

# Nebraska OpenSky Policy Institute May/June 2023 Baseline Survey Field Dates: May 31 – June 5, 2023 600 Modeled Likely 2024 Voters SPLITS A | B | C | D | E | F

Weighted N=	TOTAL 600	EVER REPEAL 373	NEVER REPEAL 227
Gender on File			
FemaleMale		58 42	45 55
Party Registration			
DemocratRepublicanUnaffiliated/other	52	40 37 23	8 78 15
Region			
East Douglas/Sarpy West	39	32 38 29	33 39 29
Congressional District			
1st 2nd 3rd	32	32 32 36	35 33 33
Media Market			
Cheyenne WY-Sterling NE  Denver CO  Lincoln-Hastings-Kearney NE  North Platte NE  Omaha NE  Sioux City IA.	4 39 2 51	2 4 38 2 51 3	1 4 41 2 50 3

Q1. Before we begin, I need to know if I have reached you on a cell phone, and if so, are you in a place where you can talk safely?

# [IF NOT ON A CELL PHONE, ASK:] Do you own a cell phone? Select one

Yes, cell and can talk safely	31	34	26
Yes, cell and cannot talk safelyCAI	LL E	BACK	
No, not on cell, but own one	33	35	30
No, not on cell and do not own one	3	3	3
(Don't know/refused)TERMINA	ΓΕ		
Text to online	33	29	41

Q2. Generally speaking, which do you think is the better way to make sure Nebraska meets the service needs of people in the state and also balances the budget: **[ROTATE]** 

\_Finding new sources of revenue and funding, even if it means raising taxes for some wealthy people and corporations in Nebraska.

#### OR

\_Cutting government spending, even if it means reducing services like childcare, education, health care, roads, and public safety.

[IF ANSWER] Do you feel that way strongly or not so strongly?

#### Select one

New sources of revenue – strongly41	61	7
New sources of revenue – not strongly5	6	4
Cutting government spending – not strongly6	4	8
Cutting government spending – strongly28	12	53
(Bothbut if you had to choose)15	13	17
(Neitherbut if you had to choose)4	2	8
(Don't know/refused)2	1	2
New sources of revenue46	67	11
Cutting government spending33	16	61

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

Q3. Thinking more about funding for public schools in Nebraska, which of the following positions is closest to your view? [ROTATE 1-3, 3-1] Select one

Public schools need more resources than		
they have right now in order to provide		
children with a quality education49	69	15
Public schools can provide children with a		
quality education with the resources they		
have now34	23	50
Public schools can provide children with a		
quality education with fewer resources		
than they have now12	4	26
(Don't know/refused)5	3	9

Q4. SSA: When you think about the Nebraska state budget right now, do you think state spending and investments reflect our values as a state, or do spending and investments not really reflect our values?

[IF ANSWER] Do you feel that way strongly or not so strongly?

#### Select one

Reflect values – strongly21	14	34
Reflect values – not so strongly12	10	16
Do NOT reflect values – not so strongly10	14	5
Do NOT reflect values – strongly36	43	25
(Don't know/refused)20	19	21
Reflect values34	24	50
Do NOT reflect values47	57	30

Q5. SSB: When you think about the Nebraska state budget right now, do you think state spending and investments reflect our priorities as a state, or do spending and investments not really reflect our priorities?

[IF ANSWER] Do you feel that way strongly or not so strongly?

#### Select one

Reflect priorities – strongly19 Reflect priorities – not so strongly11	12 8	29 15
Do NOT reflect priorities – not so strongly12	13	11
Do NOT reflect priorities – strongly39	54	15
(Don't know/refused)19	13	30
Reflect priorities29	20	44
Do NOT reflect priorities51	67	26

**EVER NEVER** TOTAL REPEAL REPEAL Weighted N= 600 373 227

Q6. SSA: Which statement comes closer to your opinion, even if neither is perfect? [ROTATE 1-2, 2-1] Select one

If the Nebraska state government must pick		
sides, it should choose the side of		
entrepreneurs and job creators, since		
they create the jobs the rest of us need29	17	50
If the Nebraska state government must pick		
sides, it should choose the side of		
working people who do the work and		
create the wealth for others61	76	35
(Don't know/refused)10	7	15

Q7. SSB: Which of the following worries you more? [ROTATE 1-2, 2-1]

That Nebraska politicians will continue to protect millionaires and corporations from tax increases, making it harder to invest in our priorities like health care,		
public safety, and public schools58	80	21
That Nebraska politicians will raise taxes on		
millionaires and corporations, chasing		
them out of our state and taking good		
jobs with them30	12	59
(Don't know/refused)13	8	20

Q8. As you may know, members of the Nebraska legislature passed a scholarship voucher bill that would allow corporations and individuals to get a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for contributions to private school scholarship-granting organizations. For example, if a taxpayer owed the state 100-thousand dollars in taxes, they could give 50-thousand dollars of that tax liability to a private school scholarshipgranting organization, like a religious group, and the taxpayer dollars that would otherwise have been directed to public schools would instead go to private schools. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this bill?

#### Select one

Strongly support22	3	53
Somewhat support19	9	36
Somewhat oppose12	17	5
Strongly oppose43	69	1
(Don't know/refused)3	2	5
Support42	13	89
• •		09
Oppose55	85	6

Q9. Now that the Legislature has passed the bill, some Nebraskans may try to put this voucher proposal on the ballot so that voters get a say. If this scholarship voucher question were on the ballot in Nebraska in 2024, would you vote RETAIN to affirm the decision of the legislature and allow corporations and individuals to get a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for contributions to private school scholarship-granting organizations, or would you vote REPEAL to reject the legislature's decision?

