



 MORNING CONSULT

EdChoice

TEACHERS NATIONAL
POLLING PRESENTATION

Q4 2020

Key Points

- 1 Most teachers would agree to get vaccinated and to vaccinate their children.** The majority feel that vaccines for K-12 students and teachers should be encouraged, not mandatory. Teachers are also much more likely to get vaccinated or have their children vaccinated compared to overall school parents and the general population.
- 2 Teachers don't expect it will be safe to return to school until March 2021 or after.** Teachers prefer remote classes to in-person right now because they believe it will keep students and teachers safe and cause less disruption if there's another major outbreak.
- 3 Charter and private school teachers rate their students' learning and development progress this year higher than district school teachers.** Though, teachers rate their students worse (-11 points) across learning and development metrics than parents do.
- 4 Half of teachers have considered leaving or retiring from the profession in the last three months.** Many have been negatively impacted professionally by the pandemic and feel burnt out and stressed with the increased demands of their job. Additionally, promotion of the teaching profession and optimism about the direction of education are at overall lows this quarter.
- 5 Six out of ten educators express interest in teaching in learning pods and tutoring.** Charter and private school teachers are more likely to pursue those opportunities than district school teachers.
- 6 Most teachers believe that "teachers unions represent teachers' best interests".** The majority also feel teachers unions are more helpful than harmful. However, teachers unions are believed to prioritize teachers over students, schools, or the local community.

Methodology (also see slides 47-48)

This poll was conducted from December 11-20, 2020, among a national sample of 1,000 current teachers. The interviews were conducted online and the sample was stratified to reach a target sample by gender and years of teaching experience.

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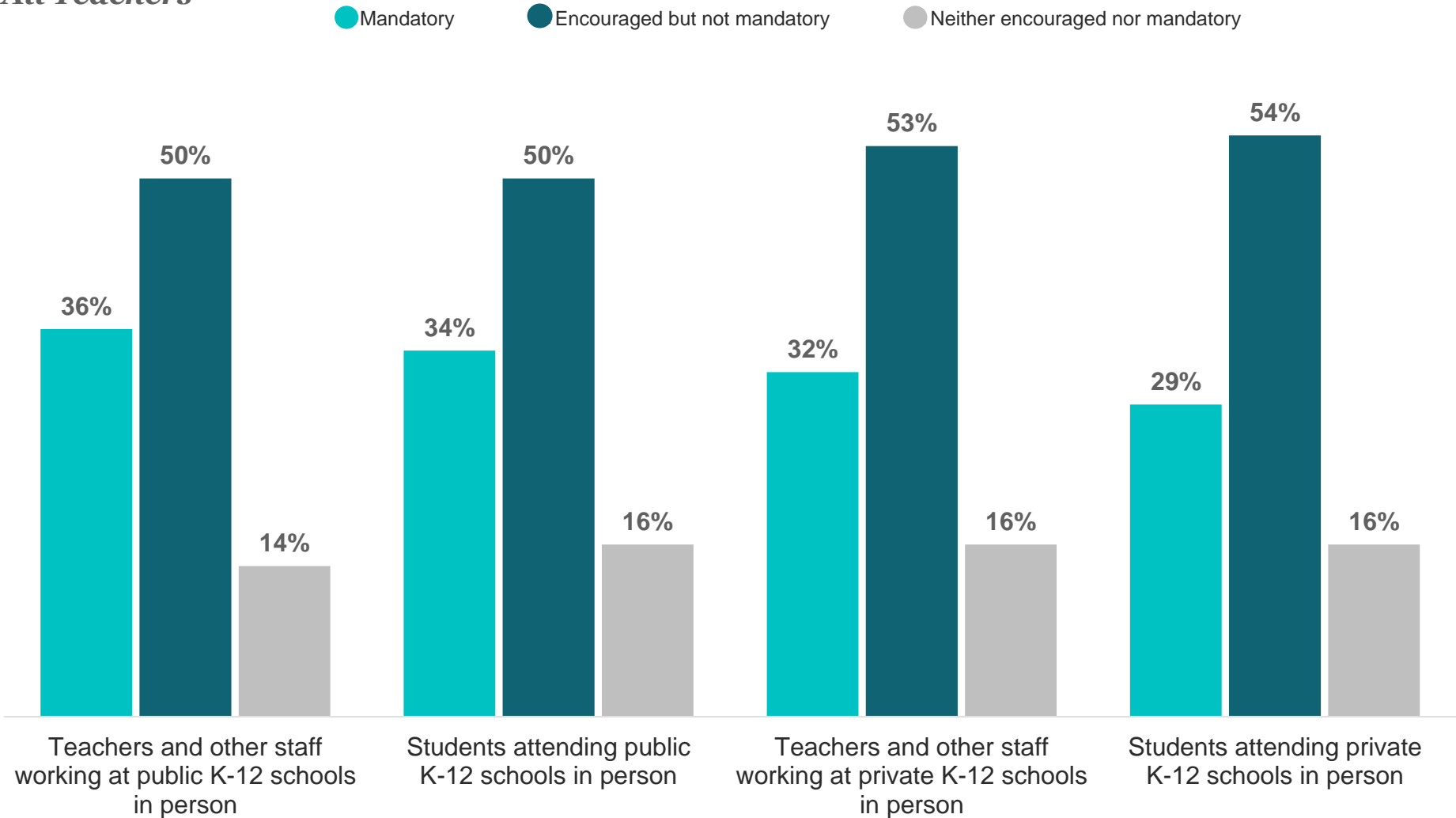
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Mandatory or Encouraged COVID-19 Vaccines

At least half of teachers believe a COVID-19 vaccine should be encouraged – but not mandatory – for K-12 teachers, staff, and students.

When an FDA approved vaccine to prevent COVID-19 is available, do you think it should be mandatory or encouraged for the following groups?

All Teachers

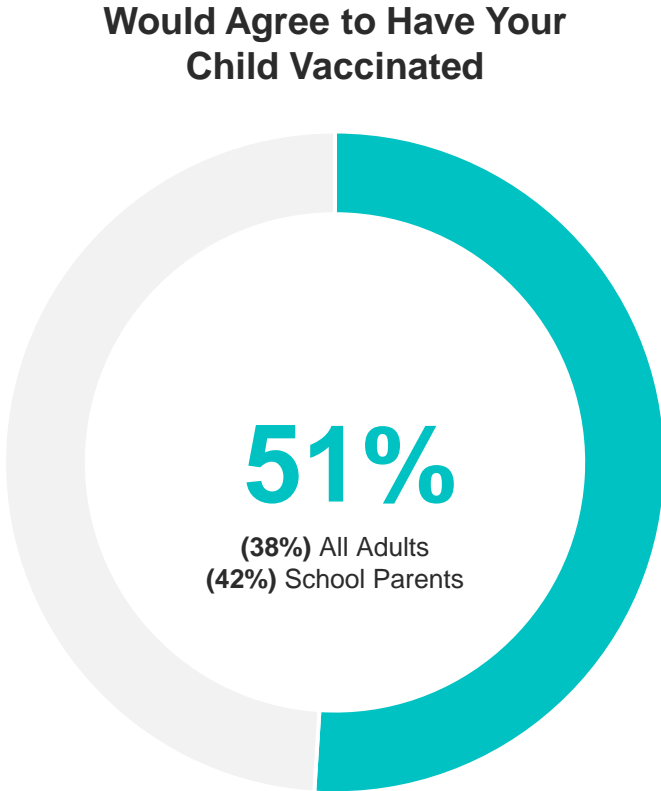
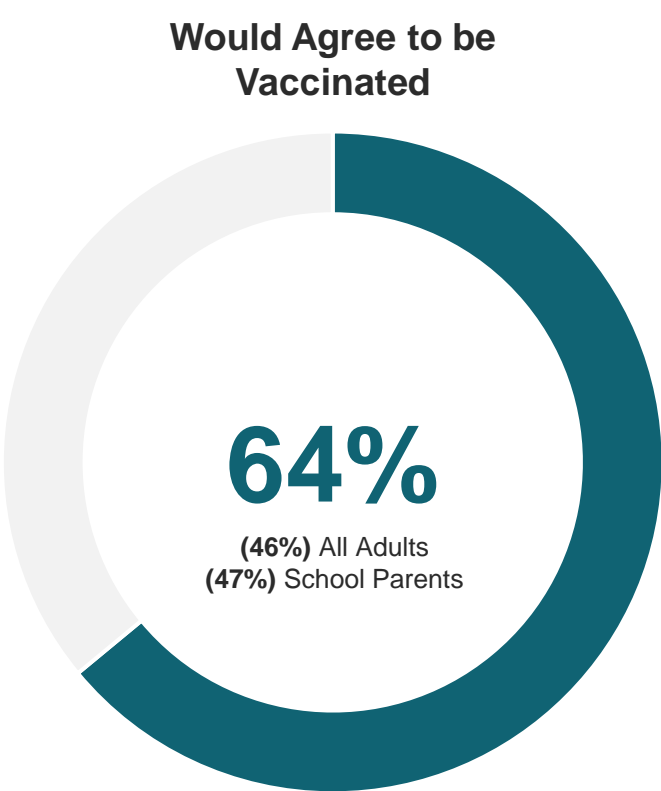


COVID-19
Vaccine

Teachers are much more likely to get vaccinated or have their children vaccinated than school parents and the general population.

If an FDA approved vaccine to prevent COVID-19 was available right now, would you agree to be vaccinated/agree to have your child/children vaccinated?

All Teachers

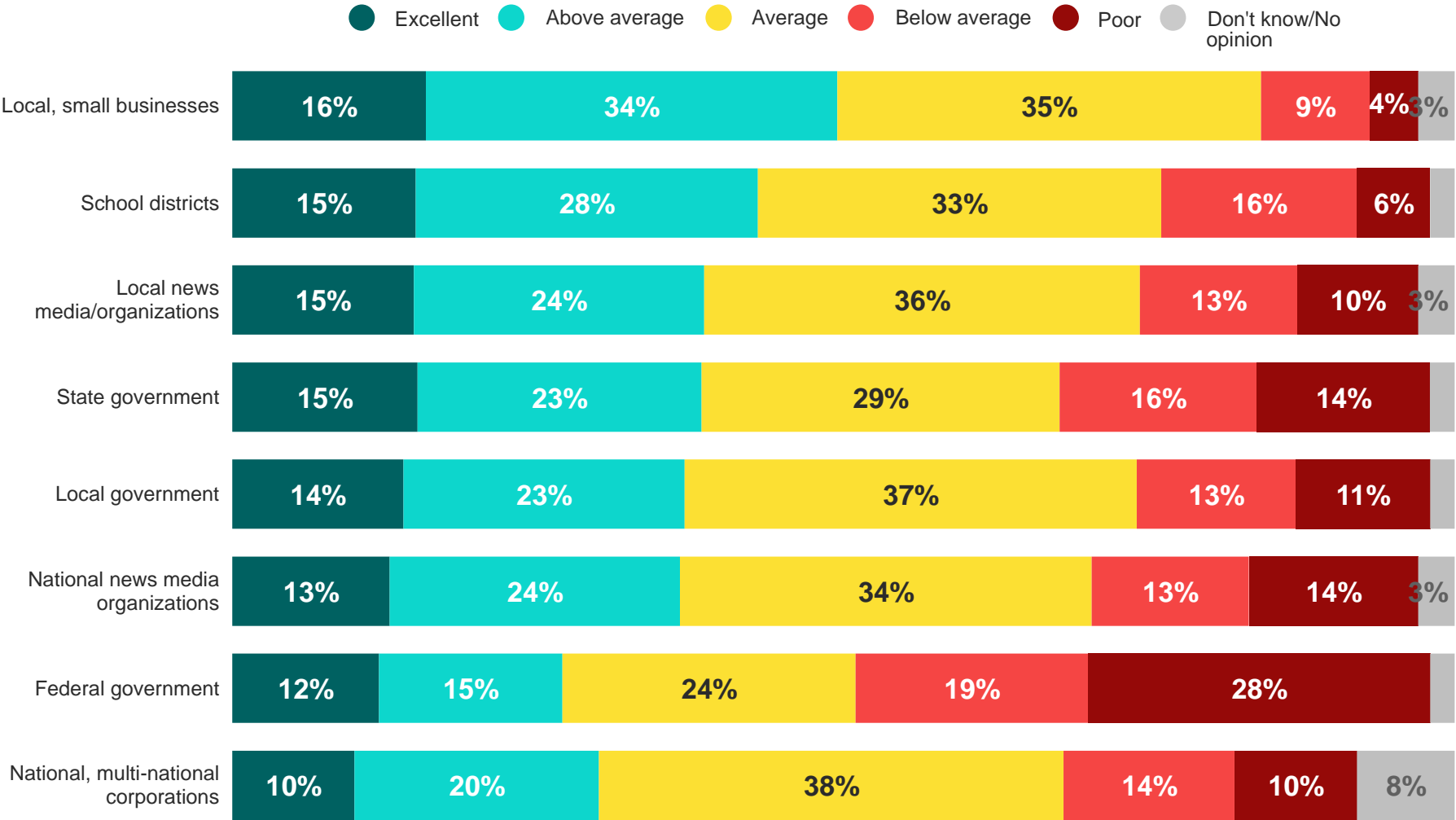


COVID-19 Response Rating

Most teachers continue to grade institutions' responses to the coronavirus as average or better.

Based on what you have seen, read, or heard so far, how would rate the following institutions on their response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak?

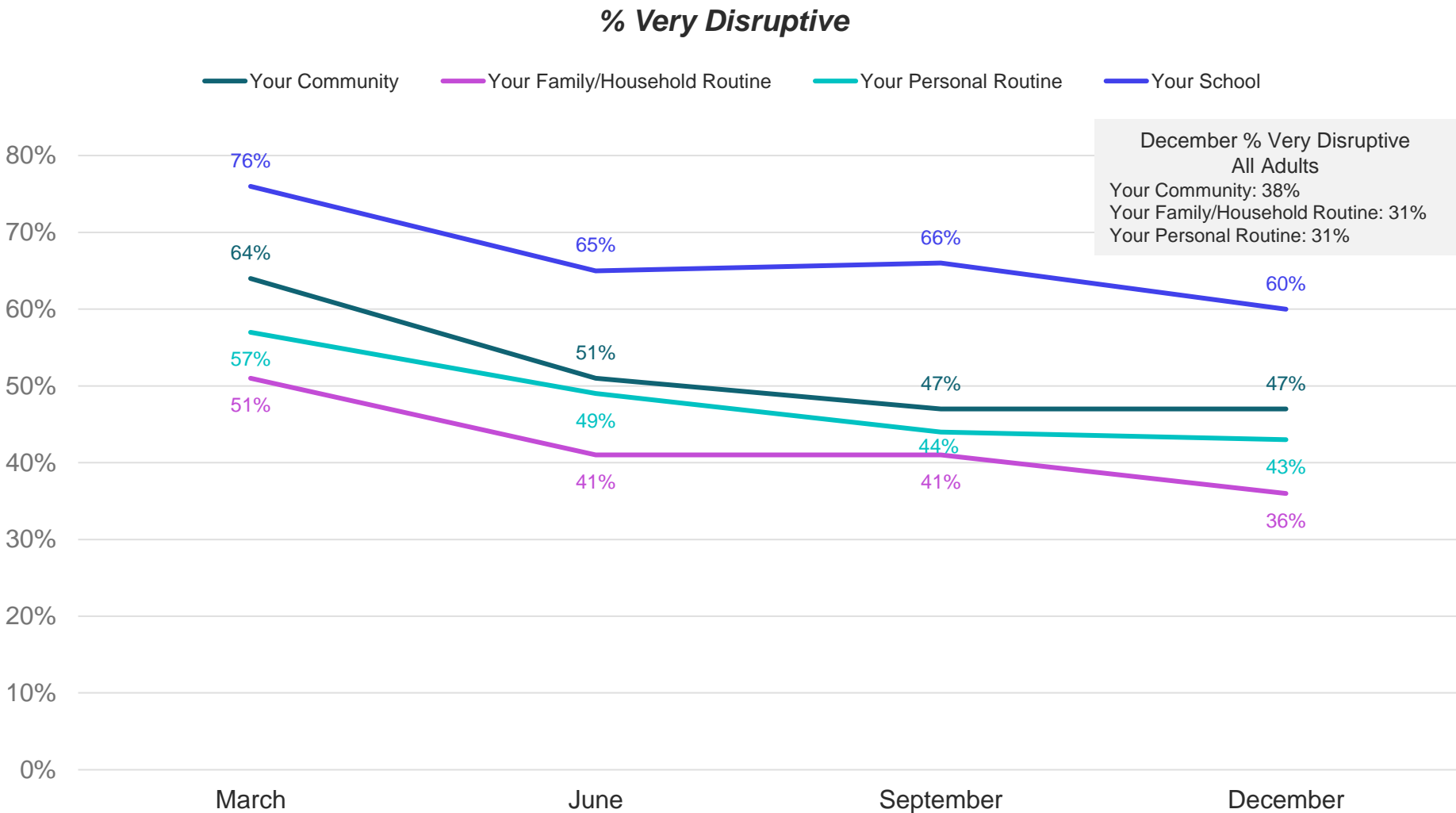
All Teachers



COVID-19 Disruption

After a peak in March, COVID-19’s disruption to teachers’ everyday lives has declined throughout the year.

How disruptive has the coronavirus (also called COVID-19) been on each of the following?
All Teachers



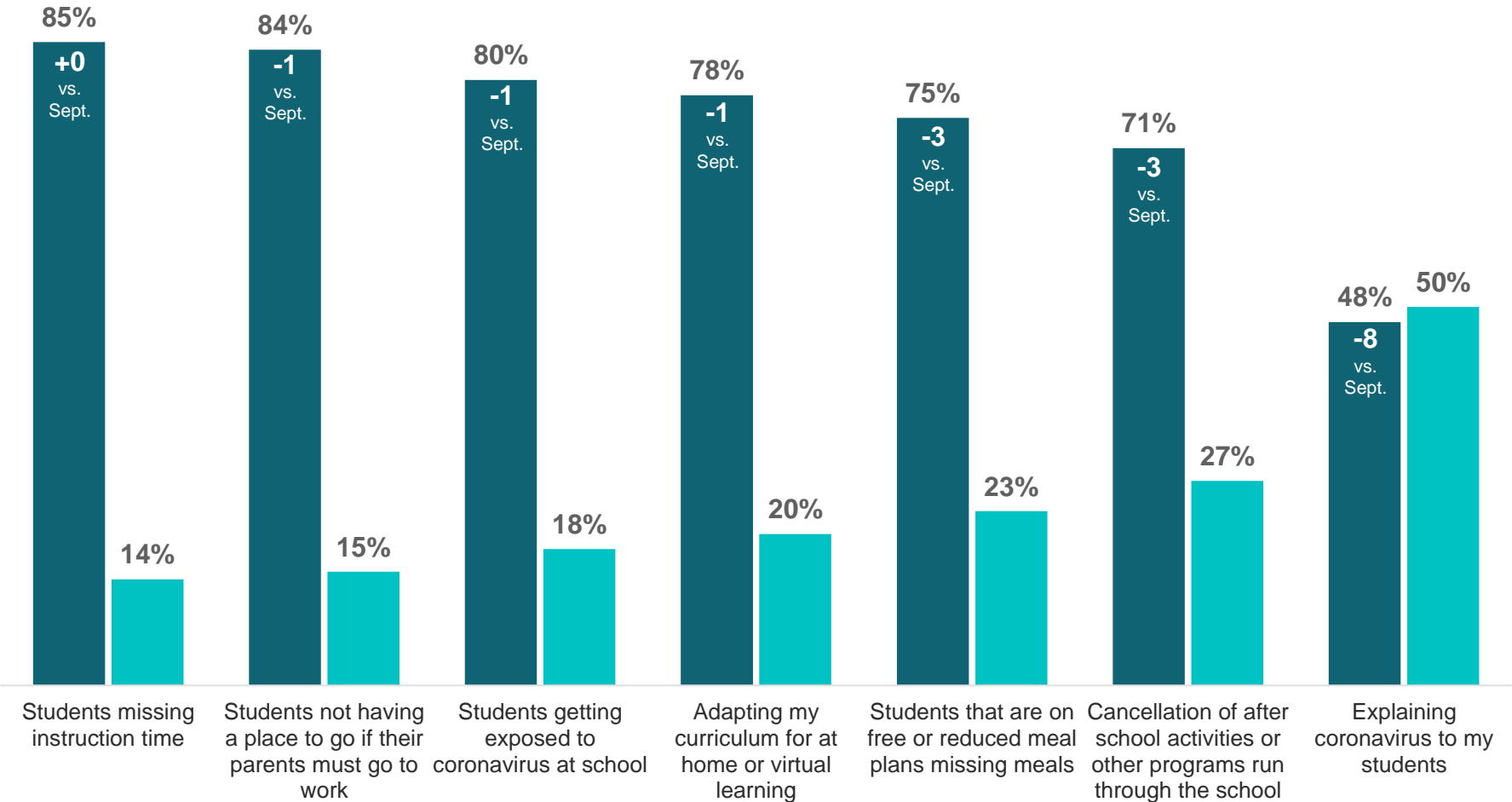
COVID-19 Concerns

Teachers remain concerned over the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on their students, especially missed instruction time and not having a place to go if their parents are at work.

Thinking about the coronavirus (COVID-19), how concerned are you about each of the following?

All Teachers

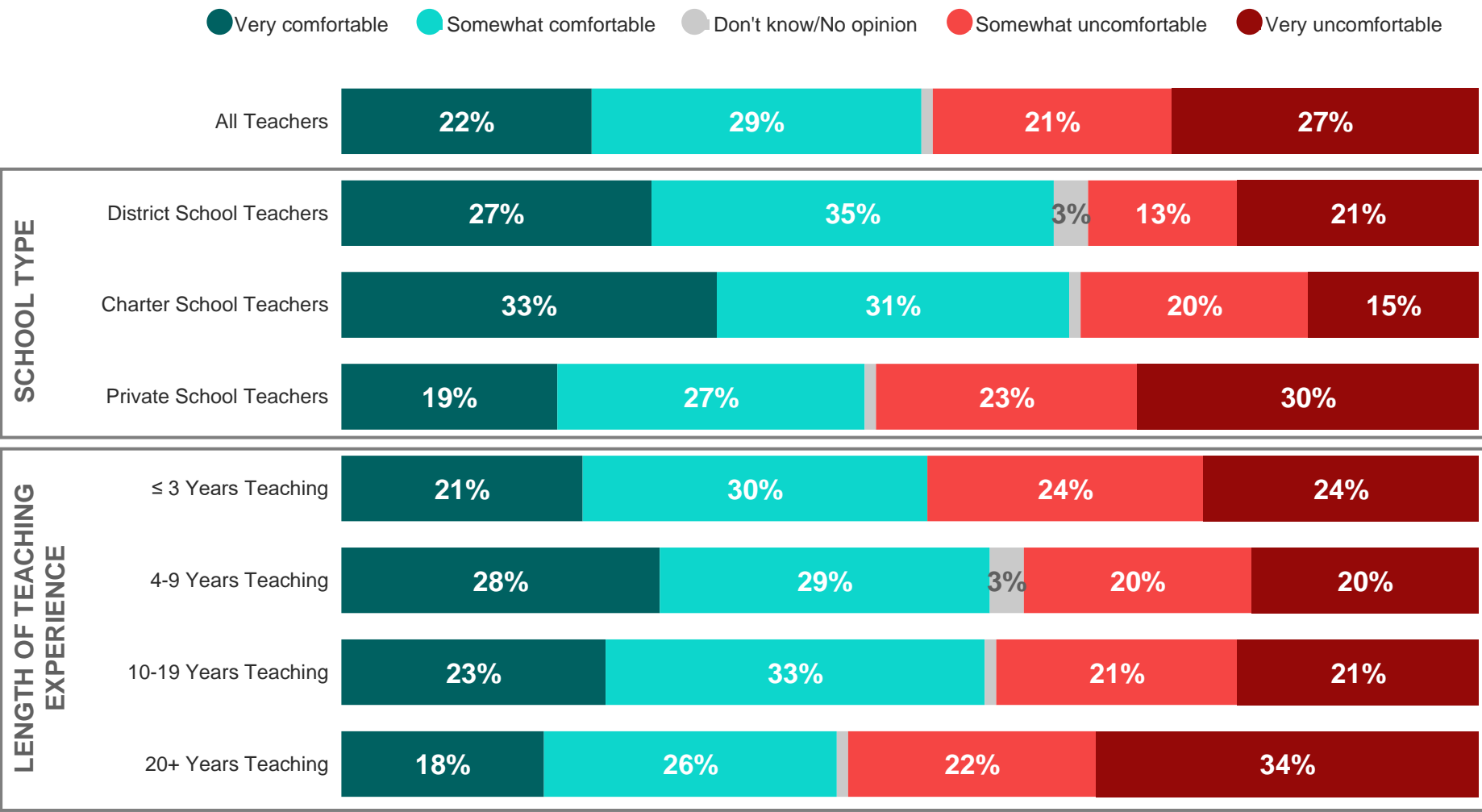
Concerned (Very concerned + Somewhat concerned) Not concerned (Not too concerned + Not at all concerned)



Comfort Level Returning to School

Teachers are generally split on if they are comfortable returning to school in-person right now. Teachers with more experience and private school teachers report being less comfortable compared to counterparts.

