

## National and State Surveys on Community Colleges

Interviewing conducted August 2 through 25, 2004.

National survey conducted among N=1,055 adults living in the US; and N=400 adults per state in New Mexico, Michigan, Florida, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Louisiana.

The national data have been weighted by gender and age. New Mexico, Pennsylvania, and Louisiana data have been weighted by gender and age and Michigan, Florida, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Ohio are weighted by gender and race.

The margin of error for the national survey is ± 3.0 percentage points; and ± 4.9 percentage points for each of the state surveys.

Percents may add to 99% or 101% due to rounding.  
\* indicates less than 1%, - indicates zero.

Hello, my name is \_\_\_ and I am an interviewer with Communications Center, Inc. We are conducting a public opinion survey about communities and education. Your telephone number was selected at random. We are not selling anything. May I please speak to the person 18 years old or older in your household who had a birthday most recently? (IF NECESSARY ARRANGE FOR A CALL BACK AND RECORD DATE AND TIME. REPEAT INTRO AS NECESSARY)

1. In general, would you say things in the country are going in the right direction, or are they headed off on the wrong track?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Right dir.	37%	45%	35%	41%	36%	47%	40%	38%	39%	45%
Wrong track	53	45	56	47	52	42	49	50	52	47
DK	9	9	9	11	11	11	11	11	10	8
REF	*	1	--	*	*	1	*	1	*	*

This survey is about community colleges. In some areas these types of colleges are also known as technical colleges. For the purpose of this survey, we will use the term community colleges to mean both those colleges called community colleges and those called technical colleges. Community colleges are public institutions that award certificates and associate degrees, as well as offer a variety of classes to non-degree students.

2. As far as you are aware, are most community colleges funded with federal funds, state tax funds, local taxes, or by the tuition students pay? (ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES)

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Federal	19%	32%	20%	24%	25%	24%	17%	18%	20%	33%
State	40%	43%	41%	48%	49%	36%	52%	30%	36%	35%
Local	16%	24%	22%	16%	15%	31%	11%	17%	13%	10%
Tuition	48%	45%	53%	43%	41%	42%	42%	42%	49%	45%
DK	15%	13%	14%	17%	16%	11%	15%	20%	19%	16%
REF	*	--	--	--	--	--	*	*	--	--

3. As far as you know, do the community colleges in your area have enough spaces for all the students who would like to attend them, or do they have to turn away some students because of a lack of spaces, or don't you know?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Enough space	51%	63%	56%	51%	49%	57%	53%	52%	58%	51%
Turn away	16	11	11	16	22	17	16	10	10	20
DK	33	26	33	33	29	27	31	37	31	29
REF	--	*	--	--	1	--	*	*	1	--

4. Given the limited funding and the number of other demands on tax dollars, would you favor or oppose cutting back spending on community colleges in your state in the short-term in order to balance the state budget?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Favor	16%	18%	17%	16%	15%	20%	12%	20%	21%	17%
Oppose	79	78	76	80	80	75	82	74	73	78
DK	4	4	7	4	5	5	6	6	6	5
REF	*	*	--	--	*	*	--	*	*	*

Please tell me in your opinion if each of the following words or phrases describes the community colleges in your state very well, somewhat well, not very well or not at all? (RANDOMIZE Q5-Q8)

#### 5. Affordable

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very well	45%	56%	45%	47%	55%	49%	51%	50%	50%	43%
Somewhat well	37	32	35	34	30	37	34	30	34	38
Not very well	7	4	8	5	6	6	5	6	6	7
Not at all	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	4	3	3
DK	9	6	10	11	8	7	8	10	7	9
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	*	*	*

#### 6. Conveniently located

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very well	68%	67%	70%	74%	72%	70%	69%	64%	65%	63%
Somewhat well	25	25	23	19	21	25	25	29	26	25
Not very well	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	4	6	7
Not at all	1	2	1	1	2	*	1	1	*	3
DK	1	2	1	3	2	1	2	2	3	2
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	--	--

#### 7. Provide a high quality education

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very well	47%	48%	52%	51%	55%	52%	52%	49%	54%	45%
Somewhat well	42	41	42	38	36	40	35	37	39	41
Not very well	4	5	1	3	4	3	4	5	2	6
Not at all	1	*	1	1	--	1	2	2	1	2
DK	6	6	4	7	5	4	7	6	4	6
REF	*	--	--	*	--	--	--	*	--	--