**[IF UNDECIDED]** Well, if you had to decide, which way would you lean? **[IF UNDECIDED]** 

**[IF RETAIN OR REPEAL]** Would you say you feel that way strongly or not strongly? Select one

Retain – strongly26	3	63
Retain – not strongly8	3	16
Undecided – lean Retain3	1	7
Undecided6	4	9
Undecided – lean Repeal3	5	0
Repeal – not strongly5	8	0
Repeal – strongly47	76	0
(Don't know)2	1	4
(Refused)1	0	1
Retain37	7	85
Repeal55	89	0

Q10. **[IF Q9 = 1-3, 5-7]** Just to make sure, did you mean to ALLOW corporations to divert some of their tax payments to funding private school scholarships or did you mean to RESTRICT corporations from diverting some of their tax payments to funding private school scholarships?

#### Select one

Meant to ALLOW corporations to divert their			
tax payments	.40	8	97
Meant to RESTRICT corporations from			
diverting their tax payments	.58	89	2
(Refused)	2	3	1

# Q11. **SSC:** [DRAINS \$100MIL] Here are some statements about the proposed question: [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

\_People who plan to vote to repeal this law say it is another attack on our public schools and the students who go there. This law will drain up to 100-million dollars from our public schools by diverting corporate taxes to private schools. That is money our public schools desperately need to address the teacher and counselor shortage, class sizes, teacher pay, individualized lesson plans, and vocational education. We need to vote to repeal this law because our public tax dollars should go to public schools where most of our children attend. **[DRAINS \$100MIL, 92]** 

\_People who plan to vote Retain say that voting Retain lets Nebraska families have a choice. By funding these scholarship vouchers, students across Nebraska, particularly children from low-income families, will have the opportunity to attend a private school if they are not thriving in a public school. Experts estimate this could help up to 5-thousand students across the state and increase the number of private and religious schools, especially in low-income areas. It is our children's future on the line, and it's time we gave them a choice. **[RETAIN VOTERS, 88]** 

If the election were held today, would you vote RETAIN or REPEAL on the question we have discussed?

**[IF UNDECIDED]** Well, if you had to decide, which way would you lean? **[IF UNDECIDED]** 

**[IF RETAIN OR REPEAL]** Would you say you feel that way strongly or not strongly? Select one

Retain – strongly	30	4	73
Retain – not strongly	5	1	10
Undecided - lean Retain	2	1	2
Undecided	3	1	5
Undecided - lean Repeal	2	3	0
Repeal – not strongly	2	3	0
Repeal – strongly	53	84	0
(Don't know)	4	2	6
(Refused)	1	0	3
Retain	36	7	86
Repeal	56	89	0

# Q12. **SSD:** [DRAINS \$100MIL TAX FOCUSED] Here are some statements about the proposed question: [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

\_ People who plan to vote to repeal this law say it is another attack on our public schools. This law will drain up to 100-million dollars from our public schools by diverting corporate taxes to private schools. That is money our public schools desperately need to address the teacher and counselor shortage, class sizes, teacher pay, individualized lesson plans, and vocational education. We need to vote to repeal this unfair law because it benefits wealthy families and corporations who can afford to pay more in taxes and harms the public schools most of our children attend. [DRAINS \$100MIL TAX FOCUSED, 96]

\_People who plan to vote Retain say that voting Retain lets Nebraska families have a choice. By funding these scholarship vouchers, students across Nebraska, particularly children from low-income families, will have the opportunity to attend a private school if they are not thriving in a public school. Experts estimate this could help up to 5-thousand students across the state and increase the number of private and religious schools, especially in low-income areas. It is our children's future on the line, and it's time we gave them a choice. **[RETAIN VOTERS, 88]** 

If the election were held today, would you vote RETAIN or REPEAL on the question we have discussed?

**[IF UNDECIDED]** Well, if you had to decide, which way would you lean? **[IF UNDECIDED]** 

**[IF RETAIN OR REPEAL]** Would you say you feel that way strongly or not strongly? Select one

Retain – strongly32	6	73
Retain – not strongly7	2	15
Undecided – lean Retain0	0	1
Undecided4	2	7
Undecided – lean Repeal1	2	0
Repeal – not strongly7	11	0
Repeal – strongly45	73	0
(Don't know)3	3	4
(Refused)1	1	1
Retain39	8	89
Repeal53	87	0

Tropractia Operion, may, cario				
	Weighted N=	TOTAL <b>600</b>	EVER REPEAL 373	NEVER REPEAL 227
Q11/12. Informed Ballot Combin	ned			
Retain – strongly		6 1 3 1 4 49	5 2 1 2 2 7 79 2 0	73 13 1 6 0 0 5
Retain		38	8	87

Repeal ......55

Q13. **SSE:** [GOOD/BAD] Now I would like to read you a series of outcomes that may occur now that the Nebraska state legislature has passed these taxpayer-funded scholarship vouchers. For each one, I want you to tell me whether you think that outcome is either bad or good using a scale from ZERO to TEN. TEN means you think that outcome would be VERY GOOD, and ZERO means you think that outcome would be VERY BAD. Five means you are neutral, and you can use any number in between.

