

FINAL April 22, 2014

University of Connecticut Poll #8

Field: April 22- April 30, 2014

Length: 8-10 minutes

Sample: National, Adult, General Population n=1,007

INTRO: "Good afternoon / evening. My name is _____ and I'm calling from the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. We're conducting a short survey of Americans about issues facing the Country and we'd really appreciate your help and cooperation."

"This survey will only take about 10 minutes."

IF ASKED: "This poll is being conducted for the University of Connecticut and will be released in May."

1 CONTINUE

99 REFUSED

CELL1

"First, to confirm, have I reached you on your cell phone or a land line?"

1 CELL PHONE → SKIPTO CELL2

2 LAND LINE → SKIPTO BIR1

99 REFUSED → TERMINATE

CELL2

"Are you currently driving a car or doing any activity that requires your full attention?"

1 IF YES: "Can I call back at a later time?" MAKE APPOINTMENT

2 NO → SKIPTO AGE18

99 NA / REFUSED → TERMINATE

AGE18

"And are you 18 years old or older?"

1 YES → SKIP TO SEX

2 NO → "Thank you very much, but we are only interviewing adults 18 years old or older."

* 99 REFUSAL → "Thank you very much, but we are only interviewing adults 18 years old or older."

BIR1

"In order to determine who to interview, could you tell me, of those over the age of 18 who currently live in your household -- including yourself -- who had the most recent birthday? I don't mean who is the youngest, but rather, who had the most recent birthday?"

1 INFORMANT → SKIP TO SEX

2 SOMEONE ELSE (SPECIFY): _____ → SKIP TO INT2

3 DON'T KNOW ALL BIRTHDAYS, ONLY SOME → CONTINUE WITH BIR2

4 DON'T KNOW ANY BIRTHDAYS OTHER THAN OWN → SKIP TO SEX

5 NO ADULTS IN HH → TERMINATE

99 REFUSED -- ENTER NON-RESPONSE INFORMATION

BIR2

"Of the ones that you do know, who had the most recent birthday?"

- 1 INFORMANT _____ → SKIP TO SEX
- 2 SOMEONE ELSE (SPECIFY): _____ → SKIP TO INT2
- 3 PERSON NOT AVAILABLE

- 99 REFUSED

SEX

"Thank you very much for helping us with this important study. Your telephone number was randomly selected from all families in U.S. and your answers will be combined with answers from other people from across the country. This call may be monitored for quality assurance."

IF ASKED: "This survey will take about 10 minutes to complete."

RECORD SEX OF RESPONDENT

- 1 MALE
- 2 FEMALE

- * 99 NA

Q1

"To begin, what do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?"

DO NOT READ RESPONSES! IF RESPONSE DOES NOT CLEARLY FIT LISTED CODES, ENTER 97 AND TYPE IN VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE: "Could you give me an example?"

- 1 ECONOMY/JOBS
- 2 BUDGET DEFICIT/NATIONAL DEBT
- 3 HEALTH CARE
- 4 IMMIGRATION
- 5 EDUCATION
- 6 WAR/PEACE
- 7 POLITICIANS/GOVERNMENT
- 8 PARTISAN POLITICS

- 97 OTHER

- 98 DK / NOT SURE
- 99 NA

Q2. Generally speaking, how would you rate the quality of the education provided by your local public schools? Would you say it is excellent ... good ... only fair ... or poor?"

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR

- 98 DK / NOT SURE
- 99 NA

Q3

"What do you think is the biggest problem that the public schools of your community must deal with?"

DO NOT READ RESPONSES! IF RESPONSE DOES NOT CLEARLY FIT LISTED CODES, ENTER 97 AND TYPE IN VERBATIM RESPONSE. PROBE: "Could you give me an example?"

