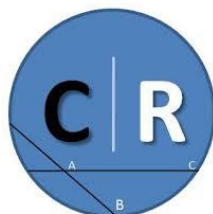


CALCULUS ROUNDTABLE



PARENT'S PERCEPTIONS OF DISTANCE LEARNING SURVEY

April 2020



Most parents are confident that teachers can handle the needs of students during the current COVID-19 outbreak but equity issues persist

According to Pew Research, nearly nine-in-ten U.S. adults say their life has changed at least a little as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, including 44% who say their life has changed in a major way. Parents across America know this all too well. Many parents, in addition to keeping themselves and their families safe from the Coronavirus, have taken on a new role as teacher’s assistant or as the teacher themselves.

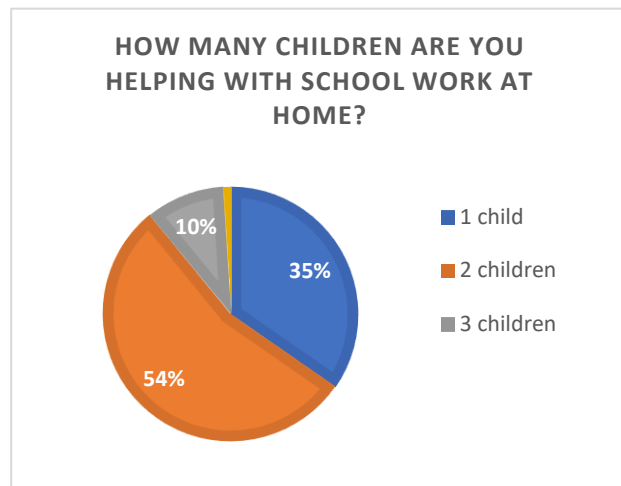
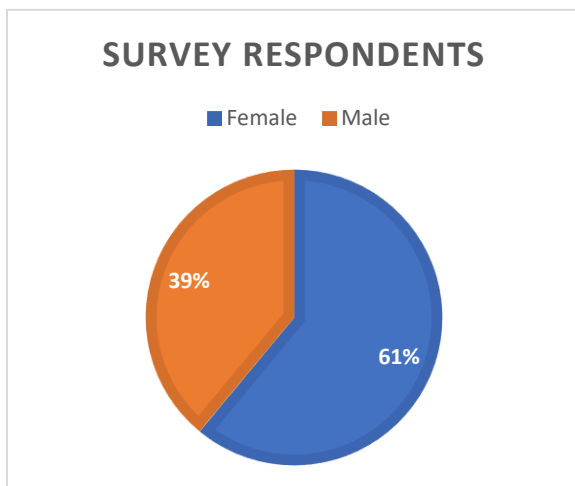
We asked over 800 parents from the Bay Area, Greater California and across the country, their perceptions on educating their children during this ongoing pandemic.

How we did this?

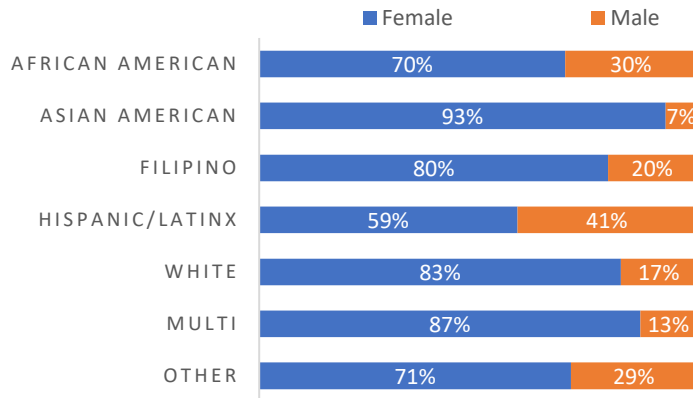
Calculus Roundtable conducted a study to understand how parents with students at home are continuing to respond to distance learning during the current coronavirus outbreak. For this analysis, we surveyed 837 parents and or guardians of students from kindergarteners to high school seniors about their perceptions and concerns with distance learning, sparked by stay-at-home orders by schools and districts across the country. We surveyed adults in March of 2020. We will continue to survey parents every other month to track longitudinal changes in parents’ perceptions. While the survey was open to all parents via social media efforts, most parents who took part in the survey were from Calculus Roundtable programs or events; thus most parents were from Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay Areas. We partner with Education Trust-West to combine our results with a larger 1500 parent survey due out in the early summer. This way more parents have a chance to participate and let their voices be known. The survey is weighted to be representative of our target audience of diverse parent populations by gender, race, ethnicity, education and other categories.

