

**SURVEY OF U.S. PARENTS ON K-12 EDUCATION**

**JANUARY 2022**

Using the SurveyMonkey National Audience, National School Choice Week (NSCW) conducted a census-balanced survey of 2,715 U.S. parents of school-aged children between the ages of 5 and 18. To reduce response bias, NSCW was not listed as the survey’s sponsor. The survey was conducted between January 3-6, 2022, with a margin of error of +/- 2%. All numbers are percentages. Some questions allowed for multiple responses per respondent, as indicated in the question.

**Q1.** *To parents, guardians, or primary caretakers of a school-aged child (or children) between the ages of 5 and 18 years of age. N=2715*

**At any point in the past year, did you consider finding a new or different school for any of the children in your household. Select one response.**

Yes, and I chose a new school 18.12

Yes, but I ultimately did not choose a new or different school 19.78

Yes, I am currently considering it. 13.78

 No, I have not considered it. 48.32

 ***TOTAL YES 51.68***

 ***TOTAL NO 48.32***

**Q2.** *To YES respondents of Q1.* *N=1395*

**Generally speaking, what were the primary reasons you considered, or would consider, finding a new or different school for your child? Select up to three responses.** (Potential selections randomized for each respondent.)

 I want(ed) a higher quality education for my child. 35.77

 The pandemic and/or school COVID policies disrupted my child’s education 33.98

 I had concerns about school safety or bullying. 25.73

 My child isn’t, or wasn’t, happy at school. 23.23

 I wanted more of a say in curriculum and what my child was/is learning. 21.22

 I was concerned about how behavior was managed at my child’s school. 20.50

 I wanted to better address my child’s special education or health needs. 20.00

 I moved, or am moving, to a different community. 15.48

 I needed to choose my child’s first Kindergarten, elementary, middle, or high school. 14.48

Other reasons 9.39

**Q3.** *To YES respondents of Q1.* *N=1395*

**In thinking about the process of looking for a new or different school for your child, which of the following statements best reflects your experience? Select one response.** (Potential selections randomized for each respondent.)

 I wish I had more time to consider the schooling options for my child. 47.38

 I had/have the right amount of time to consider the schooling options for my child. 52.62

**Q4.** *To YES respondents of Q1. N=1,395*

**If you had to give other parents advice on the process of searching for a new or learning environment for their children, which of the following statements best reflects the advice you would give? Select one response.** (Potential selections randomized for each respondent.)

 Keep the focus on your child’s needs. 15.91

 Visit schools in-person and/or attend school fairs to talk with teachers / administrators. 15.05

 Give yourself enough time to consider all of your options. 14.12

 Keep an open mind about different schooling options. 11.33

 Talk to your child about his/her preferences. 9.68

 Don’t be afraid to ask questions. 9.18

 Conduct online research into different schools and learning environments. 8.75

 Trust your instincts. 8.67

 Ask family, friends, and other parents for their advice. 7.31

**Q5.** *To NO respondents of Q1. N=1446*

**Within the next 12 months, how likely is it that you will look for a new or different school for any of your children for the following school year (2022-2023)? Select one response.**

 Very likely 6.64

 Likely 4.36

 Somewhat likely 7.12

 Not sure 11.00

 Somewhat likely 6.02

 Unlikely 20.40

 Not at all likely 44.47

 ***TOTAL LIKELY 18.12***

 ***TOTAL UNLIKELY 70.89***

**Q6.** *To TOTAL YES respondents of Q1 and TOTAL LIKELY respondents of Q5. N=1512*

**What factors were, or are, most important to you in evaluating whether a school is/was the right fit for your child? Select up to five responses to complete the sentence, "I wanted to find a school or learning environment that: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_."** (Potential selections randomized for each respondent.)

