

OHIO K–12 & SCHOOL CHOICE SURVEY

MARCH 2020



KEY FINDINGS

- Two-fifths of Ohioans (40%) said they had never heard of Ohio's Educational Choice Scholarship Program. When asked about opinions without offering any descriptions, 43 percent are in favor of the program. When provided with a definition of the program, nearly three-fourths of Ohioans (74%) are in favor of the state's largest publicly funded scholarship (voucher) program.
- Ohio African Americans (85%) were the observed demographic group most likely to favor the Educational Choice Scholarship Program, while Ohioans with a college degree (67%) were the least likely to favor the program.
- More than half of those favoring the Educational Choice Scholarship Program (51%) said their most important reason for doing so was access to better academic environments. More than half of those opposing the program said their most important reason for doing so was their belief that the program would divert funding away from public schools; however, research shows that the program has resulted in cumulative savings of \$429,228,122 from inception through 2014–15.¹
- Nearly one-third of Ohioans (31%) said they had never heard of Ohio's Income-Based Scholarship Program. When asked about opinions without offering any descriptions, 49 percent are in favor of the program. When provided with a definition of the program, more than two-thirds of Ohioans (70%) are in favor of the program.
- Ohio African Americans (85%) were the observed demographic most likely to favor the Income-Based Scholarship Program, while Ohioans with a college degree (65%) and high-income earners (65%) were the least likely to favor the program.
- More than half of Ohio current school parents (52%) said they would prefer to send their children to private school, whereas only 11 percent of Ohio K–12 students are enrolled in a private school. Eighty-two percent of Ohio's K–12 students attend a regular public school, but 26 percent of parents said they would select this type of school for their child if given the option.
- In a split-sample experiment, 56 percent of Ohio current and former school parents said that if financial cost and transportation were of no concern, they would select private schooling to obtain the best education for their child.
- Ohioans severely underestimate how much is spent per student in public schools. Half of respondents offering an answer said Ohio spends \$3,500 or less per student, which is less than one-third of reported 2016–17 spending (\$12,649).² In total, 95 percent of respondents underestimated per-pupil public spending.
- Nearly half of Ohioans (46%) had never heard of Education Savings Accounts (ESAs). However, after being provided with a definition, 82 percent of Ohioans are in favor of ESAs.

See the Survey Methodology and Data Sources, Screening Questions, and Questionnaire and Topline Results at SCOhio.org.

For media inquiries, contact **Kevin Bacon**, Kbacon@scoho.org.

OVERVIEW

Ohio has one of the oldest private school choice programs in the nation and the nation's only private school choice program designed solely for students with autism.

Ohio's Cleveland Scholarship Program began in 1996 and is open to families in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, with priority given to low-income families. As of Fall 2019, there were 7,251 students receiving publicly funded scholarships (vouchers) to attend private schools, with the most recent average amount being \$4,863 (2017–18). Notably, the U.S. Supreme Court deemed the Cleveland Scholarship Program constitutional in 2002. Ohio's Autism Scholarship Program began in 2004. As of last school year (2018–19), there were 3,789 students receiving vouchers for education services from private providers, including tuition at private schools, with the most recent average amount being \$22,996 (2017–18). Ohio's Educational Choice (EdChoice) Scholarship Program began in 2006 and is open to students who would otherwise attend a low-performing public school. As of Fall 2019, there were 28,197 students receiving vouchers to attend private schools, with the most recent average amount being \$4,762 (2017–18). Ohio's Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program began in 2012 and is open to students with special needs. As of last school year (2018–19), there were 6,373 students receiving vouchers to pay for private school tuition and additional services covered by their Individualized Education Plans, with the most recent average amount being \$9,913 (2017–18). Ohio's Income-Based Scholarship Program launched in 2013 and is open to income-eligible students in grades K–6. As of Fall 2019, there were 11,353 students receiving vouchers to attend private schools, with the most recent average amount being \$4,097 (2017–18). In total, there are approximately 57,000 students receiving a voucher in Ohio.³

The purpose of the *Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey* is to measure public opinion on, and in some cases awareness or knowledge of, a range of K–12 education topics and school choice reforms. EdChoice and School Choice Ohio developed this project in partnership with Braun Research, Inc., which conducted the online

interviews, collected the survey data, and provided data quality control. EdChoice is a national nonprofit organization that works on K–12 policy and research; it does not oversee or administer any state-based educational choice programs, including the EdChoice Scholarship in Ohio.

We explore the following topics and questions:

- In which direction do Ohioans think K–12 education in the state is heading?
- Do they believe district schools are adequately funded?
- How would they rate the various types of schooling options in the state in general and in their area specifically?
- What sort of schooling options would they prefer for their own children?
- How supportive are Ohioans of the various types of educational choice programs?
- And what are their views on Ohio's current educational choice programs?

METHODS AND DATA

The *Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey* project, funded and developed by EdChoice in partnership with School Choice Ohio and conducted by Braun Research, Inc., interviewed a statistically representative statewide sample of Ohio voters (age 18+). Data collection methods consisted of a non-probability-based opt-in online panel. The unweighted statewide sample includes a total of 1,265 online interviews completed in English from February 17–March 1, 2020. The margin of sampling error for the total statewide sample is ± 2.75 percentage points.

The statewide sample was weighted using population parameters from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 Decennial Census for voters living in the state of Ohio. Results were weighted on age, county, race, ethnicity, community type, income, and gender. Weighting based on county used data from the U.S. Census Bureau's

2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. We intended to also weight by party, but Ohio does not report party affiliations; one does not need to be registered with a party to vote in the primary.

GROUND RULES

Before discussing the survey results, we want to provide some brief ground rules for reporting statewide sample and demographic subgroup responses in this brief. For each survey topic, there is a sequence for describing various analytical frames. We note the raw response levels for the statewide sample on a given question. Then we consider the statewide sample's margin, noting differences between positive and negative responses. If we detect statistical significance on a given item, then we briefly report demographic results and differences. We do not infer causality with any of the observations in this brief. Aside from the demographic tables in the appendices, we do not use specific subgroup findings if there were fewer than 80 respondents.

Explicit subgroup comparisons/differences are statistically significant with 95 percent confidence, unless otherwise clarified in the narrative. We orient any listing of subgroups' margins around more/less "likely" to respond one way or the other, usually emphasizing the propensity to be more/less positive. Subgroup comparisons are meant to be suggestive for further exploration and research beyond this project.

FINDINGS

Publicly Funded Scholarships (Vouchers)

Ohioans are more than twice as likely to favor publicly funded scholarships, or vouchers, than they are to oppose them. More than two-thirds of respondents (69%) said they supported vouchers after being given a description, whereas 31 percent said they oppose. The margin is +38 percentage points. Ohioans are more likely to express an intensely positive response compared with a negative response (23% "strongly favor" vs. 12% "strongly oppose").

An initial voucher question inquired about an opinion without offering any description. On this baseline question, 62 percent of respondents said they favored vouchers, and 21 percent said they opposed them. In the follow-up question, respondents were given a general description of a voucher program. With this information, support increased six points to 69 percent, and opposition increased 10 points to 31 percent.

One-sixth of Ohioans (17%) said they had never heard of vouchers on the baseline item. The subgroups having the highest proportions saying they had never heard of vouchers are: low-income earners (21%) and small town and rural residents (24%).⁴

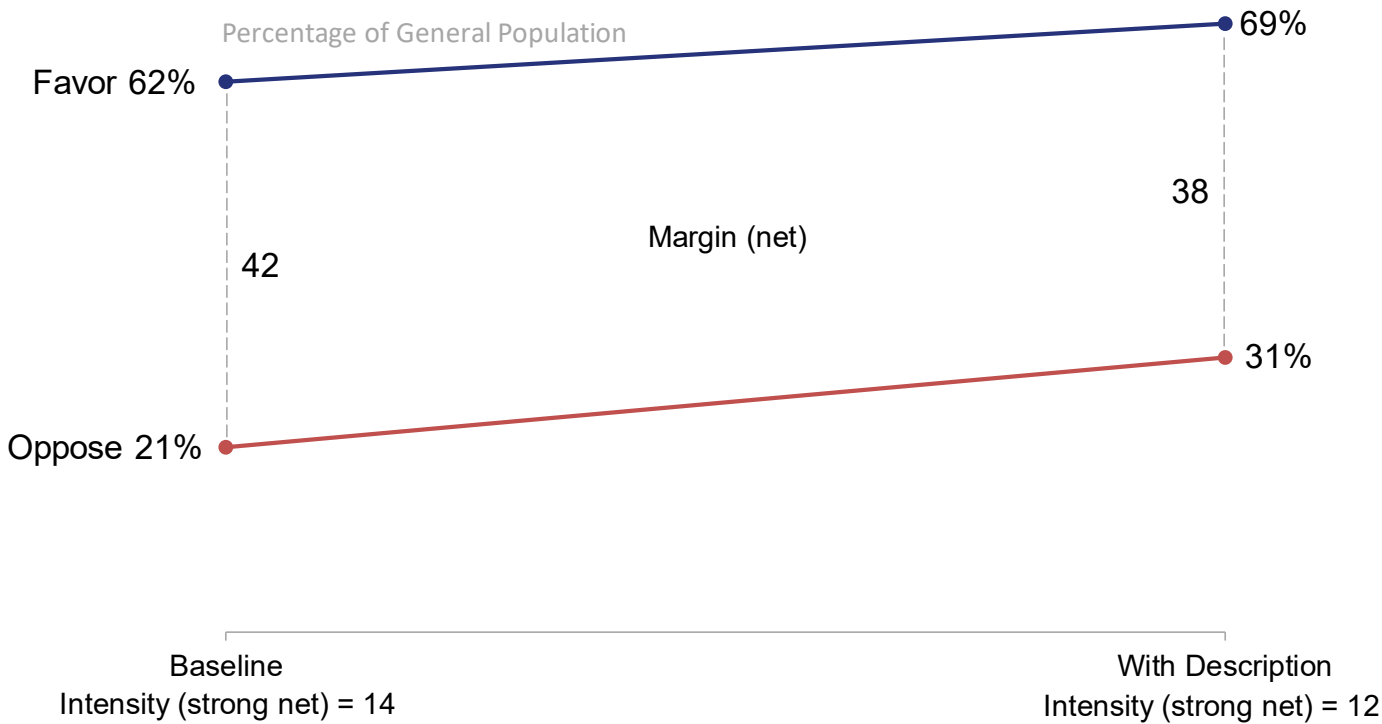
The margins of all subgroups observed are positive—and they all exceed +11 percentage points. The largest positive margins are among: African Americans (+45 points), current school parents (+50 points), those without a college degree (+48 points), Millennials (+47 points), and females (+47 points). The subgroups exhibiting the lowest net positive margins for voucher favorability include college graduates (+23 points), high-income earners (+26 points), and males (+28 points).

In addition:

- Females (74%) were more likely to favor vouchers than males (64%).
- Low-income earners (72%) and middle-income earners (71%) were more likely to favor vouchers than high-income earners (63%).
- Those without a college degree (74%) were more likely to favor vouchers than college graduates (61%).
- African American Ohioans (83%) were more likely to favor vouchers than white Ohioans (67%).

**FIGURE 1. Ohioans' Views on Publicly Funded Scholarships (Vouchers):
Baseline vs. Descriptive Versions**

*When given a description of vouchers, support increased by six points and opposition increased by 10 points.
The net positive margin decreased by four points.*



Notes: All statistical results reported in this figure and report reflect weighted data, a standard procedure to correct for known demographic discrepancies. Margins and intensities are calculated using percentages to the nearest tenth.
Source: EdChoice, *Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey* (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q25 and Q26

Educational Choice (EdChoice) Scholarship Program

Ohioans broadly support the Educational Choice Scholarship Program, cutting across all observed demographics. Nearly three-fourths of respondents (74%) said they supported Ohio’s largest voucher program, whereas 26 percent said they oppose. The margin is +47 percentage points. Ohioans are more likely to express an intensely positive response compared with a negative response (25% “strongly favor” vs. 9% “strongly oppose”).

An initial Educational Choice Scholarship Program question inquired about an opinion without offering any description. On this baseline question, 43 percent of respondents said they favored EdChoice Scholarships, and 17 percent said they opposed them. In the follow-up question, respondents were given a description of Ohio’s Educational Choice Scholarship Program. With this program description, support increased 31 points to 74 percent, and opposition increased 10 points to 26 percent.

Two-fifths of Ohioans (40%) said they had never heard of Ohio’s Educational Choice Scholarship Program on the baseline item. The subgroups having the highest proportions saying they had never heard of Ohio’s Educational Choice Scholarship Program are: seniors (44%), Baby Boomers (44%), low-income earners (44%), females (44%), small town and rural residents (45%), Dayton residents (48%), and former school parents (50%).

The margins of all subgroups observed are positive—and they all exceed +27 percentage points. The largest positive margins are among: African Americans (+69 points), Generation Z (+61 points), females (+56 points), those without a college degree (+56 points), and Dayton residents (+56 points). The subgroups exhibiting the lowest net positive margins for EdChoice Scholarship favorability include college graduates (+34 points), high-income earners (+35 points), and males (+37 points).

