



Public involvement. Public education. Public benefit.

**Online No Child Left Behind Survey
Responses from Pennsylvania vs. the National Average**

From what you have heard about NCLB, do you believe that you:

	PA	National
Know Nothing or Little About the Law	4%	7%
Know About Some of the Provisions of the Law	64%	59%
Have An In-Depth Knowledge of the Law	32%	35%

From what you know about NCLB, what is your opinion of the law?

	PA	National
I Support the Law As It Is Without Changes: Stay the Course	1%	2%
I Support the Purposes of the Law, But Believe That It Requires Changes	63%	65%
I Do Not Support the Law At All	35%	31%
I Have No Opinion	1%	2%

One of the major goals of NCLB is to close the academic achievement gap among children of different racial, ethnic, or economic groups. Select those provisions of the law that are essential in closing the gap.

	PA	National
Highly Qualified Teachers	80%	80%
Rigorous academic standards	53%	51%
Tests aligned with standards	37%	44%
Testing of students in grades 3-8, and once in high school	24%	27%
Reporting of test scores for groups of students based on race and ethnicity, income, English language proficiency, and disability	27%	31%
Publication of test scores and other data about district and school performance	26%	26%
Strong parental involvement	88%	88%
Adequate funding and resources	93%	92%
Ability of a child to transfer to another public school if their school does not meet state academic expectations	28%	29%
Tutoring for students in schools that do not meet state academic standards	74%	69%

NCLB currently requires that all children in grades 3 through 8, plus one grade level in high school, be tested in reading and math. Does NCLB require too much testing, too little, just right?

	PA	National
Too much	67%	65%
Too little	12%	9%
Just right	13%	16%
Don't know	8%	10%

Do you believe that these testing and reporting requirements... (Select all that apply)

	PA	National
Have raised awareness in your community about how your schools are doing?	56%	54%
Have provided more and better information about the academic performance in your school district?	36%	32%
Have motivated your community and parents to demand that schools that are low-performing be improved?	15%	20%
Have motivated you personally to become involved in your community?	23%	23%
Not sure	28%	29%

Do you agree that states and school districts should be required to report test scores for students by certain characteristics, including disability, income, English language proficiency, and race/ethnicity?

	PA	National
Strongly agree	18%	20%
Agree	29%	34%
Disagree	20%	17%
Strongly disagree	22%	18%
Not sure	12%	10%

Do you believe that a single test can tell if the entire student body needs academic improvement?

	PA	National
Strongly agree	1%	1%
Agree	5%	4%
Disagree	25%	21%
Strongly disagree	68%	71%
Not sure	2%	2%

Do you believe that a single test can tell if individual students are performing satisfactorily?

	PA	National
Strongly agree	2%	2%
Agree	7%	7%
Disagree	31%	28%
Strongly disagree	59%	61%
Not sure	1%	2%

Currently, NCLB requires testing at only one grade level in high school. There are proposals to have NCLB testing in high school in reading, science and math, and at every grade level. Do you agree that there should be additional NCLB testing in high school?

	PA	National
Strongly agree	14%	10%
Agree	25%	21%
Disagree	16%	23%
Strongly disagree	35%	37%
Not sure	10%	9%

How would you rate the teachers in your local schools? Do your local schools have:

	PA	National
No qualified teachers	1%	0%
Some qualified teachers	16%	15%
Many qualified teachers	49%	55%
All qualified teachers	18%	23%
I have no way of judging	16%	7%

Do you believe that, by the end of this school year, every school will meet the NCLB requirement that all teachers must be qualified in the core subjects that they teach?

	PA	National
Strongly believe	5%	7%
Believe	14%	19%
Disbelieve	43%	38%
Strongly disbelieve	30%	26%
Not sure	8%	10%

Currently, states have different definitions of what it means to be a “highly qualified teacher.” In judging whether a teacher is highly qualified, which of the following qualities do you believe to be most important? (For each, indicate a number between 1 and 5, with 1 for least important and 5 for most important.)

