



COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION POLL 2008-2009

A survey of Virginians conducted by the Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute in the VCU Center for Public Policy

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PUBLIC SHOWS STRONG SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL FUNDING DESPITE STATE BUDGET CRUNCH

With state budget cuts on the horizon for the upcoming session of the General Assembly, the Commonwealth Education Poll finds 68% of Virginians willing to pay more in taxes in order to keep public schools at current funding levels; 28% are not willing to pay more in taxes for the schools. About six-in-ten Virginians also say they are willing to pay more in taxes to keep mental health services (62%) and aid to low income families (61%) at current program levels. Willingness to pay more in taxes was divided when it comes to transportation; 48% are willing to pay more while 46% are not willing to pay more in taxes for transportation. Overall, 46% are willing to pay more in taxes for higher education, 49% are not willing to pay more taxes for this. When it comes to prisons, 24% are willing to pay more in taxes while 68% are not willing to do so.

These findings are part of a new state-wide survey conducted by Virginia Commonwealth University. The Commonwealth Education Poll was conducted by telephone with 1,002 adults from December 22 to 29, 2008. The margin of error for the poll is plus or minus 3.7 percentage points. This is the ninth annual Commonwealth Education Poll, conducted by VCU's Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute (CEPI).

Other survey findings:

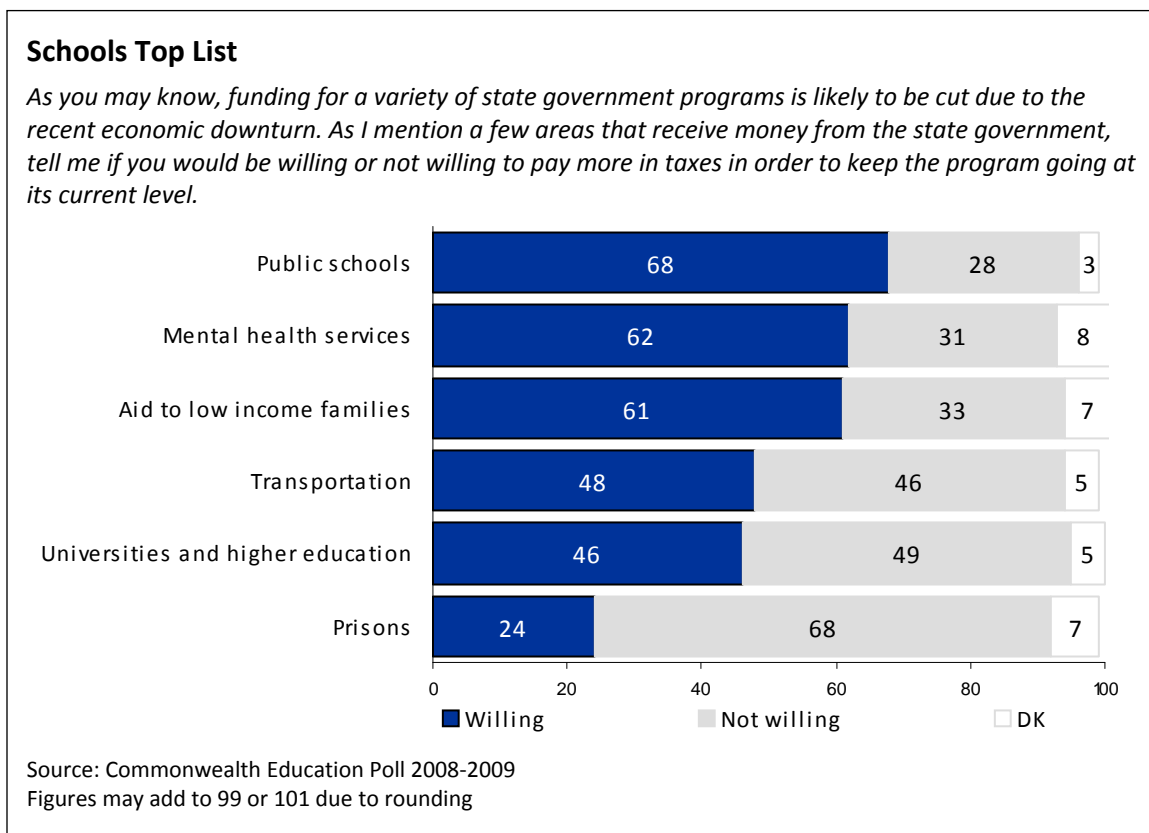
- **School Funding Matters.** Seven-in-ten Virginians believe that the amount of money spent on the schools affects education quality a great deal or quite a lot. A similar proportion (71%) say that state funding cuts for education would bring major changes to schools in their community; 21% say schools in their area would continue pretty much as now if funding were cut.
- **Opposition to Four-Day School Week.** A majority of Virginians are opposed to the idea of a four-day school week, especially if it involves reduced instruction time for students. Eight-in-ten Virginians oppose a proposal to use a four-day school week involving a reduction in instructional hours; 54% are opposed to a four-day school week where the total hours of instruction stays the same.
- **Opinion about Raising Class Size Depends on the Specifics.** Opinion about the effect of an increase in average class size on education quality varies dramatically depending on the

question asked. Seven-in-ten of those asked about an unspecified increase in average class size believe raising average class size would hurt the quality of education. In contrast, two-thirds of those asked about an increase in average class size by one student say this would *not* hurt education quality.

- **Science Education, Especially at Younger Ages.** A plurality of Virginians (43%) say the amount of emphasis given to teaching science and math is about right; a third say it is not enough. A plurality say it is most important for schools to increase science education at the elementary school level and a majority believe that more science training at younger ages is the best way to increase the number of high school students interested in science as a career.
- **Economics Education.** A 53% majority of Virginians say the local schools do not give enough emphasis to economics, 23% say the schools give the right amount of emphasis. A plurality say it is most important for schools to increase economics education during middle school.
- **Opposition to Public Schools for Single-Sex Education.** A majority of Virginians oppose the idea of single-sex education in the public schools. Two-thirds of Virginians oppose or strongly oppose public schools for girls only; a similar proportion (65%) opposes public schools for boys only.
- **Wishing for More.** Better than six-in-ten Virginians say they wish they had learned more in school about the following topics: business economics (77%), computer technology (77%), global economic issues (74%), science (66%), and math (65%).
- For the full report or past survey reports see <http://www.cepionline.org/>

Willingness to Pay for State Programs

Virginia legislators will soon enter a new session of the General Assembly with the task of implementing spending cuts designed to balance the budget during a period of declining state revenues. The Commonwealth Education Poll asked Virginians whether or not they would be willing to pay more in tax dollars to maintain public services at current levels. More state residents say they would pay additional tax dollars for the public schools than say the same about any of five other programs considered. Nearly seven-in-ten (68%) Virginians say they would be willing to pay more in taxes for public schools; about three-in-ten (28%) would not be willing to pay more in taxes for the schools.



More than six-in-ten Virginians are willing to pay more in taxes for mental health services (62%) and programs that provide aid to low income families (61%). Views about transportation and higher education funding are more divided. 48% would pay more in taxes for transportation while 46% would not pay more in taxes for these services. When it comes to universities and higher education, 46% are willing to pay more in taxes while 49% are not willing to pay more for this. The only program with a majority unwilling to pay more in taxes is prisons. Fully 68% are unwilling to pay more in taxes for prisons while 24% are willing to pay more in taxes for prisons.

Willingness to pay more in taxes for public schools may stem from beliefs that spending levels influence school quality. Seven-in-ten Virginians believe that the amount of money spent on the schools affects education quality a great deal or quite a lot. Beliefs about the impact of spending levels on education quality are largely unchanged from 2003, when this question was last asked.

Consistent with these views, about seven-in-ten (71%) Virginians say that funding cuts in education would bring major changes to their local schools; 21% say schools in their area would continue pretty much as they are now.

Even at current funding levels, a majority of Virginians say funding for public schools is not enough to meet their needs. Fully 62% say current

funding levels for schools is not enough to meet their needs while 28% say it is enough. Opinion about school funding adequacy has held fairly steady over the last few years. In 2005, 64% said current funding was not enough while 26% said funding for the schools was enough to meet school needs.

Funding Matters

In your opinion, how much does the amount of money spent on the public schools affect the quality of students' education?

	%
A great deal	43
Quite a lot	27
Not much	20
Not at all	4
Don't know/Refused	<u>7</u>
	100

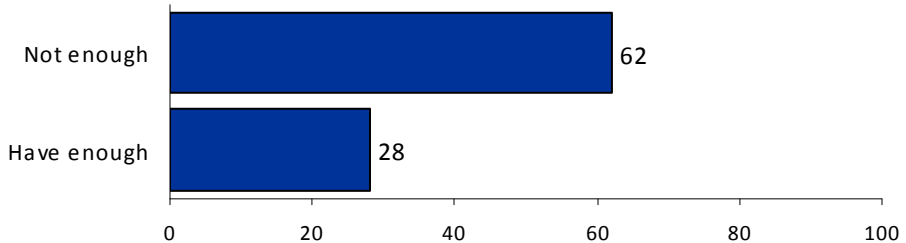
Suppose state funding for education were cut, do you think the schools in your community would be able to continue pretty much as they are now, or do you think this would bring major changes to the schools in your community?

	%
Would continue as now	21
Would bring major changes	71
Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009
 Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Do Schools Have Enough?

Overall, do you think the funding for public schools in Virginia is enough to meet their needs, or not enough to meet their needs?



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009

Further, a 55% majority says they are willing to pay higher taxes so school funding could be increased; 37% are not willing to pay higher taxes for this purpose. Willingness to pay higher taxes for school funding increases has held steady over the past several years. Nearly two-thirds (65%) of those who believe that current funding is not enough to meet school needs would be willing to pay more in taxes for a funding increase. Similarly, those who believe that the amount of money spent on schools affects education quality a great deal or quite a lot are more willing than those who believe funding has little affect on education quality to pay higher taxes for a school funding increase.

		Willing	Not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		55%	37%	8%	1002
Current school funding	Enough	38%	59%	3%	287
	Not enough	65%	28%	7%	613
How much does the amount of money spent on the public schools affect the quality of students' education?	A great deal	64%	29%	7%	409
	Quite a lot	61%	32%	8%	279
	Not too much/not at all	37%	57%	6%	242

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

What kind of tax? A plurality (48%) of those willing to pay more in taxes for a school funding increase say that a sales tax would be best.

School funding comes from multiple sources, not just the state coffers. When asked which level of government provides the most funding for the schools, Virginians split 37% for the state, 30% for local government and 15% for federal government, with the 18% remainder uncertain. A minority of Virginians (38%) are aware that the federal government provides the least amount of funding for the schools.

What kind of tax?

What kind of tax increase do you think would be best?

