

School Choice Snapshot: A 2006 Survey of U.S. Policy and Advocacy Organizations

by Adam B. Schaeffer

Preface

The Mackinac Center for Public Policy worked on this survey project from November 2005 through September 2006. We provided assistance to the survey researcher, Adam B. Schaeffer, who was then a National Research Initiative Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C., by collaborating on the survey instrument, offering relevant and limited information from our database, handling technical details of inviting and following up with participants, and editing and publishing this document.

We were interested in the survey project because of our long involvement in school choice issues. We have published various studies and reports on parental choice in Michigan public education, including cross-district choice, dual enrollment and charter public schools. We have also worked extensively to educate citizens on programs that would provide more opportunities for Michigan parents to choose independent schools: We have published work on vouchers and proposed a unique “universal tuition tax credit” program. Any school choice policies in Michigan that include independent schools would require an amendment to the state constitution, and such policies have thus far remained proposals. Nevertheless, many of our findings and recommendations can be adapted for use in other states.

Over the years, we have been privileged to assist many institutes and grass-roots groups by training hundreds of public policy institute executives from North America and around the world. Our twice-yearly training conferences have had waiting lists every time they have been held since 1998.

About the Author

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We at the Mackinac Center hope that publishing the results of this survey will stimulate discussion among our friends and associates about parental choice policy innovations.

— Ryan S. Olson
Mackinac Center Director of Education Policy

Introduction

The school choice movement is complex because of the variety of educational choice policies and the plethora of organizations working on such policies. The number of existing and proposed policies in the “school choice” vein includes cross-district school selection, dual enrollment programs, various kinds of targeted vouchers, home schooling, charter public schools, various kinds of targeted education tax credits, residential choice and still more expansive programs like universal vouchers and universal education tax credits. Any number of these policies are supported by different organizations involved in the school choice movement, and those organizations differ in terms of their scope (national, multistate or single-state), primary activities (research, grass-roots organizing), budgets, legal and political environments, current influence and so on.

In view of these factors, where exactly do organizations in the school choice movement stand on vital school choice issues? Although the Op-Eds and policy papers from major school choice organizations can be canvassed to glean a sense of the movement’s views as a whole, there are hundreds of such organizations across the country, and many institutional policy preferences do not make it into print. Until now, a survey attempting to develop a snapshot of the school choice movement as seen by those participating in the movement has not been completed.

This publication records the results of a survey undertaken by Adam B. Schaeffer in conjunction with the Mackinac Center for Public Policy. The survey, conducted over four weeks in April and May 2006, covered past and present support for, or opposition to, cross-district choice, vouchers, charter schools, education tax credits, home schooling and total separation of state government and schools. Participants were asked to estimate the influence of their own and other organizations, such as teachers unions, on the content and success of school choice legislation. They were asked to estimate the frequency with which they use various arguments to advance school choice ideas and programs. Vouchers and education tax credits were assessed in terms of their legal viability, popularity and chances for passing state legislatures. Participants were prompted to quantify their organizations' support for various degrees of private-school choice. Other aspects of voucher and tax credit policy design, such as commonly proposed regulations for participating private schools, were addressed as well. Finally, respondents were asked to describe the biggest obstacles to, and opportunities for, expanding school choice.

The questions were wide-ranging, and the answers offer an enlightening glimpse into professional opinion and organizational preferences. Nevertheless, this survey is hardly the "final word" on the school choice movement. In light of that, we are releasing all of the survey data that does not compromise anonymity, and we heartily welcome and encourage feedback.

Methodology

The survey was conducted through Survey Monkey, a Web-based survey instrument. Prior to beginning the survey, two preliminary e-mails were sent in order to confirm that the most appropriate person within the organization had been contacted and to apprise respondents of the purpose of the survey. As many as eight follow-up e-mails were sent to organizations that had not responded over a period of one month, from April 25, 2006, to May 26, 2006.¹

The sample for this survey was compiled from the databases of the American Enterprise Institute, the Heritage Foundation, the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, the State Policy Network, All Children Matter and the State Policy Network 2005 annual conference.² Although most of the groups contacted were known by the author and the Mackinac Center to be directly involved in school choice or general education reform, an effort was also made to include groups that were planning to become involved or whose primary purpose is a policy area like tax reform, which is directly affected by school choice policy.

The sample of 473 organizations contained groups from every part of the political and ideological spectrum. A substantial portion of the respondents were self-identified "free-market" organizations. Most major state and national free-market think tanks, most major state and national school choice issue organizations, and most major state and national fiscal, religious and family issue organizations were contacted. The total survey response rate was just under 50 percent (233 organizations), with 37 percent completing question 75. Additional "drop-off" occurred thereafter, with 35 percent (167 organizations) answering through the end of the demographic section.

As can be seen in the demographic questions at the end of the questionnaire,⁴ the organizations that responded to this survey reflect some of the diversity of the school choice movement, and the survey provides a wide-ranging look at organizational and professional opinion. As is common with this kind of research instrument, the survey collected the opinions of only a sample of all state and national organizations involved in the movement. Thus, as with most surveys, response bias poses a threat to the validity of the results. Respondent diversity and the large percentage of state organizations responding are encouraging in this regard, but the only way to dispel all possibility of response bias is to succeed in surveying the vast majority of organizations involved in school choice. A similar survey may thus be attempted in the future.

¹ Note that significant educational policy events occurred before this period, including expansion of school choice programs involving private school options in Arizona (March 28, 2006), Wisconsin (March 10, 2006) and Ohio (March 30, 2006). These events may have affected respondents' answers. Note, however, that participants were asked about professional opinion and their organizations' positions on long-standing policy issues that are unlikely to be drastically affected by nearly synchronous events. See Robert D. Putnam, et al., "Attitude Stability among Italian Elites," *American Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 23, No. 3 (Aug. 1979), 463-494.

² The SPN conference focused on tax reform and primary and secondary education reform. Contact information for conference attendees was obtained through SPN's conference records.

³ The standard margin of error for a sample of this size is six percentage points. However, this survey is unusual in many ways. First, the respondents are not drawn as a probability sample from a larger population. The survey attempted to canvass the opinions of all organizations relevant to the school choice movement. There is no way to determine, therefore, a margin of error. The universe of organizations from which this sample is drawn is only about double that of the number of respondents, however, and a full census is within the range of possibility with a follow-up survey to address concerns regarding response bias. Second, this is a survey of organizational and professional opinion concerning policy issues, and we should therefore expect more stability and consistency in these responses than among the general public. We can therefore be more confident in the responses of the organizations that did participate (see footnote No. 1 above).

⁴ See the questions beginning on Page 16.

Survey Results

The “filled-in” survey is reported below in full. A few minor errors that appeared in the original survey have been corrected for this publication; those small errors have been flagged for the reader in the footnotes. The formatting of the Web survey’s text, including underlined, bold, italicized and Roman text faces, has also been reproduced. The questions and prompts are presented in exactly the same order as they appeared in the Web survey. They have been renumbered, however, to facilitate clearer presentation and easier reference. A version of the completed survey in its entirely original form is available at <http://www.mackinac.org/archives/2006/schoolchoicesurvey2006.pdf>.

Q.1 Does your organization work on education issues?		
Yes	93.2%	(RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO Q.1 SKIPPED TO Q.3.)
No	6.8%	(RESPONDENT WHO SAID “NO” TO Q.1 MOVED ON TO Q.2.)
Total Respondents	250	

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “NO” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON EDUCATION ISSUES IN Q.1.)

Q.2 Does your organization plan on getting involved in education issues?		
Yes	42.1%	(RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO Q.2 SKIPPED TO Q.5.)
No	57.9%	(RESPONDENT WHO SAID “NO” TO Q.2 SKIPPED TO Q.75.)
Total Respondents	19	

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON EDUCATION ISSUES IN Q.1.)