#### Sorted by means

13i.Grad rates6.6	5.2	8.8
13h.Opportunity6.0	4.2	8.9
13g.100-million5.6	3.6	9.0
13j.More jobs5.1	3.0	8.7
13f.No outcome accountability4.0	2.0	7.5
13d.No help rural3.8	2.1	6.6
13c.Harder to help public schools3.7	2.1	6.5
13b.No spending accountability3.5	1.4	7.2
13a.Fund two systems3.5	1.2	7.4
13e.Student discrimination3.3	1.3	6.7

### Sorted by "0 - Very bad"

13a.Fund two systems45	70	2
13e.Student discrimination45	67	7
13b.No spending accountability44	68	2
13c.Harder to help public schools39	60	3
13f.No outcome accountability37	57	3
13d.No help rural32	50	2
13j.More jobs23	37	1
13g.100-million21	32	2
13h.Opportunity17	26	1
13i.Grad rates11	18	0

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

 Millions of dollars would be taken from Nebraska public schools and sent to private and religious schools, requiring Nebraska taxpayers to fund two school systems, one private and one public. [FUND TWO SYSTEMS]

Mean3.5	1.2	7.4
10 – Very good17	4	40
8 - 96	1	13
6 - 74	2	8
512	5	23
1 - 4	15	9
0 – Very bad45	70	2
(Don't know)3	2	5
6 - 10 – Good27	7	60
5 /DK15	7	28
0 - 4 – Bad58	85	11

b. Because private and religious schools are not required to report on where the money goes, the Nebraska government would have no information on how millions of taxpayer dollars are being spent. [NO SPENDING ACCOUNTABILITY]

Mean3.5	1.4	7.2
10 – Very good19	5	42
8 - 93	1	7
6 - 74	1	9
514	4	30
1 - 415	19	7
0 – Very bad44	68	2
(Don't know)2	1	3
6 - 10 – Good26	7	58
5 /DK16	6	33
0 - 4 – Bad58	87	9

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

c. Spending millions of dollars on private and religious school vouchers will make it harder for Nebraska to give public schools the resources they need to address the teacher shortage and provide mental health support to struggling students. [HARDER TO HELP PUBLIC SCHOOLS]

Mean3.7	2.1	6.5
10 – Very good17	8	31
8 - 96	4	10
6 - 76	4	10
513	6	27
1 - 416	16	16
0 – Very bad39	60	3
(Don't know)3	2	4
6 - 10 – Good29	16	51
5 /DK16	7	31
0 - 4 – Bad55	76	19

d. Most rural and small-town communities in Nebraska do not have religious or private schools so these taxpayer-funded vouchers will mostly help students in more populated areas of Nebraska, including those who already attend private schools. [NO HELP RURAL]

Mean3.8	8 2.	1 6.6
10 – Very good1	3 (	6 26
8 - 9	6 :	2 11
6 - 7	5 ;	3 10
52	1 1	1 38
1 - 419	9 2	5 8
0 – Very bad32	2 5	0 2
(Don't know)		4 4
6 - 10 – Good24	4 1	1 47
5 /DK25	5 1	5 42
0 - 4 – Bad5	1 7	5 10

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

e. These taxpayer-funded vouchers will go to private and religious schools that can pick and choose which students they enroll based on gender, race, religion, or special education needs. **[STUDENT DISCRIMINATION]** 

Mean3.3	1.3	6.7
10 – Very good14	4	32
8 - 95	1	11
6 - 74	1	8
516	6	33
1 - 415	20	5
0 – Very bad45	67	7
(Don't know)2	0	4
6 - 10 – Good23	6	51
5 /DK18	6	37
0 - 4 - Bad60	87	12

f. Private schools do not have the same accountability and reporting standards as public schools. That means the state would be unable to determine whether these schools are producing high-quality education outcomes. [NO OUTCOME ACCOUNTABILITY]

Mean4.0	2.0	7.5
10 – Very good20	) 7	' 41
8 - 9	7 2	2 14
6 - 7	1 2	2 8
513	3 8	3 22
1 - 416	3 20	8
0 – Very bad37	<b>7</b> 57	3
(Don't know)		2 4
6 - 10 – Good31	12	2 63
5 /DK16	3 11	26
0 - 4 – Bad53	3 77	' 11

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

g. These vouchers would provide up to 100-million dollars per year to help thousands of low- and middle-income families afford private school education for their children. [100-MILLION]

Mean5.6	3.6	9.0
10 – Very good30	10	64
8 - 910	4	19
6 - 77	6	9
517	24	6
1 - 413	21	0
0 – Very bad21	32	2
(Don't know)2	2	2
6 - 10 – Good46	20	91
5 /DK20	27	7
0 - 4 – Bad34	53	2

h. Students from all economic backgrounds would be given the opportunity to choose a private school if they are not doing well in a public institution that doesn't have the resources to help them. [OPPORTUNITY]

Mean6.0	4.2	8.9
10 – Very good30	11	63
8 - 911	7	17
6 - 77	9	4
522	27	13
1 - 410	16	0
0 – Very bad17	26	1
(Don't know)3	4	2
6 - 10 – Good48	26	85
5 /DK25	32	15
0 - 4 – Bad27	42	1

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

i. With increased access to institutions with better resources, more students will graduate high school on time. [GRAD RATES]

Mean6.6	5.2	8.8
10 – Very good30	16	53
8 - 917	9	30
6 - 78	10	5
524	33	8
1 - 46	8	2
0 – Very bad11	18	0
(Don't know)5	7	2
6 - 10 – Good55	35	88
5 /DK28	39	10
0 - 4 – Bad17	26	2

j. When more students use vouchers, more private and religious schools will open up around the state, creating more job opportunities. **[MORE JOBS]** 

Mean5	.1	3.0	8.7
10 – Very good2	26	5	62
8 - 9		4	14
6 - 7	.7	6	8
52	20	24	14
1 - 41	4	23	0
0 – Very bad2	23	37	1
(Don't know)	.2	2	2
6 - 10 – Good4		14	84
5 /DK2	22	26	15
0 - 4 – Bad	38	60	1

**EVER NEVER** TOTAL REPEAL REPEAL Weighted N= 600 373 227

Q14. SSF: [LIKELY/NOT LIKELY] Now I would like to read you a series of outcomes that may occur now that the Nebraska state legislature has passed these taxpayer-funded scholarship vouchers. For each one, I want you to tell me whether you think that outcome is either LIKELY to happen or UNLIKELY to happen using a scale from ZERO to TEN. TEN means you think that outcome would be VERY LIKELY to happen, and ZERO means you think that outcome would be VERY UNLIKELY to happen. Five means you are neutral, and you can use any number in between.

