

**NATIONAL YOUTH SURVEY
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2002 KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS**

SAMVARS: PPTNEDUC (1) 6th grade or less, (2) 7th grade, (3) 8th grade, (4) 9th grade, (5) 10th grade, (6) 11th grade, (7) 12th grade, (8) College student, (9) Not in school

PPEDUC (1) Less than high school, (2) Some high school, no diploma, (3) Graduated from high school, (4) Some college, no degree

PPCM0060 (1) a full-time college student, (2) a part-time college student, (3) not a college student

What is your current school level?

- 0 Currently in High School
- 0 Currently in College
- 0 Previously attended College

What is your age?

_____ years old

IN CLASS ACTIVITIES: CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY

I'd like to ask you about activities that students can do in school, and then I'll ask you about some activities outside of school.

[If PPTNEDUC=4 THRU 7]

[SC]

HS1 First, how much are you enjoying high school:

- 0 Like it a lot
- 0 Like it a little
- 0 Dislike it a little
- 0 Dislike it a lot
- 0 Don't know/Mixed

[If PPTNEDUC=4 THRU 7]

[SC]

HS2 Does your school have a student government?

- 0 Yes [go to HS2A]
- 0 No [go to HS3]
- 0 Don't know [go to HS3]

[If yes to HS2]

[SC]

HS2A This school year, have you served as an officer or representative, run for office, or worked on a campaign for your student government?

0 Yes

0 No

[If yes to HS2]

[SC]

HS2B How much attention do you pay to what your student government does:

0 A lot or some

0 A little

0 Not much or none

0 Don't know

[If PPTNEDUC=4 THRU 7]

[SC]

HS3 During this school year, have you had any courses that required you to pay attention to government, politics, or national issues?

0 Yes

0 No

0 Don't know

[If PPTNEDUC=4 THRU 7]

[SC]

HS4 Last year, did you have any courses that required you to pay attention to government, politics, or national issues?

0 Yes

0 No

0 Don't know

[If yes to HS3 or HS4]

[SC]

HS5 Were any of these courses required for graduation?

0 Yes

0 No

0 Don't know

[If yes to HS3 or HS4]

[SC]

HS6 As a result of these courses, would you say your interest in things like politics and national issues:

0 Increased a good deal

0 Increased some

0 Stayed the same

0 Decreased

0 Don't know

[If PPTNEDUC=4 THRU 7]

[SC]

HS7 During your high school years, please check off any of the following you have done:

- 0 Written a letter to someone you did not know
- 0 Given a speech or an oral report
- 0 Taken part in a debate or discussion in which you had to persuade someone about something

[If PPTNEDUC=4 THRU 7]

[SC]

HS8 Does your school arrange or offer any service activities or volunteer work that students can participate in?

- 0 Yes
- 0 No
- 0 Don't know

[If PPTNEDUC=4 THRU 7]

[SC]

HS9 Is participation in a service activity or volunteer work required for students in your school, for example, do all students have to do a certain number of hours of community service or volunteer work before graduating?

- 0 Yes
- 0 No
- 0 Don't know

[If PPTNEDUC=4 THRU 7]

[MC]

HS10 Now think about things you have done *outside of high school*. Which of the following organized activities have you participated in?

[Check all that apply]

- 0 Organized sports
- 0 Religious youth groups
- 0 Political clubs (i.e., Young Democrats or Republicans)
- 0 Boys/Girls Club
- 0 Model United Nations
- 0 Boy's/Girl's State
- 0 FFA/FHA
- 0 4-H
- 0 YMCA
- 0 Scouts
- 0 Other _____[specify][TX]

[If PPTNEDUC=4 THRU 7]

[SC]

HS11 How much influence do you think that students in your high school have on how the school is run?

- 0 Great deal of influence
- 0 Moderate amount of influence
- 0 Just a little influence
- 0 No real influence
- 0 Don't know

Range of possible Qs = 9 to 13

IN CLASS ACTIVITIES: CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY

I'd like to ask you about activities that students can do in school, and then I'll ask you about some activities outside of school.

[If PPCM0060=1 OR 2]

[SC]

C1 First, how much are you enjoying college:

- 0 Like it a lot
- 0 Like it a little
- 0 Dislike it a little
- 0 Dislike it a lot
- 0 Don't know/Mixed

[If PPCM0060=1 OR 2]

[SC]

C2 How much attention do you pay to what your student government does:

- 0 A lot or some
- 0 A little
- 0 Not much or none
- 0 Don't know

[If PPCM0060=1 OR 2]

[SC]

C3 Last year, did you have any courses that required you to pay attention to government, politics, or national issues?

