



COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION POLL 2009-2010

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

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VCU COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION POLL FINDS MAJORITY SUPPORT CHARTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS, OPPOSE TENURE AND HAVE MIXED VIEWS ABOUT TEST-BASED TEACHER PAY

Governor-elect Robert McDonnell made increasing the number of charter schools in Virginia one of his key proposals for education. State residents are not well informed about charter schools; only 8% say they have heard or read a lot about them, 27% have heard or read some, and the majority of 64% have heard or read nothing or not too much about charter schools. When a charter school program is described, a 56% majority favor a charter school program while 26% oppose and 18% are undecided.

Charter schools in Virginia operate under different rules than other states. When asked for an opinion about changing the state constitution to give Virginia charter schools more independence from local school boards on hiring and firing decisions, 37% favor, 44% oppose and the remaining 19% are undecided.

"While many state residents don't know very much about charter schools, when the program is defined Virginians support them by a 2 to 1 ratio," said William C. Boshier, Jr., executive director, Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute and distinguished professor of public policy in the Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs. "A plurality of both Democrats and Republicans oppose changing the state constitution to give Virginia's charter schools more independence," Boshier said.

These findings are part of a new state-wide survey conducted by Virginia Commonwealth University. The Commonwealth Education Poll was conducted by landline and cell telephone from December 1 to 6, 2009 with a random sample of 1,001 adults in Virginia. The margin of error for the poll is plus or minus 3.9 percentage points. This is the tenth annual Commonwealth Education Poll, conducted by VCU's Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute (CEPI).

Pay for performance proposals are also on the docket for the Governor-elect's education agenda. Most Virginians (52%) believe that basing part of a teacher's salary on student test scores will help the schools retain high quality teachers. At the same time, a majority (52%) opposes paying teachers whose students perform well on tests more than those whose students perform poorly; 36% take the opposite view saying teachers whose students perform well should be paid more than other teachers.

There are sizeable differences of opinion about test-based pay by family income and gender. School employees and retirees are more likely than other state residents to oppose test-based teacher pay and they are more skeptical that basing part of a teacher's salary on student test scores will help schools retain high quality teachers.

Job tenure is a concept unique to the educational sector. When the concept of tenure is explained in a balanced way, the poll finds a plurality of 48% opposed to offering tenure to teachers while 37% favor and 16% hold no opinion on the tenure issue. While more favorable toward the idea of tenure than other state residents, school employees and retirees show a surprising amount of divide on this issue; a 48% plurality of this group favor tenure, 38% oppose.

"Even though Virginians oppose both tenure and test-based teacher pay, they believe that using student achievement as part of teacher compensation will help retain the best," Boshier said.

Other survey findings:

- **School Funding Stays on Virginians' Wish List.** As state legislators look anew for ways to balance the state budget in the face of falling revenues, Virginians remain strongly supportive of funding for the public schools. About seven-in-ten Virginians (69%) believe that the amount of money spent on the schools affects education quality a great deal or quite a lot. Fully 63% of Virginians say that schools do not have enough funds to meet their needs while 27% say schools have enough funding now. At the same time, the public sees at least some waste in school budgets. Nearly one-in-five (18%) say there is a lot of waste, 43% say schools waste some, and nearly three-in-ten (27%) say schools do not waste very much (or any) tax dollars.
- **Which Cuts Hurt Education Quality?** Regardless of public desires for more school funding, most local school districts are in the process of making significant reductions, not increases, to budgets for the schools. The survey asked about the expected effect of six types of budget cuts on the quality of education in local schools. More than three-quarters of Virginians expect all of these cuts to hurt the quality of education either a lot or a little. The cuts seen as least likely to hurt education quality include layoffs of administrative staff (37% say these cuts would hurt a lot,) followed by cuts in teacher training and professional development (49% say these cuts would hurt the quality of education a lot.) Cuts expected to hurt the quality of education the most are those involving teacher layoffs (74% say teacher layoffs would hurt a lot.)
- **Willingness to Pay for Schools and Other State Programs.** Public schools top the list of programs that Virginians are willing to support with increased tax dollars in order to keep funding levels stable. Two-thirds of Virginians say they would pay more in taxes to keep school funding at its current level. About six-in-ten say they would pay more in taxes to keep state mental health services (61%) and aid to low income families (59%) at current levels. Fewer say the same about higher education funding (48%) and transportation (46%). A quarter of state residents are willing to pay more to keep funding for prisons at current levels.
- **Role of Federal, State and Local Governments in the Schools.** Virginians show some support for all levels of government being involved in the schools. A majority of Virginians (51%) believe local school districts should have the primary responsibility for improving the schools, 35% say the state should have primary responsibility and 9% say the federal government should have primary responsibility. More than seven-in-ten (72%) agree or strongly agree that the federal government needs to make sure that states are accountable for school performance. And 83% agree or strongly agree that states know more about the needs of their students and schools than does federal government.

- **Higher Education Funding.** A majority of state residents (52%) say that public universities and colleges in the state don't have enough funding to meet their needs, 34% say they have enough now. Those saying higher education needs more funding are more likely to think that funding increases should come from state tax increases than from tuition and fee increases.
- **School Performance.** Overall ratings of school performance at the state and local level remain more positive than negative. For example, 67% say their local schools provide an excellent or good education, 24% say they provide a fair or poor education. Parents of public school students rate the local schools more positively than do other residents.
- **Evaluation of Specific Skills.** When it comes to specific skills, majorities say the state schools are doing a good job in all five areas considered. Three-quarters of Virginians say the state schools do a good job teaching the basics such as reading, writing and mathematics, 16% say the state is doing a bad job in this area. Smaller majorities say the state schools do a good job providing skills needed for a four-year college degree (70%), for pursuing a vocational or technical career (64%), for obtaining a job (61%), or for preparing students for the workforce needs of the future (59%).
- **Proposals to Increase Classroom Instruction.** The survey looked at two proposals aimed at increasing time for classroom instruction; one based on increasing the days in school each year and a second based on increasing the hours in school each day. Opinion is divided about these proposals with the plurality against both. The survey finds 43% favor and 48% oppose increasing the number of days in a school year; 41% favor and 49% oppose increasing the number of hours in a school day.

"One of the striking aspects of the poll findings is the degree to which Republicans and Democrats can find common ground on education issues," said Cary Funk, associate professor in the Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs and director of the survey. "While Democrats are more supportive than Republicans of increased funding for the schools, when it comes to views about school performance and opinions related to issues such as teacher compensation and charter schools, there is a surprising degree of agreement between partisans."

The entire 75-page report including complete question wording and detailed tables of results is available at <http://www.cepionline.org/>

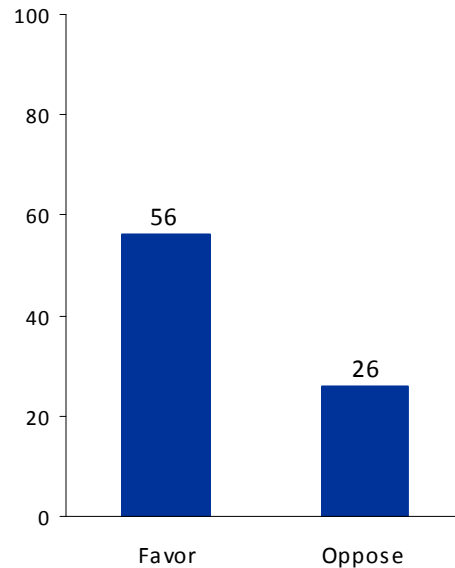
Charter Schools in Virginia

Governor-elect Bob McDonnell made increasing the number of charter schools in Virginia one of his key proposals for education. State residents are not well informed about charter schools; only 8% say they have heard or read “a lot” about charter schools, 27% say they have heard or read “some” with the majority of 64% saying they have heard or read nothing or not too much about charter schools.

When a charter school program is described, a 56% majority are in favor of a charter school program while 26% are opposed and the remaining 18% are undecided. Those more familiar with charter schools are more likely than those with less familiarity to

Opinion about Charter School Programs

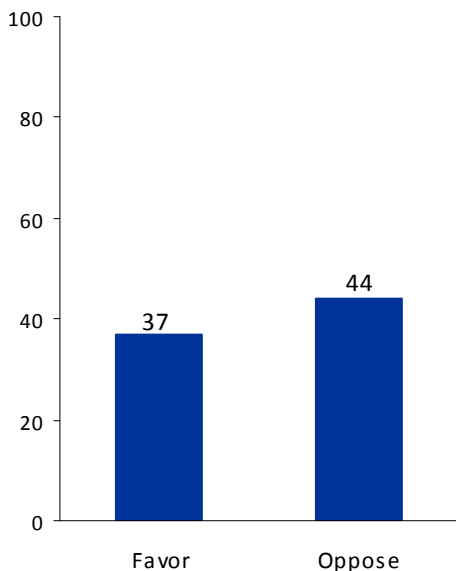
The charter school program exempts some public schools from certain state regulations and permits them to function independently from the local school districts as long as they meet certain state standards for student achievement. Do you favor or oppose such a program?



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Don't know responses not shown

Changing the Virginia Constitution for Greater Charter School Independence

Would you favor or oppose changing the Virginia constitution in order to give charter schools more independence from local school boards on decisions about hiring and firing teachers in charter schools?



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Don't know responses not shown

favor this program. Men are more strongly in favor of charter school programs than women. Among men 63% favor and 22% oppose charter school programs. This compares with 48% in favor and 30% opposed among women. Gender differences hold even after controlling for party identification.

Charter schools in Virginia operate under different rules than other states. When asked for an opinion about changing the state constitution to give Virginia charter schools more independence from local school boards on hiring and firing decisions, 37% are in favor, 44% are opposed and the remaining 19% are undecided.

Among all those who favor charter school programs, 56% support changing the Virginia constitution related to charter schools in this way, while 35% oppose a constitutional change.

Changing Virginia’s Constitution on Charter Schools

Would you favor or oppose changing the Virginia constitution in order to give charter schools more independence from local school boards on decisions about hiring and firing teachers in charter schools?

	All adults %	Among those who favor charter program %	Among those who oppose charter program %
Favor change	37	56	15
Oppose change	44	35	76
Don’t know	<u>19</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Groups based on responses to: “The charter school program exempts some public schools from certain state regulations and permits them to function independently from the local school districts as long as they meet certain state standards for student achievement. Do you favor or oppose such a program?”

Partisan opinions about charter schools hold some surprises. Republicans and independents tend to favor charter school programs more than Democrats, but there are no statistically significant differences among these groups when it comes to views about changing the Virginia constitution to give the state’s charter schools more independence.

Opinion about Charter Schools by Party Identification

The charter school program exempts some public schools from certain state regulations and permits them to function independently from the local school districts as long as they meet certain state standards for student achievement. Do you favor or oppose such a program?

	Democrats %	Republicans %	Independents %
Favor	48	58	64
Oppose	35	23	20
Don’t know	<u>17</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>16</u>
	100	100	100

Would you favor or oppose changing the Virginia constitution in order to give charter schools more independence from local school boards on decisions about hiring and firing teachers in charter schools?

	Democrats %	Republicans %	Independents %
Favor change	36	36	43
Oppose change	44	46	42
Don’t know	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>15</u>
	100	100	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Teacher Compensation and Teacher Tenure

Proposals to link teacher salary to students' performance on state tests are being discussed around the nation. Most Virginians (52%) oppose paying teachers whose students perform well on tests more than those whose students perform poorly; 36% take the opposite view saying teachers whose students perform well should be paid more than other teachers.

School employees and retirees tend to be more opposed than others to including test scores in teacher pay; among this group, 21% say teachers whose students perform well on state tests should be paid more while 64% say they should not.

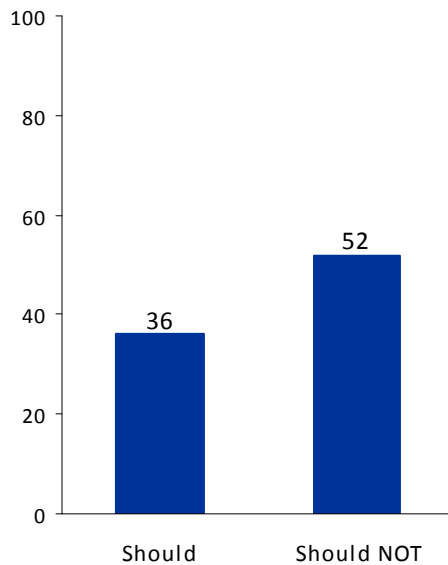
There are sizeable differences of opinion about this issue by family income. Those with incomes under \$50,000 annually are more strongly opposed than those with higher family incomes to using test scores in teacher compensation. Among those with lower incomes 31% say teachers with higher performing students should be paid more than others, while 57% say they should not. Those with incomes of \$100,000 or more are nearly evenly divided about test-based pay, 45% support this idea and 44% oppose.

Women are more opposed than men to test-based pay. Among women, 29% say teachers with higher performing students should get paid more than other teachers, 58% say they should not. Men are more divided with 43% saying such teachers should get paid more and 46% saying they should not. These gender differences hold even when controlling for party identification.

Proponents of linking test scores with teacher pay sometimes argue that such proposals will help schools retain high quality teachers. A majority of Virginians agree with this argument. 52% say that basing part of a teacher's salary on student test performance will help schools keep high quality teachers, four-in-ten disagree. School employees and retirees are less inclined than other Virginians to see test-linked-pay as something that will help schools keep high quality teachers; among this group

Pay Based on Test Scores?

Do you think that teachers whose students perform well on tests should or should not get paid more than teachers whose students perform poorly on those tests?



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Don't know responses not shown

36% say that basing part of a teacher's salary on student test performance will help schools retain high quality teachers, 53% disagree.

Reasons to support or oppose a proposal to link teacher pay with student test performance are many, however. Among those who believe that test-linked teacher pay will help schools retain high quality teachers, a third do *not* believe teachers whose students perform well on state tests should get paid more than others.

Beliefs about Test-based Pay

Do you think basing part of a teacher's salary on his or her student's performance on state tests would help or not help the schools keep high quality teachers?

	%
Help	52
Not help	39
Would hurt (volunteered)	1
Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010

Test Scores and Teacher Pay

Do you think that teachers whose students perform well on tests should or should not get paid more than teachers who students perform poorly on those tests?

