



**NAPCS National Tracker**  
**March 24 – 27, 2008**  
**N=800 Registered Voters Nationwide**

**Margin of Error +/-3.5%, higher for sub-groups**

*Note: (T) indicates question has been tracked in previous surveys*

**FREQUENCY QUESTIONNAIRE**

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I'm calling from (Insert Field House). We are conducting a survey on issues facing the country and would like to ask you a few questions. We are not trying to sell you anything and won't ask for a donation. We're only interested in your opinions.

Could I please speak with the (MALE/FEMALE) in your household, 18 years or older, who celebrated a birthday most recently?

**GENDER OF RESPONDENT**

	<b>Total</b>
Male .....	48
Female .....	52

S1. First, are you registered to vote at this address?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes .....	100
No (TERMINATE) .....	-
(DK/Refused) (TERMINATE) .....	-

S2. Are you, or is anyone in your household, employed in market or public opinion research, or by a newspaper, television or radio station?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes (TERMINATE) .....	-
No .....	100
(DK/Refused) (TERMINATE) .....	-

**Survey Questions**

Q1. (T) Do you have any children under the age of 18 living at home?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes .....	37
No .....	63
(Refused) .....	0

Now I am going to ask you some questions about education.

Q2. (T) What grade would you give public schools across the United States - an A, B, C, D, or F?

	<b>Total</b>
A .....	4
B .....	25
C .....	44
D .....	13
F .....	4
(NOT SURE) .....	11
<b>A/B .....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>C .....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>D/F .....</b>	<b>17</b>

Q3. (T) How about your community? What grade would you give public schools in your community - an A, B, C, D, or F?

	<b>Total</b>
A .....	15
B .....	39
C .....	28
D .....	11
F .....	5
(NOT SURE) .....	3
<b>A/B .....</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>C .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>D/F .....</b>	<b>16</b>

**NOTE: SLIGHT WORDING CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS VERSIONS.**

Q4. (T) As far as you know, what options are available for parents across the country other than the traditional public schools? (Pre-coded open end - record all responses)

	<b>Total</b>
Private schools .....	68
Home schooling .....	40
Religious schools (Catholic, etc) .....	27
Charter schools .....	18
Vouchers .....	2
Magnet schools .....	2
Other specify .....	6
(Don't know/not sure) .....	16

Q5. As you may know, some states are considering proposals to create more public school options for parents when choosing a public school for their children. Would you favor or oppose a proposal to give parents more options when choosing a public school for their children? (If favor/oppose: is that strongly or somewhat (favor/oppose)?)

	<b>Total</b>
Strongly favor .....	46
Somewhat favor .....	31
Somewhat oppose .....	5
Strongly oppose .....	8
(Don't know/refused) .....	10
<b>Total favor .....</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Total oppose .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Favor - Oppose .....</b>	<b>64</b>

Q6. Do you think that giving parents the ability to choose the public school they think best meets the needs of their child will (rotate answer choices) improve the public school system, harm the public school system, or make no difference?

	<b>Total</b>
Improve .....	52
Make no difference .....	21
Harm the quality .....	20
(Don't know/Refused) .....	8

**CONTINUE TRACKING**

Q7. (T) How much do you know about CHARTER SCHOOLS-a great deal, quite a bit, only some, very little, or nothing at all?

	<b>Total</b>
Know a great deal .....	3
Know quite a bit .....	9
Know only some .....	27
Know very little .....	33
Know nothing at all GO TO Q9 .....	26
(Don't know/not sure) GO TO Q9 .....	1
<b>High .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Some .....</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>None .....</b>	<b>28</b>

**(Asked of 580 respondents)**

Q8. (T) (IF 1-4 IN Q7) From what you know or have heard, do you favor or oppose charter schools, or aren't you sure? (If favor/oppose: is that strongly or somewhat (favor/oppose)?)

	<b>Total</b>
Strongly favor .....	17
Somewhat favor .....	22
Somewhat oppose .....	6
Strongly oppose .....	8
(Don't know/refused) .....	47
<b>Total favor .....</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Total oppose .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Favor - Oppose .....</b>	<b>24</b>

**RESUME ALL**

Q9. (T) Do you think charter schools are (ROTATE):

	<b>Total</b>
Public schools .....	38
Private schools .....	32
Religious schools .....	5
(Other - please specify) .....	2
(Don't know/not sure) .....	22

**(Asked of 580 respondents)**

ASK IF Q7= 1-4

Q10. What grade would you give Charter Schools-an A, B, C, D, or F?

	<b>Total</b>
A .....	6
B .....	29
C .....	18
D .....	3
F .....	2
(NOT SURE) .....	41
 <b>A/B</b> .....	 <b>36</b>
<b>C</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>D/F</b> .....	<b>5</b>

**RESUME ALL**

Q11. (T) Have you recently seen, heard, or read anything about charter schools?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes (ASK Q12) .....	28
No (SKIP TO Q15) .....	71
(DK/Refused) (SKIP TO Q15) .....	1

**(Asked of 226 respondents)**

ASK IF YES IN Q11.

