

---

# MACKINAC CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY 2018

---

800 Active Voters • 30 Percent Cell Phone

Sampling Margin of Error 3.46 Percent

July 9-13, 2018

## 1. ADI

Saginaw/Flint/Bay City .....	12.6%
GR/Kzoo/West .....	22.0%
Cad/TC/Soo .....	6.3%
Mid MI/Lansing .....	7.8%
Metro Detroit .....	49.0%
Misc./UP .....	2.4%

## 2. GEOCODE

City of Detroit .....	4.5%
Balance of Wayne .....	12.3%
Oakland .....	13.9%
Macomb .....	8.5%
Balance of Detroit SMSA .....	9.9%
Mid-MI .....	11.5%
West MI .....	19.8%
TriCities/thumb .....	9.9%
Northern Lower MI .....	7.0%
UP .....	2.9%

## 3. Are you registered to vote in [City or Township List] \_\_\_\_\_?

Yes .....	100.0%
No .....	-

4. Now, I would like to talk to you about education, public schools, and private schools .

Students are often given the grades A, B, C, D or F to describe the quality of their work. Suppose the public schools in Michigan were graded the same way. What overall grade would you give schools in Michigan . . . an A, B, C, D or F?

- A ..... 6.3%
- B ..... 30.3%
- C ..... 33.4%
- D ..... 10.5%
- F ..... 4.5%
- Don't know ..... 14.9%
- Refused ..... 0.3%

5. Now, thinking about the schools in your local community, what overall grade would you give [READ ANSWERS IN RANDOM ORDER]

[READ ANSWERS IN RANDOM ORDER]

	A	B	C	D	F	Don't Know	Refused
Regular Public Schools	18.5%	38.8%	24.1%	8.9%	4.5%	5.1%	0.1%
Charter Schools	5.8%	18.0%	13.0%	5.5%	4.5%	52.9%	0.4%
Private Schools	20.1%	25.1%	7.9%	2.4%	2.0%	41.8%	0.8%

6. Would you say parents in the State of Michigan currently have too much, too little, or just about the right amount of choice when deciding where their children should attend school?

- Too much ..... 12.3%
- Just about right ..... 55.3%
- Too little ..... 25.6%
- Don't know ..... 6.8%
- Refused ..... 0.1%

7. I am going to read a set of statements about different school options for students. For each, please tell me if you agree or disagree with the statement. The first is . . . [IF AGREE / DISAGREE, ASK:] Would that be strongly (agree/disagree) or just somewhat (agree/disagree)?

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree / Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	DK	RF
Students should be only be able to attend their own neighborhood schools	10.6%	10.0%	1.9%	26.0%	50.4%	1.1%	-
Students should be able to choose any traditional public school in their district	58.1%	27.3%	1.6%	5.8%	5.9%	1.3%	0.1%
Students should be able to choose a traditional public school in a different district	37.0%	29.9%	2.9%	13.8%	14.3%	2.1%	0.1%
Students should be able to choose a charter school	45.0%	28.9%	3.5%	6.6%	12.5%	3.5%	-
Students should be able to choose a private or parochial school	56.9%	30.4%	3.1%	2.6%	6.0%	1.0%	-
Students should be able to be homeschooled by their parents	44.1%	29.1%	3.4%	8.8%	13.8%	0.9%	-

8. Some people who oppose school choice say it hurts traditional public schools, and therefore, it should not be expanded in Michigan. What about you? Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree that school choice hurts traditional public schools?

Strongly agree .....	20.0%
Somewhat agree .....	19.1%
Neither (volunteered) .....	2.9%
Somewhat disagree .....	23.0%
Strongly disagree .....	32.0%
Don't know .....	2.8%
Refused .....	0.3%
 TOTAL AGREE .....	 39.1%
TOTAL DISAGREE .....	55.0%

9. How familiar are you with "charter schools" in K-12 education? Would you say you are very familiar, somewhat familiar or not that familiar with charter schools?

