Education Next — Program on Education Policy and Governance 2020 Survey Covid-19 Fall Reopening Supplement: Teacher Experiences and Opinions

For details on the survey methodology, please see "Pandemic Parent Survey Finds Perverse Pattern" by Michael B. Henderson, Paul E. Peterson, Martin R. West at http://educationnext.org/. Michael B. Henderson is the Education Next-PEPG Survey director.

Only K-12 teachers who work in kindergarten through 12th grade at a school during the fall of 2020 answered these questions. Response frequencies in columns are percentages of these teachers. Due to rounding, column totals may not always sum to 100. The values for Question 3 are the average percent of teachers that teachers believe fall in each category. The values for Question 5 are the average number of courses. The values for Question 20 are the average number of days. Teachers in district schools exclude those who report teaching in private and charter schools.

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	7 7 10			Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Number of teachers	547	147	231	274	415	41	65	157	194	192	195	289	258

Q1. What grade would you give the public schools in your community?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
A	22	20	20	22	26	15	5	19	18	28	22	29	14
В	43	50	43	44	43	29	44	43	45	45	41	44	42
С	25	23	26	22	23	44	31	30	29	21	23	20	31
D	7	7	8	8	6	4	16	5	6	4	11	5	10
F	3	1	2	4	2	8	3	3	2	3	3	2	3

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

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union M	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
A	3	3	3	2	3	3	0	5	1	3	2	3	3
В	32	37	31	32	32	35	26	34	34	34	31	35	30
С	49	46	52	49	50	46	52	48	50	48	49	48	50
D	12	12	10	14	11	11	15	12	11	10	16	10	14
F	3	2	5	2	3	6	7	2	3	4	3	3	4

Q3. What percent of teachers in your local schools would you put in each category?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Excellent (Mean)	35	30	34	35	38	28	23	35	34	38	31	40	29
Good (Mean)	34	36	34	34	33	40	33	35	33	33	35	33	35
Satisfactory (Mean)	22	25	22	21	21	19	31	21	24	20	23	19	25
Unsatisfactory (Mean)	9	9	10	10	8	14	13	9	9	9	11	8	11

Q4. Would you be willing to have a child of yours go through high school taking some academic courses over the Internet?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Very willing	38	32	38	39	37	45	34	43	38	38	35	35	41
Somewhat willing	37	38	36	39	38	30	46	33	41	38	35	36	39
Somewhat unwilling	11	15	13	9	11	21	5	12	8	10	14	13	9
Very unwilling	9	12	7	11	8	3	13	10	9	9	11	8	10
Neither	5	3	6	3	5	1	1	3	5	5	5	8	1

Q5. Typically, high school students are required to complete 24 courses in order to graduate. How many of these courses should a high school student be allowed to take for credit online?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Mean	12.7	12.4	13.1	12.7	12.6	13.5	12.2	13.5	13.0	12.1	12.3	12.3	13.1

Q6. Do you think teacher unions have a generally positive effect on schools, or do you think they have a generally negative effect?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Strongly positive	30	21	32	29	34	16	12	29	24	31	26	43	12
Somewhat positive	43	36	44	44	43	41	41	42	43	43	42	42	44
Somewhat negative	12	19	13	12	8	25	21	17	16	13	16	8	18
Strongly negative	5	6	4	5	5	4	11	4	4	7	4	2	10
Neither pos. nor neg.	10	18	7	10	10	14	15	7	13	7	12	6	16

Q7. At which type of school do you work?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person			District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Non-charter public	77	68	80	75	100	0	0	72	73	65	77	94	56
Charter	9	7	7	10	0	100	0	11	9	11	7	3	16
Private	9	14	7	9	0	0	100	7	8	14	9	1	19
Other	6	10	6	6	0	0	0	9	10	10	7	3	10

Q8. Which of the following are you currently teaching? Select all that apply.

Q8a. Students who attend entirely in-person.

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Mo	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Not selected	74	0	76	88	77	78	57	69	70	71	76	81	65
Selected	26	100	24	12	23	22	43	31	30	29	24	19	35

Q8b. Students who attend entirely remote.

