



National Parents Union Survey
Survey of N=1000 parents of public school students in grades kindergarten through 12th grade
Sample from online web panels
Field Dates: March 18-21, 2022

COVID-19 AND CURRENT CONCERNS

1. [Concern Battery] With regard to the current coronavirus situation, how much do you worry about each of the following as a parent or guardian? [DISPLAY AS GRID] [RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	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		
			DO NOT WORRY A LOT / SOME	DO NOT WORRY MUCH / 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. Making sure your child or children stay on track in school	65%	18%	36%	30%	16%	11%	7%	1%
B. Your kids missing important social interactions at school or with friends	58%	22%	28%	30%	20%	12%	10%	1%
C. How the situation is affecting your children's mental health and emotional wellbeing	58%	20%	31%	27%	20%	11%	9%	1%
D. You or someone in your family getting the coronavirus	56%	27%	31%	26%	16%	16%	11%	1%

2. [Economic Concern Battery] How concerned are you, if at all, that each of the following are a problem that affects your family? [DISPLAY AS GRID] [RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

1. Extremely concerned 2. Very concerned 3. Somewhat concerned 4. Not very concerned 5. Not at all concerned 6. Unsure

	EXTR./ VERY CON.	NOT VERY/ NOT AT ALL CON.	1. Extr. con.	2. Very con.	3. Smw. con.	4. Not very conc.	5. Not at all con.	6. Unsure
A. Rising cost of everyday purchases like food or gas	74%	9%	50%	23%	17%	6%	2%	1%
B. Rising cost of housing or rent	58%	21%	36%	22%	20%	11%	10%	1%
C. Difficulty making ends meet	53%	21%	31%	22%	24%	12%	9%	1%
D. Loss of employment or income due to the pandemic	49%	30%	30%	19%	19%	17%	14%	2%
E. The cost of childcare	42%	41%	23%	19%	15%	15%	27%	2%

ASK ALL:

3. [QRestYear] What do you think K-12 public schools should do for the rest of this school year as new variants or waves of COVID-19 arise? [RANDOMIZE 1-3]

- 1. Should only offer in-person learning 22%
- 2. Should only offer hybrid learning (part of the school week in-person, part remote/virtual) 22%
- 3. Should only offer remote/virtual learning 12%
- 4. Should offer multiple options and allow parents to choose 38%
- 5. Unsure 5%

EDUCATION QUALITY AND HOW PANDEMIC HAS AFFECTED CHILD

IF HAS TWO OR MORE CHILDREN IN GRADES K-12 [QKidNum=2-6], INSERT:

[ParentIntroText] For the following questions, please respond regarding your [INSERT FIRST/SECOND/ETC] child in birth order from oldest to youngest, who is in <INSERT RESPONSE FOR APPROPRIATE CHILD FROM QKidGrade>.

[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.]

ASK ALL:

4. [QDisability] Does your child have a disability for which they usually receive specialized instruction or therapy?

- | | |
|-----------|-----|
| 1. Yes | 19% |
| 2. No | 80% |
| 3. Unsure | 1% |

5. [QMissedDays] How many days of school has your child missed this school year due to school closures related to COVID-19 or required quarantines due to possible exposure? (Please do not include any days when your child had an active COVID-19 infection themselves.)

- | | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. 0 days | 22% |
| 2. 1-5 days | 23% |
| 3. 6-10 days | 24% |
| 4. 11-20 days | 13% |
| 5. More than 20 days | 12% |
| 6. Unsure | 5% |

6. [Parent Engagement] Please indicate if each of the following is something you want your child’s school to do more, if you are satisfied with how much their school is doing it now, or if you want their school to do it less. [DISPLAY AS GRID, 4 PER PAGE, RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	1. Want school to do this MORE	2. Satisfied with how much school is doing this now	3. Want school to do this LESS	4. Unsure
A. Provide updates about how your child is doing in school	41%	54%	2%	3%
B. Involve you in setting goals for your child	41%	51%	4%	4%
C. Provide information about tutoring or additional learning opportunities	41%	51%	4%	4%
D. Share lesson plans and learning objectives with you	39%	55%	2%	4%
E. Provide information about how you as a parent can support your child’s learning	39%	54%	3%	4%
F. Ask if you have any concerns about your child	38%	56%	3%	4%
G. Have a private conversation with you about your child’s learning	38%	56%	3%	4%
H. Do testing to determine if your child is on track academically and share the results with you:	34%	58%	5%	3%