### Sorted by means

14d.No help rural6.	9 8	3.1	5.1
14b.No spending accountability6.	6 7	7.9	4.5
14a.Fund two systems6.	5 7	7.8	4.3
14e.Student discrimination6.	4 7	7.8	4.0
14c.Harder to help public schools6.	3 8	3.4	2.8
14i.Grad rates5.	7 4	1.5	7.6
14f.No outcome accountability5.	5 7	7.3	2.6
14g.100-million5.	3 4	1.0	7.5
14h.Opportunity5.	3 3	3.9	7.5
14j.More jobs4.	6 3	3.2	6.8
orted by "10 – Very likely"			
14b.No spending accountability3	7	53	13

## Sor

1-b. No spending accountability	55	10
14c. Harder to help public schools37	59	1
14e.Student discrimination36	52	10
14a.Fund two systems34	49	11
14d.No help rural33	46	12
14f.No outcome accountability27	41	4
14i.Grad rates20	14	31
14h.Opportunity20	8	38
14g.100-million19	11	31
14i More jobs	6	26

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

 Millions of dollars would be taken from Nebraska public schools and sent to private and religious schools, requiring Nebraska taxpayers to fund two school systems, one private and one public. [FUND TWO SYSTEMS]

Mean6.5	7.8	4.3
10 – Very likely34	49	11
8 - 917	22	8
6 - 78	7	8
517	9	31
1 - 411	8	17
0 – Very unlikely12	5	24
(Don't know)1	1	1
6 - 10 – Likely58	78	27
5 /DK18	9	32
0 - 4 – Unlikely24	13	40

b. Because private and religious schools are not required to report on where the money goes, the Nebraska government would have no information on how millions of taxpayer dollars are being spent. [NO SPENDING ACCOUNTABILITY]

Mean6.6	7.9	4.5
10 – Very likely37	53	13
8 - 913	17	7
6 - 78	5	12
514	10	21
1 - 413	7	22
0 – Very unlikely11	6	20
(Don't know)3	2	4
6 - 10 – Likely59	75	32
5 /DK17	12	25
0 - 4 – Unlikely24	13	42

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

c. Spending millions of dollars on private and religious school vouchers will make it harder for Nebraska to give public schools the resources they need to address the teacher shortage and provide mental health support to struggling students. [HARDER TO HELP PUBLIC SCHOOLS]

Mean6.3	8.4	2.8
10 – Very likely37	59	1
8 - 910	15	3
6 - 79	9	8
513	7	21
1 - 415	5	31
0 – Very unlikely15	4	32
(Don't know)2	1	3
6 - 10 – Likely55	83	12
5 /DK15	8	24
0 - 4 – Unlikely30	9	64

d. Most rural and small-town communities in Nebraska do not have religious or private schools so these taxpayer-funded vouchers will mostly help students in more populated areas of Nebraska, including those who already attend private schools. [NO HELP RURAL]

Mean6.9	8.1	5.1
10 – Very likely33	46	12
8 - 918	21	13
6 - 714	10	20
516	14	19
1 - 412	6	21
0 – Very unlikely6	1	14
(Don't know)2	2	1
6 - 10 – Likely64	77	44
5 /DK18	16	20
0 - 4 – Unlikely18	7	35

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

e. These taxpayer-funded vouchers will go to private and religious schools that can pick and choose which students they enroll based on gender, race, religion, or special education needs. **[STUDENT DISCRIMINATION]** 

Mean6.4	7.8	4.0
10 – Very likely36	52	10
8 - 99	13	4
6 - 713	13	12
514	9	24
1 - 411	6	21
0 – Very unlikely13	6	25
(Don't know)3	2	6
6 - 10 – Likely57	78	25
5 /DK18	10	30
0 - 4 - Unlikely25	12	45

f. Private schools do not have the same accountability and reporting standards as public schools. That means the state would be unable to determine whether these schools are producing high-quality education outcomes. [NO OUTCOME ACCOUNTABILITY]

Mean5.5	7.3	2.6
10 – Very likely27	41	4
8 - 912	17	4
6 - 78	10	4
514	15	13
1 - 418	10	31
0 – Very unlikely19	6	39
(Don't know)2	1	5
6 - 10 – Likely47	68	12
5 /DK16	15	18
0 - 4 – Unlikely37	16	70

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

g. These vouchers would provide up to 100-million dollars per year to help thousands of low- and middle-income families afford private school education for their children. [100-MILLION]

Mean5.3	3 4.0	7.5
10 – Very likely19	) 11	31
8 - 911	4	22
6 - 7	2 10	15
518	3 19	17
1 - 422	30	8
0 – Very unlikely15	5 24	1
(Don't know)	3 2	6
6 - 10 – Likely42	26	67
5 /DK21		23
0 - 4 – Unlikely37	<b>7</b> 54	10

h. Students from all economic backgrounds would be given the opportunity to choose a private school if they are not doing well in a public institution that doesn't have the resources to help them. [OPPORTUNITY]

Mean5.3	3.9	7.5
10 – Very likely20	8	38
8 - 911	8	16
6 - 79	5	15
519	21	14
1 - 424	35	8
0 – Very unlikely14	21	4
(Don't know)3		4
6 - 10 – Likely40		70
5 /DK22	24	19
0 - 4 – Unlikely38	55	12

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

i. With increased access to institutions with better resources, more students will graduate high school on time. [GRAD RATES]

