

FREE TO LEARN DECEMBER 2021 SURVEY

CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT

N1200 Respondents
November 29 – December 3, 2021
MoE ± 2.83%

My name is _____ of a national survey research firm. We're talking with people like you today across the nation and would like to ask you a few questions on a confidential basis. You have been selected randomly to participate in a survey and have a rare opportunity to voice your opinions. I am not selling or promoting any product and I am not asking for a donation; I simply want to know what you think and how you feel.

A. Are you, or is anyone in your household, employed in the news media, a market research firm, an elected official, or actively involved with political campaigns?

100% No (**continue**)

B. Are you registered to vote in [NAME OF STATE FROM SAMPLE]?
If No, ask: Is there someone else at home who is registered to vote in [NAME OF STATE FROM SAMPLE]?
(If Yes, ask: May I speak with him/her? And return to introduction)

100% Yes (**continue**)

D1. In what year were you born? (Make REFUSED into 9 9 9 9)

D1_1. IF UNSURE OR REFUSED, ASK: Which of the following categories best describes your age? **Read choices**

8%	18 to 24
11%	25 to 34
18%	35 to 44
19%	45 to 54
20%	55 to 64
24%	65 or older
-	Refused

D2. Gender (**phone version:** by observation) (**web version:** What is your gender?)

48%	Male
52%	Female

D12. Do you have children under the age of 18 in your household?

37%	Yes
63%	No
-	Refused (vol)

IF YES, IN PREVIOUS QUESTION, ASK:

D12_A. Which of the following describes the status of your child or children? (ALLOW MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE)

N438

21%	Young Child, Not Enrolled in School
61%	School-Age Child, Enrolled in Public School K-12
18%	School-Age Child, Enrolled in Private School K-12
12%	Young Adult, Enrolled in Public School Higher Education
3%	Young Adult, Enrolled in Private School Higher Education
2%	Young Adult, Not Enrolled in Higher Education
7%	Multi-Generational Household
2%	Unsure / Refused

COVID

1. Do you (ROTATE) agree or disagree (END ROTATE) that children under 5 should be required to wear masks in school or childcare environments?
(Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY agree/disagree, or just SOMEWHAT?)

47% Total Agree

30%	Strongly Agree
16%	Somewhat Agree

46% Total Disagree

15%	Somewhat Disagree
31%	Strongly Disagree

5%	Depends / Neutral (vol)
3%	Unsure / Refused (vol)

2. Do you (ROTATE) agree or disagree (END ROTATE) that elementary students (grades K-5) should be required to wear a mask at school?
(Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY agree/disagree, or just SOMEWHAT?)

55% Total Agree

41%	Strongly Agree
15%	Somewhat Agree

39% Total Disagree

11%	Somewhat Disagree
29%	Strongly Disagree

4%	Depends / Neutral (vol)
1%	Unsure / Refused (vol)

3. Do you (ROTATE) agree or disagree (END ROTATE) that middle school students (grades 6-8) should be required to wear a mask at school?
(Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY agree/disagree, or just SOMEWHAT?)

58% Total Agree

43% Strongly Agree
15% Somewhat Agree

37% Total Disagree

9% Somewhat Disagree
28% Strongly Disagree

3% Depends / Neutral (vol)
2% Unsure / Refused (vol)

4. Do you (ROTATE) agree or disagree (END ROTATE) that high school students (grades 9-12) should be required to wear a mask at school?
(Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY agree/disagree, or just SOMEWHAT?)

60% Total Agree

46% Strongly Agree
14% Somewhat Agree

36% Total Disagree

9% Somewhat Disagree
27% Strongly Disagree

3% Depends / Neutral (vol)
2% Unsure / Refused (vol)

5. Do you (ROTATE) support or oppose (END ROTATE) the government mandating COVID-19 vaccines for children under 18 who are enrolled in schools or learning environments with more than 100 people?
(Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY support/oppose, or just SOMEWHAT?)

