

PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Education

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PPIC Statewide Survey mission

- Provide timely, relevant, nonpartisan data on political, social, and economic opinions
- Inform and improve state policymaking, raise awareness, encourage discussion
- Provide a voice for all Californians in important state policy debates
 - 312,000+ Californians since 1998
 - 140+ general, issue, and regional surveys



Californians and education

- Conducted with funding from the Bechtel, Kabacoff, Silver Giving, and Stuart Foundations
- Common Core State Standards, Local Control Funding Formula, Smarter Balanced Assessments
- Approval ratings, concerns about inequities, state and local funding, quality of education
- Telephone interviews, April 3–13
 - 1,706 adults, $\pm 3.7\%$ margin of error
 - 1,069 likely voters, $\pm 4.4\%$ margin of error
 - 501 parents of children 18 or younger, $\pm 6.4\%$ margin of error
 - 355 public school parents, $\pm 7.7\%$ margin of error



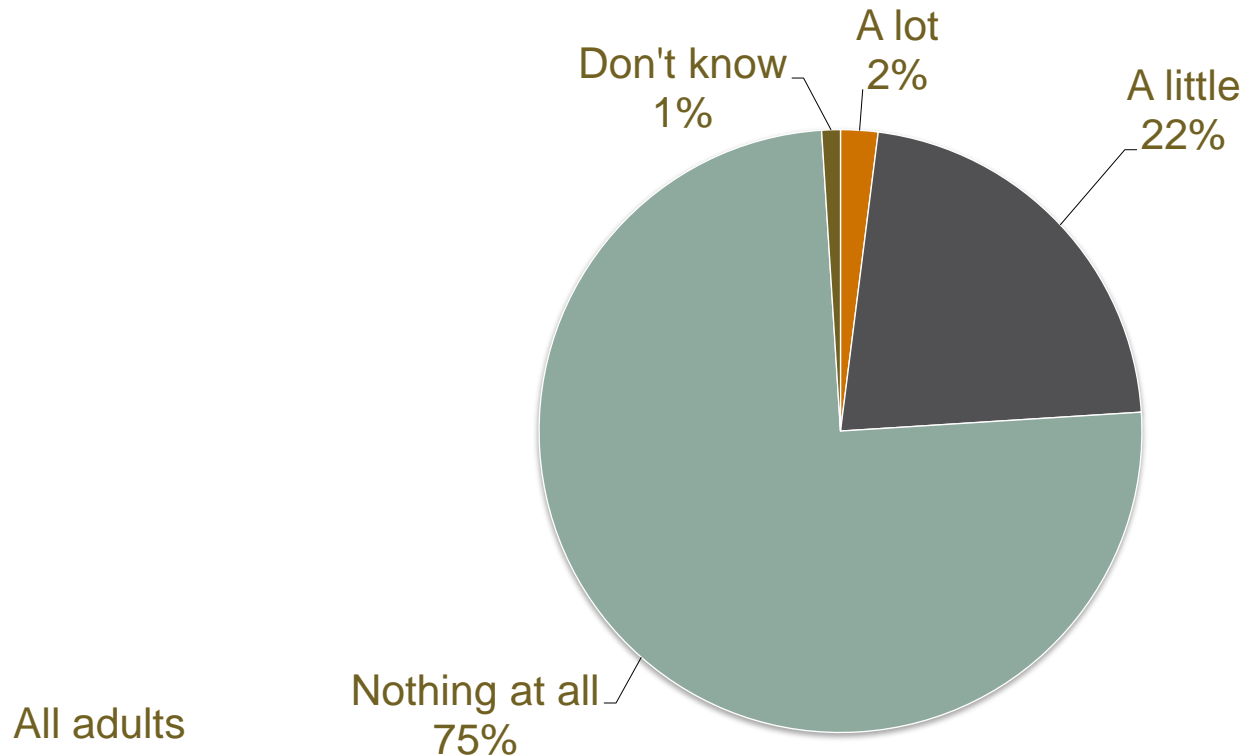
Outline

- PPIC Statewide Surveys
- Policy preferences
- Perceptions and attitudes
- Conclusions



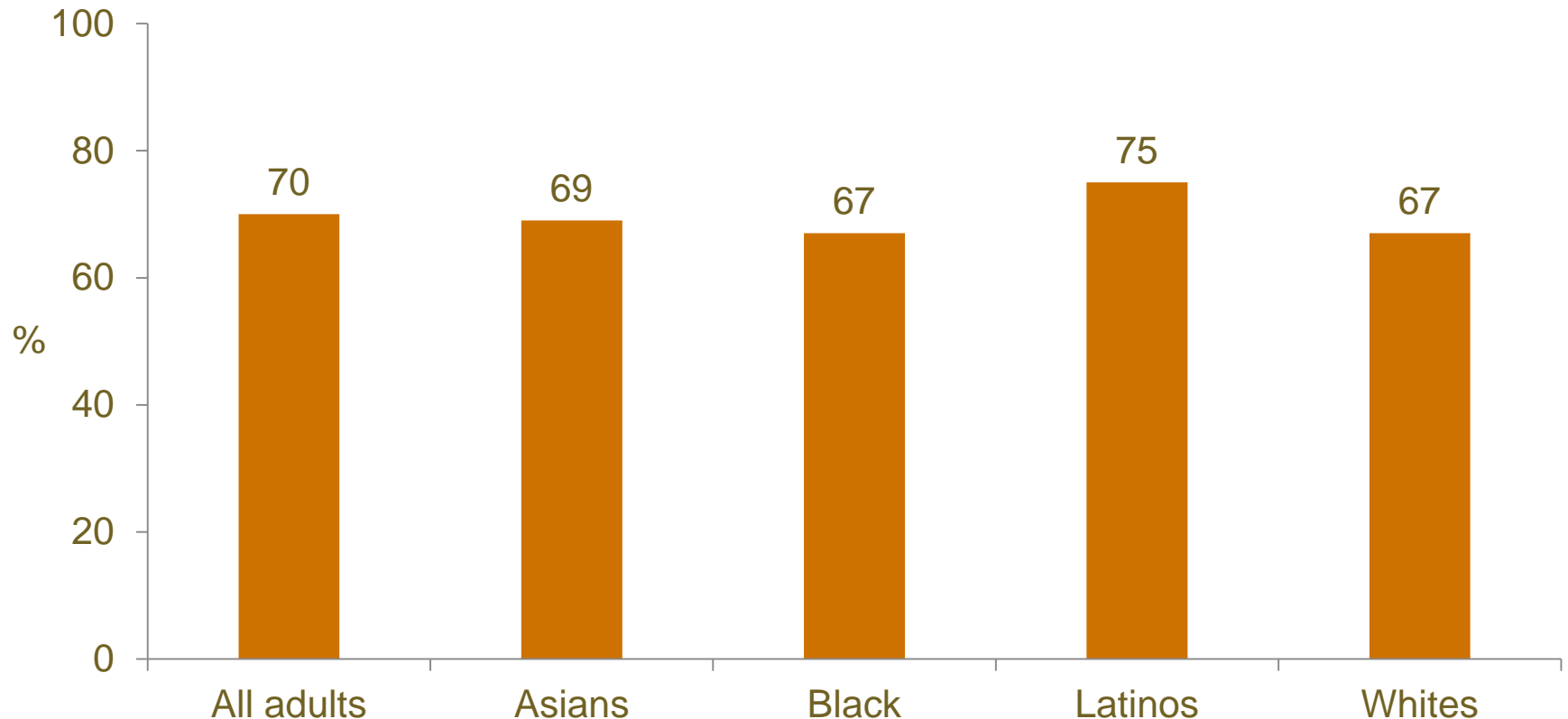
LCFF: Californians' awareness

How much, if anything, have you heard about the Local Control Funding Formula, a policy enacted last year that changes the way K–12 public school districts are funded in California?



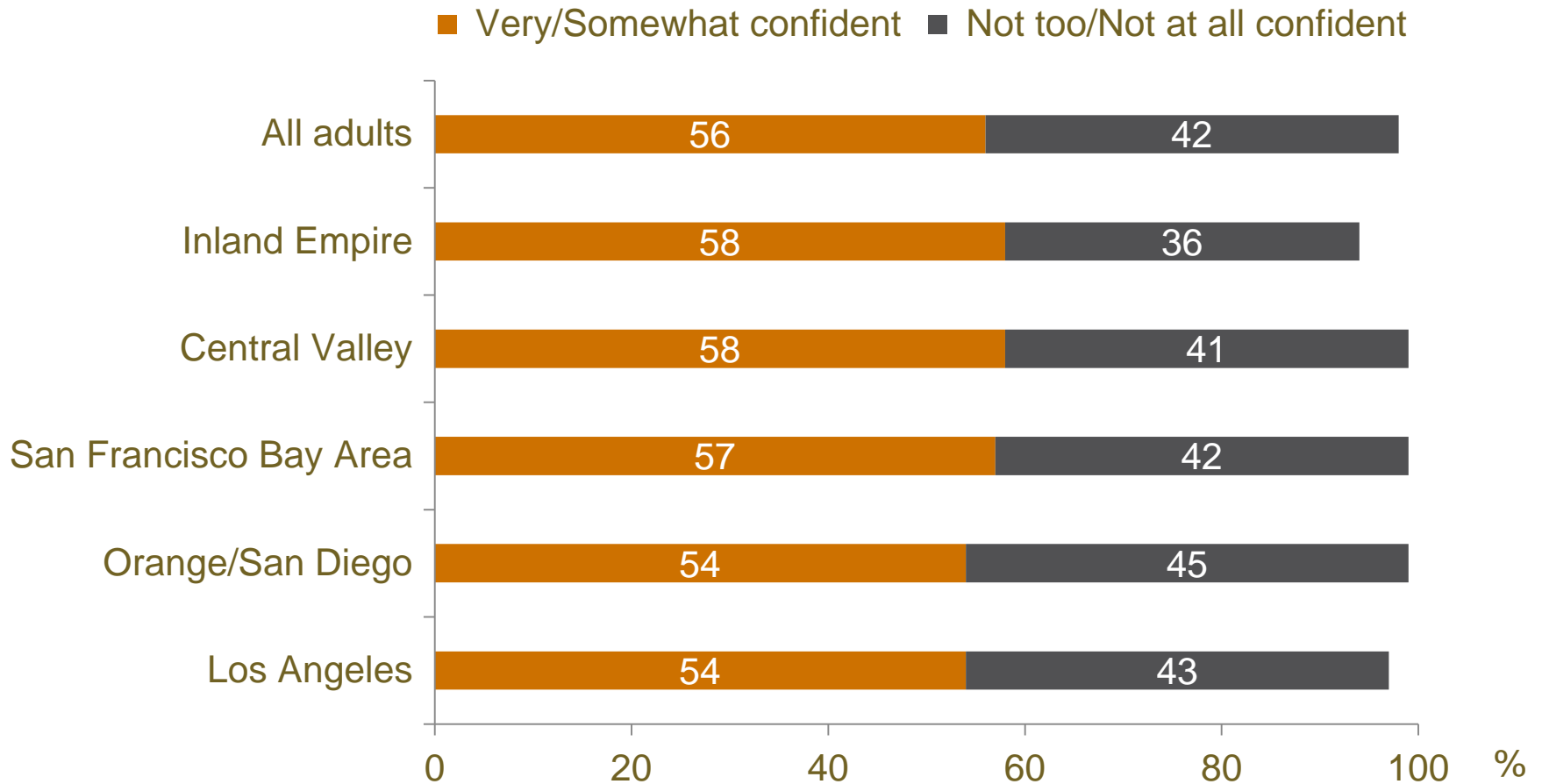
LCFF: Support for new funding plan

The Local Control Funding Formula provides additional funding to school districts that have more English language learners and lower-income students and gives local school districts more flexibility over how state funding is spent. In general, do you favor or oppose this plan?



