



TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

University of Maryland/Ipsos Tackle Football Poll

Conducted by Ipsos using KnowledgePanel®

A survey of the American general population (ages 18+)

Interview dates: November 9 – 20, 2023

Number of total interviews: 1,655

Number of interviews, parents of children under 18: 876

Number of interviews, White parents of children under 18: 262

Number of interviews, Black parents of children under 18: 239

Number of interviews, Hispanic parents of children under 18: 242

Margin of error: +/- 2.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level for all respondents

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled. Reduced bases are unweighted values.

*NOTE: * = less than 0.5%, - = no respondents, N/A = not applicable*

Annotated Questionnaire:

Q1. How dangerous, if at all, do you believe the following are for young people? – **Total Dangerous Summary**

	All Americans (N=1,655)	Total Parents (N=876)	White Parents (N=262)	Black Parents (N=239)	Hispanic Parents (N=242)
Riding in a car with a distracted driver	98%	98%	98%	96%	99%
Riding in a car without a seatbelt	95%	96%	98%	94%	98%
Living with a smoker	90%	93%	93%	92%	96%
Playing football	81%	78%	81%	79%	77%
Riding a bike without a helmet	79%	81%	81%	80%	80%
Jumping on a trampoline	61%	58%	60%	58%	57%
Doing gymnastics	56%	54%	54%	59%	48%
Playing soccer	33%	28%	24%	33%	30%
Playing baseball/softball	31%	31%	28%	37%	32%
Playing basketball	23%	22%	18%	30%	24%

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Q1_1. How dangerous, if at all, do you believe the following are for young people? – **Playing baseball/softball**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very dangerous	1%	2%	2%	1%	4%
Somewhat dangerous	30%	29%	25%	36%	28%
Not very dangerous	56%	54%	61%	46%	45%
Not at all dangerous	13%	15%	11%	16%	23%
Refused	*	*	-	1%	*
<i>Dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>31%</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>37%</i>	<i>32%</i>
<i>Not dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>62%</i>	<i>68%</i>

Q1_2. How dangerous, if at all, do you believe the following are for young people? – **Playing basketball**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very dangerous	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Somewhat dangerous	22%	21%	17%	28%	23%
Not very dangerous	58%	56%	63%	50%	49%
Not at all dangerous	18%	21%	18%	19%	27%
Refused	1%	*	-	1%	*
<i>Dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>23%</i>	<i>22%</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>24%</i>
<i>Not dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>76%</i>	<i>77%</i>	<i>82%</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>76%</i>

Q1_3. How dangerous, if at all, do you believe the following are for young people? – **Playing football**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very dangerous	23%	23%	23%	24%	20%
Somewhat dangerous	58%	56%	58%	55%	56%
Not very dangerous	15%	16%	15%	16%	16%
Not at all dangerous	4%	5%	3%	4%	7%
Refused	1%	*	1%	1%	*
<i>Dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>81%</i>	<i>78%</i>	<i>81%</i>	<i>79%</i>	<i>77%</i>
<i>Not dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>18%</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>23%</i>

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Q1_4. How dangerous, if at all, do you believe the following are for young people? – **Doing gymnastics**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very dangerous	7%	7%	6%	6%	9%
Somewhat dangerous	49%	47%	49%	53%	39%
Not very dangerous	37%	38%	39%	30%	40%
Not at all dangerous	6%	8%	6%	10%	12%
Refused	1%	*	-	1%	*
<i>Dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>54%</i>	<i>54%</i>	<i>59%</i>	<i>48%</i>
<i>Not dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>46%</i>	<i>46%</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>52%</i>

Q1_5. How dangerous, if at all, do you believe the following are for young people? – **Playing soccer**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very dangerous	1%	1%	2%	2%	0%
Somewhat dangerous	31%	27%	22%	31%	29%
Not very dangerous	53%	53%	61%	44%	47%
Not at all dangerous	13%	18%	14%	22%	23%
Refused	1%	*	*	1%	*
<i>Dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>30%</i>
<i>Not dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>70%</i>

Q1_6. How dangerous, if at all, do you believe the following are for young people? – **Living with a smoker**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very dangerous	54%	62%	58%	52%	72%
Somewhat dangerous	37%	32%	35%	40%	24%
Not very dangerous	8%	5%	6%	6%	3%
Not at all dangerous	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%
Refused	1%	*	-	1%	*
<i>Dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>90%</i>	<i>93%</i>	<i>93%</i>	<i>92%</i>	<i>96%</i>
<i>Not dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>3%</i>

