



Public involvement. Public education. Public benefit.

**Online No Child Left Behind Survey
Responses from Illinois vs. the National Average**

From what you have heard about NCLB, do you believe that you:

	Illinois	National
Know Nothing or Little About the Law	5%	7%
Know About Some of the Provisions of the Law	63%	59%
Have An In-Depth Knowledge of the Law	32%	35%

From what you know about NCLB, what is your opinion of the law?

	Illinois	National
I Support the Law As It Is Without Changes: Stay the Course	1%	2%
I Support the Purposes of the Law, But Believe That It Requires Changes	65%	65%
I Do Not Support the Law At All	32%	31%
I Have No Opinion	1%	2%

One of the major goals of NCLB is to close the academic achievement gap among children of different racial, ethnic, or economic groups. Select those provisions of the law that are essential in closing the gap.

	Illinois	National
Highly Qualified Teachers	77%	80%
Rigorous academic standards	48%	51%
Tests aligned with standards	38%	44%
Testing of students in grades 3-8, and once in high school	29%	27%
Reporting of test scores for groups of students based on race and ethnicity, income, English language proficiency, and disability	31%	31%
Publication of test scores and other data about district and school performance	24%	26%
Strong parental involvement	88%	88%
Adequate funding and resources	92%	92%
Ability of a child to transfer to another public school if their school does not meet state academic expectations	21%	29%
Tutoring for students in schools that do not meet state academic standards	67%	69%

NCLB currently requires that all children in grades 3 through 8, plus one grade level in high school, be tested in reading and math. Does NCLB require too much testing, too little, just right?

	Illinois	National
Too much	58%	65%
Too little	11%	9%
Just right	20%	16%
Don't know	11%	10%

Do you believe that these testing and reporting requirements... (Select all that apply)

	Illinois	National
Have raised awareness in your community about how your schools are doing?	51%	54%
Have provided more and better information about the academic performance in your school district?	30%	32%
Have motivated your community and parents to demand that schools that are low-performing be improved?	11%	20%
Have motivated you personally to become involved in your community?	24%	23%
Not sure	34%	29%

Do you agree that states and school districts should be required to report test scores for students by certain characteristics, including disability, income, English language proficiency, and race/ethnicity?

	Illinois	National
Strongly agree	21%	20%
Agree	32%	34%
Disagree	15%	17%
Strongly disagree	21%	18%
Not sure	11%	10%

Do you believe that a single test can tell if the entire student body needs academic improvement?

	Illinois	National
Strongly agree	1%	1%
Agree	4%	4%
Disagree	16%	21%
Strongly disagree	76%	71%
Not sure	3%	2%

Do you believe that a single test can tell if individual students are performing satisfactorily?

	Illinois	National
Strongly agree	1%	2%
Agree	7%	7%
Disagree	22%	28%
Strongly disagree	66%	61%
Not sure	3%	2%

Currently, NCLB requires testing at only one grade level in high school. There are proposals to have NCLB testing in high school in reading, science and math, and at every grade level. Do you agree that there should be additional NCLB testing in high school?

	Illinois	National
Strongly agree	11%	10%
Agree	23%	21%
Disagree	23%	23%
Strongly disagree	33%	37%
Not sure	10%	9%

How would you rate the teachers in your local schools? Do your local schools have:

	Illinois	National
No qualified teachers	0%	0%
Some qualified teachers	15%	15%
Many qualified teachers	50%	55%
All qualified teachers	30%	23%
I have no way of judging	5%	7%

Do you believe that, by the end of this school year, every school will meet the NCLB requirement that all teachers must be qualified in the core subjects that they teach?

	Illinois	National
Strongly believe	6%	7%
Believe	17%	19%
Disbelieve	40%	38%
Strongly disbelieve	28%	26%
Not sure	9%	10%

Currently, states have different definitions of what it means to be a “highly qualified teacher.” In judging whether a teacher is highly qualified, which of the following qualities do you believe to be most important? (For each, indicate a number between 1 and 5, with 1 for least important and 5 for most important.)