- 0 Yes
- 0 No [go to C6]
- 0 Not in school last year [go to C6]

[If yes to C3]

[SC]

C4 Were any of these courses required for graduation?

- 0 Yes
- 0 No
- 0 Don't know

[If yes to C3]

[SC]

C5 As a result of these courses, would you say your interest in things like politics and national issues:

- 0 Increased a good deal
- 0 Increased some
- 0 Stayed the same
- 0 Decreased
- 0 Don't know

[If PPCM0060=1 OR 2]

[SC]

C6 Do any of your classes require you to keep up with politics or government, either by reading the newspaper, watching TV, or going onto the Internet?

- 0 Yes
- 0 No
- 0 Don't know

[If PPCM0060=1 OR 2]

[SC]

C7 This year did you attend any speeches, informal seminars, or teach-ins about politics or national issues?

- 0 Yes
- 0 No
- 0 Don't know

[If PPCM0060=1 OR 2]

[SC]

C8 Does your school arrange or offer any service activities or volunteer work that students can participate in?

- 0 Yes
- 0 No – SKIP TO C10
- 0 Don't know

[If yes to C8]

[SC]

C9 Is participation in a service activity or volunteer work required for students in your school, for example, do all students have to do a certain number of hours of community service or volunteer work before graduating?

- 0 Yes
- 0 No
- 0 Don't know

[If PPCM0060=1 OR 2]

[SC]

C10 How much influence do you think that students at your college have on how the school is run?

- 0 Great deal of influence
- 0 Moderate amount of influence
- 0 Just a little influence
- 0 No real influence
- 0 Don't know

IF EVER ATTENDED OR CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN COLLEGE, ASK

[If PPCM0060=1 OR 2 OR PPEDUC=4]

[MC]

C11 Which of the following activities did you participate in while in college
[Check all that apply]

- 0 Student government
- 0 Ethnic or religious organization—Hispanic students; Hillel
- 0 Political organization—young Democrats or Republicans
- 0 Fraternity/Sorority
- 0 Subject oriented group—Science/History
- 0 Athletic/sports
- 0 Honor society
- 0 Other _____[specify][TX]
- 0 None of the above[SC]

Number of possible Qs = 8 to 11

ASK ENTIRE SAMPLE

[ALL]

[SC]

C12 In general, if you could choose, would you rather have a career working for

- 0 government
- 0 a for-profit business
- 0 a nonprofit organization?

[ALL]

[MC]

C13 Which of the following organized activities have you participated [did you participate] in while in high school?

[Check all that apply]

- Organized sports
- Band
- Student council/Student government
- Yearbook committee
- Debate
- Cheerleading/Drill Team/Tall Flags/Other spirit organization
- Drama club
- Foreign language clubs
- Dance club
- Newspaper
- Service club
- Other _____ [specify][TX]
- None of the above [SC]

All asked 1 question in this section

Community Service/Volunteer Activities

[ALL]

[SC]

V1 Thinking about the last few years, have you spent time participating in any community service or volunteer activity, or haven't you had time to do this? By volunteer activity, I mean not just belonging to a service organization, but actually working in some way to help others for no monetary pay.

- 0 YES, Have done it in last 12 months
- 0 YES, But have not done it in last 12 months – GO TO V9
- 0 No, Have not done it in last couple of years – GO TO V9
- 0 Don't know if have done it in last couple of years – GO TO V9

[If Yes, have done it in last 12 months to V1]

[MC]

V2 Please mark all the types of groups you have worked for without pay in the last 12 months:

- 0 A religious group
- 0 A health organization
- 0 A civic or community organization, or a group providing social services
- 0 A group involved with the arts
- 0 A group involved with education
- 0 A political organization or candidates running for office
- 0 An environmental organization
- 0 A child or youth program, such as day care centers
- 0 An organization to help the poor, elderly or homeless
- 0 A recreation group

- 0 Other (please specify)_____ [TX]

[repeat sequence of V3 to V8 for EACH group mentioned in V2, up to 3 groups]

[If more than 3 groups selected, choose 3 randomly, but always include "a political organization or candidates for office" if checked]

PROGRAMMING NOTE: WE WILL ASK THE FOLLOWING SEQUENCE OF QUESTIONS FOR EACH GROUP THEY CHECK OFF IN V2, UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 3 GROUPS. IF MORE THAN 3 GROUPS SELECTED, CHOOSE RANDOMLY, BUT ALWAYS INCLUDE 'A *political organization or candidates for office*' IF CHECKED

[If any item () was checked off in V2]

[SC]

V3 Thinking about your work for (*type of group*) over the last 12 months-- Is this something you do on a regular basis, or just once in a while?

