

Public Opinion of Assessments, “Pandemic Pods,” and High Dosage Tutoring

Latino Decisions/ERNA October 2020 Poll Results



LD/ERNA Poll Methodology

This 400-sample survey was conducted from October 14-19 and consisted of registered and likely voters in Wisconsin. The survey has a margin of error of $\pm 5.0\%$.



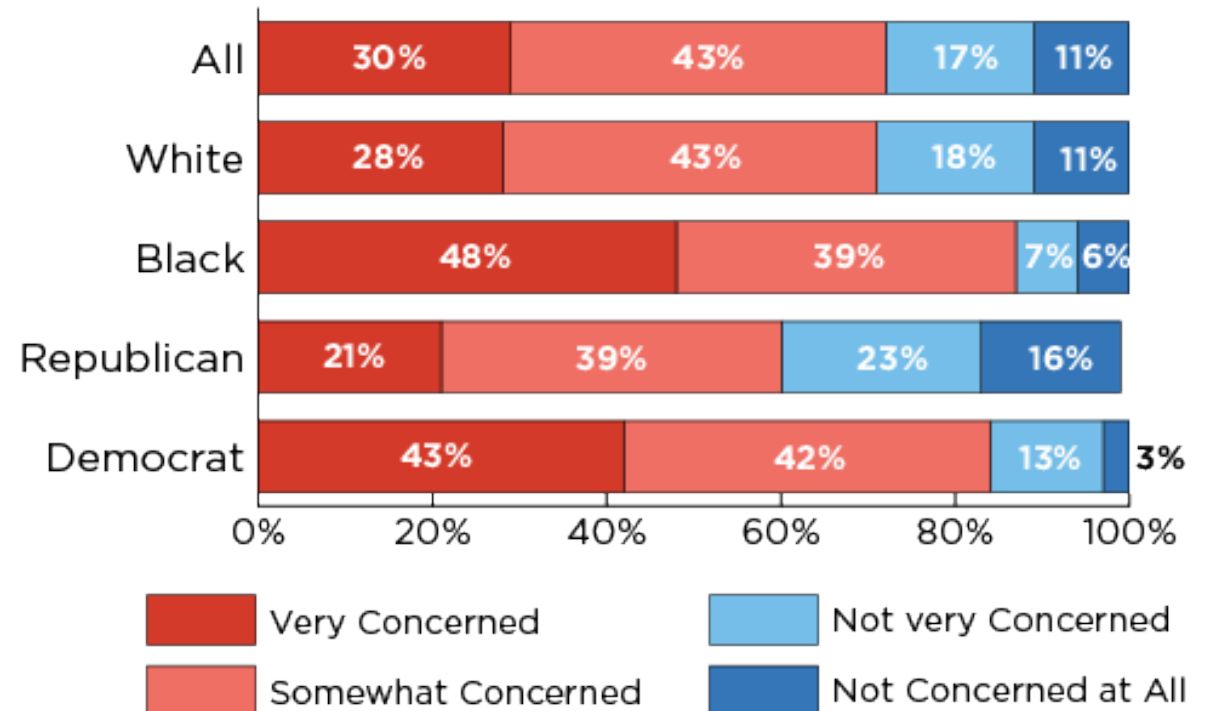
As schools struggle to reopen, there's been media coverage across the country examining the phenomenon of "pandemic pods," with education advocates—including ERN—sounding the alarm around concerns of further exacerbated education inequities.

Our polling suggests the public largely shares these concerns: **73% of all Wisconsin likely voters indicated they were somewhat or very concerned that private pods would worsen opportunity gaps.**

These concerns were even higher among **Black and Democratic voters**, with 87% and 85% voicing concern, respectively.

Because many students are receiving instruction remotely, some parents are paying out of their own pockets for their children to be tutored in-person, privately, either individually or in small groups or "pandemic pods" to supplement what is provided by their local public school.

