

Ask-Alabama Summer 2004 K-12 Education

Urgency of Issues: Quality of the Public School System

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Urgent	187	30.7	31.8	31.8
	High Priority	271	44.5	46.1	77.9
	Medium Priority	87	14.3	14.8	92.7
	Low Priority	43	7.1	7.3	100.0
	Total	588	96.6	100.0	
Missing	System	21	3.4		
Total		609	100.0		

During past 10 years, have you had children enrolled in the K-12 system where they live?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	No	287	47.1	47.1	47.1
	Yes	322	52.9	52.9	100.0
Total		609	100.0	100.0	

Currently, do you have children in K-12 in Alabama?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	No	408	67.0	67.0	67.0
	Yes	201	33.0	33.0	100.0
Total		609	100.0	100.0	

Among parents with children in K-12, Are they in public or private school?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Private School	22	3.6	10.9	10.9
	Public School	168	27.6	83.6	94.5
	Both	6	1.0	3.0	97.5
	Other	5	.8	2.5	100.0
	Total	201	33.0	100.0	
Missing	System	408	67.0		
Total		609	100.0		

Among parents with children in K-12, what grades are your children currently enrolled?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Grades K-6	73	12.0	36.3	36.3
	Grades 7-12	80	13.1	39.8	76.1
	Both	48	7.9	23.9	100.0
	Total	201	33.0	100.0	
Missing	System	408	67.0		
Total		609	100.0		

Do you think that the quality of Alabama public school education has improved, worsened, or stayed the same over the last few years?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Improved	163	26.8	28.8	28.8
	Stayed the Same	197	32.3	34.9	63.7
	Worsened	205	33.7	36.3	100.0
	Total	565	92.8	100.0	
Missing	System	44	7.2		
Total		609	100.0		

How well do Alabama's public schools compare with those in neighboring states?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Much Better	21	3.4	3.9	3.9
	Somewhat Better	60	9.9	11.1	15.0
	About the Same	187	30.7	34.7	49.7
	Somewhat Worse	182	29.9	33.8	83.5
	Much Worse	89	14.6	16.5	100.0
	Total	539	88.5	100.0	
Missing	System	70	11.5		
Total		609	100.0		

Are Alabama's state-level officials giving sufficient attention to the quality of public education in the State?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	155	25.5	27.5	27.5
	No	409	67.2	72.5	100.0
	Total	564	92.6	100.0	
Missing	System	45	7.4		
Total		609	100.0		

How closely do you follow the performance of public school education in your school district?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Closely	207	34.0	34.1	34.1
	Somewhat Closely	265	43.5	43.7	77.8
	Not Very Closely	99	16.3	16.3	94.1
	Not At All	36	5.9	5.9	100.0
	Total	607	99.7	100.0	
Missing	System	2	.3		
Total		609	100.0		

How satisfied are you with the quality of public school education in your school district?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Satisfied	106	17.4	18.3	18.3
	Somewhat Satisfied	226	37.1	39.0	57.3
	Somewhat Dissatisfied	139	22.8	24.0	81.3
	Very Dissatisfied	108	17.7	18.7	100.0
	Total	579	95.1	100.0	
Missing	System	30	4.9		
Total		609	100.0		

Has the quality of public school education in your school district improved, worsened, or stayed the same over the last few years?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Improved	186	30.5	33.1	33.1
	Stayed the Same	229	37.6	40.7	73.8
	Worsened	147	24.1	26.2	100.0
	Total	562	92.3	100.0	
Missing	System	47	7.7		
Total		609	100.0		

Are your local schools much better, somewhat better, about the same, somewhat worse, or much worse than schools in neighboring areas?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Much Better	88	14.4	15.4	15.4
	Somewhat Better	156	25.6	27.4	42.8
	About the Same	194	31.9	34.0	76.8
	Somewhat Worse	87	14.3	15.3	92.1
	Much Worse	45	7.4	7.9	100.0
	Total	570	93.6	100.0	
Missing	System	39	6.4		
Total		609	100.0		

Are local school district decision-makers giving sufficient attention to the quality of public school education?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	289	47.5	51.1	51.1
	No	277	45.5	48.9	100.0
	Total	566	92.9	100.0	
Missing	System	43	7.1		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: The Teachers

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	112	18.4	20.0	20.0
	Good	212	34.8	37.9	58.0
	Satisfactory	192	31.5	34.3	92.3
	Poor	37	6.1	6.6	98.9
	Very Poor	6	1.0	1.1	100.0
	Total	559	91.8	100.0	
Missing	System	50	8.2		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: The Administration, School Board, and School Superintendent

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	66	10.8	11.8	11.8
	Good	169	27.8	30.3	42.2
	Satisfactory	176	28.9	31.6	73.8
	Poor	109	17.9	19.6	93.4
	Very Poor	37	6.1	6.6	100.0
	Total	557	91.5	100.0	
Missing	System	52	8.5		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: The School Buildings and Grounds

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	103	16.9	17.5	17.5
	Good	203	33.3	34.6	52.1
	Satisfactory	153	25.1	26.1	78.2
	Poor	94	15.4	16.0	94.2
	Very Poor	34	5.6	5.8	100.0
	Total	587	96.4	100.0	
Missing	System	22	3.6		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: Involvement of the Local PTA

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	82	13.5	17.2	17.2
	Good	171	28.1	35.8	52.9
	Satisfactory	118	19.4	24.7	77.6
	Poor	86	14.1	18.0	95.6
	Very Poor	21	3.4	4.4	100.0
	Total	478	78.5	100.0	
Missing	System	131	21.5		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: Support for Local Schools by the Community

