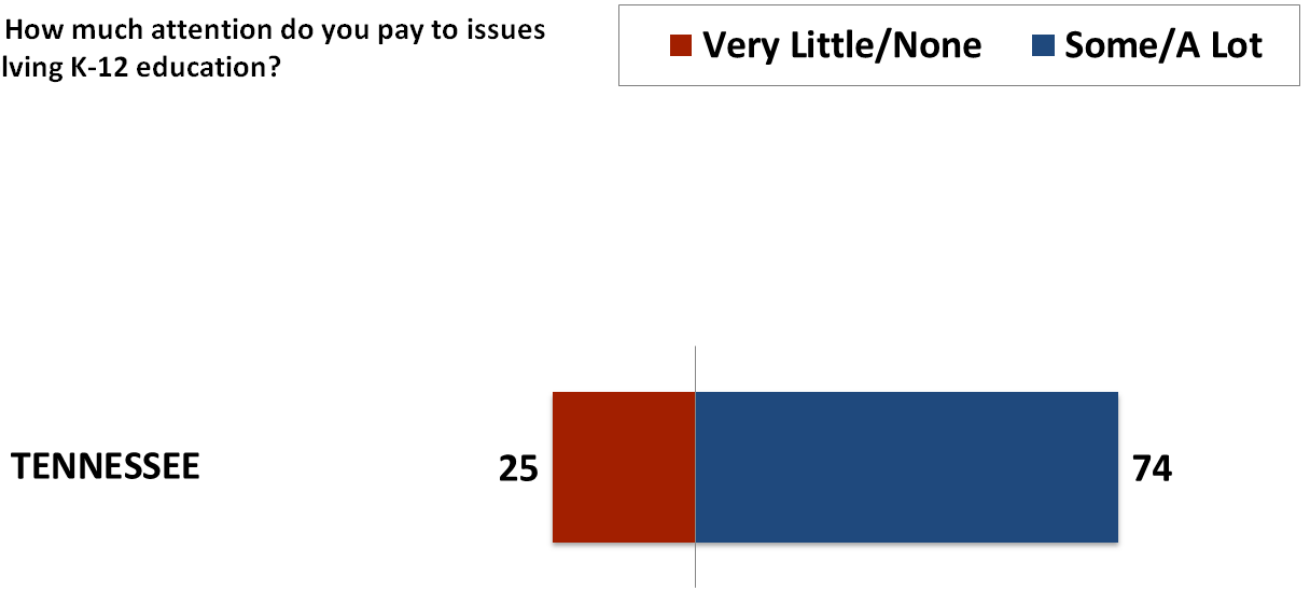
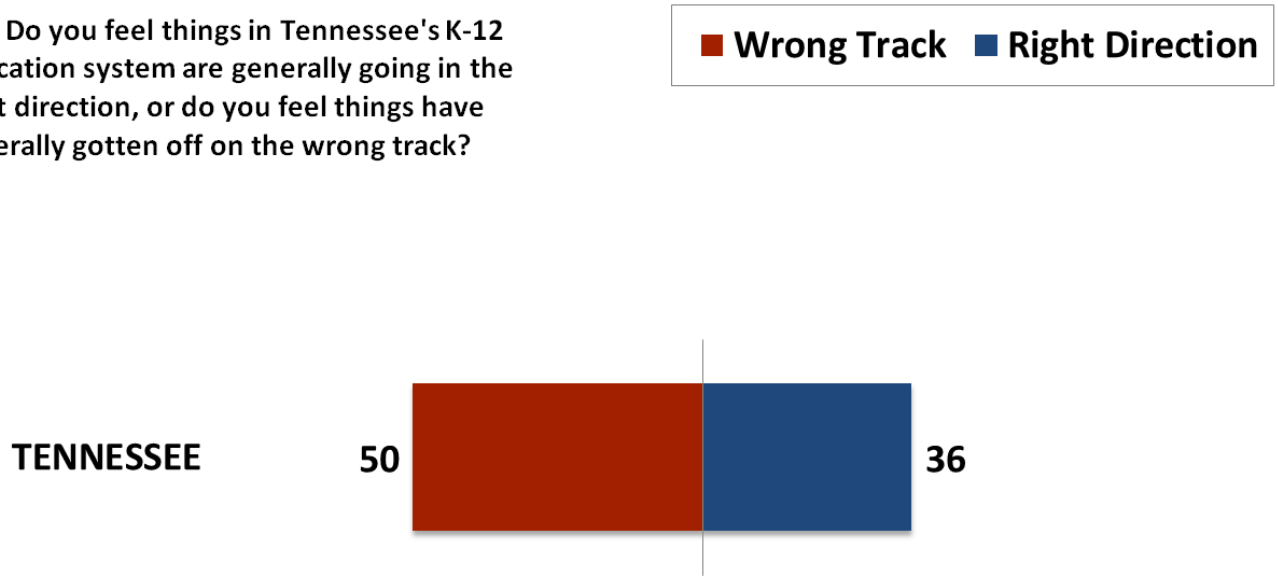
Tennessee Survey Snapshots

Q1. How much attention do you pay to issues involving K-12 education?



FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q1.

Q2. Do you feel things in Tennessee's K-12 education system are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have generally gotten off on the wrong track?



FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q2.

