



COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION POLL

*Conducted for the Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute
Conducted by the VCU Center for Public Policy/Survey and Evaluation
Research Laboratory (SERL)*

Public Opinion in Virginia on Schools and Education November 2005

Contact:

William C. Bosher, Jr., Executive Director, Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute (CEPI)
(804) 827-3290

David J. Urban, Director, The Commonwealth Poll, and Interim Director, Survey and Evaluation
Research Laboratory (SERL) (804) 828-2189 or djurban@vcu.edu

Michael D. Pratt, Director, VCU Center for Public Policy (804) 828-6837

Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute
P.O. Box 842020
Richmond, VA 23284-2020
(804) 827-3290

Email: cepi@vcu.edu

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



COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION POLL

Conducted for the Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute. Conducted by the VCU Center for Public Policy/Survey and Evaluation Research Laboratory (SERL).

Contact:

William C. Boshier, Jr., Executive Director, Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute (CEPI) (804) 827-3290

David J. Urban, Director, The Commonwealth Poll, and Interim Director, Survey and Evaluation Research Laboratory (SERL) (804) 828-2189 or djurban@vcu.edu

Michael D. Pratt, Director, VCU Center for Public Policy (804) 828-6837

Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute

P.O. Box 842020

Richmond, VA 23284-2020

(804) 827-3290

Email: cepi@vcu.edu

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

This report presents the full results from the 2005 Commonwealth Education Poll conducted with 803 adults in Virginia, October 17-27, 2005. The poll was conducted for the Commonwealth Educational Policy Institute (CEPI) in the VCU School of Education. The survey was conducted by the VCU Center for Public Policy/Survey and Evaluation Research Laboratory (SERL). The following topics are addressed:

- I. Overall Evaluation of Schools
- II. School Funding
- III. No Child Left Behind Act: Federal and State Government Role in Education
- IV. SOLs and SOL tests
- V. Evaluation of Schools in Specific Areas
- VI. School Opening Date
- VII. Method of the Commonwealth Education Poll
- VIII. Questions Asked
- IX. Tables of Results by Subgroups of Virginians

I. Overall Evaluation of Schools

Fifty percent of Virginians rate the education provided by the public schools as good while another 14 percent say it is excellent. Twenty-four percent say it is fair and just 4 percent say it is poor. Ratings were a bit more positive when evaluating the education provided in local community public schools. Twenty-five percent say schools in their community provide an excellent education and 45 percent say it is good. Eighteen percent say it is fair and 6 percent say it is poor. When asked whether schools in the local community have gotten better, worse, or stayed the same over the past five years, just 10 percent think they have gotten worse. Nearly four in ten (36 percent) say schools have stayed the same and more than three in ten (34 percent) say they have gotten better.

Opinion about the overall quality of education provided by the schools has been fairly stable over the past five years of Commonwealth Education Polls. Schools in the local community tend to be seen a bit more positively than schools across the state. Public schools, statewide and in the local community, are evaluated positively by a majority of Virginians. Seven in ten (70 percent) think schools in the local community have either remained the same or improved over the past five years.

II. School Funding

Budgetary pressures on state government have decreased somewhat in 2005 compared to 2004. This change in the state's fiscal picture is reflected in the poll results. While a clear majority of Virginians—64 percent—believe that current funding for the schools is not enough to meet their needs, the percentage feeling this way has declined from 69 percent in 2004. Likewise, the percentage of Virginians who feel that funding for the schools is enough for them to meet their needs is 26 percent this year, up from 20 percent in 2004.

This year, 67 percent believe that a funding cut to education would bring major changes to their local community schools, while 25 percent think schools could continue pretty much as they are now. The results in the 2004 survey were slightly different, at 70 percent and 23 percent, respectively, but the difference is not statistically significant.

As another example of public support for public education, 55 percent of Virginians say they would be willing to pay higher taxes in order to increase school funding while 38 percent are not willing to do so. This finding is reasonably consistent with the past years of Commonwealth Education Polls. Despite fluctuations in economic conditions over the past few years, about six in ten Virginians have consistently reported a willingness to pay higher taxes in order to increase funding for education since 2001.

Those who were willing to pay higher taxes were also asked which of four kinds of tax increases would be preferred. In a significant change compared to last year's survey, 49 percent of this group prefers a sales tax increase over income, personal property, or real estate tax increases, compared to 58 percent in 2004. Accompanying this decrease in the number of people who favor a sales tax increase is a jump in the percentage of Virginians who favor a personal property tax increase, from 7 percent in 2005 to 14 percent this year.

Of those willing to pay higher taxes for a school funding increase, 15 percent would prefer to increase income taxes, and 13 percent would prefer to increase real estate property taxes. These findings are consistent with past Commonwealth Education Poll reports.

When it comes to providing increased school funding, the sales tax has been the preferred mechanism for increasing taxes by a clear majority or plurality of respondents over the past five years. However, the decline in the percentage this year is likely to be related to the fact that there was a statewide increase in the sales tax not long after the 2004 survey was conducted.

A reported willingness to pay higher taxes in order to increase school funding is not the same thing as preferring a tax increase over other options. When asked to choose between a state tax increase or program cuts, in the context of how the state could meet its education cost-sharing guidelines with localities, 57 percent chose budget cuts while almost three in ten—28 percent—chose tax increases. These results are consistent with findings from last year's Commonwealth Education Poll. So, while a clear majority of the public expresses support for education funding needs, public reaction to ways to increase that funding are more divided.

Respondents were also asked which level of government spends the least on public schools in Virginia. Almost four in ten (35 percent) correctly identified the federal government as spending less than either state or local city and county government on the schools. Almost three in ten (27 percent) responded that they did not know.

III. No Child Left Behind Act: Federal and State Government Role in Education

The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) is bringing a series of changes into educational practice and evaluation around the country. The opinions of Virginians this year as to whether the NCLB will help, hurt, or make no difference in school performance were very similar to the opinions expressed in 2004. Forty-six percent of Virginians believe that the federal government's involvement in education will help, a quarter (25 percent) think it will make no difference and 22 percent think it will hurt school performance.

The NCLB raises new questions about the role of federal and state government in education. The Commonwealth Education Poll asked respondents about their normative views of federal vs. state responsibility in four different areas of education. The poll found that a majority of Virginians see responsibility for the schools as resting more with state than federal government in each of these four areas: setting academic standards, funding, testing to measure student achievement, and judging school performance. As shown in the table below, 76 percent of Virginians thought that the state rather than federal government should have responsibility when it comes to judging school performance. Fifty-nine percent of Virginians thought that state rather than federal government should have responsibility when it comes to setting academic standards. These results were the same as in last year’s survey.

The percentage of Virginians who feel that the state rather than the federal government should have responsibility for testing to measure student achievement decreased from 73 percent last year to 69 percent this year. The biggest change dealt with funding, as the percentage of Virginians who felt that the state should have responsibility for funding increased from 56 percent last year to 61 percent this year.

Should state or federal government have responsibility for...	2005		2004	
	State	Federal	State	Federal
Judging school performance?	76%	18%	76%	18%
Testing to measure student achievement?	69%	23%	73%	20%
Setting academic standards?	59%	32%	59%	32%
Funding?	61%	22%	56%	29%

While a majority of the public sees the state as having more responsibility than the federal government in these areas, the results suggest that citizens are open to federal involvement in at least some aspects of the schools. Eight of ten Virginians agree with the statement that “the federal government needs to make sure that states are held accountable for school performance.” At the same time, 86 percent agree that “state governments know more about the needs of students and schools in their state than the federal government does.” The results for these two items this year are virtually identical to the results from the 2004 survey.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know/ No answer
The federal government needs to make sure that states are held accountable for school performance.	23%	57%	14%	4%	3%
State governments know more about the needs of students and schools in their state than the federal government does.	29%	57%	9%	2%	4%

IV. SOLs and SOL tests

Students are now required to pass certain Standards of Learning (SOL) tests in order to graduate from high school with a standard diploma. Sixty-three percent of Virginians believe it is appropriate for students to have to pass these tests to graduate from high school and 32 percent feel it is not appropriate. As shown below, these percentages have changed since 2004.

...Do you think it is appropriate or not appropriate that students pass SOL tests in order to graduate from high school?	2005	2004
Appropriate	63%	59%
Not appropriate	32	37
Don't Know/No Answer	5	4

One of the chief aims of the SOL testing program was to improve accountability of the schools. In a result consistent with past Commonwealth Education Polls, 73 percent of Virginians either strongly agree or agree that “the SOL tests hold schools accountable for student achievement,” while 21 percent disagree.

