

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling from \_\_\_\_\_, a national public opinion research firm. We are not trying to sell you anything or asking for a donation. We are conducting a survey in Illinois on a number of public issues and your telephone number was selected at random. Are you age 18 or older?

1. Would you say things in Illinois today are generally headed in the right direction or would you say things are off on the wrong track?
- Right direction .....39%  
 Wrong track .....57  
 (Don't know) .....4

2. Now, I am going to read you a list of priorities for Illinois. Please tell me how important each one is to you, personally, on a scale of zero to ten where a zero means not a priority at all and ten means it is your top priority. You can choose any number from zero to ten. The first one is:

									<b>TOTAL HIGH (8-10)</b>
<b>[RANDOMIZE]</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8-9</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2-4</b>	<b>0-1</b>	<b>[DK]</b>		
a. Having high quality public schools .....	47%	27	14	6	3	3	<1		74%
b. Cleaning up corruption in state government.....	57%	19	12	5	4	2	<1		76%
c. Lowering taxes .....	45%	22	14	7	7	4	<1		67%
d. Reforming the state pension systems .....	30%	21	19	13	9	6	1		52%
e. Balancing the state budget.....	38%	28	16	9	6	3	1		66%
f. Reducing crime .....	56%	22	11	5	4	2	<1		77%
g. Jobs and economic growth.....	43%	31	14	6	3	2	<1		74%
h. Reducing racial divisions .....	42%	21	11	9	8	7	1		63%
i. Reforming health care .....	38%	25	15	9	7	4	1		63%

3. Students are often given the grades A, B, C, D and Fail to show the quality of their work. Suppose the public schools were graded the same way. What grade would you give the **[READ ITEM]**? And what about the...?

<b>[DO NOT RANDOMIZE]</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>[DK]</b>
a. The public schools in the nation as a whole .....	6%	17	43	20	10	3
b. The public schools in Illinois as a whole.....	5%	19	38	22	13	3
c. The public schools in your local community .....	17%	31	28	13	8	2

4. Now I want you to think about Illinois public school teachers and I want you to tell me the one word or phrase that first comes to mind.

TOTAL POSITIVE..... 56%  
TOTAL NEGATIVE..... 25%

**POSITIVE PERSONAL**

**CHARACTERISTICS..... 32%**  
Dedicated..... 6%  
Hard-working..... 5%  
Good..... 3%  
Great..... 2%  
Trying..... 1%  
Excellent..... 1%  
Caring..... 1%  
Amazing..... 1%  
Committed..... 1%  
Better Than They Were..... 1%  
Patient..... 1%  
Awesome..... <1%  
Doing Well..... <1%  
Nice..... <1%  
Professional..... <1%  
Inspiring..... <1%  
Brave..... <1%  
Helpful..... <1%  
Smart..... <1%  
Innovative..... <1%  
Quality..... <1%  
Resilient..... <1%  
Qualified..... <1%  
Educated..... <1%  
Hero..... <1%  
Wonderful..... <1%  
Community..... <1%  
Encouraging..... <1%  
Talented..... <1%  
Deserving..... <1%  
I Like Them..... <1%  
Leaders..... <1%  
Honorable..... <1%  
Unity..... <1%  
Striving..... <1%  
Devoted..... <1%  
Powerful..... <1%  
Involved..... <1%  
Polite..... <1%  
Unbelievable..... <1%  
Adamant..... <1%  
Potential..... <1%  
Together..... <1%  
Knowledgeable..... <1%  
Laid back..... <1%  
Loyal..... <1%  
Optimistic..... <1%  
Organized..... <1%  
Outstanding..... <1%  
Trustworthy..... <1%  
Strong..... <1%  
Kind..... <1%  
Effective..... <1%  
Compassionate..... <1%  
Noble..... <1%  
Exceptional..... <1%  
Essential..... <1%  
Resourceful..... <1%  
Understanding..... <1%  
Cool..... <1%  
Effort..... <1%  
Transformative..... <1%  
Selfless..... <1%  
Lovely..... <1%  
Concerned..... <1%  
Available..... <1%  
Good system..... <1%