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Q1_7. How dangerous, if at all, do you believe the following are for young people? – **Riding in a car without a seatbelt**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very dangerous	69%	78%	75%	76%	84%
Somewhat dangerous	26%	19%	22%	18%	13%
Not very dangerous	4%	2%	1%	4%	2%
Not at all dangerous	1%	1%	2%	1%	0%
Refused	1%	*	-	1%	-
<i>Dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>95%</i>	<i>96%</i>	<i>98%</i>	<i>94%</i>	<i>98%</i>
<i>Not dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>3%</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>2%</i>

Q1_8. How dangerous, if at all, do you believe the following are for young people? – **Riding in a car with a distracted driver**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very dangerous	79%	84%	82%	82%	88%
Somewhat dangerous	18%	15%	17%	14%	11%
Not very dangerous	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Not at all dangerous	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%
Refused	*	*	-	1%	-
<i>Dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>98%</i>	<i>98%</i>	<i>98%</i>	<i>96%</i>	<i>99%</i>
<i>Not dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>3%</i>	<i>1%</i>

Q1_9. How dangerous, if at all, do you believe the following are for young people? – **Jumping on a trampoline**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very dangerous	9%	10%	10%	12%	12%
Somewhat dangerous	52%	48%	50%	47%	46%
Not very dangerous	34%	34%	36%	32%	34%
Not at all dangerous	5%	7%	4%	9%	9%
Refused	1%	*	-	1%	*
<i>Dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>58%</i>	<i>60%</i>	<i>58%</i>	<i>57%</i>
<i>Not dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>42%</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>41%</i>	<i>42%</i>

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Q1_10. How dangerous, if at all, do you believe the following are for young people? – **Riding a bike without a helmet**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very dangerous	36%	36%	33%	34%	43%
Somewhat dangerous	44%	44%	48%	47%	38%
Not very dangerous	17%	16%	16%	17%	17%
Not at all dangerous	3%	3%	3%	2%	3%
Refused	1%	*	-	1%	-
<i>Dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>79%</i>	<i>81%</i>	<i>81%</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>80%</i>
<i>Not dangerous (Net)</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>19%</i>	<i>20%</i>

Q2. Which of the following, if any, do you believe are the biggest benefits for kids who play tackle football? Select all that apply.

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Learning to work as part of a team	80%	79%	86%	75%	72%
Staying physically fit	71%	69%	70%	67%	64%
Learning commitment/dedication	62%	62%	73%	56%	52%
Making friends	61%	57%	62%	60%	48%
Learning how to deal with adversity	46%	45%	56%	44%	34%
The possibility of earning a college scholarship	34%	34%	23%	43%	42%
The possibility of playing professionally	24%	26%	13%	35%	37%
Finding role models	24%	23%	26%	25%	19%
Other	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
None of the above	7%	6%	6%	4%	8%
Refused	1%	1%	*	1%	1%

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Q3. Which of the following, if any, do you believe are the biggest risks for kids who play tackle football?
Select all that apply.

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Head injuries	81%	80%	81%	81%	76%
Repetitive hits to the head	76%	75%	79%	70%	70%
Injuries to the musculoskeletal system (i.e., lower leg, ankle, foot)	74%	70%	70%	73%	64%
The possibility of long-term cognitive/brain issues	70%	69%	74%	68%	60%
Burnout	13%	15%	14%	11%	15%
Missing out on events with family/friends (i.e., birthdays, vacations, etc.)	10%	9%	8%	11%	9%
Missing out on other activities (i.e., school clubs, other sports, etc.)	10%	8%	8%	10%	7%
Other	1%	2%	3%	1%	3%
None of the above	4%	4%	3%	1%	6%
Refused	1%	1%	*	1%	1%