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	114	18.7	19.9	19.9
	Good	199	32.7	34.7	54.6
	Satisfactory	141	23.2	24.6	79.2
	Poor	93	15.3	16.2	95.5
	Very Poor	26	4.3	4.5	100.0
	Total	573	94.1	100.0	
Missing	System	36	5.9		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: Instruction in Reading, Writing, and Literature

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	73	12.0	14.1	14.1
	Good	198	32.5	38.2	52.2
	Satisfactory	144	23.6	27.7	80.0
	Poor	82	13.5	15.8	95.8
	Very Poor	22	3.6	4.2	100.0
	Total	519	85.2	100.0	
Missing	System	90	14.8		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: Instruction in Mathematics and Science

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	53	8.7	10.4	10.4
	Good	195	32.0	38.2	48.6
	Satisfactory	143	23.5	28.0	76.7
	Poor	98	16.1	19.2	95.9
	Very Poor	21	3.4	4.1	100.0
	Total	510	83.7	100.0	
Missing	System	99	16.3		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: Vocational and Technical Education

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	43	7.1	9.5	9.5
	Good	198	32.5	43.5	53.0
	Satisfactory	130	21.3	28.6	81.5
	Poor	71	11.7	15.6	97.1
	Very Poor	13	2.1	2.9	100.0
	Total	455	74.7	100.0	
Missing	System	154	25.3		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: Instruction in Music and the Arts

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	57	9.4	11.2	11.2
	Good	169	27.8	33.3	44.6
	Satisfactory	127	20.9	25.0	69.6
	Poor	112	18.4	22.1	91.7
	Very Poor	42	6.9	8.3	100.0
	Total	507	83.3	100.0	
Missing	System	102	16.7		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: Instruction in Physical Fitness and Health

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	52	8.5	10.0	10.0
	Good	197	32.3	37.7	47.7
	Satisfactory	154	25.3	29.5	77.2
	Poor	97	15.9	18.6	95.8
	Very Poor	22	3.6	4.2	100.0
	Total	522	85.7	100.0	
Missing	System	87	14.3		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: Competitive Sports

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	118	19.4	21.5	21.5
	Good	237	38.9	43.1	64.5
	Satisfactory	160	26.3	29.1	93.6
	Poor	28	4.6	5.1	98.7
	Very Poor	7	1.1	1.3	100.0
	Total	550	90.3	100.0	
Missing	System	59	9.7		
Total		609	100.0		

Local School District Quality: Extra-Curricular Activities and Interest Clubs

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Excellent	64	10.5	12.6	12.6
	Good	188	30.9	37.2	49.8
	Satisfactory	149	24.5	29.4	79.2
	Poor	92	15.1	18.2	97.4
	Very Poor	13	2.1	2.6	100.0
	Total	506	83.1	100.0	
Missing	System	103	16.9		
Total		609	100.0		

There is a need to increase funding support for public education in your community today.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	307	50.4	51.8	51.8
	Agree	208	34.2	35.1	86.8
	Neither Agree nor Disagree	16	2.6	2.7	89.5
	Disagree	45	7.4	7.6	97.1
	Strongly Disagree	17	2.8	2.9	100.0
	Total	593	97.4	100.0	
Missing	System	16	2.6		
Total		609	100.0		

Your community is financially supporting the school district as well as it is able.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	90	14.8	15.7	15.7
	Agree	285	46.8	49.7	65.3
	Neither Agree nor Disagree	26	4.3	4.5	69.9
	Disagree	135	22.2	23.5	93.4
	Strongly Disagree	38	6.2	6.6	100.0
	Total	574	94.3	100.0	
Missing	System	35	5.7		
Total		609	100.0		

State elected officials are giving sufficient attention to the issue of providing adequate school funding.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	16	2.6	2.8	2.8
	Agree	138	22.7	24.5	27.3
	Neither Agree nor Disagree	33	5.4	5.9	33.2
	Disagree	246	40.4	43.6	76.8
	Strongly Disagree	131	21.5	23.2	100.0
	Total	564	92.6	100.0	
Missing	System	45	7.4		
Total		609	100.0		

Your school district uses its funds as wisely and efficiently as it can.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	37	6.1	6.7	6.7
	Agree	269	44.2	48.5	55.1
	Neither Agree nor Disagree	34	5.6	6.1	61.3
	Disagree	130	21.3	23.4	84.7
	Strongly Disagree	85	14.0	15.3	100.0
	Total	555	91.1	100.0	
Missing	System	54	8.9		
Total		609	100.0		

In your opinion, has funding for education improved, stayed the same, or worsened in recent years?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Improved	98	16.1	17.0	17.0
	Stayed the Same	212	34.8	36.7	53.7
	Worsened	267	43.8	46.3	100.0
	Total	577	94.7	100.0	
Missing	System	32	5.3		
Total		609	100.0		

To what extent would you support having a lottery in Alabama to support education?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Support	332	54.5	55.1	55.1
	Mildly Support	83	13.6	13.8	68.8
	Indifferent	40	6.6	6.6	75.5
	Mildly Oppose	33	5.4	5.5	80.9
	Strongly Oppose	115	18.9	19.1	100.0
	Total	603	99.0	100.0	
Missing	System	6	1.0		
Total		609	100.0		

Do you believe that school teachers are currently overpaid, fairly paid, or underpaid?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Overpaid	16	2.6	2.8	2.8
	Fairly Paid	151	24.8	26.3	29.0
	Underpaid	408	67.0	71.0	100.0
	Total	575	94.4	100.0	
Missing	System	34	5.6		
Total		609	100.0		

Do you believe that your local school administrators are currently overpaid, fairly paid, or underpaid?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Overpaid	240	39.4	44.5	44.5
	Fairly Paid	223	36.6	41.4	85.9
	Underpaid	76	12.5	14.1	100.0
	Total	539	88.5	100.0	
Missing	System	70	11.5		
Total		609	100.0		