

**MAJORITY OPINION**

**R E S E A R C H**

# Florida Education Survey

Conducted for

the  
**CENTER FOR EDUCATION REFORM**

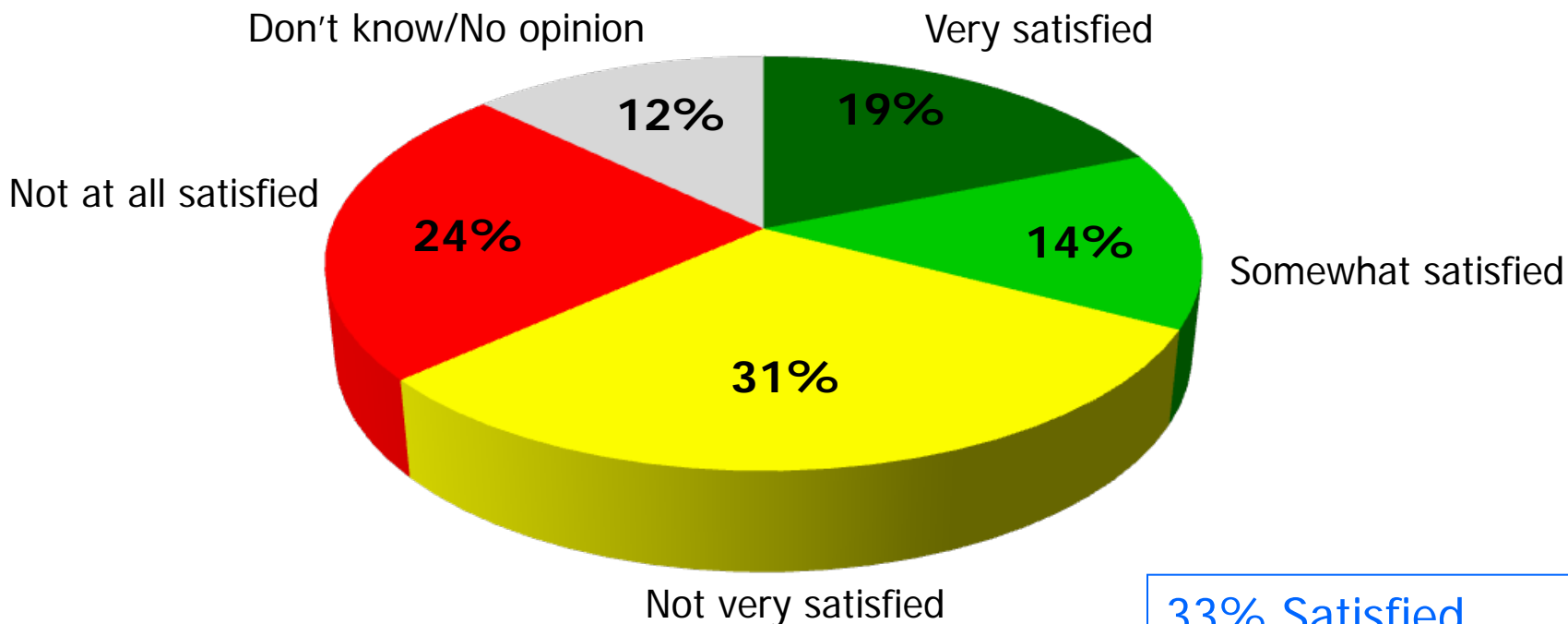
June 2012

# Methodology

- Random telephone interviews were conducted with registered voters throughout the state of Florida
- 517 interviews were completed between June 18 and June 19, 2012
- Data is weighted by age, race, gender and political party affiliation
- Maximum sampling error is +/- 4.2%

# Satisfaction with Florida Public Schools

(517 Registered Voters in Florida)



