

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
2023 SURVEY OF TEACHERS  
FINAL TOPLINE  
OCTOBER 17-NOVEMBER 14, 2023  
TOTAL N=2,531**

**NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). ROWS/COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING.**

Public K-12 teachers	<b>Sample size</b> 2,531	<b>Margin of error at 95% confidence level</b> +/- 2.4 percentage points
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**ASK ALL:**

**CURRICULUM** How much influence would you say each of the following has when it comes to what public K-12 schools in your area are teaching? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS ACROSS TWO SCREENS; RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

	<u>Too much influence</u>	<u>Not enough influence</u>	About the right amount of influence <b>[anchor]</b>	<u>No answer</u>
a. The local school board Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023	38	9	51	2
b. Your state government Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023	58	5	35	2
c. The federal government Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023	45	10	42	2
d. Teachers Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023	1	71	26	2
e. Principals Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023	14	22	61	3
f. Parents Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023	32	19	47	2
g. Students Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023	8	41	48	2

**ASK ALL:  
DEBATE**

Thinking about current debates on how public K-12 schools should be teaching certain topics like race and gender identity, what type of impact would you say these debates have had on your ability to do your job? **[SHOW RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER FOR RANDOM HALF OF THE SAMPLE WITH 6 OPTION ALWAYS LAST]**

Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023

1	Very positive
3	Somewhat positive
26	Neither positive nor negative
27	Somewhat negative
14	Very negative
27	No impact <b>[anchor]</b>
3	No answer

**ASK ALL:  
OPTOUT**

Do you think that parents should be able to opt their children out of learning about the following topics in school if the way these topics are taught conflicts with the parents' personal views or beliefs? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

		Yes, parents should be able to opt their <u>children out</u>	No, parents should not be able to opt their <u>children out</u>	Not sure <b>[anchor]</b>	No <u>answer</u>
a.	Racism or racial inequality Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023	25	60	13	2
b.	Sexual orientation or gender identity Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023	48	33	17	2

**ASK IF TEACHING MORE THAN A YEAR (TCHYEAR=2-4) [n=2,529]:**

TCHTOPIC How often did each of the following topics come up in your classroom in the last school year (2022-23), either as a part of something you were teaching or in some other way? **[SHOW ITEMS IN SAME ORDER AS OPTOUT; SHOW RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER FOR RANDOM HALF OF THE SAMPLE]**

		Extremely <u>often</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Never</u>	No <u>answer</u>
a.	Racism or racial inequality Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023	5	16	35	25	17	2
b.	Sexual orientation or gender identity Oct 17-Nov 14, 2023	2	6	21	31	37	2

**ASK ALL:**

TCHGENDER Which of the following do you think **[IF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER: elementary school /IF MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER: middle school /IF HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER: high school]** students should learn in school, even if neither is exactly right?  
**[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

Oct 17-Nov 14,  
2023

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 14 | That whether someone is a boy or a girl is determined by the sex they were assigned at birth           |
| 33 | That someone can be a boy or a girl even if that is different from the sex they were assigned at birth |
| 50 | Students should not learn about this in elementary/middle/high school <b>[anchor]</b>                  |
| 3  | No answer  |

**ASK ALL:**

TCHRACE Which of the following do you think **[IF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER: elementary school /IF MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER: middle school /IF HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER: high school]** students should learn in school, even if neither is exactly right?  
**[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

Oct 17-Nov 14,  
2023

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 64 | That the legacy of slavery still affects the position of Black people in American society today                     |
| 23 | That slavery is part of American history but does not affect the position of Black people in American society today |
| 8  | Students should not learn about this in elementary/middle/high school <b>[anchor]</b>                               |
| 5  | No answer   |

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

**ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING [n=1,067]:**

PARTYLN	As of today do you lean more to...	Something	No	Lean	Lean			
		<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>else</u>	<u>answer</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>
		20	36	26	14	3	14	22

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**2023 PEW RESEARCH CENTER SOCIAL & DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS  
SURVEY ON PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT K12 EDUCATION AND TEACHERS NOVEMBER 2023  
FINAL TOPLINE  
NOVEMBER 9-16, 2023  
TOTAL N=5,029**

**NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). ROWS/COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING.**

U.S. adults	<b>Sample Size</b> 5,029	<b>Margin of error at 95% confidence level</b> +/- 1.4 percentage points
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**ASK ALL:**

K12OPTOUT Do you think that parents should be able to opt their children out of learning about the following topics in school if the way these topics are taught conflicts with the parent's personal views or beliefs? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

	Yes, parents should be able to opt their <u>children out</u>	No, parents should not be able to opt their <u>children out</u>	Not sure <b>[anchor]</b>	No <u>answer</u>
a. Racism or racial inequality Nov 9-16, 2023	34	52	13	1
b. Sexual orientation or gender identity Nov 9-16, 2023	54	31	13	2

PARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

**ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING [n=1,962]:**

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...<sup>1</sup>

<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	Something <u>else</u>	No <u>answer</u>	Lean <u>Rep</u>	Lean <u>Dem</u>
28	32	30	8	2	16	18

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

<sup>1</sup> PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.

**2023 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S TEENS SURVEY  
SEPTEMBER 26-OCTOBER 23, 2023  
TEENS AGES 13-17 N=1,453**

**NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE PERCENTAGES LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). ROWS/COLUMNS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING.**

U.S. teens ages 13-17	<b>Sample size</b> 1,453	<b>Margin of error at 95% confidence level</b> +/- 3.2 percentage points
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**ASK ALL:**

SCHLTYPE Are you currently attending...

Sep 26-Oct 23, 2023

80	A public school
7	A private school
5	A charter school
7	I am homeschooled
1	No answer

**ASK IF ATTENDING SCHOOL AND NOT HOMESCHOOLED (SCHLTYPE=1-3) [N=1,333]:**

TOPICFEEL In general, how do you feel when each of the following topics come up in your classes, either as part of a teacher's lesson or in some other way? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS; SHOW RESPONSE OPTIONS IN REVERSE ORDER FOR RANDOM HALF OF THE SAMPLE, WITH OPTION 6 ALWAYS LAST]**

	Very comfortable	Somewhat comfortable	Neither comfortable nor uncomfortable	Somewhat uncomfortable	Very uncomfortable	This topic has never come up in any of my classes <b>[ANCHOR]</b>	No answer
a. Racism or racial inequality Sep 26-Oct 23, 2023	16	18	38	14	5	8	1
b. Sexual orientation or gender identity Sep 26-Oct 23, 2023	13	13	32	18	10	14	1

**ASK IF ATTENDING SCHOOL AND NOT HOMESCHOOLED (SCHLTYPE=1-3) [N=1,333]:**

SCHLLEARN1 Which of the following would you prefer to learn about in school, even if neither is exactly right? **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

Sep 26-Oct 23, 2023

26	That whether someone is a boy or a girl is determined by the sex they were assigned at birth
25	That someone can be a boy or a girl even if that is different from the sex they were assigned at birth
48	I should not learn about this in school <b>[ANCHOR]</b>
1	No answer

**ASK IF ATTENDING SCHOOL AND NOT HOMESCHOOLED (SCHLTYPE=1-3) [N=1,333]:**

SCHLLEARN2 Which of the following would you prefer to learn about in school, even if neither is exactly right? **[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

Sep 26-Oct 23, 2023

48	That the legacy of slavery still affects the position of Black people in American society today
40	That slavery is part of American history but does not affect the position of Black people in American society today
11	I should not learn about this in school <b>[ANCHOR]</b>
1	No answer

TPARTY In politics today, do you consider yourself a:

**ASK IF INDEP/SOMETHING ELSE (PARTY=3 or 4) OR MISSING:**

TPARTYLN As of today do you lean more to...<sup>2</sup>

<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Something else</u>	<u>No answer</u>	<u>Lean Rep</u>	<u>Lean Dem</u>
21	23	30	23	3	22	24

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE OR PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

<sup>2</sup> PARTY and PARTYLN asked in a prior survey.