Q.3 For about how many years has your organization worked on education issues?			
1	3.9%	27	0.0%
2	2.6%	28	0.0%
3	5.6%	29	0.4%
4	2.2%	30	2.6%
5	6.1%	31	0.4%
6	4.8%	32	0.4%
7	2.6%	33	0.0%
8	6.5%	34	0.0%
9	2.2%	35	0.9%
10	12.1%	36	0.9%
11	2.2%	37	0.9%
12	3.9%	38	0.0%
13	4.3%	39	0.4%
14	2.6%	40	1.3%
15	6.9%	41	0.0%
16	3.9%	42	0.0%
17	2.2%	43	0.4%
18	0.9%	44	0.0%
19	0.4%	45	0.0%
20	3.9%	46	0.0%
21	2.2%	47	0.0%
22	2.2%	48	0.0%
23	2.6%	49	0.0%
24	0.9%	50	0.0%
25	1.7%	More than 50	1.7%
26	0.4%		
Total Respondents		231	

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON EDUCATION ISSUES IN Q.1.)

Q.4 Does your organization work on school choice issues?		
Yes	89.6%	(RESPONDENT WHO ANSWERED “YES” TO Q.4 SKIPPED TO Q.6.)
No	10.4%	(RESPONDENT WHO ANSWERED “NO” TO Q.4 MOVED ON TO Q.5.)
Total Respondents	231	

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN EDUCATION ISSUES IN Q.2 OR “NO” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.5 Does your organization plan on getting involved in school choice issues?		
Yes	45.2%	(RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO Q.5 SKIPPED TO Q.43.)
No	54.8%	(RESPONDENT WHO SAID “NO” TO Q.5 SKIPPED TO Q.75.)
Total Respondents	31	

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.6 For how many years has your organization worked on school choice issues?				
1	3.4%	14	2.9%	
2	4.0%	15	8.0%	
3	6.3%	16	5.1%	
4	3.4%	17	0.0%	
5	5.1%	18	0.6%	
6	6.3%	19	0.6%	
7	3.4%	20	6.3%	
8	4.6%	21	1.7%	
9	3.4%	22	2.3%	
10	10.3%	23	2.9%	
11	2.9%	24	0.0%	
12	4.6%	25	0.6%	
13	5.1%	More than 25 years	6.3%	
Total Respondents 175				

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

<u>What did your organization INITIALLY think was the best school choice reform? (This may or may not differ from what your organization currently supports.) Please rank the level of your organization’s past opposition or support from -3 strongly¹ opposed to 3 strongly supportive.</u>										
THOSE WHO RESPONDED “N/A” WERE REMOVED FROM THE PERCENTAGE CALCULATIONS IN THIS TABLE.										
		Strongly Opposed -3	Opposed -2	Somewhat Opposed -1	Neither 0	Somewhat Supportive 1	Supportive 2	Strongly Supportive 3	N/A	Total respondents minus N/A
Q.7	Cross-District Choice	0.6%	1.3%	0.6%	16.9%	15.6%	27.9%	37.0%	21	153
Q.8	Charter Schools	0.6%	1.2%	1.2%	10.4%	14.0%	27.4%	45.1%	11	163
Q.9	Vouchers	6.0%	5.4%	2.4%	3.0%	12.0%	22.8%	48.5%	8	157
Q.10	Education Tax Credits	0.0%	1.8%	3.0%	3.7%	10.4%	20.1%	61.0%	11	164
Q.11	Home School	0.0%	0.6%	1.2%	9.3%	15.5%	21.1%	52.2%	14	161
Q.12	All School Choice Policy Equally	2.8%	2.1%	1.4%	22.4%	12.6%	23.8%	35.0%	32	139
Q.13	Total Separation of State and Schools	13.5%	13.5%	4.1%	29.7%	10.1%	14.2%	14.9%	27	128
Total Respondents		175								

¹ The original survey read “stongly.”

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

What does your organization CURRENTLY think is the best school choice reform? (This may or may not differ from what your organization supported in the past.) Please rank the level of your organization’s current opposition or support from -3 strongly opposed to 3 strongly supportive.

THOSE WHO RESPONDED “N/A” WERE REMOVED FROM THE PERCENTAGE CALCULATIONS IN THIS TABLE.

		Strongly Opposed -3	Opposed -2	Somewhat Opposed -1	Neither 0	Somewhat Supportive 1	Supportive 2	Strongly Supportive 3	N/A	Total Respondents minus N/A
Q.14	Cross-District Choice	1.2%	1.9%	1.9%	15.4%	19.1%	24.7%	35.8%	13	162
Q.15	Charter Schools	1.2%	2.4%	1.2%	6.0%	16.7%	23.2%	49.4%	7	168
Q.16	Vouchers	8.2%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	10.0%	21.8%	52.9%	5	170
Q.17	Education Tax Credits	1.2%	1.8%	1.8%	6.0%	4.8%	17.3%	67.3%	7	168
Q.18	Home School	0.0%	0.6%	1.2%	8.6%	9.8%	25.8%	54.0%	12	163
Q.19	All School Choice Policy Equally	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	21.6%	15.8%	25.2%	30.9%	35	139
Q.20	Total Separation of State and Schools	12.7%	12.7%	4.0%	28.0%	9.3%	12.7%	20.7%	25	150
Total Respondents		175								

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.21 If it’s possible could you please explain why your organization is more opposed to or supportive of some of these policies rather than the others?³

Total Respondents..... 161

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.22 If your organization’s level of support for particular school choice policy has changed over the years please explain why that change has occurred.³

Total Respondents..... 173

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.23 Why is your organization working on school choice issues? Please try think of a few major reasons school choice is important to your organization and explain the relevance of each if necessary. Remember all responses are anonymous.³

Total Respondents..... 166

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.24 What kinds of school choice does your organization support? Please pick the description that best describes your organization’s position.

Public School Choice Only 8.4%
 Private School Choice Only 5.4%
 Both Public and Private School Choice 83.2%
 Neither 3.0%
 Total Respondents..... 167

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.25 The following is one way that the argument for school choice is often framed: Equity—School choice is a matter of educational equity ensuring that children of all incomes and races have access to quality education. Too many public schools in low-income and minority neighborhoods fail to educate the children in their care. *School choice will help close the educational achievement gap between rich and poor because all parents will be able to choose good schools for their children. How frequently does your organization frame the school choice issue in this way?*

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
Use Equity Frame:	4.8%	15.7%	36.1%	43.4%
Total Respondents	166			

² The original survey read “strongly.”

³ Respondents’ open-ended answers to these questions have not been categorized. For this reason, and in order to preserve the anonymity of the respondents, the open-ended remarks have not been reproduced in this study.

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.26 The following is one way that the argument for school choice is often framed: *Financial*—School choice is a matter of financial responsibility and taxpayer relief. Skyrocketing taxes go to support failing public schools and more tax dollars are spent on education every year with no improvement in return. *School choice will help keep our taxes low because private and other schools of choice cost less and parents spend education dollars more wisely than bureaucrats.* How frequently does your organization frame the school choice issue in this way?

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
Use Financial Frame:	18.7%	34.3%	27.1%	19.9%
Total Respondents	166			

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.27 The following is one way that the argument for school choice is often framed: *Moral Values*—School choice is a matter of teaching moral values in a safe environment. Public schools fail to educate children in moral principles or character causing a decline in discipline responsibility and safety in our classrooms. *School choice will help make sure schools are safe and teach good values because parents know best what values their children should learn in school and private schools can choose a mission with confidence in parental support.* How frequently does your organization frame the school choice issue in this way?

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
Use Moral Values Frame:	28.9%	39.8%	15.1%	16.3%
Total Respondents	166			

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.28 The following is one way that the argument for school choice is often framed: *Competition*—School choice is a matter of educational improvement through competition. Public schools have a captive audience and don’t need to change to meet anyone’s needs or improve their performance. *School choice will help improve public schools because parents would be able to send their child to the best school around and public schools would have to compete for students.* How frequently does your organization frame the school choice issue in this way?