A slight majority—51 percent—agree that “the SOL tests are putting too much pressure on students” while 46 percent disagree. Fifty-three percent agreed in 2004; 61 percent agreed in 2002.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No answer
"The SOL tests hold schools accountable for student achievement."	16%	57%	17%	4%	4%	1%
"The SOL tests are putting too much pressure on students."	19%	32%	38%	8%	3%	1%

A tendency to agree or disagree with these two statements is related to opinions about the SOL graduation requirement. Among those who think the SOL graduation requirement is appropriate, 85 percent agree that SOL tests hold schools accountable, and just 12 percent disagree. Among those who think the SOL graduation requirement is inappropriate, 55 percent agree that SOL tests hold schools accountable, and 39 percent disagree.

	"The SOL tests hold schools accountable for student achievement."					
	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No answer
SOL test graduation requirement is appropriate	17%	68%	11%	1%	3%	1%
...Not appropriate	17%	38%	28%	11%	4%	2%

A similar pattern is present when it comes to whether SOL tests are putting too much pressure on students. Among those who think the graduation requirement is appropriate, 30 percent agree and 66 percent disagree that SOL tests are putting too much pressure on students. In contrast, among those who think the SOL graduation requirement is inappropriate, 88 percent agree and just 11 percent disagree that SOL tests are putting too much pressure on students. These results show a strong association between opinion about the SOL graduation requirement and agreement that SOL tests put too much pressure on students.

	"The SOL tests are putting too much pressure on students."					
	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	No answer
SOL test graduation requirement is appropriate	5%	25%	54%	12%	3%	1%
...Not appropriate	44%	44%	10%	1%	1%	1%

V. Evaluation of Schools in Specific Areas

State schools were also evaluated in three specific areas compared to five years ago: providing skills useful in obtaining a job; teaching the basics such as reading, writing, and mathematics; and providing skills needed for pursuing a four-year college degree. The results are similar to that for overall performance of the schools. About seven in ten Virginians see the schools as either better than or about the same as they have been in these areas (66 to 72 percent across the three measures). A minority (ranging from 12 to 17 percent) see the schools as deteriorating in these areas compared to five years ago.

	Better	Worse	Same	Don't know	No answer
Skills useful in obtaining a job?	28%	17%	38%	15%	3%
Teaching the basics such as reading, writing and mathematics?	39%	14%	33%	12%	2%
Skills needed for pursuing a 4-year college degree?	32%	12%	37%	16%	3%

VI. School Opening Date

This year for the first time, the Commonwealth Education Poll contained two questions about the opening dates for public schools. A slight majority of Virginians—51 percent—believe that the date for the opening of public schools should be set by local school divisions, while 45 percent believe the state should set the dates. When asked if they would be in favor or opposed if their local school division wanted to schedule the opening of the school year before Labor Day, 56 percent said they would be in favor, while 32 percent would be opposed. As shown in the subsequent tables, the responses to both of these questions vary significantly depending on the race of the respondent and the region of the Commonwealth in which the respondent lives.

VII. Method of the Commonwealth Education Poll

The Commonwealth Education Poll is a public opinion survey of Virginia residents on education issues. Interviewing for the survey was conducted by telephone at the facilities of the Survey and Evaluation Research Laboratory at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) in Richmond.

The ten-minute survey was administered to 803 adult Virginians from October 17 through October 27, 2005. Using a randomly selected sample, a Random Digit Dialing (RDD) method ensured that all households in Virginia had a known chance of being selected to participate in the study. The sample of telephone numbers was prepared by Genesys Sampling Systems and included 9,000 numbers. SERL eventually used a random sub-sample of 4,689 of these telephone numbers to obtain 803 completed interviews. Using the Council of American Survey Research Organization's (CASRO) response rate calculations, interviews were obtained with 32.4% of the known or assumed households.

Interviews were conducted using the Computer Assisted Survey Execution System (CASES), a computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) system developed by the University of California at Berkeley. Using CASES, interviewers view the questionnaire on an individual computer station and enter the participant's responses directly into the study database. For this survey, the respondent selection procedure consisted of asking for the youngest adult male who lives in the household who was currently at home at the time of the call. If no such adult male was currently at home, the interviewer asked for the oldest adult female currently at home.

The data are weighted to adjust for unequal probabilities of selection due to multiple telephone lines and multiple adults living in the household. In addition, the data are weighted on sex, race, age, and region of residence to reflect the demographic composition of the Virginia adult population. 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 all respondents are subject to a sampling error of plus or minus approximately 3.5 percentage points at the 95 percent level of confidence. This means that, in 95 out of 100 samples such as the one used in this study, the results obtained would be no more than 3.5 percentage points above or below the figure that would be obtained by interviewing all adult Virginia residents with telephones. Where the answers of subgroups are reported, the sampling error would be higher.

Because of nonresponse (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.

VIII. Questions Asked

Commonwealth Education Poll, October 17-27, 2005 Number of Respondents: 803

Overall Evaluation of Schools

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

	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Excellent	14%	11%	15%	10%	11%
Good	50	52	51	50	47
Fair	24	24	23	26	26
Poor	4	5	4	5	4
Don't Know/No Answer	8	8	8	9	11

2. What about the public schools in your community-would you say that they provide an excellent, good, fair, or poor education?

	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Excellent	25%	21%	22%	18%	18%	15%
Good	45	43	46	47	42	44
Fair	18	22	20	21	22	22
Poor	6	6	5	8	7	6
Don't Know/No Answer	7	8	7	6	10	12

3. Over the past five years, have the public schools in your community gotten better, worse, or stayed the same?

	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Better	34%	29%	32%	30%	29%	33%
Worse	10	14	12	15	16	14
Stayed the same	36	39	40	37	35	34
Don't Know/No Answer	20	19	17	19	20	20

School Funding

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

	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Enough	26%	20%	27%	23%	21%
Not enough	64	69	64	67	70
Don't Know/No Answer	9	11	9	9	10

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

	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Willing	55%	57%	61%	60%	57%
Not willing	38	36	34	34	36
Don't Know/No Answer	6	7	5	6	7

6. (ASK IF WILLING TO PAY HIGHER TAXES) What kind of tax increase do you think would be best-- sales tax, income tax, real estate property tax, or personal property tax?

Of Those Willing

	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Sales tax	49%	58%	54%	58%	47%
Income tax	15	13	14	14	16
Real estate property tax	13	15	13	10	16
Personal property tax	14	7	10	11	13
Don't Know/No Answer	9	7	10	6	9

7. 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?

	2005	2004	2003
Would continue as they are now	25%	23%	22%
Would bring major changes	67	70	70
Don't Know/No Answer	9	7	7

8. The Virginia constitution requires the state to share the costs of public education with local governments. A report to the General Assembly said that the state is not paying as much for education as agreed to in the cost-sharing guidelines. In order for the state to meet the education cost-sharing guidelines, would you prefer that the state increase taxes OR make cuts to other programs?

	2005	2004	2003
Increase taxes	28%	30%	32%
Make cuts to other programs	57	59	53
Don't Know/No Answer	14	11	14

(In the 2005 wording of this question, the statement "This leaves local school districts paying more than expected," was deleted. It had been included in the wording used in the 2003 and 2004 surveys.

There was a slight difference in question wording in 2003. The sentence "A report to the General Assembly..." was asked in 2003 as "A report by the General Assembly's investigative agency..."

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

	2005	2004
Federal	35%	41%
State	13	17
Local city and county	23	22
Don't Know/No Answer	29	20

No Child Left Behind Act

When it comes to making decisions about education, please tell me whether you think the state government OR the federal government should have responsibility for each of the following. First, ...

Questions 10 to 13 were asked in random order.

10. Setting academic standards? (Do you think the state government or the federal government should have responsibility for setting academic standards?)

	2005	2004
State	59	59%
Federal	32	32
Both equally (VOL.)	6	5
Neither (VOL.)	1	1
Don't Know/No Answer	2	3

11. Judging school performance? (Do you think the state government or the federal government should have responsibility for judging school performance?)

	2005	2004
State	76%	76%
Federal	18	18
Both equally (VOL.)	4	3
Neither (VOL.)	1	1
Don't Know/No Answer	1	2

12. Testing to measure student achievement? (Do you think the state government or the federal government should have responsibility for testing to measure student achievement?)

	2005	2004
State	69%	73%
Federal	23	20
Both equally (VOL.)	3	2
Neither (VOL.)	2	2
Don't Know/No Answer	3	3

13. Funding? (Do you think the state government or the federal government should have responsibility for funding?)

	2005	2004
State	61%	56%
Federal	22	29
Both equally (VOL.)	14	12
Neither (VOL.)	1	1
Don't Know/No Answer	2	2

14. In the past, state and local governments oversaw most decisions related to the schools. The federal government in Washington has passed a law called the No Child Left Behind Act that increases the federal government's role in decisions about the schools. Do you think the federal government's involvement in the schools will help, hurt, or make no difference in school performance?