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Q4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – **Total Agree Summary**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Decisions on whether or not a child can participate in contact sports should be left up to parents, not lawmakers	86%	85%	91%	85%	82%
[ASKED IF PARENT OF CHILD UNDER 18] While I understand the health risks of tackle football, I would let my child play if they wanted to	61%	61%	61%	66%	60%
I know the risks associated with tackle football, but I still enjoy watching it	58%	59%	61%	66%	56%
Football is an important part of my community's culture	55%	56%	57%	61%	57%
There is enough research being done on potential long-term consequences of repetitive hits to the head from playing football	54%	54%	51%	55%	56%
The potential benefits of youth tackle football outweigh the potential risks	39%	43%	44%	47%	43%
I believe the research into head injuries from football is inconclusive	28%	30%	24%	30%	38%
The risks associated with tackle football are overblown	23%	25%	23%	23%	29%
Football is an important part of my family's identity	21%	23%	21%	28%	26%

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Q4_1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – **While I understand the health risks of tackle football, I would let my child play if they wanted to**

Base: Parent of Child Under 18

	Total Parents (N=876)	White Parents (N=262)	Black Parents (N=239)	Hispanic Parents (N=242)
Strongly agree	20%	23%	23%	17%
Somewhat agree	41%	38%	44%	43%
Somewhat disagree	21%	21%	18%	22%
Strongly disagree	17%	18%	12%	16%
Refused	2%	*	4%	1%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>60%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>38%</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>39%</i>

Q4_2 . To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – **The potential benefits of youth tackle football outweigh the potential risks**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly agree	7%	6%	8%	5%	6%
Somewhat agree	32%	36%	36%	42%	37%
Somewhat disagree	39%	36%	37%	33%	34%
Strongly disagree	19%	19%	18%	17%	19%
Refused	3%	3%	1%	3%	3%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>47%</i>	<i>43%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>58%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>54%</i>

Q4_3 . To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – **There is enough research being done on potential long-term consequences of repetitive hits to the head from playing football**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly agree	12%	16%	12%	18%	20%
Somewhat agree	41%	38%	39%	38%	36%
Somewhat disagree	31%	32%	39%	27%	29%
Strongly disagree	13%	12%	10%	14%	11%
Refused	2%	2%	*	3%	4%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>54%</i>	<i>54%</i>	<i>51%</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>56%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>41%</i>	<i>40%</i>

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Q4_4 . To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – **I believe the research into head injuries from football is inconclusive**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly agree	4%	5%	2%	6%	8%
Somewhat agree	24%	25%	22%	24%	30%
Somewhat disagree	40%	39%	46%	37%	35%
Strongly disagree	29%	29%	30%	29%	24%
Refused	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>38%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>68%</i>	<i>76%</i>	<i>67%</i>	<i>59%</i>

Q4_5 . To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – **I know the risks associated with tackle football, but I still enjoy watching it**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly agree	24%	25%	28%	30%	23%
Somewhat agree	34%	33%	33%	35%	34%
Somewhat disagree	17%	17%	15%	14%	18%
Strongly disagree	23%	22%	23%	18%	24%
Refused	2%	2%	*	3%	2%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>58%</i>	<i>59%</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>56%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>39%</i>	<i>32%</i>	<i>42%</i>

Q4_6 . To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – **The risks associated with tackle football are overblown**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly agree	4%	3%	2%	3%	4%
Somewhat agree	19%	21%	21%	19%	25%
Somewhat disagree	43%	42%	45%	45%	39%
Strongly disagree	32%	32%	31%	30%	30%
Refused	2%	1%	*	2%	2%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>23%</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>23%</i>	<i>23%</i>	<i>29%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>74%</i>	<i>77%</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>69%</i>

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Q4_7 . To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – **Football is an important part of my community's culture**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly agree	14%	15%	11%	23%	16%
Somewhat agree	41%	41%	46%	39%	41%
Somewhat disagree	23%	21%	20%	21%	20%
Strongly disagree	20%	22%	22%	14%	21%
Refused	2%	1%	*	3%	1%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>55%</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>61%</i>	<i>57%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>42%</i>	<i>43%</i>	<i>42%</i>	<i>36%</i>	<i>42%</i>

Q4_8 . To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – **Football is an important part of my family's identity**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly agree	4%	4%	4%	7%	4%
Somewhat agree	17%	19%	17%	21%	22%
Somewhat disagree	25%	25%	26%	30%	25%
Strongly disagree	51%	50%	53%	39%	47%
Refused	2%	2%	*	3%	2%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>23%</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>26%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>77%</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>79%</i>	<i>69%</i>	<i>72%</i>

