

North Carolina Statewide December 2013 Survey

Interview Schedule

N= 600 Registered Voters

Margin of Error = +/- 4.00

Field Dates: December 4-8, 2013

Moving on, to Education in North Carolina...

North Carolina public schools are implementing "Common Core math and English standards" in every classroom. How aware are you of these standards? Would you say you are...
(ROTATE TOP-TO-BOTTOM, BOTTOM-TO-TOP)

66% Total Aware

33% Total Not Aware

28% Very aware

38% Somewhat aware

19% Not very aware

14% Completely unaware

2% Don't Know (DO NOT READ)

-- Refused (DO NOT READ)

When I say "Common Core State Standards" what words come to mind? (OPEN END)

17% Unfavorable/ Bad/ Disagree with it (general)

8% Testing/ Standardized testing

7% Favorable/ Good/ Agree with it (general)

6% Uniformity/ Standardized

6% Accountability/ Standards/ Discipline

5% Three Rs/ Reading, writing, math

4% Education/ Schools

3% Basics

2% Improvement/ Better education

2% Federal control/ Federal Government shouldn't be involved/ Should be left to States

2% Lowering the standards/ Dumbing down education

2% Heard of Common Core (non-specific)

2% Equality/ All on the same page

2% Requirements/ Expectation/ Minimum requirement

2% National/ Nationwide

1% Dictatorship/ Control/ Communistic

1% Law/ Rules/ Regulations

1% Liberal/ Liberal agenda

1% Subjects/ Classes (non-specific)

1% Too standardized/ Repetitive/ Unfair Conformity

- Well intentioned but poorly implemented/ Well meaning but misguided
- No Child Left Behind
- Competitive/ How schools are doing competitively
- 2% Other
- 9% None/ Nothing
- 18% Don't Know
- Refused

The State Board of Education adopted Common Core State Standards in June of 2010. Do you believe the State Board of Education and other education officials solicited sufficient feedback from teachers, parents and educators before making their decision?

- 19% Yes
- 55% No
- 25% Unsure (DO NOT READ)
- Refused (DO NOT READ)

Please tell me which opinion comes closer to your own, when it comes to "Common Core State Standards"... (ROTATE)

- 42% Supporters of Common Core State Standards say the standards will improve academic standards and will better prepare students for a global economy.
- 46% Critics of Common Core State Standards say the standards will not be helpful, since there is no evidence to justify that all students receive a similar education and that all states adopt an unproven one-size-fits-all model of public education.
- 12% Don't Know (DO NOT READ)
- 1% Refused (DO NOT READ)

Critics say Common Core State Standards have not been field-tested. Furthermore, there continues to be uncertainty regarding the cost and academic impact of the standards. With that information, would you favor or oppose proposals to **slow down or halt implementation of the Common Core State Standards** in North Carolina?

- 53% Total Favor**
- 35% Total Oppose**
- 29% Strongly Favor
- 24% Somewhat Favor
- 15% Somewhat Oppose
- 19% Strongly Oppose
- 12% Undecided/Don't Know (DO NOT READ)
- Refused (DO NOT READ)

21. Do you believe Common Core State Standards will help to make education in the United States more competitive globally, less competitive globally, or have no effect globally?

- 36% More Competitive
- 18% Less Competitive
- 33% No effect
- 13% Don't Know (DO NOT READ)
- Refused (DO NOT READ)

The Department of Public Instruction believes implementing Common Core State Standards will cost North Carolina no more than the normal costs associated with changes in the curriculum. However, the Pioneer Institute estimates it will cost North Carolina \$525 million dollars to implement Common Core State Standards over the next seven years. If an additional \$75 to \$100 million dollars is required annually to pay for books, teacher training, technology or computers, would be more likely or less likely to support North Carolina implementing Common Core State Standards?

- 37% Total More Likely**
- 47% Total Less Likely**
- 19% Much More Likely
- 18% Somewhat More Likely
- 15% Somewhat Less Likely
- 33% Much Less Likely
- 9% No Difference (DO NOT READ)
- 7% Undecided/Refused (DO NOT READ)

Still thinking about common core, please tell me which opinion comes closer to your own... (ROTATE)

- 40% (Some/Other) people say that Common Core State Standards are an improvement over current education standards. They will make our students more college and career ready and will make students more internationally competitive.
- 47% (Other/Some) people say that Common Core State Standards have not been field-tested. Furthermore there is no evidence to suggest that national standards will lead to improved student performance.
- 12% Don't Know (DO NOT READ)
- Refused (DO NOT READ)

Do you believe the objections to Common Core standards raised by legislators, members of the State Board of education or general public have been adequately addressed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction?

- 16% Yes
- 55% No
- 29% Don't Know (DO NOT READ)
- Refused (DO NOT READ)

Based on your knowledge of the goals, expectations and criticisms of Common Core Standards, do you approve or disapprove of North Carolina's decision to adopt the Common Core Standards?

45% Total Approve
46% Total Disapprove
 24% Strongly Approve
 20% Somewhat Approve
 17% Somewhat Disapprove
 29% Strongly Disapprove
 9% Undecided/Don't Know (DO NOT READ)
 -- Refused (DO NOT READ)

Over the last decade, there has been a significant increase in testing in the public schools to measure academic achievement. In your opinion, has the additional testing helped, hurt, or made no difference in the performance of local public schools?

19% Helped
 32% Hurt
 38% Made no difference
 11% Don't Know (DO NOT READ)
 -- Refused (DO NOT READ)

Still thinking about common core, please tell me which opinion comes closer to your own... (ROTATE)

42% (Some/Other) people say that Common Core State Standards are necessary next step to ensure U.S. students receive a high quality education and are able to compete internationally.
 44% (Other/Some) people say that Common Core State Standards are a federal intrusion into education policy. The standards violate federal laws prohibiting a national curriculum and result in the transfer major education policymaking authority from the states to unelected officials.
 13% Don't Know (DO NOT READ)
 1% Refused (DO NOT READ)

Do you have trust and confidence in the men and women who teach in North Carolina's Public Schools?

66% Yes
 13% No
 17% A little/ Some (DO NOT READ)
 4% Don't Know (DO NOT READ)
 -- Refused (DO NOT READ)