

2022 PDK Poll

Topline Survey Results

This year's PDK Poll was conducted June 17-25, 2022, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 1,008 adults via the probability-based Ipsos KnowledgePanel®. Data were weighted via iterative proportional fitting to benchmarks for sex, age, race/ethnicity, region, education and household income from the U.S. Census Bureau's March 2021 Current Population Survey.

Results have a margin of sampling error of 3.3 points for the full sample, including design effects. Error margins are larger for subgroups, including 7.6 points for the sample of 179 public school parents.

This survey was produced for Phi Delta Kappa international by [Langer Research Associates](#).

Results follow. * = <0.5 percent. Question 8 has been released separately.

1. Students are often given the grades of A, B, C, D, and Fail to denote the quality of their work. Suppose the public schools themselves, in your community, were graded in the same way. What grade would you give the public schools here?

	A-B NET	A	B	C	D	Fail	No opinion
6/25/22							
All	54	13	41	30	9	6	1
PS parents	58	19	39	27	9	6	0
4/26/19							
All	44	9	35	39	11	5	*
PS parents	64	16	48	26	7	3	0
5/21/18							
All	43	10	33	38	11	8	*
PS parents	58	21	37	31	8	4	0
5/21/17							
All	49	15	34	24	11	6	10
PS parents	62	23	39	21	8	6	3
5/10/16							
All	48	13	35	28	10	7	7
PS parents	61	20	41	23	5	8	3
5/2015*	51	13	38	31	9	4	4
6/20/14	50	12	38	31	11	6	1
5/31/13	53	13	40	29	11	4	3
6/10/12	48	12	36	31	13	4	4
6/13/11	51	14	37	32	11	5	2
6/28/10	49	11	38	33	11	5	2
6/24/09	51	10	41	32	11	3	3
7/3/08	46	12	34	30	11	5	8
6/29/07	45	9	36	34	14	5	2
7/5/06	49	13	36	32	9	5	5
6/26/05	48	12	36	29	9	5	9
6/18/04	47	13	34	33	10	4	6
6/18/03	48	11	37	31	10	5	6
6/26/02	47	10	37	34	10	3	6
6/6/01	51	11	40	30	8	5	6
6/29/00	47	11	36	35	8	3	7
6/11/99	49	11	38	31	9	5	6

6/23/98	46	10	36	31	9	5	9
6/22/97	46	10	36	32	11	6	5
5/22/96	43	8	35	34	11	6	6
6/15/95	41	8	33	37	12	5	5
6/8/94	44	9	35	30	14	7	5
6/9/93	47	10	37	31	11	4	7
5/14/92	40	9	31	33	12	5	10
5/17/91	42	10	32	33	10	5	10
5/22/90	41	8	33	34	12	5	8
6/11/89	43	8	35	33	11	4	9
4/10/88	40	9	31	34	10	4	12
4/13/87	43	12	31	30	9	4	14
4/20/86	41	11	30	28	11	5	15
5/26/85	43	9	34	30	10	4	13
5/27/84	42	10	32	35	11	4	8
5/22/83	31	6	25	32	13	7	17
5/23/82	37	8	29	33	14	5	11
5/17/81	36	9	27	34	13	7	10
5/8/80	35	10	25	29	12	6	18
5/7/79	34	8	26	30	11	7	18
5/1/78	36	9	27	30	11	8	15
5/2/77	37	11	26	28	11	5	19
4/25/76	42	13	29	28	10	6	14
6/30/75	43	13	30	28	9	7	13
5/12/74	48	18	30	21	6	5	20

*Here and below, 2015 and previous: PDK/Gallup poll

2. How about the public schools in the nation as a whole? What grade would you give the public schools nationally?

	A-B NET	A	B	C	D	Fail	No opinion
6/25/22							
All	23	2	21	50	16	10	1
PS parents	30	4	27	46	13	10	1
4/26/19							
All	19	2	17	53	21	6	*
PS parents	27	2	25	50	17	5	1
5/21/18							
All	19	2	17	46	26	9	*
PS parents	29	2	27	48	18	5	0
5/21/17							
All	24	4	20	41	16	7	13
PS parents	21	4	17	39	15	8	16
5/10/16							
All	24	4	20	41	20	7	8
PS parents	26	5	21	42	15	7	9
5/20/15	21	3	18	50	19	7	3
6/20/14	17	1	16	51	19	10	3
5/31/13	19	1	18	53	19	6	3
6/10/12	19	1	18	47	23	7	4
6/13/11	17	1	16	51	23	7	3
6/28/10	18	1	17	53	20	6	3
6/24/09	19	1	18	55	19	6	1
7/3/08	22	3	19	44	13	5	16
6/29/07	16	2	14	57	18	5	4
7/5/06	21	2	19	51	14	3	11
6/26/05	24	2	22	46	13	4	13
6/18/04	26	2	24	45	13	4	12
6/18/03	26	2	24	52	12	3	7
6/26/02	24	2	22	47	13	3	13
6/6/01	23	2	21	51	14	5	7