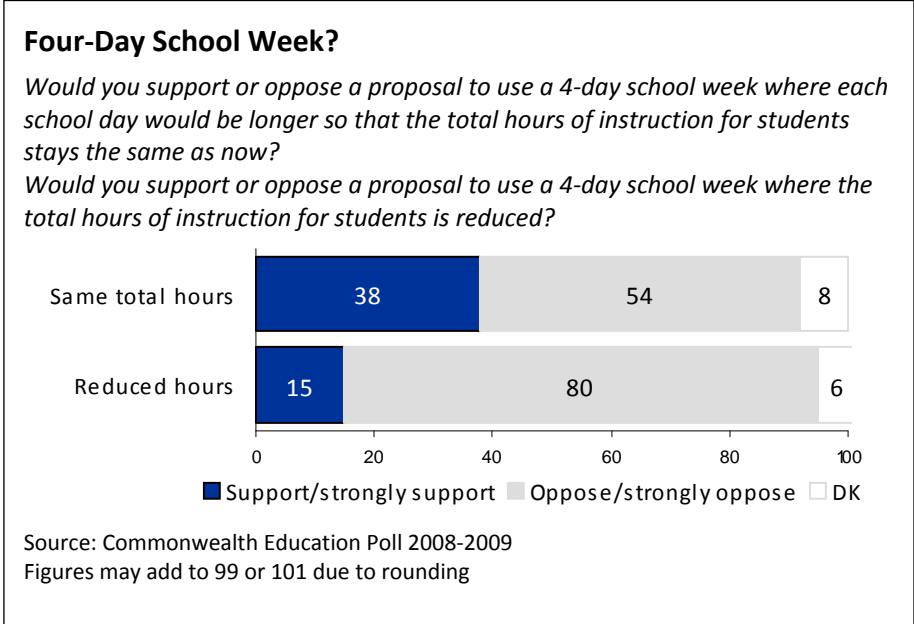
Among those willing to pay more in taxes

	%
Sales tax	48
Income tax	18
Real estate property tax	14
Personal property tax	10
Don't know/Refused	9
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

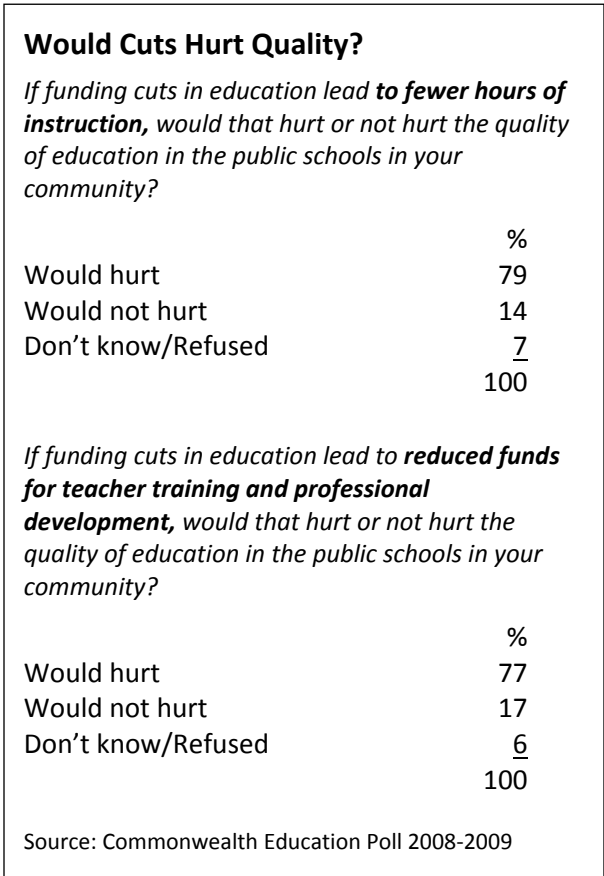
Opinion about Other Options for Cutting Costs

The Commonwealth Education Poll asked Virginians about a number of other ideas related to cost-cutting for the schools. Switching to a four-day school week has sometimes been proposed in order to save on facility costs. A majority of Virginians are opposed to a four-day school week. 54% of Virginians oppose a four-day week where the total instructional hours remains the same as now, while 38% supports a four-day school week under these conditions.



Opposition to a four-day week is stronger if it involves a reduction in total instructional hours. Eight-in-ten Virginians oppose a four-day school week that reduces the total hours of classroom instruction.

Nearly eight-in-ten (79%) Virginians believe that fewer hours of instruction would hurt the quality of education in the schools. A similar proportion (77%) believes that reduced funds for teacher training and professional development would hurt the quality of education.

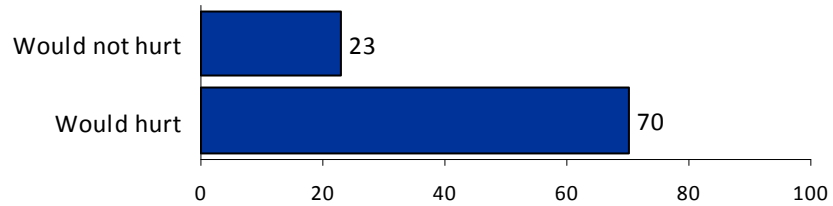


Class size increases are also being discussed as a way the schools can save money. The Commonwealth Education Poll tested two questions about increased class size in a split-half experiment. One half of the respondents was asked whether an increase in the average class size would hurt or not hurt the quality of education in the

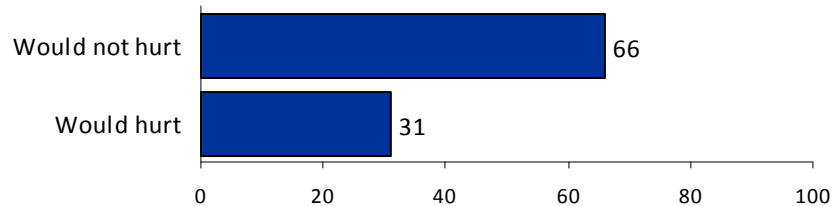
schools. The other half was asked about an increase of one student. Opinion about the impact of increases in average class size varies dramatically depending on the question asked. Seven-in-ten of those asked about an unspecified increase in average class size believe raising average class size would hurt the quality of education in the schools. In contrast, two-thirds of those asked about an increase in average class by one student say this would not hurt education quality in the schools.

Increase Class Size?

*If funding cuts in education lead to an **increase in the average class size**, would that hurt or not hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community?*



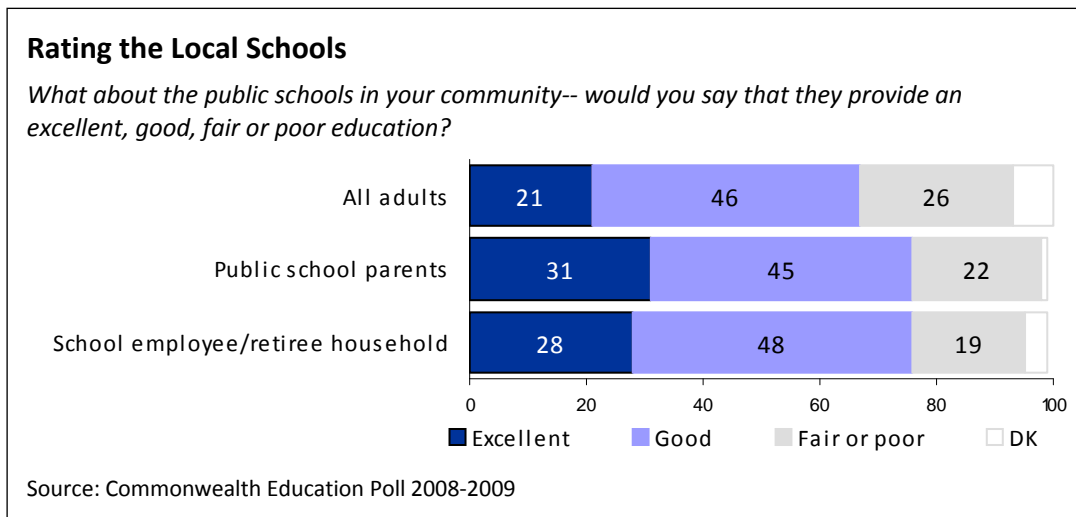
*If funding cuts in education lead to an **increase in the average class size by one student**, would that hurt or not hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community?*



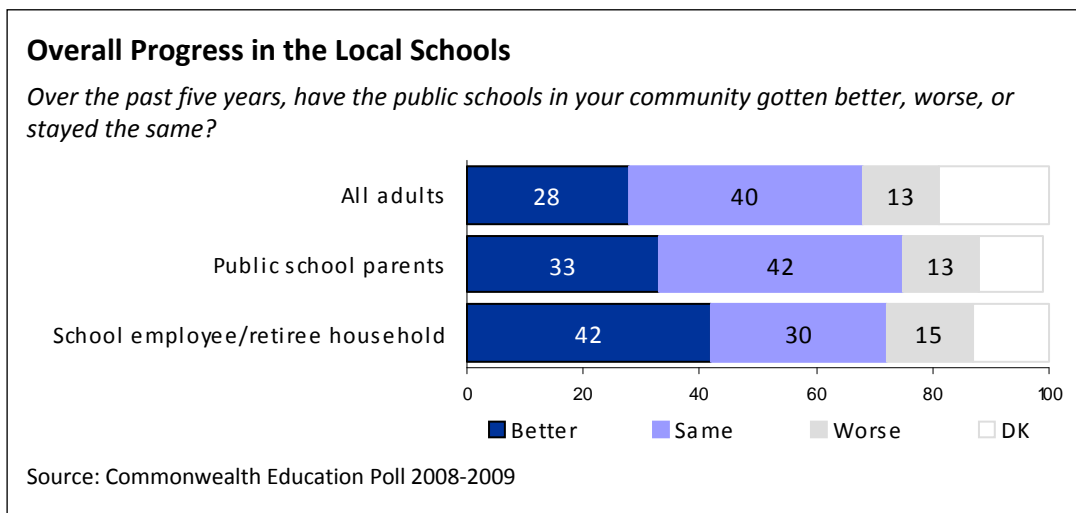
Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009

Evaluation of the Schools

Nearly seven-in-ten Virginians say their local schools provide an excellent (21%) or good (46%) education. The number giving the local schools an excellent rating is down by six points from last year. Public school parents are more positive in their evaluations of the local schools than are other Virginians. About three-in-ten parents (31%) rate their local schools as excellent; this compares with 17% among those who don't have a child in the schools. Similarly, respondents who are, themselves, or are living in households with school employees or retirees are more positive about the schools. 28% of this group says the local schools are excellent; this compares with 20% among their counterparts.



About three-in-ten Virginians (28%) say local school performance is better than it was five years ago; another four-in-ten say it is about the same and 13% say performance is worse. Respondents with school employees or retirees in the household are more likely than their counterparts to say school performance is better.



Virginia Schools. A majority of citizens rate the state schools in positive terms; 15% say they provide an excellent education and another 46% say the education is good. Evaluations of the state schools are about the same as previous years.

School Performance Trajectory. The survey asked respondents to evaluate school performance over the past five years in several areas. More Virginians see improvement in the schools when it comes to

skills for pursuing a four-year college degree; for pursuing a technical career; and for teaching the basics such as reading, writing, and mathematics. About a fifth of Virginians say school performance has gotten better when it comes to training students for meeting the workforce needs of the future and providing the skills useful in obtaining a job. Evaluations across all of these areas are a bit less positive than a year ago.

Schools State-wide

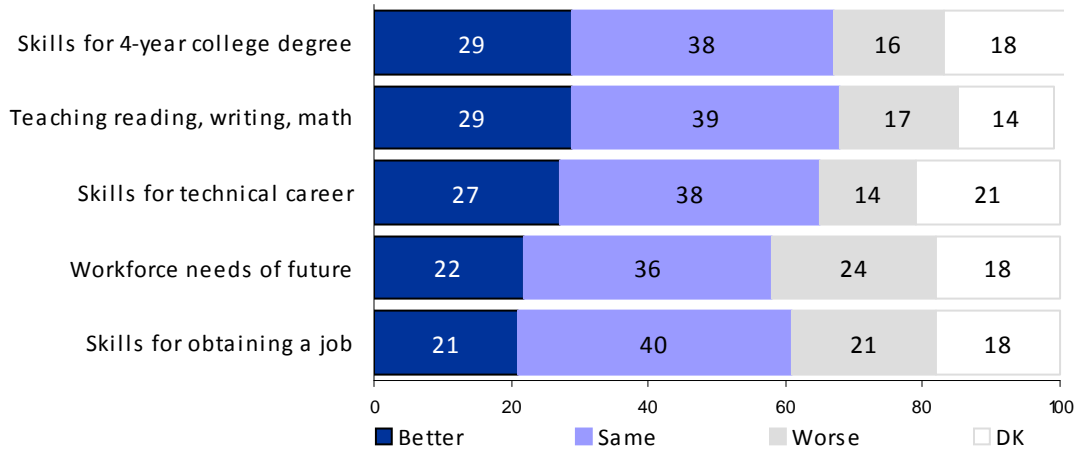
Thinking about the public schools in Virginia as a whole, would you say that they provide an excellent, good, fair or poor education?