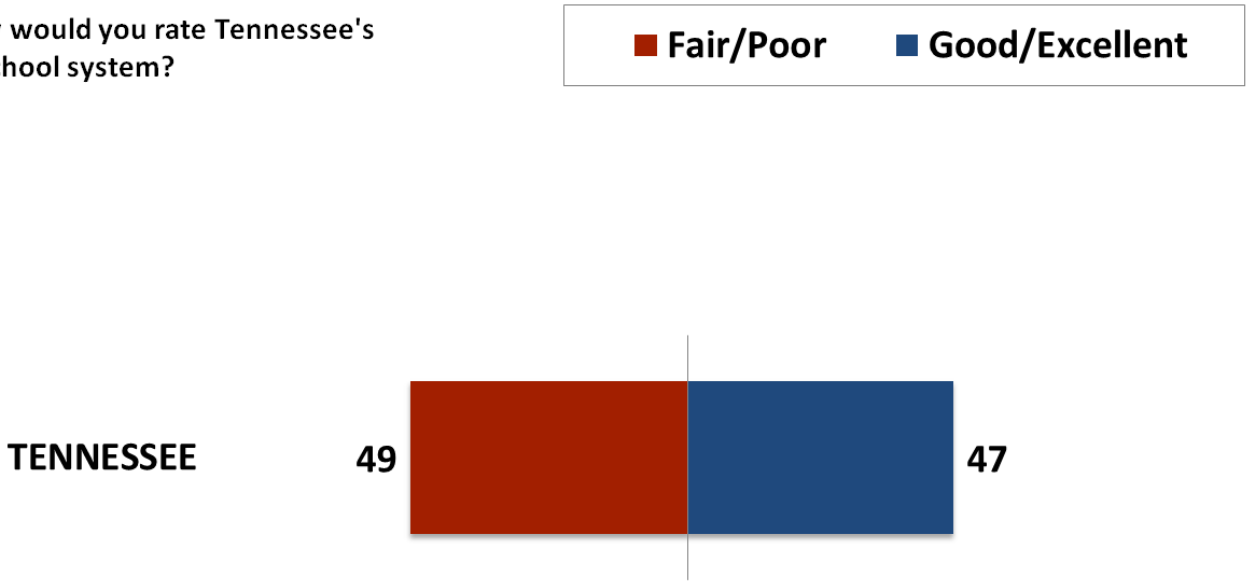
Q2. Do you feel things in Tennessee's K-12 education system are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have generally gotten off on the wrong track?

	Right Direction %	Wrong Track %	Net	N=
ALL VOTERS	**36**	**50**	**- 14**	**606**
Parent	39	49	**- 10**	202
Non-Parent	35	50	**- 15**	402
COMMUNITY				
Urban	35	52	**- 17**	88
Suburban	27	57	**- 30**	136
Small Town	43	46	**- 3**	201
Rural	37	48	**- 11**	168
PARTY ID				
Democrat	35	54	**- 19**	187
Republican	39	47	**- 8**	200
Independent	34	55	**- 21**	162
AGE GROUP				
18 – 29	44	46	**- 2**	104
30 – 49	39	49	**- 10**	213
50 & Over	31	52	**- 21**	283
HOUSEHOLD INCOME				
Under $25,000	40	39	**+ 1**	101
$25,000 - $49,999	40	49	**- 9**	143
$50,000 - $74,999	27	62	**- 35**	122
$75,000 - $124,999	40	53	**- 13**	93
$125,000 & Over	21	59	**- 38**	38
RACE/ETHNICITY				
Black	37	48	**- 11**	103
White	36	50	**- 13**	480

NOTE: Please consider that each subgroup has a unique margin of error based on its registered voter population size in the state and the sample size (N) obtained in this survey. We advise strong caution when interpreting results for subgroups with small sample sizes. Reference to Whites refers to the non-Hispanic component of the self-identified white population. Reference to Blacks includes both Hispanic and non-Hispanic components of the self-identified black population. Reference to Hispanics includes self-identification as "Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin or descent." We do not report subgroups that represent a proportion less than 2% of the statewide sample.

SOURCE: Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey* , Q2.

Q3. How would you rate Tennessee's public school system?



FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q3.

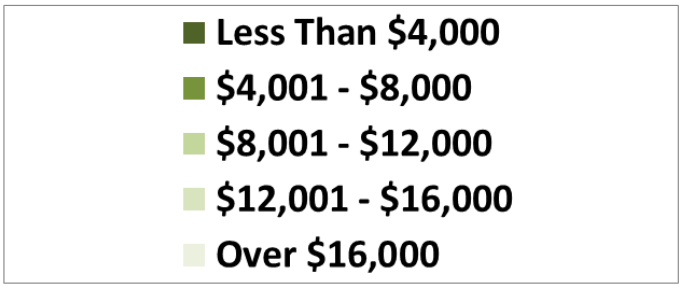
Q3. How would you rate Tennessee's public school system?

