



THE PUBLIC, PARENTS, AND K-12 EDUCATION

A National Polling Report

AUGUST 2021

KEY FINDINGS

1. Parents' comfort with their children returning to school decreased significantly in August, likely driven by the delta variant outbreak. However, most parents reported there will be some level of in-person learning this upcoming year, especially those with children enrolled in district schools.
2. Americans have mixed views on whether or not masks should be mandatory for all age groups. They share similar views about mandatory vaccinations. Roughly one-quarter appear to have steadfast views against masking or vaccination rules or options.
3. Both the general public and school parents have varied opinions about who should decide on mask mandates. When it comes to masking rules and authority, the general public and school parents appear to have more trust in local and state health officials than elected officials.
4. Americans' positive views about the direction of K-12 education has decreased since June, especially those opinions regarding state and local levels. School parents' sentiments also continued a decline observed since June.
5. Interest in learning pods held steady in August, despite notable decreases among Private School and Home School parents.
6. Despite some decreases among different demographic groups, support of school choice policies remains high, especially when additional information is provided.

AGENDA

COVID-19 AND SCHOOLING

SCHOOL CHOICE POLICIES

VIEWS ON K-12 EDUCATION

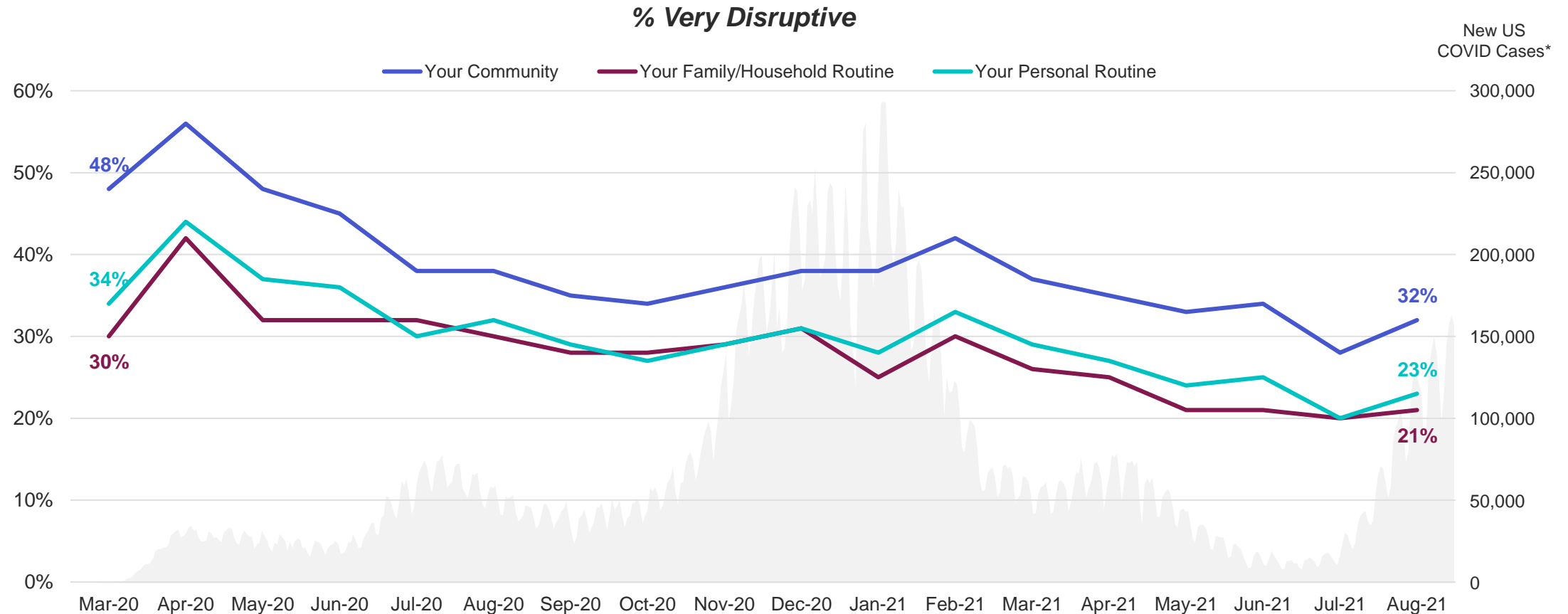
SURVEY PROFILE AND DEMOGRAPHICS



With an increase in cases, the percentage of adults who feel the coronavirus has been ‘very disruptive’ to their personal routine and community increased slightly in August.

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

All Adults

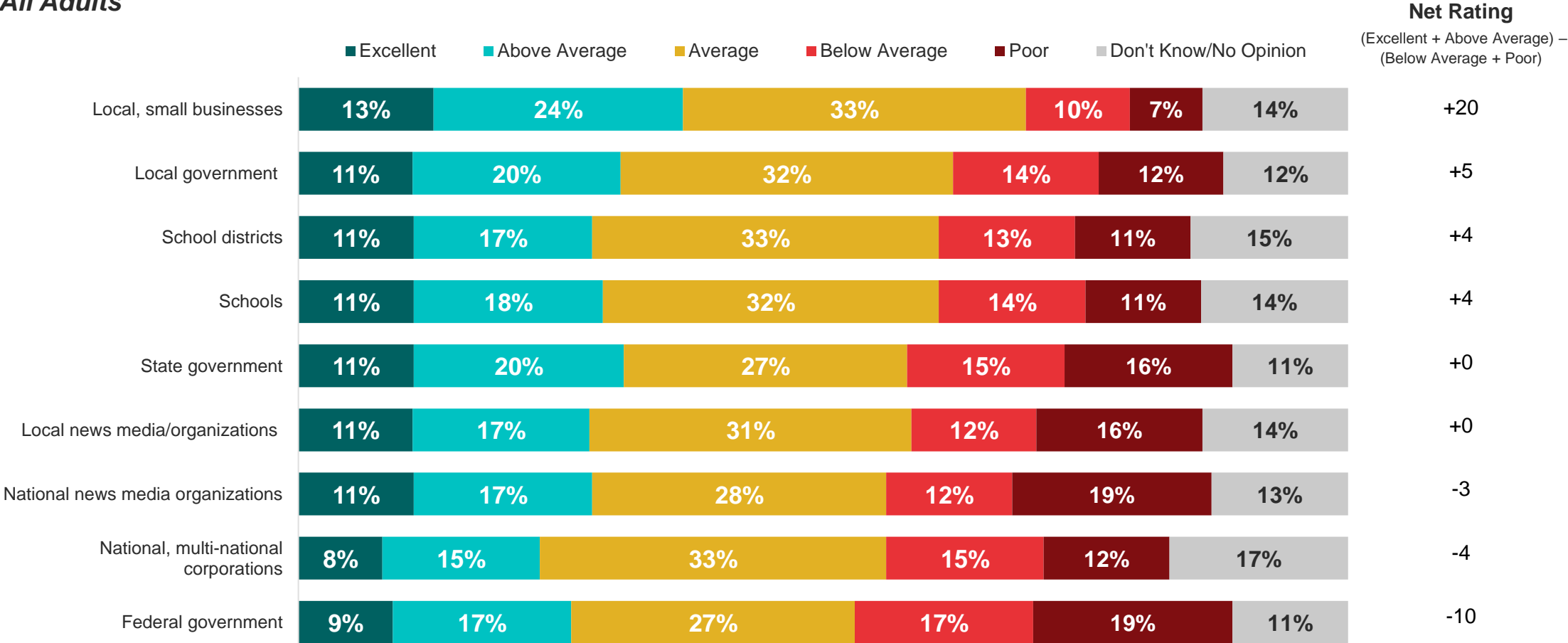


*CDC daily data

The general public continues to give middling ratings to various institutions for how they've responded to the coronavirus pandemic.

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

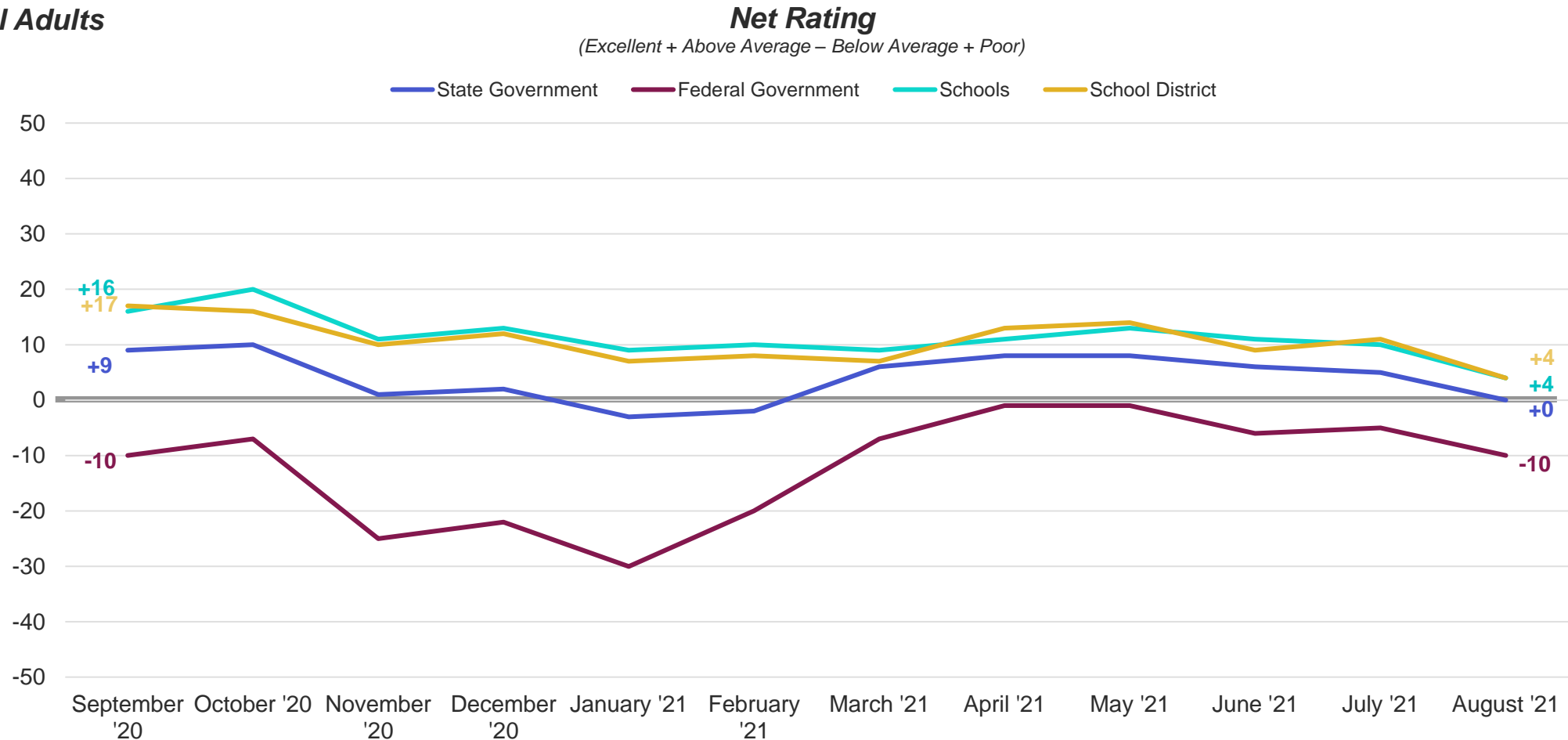
All Adults



Pandemic response ratings decreased in August for both the State and Federal Government as well as for Schools and School Districts.

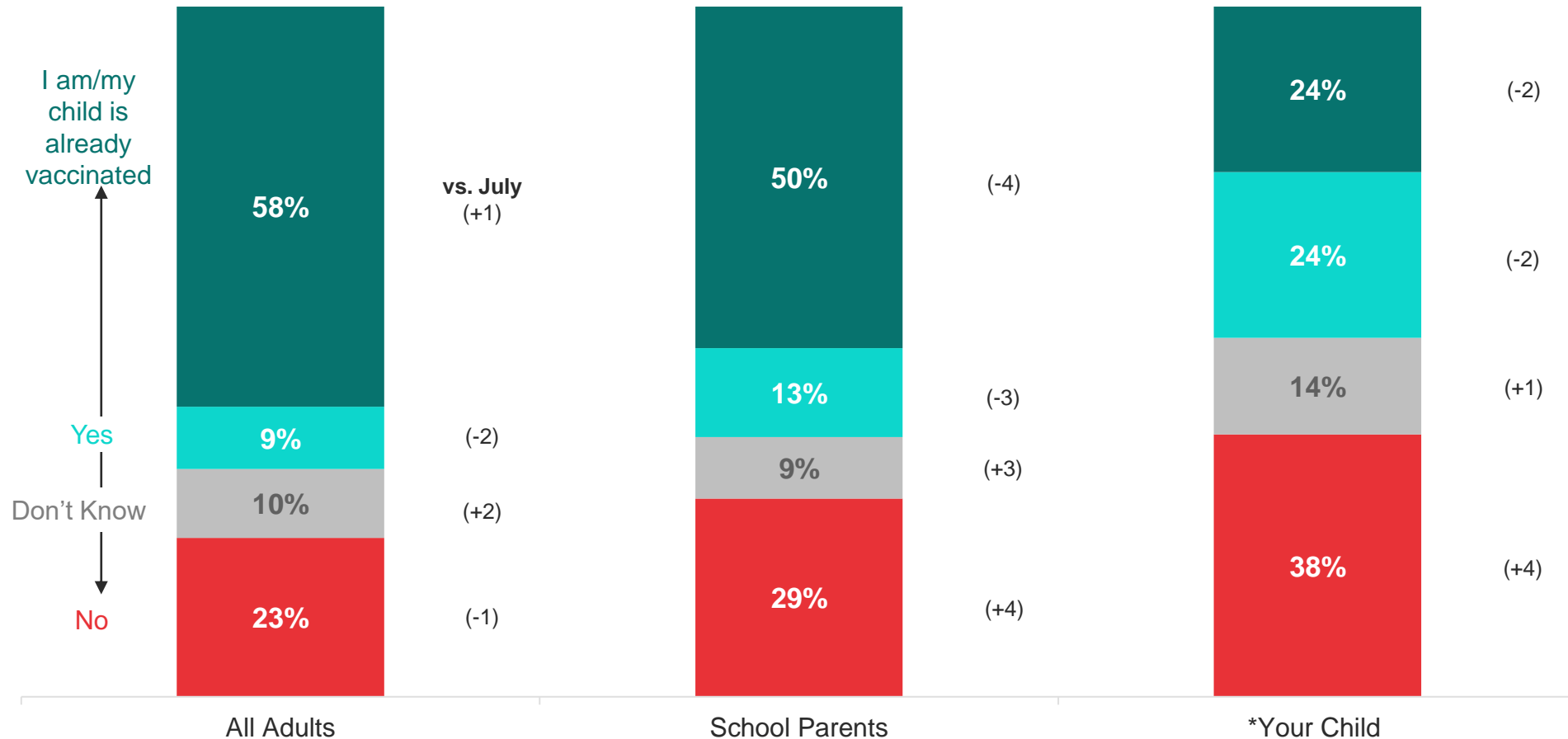
Based on what you have seen, read, or heard so far, how would you rate the following institutions on their response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak?

All Adults



Most of the general public and school parents say they are either already vaccinated or are planning on getting vaccinated. Vaccination hesitancy continues to be higher when thinking about their children.

When an FDA (Food and Drug Administration) approved vaccine to prevent COVID-19 is available for you/your child, would you agree to be vaccinated/have your child vaccinated?



* % Reflect responses of parents with children in grades K-12 only

Americans' likelihood to agree to be vaccinated held steady this month, with no major shifts among the different demographic groups.

When an FDA (Food and Drug Administration) approved vaccine to prevent COVID-19 is available for you, would you agree to be vaccinated?

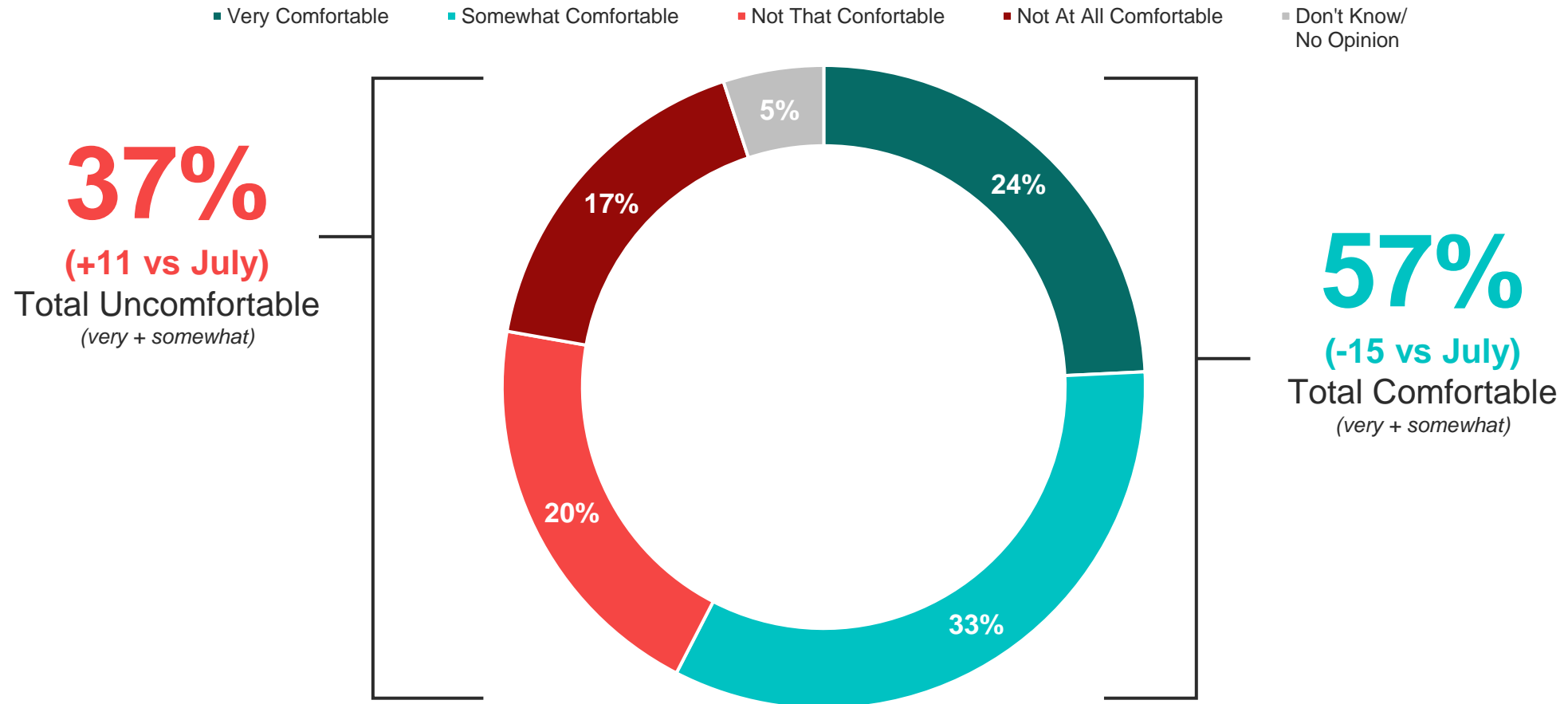
All Adults

Groups Most Likely To Get Vaccinated/Already Vaccinated			Groups Moderately Likely To Get Vaccinated/Already Vaccinated			Groups Less Likely to Get Vaccinated/Already Vaccinated		
		Vs July			Vs July			Vs July
Democrat	83%	+3	Black	64%	-1	Republican	59%	-1
Educ: Bachelors or Postgrad	82%	-1	Midwest Region	63%	-2	Millennials	59%	+2
High Income \$75K+	80%	+4	Independent	63%	-1	Low Income < \$35K	58%	-2
Baby Boomers	78%	-2	Hispanic	62%	-5	Small Town	56%	-4
Northeast Region	76%	+3	South Region	62%	-1	Rural	56%	+1
Suburban	74%	+2	Gen X	61%	-5	Gen Z	53%	-1
West Region	71%	-2	Educ: < College	60%	-1			
Middle Income \$35K to < \$75K	70%	-2						
Urban	68%	-5						
Non-Hispanic White	68%	+0						

School parents feel much less comfortable with their child returning to school in August when compared to July.

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

School Parents



Those who are comfortable with their children returning believe enough people have been vaccinated and that schools will take proper precautions. Those that are uncomfortable believe that there are too many unknowns, especially surrounding the Delta variant.

Why do you feel comfortable/uncomfortable with your child/children returning to school right now?

School Parents

COMFORTABLE

“The vaccine has been out for awhile and most educational workers have been vaccinated and if the kids wear a mask, it’ll be fine.”

“Our district is taking the right precautions so that the students are safe.”

“Schools are doing what they can and socializing and a community are so important for kids.”

“They are already back in school. They went in person most of the year last year as well.”

UNCOMFORTABLE

“Masks not being required and (the kids) are not old enough for shots.”

“The Delta variant is spreading rapidly and we live in a part of the country that is doing next to nothing to prevent it.”