**POSITIVE PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS (CONTINUED)**

Solid..... <1%  
Security..... <1%  
Valuable..... <1%  
Competent..... <1%  
Capable..... <1%  
Tough..... <1%  
Difficult Job..... <1%  
Giving..... <1%

**NEGATIVES..... 23%**

Lazy..... 1%  
Liberals..... 1%  
Greedy..... 1%  
Corrupt..... 1%  
Self-centered..... 1%  
Poor..... 1%  
Uncaring..... 1%  
Lacking Ambition..... 1%  
Selfish..... 1%  
Entitled..... <1%  
Rude..... <1%  
Uncommitted..... <1%  
Careless..... <1%  
Whining..... <1%  
Bad..... <1%  
Political..... <1%  
Bullies/Bullying..... <1%  
Not Qualified..... <1%  
Unprofessional..... <1%  
Incompetent..... <1%  
Need More Education..... <1%  
Need More Structure..... <1%  
Sucks..... <1%  
Lacking..... <1%  
Inconsistent..... <1%  
Inadequate..... <1%  
Pathetic..... <1%  
Hypocrites..... <1%  
Communists..... <1%  
Biased..... <1%  
Crazy..... <1%  
Mediocre..... <1%  
Sorry..... <1%  
Scared..... <1%  
Sad..... <1%  
Non Efficient..... <1%  
Strict..... <1%  
Old..... <1%  
Arrogant..... <1%  
Misguided..... <1%  
Not up there where..... <1%  
they should be  
Privileged..... <1%  
Terrible..... <1%  
Weird..... <1%  
Heading downhill..... <1%  
Indoctrinated..... <1%  
Not invested..... <1%  
Retarded..... <1%  
Uninterested..... <1%  
Horrible..... <1%  
Deception..... <1%  
Slow..... <1%  
Lackluster..... <1%  
Improvement needed..... <1%  
Prima donnas..... <1%  
Overbearing..... <1%  
Non Educators..... <1%  
Unstable..... <1%  
Trolling..... <1%

**NEGATIVES (CONTINUED)**

Impatient..... <1%  
They are not like they..... <1%  
were, not the same  
Non Performers..... <1%  
Broken..... <1%  
Clique..... <1%  
Conformists..... <1%  
Complainers..... <1%  
Pretentious..... <1%  
Not Good..... <1%  
Steering off track..... <1%  
Indecisive..... <1%  
Lousy..... <1%  
Idiotology..... <1%  
They don't listen to..... <1%  
the students  
Irresponsible..... <1%  
Learn how to teach..... <1%  
Unhinged..... <1%  
Under educated..... <1%  
Learn to teach coping..... <1%  
skills  
Fear..... <1%  
Dissatisfied..... <1%  
Untrained..... <1%  
Not aligned with true..... <1%  
education  
Disgrace..... <1%  
Unable..... <1%  
Indifferent..... <1%  
Failing..... <1%  
Mean..... <1%  
Socialist..... <1%  
Coddled..... <1%  
Weak..... <1%  
Ridged..... <1%  
Fearful..... <1%  
Behind..... <1%  
Busywork instead of..... <1%  
teaching  
Lame..... <1%  
Followers..... <1%  
Get back to teaching..... <1%  
Inept..... <1%  
Burnt Out..... <1%  
Not paying attention..... <1%  
Inexperience..... <1%  
Impossible..... <1%  
Not unified..... <1%  
Don't teach enough..... <1%  
Inundated with..... <1%  
progressive B.S.  
Not focused..... <1%  
Retire all of them..... <1%

**PAY..... 13%**  
Underpaid..... 13%

(continues next page)

**Continued** - Now I want you to think about Illinois public school teachers and I want you to tell me the one word or phrase that first comes to mind.

