

## July 2020 Newton Public Schools Family Survey

### Overview

This survey was available to all families with students enrolled in Newton Public Schools for the 2020-2021 school year. It was designed to gather family opinions and concerns for each of the three models NPS is required to plan for by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE): in-person learning with safety protocols, hybrid model (cohorts of students who alternate between in-person learning and distance learning), and all distance learning.

### Key Points

- Overall response rate was 70%. Families of elementary school students had the highest response rate (76%) and families of preschool students had the lowest response rate (52%).
- Responses were relatively representative of district enrollment. Families of white students are slightly overrepresented in the data (66% of responses, compared to 61% in fall enrollment), while families of Asian students and Hispanic/Latino students were slightly underrepresented in the data. Families of African American/Black students and students who identify as more than once race have a similar representation in the data as in the fall enrollment.
- Families of English Language Learners (ELLs) and students with disabilities (SWD) are slightly underrepresented in the data as compared to the percentage in the fall enrollment.
- Responses of families by grade level (elementary, middle, and high school) were fairly consistent across all three models; families of preschool students had slightly different responses.

*In-person with safety protocols:* The majority of families said they would send their student to school in the in-person model with safety protocols (70%), with similar patterns in elementary, middle, and high school. Families of preschool students were less likely to say yes (65%).

- This pattern is not consistent across racial/ethnic subgroups. Families of white students said they would send their student at a higher rate (74%) than families of students of any other race/ethnicity.
- The district pattern is consistent for ELL students and students with disabilities.

*Hybrid model:* The majority of families said they would send their student to school in the hybrid model (75%), with similar patterns in elementary, middle, and high school; families of high school students were slightly more likely to say yes (79%). Again, families of preschool

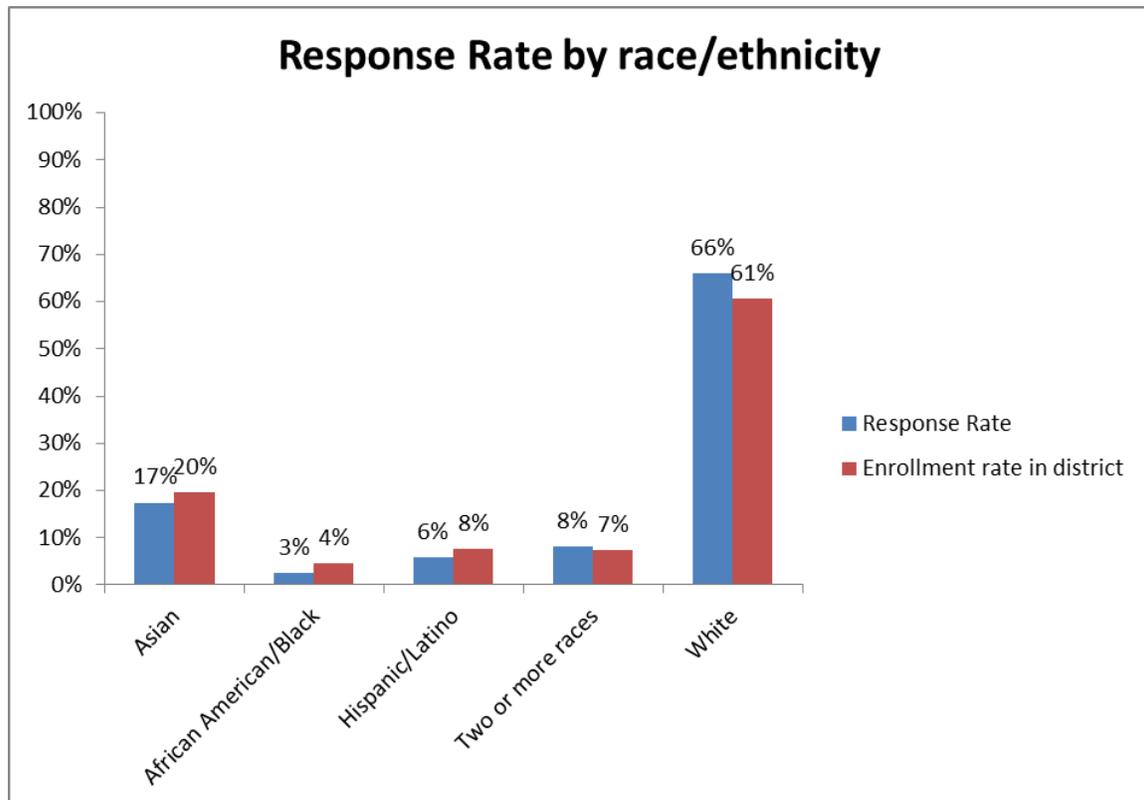
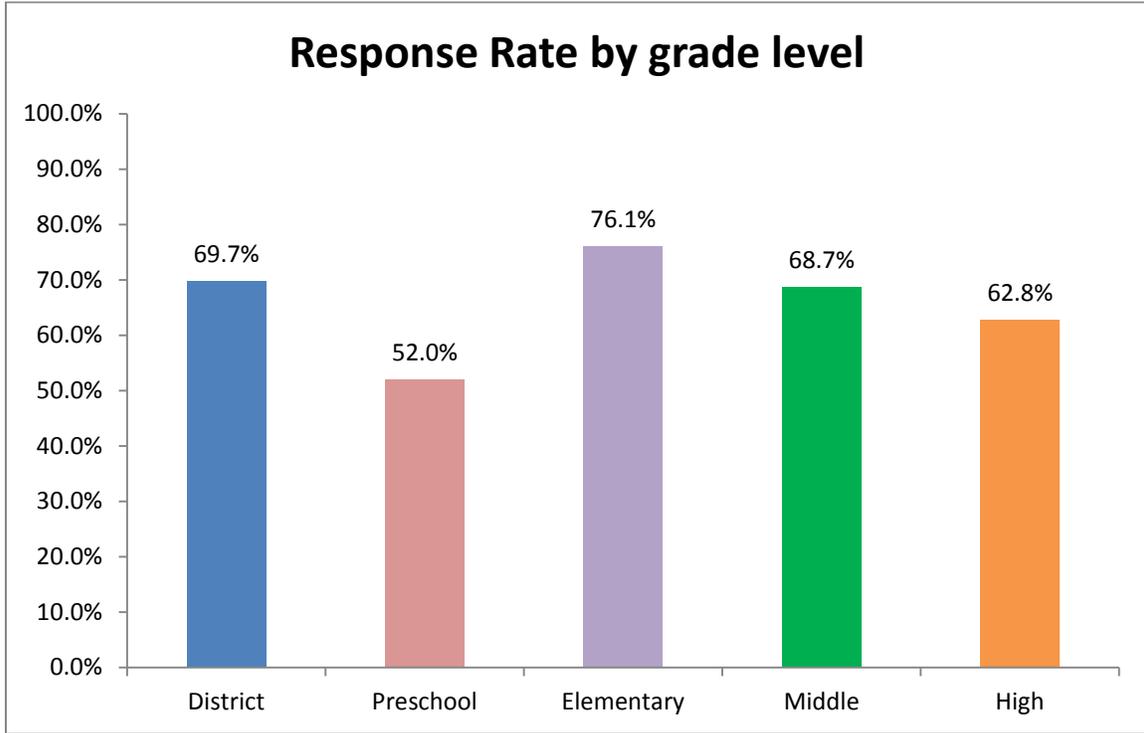
students were less likely to say yes (67%), although that was the majority response for families of preschoolers.