Based on what you have seen, read, or heard about the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak so far, how comfortable are you returning to school in person right now?

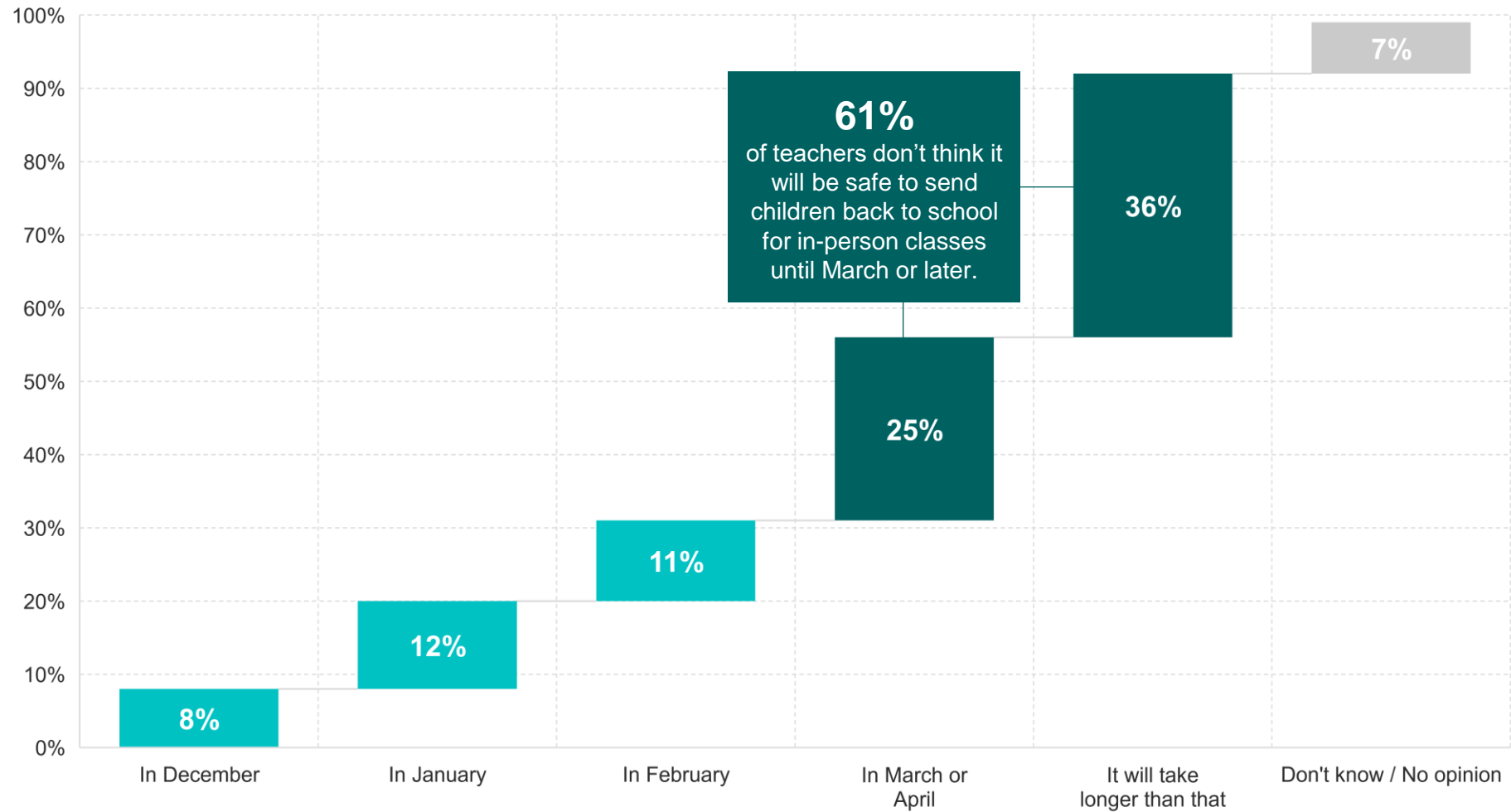


Expectation for Safe Return to School

Most teachers don't expect it will be safe to send children to school for in-person classes until March 2021 or after.

When do you expect the coronavirus outbreak to be controlled enough that it will be safe to send children to school for in-person classes in your community?

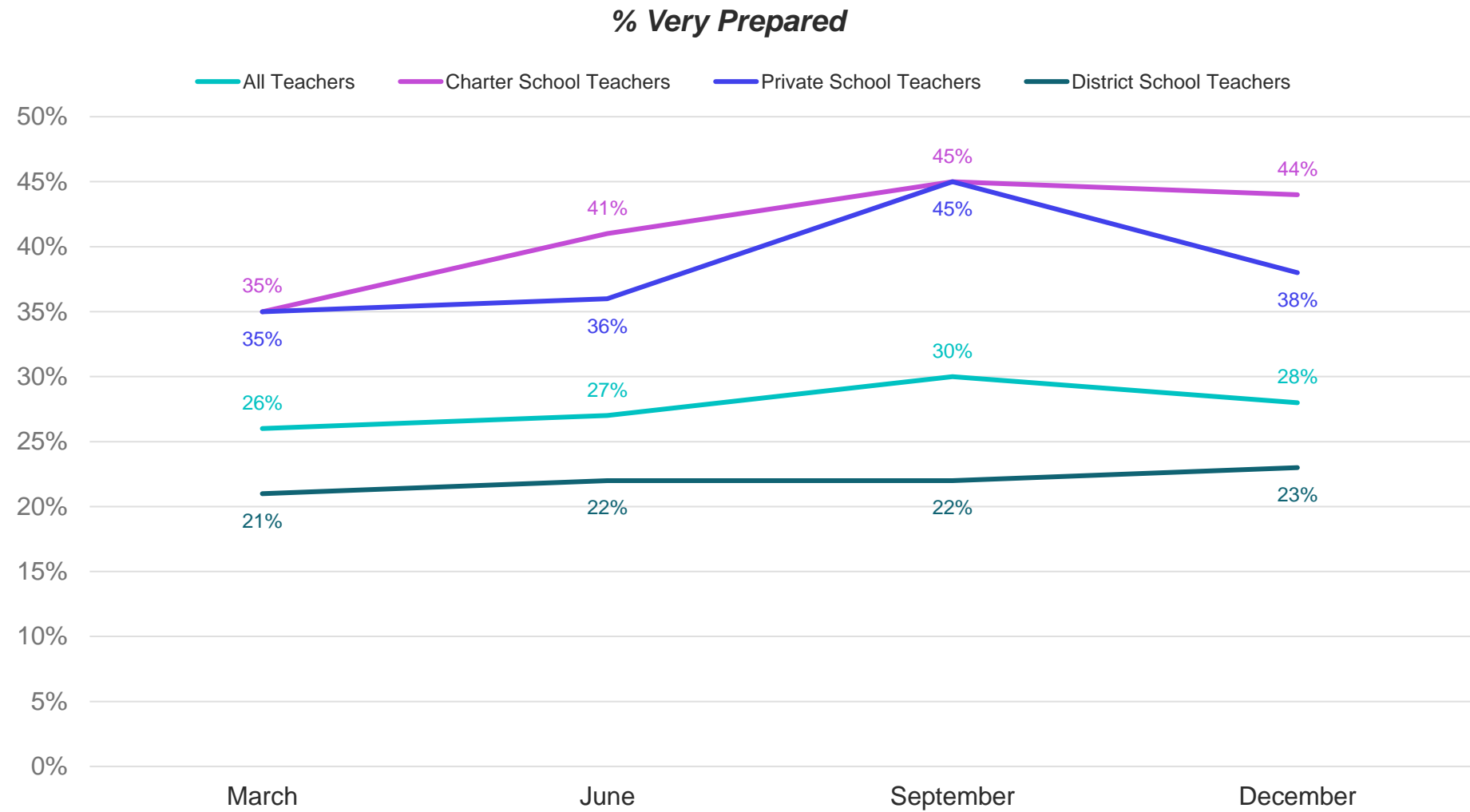
All Teachers



Remote Learning Preparedness

Overall, teachers feel more prepared to facilitate online instruction than they did in March, especially public charter school teachers.

How prepared do you feel to facilitate online instruction (also known as e-learning, remote learning, or virtual learning)?



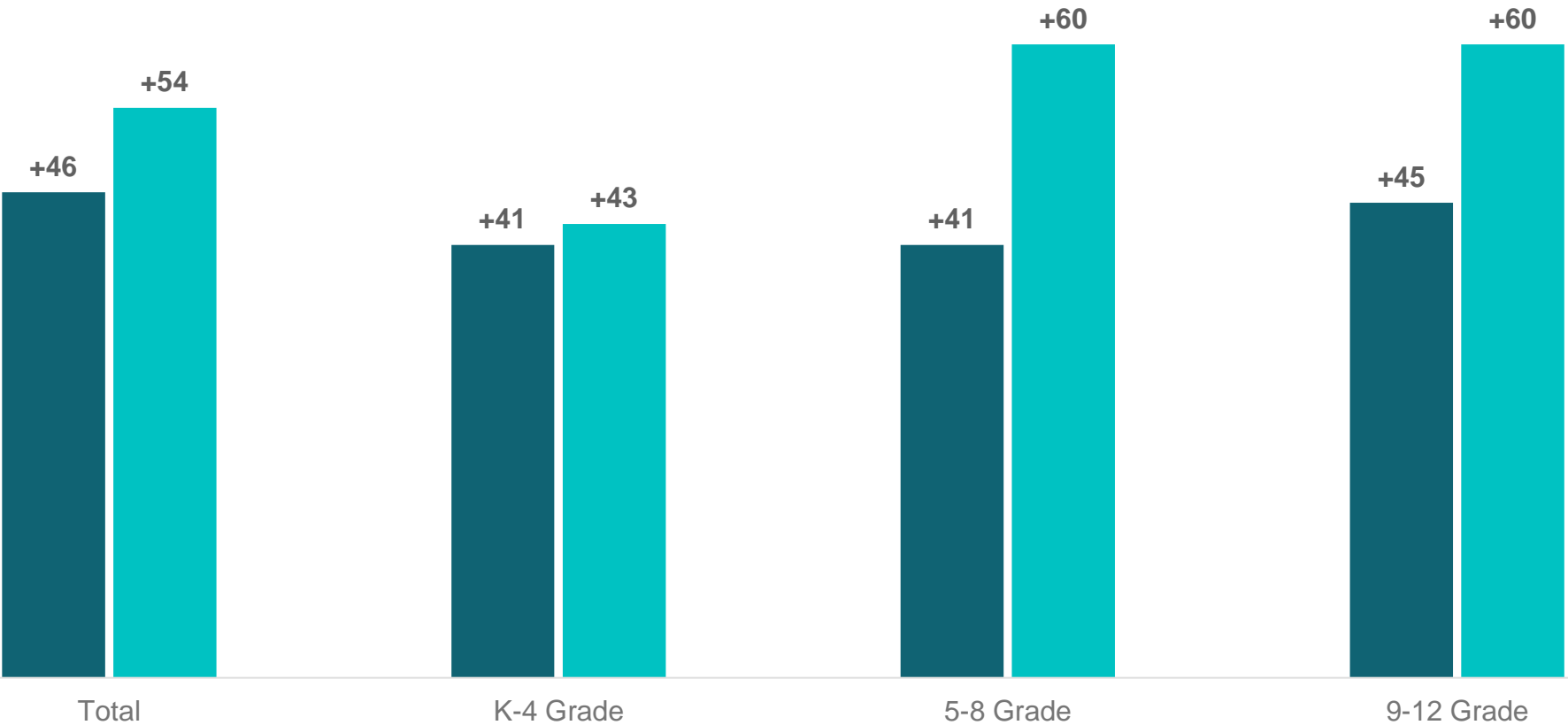
Remote Learning Preparedness

Teachers of children in grades 5-12 feel much more prepared to facilitate online instruction than the parents of children in those grade levels.

How prepared do you feel to facilitate online instruction (also known as e-learning, remote learning, or virtual learning)?

Net Prepared (prepared-not prepared)

School Parents Teachers



One or
Multiple
Learning
Options
Preference

The majority of teachers believe that schools should provide multiple learning options for their students.

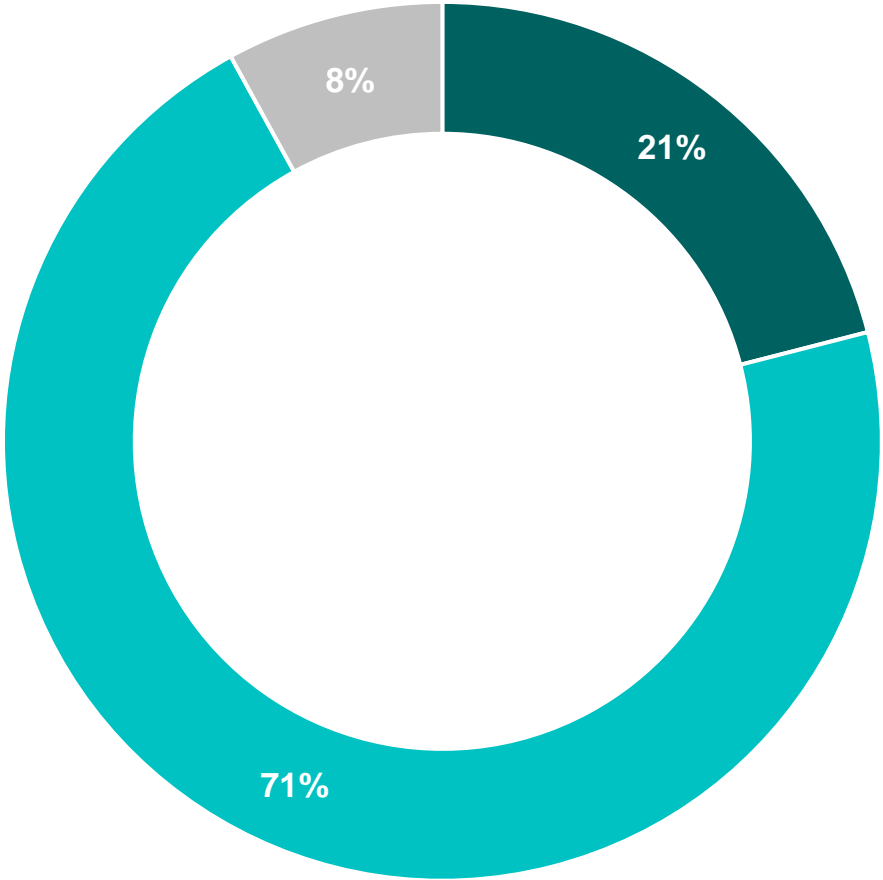
And, do you think schools should offer one approach to educating K-12 students in the fall or provide multiple learning options?

All Teachers

● Offer One Approach

● Provide Multiple Learning Options

● Don't Know / No Opinion



Reopening School Preferences

Teachers prefer remote classes to in-person classes to keep students and teachers safe. They also feel that would minimize disruption if there is another major outbreak.

Please rank the following statements regarding reopening schools for in-person learning with 1 being ‘Most agree’ and 6 being ‘Least agree’.

All Teachers

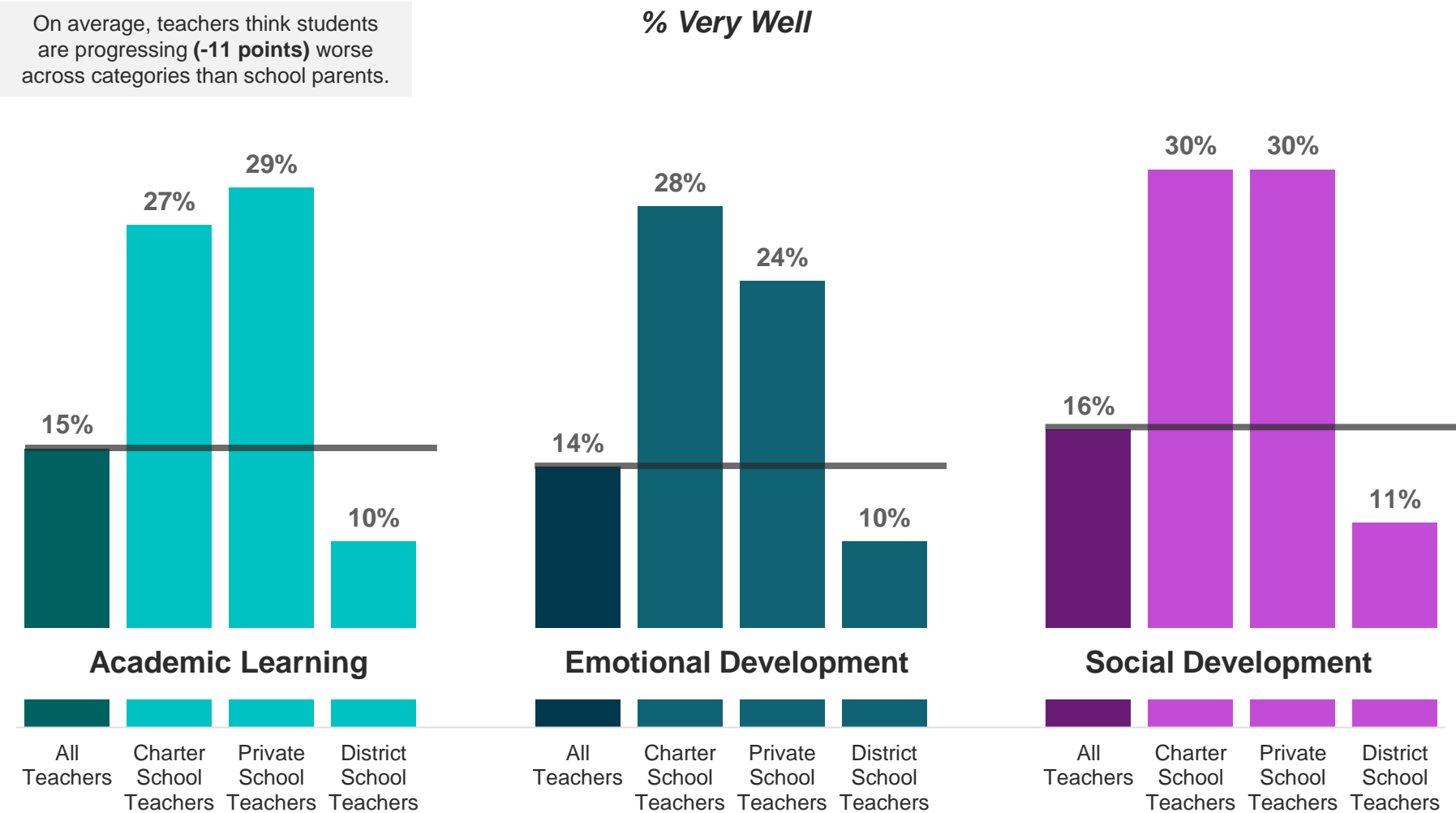
Ranked Highest (on average)	Average Rank:	Statement
	3.1	Remote/virtual learning is the only way to keep students and teachers safe
	3.2	Starting off with remote learning now will cause less disruption if there is another major outbreak
	3.3	Remote/virtual learning is the only way to prevent community spread of the coronavirus
	3.5	Remote/virtual learning is not effective because students learn better in person with a teacher
	3.9	It is important for students to go school in person so parents can manage their work better
Ranked Lowest (on average)	4.0	Students should go back to school because children are at lower risk of getting seriously ill if they get coronavirus

COVID-19
Impact on
Learning and
Development

Private and charter school teachers rate their students' progress across learning and development higher than district teachers.

How do you feel your students are progressing on the following this school year?

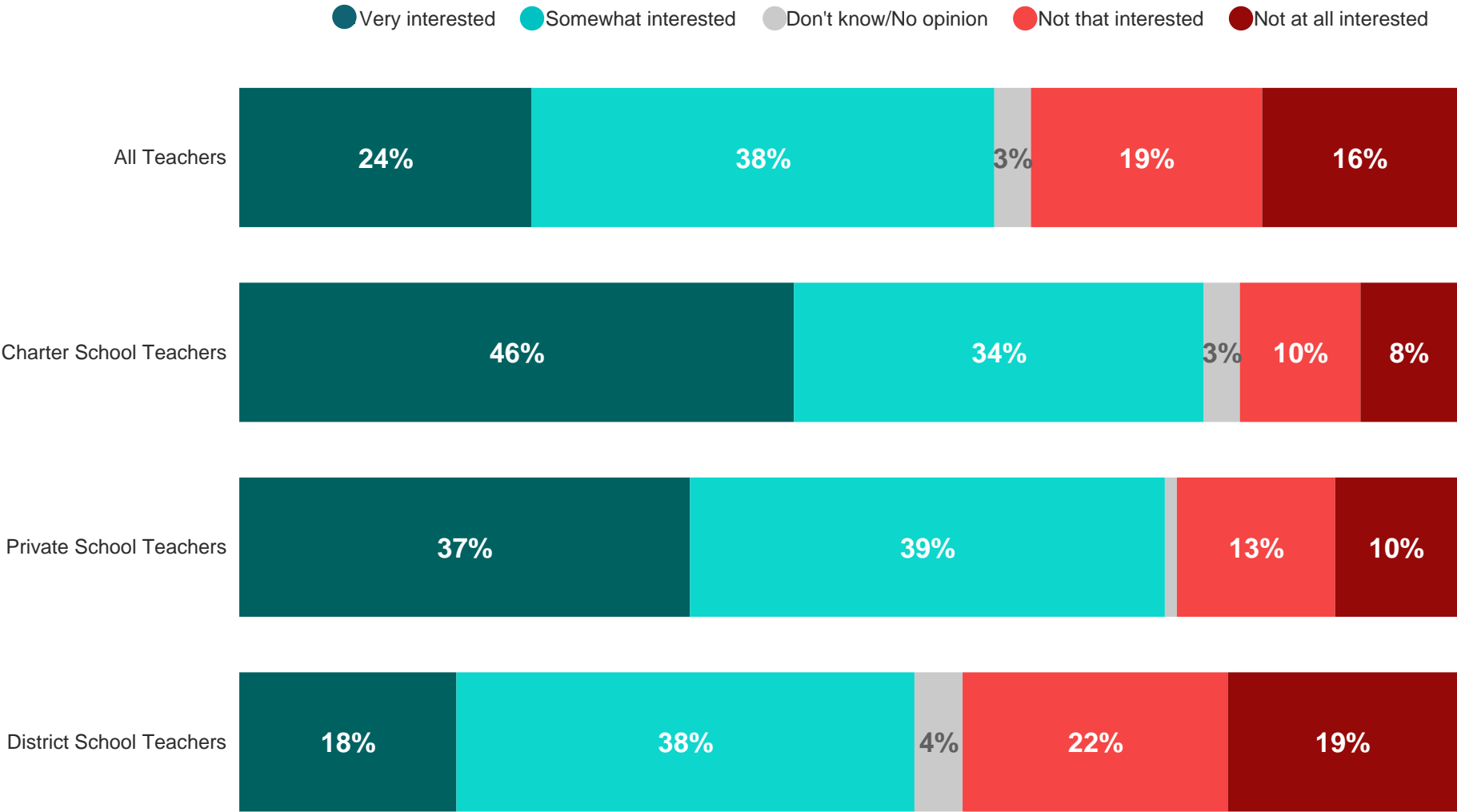
On average, teachers think students are progressing (-11 points) worse across categories than school parents.



Learning Pods

Charter and private school teachers have much greater interest in teaching in a “learning pod” than district school teachers do.