Q12. (T) Did what you saw, read, or heard make you feel more favorable or less favorable toward charter schools?

	<b>Total</b>
More favorable .....	43
Less favorable .....	34
(No difference) .....	19
(Don't know/refused) .....	4
 <b>More - Less favorable</b> .....	 <b>9</b>

**(Asked of 226 respondents)**

ASK IF YES IN Q11:

Q13. (T) And where did you see, read, or hear about charter schools-in a newspaper or magazine, on the radio, on television, on the Internet, from a friend or family member, or from someplace else? ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES

	<b>Total</b>
Newspaper/ magazine .....	47
Friend/ family .....	25
Television .....	24
Internet .....	10
Radio .....	8
Directly from school .....	4
Other (specify) .....	5

**(Asked of 226 respondents)**

ASK IF YES IN Q11:

Q14. (T) What did you see, hear, or read?

	<b>Total</b>
General mention, no specific recall .....	16
Allocate funding/ state funding process .....	12
Several having problems/ problem issues .....	11
They were good/ mostly approve .....	8
Different programs/ courses they offered .....	8
To set up/ trying to start a charter school .....	8
Comparing public vs charter/ options of schools .....	7
Many were failing/ failing to meet testing standards .....	6
Know someone going to/ teaching at one .....	6
They were better educated .....	5
Achievement of grades/ tests .....	4
Comparison studies .....	4
No/ none/ nothing .....	2
Other .....	9
Don't know .....	4
Refuse .....	1

**RESUME ALL**

Now I'm going to read you a definition of charter schools and ask for your reaction.

*Charter schools are independent public schools that are free to be more innovative and are held accountable for improved student achievement.*

Q15. (T in 2006, not included in 2007) Based on this description, would you favor or oppose expanding charter schools so that more schoolchildren could enroll in them? (If favor/oppose: is that strongly or somewhat (favor/oppose)?)

	<b>Total</b>
Strongly favor .....	38
Somewhat favor .....	38
Somewhat oppose .....	6
Strongly oppose .....	9
(Don't know/refused) .....	9
<b>Total favor .....</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>Total oppose .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Favor - Oppose .....</b>	<b>61</b>

**(Asked of 295 respondents)**

Q16. (T in 2006, not included in 2007) (IF PARENT) How interested would you be in enrolling your children in a charter school?

	<b>Total</b>
Very interested .....	25
Somewhat interested .....	35
Not very interested .....	12
Not at all interested .....	22
(Already enrolled in a charter school) .....	2
(Don't know/refused) .....	4
<b>Total interested .....</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Total not interested .....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Interested - Not .....</b>	<b>26</b>

(T in 2006, not included in 2007)

Next, I'm going to read you some things charter schools are doing across the country. Please tell me for each of the following whether you would STRONGLY favor, SOMEWHAT favor, somewhat OPPOSE, or STRONGLY oppose that proposal being implemented across the country. Would you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose that proposal?

	<b>Strongly Fav.</b>	<b>Smwt Fav.</b>	<b>Smht Opp.</b>	<b>Strongly Opp.</b>	<b>DK/ Ref.</b>	<b>Total Fav.</b>	<b>Total Opp.</b>	<b>Total Net</b>
Q17. (T) Giving schools more flexibility to design curriculum.....	51.....	34.....	6.....	4.....	4.....	<b>86.....</b>	<b>.10.....</b>	<b>.76</b>

Q18. (T) Promoting PUBLIC school choice by allowing money to follow the student to any PUBLIC schools the student and parent selects. ....	44.....	30.....	9.....	11.....	6.....	<b>74..</b>	<b>.....20.....</b>	<b>54</b>
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Q19. (T) Giving schools more freedom to fire teachers that aren't performing.....	67.....	21.....	7.....	3.....	2.....	<b>88.....</b>	<b>.....10.....</b>	<b>78</b>
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**(Asked of 401 respondents)**

Q20. (T) <b>SPLIT SAMPLE A</b> Closing schools that fail to educate students .....	38.....	25.....	14.....	15.....	7.....	<b>63.....</b>	<b>.....30.....</b>	<b>33</b>
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**(Asked of 399 respondents)**

Q21. (T) <b>SPLIT SAMPLE B</b> Putting schools that fail to educate students under new management .....	57.....	24.....	8.....	6.....	5.....	<b>82.....</b>	<b>.....14.....</b>	<b>68</b>
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	Strongly Fav.	Smwt Fav.	Smht Opp.	Strongly Opp.	DK/ Ref.	Total Fav.	Total Opp.	Total Net
Q22. Giving the people who run the school greater ability to decide how to spend their budgets .....	38	38	8	10	6	76	18	58
Q23. (T) Rewarding high quality teachers with higher pay .....	66	22	4	5	3	88	9	79
Q24. Giving schools freedom from many of the regulations traditional public schools face .....	27	36	13	11	14	63	24	39
Q25. (T) Holding students, teachers, and parents accountable for improving student achievement.....	74	20	3	2	2	93	4	89
Q26. (T) Giving parents more options for where to send their child to school.....	59	27	6	7	2	85	13	73
Q27. Providing a more structured learning environment, more student discipline and requiring more parental involvement .....	77	17	3	2	2	94	5	89
Q28. (T) Allowing schools to make quick, effective changes to improve student achievement.....	56	31	5	3	5	87	8	78

Q29. Sometimes in a survey like this, people change their mind. Would you favor or oppose expanding charter schools so that more schoolchildren could enroll in them? (If favor/oppose: is that strongly or somewhat (favor/oppose)?)