	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
Use Competition Frame:	3.6%	16.9%	34.3%	45.2%
Total Respondents	166			

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.29. If you think we have overlooked an important frame that you use please describe it briefly below and make sure to note how often you use it: sometimes often or always.⁴

Total Respondents..... 75

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.30 How much influence do you think your organization has had on the content of school choice legislation considered by policymakers? Please rank the level of influence you think your organization has had on the content of school choice legislation from 0 “No Influence” to 3⁵ “A lot of Influence.”

	No Influence 0	Very Little Influence 1	Some Influence 2	A Lot of Influence 3	N/A	Total respondents minus N/A
Your organization has had:	5.8%	13.6%	39.6%	40.9%	6	154
Total Respondents	160					

⁴ Respondents’ open-ended answers to these questions have not been categorized. For this reason, and in order to preserve the anonymity of the respondents, the open-ended remarks have not been reproduced in this study.

⁵ The original survey read “from 0 ‘No Influence’ to 5 ‘A lot of Influence’.” The response categories were otherwise exactly the same.

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.31 How important do you think your organization has been in *getting school choice legislation considered and supported* in your state? Please rank how important you think your organization has been in getting school choice legislation *considered and supported* from 0 “Not Important” to 3⁶ “Very Important.”

	Not Important 0	Somewhat Important 1	Important 2	Very Important 3	N/A	Total respondents minus N/A
Your Organization has been:	10.8%	23.6%	26.4%	39.2%	12	148
Total Respondents	160					

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.32 Please try to identify all of the particularly *influential individuals*⁷ (“*policy entrepreneurs*”) and *organizations* involved in supporting school choice in your state.

- Policy Entrepreneurs:..... 71
- Public Policy Organizations: 89
- Advocacy Organizations:..... 87
- Other:..... 34
- Total Respondents..... 115

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.33 How much *influence* do you think the *teachers unions* have had on the *content of school choice legislation* considered by legislators in your state? Please rank how much *influence* you think the *teachers unions* have had in regard to the *content of school choice legislation* in your state from 0 “No Influence” to 3⁸ “A lot of Influence.”

	No Influence 0	Very Little Influence 1	Some Influence 2	A Lot of Influence 3	N/A	Total respondents minus N/A
Teacher Unions have had:	3.9%	9.7%	9.7%	76.8%	5	155
Total Respondents	160					

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.34 How much *influence* do you think other *anti-school choice organizations* have had on the *content of school choice legislation* considered by legislators in your state? Please rank how much *influence* you think other *anti-school choice organizations* have had in regard to the *content of school choice legislation* in your state from 0 “No Influence” to 3⁸ “A lot of Influence.”

	No Influence 0	Very Little Influence 1	Some Influence 2	A Lot of Influence 3	N/A	Total respondents minus N/A
Other anti-school choice organizations have had:	6.5%	19.0%	31.4%	43.1%	7	153
Total Respondents	160					

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.35 How important do you think the *teachers unions* have been in *blocking school choice legislation from being considered and supported* in your state? Please rank how important you think the *teachers unions* have been in blocking school choice legislation in your state from 0 “Not Important” to 3⁶ “Very Important.”

	Not Important 0	Somewhat Important 1	Important 2	Very Important 3	N/A	Total respondents minus N/A
Teachers unions have been:	2.6%	6.4%	12.2%	78.8%	4	156
Total Respondents	160					

⁶ The original survey read “5 ‘Very Important.’”
⁷ The original survey read “individuals.”
⁸ The original survey read “5 A lot of influence.”

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.36 How important do you think other anti-school choice organizations have been in blocking school choice legislation from being considered and supported in your state? Please rank how important you think other anti-school choice organizations have been in blocking school choice legislation in your state from 0 “Not Important” to 3⁹ “Very Important.”

	Not Important 0	Somewhat Important 1	Important 2	Very Important 3	N/A	Total respondents minus N/A
Other anti-school choice organizations have been:	8.6%	26.3%	27.0%	38.2%	8	152
Total Respondents	160					

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.37 Please try to identify all of the particularly influential individuals¹⁰ and organizations involved in opposing school choice in your state.¹¹

Organizations: 118
 Individuals: 58
 Total Respondents..... 118

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.38 Does your state constitution contain provisions that prohibit the use of vouchers at religious or private schools generally?

No definitely does NOT prohibit..... 20.5%
 No probably does NOT prohibit 15.4%
 A toss-up: the constitution might be interpreted either way 8.3%
 Yes probably DOES prohibit 16.0%
 Yes definitely DOES prohibit..... 22.4%
 Don't know 17.3%
 Total Respondents:..... 156

⁹ The original survey read “5 ‘Very Important.’”

¹⁰ The original survey read “individuals.”

¹¹ Respondents’ open-ended answers to these questions have not been categorized. For this reason, and in order to preserve the anonymity of the respondents, the open-ended remarks have not been reproduced in this study.

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.39 Does your state constitution contain provisions that prohibit the use of education tax credits at religious or private schools generally?

No definitely does NOT prohibit..... 33.5%
 No probably does NOT prohibit 20.6%
 A toss-up: the constitution might be interpreted either way 11.0%
 Yes probably DOES prohibit..... 7.1%
 Yes definitely DOES prohibit..... 7.7%
 Don't know 20.0%
 Total Respondents..... 155

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.40 In the past few years what has been the most common school choice legislation introduced in your state?

Vouchers 22.2%
 Education Tax Credits..... 33.5%
 Both Equally Common 15.2%
 No Legislation Has Been Introduced..... 19.0%
 Don't Know..... 10.1%
 Total Respondents..... 158

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4.)

Q.41 Has the *number of voucher bills* introduced in your state changed over the years?

Yes — There have been more voucher bills introduced..... 19.0%
 Yes — There have been fewer voucher bills introduced. 16.5%
 No — There has been no change in the number of voucher bills introduced. 24.1%
 No legislation has been introduced 22.8%
 Don't Know..... 17.7%
 Total Respondents..... 158

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE IN Q.4; AFTER Q.42, RESPONDENT SKIPPED TO Q.51.)

Q.42 Has the *number of education tax credit bills* introduced in your state changed over the years?

Yes — There have been more education tax credit bills introduced. 31.0%
 Yes — There have been fewer education tax credit bills introduced. 9.5%
 No — There has been no change in the number of education tax credit bills introduced. 19.6%
 No Legislation Has Been Introduced..... 22.2%
 Don't Know..... 17.7%
 Total Respondents..... 158

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.43 Please explain why your organization is not currently involved in school choice. You can be as brief or as detailed as you would like.¹²

Total Respondents..... 9

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.44 Please think about why your organization is planning to get involved in school choice issues. What are a few major reasons school choice is important to your organization? Remember all responses are anonymous.¹²

Total Respondents..... 7

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.45 What kinds of school choice does your organization support? Please pick the category that best describes your organization’s position.

- Public School Choice Only 0.0%
- Private School Choice Only..... 14.3%
- Both Public and Private School Choice 71.4%
- Neither 14.3%
- Total Respondents..... 7

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.46 The following is one way that the argument for school choice is often framed: Equity—School choice is a matter of educational equity ensuring that children of all incomes and races have access to quality education. Too many public schools in low-income and minority neighborhoods fail to educate the children in their care. *School choice will help close the educational achievement gap between rich and poor because all parents will be able to choose good schools for their children.* How important is this way of thinking about school choice to your organization’s support of the policy?

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Extremely Important
Equity:	14.3%	57.1%	14.3%	14.3%
Total Respondents	7			

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.47 The following is one way that the argument for school choice is often framed: Financial—School choice is a matter of financial responsibility and taxpayer relief. Skyrocketing taxes go to support failing public schools and more tax dollars are spent on education every year with no improvement in return. *School choice will help keep our taxes low because private schools cost less and parents spend education tax dollars more wisely than bureaucrats.* How important is this way of thinking about school choice to your organization’s support of the policy?