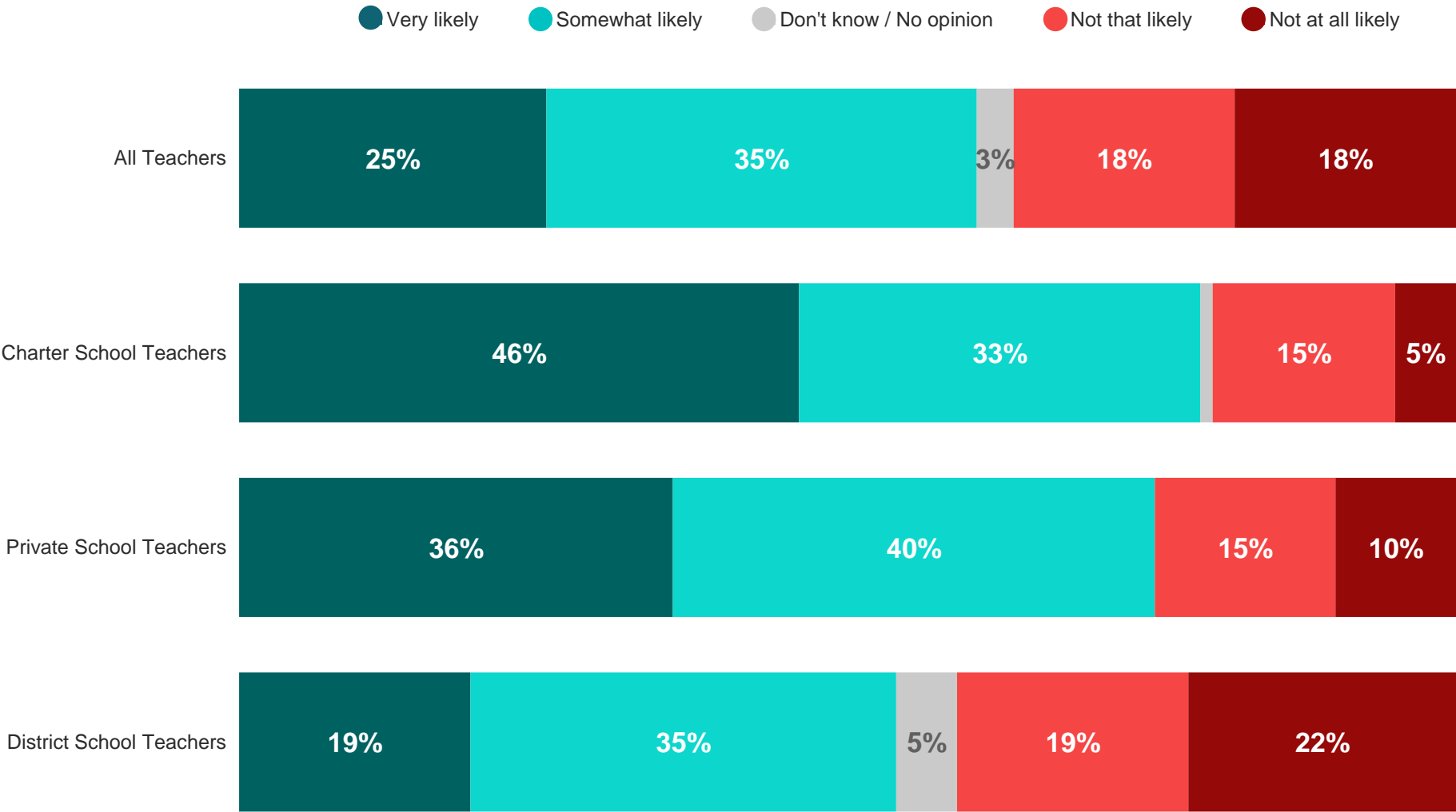
A learning pod (sometimes called a “pandemic pod”) is a group of families that get together to hire a tutor or teacher for a small group of children to learn in person, but outside of the school or classroom – usually in someone’s home. How interested would you be to teach in this setting?



Tutoring

Charter and private school teachers also have much greater interest in seeking out tutoring opportunities than district school teachers do.

This school year, to what extent are you more or less likely to seek out tutoring opportunities on your own – outside of regular school/teaching hours?



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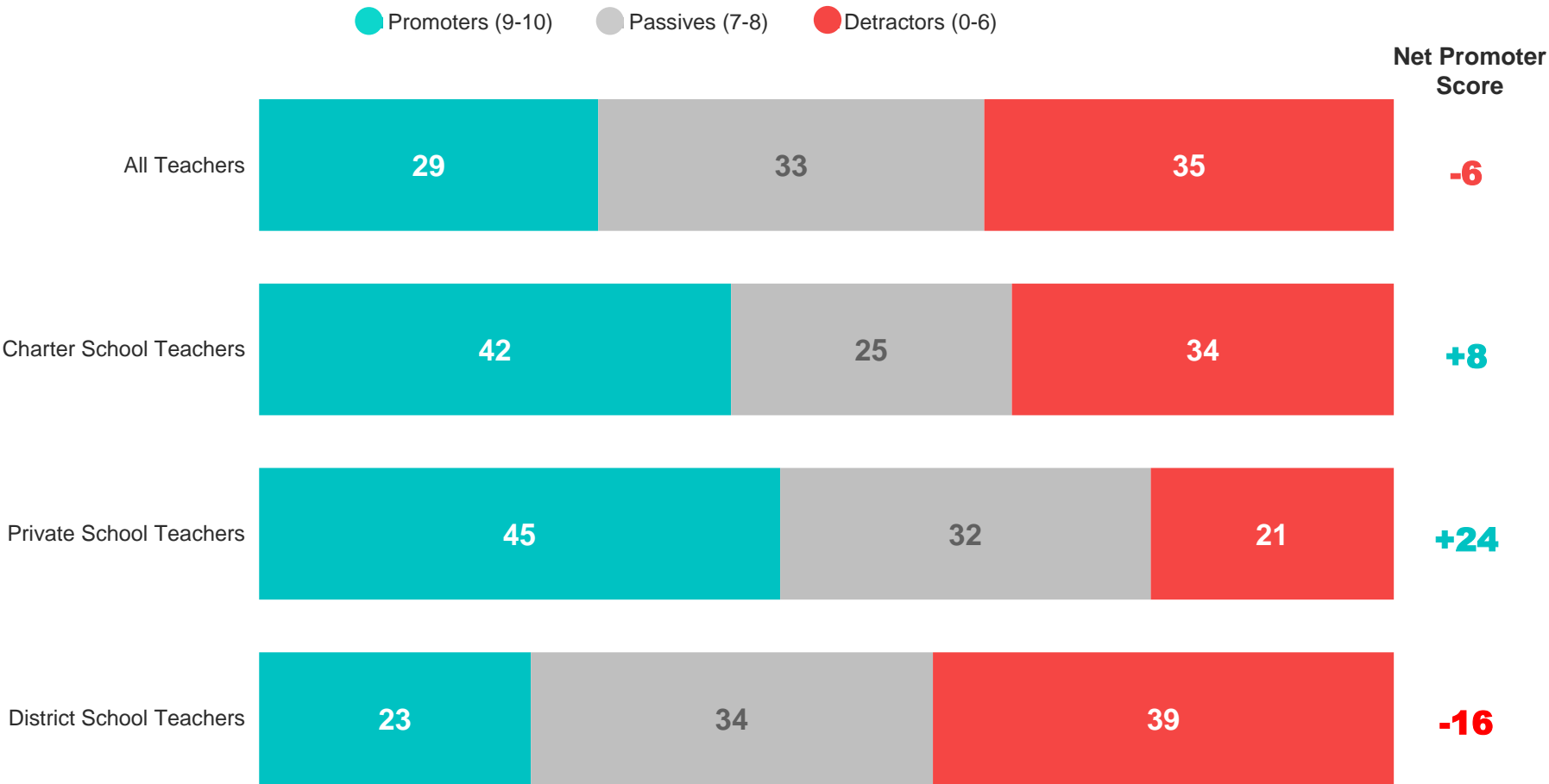


**Survey Profile, Demographics,
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Net Promoter
Score:
Teaching

Charter and private school teachers continue to be much more likely to recommend teaching than district school teachers.

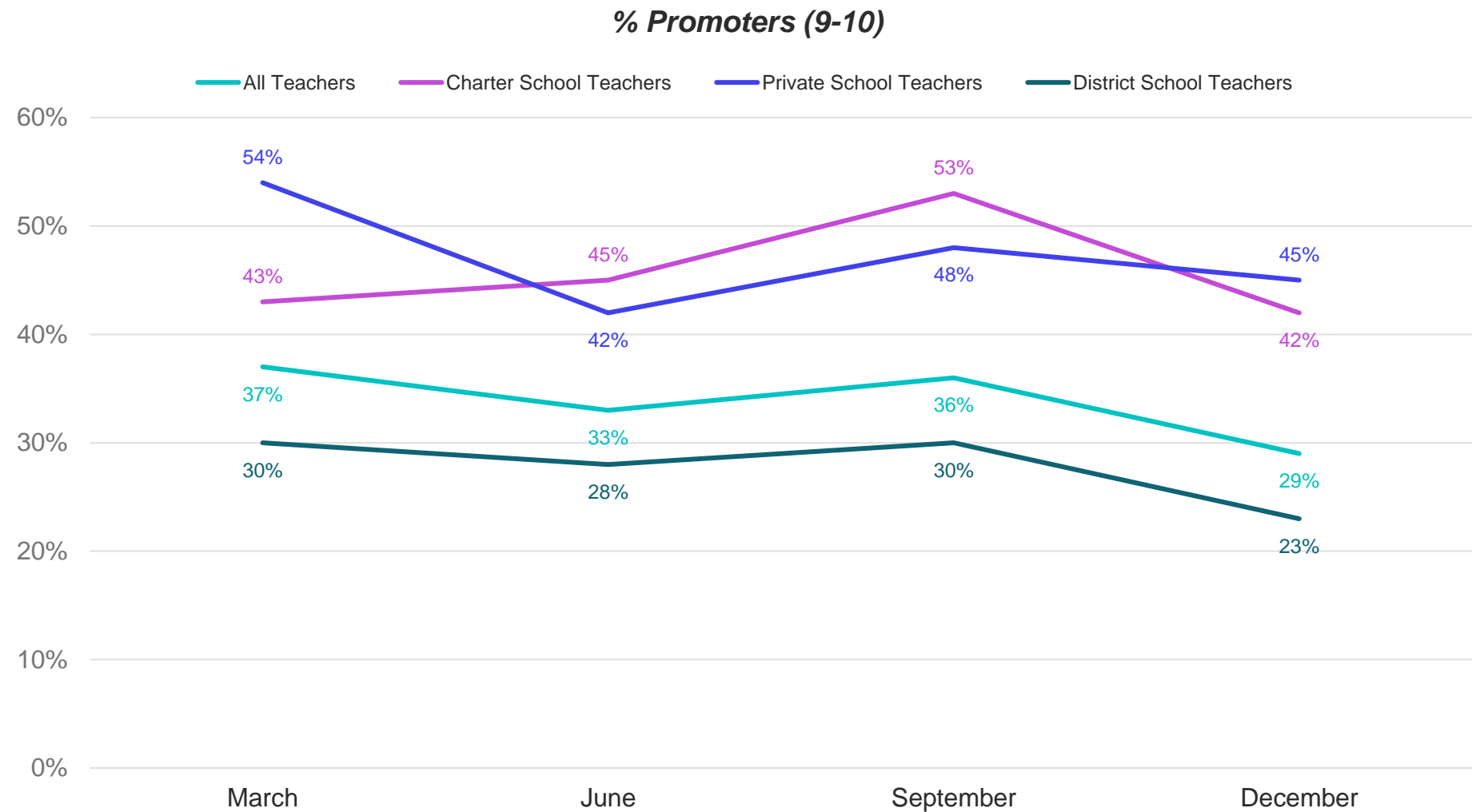
On a scale from 0 to 10, where '0' means 'Not at all likely' and '10' means 'Extremely likely'. How likely is it that you would recommend teaching to a friend or family member?



Net Promoter
Score:
Teaching

Promoters of the teaching profession have decreased to an overall low this quarter (-8 points since March).

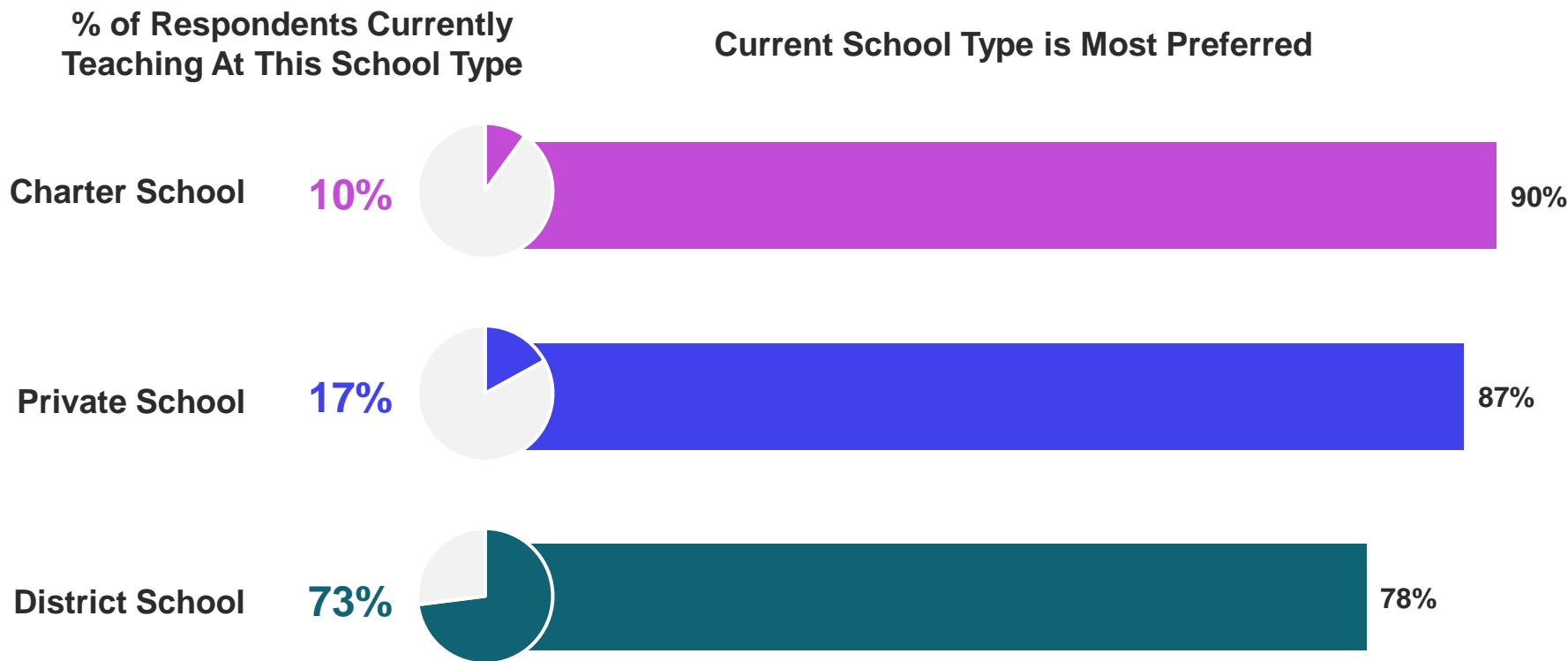
On a scale from 0 to 10, where '0' means 'Not at all likely' and '10' means 'Extremely likely'. How likely is it that you would recommend teaching to a friend or family member?



Satisfaction With School Type

The majority of teachers are currently teaching at the type of school they prefer most.

Where do you currently teach? Are you currently teaching in the type of school or educational setting that you prefer the most?



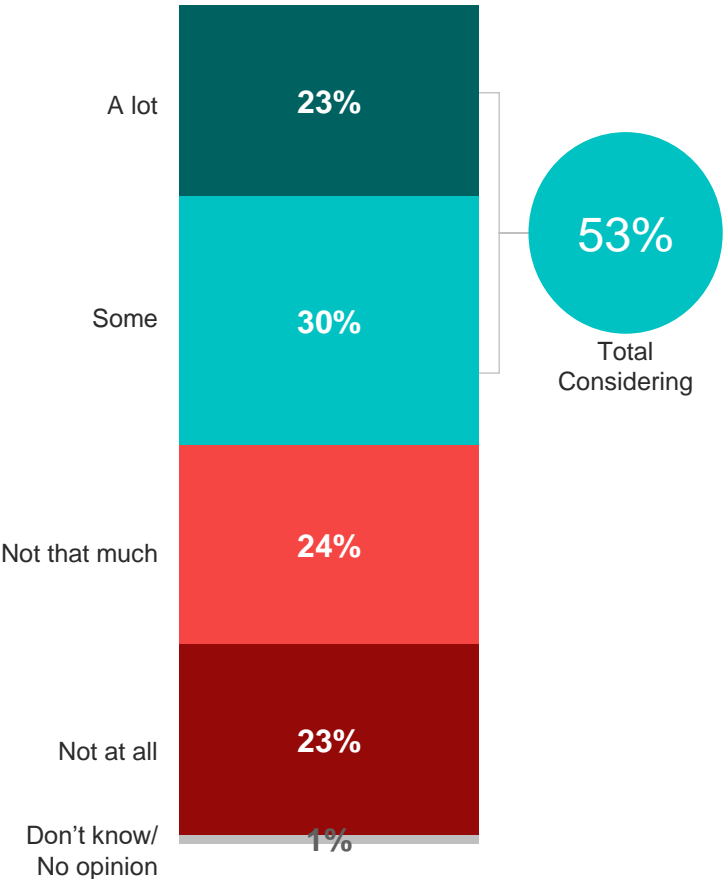
Teaching Profession Consideration

Most teachers have considered leaving or retiring from the teaching profession in the last 3 months.

In the past three months, to what extent have you considered leaving the teaching profession for another career?

Teachers Under 55 Years Old

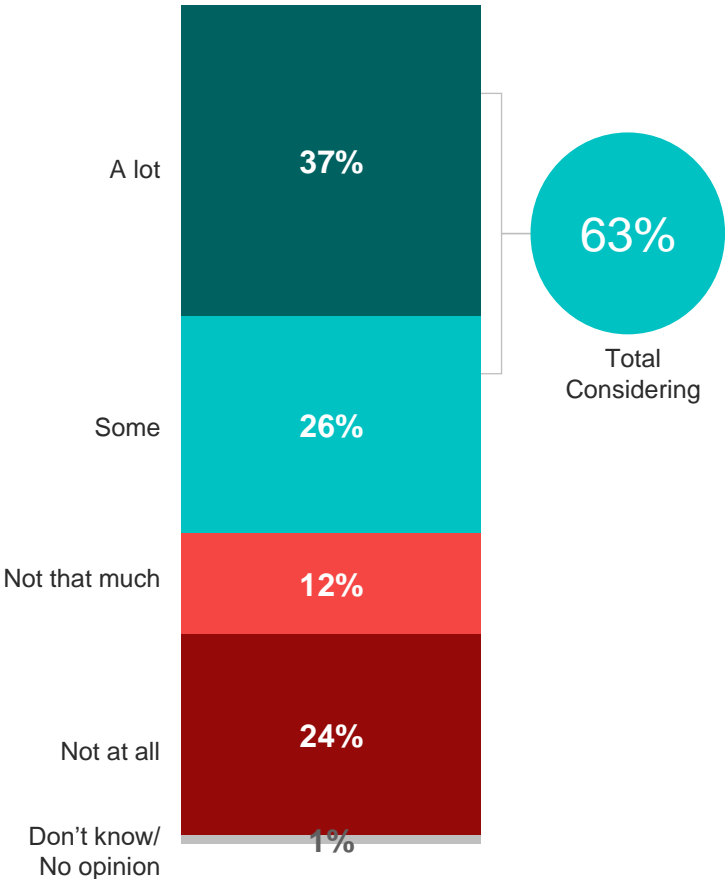
Leaving Teaching Profession



In the past three months, to what extent have you considered retiring from the teaching profession?

Teachers 55+ Years Old

Retiring From Teaching Profession



Consideration Factors

Teachers cite the impact of the pandemic, feeling undervalued and stressed, and increased job demands as top reasons for considering leaving or retiring from the profession.

Why have you considered leaving the teaching profession or retiring after this year?

All Teachers

IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC

“Covid 19 has changed education and I think there is no going back to normal... It has made teaching extremely hard.”

“Covid has made everything so much more difficult. I was already contemplating retirement, and this has made it clear that it's time.”

“The Covid situation has completely undermined education and teachers.”

UNDervalued & STRESSED

“Teachers are still taking the brunt of the criticism, working more hours, and are not being compensated as they should.”

“There are very few jobs where you put so much of yourself into them...only to have society publicly trash your profession.”

“It's too stressful and there's not a lot of respect.”

INCREASED JOB DEMANDS

“The requirements for teachers continues to grow and expand while the pay continues to freeze or decrease.”

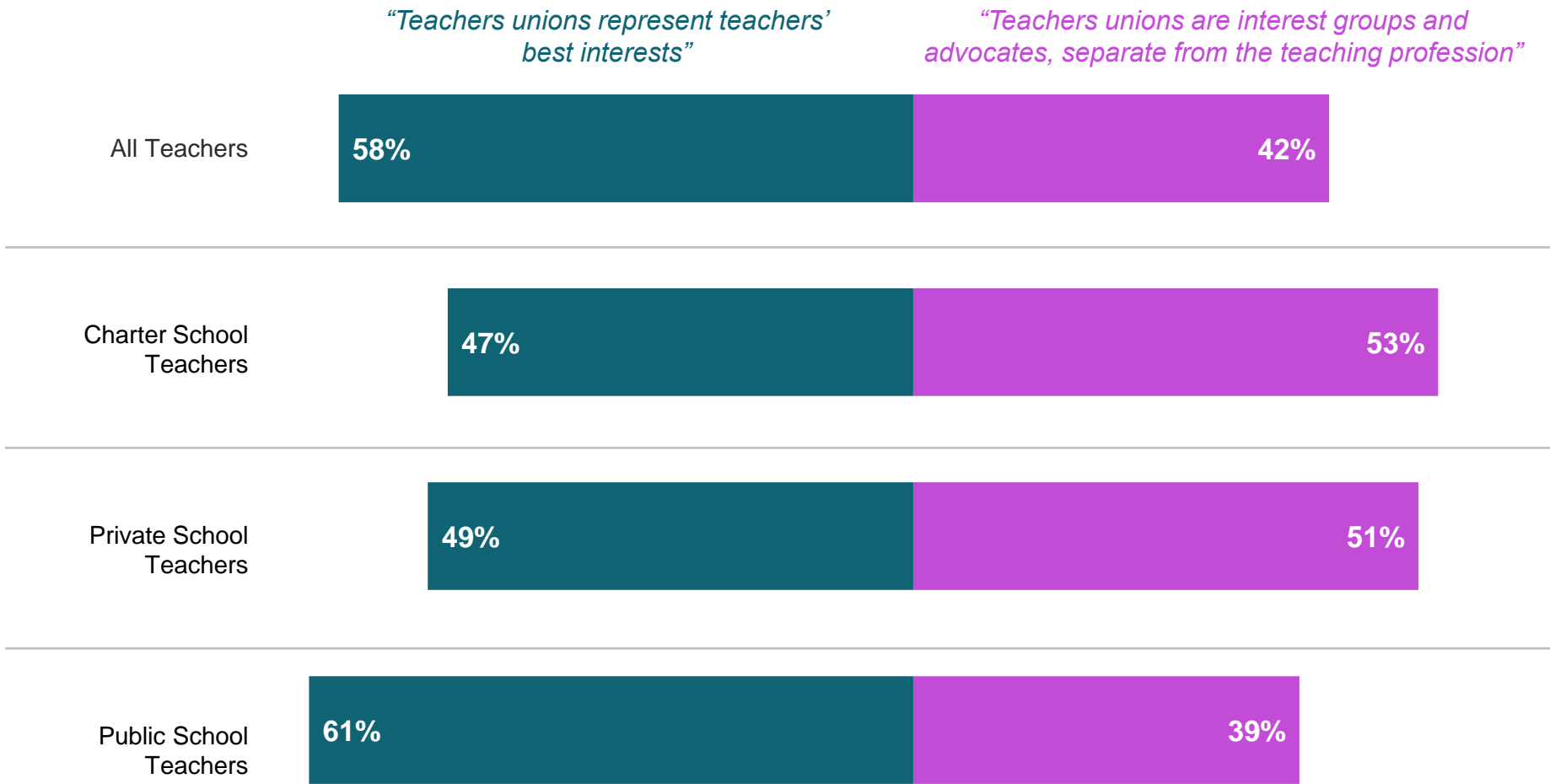
“Teaching is getting harder and harder each year. They put more demands on the teachers and less of the responsibility on the kids and parents.”

“I'm expected to take care of students emotional, behavioral, and academic needs with no help from parents or the administration.”

Perception of Teachers Unions

A majority of teachers agree “teachers unions represent teachers’ best interests.” But private and charter school teachers are more likely to view them as special interest groups than district teachers.

Which of the following do you agree with most even if neither completely matches your opinion?