prepares students to succeed in the real world 23.81

helps students develop critical thinking skills 20.11

has highly-trained, qualified teachers 19.51

focuses on core subjects, such as reading, writing, math, science, and history 17.66

is affordable or free 17.59

prioritizes the safety of students and teachers 15.94

is close to my home 14.95

has a track record of academic success 14.75

teaches students to be good citizens 14.35

works hard to reduce bullying 14.22

offers reasonable class sizes 14.02

encourages students to solve real-world problems 13.62

uses modern or advanced technology 13.43

has COVID-related policies that meet my family's needs 13.43

offers art, music, and/or language programs 13.36

prioritizes the social-emotional learning of students 12.96

gives parents a say in curriculum decisions 11.77

encourages meaningful parent involvement 11.24

offers a variety of sports programs and extracurricular activities 11.24

offers advanced placement classes or gifted and talented programs 11.18

provides career and technical education 10.65

celebrates diversity and inclusion 10.52

has a flexible schedule 9.59

has homework policies that I agree with 9.19

shares my religious or moral values 8.99

provides services like free breakfast, counseling, or after-school care 8.53

provides free transportation 8.20

has discipline policies I agree with 8.00

approaches standardized testing in a reasonable way 8.00

allows me to spend more time with my children 7.87

uses a specific instructional strategy or methodology 6.48

focuses on a specific academic subject or theme 6.28

offers bilingual classes or services to English language learners 5.89

**Q7.** *To YES respondents of Q1 and TOTAL LIKELY respondents of Q5. N=821*

**What types of schools or learning environments did you, or might you, choose for your child? Select all that apply. (Potential selections rotated and randomized for each respondent.)**

 Traditional public school in your school district 38.37

 Traditional public school in a different school district 31.55

 Full time homeschooling 24.85

 Private or faith-based school 34.71

 Full time online school 26.19

 Theme-based public magnet school 19.85

 Public charter school 30.82

 Other 5.36

**Q8.** *To parents, guardians, or primary caretakers of a school-aged child (or children) between the ages of 5 and 18 years of age. N=2,695*

**Would you say that you support or oppose school choice? Select one response.**

Strongly support 31.21

 Support 23.86

 Somewhat support 14.21

 Neither support nor oppose 16.07

 Somewhat oppose 5.53

 Oppose 2.56

 Strongly oppose 2.37

 Not sure 4.19

 ***TOTAL SUPPORT 69.28***

 ***TOTAL OPPOSE 10.46***

**SELECTED QUESTIONS BY DEMOGRAPHICS**

**Q2.** *To YES respondents of Q1.* *N=1395*

**At any point in the past year, did you consider finding a new or different school for any of the children in your household? Select one response.**

 *All Black Hispanic White*

Yes, and I chose a new school 18.12 20.22 21.98 16.10

Yes, but I ultimately did not choose a new or different school 19.78 24.91 19.41 18.11

Yes, I am currently considering it. 13.78 17.33 17.22 12.95

No, I have not considered it. 48.32 37.55 41.39 52.84

***TOTAL YES / ALL PARENTS 51.68***

***TOTAL NO / ALL PARENTS 48.32***

***TOTAL YES / BLACK PARENTS 62.45***

***TOTAL NO / BLACK PARENTS 37.55***

***TOTAL YES / HISPANIC OR LATINO PARENTS 58.61***

***TOTAL NO / HISPANIC OR LATINO PARENTS 41.39***

***TOTAL YES / WHITE (NON-LATINO) PARENTS 47.16***

***TOTAL NO / WHITE (NON-LATINO) PARENTS 52.84***

**Q2.** *To YES respondents of Q1.* *N=1395*

**At any point in the past year, did you consider finding a new or different school for any of the children in your household. Select one response.**

 *All* *Rural Urban Suburban*

Yes, and I chose a new school 18.12 16.18 23.07 16.06

Yes, but I ultimately did not choose a new or different school 19.78 22.03 17.74 20.00