In addition:

- Younger Ohioans (78%) were more likely to favor the Educational Choice Scholarship Program than seniors (70%).
- Generation Z (81%) and Millennials (77%) were more likely to favor EdChoice Scholarships than Baby Boomers (69%).
- Those without a college degree (78%) were more likely to favor the program than college graduates (67%).
- Females (78%) were more likely to favor EdChoice Scholarships than males (69%).
- Low-income earners (76%) and middle-income earners (77%) were more likely to favor the voucher program than high-income earners (68%).

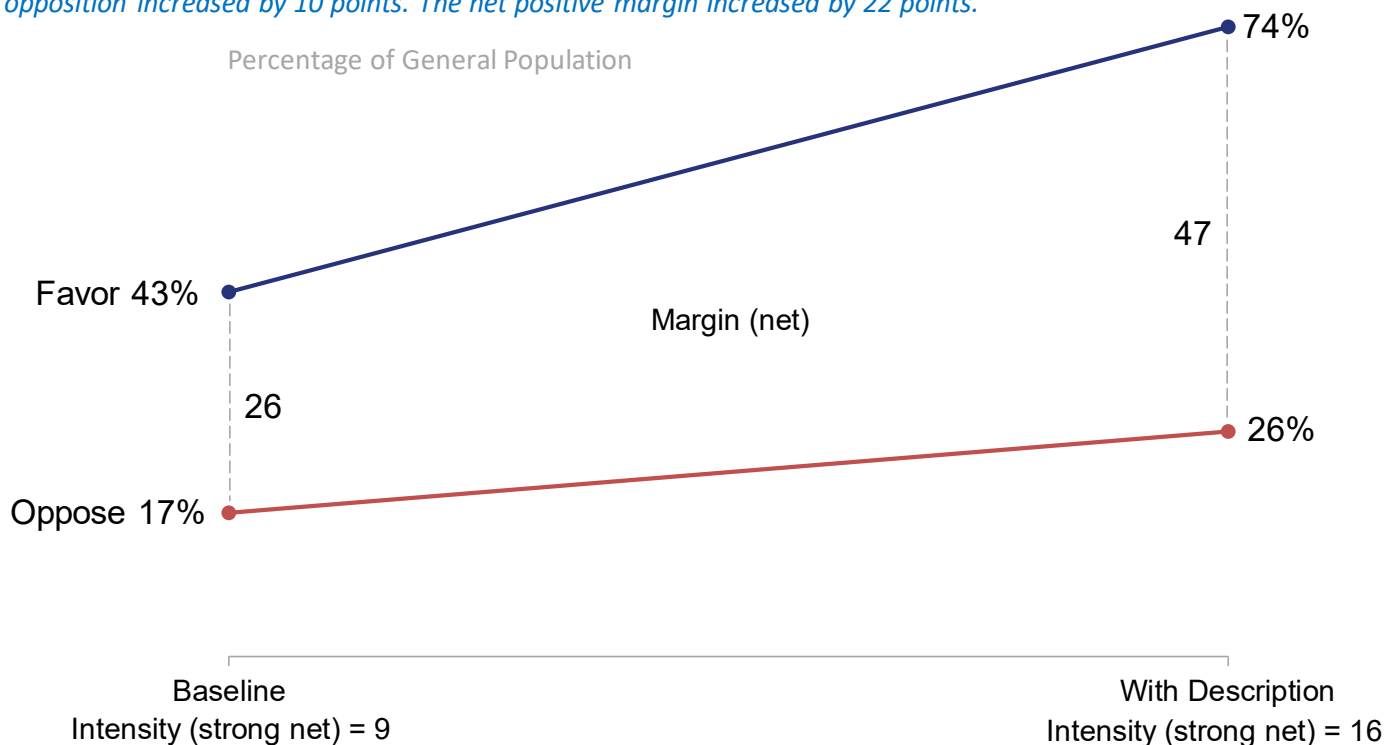
- African American Ohioans (85%) were more likely to favor the state's Educational Choice Scholarship Program than white Ohioans (72%).

Of the current school parents who responded to the survey, 23 percent had never heard of the Educational Choice Scholarship Program and 34 percent had heard of the program did not apply.

In a follow-up item, we learned the most common reasons for supporting EdChoice Scholarships are: “access to better academic environment” (51%), “focus on more individual attention” (18%), and “more freedom and flexibility for parents” (18%). Respondents opposed to EdChoice Scholarships answered a similar follow-up question. By far the most common reason for opposing this policy is the belief it would “divert funding away from public schools” (53%).

FIGURE 2. Ohioans' Views on the Educational Choice (EdChoice) Scholarship Program: Baseline vs. Descriptive Versions

When given a description of Ohio's EdChoice Scholarship Program, support increased by 31 points and opposition increased by 10 points. The net positive margin increased by 22 points.

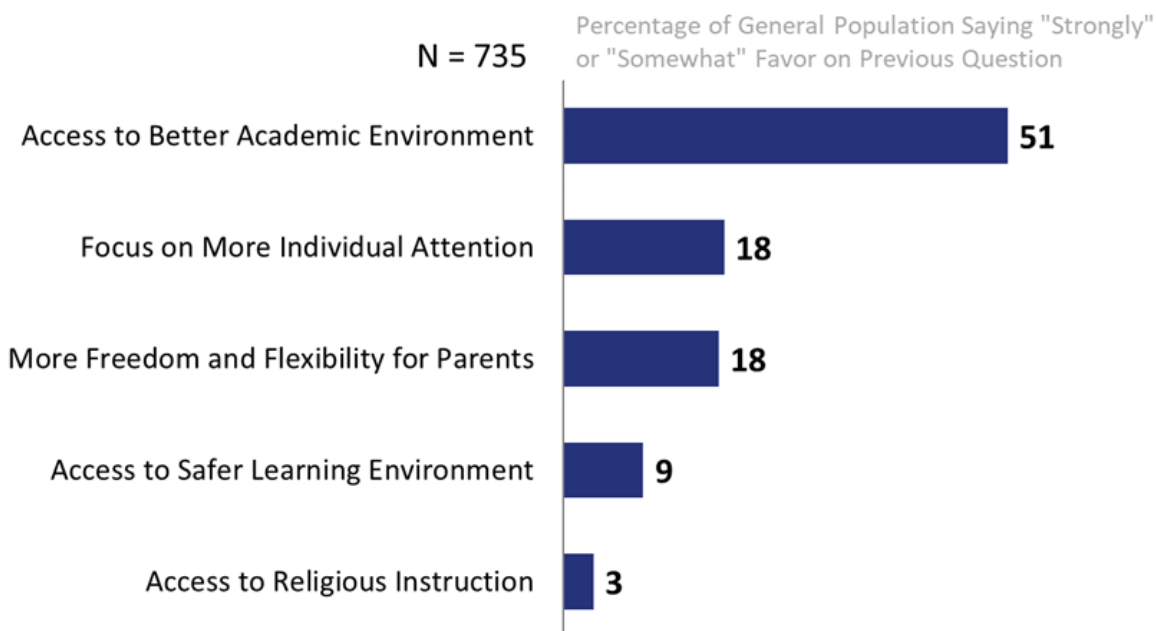


Notes: Margins and intensities are calculated using percentages to the nearest tenth.

Source: EdChoice, *Ohio K-12 & School Choice Survey* (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q27 and Q28

FIGURE 3. The Most Important Reason for Supporting Ohio's Educational Choice (EdChoice) Scholarship Program

More than half of supporters said access to better academic environments was the most important reason they favor Ohio's EdChoice Scholarship Program.

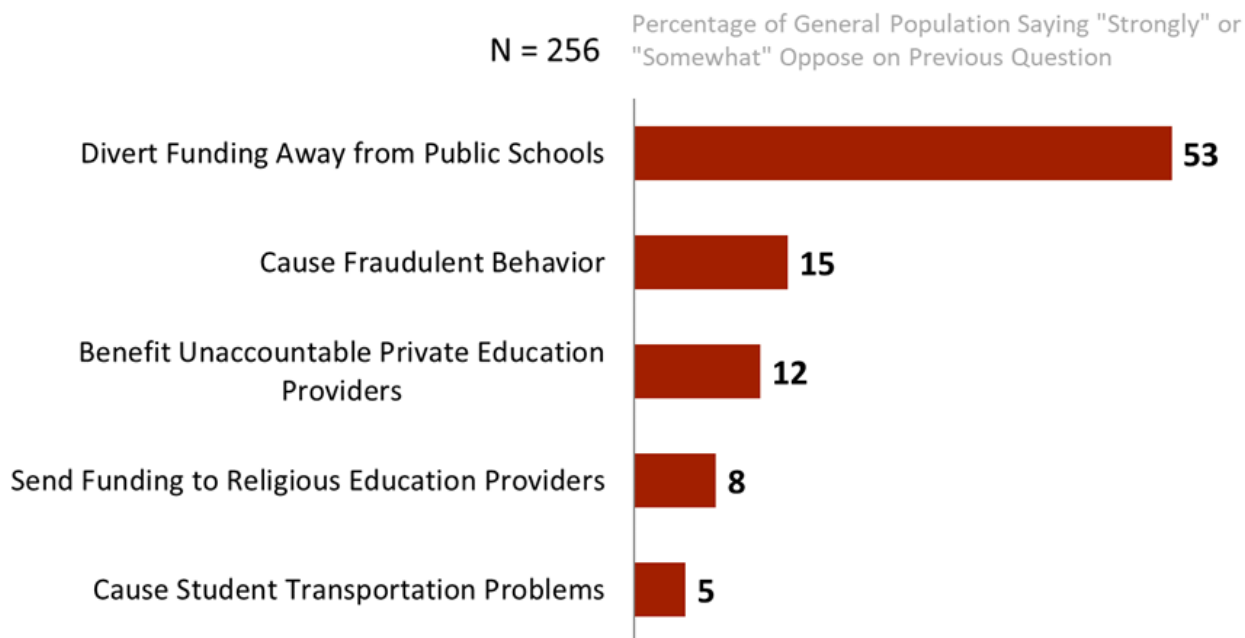


Notes: Volunteered responses not shown. Skips not reflected in this chart.

Source: EdChoice, Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q29

FIGURE 4. The Most Important Reason for Opposing Ohio's Educational Choice (EdChoice) Scholarship Program

More than half of those who oppose Ohio's EdChoice Scholarship Program do so because they believe it would take funds away from public schools.



Notes: Volunteered responses not shown. Skips not reflected in this chart.

Source: EdChoice, Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q30

INCOME-BASED (EDCHOICE EXPANSION) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Ohioans are much more likely to favor Income-Based Scholarships than they are to oppose them. More than two-thirds of respondents (70%) said they supported Ohio's income-based voucher program, whereas 30 percent said they oppose. The margin is +40 percentage points. Ohioans are more likely to express an intensely positive response compared with a negative response (21% "strongly favor" vs. 8% "strongly oppose").

An initial Income-Based Scholarship Program question inquired about an opinion without offering any description. On this baseline question, 49 percent of respondents said they favored Income-Based Scholarships, and 20 percent said they opposed them. In the follow-up question, respondents were given a description of Ohio's Income-Based Scholarship Program. With this program description, support increased 21 points to 70 percent, and opposition increased 10 points to 30 percent.

Nearly one-third of Ohioans (31%) said they had never heard of Ohio's Income-Based Scholarship Program on the baseline item. The subgroups having the highest proportions saying they had never heard of Ohio's Income-Based Scholarship Program are: Generation Z (35%), those without a college degree (35%), former school parents (35%), females (36%), and small town and rural residents (38%).

The margins of all subgroups observed are positive—and they all exceed +30 percentage points. The largest positive margins are among: African Americans (+70 points), current school parents (+51 points), Dayton residents (+51 points), and Millennials (+49 points). The subgroups exhibiting the lowest net positive margins for Income-Based Scholarship favorability include college graduates (+30 points), high-income earners (+30 points), Baby Boomers (+32 points), seniors (+34 points), and males (+34 points).

In addition:

- Current school parents (76%) were more likely to favor the Income-Based Scholarship Program than non-parents (69%).
- Millennials (74%) were more likely to favor Income-Based Scholarships than Baby Boomers (66%).
- Those without a college degree (73%) were more likely to favor the program than college graduates (65%).
- Females (78%) were more likely to favor Income-Based Scholarships than males (69%).
- Low-income earners (74%) were more likely to favor the voucher program than high-income earners (65%).
- African American Ohioans (85%) were more likely to favor the state's Income-Based Scholarship Program than white Ohioans (67%).

Of the current school parents who responded to the survey, 30 percent had never heard of Ohio's Income-Based Scholarship Program and 37 percent had heard of the program did not apply.