	1	2	3	4	5
Knows the subject matter	0% (2)	1% (1)	5% (4)	22% (20)	72%
Knows how to communicate and relate to students	1% (2)	0% (0)	1% (1)	9% (9)	90%
Establishes a relationship between the family and the school, and keeps channels of communication open	1% (1)	1% (2)	6% (10)	37% (28)	55% (58)
Sensitive to and respects students' diverse cultural backgrounds	1% (2)	2% (3)	12% (11)	26% (26)	60% (58)
Has passed license requirements mandated by the state	1% (4)	4% (5)	18% (19)	24% (25)	53% (47)
Knows how to keep discipline and order in the classroom	1% (1)	3% (2)	8% (8)	27% (29)	62%
Knows how to meet the individualized learning needs of students	1% (2)	1% (1)	4% (5)	20% (20)	74% (72)

How important is it to have a highly qualified teacher in every classroom?

	PA	National
Very important	70%	68%
Important	28%	29%
Unimportant	1%	2%
Very unimportant	0%	1%

No opinion	1%	1%
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Would you support programs to help existing teachers become "highly qualified"?		
	PA	National
Strongly support	57%	60%
Support	37%	33%
Oppose	3%	3%
Strongly oppose	0%	1%
No opinion	2%	3%

What kind of information have you received about your school and districts' performance? (Please check all that apply)		
	PA	National
Information about the qualifications of teachers in my school	21%	28%
Information about the performance of my school	66%	74%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my district	53%	66%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my state	58%	64%
Information about opportunities for me as a parent or community member to become involved in improving the schools	27%	39%
Information about options for my child to transfer to another school	12%	18%
Information about tutoring services available to my child	23%	25%
None of the above	18%	14%

How do you receive information about the performance of your school or school district? (Please check all that apply)		
	PA	National
From my school or school district	52%	65%
From a community-based organization or advocacy group	9%	10%
From the media	50%	53%
By mail	21%	26%
By e-mail	8%	13%
By phone	1%	3%
Sent home with my child	26%	32%
On the school or school district website	34%	39%
In local newspapers	62%	62%
On local broadcast news (radio/TV)	17%	22%
Other	11%	13%

Are you getting enough information about the performance of the schools in your community?		
	PA	National
Too much	6%	13%
Just enough	36%	42%
Not enough	41%	31%
I am not getting information	10%	8%
Don't know	7%	6%

Do you agree that the information that you receive about the performance of schools in your district is presented in a language and format that you can understand and easily use?

	PA	National
Strongly agree	17%	18%
Agree	48%	50%
Disagree	17%	17%
Strongly disagree	8%	6%
Not sure	10%	9%

How strongly do you believe that the assessment data from test scores will lead to school improvement?

	PA	National
Strongly agree	3%	4%
Agree	24%	28%
Disagree	43%	39%
Strongly disagree	24%	23%
Not sure	5%	6%

Have schools in your community been labeled as “in need of improvement” or “failing” because of NCLB?

	PA	National
None	16%	20%
A few	37%	45%
Many	24%	19%
Not sure	23%	16%

**Have you been asked to become involved in any of the following activities related to NCLB?
(Please check all that apply)**

	PA	National
Developing state standards	2%	5%
Developing the state test required by NCLB	1%	3%
Developing the state and/or local report cards required by NCLB	1%	3%
Developing the district Title I parent involvement policy	5%	4%
Giving input into the district annual Title I program	6%	6%
Making recommendations for what constitutes a "highly qualified teacher" under NCLB	3%	3%
Participating in the improvement teams for schools that were identified as needing improvement	8%	11%
None of the above	85%	81%

How satisfied are you with your school/district’s efforts to engage you and/or your community?

	PA	National
Very satisfied	6%	17%
Satisfied	27%	35%
Dissatisfied	34%	21%
Very dissatisfied	17%	13%
No opinion	16%	15%

NCLB gives students that attend low-performing schools the choice to transfer to another public school within the school district. How much do you think this option will help students perform better academically?

	PA	National
It will help a great deal	37%	8%
It will help a little	50%	25%
It will have no effect	5%	28%
It will have a detrimental effect	2%	28%
Not sure	6%	10%

NCLB gives students attending low-performing schools the chance to receive tutoring after school to help them meet academic standards. How much do you think this will help students perform better academically?

	PA	National
It will help a great deal	37%	41%
It will help a little	50%	48%
It will have no effect	5%	6%
It will have a detrimental effect	2%	1%
Not sure	6%	3%

During the 2006 elections, is it important to you that candidates for office:

	PA	National
Support the current NCLB law and seek its renewal	3%	4%
Support the current NCLB law, but with changes and amendments	62%	57%
Oppose the NCLB law	35%	37%
Makes no difference to me	1%	3%