Very familiar .....	15.5%
Somewhat familiar .....	33.4%
Not that familiar .....	45.8%
Don't know .....	5.3%
Refused .....	0.1%

10. Charter schools are independently run public schools that have more control over their budgets, staff and curriculum. In general, do you favor or oppose charter schools? [IF FAVOR / OPPOSE, ASK:] Would you say strongly (favor/oppose) or just somewhat (favor/oppose)?

Strongly favor .....	21.1%
Somewhat favor .....	26.4%
Neither (volunteered) .....	14.8%
Somewhat oppose .....	12.6%
Strongly oppose .....	17.3%
Don't know .....	7.8%
Refused .....	0.1%
 TOTAL FAVOR .....	 47.5%
TOTAL OPPOSE .....	29.9%

11. Public schools in Michigan are funded through a combination of property taxes, the sales tax, and other revenue. Parents who choose to send their children to a private school pay these taxes like everyone else, but also pay tuition for the private school. And, as you may know, an income tax credit reduces the final amount of taxes owed to the government. Some state governments give tax credits to individuals and businesses if they contribute money to nonprofit organizations that use the donations to award private school scholarships to students. This policy is what's called a "tax-credit scholarship system." In general, do you favor or oppose a tax-credit scholarship system? [IF FAVOR / OPPOSE, ASK:] Would you say you strongly (favor/oppose) or just somewhat (favor/oppose)?

Strongly favor .....	23.8%
Somewhat favor .....	30.1%
Neither/No opinion (volunteered) .....	8.8%
Somewhat oppose .....	11.5%
Strongly oppose .....	18.8%
Don't know .....	6.8%
Refused .....	0.4%
 TOTAL FAVOR .....	 53.9%
TOTAL OPPOSE .....	30.3%

12. Thinking more about the "tax-credit scholarship system", would you favor or oppose the system if it awarded scholarships for . . .

[IF FAVOR / OPPOSE, ASK:] Would that be strongly (favor / oppose) or just somewhat (favor / oppose)?

[READ ANSWERS IN RANDOM ORDER, EXCEPT THE LAST 1]

	Strongly Fav	Somewhat Fav	Neither	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	DK	RF
Low-income students to attend private school	49.8%	23.9%	4.3%	7.8%	11.9%	2.4%	0.1%
Special-needs students to attend private school	55.1%	23.5%	3.6%	5.9%	8.9%	3.0%	-
Students from failing traditional public schools to attend private school	37.8%	24.8%	6.6%	10.3%	15.1%	5.4%	0.1%
All students, regardless of income or special needs	46.4%	25.1%	4.8%	8.5%	12.3%	3.0%	-

13. Next, I'd like to talk about education savings accounts . . .

An "education savings account" allows parents to remove their child from a public-school district or charter school and receive payment into a government-authorized savings account with restricted, but multiple uses. Parents can use these funds to pay tuition for private schools or online education programs, private tutoring or to save for future college expenses. In general, do you favor or oppose this kind of "education savings account" system? [IF FAVOR/OPPOSE, ASK:] Would you say strongly (favor/oppose) or just somewhat (favor/oppose)?

Strongly favor .....	33.5%
Somewhat favor .....	25.4%
Neither / No opinion (volunteered) .....	5.3%
Somewhat oppose .....	9.0%
Strongly oppose .....	20.6%
Don't know .....	6.1%
Refused .....	0.1%
 TOTAL FAVOR .....	 58.9%
TOTAL OPPOSE .....	29.6%

14. There is another way for parents to pay for education expenses. Recent federal tax changes allow 529 education savings plans to be used for college expenses as well as private school tuition. Dollars invested in 529 plans grow tax free, and in some cases, contributions are tax deductible. Do you support or oppose Michigan continuing to offer tax benefits to families who use a child's 529 plan to pay for private school tuition?

[IF SUPPORT / OPPOSE, ASK:] Is that strongly (favor / oppose) or just somewhat (favor / oppose)?

