

USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences/Los Angeles Times

Frequency Questionnaire

March 28-April 7, 2015

1504 Registered Voters

887 White Respondents (778 Unweighted)

361 Latino Respondents (498 Unweighted)

90 Black Respondents (118 Unweighted)

135 Asian Respondents (116 Unweighted)

Q.5 What language do you feel most comfortable speaking, English or Spanish?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
English.....	92	100	67	99	100
Spanish.....	8	0	33	1	-
(ref:LANGUAGE)					

Q.7 First of all, are you registered to vote at this address?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Yes	100	100	100	100	100
No	-	-	-	-	-
(Don't know/Refused).....	-	-	-	-	-
(ref:SCREEN1)					

Next, I'm going to ask a few questions about public schools. Just so that everyone taking this survey has the same information, when we talk about public schools or public education, we are referring specifically to Kindergarten through 12th grade. For these questions, we do not include colleges, universities, or community colleges.

Q.18 I'm going to read you a list of groups and organizations who may be involved in public education. Please tell me which TWO you trust most to improve public schools in California.

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
The teachers at schools in your community	50	55	44	43	42
Parents of public school students.....	48	49	42	55	46
The California Teachers Association, or teachers' unions.....	22	22	24	25	20
School administrators and superintendents	17	15	20	23	22
Jerry Brown.....	15	14	18	17	14
Philanthropists who seek to change the traditional education system.....	14	15	12	11	17
(Other)	1	1	1	2	1
(Don't know/refused)	7	6	10	3	8
(ref:TRUSTED)					

Q.23 Now, let's talk some more about California's public schools. I'd like to read you some proposals that have been either enacted or suggested to change public schools in California. After I read each item, please tell me whether you think it would improve the quality of public schools in California a lot, somewhat, a little, not at all, or would this proposal hurt the quality of public schools in California?

	Impr A Lot	Impr Smwt	Impr Littl	Not Impr At All	Hurt	DK/ Ref	A Lot/ Smwt	Total Impr
23 Put more money into public schools in economically and socially disadvantaged areas.....	50	22	10	13	2	4	71	81
White	46	22	11	15	2	5	68	78
Latino	62	20	7	8	1	3	82	89
Black	64	19	10	6	-	2	83	92
Asian	45	30	9	11	2	3	75	84
(ref:EDUSUPP)								

Q.28 Now, let's talk a little bit about teachers. Do you believe public school teachers in California are generally paid too much, paid just about right, or underpaid?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Underpaid	56	54	55	74	60
Paid just about right	27	30	25	14	24
Paid too much	5	5	4	2	5
(Don't Know/Refused)	12	11	16	9	11
Underpaid - Too much	51	49	51	72	54
(ref:TEACHERSAL)					

Q.29 Now, I am going to read you some options that may be used to help determine how public school teachers in California are paid. For each one, please tell me how important a factor it should be in determining California public school teachers' pay - should it be the most important factor, an important but not the top factor, a less important factor, or not an important factor at all? Please keep in mind that not every factor can be the most important.

		Impt					
	Most	Not	Less	Not	DK/	Most/	Less/
	Impt	Top	Impt	Impt	Ref	Imp	Not
29 Seniority in the number of years of classroom teaching experience	15	43	23	18	2	57	41
White	9	43	25	20	2	53	45
Latino	26	43	16	12	2	69	29
Black	24	43	21	11	0	68	32
Asian	12	37	26	22	3	49	47
(ref:TCHPAY2)							

Q.34 Should administrators take teacher performance into account in making decisions about layoffs, or, lay off teachers based solely on how many years they have been teaching?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Take performance into account - much more	59	60	58	56	58
Take performance into account - somewhat more	23	22	24	22	28
Lay off by seniority - somewhat more	6	6	5	6	4
Lay off by seniority - much more	5	4	7	9	3
(Neither)	3	4	3	2	2
(Don't know/refused)	4	4	3	5	4
Performance	82	82	82	78	86
Seniority	11	10	12	16	7
Performance - Seniority	71	72	70	62	79
(ref:VERGARA)					

Q.35 In tough budget years, California public schools are sometimes forced to lay off some public school teachers. I'm going to read you several short descriptions of teachers, and please tell me which of the following teachers you think should be laid off first.