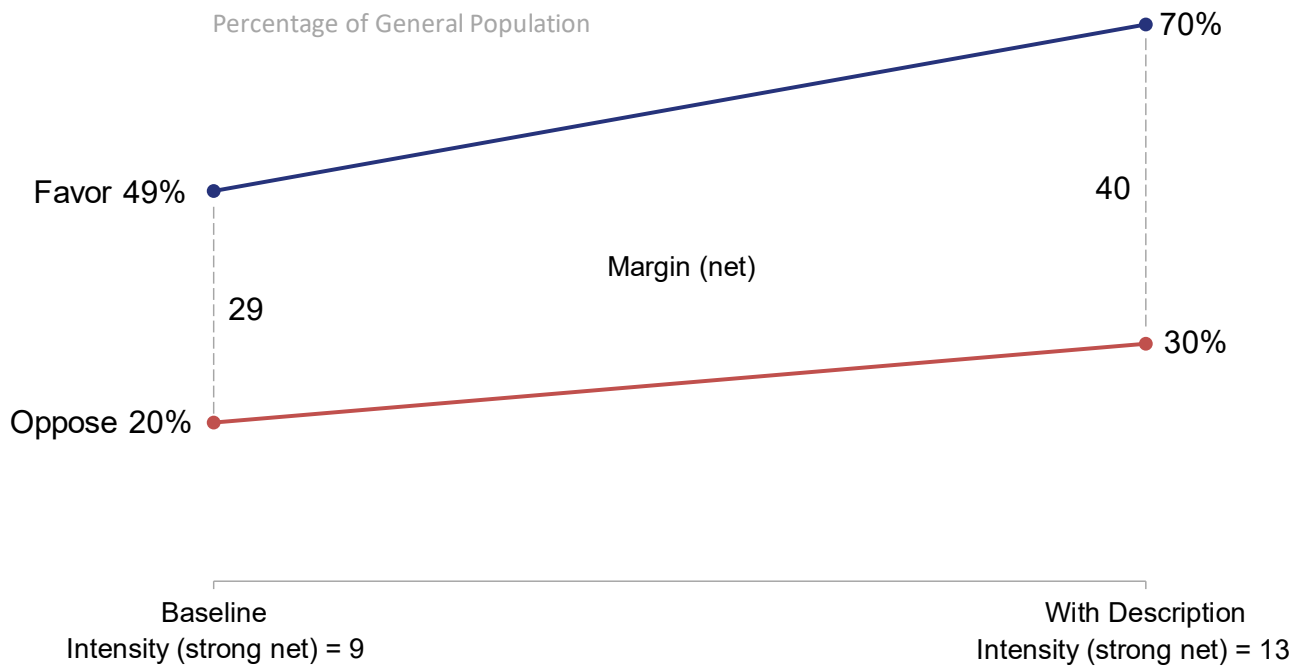
EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS (ESAS)

Ohioans are more than four times as likely to support Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) than they are to oppose them. More than four-fifths of respondents (82%) said they supported ESAs, whereas 18 percent said they oppose. The margin is +64 percentage points. Ohioans are more likely to express an intensely positive response compared with a negative response (27% "strongly favor" vs. 5% "strongly oppose").

An initial ESA question inquired about an opinion without offering any description. On this baseline question, 46 percent of respondents said they favored an ESA system, and 8 percent said they opposed

FIGURE 5. Ohioans' Views on the Income-Based (EdChoice Expansion) Scholarship Program: Baseline vs. Descriptive Versions

When given a description of Ohio's Income-Based Scholarship Program, support increased by 21 points and opposition increased by 10 points. The net positive margin increased by 11 points.

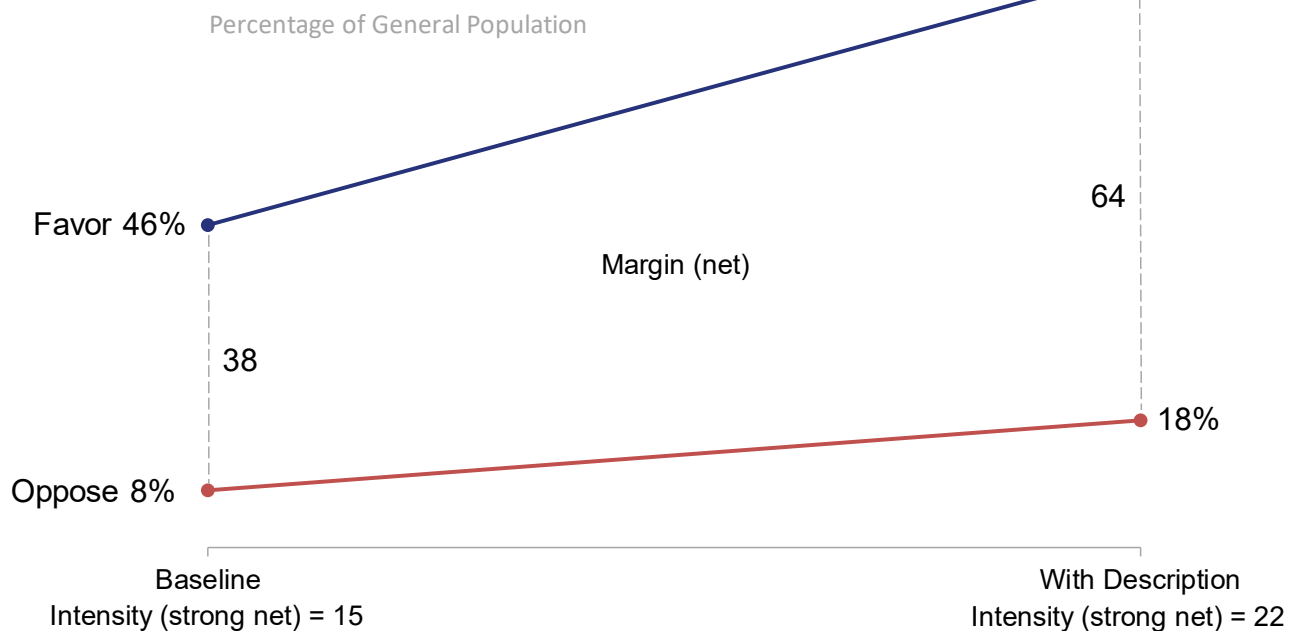


Notes: Margins and intensities are calculated using percentages to the nearest tenth.

Source: EdChoice, Ohio K-12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q31 and Q32

FIGURE 6. Ohioans' Views on Education Savings Accounts (ESAs): Baseline vs. Descriptive Versions

When given a description of an ESA program, support increased by 36 points and opposition increased by 10 points. The net positive margin increased by 26 points.



Notes: Margins and intensities are calculated using percentages to the nearest tenth.

Source: EdChoice, Ohio K-12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q20 and Q21

them. In the next question, respondents were given a description of a general ESA program. With this program-specific information, support increased 36 points to 82 percent, and opposition increased 10 points to 18 percent.

Nearly half of Ohioans (46%) said they had never heard of ESAs on the baseline item. The subgroups having the highest proportions saying they had never heard of ESAs are: those without a college degree (50%), urbanites (50%), low-income earners (51%), small town and rural residents (51%), and Generation Z (55%).

The margins of all subgroups observed are positive—and they exceed +55 percentage points for all subgroups with more than 35 respondents. The largest positive margins are among current school parents (+75 points), Columbus residents (+74 points), females (+71 points), African Americans (+71 points), and Millennials (+71 points). The subgroups exhibiting the lowest net positive margins for ESA favorability include males (+57 points), Cleveland residents (+57 points), non-parents (+58 points), and low-income earners (+58 points).

In addition:

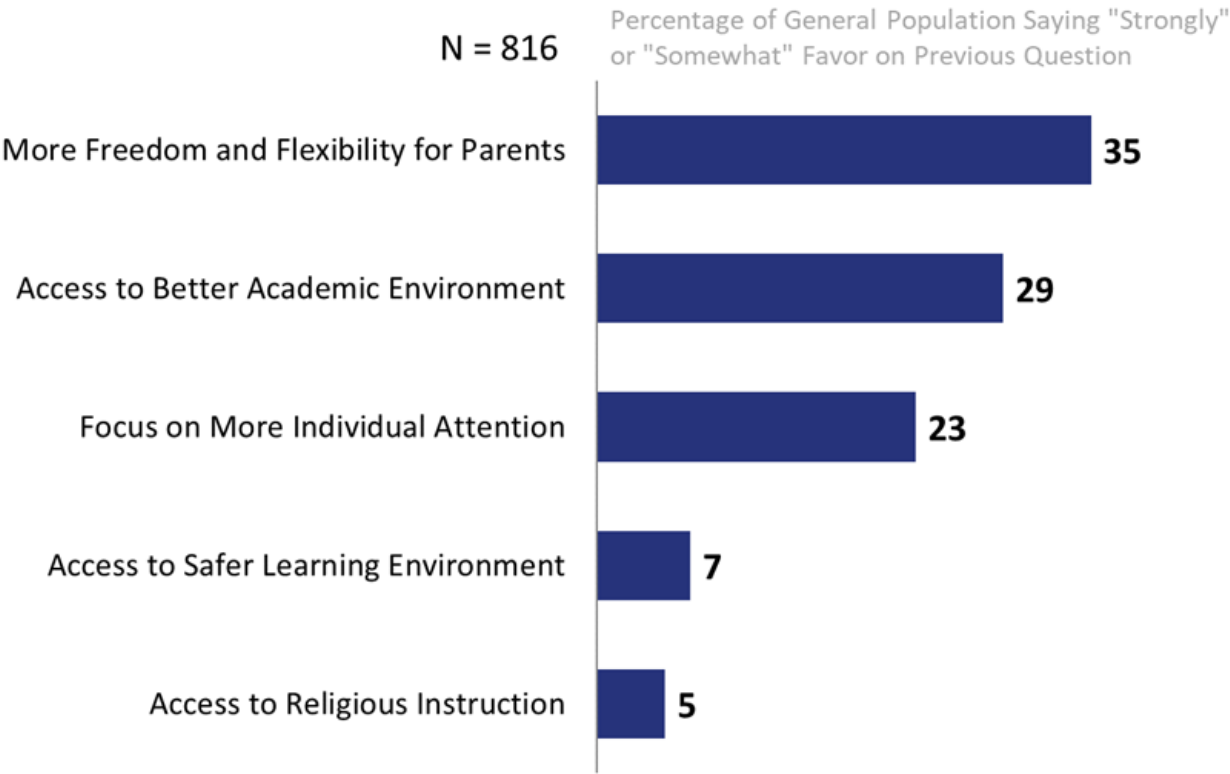
- Current school parents (88%) were more likely to favor ESAs than non-parents (79%).
- Females (85%) were more likely to favor ESAs than males (78%).

In a follow-up item, we learned the most common reasons for supporting ESAs are: “more freedom and flexibility for parents” (35%), “access to better academic environment” (29%), and “focus on more individual attention” (23%). Respondents opposed to ESAs answered a similar follow-up question. By far the most common reason for opposing this policy is the belief it would “divert funding away from public schools” (35%).

A subsequent split-sample experiment shows Ohioans are inclined toward universal eligibility for ESAs rather than means-tested eligibility based solely on financial need. In the universal split, 80 percent of respondents said they agree with the statement that

FIGURE 7. The Most Important Reason for Supporting ESAs

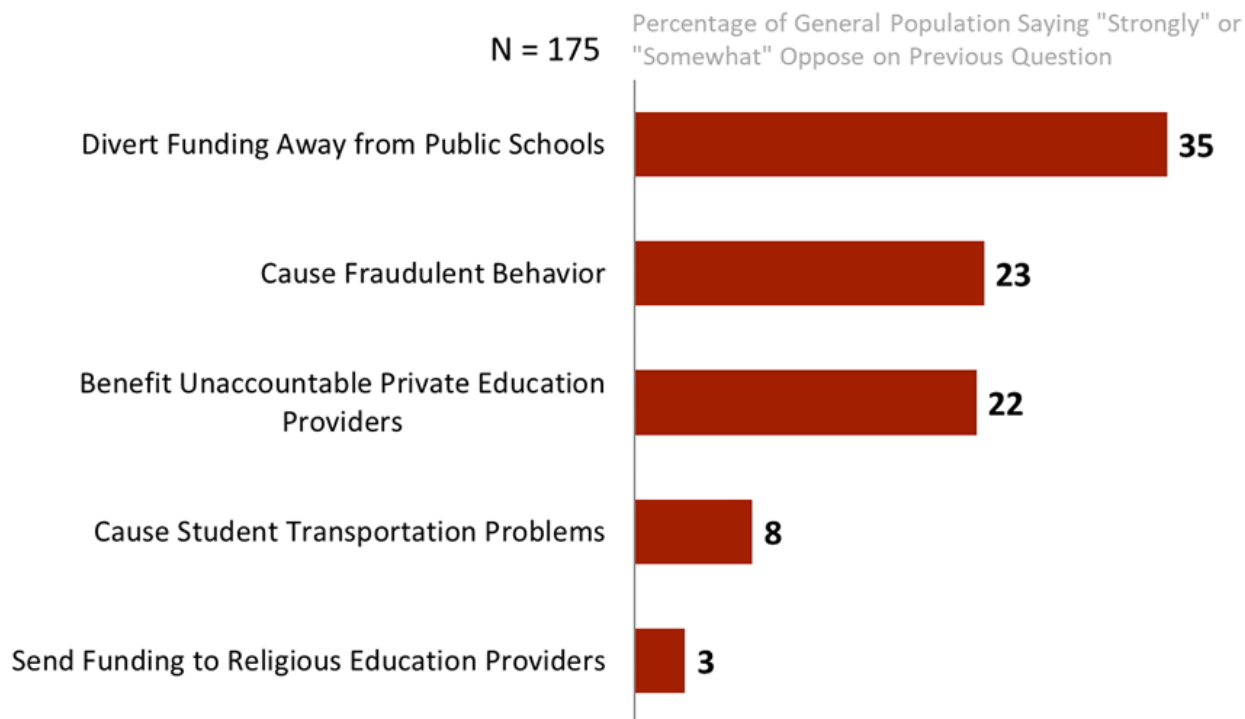
Nearly two-thirds of supporters either said access to better academic environments or increased freedom and flexibility for parents was the most important reason they favor ESAs.