	%
Excellent	15
Good	46
Fair	25
Poor	5
Don't know/Refused	9
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009

Virginia School Performance

Do you think public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years in each area?



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009

Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Teaching Science, Math and Economics

A plurality (43%) say schools are currently giving about the right amount of emphasis to science and math while a third say there is not enough emphasis and just 4% say there is too much emphasis on science and math.

A plurality of all adults (48%) say it is most important for schools to increase science education at the elementary school level. And, among those who believe there is not enough emphasis on science and math 58% say it is most important to increase science training during the elementary school years.

The importance of science education at younger ages was also evident in response to a question about how to increase interest in science as a career. A 53% majority of Virginians say that more science at younger ages is the best way to increase interest in science as a career, 27% say more training in laboratory and field science is best and, 8% say creating high schools that specialize in science is best.

Science Education

In your opinion, do the public schools in your community give too much emphasis to teaching science and math, not enough emphasis, or about the right amount of emphasis?

	%
Right amount	43
Not enough emphasis	33
Too much emphasis	4
Don't know/Refused	<u>19</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

More Science for the Young

Thinking just about science, when do you think it is MOST important for schools to increase their emphasis on science...?

	%
Elementary school	48
Middle school	33
High school	11
All/None of these (VOL.)	5
Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>
	100

Which do you think is the BEST way to increase the number of high school students interested in science as a career?

	%
Increase science teaching at younger ages	53
More lab and field science training	27
Create science specialty high schools	8
All/None of these (VOL.)	5
Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

When it comes to economics, a majority of Virginians (53%) say local schools do not give enough emphasis to economics, 23% say schools give the right amount of emphasis and just 1% say schools give too much emphasis to economics education. A plurality of adults say it is most important to increase training in economics during the middle school years (46%); the remainder are divided between whether economic education is most important at the elementary or high school levels.

Whether schools are giving enough emphasis to these subjects or not, most adults wish they knew even more. More than six-in-ten adults in the state say they wished they had learned about more about the following subjects in school: business economics (77%), computer technology (77%), global economic issues (74%), science (66%), and math (65%).

Economics Education

Do the public schools in your community give too much emphasis to teaching economics, not enough emphasis, or about the right amount of emphasis?

	%
Right amount	23
Not enough emphasis	53
Too much emphasis	1
Don't know/Refused	24
	100

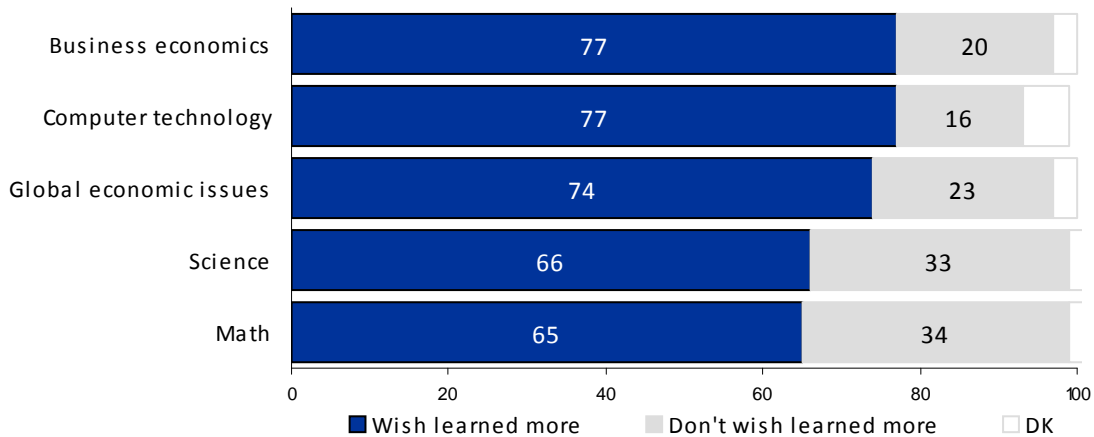
When do you think it is MOST important for schools to increase their emphasis on economics...?

	%
Elementary school	26
Middle school	46
High school	24
All/None of these (VOL.)	2
Don't know/Refused	2
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009
 Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Wishing for More?

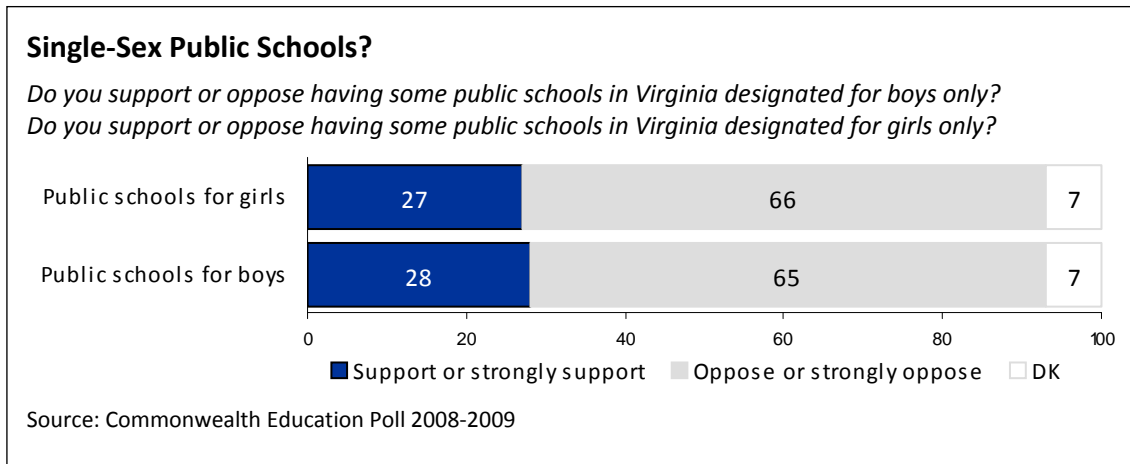
As you look back, do you wish you had learned more about (this subject) in school, or not?



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009
 Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Public Opposition to Single-Sex Education

A majority of Virginians oppose the idea of single-sex education in the public schools. Two-thirds of Virginians oppose or strongly oppose public schools for girls only; a similar proportion (65%) opposes public schools for boys only.



Among those who support the idea of single-sex public schools for either boys or girls, respectively, a plurality say single-sex education is most useful during the middle school years.

When are single-sex schools most useful?

When do you think it is MOST useful to have public schools for boys/girls only?

Among those who support single-sex schools for...

	Boys %	Girls %
Elementary school	18	19
Middle school	43	42
High school	27	27
All of these (vol.)	11	11
Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009

METHOD OF THE COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION POLL

The Commonwealth Education Poll is a public opinion survey of Virginia residents about schools and education in the state. The survey was conducted by landline telephone from December 22 to 29, 2008 with a randomly-selected sample of 1,002 adults living in Virginia. The interviewing was conducted through the facilities of Princeton Data Source (PDS), a research and polling company located in northern Virginia. They used a staff of professionally trained, paid interviewers and computer-assisted telephone interviewing software to conduct the survey.

The sample of telephone numbers was designed so that all residential telephones, including new and unlisted numbers, had a known chance of inclusion. The data are weighted to adjust for unequal probabilities of selection due to multiple adults living in the household. In addition, the data are weighted on sex, race, age, education and region of residence to reflect the demographic composition of the adult population in Virginia. Percentages reported in the text and tables are weighted, while the number of cases shown in the tables for various subgroups is the actual number of respondents.

Questions answered by the full sample of adults are subject to a sampling error of plus or minus 3.7 percentage points at the 95 percent level of confidence. This means that in 95 out of 100 samples like the one used here, the results obtained should be no more than 3.7 percentage points above or below the figure that would be obtained by interviewing all Virginian residents with telephones. Where the answers of subgroups are reported, the sampling error would be higher. Because of non-response (refusals to participate, etc.), standard calculations of sampling error are apt to understate the actual extent to which survey results are at variance with the true population values. Surveys are also subject to errors from sources other than sampling. While every effort is made to identify such errors, they are often difficult or impossible to measure. Readers making use of the results are urged to be mindful of the limitations inherent in survey research.

Commonwealth Education Poll 2008-2009

State-wide survey of Virginians

December 22 to 29, 2008

Number of Respondents: 1,002

Q1. Thinking about the public schools in Virginia AS A WHOLE, would you say that they provide an EXCELLENT, GOOD, FAIR, or POOR education?¹

	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Excellent	15	17	17	14	11	15	10	11	11
Good	46	45	48	50	52	51	50	47	47
Fair	25	20	24	24	24	23	26	26	26
Poor	5	5	5	4	5	4	5	4	4
Don't know/Refused	9	12	7	8	8	8	9	11	11

Q2. What about the public schools in YOUR community—would you say that they provide an EXCELLENT, GOOD, FAIR, or POOR education?

	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Excellent	21	27	25	25	21	22	18	18	15
Good	46	43	45	45	43	46	47	42	44
Fair	20	18	19	18	22	20	21	22	22
Poor	6	4	5	6	6	5	8	7	6
Don't know/Refused	7	8	6	7	8	7	6	10	12

Q3. Over the past five years, have the public schools in YOUR community gotten BETTER, WORSE, OR STAYED THE SAME?

	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Better	28	30	31	34	29	32	30	29	33
Worse	13	12	13	10	14	12	15	16	14
Stayed the same	40	40	39	36	39	40	37	35	34
Don't Know/Refused	19	18	17	20	19	17	19	20	20

Q4. How much do you know about the local schools—quite a lot, some, very little, or nothing at all?

	Virginia		National trend for comparison:
	08-09	07-08	Gallup 2007²
	%	%	%
Quite a lot	34	35	38
Some	39	36	45
Very little	19	23	16
Nothing at all	6	6	1
Don't know/Refused	1	1	0

¹ Percentages may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding. Cells that are blank contain no cases. Cells with a zero percent entry contain cases, but the percentage is less than 0.5%.

² All Gallup trends from the Gallup/Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) surveys

Q5. In your opinion, do the public schools in your community give too much emphasis to teaching science and math, not enough emphasis, or about the right amount of emphasis?

	Virginia		National trend for comparison:
	08-09	07-08	Gallup 2007*
	%	%	%
Too much emphasis	4	4	2
Not enough emphasis	33	34	48
About the right amount of emphasis	43	43	48
Don't Know/Refused	19	18	2

*Gallup/PDK survey asked about the "public schools in this community..."

Q6. Thinking just about science, when do you think it is MOST important for schools to increase their emphasis on science – in elementary school, middle school, or high school?

	08-09
	%
Elementary school	48
Middle school	33
High school	11
All of these/More than one (VOLUNTEERED)	4
None of these/Never (VOLUNTEERED)	1
Don't Know/Refused	4

Q7. Which do you think is the BEST way to increase the number of high school students interested in science as a career? (READ 1-3)

	08-09
	%
Provide more training in laboratory and field science	27
Create public high schools that specialize in science	8
Increase science teaching at younger ages	53
All of these/More than one (VOLUNTEERED)	4
None of these (VOLUNTEERED)	1
Don't Know/Refused	6

Q8. Turning to economics... Do the public schools in your community give too much emphasis to teaching economics, not enough emphasis, or about the right amount of emphasis?

