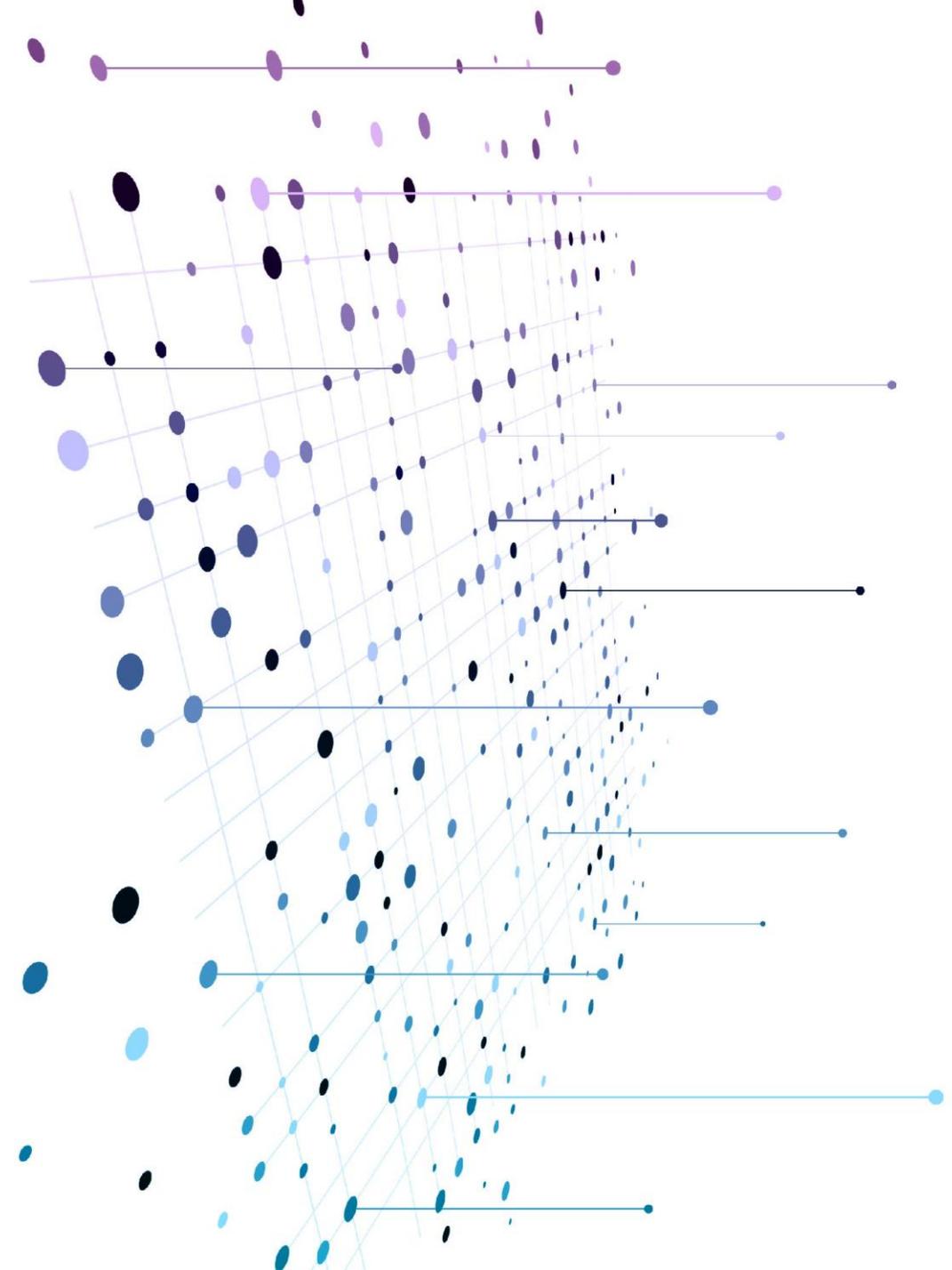




The Public, Parents, and K–12 Education

National Polling Report #61

May 2025



KEY FINDINGS

1. In April, almost half of Americans said that K-12 education is on the wrong track nationwide. Only 27% of Americans feel optimistic about the direction of national education. More than half of parents think K-12 education is headed in the right direction at the local level, while 40% of parents are optimistic about K-12 education nationwide.
2. More adults and school parents oppose closing the Department of Education than support it, though parents are slightly more supportive of the idea. Republican adults express much stronger support for closing the department than Democrats.
3. Parents think the federal government should play a major role in providing funding for schools serving low-income students and students with special needs. The majority of parents believe the federal government should also play a major role in protecting students' civil rights and ensuring equal opportunities in K-12 education.
4. Parents have a diverse range of schooling preferences, with a plurality preferring regular public schools over other school types. School parents would be willing to spend around \$8,000 for their child to attend a private school (rising to \$10,000 among parents of kids in grades K-4).

Methodology

This poll was conducted between April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025 among a sample of 2,251 Adults. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of Adults based on gender, educational attainment, age, race, and region. Results based on the full survey have a measure of precision of plus or minus 2.30 percentage points..

KEY FINDINGS

5. Nearly a quarter of parents indicate that their child has switched from one school type to another. School switching is highest among Hispanic parents and parents of students with special needs. Parents of school switchers are most likely to indicate a switch because of bullying, excessive stress, or anxiety at their former school compared to other difficulties.
6. In April, 44% of parents were currently using a tutor or were interested in finding tutoring for their children – a noticeable increase since January. The percentage of school parents who currently have a tutor has continued to rise since the beginning of this year. Interest in tutoring is highest among private school parents and parents of children with special needs.
7. Parents suggest prioritizing academic tutoring, social and emotional learning support, and mental health services to improve student outcomes. Parents see academic tutoring as the most accessible student-support service out of the listed options. Mental health services are seen as the least accessible.
8. A large majority of parents believe financial incentives would have a positive impact on both academic performance and school attendance. Both parents and the general public tend to see financial incentives as appropriate for rewarding academic improvement and consistent attendance.

Methodology

This poll was conducted between April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025 among a sample of 2,251 Adults. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of Adults based on gender, educational attainment, age, race, and region. Results based on the full survey have a measure of precision of plus or minus 2.30 percentage points..

KEY FINDINGS

9. Parents find it highly important for students to learn about the Constitution and its core values. They also place value on teaching students to question government actions and policies. Nearly half of parents think laws passed to limit the teaching of divisive topics are either bad or unnecessary for a variety of reasons.
10. Roughly half of high school parents say that their child's school offers career and technical education (CTE) courses. More than three-fourths of high school parents express interest in their child taking a CTE course.
11. Overall support levels for choice-based policies remain high among school parents and the general public. Support was relatively stable in April.
 - Education savings accounts (ESAs) – 76% / 65%
 - School vouchers – 71% / 58%
 - Charter schools – 70% / 62%
 - Open enrollment – 76% / 67%
12. Regarding support for ESAs, the most supportive groups include Americans with an income of \$100K or higher, school parents, those with a college degree or higher, and second-generation immigrants. Rural Americans, those with an income of less than \$50K, Black Americans, and Independents are least supportive.

Methodology

This poll was conducted between April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025 among a sample of 2,251 Adults. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of Adults based on gender, educational attainment, age, race, and region. Results based on the full survey have a measure of precision of plus or minus 2.30 percentage points..



Views on K-12 Education



Schooling and Experiences



K-12 Choice Policies



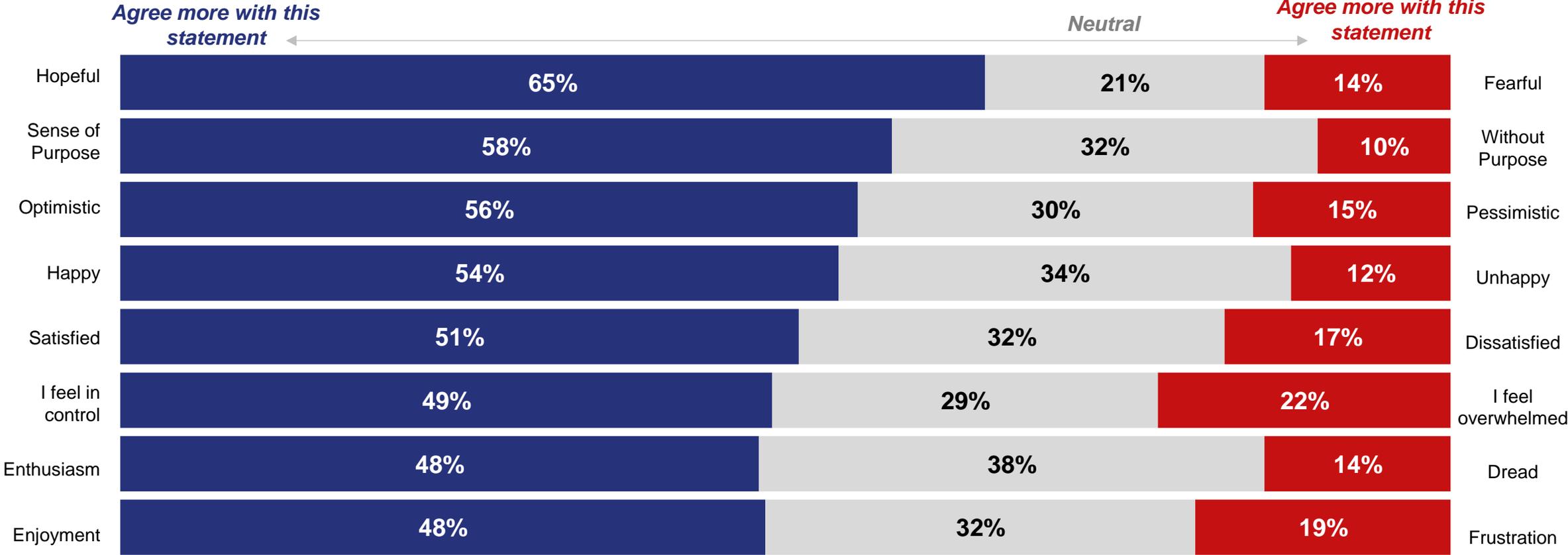
Survey Profile and Demographics

Two-thirds of parents feel “hopeful” about the future. Parents are much more likely than non-parents to have a positive outlook.

When thinking about the future, please select which of these words best describes how you feel right now?

Non-Parents	
Hopeful	55%
Sense of Purpose	48%
Optimistic	45%

School Parents



Source: Survey conducted March 6, 2025 – March 9, 2025, among U.S. adults

In April, almost half of Americans said that K-12 education is on the wrong track nationwide. Only 27% of Americans feel optimistic about the direction of national education.

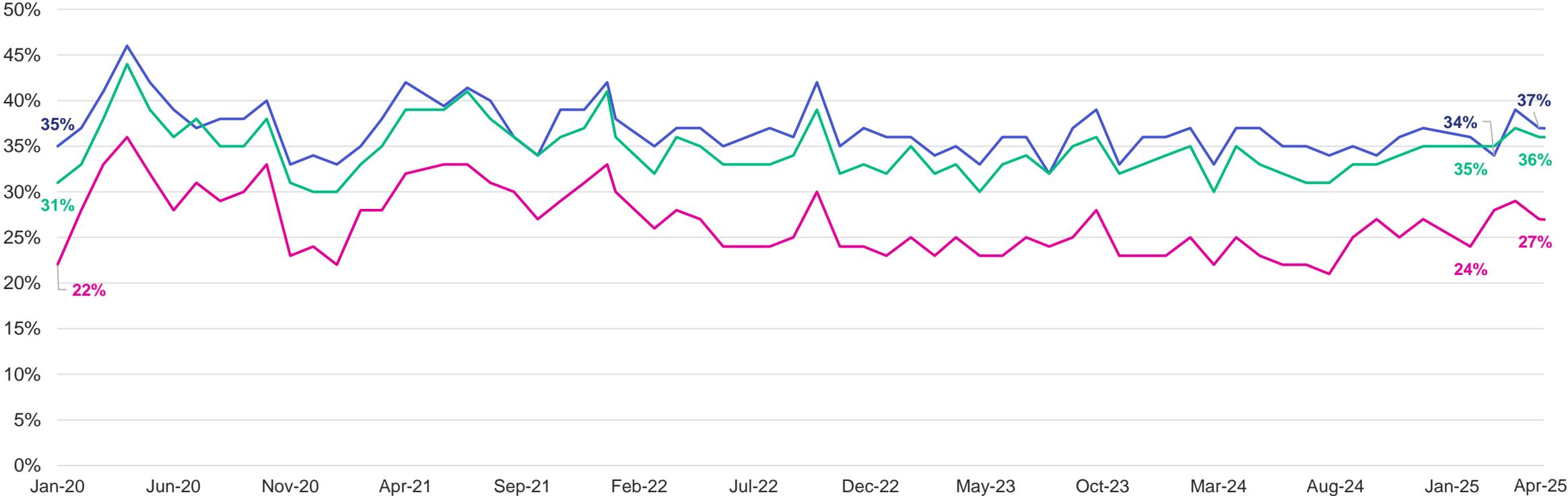
Do you feel things in K-12 Education are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have generally gotten off on the wrong track?

	Right Direction	Wrong Track
Local	37%	34%
State	36%	42%
Nationwide	27%	48%

All Adults

% Right Direction

Local School District State Nationwide



More than half of parents think K-12 education is headed in the right direction at the local level, while 40% of parents are optimistic about K-12 education nationwide.

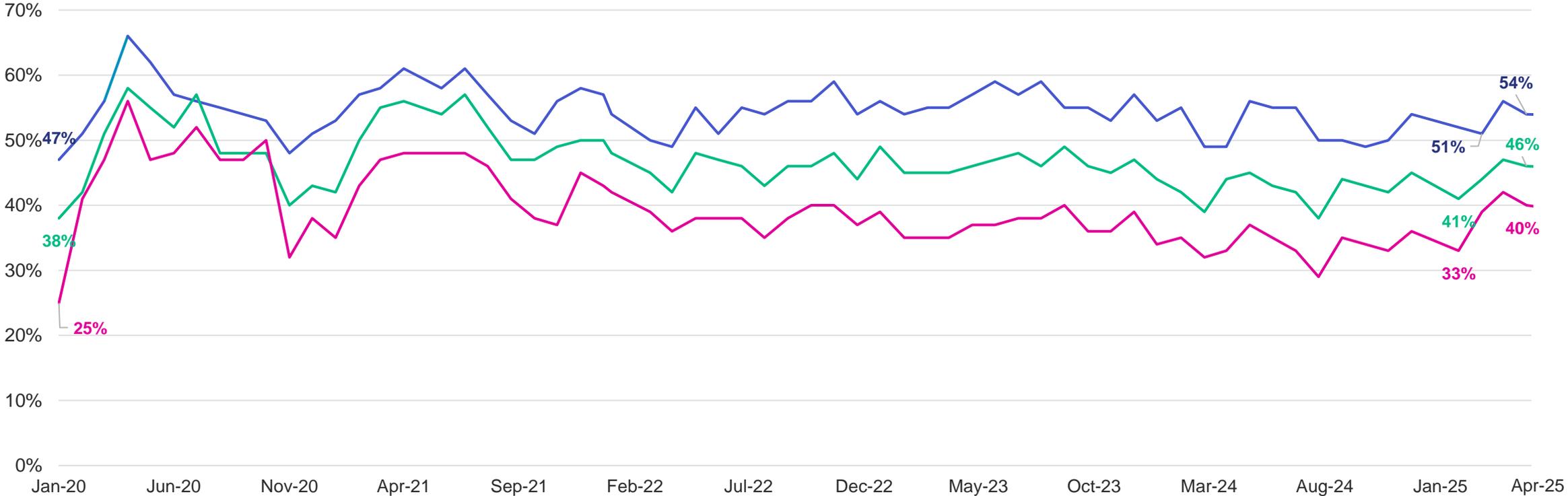
Do you feel things in K-12 Education are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have generally gotten off on the wrong track?

	Right Direction	Wrong Track
Local	54%	32%
State	46%	40%
Nationwide	40%	44%

School Parents

% Right Direction

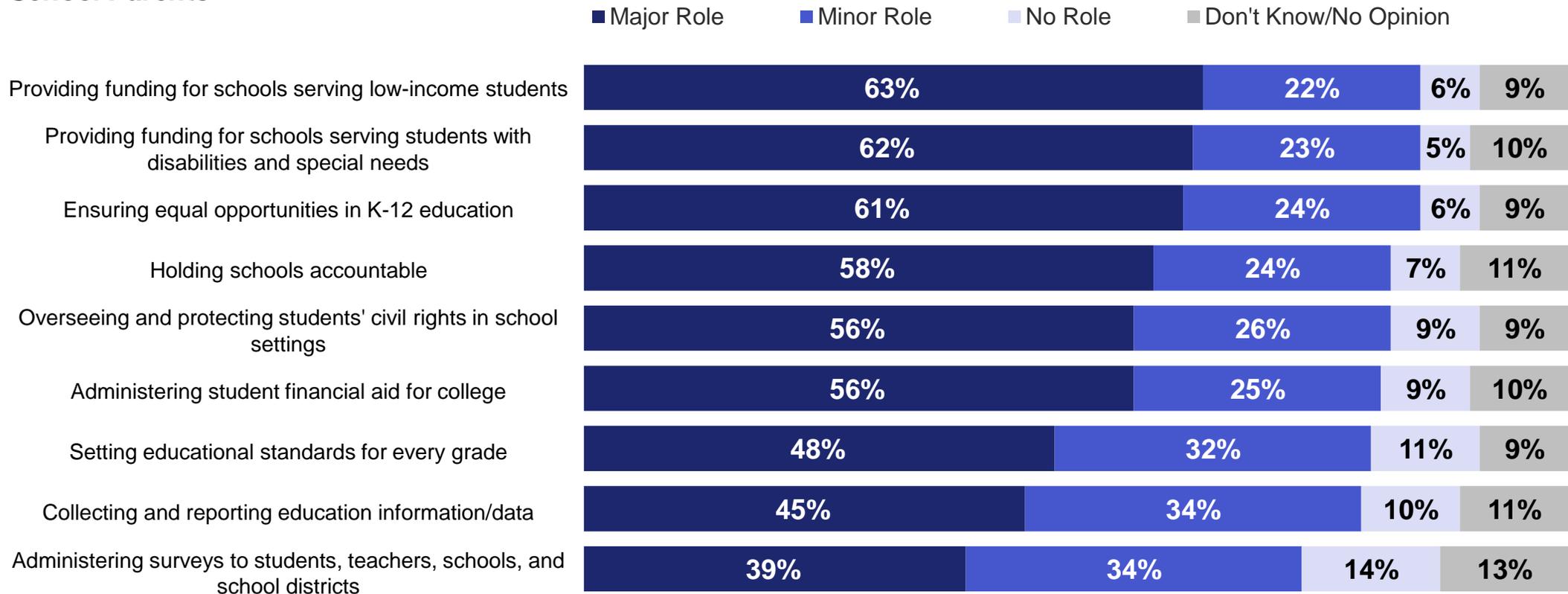
— Local School District — State — Nationwide



Parents think the federal government should play a major role in providing funding for schools serving low-income students and students with special needs.

To what extent, if any, should the **federal government** have a role in the following areas in K-12 education?