	Good/Excellent %	Fair/Poor %	Net	Intensity	N=
ALL VOTERS	**47**	**49**	**- 2**	**- 6**	**606**
Parent	47	51	**- 4**	**- 7**	202
Non-Parent	47	48	**- 1**	**- 6**	402
COMMUNITY					
Urban	35	62	**- 17**	**- 16**	88
Suburban	42	53	**- 11**	**- 13**	136
Small Town	51	45	**+ 6**	**+ 1**	201
Rural	52	44	**+ 8**	**- 3**	168
PARTY ID					
Democrat	47	49	**- 2**	**- 7**	187
Republican	53	44	**+ 9**	**- 4**	200
Independent	41	56	**- 15**	**- 5**	162
AGE GROUP					
18 – 29	48	47	**+ 1**	**even**	104
30 – 49	42	54	**- 8**	**- 9**	213
50 & Over	51	45	**+ 6**	**- 6**	283
HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
Under $25,000	58	37	**+21**	**+ 4**	101
$25,000 - $49,999	48	48	**even**	**- 6**	143
$50,000 - $74,999	44	54	**- 10**	**- 9**	122
$75,000 - $124,999	47	49	**- 2**	**- 3**	93
$125,000 & Over	29	68	**- 39**	**- 27**	38
RACE/ETHNICITY					
Black	51	48	**+ 3**	**- 4**	103
White	47	48	**- 1**	**- 5**	480

NOTE: Please consider that each subgroup has a unique margin of error based on its registered voter population size in the state and the sample size (N) obtained in this survey. We advise strong caution when interpreting results for subgroups with small sample sizes. Reference to Whites refers to the non-Hispanic component of the self-identified white population. Reference to Blacks includes both Hispanic and non-Hispanic components of the self-identified black population. Reference to Hispanics includes self-identification as "Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin or descent." We do not report subgroups that represent a proportion less than 2% of the statewide sample. Based on Gallup's "Positive Intensity Score", Intensity is measured by subtracting the combined percentages of "fair" and "poor" responses from the combined percentages of "good" and "excellent" responses. The difference indicates the enthusiasm behind the positive or negative ratings.

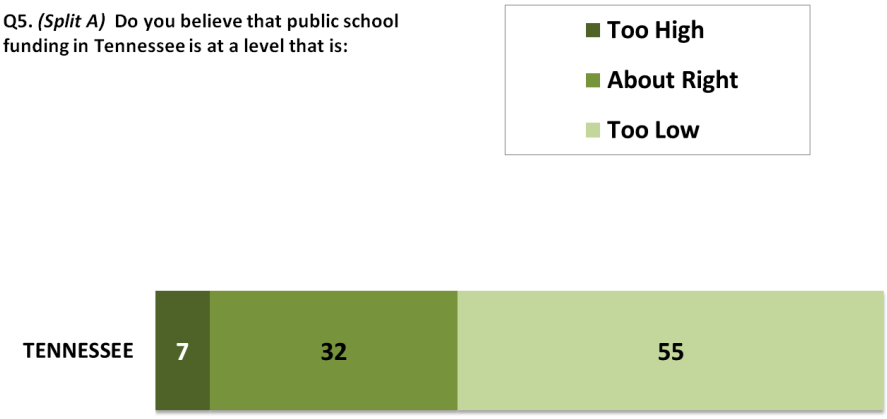
SOURCE: Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey* , Q3.

Q4. How much do you think is currently spent on each student in Tennessee's public schools? Your estimate (to the nearest thousand dollars) will represent the combined expenditures of local, state, and federal governments.



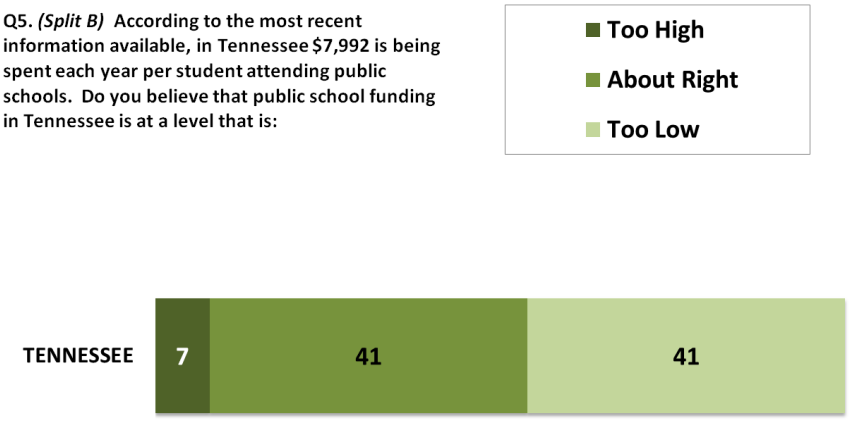
FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q4.

Q5. *(Split A)* Do you believe that public school funding in Tennessee is at a level that is:



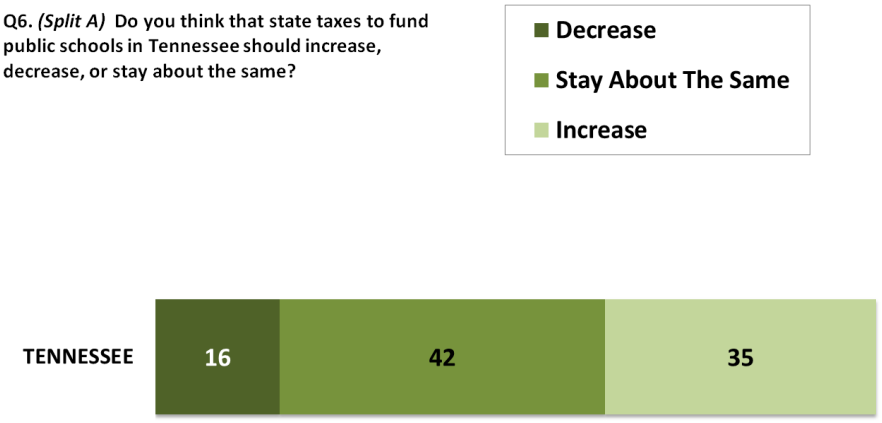
FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q5A.

