



## COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION POLL 2010-2011

*A survey of Virginians conducted by the  
Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute*

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### **VIRGINIANS REMAIN POSITIVE ABOUT SCHOOLS BUT FEWER THINK SCHOOLS DO WELL IN PREPARING STUDENTS FOR JOBS**

Public ratings of the state's schools are positive overall with 63% saying the schools provide an excellent or good education. About three-quarters (73%) of Virginians say the schools do a good job teaching the basics such as reading, writing and mathematics, 18% 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 the steps following high school graduation and these assessments are down from a year ago. Those saying the schools do a good job providing skills useful in obtaining a job is down 8 percentage points from 61% to 53% today. Those saying the schools do a good job providing the skills for pursuing a technical career is down 6 points from last year (64% to 58%). Similarly, those saying the schools do a good job providing skills needed for the workforce is down 5 points from 59% to 54% today.

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 2 to 8, 2010 with a random sample of 1,002 adults in Virginia. The margin of error for the poll is plus or minus 3.6 percentage points. This survey is conducted annually by VCU's Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute (CEPI).

"There are some hints of caution as well as continued good news for the schools in these findings," said Cary Funk, associate professor in the Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs and director of the survey. "Majorities give the schools positive ratings across a number of areas, particularly in teaching the basics, but there's a downward trend in perceptions of how well schools prepare students for jobs, technical careers, and the workforce needs of the future."

The Commonwealth Education Poll asked which of five kinds of skills taught in the public schools are most important for preparing students for the workforce needs of the future. The most common response was math, science and technology skills (32% say these are most important), followed by reasoning and problem-solving (23%) and writing and communicating effectively (23%). 11% say creative thinking and 4% say working with diverse cultures is most important.

Nearly seven-in-ten Virginians (68%) believe that the amount of money spent on the schools affects education quality a great deal or quite a lot. About six-in-ten (59%) Virginians say that schools do not

have enough funds to meet their needs while 31% say schools have enough funding now. Those saying school funding is enough is up 4 points from a year ago (27% to 31% today).

"In these times of high unemployment and flat wages, it's remarkable to see support for school funding remaining strong as we look at our poll results across the past several years," 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. "An example of that support comes from the 55% who say they would be willing to pay higher taxes so school funding could be increased, a figure that is about the same as last year," Boshier said.

### Other survey findings:

**Teacher Compensation and Teacher Tenure.** The survey finds 46% in favor of paying teachers whose students perform well on tests more than teachers whose students perform poorly; 39% say such teachers should not be paid more than others. Another 15% did not express an opinion on this issue. The plurality opinion on this issue has shifted from a year ago when 52% opposed paying teachers whose students perform well on tests more than those whose students perform poorly. This unusual shift shows that opinions about this issue are in flux as public deliberation about teacher compensation continues.

**STEM: Public Views about Science Education.** A plurality (46%) says local schools are currently giving about the right amount of emphasis to science education while three-in-ten say there is not enough emphasis and just 1% say there is too much emphasis on science. Those holding a college degree are more likely than other education groups to say that local schools are not putting enough emphasis on science. 38% of college graduates say there is not enough emphasis on science teaching in the local schools; 22% of those with no more than a high school diploma say the same.

When asked to choose between two options for improving high school science education, more identify instructional quality over curriculum issues as a bigger need. A 52% majority says that improving the teaching quality in science and math courses now offered at local high schools is needed most; 29% say offering more challenging material is needed most. 5% volunteered that both of these are needed, 13% did not have an opinion and 1% volunteered that neither is needed. Younger adults (ages 18 to 34) are more likely than older adults to say better quality instruction of current course offerings is needed most (60% say this, compared with 49% among adults 35 and older). Parents are also more likely than other adults to say better quality instruction is needed most.

### Parents and Local School Evaluations

Virginians are more positive than negative in their evaluation of schools in their community. Two-thirds say their local schools provide an excellent (26%) or good (40%) education, a figure that is about the same as last year. Three-in-ten parents rate their local schools as excellent; this compares with 25% among those who don't have a child in the schools. The difference between parents and other citizens is more muted than past years. A year ago, there was a 15-point difference between parents and other citizens in rating the local schools as excellent; this year the difference is 5 points.

**Funding Priorities for Schools and Other State Programs.** Public schools top the list of programs that Virginians say they would be willing to pay higher tax bills for in order to keep program funding levels stable (69% say they would be willing to pay more; 27% would not). Willingness to pay for steady funding of other programs suggests four gradations in public priorities with schools at the top of the list followed by mental health services (60%) and aid to low income families (60%). Fewer, though still a majority or near majority, say they would be willing to pay more

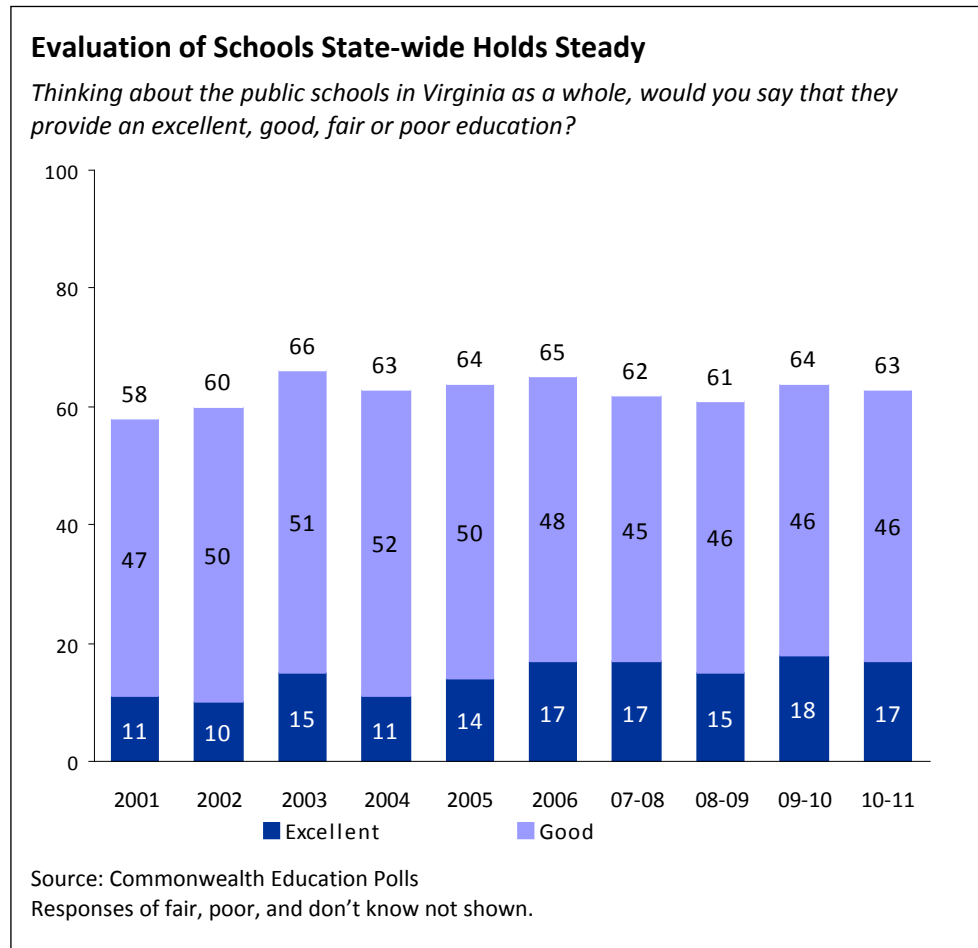
in taxes for higher education (50%) or for transportation (48%). And, about a quarter (23%) report a willingness to pay to keep prison funding at its current level.

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

### K-12 Performance Evaluations and Preparing Students for the Future

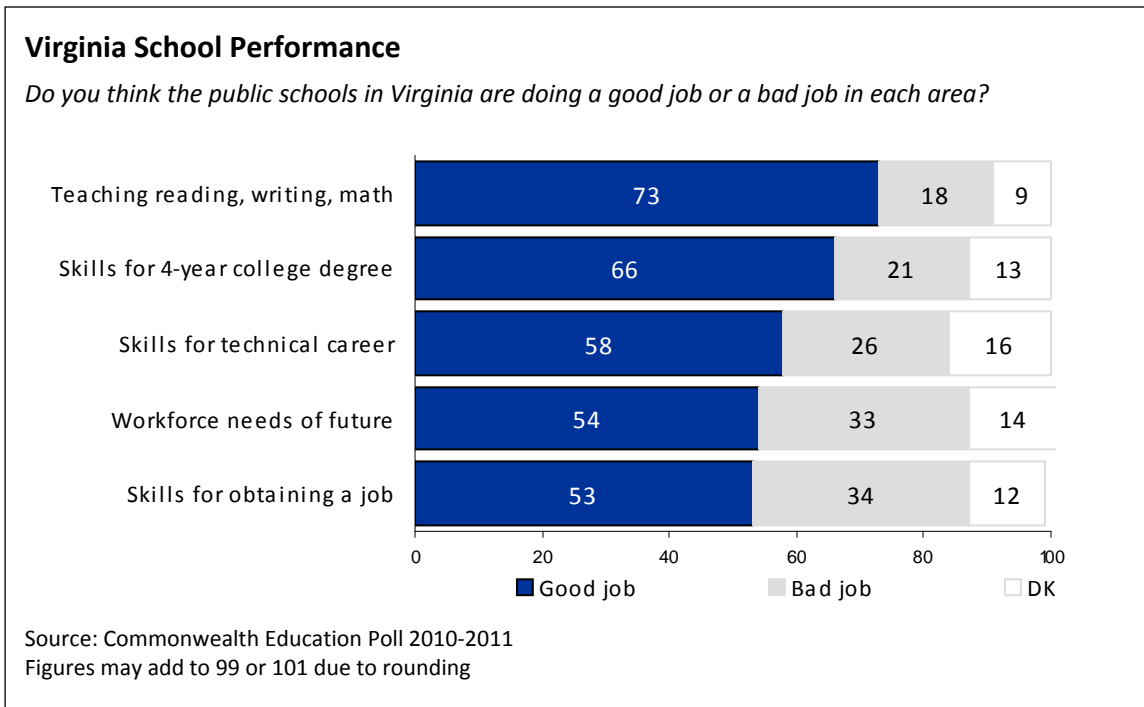
Evaluations of the K-12 schools are positive overall and have remained fairly steady over the past several years. Assessments of school performance in specific areas is also positive, on balance, but shows a downward trend compared with last year, especially in terms of preparing students for the work world.

A majority of citizens rate Virginia's public schools in positive terms; 17% say they provide an excellent education and another 46% say the education is good. Evaluation of the state schools is about the same as last year when 64% said the schools provided an excellent or good education.