Mean5.	7 4.5	7.6
10 – Very likely20	) 14	31
8 - 910	5	19
6 - 7	3 11	22
52 <sup>-</sup>	1 24	15
1 - 419	9 28	3
0 – Very unlikely10	) 16	1
(Don't know)		8
6 - 10 – Likely40	30	72
5 /DK25	5 26	24
0 - 4 – Unlikely29	9 44	4

j. When more students use vouchers, more private and religious schools will open up around the state, creating more job opportunities. **[MORE JOBS]** 

Mean4.6	3.2	6.8
10 – Very likely14	6	26
8 - 9		16
6 - 7	14	20
517	' 14	22
1 - 419	25	9
0 – Very unlikely23	33	5
(Don't know)3		2
6 - 10 – Likely39	24	62
5 /DK20	18	23
0 - 4 – Unlikely41	59	14

Q15. Here is what people OPPOSED to allowing public tax dollars to fund private schools have to say. Please tell me whether each statement I read is a VERY convincing, SOMEWHAT convincing, NOT TOO convincing, or a NOT AT ALL convincing reason to OPPOSE allowing public tax dollars to fund private schools. If you are not sure how you feel about a particular item, please say so.

## Sorted by "Very convincing"

b15d.Property taxes51	77	9
15g.Respect public choice47	69	10
15a.Accountability46	69	9
15i.Two school systems45	69	6
a15e.Community center44	67	6
15b.Pick and choose43	65	8
15h.Wealthy donors42	64	6
a15c.Cost to taxpayers41	61	7
b15f.Rural hit41	60	9

a. Private schools aren't held to the same accountability standards as public schools when it comes to how the money is spent. Once the private schools receive taxpayer money from this voucher program, we don't see it again. And private schools don't have to report their academic outcomes to the state. We deserve transparency and accountability when it comes to our children's education and where our tax dollars are spent. [ACCOUNTABILITY, 69]

Very convincing46	69	9
Somewhat convincing17	20	11
Not too convincing8		15
Not at all convincing25	5 5	58
(Don't know/refused)4		7
Convincing63	89	20
Not convincing33		73

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

b. Every child in Nebraska deserves access to a good education no matter what they look like or where they live. But some politicians want to let private schools pick and choose who they enroll based on skill, grades, physical ability, zip code, even gender. And once enrolled, a private school can kick a student out without reason. Public dollars should be used to help students, not exclude them. [PICK AND CHOOSE, 68]

Very convincing	13	65	8
Somewhat convincing1	19	23	12
Not too convincing1		4	22
Not at all convincing2		7	51
(Don't know/refused)	.3	1	7
Convincing6	52	89	19
Not convincing	34	10	73

c. SSA: This legislation just creates another loophole for the wealthy to get out of paying their fair share. It gives corporations and wealthy individuals a way to avoid paying their taxes like the rest of us by giving money to private schools instead. These corporate tax breaks will cost Nebraska taxpayers up to 100-million dollars in revenue per year for funding public education and other priorities. [COST TO TAXPAYERS, 65]

Very convincing	41	61	7
Somewhat convincing		25	9
Not too convincing	12	6	20
Not at all convincing		5	56
(Don't know/refused)		3	8
Convincing	60	86	16
Not convincing		11	76

d. SSB: This legislation will hurt Nebraska homeowners. The money that public schools lose through corporate tax breaks has to be found somewhere else. And when the state fails to fully fund our public schools, that burden shifts to the local community through property tax hikes. By rejecting these vouchers, we can make the state do their job and fund K-through-12 education without raising our property taxes. [PROPERTY TAXES, 65]

Very convincing	14 10 21	77 15 5 2 2	9 12 19 53 7
Convincing		92 7	21 71

e. **SSA:** Diverting public dollars from public schools and into private schools will cut at the heart of community life in rural areas. If public dollars are used for private and religious school vouchers, funding for public school programs like football and basketball games, band competitions, and farming education will be cut. We should reject vouchers and keep the money in the public schools that our rural communities depend on. **[COMMUNITY CENTER, 68]** 

Very convincing	44	67	6
Somewhat convincing	19	23	13
Not too convincing	8	5	12
Not at all convincing	25	4	60
(Don't know/refused)		1	9
Convincing	63	90	19
Not convincing	33	9	72

f. **SSB:** Let's face it – these private school vouchers won't do much good in rural Nebraska. Private schools just don't exist in rural areas. Only six percent of students in a Nebraska public school district have a private or religious school in that same geographic area. So, instead of providing more funding to improve schools across the state, including rural areas, these vouchers would funnel that money to schools most students can't attend. **[RURAL HIT, 71]** 

Very convincing4	1 6	60	9
Somewhat convincing2		25	21
Not too convincing1	1	8	17
Not at all convincing2		3	47
(Don't know/refused)	4	4	5
Convincing6	4 8	35	31
Not convincing3		1	64

g. Nine-in-ten Nebraska children go to a traditional public school. That is where we need to invest our tax dollars – not in private and religious school scholarship vouchers. Fewer than 10 percent of children go to a private or religious school. Parents who choose public school for their children deserve to have that choice respected and deserve to have those schools funded. [RESPECT PUBLIC CHOICE, 64]

Very convincing.47Somewhat convincing.17Not too convincing.7Not at all convincing.26(Don't know/refused).4	69 19 4 7 1	10 13 13 57 7
Convincing	88 11	23 70
Not convincing33	- 11	70

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

h. Make no mistake – legislators in Nebraska are doing this for their wealthy donors, not for the good of Nebraska students. In states like Arizona that have passed similar laws, executives at scholarship-granting organizations used their tax credit donations to enrich themselves with luxury cars and real estate. Nebraska students deserve better than being a pawn in the wealthy elite's game. [WEALTHY DONORS, 60]