## 8. Provide good job training

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very well	45%	51%	51%	48%	59%	52%	51%	51%	56%	51%
Somewhat well	40	37	34	34	30	37	32	33	33	34
Not very well	4	4	3	5	4	3	5	4	3	5
Not at all	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	*	2
DK	9	7	10	11	6	7	10	10	7	8
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	--	--

Community colleges are different around the country in what they teach and who attends them. I would like to know if, as far as you know, the community colleges in your area have many, some, just a few or no students in each of the following categories:

9. First, as far as you know do the community colleges in your area have many, some, just a few, or no students who are planning to go on to four-year colleges?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Many	42%	39%	47%	49%	41%	48%	44%	38%	38%	27%
Some	33	33	32	26	32	34	30	30	31	31
Just a few	9	12	8	7	12	6	10	10	11	19
No students	1	1	1	1	2	*	1	1	--	3
DK	15	15	14	17	13	11	16	20	20	20
REF	--	--	--	--	*	--	--	*	--	--

10. As far as you know, do the community colleges in your area have many, some, just a few or no students who are learning additional skills to help them advance in their existing jobs or careers?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Many	44%	46%	42%	40%	46%	40%	50%	42%	46%	39%
Some	35	38	35	35	34	41	30	35	34	31
Just a few	9	10	11	10	12	11	9	10	12	15
No students	1	*	*	1	--	*	1	1	1	1
DK	10	6	11	14	8	8	10	13	8	13
REF	*	--	--	--	--	--	*	--	--	--

11. How about people who want to take a course or two in an area of personal interest – many, some, just a few, or no students?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Many	37%	42%	32%	32%	38%	36%	36%	40%	34%	32%
Some	34	35	40	38	34	40	35	36	36	31
Just a few	22	18	23	21	20	19	20	14	22	27
No students	1	1	*	1	1	--	1	2	1	1
DK	7	3	6	8	6	5	9	8	7	8
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	--

12. How about immigrants trying to learn English or other skills they will need in this country – many, some, just a few, or no students?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Many	23%	25%	20%	30%	21%	28%	21%	17%	18%	16%
Some	26	27	24	22	30	27	23	22	21	21
Just a few	26	25	25	23	26	29	28	31	30	32
No students	4	4	6	3	3	3	3	3	4	8
DK	20	18	26	22	21	13	25	27	27	23
REF	1	*	*	--	--	--	--	*	*	--

13. How about people seeking a degree or training in one of the trades – many, some, just a few, or no students?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Many	49%	55%	51%	46%	55%	55%	50%	48%	51%	56%
Some	33	32	35	35	30	32	28	33	31	25
Just a few	9	8	8	10	11	7	12	9	11	13
No students	1	1	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
DK	7	4	5	9	4	6	10	10	7	6
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Please tell me whether you think it would be best if community colleges put a very high, high, middle or low priority in each of the following areas: (RANDOMIZE Q14-Q22 - PROGRAM SO Q14 AND Q15 ARE NOT CLOSE TOGETHER)

14. Providing people who are not ready or cannot afford the cost of a four-year university a way to start their college education.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very high	34%	30%	35%	32%	33%	31%	39%	34%	34%	32%
High	45	44	46	43	48	47	43	45	41	45
Middle	15	19	16	18	14	17	12	12	17	15
Low priority	4	5	2	5	3	4	4	5	7	6
DK	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	3	1	2
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

15. Providing people a way to complete the first two years of a four-year bachelor's degree at a college close to home.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very high	32%	32%	38%	37%	28%	35%	35%	36%	36%	28%
High	49	46	49	44	50	51	43	43	41	47
Middle	13	16	10	15	17	12	16	14	17	19
Low priority	4	5	2	4	3	2	3	5	6	4
DK	1	*	1	*	2	1	3	2	1	2
REF	--	--	--	*	--	--	--	--	--	--

