



National Parents Union Survey
N=1,030 parents of public school students in grades kindergarten through 12th grade
Online survey, sample from Lucid sample exchange
Field Dates: March 19 - 20, 2023
Margin of sampling error: ± 3.7 percentage points

GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. [School District Rating Battery] Overall, how well do you think K-12 public schools in your school district are currently doing at each of the following? [DISPLAY AS GRID] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]

1. Very well 2. Somewhat well 3. Not too well 4. Not at all well 5. Unsure

	VERY/ SOME WELL	NOT TOO/ AT ALL WELL	1. Very well	2. Somewhat well	3. Not too well	4. Not at all well	5. Unsure
1. Teaching reading skills	87%	12%	49%	38%	9%	2%	1%
2. Teaching math skills	85%	15%	44%	41%	11%	3%	*%
3. Preparing students academically for college	77%	19%	36%	41%	14%	5%	4%
4. Preparing students for future careers	75%	21%	35%	40%	16%	5%	4%
5. Helping students catch up who fell behind during the COVID-19 pandemic	74%	22%	38%	36%	15%	7%	4%
6. Addressing students' mental health needs	68%	28%	33%	35%	18%	10%	4%

2. [QSchoolsDoing] Thinking about what your children's schools are doing to help students catch up who fell behind during the COVID-19 pandemic, do you think . . . ? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- 1. They are doing enough to help students catch up 39%
- 2. They should be doing more to help students catch up 54%
- 3. Unsure 7%

3. [QHelpCatchUp] Which of the following do you think would be good ways for your children's schools to help students catch up? Please select all that apply. [RANDOMIZE 1-9] [SELECT MULTIPLE]

1. Offer tutoring	61%
2. Offer after-school programs	55%
3. Offer online educational resources	55%
4. Offer summer school programs	50%
5. Offer Saturday school programs	34%
6. Allow students to repeat a grade level to catch up	23%
7. Offer a free 13th year of school to students who need it	21%
8. Make the school year longer	16%
9. Make the school day longer	16%
10. Something else (Please specify)	1%
11. Do nothing	2%
12. Unsure	3%

4. [QParentSay] When your children's schools are making decisions about school policies and curriculum, do you think they do enough to include parents in the decision-making process?

1. Yes, they do enough to include parents	56%
2. No, they do not do enough to include parents	38%
3. Unsure	5%

POLICY AND PARENTS BILL OF RIGHTS QUESTIONS

Now, shifting topics . . .

5. [QHeardBills] How much have you heard, if anything, about two bills that were recently introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives, one called the “Parents Bill of Rights Act” and the other called the “Bill of Rights for Students and Parents”? [RANDOMIZE ORDER 1-4, 4-1]

A LOT/SOME	45%
NOT MUCH/NOTHING AT ALL	52%
1. A lot	18%
2. Some	26%
3. Not much	28%
4. Nothing at all	24%
5. Unsure	3%

6. [QPartyTrust] Which political party do you trust more to develop a “bill of rights” for parents of K-12 students that would reflect most parents’ views on how to improve the public education system? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-3, 3-1]

1. The Republican Party	24%
2. Trust both equally	13%
3. The Democratic Party	36%
4. Do not trust either party	18%
5. Unsure	9%

7. [Influence Battery] How much influence do you think each of the following groups should have in deciding what should be included in a “bill of rights” for parents of K-12 public school students? [DISPLAY AS GRID, 5 PER PAGE] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]

	1. A lot	2. Some	3. Not much	4. None at all	5. Unsure
			NOT		
		A LOT/ SOME	MUCH/ AT ALL	1. A lot	2. Some
				3. Not much	4. None at all
					5. Unsure
1. Parents	87%	10%	58%	29%	8%
2. Teachers	87%	10%	53%	33%	7%
3. Local school boards	85%	12%	40%	45%	9%
4. School principals	84%	12%	42%	43%	10%
5. Each state’s Department of Education	83%	12%	47%	36%	9%
6. U.S. Department of Education	82%	13%	48%	34%	9%
7. Students	78%	18%	37%	40%	13%
8. State legislators	65%	28%	26%	38%	20%
9. State governors	64%	30%	28%	36%	22%
10. Members of the U.S. Congress	58%	35%	24%	34%	23%

8. [Parents Rights Battery] Thinking about a “bill of rights” for parents of K-12 public school students, do you think the bill should or should not guarantee parents each of the following rights? [DISPLAY AS GRID, 4 ITEMS PER PAGE] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE RESPONSES 1-2]