Very convincing	42	64	6
Somewhat convincing	16	19	10
Not too convincing	9	8	11
Not at all convincing		7	65
(Don't know/refused)		3	8
Convincing		83	16
Not convincing	38	14	76

i. Right now, Nebraska taxpayers help fund one school system – the public school system. But under this law, millions of dollars would be taken from Nebraska public schools and sent to private schools, requiring Nebraska taxpayers to fund two school systems, one private and one public. This law will mean fewer resources for our students, by putting public money in private hands without increasing funds for public schools. **[TWO SCHOOL SYSTEMS, 68]** 

Very convincing45	69	6
Somewhat convincing16		12
Not too convincing		18
Not at all convincing26		59
(Don't know/refused)		5
Convincing61	87	19
Not convincing35		76

Q16. **[RE-ASK]** Sometimes in a survey like this, people change their minds. If this scholarship voucher proposal were on the ballot in Nebraska in 2024, would you vote RETAIN to affirm the decision of the legislature and allow corporations and individuals to get a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for contributions to private school scholarship-granting organizations, or would you vote REPEAL to reject the legislature's decision?

**[IF UNDECIDED]** Well, if you had to decide, which way would you lean? **[IF UNDECIDED]** 

**[IF RETAIN OR REPEAL]** Would you say you feel that way strongly or not strongly? Select one

Retain – strongly28	1	73
Retain – not strongly5	1	11
Undecided – lean Retain1	1	1
Undecided4	0	9
Undecided – lean Repeal2	3	0
Repeal – not strongly3	5	0
Repeal – strongly55	89	0
(Don't know)1	0	3
(Refused)1	0	2
Retain34	3	85
Repeal60	97	0
Q16. Final ballot heard "Drains \$100M"		
Retain – strongly27	0	72
Retain – not strongly4	1	9
Undecided – lean Retain1	1	2
Undecided4	0	11
Undecided – lean Repeal2	3	0
		-
Repeal – not strongly3	4	0
Repeal – not strongly	4 90	0
Repeal – strongly57	-	Ö
	90	
Repeal – strongly57 (Don't know)1	90	0
Repeal – strongly	90	0 3 2
Repeal – strongly57 (Don't know)1	90 0	0

Weighted N= TOTAL		NEVER REPEAL 227
Q16. Final ballot heard "Tax Focused"		
Retain – strongly	1 2 0	73 12
Undecided3	1	7
Undecided – lean Repeal1 Repeal – not strongly3	2 6	0 0
Repeal – strongly54	88	0
(Don't know)2 (Refused)1	1 0	4 3
Retain	3 96	87 0

Q17. Here are some ways that Nebraskans have said they would use money on education if the state had a budget surplus. On a scale from ZERO to TEN, please tell me how important of a priority each of the following is to you. TEN means it is a VERY important priority to you personally, and ZERO means it is NOT a priority AT ALL. You can use any number in between.

### Sorted by means

B17d.Expanding career training,		
vocational education, and job		
training programs in public	0.5	7.6
high schools8.2	8.5	7.6
A17a.Reducing the teacher	0.7	6.0
shortage in our public schools7.8	8.7	6.3
B17b.Raising teacher pay in our	0.5	
public schools7.4	8.5	5.7
A17e.Reducing class sizes and		
improving the teacher-to-	0.0	0.0
student ratio7.4	8.0	6.3
A17c.Increasing the number of		
mental health counselors in	0.4	<i>5</i> 7
our public schools	8.1	5.7
B17h.Raising pay for school		
support staff like bus drivers	7.0	F 0
and cafeteria workers7.0	7.6	5.9
A17g.Investing in school safety,		
like hiring school resource	C 0	7.4
officers	6.8	7.1
B17f.Providing taxpayer-funded		
vouchers to help parents pay		
for private and religious schools3.9	4 4	7.0
SCHOOIS3.9	1.4	7.9

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Weighted N=	TOTAL 600	EVER REPEAL 373	NEVER REPEAL 227
Sorted by "10 – Very important priority"			
A17a.Reducing the teacher shortage in our public schools	46	60	22
training programs in public high schools	45	48	39
B17b.Raising teacher pay in our public schools	43	56	21
mental health counselors in our public schools	35	46	17
improving the teacher-to- student ratio	30	37	19
support staff like bus drivers and cafeteria workers	27	34	16
like hiring school resource officers	26	24	30
B17f.Providing taxpayer-funded vouchers to help parents pay for private and religious schools	19	2	46
00.10010		_	10

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

## a. **SSA:** Reducing the teacher shortage in our public schools

wean7.8	8.7	6.3
10 – Very important priority46	60	22
8 - 919	22	13
6 - 714	8	23
510	3	21
1 - 44	2	7
0 – Not a priority at all7	4	10
(Don't know)2	1	5
6 - 10 – High priority78	91	57
5 /DK12	3	26
0 - 4 – Low priority10	6	17

# b. **SSB:** Raising teacher pay in our public schools

Mean7.4	8.5	5.7
10 – Very important priority43	56	21
8 - 918	21	13
6 - 79	9	9
516	6	31
1 - 46	3	11
0 – Not a priority at all7	3	14
(Don't know)1	1	1
6 - 10 – High priority70	87	43
5 /DK17	7	33
0 - 4 – Low priority13	6	24

## c. SSA: Increasing the number of mental health counselors in our public schools

Mean7.2	8.1	5.7
10 – Very important priority35	46	17
8 - 921	25	15
6 - 713	11	17
514	9	22
1 - 47	5	12
0 – Not a priority at all7	3	14
(Don't know)2	1	4
6 - 10 – High priority69	82	48
5 /DK16	11	26
0 - 4 – Low priority14	8	26

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

d. **SSB:** Expanding career training, vocational education, and job training programs in public high schools