Q4_9 . To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – **Decisions on whether or not a child can participate in contact sports should be left up to parents, not lawmakers**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly agree	51%	51%	54%	56%	50%
Somewhat agree	35%	34%	37%	28%	33%
Somewhat disagree	10%	11%	7%	10%	11%
Strongly disagree	3%	3%	3%	2%	5%
Refused	2%	1%	-	3%	2%
<i>Agree (Net)</i>	<i>86%</i>	<i>85%</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>85%</i>	<i>82%</i>
<i>Disagree (Net)</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>16%</i>

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Q5. To what extent do you support or oppose the following policies? – **Total Support Summary**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Requiring concussion education for children before they are allowed to participate in tackle football	90%	91%	93%	89%	88%
Requiring a medical professional to be present for all youth sports games	86%	89%	88%	88%	90%
Limiting full contact practice for youth tackle football to no more than twice per week	72%	71%	67%	77%	73%
Limiting full contact practice for youth tackle football to no more than 30 minutes per day	67%	66%	63%	74%	66%

Q5_1. To what extent do you support or oppose the following policies? – **Requiring concussion education for children before they are allowed to participate in tackle football**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly support	51%	55%	55%	57%	50%
Somewhat support	40%	36%	38%	32%	38%
Somewhat oppose	6%	5%	5%	7%	7%
Strongly oppose	2%	2%	2%	1%	3%
Refused	2%	2%	*	3%	2%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>90%</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>93%</i>	<i>89%</i>	<i>88%</i>
<i>Oppose (Net)</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>10%</i>

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Q5_2. To what extent do you support or oppose the following policies? – **Limiting full contact practice for youth tackle football to no more than 30 minutes per day**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly support	21%	21%	20%	27%	17%
Somewhat support	46%	45%	43%	47%	49%
Somewhat oppose	25%	24%	28%	17%	24%
Strongly oppose	5%	8%	9%	6%	8%
Refused	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>67%</i>	<i>66%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>74%</i>	<i>66%</i>
<i>Oppose (Net)</i>	<i>30%</i>	<i>32%</i>	<i>37%</i>	<i>23%</i>	<i>32%</i>

Q5_3. To what extent do you support or oppose the following policies? – **Limiting full contact practice for youth tackle football to no more than twice per week**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly support	24%	24%	23%	32%	20%
Somewhat support	48%	47%	44%	45%	53%
Somewhat oppose	21%	21%	25%	16%	20%
Strongly oppose	5%	6%	8%	5%	5%
Refused	2%	2%	1%	3%	2%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>71%</i>	<i>67%</i>	<i>77%</i>	<i>73%</i>
<i>Oppose (Net)</i>	<i>26%</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>21%</i>	<i>25%</i>

Q5_4. To what extent do you support or oppose the following policies? – **Requiring a medical professional to be present for all youth sports games**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Strongly support	54%	56%	52%	63%	57%
Somewhat support	32%	33%	36%	24%	33%
Somewhat oppose	10%	7%	9%	8%	5%
Strongly oppose	2%	3%	3%	2%	4%
Refused	2%	1%	*	3%	2%
<i>Support (Net)</i>	<i>86%</i>	<i>89%</i>	<i>88%</i>	<i>88%</i>	<i>90%</i>
<i>Oppose (Net)</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>12%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>9%</i>

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INFO SCREEN: The next few questions ask about head impacts. Head impacts are any trauma or injury caused to the brain.

Q6. Are the following statements true, false, or you don't know? – **Correct Answer Summary**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Repeated head impacts can lead to traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and result in long-term problems, including ongoing problems with concentration, memory, and headaches [TRUE]	78%	76%	80%	71%	73%
Football helmets do not provide excellent protection against concussions and other brain injury [TRUE]	36%	34%	29%	41%	37%
Playing football for more than 11 years is tied to less white matter in the brain, potentially causing impulsive behavior and other thinking related-problems [TRUE]	27%	27%	26%	25%	27%
Among children ages 6 to 14, those who played <u>tackle football</u> did not sustain significantly more head impacts during practices or games than those who played <u>flag football</u> [FALSE]	25%	24%	28%	17%	21%
Youth football athletes experience a median of 8 head impacts per athlete per season, regardless of whether or not they play tackle or flag football [FALSE]	9%	11%	12%	9%	11%

**Correct answer in parentheses*

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For Q6_1 – Q6_5, the correct answer is in bold