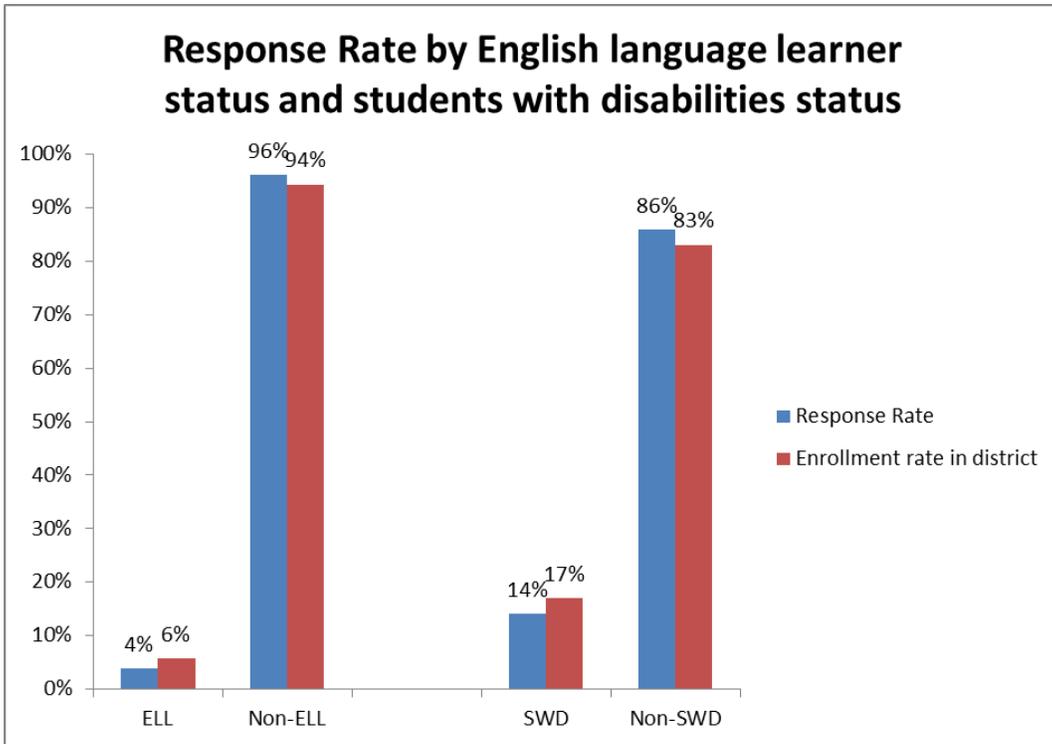
- Similar to the in-person model, this pattern is not consistent across racial/ethnic categories. Families of white students said they would send their student at a higher rate (78%) than families of students of any other race/ethnicity.
- Slightly lower percentages of families of ELL students (71%) and students with disabilities (71%) said they would send their student to school in the hybrid model compared to the district percentage, although this response was still the majority response for these subgroups.
- The majority of families prefer a couple of days a week for the hybrid model (63%) compared to every other week (26%). This pattern is similar across all grade levels and racial/ethnic subgroups, although slightly lower for families of students who identify as more than one race (59%). A higher percentage of families of English Language Learners prefer a couple of days a week (70%).

*All distance learning:* The majority of families said they would keep their student enrolled in NPS in the all distance learning model (66%), although this percentage is lower than the in-person model and hybrid model. The percentage of families saying “I’m not sure” was highest for the all distance learning model.

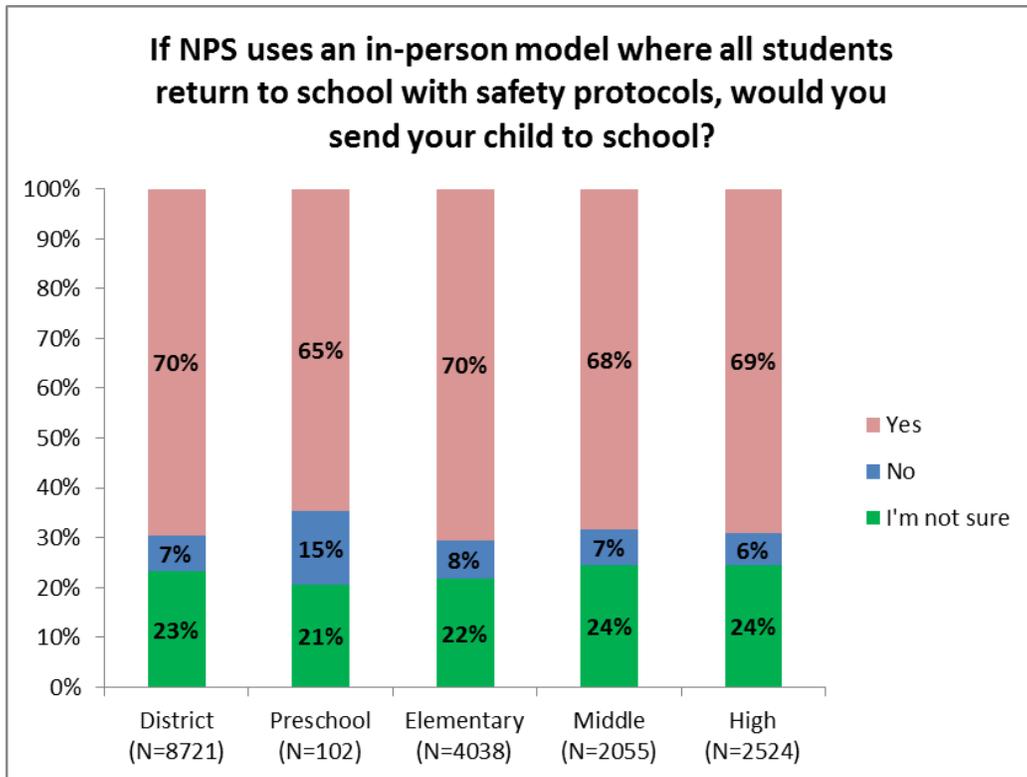
- This pattern is not consistent across racial/ethnic categories. Families of white students were less likely to say they would keep their student enrolled in all distance learning (63%), with the highest percentage of “I’m not sure” responses (30%). Families of Asian students were most likely to say they would keep their student enrolled in all distance learning (73%).
- The district pattern is consistent for ELL students and students with disabilities.