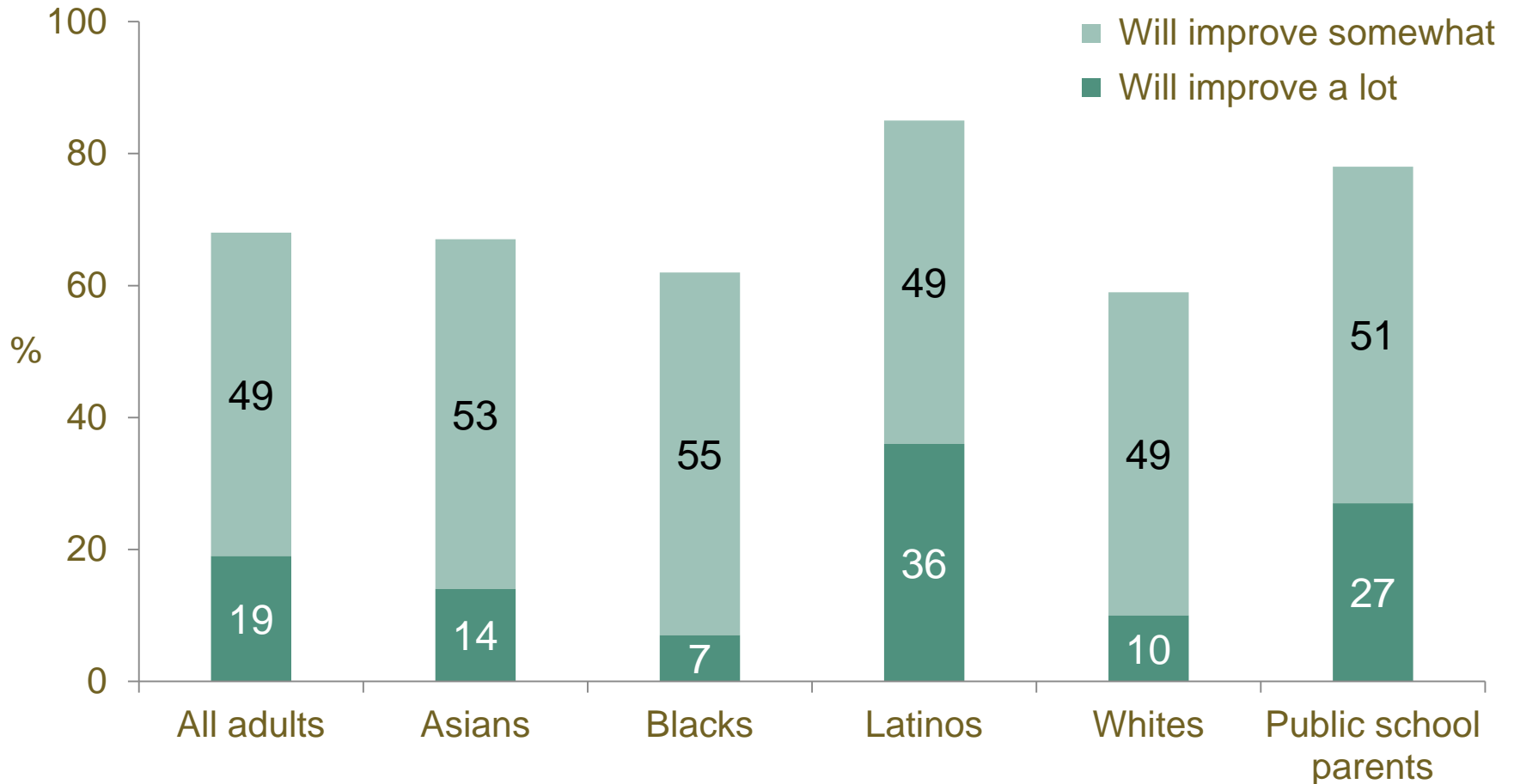
LCFF: Confidence in local districts

As the state implements the Local Control Funding Formula, how confident are you that local school districts which receive additional funding will spend that money on programs and support for English language learners and lower-income students?



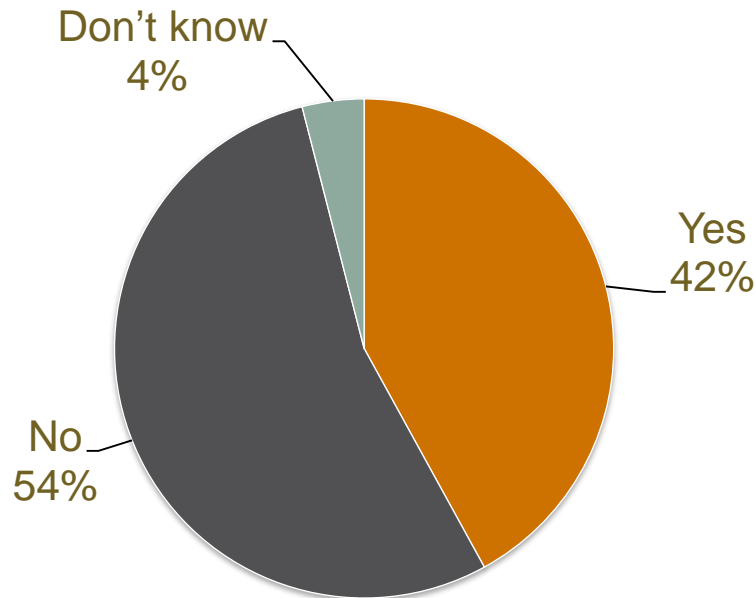
LCFF: Improving achievement

As the state implements the Local Control Funding Formula, do you think the academic achievement of English language learners and lower-income students will or will not improve?

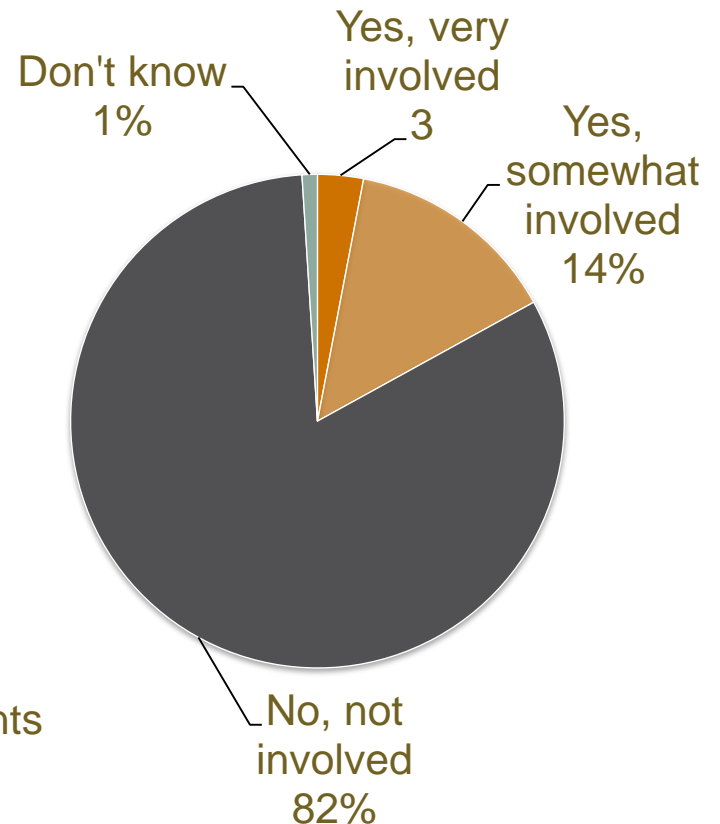


LCFF: Parental involvement

Did your child's school or school district provide you with information about how to become involved, or not?



And were you involved in the development of your local school district's accountability plan? (if yes: Were you very involved or somewhat involved?)