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Extremely Important
Financial:	0.0%	14.3%	42.9%	42.9%
Total Respondents	7			

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.48 The following is one way that the argument for school choice is often framed: Moral Values—School choice is a matter of teaching moral values in a safe environment. Public schools fail to educate children in moral principles or character causing a decline in discipline responsibility and safety in our classrooms. *School choice will help make sure schools are safe and teach good values because parents know best what values their children should learn in school and private schools can choose a mission with confidence in parental support.* How important is this way of thinking about school choice to your organization’s support of the policy?

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Extremely Important
Moral Values:	0.0%	42.9%	28.6%	28.6%
Total Respondents	7			

¹² Respondents’ open-ended answers to these questions have not been categorized. For this reason, and in order to preserve the anonymity of the respondents, the open-ended remarks have not been reproduced in this study.

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.49 The following is one way that the argument for school choice is often framed: *Competition*—School choice is a matter of educational improvement through competition. Public schools have a captive audience and don’t need to change to meet anyone’s needs or improve their performance. *School choice will help improve public schools because parents would be able to send their child to the best school around and public schools would have to compete for students.* How important is this way of thinking about school choice to your organization’s support of the policy?

	Not Important	Somewhat Important	Important	Extremely Important
Competition:	0.0%	14.3%	14.3%	71.4%
Total Respondents	7			

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5; AFTER Q.50, RESPONDENT MOVED ON TO Q.51.)

Q.50 If you think we have overlooked a way of thinking about school choice that is important to your organization’s support please describe it briefly below and make sure to note how important it is: somewhat important, important or extremely important.¹³

Total Respondents..... 2

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4 OR “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.51 The following is one requirement often proposed for schools participating in a school choice program: *Participating schools must take students from a random lottery* which means that they aren’t allowed to use any admission criteria for accepting students. Does your organization support or oppose this requirement for private schools participating in a school choice program?

Strongly Opposed -3..... 19.1%
Opposed -2..... 23.6%
Somewhat Opposed -1..... 10.2%
No Preference 0..... 21.7%
Somewhat Supportive 1..... 10.2%
Supportive 2..... 7.6%
Strongly Supportive 3..... 7.6%
 Total Respondents..... 157

¹³ Respondents’ open-ended answers to these questions have not been categorized. For this reason, and in order to preserve the anonymity of the respondents, the open-ended remarks have not been reproduced in this study.

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4 OR “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q. 52 The following is one requirement often proposed for schools participating in a school choice program: *Participating schools aren’t allowed to make students who are supported by the school choice program participate in religious activities or education.* Does your organization support or oppose this requirement for private schools participating in a school choice program?

Strongly Opposed -3..... 22.3%
Opposed -2..... 22.9%
Somewhat Opposed -1..... 9.6%
No Preference 0..... 27.4%
Somewhat Supportive 1..... 6.4%
Supportive 2..... 5.1%
Strongly Supportive 3..... 6.4%
 Total Respondents 157

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4 OR “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.53 The following is one requirement often proposed for schools participating in a school choice program: *Participating schools must make students who are supported by the school choice program take state standardized academic achievement tests.* Does your organization support or oppose this requirement for private schools participating in a school choice program?

Strongly Opposed -3..... 12.1%
Opposed -2..... 14.6%
Somewhat Opposed -1..... 12.1%
No Preference 0..... 19.1%
Somewhat Supportive 1..... 15.9%
Supportive 2..... 15.9%
Strongly Supportive 3..... 10.2%
 Total Respondents..... 157

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4 OR “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.54 The following is one requirement often proposed for schools participating in a school choice program: *Participating schools must follow most of the rules and regulations that public schools have to follow.* Does your organization support or oppose this requirement for private schools participating in a school choice program?

Strongly Opposed -3..... 48.4%
Opposed -2..... 25.5%
Somewhat Opposed -1..... 11.5%
No Preference 0..... 8.3%
Somewhat Supportive 1..... 3.8%
Supportive 2..... 1.9%
Strongly Supportive 3..... 0.6%
 Total Respondents..... 157

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4 OR “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

How extensive does your organization think that voucher coverage should be? Please rank your organization’s level of opposition to or support for different degrees of voucher coverage from -3 strongly opposed to 3 strongly supportive. The voucher programs listed below start with the most targeted and end with a universal program.

		Strongly Opposed -3	Opposed -2	Somewhat Opposed -1	Neither 0	Somewhat Supportive 1	Supportive 2	Strongly Supportive 3	Total Respondents
Q.55	Vouchers that include <u>only</u> children in <u>low-income</u> families who attend consistently <u>failing schools</u> .	10.7%	9.3%	6.7%	14.7%	20.7%	17.3%	20.7%	150
Q.56	Vouchers that include <u>only</u> children in <u>all low-income</u> families.	9.3%	10.7%	4.7%	16.0%	17.3%	18.0%	24.0%	150
Q.57	Vouchers that include <u>only</u> children in low-income and middle class families.	10.7%	10.0%	4.0%	14.7%	17.3%	22.7%	20.7%	150
Q.58	Vouchers that include <u>only</u> children in low-income middle class <u>and upper-middle-class</u> families.	14.0%	9.3%	4.7%	16.7%	15.3%	23.3%	16.7%	150
Q.59	Vouchers that include <u>children in all families</u> regardless of family income.	8.0%	3.3%	1.3%	15.3%	12.0%	12.7%	47.3%	150
Total Respondents		150							

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4 OR “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.60 If you would like to comment please tell us why your organization supports or opposes these kinds of vouchers.

Total Respondents..... 86

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4 OR “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

How extensive does your organization think that education tax credit coverage should be? Please rank your organization’s level of opposition to or support for different degrees of education tax credit coverage from -3 *strongly opposed* to 3 *strongly supportive*. The education tax credit programs listed below start with the most targeted and end with a universal program. Questions regarding corporate/individual personal use/donation and refundable/nonrefundable follow below. Please answer this question in regard to education tax credits in general.

		Strongly Opposed -3	Opposed -2	Somewhat Opposed -1	Neither 0	Somewhat Supportive 1	Supportive 2	Strongly Supportive 3	Total Respondents
Q.61	Education tax credits that include <u>only</u> children in <u>low-income</u> families who attend consistently <u>failing</u> schools.	11.3%	9.3%	4.0%	16.0%	21.3%	19.3%	18.7%	150
Q.62	Education tax credits that include <u>only</u> children in <u>all low-income</u> families.	11.3%	8.7%	2.0%	16.0%	16.0%	21.3%	24.7%	150
Q.63	Education tax credits that include <u>only</u> children in low-income <u>and middle class</u> families.	10.7%	7.3%	4.0%	13.3%	17.3%	24.7%	22.7%	150
Q.64	Education tax credits that include <u>only</u> children in low-income middle class <u>and upper-middle-class</u> families.	11.3%	8.7%	5.3%	16.7%	12.7%	24.7%	20.7%	150
Q.65	Education tax credits that include <u>children in all families regardless of family income</u> .	5.3%	2.0%	3.3%	13.3%	8.7%	16.0%	51.3%	150
Total Respondents		150							

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4 OR “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

To which¹⁴ taxes does your organization think education tax credits should apply and for what purpose should they be used? Please rank your organization’s level of opposition to or support for the following types of education tax credits -3 *strongly opposed* to 3 *strongly supportive*.