Strongly support .....	35.5%
Somewhat support .....	27.0%
Neither support / oppose (VOL) .....	4.1%
Somewhat oppose .....	8.4%
Strongly oppose .....	20.0%
Don't know .....	5.0%
Refused .....	-
 TOTAL SUPPORT .....	 62.5%
TOTAL OPPOSE .....	28.4%

15. Are you the parent or guardian of any school-aged children, pre-school through high school?

Yes .....	27.4%	
No .....	72.6%	SKIP TO Question 19
Refused .....	-	

16. Do one or more of your children have a 529 education savings plan in their name?

Yes .....	25.6%
No .....	74.0%
Don't know .....	0.5%
Refused .....	-

[S - IF THE ANSWER IS 2-4, THEN SKIP TO QUESTION 18]

17. How likely are you to use a 529 plan to pay for private school tuition? Are you very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

Very Likely .....	17.9%
Somewhat Likely .....	12.5%
Not Very Likely .....	12.5%
Not at All Likely .....	53.6%
Don't know .....	3.6%
Refused .....	-
 TOTAL LIKELY .....	 30.5%
TOTAL UNLIKELY .....	66.1%

[S - IF THE ANSWER IS 1-6, THEN SKIP TO QUESTION 19]

18. Does the expanded availability of 529 plans for private school tuition make you more likely or less likely to start a 529 plan for a child?

[IF MORE / LESS LIKELY, ASK:] Is that much (more / less) likely or just somewhat (more / less likely)?

Much More Likely .....	17.8%
Somewhat More Likely .....	17.2%
Neither More / Less Likely (VOL) .....	36.2%
Somewhat Less Likely .....	10.4%
Much Less Likely .....	9.8%
Don't Know .....	8.6%
Refused .....	-
 TOTAL MORE LIKELY .....	 35.0%
TOTAL LESS LIKELY .....	20.2%

19. Finally, I have a few questions for statistical purposes.

First, may I ask how old you were on your last birthday?

18-24 .....	6.0%
25-29 .....	4.8%
30-34 .....	7.0%
35-39 .....	8.8%
40-44 .....	6.9%
45-49 .....	10.0%
50-54 .....	7.9%
55-59 .....	11.3%
60-64 .....	12.6%
65-69 .....	7.4%
70+ .....	16.6%
Refused .....	0.9%

20. What is your main racial or ethnic group?

Caucasian/White .....	80.1%
African American/Black .....	10.0%
Hispanic .....	1.8%
Asian .....	1.9%
Multiracial/Biracial .....	2.5%
Other .....	1.1%
Refused .....	2.6%

[D - IF THE ANSWER TO QUESTION 15 IS 2-3, THEN SKIP TO QUESTION 22]

21. Do you currently have a child enrolled in a charter school or a private school? [IF YES, ASK:] Which?

Yes, Charter .....	7.3%
Yes, Private .....	8.7%
Yes, Both .....	0.9%
No .....	76.7%
Refused .....	6.4%

22. Have you ever had a child enrolled in a charter school or a private school? [IF YES, ASK:] Which?

Yes, Charter .....	6.8%
Yes, Private .....	16.1%
Yes, Both .....	2.6%
No .....	73.6%
Refused .....	0.9%



23. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as [ROTATE:] (a Republican), (a Democrat), an Independent or what? [IF ANSWER INDEPENDENT, NO PREFERENCE, OTHER, REFUSED, OR DK, ASK:]

Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or the Democratic Party? [PROBE ONCE:] Well if you had to choose?

Republican .....	24.9%
Democrat .....	28.4%
Closer to Republican .....	9.1%
Independent .....	20.1%
Closer to Democrat .....	8.5%
Refused .....	6.3%
Expresses no interest or knowledge of politics .....	2.8%
 TOTAL REPUBLICAN.....	 34.0%
TOTAL DEMOCRAT .....	36.9%

24. Gender (OBSERVATION)

Male .....	48.0%
Female .....	52.0%

25. Cell phone?

Yes .....	30.0%
No .....	70.0%