
RETURN TO SCHOOL 2021 SURVEY



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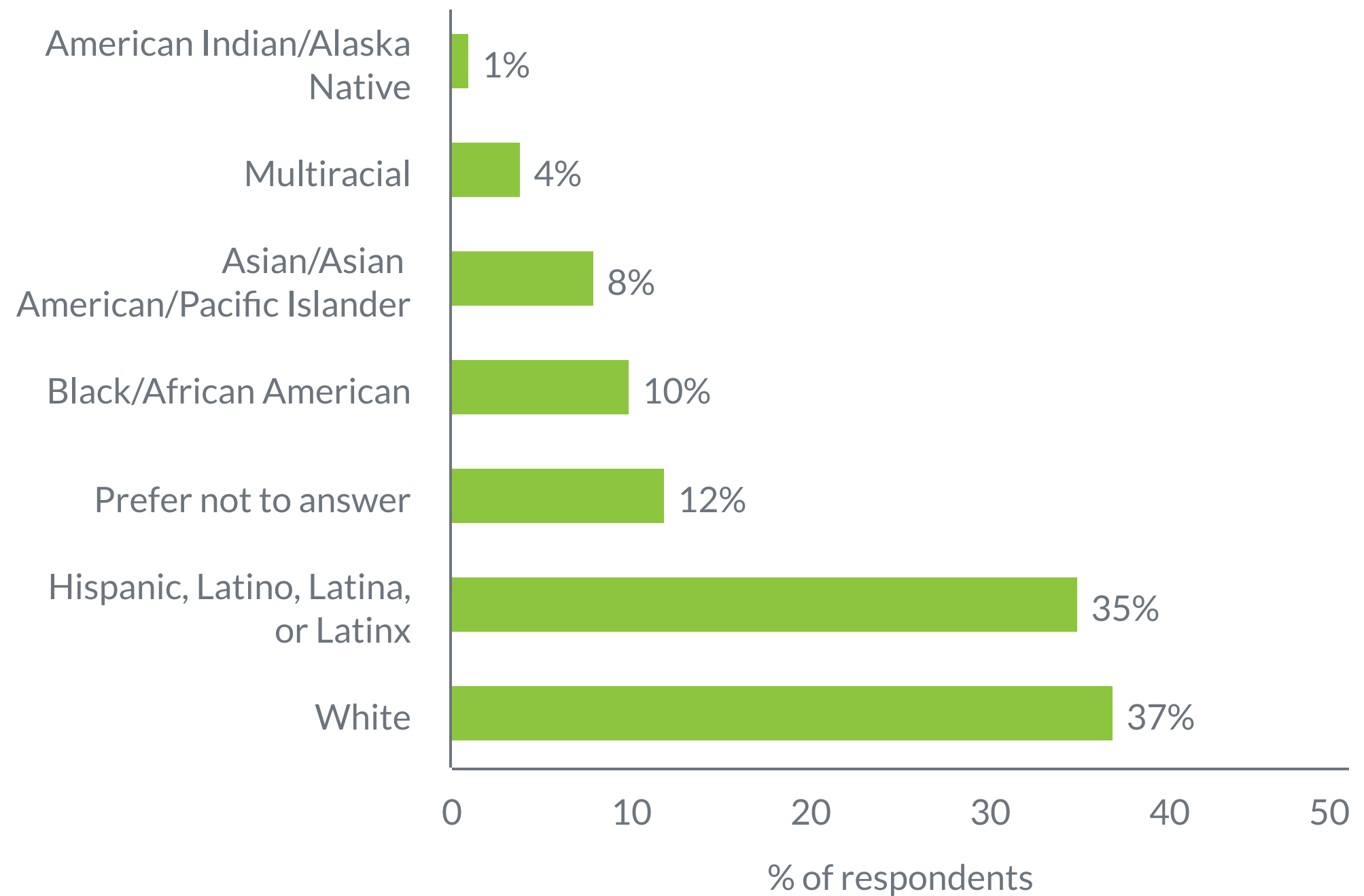
SURVEY SUMMARY

This was one of the highest engagement rates for an SPS parent survey.

Improved participation was a result of volunteers who went to summer school sites and community institutions to engage directly with families, helping boost participation and representation.

6,160 families took the survey

Self Reported Race/Ethnicity of Respondents



The survey was in circulation for three weeks between the end of July and early August. It was offered in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole. Participants could select more than one option for race/ethnicity to ensure more accurate representation.

