



**Public Education through the Public's Eye:
A Survey of New Orleans Voters
Voter Top Line Results**

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Survey Conducted by Market Research Insight**

**500 Registered Voters in Orleans Parish
October 18-21, 2010**

Hello, my name is _____ with Market Research Insight, a nationally recognized research firm. We do not sell anything. We just conduct various opinion surveys. Tonight, we are surveying New Orleans voters about important issues facing public education.

Just to be sure, do you currently live in the City of New Orleans (IF NO, POLITELY TERMINATE)

Do you or does anyone in this household work for:

- The news media? (IF YES, POLITELY TERMINATE)
- An advertising or public relations firm? (IF YES, POLITELY TERMINATE)
- A marketing research firm? (IF YES, POLITELY TERMINATE)

COUNCIL DISTRICT			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
District A	20%	33%	11%
District B	19%	29%	11%
District C	24%	15%	29%
District D	21%	14%	26%
District E	17%	9%	23%

1. Are you the parent, guardian or immediate relative, such as a grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, or sister, of a child currently in a public school or public charter school in New Orleans?

PARENT, GUARDIAN OR RELATIVE OF A CHILD IN PUBLIC OR PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African- American
Yes	37%	22%	46%
No	63%	78%	54%

2. Would you say that public schools in New Orleans are (ROTATE 1ST TWO OPTIONS) improving, getting worse or neither improving nor getting worse?

2. IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN NEW ORLEANS			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African- American
Improving	58%	67%	52%
Getting Worse	10%	7%	13%
Neither Improving Nor Getting Worse	19%	17%	20%
Uncertain	13%	9%	16%

3. Would you say that public schools in New Orleans (ROTATE 1ST TWO OPTIONS) were better before Katrina, are better after Katrina, or about the same before and after?

3. PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN NEW ORLEANS			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African- American
Were Better Before Katrina	15%	11%	18%
Are Better After Katrina	54%	65%	46%
Are About The Same Before And After	24%	18%	28%

Uncertain	8%	7%	8%
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4. The state of Louisiana made the decision to take over most schools in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. Do you agree or disagree or disagree with that decision? (CONTINUE WITH...) Do you (AGREE/DISAGREE) strongly or only somewhat?

4. STATE OF LOUISIANA DECISION TO TAKE OVER MOST SCHOOLS IN NEW ORLEANS AFTER HURRICANE KATRINA			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Strongly Disagree	17%	9%	23%
Somewhat Disagree	9%	6%	11%
Uncertain	16%	12%	18%
Somewhat Agree	25%	22%	26%
Strongly Agree	33%	51%	22%
Total Disagree	26%	15%	34%
Total Agree	58%	73%	48%

5. How much information do you feel you have about public school governance in New Orleans? Would you say you have quite a lot, a moderate amount, only a little, or nothing at all about this?

5. INFORMATION YOU HAVE ABOUT PUBLIC SCHOOL GOVERNANCE IN NEW ORLEANS			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Quite A Lot	21%	22%	21%
A Moderate Amount	39%	52%	31%
Only A Little	32%	21%	40%
Nothing At All	5%	4%	6%

Uncertain	2%	1%	3%
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Currently, most public schools in New Orleans are overseen by one of the following groups: the State Recovery School District, and the Orleans Parish School Board. Each group oversees charter schools and operates traditional public schools.

I have a few options to read to you about what groups should have oversight and control over public schools in New Orleans. Please tell me if you favor or oppose each of the following options. (CONTINUE WITH...) Do you strongly or somewhat (FAVOR/OPPOSE)? (RANDOM ORDER SERIES)

6. Keep low-performing schools in the Recovery School District and return high-performing schools to the Orleans Parish School Board.

6. KEEP LOW-PERFORMING SCHOOLS IN THE RECOVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND RETURN HIGH-PERFORMING SCHOOLS TO THE ORLEANS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Strongly Oppose	35%	38%	33%
Somewhat Oppose	14%	14%	14%
Uncertain	21%	23%	20%
Somewhat Favor	17%	14%	20%
Strongly Favor	13%	11%	13%
Total Oppose	49%	52%	47%
Total Favor	30%	25%	33%

7. Allow individual schools to decide who they want to have control over them.

7. ALLOW INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS TO DECIDE WHO THEY WANT TO HAVE CONTROL OVER THEM			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Strongly Oppose	33%	32%	34%
Somewhat Oppose	14%	13%	15%
Uncertain	16%	13%	18%
Somewhat Favor	22%	22%	21%
Strongly Favor	16%	21%	12%
Total Oppose	47%	45%	49%
Total Favor	38%	43%	33%