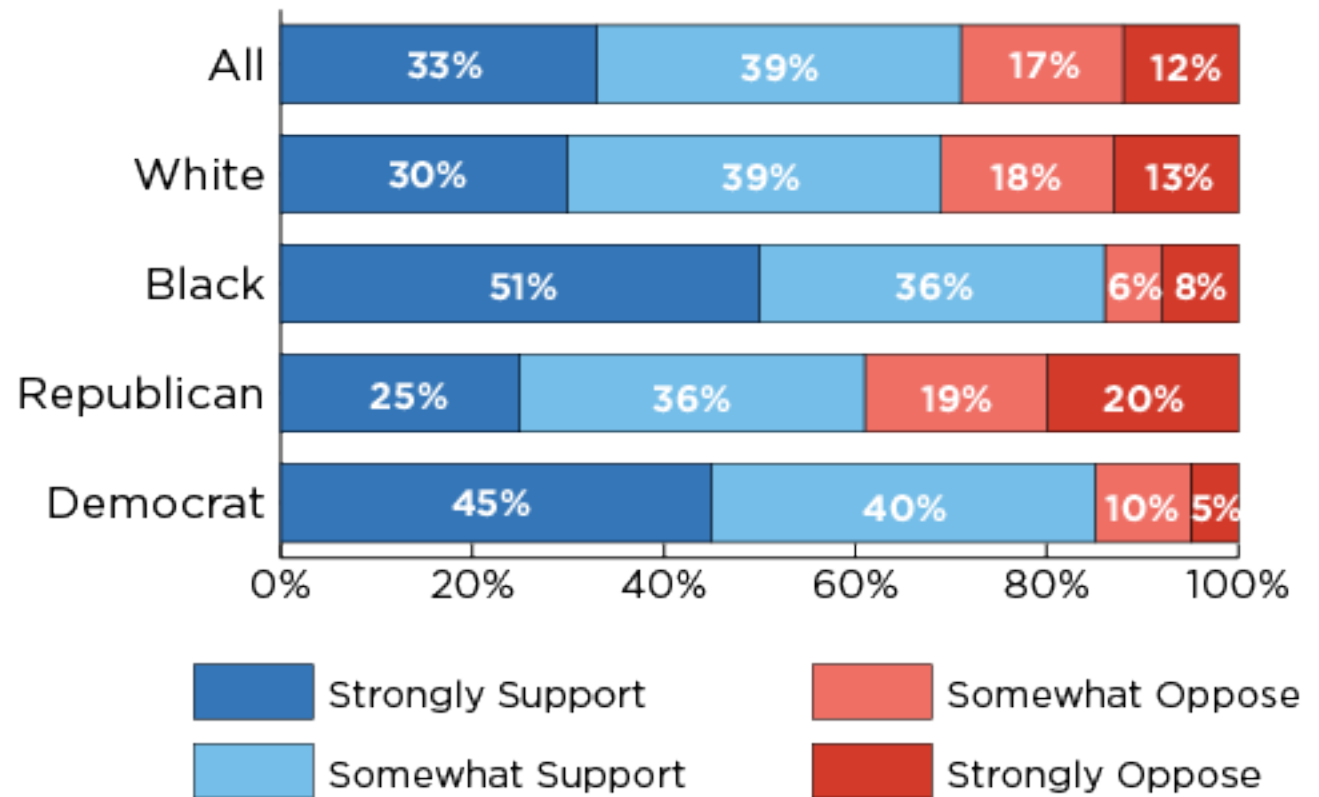
How concerned are you that this practice could worsen opportunity gaps between students from higher-income families and their less advantaged peers?



Reflective of voters' concerns over pandemic pods and opportunity gaps, **72% of likely Wisconsin voters favor public schools paying to create their own version of pods** for low-income families.

Black voters, who have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19, expressed the largest support for school-funded pods: 87% support them, with a majority (51%) voicing strong support.