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
A teacher who received poor marks in classroom observations	53	59	40	43	55
A teacher whose students did not make progress on standardized tests throughout the year	26	22	36	33	24
A teacher who has less seniority or classroom teaching experience than others.....	8	8	10	8	8
A teacher who has received less advanced training than others	7	6	9	14	8
(None of the above)	2	2	2	1	2
(Don't know/refused)	3	4	3	2	4

(ref:TCHFIRE)

Q.36 Now for something a little different. For California public school teachers, tenure means that after a certain period of time, they receive strong job security and cannot be fired for poor performance without going through a lengthy process. Let me ask you: after how many years of teaching, if any, do you think public school teachers in California should receive tenure?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
After 1 year	2	1	5	2	-
After 2 to 3 years.....	7	6	9	14	7
After 4 to 6 years.....	16	14	22	21	12
After 7 to 10 years.....	19	18	18	28	29
After 11 to 15 years.....	7	7	5	4	10
After 16 to 20 years.....	3	3	3	2	2
After more than 21 years.....	3	3	3	5	6
Not at all	38	45	25	17	31
(Don't know/refused)	5	4	8	6	3

(ref:TENURE)

Q.73 Finally, I would like to ask you some questions for statistical purposes. Thinking in political terms, would you say that you are Conservative, Moderate or Liberal?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Liberal	32	32	31	35	36
Moderate.....	33	34	30	28	41
Conservative.....	29	30	31	24	17
(Don't know).....	4	3	6	11	6
(Refused).....	2	1	2	2	-

(ref:IDEO1)

Q.8 In what year were you born?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
18 - 24	9	6	15	11	18
25 - 29	8	8	8	5	13
30 - 34	9	9	10	9	10
35 - 39	7	6	8	4	10
40 - 44	7	6	8	6	12
45 - 49	8	7	10	9	10
50 - 54	7	7	8	13	4
55 - 59	9	9	8	13	8
60 - 64	10	11	9	14	3
65 and over	22	28	13	16	10
(No answer)	4	4	4	2	2
(ref:AGE)					

Q.9 What is the last year of schooling that you have completed?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
1st - 11th grade.....	6	2	20	5	2
High school graduate	15	14	22	20	3
Non-college post H.S./Technical School	2	2	1	3	3
Some college/Two-year college/Associate's degree.....	29	29	30	40	30
Four-year college graduate/Bachelor's degree	29	32	16	22	41
(Doctor of Philosophy or Ph.D).....	3	3	1	1	4
(Medical Doctor or MD)	1	1	1	-	4
(Master of Arts or MA).....	4	5	2	2	1
(Master of Business Administration or MBA).....	4	5	3	3	3
(Juris Doctor or JD)	1	1	0	-	2
(Doctor of Dental Surgery or DDS).....	0	0	-	-	-
(Master of Public Health).....	1	1	0	-	1
(Other Post Grad Degree)	5	6	2	2	8
(Don't know).....	1	0	1	3	1
(Refused).....	0	0	1	-	-
Total Post Graduate.....	18	22	8	8	21
HS or less	22	16	42	24	5
Post HS.....	31	30	32	43	33
College.....	46	54	24	30	62
Non College.....	53	46	74	67	37
(ref:EDUC)					

Q.74 Are you married, single, living with a partner, separated, divorced, or widowed?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Married	52	56	48	26	51
Single.....	24	19	28	41	41
Separated/divorced.....	10	10	11	16	5
Widowed	7	9	6	8	-
Living with a partner, different sex.....	4	4	4	7	2
Living with a partner, same sex.....	1	1	2	-	-
(Don't Know/Refused)	2	1	1	2	1
Sep/Div/Wid	17	19	17	24	5
Unmarried.....	46	43	50	72	48
Married/Living w partner	57	61	54	33	53
(ref:MARITAL)					

[854 Respondents]

Q.75 (IF MARRIED OR LIVING WITH PARTNER) And is your spouse or partner the same race as yourself, or a different race than yourself?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Same race	80	82	77	79	72
Different race	19	17	22	21	28
(Don't Know/Refused)	1	0	0	-	-
(ref:MARITAL2)					

Q.76 In terms of your job status, are you employed full-time, employed part-time, unemployed but looking for work, retired, a student, or a homemaker?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Employed, full-time	46	44	46	46	54
Employed, part-time.....	10	9	14	9	8
Unemployed.....	6	4	7	11	7
Retired	26	32	16	22	11
Student	6	6	7	5	12
Homemaker	4	3	7	3	4
(Other)	2	1	2	4	4
(Don't know).....	0	0	0	-	-
(Refused).....	1	1	1	1	-
Total Employed	56	53	60	55	62
(ref:EMPLOY)					

Q.77 It is possible that a reporter for the Los Angeles Times may do a news story based on some of these topics and may want to ask a few follow-up questions of some of the people we spoke to tonight. Would you be willing to allow a reporter to have your responses on the questions and then possibly call you for a brief interview?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Yes	61	63	59	69	46
No	39	37	41	31	54
(ref:LATFLW)					

Q.78 Were you born in the U.S. or another country?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
The U.S.	79	92	57	95	48
Another country.....	20	7	42	4	50
(Don't know).....	0	0	0	-	1
(Refused).....	1	1	1	1	-
(ref:BORNUS)					

[1491 Respondents]