		Strongly Opposed -3	Opposed -2	Somewhat Opposed -1	Neither 0	Somewhat Supportive 1	Supportive 2	Strongly Supportive 3	Total Respondents
Q.66	<u>Personal use state income</u> tax credits	3.3%	1.3%	0.7%	22.0%	10.7%	24.0%	38.0%	150
Q.67	<u>Personal use property tax</u> credits	2.7%	4.0%	3.3%	28.7%	12.0%	22.0%	27.3%	150
Q.68	<u>Personal use refundable state income</u> tax credits	4.0%	2.7%	2.0%	25.3%	12.0%	19.3%	34.7%	150
Q.69	<u>Personal use refundable property tax</u> credits	3.3%	4.0%	4.0%	30.7%	14.0%	18.7%	25.3%	150
Q.70	<u>Individual donation state income</u> tax credits	3.3%	2.0%	0.7%	26.0%	8.0%	20.0%	40.0%	150
Q.71	<u>Individual donation property tax</u> credits	2.7%	2.0%	1.3%	34.0%	12.0%	21.3%	26.7%	150
Q.72	<u>Corporate donation state income</u> tax credits	2.7%	0.7%	0.7%	26.0%	6.0%	22.7%	41.3%	150
Q.73	<u>Corporate donation property tax</u> credits	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	32.7%	11.3%	18.7%	31.3%	150
Total Respondents		150							

¹⁴ The original survey read “which.”

(ASKED OF RESPONDENT WHO SAID “YES” TO ORGANIZATION WORKS ON SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.4 OR “YES” TO ORGANIZATION PLANS ON GETTING INVOLVED IN SCHOOL CHOICE ISSUES IN Q.5.)

Q.74 If you would like to comment please tell us why your organization supports or opposes these kinds of education tax credits.¹⁵

Total Respondents..... 62

(ASKED OF ALL RESPONDENTS.)

In your opinion how much demand do you think there is for school choice reform among the following groups <u>in your own state?</u>							
		No Demand	Low Demand	Medium Demand	High Demand	(Don't Know)	Total Respondents
Q.75	The Public Overall	0.6%	40.0%	40.6%	9.1%	9.7%	175
Q.76	Low-Income Families	0.6%	20.0%	26.9%	44.0%	8.6%	175
Q.77	Middle-Class Families	0.6%	30.9%	39.4%	20.6%	8.6%	175
Q.78	Upper-Class Families	10.9%	46.9%	20.0%	13.1%	9.1%	175
Q.79	Minority Families	1.1%	17.7%	30.3%	39.4%	11.4%	175
Q.80	White Families	1.1%	34.9%	38.9%	13.7%	11.4%	175
Q.81	Parents with School-Aged Children	0.6%	17.1%	48.0%	24.6%	9.7%	175
Q.82	People without School-Aged Children	23.4%	49.7%	9.7%	2.3%	14.9%	175
Q.83	Teachers	37.7%	38.3%	8.6%	5.1%	10.3%	175
Total Respondents		175					

In your opinion how much demand do you think there is for school choice reform among the following groups <u>in general?</u>							
		No Demand	Low Demand	Medium Demand	High Demand	(Don't Know)	Total Respondents
Q.84	The Public Overall	1.1%	36.0%	48.0%	6.3%	8.6%	175
Q.85	Low-Income Families	0.0%	12.6%	37.1%	41.7%	8.6%	175
Q.86	Middle-Class Families	0.6%	28.6%	45.7%	17.1%	8.0%	175
Q.87	Upper-Class Families	11.4%	46.9%	24.6%	10.3%	6.9%	175
Q.88	Minority Families	0.0%	14.9%	33.1%	42.3%	9.7%	175
Q.89	White Families	1.1%	34.3%	45.1%	8.6%	10.9%	175
Q.90	Parents with School-Aged Children	0.6%	15.4%	50.9%	24.6%	8.6%	175
Q.91	People without School-Aged Children	24.0%	46.3%	15.4%	1.7%	12.6%	175
Q.92	Teachers	39.4%	39.4%	9.1%	4.0%	8.0%	175
Total Respondents		175					

¹⁵ Respondents' open-ended answers to these questions have not been categorized. For this reason, and in order to preserve the anonymity of the respondents, the open-ended remarks have not been reproduced in this study.

In your opinion how much opposition ¹⁶ to school choice reform do you think there is among the following groups <u>in your own state</u> ?							
		No Opposition	Low Opposition	Medium Opposition	High Opposition	(Don't Know)	Total Respondents
Q.93	The Public Overall	2.3%	37.1%	46.3%	3.4%	10.9%	175
Q.94	Low-Income Families	21.7%	53.7%	10.3%	2.9%	11.4%	175
Q.95	Middle-Class Families	5.1%	48.6%	32.0%	2.9%	11.4%	175
Q.96	Upper-Class Families	7.4%	37.1%	32.6%	10.3%	12.6%	175
Q.97	Minority Families	18.3%	55.4%	10.3%	3.4%	12.6%	175
Q.98	White Families	4.6%	42.9%	35.4%	2.3%	14.9%	175
Q.99	Parents with School-Aged Children	8.6%	58.3%	20.0%	1.1%	12.0%	175
Q.100	People without School-Aged Children	7.4%	36.6%	34.9%	6.9%	14.3%	175
Q.101	Teachers	1.1%	5.7%	15.4%	66.9%	10.9%	175
Total Respondents		175					

In your opinion how much opposition to school choice reform do you think there is among the following groups <u>in general</u> ?							
		No Opposition	Low Opposition	Medium Opposition	High Opposition	(Don't Know)	Total Respondents
Q.102	The Public Overall	2.9%	43.4%	40.6%	1.7%	11.4%	175
Q.103	Low-Income Families	20.0%	57.7%	10.3%	0.6%	11.4%	175
Q.104	Middle-Class Families	4.6%	49.7%	31.4%	2.3%	12.0%	175
Q.105	Upper-Class Families	5.7%	38.3%	33.7%	9.1%	13.1%	175
Q.106	Minority Families	17.7%	55.4%	11.4%	2.9%	12.6%	175
Q.107	White Families	4.0%	44.0%	34.9%	1.7%	15.4%	175
Q.108	Parents with School-Aged Children	7.4%	60.0%	20.0%	1.1%	11.4%	175
Q.109	People without School-Aged Children	5.7%	41.1%	30.3%	8.0%	14.9%	175
Q.110	Teachers	1.7%	4.0%	20.6%	62.9%	10.9%	175
Total Respondents		175					

¹⁶ The original survey read "opposition."

Q.111 In your opinion which school choice policy do you think is generally more popular with voters?

Vouchers 14.5%
 Education Tax Credits..... 53.5%
 Same 15.1%
 (Don't Know) 16.9%
 Total Respondents..... 172

Q.112 In your opinion which school choice policy do you think is more popular with voters in your own state?

Vouchers 15.7%
 Education Tax Credits..... 46.5%
 Same 16.3%
 (Don't Know) 21.5%
 Total Respondents..... 172

Q.113 In your opinion which school choice policy is more likely to be passed by state legislatures generally?

Vouchers 11.0%
 Education Tax Credits..... 65.7%
 Same 7.6%
 (Don't Know) 15.7%
 Total Respondents..... 172

Q.114 In your opinion which school choice policy is more likely to be passed¹⁷ by your own state legislature?

Vouchers 13.4%
 Education Tax Credits..... 58.7%
 Same 10.5%
 (Don't Know) 17.4%
 Total Respondents..... 172

Q.115 In your opinion which school choice policy is more likely to be challenged in state courts generally?

Vouchers 66.9%
 Education Tax Credits..... 3.5%
 Same 16.3%
 (Don't Know) 13.4%
 Total Respondents..... 172

Q.116 In your opinion which school choice policy is more likely to be challenged in your own state court?

Vouchers 56.4%
 Education Tax Credits..... 4.7%
 Same 25.6%
 (Don't Know) 13.4%
 Total Respondents..... 172

Q.117 In your opinion which school choice policy is more likely to survive a challenge in state courts generally?

Vouchers 5.2%
 Education Tax Credits..... 58.1%
 Same 15.1%
 (Don't Know) 21.5%
 Total Respondents..... 172

Q.118 In your opinion which school choice policy is more likely to survive a challenge in your own state court?

