SURVEY OF PARENTS TENNESSEE STATEWIDE

Conducted October 28 - November 2, 2020
N=500, MoE= +/- 4\%

## GRADE LEVEL

The largest category of participants were parents of Kindergarten through 5th grade children, ( $60 \%$ ). Parents of children from 10th through 12th grade made up the smallest percentage.



## TYPE OF SCHOOL

A significant majority of respondents have children enrolled in public school, at $73 \%$, with homeschool being the 2nd largest category, at 13\%. Religious schools are most prevalent in Nashville (10\%) and least prevalent in Memphis (5\%).


## PUBLIC SCHOOL DIRECTION

Three-quarters (76\%) of parents with children in public schools feel that Tennessee schools are moving in the right direction, although only $18 \%$ feel fully confident in the direction of public schools in the State. Strongly negative and unsure parents make up a much smaller percentage, both at only $6 \%$, while another $12 \%$ say schools are mostly on the wrong track.

## SATISFACTION WITH PUBLIC SCHOOL

$72 \%$ of those with children in public schools are satisfied with their child's experience with public schools in Tennessee., with 23\% reporting being very satisfied. Somewhat and very dissatisfied both tie at 12\%.


|  | TOTAL | GENDER |  | AGE |  |  | REGION |  |  |  |  | RACE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | TOTAL | M | F | <35 | 35-49 | 50+ | Memphis | Nashville | Chatt'ga | Knoxville | Bristol | White | Black | Other |
| SATISFIED (T2B) | 72\% | 76\% | 68\% | 70\% | 73\% | 69\% | 58\% | 74\% | 77\% | 72\% | 77\% | 74\% | 60\% | 60\% |
| DISSATISFIED (B2B) | 15\% | 15\% | 16\% | 16\% | 14\% | 21\% | 23\% | 12\% | 22\% | 13\% | 17\% | 15\% | 18\% | 20\% |

## EDUCATION OPTIONS FAVORABILITY

A higher percentage of parents reported being very favorable education options at their child's school ( $47 \%$ ), with $31 \%$ extending that satisfaction to their child's local school district. Both statewide public schools and public charter schools show 19\% very favorable conditions. For every category besides "my child's school," most respondents felt somewhat favorable, between 35-45\%.


## PUBLIC SCHOOL - NEED FOR CHANGE

Two-thirds of parents report a need for change, while those who report the need for a lot of change and those who report needing a little consist of $26 \%$ and $27 \%$ respectively.

Black respondents are far more likely than Whites or other races to say that a lot of change is needed ( $41 \%$ ). Likewise, $43 \%$ of respondents over age 50 say that a lot of change is needed.

| VIEW IN DETAIL | TOTAL | GENDER |  | AGE |  |  | REGION |  |  |  |  | RACE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | TOTAL | M | F | <35 | 35-49 | 50+ | Memphis | Nashville | Chatt'ga | Knoxville | Bristol | White | Black | Other |
| A lot | 26\% | 26\% | 26\% | 26\% | 24\% | 43\% | 30\% | 24\% | 27\% | 23\% | 33\% | 24\% | 41\% | 34\% |
| Some | 40\% | 37\% | 43\% | 33\% | 46\% | 32\% | 27\% | 43\% | 44\% | 40\% | 37\% | 42\% | 37\% | 14\% |
| A little | 27\% | 30\% | 24\% | 31\% | 26\% | 17\% | 33\% | 25\% | 27\% | 27\% | 26\% | 29\% | 17\% | 14\% |
| Not at all | 3\% | 4\% | 2\% | 4\% | 2\% | 2\% | 1\% | 4\% | 0\% | 6\% | 0\% | 3\% | 2\% | 8\% |
| Unsure | 4\% | 2\% | 6\% | 6\% | 2\% | 6\% | 7\% | 4\% | 2\% | 3\% | 5\% | 2\% | 2\% | 30\% |

## PUBLIC SCHOOL - NEED FOR CHANGE 1/2

CYGNAL

Parents overall strongly agree with the specific needs presented in the survey (39-48\%), with similar percentages reflected in the agree somewhat category (35-39\%). Agreement is highest with the statement that funding should be used to ensure that schools are modern and equipped with up-to-date technology.


CYGNAL

## PUBLIC SCHOOL - NEED FOR CHANGE 2/2

The lowest level of agreement is found for statements relating to teacher salaries being tied to performance, and the need for strict oversight of chronically underperforming schools.


## Sample Structure

## SAMPLE STRUCTURE

## NUMBER OF CHILDREN

Most respondents report having one school-aged child (55\%), with steep drop-offs for 2, 3, and 4+ children.


| VIEW IN DETAIL | TOTAL | GENDER |  | AGE |  |  | REGION |  |  |  |  | RACE |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | TOTAL | M | F | <35 | 35-49 | 50+ | Memphis | Nashville | Chatt'ga | Knoxville | Bristol | White | Black | Other |
| AVERAGE | 1,69 | 1,57 | 1,82 | 1,79 | 1,67 | 1,38 | 1,74 | 1,70 | 1,56 | 1,70 | 1,77 | 1,69 | 1,72 | 1,73 |
| 1 | 55\% | 63\% | 47\% | 54\% | 54\% | 66\% | 55\% | 52\% | 67\% | 55\% | 53\% | 55\% | 60\% | 52\% |
| 2 | 28\% | 22\% | 33\% | 26\% | 29\% | 30\% | 22\% | 32\% | 21\% | 26\% | 26\% | 28\% | 25\% | 31\% |
| 3 | 12\% | 10\% | 14\% | 11\% | 13\% | 4\% | 19\% | 10\% | 7\% | 14\% | 12\% | 13\% | 2\% | 9\% |
| 4 and more | 6\% | 5\% | 6\% | 9\% | 4\% | 0\% | 3\% | 6\% | 5\% | 5\% | 8\% | 5\% | 12\% | 8\% |