Those with more direct experience and familiarity with the schools tend to give the state schools higher marks. Fully 74% of those who are school employees or retirees rate the state schools as excellent or good as do 68% of those with children in the public schools.

**School Performance in Specific Areas.** When it comes to specific skills, majorities say the state’s schools are doing a good job in all five areas considered. Schools get the highest marks for “teaching the basics such as reading, writing and mathematics.” Nearly three-quarters (73%) of Virginians say the schools do a good job teaching the basics such as reading, writing and mathematics, 18% say the state is doing a bad job in this area. This is about the same as last year when 75% said schools were doing a good job in this area.



Smaller majorities say the state schools do a good job providing skills needed for the steps following high school graduation. Two thirds say the schools do a good job providing skills for pursuing a four-year

**Downward Trend in Performance Evaluations**  
*Percent saying the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job in each area*

	2010	2009	Change
	%	%	
Skills useful in obtaining a job	53	61	-8
Skills for technical career	58	64	-6
Skills for workforce needs of future	54	59	-5
Skills for 4-year college degree	66	70	-4
Teaching reading, writing, and math	73	75	-2

Source: Commonwealth Education Polls

college degree; 58% say the same about skills for pursuing a vocational or technical career. Smaller majorities say schools are doing a good job preparing students for the work world. 54% think schools are

doing a good job preparing students for the workforce needs of the future and 53% say schools do a good job providing skills that will be useful for obtaining a job.

School performance assessments are down from a year ago. Those saying the schools do a good job providing skills useful in obtaining a job is down 8 percentage points from 61% to 53% now. Those saying the schools do a good job providing the skills for pursuing a technical career is down 6 points from last year (64% to 58% now). Similarly, those saying the schools do a good job providing skills needed for the workforce is down 5 points from 59% to 54% today. The proportion saying the schools do a good job providing the skills needed for a four-year college program has declined 4 points from 70% to 66% today. While a majority give the schools a positive mark for performance in these areas, assessments are down compared with a year ago in all areas except teaching the basics, where the decline of 2 points is not statistically significant.

There is a good deal of commonality across subgroups in these perceptions. Perceptions of school performance in preparing students for the workforce needs of the future show modest differences between subgroups such as education or income and no differences by gender. Younger adults, those under age 35, are more likely than older adults to say that schools do a good job in this area (62% good job; 28% bad job).

The Commonwealth Education Poll asked which of five kinds of skills taught in the public schools are most important for preparing students for the workforce needs of the future. The most common response was math, science and technology skills (32% say these are most important), followed by reasoning and problem-solving (23%) and writing and communicating effectively (23%). 11% say creative thinking and 4% say working with diverse cultures is most important.

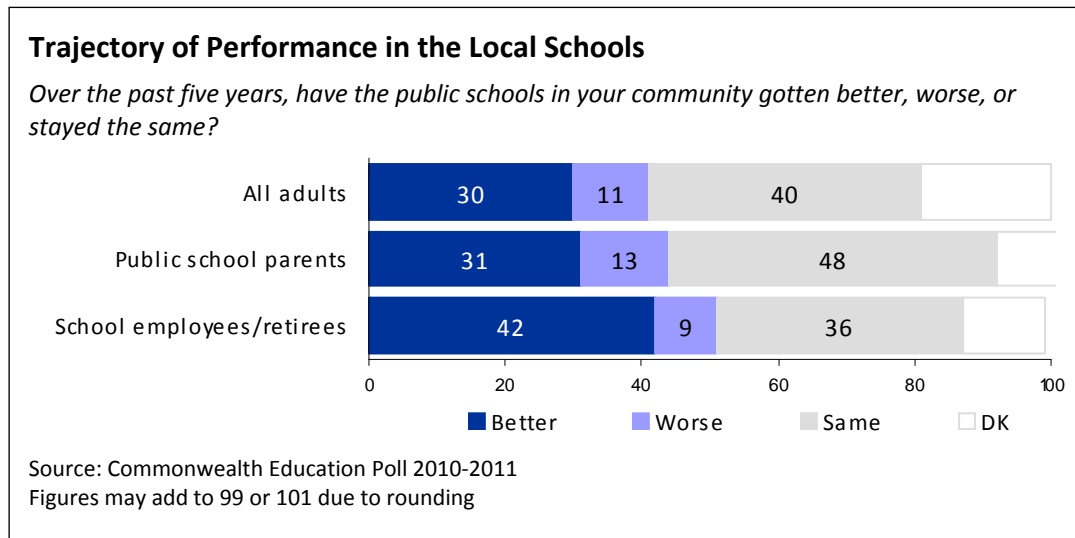
### **Most Important Skills for Future Workforce**

*In thinking about the skills taught in the public schools in Virginia, which of these do you think is the most important for preparing students for the workforce needs of the future?*

	<i>Most important %</i>
Math, science and technology skills	32
Reasoning and problem-solving	23
Writing and communicating effectively	23
Creative thinking	11
Working with diverse cultures	4
Don't know/Refused	<u>7</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2010-2011  
Order of response options was randomized

**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; four-in-ten say it is about the same and 11% say performance is worse. Another 19% did not rate school progress. These figures are about the same as found in previous years.

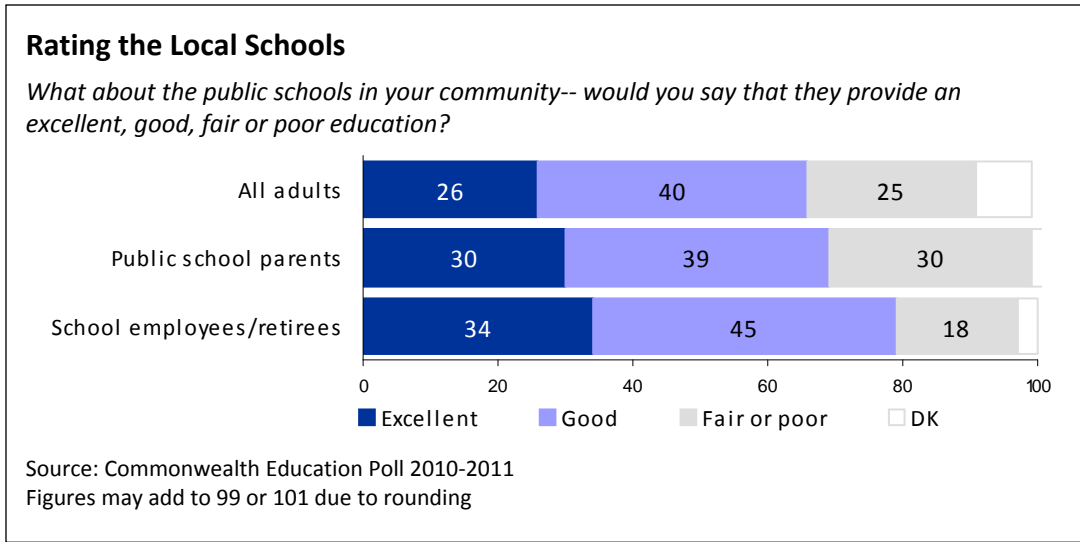


Parents of public school children hold views that are similar to those of the general state population on this issue. This is a departure from previous findings of the Commonwealth Education Poll. A year ago, parents were more likely than other residents to see the local schools as getting better.

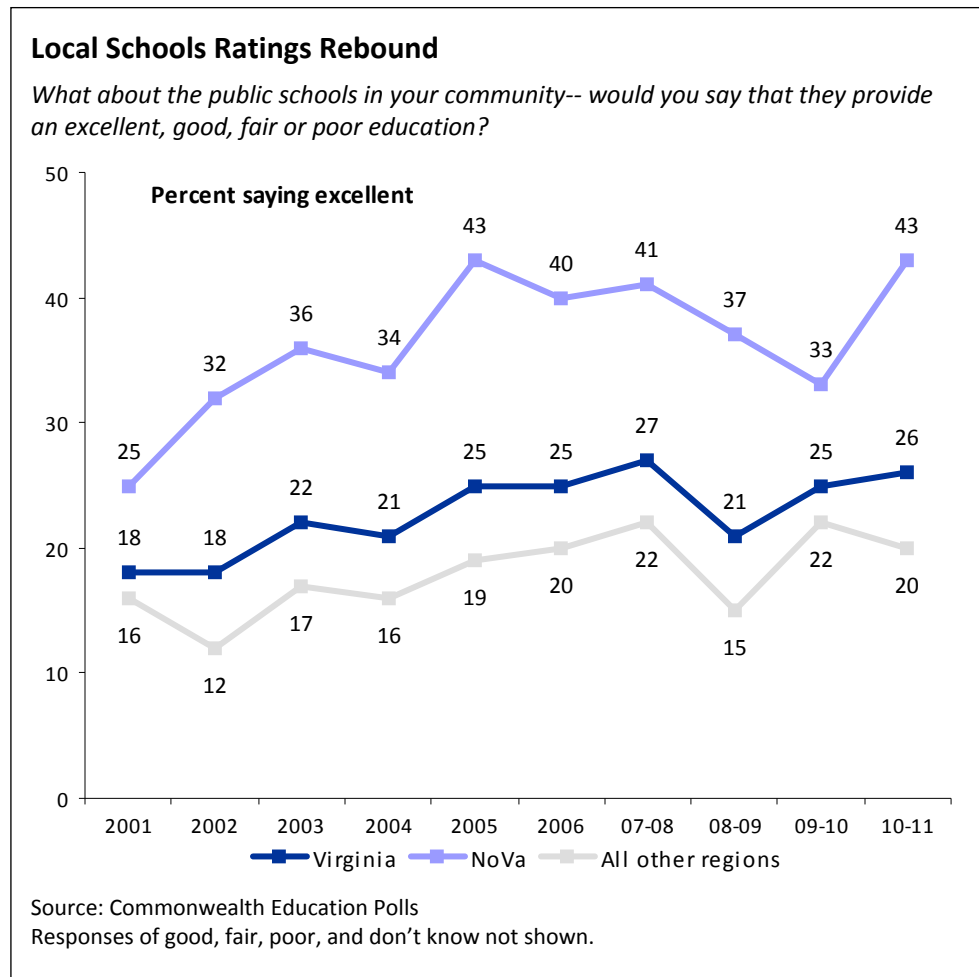
School employees and retirees have a more positive assessment of the school trajectory over the past five years. 42% of this group sees the local schools as having gotten better, 36% say they have stayed the same and 9% think they have gotten worse over the past five years.

When it comes to rating the education provided by the local schools, Virginians are more positive than negative in their ratings of school performance. Two-thirds say their local schools provide an excellent (26%) or good (40%) education, a figure that is about the same as last year (67%). Public school parents are a bit more positive in their evaluations of the local schools than are other Virginians. Three-in-ten parents rate their local schools as excellent; this compares with 25% among those who don't have a child in the schools. The difference between parents and other citizens is more muted than past years. A year ago, there was a 15-point difference between parents and other citizens in rating the local schools as excellent; this year the difference is 5 points.