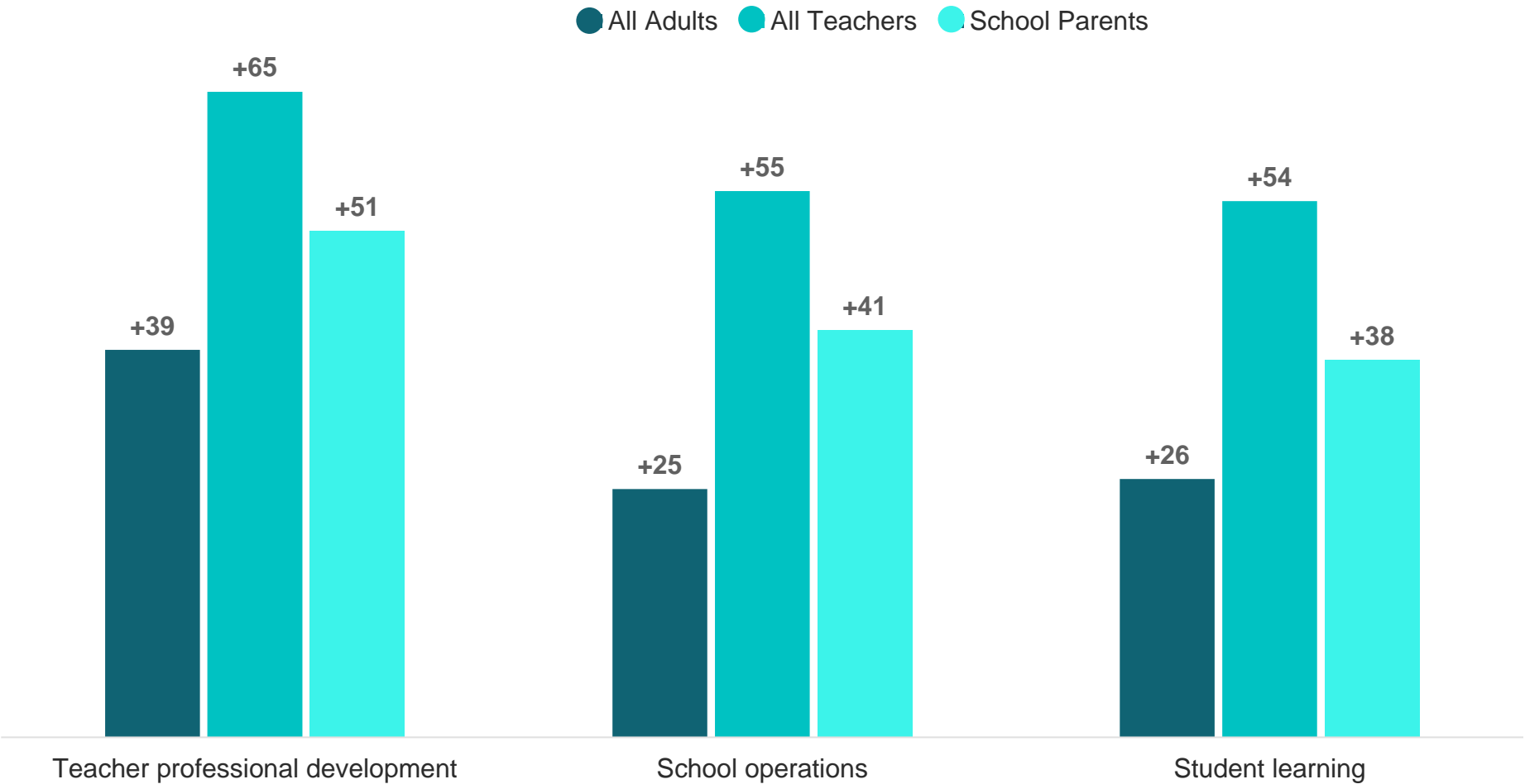


Teachers
Unions
Perceived
Impact

Teachers are more likely than adults and school parents to believe that teachers unions are more helpful than hurtful.

To what extent do you feel that teachers unions are helpful or harmful toward... ?

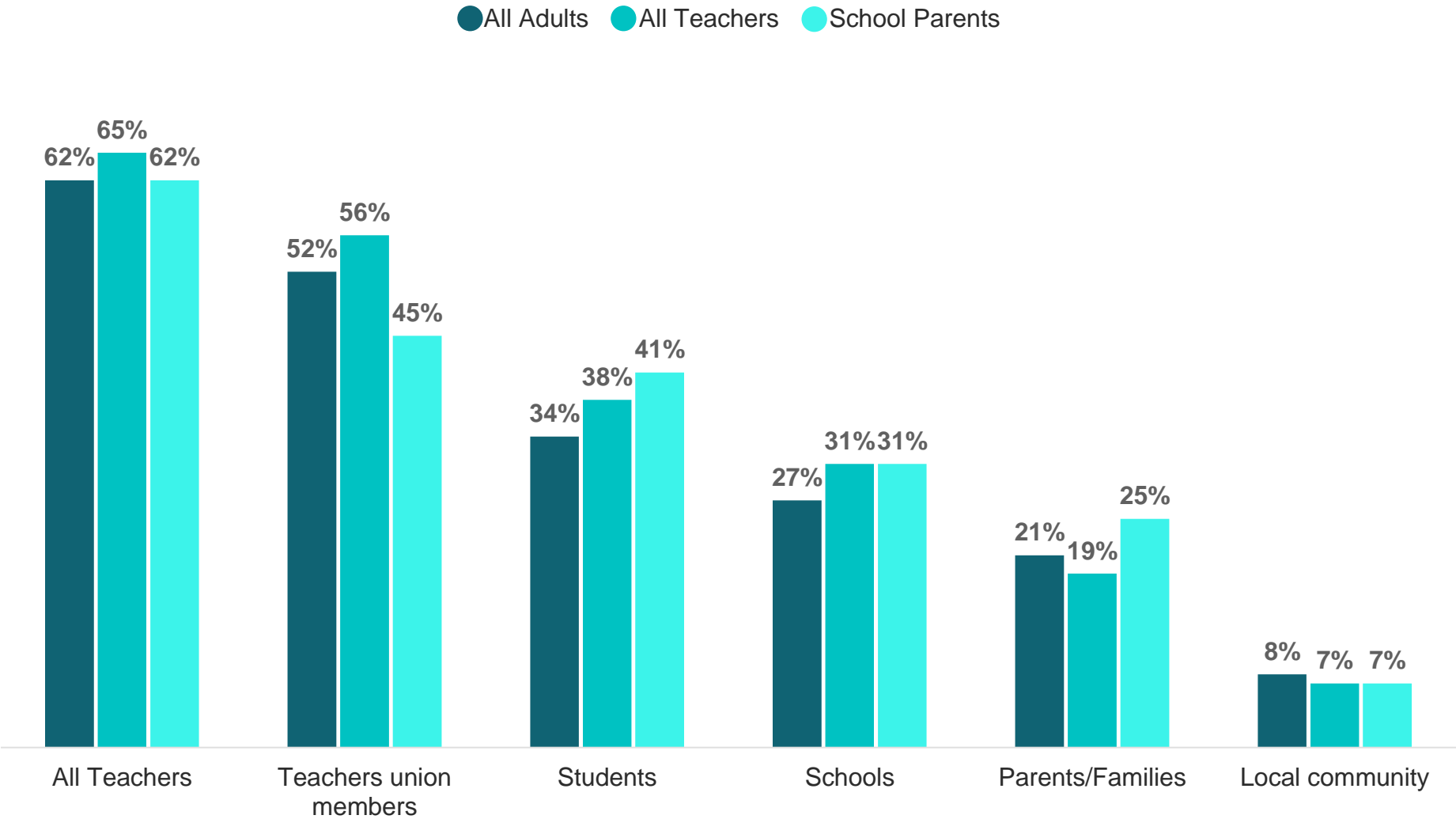
Net Helpful (total helpful-total harmful)



Teachers Unions Perceived Interests

Teachers unions are more likely to be perceived as prioritizing teachers, rather than students, schools, families, or the local community.

Whose interests do you think teachers unions generally prioritize? Select up to 3.



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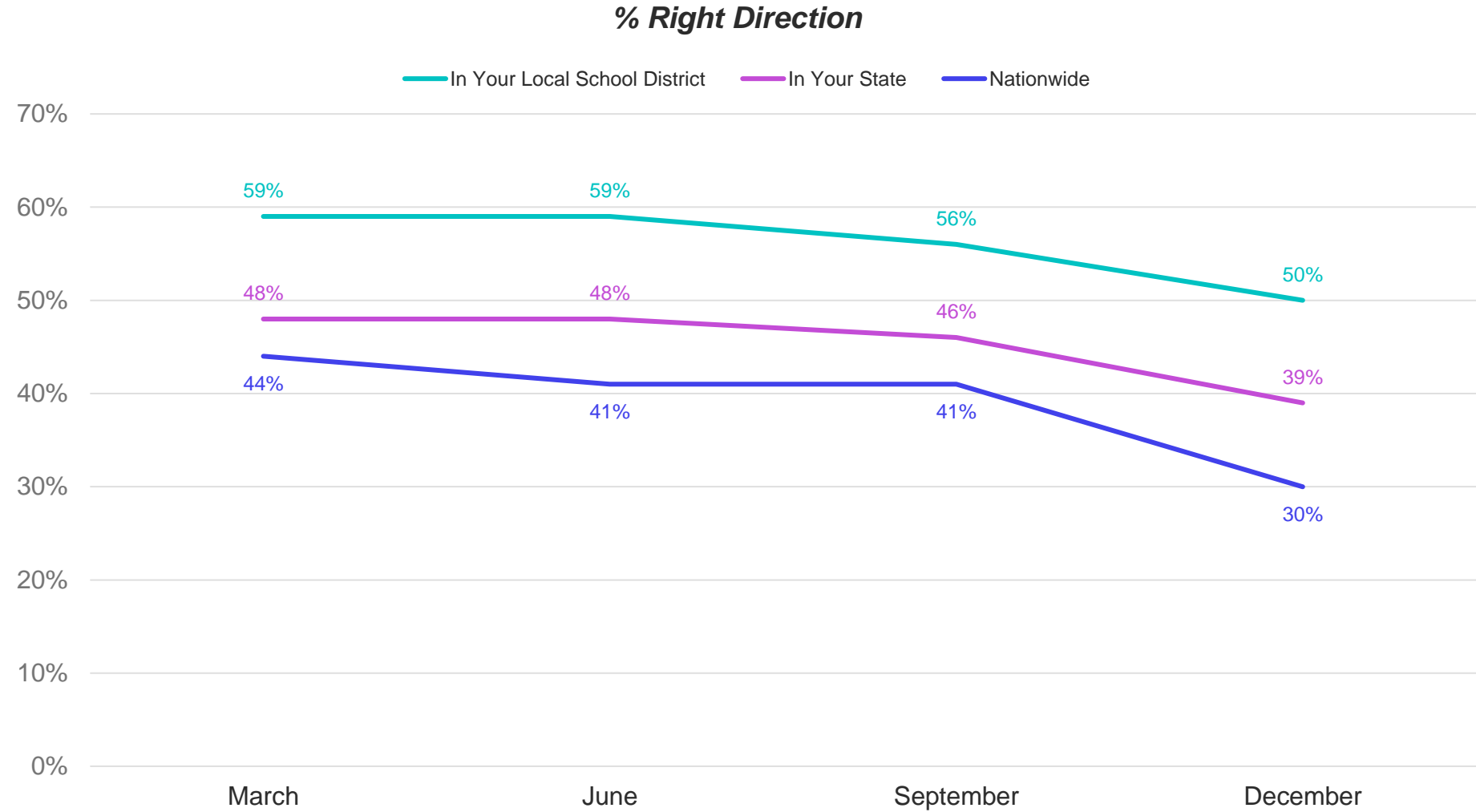
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Direction of Education

Teachers have decreased optimism about the direction of education this quarter, especially nationwide.

Do you feel things in K-12 education are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have generally gotten off on the wrong track?

All Teachers



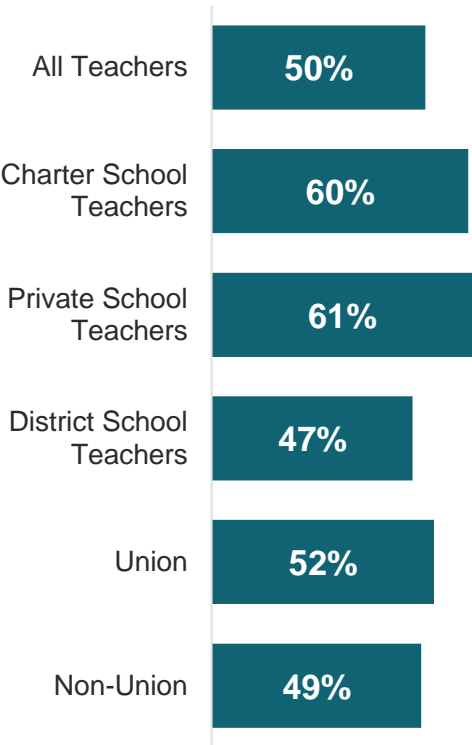
Direction of Education

Private and charter school teachers continue to be more optimistic about the direction of education than district school teachers.

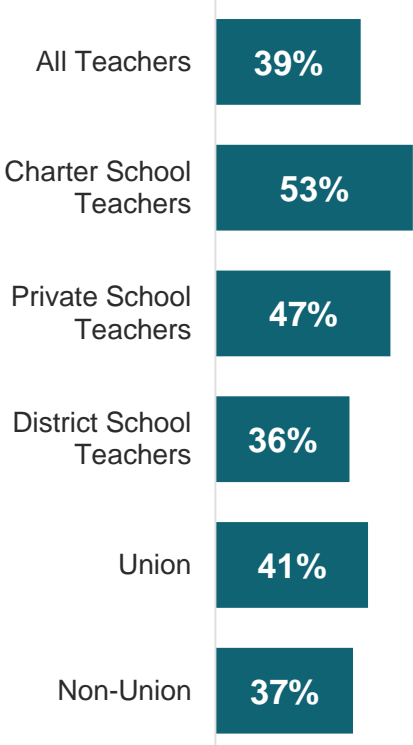
Do you feel things in K-12 Education are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have generally gotten off on the wrong track?

% Right Direction

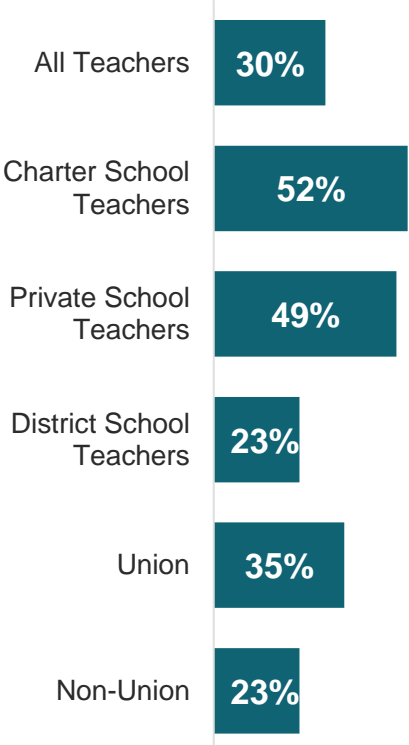
In your local school district



In your state



Nationwide



Purpose of Education

Most teachers believe it is extremely important for students to learn how to become independent thinkers throughout their K-12 education.

What do you believe should be the main purpose of education during *Kindergarten through 8th grade/High School*? In your opinion, how important is it for students to learn...

All Teachers

% Extremely Important

Grades K-8

Average % selected Extremely Important 45%



Become independent thinkers (54%)



Core academic subjects (53%)



How to be good citizens (52%)



Socialization (52%)



Values, moral character, religious virtues (38%)



Skills for future employment (37%)



To fix social problems (26%)

Grades 9-12

Average % selected Extremely Important 52%



Skills for future employment (65%)



Become independent thinkers (63%)



How to be good citizens (57%)



Core academic subjects (54%)



Socialization (49%)



Values, moral character, religious virtues (41%)



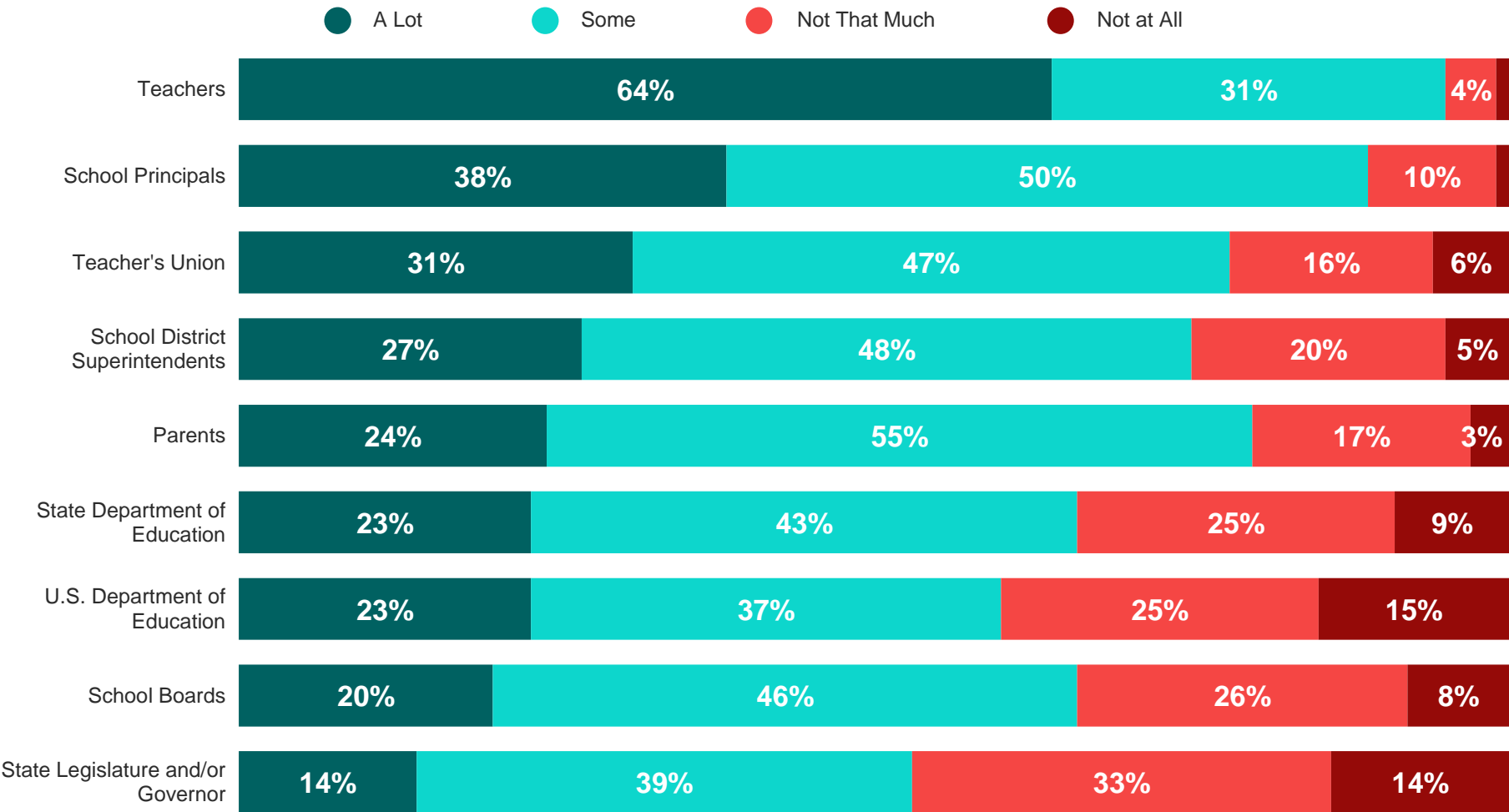
To fix social problems (35%)

Bolding and blue font indicates 5+ points above the general populations' responses

Trust in Education Decision Makers

Teachers continue to view fellow teachers as most trustworthy when it comes to making decisions about education.

How much, if at all, do you trust the following to make good decisions about education?



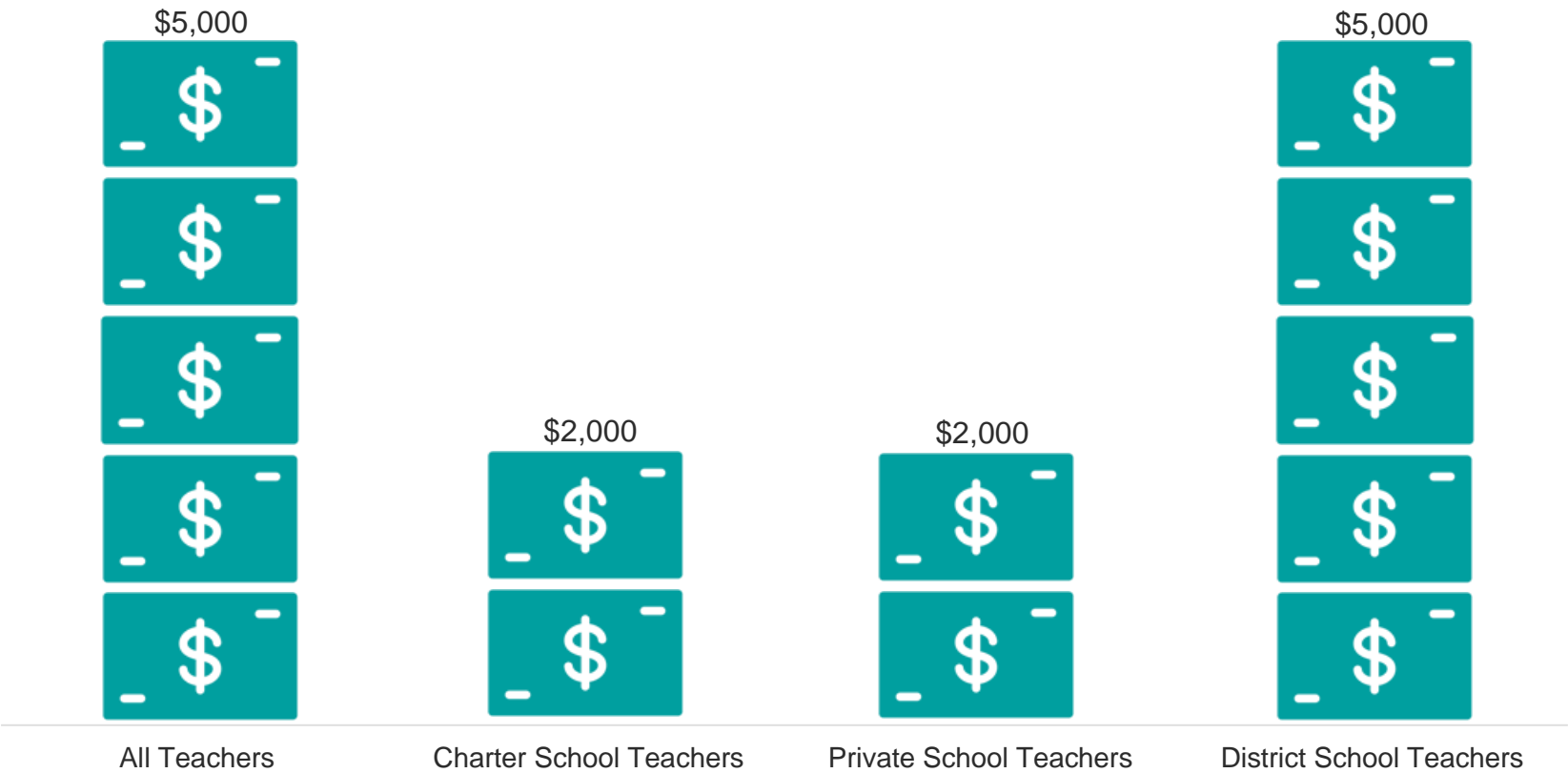
School
Spending
Estimate

Teachers’ estimates remain much lower than actual school spending.

How much do you think is spent per year on each student in your state’s **public schools**? Your estimate of the state average—to the nearest thousand dollars—will represent the combined expenditures of local, state, and federal governments.