Notes: Volunteered responses not shown. Skips not reflected in this chart.
Source: EdChoice, Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q22

FIGURE 8. The Most Important Reason for Opposing ESAs

More than one-third of those who oppose ESAs do so because they believe it would take funds away from public schools.

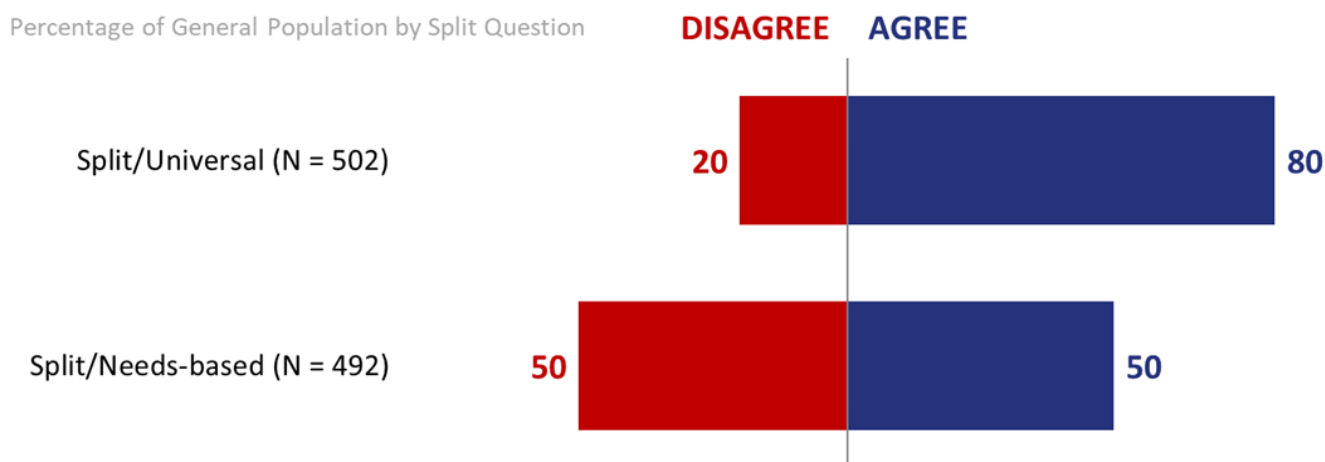


Notes: Volunteered responses not shown. Skips not reflected in this chart.

Source: EdChoice, Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q23

FIGURE 9. Comparing Views for Different Approaches to ESA Eligibility

Our question wording experiment indicates Ohioans are much more likely to favor universal ESA eligibility than limited, needs-based eligibility.



Q24-Split. Some people believe that ESAs *should be available to all families, regardless of income and special needs*. Do you agree or disagree with that statement?

Q24-Split. Some people believe that ESAs *should be available only to families based on financial need*. Do you agree or disagree with that statement?

Notes: Volunteered responses not shown. "Don't Know," "Refusal," nor skips reflected in this chart.

Source: EdChoice, Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q24

“ESAs should be available to all families, regardless of income and special needs.” About 35 percent “strongly agree” with that statement. One out of five Ohioans (20%) disagree with that statement; 7 percent said they “strongly disagree.” In the comparison sample, needs-based split, respondents were asked if they agree with the statement, “ESAs should only be available to families based on financial need.” Fifty percent agreed with that statement, while 14 percent said “strongly agree.” Half of Ohioans (50%) said they disagree with means-testing ESAs, and 33 percent said they “strongly disagree.” More than four out of five current school parents (85%) agree that educational choice programs like ESAs should be available to all families, with more than one-third (36%) saying they “strongly agree.”

PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

Ohio enacted its charter school law in 1997 and more than 600 public charter schools, sometimes referred to as community schools, have opened in the state since

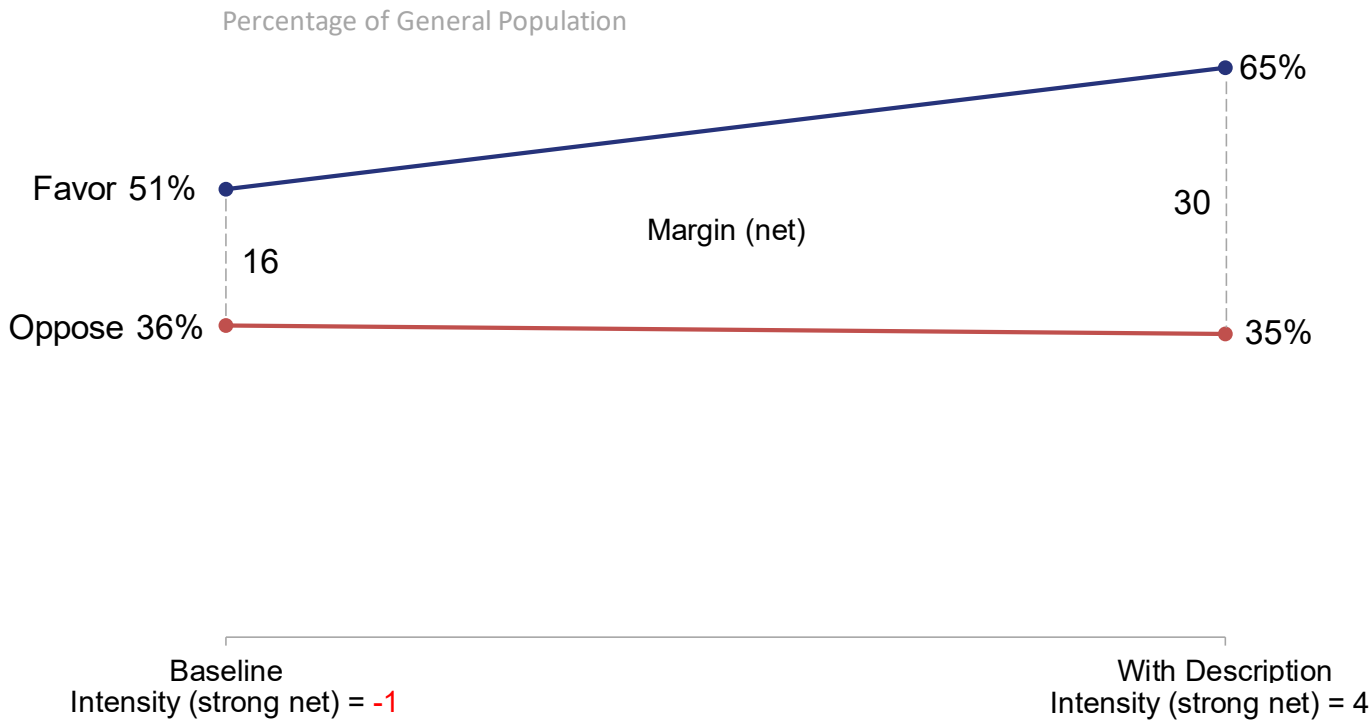
then.⁵ Respondents were asked two questions about charter schools, and Ohioans clearly support them, both before and after given a description.

Interviewers first asked for an opinion without offering any description. On this baseline question, 51 percent of respondents said they favored charters, and 36 percent said they opposed them. In the follow-up question, respondents were given a general description of a charter school in Ohio. With that information, support increased 14 points to 65 percent, and opposition decreased one point to 35 percent. The margin of support was large (+30 points).

Slightly more than one in 10 Ohioans (13%) said they had never heard of charter schools on the baseline item. The subgroups having the highest proportions saying they had never heard of charter schools are low-income earners (17%), younger Ohioans (17%), those without a college degree (18%), small town and rural residents (20%), Dayton residents (20%), and Generation Z (24%).

FIGURE 10. Ohioans' Views on Public Charter Schools:
Baseline vs. Descriptive Versions

When given a description about charter schools, support increased by 14 points and opposition decreased by one point. The net positive margin increased by 15 points.



Note: Margins and intensities are calculated using percentages to the nearest tenth.
Source: EdChoice, Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q18 and Q19

The margins of all subgroups observed are positive—and they exceed +10 percentage points for all subgroups with more than 35 respondents. The largest positive margins are among urbanites (+49 points), African Americans (+48 points), Toledo residents (+44 points), low-income earners (+44 points), and those without a college degree (+44 points). The subgroups exhibiting the lowest net positive margins for charter school favorability include college graduates (+10 points), Cleveland residents (+17 points), high-income earners (+18 points), and suburbanites (+21 points).

In addition:

- Urbanites (74%) were more likely to favor charter schools than suburbanites (61%).
- Those without a college degree (72%) were more likely to favor charter schools than college graduates (55%).

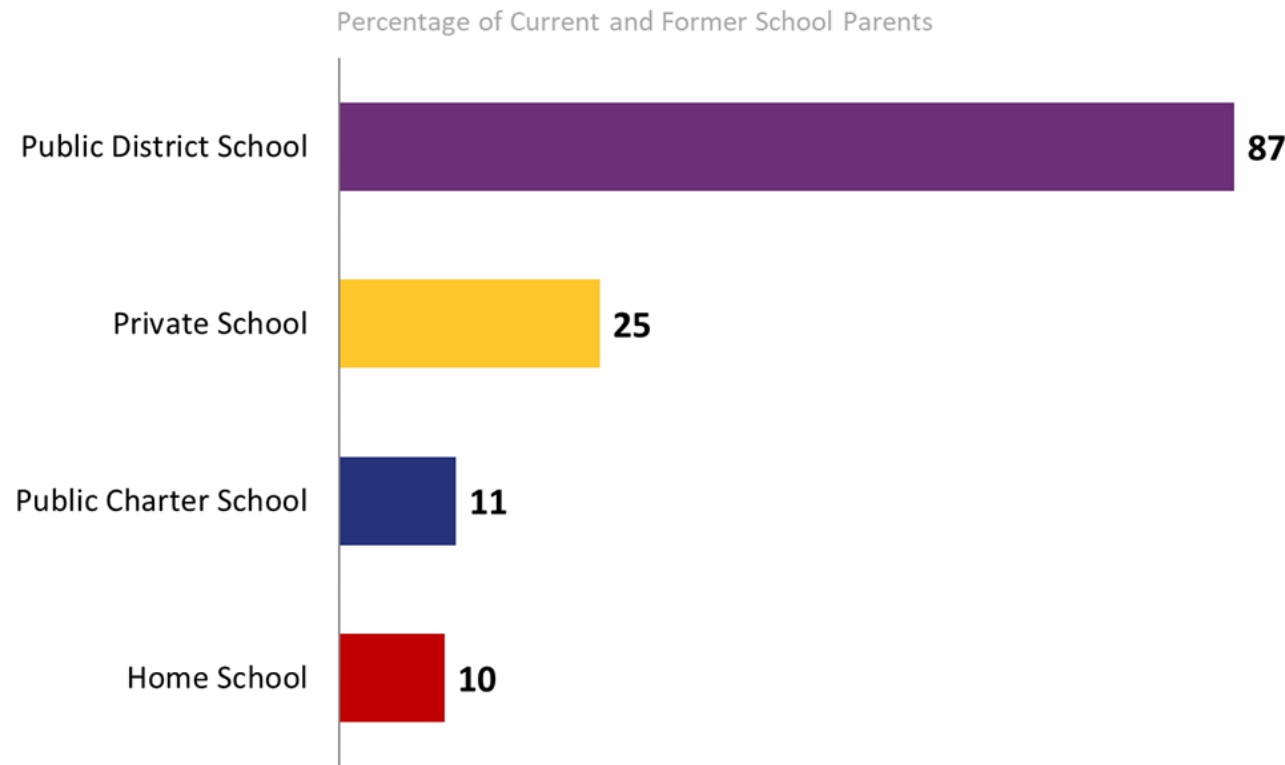
- Low-income earners (72%) were more likely to favor charter schools than middle-income earners (64%) and high-income earners (59%).
- Republicans (69%) were more likely to favor charter schools than Democrats (61%).
- African American Ohioans (74%) were more likely to favor charter schools than white Ohioans (64%).