	2005	2004	2003
Help	46%	46%	42%
Hurt	22	24	22
No difference	25	23	29
Don't Know/No Answer	7	7	7

(In the 2005 wording of this question, the word "recently" as in, "...Washington has recently passed a law," was deleted. It had been included in the wording used in the 2003 and 2004 surveys.

Please tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statements.

Questions 15 and 16 were asked in random order.

15. "The federal government needs to make sure that states are held accountable for school performance." (Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with this statement?)

	2005	2004
Strongly agree	23%	23%
Somewhat agree	57	57
Somewhat disagree	14	14
Strongly disagree	4	4
Don't Know/No Answer	3	2

16. "State governments know more about the needs of students and schools in their state than the federal government does." (Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with this statement?)

	2005	2004
Strongly agree	29%	29%
Somewhat agree	57	55
Somewhat disagree	9	10
Strongly disagree	2	2
Don't Know/No Answer	4	3

SOLs and SOL tests

17. Last year, 2004, was the first time students could not graduate with a standard high school diploma unless they passed required Standards of Learning or SOL tests. Do you think it is appropriate or not appropriate that students pass SOL tests in order to graduate from high school?

	2005	2004
Appropriate	63%	59%
Not appropriate	32	37
Don't Know/No Answer	5	4

(In 2004, this question read as follows: This year for the first time, students will not be able to graduate with a standard high school diploma unless they pass required SOL tests. Do you think it is appropriate or not appropriate that students pass SOL tests in order to graduate from high school?)

Please tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statements.

Questions 18 and 19 were asked in random order.

18. "The SOL tests hold schools accountable for student achievement."
(Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with this statement?)

	2005	2004	2003	2002
Strongly agree	16%	18%	26%	29%
Somewhat agree	57	57	41	45
Somewhat disagree	17	17	15	11
Strongly disagree	4	3	11	6
Don't Know/No Answer	5	5	7	9

19. "The SOL tests are putting too much pressure on students."
(Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with this statement?)

	2005	2004	2002
Strongly agree	19%	22%	36%
Somewhat agree	32	31	25
Somewhat disagree	38	35	20
Strongly disagree	8	8	12
Don't Know/No Answer	4	4	7

Next, I'm going to ask whether you feel the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years in each of the following three areas. First, ...

Questions 20 to 22 were asked in random order.

20. In providing skills that will be useful in obtaining a job? (Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years in providing skills that will be useful in obtaining a job?)

	2005	2004
Better	28%	30%
Worse	17	16
Stayed the Same	38	39
Don't Know/No Answer	18	15

21. In teaching the basics such as reading, writing, and mathematics? (Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years in teaching the basics such as reading, writing, and mathematics?)

	2005	2004
Better	39%	35%
Worse	14	17
Stayed the Same	33	35
Don't Know/No Answer	14	14

22. In providing the skills needed for pursuing a four-year college degree? (Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years in providing the skills needed for pursuing a four-year college degree?)

	2005	2004
Better	32%	34%
Worse	12	14
Stayed the Same	37	36
Don't Know/No Answer	19	16

School Opening Date

23. Current Virginia law requires local school divisions to open after Labor Day, with certain exceptions granted by the State Board of Education. Do you think that dates for the opening of public schools should be set by the state or by local school divisions?

	2005
State	45%
Local school divisions	51
No opinion/neutral	2
Don't Know/No Answer	2

24. If your local school division wanted to schedule the opening of the school year before Labor Day, would you be in favor or opposed?

	2005
In favor	56%
Opposed	32
No opinion/neutral	11
Don't Know/No Answer	1

IX. Tables of Results by Subgroups of Virginians

In the following tables, blank cells contain no cases. Cells containing entries of 0% are actually percentages that are between 0% and .5%; they appear as 0% due to rounding.

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

		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		14%	50%	24%	4%	7%	1%	803
Gender	Male	13%	52%	23%	5%	7%	1%	341
	Female	15%	49%	25%	3%	7%	2%	462
Race	White	14%	52%	23%	4%	6%	1%	616
	Non-white	13%	47%	26%	4%	9%	1%	167
Region	Northwest	10%	53%	22%	7%	7%	1%	120
	Northern VA	26%	46%	20%	1%	6%	1%	191
	West	10%	59%	20%	6%	4%	1%	167
	South Central	10%	47%	28%	4%	9%	2%	145
	Tidewater	8%	50%	28%	4%	8%	1%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	16%	56%	23%	2%	2%	0%	227
	No	4%	44%	31%	12%	9%		38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	18%	59%	13%	2%	7%		53
	Yes, other	19%	56%	13%	7%	5%		50
	No	13%	49%	26%	4%	7%	1%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	12%	34%	39%	9%	5%	2%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	15%	45%	29%	4%	5%	2%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	13%	46%	27%	5%	7%	3%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	10%	61%	19%	2%	8%	1%	128
	\$70,000 and above	17%	51%	22%	4%	6%	0%	278
Education	No high school diploma	12%	40%	34%	8%	3%	3%	44
	High school diploma	10%	58%	24%	5%	2%	0%	169
	Some college	14%	45%	27%	3%	8%	3%	221
	College graduate or more	16%	51%	21%	3%	9%	0%	359
Age	18-29	17%	50%	27%	2%	4%		105
	30-44	14%	52%	24%	4%	6%	0%	242
	45-64	12%	52%	23%	6%	6%	1%	281
	65 and older	15%	45%	20%	3%	14%	3%	150
Place where live	Urban	16%	48%	26%	5%	4%	2%	158
	Suburban	16%	49%	21%	3%	10%	1%	271
	Rural	8%	52%	30%	4%	5%	1%	178
	Small town	13%	52%	23%	6%	5%	1%	180
Party identification	Democrat	16%	49%	23%	3%	7%	1%	231
	Republican	14%	49%	26%	6%	5%	0%	236
	Independent	12%	54%	22%	4%	8%	1%	239

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

		EXCELLENT	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		25%	45%	18%	6%	6%	1%	803
Gender	Male	24%	46%	17%	6%	6%	0%	341
	Female	26%	44%	19%	6%	5%	1%	462
Race	White	26%	45%	17%	6%	6%	1%	616
	Non-white	24%	42%	23%	6%	5%	1%	167
Region	Northwest	24%	43%	20%	7%	4%	1%	120
	Northern VA	43%	38%	10%	2%	6%	0%	191
	West	14%	51%	20%	8%	7%		167
	South Central	27%	41%	21%	7%	3%	0%	145
	Tidewater	14%	50%	22%	6%	6%	1%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	37%	42%	17%	2%		0%	227
	No	8%	47%	20%	20%	5%		38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	32%	50%	16%	2%			53
	Yes, other	37%	39%	14%	7%	3%		50
	No	23%	45%	19%	6%	6%	1%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	10%	44%	23%	10%	10%	3%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	23%	42%	20%	5%	10%	1%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	19%	44%	28%	5%	4%	1%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	18%	58%	12%	4%	7%	1%	128
	\$70,000 and above	36%	38%	15%	7%	4%	0%	278
Education	No high school diploma	17%	39%	28%	7%	7%	3%	44
	High school diploma	15%	57%	17%	6%	4%	0%	169
	Some college	24%	41%	22%	6%	6%	1%	221
	College graduate or more	32%	41%	15%	5%	6%		359
Age	18-29	24%	50%	17%	2%	6%		105
	30-44	31%	36%	21%	7%	4%		242
	45-64	24%	45%	19%	7%	4%	1%	281
	65 and older	18%	54%	13%	3%	10%	1%	150
Place where live	Urban	24%	44%	17%	9%	6%	1%	158
	Suburban	33%	43%	14%	2%	7%	0%	271
	Rural	19%	43%	26%	6%	5%		178
	Small town	18%	48%	20%	9%	4%	1%	180
Party identification	Democrat	28%	44%	20%	5%	4%	0%	231
	Republican	25%	41%	19%	8%	6%	0%	236
	Independent	24%	49%	16%	5%	6%	1%	239

