



EDUCATIONNC SURVEY RESULTS

(In some cases, percentage totals are greater than 100% due to rounding.)

I. DEMOGRAPHIC / GENERAL INFORMATION QUESTIONS

AGE (RESPONSE RATE: 97%, N = 1305)

	%	n
Under 18	3%	38
18-24	12%	157
25-34	24%	302
35-44	21%	263
45-54	21%	262
55-64	15%	184
65+	5%	66

GENDER (RESPONSE RATE: 99%, N = 1305)

	%	n
Female	70%	904
Male	29%	381
Other	less than 1%	5
Prefer not to identify	less than 1%	6



RESPONDENT IDENTIFIES AS: (RESPONSE RATE: 100%, N = 1305)

	%	n
American Indian/Alaska Native	2%	20
Asian	2%	25
Black/African-American	11%	147
Caucasian/White	77%	1004
Hispanic/Latino	2%	30
Multiracial	2%	27
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	less than 1%	5
Other	1%	14
Prefer not to identify	2%	28

RESPONDENT'S HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT: (RESPONSE RATE: 100%, N = 1305)

	%	n
Elementary, middle, or high school, but no diploma/GED	3%	39
High school diploma/GED	6%	80
Some college credit, no degree	10%	127
Postsecondary certificate (i.e., from a community college/technical college)	3%	33
Associates degree (AA, AS, etc.)	5%	67
Bachelors degree (BA, BS, etc.)	36%	467
Masters degree (MA, MS, MBA, etc.)	31%	404
Doctorate degree (Ph.D., Ed.D., etc.)	3%	43
Professional degree (JD, MD, DDS, etc.)	3%	40

DID RESPONDENT REACH HER/HIS DESIRED LEVEL OF EDUCATION? (RESPONSE RATE: 99%, N = 1305)

	%	n
Yes	61%	779
No	39%	507

(If respondent answered "no" to the above question)

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING FACTORS AFFECTED YOUR DECISION REGARDING WHEN TO END YOUR FORMAL SCHOOLING? (CHOOSE ALL THAT APPLY) (N = 507)

	n
Too expensive to continue	190
Still in school/currently enrolled in a program	146
Wanted to work	71
Did not think benefits were worth the cost	65
Needed to earn extra money	63
Other	59
Child care responsibilities	52
Supported or cared for parents/siblings/extended family	27
Was not admitted to program(s) of choice	11
Was not interested in continuing education	9



LENGTH OF TIME RESPONDENTS HAVE LIVED IN THEIR COUNTY. INCLUDES ALL YEARS OF RESIDENCY, EVEN IF RESPONDENT LEFT AND RETURNED. (RESPONSE RATE: 100%, N = 1305)

	%	n
Less than a year	4%	46
1-5 years	21%	267
6-10 years	14%	179
11-15 years	14%	185
16-20 years	15%	192
21+ years	33%	432

RESPONDENTS WHO LIVE WITHIN 50 MILES OF WHERE THEY ATTENDED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. (RESPONSE RATE: 99%, N = 1305)

	%	n
Yes	38%	492
No	62%	800

(If respondent answered "yes" to the above question)

THINKING ABOUT YOUR FAMILY WHEN YOU WERE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HOW WOULD YOU SAY YOUR FAMILY MANAGED FINANCIALLY AT THE TIME? (RESPONSE RATE: 98%, N = 492)

	%	n
We lived comfortably	31%	151
We did okay	39%	189
We were just getting by	20%	96
We found it difficult to get by	9%	44
No opinion	less than 1%	2

RESPONDENT'S EMPLOYMENT STATUS: (RESPONSE RATE: 99%, N = 1305)

	%	n
Employed, full-time	69%	894
Employed, on a contract basis	3%	33
Employed, part-time	11%	139
Not employed, looking for work	4%	55
Not employed, not looking for work	5%	71
Other	8%	105

YOU MAY HAVE MANY ROLES IN YOUR COMMUNITY, BUT FOR THIS SURVEY, WE WOULD LIKE FOR YOU TO ANSWER QUESTIONS WITH ONLY ONE ROLE IN MIND. PLEASE CHOOSE A PERSPECTIVE BELOW THAT BEST REFLECTS THE ROLE YOU WILL HAVE IN MIND AS YOU ANSWER: (RESPONSE RATE: 100%, N = 1305)

	%	n
Business Owner/Employer	4%	49
Current Student	10%	124
Educator	46%	602
Employee (Private Sector)	16%	211
Employee (Social Service)	5%	60
Parent	12%	156
Other	8%	100



II. MYFUTURENC QUESTIONS

(Responses disaggregated by respondent role)

