Californians and education

- PPIC’s 16th annual survey on K–12 issues
- Conducted online, April 1–9, 2020
- Uses Ipsos KnowledgePanel
  - 1,633 adults, ± 3.3% margin of error
  - 1,091 likely voters, ± 3.7% margin of error
  - 377 parents of children 18 or younger, ± 6.7% margin of error
  - 272 public school parents, ± 7.8% margin of error
Worries about the coronavirus

- **You or someone in your family will get sick**
  - All adults: 37% (Somewhat worried) + 41% (Very worried)
  - Public school parents: 27% (Somewhat worried) + 56% (Very worried)

- **Will have a negative impact on your personal finances**
  - All adults: 34% (Somewhat worried) + 30% (Very worried)
  - Public school parents: 41% (Somewhat worried) + 55% (Very worried)
Turning to economic conditions in California, do you think that during the next 12 months we will have good times financially or bad times?
Do you approve or disapprove of the way that Governor Newsom is handling the state’s kindergarten through 12th grade public education system?

% saying approve

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April 2019</th>
<th>April 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All adults</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public school parents</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approval of Governor Newsom’s handling of K–12 public education
Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that your local school district is handling school closures because of the coronavirus outbreak?

% public school parents

- 92% Approve
- 8% Disapprove
Concern about providing productive learning at home

How concerned are you about providing productive learning in your home during local school closures because of the coronavirus outbreak?

- Somewhat concerned
- Very concerned

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Somewhat concerned</th>
<th>Very concerned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All parents</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White parents</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents of other racial/ethnic groups</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public school parents</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What do you think is the most important issue facing K–12 public schools today?

Top five issues mentioned

- COVID-19, distance learning: 14%
- Lack of funding: 11%
- Concerns about curriculum: 9%
- Large class sizes: 7%
- Concerns about standards/quality of education: 5%
Thinking about the kindergarten through 12th grade public education system overall in California today, do you think it is generally going in the right direction or the wrong direction?

- April 2019:
  - All adults: 46%
  - Public school parents: 59%

- April 2020:
  - All adults: 62%
  - Public school parents: 69%
Overall, how would you rate the quality of public schools in your neighborhood today? If you had to give your local public schools a grade, would it be A, B, C, D, or F?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>% saying A or B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All adults</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African Americans</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Americans</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinos</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whites</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public school parents</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you think the current level of state funding for your local public schools is more than enough, just enough, or not enough?

% saying not enough

% likely voters

Apr-09 Apr-10 Apr-11 Apr-12 Apr-13 Apr-14 Apr-15 Apr-16 Apr-17 Apr-18 Apr-19 Apr-20

49 55
Support for a “split roll” property tax that directs revenue to schools

As you may know, under Proposition 13 passed by the California voters in 1978, residential and commercial property taxes are both strictly limited. What if there was a state ballot measure to have commercial properties taxed according to their current market value and direct some of this new tax revenue to state funding for K–12 public schools? Would you vote yes or no?

% saying yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April 2019</th>
<th>April 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All adults</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likely voters</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Support for school construction bonds

If the state ballot had a bond measure to pay for school construction projects, would you vote yes or no? If your local school district had a bond measure to pay for school construction projects, would you vote yes or no?

% saying yes

- **State bond measure**
  - All adults: 59%
  - Likely voters: 53%

- **Local bond measure**
  - All adults: 55%
  - Likely voters: 50%
Generally speaking, do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea for the state government to issue bonds to pay for school construction projects at this time? Generally speaking, do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea for local school districts to issue bonds to pay for school construction projects at this time?

% saying good idea

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All adults</th>
<th>Likely voters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State bond measure</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local bond measure</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% saying good idea
Support for Governor Newsom’s K–12 budget proposals

Governor Newsom’s budget proposal allocates…Do you favor or oppose this proposal?

% saying favor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>All adults</th>
<th>Likely voters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$802 million in one-time spending to pay down unfunded liabilities in CalSTRS</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$915 million in one-time spending to expand recruitment and development programs for teachers and staff</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Other topics

- Lower-income students and English language learners
- School teachers
- California’s charter schools
- Common Core and the Local Control Funding Formula
- Early childhood education
- College and career pathways
PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Education

April 23, 2020

Mark Baldassare, Dean Bonner, Alyssa Dykman, Rachel Lawler

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Notes on the use of these slides

These slides were created to accompany a presentation. They do not include full documentation of sources, data samples, methods, and interpretations. To avoid misinterpretations, please contact:

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Thank you for your interest in this work.