



# TEXAS TRENDS 2024

**School Vouchers  
& Educational  
Savings Accounts**



**Hobby School of Public Affairs**  
**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON**



**TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**  
Barbara Jordan – Mickey Leland  
School of Public Affairs



## Texas Trends 2024 School Vouchers & Educational Savings Accounts

In 2021, the Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston and the Executive Master of Public Administration Program in the Barbara Jordan – Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs at Texas Southern University launched a five-year survey project to study Texas's changing population. The fourth survey in the series was fielded between June 20 and July 1, 2024 and focused on opinions about elections and public policies. The survey was conducted in English and Spanish, with 2,257 YouGov respondents 18 years of age and older (including an oversample of Black Texans), resulting in a confidence interval of +/-2.1 for the overall survey population.

The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race/ethnicity, and education and are representative of the Texas adult population. The results of this 2024 statewide survey will be presented in separate reports: the November 2024 election, school choice/vouchers, housing, immigration, and climate challenges. This report examines the support for and opposition to school voucher and educational savings account (ESA) legislative proposals as well as agreement and disagreement with the most common arguments made against and in favor of school voucher/ESA legislative proposals.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

65% of Texans support the adoption of legislation that would provide school vouchers to all parents in Texas, with 33% strongly supporting this legislation.

69% of Texans support the adoption of legislation that would create Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs) for all parents in Texas, with 30% strongly supporting this legislation.

59% of Texans support the adoption of legislation that would provide school vouchers only to low income parents in Texas, with 30% strongly supporting this legislation.

64% of Texans support the adoption of legislation that would create Educational Savings Accounts (ESAs) for low income parents only in Texas, with 32% strongly supporting this legislation.

Republicans are significantly more likely than Democrats to support school voucher legislation that would benefit all parents (73% to 55%), but slightly less likely than Democrats to support school voucher legislation that would only benefit low income parents (57% to 60%).

Black (70%), Latino (64%) and white (63%) Texans support the adoption of school choice legislation benefiting all parents in relatively comparable proportions, but Black Texans (72%) and Latino Texans (65%) are significantly more likely than white Texans (52%) to support legislation that would provide school vouchers only to low income parents.

Support for school voucher legislation benefiting all parents among:

Black Republicans (81%), Black Independents (76%), Black Democrats (66%)  
Latino Republicans (75%), Latino Independents (63%), Latino Democrats (55%)  
white Republicans (73%), white Independents (63%), white Democrats (49%)

66% of Black Democrats, but only 49% of white Democrats, support this expansive school voucher legislation.

There are comparable levels of support for this legislation among Black, Latino and white Republicans.

Support for school voucher legislation benefiting low income parents only among:

Black Republicans (81%), Black Independents (73%), Black Democrats (70%)  
Latino Republicans (66%), Latino Independents (64%), Latino Democrats (62%)  
white Republicans (54%), white Independents (49%), white Democrats (52%)

70% of Black Democrats, but only 52% of white Democrats, support this more limited school voucher legislation.

81% of Black Republicans, but only 54% of white Republicans, support this more limited school voucher legislation.

66% of Texans agree (31% strongly) with the anti-voucher/ESA argument that vouchers/ESAs funnel money away from already struggling public schools.

63% of Texans agree (28% strongly) with the anti-voucher/ESA argument that vouchers/ESAs provide funding to private schools and individuals with only limited accountability for how the funds are used.

62% of Texans agree (29% strongly) with the anti-voucher/ESA argument vouchers/ESAs fail to accommodate disabled and special needs students, who public schools are required to accept while private schools are not.

55% of Texans agree (27% strongly) with the anti-voucher/ESA argument that voucher/ESA's use of tax dollars to subsidize religious schools violates the constitutional separation of church and state.

Black Texans are significantly more likely than white Texans to agree with all four of the anti-voucher/ESA arguments.

Among the one-third (33%) of Texans who strongly support the school voucher legislation (for all parents), 50% agree with the anti-voucher/ESA arguments that they funnel money away from struggling public schools and that there is limited accountability, 47% that they fail to accommodate special needs students, and 41% that they violate the constitutional separation of church and state.

Among the strongest supporters (33% of Texans) of school voucher legislation for all parents:

75% of Black Texans, but only 29% of white Texans, agree with the anti-voucher/ESA argument that vouchers violate the constitutional separation of church and state.

73% of Black Texans, but only 41% of white Texans, agree with the anti-voucher/ESA argument that there is limited accountability for how private schools use the funds.

71% of Black Texans, but only 44% of white Texans, agree with the anti-voucher/ESA argument that vouchers funnel money away from already struggling public schools.

76% of Texans agree (39% strongly) with the pro-voucher/ESA argument that vouchers/ESAs allow parents to choose the school that best meets their child's needs.

76% of Texans agree (34% strongly) with the pro-voucher/ESA argument that vouchers/ESAs allow parents to choose the school that best reflects their values.

74% of Texans agree (35% strongly) with the pro-voucher/ESA argument that vouchers/ESAs offer students in failing schools access to a better education.

63% of Texans agree (31% strongly) with the pro-voucher/ESA argument that vouchers/ESAs improve education overall by making public schools compete with private schools for students.

50% of Texans are satisfied (16% very satisfied) with the quality of education provided by their local ISD, while 29% are dissatisfied (13% very dissatisfied) and 21% do not know enough about their local ISD to have an opinion.

66% of Texans with a child under the age of 18 living with them at home are satisfied with the quality of education provided by their local ISD, compared to 43% of Texans with no child living at home.

## **SURVEY POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS**

White Texans account for 53% of the survey population, Latino Texans for 28%, Black Texans for 13%, and others for 6% (3% Asian American, 2% Mixed/Other, 1% Native American). Women represent 51% of this population and men 49%. Regarding generations, 27% of this population belongs to the combined Silent Generation (born between 1928-1945) and Baby Boomer (1946-1964) cohort, 24% to Generation X (Gen-X) (1965-1980), 29% to the Millennial (1981-1996) generation, and 20% to Generation Z (1997-2012). The highest level of educational attainment of 32% of the population is a four-year college degree or a post-graduate degree, of 29% of the population is a two-year college degree or some college, and of 39% of the population is a high school degree or less. Texans with a family income of less than \$30,000 per year account for 30% of the population, those with a family income between \$30,000 to \$59,000 for 26%, those with a family income of \$60,000 to \$99,000 for 23% and those with a family income of \$100,000 or more for 21%. Almost one-half (48%) of the respondents reside in one of the state's five major urban counties (Bexar, Dallas, Harris, Tarrant, Travis), 17% reside in suburban countries adjacent to these five major urban counties (e.g., Brazoria, Collin, Denton, Fort Bend, Montgomery, Williamson), and 19% in regional hub counties (e.g., El Paso, Hidalgo, Lubbock, McLennan, Nueces, Smith), with the remaining 16% residing in rural and semi-rural counties. Republicans account for 39% of this population, Democrats for 39% and Independents for 17%, with 5% of the population unsure about their partisan identification.

## SUPPORT FOR & OPPOSITION TO SCHOOL VOUCHER AND ESA LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

The respondents were presented with a description of school voucher legislation and with a description of educational savings account legislation and then asked if they supported (strongly or somewhat) or opposed (strongly or somewhat) the adoption of the legislation in Texas for two distinct groups: all parents and low income parents only. The descriptions were randomly rotated, with one-half of the respondents receiving the school voucher description first and the ESA description second, and one-half receiving the ESA description first and the school voucher description second.

The school voucher description read as follows:

A “school voucher system” in K-12 education allows parents the option of sending their child to a private school, including both religious and non-religious schools. If this policy were adopted, tax dollars currently allocated to a school district would be allocated to parents in the form of a “school voucher” to pay partial or full tuition for their child’s private school.

The educational savings account (ESA) description read as follows:

An “educational savings account”, or “ESA”, in K-12 education establishes a government-funded bank account for parents who opt to not send their children to public schools, with restricted, but multiple uses for educational purposes. Acceptable uses include paying for private school tuition, tutoring, online education programs, therapies for students with special needs or other instructional materials.

Table 1 provides the overall level of support for and opposition to the adoption of school voucher legislation and the adoption of ESAs in Texas, for all parents and for low income parents only (all other responses are excluded from the analysis).