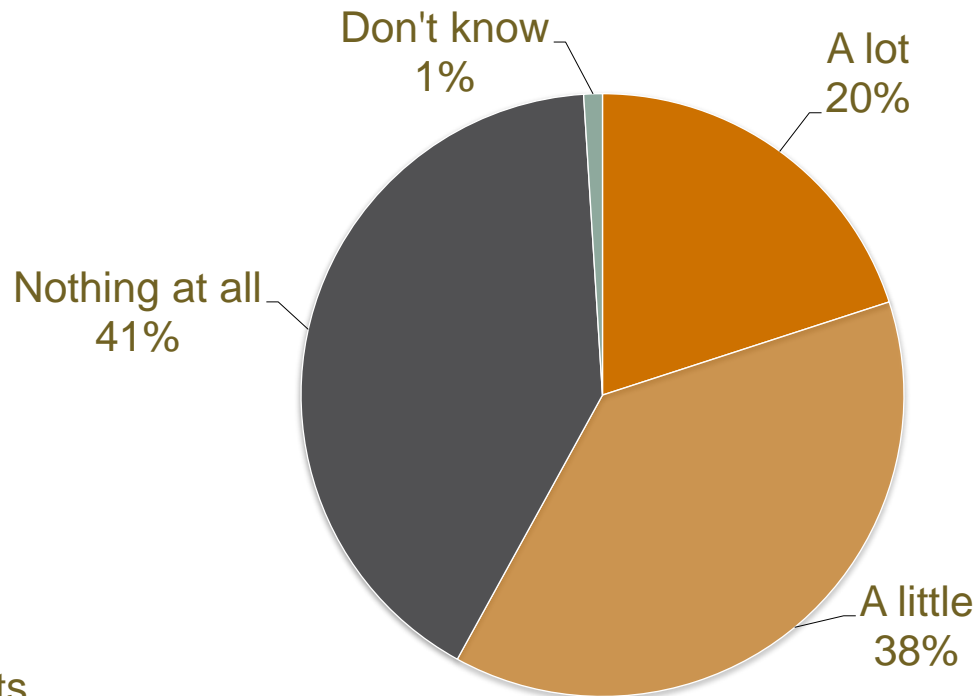


Public school parents



CCSS: Californians' awareness

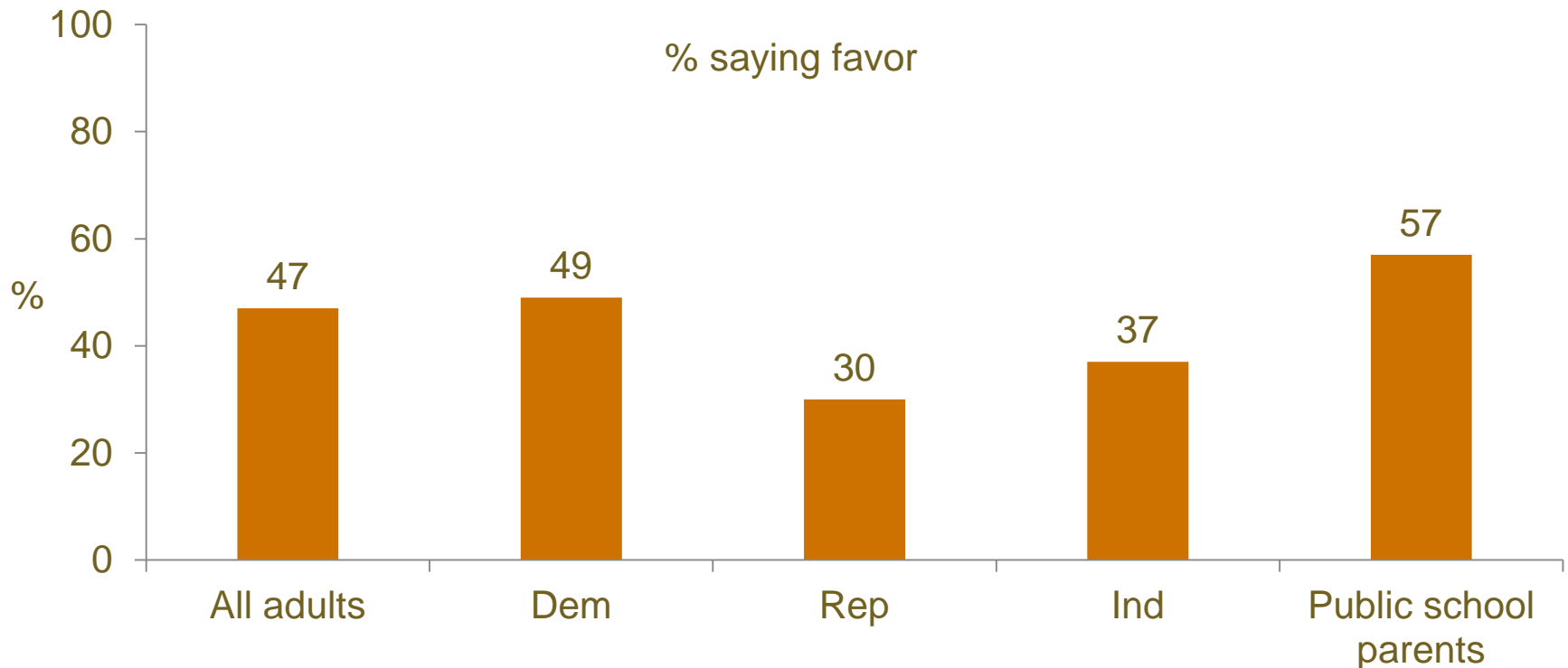
How much, if anything, have you heard about the Common Core State Standards, a new set of English and math standards that the state began to roll out this school year?



All adults

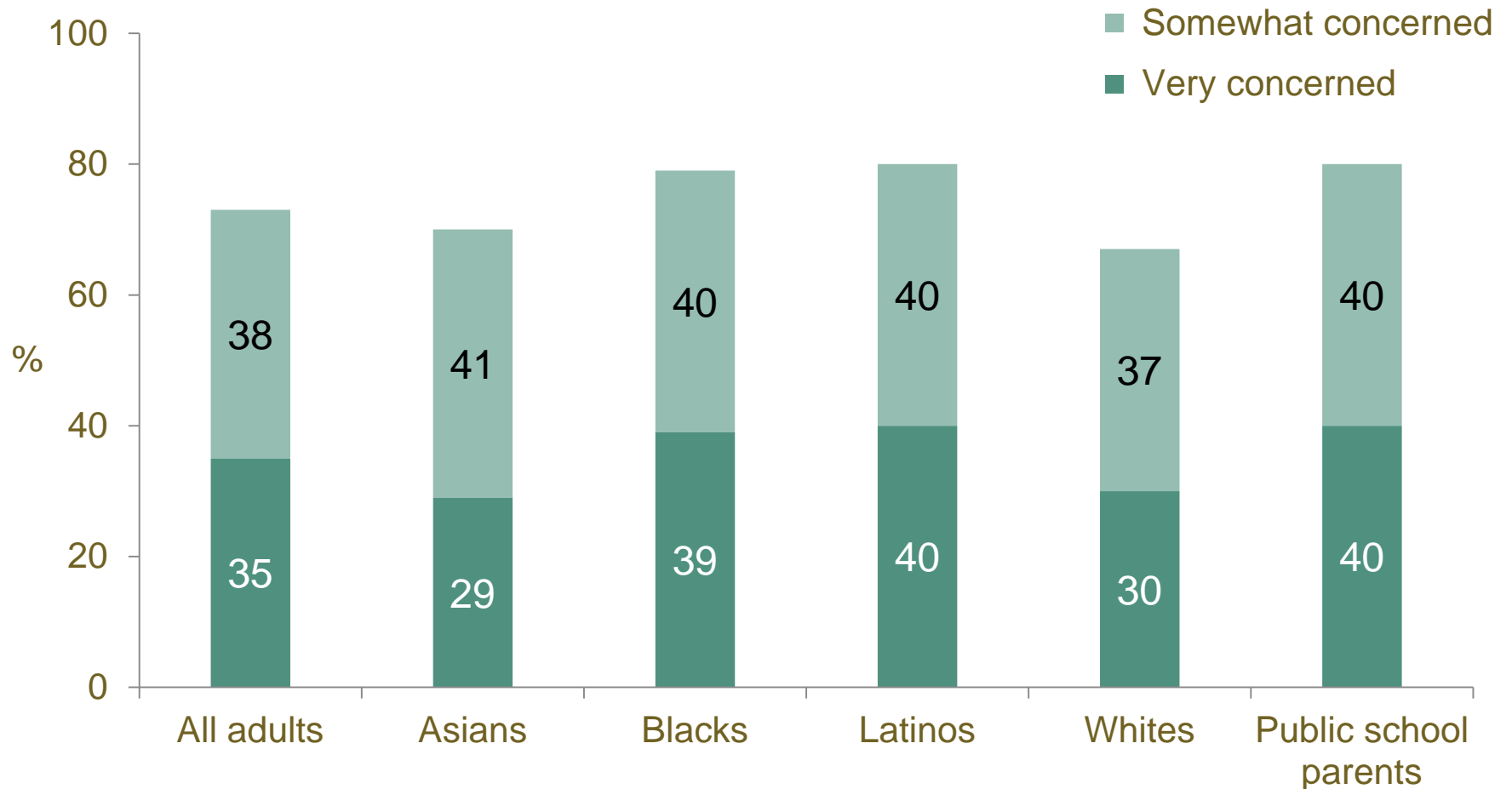
CCSS: Support for new standards

The Common Core State Standards are a single set of K-to-12 English language arts and math standards that most states, including California, have voluntarily adopted. From what you've read and heard, do you favor or oppose the Common Core education standards?



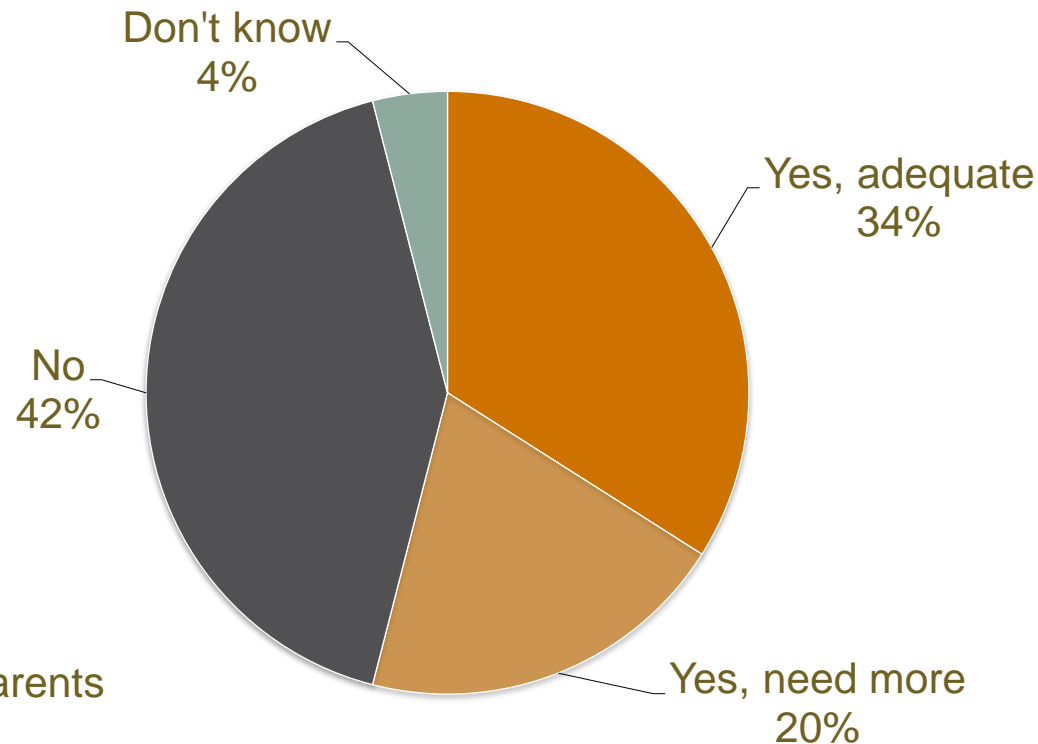
CCSS: Concerns about teacher preparation

How concerned are you that California's public school teachers are not adequately prepared to implement the Common Core State Standards?



CCSS: Public school parents' experience

Has your child's school or school district provided you with any information about Common Core State Standards, or not? (If yes: Was this information adequate in helping you understand how Common Core will affect your child or do you feel you need more information?)

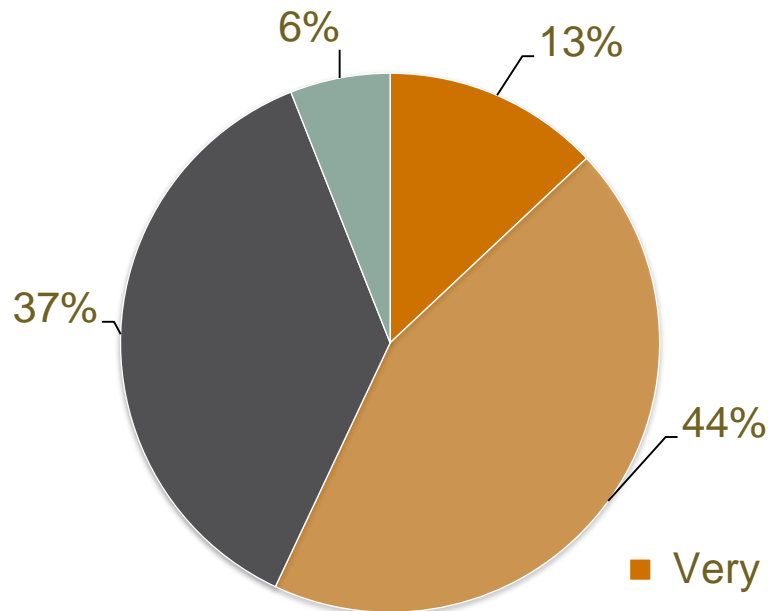


Public school parents

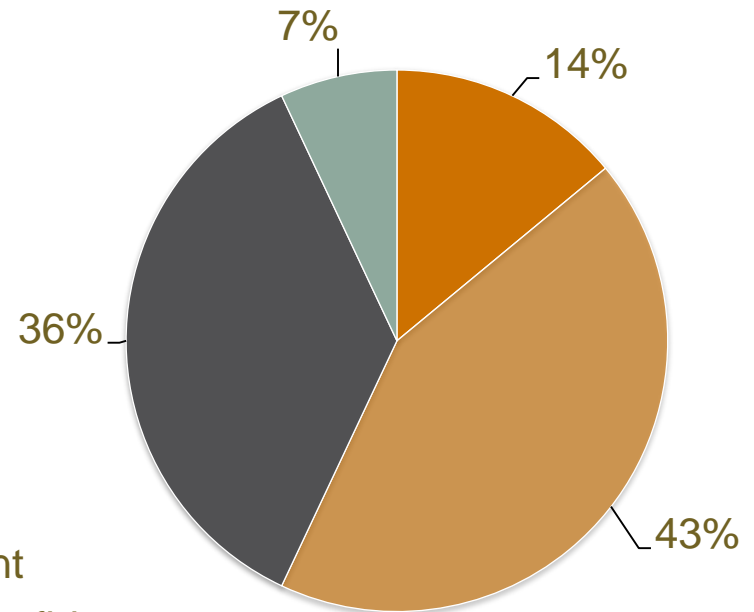
CCSS: Preparing students for the future

How confident are you that implementing Common Core in California's schools will...