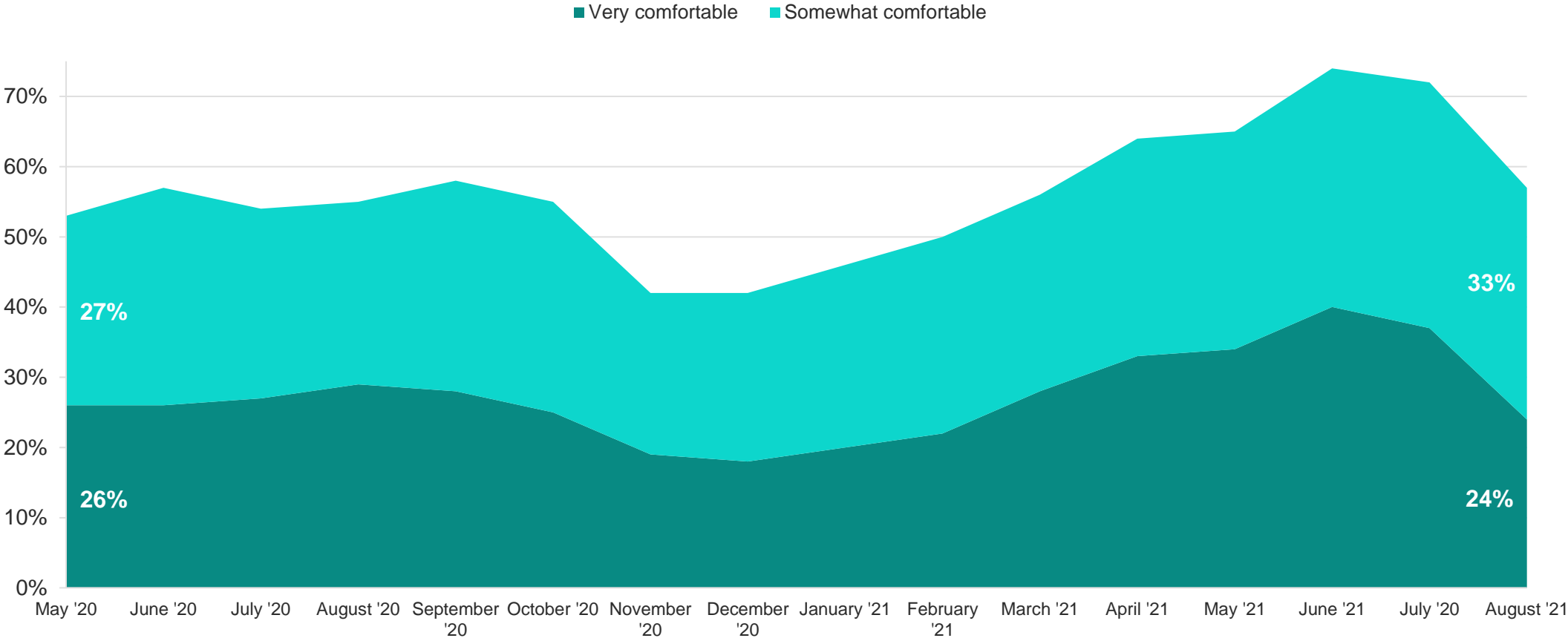
“There’s a spike in infections and I don’t want to put my son or my household in danger.”

“With the rise of the delta variant, I just don’t think it’s safe to send my child to school right now.”

School parents' comfort with their children returning to school decreased (-15 points) in August, returning to levels seen last winter.

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

School Parents

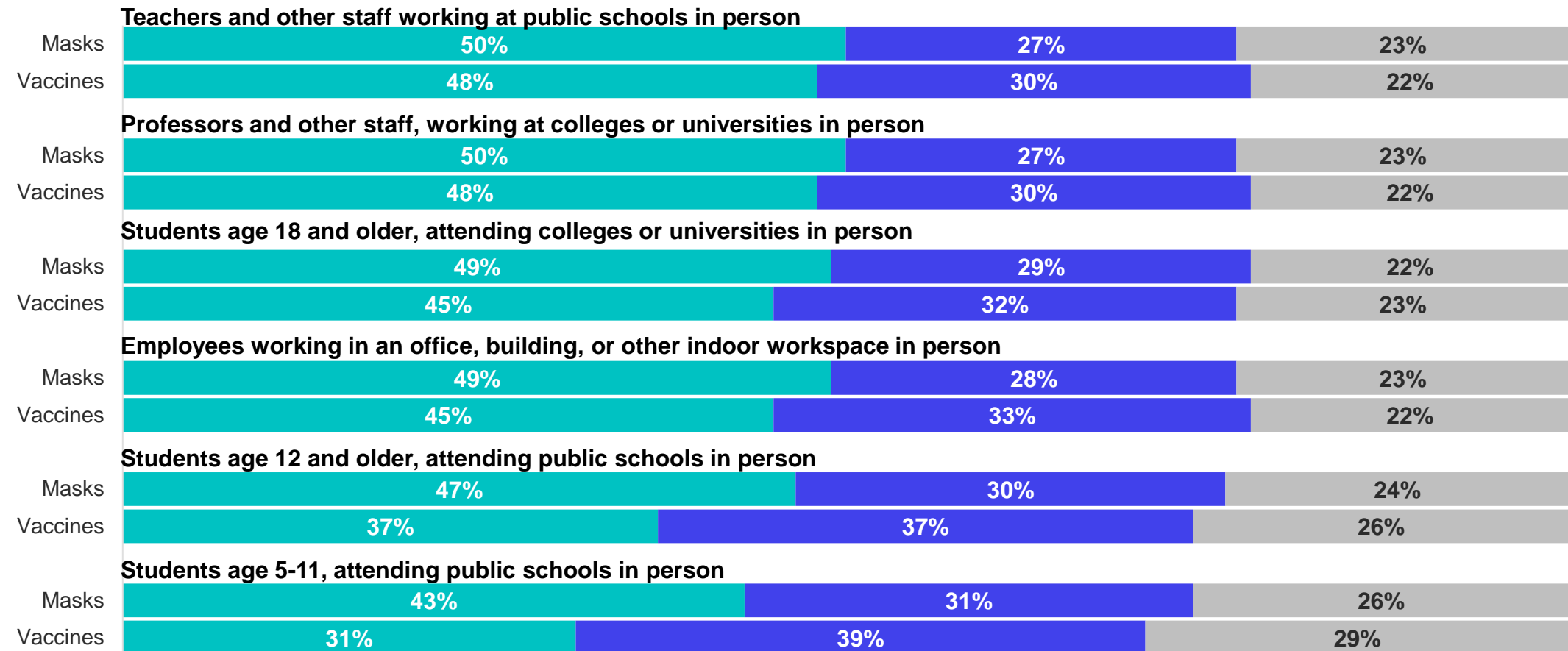


Americans have mixed views on mandates for masking or vaccinations regarding any age groups. Roughly one-quarter appear to have steadfast views opposed to requirements or nudges.

Now that an FDA (Food and Drug Administration) approved vaccine to prevent COVID-19 is available, do you think it should be mandatory or encouraged for the following groups? Do you think masking should be mandatory or encouraged for the following groups?

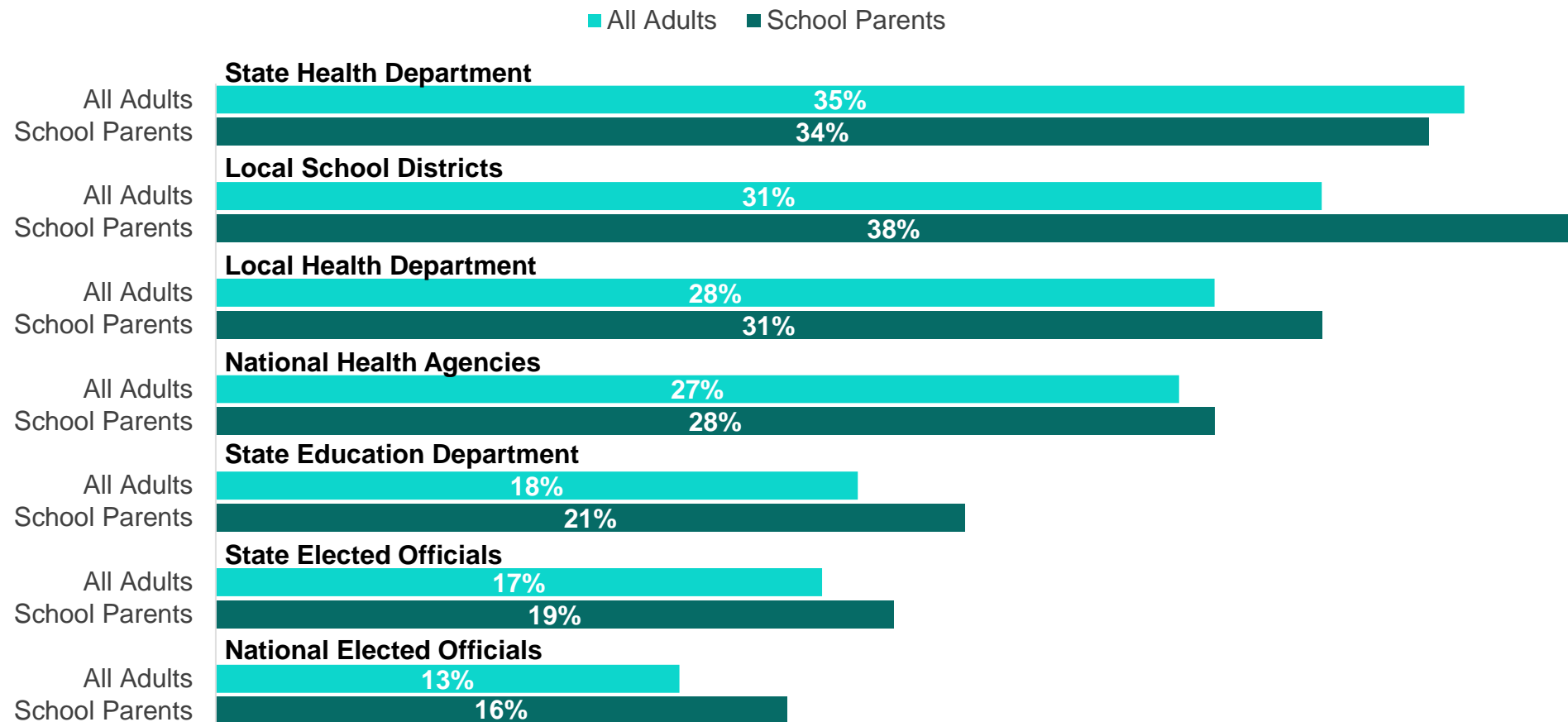
All Adults

■ Mandatory ■ Encouraged but not mandatory ■ Neither encouraged nor mandatory



The general public and school parents appear to have more trust in local and state health officials than elected officials when it comes to masking rules.

In your opinion, who should have the authority to determine whether or not masking is required in public school buildings?

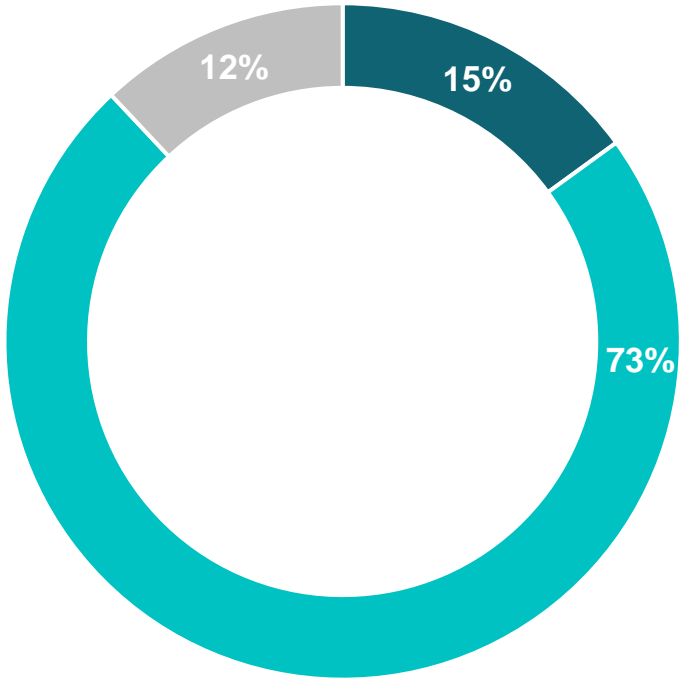


Nearly three-fourths of school parents still believe that schools should provide multiple learning options for students in the fall.

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

School Parents

■ Offer One Approach ■ Provide Multiple Learning Options ■ Don't Know / No Opinion



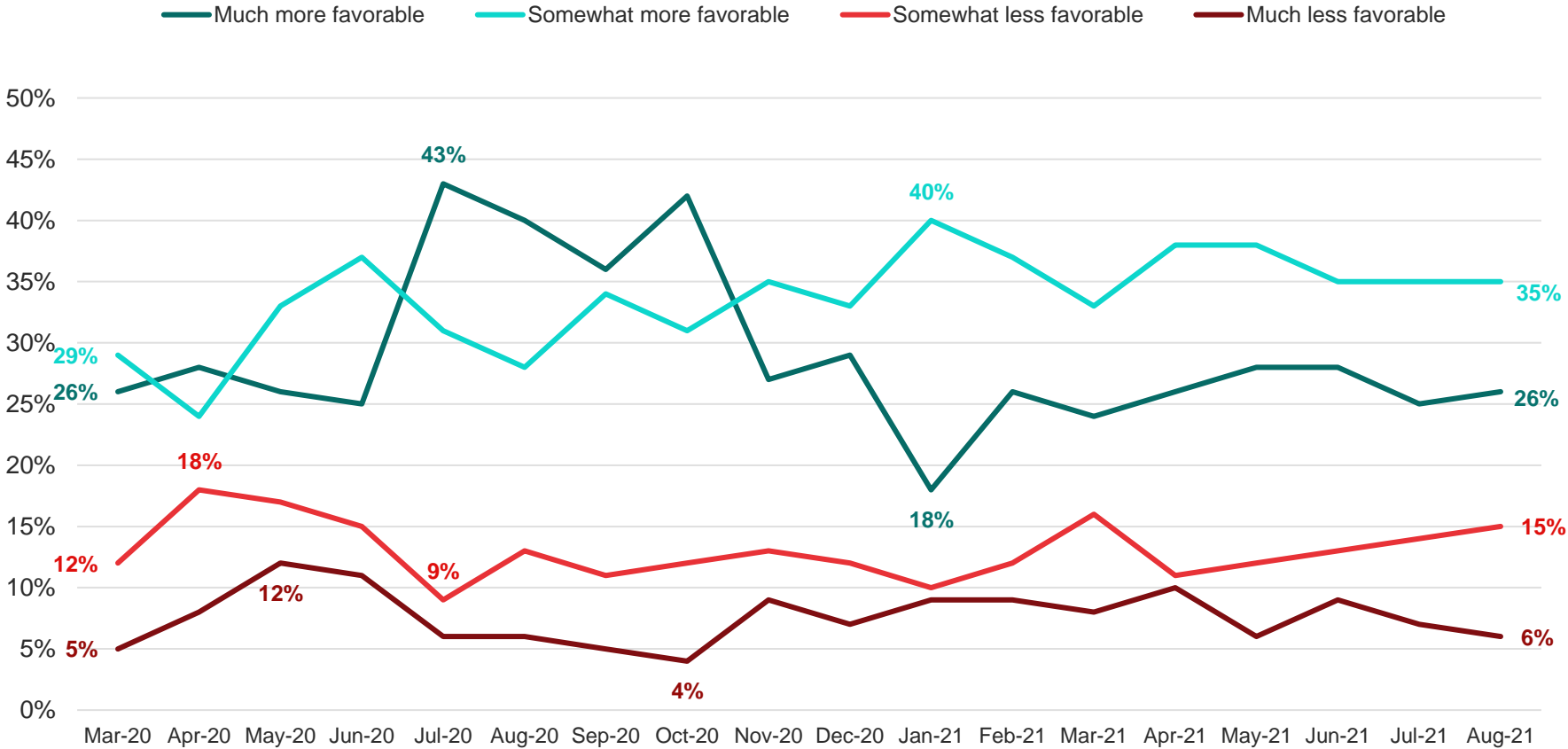
Desire to Provide Multiple Learning Options by Demographic

More likely than Total School Parents	Middle Income \$35K-\$75K	80%
	Democrat	80%
	Black	76%
	Hispanic	74%
	White	73%
Less likely than Total School Parents	Low Income < \$35K	70%
	Independent	68%
	Republican	68%
	High Income \$75K+	65%

Overall favorability of homeschooling held steady among school parents in August. They are three times as likely to be more favorable than less favorable.

How have your opinions on homeschooling changed as a result of the coronavirus?

School Parents



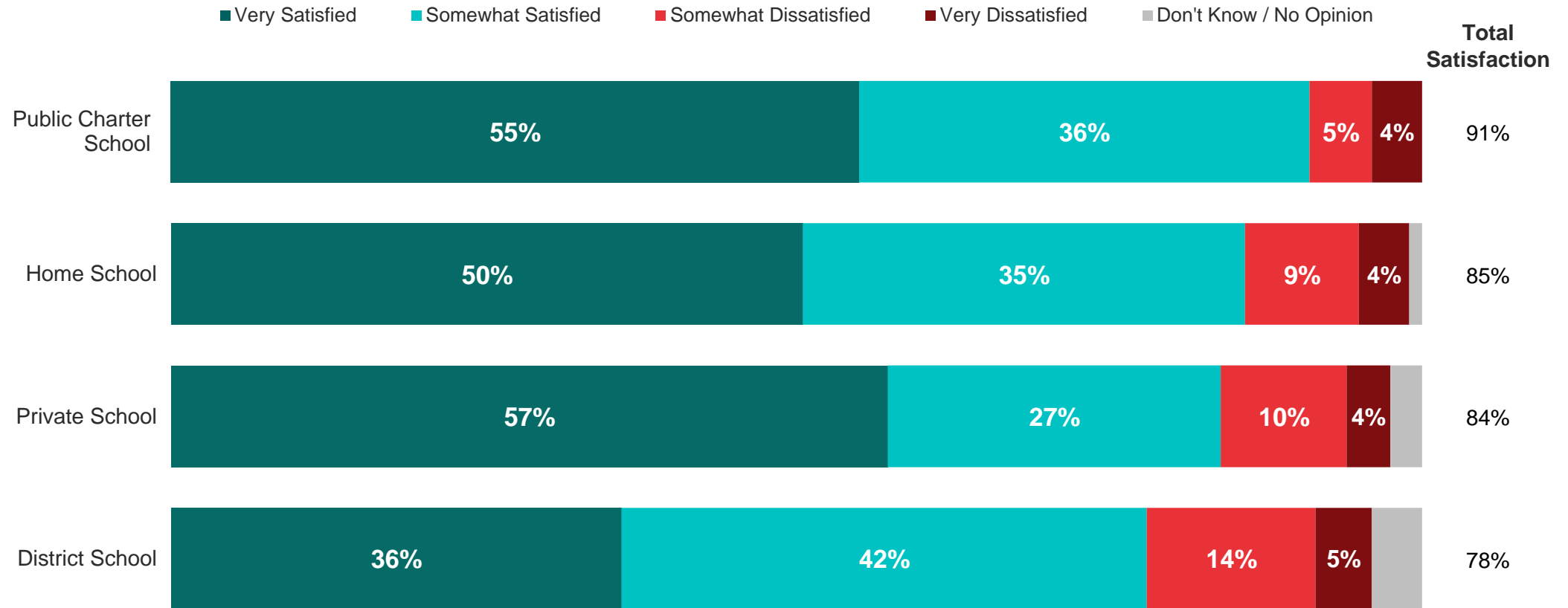
August 2021	
Total More Favorable	61%
Total Less Favorable	21%

Note: In September 2020 we began weighting the school parent subsample-plus-oversample based on 2017 CPS benchmarks, separately from the general population sample.

Parents are generally satisfied with their experiences across different school sectors. District School Parents remain the least satisfied.

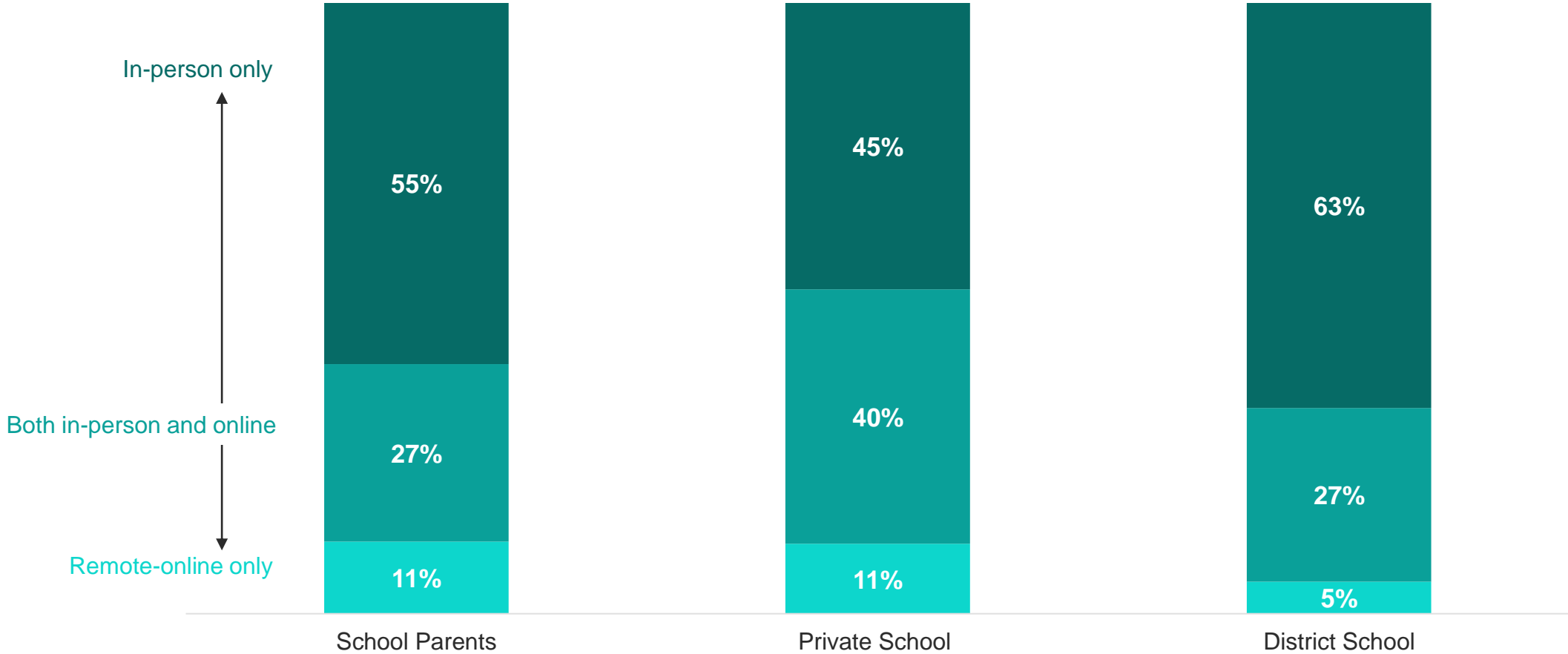
To what extent are you satisfied or dissatisfied with your child's/children's experiences with the following types of schooling?

