



Teachers relying on second jobs, debt to make ends meet

In light of recent teacher strikes, Ipsos and NPR examined teachers' views on pay, unions, and more

Washington, DC, May 2, 2018 — In light of the recent teacher strikes in West Virginia, Oklahoma, Kentucky, Arizona, and Colorado, Ipsos partnered with NPR to examine attitudes among K-12 teachers across America. More than 8 in 10 teachers (82%) agree that public school teachers have a right to strike. The American public agrees; in a concurrent survey among 1,005 Americans aged 18+, three-quarters of Americans agree that public school teachers have a right to strike, and just 1 in 4 believe public school teachers are paid fairly.

Over the course of their career, a majority of teachers (59%) report having worked a second job to make ends meet, and nearly half (46%) have run up debt to do the same. In the last year alone, more than 1 in 3 teachers (36%) has run up debt to make ends meet. Teachers also express discontent with the resources available to them: 86% say that over the course of their career they have purchased school supplies with their own money, and more than three-quarters (77%) report devoting their own time outside of school hours to help students.

Union membership has been declining over the years; currently, 48% of all teachers saying that they do not belong to a union, compared to 46% who are part of a union. Views toward unions, as well as time and money spent, vary greatly between unionized teachers and non-unionized teachers. Three-quarters (73%) of unionized teachers say teachers' unions improve the quality of teachers, compared to 51% of non-unionized teachers. Similarly, 77% of unionized teachers believe unions improve the quality of education, compared to 49% of non-unionized teachers. Both groups are in agreement, however, that teachers' unions make it harder to fire bad teachers (62% of unionized teachers and 64% percent of non-unionized teachers agree). Nearly all unionized teachers approve of their local union leadership (90% approve, compared to 44% of non-unionized teachers), and three-quarters (74%) approve of national teachers' unions (compared to 50% of non-unionized teachers).

When it comes to the role of teachers' unions, nine in ten teachers think it's important that unions represent their members in disputes, negotiate salaries and benefits, and negotiate working conditions. According to unionized teachers, union leaders are delivering in their promises: 85% of all unionized teachers approve of the way their local union is handling disputes and 86% approve of the way their union handles negotiating salaries, benefits, and working conditions. Fewer non-unionized teachers agree, as they are much more likely to answer "don't know" across the board. Half (49%) of unionized teachers believe their local union has had a positive impact when it comes to advancing their career.

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Press Release – continued –

1. Do you currently work as an educator in...

	Total (n=504)	Unionized Teacher (n=226)	Non-Unionized Teacher (n=258)
Kindergarten	14%	11%	16%
1-6 grade	44	42	44
7-8 grade	12	10	13
9-10 grade	21	25	20
11-12 grade	25	28	25

2. Which three of the following topics do you find the most worrying?

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Education	49%	55%	43%
Crime or gun violence	41	47	36
Healthcare	32	33	31
Terrorism	24	23	26
Social inequality	17	15	18
Political extremism or polarization	17	16	20
Immigration	16	13	17
Climate change	14	16	13
Government budget and debt	14	13	14
Taxes	12	11	12
Foreign conflicts	10	12	9
Nuclear conflict	9	7	11
Unemployment	7	5	10
Natural disasters	3	2	4
Other	2	1	4
None of these	1	-	2

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3. Have you seen any news reports in the last week about teachers or teachers' unions?

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Yes	73%	83%	65%
No	27	17	35

4. **[If yes in Q.3]** In your own words, please describe what you've heard in the last week about teachers or teachers' unions.

