TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

NPR/Ipsos Education Absenteeism Survey

Conducted by Ipsos using KnowledgePanel®
A survey of the American general population (ages 18+) and parents of school-aged children
Interview dates: April 26 to May 3, 2024
Number of gen pop interviews: 1,121
Number of parents of school-aged child(ren) interviews: 1,152

Margin of error: +/- 3.3 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for gen pop respondents
Margin of error: +/- 3.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for parents of school-aged children

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Reduced bases are unweighted values.

*NOTE: * = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents, N/A = not applicable*

Annotated Questionnaire:

R01. How many children age 18 or below are living in your household?

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
0	75%	-
1	13%	39%
2	8%	40%
3	2%	14%
4	1%	5%
5	*	2%
6	*	1%
7	-	*
8	-	*
9	-	-
10	-	*
Refused	-	-

GAME CHANGERS

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

R02. **[ASKED IF HAVE CHILD AGE 18 OR BELOW LIVING IN HOUSEHOLD]** For each child aged 0 – 18 in your household, what year of school are they currently in (for the 2023-24 school year)?

	Gen pop (N=262)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Not yet in school	-	-
Kindergarten	8%	9%
First grade	9%	9%
Second grade	7%	7%
Third grade	6%	8%
Fourth grade	7%	6%
Fifth grade	2%	4%
Sixth grade	5%	6%
Seventh grade	6%	7%
Eighth grade	4%	6%
Ninth grade/freshman year	9%	8%
Tenth grade/sophomore year	15%	11%
Eleventh grade/junior year	12%	9%
Twelfth grade/senior year	12%	10%
None of the above	-	-

Q1. **[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN)]** Did you have at least one child attend a K-12 school during the 2019-2020 school year, meaning the school year that started in fall 2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic?

	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Yes	78%
No	21%
Don't know	1%
Refused	*

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q2. Now, which of the following are you most worried about when it comes to K-12 education?

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Young people not being prepared for the future	43%	40%
Bullying	36%	39%
Gun violence	34%	31%
Sensitive topics (e.g., gender, sexuality, race, racism) being taught in the classroom	27%	28%
Restrictions or bans on what is taught in the classroom	21%	13%
Mental health	20%	29%
Teacher shortages	18%	17%
Adequate school funding	16%	16%
Teacher salaries	15%	12%
Learning losses following the COVID-19 pandemic	8%	14%
Standardized tests	6%	9%
Chronic absenteeism/Missing large amounts of school	5%	5%
Other	5%	4%
Refused	1%	1%

Q3. How important is it, if at all, for children to attend school every day during the school year?

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Very important	68%	67%
Somewhat important	25%	28%
Not very important	4%	3%
Not important at all	2%	2%
Refused	1%	*
Important (Net)	*93%*	*95%*
Not Important (Net)	*6%*	*5%*

GAME CHANGERS Ipsos

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q4_sum1. Based on what you may know or feel, how much of a problem is each of the following?
Summary – Major + Minor Problem

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Pandemic-era learning losses	92%	91%
Chronic absenteeism in schools	92%	92%
Kids missing a few days of school each year	57%	52%

Q4_1. Based on what you may know or feel, how much of a problem is each of the following?
Kids missing a few days of school each year

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Major problem	10%	9%
Minor problem	47%	44%
Not a problem	42%	47%
Refused	2%	*
Major + Minor Problem (Net)	*57%*	*52%*

Q4_2. Based on what you may know or feel, how much of a problem is each of the following?
Chronic absenteeism in schools

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Major problem	61%	56%
Minor problem	30%	36%
Not a problem	6%	8%
Refused	2%	1%
Major + Minor Problem (Net)	*92%*	*92%*

Q4_3. Based on what you may know or feel, how much of a problem is each of the following?
Pandemic-era learning losses

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Major problem	60%	55%
Minor problem	32%	36%
Not a problem	6%	8%
Refused	2%	1%
Major + Minor Problem (Net)	*92%*	*91%*

GAME CHANGERS

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q5. Which of the following do you think defines "chronic absenteeism" in schools?

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Missing 5% or more of the school year	9%	7%
Missing 10% or more of the school year	34%	32%
Missing 20% or more of the school year	45%	51%
Don't know	11%	9%
Refused	1%	*

Q6. **[ASKED IF NOT PARENT OF SCHOOL_AGED CHILD(REN)]** Which of the following, if any, are acceptable reasons for a child to be absent from school?

[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN)] Which of the following, if any, are reasons why you would keep your child home from school?