Help students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills?



Make students more college or career ready upon graduation?



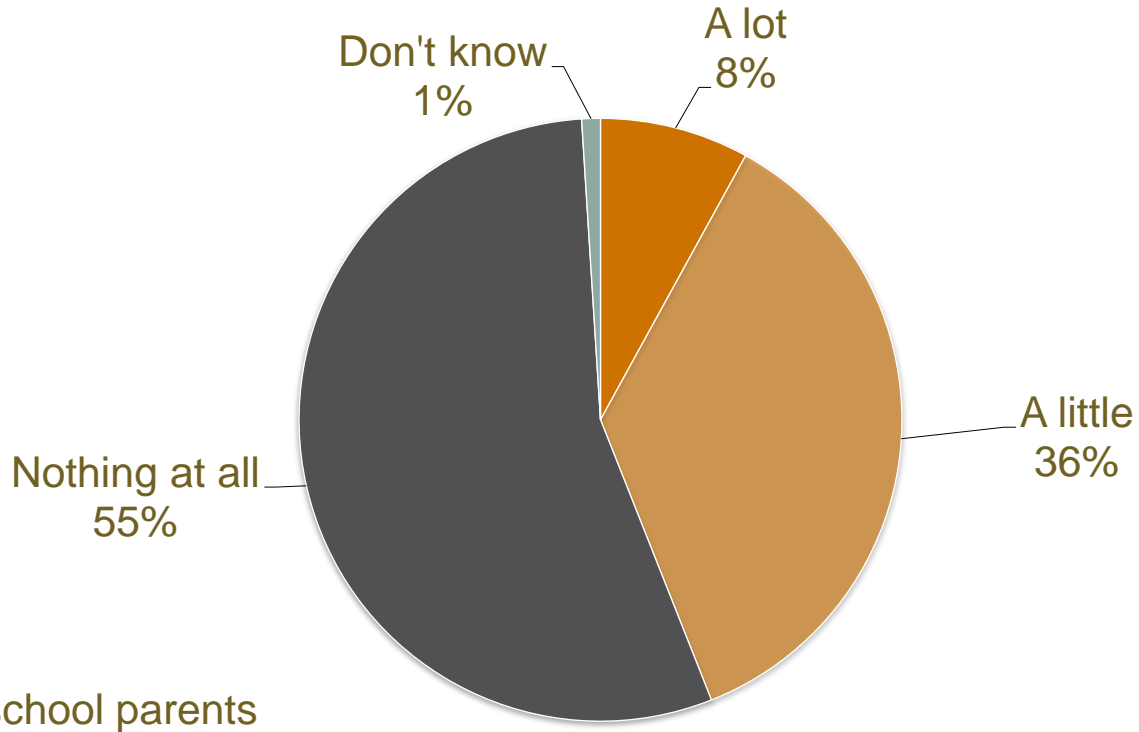
- Very confident
- Somewhat confident
- Not too/Not at all confident
- Don't know

All adults



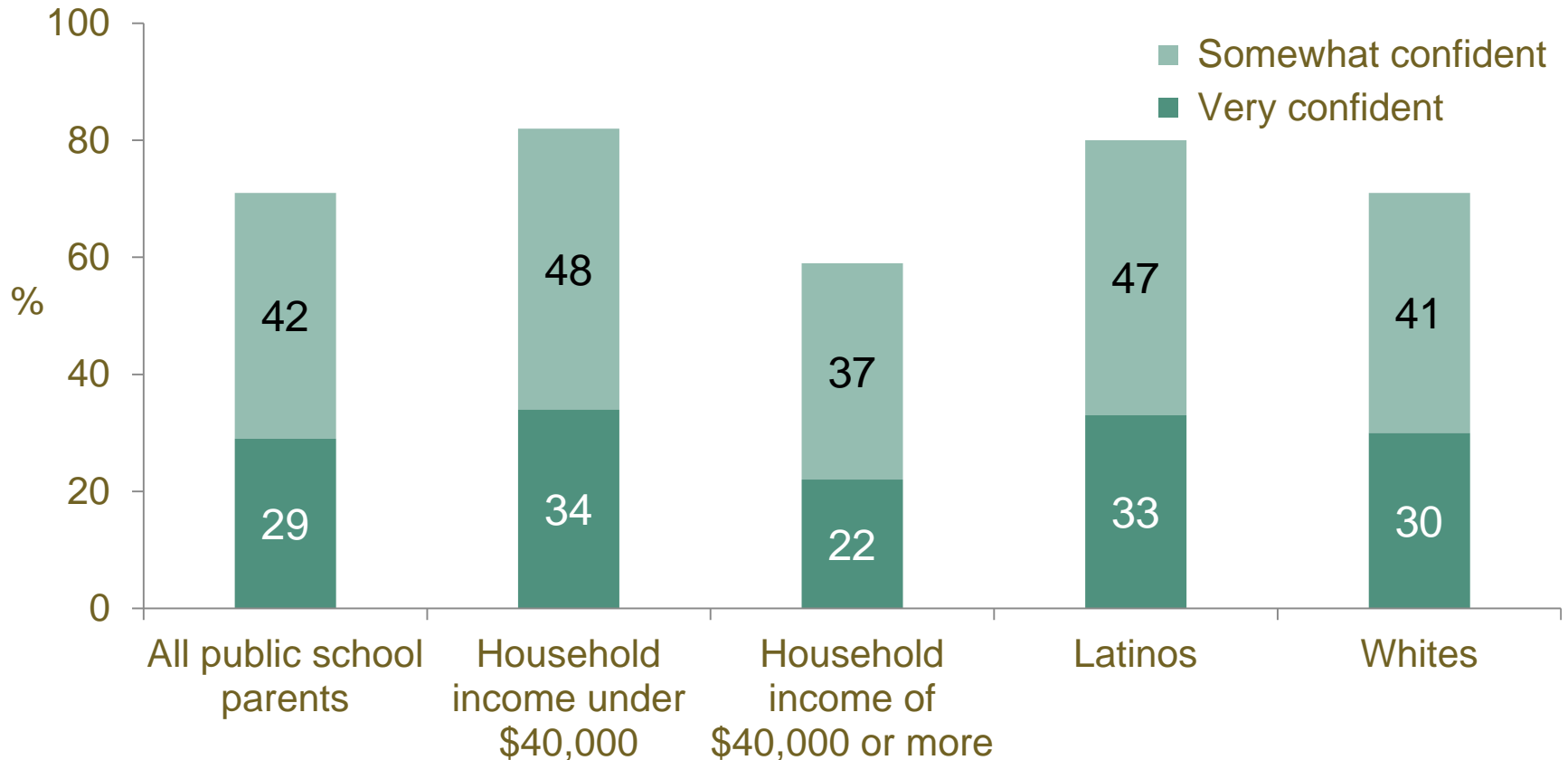
SBA: Parental awareness

How much, if anything, have you heard about the Smarter Balanced Assessment tests, the new standardized tests which will be administered online in public schools in a number of states which have implemented the Common Core State Standards? Have you heard a lot, a little, or nothing at all?



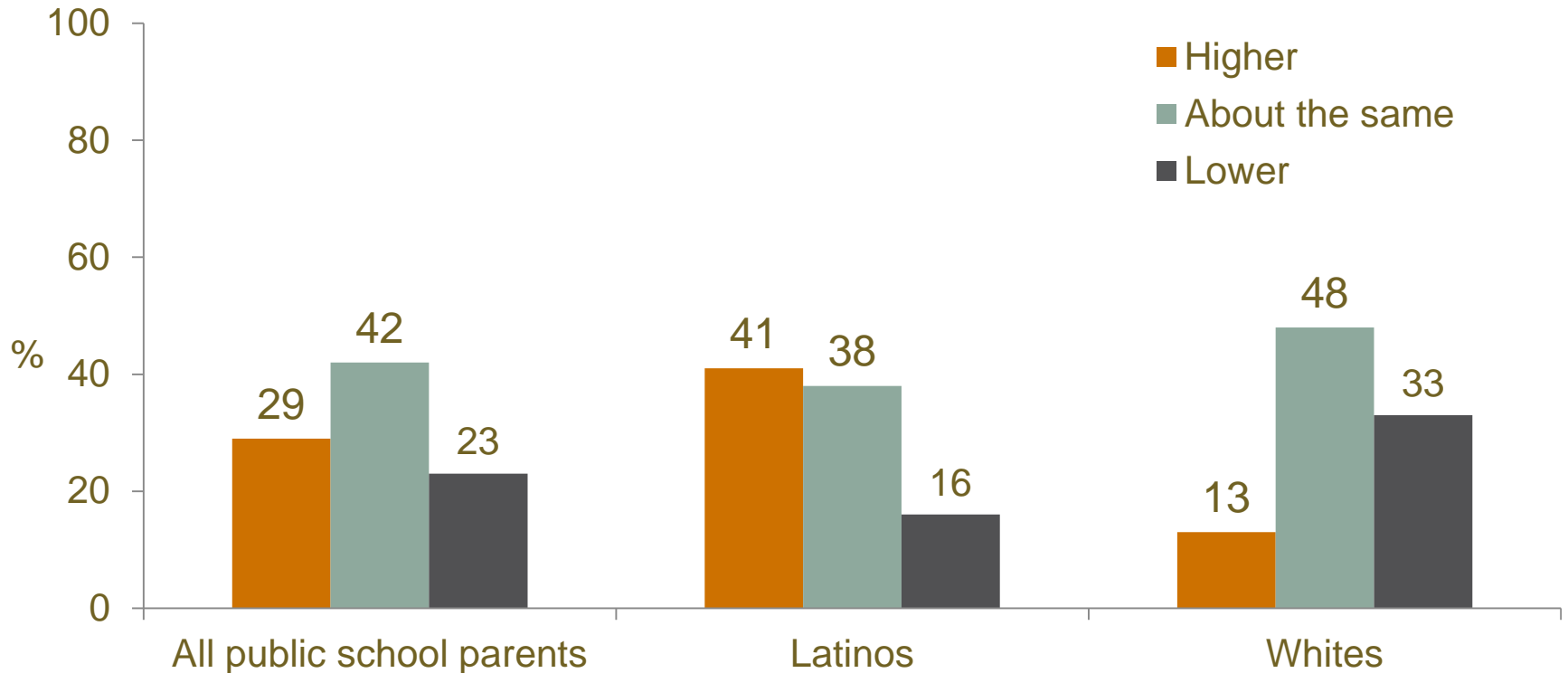
SBA: School technology readiness

Thinking about the Smarter Balanced Assessment testing, how confident are you that your local public schools have the computers and technology resources they need to administer the test —are you very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?