	All adults	Among those saying would help	Among those saying would NOT help
	%	%	%
Should get paid more	36	57	10
Should not get paid more	52	33	80
Don't know	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010

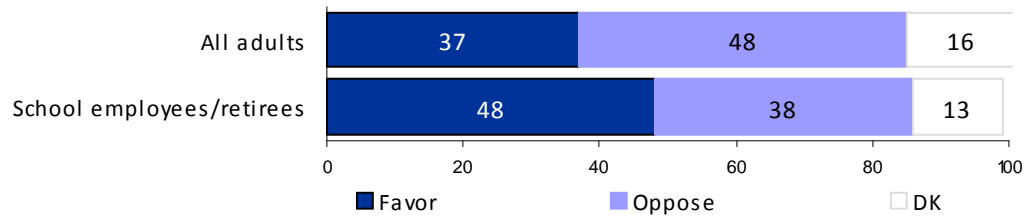
Groups based on responses to: "Do you think basing part of a teacher's salary on his or her student's performance on state tests would help or not help the schools keep high quality teachers?"

Teacher Tenure. Job tenure is a concept unique to the educational sector and has long been a topic of discussion and debate in education policy circles. What does the public think about teacher tenure? The Commonwealth Education Poll finds that opinion about teacher tenure is divided with more in opposition to tenure than in favor. A plurality of 48% opposes offering tenure to teachers while 37% favors it and the remaining 16% hold no opinion about this issue.

School employees and retirees tend to be more supportive of tenure than other Virginians but they show a surprising degree of dissensus on this issue; 48% of this group favors tenure while 38% opposes and 13% are undecided.

Opinion about Teacher Tenure

Teachers with tenure cannot be dismissed unless a school district follows detailed procedures. Some say that tenure protects teachers from being fired for arbitrary reasons. Others say that because of tenure, it is too difficult to replace ineffective teachers. What about you? Do you favor or oppose offering tenure to teachers?



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010

Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

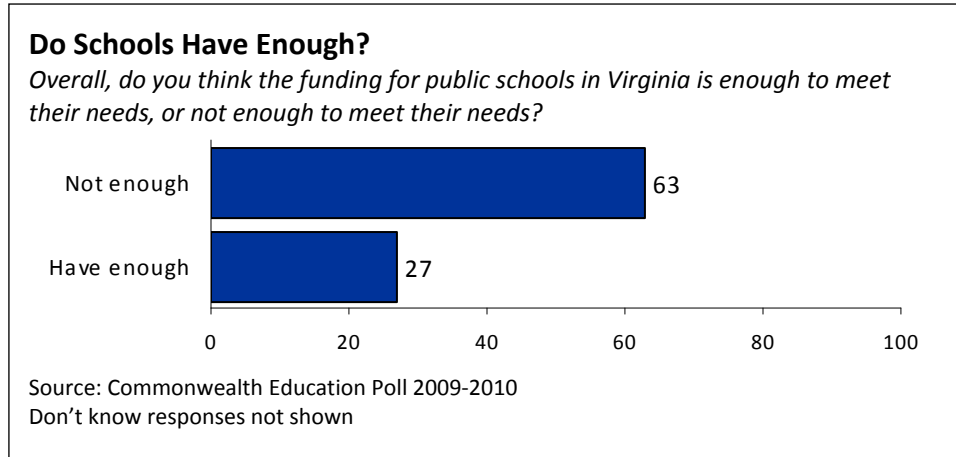
School Funding Stays on Virginians' Wish List

As state legislators look anew for ways to balance the state budget in the face of falling revenues, Virginians remain strongly supportive of funding for the public schools. About seven-in-ten Virginians (69%) believe that the amount of money spent on the schools affects education quality a great deal or quite a lot. Fully 63%

of Virginians say that schools do not have enough funds to meet their needs while 27% say schools have enough funding now. Opinion about school funding adequacy has held

fairly steady over the last few years; 62% said school funds were not enough to meet their needs a year ago as well.

While there is strong public support for school funding, the public also sees some degree of waste in school budgets. Nearly one-in-five (18%) say there is "a lot" of waste, 43% say schools waste "some", and about three-in-ten (27%) say schools do not waste very much (or waste none) of the tax dollars going to schools.



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

Response	%
A great deal	39
Quite a lot	30
Not much	18
Not at all	4
Don't know/Refused	<u>10</u>
	100

All in all, do you think the public schools in Virginia waste a lot of money that residents pay in taxes, waste some of it, or don't waste very much of it?

Response	%
Waste a lot	18
Waste some	43
Don't waste very much (or none-volunteered)	27
Don't know/Refused	<u>12</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Those who believe schools need more funding are more likely to say that state government sources, rather than local government sources should provide the increase. Fully 54% of those saying schools don't have enough funding think increased dollars should come from state, rather than local government. This compares with just 12% of this group saying local government should provide increased funding for the schools. About a quarter of this group (26%) volunteered that both state and local government should provide increased funding.

Who Should Bear the Burden?

Do you think increased funding for the public schools should come from state government or local government?

Among those saying not enough

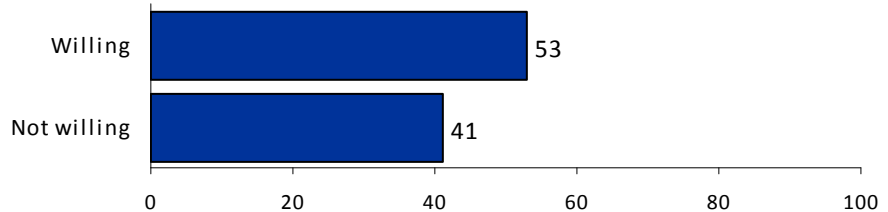
	%
State government	54
Local government	12
Both (volunteered)	26
Don't know/Refused	<u>7</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Of course, it's one thing to say more funds are needed and another to realize that such funding could entail a personal sacrifice in the form of more tax dollars.

Would You Pay for More School Funding?

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



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Don't know responses not shown

A 53% majority of Virginians indicate a

personal willingness to pay higher taxes in order to increase school funding, 41% say they are not willing to do so. The proportion willing to pay higher taxes for this purpose is about the same as year ago when 55% said they would be willing to pay more taxes in order to increase school funding.

About two-thirds (67%) 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, seven-in-ten of those who believe that the amount of money spent on schools affects education quality a great deal are willing to pay more in taxes in order to increase funding. By contrast, 32% of those who say that funding has not too much or no affect on education quality are willing to pay more in taxes while 64% of this group is not willing to do so.

A plurality (49%) of those willing to pay more in taxes for a school funding increase say that a sales tax would be best; smaller proportions say an income tax (18%), real estate property tax (12%) or personal property tax (12%) would be best. These figures are similar to findings from past Commonwealth Education Polls.

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	49
Income tax	18
Real estate property tax	12
Personal property tax	12
Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010

Which School Budget Cuts Will Hurt the Least?

Local school districts around the state are currently in the process of making significant reductions, not increases, to school budgets due to declining revenues from both state and local sources. A 51% majority of Virginians believe these cuts will bring major changes to schools in their community, 36% believe the schools will continue pretty much as they are now.

The survey asked about the expected effect of six types of budget cuts on the quality of education

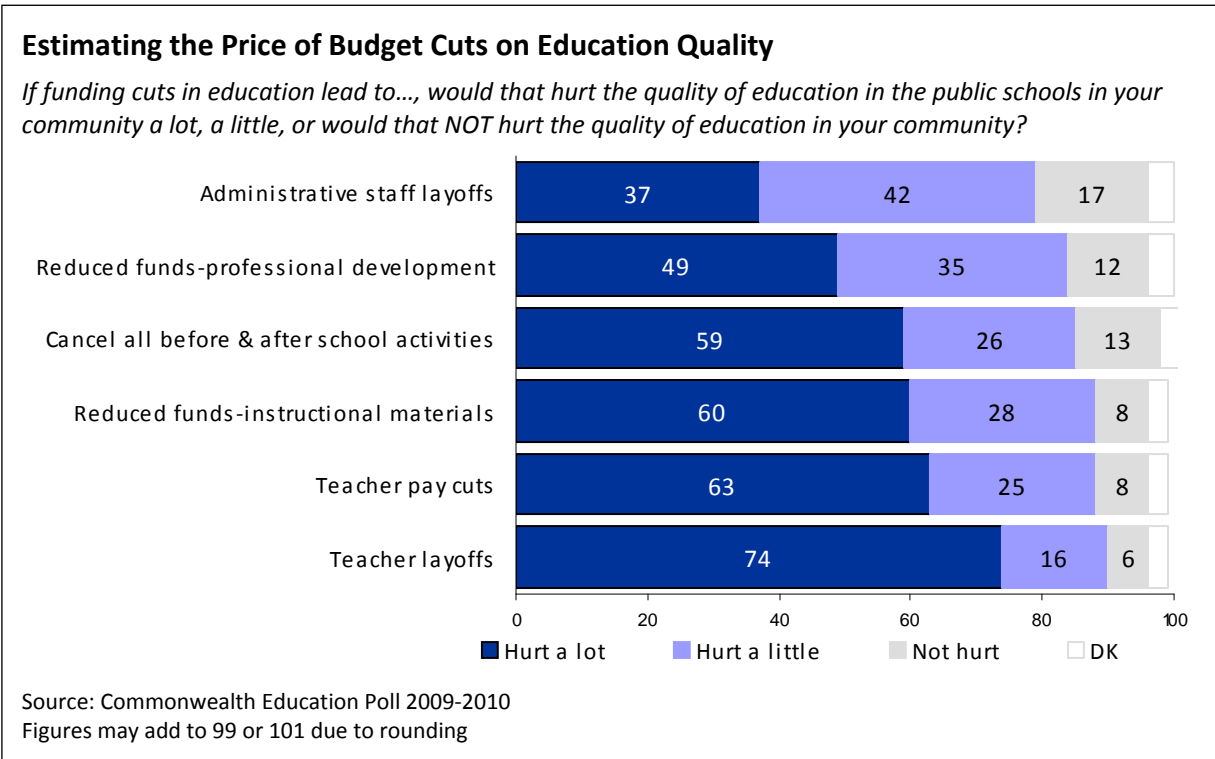
in local schools. More than three-quarters of Virginians expect all six types of cuts to hurt the quality of education either a lot or a little. The cuts seen as least likely to hurt the quality of education include layoffs of administrative staff; 37% believe these cuts would hurt the quality of education a lot while 42% say these layoffs would hurt a little. About half (49%) believe that reduced funds for teacher training and professional development would hurt education quality a lot, another 35% say this would hurt a little.

Changes Ahead?

Local school districts are cutting budgets this year. Do you think the schools in your community will be able to continue pretty much as they are now, or do you think these cuts will bring major changes to the schools in your community?

	%
Will continue as now	36
Will bring major changes	51
Don't know/Refused	<u>13</u>
	100

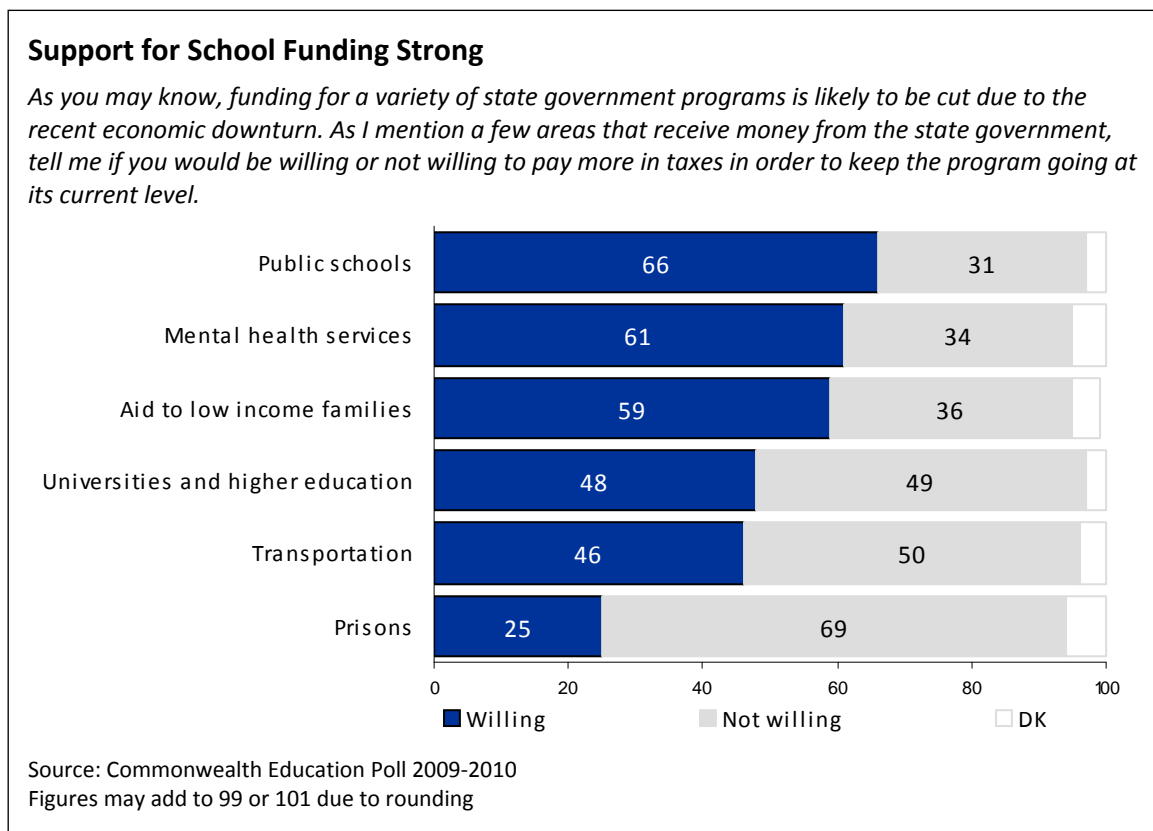
Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding



About six-in-ten believe that cancelling all before and after school activities would hurt education quality a lot (59%) as would having reduced funds for instructional materials (60%). Similarly, 63% say teacher pay cuts would hurt education quality a lot. Cuts expected to hurt the quality of education the most are those involving teacher layoffs; 74% say teacher layoffs would hurt education quality a lot.

Willingness to Pay for School Funding and Other State Programs

Public schools top the list of programs that Virginians are willing to support with increased tax dollars in order to keep funding levels stable. The Commonwealth Education Poll asked respondents whether or not they are willing to pay more in taxes in order to maintain current funding levels for each of six state programs. More say they would pay additional tax dollars for the public schools than say the same about any other program considered. Two-thirds of Virginians say they would be willing to pay more in taxes for public schools; about three-in-ten (31%) would not be willing to pay more in taxes for the schools. Willingness to pay for school funding is about the same as a year ago when 68% said they were willing to pay more in taxes to keep school funding at its current level.