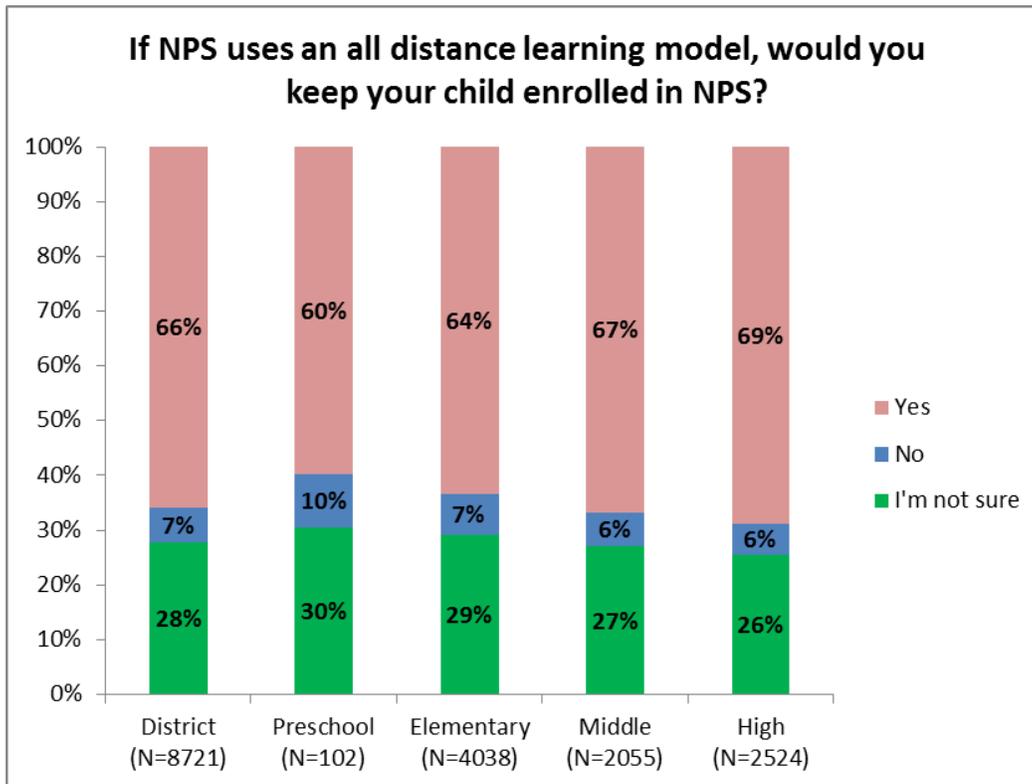
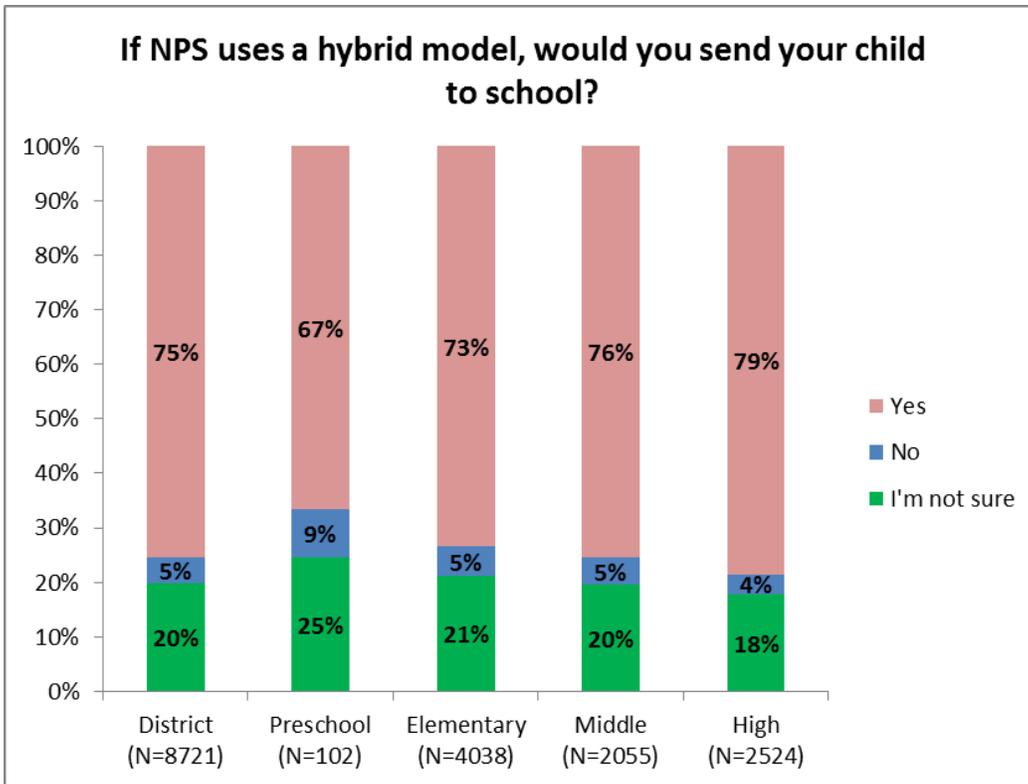
## Response Rate

