The State of Education in Illinois
2022-2023 Report
March 2, 2023

Conducted by:
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Sample:
• 1,000 adults (not just voters) in Illinois

Dates:
• January 19-24, 2023 (2022-2023 school year)

Margin of error:
• +/- 3.1% with 95% confidence

Data weighted:
• U.S. Census data for Illinois

Previous waves were:
• 2018-2019 school year
• 2019-2020 school year
• 2020-2021 school year
• 2021-2022 school year
Nearly half of all Illinoisans have heard about increased contention in school board meetings, and even more fervently oppose such contention.

A plurality have not heard of school board meeting contention in Illinois

“Have you or have you not heard anything about fighting, yelling, or other contention at school board meetings in Illinois?”

- Yes: 44%
- No: 47%
- Don't know: 9%
And even more have not directly experienced it in their local community

“To the best of your knowledge, has there been any fighting, yelling, or other contention at a school board meeting in your community?”

- Yes: 20%
- No: 50%
- Don't know: 30%

It is clear that Illinoisans do not support any form of fighting or contention at school board meetings

“And do you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove, or strongly disapprove of the fighting, yelling, or other contention at school board meetings that has been happening around the country?”

- Total Favor: 66%
- Total Oppose: 49%

- Total Favor: 25%
- Total Oppose: 49%
CRT is not taught in Illinois public schools as it is college level curriculum. While CRT appears controversial, even those who want to ban it, actually favor teaching about racism and slavery.

Illinoisans want fact-based US history taught in high school

“Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose teaching Illinois high school students about slavery in the United States and its impacts”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly Favor</th>
<th>Somewhat Favor</th>
<th>Somewhat Oppose</th>
<th>Strongly Oppose</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>28%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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</tbody>
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That includes favoring teaching about racism in America

“Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose teaching Illinois high school students about racism and its impact in the United States”

Those who want to ban CRT actually favor teaching about racism and slavery

“Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose an Illinois state law that bans the teaching of critical race theory in public schools”
Illinoisans feel very strongly about giving students access to books in schools.

And they also strongly oppose banning books in Illinois public schools

“Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose banning books from Illinois school libraries?”

- Total Favor: 11% Favor, 9% Somewhat Favor, 11% Somewhat Oppose, 20% Strongly Oppose
- Total Oppose: 75% Somewhat Oppose, 15% Strongly Oppose