



Public involvement. Public education. Public benefit.

**Online No Child Left Behind Survey  
Responses from Virginia vs. the National Average**

**From what you have heard about NCLB, do you believe that you:**

	Virginia	National
Know Nothing or Little About the Law	8%	7%
Know About Some of the Provisions of the Law	63%	59%
Have An In-Depth Knowledge of the Law	29%	35%

**From what you know about NCLB, what is your opinion of the law?**

	Virginia	National
I Support the Law As It Is Without Changes: Stay the Course	3%	2%
I Support the Purposes of the Law, But Believe That It Requires Changes	68%	65%
I Do Not Support the Law At All	24%	31%
I Have No Opinion	5%	2%

**One of the major goals of NCLB is to close the academic achievement gap among children of different racial, ethnic, or economic groups. Select those provisions of the law that are essential in closing the gap.**

	Virginia	National
Highly Qualified Teachers	82%	80%
Rigorous academic standards	51%	51%
Tests aligned with standards	45%	44%
Testing of students in grades 3-8, and once in high school	32%	27%
Reporting of test scores for groups of students based on race and ethnicity, income, English language proficiency, and disability	37%	31%
Publication of test scores and other data about district and school performance	33%	26%
Strong Virginia parental involvement	90%	88%
Adequate funding and resources	92%	92%
Ability of a child to transfer to another public school if their school does not meet state academic expectations	28%	29%
Tutoring for students in schools that do not meet state academic standards	74%	69%

**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?**

	Virginia	National
Too much	56%	65%
Too little	10%	9%
Just right	20%	16%
Don't know	14%	10%

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

	Virginia	National
Have raised awareness in your community about how your schools are doing?	62%	54%
Have provided more and better information about the academic performance in your school district?	36%	32%
Have motivated your community and Virginia parents to demand that schools that are low-performing be improved?	31%	20%
Have motivated you personally to become involved in your community?	29%	23%
Not sure	23%	29%

**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?**

	Virginia	National
Strongly agree	25%	20%
Agree	34%	34%
Disagree	18%	17%
Strongly disagree	13%	18%
Not sure	9%	10%

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

	Virginia	National
Strongly agree	5%	1%
Agree	2%	4%
Disagree	21%	21%
Strongly disagree	71%	71%
Not sure	1%	2%

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

	Virginia	National
Strongly agree	1%	2%
Agree	12%	7%
Disagree	30%	28%
Strongly disagree	56%	61%
Not sure	1%	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?**

	Virginia	National
Strongly agree	10%	10%
Agree	20%	21%
Disagree	20%	23%
Strongly disagree	34%	37%
Not sure	17%	9%

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

	Virginia	National
No qualified teachers	0%	0%
Some qualified teachers	16%	15%
Many qualified teachers	54%	55%
All qualified teachers	22%	23%
I have no way of judging	9%	7%

**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?**

	Virginia	National
Strongly believe	4%	7%
Believe	25%	19%
Disbelieve	42%	38%
Strongly disbelieve	16%	26%
Not sure	13%	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	3% (2)	1% (1)	1% (4)	23% (20)	72% (73)
Knows how to communicate and relate to students	4% (2)	0% (0)	1% (1)	9% (9)	86% (87)
Establishes a relationship between the family and the school, and keeps channels of communication open	2% (1)	4% (2)	14% (10)	25% (28)	55% (58)
Sensitive to and respects students' diverse cultural backgrounds	6% (2)	4% (3)	12% (11)	22% (26)	56% (58)
Has Virginia's license requirements mandated by the state	6% (4)	3% (5)	22% (19)	22% (25)	48% (47)
Knows how to keep discipline and order in the classroom	2% (1)	2% (2)	9% (8)	34% (29)	53% (60)
Knows how to meet the individualized learning needs of students	3% (2)	1% (1)	5% (5)	21% (20)	70% (72)

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

	Virginia	National
Very important	72%	68%
Important	22%	29%
Unimportant	3%	2%
Very unimportant	2%	1%
No opinion	1%	1%

<b>Would you support programs to help existing teachers become "highly qualified"?</b>		
	<b>Virginia</b>	<b>National</b>
Strongly support	67%	60%
Support	31%	33%
Oppose	1%	3%
Strongly oppose	1%	1%
No opinion	0%	3%

<b>What kind of information have you received about your school and districts' performance? (Please check all that apply)</b>		
	<b>Virginia</b>	<b>National</b>
Information about the qualifications of teachers in my school	18%	28%
Information about the performance of my school	74%	74%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my district	67%	66%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my state	58%	64%
Information about opportunities for me as a parent or community member to become involved in improving the schools	38%	39%
Information about options for my child to transfer to another school	10%	18%
Information about tutoring services available to my child	30%	25%
None of the above	13%	14%

<b>How do you receive information about the performance of your school or school district? (Please check all that apply)</b>		
	<b>Virginia</b>	<b>National</b>
From my school or school district	65%	65%
From a community-based organization or advocacy group	10%	10%
From the media	50%	53%
By mail	22%	26%
By e-mail	17%	13%
By phone	2%	3%
Sent home with my child	34%	32%
On the school or school district website	42%	39%
In local newspapers	57%	62%
On local broadcast news (radio/TV)	18%	22%
Other	13%	13%

<b>Are you getting enough information about the performance of the schools in your community?</b>		
	<b>Virginia</b>	<b>National</b>
Too much	8%	13%
Just enough	43%	42%
Not enough	29%	31%
I am not getting information	12%	8%
Don't know	7%	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?**

	Virginia	National
Strongly agree	24%	18%
Agree	50%	50%
Disagree	8%	17%
Strongly disagree	6%	6%
Not sure	13%	9%

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

	Virginia	National
Strongly agree	7%	4%
Agree	36%	28%
Disagree	33%	39%
Strongly disagree	19%	23%
Not sure	5%	6%

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

	Virginia	National
None	19%	20%
A few	55%	45%
Many	5%	19%
Not sure	21%	16%

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

	Virginia	National
Developing state standards	3%	5%
Developing the state test required by NCLB	3%	3%
Developing the state and/or local report cards required by NCLB	3%	3%
Developing the district Title I Virginia parent involvement policy	3%	4%
Giving input into the district annual Title I program	7%	6%
Making recommendations for what constitutes a "highly qualified teacher" under NCLB	4%	3%
Virginia participating in the improvement teams for schools that were identified as needing improvement	6%	11%
None of the above	86%	81%

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

	Virginia	National
Very satisfied	17%	17%
Satisfied	36%	35%
Dissatisfied	14%	21%
Very dissatisfied	10%	13%
No opinion	24%	15%

**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?**

	<b>Virginia</b>	<b>National</b>
It will help a great deal	15%	8%
It will help a little	27%	25%
It will have no effect	16%	28%
It will have a detrimental effect	32%	28%
Not sure	10%	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?**

	<b>Virginia</b>	<b>National</b>
It will help a great deal	51%	41%
It will help a little	42%	48%
It will have no effect	5%	6%
It will have a detrimental effect	1%	1%
Not sure	2%	3%

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

	<b>Virginia</b>	<b>National</b>
Support the current NCLB law and seek its renewal	9%	4%
Support the current NCLB law, but with changes and amendments	56%	57%
Oppose the NCLB law	27%	37%
Makes no difference to me	8%	3%