2022 GEORGIA LIKELY VOTER POLL

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In a divided political environment, support for early learning is consistently strong and overwhelmingly bipartisan.

Voters support family-friendly policies, whether or not they have young children.

GEORGIA VOTERS RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF POLICIES THAT SUPPORT YOUNG CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.
Survey Methodology

Interview selection was random and interviews were stratified by county, race/ethnicity, age, and gender to correlate with current voter registration statistics and actual voter turnout from previous elections.

- 600 likely Georgia voters
- Respondents from across Georgia
- Broad Cross-Section of Likely Voters (78% without children under the age of eight)
- Landline, Cell Phone, & Text Messages September 20-22
- Accuracy of +/- 4.0% at 95% confidence interval
PART ONE - ISSUES FACING GEORGIANS
As voters nearly unanimously worry about issues like inflation (96% "important"), many also put an emphasis on improving access to mental health services and child care.

Improving access to mental health services for children and families

- Total Important: 87%
- Very Important: 63%
- Not Important: 13%

Making sure that working parents can find quality, affordable child care

- Total Important: 80%
- Very Important: 50%
- Not Important: 20%
Agree/Disagree:

“All Georgians have a shared responsibility in helping Georgia children grow up healthy and ready to learn.”

76% of households without young children agree.
Support/ Oppose:

"The Georgia state government has a historic budget surplus. Would you support or oppose using a portion of these funds to expand the state’s budget for early childhood education and child health programs?"
PART TWO – GENERAL ATTITUDES TOWARDS EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
Agree/Disagree:

“The state should put the same level of priority on education for children age 0 to 4 as it does on K through 12 education.”
“Expanding access to high-quality child care gives parents the opportunity to participate in the workforce, which is good for Georgia’s economy.”

89% of voters with an annual household income under $50,000 agree.
"From what you know, how serious a problem is finding quality, affordable child care in your area?"
Finding Quality, Affordable Child Care is a Problem in their Area

- 62% of voters who have a child under eight years old say it is a problem.
- 66% of voters in Metro Atlanta (66%) are most likely to say it is a problem.
- 58% of voters with an annual household income under $50,000 say it is a problem.
PART THREE – SUPPORT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (ECE) POLICY & FUNDING
FIFTY-FIVE PERCENT (55%) WOULD BE MORE LIKELY TO VOTE FOR A CANDIDATE FOR POLITICAL OFFICE WHO SUPPORTS POLICIES THAT GIVE MORE FAMILIES ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE AND PRESCHOOL – INCLUDING 32% WHO WOULD BE “MUCH MORE LIKELY.”
88% of likely Georgia voters support lottery-funded pre-K
SUPPORT HAS BEEN CONSISTENTLY HIGH FOR GEORGIA PRE-K GOING BACK TO 2010

- 2010: 83%
- 2014: 87%
- 2018: 80%
- 2022: 88%
Support/Oppose:

“Continuing to use a portion of Lottery funds to provide voluntary pre-kindergarten programs for four-year-olds.”
Across Demographic and Party Lines, Georgians Overwhelmingly Support the Continuation of Georgia's Lottery-Funded Pre-K Program
Support/Oppose:

“Providing state funding to help low-to-moderate income working families afford child care.”
PART FOUR – CHILD CARE/EARLY LEARNING WORKFORCE
Agree/Disagree:

“People who work in child care and early education should be paid a salary comparable to elementary school teachers if they have the same credentials and experience.”
Support for Comparable Salary for Early Childhood Educators

- 67% Republican
- 88% Democrat
- 75% Households With Young Children
- 78% Households Without Young Children
- 86% Metro Atlanta
- 75% Rest of the State
"In light of the shortage of qualified child care and preschool teachers, would you support or oppose increasing the salaries of qualified child care and preschool teachers in Georgia to attract more individuals to this field?"

71% of voters who say that Georgia should prioritize holding the line on taxes and spending support salary increases for teachers.
Support for Increasing Salaries for Child Care and Preschool Teachers

- 74% Republican
- 95% Democrat
- 80% Households With Young Children
- 85% Households Without Young Children
- 90% Metro Atlanta
- 82% Rest of the State
PART FIVE –
CHILD AND FAMILY
MENTAL HEALTH
Agree/Disagree:

“Children’s social-emotional development during their early years is important to their later school success.”
Georgians Overwhelmingly Indicate that Social-Emotional Development in the Earliest Years is Important to Future Success

- 91% Republican
- 97% Democrat
- 95% Households With Young Children
- 93% Households Without Young Children
- 97% Metro Atlanta
- 92% Rest of the State
Nearly seven in ten (68%) would be more likely to vote for a candidate for political office who supports policies that give families and young children better access to mental health services - including 39% who would be "much more likely."
PART SIX –
PAID FAMILY LEAVE
4 in 5 likely Georgia voters support paid family leave.
Support/Oppose:

“Providing paid sick or family medical leave to care for yourself or a family member with an illness.”

70% of voters who say that Georgia should prioritize holding the line on taxes and spending support paid sick or family medical leave.
Support for Paid Sick or Family Medical Leave

- 74% Republican
- 97% Democrat
- 89% Women
- 76% Men
- 89% Metro Atlanta
- 82% Rest of the State
Support/Oppose:

“Providing paid parental leave for the birth or adoption of a child.”

Four in five (80%) swing voters support paid parental leave.
Support for Parental Leave for the Birth or Adoption of a Child

71% Republican
93% Democrat
84% Households With Young Children
79% Households Without Young Children
87% Metro Atlanta
78% Rest of the State
Thank You!

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