- 0 Did on a regular basis
- 0 Did just once in a while
- 0 Don't know

[For each group that was marked off in V2]

[SC]

V4 And when was most recent time you worked for (*type of group*):

- 0 In the last week
- 0 In the last month
- 0 In the last 6 months
- 0 In the last 12 months
- 0 Don't know/can't remember

[For each group that was marked off in V2]

[TX]

V5 When you were working for [group], how many hours per week were you working?

- _____ [insert number]
- 0 Don't know

[For each group that was marked off in V2]

[SC]

V6 Was your work with [group] arranged or organized by school?

- 0 Yes **ASK V6A-C**
- 0 No Go to V7
- 0 Don't know Go to V7[If yes to V6]

[SC]

V6A Have you had a chance to talk about your service experience or volunteer work in class or in a group session with other students?

- 0 Yes
- 0 No
- 0 Don't know

[If yes to V6]

[SC]

V6B Has your service activity contributed toward your grade in any class?

- 0 Yes
- 0 No
- 0 Don't know

[If yes to V6]

[SC]

V6C Has your service activity or volunteer work been required for graduation?

- 0 Yes
- 0 No
- 0 Don't know

[For each group that was marked off in V2]

[MC]

V7 Why did you first start to work with this particular (*type of group..*) Check all that apply

- 0 A family member (other than myself) was already involved
- 0 Someone in my household was (or I was) getting services from this group
- 0 I was asked to help by a friend
- 0 I was deeply concerned about the issue
- 0 It was required for school
- 0 I was made to do it (by parents, law, someone else)
- 0 Just fell into it—no real reason
- 0 Don't know

[For each group that was marked off in V2]

[SC]

V8 When you initially got involved, who made the first contact?

- 0 They contacted me
- 0 I contacted them
- 0 Someone else put us together
- 0 Don't remember

REPEAT SEQUENCE V3-V8 [and possibly V6A thru V6C] FOR EACH OF 3 GROUPS MENTIONED IN V2

[ALL]

[SC]

V9 Thinking about the last few years, have you spent time volunteering to help an individual on a 1 on 1 basis for no monetary pay.

- 0 YES, Have done it in last 12 months
- 0 YES, But have not done it in last 12 months – GO TO P1
- 0 No, Have not done it in last couple of years – GO TO P1
- 0 Don't know if have done it in last couple of years – GO TO P1

[If Yes, have done it in last 12 months to V9]

[SC]

V10 The last time you did this did you help a:

- 0 Family member
- 0 Friend
- 0 Stranger
- 0 Other
- 0 Don't know

[If Yes, have done it in last 12 months to V9]

[SC]

V11 Was your work in one-on-one volunteering arranged or organized by school?

0 Yes ASK V11A-B

0 No Go to P1

0 Don't know Go to P1

[If Yes to V11]

[SC]

V11A Has your activity contributed toward your grade in any class?

0 Yes

0 No

0 Don't know

[If Yes, have done it in last 12 months to V9 and Yes to V11]

[SC]

V11B Has your volunteer work, to help on a one on one basis, been required for graduation?

0 Yes

0 No

0 Don't know

Number of possible Qs = 2 to 34

Precursors: Knowledge/Opportunity/Skills/Attitudes & Orientations

Parents, Discussion, Media Exposure, Inward/Outward Orientation/Attitudes

[ALL]

[MC]

- P1 How closely do you follow news that come from each of the following areas...?
Very closely Somewhat closely Not very closely Don't Know
- Religion
Politics
Entertainment
Sports
Computers and the Internet

[ALL]

[SC]

- P2 Which of the following three statements best describes you:
- 0 I follow the news closely most of the time, whether or not something important or interesting is happening
0 I follow the news closely ONLY when something important or interesting is happening
0 I rarely follow the news closely.
0 Don't know

[Random half gets all As and other half gets all Bs]

[SC]

- P3A How often do you talk about current events or things you have heard about in the news with your *friends*: very often, sometimes, rarely or never?
- 0 Very often
0 Sometimes
0 Rarely
0 Never
0 Don't know

SPLIT HALF WITH

- P3B How often do you talk about current events or things you have heard about in the news with members of your *family*: very often, sometimes, rarely or never?
- 0 Very often
0 Sometimes
0 Rarely
0 Never
0 Don't know

[If very often or sometimes to P3a or P3b]

[SC]

P4 [Note: Ask only if P2a or P2b very often or sometimes] When you do talk about current events and the news, how often does that include items about politics or government.