School Parents



Private schools appear to be more likely than public district schools to offer both in-person learning and remote learning capabilities.

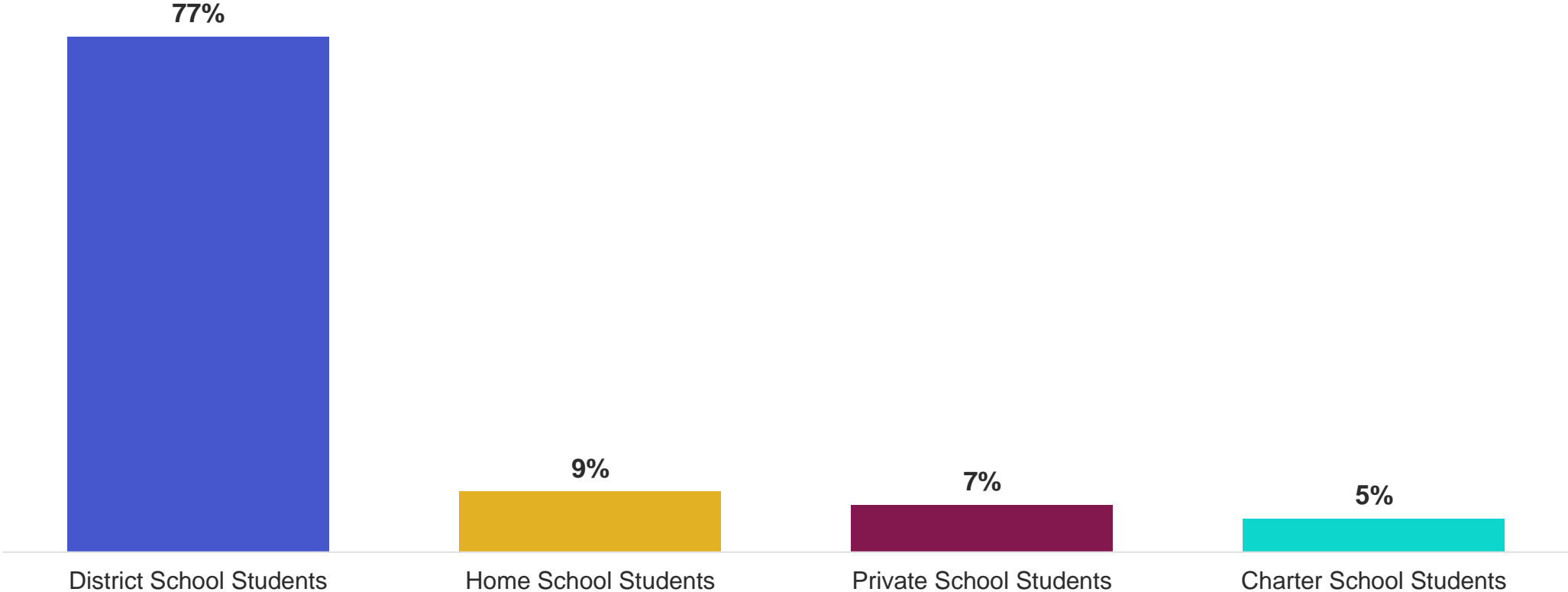
Please tell us the grade level for each of your children; what kind of school each child will attend this new school year; what kind of school each child was being educated in at the beginning of the 2020/2021 school year; and what kind of mode of learning they will be participating in this new school year?



Note: Parent groups based on child/children school type attendance in SY21-22.

Estimated school type attendance for the 2021-2022 school year

% of Students, Reported by Parents

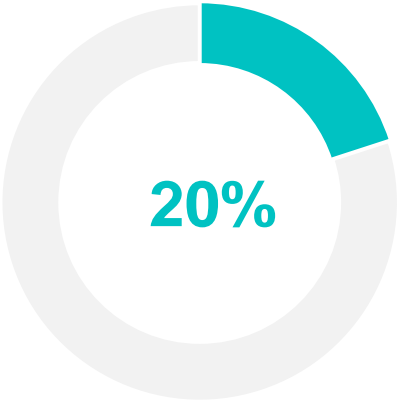


Note: Private School includes Religious, Parochial + Non-Religious

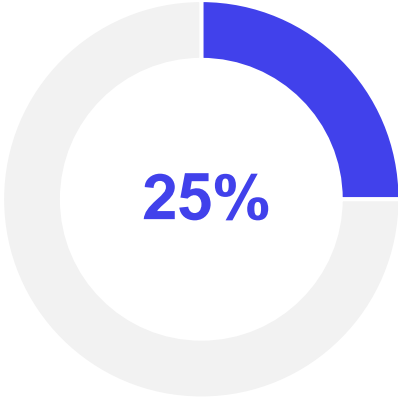
One out of five School Parents have switched the type of school their child is attending this year when compared to last year.

Please tell us the grade level for each of your children; what kind of school each child will attend this new school year; what kind of school each child was being educated in at the beginning of the 2020/2021 school year; and what kind of mode of learning they will be participating in this new school year?

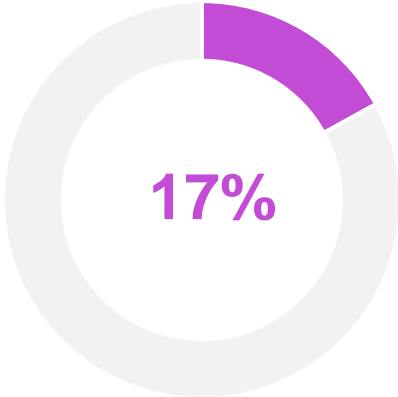
% of Students Switching School Type, Reported by Parents



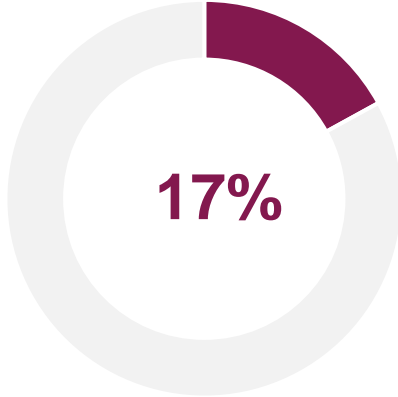
Total School Parents



K-4 Parents



5-8 Parents

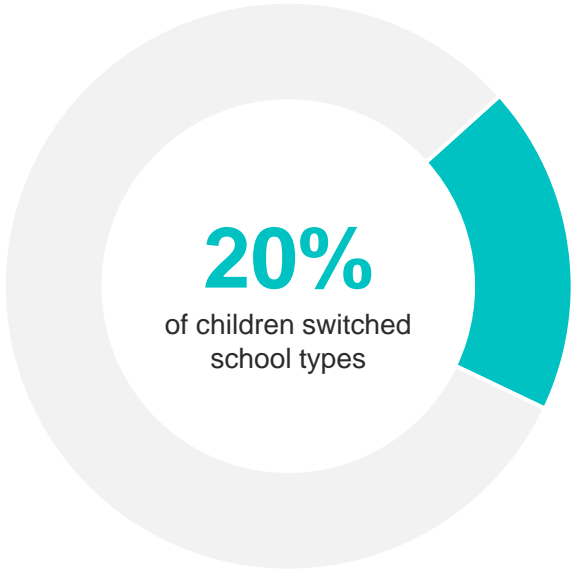


9-12 Parents

Parents of children that were being home schooled last year are most likely to say their children are going to switch to a new school type this upcoming fall.

Please tell us the grade level for each of your children; what kind of school each child will attend this new school year; what kind of school each child was being educated in at the beginning of the 2020/2021 school year; and what kind of mode of learning they will be participating in this new school year?

% of Students, Reported by Parents



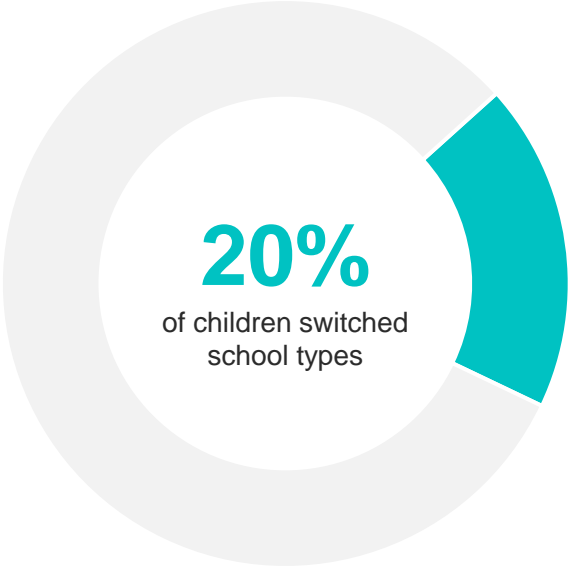
among those that switched...

School Type Attended Last School Year		School Type Attending This New Year
FROM	% of total switching	TO
Home School	5%	Private School
Home School	4%	Public Charter School
Home School	46%	Public District School
Private School	2%	Home School
Private School	2%	Public Charter School
Private School	5%	Public District School
Public Charter School	1%	Home School
Public Charter School	0%	Private School
Public Charter School	1%	Public District School
Public District School	6%	Home School
Public District School	2%	Private School
Public District School	2%	Public Charter School

Of the parents who are switching their child’s schooling environment, most point to COVID as being the primary reason for the change.

If any of your children are in a new school environment this current school year, in a few words please tell us why your child has changed school types.

% of Students, Reported by Parents



among those that switched...

“Public school closed due to COVID this year and private did not so I had to enroll my child in private so I could work.”

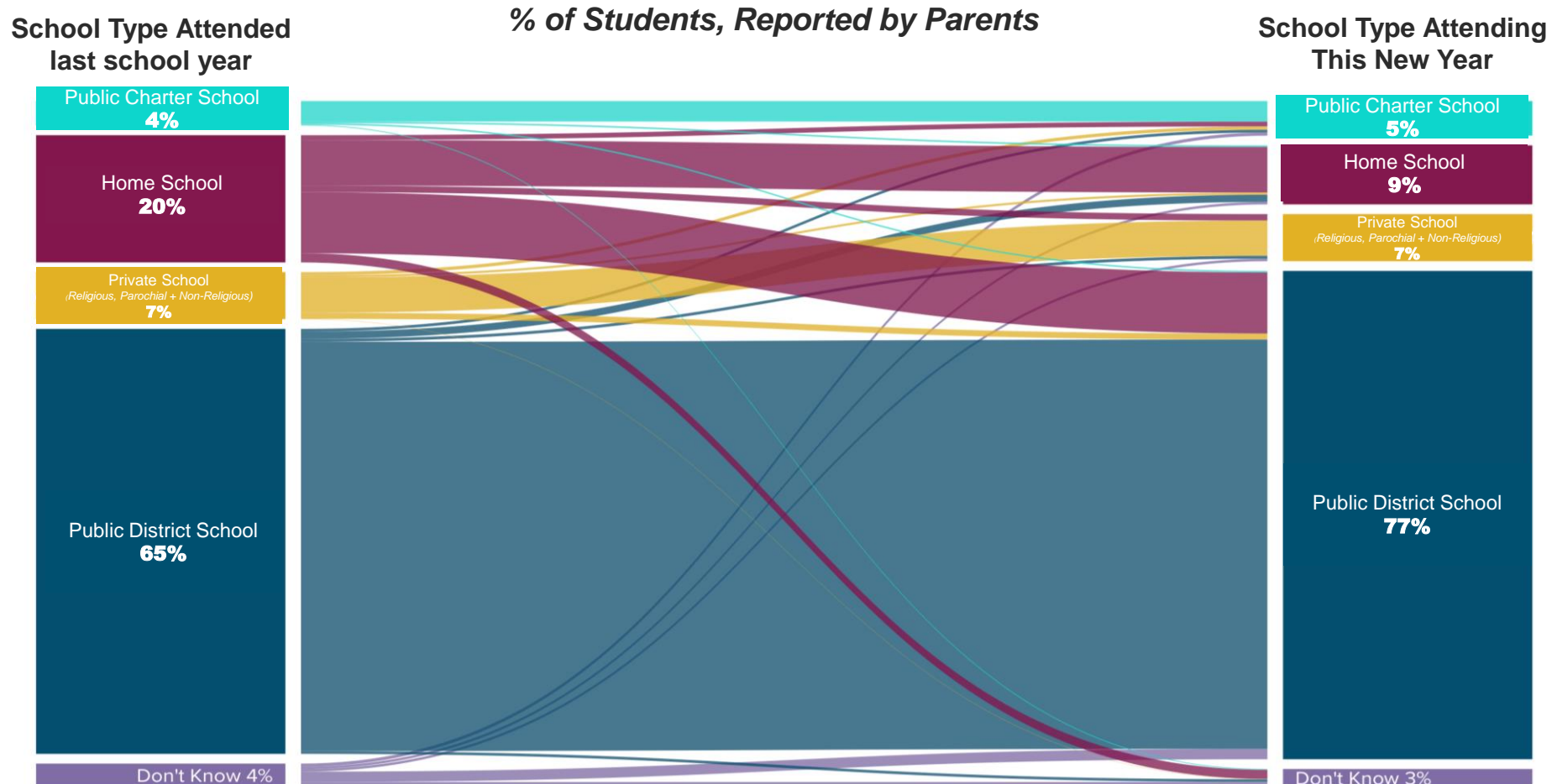
“We are sending our daughter back to regular in-school learning because we feel she missed out on a lot of learning opportunities last year from remote learning. She is a very smart child, but we are having her repeat the fifth grade this year to make sure she isn't behind on any subjects.”

“We homeschooled last year due to COVID. We felt they should go back to public school this year.”

“(I have an) unvaccinated child and COVID numbers are very high in our area.”

Based on parent reports – less students will be attending home school this year, and more will be attending public district school.

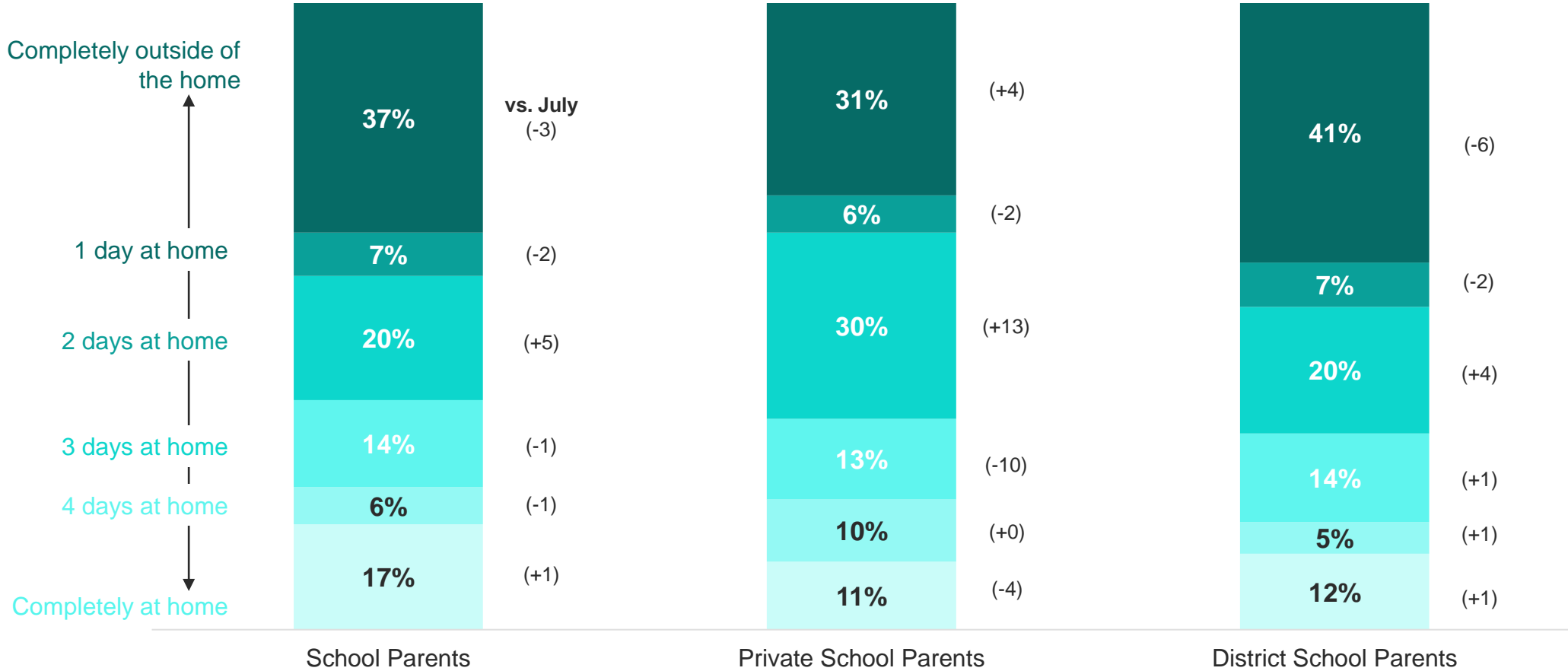
Please tell us the grade level for each of your children; what kind of school each child will attend this new school year; what kind of school each child was being educated in at the beginning of the 2020/2021 school year; and what kind of mode of learning they will be participating in this new school year?



Note: Private School includes Religious, Parochial + Non-Religious

District school parents are more likely to prefer schooling take place completely outside of the home when compared to Private School Parents.

After the pandemic, if given the option, to what extent would you prefer schooling to be scheduled each week at home with a parent or tutor to provide the best education for your child?

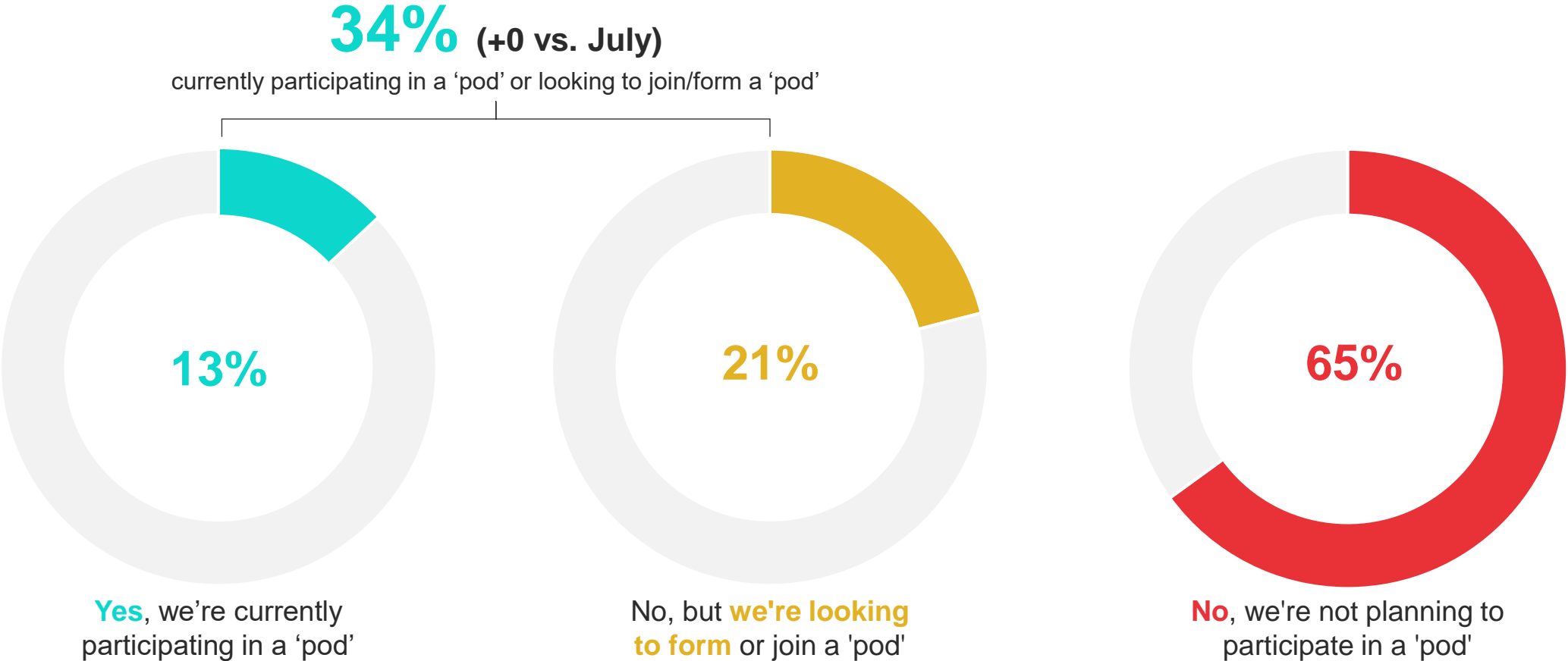


Note: Parent groups based on child/children school type attendance in SY21-22.