	08-09
	%
Too much emphasis	1
Not enough emphasis	53
About the right amount of emphasis	23
Don't Know/Refused	24

Q9. When do you think it is MOST important for schools to increase their emphasis on economics – in elementary school, middle school, or high school?

	08-09
	%
Elementary school	26
Middle school	46
High school	24
All of these/More than one (VOLUNTEERED)	2
None of these/Never (VOLUNTEERED)	0
Don't Know/Refused	2

On another topic...

Q10. In your opinion, how much does the amount of money spent on the public schools affect the quality of students' education – a great deal, quite a lot, not too much, or not at all?

	08-09	2003	2002
	%	%	%
A great deal	43	42	45
Quite a lot	27	31	26
Not much	20	18	19
Not at all	4	2	4
Don't Know/Refused	7	7	5

Q11. Overall, do you think the funding for public schools in Virginia is enough to meet their needs, or not enough to meet their needs?

	08-09	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Enough	28	26	20	27	23	21
Not enough	62	64	69	64	67	70
Don't know/Refused	10	9	9	9	9	10

Q12. Would you be willing or not willing to pay higher taxes so that school funding could be increased?

	08-09	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Willing	55	55	57	61	60	57
Not willing	37	38	36	34	34	36
Don't know/Refused	8	6	7	5	6	7

ASK IF WILLING (Q12=1):

Q13. What kind of tax increase do you think would be best – sales tax, income tax, real estate property tax, or personal property tax? **[ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 through 4]**

	-----Among those willing to pay higher taxes-----					
	08-09	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Sales tax	48	49	58	54	58	47
Income tax	18	15	13	14	14	16
Real estate property tax	14	13	15	13	10	16
Personal property tax	10	14	7	10	11	13
Don't know/Refused	9	9	7	10	6	9

ASK ALL:

Q14. Suppose state funding for education were cut, do you think the schools in your community would be able to continue pretty much as they are now, OR do you think this would bring major changes to the schools in your community?

	08-09	2005	2004	2003
	%	%	%	%
Would continue as they are now	21	25	23	22
Would bring major changes	71	67	70	70
Don't know/Refused	8	9	7	7

Q15. As you may know, funding for a variety of state government programs and services is likely to be cut due to the recent economic downturn. As I mention a few areas that receive money from the state government, tell me if you would be willing or not willing to pay more in taxes in order to keep the program going at its current level. (First.../Next...) **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]. READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN IF NECESSARY:** Would you be willing or not willing to pay more in taxes in order to keep this program going at its current level?

	Willing	Not willing	Don't know
	%	%	%
a. Public schools	68	28	3
b. Mental health services	62	31	8
e. Programs for aid to low-income families	61	33	7
f. Transportation	48	46	5
c. Universities and higher education	46	49	5
d. Prisons	24	68	7

NO QUESTION 16

Q.17 If funding cuts in education lead to **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**, would that hurt or NOT hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community? **READ IF NECESSARY:** If funding cuts lead to **[INSERT ITEM]**, would that hurt or NOT hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community?

	Hurt	Not hurt	Don't know
	%	%	%
aF1. ASKED OF SPLIT SAMPLE 1: An increase in the average class size	70	23	6
bF2. ASKED OF SPLIT SAMPLE 2: An increase in the average class size by one student	31	66	3
c. Fewer hours of instruction for students	79	14	7
d. Reduced funds for teacher training and professional development	77	17	6

NO QUESTIONS 18 THROUGH 19

[Q20 AND Q21 asked in FIXED ORDER]

Q20. Would you support or oppose a proposal to use a 4-day school week – where each school day would be longer so that the total hours of instruction for students stays the same as now? Would you strongly support, support, oppose, or strongly oppose this proposal?

	08-09
	%
Strongly support	9
Support	29
Oppose	34
Strongly oppose	20
Don't Know/Refused	8

Q21. Would you support or oppose a proposal to use a 4-day school week – where the total hours of instruction for students is reduced? Would you strongly support, support, oppose, or strongly oppose this proposal?

	08-09
	%
Strongly support	2
Support	13
Oppose	49
Strongly oppose	31
Don't Know/Refused	6

RANDOMIZE ORDER OF Q22-Q23 (AS A PAIR IN ORDER) with Q24-Q25 (AS A PAIR IN ORDER)

Q22. Do you support or oppose having some public schools in Virginia designated for boys only? Do you strongly support, support, oppose, or strongly oppose this?

	08-09
	%
Strongly support	6
Support	22
Oppose	46
Strongly oppose	19
Don't Know/Refused	7

ASK IF SUPPORT OR STRONGLY SUPPORT FOR Q22:

Q23. When do you think it is MOST useful to have public schools for boys only – in elementary school, middle school, or high school?

	Among those who support
	%
Elementary school	18
Middle school	43
High school	27
All of these/More than one (VOLUNTEERED)	11
None of these/Never (VOLUNTEERED)	0
Don't Know/Refused	1

Q24. Do you support or oppose having some public schools in Virginia designated for girls only? Do you strongly support, support, oppose, or strongly oppose this?

	08-09
	%
Strongly support	5
Support	22
Oppose	47
Strongly oppose	19
Don't Know/Refused	7

ASK IF SUPPORT OR STRONGLY SUPPORT FOR Q24:

Q25. When do you think it is MOST useful to have public schools for girls only – in elementary school, middle school, or high school?

	Among those who support
	%
Elementary school	19
Middle school	42
High school	27
All of these/More than one (VOLUNTEERED)	11
None of these/Never (VOLUNTEERED)	0
Don't Know/Refused	1

NO QUESTION 26 THROUGH 28

ASKED OF SPLIT HALF SAMPLE 1:

Q29F1. To the best of your knowledge, which of these provides the LEAST funding for public schools in Virginia – the federal government, state government, or local city and county governments?

	08-09	2005	2004
	%	%	%
Federal government	38	35	41
State government	13	13	17
Local, city and county governments	26	23	22
Don't Know/Refused	24	29	20

ASKED OF SPLIT HALF SAMPLE 2:

Q30F2. To the best of your knowledge, which of these provides the MOST funding for public schools in Virginia – the federal government, state government, or local city and county governments?

	08-09
	%
Federal government	15
State government	37
Local, city and county governments	30
Don't Know/Refused	18

ASK ALL:

Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following two statements?

[ROTATE ORDER FOR Q31A AND 32B] READ IF NECESSARY: Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with this statement?

Q31a. The federal government needs to make sure that states are held accountable for school performance.

	08-09	07-08	2005	2004
	%	%	%	%
Strongly agree	24	27	23	23
Agree	56	46	57	57
Disagree	13	16	14	14
Strongly disagree	4	7	4	4
Don't Know/Refused	4	4	3	2

Q32b. State governments know more about the needs of students and schools in their state than the federal government does.

	08-09	07-08	2005	2004
	%	%	%	%
Strongly agree	25	32	29	29
Agree	56	47	57	55
Disagree	11	10	9	11
Strongly disagree	2	4	2	2
Don't Know/Refused	7	7	4	3

Q.33 Next, I'm going to ask whether you feel the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years in different areas. First,... **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] READ IF NECESSARY:** Would that hurt or NOT hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community?: Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during past five years in this area?

a. In providing skills that will be useful in obtaining a job?

	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004
	%	%	%	%	%
Better	21	26	30	28	30
Worse	21	18	19	17	16
Stayed the Same	40	38	38	38	39
Don't Know/Refused	18	18	13	18	15

b. In teaching the basics such as reading, writing, and mathematics?

	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004
	%	%	%	%	%
Better	29	32	38	39	35
Worse	17	17	17	14	17
Stayed the Same	39	37	35	33	35
Don't Know/Refused	14	14	10	14	14

c. In providing the skills needed for pursuing a 4-year college degree?

	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004
	%	%	%	%	%
Better	29	32	36	32	34
Worse	16	12	15	12	14
Stayed the Same	38	38	37	37	36
Don't Know/Refused	18	17	12	19	16

d. In providing the skills needed for pursuing a vocational or a technical career?

	08-09	07-08
	%	%
Better	27	31
Worse	14	14
Stayed the Same	38	35
Don't Know/Refused	21	20

e. In preparing students for the workforce needs of the future?

	08-09	07-08
	%	%
Better	22	27
Worse	24	20
Stayed the Same	36	34
Don't Know/Refused	18	18

Q34. As you look back, do you wish you had learned more about **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** in school, or not?

What about **[INSERT ITEM]**? **READ IF NECESSARY:** Do you wish you had learned more about this in school, or not?

	Yes, wish learned more	No, don't wish learned more	Don't know
	%	%	%
d. Business economics	77	20	3
c. Computer technology	77	16	6
e. Global economic issues	74	23	3
a. Science	66	33	2
b. Math	65	34	2

QUESTIONS 35 THROUGH 37 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

Tables of Results by Selected Subgroups³

		Q1. First, thinking about the public schools in Virginia AS A WHOLE, would you say that they provide an EXCELLENT, GOOD, FAIR, or POOR education?					Number of cases
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know	
All adults		15%	46%	25%	5%	9%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	12%	50%	23%	4%	11%	177
	Northern VA	29%	47%	14%	0%	10%	238
	West	9%	55%	27%	5%	4%	215
	South Central	8%	43%	30%	10%	9%	141
	Tidewater	9%	39%	33%	8%	11%	231
Gender	Men	14%	46%	26%	7%	8%	497
	Women	15%	47%	24%	4%	10%	505
Age	18-44	16%	49%	23%	6%	7%	325
	45-64	16%	46%	24%	3%	11%	410
	65 and older	10%	39%	32%	7%	11%	235
Education	H.S. or less	13%	47%	26%	6%	9%	341
	Some college	12%	43%	30%	5%	9%	235
	College grad or more	18%	49%	21%	4%	9%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	11%	46%	29%	7%	6%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	14%	45%	28%	5%	8%	265
	\$100,000 or more	22%	47%	17%	4%	10%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	18%	49%	20%	9%	5%	344
	Some	16%	49%	30%	2%	3%	388
	Very little or nothing	9%	39%	24%	5%	24%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	19%	51%	24%	4%	3%	200
	No	14%	46%	25%	5%	10%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	21%	51%	16%	7%	6%	249
	No	12%	45%	29%	4%	11%	752
Party identification	Democrat	14%	47%	26%	4%	9%	288
	Republican	14%	47%	25%	3%	10%	233
	Independent	15%	48%	23%	6%	7%	394

³ In the following tables, cells that are blank contain no cases. Cells with a zero percent entry contain cases, but the percentage is less than 0.5%. Percentages may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding.