Mean8.2	2 8.5	7.6
10 – Very important priority45	5 48	39
8 - 928	33	3 22
6 - 7	2 11	14
5	7 3	14
1 - 4	4 3	5
0 – Not a priority at all	3 2	2 5
(Don't know)		1
6 - 10 – High priority85	5 92	75
5 /DK	3 3	15
0 - 4 – Low priority	7 5	10

e. SSA: Reducing class sizes and improving the teacher-to-student ratio

Mean7.4	8.0	6.3
10 – Very important priority       30         8 - 9       24         6 - 7       19         5       14         1 - 4       5         0 – Not a priority at all       5	37 29 18 10 2 3	19 15 21 20 10 9
(Don't know)3	2	6
6 - 10 – High priority	84 12 4	55 27 18

f. SSB: Providing taxpayer-funded vouchers to help parents pay for private and religious schools

Mean3.9	1.4	7.9
10 – Very important priority19	2	46
8 - 98	1	20
6 - 77	5	9
510	5	17
1 - 412	19	2
0 – Not a priority at all43	66	5
(Don't know)0	1	0
6 - 10 – High priority34	9	76
5 /DK10	6	17
0 - 4 – Low priority55	85	7

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

g. SSA: Investing in school safety, like hiring school resource officers

Mean6.9	6.8	7.1
10 – Very important priority26	24	30
8 - 919	21	17
6 - 724	25	21
516	14	19
1 - 47	9	5
0 – Not a priority at all5	6	5
(Don't know)2	1	4
6 - 10 – High priority69	70	68
5 /DK18	15	23
0 - 4 – Low priority13	15	9

h. SSB: Raising pay for school support staff like bus drivers and cafeteria workers

Mean	7.0	7.6	5.9
10 – Very important priority	27	34	16
8 - 9	22	28	14
6 - 7	19	19	18
5	20	11	35
1 - 4	7	4	11
0 – Not a priority at all	5	4	6
(Don't know)	0	0	1
6 - 10 – High priority	68	81	48
5 /DK	20	11	36
0 - 4 – Low priority	11	8	16

 $\begin{array}{cccc} & & & \text{EVER} & \text{NEVER} \\ & & \text{TOTAL} & \text{REPEAL} & \text{REPEAL} \\ \text{Weighted N=} & 600 & 373 & 227 \end{array}$ 

Q18. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements on a scale of zero to ten, where ZERO means you strongly disagree and TEN means you strongly agree.

### Sorted by means

B18d.When it comes to state income taxes, people who make more than a million		
dollars a year can afford to pay		
more7.3	8.9	4.8
A18g.We need to rebalance the		
income tax system in		
Nebraska so people who make		
more than a million dollars pay		
their fair share7.1	8.6	4.5
B18h.We need to transform the		
income tax system in		
Nebraska so people who make		
more than a million dollars pay	8.5	4.1
their fair share	0.5	4.1
income taxes, the wealthy can		
afford to pay more6.9	8.4	4.3
A18e.Working families are doing	0.4	7.5
all the work while corporate		
CEOs and the wealthy are		
seeing all the benefits of that		
hard work6.1	7.7	3.4
B18f.Working families are doing all		
the work while corporate CEOs		
and the ultra-wealthy are		
seeing all the benefits of that		
hard work6.1	7.8	3.2
B18b.We should make our tax		
policy more business-friendly		
to make sure the wealthy want		
to stay in Nebraska where they		
help create jobs5.8	4.6	7.7
A18a.If we raise taxes on the		
wealthy in Nebraska, it is		
possible they will leave to tax-		
friendly states nearby and take good-paying jobs with them5.6	4.8	7.0
good-paying jobs with them	4.0	1.0

	Weighted N=	TOTAL 600	REPEAL 373	REPEAL 227
Sorted by "10 – Strongly agree	,,,			
B18d.When it comes to state income taxes, people who make more than a million dollars a year can afford to more	o pay	48	68	16
A18g.We need to rebalance to income tax system in Nebraska so people who more than a million dollars their fair share	make s pay	45	63	16
income tax system in Nebraska so people who more than a million dollar their fair share	make s pay	44	62	15
A18c.When it comes to state income taxes, the wealthy afford to pay more	/ can		57	11
B18f.Working families are do the work while corporate and the ultra-wealthy are seeing all the benefits of t	ing all CEOs			
hard workA18e.Working families are do all the work while corpora CEOs and the wealthy are	 ping te e	34	50	8
seeing all the benefits of the hard work	x ndly want	28	40	8
to stay in Nebraska where help create jobs	tax-	24	12	43
friendly states nearby and good-paying jobs with the		22	14	35

**EVER** 

NEVER

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

a. **SSA:** If we raise taxes on the wealthy in Nebraska, it is possible they will leave to tax-friendly states nearby and take good-paying jobs with them

Mean5.6	4.8	7.0
10 – Strongly agree22	14	35
8 - 912	11	15
6 - 7	13	12
519	19	19
1 - 418	22	10
0 – Strongly disagree14	20	6
(Don't know)2	2	3
6 - 10 – Agree47	37	62
5 /DK21	21	22
0 - 4 – Disagree32	42	16

b. **SSB:** We should make our tax policy more business-friendly to make sure the wealthy want to stay in Nebraska where they help create jobs

Mean5.8	4.6	7.7
10 – Strongly agree24	12	43
8 - 912	10	16
6 - 7	11	16
524	28	17
1 - 412	18	3
0 – Strongly disagree15	21	4
(Don't know)1		1
6 - 10 – Agree48	32	75
5 /DK25	30	17
0 - 4 – Disagree27	39	7