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Not selected	54	58	0	82	52	61	64	64	61	56	44	51	57
Selected	46	42	100	18	48	39	36	36	39	44	56	49	43

Q8c. Students who attend through a mix of in-person and remote.

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	70 01 0			Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Not selected	52	78	81	0	54	45	50	53	53	45	46	54	49
Selected	48	22	19	100	46	55	50	47	47	55	54	46	51

Q9. Did the school where you teach offer you a choice of which formats to teach (entirely in-person, entirely remote, a mix)?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Yes	38	52	30	43	37	41	38	41	48	44	30	37	40
No	62	48	70	57	63	59	62	59	52	56	70	63	60

Q10. [ASKED TO TEACHERS WHO TEACH REMOTE ONLY] At the school where you work, are any students currently attending in-person?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	In-person Remote Mix			Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Yes	49		49		46	49	80	41	45	55	58	39	65
No	51		51		54	51	20	60	55	45	42	61	36

Q11. [ASKED TO TEACHERS WHO TEACH REMOTE ONLY AND SAID THEIR SCHOOL DOES NOT HAVE ANY STUDENTS ATTENDING IN-PERSON] At the school where you work, have any students attended in-person at any point so far this school year?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	n-person Remote Mix			Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Yes	17		17		18	19	0	18	11	23	17	17	18
No	83		83		82	81	100	82	89	77	83	83	82

Q12. Are the measures the school where you work is taking to limit the spread of Covid-19 having a positive or negative effect on your students' ...

Q12a. ... protection from Covid-19?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Strongly positive	29	22	37	24	27	32	43	25	28	32	30	32	27
Somewhat positive	36	37	37	41	37	36	31	38	37	39	35	35	39
Somewhat negative	18	24	15	19	19	15	17	24	21	15	19	15	23
Strongly negative	4	3	3	4	4	6	0	2	2	5	4	4	3
Neither pos. nor neg.	12	14	8	13	14	10	9	11	13	10	11	15	8

Q12b. ... academic knowledge and skills?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union M	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Strongly positive	13	20	12	13	11	9	28	19	14	14	9	12	15
Somewhat positive	25	19	22	28	23	37	34	23	20	27	22	25	24
Somewhat negative	37	36	40	37	39	34	25	39	46	31	40	36	37
Strongly negative	12	6	14	11	15	6	0	10	8	13	13	13	11
Neither pos. nor neg.	13	19	12	11	13	14	13	10	12	14	15	13	13

Q12c. ... social relationships?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Strongly positive	12	20	9	11	8	11	31	15	13	15	7	9	15
Somewhat positive	18	12	17	23	17	30	20	22	13	19	16	18	18
Somewhat negative	41	49	44	37	43	40	30	38	44	38	41	40	41
Strongly negative	18	8	22	15	20	8	7	13	18	14	25	20	14
Neither pos. nor neg.	12	10	9	14	11	10	11	12	11	14	11	12	11

Q12d. ... emotional wellbeing?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Strongly positive	13	20	10	12	10	14	31	17	12	14	8	10	15
Somewhat positive	21	18	18	26	20	34	23	21	20	24	18	21	21
Somewhat negative	41	39	44	39	44	30	29	39	46	35	42	40	42
Strongly negative	12	7	17	12	13	6	5	9	9	14	20	13	11
Neither pos. nor neg.	13	15	11	12	13	17	12	15	13	13	12	16	10

Q12e. ... physical fitness?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Strongly positive	8	16	8	7	5	9	28	9	9	13	4	6	11
Somewhat positive	20	17	17	21	18	37	23	26	22	20	15	21	20
Somewhat negative	35	23	39	37	39	28	21	32	40	31	34	37	32
Strongly negative	13	11	14	13	14	10	1	14	14	12	17	12	14
Neither pos. nor neg.	23	34	22	22	24	16	28	19	15	24	29	24	23

Q13. Are the measures the school where you work is taking to limit the spread of Covid-19 having a positive or negative effect on your...