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	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		34%	10%	36%	18%	2%	803
Gender	Male	35%	9%	37%	17%	2%	341
	Female	34%	11%	34%	19%	2%	462
Race	White	33%	11%	36%	19%	2%	616
	Non-white	38%	10%	36%	15%	2%	167
Region	Northwest	35%	16%	27%	19%	3%	120
	Northern VA	28%	9%	39%	22%	2%	191
	West	36%	15%	34%	15%	1%	167
	South Central	45%	4%	33%	14%	3%	145
	Tidewater	31%	10%	41%	17%	2%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	40%	7%	41%	9%	2%	227
	No	22%	27%	40%	10%	2%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	57%	12%	25%	4%	2%	53
	Yes, other	35%	7%	52%	6%		50
	No	32%	10%	35%	20%	2%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	27%	15%	42%	12%	5%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	33%	7%	33%	25%	2%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	29%	14%	35%	17%	5%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	39%	9%	38%	15%		128
	\$70,000 and above	38%	9%	35%	17%	1%	278
Education	No high school diploma	28%	10%	51%	6%	5%	44
	High school diploma	36%	10%	37%	16%	1%	169
	Some college	37%	9%	34%	18%	3%	221
	College graduate or more	32%	11%	34%	21%	2%	359
Age	18-29	34%	5%	41%	19%	1%	105
	30-44	36%	8%	39%	15%	2%	242
	45-64	36%	15%	31%	16%	3%	281
	65 and older	29%	13%	29%	25%	3%	150
Place where live	Urban	29%	9%	42%	17%	2%	158
	Suburban	31%	10%	37%	20%	2%	271
	Rural	39%	12%	32%	16%	1%	178
	Small town	42%	9%	32%	15%	2%	180
Party identification	Democrat	35%	10%	38%	15%	2%	231
	Republican	35%	11%	33%	20%	1%	236
	Independent	34%	10%	37%	16%	2%	239

**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	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		26%	64%	8%	1%	803
Gender	Male	30%	61%	8%	1%	341
	Female	22%	67%	9%	2%	462
Race	White	26%	65%	9%	1%	616
	Non-white	28%	63%	8%	1%	167
Region	Northwest	28%	61%	9%	2%	120
	Northern VA	29%	63%	8%	1%	191
	West	27%	64%	8%	1%	167
	South Central	26%	64%	10%		145
	Tidewater	23%	67%	8%	2%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	20%	74%	5%	1%	227
	No	38%	48%	13%	1%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	16%	84%			53
	Yes, other	39%	58%	3%		50
	No	26%	63%	10%	1%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	27%	59%	12%	2%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	20%	64%	15%	1%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	20%	74%	6%	1%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	22%	72%	5%	1%	128
	\$70,000 and above	31%	62%	7%	0%	278
Education	No high school diploma	43%	43%	12%	1%	44
	High school diploma	30%	61%	8%	1%	169
	Some college	20%	70%	8%	1%	221
	College graduate or more	26%	64%	8%	1%	359
Age	18-29	28%	64%	8%	0%	105
	30-44	19%	72%	7%	1%	242
	45-64	30%	62%	7%	1%	281
	65 and older	30%	54%	13%	2%	150
Place where live	Urban	29%	62%	8%	1%	158
	Suburban	25%	66%	8%	1%	271
	Rural	24%	65%	10%	2%	178
	Small town	28%	62%	9%	1%	180
Party identification	Democrat	18%	78%	4%	1%	231
	Republican	36%	53%	10%	1%	236
	Independent	28%	61%	10%	1%	239

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

		WILLING	NOT WILLING	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		55%	38%	4%	2%	803
Gender	Male	54%	41%	4%	2%	341
	Female	57%	36%	4%	3%	462
Race	White	54%	39%	4%	3%	616
	Non-white	59%	35%	4%	2%	167
Region	Northwest	49%	46%	4%	2%	120
	Northern VA	61%	32%	3%	4%	191
	West	52%	43%	3%	2%	167
	South Central	54%	39%	6%	0%	145
	Tidewater	57%	37%	4%	2%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	65%	29%	5%	1%	227
	No	33%	62%	6%		38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	64%	30%	6%		53
	Yes, other	59%	37%		4%	50
	No	55%	39%	4%	2%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	47%	47%	4%	2%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	47%	50%	1%	2%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	57%	38%	2%	3%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	55%	38%	5%	1%	128
	\$70,000 and above	62%	31%	4%	2%	278
Education	No high school diploma	39%	55%	4%	1%	44
	High school diploma	46%	49%	3%	2%	169
	Some college	53%	39%	4%	4%	221
	College graduate or more	65%	30%	4%	2%	359
Age	18-29	62%	34%	3%	1%	105
	30-44	61%	35%	4%	1%	242
	45-64	52%	41%	3%	3%	281
	65 and older	46%	43%	6%	5%	150
Place where live	Urban	55%	36%	5%	4%	158
	Suburban	62%	32%	5%	1%	271
	Rural	52%	43%	3%	2%	178
	Small town	50%	45%	3%	2%	180
Party identification	Democrat	73%	23%	3%	1%	231
	Republican	45%	49%	4%	2%	236
	Independent	54%	39%	4%	3%	239

(Asked if willing to pay higher taxes) What kind of tax increase do you think would be best-- sales tax, income tax, real estate property tax, or personal property tax?

		SALES	INCOME	REAL ESTATE	PERSONAL PROPERTY	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		49%	15%	13%	14%	7%	2%	427
Gender	Male	45%	18%	19%	13%	4%	1%	180
	Female	53%	13%	7%	15%	10%	2%	247
Race	White	51%	14%	12%	13%	7%	2%	325
	Non-white	46%	17%	13%	18%	6%		93
Region	Northwest	47%	15%	10%	21%	7%		62
	Northern VA	45%	21%	16%	10%	7%	2%	108
	West	51%	8%	11%	21%	6%	3%	81
	South Central	40%	20%	14%	15%	10%	1%	77
	Tidewater	59%	10%	11%	11%	7%	2%	99
Children in public school?	Yes	50%	9%	13%	16%	10%	1%	141
	No	56%	14%	5%	24%			14
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	60%	11%	18%	5%	6%		35
	Yes, other	42%	17%	19%	14%	6%	2%	30
	No	48%	15%	12%	15%	7%	2%	361
Family income	Under \$20,000	33%	21%	16%	17%	6%	7%	30
	\$20,000-\$34,999	44%	8%	14%	24%	10%		44
	\$35,000-49,999	39%	14%	17%	16%	12%	1%	64
	\$50,000-69,999	51%	8%	15%	17%	5%	3%	71
	\$70,000 and above	56%	17%	12%	10%	5%		169
Education	No high school diploma	36%	5%	7%	25%	16%	12%	17
	High school diploma	41%	16%	13%	21%	6%	3%	74
	Some college	58%	9%	9%	16%	7%	1%	108
	College graduate or more	48%	19%	15%	10%	6%	1%	225
Age	18-29	37%	15%	25%	17%	6%		68
	30-44	50%	15%	10%	14%	8%	3%	141
	45-64	58%	13%	8%	9%	10%	1%	145
	65 and older	43%	21%	10%	21%	3%	3%	67
Place where live	Urban	46%	21%	11%	9%	10%	2%	81
	Suburban	54%	14%	14%	10%	6%	1%	156
	Rural	55%	6%	13%	17%	7%	1%	90
	Small town	35%	21%	12%	23%	6%	3%	90
Party identification	Democrat	50%	19%	9%	12%	7%	1%	164
	Republican	58%	8%	13%	12%	7%	2%	105
	Independent	38%	17%	20%	16%	7%	1%	120

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?

		CONTINUE AS THEY ARE	BRING MAJOR CHANGES	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		25%	67%	7%	2%	803
Gender	Male	31%	61%	7%	2%	341
	Female	20%	72%	6%	1%	462
Race	White	26%	65%	7%	2%	616
	Non-white	22%	71%	5%	1%	167
Region	Northwest	30%	64%	5%	1%	120
	Northern VA	27%	63%	8%	1%	191
	West	19%	73%	6%	3%	167
	South Central	28%	66%	5%	1%	145
	Tidewater	23%	68%	7%	2%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	22%	73%	4%	1%	227
	No	23%	69%	4%	5%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	13%	84%	3%	1%	53
	Yes, other	30%	66%	4%		50
	No	26%	65%	7%	2%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	20%	68%	8%	4%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	36%	61%	3%		92
	\$35,000-49,999	28%	65%	5%	1%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	18%	77%	5%	1%	128
	\$70,000 and above	25%	68%	6%	1%	278
Education	No high school diploma	45%	47%	2%	6%	44
	High school diploma	32%	61%	5%	2%	169
	Some college	22%	69%	7%	2%	221
	College graduate or more	21%	71%	6%	1%	359
Age	18-29	28%	67%	6%		105
	30-44	17%	77%	5%	1%	242
	45-64	29%	64%	6%	1%	281
	65 and older	33%	51%	10%	6%	150
Place where live	Urban	31%	62%	5%	2%	158
	Suburban	22%	70%	7%	1%	271
	Rural	21%	70%	6%	2%	178
	Small town	28%	63%	7%	2%	180
Party identification	Democrat	18%	76%	6%	1%	231
	Republican	32%	60%	7%	1%	236
	Independent	29%	63%	5%	2%	239

**In order for the state to meet the education cost-sharing requirements, would you prefer that the state
increase taxes OR make cuts to other programs?**