16. Providing training for people who want to go into a trade or career that does not require a four-year degree.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very high	32%	34%	32%	28%	34%	29%	31%	33%	32%	33%
High	47	46	47	47	49	51	46	42	47	47
Middle	17	16	17	20	13	17	18	18	16	13
Low priority	3	4	2	4	3	3	4	4	4	6
DK	1	*	1	1	1	--	1	3	1	2
REF	*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

17. Providing retraining, for people who have lost their jobs or need a new career.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very high	32%	27%	31%	32%	39%	27%	30%	36%	34%	33%
High	42	43	43	40	41	46	40	42	42	44
Middle	19	21	17	20	13	19	21	14	16	15
Low priority	5	7	6	7	6	6	7	7	7	7
DK	2	2	2	1	*	1	2	1	1	2
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

18. Providing a place for people to take a course or two to learn something new, but who are not seeking a degree.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very high	15%	15%	14%	15%	15%	14%	16%	19%	15%	16%
High	34	36	35	30	33	34	37	37	33	33
Middle	34	35	38	36	36	34	31	29	35	35
Low priority	16	13	12	18	14	17	16	12	13	15
DK	1	1	1	*	2	1	*	3	3	1
REF	*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

19. Providing continuing education for working people to become more skilled at their existing jobs.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very high	28%	26%	26%	23%	28%	28%	28%	31%	26%	29%
High	46	49	47	50	50	49	47	45	50	50
Middle	21	19	23	21	17	19	17	17	20	14
Low priority	4	6	3	5	4	4	5	5	4	6
DK	1	1	1	*	*	*	1	2	1	1
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

## 20. Teaching reading to adults who never learned to read.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very high	29%	31%	24%	33%	29%	29%	28%	29%	27%	30%
High	33	33	26	29	38	35	34	31	29	37
Middle	20	20	25	20	17	18	16	17	19	15
Low priority	14	12	19	15	12	15	18	15	16	13
DK	4	4	6	3	4	3	5	7	8	4
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*		--

## 21. Helping new immigrants learn English and other skills.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very high	20%	19%	15%	26%	21%	19%	21%	19%	15%	17%
High	36	40	32	32	33	38	32	35	35	33
Middle	23	22	28	25	25	24	26	18	22	27
Low priority	15	14	18	13	14	15	16	19	19	17
DK	5	5	7	3	7	3	5	9	10	7
REF	*	*	*	--	*	*	--	*	--	--

## 22. Providing local businesses with a trained workforce.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very high	27%	29%	25%	24%	29%	26%	22%	26%	27%	33%
High	44	42	44	43	42	43	47	42	45	44
Middle	21	23	22	25	22	21	23	23	22	16
Low priority	6	6	5	6	6	8	6	6	5	6
DK	3	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
REF	*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



Now I am going to read some criticisms we have heard about community colleges. Please tell me if you think each statement is true all the time, much of the time, just some of the time, or never. (RANDOMIZE Q23-Q28)

23. The students who go to community colleges do not have high enough grades or test scores to get into a four-year college.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
True all the time	3%	2%	3%	5%	5%	3%	3%	5%	3%	5%
Much of the time	14	13	12	17	12	14	10	15	11	16
Some of the time	62	62	61	61	61	59	66	52	51	61
Never	19	19	20	15	20	21	18	25	31	16
DK	3	4	4	1	3	2	3	3	4	2
REF	*	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	--	--

24. The students who go to community colleges do not have the commitment to attend a four-year college.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
True all the time	3%	2%	1%	2%	2%	4%	2%	3%	4%	4%
Much of the time	9	9	12	10	11	10	9	10	8	12
Some of the time	60	65	58	61	58	57	59	48	48	57
Never	27	23	26	25	27	28	26	33	35	26
DK	1	1	3	2	2	2	4	5	5	1
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	*	--	*

25. The college level courses at community colleges are easier than the same courses taught in four-year colleges.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
True all the time	5%	5%	4%	6%	8%	8%	7%	5%	6%	6%
Much of the time	14	16	15	16	16	18	15	18	14	16
Some of the time	46	51	51	44	47	49	43	39	41	45
Never	27	23	23	26	24	21	28	31	33	24
DK	7	5	7	7	6	5	7	7	7	9
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