SCHOOL TYPE ENROLLMENTS AND SATISFACTION

The vast majority of parents’ experiences occur in public district schools, with almost nine out of 10 parents surveyed (87%) having children who attended at least one year of public school. Figure 11 displays parents’ schooling experiences by type based on survey responses.

FIGURE 11. School Types Children Have Attended for at Least One Year

The vast majority of parents in our survey have enrolled their children in public district schools.



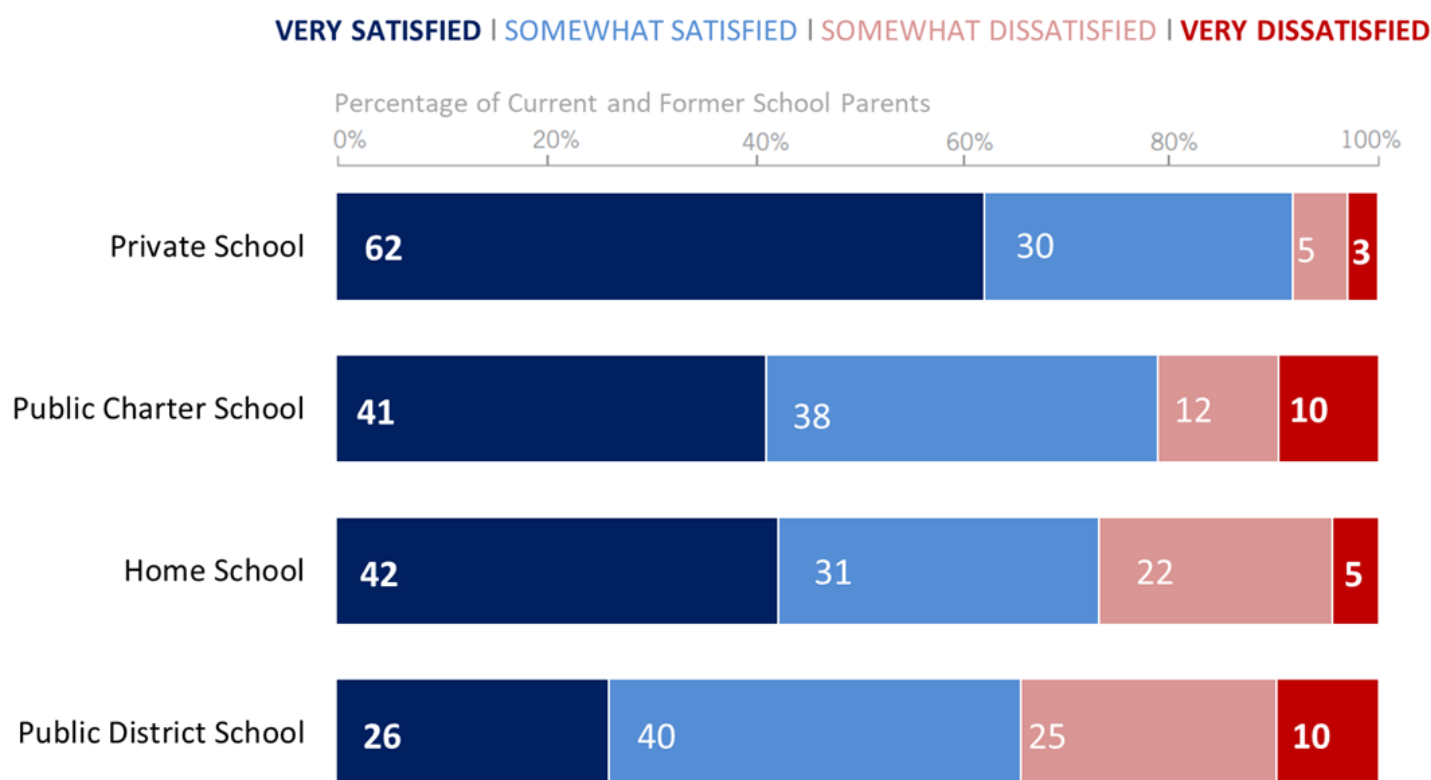
Source: EdChoice, Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q3, Q5, Q7, and Q9

GRADING LOCAL SCHOOLS

Ohioans are much more likely to give grades of “A” or “B” to private schools in their communities compared with their local public schools. When considering only those respondents with children in school who actually gave a grade, the local private schools (76% gave an “A” or “B”) fare better than regular public schools (42% gave an “A” or “B”) and public charter schools (41% gave an “A” or “B”). Only 6 percent of respondents give a “D” or “F” grade to private schools; 21 percent gave low grades to public charter schools; and 30 percent assign poor grades to area public district schools.

FIGURE 12. Parents' Satisfaction with Schools

Parent satisfaction is highest in private schools and charter schools.



Note: One respondent skipped the question, which is not shown or reflected in the chart.

Source: EdChoice, *Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey* (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q4, Q6, Q8, and Q10

When considering all responses, we see approximately 66 percent of Ohioans give an “A” or “B” to local private schools; 34 percent give an “A” or “B” to local public charter schools; and 42 percent giving those high grades to regular local public schools. Only 5 percent of respondents give a “D” or “F” grade to private schools; 24 percent give the same low grades to regular public schools; and 16 percent suggest low grades for public charter schools.

It is important to highlight that much higher proportions of respondents do not express any view for private schools (14%) or public charter schools (24%), compared with the proportion that do not grade regular public schools (3%).

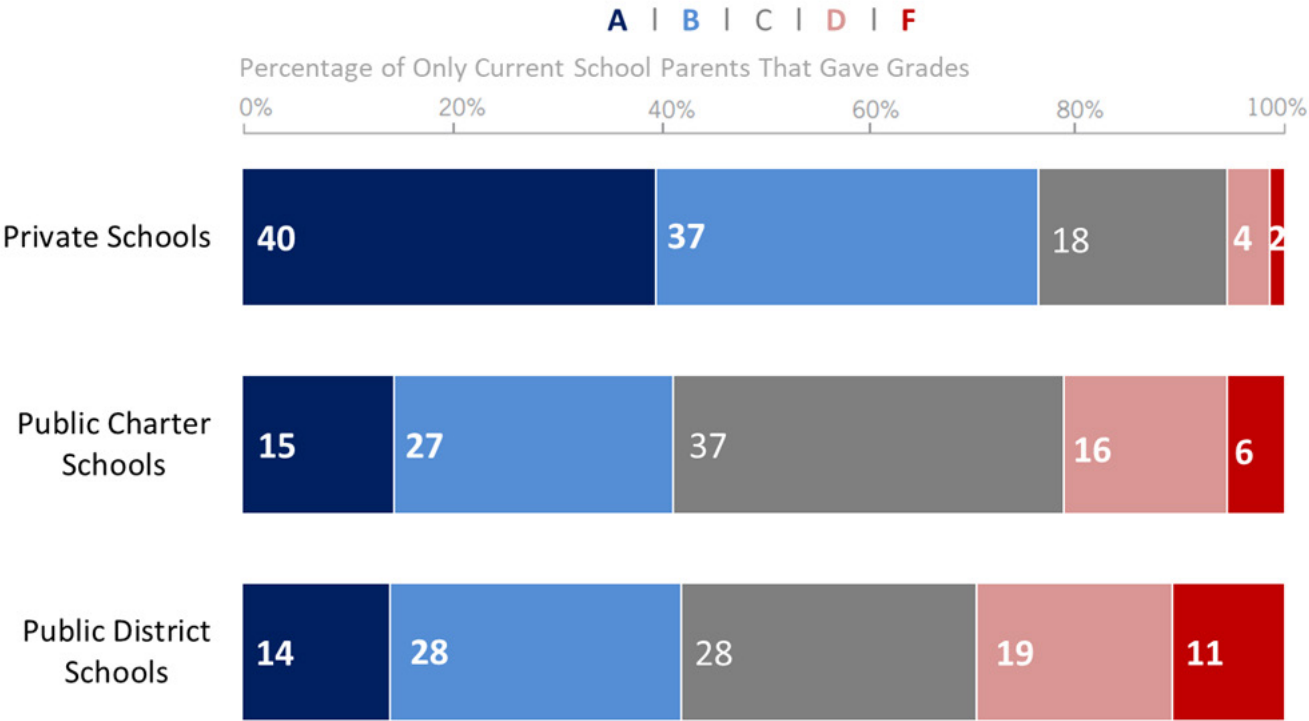
WHO SHOULD DECIDE AND SCHOOL TYPE PREFERENCES

When asked who should decide where a child attends school, nearly nine out of 10 Ohioans (87%) said parents or guardians should decide. One out of 10 (10%) said the school district should decide, while 3 percent said the state should decide.

When asked for a preferred school type, more than half of Ohio parents would choose a private school (52%) as a first option for their child. Approximately one-fourth of respondents (26%) would select a regular public school. Eleven percent would choose a public charter school, and approximately one out of 10 would like to homeschool their child (11%).⁶

FIGURE 13. How Current School Parents Grade Their Local Schools

Current school parents are much more likely to rate their local private schools with an “A” or “B” (76%) compared to ratings of public charter schools (41%) or public district schools (42%).



Notes: Volunteered “Not Applicable” responses and skips not shown nor reflected in this chart. Sample sizes vary by school type: Private Schools (N = 254); Public Charter Schools (N = 179); Public District Schools (N = 255).
Source: EdChoice, Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q14

Private preferences signal a glaring disconnect with estimated school enrollment patterns in Ohio. About 82 percent of K–12 students attend public district schools across the state. Roughly 6 percent of students currently go to public charter schools. About 11 percent of students enroll in private or parochial schools, including about 3 percent doing so through the state’s five voucher programs. And it is estimated about 2 percent of the state’s students are homeschooled.⁷

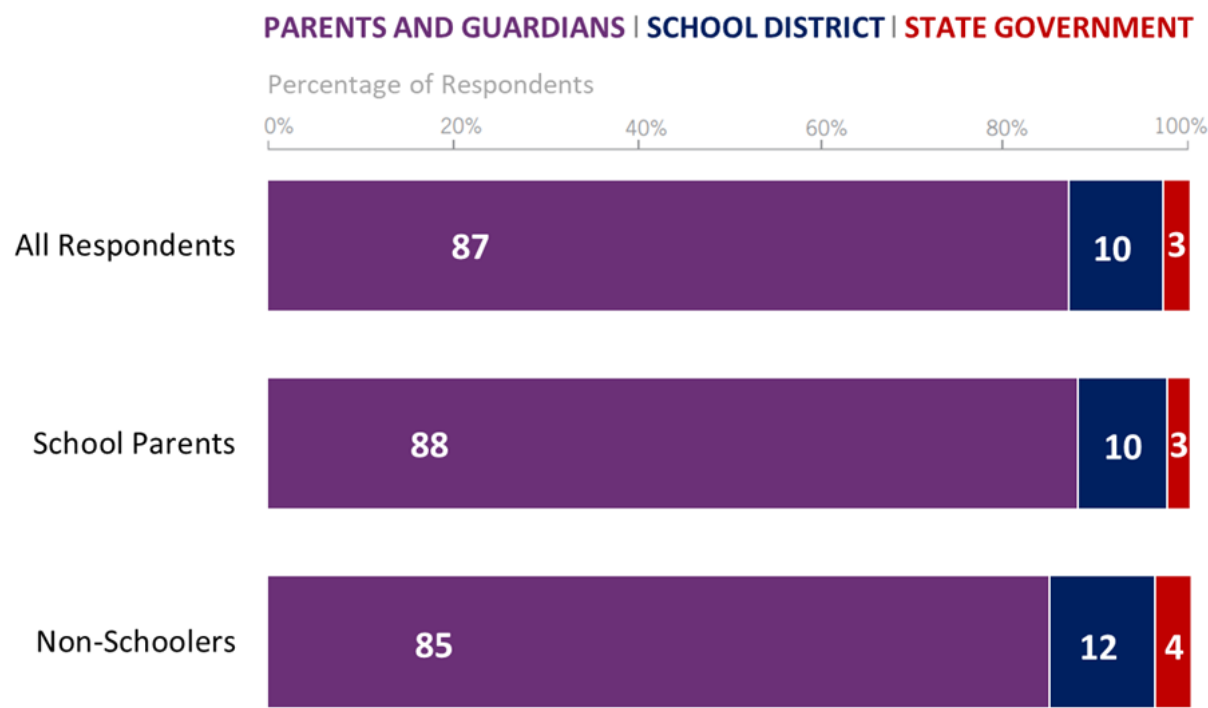
In a split-sample experiment, interviewers asked a baseline question and an alternate version using a short phrase in addition to the baseline. When inserting the short phrase “... and financial costs and transportation were of no concern,” respondents are more likely to select private school compared to responses to the version without the phrase. The phrase’s effect appeared to increase the likelihood for parents choosing private schools (+3 point increase from baseline to alternate) or charter schools (+4 point increase). The phrasing effect depressed the likelihood

of parents to choose a public district school (-3 point decrease) or home school (-4 point decrease). The inserted language in the alternate version appears to be a clear signal that can increase the attraction toward private schools while decreasing the likelihood to choose a public district school. Overall, 56 percent of Ohioans said that if financial cost and transportation were of no concern, they would select private schooling to obtain the best education for their child.

