



New Nationwide Independent Poll Reveals Majority of Americans Support Federal Investment in “Green” Schools

Survey methodology:

- A new independent nationwide survey sponsored by **United Technologies Corporation** and the **U.S. Green Building Council’s Center for Green Schools** explores Americans’ attitudes toward public school buildings and investments to modernize America’s school infrastructure.
- The independent survey of **more than 1,000 Americans** was conducted via telephone from **Sept. 23 – 25, 2011** by GfK Custom Research North America.
- The margin of error on weighted data is ± 3 percentage points for the full sample.

Results:

- The survey asked respondents to describe **the current state of the majority of U.S. public school buildings**:
 - Nearly one in three (31.6%) respondents believe the majority of U.S. schools are in “poor” shape.
 - More than half (58.1%) of the respondents said U.S. schools are in “adequate” shape.
 - A small minority (6%) of the respondents say U.S. schools are in “excellent” shape.
 - 4.3% said they didn’t know or had no response.
- The survey asked respondents what would make them most likely to support **federal investment in infrastructure modernization for public schools**:
 - In total, nearly three out of four (73.2%) respondents would be likely to support federal-level investment in school infrastructure modernization.
 - Details include:
 - More than half (50.5%) of the respondents would be likely to support federal investment in school infrastructure modernization designed to make healthier learning environments.
 - 17.5% of the respondents would be likely to support federal investment in school infrastructure modernization designed to generate tax dollar savings.
 - A small percentage (5.2%) of respondents would be likely to support school infrastructure modernization that focused on lowering carbon emissions.
 - 19% of respondents said they would not support federal investment school infrastructure modernization.
 - 7.8% didn’t know or had no response.
- The survey asked respondents what they see as “possible” or realistic benefits of school building improvements:
 - Nearly 7 of 10 (69.8%) respondents agree that tax dollar savings are a possible benefit of school building improvements. 26.9% disagree.
 - More than 4 of 5 (82.7%) respondents agree that improved student performance is possible benefit of school building improvements. 15.5% disagree.
 - More than 4 of 5 (82.7%) respondents agree that improved health of students and faculty is possible benefit of school building improvements. 15.7% disagree.
 - More than 4 of 5 (81.9%) respondents agree that jobs could be generated from investments in school building improvements. 16% disagree.
 - More than 4 of 5 (71.8%) respondents agree that an improved environmental footprint is a possible benefit of school building improvements. 22.8% disagree.



About U.S. Green Building Council

The U.S. Green Building Council is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future for our nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. With a community comprising 79 local chapters, nearly 16,000 member organizations, and more than 170,000 LEED Professional Credential holders, USGBC is the driving force of an industry that is projected to contribute \$554 billion to the U.S. GDP from 2009-2013. USGBC leads an unlikely diverse constituency of builders and environmentalists, corporations and nonprofit organizations, elected officials and concerned citizens, and teachers and students. For more information, visit www.usgbc.org, on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

About the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council

The Center for Green Schools at USGBC is making sure every student has the opportunity to attend a green school within this generation. From the kindergartner entering the classroom, to the Ph.D. student researching in a lab, the Center provides the resources and support to elevate dialogue, accelerate policy and institute innovation toward green schools and campuses. High-performing schools result in high-performing students, and the Center works directly with staff, teachers, faculty, students, administrators, elected officials and communities to drive the transformation of all schools into sustainable places to live and learn, work and play. www.centerforgreenschools.org

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About GfK Custom Research North America

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