Affirmative Action Survey

September 2022
Methodology

This nationwide poll was conducted September 9-12, 2022 using the AmeriSpeak® Panel, the probability-based panel of NORC at the University of Chicago, on behalf of The Leadership Conference Education Fund.

Online and telephone interviews using landlines and cell phones were conducted with 1,003 adults. The margin of error is +/- 3.97 percentage points.
College admissions should take into consideration the lived experiences and the whole story of a student, in addition to high school grades and test scores. (76%)

Colleges should only base admissions decisions on standardized test results (like the SAT and the ACT) and high school grades. (22%)
Due to racial inequality, government action is necessary to level the playing field.

All students, no matter their race or background benefit from college campuses that reflect the diversity of who we are as Americans.

College admissions that look at the whole student, not just their test scores, help achieve racial equity in higher education.

We need racial diversity in addition to diversity of students' economic backgrounds to achieve true equality.

Below are statements about college admissions. For each one, please choose whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with it. NET AGREE

- **39%** Strongly Agree
- **32%** Agree
- **31%** Strongly Agree
- **17%** Agree
- **87%** Strongly Agree
- **74%** Agree
- **70%** Strongly Agree
- **52%** Agree
Colleges and universities have the responsibility to create diverse student bodies.

Diversity contributes to a better education for all students.

Below are a few statements about diversity in education. For each one, please indicate whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with it. **NET AGREE**
Below are some reasons why affirmative action is needed to create a more equal society. For each one, please indicate whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with it. **NET AGREE**

1. **Affirmative action helps create diverse campuses, which benefits all of us.**
   - Strongly Agree: 23%
   - Agree: 69%

2. **Affirmative action promotes equal opportunities, including for those who did not have it in the past.**
   - Strongly Agree: 22%
   - Agree: 67%

3. **Affirmative action helps address ongoing racial discrimination in higher education.**
   - Strongly Agree: 19%
   - Agree: 63%
Affirmative action helps level the playing field and give all students, regardless of their race or background, a fair shot at attending college.

- Strongly Agree: 20%
- Agree: 64%

Taking away affirmative action would virtually shut out many talented and qualified students of color from getting into certain colleges and universities.

- Strongly Agree: 18%
- Agree: 57%
How important is it to you that the Supreme Court protects affirmative action?

- Very Important: 54%
- Important: 32%
- Neither important nor unimportant: 25%
- Not important: 18%
Thank You.