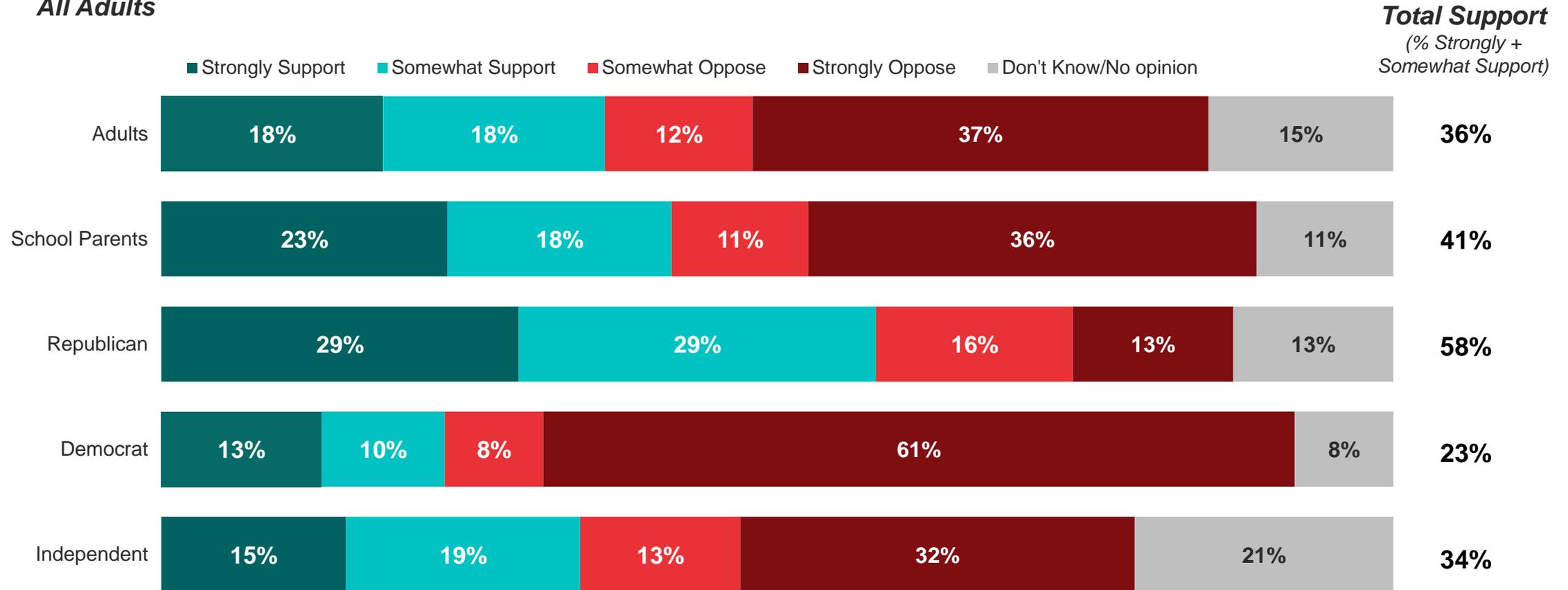
School Parents



More adults and school parents oppose closing the Department of Education than support it, though parents are slightly more supportive of the idea. Republican adults express much stronger support for closing the department than Democrats.

Generally speaking, do you support or oppose closing the U.S. Department of Education?

All Adults



Americans are most likely to say core academic subjects are extremely important for grades K-8. They see skills for future employment as most important for grades 9-12.

What do you believe should be the main purpose of education during Kindergarten through 8th grade/9th-12th grade? 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 (60%)
-  To become independent thinkers (46%)
-  Socialization (45%)
-  How to be good citizens (43%)
-  Skills for future employment (40%)
-  Values, moral character, religious virtues (37%)
-  To fix social problems (22%)

Grades 9-12

Average % selected Extremely Important **48%**

-  Skills for future employment (58%)
-  Core academic subjects (57%)
-  To become independent thinkers (54%)
-  How to be good citizens (50%)
-  Socialization (48%)
-  Values, moral character, religious virtues (41%)
-  To fix social problems (31%)

School parents are most likely to say core academic subjects are extremely important for K-8 education, and skills for future employment are important for high school.

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...

School Parents

% Extremely Important

Grades K-8

Average % selected Extremely Important **48%**

-  Core academic subjects (58%)
-  To become independent thinkers (53%)
-  Socialization (51%)
-  How to be good citizens (51%)
-  Skills for future employment (50%)
-  Values, moral character, religious virtues (45%)
-  To fix social problems (31%)

Grades 9-12

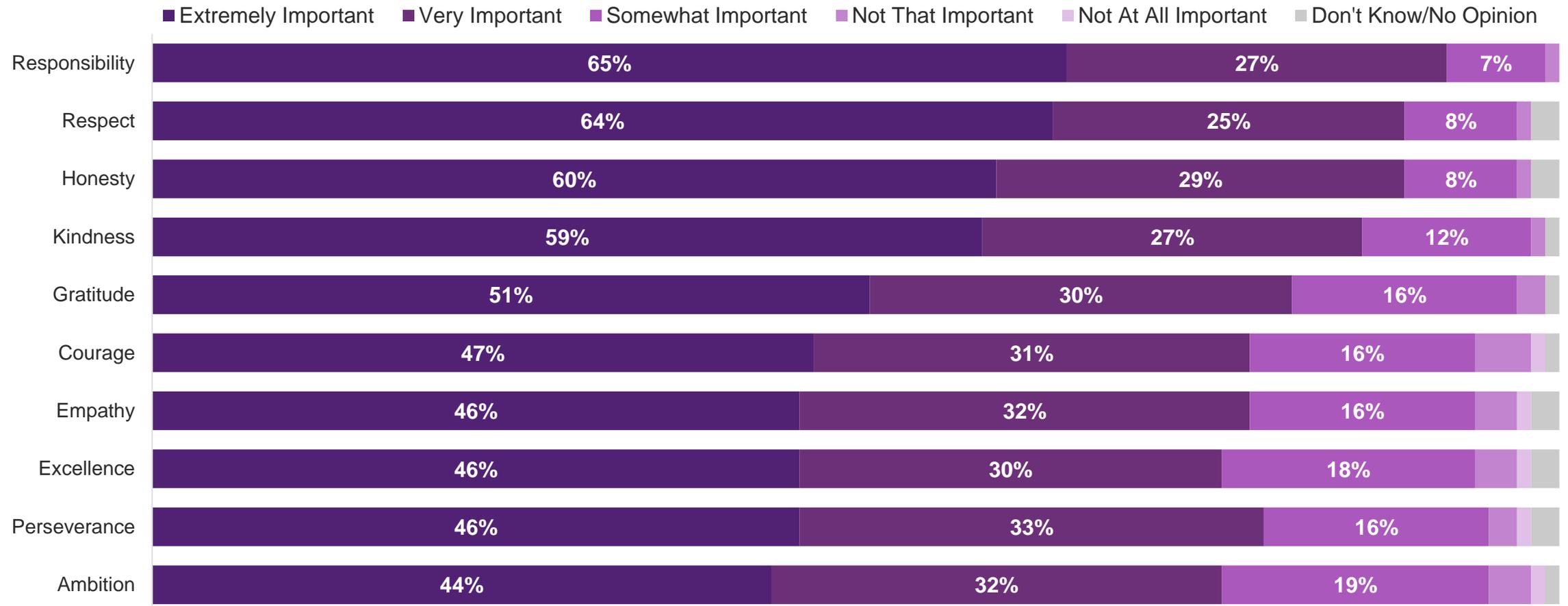
Average % selected Extremely Important **53%**

-  Skills for future employment (64%)
-  To become independent thinkers (60%)
-  Core academic subjects (57%)
-  How to be good citizens (53%)
-  Socialization (52%)
-  Values, moral character, religious virtues (45%)
-  To fix social problems (39%)

School parents think it is most important that their children’s schools instill values of responsibility, respect, and honesty in their students.

For this current school year, to what extent is it important that your child/children's school emphasizes the following values for students?

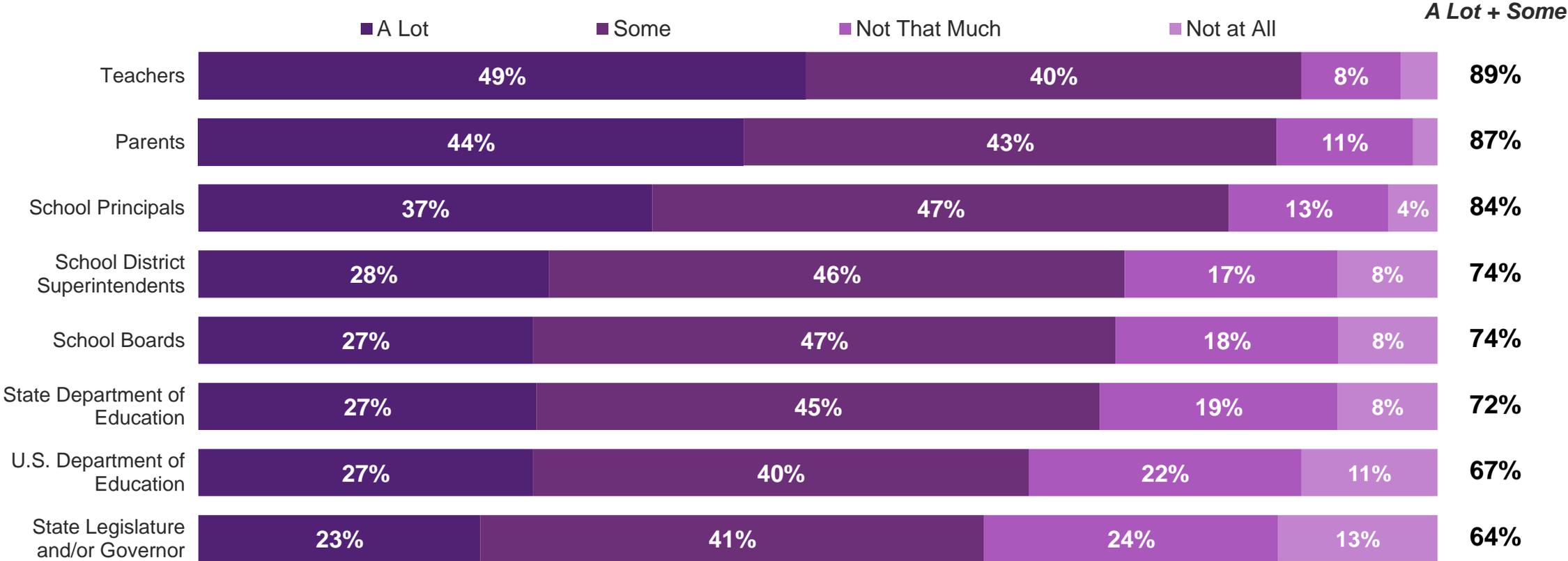
School Parents – Top 10 Values



School parents place the most trust in teachers and other parents to make good decisions about education. They trust state legislatures the least.

How much, if at all, do you trust the following to make good decisions about K-12 education?

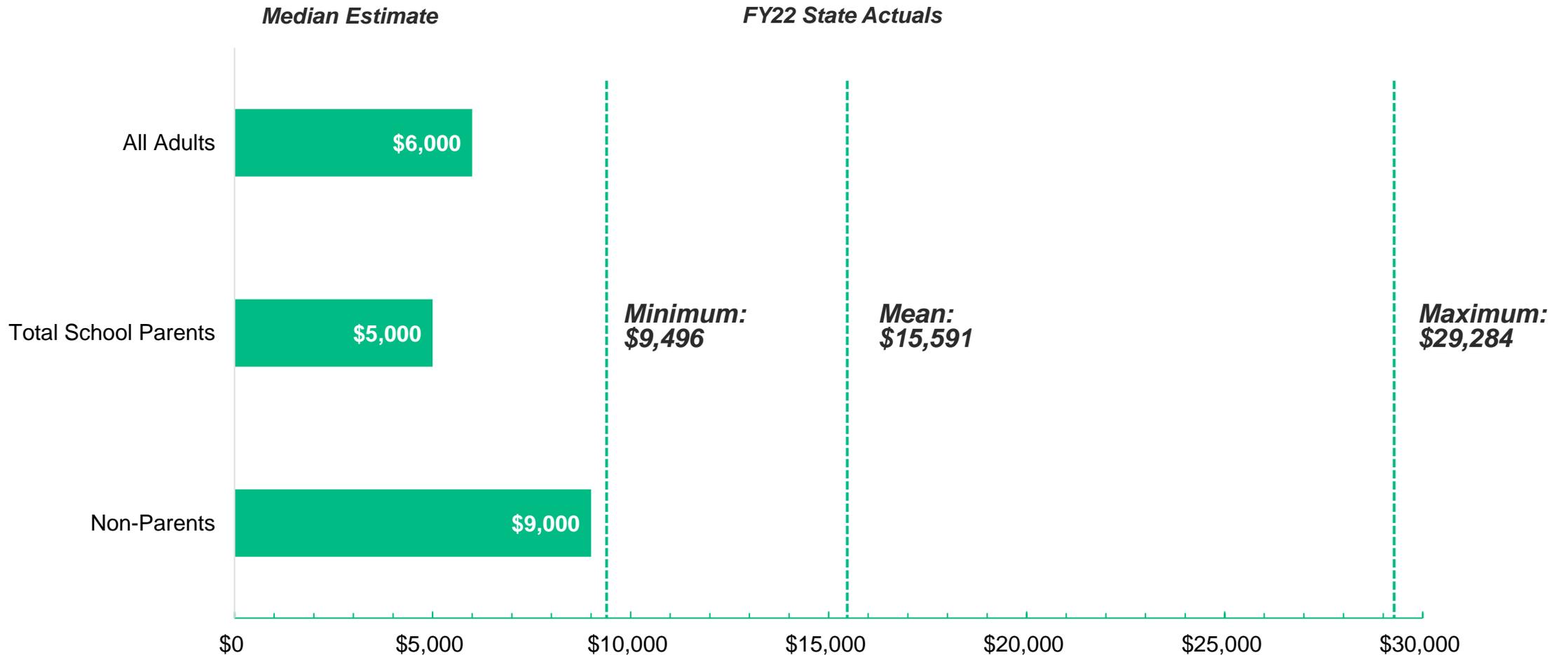
School Parents



Source: Survey conducted March 6, 2025 – March 9, 2025, among U.S. adults

The general public and school parents greatly underestimate per-student spending in public schools.

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.



The public and school parents are much less likely to say their state’s per-student spending in public schools is “too low” when given a publicly reported statistic.

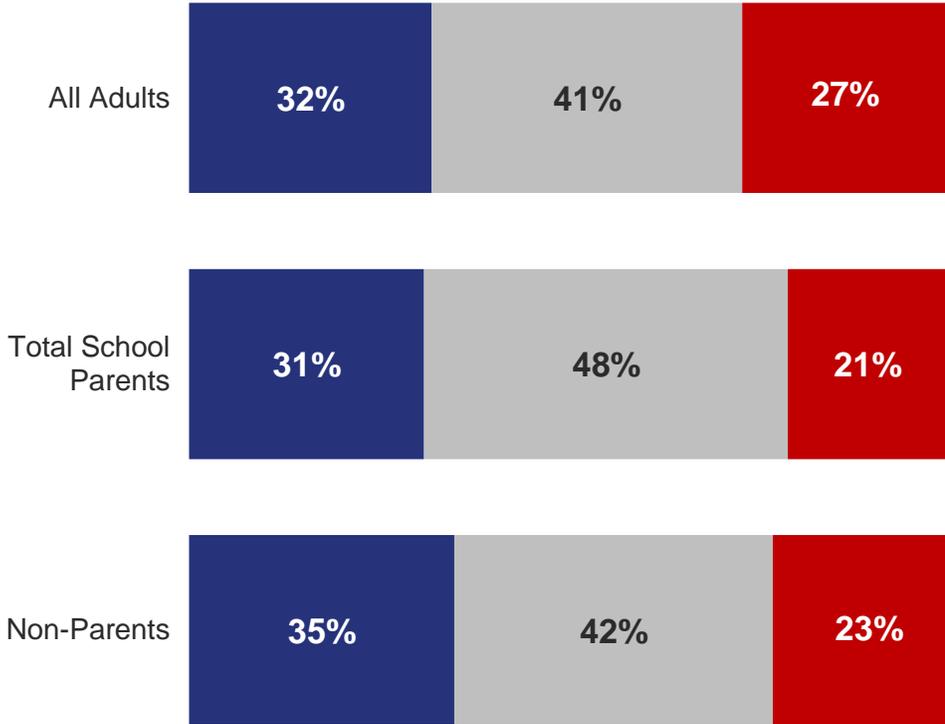
Do you believe public school funding in [STATE] is:

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

■ Too Low ■ About Right ■ Too High

Without Information

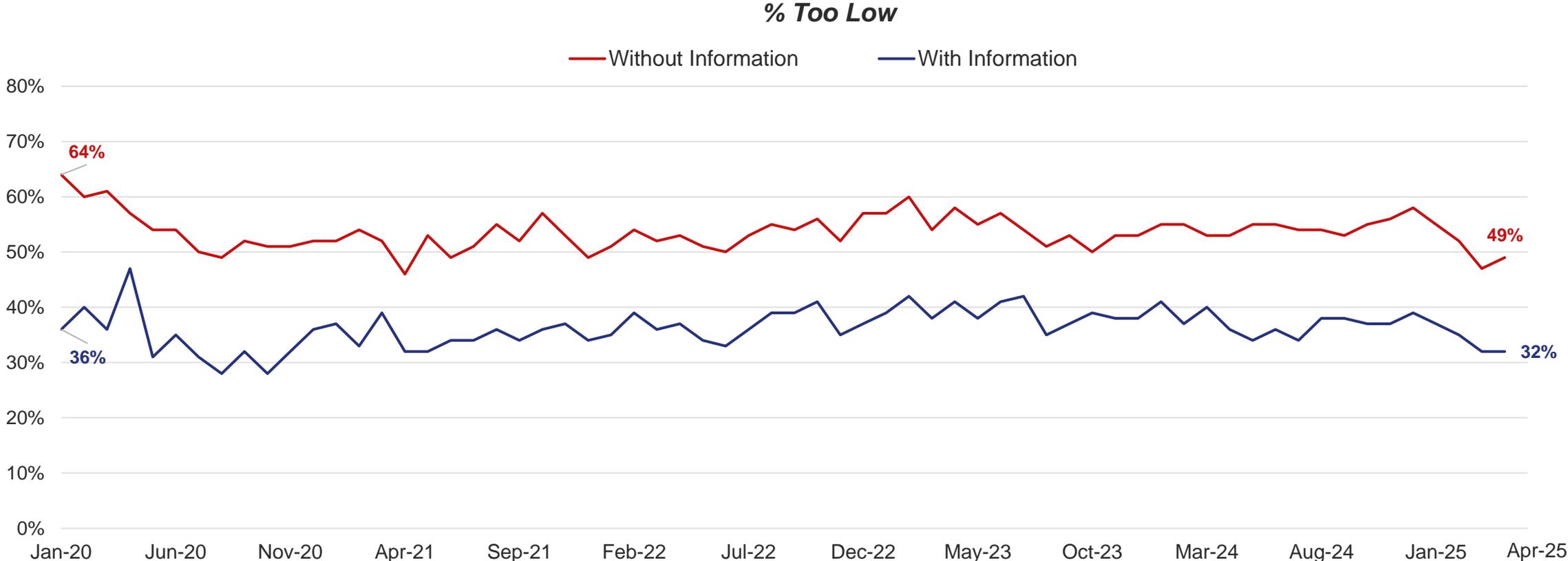
With Information



Providing respondents with a government-reported spending statistic consistently decreases their tendency to say public school spending is “too low.”