Amid the Coronavirus outbreak, most parents are comfortable supporting their children at home operating the technology needed for distance learning.

About a third of parents with young children (32%) say handling distance learning responsibilities have been more difficult than anticipated.

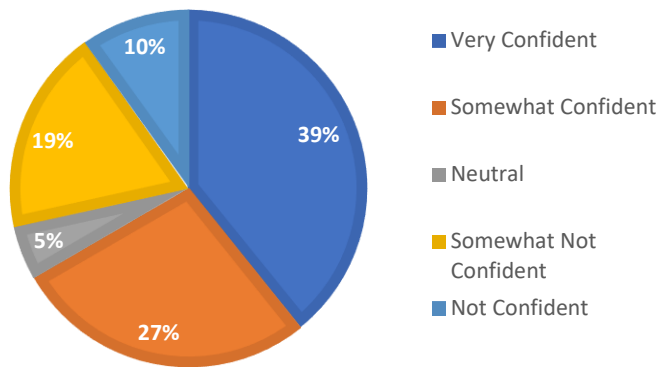


PARENT'S GENDER & ETHNICITY



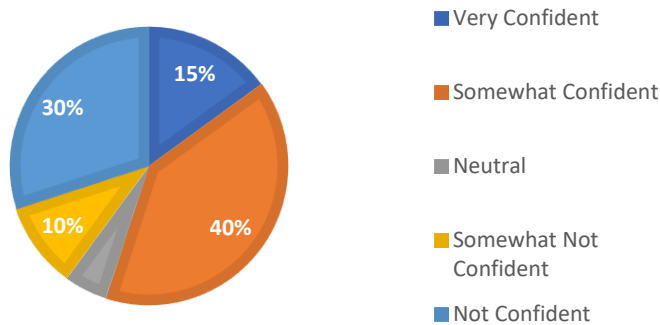
The majority of parents we surveyed are female and have 2 or more school age children at home. We received responses from fathers, mothers and some grandparents mostly from California but also from Washington State, Illinois, DC, Maryland, Virginia and Florida. The survey was conducted between March 1st and March 31st of this year.

HOW CONFIDENT DO YOU FEEL SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AND THE TECHNOLOGY THEY NEED AT HOME?