33% Satisfied  
55% Not Satisfied  
12% Don't know

Q. How satisfied are you with the public schools in the state of Florida?

# Satisfaction with Florida Public Schools

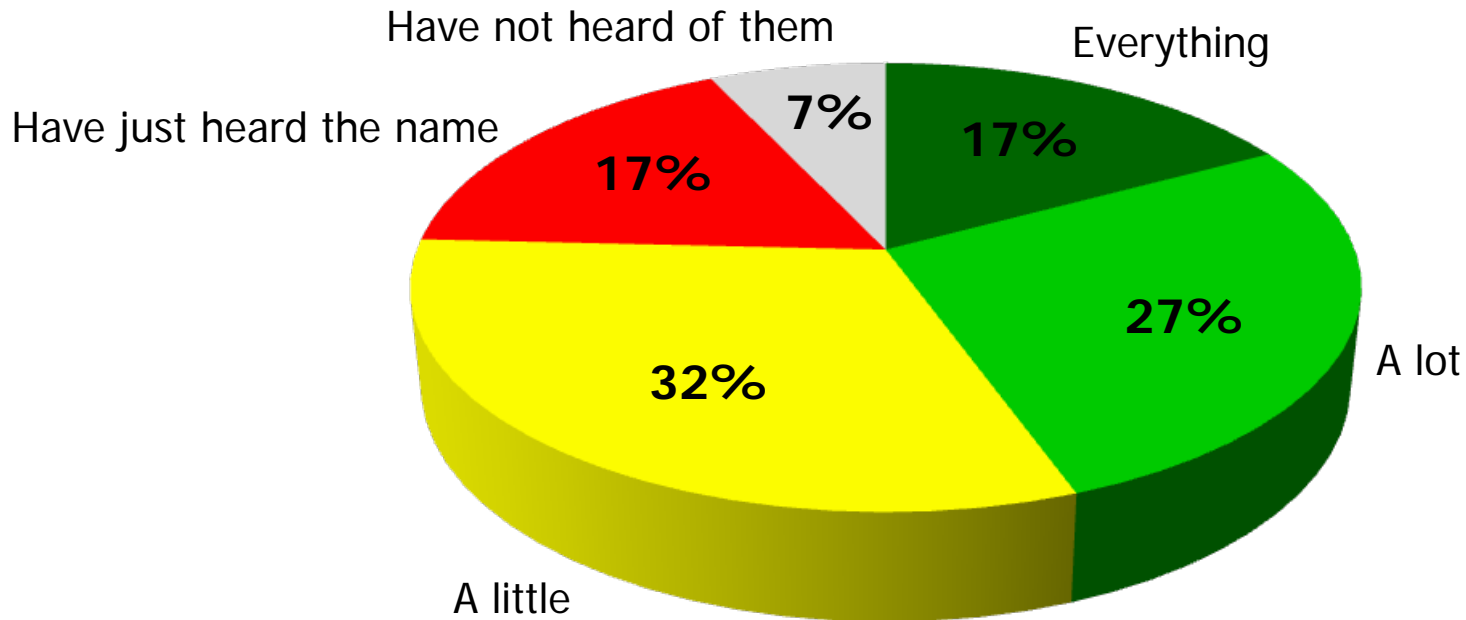
(517 Registered Voters in Florida)

	Total	Children Under Age 18 in Household		Political Party Affiliation			Gender		Race		
		Yes	No	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Very satisfied	19	42 ←	8	40	4	3	29 ←	9	24	10	-
Somewhat satisfied	14	8 →	16	12	8	30	12	16	17	-	11
Not very satisfied	31	24	33	28	28	42	28	33	33	27	25
Not at all satisfied	24	19	26	13	35	23	18 →	29	16	17	64
Don't know	12	6 →	16	7	25	2	14	13	10	46	-

Q. How satisfied are you with the public schools in the state of Florida?

# Know About Charter Schools

(517 Registered Voters in Florida)