Parents' interest in either participating in or looking to form/join a learning 'pod' held steady in August.

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, are you currently participating in a 'pod' with other families?

School Parents



In August, there was a decrease in ‘pod’ interest among several demographic groups; especially among both Private and Home School parents. Pod interest has increased the most in the West.

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, are you currently participating in a 'pod' with other families?

School Parents

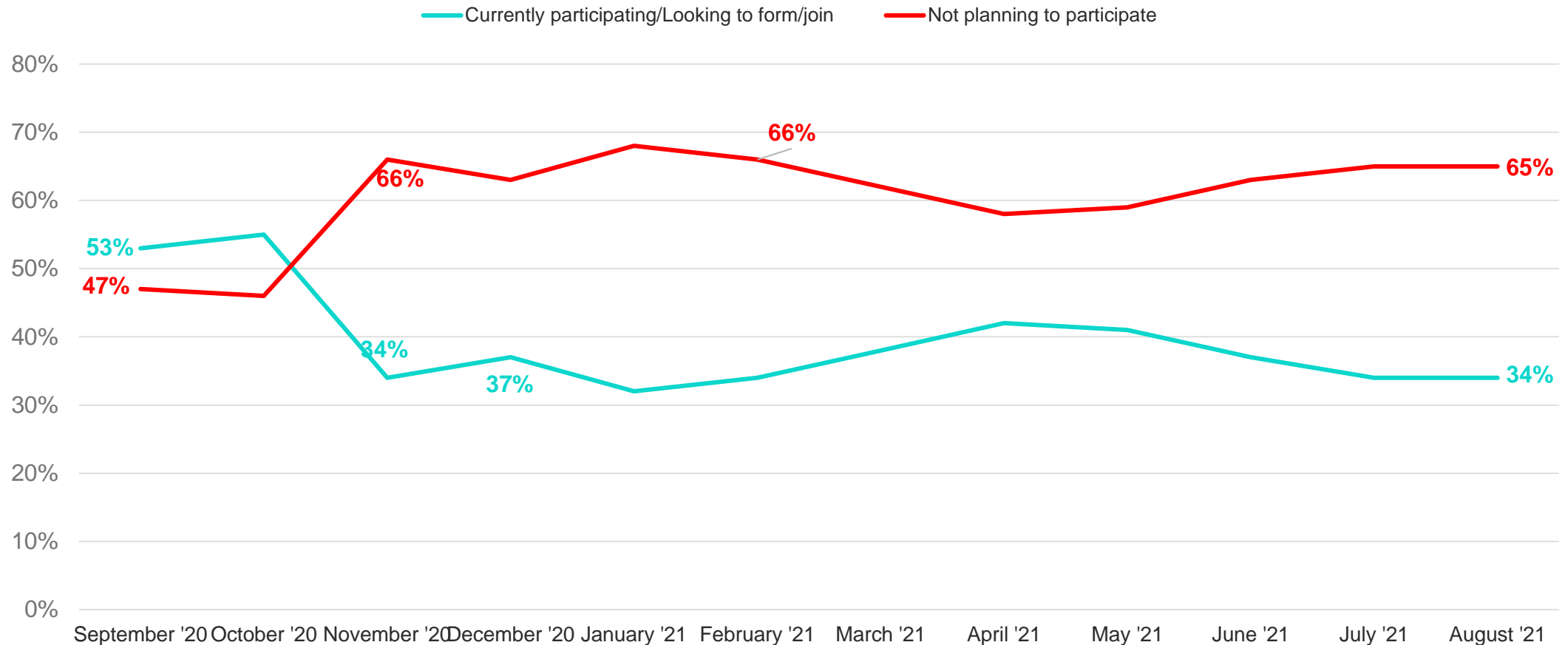
Most Likely to Participate in / Form / Join a Pod			Moderately Likely to Participate in / Form / Join a Pod			Less Likely to Participate in / Form / Join a Pod		
		Vs July			Vs July			Vs July
Black	55%	+4	Home School Parent	38%	-16	Low Income < \$35K	30%	-4
Private School Parent	46%	-14	High Income: \$75K+	38%	+1	Republican	30%	+4
Hispanic	45%	+1	Suburban	38%	+6	Non-Hispanic White	28%	-1
Democrat	43%	-1	South	37%	-1	Independent	28%	-4
West	42%	+9	Middle Income \$35K-\$75K	37%	+3	Midwest	25%	+0
Educ: Bachelors or Postgrad	41%	-5	District School Parent	34%	+6	Small Town	23%	+4
Urban	41%	-6	Northeast	32%	-8	Rural	22%	-1
			Educ: < College	32%	+3			

Note: Parent groups based on child/children school type attendance in SY21-22.

In August, participation in or consideration of joining a 'pod' continues to hold steady.

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, are you currently participating in a 'pod' with other families?

School Parents



School parents that are interested/participating in a 'pod' believe they are good for socialization, learning, and are safer for their unvaccinated children. Those with no interest say 'pods' are unnecessary for their children or are unavailable to them.

Why are you participating in a 'pod'? Why are you looking to form or join a 'pod'? Why aren't you planning to participate in a 'pod'?

WHY PARTICIPATING IN A 'POD'

“It's more safe for my child since he is too young to get the covid vaccine.”

“It may be the safer option for kids that can't be vaccinated right now.”

“I was afraid that, with being virtual, my kids would fall behind where they need to be.”

WHY LOOKING TO FORM OR JOIN A 'POD'

“Because social interaction is important for my son's development.”

“Better education for my child and a smaller group with more attention is less disruptive.”

“Because these kids need extra help after last year.”

WHY NOT PLANNING TO PARTICIPATE IN A 'POD'

“I feel the best learning for my child is in school.”

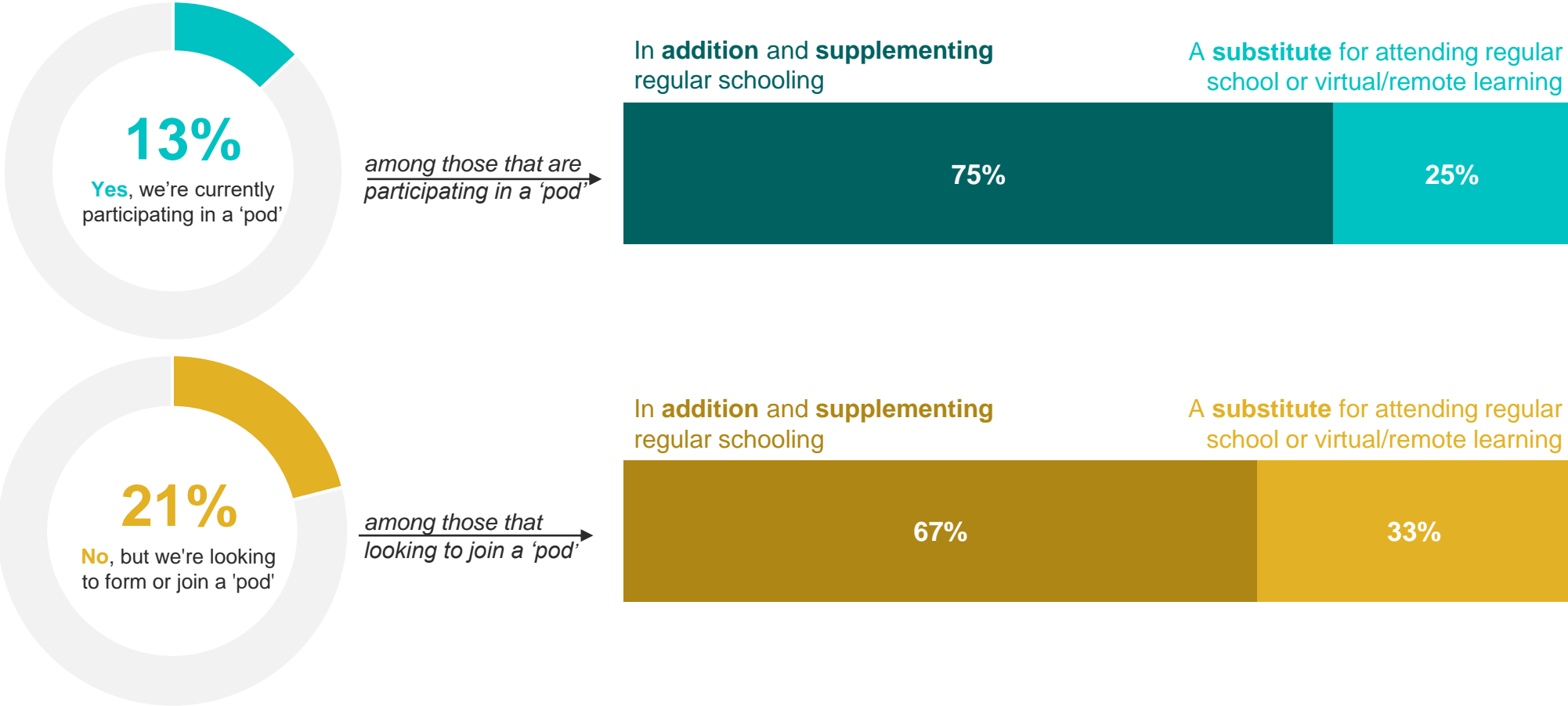
“I don't know any families that are currently doing this or looking to do this.”

“I would like my children with a classroom teacher and students at a regular school.”

'Pods' continue to be primarily used in addition to regular schooling and are less likely to be a substitute for regular school.

You said you're currently participating in a 'pod', is that...? You said you're looking to form a 'pod', would that be...?

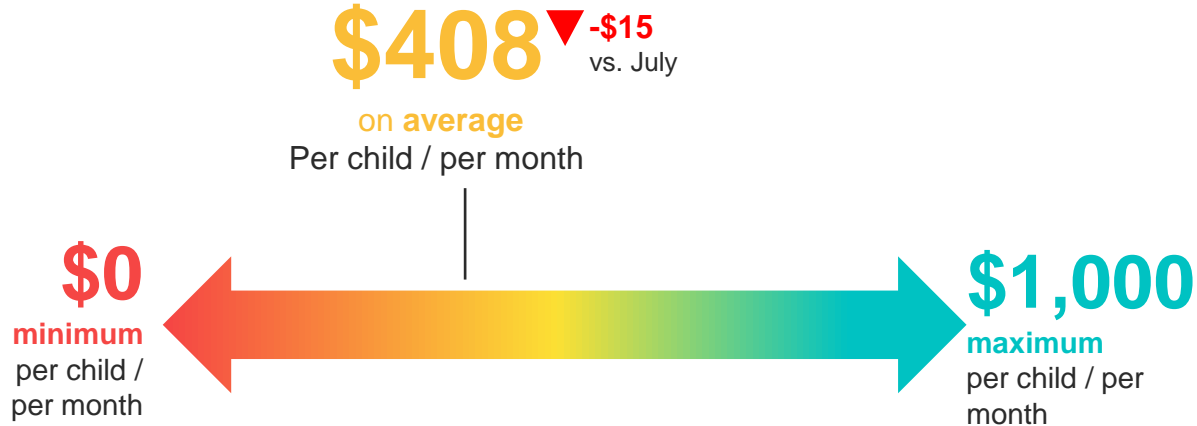
School Parents



In August, school parents were willing to pay about \$400 for a child to participate in a learning ‘pod’.

What would you be able and willing to spend, on a monthly basis, to participate in a single learning pod per child?

School Parents
among those interested in or participating in a ‘pod’

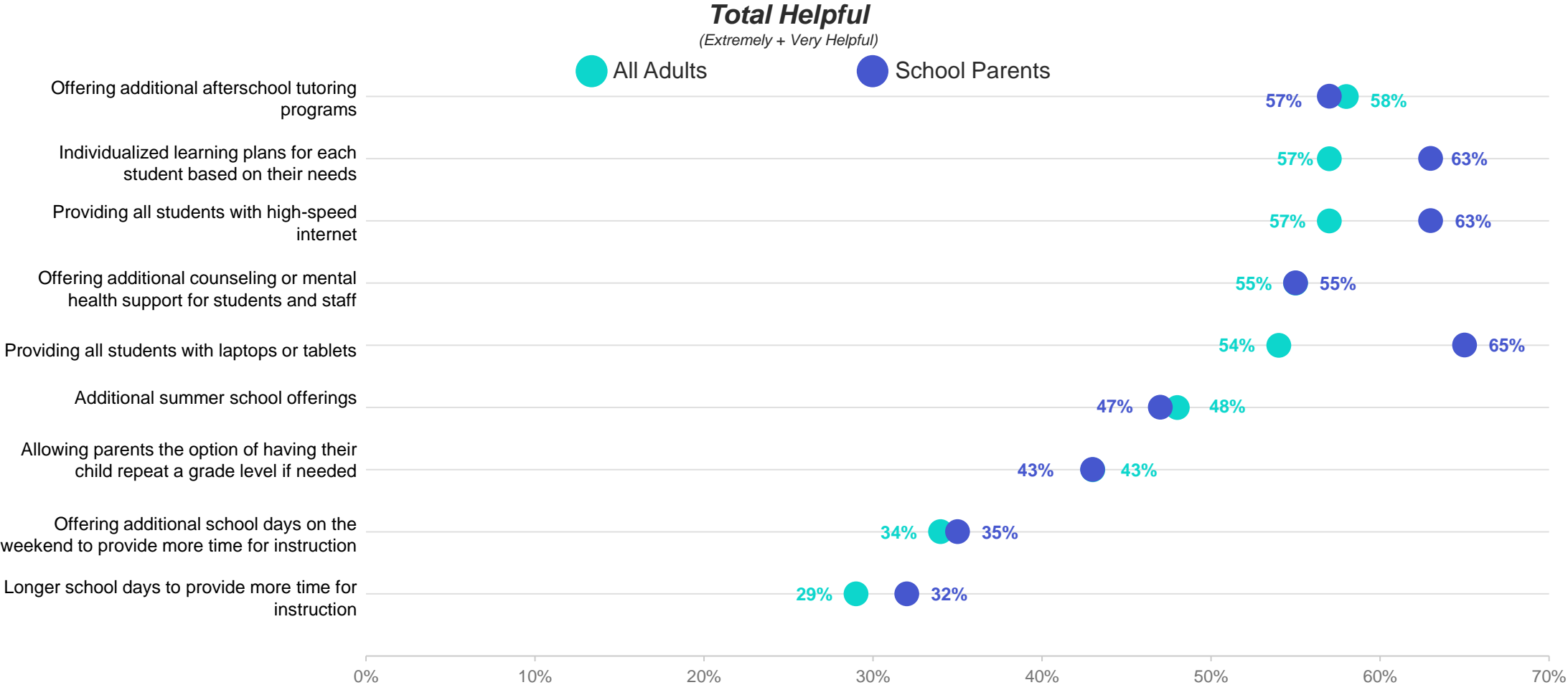


Average Willing to Spend Per Child/Per Month By Demographic		
Income	*Low Income < \$35K	\$386
	*Middle Income \$35K to < \$75K	\$430
	High Income \$75K+	\$400
Political Affiliation	Democrat	\$423
	Independent	\$392
	Republican	\$388
Region	*West	\$418
	*Midwest	\$390
	South	\$381
	*Northeast	\$506

*indicates base size <n=100

School parents are much more likely to value access to high-speed internet and providing laptops/tablets, as well as individualized learning plans– compared to other resources.

How helpful do you think each of the following will be in helping students/your child/children next school year following the COVID-19 outbreak?



AGENDA

COVID-19 AND SCHOOLING

SCHOOL CHOICE POLICIES

VIEWS ON K-12 EDUCATION

SURVEY PROFILE AND DEMOGRAPHICS



Descriptions Used:

Charter Schools

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.

School Vouchers

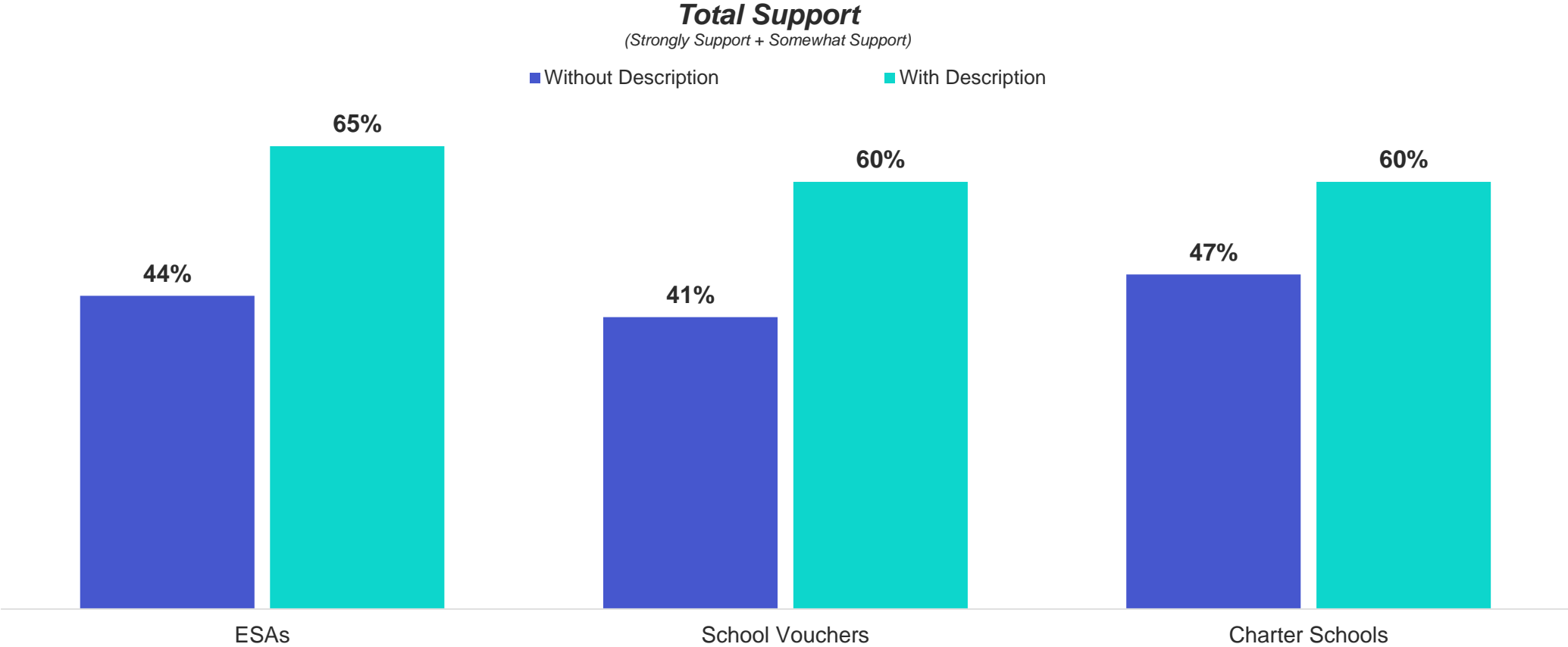
A school voucher system allows parents the option of sending their child to the school of their choice, whether that school is public or private, including both religious and non-religious schools. If this policy were adopted, tax dollars currently allocated to a school district would be allocated to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

Education Savings Accounts

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.

All school choice policies continue to see a lift in support when people are given a description.

All Adults

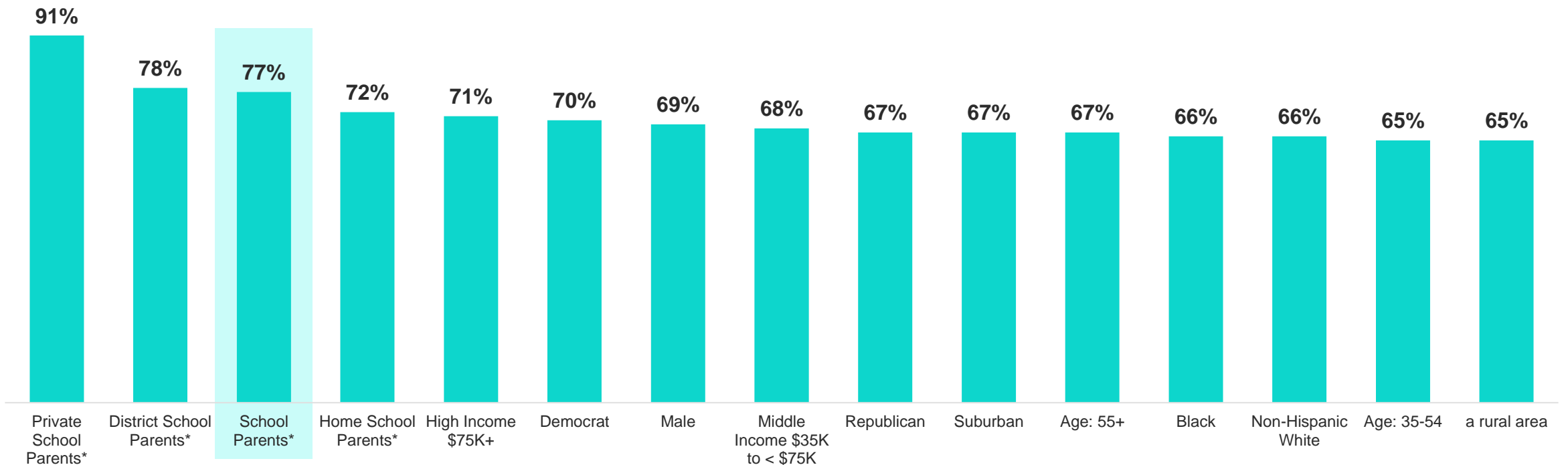


Just over three out of four school parents say they support ESAs. There is a wide range of support among all demographics.