Q5. *(Split B)* According to the most recent information available, in Tennessee $7,992 is being spent each year per student attending public schools. Do you believe that public school funding in Tennessee is at a level that is:



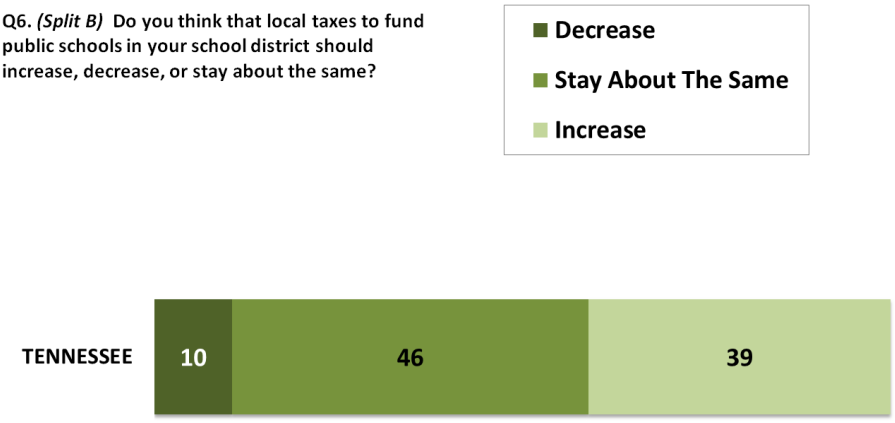
FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q5B.

Q6. *(Split A)* Do you think that state taxes to fund public schools in Tennessee should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?



FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q6A.

Q6. *(Split B)* Do you think that local taxes to fund public schools in your school district should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?



FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q6B.

Q7. If it were your decision and you could select any type of school, what type of school would you select in order to obtain the best education for your child?

FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q7.

Q7. If it were your decision and you could select any type of school, what type of school would you select in order to obtain the best education for your child?

	Charter School %	Homeschool %	Private School %	Regular Public School %	N=
ALL VOTERS	**9**	**8**	**40**	**40**	**606**
Parent	11	13	43	31	202
Non-Parent	8	6	39	44	402
COMMUNITY					
Urban	9	4	46	38	88
Suburban	12	8	42	37	136
Small Town	6	8	40	44	201
Rural	9	10	37	39	168
PARTY ID					
Democrat	13	3	34	47	187
Republican	8	9	49	32	200
Independent	6	13	37	42	162
AGE GROUP					
18 – 29	2	6	38	52	104
30 – 49	10	11	42	35	213
50 & Over	11	7	39	39	283
HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
Under $25,000	5	11	31	46	101
$25,000 - $49,999	11	6	34	47	143
$50,000 - $74,999	6	9	44	36	122
$75,000 - $124,999	14	7	44	36	93
$125,000 & Over	2	8	62	26	38
RACE/ETHNICITY					
Black	14	1	43	39	103
White	8	10	39	41	480

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SOURCE: Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey* , Q7.

