

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**APRIL 2007 POLITICAL SURVEY**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**April 18-22, 2007**  
**N=1508**

**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
<u>1</u>	No answer/Don't know <b>(VOL. DO NOT READ)</b>
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
<u>8</u>	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]:**

20	Means that no child may be left behind—students get more individual attention, especially students who are deprived/behind
12	Test scores/performance are up/Schools are better
11	Brings accountability to schools, including through testing
10	Gives guidelines to teachers/Makes teachers responsible for individual students' performance/Improves teachers/Puts pressure on teachers
6	Sets same standard for all schools and students
5	Brings awareness of education problems/importance
4	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
3	Provides more money/resources for education
26	Other
8	Don't know/Refused

**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
18	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
10	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
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
5	Too much burden on teachers/Teachers don't like it
3	Too many restrictions and rules/Too much paperwork
2	Too much federal/non-local involvement in schools/Not enough local control
30	Other
2	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
<u>10</u>	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
<u>8</u>	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 ( <b>VOL.</b> )
2	Don't know/Refused
43	No
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	