

Methods & Data Tables

Vanderbilt Child Health Poll • Education, Mental Health



The Vanderbilt Child Health Poll aimed to gather insights from Tennessee parents regarding their children's health insurance coverage, behavioral health, schooling, as well as the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on their family. This poll has been conducted in the fall of 2019 (10/1/2019 - 11/4/2019) as well as in 2020 (10/2/2020 - 11/9/2020) by Ipsos Public Affairs (Ipsos) utilizing an online platform to collect responses from more than 1000 parents (2019: 1100; 2020: 1066) in Tennessee. Respondents were required to have at least one child under the age of 18 who lives in the same household. The survey was fielded in English and had a median completion time of 10 minutes in 2019 and 12 minutes in 2020. Participants received an email invitation to complete the poll online at their convenience and non-responders were sent reminders regularly. Ipsos provided households with Internet access and hardware if needed. This electronic approach, as opposed to telephone calls or postal mail, reduces the burden placed on respondents and yields higher response rates.

Ipsos makes use of address-based sampling methods to recruit a pool of participants and subsequently selects from this pool using stratified random sampling. This methodology of survey sampling ensures that poll results will be generalizable to the Tennessee population since it is effective in recruiting hard-to-reach individuals, such as young adults and minorities.

This study design incorporated an oversampling (in 2020) of Non-Hispanic Black/African American parents. Each participant is given a weight based on their demographic information. These weights are scaled based on demographic distributions from the 2018 American Community Survey (ACS). In order to maintain consistency in comparing across poll versions, the 2019 Vanderbilt Child Health Poll was weighted similarly, utilizing benchmarks from the 2017 ACS.

The geodemographic benchmarks used to weight Child Health Poll respondents included:

- Race/Ethnicity (White, Black, Other, Hispanic, 2+ Races)
- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18-34,35-44,45+)
- Gender (Male, Female) by Race/Ethnicity (White, Black, All others)
- Age (18-34,35-44,45+) by Race/Ethnicity (White, Black, All others)
- Education (Less than HS/HS, Some College, Bachelor or Higher) by Race/Ethnicity (White, Black, All others)
- Household Income (under \$25K, \$25K-\$49,999, \$50K-\$74,999, \$75K and over) by Race/Ethnicity (White, Black, All others)

In order to minimize biases, the order in which responses to several questions appear were randomized. In future years, polling topics will change such that different issues related to child health and wellbeing may be highlighted.

Results from the Child Health Poll have been analyzed in R using weighted survey methods. Point estimates of the mean for each response are reported along with their standard errors.

All reported percentages have survey weights applied, so their interpretation can be broadened to all parents in Tennessee. For example, "21.7% of parents with children age 6-17 in Tennessee are concerned that their child might have anxiety that has not yet been diagnosed by a medical professional."

All summaries are listed as weighted proportions of Tennessee Parents \pm Standard of Error.

EDUCATION

How is your child currently attending school?

	N	In person at their physical school building	Remote learning through virtual instruction	A combination	Homeschool
Overall	846	38.4% ± 2.5	30.7% ± 2.4	15.2% ± 1.8	15.4% ± 1.8
Race/Ethnicity					
White, Non-Hispanic	606	43.3% ± 3.0	22.8% ± 2.5	16.4% ± 2.2	17.2% ± 2.3
Black, Non-Hispanic	149	16.3% ± 4.5	58.0% ± 6.0	14.5% ± 4.3	11.2% ± 3.9
Other/2+ races, Non-Hispanic/Hispanic	91	37.7% ± 7.6	46.9% ± 7.8	7.3% ± 4.1	8.1% ± 4.3

If your child is attending school virtually or partially virtually, which of the following concerns do you have about your child attending school virtually?

*It was possible to choose more than one answer

Lack of social interaction with kids their age	51.8% ± 3.6
Lack of one-on-one attention from teachers	47.6% ± 3.6
My child has difficulty paying attention/learning remotely	42.2% ± 3.6
Inability to assist my child with virtual learning due to work/work-related responsibilities	19.9% ± 2.9
I have no concerns about my child attending school virtually	16.4% ± 2.7
Lack of access to special education services	15.4% ± 2.6
Lack of access to other school services	15.4% ± 2.6
Lack of an acceptable/quiet physical space for learning	13.1% ± 2.4
Loss of wages/income in order to accommodate supervision for virtual learning	11.0% ± 2.3
Inability to assist my child with virtual learning due to other childcare responsibilities	9.9% ± 2.2
Lack of appropriate technology	8.2% ± 2.0
Inadequate nutrition for my child	7.2% ± 1.9
Inability to assist my child with virtual learning due to language barriers	5.4% ± 1.6
Other	0.5% ± 0.5

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

*If you have a child aged 6-17, has your child been **diagnosed** by a medical professional with any of the following conditions?*

*If you have a child aged 6-17, are you concerned your child might have one of the following conditions, but **has not yet been diagnosed**?*

*It was possible to choose more than one answer

	If diagnosed	If not diagnosed
ADHD/ADD	11.1% ± 1.7	6.7% ± 1.4
Anxiety	9.8% ± 1.6	21.7% ± 2.3
Autism	4.9% ± 1.1	1.9% ± 0.7
Bipolar disorder	3.0% ± 0.9	5.5% ± 1.2
Depression	7.2% ± 1.4	10.6% ± 1.7
Eating disorder	3.3% ± 0.9	3.9% ± 1.1
ODD	1.6% ± 0.7	2.5% ± 0.8
PTSD	2.8% ± 0.9	5.3% ± 1.2
Self-harm	3.5% ± 1.0	2.2% ± 0.8
Stress	6.5% ± 1.3	11.6% ± 1.8
Substance use disorder	1.4% ± 0.6	2.4% ± 0.8
Suicidal thoughts/intentions	3.4% ± 1.0	2.9% ± 0.9
Other	2.8% ± 0.9	0.6% ± 0.4
None of these	68.3% ± 2.5	58.2% ± 2.6

	Diagnosed		Undiagnosed	
	N	%	N*	%
Anxiety or Depression or Stress	791	16.0% ± 1.94	671	33.3% ± 2.7
Annual Household Income				
< \$25,000	208	20.5% ± 4.2	170	47.6% ± 5.7
\$25,000-\$50,000	213	17.6% ± 3.9	187	29.9% ± 5.0
\$50,000-\$75,000	133	10.9% ± 4.0	116	29.9% ± 6.3
> \$75,000	237	16.6% ± 3.6	198	32.7% ± 4.9

*Among parents who did not select Anxiety/Depression/Stress as a Diagnosed condition