		INCREASE TAXES	MAKE CUTS	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		28%	57%	9%	5%	803
Gender	Male	31%	57%	7%	5%	341
	Female	26%	58%	12%	5%	462
Race	White	26%	60%	9%	5%	616
	Non-white	34%	51%	11%	4%	167
Region	Northwest	32%	56%	7%	5%	120
	Northern VA	37%	51%	8%	5%	191
	West	17%	65%	11%	7%	167
	South Central	23%	63%	13%	1%	145
	Tidewater	29%	56%	9%	6%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	29%	55%	11%	5%	227
	No	14%	81%	3%	2%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	32%	53%	6%	8%	53
	Yes, other	33%	58%	7%	2%	50
	No	27%	58%	10%	5%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	21%	69%	6%	4%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	15%	66%	13%	6%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	33%	53%	13%	2%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	25%	61%	7%	6%	128
	\$70,000 and above	33%	55%	8%	4%	278
Education	No high school diploma	22%	61%	11%	6%	44
	High school diploma	19%	65%	13%	3%	169
	Some college	27%	57%	11%	5%	221
	College graduate or more	35%	54%	6%	5%	359
Age	18-29	34%	52%	14%		105
	30-44	26%	62%	7%	5%	242
	45-64	27%	61%	7%	5%	281
	65 and older	28%	48%	14%	11%	150
Place where live	Urban	36%	46%	12%	6%	158
	Suburban	31%	55%	9%	4%	271
	Rural	20%	69%	7%	3%	178
	Small town	25%	59%	10%	6%	180
Party identification	Democrat	41%	45%	9%	4%	231
	Republican	18%	68%	9%	6%	236
	Independent	29%	58%	10%	4%	239

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?

		FEDERAL	STATE	LOCAL	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		35%	13%	23%	27%	2%	803
Gender	Male	41%	12%	20%	24%	3%	341
	Female	29%	14%	25%	30%	2%	462
Race	White	37%	12%	21%	28%	1%	616
	Non-white	29%	15%	28%	24%	5%	167
Region	Northwest	40%	12%	17%	30%	1%	120
	Northern VA	49%	8%	13%	27%	2%	191
	West	30%	17%	27%	25%	1%	167
	South Central	25%	9%	32%	31%	3%	145
	Tidewater	28%	18%	26%	25%	3%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	35%	12%	25%	25%	1%	227
	No	49%	11%	20%	20%		38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	47%	12%	25%	16%		53
	Yes, other	29%	16%	27%	24%	4%	50
	No	34%	13%	22%	28%	2%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	21%	28%	24%	23%	4%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	28%	17%	27%	28%	1%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	32%	11%	20%	30%	7%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	34%	12%	30%	24%	1%	128
	\$70,000 and above	45%	10%	19%	25%	1%	278
Education	No high school diploma	22%	19%	17%	39%	3%	44
	High school diploma	24%	17%	30%	26%	3%	169
	Some college	33%	11%	23%	30%	4%	221
	College graduate or more	44%	11%	19%	25%	1%	359
Age	18-29	32%	17%	23%	26%	2%	105
	30-44	36%	13%	26%	24%	1%	242
	45-64	39%	12%	20%	26%	3%	281
	65 and older	28%	11%	22%	36%	3%	150
Place where live	Urban	33%	13%	23%	27%	4%	158
	Suburban	37%	13%	20%	29%	1%	271
	Rural	42%	13%	22%	23%	1%	178
	Small town	28%	13%	28%	27%	3%	180
Party identification	Democrat	42%	15%	22%	20%	2%	231
	Republican	31%	11%	24%	32%	1%	236
	Independent	35%	13%	21%	27%	4%	239

Setting academic standards? (Do you think the state government or the federal government should have responsibility for setting academic standards?)

		STATE	FEDERAL	BOTH EQUALLY (VOL)	NEITHER (VOL)	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		59%	32%	6%	1%	1%	1%	803
Gender	Male	60%	31%	6%	1%	0%	1%	341
	Female	58%	33%	6%	1%	2%	0%	462
Race	White	62%	30%	5%	1%	1%	1%	616
	Non-white	52%	38%	7%		2%	1%	167
Region	Northwest	62%	29%	3%	3%	2%	1%	120
	Northern VA	57%	33%	8%	0%	1%		191
	West	64%	28%	3%	2%	1%	1%	167
	South Central	53%	38%	8%	0%	1%	0%	145
	Tidewater	60%	32%	5%		1%	2%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	58%	36%	5%		1%	1%	227
	No	65%	22%	8%	4%			38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	63%	35%	2%				53
	Yes, other	59%	29%	5%	2%	1%	4%	50
	No	59%	32%	6%	1%	1%	1%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	61%	27%	6%		6%	1%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	64%	34%			1%	1%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	54%	33%	9%	1%	2%	2%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	60%	37%	3%				128
	\$70,000 and above	59%	34%	6%	0%	0%		278
Education	No high school diploma	57%	31%	9%		3%	1%	44
	High school diploma	61%	30%	4%		3%	3%	169
	Some college	58%	34%	6%	0%	1%	1%	221
	College graduate or more	59%	33%	6%	2%	0%		359
Age	18-29	52%	41%	5%			2%	105
	30-44	56%	37%	4%	1%	1%		242
	45-64	64%	27%	6%	1%	0%	1%	281
	65 and older	66%	19%	8%	2%	3%	2%	150
Place where live	Urban	62%	25%	9%	1%	2%		158
	Suburban	56%	38%	4%	1%	1%	0%	271
	Rural	56%	36%	4%	1%	1%	1%	178
	Small town	63%	27%	5%	1%	1%	2%	180
Party identification	Democrat	59%	33%	7%		1%	0%	231
	Republican	65%	30%	3%	1%	1%	1%	236
	Independent	59%	31%	5%	2%	1%	2%	239

Judging school performance? (Do you think the state government or the federal government should have responsibility for judging school performance?)

		STATE	FEDERAL	BOTH EQUALLY (VOL)	NEITHER (VOL)	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		76%	18%	4%	1%	1%	0%	803
Gender	Male	79%	17%	3%	1%	0%	0%	341
	Female	74%	18%	4%	1%	2%	0%	462
Race	White	78%	15%	3%	2%	1%	0%	616
	Non-white	70%	24%	4%		1%	1%	167
Region	Northwest	74%	16%	5%	3%	1%	1%	120
	Northern VA	82%	14%	2%	0%	1%		191
	West	73%	19%	3%	2%	1%	0%	167
	South Central	72%	21%	4%	0%	1%	1%	145
	Tidewater	76%	17%	4%	1%	1%	0%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	75%	18%	4%	0%	2%	1%	227
	No	81%	9%	5%	4%			38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	79%	16%	3%		2%		53
	Yes, other	86%	9%	3%	2%			50
	No	75%	18%	4%	1%	1%	0%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	73%	19%	3%	1%	4%	1%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	84%	13%	2%	0%		2%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	75%	16%	7%	1%	2%		116
	\$50,000-69,999	75%	23%	2%				128
	\$70,000 and above	79%	16%	3%	1%	1%	0%	278
Education	No high school diploma	74%	14%	8%		4%		44
	High school diploma	77%	18%	2%	1%	2%	0%	169
	Some college	70%	22%	7%	0%	0%	1%	221
	College graduate or more	80%	15%	2%	2%	0%	0%	359
Age	18-29	70%	26%	3%		1%		105
	30-44	77%	19%	3%	1%	1%		242
	45-64	79%	15%	4%	2%		1%	281
	65 and older	82%	10%	3%	3%	2%	1%	150
Place where live	Urban	78%	16%	4%	2%	1%		158
	Suburban	78%	17%	3%	1%	1%	0%	271
	Rural	70%	23%	5%	1%	1%	1%	178
	Small town	76%	17%	4%	1%	3%		180
Party identification	Democrat	76%	21%	3%			1%	231
	Republican	80%	15%	3%	2%			236
	Independent	78%	16%	3%	2%	1%		239

Testing to measure student achievement? (Do you think the state government or the federal government should have responsibility for testing to measure student achievement?)