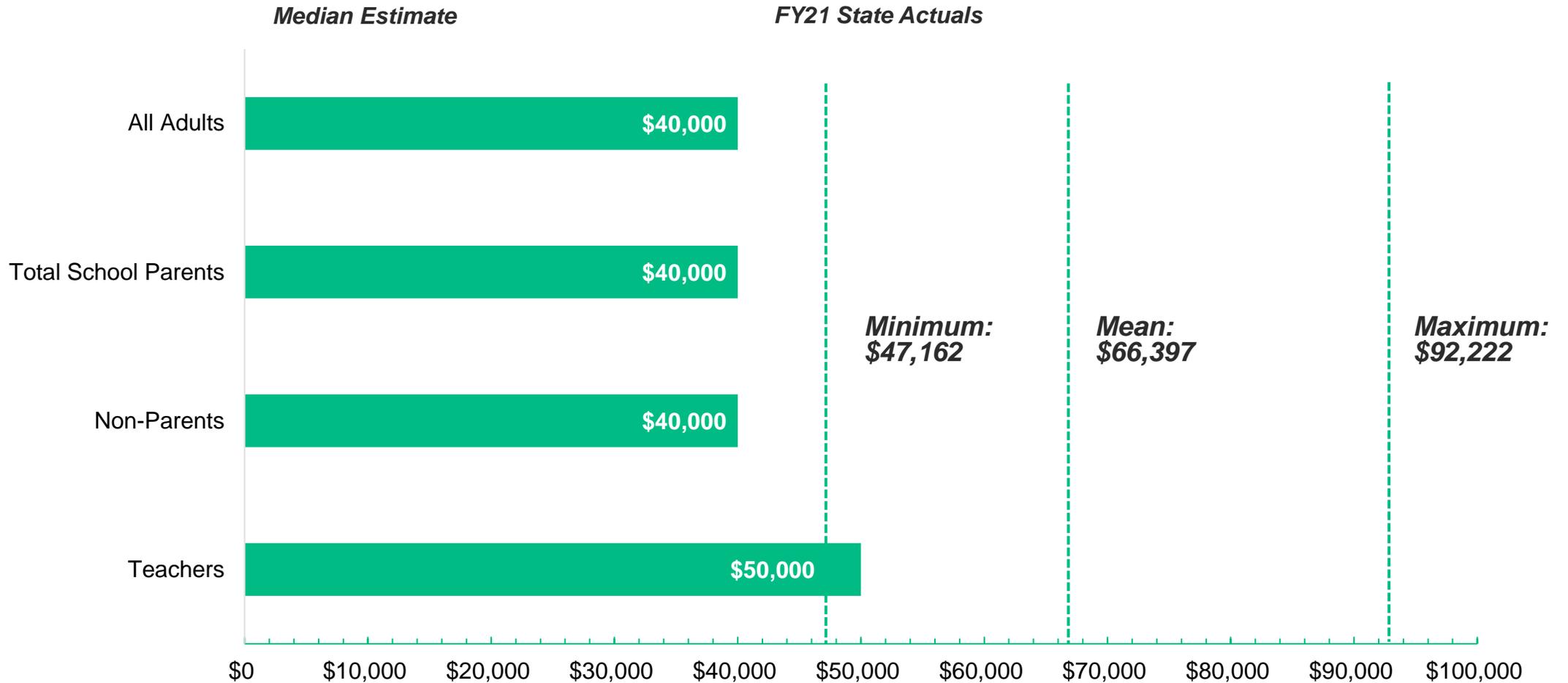
Do you believe public school funding in [STATE] is:
 On average, [STATE] spends \$____ per student attending public school each year. Do you believe public school funding is:

All Adults



The general public and school parents underestimate the average teacher salary in their state.

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

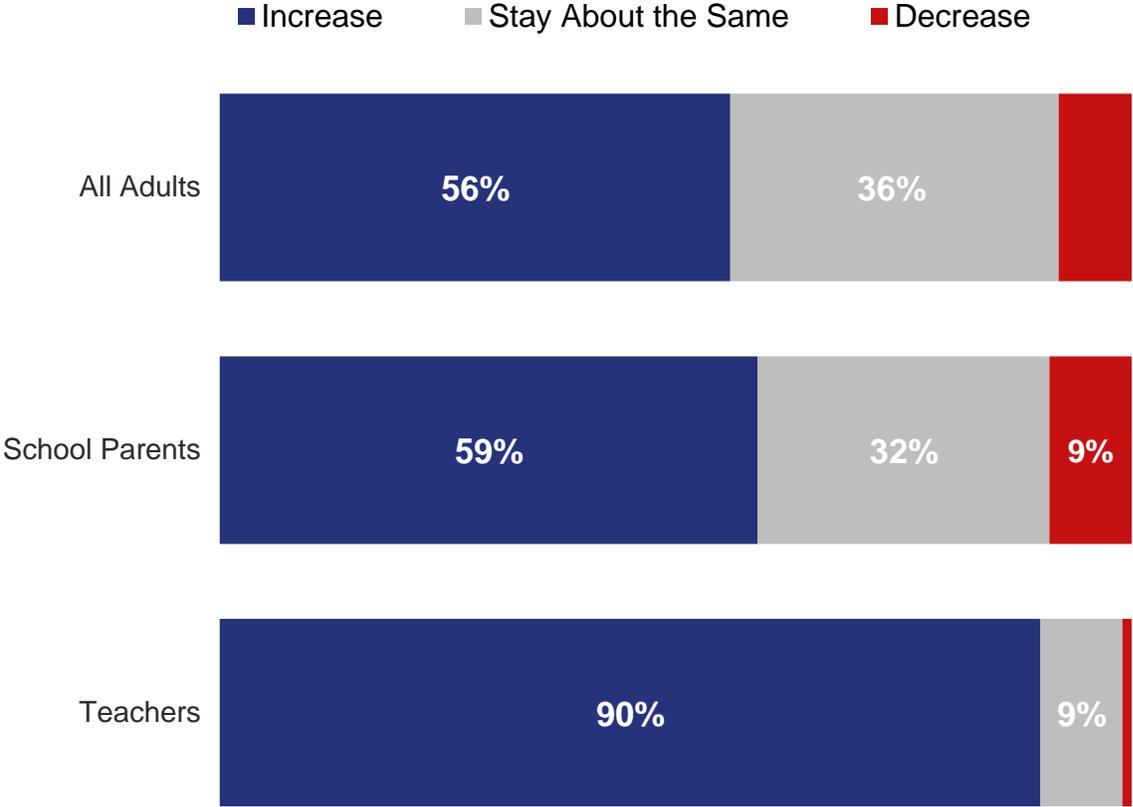
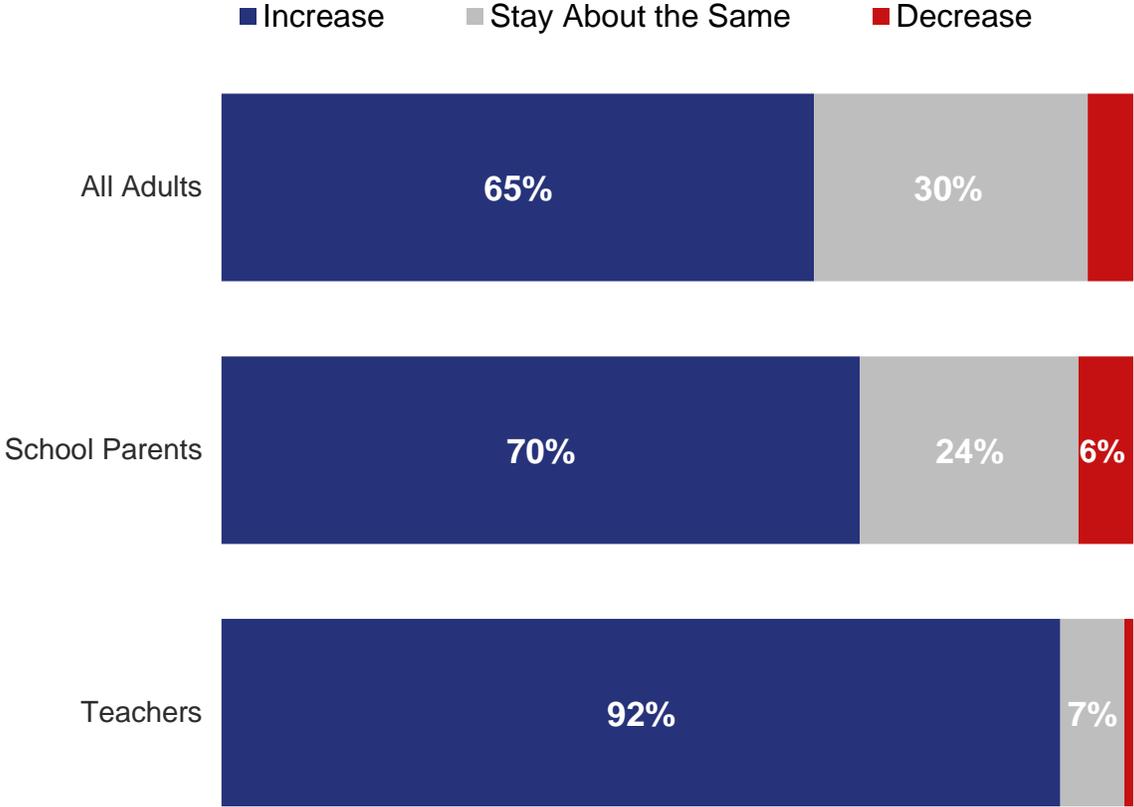


FY22 State Actuals Source: National Center for Education Statistics
Median Estimate All Adults, Parents, Non-Parents Source: Survey conducted February 14, 2025 – February 17, 2025, among U.S. adults
Median Estimate Teachers Source: April 2024 Teachers Survey

Two-thirds of the general public and school parents believe teacher salaries in their state should increase, though they are less supportive of the idea than teachers.

Do you think that public school teacher salaries in your state should: increase, decrease, or stay about the same? (Split A)

On average, public school teachers in [STATE] are paid an average annual salary of [SALARY]. Do you think that public school teacher salaries in your state should: increase, decrease, or stay about the same? (Split B)



All Adults, Parents Source: Survey conducted February 14, 2025 – February 17, 2025, among U.S. adults
 Teachers Source: April 2024 Teachers Survey



Views on K-12 Education



Schooling and Experiences



K-12 Choice Policies

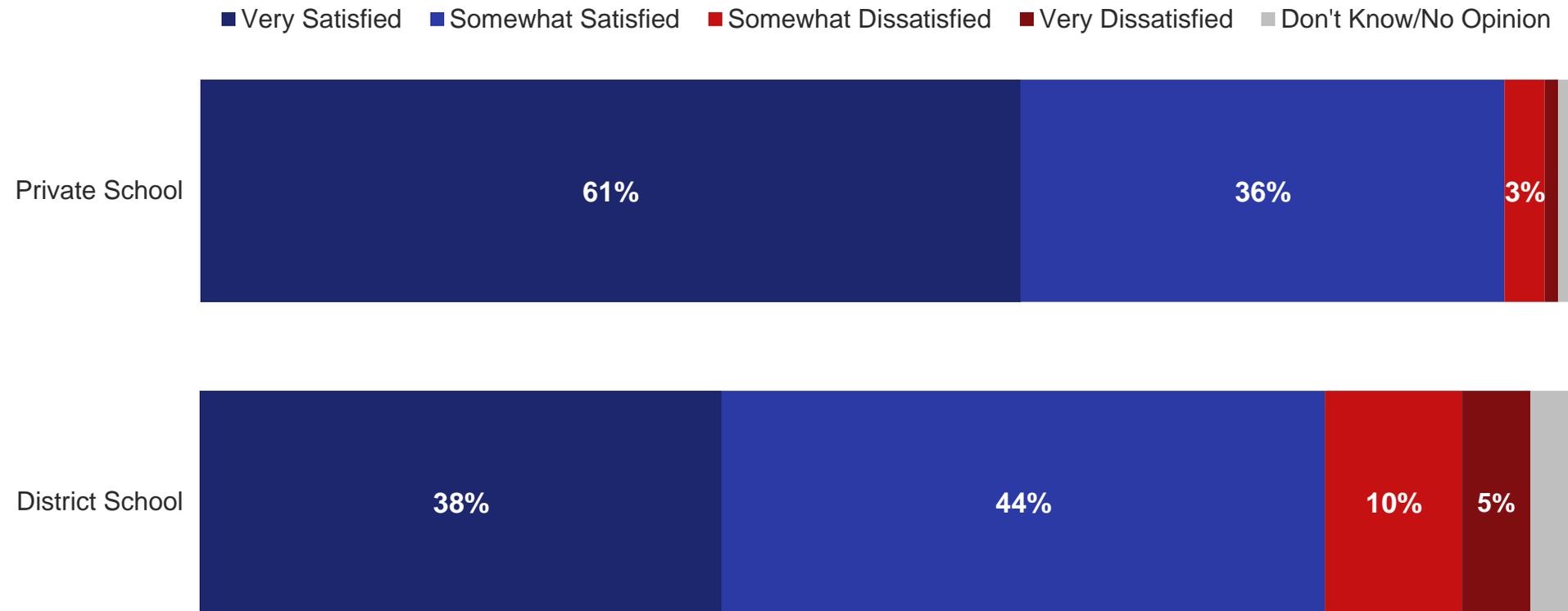


Survey Profile and Demographics

Private school parents are much more likely to say they are “very satisfied” with their child’s schooling experiences than district school parents.

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

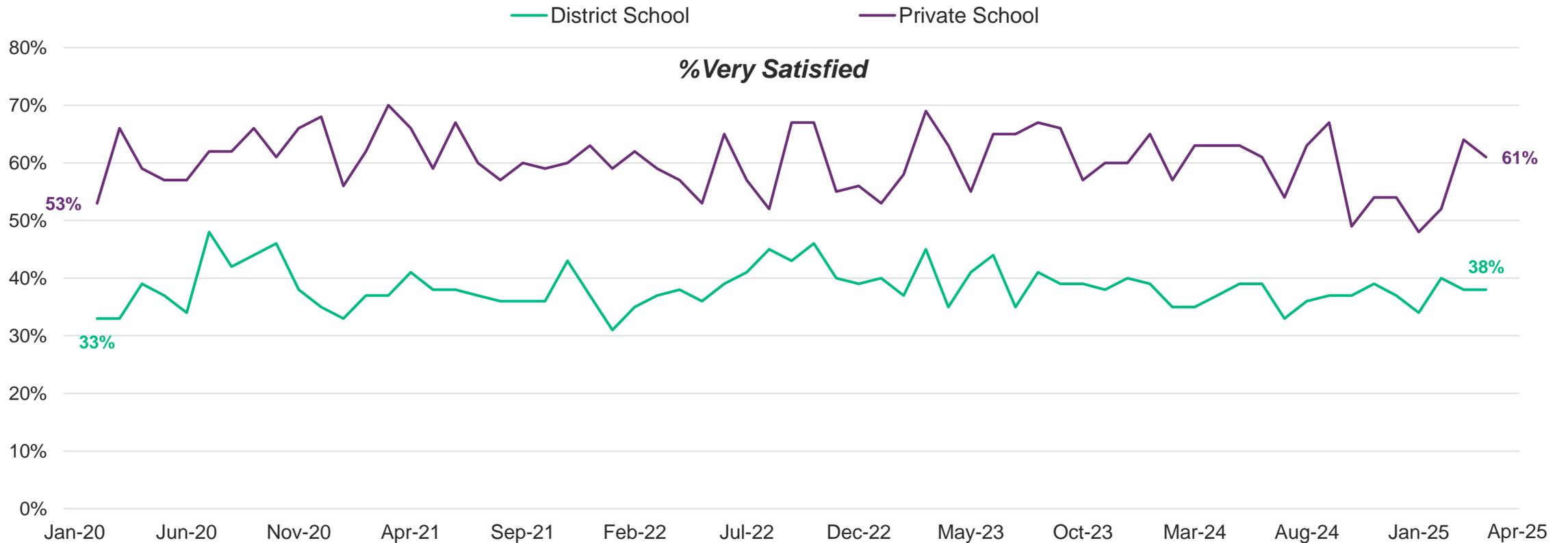
School Parents



Strong satisfaction with school experiences among private school parents has fallen slightly after seeing an increase since February. Strong satisfaction has remained level among district school parents.

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

School Parents



Roughly two-thirds of private school parents pay for their child's tuition in full out-of-pocket, while 45% receive scholarships or governmental financial assistance.

Which of the following best describes how your family covers private school tuition costs? Select all that apply.

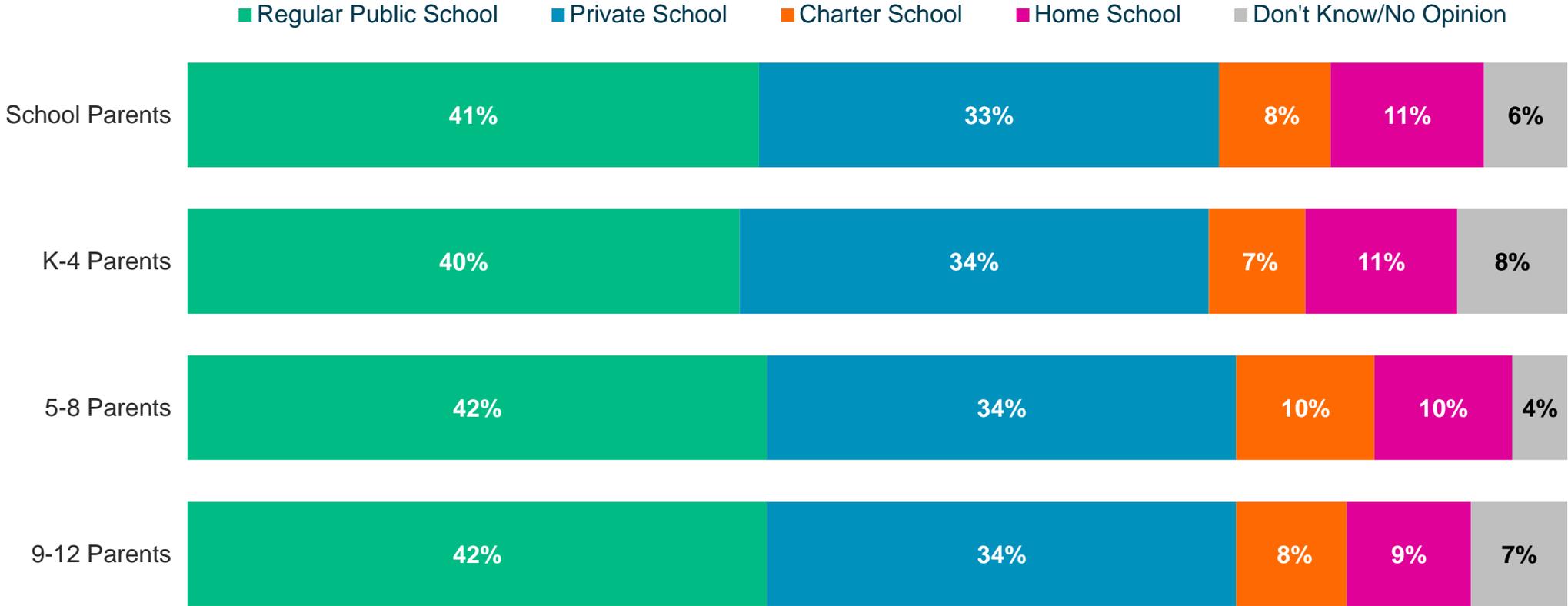
Parents of Private School Children; N=177



Parents have a diverse range of schooling preferences. A plurality tend to prefer regular public schools over other school types.