**Table 1. Support For & Opposition to School Vouchers & Educational Savings Accounts For All Parents and For Low Income Parents Only  
Distribution of Support/Opposition Among Texas Adults (%)**

School Choice Vehicle	Recipient Population	Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose
School Vouchers	All Parents	33	32	17	18
	Only Low Income Parents	30	29	18	23
Educational Savings Accounts	All Parents	30	39	16	15
	Only Low Income Parents	32	32	17	19

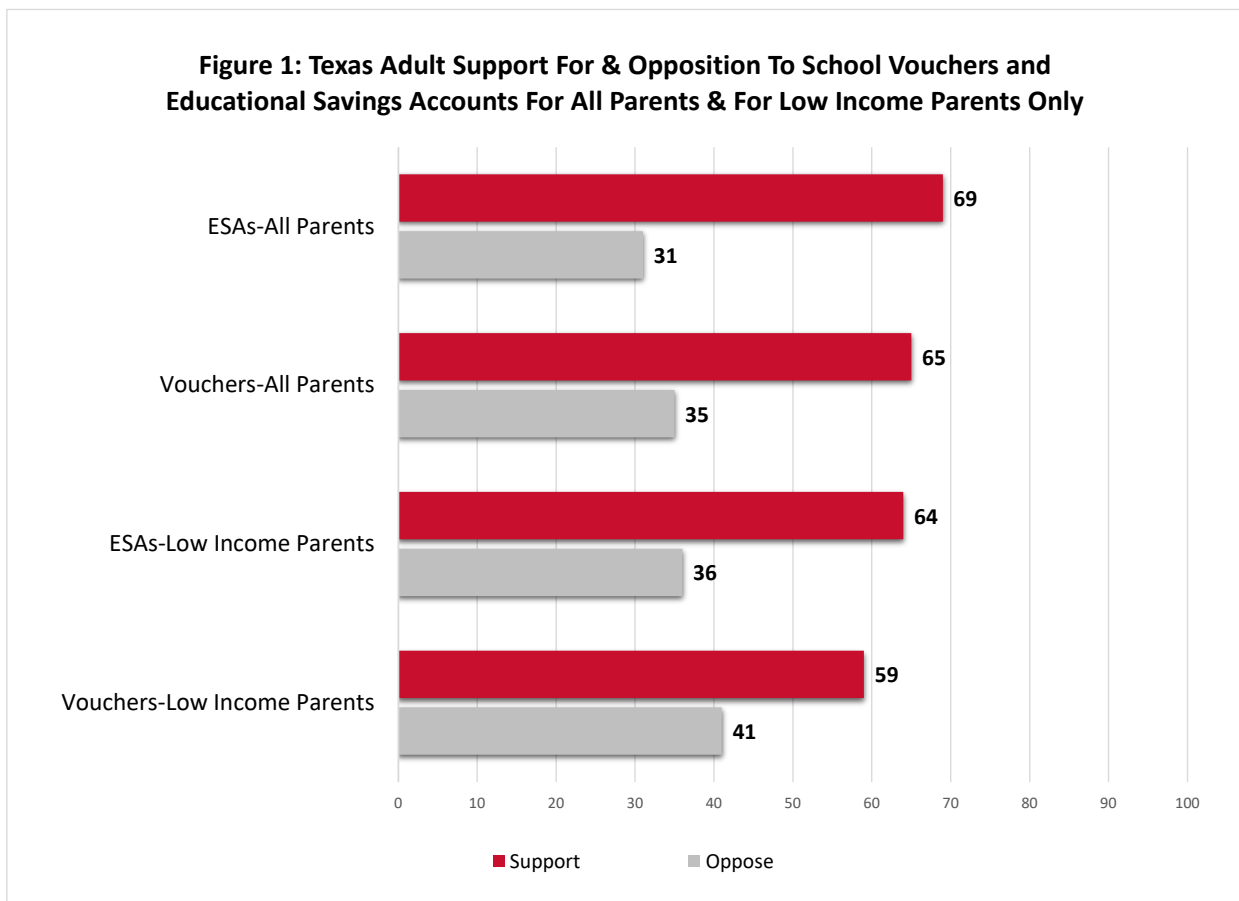
Almost two-thirds (65%) of Texans support the adoption of school vouchers for all parents in Texas, with 33% strongly supporting this expansive school voucher legislation. Conversely, a little more than one-third (35%) of Texans oppose the adoption of school vouchers for all parents in Texas, with 18% strongly opposing an expansive school voucher program.

Support for the adoption of school vouchers only for low income parents in Texas is supported by a smaller proportion (59%) and opposed by a larger proportion (41%) of Texans than the more expansive voucher legislation benefiting all parents. Compared to the expansive school voucher proposal, fewer Texans strongly support (30%) this more limited legislation and more Texans strongly oppose it (23%).

More than two-thirds (69%) of Texans support the adoption of ESAs for all parents in Texas, with 30% strongly supporting this legislative proposal. Conversely, a little less than a third (31%) oppose this ESA legislation, 15% strongly.

Similar to the case for vouchers, the adoption of ESAs only for low income parents is supported by a smaller proportion (64%) and opposed by a larger proportion (36%) of Texans than the more expansive voucher legislation benefiting all parents. Almost one-third (32%) strongly support ESAs limited to low income parents, while 19% strongly oppose this proposal.

Figure 1 summarizes the level of support (strong and somewhat) for and opposition (strong and somewhat) to these four school choice related proposals. The proposal with the most support (69%) is that for the adoption of ESAs which would be open to all parents followed relatively closely by the proposals for the adoption of school vouchers for all parents (65%) and the adoption of ESAs for low income parents only (64%), with the least support (59%) for the school voucher proposal that is limited in scope to only low income parents.



Across the board, support is slightly greater for the ESA proposals than for the school voucher proposals, regardless of whether the proposal applied to all parents (69% vs. 65%) or to low income parents only (64% vs. 59%), underscoring that the position vis-à-vis school choice proposals a small, but non-trivial, share of the Texas population is directly affected by the question wording used to assess support for and opposition to school choice proposals.

## SUPPORT FOR & OPPOSITION TO SCHOOL VOUCHER LEGISLATION ACROSS KEY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS

Table 2 provides the breakdown for support for and opposition to the school voucher proposal (for all parents and for low income parents only) across a wide range of key socio-demographic groups, including gender, ethnicity/race, generation, education, family income, religion, the presence of children under 18 in the home, region, partisanship, 2024 primary participation and satisfaction with the quality of the education provided by the respondent’s local ISD.

**Table 2. Texas Adult Support For & Opposition To School Voucher Legislation Benefiting All Parents and For Low Income Parents Only (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Support All Parents	Support Low Income Parents Only	Oppose All Parents	Oppose Low Income Parents Only
Overall		65 (33)	59 (30)	35 (18)	41 (23)
Gender	Women	62 (29)	60 (28)	38 (19)	40 (23)
	Men	67 (36)	58 (33)	33 (17)	42 (23)
Ethnicity/Race	White	63 (33)	52 (26)	37 (19)	48 (27)
	Latino	64 (30)	65 (34)	36 (16)	35 (19)
	Black	70 (36)	72 (38)	30 (18)	28 (15)
Generation	Silent/Boomer	56 (33)	48 (24)	44 (26)	52 (34)
	Generation X	64 (34)	58 (34)	36 (22)	42 (25)
	Millennial	70 (33)	67 (35)	30 (13)	33 (16)
	Generation Z	70 (28)	64 (28)	30 (9)	36 (15)
Education	High School	66 (32)	64 (34)	34 (16)	36 (19)
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	64 (32)	53 (27)	36 (20)	47 (27)
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	63 (33)	58 (29)	37 (19)	42 (24)
Income	Less than \$30,000	71 (32)	71 (37)	29 (12)	29 (15)
	\$30,000-\$59,999	61 (30)	55 (30)	39 (20)	45 (25)
	\$60,000-\$99,999	60 (32)	54 (26)	40 (21)	46 (25)
	\$100,000+	64 (36)	53 (26)	36 (21)	47 (30)
Religion	Born-Again Christian	75 (40)	64 (35)	25 (10)	36 (17)
	Catholic (not Born Again)	55 (28)	56 (28)	45 (19)	44 (22)
	Protestant (not Born Again)	62 (33)	52 (23)	38 (23)	48 (33)
Children Under 18 At Home	Yes	72 (39)	66 (33)	28 (13)	34 (17)
	No	62 (30)	56 (29)	38 (20)	44 (25)
Region	Urban	67 (32)	63 (33)	33 (16)	37 (18)
	Suburban	64 (34)	52 (23)	36 (22)	48 (34)
	Regional Hubs	59 (26)	59 (33)	41 (20)	41 (25)
	Rural & Semi-Rural	63 (37)	56 (29)	37 (16)	44 (23)
Partisanship	Democratic	55 (25)	60 (32)	45 (28)	40 (24)
	Independent	65 (25)	58 (25)	35 (14)	42 (20)
	Republican	73 (42)	57 (28)	27 (12)	43 (25)
Primary Voters	Democratic	54 (26)	54 (29)	46 (33)	46 (28)
	Republican	74 (45)	57 (29)	26 (11)	43 (26)
Satisfaction with Local ISD	Satisfied	67 (33)	62 (31)	33 (16)	38 (18)
	Dissatisfied	62 (35)	55 (32)	38 (21)	45 (27)
	Don't Know Enough About	63 (28)	57 (26)	37 (19)	43 (27)

Note: Percentage Strongly Supporting and Strongly Opposing in parentheses.

Support for the school vouchers for all parents legislative proposal is relatively comparable among men (67%) and women (62%), as well as among white (63%), Latino (64%) and Black (70%) Texans. Additionally, there are not any noteworthy differences in support based on education, region, or satisfaction with the quality of education provided by the local ISD.

The three most noteworthy intra-group differences in support for legislation that would provide school vouchers to all parents are tied to partisanship, religion and the presence or absence of a child living in the respondent's home.

First, Texans who identify as Republicans (73%) are significantly more likely than Texans who identify as Democrats (55%) to support school voucher legislation that would benefit all parents. Similarly, Texans who voted in the 2024 Republican primary (74%) are significantly more likely than Texans who voted in the 2024 Democratic primary (54%) to support this legislation.