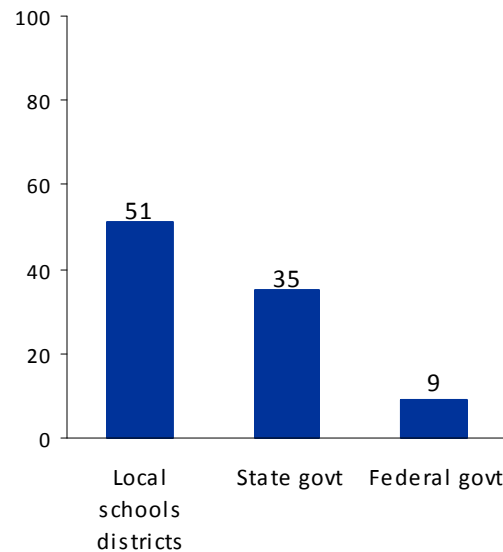
About six-in-ten Virginians are willing to pay more in taxes for mental health services (61%) and programs that provide aid to low income families (59%). Views about higher education funding are divided with 48% willing to pay more in taxes for higher education and 49% not willing to do so. Similarly, 46% would pay more in taxes for transportation while 50% would not pay more in taxes to keep these services at its current level. Willingness to pay for transportation funding is not significantly changed from a year ago when 48% said they would pay more for transportation. Prison funding garnered the least support; 69% say they are not willing to pay more in taxes to keep prison funding at its current level while a quarter are willing to do so.

Role of State, Local, and Federal Government in the Schools

Virginians show some support for all levels of government being involved in the schools. When it comes to improving education in the schools, a majority of Virginians (51%) believe local school districts should have the primary responsibility, 35% say the state should have primary responsibility and just 9% say the federal government should have primary responsibility.

Who Should Have Primary Responsibility for Improving the Schools?

Who do you think should have the primary responsibility for improving education and the schools?



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Don't know responses not shown

Mixed Views about Government Involvement in the Schools

In general, would you favor or oppose increasing the amount of money the federal government spends on the public schools in your area if it would increase the federal government's influence over education policies at those schools?

	%
Favor	46
Oppose	45
Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>
	100

"Federal government needs to make sure that states are held accountable for school performance."

	%
Agree/strongly agree	72
Disagree/strongly disagree	24
Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>
	100

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

	%
Agree/strongly agree	83
Disagree/strongly disagree	14
Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

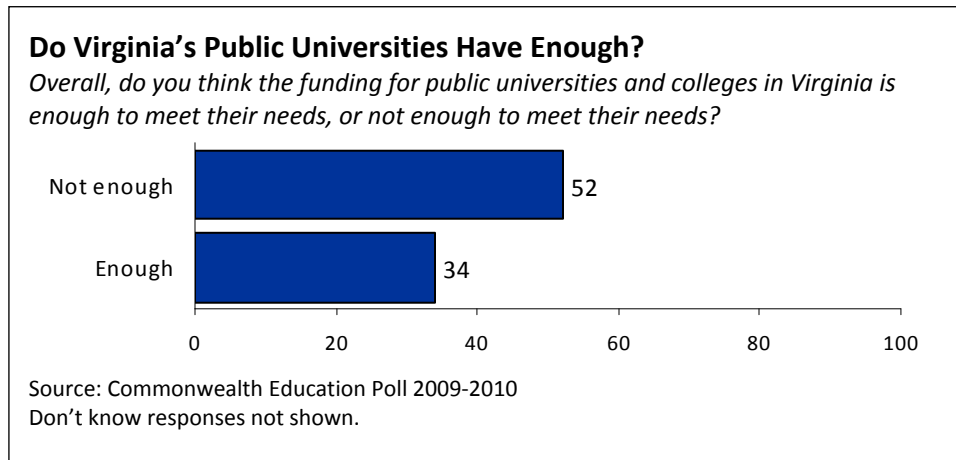
At the same time, more than seven-in-ten (72%) agree or strongly agree that the federal government needs to make sure that states are held accountable for school performance. But when it comes to a proposal that would give schools more federal funds along with more federal influence over education policies in the schools, Virginians are divided; 46% favor that proposal while a nearly equal portion (45%) oppose.

When the comparison is between state and federal government, 83% agree or strongly agree that states know more about the needs of students and schools than federal government.

Limited Public Knowledge about Funding Sources. The public has limited and sometimes incorrect notions about funding sources for the schools. When asked which of three levels of government provide the least funding for the schools, about four-in-ten (37%) give the correct answer of federal government, while the remainder either don't know or give an incorrect response. The flip side of the coin is a bit harder to evaluate because the answer to which level of government provides the most funding for the schools depends on the locality. Using a conservative estimate which considers either state or local government as a correct answer, about three-in-ten (27%) either say they don't know or give an incorrect response as to the level of government providing the most funding for the schools.

What About Funding for Higher Education?

Turning to higher education, the survey finds a majority of state residents (52%) say that public universities and colleges in Virginia don't have enough funding to meet their needs, 34% say they have enough now. Those saying higher education needs more funding are more likely to think that funding increases should come from state tax increases than from tuition and fee increases.



How to Increase Higher Ed Funds?
Do you think increased funding for public universities and colleges in Virginia should come from state tax increases or tuition and fee increases?

Among those saying not enough

	%
State taxes	56
Tuition and fees	27
Both (volunteered)	7
Don't know/Refused	<u>10</u>
	100

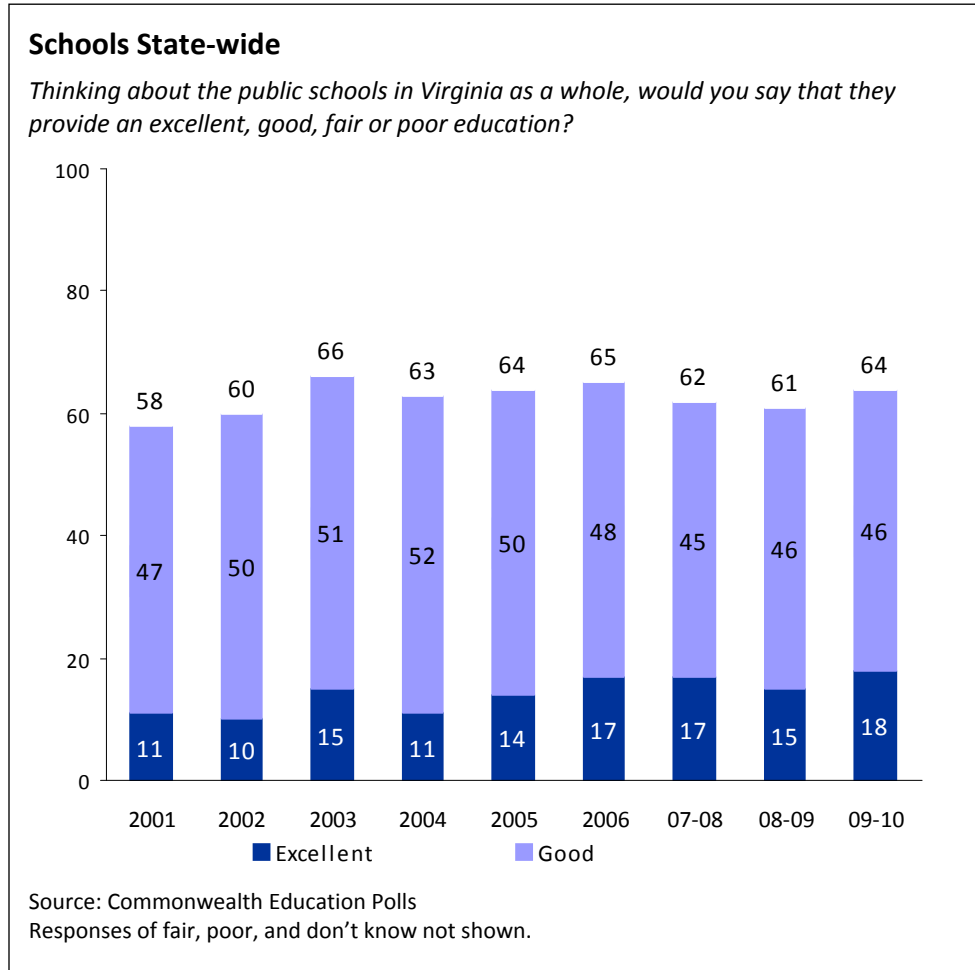
Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010

Where Do Things Stand Now? Evaluation of State and Local Schools

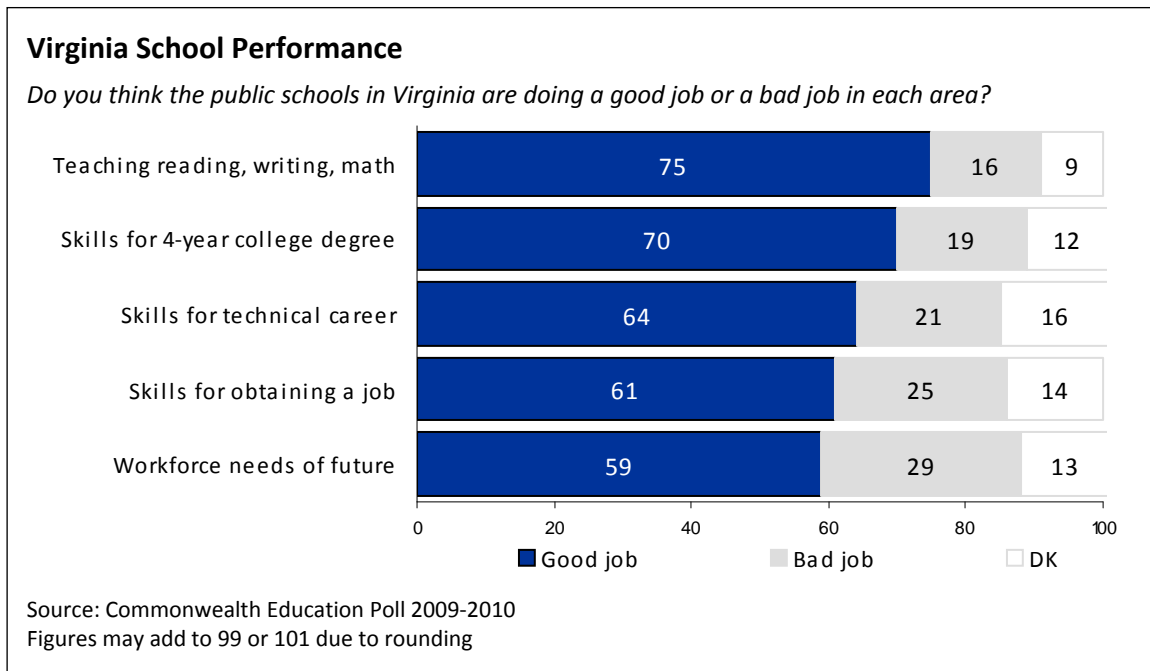
A majority of citizens rate Virginia's public schools in positive terms; 18% say they provide an excellent education and another 46% say the education is good. Evaluations of the state schools are about the same as previous years.

Those with more direct experience and familiarity with the schools tend to give the state

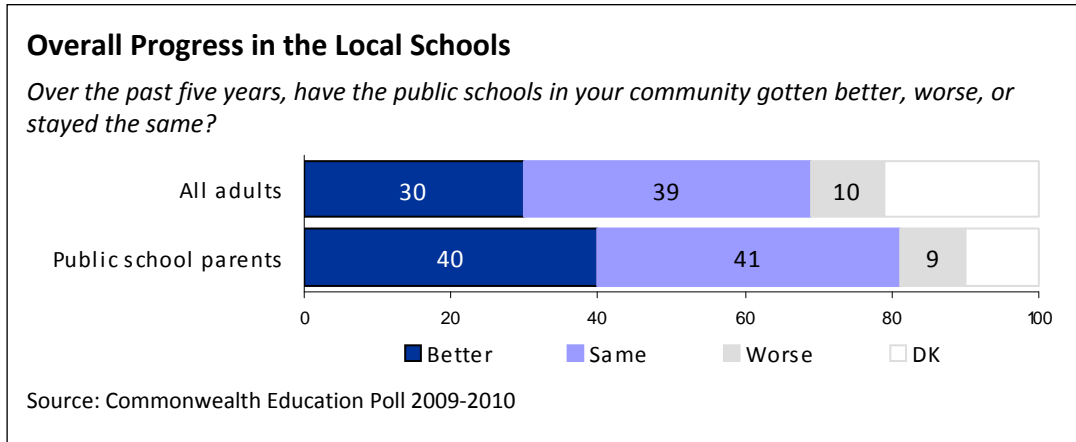
schools higher marks. Fully 77% of those who are school employees or retirees rate the state schools as excellent or good as do 69% of those with children in the public schools.



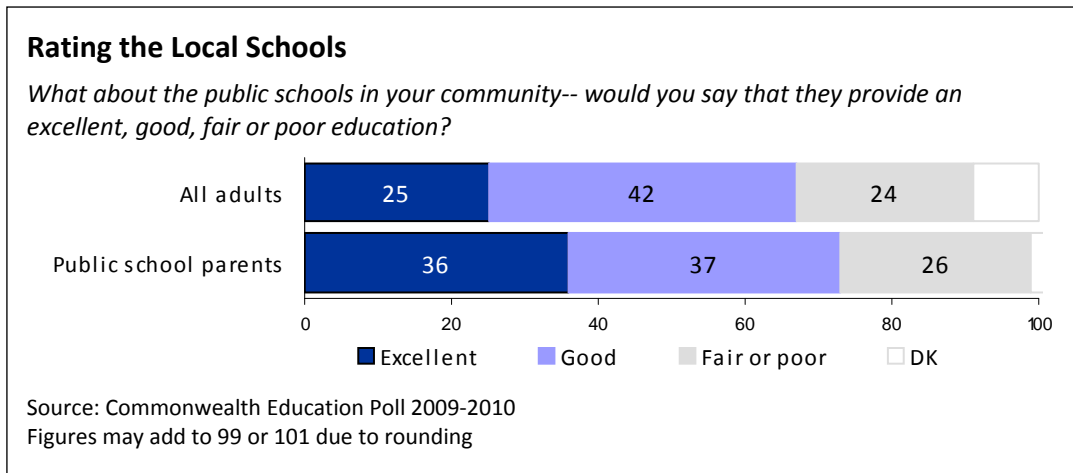
School Performance in Specific Areas. When it comes to specific skills, majorities say the state schools are doing a good job in all five areas considered. Three-quarters of Virginians say the state schools do a good job teaching the basics such as reading, writing and mathematics, 16% say the state is doing a bad job in this area. Smaller majorities say the state schools do a good job providing skills needed for a four-year college degree (70%), for pursuing a vocational or technical career (64%), for obtaining a job (61%), or for preparing students for the workforce needs of the future (59%).



