

**CDD/NEWS HOUR WITH JIM LEHRER  
DELIBERATING EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE**

**POST – DELIBERATION WEB SURVEY**

**Our first questions are about education.**

**Q1. Students are often given the grades A, B, C, D, or FAIL to denote the quality of their work. Suppose the public schools themselves, in your community, were graded in the same way. What grade would you give your community's public schools?**

- A
- B
- C
- D
- Fail
- Haven't thought much about it.

**Q2. How about the public schools in the nation as a whole? What grade would you give the public schools nationally?**

- A
- B
- C
- D
- Fail
- Haven't much thought about it

**Q3. In order to improve public education in America, some people think the focus should be on reforming the existing public school system. Others believe the focus should be on finding an alternative to the existing public school system.**

**Which approach do you think is preferable?**

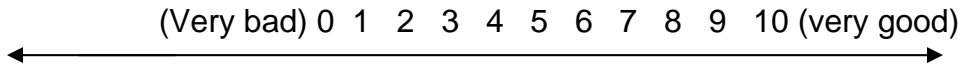
- Reforming the existing system
- Finding an alternative system
- Couldn't say

**Q4. In your opinion is there too much emphasis on standardized testing in the public schools in your community, about the right amount, or not enough emphasis?**

- Too much
- About the right amount
- Not enough
- Couldn't say

**Q5. Some people think increased use of standardized tests in the public schools is good because it helps evaluate the performance of students and schools. Some people think it is bad because it forces teachers to emphasize only what is measured in the tests.**

**On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is very bad and 10 is very good, and 5 is neither bad nor good, indicate whether you think it would be bad or good to increase the use of standardized tests in the public schools.**



**Q6. Some people think that tests for student achievement should be set at the state level and applied in the same way to all students in the state. Others think that local school boards should make these decisions in each community. Which do you think?**

- Decisions about testing should be made at the state level
- Decisions should be made by local school boards in each community
- Couldn't say

**Q7. Do you support or oppose the following proposals for reforming the school system in your community? Please indicate 0 if you strongly oppose, 5 if you neither oppose nor support and 10 if you strongly support.**

***Insert Table with 11 point scale 0-10 with labeled ends (Strongly oppose and strongly support and Couldn't say)***

Q7a.

Fund more charter schools with money from the public school system

Q7b.

Provide vouchers to pay some or all of the cost of private schools with money from the public school system

Q7c.

Provide more money for the most troubled public schools even if this means raising taxes

Q7d.

Provide more money for public schools to pay for smaller class sizes even if this means raising taxes

Q7e.

Provide more money for public schools to pay for new technology even if this means raising taxes

Q7f.

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

**Q8. Here is a list of problems schools might face.**

**On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is completely unimportant and 10 is extremely important, and 5 is midway in between, how important would you say it is that the nation's schools focus on improving each of the following?**

***Insert Table with 11 point scale 0-10 with labeled ends and midpoint (Completely unimportant and extremely important and Couldn't say)***

- Q8a.  
academic standards
- Q8b.  
class size
- Q8c.  
parental involvement
- Q8d.  
quality of teachers
- Q8e.  
school administration
- Q8f.  
funding
- Q8g.  
safety
- Q8h.  
use of technology

**Q9. Which of these do you think is most important?**

*Insert Table with list above and allow only one possible answer. Table should have two columns for most important and second most important (see below).*

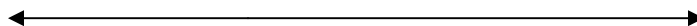
**Q10. And second most important?**

*Table should have two columns for most important and second most important.*

**Q11. To what degree do you think your elected representatives in Washington share your priorities for how to improve education?**

**If you think their priorities are completely the same as yours answer 10. If you think their priorities are completely different from yours, answer 0. If it is about half and half answer 5.**

Completely different priorities 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 completely the same



**Q12. From what you know or have heard about the No Child Left Behind Act, do you approve or disapprove of it or couldn't you say?**

Approve strongly  
Approve somewhat  
Neither approve nor disapprove  
Disapprove somewhat  
Disapprove strongly  
Couldn't say

**Q13. How much would you say that the amount of money spent by a public school affects the quality of education it provides?**