SBA: Impact on student test scores

Compared to past test scores do you think that as a whole California students will score higher, lower or about the same on the new Smarter Balanced Assessment tests?

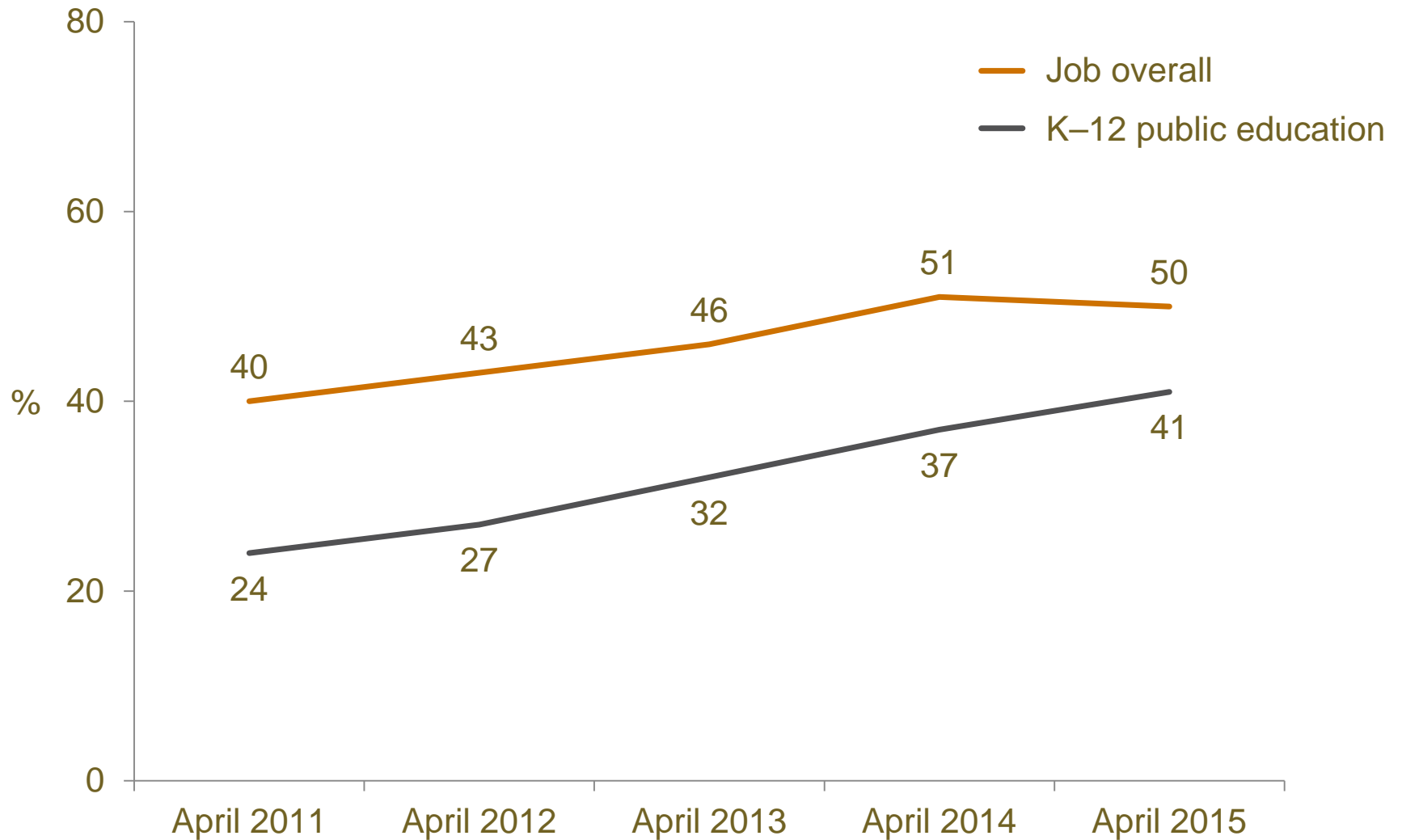


Outline

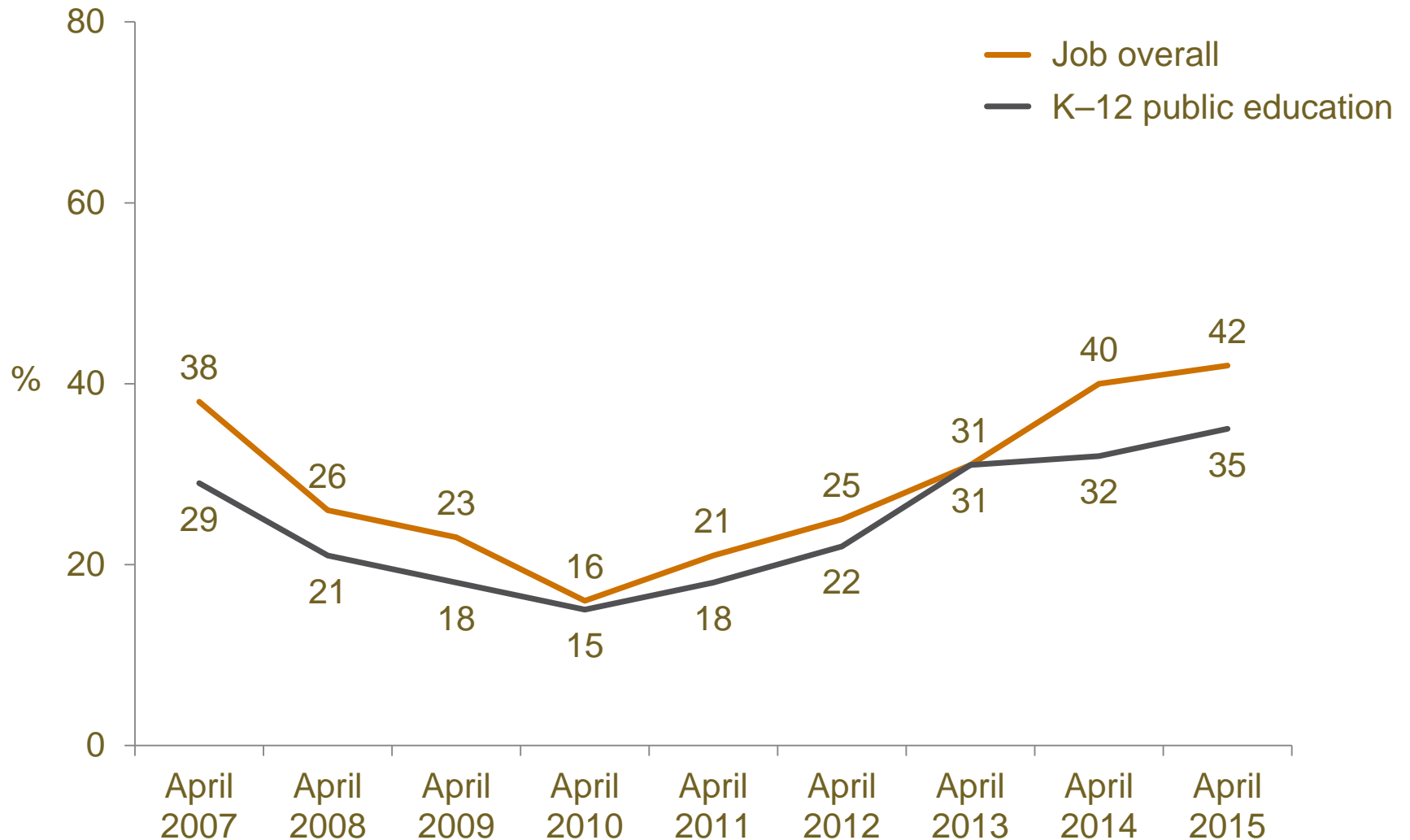
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Approval ratings of Governor Brown