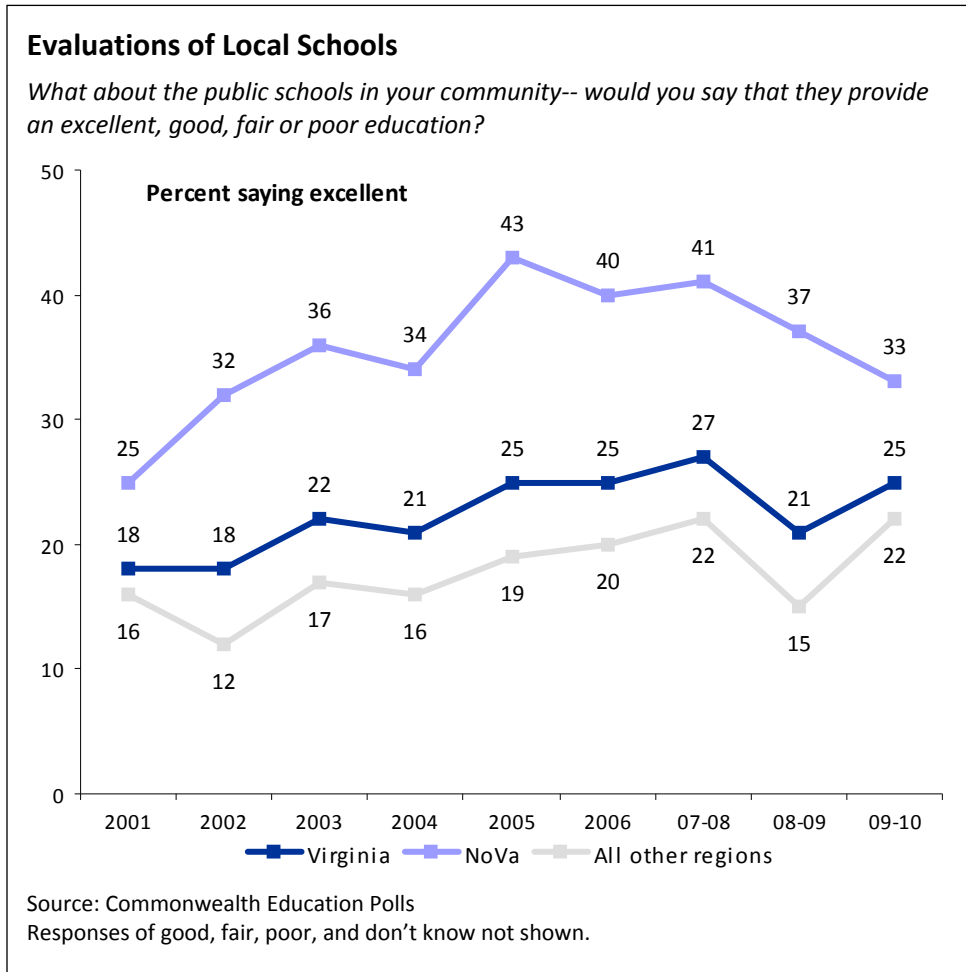
Local School Performance. All in all, the public sees the performance of local schools in their community as either holding steady or getting better. Three-in-ten Virginians say local school performance is better than it was five years ago; about four-in-ten (39%) say it is about the same and 10% say performance is worse. These figures are about the same as found in previous years. Parents of public school children have a more positive sense that local schools are making progress. Four-in-ten parents say the local schools have gotten better over the past five years. This compares with 26% saying the schools have gotten better among those who don't have a child in the schools.



When it comes to rating the education provided by the local schools, Virginians are more positive than negative in their ratings of school performance. About two-thirds (67%) of Virginians say their local schools provide an excellent (25%) or good (42%) education. Public school parents are more positive in their evaluations of the local schools than are other Virginians. More than a third of parents (36%) rate their local schools as excellent; this compares with 21% among those who don't have a child in the schools.



While evaluations of local schools remain positive there are some signs that school evaluations are in flux. The number giving the local schools an excellent rating is up four points from a year ago, a difference that just reaches customary levels of statistical significance. However, in Northern Virginia, a region that has given more positive evaluations of local schools than other parts of the state in past years, evaluations of local schools have been trending downward over the past two years. In 2007-2008, 41% of residents in Northern Virginia said the local schools provided an excellent education. A year ago that figure was 37% and today it is 33%.



Increasing Classroom Instruction

The survey looked at two proposals aimed at increasing time for classroom instruction; one based on increasing the days in school each year and a second based on increasing the hours in school each day.

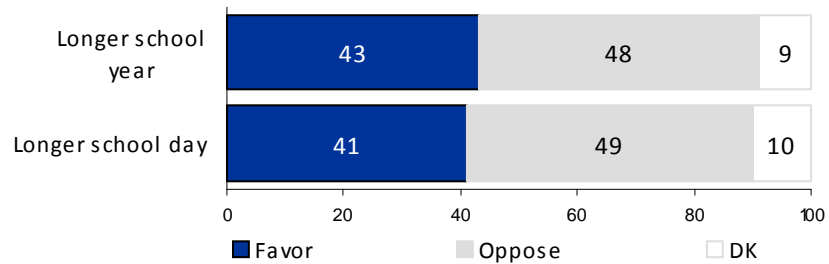
Opinion is divided about these proposals with the plurality against both. In all, 43% favor and 48% oppose increasing the number of days in a school year; 41% favor and 49% oppose increasing the number of hours in a school day.

Parents tend to show more opposition to both proposals, but the differences are not statistically significant.

One of the arguments behind these proposals is that more classroom instruction will be linked to higher levels of student achievement. Public opinion about this outcome is decidedly mixed. About half of Virginians (51%) believe that increasing the number of school days each year will help improve student achievement, 42% think it won't help. Beliefs about effect of increasing the length of the school day is also mixed with 45% saying this would help student achievement and 47% saying it would not help.

Two Options for Increasing Classroom Instruction

Do you favor or oppose proposals which would increase the number of days each year that students spend in school?
Do you favor or oppose proposals which would increase the number of hours each day that students spend in school?



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010

Beliefs about Longer School Year

Do you think increasing the number of days each year that students spend in school would help or not help improve student achievement?

	%
Help	51
Not help	42
Would hurt (volunteered)	0
Don't know/Refused	6
	100

Beliefs about Longer School Day

Do you think increasing the number of hours each day that students spend in school would help or not help improve student achievement?

	%
Help	45
Not help	47
Would hurt (volunteered)	1
Don't know/Refused	7
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Reasons to favor or oppose these proposals may include a number of considerations, however. While beliefs about the impact of increasing classroom time are strongly related to support for these proposals, the match is not perfect. Among those who believe a longer school year would help improve student achievement, 19% oppose such a proposal, suggesting that other considerations also come to mind in evaluating this proposal. Similarly, among those who believe a longer school day would help improve student achievement, 15% oppose such a proposal.

Increasing Classroom Time: Longer School Year

Do you favor or oppose proposals which would increase the number of days each year that students spend in school?

	All adults	Among those saying would help	Among those saying would NOT help
	%	%	%
Favor	43	75	10
Oppose	48	19	86
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010

Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Groups based on responses to: "Do you think increasing the number of days each year that students spend in school would help or not help improve student achievement?"

Increasing Classroom Time: Longer School Day

Do you favor or oppose proposals which would increase the number of hours each day that students spend in school?

	All adults	Among those saying would help	Among those saying would NOT help
	%	%	%
Favor	41	80	6
Oppose	49	15	86
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2009-2010

Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Groups based on responses to: "Do you think increasing the number of hours each day that students spend in school would help or not help improve student achievement?"

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 and cell telephone from December 1 to 6, 2009 with a randomly-selected sample of 1,001 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 adults in Virginia with access to either a residential landline or cellular telephone, 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 landline households and for frame size of the landline and cell phone sampling frames. In addition, the data are weighted on sex, age, education, race, Hispanic origin, region of residence and population density 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 3.9 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 3.9 percentage points above or below the figure that would be obtained by interviewing all Virginia 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 2009-2010
State-wide survey of Virginians
December 1-6, 2009
Number of Respondents: 1001

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

	09-10	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Excellent	18	15	17	17	14	11	15	10	11
Good	46	46	45	48	50	52	51	50	47
Fair	21	25	20	24	24	24	23	26	26
Poor	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	5	4
Don't know/Refused	10	9	12	7	8	8	8	9	11

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

	09-10	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Excellent	25	21	27	25	25	21	22	18	18	15
Good	42	46	43	45	45	43	46	47	42	44
Fair	17	20	18	19	18	22	20	21	22	22
Poor	7	6	4	5	6	6	5	8	7	6
Don't know/Refused	9	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?

	09-10	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Better	30	28	30	31	34	29	32	30	29	33
Worse	10	13	12	13	10	14	12	15	16	14
Stayed the same	39	40	40	39	36	39	40	37	35	34
Don't Know/Refused	21	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: Gallup 2007 ²
	09-10	08-09	07-08	%
	%	%	%	
Quite a lot	37	34	35	38
Some	35	39	36	45
Very little	20	19	23	16
Nothing at all	8	6	6	1
Don't know/Refused	0	1	1	0

NO QUESTIONS 5 THROUGH 8

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 Gallup/Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) survey, June 12-29, 2007. N=1,005 adults.

On another topic...

Q9. 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?

	09-10	08-09	2003	2002
	%	%	%	%
A great deal	39	43	42	45
Quite a lot	30	27	31	26
Not much	18	20	18	19
Not at all	4	4	2	4
Don't Know/Refused	10	7	7	5

Q10. Overall, do you think the funding for public schools in Virginia is enough to meet their needs, or not enough to meet their needs?

	09-10	08-09	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Enough	27	28	26	20	27	23	21
Not enough	63	62	64	69	64	67	70
Don't know/Refused	11	10	9	9	9	9	10

ASK IF NOT ENOUGH (Q10=2):

Q11. Do you think increased funding for the public schools should come from [ROTATE ORDER] state government or local government?

	Among those saying not enough
	%
State government	54
Local government	12
Both (VOLUNTEERED)	26
Don't Know/Refused	7

ASK ALL:

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

	09-10	08-09	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Willing	53	55	55	57	61	60	57
Not willing	41	37	38	36	34	34	36
Don't know/Refused	6	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-----						
	09-10	08-09	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Sales tax	49	48	49	58	54	58	47
Income tax	18	18	15	13	14	14	16
Real estate property tax	12	14	13	15	13	10	16
Personal property tax	12	10	14	7	10	11	13
Don't know/Refused	9	9	9	7	10	6	9

ASK ALL:

Q14. Local school districts are cutting budgets this year. Do you think the schools in your community will be able to continue pretty much as they are now, OR do you think these cuts will bring major changes to the schools in your community?³

	09-10
	%
Will continue as they are now	36
Will bring major changes	51
Don't know/Refused	13

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	DK
	%	%	%
a. Public schools	66	31	3
08-09	68	28	3
b. Mental health services	61	34	5
08-09	62	31	8
c. Universities and higher education	48	49	3
08-09	46	49	5
d. Prisons	25	69	6
08-09	24	68	7
e. Programs for aid to low-income families	59	36	4
08-09	61	33	7
f. Transportation	46	50	4
08-09	48	46	5

³ In 2003 through 2008-2009, a similar question was asked about a hypothetical situation, "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?"

Q16. If funding cuts in education lead to **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]**, would that hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community a lot, a little, or would that NOT hurt the quality of education in your community? What about if funding cuts lead to **[INSERT ITEM]**? **READ IF NECESSARY:** Would that hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community a lot, a little, or would that NOT hurt the quality of education in your community?

	Hurt a lot	Hurt a little	Not hurt	Don't know
	%	%	%	%
a. Teacher layoffs	74	16	6	3
b. Teacher pay cuts	63	25	8	3
c. Administrative staff layoffs	37	42	17	4
d. Canceling all before and after-school activities	59	26	13	3
e. Reduced funds for teacher training and professional development	49	35	12	4
f. Reduced funds for instructional materials such as books, computers, and library resources	60	28	8	3

Q17. All in all, do you think the public schools IN VIRGINIA waste a lot of money that residents pay in taxes, waste some of it, or don't waste very much of it?

	09-10
	%
Waste a lot	18
Waste some	43
Doesn't waste very much (includes volunteered: waste none)	27
Don't Know/Refused	12

On a different topic...

ASK FORM 1 (HALF SAMPLE):

Q18F1. Do you favor or oppose proposals which would increase the number of hours each day that students spend in school?

	Virginia 09-10	National trend for comparison CNN 2009⁴
	%	%
Favor	41	44
Oppose	49	55
Don't Know/Refused	10	1

ASK FORM 1 (HALF SAMPLE):

Q19F1. Do you think increasing the number of hours each day that students spend in school would help or not help improve student achievement?

	09-10
	%
Help	45
Not help	47
Would hurt student achievement (VOLUNTEERED)	1
Don't Know/Refused	7

⁴ CNN survey conducted by Opinion Research Corporation, March 12-15, 2009. The full sample included 1,019 adults. This question asked of half the sample.

ASK FORM 2 (HALF SAMPLE):

Q20F2. Do you favor or oppose proposals which would increase the number of days each year that students spend in school?

	Virginia 09-10	National trend for comparison CNN 2009⁵
	%	%
Favor	43	57
Oppose	48	42
Don't Know/Refused	9	1

ASK FORM 2 (HALF SAMPLE):

Q21F2. Do you think increasing the number of days each year that students spend in school would help or not help improve student achievement?

	09-10
	%
Help	51
Not help	42
Would hurt student achievement (VOLUNTEERED)	0
Don't Know/Refused	6

ASK ALL:

Thinking about teacher pay...

Q22. Do you think that teachers whose students perform well on tests should or should not get paid more than teachers whose students perform poorly on those tests?

	Virginia 09-10	National trend for comparison CNN 2009⁶
	%	%
Should get paid more	36	50
Should not get paid more	52	48
Don't Know/Refused	12	2

Q23. Do you think basing part of a teacher's salary on his or her student's performance on state tests would help or not help the schools keep high quality teachers?

	09-10
	%
Help	52
Not help	39
Hurt school's ability to keep high quality teachers (VOLUNTEERED)	1
Don't Know/Refused	8

Q24. Teachers with tenure cannot be dismissed unless a school district follows detailed procedures. Some say that tenure protects teachers from being fired for arbitrary reasons. Others say that because of tenure, it is too difficult to replace ineffective teachers. What about you? Do you favor or oppose offering tenure to teachers?

	09-10
	%
Favor	37
Oppose	48
Don't Know/Refused	16

NO QUESTIONS 25 AND 26

⁵ CNN survey conducted by Opinion Research Corporation, March 12-15, 2009. The full sample included 1,019 adults. This question asked of half the sample.