	Total (n=369)	Unionized Teacher (n=190)	Non-Unionized Teacher (n=166)
<i>Teachers on Strike (Net)</i>	79%	75%	85%
Teachers are on strike/protesting to make a living wage/ higher pay	54	53	55
Teachers are on strike/protesting to increase budgets/ more resources (for supplies)	18	20	17
Teachers are on strike/protesting (general)	16	16	17
Teachers are on strike/protesting to get improved benefits (pensions/ insurance)	9	9	10
Teachers are on strike/protesting to improve workplace/ classroom conditions	8	9	6
Teachers are on strike/protesting to demand respect/ fair treatment/ equal rights	3	2	4
Teachers are on strike/protesting for safer gun laws/ not having to carry guns in schools	2	2	3
Teachers are on strike/protesting in states with low (educational) results	*	*	-
Guns in schools/ arming teachers	5	4	4
(School) budget cuts/ are underfunded	4	4	4
Good/ great/ I like it	3	5	1
Contract disputes/ negotiations	2	4	1
Teachers are underpaid	2	3	2
Teachers are leaving the profession	2	2	2
Teachers worried about losing jobs	1	2	-
Teachers fighting against being forced into a union/ pay union fees	1	2	-
I support/ agree with the teachers	1	2	
Unions are being disbanded	1	2	1
Disciplinary actions taken against teachers	1	1	1
Oklahoma	1	1	1
Pay/ wage increases	1	*	2
Teachers sleeping/ having relations with students	1		1
Other	11	14	8
Nothing	1	1	-
Don't Know	2	2	1

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5. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Total agree	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
I became a teacher because I wanted to do good	93%	97	90
I became a teacher because I like educating	92%	98	89
I became a teacher because I wanted a stable career	74%	86	64
I became a teacher because it was an obtainable job	53%	55	52

a. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I became a teacher because I wanted to do good

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly agree	72%	77%	68%
Somewhat agree	21	20	21
Somewhat disagree	2	2	3
Strongly disagree	2	1	2
Don't know	3		6
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>93%</i>	<i>97%</i>	<i>90%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>5</i>

b. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I became a teacher because I wanted a stable career

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly agree	28%	35%	21%
Somewhat agree	47	51	44
Somewhat disagree	15	10	20
Strongly disagree	5	3	7
Don't know	5	1	9
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>74%</i>	<i>86%</i>	<i>64%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>27</i>

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Press Release – continued –

c. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I became a teacher because I like educating

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly agree	72%	76%	71%
Somewhat agree	20	22	18
Somewhat disagree	2	1	2
Strongly disagree	1	1	1
Don't know	4	-	8
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>92%</i>	<i>98%</i>	<i>89%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>

d. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? - I became a teacher because it was an obtainable job

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly agree	15%	16%	14%
Somewhat agree	38	38	38
Somewhat disagree	22	26	18
Strongly disagree	19	17	21
Don't know	6	2	9
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>53%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>52%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>39</i>

6. In the last year, have you done any of the following?

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Purchased school supplies with your own money	78%	88%	71%
Devoted your own time outside of school hours to helping a student or students	69	74	64
Worked a second job to make ends meet	42	42	44
Run up debt to make ends meet	36	34	39
None of these	9	3	14

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7. In your entire career as an educator, have you done any of the following?

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Purchased school supplies with your own money	86%	91%	82%
Devoted your own time outside of school hours to helping a student or students	77	81	73
Worked a second job to make ends meet	59	67	54
Run up debt to make ends meet	46	48	46
None of these	5	1	9

8. How familiar are you, if at all, with teachers' unions?

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very familiar	31%	50%	16%
Somewhat familiar	40	44	36
Not very familiar	18	6	28
Not at all familiar	8	-	16
Don't know	2	-	4
<i>Familiar (Net)</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>94%</i>	<i>52%</i>
<i>Not familiar (Net)</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>44</i>

9. Do you approve or disapprove of the following:

Total approve	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Your local teachers' union	65%	90	44
National teachers' unions	61%	74	50
Your state teachers' union leadership	56%	76	36
Your state Department of Education leadership	43%	48	36
The U.S. Department of Education leadership	24%	25	22

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a. Do you approve or disapprove of the following - National teachers' unions

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly approve	19%	30%	10%
Somewhat approve	21	26	17
Lean toward approve	21	19	23
Lean toward disapprove	9	7	9
Somewhat disapprove	5	7	4
Strongly disapprove	7	3	10
Don't know	18	8	27
Approve (Net)	61%	74%	50%
Disapprove (Net)	21	18	24

b. Do you approve or disapprove of the following - Your local teachers' union

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly approve	25%	40%	12%
Somewhat approve	21	30	14
Lean toward approve	19	20	18
Lean toward disapprove	5	2	8
Somewhat disapprove	3	3	3
Strongly disapprove	4	2	7
Don't know	22	3	38
Approve (Net)	65%	90%	44%
Disapprove (Net)	13	8	18

c. Do you approve or disapprove of the following - Your state teachers' union leadership