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

School Parents

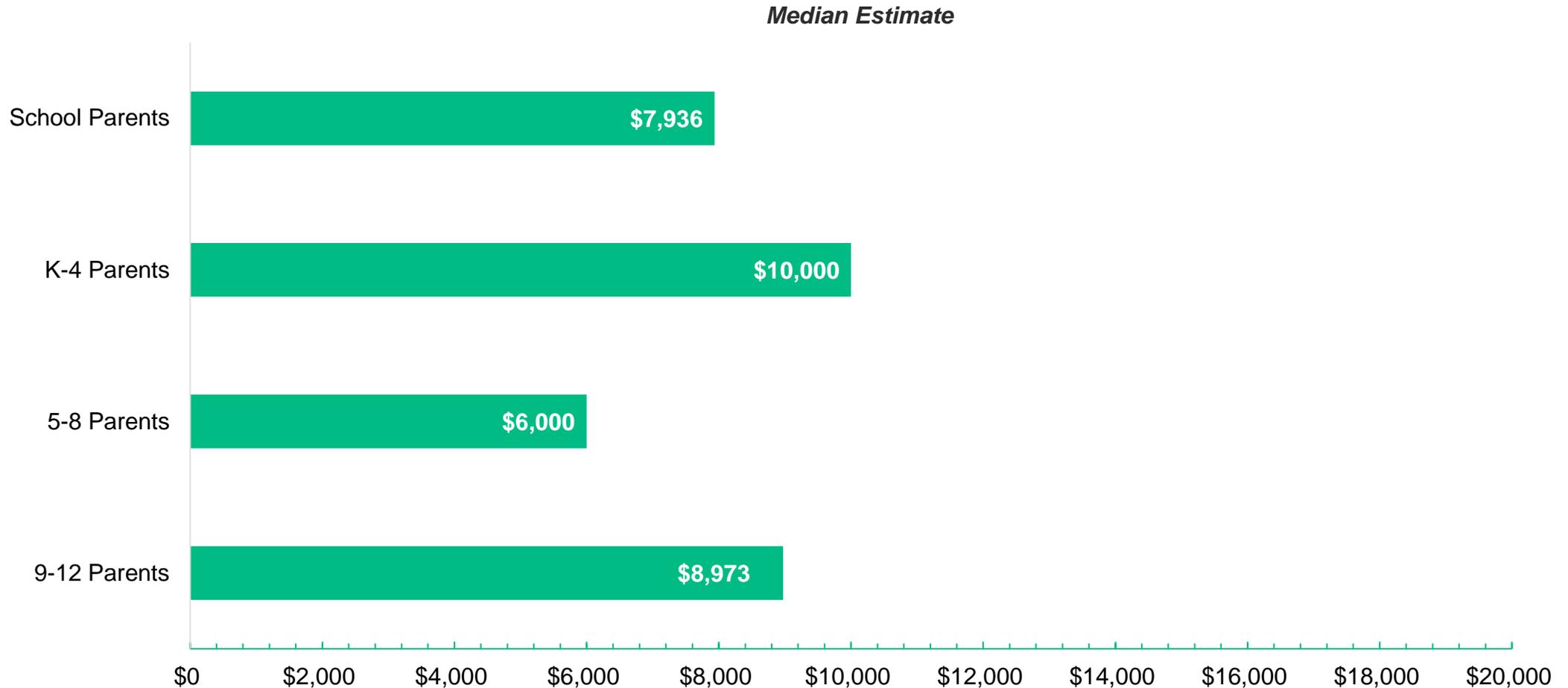


Note: "Regular Public School" includes "Public District School – Inside your school district" and "Public District School – Outside of your school district."
 "Private School" includes "Private School – Religious, Parochial" and "Private School – Non-religious, Secular."

Source: Survey conducted April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025, among U.S. adults

School parents would be willing to spend around \$8,000 for their child to go to a private school. K-4 parents would spend more money than middle school or high school parents.

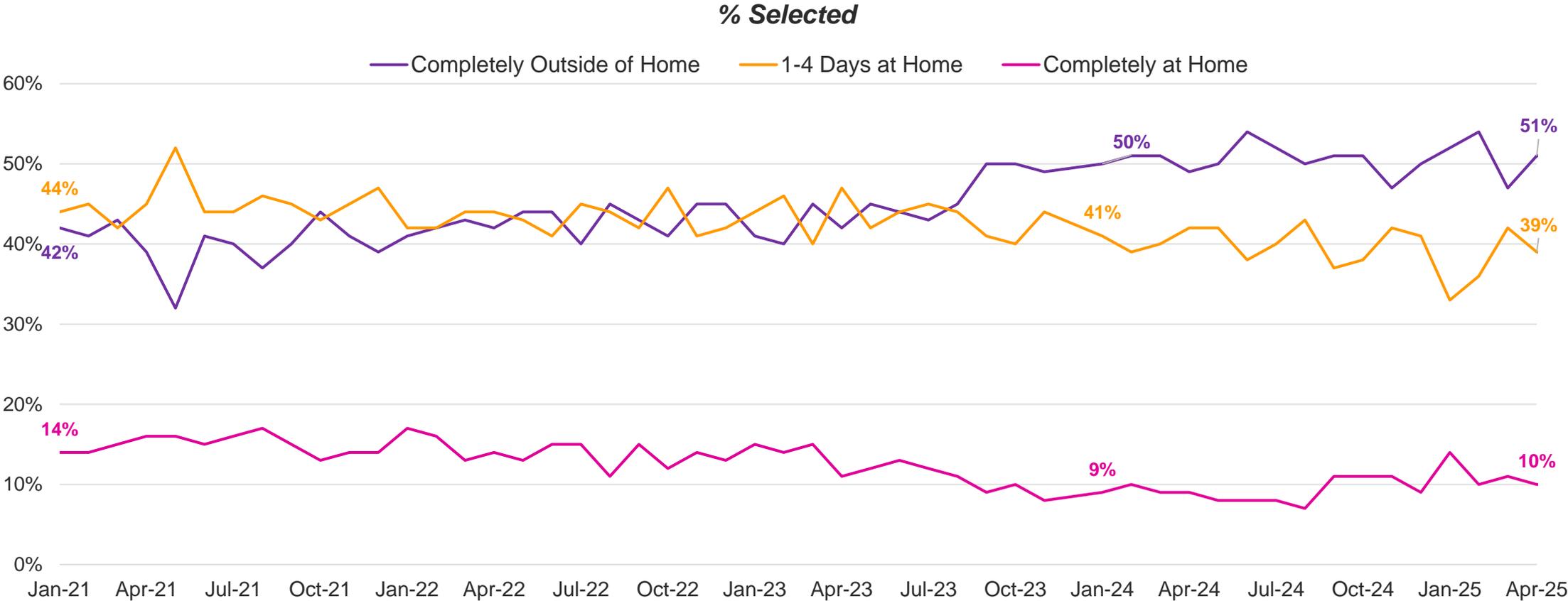
What would you be able and willing to spend for your child to attend a private school?



Roughly half of parents would prefer having their child learn at home at least one day per week. This proportion has increased since the beginning of the year.

In order to provide the best education for your child/children, what would be your preferred weekly schedule and location between schooling at home with a parent/teacher/tutor, or outside the home?

School Parents



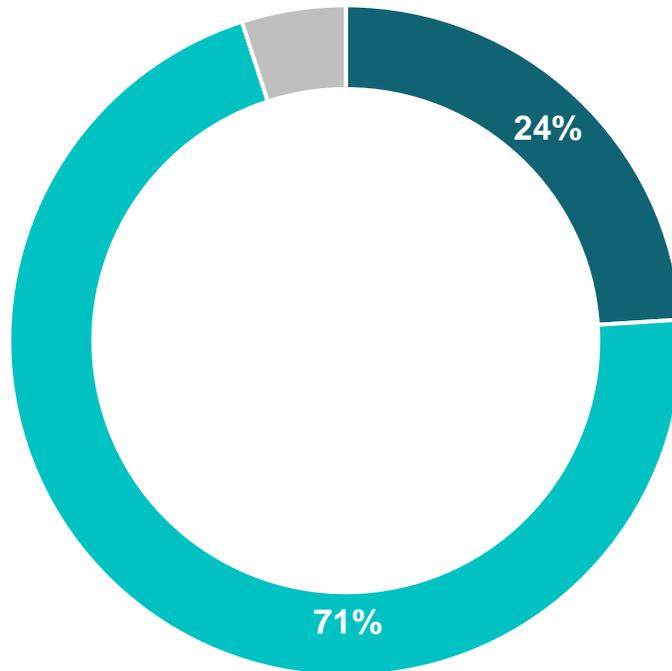
Note: question text from January 2021 to May 2022: "After the pandemic, if given the option, to what extent would you prefer schooling to be scheduled each week at home with a parent or tutor to provide the best education for your child?"

Nearly a quarter of parents indicate that their child has switched from one school type to another. School switching is highest among Hispanic parents and parents of students with special needs.

Besides moving from grade school to middle school or middle school to high school, has your youngest/oldest child ever switched from one type of school (or school sector) to another? The various types/sectors include public district schools, public charter schools, private schools, full-time virtual schools, and home schooling.

School Parents

- Yes, my child has changed school types
- No, my child has not changed school types
- I don't know if my child has changed school types



Top % Yes

Hispanic	32%
Special Needs	31%
Special Education	31%

Bottom % Yes

Suburban	21%
Midwest	21%
District School	21%

Note: Results are composite numbers between those who were asked about their youngest child and those who were asked about their oldest child.

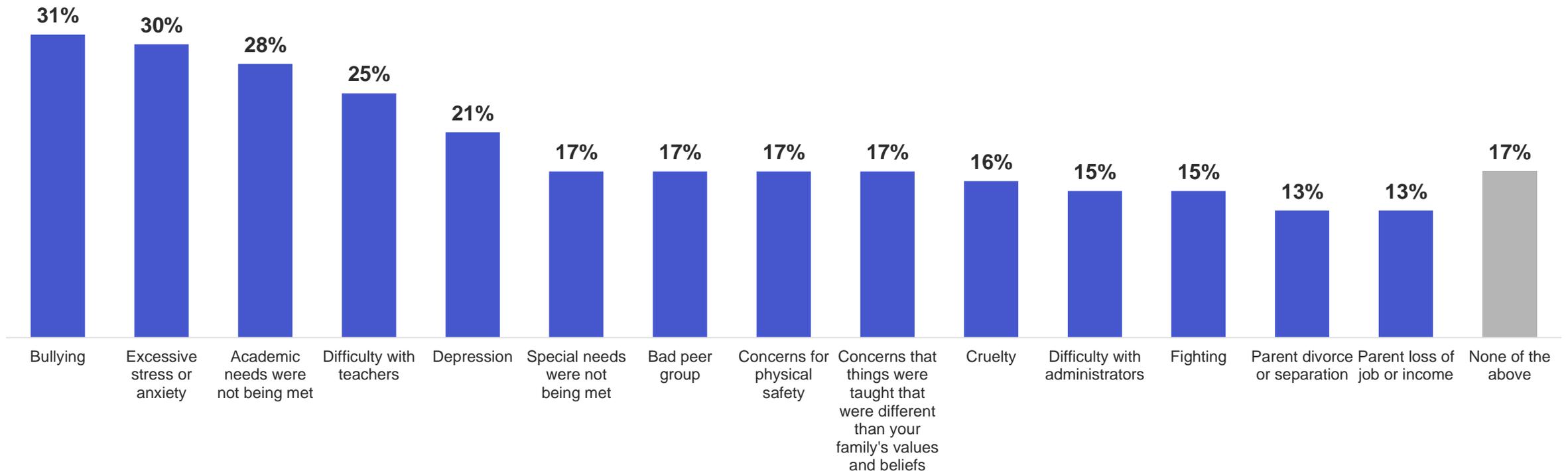
Source: Survey conducted April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025, among U.S. adults

Parents of school switchers are most likely to indicate a switch because of bullying, excessive stress, or anxiety at their former school compared to other difficulties.

Children may encounter different circumstances both inside and outside of school that make it hard for them to achieve academic and personal success. Has your youngest/oldest child experienced any of these difficulties at her/his **former school**? Please select all that apply.

School Parents

% Selected



Note: Results are composite numbers between those who were asked about their youngest child and those who were asked about their oldest child.

* Only respondents who indicated that their children have switched schools were asked about their child's former school.

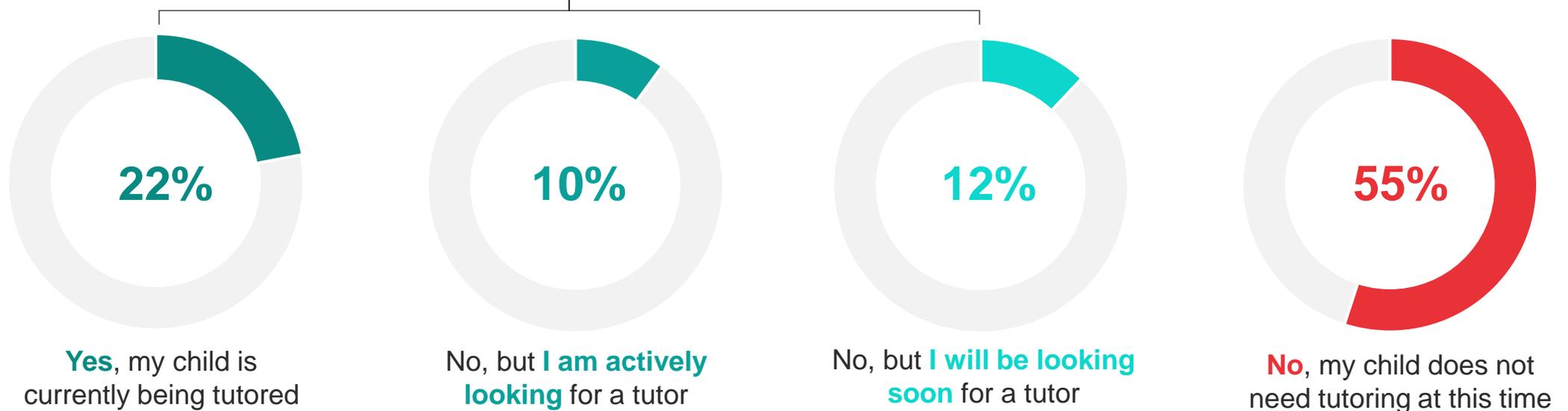
Source: Survey conducted April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025, among U.S. adults

In April, 44% of parents were currently using a tutor or were interested in finding tutoring for their children – a noticeable increase since January.

Is your child getting tutoring outside of regular school hours this school year?

School Parents

44% (+9 points since January)
currently have a tutor or looking for a tutor



Demographic Breakdown: Tutoring Interest

Is your child getting tutoring outside of regular school hours this school year?

Tutoring Interest, Among School Parents Combined Responses from February, March, and April 2025

Groups **most** likely to be looking for / already having tutoring

Groups **least** likely to be looking for / already having tutoring

School Parents	42%
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Private School	66%
Special Education	62%
Special Needs	59%
Urban	56%
Second-Generation Immigrant	53%
Hispanic	52%
Liberal/Progressive	52%

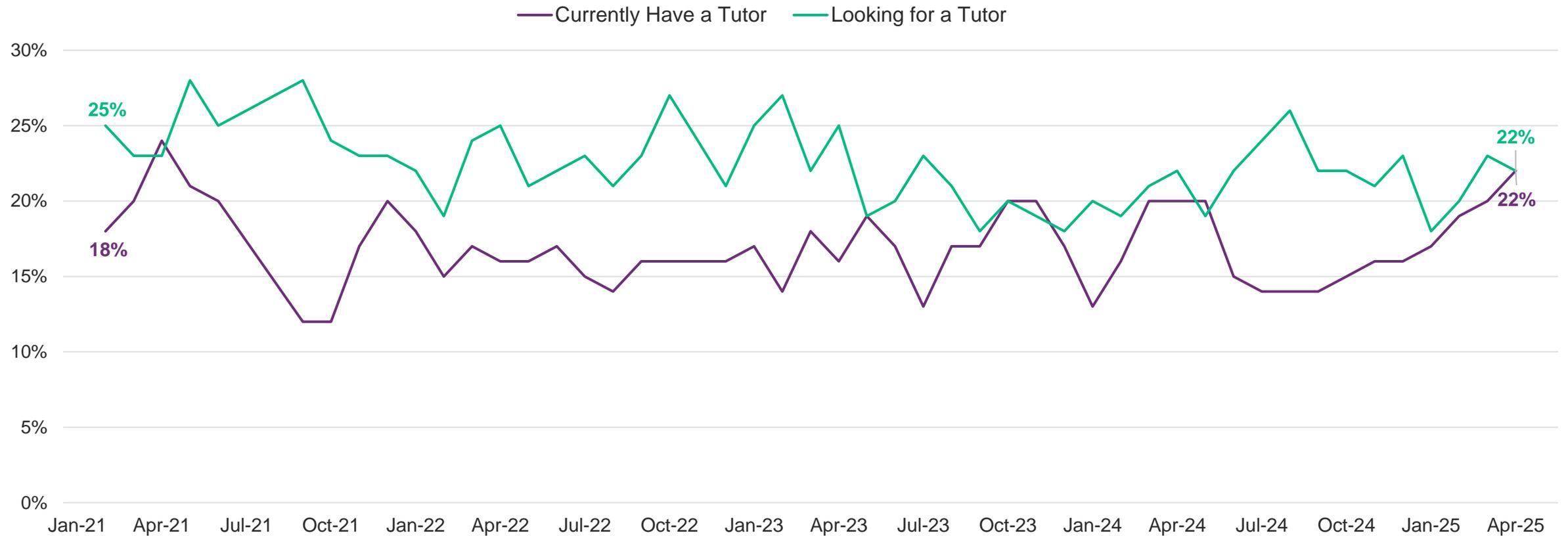
Education: <College	38%
Suburban	37%
Independent	37%
Female	36%
Small town	36%
Midwest	35%
Rural	31%

Source: Survey conducted April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025, among U.S. adults

The percentage of school parents who currently have a tutor has continued to rise since the beginning of this year.

Is your child getting tutoring outside of regular school hours this school year?

School Parents

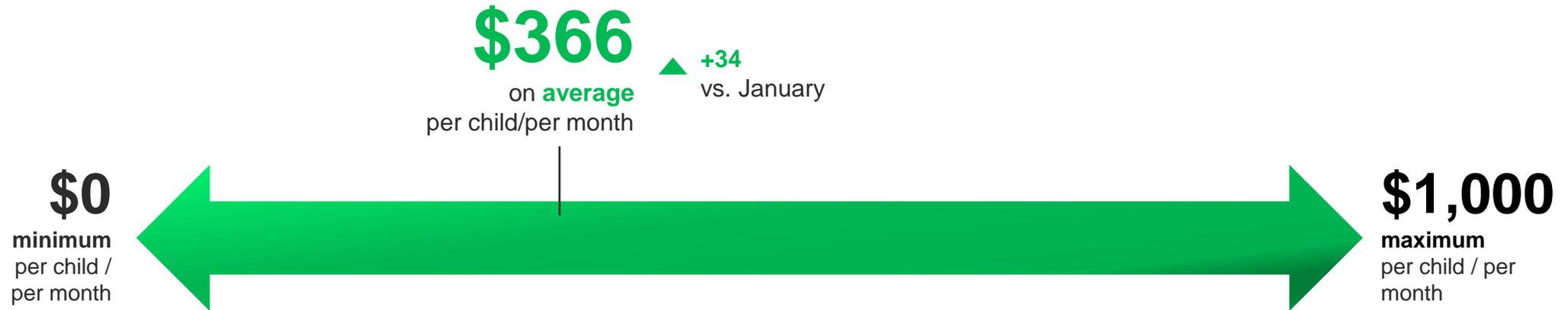


Note: Question was not asked in July 2021 and August 2021.