Median estimate

FY17 State Actuals	
Maximum	\$23,091
Mean	\$12,521
Minimum	\$7,179



FY17 State Actuals Source: National Center for Education Statistics

\$ = \$1,000

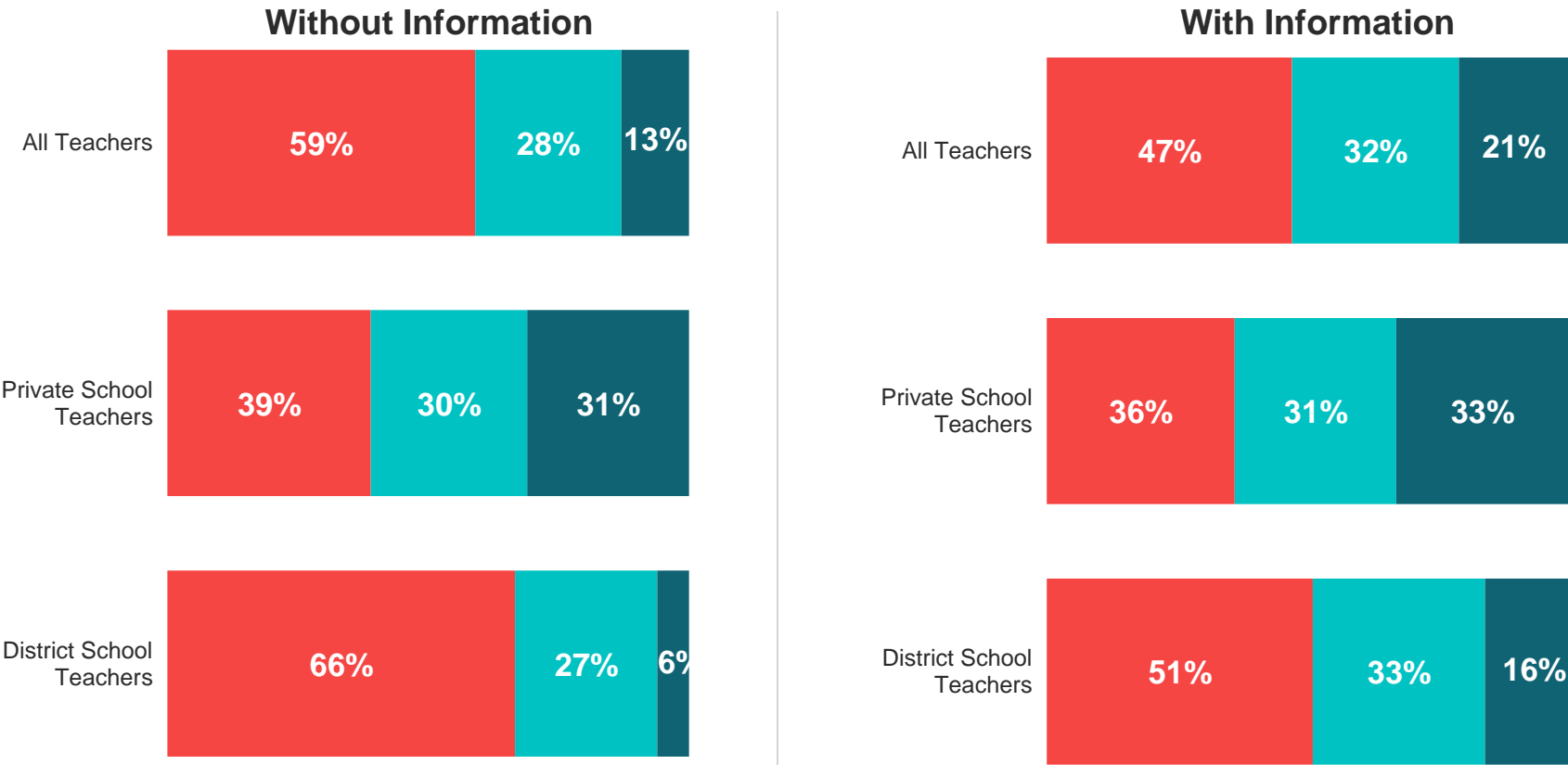
School Funding

When given actual spending information, teachers were less likely (-12 points) to believe school spending per student was ‘too low’.

Do you believe public school funding in [STATE] is:

On average, [STATE] spends \$_____ per student attending public school each year. Do you believe public school funding is:

Too Low About Right Too High



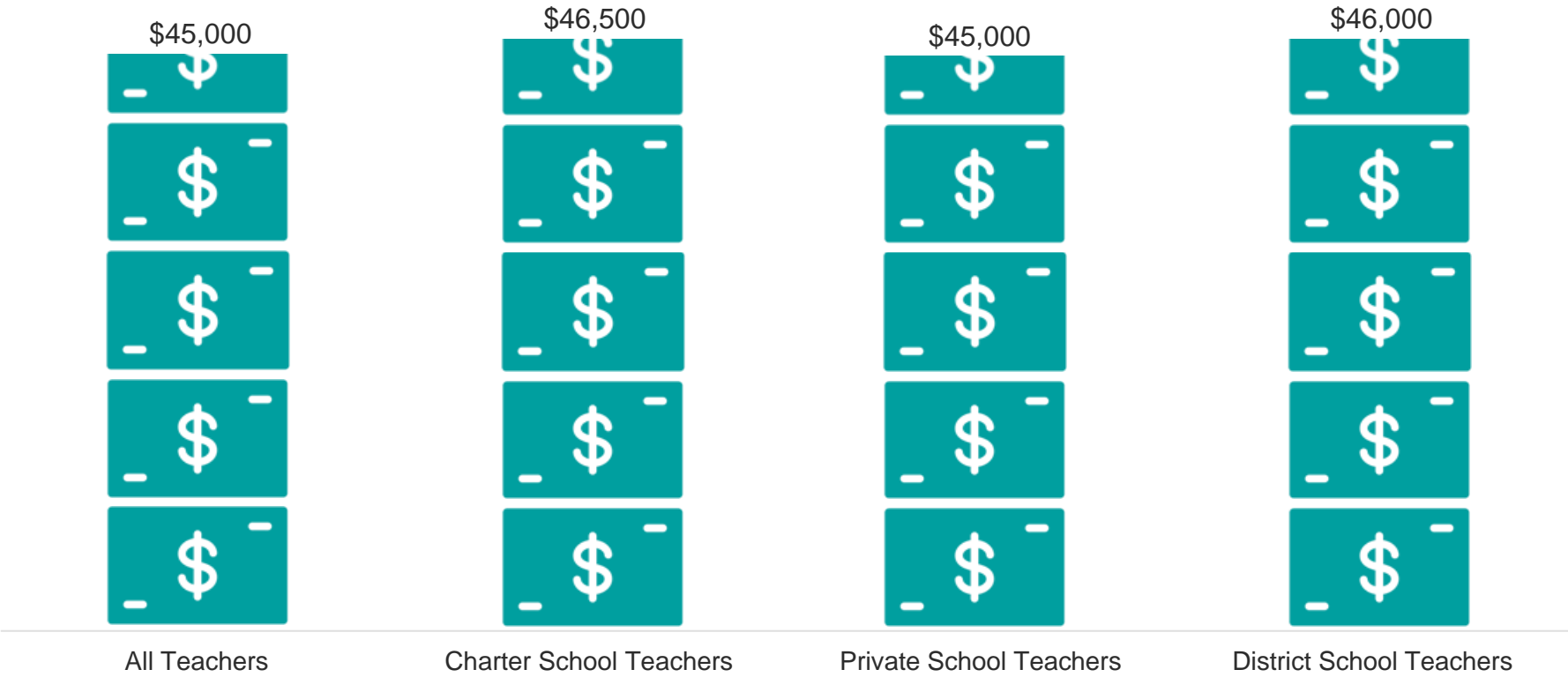
State Per Pupil Spending Source: National Center for Education Statistics
*Charter school teachers not shown due to low sample size

Teacher
Salary
Estimate


Teachers’ salary estimates continue to fall below the average across states.

How much do you think is the average teacher salary in your state’s **public schools**?
Median estimate

FY17 State Actuals	
Maximum	\$83,585
Mean	\$57,282
Minimum	\$43,107



FY17 State Actuals Source: National Center for Education Statistics

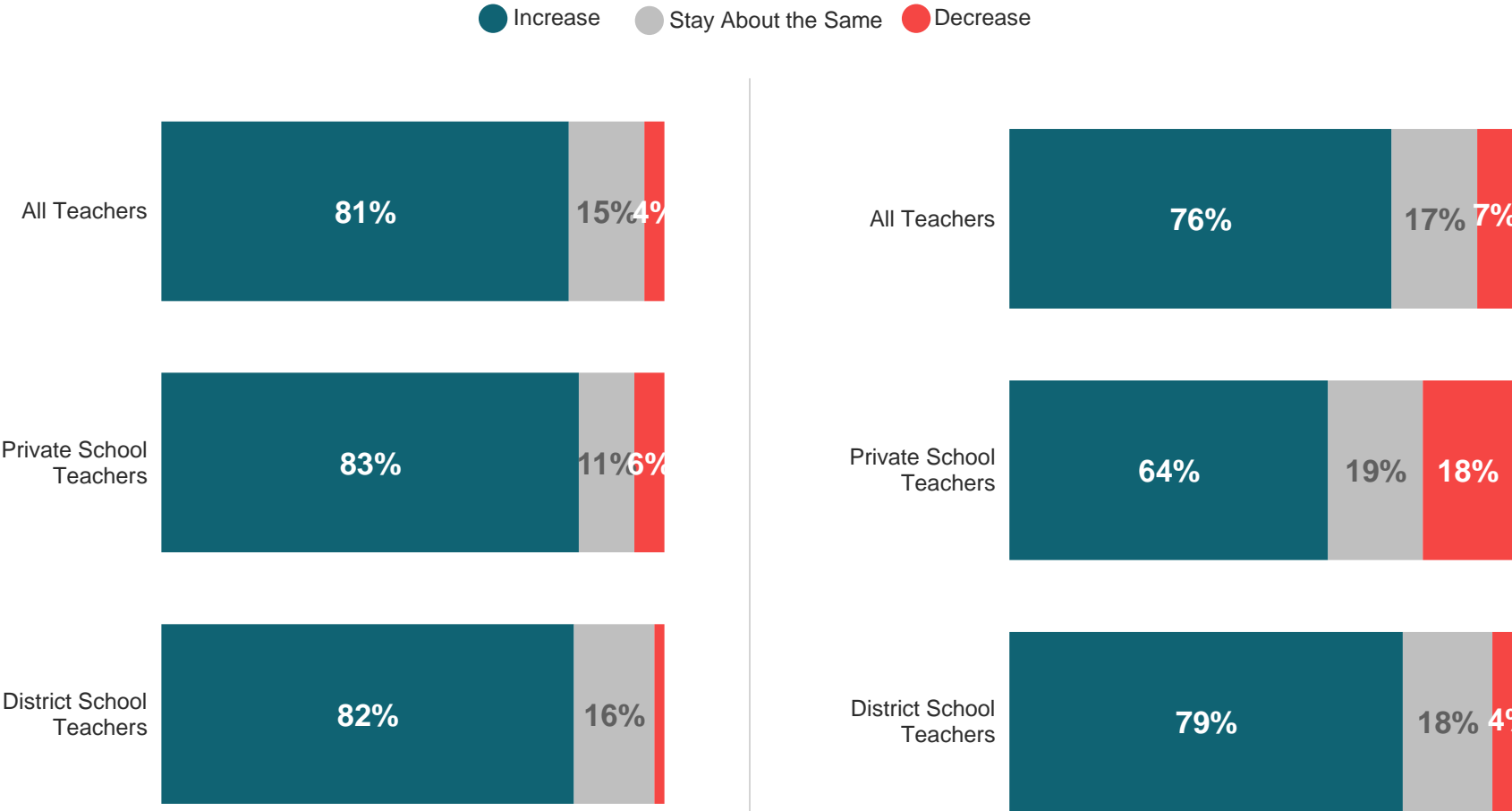
 = \$10,000

Teacher Salaries

Private school teachers are less likely than district teachers to believe teachers' salaries should increase once given the average salary for teachers in their state.

Do you think that public school teacher salaries in your state should:

On average, public school teachers in [STATE] are paid an annual salary of \$_____. Do you think that public school teacher salaries should:

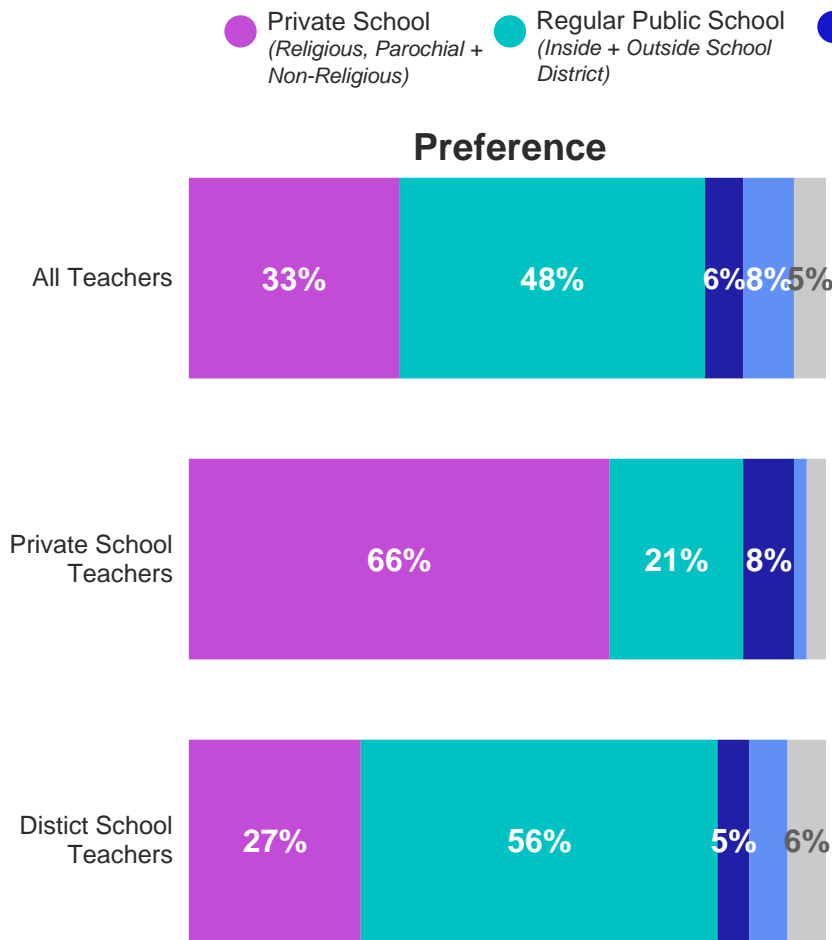


State Per Pupil Spending Source: National Center for Education Statistics
*Charter school teachers not shown due to low sample size

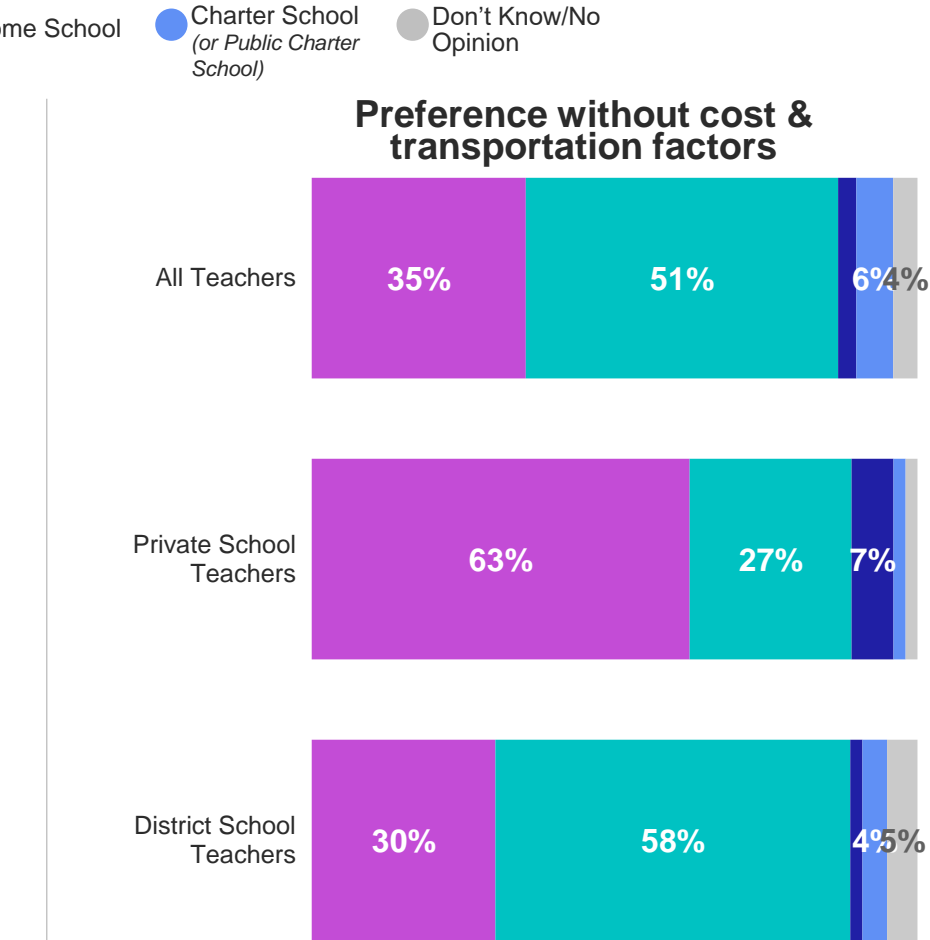
Preferred Schooling Type

Teachers continue to prefer the school type they teach in when choosing for their child.

If given the option, what type of school would you select in order to obtain the best education for your child?



If given the option, and neither financial costs nor transportation were factors, what type of school would you select in order to obtain the best education for your child?

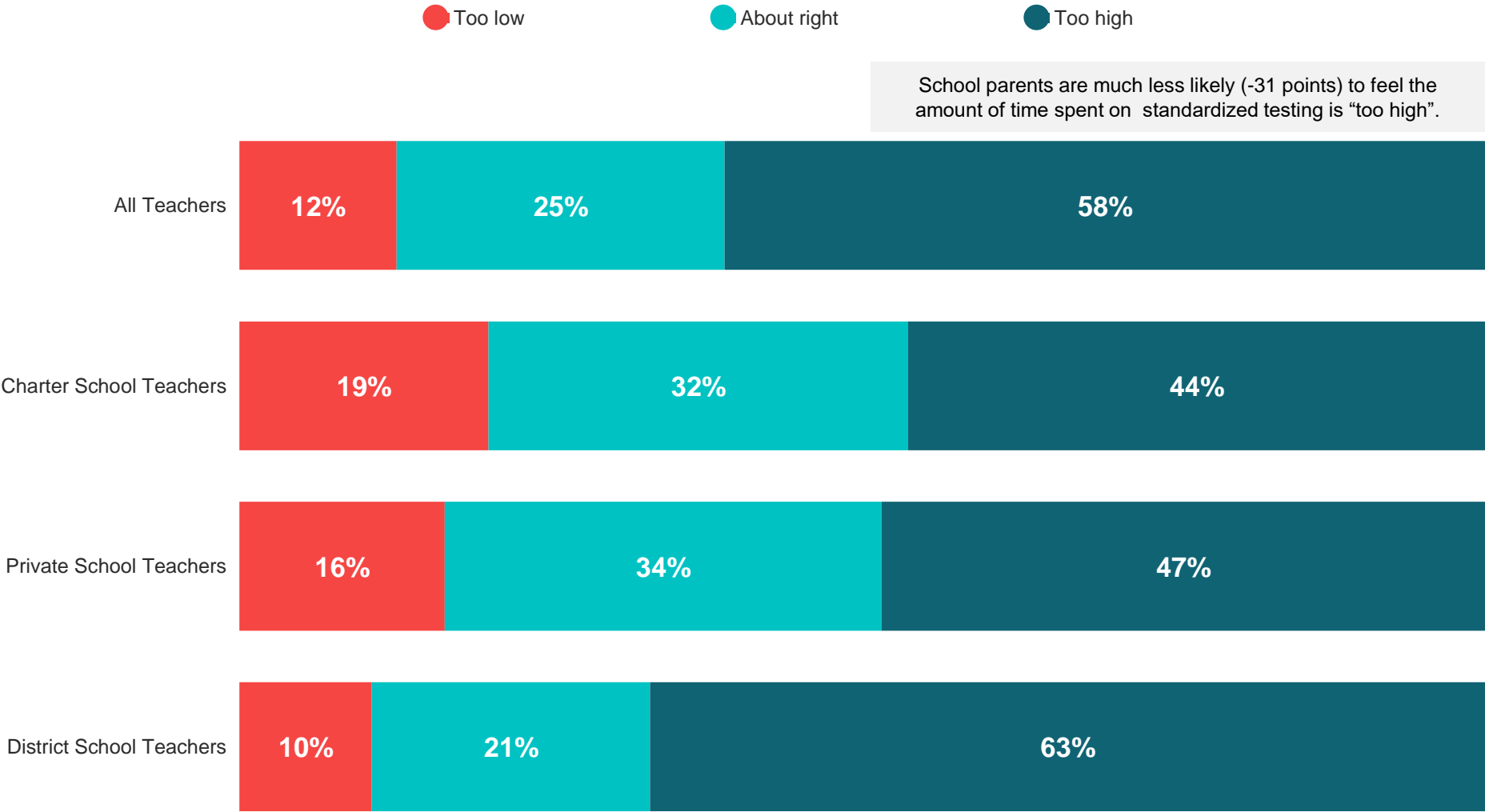


*Charter school teachers not shown due to low sample size

Standardized Testing

Most teachers, especially district school teachers believe that schools spend too much time on standardized testing.

All public schools and most private schools give their students standardized tests during the school year. When thinking about students preparing for and taking these tests, in general, do you believe the amount of time spent on standardized testing in American Schools is



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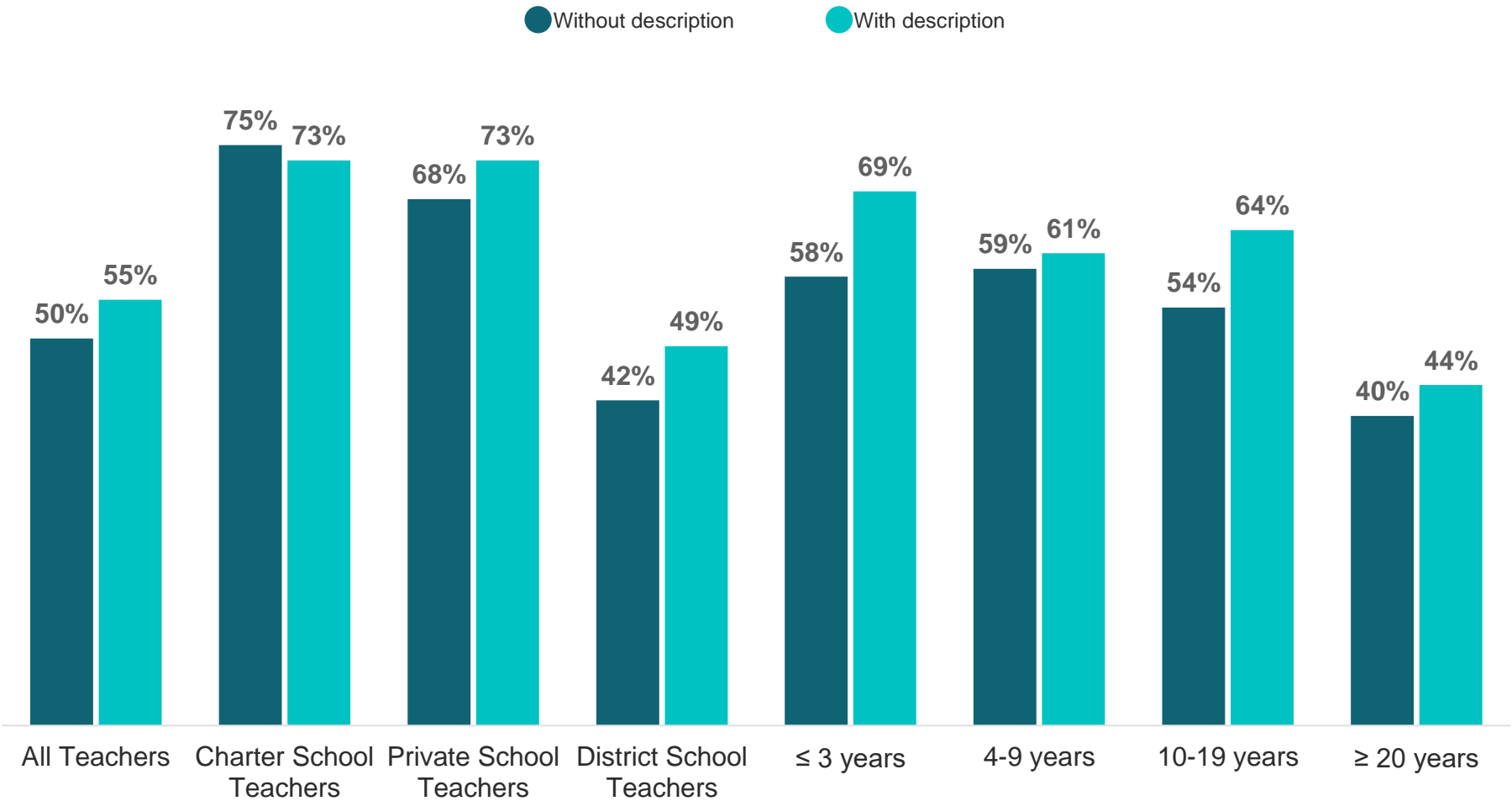
Charter School Favorability

Teachers’ support of charter schools increases once given more information.

Based on what you know, or have heard from others... In general, what is your opinion of 'charter schools' in K–12 education?

Charter schools are public schools that have more control over their own budget, staff, and curriculum, and are exempt from many existing public school regulations. In general, what is your opinion of public charter schools?

