

# SCHOOL STARTS IN OHIO

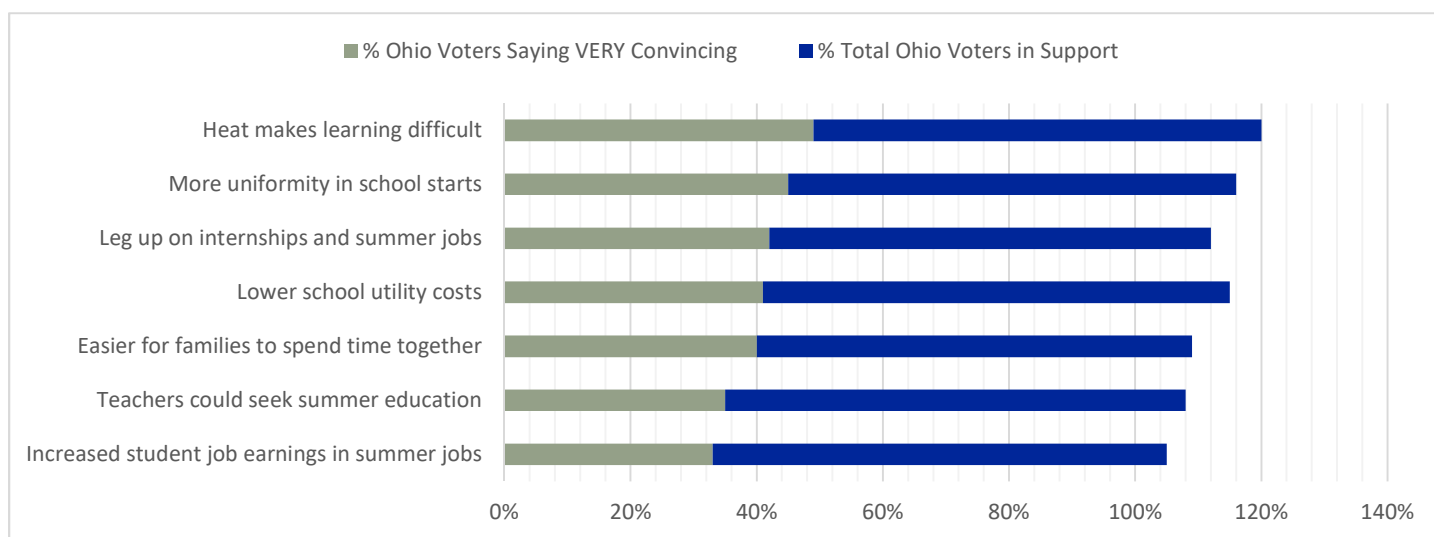


Support SB 34 and HB 549

## WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

Ohio voters want schools to start after Labor Day. SB 34 and HB 549 make a post Labor Day school start the default, but allow school districts to open earlier if community input is sought. A later school start is good for student career readiness and academic learning, families and Ohio.

## TOP REASONS OHIO SUPPORT A LATER SCHOOL START



## KEY POINTS

### Ohio voters want a later school start

- Community members (93%) and teachers (71%) haven't been asked about school start preferences.
- Ohio voters support this legislation (66%). Teachers (65%) and parents (61%) also support.
- This support cuts across gender, age, partisanship, income, education and ethnicity.

### Researchers have found no relationship between school start dates and lower academic performance

- The top 10 states reporting the highest ACT scores start end of August or later.
- Virginia found no performance difference on state test scores between districts with pre- and post-Labor Day starts.

### Summer jobs build careers, teach valuable skills and allow students to earn money for education or to help support families

- "The Lasting Benefits of Early Work Experience" research correlated high school summer employment to higher hourly wages later in life, increased annual earnings and less time spent out of work.
- "What is a Summer Job Worth," a Stanford Graduate School of Education report, found summer employment helps boost high school academic achievement and attendance.
- US Travel's "Fast Forward" longitudinal study found one-third of all students working part-time to pay for education work in the travel industry.

### Starting school later makes economic sense at all levels, supporting businesses, jobs, communities and the state

- Alabama estimated economic costs of \$26 million a day for shortened summers, while Pennsylvania found the cost at \$75 million for each day started before Labor Day.
- Michigan hotels added approximately 44,000 room night sales after its school start law was implemented.  
*Additional polling information by contacting Melinda Huntley at [mhuntley@ohiotravel.org](mailto:mhuntley@ohiotravel.org).*