8. Put all schools under the control of a single entity.

8. PUT ALL SCHOOLS UNDER THE CONTROL OF A SINGLE ENTITY			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Strongly Oppose	22%	21%	23%
Somewhat Oppose	13%	17%	11%
Uncertain	20%	23%	17%
Somewhat Favor	19%	18%	19%
Strongly Favor	27%	21%	31%
Total Oppose	35%	38%	34%
Total Favor	46%	39%	50%

9. Give control of all schools back to the Orleans Parish School Board.

9. GIVE CONTROL OF ALL SCHOOLS BACK TO THE ORLEANS PARISH SCHOOL BOARD			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Strongly Oppose	43%	55%	34%
Somewhat Oppose	16%	14%	17%
Uncertain	14%	15%	13%
Somewhat Favor	13%	7%	18%
Strongly Favor	14%	9%	18%
Total Oppose	59%	69%	51%
Total Favor	27%	16%	36%

10. Give control of all schools to the State Recovery School District.

10. GIVE CONTROL OF ALL SCHOOLS TO THE STATE RECOVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Strongly Oppose	30%	24%	34%
Somewhat Oppose	17%	16%	18%
Uncertain	21%	25%	18%
Somewhat Favor	15%	17%	14%
Strongly Favor	18%	19%	17%
Total Oppose	47%	40%	52%
Total Favor	33%	36%	31%

11. Give control of all schools to the Mayor of New Orleans.

11. GIVE CONTROL OF ALL SCHOOLS TO THE MAYOR OF NEW ORLEANS			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Strongly Oppose	54%	56%	53%
Somewhat Oppose	16%	19%	13%
Uncertain	13%	14%	13%
Somewhat Favor	9%	6%	12%
Strongly Favor	8%	5%	10%
Total Oppose	70%	75%	66%
Total Favor	17%	11%	22%

12. Create A New School Board Whose Members Are Elected Citywide.

12. CREATE A NEW SCHOOL BOARD WHOSE MEMBERS ARE ELECTED CITYWIDE			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Strongly Oppose	12%	16%	9%
Somewhat Oppose	7%	11%	5%
Uncertain	10%	13%	8%
Somewhat Favor	27%	30%	25%
Strongly Favor	43%	29%	53%
Total Oppose	19%	27%	14%
Total Favor	70%	59%	78%

13. Create a new school board whose members are appointed by the Mayor of New Orleans.

13. CREATE A NEW SCHOOL BOARD WHOSE MEMBERS ARE APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR OF NEW ORLEANS			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Strongly Oppose	48%	47%	48%
Somewhat Oppose	14%	15%	13%
Uncertain	13%	14%	12%
Somewhat Favor	17%	12%	20%
Strongly Favor	9%	12%	7%
Total Oppose	62%	62%	61%
Total Favor	26%	24%	27%

Thank you, that completes the opinion section of the survey. Now, a few questions for demographic purposes and we'll be finished.

14. What is your age? (RECORD ACTUAL AGE)

14. VOTER AGE			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
18-24 Years	5%	5%	5%
25-34 Years	15%	8%	20%
35-44 Years	16%	12%	19%
45-54 Years	18%	27%	12%
55-64 Years	18%	19%	18%
65-74 Years	14%	14%	14%
75-84 Years	7%	7%	7%
85 Years & Older	3%	4%	2%

Refused	3%	3%	3%
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15. What is the highest level of education you have obtained to date?

15. EDUCATION			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Less Than High School	7%	1%	10%
High School Graduate (Includes Equivalency)	21%	11%	28%
Some College, No Degree	22%	17%	26%
Associate's Degree	6%	3%	7%
Bachelor's Degree	25%	34%	19%
Graduate Or Professional Degree	20%	34%	10%

16. Approximately, what is your household's total, yearly income? When I read the correct category, just tell me.

16. ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Under \$15,000	20%	12%	25%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	14%	4%	19%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	12%	4%	16%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	15%	19%	13%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	15%	16%	15%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	8%	12%	5%
\$100,000 And Over	16%	32%	7%

17. And, your gender is male or female? (CONTINUE WITH...) Are you employed outside of the home?

17. GENDER AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
Employed Male	30%	35%	26%
Not Employed Male	15%	15%	15%
Employed Female	27%	28%	26%
Not Employed Female	28%	22%	33%

18. What do you consider to be your main ethnic background? (RECORD RESPONSE BUT DO NOT READ CATEGORIES)

18. ETHNIC BACKGROUND			
	Total Voters	Ethnic Majority & Other	African-American
African-American	60%	0%	100%
Ethnic Majority	37%	93%	0%
Hispanic	1%	4%	0%
Asian	1%	2%	0%
Other	1%	2%	0%

Please direct any questions with regard to this survey to coweninfo@tulane.edu or please call 504-274-3690.