Q. How much would you say you know about "charter schools?"

# Know About Charter Schools

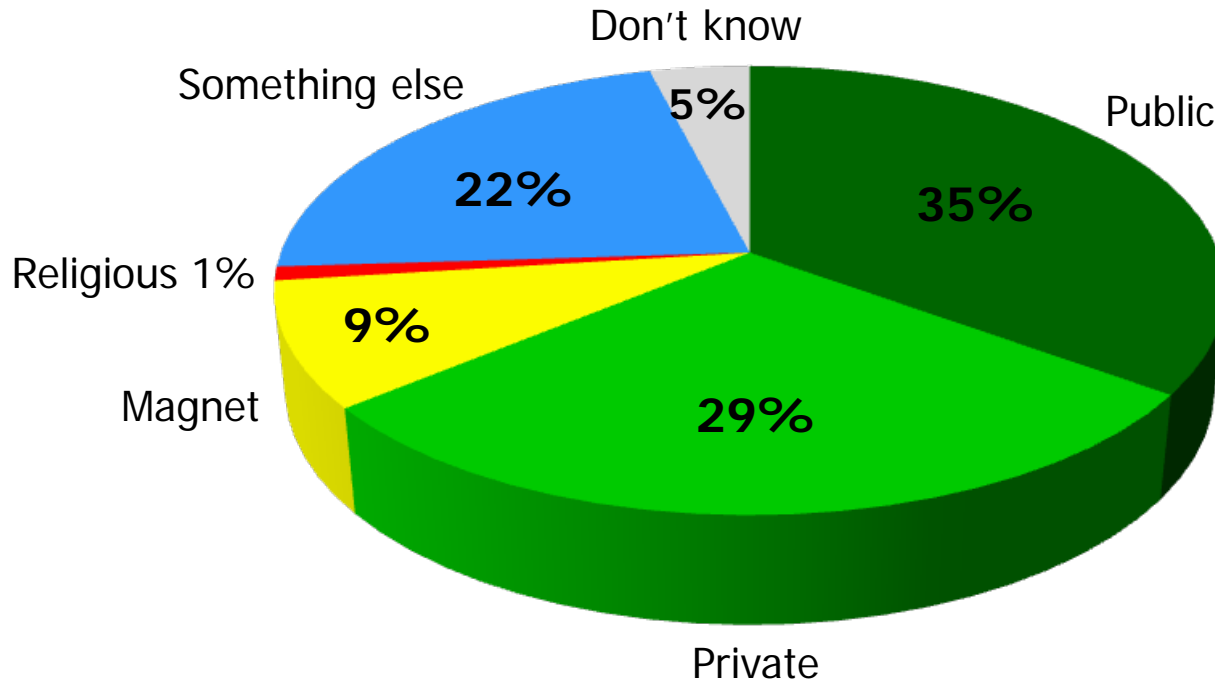
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		Yes	No	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Everything	17	57 ←	-	40	-	5	34 ←	2	19	-	24
A lot	27	31	26	19	31	36	12 →	42	27	10	40
A little	32	5 →	42	20	43 ←	32	29	33	33 →	54	11
Just the name	17	7 →	22	19	12 →	25	12 →	22	13	27	25
Have not heard of	7	- →	10	2	14	2	14 ←	1	8	10	-

Q. How much would you say you know about "charter schools?"

# Perceived Classification of Charter Schools

(391 Registered Voters in Florida who know at least a little about charter schools)



Q. How would you classify charter schools? Would you say that they are public schools, private schools, religious schools, magnet schools or something else?

# Perceived Classification of Charter Schools

(391 Registered Voters in Florida who know at least a little about charter schools)