Second, Born-Again Christians (75%) are significantly more likely than non-Born Again Protestants (62%) and Catholics (55%) to support the adoption of this expansive school voucher legislation in Texas.

Third, Texans residing in homes with a child under the age of 18 are significantly more likely than those without a child at home to support school voucher legislation for all parents, 72% to 62%.

Support for legislation that would provide school vouchers for low income parents only is comparable between women (60%) and men (58%). There are also no noteworthy differences in support based on educational attainment or the respondent's satisfaction with quality of the education provided by their ISD.

And, contrary to the case for expansive school vouchers, where the proportion of Republicans favoring the legislation was 20 percentage points greater than the proportion of Democrats (74% vs. 54%), there do not exist any noteworthy differences in partisan support for the more constrained school voucher legislation limited to low income parents, with, in fact, slightly more Democrats (60%) than Republicans (57%) supporting the legislation. A similar contrasting finding is present among Republican (57%) and Democratic (54%) 2024 primary voters, for whom the level of support for vouchers for low income parents is very similar.

The three most noteworthy intra-group differences in support for legislation that would provide school vouchers to low income parents only are tied to ethnicity/race, generation and family income.

First, unlike the case with support for the expansive school voucher legislation, where significant ethnic/racial differences were not present, Black support for school vouchers limited to low income parents (72%) is more than 20 percentage points greater than the proportion of white Texans (52%). While the proportions of Black Texans who support the expansive (70%) and limited (72%) school voucher legislation are effectively the same, white Texans are significantly less likely to support the limited (52%) than expansive (63%) voucher proposals. Latino Texans have comparable levels of support for the expansive (64%) and limited (65%) versions of the school voucher legislation.

Second, members of the Silent Generation/Baby Boomer cohort (48%) are significantly less likely to support school vouchers limited to low income parents than are Gen Zs (64%) and Millennials (67%).

Third, Texans with a family income of less than \$30,000 per year are significantly more likely to support school vouchers for low income parents only than are Texans in the second, third and fourth income quartiles, 71% vs. 55%, 54% and 53%.



## SUPPORT FOR & OPPOSITION TO ESA LEGISLATION ACROSS KEY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS

Table 3 provides the breakdown of support for and opposition to the educational savings account (ESA) proposal (for all parents and for low income parents only) across a wide range of key socio-demographic groups, including gender, ethnicity/race, generation, education, family income, religion, the presence of children under 18 in the home, region, partisanship, 2024 primary participation and satisfaction with the quality of the education provided by the respondent’s local ISD.

**Table 3. Texas Adult Support For & Opposition To Educational Savings Account Legislation Benefiting All Parents and For Low Income Parents Only (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Support All Parents	Support Low Income Parents Only	Oppose All Parents	Oppose Low Income Parents Only
Overall		69 (30)	64 (32)	31 (15)	36 (19)
Gender	Women	68 (28)	65 (30)	32 (15)	35 (19)
	Men	70 (32)	62 (34)	30 (16)	38 (20)
Ethnicity/Race	White	66 (29)	58 (28)	34 (17)	42 (23)
	Latino	72 (29)	70 (36)	28 (12)	30 (14)
	Black	73 (36)	75 (43)	27 (14)	25 (14)
Generation	Silent/Boomer	58 (29)	53 (23)	42 (24)	47 (33)
	Generation X	68 (31)	63 (37)	32 (18)	37 (22)
	Millennial	77 (34)	71 (38)	23 (9)	29 (12)
	Generation Z	74 (27)	69 (30)	26 (8)	31 (8)
Education	High School	73 (32)	69 (38)	27 (14)	31 (18)
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	66 (27)	60 (28)	34 (16)	40 (20)
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	67 (31)	61 (29)	33 (16)	39 (20)
Income	Less than \$30,000	77 (31)	74 (44)	23 (10)	26 (11)
	\$30,000-\$59,999	66 (27)	65 (31)	34 (16)	35 (22)
	\$60,000-\$99,999	66 (28)	57 (26)	34 (16)	43 (21)
	\$100,000+	67 (33)	55 (23)	33 (20)	45 (26)
Religion	Born-Again Christian	77 (38)	68 (36)	23 (9)	32 (16)
	Catholic (not Born Again)	65 (26)	61 (28)	35 (18)	39 (23)
	Protestant (not Born Again)	63 (31)	54 (26)	37 (21)	46 (28)
Children Under 18 At Home	Yes	77 (36)	69 (38)	23 (10)	31 (14)
	No	66 (28)	62 (30)	34 (17)	38 (21)
Region	Urban	71 (30)	67 (32)	29 (14)	33 (15)
	Suburban	65 (29)	57 (30)	35 (21)	43 (30)
	Regional Hubs	68 (28)	64 (33)	32 (17)	36 (20)
	Rural & Semi-Rural	68 (33)	61 (34)	32 (12)	39 (20)
Partisanship	Democratic	61 (24)	67 (37)	39 (19)	33 (16)
	Independent	73 (25)	63 (31)	27 (14)	37 (19)
	Republican	74 (36)	58 (25)	26 (12)	42 (24)
Primary Voters	Democratic	60 (27)	62 (37)	40 (24)	38 (20)
	Republican	74 (39)	59 (26)	26 (12)	41 (24)
Satisfaction with Local ISD	Satisfied	74 (32)	68 (34)	26 (13)	32 (16)
	Dissatisfied	65 (32)	58 (31)	35 (17)	42 (25)
	Don't Know Enough About	64 (25)	62 (29)	36 (17)	38 (20)

Note: Percentage Strongly Supporting & Strongly Opposing in parentheses.

Support for the ESA legislation for all parents is relatively comparable among men (70%) and women (68%), as well as among white (66%), Latino (72%) and Black (73%) Texans. There also do not exist any noteworthy differences in support based on education or region.

The three most noteworthy intra-group differences in support for legislation that would provide ESAs to all parents are tied to partisanship, religion and the presence or absence of a child living in the respondent’s home.

First, Texans who identify as Republicans (74%) are significantly more likely than Texans who identify as Democrats (61%) to support ESA legislation that would benefit all parents. Similarly, Texans who voted in the 2024 Republican primary (74%) are significantly more likely than Texans who voted in the 2024 Democratic primary (60%) to support this expansive ESA legislation.

Second, Born-Again Christians (77%) are significantly more likely than non-Born Again Catholics (65%) and Protestants (63%) to support the adoption of this expansive ESA legislation in Texas.

Third, Texans residing in homes with a child under the age of 18 are significantly more likely than those without a child at home to support ESA legislation for all parents, 77% to 66%.

Support for legislation that would provide ESAs for low income parents only is comparable between women (65%) and men (62%). There also do not exist any noteworthy differences based on education, the presence or absence of children at home and region.

The three most noteworthy intra-group differences in support for legislation that would provide school vouchers to low income parents only are tied to ethnicity/race, family income and partisanship.

First, unlike the case with support for the expansive ESA legislation, where significant ethnic/racial differences were not present, Black support for ESAs limited to low income parents (73%) is 17 percentage points greater than the proportion of white Texans (58%). While the proportions of Black Texans who support the expansive (73%) and limited (75%) ESA legislation are for all intents and purposes the same, white Texans are notably less likely to support the limited (58%) than expansive (66%) ESA proposals. Latino Texans have comparable levels of support for the expansive (72%) and limited (70%) versions of the ESA legislation.

Second, Texans with a family income of less than \$30,000 per year are significantly more likely to support school ESAs for low income parents only than are Texans in the third and fourth income quartiles, 74% vs. 57% and 55%.

Third, unlike the case for expansive ESAs, where significantly more Republicans (74%) than Democrats (61%) supported the legislation, in the case of ESAs limited to low income parents, significantly more Democrats (67%) than Republicans (58%) support the legislation. No salient differences exist however between Democratic (62%) and Republican (59%) 2024 primary voters in regard to their support for ESAs targeted at low income parents only.

## ETHNICITY/RACE, PARTISANSHIP & SUPPORT FOR & OPPOSITION TO SCHOOL VOUCHER & ESA LEGISLATION

Table 4 and Table 5 respectively provide the proportion of Texans broken down by ethnicity/race and partisanship who support and oppose school voucher and ESA legislation, both for all parents and for low income parents only. In all, there are nine ethnic/racial partisan groups: white Republicans, white Democrats, white Independents, Latino Republicans, Latino Democrats, Latino Independents, Black Republicans, Black Democrats and Black Independents. The survey's oversample of Black Texans provides a sufficient number of Black Republican and Black Independent respondents for analysis, something that would not be possible without the oversample.