Q6_1. Are the following statements true, false, or you don't know? – **Among children ages 6 to 14, those who played tackle football did not sustain significantly more head impacts during practices or games than those who played flag football**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
True	10%	11%	9%	12%	15%
False	25%	24%	28%	17%	21%
Don't know	63%	64%	63%	69%	64%
Refused	1%	1%	-	2%	*

Q6_2. Are the following statements true, false, or you don't know? – **Playing football for more than 11 years is tied to less white matter in the brain, potentially causing impulsive behavior and other thinking related-problems**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
True	27%	27%	26%	25%	27%
False	5%	6%	4%	7%	8%
Don't know	66%	66%	71%	66%	64%
Refused	1%	1%	-	2%	*

Q6_3. Are the following statements true, false, or you don't know? – **Youth football athletes experience a median of 8 head impacts per athlete per season, regardless of whether or not they play tackle or flag football**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
True	17%	18%	15%	20%	18%
False	9%	11%	12%	9%	11%
Don't know	73%	70%	73%	69%	70%
Refused	2%	1%	*	2%	*

Q6_4. Are the following statements true, false, or you don't know? – **Football helmets do not provide excellent protection against concussions and other brain injury**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
True	36%	34%	29%	41%	37%
False	24%	26%	26%	22%	25%
Don't know	37%	39%	45%	35%	38%
Refused	2%	1%	-	2%	*

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Q6_5. Are the following statements true, false, or you don't know? – **Repeated head impacts can lead to traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and result in long-term problems, including ongoing problems with concentration, memory, and headaches**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
True	78%	76%	80%	71%	73%
False	1%	3%	3%	4%	2%
Don't know	19%	20%	17%	23%	24%
Refused	1%	1%	-	2%	1%

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q7. Below are some statements about tackle football. Regardless of prior knowledge, how concerning, if at all, are the following statements? – **Total Concerning Summary**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Repeated head impacts can lead to traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and result in long-term problems, including ongoing problems with concentration, memory, and headaches	93%	92%	94%	92%	87%
Playing football for more than 11 years is tied to less white matter in the brain, potentially causing impulsive behavior and other thinking related-problems	91%	91%	93%	90%	86%
Football helmets do not provide excellent protection against concussions and other brain injury	90%	91%	93%	91%	86%
Youth <u>tackle football athletes</u> experienced a median of 378 head impacts per athlete during one football season, compared to just 8 head impacts per athlete for <u>flag football athletes</u>	89%	88%	91%	87%	84%
Among children ages 6 to 14, those who played <u>tackle football</u> sustained 15 times more head impacts during practices and games than those who played <u>flag football</u>	88%	88%	89%	88%	83%

TOPLINE & METHODOLOGY

Q7_1. Below are some statements about tackle football. Regardless of prior knowledge, how concerning, if at all, are the following statements? – **Among children ages 6 to 14, those who played tackle football sustained 15 times more head impacts during practices and games than those who played flag football**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very concerning	55%	57%	54%	62%	53%
Somewhat concerning	33%	30%	35%	26%	30%
Not very concerning	7%	7%	7%	6%	10%
Not at all concerning	2%	3%	3%	3%	5%
Refused	3%	2%	1%	3%	2%
<i>Concerning (Net)</i>	<i>88%</i>	<i>88%</i>	<i>89%</i>	<i>88%</i>	<i>83%</i>
<i>Not concerning (Net)</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>15%</i>

Q7_2. Below are some statements about tackle football. Regardless of prior knowledge, how concerning, if at all, are the following statements? – **Playing football for more than 11 years is tied to less white matter in the brain, potentially causing impulsive behavior and other thinking related-problems**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very concerning	58%	60%	60%	64%	53%
Somewhat concerning	32%	30%	33%	26%	33%
Not very concerning	5%	5%	4%	3%	8%
Not at all concerning	2%	3%	2%	4%	4%
Refused	3%	2%	1%	3%	2%
<i>Concerning (Net)</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>93%</i>	<i>90%</i>	<i>86%</i>
<i>Not concerning (Net)</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>12%</i>