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly approve	15%	24%	7%
Somewhat approve	21	29	13
Lean toward approve	20	23	16
Lean toward disapprove	9	8	10
Somewhat disapprove	7	8	6
Strongly disapprove	5	2	8
Don't know	24	7	41
Approve (Net)	56%	76%	36%
Disapprove (Net)	20	17	23

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d. Do you approve or disapprove of the following - Your state Department of Education leadership

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly approve	8%	11%	4%
Somewhat approve	15	19	12
Lean toward approve	20	19	19
Lean toward disapprove	19	27	13
Somewhat disapprove	13	11	15
Strongly disapprove	13	8	18
Don't know	12	6	19
Approve (Net)	43%	48%	36%
Disapprove (Net)	45	46	45

e. Do you approve or disapprove of the following - The U.S. Department of Education leadership

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly approve	5%	7%	2%
Somewhat approve	10	11	8
Lean toward approve	10	7	12
Lean toward disapprove	17	16	16
Somewhat disapprove	16	16	18
Strongly disapprove	33	38	30
Don't know	9	5	14
Approve (Net)	24%	25%	22%
Disapprove (Net)	66	70	64

10. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

Total agree	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Public school teachers have the right to strike	82%	84	81
Teachers' unions make it harder to fire bad teachers	63%	62	64
Teachers' unions improve the quality of teachers	62%	73	51
Teachers' unions improve the quality of education	61%	77	49

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- a. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements - Public school teachers have the right to strike

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly agree	52%	56%	47%
Somewhat agree	30	28	34
Somewhat disagree	9	10	8
Strongly disagree	5	3	7
Don't know	4	4	4
Agree (Net)	82%	84%	81%
Disagree (Net)	14	12	15

- b. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements - Teachers' unions improve the quality of education

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly agree	24%	35%	15%
Somewhat agree	37	42	34
Somewhat disagree	17	13	19
Strongly disagree	11	7	14
Don't know	11	4	18
Agree (Net)	61%	77%	49%
Disagree (Net)	28	20	33

- c. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements - Teachers' unions make it harder to fire bad teachers

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly agree	25%	22%	28%
Somewhat agree	38	40	35
Somewhat disagree	20	26	16
Strongly disagree	7	9	6
Don't know	9	3	14
Agree (Net)	63%	62%	64%
Disagree (Net)	28	35	22

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d. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements - Teachers' unions improve the quality of teachers

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly agree	22%	30%	16%
Somewhat agree	39	43	35
Somewhat disagree	17	15	19
Strongly disagree	10	7	14
Don't know	11	5	16
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>62%</i>	<i>73%</i>	<i>51%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>33</i>

11. How important are the following activities that teachers' unions engage in?

Total important	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Negotiating working conditions	91%	95	86
Representing members in disputes	91%	97	85
Negotiating salary and benefits	90%	94	86
Advocating for teachers in politics	81%	87	75
Organizing and membership drives	65%	75	57

a. How important are the following activities that teachers' unions engage in? - Negotiating salary and benefits

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very important	70%	80%	62%
Somewhat important	20	15	25
Not very important	3	2	5
Not at all important	3	3	3
Don't know	4	1	6
<i>Important (Net)</i>	<i>90%</i>	<i>94%</i>	<i>86%</i>
<i>Not important (Net)</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>8</i>

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b. How important are the following activities that teachers' unions engage in? - Negotiating working conditions

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very important	68%	79%	58%
Somewhat important	22	16	28
Not very important	4	3	5
Not at all important	2	1	3
Don't know	4	1	6
<i>Important (Net)</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>95%</i>	<i>86%</i>
<i>Not important (Net)</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>8</i>

c. How important are the following activities that teachers' unions engage in? - Representing members in disputes

