \$125,000 per year	14%
6. Prefer not to say	1%

31. [QState] In what state do you live?

1. States in the Northeast	12%
2. States in the Midwest	25%
3. States in the South	32%
4. States in the West	31%

32. [QUrbanRural] How would you describe the area in which you live?

1. City	34%
2. Suburb near a city	39%
3. Small town not near a city	10%
4. Rural or country area	17%

IF MARRIED OR LIVING WITH A PARTNER, ASK:

33. [QSpousePartnerEducation] What is the highest level of education your spouse or partner has completed?

	(n=861)
1. High school or less	34%
2. Some college	19%
3. Associate's degree	10%
4. Bachelor's degree	23%
5. Graduate degree	15%
6. Prefer not to say	*%

SCREENER AND INITIAL DEMOGRAPHICS (ASKED AT BEGINNING OF SURVEY)

34. [QIndustry] Do you or does anyone in your household work in any of the following industries? [SELECT MULTIPLE] [RANDOMIZE 1-8]

1. Technology		4%
2. Sales		4%
3. Healthcare		8%
4. Education or early childhood development		6%
5. Journalism or the media	TERMINATE	-
6. Food service or the restaurant industry		3%
7. Market research	TERMINATE	-
8. Public relations	TERMINATE	-
9. None of these		78%

35. [QPublicSchoolParent] Are you the parent or guardian of a public school student who is currently in grades kindergarten through 12th grade? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

1. Yes		100%
2. No	TERMINATE	-
3. Prefer not to say	TERMINATE	-

36. [QLivingAtHome] Where do your children who are in grades kindergarten through 12th grade live?

1. Full-time with me in my home		93%
2. Split between my home and the home of another parent or family member		7%
3. Not with me	TERMINATE	-

37. [QChildrenNumber] How many children do you have in public school in grades kindergarten through 12th grade?

1. 1		54%
2. 2		32%
3. 3		8%
4. 4		4%
5. 5		1%
6. 6 or more		1%

38. [QKidsGradeLevels] In which grade levels do you have a child or children in public school (2020–2021 school year)? Select all that apply. [ALLOW MULTIPLE – LIMIT MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SELECTIONS BASED ON NUMBER OF CHILDREN]

1. Kindergarten	15%
2. 1st grade	11%
3. 2nd grade	10%
4. 3rd grade	11%
5. 4th grade	11%
6. 5th grade	14%
7. 6th grade	13%
8. 7th grade	12%
9. 8th grade	13%
10. 9th grade (Freshman)	14%
11. 10th grade (Sophomore)	14%
12. 11th grade (Junior)	10%
13. 12th grade (Senior)	12%

39. [QInPerson] Are any of your children currently attending school in person on their school campus, either all or part of the time?

1. Yes	50%
2. No	50%

40. [QRemote] Are any of your children currently attending school remotely or online, either all or part of the time?

1. Yes	81%
2. No	19%

41. [QGender] What is your gender? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

1. Male	44%
2. Female	56%

42. [QRace] What is your race or ethnicity? [SELECT MULTIPLE] [RANDOMIZE 1-6]

1. White	63%
2. Black	15%
3. Hispanic/Latino	22%
4. Asian	7%
5. Native American or Alaska Native	2%
6. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	*%
7. Something else	*%

43. [QEducation] What is the highest level of education you have completed?

1. High school or less	36%
2. Some college	22%
3. Associate's degree	10%
4. Bachelor's degree	20%
5. Graduate degree	12%
6. Prefer not to say	*%

44. [QAge] What is your age?

1. 18-29	9%
2. 30-39	38%
3. 40-49	32%
4. 50-64	20%
5. 65+	1%

45. [QMarital] What is your current marital status?

1. Single, never married	14%
2. Married	62%
3. Living with a partner	11%
4. Separated	2%
5. Divorced	9%
6. Widowed	2%
7. Prefer not to say	-