		Q2. What about the public schools in YOUR community – would you say that they provide an EXCELLENT, GOOD, FAIR, or POOR education?					Number of
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know	cases
All adults		21%	46%	20%	6%	7%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	18%	42%	24%	8%	8%	177
	Northern VA	37%	43%	10%	1%	8%	238
	West	12%	55%	21%	7%	5%	215
	South Central	18%	46%	25%	4%	8%	141
	Tidewater	15%	43%	23%	10%	9%	231
Gender	Men	20%	45%	20%	6%	9%	497
	Women	23%	46%	20%	5%	6%	505
Age	18-44	22%	46%	19%	7%	7%	325
	45-64	22%	48%	19%	4%	7%	410
	65 and older	19%	42%	22%	6%	10%	235
Education	H.S. or less	17%	49%	23%	6%	6%	341
	Some college	22%	39%	25%	7%	7%	235
	College grad or more	27%	47%	12%	6%	9%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	16%	45%	25%	7%	7%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	18%	47%	21%	8%	6%	265
	\$100,000 or more	31%	46%	12%	3%	8%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	28%	44%	18%	10%	0%	344
	Some	22%	49%	22%	4%	2%	388
	Very little or nothing	11%	44%	16%	4%	25%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	28%	48%	14%	5%	4%	200
	No	20%	45%	21%	6%	8%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	31%	45%	17%	5%	1%	249
	No	17%	46%	20%	6%	10%	752
Party identification	Democrat	22%	47%	22%	5%	5%	288
	Republican	22%	45%	19%	5%	8%	233
	Independent	22%	46%	19%	6%	8%	394

		Q3. Over the past five years, have the public schools in YOUR community gotten BETTER, WORSE, OR STAYED THE SAME?				
		Better	Worse	Stayed the same	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		28%	13%	40%	19%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	31%	15%	38%	16%	177
	Northern VA	21%	8%	42%	30%	238
	West	32%	13%	40%	15%	215
	South Central	41%	11%	33%	15%	141
	Tidewater	24%	18%	45%	14%	231
Gender	Men	28%	12%	38%	22%	497
	Women	28%	13%	42%	16%	505
Age	18-44	30%	11%	38%	21%	325
	45-64	26%	15%	43%	17%	410
	65 and older	31%	11%	39%	19%	235
Education	H.S. or less	29%	13%	42%	17%	341
	Some college	32%	12%	37%	19%	235
	College grad or more	25%	13%	40%	22%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	29%	15%	42%	14%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	28%	12%	44%	16%	265
	\$100,000 or more	25%	11%	35%	30%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	36%	20%	38%	6%	344
	Some	28%	11%	47%	14%	388
	Very little or nothing	18%	6%	33%	44%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	42%	15%	30%	13%	200
	No	25%	12%	42%	20%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	33%	13%	42%	11%	249
	No	26%	12%	39%	22%	752
Party identification	Democrat	32%	8%	46%	14%	288
	Republican	29%	15%	35%	22%	233
	Independent	27%	15%	38%	20%	394

		Q4. How much do you know about the local schools – quite a lot, some, very little, or nothing at all?					Number of cases
		Quite a lot	Some	Very little	Nothing at all	Don't know	
All adults		34%	39%	19%	6%	1%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	33%	41%	20%	5%	1%	177
	Northern VA	36%	38%	18%	7%	1%	238
	West	34%	48%	12%	6%		215
	South Central	35%	38%	20%	6%		141
	Tidewater	33%	33%	26%	7%	1%	231
Gender	Men	32%	37%	23%	7%	0%	497
	Women	36%	41%	16%	6%	1%	505
Age	18-44	40%	39%	16%	5%	0%	325
	45-64	31%	41%	22%	6%	1%	410
	65 and older	21%	35%	28%	14%	2%	235
Education	H.S. or less	26%	41%	24%	8%	1%	341
	Some college	41%	38%	14%	6%		235
	College grad or more	42%	36%	17%	4%	1%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	28%	40%	22%	9%	0%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	39%	40%	17%	4%	0%	265
	\$100,000 or more	40%	37%	18%	4%		234
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	57%	28%	10%	4%	0%	200
	No	30%	41%	21%	7%	1%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	56%	37%	4%	1%	1%	249
	No	25%	40%	26%	9%	0%	752
Party identification	Democrat	32%	39%	22%	6%	1%	288
	Republican	35%	41%	19%	5%	0%	233
	Independent	37%	38%	19%	6%	1%	394

		Q5. In your opinion, do the public schools in your community give too much emphasis to teaching science and math, not enough emphasis, or about the right amount of emphasis?				
		Too much emphasis	Not enough emphasis	Right amount	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		4%	33%	43%	19%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	3%	29%	50%	18%	177
	Northern VA	5%	29%	47%	19%	238
	West	6%	36%	41%	17%	215
	South Central	2%	33%	44%	21%	141
	Tidewater	5%	38%	35%	21%	231
Gender	Men	3%	38%	40%	19%	497
	Women	5%	29%	46%	19%	505
Age	18-44	6%	30%	47%	18%	325
	45-64	3%	37%	43%	17%	410
	65 and older	3%	32%	32%	32%	235
Education	H.S. or less	7%	25%	47%	21%	341
	Some college	4%	36%	42%	18%	235
	College grad or more	1%	43%	38%	18%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	5%	30%	47%	18%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	4%	35%	46%	14%	265
	\$100,000 or more	3%	39%	38%	20%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	5%	39%	54%	2%	344
	Some	5%	33%	46%	16%	388
	Very little or nothing	2%	26%	24%	47%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	4%	32%	53%	11%	200
	No	4%	33%	41%	21%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	8%	28%	59%	5%	249
	No	3%	36%	36%	25%	752
Party identification	Democrat	4%	28%	47%	21%	288
	Republican	5%	36%	42%	17%	233
	Independent	4%	36%	41%	19%	394

		Q6. Thinking just about science, when do you think it is MOST important for schools to increase their emphasis on science – in elementary school, middle school, or high school?						
		Elementary	Middle	High school	All /More than one (VOL)	None of these/Never (VOL)	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		48%	33%	11%	4%	1%	4%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	46%	34%	10%	5%	0%	5%	177
	Northern VA	49%	32%	12%	2%	1%	3%	238
	West	45%	35%	11%	4%		5%	215
	South Central	52%	34%	8%	3%	1%	2%	141
	Tidewater	47%	33%	10%	5%	0%	4%	231
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	49%	29%	14%	6%	1%	2%	200
	No	47%	35%	10%	3%	1%	4%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	52%	34%	6%	3%	0%	4%	249
	No	46%	33%	12%	4%	1%	4%	752
Q5. Emphasis to teaching science and math	Not enough emphasis	58%	28%	6%	6%		1%	381
	Right amount of emphasis	40%	40%	13%	3%	1%	3%	407

		Q7. Which do you think is the BEST way to increase the number of high school students interested in science as a career?						
		Provide more training in laboratory and field science	Create public high schools that specialize in science	Increase science teaching at younger ages	All /More than one (VOL)	None of these (VOL)	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		27%	8%	53%	4%	1%	6%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	23%	10%	54%	5%	2%	7%	177
	Northern VA	32%	6%	56%	3%	1%	2%	238
	West	34%	6%	49%	2%	1%	8%	215
	South Central	17%	10%	55%	8%	2%	8%	141
	Tidewater	26%	11%	51%	5%	1%	6%	231
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	31%	10%	48%	6%	3%	3%	200
	No	26%	8%	54%	4%	1%	6%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	34%	8%	47%	6%	2%	4%	249
	No	24%	8%	56%	4%	1%	7%	752
Q5. Emphasis to teaching science and math	Not enough emphasis	20%	7%	62%	7%	1%	3%	381
	Right amount of emphasis	36%	10%	46%	2%	3%	4%	407

		Q8. Turning to economics... Do the public schools in your community give too much emphasis to teaching economics, not enough emphasis, or about the right amount of emphasis?				
		Too much emphasis	Not enough emphasis	Right amount	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		1%	53%	23%	24%	1002
VA Region	Northwest		53%	22%	25%	177
	Northern VA		55%	19%	26%	238
	West	1%	47%	33%	19%	215
	South Central		56%	25%	19%	141
	Tidewater	2%	52%	19%	28%	231
Gender	Men	0%	55%	22%	22%	497
	Women	1%	51%	23%	25%	505
Age	18-44	1%	56%	23%	20%	325
	45-64	1%	52%	22%	26%	410
	65 and older		39%	27%	34%	235
Education	H.S. or less	0%	44%	31%	25%	341
	Some college	1%	62%	19%	18%	235
	College grad or more	1%	59%	14%	26%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	0%	48%	30%	22%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	1%	56%	24%	18%	265
	\$100,000 or more		59%	16%	25%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	2%	67%	23%	9%	344
	Some	0%	54%	26%	20%	388
	Very little or nothing		32%	18%	50%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	2%	63%	26%	10%	200
	No	0%	50%	22%	27%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	1%	56%	31%	12%	249
	No	0%	51%	20%	29%	752
Party identification	Democrat	0%	52%	26%	22%	288
	Republican	1%	57%	21%	21%	233
	Independent	1%	50%	23%	26%	394

		Q9. When do you think it is MOST important for schools to increase their emphasis on economics – in elementary school, middle school, or high school?						
		Elementary	Middle	High school	All /More than one (VOL)	None of these/Never (VOL)	Don't know/Refused	Number of cases
All adults		26%	46%	24%	2%	0%	2%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	25%	53%	17%	3%		2%	177
	Northern VA	21%	42%	35%	1%		2%	238
	West	30%	48%	19%	2%	0%	1%	215
	South Central	27%	52%	19%	1%		1%	141
	Tidewater	30%	41%	23%	2%		4%	231
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	27%	45%	25%	2%	0%	1%	200
	No	26%	46%	24%	2%		2%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	25%	48%	26%	1%		1%	249
	No	27%	45%	23%	2%	0%	3%	752
Q8. Emphasis to teaching economics	Not enough emphasis	31%	45%	22%	2%	0%	1%	538
	Right amount of emphasis	21%	50%	26%	2%		0%	222

		Q10. In your opinion, how much does the amount of money spent on the public schools affect the quality of students' education – a great deal, quite a lot, not too much, or not at all?					
		A great deal	Quite a lot	Not too much	Not at all	Don't know/Refused	Number of cases
All adults		43%	27%	20%	4%	7%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	36%	32%	19%	4%	10%	177
	Northern VA	36%	33%	19%	4%	8%	238
	West	43%	30%	18%	3%	6%	215
	South Central	50%	19%	23%	4%	4%	141
	Tidewater	48%	20%	20%	5%	7%	231
Gender	Men	40%	25%	23%	6%	6%	497
	Women	45%	28%	17%	3%	8%	505
Age	18-44	47%	28%	19%	2%	4%	325
	45-64	41%	29%	18%	6%	6%	410
	65 and older	35%	20%	21%	5%	19%	235
Education	H.S. or less	41%	27%	16%	6%	10%	341
	Some college	42%	25%	25%	3%	5%	235
	College grad or more	45%	28%	20%	2%	4%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	49%	22%	17%	5%	7%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	44%	31%	20%	2%	3%	265
	\$100,000 or more	42%	30%	20%	3%	4%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	48%	25%	19%	5%	4%	344
	Some	40%	31%	20%	3%	5%	388
	Very little or nothing	40%	24%	19%	4%	13%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	42%	33%	19%	4%	2%	200
	No	43%	26%	20%	4%	8%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	48%	28%	16%	4%	4%	249
	No	40%	26%	21%	4%	8%	752
Party identification	Democrat	47%	22%	19%	4%	8%	288
	Republican	47%	23%	23%	3%	4%	233
	Independent	39%	32%	18%	4%	7%	394

		Q11. Overall, do you think the funding for public schools in Virginia is enough to meet their needs, or not enough to meet their needs?			
		Enough	Not enough	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		28%	62%	10%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	31%	62%	7%	177
	Northern VA	42%	46%	13%	238
	West	23%	67%	10%	215
	South Central	19%	71%	11%	141
	Tidewater	21%	70%	9%	231
Gender	Men	35%	56%	10%	497
	Women	22%	68%	11%	505
Age	18-44	30%	59%	10%	325
	45-64	24%	69%	7%	410
	65 and older	30%	53%	17%	235
Education	H.S. or less	27%	63%	10%	341
	Some college	28%	62%	10%	235
	College grad or more	29%	61%	10%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	23%	67%	10%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	28%	66%	7%	265
	\$100,000 or more	32%	57%	11%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	29%	65%	5%	344
	Some	31%	62%	7%	388
	Very little or nothing	22%	56%	22%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	30%	64%	5%	200
	No	27%	61%	11%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	26%	68%	6%	249
	No	29%	59%	12%	752
Party identification	Democrat	23%	71%	7%	288
	Republican	40%	51%	9%	233
	Independent	26%	62%	12%	394

		Q12. Would you be willing or not willing to pay higher taxes so that school funding could be increased?			
		Willing	Not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		55%	37%	8%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	54%	39%	7%	177
	Northern VA	60%	32%	8%	238
	West	50%	45%	5%	215
	South Central	58%	35%	6%	141
	Tidewater	52%	37%	11%	231
Gender	Men	54%	39%	7%	497
	Women	56%	35%	9%	505
Age	18-44	61%	32%	7%	325
	45-64	52%	39%	8%	410
	65 and older	44%	46%	9%	235
Education	H.S. or less	48%	43%	9%	341
	Some college	60%	34%	6%	235
	College grad or more	61%	32%	7%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	53%	41%	7%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	62%	30%	7%	265
	\$100,000 or more	65%	28%	7%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	61%	34%	5%	344
	Some	54%	38%	8%	388
	Very little or nothing	49%	41%	10%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	58%	35%	7%	200
	No	55%	38%	8%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	64%	28%	8%	249
	No	51%	41%	8%	752
Party identification	Democrat	67%	26%	7%	288
	Republican	48%	45%	7%	233
	Independent	53%	38%	8%	394

Q14. Suppose state funding for education were cut, do you think the schools in your community would be able to continue pretty much as they are now, OR do you think this would bring major changes to the schools in your community?