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very important	60%	70%	51%
Somewhat important	31	27	34
Not very important	3	2	4
Not at all important	1	*	2
Don't know	5	1	9
<i>Important (Net)</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>97%</i>	<i>85%</i>
<i>Not important (Net)</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>6</i>

d. How important are the following activities that teachers' unions engage in? - Organizing and membership drives

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very important	21%	25%	18%
Somewhat important	45	50	39
Not very important	20	16	23
Not at all important	8	7	9
Don't know	7	2	11
<i>Important (Net)</i>	<i>65%</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>57%</i>
<i>Not important (Net)</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>32</i>

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e. How important are the following activities that teachers' unions engage in? - Advocating for teachers in politics

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very important	49%	58%	41%
Somewhat important	32	30	34
Not very important	8	7	9
Not at all important	6	5	8
Don't know	5	1	8
<i>Important (Net)</i>	<i>81%</i>	<i>87%</i>	<i>75%</i>
<i>Not important (Net)</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>16</i>

12. Do you approve or disapprove of the ways your local teachers' union approaches handling the following issues?

Total approve	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Negotiating working conditions	67%	86	49
Representing members in disputes	67%	85	51
Negotiating salary and benefits	66%	86	47
Organizing and membership drives	57%	74	41
Advocating for teachers in politics	57%	74	42

a. Do you approve or disapprove of the ways your local teachers' union approaches handling the following issues? - Negotiating salary and benefits

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly approve	33%	48%	19%
Somewhat approve	33	38	28
Somewhat disapprove	11	8	14
Strongly disapprove	6	4	6
Don't know	18	2	33
<i>Approve (Net)</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>86%</i>	<i>47%</i>
<i>Disapprove (Net)</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>20</i>

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- b. Do you approve or disapprove of the ways your local teachers' union approaches handling the following issues? - Negotiating working conditions

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly approve	33%	46%	21%
Somewhat approve	34	41	29
Somewhat disapprove	9	7	11
Strongly disapprove	5	3	6
Don't know	19	3	34
<i>Approve (Net)</i>	<i>67%</i>	<i>86%</i>	<i>49%</i>
<i>Disapprove (Net)</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>16</i>

- c. Do you approve or disapprove of the ways your local teachers' union approaches handling the following issues? - Representing members in disputes

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly approve	31%	43%	21%
Somewhat approve	36	41	30
Somewhat disapprove	8	5	11
Strongly disapprove	4	4	3
Don't know	21	6	35
<i>Approve (Net)</i>	<i>67%</i>	<i>85%</i>	<i>51%</i>
<i>Disapprove (Net)</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>14</i>

- d. Do you approve or disapprove of the ways your local teachers' union approaches handling the following issues? - Organizing and membership drives

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly approve	18%	26%	11%
Somewhat approve	39	48	30
Somewhat disapprove	13	12	13
Strongly disapprove	6	5	6
Don't know	25	9	39
<i>Approve (Net)</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>74%</i>	<i>41%</i>
<i>Disapprove (Net)</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>20</i>

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- e. Do you approve or disapprove of the ways your local teachers' union approaches handling the following issues? - Advocating for teachers in politics

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strongly approve	25%	35%	16%
Somewhat approve	32	39	27
Somewhat disapprove	12	12	11
Strongly disapprove	9	5	12
Don't know	22	9	34
<i>Approve (Net)</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>74%</i>	<i>42%</i>
<i>Disapprove (Net)</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>24</i>

13. Has your local teachers' union had a positive or negative impact on you personally in the following topics?

Total positive	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Negotiating salary and benefits	51%	77	29
Negotiating working conditions	47%	67	30
Representing members in disputes	41%	57	30
Advocating for teachers in politics	39%	56	25
Generally advancing my career	36%	49	24
Organizing and membership drives	33%	45	22

- a. Has your local teachers' union had a positive or negative impact on you personally in the following topics? - Negotiating salary and benefits

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very positive	24%	39%	12%
Somewhat positive	27	38	17
Neither positive nor negative	24	13	32
Somewhat negative	6	7	6
Very negative	2	1	3
Don't know	18	1	31
<i>Positive (Net)</i>	<i>51%</i>	<i>77%</i>	<i>29%</i>
<i>Negative (Net)</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>8</i>