⁶ CNN survey conducted by Opinion Research Corporation, March 12-15, 2009. N= 1,019 adults.

On a different topic...

Q27. How much have you heard or read about charter schools – a lot, some, not too much, or nothing at all?

	09-10
	%
A lot	8
Some	27
Not too much	30
Nothing at all	34
Don't Know/Refused	1

Q28. The charter school program exempts some public schools from certain state regulations and permits them to function independently from the local school district as long as they meet state standards for student achievement. Do you favor or oppose such a program?

	Virginia	National trend for comparison
	09-10	NPR/Kaiser/Harvard 1999⁷
	%	%
Favor	56	62
Oppose	26	29
Don't Know/Refused	18	9

Q29. Would you favor or oppose changing the Virginia constitution in order to give charter schools more independence from local school boards on decisions about hiring and firing teachers in charter schools?

	09-10
	%
Favor	37
Oppose	44
Don't Know/Refused	19

ASK FORM 1 (HALF SAMPLE):

Q30F1. 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?

	09-10	08-09	2005	2004
	%	%	%	%
Federal*	37	38	35	41
State	8	13	13	17
Local city and county	30	26	23	22
Don't Know/Refused	24	24	29	20

*Correct response is federal government.

ASK FORM 2 (HALF SAMPLE):

Q31F2. 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?

	09-10	08-09
	%	%
Federal	11	15
State*	38	37
Local city and county*	34	30
Don't Know/Refused	16	18

*Correct response varies by locality; either state or local government is correct response.

⁷ Source: National Public Radio, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, June 25-July 19, 1999. The full sample included 1,422 adults. This question asked of half the sample.

ASK ALL:

Q32intr. Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following 2 statements?

ROTATE Q32A and Q32B

Q32a. The federal government needs to make sure that states are held accountable for school performance.

	09-10	08-09	07-08	2005	2004
	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly agree	27	24	27	23	23
Agree	45	56	46	57	57
Disagree	18	13	16	14	14
Strongly disagree	6	4	7	4	4
Don't Know/Refused	4	4	4	3	2

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

	09-10	08-09	07-08	2005	2004
	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly agree	33	25	32	29	29
Agree	50	56	47	57	55
Disagree	12	11	10	9	11
Strongly disagree	2	2	4	2	2
Don't Know/Refused	4	7	7	4	3

ASK ALL:

Q33. Who do you think should have the primary responsibility for improving education and the schools: the federal government, the state government, or local school districts?

	Virginia	National trend for comparison
	09-10	Post/Kaiser/Harvard
	%	Registered Voters 2000⁸
	%	%
Federal government	9	13
State government	35	33
Local school districts	51	50
Don't Know/Refused	4	3

Q34. In general, would you favor or oppose increasing the amount of money the federal government spends on the public schools in your area IF it would increase the federal government's influence over education policies at those schools?

	Virginia	National trend for comparison
	09-10	CNN 2009⁹
	%	%
Favor	46	56
Oppose	45	43
Don't Know/Refused	9	1

⁸ Source: Washington Post, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, Harvard University, May 11-22, 2000. National sample of registered voters (n=1225).

⁹ CNN survey conducted by Opinion Research Corporation, March 12-15, 2009. N= 1,019 adults..

Q35. Next, I'm going to ask whether you feel the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job or bad job in different areas. (First,/Next,) **[INSERT ITEMS; RANDOMIZE]...READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN IF NECESSARY:**
Overall, do you think the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job or a bad job in this area?

	Good job %	Bad job %	Don't know %
a. Providing skills that will be useful in obtaining a job?	61	25	14
b. In teaching the basics such as reading, writing, and mathematics?	75	16	9
c. In providing the skills needed for pursuing a 4-year college degree?	70	19	12
d. In providing the skills needed for pursuing a vocational or a technical career?	64	21	16
e. In preparing students for the workforce needs of the future?	59	29	13

On a different topic...

Q36. Overall, do you think the funding for public universities and colleges in Virginia is enough to meet their needs, or not enough to meet their needs?

	09-10 %
Enough	34
Not enough	52
Don't Know/Refused	14

ASK IF NOT ENOUGH (Q36=2):

Q37. Do you think increased funding for public universities and colleges in Virginia should come from **[ROTATE ORDER: state tax increases OR tuition and fee increases]**?

	Among those saying not enough %
State tax increases	56
Tuition and fee increases	27
Both (VOLUNTEERED)	7
Don't Know/Refused	10

Tables of Results by Selected Subgroups¹⁰

		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		18%	46%	21%	5%	10%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	24%	45%	19%	3%	9%	159
	Northern VA	22%	46%	14%	3%	14%	227
	West	15%	49%	28%	3%	4%	239
	South Central	15%	44%	23%	10%	8%	171
	Tidewater	15%	45%	23%	5%	12%	205
Gender	Men	17%	48%	21%	5%	9%	483
	Women	20%	43%	21%	5%	11%	518
Age	18-34	19%	45%	25%	4%	7%	191
	35-44	21%	39%	20%	7%	12%	160
	45-64	17%	46%	20%	5%	12%	384
	65 and older	17%	53%	16%	4%	9%	231
Education	H.S. or less	15%	46%	22%	5%	11%	304
	Some college	16%	47%	24%	3%	9%	230
	College grad or more	23%	44%	18%	5%	10%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	16%	43%	24%	5%	12%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	18%	46%	19%	7%	9%	310
	\$100,000 or more	25%	44%	20%	2%	9%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	23%	45%	24%	7%	2%	387
	Some	17%	48%	27%	4%	4%	353
	Very little or nothing	14%	43%	11%	3%	28%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	21%	56%	14%	3%	5%	112
	No	18%	44%	22%	5%	11%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	26%	43%	23%	2%	6%	253
	No	15%	47%	20%	6%	12%	748
Party identification	Democrat	22%	43%	19%	4%	11%	275
	Republican	14%	48%	24%	6%	9%	247
	Independent	18%	47%	22%	5%	9%	378

¹⁰ 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 cases
		Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know	
All adults		25%	42%	17%	7%	9%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	23%	49%	17%	6%	4%	159
	Northern VA	33%	36%	11%	4%	16%	227
	West	22%	51%	18%	6%	3%	239
	South Central	31%	33%	20%	11%	5%	171
	Tidewater	15%	46%	22%	7%	10%	205
Gender	Men	27%	42%	17%	7%	7%	483
	Women	23%	43%	17%	7%	11%	518
Age	18-34	23%	41%	22%	3%	11%	191
	35-44	34%	33%	14%	10%	10%	160
	45-64	25%	43%	16%	9%	7%	384
	65 and older	20%	54%	14%	5%	6%	231
Education	H.S. or less	20%	45%	18%	9%	9%	304
	Some college	23%	43%	22%	4%	9%	230
	College grad or more	33%	39%	13%	6%	8%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	18%	44%	21%	6%	11%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	23%	43%	16%	9%	9%	310
	\$100,000 or more	39%	35%	13%	7%	6%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	35%	34%	19%	11%	1%	387
	Some	25%	47%	22%	3%	2%	353
	Very little or nothing	12%	47%	9%	5%	27%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	25%	46%	17%	10%	3%	112
	No	25%	42%	17%	7%	9%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	36%	37%	22%	4%	2%	253
	No	21%	45%	15%	8%	11%	748
Party identification	Democrat	25%	45%	15%	5%	10%	275
	Republican	25%	37%	19%	10%	9%	247
	Independent	25%	45%	17%	6%	7%	378

		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		30%	10%	39%	21%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	28%	8%	44%	20%	159
	Northern VA	25%	9%	37%	29%	227
	West	33%	8%	47%	12%	239
	South Central	35%	15%	35%	15%	171
	Tidewater	31%	10%	33%	25%	205
Gender	Men	31%	10%	39%	20%	483
	Women	29%	10%	38%	23%	518
Age	18-34	31%	11%	34%	24%	191
	35-44	33%	8%	44%	15%	160
	45-64	29%	9%	38%	23%	384
	65 and older	30%	11%	39%	21%	231
Education	H.S. or less	32%	10%	39%	18%	304
	Some college	31%	9%	36%	24%	230
	College grad or more	27%	10%	40%	23%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	34%	10%	34%	22%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	29%	8%	40%	23%	310
	\$100,000 or more	28%	12%	44%	15%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	38%	14%	42%	6%	387
	Some	33%	9%	40%	18%	353
	Very little or nothing	17%	5%	33%	46%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	35%	14%	42%	9%	112
	No	30%	10%	38%	22%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	40%	9%	41%	10%	253
	No	26%	10%	38%	26%	748
Party identification	Democrat	34%	9%	36%	21%	275
	Republican	25%	10%	44%	21%	247
	Independent	32%	12%	37%	19%	378

		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		37%	35%	20%	8%	0%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	33%	42%	20%	5%		159
	Northern VA	38%	32%	19%	11%		227
	West	46%	35%	15%	4%		239
	South Central	36%	36%	20%	8%		171
	Tidewater	30%	34%	26%	9%	0%	205
Gender	Men	35%	37%	20%	8%	0%	483
	Women	39%	33%	20%	8%		518
Age	18-34	34%	37%	21%	7%	0%	191
	35-44	48%	33%	11%	8%		160
	45-64	41%	35%	17%	7%		384
	65 and older	18%	36%	36%	9%		231
Education	H.S. or less	31%	36%	23%	10%		304
	Some college	31%	43%	18%	9%		230
	College grad or more	47%	30%	19%	5%		460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	30%	33%	26%	11%	0%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	39%	38%	17%	6%		310
	\$100,000 or more	45%	35%	16%	4%		215
School employee or retiree?	Yes	76%	15%	6%	3%		112
	No	33%	37%	22%	8%		881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	56%	37%	5%	1%	0%	253
	No	29%	34%	26%	10%		748
Party identification	Democrat	37%	32%	19%	12%		275
	Republican	40%	33%	22%	5%		247
	Independent	36%	38%	20%	7%		378

		Q9. 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?					Number of cases
		A great deal	Quite a lot	Not too much	Not at all	Don't know	
All adults		39%	30%	18%	4%	10%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	43%	32%	12%	4%	10%	159
	Northern VA	36%	31%	15%	4%	13%	227
	West	37%	27%	23%	4%	9%	239
	South Central	45%	25%	21%	3%	6%	171
	Tidewater	39%	33%	17%	3%	8%	205
Gender	Men	35%	31%	20%	4%	10%	483
	Women	43%	29%	15%	4%	9%	518
Age	18-34	40%	32%	15%	2%	11%	191
	35-44	49%	28%	12%	5%	6%	160
	45-64	39%	28%	19%	4%	8%	384
	65 and older	29%	32%	24%	4%	12%	231
Education	H.S. or less	32%	32%	17%	5%	15%	304
	Some college	49%	26%	17%	2%	6%	230
	College grad or more	42%	30%	19%	4%	5%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	37%	29%	20%	3%	10%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	41%	28%	15%	4%	12%	310
	\$100,000 or more	45%	33%	14%	4%	3%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	48%	30%	12%	6%	4%	387
	Some	36%	34%	20%	3%	7%	353
	Very little or nothing	32%	25%	22%	2%	19%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	44%	26%	21%	6%	4%	112
	No	39%	31%	17%	4%	10%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	45%	30%	16%	3%	7%	253
	No	37%	30%	18%	4%	11%	748
Party identification	Democrat	51%	22%	16%	2%	9%	275
	Republican	35%	36%	19%	6%	4%	247
	Independent	33%	32%	20%	4%	11%	378

Q10. 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		27%	63%	11%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	29%	58%	13%	159
	Northern VA	36%	50%	13%	227
	West	20%	72%	8%	239
	South Central	29%	68%	4%	171
	Tidewater	19%	68%	13%	205
Gender	Men	33%	55%	11%	483
	Women	20%	69%	10%	518
Age	18-34	24%	66%	10%	191
	35-44	26%	63%	11%	160
	45-64	26%	65%	9%	384
	65 and older	35%	52%	13%	231
Education	H.S. or less	27%	60%	13%	304
	Some college	22%	71%	8%	230
	College grad or more	30%	61%	10%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	22%	70%	9%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	24%	64%	12%	310
	\$100,000 or more	36%	54%	10%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	28%	67%	4%	387
	Some	28%	63%	9%	353
	Very little or nothing	23%	57%	21%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	21%	74%	5%	112
	No	28%	61%	11%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	26%	64%	11%	253
	No	27%	62%	11%	748
Party identification	Democrat	20%	72%	8%	275
	Republican	32%	57%	11%	247
	Independent	30%	59%	11%	378

		Q11. Do you think increased funding for the public schools should come from [ROTATE ORDER:] state government or local government?				
		State government	Local government	Both [VOLUNTEERED]	Don't know	Number of cases
All answering not enough		54%	12%	26%	7%	617
VA Region	Northwest	54%	13%	26%	6%	90
	Northern VA	48%	10%	30%	12%	109
	West	57%	15%	23%	5%	167
	South Central	51%	12%	32%	4%	115
	Tidewater	60%	11%	22%	6%	136
Gender	Men	57%	14%	24%	6%	260
	Women	53%	11%	29%	8%	357
Age	18-34	62%	11%	23%	4%	125
	35-44	48%	15%	31%	6%	112
	45-64	52%	11%	28%	8%	243
	65 and older	56%	12%	21%	11%	115
Education	H.S. or less	57%	10%	24%	10%	186
	Some college	62%	10%	25%	4%	148
	College grad or more	46%	17%	31%	6%	279
Family Income	Under \$50,000	59%	10%	24%	7%	218
	50K to under \$100,000	52%	16%	26%	7%	204
	\$100,000 or more	54%	12%	30%	4%	119
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	58%	10%	26%	6%	272
	Some	49%	12%	31%	8%	206
	Very little or nothing	57%	15%	20%	7%	139
Parent of public school student?	Yes	50%	17%	28%	4%	171
	No	56%	10%	26%	8%	446
Party identification	Democrat	56%	13%	26%	5%	203
	Republican	55%	13%	23%	10%	141
	Independent	55%	13%	26%	6%	216

		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		53%	41%	6%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	49%	45%	6%	159
	Northern VA	47%	45%	8%	227
	West	58%	38%	4%	239
	South Central	56%	41%	3%	171
	Tidewater	57%	36%	6%	205
Gender	Men	50%	45%	5%	483
	Women	57%	37%	7%	518
Age	18-34	65%	28%	7%	191
	35-44	53%	42%	4%	160
	45-64	48%	49%	4%	384
	65 and older	44%	48%	8%	231
Education	H.S. or less	47%	46%	6%	304
	Some college	56%	38%	6%	230
	College grad or more	59%	37%	4%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	55%	41%	4%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	57%	37%	5%	310
	\$100,000 or more	54%	41%	5%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	60%	36%	4%	387
	Some	50%	46%	3%	353
	Very little or nothing	48%	41%	10%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	58%	39%	3%	112
	No	53%	42%	6%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	58%	36%	6%	253
	No	51%	43%	6%	748
Party identification	Democrat	70%	25%	4%	275
	Republican	41%	52%	6%	247
	Independent	49%	46%	5%	378