Q13a. ... protection from Covid-19?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Strongly positive	30	22	42	20	28	32	47	26	29	32	32	31	29
Somewhat positive	35	27	33	40	37	36	19	40	35	38	30	36	34
Somewhat negative	17	21	13	22	18	6	20	21	19	13	17	16	18
Strongly negative	7	11	4	10	7	10	6	3	7	7	8	6	9
Neither pos. nor neg.	11	20	8	9	10	16	8	11	10	10	13	11	10

Q13b. ... relationships with co-workers?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Mo	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Strongly positive	11	11	10	13	9	8	26	9	8	15	11	10	12
Somewhat positive	26	23	22	28	23	44	24	33	27	28	18	26	26
Somewhat negative	32	41	36	29	36	32	19	33	32	29	37	33	32
Strongly negative	7	9	6	8	6	1	7	7	11	4	7	5	9
Neither pos. nor neg.	24	16	26	23	26	16	23	18	22	24	28	26	21

Q13c. ... emotional wellbeing?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Mo	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Strongly positive	9	9	9	8	8	11	18	9	7	13	8	8	11
Somewhat positive	22	17	21	23	20	28	24	29	21	24	15	23	20
Somewhat negative	38	35	37	38	42	29	21	36	42	29	37	40	34
Strongly negative	17	28	19	19	17	12	25	12	17	21	21	14	21
Neither pos. nor neg.	14	12	15	12	13	21	13	14	12	14	19	15	14

Q14. Do you think the school where you work is doing too much, too little, or about the right amount to limit the spread of Covid-19?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Too much	6	8	8	2	6	1	10	2	4	7	7	5	6
About right amount	69	68	76	61	67	76	72	78	69	71	65	69	69
Too little	26	24	16	36	27	23	18	20	27	22	28	26	25

Q15. As far as you know, have there been any Covid-19 cases at the school where you work?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Yes	69	84	56	81	70	71	51	70	65	64	73	68	70
No	21	11	25	16	19	10	42	22	25	28	13	21	20
Don't know	11	5	19	3	10	18	7	8	11	8	14	11	10

Q16. [ASKED TO TEACHERS WHO TEACH STUDENTS WHO ATTEND ENTIRELY REMOTE] Thinking about your students who attend entirely remote, in a typical week, how often do you ...

Q16a. ... meet with the whole class by video?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Mo	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Daily	60		60		60	67	59	58	59	70	48	63	56
Several times a week	27		27	-	29	16	28	22	15	21	37	29	24
Once a week	5		5	-	4	0	13	5	12	3	2	4	6
Less than once a wk.	1		1		1	0		1	1	0	1	1	1
Not at all	8		8		6	18		14	12	6	12	5	13

Q16b. ... meet with students one-on-one by video?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Mo	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Daily	18		18		15	39	23	23	19	23	15	17	18
Several times a week	26		26		31	10	4	14	29	28	27	29	22
Once a week	17		17	-	17	4	14	13	18	13	14	16	18
Less than once a wk.	23		23		25	26	10	23	15	15	30	25	21
Not at all	16		16		12	21	50	27	19	21	13	13	21

Q16c. ... assign work that is required?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Daily	60		60	-	62	60	57	64	59	64	51	65	53
Several times a week	26		26		25	36	35	16	17	26	33	25	27
Once a week	11		11		9	3	8	13	19	6	16	6	19
Less than once a wk.	0		0		1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Not at all	2		2		3	0	0	8	4	3	0	4	0

Q16d. ... provide grades or other feedback on completed assignments?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Daily	39		39		41	36	25	32	40	48	30	43	33
Several times a week	36		36		34	47	51	34	26	38	44	34	39
Once a week	18		18		17	14	24	21	25	8	20	17	19
Less than once a wk.	5		5		5	3	0	9	6	1	4	3	7
Not at all	2		2		2	0	0	5	3	4	1	3	1

Q17. [ASKED TO TEACHERS WHO TEACH STUDENTS WHO ATTEND THROUGH A MIX OF IN-PERSON AND REMOTE] Thinking about your students who attend through a mix of in-person and remote, on the days these students do not attend school in person, do you...