		Would continue as now	Would bring major changes	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		21%	71%	8%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	24%	68%	8%	177
	Northern VA	27%	64%	9%	238
	West	16%	79%	5%	215
	South Central	20%	67%	13%	141
	Tidewater	19%	76%	5%	231
Gender	Men	28%	64%	8%	497
	Women	16%	77%	8%	505
Age	18-44	21%	71%	8%	325
	45-64	20%	74%	6%	410
	65 and older	27%	60%	13%	235
Education	H.S. or less	20%	74%	6%	341
	Some college	23%	68%	9%	235
	College grad or more	22%	69%	9%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	18%	75%	7%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	22%	74%	4%	265
	\$100,000 or more	22%	67%	11%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	20%	76%	5%	344
	Some	23%	69%	8%	388
	Very little or nothing	22%	67%	11%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	20%	78%	3%	200
	No	22%	69%	9%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	18%	75%	7%	249
	No	23%	69%	8%	752
Party identification	Democrat	19%	75%	5%	288
	Republican	30%	62%	9%	233
	Independent	18%	75%	7%	394

		Q15a. Would you be willing or not willing to pay more in taxes in order to keep the program going at its current level -- Public schools?			
		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		68%	28%	3%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	65%	33%	2%	177
	Northern VA	76%	22%	2%	238
	West	66%	31%	3%	215
	South Central	64%	30%	6%	141
	Tidewater	65%	31%	5%	231
Gender	Men	70%	28%	2%	497
	Women	67%	29%	5%	505
Age	18-44	74%	24%	2%	325
	45-64	68%	30%	2%	410
	65 and older	53%	39%	9%	235
Education	H.S. or less	65%	32%	3%	341
	Some college	70%	26%	3%	235
	College grad or more	72%	25%	3%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	68%	27%	5%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	70%	26%	4%	265
	\$100,000 or more	79%	21%	0%	234
Party identification	Democrat	79%	19%	2%	288
	Republican	57%	39%	4%	233
	Independent	68%	29%	3%	394

		Q15b. Would you be willing or not willing to pay more in taxes in order to keep the program going at its current level -- Mental health services?			
		Yes, willing to pay			
		more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		62%	31%	8%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	59%	37%	4%	177
	Northern VA	69%	24%	6%	238
	West	61%	31%	8%	215
	South Central	61%	31%	8%	141
	Tidewater	56%	34%	10%	231
Gender	Men	63%	32%	5%	497
	Women	61%	30%	10%	505
Age	18-44	65%	28%	7%	325
	45-64	60%	34%	6%	410
	65 and older	56%	34%	10%	235
Education	H.S. or less	59%	32%	9%	341
	Some college	64%	29%	7%	235
	College grad or more	65%	30%	6%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	62%	29%	9%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	63%	31%	6%	265
	\$100,000 or more	66%	29%	4%	234
Party identification	Democrat	73%	20%	7%	288
	Republican	57%	38%	5%	233
	Independent	58%	33%	9%	394

		Q15c. Would you be willing or not willing to pay more in taxes in order to keep the program going at its current level -- Universities and higher education?			
		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		46%	49%	5%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	44%	54%	2%	177
	Northern VA	54%	42%	4%	238
	West	37%	56%	7%	215
	South Central	40%	54%	6%	141
	Tidewater	48%	45%	7%	231
Gender	Men	46%	50%	4%	497
	Women	45%	48%	6%	505
Age	18-44	51%	46%	3%	325
	45-64	43%	52%	6%	410
	65 and older	35%	53%	11%	235
Education	H.S. or less	42%	51%	7%	341
	Some college	52%	43%	5%	235
	College grad or more	46%	50%	4%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	46%	47%	7%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	47%	49%	4%	265
	\$100,000 or more	51%	46%	3%	234
Party identification	Democrat	59%	36%	5%	288
	Republican	37%	58%	5%	233
	Independent	41%	54%	5%	394

		Q15d. Would you be willing or not willing to pay more in taxes in order to keep the program going at its current level -- Prisons?			
		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		24%	68%	7%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	28%	68%	4%	177
	Northern VA	26%	66%	8%	238
	West	26%	69%	4%	215
	South Central	26%	68%	6%	141
	Tidewater	18%	71%	11%	231
Gender	Men	24%	69%	6%	497
	Women	25%	68%	8%	505
Age	18-44	26%	70%	5%	325
	45-64	24%	69%	7%	410
	65 and older	22%	63%	15%	235
Education	H.S. or less	23%	70%	6%	341
	Some college	21%	72%	7%	235
	College grad or more	28%	65%	8%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	25%	67%	8%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	25%	71%	4%	265
	\$100,000 or more	26%	69%	5%	234
Party identificati on	Democrat	25%	67%	8%	288
	Republican	28%	66%	6%	233
	Independent	22%	72%	6%	394

		Q15e. Would you be willing or not willing to pay more in taxes in order to keep the program going at its current level -- Programs for aid to low-income families?			
		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		61%	33%	7%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	57%	38%	5%	177
	Northern VA	70%	26%	4%	238
	West	61%	34%	6%	215
	South Central	54%	35%	11%	141
	Tidewater	56%	35%	9%	231
Gender	Men	62%	32%	6%	497
	Women	59%	33%	8%	505
Age	18-44	66%	28%	5%	325
	45-64	56%	36%	7%	410
	65 and older	53%	38%	9%	235
Education	H.S. or less	63%	31%	7%	341
	Some college	57%	38%	6%	235
	College grad or more	60%	33%	7%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	66%	26%	8%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	57%	38%	5%	265
	\$100,000 or more	63%	31%	6%	234
Party identification	Democrat	74%	21%	6%	288
	Republican	45%	46%	9%	233
	Independent	58%	36%	6%	394

		Q15f. Would you be willing or not willing to pay more in taxes in order to keep the program going at its current level -- Transportation?			
		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		48%	46%	5%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	42%	54%	4%	177
	Northern VA	55%	37%	8%	238
	West	43%	53%	3%	215
	South Central	49%	48%	4%	141
	Tidewater	49%	45%	6%	231
Gender	Men	51%	45%	3%	497
	Women	46%	47%	7%	505
Age	18-44	50%	46%	4%	325
	45-64	49%	46%	5%	410
	65 and older	43%	50%	7%	235
Education	H.S. or less	45%	50%	5%	341
	Some college	51%	44%	4%	235
	College grad or more	52%	42%	6%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	52%	43%	6%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	47%	49%	4%	265
	\$100,000 or more	60%	37%	3%	234
Party identification	Democrat	57%	37%	6%	288
	Republican	38%	56%	6%	233
	Independent	49%	46%	5%	394

ASKED OF HALF THE SAMPLE

		Q17aF1. If funding cuts in education lead to-- An increase in the average class size --, would that hurt or NOT hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community?			
		Hurt	Not hurt	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		70%	23%	6%	477
Gender	Men	63%	31%	6%	248
	Women	77%	16%	7%	229
Age	18-44	75%	22%	3%	141
	45-64	68%	25%	7%	204
	65 and older	61%	26%	12%	114
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	75%	22%	4%	165
	Some	71%	26%	2%	183
	Very little or nothing	63%	22%	15%	126
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	72%	28%	0%	93
	No	70%	23%	7%	383
Parent of public school student?	Yes	82%	15%	4%	122
	No	65%	28%	7%	354
Party identification	Democrat	72%	23%	5%	138
	Republican	69%	24%	6%	110
	Independent	69%	24%	7%	190

ASKED OF HALF THE SAMPLE

		Q17bF2. If funding cuts in education lead to-- An increase in the average class size by one student --, would that hurt or NOT hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community?			
		Hurt	Not hurt	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		31%	66%	3%	525
Gender	Men	28%	69%	3%	249
	Women	34%	63%	3%	276
Age	18-44	30%	67%	3%	184
	45-64	31%	68%	1%	206
	65 and older	36%	55%	8%	121
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	30%	68%	1%	179
	Some	30%	69%	1%	205
	Very little or nothing	34%	58%	9%	137
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	32%	67%	1%	107
	No	31%	65%	4%	416
Parent of public school student?	Yes	30%	70%	0%	127
	No	32%	64%	4%	398
Party identification	Democrat	38%	59%	3%	150
	Republican	21%	77%	3%	123
	Independent	31%	65%	4%	204

		Q17c. If funding cuts in education lead to-- Fewer hours of instruction for students --, would that hurt or NOT hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community?			
		Hurt	Not hurt	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		79%	14%	7%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	72%	18%	10%	177
	Northern VA	83%	13%	4%	238
	West	79%	15%	6%	215
	South Central	80%	12%	8%	141
	Tidewater	79%	14%	8%	231
Gender	Men	78%	15%	6%	497
	Women	80%	13%	7%	505
Age	18-44	82%	14%	4%	325
	45-64	80%	13%	7%	410
	65 and older	70%	17%	13%	235
Education	H.S. or less	78%	13%	8%	341
	Some college	76%	19%	5%	235
	College grad or more	83%	12%	5%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	80%	12%	8%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	81%	14%	5%	265
	\$100,000 or more	81%	14%	5%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	79%	18%	3%	344
	Some	83%	12%	5%	388
	Very little or nothing	75%	12%	14%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	84%	13%	3%	200
	No	78%	14%	8%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	85%	13%	2%	249
	No	77%	14%	9%	752
Party identification	Democrat	78%	16%	5%	288
	Republican	77%	16%	7%	233
	Independent	83%	12%	6%	394

		Q17d. If funding cuts in education lead to-- Reduced funds for teacher training and professional development --, would that hurt or NOT hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community?			
		Hurt	Not hurt	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		77%	17%	6%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	71%	21%	7%	177
	Northern VA	74%	19%	6%	238
	West	76%	19%	5%	215
	South Central	84%	13%	4%	141
	Tidewater	80%	15%	6%	231
Gender	Men	75%	20%	6%	497
	Women	79%	15%	6%	505
Age	18-44	83%	14%	3%	325
	45-64	73%	21%	6%	410
	65 and older	73%	15%	11%	235
Education	H.S. or less	80%	14%	6%	341
	Some college	76%	18%	6%	235
	College grad or more	74%	21%	4%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	78%	16%	6%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	78%	19%	3%	265
	\$100,000 or more	84%	14%	2%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	78%	20%	2%	344
	Some	79%	17%	4%	388
	Very little or nothing	72%	15%	13%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	76%	22%	1%	200
	No	77%	16%	6%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	83%	16%	1%	249
	No	75%	18%	8%	752
Party identification	Democrat	83%	13%	3%	288
	Republican	74%	21%	5%	233
	Independent	76%	19%	6%	394

