

Florida Teacher Survey
400 K-12 School Teachers whose students participate in annual statewide standardized testing
December 9-12, 2016

- 1. Generally speaking, would you say the country's education system is headed in the right direction, or are things seriously headed off on the wrong track?**

1. Right Direction	28
2. Don't know	9
3. Wrong Track	63

- 2. Do you believe all students should be "college or career ready" upon graduation from high school?**

1. Yes	78
2. No	20
3. Don't know	3

- 3. Do you believe earning a high school diploma should indicate that a student is ready for college or a career?**

1. Yes	74
2. No	22
3. Don't know	4

Using a grading scale of A to F, where A is excellent, B is good, C is average, D is insufficient and F is failing, please grade the following:

	A (4)	B (3)	C (2)	D (1)	F (0)
4. Schools, Kindergarten through 12th grade, <u>in your community</u>	18	42	26	10	2

5. Schools, Kindergarten through 12th grade, <u>in the rest of the country</u>	6	27	53	14	1
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Please tell me for each of the following whether you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression. (IF CHOICE IS MADE, ASK:) Would you say you have a strongly (FAVORABLE/UNFAVORABLE) impression or just a somewhat (FAVORABLE/UNFAVORABLE) impression? (ROTATE 6-8)

	NAME ID	TOTAL FAV	TOTAL UNFAV	NO OPINION
6. Standardized state tests	99	29	70	*
7. College admission tests like the SAT or ACT	99	73	25	2
8. Advanced placement tests	99	77	19	4

9. When it comes to college entrance exams like the SAT or the ACT, for most students do you think these tests give a/an accurate or inaccurate picture of how much a student has learned?

1. Accurate	44
2. Inaccurate	43
3. Don't know	14

10. When it comes to the state standardized tests in school, for most students do you think these tests give an accurate or inaccurate picture of how much a student has learned?

1. Accurate	28
2. Inaccurate	68
3. Don't know	4

All fifty states test their students in reading or language arts and math annually in grades 3-8 and once again in high school. Many states, however, have different policies as to how they implement these assessments. Most students test during a state-determined window, which might start in March or April depending on the number of tests that have to be given and how. With this in mind,

Do you believe or not believe the following statements? (ROTATE 11-15)

11. Moving statewide, standardized tests to the last three weeks of the school year will give teachers more time to teach.

1. Believe	81
2. Do not believe	15
3. Don't know	4

12. Administering Florida's standardized tests in March or April results in cramming as teachers try to ensure they cover all the year's material prior to the test.

1. Believe	83
2. Do not believe	12
3. Don't know	5

13. Moving the Florida's standardized tests to the last three weeks of the school year will eliminate or lessen the cramming that occurs to ensure teachers cover all the material prior to the test.

1. Believe	71
2. Do not believe	21
3. Don't know	8

14. Administering the state's standardized tests in March or April results in "dead time" after the tests are finished because the year's material has already been covered to prepare for the test.

1. Believe	64
2. Do not believe	30
3. Don't know	6

15. Moving Florida’s standardized tests to the last three weeks of the school year will reduce “dead time,” which occurs after the tests are finished because the year’s material has already been covered to prepare for the test.

1. Believe	69
2. Do not believe	21
3. Don’t know	10

16. Some states use tests designed exclusively for their state. Others use tests that are also given to students in multiple other states. With this in mind, do you believe or not believe the following statement: Having test results that can be compared with those from other states will help ensure that the quality of the statewide test remains high because the results will show how students in the state scored in relationship to students in other states across the country.

1. Believe	62
2. Do not believe	25
3. Don’t know	13

The results of how a student performed on a state test are provided to parents on what is known as a student score report. Many states have different policies related to providing teachers with access to student score reports. With this in mind, do you believe or not believe the following statements? (ROTATE 17-20)

17. Teachers should receive copies of all their current students’ score reports so they can use the information from their entire class of students as a way to prepare for the start of the next school year.

1. Believe	87
2. Do not believe	10
3. Don’t know	3

18. Teachers would benefit from professional development opportunities to learn how to effectively use data from standardized student assessments to help improve future instruction.

1. Believe	82
2. Do not believe	14
3. Don’t know	4

19. At or before the beginning of each school year, teachers should receive copies of the previous year's score reports for all their incoming students to better prepare instruction tailored to each student. (For example, a 5th grade teacher would get the 4th grade score reports for all her current students before she starts teaching them).

1. Believe	87
2. Do not believe	10
3. Don't know	3

20. At or before the beginning of each school year, teachers should receive copies of the previous year's score reports for all their incoming students to better inform the conversations they will have with parents at the start of the new school year.