	1	2	3	4	5
Knows the subject matter	1% (2)	0% (1)	6% (4)	20% (20)	72%
Knows how to communicate and relate to students	1% (2)	1% (0)	1% (1)	12% (9)	85%
Establishes a relationship between the family and the school, and keeps channels of communication open	1% (1)	2% (2)	8% (10)	29% (28)	60% (58)
Sensitive to and respects students’ diverse cultural backgrounds	2% (2)	1% (3)	12% (11)	26% (26)	58% (58)
Has passed license requirements mandated by the state	4% (4)	4% (5)	17% (19)	28% (25)	47% (47)
Knows how to keep discipline and order in the classroom	1% (1)	1% (2)	6% (8)	33% (29)	59%
Knows how to meet the individualized learning needs of students	1% (2)	1% (1)	4% (5)	23% (20)	72% (72)

How important is it to have a highly qualified teacher in every classroom?

	Illinois	National
Very important	67%	68%
Important	30%	29%
Unimportant	1%	2%
Very unimportant	2%	1%
No opinion	1%	1%

Would you support programs to help existing teachers become "highly qualified"?		
	Illinois	National
Strongly support	51%	60%
Support	42%	33%
Oppose	3%	3%
Strongly oppose	1%	1%
No opinion	3%	3%

What kind of information have you received about your school and districts' performance? (Please check all that apply)		
	Illinois	National
Information about the qualifications of teachers in my school	31%	28%
Information about the performance of my school	75%	74%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my district	65%	66%
Information about the performance of my school as compared with other school districts in my state	72%	64%
Information about opportunities for me as a parent or community member to become involved in improving the schools	35%	39%
Information about options for my child to transfer to another school	19%	18%
Information about tutoring services available to my child	28%	25%
None of the above	12%	14%

How do you receive information about the performance of your school or school district? (Please check all that apply)		
	Illinois	National
From my school or school district	70%	65%
From a community-based organization or advocacy group	9%	10%
From the media	44%	53%
By mail	26%	26%
By e-mail	8%	13%
By phone	1%	3%
Sent home with my child	33%	32%
On the school or school district website	43%	39%
In local newspapers	53%	62%
On local broadcast news (radio/TV)	12%	22%
Other	9%	13%

Are you getting enough information about the performance of the schools in your community?		
	Illinois	National
Too much	13%	13%
Just enough	46%	42%
Not enough	30%	31%
I am not getting information	7%	8%
Don't know	5%	6%

Do you agree that the information that you receive about the performance of schools in your district is presented in a language and format that you can understand and easily use?

	Illinois	National
Strongly agree	17%	18%
Agree	51%	50%
Disagree	19%	17%
Strongly disagree	8%	6%
Not sure	6%	9%

How strongly do you believe that the assessment data from test scores will lead to school improvement?

	Illinois	National
Strongly agree	4%	4%
Agree	24%	28%
Disagree	42%	39%
Strongly disagree	22%	23%
Not sure	8%	6%

Have schools in your community been labeled as “in need of improvement” or “failing” because of NCLB?

	Illinois	National
None	16%	20%
A few	41%	45%
Many	31%	19%
Not sure	13%	16%

**Have you been asked to become involved in any of the following activities related to NCLB?
(Please check all that apply)**

	Illinois	National
Developing state standards	4%	5%
Developing the state test required by NCLB	1%	3%
Developing the state and/or local report cards required by NCLB	1%	3%
Developing the district Title I parent involvement policy	4%	4%
Giving input into the district annual Title I program	4%	6%
Making recommendations for what constitutes a "highly qualified teacher" under NCLB	3%	3%
Participating in the improvement teams for schools that were identified as needing improvement	16%	11%
None of the above	81%	81%

How satisfied are you with your school/district’s efforts to engage you and/or your community?

	Illinois	National
Very satisfied	18%	17%
Satisfied	38%	35%
Dissatisfied	19%	21%
Very dissatisfied	13%	13%
No opinion	13%	15%

NCLB gives students that attend low-performing schools the choice to transfer to another public school within the school district. How much do you think this option will help students perform better academically?

	Illinois	National
It will help a great deal	8%	8%
It will help a little	19%	25%
It will have no effect	33%	28%
It will have a detrimental effect	27%	28%
Not sure	13%	10%

NCLB gives students attending low-performing schools the chance to receive tutoring after school to help them meet academic standards. How much do you think this will help students perform better academically?

	Illinois	National
It will help a great deal	42%	41%
It will help a little	48%	48%
It will have no effect	6%	6%
It will have a detrimental effect	2%	1%
Not sure	3%	3%

During the 2006 elections, is it important to you that candidates for office:

	Illinois	National
Support the current NCLB law and seek its renewal	4%	4%
Support the current NCLB law, but with changes and amendments	54%	57%
Oppose the NCLB law	41%	37%
Makes no difference to me	2%	3%