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Contagious illness (e.g., Covid, norovirus, pink eye)	87%	85%
Fever	79%	80%
Safety threat(s)	60%	55%
General sickness, but no fever	50%	51%
Mental health	46%	39%
Religious holidays or observances	43%	20%
Bullying	34%	27%
Personal travel outside of designated school breaks	25%	36%
Lack of access to transportation	23%	10%
Housing instability	23%	4%
Need to work a job	10%	2%
Need to watch other child(ren) in the household	10%	2%
Relationship or friendship problem(s)	6%	5%
They ask to stay home	5%	7%
Other	2%	2%
None of the above	2%	2%
Refused	1%	1%

GAME CHANGERS Ipsos

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q7. **[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN)]** Approximately how many days has your child been absent from school during the current 2023-2024 school year?

	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Zero	9%
1-5 days	53%
6-10 days	21%
11-17 days	8%
18-20 days	3%
21 or more days	3%
Prefer not to answer	2%
Refused	1%

Q8. **[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN) AND HAD AT LEAST ONE CHILD ATTEND K-12 SCHOOL IN 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR]** You previously mentioned you had a child attending K-12 school during the 2019-2020 school year. Are you more comfortable or less comfortable letting your child stay home from school compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic?

	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=891)
Much more comfortable	15%
Somewhat more comfortable	21%
Somewhat less comfortable	6%
Much less comfortable	6%
No difference	52%
Refused	1%
More comfortable (Net)	*36%*
Less comfortable (Net)	*12%*

Q9. **[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN) AND HAD AT LEAST ONE CHILD ATTEND K-12 SCHOOL IN 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR]** In your opinion, are your child's school attendance policies currently stricter, more relaxed, or the same compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic?

	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=891)
Much stricter	6%
Somewhat stricter	11%
Somewhat more relaxed	21%
Much more relaxed	8%
Stayed the same	53%
Refused	1%
Stricter (Net)	*18%*
More relaxed (Net)	*29%*

GAME CHANGERS Ipsos

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q10_sum1. **[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN)]** How much do you agree or disagree with the following? Summary - Agree

	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Missing 10% or more of the school year would negatively impact my child's academic performance	72%
Missing 10% or more of the school year would have long-term consequences for my child's future	61%
When it comes to missing school, my parents were stricter with me than I am with my child(ren)	49%
It is difficult for my child to catch up on schoolwork when they are absent from school	46%
[ASKED IF HAS MORE THAN ONE CHILD IN K-12 SCHOOL] I struggle to get one of my children to attend school more than I do with the other(s)	25% (N=574)

Q10_1. **[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN) AND HAS MORE THAN ONE CHILD IN K-12 SCHOOL]** How much do you agree or disagree with the following? I struggle to get one of my children to attend school more than I do with the other(s)

	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=574)
Strongly agree	11%
Somewhat agree	14%
Somewhat disagree	16%
Strongly disagree	53%
Don't know	5%
Refused	*
Agree (Net)	*25%*
Disagree (Net)	*69%*

GAME CHANGERS Ipsos

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q10_2. **[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN)]** How much do you agree or disagree with the following? When it comes to missing school, my parents were stricter with me than I am with my child(ren)

	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Strongly agree	25%
Somewhat agree	24%
Somewhat disagree	25%
Strongly disagree	18%
Don't know	7%
Refused	1%
Agree (Net)	*49%*
Disagree (Net)	*43%*

Q10_3. **[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN)]** How much do you agree or disagree with the following? It is difficult for my child to catch up on schoolwork when they are absent from school

	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Strongly agree	14%
Somewhat agree	32%
Somewhat disagree	28%
Strongly disagree	21%
Don't know	5%
Refused	1%
Agree (Net)	*46%*
Disagree (Net)	*49%*

Q10_4. **[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN)]** How much do you agree or disagree with the following? Missing 10% or more of the school year would negatively impact my child's academic performance

	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Strongly agree	39%
Somewhat agree	33%
Somewhat disagree	14%
Strongly disagree	8%
Don't know	5%
Refused	1%
Agree (Net)	*72%*
Disagree (Net)	*22%*

GAME CHANGERS Ipsos

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q10_5. **[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN)]** How much do you agree or disagree with the following? Missing 10% or more of the school year would have long-term consequences for my child's future

	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Strongly agree	25%
Somewhat agree	36%
Somewhat disagree	21%
Strongly disagree	12%
Don't know	5%
Refused	1%
Agree (Net)	*61%*
Disagree (Net)	*33%*