1. Should 2. Should not 3. Unsure

	1. Should	2. Should not	3. Unsure
1. Be provided with information about their child’s progress and the supports their child will receive to ensure they are on track	92%	4%	4%
2. Have access to timely and accurate information from their child’s school	91%	5%	4%
3. Expect that their child will be prepared for the future as a result of their education	89%	6%	5%
4. Have the opportunity to participate in decision-making and collaborate to improve their child’s school	88%	5%	7%
5. Be able to access a variety of educational opportunities and choose the best one for their child	87%	6%	6%
6. Have access to comprehensive and understandable data that allows them to compare different public schools	86%	8%	7%
7. Expect government to fully and equitably fund public schools	83%	8%	8%
8. Have access to transparent information about a school’s budget, how funding is spent, staffing, and leadership	81%	10%	9%

9. [QParentBudget] Thinking about K-12 public school budgets and the role of parents of students at a school, which of the following statements comes closest to your view? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-3, 3-1]

1. Parents should have a right to see the school budget and be involved in decisions about how to spend funds	60%
2. Parents should have a right to see the school budget, but not to be involved in decisions about how to spend funds	25%
3. Schools should not have to allow parents to see the school budget	8%
4. Unsure	7%

10. [Students Rights Battery] Do you think a “bill of rights” regarding K-12 public education should or should not guarantee students each of the following rights? [DISPLAY AS GRID, 4 PER PAGE] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE RESPONSES 1-2 – SAME ORDER AS IN PARENTS RIGHTS BATTERY]

1. Should 2. Should not 3. Unsure

	1. Should	2. Should not	3. Unsure
1. Students should have access to high-quality, well-rounded education with resources to support their individual needs	90%	5%	4%
2. Students should be prepared for college and/or careers when they graduate	90%	5%	5%
3. Students should be protected from any form of discrimination against them at school	90%	5%	5%
4. Students should be taught using educational materials that are historically accurate	89%	5%	6%
5. Students should be taught critical thinking skills	88%	6%	6%
6. Students should be taught about how government works so they can be prepared to participate in democracy	83%	9%	9%
7. Students should be taught by highly qualified teachers who reflect the diversity of their community	81%	8%	11%
8. Students should be taught using educational materials that reflect the diversity of the United States	80%	8%	12%

11. [Policies Battery] Would you support or oppose Congress doing each of the following regarding K-12 public education? [DISPLAY AS GRID, OVER TWO PAGES - GROUPED 1-5 AND 6-10] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]

	1. Strongly support	2. Somewhat support	3. Somewhat oppose	4. Strongly oppose	5. Unsure			
						STRONG/ SOME SUPPORT	STRONG/ SOME OPPOSE	1. Strongly support
								2. Somewhat support
								3. Somewhat oppose
								4. Strongly oppose
								5. Unsure
1. Requiring public schools to have an anti-bullying plan that includes a plan for dealing with cyber-bullying	91%	6%	71%	20%	4%	3%	3%	3%
2. Providing access to career or technical education classes at all public high schools	91%	6%	67%	23%	3%	3%	3%	3%
3. Providing access to academic tutoring for all public school students	90%	7%	66%	25%	4%	3%	3%	3%
4. Requiring school boards to allow parents to address the board about issues that affect their children's education	89%	8%	66%	23%	5%	3%	3%	3%
5. Providing access to counseling and mental health services for all public school students	89%	8%	67%	22%	5%	3%	3%	3%
6. Requiring public schools to get consent from parents before sharing student data with outside organizations	86%	10%	64%	22%	6%	4%	4%	4%
7. Providing free school meals for all public school students	86%	11%	64%	22%	6%	4%	3%	3%
8. Providing free internet access at home for all public school students	84%	12%	59%	26%	6%	5%	4%	4%
9. Requiring public schools to publicly post school curriculum online	83%	12%	54%	28%	8%	4%	6%	6%
10. Requiring public schools to provide parents with a list of books and reading materials available in the school library	79%	15%	48%	31%	10%	6%	6%	6%

12. [QObject] If a parent objects to school curriculum or reading materials that conflict with their personal beliefs, do you think that parent . . .?[RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Should be able to prevent all students at their child's school from having access to the curriculum or reading materials at school | 18% |
| 2. Should only be able to have their own child opt-out of the curriculum or reading materials | 58% |
| 3. Should not be able to do either of the above | 14% |
| 4. Unsure | 10% |