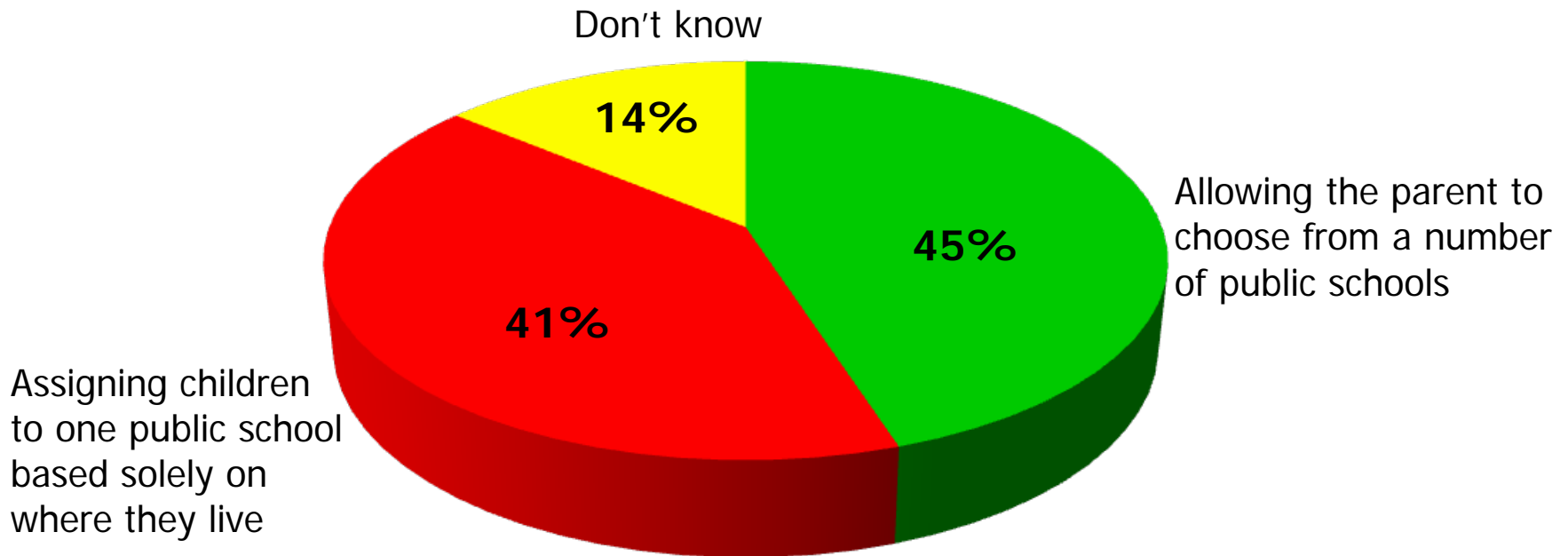
	Total	Children Under Age 18 in Household		Political Party Affiliation			Gender		Race		
		Yes	No	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Public	35	45 ←	29	47	25	29	43 ←	28	40	53	-
Private	29	12 →	40	19	41	29	29	30	26 ←	16	54
Magnet	9	13	7	11	7	9	5	13	12	-	-
Religious	1	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-
Something else	22	30 ←	17	20	20	31	19	25	20 ←	-	46
Don't know	4	-	6	3	7	-	4	4	1	31	-

Q. How would you classify charter schools? Would you say that they are public schools, private schools, religious schools, magnet schools or something else?



# Best Way to Assign Students to Schools

(517 Registered Voters in Florida)



Q. Currently, children attending public schools are assigned to the school they attend by the school district based on where they live. Some have suggested that parents should have the option to send their children to a number of different public schools, with no additional cost, based on which is the best match for the child. Which do you believe is better: assigning children to one public school based solely on where they live or allowing the parent to choose from a number of public schools?