51% Total Support

38% Strongly Support
13% Somewhat Support

46% Total Oppose

11% Somewhat Oppose
35% Strongly Oppose

2% Depends / Neutral (vol)
2% Unsure / Refused (vol)

6. Do you (ROTATE) support or oppose (END ROTATE) the government mandating COVID-19 vaccines for teachers, administrators, and other school staff to maintain employment?
(Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY support/oppose, or just SOMEWHAT?)

54% Total Support

44% Strongly Support
10% Somewhat Support

43% Total Oppose

9% Somewhat Oppose
34% Strongly Oppose

2% Depends / Neutral (vol)
1% Unsure / Refused (vol)

7_A. Did virtual learning have a (ROTATE) positive or negative (END ROTATE) impact on your child's academic performance?
(Phone version: Probe: And would that be VERY positive/negative, or just SOMEWHAT?)

N339

31% **Total Positive**

16% Very Positive

14% Somewhat Positive

55% **Total Negative**

31% Somewhat Negative

24% Very Negative

14% No Difference

1% Unsure / Refused (vol)

7_B. Did virtual learning have a (ROTATE) positive or negative (END ROTATE) impact on your child's mental and social health?
(Phone version: Probe: And would that be VERY positive/negative, or just SOMEWHAT?)

N339

23% **Total Positive**

11% Very Positive

11% Somewhat Positive

60% **Total Negative**

40% Somewhat Negative

20% Very Negative

16% No Difference

1% Unsure / Refused (vol)

7_C. Did virtual learning result in a parent or caregiver to your child becoming (ROTATE) more or less involved (END ROTATE) with your school regarding curriculum, or was there no change?

N339

52% More involved

13% Less involved

34% No change

1% Unsure / Refused (vol)

7_D. Based on what you observed during virtual learning, were you (ROTATE) concerned or not concerned (END ROTATE) with what your child was learning?
(Phone version: Probe if needed: Would that be VERY concerned, SOMEWHAT concerned, NOT VERY concerned, or NOT AT ALL concerned?)

N339

59% Total Concerned

32% Very Concerned
27% Somewhat Concerned

37% Total Not Concerned

19% Not Very Concerned
18% Not at All Concerned

3% Depends / Neutral (vol)

1% Unsure / Refused (vol)

Curriculum

ASK ALL:

8. Do you (ROTATE) agree or disagree (END ROTATE) that it is appropriate for schools to survey students and collect data about their sexual experiences, sexual orientation, gender identity, etc.?
(Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY agree/disagree, or just SOMEWHAT?)

17% Total Agree

7% Strongly Agree
11% Somewhat Agree

74% Total Disagree

15% Somewhat Disagree
59% Strongly Disagree

6% Depends / Neutral (vol)

3% Unsure / Refused (vol)

9. Do you have a (ROTATE) positive or negative (END ROTATE) opinion of Critical Race Theory?
(Phone version: Probe: And is that VERY positive/negative, or just SOMEWHAT?)

29% Total Positive

16% Very Positive
12% Somewhat Positive

41% Total Negative

11% Somewhat Negative
30% Very Negative

11% Depends / Neutral (vol)

20% Unsure / Refused (vol)

10. Critical Race Theory is defined by *Education Week* as (phone version: quote) “an academic concept with the core idea that race is a social construct, and that racism is not merely the product of individual bias or prejudice, but also something embedded in legal systems and policies.” (phone version: end quote) The theory also says that (phone version: quote) “racism is part of everyday life, so people – white or nonwhite – who don’t intend to be racist can nevertheless make choices that fuel racism.” (phone version: end quote) Knowing this, do you have a more (ROTATE) positive or negative (END ROTATE) view of Critical Race Theory?

(Phone version: Probe: And is that MUCH more positive/negative, or just SOMEWHAT?)

