



To: Interested Parties
From: Stephen Clermont, Change Research in partnership with Project Ready
Date: February 18, 2021
Re: New Jersey Survey Results

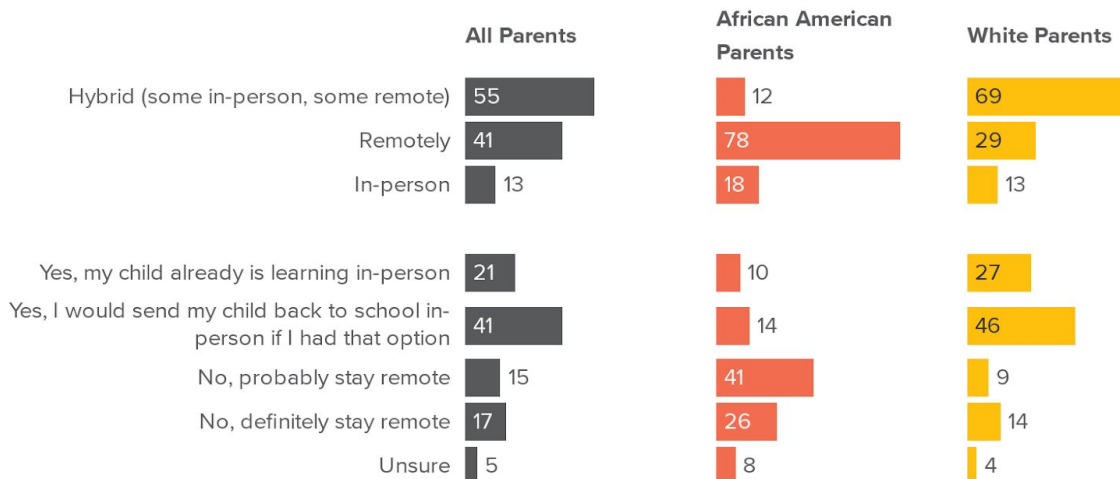
As the country slowly recovers from the ravages of the second wave of coronavirus that hit us this winter in both New Jersey and nationally, Project Ready commissioned a Change Research survey of New Jersey voters to assess their concerns with the virus, the COVID-19 vaccine, and its impact on personal finances and public education.

The survey found that while the virus has impacted nearly everyone, communities of color have experienced a disproportionate impact when it comes to their children’s education and the impact on personal finances. The survey finds that there is a significant divide along racial lines when it comes to how children are learning during the pandemic and how parents would prefer to proceed when it comes to reopening schools.

The following are highlights from a poll of 960 voters in New Jersey:

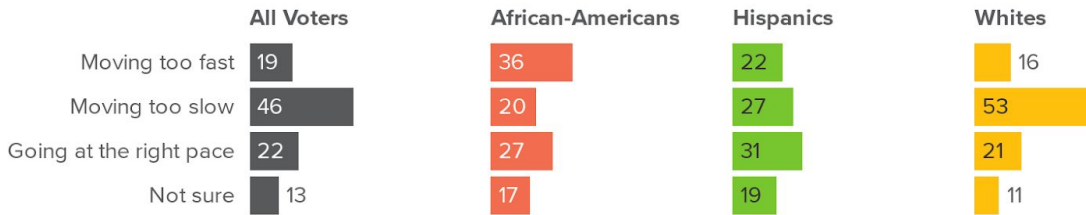
Education:

Significant disparities exist between African-American and white families when it comes to their experience with the education their children are receiving. Overall, few African-American students are attending in-person classroom instruction. African-American children are more than two times as likely to be learning remotely than are white children, who are mainly in hybrid situations. If given the option, white families are more likely to want their child in the classroom while two-thirds of African-American families prefer to stay remote.



Among all voters in the state, nearly half believe the state is moving too slowly to reopen schools, while the rest are split on whether the state is moving too fast or going at the right pace. However, there is also a significant racial disparity here: **just 20% of African-Americans and 27% of Hispanics believe the state is moving too slowly compared to 53% of whites.**

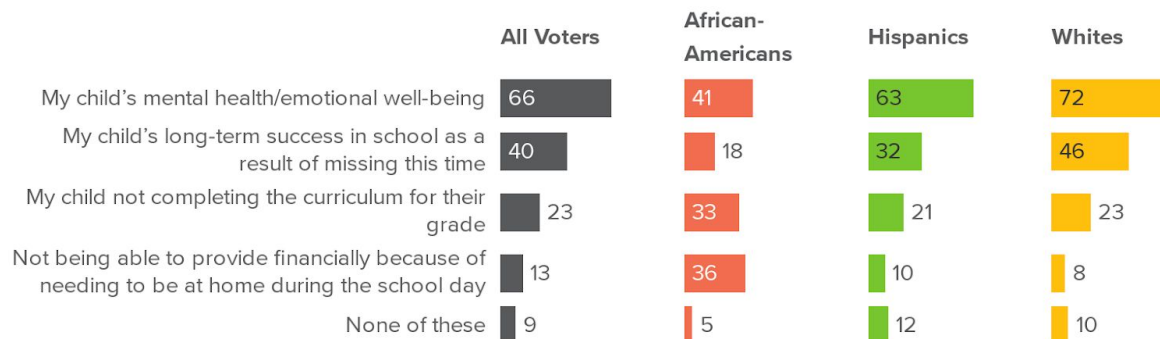
When it comes to reopening schools in New Jersey, do you think the state is... CHANGE RESEARCH™



For households whose children are learning remotely, large racial and socio-economic gaps persist in terms of digital access. **A third (36%) of African-American parents say they lack sufficient internet access compared to just 13% of white parents.** Among households with incomes under \$50K, 23% say they lack sufficient, reliable internet access and 9% say lack the needed devices. For those in higher income households, over \$100K, just 7% tell us they don't have reliable internet and only 1% lack the needed devices.