26. Community colleges offer so many programs that their resources are spread too thin to be very good.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
True all the time	3%	5%	3%	6%	6%	4%	4%	8%	4%	6%
Much of the time	10	12	10	12	10	11	9	14	6	13
Some of the time	58	57	54	54	53	59	55	43	47	53
Never	23	23	27	24	26	21	26	30	36	23
DK	5	3	5	5	4	5	6	6	6	5
REF	*	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

27. A person can only advance so far with a degree from a community college. Most well-paying jobs require at least a bachelor's degree from a four-year college.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
True all the time	10%	9%	11%	11%	8%	11%	15%	13%	13%	10%
Much of the time	32	34	34	31	29	34	29	30	25	24
Some of the time	46	47	45	46	47	45	44	38	43	52
Never	10	9	8	10	12	8	11	13	15	10
DK	2	1	2	2	4	2	2	4	3	4
REF	--	--	*	--	--	--	--	*	--	--

28. Because community colleges are willing to admit everyone, they must have low standards and do not provide a high quality education.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
True all the time	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	5%	2%	3%
Much of the time	7	9	9	7	6	6	6	7	10	12
Some of the time	39	40	36	40	38	42	36	36	30	37
Never	52	47	54	49	52	48	53	49	56	46
DK	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	2
REF	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	*	--

Now I have some statements made by people about why we *should* support community colleges with tax dollars. Please think of a 1 to 10 scale, where 1 means something is not at all a reason to you personally, and 10 means it is an extremely important reason to you personally to continue to fund the community colleges in your state:  
(RANDOMIZE Q29-Q37) First on this 1 to 10 scale, how would you rate this statement:

<b>% 10-extremely important</b>	<b>Nat'l</b>	<b>NM</b>	<b>MI</b>	<b>FL</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>TX</b>	<b>VA</b>	<b>PA</b>	<b>OH</b>	<b>LA</b>
29. Every person in America deserves an opportunity to get an education and community colleges are there to provide people with that opportunity.	53%	54%	50%	62%	65%	55%	56%	55%	55%	60%
30. SPLIT SAMPLE: [A: Community colleges, level the playing field by letting anyone enroll regardless of how well they did in high school.	18%	21%	18%	20%	26%	22%	22%	21%	21%	27%
30B: Community colleges, level the playing field by giving anyone who works hard a chance at a college education.]	37%	38%	39%	47%	44%	43%	45%	40%	35%	42%
31. Community colleges provide an open door to education not available elsewhere.	29%	32%	28%	32%	36%	35%	36%	31%	33%	35%
32. Our society as a whole benefits when everyone has access to an education and community colleges give more people that access.	50%	49%	44%	57%	60%	50%	53%	46%	44%	52%

<b>% 10-extremely important</b>	<b>Nat'l</b>	<b>NM</b>	<b>MI</b>	<b>FL</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>TX</b>	<b>VA</b>	<b>PA</b>	<b>OH</b>	<b>LA</b>
33. Community colleges provide a way for people at all stages of their lives to be life long learners.	39%	44%	37%	42%	46%	41%	42%	39%	42%	39%
34. Community colleges contribute to the local economy by training workers for local industries and businesses.	30%	31%	27%	34%	38%	34%	34%	26%	31%	37%
35. Community colleges are centers of opportunity that meet the needs of the local community.	30%	31%	26%	35%	39%	33%	35%	31%	29%	38%
36. Community colleges are adaptable institutions that can quickly make changes to programs and curriculum in order to fulfill the needs of the community and the changing local economy.	20%	22%	19%	20%	28%	23%	22%	18%	20%	29%
37. Community colleges help secure the future of more young people by offering an education many would not be able to find elsewhere.	39%	39%	38%	43%	47%	46%	45%	38%	38%	45%

Still thinking of the 1 to 10 scale, where 1 means something is not at all a reason to you personally, and 10 means it is an extremely important reason to you personally to continue to fund the community colleges in your state: How would you rate:  
(RANDOMIZE Q38-Q53)