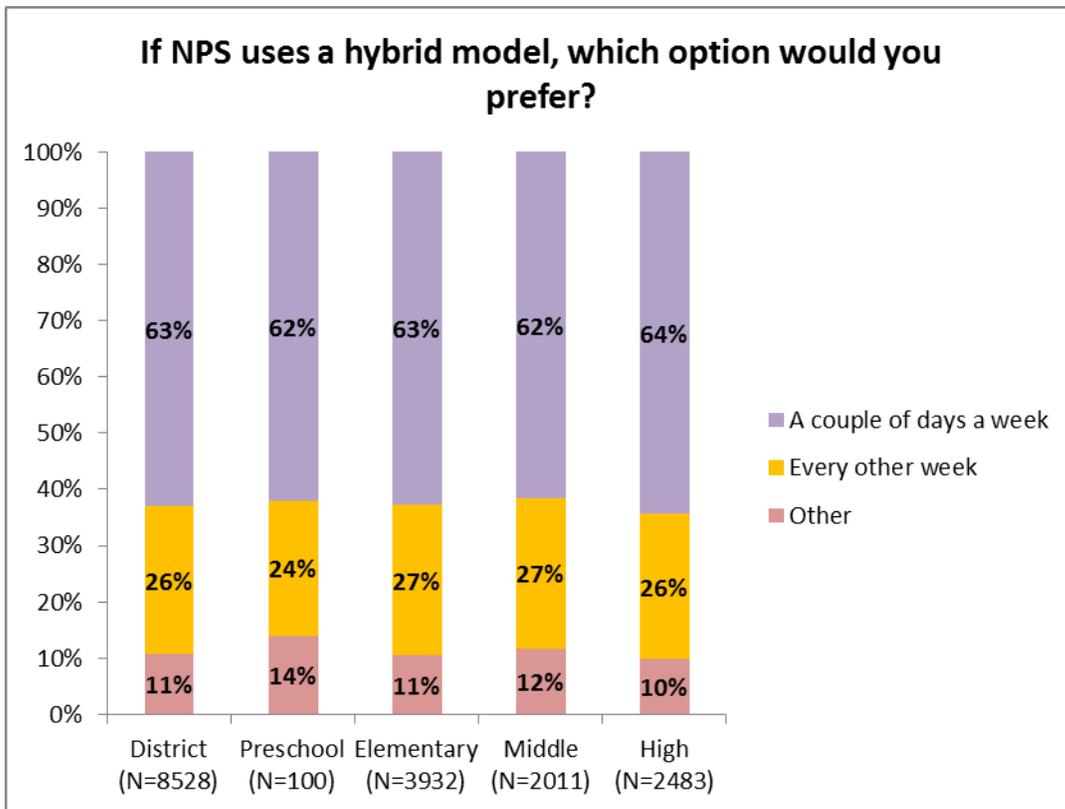
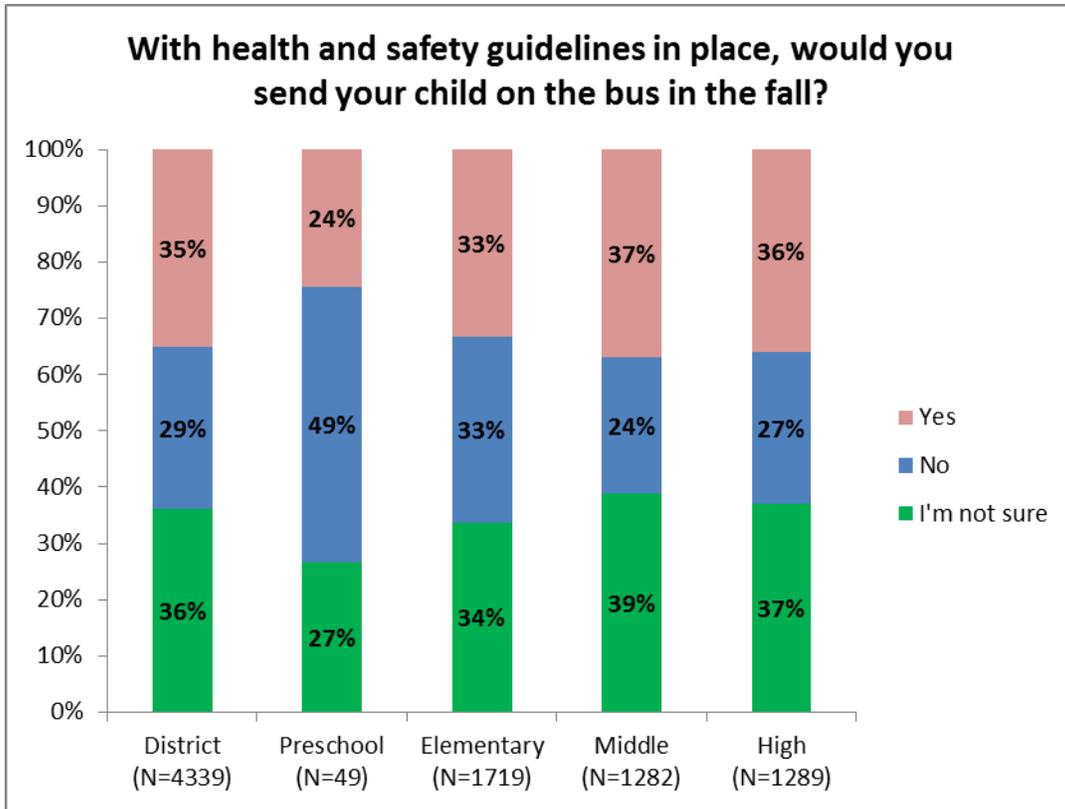