The number giving the local schools an excellent rating is currently 26%. This figure is about the



same as last year, up from 21% registered two years ago. Excellent ratings for local schools among Northern Virginia residents have rebounded from 33% a year ago to 43% today.





## Teacher Compensation and Teacher Tenure

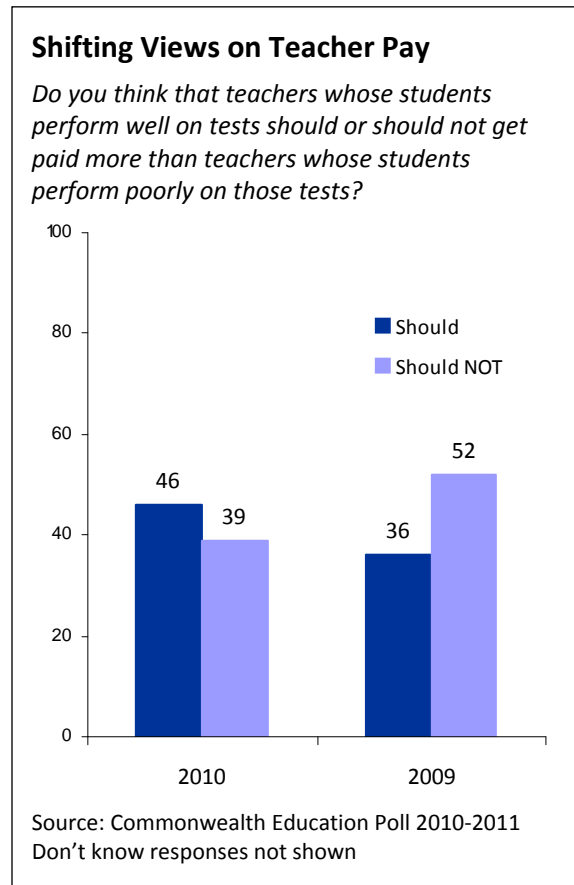
Proposals to link teacher salary to students' performance on state tests have been a subject for national debate over the past few years. The survey finds 46% in favor of paying teachers whose students perform well on tests more than other teachers; 39% say such teachers should not be paid more than others. Another 15% did not express an opinion on this issue.

The plurality opinion on this issue has shifted from a year ago when 52% opposed paying teachers whose students perform well on tests more than those whose students perform poorly. A shift of this magnitude is unusual and shows that opinions about the issue are in flux as public deliberation about teacher compensation continues.

More than two-thirds (68%) of school employees and retirees are opposed to paying teachers whose students perform well on tests more than those whose students perform poorly; 25% say teachers whose students perform well on state tests should be paid more.

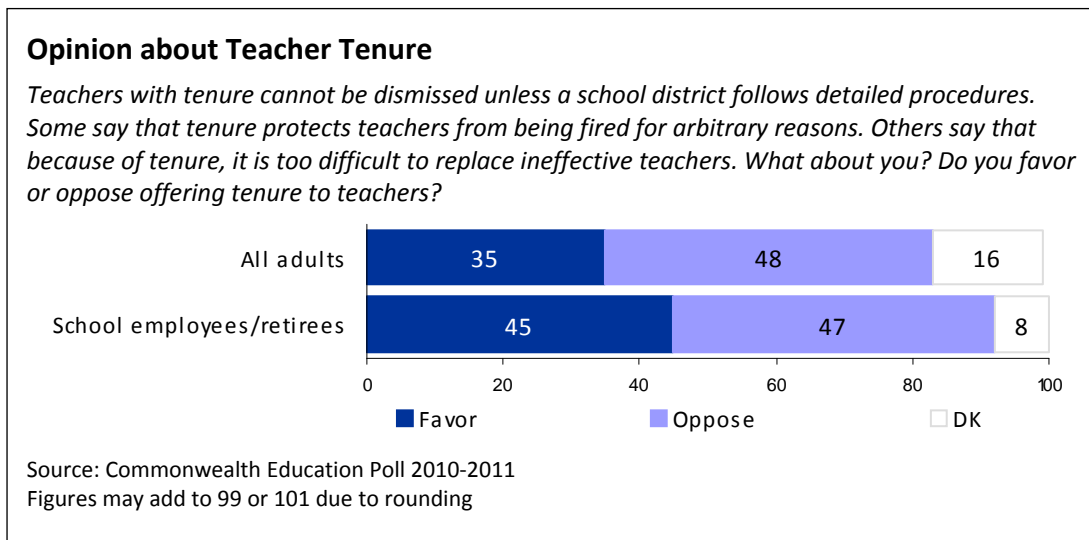
Teacher pay appears to be an area where there is considerable common ground among partisan groups. 46% of Republicans and 50% of Democrats say teachers whose students perform well on tests should be paid more; 46% of independents say the same.

Women are more opposed than men to test-based pay. Among women, 38% say teachers with higher performing students should get paid more than other teachers, 47% say they should not. Men tilt in the opposite direction with 54% saying such teachers should get paid more and 31% saying they should not.



**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. Public opinion about teacher tenure leans negative with more opposed to tenure than in favor. The poll finds a plurality of 48% oppose offering tenure to teachers while 35% favor it and the remaining 16% hold no opinion about this issue. Opinion about teacher tenure is roughly the same as a year ago.

Interestingly, school employees and retirees are evenly divided on this issue; 45% of this group favors tenure while 47% opposes and 8% are undecided. Thus, relative to the public at large, school employees and retirees are more likely to favor tenure, as expected, and more likely to hold an opinion on this issue. At the same time, opinion about tenure among this group is clearly mixed.



## STEM: Public Views about Science Education

Schools around the nation are giving increased attention to STEM or science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education. The Commonwealth Education Poll asked Virginians to evaluate the relative emphasis on science education in the schools. A plurality (46%) says local schools are currently giving about the right amount of emphasis to science education while three-in-ten say there is not enough emphasis and just 1% say there is too much emphasis on science.<sup>1</sup>

Those holding a college degree are more likely than other education groups to say that local schools are not putting enough emphasis on science. 38% of college graduates say there is not enough emphasis on science teaching in the local schools; 22% of those with no more than a high school diploma say the same.

Parents are more likely than others to hold an opinion on this issue and to say the current emphasis on teaching science is about right. Six-in-ten parents say schools give about the right amount of emphasis to science; 31% say there is not enough emphasis.

### Science Education

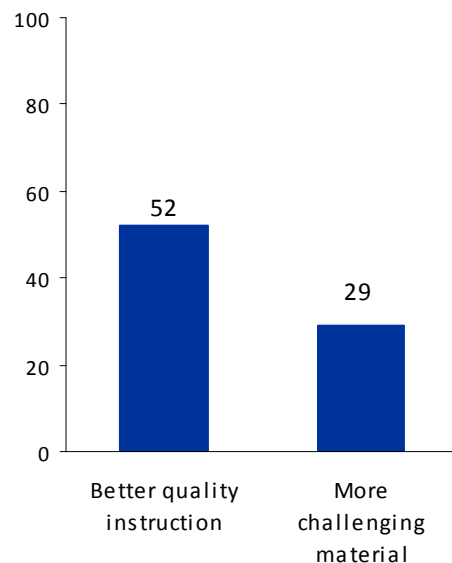
*In your opinion, do the public schools in your community give too much emphasis to teaching science, not enough emphasis, or about the right amount of emphasis?*

	%
Right amount	46
Not enough emphasis	30
Too much emphasis	1
Don't know/Refused	<u>24</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2010-2011  
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

### Which Is the Bigger Need for Science Education in High School?

*Which do you think is needed most for public high schools in your community (ROTATE)—better quality instruction in science and math courses now offered, or more challenging material on science and math?*



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2010-2011  
Volunteered responses of both, neither and don't know not shown.

<sup>1</sup> Half the sample was asked about “science and math” education with similar results. 44% say local schools put the right amount of emphasis on science and math teaching, 37% say it is not enough, 3% say it is too much and 16% do not have an opinion.

When asked to choose between two options for improving high school science education, more identify instructional quality over curriculum issues as a bigger need. A 52% majority says that improving teaching quality in science and math courses now offered at local high schools is needed most; 29% say offering more challenging material is needed most. 5% volunteered that both of these are needed, 13% did not have an opinion and 1% volunteered that neither is needed.

Younger adults (ages 18 to 34) are more likely than older adults to say better quality instruction of current course offerings is needed more (60% say this, compared with 49% among adults 35 and older). Parents are also more likely than other adults to say better quality instruction is needed more. There are only minor differences in response to this question for other subgroups such as gender, education, and income.

When asked to consider when it is most important to increase science education, a plurality of Virginians is focused on the younger ages; 46% say it is most important for schools to increase science education at the elementary school level, 34% say middle school and 11% say high school.

A focus on science education at younger ages was also common in response to a question about how to increase interest in science as a career. 38% of Virginians say that more science at younger ages is the best way to increase interest in science as a career. An equal proportion (38%) say more training in laboratory and field science is best. And, 10% say creating high schools that specialize in science is the best way to increase interest in science as a career.

#### **Fostering Science Education and Careers**

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

	%
Elementary school	46
Middle school	34
High school	11
All/None of these (VOL.)	5
Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>
	100

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

	%
More science at younger ages	38
More lab and field science	38
Create science specialty high schools	10
All/None of these (VOL.)	6
Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2010-2011  
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Younger adults (ages 18 to 34) are more likely than older adults to consider more lab and field science training the best way to interest high school students in a career in science; 47% of younger adults say more lab and field science training would be best. 35% of adults ages 35 and older say the same. There are only minor subgroup differences on this question for gender, education, and income.

### Funding for State and Local Schools

The economic downturn continues to put pressure on citizen pocketbooks and on state legislators to trim government budgets for a wide range of state-supported programs and services. A majority of the public believes that spending on public schools influences education quality; that the schools currently do not have enough funding to meet their needs; and that any cuts in current funding levels would bring major changes to schools in their community. At the same time, a majority believes that the state wastes some or a lot of the money residents pay in taxes.

#### Funding Matters

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

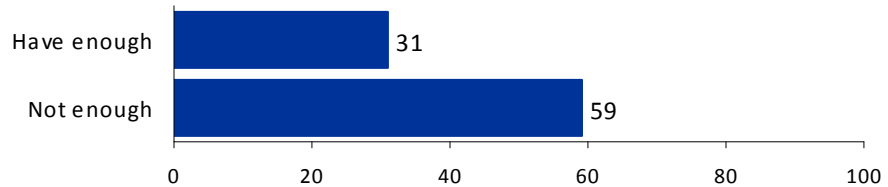
	%
A great deal	42
Quite a lot	26
Not much	20
Not at all	4
Don't know/Refused	<u>7</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2010-2011  
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

Nearly seven-in-ten Virginians (68%) believe that the amount of money spent on the schools affects education quality a great deal or quite a lot. About six-in-ten (59%)

#### Do Schools Have Enough?

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



Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2010-2011  
Don't know responses not shown

Virginians say that schools do not have enough funds to meet their needs while 31% say schools have enough funding now. Those saying school funding is enough is up 4 points from a year ago (27% to 31% today).