- 0 Very often
- 0 Sometimes
- 0 Rarely
- 0 Never
- 0 Don't know

[ALL]

[SC]

P5 How often was politics discussed in your house when you were growing up?

- 0 Very often
- 0 Sometimes
- 0 Rarely
- 0 Never
- 0 Don't know

[ALL]

[SC]

P6 Do you happen to know which party now has the most members in the House of Representatives in Washington?

- 0 Republican Party
- 0 Democratic Party
- 0 Don't Know

Number of possible Qs = 4to 5

ATTITUDES

WE'D LIKE TO GET YOUR REACTION TO SOME STATEMENTS. PLEASE INDICATE THE STATEMENT THAT BEST DESCRIBES HOW YOU FEEL. **Random half gets all As and other half gets all Bs**

[Random half gets all As and other half gets all Bs]

[SC]

A1A Politics and government seem so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on.

Or

I can usually understand what's going on in politics and government

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

Split half with

A1B Politics and government operate by rules I really don't understand

Or

Politics and government operate by rules that I find clear and easy to understand

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

[Random half gets all As and other half gets all Bs]

[SC]

A2A A person who wants to make a speech in my community against churches and religion should be allowed

Or

A person who wants to make a speech in my community against churches and religion should be prevented from doing so

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

Split half with

A2B A book that says women are inferior to men and should have fewer rights should be kept out of the public libraries.

Or

A book that says women are inferior to men and should have fewer rights should be available at public libraries

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

[Random half gets all As and other half gets all Bs]

[SC]

A3A Most people who are my age have similar values

Or

People my age hold a variety of different values

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

Split half with

A3B My generation is unique and distinct from other generations.

Or

There is nothing particularly unique or distinct about my generation.

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

PLEASE INDICATE WHETHER YOU AGREE MORE WITH THE FIRST OR SECOND STATEMENT BELOW:

[ALL]

[SC]

A4 First, there are generally clear guidelines to what is right and wrong.

Second, what's right for one person doesn't mean it's right for everybody.

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

[Random half gets all As and other half gets all Bs]

[SC]

A5A First, politics is mostly a scam.

Second, politics is mostly honest people trying to do the best they can.

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

Split half with

A5B First, government is run by a few big interests looking out for themselves

Second, government is generally run for the benefit of all

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

[Random half gets all As and other half gets all Bs]

[SC]

A6A First, most people try to take advantage of others if given the chance

Second, most people try to be fair in their dealings with others

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

Split half with

A6B First, most people try to take advantage of me if given the chance

Second, most people try to be fair in their dealings with me

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

[ALL]

[SC]

A7 First, most of the time people try to be helpful.

Second, most of the time people are just looking out for themselves

0 Can't choose

0 Don't know

[ALL]

[SC]

- A8 First, I do things out of duty - because I'm supposed to do them
Second, I do things only when I want to do them
0 Can't choose
0 Don't know

[Random half gets all As and other half gets all Bs]

[SC]

- A9A First, I am personally responsible for getting involved to make things better for society
Second, making things better for society is a job for other people and government
0 Can't choose
0 Don't know

Split half with

- A9B First, I am personally responsible for getting involved to make things better for society
Second, making things better for society is a job for those people who choose to take it on
0 Can't choose
0 Don't know

9Qs total

GOVERNMENT RELEVANCE & INFLUENCE QUESTIONS

[ALL]

[SC]

G1 How much of an impact do you think decisions made by the government have on your daily life?

- 0 A Lot
- 0 Some
- 0 A little
- 0 None
- 0 Don't know

[ALL]

[SC]

G2 And how much of a difference could you make in what government does if you tried-- a lot, some, a little, or none?

- 0 A Lot
- 0 Some
- 0 A little
- 0 None
- 0 Don't know

[Random half gets all As and other half gets all Bs]

[SC]

G3a Imagine you went to a community meeting and people were standing up to make comments and statements. Do you think you could make a comment or a statement at a public meeting?

- 0 Yes--would Be Comfortable
- 0 Yes--but Would Be Uncomfortable
- 0 No Would Not Want to Make a Statement
- 0 Don't Know

Split half with

G3b Suppose there was some issue you felt needed action in your community. Do you think you would be able to call someone on the phone you had never met before to explain the problem and ask for help?

