



South Carolina Statewide Poll Results

Conducted: November 15-16, 2016

Number of Respondents: 600

Margin of Error: +/-4.0%

1) Which issue should be the South Carolina legislature's top priority in the upcoming legislative session: improving roads or improving schools?

Improving Roads	33%
Improving Schools	54%
Some other issue	3%
Unsure	9%
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Total	100%

2) Which best describes your view of the state's role in funding public education?

An equal amount of funding for each student	40%
More funding to economically disadvantaged districts	48%
State should not have a role in funding public education	6%
Unsure	6%
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Total	100%

3) Do you think it's important for a student to have a teacher who shares his or her ethnic background or race?

Yes	20%
No	77%
Unsure	3%
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Total	100%

4) What do you think should be the legislature's most important priority with respect to public education (choose one)?

Student access to a great teacher	51%
Adequate funding	25%
Student access to technology	14%
State-of-the-art facilities	5%
Other	5%
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Total	100%

5) Which best describes your view of public charter schools in South Carolina?

Support all charter schools	27%
Support charter schools that perform as well or better than public schools	22%
Support charter schools where there are too few public schools	13%
Do not support charter schools	23%
Unsure	16%
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Total	100%

6) Should families whose children are zoned to attend a low performing school receive state tax credits if they choose to send their children to a private school?

Oppose using tax credits in all cases	18%
Support using tax credits only if student is low income	12%
All families should have option	60%
Unsure	10%
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Total	100%

7) When you think of public schools in South Carolina, do you generally believe our public schools do or do not serve students well?

Yes, they do	51%
No, they do not	36%
Unsure	13%
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Total	100%

8) When you think of South Carolina public schools in comparison to public schools in other states, where do you think South Carolina public schools rank?

Near the top	8%
Middle of the pack	38%
Near the bottom	45%
Unsure	8%
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Total	100%

9) According to state assessments taken by South Carolina public school students, fewer than 3 in 10 8th graders are on track for college and only 14% of college juniors are considered “college-ready.” Which best describes your reaction to these facts?

Very surprised	11%
Somewhat surprised	26%
Not surprised	62%
Unsure	2%
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Total	100%

11) If the state were to issue a report card to reflect the quality of your community school and school district, which type of grading format would make it easiest for you to understand the information?

Letter grade rankings	33%
Categorical ratings	15%
Numerical ratings	24%
No preference	28%
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Total	100%

12) If your community school were ranked as an "F" school by the state, how likely would you be to get involved with the school and either help or demand change?

Significantly more likely	24%
More likely	38%
About the same	22%
Less likely	15%
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Total	100%

This polling was conducted with Live Operator interviews on November 15th and 16th, 2016. There were 600 interview respondents via landline phones and cells. All respondents were registered South Carolina voters and responses were balanced to scientifically represent the actual State make up of registered voters. The margin of error is +/-4%.