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

c. SSA: When it comes to state income taxes, the wealthy can afford to pay more

Mean6.9	8.4	4.3
10 – Strongly agree40	57	11
8 - 912	15	8
6 - 710	9	13
517	12	26
1 - 47	3	13
0 – Strongly disagree12	3	27
(Don't know)2	2	3
6 - 10 – Agree62	81	31
5 /DK19	13	29
0 - 4 – Disagree18	6	40

d. **SSB:** When it comes to state income taxes, people who make more than a million dollars a year can afford to pay more

Mean7.3	8.9	4.8
10 – Strongly agree48	68	16
8 - 910	11	9
6 - 79	8	12
514	7	27
1 - 44	2	8
0 – Strongly disagree11	2	26
(Don't know)2	2	3
6 - 10 – Agree68	88	37
5 /DK16	8	30
0 - 4 – Disagree15	4	34

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

e. **SSA:** Working families are doing all the work while corporate CEOs and the wealthy are seeing all the benefits of that hard work

Mean6	5.1	7.7	3.4
10 – Strongly agree		40	8
8 - 9	17	25	5
6 - 7	9	11	6
5	17	12	25
1 - 4	12	7	21
0 - Strongly disagree	15	4	34
(Don't know)		1	2
6 - 10 – Agree	55	76	19
5 /DK	18	13	27
0 - 4 – Disagree	27	11	55

f. **SSB:** Working families are doing all the work while corporate CEOs and the ultra-wealthy are seeing all the benefits of that hard work

Mean6	6.1	7.8	3.2
10 – Strongly agree	34	50	8
8 - 9	10	13	6
6 - 7		14	10
5	13	13	14
1 - 4	11	5	22
0 – Strongly disagree	18	5	39
(Don't know)		0	2
6 - 10 – Agree	56	77	23
5 /DK	14	13	16
0 - 4 - Disagree	29	10	61

		EVER	NEVER
	TOTAL	REPEAL	REPEAL
Weighted N=	600	373	227

g. **SSA:** We need to rebalance the income tax system in Nebraska so people who make more than a million dollars pay their fair share

Mean7.1	8.6	4.5
10 – Strongly agree45	63	16
8 - 912	13	8
6 - 78	8	7
514	10	23
1 - 48	1	20
0 – Strongly disagree11	3	24
(Don't know)1	1	2
6 - 10 – Agree65	84	32
5 /DK16	11	24
0 - 4 – Disagree19	5	44

h. **SSB:** We need to transform the income tax system in Nebraska so people who make more than a million dollars pay their fair share

Mean6.9	8.5	4.1
10 – Strongly agree44	62	15
8 - 913	3 15	11
6 - 7		7
515	5 13	19
1 - 45	5 1	10
0 – Strongly disagree16	3	36
(Don't know)1		2
6 - 10 – Agree64	83	33
5 /DK16	3 13	21
0 - 4 – Disagree20	) 4	46

#### Finally, I would like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

Q19. What is the last year of schooling that you have completed? Select one

1 - 11th Grade1	2	0
High School Graduate14	14	14
Vocational or technical school4	4	5
Some college but no degree21	18	25
Associate degree15	16	13
4-year college graduate or		
bachelor's degree25	24	26
Graduate School or advanced degree20	22	16
(Refused)0	0	0
Non-college grad55	54	58
College grad44	46	42

Q20. Do you have any children under the age of 18 living at home with you? Select one

Yes28	28	26
No71	71	71
(Refused)1	1	2

Q21. Do you have any children or grandchildren that attend a public school or a private or religiously-affiliated school?

**[IF YES AND SCHOOL TYPE IS NOT SPECIFIED]** And what type of school do they attend – a public school or a private or religiously-affiliated school?

Select all that apply

Yes – Public47	48	46
Yes – Private/Religious14	9	22
	1	6
No44	49	36
(Don't know/refused)1	0	3

Q22. Which of the following best describes your gender? [Select all that apply]

Man47	42	55
Woman53	58	44
Nonbinary0	0	1
Prefer to self-describe (Specify:)0	0	0
Prefer not to answer0	0	0

Q23. Just to make sure we have a representative sample, could you please tell me whether you are from a Latino, Hispanic, or Spanish-speaking background?

Q24. [ASK ALL] And please tell me which one, or more than one, of these racial or ethnic groups you identify with. [RANDOMIZE/READ CHOICES/ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES] [IF "OTHER" OR "BIRACIAL" OR "MULTI-RACIAL" PROMPT:] Which two or three of these do you identify with the most?

White or Caucasian 85 Black or African American 4 Latino/Latina or Hispanic 5 Asian American or Pacific Islander 2 Native or Indigenous American 2 Middle Eastern 1 (Other) 2 (Don't know/refused) 3	89 4 1 1 0 0	77 4 6 4 3 2 5 7
Age		
Under 30	18 13 17 25 27	11 13 15 24 37
18-24 years       10         25-29 years       5         30-34 years       7         35-39 years       6         40-44 years       9         45-49 years       7         50-54 years       8         55-59 years       7         60-64 years       9         65-69 years       10         70-74 years       9         Over 74 years       9         (Don't know /Refused)       0	12 6 8 5 9 8 7 10 8 8 11 0	8 3 4 9 9 6 9 8 7 12 13 0
RACE OII FIIE		
Caucasian.       93         African American.       4         Hispanic.       2         Asian.       1         Unknown.       1	92 5 1 1	95 1 2 1 1

	Weighted N=	TOTAL 600	EVER REPEAL 373		
2022 Turnout Score	•				
90+		6109859742	38 7 10 6 8 6 10 8 6 3	44 5 11 13 8 4 7 6 2 0	
Voted Nov 22DNV Nov 22. Voted Nov 20 Reg after Nov 20. DNV Nov Reg after Nov 22	 122	25 3 1	68 28 4 1	75 22 2 1 0	