Vouchers 7.6%
 Education Tax Credits..... 53.5%
 Same 17.4%
 (Don't Know) 21.5%
 Total Respondents..... 172

How likely do you think it is that your state will pass school choice legislation this year? Please rank how likely you think it is that different kinds of school choice legislation will be passed in the current legislative session from “0-No Chance At All” to “4-Extremely¹⁸ Likely.”

		No Chance at All 0	Not Likely 1	Somewhat Likely 2	Likely 3	Extremely Likely 4	(Don't Know)	Total Respondents
Q.119	Charter School Legislation:	20.3%	27.3%	13.4%	11.6%	9.3%	18.0%	172
Q.120	Home School Legislation:	26.2%	27.3%	7.0%	6.4%	7.6%	25.6%	172
Q.121	Education Tax Credit Legislation:	28.5%	31.4%	14.0%	5.8%	3.5%	16.9%	172
Q.122	Voucher Legislation:	48.3%	25.0%	4.7%	4.7%	4.1%	13.4%	172
Q.123	Public School Choice Legislation:	23.8%	29.1%	18.6%	5.2%	5.2%	18.0%	172
Total Respondents		172						

¹⁷ The original survey did not underline the phrase “more likely to be passed.”

¹⁸ The original survey read “4-Very Likely.”

Q.124 In general what do you think are the three most important reasons that there aren't more and larger school choice programs?¹⁹

Total Respondents..... 144

Q.125 In general what do you think are the three most important things the school choice movement can do in order to secure more and larger school choice programs?¹⁹

Total Respondents..... 140

Q.126 If you would like to say more we welcome your thoughts. Please fill in any important topics that you think we missed in the survey or write a general assessment of vouchers, tax credits, school choice policy, school choice politics or any other related topic.¹⁹

Total Respondents..... 58

Q.127 Please pick the term that best describes your organization.

State Policy Organization 29.3%
 National Policy Organization 15.0%
 State Advocacy Organization 25.7%
 National Advocacy Organization 6.0%
 Scholarship Organization 3.0%
 Other (please specify)¹⁹ 21.0%
 Total Respondents..... 167

Q.128 In what state is your organization based?

Alabama	1.8%	Montana	0.6%
Alaska	1.2%	Nebraska	0.0%
Arizona	2.4%	Nevada	0.0%
Arkansas	0.0%	New Hampshire	1.2%
California	3.0%	New Jersey	1.8%
Colorado	1.8%	New Mexico	1.2%
Connecticut	1.2%	New York	3.0%
Delaware	0.6%	North Carolina	3.0%
District of Columbia	15.6%	North Dakota	0.0%
Florida	1.8%	Ohio	1.8%
Georgia	2.4%	Oklahoma	0.6%
Hawaii	1.2%	Oregon	3.0%
Idaho	1.2%	Pennsylvania	0.6%
Illinois	3.6%	Rhode Island	0.0%
Indiana	2.4%	South Carolina	1.8%
Iowa	1.2%	South Dakota	0.6%
Kansas	1.8%	Tennessee	0.6%
Kentucky	1.8%	Texas	0.6%
Louisiana	1.2%	Utah	1.2%
Maine	2.4%	Vermont	0.6%
Maryland	3.0%	Virginia	6.6%
Massachusetts	2.4%	Washington	2.4%
Michigan	4.8%	West Virginia	0.0%
Minnesota	3.0%	Wisconsin	1.8%
Mississippi	1.2%	Wyoming	0.6%
Missouri	3.6%		
Total Respondents..... 167			

Q.129 In how many states is your organization active?

1	62.3%	26	0.0%
2	4.2%	27	0.0%
3	3.6%	28	0.6%
4	1.2%	29	0.0%
5	2.4%	30	0.0%
6	0.0%	31	0.0%
7	0.6%	32	0.0%
8	0.0%	33	0.0%
9	0.0%	34	0.0%
10	1.2%	35	1.8%
11	0.0%	36	0.0%
12	1.8%	37	0.0%
13	0.0%	38	0.0%
14	0.6%	39	0.0%
15	0.0%	40	0.6%
16	0.0%	41	0.6%
17	0.0%	42	0.6%
18	0.0%	43	0.0%
19	0.6%	44	0.6%
20	0.6%	45	0.0%
21	0.0%	46	0.0%
22	0.0%	47	0.0%
23	0.0%	48	0.6%
24	0.0%	49	0.0%
25	1.8%	50	13.8%
Total Respondents..... 167			

Q.130 Which of the following best describes the focus of your organization?

Economic Issues (General) 14.4%
 Economic Issues (Regulation) 1.2%
 Economic Issues (Tax/Spending) 6.6%
 Education Reform (General) 9.0%
 Education Reform (School Choice) 22.8%
 Social Issues (General) 4.8%
 Social Issues (Abortion) 0.0%
 Social Issues (Family and Marriage) 1.8%
 Social Issues (Religion and Civil Society) 1.2%
 No Primary Focus/Broad-Based Issue Agenda 15.6%
 Other (please specify)¹⁹ 22.8%
 Total Respondents..... 167

Q.131 Please provide a brief description of your organization's primary goals and activities.¹⁹

Total Respondents..... 138

¹⁹ Respondents' open-ended answers to these questions have not been categorized. For this reason, and in order to preserve the anonymity of the respondents, the open-ended remarks have not been reproduced in this study.

Q.132 How old is your organization in years?

One year or less	1.2%	26	0.0%
1	1.8%	27	0.6%
2	4.2%	28	0.0%
3	3.0%	29	0.6%
4	2.4%	30	1.8%
5	4.2%	31	0.0%
6	5.4%	32	0.6%
7	2.4%	33	1.2%
8	3.6%	34	0.0%
9	3.0%	35	1.8%
10	7.8%	36	1.2%
11	1.8%	37	1.2%
12	4.2%	38	0.0%
13	5.4%	39	1.2%
14	3.0%	40	0.0%
15	8.4%	41	0.0%
16	4.8%	42	0.0%
17	3.6%	43	1.2%
18	0.6%	44	0.0%
19	0.6%	45	0.6%
20	4.2%	46	0.0%
21	0.6%	47	0.0%
22	2.4%	48	0.0%
23	2.4%	49	0.0%
24	1.8%	50	0.0%
25	1.2%	More than 50	4.2%
Total Respondents.....			167

Q.133 How would you describe the political or ideological orientation of your organization?²⁰

Total Respondents..... 167

Q.134 Please pick the term that best describes your organization's orientation on economic issues.

Free-Market (General).....	49.1%
Free-Market (Libertarian).....	19.8%
Liberal (General "left-wing" common modern usage).....	1.8%
Liberal (Progressive "left-wing" common modern usage).....	0.6%
No Orientation.....	25.1%
Other (please specify) ²⁰	3.6%
Total Respondents.....	167

Q.135 Please pick the term that best describes your organization's orientation on social issues.

Conservative (Traditionalist and Religious).....	25.7%
Conservative (Traditionalist not necessarily Religious).....	15.0%
Conservative (Traditionalist and Secular).....	4.8%
Liberal (Libertarian usage).....	8.4%
Liberal (General "left-wing" common modern usage).....	0.6%
Liberal (Progressive "left-wing" common modern usage).....	0.0%
No Orientation.....	38.9%
Other (please specify) ²⁰	6.6%
Total Respondents.....	167

²⁰ Respondents' open-ended answers to these questions have not been categorized. For this reason, and in order to preserve the anonymity of the respondents, the open-ended remarks have not been reproduced in this study.

Q.136 Is your organization affiliated with or oriented toward a particular religion? Please pick the denomination with which your organization is affiliated from the drop-down list below. There is the option to choose "No Religious Affiliation" or "Other" and a write-in line if you don't see yours.

