ASK ALL:
Q.32 In 2001, Congress passed a bill called the 'No Child Left Behind' Act that sets national standards and goals for education. How much, if anything, have you heard about this law and how it has affected schools? (READ)

42  A lot
44  A little
13  Nothing at all
  1  No answer/Don't know (VOL. DO NOT READ)
100

IF HEARD ‘A LOT’ OR ‘A LITTLE’ (1,2 IN Q.32) ASK [N=1318]:
Q.33 Based on anything you may have seen or heard, do you think that the No Child Left Behind Act has made schools in America better, worse, or had no impact?

34  Better
26  Worse
32  No impact
  8  Don't know/Refused
100

IF ‘BETTER OR ‘WORSE’ (1,2 IN Q.33) ASK:
Q.34 Why do you think it has made things (better/worse)? [OPEN-END: CODE UP TO THREE RESPONSES. PROBE FOR CLARITY, BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

BASED ON “MAKE SCHOOLS BETTER” IN Q.33 [N=425]:
  Means that no child may be left behind–students get more individual attention, especially students who are deprived/behind
  20
  Test scores/performance are up/Schools are better
  12
  Brings accountability to schools, including through testing
  11
  Gives guidelines to teachers/Makes teachers responsible for individual students’ performance/Improves teachers/Puts pressure on teachers
  10
  Sets same standard for all schools and students
  6
  Brings awareness of education problems/importance
  5
  Brings programs (including after-school programs) that keep students in school/off streets
  4
  Makes it more difficult for students to be promoted without deserving to be
  4
  Provides more money/resources for education
  3
  Other
  26
  Don’t know/Refused
  8
Q.34 CONTINUED...

BASED ON “MAKES SCHOOLS WORSE” IN Q.33 [N=344]:

30  Too much focus on testing/Teachers must teach to the test and ignore other things/Stifles teaching Standards get lowered so more students will pass/Kids getting pushed along without learning/More promotions for students who aren’t ready to move on

18  Not possible for all students to meet the standards/Students learn at their own paces/Same standard won’t work for all, especially special-education students

10  Too many restrictions and rules/Too much paperwork/Too much federal/non-local involvement in schools/Not enough local control

9   Not enough funding/Costs too much/Don’t like tie between school performance and funding

5   Brighter students lose out because focus is on getting slower students up to standards

3   Too much burden on teachers/Teachers don’t like it

3   Same standard won’t work for all, especially special-education students

2   Too much focus on testing/Teachers must teach to the test and ignore other things/Stifles teaching

Other

Don’t know/Refused

IF HEARD ‘A LOT’ OR ‘A LITTLE’ (1,2 IN Q.32) ASK [N=1318]:

Q.35  Under the ‘No Child Left Behind’ Act, do you think the federal government has too much, too little, or the right amount of influence over education policy in America?

37  Too much

31  Too little

22  Right amount

10  Don’t know/Refused

100

Q.36  Under the ‘No Child Left Behind’ Act, do you think there is too much emphasis on standardized testing, too little, or the right amount?

45  Too much

19  Too little

28  Right amount

8   Don’t know/Refused

100

IF HEARD ‘A LOT’ OR ‘A LITTLE’ (1,2 IN Q.32) AND IF CHILD IN SCHOOL (2,3 IN SCHOOL) ASK [N=324]:

Q.37  Thinking about the (school/schools) your (child/children) attend(s), has the No Child Left Behind Act had any impact on your (child’s school/children’s schools) or not?

IF ‘YES’ (1 IN Q.37) ASK:

Q.38  Overall, would you say it made your (child’s school/children’s schools) better or worse?

49  Yes

28  Better

16  Worse

3   Mixed (VOL.)

2   Don’t know/Refused

43  No

8   Don’t know/Refused

100