6/29/00	20	2	18	47	14	5	14
6/11/99	24	2	22	46	16	4	10
6/23/98	18	1	17	49	15	5	13
6/22/97	22	2	20	48	15	6	9
5/22/96	21	1	20	46	18	5	10
6/15/95	20	2	18	50	17	4	9
6/8/94	22	2	20	49	17	6	6
6/9/93	19	2	17	48	17	4	12
5/14/92	18	2	16	48	18	4	12
5/17/91	21	2	19	47	13	5	14
5/22/90	21	2	19	49	16	4	12
6/11/89	22	2	20	47	15	4	10
4/10/88	23	3	20	48	13	3	13
4/13/87	26	4	22	44	11	2	17
4/20/86	28	3	25	41	10	5	16
5/26/85	27	3	24	43	12	3	15
5/27/84	25	2	23	49	11	4	11
5/22/83	19	2	17	38	16	6	21
5/23/82	22	2	20	44	15	4	15
5/17/81	20	2	18	43	15	6	16

3. Do you have any children who were in grades K-12 in the past school year? (Check all that apply)

	Public school	Private school	Religious or parochial school	Home-schooled	No children in K-12	Skipped
6/25/22	20	1	1	2	76	1

4. [IF HAS CHILD IN PUBLIC SCHOOL] Using the A, B, C, D, Fail scale again, what grade would you give the public school your child attends? (If you have more than one child in public school, please answer about the oldest child.)

	A-B NET	A	B	C	D	Fail	No opinion
6/25/22	68	30	38	21	7	4	0
4/26/19	75	28	47	19	3	2	0
5/21/18	69	28	41	23	5	3	*
5/21/17	71	33	38	16	6	4	3
5/10/16	69	28	41	21	4	5	1
6/20/14	67	27	40	14	14	5	0
5/31/13	71	36	35	23	4	1	0
6/10/12	77	37	40	16	6	0	1
6/13/11	75	33	43	20	3	1	0
6/28/10	74	31	43	21	5	1	1
6/24/09	73	27	46	19	6	2	1
7/3/08	68	25	42	16	6	5	5
6/29/07	67	19	48	24	5	3	1
7/5/06	64	26	38	24	5	4	3
6/26/05	69	31	38	21	6	4	0
6/18/04	70	24	46	16	8	4	2
6/18/03	68	29	39	20	8	4	0
6/26/02	71	27	44	20	6	2	1
6/6/01	68	28	40	22	6	3	1
6/29/00	70	26	44	21	5	2	2
6/11/99	66	24	42	21	7	5	1
6/23/98	62	22	40	25	8	3	2
6/22/97	64	26	38	23	7	4	2
5/22/96	66	23	43	22	6	5	1
6/15/95	65	27	38	23	8	3	1
6/8/94	70	28	42	22	6	1	1

6/9/93	72	27	45	18	5	2	3
5/14/92	64	22	42	24	6	4	2
5/17/91	73	29	44	21	2	4	0
5/22/90	72	27	45	19	5	2	2
6/11/89	71	25	46	19	5	1	4
4/10/88	70	22	48	22	3	2	3
4/13/87	69	28	41	20	5	2	4
4/20/86	65	28	37	26	4	2	3
5/26/85	71	23	48	19	5	2	3

5. Would you like a child of yours to become a public school teacher in your community, or not?

	Yes	No	Skipped
6/25/22			
All	37	62	1
PS parents	41	59	*

Compare to:

Would you like to have a child of yours take up teaching in the public schools as a career?

	Yes	No	No opinion
5/21/18			
All	46	54	1
PS parents	50	50	*
6/20/14	57	43	1
6/13/11	67	31	2
6/28/10	67	30	3
6/24/09	70	28	2
6/26/05	62	33	5
6/9/93	67	29	4
5/22/90	51	38	11
4/10/88	58	31	11
5/22/83	45	33	22
5/8/80	48	40	12
4/23/72	67	22	11
2/20/69	75	15	10

6. [IF WOULD NOT LIKE CHILD TO BECOME A TEACHER] Why would you not like a child of yours to become a public school teacher in your community - what's the main reason?