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- b. Has your local teachers' union had a positive or negative impact on you personally in the following topics? - Negotiating working conditions

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very positive	19%	30%	9%
Somewhat positive	28	37	21
Neither positive nor negative	28	22	34
Somewhat negative	7	9	6
Very negative	2	1	3
Don't know	16	1	28
<i>Positive (Net)</i>	<i>47%</i>	<i>67%</i>	<i>30%</i>
<i>Negative (Net)</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>9</i>

- c. Has your local teachers' union had a positive or negative impact on you personally in the following topics? - Representing members in disputes

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very positive	16%	24%	11%
Somewhat positive	25	32	19
Neither positive nor negative	32	28	34
Somewhat negative	4	7	2
Very negative	3	2	5
Don't know	19	6	29
<i>Positive (Net)</i>	<i>41%</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>30%</i>
<i>Negative (Net)</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>7</i>

- d. Has your local teachers' union had a positive or negative impact on you personally in the following topics? - Organizing and membership drives

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very positive	12%	16%	9%
Somewhat positive	21	29	14
Neither positive nor negative	41	42	39
Somewhat negative	4	6	3
Very negative	3	2	5
Don't know	20	6	31
<i>Positive (Net)</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>45%</i>	<i>22%</i>
<i>Negative (Net)</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>7</i>

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Press Release – continued –

- e. Has your local teachers' union had a positive or negative impact on you personally in the following topics? - Advocating for teachers in politics

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very positive	15%	21%	9%
Somewhat positive	25	35	16
Neither positive nor negative	31	30	32
Somewhat negative	7	7	8
Very negative	4	2	6
Don't know	18	6	28
<i>Positive (Net)</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>Negative (Net)</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>14</i>

- f. Has your local teachers' union had a positive or negative impact on you personally in the following topics? - Generally advancing my career

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Very positive	12%	19%	8%
Somewhat positive	23	31	16
Neither positive nor negative	39	39	38
Somewhat negative	6	8	5
Very negative	4	2	6
Don't know	15	2	27
<i>Positive (Net)</i>	<i>36%</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>24%</i>
<i>Negative (Net)</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>

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Press Release – continued –

14. How often do you discuss issues relating to working conditions and employment in the following locations? - Teachers' lounge or similar location

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Never or almost never	22%	16%	28%
A few times a year	15	14	17
Monthly	8	9	8
A few times a month	18	22	14
Weekly	18	19	16
Several times a week	18	21	17

15. How often do you discuss issues relating to working conditions and employment in the following locations? - Union local meeting

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Never or almost never	56%	34%	76%
A few times a year	20	28	12
Monthly	12	22	3
A few times a month	6	8	4
Weekly	4	6	3
Several times a week	2	2	2

16. How often do you discuss issues relating to working conditions and employment in the following locations? - Informal offsite meeting or gathering

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Never or almost never	31%	24%	38%
A few times a year	28	30	28
Monthly	9	11	8
A few times a month	16	17	15
Weekly	10	13	7
Several times a week	5	6	5

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Press Release – continued –

17. How often do you discuss issues relating to working conditions and employment in the following locations? - Online / on social media

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Never or almost never	63%	61%	65%
A few times a year	12	11	13
Monthly	6	6	7
A few times a month	7	8	7
Weekly	6	8	4
Several times a week	6	6	5

18. How many years have you taught in K-12 education?

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
5 years or less	38%	30%	43%
6-10 years	21	19	22
11-20 years	26	31	23
20+ years	15	20	12
<i>Mean years</i>	<i>10.9</i>	<i>12.7</i>	<i>9.8</i>

19. Is the school where you do most of your teaching...

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Public	77%	91%	64%
Private - Parochial	11	5	16
Private - Non-parochial	7	3	11
Charter	5	1	9

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Press Release – continued –

20. What subjects do your principally teach?

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Science, technology, engineering or math	31%	32%	29%
English	19	18	20
Foreign language	3	2	4
History, civics, or other social sciences	15	17	13
Arts or music	7	5	8
Athletics or physical education	6	5	7
Elementary/all subjects	34	34	32
Other	21	18	23

21. Do you currently have student debt, and if so approximately how much?

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
No	50%	49%	52%
Yes, less than \$10,000	5	4	7
Yes, between \$10,000 and \$25,000	14	11	16
Yes, between \$25,001 and \$50,000	18	22	15
Yes, more than \$50,000	12	14	11

22. Do you belong to a teachers' union?

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Yes	46%	100%	-
No	48	-	97%
Don't know	1	-	3
Prefer not to say	4	-	

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23. On a scale of 1 to 10, how active are you in your union?