**Table 4. Partisan ID and Support For & Opposition To School Voucher Legislation Benefiting All Parents and Low Income Parents Only (%)**

Ethnicity/Race-Partisanship	Support All Parents	Support Low Income Parents Only	Oppose All Parents	Oppose Low Income Parents Only
White Republicans	73 (42)	54 (28)	27 (11)	46 (27)
White Democrats	49 (20)	52 (23)	51 (34)	48 (28)
Latino Republicans	75 (44)	66 (26)	25 (10)	34 (19)
Latino Democrats	55 (24)	64 (41)	45 (22)	36 (21)
Black Republicans	81 (38)	77 (46)	19 (10)	23 (2)
Black Democrats	66 (35)	70 (39)	34 (23)	30 (20)
White Independents	63 (30)	49 (26)	37 (15)	51 (26)
Latino Independents	63 (16)	64 (21)	37 (17)	36 (17)
Black Independents	76 (30)	73 (27))	24 (10)	27 (8)

Note: Percentage Strongly Supporting and Strongly Opposing in parentheses.

**Table 5. Partisan ID and Support For & Opposition To Educational Savings Accounts Benefiting All Parents and Low Income Parents Only (%)**

Ethnicity/Race-Partisanship	Support All Parents	Support Low Income Parents Only	Oppose All Parents	Oppose Low Income Parents Only
White Republicans	71 (37)	55 (24)	29 (13)	45 (27)
White Democrats	58 (20)	62 (34)	42 (24)	38 (18)
Latino Republicans	82 (34)	66 (21)	18 (8)	34 (18)
Latino Democrats	59 (23)	71 (41)	41 (14)	29 (14)
Black Republicans	86 (46)	84 (56)	14 (3)	16 (3)
Black Democrats	69 (34)	72 (41)	31 (18)	28 (18)
White Independents	68 (26)	55 (25)	32 (16)	45 (26)
Latino Independents	78 (18)	65 (27)	22 (14)	35 (15)
Black Independents	78 (36)	77 (43)	22 (8)	23 (8)

Note: Percentage Strongly Supporting and Strongly Opposing in parentheses.

Figure 2 displays the proportion of Texans in each one of the nine ethnic/racial-partisanship sub-groups that supports school voucher legislation for all parents. Support for this expansive school voucher legislation is highest among Black Republicans (81%), Black Independents (76%), Latino Republicans (75%) and white Republicans (73%), and lowest among white Democrats (49%) and Latino Democrats (55%). In between are Black Democrats (66%), Latino Independents (63%) and white Independents (63%). While Republicans support voucher legislation in relatively comparable proportions regardless of ethnicity/race, Democrats are more sharply divided, with a significantly higher proportion of Black Democrats (66%) than Latino Democrats (55%), and, especially, white Democrats (49%) supportive of the expansive school voucher legislation.

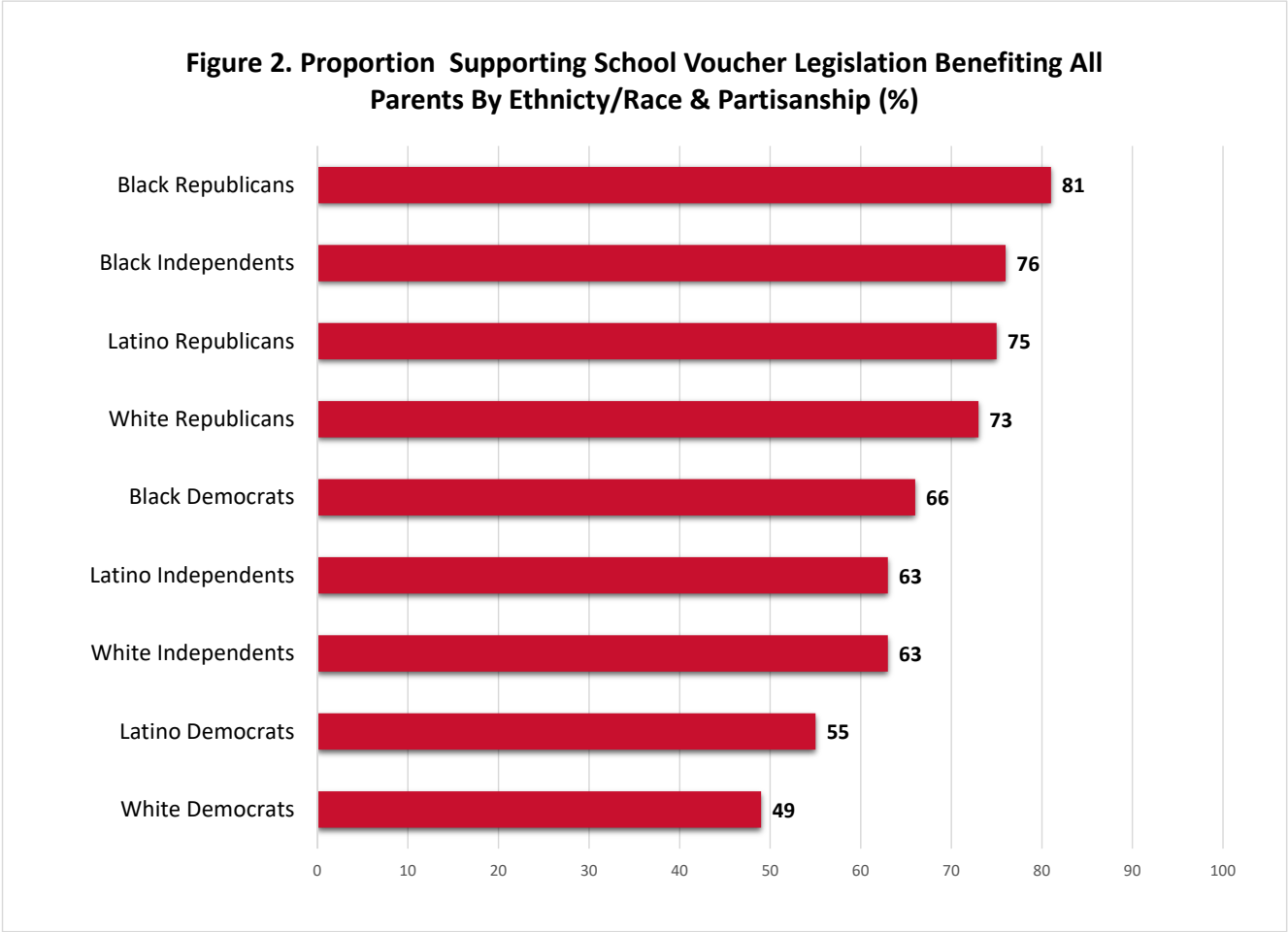


Figure 3 displays the proportion of Texans in each one of the nine ethnic/racial-partisanship sub-groups that supports ESA legislation for all parents. Support for this expansive ESA legislation is highest among Black Republicans (86%), Latino Republicans (82%), Black Independents (78%), Latino Independents (78%), white Republicans (71%), Black Democrats (69%) and white Independents (68%), and lowest among white Democrats (58%) and Latino Democrats (59%). Once again, Black Democrats (69%) are significantly more likely to support the school choice legislation than either Latino Democrats (59%) or white Democrats (58%).

