

Online Deliberative Poll® November 2005
Significant Changes
Center for Deliberative Democracy, Stanford University

In your opinion, is there too much emphasis on standardized testing in the public schools in your community, about the right amount, or not enough emphasis?

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Too much	57.5%	65.0%	.00
Not enough	13.5%	9.3%	.01
About right	21.5%	23.3%	(n=356)

Some people think that tests for student achievement should be set at the state level and applied in the same way to all students in the state. Others think that local school boards should make these decisions in each community. Which do you think?

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
State	62.1%	55.9%	.03
Local	31.1%	37.9%	.02
			(n=358)

Do you support or oppose the following proposals for reforming the school system in your community? (0=strongly oppose; 10=strongly support)

- **Fund more charter schools with money from the public school system.**

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Oppose	45.6%	50.4%	.03*
Neither oppose/support	13.6%	13.4%	--
Support	40.6%	36.1%	--
			(n=345)

- **Provide vouchers to cover some or all of the cost of private schools with money from the public school system.**

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Oppose	56.3%	61.1%	.02
Neither oppose/support	9.0%	6.1%	--
Support	34.6%	32.7%	--
			(n=351)

- **Provide more money for public schools to reduce class sizes even if it means raising taxes.**

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Oppose	32.4%	22.6%	.00
Neither oppose/support	9.3%	14.4%	--
Support	58.3%	63.0%	--
			(n=336)

- Provide more money for public schools to pay teachers even if it means raising taxes.

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Oppose	28.5%	24.6%	--
Neither oppose/support	12.5%	9.7%	--
Support	59.1%	65.8%	.00
			(n=340)

Which of these do you think is most important?

Top three answers:

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Teacher quality	33.8%	17.9%	.00
Academic standards	32.6%	28.1%	--
Parental involvement	13.8%	24.9%	.00

Other:

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Class size	3.4%	11.6%	.00
Funding	7.3%	9.5%	--
			(n=358)

Percentage of respondents who named the following as most, or second most, important.

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Teacher quality	62.2%	47.7%	.00* (n=354)
Academic standards	47.4%	47.7%	--
Parental involvement	26.9%	44.9%	.00 (n=353)

To what degree do you think your elected representatives in Washington share your priorities for how to improve education? If you think their priorities are completely the same as yours answer 10. If you think their priorities are completely different from yours, answer 0. If it is about half and half answer 5.

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Different	68.7%	56.7%	.00*
Half and half	18.3%	22.0%	--
Same	13.0%	21.3%	.00
			(n=333)

From what you have heard about the No Child Left Behind Act, do you approve or disapprove, or couldn't you say?

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Disapprove	52.9%	59.1%	.09
Neither disapprove/approve	7.8%	9.8%	--
Approve	39.3%	31.1%	.01
			(n=319)

Here is a list of problems our health care system might face. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is completely unimportant and 10 is extremely important, and 5 is midway in between, how important would you say it is that we focus on improving each of the following?

- **The number of Americans without health insurance.**

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Unimportant	8.8%	7.1%	--
Midway	8.7%	5.1%	--
Important	82.5%	87.9%	.01
			(n=348)

- **Medical errors or mistakes.**

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Unimportant	9.7%	16.7%	
Midway	11.1%	15.3%	--
Important	79.2%	68.0%	.00*
			(n=345)
Extremely important (10)	45.5%	30.1%	.00
			(n=345)

- **The medical malpractice system.**

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Extremely important (10)	39.9%	29.8%	.00
			(n=343)

Here is a list of problems our health care system might face. Which of these do you think is most important?

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
The cost of health insurance	29.2%	30.0%	--
The number of Americans without health insurance	45.0%	49.2%	.10*
			(n=358)

Percentage of respondents who named the following as most, or second most, important.

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
The cost of prescription drugs	29.1%	38.3%	.00 (n=357)

Would you be willing to pay more than you do now for health care if this meant that many more Americans would have health insurance coverage?

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>
Yes, at least slightly more	43.6%	51.8%
Yes, significantly more	8.2%	10.2%
No	38.8%	31.1%
Couldn't say	9.4%	6.9%
	(n=354)	(n=358)
Significance	$\chi^2 (9, N=356) = 191.76, p = .00$	

How strongly would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? The US should adopt a single-payer system, where a government entity accepts all healthcare fees and pays out all healthcare costs for everyone.

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Agree	51.2%	57.7%	.00
Neither agree nor disagree	8.6%	5.5%	---
Disagree	40.3%	36.8%	---
			(n=351)

The US should require employer coverage of health care, where every employer must provide insurance for all workers.

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Agree	51.3%	43.6%	.00*
Neither agree nor disagree	9.8%	8.7%	---
Disagree	38.8%	47.8%	---

The US should require individual coverage, where individuals must buy minimal coverage, perhaps funded by a tax credit.

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Agree	37.3%	43.2%	.03*
Neither agree nor disagree	10.6%	14.8%	---
Disagree	52.1%	42.0%	---
Disagree strongly	36.9%	24.9%	.00 (n=342)

The US should offer uninsured Americans income tax deductions, tax credits, or other financial assistance to help them purchase private health insurance on their own.

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Agree	56.6%	66.1%	.00
Neither agree nor disagree	11.9%	9.6%	---
Disagree	31.5%	24.3%	---
			(n=342)

The US should increase funding for Medicare and Medicaid even if this means increasing taxes.

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Agree	57.8%	58.8%	---
Neither agree nor disagree	10.5%	15.3%	---
Disagree	31.7%	25.9%	---
	(n=356)	(n=352)	

About how many Americans are uninsured?

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Correct (45 million)	29.8%	50.2%	.00
			(n=358)

People like me don't have any say about what the government does.

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Agree	51.6%	37.7%	.00
Neither agree nor disagree	5.7%	11.2%	---
Disagree	42.7%	51.1%	---
			(n=349)

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "people with views different from mine often have very good reasons for their opinions."

	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Sig.</u>
Agree	66.8%	75.2%	.00
Neither agree nor disagree	11.9%	16.3%	---
Disagree	21.2%	8.5%	.00
			(n=352)

*These changes were significant for the treatment group for T1 to T2, but the T1 to T2 change in the treatment group was not significantly different (at the p<.10 level) from that in the control group.