- 0 Yes--would Be Comfortable
- 0 Yes--but Would Be Uncomfortable
- 0 No Would Not Want to Make a Statement
- 0 Don't Know

3 Qs total

VOTING AND PARTICIPATION

[If ppage=18 years old or over]

[SC]

VP1 Many are not registered to vote because they are too busy or move around often.
Would official state records show that you

- 0 Are now registered to vote in your precinct or election district
- 0 Are *not* now registered to vote in your precinct or election district
- 0 Don't know what records would show

ASK VP2 ONLY IF VP1 = REGISTERED TO VOTE

[If registered to vote in VP1]

[SC]

VP2 In the 2000 presidential election between George W. Bush and Al Gore:

- 0 Did you vote
- 0 Did you *not* vote
- 0 Or can't you recall whether you voted?
- 0 Not eligible to vote

[ALL]

[SC]

VP3 Have you ever received any request directed to you personally to work for or contribute money to a candidate for public office, a party group, political action committee, or any other organization that supports candidates?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months—GO TO VP4
- 0 No, haven't done it—GO TO VP4
- 0 Don't know - Go to VP4

[If yes, with in last 12 months to VP3]

[MC]

VP3A Thinking back to the last time someone asked you to work or contribute money to an organization that supports candidates, can you recall who asked you? [CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY]

- 0 Yes, friend
- 0 Yes, relative
- 0 Yes, co-worker
- 0 Yes, stranger
- 0 Yes, other
- 0 No, can't recall
- 0 Refused

[ALL]

[SC]

VP4 Have you ever received any request directed to you personally to work for or contribute money to an issue or cause not related to a candidate, political party, or political action committee?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months
- 0 No, haven't done it
- 0 Don't know

[ALL]

[SC]

VP5 Have you ever participated in a walk, run, or bicycle ride for a charitable cause?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months
- 0 No, haven't done it
- 0 Don't know

[ALL]

[SC]

VP6 Have you ever written a letter to a newspaper or government official?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months
- 0 No, haven't done it
- 0 Don't know

[ALL]

[SC]

VP7 Have you ever worked together informally with some one or some group to solve a problem in the community where you live?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months
- 0 No, haven't done it
- 0 Don't know

[ALL]

[SC]

VP8 Sometimes people hear things they don't like about products or companies--such as certain brands of clothing that have been made by people in sweatshops. They might avoid buying that product in the future in order to register a protest or send a message to the company who makes the product.

Have you ever avoided buying something in order to register a protest or send a message?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months
- 0 No, haven't done it
- 0 Don't know

Ask only if VP8 = Yes, within last 12 mos

[If yes, with in the last 12 months to VP8]

[TX]

VP8a What did you do?

[ALL]

[SC]

VP9 Have you ever attended a meeting of your town or city council or neighborhood organization?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months
- 0 No, haven't done it
- 0 Don't know

[Random half gets all As and other half gets all Bs]

[SC]

VP11a I'd like to ask about signing petitions related to a political or social issue that was important to you. First, have you ever signed an e-mail petition, such as an e-mail message that you add your name to and forward on to others you know?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months
- 0 No, haven't done it
- 0 Don't know

Split half with

VP11b Have you ever signed an e-mail petition, such as an e-mail message that you add your name to and forward on to others you know?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months
- 0 No, haven't done it
- 0 Don't know

[Random half gets all As and other half gets all Bs]

[SC]

VP12a And how about any other kind of petition -- have you ever signed a written petition related to a political or social issue that was important to you?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months
- 0 No, haven't done it
- 0 Don't know

Split half with

VP12b How about a paper or written petition? Have you ever signed a paper or written petition?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months
- 0 No, haven't done it
- 0 Don't know

[ALL]

[SC]

VP13 Have you ever gone to an internet site to help you find out how to volunteer for a cause or group?

- 0 Yes, within last 12 months
- 0 Yes, but not within last 12 months
- 0 No, haven't done it
- 0 Don't know

[ALL]

[TX]

VP14 Is there any other way you have been involved in some political activity in the last year that has not been covered on this survey?

[ALL]

[MC]

VP15 Please check off all the words below that come to mind when you hear the word POLITICS

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 0 Interesting | 0 White Guys in Suits | 0 Lying |
| 0 Boring | 0 Confusing | 0 Necessary |
| 0 Public service | 0 Power | 0 Ensures opportunity |
| 0 Favoritism | 0 Government | 0 Irrelevant |
| 0 For the rich | 0 Responsive | 0 Corrupt |
| 0 Democracy | 0 Partisan bickering | 0 None of the above [SC] |

Number possible Qs = 14 to 17