No Religious Affiliation.....	82.6%
Amish.....	0.0%
Assembly of God.....	0.6%
Baha'i.....	0.0%
Baptist.....	0.0%
Brethren.....	0.0%
Calvinist.....	0.0%
Christian (non-denominational).....	4.8%
Church of Christ.....	0.0%
Church of God.....	0.6%
Episcopal.....	0.0%
Friends.....	0.0%
Greek Orthodox.....	0.0%
Reform Jewish.....	0.0%
Conservative Jewish.....	0.0%
Orthodox Jewish.....	0.0%
Latter Day Saints.....	0.0%
Lutheran.....	0.0%
Methodist.....	0.0%
Pentecostal.....	0.0%
Presbyterian.....	0.0%
Roman Catholic.....	6.0%
Seventh-Day Adventist.....	0.0%
Sunni Muslim.....	0.0%
Shii'a Muslim.....	0.0%
Sufi Muslim.....	0.0%
Other (please specify) ²⁰	5.4%
Total Respondents.....	167

Q.137 Approximately what is your organization's yearly budget?

Less than \$50,000.....	15.0%
\$50,000-\$100,000.....	9.0%
\$100,000-\$250,000.....	12.6%
\$250,000-\$500,000.....	15.6%
\$500,000-\$1,000,000.....	15.6%
\$1,000,000-\$5,000,000.....	23.4%
\$5,000,000-\$10,000,000.....	6.0%
\$10,000,000-\$20,000,000.....	1.2%
More than \$20,000,000.....	1.8%
Total Respondents.....	167

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Appendix: Cross-Tabulations

Q. 25-28: How important is this way of thinking about school choice to your organization's support of the policy?

Frame ²⁰	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	Always/Often minus Never/Sometimes
	ALL ORGANIZATION				
Competition	3.7%	17.1%	34.8%	44.5%	58.5%
Equity	4.9%	15.9%	36.6%	42.7%	58.5%
Financial	18.9%	34.8%	26.8%	19.5%	-7.3%
Moral Values	29.3%	39.6%	15.2%	15.9%	-37.8%

	SOCIAL ISSUES ORIENTATION: CONSERVATIVE (TRADITIONALIST & RELIGIOUS)				
Competition	10.3%	23.1%	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
Equity	7.7%	12.8%	33.3%	46.2%	59.0%
Financial	25.6%	30.8%	20.5%	23.1%	-12.8%
Moral Values	15.4%	35.9%	23.1%	25.6%	-2.6%
	SOCIAL ISSUES ORIENTATION: CONSERVATIVE (TRADITIONALIST NOT NECESSARILY RELIGIOUS)				
Competition	4.6%	9.1%	45.5%	40.9%	72.7%
Equity	9.1%	13.6%	45.5%	31.8%	54.5%
Financial	4.6%	36.4%	45.5%	13.6%	18.2%
Moral Values	9.1%	54.6%	27.3%	9.1%	-27.3%
	SOCIAL ISSUES ORIENTATION: CONSERVATIVE (TRADITIONALIST & SECULAR)				
Competition	0.0%	0.0%	28.6%	71.4%	100.0%
Equity	0.0%	14.3%	57.1%	28.6%	71.4%
Financial	0.0%	14.3%	42.9%	42.9%	71.4%
Moral Values	57.1%	42.9%	0.0%	0.0%	-100.0%
	SOCIAL ISSUES ORIENTATION: LIBERAL (LIBERTARIAN USAGE)				
Competition	0.0%	8.3%	33.3%	58.3%	83.3%
Equity	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
Financial	0.0%	58.3%	33.3%	8.3%	-16.7%
Moral Values	16.7%	58.3%	0.0%	25.0%	-50.0%
	SOCIAL ISSUES ORIENTATION: NO ORIENTATION				
Competition	1.8%	16.1%	30.4%	51.8%	64.3%
Equity	1.8%	17.9%	33.9%	46.4%	60.7%
Financial	21.4%	37.5%	23.2%	17.9%	-17.9%
Moral Values	42.9%	37.5%	12.5%	7.1%	-60.7%

²⁰ The frames are presented here with one-word summaries. For the full formulation, see the survey results.

Frame ²¹	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	Always/Often minus Never/Sometimes
ECONOMIC ISSUES ORIENTATION: GENERAL FREE MARKET					
Competition	4.4%	8.7%	40.6%	46.4%	73.9%
Equity	2.9%	21.7%	43.5%	31.9%	50.7%
Financial	10.1%	29.0%	37.7%	23.2%	21.7%
Moral Values	18.8%	40.6%	24.6%	15.9%	-18.8%
ECONOMIC ISSUES ORIENTATION: LIBERTARIAN					
Competition	3.7%	14.8%	18.5%	63.0%	63.0%
Equity	3.7%	3.7%	40.7%	51.9%	85.2%
Financial	11.1%	37.0%	25.9%	25.9%	3.7%
Moral Values	29.6%	44.4%	3.7%	22.2%	-48.2%
ECONOMIC ISSUES ORIENTATION: NO ORIENTATION					
Competition	5.4%	27.0%	29.7%	37.8%	35.1%
Equity	8.1%	8.1%	27.0%	56.8%	67.6%
Financial	32.4%	46.0%	13.5%	8.1%	-56.8%
Moral Values	46.0%	37.8%	10.8%	54.1%	-18.9%

Q. 55-59, Q. 61-65: How extensive does your organization think voucher and education tax credit coverage should be?

All Organizations

All Organizations	VOUCHERS	Low Income & Failing Schools ²¹	Low Income ²¹	Low Income & Middle Class ²¹	Low Income through Upper Middle Class ²¹	All Families ²¹	Low Income minus All Families
	Support	58.7%	59.3%	61.0%	55.3%	72.0%	-12.7%
Oppose	26.7%	25.0%	24.7%	28.0%	12.7%	12.3%	
Neutral	14.7%	16.0%	14.7%	16.7%	15.3%	0.7%	
ETCs							
Support	59.3%	62.0%	65.0%	58.0%	76.0%	-14.0%	
Oppose	24.7%	22.0%	22.0%	25.3%	10.7%	11.3%	
Neutral	16.0%	16.0%	13.3%	16.7%	13.3%	2.7%	

Vouchers by Organization's Yearly Budget

BUDGET	VOUCHERS	Low Income & Failing Schools ²¹	Low Income ²¹	Low Income & Middle Class ²¹	Low Income through Upper Middle Class ²¹	All Families ²¹	Low Income minus All Families
> \$1 Million	Support	68.0%	63.6%	63.6%	56.8%	66.0%	-2.4%
	Oppose	18.0%	22.7%	25.0%	29.5%	13.6%	9.1%
	Neutral	13.6%	13.6%	11.4%	13.6%	20.0%	-6.4%
< \$1 Million	Support	55.0%	57.6%	60.6%	55.6%	74.7%	-17.2%
	Oppose	30.0%	25.3%	24.2%	27.3%	13.1%	12.1%
	Neutral	15.2%	17.2%	15.2%	17.2%	12.0%	5.2%

²¹ The response categories are presented here with short summaries. For the full formulation, see the survey results.

How extensive does your organization think voucher and education tax credit coverage should be? (cont.)