		Q20. Would you support or oppose a proposal to use a 4-day school week – where each school day would be longer so that the total hours of instruction for students stays the same as now? Would you...?					
		Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		9%	29%	34%	20%	8%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	6%	38%	32%	18%	5%	177
	Northern VA	10%	23%	32%	28%	8%	238
	West	11%	33%	34%	14%	7%	215
	South Central	11%	28%	34%	19%	9%	141
	Tidewater	6%	29%	36%	19%	11%	231
Gender	Men	9%	30%	34%	20%	8%	497
	Women	9%	28%	34%	20%	9%	505
Age	18-44	11%	26%	36%	21%	7%	325
	45-64	6%	33%	30%	23%	8%	410
	65 and older	8%	27%	39%	12%	13%	235
Education	H.S. or less	9%	30%	33%	17%	10%	341
	Some college	6%	31%	36%	20%	8%	235
	College grad or more	9%	26%	34%	25%	6%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	8%	34%	33%	15%	9%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	9%	26%	37%	22%	6%	265
	\$100,000 or more	9%	25%	31%	28%	7%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	11%	28%	29%	25%	7%	344
	Some	7%	32%	35%	21%	5%	388
	Very little or nothing	8%	27%	38%	12%	15%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	11%	40%	29%	13%	8%	200
	No	8%	27%	35%	22%	8%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	10%	26%	32%	25%	6%	249
	No	8%	30%	34%	18%	9%	752
Party identification	Democrat	9%	30%	35%	17%	9%	288
	Republican	9%	27%	38%	21%	4%	233
	Independent	9%	29%	30%	22%	10%	394

		Q21. Would you support or oppose a proposal to use a 4-day school week – where the total hours of instructions for students is reduced? Would you...?					Number of cases
		Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know	
All adults		2%	13%	49%	31%	6%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	1%	14%	49%	32%	3%	177
	Northern VA	1%	12%	46%	39%	2%	238
	West	3%	18%	44%	25%	10%	215
	South Central	3%	9%	56%	27%	4%	141
	Tidewater	1%	12%	51%	27%	8%	231
Gender	Men	1%	13%	50%	32%	4%	497
	Women	2%	13%	48%	30%	7%	505
Age	18-44	1%	16%	47%	31%	5%	325
	45-64	2%	11%	48%	36%	3%	410
	65 and older	1%	12%	59%	15%	13%	235
Education	H.S. or less	2%	16%	53%	23%	6%	341
	Some college	2%	13%	46%	31%	7%	235
	College grad or more	1%	9%	45%	41%	4%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	2%	16%	52%	24%	6%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	4%	10%	50%	33%	4%	265
	\$100,000 or more	1%	10%	44%	43%	2%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	1%	12%	47%	38%	2%	344
	Some	2%	14%	48%	31%	5%	388
	Very little or nothing	3%	13%	53%	21%	10%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	3%	20%	45%	29%	4%	200
	No	2%	12%	50%	31%	6%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	2%	9%	52%	35%	3%	249
	No	2%	15%	48%	29%	7%	752
Party identification	Democrat	2%	15%	52%	26%	5%	288
	Republican	1%	12%	51%	31%	5%	233
	Independent	1%	11%	48%	35%	5%	394

		Q22. Do you support or oppose having some public schools in Virginia designated for boys only? Do you ...?					
		Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		6%	22%	46%	19%	7%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	3%	20%	51%	17%	9%	177
	Northern VA	10%	24%	39%	21%	6%	238
	West	3%	22%	52%	17%	6%	215
	South Central	6%	33%	37%	19%	6%	141
	Tidewater	4%	14%	51%	21%	10%	231
Gender	Men	5%	23%	46%	20%	6%	497
	Women	6%	21%	46%	18%	9%	505
Age	18-44	5%	22%	45%	20%	7%	325
	45-64	6%	21%	45%	20%	7%	410
	65 and older	6%	23%	49%	13%	8%	235
Education	H.S. or less	3%	19%	51%	20%	7%	341
	Some college	4%	20%	48%	21%	7%	235
	College grad or more	10%	26%	38%	18%	8%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	5%	19%	54%	17%	6%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	4%	26%	41%	21%	8%	265
	\$100,000 or more	8%	25%	41%	18%	8%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	8%	22%	44%	23%	4%	344
	Some	6%	24%	43%	21%	7%	388
	Very little or nothing	3%	20%	53%	12%	11%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	11%	22%	43%	18%	6%	200
	No	4%	22%	46%	20%	8%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	3%	18%	47%	24%	8%	249
	No	7%	24%	45%	17%	7%	752
Party identification	Democrat	2%	19%	55%	19%	5%	288
	Republican	9%	21%	39%	22%	9%	233
	Independent	6%	26%	44%	18%	6%	394

		Q24. Do you support or oppose having some public schools in Virginia designated for girls only? Do you ...?					
		Strongly support	Support	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		5%	22%	47%	19%	7%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	4%	21%	50%	17%	7%	177
	Northern VA	8%	26%	39%	20%	7%	238
	West	3%	21%	53%	17%	6%	215
	South Central	6%	31%	40%	17%	6%	141
	Tidewater	4%	13%	53%	20%	10%	231
Gender	Men	4%	23%	46%	20%	7%	497
	Women	6%	21%	47%	17%	8%	505
Age	18-44	6%	21%	47%	20%	7%	325
	45-64	5%	22%	47%	19%	7%	410
	65 and older	6%	23%	49%	14%	8%	235
Education	H.S. or less	3%	19%	53%	19%	7%	341
	Some college	6%	16%	50%	20%	7%	235
	College grad or more	9%	28%	37%	18%	8%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	5%	18%	55%	17%	6%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	4%	25%	44%	19%	8%	265
	\$100,000 or more	9%	25%	41%	19%	7%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	8%	21%	47%	20%	4%	344
	Some	4%	23%	43%	22%	7%	388
	Very little or nothing	4%	20%	53%	12%	11%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	7%	25%	47%	15%	6%	200
	No	5%	21%	47%	19%	8%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	4%	16%	50%	23%	8%	249
	No	6%	24%	46%	17%	7%	752
Party identification	Democrat	2%	17%	57%	18%	6%	288
	Republican	8%	22%	41%	20%	9%	233
	Independent	6%	25%	44%	18%	7%	394

ASKED OF HALF THE SAMPLE

		Q29F1. To the best of your knowledge, which of these provides the LEAST funding for public schools in Virginia—				
		Federal government	State government	Local city and county governments	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		38%	13%	26%	24%	477
Gender	Men	40%	13%	28%	19%	248
	Women	35%	13%	24%	28%	229
Age	18-44	42%	14%	22%	21%	141
	45-64	36%	12%	25%	27%	204
	65 and older	27%	14%	36%	23%	114
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	48%	16%	24%	12%	165
	Some	38%	9%	25%	27%	183
	Very little or nothing	25%	15%	26%	35%	126
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	48%	19%	22%	10%	93
	No	36%	12%	26%	26%	383
Parent of public school student?	Yes	45%	10%	23%	22%	122
	No	34%	15%	26%	25%	354
Party identification	Democrat	36%	15%	23%	26%	138
	Republican	37%	13%	27%	23%	110
	Independent	42%	12%	26%	19%	190

ASKED OF HALF THE SAMPLE

		Q30F2. To the best of your knowledge, which of these provides the MOST funding for public schools in Virginia—				
		Federal government	State government	Local city and county governments	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		15%	37%	30%	18%	525
Gender	Men	17%	36%	32%	16%	249
	Women	13%	38%	28%	21%	276
Age	18-44	13%	39%	35%	13%	184
	45-64	15%	36%	28%	21%	206
	65 and older	21%	32%	21%	26%	121
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	14%	40%	35%	11%	179
	Some	16%	40%	26%	18%	205
	Very little or nothing	14%	30%	28%	29%	137
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	19%	39%	37%	6%	107
	No	14%	37%	28%	21%	416
Parent of public school student?	Yes	13%	34%	35%	18%	127
	No	16%	38%	28%	18%	398
Party identification	Democrat	12%	40%	25%	24%	150
	Republican	10%	42%	26%	23%	123
	Independent	18%	35%	35%	12%	204

		Q31a. The federal government needs to make sure that states are held accountable for school performance. Do you ...?					Number of cases
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know	
All adults		24%	56%	13%	4%	4%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	17%	56%	18%	6%	3%	177
	Northern VA	27%	55%	8%	3%	6%	238
	West	19%	58%	18%	2%	3%	215
	South Central	29%	59%	8%	3%	2%	141
	Tidewater	24%	53%	15%	5%	4%	231
Gender	Men	23%	56%	13%	5%	2%	497
	Women	24%	55%	13%	3%	5%	505
Age	18-44	25%	61%	9%	2%	3%	325
	45-64	25%	52%	17%	5%	2%	410
	65 and older	15%	53%	17%	7%	8%	235
Education	H.S. or less	21%	61%	10%	3%	5%	341
	Some college	23%	52%	18%	5%	2%	235
	College grad or more	27%	52%	14%	4%	3%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	23%	59%	12%	3%	3%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	26%	56%	12%	4%	2%	265
	\$100,000 or more	26%	53%	15%	4%	3%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	30%	49%	14%	5%	2%	344
	Some	20%	60%	14%	3%	3%	388
	Very little or nothing	20%	60%	11%	3%	7%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	28%	44%	21%	3%	5%	200
	No	23%	58%	11%	4%	4%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	26%	56%	13%	3%	2%	249
	No	22%	56%	13%	4%	4%	752
Party identification	Democrat	23%	57%	11%	3%	5%	288
	Republican	24%	60%	13%	3%	1%	233
	Independent	24%	54%	14%	4%	3%	394

		Q32b. State governments know more about the needs of students and schools in their state than the federal government does. Do you...?					Number of cases
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know	
All adults		25%	56%	11%	2%	7%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	26%	56%	7%	2%	9%	177
	Northern VA	25%	52%	14%	2%	8%	238
	West	27%	57%	10%	2%	4%	215
	South Central	35%	53%	7%	1%	4%	141
	Tidewater	17%	60%	12%	3%	8%	231
Gender	Men	25%	59%	11%	2%	3%	497
	Women	25%	53%	10%	2%	10%	505
Age	18-44	24%	56%	12%	2%	6%	325
	45-64	28%	55%	8%	2%	6%	410
	65 and older	21%	57%	11%	1%	10%	235
Education	H.S. or less	22%	56%	10%	3%	9%	341
	Some college	23%	56%	13%	2%	6%	235
	College grad or more	30%	56%	10%	1%	3%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	21%	58%	11%	3%	6%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	29%	57%	11%	1%	3%	265
	\$100,000 or more	30%	55%	10%	1%	4%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	26%	55%	9%	3%	6%	344
	Some	29%	56%	9%	2%	4%	388
	Very little or nothing	19%	55%	14%	1%	11%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	28%	55%	9%	3%	5%	200
	No	25%	56%	11%	2%	7%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	22%	57%	12%	2%	7%	249
	No	27%	55%	10%	2%	6%	752
Party identification	Democrat	21%	57%	10%	3%	9%	288
	Republican	30%	58%	8%	0%	3%	233
	Independent	24%	55%	13%	2%	5%	394