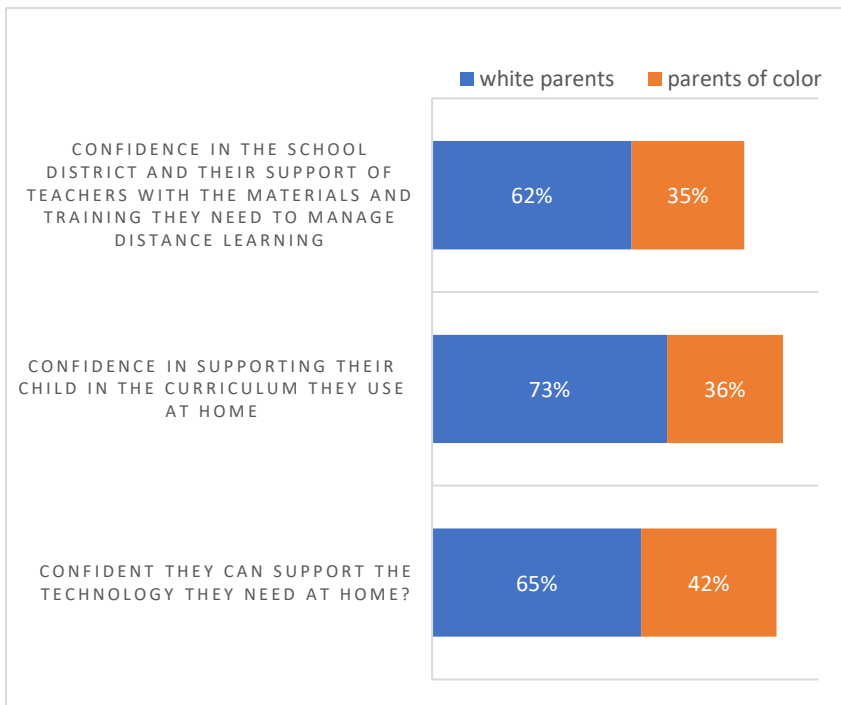


Two thirds of parents (66%) say they are very or somewhat confident that they, as parents have the knowledge to support their child’s technology needs at home during the outbreak, however those same parents don’t believe they have the technology on hand to be successful.

HOW CONFIDENT DO YOU FEEL IN SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD IN THE CURRICULUM THEY USE AT HOME ?



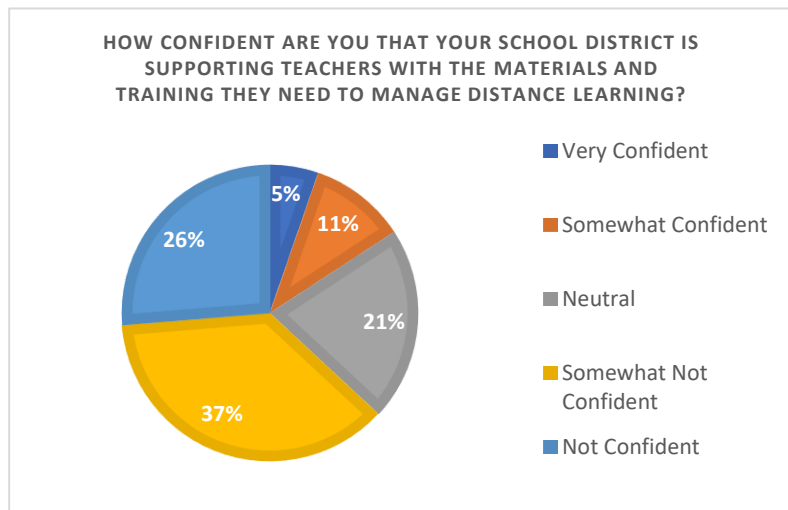
By comparison, a smaller share of parents (55%) say they are very or somewhat confident that they can support their child in terms of the curriculum at home, during the outbreak. An even smaller percentage (35%) of parents of color express confidence in supporting their child’s use of distance learning curriculum and materials.



While parents expressed overwhelming support for teachers, only one-in-twenty parents say they are *very* confident (5%) that schools and districts are fully supporting teachers.

Far more respondents say they are not or *somewhat* not confident that districts truly have teachers' backs.

While parents, in general, expressed confidence in teacher's support of students during this unprecedented crisis, a majority of parents of color express substantially less confidence that schools are maintaining the academic rigor their kids need. Around six-in-ten White parents (62%) are very or somewhat confident in schools, roughly half of parents of color (47%) are not.¹



“Please understand that we can't put in the same hours that the kids get in school. It's too much to expect.”