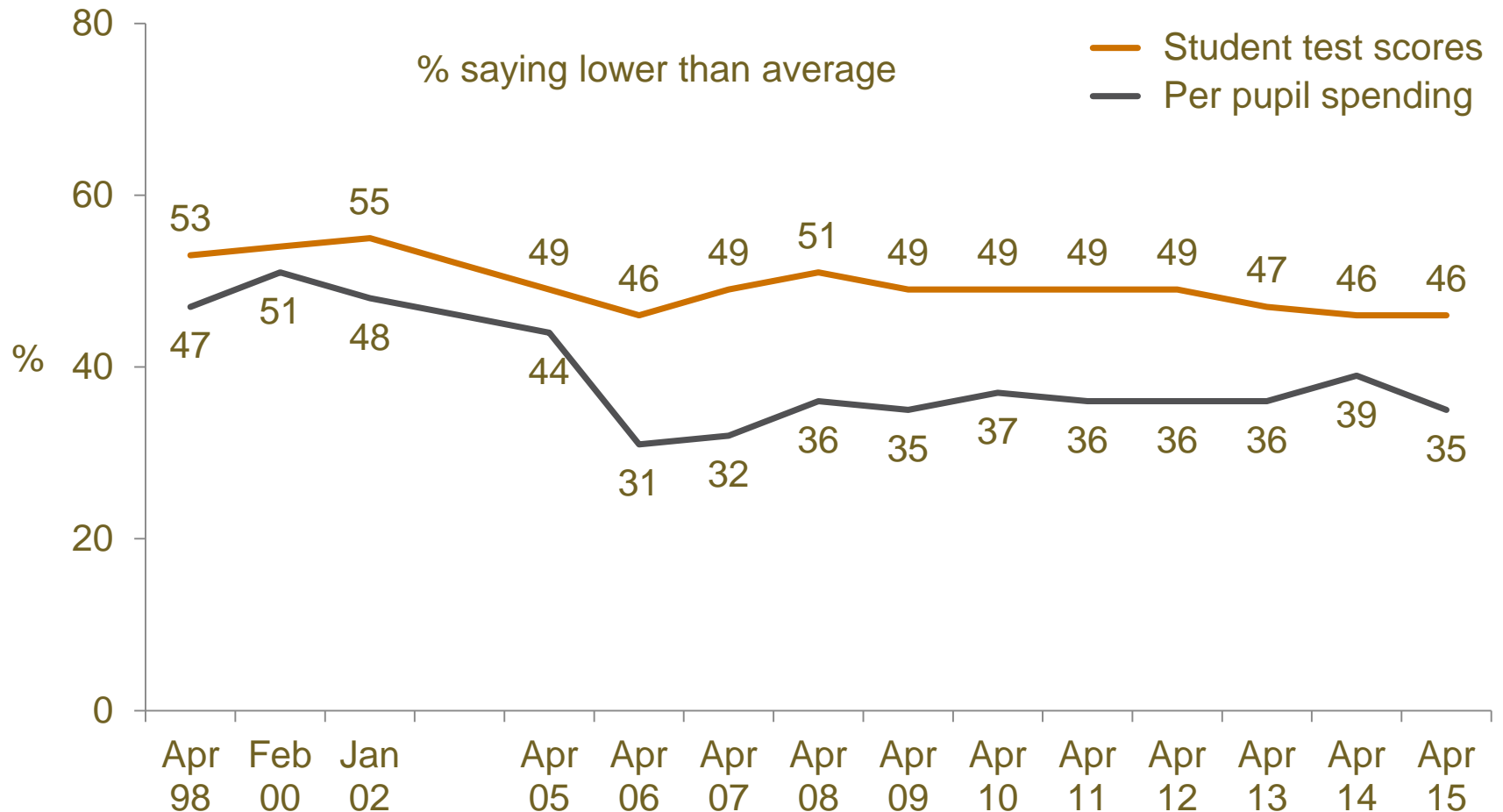


Approval ratings of California Legislature



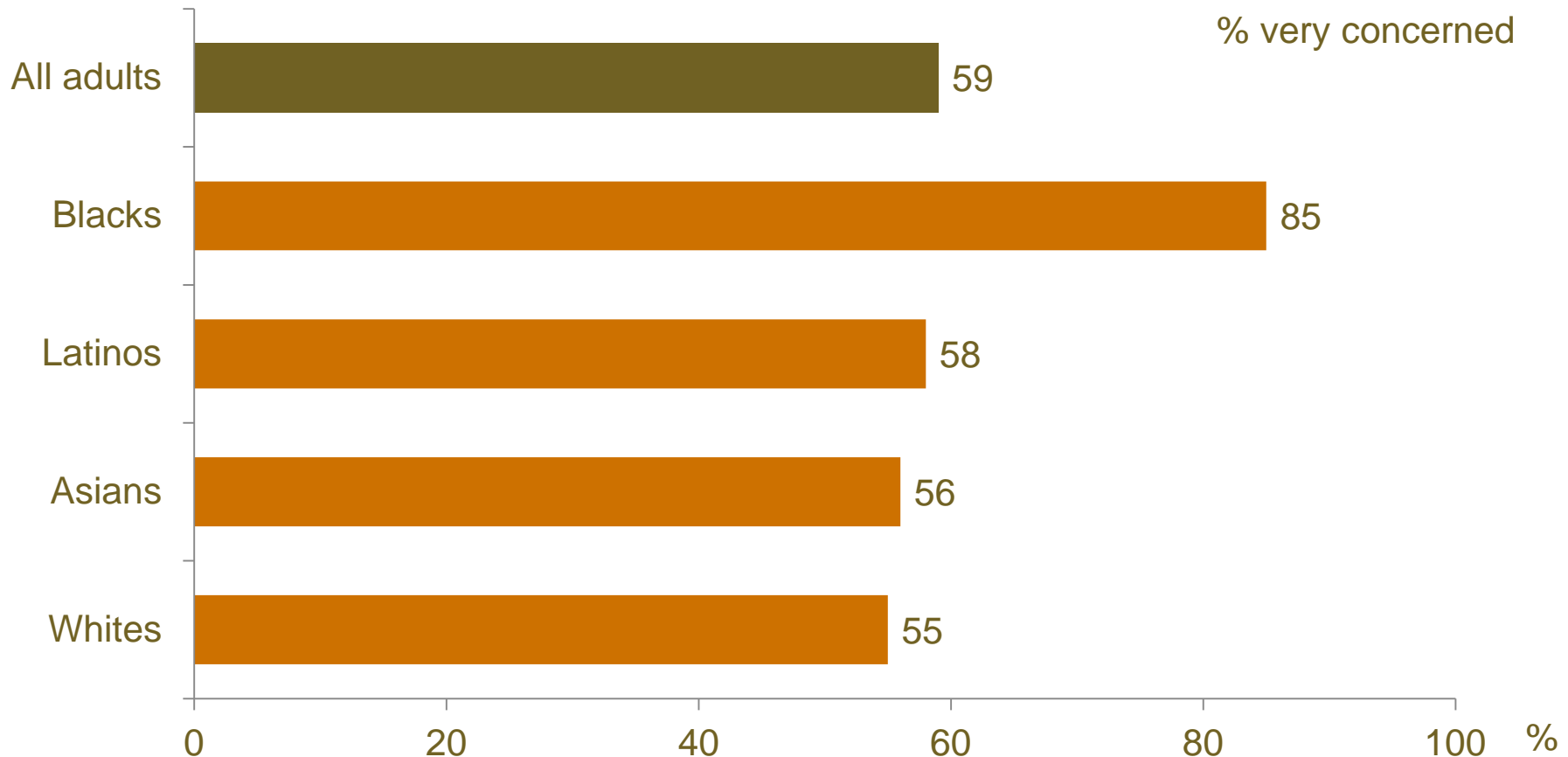
Perceptions of state's education rankings

Compared to other states, where do you think California currently ranks in ... for K–12 public schools?



Concerns about college readiness in lower-income areas

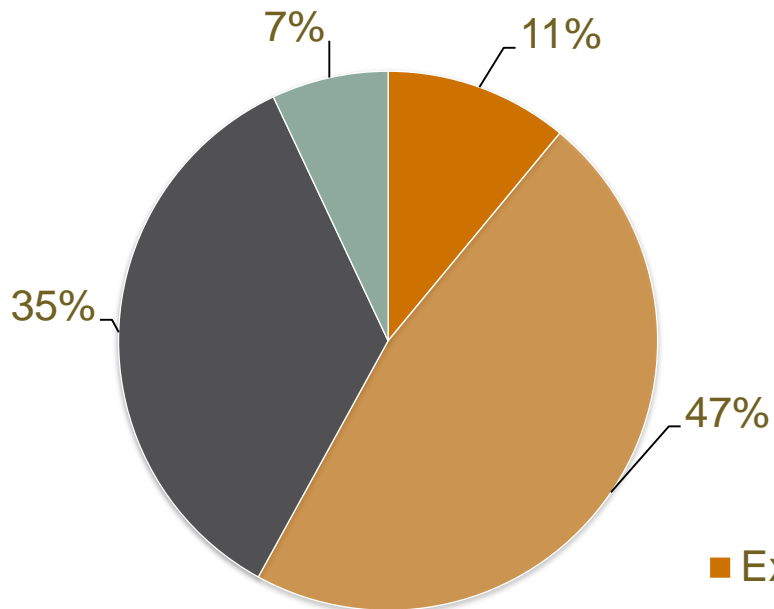
How concerned are you that students in lower-income areas are less likely than other students to be ready for college when they finish high school?



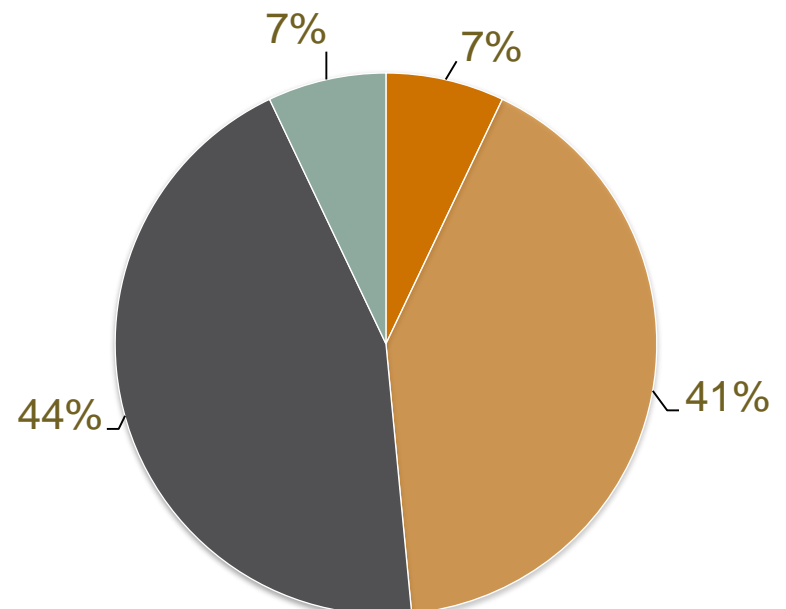
Preparing students for the future

Are your local public schools doing an excellent, good, not so good, or poor job in...

Preparing students for college?



Preparing students for jobs and the workforce?



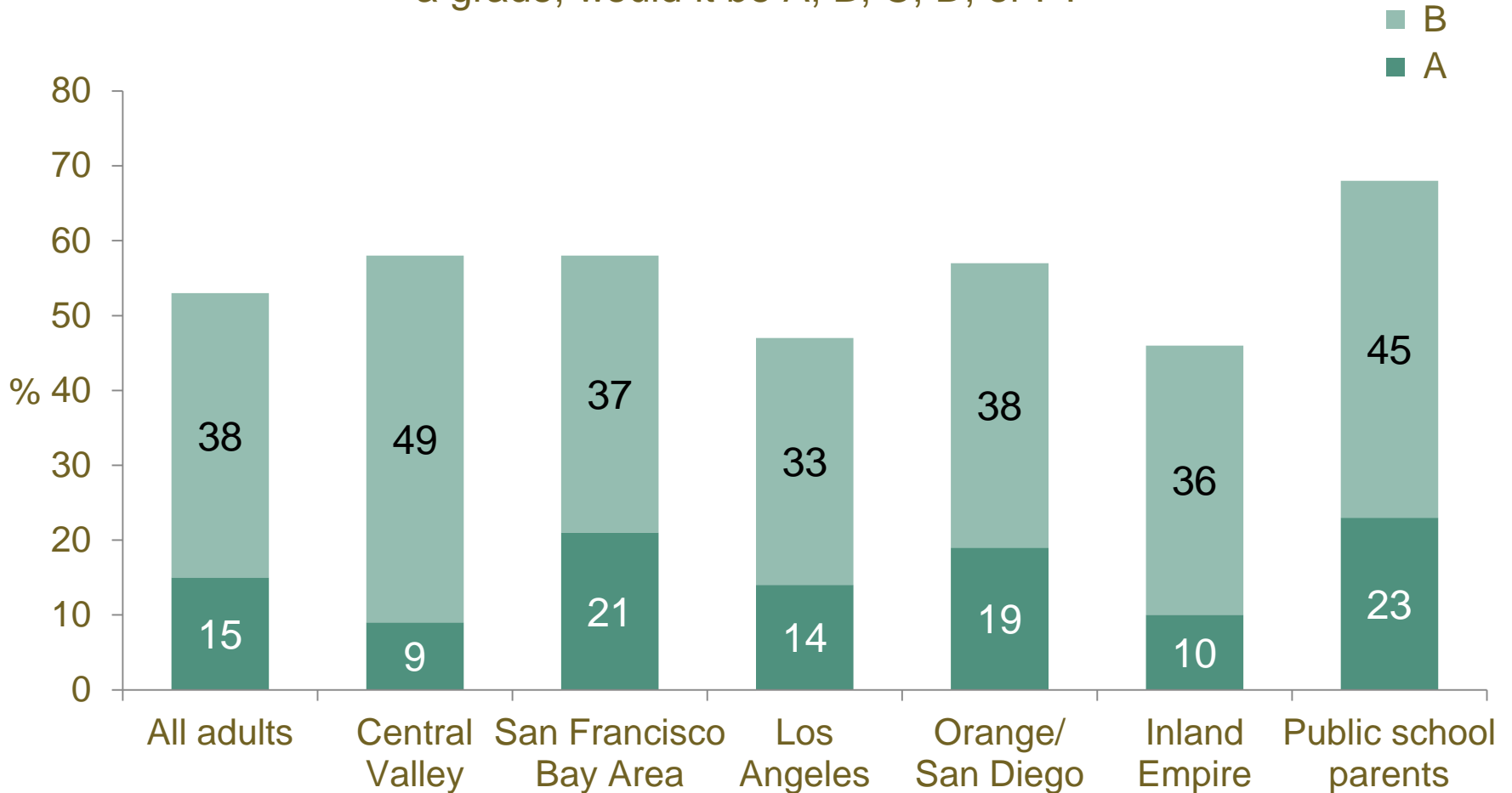
- Excellent
- Good
- Not so good / poor
- Don't know