Q11_sum1. Do you support or oppose the following? Summary - Support

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
K-12 schools requiring parents of chronically absent students to meet in person with school staff	83%	80%
K-12 schools implementing text or email campaigns to encourage parental involvement	82%	82%
Increasing state-level education funding so all K-12 schools have access to nurses and counselors	81%	82%
K-12 schools establishing mentorship programs to support student attendance	79%	78%
K-12 schools holding parents primarily responsible for their child(ren) missing school, regardless of their child's age	74%	68%
K-12 schools requiring home visits by school staff for students who are chronically absent	65%	60%

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q11_1. Do you support or oppose the following? K-12 schools establishing mentorship programs to support student attendance

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Strongly support	42%	34%
Somewhat support	37%	44%
Somewhat oppose	7%	7%
Strongly oppose	3%	3%
Don't know	10%	11%
Refused	1%	1%
Support (Net)	*79%*	*78%*
Oppose (Net)	*10%*	*10%*

Q11_2. Do you support or oppose the following? K-12 schools requiring home visits by school staff for students who are chronically absent

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Strongly support	30%	25%
Somewhat support	34%	36%
Somewhat oppose	14%	16%
Strongly oppose	12%	16%
Don't know	8%	7%
Refused	2%	1%
Support (Net)	*65%*	*60%*
Oppose (Net)	*26%*	*32%*

Q11_3. Do you support or oppose the following? K-12 schools requiring parents of chronically absent students to meet in person with school staff

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Strongly support	58%	46%
Somewhat support	25%	34%
Somewhat oppose	6%	8%
Strongly oppose	3%	6%
Don't know	7%	6%
Refused	1%	1%
Support (Net)	*83%*	*80%*
Oppose (Net)	*9%*	*14%*

GAME CHANGERS Ipsos

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q11_4. Do you support or oppose the following? K-12 schools implementing text or email campaigns to encourage parental involvement

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Strongly support	51%	42%
Somewhat support	31%	41%
Somewhat oppose	6%	7%
Strongly oppose	2%	2%
Don't know	8%	8%
Refused	1%	1%
Support (Net)	*82%*	*82%*
Oppose (Net)	*8%*	*9%*

Q11_5. Do you support or oppose the following? Increasing state-level education funding so all K-12 schools have access to nurses and counselors

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Strongly support	54%	52%
Somewhat support	27%	30%
Somewhat oppose	6%	7%
Strongly oppose	4%	4%
Don't know	7%	6%
Refused	1%	1%
Support (Net)	*81%*	*82%*
Oppose (Net)	*11%*	*11%*

Q11_6. Do you support or oppose the following? K-12 schools holding parents primarily responsible for their child(ren) missing school, regardless of their child's age

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Strongly support	45%	32%
Somewhat support	29%	36%
Somewhat oppose	12%	17%
Strongly oppose	5%	8%
Don't know	8%	7%
Refused	1%	1%
Support (Net)	*74%*	*68%*
Oppose (Net)	*18%*	*24%*

GAME CHANGERS

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q12. **[ASKED IF PARENT OF SCHOOL-AGED CHILD(REN)]** What type of school, if any, does your child(ren) attend?

	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
Traditional public school	77%
Public charter school	7%
Public magnet school	4%
Private, religious school	6%
Private, non-religious school	3%
Home school	7%
Refused	1%
Public (Net)	*85%*
Private (Net)	*9%*

Q13. Which of the following is your main source of news?

	Gen pop (N=1,121)	Parents of school-aged child(ren) (N=1,152)
ABC / CBS / NBC News	21%	18%
Digital or online news	17%	18%
Social media	10%	16%
Fox News	7%	6%
Public television or radio	7%	9%
New York Times, Washington Post, or Wall Street Journal	4%	4%
Friends and Family	4%	6%
CNN	3%	3%
Your local newspaper	3%	2%
Conservative news media (e.g., Breitbart, Newsmax, OANN, conservative talk radio)	3%	3%
MSNBC	2%	2%
Other	5%	4%
None of these	11%	10%
Refused	1%	1%

GAME CHANGERS

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

About the Study

This NPR/Ipsos poll was conducted April 26 to May 3, 2024 by Ipsos using the probability-based KnowledgePanel®. This poll is based on a nationally representative probability sample of 1,121 general population adults age 18 or older. The poll also includes 1,152 parents of school-aged children, meaning they have at least one child in grades K-12

The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.3 percentage points for at the 95% confidence level, for results based on the entire sample of gen pop adults. The margin of sampling error takes into account the design effect, which was 1.26 for all respondents. For parents of school-aged children, the margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level, and the design effect was 1.36. The margin of sampling error is higher and varies for results based on other sub-samples. In our reporting of the findings, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total substantially more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent.