Total Support (Strongly support + Somewhat support)

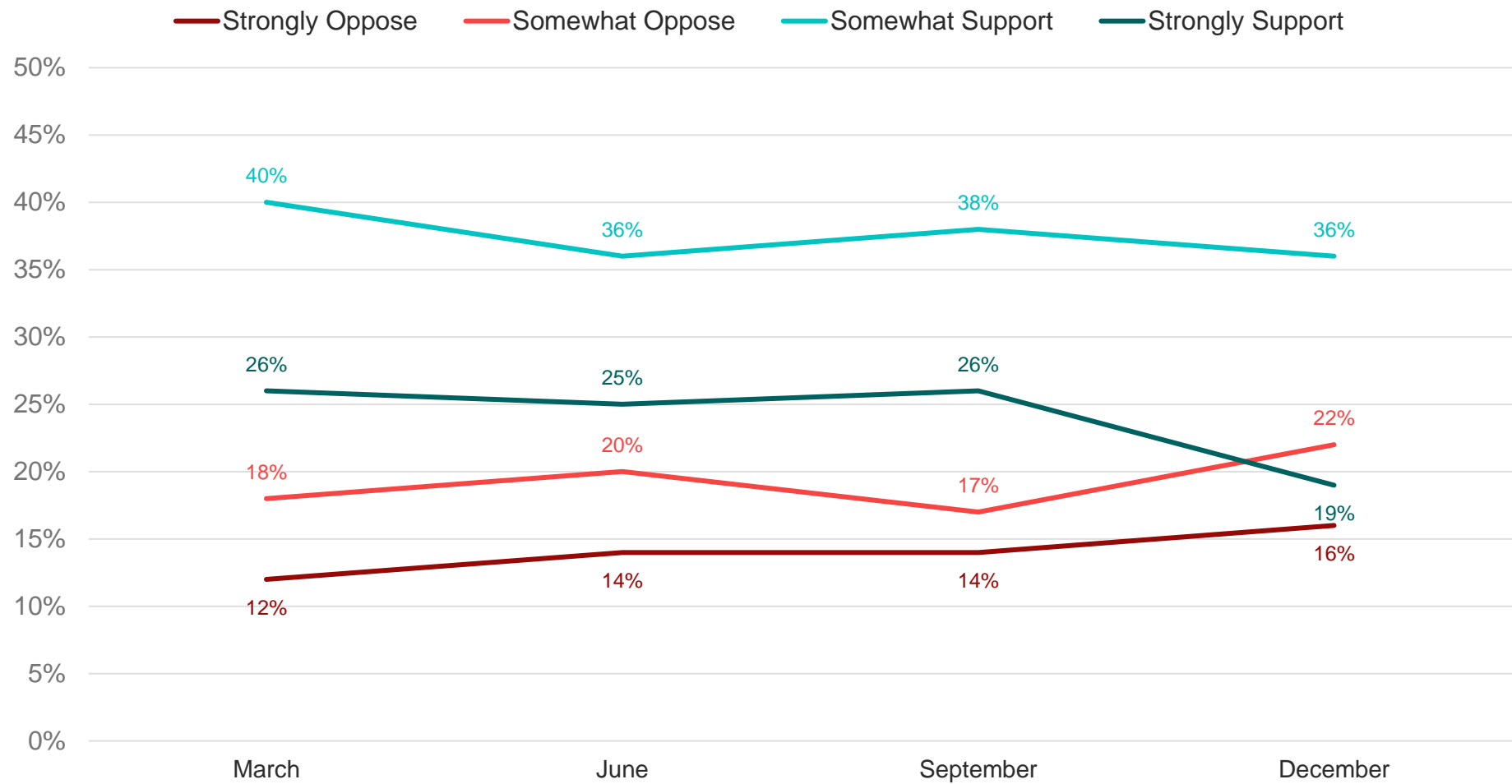


Charter School Favorability

Strong support of charter schools experienced a sharp decline this quarter.

Charter schools are public schools that have more control over their own budget, staff, and curriculum, and are exempt from many existing public school regulations. In general, what is your opinion of public charter schools?

All Teachers



Note: Don't know/no opinion responses are not shown.

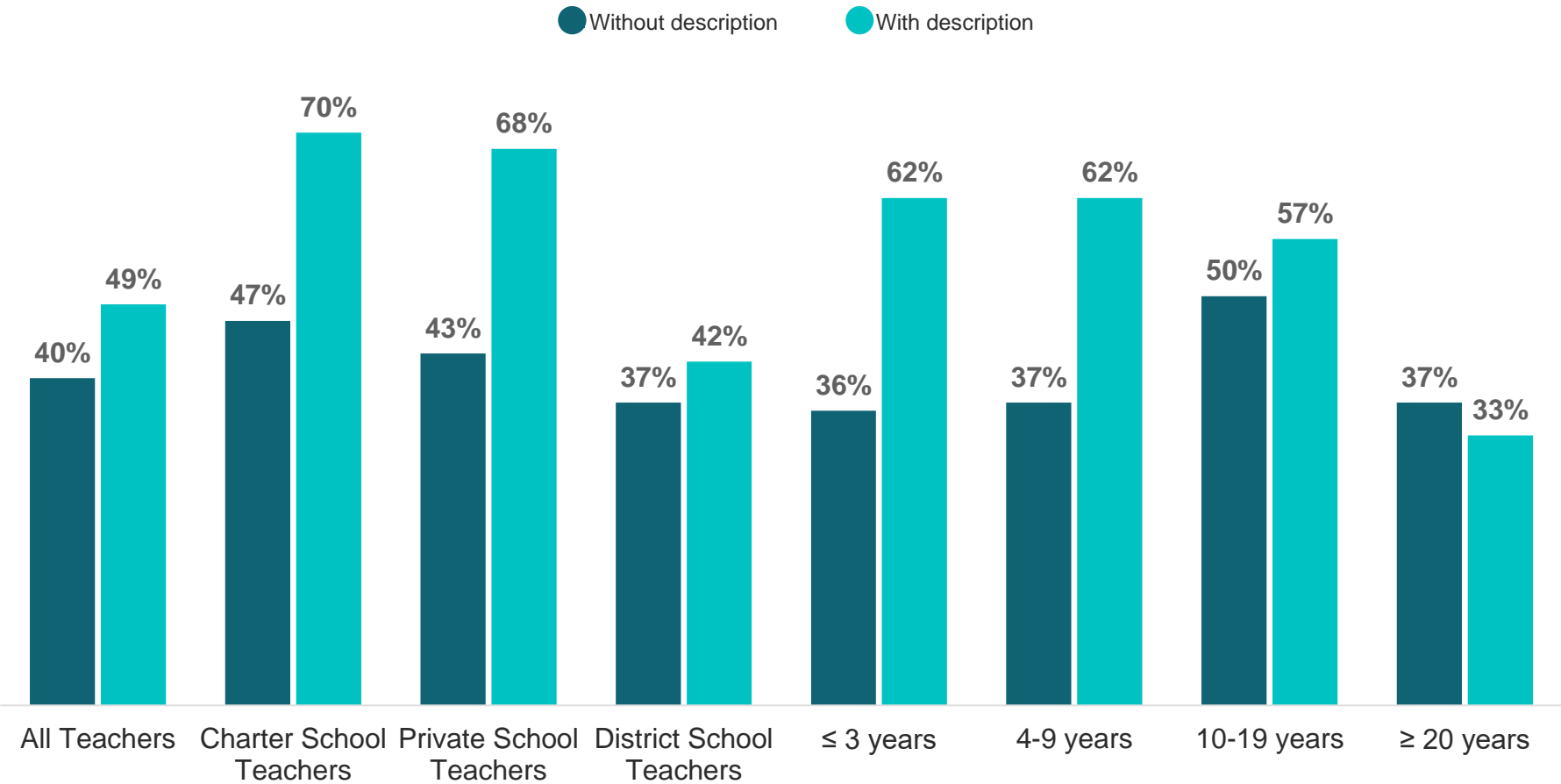
School Voucher Favorability

Support for school vouchers also increases when teachers are provided with information, especially for teachers with less experience (≤ 9 years).

Based on what you know, or have heard from others... In general, what is your opinion of 'school vouchers' in K-12 education?

A school voucher system allows parents the option of sending their child to the school of their choice, whether that school is public or private, including both religious and non-religious schools. If this policy were adopted, tax dollars currently allocated to a school district would be allocated to parents in the form of a 'school voucher' to pay partial or full tuition for the child's school. In general, what is your opinion of school voucher systems?

Total Support (Strongly support + Somewhat support)

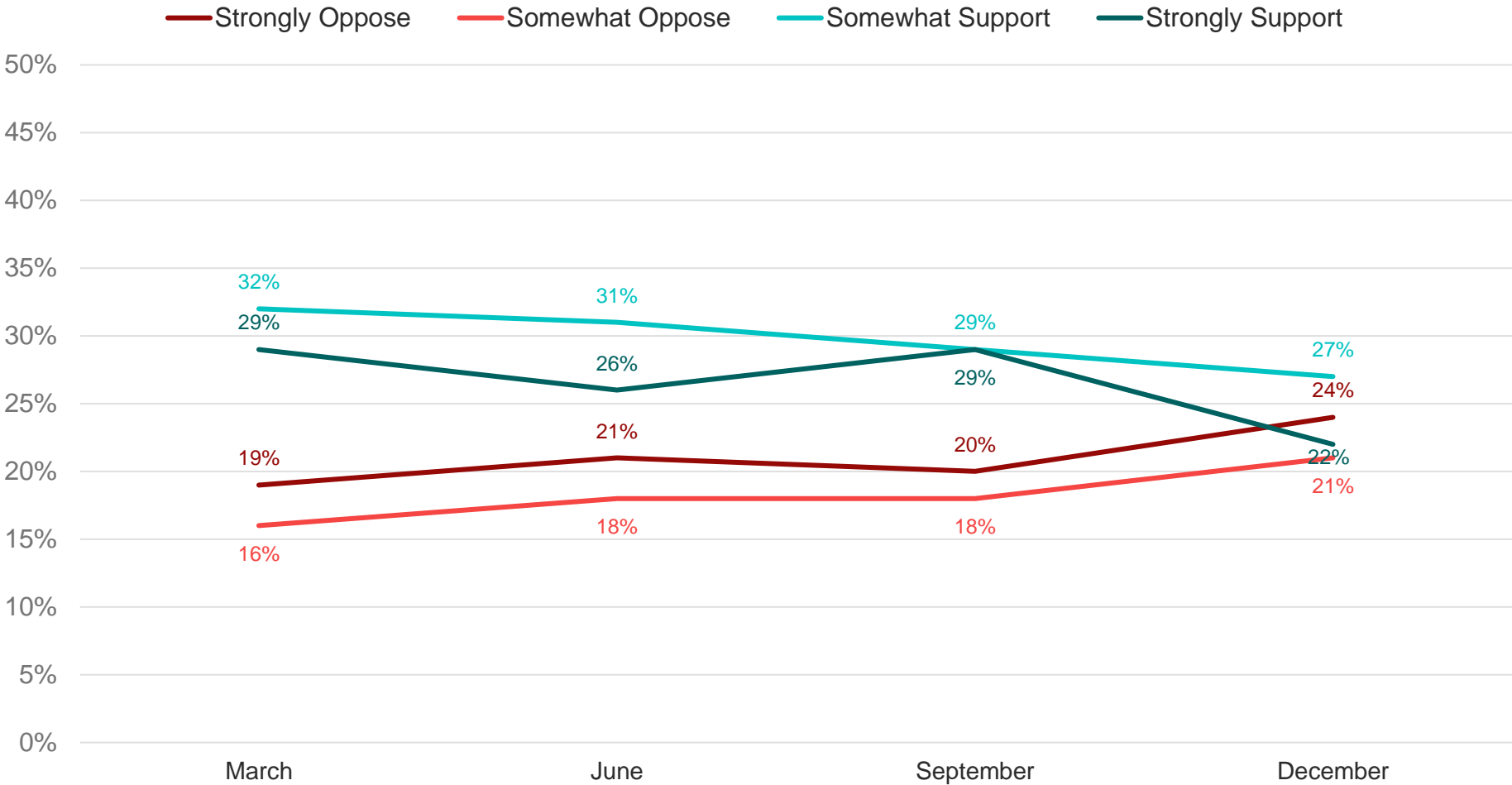


School Voucher Favorability

Support for school vouchers has decreased among teachers over the course of 2020.

Based on what you know, or have heard from others... In general, what is your opinion of 'school vouchers' in K-12 education? A school voucher system allows parents the option of sending their child to the school of their choice, whether that school is public or private, including both religious and non-religious schools. If this policy were adopted, tax dollars currently allocated to a school district would be allocated to parents in the form of a 'school voucher' to pay partial or full tuition for the child's school. In general, what is your opinion of school voucher systems?

All Teachers



Note: Don't know/no opinion responses are not shown.

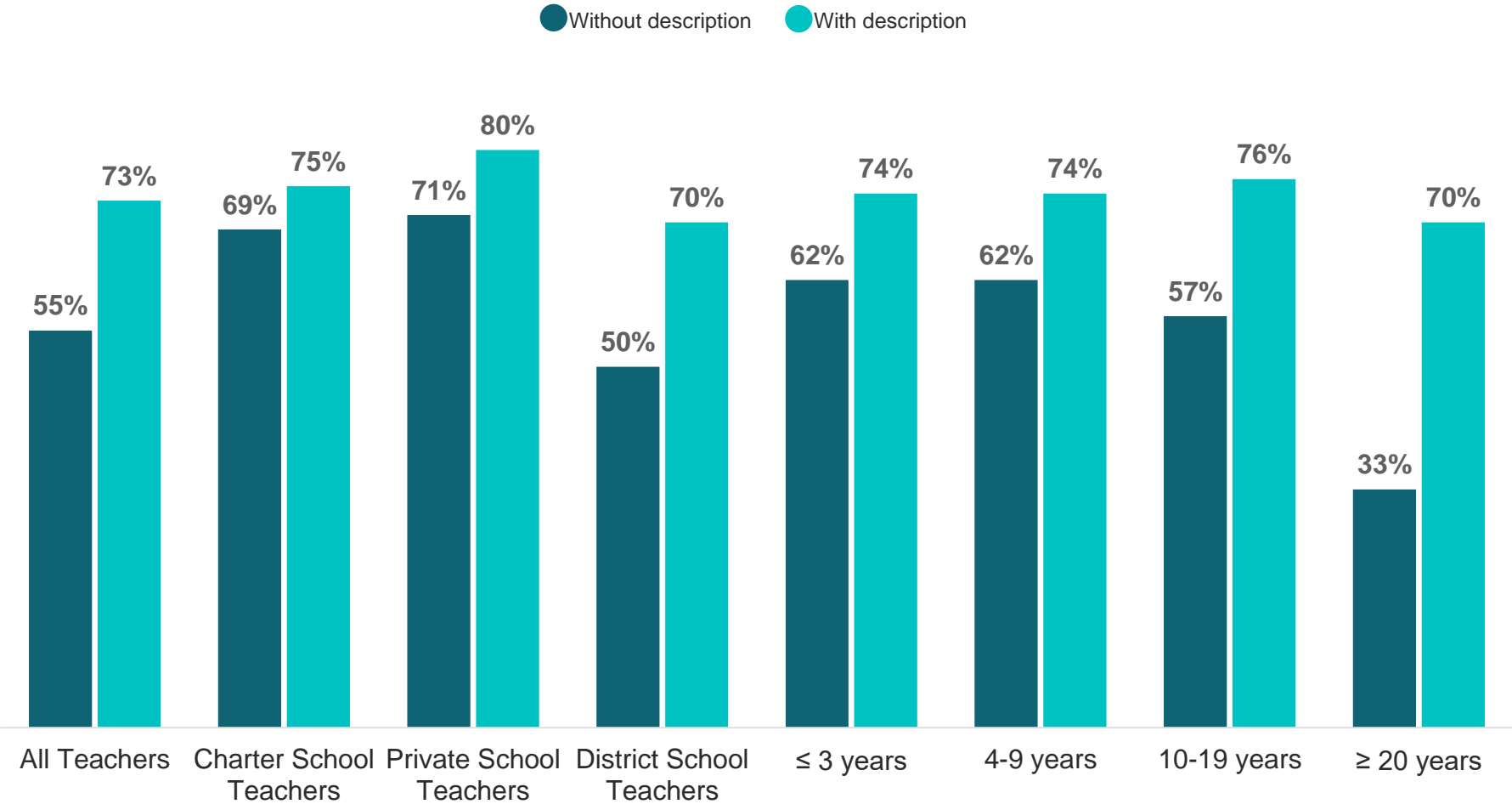
Education Savings Accounts Favorability

Teachers are much more supportive of ESAs after learning more about them, particularly among more tenured teachers (≥ 20 years).

Based on what you know, or have heard from others... In general, what is your opinion of 'education savings accounts' in K-12 education?

An "education savings account" in K-12 education – often called an ESA – establishes for parents a government-authorized savings account with restricted, but multiple uses for educational purposes. Parents can then use these funds to pay for: school tuition; tutoring; online education programs; therapies for students with special needs; textbooks or other instructional materials; or save for future college expenses. In general, what is your opinion of an ESA system?

Total Support (Strongly support + Somewhat support)

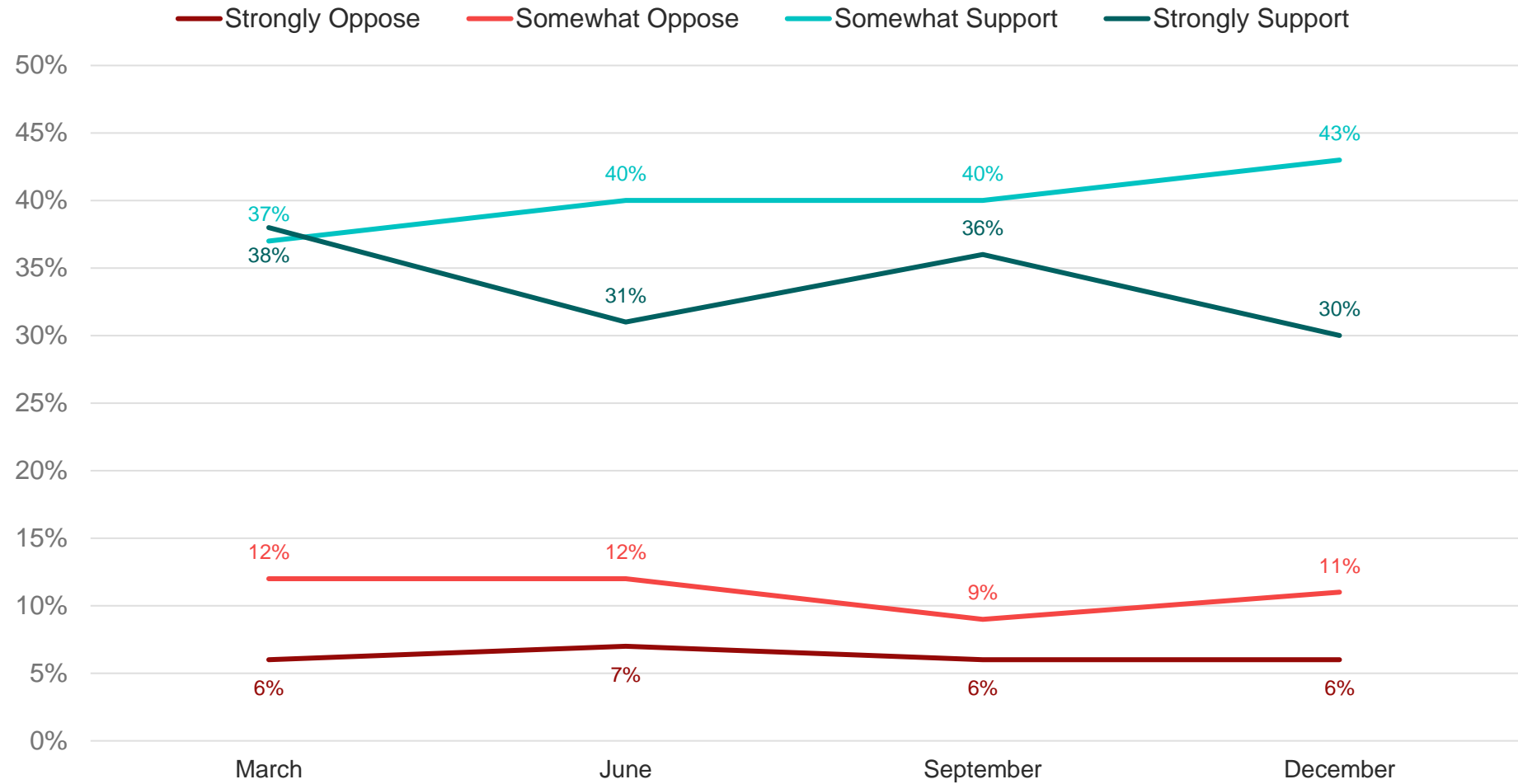


Education Savings Accounts Favorability

Soft support of education savings accounts has increased +6 points since March, while strong support has decreased -8 points over the year.

Based on what you know, or have heard from others... In general, what is your opinion of 'education savings accounts' in K-12 education? An "education savings account" in K-12 education – often called an ESA – establishes for parents a government-authorized savings account with restricted, but multiple uses for educational purposes. Parents can then use these funds to pay for: school tuition; tutoring; online education programs; therapies for students with special needs; textbooks or other instructional materials; or save for future college expenses. In general, what is your opinion of an ESA system?

All Teachers



Note: Don't know/no opinion responses are not shown.

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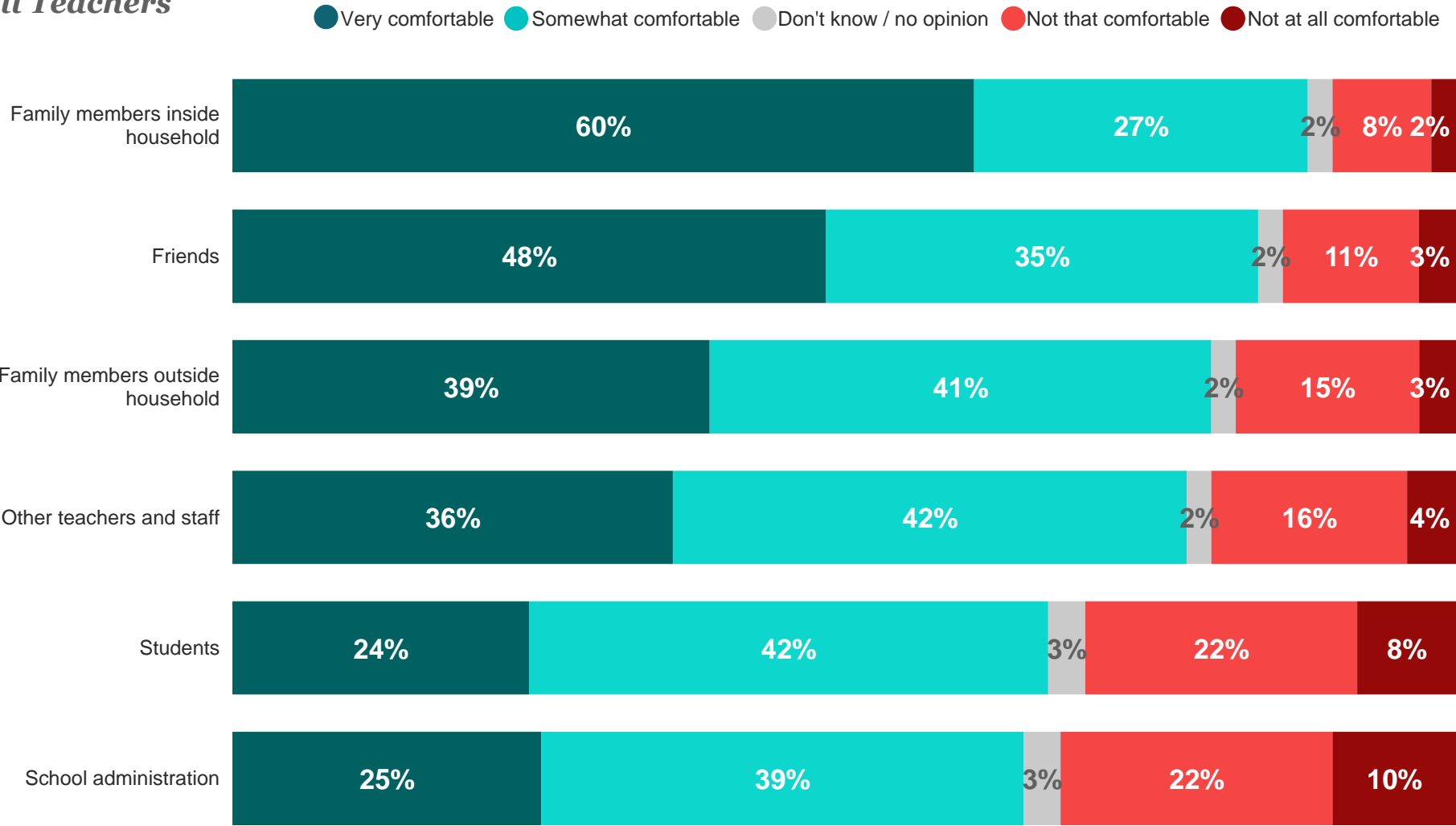
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Current Events and Social Issues

Teachers are most comfortable discussing current events and social issues with their family and friends.