Another way to think about school funding adequacy is consider whether cutting budgets would have a significant impact on the schools. The Commonwealth Education Poll asked

#### Would Potential Cuts Matter?

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

	%
Would continue as now	21
Would bring major changes	70
Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2010-2011

respondents their perceptions of this issue. Seven-in-ten believe that a funding cut for education would bring major changes to local schools, 21% believe the schools would continue pretty much as they are now.

Overall, the public sees the financial situation of local schools as about where it was a year ago. About half (49%) say the financial situation of the schools is the same as last year, three-in-ten think things are worse this year and 6% say they are better.

While there is strong public support for school funding, a majority of the public also sees at least some waste in school budgets. 17% say there is “a lot” of waste; 42% say schools waste “some” of the tax dollars going to schools. Three-in-ten believe that schools don’t waste “very much” or don’t waste any funds from the state coffers.

### **Fiscal Evaluation of Local Schools**

*What is the financial situation of schools in your local community? Would you say schools in your community have a better financial situation this year, a worse financial situation or is their financial situation about the same as last year?*

	%
Better this year	6
Worse this year	30
About the same as last year	49
Don't know/Refused	<u>15</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2010-2011  
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

### **Waste Exists Too**

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

	%
Waste a lot	17
Waste some	42
Don't waste very much	18
Don't waste any/none	12
Don't know/Refused	<u>12</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2010-2011  
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

**Mechanisms for Increasing School Funding.** 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 58% 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% saying local government should provide increased funding for the schools. About a quarter of this group (27%) volunteered that both state and local government should provide increased funding. Views about the relative contribution of state and local governments to potential increases in school funding are about the same as a year ago.

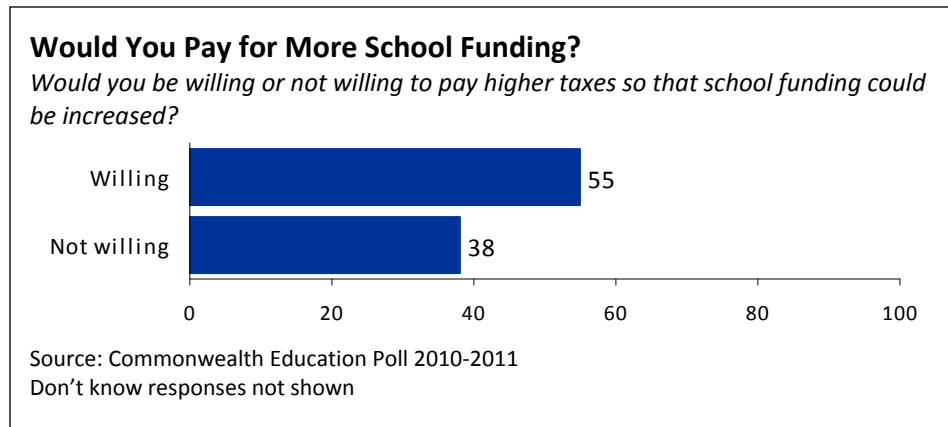
**Who Should Bear the Burden?**  
*Do you think increased funding for the public schools should come from state government or local government?*

*Among those saying not enough*

	%
State government	58
Local government	12
Both (volunteered)	27
Don't know/Refused	4
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2010-2011  
Figures may add to 99 or 101 due to rounding

One way to gauge public support for increasing school funding is to ask about support when the personal costs this would entail, in the form of higher tax bills, are explicit.



When faced with this choice, 55% of Virginians indicate a willingness to pay higher taxes in order to increase school funding, 38% 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 53% said they would be willing to pay more taxes in order to increase school funding. This shows that a majority of citizens express strong support for increasing school funding, even if an increase would entail personal costs. Keep in mind, however, that expressing a *willingness* to pay higher taxes is not the same as *wanting* to pay higher taxes.

When asked to get a little more specific about the kind of tax increase that citizens would see as the best option, a plurality (48%) of those willing to pay more in taxes for a school funding increase says that a sales tax would be best; smaller proportions say an income tax (20%), real estate property tax (15%) or personal property tax (9%) 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*

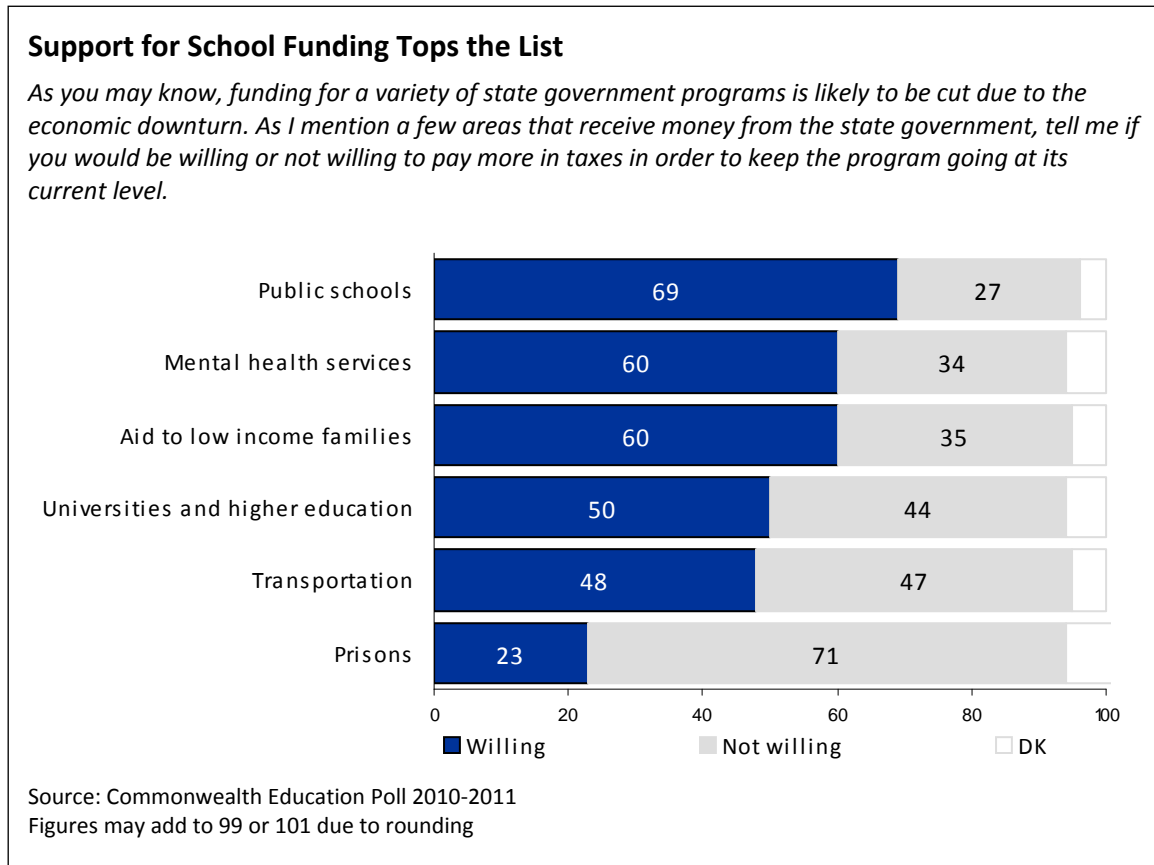
	%
Sales tax	48
Income tax	20
Real estate property tax	15
Personal property tax	9
Don't know/Refused	<u>8</u>
	100

Source: Commonwealth Education Poll 2010-2011



## Funding Priorities for Schools and Other State Programs

Public schools top the list of programs that Virginians say they would be willing to pay higher tax bills for in order to keep program 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; 69% would be willing to pay more in taxes for schools; 27%



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 66% said they were willing to pay more in taxes to keep school funding at its current level.

Willingness to pay for steady funding of programs suggests four gradations in priorities with schools at the top of the list followed by mental health services (60%) and aid to low income families (60%). Fewer, though still a majority or near majority, say they would be willing to pay more in taxes for higher education (50%) or for transportation (48%). And, about a quarter (23%) report a willingness to pay to keep prison funding at its current level. Note that reporting a *willingness* to pay more in taxes in order to maintain state programs at their current funding levels is not the same as expressing a *desire* to pay

more in taxes. These findings help identify public priorities for funding state programs when the potential personal costs from higher tax bills are explicit. The relative priorities expressed about the six programs have been quite similar over the past two years when these questions were first asked.

### **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 2 to 8, 2010 with a randomly-selected sample of 1,002 adults living in Virginia. The interviewing was conducted through the facilities of Princeton Data Source (PDS), a research and polling company located in northern Virginia. They used a staff of professionally trained, paid interviewers and computer-assisted telephone interviewing software to conduct the survey.

The sample of telephone numbers was designed so that all 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 3.6 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 3.6 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 2010-2011**  
State-wide survey of Virginians  
December 2-8, 2010  
Number of Respondents: 1002

Q1. Thinking about the public schools in Virginia AS A WHOLE, would you say that they provide an EXCELLENT, GOOD, FAIR, or POOR education?<sup>2</sup>

	10-11	09-10	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Excellent	17	18	15	17	17	14	11	15	10	11
Good	46	46	46	45	48	50	52	51	50	47
Fair	22	21	25	20	24	24	24	23	26	26
Poor	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	5	4
Don't know	10	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?

	10-11	09-10	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Excellent	26	25	21	27	25	25	21	22	18	18	15
Good	40	42	46	43	45	45	43	46	47	42	44
Fair	20	17	20	18	19	18	22	20	21	22	22
Poor	5	7	6	4	5	6	6	5	8	7	6
Don't know	8	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?

	10-11	09-10	08-09	07-08	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Better	30	30	28	30	31	34	29	32	30	29	33
Worse	11	10	13	12	13	10	14	12	15	16	14
Stayed the same	40	39	40	40	39	36	39	40	37	35	34
Don't Know/Refused	19	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-----				<i>National trend for comparison: Gallup 2007<sup>3</sup></i>
	10-11	09-10	08-09	07-08	
	%	%	%	%	%
Quite a lot	34	37	34	35	38
Some	35	35	39	36	45
Very little	22	20	19	23	16
Nothing at all	7	8	6	6	1
Don't know/Refused	2	0	1	1	0

<sup>2</sup>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%.