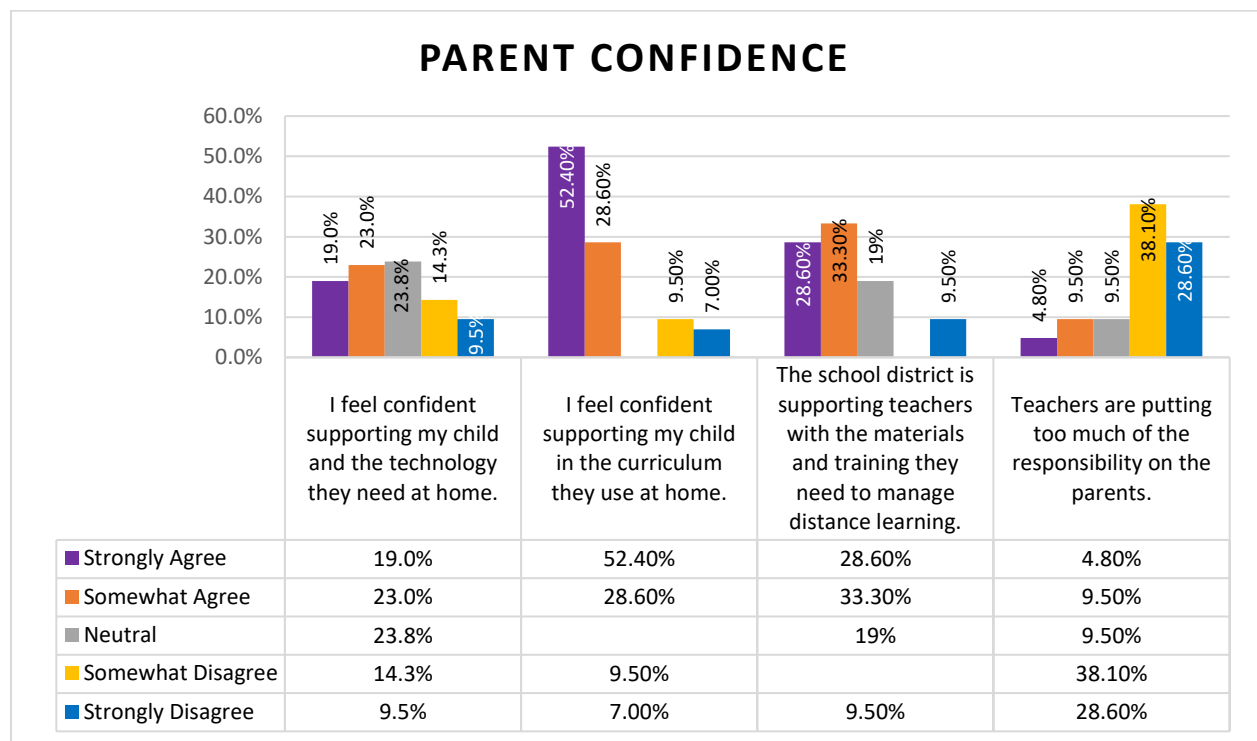
– parent survey response

¹ Note: Whites and Blacks include only non-Hispanics. Hispanics are of any race. Those who did not give an answer are not shown.

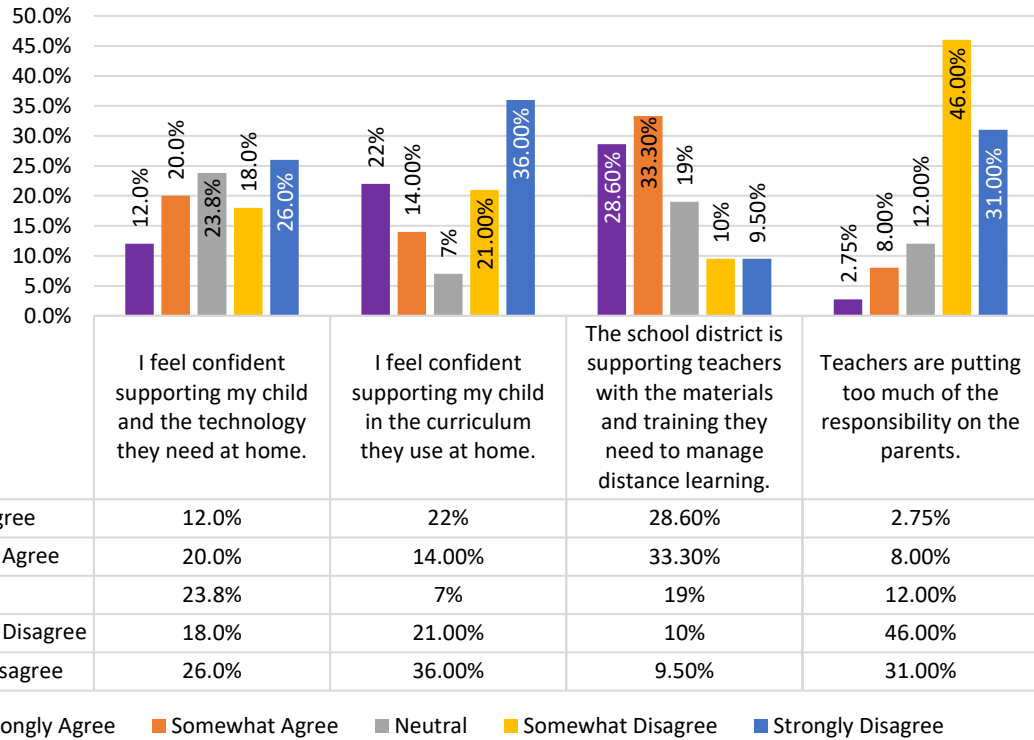
Large shares of parents are using digital technology to keep in contact with others, search for outbreak-related information and online academic resources