How comfortable are you discussing current events/social issues with each of the following...?

All Teachers

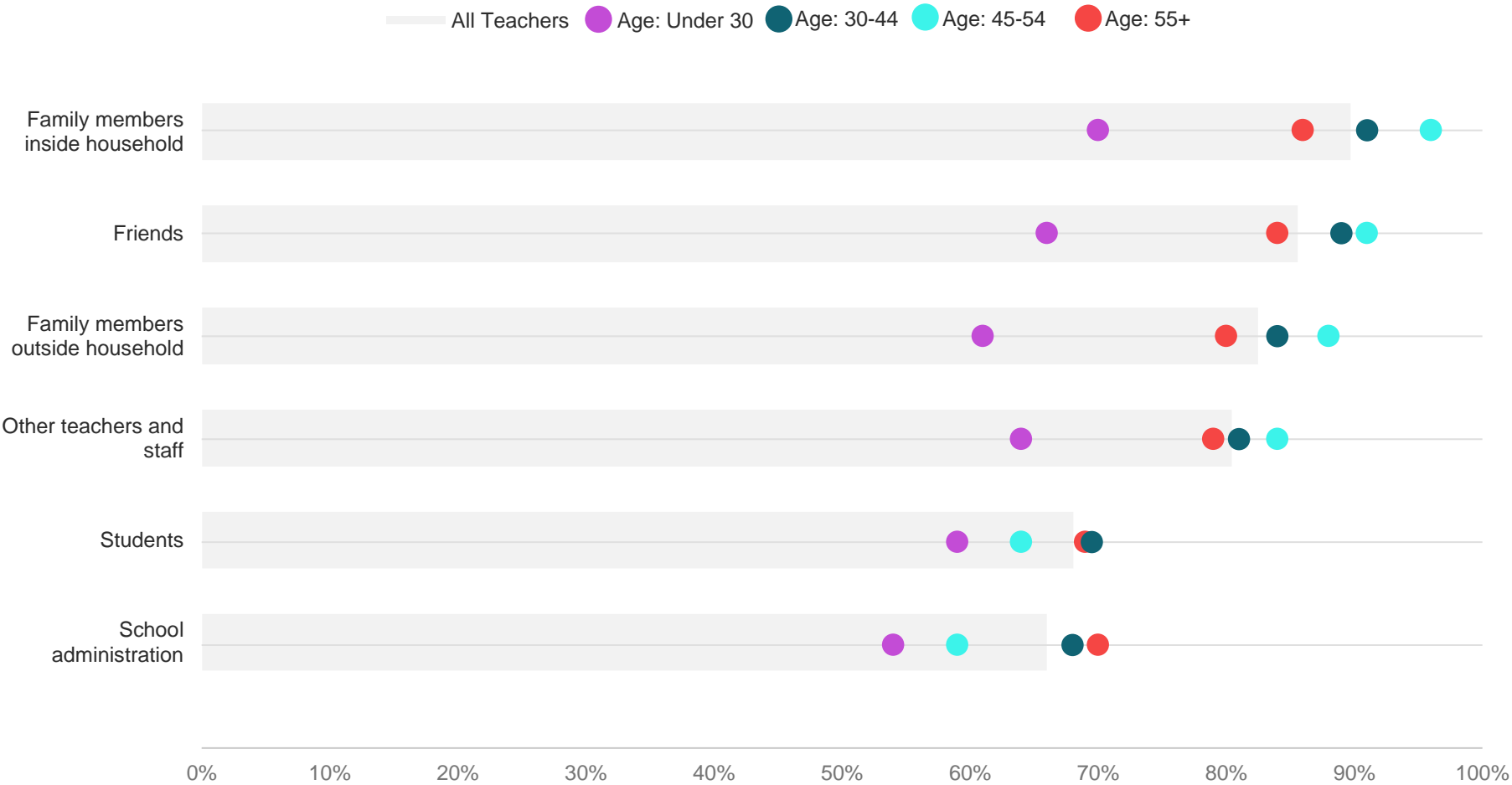


Current Events and Social Issues

Younger teachers (age: under 30) are less comfortable discussing current events and social issues than teachers ages 30 and older.

How comfortable are you discussing current events/social issues with each of the following...?

Total Comfortable (very + somewhat)

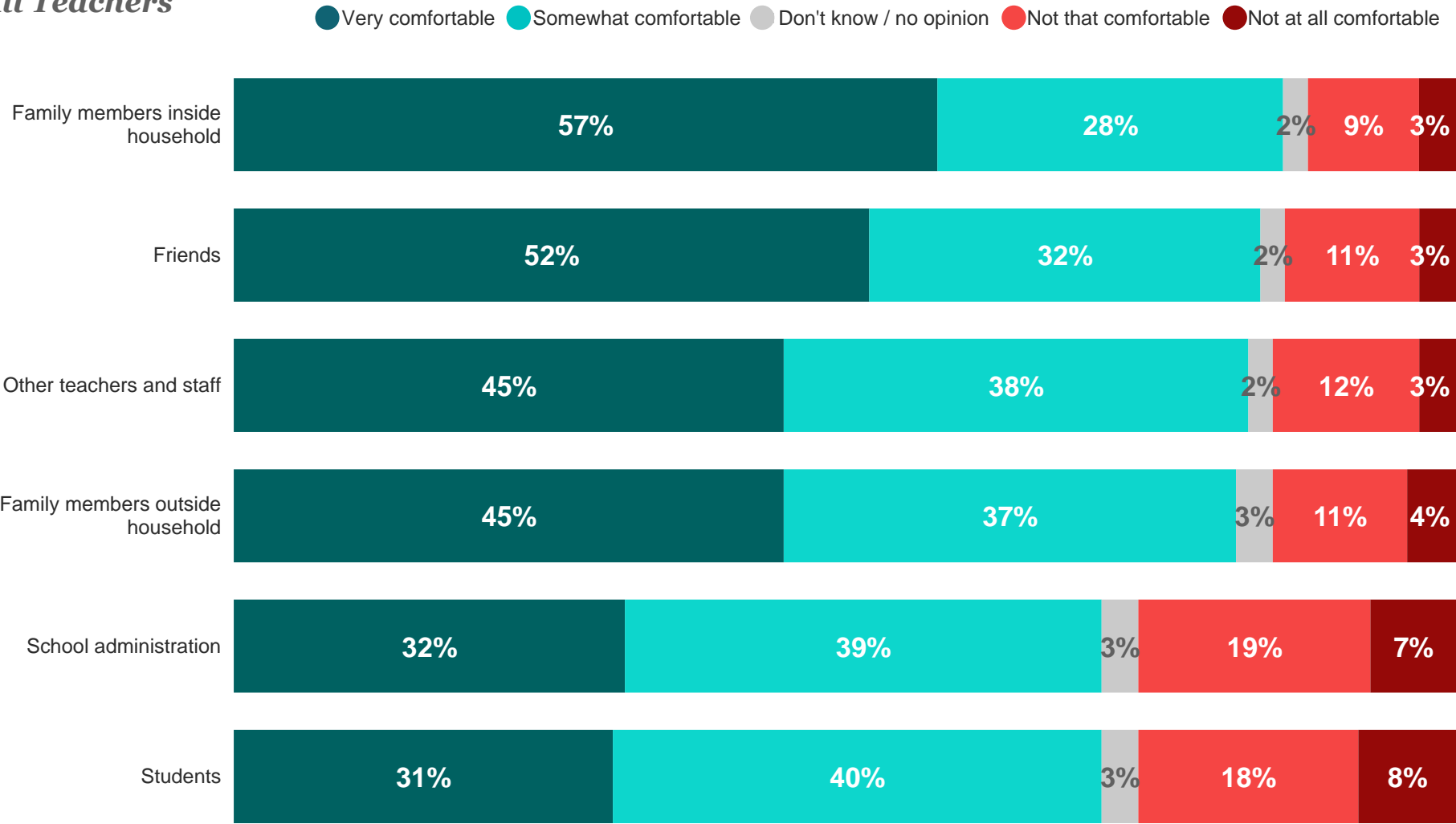


COVID-19 School Policies

Similar to social issues, teachers are most comfortable discussing COVID-19 policies with family and friends.

How comfortable are you discussing COVID-19 school policies with each of the following...?

All Teachers

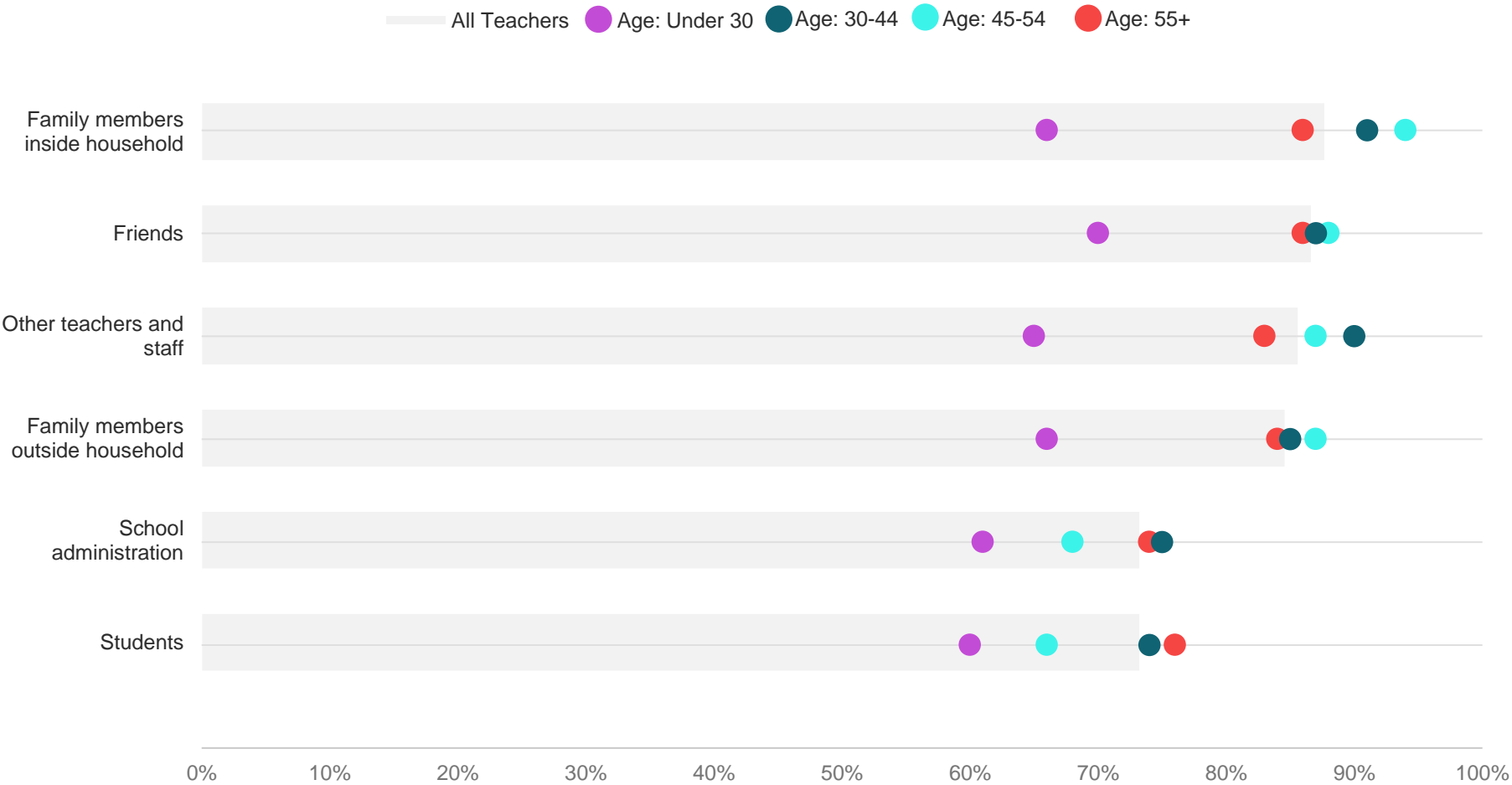


COVID-19 School Policies

Older teachers (age: 55+) are more comfortable discussing COVID-19 school policies with students than younger teachers (age: under 55).

How comfortable are you discussing COVID-19 school policies with each of the following...?

Total Comfortable (very + somewhat)



Contents



COVID-19 and Schooling



Teaching Profession and Unions



Opinions about K-12 Education



**Awareness and Favorability of
School Choice Policies**



Discussion of Current Events



**Survey Profile, Demographics,
Appendix**

Methodology

Survey Profile, 1

Dates	December 11-20, 2020
Survey Data Collection & Quality Control	Morning Consult
Survey Sponsor	EdChoice
Population	Current Teachers
Sampling Frame	National sample of teachers (age 18+) living in the United States, including the District of Columbia
Sampling Method	Non-Probability, Stratified (based on Gender, Years of Experience)
Mode	Online Survey
Language	English

Methodology

Survey Profile, 2

Survey Time	Median = 12.3 minutes
Sample Size	Total, N = 1,000
Oversampling?	None
Quotas?	Age, Years of Teaching Experience
Weighting?	Age, Race, Ethnicity, Gender, Teaching Experience
Measure of Precision	± 3.3 percentage points
Participation Rate	14.1%
Project Contact	Paul DiPerna, paul@edchoice.org

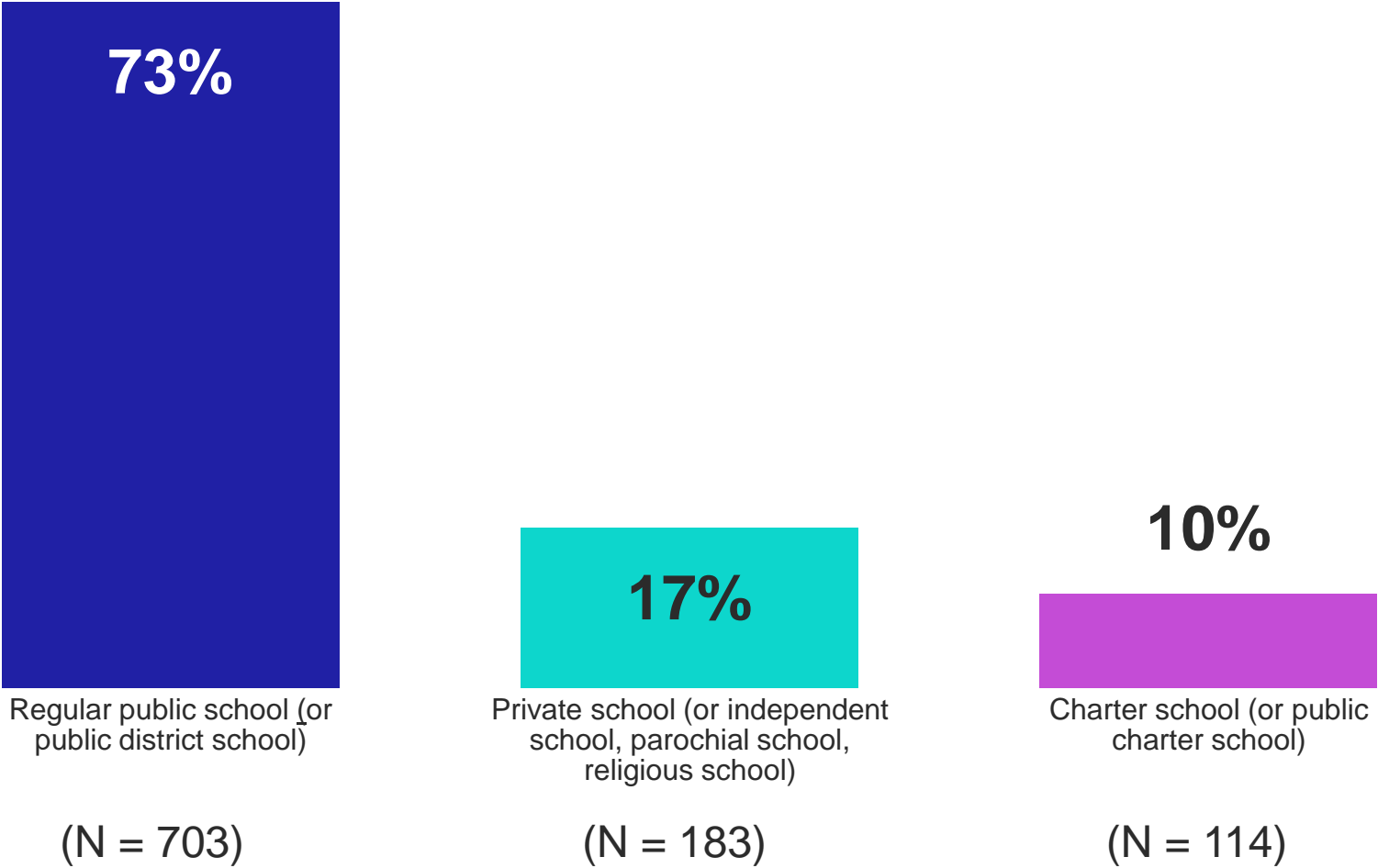
Demographic Base Sizes

Demographics	Unweighted (N =)
Hispanic	149
White	781
Non-Hispanic White	702
Black	119
Other	59
Generation Z	81
Millennial	466
Generation X	317
Boomers	132
Northeast	209
Midwest	215
South	351
West	225

Demographics	Unweighted (N =)
Male	275
Female	725
Democrat	489
Independent	178
Republican	302
Urban	289
Suburban	481
Small Town	95
Rural	135
Low Income <\$35K	165
Middle Income \$35K to <\$75K	365
High Income \$75K+	470
LGBTQ	107

School Type

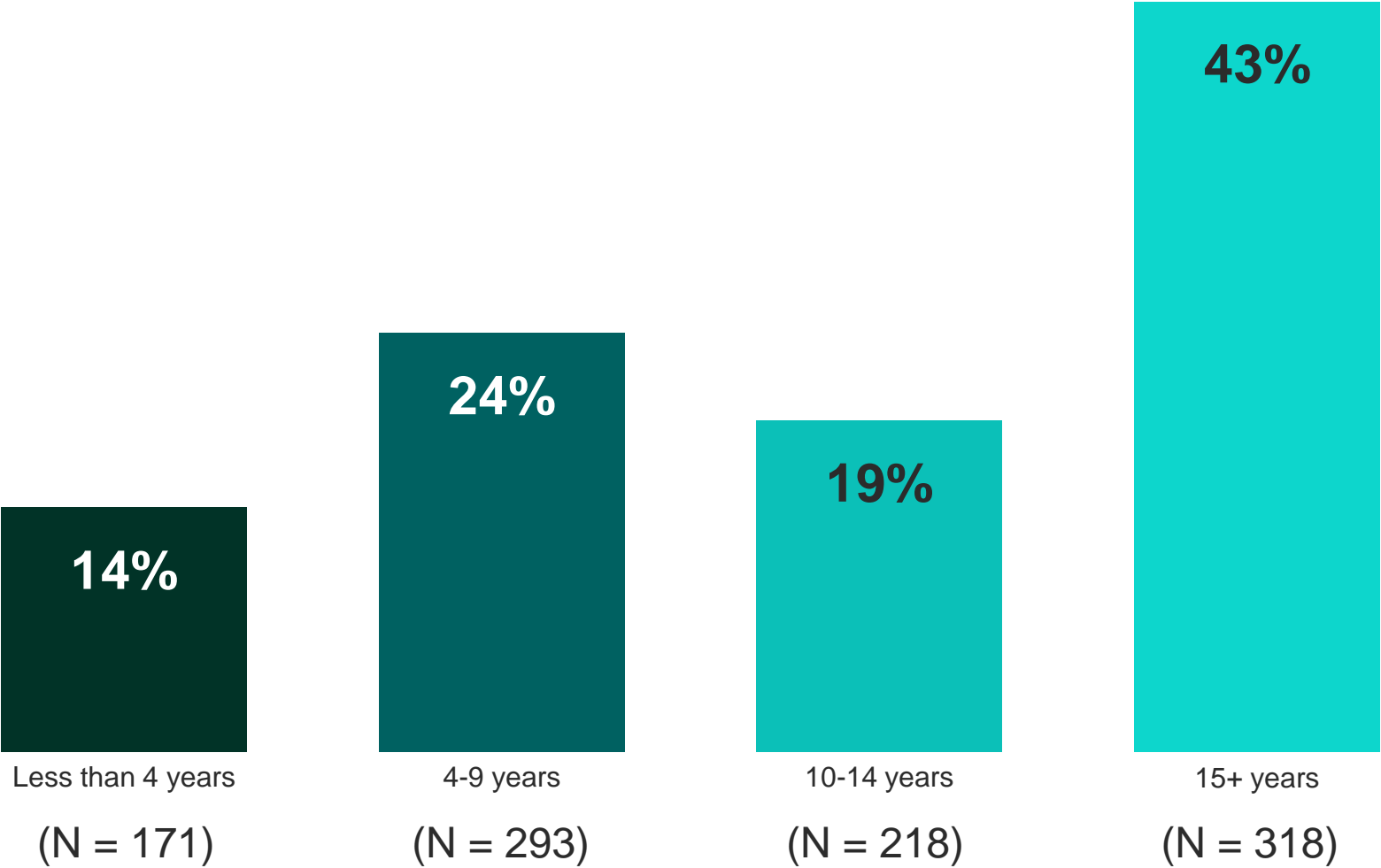
Where do you currently teach?



Note: Percentages reflect weighted data

Years of Experience

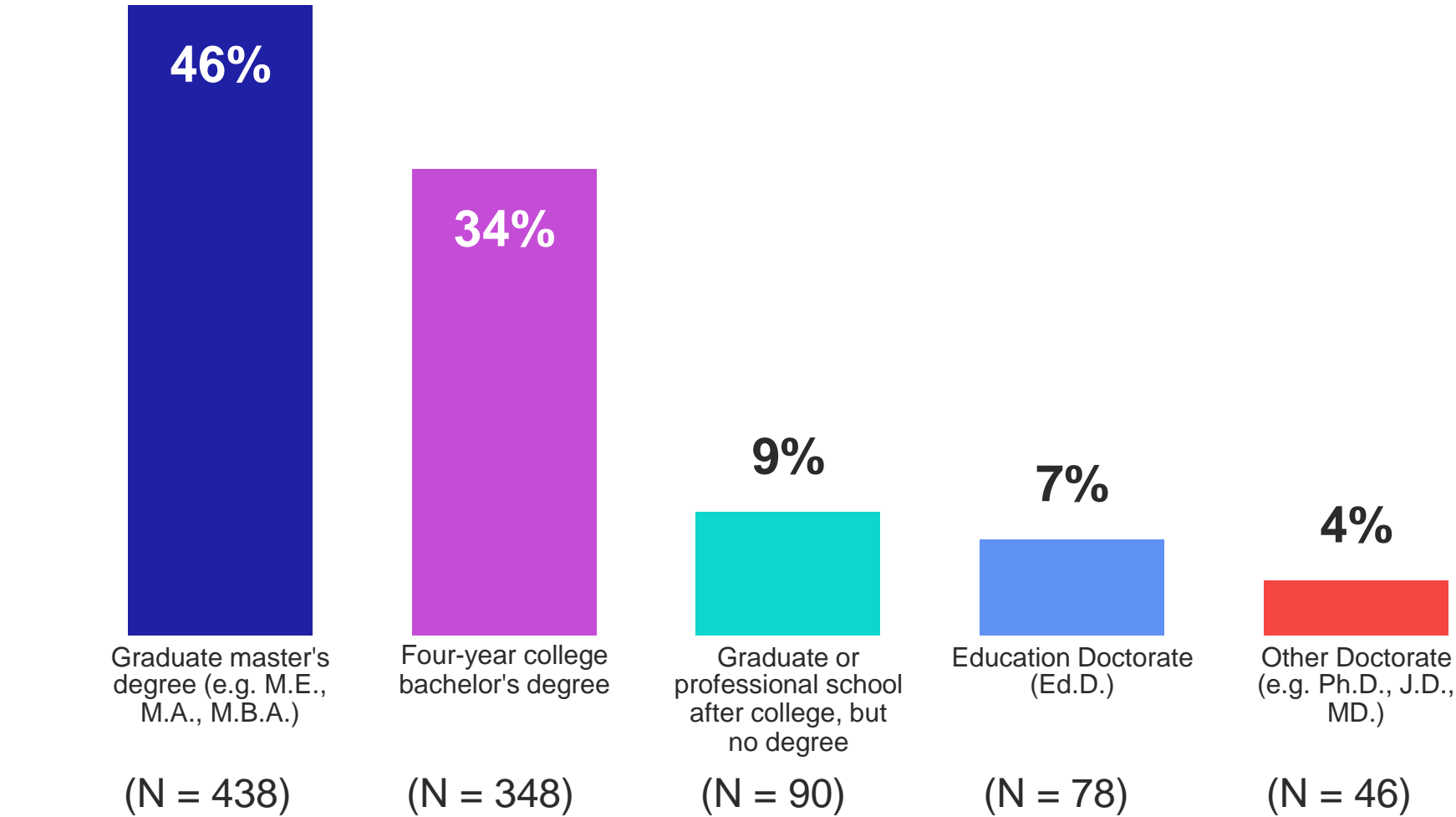
Counting this school year, how many years have you been a school teacher, including part-time teaching?