Q7_3. Below are some statements about tackle football. Regardless of prior knowledge, how concerning, if at all, are the following statements? – **Youth tackle football athletes experienced a median of 378 head impacts per athlete during one football season, compared to just 8 head impacts per athlete for flag football athletes**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very concerning	60%	60%	58%	65%	53%
Somewhat concerning	29%	29%	33%	22%	31%
Not very concerning	7%	7%	5%	6%	10%
Not at all concerning	2%	3%	3%	4%	3%
Refused	3%	2%	1%	3%	3%
<i>Concerning (Net)</i>	<i>89%</i>	<i>88%</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>87%</i>	<i>84%</i>
<i>Not concerning (Net)</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>13%</i>

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Q7_4. Below are some statements about tackle football. Regardless of prior knowledge, how concerning, if at all, are the following statements? – **Football helmets do not provide excellent protection against concussions and other brain injury**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very concerning	57%	56%	56%	60%	50%
Somewhat concerning	33%	35%	37%	31%	36%
Not very concerning	5%	5%	4%	3%	8%
Not at all concerning	2%	3%	2%	3%	4%
Refused	3%	2%	1%	3%	3%
<i>Concerning (Net)</i>	<i>90%</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>93%</i>	<i>91%</i>	<i>86%</i>
<i>Not concerning (Net)</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>11%</i>

Q7_5. Below are some statements about tackle football. Regardless of prior knowledge, how concerning, if at all, are the following statements? – **Repeated head impacts can lead to traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and result in long-term problems, including ongoing problems with concentration, memory, and headaches**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Very concerning	68%	67%	68%	71%	63%
Somewhat concerning	26%	24%	26%	21%	24%
Not very concerning	3%	4%	3%	2%	8%
Not at all concerning	1%	2%	2%	3%	2%
Refused	3%	2%	1%	3%	3%
<i>Concerning (Net)</i>	<i>93%</i>	<i>92%</i>	<i>94%</i>	<i>92%</i>	<i>87%</i>
<i>Not concerning (Net)</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>6%</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>10%</i>

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Q8. Does your school-aged child play youth football? / Do any of your school-aged children play youth football?

Base: Parent of child currently in school

	Total Parents of School Aged Children (N=770)	White Parents (N=221)	Black Parents (N=212)	Hispanic Parents (N=220)
Yes, they play tackle football	8%	9%	11%	5%
Yes, they play flag football	7%	6%	7%	10%
No	85%	86%	82%	82%
Refused	2%	1%	1%	4%
Total Play Youth Football	14%	14%	17%	14%

Q9. Did your adult child play youth football growing up? / Did any of your adult children play youth football growing up?

Base: Parent of child ages 18+

	Total Parents of Adult Children (N=701)	White Parents (N=80)	Black Parents (N=84)	Hispanic Parents (N=94)
Yes, they played tackle football	23%	19%	31%	14%
Yes, they played flag football	10%	8%	13%	5%
No	72%	78%	60%	81%
Refused	*	-	2%	1%
Total Play Youth Football	28%	22%	38%	17%

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Q10. If your child(ren) wanted to play tackle football, how likely, if at all, are you to let them play... – **Total Likely Summary**

Base: Parent of child under 18 and child does not play tackle football OR parent of child under 18 and child is not of school age

	Total Parents (N=819)	White Parents (N=246)	Black Parents (N=219)	Hispanic Parents (N=229)
In high school (9th-12th grade)	56%	56%	63%	55%
Prior to high school (in 8th grade or younger)	44%	44%	45%	46%

Q10_1. If your child(ren) wanted to play tackle football, how likely, if at all, are you to let them play... – **Prior to high school (in 8th grade or younger)**

	Total Parents (N=819)	White Parents (N=246)	Black Parents (N=219)	Hispanic Parents (N=229)
Very likely	17%	17%	19%	17%
Somewhat likely	26%	27%	26%	29%
Not very likely	19%	20%	19%	18%
Not at all likely	29%	28%	24%	29%
Don't know	7%	8%	9%	6%
Refused	1%	-	2%	1%
<i>Likely (Net)</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>45%</i>	<i>46%</i>
<i>Not likely (Net)</i>	<i>48%</i>	<i>48%</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>46%</i>

Q10_2. If your child(ren) wanted to play tackle football, how likely, if at all, are you to let them play... – **In high school (9th-12th grade)**

	Total Parents (N=819)	White Parents (N=246)	Black Parents (N=219)	Hispanic Parents (N=229)
Very likely	23%	22%	26%	24%
Somewhat likely	33%	34%	37%	32%
Not very likely	14%	11%	12%	18%
Not at all likely	21%	23%	15%	17%
Don't know	8%	10%	7%	8%
Refused	1%	-	2%	1%
<i>Likely (Net)</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>56%</i>	<i>63%</i>	<i>55%</i>
<i>Not likely (Net)</i>	<i>35%</i>	<i>34%</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>35%</i>

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Q11. What do you believe is the appropriate age for children to start playing tackle football?