<b>OVER-WORKED/</b>	
<b>UNDER-FUNDED</b> .....	<b>8%</b>
Over-worked .....	4%
Tired .....	<1%
Under Funded .....	<1%
Stressed .....	<1%
Overwhelmed .....	<1%
Not Supported .....	<1%
Need Help .....	<1%
Frustrated .....	<1%
Challenged .....	<1%
Over-burdened .....	<1%
Busy .....	<1%
Exhausted .....	<1%
Have Hard Time .....	<1%
High Expectations With .....	<1%
Low Resources	
Need Support .....	<1%
Hardship .....	<1%
More Funding .....	<1%
Micromanaged .....	<1%
Restricted .....	<1%
Lack Of Help From .....	<1%
Parents	
It's A Hard Job .....	<1%
Held Back .....	<1%
Hard pressed .....	<1%
Struggling .....	<1%
Under privileged .....	<1%
Frazzled .....	<1%

<b>NEUTRAL</b> .....	<b>3%</b>
Okay .....	1%
Average .....	<1%
Fair/Alright .....	<1%
Adequate .....	<1%
Decent .....	<1%
Testing .....	<1%
Educators .....	<1%
Lessons .....	<1%
Work in progress .....	<1%
Grades .....	<1%
Normal .....	<1%
Homework .....	<1%
Some Good Some Bad .....	<1%
Unequal .....	<1%
Discipline .....	<1%
Communication .....	<1%
Meets expectations .....	<1%
Moderate .....	<1%

<b>UNION/CONTRACT ISSUES</b> .....	<b>3%</b>
Union .....	2%
Strikes .....	1%
Pensions .....	<1%
Contracts .....	<1%
Protests .....	<1%
Tenure .....	<1%

<b>NOT APPRECIATED ENOUGH</b> .....	<b>3%</b>
Under-appreciated .....	2%
Under-valued .....	1%
Disrespected .....	<1%
Caught in the middle .....	<1%
Unfair .....	<1%
Divided .....	<1%
Need Respect .....	<1%
Stuck between a rock .....	<1%
and hard place	

<b>OVERPAID</b> .....	<b>3%</b>
Over Paid .....	2%
Teachers Worry More .....	1%
About Their Pay Than	
Their Students	
Paycheck .....	<1%
Spoiled .....	<1%
Expensive .....	<1%
Paid Well .....	<1%

<b>NOT ENOUGH TEACHERS</b> .....	<b>1%</b>
Under Staffed .....	<1%
Need quality teachers .....	<1%

<b>TAXES</b> .....	<b>&lt;1%</b>
Taxes .....	<1%
High taxes .....	<1%

<b>OTHER</b> .....	<b>6%</b>
Education .....	1%
No Kids In School .....	<1%
Relative Is Teacher .....	<1%
Safety .....	<1%
Independent .....	<1%
They are alike .....	<1%
Stereotype .....	<1%
Democrat .....	<1%
Race .....	<1%
Engagement .....	<1%
Misinformed .....	<1%
Young .....	<1%
Mandatory .....	<1%
Covid shots .....	<1%
Teach .....	<1%
Self, I am a teacher .....	<1%
White .....	<1%
School .....	<1%
Progressive .....	<1%
Mixed emotions .....	<1%
Needs reform .....	<1%
Other .....	2%

Don't know .....

5. Using our grades of A, B, C, D and Fail again, how would you grade Illinois public schools on **[READ ITEM]**? And what about...?

<b>[DO NOT RANDOMIZE]</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>[DK]</b>
a. Preparing students with the skills they need to succeed after graduating .....	7%	21	38	19	12	2
b. Meeting the social and emotional needs of students .....	7%	19	32	23	15	3
c. Attracting and retaining the best educators .....	6%	20	34	23	13	3

6. People have different ideas about what Illinois schools should be preparing kids for. I am going to read some ideas about things Illinois schools could be preparing kids for and I want you to tell me how important each one is to you, personally, on a scale of zero to ten where a zero means not a priority at all and ten means it is your top priority. You can choose any number from zero to ten.