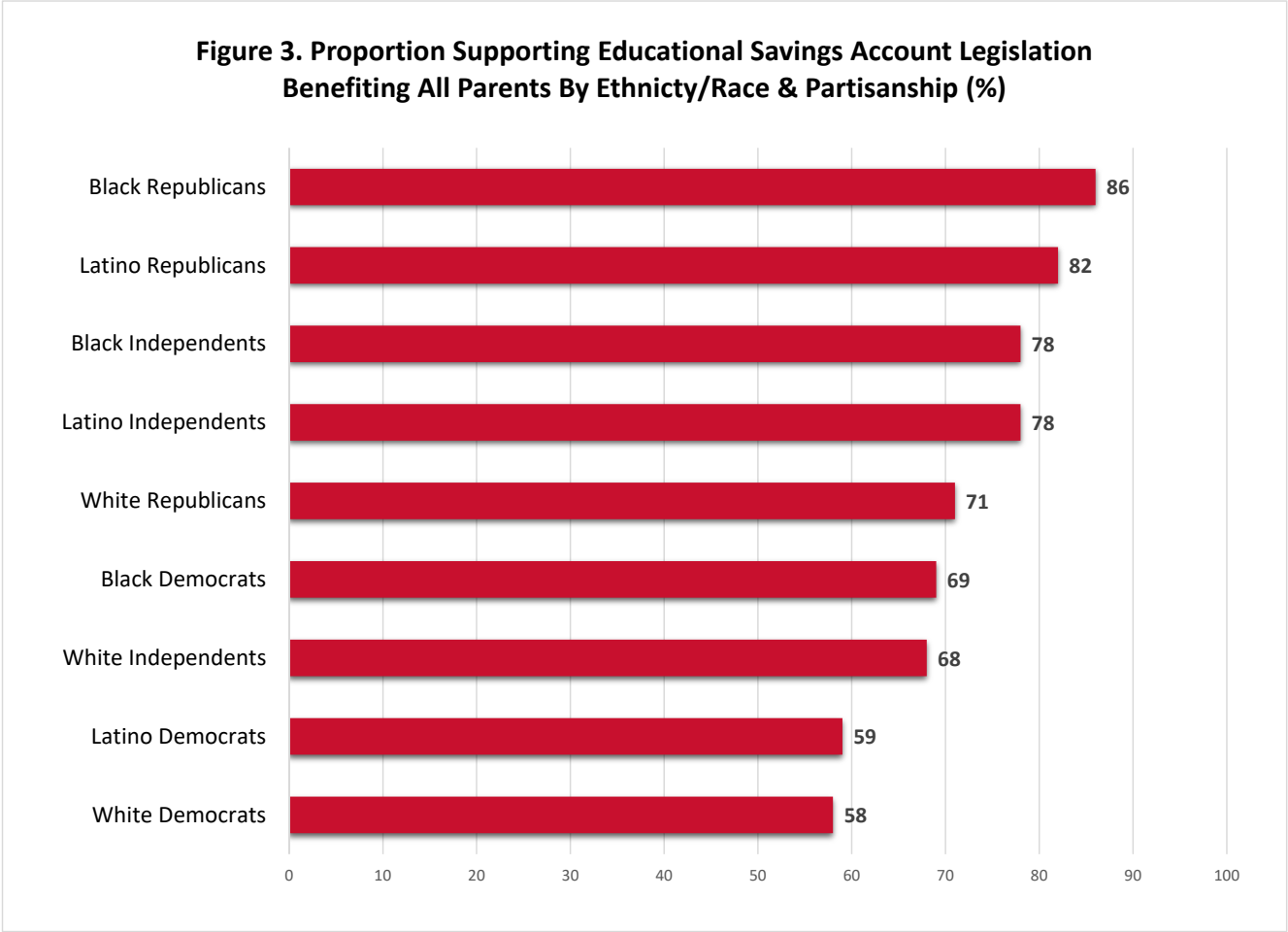
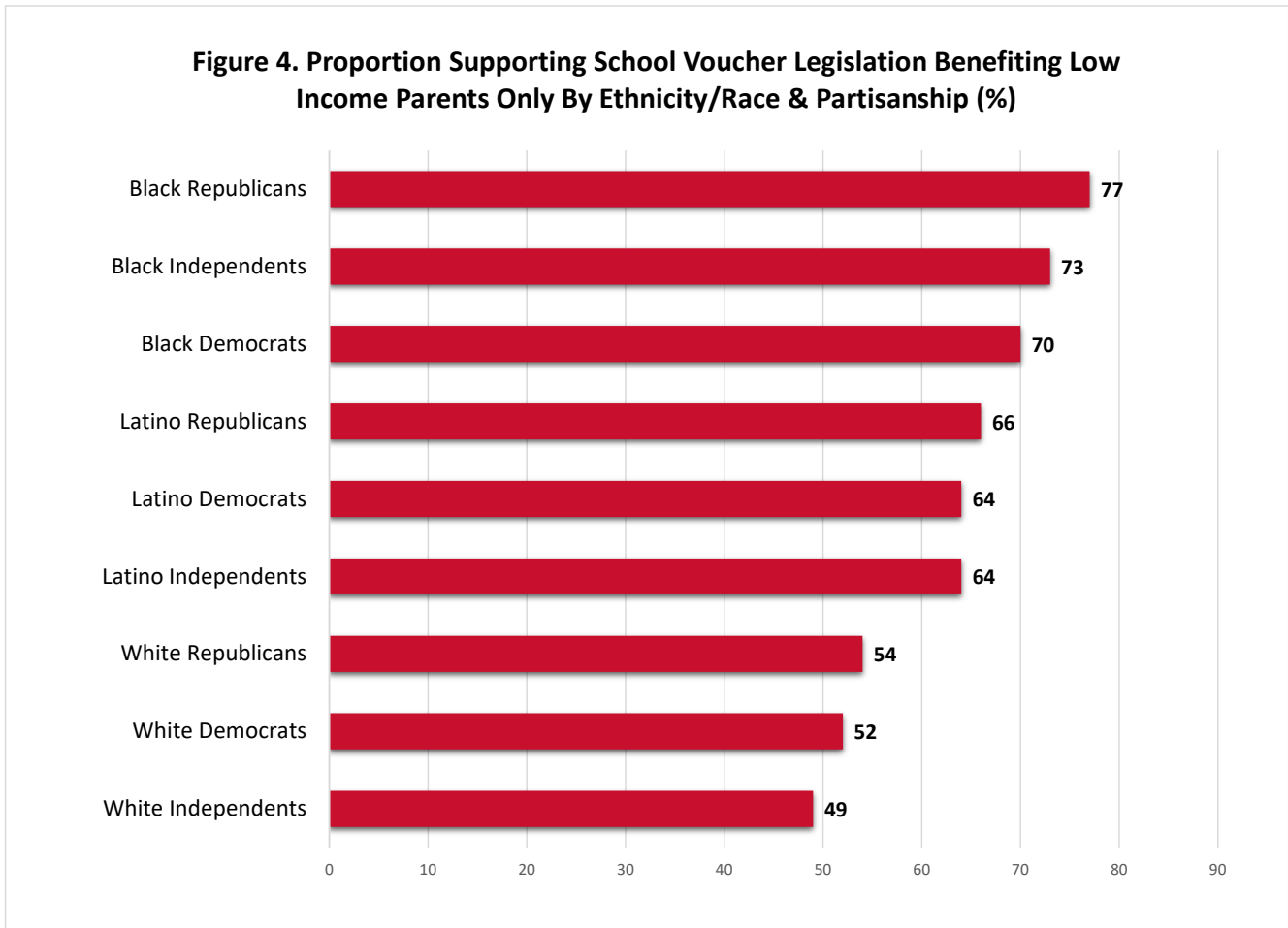
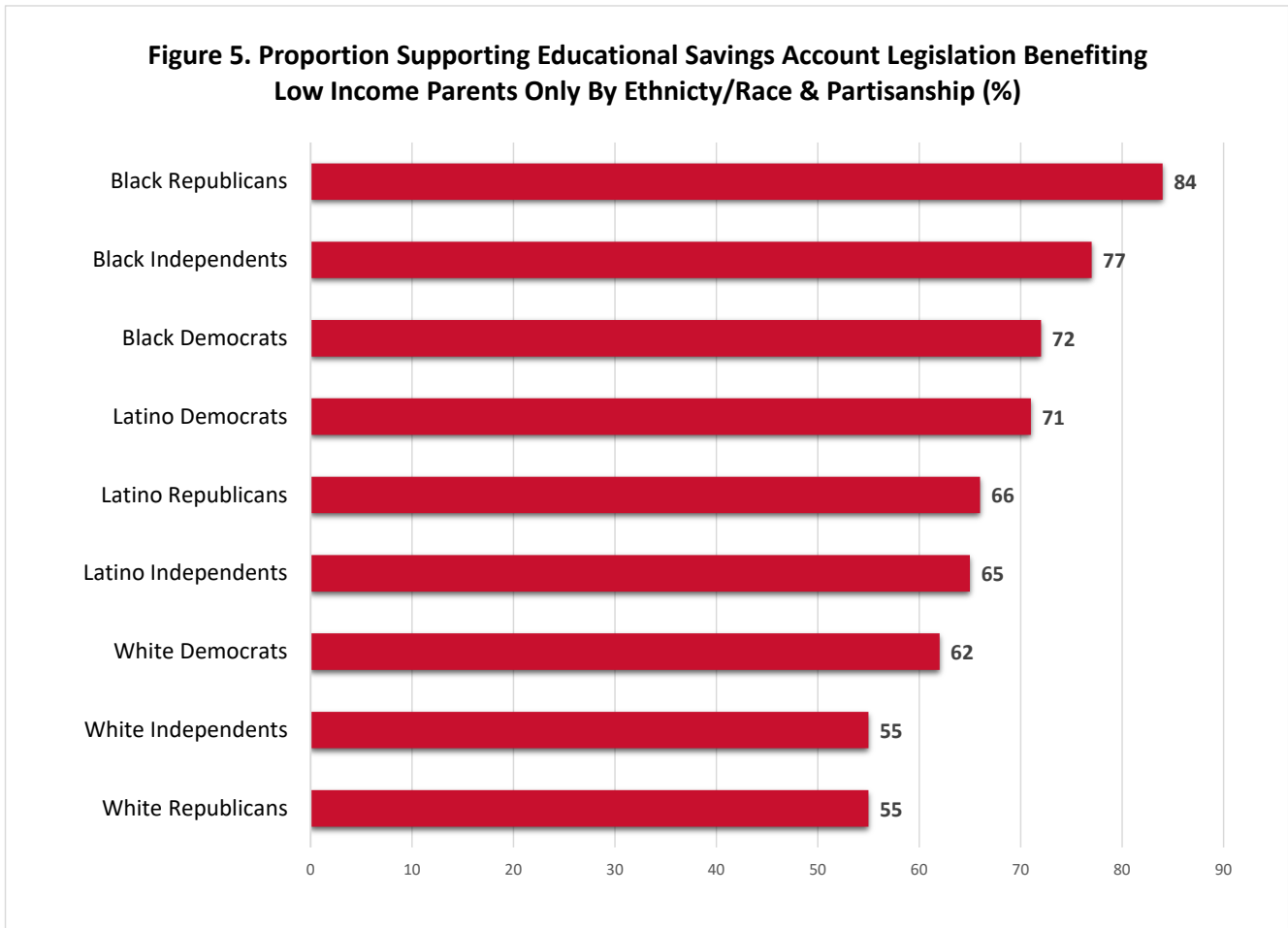


Figure 4 displays the proportion of Texans in each one of the nine ethnic/racial-partisanship sub-groups that supports school voucher legislation for all low income parents only. Support for this more constrained school voucher legislation is highest among Black Republicans (81%), Black Independents (73%) and Black Democrats (70%) and lowest among white Independents (49%), white Democrats (52%) and white Republicans (54%). In between are Latino Republicans (66%), Latino Democrats (64%) and Latino Independents (64%).