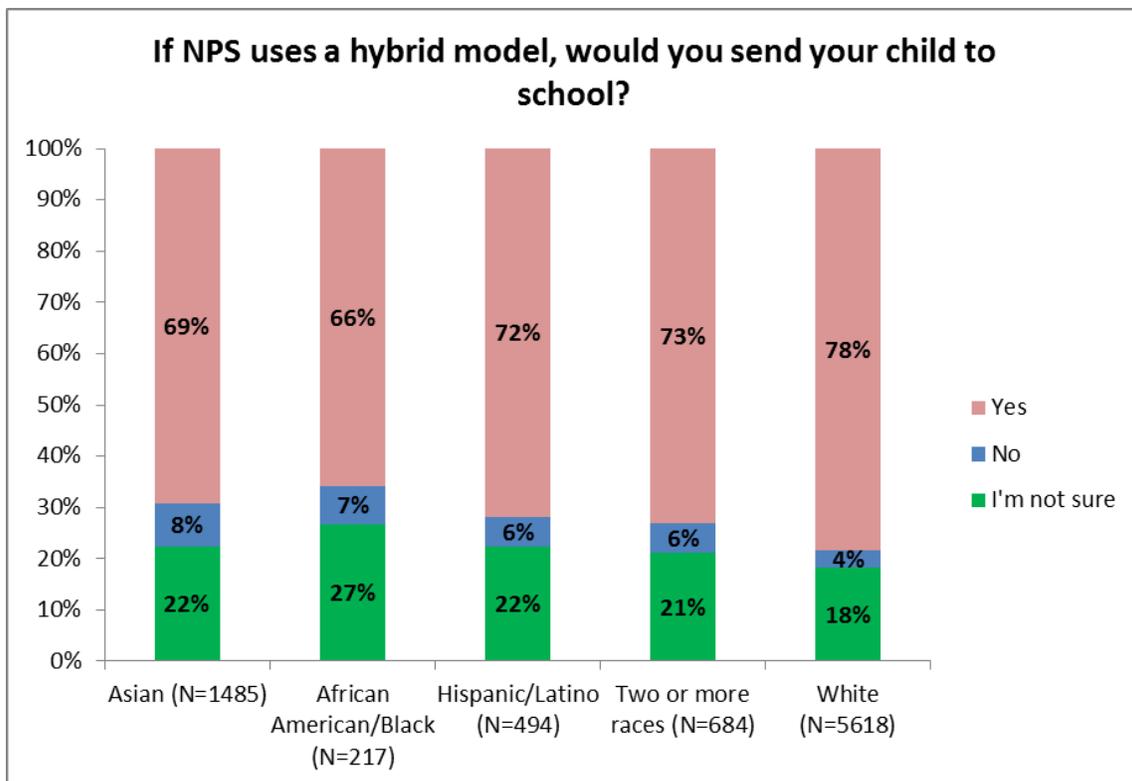
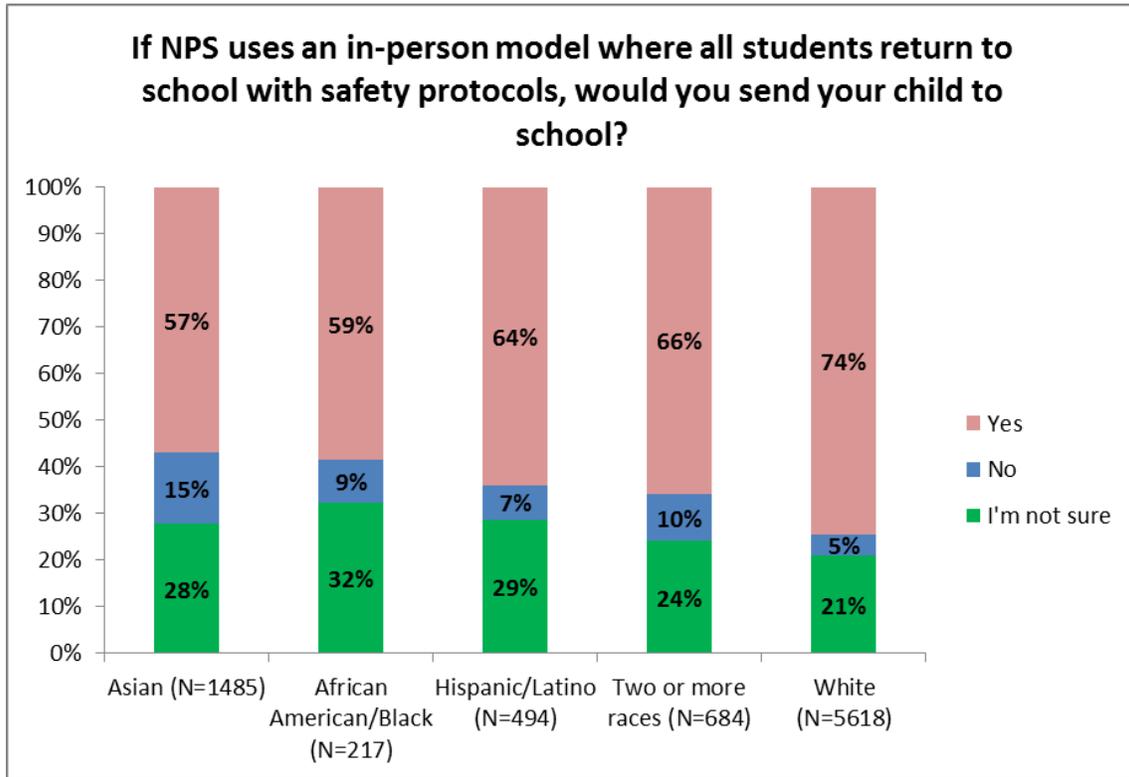
### Results by grade level