13. [QSBAllow] When parents are speaking to their school board to express concerns about their children's education, do you think . . . ? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. They should be allowed to say whatever they want, even if they make threats of harm or violence against school board members or school staff | 20% |
| 2. They should be allowed to express their views, but should NOT be allowed to make threats of harm or violence against school board members or school staff | 74% |
| 3. Unsure | 6% |

14. [QKindCoTopics] Which of the following statements comes closer to your view, even if neither perfectly describes what you think? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Public schools should teach about and discuss concepts like kindness, empathy, cooperation, and collaboration | 81% |
| 2. Public schools should NOT teach about or discuss concepts like kindness, empathy, cooperation, and collaboration because parents should decide how to teach their children about those concepts | 13% |
| 3. Unsure | 6% |

15. [Teaching and Practices Battery] Do you think public schools [SHOW HALF SAMPLE IN REVERSE ORDER TO CORRESPOND WITH SCALE: should be encouraged, should be allowed but not encouraged, or should not be allowed to do each of the following? [DISPLAY AS GRID, 6 PER PAGE] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]

	1. Should be encouraged	2. Should be allowed, but not encouraged	3. Should not be allowed	4. Unsure
		2.	3.	4.
	1.	Should be allowed, but not encouraged	Should not be allowed	Unsure
1. Teach about women’s history in America	73%	19%	4%	4%
2. Teach about Native American and Indigenous history	72%	20%	4%	5%
3. Provide opportunities for students to learn about diverse cultures	69%	22%	4%	5%
4. Teach about Black and African American history	69%	23%	4%	4%
5. Teach about the Holocaust in history lessons about World War II	68%	21%	5%	7%
6. Use examples in lessons that relate to students’ local community	66%	21%	5%	8%
7. Teach about Latino/a and Hispanic history	66%	24%	6%	5%
8. Teach about Asian American and Pacific Islander history	64%	24%	5%	7%
9. Teach about racial inequality in America’s history	62%	23%	8%	7%
10. Teach that racial inequality is still a problem in America today	55%	27%	12%	7%
11. Replace disciplinary punishments with restorative justice practices (e.g., conversations about how students can make amends)	54%	24%	9%	13%
12. Teach about LGBTQ history in America	35%	27%	27%	10%

16. [Safety Battery] How much safer or less safe from violence do you think public schools would be if policymakers were to do each of the following? [DISPLAY AS GRID] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-5, 5-1] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER]

1. A lot safer 2. A little safer 3. No effect on school safety 4. A little less safe 5. A lot less safe 6. Unsure

	LOT/ LITTLE SAFER	LOT/ LITTLE LESS SAFE	1. A lot safer	2. A little safer	3. No effect on school safety	4. A little less safe	5. A lot less safe	6. Unsure
1. Invest in more counseling and mental health services at schools	83%	5%	53%	30%	9%	3%	2%	3%
2. Have school police officers in schools	81%	7%	53%	28%	8%	5%	2%	4%
3. Require schools to keep parents updated about any violent actions or threats at their child's school	79%	6%	56%	23%	12%	3%	3%	4%
4. Invest in metal detectors, physical barriers, and security systems at schools	79%	6%	49%	30%	10%	3%	2%	5%
5. Pass stricter gun laws	64%	9%	47%	17%	22%	3%	5%	6%

17. [QChoice] States allocate a certain amount of public education funding per student. Would you support or oppose allowing parents to use the public funding allocated for their child's education to send their child to any school they choose, whether that is a public school, private school, religious school, or homeschool? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]

STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORT	68%
STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT OPPOSE	21%
1. Strongly support	39%
2. Somewhat support	30%
3. Somewhat oppose	13%
4. Strongly oppose	8%
5. Unsure	10%

18. [QReceiveFunds] If a school of any type (private, public, charter, etc.) receives government or taxpayer funding to educate students, do you think . . . ? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. The school should <u>not</u> be allowed to have admission requirements that discriminate based on a student's gender, race, beliefs, identity, or disability | 60% |
| 2. The school should be able to decide which students to admit based on the school administration's stated beliefs | 31% |
| 3. Unsure | 9% |

19. [TRAP] Please select "Green" so we can make sure your responses are being recorded correctly.