<b>[RANDOMIZE]</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8-9</b>	<b>6-7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2-4</b>	<b>0-1</b>	<b>[DK]</b>	<b>TOTAL HIGH (8-10)</b>
a. To get a job after high school graduation .....	38%	30	17	7	5	3	<1	68%
b. To get into and succeed in college .....	33%	30	21	9	5	3	<1	62%
c. To have the basics of a skilled trade .....	35%	32	18	8	4	3	<1	68%
d. Having good morals and good character .....	53%	23	12	6	4	2	<1	76%
e. To be a critical thinker .....	46%	27	14	7	4	2	<1	73%
f. To work together in groups and teams .....	28%	32	23	9	5	3	<1	60%
g. To have life skills like cooking, personal finance and nutrition .....	43%	29	15	5	5	3	<1	72%

7. Do you think funding for public schools in Illinois should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?
- |                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Increase.....       | 60% |
| Decrease .....      | 11  |
| Stay the same ..... | 26  |
| (Don't know) .....  | 2   |
8. Do you think that public school teachers in your community are paid too little, too much, or about right?
- |                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Too little.....    | 51% |
| Too much .....     | 15  |
| About right .....  | 31  |
| (Don't know) ..... | 3   |
9. As you may know, public schools in Illinois have support staff in classrooms called paraprofessionals. These paraprofessionals work with physically, behaviorally and developmentally challenged students. During the coronavirus pandemic they also made sure these students got meals, had access to technology, and delivered work packets to students' homes. They get paid an average of \$12 per hour. Do you think that paraprofessionals in your community are paid too little, too much or about right?
- |                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Too little.....    | 71% |
| Too much .....     | 7   |
| About right .....  | 20  |
| (Don't know) ..... | 2   |
10. More than 50% of higher education teachers are known as adjunct faculty. That is, they are college professors who are hired on a contract basis per semester and are not eligible for tenure. These adjunct faculty are paid much less than other professors. In fact, more than 25% of adjunct faculty qualify for public assistance. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose a minimum wage for adjunct faculty that would allow them to make ends meet?
- |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Strongly favor .....  | 46% |
| Somewhat favor .....  | 29  |
| Somewhat oppose.....  | 11  |
| Strongly oppose ..... | 10  |
| (Don't know) .....    | 4   |
| Total favor .....     | 74% |
| Total oppose.....     | 21% |
11. Currently, the definition of a sick day for public school employees does not include mental health. Over the course of the pandemic, if they took a day off due to exhaustion or stress, they could be disciplined. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose broadening the definition of sick day for public school employees to include mental health?
- |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Strongly favor .....  | 48% |
| Somewhat favor .....  | 24  |
| Somewhat oppose.....  | 12  |
| Strongly oppose ..... | 14  |
| (Don't know) .....    | 2   |
| Total favor .....     | 72% |
| Total oppose.....     | 26% |
12. As you may know, teachers in Illinois do not pay into and therefore do not collect Social Security when they retire. Do you think that Illinois teachers should receive their full pension, see their pensions cut some or see their pensions eliminated?
- |                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Full pension ..... | 74% |
| Cut some .....     | 14  |
| Eliminated.....    | 7   |
| (Don't know) ..... | 5   |

13. Illinois teachers hired after 2010 are currently paying nine percent of their salary into their pension plan. The plan requires them to work until the age of 67 to be eligible to get their pension benefits. Under the current system, teachers hired in the last 11 years all will pay more into the pension system than they will likely receive. Would you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose changes to the teacher pension system that would allow those teachers to retire before age 67 and still receive their full benefits?

Strongly favor .....43%  
 Somewhat favor .....29  
 Somewhat oppose.....15  
 Strongly oppose .....11  
 (Don't know) .....2

Total favor .....72%  
 Total oppose.....26%

14. Please say how important it is for each of these groups to have a strong voice in how public schools in Illinois are run. **[READ ITEM]** Is it very important, somewhat important, not very important or not important at all for them to have a strong voice in how public schools in Illinois are run?