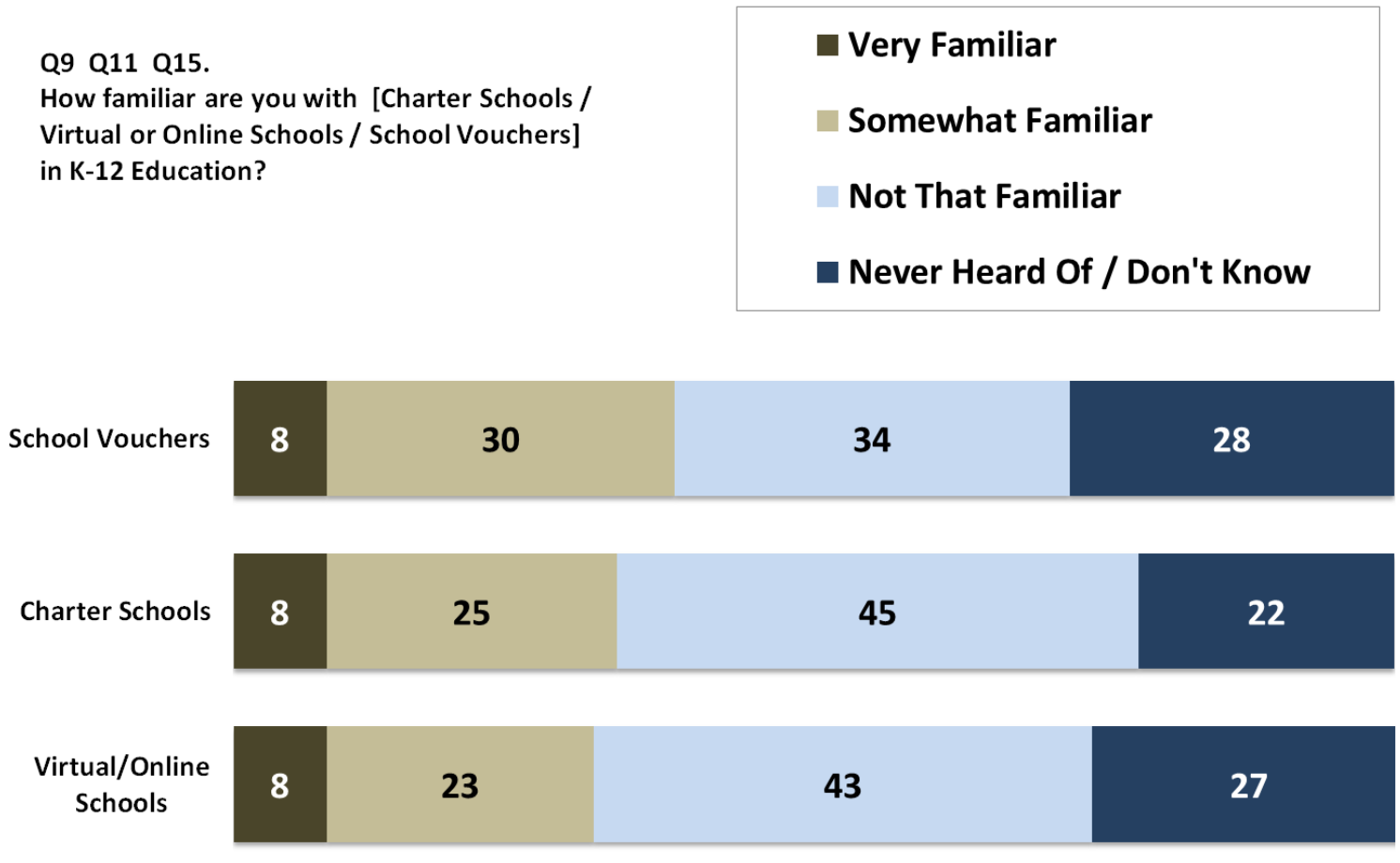
Q8. What is the most important characteristic or attribute that would cause you to choose a [INSERT SCHOOL TYPE FROM PREVIOUS QUESTION] for your child? Please use one word, or a very short phrase.

Top 15 | Specific impressions offered by respondents in the statewide sample. Numbers represent counts (n), not percentages.

BETTER EDUCATION / QUALITY	72
INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION / ONE-ON-ONE	69
SOCIALIZATION / PEERS / OTHER KIDS	58
CLASS SIZE / STUDENT-TEACHER RATIO	47
BETTER TEACHERS / TEACHERS / TEACHING	39
CURRICULUM / ACADEMICS	36
RELIGION / RELIGIOUS REASONS	35
ALMA MATER / SOCIAL NETWORK	26
DIVERSITY	24
ENVIRONMENT / CULTURE / COMMUNITY	23
PUBLIC SCHOOL: POSITIVE MENTIONS	19
DISCIPLINE / STRUCTURE	18
SAFETY / LESS DRUGS, VIOLENCE, BULLYING	18
COST / TUITION / AFFORDABILITY	15
PARENTS / PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT	13

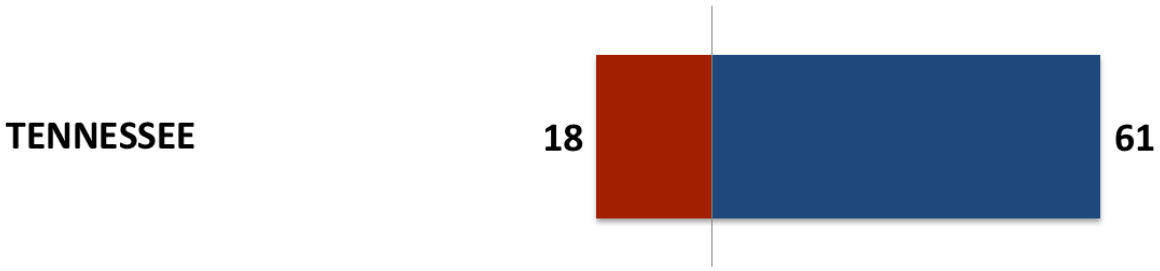
SOURCE: Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey* , Q8.

Q9 Q11 Q15.
How familiar are you with [Charter Schools / Virtual or Online Schools / School Vouchers] in K-12 Education?



FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q9, Q11, Q15.

Q10. Charter schools are public schools that have more control over their own budget, staff, and curriculum, and are exempt from many existing public school regulations. In general, do you favor or oppose charter schools? [PROBE:] Would you say strongly or somewhat favor/oppose?



FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q10.

Q10. Charter schools are public schools that have more control over their own budget, staff, and curriculum, and are exempt from many existing public school regulations. In general, do you favor or oppose charter schools? [PROBE:] Would you say strongly or somewhat favor/oppose?