		STATE	FEDERAL	BOTH EQUALLY	NEITHER	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		69%	23%	3%	2%	2%	1%	803
Gender	Male	73%	20%	2%	1%	1%	2%	341
	Female	65%	25%	4%	2%	3%	1%	462
Race	White	74%	20%	2%	2%	2%	1%	616
	Non-white	58%	30%	4%	1%	4%	3%	167
Region	Northwest	72%	21%	2%	2%	1%	1%	120
	Northern VA	72%	21%	5%	1%	1%	1%	191
	West	68%	25%	1%	3%	3%		167
	South Central	64%	25%	3%	1%	5%	2%	145
	Tidewater	68%	24%	3%	2%	1%	3%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	65%	26%	4%	2%	1%	2%	227
	No	66%	23%	4%	4%	2%	1%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	82%	16%		1%			53
	Yes, other	60%	29%	4%	2%	1%	5%	50
	No	69%	23%	3%	2%	2%	1%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	60%	24%	3%		9%	5%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	67%	25%	3%	1%	3%	2%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	66%	25%	5%	1%	2%	2%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	80%	18%	2%				128
	\$70,000 and above	69%	26%	3%	1%	1%	1%	278
Education	No high school diploma	52%	27%	4%	5%	9%	4%	44
	High school diploma	69%	22%	3%	1%	4%	2%	169
	Some college	69%	24%	3%	1%	0%	2%	221
	College graduate or more	71%	22%	3%	2%	1%	0%	359
Age	18-29	65%	33%	1%			2%	105
	30-44	66%	28%	3%	1%	2%	0%	242
	45-64	74%	18%	3%	1%	2%	1%	281
	65 and older	77%	9%	4%	3%	4%	3%	150
Place where live	Urban	74%	15%	5%	4%	2%	0%	158
	Suburban	71%	24%	3%	1%	1%	1%	271
	Rural	69%	25%	2%	1%	1%	2%	178
	Small town	62%	27%	3%	0%	4%	3%	180
Party identification	Democrat	67%	26%	3%	1%	2%	1%	231
	Republican	71%	24%	1%	2%	1%	0%	236
	Independent	71%	20%	3%	3%	1%	2%	239

Funding? (Do you think the state government or the federal government should have responsibility for funding?)

		STATE	FEDERAL	BOTH EQUALLY	NEITHER	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		61%	22%	14%	1%	1%	1%	803
Gender	Male	69%	17%	12%	0%	0%	1%	341
	Female	53%	26%	16%	1%	3%	1%	462
Race	White	64%	19%	14%	1%	2%	1%	616
	Non-white	53%	28%	17%		1%	1%	167
Region	Northwest	58%	21%	15%	1%	2%	1%	120
	Northern VA	65%	15%	17%	0%	2%	0%	191
	West	59%	29%	10%	1%	1%	0%	167
	South Central	58%	22%	16%	1%	2%	1%	145
	Tidewater	62%	23%	13%	0%	0%	2%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	58%	27%	12%	1%	2%		227
	No	59%	25%	14%	2%			38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	53%	23%	19%			5%	53
	Yes, other	67%	20%	11%		1%	2%	50
	No	61%	22%	14%	1%	2%	0%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	38%	41%	17%		3%	2%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	60%	25%	13%	0%	2%		92
	\$35,000-49,999	51%	27%	20%	1%	2%		116
	\$50,000-69,999	61%	27%	9%		1%	3%	128
	\$70,000 and above	74%	13%	13%	1%			278
Education	No high school diploma	46%	27%	21%		3%	3%	44
	High school diploma	57%	30%	9%		4%	1%	169
	Some college	56%	27%	15%	1%	1%	0%	221
	College graduate or more	69%	14%	16%	1%	0%	1%	359
Age	18-29	57%	31%	12%				105
	30-44	58%	24%	14%	1%	1%	1%	242
	45-64	68%	16%	14%	1%	1%	1%	281
	65 and older	61%	16%	16%	1%	4%	1%	150
Place where live	Urban	64%	16%	19%	1%			158
	Suburban	63%	21%	13%	1%	1%	1%	271
	Rural	56%	21%	18%	1%	2%	1%	178
	Small town	58%	28%	9%	1%	4%	1%	180
Party identification	Democrat	58%	24%	15%	0%	1%	1%	231
	Republican	66%	18%	14%	1%	1%	0%	236
	Independent	65%	22%	11%	1%	1%	0%	239

Do you think the federal government's involvement in the schools will help, hurt, or make no difference in school performance?

		HELP	HURT	MAKE NO DIFFERENCE	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		46%	22%	25%	5%	2%	803
Gender	Male	47%	24%	25%	2%	2%	341
	Female	45%	21%	25%	7%	2%	462
Race	White	42%	27%	25%	4%	2%	616
	Non-white	60%	8%	25%	5%	1%	167
Region	Northwest	37%	38%	19%	4%	2%	120
	Northern VA	43%	25%	24%	5%	3%	191
	West	47%	22%	23%	7%	1%	167
	South Central	59%	18%	18%	3%	3%	145
	Tidewater	44%	15%	36%	3%	2%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	51%	20%	24%	5%	1%	227
	No	22%	32%	38%	5%	3%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	40%	38%	18%	1%	2%	53
	Yes, other	44%	26%	20%	9%	1%	50
	No	47%	21%	26%	4%	2%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	52%	10%	26%	11%	1%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	45%	19%	27%	6%	3%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	49%	21%	24%	5%	1%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	54%	20%	22%	3%	1%	128
	\$70,000 and above	43%	27%	26%	3%	2%	278
Education	No high school diploma	53%	12%	32%		2%	44
	High school diploma	54%	16%	23%	7%	0%	169
	Some college	55%	15%	22%	5%	3%	221
	College graduate or more	35%	32%	28%	3%	2%	359
Age	18-29	65%	12%	18%	5%		105
	30-44	47%	21%	26%	4%	1%	242
	45-64	41%	26%	26%	4%	3%	281
	65 and older	30%	30%	31%	6%	3%	150
Place where live	Urban	46%	17%	33%	3%	1%	158
	Suburban	46%	24%	24%	5%	2%	271
	Rural	48%	24%	22%	3%	3%	178
	Small town	46%	23%	24%	6%	1%	180
Party identification	Democrat	41%	26%	25%	7%	1%	231
	Republican	51%	20%	23%	3%	2%	236
	Independent	46%	23%	26%	2%	2%	239

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	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		23%	57%	14%	4%	2%	1%	803
Gender	Male	24%	53%	17%	3%	1%	1%	341
	Female	22%	60%	11%	4%	3%	1%	462
Race	White	23%	54%	16%	4%	2%	1%	616
	Non-white	24%	65%	6%	1%	3%	1%	167
Region	Northwest	15%	65%	14%	3%	2%		120
	Northern VA	22%	52%	17%	5%	2%	3%	191
	West	19%	60%	14%	5%	1%	1%	167
	South Central	25%	57%	12%	2%	4%	0%	145
	Tidewater	28%	54%	12%	3%	2%	1%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	24%	61%	10%	4%	1%	0%	227
	No	19%	43%	35%	2%			38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	27%	57%	10%	4%		2%	53
	Yes, other	15%	55%	23%	5%	3%		50
	No	23%	57%	13%	4%	2%	1%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	28%	56%	6%	2%	3%	4%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	17%	66%	16%		1%		92
	\$35,000-49,999	25%	50%	16%	5%	3%	2%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	22%	62%	9%	3%	4%		128
	\$70,000 and above	27%	52%	16%	4%	1%	1%	278
Education	No high school diploma	14%	64%	11%	3%	2%	7%	44
	High school diploma	23%	58%	10%	4%	5%	0%	169
	Some college	28%	59%	9%	1%	2%	1%	221
	College graduate or more	21%	53%	19%	5%	1%	1%	359
Age	18-29	26%	64%	8%			1%	105
	30-44	27%	57%	13%	3%	0%	0%	242
	45-64	25%	50%	14%	7%	3%	1%	281
	65 and older	7%	55%	22%	5%	6%	5%	150
Place where live	Urban	19%	57%	16%	4%	2%	2%	158
	Suburban	25%	53%	14%	4%	2%	1%	271
	Rural	27%	58%	11%	2%	1%	1%	178
	Small town	19%	60%	14%	4%	2%	1%	180
Party identification	Democrat	19%	62%	12%	3%	2%	2%	231
	Republican	33%	45%	15%	4%	2%	0%	236
	Independent	19%	59%	16%	4%	2%	0%	239

**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	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		29%	57%	9%	2%	2%	2%	803
Gender	Male	31%	57%	7%	2%	1%	2%	341
	Female	27%	56%	11%	2%	3%	1%	462
Race	White	30%	58%	7%	2%	2%	2%	616
	Non-white	26%	53%	15%	2%	3%	1%	167
Region	Northwest	26%	58%	11%	1%	2%	2%	120
	Northern VA	31%	59%	6%		2%	2%	191
	West	26%	58%	12%	2%	1%	1%	167
	South Central	23%	58%	11%	4%	4%	0%	145
	Tidewater	33%	52%	7%	3%	2%	3%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	27%	59%	8%	3%	2%	0%	227
	No	32%	48%	10%		4%	6%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	34%	55%	2%	1%		7%	53
	Yes, other	30%	58%	12%				50
	No	28%	57%	9%	2%	2%	2%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	36%	40%	15%		6%	3%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	23%	64%	8%	2%	2%		92
	\$35,000-49,999	33%	52%	9%	2%	3%	0%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	27%	53%	13%	4%	1%	2%	128
	\$70,000 and above	33%	57%	6%	1%	1%	2%	278
Education	No high school diploma	16%	58%	13%	3%	6%	5%	44
	High school diploma	27%	51%	14%	2%	6%	0%	169
	Some college	28%	59%	9%	3%	0%	1%	221
	College graduate or more	32%	57%	6%	1%	1%	3%	359
Age	18-29	28%	56%	12%	1%	1%	2%	105
	30-44	36%	51%	8%	1%	2%	3%	242
	45-64	26%	59%	8%	3%	2%	1%	281
	65 and older	21%	63%	10%	1%	3%	2%	150
Place where live	Urban	29%	56%	11%	2%	1%	1%	158
	Suburban	29%	59%	6%	2%	1%	2%	271
	Rural	30%	51%	10%	3%	4%	1%	178
	Small town	25%	59%	11%		2%	2%	180
Party identification	Democrat	31%	53%	10%	2%	1%	2%	231
	Republican	28%	60%	7%	0%	2%	1%	236
	Independent	30%	55%	10%	2%	1%	2%	239

Do you think it is appropriate or not appropriate to require that students pass S.O.L. tests in order to graduate from high school?