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 Adults

Total Support
(Strongly Support + Somewhat Support)



* Denotes the sample came from school parents

Note: Parent groups based on child/children school type attendance in SY21-22.

Support of ESAs remains high across demographics although there were some notable decreases among Blacks and those living in urban areas.

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 Adults

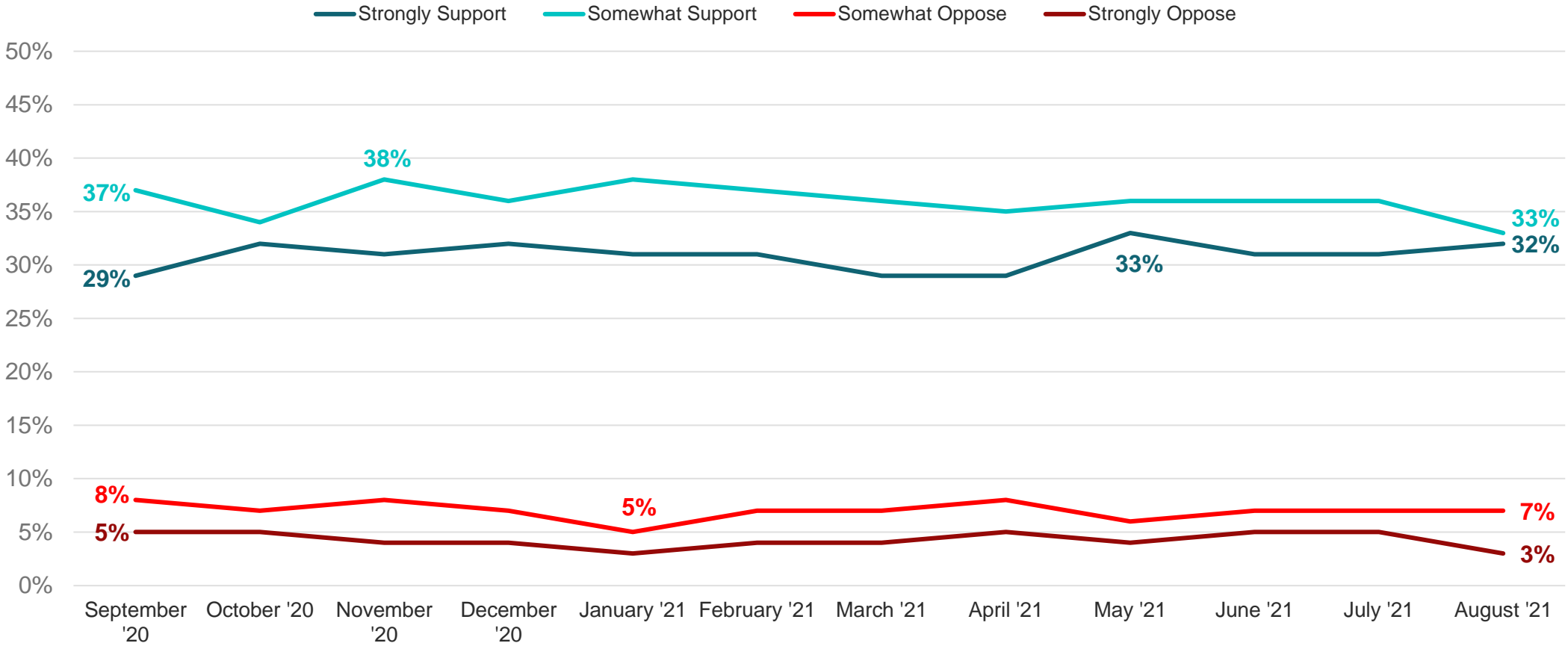
Most Supportive

	Vs July			Vs July			Vs July	
Educ: Bachelors or Postgrad	71%	-5	Suburban	67%	+1	Small Town	63%	+5
High Income \$75K+	71%	-4	Northeast	67%	+0	South	63%	-3
Democrat	70%	-2	Baby Boomer	67%	+1	Female	62%	-5
Midwest	70%	+4	Non-Hispanic White	66%	+0	Educ: < College	62%	-1
Gen X	69%	+1	Black	66%	-7	Urban	62%	-6
Male	69%	+3	Rural	65%	-3	Hispanic	61%	-5
Middle Income \$35K-\$75K	68%	+0	Millennial	64%	-5	Low Income < \$35K	61%	-1
Republican	67%	-2	West	63%	-3	Gen Z	58%	-4
			Independent	63%	-1			

In August, soft support for ESAs decreased by three points.

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 Adults

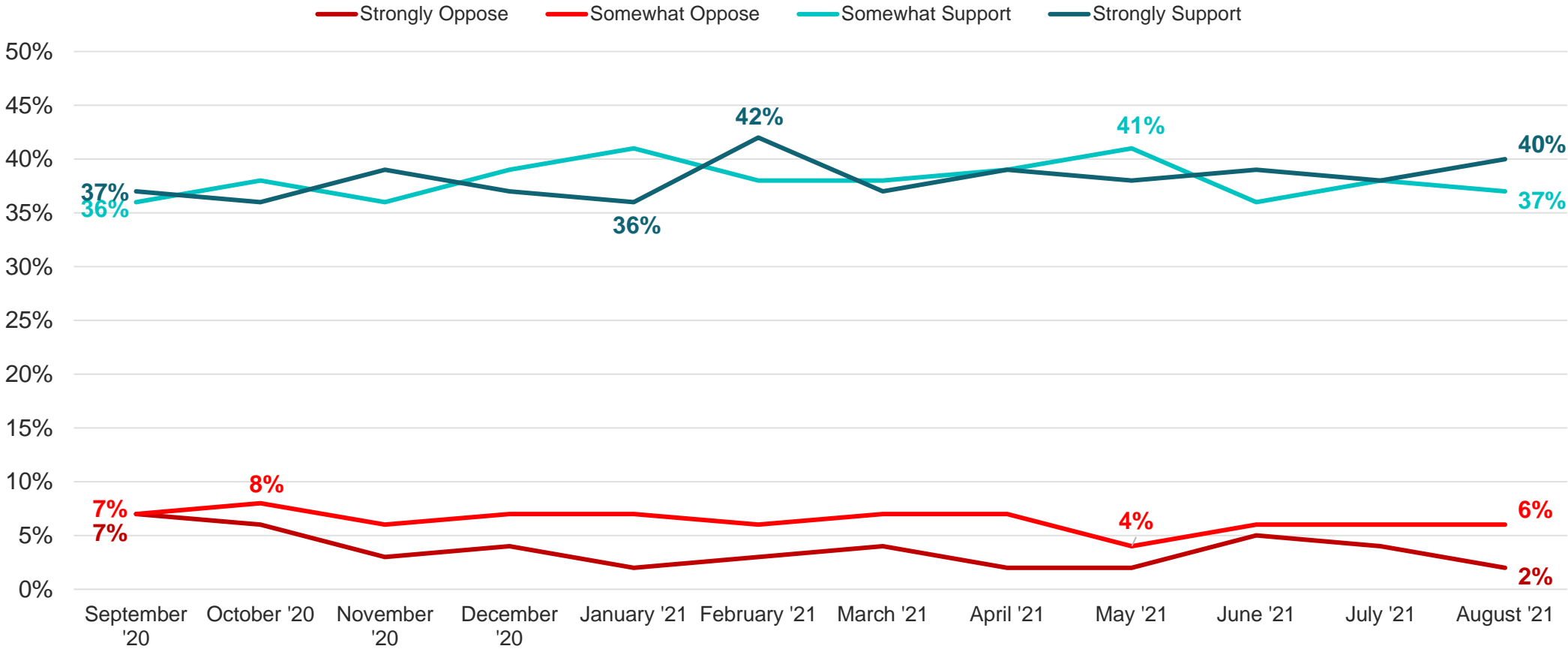


Note: Don't know/no opinion responses are not shown.

Among school parents, overall support for ESAs held steady in August.

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?

School Parents



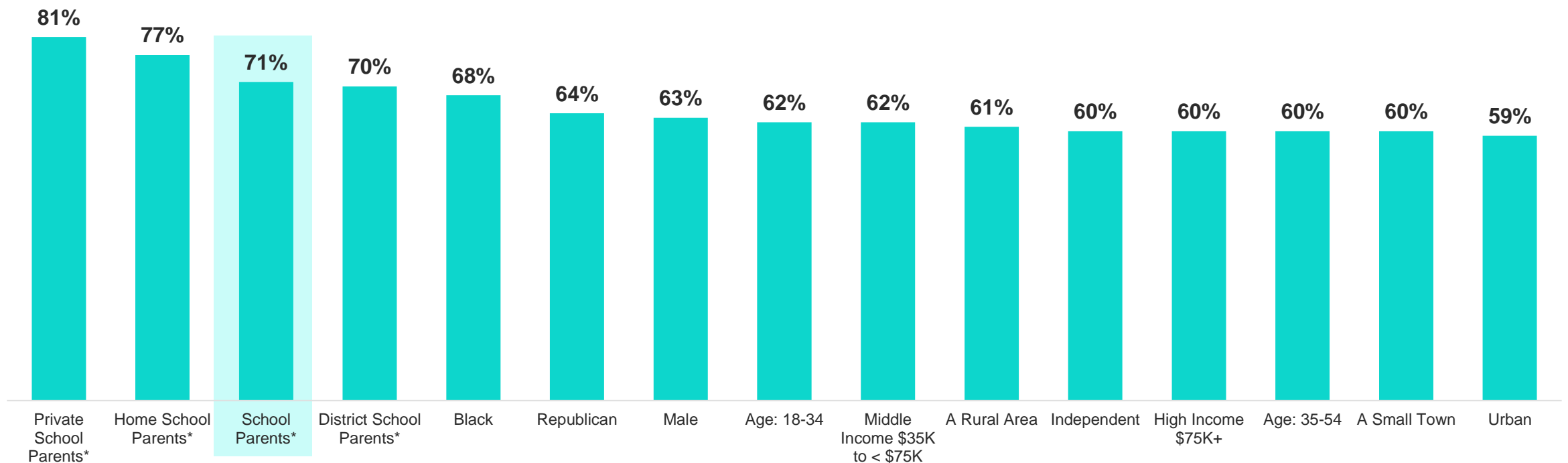
Note: Don't know/no opinion responses are not shown.

Roughly seven out of 10 school parents say they support school vouchers. There is broad support across all demographics.

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 Adults

Total Support
(Strongly Support + Somewhat Support)



* Denotes the sample came from school parents

Note: Parent groups based on child/children school type attendance in SY21-22.

Support of school vouchers decreased across the majority of demographic groups in August, especially among Hispanics and urbanites. Small town residents showed the largest increase in support.

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 Adults

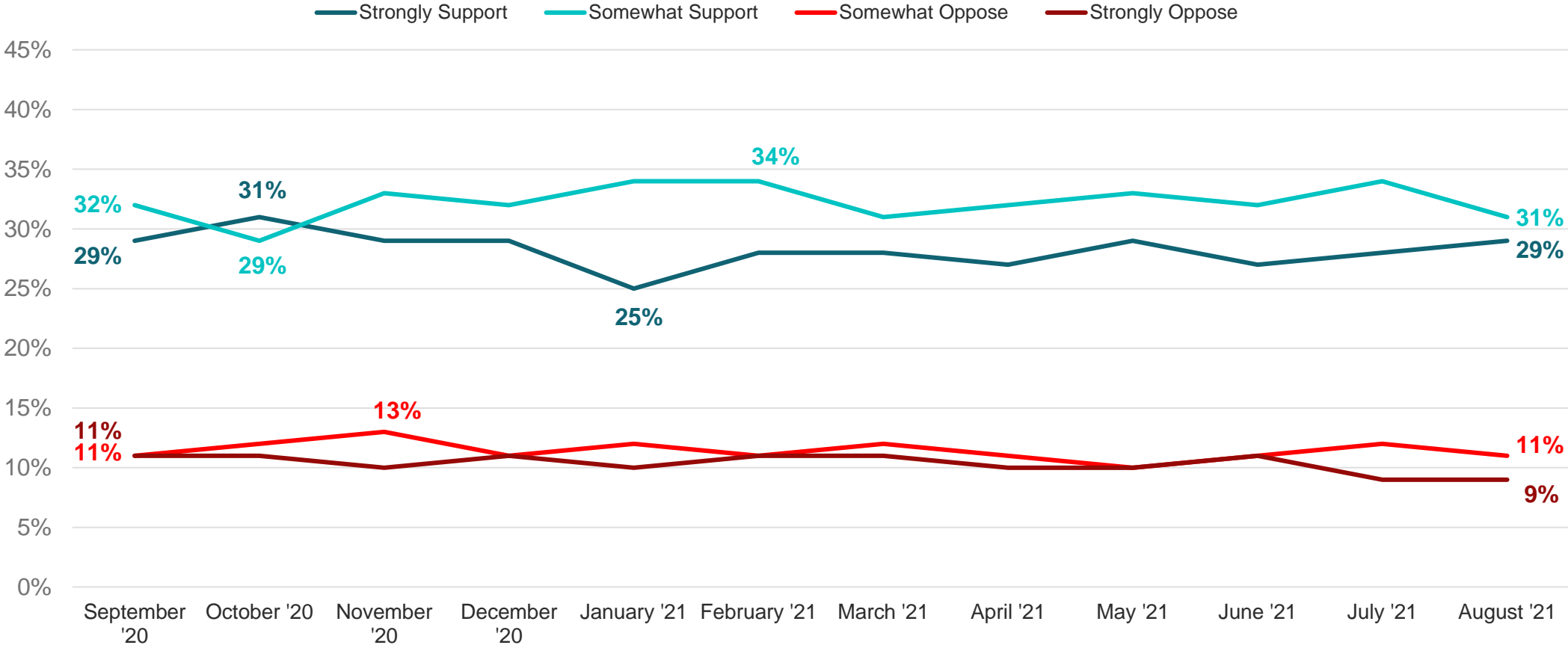
Most Supportive

		Vs July			Vs July			Vs July
Black	68%	-3	High Income \$75K+	60%	-4	Non-Hispanic White	58%	-3
Republican	64%	-6	Small Town	60%	+8	South	58%	-6
Millennials	64%	-3	Independent	60%	+1	Democrat	57%	-5
Northeast	63%	+0	West	60%	+2	Low Income < \$35K	57%	-4
Male	63%	+0	Educ: Bachelors or Postgrad	59%	-4	Hispanic	57%	-9
Middle Income \$35K-\$75K	62%	-1	Educ: < College	59%	-3	Baby Boomer	57%	-2
Gen X	61%	-2	Midwest	59%	-4	Female	56%	-6
Rural	61%	-3	Urban	59%	-7	Gen Z	54%	-4
			Suburban	58%	-4			

The public's soft support for school vouchers decreased by three points in August.

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 Adults

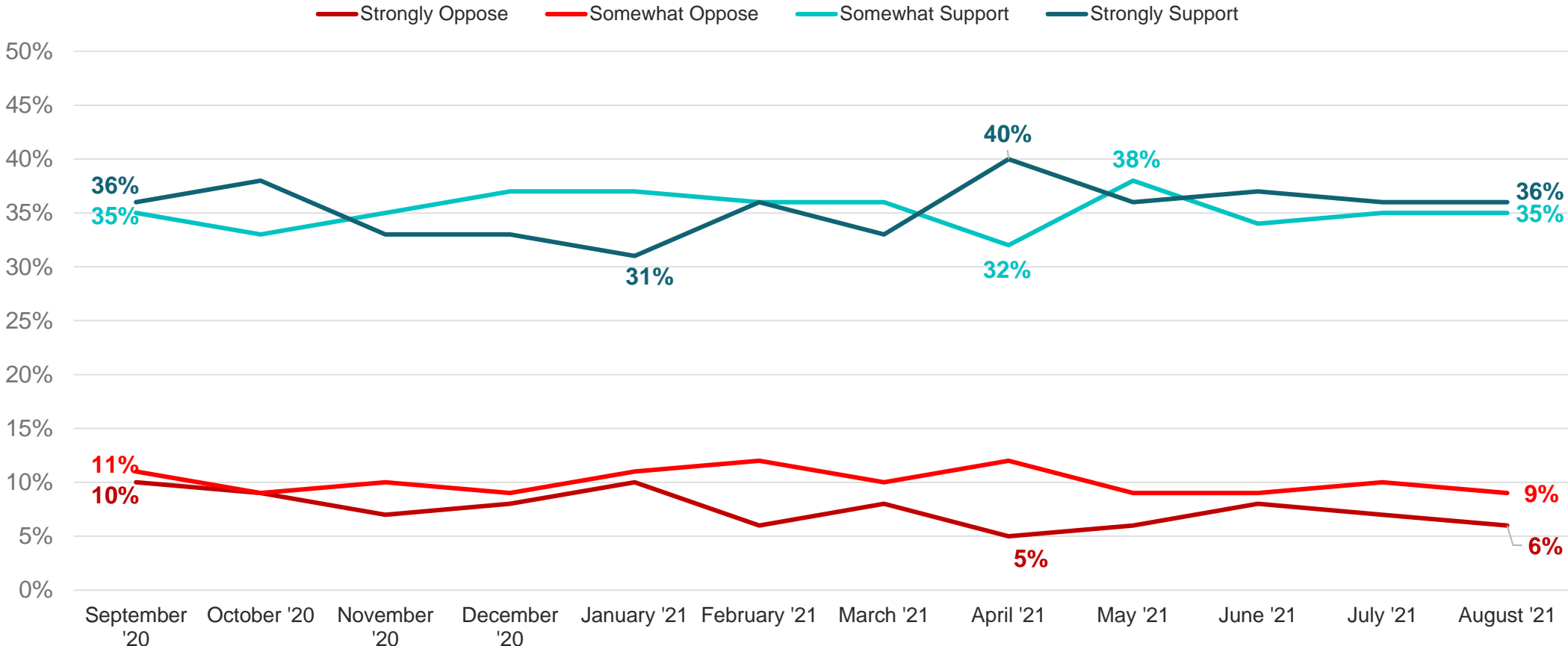


Note: Don't know/no opinion responses are not shown.

School parents' overall support for school vouchers held steady in August.

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?

School Parents



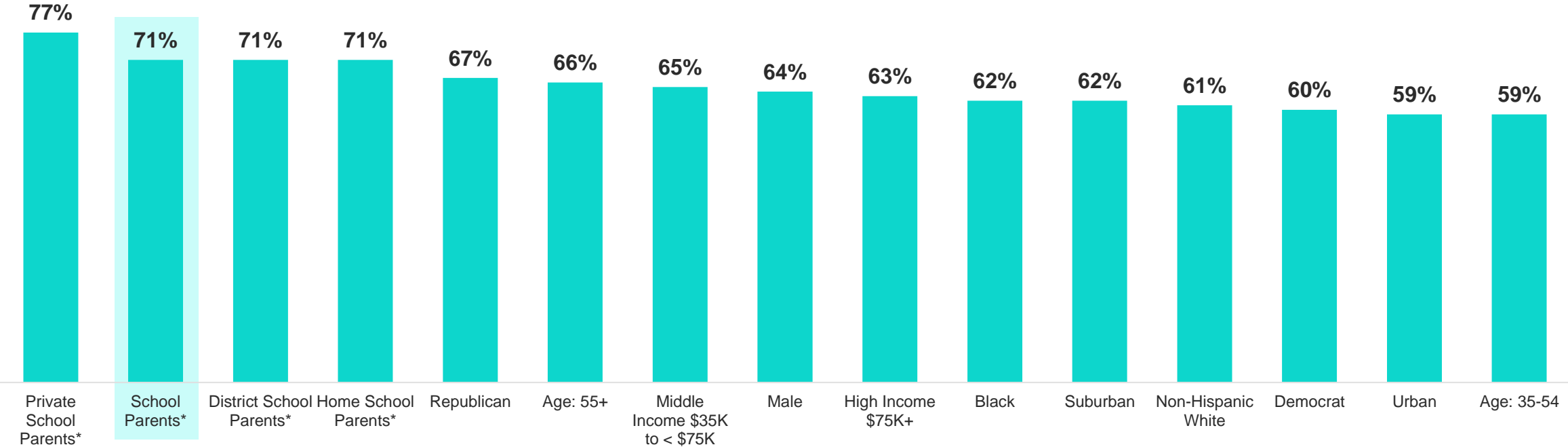
Note: Don't know/no opinion responses are not shown.

Just over seven out of 10 school parents say they support public charter schools. There continues to be widespread support across demographics.

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 Adults

Total Support
(Strongly Support + Somewhat Support)



* Denotes the sample came from school parents
 Note: Parent groups based on child/children school type attendance in SY21-22.

Although support of charter schools remains high across demographics, there were decreases among GenZers, Hispanics, urbanities, and those living in the Midwest.