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| 1. Red | [TERMINATE] |
| 2. Orange | [TERMINATE] |
| 3. Yellow | [TERMINATE] |
| 4. Green | |
| 5. Blue | [TERMINATE] |
| 6. Purple | [TERMINATE] |
| 7. Unsure | [TERMINATE] |

DEMOGRAPHICS

Now I would like to ask you some questions for statistical purposes . . .

20. [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	42%
1. Strong Republican	19%
2. Not very strong Republican	12%
3. Independent	23%
4. Not very strong Democrat	14%
5. Strong Democrat	28%
6. A member of another party	*%
7. Unsure	4%

IF INDEPENDENT, UNSURE, OR MEMBER OF ANOTHER PARTY [QParty=3, 6, OR 7], ASK:

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

[RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]

	n=292
TOTAL VOTES FOR REPUBLICANS	17%
TOTAL VOTES FOR DEMOCRATS	27%
1. I almost always vote for Republican candidates	4%
2. I vote for Republicans more often than I vote for Democrats	13%
3. I vote for Democrats more often than I vote for Republicans	20%
4. I almost always vote for Democratic candidates	7%
5. I vote equally for Democrats and Republicans	27%
6. Unsure	29%

PARTY, CONSOLIDATED:

1. Republican	35%
2. Democrat	50%
3. Independent/Other/Unsure - No lean	15%

ASK ALL:

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

VERY/SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE	29%
VERY/SOMEWHAT LIBERAL	26%
1. Very conservative	16%
2. Somewhat conservative	14%
3. Moderate	41%
4. Somewhat liberal	13%
5. Very liberal	12%
6. Unsure	4%

23. [QEmployment] What is your current employment status?	
1. Employed full-time	65%
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	1%
7. Stay-at-home parent or caregiver	12%
8. Full time student	*%
9. Retired	2%
10. Something else (Please specify)	2%
11. Prefer not to say	*%
24. [QIncome] Which range includes your annual household income?	
1. Less than \$30,000 per year	17%
2. \$30,000 to \$49,999 per year	13%
3. \$50,000 to \$74,999 per year	25%
4. \$75,000 to \$125,000 per year	27%
5. More than \$125,000 per year	16%
6. Prefer not to say	2%
25. [QState] In what state do you live?	
[DROPDOWN MENU WITH 50 STATES]	
1. States in the Northeast	15%
2. States in the Midwest	19%
3. States in the South	41%
4. States in the West	26%
26. [QUrbanRural] How would you describe the area in which you live? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]	
1. City	35%
2. Suburb near a city	38%
3. Small town not near a city	8%
4. Rural or country area	19%
27. [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	*%

SCREENERS AND INITIAL DEMOGRAPHICS (ASKED AT BEGINNING OF SURVEY)

28. [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		5%
3. Healthcare		9%
4. Education or early childhood development		7%
5. Journalism or the media	TERMINATE	-
6. Food service or the restaurant industry		6%
7. Market research	TERMINATE	-
8. Public relations	TERMINATE	-
9. None of these		73%

29. [QParent Screener] Are you the parent or guardian of a child or children currently in grades kindergarten through 12th grade (2022–2023 school year)?

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

30. [QHome Screener] Where do your children who are in grades kindergarten through 12th grade live?

1. Full-time with me in my home		94%
2. Split between my home and the home of another parent or family member	TERMINATE	6%
3. Not with me	TERMINATE	-

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

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

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

1. 1		46%
2. 2		38%
3. 3		11%
4. 4		3%
5. 5		1%
6. 6		*%
7. 7		*%
8. 8		*%
9. 9		*%
10. 10 or more		*%

33. [QKidGrade_1A] IF QKidNum=1: Please select your child's current grade level (2022-2023 school year).

IF QKidNum=2-10+: Please select the current grade level (2022-2023 school year) 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	16%
2. 1st grade	9%
3. 2nd grade	10%
4. 3rd grade	13%
5. 4th grade	13%
6. 5th grade	15%
7. 6th grade	15%
8. 7th grade	13%
9. 8th grade	15%
10. 9th grade (Freshman)	14%
11. 10th grade (Sophomore)	12%
12. 11th grade (Junior)	15%
13. 12th grade (Senior)	13%

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

[RANDOMIZE 1-2]

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

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

1. White	65%
2. Black or African American	15%
3. Hispanic or Latino	22%
4. Asian	7%
5. Native American or Alaska Native	2%
6. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1%
7. Other race or ethnicity	1%

36. [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	*%

37. [QAge] What is your age?

[OPEN-END, TERMINATE IF UNDER 18]

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