We asked survey respondents a follow-up question for the main reason they chose a certain type of school. Respondents choosing private school, public charter school, or homeschooling were more likely to prioritize “individual attention/one-on-one” and “class size/student-teacher ratio” than those selecting public district school. Nearly one-fourth of private school choosers (24%) and more than one-fifth of charter school choosers (22%) gave those reasons. Respondents that preferred district schools would most frequently say some aspect of “socialization” was

FIGURE 14. Preferences for Who Should Decide Where a Child Attends School

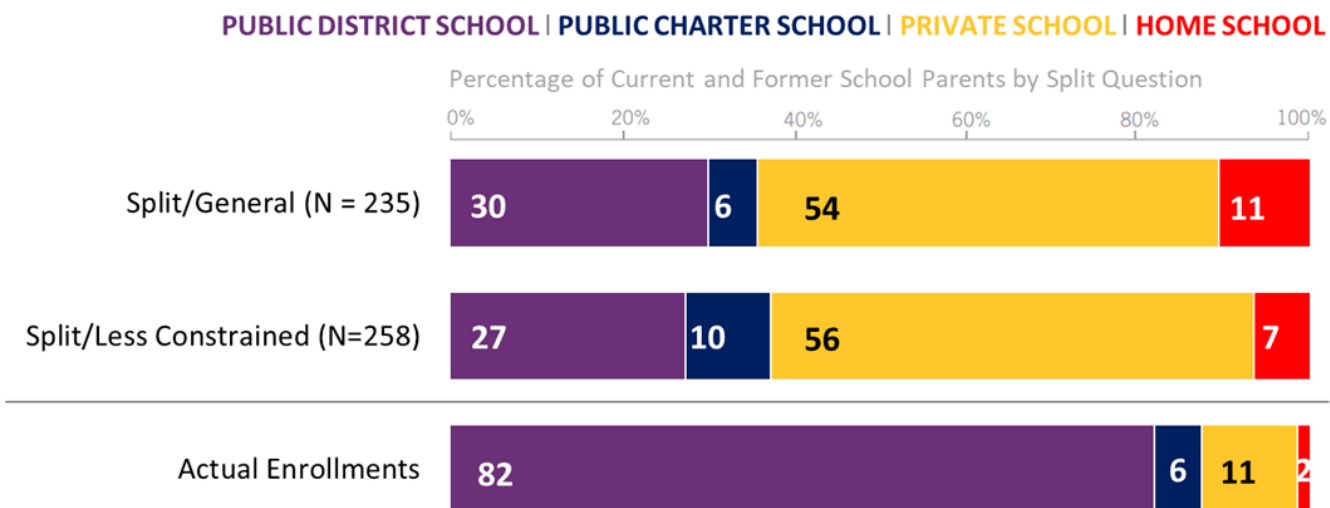
Nearly nine out of 10 Ohioans said that parents and guardians should make the final decision on where a child attends school.



Note: One respondent skipped the question, which is not shown or reflected in the chart.
Source: EdChoice, *Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey* (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q15

FIGURE 15. Parents' Schooling Preferences by School Type

More than eight out of 10 Ohio students attend public district schools, but only about one-fourth of parents said they would prefer a district school.



Q16-Split. If given the option, what type of school would you select in order to obtain the best education for your child?

Q16-Split. If given the option, *and financial costs and transportation were of no concern*, what type of school would you select in order to obtain the best education for your child?

Notes: One respondent skipped each split, which is not shown or reflected in the chart. For enrollment data sources, see note 4.

Source: EdChoice, *Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey* (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q16

TABLE 1. Top Five Reasons for Choosing a Specific School Type

Percentage of General Population by Preferred School Type

Public District School (N = 326)	
Socialization / Peers / Other Kids	19%
Diversity / Variety	13%
Better Education / Quality	9%
Environment / Culture / Community	9%
Cost / Tuition / Affordability	8%
Private School (N = 489)	
Better Education / Quality	23%
Class Size / Student-Teacher Ratio	12%
Academics / Curriculum / Standards / Results	12%
Individual Attention / One-on-One / Customized	11%
Discipline / Structure / Consistency	11%
Public Charter School (N = 73)	
Better Education / Quality	27%
Class Size / Student-Teacher Ratio	15%
Teachers / Teaching/ Way They Teach	9%
Prefer/Positive Mentions of Charter Schools	8%
Academics / Curriculum / Standards / Results	7%
Home School (N = 99)	
Safety / Less Drugs, Violence, Bullying	21%
Individual Attention / One-on-One / Customized	14%
Better Education / Quality	10%
Parental Involvement	9%
Less Political Influence	8%

Notes: Lists cite the total number of unweighted interviews (N) per school type grouping. However, all percentages reflect the count of coded responses divided by the total number of weighted interviews. Unweighted N's are provided so the reader can roughly assess the reliability of reported percentages.

Source: EdChoice, *Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey* (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q17

a key reason for making their selection. We encourage readers to cautiously interpret these results because sample sizes were relatively small for the respondents that chose charter schools or homeschooling.

PERCEIVED DIRECTION OF K–12 EDUCATION

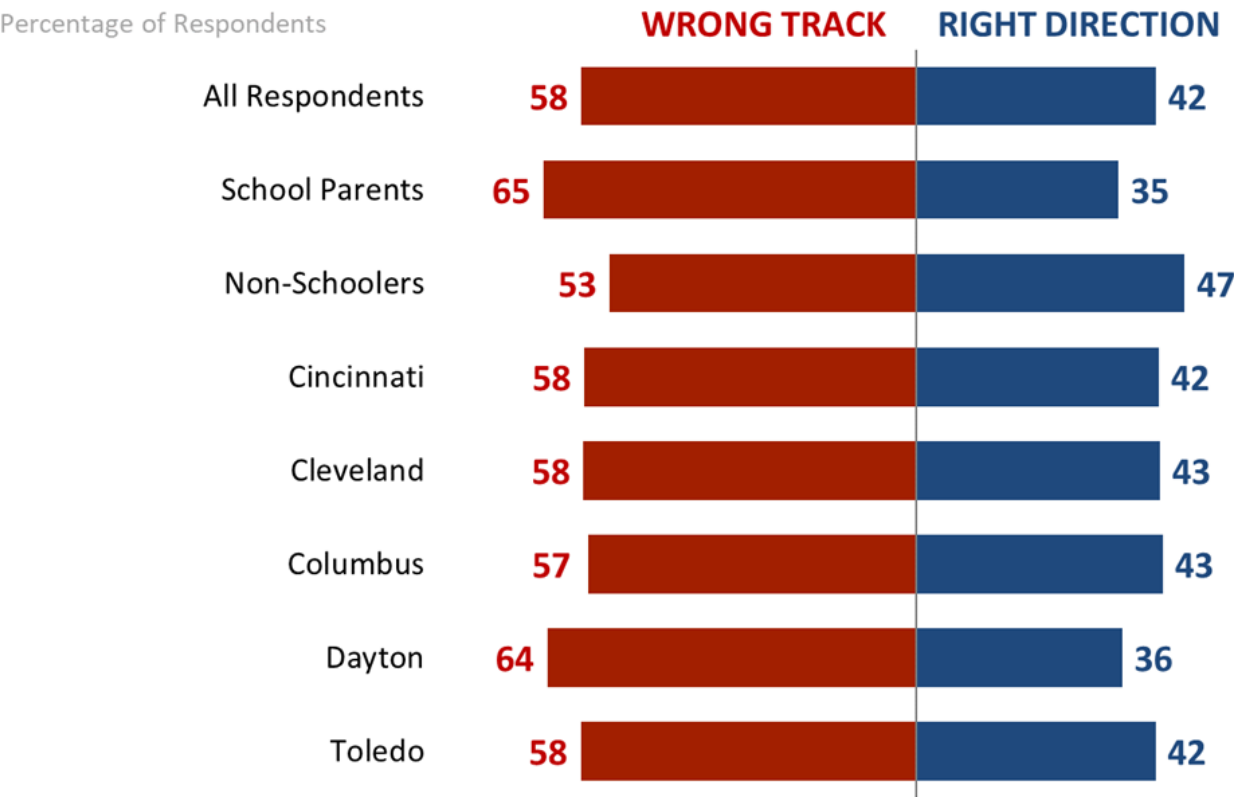
Nearly three-fifths of Ohioans (58%) say they think K–12 education in the state is on the “wrong track,” compared to 42 percent thinking it is going in the “right direction.” On balance, the mood for K–12 education tends to be negative, showcased by a negative margin of -16 points. Republicans were the only observed demographic to have a positive margin (+6 points).

In addition:

- School parents (65%) were more likely to say “wrong track” than non-schoolers (53%).
- Females (62%) were more likely to say “wrong track” than males (54%).
- High-income earners (54%) were more likely to say “wrong track” than low-income earners (54%).
- More than half of Republicans (53%) said “right direction” and were more likely to do so than Democrats (35%) and Independents (39%).

FIGURE 16. Views on Ohio's K–12 Education

The majority of Ohioans in our survey think K–12 education in the state has gotten off on the wrong track.



Source: EdChoice, Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q1

VIEWS ON SPENDING IN K–12 EDUCATION

On average, according to Private School Review, Ohio private schools charge approximately \$6,874 for tuition per student. Respondents were more likely to underestimate private school tuition (59%) than overestimate it (41%). Responses ranged from \$0 to \$30,000. The average response was \$7,050, while the median response was \$5,000. Nearly one-third of respondents (31%) provided an estimate of \$10,000 or more, while nearly one-fourth (23%) provided an estimate of \$2,000 or less.⁸

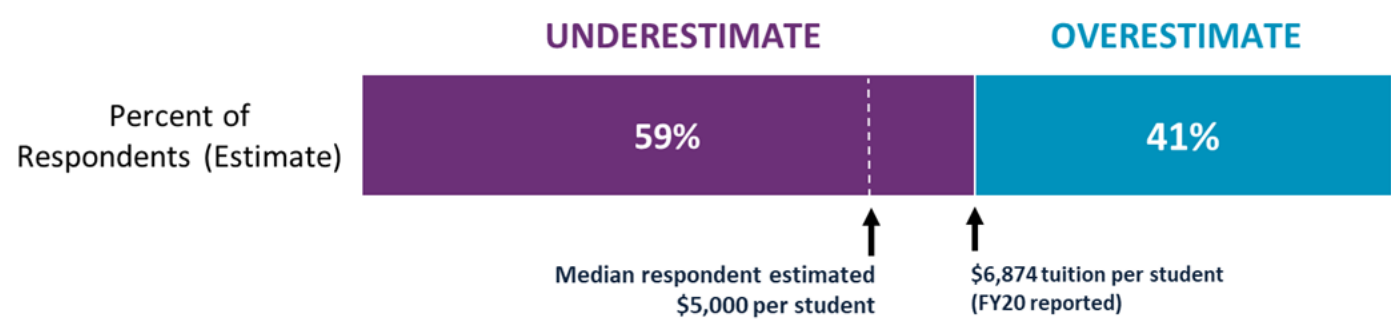
On average, Ohio spends \$12,649 on each student in the state’s public schools, based on a cautious spending statistic termed “current expenditures.”⁹ Respondents were much more likely to underestimate public per-pupil spending (95%) than overestimate it (5%). Responses ranged from \$0 to \$30,000. The average response was \$4,942, while the median response was \$3,500. Only four percent of respondents provided an estimate of \$10,000 or more, while nearly two out of five respondents (37%) provided an estimate of \$2,000 or less.