- 1 BUDGETS, NOT ENOUGH MONEY
- 2 COMMON CORE CURRICULUM
- 3 CURRICULUM IS TOO DEMANDING, CHALLENGING, A LOT TO COVER
- 4 FAMILY ISSUES - CHANGES IN FAMILY STRUCTURE
- 5 LACK OF TEACHING RESOURCES
- 6 PARENTS - DIFFICULT/ DEMANDING
- 7 PARENTS - LACK OF INVOLVEMENT
- 8 POVERTY
- 9 SAFETY
- 10 STANDARDIZED TESTING (SBAC/PARC)
- 11 STUDENTS (NOT ENGAGED, DON'T CARE, DON'T SPEAK ENGLISH)
- 12 TEACHER EVALUATION PLAN
- 13 UNIONS
- 14 POOR TEACHERS
- 15 "NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND"
- 16 POOR MANAGEMENT

- 97 OTHER

- 98 DK / NOT SURE
- 99 NA / REFUSED

Q4

"Please tell me which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion about how education should work in the U.S -

READ AND ROTATE RESPONSES 1 AND 2

- 1 each state should set its own expectations for student learning ... OR ...
- 2 expectations for student learning in the U.S.. should be the same regardless of which state you are in."
- 3 NEITHER (VOLUNTEERED)

- 98 DON'T KNOW
- * 99 REFUSED

Q4a. Please tell me whether you think the following is a good idea or a bad idea: having one set of education standards across the country for reading, writing and math?

- | | | |
|---|----|-------------|
| | 1 | GOOD IDEA |
| | 2 | BAD IDEA |
| | 98 | DK/NOT SURE |
| * | 99 | REFUSED |

Q5

“How important do you think it is that there is consistency in the quality of education between states? Is it very important ... somewhat important ... not very important ... or not important at all?”

- | | | |
|---|----|----------------------|
| | 1 | VERY IMPORTANT |
| | 2 | SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT |
| | 3 | NOT VERY IMPORTANT |
| | 4 | NOT IMPORTANT AT ALL |
| | 98 | DON'T KNOW |
| * | 99 | REFUSED |

Q6

“There are several national education programs that many Americans may or may not know about. Please tell me whether you have heard of the following programs or not.”

(ROTATE Q6A – Q6C)

Q6A

“No Child Left Behind”

- | | | |
|---|----|------------|
| | 1 | YES |
| | 2 | NO |
| | 98 | DON'T KNOW |
| * | 99 | REFUSED |

Q6B

“Race to the Top”

- | | | |
|---|----|------------|
| | 1 | YES |
| | 2 | NO |
| | 98 | DON'T KNOW |
| * | 99 | REFUSED |

Q6C

“Common Core “

- | | | |
|---|----|------------|
| | 1 | YES |
| | 2 | NO |
| | 98 | DON'T KNOW |
| * | 99 | REFUSED |

Q7

"Which of the following comes closest to your understanding of the Common Core?"

ROTATE RESPONSES 1 TO 3

- 1 a set of academic standards that outline THE SKILLS students learn in each grade
- 2 a NATIONAL curriculum that dictates what teachers do in the classroom each day, OR
- 3 a set of tests that evaluate student learning."

- 4 NONE OF THOSE (vol.)

- 98 DON'T KNOW ENOUGH TO SAY (VOL.)
- * 99 REFUSED

Q8

"As you may know, the 'common core' is a set of standards that is being adopted by many states for what students in all schools need to learn in each grade IN reading, writing AND MATH. How much have you heard about the 'common core'? ... A great deal, a fair amount, only a little, or nothing at all?"

- 1 A GREAT DEAL
- 2 A FAIR AMOUNT
- 3 ONLY A LITTLE
- 4 NOTHING AT ALL → SKIP TO Q11

- 98 DON'T KNOW / NOT SURE - DO NOT PROBE → SKIP TO Q11
- * 99 REFUSED → SKIP TO Q11

Q9

"Generally speaking, from what you know or have heard, would you say that ...

ROTATE RESPONSES 1 AND 2

- 1 Common Core is good policy, OR, that
- 2 Common Core is NOT good policy?