7. [Child Struggles] Thinking about your child’s experience during the past two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, please indicate if your child has struggled with any of the following due to the pandemic. [RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	1. Currently struggling with this	2. Struggled with this at some point during the pandemic, but not anymore	3. Has not struggled with this	4. Unsure
A. Mental health challenges	24%	24%	48%	4%
B. Being behind academically	23%	32%	42%	3%
C. Difficulty with social or interpersonal skills	23%	27%	47%	3%
D. Behavioral challenges in school	20%	26%	51%	3%
E. Bullying either at school or online	19%	23%	53%	4%

IF CURRENTLY STRUGGLING WITH BEING BEHIND ACADEMICALLY [QStrug_Academic=1], ASK:

8. [QHowBehind] How behind do you feel your child is academically? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-3, 3-1]

	(n=234)
1. Very behind	28%
2. Somewhat behind	38%
3. A little behind	30%
4. Unsure	4%

IF CURRENTLY STRUGGLING OR STRUGGLED AT SOME POINT WITH MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES [QStrug_MentalHealth=1-2], ASK:

9. [QMHSupports] You mentioned that your child has struggled with mental health challenges due to the pandemic. What type of supports or services, if any, would you like to have available to help address your child's mental health challenges? Please select all that apply. [ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES] [RANDOMIZE 1-5]

	(n=509)
1. School counselors or psychologists	50%
2. Virtual/tele-health mental health services or counseling	40%
3. Community-based mental health services or counseling	39%
4. Crisis response line and community-based crisis response resources	21%
5. Substance abuse support services	14%
6. Other supports/services (Please specify)	3%
7. No supports or services	10%
8. Unsure	3%

TRANSITION TEXT: IF HAS MORE THAN ONE CHILD: For the following questions, you may consider any and all children in your household when answering the questions.

PRIORITIES AND FUNDING

ASK ALL:

- 10. [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 | 39% |
| 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 | 55% |
| 3. Unsure | 6% |
- 11. [QStatewideTest] There has been some debate about whether or not schools should administer statewide academic tests this school year. Even if neither one perfectly describes your views, which of the following statements do you agree with more? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**
- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Even though we are in challenging times, we should continue to assess how well students are learning using statewide tests so that we can compare results to previous years and schools can identify areas students may be falling behind or need support | 62% |
| 2. Since we are in challenging times, we should take a break from statewide testing this year so that teachers and students have one less thing to worry about | 32% |
| 3. Unsure | 5% |
- 12. [QFundAware] As part of stimulus packages, public schools are receiving additional federal funding to help address challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic. How much have you heard about this additional funding for schools and the ways it can be used?**
- | | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| A LOT/SOME | 52% |
| NOT MUCH/NOTHING AT ALL | 45% |
| 1. A lot | 18% |
| 2. Some | 34% |
| 3. Not much | 28% |
| 4. Nothing at all | 17% |
| 5. Unsure | 3% |
- 13. [QFundUse] The vast majority of school districts across the country have received additional funding to address challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Have you seen or heard anything about additional resources in your child's school or classroom being used for this purpose?**
- | | |
|-----------|-----|
| 1. Yes | 35% |
| 2. No | 53% |
| 3. Unsure | 12% |

14. [QFundingInput] Have your children's schools asked parents to give input or feedback on how any additional federal funding they have received should be used?