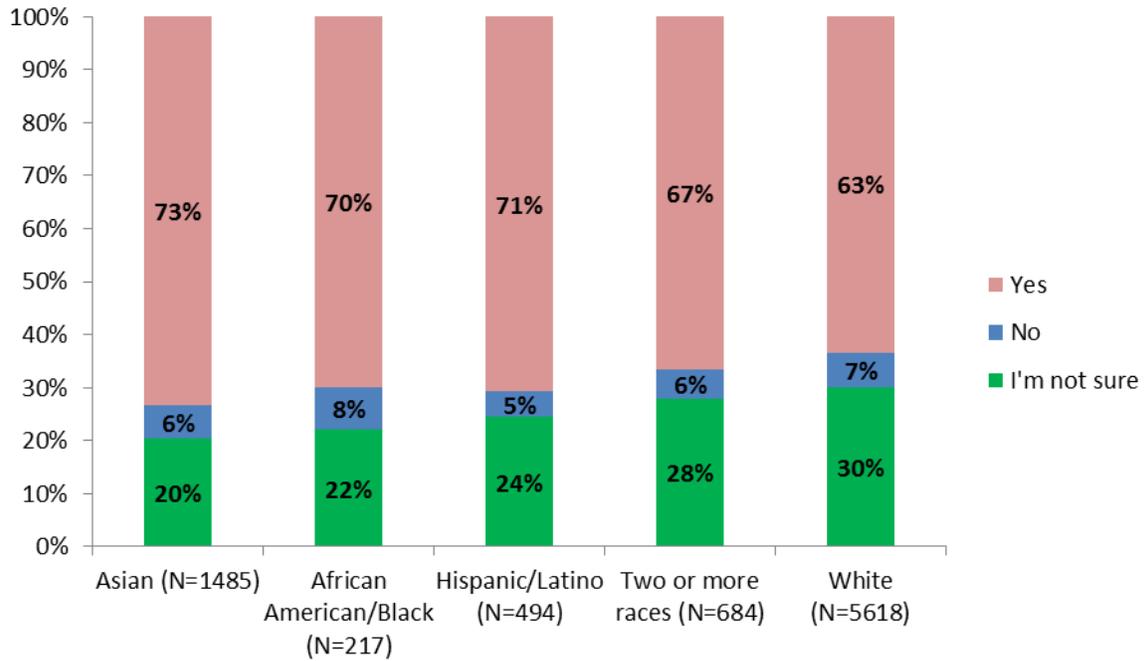




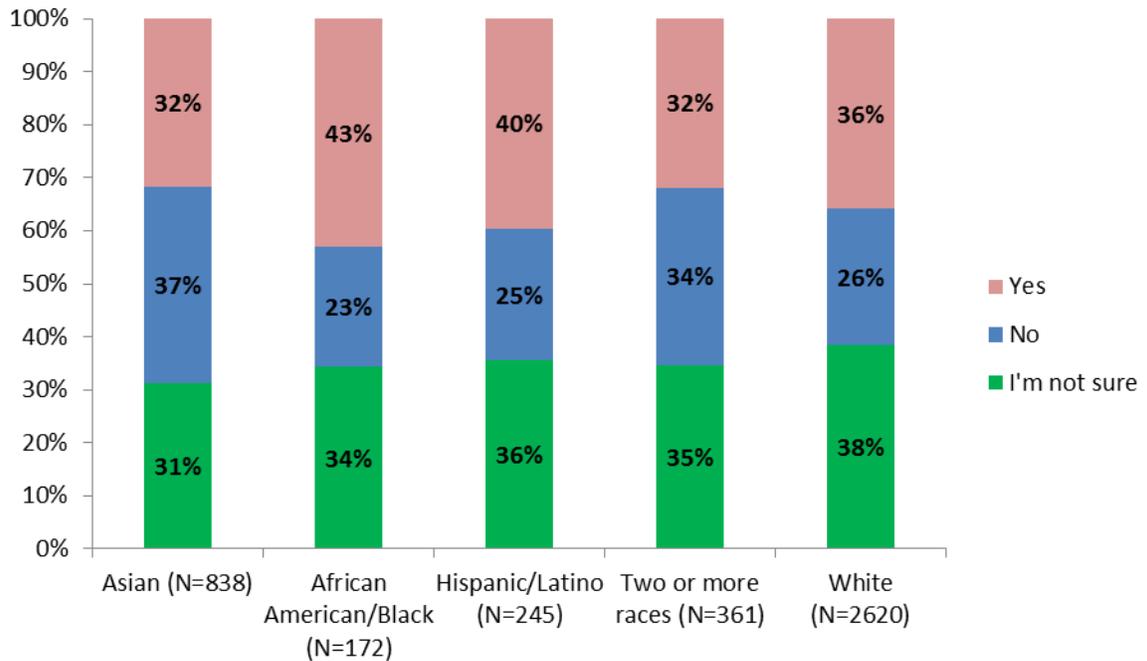
**Results by race/ethnicity**

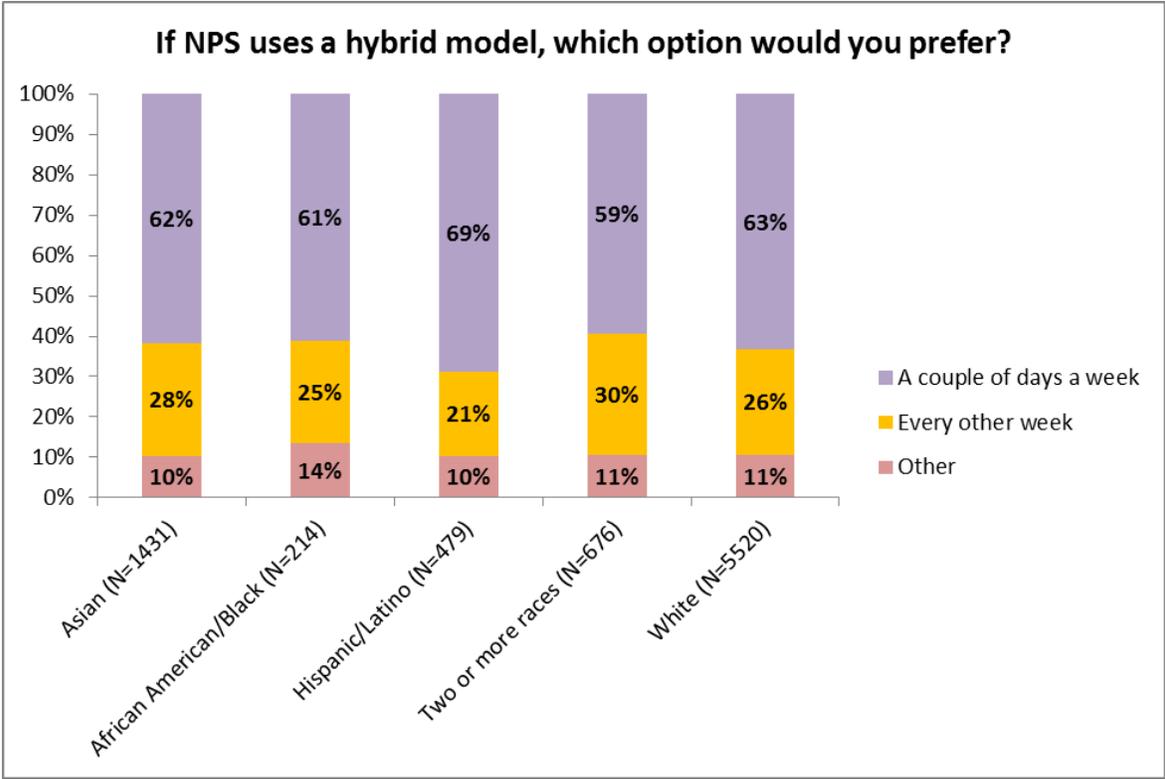


**If NPS uses an all distance learning model, would you keep your child enrolled in NPS?