A great deal  
Somewhat  
Very little  
Hardly at all  
Couldn't say

**Q14. What do you think of the following statement?**

**Large classes do not have much effect on student performance.**

Strongly agree  
Agree somewhat  
Neither agree nor disagree  
Disagree somewhat  
Disagree strongly  
Couldn't say

**Q15. Where does the US rank among wealthy industrialized nations in the math skills of students?**

In the top 3 out of 29 countries  
In the top 10 out of 29 countries  
In the bottom 10 out of 29 countries  
In the bottom 3 out of 29 countries  
Couldn't say

**Q16. Has it become harder or easier in the last few years for foreign workers to get work permits to work legally in the US?**

harder  
staying about the same  
easier  
Couldn't say

**Q17. Has the gap between minority students and white students in math and reading tests at the elementary school level been ...?**

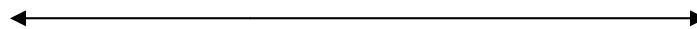
increasing the last few years  
staying about the same  
decreasing the last few years  
Couldn't say

**WE WOULD NOW LIKE TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR VIEWS ON HEALTHCARE.**

**Q19. Here is a list of problems our health care system might face. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is completely unimportant and 10 is extremely important, and 5 is midway in between, how important would you say it is that we focus on improving each of the following?**

*Insert Table with 11 point scale 0-10 with labeled ends and midpoint (Extremely unimportant and extremely important and Couldn't say/Haven't thought much about it.)*

Completely unimportant 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10      extremely important



**Q19a.  
The cost of health insurance**

**Q19b.  
The number of Americans without health insurance**

**Q19c.  
The cost of prescription drugs**

**Q19d.  
Medical errors or mistakes**

**Q19e.  
The medical malpractice system**

**Q19f.  
Quality of health care provided to those with insurance**

**Q20. Which of these do you think is most important?**

*Insert Table with list above and allow only one possible answer. Table should have two columns - most important and second most important (see below).*

**Q21. And second most important**

*Table should have two columns - most important and second most important.*

**Q22. To what degree do you think your elected representatives in Washington share your priorities for how to improve health care. If their priorities are completely the same as yours, answer 10. If they have completely different priorities, answer 0. If it is about half and half answer 5.**

Completely different priorities 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 completely the same



**Q23. Would you be willing to pay more than you do now for health care if this meant that many more Americans would have health insurance coverage?**

- Yes, at least slightly more
- Yes, significantly more
- No
- Couldn't say

**Q24 How strongly would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?**

**Q24A.**

**The US should adopt a single-payer system, where a government entity accepts all healthcare fees and pays out all healthcare costs for everyone.**

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly
- Couldn't say

**Q24B.**

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

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly
- Couldn't say

**Q24C.**

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

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly
- Couldn't say

**Q24D.**

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

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly
- Couldn't say

**Q24E.**

**The US should offer businesses tax deductions, tax credits, or other financial assistance to help them provide health insurance to their employees.**

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly
- Couldn't say

**Q24F.**

**The US should increase funding for Medicare and Medicaid even if this means increases in taxes.**

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly
- Couldn't say

**Q25. How effective or ineffective do you think each of the following would be for controlling health care costs?**

**Q25A.**

**Increasing co-pays and deductibles for consumers**

- Very effective
- Somewhat effective
- Neither effective nor ineffective
- Somewhat ineffective
- Very ineffective
- Couldn't say

**Q25B.**

**Relying on managed care through HMOs**

- Very effective
- Somewhat effective
- Neither effective nor ineffective
- Somewhat ineffective
- Very ineffective
- Couldn't say

**Q25C.****Limiting government funds for healthcare**

Very effective  
Somewhat effective  
Neither effective nor ineffective  
Somewhat ineffective  
Very ineffective  
Couldn't say

**Q25D.****Increasing government control of/involvement in healthcare**

Very effective  
Somewhat effective  
Neither effective nor ineffective  
Somewhat ineffective  
Very ineffective  
Couldn't say

**Q26. About how many Americans are uninsured?**

1 million  
25 million  
45 million  
65 million  
85 million  
Couldn't say

**Q27. Over the next fifty years, do you think the number of Americans over age 65 will...?**

stay about the same  
increase by about half  
double  
triple  
Couldn't say

**Q28. What percentage of the uninsured do you think come from low income families?**

a quarter  
fifty per cent  
two thirds  
ninety per cent  
Couldn't say

**Q29. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the role of government:**

**Q29A.**

**The first priority of government should be to help the worst off.**

Agree strongly  
Agree somewhat  
Neither agree nor disagree  
Disagree somewhat  
Disagree strongly  
Couldn't say

