

The Vanderbilt Child Health poll surveyed 1,026 Tennessee parents with children under 18 years old from October 19 —November 28, 2021. All reported percentages have survey weights applied, so their interpretation can be broadened to all parents in Tennessee. For example, “9.8% of Tennessee parents are homeschooling their child.”

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

SCHOOLING

How is your child currently attending school? (Asked to parents of school-aged children or adolescents)

	N	In person at their physical school building	Enrolled in a virtual school	A combination	Homeschool	p-value
Overall	843	79.1% ± 1.9	5.3% ± 1.0	5.7% ± 1.1	9.8% ± 1.3	
Race/Ethnicity						0.72
White, Non-Hispanic	663	78.1% ± 2.2	4.8% ± 1.1	6.4% ± 1.3	10.7% ± 1.6	
Black, Non-Hispanic	94	83.0% ± 4.7	6.7% ± 2.5	3.3% ± 1.6	7.0% ± 3.9	
Other/2+ races, Non-Hispanic/Hispanic	86	80.5% ± 5.5	7.1% ± 4.5	4.8% ± 2.1	7.5% ± 2.9	
TN Region						0.38
West	176	82.7% ± 3.9	7.6% ± 2.6	3.3% ± 1.2	6.5% ± 2.8	
Middle	307	78.1% ± 3.1	5.4% ± 1.6	7.3% ± 2.2	9.2% ± 2.0	
East	359	78.4% ± 2.9	4.0% ± 1.6	5.3% ± 1.3	12.3% ± 2.3	

* $p < 0.05$ by Rao-Scott corrected Chi-Square test

** $p < 0.001$ by Rao-Scott corrected Chi-Square test

Does your child’s school have a mask mandate in place?

Do you choose to send your child to school wearing a mask?

(Asked to parents whose children are attending school in person or partially in person)

	N	Yes	No	p-value	Yes	No	p-value
Overall	693	53.5% ± 2.7	46.5% ± 2.7		67.3% ± 2.6	32.7% ± 2.6	
Race/Ethnicity				** < 0.001			* 0.01
White, Non-Hispanic	546	49.4% ± 3.2	50.6% ± 3.2		63.0% ± 3.2	37.0% ± 3.1	
Black, Non-Hispanic	80	80.5% ± 6.7	19.5% ± 6.7		87.8% ± 5.7	12.2% ± 5.7	
Other/2+ races, Non-Hispanic/Hispanic	67	40.7% ± 8.3	59.3% ± 8.3		67.1% ± 8.4	32.9% ± 8.4	
TN Region				0.217			0.34
West	146	62.8% ± 6.2	37.2% ± 6.2		74.0% ± 5.5	26.0% ± 5.5	
Middle	250	51.6% ± 4.5	48.4% ± 4.5		67.5% ± 4.4	32.5% ± 4.4	
East	296	50.2% ± 4.2	49.8% ± 4.2		63.4% ± 4.0	36.6% ± 4.0	

* $p < 0.05$ by Rao-Scott corrected Chi-Square test

** $p < 0.001$ by Rao-Scott corrected Chi-Square test

SCHOOL SAFETY PERCEPTIONS

“Children are safer in school if all students, teachers, and school staff are masked.”

	N	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	p-value
Overall	1023	22.8% ± 1.9	23.5% ± 2.0	53.7% ± 2.3	
Race/Ethnicity					0.07
White, Non-Hispanic	788	25.4% ± 2.3	24.7% ± 2.3	49.9% ± 2.6	
Black, Non-Hispanic	116	13.9% ± 4.3	17.9% ± 4.5	68.2% ± 5.6	
Other/2+ races, Non-Hispanic/Hispanic	119	18.7% ± 5.1	23.8% ± 6.8	57.5% ± 7.0	
TN Region					0.14
West	213	22.7% ± 4.5	16.4% ± 3.2	60.9% ± 4.9	
Middle	366	21.4% ± 3.3	22.6% ± 3.1	56.0% ± 3.8	
East	443	24.2% ± 2.8	28.3% ± 3.4	47.5% ± 3.4	

“I am more likely to send my child to school wearing a mask if my child’s school has a mask mandate.”

	N	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	p-value
Overall	1023	18.0% ± 1.8	23.1% ± 2.0	58.9% ± 2.3	
Race/Ethnicity					*0.02
White, Non-Hispanic	788	20.9% ± 2.2	24.5% ± 2.3	54.6% ± 2.6	
Black, Non-Hispanic	117	9.0% ± 4.2	14.8% ± 3.7	76.2% ± 5.1	
Other/2+ races, Non-Hispanic/Hispanic	118	12.1% ± 4.2	26.1% ± 6.8	61.8% ± 7.1	
TN Region					0.90
West	213	16.4% ± 4.1	23.2% ± 4.5	60.4% ± 5.1	
Middle	368	17.7% ± 3.3	21.5% ± 3.1	60.8% ± 3.8	
East	441	19.2% ± 2.5	24.7% ± 3.1	56.1% ± 3.4	

“Schools should require that all teachers and school staff receive a COVID-19 vaccine.”

	N	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	p-value
Overall	1021	39.9% ± 2.3	19.9% ± 1.7	40.2% ± 2.2	
Race/Ethnicity					0.09
White, Non-Hispanic	785	43.0% ± 2.6	19.6% ± 2.1	37.4% ± 2.5	
Black, Non-Hispanic	117	27.1% ± 6.1	19.1% ± 4.0	53.8% ± 6.0	
Other/2+ races, Non-Hispanic/Hispanic	119	38.6% ± 6.9	22.7% ± 5.7	38.6% ± 6.6	
TN Region					*0.04
West	214	37.6% ± 5.0	16.1% ± 3.4	46.3% ± 4.9	
Middle	367	35.5% ± 3.7	19.0% ± 2.9	45.5% ± 3.7	
East	439	45.6% ± 3.5	22.9% ± 2.8	31.5% ± 3.1	

Note: N’s are unweighted; row-wise percentages presented (e.g. “76.2% of Black, Non-Hispanic parents are more likely to send their child to school wearing a mask if their school has a mask mandate, compared to 54.6% of White, Non-Hispanic parents”)

* $p < 0.05$ by Rao-Scott corrected Chi-Square test

** $p < 0.001$ by Rao-Scott corrected Chi-Square test