	Favor %	Oppose %	Net	Intensity	N=
ALL VOTERS	**61**	**18**	**+ 43**	**+ 14**	**606**
Parent	62	20	**+ 42**	**+ 17**	202
Non-Parent	60	18	**+ 42**	**+ 12**	402
COMMUNITY					
Urban	73	13	**+ 60**	**+ 18**	88
Suburban	63	19	**+ 44**	**+ 14**	136
Small Town	58	18	**+ 40**	**+ 12**	201
Rural	59	20	**+ 39**	**+ 15**	168
PARTY ID					
Democrat	58	23	**+ 35**	**+ 12**	187
Republican	67	15	**+ 52**	**+ 21**	200
Independent	59	19	**+ 40**	**+ 10**	162
AGE GROUP					
18 – 29	67	11	**+ 56**	**+ 5**	104
30 – 49	63	17	**+ 46**	**+ 17**	213
50 & Over	57	21	**+ 36**	**+ 15**	283
HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
Under $25,000	56	14	**+ 42**	**+ 6**	101
$25,000 - $49,999	64	17	**+ 47**	**+ 14**	143
$50,000 - $74,999	61	24	**+ 37**	**+ 13**	122
$75,000 - $124,999	66	17	**+ 49**	**+ 20**	93
$125,000 & Over	67	25	**+ 42**	**+ 17**	38
RACE/ETHNICITY					
Black	64	16	**+ 48**	**+ 15**	103
White	59	19	**+ 40**	**+ 14**	480

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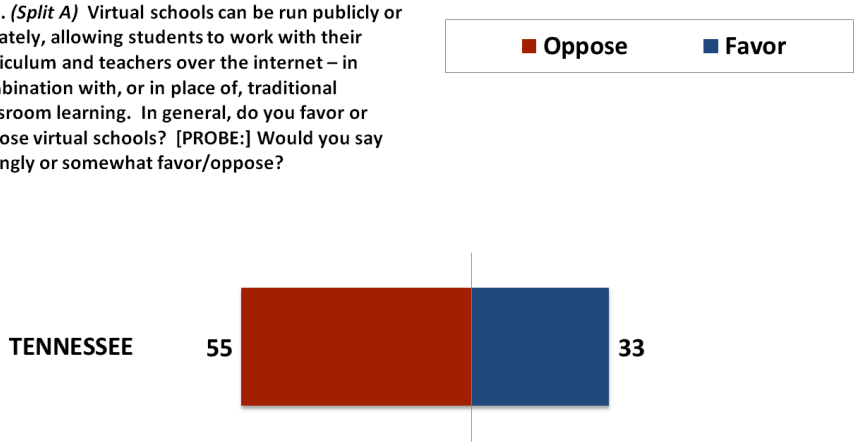
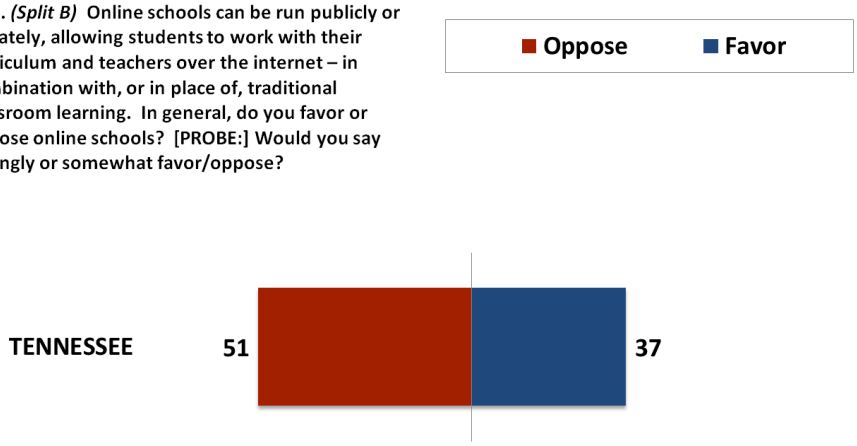
SOURCE: Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey* , Q10.

Q12. *(Split A)* Virtual schools can be run publicly or privately, allowing students to work with their curriculum and teachers over the internet – in combination with, or in place of, traditional classroom learning. In general, do you favor or oppose virtual schools? [PROBE:] Would you say strongly or somewhat favor/oppose?



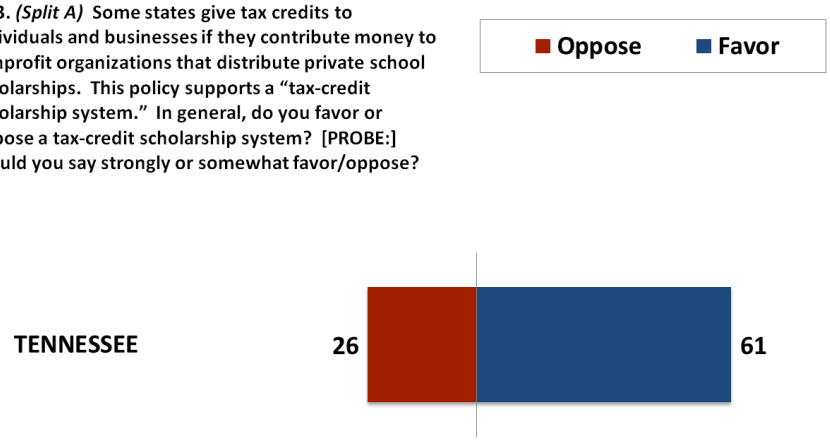
FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q12A.

Q12. *(Split B)* Online schools can be run publicly or privately, allowing students to work with their curriculum and teachers over the internet – in combination with, or in place of, traditional classroom learning. In general, do you favor or oppose online schools? [PROBE:] Would you say strongly or somewhat favor/oppose?