The survey was conducted using KnowledgePanel, the largest and most well-established online probability-based panel that is representative of the adult U.S. population. Our recruitment process employs a scientifically developed addressed-based sampling methodology using the latest Delivery Sequence File of the USPS – a database with full coverage of all delivery points in the U.S. Households invited to join the panel are randomly selected from all available households in the U.S. Persons in the sampled households are invited to join and participate in the panel. Those selected who do not already have internet access are provided a tablet and internet connection at no cost to the panel member. Those who join the panel and who are selected to participate in a survey are sent a unique password-protected log-in used to complete surveys online. As a result of our recruitment and sampling methodologies, samples from KnowledgePanel cover all households regardless of their phone or internet status and findings can be reported with a margin of sampling error and projected to the general population. KnowledgePanel members receive a per survey incentive, usually the equivalent of $1 (though for some it is $2) in points, that can be redeemed for cash or prizes. No prenotification email for this study was sent prior to field. Panelists receive a unique login to the survey and are only able to complete it one time. One reminder email was sent for this study.

The data for the gen pop sample were weighted to adjust for gender by age, race/ethnicity, education, Census region, metropolitan status, household income, parental status, and party ID. The demographic benchmarks came from the 2023 March Supplement of the Current Population Survey (CPS). The Party ID benchmarks came from the Pew's 2023 NPORS. No trimming was used. The weighting categories were as follows:

- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18-29, 30-49, 50-64, 65+)
- Race-Ethnicity (White/Non-Hispanic, Black/Non-Hispanic, Other/Non-Hispanic, Hispanic, 2+ Races/Non-Hispanic)
- Education (Less than High School, High School, Some College, Bachelor or Higher)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, and West)
- Metropolitan Status (Metro, Non-Metro)
- Household Income (Under $25K, $25K-$49,999, $50K-$74,999, $75K-$99,999, $100K-$149,999, $150K and Over)
- Parental Status (Parent of 0-18 years old, Not parent of 0-18 years old)

GAME CHANGERS

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

- Party ID (Republican, Lean Republican, Independent/Something else/Refused, Lean Democrat, Democrat)

To calculate the weights for parents of school-aged children, we first weighted the respondents who confirmed that they were parents of 0- to 18-year-old children. The larger set was weighted to adjust for gender by age, race/ethnicity, education, Census region, metropolitan status, household income, parental status, and party ID to look like the population of parents with at least one child 0 to 18 years old. The demographic benchmarks came from the 2023 March Supplement of the Current Population Survey (CPS). The benchmark for parents of school age children and Party ID came from the weighted main sample. The parent weights were trimmed, then subset to the eligible respondents (i.e., parents of school-aged children), and scaled to sum the unweighted sample size of parents of school age children (n=1152).The weighting categories were as follows:

- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18-29, 30-49, 50-64, 65+)
- Race-Ethnicity (White/Non-Hispanic, Black/Non-Hispanic, Other/Non-Hispanic, Hispanic, 2+ Races/Non-Hispanic)
- Education (Less than High School, High School, Some College, Bachelor or Higher)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, and West)
- Metropolitan Status (Metro, Non-Metro)
- Household Income (Under $25K, $25K-$49,999, $50K-$74,999, $75K-$99,999, $100K-$149,999, $150K and Over)
- Parental Status (Parent of school-aged children, Not parent of school-aged children)
- Party ID (Republican, Lean Republican, Independent/Something else/Refused, Lean Democrat, Democrat)

GAME CHANGERS

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

About Ipsos

Ipsos is one of the largest market research and polling companies globally, operating in 90 markets and employing over 18,000 people.

Our passionately curious research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide true understanding and powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. Our 75 solutions are based on primary data from our surveys, social media monitoring, and qualitative or observational techniques.

Our tagline "Game Changers" sums up our ambition to help our 5,000 customers move confidently through a rapidly changing world.

Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos has been listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and Mid-60 indices and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

ISIN code FR0000073298, Reuters ISOS.PA, Bloomberg IPS:FP www.ipsos.com

2020 K Street, NW, Suite 410   Contact: **Mallory Newall**
Washington DC 20006   Vice President, US, Public Affairs
+1 202 463-7300   Email: mallory.newall@ipsos.com
                                       Tel: +1 202 374 2613

GAME CHANGERS

15