		APPROPRIATE	NOT APPROPRIATE	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		63%	32%	3%	2%	803
Gender	Male	69%	27%	3%	2%	341
	Female	58%	37%	3%	2%	462
Race	White	64%	31%	3%	2%	616
	Non-white	62%	33%	3%	2%	167
Region	Northwest	53%	44%	2%	1%	120
	Northern VA	75%	20%	3%	2%	191
	West	56%	36%	6%	2%	167
	South Central	65%	33%	2%	1%	145
	Tidewater	61%	35%	2%	2%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	63%	34%	2%	1%	227
	No	47%	52%		1%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	43%	46%	2%	9%	53
	Yes, other	59%	29%	6%	6%	50
	No	65%	31%	3%	1%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	64%	27%	8%	2%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	53%	34%	11%	2%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	57%	41%	2%	0%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	56%	40%	2%	2%	128
	\$70,000 and above	74%	23%	1%	2%	278
Education	No high school diploma	71%	16%	13%		44
	High school diploma	58%	35%	5%	2%	169
	Some college	55%	41%	2%	2%	221
	College graduate or more	70%	25%	2%	2%	359
Age	18-29	61%	35%	3%	1%	105
	30-44	67%	29%	2%	3%	242
	45-64	62%	35%	2%	1%	281
	65 and older	66%	24%	9%	2%	150
Place where live	Urban	67%	29%	3%	1%	158
	Suburban	69%	25%	2%	3%	271
	Rural	58%	37%	4%	1%	178
	Small town	56%	41%	2%	1%	180
Party identification	Democrat	59%	36%	3%	2%	231
	Republican	61%	35%	2%	1%	236
	Independent	70%	25%	3%	2%	239

The SOL tests hold schools accountable for student achievement. (Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with this statement?)

		STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		16%	57%	17%	4%	4%	1%	803
Gender	Male	16%	58%	17%	3%	5%	1%	341
	Female	17%	56%	17%	6%	3%	2%	462
Race	White	15%	56%	19%	4%	5%	1%	616
	Non-white	21%	60%	12%	3%	2%	2%	167
Region	Northwest	17%	52%	20%	3%	9%		120
	Northern VA	13%	61%	17%	3%	4%	2%	191
	West	17%	57%	15%	5%	5%	1%	167
	South Central	13%	64%	18%	4%	1%	0%	145
	Tidewater	23%	50%	16%	5%	3%	3%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	16%	60%	18%	4%	2%	0%	227
	No	7%	67%	14%	7%	2%	3%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	22%	45%	17%	13%	1%	2%	53
	Yes, other	12%	62%	19%	4%	4%		50
	No	16%	57%	17%	4%	4%	2%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	23%	53%	14%	1%	8%		67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	17%	60%	14%	5%	3%	1%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	20%	52%	17%	4%	5%	3%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	11%	56%	22%	7%	3%	1%	128
	\$70,000 and above	16%	61%	16%	4%	1%	1%	278
Education	No high school diploma	14%	52%	21%	2%	9%	2%	44
	High school diploma	21%	53%	16%	2%	6%	1%	169
	Some college	18%	58%	17%	4%	1%	2%	221
	College graduate or more	13%	59%	17%	6%	4%	1%	359
Age	18-29	22%	56%	15%	5%	2%	1%	105
	30-44	15%	61%	18%	2%	3%		242
	45-64	16%	56%	16%	6%	3%	3%	281
	65 and older	14%	52%	18%	2%	11%	3%	150
Place where live	Urban	16%	61%	13%	6%	3%	1%	158
	Suburban	17%	57%	19%	2%	3%	1%	271
	Rural	11%	59%	18%	8%	3%	1%	178
	Small town	20%	52%	19%	2%	6%	2%	180
Party identification	Democrat	15%	58%	19%	4%	2%	2%	231
	Republican	21%	50%	18%	6%	4%	1%	236
	Independent	15%	62%	14%	3%	4%	2%	239

The SOL tests are putting too much pressure on students. (Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with this statement?)

		STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DONT KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		19%	32%	38%	8%	3%	1%	803
Gender	Male	16%	27%	43%	11%	3%	0%	341
	Female	21%	37%	34%	5%	3%	1%	462
Race	White	18%	31%	39%	7%	3%	1%	616
	Non-white	21%	34%	36%	7%	2%	0%	167
Region	Northwest	24%	29%	35%	8%	3%	2%	120
	Northern VA	13%	26%	45%	10%	4%	1%	191
	West	22%	36%	33%	5%	4%	0%	167
	South Central	11%	37%	41%	8%	1%	1%	145
	Tidewater	25%	32%	34%	6%	3%	1%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	26%	32%	32%	7%	1%	1%	227
	No	16%	33%	40%	11%			38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	35%	40%	18%	6%			53
	Yes, other	21%	38%	28%	11%	3%		50
	No	17%	31%	41%	7%	3%	1%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	17%	31%	34%	11%	6%	1%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	21%	51%	27%	1%	1%		92
	\$35,000-49,999	24%	33%	31%	8%	4%	1%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	27%	26%	42%	4%	1%		128
	\$70,000 and above	13%	27%	46%	11%	2%	1%	278
Education	No high school diploma	8%	45%	37%	3%	4%	2%	44
	High school diploma	21%	33%	35%	6%	4%	1%	169
	Some college	25%	32%	33%	7%	2%	0%	221
	College graduate or more	15%	29%	43%	9%	3%	1%	359
Age	18-29	20%	36%	32%	10%	1%		105
	30-44	20%	31%	39%	7%	2%	1%	242
	45-64	19%	28%	43%	8%	2%		281
	65 and older	12%	34%	35%	5%	11%	3%	150
Place where live	Urban	19%	29%	42%	7%	2%	1%	158
	Suburban	16%	28%	41%	12%	3%	1%	271
	Rural	22%	34%	37%	4%	2%	0%	178
	Small town	21%	36%	32%	5%	5%	1%	180
Party identification	Democrat	20%	39%	33%	7%	2%	0%	231
	Republican	22%	29%	36%	10%	2%	1%	236
	Independent	16%	29%	44%	8%	4%	0%	239

In providing skills that will be useful in obtaining a job? (Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years?)

		GOTTEN BETTER	GOTTEN WORSE	STAYED THE SAME	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		28%	17%	38%	15%	3%	803
Gender	Male	25%	18%	39%	13%	5%	341
	Female	30%	17%	36%	16%	1%	462
Race	White	25%	18%	38%	17%	3%	616
	Non-white	35%	15%	39%	8%	3%	167
Region	Northwest	25%	21%	35%	16%	2%	120
	Northern VA	25%	11%	43%	18%	3%	191
	West	34%	21%	32%	13%		167
	South Central	29%	19%	37%	12%	3%	145
	Tidewater	27%	17%	39%	13%	5%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	29%	17%	41%	12%	2%	227
	No	19%	27%	41%	11%	2%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	25%	28%	31%	11%	6%	53
	Yes, other	37%	15%	41%	5%	2%	50
	No	27%	16%	38%	16%	3%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	31%	23%	37%	9%		67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	32%	12%	35%	16%	4%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	28%	23%	33%	11%	5%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	22%	17%	45%	14%	3%	128
	\$70,000 and above	29%	16%	38%	15%	2%	278
Education	No high school diploma	32%	27%	34%	5%	1%	44
	High school diploma	32%	15%	42%	9%	2%	169
	Some college	28%	16%	40%	14%	2%	221
	College graduate or more	25%	18%	35%	19%	4%	359
Age	18-29	32%	13%	41%	13%	1%	105
	30-44	28%	17%	39%	13%	3%	242
	45-64	28%	19%	37%	14%	3%	281
	65 and older	23%	20%	31%	21%	5%	150
Place where live	Urban	26%	21%	40%	10%	3%	158
	Suburban	23%	18%	37%	17%	4%	271
	Rural	32%	15%	36%	16%	1%	178
	Small town	30%	16%	39%	13%	3%	180
Party identification	Democrat	31%	18%	34%	14%	3%	231
	Republican	26%	17%	37%	17%	1%	236
	Independent	23%	16%	46%	11%	4%	239

In teaching the basics such as reading, writing, and mathematics? (Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years?)