This spring, the amount parents were willing to spend on tutoring increased since the beginning of the year to around \$370 per child/month.

What would you be able and willing to spend, on a monthly basis, per child for tutoring outside of school hours?

School Parents

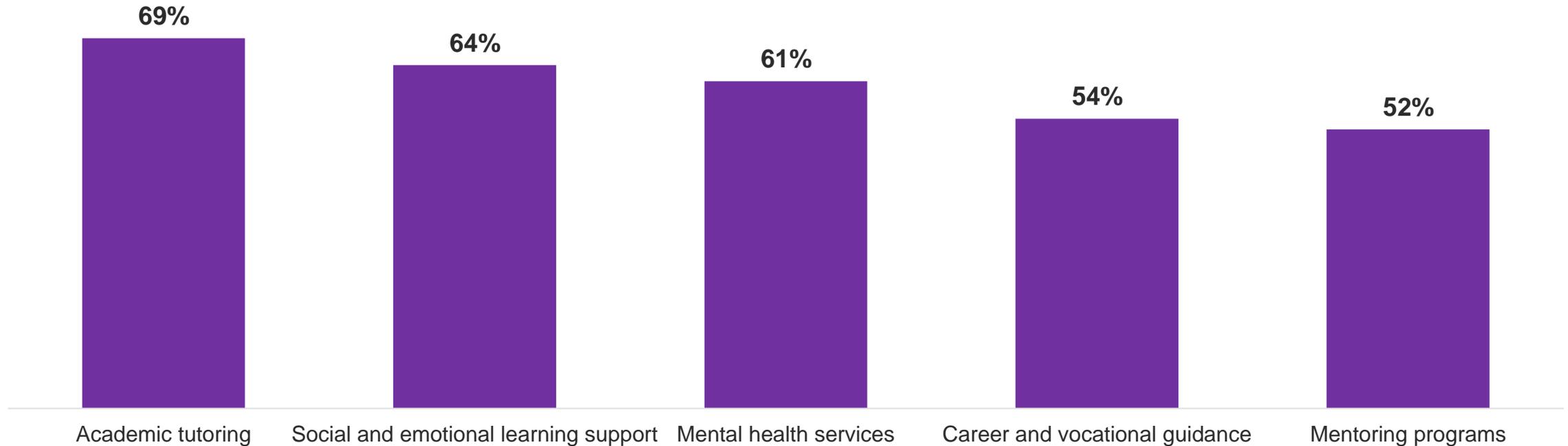


Parents suggest prioritizing academic tutoring, social and emotional learning support, and mental health services to improve student outcomes.

Which of the following student-support services do you believe should be prioritized to ensure positive student outcomes? Rank from 1 to 5 where 1 should be prioritized most and 5 should be prioritized least.

School Parents

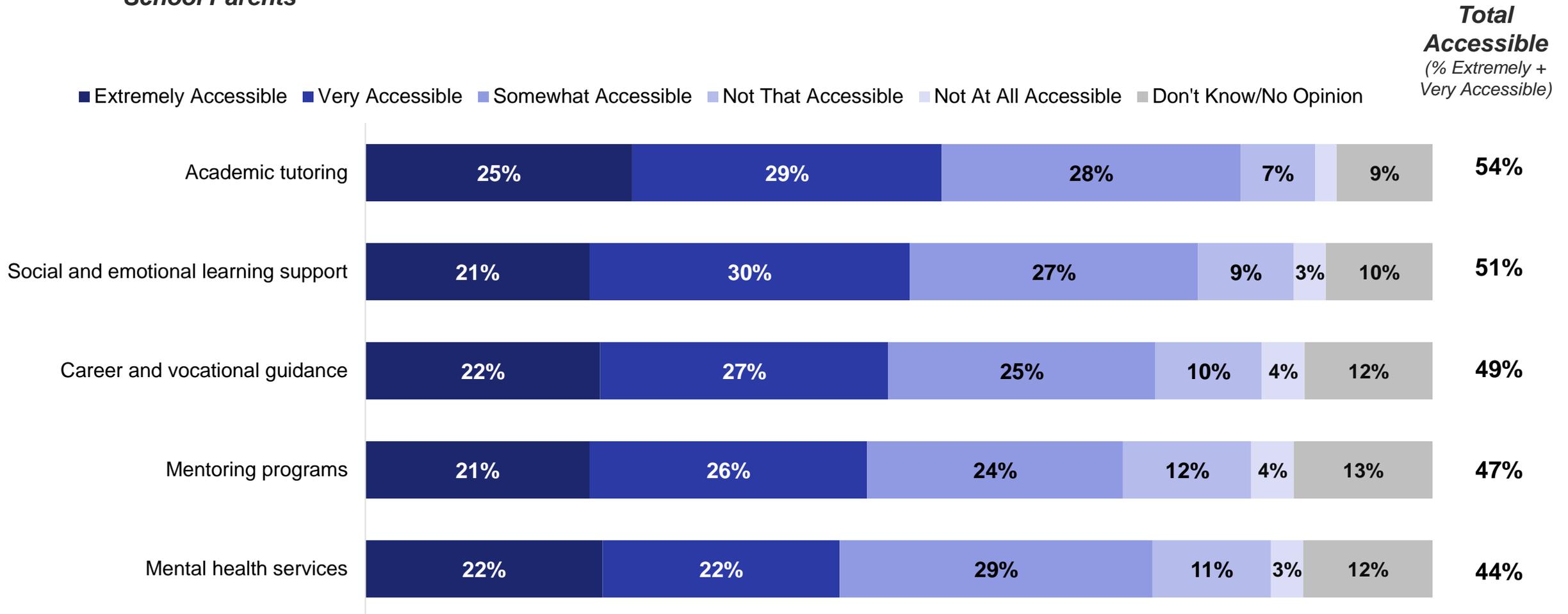
% Rank 1-3



Parents see academic tutoring as the most accessible student-support service out of the listed options. Mental health services are seen as the least accessible.

How accessible, if at all, are the following student-support services at your child's school(s)?

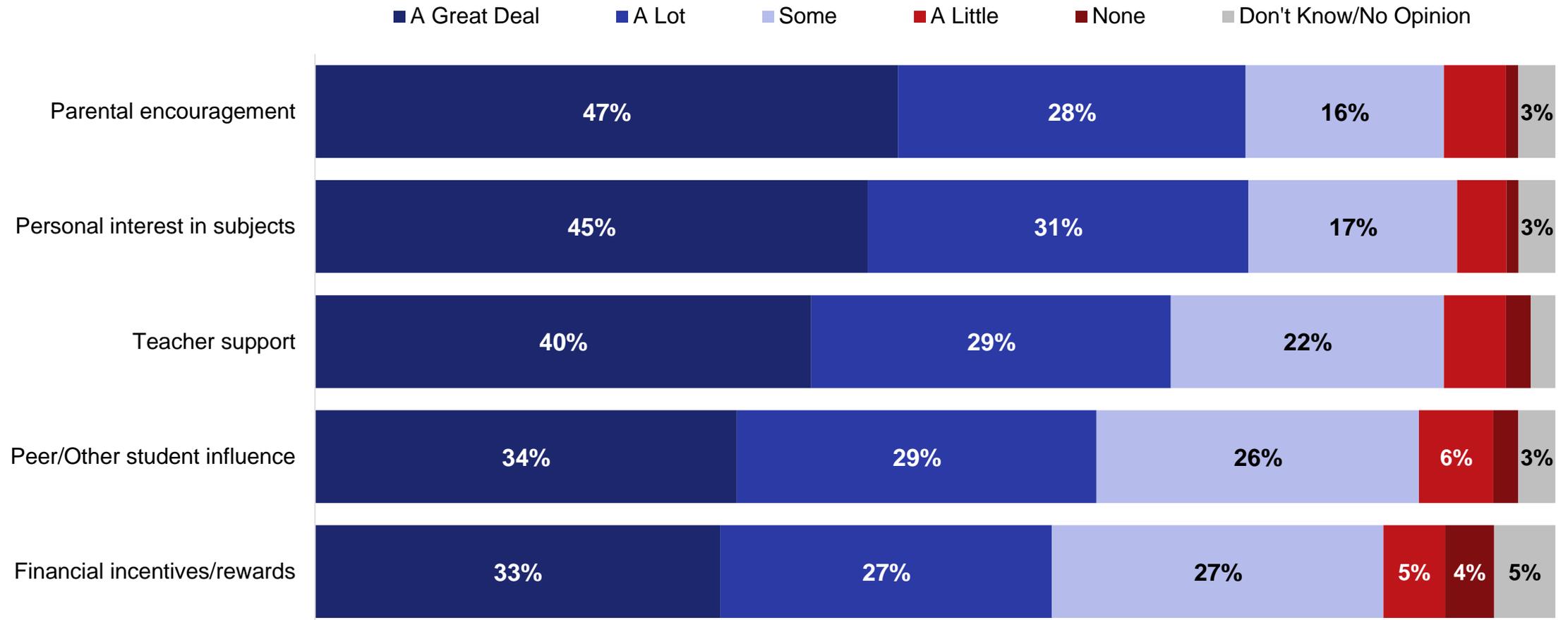
School Parents



Parents think their encouragement and students' personal interest in subjects are the most motivational factors for school attendance.

To what extent, if any, do you believe any of the following motivates students when it comes to school attendance?

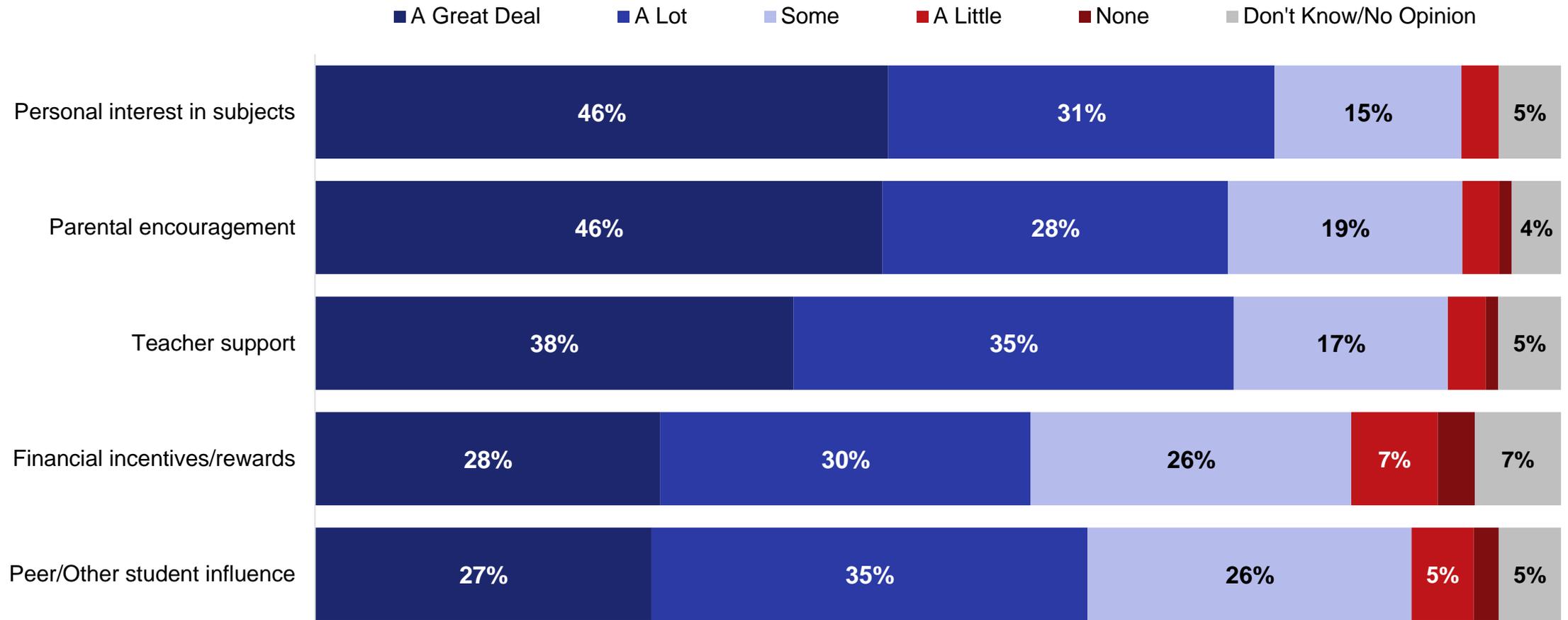
School Parents



Parents think a students' personal interest in subjects, parental encouragement, and teacher support are the most effective motivators for academic performance.

To what extent, if any, do you believe any of the following motivates students when it comes to academic performance?

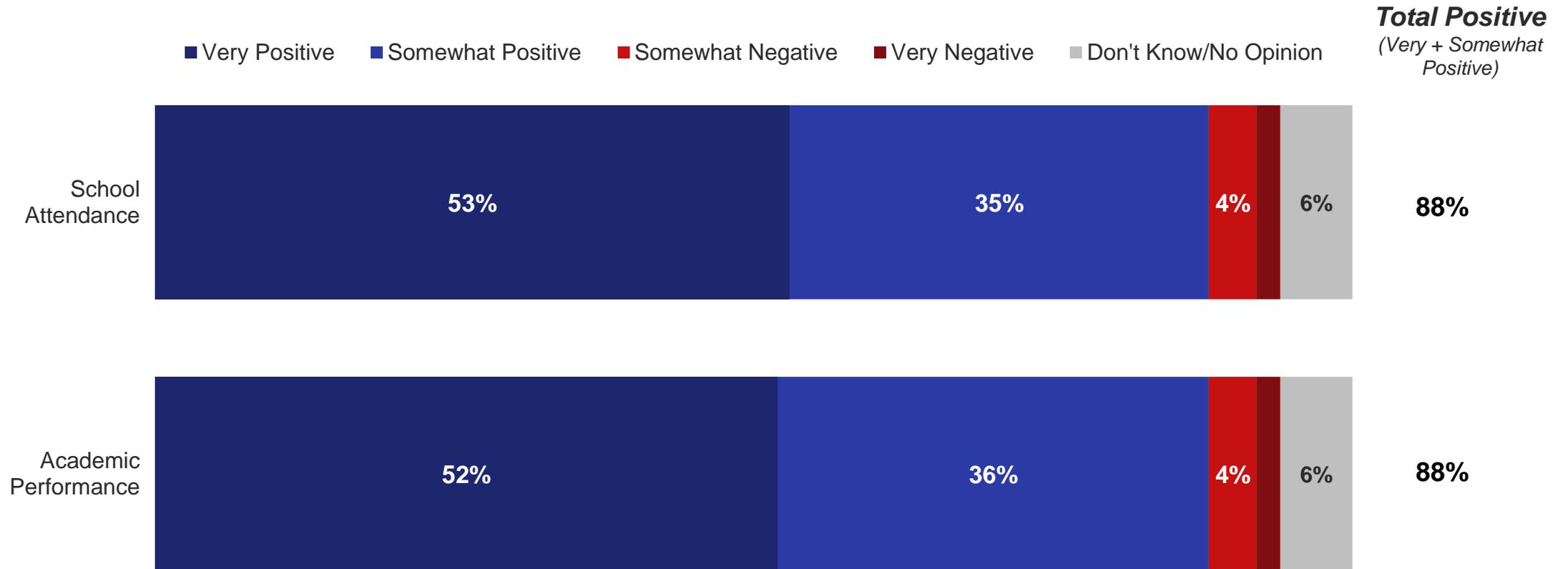
School Parents



A large majority of parents believe financial incentives would have a positive impact on both academic performance and school attendance.

What kind of outcome, if any, do you believe offering financial incentives/rewards to students will have on their.. ?

School Parents



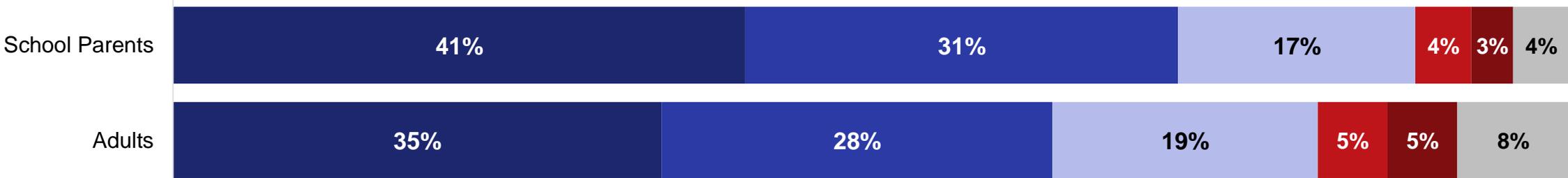
Both parents and the general public tend to see financial incentives as appropriate for rewarding academic improvement and consistent attendance.

If there was a financial incentive program at a school, to what extent if at all do you believe a student should be rewarded for... ? [ASKED AMONG ADULTS]

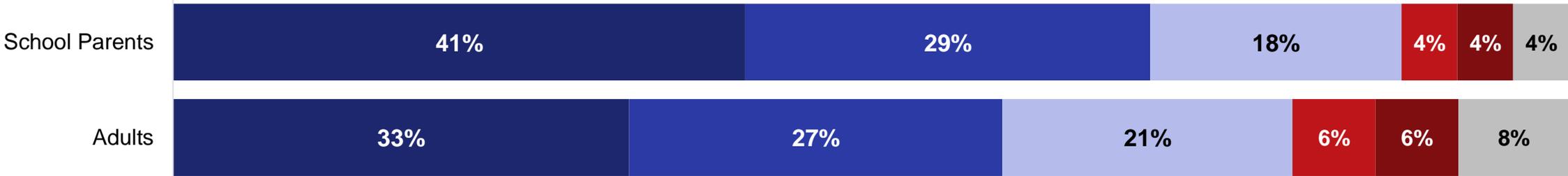
If there was a financial incentive program at your child's school, to what extent if at all do you believe a student should be rewarded for... ? [ASKED AMONG SCHOOL PARENTS]

■ A Great Deal ■ A Lot ■ Some ■ A Little ■ None ■ Don't Know/No Opinion

Improving Grades During the School Year



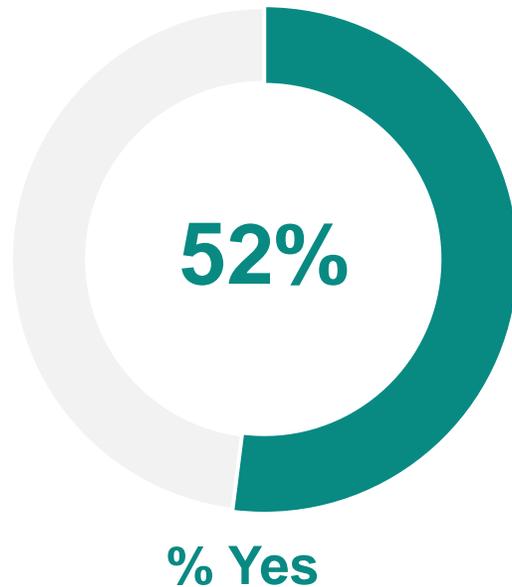
Consistent Attendance



Roughly half of high school parents say their child's school offers career and technical education (CTE) courses. The majority of these schools offer district-wide CTE opportunities.