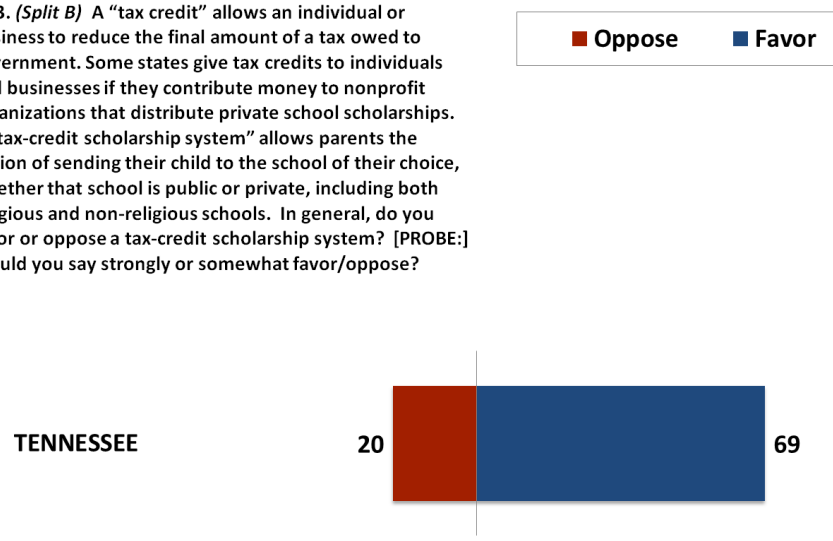
FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q12B.

Q13. *(Split A)* Some states give tax credits to individuals and businesses if they contribute money to nonprofit organizations that distribute private school scholarships. This policy supports a "tax-credit scholarship system." In general, do you favor or oppose a tax-credit scholarship system? [PROBE:] Would you say strongly or somewhat favor/oppose?



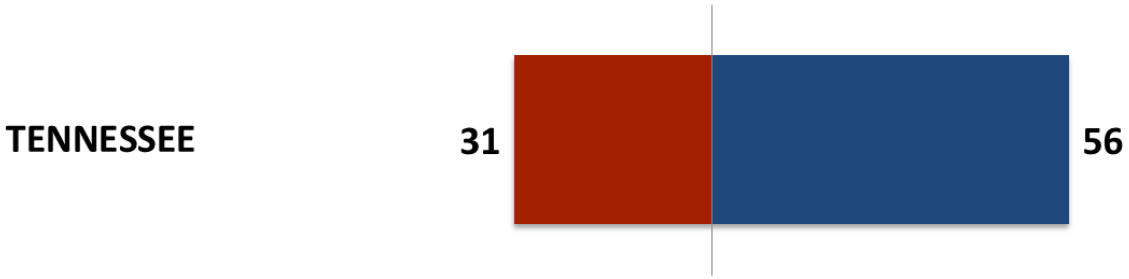
FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q13A.

Q13. *(Split B)* A "tax credit" allows an individual or business to reduce the final amount of a tax owed to government. Some states give tax credits to individuals and businesses if they contribute money to nonprofit organizations that distribute private school scholarships. A "tax-credit scholarship system" allows parents the option of sending their child to the school of their choice, whether that school is public or private, including both religious and non-religious schools. In general, do you favor or oppose a tax-credit scholarship system? [PROBE:] Would you say strongly or somewhat favor/oppose?



FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q13B.

Q14. An "education savings account" allows parents to withdraw their child from a public district or charter school, and receive a payment into a government-authorized savings account with restricted, but multiple uses. Parents can then use these funds to pay for private school tuition, online education programs, private tutoring or saving for future college expenses. In general, do you favor or oppose this kind of "savings account system"? [PROBE:] Would you say strongly or somewhat favor/oppose?



FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q14.

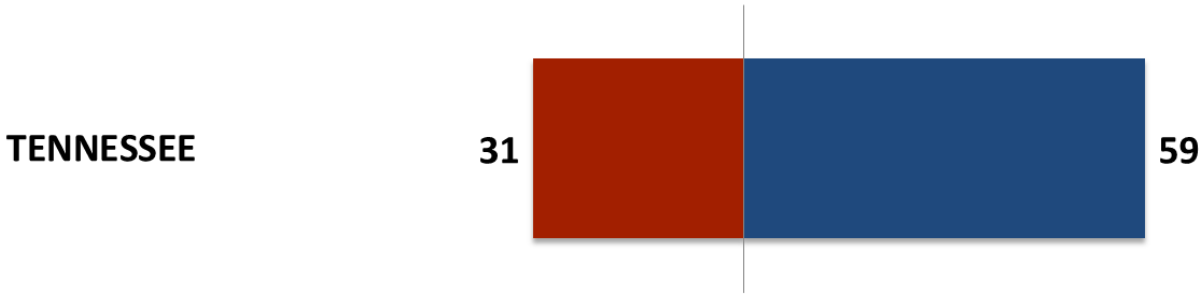
Q14. An "education savings account" allows parents to withdraw their child from a public district or charter school, and receive a payment into a government-authorized savings account with restricted, but multiple uses. Parents can then use these funds to pay for private school tuition, online education programs, private tutoring or saving for future college expenses. In general, do you favor or oppose this kind of "savings account system"? [PROBE:] Would you say strongly or somewhat favor/oppose?