When asked a range of questions that describe their experience with ease of technology use and rigor of curriculum at home in response to the coronavirus outbreak, roughly 2 out of 3 (60%) parents say they believe the district is not properly supporting teachers in the classroom. Overall parents are in support of teacher’s work and adaptability during this unprecedented time.

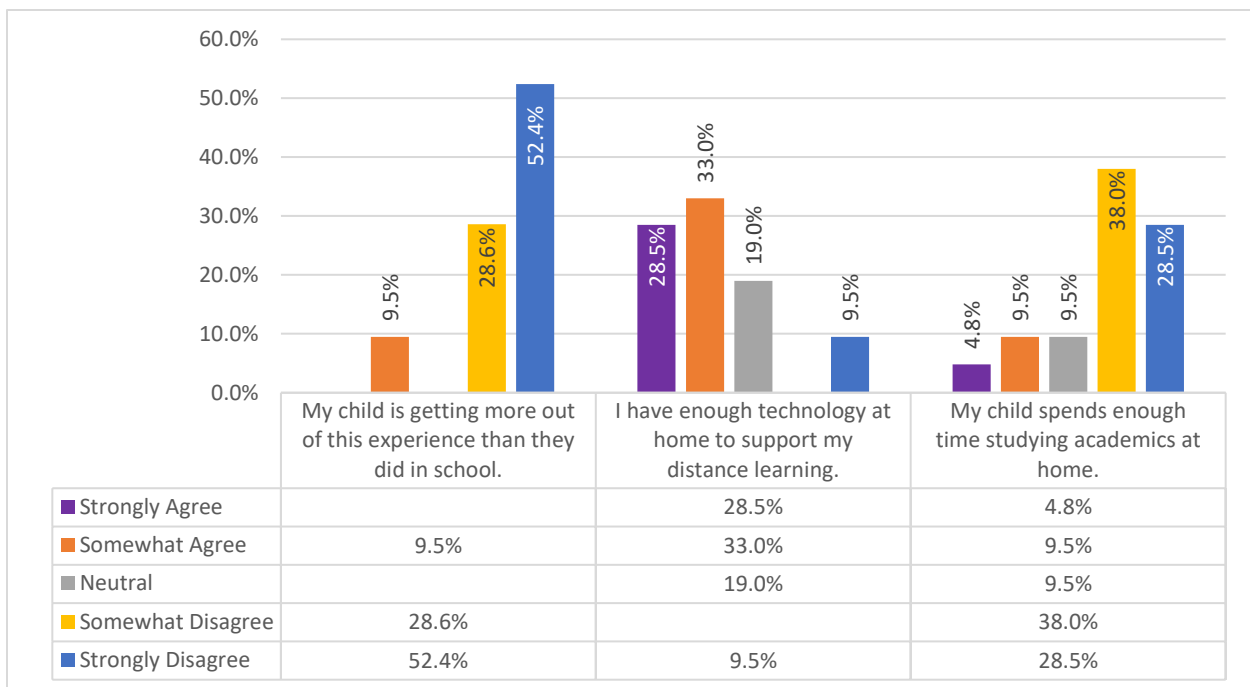
A significant majority of parents do not think teachers are putting too much of the academic burden on the parents. However, this was not the case specifically with parents for whom English is a second language and for African-American parents. 48% of English Learning parents and 53% of African American parents feel teachers are putting too much of the academic burden on parents.