<sup>3</sup> Gallup/Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) survey, June 12-29, 2007. N=1,005 adults.

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY:**

Q5A. In your opinion, do the public schools in your community give too much emphasis to teaching science and math, not enough emphasis, or about the right amount of emphasis?<sup>4</sup>

	-----Virginia-----			<i>National trend for comparison: Gallup 2007<sup>5</sup></i>
	10-11	08-09	07-08	
	%	%	%	%
Too much emphasis	3	4	4	2
Not enough emphasis	37	33	34	48
Right amount of emphasis	44	43	43	48
Don't know/Refused	16	19	18	2

**ASK FORM 2:**

Q5B. In your opinion, do the public schools in your community give too much emphasis to teaching science, not enough emphasis, or about the right amount of emphasis?

	10-11
	%
Too much emphasis	1
Not enough emphasis	30
Right amount of emphasis	46
Don't Know/Refused	24

**ASK ALL:**

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

	10-11	08-09
	%	%
Elementary	46	48
Middle	34	33
High school	11	11
All of these/More than one (VOLUNTEERED)	5	4
None of these/Never (VOLUNTEERED)	0	1
Don't Know/Refused	3	4

Q7. Which do you think is the BEST way to increase the number of HIGH SCHOOL students interested in science as a career? (**READ; Randomize options 1-3**)<sup>6</sup>

	10-11
	%
Provide more training in laboratory and field science	38
Create public high schools that specialize in science	10
Increase science teaching at younger ages	38
All of these/More than one (VOLUNTEERED)	5
None of these/Never (VOLUNTEERED)	1
Don't Know/Refused	8

<sup>4</sup>Asked of full sample in 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

<sup>5</sup> Gallup/Phi Delta Kappa (PDK) survey, June 12-29, 2007. N=1,005 adults. Question asked about the "public schools in this community..."

<sup>6</sup> This question was asked in 2008-2009 with no randomization of response options.

Q8. Which do you think is NEEDED MOST for public HIGH SCHOOLS in your community—**[READ AND ROTATE:** better quality instruction in the science and math courses now offered OR more challenging material on science and math]?

	<b>10-11</b>
	%
Better quality instruction in the science and math courses offered now	52
More challenging material in science and math	29
Both (VOLUNTEERED)	5
Neither (VOLUNTEERED)	1
Don't Know/Refused	13

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?

	<b>10-11</b>	<b>09-10</b>	<b>08-09</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
	%	%	%	%	%
A great deal	42	39	43	42	45
Quite a lot	26	30	27	31	26
Not much	20	18	20	18	19
Not at all	4	4	4	2	4
Don't Know/Refused	7	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?

	<b>10-11</b>	<b>09-10</b>	<b>08-09</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Enough	31	27	28	26	20	27	23	21
Not enough	59	63	62	64	69	64	67	70
Don't know/Refused	10	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?

	<b>Among those saying not enough</b>	
	<b>10-11</b>	<b>09-10</b>
	%	%
State government	58	54
Local government	12	12
Both (VOLUNTEERED)	27	26
Don't Know/Refused	4	7

**ASK ALL:**

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

	<b>10-11</b>	<b>09-10</b>	<b>08-09</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Willing	55	53	55	55	57	61	60	57
Not willing	38	41	37	38	36	34	34	36
Don't know/Refused	7	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? **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 through 4] (IF R SELECTS MORE THAN ONE, PROBE: “Which ONE do you think would be BEST?” IF STILL COMBO, CODE AS DK/REF.)**

	-----Among those willing to pay higher taxes-----							
	10-11	09-10	08-09	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Sales tax	48	49	48	49	58	54	58	47
Income tax	20	18	18	15	13	14	14	16
Real estate property tax	15	12	14	13	15	13	10	16
Personal property tax	9	12	10	14	7	10	11	13
Don't know/Refused	8	9	9	9	7	10	6	9

**ASK ALL:**

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

	10-11	08-09	2005	2004	2003
	%	%	%	%	%
Continue as they are now	21	21	25	23	22
Would bring major changes	70	71	67	70	70
Don't know/Refused	9	8	9	7	7

Q15. What is the financial situation of schools in your local community? Would you say the schools in your community have a better financial situation this year, a worse financial situation or is their financial situation about the same as last year?

	10-11
	%
Better this year	6
Worse this year	30
About the same as last year	49
Don't know/Refused	15

Q16. As you may know, funding for a variety of state government programs and services is likely to be cut due to the economic downturn.<sup>7</sup> 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?

	<b>Willing</b>	<b>Not willing</b>	<b>DK</b>
	%	%	%
a. Public schools	69	27	4
09-10	66	31	3
08-09	68	28	3
b. Mental health services	60	34	6
09-10	61	34	5
08-09	62	31	8
c. Public universities and higher education <sup>8</sup>	50	44	6
09-10	48	49	3
08-09	46	49	5
d. Prisons	23	71	7
09-10	25	69	6
08-09	24	68	7
e. Programs for aid to low-income families	60	35	5
09-10	59	36	4
08-09	61	33	7
f. Transportation	48	47	5
09-10	46	50	4
08-09	48	46	5

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

	<b>10-11</b>
	%
Waste a lot	17
Waste some	42
Doesn't waste very much	18
Don't waste any/None	12
Don't Know/Refused	12

#### **NO QUESTIONS 18 THROUGH 21**

<sup>7</sup> Question referenced "recent economic downturn" in 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 surveys.

<sup>8</sup> The item referred to "universities and higher education" in 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 surveys.

\* A similar question was asked in 2009-2010 with three response categories: waste a lot, waste some, and don't waste very much.



**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-----		<i>National trend for comparison CNN 2009<sup>9</sup></i>
	10-11	09-10	
	%	%	%
Should get paid more	46	36	50
Should not get paid more	39	52	48
Don't Know/Refused	15	12	2

**NO QUESTION 23**

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?

	10-11	09-10
	%	%
Favor	35	37
Oppose	48	48
Don't Know/Refused	16	16

**NO QUESTIONS 25 THROUGH 28**

Q29. 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?

		<b>Good job</b>	<b>Bad job</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
		%	%	%
a. Providing skills that will be useful in obtaining a job?		53	34	12
	09-10	61	25	14
b. In teaching the basics such as reading, writing, and mathematics?		73	18	9
	09-10	75	16	9
c. In providing the skills needed for pursuing a 4-year college degree?		66	21	13
	09-10	70	19	12
d. In providing the skills needed for pursuing a vocational or a technical career?		58	26	16
	09-10	64	21	16
e. In preparing students for the workforce needs of the future?		54	33	14
	09-10	59	29	13

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

Q30. In thinking about the skills taught in the public schools in Virginia, which of these do you think is the MOST IMPORTANT for preparing students for the workforce needs of the future...[READ; RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 through 5]

ASK IF ANY RESPONSE 1-5 IN Q30: Q31. Which of these do you think is the NEXT MOST IMPORTANT for preparing students for the workforce needs of the future...[READ IN SAME ORDER as Q30—omit response option given above.]

	Responding MOST IMPORTANT
	10-11
	%
Math, science and technology skills	32
Reasoning and problem solving	23
Writing and communicating effectively	23
Working with diverse cultures	4
Creative thinking	11
Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	7
	Responding
	MOST OR NEXT MOST IMPORTANT*
	10-11
	% of all responses
Math, science and technology skills	27
Reasoning and problem solving	24
Writing and communicating effectively	25
Working with diverse cultures	6
Creative thinking	13
Don't Know/Refused (DO NOT READ)	5

QUESTIONS Q32 THROUGH 44 RELEASED SEPARATELY: SEE REPORT ON HIGHER EDUCATION at

<http://www.cepionline.org/>

Tables of Results by Selected Subgroups<sup>10</sup>

		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		17%	46%	22%	5%	10%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	10%	47%	24%	9%	10%	161
	Northern VA	28%	50%	12%	1%	9%	238
	West	14%	42%	30%	4%	10%	202
	South Central	12%	50%	24%	4%	10%	177
	Tidewater	14%	43%	24%	9%	10%	224
Gender	Men	16%	45%	23%	5%	11%	475
	Women	18%	48%	21%	5%	8%	527
Age	18-34	17%	44%	26%	3%	9%	193
	35-44	19%	53%	16%	6%	7%	126
	45-64	16%	48%	22%	5%	10%	406
	65 and older	15%	40%	24%	6%	14%	240
Education	H.S. or less	13%	42%	27%	6%	11%	343
	Some college	14%	51%	25%	4%	5%	222
	College grad or more	23%	49%	14%	4%	11%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	14%	44%	27%	5%	10%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	16%	50%	22%	5%	8%	278
	\$100,000 or more	28%	49%	15%	1%	7%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	25%	46%	21%	7%	2%	336
	Some	14%	53%	23%	4%	5%	365
	Very little or nothing	11%	39%	22%	4%	24%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	22%	52%	21%	3%	2%	102
	No	17%	46%	22%	5%	10%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	18%	50%	23%	5%	4%	242
	No	16%	45%	22%	5%	12%	758
Party identification	Democrat	19%	47%	25%	4%	6%	307
	Republican	17%	52%	18%	5%	9%	266
	Independent	15%	47%	23%	5%	10%	309

<sup>10</sup> 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		26%	40%	20%	5%	8%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	13%	45%	27%	8%	8%	161
	Northern VA	43%	37%	9%	1%	10%	238
	West	21%	38%	29%	6%	5%	202
	South Central	23%	46%	19%	7%	5%	177
	Tidewater	22%	39%	23%	7%	10%	224
Gender	Men	26%	39%	21%	6%	9%	475
	Women	27%	41%	20%	5%	7%	527
Age	18-34	27%	34%	23%	5%	11%	193
	35-44	29%	42%	18%	6%	5%	126
	45-64	23%	45%	19%	5%	7%	406
	65 and older	26%	39%	20%	6%	8%	240
Education	H.S. or less	21%	39%	25%	6%	9%	343
	Some college	23%	46%	23%	6%	3%	222
	College grad or more	34%	38%	13%	5%	9%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	19%	42%	25%	5%	9%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	24%	43%	21%	6%	6%	278
	\$100,000 or more	43%	35%	13%	2%	7%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	40%	34%	19%	7%	1%	336
	Some	23%	48%	22%	5%	2%	365
	Very little or nothing	14%	38%	20%	4%	24%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	34%	45%	17%	1%	3%	102
	No	26%	40%	21%	6%	8%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	30%	39%	23%	7%	2%	242
	No	25%	41%	19%	5%	10%	758
Party identification	Democrat	28%	40%	21%	6%	4%	307
	Republican	28%	43%	16%	6%	8%	266
	Independent	24%	41%	22%	4%	9%	309