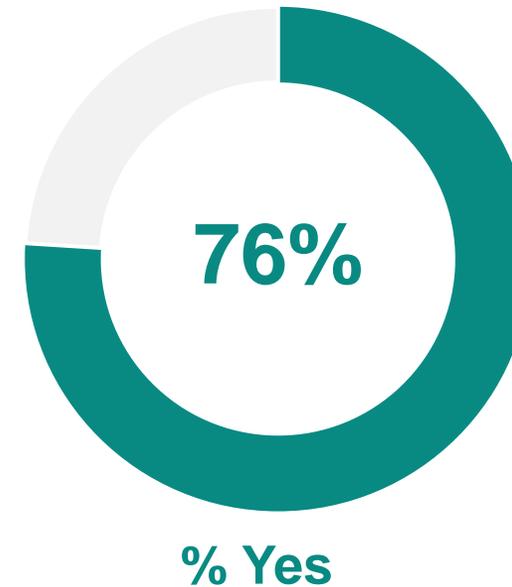
Parents of High School Children; N=506

Does your child's school offer courses in career and technical education (CTE)?



Parents of High School Children Whose School Districts Offer CTE Courses; N=261

Does your child's school district offer district-wide opportunities to take career and technical education (CTE) courses (such as a regional CTE school or CTE center)?

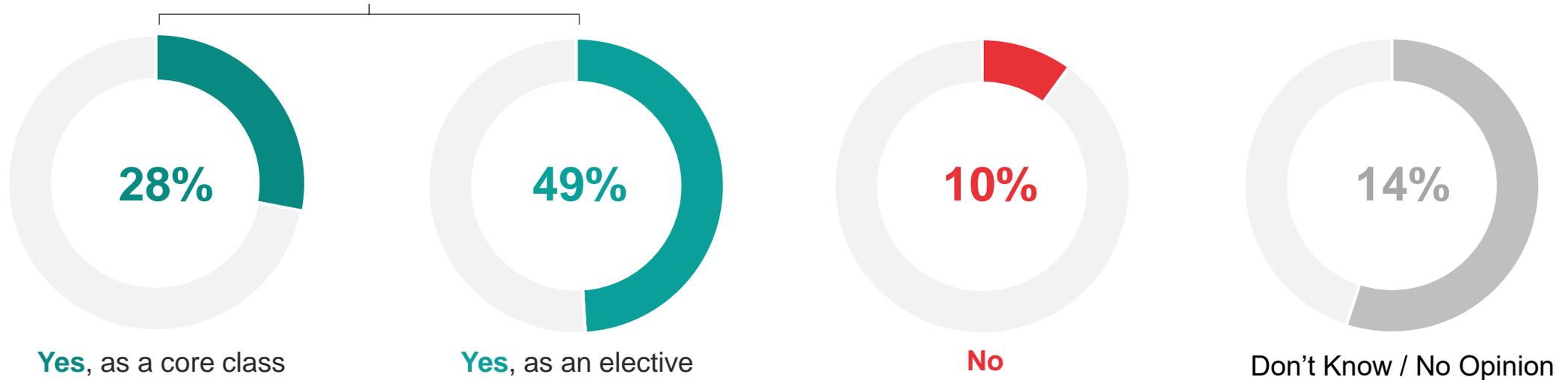


More than three-fourths of high school parents express interest in their child taking a career and technical education course as either a core class or an elective.

Are you interested in your child taking career and technical education (CTE) courses, either as a core class or an elective?

Parents of High School Children; N=506

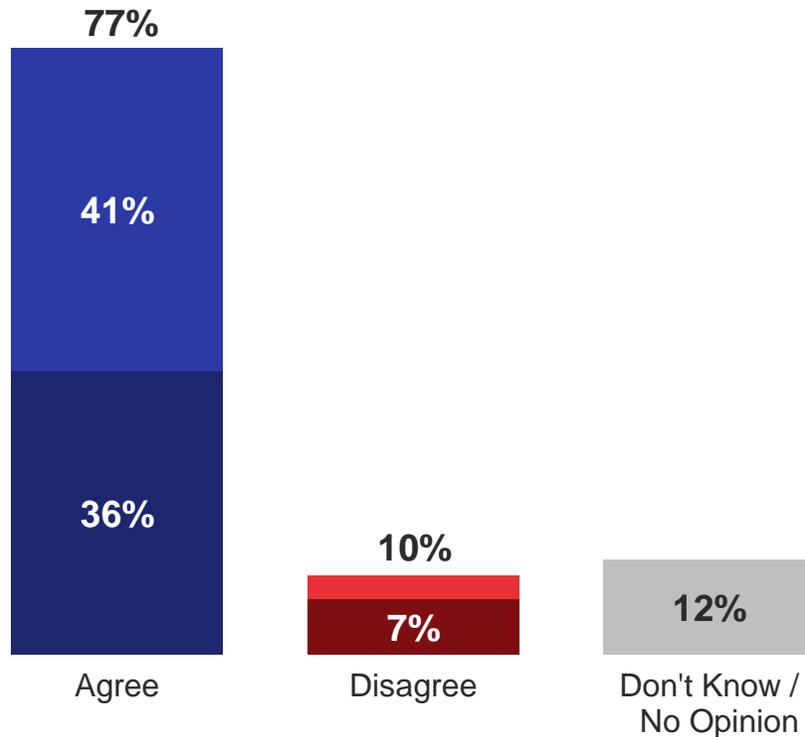
77% interested in child taking CTE courses



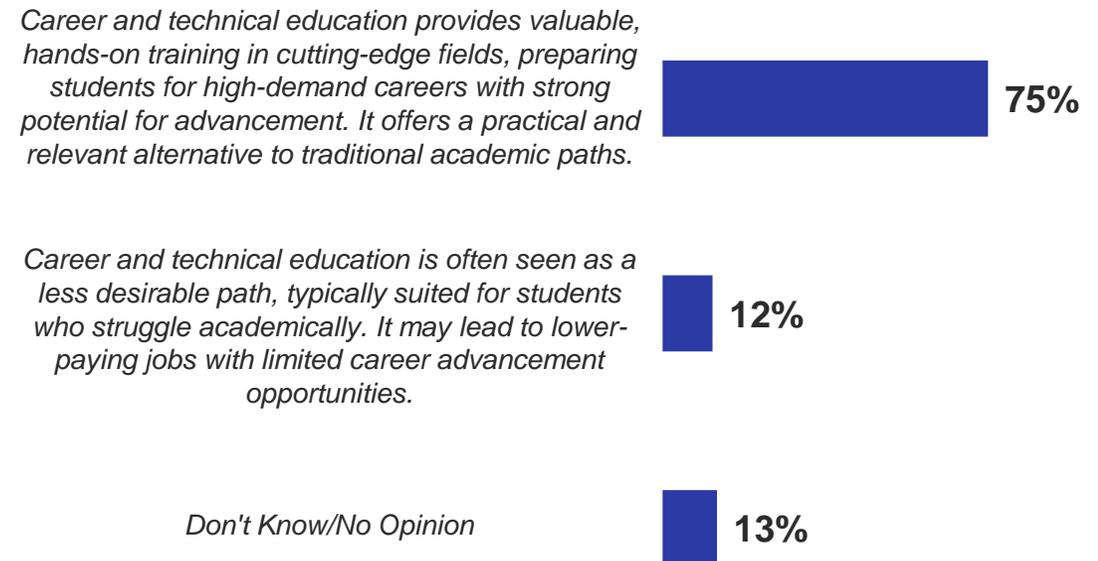
Three-fourths of high school parents express interest in their child participating in a CTE program. Most parents believe CTE provides valuable hands-on training.

Parents of High School Children; N=506

If given the option to choose among different course options for your child's schooling, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? - **I'm interested in my child participating in an intensive career and technical education (CTE) program, including internships or apprenticeships, even if that means that they don't take traditional academic courses during their last two years in high school.**



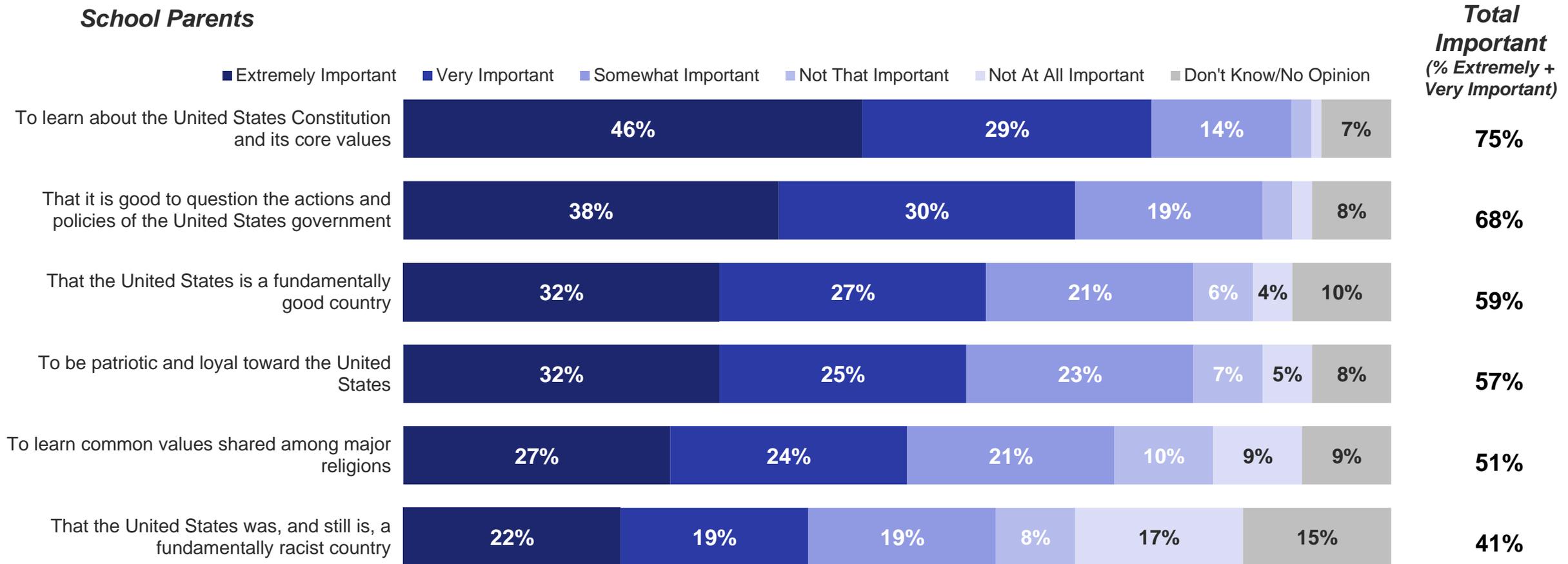
Which of the following statements is closest to your own view of career and technical education (CTE) in general?



Parents find it highly important for students to learn about the Constitution and its core values. They also place value on teaching students to question government actions and policies.

How important is it that schools teach students:

School Parents

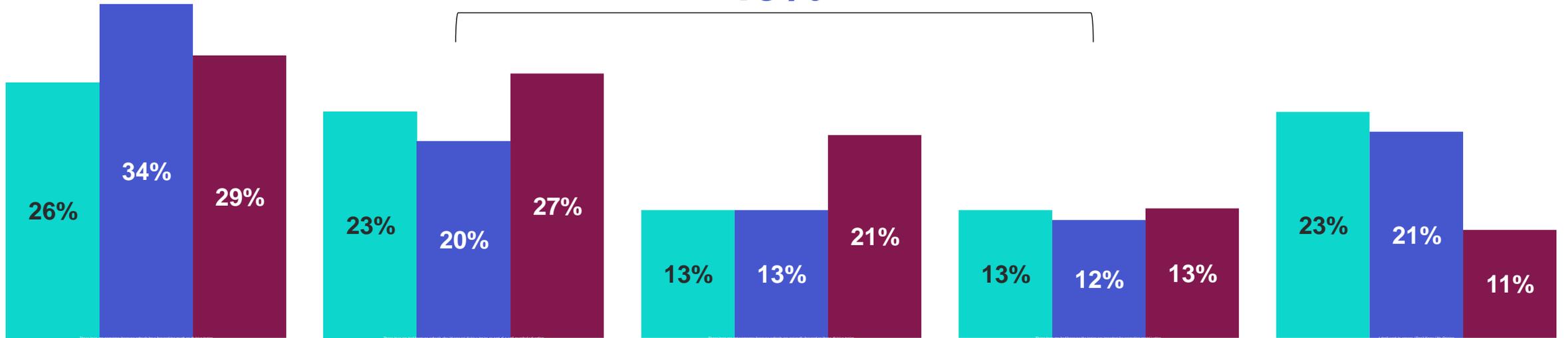


Nearly half of parents think laws passed to limit the teaching of divisive topics are either bad or unnecessary for a variety of reasons.

In some states, lawmakers have passed legislation to limit the teaching of divisive topics, such as those related to race, gender, sexual orientation, and other topics some have labeled as 'woke'. Please choose which of the following statements best fits your view:

■ Adults ■ Parents ■ Teachers

45%



These laws are necessary because schools have focused too much on divisive topics

These laws are bad because schools should present divisive topics as part of a well-rounded education

These laws are not necessary because schools are not really focused on these divisive topics

These laws are bad because the topics are important for promoting social justice.

I don't want to answer / Don't Know / No Opinion

Source: Survey conducted April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025, among U.S. adults
 Teachers Source: March 2025 Teachers Survey



Views on K-12 Education



Schooling and Experiences



K-12 Choice Policies

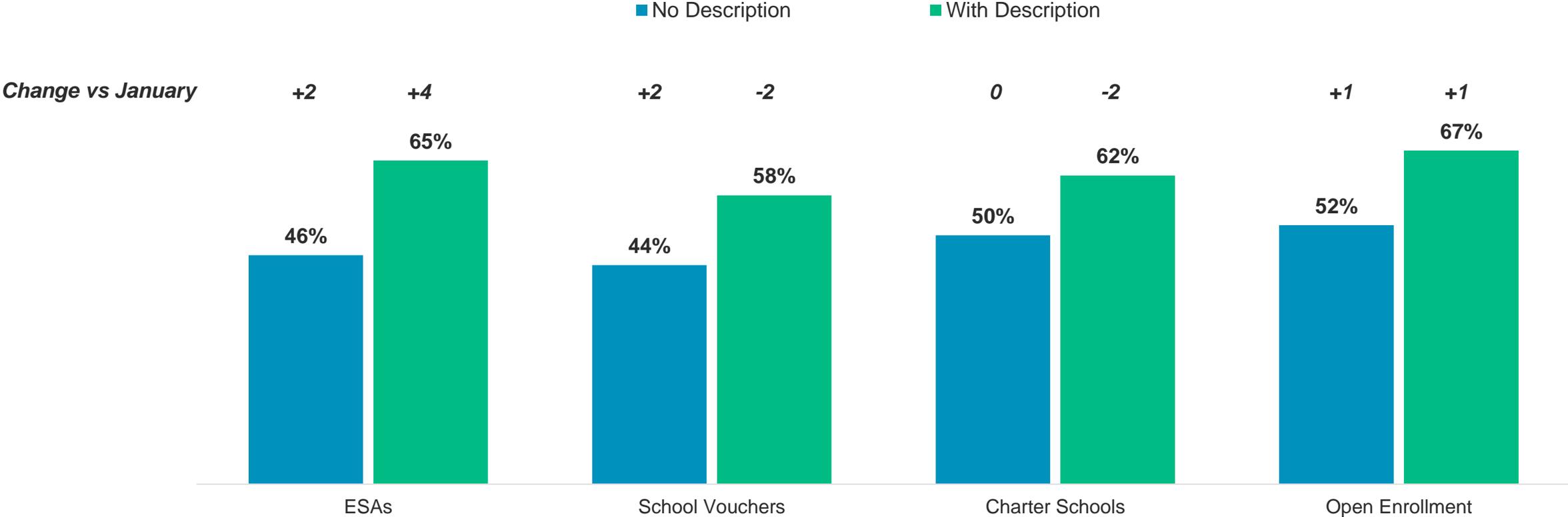


Survey Profile and Demographics

Support for ESAs, school vouchers, charter schools, and open enrollment is much higher when given a brief definition of each policy.

All Adults

Total Support
(Strongly Support + Somewhat Support)



Source: Survey conducted January 13, 2025 - January 15, 2025, among U.S. adults
 Source: Survey conducted April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025, among U.S. adults

Policy Descriptions Used

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.

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.

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.

Open Enrollment

An "open enrollment" policy in K-12 education allows a student enrolled in public school to select and transfer to a public school of their choice, rather than attending a school based on where they live. A student can be allowed to transfer to a public school in another district (called "INTER-district"). The policy is based on a first come, first served process until districts are no longer able to accommodate new students.

Demographic Breakdown: ESA Support

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?

ESA Support, Among All Adults Combined Responses from February, March, and April 2025

Public Support	66%
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Groups most supportive		Groups least supportive	
High Income: \$100k+	76%	West	65%
School Parents	75%	Female	63%
Education: Bachelors+	73%	Education: <College	63%
Second Generation Immigrant	73%	Gen X	63%
Conservative	71%	Independent	62%
Immigrant Family	71%	Black	62%
Middle Income: \$50k to \$100k	70%	Low Income: <\$50k	61%
Male	69%	Rural	60%

Source: Survey conducted February 14 - February 18, 2025; March 6 – March 9, 2025; April 10 – 13, 2025 among U.S. adults

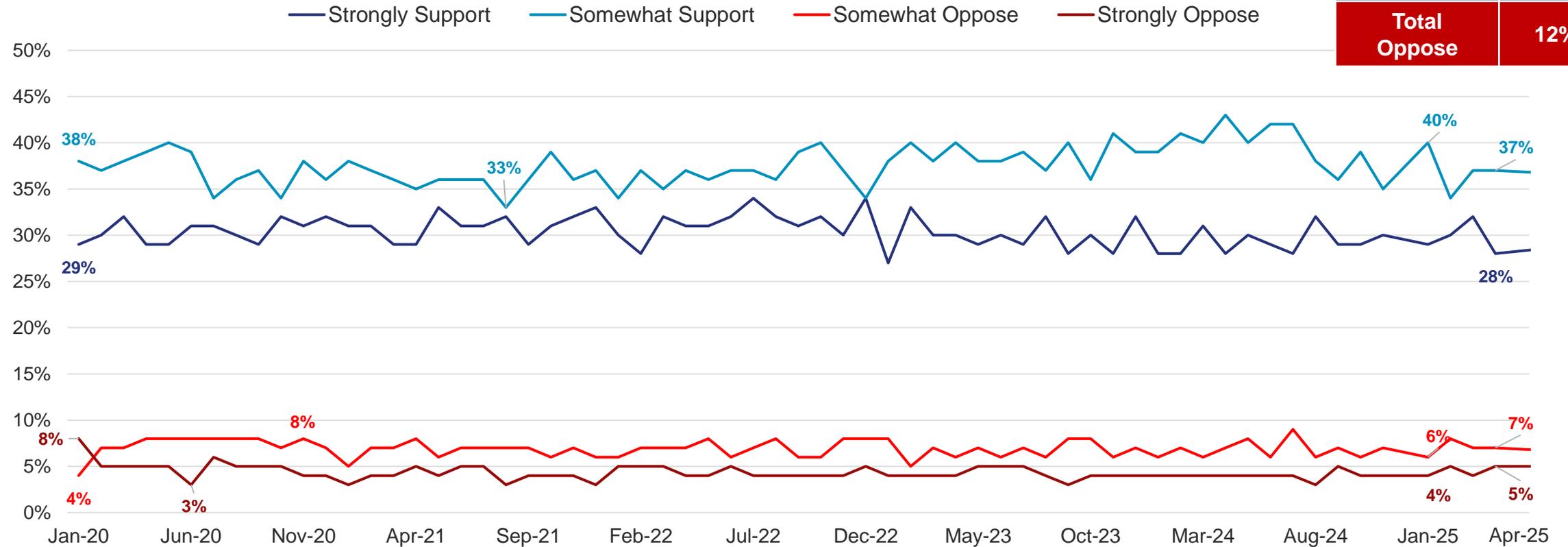
The public is over five times as likely to support ESAs than oppose them. Americans' overall support of ESAs has decreased slightly since January.