Note: Percentages reflect weighted data

Educational Attainment

What is the last grade or class you completed in school?

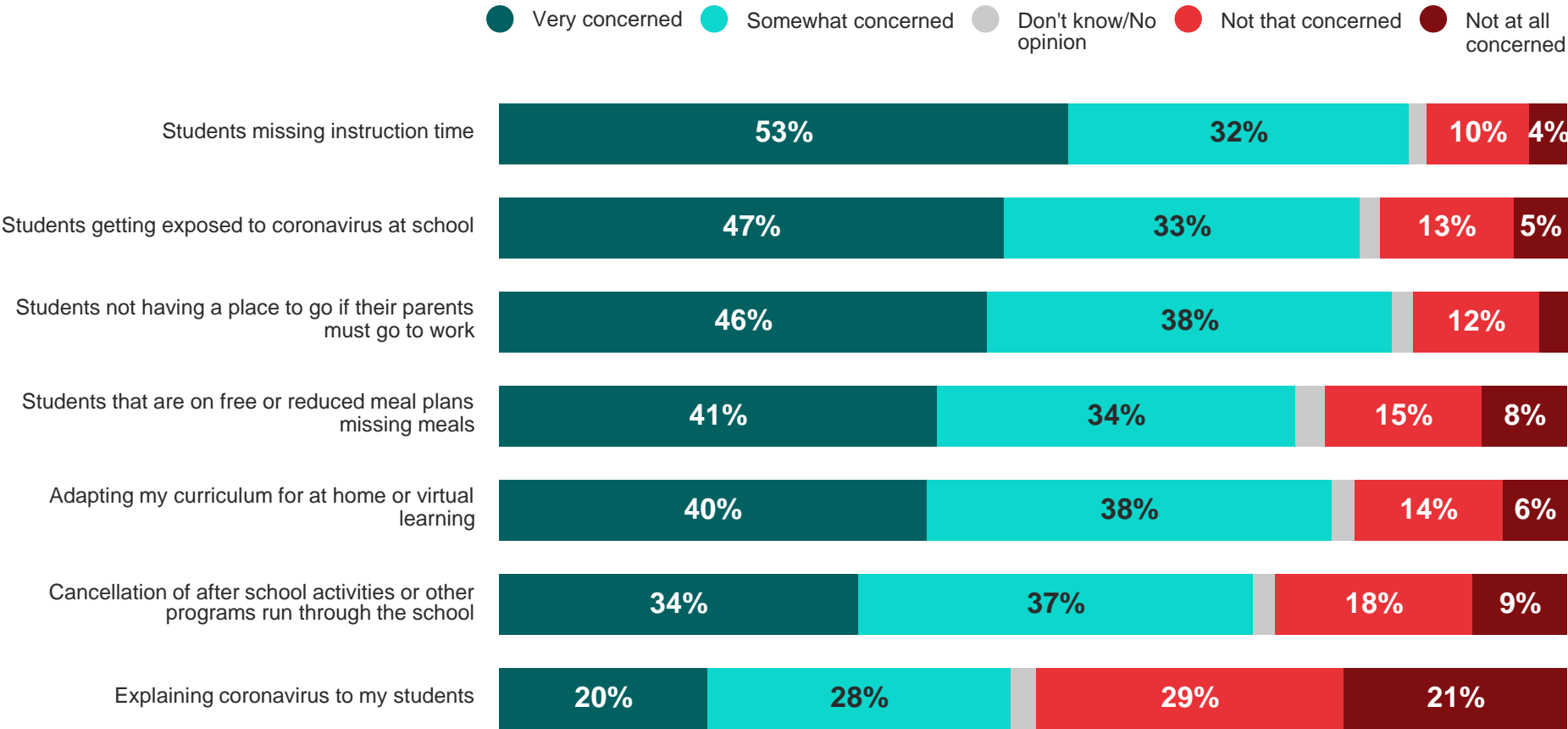


Note: Percentages reflect weighted data

COVID-19 Concerns

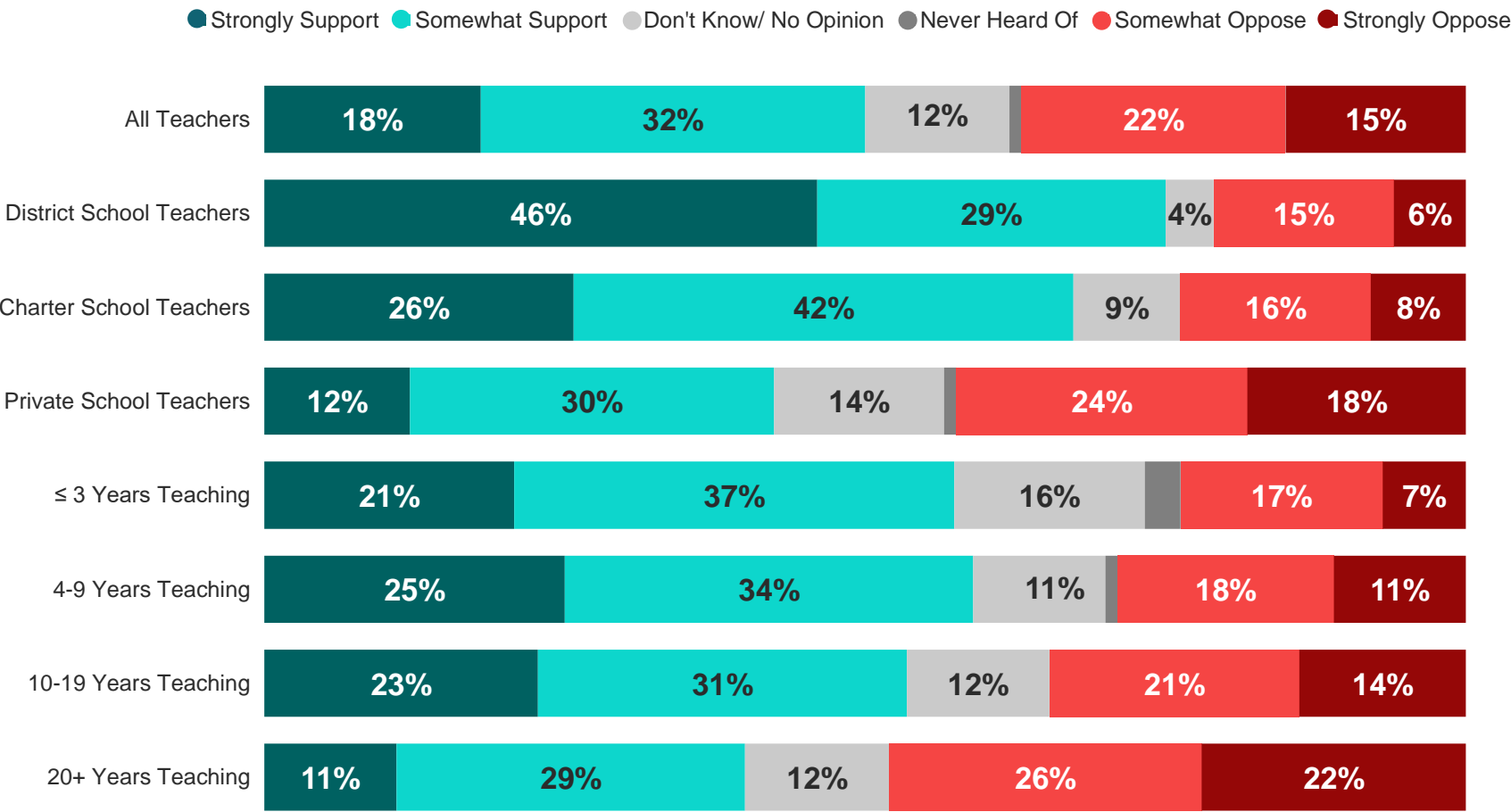
Thinking about the coronavirus (COVID-19), how concerned are you about each of the following?

All Teachers



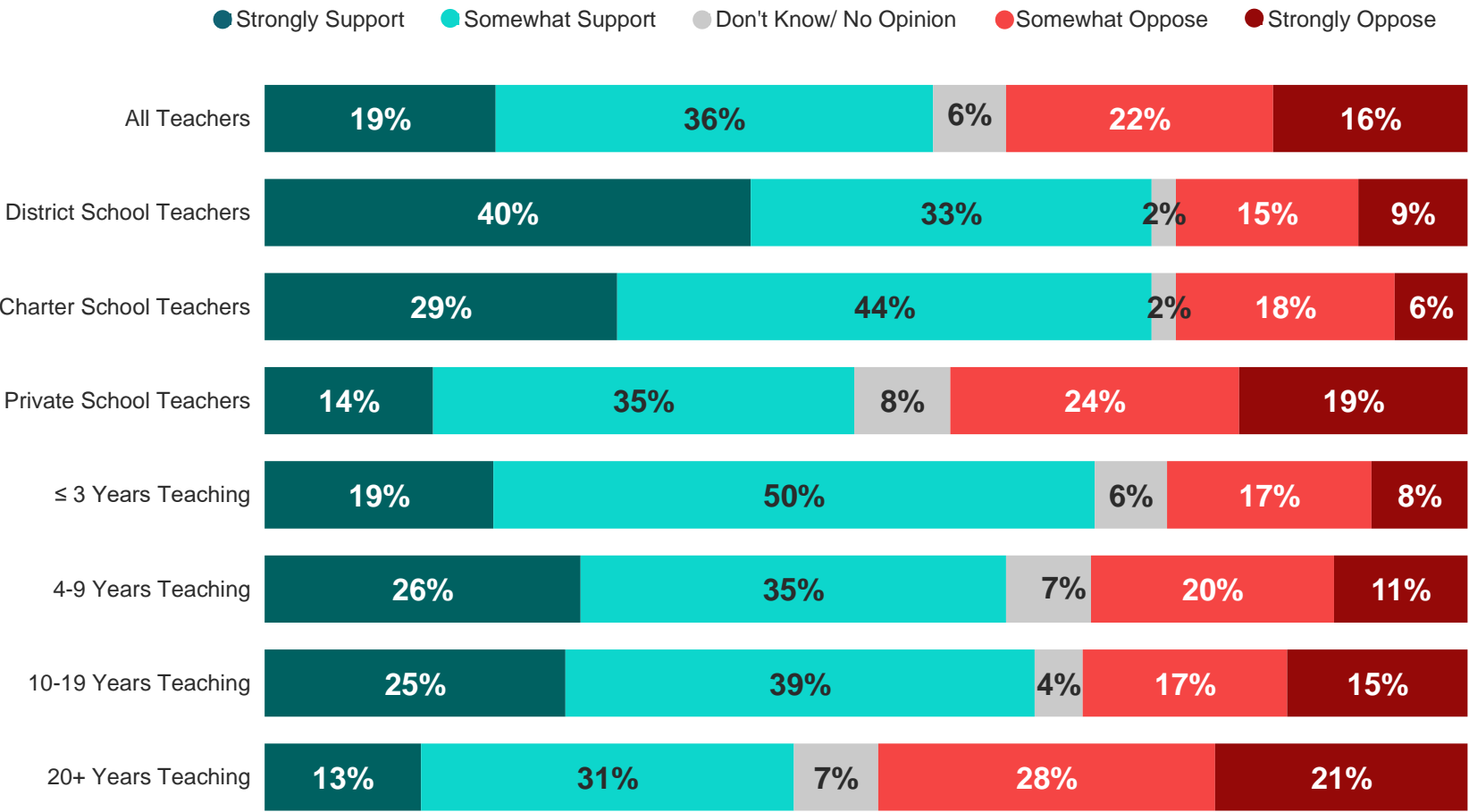
Charter School Favorability – Without Description

Based on what you know, or have heard from others... In general, what is your opinion of 'charter schools' in K–12 education?



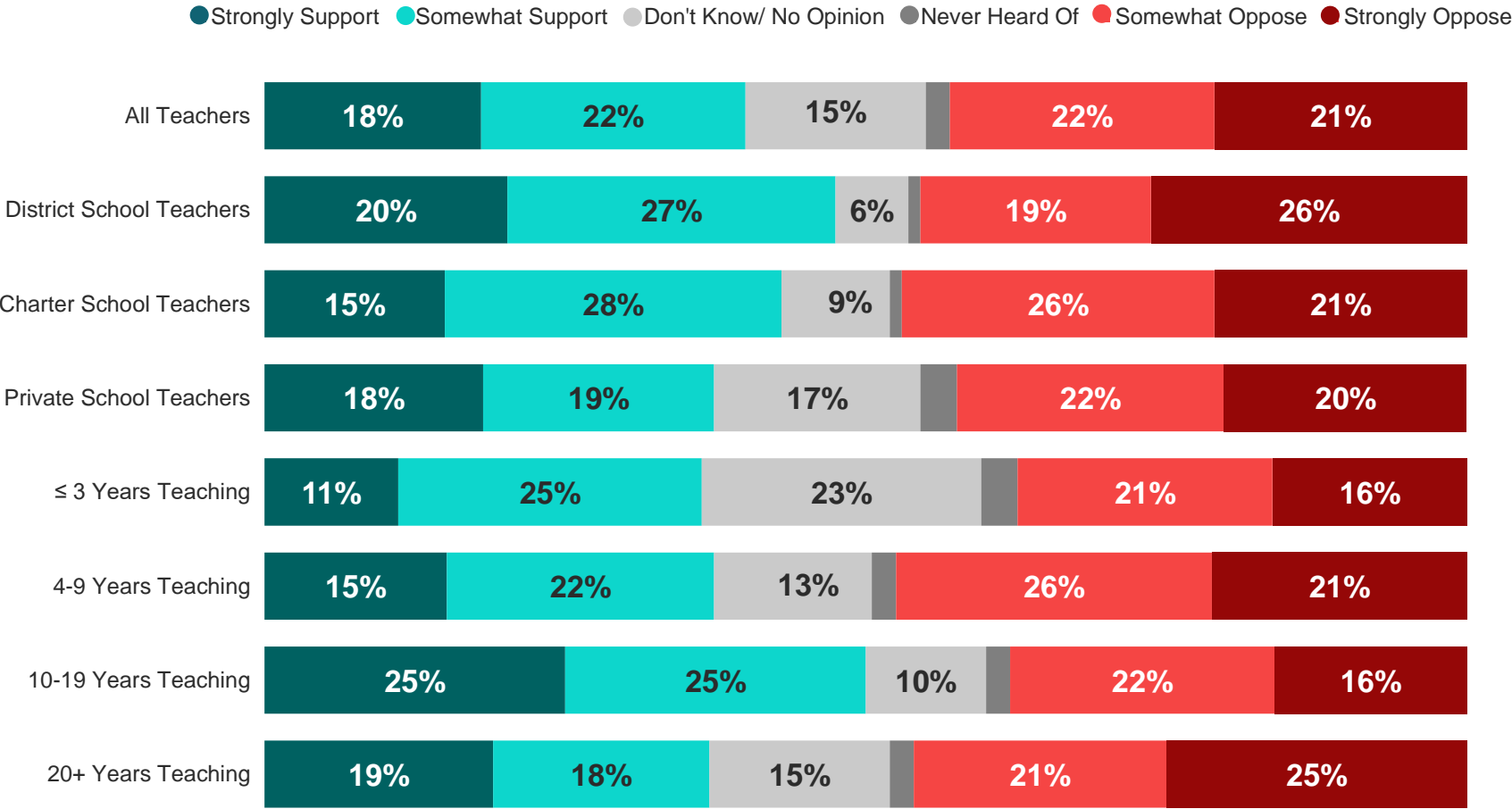
Charter School Favorability – With Description

Charter schools are public schools that have more control over their own budget, staff, and curriculum, and are exempt from many existing public school regulations. In general, what is your opinion of public charter schools?



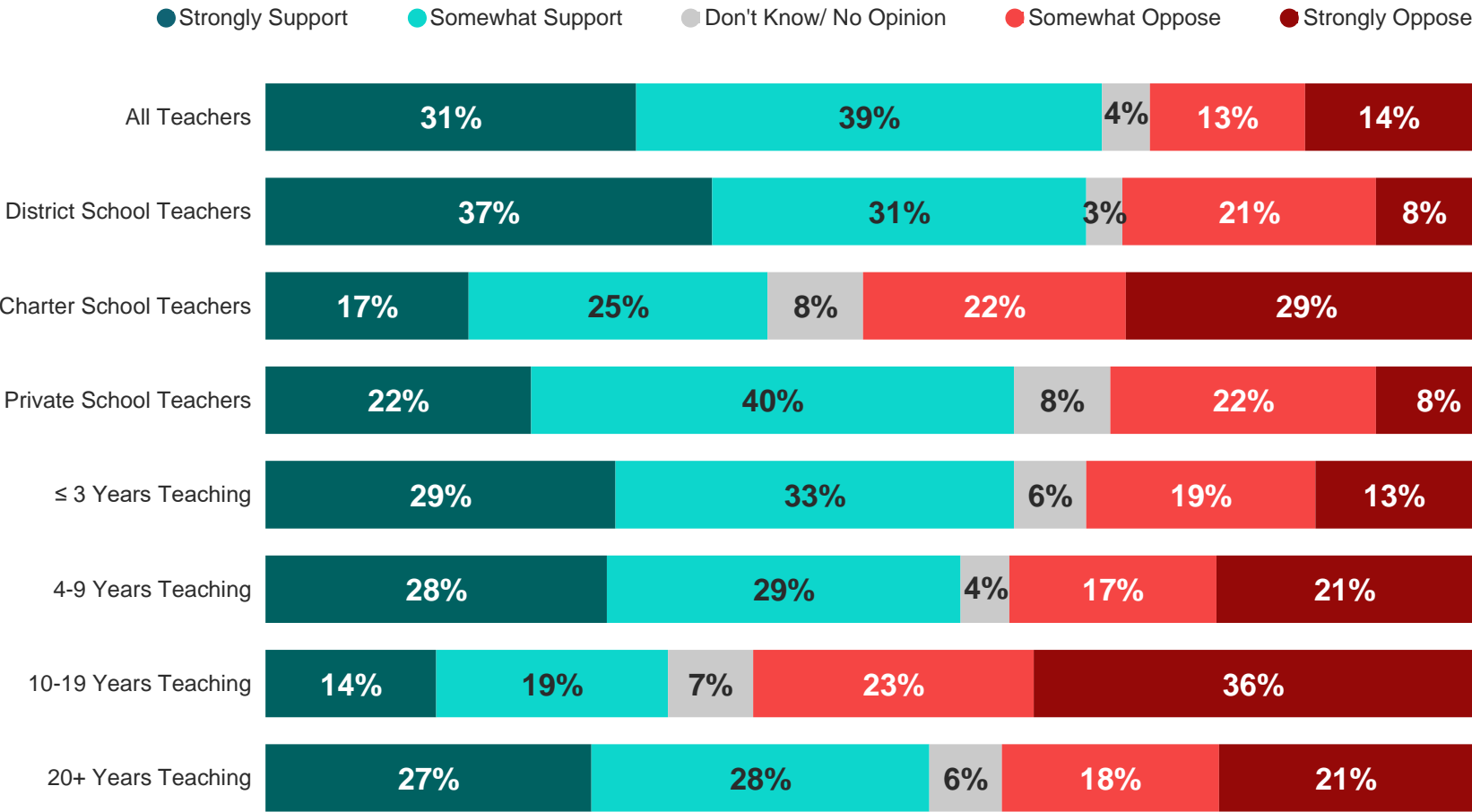
School Voucher Favorability – Without Description

Based on what you know, or have heard from others... In general, what is your opinion of 'school vouchers' in K–12 education?



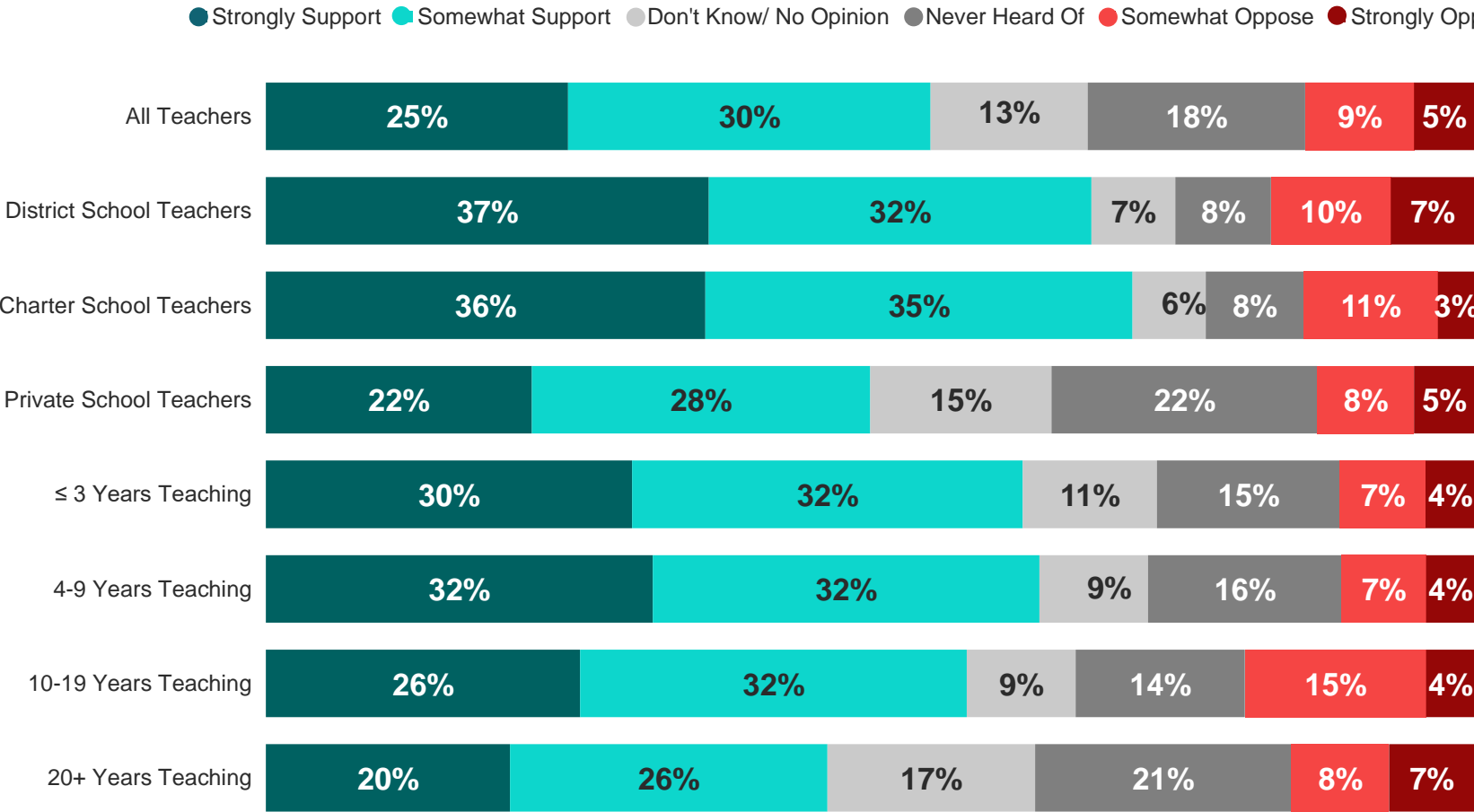
School Voucher Favorability – With Description

A school voucher system allows parents the option of sending their child to the school of their choice, whether that school is public or private, including both religious and non-religious schools. If this policy were adopted, tax dollars currently allocated to a school district would be allocated to parents in the form of a 'school voucher' to pay partial or full tuition for the child's school. In general, what is your opinion of school voucher systems?



Education Savings Accounts Favorability – Without Description

Based on what you know, or have heard from others... In general, what is your opinion of 'education savings accounts' in K–12 education?



Education Savings Accounts Favorability – With Description

An "education savings account" in K–12 education – often called an ESA – establishes for parents a government-authorized savings account with restricted, but multiple uses for educational purposes. Parents can then use these funds to pay for: school tuition; tutoring; online education programs; therapies for students with special needs; textbooks or other instructional materials; or save for future college expenses. In general, what is your opinion of an ESA system?