- 98 DON'T KNOW
- * 99 REFUSED

Q10

"Please tell me if you believe common core standards will increase, decrease or have no effect on each of the following: (ROTATE Q10A – Q10C)

Q10A "The quality of education in your community?"

- | | |
|------|------------|
| 1 | INCREASE |
| 2 | DECREASE |
| 3 | NO EFFECT |
| 98 | DON'T KNOW |
| * 99 | REFUSED |

Q10B "The number of kids in the U.S. who go to college?"

Q10C "The number of kids in the U.S. who leave high school ready for a career?"

Q11

"On a different topic. "Please tell me if you favor or oppose each of the following."

ROTATE Q11A AND Q11B

Q11A

"Requiring that teacher evaluations include how well a teacher's students perform on standardized tests."

IF FAVOR or OPPOSE "Is that strongly or just somewhat?"

- | | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | STRONGLY FAVOR |
| 2 | SOMEWHAT FAVOR |
| 3 | NEUTRAL/NO OPINION (VOLUNTEERED) |
| 4 | SOMEWHAT OPPOSE |
| 5 | STRONGLY OPPOSE |
| 98 | DON'T KNOW |
| * 99 | REFUSED |

Q11B

"Making students' standardized test scores an important consideration in a teacher's pay increases."

IF FAVOR or OPPOSE "Is that strongly or just somewhat?"

- | | | |
|---|----|----------------------------------|
| | 1 | STRONGLY FAVOR |
| | 2 | SOMEWHAT FAVOR |
| | 3 | NEUTRAL/NO OPINION (VOLUNTEERED) |
| | 4 | SOMEWHAT OPPOSE |
| | 5 | STRONGLY OPPOSE |
| | 98 | DON'T KNOW |
| * | 99 | REFUSED |

Q12

"For each of the following, please tell me whether the factor should be extremely important, very important, moderately important, not too important or not important at all in evaluating a teacher's job performance?"

ROTATE Q12A - Q12E

Q12A

"Classroom observations by local school officials. "

IF NEEDED: "Would you say this is extremely important ... very important ... moderately important ... not too important ... or not important at all?"

- | | | |
|---|----|-----------------------|
| | 1 | EXTREMELY IMPORTANT |
| | 2 | VERY IMPORTANT |
| | 3 | MODERATELY IMPORTANT |
| | 4 | NOT TOO IMPORTANT |
| | 5 | NOT IMPORTANT AT ALL |
| | 98 | DON'T KNOW / NOT SURE |
| * | 99 | NA / REFUSED |

Q12B

"The type of training or advanced degrees obtained by the teacher."

Q12C

"Years of teaching experience."

Q12D

"Students' performance on standardized tests."

Q12E

"Input from parents."

Demographics

D1

"Now, a few final questions ..."

"Do you have children under the age of 18 currently living in your household?"

- 1 YES
- 2 NO (SKIP TO D3)

- 99 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED (SKIP TO D3)

D2

"Are any of your children currently in kindergarten through 12th grade?"

IF NO: "Have they recently completed or graduated from school, or have they not started school yet?"

- 1 YES
- 2 NO - NOT STARTED SCHOOL YET
- 3 NO - RECENTLY COMPLETED SCHOOL

- 99 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

D3

"Now thinking about yourself, What is the highest grade in school, or level of education that you've completed and got credit for ..." [READ RESPONSES]

- 1 Eighth grade or less,
- 2 Some high school,
- 3 High school graduate, (INCLUDES G.E.D.)
- 4 Technical school,
- 5 Some college,
- 6 College graduate,
- 7 Or postgraduate work?"

- 98 DK (DO NOT PROBE)
- * 99 NA / REFUSED

D4

"GENERALLY SPEAKING, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent or what?"

(IF INDEPENDENT, NO PREFERENCE, OR OTHER): "Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or to the Democratic party?"