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?

April 2025

Total Support	65%
Total Oppose	12%

All Adults



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

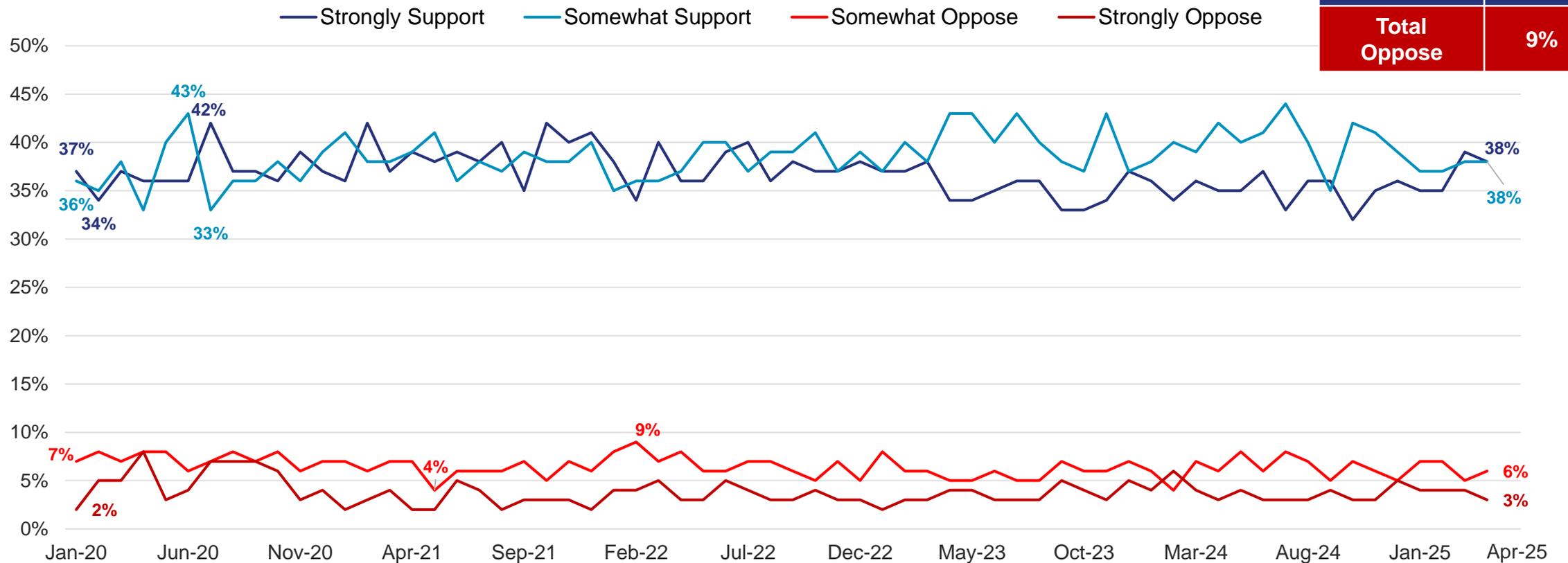
In April, school parents were over eight times as likely to be supportive of ESAs than to be opposed. Support has increased since January.

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?

April 2025

Total Support	76%
Total Oppose	9%

School Parents



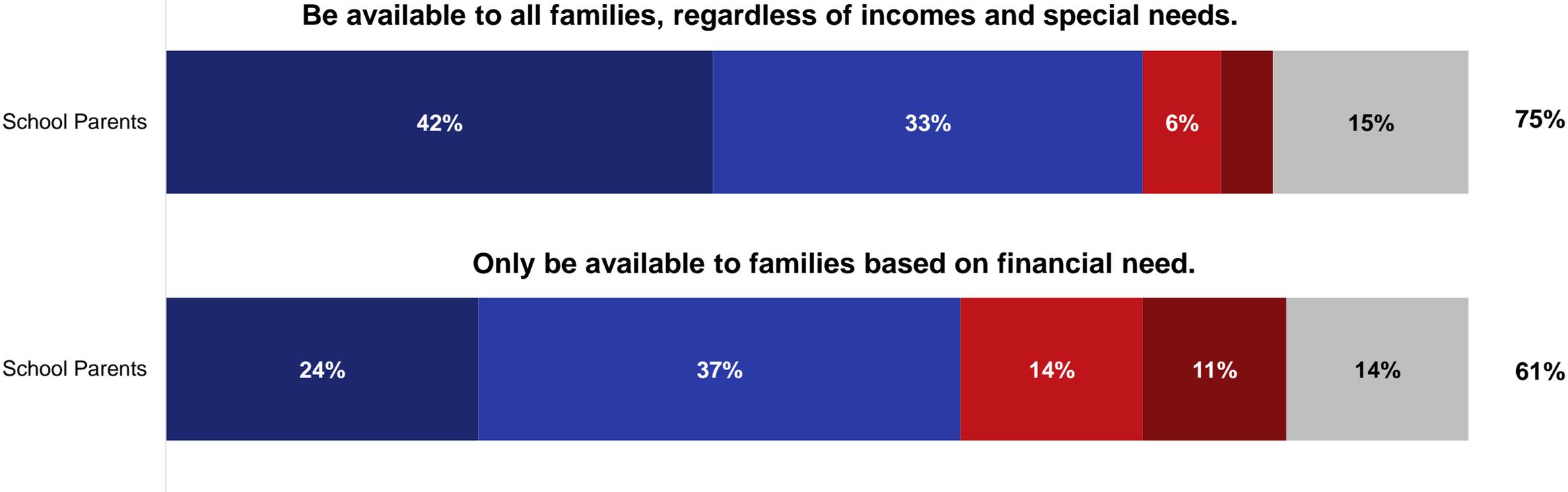
Note: Don't know/No opinion responses are not shown.

Three-fourths of school parents believe ESAs should be available to all families regardless of income or special needs. That is 14 points higher than the percentage of parents who want ESA eligibility determined by financial need.

Some people believe that ESAs should...

■ Strongly Agree
 ■ Somewhat Agree
 ■ Somewhat Disagree
 ■ Strongly Disagree
 ■ Don't Know/No Opinion

Total Agree
(Strongly + Somewhat Agree)



Source: Survey conducted April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025, among U.S. adults

Demographic Breakdown: Voucher 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?

School Voucher Support, Among All Adults Combined Responses from February, March, and April 2025

Public Support	61%
----------------	-----

Groups most supportive		Groups least supportive	
Conservative	73%	West	59%
Republican	72%	Midwest	59%
School Parents	71%	Rural	58%
Black	65%	Small town	57%
Second-Generation Immigrant	66%	Female	57%
Millennials	65%	Asian	57%
Northeast	64%	Democrat	54%
Immigrant Family	64%	Liberal/Progressive	54%

Source: Survey conducted February 14 - February 18, 2025; March 6 - March 9, 2025; April 10 - 13, 2025 among U.S. adults

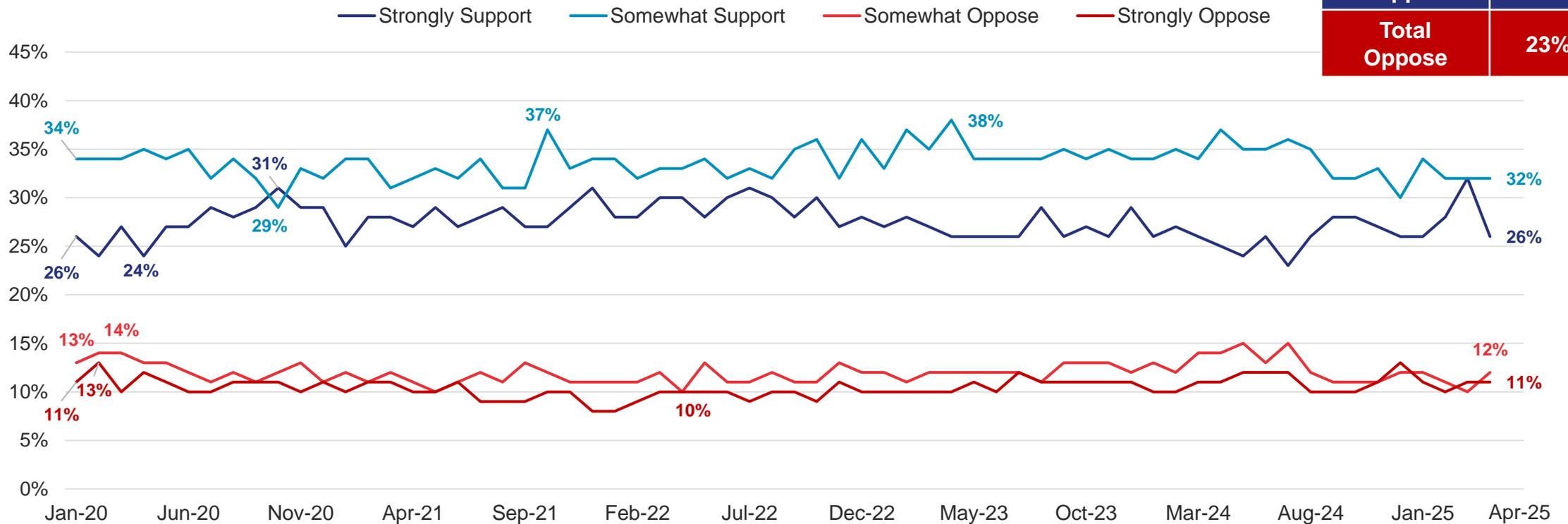
Americans are more than twice as likely to support school vouchers than oppose them. The public's overall support for school vouchers has fallen since January.

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?

April 2025

Total Support	58%
Total Oppose	23%

All Adults



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

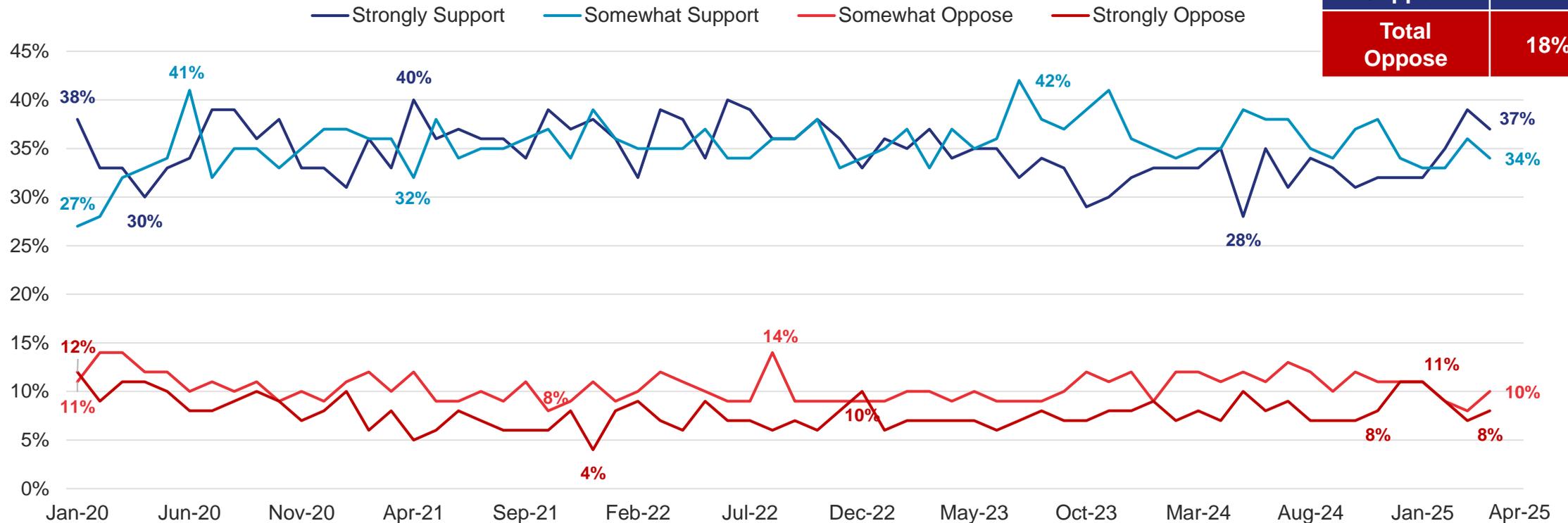
Parents are almost four times as likely to support school vouchers than oppose them.

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?

April 2025

Total Support	71%
Total Oppose	18%

School Parents



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

Demographic Breakdown: Charter School Support

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?

Charter School Support, Among All Adults Combined Responses from February, March, and April 2025

Public Support	62%
----------------	-----

Groups most supportive		Groups least supportive	
Conservative	73%	Small town	59%
Republican	71%	Liberal/Progressive	59%
School Parents	70%	Independent	58%
High Income: \$100k+	66%	Democrat	58%
Urban	65%	Low Income: <\$50k	58%
Male	65%	Midwest	57%
Northeast	65%	Rural	55%
Education: Bachelors+	65%	Asian	54%

Source: Survey conducted February 14 - February 18, 2025; March 6 - March 9, 2025; April 10 - 13, 2025 among U.S. adults

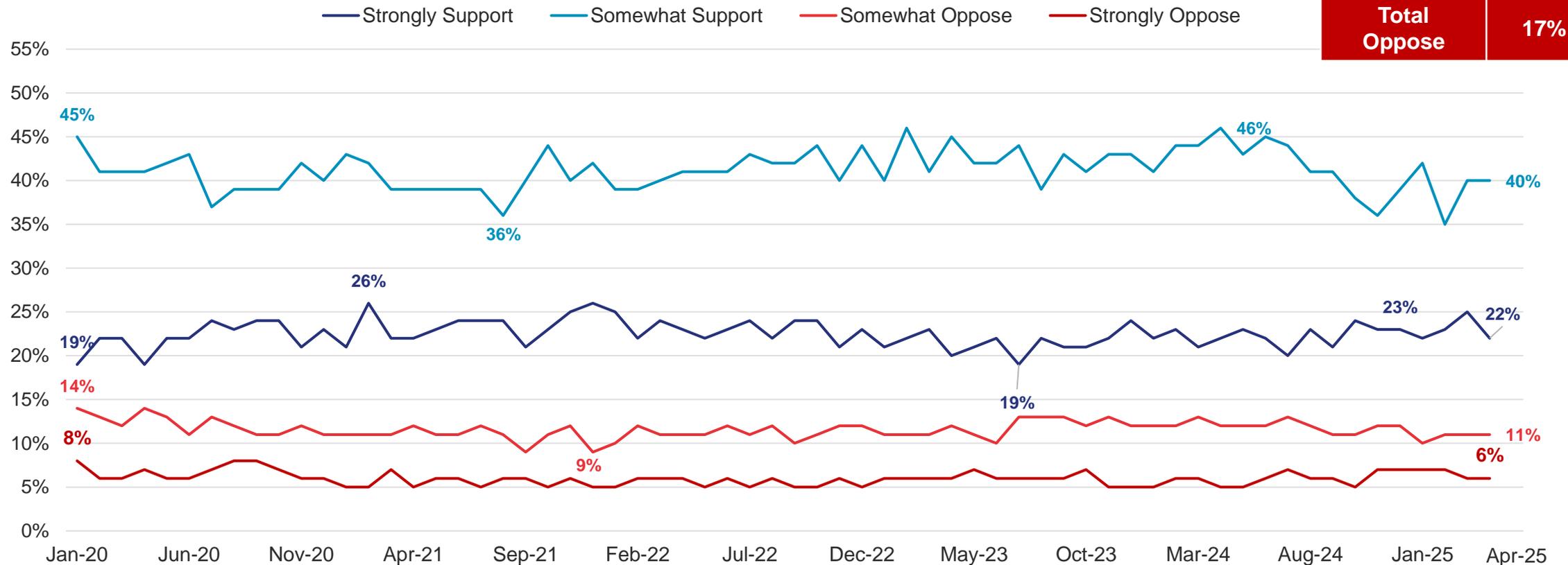
Americans are almost four times as likely to support charter schools than oppose them.

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?

April 2025

Total Support	62%
Total Oppose	17%

All Adults



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

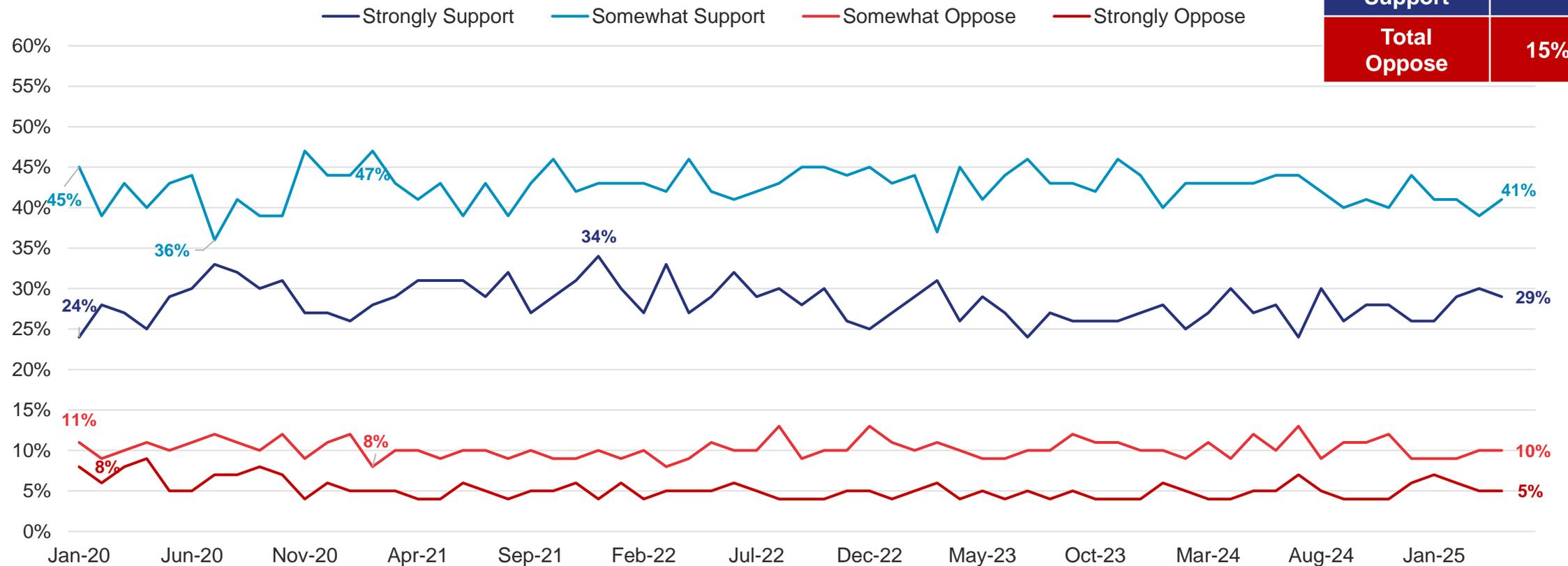
Parents are over four times as likely to support charter schools than oppose them. Overall support for charter schools has remained roughly level since January.

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?