	<b>Total</b>
Strongly favor .....	40
Somewhat favor .....	33
Somewhat oppose .....	7
Strongly oppose .....	11
(Don't know/refused) .....	9
<b>Total favor .....</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Total oppose .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Favor - Oppose .....</b>	<b>56</b>

**Demographics**

Finally, I would like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

D1. What is your age?

	<b>Total</b>
18-24 .....	6
25-29 .....	9
30-34 .....	11
35-39 .....	8
40-44 .....	9
45-49 .....	10
50-54 .....	11
55-59 .....	12
60-64 .....	7
65-74 .....	9
75 and over .....	8
(DK/refused) .....	2
Under 40 .....	34
40-54 .....	29
55-64 .....	18
65+ .....	17

D2. What is the last grade you completed in school?

	<b>Total</b>
Some high school .....	5
High school graduate .....	26
Technical/vocational .....	4
Some college .....	21
Graduated college .....	27
Professional/Post Graduate .....	15
(DK/refused) .....	2

D3. For statistical purposes only, in which of the following categories does your total annual individual income fall?

	<b>Total</b>
\$25,000 or less .....	19
Between \$25,000 and \$49,999 .....	25
Between \$50,000 and \$74,999 .....	22
Between \$75,000 and \$99,999 .....	11
Between \$100,000 and \$149,999 .....	7
Over \$150,000 .....	4
(DK/refused) .....	13

D4. Are you currently employed full-time outside the home, employed part-time, self-employed, looking for a job, or are you a homemaker, a student or retired?

	<b>Total</b>
Employed full-time .....	49
Employed part-time .....	10
Self-employed .....	5
Looking for work/unemployed .....	3
Homemaker .....	7
Student .....	1
Retired .....	22
(DK/refused) .....	3

D5. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent, or something else? (IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT:) Do you consider yourself a strong Republican/Democrat) or a not-so-strong (Republican/Democrat)? (IF INDEPENDENT:) Would you say that you lean more toward the Republicans or more toward the Democrats?

	<b>Total</b>
Strong Republican .....	18
Not-so-strong Republican .....	12
Independent - lean Republican .....	4
Independent .....	14
Independent - lean Democratic .....	7
Not-so-strong Democrat .....	10
Strong Democrat .....	23
(Other) .....	7
(Don't Know/Refused) .....	6
Republican .....	35
Independent/ Other .....	27
Democrat .....	39

D6. Are you married, single, separated, widowed, or divorced?

	<b>Total</b>
Married .....	68
Single .....	14
Separated/Divorced .....	9
Widowed .....	7
(Don't know/refused) .....	2

**(Asked of 295 respondents)**

D7. IF PARENT: What are the ages of each of your children under the age of 18 living at home? (RECORD MULTIPLE RESPONSES) (RECORD AGE 1-17)

	<b>Total</b>
Any Under 6 .....	47
Any 6 - 10 .....	31
Any 11 - 13 .....	19
Any 14 - 17 .....	33
Refused/NA .....	7

**(Asked of 295 respondents)**

D8. IF PARENT: Do any of your children under the age of 18 living at home attend public, private, charter, religious or parochial schools, or are any of these children home schooled? (RECORD MULTIPLE RESPONSES)

	<b>Total</b>
Public .....	62
Private .....	9
Religious/Parochial .....	6
Home .....	4
Charter .....	1
(Other) .....	2
(Refused) .....	8

D9. Do you, a friend, or a family member have a child who has attended a charter school?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes .....	20
No .....	76
(Don't know / Refused) .....	5

D10. How would you describe the area in which you live - Do you live in a city with over a million people, in a smaller city, in a suburb NEAR a city, in a small town, or in a rural area?

	<b>Total</b>
City with over a million .....	12
Smaller city .....	21
Suburb .....	21
Small town .....	24
Rural area .....	19
(Don't know / Refused) .....	4

D11. Have you taught in a public school at any time in the past five years?

	<b>Total</b>
Yes .....	10
No .....	87
(Don't know) .....	3

D12. Are you or is any member of your household a member of a teachers' union or a labor union?  
 Check all that apply)

	<b>Total</b>
Yes - self-teachers .....	5
Yes - self-labor .....	4
Yes - household teachers .....	4
Yes - household labor .....	5
Neither .....	80
(Don't know) .....	3

D13. Are you from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking background? (IF "NO", ASK:) What is your race--white, black, Asian or something else?

	<b>Total</b>
White .....	78
Black .....	9
Hispanic .....	4
Other .....	4
(DK/refused) .....	4