If instead of “current expenditures” we use “total expenditures” per student (\$14,028 in 2016–17)—a more expansive federal government definition for K–12 education spending that includes capital costs and debt repayment—the proportion of Ohioans likely to underestimate per-pupil spending goes up another percentage point (96%).¹⁰

Given an actual per-student spending statistic, Ohioans are much less likely to say public school funding is at a level that is “too low.” In a split-sample experiment, we asked two slightly different questions. On the baseline version, 56 percent of respondents said public school funding was “too low.” However, on the version where we included a statistic for average public per-pupil spending in Ohio (\$12,645 in 2016–17; the most recent statistic available when the survey was fielded), the proportion that said spending was “too low” shrank by 30 percentage points to 26 percent.¹¹

Figure 17. Ohioans' Awareness of Private K–12 Tuition

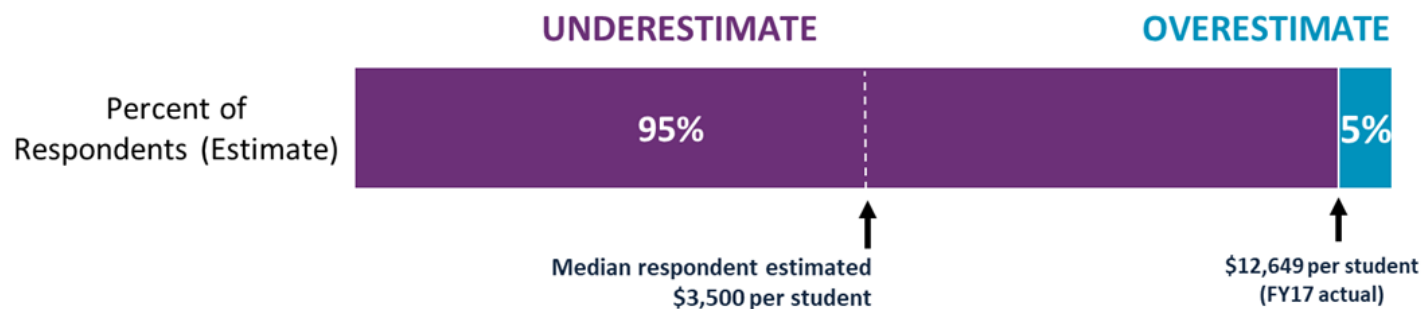
Ohioans do not know how much private schools in their state charge on a per-student basis. Approximately one out of five respondents offering an answer said Ohio private schools charge \$5,000 or less per student, which is less than half of reported 2019–20 average tuition (\$6,874 according to Private School Review), or \$15,000 or more, which is more than double the reported average tuition.



Notes: Percentages based on unweighted responses. Six respondents skipped the question, which is not shown.
Source: EdChoice, Ohio K-12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q11

Figure 18. Ohioans' Awareness of Public K–12 Education Spending

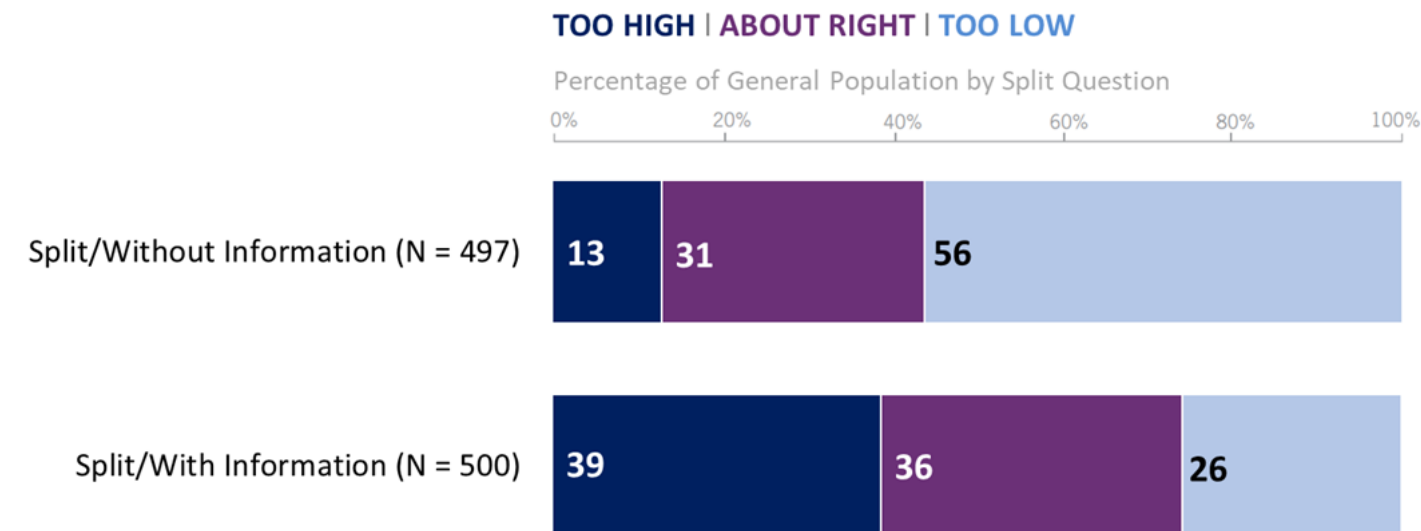
Ohioans do not know how much they spend in K–12 education on a per-student basis. Half of respondents offering an answer said Ohio spends \$3,500 or less per student, which is less than one-third of reported 2016–17 spending (\$12,649).



Notes: Percentages based on unweighted responses. Six respondents skipped the question, which is not shown.
Source: EdChoice, Ohio K-12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q12

FIGURE 19. How Information Affects Ohioans' Views on K–12 Education Funding

When given an actual per-student spending statistic, Ohioans are less likely to say public school funding is at a level that is “too low.” The proportion giving that response shrinks from 56 percent to 26 percent between the two question versions—a decrease of 30 percentage points.



Q13-Split. Do you believe that public school funding in Ohio is at a level that is:

Q13-Split. According to the most recent information available, on average \$12,645 is being spent per year on each student attending public schools in Ohio. Do you believe that public school funding in the state is at a level that is:

Note: Does not include two skips on the first split and one skip on the second split.
Source: EdChoice, Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q13

APPENDIX 1

Survey Project and Profile

Title: Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey

Survey Funder: EdChoice

Survey Data Collection

& Quality Control: Braun Research, Inc. (BRI)

Interview Dates: February 17–March 1, 2020

Sample Frame: Ohio Registered Voters (age 18+)

Sampling Method: Non-Probability, Stratified Online Panel

Language(s): English

Interview Method: Online

Interview Length: 10.1 minutes (average)

Sample Size and

Margin of Error: Total (N= 1,265): ± 2.75 percentage points

Weighting? 17.6%

Response Rate: Yes

Age, County, Gender, Ethnicity, Race, Community Type, Income

Oversampling? Yes

Cincinnati, Dayton, and Toledo

Project Contact: Drew Catt, dcatt@edchoice.org

The authors are responsible for overall survey design; question wording and ordering; this report's analysis, charts, and writing; and any unintentional errors or misrepresentations.

EdChoice is the survey's sponsor and sole funder at the time of publication.

APPENDIX 2

Views on Publicly Funded Scholarships (Vouchers): Descriptive Version Results

Percentage of General Population and Selected Demographic Groups with Oversamples of Specific Cities

	Favor %	Oppose %	Margin (net)	Intensity (strong net)	N =
GENERAL POPULATION	69	31	38	12	992
Current School Parent	75	25	50	18	254
Non-Parent	69	32	37	9	441
GEOGRAPHIC AREA					
Cincinnati	67	33	34	8	199
Cleveland	68	32	37	9	325
Columbus	70	30	39	15	219
Dayton	72	28	44	13	198
Toldeo	69	31	38	16	198
Rest of Ohio	68	32	36	8	116
AGE GROUP					
18 to 34	71	29	42	18	271
35 to 54	71	29	42	12	358
55 & Over	66	34	31	7	363
GENERATION					
Generation Z	67	33	34	15	74
Millennial	74	26	47	19	281
Generation X	69	31	38	10	291
Baby Boomer	66	34	32	8	311
Silent	66	34	33	-4	35
COMMUNITY					
Urban	73	27	46	20	209
Suburban	67	33	34	10	495
Small Town/Rural	69	31	38	8	288
EDUCATION					
< College Degree	74	26	48	16	633
≥ College Degree	61	39	23	4	358
GENDER					
Female	74	27	47	16	544
Male	64	36	28	7	448
HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
Under \$40,000	72	28	44	15	394
\$40,000 to \$79,999	71	29	43	11	350
\$80,000 & Over	63	37	26	8	244
PARTY ID					
Democrat	70	30	41	11	348
Republican	68	32	37	13	345
Independent	69	31	38	12	288
RACE/ETHNICITY					
Asian/Pacific Islander	67	33	33	17	6
Black/African American	83	17	65	35	89
Hispanic/Latino	55	45	11	-5	18
White	67	33	34	8	861

Notes: Bolding denotes statistically significant differences from General Population or from within-group comparison. Please consider that each subgroup has a unique margin of error based on its adult population size in the United States and the sample size (N) obtained in this survey. We advise strong caution when interpreting results for subgroups with small sample sizes. The subgroup sample sizes displayed in the far right column represent the unweighted number of interviews. Margins and intensities are calculated using percentages to the nearest tenth.

Source: EdChoice, Ohio K-12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q26

APPENDIX 3

Views on Ohio's Educational Choice (EdChoice) Scholarship Program: Descriptive Version Results

Percentage of General Population and Selected Demographic Groups with Oversamples of Specific Cities

	Favor %	Oppose %	Margin (net)	Intensity (strong net)	N =
GENERAL POPULATION	74	26	47	16	992
Current School Parent	77	23	55	25	252
Non-Parent	72	28	44	11	442
GEOGRAPHIC AREA					
Cincinnati	70	30	41	12	199
Cleveland	70	30	40	10	324
Columbus	74	26	48	18	219
Dayton	78	22	56	14	198
Toldeo	73	27	46	20	
Rest of Ohio	76	24	52	19	116
AGE GROUP					
18 to 34	78	23	55	23	271
35 to 54	75	25	49	17	359
55 & Over	70	30	39	10	362
GENERATION					
Generation Z	81	19	61	22	74
Millennial	77	23	54	22	282
Generation X	74	26	47	16	291
Baby Boomer	69	31	39	12	310
Silent	68	32	36	-2	35
COMMUNITY					
Urban	77	23	55	25	211
Suburban	72	28	44	15	494
Small Town/Rural	73	27	46	9	287
EDUCATION					
< College Degree	78	22	56	20	632
≥ College Degree	67	33	34	10	359
GENDER					
Female	78	22	56	21	546
Male	69	31	37	11	446
HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
Under \$40,000	76	24	53	18	393
\$40,000 to \$79,999	77	23	53	18	352
\$80,000 & Over	68	32	35	13	243
PARTY ID					
Democrat	74	26	48	18	349
Republican	72	28	45	15	344
Independent	75	25	51	15	288
RACE/ETHNICITY					
Asian/Pacific Islander	67	33	33	17	6
Black/African American	85	15	69	45	89
Hispanic/Latino	63	37	27	20	18
White	72	28	44	11	861

Notes: Bolding denotes statistically significant differences from General Population or from within-group comparison. Please consider that each subgroup has a unique margin of error based on its adult population size in the United States and the sample size (N) obtained in this survey. We advise strong caution when interpreting results for subgroups with small sample sizes. The subgroup sample sizes displayed in the far right column represent the unweighted number of interviews. Margins and intensities are calculated using percentages to the nearest tenth.

Source: EdChoice, Ohio K-12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q28

APPENDIX 4

Views on Ohio's Income-Based (EdChoice Expansion) Scholarship Program: Describing Version Results

Percentage of General Population and Selected Demographic Groups with Oversamples of Specific Cities

	Favor %	Oppose %	Margin (net)	Intensity (strong net)	N =
GENERAL POPULATION	70	30	40	13	992
Current School Parent	76	24	51	23	251
Non-Parent	69	32	37	10	443
GEOGRAPHIC AREA					
Cincinnati	69	31	38	9	200
Cleveland	68	32	36	13	324
Columbus	70	31	39	11	218
Dayton	76	25	51	12	199
Toldeo	69	32	37	17	198
Rest of Ohio	71	29	43	11	116
AGE GROUP					
18 to 34	71	29	41	15	272
35 to 54	73	27	47	19	357
55 & Over	67	33	34	6	363
GENERATION					
Generation Z	69	31	39	11	74
Millennial	74	26	49	18	283
Generation X	71	29	42	18	289
Baby Boomer	66	34	32	7	311
Silent	72	28	43	-5	35
COMMUNITY					
Urban	74	26	48	22	211
Suburban	68	32	36	11	494
Small Town/Rural	71	29	41	7	287
EDUCATION					
< College Degree	73	27	47	17	634
≥ College Degree	65	35	30	6	357
GENDER					
Female	73	27	46	17	545
Male	67	33	34	8	447
HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
Under \$40,000	74	26	47	17	395
\$40,000 to \$79,999	71	29	42	12	351
\$80,000 & Over	65	35	30	9	243
PARTY ID					
Democrat	73	27	47	17	348
Republican	68	32	37	11	345
Independent	69	31	37	11	288
RACE/ETHNICITY					
Asian/Pacific Islander	67	33	33	0	6
Black/African American	85	15	70	40	89
Hispanic/Latino	76	24	52	11	18
White	67	33	35	9	861

Notes: Bolding denotes statistically significant differences from General Population or from within-group comparison. Please consider that each subgroup has a unique margin of error based on its adult population size in the United States and the sample size (N) obtained in this survey. We advise strong caution when interpreting results for subgroups with small sample sizes. The subgroup sample sizes displayed in the far right column represent the unweighted number of interviews. All other statistical results reported in this table and report reflect weighted data, a standard procedure to correct for known demographic discrepancies. Margins and intensities are calculated using percentages to the nearest tenth.