- 1 DEMOCRAT
- 2 INDEPENDENT, BUT CLOSER TO DEMOCRATS
- 3 INDEPENDENT--CLOSER TO NEITHER
- 4 INDEPENDENT, BUT CLOSER TO REPUBLICANS
- 5 REPUBLICAN
- 6 OTHER PARTY

- * 99 DK / NA / REFUSED

D5

"We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. What about yourself--that is, in politics, do you generally think of yourself as a liberal, a moderate, or a conservative?"

(IF MODERATE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD): "Would you say that you LEAN a little more toward the LIBERAL side or the CONSERVATIVE side?"

- 1 LIBERAL
- 2 MODERATE--LEANS LIBERAL
- 3 MODERATE--LEANS NEITHER
- 4 MODERATE--LEANS CONSERVATIVE
- 5 CONSERVATIVE

- 97 REFUSED
- 98 DK (PROBE: "In general ...")
- * 99 NA / REFUSED

D6

"And what is your current age?"

____ : ____ : ____ : (RECORD EXACT NUMBER OF YEARS OLD -- E.G., 45)
: ____ : ____ :

- 96 NINETY-SIX YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER
- 97 REFUSED
- 98 DK
- * 99 NA

D7

"Are you of Hispanic or Spanish origin?"

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

- 98 DON'T KNOW
- * 99 REFUSED

D8

"Which of the following best describes your race? Is it ...White ... African-American ... Hispanic ... Asian ... Native-American ... or some other race?"

- 1 WHITE (CAUCASIAN)
- 2 BLACK (AFRICAN-AMERICAN)
- 3 HISPANIC
- 4 ASIAN
- 5 NATIVE AMERICAN
- 6 OTHER - SPECIFY: _____

- 98 DON'T KNOW
- * 99 NO ANSWER/REFUSED

D9

"Including yourself, how many adults CURRENTLY live in your household?"

- | | |
|------|---------------|
| 1 | ONE |
| 2 | TWO |
| 3 | THREE |
| 4 | FOUR |
| 5 | FIVE |
| 6 | SIX |
| 7 | SEVEN OR MORE |
| 98 | DK |
| * 99 | NA / REFUSED |

D10

"Not counting business lines, extension phones, or cellular phones -- on how many different telephone NUMBERS can your household be reached?"

- | | |
|------|---------------|
| 0 | NO LANDLINE |
| 1 | ONE |
| 2 | TWO |
| 3 | THREE |
| 4 | FOUR |
| 5 | FIVE |
| 6 | SIX |
| 7 | SEVEN OR MORE |
| 98 | DK |
| * 99 | NA / REFUSED |

D11

"And on how many different cellphone NUMBERS can your household be reached?"

- | | |
|------|---------------|
| 0 | NO CELL PHONE |
| 1 | ONE |
| 2 | TWO |
| 3 | THREE |
| 4 | FOUR |
| 5 | FIVE |
| 6 | SIX |
| 7 | SEVEN OR MORE |
| 98 | DK |
| * 99 | NA / REFUSED |

D12

"How much TOTAL income did you and your family receive in 2013, not just from wages or salaries but from ALL sources -- that is, before taxes and other deductions were made? Was it ... (READ CATEGORIES)

	<u>ANNUAL</u>	<u>MONTHLY EQUIVALENT</u>
1	Less than \$15,000,	LESS THAN \$1,250
2	\$15,000 - \$29,999,	\$1,250 - \$2,499
3	\$30,000 - \$44,999,	\$2,500 - \$3,749
4	\$45,000 - \$59,999,	\$3,750 - \$4,999
5	\$60,000 - \$74,999,	\$5,000 - \$6,249
6	\$75,000 - \$99,999, or	\$6,250 - \$8,333
7	\$100,000 and over?"	\$8,334 AND OVER
97	REFUSED - PROBE "Just approximately ..."	RE-READ CATEGORIES
98	DK - PROBE "Just approximately ..."	RE-READ CATEGORIES
* 99	NA	

END

"Those are all the questions I have, I want to thank you again for your time and input. Goodbye."