		Q14. Local school districts are cutting budgets this year. Do you think the schools in your community will be able to continue pretty much as they are now, OR do you think these cuts will bring major changes...?			
		Will continue as they are now	Will bring major changes	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		36%	51%	13%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	35%	49%	16%	159
	Northern VA	37%	47%	16%	227
	West	37%	52%	11%	239
	South Central	39%	51%	10%	171
	Tidewater	31%	56%	13%	205
Gender	Men	45%	43%	13%	483
	Women	27%	59%	14%	518
Age	18-34	44%	47%	9%	191
	35-44	28%	58%	14%	160
	45-64	32%	54%	14%	384
	65 and older	38%	46%	16%	231
Education	H.S. or less	32%	50%	18%	304
	Some college	40%	52%	8%	230
	College grad or more	37%	52%	11%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	36%	50%	14%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	34%	53%	13%	310
	\$100,000 or more	39%	48%	13%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	35%	57%	8%	387
	Some	38%	52%	10%	353
	Very little or nothing	34%	42%	24%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	31%	60%	10%	112
	No	36%	50%	14%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	32%	51%	17%	253
	No	37%	51%	12%	748
Party identification	Democrat	30%	59%	12%	275
	Republican	44%	45%	11%	247
	Independent	39%	47%	13%	378

		Q15a. 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 - Public schools - program going at its current level.			
		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		66%	31%	3%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	60%	35%	5%	159
	Northern VA	66%	31%	3%	227
	West	67%	29%	4%	239
	South Central	65%	35%	0%	171
	Tidewater	70%	28%	2%	205
Gender	Men	61%	37%	2%	483
	Women	72%	25%	3%	518
Age	18-34	81%	17%	2%	191
	35-44	69%	29%	1%	160
	45-64	58%	39%	4%	384
	65 and older	54%	42%	4%	231
Education	H.S. or less	62%	34%	4%	304
	Some college	72%	26%	2%	230
	College grad or more	68%	31%	1%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	68%	29%	3%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	70%	27%	3%	310
	\$100,000 or more	65%	35%	0%	215
School employee or retiree?	Yes	72%	27%	1%	112
	No	66%	31%	3%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	78%	20%	2%	253
	No	61%	35%	3%	748
Party identification	Democrat	80%	17%	3%	275
	Republican	53%	44%	3%	247
	Independent	63%	35%	2%	378

		Q15b. 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 - Mental health services - program going at its current level.			
		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		61%	34%	5%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	51%	41%	8%	159
	Northern VA	57%	37%	6%	227
	West	59%	37%	4%	239
	South Central	65%	31%	3%	171
	Tidewater	69%	26%	6%	205
Gender	Men	56%	38%	5%	483
	Women	65%	29%	6%	518
Age	18-34	72%	23%	5%	191
	35-44	59%	36%	5%	160
	45-64	55%	40%	5%	384
	65 and older	58%	33%	8%	231
Education	H.S. or less	58%	37%	6%	304
	Some college	66%	28%	6%	230
	College grad or more	61%	34%	4%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	65%	29%	6%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	61%	34%	4%	310
	\$100,000 or more	57%	39%	4%	215
Party identification	Democrat	76%	22%	2%	275
	Republican	45%	47%	7%	247
	Independent	59%	36%	5%	378

		Q15c. 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 - Universities and higher education - going at its current level.			
		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		48%	49%	3%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	37%	61%	2%	159
	Northern VA	49%	50%	1%	227
	West	54%	39%	7%	239
	South Central	47%	50%	3%	171
	Tidewater	50%	47%	3%	205
Gender	Men	44%	53%	3%	483
	Women	52%	44%	3%	518
Age	18-34	61%	38%	1%	191
	35-44	51%	48%	1%	160
	45-64	41%	57%	2%	384
	65 and older	40%	51%	9%	231
Education	H.S. or less	45%	51%	4%	304
	Some college	52%	45%	2%	230
	College grad or more	51%	48%	1%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	54%	41%	5%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	48%	50%	2%	310
	\$100,000 or more	44%	55%	1%	215
Party identification	Democrat	63%	33%	4%	275
	Republican	35%	62%	3%	247
	Independent	46%	52%	2%	378

		Q15d. 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 - Prisons - program going at its current level.			
		Yes, willing to pay			
		more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		25%	69%	6%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	22%	73%	5%	159
	Northern VA	23%	70%	7%	227
	West	25%	69%	6%	239
	South Central	30%	66%	4%	171
	Tidewater	24%	70%	6%	205
Gender	Men	23%	73%	4%	483
	Women	27%	66%	7%	518
Age	18-34	35%	60%	4%	191
	35-44	16%	79%	5%	160
	45-64	23%	72%	5%	384
	65 and older	21%	67%	11%	231
Education	H.S. or less	22%	72%	6%	304
	Some college	26%	69%	6%	230
	College grad or more	28%	67%	5%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	28%	68%	4%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	21%	73%	6%	310
	\$100,000 or more	26%	71%	3%	215
Party identification	Democrat	33%	61%	6%	275
	Republican	18%	77%	5%	247
	Independent	24%	71%	5%	378

		Q15e. 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 - Programs for aid to low-income families - going at its current level.			
		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		59%	36%	4%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	50%	40%	9%	159
	Northern VA	59%	38%	3%	227
	West	63%	32%	5%	239
	South Central	59%	37%	4%	171
	Tidewater	62%	35%	3%	205
Gender	Men	59%	38%	4%	483
	Women	60%	35%	5%	518
Age	18-34	69%	25%	5%	191
	35-44	59%	38%	3%	160
	45-64	52%	45%	4%	384
	65 and older	57%	36%	7%	231
Education	H.S. or less	56%	40%	4%	304
	Some college	65%	30%	6%	230
	College grad or more	60%	36%	4%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	68%	28%	4%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	57%	39%	4%	310
	\$100,000 or more	55%	42%	3%	215
Party identification	Democrat	76%	22%	2%	275
	Republican	42%	51%	6%	247
	Independent	57%	38%	5%	378

		Q15f. 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 - Transportation - program going at its current level.			
		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		46%	50%	4%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	32%	61%	6%	159
	Northern VA	56%	40%	4%	227
	West	48%	49%	3%	239
	South Central	41%	56%	2%	171
	Tidewater	45%	49%	5%	205
Gender	Men	44%	52%	4%	483
	Women	49%	47%	4%	518
Age	18-34	55%	40%	4%	191
	35-44	45%	52%	4%	160
	45-64	40%	57%	3%	384
	65 and older	47%	46%	7%	231
Education	H.S. or less	46%	50%	4%	304
	Some college	40%	56%	4%	230
	College grad or more	52%	45%	3%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	48%	48%	5%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	45%	51%	4%	310
	\$100,000 or more	47%	51%	2%	215
Party identification	Democrat	56%	41%	3%	275
	Republican	38%	60%	3%	247
	Independent	47%	48%	5%	378

		Q16a. If funding cuts in education lead to - Teacher layoffs -, would that hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community...?				Number of cases
		Hurt a lot	Hurt a little	Not hurt	Don't know	
All adults		74%	16%	6%	3%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	61%	30%	7%	2%	159
	Northern VA	71%	17%	7%	5%	227
	West	71%	17%	8%	4%	239
	South Central	77%	14%	6%	3%	171
	Tidewater	85%	9%	3%	3%	205
Gender	Men	72%	18%	8%	2%	483
	Women	77%	14%	4%	5%	518
Age	18-34	80%	14%	4%	2%	191
	35-44	80%	11%	9%	1%	160
	45-64	73%	16%	7%	4%	384
	65 and older	62%	25%	5%	8%	231
Education	H.S. or less	76%	16%	6%	3%	304
	Some college	78%	13%	4%	4%	230
	College grad or more	70%	18%	8%	3%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	79%	12%	6%	4%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	74%	17%	6%	3%	310
	\$100,000 or more	70%	22%	7%	1%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	77%	12%	8%	3%	387
	Some	75%	17%	6%	2%	353
	Very little or nothing	70%	21%	4%	5%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	77%	11%	7%	5%	112
	No	74%	17%	6%	3%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	79%	10%	8%	3%	253
	No	72%	18%	5%	4%	748
Party identification	Democrat	84%	11%	3%	2%	275
	Republican	65%	22%	8%	5%	247
	Independent	72%	18%	8%	2%	378

		Q16b. If funding cuts in education lead to - Teacher pay cuts -, would that hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community...?				
		Hurt a lot	Hurt a little	Not hurt	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		63%	25%	8%	3%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	52%	35%	9%	5%	159
	Northern VA	60%	28%	6%	6%	227
	West	60%	26%	12%	2%	239
	South Central	61%	25%	12%	1%	171
	Tidewater	76%	17%	4%	2%	205
Gender	Men	58%	30%	9%	3%	483
	Women	68%	20%	8%	4%	518
Age	18-34	61%	29%	6%	4%	191
	35-44	69%	19%	11%	1%	160
	45-64	65%	24%	9%	3%	384
	65 and older	56%	27%	10%	6%	231
Education	H.S. or less	65%	24%	8%	4%	304
	Some college	69%	21%	7%	3%	230
	College grad or more	57%	30%	10%	3%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	65%	24%	9%	2%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	65%	24%	8%	2%	310
	\$100,000 or more	62%	27%	9%	3%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	70%	19%	9%	2%	387
	Some	58%	30%	8%	4%	353
	Very little or nothing	61%	28%	8%	3%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	70%	20%	6%	5%	112
	No	63%	25%	9%	3%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	64%	24%	9%	2%	253
	No	63%	26%	8%	4%	748
Party identification	Democrat	73%	18%	7%	2%	275
	Republican	55%	31%	11%	3%	247
	Independent	56%	31%	10%	4%	378

Q16c. If funding cuts in education lead to -
Administrative staff layoffs -, would that hurt the
quality of education in the public schools in your
community...?

		Hurt a lot	Hurt a little	Not hurt	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		37%	42%	17%	4%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	23%	59%	12%	5%	159
	Northern VA	33%	47%	16%	4%	227
	West	34%	42%	19%	5%	239
	South Central	34%	38%	24%	4%	171
	Tidewater	54%	31%	13%	2%	205
Gender	Men	34%	42%	20%	3%	483
	Women	39%	42%	14%	4%	518
Age	18-34	49%	37%	11%	3%	191
	35-44	32%	47%	18%	3%	160
	45-64	31%	46%	18%	4%	384
	65 and older	32%	37%	25%	6%	231
Education	H.S. or less	44%	36%	17%	3%	304
	Some college	37%	45%	13%	5%	230
	College grad or more	28%	48%	20%	4%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	43%	35%	18%	4%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	35%	45%	16%	3%	310
	\$100,000 or more	27%	54%	17%	2%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	37%	41%	21%	2%	387
	Some	35%	46%	13%	5%	353
	Very little or nothing	39%	39%	18%	5%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	29%	45%	24%	2%	112
	No	38%	42%	16%	4%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	44%	40%	14%	2%	253
	No	34%	43%	18%	5%	748
Party identification	Democrat	48%	40%	8%	4%	275
	Republican	28%	43%	26%	4%	247
	Independent	34%	43%	18%	4%	378

		Q16d. If funding cuts in education lead to - Canceling all before and after-school activities -, would that hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community...?				
		Hurt a lot	Hurt a little	Not hurt	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		59%	26%	13%	3%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	60%	25%	11%	3%	159
	Northern VA	58%	24%	14%	4%	227
	West	53%	30%	15%	3%	239
	South Central	58%	26%	14%	1%	171
	Tidewater	64%	25%	9%	2%	205
Gender	Men	54%	29%	14%	3%	483
	Women	63%	23%	11%	3%	518
Age	18-34	70%	21%	8%	1%	191
	35-44	61%	20%	15%	3%	160
	45-64	56%	26%	15%	3%	384
	65 and older	40%	41%	14%	5%	231
Education	H.S. or less	58%	26%	12%	3%	304
	Some college	68%	21%	9%	2%	230
	College grad or more	54%	29%	15%	2%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	62%	23%	12%	3%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	63%	28%	7%	2%	310
	\$100,000 or more	51%	28%	18%	3%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	64%	21%	13%	1%	387
	Some	58%	28%	11%	3%	353
	Very little or nothing	52%	29%	14%	5%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	57%	27%	16%	1%	112
	No	59%	26%	12%	3%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	66%	21%	12%	2%	253
	No	56%	28%	13%	3%	748
Party identification	Democrat	68%	21%	8%	2%	275
	Republican	49%	32%	15%	4%	247
	Independent	60%	25%	13%	2%	378

		Q16e. If funding cuts in education lead to - Reduced funds for teacher training and professional development-, would that hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community...?				Number of cases
		Hurt a lot	Hurt a little	Not hurt	Don't know	
All adults		49%	35%	12%	4%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	43%	40%	12%	4%	159
	Northern VA	48%	36%	13%	3%	227
	West	48%	35%	14%	3%	239
	South Central	48%	36%	11%	6%	171
	Tidewater	55%	31%	11%	3%	205
Gender	Men	47%	35%	14%	4%	483
	Women	51%	36%	10%	3%	518
Age	18-34	58%	33%	7%	2%	191
	35-44	61%	22%	14%	3%	160
	45-64	37%	45%	14%	4%	384
	65 and older	47%	31%	17%	5%	231
Education	H.S. or less	54%	30%	12%	4%	304
	Some college	48%	35%	13%	4%	230
	College grad or more	44%	42%	13%	2%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	56%	29%	11%	4%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	52%	32%	14%	3%	310
	\$100,000 or more	39%	45%	13%	3%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	53%	32%	14%	1%	387
	Some	48%	39%	10%	3%	353
	Very little or nothing	46%	35%	13%	6%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	42%	37%	18%	3%	112
	No	50%	35%	12%	3%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	52%	33%	12%	2%	253
	No	48%	36%	12%	4%	748
Party identification	Democrat	64%	27%	8%	2%	275
	Republican	38%	39%	16%	6%	247
	Independent	45%	40%	13%	2%	378

