



Alaskans Support High School “Exit Exam”

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Approximately three-out-of-four Alaskans support keeping the high school graduation qualifying exam.

QUESTION: *“Currently, Alaskan students must pass the high school graduation qualifying exam, commonly known as the “exit exam”, in order to receive a diploma. There is a bill before the Alaska State Legislature to eliminate the exit exam. Opponents of the exit exam say it keeps hundreds of Alaska students from earning diplomas and getting jobs, and is a waste of classroom time and resources. Supporters of the exit exam say that graduation rates have risen since the exit exam took effect, and that the exam is a useful tool to evaluate the performance of teachers and schools, and ensures students demonstrate at least minimum skills in reading, writing and math before receiving a diploma.*

What is your opinion -- do you feel the state should remove the exit exam requirement or should it be kept?”

STATEWIDE RESULTS: 24% Remove exam
 74% **Keep exam**
 2% Unsure

Support for “Exit Exam” is strong and consistent throughout Alaska.

CROSSTABULATIONS:

		<u>Remove exam</u>	<u>Keep exam</u>	<u>Unsure</u>
<u>REGIONAL RESULTS</u>				
	Rural	27%	73%	--
	Central (Fairbanks)	25%	72%	3%
	Southcentral	24%	75%	1%
	Anchorage	24%	71%	5%
	Southeast	19%	81%	--
<u>POLITICAL RESULTS</u>				
	Democrat	25%	74%	1%
	Republican	19%	78%	3%
	Non-Partisan	27%	70%	3%
	Other	18%	82%	--
	Not registered	13%	81%	6%

“Exit Exam” support is also strong and consistent among men and women and through all age groups.

CROSSTABULATIONS: (con't)		<u>Remove exam</u>	<u>Keep exam</u>	<u>Unsure</u>
<u>AGE RESULTS</u>	18-29 years of age	30%	70%	--
	30 - 44 years of age	27%	71%	1%
	45-59 years of age	22%	75%	3%
	60 plus	23%	74%	4%
<u>GENDER RESULTS</u>	Male	22%	76%	2%
	Female	26%	71%	4%