

## SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS' STRIKE

In October 1997, Ontarians were asked:

*As you may be aware, the teachers in the province may go on an illegal strike. Based on what you've seen, read or heard, do you support or oppose the teachers going on strike?*

In August 1998, Ontarians were asked:

*In fact, the teachers in the province may go on strike again this fall. Based on what you've seen, read or heard, do you support or oppose the teachers going on strike to fight against changes in the education system?*

	1997	1998	1997			1998			1997			1998		
	TOTAL	TOTAL	18-34	35-54	55+	18-34	35-54	55+	HOUSEHOLD INCOME			HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
									<\$30K	\$30-60K	\$60K+	<\$30K	\$30-60K	\$60K+
Base: Weighted	1040	1000	386	364	287	372	348	276	227	383	357	186	352	365
Base: Unweighted	1040	1000	286	491	259	308	462	224	199	377	388	172	347	387
Strongly support	25%	28%	30%	26%	18%	36%	23%	24%	22%	28%	24%	37%	28%	24%
Somewhat support	17%	15%	23%	17%	8%	18%	15%	10%	18%	19%	14%	21%	15%	11%
Somewhat oppose	13%	11%	15%	12%	12%	15%	10%	7%	21%	11%	12%	11%	12%	10%
Strongly oppose	43%	44%	28%	44%	61%	29%	50%	57%	35%	41%	49%	30%	42%	53%
Don't know	2%	2%	4%	1%	2%	2%	2%	3%	4%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%

  

	1997	1998	1997		1998		1997			1998		
	TOTAL	TOTAL	SEX		SEX		EDUCATION			EDUCATION		
			Male	Female	Male	Female	<=HS	Post Sec	Univ	<=HS	Post Sec	Univ
Base: Weighted	1040	1000	503	537	484	516	349	368	319	342	358	295
Base: Unweighted	1040	1000	488	552	501	499	343	360	330	343	353	298
Strongly support	25%	28%	26%	25%	25%	31%	21%	23%	31%	26%	28%	31%
Somewhat support	17%	15%	14%	19%	13%	16%	17%	16%	17%	16%	14%	12%
Somewhat oppose	13%	11%	13%	13%	12%	9%	13%	14%	12%	10%	12%	11%
Strongly oppose	43%	44%	44%	41%	48%	41%	45%	44%	39%	45%	44%	43%
Don't know	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	4%	2%	1%	2%	2%	3%

## WHO IS BEING MORE FAIR AND REASONABLE?

In October 1997, Ontarians were asked:

*And, in your view, who is being fair and reasonable on this dispute?*

In August 1998, Ontarians were asked:

*And, in your view, who is being more reasonable about the changes being made in education – the Government, or the teachers?*

	1997	1998	1997			1998			1997			1998		
	TOTAL	TOTAL	AGE			AGE			HOUSEHOLD INCOME			HOUSEHOLD INCOME		
			18-34	35-54	55+	18-34	35-54	55+	<\$30K	\$30-60K	\$60K+	<\$30K	\$30-60K	\$60K+
Base: Weighted	1040	1000	386	364	287	372	348	276	227	383	357	186	352	365
Base: Unweighted	1040	1000	286	491	259	308	462	224	199	377	388	172	347	387
Government	35%	40%	29%	35%	42%	34%	41%	47%	28%	32%	43%	27%	38%	48%
Teachers	39%	42%	48%	38%	27%	47%	40%	37%	39%	43%	33%	55%	40%	39%
Both/Neither (Volunteered)	21%	11%	18%	22%	24%	13%	12%	9%	23%	21%	21%	13%	13%	9%
Don't know	6%	7%	5%	6%	6%	6%	6%	8%	9%	4%	4%	5%	9%	4%

  