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 Adults

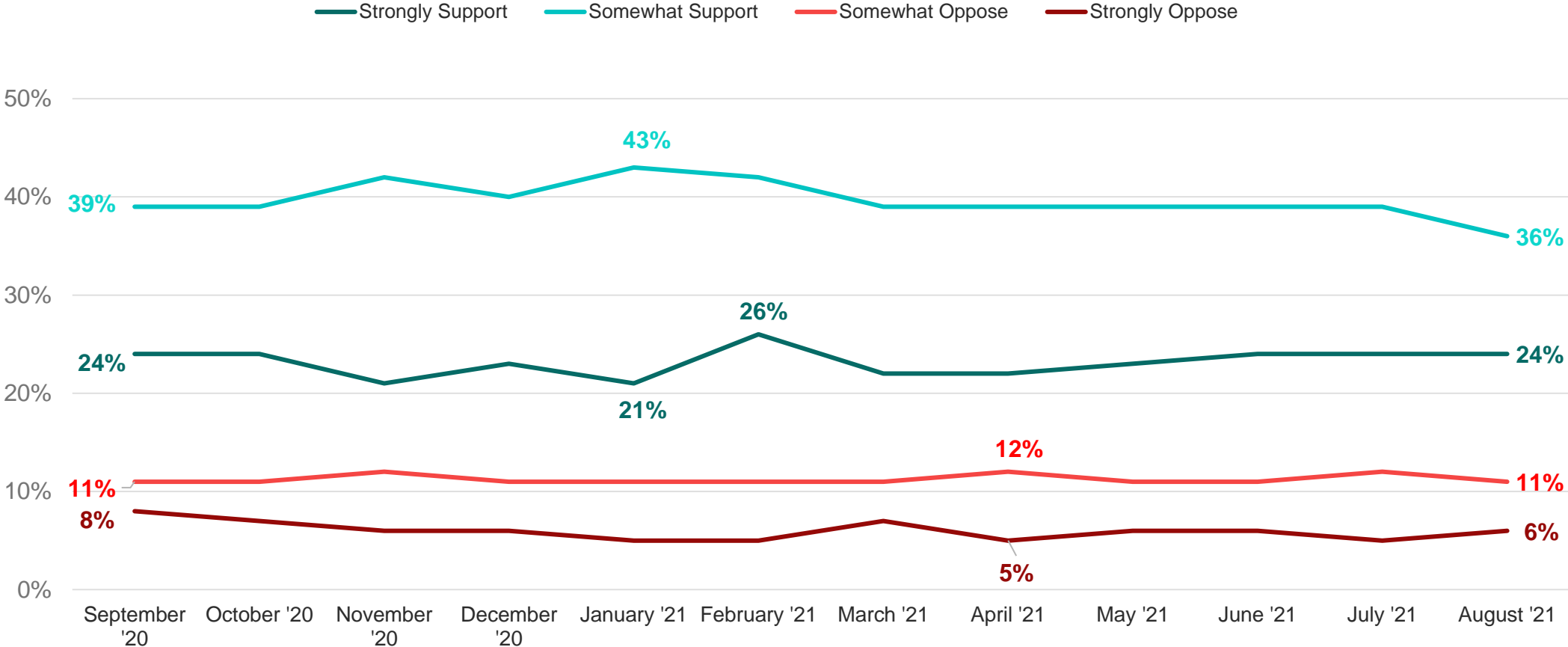
Most Supportive

		Vs July			Vs July			Vs July
Republican	67%	-3	High Income \$75K+	63%	-1	Educ: < College	58%	-3
Gen X	66%	+4	Black	62%	-3	Small Town	58%	+3
Middle Income \$35K to < \$75K	65%	-2	Suburban	62%	+0	Millennials	57%	-6
Educ: Bachelors or Postgrad	65%	-2	Non-Hispanic White	61%	-2	Female	57%	-6
Baby Boomer	65%	+2	Democrat	60%	-3	Hispanic	57%	-7
West	64%	+3	Rural	59%	-3	Midwest	57%	-7
Northeast	64%	+4	Independent	59%	+0	Low Income < \$35K	56%	-2
Male	64%	+2	Urban	59%	-7	Gen Z	48%	-8
			South	58%	-5			

In August, soft support of charter schools decreased by three points.

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 Adults

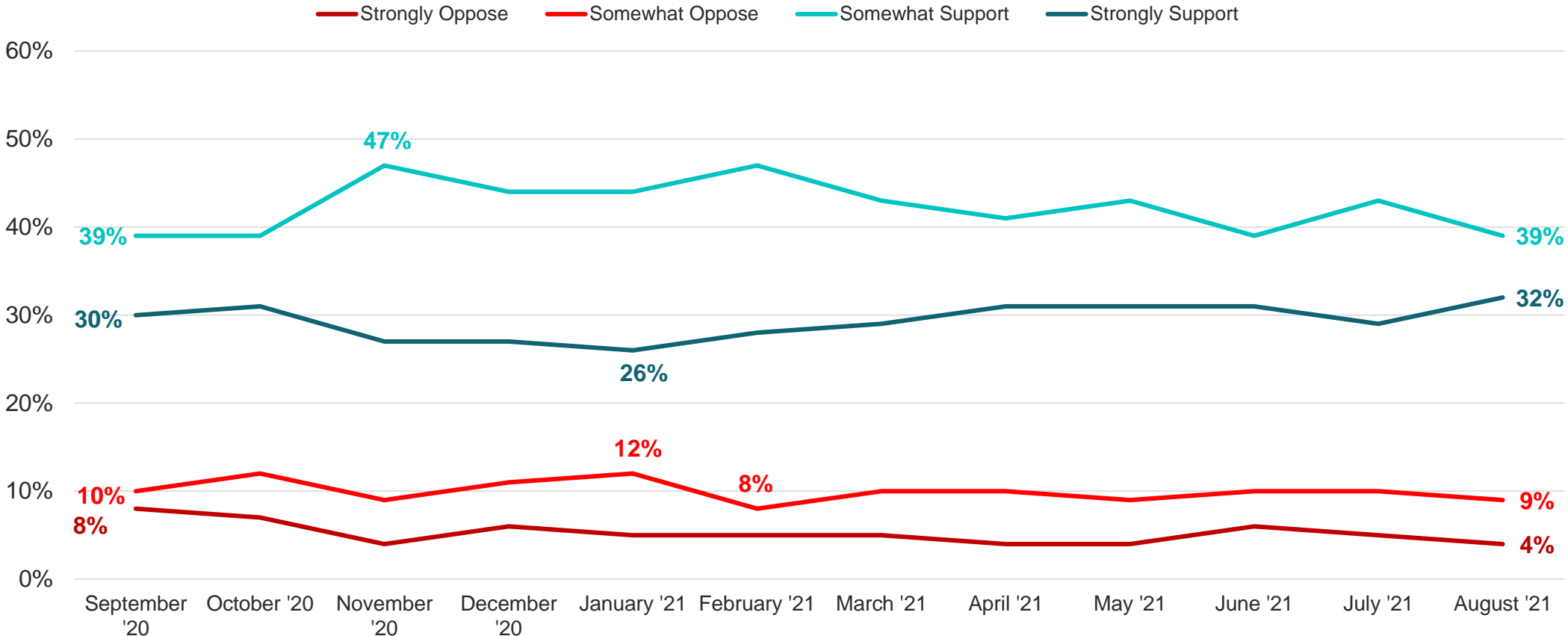


Note: Don't know/no opinion responses are not shown.

School parents' overall support for charter schools held steady in August.

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 Parents



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

AGENDA

COVID-19 AND SCHOOLING

SCHOOL CHOICE POLICIES

VIEWS ON K-12 EDUCATION

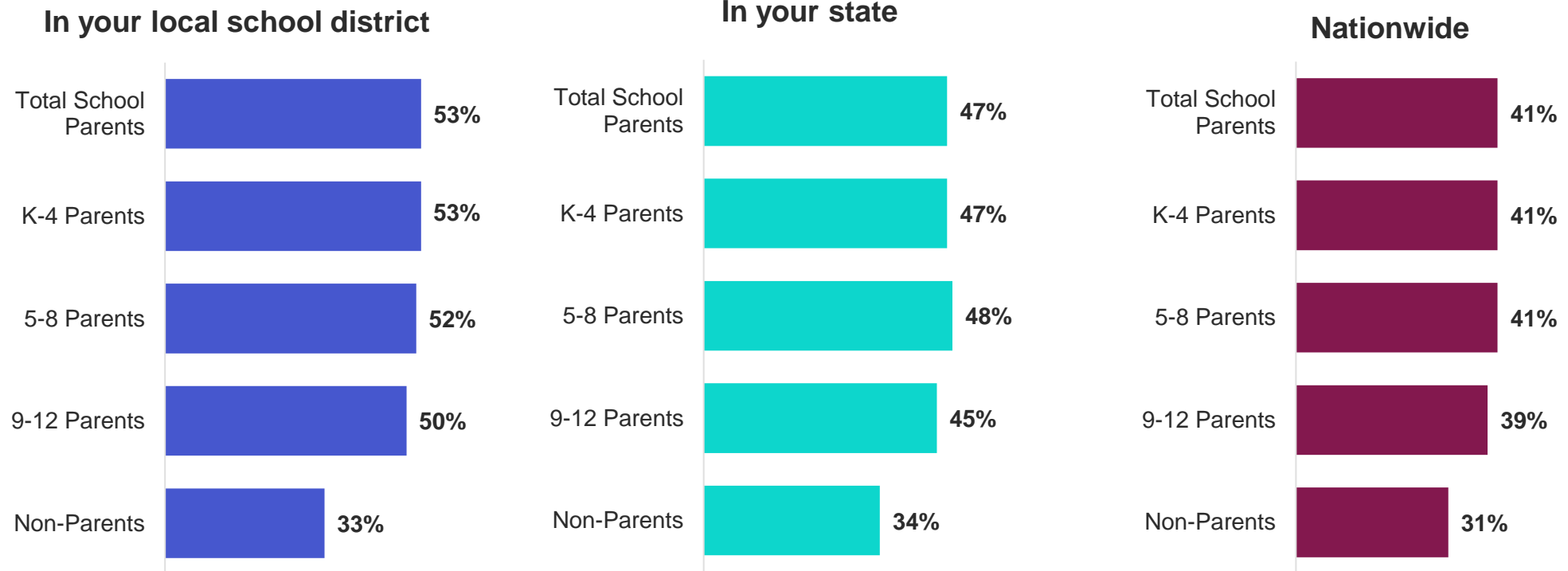
SURVEY PROFILE AND DEMOGRAPHICS



School parents are more optimistic about the direction of K-12 education than non-parents.

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?

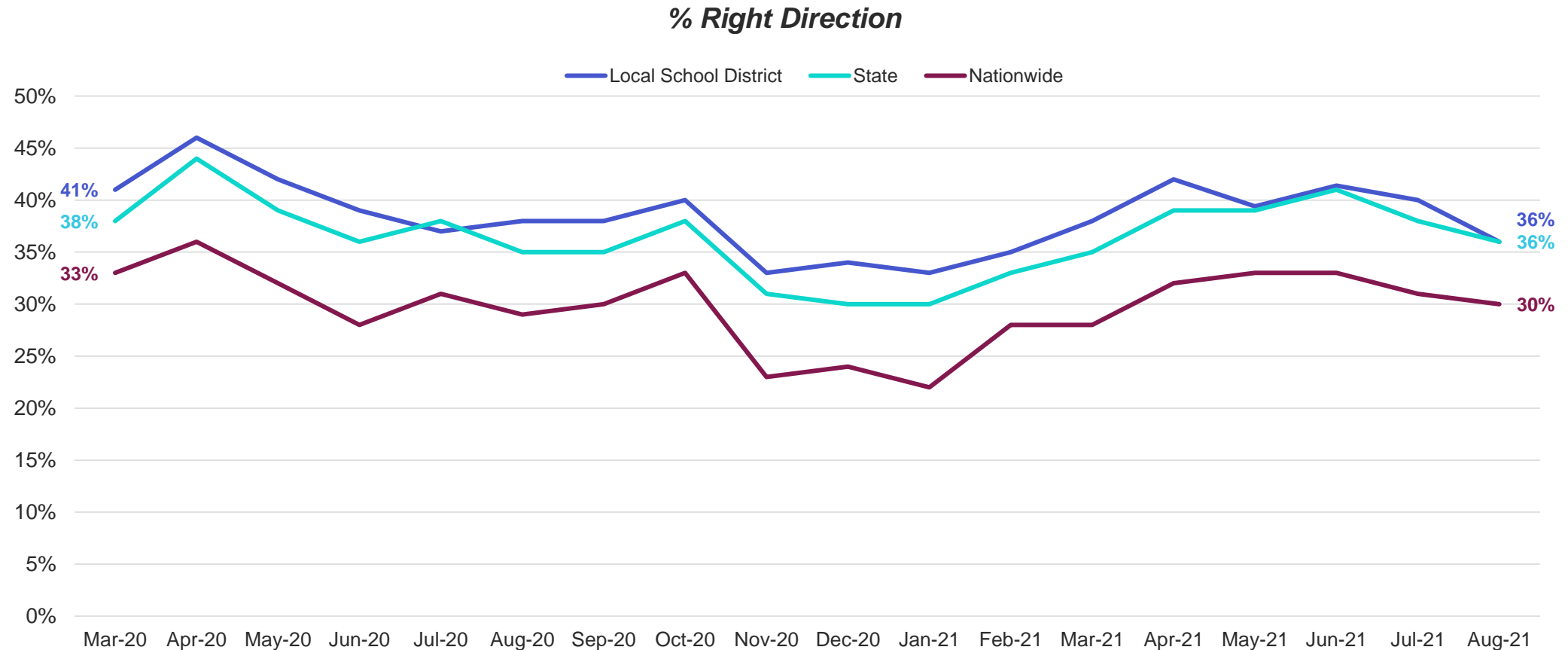
% Right Direction



Positive sentiment about the direction of K-12 education has decreased since June, especially on those views regarding state and local levels.

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?

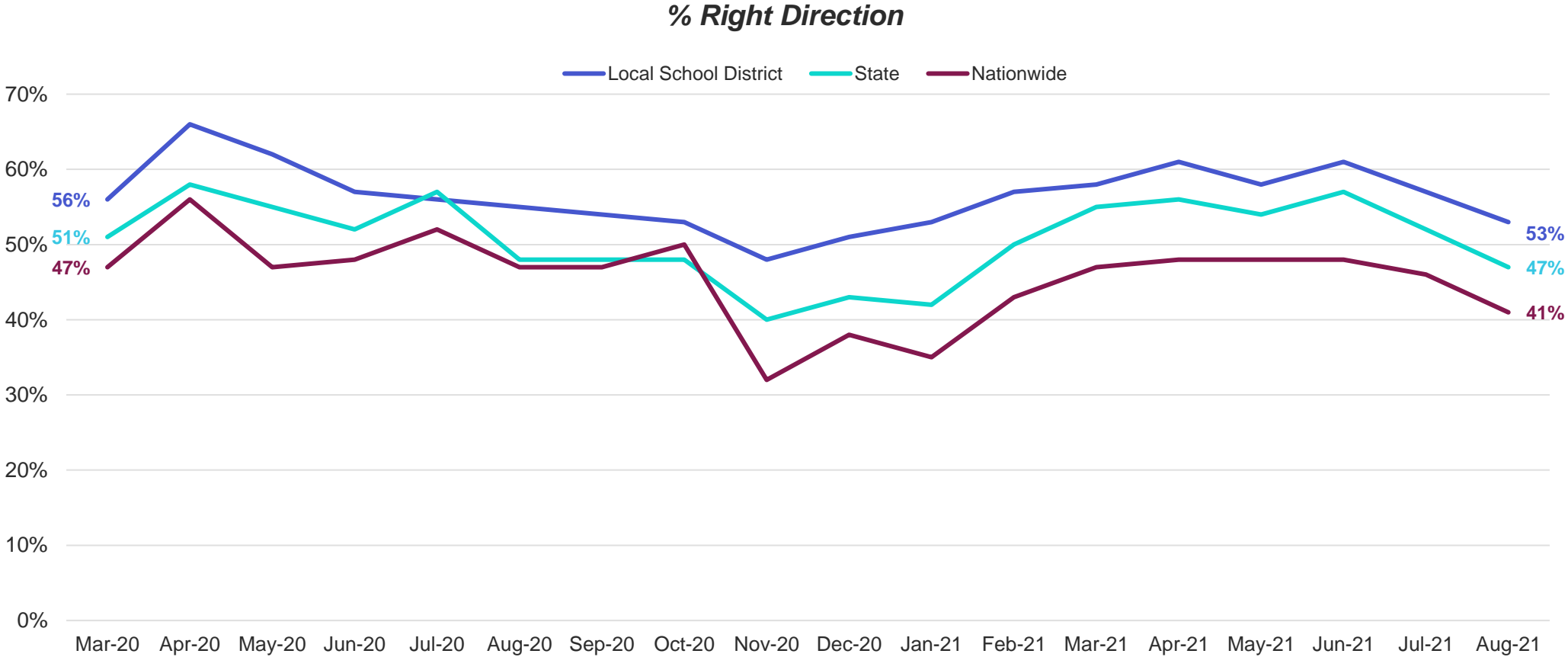
All Adults



School parents' positive sentiments about K-12 education across all levels decreased in August – continuing a decline observed since June.

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?

School Parents



Americans are more likely to say grades K-8 should focus on core subjects and high school should focus on both skills for future employment and core subjects.





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 Adults

% Extremely Important








Grades K-8

Average % selected Extremely Important **42%**

-  Core academic subjects (55%)
-  Become independent thinkers (46%)
-  Socialization (45%)
-  How to be good citizens (44%)
-  Skills for future employment (41%)
-  Values, moral character, religious virtues (37%)
-  To fix social problems (24%)

Grades 9-12

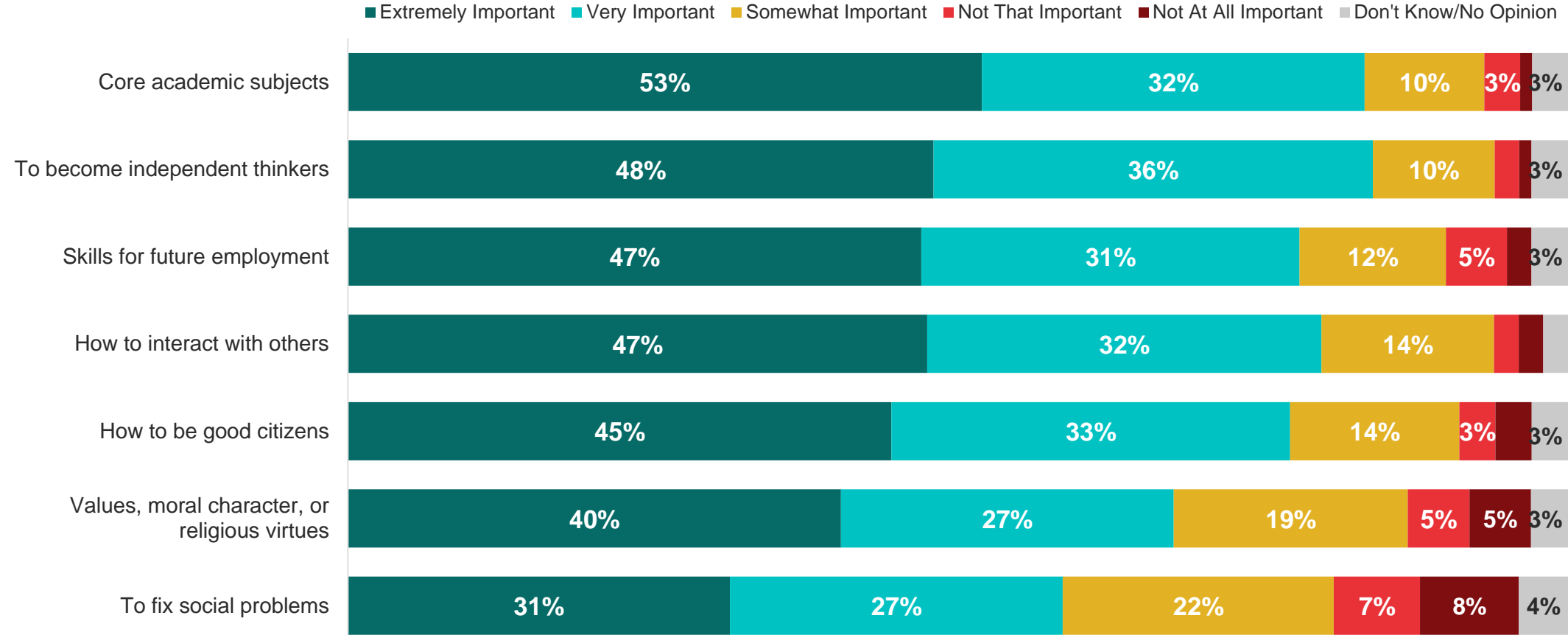
Average % selected Extremely Important **43%**

-  Skills for future employment (55%)
-  Core academic subjects (53%)
-  Become independent thinkers (46%)
-  How to be good citizens (44%)
-  Socialization (41%)
-  Values, moral character, religious virtues (36%)
-  To fix social problems (25%)

School parents are most likely to say learning academic subjects is an extremely important purpose of K-8 education.