# Best Way to Assign Students to Schools

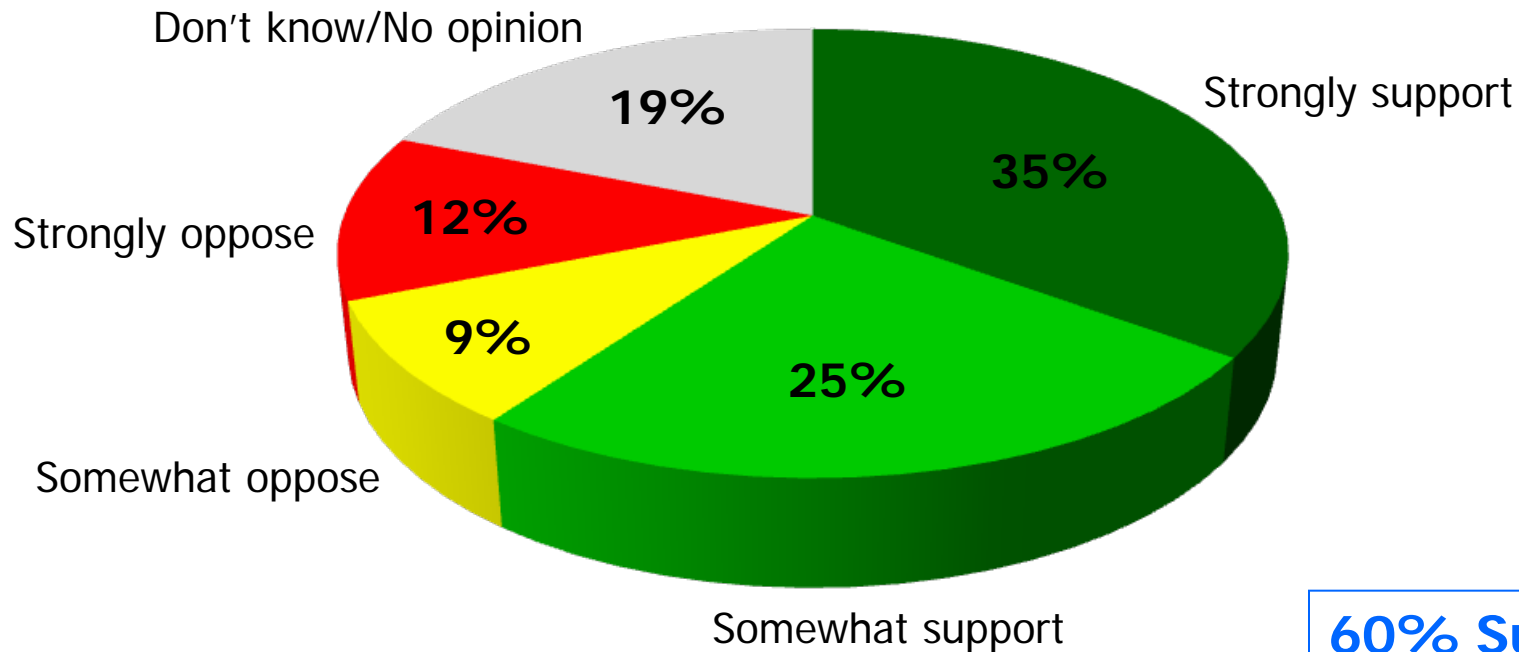
(517 Registered Voters in Florida)

	Total %	Children Under Age 18 in Household		Political Party Affiliation			Gender		Race		
		Yes %	No %	Republican %	Democrat %	Independent %	Male %	Female %	White %	Black %	Hispanic %
Parents allowed to choose	45	42	47	52	53	17	32	→ 57	40	70	49
Assigned to school based on location	41	54	← 35	46	← 18	76	64	← 19	48	20	22
Don't know	14	4	→ 18	2	30	7	3	→ 24	12	10	29

Q. Currently, children attending public schools are assigned to the school they attend by the school district based on where they live. Some have suggested that parents should have the option to send their children to a number of different public schools, with no additional cost, based on which is the best match for the child. Which do you believe is better: assigning children to one public school based solely on where they live or allowing the parent to choose from a number of public schools?

# Support Communities Creating Charter Schools

(517 Registered Voters in Florida)



**60% Support**  
**21% Oppose**  
**19% Don't know**

Q. How much do you support or oppose allowing communities to create new public schools - called charter schools - that give parents a choice of where they send their children that would be held accountable for student results and that would be required to meet the same academic standards/testing requirements as other public schools but not cost taxpayers any additional money?