In the prior case of expansive school voucher legislation displayed in Figure 2, Republican support was relatively homogenous across ethnic/racial groups (ranging from 81% among Black Republicans to 73% among white Republicans) and the proportion of white Republicans supporting the legislation was 24 percentage points higher than the proportion of white Democrats (73% vs. 49%). In sharp contrast, support for school voucher legislation limited to low income parents varies considerably by ethnicity/race among Republicans, with 77% of Black Republicans supporting the legislation compared to only 54% of white Republicans. And, also distinct from the case in Figure 2, support for the more limited school voucher legislation among white Republicans (54%) and white Democrats (52%) is effectively the same.

Figure 5 displays the proportion of Texans in each one of the nine ethnic/racial-partisanship sub-groups that supports ESA legislation for all low income parents only. Support for this legislation is highest among Black Republicans (84%), Black Independents (77%), Black Democrats (72%) and Latino Democrats (71%) and lowest among white Republicans (55%), white Independents (55%) and white Democrats (62%). In between are white Democrats (62%), Latino Independents (65%) and Latino Republicans (66%).



In the prior case of expansive ESA legislation displayed in Figure 3, white Republicans (71%) were significantly more likely than white Democrats (58%) to support the ESA legislation. In contrast, Figure 5 reveals that white Democrats (62%) are more likely (albeit not significantly) than white Republicans (55%) to support the ESA legislation that is limited in scope to low income parents.

## **AGREEMENT & DISAGREEMENT WITH 4 ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR & 4 AGAINST VOUCHERS/ESAS**

The survey respondents were presented with four common arguments in favor of school vouchers/ESAs and with four common arguments against school vouchers/ESAs and asked the extent to which they agreed (strongly or somewhat) or disagreed (strongly or somewhat) with the statement. One half of the respondents received the arguments in favor of vouchers/ESAs first and the arguments against vouchers/ESAs second, and one half received the arguments against vouchers/ESAs first and the arguments in favor of vouchers/ESAs second.

The two questions presented to the respondents were:

1. Below are some arguments which are often made by opponents of school choice/school vouchers/ESAs. Do you agree or disagree with them?
  - Vouchers/ESAs use of tax dollars to subsidize religious schools violates the constitutional separation of church and state.
  - Vouchers/ESAs funnel money away from already struggling public schools.
  - Vouchers/ESAs fail to accommodate disabled and special needs students, who public schools are required to accept while private schools are not.
  - Vouchers/ESAs provide funding to private schools and individuals with only limited accountability for how the funds are used.
2. Below are some arguments which are often made by supporters of school choice/school vouchers/ESAs. Do you agree or disagree with them?
  - Vouchers/ESAs allow parents to choose the school that best meets their child's needs.
  - Vouchers/ESAs improve education overall by making public schools compete with private schools for students.
  - Vouchers/ESAs offer students in failing schools access to a better education.
  - Vouchers/ESAs allow parents to choose the school that best reflects their values.



Table 6 provides the proportion of Texans who agree (strongly and somewhat) and disagree (strongly and somewhat) with the four common arguments made in opposition to legislative proposals to adopt school voucher/ESA legislation.

**Table 6: Proportion of Texas Adults Agreeing & Disagreeing with Four Arguments Against School Vouchers/Education Savings Accounts (%)**

Argument	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Use of Tax Dollars to Subsidize Religious Schools Violates the Constitutional Separation of Church & State	27	28	20	25
Funnel Money Away From Already Struggling Public Schools	31	35	16	18
Fail to Accommodate Disabled & Special Needs Students, Who Public Schools Are Required to Accept While Private Schools Are Not	29	33	18	20
Provide Funding to Private Schools & Individuals With Only Limited Accountability For How the Funds Are Used	28	35	19	18

More than half of Texans agree with these four anti-voucher/ESA arguments, with proportions in agreement ranging from 55% to 66%. The argument against vouchers/ESAs which resonates most strongly with Texans is that if adopted they would funnel money away from already struggling public schools, with 66% agreeing with this argument, including 31% who strongly agree with it. The argument against vouchers/ESAs which resonates least strongly with Texans is that the use of tax dollars to subsidize religious schools violates the constitutional separation of church and state, with 55% agreeing with this argument, including 27% who strongly agree with it. In between, 63% of Texans agree (28% strongly) with the argument that vouchers/ESAs provide funding to private schools and individuals with only limited accountability for how the funds are used and 62% agree (29% strongly) with the argument that vouchers/ESAs fail to accommodate disabled and special needs students.

Table 7 provides the proportion of Texans who agree (strongly and somewhat) and disagree (strongly and somewhat) with the four common arguments made in favor of legislative proposals to adopt school voucher/ESA legislation. Approximately three out of four Texans agree with three of the arguments in favor of vouchers/ESAs: 76% agree (39% strongly) that vouchers/ESAs allow parents to choose the school that best meets their child’s needs, 76% agree (34% strongly) that vouchers/ESAs allow parents to choose the school that best reflects their values, and 74% agree (35% strongly) that vouchers/ESAs offer students in failing schools access to a better education. The one relatively outlying argument in regard to the level of agreement among Texans was that vouchers/ESAs improve education overall by making public schools compete with private schools for students, which 63% of Texans agreed with (31% strongly), and more than one-fifth (22%) of Texans strongly disagreed with. Although this argument is not as strongly supported as the other three arguments, school competition garners strong support nonetheless.

**Table 7: Proportion of Texas Adults Agreeing & Disagreeing with Four Arguments In Favor of School Vouchers/Education Savings Accounts (%)**

Argument	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Allow Parents to Choose the School that Best Meets Their Child's Needs	39	37	13	11
Improve Education Overall by Making Public Schools Compete with Private Schools for Students	31	32	15	22
Offer Students in Failing Schools Access to a Better Education	35	39	14	12
Allow Parents to Choose the School that Best Reflects Their Values	34	42	12	12

## AGREEMENT WITH ARGUMENTS AGAINST VOUCHERS/ESAS ACROSS KEY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS

Table 8 provides the breakdown of the proportion in agreement with the four arguments against vouchers/ESAs across a wide range of key socio-demographic groups, including gender, ethnicity/race, generation, education, family income, religion, the presence of children under 18 in the home, region, partisanship, 2024 primary participation and satisfaction with the quality of the education provided by the respondent’s local ISD.

Table 8 reveals little in the way of salient intra-group differences in agreement with these four statements based on gender, education, income, and the presence of children in the household.

**Table 8. Agreement Across Key Socio-Demographic Groups With Four Arguments Against School Vouchers/Education Savings Accounts (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Violation of Constitutional Church-State Separation	Funnel Money From Struggling Public Schools	Fail to Accommodate Special Needs Students	Public Funding with Limited Accountability
Overall		55 (27)	66 (31)	62 (29)	63 (28)
Gender	Women	57 (26)	67 (33)	64 (31)	64 (28)
	Men	52 (27)	64 (28)	60 (27)	62 (27)
Ethnicity/Race	White	50 (25)	64 (31)	52 (25)	61 (26)
	Latino	59 (29)	67 (26)	52 (24)	65 (28)
	Black	67 (37)	70 (42)	62 (32)	72 (40)
Generation	Silent/Boomer	43 (23)	62 (34)	64 (28)	50 (28)
	Generation X	55 (31)	67 (35)	61 (30)	63 (30)
	Millennial	64 (33)	67 (27)	62 (26)	71 (27)
	Generation Z	59 (19)	68 (26)	75 (33)	73 (26)
Education	High School	52 (23)	65 (26)	59 (24)	61 (23)
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	55 (29)	64 (32)	61 (31)	64 (29)
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	57 (29)	67 (35)	66 (33)	66 (32)
Income	Less than \$30,000	56 (24)	63 (28)	60 (24)	64 (27)
	\$30,000-\$59,999	58 (29)	68 (31)	64 (31)	65 (31)
	\$60,000-\$99,999	53 (28)	64 (31)	62 (31)	64 (29)
	\$100,000+	59 (31)	69 (33)	63 (33)	65 (29)
Religion	Born-Again Christian	43 (16)	63 (24)	54 (22)	55 (24)
	Catholic (not Born Again)	62 (29)	65 (29)	65 (27)	70 (31)
	Protestant (not Born Again)	52 (27)	62 (37)	58 (30)	62 (28)
Children Under 18 At Home	Yes	58 (26)	68 (27)	62 (26)	68 (25)
	No	53 (27)	65 (32)	62 (30)	61 (29)
Region	Urban	57 (28)	65 (31)	64 (31)	65 (28)
	Suburban	54 (27)	64 (32)	62 (28)	63 (26)
	Regional Hubs	57 (30)	72 (32)	62 (31)	64 (31)
	Rural	44 (20)	61 (27)	54 (22)	59 (26)
Partisanship	Democratic	71 (42)	74 (44)	72 (41)	74 (38)
	Independent	47 (24)	61 (25)	60 (22)	62 (24)
	Republican	41 (13)	49 (20)	52 (19)	54 (19)
Primary Voters	Democratic	75 (46)	75 (48)	73 (44)	75 (40)
	Republican	40 (16)	55 (21)	50 (20)	51 (19)
Satisfaction with Local ISD	Satisfied	60 (27)	69 (30)	65 (30)	70 (27)
	Dissatisfied	49 (27)	58 (32)	56 (26)	54 (28)
	Don't Know Enough About	58 (26)	67 (29)	62 (29)	60 (31)

Note: Percentage Strongly Supporting in parentheses.