Q17a. ... meet with the whole class by video?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Yes	73			73	75	70	80	64	69	74	67	76	68
No	27			27	25	30	21	36	31	26	33	24	32

Q17b. ... meet with students one-on-one by video?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Yes	45			45	47	44	31	44	44	39	41	45	44
No	55			55	53	56	69	56	56	61	59	55	56

Q17c. ... assign work that is required?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Yes	91		-	91	94	100	90	88	84	87	91	93	88
No	9			9	6	0	10	12	16	13	9	7	12

Q18. [ASKED TO TEACHERS WHO TEACH STUDENTS WHO ATTEND THROUGH A MIX OF IN-PERSON AND REMOTE AND SAID ASSIGN WORK THAT IS REQUIRED] Do these students receive grades or feedback from teachers on these assignments?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Mo	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Yes	98			98	99	90	100	94	100	100	99	100	97
No	2			2	1	10	0	6	0	0	1	0	3

Q19. Compared to a typical school year are you working more hours, fewer hours or about the same number of hours per day this school year?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
A lot more	38	42	38	45	38	25	43	26	34	39	43	41	34
Somewhat more	30	30	32	28	31	37	27	29	30	24	32	30	32
Somewhat fewer	7	5	8	3	7	4	8	9	8	7	5	6	7
A lot fewer	2	2	2	1	1	4	4	2	1	4	1	1	3
About the same	23	22	20	22	23	30	19	34	25	26	19	23	24

Q20. How many days did you spend this summer preparing for the school year?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Mean	21.6	22.0	22.5	22.9	21.4	16.7	24.4	20.3	19.7	19.3	24.7	22.2	20.8

Q21. Compared to a typical school year, was the number of days you spent this summer preparing for the school year more, less, or about the same?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
A lot more	35	38	40	39	36	30	28	31	32	31	42	36	35
Somewhat more	26	22	23	31	27	21	22	23	25	29	26	27	25
Somewhat fewer	9	6	11	6	9	8	11	7	11	11	8	10	8
A lot fewer	5	4	4	5	5	8	2	8	4	4	3	5	4
About the same	25	31	22	20	23	34	37	31	28	26	21	22	28

Q22. Did your school pay you for the time you spent this summer preparing for the school year?

		Teaching	students who	attend		School Type			Grade	taught		Union Me	embership
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Yes	20	17	24	18	20	31	16	22	17	19	20	21	19
No	80	83	76	82	80	69	84	78	83	81	80	79	81

Q23. Do you think your students are learning more, less, or about the same this school year as they would have learned if there had not been a pandemic?

		Teaching students who attend			School Type				Grade	Union Membership			
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
A lot more	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	2	0	2
Somewhat more	5	5	5	4	5	2	6	5	7	6	3	5	6
Somewhat less	51	55	48	55	52	57	43	50	49	46	50	51	49
A lot less	27	13	32	26	29	18	20	29	26	26	26	29	26
About the same	16	23	14	13	14	23	32	16	16	20	19	15	17

Q24. As far as you know, in the school at which you work, is there a union representing teachers that bargains collectively with the local district?

		Teaching students who attend			School Type				Grade	Union Membership			
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Yes	65	53	70	61	77	26	9	59	59	67	65	91	32
No	28	36	26	32	16	62	88	32	30	30	29	6	56
Don't know	7	10	4	7	7	13	3	9	11	2	6	3	12

Q25. Are you currently a member of a teachers' union?

		Teaching students who attend			School Type				Grade	Union Membership			
	All	In-person	Remote	Mix	District	Charter	Private	K-2nd	3rd-5th	6th-8th	9th-12th	Union	Non-Union
Yes	57	42	59	54	69	20	6	52	51	54	52	100	0
No	43	58	41	46	31	80	94	48	49	46	48	0	100