34% Total More Positive

14% Much More Positive
19% Somewhat More Positive

40% Total More Negative

15% Somewhat More Negative
25% Much More Negative

17% No Difference
9% Unsure / Refused (vol)

11. Do you (ROTATE) support or oppose (END ROTATE) the instruction of Critical Race Theory in schools? (Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY support/oppose, or just SOMEWHAT?)

37% Total Support

20% Strongly Support
17% Somewhat Support

50% Total Oppose

12% Somewhat Oppose
38% Strongly Oppose

6% Depends / Neutral (vol)
7% Unsure / Refused (vol)

12. Ibram X. Kendi is one of Critical Race Theory’s leading advocates. He is a bestselling author whose materials are widely used in CRT instruction. Kendi “The only remedy to past discrimination is present discrimination. The only remedy to present discrimination is future discrimination.”

Knowing this, are you (ROTATE) more or less likely (END ROTATE) to support Critical Race Theory instruction in school?

(Phone version: Probe: And is that MUCH more/less likely, or just SOMEWHAT?)

26% Total More Likely

12% Much More Likely
15% Somewhat More Likely

45% Total Less Likely

13% Somewhat Less Likely
32% Much Less Likely

16% No Difference
12% Unsure / Refused (vol)

Parental Involvement

13. Do you (ROTATE) agree or disagree (END ROTATE) that parents should be able to request the curriculum being taught to their children?
(Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY agree/disagree, or just SOMEWHAT?)

72% Total Agree

47% Strongly Agree
24% Somewhat Agree

21% Total Disagree

10% Somewhat Disagree
11% Strongly Disagree

5% Depends / Neutral (vol)

3% Unsure / Refused (vol)

14. Do you (ROTATE) agree or disagree (END ROTATE) that parents should be able to have their child (phone version: quote) “opt out” (phone version: end quote) of curriculum they deem to be harmful or inappropriate for their child?
(Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY agree/disagree, or just SOMEWHAT?)

67% Total Agree

46% Strongly Agree
20% Somewhat Agree

26% Total Disagree

12% Somewhat Disagree
14% Strongly Disagree

4% Depends / Neutral (vol)

3% Unsure / Refused (vol)

15. Do you (ROTATE) agree or disagree (END ROTATE) that a school administrator or teacher should be able to override a parent’s request to have their child opted-out of curriculum?
(Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY agree/disagree, or just SOMEWHAT?)

26% Total Agree

12% Strongly Agree
14% Somewhat Agree

66% Total Disagree

16% Somewhat Disagree
50% Strongly Disagree

5% Depends / Neutral (vol)

3% Unsure / Refused (vol)

School Performance

16. Are you (ROTATE) concerned or not concerned (END ROTATE) with the quality of the academic education children today are receiving at school?
(Phone version: Probe, if needed: Are you VERY concerned, SOMEWHAT concerned, NOT VERY concerned, or NOT AT ALL concerned?)

81% Total Concerned

48% Very Concerned
33% Somewhat Concerned

16% Total Not Concerned

11% Not Very Concerned
5% Not at All Concerned

1% Depends / Neutral (vol)
2% Unsure / Refused (vol)

17. In October, the NAEP, also known as the Nation's Report Card, released its most recent data which showed that for the first time in the almost 50-year history of the test, math and reading test scores declined. It also showed that lower-performing students today are struggling more than lower-performing students did nearly a decade ago. The assessment was administered during the 2019-2020 school year before the COVID-19 pandemic. Knowing this, are you (ROTATE) more or less concerned (END ROTATE) with the academic education children are receiving?
(Phone version: Probe: Are you MUCH more/less concerned, or just SOMEWHAT?)

81% Total More Concerned

51% Much More Concerned
30% Somewhat More Concerned

7% Total Less Concerned

6% Somewhat Less Concerned
1% Much Less Concerned

9% No Difference
3% Unsure / Refused (vol)

18. Which of the following is most important that your child takes away from school? (RANDOMIZE) (Phone version: Read choices)

4% Extracurricular activities, such as clubs and sports
50% Academic instruction
7% Social engagement with peers
6% Ethical and political beliefs and values
4% Establishing adult or mentor relationships
16% Personal growth
5% Something else (vol) (RECORD VERBATIM)
6% Unsure / Refused (vol)

School Environment

IF "YES" ON D12, ASK:

19. Have you observed the school environment becoming (ROTATE) more or less (END ROTATE) political in the last two years?