**Q29B.**

**The first priority of government should be to make the whole country prosper.**

Agree strongly  
Agree somewhat  
Neither agree nor disagree  
Disagree somewhat  
Disagree strongly  
Couldn't say

**Q29C.**

**The first priority of government should be to let people make their own choices.**

Agree strongly  
Agree somewhat  
Neither agree nor disagree  
Disagree somewhat  
Disagree strongly  
Couldn't say

**Q30. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.**

**Q30A.**

**Most public policy issues are so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on.**

Strongly Disagree  
Disagree  
Neither  
Agree  
Strongly Agree  
Couldn't say

**Q30B.**

**Public officials care a lot about what people like me think.**

Strongly Disagree  
Disagree  
Neither  
Agree  
Strongly Agree  
Couldn't say

**Q30C.**

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

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neither
- Agree
- Strongly Agree
- Couldn't say

**FINALLY, WE'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR BACKGROUND.**

**Q33. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:**

**"people with views different from mine often have very good reasons for their opinions."**

- Agree strongly
- Agree somewhat
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree somewhat
- Disagree strongly

**Q34. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a...?**

- Republican
- Democrat
- Independent
- Other
- No preference

*Q34a -> IF Q35=REPUBLICAN.*

**Q34a. Would you call yourself a...**

- Strong Republican
- Not very strong Republican

*Q34b -> IF Q35=DEMOCRAT .*

**Q34b. Would you call yourself a...**

- Strong Democrat
- Not very strong Democrat

*Q34c-> IF Q34 is independent, having no preference or other .*

**Q34c. Do you think of yourself as CLOSER to the Republican Party or to the Democratic Party?**

- Closer to the Republican Party
- Neither
- Closer to the Democratic Party

**Q35 In general, do you think of yourself as...?**

- Extremely liberal
- Liberal
- Slightly liberal
- Middle of the road
- Slightly conservative
- Conservative
- Extremely conservative
- Or haven't you thought much about this?

**Q36. In the last 7 days, how many days did you watch the news on TV?**

- None
- 1-2 days
- 3-4 days
- Almost every day

**Q37. In the last 7 days, how many days did you read a daily newspaper?**

- None
- 1-2 days
- 3-4 days
- Almost every day

**Q38. In the last 7 days, how many days did you read a daily newspaper on the INTERNET?**

- None
- 1-2 days
- 3-4 days
- Almost every day

**Q39. On average, how often do you participate in a conversation about public affairs?**

- Almost every day
- Several times a week
- At least once a week
- At least once a month
- Practically never

**Q40. How about politics in the U.S.? Generally speaking, how interested would you say you are in politics in the U.S.?**

- Very interested
- Somewhat interested
- Not very interested
- Not at all interested

**Q41. Are you currently employed full time?**

Yes →go to Q3  
No

**Q42. (If No)Which of the following best describes your situation?**

Retired →go to Q43a  
Homemaker →Z1  
Looking for work →go to Q43a  
Working part time →go to Q43  
Student →Z1  
Unable to work →Z1

**Q43. Which of the following best describes your employer?**

Private sector company/firm  
Government, including public schools, public universities, or public hospitals  
A non profit or not for profit agency or organization  
I am self employed

**Q44. What best describes your occupation?** (For example: nurse, personnel manager, accountant, auto mechanic)

Open text box

**Q45. What are your most important activities or duties?** (For example: patient care, directing hiring policies, supervising order clerks, repairing automobiles, reconciling financial records)

Open text box

**Q43A. Thinking about your last job, which of the following best describes your former employer?**

Private sector company/firm

Government, including public schools, public universities, or public hospitals

A non profit or not for profit agency or organization

I was self employed

Does not apply

**Q44A. What best describes your former occupation?** (For example: nurse, personnel manager, accountant, auto mechanic)

Open text box

**Q45A. What were your most important activities or duties?** (For example: patient care, directing hiring policies, supervising order clerks, repairing automobiles, reconciling financial records)

Open text box