# Support Communities Creating Charter Schools

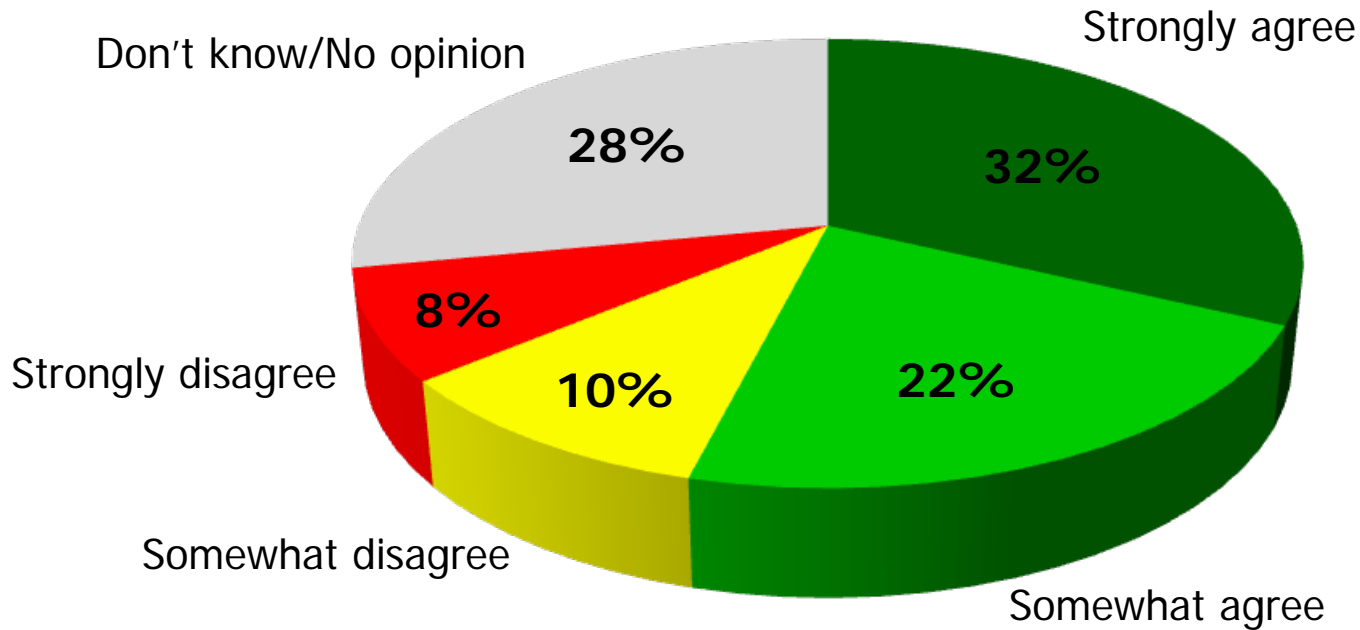
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		Yes	No	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly support	35	45 ←	31	58	17	21	47 ←	24	34	44	36
Somewhat support	25	36 ←	21	30	18	30	19 →	32	24 ←	10	35
Somewhat oppose	9	4	11	2	18	7	6	12	10	17	-
Strongly oppose	12	12	12	6	19	10	7	16	14	20	-
Don't know	19	3 →	25	3	28	31	21	16	18	10	29

Q. How much do you support or oppose allowing communities to create new public schools - called charter schools - that give parents a choice of where they send their children that would be held accountable for student results and that would be required to meet the same academic standards/testing requirements as other public schools but not cost taxpayers any additional money?

# Authority to Approve Charter Schools

(517 Registered Voters in Florida)



**54% Agree**  
**18% Disagree**  
**28% Don't know**

Q. In other states, entities such as universities, mayors and new independent state boards are allowed to approve and help monitor charter schools. In addition to local school boards here in Florida, how much do you agree or disagree that the legislature should grant one or more of these entities the authority to approve the creation of and to help monitor charter schools in Florida?