Parents are worried about their kids falling behind with remote learning. Two-thirds (69%) express this emotion, including 75% of white parents and 60% of African-Americans. We then gave parents a choice of what concerns them most about learning during the pandemic. Overall, two-thirds of parents chose their child's mental health and emotional well-being.

What is your biggest concern from the disruption to learning during the pandemic? CHANGE RESEARCH™

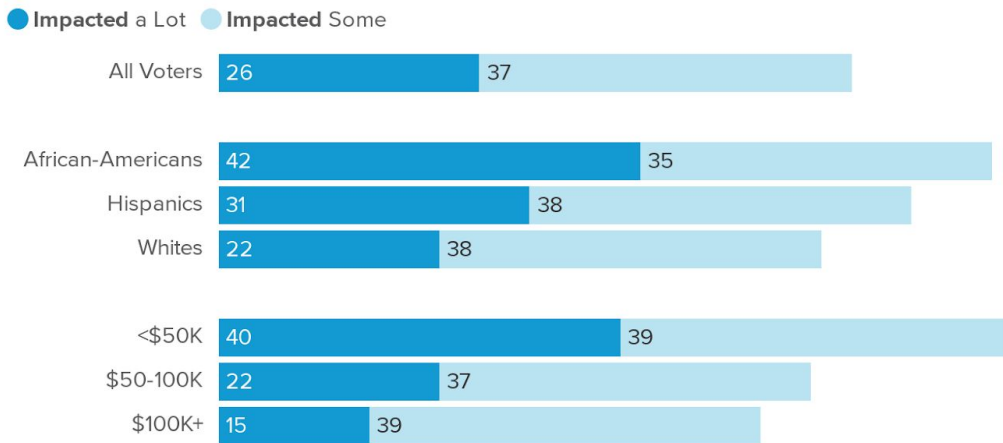


Respondents could choose up to two

Covid Financial Impact

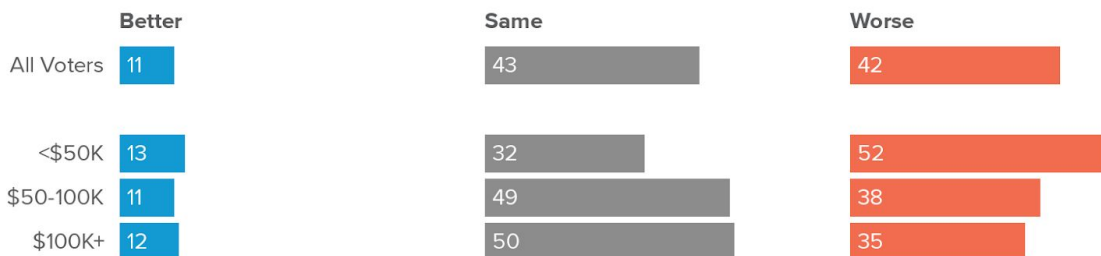
Most residents tell us they've been financially impacted, with African-American and lower-income residents saying they've been hit hardest.

How Much Have You Been Financially Impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic CHANGE RESEARCH™



Few believe the pandemic has improved their financial situation. Most say it has either gotten worse or stayed the same. Again, this is particularly acute with low-income voters .

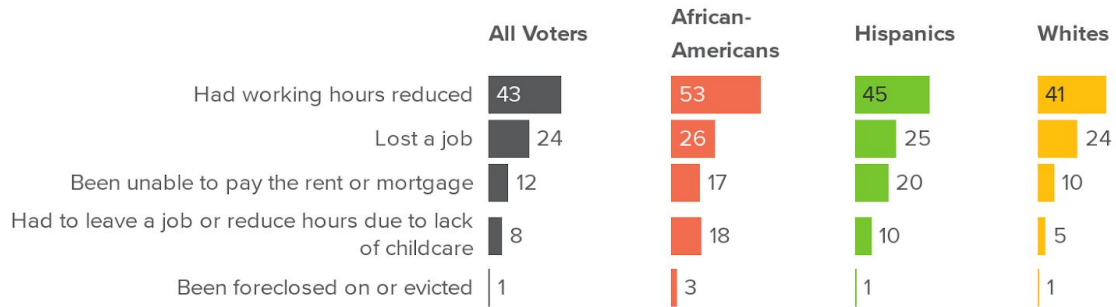
Would you say that your personal financial situation is better or worse than before the start of the pandemic? CHANGE RESEARCH™



Households, particularly African-American households, have faced significant impact from COVID. This includes 43% of households with someone with working hours reduced and a quarter (24%) who have lost a job. Hispanic and African-American households are more likely to have been unable to pay the rent or mortgage than those in white households. Having to leave a job or work fewer hours due to lack of childcare has been particularly acute in African-American households (18%) compared to white households (5%).

Have the Following Happened to You or Someone in Your Household during the Coronavirus Pandemic?

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Methodology

Polling was conducted online from February 12-15, 2021. Using its Dynamic Online Sampling technology to attain a sample reflective of registered voters, Change Research polled 960 people in the state of New Jersey. Post-stratification weights were made on age, gender, political region, education, 2020 vote, and race and ethnicity to reflect the distribution of voters. All polls are subject to errors caused by interviewing a sample of persons, rather than the entire population. In 95 cases out of 100, the responses to this survey should be within plus or minus 3.6 percentage points of those that would have been obtained from interviewing the entire population of voters.