- 1. Yes 31%
- 2. No 61%
- 3. Unsure 8%

15. [Funding Battery] How much of a priority do you think providing each of the following should be when schools are deciding how to use the additional federal funding? [DISPLAY AS GRID, 5 PER PAGE] [RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	1. One of the top priorities	2. Very important, but not a top priority	3. Somewhat important	4. Not that important	5. Not at all important	6. Unsure		
	ONE OF TOP/VERY IMP.	NOT THAT/AT ALL IMP.	1. One of the top priorities	2. Very imp., but not a top priority	3. Smw. imp.	4. Not that imp.	5. Not at all imp.	6. Unsure
A. Access to mental health services/counseling for students	76%	5%	43%	34%	17%	4%	1%	2%
B. Computers and high-speed internet access for students	76%	4%	42%	34%	18%	4%	1%	2%
C. Free breakfast and lunch program	75%	5%	49%	26%	18%	3%	2%	2%
D. Services and support for students with disabilities	75%	4%	47%	28%	18%	3%	1%	3%
E. Providing more flexible options for students to access learning through different places, like virtual learning, part-time home schooling, or other options outside the classroom	72%	6%	37%	35%	20%	5%	1%	2%
F. Offering more college preparation opportunities	72%	5%	39%	33%	20%	3%	2%	3%
G. More tutoring or after-school learning opportunities	71%	4%	35%	36%	23%	3%	1%	2%
H. Improving school ventilation or air filtration systems	71%	5%	39%	32%	21%	4%	1%	3%
I. Hiring more substitute teachers for when regular teachers are out sick	71%	4%	39%	32%	22%	3%	1%	3%
J. Hiring more teachers	70%	4%	42%	28%	22%	3%	1%	3%
K. Increasing teacher pay and benefits	70%	7%	40%	30%	20%	4%	3%	3%

L. Curriculum and staff training to provide an inclusive environment for students of all abilities and backgrounds	69%	4%	39%	30%	24%	2%	2%	3%
M. Offering more career or trade preparation opportunities, including internships or apprenticeships	69%	5%	37%	32%	23%	4%	1%	3%
N. Individualized learning plan for each student	68%	6%	36%	32%	24%	4%	1%	2%
O. Face masks, hand sanitizer, and hand soap for students and staff	67%	10%	41%	26%	21%	6%	4%	2%
P. More learning opportunities this summer with more classes, teachers, and locations	66%	7%	34%	32%	24%	6%	1%	3%
Q. COVID-19 testing	60%	16%	33%	26%	22%	8%	8%	2%
R. Creating more school options, like learning pods, microschoools, and public charter schools	60%	10%	27%	32%	26%	7%	3%	4%
S. Hiring more bus drivers	59%	12%	26%	32%	26%	9%	3%	3%
T. Having a longer school year or longer school days	38%	37%	17%	21%	21%	20%	17%	5%

16. [QFundMostImp] What is the MOST important thing you think public schools should spend the additional funding on? [RANDOMIZE 1-20]

1. Providing more flexible options for students to access learning through different places, like virtual learning, part-time home schooling, or other options outside the classroom	12%
2. Increasing teacher pay and benefits	9%
3. Access to mental health services/ counseling for students	7%
4. Free breakfast and lunch program	7%
5. Face masks, hand sanitizer, and hand soap for students and staff	6%
6. Offering more career or trade preparation opportunities, including internships or apprenticeships	6%
7. Hiring more teachers	5%
8. Improving school ventilation or air filtration systems	5%
9. Individualized learning plan for each student	5%
10. Curriculum and staff training to provide an inclusive environment for students of all abilities and backgrounds	5%
11. COVID-19 testing	4%
12. More learning opportunities this summer with more classes, teachers, and locations	4%
13. Creating more school options, like learning pods, microschoools, and public charter schools	4%
14. More tutoring or after-school learning opportunities	3%
15. Hiring more substitute teachers for when regular teachers are out sick	3%
16. Services and support for students with disabilities	3%
17. Computers and high-speed internet access for students	3%
18. Offering more college preparation opportunities	3%
19. Having a longer school year or longer school days	1%
20. Hiring more bus drivers	1%
21. Something else (Please specify)	*%
22. Unsure	3%

POLICY QUESTIONS

17. [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	84%
STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	8%
1. Strongly support	48%
2. Somewhat support	36%
3. Somewhat oppose	6%
4. Strongly oppose	2%
5. Unsure	8%

18. [QCrownAct] Would you support or oppose a law that would protect public school students and staff from discrimination based on race-related hair texture or hairstyles, meaning public schools would be required to allow students and staff to wear styles such as braids, dreadlocks, twists, afros, or natural hair?

STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	83%
STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	9%
1. Strongly support	54%
2. Somewhat support	29%
3. Somewhat oppose	5%
4. Strongly oppose	3%
5. Unsure	8%

19. [Influence Battery] How much influence do you think each of the following groups SHOULD have on what and how public schools teach? [DISPLAY AS GRID] [RANDOMIZE A-G]

	1. A lot	2. Some	3. Not much	4. None at all	5. Unsure
			NOT MUCH/ NONE AT ALL		
	A LOT/ SOME			3. Not much	4. None at all
					5. Unsure
A. Teachers	88%	8%	57%	31%	6%
B. Parents	87%	10%	55%	32%	8%
C. U.S. Department of Education	82%	14%	44%	38%	10%
D. School principals	80%	16%	40%	40%	12%
E. Local school boards	79%	17%	35%	44%	13%
F. State government education agency	75%	20%	29%	46%	14%
G. State legislators	60%	34%	22%	39%	24%

20. [Race and LGBTQ Policy Questions] Do you think K-12 public schools should be encouraged, should be allowed but not encouraged, or should not be allowed to do the following things? [DISPLAY AS 2 GRIDS, A-D and E-F, RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

	1. Should be encouraged	2. Should be allowed, but not encouraged	3. Should not be allowed	4. Unsure
A. Have students read books by authors from a variety of different racial and ethnic backgrounds	60%	29%	6%	5%
B. Teach more U.S. history lessons about historical figures from racial or ethnic groups who may have been left out of lessons in the past	58%	29%	8%	5%
C. Teach about racial inequality in America's past	53%	31%	11%	6%
D. Teach about racial inequality in America today	52%	28%	13%	6%
E. Have classroom instruction about gender identity or sexual orientation in middle school and high school	37%	31%	25%	7%
F. Have students read books that include stories about LGBTQ people	32%	33%	27%	8%
G. Include discussions of same-sex relationships in sex education classes	31%	35%	27%	7%
H. Have classroom instruction about gender identity or sexual orientation in elementary school	30%	27%	35%	7%

DEMOGRAPHICS

ASK ALL:

Finally, we have a few questions for demographic purposes.

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

[RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-5, 5-1]

STRONG/NOT VERY STRONG REPUBLICAN	30%
STRONG/NOT VERY STRONG DEMOCRAT	45%
1. Strong Republican	19%
2. Not very strong Republican	11%
3. Independent	20%
4. Not very strong Democrat	15%
5. Strong Democrat	30%
6. A member of another party	1%
7. Unsure	4%

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

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

[RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]

TOTAL VOTES FOR REPUBLICANS	15%
TOTAL VOTES FOR DEMOCRATS	25%
1. I almost always vote for Republican candidates	4%
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	15%
4. I almost always vote for Democratic candidates	10%
5. I vote equally for Democrats and Republicans	24%
6. Unsure	36%

[PARTY CONSOLIDATED [QParty + QPartyLean]]

1. Republican	34%
2. Democrat	51%
3. Independent	6%
4. Member of Another Party	1%
5. Unsure	8%

ASK ALL:

23. [QIdeology] Regardless of how you typically vote, would you say you consider yourself to be...? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-5, 5-1]

VERY/SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE	30%
VERY/SOMEWHAT LIBERAL	29%
1. Very conservative	16%
2. Somewhat conservative	14%
3. Moderate	37%
4. Somewhat liberal	14%
5. Very liberal	15%
6. Unsure	4%

24. [QSocial] Which social media platforms or apps do you use? [SELECT MULTIPLE] [RANDOMIZE 1-10]

1. Facebook	84%
2. YouTube	77%
3. Instagram	59%
4. TikTok	50%
5. Snapchat	41%
6. Twitter	36%
7. Pinterest	32%
8. WhatsApp	29%
9. LinkedIn	22%
10. Reddit	20%
11. Something else (Please specify)	1%
12. None of these	1%

25. [QEmployment] What is your current employment status?