The three most noteworthy socio-demographic differences in the level of agreement with these statements are related to ethnicity/race, partisanship and religion.

First, Black Texans are significantly more likely than white Texans to agree with all four arguments, with the gap largest for the argument that the use of tax dollars to subsidize religious schools violates the constitutional separation of church and state, which 67% of Black Texans, but only 50% of white Texans, agree with. Double digit gaps also exist between Black and white Texans in agreement that

vouchers/ESAs provide public funding to private schools with limited accountability (72% vs. 61%) and fail to accommodate special needs students (62% vs. 52%).

Second, Democrats are significantly more likely than Republicans and Independents to agree with all four arguments. While 71% of Democrats agree with the argument that providing public funding to religious schools is a violation of the constitutional separation of church and state, the same is only true for 41% of Republicans and 47% of Independents. While 74% of Democrats agree with the argument that vouchers/ESAs funnel money away from already struggling public schools, the same is only true for 49% of Republicans and 61% of Independents. While 74% of Democrats agree with the argument that vouchers/ESAs provide public funding to private schools and individuals with limited accountability, the same is true only for 54% of Republicans and 62% of Independents. Finally, while 72% of Democrats agree with the argument that vouchers/ESAs fail to accommodate for special needs students, the same is true for only 52% of Republicans and 60% of Independents.

Third, Born-Again Christians (43%) are significantly less likely than non Born-Again Catholics (62%) to agree that vouchers/ESAs provision of public funding to private schools is a violation of the constitutional separation between church and state and also significantly less likely to agree that vouchers/ESAs provide funding to private schools and individuals with limited accountability, 55% vs. 70%.

### AGREEMENT WITH ARGUMENTS AGAINST VOUCHERS/ESAS BASED ON POSITION VIS-À-VIS VOUCHERS/ESAS

Table 9 provides the distribution of agreement with the four arguments against vouchers/ESAs broken down by the position of the respondent vis-à-vis the legislative proposals to provide school vouchers and to provide ESAs to all parents (i.e., strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, strongly oppose).

**Table 9. Proportion of Supporters & Opponents of School Vouchers & Education Savings Accounts For All Parents Who Agree With Arguments Against Vouchers/Education Savings Accounts (%)**

School Choice Vehicle & Coverage	Support/Oppose	Violation of Constitutional Church-State Separation	Funnel Money From Struggling Public Schools	Fail to Accommodate Special Needs Students	Public Funding with Limited Accountability
Vouchers - All Parents	Strongly Support	41 (21)	50 (21)	47 (22)	50 (24)
	Somewhat Support	53 (12)	73 (10)	62 (16)	66 (12)
	Somewhat Oppose	54 (22)	73 (29)	56 (27)	64 (22)
	Strongly Oppose	82 (66)	88 (79)	82 (62)	83 (65)
Education Savings Accounts - All Parents	Strongly Support	44 (24)	55 (23)	51 (27)	54 (27)
	Somewhat Support	53 (14)	64 (13)	61 (17)	63 (12)
	Somewhat Oppose	57 (29)	71 (40)	66 (30)	67 (32)
	Strongly Oppose	75 (60)	83 (72)	81 (59)	80 (64)

Note: Percentage Strongly Agreeing in parentheses.

Most noteworthy is that between two-fifths and three-fifths of the strongest supporters of school vouchers and ESAs agree with the most common arguments against the adoption of vouchers or ESAs. For example, 50% and 55% of the Texans who strongly support school voucher and ESA legislation, respectively, agree that vouchers/ESAs funnel money away from already struggling public schools, just

as 50% and 54% agree that vouchers/ESAs provide public funding to schools and individuals with limited accountability.

An even larger proportion of Texans who somewhat support school vouchers and ESAs are in agreement with the arguments that vouchers/ESAs funnel money from struggling public schools (73% and 64%) and provide funding with limited accountability (66% and 63%).

Less surprisingly, between 75% and 90% of those Texans who strongly oppose school vouchers and ESAs agree with the most common arguments against the adoption of vouchers or ESAs. For example, 88% and 83% of Texans who strongly oppose school voucher and ESA legislation, respectively, agree with the argument that vouchers/ESAs funnel money from struggling public schools (79% and 72% strongly agree). Similarly, 83% and 80% of Texans who strongly oppose school voucher and ESA legislation, respectively, agree with the argument that vouchers/ESAs provide public funding to private schools and individuals with limited accountability, with 65% and 64% strongly agreeing with this argument.

Table 10 (found on the next page) provides the same information as in Table 9, but with the results broken down by the ethnicity/race of the respondent. Of principal note is the much higher proportion of Black Texans than of white Texans who strongly support school vouchers and ESAs, but, at the same time, strongly agree with the leading arguments against the adoption of vouchers/ESAs. For example, among strong supporters of school voucher and ESA legislation for all parents, respectively, 75% and 76% of Black Texans, but only 29% and 31% of white Texans, agree with the argument that these school choice vehicles violate the constitutional separation of church and state, with 43% and 45% of the Black Texans strongly agreeing with the argument, compared to only 14% and 16% of the white Texans. Similarly, among strong supporters of school voucher and ESA legislation, respectively, 73% and 77% of Black Texans, but only 41% and 45% of white Texans, agree with the argument that these school choice vehicles provide funding to private schools and individuals with limited accountability, with 46% and 45% of the Black Texans strongly agreeing with the argument, compared to only 18% and 23% of the white Texans.

**Table 10. Proportion of Black, White & Latino Supporters & Opponents of School Vouchers & ESAs For All Parents Who Agree With Arguments Against Vouchers/Education Savings Accounts (%)**

Ethnicity/Race	School Choice Vehicle & Coverage	Support/Oppose	Violation of Constitutional Church-State Separation	Funnel Money From Struggling Public Schools	Fail to Accommodate Special Needs Students	Public Funding with Limited Accountability
Black Texans	Vouchers - All Parents	Strongly Support	75 (43)	71 (43)	68 (33)	73 (46)
		Somewhat Support	58 (11)	60 (19)	67 (24)	67 (17)
		Somewhat Oppose	44 (23)	58 (22)	75 (45)	64 (23)
		Strongly Oppose	81 (71)	89 (84)	83 (65)	86 (74)
Black Texans	Education Savings Accounts - All Parents	Strongly Support	76 (45)	74 (41)	72 (37)	77 (45)
		Somewhat Support	57 (18)	62 (26)	63 (23)	64 (20)
		Somewhat Oppose	55 (26)	58 (35)	73 (38)	67 (40)
		Strongly Oppose	80 (70)	88 (84)	85 (71)	83 (73)
White Texans	Vouchers - All Parents	Strongly Support	29 (14)	44 (16)	43 (20)	41 (18)
		Somewhat Support	46 (12)	60 (10)	59 (13)	64 (11)
		Somewhat Oppose	56 (21)	75 (34)	68 (30)	70 (24)
		Strongly Oppose	85 (63)	93 (84)	82 (61)	87 (66)
White Texans	Education Savings Accounts - All Parents	Strongly Support	31 (16)	47 (18)	44 (25)	45 (23)
		Somewhat Support	49 (15)	62 (13)	63 (17)	63 (9)
		Somewhat Oppose	59 (28)	73 (44)	63 (29)	67 (30)
		Strongly Oppose	74 (54)	86 (75)	78 (53)	82 (63)
Latino Texans	Vouchers - All Parents	Strongly Support	47 (22)	55 (21)	46 (25)	65 (29)
		Somewhat Support	62 (13)	67 (9)	61 (12)	63 (10)
		Somewhat Oppose	50 (23)	69 (18)	59 (20)	51 (20)
		Strongly Oppose	82 (76)	85 (75)	81 (66)	84 (65)
Latino Texans	Education Savings Accounts - All Parents	Strongly Support	51 (27)	63 (24)	55 (30)	66 (27)
		Somewhat Support	58 (12)	64 (9)	53 (10)	57 (9)
		Somewhat Oppose	55 (34)	68 (36)	66 (32)	64 (34)
		Strongly Oppose	84 (79)	85 (70)	84 (69)	86 (76)

Note: Percentage Strongly Agreeing in parentheses.

In contrast to the gulf in the proportion of Black and white Texans who strongly support the adoption of vouchers/ESAs who agree with the four arguments against vouchers/ESAs, there do not exist any salient ethnic/racial differences in the proportion of Black and white Texans who strongly oppose the adoption vouchers/ESAs who agree with the four arguments against vouchers/ESAs. For example, 81% and 80% of the Black Texans and 85% and 74% of the white Texans who strongly oppose vouchers/ESAs agree with the argument that vouchers/ESAs violate the constitutional separation of church and state by providing public funding to religious schools. Similarly, 86% and 83% of the Black Texans and 87% and 82% of the white Texans who strongly oppose vouchers/ESAs agree with the argument that vouchers/ESAs provide funding to private schools and individuals with limited accountability.