<b>% 10 - extremely important</b>	<b>Nat'l</b>	<b>NM</b>	<b>MI</b>	<b>FL</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>TX</b>	<b>VA</b>	<b>PA</b>	<b>OH</b>	<b>LA</b>
38. Community colleges make education affordable for people who would otherwise miss out.	42%	40%	41%	48%	55%	45%	48%	45%	39%	47%
39. Community colleges offer a wide range of programs from basic college courses to welding and engineering and computer programming to cooking and language classes for all different types of students.	40%	44%	37%	45%	54%	45%	40%	40%	40%	51%
40. Community colleges have smaller classes so teachers are able to provide more personal attention to individual students than teachers at four-year colleges.	27%	34%	25%	25%	36%	33%	25%	25%	27%	33%
41. Because of the quality education, hands-on training and range of courses offered, community colleges are a better value and give students more for their money than four-year colleges.	18%	18%	15%	21%	22%	21%	18%	17%	20%	22%
42. Community colleges help new immigrants learn English and skills they need to succeed in this country.	22%	27%	16%	30%	26%	27%	23%	22%	16%	29%

<b>% 10 - extremely important</b>	<b>Nat'l</b>	<b>NM</b>	<b>MI</b>	<b>FL</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>TX</b>	<b>VA</b>	<b>PA</b>	<b>OH</b>	<b>LA</b>
43. Community colleges are the main way we have to teach adults who do not have basic math and reading skills.	23%	30%	18%	24%	36%	25%	20%	25%	20%	31%
44. Community colleges give students who are aiming for a four-year degree the chance to improve their grades and get into a four-year college.	37%	35%	36%	43%	41%	43%	41%	40%	32%	42%
45. Community colleges give people without the money to attend a four-year college the chance to get started on a degree.	42%	40%	40%	50%	50%	45%	48%	44%	36%	46%
46. Community colleges provide the same quality instruction for the first two years as four-year institutions but at a lower cost.	29%	27%	27%	33%	38%	35%	34%	30%	29%	29%
47. Community colleges retrain workers who have lost their jobs, as industries decline or employers leave an area.	27%	27%	23%	31%	39%	29%	30%	30%	26%	36%
48. Community colleges work with local employers to develop job training programs to fit businesses' needs.	27%	27%	24%	27%	36%	32%	27%	27%	28%	33%

<b>% 10 - extremely important</b>	<b>Nat'l</b>	<b>NM</b>	<b>MI</b>	<b>FL</b>	<b>NC</b>	<b>TX</b>	<b>VA</b>	<b>PA</b>	<b>OH</b>	<b>LA</b>
49. Community colleges provide residents of a community a way to take courses in the things that interest them.	31%	35%	33%	33%	42%	34%	37%	36%	34%	39%
50. Community colleges are flexible and allow students to attend at night and on weekends.	49%	45%	49%	56%	56%	51%	52%	48%	51%	51%
51. Close to one-half of all college students in the U.S. are in community colleges.	16%	17%	14%	24%	20%	20%	16%	16%	13%	19%
52. One in five students earning four-year degrees started out in a community college	21%	24%	24%	25%	24%	28%	24%	20%	16%	23%
53. Getting a degree from a community college increases a person's lifetime earnings by over 30%.	26%	27%	22%	29%	28%	33%	28%	25%	26%	32%

54. Currently there are more people who would like to attend community colleges than the colleges have space for. Here are two proposals to help solve this problem, please tell me which one you support more ...

A) Some people say that community colleges should raise tuition and fees and become more selective in whom they admit so fewer students can attend; or

B) Other people say we should use tax dollars to expand the system of community colleges so more students can attend, even if this means raising state taxes.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Side A	27%	21%	28%	27%	25%	25%	26%	30%	28%	28%
Side B	67	74	66	68	71	70	69	64	64	66
DK	5	4	5	4	3	3	4	5	6	5
REF	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	1

#### DEMOGRAPHICS:

Now I have a few final questions about you.