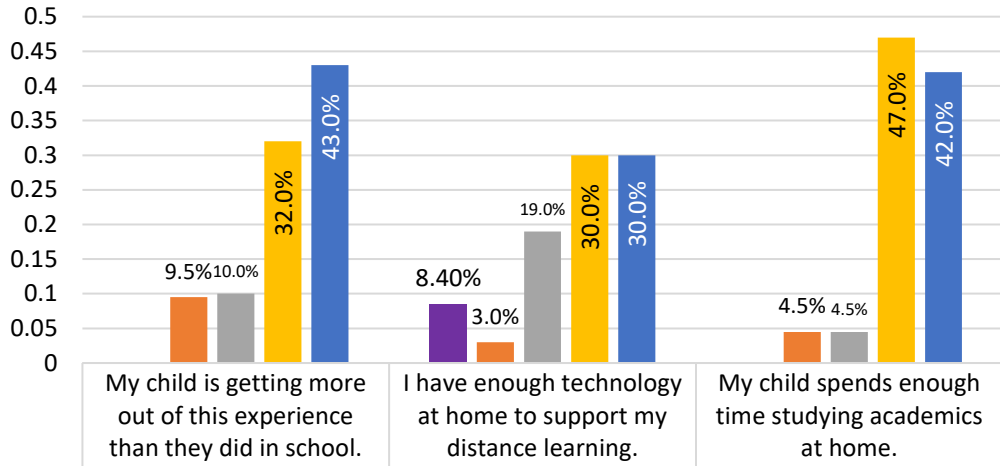
PARENTS OF COLOR CONFIDENCE



We found that parents surveyed felt empowered by the technological options and resources available to their child during the outbreak. However, they don't feel as confident in supporting the actual learning.



PARENTS OF COLOR COMPARISON



Strongly Agree		8.40%	
Somewhat Agree	9.5%	3.0%	4.5%
Neutral	10.0%	19.0%	4.5%
Somewhat Disagree	32.0%	30.0%	47.0%
Strongly Disagree	43.0%	30.0%	42.0%

■ Strongly Agree
 ■ Somewhat Agree
 ■ Neutral
 ■ Somewhat Disagree
 ■ Strongly Disagree

Other responses from parents:

- I have a graduate education and we are very tech savvy, and yet even we are having difficulty. Please make instructions crystal clear and repeat them over and over and in various places (including login codes, etc.).
- Please do not give grades right now, kids and parents do not need that pressure.
- We haven't even gotten to half of what's been assigned over the past 2.5 weeks, though we are trying our best.
- What about mental health? This too should be taken into consideration.
- Please understand that we can't put in the same hours that the kids get in school. It's too much to expect.
- There is a huge divide between what the public schools and private schools are providing. My kids are in private school and have not missed any instruction. However, kids in some public schools in our area have had no distance learning for weeks. In one nearby school district (VA), the public schools are closed with no e-learning option for the rest of the school year allegedly, b/c they can't get computers and internet for all students. At one DC public school, the e-learning has been awful. In the city's wealthiest wards have not missed a beat. In other schools, the e-learning has been a disaster. The private schools are doing fine, but not all kids are receiving an adequate or equal education.
- This is a challenging time for all of us. Young people really value the personal connections they have with their teachers and classmates/peers/friends. I don't think teachers need to be "on line" for the same amount of time that students are in physical classes, but it is important to reach out and connect with students in personal ways (beyond posting assignments). I also think this is a time to remind students that they have an opportunity to use increased time at home to explore new ways of learning/doing. Thank you for doing all you are doing to navigate through these unprecedented times.