	1997	1998	1997		1998		1997			1998		
	TOTAL	TOTAL	SEX		SEX		EDUCATION			EDUCATION		
			Male	Female	Male	Female	<=HS	Post Sec	Univ	<=HS	Post Sec	Univ
Base: Weighted	1040	1000	503	537	484	516	349	368	319	342	358	295
Base: Unweighted	1040	1000	488	552	501	499	343	360	330	343	353	298
Government	35%	40%	37%	32%	47%	33%	34%	39%	32%	42%	39%	38%
Teachers	39%	42%	37%	41%	36%	47%	37%	35%	45%	40%	41%	46%
Both/Neither (Volunteered)	21%	11%	22%	20%	11%	12%	21%	22%	20%	11%	12%	11%
Don't know	6%	7%	4%	8%	6%	8%	8%	5%	3%	8%	7%	5%

## ATTITUDES WITH THE ISSUE

*As you may recall, many of Ontario's teachers went on strike last year to protest changes to education being made by the provincial government. As far as you know, were the issues the teachers raised largely resolved when the strike ended, or do the teachers still have a lot of unresolved issues with the government?*

	AGE				EDUCATION			HOUSEHOLD INCOME			SEX	
	TOTAL	18-34	35-54	55+	<=HS	Post Sec	Univ	<\$30K	\$30-60K	\$60K+	Male	Female
Base: Weighted	1000	372	348	276	342	358	295	186	352	365	484	516
Base: Unweighted	1000	308	462	224	343	353	298	172	347	387	501	499
Resolved	8%	5%	7%	12%	9%	8%	7%	5%	7%	10%	10%	6%
Not Resolved	87%	89%	90%	82%	86%	87%	90%	93%	88%	86%	85%	90%
Don't know	5%	5%	2%	6%	5%	5%	4%	3%	5%	4%	5%	4%

*If the teachers go on strike again, who would you say should take MOST of the blame? Is it the government or the teachers' unions?*

	AGE				EDUCATION			HOUSEHOLD INCOME			SEX	
	TOTAL	18-34	35-54	55+	<=HS	Post Sec	Univ	<\$30K	\$30-60K	\$60K+	Male	Female
Base: Weighted	1000	372	348	276	342	358	295	186	352	365	484	516
Base: Unweighted	1000	308	462	224	343	353	298	172	347	387	501	499
Government	41%	51%	39%	30%	37%	42%	45%	49%	43%	37%	35%	46%
Teachers Unions	51%	44%	52%	59%	52%	52%	48%	42%	47%	58%	56%	46%
Don't know	8%	6%	9%	11%	11%	7%	7%	9%	9%	5%	9%	8%

*Thinking about the role of Premier Mike Harris and the Ontario government in reforming Ontario's education system, do you believe that the government is MOST concerned about trying to improve the quality of education for Ontario's school children, OR do you think they are MOST concerned about finding the cheapest way to deal with public education in the province?*

	AGE				EDUCATION			HOUSEHOLD INCOME			SEX	
	TOTAL	18-34	35-54	55+	<=HS	Post Sec	Univ	<\$30K	\$30-60K	\$60K+	Male	Female
Base: Weighted	1000	372	348	276	342	358	295	186	352	365	484	516
Base: Unweighted	1000	308	462	224	343	353	298	172	347	387	501	499
Quality of Education	34%	23%	35%	47%	37%	33%	33%	24%	32%	39%	36%	32%
Cheapest Way	62%	74%	61%	47%	60%	63%	64%	74%	65%	57%	59%	65%
Don't know	4%	2%	3%	6%	3%	4%	4%	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%

*Thinking about the role of teachers in reforming Ontario's education system, do you believe that the teachers are MOST concerned about trying to improve the quality of education for Ontario's school children, OR do you think they are MOST concerned about protecting their own salaries, benefits, pensions and power?*

	AGE				EDUCATION			HOUSEHOLD INCOME			SEX	
	TOTAL	18-34	35-54	55+	<=HS	Post Sec	Univ	<\$30K	\$30-60K	\$60K+	Male	Female
Base: Weighted	1000	372	348	276	342	358	295	186	352	365	484	516
Base: Unweighted	1000	308	462	224	343	353	298	172	347	387	501	499
Quality of Education	41%	46%	38%	38%	35%	43%	46%	48%	43%	37%	35%	46%
Protecting Salaries	55%	50%	58%	57%	61%	53%	50%	48%	55%	60%	61%	49%
Don't know	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	4%	4%	5%	3%	3%	3%	5%