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

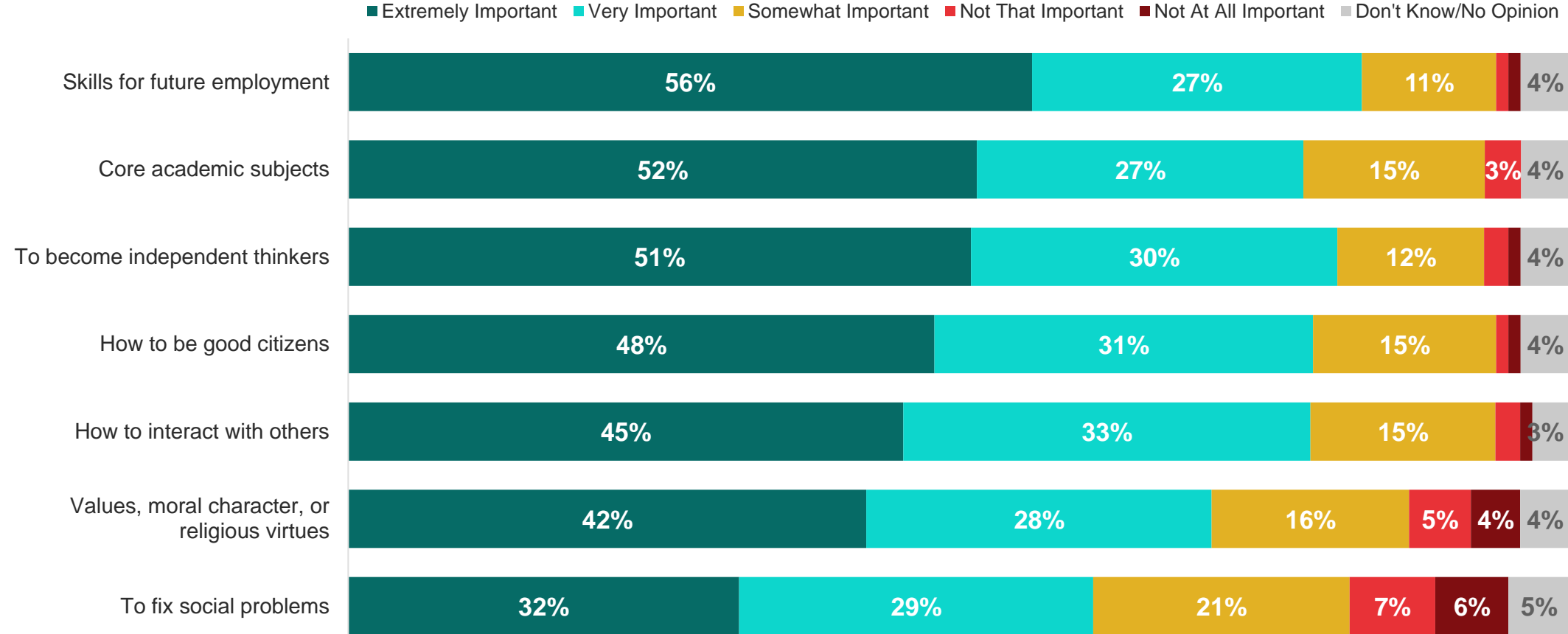
School Parents



School parents are most likely to say that high school should focus on skills for future employment.


What do you believe should be the main purpose of education during **High School (9th through 12th grade)**? In your opinion, how important is it for students to learn...

School Parents



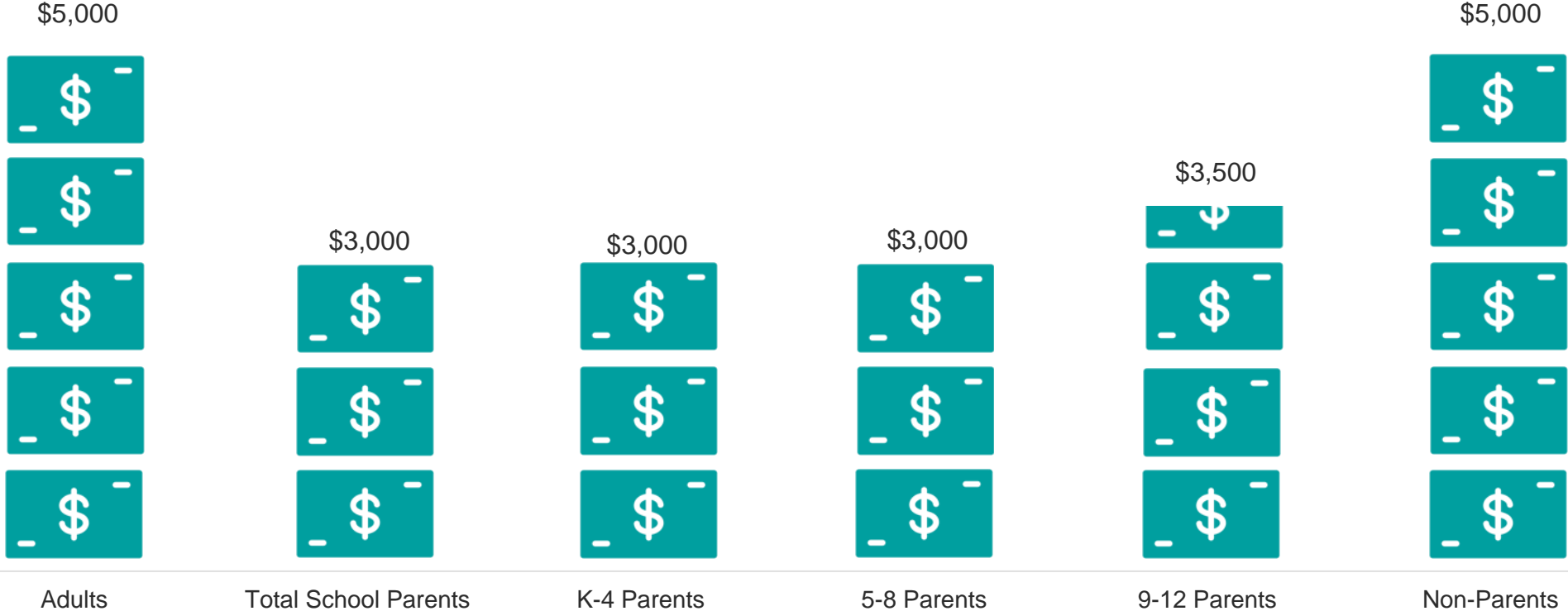
Americans, especially school parents of younger children, believe that government spending per student is much lower than actual expenditures.

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.

 = \$1,000

Median Estimate

FY18 State Actuals	
Maximum	\$22,845
Mean	\$12,485
Minimum	\$7,525

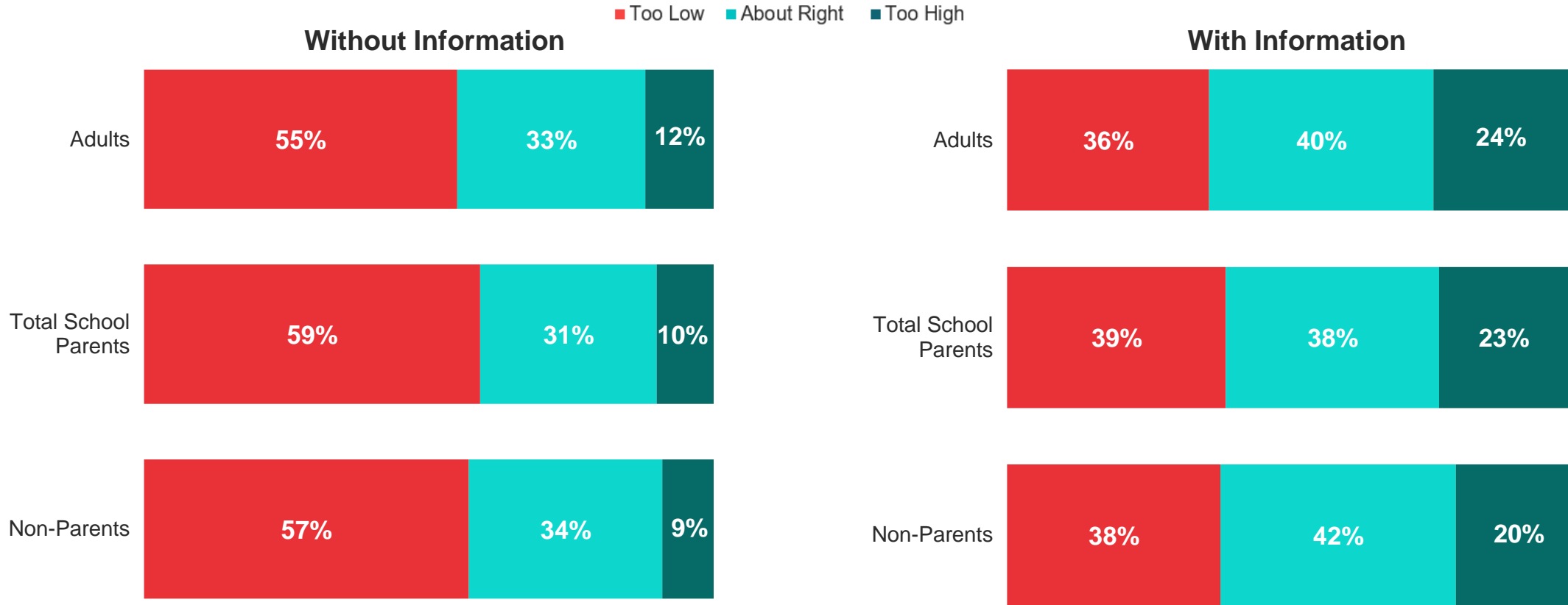


FY18 State Actuals Source: National Center for Education Statistics

Americans are much less likely (-19 points) to say their state’s per-student spending is “too low” when given a publicly reported statistic.

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:

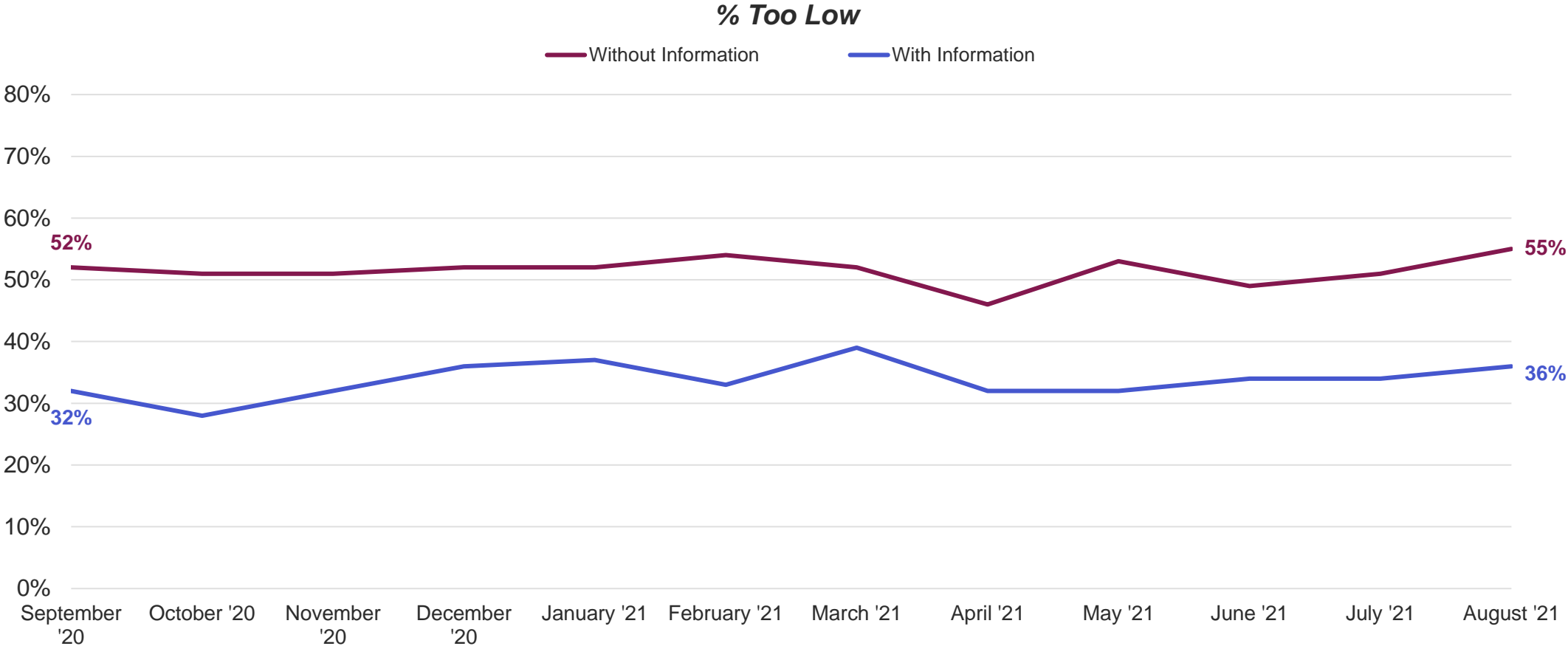


When not given information, the percentage of Americans who believe public school funding is “too low” increased in August.

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:

All Adults

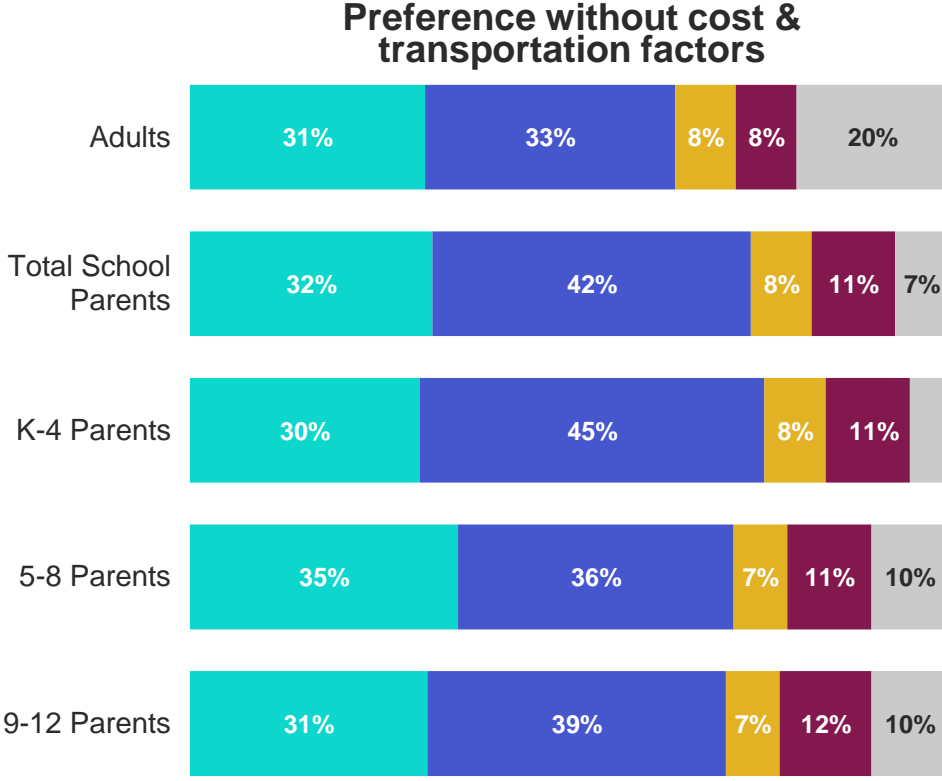
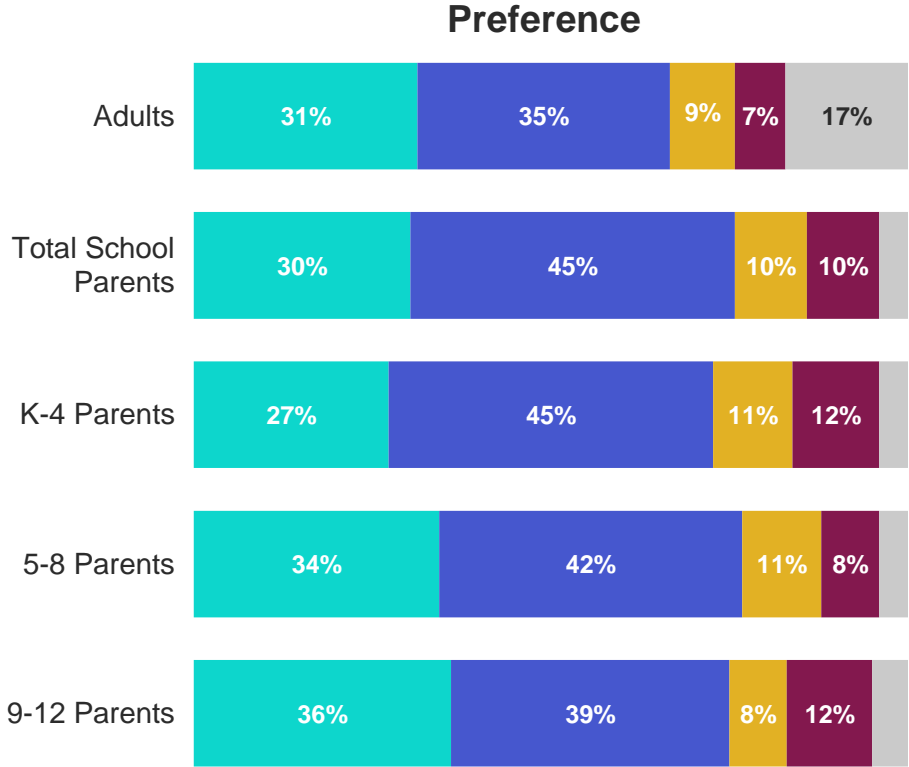


In August, financial costs and transportation didn't appear to have a substantial effect on parental preference for a certain school type.

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?

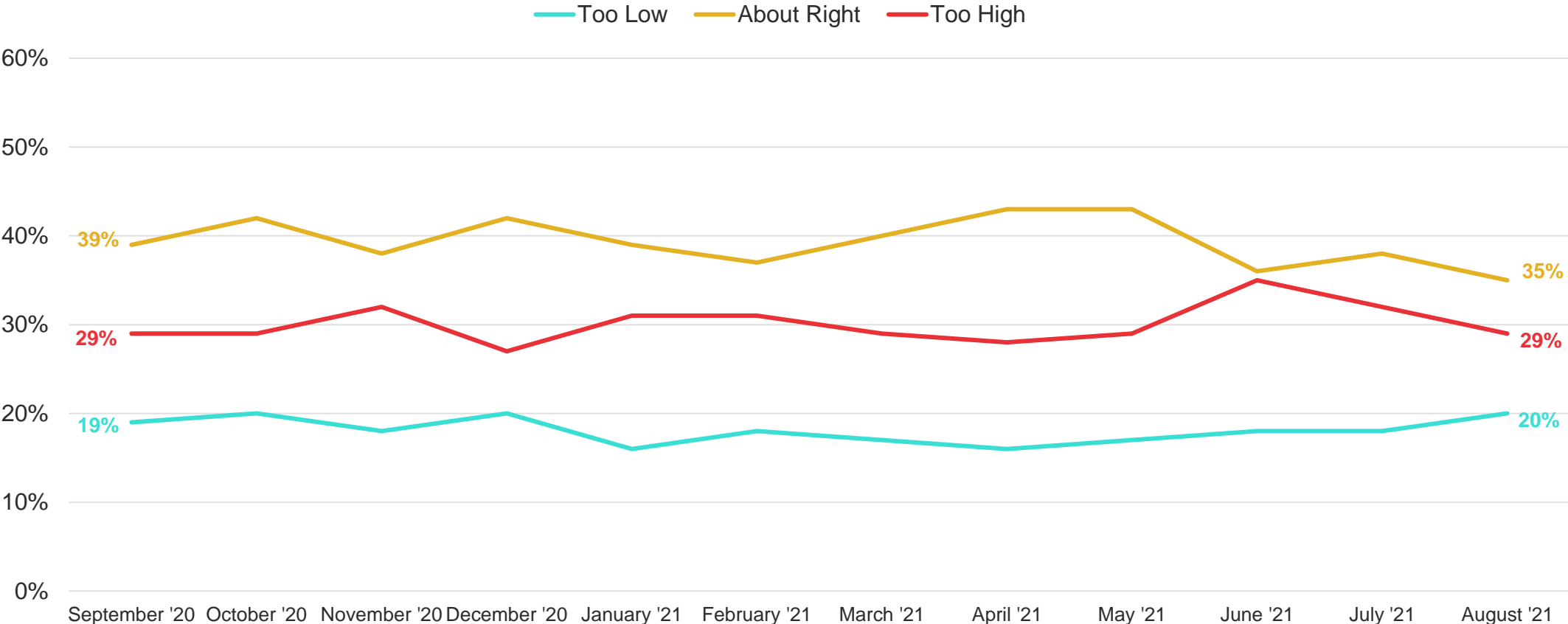
■ Private School ■ Regular Public School ■ Home School ■ Charter School ■ Don't Know/No Opinion



The proportion of school parents that believe the amount of standardized testing is 'too high' decreased by three points in August as did the proportion of those who believe it's 'about right'.

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:

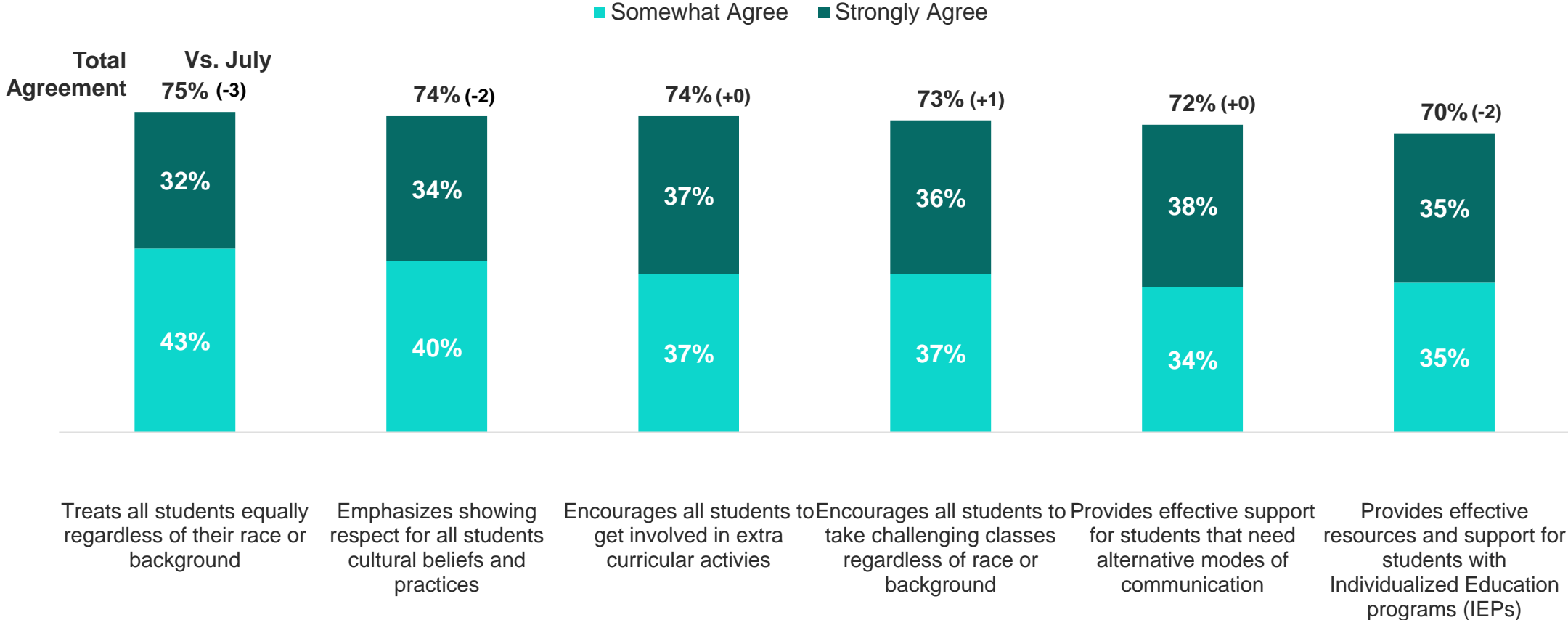
School Parents



School parents agree with the following positive statements about diversity and inclusivity efforts when thinking about the school in their area.