ETCs by Organization's Yearly Budget

BUDGET	ETCs	Low Income & Failing Schools ²²	Low Income ²²	Low Income & Middle Class ²²	Low Income through Upper Middle Class ²²	All Families ²²	Low Income minus All Families
> \$1 Million	Support	63.6%	63.6%	63.6%	61.4%	68.0%	-4.4%
	Oppose	16.0%	18.2%	20.5%	22.7%	13.6%	4.5%
	Neutral	20.5%	18.2%	15.9%	15.9%	18.2%	0.0%
< \$1 Million	Support	57.6%	61.6%	65.7%	56.6%	79.0%	-17.4%
	Oppose	28.0%	23.2%	22.2%	26.3%	10.1%	13.1%
	Neutral	14.1%	15.2%	12.1%	17.2%	11.1%	4.0%

Vouchers by National or State Organization

NATIONAL OR STATE ORGANIZATION	VOUCHERS	Low Income & Failing Schools ²²	Low Income ²²	Low Income & Middle Class ²²	Low Income through Upper Middle Class ²²	All Families ²²	Low Income minus All Families
National	Support	56.4%	56.4%	53.8%	51.3%	66.7%	-10.3%
	Oppose	25.6%	28.2%	30.8%	33.3%	15.4%	12.8%
	Neutral	17.9%	15.4%	15.4%	15.4%	17.9%	-2.6%
State	Support	60.0%	61.1%	65.3%	58.9%	76.8%	-15.8%
	Oppose	28.4%	24.2%	23.2%	27.4%	12.6%	11.6%
	Neutral	11.6%	14.7%	11.6%	13.7%	10.5%	4.2%

ETCs by National or State Organization

NATIONAL OR STATE ORGANIZATION	ETC ²²	Low Income & Failing Schools ²²	Low Income ²²	Low Income & Middle Class ²²	Low Income through Upper Middle Class ²²	All Families ²²	Low Income minus All Families
National	Support	53.8%	56.4%	56.4%	49.0%	67.0%	-10.6%
	Oppose	25.6%	25.6%	28.2%	30.8%	15.4%	10.3%
	Neutral	20.5%	17.9%	15.4%	20.5%	18.0%	-0.1%
State	Support	62.1%	64.2%	68.4%	63.0%	82.0%	-17.8%
	Oppose	25.3%	21.1%	20.0%	24.2%	9.5%	11.6%
	Neutral	12.6%	14.7%	11.6%	12.6%	8.0%	6.7%

²² The response categories are presented here with short summaries. For the full formulation, see the survey results.

How extensive does your organization think voucher and education tax credit coverage should be? (cont.)

Vouchers by Social Issue Orientation

SOCIAL ISSUE ORIENTATION	VOUCHERS	Low Income & Failing Schools ²³	Low Income ²³	Low Income & Middle Class ²³	Low Income through Upper Middle Class ²³	All Families ²³	Low Income minus All Families
Conservative (Traditionalist & Religious)	Support	55.0%	50.0%	55.0%	47.5%	72.5%	-22.5%
	Oppose	35.0%	30.0%	32.5%	37.5%	17.5%	12.5%
	Neutral	10.0%	20.0%	12.5%	15.0%	10.0%	10.0%
Conservative (Traditionalist & Not Necessarily Religious)	Support	65.2%	65.2%	60.9%	52.2%	73.9%	-8.7%
	Oppose	17.4%	17.4%	17.4%	21.7%	8.7%	8.7%
	Neutral	17.4%	17.4%	21.7%	26.1%	17.4%	0.0%
Conservative (Traditionalist & Secular)	Support	57.1%	71.4%	71.4%	57.1%	100.0%	-28.6%
	Oppose	28.6%	28.6%	28.6%	42.9%	0.0%	28.6%
	Neutral	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Liberal (Libertarian Usage)	Support	69.2%	61.5%	53.8%	61.5%	84.6%	-23.1%
	Oppose	30.8%	38.5%	38.5%	23.1%	7.7%	30.8%
	Neutral	0.0%	0.0%	7.7%	15.4%	7.7%	-7.7%
No Orientation	Support	56.9%	62.1%	67.2%	62.1%	65.5%	-3.4%
	Oppose	24.1%	19.0%	17.2%	22.4%	13.8%	5.2%
	Neutral	19.0%	19.0%	15.5%	15.5%	20.7%	-1.7%

²³ The response categories are presented here with short summaries. For the full formulation, see the survey results.

How extensive does your organization think voucher and education tax credit coverage should be? (cont.)

ETCs by Social Issue Orientation

SOCIAL ISSUE ORIENTATION	ETCs	Low Income & Failing Schools ²⁴	Low Income ²⁴	Low Income & Middle Class ²⁴	Low Income through Upper Middle Class ²⁴	All Families ²⁴	Low Income minus All Families
Conservative (Traditionalist & Religious)	Support	62.5%	65.0%	67.5%	57.5%	80.0%	-15.0%
	Oppose	30.0%	22.5%	25.0%	32.5%	15.0%	7.5%
	Neutral	7.5%	12.5%	7.5%	10.0%	5.0%	7.5%
Conservative (Traditionalist not Necessarily Religious)	Support	73.9%	69.6%	69.6%	52.2%	78.3%	-8.7%
	Oppose	17.4%	17.4%	17.4%	21.7%	8.7%	8.7%
	Neutral	8.7%	13.0%	13.0%	26.1%	13.0%	0.0%
Conservative (Traditionalist & Secular)	Support	57.1%	71.4%	71.4%	71.4%	100.0%	-28.6%
	Oppose	28.6%	28.6%	28.6%	28.6%	0.0%	28.6%
	Neutral	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Liberal (Libertarian Usage)	Support	61.5%	53.8%	46.2%	46.2%	92.3%	-38.5%
	Oppose	38.5%	46.2%	46.2%	46.2%	7.7%	38.5%
	Neutral	0.0%	0.0%	7.7%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%
No Orientation	Support	51.7%	58.6%	65.5%	62.1%	65.5%	-6.9%
	Oppose	19.0%	15.5%	13.8%	15.5%	10.3%	5.2%
	Neutral	29.3%	25.9%	20.7%	22.4%	24.1%	1.7%

Vouchers by Economic Issue Orientation

ECONOMIC ISSUE ORIENTATION	VOUCHERS	Low Income & Failing Schools ²⁴	Low Income ²⁴	Low Income & Middle Class ²⁴	Low Income through Upper Middle Class ²⁴	All Families ²⁴	Low Income minus All Families
Free-Market (General)	Support	59.7%	56.9%	59.7%	58.3%	81.9%	-25.0%
	Oppose	29.2%	26.4%	27.8%	25.0%	6.9%	19.4%
	Neutral	11.1%	16.7%	12.5%	16.7%	11.1%	5.6%
Free-Market (Libertarian)	Support	58.6%	62.1%	58.6%	51.7%	86.2%	-24.1%
	Oppose	31.0%	34.5%	34.5%	37.9%	10.3%	24.1%
	Neutral	10.3%	3.4%	6.9%	10.3%	3.4%	0.0%
No Orientation	Support	56.8%	62.2%	67.6%	54.1%	43.2%	18.9%
	Oppose	18.9%	10.8%	8.1%	24.3%	24.3%	-13.5%
	Neutral	24.3%	27.0%	24.3%	21.6%	32.4%	-5.4%

²⁴ The response categories are presented here with short summaries. For the full formulation, see the survey results.

How extensive does your organization think voucher and education tax credit coverage should be? (cont.)

ETCs by Economic Issue Orientation

ECONOMIC ISSUE ORIENTATION	ETCs	Low Income & Failing Schools²⁵	Low Income²⁵	Low Income & Middle Class²⁵	Low Income through Upper Middle Class²⁵	All Families²⁵	Low Income minus All Families
Free-Market (General)	Support	66.7%	63.9%	68.1%	62.5%	84.7%	-20.8%
	Oppose	23.6%	20.8%	22.2%	22.2%	4.2%	16.7%
	Neutral	9.7%	15.3%	9.7%	15.3%	11.1%	4.2%
Free-Market (Libertarian)	Support	51.7%	58.6%	58.6%	48.3%	89.7%	-31.0%
	Oppose	37.9%	37.9%	37.9%	41.4%	6.9%	31.0%
	Neutral	10.3%	3.4%	3.4%	10.3%	3.4%	0.0%
No Orientation	Support	51.4%	62.2%	64.9%	56.8%	48.6%	13.5%
	Oppose	13.5%	8.1%	5.4%	16.2%	24.3%	-16.2%
	Neutral	35.1%	29.7%	29.7%	27.0%	27.0%	2.7%

²⁵ The response categories are presented here with short summaries. For the full formulation, see the survey results.

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