## AGREEMENT WITH ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF VOUCHERS/ESAS ACROSS KEY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS

Table 11 provides the breakdown of the proportion in agreement with the four arguments in favor of vouchers/ESAs across a wide range of key socio-demographic groups, including gender, ethnicity/race, generation, education, family income, religion, the presence of children under 18 in the home, region, partisanship, 2024 primary participation and satisfaction with the quality of the education provided by the respondent’s local ISD.

**Table 11. Agreement Across Key Socio-Demographic Groups With Four Arguments in Favor of School Vouchers/Education Savings Accounts (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Choose School Best Meets Child's Needs	Improve Education Via Competition	Access to Better Education for Students in Failing Schools	Choose School Best Reflects Parents' Values
Overall		76 (39)	63 (31)	74 (35)	76 (34)
Gender	Women	77 (39)	60 (25)	74 (33)	73 (34)
	Men	76 (39)	66 (36)	73 (36)	78 (34)
Ethnicity/Race	White	75 (39)	63 (31)	70 (35)	77 (36)
	Latino	77 (37)	62 (37)	77 (29)	73 (28)
	Black	77 (37)	67 (35)	79 (42)	76 (39)
Generation	Silent/Boomer	72 (44)	62 (36)	71 (38)	69 (38)
	Generation X	77 (39)	60 (29)	72 (36)	75 (36)
	Millennial	84 (40)	71 (31)	79 (36)	85 (36)
	Generation Z	71 (30)	57 (25)	73 (25)	74 (24)
Education	High School	76 (39)	61 (27)	71 (30)	72 (28)
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	76 (39)	64 (33)	73 (36)	77 (36)
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	76 (39)	64 (32)	76 (37)	78 (39)
Income	Less than \$30,000	78 (40)	65 (30)	77 (34)	76 (35)
	\$30,000-\$59,999	76 (43)	62 (31)	72 (35)	75 (33)
	\$60,000-\$99,999	73 (34)	60 (27)	72 (30)	74 (33)
	\$100,000+	77 (37)	68 (36)	75 (38)	76 (34)
Religion	Born-Again Christian	83 (45)	72 (35)	78 (39)	81 (42)
	Catholic (not Born Again)	76 (37)	61 (29)	75 (33)	74 (30)
	Protestant (not Born Again)	73 (45)	59 (30)	69 (37)	75 (40)
Children Under 18 At Home	Yes	82 (40)	71 (32)	81 (36)	80 (38)
	No	74 (39)	59 (30)	70 (33)	74 (33)
Region	Urban	76 (38)	64 (28)	73 (31)	78 (33)
	Suburban	75 (40)	62 (37)	70 (39)	75 (37)
	Regional Hubs	75 (39)	63 (32)	74 (33)	71 (30)
	Rural	80 (42)	61 (30)	78 (41)	74 (38)
Partisanship	Democratic	68 (30)	54 (22)	67 (27)	67 (24)
	Independent	77 (34)	54 (39)	75 (30)	78 (30)
	Republican	83 (49)	74 (40)	78 (43)	82 (45)
Primary Voters	Democratic	66 (30)	53 (26)	66 (25)	66 (25)
	Republican	87 (51)	78 (43)	84 (49)	84 (49)
Satisfaction with Local ISD	Satisfied	76 (35)	64 (28)	72 (30)	75 (32)
	Dissatisfied	75 (44)	61 (36)	74 (40)	73 (39)
	Don't Know Enough About	79 (42)	64 (29)	77 (36)	82 (33)

Note: Percentage Strongly Agreeing in parentheses.

Table 11 reveals little in the way of salient intra-group differences in agreement with these four statements based across the 11 socio-demographic categories, with one principal exception. Across the board, Republicans are significantly more likely than Democrats to agree with the arguments in favor of vouchers/ESAs.

The partisan gaps between Republicans and Democrats are largest for agreement with the argument that vouchers/ESAs improve education overall by forcing public schools to compete (74% vs. 54%), allow parents to choose the school that best meets their child’s needs (83% vs. 68%) and allow parents to choose the school that best reflects their values (82% vs. 67%). Similar gaps exist among the more rarefied group of Republican and Democratic primary voters, where the comparable proportions, respectively, are 78% vs. 53%, 87% vs. 66%, and 84% vs. 66%.

Table 12 provides the distribution of agreement with the four arguments in favor of vouchers/ESAs broken down by the position of the respondent vis-à-vis the legislative proposals to provide school vouchers and to provide ESAs to all parents (i.e., strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, strongly oppose).

**Table 12. Proportion of Supporters & Opponents of School Vouchers & ESAs For All Parents Who Agree With Arguments in Favor of Vouchers/Education Savings Accounts (%)**

School Choice Vehicle & Coverage	Support/Oppose	Allows Parents to Choose School that Best Meets Child's Needs	Improves Education by Forcing Public Schools to Compete	Provides Access to a Better Education for Students in Failing Schools	Allows Parents to Choose the School that Best Reflects the Parents' Values
Vouchers - All Parents	Strongly Support	93 (71)	87 (61)	91 (68)	91 (67)
	Somewhat Support	89 (34)	75 (23)	84 (26)	88 (27)
	Somewhat Oppose	72 (21)	51 (16)	67 (14)	68 (12)
	Strongly Oppose	28 (7)	12 (3)	31 (8)	33 (6)
Education Savings Accounts - All Parents	Strongly Support	93 (71)	87 (59)	91 (65)	92 (66)
	Somewhat Support	86 (31)	81 (21)	82 (26)	83 (25)
	Somewhat Oppose	67 (25)	43 (19)	64 (18)	68 (18)
	Strongly Oppose	28 (8)	16 (8)	30 (9)	34 (10)

Note: Percentage Strongly Agreeing in parentheses.

Approximately nine out of ten Texans who strongly support school voucher and ESA legislation also strongly agree with the four arguments in favor of vouchers/ESAs. For example, 93% of strong supporters of both vouchers and ESAs agree with the argument that vouchers and ESAs allow parents to choose the school that best meets their child’s needs, with 71% in strong agreement with the argument. The proportions in agreement are only modestly lower among those who somewhat support school voucher and ESA legislation for all parents, ranging from a low of 75% to a high of 89%.

Finally, between one-quarter and one-third of even those Texans who strongly oppose vouchers/ESAs agree that school vouchers and ESAs allow parents to choose the school that best reflects their values (33% and 34%), provide access to a better education for students in failing schools (31% and 30%) and allow parents to choose the school that best meets their child’s needs (28% and 28%).



## SATISFACTION WITH THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL ISD

The respondents were asked how satisfied or dissatisfied they are with the quality of K-12 education provided by the Independent School District (ISD) in which they live. The response options were very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied and very dissatisfied, or that they didn't know enough to have an opinion.

Table 13 provides the results, both overall and broken down across 10 key socio-demographic groups. Overall, one-half of the respondents (50%) are satisfied with the quality of the education provided by their local ISD (with 16% very satisfied), while only 29% are dissatisfied (13% very dissatisfied), with 21% of these Texans reporting that they didn't know enough about their ISD to have an opinion.

**Table 13. Texan Satisfaction & Dissatisfaction With the Quality of the Education Provided by Their Local ISD Across Key Socio-Demographic Groups (%)**

Socio-Demographic	Sub-Group	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Don't Know Enough
Overall		50	29	21
Gender	Women	46	31	23
	Men	54	27	19
Ethnicity/Race	White	51	28	21
	Latino	47	30	23
	Black	51	29	19
Generation	Silent/Boomer	41	35	24
	Generation X	48	28	24
	Millennial	56	24	20
	Generation Z	51	30	19
Education	High School	51	24	25
	Some College/2 Yr Degree	44	35	21
	4 Yr Degree/PostGrad	52	30	18
Income	Less than \$30,000	48	24	27
	\$30,000-\$59,999	47	31	22
	\$60,000-\$99,999	47	34	19
	\$100,000+	57	29	14
Religion	Born-Again Christian	54	28	18
	Catholic (not Born Again)	51	30	19
	Protestant (not Born Again)	45	33	22
Children Under 18 At Home	Yes	66	25	9
	No	43	31	26
Region	Major Urban	51	28	21
	Suburban	48	31	21
	Regional Hubs	49	26	25
	Rural & Semi-Rural	48	33	19
Partisanship	Democratic	55	26	19
	Independent	37	32	31
	Republican	50	31	19
Primary Voters	Democratic	62	23	15
	Republican	52	32	16

There by and large are not any noteworthy sub-group differences in satisfaction and dissatisfaction with the educational quality of the local ISDs, with one principal exception. Respondents with children under 18 living at home are significantly more likely than respondents without children under 18 living at home to be satisfied with the quality of education provided by their local ISD (66% to 43%), while the latter respondents are significantly more likely than the former to not know enough about their local ISD to have an opinion (26% to 9%).

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