	Favor %	Oppose %	Net	Intensity	N=
ALL VOTERS	**56**	**31**	**+ 25**	**+ 12**	**606**
Parent	63	28	**+ 35**	**+ 24**	202
Non-Parent	52	33	**+ 19**	**+ 6**	402
COMMUNITY					
Urban	58	31	**+ 27**	**+ 14**	88
Suburban	55	31	**+ 24**	**+ 17**	136
Small Town	59	32	**+ 27**	**+ 14**	201
Rural	50	33	**+ 17**	**+ 3**	168
PARTY ID					
Democrat	57	31	**+ 26**	**+ 16**	187
Republican	56	33	**+ 23**	**+ 10**	200
Independent	56	31	**+ 25**	**+ 8**	162
AGE GROUP					
18 – 29	66	24	**+ 42**	**+ 25**	104
30 – 49	61	25	**+ 36**	**+ 19**	213
50 & Over	47	39	**+ 8**	**+ 2**	283
HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
Under $25,000	58	23	**+ 35**	**+ 24**	101
$25,000 - $49,999	53	29	**+ 24**	**+ 12**	143
$50,000 - $74,999	54	38	**+ 16**	**+ 6**	122
$75,000 - $124,999	61	35	**+ 26**	**+ 4**	93
$125,000 & Over	76	24	**+ 52**	**+ 38**	38
RACE/ETHNICITY					
Black	65	22	**+ 43**	**+ 25**	103
White	54	33	**+ 21**	**+ 9**	480

NOTE: Please consider that each subgroup has a unique margin of error based on its registered voter population size in the state and the sample size (N) obtained in this survey. We advise strong caution when interpreting results for subgroups with small sample sizes. Reference to Whites refers to the non-Hispanic component of the self-identified white population. Reference to Blacks includes both Hispanic and non-Hispanic components of the self-identified black population. Reference to Hispanics includes self-identification as "Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin or descent." We do not report subgroups that represent a proportion less than 2% of the statewide sample. Based on Gallup's "Positive Intensity Score", Intensity is measured by subtracting the percentage of "strongly oppose" responses from the percentage of "strongly favor" responses. The difference indicates the enthusiasm behind the support or opposition for a given policy or proposal.

SOURCE: Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey* , Q14.

Q16. A school voucher system allows parents the option of sending their child to the school of their choice, whether that school is public or private, including both religious and non-religious schools. If this policy were adopted, tax dollars currently allocated to a school district would be allocated to parents in the form of a "school voucher" to pay partial or full tuition for their child's school. In general, do you favor or oppose a school voucher system?



FRIEDMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey*, Q16.

Q16. A school voucher system allows parents the option of sending their child to the school of their choice, whether that school is public or private, including both religious and non-religious schools. If this policy were adopted, tax dollars currently allocated to a school district would be allocated to parents in the form of a "school voucher" to pay partial or full tuition for their child's school. In general, do you favor or oppose a school voucher system? [PROBE:] Would you say strongly or somewhat favor/oppose?

	Favor %	Oppose %	Net	Intensity	N=
ALL VOTERS	**59**	**31**	**+ 28**	**+ 11**	**606**
Parent	68	22	**+ 46**	**+ 27**	202
Non-Parent	55	36	**+ 19**	**+ 4**	402
COMMUNITY					
Urban	69	24	**+ 45**	**+ 23**	88
Suburban	60	31	**+ 29**	**+11**	136
Small Town	61	32	**+ 29**	**+ 12**	201
Rural	52	35	**+ 17**	**+ 2**	168
PARTY ID					
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Black	73	15	**+ 58**	**+ 30**	103
White	56	34	**+ 22**	**+ 7**	480

NOTE: Please consider that each subgroup has a unique margin of error based on its registered voter population size in the state and the sample size (N) obtained in this survey. We advise strong caution when interpreting results for subgroups with small sample sizes. Reference to Whites refers to the non-Hispanic component of the self-identified white population. Reference to Blacks includes both Hispanic and non-Hispanic components of the self-identified black population. Reference to Hispanics includes self-identification as "Hispanic, Latino, or of Spanish origin or descent." We do not report subgroups that represent a proportion less than 2% of the statewide sample. Based on Gallup's "Positive Intensity Score", Intensity is measured by subtracting the percentage of "strongly oppose" responses from the percentage of "strongly favor" responses. The difference indicates the enthusiasm behind the support or opposition for a given policy or proposal.

SOURCE: Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey* , Q16.

Q17. What is the most important reason that would cause you to choose your previous response relating to tax-credit scholarships? Please use a few words, or a very short phrase.

Top 10 | Specific impressions offered by respondents in the statewide sample. Numbers represent counts (n), not percentages.

CHOICE / FLEXIBILITY / FREEDOM	142
ABUSE / FRAUD	30
GOOD IDEA	26
HELPS LESS FORTUNATE	24
HURTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS	23
BETTER EDUCATION / QUALITY	22
GOVERNMENT: NEGATIVE MENTIONS	15
UNFAIR	14
COST / TUITION / AFFORDABILITY	13
FUNDS / RESOURCES FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS ONLY	13

SOURCE: Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice, *Tennessee K-12 & School Choice Survey* , Q17.