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
5 – 7 years old	4%	7%	5%	12%	6%
8 – 9 years old	7%	9%	9%	11%	10%
10 – 11 years old	12%	13%	15%	14%	13%
12 – 13 years old	20%	20%	21%	24%	18%
14 – 15 years old	22%	16%	17%	13%	15%
16 – 17 years old	12%	11%	10%	12%	12%
Children under 18 should not be allowed to play tackle football	21%	21%	21%	13%	24%
Refused	2%	2%	2%	2%	4%

Q12. Has your child / Have any of your children had the following happen to them while playing sports? – **Total Yes Summary**

Base: Parent of child of any age

	Total Parents of Children Any Age (N=1,280)	Total Parents of child under 18 (N=876)	White Parents, child under 18 (N=262)	Black Parents, child under 18 (N=239)	Hispanic Parents, child under 18 (N=242)
Suffered a hit to the head that you thought was a concussion	10%	9%	10%	10%	8%
Suffered a hit to the head and kept playing without being evaluated by a medical professional	8%	7%	7%	7%	8%
Sustained a concussion that was formally diagnosed by a medical professional	7%	7%	5%	11%	6%
Suffered a hit to the head and was evaluated by a medical professional on the sidelines/during the game	6%	6%	5%	8%	6%

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Q12_1. Has your child / Have any of your children had the following happen to them while playing sports?
– **Sustained a concussion that was formally diagnosed by a medical professional**

	Total Parents of Children Any Age	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Yes	7%	7%	5%	11%	6%
No	92%	91%	94%	87%	92%
Refused	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%

Q12_2. Has your child / Have any of your children had the following happen to them while playing sports?
– **Suffered a hit to the head that you thought was a concussion**

	Total Parents of Children Any Age	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Yes	10%	9%	10%	10%	8%
No	89%	89%	89%	88%	90%
Refused	1%	2%	1%	2%	3%

Q12_3. Has your child / Have any of your children had the following happen to them while playing sports?
– **Suffered a hit to the head and was evaluated by a medical professional on the sidelines/during the game**

	Total Parents of Children Any Age	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Yes	6%	6%	5%	8%	6%
No	93%	92%	94%	90%	92%
Refused	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%

Q12_4. Has your child / Have any of your children had the following happen to them while playing sports?
– **Suffered a hit to the head and kept playing without being evaluated by a medical professional**

	Total Parents of Children Any Age	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Yes	8%	7%	7%	7%	8%
No	91%	91%	92%	91%	89%
Refused	1%	2%	1%	2%	3%

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Q13. Which of the following statements apply to you, if any? – **Total Yes Summary**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
I am a fan of the NFL	45%	45%	45%	51%	42%
I am a fan of college football	39%	34%	39%	38%	27%
I played flag football as a youth	22%	20%	18%	26%	22%
I played tackle football in elementary or middle school (up to 8th grade)	15%	15%	18%	17%	13%
I played tackle football in high school (Grades 9 – 12)	13%	14%	13%	15%	14%
I have, or think I have, sustained a concussion from playing sports	10%	10%	13%	9%	5%

Q13_1. Which of the following statements apply to you, if any? – **I played tackle football in elementary or middle school (up to 8th grade)**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Yes	15%	15%	18%	17%	13%
No	84%	84%	82%	81%	85%
Refused	1%	1%	-	2%	2%

Q13_2. Which of the following statements apply to you, if any? – **I played tackle football in high school (Grades 9 – 12)**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Yes	13%	14%	13%	15%	14%
No	86%	85%	87%	84%	85%
Refused	1%	1%	-	2%	1%

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Q13_3. Which of the following statements apply to you, if any? – **I played flag football as a youth**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Yes	22%	20%	18%	26%	22%
No	77%	79%	82%	72%	77%
Refused	1%	1%	-	2%	1%