(Phone version: Probe: Is that MUCH more/less political, or just SOMEWHAT?)

N438

66% Total More Political

36% Much More Political

29% Somewhat More Political

13% Total Less Political

10% Somewhat Less Political

2% Much Less Political

16% No Difference

5% Unsure / Refused (vol)

ASK ALL:

20. Do you (ROTATE) agree or disagree (END ROTATE) that students should be exposed to a range of views and values?

(Phone version: Probe: And do you STRONGLY agree/disagree, or just SOMEWHAT?)

80% Total Agree

49% Strongly Agree

31% Somewhat Agree

14% Total Disagree

7% Somewhat Disagree

7% Strongly Disagree

4% Depends / Neutral (vol)

2% Unsure / Refused (vol)

ASK ALL:

ASK ENTIRE SAMPLE

Now just a few questions to make sure we have a representative sample --

- D3. In politics today, and regardless of how you are registered, do you consider yourself to be a (ROTATE) Republican, Independent, or Democrat?

30% Total Republican

23% Strong Republican

7% Not so strong Republican

34% Total Independent

7% Independent leaning Republican

20% Independent

8% Independent leaning Democrat

36% Total Democrat

9% Not so strong Democrat

27% Strong Democrat

- Other

- Refused

D4. Do you consider yourself to be of Hispanic or Latino descent, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Central or Latin American background?

15% Yes
85% No
* Unsure **(vol)**
* Refused **(vol)**

D5. And is your race Anglo, African-American, Asian, or some other race?

70% Anglo / White
12% African-American / Black
5% Asian
10% Hispanic **(vol)**
* American Indian **(vol)**
2% Other **(vol)**
* Unsure **(vol)**
* Refused **(vol)**

D6. Do you consider your religious background to be... **(Read and randomize first three options)**

17% Protestant
3% Fundamentalist / Pentecostal
25% Catholic
16% Other Christian denomination
2% Jewish
6% Atheist
9% Agnostic
8% Baptist **(vol)**
9% Other **(vol)**
2% Unsure **(vol)**
2% Refused **(vol)**

D7. We want to classify people into broad income groups only. Would you estimate your total household income to be...?

23% Below \$40,000
29% Between \$40,000 and \$79,999
22% Between \$80,000 and \$124,999
21% Above \$125,000
1% Unsure **(vol)**
4% Refused **(vol)**

D8. What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed?

1% Less than high school
21% High school graduate
15% Some college
13% College graduate with Associates or 2 year degree
29% College graduate with a Bachelors or 4 year degree
16% Post-graduate degree
3% Technical or vocational school graduate
* Don't Know/ Refused **(vol)**

D9. Would you best describe the neighborhood or area you live in as... (ROTATE TOP-TO-BOTTOM, BOTTOM-TO-TOP)

26%	Urban
44%	Suburban
28%	Rural
1%	Don't Know/Refused (vol)

D10. Would you consider your political views to be (ROTATE) conservative, liberal (END ROTATE), or moderate? (Phone version: Probe: And is that STRONGLY conservative/liberal, or just SOMEWHAT?)

35%	Total Conservative
21%	Strongly Conservative
15%	Somewhat Conservative
38%	Moderate
25%	Total Liberal
12%	Somewhat Liberal
13%	Strongly Liberal
1%	Unsure / Refused (vol)

D11. Which of the following best describes your marital status? (ROTATE CHOICES)

20%	Single, Never Married
62%	Married, or Domestic Partnership
9%	Divorced
6%	Widowed
2%	Separated
*	Refused (vol)

REGION:

19%	Northeast
23%	Midwest
36%	South
22%	West