	STRG APP	SMWT APP	SMWT DIS	STRG DIS	[DK]	TOTAL APP	TOTAL DIS
<b>[RANDOMIZE]</b>							
a. The economy.....	63%	29	6	2	<1	92%	7%
b. Students.....	45%	37	12	7	<1	81%	18%
c. Administrators.....	42%	43	10	5	1	85%	14%
d. Teachers.....	69%	23	5	2	<1	93%	7%
e. The school board.....	41%	43	11	5	<1	83%	16%
f. Politicians.....	14%	26	28	31	1	40%	59%

15. Thinking now about responding to the coronavirus and the public schools in Illinois, who do you trust the most when it comes to responding to the coronavirus in schools? **[RANDOMIZE]**

Public health professionals.....35%  
 Parents .....19  
 Scientists .....18  
 Teachers .....8  
 Your local school administrators .....7  
 Your local school board.....5  
 Students .....4  
 Politicians .....2  
 (Don't know) .....3

16. Due to the ongoing pandemic and given that many students including most under age 12 are not currently vaccinated, Illinois public schools require masks to be worn inside. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose requiring masks to be worn inside of public schools?

Strongly favor .....53%  
 Somewhat favor .....18  
 Somewhat oppose.....10  
 Strongly oppose .....18  
 (Don't know) .....1

Total favor .....72%  
 Total oppose.....28%

17. As you may know, Governor Pritzker issued an Emergency Order in Illinois that requires educators and health care workers to either get vaccinated against COVID-19 or get tested at least once a week. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this emergency order?

Strongly favor .....48%  
 Somewhat favor .....19  
 Somewhat oppose.....10  
 Strongly oppose .....22  
 (Don't know) .....1

Total favor .....67%  
 Total oppose.....32%

18. Let's change topics. As far as you know, is your community school district currently experiencing teacher shortages?

Yes .....44%  
 No.....41  
 (Don't know) .....15

19. **[IF Q18=1]** How worried are you about these shortages? (n=444)

Very worried .....30%  
 Somewhat worried.....47  
 Not very worried .....17  
 Not worried at all .....5  
 (Don't know) .....<1  
  
 Total worried.....77%  
 Total not worried.....23%

20. And as far as you know, is your community school district currently experiencing staffing shortages for support roles like teaching aides, bus drivers, nurses, librarians, and custodians?

Yes .....57%  
 No.....32  
 (Don't know) .....11

21. **[IF Q20=1]** How worried are you about these shortages? (n=567)

Very worried .....29%  
 Somewhat worried.....50  
 Not very worried .....15  
 Not worried at all .....6  
 (Don't know) .....<1  
  
 Total worried.....79%  
 Total not worried.....20%

22. As you may know, public schools in Illinois have had a teacher shortage for several years. Recent surveys suggest that as many as one in four teachers, school psychologists and paraprofessionals in Illinois are now thinking about leaving the profession permanently because the pandemic has made everything more difficult. Had you, or had you not, heard that about teachers and other public school employees leaving permanently before now?

Yes .....55%  
 No.....44  
 (Don't know) .....1

23. If that happens, that one in four teachers, school psychologists and paraprofessionals leave the profession, there are many potential outcomes. For each one, say how worried that outcome makes you—very worried, somewhat worried, not very worried, or not worried at all.

<b>[RANDOMIZE]</b>		<b>VERY WORR</b>	<b>SMWT WORR</b>	<b>NOT VERY</b>	<b>NOT AT ALL</b>	<b>[DK]</b>	<b>TOTAL WORR</b>	<b>TOTAL NOT</b>
a.	Classrooms will get more crowded.....	45%	36	12	7	<1	81%	19%
b.	Taxes will go up because school districts will have to pay everyone more to keep them.....	41%	31	17	9	1	73%	27%
c.	Students will end up performing worse .....	56%	28	10	5	1	84%	15%
d.	Standards will have to be lowered to allow people into the profession.....	49%	33	10	7	1	82%	17%
e.	There will be a push to more online learning.....	34%	34	20	12	1	67%	32%

24. As you may know, public schools in Illinois have had a teacher shortage for several years. To attract new people into the profession, a new law has been proposed that would allow teachers who graduate from Illinois public colleges and universities and who then teach in Illinois public schools for five years to apply for a tax credit for 100 percent of their student loan debt over the next five years. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this new law?
- |                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Strongly favor .....  | 44% |
| Somewhat favor .....  | 33  |
| Somewhat oppose.....  | 10  |
| Strongly oppose ..... | 12  |
| (Don't know) .....    | 2   |
| Total favor .....     | 77% |
| Total oppose.....     | 22% |

25. Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose each of the following?