	---- 6/25/22 ---	
	All	PS parents
Inadequate pay/benefits	29	38
Difficult/demanding/stressful job	26	25
Thankless job/not respected or valued	23	16
Other (please write in) NET	21	22
Don't like what's being taught at schools/political indoctrination	3	2
No children	3	0
Child is not interested/pursuing another career	3	4
All the above	1	4
Unsafe/dangerous/school shootings	1	0
Teachers' unions	1	1
Other	9	11
Skipped	*	0

Compare to:

[IF WOULD NOT LIKE TO HAVE CHILD TAKE UP TEACHING] Why would you not like to have a child of yours take up teaching - what's the main reason? [OPEN-END, ALLOW ONE RESPONSE]

	---- 5/21/18----	
	All	PS parents
Inadequate pay/benefits	29	44
Student behavior/lack of discipline	12	7
Thankless/not respected/not valued	6	3
Difficult/demanding/stressful job	4	3
Safety concerns	4	2
Lack of community/government /administrative support	3	2
Dead end job/better career options	3	4
Bureaucracy/government involvement	2	1
Liberal bias/ideology in schools	2	1
School politics/drama	2	1
Child not interested/ better at something else	2	6
Lack of parent support	1	1
Teaching to the test	*	2
No children	3	*
Other	12	7
No opinion	1	0
Skipped	16	17

7. Overall, how much trust and confidence do you have in the public school teachers in your community?

	--- More confidence ---			-- Less confidence --			
	NET	A great deal	A good amount	NET	Just some	Little or none	Skipped
6/25/22							
All	63	16	47	37	28	8	*
PS parents	72	23	49	28	19	9	0

Compare to:

Do you have trust and confidence in the men and women who are teaching children in the public schools?

	----- Yes, have confidence -----					No, do not have confidence	No op.
	NET	Great deal	Good amt.	Just some	No op.		
5/21/18							
All	61	17	37	6	*	39	*
PS parents	71	21	40	9	*	29	1
5/2015	51	NA	NA	NA	NA	32	17
6/20/14	64					35	1
5/31/13	72					27	1
6/10/12	71					27	2
6/13/11	71					27	2
6/28/10	71	"	"	"		27	2

8. How much trust and confidence do you have in [IF NOT PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT: your community's public school teachers] [IF PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT: your child's public school teacher] to handle each of these subjects appropriately? [IF PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT: (If you have more than one child in public school, please answer about the oldest child.)]

6/25/22

		--- More confidence ---		-- Less confidence --			
		NET	A great deal	A good amount	NET	Just some	A little or none
a. U.S. history							Skipped
	All	56	17	40	43	30	13
	PS parents	67	23	43	33	25	8
b. How the history of racism affects America today							
	All	44	12	32	54	32	22
	PS parents	55	19	37	44	25	19
c. Issues related to gender and sexuality							
	All	38	10	28	61	33	28
	PS parents	46	15	32	53	29	24
d. Racial and ethnic diversity in society							
	All	46	13	33	52	32	20
	PS parents	56	19	37	43	24	19
e. Students' social and emotional growth							
	All	48	13	35	51	36	15
	PS parents	59	22	37	40	27	13
f. Civics (citizenship, democracy, the role of government in society)							
	All	50	14	36	49	34	15
	PS parents	57	17	41	42	31	11
g. Media literacy / being informed consumers of news and information							
	All	46	11	35	53	36	16
	PS parents	54	16	38	46	33	13

8. On another topic, would or do you support or oppose the following at [IF PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT: your child's public school] [IF NOT PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT: your local public schools]? [IF PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENT: (If you have more than one child in public school, please answer about the oldest child.)]

a. Having one or more armed police officers on duty whenever school is in session

		----- Support -----		----- Oppose -----			
		NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly
6/25/22							Skipped
	All	80	49	31	20	11	8
	PS parents	82	58	24	17	10	7
5/21/18							
	PS parents	80	49	31	19	14	5

b. Having metal detectors at all school entrances

		----- Support -----		----- Oppose -----			
		NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly
6/25/22							Skipped
	All	78	45	33	22	16	6
	PS parents	77	45	32	22	14	9
5/21/18							
	PS parents	75	40	34	25	18	7

c. Allowing teachers or other school staff to carry guns in school

		----- Support -----		----- Oppose -----			
		NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly
6/25/22							Skipped
	All	45	21	24	55	21	34

PS parents	43	23	20	56	21	35	1
5/21/18							
PS parents	36	12	24	64	17	46	1

d. Screening all students for mental health problems

	----- Support -----			----- Oppose -----			
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	Skipped
6/25/22							
All	80	38	42	20	14	6	*
PS parents	79	44	35	21	14	6	1
5/21/18							
PS parents	77	39	39	22	17	5	1