# Authority to Approve Charter Schools

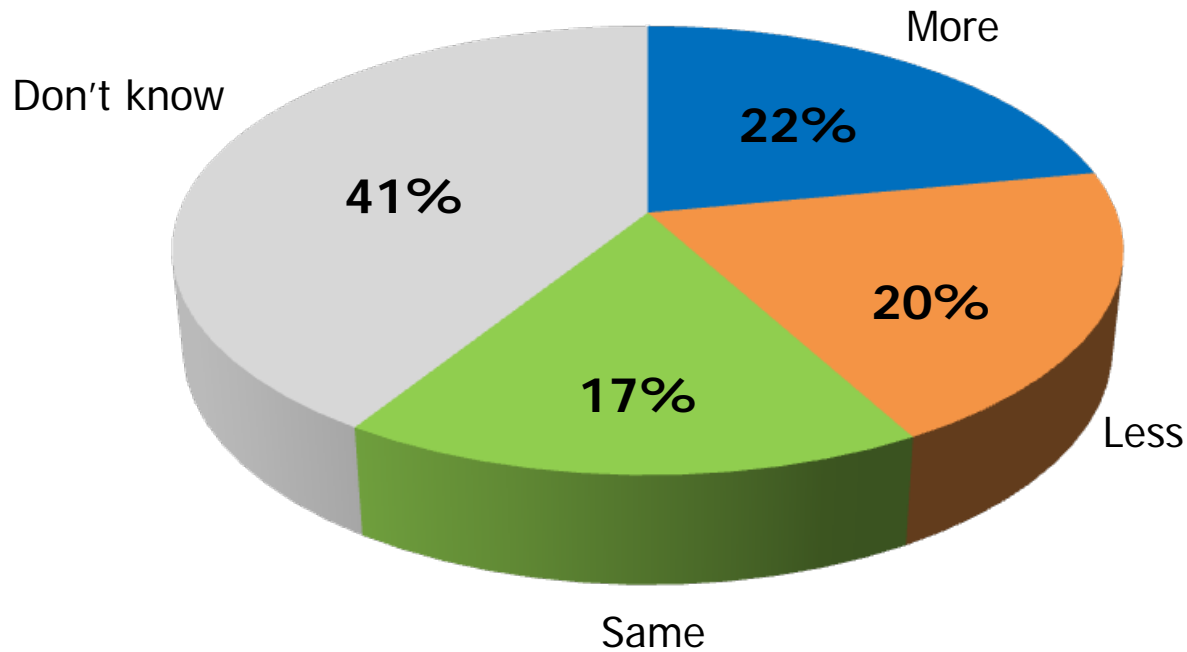
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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Strongly agree	32	43 ←	27	46	23	20	41 ←	24	34	20	36
Somewhat agree	22	20	23	23	21	21	20	24	22	17	24
Somewhat disagree	10	10	9	8	9	15	8	11	11	-	11
Strongly disagree	8	12	7	8	9	9	7	10	10	10	-
Don't know	28	15 →	34	15	39	36	25	31	24	54	29

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# Perception of Charter School Funding

(517 Registered Voters in Florida)



Q. Do you think that charter schools in Florida receive more, less or the same amount of funding as traditional public schools?

# Perception of Charter School Funding

(517 Registered Voters in Florida)