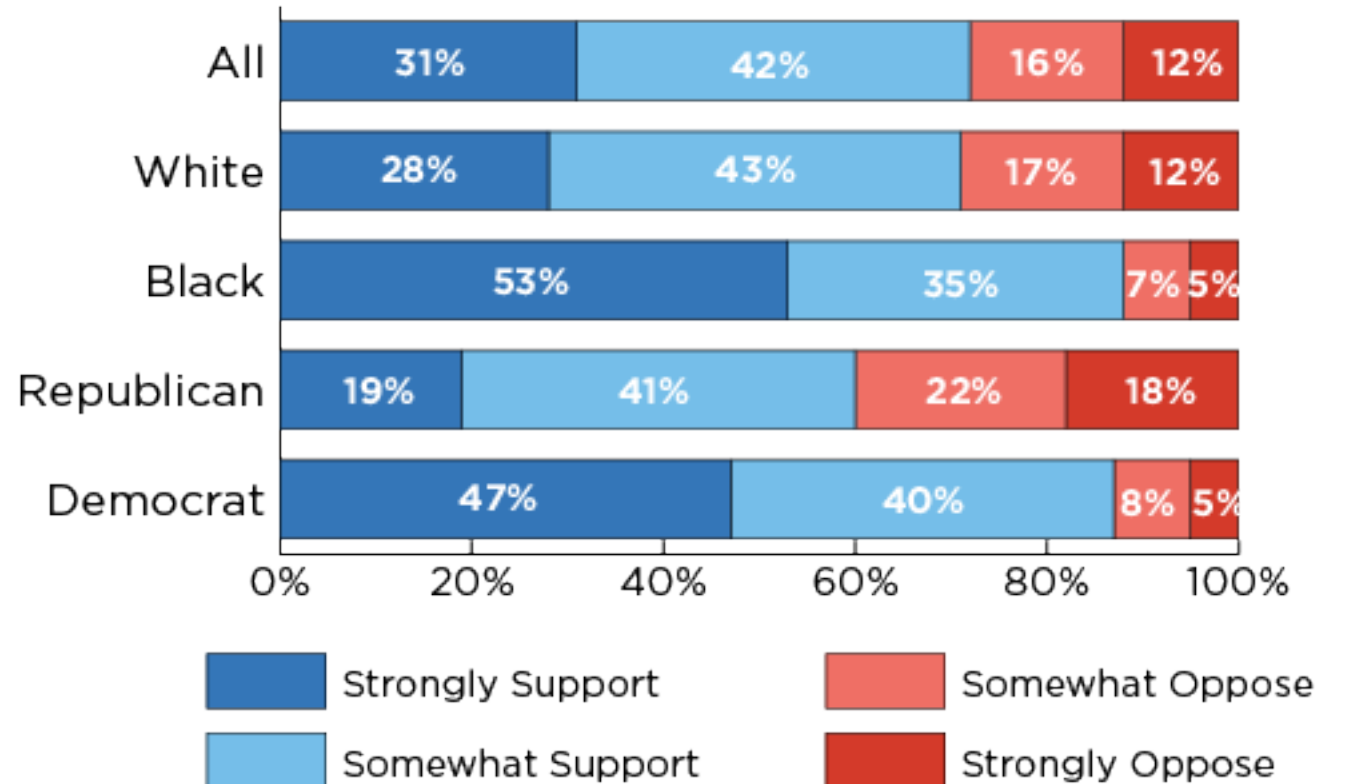
Would you support public schools paying to create their own version of pandemic pods for families who cannot afford them?



We find similarly strong support for public funds being used to create pods run by community-based organizations (CBOs). **73% of respondents were in favor** of this policy proposal.

As with school-based pods, while a majority of voters across party and racial lines support CBO-based pods, **support is highest among Black and Democratic voters, with nearly 90% of supporting these pods.**

Would you support providing public funding to community-based organizations to create and manage pandemic pods for families who cannot afford them?



Of the equity-based policy proposals in the poll, having public schools pay to provide “high dosage tutoring” (HDT) to their most disadvantaged students garnered the most support: **76% of likely Wisconsin voters supported HDT, including more than 2/3 of Republicans.**

Additionally, a majority of Black and Democratic voters *strongly support* HDT, compared to just a third of voters overall.

Would you support public schools paying to provide their most disadvantaged students with "high dosage tutoring," which provides daily instructional support in groups of 1 to 4 students, either virtually or in-person?