		Q16f. If funding cuts in education lead to - Reduced funds for instructional materials such as books, computers, and library resources-, would that hurt the quality of education in the public schools in your community...?				
		Hurt a lot	Hurt a little	Not hurt	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		60%	28%	8%	3%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	61%	26%	11%	3%	159
	Northern VA	48%	38%	9%	4%	227
	West	62%	27%	8%	3%	239
	South Central	66%	26%	6%	3%	171
	Tidewater	68%	22%	7%	2%	205
Gender	Men	52%	36%	10%	2%	483
	Women	69%	21%	6%	4%	518
Age	18-34	64%	31%	2%	3%	191
	35-44	69%	18%	9%	3%	160
	45-64	57%	30%	11%	3%	384
	65 and older	49%	34%	13%	4%	231
Education	H.S. or less	63%	22%	11%	5%	304
	Some college	67%	29%	2%	2%	230
	College grad or more	54%	36%	8%	2%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	68%	20%	9%	3%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	60%	30%	7%	3%	310
	\$100,000 or more	54%	37%	9%	1%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	62%	29%	9%	0%	387
	Some	58%	32%	8%	2%	353
	Very little or nothing	60%	23%	8%	8%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	62%	26%	9%	2%	112
	No	61%	28%	8%	3%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	67%	24%	7%	2%	253
	No	58%	30%	9%	4%	748
Party identification	Democrat	71%	22%	6%	1%	275
	Republican	55%	31%	11%	2%	247
	Independent	55%	33%	10%	3%	378

		Q17. All in all, do you think the public schools IN VIRGINIA waste a lot of money that residents pay in taxes, waste some of it, or don't waste very much of it?				
		Waste a lot	Waste some	Don't waste very much	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		18%	43%	27%	12%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	19%	51%	22%	9%	159
	Northern VA	15%	43%	27%	15%	227
	West	18%	40%	33%	9%	239
	South Central	29%	35%	27%	8%	171
	Tidewater	12%	46%	25%	16%	205
Gender	Men	18%	46%	25%	11%	483
	Women	17%	40%	29%	14%	518
Age	18-34	17%	48%	21%	14%	191
	35-44	20%	34%	33%	12%	160
	45-64	15%	42%	31%	12%	384
	65 and older	20%	48%	23%	9%	231
Education	H.S. or less	21%	43%	24%	12%	304
	Some college	18%	45%	25%	12%	230
	College grad or more	14%	41%	32%	13%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	20%	45%	22%	13%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	18%	41%	27%	14%	310
	\$100,000 or more	12%	45%	35%	8%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	19%	42%	33%	6%	387
	Some	20%	44%	26%	10%	353
	Very little or nothing	13%	43%	20%	24%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	21%	44%	31%	4%	112
	No	18%	43%	26%	13%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	15%	43%	30%	11%	253
	No	19%	43%	26%	13%	748
Party identification	Democrat	12%	44%	29%	15%	275
	Republican	23%	45%	24%	8%	247
	Independent	19%	44%	25%	12%	378

Q.18F1 Do you favor or oppose proposals
which would increase the number of hours
each day that students spend in school?

ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE		Favor	Oppose	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		41%	49%	10%	501
Gender	Men	44%	47%	9%	254
	Women	38%	51%	11%	247
Education	H.S. or less	35%	53%	12%	155
	Some college	43%	50%	7%	118
	College grad or more	47%	45%	8%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	45%	50%	5%	190
	Some	34%	56%	11%	174
	Very little or nothing	46%	40%	14%	136
Parent of public school student?	Yes	32%	59%	9%	133
	No	45%	45%	10%	368
Party identification	Democrat	54%	41%	6%	133
	Republican	35%	55%	10%	130
	Independent	39%	50%	12%	185

Q.19F1 Do you think increasing the number of hours
each day that students spend in school would help or
not help improve student achievement?

ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE		Help	Not help	Would hurt student achievement (VOLUNTEERED)	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		45%	47%	1%	7%	501
Gender	Men	51%	43%	0%	6%	254
	Women	39%	52%	1%	8%	247
Education	H.S. or less	42%	51%	0%	7%	155
	Some college	44%	51%	1%	4%	118
	College grad or more	49%	41%	1%	9%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	46%	51%	1%	2%	190
	Some	45%	46%	0%	8%	174
	Very little or nothing	45%	43%	1%	12%	136
Parent of public school student?	Yes	38%	57%	0%	5%	133
	No	48%	43%	1%	8%	368
Party identification	Democrat	56%	36%	2%	6%	133
	Republican	38%	57%		5%	130
	Independent	42%	50%	0%	8%	185

Q.20F2 Do you favor or oppose proposals
which would increase the number of days
each year that students spend in school?

ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE		Favor	Oppose	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		43%	48%	9%	500
Gender	Men	47%	44%	9%	229
	Women	41%	51%	8%	271
Education	H.S. or less	36%	60%	4%	149
	Some college	46%	40%	14%	112
	College grad or more	51%	38%	11%	237
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	43%	51%	5%	197
	Some	42%	51%	7%	179
	Very little or nothing	45%	39%	16%	124
Parent of public school student?	Yes	40%	54%	7%	120
	No	45%	46%	9%	380
Party identification	Democrat	51%	43%	6%	142
	Republican	34%	61%	5%	117
	Independent	42%	49%	9%	193

ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE		Q.21F2 Do you think increasing the number of days each year that students spend in school would help or not help improve student achievement?				Number of cases
		Help	Not help	Would hurt student achievement (VOLUNTEERED)	Don't know	
All adults		51%	42%	0%	6%	500
Gender	Men	51%	44%		5%	229
	Women	52%	41%	0%	7%	271
Education	H.S. or less	47%	52%		1%	149
	Some college	47%	45%		8%	112
	College grad or more	60%	29%	1%	10%	237
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	49%	47%	0%	3%	197
	Some	46%	47%		6%	179
	Very little or nothing	61%	28%		11%	124
Parent of public school student?	Yes	46%	51%	1%	2%	120
	No	53%	39%		8%	380
Party identification	Democrat	59%	36%		6%	142
	Republican	39%	56%	1%	4%	117
	Independent	53%	44%		3%	193

		Q22. Do you think that teachers whose students perform well on tests should or should not get paid more than teachers whose students perform poorly on those tests?			
		Should get paid more	Should NOT get paid more	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		36%	52%	12%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	34%	54%	12%	159
	Northern VA	43%	44%	13%	227
	West	31%	58%	11%	239
	South Central	34%	51%	15%	171
	Tidewater	34%	55%	11%	205
Gender	Men	43%	46%	12%	483
	Women	29%	58%	13%	518
Age	18-34	35%	55%	10%	191
	35-44	41%	53%	6%	160
	45-64	32%	53%	15%	384
	65 and older	41%	42%	17%	231
Education	H.S. or less	35%	52%	13%	304
	Some college	36%	55%	9%	230
	College grad or more	37%	50%	13%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	31%	57%	12%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	33%	53%	14%	310
	\$100,000 or more	45%	44%	11%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	35%	56%	9%	387
	Some	38%	48%	14%	353
	Very little or nothing	34%	51%	15%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	21%	64%	15%	112
	No	37%	51%	12%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	40%	48%	13%	253
	No	34%	54%	12%	748
Party identification	Democrat	32%	60%	8%	275
	Republican	38%	47%	14%	247
	Independent	40%	48%	12%	378

		Q23. Do you think basing part of a teacher's salary on his or her student's performance on state tests would help or not help the schools keep high quality teachers?				
		Help	Not help	Hurt schools' ability to keep high quality teachers (VOLUNTEERED)	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		52%	39%	1%	8%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	52%	40%	0%	8%	159
	Northern VA	51%	35%	2%	12%	227
	West	50%	43%	0%	7%	239
	South Central	52%	44%		4%	171
	Tidewater	53%	38%	0%	8%	205
Gender	Men	56%	37%	1%	6%	483
	Women	47%	42%	1%	10%	518
Age	18-34	53%	41%	1%	5%	191
	35-44	48%	40%	1%	11%	160
	45-64	49%	45%	0%	6%	384
	65 and older	61%	23%	1%	15%	231
Education	H.S. or less	58%	33%		9%	304
	Some college	53%	42%	1%	4%	230
	College grad or more	43%	46%	1%	10%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	55%	35%	0%	10%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	45%	46%	1%	8%	310
	\$100,000 or more	56%	37%	1%	5%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	49%	47%	0%	4%	387
	Some	55%	34%	1%	10%	353
	Very little or nothing	51%	37%	0%	12%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	36%	53%	0%	10%	112
	No	53%	38%	0%	8%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	53%	38%	1%	8%	253
	No	51%	40%	1%	8%	748
Party identification	Democrat	52%	39%	0%	8%	275
	Republican	53%	38%	1%	8%	247
	Independent	53%	40%	0%	7%	378

Q24. Teachers with tenure cannot be dismissed unless a school district follows detailed procedures. Some say that tenure protects teachers from being fired for arbitrary reasons... Do you favor or oppose offering tenure to teachers?

		Favor	Oppose	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		37%	48%	16%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	42%	40%	17%	159
	Northern VA	34%	50%	15%	227
	West	36%	50%	15%	239
	South Central	36%	45%	19%	171
	Tidewater	37%	49%	14%	205
Gender	Men	34%	52%	14%	483
	Women	39%	44%	17%	518
Age	18-34	46%	36%	18%	191
	35-44	32%	54%	14%	160
	45-64	30%	56%	13%	384
	65 and older	39%	45%	16%	231
Education	H.S. or less	35%	42%	23%	304
	Some college	40%	50%	10%	230
	College grad or more	37%	53%	10%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	42%	39%	19%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	33%	52%	16%	310
	\$100,000 or more	31%	61%	8%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	41%	48%	11%	387
	Some	36%	46%	18%	353
	Very little or nothing	31%	49%	20%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	48%	38%	13%	112
	No	36%	49%	15%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	35%	51%	15%	253
	No	37%	47%	16%	748
Party identification	Democrat	45%	41%	14%	275
	Republican	31%	55%	14%	247
	Independent	34%	50%	16%	378

		Q27. How much have you heard or read about charter schools – a lot, some, not too much, or nothing at all?					Number of cases
		A lot	Some	Not too much	Nothing at all	Don't know	
All adults		8%	27%	30%	34%	1%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	8%	30%	28%	33%	1%	159
	Northern VA	14%	29%	29%	26%	1%	227
	West	5%	21%	31%	41%	0%	239
	South Central	5%	28%	31%	36%		171
	Tidewater	6%	26%	29%	38%	1%	205
Gender	Men	10%	26%	32%	32%	0%	483
	Women	7%	27%	27%	37%	1%	518
Age	18-34	6%	18%	29%	47%	0%	191
	35-44	10%	19%	36%	34%	1%	160
	45-64	10%	33%	28%	28%	0%	384
	65 and older	8%	37%	27%	26%	2%	231
Education	H.S. or less	1%	16%	33%	50%	1%	304
	Some college	3%	26%	33%	37%	1%	230
	College grad or more	20%	40%	24%	15%	1%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	4%	20%	27%	47%	1%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	8%	28%	37%	26%	1%	310
	\$100,000 or more	16%	33%	28%	22%	1%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	15%	27%	30%	26%	1%	387
	Some	5%	29%	33%	33%	0%	353
	Very little or nothing	4%	22%	26%	47%	1%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	24%	39%	21%	16%		112
	No	7%	26%	31%	36%	1%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	5%	23%	41%	31%	0%	253
	No	10%	28%	25%	36%	1%	748
Party identification	Democrat	8%	28%	29%	35%	1%	275
	Republican	8%	27%	30%	34%	2%	247
	Independent	9%	26%	31%	33%	0%	378

		Q28. The charter school program exempts some public schools from certain state regulations and permits them to function independently from the local school district... Do you favor or oppose such a program?			
		Favor	Oppose	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		56%	26%	18%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	54%	26%	20%	159
	Northern VA	60%	18%	22%	227
	West	51%	31%	18%	239
	South Central	63%	23%	15%	171
	Tidewater	51%	33%	16%	205
Gender	Men	63%	22%	14%	483
	Women	48%	30%	22%	518
Age	18-34	61%	21%	17%	191
	35-44	58%	24%	18%	160
	45-64	53%	30%	17%	384
	65 and older	50%	29%	21%	231
Education	H.S. or less	49%	28%	23%	304
	Some college	54%	30%	16%	230
	College grad or more	65%	21%	14%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	50%	30%	20%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	59%	22%	18%	310
	\$100,000 or more	64%	24%	11%	215
How much have you heard or read about charter schools?	A lot/Some	70%	22%	8%	417
	Not too much/nothing at all	49%	28%	23%	575
School employee or retiree?	Yes	44%	41%	15%	112
	No	56%	25%	19%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	55%	23%	22%	253
	No	56%	27%	17%	748
Party identification	Democrat	48%	35%	17%	275
	Republican	58%	23%	19%	247
	Independent	64%	20%	16%	378

		Q29. Would you favor or oppose changing the Virginia constitution in order to give charter schools more independence from local school boards on decisions about hiring and firing teachers in charter schools?			
		Favor	Oppose	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		37%	44%	19%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	37%	45%	18%	159
	Northern VA	43%	40%	17%	227
	West	34%	45%	21%	239
	South Central	36%	48%	16%	171
	Tidewater	34%	45%	21%	205
Gender	Men	45%	43%	13%	483
	Women	30%	46%	25%	518
Age	18-34	40%	43%	17%	191
	35-44	42%	44%	14%	160
	45-64	34%	47%	19%	384
	65 and older	34%	42%	24%	231
Education	H.S. or less	33%	47%	21%	304
	Some college	31%	48%	20%	230
	College grad or more	46%	38%	16%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	34%	44%	22%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	39%	45%	16%	310
	\$100,000 or more	40%	47%	13%	215
How much have you heard or read about charter schools?	A lot/Some	51%	37%	11%	417
	Not too much/nothing at all	30%	48%	23%	575
School employee or retiree?	Yes	29%	51%	19%	112
	No	38%	44%	18%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	39%	38%	23%	253
	No	36%	47%	17%	748
Party identification	Democrat	36%	44%	20%	275
	Republican	36%	46%	17%	247
	Independent	43%	42%	15%	378

Q30F1. 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?

ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE		Federal government	State government	Local city and county governments	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		37%	8%	30%	24%	501
Gender	Men	39%	10%	33%	18%	254
	Women	35%	7%	26%	32%	247
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	49%	11%	25%	16%	190
	Some	34%	4%	32%	30%	174
	Very little or nothing	27%	11%	34%	28%	136
Parent of public school student?	Yes	32%	9%	35%	25%	133
	No	40%	8%	28%	24%	368
Party identification	Democrat	37%	10%	34%	20%	133
	Republican	43%	7%	26%	23%	130
	Independent	40%	8%	32%	20%	185

Q31F2. 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?

ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE		Federal government	State government	Local city and county governments	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		11%	38%	34%	16%	500
Gender	Men	10%	37%	39%	14%	229
	Women	12%	39%	31%	18%	271
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	13%	36%	36%	15%	197
	Some	12%	39%	33%	16%	179
	Very little or nothing	8%	40%	34%	18%	124
Parent of public school student?	Yes	15%	39%	34%	12%	120
	No	10%	38%	35%	17%	380
Party identification	Democrat	12%	40%	28%	20%	142
	Republican	7%	39%	37%	17%	117
	Independent	13%	36%	41%	10%	193

		Q32a. The federal government needs to make sure that states are held accountable for school performance. Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with this statement?					
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		27%	45%	18%	6%	4%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	27%	43%	20%	7%	3%	159
	Northern VA	25%	46%	18%	7%	4%	227
	West	23%	46%	22%	5%	3%	239
	South Central	30%	41%	19%	6%	3%	171
	Tidewater	30%	47%	14%	4%	5%	205
Gender	Men	24%	44%	21%	9%	2%	483
	Women	29%	46%	16%	2%	6%	518
Age	18-34	28%	51%	16%	3%	3%	191
	35-44	33%	47%	8%	9%	2%	160
	45-64	24%	44%	22%	5%	4%	384
	65 and older	20%	40%	24%	8%	8%	231
Education	H.S. or less	30%	43%	18%	4%	5%	304
	Some college	21%	56%	16%	3%	4%	230
	College grad or more	27%	41%	20%	9%	3%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	27%	51%	13%	4%	5%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	27%	41%	22%	7%	3%	310
	\$100,000 or more	28%	46%	18%	6%	1%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	29%	45%	18%	6%	2%	387
	Some	26%	46%	18%	6%	4%	353
	Very little or nothing	25%	44%	19%	6%	6%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	38%	35%	21%	4%	2%	112
	No	26%	46%	18%	6%	4%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	31%	46%	15%	5%	3%	253
	No	25%	45%	19%	6%	4%	748
Party identification	Democrat	36%	50%	10%	1%	3%	275
	Republican	22%	40%	26%	7%	4%	247
	Independent	22%	48%	19%	8%	3%	378

		Q32b. State governments know more about the needs of students and schools in their state than the federal government does. Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with this statement?					
		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		33%	50%	12%	2%	4%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	36%	52%	8%	1%	3%	159
	Northern VA	33%	48%	13%	1%	4%	227
	West	30%	52%	12%	4%	3%	239
	South Central	35%	50%	9%	3%	2%	171
	Tidewater	30%	50%	13%	2%	5%	205
Gender	Men	36%	50%	10%	3%	1%	483
	Women	29%	50%	13%	2%	6%	518
Age	18-34	37%	48%	10%	1%	4%	191
	35-44	32%	41%	18%	6%	3%	160
	45-64	32%	54%	10%	2%	2%	384
	65 and older	28%	56%	10%	1%	6%	231
Education	H.S. or less	25%	53%	15%	3%	3%	304
	Some college	32%	54%	11%	1%	2%	230
	College grad or more	41%	44%	7%	2%	5%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	25%	54%	13%	3%	4%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	38%	46%	12%	2%	2%	310
	\$100,000 or more	39%	46%	11%	2%	3%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	37%	49%	9%	3%	2%	387
	Some	29%	53%	13%	3%	2%	353
	Very little or nothing	32%	48%	13%	1%	6%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	35%	51%	11%	1%	2%	112
	No	33%	50%	12%	2%	4%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	29%	52%	15%	2%	2%	253
	No	34%	49%	10%	2%	4%	748
Party identification	Democrat	29%	49%	15%	2%	4%	275
	Republican	37%	46%	10%	3%	4%	247
	Independent	33%	53%	9%	3%	2%	378

		Q33. Who do you think should have the primary responsibility for improving education and the schools: the federal government, the state government, or local school districts?				
		Federal government	State government	Local school districts	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		9%	35%	51%	4%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	8%	32%	57%	3%	159
	Northern VA	9%	38%	50%	3%	227
	West	9%	31%	52%	8%	239
	South Central	10%	35%	49%	6%	171
	Tidewater	10%	38%	51%	2%	205
Gender	Men	6%	40%	51%	3%	483
	Women	12%	31%	52%	5%	518
Age	18-34	10%	35%	51%	3%	191
	35-44	9%	32%	55%	4%	160
	45-64	8%	38%	52%	3%	384
	65 and older	10%	36%	46%	8%	231
Education	H.S. or less	10%	33%	51%	6%	304
	Some college	10%	36%	52%	2%	230
	College grad or more	8%	38%	51%	3%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	11%	32%	49%	8%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	6%	36%	55%	2%	310
	\$100,000 or more	13%	37%	48%	2%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	10%	34%	55%	2%	387
	Some	9%	38%	48%	4%	353
	Very little or nothing	8%	34%	51%	7%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	11%	30%	58%	1%	112
	No	9%	36%	51%	4%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	12%	29%	55%	3%	253
	No	8%	38%	50%	5%	748
Party identification	Democrat	12%	38%	45%	5%	275
	Republican	5%	29%	63%	3%	247
	Independent	8%	37%	53%	2%	378

Q34. In general, would you favor or oppose increasing the amount of money the fed. gov't spends on the public schools in your area IF it would increase the federal government's influence over education policies at those schools?

		Favor	Oppose	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		46%	45%	9%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	39%	53%	8%	159
	Northern VA	46%	43%	10%	227
	West	47%	46%	7%	239
	South Central	45%	45%	10%	171
	Tidewater	48%	44%	8%	205
Gender	Men	42%	52%	6%	483
	Women	49%	38%	12%	518
Age	18-34	59%	35%	6%	191
	35-44	51%	44%	5%	160
	45-64	42%	47%	11%	384
	65 and older	24%	59%	16%	231
Education	H.S. or less	45%	43%	12%	304
	Some college	50%	41%	9%	230
	College grad or more	44%	50%	6%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	50%	38%	12%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	45%	48%	6%	310
	\$100,000 or more	46%	51%	3%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	47%	48%	5%	387
	Some	45%	47%	8%	353
	Very little or nothing	45%	40%	15%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	50%	42%	8%	112
	No	45%	46%	9%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	47%	44%	9%	253
	No	45%	46%	9%	748
Party identification	Democrat	63%	29%	8%	275
	Republican	32%	62%	6%	247
	Independent	39%	52%	9%	378

Q35a. Next, I'm going to ask whether you feel the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job or bad job in different areas.
(First,/Next,) In providing skills that will be useful in obtaining a job?

		Good job	Bad job	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		61%	25%	14%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	66%	26%	8%	159
	Northern VA	57%	22%	20%	227
	West	63%	26%	11%	239
	South Central	60%	28%	12%	171
	Tidewater	62%	25%	13%	205
Gender	Men	64%	26%	10%	483
	Women	58%	25%	17%	518
Age	18-34	61%	29%	10%	191
	35-44	63%	24%	12%	160
	45-64	61%	24%	14%	384
	65 and older	58%	22%	20%	231
Education	H.S. or less	62%	24%	13%	304
	Some college	63%	24%	13%	230
	College grad or more	58%	27%	14%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	67%	22%	11%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	57%	28%	15%	310
	\$100,000 or more	63%	25%	12%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	62%	30%	8%	387
	Some	63%	28%	10%	353
	Very little or nothing	57%	17%	26%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	56%	33%	11%	112
	No	62%	24%	14%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	66%	26%	8%	253
	No	59%	25%	16%	748
Party identification	Democrat	63%	24%	13%	275
	Republican	63%	22%	15%	247
	Independent	61%	27%	12%	378

Q35b. Next, I'm going to ask whether you feel the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job or bad job in different areas. (First,/Next,) In teaching the basics such as reading, writing, and mathematics?

		Good job	Bad job	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		75%	16%	9%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	78%	18%	4%	159
	Northern VA	74%	12%	14%	227
	West	77%	17%	6%	239
	South Central	79%	17%	5%	171
	Tidewater	72%	18%	10%	205
Gender	Men	77%	15%	8%	483
	Women	74%	18%	9%	518
Age	18-34	84%	11%	5%	191
	35-44	77%	15%	8%	160
	45-64	74%	18%	8%	384
	65 and older	62%	22%	15%	231
Education	H.S. or less	78%	14%	8%	304
	Some college	79%	14%	7%	230
	College grad or more	70%	20%	10%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	77%	16%	7%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	70%	19%	11%	310
	\$100,000 or more	80%	14%	6%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	77%	19%	4%	387
	Some	82%	14%	5%	353
	Very little or nothing	65%	16%	19%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	69%	26%	5%	112
	No	76%	15%	9%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	86%	12%	2%	253
	No	71%	18%	11%	748
Party identification	Democrat	78%	14%	8%	275
	Republican	74%	18%	8%	247
	Independent	75%	16%	8%	378

Q35c. Next, I'm going to ask whether you feel the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job or bad job in different areas. (First,/Next,) In providing the skills needed for pursuing a 4-year college degree?

		Good job	Bad job	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		70%	19%	12%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	73%	17%	10%	159
	Northern VA	69%	16%	15%	227
	West	72%	19%	9%	239
	South Central	74%	19%	7%	171
	Tidewater	65%	22%	13%	205
Gender	Men	72%	18%	11%	483
	Women	68%	19%	12%	518
Age	18-34	74%	20%	6%	191
	35-44	64%	21%	15%	160
	45-64	70%	19%	12%	384
	65 and older	69%	14%	17%	231
Education	H.S. or less	68%	20%	13%	304
	Some college	71%	20%	9%	230
	College grad or more	72%	17%	11%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	70%	20%	10%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	64%	21%	16%	310
	\$100,000 or more	77%	15%	9%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	76%	19%	5%	387
	Some	73%	18%	9%	353
	Very little or nothing	59%	18%	22%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	65%	25%	10%	112
	No	70%	18%	12%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	75%	16%	9%	253
	No	68%	20%	12%	748
Party identification	Democrat	69%	21%	10%	275
	Republican	71%	17%	12%	247
	Independent	71%	18%	11%	378

Q35d. Next, I'm going to ask whether you feel the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job or bad job in different areas. (First,/Next,) In providing the skills needed for pursuing a vocational or a technical career?

		Good job	Bad job	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		64%	21%	16%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	65%	25%	10%	159
	Northern VA	51%	23%	26%	227
	West	69%	19%	12%	239
	South Central	65%	24%	11%	171
	Tidewater	72%	15%	13%	205
Gender	Men	63%	23%	14%	483
	Women	65%	18%	17%	518
Age	18-34	71%	18%	10%	191
	35-44	66%	17%	17%	160
	45-64	61%	24%	15%	384
	65 and older	55%	21%	24%	231
Education	H.S. or less	72%	16%	12%	304
	Some college	68%	19%	13%	230
	College grad or more	51%	27%	21%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	73%	15%	11%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	58%	26%	15%	310
	\$100,000 or more	55%	24%	21%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	65%	26%	9%	387
	Some	65%	20%	15%	353
	Very little or nothing	62%	14%	25%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	57%	31%	12%	112
	No	64%	20%	16%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	71%	17%	13%	253
	No	61%	22%	17%	748
Party identification	Democrat	68%	18%	13%	275
	Republican	63%	20%	17%	247
	Independent	63%	24%	13%	378

Q35e. Next, I'm going to ask whether you feel the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job or bad job in different areas. (First,/Next,) In preparing students for the workforce needs of the future?

		Good job	Bad job	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		59%	29%	13%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	61%	30%	9%	159
	Northern VA	58%	26%	16%	227
	West	65%	25%	10%	239
	South Central	56%	35%	9%	171
	Tidewater	55%	30%	15%	205
Gender	Men	60%	29%	11%	483
	Women	57%	29%	14%	518
Age	18-34	61%	29%	10%	191
	35-44	59%	27%	14%	160
	45-64	58%	30%	12%	384
	65 and older	55%	29%	16%	231
Education	H.S. or less	62%	25%	12%	304
	Some college	55%	34%	12%	230
	College grad or more	57%	30%	13%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	62%	28%	11%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	52%	31%	17%	310
	\$100,000 or more	63%	28%	9%	215
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	65%	30%	5%	387
	Some	59%	32%	9%	353
	Very little or nothing	50%	23%	26%	260
School employee or retiree?	Yes	52%	39%	9%	112
	No	60%	28%	13%	881
Parent of public school student?	Yes	67%	24%	9%	253
	No	55%	31%	14%	748
Party identification	Democrat	60%	29%	10%	275
	Republican	56%	30%	15%	247
	Independent	60%	29%	12%	378

Q36. Overall, do you think the funding for public universities and colleges 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		34%	52%	14%	1001
VA Region	Northwest	36%	49%	15%	159
	Northern VA	37%	48%	15%	227
	West	37%	54%	9%	239
	South Central	39%	48%	13%	171
	Tidewater	23%	61%	16%	205
Gender	Men	41%	48%	11%	483
	Women	27%	57%	16%	518
Age	18-34	31%	61%	9%	191
	35-44	32%	49%	19%	160
	45-64	35%	50%	15%	384
	65 and older	40%	45%	14%	231
Education	H.S. or less	34%	50%	16%	304
	Some college	26%	63%	12%	230
	College grad or more	39%	49%	12%	460
Family Income	Under \$50,000	30%	59%	12%	329
	50K to under \$100,000	33%	53%	15%	310
	\$100,000 or more	40%	47%	12%	215
Party identification	Democrat	24%	64%	12%	275
	Republican	47%	36%	18%	247
	Independent	36%	53%	11%	378

Q37. Do you think increased funding for public universities and colleges in Virginia should come from [ROTATE ORDER: state tax increases OR tuition and fee increases]?

		State tax increases	Tuition and fee increases	Both [VOLUNTEERED]	Don't know	Number of cases
All answering not enough		56%	27%	7%	10%	481
VA Region	Northwest	52%	27%	8%	13%	66
	Northern VA	61%	23%	8%	8%	103
	West	53%	28%	7%	12%	125
	South Central	59%	25%	6%	10%	78
	Tidewater	53%	30%	7%	10%	109
Gender	Men	54%	31%	8%	8%	208
	Women	58%	23%	7%	12%	273
Age	18-34	69%	19%	4%	8%	104
	35-44	53%	33%	9%	6%	80
	45-64	51%	32%	8%	8%	186
	65 and older	40%	24%	13%	22%	93
Education	H.S. or less	47%	31%	3%	19%	141
	Some college	65%	26%	4%	4%	119
	College grad or more	59%	21%	15%	4%	216
Family Income	Under \$50,000	51%	34%	3%	13%	172
	50K to under \$100,000	62%	20%	11%	7%	158
	\$100,000 or more	62%	25%	10%	3%	96
Party identification	Democrat	67%	22%	5%	5%	164
	Republican	44%	40%	6%	10%	96
	Independent	55%	27%	9%	9%	179