Source: EdChoice, *Ohio K-12 & School Choice Survey* (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q32

APPENDIX 5

Views on Education Savings Accounts (ESAs): Describing Version Results

Percentage of General Population and Selected Demographic Groups with Oversamples of Specific Cities

	Favor %	Oppose %	Margin (net)	Intensity (strong net)	N =
GENERAL POPULATION	82	18	64	22	993
Current School Parent	88	12	75	27	255
Non-Parent	79	21	58	20	442
GEOGRAPHIC AREA					
Cincinnati	83	17	66	26	199
Cleveland	79	21	57	18	326
Columbus	87	13	74	23	219
Dayton	80	20	59	15	196
Toldeo	83	17	65	28	196
Rest of Ohio	78	22	55	16	116
AGE GROUP					
18 to 34	84	16	67	25	271
35 to 54	84	16	67	26	360
55 & Over	79	21	59	17	362
GENERATION					
Generation Z	82	18	64	22	74
Millennial	85	15	71	30	282
Generation X	82	18	64	24	292
Baby Boomer	82	18	64	20	310
Silent	64	37	27	>-1	35
COMMUNITY					
Urban	79	21	59	28	208
Suburban	83	17	65	22	495
Small Town/Rural	83	17	66	16	290
EDUCATION					
< College Degree	82	18	65	23	633
≥ College Degree	82	19	63	22	359
GENDER					
Female	85	15	71	25	544
Male	78	22	57	20	449
HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
Under \$40,000	79	21	58	22	391
\$40,000 to \$79,999	84	16	68	20	353
\$80,000 & Over	83	17	67	25	245
PARTY ID					
Democrat	82	18	64	23	349
Republican	83	17	66	19	345
Independent	82	18	64	25	288
RACE/ETHNICITY					
Asian/Pacific Islander	67	33	33	33	6
Black/African American	85	15	71	39	89
Hispanic/Latino	81	19	63	15	18
White	82	18	64	19	862

Notes: Bolding denotes statistically significant differences from General Population or from within-group comparison. Please consider that each subgroup has a unique margin of error based on its adult population size in the United States and the sample size (N) obtained in this survey. We advise strong caution when interpreting results for subgroups with small sample sizes. The subgroup sample sizes displayed in the far right column represent the unweighted number of interviews. All other statistical results reported in this table and report reflect weighted data, a standard procedure to correct for known demographic discrepancies. Margins and intensities are calculated using percentages to the nearest tenth.

Source: EdChoice, Ohio K-12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q21

APPENDIX 6

Views on Charter Schools: Descriptive Results

Percentage of General Population and Selected Demographic Groups with Oversamples of Specific Cities

	Favor %	Oppose %	Margin (net)	Intensity (strong net)	N =
GENERAL POPULATION	65	35	30	4	994
Current School Parent	68	32	36	5	255
Non-Parent	63	37	26	2	440
GEOGRAPHIC AREA					
Cincinnati	70	30	40	<1	201
Cleveland	59	42	17	1	326
Columbus	65	36	29	4	217
Dayton	70	30	39	8	198
Toldeo	72	28	44	11	199
Rest of Ohio	63	37	25	4	116
AGE GROUP					
18 to 34	68	33	35	8	271
35 to 54	67	33	34	5	359
55 & Over	62	38	24	1	364
GENERATION					
Generation Z	67	33	34	5	73
Millennial	68	32	36	9	282
Generation X	65	35	30	3	292
Baby Boomer	64	36	28	2	312
Silent	54	46	8	<1	35
COMMUNITY					
Urban	74	26	49	12	210
Suburban	61	39	21	1	495
Small Town/Rural	67	33	34	4	289
EDUCATION					
< College Degree	72	28	43	9	634
≥ College Degree	55	45	10	-3	359
GENDER					
Female	68	32	36	7	545
Male	62	38	24	1	449
HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
Under \$40,000	72	28	43	8	393
\$40,000 to \$79,999	64	37	27	2	353
\$80,000 & Over	59	41	18	2	244
PARTY ID					
Democrat	61	39	22	1	348
Republican	69	31	39	9	348
Independent	68	32	35	3	287
RACE/ETHNICITY					
Asian/Pacific Islander	50	50	0	-17	6
Black/African American	74	26	48	22	89
Hispanic/Latino	79	21	57	-4	18
White	64	36	27	2	864

Notes: Bolding denotes statistically significant differences from General Population or from within-group comparison. Please consider that each subgroup has a unique margin of error based on its adult population size in the United States and the sample size (N) obtained in this survey. We advise strong caution when interpreting results for subgroups with small sample sizes. The subgroup sample sizes displayed in the far right column represent the unweighted number of interviews. All other statistical results reported in this table and report reflect weighted data, a standard procedure to correct for known demographic discrepancies. Margins and intensities are calculated using percentages to the nearest tenth.

Source: EdChoice, Ohio K-12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q19

APPENDIX 7

Current School Parents' Schooling Preferences by School Type

Percentage of Current School Parents and Selected Demographic Groups

	Public District School	Public Charter School	Private School	Home School	N =
	%	%	%	%	
CURRENT SCHOOL PARENT	26	11	52	11	254
GEOGRAPHIC AREA					
Cincinnati	23	20	52	5	38
Cleveland	18	8	62	12	91
Columbus	35	11	43	12	51
Dayton	26	7	60	7	24
Toldeo	30	19	32	18	20
Rest of Ohio	38	4	42	17	30
AGE GROUP					
18 to 34	23	10	60	7	67
35 to 54	27	10	49	14	167
55 & Over	27	21	48	5	20
GENERATION					
Generation Z	53	-	47	-	3
Millennial	21	10	57	12	106
Generation X	28	10	50	12	127
Baby Boomer	31	25	40	5	18
Silent	-	-	-	-	-
COMMUNITY					
Urban	17	18	49	16	51
Suburban	26	9	57	8	125
Small Town/Rural	35	8	43	14	78
EDUCATION					
< College Degree	23	15	49	14	157
≥ College Degree	30	5	57	9	97
GENDER					
Female	25	7	54	14	163
Male	27	17	49	7	91
HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
Under \$40,000	22	11	49	18	74
\$40,000 to \$79,999	25	12	50	14	53
\$80,000 & Over	29	10	54	8	125
PARTY ID					
Democrat	30	16	47	7	87
Republican	21	8	60	12	96
Independent	26	8	50	17	70
RACE/ETHNICITY					
Asian/Pacific Islander	-	-	-	-	-
Black/African American	14	17	59	11	23
Hispanic/Latino	15	19	54	12	11
White	28	9	51	12	213

Notes: Bolding denotes statistically significant differences from General Population or from within-group comparison. Please consider that each subgroup has a unique margin of error based on its adult population size in the United States and the sample size (N) obtained in this survey. We advise strong caution when interpreting results for subgroups with small sample sizes. The subgroup sample sizes displayed in the far right column represent the unweighted number of interviews. All other statistical results reported in this table and report reflect weighted data, a standard procedure to correct for known demographic discrepancies.

Source: EdChoice, Ohio K-12 & School Choice Survey (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q16 (composite)

APPENDIX 8

Views on Ohio's Direction in K–12 Education

Percentage of General Population and Selected Demographic Groups with Oversamples of Specific Cities

	Right Direction %	Wrong Track %	Margin (net)	N =
GENERAL POPULATION	42	58	-16	986
Current School Parent	35	65	-29	255
Non-Parent	47	53	-6	439
GEOGRAPHIC AREA				
Cincinnati	42	58	-15	201
Cleveland	43	58	-15	323
Columbus	43	57	-14	216
Dayton	36	64	-28	197
Toldeo	42	58	-17	196
Rest of Ohio	36	64	-27	116
AGE GROUP				
18 to 34	42	58	-15	270
35 to 54	38	62	-23	358
55 & Over	44	56	-12	358
GENERATION				
Generation Z	47	53	-6	74
Millennial	37	63	-25	279
Generation X	40	60	-19	291
Baby Boomer	44	56	-12	307
Silent	50	50	>-1	35
COMMUNITY				
Urban	42	58	-15	206
Suburban	41	59	-17	492
Small Town/Rural	42	58	-15	288
EDUCATION				
< College Degree	44	56	-12	631
≥ College Degree	39	62	-23	354
GENDER				
Female	38	62	-24	539
Male	46	54	-9	447
HOUSEHOLD INCOME				
Under \$40,000	46	54	-8	388
\$40,000 to \$79,999	43	57	-14	349
\$80,000 & Over	36	64	-29	245
PARTY ID				
Democrat	35	65	-31	343
Republican	53	47	6	346
Independent	39	61	-22	286
RACE/ETHNICITY				
Asian/Pacific Islander	33	67	-33	6
Black/African American	38	62	-25	89
Hispanic/Latino	45	55	-9	18
White	42	58	-16	855

Notes: Bolding denotes statistically significant differences from General Population or from within-group comparison. Please consider that each subgroup has a unique margin of error based on its adult population size in the United States and the sample size (N) obtained in this survey. We advise strong caution when interpreting results for subgroups with small sample sizes. The subgroup sample sizes displayed in the far right column represent the unweighted number of interviews. All other statistical results reported in this table and report reflect weighted data, a standard procedure to correct for known demographic discrepancies. Margins are calculated using percentages to the nearest tenth.

Source: EdChoice, *Ohio K–12 & School Choice Survey* (conducted February 17–March 1, 2020), Q1

NOTES

1. Martin F. Lueken (2018), *Fiscal Effects of School Vouchers: Examining the Savings and Costs of America's Private School Voucher Programs*, retrieved from EdChoice website: <https://www.edchoice.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Fiscal-Effects-of-School-Vouchers-by-Martin-Lueken.pdf>

2. Stephen Q. Cornman, Lei Zhou, Malia R. Howell, and Jumaane Young (2020), *Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: FY 17* (NCES 2020-301), retrieved from National Center for Education Statistics website: <https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2020/2020301.pdf>

3. Authors' calculations; EdChoice (2020), *The ABCs of School Choice: The Comprehensive Guide to Every Private School Choice Program in America*, 2020 edition, retrieved from <https://www.edchoice.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/2020-ABCs-of-School-Choice-WEB-OPTIMIZED-REVISED.pdf>

4. For terminology: We use the label “current school parents” to refer to those respondents who said they have one or more children in preschool through high school. We use the label “former school parents” for respondents who said their children are past high school age. We use the label “non-parents” for respondents without children. For terms regarding age groups: “younger” reflect respondents who are age 18 to 34; “middle-age” are 35 to 54; and “seniors” are 55 and older. Labels pertaining to income groups go as follows: “low-income earners” < \$40,000; “middle-income earners” ≥\$40,000 and < \$80,000; “high-income earners” ≥ \$80,000. We adapt the Pew Research Center's classifications of generational cohorts for this report: Generation Z (1997 or earlier) Millennial (1981–1996); Generation X (1965–1980); Baby Boomer (1946–1964); and Silent Generation (1928–1945). Pew Research Center, Generations and Age [Web page], accessed March 5, 2020, retrieved from <http://www.pewresearch.org/topics/generations-and-age>

5. Center for Research on Education Outcomes (2019), *Charter School Performance in Ohio*, retrieved from: https://credo.stanford.edu/sites/g/files/sbiybj6481/f/oh_state_report_2019.pdf; Education Commission of the States (2020), *Charter Schools:*

State Profile - Ohio [Web page], accessed March 11, 2020, retrieved from: <http://ecs.force.com/mbdata/mbstprofile?Rep=CSP20&st=Ohio>

6. Unless otherwise noted, the results in this section reflect the composite average of split-sample responses of current and former school parents to both splits for question 16.

7. Authors' calculations; U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data (CCD), “Public Elementary/Secondary School Universe Survey”, 2017-18 v.1a, “State Nonfiscal Public Elementary/Secondary Education Survey”, 2017-18 v.1a, via ELSi tableGenerator, retrieved from <https://nces.ed.gov/ccd/elsi/tableGenerator.aspx>; Andrew D. Catt (2020, January 28), “U.S. States Ranked by Educational Choice Share, 2020” (Blog post), retrieved from EdChoice website: <https://www.edchoice.org/engage/u-s-states-ranked-by-educational-choice-share-2020>

8. Private School Review, Ohio Private Schools by Tuition Cost [Web page], accessed March 11, 2020, retrieved from: <https://www.privateschoolreview.com/tuition-stats/ohio>

9. “Current Expenditures” data include dollars spent on instruction, instruction-related support services, and other elementary/secondary current expenditures, but exclude expenditures on capital outlay, other programs, and interest on long-term debt. “Total Expenditures” includes the latter categories and sometimes others. Stephen Q. Cornman, Lei Zhou, Malia R. Howell, and Jumaane Young (2020), *Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education: FY 17* (NCES 2020-301), retrieved from National Center for Education Statistics website: <https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2020/2020301.pdf>

10. Ibid.

11. U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 Public Elementary-Secondary Education Finance Data: Summary Tables [Data file], accessed January 7, 2020, retrieved from <https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/school-finances/tables/2017/secondary-education-finance/elsec17-sumtables.xls>

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Any remaining errors in this publication are solely those of the authors.