		GOTTEN BETTER	GOTTEN WORSE	STAYED THE SAME	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		39%	14%	33%	12%	2%	803
Gender	Male	40%	14%	32%	12%	2%	341
	Female	38%	14%	34%	12%	2%	462
Race	White	38%	14%	32%	14%	2%	616
	Non-white	41%	13%	37%	8%	2%	167
Region	Northwest	38%	16%	29%	15%	2%	120
	Northern VA	35%	9%	38%	16%	2%	191
	West	42%	16%	31%	10%	1%	167
	South Central	42%	16%	35%	6%	1%	145
	Tidewater	38%	16%	31%	12%	3%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	47%	9%	36%	7%	1%	227
	No	13%	24%	46%	15%	2%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	56%	13%	25%	4%	2%	53
	Yes, other	38%	6%	51%	2%	2%	50
	No	37%	15%	32%	13%	2%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	37%	26%	29%	6%	2%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	35%	11%	35%	15%	3%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	38%	20%	30%	9%	3%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	48%	12%	28%	12%		128
	\$70,000 and above	39%	12%	36%	11%	2%	278
Education	No high school diploma	36%	24%	29%	5%	6%	44
	High school diploma	38%	12%	42%	7%	1%	169
	Some college	42%	15%	29%	13%	1%	221
	College graduate or more	37%	13%	32%	15%	2%	359
Age	18-29	40%	10%	38%	12%	1%	105
	30-44	39%	11%	37%	10%	3%	242
	45-64	41%	18%	29%	10%	1%	281
	65 and older	32%	21%	27%	18%	3%	150
Place where live	Urban	36%	16%	35%	11%	2%	158
	Suburban	37%	15%	32%	14%	2%	271
	Rural	39%	11%	37%	11%	1%	178
	Small town	42%	15%	30%	11%	3%	180
Party identification	Democrat	40%	14%	35%	11%	1%	231
	Republican	39%	16%	28%	15%	1%	236
	Independent	35%	11%	40%	10%	4%	239

In providing the skills needed for pursuing a 4-year college degree? (Do you think the public schools in Virginia have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same during the past five years?)

		GOTTEN BETTER	GOTTEN WORSE	STAYED THE SAME	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		32%	12%	37%	16%	3%	803
Gender	Male	33%	11%	37%	14%	4%	341
	Female	32%	12%	38%	17%	1%	462
Race	White	33%	10%	38%	17%	2%	616
	Non-white	33%	13%	39%	12%	3%	167
Region	Northwest	29%	14%	35%	19%	3%	120
	Northern VA	33%	9%	39%	17%	2%	191
	West	37%	13%	37%	13%		167
	South Central	36%	15%	35%	13%	2%	145
	Tidewater	28%	12%	40%	16%	5%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	35%	9%	40%	14%	2%	227
	No	25%	26%	34%	13%	2%	38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	51%	10%	21%	9%	9%	53
	Yes, other	35%	5%	53%	5%	2%	50
	No	31%	13%	37%	17%	2%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	27%	16%	46%	10%	1%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	30%	14%	37%	16%	3%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	23%	16%	37%	19%	5%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	40%	10%	32%	15%	2%	128
	\$70,000 and above	37%	10%	38%	13%	2%	278
Education	No high school diploma	27%	10%	48%	12%	4%	44
	High school diploma	33%	10%	43%	12%	2%	169
	Some college	33%	11%	38%	16%	2%	221
	College graduate or more	34%	14%	32%	17%	3%	359
Age	18-29	35%	8%	43%	14%		105
	30-44	36%	11%	34%	16%	4%	242
	45-64	31%	15%	40%	13%	1%	281
	65 and older	25%	14%	32%	22%	6%	150
Place where live	Urban	31%	16%	38%	13%	2%	158
	Suburban	33%	12%	36%	17%	3%	271
	Rural	41%	7%	36%	15%	2%	178
	Small town	25%	14%	40%	18%	3%	180
Party identification	Democrat	34%	16%	34%	14%	2%	231
	Republican	34%	11%	37%	16%	1%	236
	Independent	31%	10%	40%	15%	4%	239

Do you think that dates for the opening of public schools should be set by the state or by local school divisions?

		STATE	LOCAL SCHOOL DIVISIONS	NO OPINION/ NEUTRAL	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		45%	51%	2%	2%	0%	803
Gender	Male	46%	50%	2%	2%	1%	341
	Female	43%	52%	2%	2%		462
Race	White	41%	55%	2%	1%	0%	616
	Non-white	54%	40%	2%	4%	1%	167
Region	Northwest	25%	71%	2%		2%	120
	Northern VA	42%	56%	0%	2%	1%	191
	West	35%	62%	1%	2%		167
	South Central	53%	37%	4%	5%	0%	145
	Tidewater	59%	38%	3%	1%		180
Children in public school?	Yes	41%	57%	0%	1%	1%	227
	No	22%	75%	2%			38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	28%	66%	4%	2%		53
	Yes, other	39%	58%		1%	2%	50
	No	46%	49%	2%	2%	0%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	38%	53%	4%	3%	2%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	41%	57%	3%			92
	\$35,000-49,999	51%	47%		1%	1%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	46%	48%	4%	2%		128
	\$70,000 and above	43%	55%	0%	2%		278
Education	No high school diploma	31%	54%	9%	5%	1%	44
	High school diploma	47%	49%	2%	3%		169
	Some college	49%	47%	1%	1%	1%	221
	College graduate or more	42%	55%	2%	1%		359
Age	18-29	46%	47%	1%	5%	1%	105
	30-44	45%	54%	1%		1%	242
	45-64	41%	54%	3%	2%		281
	65 and older	50%	44%	4%	2%	0%	150
Place where live	Urban	51%	43%	3%	3%		158
	Suburban	47%	49%	1%	2%	1%	271
	Rural	37%	60%	2%	2%	0%	178
	Small town	41%	56%	3%	1%		180
Party identification	Democrat	51%	47%	1%	1%	0%	231
	Republican	36%	58%	2%	3%	1%	236
	Independent	46%	51%	1%	3%	1%	239

If your local school division wanted to schedule the opening of the school year before Labor Day, would you be in favor or opposed?

		IN FAVOR	OPPOSED	NO OPINION/ NEUTRAL	DON'T KNOW	NO ANSWER	Number of Cases
Total		56%	32%	11%	1%	0%	803
Gender	Male	53%	35%	11%	1%	1%	341
	Female	59%	29%	10%	1%	0%	462
Race	White	60%	27%	11%	1%	1%	616
	Non-white	46%	43%	10%	0%	0%	167
Region	Northwest	47%	37%	14%		2%	120
	Northern VA	63%	22%	13%	1%	0%	191
	West	61%	26%	11%	1%	1%	167
	South Central	54%	35%	10%	1%		145
	Tidewater	50%	42%	7%	1%	0%	180
Children in public school?	Yes	54%	35%	9%	1%	0%	227
	No	48%	37%	15%			38
School employee in household?	Yes, respondent	52%	31%	17%		1%	53
	Yes, other	51%	36%	12%		1%	50
	No	57%	31%	10%	1%	0%	698
Family income	Under \$20,000	48%	37%	13%	1%	1%	67
	\$20,000-\$34,999	52%	38%	9%	1%	1%	92
	\$35,000-49,999	55%	31%	10%	2%	1%	116
	\$50,000-69,999	57%	35%	7%	1%		128
	\$70,000 and above	63%	25%	12%	0%		278
Education	No high school diploma	48%	49%	3%			44
	High school diploma	43%	43%	12%	1%	0%	169
	Some college	58%	26%	15%	0%	1%	221
	College graduate or more	63%	27%	8%	1%	0%	359
Age	18-29	52%	37%	11%	0%		105
	30-44	61%	29%	10%		0%	242
	45-64	59%	29%	11%		1%	281
	65 and older	47%	37%	10%	5%	1%	150
Place where live	Urban	59%	31%	10%	1%		158
	Suburban	55%	31%	12%	1%	0%	271
	Rural	57%	31%	10%		1%	178
	Small town	56%	33%	8%	3%	1%	180
Party identification	Democrat	58%	32%	9%	0%	0%	231
	Republican	57%	26%	16%		1%	236
	Independent	55%	35%	7%	2%	0%	239