		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%	11%	40%	19%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	29%	10%	44%	18%	161
	Northern VA	27%	10%	37%	26%	238
	West	29%	13%	46%	12%	202
	South Central	34%	10%	38%	18%	177
	Tidewater	31%	14%	38%	18%	224
Gender	Men	29%	10%	44%	17%	475
	Women	31%	13%	35%	21%	527
Age	18-34	35%	10%	34%	21%	193
	35-44	27%	11%	42%	19%	126
	45-64	29%	14%	43%	14%	406
	65 and older	29%	9%	38%	24%	240
Education	H.S. or less	32%	9%	41%	17%	343
	Some college	37%	16%	35%	13%	222
	College grad or more	23%	12%	41%	25%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	33%	9%	40%	19%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	29%	16%	37%	19%	278
	\$100,000 or more	22%	12%	47%	18%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	38%	16%	42%	4%	336
	Some	28%	14%	44%	13%	365
	Very little or nothing	21%	3%	33%	43%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	42%	9%	36%	12%	102
	No	29%	12%	40%	20%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	31%	13%	48%	9%	242
	No	30%	11%	36%	23%	758
Party identification	Democrat	33%	12%	38%	17%	307
	Republican	28%	11%	41%	20%	266
	Independent	29%	11%	43%	17%	309

		Q4. How much do you know about the local schools – quite a lot, some, very little, or nothing at all?					
		Quite a lot	Some	Very little	Nothing at all	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		34%	35%	22%	7%	2%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	35%	31%	27%	6%	1%	161
	Northern VA	32%	37%	22%	6%	2%	238
	West	34%	38%	17%	8%	3%	202
	South Central	29%	42%	22%	6%	1%	177
	Tidewater	39%	29%	22%	9%	1%	224
Gender	Men	31%	36%	24%	7%	2%	475
	Women	36%	35%	20%	7%	1%	527
Age	18-34	30%	37%	25%	7%	0%	193
	35-44	46%	38%	12%	4%	1%	126
	45-64	37%	36%	19%	7%	1%	406
	65 and older	19%	30%	33%	11%	6%	240
Education	H.S. or less	27%	33%	29%	10%	1%	343
	Some college	37%	42%	16%	2%	2%	222
	College grad or more	40%	35%	18%	6%	1%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	30%	36%	26%	7%	1%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	35%	36%	22%	5%	1%	278
	\$100,000 or more	45%	36%	13%	6%	0%	223
School employee or retiree?	Yes	70%	19%	10%		1%	102
	No	31%	37%	23%	8%	2%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	55%	30%	12%	2%	1%	242
	No	25%	37%	26%	9%	2%	758
Party identification	Democrat	39%	36%	21%	3%	1%	307
	Republican	34%	36%	20%	9%	2%	266
	Independent	33%	34%	25%	7%	2%	309

ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE		Q5A. In your opinion, do the public schools in your community give too much emphasis to teaching science and math, not enough emphasis, or about the right amount of emphasis?				Number of cases
		Too much emphasis	Not enough emphasis	Right amount of emphasis	Don't know	
All adults		3%	37%	44%	16%	522
Gender	Men	3%	41%	40%	16%	234
	Women	3%	33%	48%	16%	288
Education	H.S. or less	4%	30%	45%	21%	178
	Some college	4%	34%	48%	14%	121
	College grad or more	0%	48%	41%	11%	218
Family Income	Under \$50,000	5%	35%	45%	16%	177
	50K to under \$100,000	4%	42%	45%	10%	143
	\$100,000 or more	1%	37%	44%	17%	107
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	3%	41%	54%	2%	174
	Some	2%	38%	50%	10%	188
	Very little or nothing	4%	30%	29%	38%	150
Parent of public school student?	Yes	3%	39%	52%	5%	130
	No	3%	35%	41%	21%	392
Party identification	Democrat	5%	39%	43%	13%	166
	Republican	2%	32%	53%	13%	124
	Independent	2%	44%	39%	15%	170

		Q5B. In your opinion, do the public schools in your community give too much emphasis to teaching science, not enough emphasis, or about the right amount of emphasis?				
ASKED OF HALF SAMPLE		Too much emphasis	Not enough emphasis	Right amount of emphasis	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		1%	30%	46%	24%	480
Gender	Men	1%	32%	43%	24%	241
	Women	1%	27%	49%	23%	239
Education	H.S. or less	2%	22%	54%	23%	165
	Some college	2%	27%	55%	17%	101
	College grad or more	1%	38%	33%	29%	208
Family Income	Under \$50,000	2%	24%	53%	21%	139
	50K to under \$100,000	1%	34%	41%	23%	135
	\$100,000 or more		31%	44%	25%	116
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	2%	33%	60%	5%	162
	Some	1%	33%	46%	20%	177
	Very little or nothing	1%	23%	28%	49%	133
Parent of public school student?	Yes	2%	31%	60%	7%	112
	No	1%	29%	41%	29%	366
Party identification	Democrat	1%	34%	53%	12%	141
	Republican	1%	25%	45%	29%	142
	Independent	1%	34%	44%	21%	139



		Q6. Thinking just about science, when do you think it is MOST important for schools to increase their emphasis on science – in elementary school, middle school, or high school?						
		Elementary	Middle	High school	(VOL.) All of these/More than one	(VOL.) None of these/Never	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		46%	34%	11%	5%	0%	3%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	44%	33%	14%	6%		2%	161
	Northern VA	52%	28%	11%	5%	1%	3%	238
	West	38%	42%	8%	7%	0%	5%	202
	South Central	47%	33%	15%	4%		1%	177
	Tidewater	45%	37%	10%	5%	1%	2%	224
Gender	Men	41%	37%	13%	5%	1%	4%	475
	Women	51%	32%	9%	5%	0%	2%	527
Age	18-34	38%	36%	17%	7%	0%	0%	193
	35-44	54%	29%	8%	4%	1%	4%	126
	45-64	50%	33%	9%	4%	1%	4%	406
	65 and older	39%	41%	11%	5%	1%	3%	240
Education	H.S. or less	34%	41%	16%	5%		4%	343
	Some college	52%	31%	8%	5%	2%	1%	222
	College grad or more	56%	27%	8%	6%	0%	3%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	38%	37%	17%	6%	0%	2%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	55%	35%	4%	4%		2%	278
	\$100,000 or more	52%	28%	12%	4%	1%	3%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	51%	31%	8%	6%	1%	2%	336
	Some	47%	35%	10%	5%		2%	365
	Very little or nothing	40%	37%	15%	4%	0%	4%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	51%	35%	5%	7%		2%	102
	No	45%	34%	12%	5%	1%	3%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	52%	33%	7%	5%	1%	2%	242
	No	43%	35%	13%	6%	0%	3%	758
Party identification	Democrat	48%	35%	11%	4%	0%	2%	307
	Republican	43%	39%	13%	2%	0%	2%	266
	Independent	49%	31%	11%	8%	0%	2%	309

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

		Provide more training in laboratory and field science	Create public high schools that specialize in science	Increase science teaching at younger ages	(VOL.) All of these/More than one	(VOL.) None of these	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		38%	10%	38%	5%	1%	8%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	34%	13%	37%	5%	1%	11%	161
	Northern VA	34%	9%	44%	6%	1%	6%	238
	West	43%	8%	32%	5%	1%	12%	202
	South Central	35%	8%	43%	5%	1%	7%	177
	Tidewater	43%	11%	32%	4%	1%	8%	224
Gender	Men	40%	12%	37%	3%	1%	8%	475
	Women	37%	7%	39%	8%	1%	9%	527
Age	18-34	47%	14%	31%	3%	0%	6%	193
	35-44	41%	8%	36%	5%	1%	8%	126
	45-64	36%	8%	41%	6%	1%	8%	406
	65 and older	25%	9%	42%	8%	1%	15%	240
Education	H.S. or less	37%	10%	34%	4%	0%	14%	343
	Some college	40%	10%	38%	3%	2%	7%	222
	College grad or more	38%	9%	42%	7%	1%	2%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	35%	11%	40%	4%	1%	10%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	47%	9%	34%	4%	0%	6%	278
	\$100,000 or more	32%	13%	40%	9%	3%	4%	223
School employee or retiree?	Yes	42%	5%	33%	11%	2%	6%	102
	No	38%	10%	38%	5%	1%	8%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	43%	10%	35%	5%	1%	5%	242
	No	36%	10%	39%	5%	1%	10%	758
Party identification	Democrat	39%	14%	37%	5%	1%	5%	307
	Republican	38%	7%	37%	5%	1%	11%	266
	Independent	40%	9%	39%	5%	1%	6%	309

		Q8. Which do you think is NEEDED MOST for public HIGH SCHOOLS in your community—[READ AND ROTATE 1-2]?					
		Better quality instruction in the science and math courses now offered	More challenging material on science and math	(VOL.) Both	(VOL.) Neither	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		52%	29%	5%	1%	13%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	54%	29%	3%	2%	11%	161
	Northern VA	49%	26%	6%	1%	17%	238
	West	52%	29%	6%	1%	11%	202
	South Central	57%	27%	3%	1%	12%	177
	Tidewater	49%	34%	4%	2%	11%	224
Gender	Men	53%	30%	5%	1%	12%	475
	Women	51%	28%	5%	2%	14%	527
Age	18-34	60%	26%	3%		11%	193
	35-44	49%	31%	7%	3%	10%	126
	45-64	51%	32%	5%	1%	10%	406
	65 and older	43%	26%	5%	3%	24%	240
Education	H.S. or less	51%	33%	3%	0%	12%	343
	Some college	54%	30%	6%	0%	9%	222
	College grad or more	51%	24%	6%	4%	15%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	50%	36%	3%	1%	10%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	52%	31%	5%	0%	11%	278
	\$100,000 or more	54%	23%	8%	3%	12%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	56%	30%	6%	2%	6%	336
	Some	60%	25%	4%	1%	10%	365
	Very little or nothing	39%	34%	5%	0%	22%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	43%	38%	3%	6%	10%	102
	No	52%	28%	5%	1%	13%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	60%	26%	5%	2%	7%	242
	No	48%	31%	5%	1%	15%	758
Party identification	Democrat	55%	30%	4%	1%	11%	307
	Republican	56%	26%	5%	1%	12%	266
	Independent	51%	30%	6%	2%	10%	309

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?