**

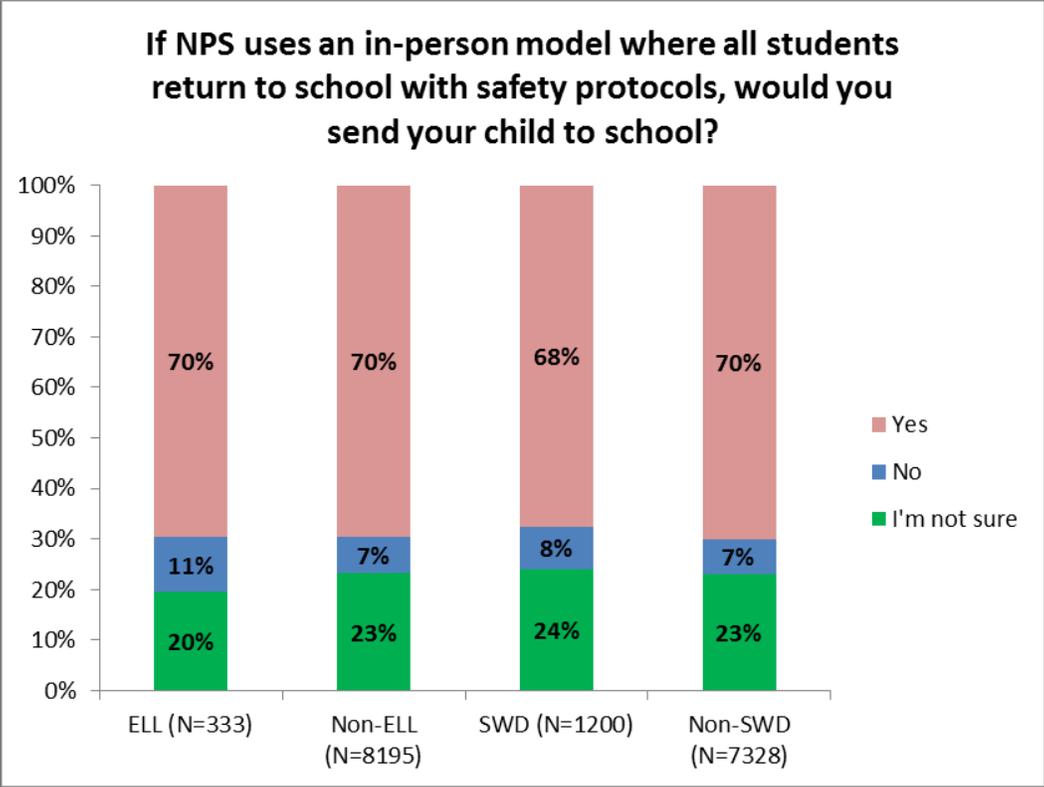


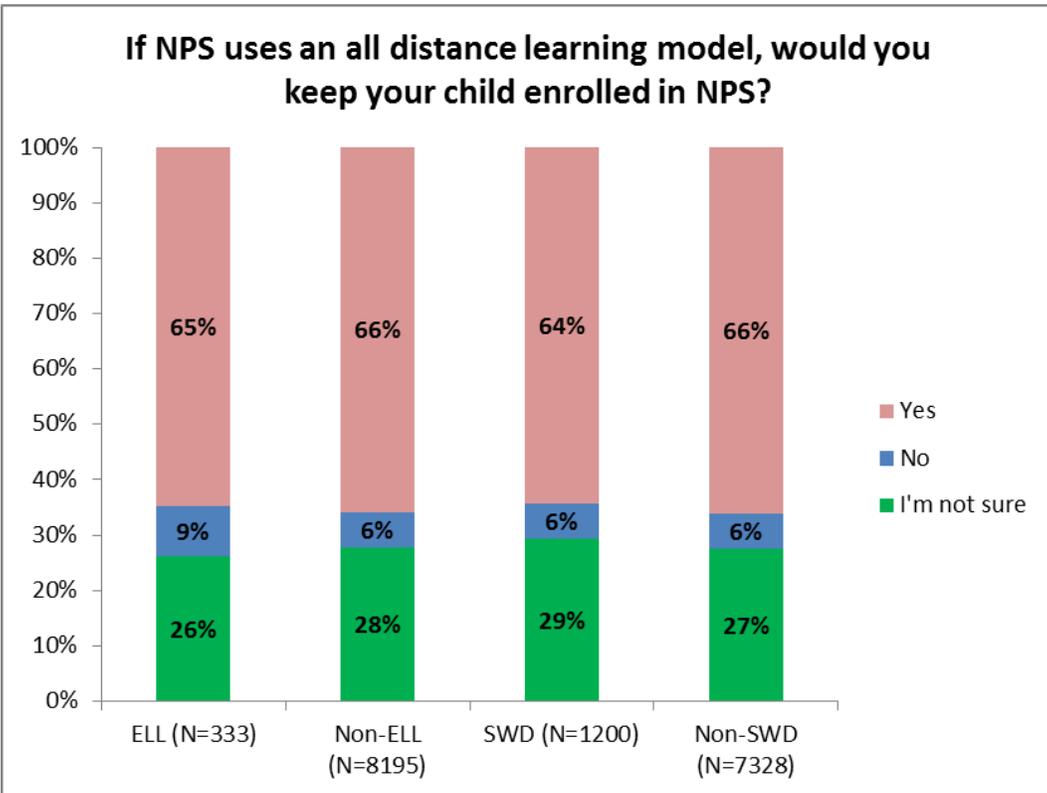
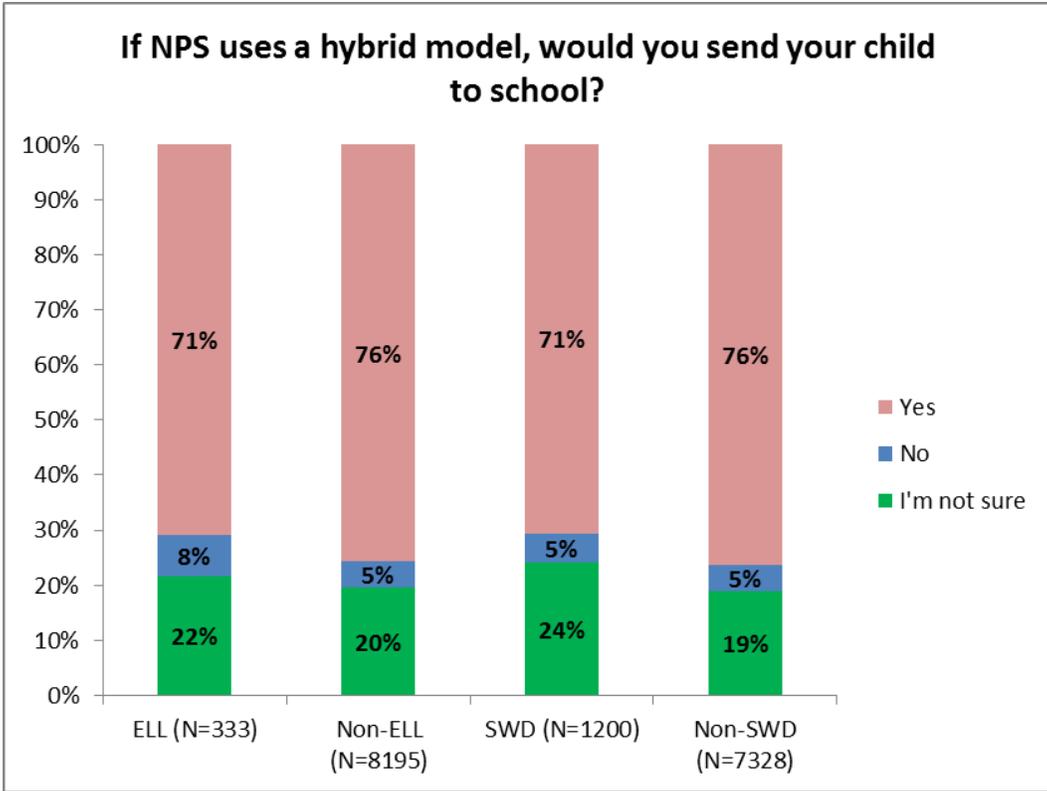
**With health and safety guidelines in place, would you send your child on the bus in the fall?**