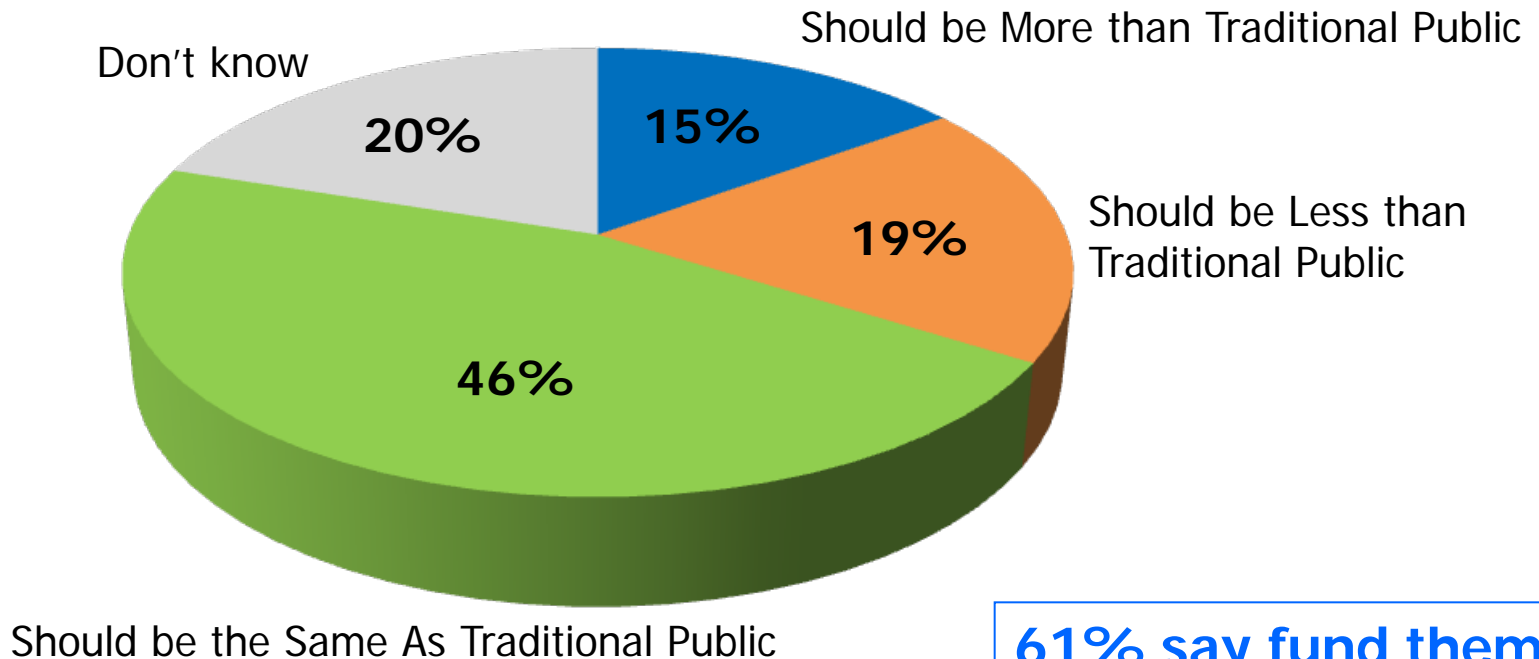
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		Yes	No	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
More	22	37 ←	16	34	10 →	22	36 ←	10	26	-	22
Less	20	4 →	27	5	39 ←	15	12 →	27	12	63	29
Same	17	20	16	20	11	24	11 →	22	17	10	25
Don't know	41	39	42	41	40	40	41	41	45	27	24

Q. Do you think that charter schools in Florida receive more, less or the same amount of funding as traditional public schools?



# Opinion of Charter School Funding

(517 Registered Voters in Florida)



**61% say fund them the same or more**

Q. The amount of funding provided for charter schools is set by law but often varies and rarely includes facilities funds. In some states, like Florida, students attending public charter schools receive only 75% of the funding that all other public schools receive. Given that charter schools are public schools, do you think that they should be funded more, less or at the same level as traditional public schools?

# Opinion of Charter School Funding

(517 Registered Voters in Florida)

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		Yes	No	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Male	Female	White	Black	Hispanic
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
More	15	34 ←	6	32	4	2	30 ←	2	19	10	-
Less	19	22	17	16	19	26	16	22	17 ←	-	40
Same	46	28 →	54	41	41	66	44	48	41	70	60
Don't know	20	16	22	12	36	6	11 →	29	23	20	-

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**For Additional Information Contact:**

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