April 2025

Total Support	70%
Total Oppose	15%

School Parents



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

Demographic Breakdown: Open Enrollment Support

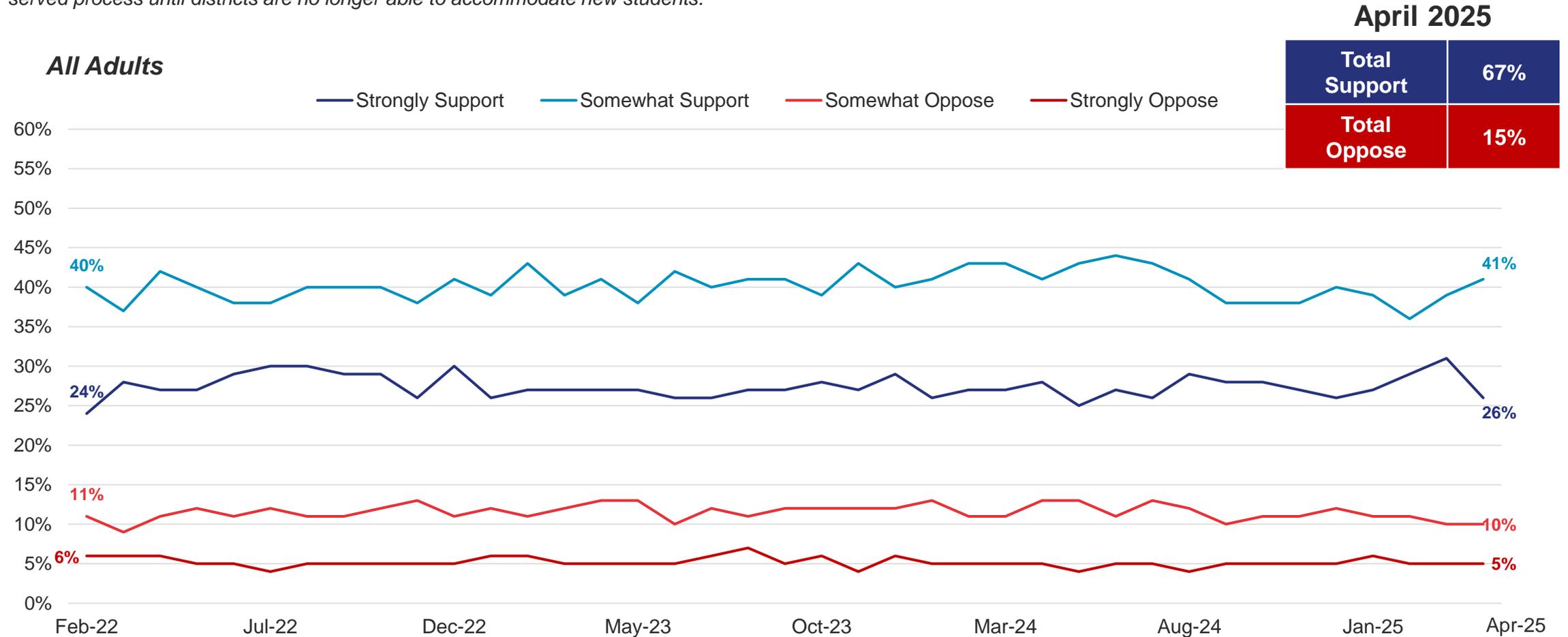
An “open enrollment” policy in K-12 education allows a student enrolled in public school to select and transfer to a public school of their choice, rather than attending a school based on where they live. A student can be allowed to transfer to a public school in another district (called “INTER-district”). The policy is based on a first come, first served process until districts are no longer able to accommodate new students

Open Enrollment Support, Among All Adults Combined Responses from February, March, and April 2025

Public Support	Groups most supportive		Groups least supportive	
	Group	Support %	Group	Support %
67%	School Parents	76%	Female	66%
	Middle Income: \$50k to \$100k	73%	Suburban	66%
	High Income: \$100k+	71%	South	66%
	Urban	71%	Education: <College	65%
	Education: Bachelors+	71%	Rural	64%
	Second-Generation Immigrant	71%	Independent	63%
	Millennials	70%	Low Income: <\$50k	63%
	Republican	70%	Asian	62%

The public's support for inter-district open enrollment is over four times as large as the opposition.

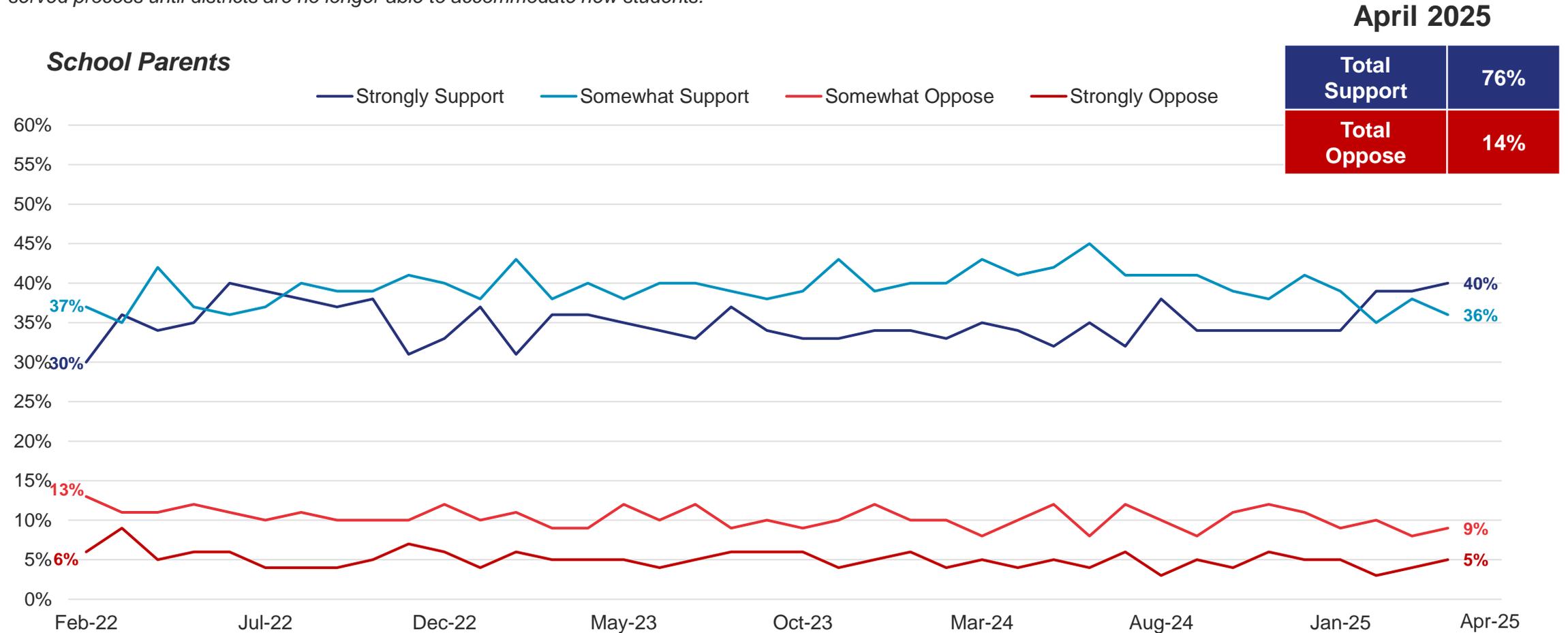
An "open enrollment" policy in K-12 education allows a student enrolled in public school to select and transfer to a public school of their choice, rather than attending a school based on where they live. A student can be allowed to transfer to a public school in another district (called "INTER-district"). The policy is based on a first come, first served process until districts are no longer able to accommodate new students.



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

Among school parents, support for inter-district open enrollment is over five times as large as opposition. Overall support has risen since January.

An “open enrollment” policy in K-12 education allows a student enrolled in public school to select and transfer to a public school of their choice, rather than attending a school based on where they live. A student can be allowed to transfer to a public school in another district (called “INTER-district”). The policy is based on a first come, first served process until districts are no longer able to accommodate new students.



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



Views on K-12 Education



Schooling and Experiences



K-12 Choice Policies



Survey Profile and Demographics

Survey Profile

Dates	February 2025 Survey: February 14-18, 2025 March 2025 Survey: March 6-9, 2025 April 2025 Survey: April 10-13, 2025
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 – February 2025

Survey Time	Gen Pop Median = 12.32 minutes Oversample Median = 14.48 minutes
Sample Size	N = 2,251 General Population N= 1,280 Total School Parents
Oversampling	N = 850 School Parents
Quotas	Age, Gender
Weighting	Age, Race, Ethnicity, Gender, Education, Census Region
Measure of Precision (adjusted for weighting)	± 2.29 percentage points (Gen Pop), ± 3.41 percentage points (Oversample)
Participation Rate	46.50% (Gen Pop), 37.00% (Oversample)
Methods Page	https://edchoice.morningconsultintelligence.com/methodology
Project Contact	Paul DiPerna, paul@edchoice.org

Survey Profile – March 2025

Survey Time	Gen Pop Median = 11.80 minutes Oversample Median = 13.80 minutes
Sample Size	N = 2,254 General Population N= 1,296 Total School Parents
Oversampling	N = 850 School Parents
Quotas	Age, Gender
Weighting	Age, Race, Ethnicity, Gender, Education, Census Region
Measure of Precision (adjusted for weighting)	± 2.24 percentage points (Gen Pop), ± 3.32 percentage points (Oversample)
Participation Rate	44.60% (Gen Pop), 51.40% (Oversample)
Methods Page	https://edchoice.morningconsultintelligence.com/methodology
Project Contact	Paul DiPerna, paul@edchoice.org

Survey Profile – April 2025

Survey Time	Gen Pop Median = 11.30 minutes Oversample Median = 13.42 minutes
Sample Size	N = 2,251 General Population N= 1,304 Total School Parents
Oversampling	N = 850 School Parents
Quotas	Age, Gender
Weighting	Age, Race, Ethnicity, Gender, Education, Census Region
Measure of Precision (adjusted for weighting)	± 2.38 percentage points (Gen Pop), ± 3.42 percentage points (Oversample)
Participation Rate	47.00% (Gen Pop), 49.20% (Oversample)
Methods Page	https://edchoice.morningconsultintelligence.com/methodology
Project Contact	Paul DiPerna, paul@edchoice.org

Total Sample Demographics

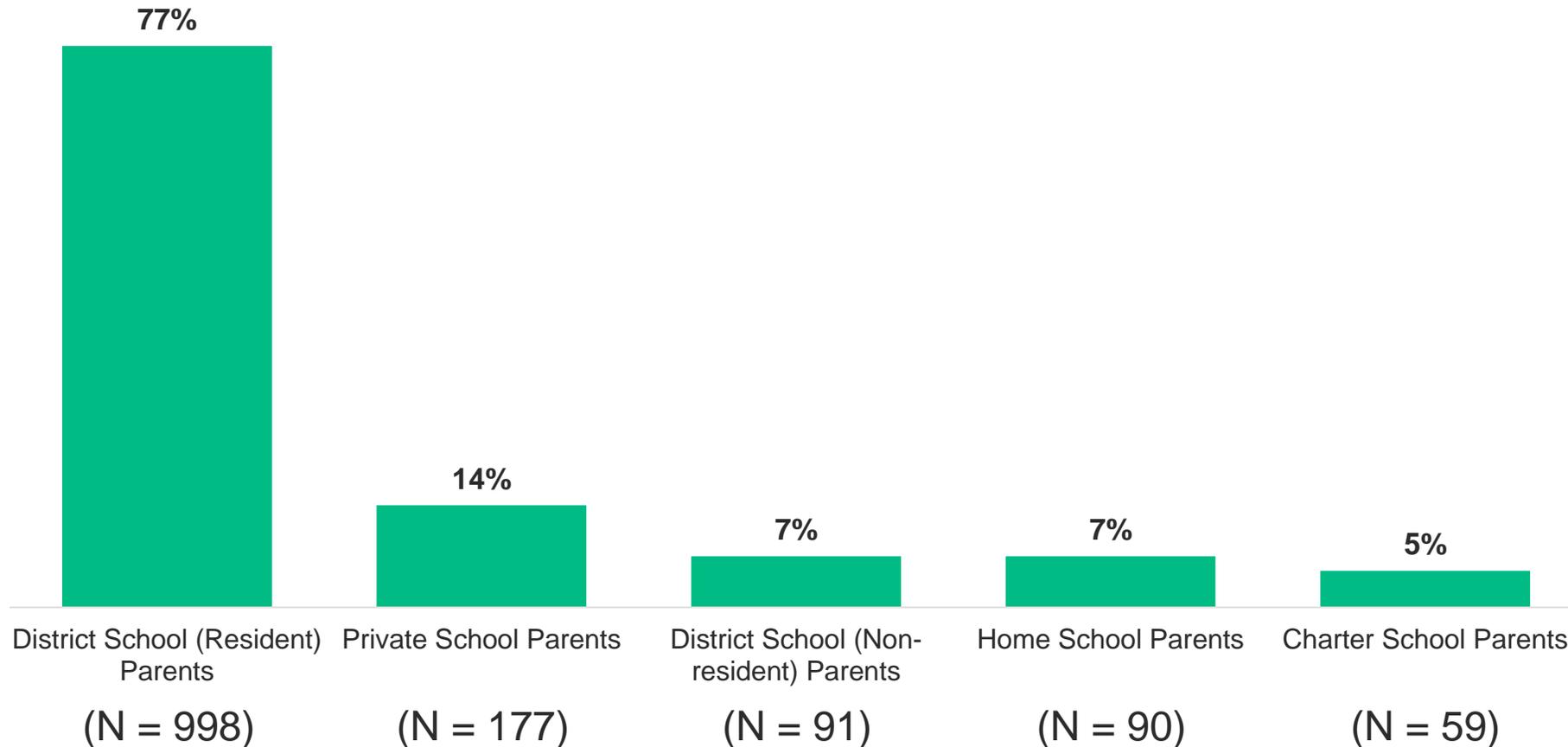
Demographics	Unweighted (N =)
Hispanic	320
Non-Hispanic White	1,477
Black	394
Other	107
Generation Z	330
Millennial	682
Generation X	545
Boomers	641
Male	1,072
Female	1,179
< College	1441
College +	810
Northeast	461
Midwest	467
South	941
West	382

Demographics	Unweighted (N =)
Total School Parents*	1,304
K-4 Parents*	641
5-8 Parents*	588
9-12 Parents*	515
Non-Parents	1,002
Liberal/Progressive	633
Moderate	709
Conservative	716
Democrat	814
Independent	582
Republican	731
Urban	696
Suburban	999
Small Town	182
Rural	374
Low Income <\$50K	1,176
Middle Income \$50K to <\$100K	730
High Income \$100K+	345

* Denotes the sample came from school parents
 Source: Survey conducted April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025, among U.S. adults

Demographics	Unweighted	Weighted	Target (%)
Hispanic	14%	18%	16%
Non-Hispanic White	66%	61%	78%
Black	18%	13%	12%
Other	5%	8%	9%
Age: 18-34	27%	29%	30%
Age: 35-54	31%	31%	31%
Age: 55+	41%	40%	40%
Age: 65+	24%	23%	20%
Male	48%	49%	48%
Female	52%	51%	52%
< College	64%	64%	69%
College +	36%	36%	31%
Northeast	20%	17%	18%
Midwest	21%	20%	21%
South	42%	39%	37%
West	17%	24%	24%

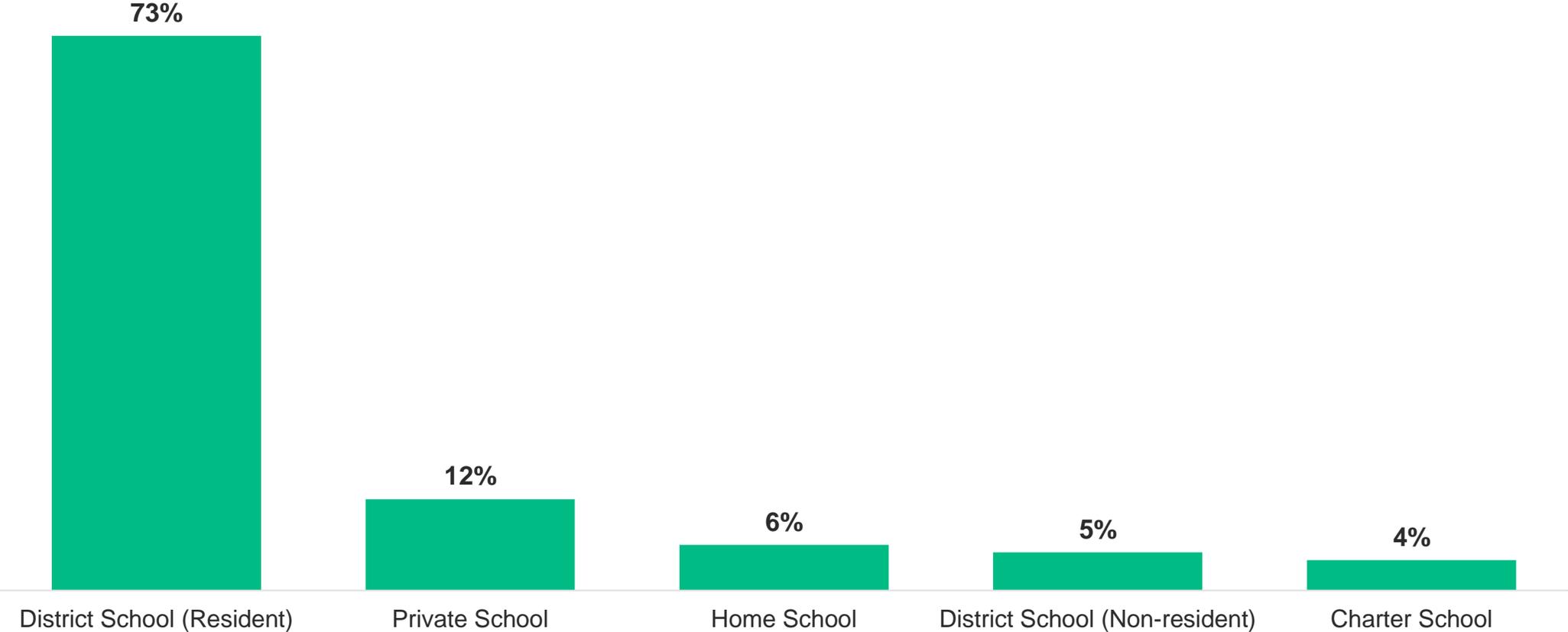
Parent groups based on estimated school type attendance for the 2024-2025 school year



Note: Parent groups are not necessarily exclusive, there are cases where a parent could have children enrolled in different school types.
Source: Survey conducted April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025, among U.S. adults

Estimated school type attendance for the 2024-2025 school year

% of Students, Reported by Parents



Source: Survey conducted April 10, 2025 – April 13, 2025, among U.S. adults

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 2021 American Community Survey. Approximately 800 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 2022 American Community Survey on the following demographic variables: age, gender, region, race/ethnicity, and educational attainment.

Total School Parents	Have at least one child enrolled in grades K-12 for the 2024-2025 school year
Charter School Parents	Have at least one child enrolled in a charter school for the 2024-2025 school year
District/Public School Parents	Have at least one child enrolled in a district/public school for the 2024-2025 school year
Private School Parents	Have at least one child enrolled in a private school for the 2024-2025 school year
Home School Parents	Have at least one child enrolled in home school for the 2024-2025 school year

WHO WE ARE



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.

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



EdChoice is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonpartisan organization. Our mission is to advance educational freedom and choice for all as a pathway to successful lives and a stronger society. We are committed to understanding and pursuing a K–12 education ecosystem that empowers every family to choose the learning environment that fits their children's needs best.

[EDCHOICE.ORG](https://www.edchoice.org)