		Q33a. Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years -- In providing skills that will be useful in obtaining a job?				
		Gotten better	Gotten worse	Stayed the same	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		21%	21%	40%	18%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	21%	26%	39%	14%	177
	Northern VA	15%	13%	46%	25%	238
	West	22%	24%	40%	15%	215
	South Central	28%	20%	35%	17%	141
	Tidewater	24%	25%	35%	15%	231
Gender	Men	23%	21%	37%	19%	497
	Women	20%	21%	42%	17%	505
Age	18-44	22%	19%	41%	18%	325
	45-64	20%	25%	41%	15%	410
	65 and older	23%	16%	34%	28%	235
Education	H.S. or less	23%	20%	41%	15%	341
	Some college	25%	20%	39%	16%	235
	College grad or more	17%	22%	39%	23%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	27%	22%	37%	14%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	19%	20%	45%	16%	265
	\$100,000 or more	16%	22%	37%	24%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	26%	25%	42%	7%	344
	Some	18%	21%	43%	17%	388
	Very little or nothing	20%	16%	31%	34%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	27%	24%	37%	11%	200
	No	20%	20%	40%	19%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	22%	16%	47%	15%	249
	No	21%	23%	36%	19%	752
Party identification	Democrat	25%	19%	42%	14%	288
	Republican	19%	19%	43%	19%	233
	Independent	20%	24%	37%	19%	394

		Q33b. Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years -- In teaching the basics such as reading, writing, and mathematics?				Number of cases
		Gotten better	Gotten worse	Stayed the same	Don't know	
All adults		29%	17%	39%	14%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	37%	18%	39%	6%	177
	Northern VA	26%	11%	41%	22%	238
	West	21%	21%	47%	11%	215
	South Central	35%	15%	32%	18%	141
	Tidewater	31%	23%	36%	10%	231
Gender	Men	26%	16%	41%	17%	497
	Women	33%	18%	38%	11%	505
Age	18-44	29%	15%	41%	16%	325
	45-64	31%	18%	40%	11%	410
	65 and older	29%	21%	31%	19%	235
Education	H.S. or less	30%	15%	43%	12%	341
	Some college	35%	20%	34%	10%	235
	College grad or more	25%	19%	38%	18%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	29%	18%	44%	9%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	28%	16%	43%	13%	265
	\$100,000 or more	29%	17%	31%	23%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	37%	22%	37%	4%	344
	Some	26%	16%	48%	10%	388
	Very little or nothing	25%	13%	29%	33%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	36%	18%	40%	6%	200
	No	28%	17%	39%	16%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	33%	12%	44%	10%	249
	No	28%	19%	37%	16%	752
Party identification	Democrat	40%	10%	41%	9%	288
	Republican	30%	18%	37%	15%	233
	Independent	22%	21%	41%	16%	394

		Q33c. Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years -- In providing the skills needed for pursuing a 4-year college degree?				Number of cases
		Gotten better	Gotten worse	Stayed the same	Don't know	
All adults		29%	16%	38%	18%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	32%	12%	44%	12%	177
	Northern VA	25%	11%	40%	24%	238
	West	31%	18%	37%	14%	215
	South Central	28%	17%	38%	17%	141
	Tidewater	29%	20%	33%	17%	231
Gender	Men	27%	15%	39%	19%	497
	Women	31%	16%	37%	16%	505
Age	18-44	27%	16%	39%	17%	325
	45-64	30%	14%	39%	17%	410
	65 and older	31%	15%	34%	20%	235
Education	H.S. or less	32%	13%	37%	18%	341
	Some college	32%	18%	36%	13%	235
	College grad or more	23%	17%	41%	20%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	32%	14%	38%	16%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	31%	17%	38%	14%	265
	\$100,000 or more	22%	15%	40%	23%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	32%	22%	39%	7%	344
	Some	28%	14%	43%	14%	388
	Very little or nothing	26%	10%	28%	36%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	36%	15%	41%	8%	200
	No	28%	16%	37%	20%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	31%	13%	43%	13%	249
	No	28%	17%	36%	20%	752
Party identification	Democrat	38%	11%	38%	13%	288
	Republican	29%	17%	39%	15%	233
	Independent	24%	18%	38%	20%	394

		Q33d. Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years -- In providing the skills needed for pursuing a vocational or a technical career?				
		Gotten better	Gotten worse	Stayed the same	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		27%	14%	38%	21%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	25%	15%	45%	15%	177
	Northern VA	21%	12%	36%	32%	238
	West	31%	13%	41%	15%	215
	South Central	33%	19%	32%	16%	141
	Tidewater	28%	15%	38%	19%	231
Gender	Men	26%	15%	37%	22%	497
	Women	28%	14%	38%	20%	505
Age	18-44	30%	12%	36%	22%	325
	45-64	24%	15%	45%	16%	410
	65 and older	24%	19%	30%	26%	235
Education	H.S. or less	28%	13%	41%	18%	341
	Some college	37%	12%	36%	15%	235
	College grad or more	20%	18%	36%	27%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	36%	13%	39%	13%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	20%	15%	42%	23%	265
	\$100,000 or more	23%	15%	34%	28%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	33%	19%	37%	11%	344
	Some	26%	14%	42%	18%	388
	Very little or nothing	21%	9%	33%	37%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	33%	18%	38%	11%	200
	No	26%	14%	38%	22%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	30%	12%	38%	19%	249
	No	26%	15%	38%	21%	752
Party identification	Democrat	28%	11%	46%	15%	288
	Republican	26%	14%	38%	22%	233
	Independent	29%	17%	32%	22%	394

		Q33e. Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years -- In preparing students for the workforce needs of the future?				
		Gotten better	Gotten worse	Stayed the same	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		22%	24%	36%	18%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	22%	24%	41%	14%	177
	Northern VA	20%	22%	33%	25%	238
	West	20%	27%	38%	15%	215
	South Central	25%	22%	36%	16%	141
	Tidewater	25%	23%	36%	15%	231
Gender	Men	22%	22%	36%	20%	497
	Women	23%	25%	36%	16%	505
Age	18-44	25%	22%	34%	18%	325
	45-64	20%	24%	41%	15%	410
	65 and older	21%	24%	33%	22%	235
Education	H.S. or less	24%	19%	38%	18%	341
	Some college	29%	22%	35%	14%	235
	College grad or more	15%	30%	35%	20%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	24%	21%	39%	16%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	23%	24%	36%	17%	265
	\$100,000 or more	19%	27%	33%	21%	234
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	28%	28%	38%	6%	344
	Some	20%	25%	38%	17%	388
	Very little or nothing	19%	16%	30%	35%	263
School employee or retiree in household?	Yes	28%	23%	41%	8%	200
	No	21%	24%	35%	20%	799
Parent of public school student?	Yes	26%	17%	41%	16%	249
	No	21%	26%	34%	19%	752
Party identification	Democrat	28%	17%	41%	14%	288
	Republican	22%	26%	33%	19%	233
	Independent	18%	27%	37%	18%	394

		Q34a. As you look back, do you wish you had learned more about -- Science -- in school, or not?			
		Yes, wish had learned more about	No, do not wish had learned more about	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		66%	33%	2%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	61%	39%	1%	177
	Northern VA	61%	36%	3%	238
	West	70%	29%	0%	215
	South Central	73%	25%	1%	141
	Tidewater	65%	33%	1%	231
Gender	Men	67%	31%	1%	497
	Women	64%	34%	2%	505
Age	18-44	62%	36%	2%	325
	45-64	69%	30%	1%	410
	65 and older	71%	27%	2%	235
Education	H.S. or less	70%	28%	1%	341
	Some college	60%	40%	1%	235
	College grad or more	64%	34%	2%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	76%	22%	1%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	66%	33%	1%	265
	\$100,000 or more	58%	40%	2%	234
Party identification	Democrat	72%	26%	2%	288
	Republican	54%	44%	1%	233
	Independent	67%	33%	1%	394

		Q34b. As you look back, do you wish you had learned more about -- Math -- in school, or not?			
		Yes, wish had learned more about	No, do not wish had learned more about	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		65%	34%	2%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	64%	36%	0%	177
	Northern VA	51%	45%	3%	238
	West	75%	24%	1%	215
	South Central	71%	29%		141
	Tidewater	68%	31%	1%	231
Gender	Men	66%	33%	2%	497
	Women	64%	35%	2%	505
Age	18-44	59%	39%	2%	325
	45-64	68%	31%	1%	410
	65 and older	73%	25%	2%	235
Education	H.S. or less	75%	23%	2%	341
	Some college	57%	43%	1%	235
	College grad or more	57%	42%	1%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	75%	23%	2%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	67%	32%	0%	265
	\$100,000 or more	54%	45%	1%	234
Party identification	Democrat	72%	26%	2%	288
	Republican	58%	41%	1%	233
	Independent	64%	36%	0%	394

		Q34c. As you look back, do you wish you had learned more about -- Computer Technology -- in school, or not?			
		Yes, wish had learned more about	No, do not wish had learned more about	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		77%	16%	6%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	81%	12%	7%	177
	Northern VA	75%	19%	6%	238
	West	82%	11%	7%	215
	South Central	77%	20%	4%	141
	Tidewater	74%	18%	8%	231
Gender	Men	76%	17%	7%	497
	Women	79%	16%	6%	505
Age	18-44	77%	21%	2%	325
	45-64	81%	11%	8%	410
	65 and older	69%	15%	15%	235
Education	H.S. or less	82%	12%	6%	341
	Some college	74%	21%	5%	235
	College grad or more	73%	19%	8%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	82%	12%	6%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	80%	14%	5%	265
	\$100,000 or more	75%	19%	6%	234
Party identification	Democrat	79%	15%	6%	288
	Republican	78%	15%	7%	233
	Independent	75%	19%	6%	394

		Q34d. As you look back, do you wish you had learned more about -- Business Economics -- in school, or not?			
		Yes, wish had learned more about	No, do not wish had learned more about	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		77%	20%	3%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	83%	16%	1%	177
	Northern VA	72%	26%	2%	238
	West	81%	15%	4%	215
	South Central	68%	27%	5%	141
	Tidewater	82%	17%	1%	231
Gender	Men	80%	18%	2%	497
	Women	75%	22%	3%	505
Age	18-44	78%	20%	2%	325
	45-64	78%	20%	2%	410
	65 and older	72%	23%	5%	235
Education	H.S. or less	82%	15%	2%	341
	Some college	72%	27%	2%	235
	College grad or more	73%	24%	3%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	83%	15%	2%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	78%	21%	1%	265
	\$100,000 or more	74%	25%	1%	234
Party identification	Democrat	80%	17%	3%	288
	Republican	78%	20%	1%	233
	Independent	75%	23%	2%	394

		Q34e. As you look back, do you wish you had learned more about -- Global Economic Issues -- in school, or not?			
		Yes, wish had learned more about	No, do not wish had learned more about	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		74%	23%	3%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	68%	30%	2%	177
	Northern VA	77%	19%	4%	238
	West	73%	24%	2%	215
	South Central	68%	28%	4%	141
	Tidewater	79%	19%	2%	231
Gender	Men	77%	20%	3%	497
	Women	71%	26%	3%	505
Age	18-44	74%	25%	1%	325
	45-64	77%	20%	3%	410
	65 and older	70%	25%	6%	235
Education	H.S. or less	75%	22%	3%	341
	Some college	74%	24%	2%	235
	College grad or more	72%	24%	3%	422
Family Income	Under \$50,000	74%	24%	2%	328
	50K to under \$100,000	77%	21%	2%	265
	\$100,000 or more	78%	20%	1%	234
Party identification	Democrat	81%	17%	2%	288
	Republican	70%	27%	3%	233
	Independent	73%	24%	2%	394