Please tell me if you do each of the following: regularly, now and then, or almost never:

55. Read a local daily newspaper

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Regularly	65%	63%	58%	64%	65%	60%	62%	63%	63%	67%
Now and then	24	20	26	23	24	25	21	19	25	21
Almost never	11	15	15	12	10	14	13	14	10	8
DK	*	*	*	*	--	--	1	1	1	--
REF	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	4	1	4

56. Read a national newspaper such as the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, or USA Today

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Regularly	16%	18%	14%	18%	21%	13%	22%	14%	12%	16%
Now and then	34	33	32	33	31	37	32	34	37	35
Almost never	49	48	53	47	46	49	42	47	48	45
DK	--	--	--	*	*	--	1	2	1	--
REF	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	4	2	4



## 57. Watch local or national television news, not on a cable network

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Regularly	71%	72%	71%	76%	72%	70%	67%	66%	74%	75%
Now and then	17	16	16	12	14	15	18	18	13	13
Almost never	12	11	12	10	13	13	11	11	11	8
DK	*	--	*	--	--	*	1	1	1	*
REF	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	4	2	4

## 58. Watch cable news channels such as CNN, MSNBC, or Fox Cable News

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Regularly	51%	52%	44%	64%	59%	52%	56%	48%	52%	59%
Now and then	29	26	31	20	24	28	26	31	28	25
Almost never	19	21	23	14	16	18	14	16	17	11
DK	*	--	*	--	--	*	1	1	1	1
REF	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	4	1	4

## 59. Listen to National Public Radio

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Regularly	27%	35%	26%	32%	33%	23%	33%	28%	28%	30%
Now and then	26	25	30	21	25	28	23	26	25	26
Almost never	46	39	42	45	40	48	41	41	43	40
DK	--	--	--	*	*	--	1	1	3	--
REF	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	4	2	4

## 60. Do you have any children under 18 living at home with you?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Yes	39%	38%	35%	34%	34%	42%	39%	35%	37%	37%
No	60	60	64	64	65	57	56	59	60	59
DK	--	--	*	--	--	--	*	1	1	--
REF	1	1	2	2	2	2	4	5	2	4

61. What was the last grade of school you completed?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
<HS	7%	6%	4%	3%	9%	6%	4%	8%	7%	8%
HS/GED	29	21	29	26	27	20	25	34	29	29
Some college	27	33	31	27	28	31	24	24	29	29
College grad	21	21	18	27	24	28	28	21	21	21
Graduate work	15	17	16	15	11	14	15	9	12	10
DK	--	--	--	--	--	*	1	*	1	--
REF	1	2	2	2	2	2	5	5	2	4

62. Are you now or have you ever attended or taken a class at a community college?  
(CODE CURRENT AND PAST SEPARATELY)

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Yes - Currently	8%	11%	8%	5%	9%	8%	7%	4%	7%	7%
Yes - In past	47	51	49	50	60	51	47	34	42	32
No (Go to Q64)	45	36	41	43	29	40	40	57	48	57
DK (Go to Q64)	*	--	--	*	--	--	*	*	1	--
REF	1	1	2	2	2	2	5	5	2	4

63. IF YES: Which of the following best describes you:

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
I received a degree or certificate from a community college	22%	18%	24%	28%	27%	20%	21%	14%	16%	16%
I am taking or took classes toward a degree or certificate but did not graduate	16	21	13	15	17	24	16	11	17	13
I am taking or took classes but was not working toward a degree or certificate	17	23	17	12	25	14	16	11	15	10
DIDN'T ATND	45	36	41	43	29	40	40	56	48	57
DK	--	*	1	*	*	--	1	1	1	--
REF	--	--	1	*	1	*	*	1	1	*

64. Do you have any children or close family members who have attended a community college?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Yes	63%	62%	65%	59%	65%	63%	60%	49%	55%	52%
No	36	36	32	39	32	35	33	45	40	44
DK	*	*	*	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
REF	1	1	2	2	2	2	5	5	2	4

65. Are you registered to vote at your current address?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Yes	82%	79%	86%	83%	81%	80%	76%	78%	82%	88%
No	17	19	12	15	17	17	18	16	14	7
DK	1	*	--	--	1	1	1	*	1	1
REF	1	2	2	2	2	2	5	5	2	4

66. In terms of your political outlook, do you usually think of yourself as: [REVERSE ORDER] very conservative, somewhat conservative, middle of the road, somewhat liberal, or very liberal?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Very conservative	13%	15%	12%	17%	18%	19%	13%	14%	12%	22%
Smwt conservative	22	28	24	23	30	28	29	26	23	24
Middle of the road	33	24	35	30	27	25	27	27	34	21
Somewhat liberal	20	19	16	15	15	14	15	15	17	16
Very liberal	8	8	6	11	5	8	8	9	7	9
DK	2	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	4	3
REF	2	3	4	3	3	3	6	6	3	6