All adults



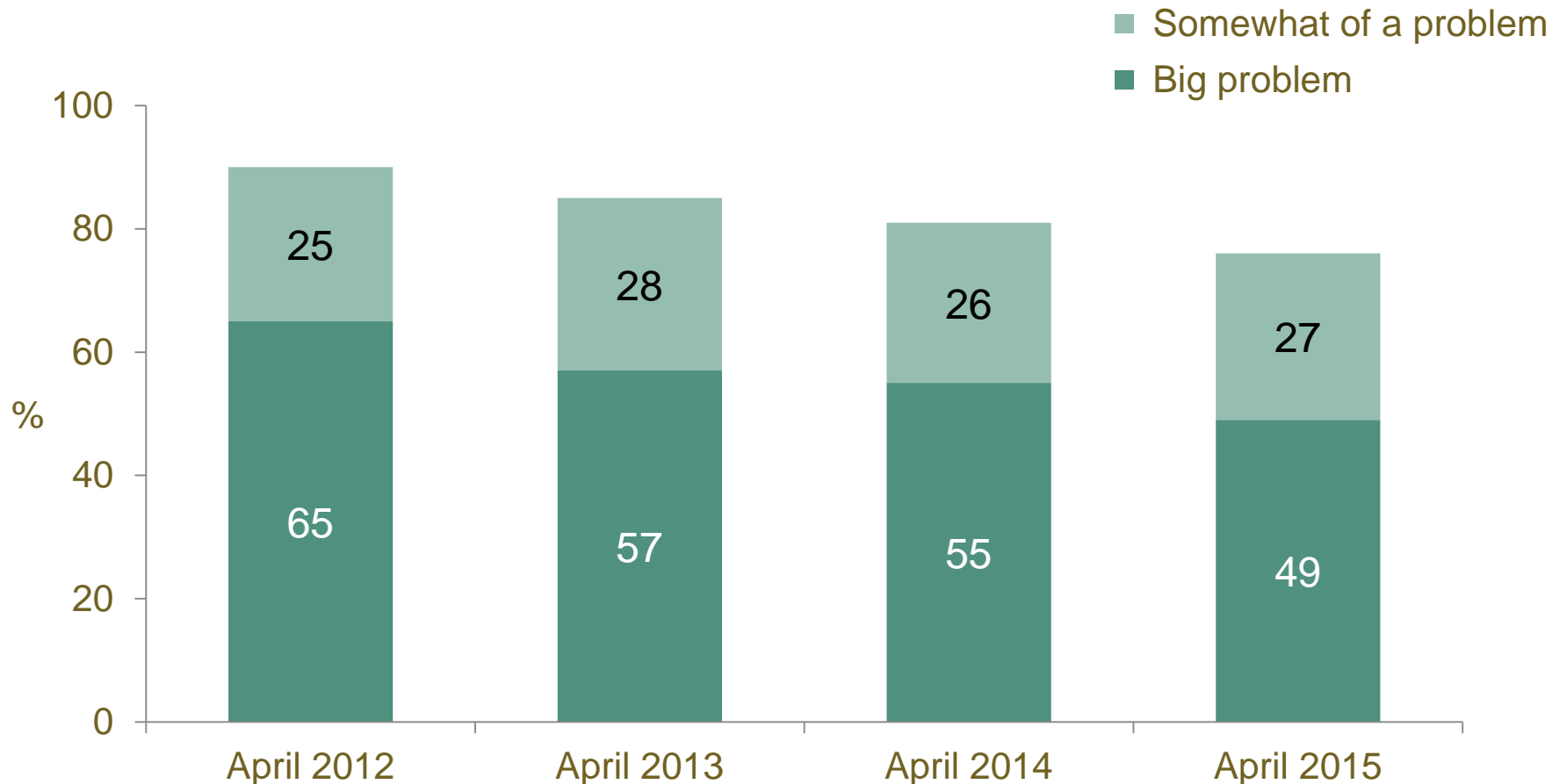
Grading local public schools

Overall, how would you rate the quality of public schools in your neighborhood today? If you had to give your local public schools a grade, would it be A, B, C, D, or F?



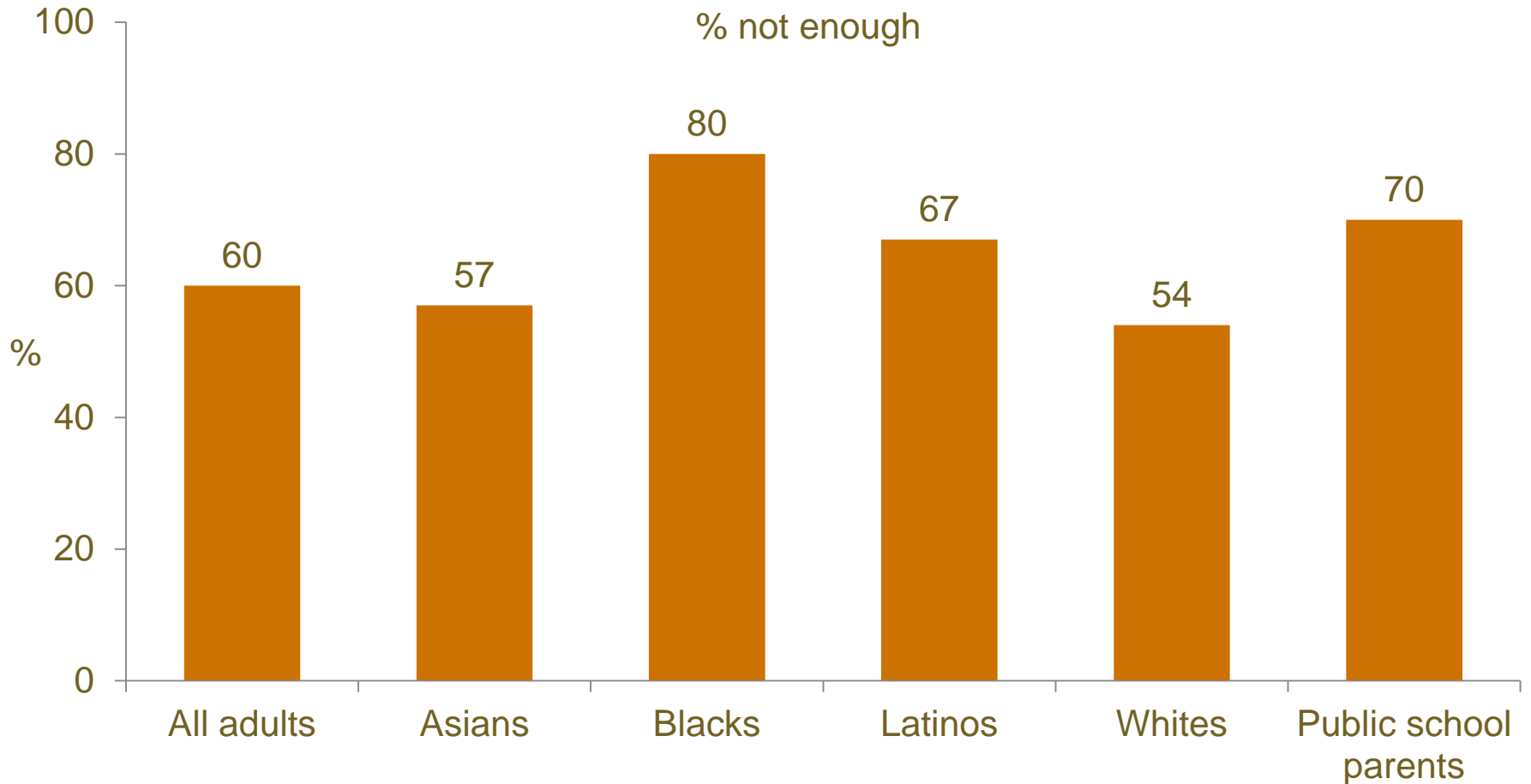
Public schools and the budget situation

How much of a problem is the overall state budget situation for California's K-12 public schools today?



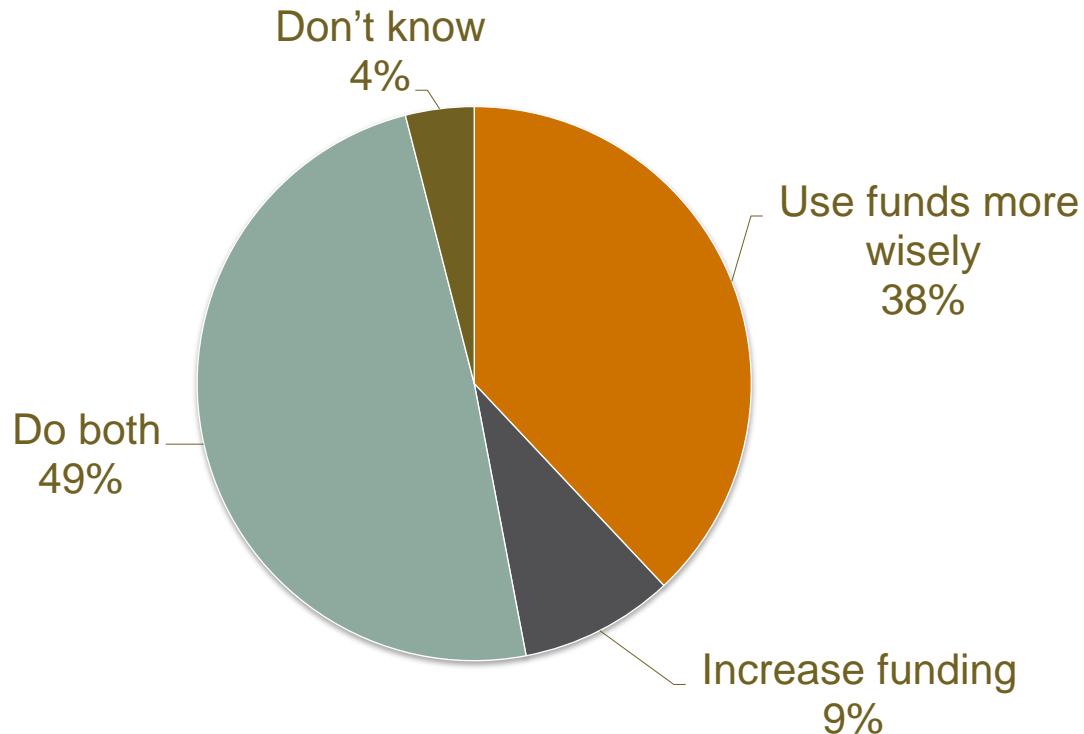
Level of state funding for local schools

Do you think the current level of state funding for your local public schools is more than enough, just enough, or not enough?