Q13_4. Which of the following statements apply to you, if any? – **I am a fan of the NFL**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Yes	45%	45%	45%	51%	42%
No	54%	54%	55%	47%	57%
Refused	1%	1%	-	2%	1%

Q13_5. Which of the following statements apply to you, if any? – **I am a fan of college football**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Yes	39%	34%	39%	38%	27%
No	60%	65%	61%	60%	72%
Refused	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%

Q13_6. Which of the following statements apply to you, if any? – **I have, or think I have, sustained a concussion from playing sports**

	All Americans	Total Parents	White Parents	Black Parents	Hispanic Parents
Yes	10%	10%	13%	9%	5%
No	89%	89%	87%	89%	93%
Refused	1%	1%	-	2%	1%



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About the Study

This University of Maryland/Ipsos poll was conducted November 9 to 20, 2023, by Ipsos using the probability-based KnowledgePanel®. This poll is based on a nationally representative probability sample of 1,655 adults age 18 or older. The poll includes 876 parents of children under the age of 18, including 262 White parents, 239 Black parents, and 242 Hispanic parents.

The survey was conducted using KnowledgePanel, the largest and most well-established online probability-based panel that is representative of the adult U.S. population. Our recruitment process employs a scientifically developed addressed-based sampling methodology using the latest Delivery Sequence File of the USPS – a database with full coverage of all delivery points in the U.S. Households invited to join the panel are randomly selected from all available households in the U.S. Persons in the sampled households are invited to join and participate in the panel. Those selected who do not already have internet access are provided a tablet and internet connection at no cost to the panel member. Those who join the panel and who are selected to participate in a survey are sent a unique password-protected log-in used to complete surveys online. As a result of our recruitment and sampling methodologies, samples from KnowledgePanel cover all households regardless of their phone or internet status and findings can be reported with a margin of sampling error and projected to the general population. KnowledgePanel members receive a per survey incentive, usually the equivalent of \$1 (though for some it is \$2) in points, that can be redeemed for cash or prizes. No prenotification email for this study was sent prior to field. Panelists receive a unique login to the survey and are only able to complete it one time.

The study was conducted in both English and Spanish. The data were weighted to adjust for gender by age, race/ethnicity, education, Census region, metropolitan status, household income, and party identification. The demographic benchmarks came from March 2023 Current Population Survey (CPS) from the US Census Bureau. Party ID benchmarks are from recent ABC News/Washington Post telephone polls. The weighting categories were as follows:

- Gender (Male, Female) by Age (18–29, 30–44, 45–59, and 60+)
- Race/Hispanic Ethnicity (White Non-Hispanic, Black Non-Hispanic, Other or 2+ Races Non-Hispanic, Hispanic)
- Education (High School graduate or less, Some College, Bachelor and beyond)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West)
- Metropolitan status (Metro, non-Metro)
- Household Income (Under \$25,000, \$25,000-\$49,999, \$50,000-\$74,999, \$75,000-\$99,999, \$100,000-\$149,999, \$150,000+)
- Parental Status (Parent, Not Parent)





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The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 2.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level, for results based on the entire sample of adults. The margin of sampling error takes into account the design effect, which was 1.44. The margin of sampling error is plus or minus 3.8 percentage points for all parents of children under 18 at the 95% confidence level, plus or minus 6.7 percentage points for White parents of children under 18 at the 95% confidence level, plus or minus 7.4 percentage points for Black parents of children under 18 at the 95% confidence level, and plus or minus 7.2 percentage points for Hispanic parents of children under 18 at the 95% confidence level. The design effect was 1.34 for all parents of children under 18, 1.24 for White parents of children under 18, 1.35 for Black parents of children under 18, and 1.29 for Hispanic parents of children under 18.

The margin of sampling error is higher and varies for results based on sub-samples. Sampling error is only one potential source of error. There may be other unmeasured non-sampling error in this or any poll. In our reporting of the findings, percentage points are rounded off to the nearest whole number. As a result, percentages in a given table column may total slightly higher or lower than 100%. In questions that permit multiple responses, columns may total substantially more than 100%, depending on the number of different responses offered by each respondent.

For more information on this news release, please contact:

Mallory Newall
Vice President, US
Public Affairs
+1 202 374-2613
mallory.newall@ipsos.com





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About Ipsos

Ipsos is one of the largest market research and polling companies globally, operating in 90 markets and employing over 18,000 people.

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