[RANDOMIZE]	STRG	SMWT	SMWT	STRG	[DK]	TOT	TOT
	FAV	FAV	OPP	OPP		FAV	OPP
a. An Illinois state law that bans the teaching of critical race theory in public schools .....	29%	17	16	33	5	46%	50%
b. Teaching Illinois high school students about slavery in the United States and its impacts.....	57%	26	6	9	1	83%	15%
c. Teaching Illinois high school students about racism and its impact in the United States.....	51%	22	10	15	2	73%	25%

[READ]: Now I'd like to ask a few questions for statistical purposes only.

100. SEX (OBSERVATION: DO NOT ASK)

Male.....	49%
Female .....	51

101. What is your age?

18-29 .....	18%
30-34 .....	11
35-39 .....	8
40-44 .....	9
45-49 .....	8
50-54 .....	9
55-59 .....	9
60-64 .....	7
65-69 .....	9
70+ .....	11
(Refused).....	1

102. What is the last grade you completed in school?

Some grade school (1-8).....	1%
Some high school (9-11) .....	3
Graduated high school .....	22
Technical/vocational.....	4
Some college but no degree .....	22
Associates degree .....	11
Bachelors degree .....	24
Graduate school/professional.....	12
(Don't know/Refused) .....	1

103. Do you now, or have you ever had, a child living at home with you?

Yes .....	63%
No.....	36
(Don't know/Refused) .....	1

104. [IF Q103=1] Which of the following is true for you [READ ITEM]?

**[DO NOT RANDOMIZE]**

	YES	NO	[DK]
a. I currently have a child who attends a public school.....	25%	37	0
b. I had a child who attended public school .....	47%	16	0
c. I currently have a child who attends a charter school .....	4%	58	<1
d. I had a child who attended charter school .....	6%	57	<1
e. I currently have a child who attends a private or parochial school.....	7%	55	<1
f. I had a child who attended private or parochial school .....	13%	49	0

105. Have you, or anyone in your household, now or at some time in the past, worked in the Illinois public schools, K through 12, as a teacher, principal or in another school job?

Yes .....	25%
No.....	74
(Don't know/Refused) .....	1

106. Are you registered to vote in Illinois?

Yes .....	87%
No.....	12
Don't know.....	1

107. Even if you are not registered to vote, do you generally think of yourself – as a [RANDOMIZE] Democrat, an Independent or a Republican?

Strong Democrat .....	26%
Weak Democrat.....	12
Ind/Lean Democrat.....	16
Independent .....	5
Ind/Lean Republican .....	14
Weak Republican .....	9
Strong Republican .....	16
(Don't know) .....	2

**TOTAL WITH LEANS**

Democrat.....	54%
Independent .....	7%
Republican .....	39%

**TOTAL WITHOUT LEANS**

Democrat.....	38%
Independent .....	37%
Republican .....	25%

110. To make sure we have a representative sample, could you please tell me your race? [IF NECESSARY] Well, most people consider themselves Black, White, Hispanic or Asian-American.

Black.....	14%
White .....	61
Hispanic.....	16
Asian-American .....	5
(Other) .....	2
(Don't know/Refused) .....	2

112. Last question. Just for statistical purposes, in which of the following categories is your total household income? Just stop me when I read the right one.

Less than \$15,000 .....	8%
\$15,000 – 34,999 .....	16
\$35,000 – 49,999 .....	13
\$50,000 – 74,999 .....	19
\$75,000 – 99,999 .....	15
\$100,000-\$150,000 .....	13
More than \$150,000 .....	9
(Don't know/Refused) .....	8

Thank you for taking the time to complete this interview.



**Region**

Chicago .....	21%
Rest of Cook.....	20
Collar .....	18
Rest of Chicago.....	10
Downstate North.....	13
Downstate South .....	18