

# GALLUP® Student Poll

## MEASURE AND UNDERSTAND WHAT MATTERS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Excellent teachers, supported by gifted and visionary school leaders, keep students engaged in the learning process and hopeful about their future — two of the crucial outcomes the Gallup Student Poll measures. There have been more than **2 million** completes of the Gallup Student Poll since it was launched in 2009.

One of the key findings is that students who strongly agree that their school is committed to building students' strengths and that they have a teacher who makes them excited about the future are more engaged than their peers who strongly disagreed with both statements.

An education that makes students hopeful and prepared to find good jobs isn't just important to America's future — it should be a fundamental right of every student in the country. What if schools prioritized the principles of talent exploration and engagement in the learning process?

### MEASURE WHAT MATTERS MOST

Research has shown that hope, engagement, and well-being are actionable targets and indicators of success, with links to grades, achievement scores, retention, and future employment.

**Hope:** the ideas and energy we have for the future. Hope drives high school students' attendance, credits earned, and GPA.

**Engagement:** the involvement in and enthusiasm for school. Engagement distinguishes between high-performing and low-performing schools.

**Well-Being:** how we think about and experience our lives. Well-being results tell us how students are doing today and predict their future success.

### ONLINE, CONFIDENTIAL, AND FREE

The Gallup Student Poll is provided at no cost to U.S. school districts. The confidential poll is conducted once a year in the fall and is available in English or Spanish. Schools are responsible for scheduling students to take the survey during school hours on Internet-accessible computers. The survey is accessible via a secure online account created by a designated project leader in each district and/or school.

## PARTICIPATING IN THE SURVEY

Districts and schools may now register and choose a field period for the fall administration. The 20 core survey questions and demographic items take the average student about 10 minutes to complete.

- **WHO:** Schools with students in fifth through 12<sup>th</sup> grades
- **WHAT:** Measuring Hope, Engagement, and Well-being
- **WHEN:** September 30 through October 31, 2014 (Tuesdays through Fridays only)
- **WHERE:** [www.GallupStudentPoll.com](http://www.GallupStudentPoll.com)

Gallup administers the poll and aggregates and analyzes the results within two to three weeks of the close of the poll. Every participating school and district receives a scorecard. Primary account users for the district and schools have access to their results online.

## SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT FINDINGS IN 2013

- Among more than 600,000 Gallup Student Poll (GSP) participants, one-third are “success-ready.” These students scored highly on all three dimensions that the assessment measures: hope, engagement, and well-being.
- The GSP’s hope dimension addresses students’ belief that they can — and will — succeed at school and beyond, making them more likely to bring positive energy and creativity to the learning process. Fifty-four percent of students surveyed are hopeful, while 32% are stuck and 14% feel discouraged about the future.
- Students’ emotional engagement at school is also linked to academic achievement. Fifty-five percent of students are engaged in the learning process; 28% are not engaged (i.e., mentally checked out); and 17% are actively disengaged, feeling negative about school and likely to spread that negativity.
- The GSP’s well-being questions gauge how students evaluate their lives and the extent to which they report positive daily experiences. The GSP found that 66% of participants fall into the highest well-being category, thriving, while 32% are struggling and 2% are suffering.

## CONTACT US AND LEARN MORE

For more than 40 years, Gallup Education has provided its expertise, products, and services to school districts across the United States, helping to accelerate student success. For more information about this research and how to participate, contact [Education@gallup.com](mailto:Education@gallup.com).

## GALLUP STUDENT POLL 2013 RESULTS

Each school/district will receive a scorecard displaying its Gallup Student Poll results. This is a sample of some of the information included in the scorecard. This scorecard is a summary from the convenience sample public school population of about 600,000 student participants from the 2013 Gallup Student Poll. These data are not generated from a representative sample of the U.S. student population. A minimum of 10 students in a grade is required to generate a report.

HOPE	ENGAGEMENT	WELL-BEING
<b>54%</b> HOPEFUL	<b>55%</b> ENGAGED	<b>66%</b> THRIVING
The ideas and energy we have for the future. Hope drives high school students' attendance, credits earned, and GPA.	The involvement in and enthusiasm for school. Engagement distinguishes between high-performing and low-performing schools.	How students think about and experience their lives. Well-being results tell us how students are doing today and help us predict their future success.

### As you review the scorecard, use the following questions to help interpret the data.

What is the biggest highlight on the Gallup Student Poll scorecard?

What result on the Gallup Student Poll scorecard most concerns you?

In addition to the biggest highlight and concern, what is the one finding you want to share with the broader community?

HOPE	U.S. Overall							
	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
HOPE BY GRADE	4.40	4.42	4.42	4.40	4.37	4.36	4.38	4.41

ENGAGEMENT	U.S. Overall							
	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
ENGAGEMENT BY GRADE	4.38	4.28	4.13	3.97	3.92	3.81	3.79	3.79

WELL-BEING*	U.S. Overall							
	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
WELL-BEING BY GRADE	8.43	8.59	8.60	8.56	8.52	8.46	8.46	8.49

\*Well-Being Index calculated from responses to "step at this time" and "step in five years." Well-Being GrandMean calculated from responses to "step in five years."

## GALLUP STUDENT POLL QUESTIONS

Well-Being;  
*presented with  
ladder graphic*

Hope

Hope

Hope

Hope

Hope

Engagement

Engagement

Engagement

Engagement

Engagement

Engagement

Well-Being

1. Please imagine a ladder with steps numbered from zero at the bottom to 10 at the top. The top of the ladder represents the best possible life for you and the bottom of the ladder represents the worst possible life for you. On which step of the ladder would you say you personally feel you stand at this time? On which step do you think you will stand about five years from now?
2. I know I will graduate from high school.
3. There is an adult in my life who cares about my future.
4. I can think of many ways to get good grades.
5. I energetically pursue my goals.
6. I can find lots of ways around any problem.
7. I know I will find a good job after I graduate.
8. I have a best friend at school.
9. I feel safe in this school.
10. My teachers make me feel my schoolwork is important.
11. At this school, I have the opportunity to do what I do best every day.
12. In the last seven days, I have received recognition or praise for doing good schoolwork.
13. My school is committed to building the strengths of each student.
14. I have at least one teacher who makes me excited about the future.
15. Were you treated with respect all day yesterday?
16. Did you smile or laugh a lot yesterday?
17. Did you learn or do something interesting yesterday?
18. Did you have enough energy to get things done yesterday?
19. Do you have health problems that keep you from doing any of the things other people your age normally can do?
20. If you are in trouble, do you have family or friends you can count on to help whenever you need them?

### DEMOGRAPHIC ITEMS

The Gallup Student Poll always includes these items, so all students answer them. However, Gallup charges a fee to report these items.

- I am one of the best students in my class.
- I am very involved in activities, such as clubs, music, sports, or something else.
- What is your age?
- What is your gender?
- Do you consider yourself to be: (student chooses racial/ethnic origin)
- What is the grade you are in at school?