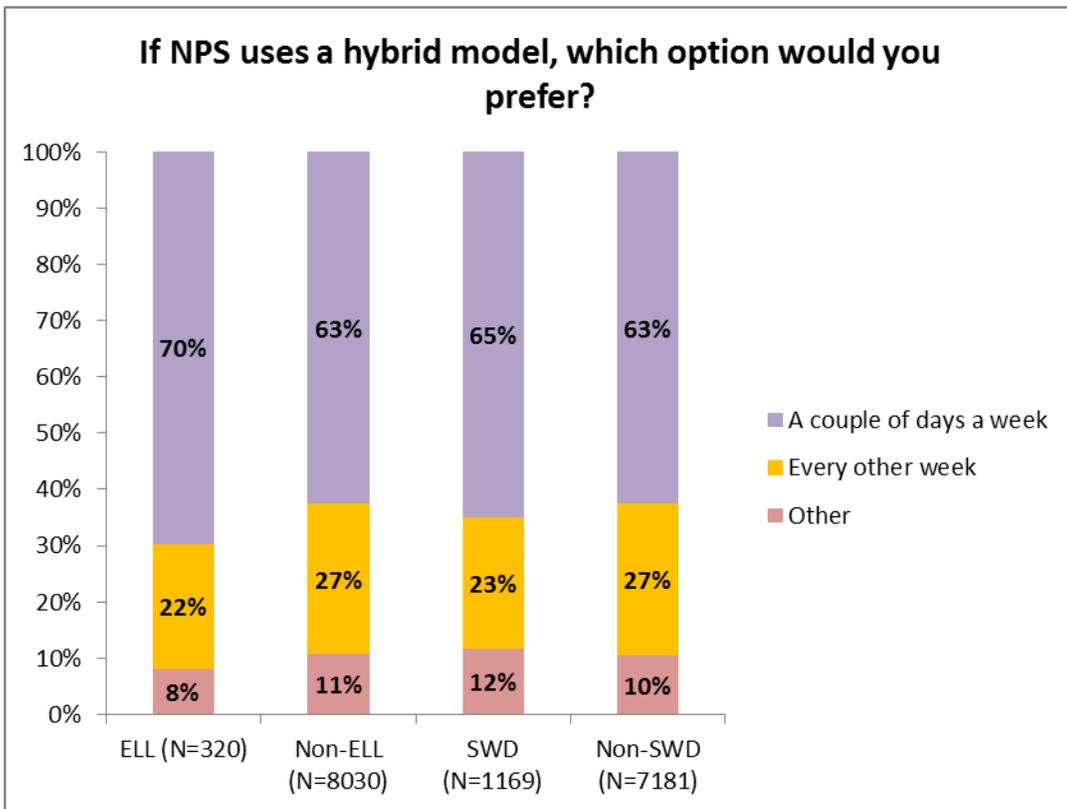
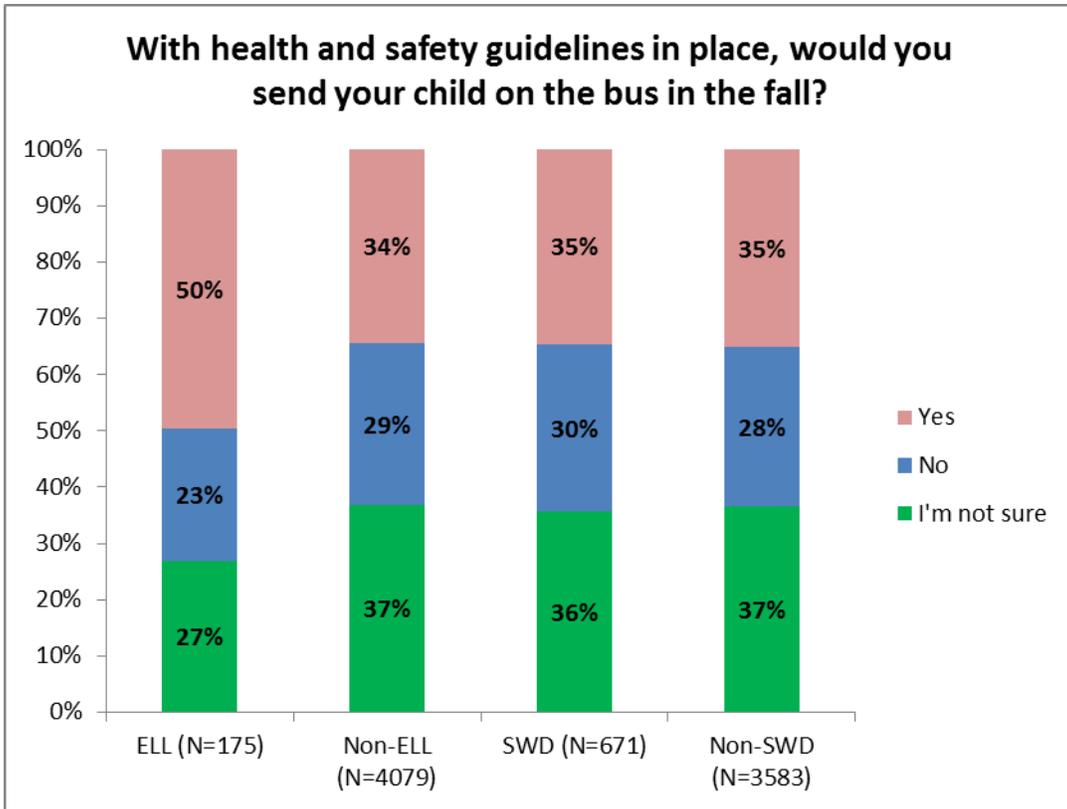




**Results by English Language Learner (ELL) status and students with disabilities (SWD) status**







## **Additional Analyses**

The comments from families regarding major concerns in each model, as well as details for families who selected “I don’t know” for any multiple choice questions, are currently being analyzed and will be shared with the planning teams. Additionally, data from the survey will be utilized to estimate numbers of students in classrooms to inform planning.