67. Do you consider yourself to be a Democrat, a Republican, an independent, or something else?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Democrat	37%	34%	35%	36%	37%	27%	32%	32%	34%	40%
Republican	26	30	22	31	29	33	26	32	31	24
Independent	27	26	32	26	24	31	28	24	24	24
Something else	2	1	1	*	1	*	1	1	1	1
DK	5	4	5	3	4	3	4	2	4	3
REF	4	5	6	4	4	6	10	7	5	8

68. Which of the following best describes the place where you live: a large city, a small city, suburb, town, or a rural area?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Large City	22%	19%	15%	29%	14%	32%	14%	12%	19%	27%
Small City	24	34	21	26	29	24	16	12	22	27
Suburb	20	7	26	19	7	15	28	25	27	14
Town	14	18	14	13	18	11	11	21	10	8
Rural Area	19	20	21	10	30	15	25	24	19	19
DK	*	--	*	1	1	*	1	1	1	1
REF	1	2	2	2	2	3	6	5	2	4

69. What is your occupation?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Profn white-collar	28%	28%	26%	30%	25%	33%	29%	20%	24%	25%
Man. white-collar	5	5	5	7	9	4	5	5	5	6
Tech. white-collar	6	5	6	7	5	4	7	6	5	6
Sales white-collar	8	8	5	7	5	9	6	7	7	9
Clerical white-collar	11	13	11	11	9	9	14	12	11	8
Skilled blue-collar	10	11	14	15	15	11	11	9	13	12
Unskilled blue-collar	15	10	18	9	15	13	10	18	16	12
Homemaker	8	8	7	7	9	9	7	8	7	7
Retired	--	*	*	1	*	*	1	2	1	1
Unemployed	*	1	1	*	1	*	--	1	1	1
Disabled	*	1	*	--	*	*	*	*	*	1
Student	5	5	3	3	4	5	3	4	4	7
DK/REF	4	3	3	4	4	3	8	9	5	6

70. IF EMPLOYED: In your job do you help to make hiring decisions?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Yes	36%	43%	35%	39%	42%	40%	44%	27%	33%	41%
No	63	57	65	61	58	60	56	72	67	57
DK	1	1	--	--	--	1	*	--	*	1
REF	*	*	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	1

71. In what year were you born? 70b. IF REFUSED Are you between:

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
18-34	31%	31%	27%	23%	28%	29%	26%	27%	25%	33%
35-44	22	22	22	17	20	21	21	19	20	21
45-54	18	19	21	22	22	20	21	18	24	18
55-64	12	12	13	15	14	14	15	12	12	12
65+	17	16	17	21	15	14	11	21	15	16
DK/REF	--	*	1	1	1	1	5	3	4	*

72. Would you say you are white, black or African American, Hispanic, Asian or Pacific Islander, Native American, or something else?

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
White	73%	57%	81%	68%	73%	56%	72%	85%	85%	60%
Black	11	1	13	12	20	11	18	6	10	33
Hispanic	11	35	3	16	4	29	4	2	2	4
Asian	2	1	2	2	1	3	4	1	1	1
Native American	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	--	*	1
Something Else	1	*	--	*	--	--	*	1	*	--
DK	--	3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	1
REF	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

73. Stop me when I come to the category in which your total HOUSEHOLD INCOME fell before taxes in 2003. Your best estimate is fine.

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Less than \$15,000	8%	11%	10%	6%	10%	9%	4%	9%	9%	11%
\$15,000 to \$24,000	12	13	11	8	11	12	7	10	10	16
\$25,000 to \$34,000	13	13	11	11	13	12	10	9	13	14
\$35,000 to \$49,000	15	18	17	21	15	17	17	15	18	18
\$50,000 to \$74,000	16	16	17	18	16	19	19	16	13	14
\$75,000 or more	22	17	18	23	19	18	22	16	16	10
DK	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	5	6	4
REF	11	9	14	11	12	12	18	20	16	14

Gender

	Nat'l	NM	MI	FL	NC	TX	VA	PA	OH	LA
Male	48%	48%	48%	48%	48%	49%	48%	47%	48%	47%
Female	52	52	52	52	52	51	52	53	52	53