	Unionized Teacher
1	20%
2	16
3	16
4	7
5	15
6	4
7	8
8	7
9	2
10	5
<i>Mean</i>	<i>4.1</i>

24. If given the option to join a union, would you like to join?

	Non-Unionized Teacher
No, I do not want to be in a union	25%
No, I do not want to pay dues to be in a union	12
Yes, but it is too expensive to join	15
Yes	19
Don't know	29

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Press Release – continued –

25. Party ID

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Strong Democrat	14%	19%	10%
Moderate Democrat	17	22	13
Lean Democrat	11	15	9
Lean Republican	12	9	16
Moderate Republican	12	6	17
Strong Republican	10	6	11
Independent	15	15	16
Other	1	1	2
Don't know/Refuse	7	7	6
<i>Democrat (Net)</i>	42%	56%	32%
<i>Republican (Net)</i>	34	21	44
<i>Independent</i>	15	15	16

26. How would you describe the area in which you live?

	Total	Unionized Teacher	Non-Unionized Teacher
Rural	25%	23%	26%
Suburban	51	52	51
Urban	24	25	23

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About the Study

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted April 6-12, 2018 on behalf NPR. For the survey, a sample of 504 teachers age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii were interviewed online in English. The sample includes 226 unionized teachers and 258 non-unionized teachers.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos’s online panel (see link below for more info on “Access Panels and Recruitment”), partner online panel sources, and “river” sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos “Ampario Overview” sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2016 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Post-hoc weights were made to the population characteristics on race/ethnicity and grade taught.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. An asterisk (*) indicates less than 1 percent. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 5.0 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n=504, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=6.5).

The poll also has a credibility interval plus or minus 7.4 percentage points for unionized teachers and plus or minus 7.0 percentage points for non-unionized teachers.

For more information about conducting research intended for public release or Ipsos’ online polling methodology, please visit our [Public Opinion Polling and Communication](#) page where you can download our brochure, see our public release protocol, or contact us.

For more information on this news release, please contact:

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Press Release – continued –

About Ipsos Public Affairs

Ipsos Public Affairs is a non-partisan, objective, survey-based research practice made up of seasoned professionals. We conduct strategic research initiatives for a diverse number of American and international organizations, based not only on public opinion research, but elite stakeholder, corporate, and media opinion research.

Ipsos has media partnerships with the most prestigious news organizations around the world. In Canada, the U.S., UK, and internationally, Ipsos Public Affairs is the media polling supplier to Reuters News, the world's leading source of intelligent information for businesses and professionals. Ipsos Public Affairs is a member of the Ipsos Group, a leading global survey-based market research company. We provide boutique-style customer service and work closely with our clients, while also undertaking global research.

About Ipsos

Ipsos is an independent market research company controlled and managed by research professionals. Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos has grown into a worldwide research group with a strong presence in all key markets. Ipsos ranks fourth in the global research industry.

With offices in 88 countries, Ipsos delivers insightful expertise across five research specializations: brand, advertising and media; customer loyalty; marketing; public affairs research; and survey management.

Ipsos researchers assess market potential and interpret market trends. They develop and build brands. They help clients build long-term relationships with their customers. They test advertising and study audience responses to various media and they measure public opinion around the globe.

Ipsos has been listed on the Paris Stock Exchange since 1999 and generated global revenues of €1,782.7 million in 2016.

GAME CHANGERS

« Game Changers » is the Ipsos signature.

At Ipsos we are passionately curious about people, markets, brands and society.

We make our changing world easier and faster to navigate and inspire clients to make smarter decisions.

We deliver with security, speed, simplicity and substance. We are Game Changers.

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