How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements as it relates to the school in your area?

School Parents



School parents with higher incomes are the most likely to agree that the school in their area is promoting diversity and inclusivity. Those with lower incomes, who identify as Independent or are Hispanic are less likely to agree along those lines.

How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements as it relates to the school in your area?

School Parents

Total Agree
(Strongly + Somewhat Agree)

	White	Black	Hispanic	Low Income < \$35K	Middle Income \$35K to < \$75K	High Income \$75K+	Special Needs Parents	Non-Special Needs Parents	Republican	Democrat	Independent
Treats all students equally regardless of their race or background	77%	74%	72%	64%	81%	84%	74%	76%	79%	78%	69%
Encourages all students to take challenging classes regardless of race or background	73%	76%	69%	63%	78%	80%	70%	74%	75%	78%	66%
Emphasizes showing respect for all students' cultural beliefs and practices	76%	68%	69%	67%	78%	77%	73%	74%	76%	79%	68%
Provides effective support for students that need alternative modes of communication	72%	76%	67%	66%	76%	72%	68%	73%	72%	75%	68%
Provides effective resources and support for students with IEPs	71%	77%	60%	64%	75%	72%	71%	70%	75%	75%	64%
Encourages all students to get involved in extra curricular activities	73%	74%	75%	64%	79%	82%	70%	76%	73%	81%	72%

Private School Parents are more likely to agree their schools encourage diversity and inclusion. But they are less likely to agree their schools encourage all students to take challenging classes or provide effective support for students with IEPs.

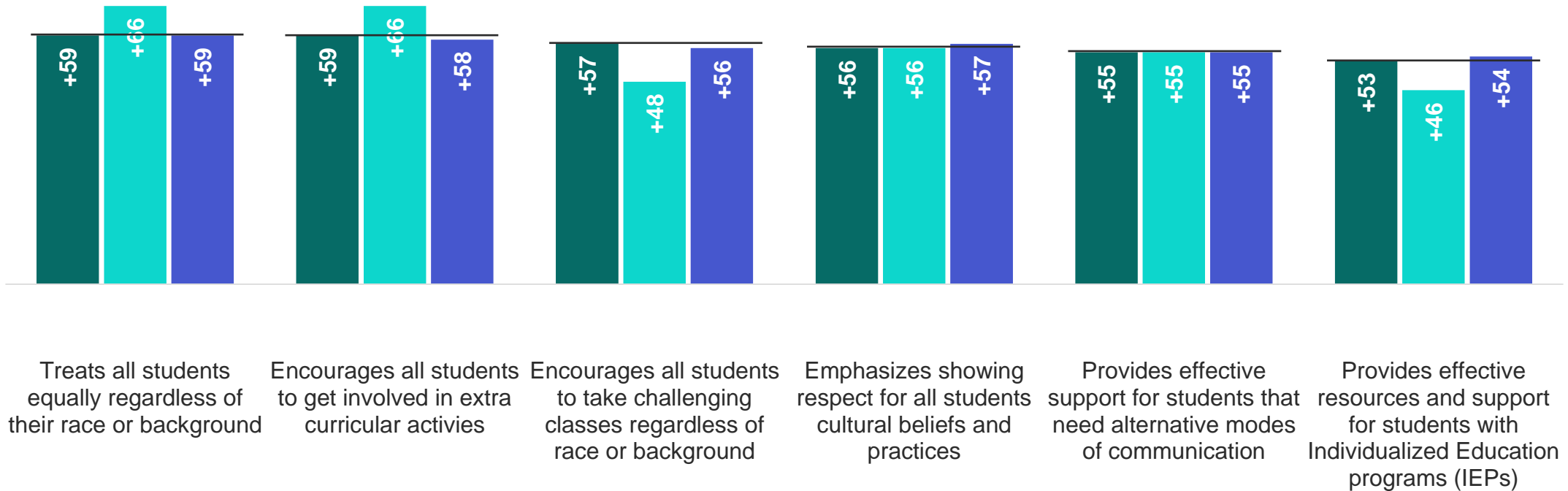
How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements as it relates to the school in your area?

School Parents

Net Agree

(total agree – total disagree)

■ School Parents ■ Private School ■ District School



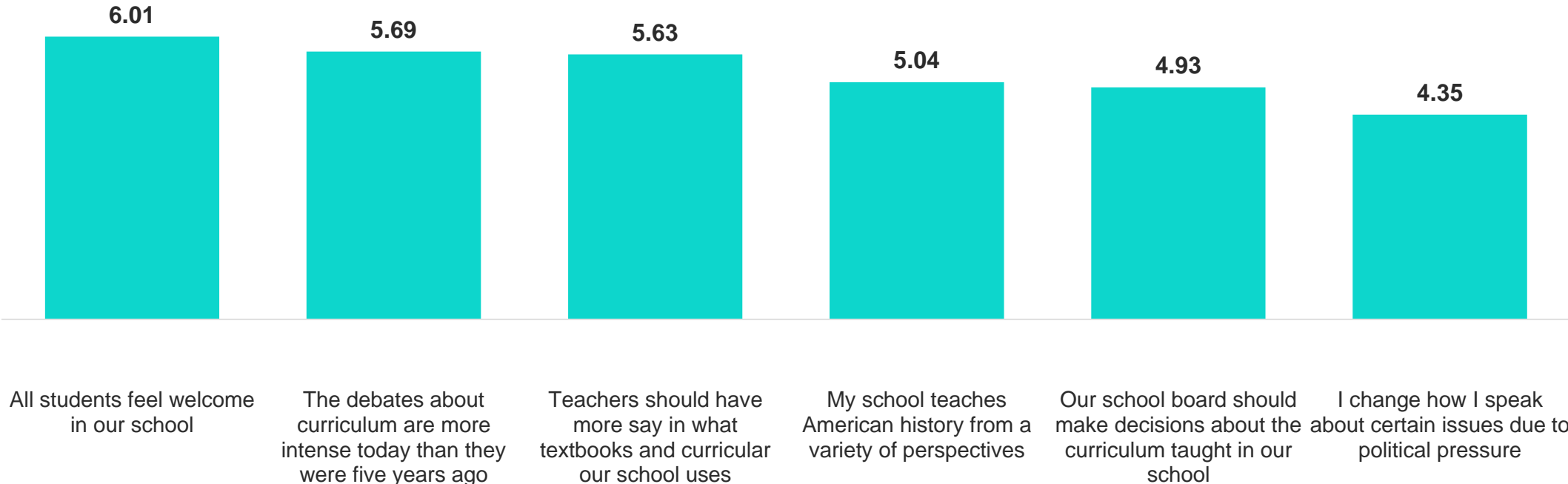
Note: Parent groups based on child/children school type attendance in SY21-22.

School parents are most likely to feel that all students feel welcome in their own schools. They are least likely to agree they change how they speak about issues because of political pressure.

On a scale of 0-10 where 0 means "completely disagree" and 10 means "completely agree" how much do you agree or disagree with each of the following?

School Parents

Average Response



Based on responses to six statements, school parents are least likely to agree they've had to change how they speak about certain issues due to political pressure.

On a scale of 0-10 where 0 means "completely disagree" and 10 means "completely agree" how much do you agree or disagree with each of the following?

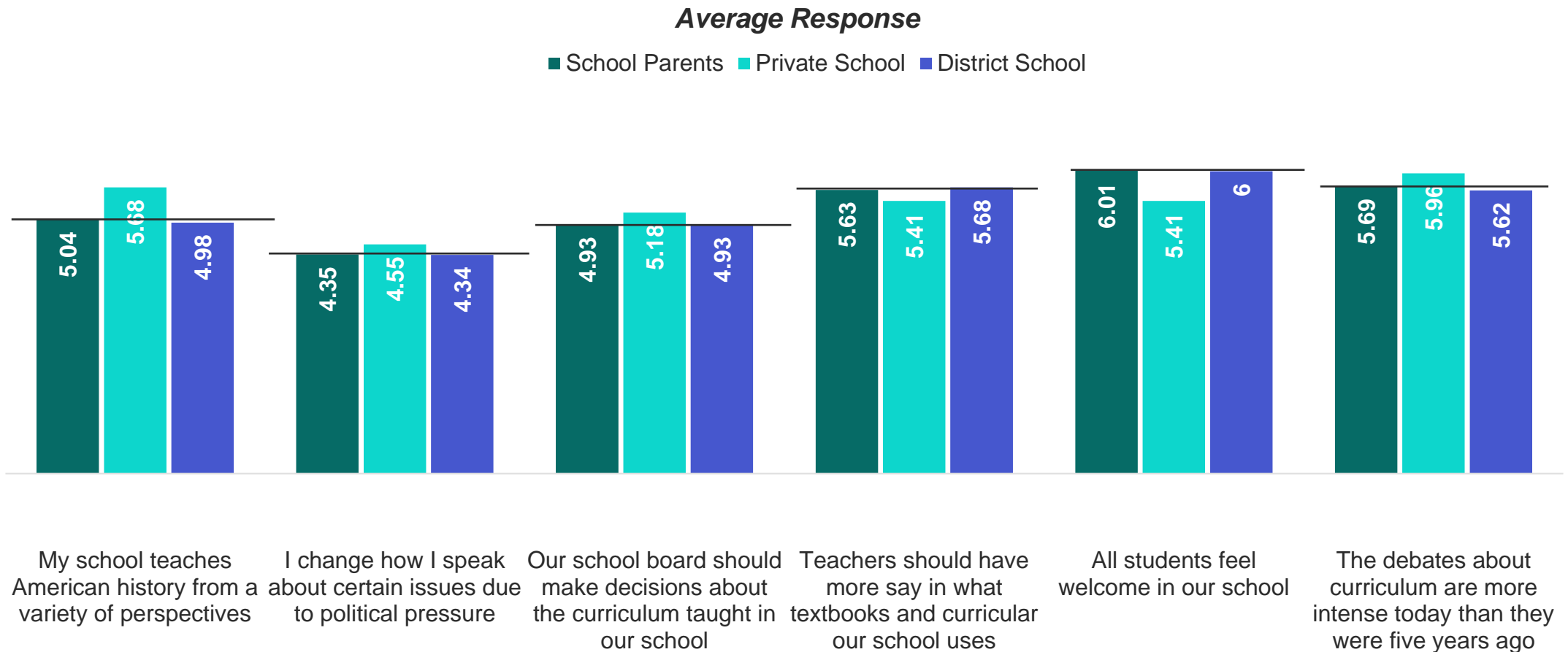
School Parents

	White	Black	Hispanic	Low Income < \$35K	Middle Income \$35K to < \$75K	High Income \$75K+	Special Needs Parents	Non-Special Needs Parents	Republican	Democrat	Independent
My school teaches American history from a variety of perspectives	5.01	5.01	4.97	4.84	5.12	5.19	5.2	4.98	5.18	4.95	4.91
I change how I speak about certain issues due to political pressure	4.34	4.05	4.27	4.23	4.39	4.47	4.46	4.31	4.48	4.27	4.36
Our school board should make decisions about the curriculum taught in our school	5.04	5.14	5	4.95	4.98	4.82	4.59	5.04	5.14	4.94	4.72
Teachers should have more say in what textbooks and curricular our school uses	5.65	5.73	5.35	5.66	5.75	5.4	5.51	5.67	5.66	5.61	5.69
All students feel welcome in our school	6.07	5.66	5.83	6.23	6.03	5.64	5.86	6.06	5.75	6.05	6.14
The debates about curriculum are more intense today than they were five years ago	5.66	5.43	5.86	5.7	5.69	5.67	5.51	5.75	5.74	5.48	5.84

Both Private School and District School Parents have similar middling levels of agreement towards the following statements relating to politics, American history, curriculum decisions, and debates in and around school.

On a scale of 0-10 where 0 means “completely disagree” and 10 means “completely agree” how much do you agree or disagree with each of the following?

School Parents



Note: Parent groups based on child/children school type attendance in SY21-22.

AGENDA

COVID-19 AND SCHOOLING

SCHOOL CHOICE POLICIES

VIEWS ON K-12 EDUCATION

SURVEY PROFILE AND DEMOGRAPHICS



Survey Profile, 1

Dates	August 6-18, 2021
Survey Data Collection & Quality Control	Morning Consult
Survey Sponsor	EdChoice
Population	General Population (Adults, Age 18+)
Sampling Frame	National sample of adults (age 18+) living in the United States, including the District of Columbia, with an oversample of school parents
Sampling Method	Non-Probability, Stratified (based on Age, Gender)
Mode	Online Survey
Language	English

Survey Profile, 2

Survey Time	Gen Pop Median = 11.72 minutes, Oversample Median = 12.55 minutes
Sample Size	N = 2,201 General Population N= 1,273 Total School Parents
Oversampling	N = 700 School Parents
Quotas	Age, Gender
Weighting	Age, Race, Ethnicity, Gender, Education, Census Region
Measure of Precision (adjusted for weighting)	± 2.45 percentage points (Gen Pop), ± 3.57 percentage points (Oversample)
Participation Rate	28.00% (Gen Pop), 11.25% (Oversample)
Methods Page	https://edchoice.morningconsultintelligence.com/methodology/
Project Contact	Paul DiPerna, paul@edchoice.org

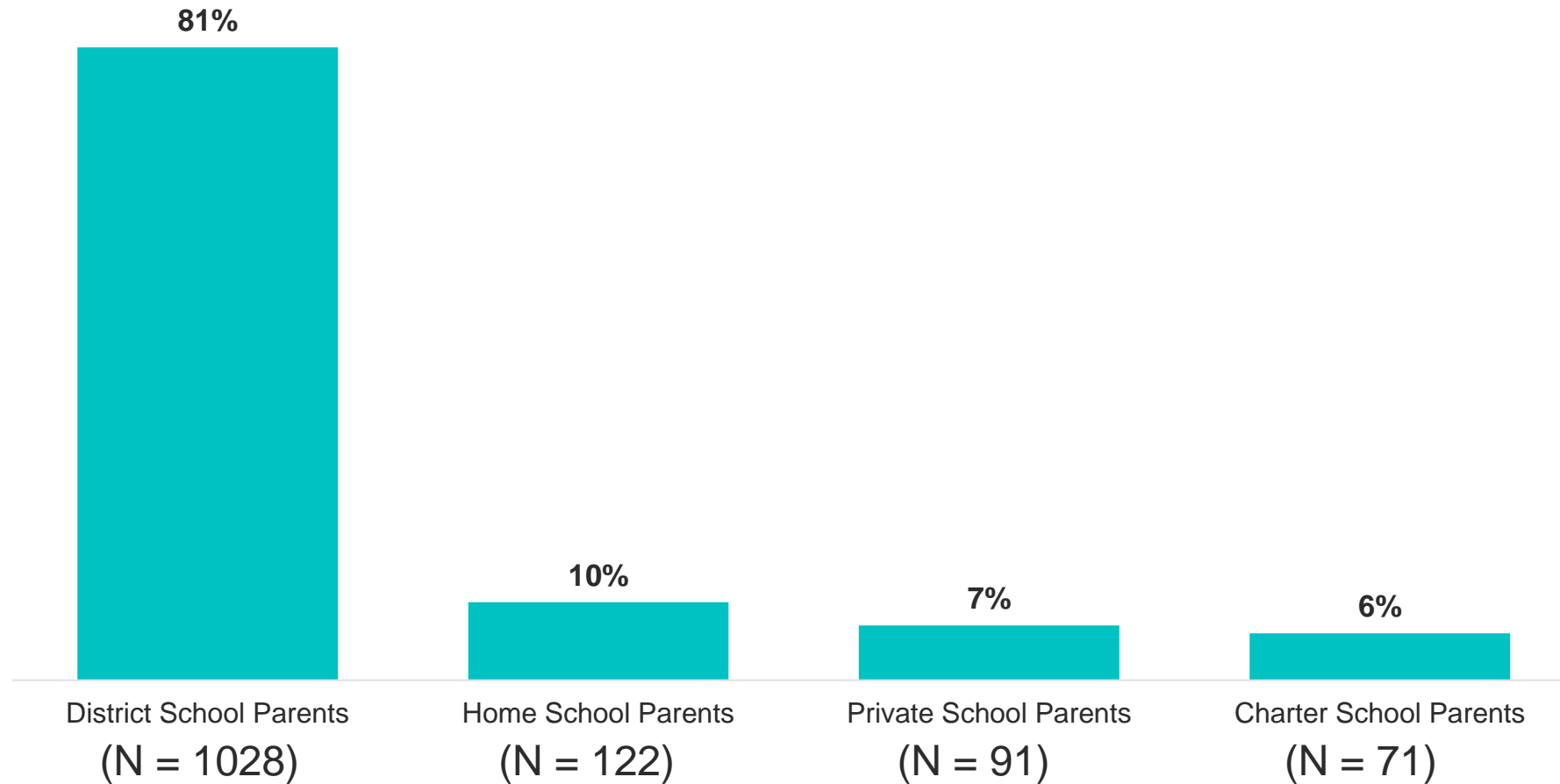
Demographics	Unweighted (N =)
Hispanic	173
Non-Hispanic White	1674
Black	261
Other	93
Generation Z	207
Millennial	690
Generation X	324
Boomers	804
Male	868
Female	1333
< College	1598
College +	603
Northeast	357
Midwest	498
South	1027
West	319

Demographics	Unweighted (N =)
Total School Parents*	1273
K-4 Parents*	737
5-8 Parents*	508
9-12 Parents*	416
Non-Parents	877
Liberal	583
Moderate	616
Conservative	729
Democrat	755
Independent	603
Republican	654
Urban	520
Suburban	951
Small Town	266
Rural	464
Low Income <\$35K	989
Middle Income \$35K to <\$75K	773
High Income \$75K+	439

* Denotes the sample came from school parents

Demographics	Unweighted	Weighted	Target (%)
Hispanic	8%	16%	16%
White	76%	78%	78%
Non-Hispanic White	76%	n/a	n/a
Black	12%	12%	12%
Other	4%	9%	9%
Age: 18-34	24%	30%	30%
Age: 35-54	33%	31%	31%
Age: 55+	43%	40%	40%
Age: 65+	26%	20%	20%
Male	39%	48%	48%
Female	61%	52%	52%
< College	73%	69%	69%
College +	27%	31%	31%
Northeast	16%	18%	18%
Midwest	23%	21%	21%
South	47%	37%	37%
West	14%	24%	24%

Parent groups based on estimated school type attendance for the 2021-2022 school year



Note: Parent groups are not necessarily exclusive, there are cases where a parent could have children enrolled in different school types.

Methodology Update

In addition to the monthly general population polling, Morning Consult oversamples K-12 school parents, among a national sample of parents living in the United States (including the District of Columbia). The sample is collected via stratified sampling based on race and ethnicity quota targets derived from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2017 Current Population Survey. Approximately 700 additional K-12 school parents are interviewed in English each month comprising the oversample. The completed K-12 school parent interviews are weighted to population totals obtained from the 2017 Current Population Survey on the following demographic variables: age, gender, region, race/ethnicity, and educational attainment. Morning Consult has also implemented a pre-administration quota to ensure at least 65 percent of K-12 parent respondents had at least one child attending a public district school.

Total School Parents	Have at least one child enrolled in grades K-12 for the 2021-2022 school year
Charter School Parents	Have at least one child enrolled in a charter school for the 2021-2022 school year
District/Public School Parents	Have at least one child enrolled in a district/public school for the 2021-2022 school year
Private School Parents	Have at least one child enrolled in a private school for the 2021-2022 school year
Home School Parents	Have at least one child enrolled in home school for the 2021-2022 school year

Note: Parent groups are not necessarily exclusive, there are cases where a parent could have children enrolled in different school types.

WHO WE ARE

 **MORNING CONSULT**[®]

Morning Consult is a global data intelligence company delivering insights on what people think in real time.

By surveying tens of thousands across the globe every day, Morning Consult is unmatched in scale and speed: It determines the true measure of what people think and how their decisions impact business, politics and the economy.

Industry leaders rely on Morning Consult's proprietary technology and analysis for real-time intelligence to transform information into a competitive advantage.

 **CHOICE**

EdChoice is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonpartisan organization. Our team is driven by the shared mission to advance freedom and choice in K-12 education where all families, regardless of race, origin or family income, are free to choose a learning environment—public or private, near or far, religious or secular—that works best for their children.

Learn more at: [EDCHOICE.ORG](https://edchoice.org)





[MORNINGCONSULT.COM](https://morningconsult.com)