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING BEST DESCRIBES HOW WELL YOU ARE MANAGING FINANCIALLY THESE DAYS? (RESPONSE RATE: 98%, N = 1305)

	Living Comfortably	Doing okay	Just getting by	No opinion	n
Business owner/employer	50%	26%	15%	0%	46
Current Student	28%	35%	17%	5%	121
Educator	19%	43%	27%	less than 1%	595
Employee (Private Sector)	25%	46%	20%	1%	210
Employee (Social Service)	43%	40%	16%	0%	58
Parent	33%	36%	20%	0%	154
Other	31%	39%	17%	1%	99

PLEASE RATE THE QUALITY OF THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR COMMUNITY:

... COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP (RESPONSE RATE: 91%, N = 1305)

	A strength in my community	An area in need of improvement in my community	Neither a strength nor an area for improvement
Business owner/employer	25%	61%	14%
Current Student	32%	45%	24%
Educator	29%	51%	20%
Employee (Private Sector)	31%	46%	23%
Employee (Social Service)	24%	65%	13%
Parent	31%	50%	20%
Other	21%	61%	18%

... SCHOOLS (RESPONSE RATE: 91%, N = 1305)

	A strength in my community	An area in need of improvement in my community	Neither a strength nor an area for improvement
Business owner/employer	30%	58%	12%
Current Student	30%	64%	6%
Educator	35%	59%	6%
Employee (Private Sector)	33%	56%	11%
Employee (Social Service)	28%	65%	9%
Parent	28%	68%	4%
Other	29%	63%	8%

... PUBLIC SAFETY (RESPONSE RATE: 91%, N = 1305)

	A strength in my community	An area in need of improvement in my community	Neither a strength nor an area for improvement
Business owner/employer	65%	26%	9%
Current Student	45%	38%	17%
Educator	47%	38%	15%
Employee (Private Sector)	49%	37%	14%
Employee (Social Service)	52%	41%	9%
Parent	45%	42%	13%
Other	43%	44%	13%



... HEALTH CARE (RESPONSE RATE: 91%, N = 1305)

	A strength in my community	An area in need of improvement in my community	Neither a strength nor an area for improvement
Business owner/employer	32%	48%	20%
Current Student	40%	43%	18%
Educator	37%	50%	13%
Employee (Private Sector)	41%	42%	19%
Employee (Social Service)	41%	44%	17%
Parent	37%	49%	14%
Other	45%	48%	7%

... HOUSING (RESPONSE RATE: 91%, N = 1305)

	A strength in my community	An area in need of improvement in my community	Neither a strength nor an area for improvement
Business owner/employer	28%	60%	12%
Current Student	48%	42%	11%
Educator	27%	55%	18%
Employee (Private Sector)	32%	54%	16%
Employee (Social Service)	35%	56%	11%
Parent	30%	54%	16%
Other	29%	58%	12%

... PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION (RESPONSE RATE: 91%, N = 1305)

	A strength in my community	An area in need of improvement in my community	Neither a strength nor an area for improvement
Business owner/employer	9%	55%	36%
Current Student	31%	58%	11%
Educator	13%	67%	20%
Employee (Private Sector)	16%	66%	19%
Employee (Social Service)	15%	80%	7%
Parent	13%	73%	15%
Other	8%	76%	18%

PLEASE RATE YOUR GENERAL OPINION OF THE ...

... AVAILABILITY OF LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES. (RESPONSE RATE: 91%, N = 1305)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	No opinion	n
Business owner/employer	7%	21%	47%	5%	44
Current Student	9%	38%	31%	11%	104
Educator	4%	34%	39%	4%	560
Employee (Private Sector)	11%	35%	32%	1%	190
Employee (Social Service)	7%	41%	32%	4%	55
Parent	8%	29%	34%	4%	144
Other	8%	24%	37%	7%	91



... QUALITY OF LOCAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES. (RESPONSE RATE: 91%, N = 1305)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	No opinion	n
Business owner/employer	9%	21%	40%	2%	43
Current Student	7%	41%	30%	11%	105
Educator	5%	37%	37%	3%	561
Employee (Private Sector)	12%	40%	27%	1%	190
Employee (Social Service)	6%	41%	33%	2%	54
Parent	8%	31%	32%	3%	145
Other	9%	27%	31%	6%	90

IN YOUR COMMUNITY/REGION, HOW MANY JOB OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE WITH ...

... HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS/GEDS. (RESPONSE RATE: 86%, N = 1305)

	Many opportunities	Some opportunities	Few/no opportunities
Business owner/employer	19%	58%	23%
Current Student	35%	45%	19%
Educator	22%	58%	20%
Employee (Private Sector)	24%	56%	22%
Employee (Social Service)	37%	48%	17%
Parent	20%	60%	20%
Other	18%	55%	25%

... JOB-SPECIFIC TRAINING. (RESPONSE RATE: 86%, N = 1305)

	Many opportunities	Some opportunities	Few/no opportunities
Business owner/employer	26%	54%	21%
Current Student	20%	69%	12%
Educator	22%	68%	10%
Employee (Private Sector)	26%	67%	9%
Employee (Social Service)	27%	62%	14%
Parent	23%	67%	11%
Other	28%	61%	12%

... 2-YEAR DEGREES. (RESPONSE RATE: 87%, N = 1305)

	Many opportunities	Some opportunities	Few/no opportunities
Business owner/employer	30%	51%	19%
Current Student	20%	68%	11%
Educator	24%	70%	6%
Employee (Private Sector)	21%	71%	10%
Employee (Social Service)	33%	56%	14%
Parent	20%	67%	13%
Other	21%	67%	12%



... 4-YEAR DEGREES. (RESPONSE RATE: 86%, N = 1305)

	Many opportunities	Some opportunities	Few/no opportunities
Business owner/employer	35%	42%	23%
Current Student	46%	39%	13%
Educator	23%	61%	16%
Employee (Private Sector)	38%	43%	19%
Employee (Social Service)	39%	50%	14%
Parent	29%	48%	23%
Other	25%	52%	23%

PLEASE RATE THE SCHOOLS IN YOUR COMMUNITY. (RESPONSE RATE: 91%, N = 1305)

	A strength in my community	An area in need of improvement in my community	Neither a strength nor an area for improvement
Business owner/employer	30%	58%	12%
Current Student	30%	64%	6%
Educator	35%	59%	6%
Employee (Private Sector)	33%	56%	11%
Employee (Social Service)	28%	65%	9%
Parent	28%	68%	4%
Other	29%	63%	8%

PLEASE RATE THESE ASPECTS OF PRESCHOOL OPTIONS (PUBLIC AND PRIVATE) IN YOUR AREA:

... AFFORDABILITY (RESPONSE RATE: 90%, N = 1305)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	No opinion	n
Business owner/employer	7%	26%	31%	19%	43
Current Student	3%	28%	23%	35%	101
Educator	5%	23%	32%	22%	551
Employee (Private Sector)	5%	19%	22%	36%	187
Employee (Social Service)	6%	28%	26%	28%	55
Parent	8%	17%	39%	18%	142
Other	2%	16%	31%	38%	91

... AVAILABILITY (RESPONSE RATE: 90%, N = 1305)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	No opinion	n
Business owner/employer	7%	26%	31%	19%	42
Current Student	9%	36%	18%	32%	101
Educator	10%	36%	28%	18%	557
Employee (Private Sector)	9%	26%	19%	39%	188
Employee (Social Service)	7%	32%	24%	28%	55
Parent	9%	34%	32%	14%	142
Other	3%	31%	18%	34%	92

... QUALITY (RESPONSE RATE: 90%, N = 1305)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	No opinion	n
Business owner/employer	10%	33%	24%	21%	42
Current Student	10%	34%	19%	32%	101
Educator	10%	44%	23%	19%	552
Employee (Private Sector)	10%	26%	22%	38%	187
Employee (Social Service)	7%	43%	20%	30%	55
Parent	11%	40%	26%	16%	142
Other	4%	36%	22%	36%	91



PLEASE RATE THESE ASPECTS OF THE PUBLIC K-12 EDUCATION SYSTEM IN YOUR COMMUNITY:

... ADEQUACY OF SCHOOL FACILITIES (RESPONSE RATE: 90%, N = 1305)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	No opinion	n
Business owner/employer	10%	48%	14%	12%	42
Current Student	13%	27%	30%	7%	109
Educator	7%	41%	36%	2%	551
Employee (Private Sector)	12%	32%	29%	15%	187
Employee (Social Service)	4%	43%	23%	19%	54
Parent	9%	39%	32%	3%	142
Other	3%	33%	41%	10%	90

... QUALITY OF TEACHING STAFF (RESPONSE RATE: 91%, N = 1305)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	No opinion	n
Business owner/employer	12%	36%	26%	14%	42
Current Student	16%	38%	31%	7%	101
Educator	23%	53%	19%	4%	551
Employee (Private Sector)	17%	32%	26%	18%	185
Employee (Social Service)	9%	40%	21%	25%	74
Parent	13%	42%	28%	5%	141
Other	13%	42%	26%	12%	90