Q.79 (IF BORN IN US IN BORNUS) Were either of your parents born in another country, or were both parents born in the U.S.?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Father born in another country	3	3	6	1	1
Mother born in another country	4	4	4	2	3
Both born in another country	29	9	63	8	79
Both parents born in the U.S.	64	83	26	88	17
(Don't know).....	0	-	-	-	1
(Refused).....	0	0	0	1	-
(ref:PARENTBORN)					

Q.80 Are you a teacher? (IF YES) Do you teach in a traditional public school, charter school, parochial school, non-parochial private school, at a college or university, in the home, or somewhere else?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Not a teacher	87	86	92	87	87
Traditional public school.....	3	3	1	2	4
Charter school	0	0	0	-	-
Parochial school.....	0	0	0	1	-
Non-parochial private school.....	0	0	-	-	-
College or university	3	3	1	2	3
In the home/Tutor.....	1	1	0	1	-
Somewhere else	1	1	1	3	1
(DK/Refused)	5	5	4	4	5
Total Yes.....	8	10	3	9	8
(ref:TEACHER2)					

[121 Respondents]

Q.81 (IF TEACHER) Do you belong to a teachers' union?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Yes: member	38	39	51	39	7
No	61	60	49	61	93
(DK/Refused)	1	1	-	-	-

(ref:TCHRUNION)

Q.82 Are you, or is any member of your household, a member of a public sector or private sector union?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Yes: Teachers' union	3	4	2	3	1
Yes: Private Sector	4	4	3	5	1
Yes: Public Sector.....	5	4	7	5	5
Household member: Private Sector.....	2	2	2	2	1
Household member: Public Sector.....	3	3	4	2	2
No member belongs.....	81	82	79	77	91
(Don't know).....	1	1	3	4	-
(Refused)	1	1	1	1	-

Total Respondent Member 12 **12** **12** **14** **6****Total Union Household.....** 17 **17** **17** **18** **9****Total Private Sector** 6 **6** **5** **8** **2****Total Public Sector** 11 **11** **12** **11** **7**

(ref:UNION2)

Q.83 Last year, that is in 2014, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category.

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Less than 10,000	6	5	9	9	9
10,000 to under 20,000	8	6	11	16	4
20,000 to under 30,000	8	6	10	14	6
30,000 to under 50,000	15	15	17	10	16
50,000 to under 75,000	14	16	13	11	8
75,000 to under 100,000	11	10	9	9	10
100,000 or more.....	23	27	13	14	35
(Refused)	10	11	6	12	9
(Don't know).....	6	5	12	6	2

(ref:INCOME3)

Q.10 What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
White	59	100	10	1	5
African-American or Black.....	6	0	2	100	1
Hispanic or Latino	24	4	100	6	2
Native American.....	2	2	1	1	0
Asian.....	9	1	1	1	100
(Other)	2	0	2	-	-
(Don't know).....	0	-	0	-	-
(Refused).....	2	-	0	-	-
(Will not identify)	1	0	1	-	-
(Multi-Racial).....	2	1	2	2	2
Minority.....	42	7	100	100	100
(ref:RACETHN)					

Q.19 Do you have any children or grandchildren 18 or under living at home?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Yes	28	23	42	26	32
No	72	77	57	74	68
(Don't Know/Refused)	0	0	0	0	-
(ref:KIDS)					

[426 Respondents]

Q.20 (IF HAVE KIDS) What grade is your child in / what grades are your children in?

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Not yet in school	12	13	12	13	12
Pre-K / Preschool.....	10	15	5	4	21
Kindergarten through 2nd grade	38	36	36	38	40
3rd grade through 5th grade	27	31	29	26	12
6th grade through 8th grade.....	25	24	26	31	31
9th grade through 12th grade.....	32	31	32	39	31
University/College	4	2	6	-	-
(Other)	0	-	0	-	-
(Don't Know/Refused)	-	-	-	-	-
(ref:KIDSGRDE2)					

[356 Respondents]

Q.21 (IF KIDS K-12) Are your children or grandchildren enrolled in traditional public school, a private school, a religious or parochial school, a charter school, are they homeschooled, or are they not in school? If you have more than one child or grandchild in school, please tell me all that apply.

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Public school.....	83	80	83	77	88
Private school	9	8	9	-	16
Religious or parochial school	5	6	5	10	5
Charter school	7	7	6	19	-
Homeschool.....	3	4	1	-	-
Not in school.....	1	1	1	-	-
(Don't Know/Refused)	0	-	0	-	-

(ref:SCHOOL)

Party Registration

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Democrat	43	36	55	78	36
Republican.....	28	36	17	5	21
DTS/NPP	23	22	24	15	40
Other.....	5	6	4	2	2

Dem - Rep..... 15

(ref:PARTYREG)

Q.6 Record respondent's gender

	Total	White	Latino	Black	Asian
Male.....	47	51	40	34	47
Female.....	53	49	60	66	53

(ref:GENDER)