Increasing state K-12 funding and/or using it more wisely

To significantly improve the quality of California's K-12 public schools, which of the following statements do you agree with the most? We need to use existing state funds more wisely; we need to increase the amount of state funding; or we need to use existing state funds more wisely and increase the amount of state funding.

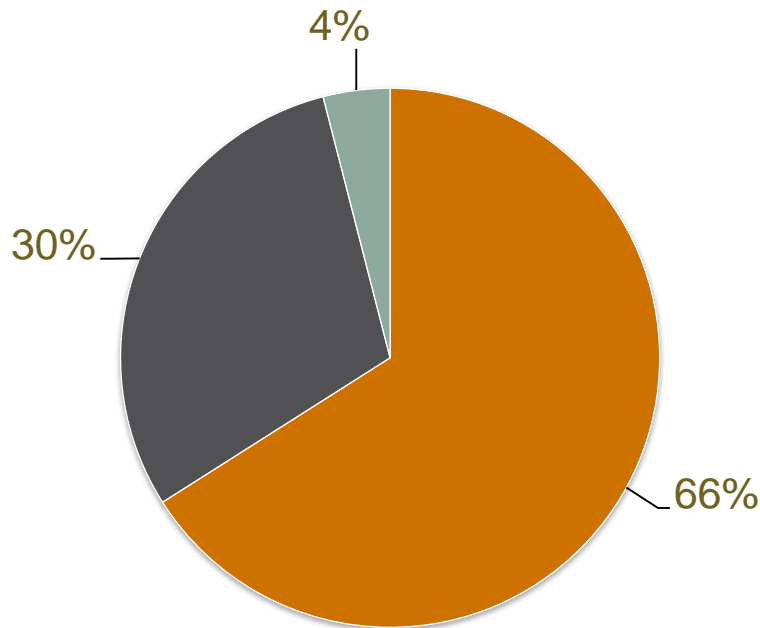


All adults

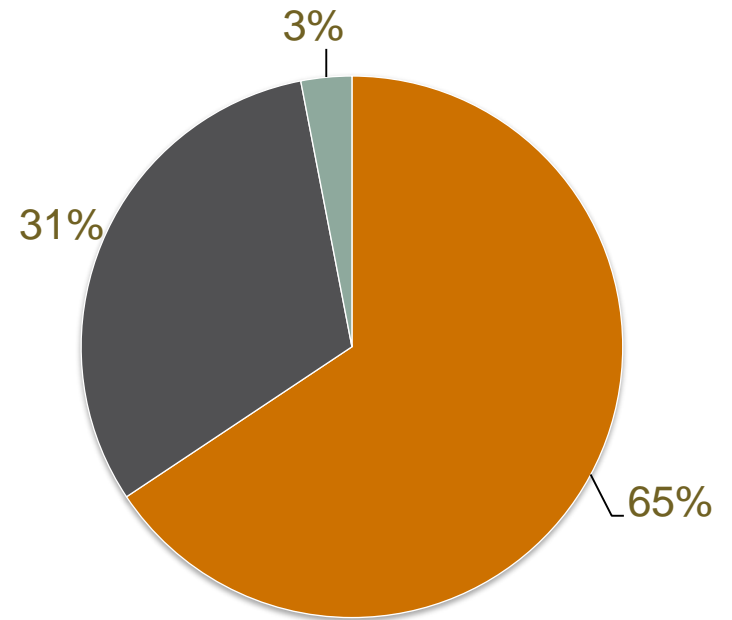


State and local school bond measures

If the state had a bond measure on the ballot to pay for school construction projects, would you vote yes or no?



If your local school district had a bond measure on the ballot to pay for school construction projects, would you vote yes or no?



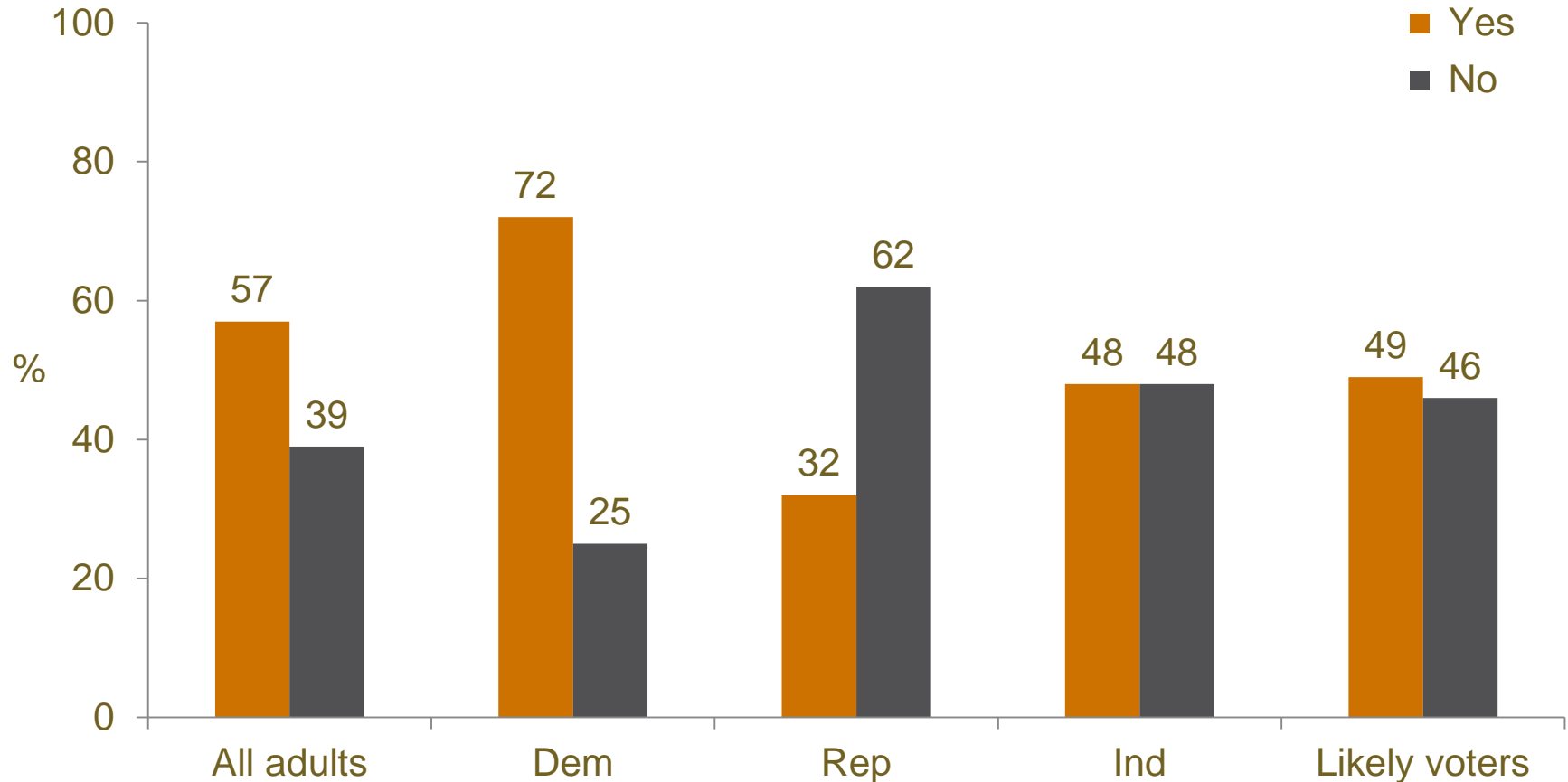
■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

All adults



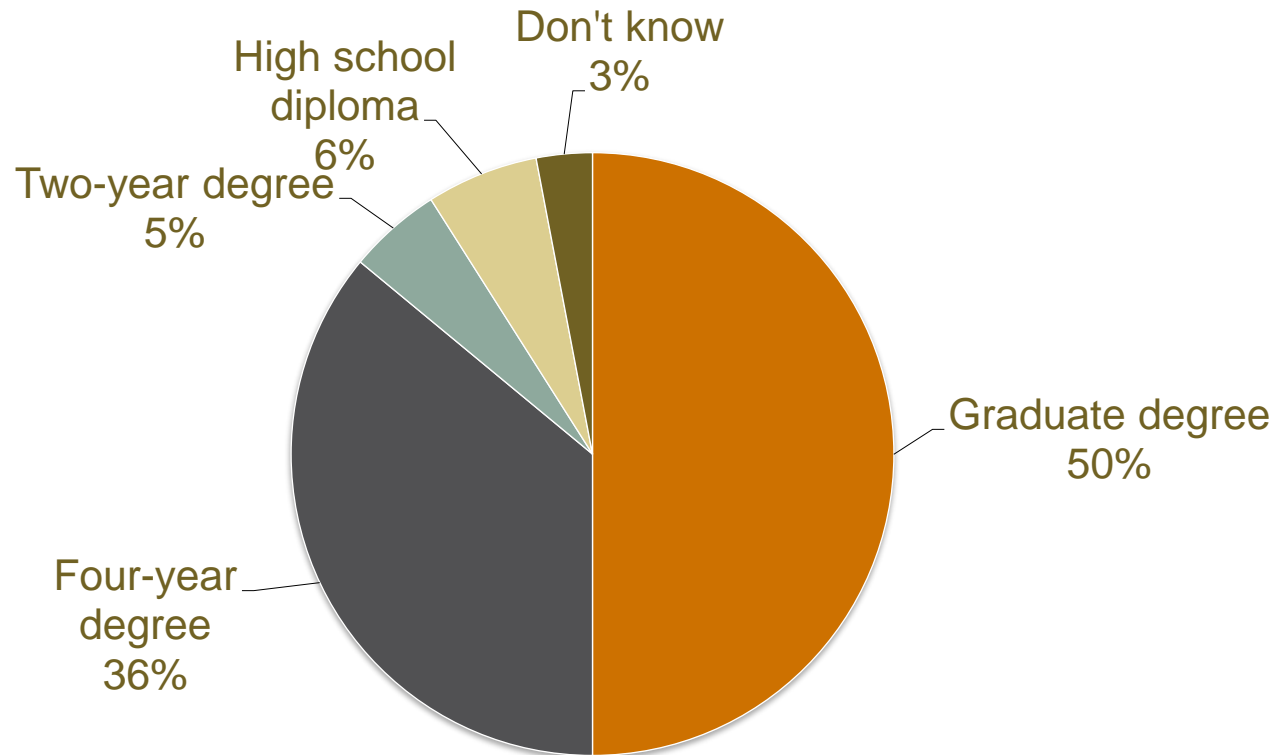
Local parcel taxes for schools

What if there was a measure on your local ballot to increase local parcel taxes to provide more funds for the local public schools? Would you vote yes or no?



Educational hopes for youngest child

What do you hope will be the highest grade level that your youngest child will achieve?



All parents of children
18 and under

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Conclusions

- Seven in 10 favor the Local Control Funding Formula, but fewer than half favor Common Core
- Most public school parents have heard nothing at all about the Smarter Balanced tests
- Half say the budget situation as a big problem for education
- Six in 10 say state K–12 funding is not enough
- Two in three adults and half of likely voters would vote yes on a state or local bond for school construction
- Likely voters are divided on local parcel tax for schools



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Notes on the use of these slides

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Thank you for your interest in this work.