... DIVERSITY OF SCHOOL OPTIONS (FOR EXAMPLE, MAGNET SCHOOLS, SPECIAL PROGRAMS, ETC.) (RESPONSE RATE: 90%, N = 1305)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	No opinion	n
Business owner/employer	5%	38%	19%	14%	52
Current Student	15%	32%	26%	6%	102
Educator	10%	32%	31%	5%	547
Employee (Private Sector)	14%	29%	20%	18%	187
Employee (Social Service)	9%	25%	26%	23%	54
Parent	11%	34%	21%	6%	140
Other	9%	26%	33%	14%	90

WHICH OF THESE THREE SUPPORTS DO YOU THINK WOULD MOST IMPROVE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN YOUR COMMUNITY? (RESPONSE RATE: 80%, N = 1305)

	Better coordination across education levels (K-12 & higher ed)	More info for families about ed opportunities	More opportunities for employers and educators to share ideas & info
Business owner/employer	29%	17%	55%
Current Student	47%	24%	28%
Educator	36%	33%	32%
Employee (Private Sector)	40%	33%	28%
Employee (Social Service)	34%	45%	21%
Parent	42%	34%	25%
Other	35%	30%	35%



WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING DO YOU THINK WOULD MOST HELP STUDENTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY REACH THEIR DESIRED LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT? (FOR THIS SURVEY, EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT MEANS HAVING A POST-HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE, CREDENTIAL, AND/OR CERTIFICATION WITH CURRENT AND FUTURE VALUE IN THE STATE'S JOB MARKET) (RESPONSE RATE: 79%, N = 1305)

	More financial aid opportunities	Better information about degrees / credentials that are most relevant for the available jobs in my community	Better guidance about successfully moving between education levels (for example, moving from middle to high school, etc.)	Other	My community does not need additional support
Business owner/employer	14%	24%	17%	10%	2%
Current Student	32%	20%	33%	2%	0%
Educator	30%	22%	24%	6%	1%
Employee (Private Sector)	30%	23%	21%	5%	2%
Employee (Social Service)	30%	23%	32%	8%	0%
Parent	24%	28%	21%	8%	1%
Other	29%	29%	14%	9%	1%

III. ROLE-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

PARENT PARTICIPANTS

IS YOUR CHILD/ARE YOUR CHILDREN IN CHARTER, HOME, PRIVATE, OR PUBLIC SCHOOL(S)? (CHOOSE ALL THAT APPLY) (N = 156 PARENT RESPONDENTS, RESPONDENT CAN CHOOSE MULTIPLE ANSWERS)

	n
Public	90
Charter	8
Private	12
Home	18

PLEASE RATE THE: (RESPONSE RATES: 81% AND 79%, RESPECTIVELY, N = 156)

	Excellent	Good	Fair	No opinion	n
Overall quality of your child's school.	20%	43%	27%	7%	127
Overall quality of other schools in your area.	11%	36%	37%	4%	124

EDUCATOR, EMPLOYEE, PARENT, AND "OTHER" PARTICIPANTS

HOW HAVE YOUR EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES IMPACTED YOUR CURRENT LIVELIHOOD? (RESPONSE RATES: 82-83%, N = 1129)

	Very useful	Somewhat useful	Not useful	n
How useful has your level of education been in getting a job?	71%	20%	8%	934
How useful has your level of education been in improving your work skills?	55%	34%	11%	931
How useful has your level of education been in increasing your pay?	26%	36%	36%	930



BUSINESS OWNER / EMPLOYER PARTICIPANTS

HOW HAVE AVAILABLE EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES CONTRIBUTED TO EMPLOYEE READINESS?

(RESPONSE RATE: 90%, N = 49)

	Very well	Somewhat well	Not well	n
How well do educational opportunities in your community help people get jobs in your community?	18%	50%	25%	44
How well do educational opportunities in your community help provide people with the work skills needed for jobs in your community?	18%	46%	30%	44
How useful are the educational opportunities in your community for helping people increase their pay/marketability?	25%	43%	25%	44

CURRENT STUDENT PARTICIPANTS

HOW DO YOU THINK YOUR EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES WILL IMPACT YOUR LIVELIHOOD AFTER SCHOOL?

(RESPONSE RATE: 78%, N = 124)

	Very useful	Somewhat useful	Not useful	n
How useful do you think your education will be in helping you get the job you want?	64%	20%	5%	97
How well has your education program helped you improve your work skills?	42%	30%	12%	97
How useful do you think your education will be in helping you earn the salary you want?	46%	36%	6%	97