		A great deal	Quite a lot	Not too much	Not at all	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		42%	26%	20%	4%	7%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	37%	24%	25%	3%	11%	161
	Northern VA	40%	32%	19%	3%	6%	238
	West	41%	26%	22%	3%	8%	202
	South Central	38%	27%	20%	7%	8%	177
	Tidewater	51%	21%	17%	5%	5%	224
Gender	Men	38%	26%	25%	4%	6%	475
	Women	46%	26%	16%	4%	8%	527
Age	18-34	41%	27%	21%	7%	4%	193
	35-44	52%	26%	15%	3%	4%	126
	45-64	40%	26%	22%	3%	8%	406
	65 and older	35%	24%	22%	4%	15%	240
Education	H.S. or less	37%	27%	24%	4%	8%	343
	Some college	51%	22%	15%	4%	8%	222
	College grad or more	43%	28%	19%	4%	7%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	44%	22%	21%	5%	8%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	44%	27%	21%	3%	4%	278
	\$100,000 or more	49%	32%	13%	3%	4%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	48%	27%	18%	4%	3%	336
	Some	41%	28%	21%	3%	6%	365
	Very little or nothing	37%	25%	22%	5%	11%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	56%	21%	17%	1%	4%	102
	No	41%	27%	21%	4%	7%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	47%	25%	18%	3%	6%	242
	No	40%	27%	21%	5%	7%	758
Party identification	Democrat	46%	30%	16%	2%	6%	307
	Republican	42%	24%	25%	3%	6%	266
	Independent	42%	25%	20%	5%	6%	309

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		31%	59%	10%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	29%	61%	10%	161
	Northern VA	40%	47%	13%	238
	West	26%	64%	9%	202
	South Central	35%	59%	6%	177
	Tidewater	21%	68%	11%	224
Gender	Men	39%	50%	11%	475
	Women	23%	68%	9%	527
Age	18-34	37%	52%	11%	193
	35-44	20%	71%	10%	126
	45-64	31%	63%	6%	406
	65 and older	31%	52%	17%	240
Education	H.S. or less	30%	61%	10%	343
	Some college	28%	65%	7%	222
	College grad or more	34%	54%	12%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	29%	62%	9%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	33%	59%	8%	278
	\$100,000 or more	31%	57%	11%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	30%	64%	6%	336
	Some	30%	65%	6%	365
	Very little or nothing	33%	48%	19%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	23%	76%	1%	102
	No	32%	58%	11%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	26%	67%	6%	242
	No	33%	56%	11%	758
Party identification	Democrat	24%	69%	7%	307
	Republican	38%	52%	10%	266
	Independent	34%	55%	11%	309

		Q12. Would you be willing or not willing to pay higher taxes so that school funding could be increased?			
		Willing	Not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		55%	38%	7%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	49%	46%	5%	161
	Northern VA	57%	38%	5%	238
	West	50%	40%	11%	202
	South Central	57%	39%	3%	177
	Tidewater	57%	34%	9%	224
Gender	Men	52%	42%	5%	475
	Women	57%	35%	8%	527
Age	18-34	56%	35%	9%	193
	35-44	64%	28%	8%	126
	45-64	55%	42%	3%	406
	65 and older	45%	44%	10%	240
Education	H.S. or less	43%	49%	8%	343
	Some college	66%	28%	7%	222
	College grad or more	61%	33%	6%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	52%	40%	8%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	62%	34%	5%	278
	\$100,000 or more	62%	32%	6%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	61%	35%	4%	336
	Some	55%	37%	8%	365
	Very little or nothing	46%	44%	10%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	62%	34%	4%	102
	No	54%	39%	7%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	62%	32%	5%	242
	No	52%	41%	8%	758
Party identification	Democrat	62%	30%	8%	307
	Republican	45%	49%	6%	266
	Independent	55%	39%	6%	309

		Q14. Suppose state funding for education were cut, do you think the schools in your community would be able to continue pretty much as they are now, OR do you think this would bring major changes to the schools in your community?			
		Would continue as they are now	Would bring major changes	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		21%	70%	9%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	26%	65%	9%	161
	Northern VA	25%	64%	11%	238
	West	20%	72%	8%	202
	South Central	22%	71%	7%	177
	Tidewater	14%	76%	10%	224
Gender	Men	23%	66%	11%	475
	Women	19%	73%	8%	527
Age	18-34	25%	66%	10%	193
	35-44	12%	80%	8%	126
	45-64	22%	72%	7%	406
	65 and older	22%	64%	14%	240
Education	H.S. or less	20%	70%	10%	343
	Some college	20%	74%	6%	222
	College grad or more	23%	67%	9%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	20%	72%	8%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	25%	71%	4%	278
	\$100,000 or more	25%	64%	11%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	19%	77%	4%	336
	Some	22%	70%	8%	365
	Very little or nothing	22%	62%	16%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	14%	78%	8%	102
	No	22%	69%	9%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	20%	75%	5%	242
	No	22%	68%	11%	758
Party identification	Democrat	16%	77%	8%	307
	Republican	31%	61%	7%	266
	Independent	21%	72%	7%	309

		Q15. Would you say the local schools in your community have a better financial situation this year, a worse financial situation or is their financial situation about the same as last year?				
		Better this year	Worse this year	About the same as last year	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		6%	30%	49%	15%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	6%	33%	42%	19%	161
	Northern VA	7%	31%	47%	16%	238
	West	3%	31%	54%	12%	202
	South Central	7%	27%	52%	13%	177
	Tidewater	8%	27%	49%	16%	224
Gender	Men	7%	26%	52%	15%	475
	Women	6%	33%	46%	16%	527
Age	18-34	9%	25%	52%	15%	193
	35-44	6%	38%	44%	13%	126
	45-64	4%	32%	51%	13%	406
	65 and older	6%	21%	48%	25%	240
Education	H.S. or less	10%	21%	53%	17%	343
	Some college	4%	35%	47%	14%	222
	College grad or more	3%	36%	46%	15%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	8%	20%	57%	15%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	5%	32%	50%	13%	278
	\$100,000 or more	3%	44%	41%	13%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	9%	37%	51%	3%	336
	Some	4%	33%	51%	12%	365
	Very little or nothing	6%	17%	44%	33%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	5%	51%	35%	8%	102
	No	6%	28%	50%	16%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	6%	38%	48%	8%	242
	No	6%	26%	49%	18%	758
Party identification	Democrat	6%	33%	49%	11%	307
	Republican	8%	30%	51%	11%	266
	Independent	4%	29%	49%	19%	309



Q16a. 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:

**Public schools**

		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		69%	27%	4%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	68%	30%	3%	161
	Northern VA	68%	28%	4%	238
	West	67%	25%	8%	202
	South Central	71%	26%	3%	177
	Tidewater	72%	24%	3%	224
Gender	Men	66%	30%	4%	475
	Women	73%	23%	4%	527
Age	18-34	72%	24%	3%	193
	35-44	80%	17%	2%	126
	45-64	68%	28%	4%	406
	65 and older	61%	31%	8%	240
Education	H.S. or less	64%	31%	5%	343
	Some college	75%	22%	3%	222
	College grad or more	73%	23%	4%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	69%	26%	5%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	74%	25%	1%	278
	\$100,000 or more	74%	23%	3%	223
School employee or retiree?	Yes	75%	22%	3%	102
	No	69%	27%	4%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	75%	23%	1%	242
	No	67%	28%	5%	758
Party identification	Democrat	80%	18%	2%	307
	Republican	60%	38%	2%	266
	Independent	69%	28%	4%	309

Q16b. 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:

**Mental health services**

		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		60%	34%	6%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	57%	38%	5%	161
	Northern VA	59%	35%	6%	238
	West	55%	36%	9%	202
	South Central	61%	35%	4%	177
	Tidewater	68%	29%	4%	224
Gender	Men	57%	39%	4%	475
	Women	63%	30%	7%	527
Age	18-34	65%	31%	4%	193
	35-44	64%	32%	4%	126
	45-64	58%	38%	5%	406
	65 and older	58%	30%	12%	240
Education	H.S. or less	57%	37%	7%	343
	Some college	67%	29%	4%	222
	College grad or more	61%	33%	5%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	66%	29%	5%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	60%	36%	5%	278
	\$100,000 or more	61%	35%	4%	223
Party identification	Democrat	72%	25%	3%	307
	Republican	51%	45%	4%	266
	Independent	57%	37%	6%	309

Q16c. 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:

**Public universities and higher education**

		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		50%	44%	6%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	44%	52%	4%	161
	Northern VA	54%	42%	3%	238
	West	46%	43%	11%	202
	South Central	48%	47%	5%	177
	Tidewater	55%	39%	6%	224
Gender	Men	50%	46%	4%	475
	Women	50%	43%	7%	527
Age	18-34	56%	41%	4%	193
	35-44	60%	39%	2%	126
	45-64	50%	47%	3%	406
	65 and older	36%	47%	17%	240
Education	H.S. or less	47%	45%	9%	343
	Some college	55%	40%	4%	222
	College grad or more	52%	45%	3%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	52%	42%	7%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	54%	45%	1%	278
	\$100,000 or more	55%	43%	2%	223
Party identification	Democrat	65%	31%	4%	307
	Republican	40%	56%	4%	266
	Independent	46%	48%	6%	309

Q16d. 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:

**Prisons**

		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		23%	71%	7%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	20%	69%	11%	161
	Northern VA	18%	77%	5%	238
	West	27%	66%	7%	202
	South Central	27%	69%	4%	177
	Tidewater	23%	69%	7%	224
Gender	Men	25%	68%	6%	475
	Women	20%	73%	7%	527
Age	18-34	27%	69%	4%	193
	35-44	17%	76%	7%	126
	45-64	24%	72%	4%	406
	65 and older	22%	62%	16%	240
Education	H.S. or less	21%	70%	9%	343
	Some college	26%	70%	4%	222
	College grad or more	23%	72%	5%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	24%	67%	9%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	27%	71%	2%	278
	\$100,000 or more	21%	74%	4%	223
Party identification	Democrat	25%	72%	3%	307
	Republican	21%	73%	6%	266
	Independent	24%	69%	8%	309

Q16e. 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:

**Programs for aid to low-income families**

		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		60%	35%	5%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	59%	37%	5%	161
	Northern VA	62%	31%	7%	238
	West	58%	33%	8%	202
	South Central	60%	39%	2%	177
	Tidewater	59%	37%	4%	224
Gender	Men	58%	37%	5%	475
	Women	61%	33%	6%	527
Age	18-34	67%	30%	3%	193
	35-44	63%	34%	4%	126
	45-64	58%	38%	4%	406
	65 and older	55%	33%	12%	240
Education	H.S. or less	61%	34%	5%	343
	Some college	59%	36%	5%	222
	College grad or more	59%	35%	6%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	66%	29%	5%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	62%	35%	3%	278
	\$100,000 or more	60%	35%	5%	223
Party identification	Democrat	75%	20%	4%	307
	Republican	45%	50%	5%	266
	Independent	58%	37%	5%	309

Q16f. 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:

**Transportation**

		Yes, willing to pay more in taxes	No, not willing	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		48%	47%	5%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	46%	46%	8%	161
	Northern VA	47%	48%	5%	238
	West	51%	42%	7%	202
	South Central	39%	58%	3%	177
	Tidewater	52%	44%	4%	224
Gender	Men	50%	45%	5%	475
	Women	45%	50%	5%	527
Age	18-34	55%	43%	2%	193
	35-44	48%	50%	2%	126
	45-64	46%	49%	5%	406
	65 and older	39%	48%	13%	240
Education	H.S. or less	46%	48%	7%	343
	Some college	53%	41%	6%	222
	College grad or more	46%	51%	3%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	52%	43%	5%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	47%	50%	3%	278
	\$100,000 or more	50%	47%	3%	223
Party identification	Democrat	57%	39%	5%	307
	Republican	40%	57%	3%	266
	Independent	47%	48%	4%	309

		Q17. All in all, do you think the public schools IN VIRGINIA waste a lot of money that residents pay in taxes, waste some, don't waste very much or don't waste any of it?					
		Waste a lot	Waste some	Don't waste very much	Don't waste any	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		17%	42%	18%	12%	12%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	19%	43%	20%	8%	9%	161
	Northern VA	9%	47%	19%	12%	13%	238
	West	21%	44%	11%	12%	11%	202
	South Central	20%	39%	17%	14%	10%	177
	Tidewater	19%	35%	21%	12%	13%	224
Gender	Men	17%	39%	22%	11%	11%	475
	Women	17%	45%	14%	12%	12%	527
Age	18-34	13%	46%	18%	11%	12%	193
	35-44	13%	43%	19%	14%	11%	126
	45-64	19%	40%	21%	11%	9%	406
	65 and older	21%	36%	13%	14%	16%	240
Education	H.S. or less	22%	38%	14%	13%	14%	343
	Some college	11%	50%	15%	15%	10%	222
	College grad or more	15%	41%	25%	9%	10%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	16%	42%	15%	13%	13%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	20%	45%	19%	9%	7%	278
	\$100,000 or more	12%	39%	28%	11%	10%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	21%	40%	20%	14%	5%	336
	Some	17%	47%	18%	10%	8%	365
	Very little or nothing	12%	39%	15%	11%	23%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	19%	42%	22%	13%	5%	102
	No	17%	42%	18%	12%	12%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	15%	42%	19%	15%	9%	242
	No	18%	41%	18%	11%	13%	758
Party identification	Democrat	12%	45%	24%	11%	9%	307
	Republican	20%	44%	16%	10%	9%	266
	Independent	20%	39%	17%	13%	11%	309

		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		46%	39%	15%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	42%	40%	19%	161
	Northern VA	45%	40%	14%	238
	West	48%	34%	18%	202
	South Central	45%	41%	14%	177
	Tidewater	47%	41%	12%	224
Gender	Men	54%	31%	15%	475
	Women	38%	47%	15%	527
Age	18-34	41%	47%	12%	193
	35-44	43%	42%	15%	126
	45-64	54%	34%	12%	406
	65 and older	41%	34%	26%	240
Education	H.S. or less	48%	34%	18%	343
	Some college	47%	37%	16%	222
	College grad or more	42%	47%	12%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	45%	37%	18%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	51%	39%	10%	278
	\$100,000 or more	48%	41%	10%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	47%	42%	11%	336
	Some	44%	41%	14%	365
	Very little or nothing	46%	34%	21%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	25%	68%	7%	102
	No	47%	37%	16%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	52%	40%	9%	242
	No	43%	39%	18%	758
Party identification	Democrat	50%	38%	12%	307
	Republican	46%	41%	13%	266
	Independent	46%	39%	15%	309



Q24. 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.

Do you favor/oppose offering tenure to teachers?

		Favor	Oppose	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		35%	48%	16%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	32%	44%	24%	161
	Northern VA	39%	49%	11%	238
	West	35%	44%	21%	202
	South Central	34%	52%	14%	177
	Tidewater	34%	50%	15%	224
Gender	Men	36%	49%	15%	475
	Women	35%	48%	17%	527
Age	18-34	38%	44%	18%	193
	35-44	40%	46%	14%	126
	45-64	35%	54%	11%	406
	65 and older	29%	44%	27%	240
Education	H.S. or less	34%	42%	23%	343
	Some college	42%	46%	13%	222
	College grad or more	33%	56%	10%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	41%	41%	18%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	36%	53%	10%	278
	\$100,000 or more	30%	61%	10%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	41%	46%	13%	336
	Some	38%	49%	13%	365
	Very little or nothing	27%	51%	22%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	45%	47%	8%	102
	No	35%	48%	17%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	37%	48%	15%	242
	No	35%	48%	17%	758
Party identification	Democrat	45%	41%	14%	307
	Republican	33%	54%	14%	266
	Independent	31%	57%	12%	309

Q29a. OVERALL, do you think the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job or a bad job in this area: **In providing skills that will be useful in obtaining a job?**

		Good job	Bad job	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		53%	34%	12%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	46%	38%	15%	161
	Northern VA	66%	22%	12%	238
	West	50%	39%	11%	202
	South Central	50%	42%	8%	177
	Tidewater	48%	37%	15%	224
Gender	Men	52%	35%	12%	475
	Women	55%	33%	12%	527
Age	18-34	54%	35%	11%	193
	35-44	55%	34%	11%	126
	45-64	54%	38%	8%	406
	65 and older	49%	27%	24%	240
Education	H.S. or less	51%	36%	13%	343
	Some college	56%	35%	9%	222
	College grad or more	55%	32%	13%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	53%	36%	11%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	55%	36%	8%	278
	\$100,000 or more	53%	34%	13%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	58%	39%	4%	336
	Some	53%	40%	7%	365
	Very little or nothing	49%	24%	28%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	52%	42%	6%	102
	No	54%	34%	13%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	56%	39%	5%	242
	No	52%	33%	15%	758
Party identification	Democrat	54%	37%	9%	307
	Republican	61%	33%	6%	266
	Independent	50%	37%	14%	309

Q29b. OVERALL, do you think the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job or a bad job in this area: **In teaching the basics such as reading, writing, and mathematics?**

		Good job	Bad job	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		73%	18%	9%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	68%	21%	11%	161
	Northern VA	79%	9%	12%	238
	West	70%	21%	8%	202
	South Central	74%	22%	4%	177
	Tidewater	71%	19%	9%	224
Gender	Men	72%	17%	11%	475
	Women	74%	18%	8%	527
Age	18-34	85%	8%	7%	193
	35-44	77%	16%	7%	126
	45-64	71%	23%	7%	406
	65 and older	55%	25%	20%	240
Education	H.S. or less	73%	16%	10%	343
	Some college	75%	21%	4%	222
	College grad or more	71%	18%	11%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	72%	18%	9%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	76%	20%	5%	278
	\$100,000 or more	76%	13%	11%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	80%	18%	1%	336
	Some	75%	20%	5%	365
	Very little or nothing	63%	14%	22%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	82%	16%	2%	102
	No	72%	18%	10%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	83%	15%	2%	242
	No	69%	19%	12%	758
Party identification	Democrat	78%	16%	6%	307
	Republican	72%	21%	7%	266
	Independent	73%	17%	10%	309

Q29c. OVERALL, do you think the public schools in  
Virginia are doing a good job or a bad job in this  
area: **In providing the skills needed for pursuing a  
4-year college degree?**

		Good job	Bad job	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		66%	21%	13%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	64%	25%	12%	161
	Northern VA	79%	9%	13%	238
	West	60%	27%	13%	202
	South Central	64%	27%	9%	177
	Tidewater	61%	22%	17%	224
Gender	Men	68%	19%	13%	475
	Women	65%	22%	13%	527
Age	18-34	70%	19%	10%	193
	35-44	67%	18%	15%	126
	45-64	66%	24%	11%	406
	65 and older	60%	19%	21%	240
Education	H.S. or less	66%	21%	14%	343
	Some college	66%	23%	10%	222
	College grad or more	67%	20%	13%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	65%	23%	12%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	66%	26%	8%	278
	\$100,000 or more	79%	11%	10%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	72%	25%	3%	336
	Some	66%	23%	11%	365
	Very little or nothing	61%	12%	26%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	76%	18%	5%	102
	No	66%	21%	14%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	66%	24%	10%	242
	No	67%	19%	14%	758
Party identification	Democrat	69%	22%	9%	307
	Republican	69%	22%	9%	266
	Independent	68%	19%	13%	309

Q29d. OVERALL, do you think the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job or a bad job in this area: **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		58%	26%	16%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	54%	34%	12%	161
	Northern VA	54%	22%	24%	238
	West	61%	26%	14%	202
	South Central	61%	27%	12%	177
	Tidewater	60%	25%	15%	224
Gender	Men	53%	28%	18%	475
	Women	62%	24%	15%	527
Age	18-34	61%	27%	12%	193
	35-44	67%	17%	16%	126
	45-64	56%	30%	14%	406
	65 and older	47%	24%	28%	240
Education	H.S. or less	61%	23%	16%	343
	Some college	58%	31%	11%	222
	College grad or more	53%	27%	20%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	64%	24%	12%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	58%	29%	13%	278
	\$100,000 or more	50%	29%	21%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	59%	32%	9%	336
	Some	64%	25%	11%	365
	Very little or nothing	50%	20%	31%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	55%	36%	8%	102
	No	58%	25%	17%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	65%	24%	11%	242
	No	55%	27%	19%	758
Party identification	Democrat	61%	26%	13%	307
	Republican	65%	22%	13%	266
	Independent	52%	34%	15%	309

Q29e. OVERALL, do you think the public schools in Virginia are doing a good job or a bad job in this area: **In preparing students for the workforce needs of the future?**

		Good job	Bad job	Don't know	Number of cases
All adults		54%	33%	14%	1002
VA Region	Northwest	50%	36%	14%	161
	Northern VA	62%	22%	16%	238
	West	50%	38%	12%	202
	South Central	50%	39%	11%	177
	Tidewater	51%	34%	14%	224
Gender	Men	53%	32%	15%	475
	Women	54%	33%	13%	527
Age	18-34	62%	28%	11%	193
	35-44	49%	37%	14%	126
	45-64	52%	37%	12%	406
	65 and older	49%	29%	22%	240
Education	H.S. or less	56%	31%	13%	343
	Some college	56%	34%	10%	222
	College grad or more	50%	35%	16%	426
Family Income	Under \$50,000	57%	31%	11%	316
	50K to under \$100,000	52%	37%	11%	278
	\$100,000 or more	54%	31%	15%	223
Knowledge about local schools	Quite a lot	57%	37%	6%	336
	Some	53%	37%	10%	365
	Very little or nothing	50%	22%	28%	283
School employee or retiree?	Yes	55%	39%	6%	102
	No	53%	32%	14%	896
Parent of public school student?	Yes	57%	37%	6%	242
	No	52%	31%	17%	758
Party identification	Democrat	55%	33%	11%	307
	Republican	58%	31%	10%	266
	Independent	53%	35%	13%	309