



2005 Online No Child Left Behind Survey
Responses from California (n=783) vs. the National Average (n=7,553)

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?

	California	National
Too much	70%	67%
Too little	8%	8%
Just right	16%	16%
Don't know	6%	9%

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

	California	National
Have raised awareness in your community about how your schools are doing?	54%	47%
Have provided more and better information about the academic performance in your school district?	30%	29%
Have motivated your community and parents to demand that schools that are low-performing be improved?	18%	16%
Have motivated you personally to become involved in your community?	20%	21%
Not sure	32%	24%

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?

	California	National
Strongly agree	20%	20%
Agree	36%	35%
Disagree	15%	15%
Strongly disagree	20%	15%
Not sure	9%	10%

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

	California	National
Strongly agree	1%	1%
Agree	4%	4%
Disagree	18%	20%
Strongly disagree	75%	72%
Not sure	2%	2%

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

	California	National
Strongly agree	1%	2%
Agree	5%	8%
Disagree	25%	27%
Strongly disagree	67%	62%
Not sure	2%	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?

	California	National
Strongly agree	8%	8%
Agree	18%	20%
Disagree	23%	24%
Strongly disagree	42%	39%
Not sure	8%	9%

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

	California	National
No qualified teachers	0%	0%
Some qualified teachers	15%	14%
Many qualified teachers	58%	57%
All qualified teachers	21%	23%
I have no way of judging	6%	6%

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?

	California	National
Strongly believe	8%	7%
Believe	18%	18%
Disbelieve	36%	39%
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	2%	1%	5%	24%	69%
Knows how to communicate and relate to students	2%	1%	0%	9%	88%
Establishes a relationship between the family and the school, and keeps channels of communication open	2%	2%	11%	28%	58%
Sensitive to and respects students' diverse cultural backgrounds	2%	3%	13%	23%	59%
Has passed license requirements mandated by the state	3%	8%	28%	24%	37%
Knows how to keep discipline and order in the classroom	2%	2%	9%	27%	60%
Knows how to meet the individualized learning needs of students	2%	1%	6%	19%	72%

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

	California	National
Very important	66%	67%
Important	33%	29%
Unimportant	3%	2%
Very unimportant	1%	1%
No opinion	1%	1%

Would you support programs to help existing teachers become "highly qualified"?		
	California	National
Strongly support	61%	60%
Support	32%	33%
Oppose	3%	3%
Strongly oppose	1%	1%
No opinion	3%	3%

What kind of information have you received about your school and districts' performance? (Please check all that apply)		
	California	National
Information about the qualifications of teachers in my school	34%	30%
Information about the performance of my school	75%	77%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my district	70%	69%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my state	60%	66%
Information about opportunities for me as a parent or community member to become involved in improving the schools	40%	41%
Information about options for my child to transfer to another school	23%	19%
Information about tutoring services available to my child	26%	27%
None of the above	15%	11%

How do you receive information about the performance of your school or school district? (Please check all that apply)		
	California	National
From my school or school district	64%	67%
From a community-based organization or advocacy group	13%	11%
From the media	47%	54%
By mail	21%	25%
By e-mail	16%	14%
By phone	4%	3%
Sent home with my child	30%	33%
On the school or school district website	38%	42%
In local newspapers	59%	62%
On local broadcast news (radio/TV)	14%	22%
Other	18%	13%

Are you getting enough information about the performance of the schools in your community?		
	California	National
Too much	15%	14%
Just enough	40%	44%
Not enough	31%	29%
I am not getting information	8%	7%
Don't know	6%	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?

	California	National
Strongly agree	21%	18%
Agree	47%	51%
Disagree	17%	18%
Strongly disagree	6%	6%
Not sure	10%	8%

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

	California	National
Strongly agree	4%	4%
Agree	24%	28%
Disagree	39%	39%
Strongly disagree	27%	23%
Not sure	6%	5%

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

	California	National
None	13%	19%
A few	39%	47%
Many	32%	19%
Not sure	16%	14%

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

	California	National
Developing state standards	4%	6%
Developing the state test required by NCLB	2%	3%
Developing the state and/or local report cards required by NCLB	4%	3%
Developing the district Title I parent involvement policy	6%	5%
Giving input into the district annual Title I program	9%	7%
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	12%	12%
None of the above	77%	76%

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

	California	National
Very satisfied	17%	17%
Satisfied	30%	36%
Dissatisfied	23%	20%
Very dissatisfied	14%	13%
No opinion	16%	14%

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?

	California	National
It will help a great deal	6%	8%
It will help a little	25%	26%
It will have no effect	28%	29%
It will have a detrimental effect	32%	28%
Not sure	9%	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?

	California	National
It will help a great deal	40%	28%
It will help a little	49%	50%
It will have no effect	7%	7%
It will have a detrimental effect	2%	1%
Not sure	2%	3%

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

	California	National
Support the current NCLB law and seek its renewal	2%	3%
Support the current NCLB law, but with changes and amendments	46%	57%
Oppose the NCLB law	49%	36%
Makes no difference to me	2%	3%

Demographics

Gender		
	California	National
Female	77%	80%
Male	23%	20%

Age		
	California	National
Under 18	1%	0%
18-24	2%	2%
25-34	13%	14%
35-49	40%	42%
50-65	38%	36%
Over 65	7%	5%

Race/Ethnicity		
	California	National
African-America	2%	4%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2%	1%
Hispanic/Latino/Mexican	10%	3%
Native American or Alaskan Native	1%	1%
White	75%	84%
Other	10%	6%

Education		
	California	National
Currently enrolled in middle of high school	1%	0%
Did not complete high school	0%	0%
High school or GED	2%	4%
Some college	14%	14%
Four-year college degree	27%	30%
Post-secondary education	56%	51%

Self Identification		
	California	National
Business person	11%	13%
Community activist	19%	14%
Concerned community member	41%	38%
Educator	62%	61%
Elected official	2%	1%
Parent/guardian of current public school student	33%	36%
Parent/guardian of former public school student	19%	20%
Parent/guardian of private school student	5%	5%
Other	14%	15%

Type of School Child(ren) Attend(ed)		
	California	National
Public school	71%	75%
Private school (non-religious)	9%	7%
Parochial or religious school	6%	8%
Home school	5%	3%
Too young to attend school	5%	5%
I do not have children	18%	16%
Other	8%	7%

Did You Vote in the Last Election for:		
	California	National
School board member	84%	76%
Mayor	70%	60%
State legislator	88%	83%
Governor	94%	81%
U.S. Congress	89%	83%
U.S. President	93%	90%