1. Believe	82
2. Do not believe	12
3. Don't know	5

**21. When do you receive your students' results on your state's standardized test?
(ROTATE 1-3)**

1. Before the end of the school year	26
2. During the summer	16
3. When you return after the summer for the start of the following school year	47
4. Don't know	11

22. Which would be more beneficial to your students? (ROTATE)

1. Taking statewide, standardized tests earlier so I can have my students' test scores by the end of the school year.	14
2. Taking statewide, standardized tests later in the school year so I have more time to teach my students, and receiving score reports after the school year is finished.	78
3. Don't know	9

Using a 1-5 scale, where 1 is strongly disagree, 2 is somewhat disagree, 3 is neutral, 4 is somewhat agree, and 5 is strongly agree, please rate the following: (ROTATE 23-38)

	MEAN
23. Florida should evaluate using college entrance exams at the high school level, as long as those national tests are sufficiently aligned to my state's standards.	3.57
24. Florida requires tests that are duplicative, unnecessary, or low quality.	3.37
25. My school district requires tests that are duplicative, unnecessary, or low quality.	3.51
26. Florida's tests should provide results that can be compared with the results from other states' tests, so parents, teachers, and policymakers know how students performed within their own state and in comparison to students in other states.	3.75
27. Teachers should receive copies of all their current students' test scores so they can use the information from their entire class of students as a way to prepare for the start of the next school year.	4.14
28. At or before the beginning of the school year, teachers should receive copies of the previous year's score reports for all the incoming students to better prepare instruction tailored to each student.	4.17
29. At or before the beginning of the school year, teachers should receive copies of the previous year's score reports for all the incoming students to better inform the conversations they will have with parents at the start of the new school year.	4.08
30. States should start using online tests to return test scores quickly, even if this requires investment in technology and broadband.	3.69
31. Districts should be required to publish a grade-by-grade testing schedule that clearly labels when each test will be given.	3.92
32. Districts should be required to publish a grade-by-grade testing schedule that clearly labels whether the test is required by the state, the district, or the school.	3.93
33. Districts should be required to publish a grade-by-grade testing schedule that clearly labels who will take the test.	3.91
34. Districts should be required to publish a grade-by-grade testing schedule that clearly labels the reason the test is given.	3.96
35. Individual teachers, not district administrators, should be allowed to make decisions on when and how frequently to administer the formative assessments that are for classroom use and not accountability purposes.	3.88
36. Florida should move the statewide assessment to a later point in the school year than when it is currently administered.	3.90
37. Teachers should be provided an opportunity over the summer to receive professional development on how to use their student's assessment data to improve future instruction.	3.91
38. Florida should move the statewide assessments to the last three weeks of the school year.	3.94

39. How quickly do you need the results of a district-required formative or diagnostic test in order to make them a valuable tool for instruction? (ROTATE 1-3)

1. In one day	12
2. In one week	32
3. In two weeks	44
4. Something else (SPECIFY)	3
5. Don't know	8

40. If all of the policies described in this survey were implemented (for example, moving state tests to the end of the school year or giving teachers access to student score reports), would you have a much more favorable view, a somewhat more favorable view, a somewhat less favorable view, a much less favorable view, or would this make no difference in your view of standardized state tests? (ROTATE TOP TO 5, 5 TO TOP)

1. Much more favorable	17
2. Somewhat more favorable	46
3. No difference	26
4. Somewhat less favorable	6
5. Much less favorable	3
6. Don't know	2
TOTAL MORE FAVORABLE	63
TOTAL LESS FAVORABLE	8

41. If all these policies were implemented (for example, moving state tests to the end of the school year or giving teachers access to student score reports), would you think standardized state tests would give an accurate or an inaccurate picture of how much a student has learned?

1. Accurate	53
2. Inaccurate	25
3. Don't know	22

Now just a few demographic questions for statistical purposes only—

42. In what year were you born?

1. 18-34	24
2. 35-44	24
3. 45-64	44
4. 65+	8

43. What subject area do you teach? (Please select one or two answers) (FIRST TWO RESPONSES)

1. All subject areas	28
2. Science	9
3. Math	16
4. English/reading/writing	20
5. Foreign language	3
6. Social sciences (history, geography, psychology, government)	10
7. The arts (music, drama, art)	6
8. Business (economics, accounting)	2
9. Technical skills (drafting, computer science, etc.)	3
10. Special education	16
11. Other	5
12. Don't know	*

44. How many years of classroom teaching experience do you have?

1. 0-5 years	17
2. 6-10 years	18
3. 11-15 years	20
4. More than 16 years	44
5. Don't know	-

45. How did you enter the teaching profession?

1. Traditional certification	82
2. Alternative certification	14
3. Other	4
4. Don't know	*

46. In what type of school do you teach?

1. Public	93
2. Private	6
3. Other	1
4. Don't know	-

47. Given your best estimate, what percent of students at the school where you teach are eligible for free or reduced price lunches?

1. 0-25%	20
2. 26-50%	26
3. 51-75%	23
4. 76-100%	27
5. Don't know	4

48. Are there children in your household under the age of 18 years old?

1. Yes	42
2. No	58
3. Don't know	*

49. What is your current marital status?

1. Single, never married	20
2. Married	66

3. Separated	1
4. Divorced	11
5. Widowed	3
6. Don't know	1

50. What is your race?

1. Hispanic	7
2. African-American	7
3. Asian	3
4. White	81
5. Other	1
6. Don't know	1

51. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself (ROTATE) a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

1. Republican	33
2. Democrat	38
3. Independent	23
4. Other	4
5. Don't know	3

52. If you had to classify yourself, would you say you are very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative in your political beliefs?

1. Very Liberal	14
2. Somewhat Liberal	20
3. Moderate	31
4. Somewhat Conservative	22
5. Very Conservative	11
6. Don't know	1

53. What type of area do you live in?

1. Urban	26
2. Suburban	48
3. Small town	13
4. Rural	14
5. Don't know	-

Gender

1. Male	27
2. Female	73