DISTANCE LEARNING*

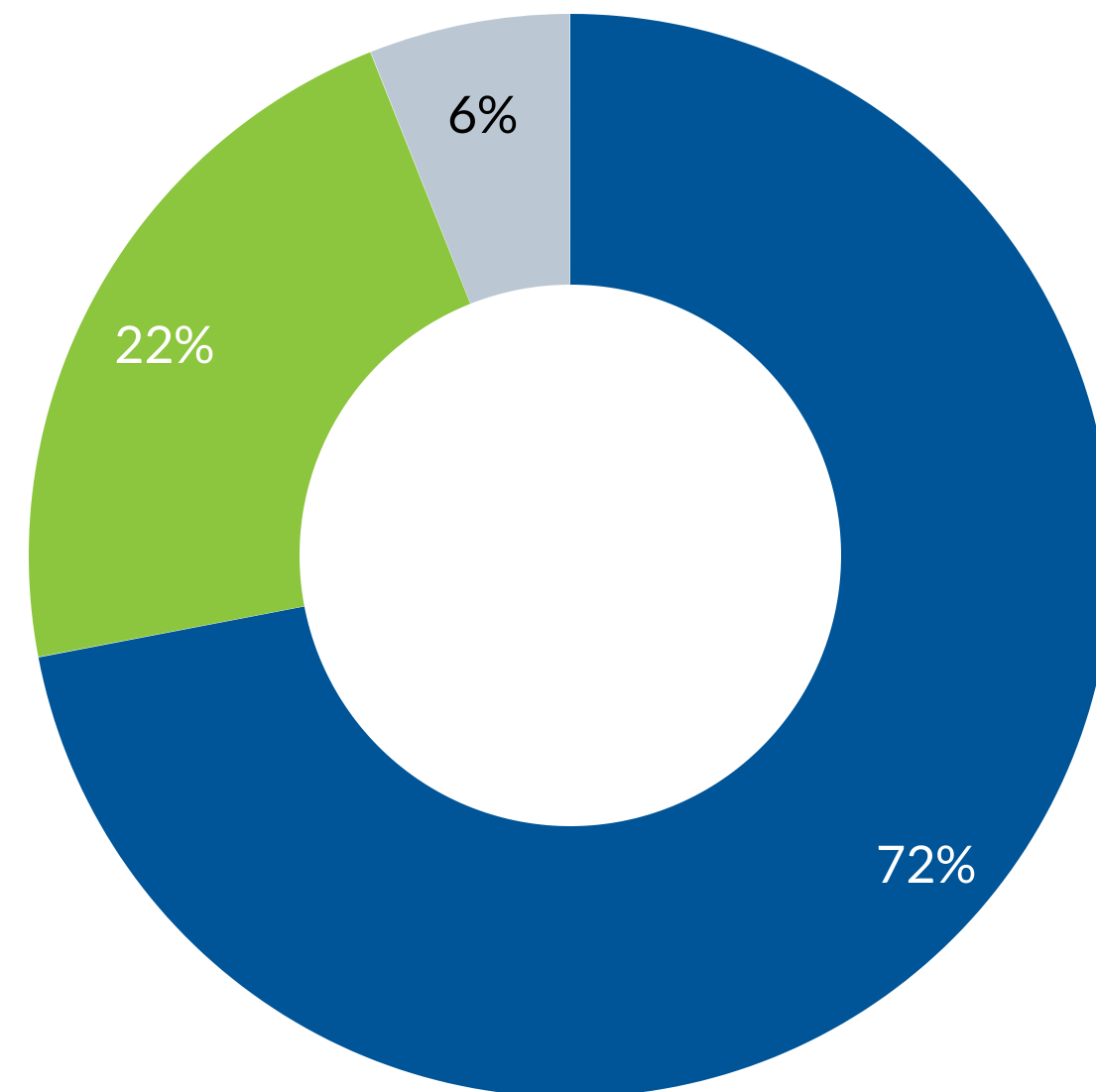
One initial goal of the survey was to understand the interest in distance learning for families with students too young to be vaccinated.

While the decision is no longer in SPS's control, the findings are worth sharing with families.

22% of families with young children would like a distance learning option

Distance Learning Interest

- No (72%)
- Yes (22%)
- N/A-child will be old enough to be vaccinated by the fall (6%)



* **Distance Learning** is being defined as learning from home full-time. Where as **remote learning** is being defined as learning from home temporarily: for example due to quarantining or a snow day.

PARENT CONCERNS

Parents were offered the opportunity to express their concerns related to health and safety for the upcoming year in writing.

Responses were reviewed by the survey sub-committee and key themes were identified based on the analysis of responses and their frequency of mention.

24% of families had health & safety concerns



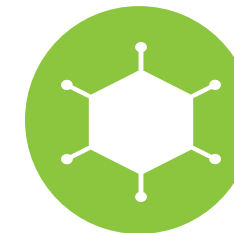
Masks will they be mandatory? What is the policy for enforcing use?



Ventilation and Conditions of school buildings. Are building systems upgraded and able to properly circulate air?



Vaccinations will these be mandatory for teachers and/or eligible students? What is the school's position?



Variants & COVID Spread what is the quarantine policy and will there be contact tracing?



Health & Safety Protocols parents want to better understand the policies around:

- Social Distancing practices
- Building cleaning protocols
- Managing students during lunch, class transitions and bus rides
- COVID testing for staff/students



Health Issues parents are concerned about children and family with preexisting conditions more susceptible to COVID

WHAT PARENTS WANT TO CONTINUE

Parents were also asked about practices enacted in 2020 that they'd like to see continued in their child's school.

These open-ended responses were reviewed in the same manner as the concerns with key themes emerging primarily around health and safety.

35% of families identified practices they'd like to see continued



Maintaining health and safety protocols from 2020

- Cleaning high touch areas
- Social Distancing
- Handwashing
- Small class sizes



Distance Learning keeping the option to enroll in full learning from home



Communication more regular communication between schools & families

- COVID cases reporting
- Virtual meeting options



Mask Wearing to be continued through the fall for all staff/students



Technology: keeping kids connected

- 1:1 child/device
- Google Classroom
- Continuing with specific apps



Remote Learning continue learning during snow and/or sick days



Outdoor Time continue more opportunities for kids to get outside



Support Programs continue before/after-school and enrichment programs

RECOMMENDATIONS

The biggest interest among parents is the desire for communication around what will be happening and what has been done by the district to ensure a safe return to school this fall.



Internal audit by the district on what themes may not have been considered and how they might be addressed



Acknowledge parent interest in distance learning and show how the data was used to advocate for this option at the state level



Use social media to highlight a concern and the action taken by the district to address the concern daily leading up to reopening