Yes, I am currently considering it. 13.78 11.53 18.63 11.90

No, I have not considered it. 48.32 50.26 40.56 52.04

***TOTAL YES / ALL PARENTS 51.68***

***TOTAL NO / ALL PARENTS 48.32***

***TOTAL YES / RURAL PARENTS 49.74***

***TOTAL NO / RURAL PARENTS 50.26***

***TOTAL YES / CITY OR URBAN PARENTS 59.44***

***TOTAL NO / CITY OR URBAN PARENTS 40.56***

***TOTAL YES / SUBURBAN PARENTS 47.96***

***TOTAL NO / SUBURBAN PARENTS 52.04***

**Q8.** *To parents, guardians, or primary caretakers of a school-aged child (or children) between the ages of 5 and 18 years of age. N=2,695*

**Would you say that you support or oppose school choice? Select one response.**

 *All Black Hispanic White*

Strongly support 31.21 36.13 33.09 31.54

Support 23.86 21.53 23.90 24.49

Somewhat support 14.21 14.96 15.44 13.46

Neither support nor oppose 16.07 18.98 15.81 14.21

Somewhat oppose 5.53 3.28 5.15 6.07

Oppose 2.56 1.09 0.74 2.66

Strongly oppose 2.37 1.46 2.57 2.95

Not sure 4.19 2.55 3.31 4.62

***TOTAL SUPPORT 69.28***

***TOTAL OPPOSE 10.46***

***TOTAL SUPPORT / BLACK PARENTS 72.62***

***TOTAL OPPOSE / BLACK PARENTS 5.83***

***TOTAL SUPPORT / HISPANIC OR LATINO PARENTS 72.43***

***TOTAL OPPOSE / HISPANIC OR LATINO PARENTS 8.46***

***TOTAL SUPPORT / WHITE (NON-LATINO) PARENTS 69.49***

***TOTAL OPPOSE / WHITE (NON-LATINO) PARENTS 11.68***

**Q8.** *To parents, guardians, or primary caretakers of a school-aged child (or children) between the ages of 5 and 18 years of age. N=2,695*

**Would you say that you support or oppose school choice? Select one response.**

 *All Rural Urban Suburban*

Strongly support 31.21 32.82 35.50 27.98

Support 23.86 24.01 22.09 24.83

Somewhat support 14.21 13.99 13.41 14.78

Neither support nor oppose 16.07 13.64 16.60 16.80

Somewhat oppose 5.53 5.35 4.09 6.45

Oppose 2.56 3.11 2.17 2.55

Strongly oppose 2.37 2.25 2.43 2.40

Not sure 4.19 4.84 3.70 4.20

***TOTAL SUPPORT / ALL PARENTS 69.28***

***TOTAL OPPOSE 10.46***

***TOTAL SUPPORT / RURAL PARENTS 70.82***

***TOTAL OPPOSE / RURAL PARENTS 10.20***

***TOTAL SUPPORT / URBAN OR CITY PARENTS 71.00***

***TOTAL OPPOSE / URBAN OR CITY PARENTS 8.69***

***TOTAL SUPPORT / SUBURBAN PARENTS 67.59***

***TOTAL OPPOSE / SUBURBAN PARENTS 11.40***

**SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS**

**GENDER**

Male 49.06

Female 50.94

**RACE**

Asian 7.34

Black or African American 10.17

Hispanic or Latino 10.06

Middle Eastern or North African 0.84

Multiracial or Multiethnic 3.12

Native American or Alaskan Native 0.88

Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander 0.66

White (Non-Hispanic) 64.27

Other 1.03

Prefer not to say 1.62

**TYPE OF NEIGHBORHOOD**

Rural Area 21.37

City or Urban Area 29.05

Suburban Area 49.58

**AGE**

18-29 16.51

30-44 33.29

45-64 44.04

>60 6.16

**HOUSEHOLD INCOME**

0-9,999 7.42

10,000-24,999 7.58

25,000-49,999 18.82

50,000-74,999 18.54

75,000-99,999 13.80

100,000-124,999 10.29

125,000-149,999 6.84

150,000-174,999 3.60

175,000-199,999 2.09

200,000+ 5.73

Prefer not to answer 5.30

**GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION**

East North Central 14.22

East South Central 5.60

Middle Atlantic 15.90

Mountain 6.50

New England 5.01

Pacific 15.09

South Atlantic 18.99

West North Central 6.82

West South Central 11.86