1. Employed full-time	57%
2. Employed part-time	10%
3. Freelance, contract, or temporary work	2%
4. Furloughed or placed on temporary leave by my employer	*%
5. Unemployed and looking for work	4%
6. Unemployed and not currently looking for work	3%
7. Stay-at-home parent or caregiver	18%
8. Full time student	1%
9. Retired	3%
10. Something else (Please specify)	1%
11. Prefer not to say	*%

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

26. [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=699)

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. I currently work from home | 21% |
| 2. I currently go to work at an office or workplace, but I have the option to work from home | 32% |
| 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 | *% |

ASK ALL:

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

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Less than \$30,000 per year | 17% |
| 2. \$30,000 to \$49,999 per year | 19% |
| 3. \$50,000 to \$74,999 per year | 22% |
| 4. \$75,000 to \$125,000 per year | 26% |
| 5. More than \$125,000 per year | 16% |
| 6. Prefer not to say | 1% |

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

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. States in the Northeast | 15% |
| 2. States in the Midwest | 19% |
| 3. States in the South | 41% |
| 4. States in the West | 26% |

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| 1. City | 38% |
| 2. Suburb near a city | 38% |
| 3. Small town not near a city | 8% |
| 4. Rural or country area | 16% |

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

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. Single, never married | 9% |
| 2. Married | 78% |
| 3. Living with a partner | 6% |
| 4. Separated | 2% |
| 5. Divorced | 4% |
| 6. Widowed | 1% |
| 7. Prefer not to say | *% |

SCREENER AND INITIAL DEMOGRAPHICS MODULE (ASKED AT START OF SURVEY)

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

1. Technology	5%
2. Sales	5%
3. Healthcare	9%
4. Education or early childhood development	6%
5. Journalism or the media	-
6. Food service or the restaurant industry	5%
7. Market research	-
8. Public relations	-
9. None of these	76%

32. [QParentScreeener] Are you the parent or guardian of a child or children currently in grades kindergarten through 12th grade (2021–2022 school year)?

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

33. [QPublicScreeener] What type of school do your children who are in grades kindergarten through 12th grade attend?

1. Public school	100%
2. Private school	-
3. Homeschool	-
4. Prefer not to say	-

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

1. Full-time with me in my home	92%
2. Split between my home and the home of another parent or family member	8%
3. Not with me	-

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

1. Yes	95%
2. No	5%

36. [QGender] Do you describe yourself as a man, a woman, or in some other way?

1. Man	44%
2. Woman	56%
3. Some other way	-

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

1. White	65%
2. Black or African American	13%
3. Hispanic or Latino	22%
4. Asian	8%
5. Native American or Alaska Native	2%
6. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1%
7. Something else	1%

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

1. High school or less	35%
2. Some college	21%
3. Associate degree	10%
4. Bachelor's degree	21%
5. Graduate degree	13%
6. Prefer not to say	*%

39. [QAge] What is your age?

1. 18-29	7%
2. 30-39	38%
3. 40-49	38%
4. 50-64	15%
5. 65+	1%

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

1. 1	48%
2. 2	35%
3. 3	13%
4. 4	3%
5. 5	1%
6. 6	*%
7. 7	*%
8. 8	*%
9. 9	*%
10. 10 or more	*%

41. [QKidAge] Please select your child or children’s age(s). (If you have multiple children, please select all of their ages.) [LIMIT NUMBER OF SELECTIONS BASED ON NUMBER OF CHILDREN]

1. 4	-
2. 5	13%
3. 6	11%
4. 7	12%
5. 8	14%
6. 9	12%
7. 10	13%
8. 11	11%
9. 12	17%
10. 13	14%
11. 14	11%
12. 15	12%
13. 16	13%
14. 17	13%

42. [QKidGrade_1A] IF QKidNum=1: Please select your child’s current grade level.

IF QKidNum=2-6: Please select the current grade level of each of your children, in birth order from oldest to youngest: [REPEAT FOR EACH CHILD, INCLUDE CHILD TEXT]

- [QKidGrade_1B] First Child**
- [QKidGrade_2] Second Child**
- [QKidGrade_3] Third Child**
- [QKidGrade_4] Fourth Child**
- [QKidGrade_5] Fifth Child**
- [QKidGrade_6] Sixth Child**
- [QKidGrade_7] Seventh Child**
- [QKidGrade_8] Eighth Child**
- [QKidGrade_9] Ninth Child**
- [QKidGrade_10] Tenth Child**

1. Kindergarten	17%
2. 1st grade	11%
3. 2nd grade	12%
4. 3rd grade	12%
5. 4th grade	13%
6. 5th grade	13%
7. 6th grade	14%
8. 7th grade	13%
9. 8th grade	15%
10. 9th grade (Freshman)	15%
11. 10th grade (Sophomore)	10%
12. 11th grade (Junior)	13%
13. 12th grade (Senior)	10%