

PPIC Statewide Survey: Californians and Education

April 12, 2018

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Supported with funding from the Dirk and Charlene Kabcenell Foundation, the S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, the Silver Giving Foundation, and the Stuart Foundation



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Outline

- PPIC Statewide Surveys
- Perceptions, attitudes, and the 2018 election
- Policy and funding preferences
- Conclusions

PPIC Statewide Survey mission

- Provide timely, relevant, nonpartisan data on political, social, and economic opinions
- Inform and improve state policymaking, raise awareness, and encourage discussion
- Provide a voice for all Californians in important state policy debates
 - 350,000+ Californians since 1998
 - 170+ general, issue, and regional surveys

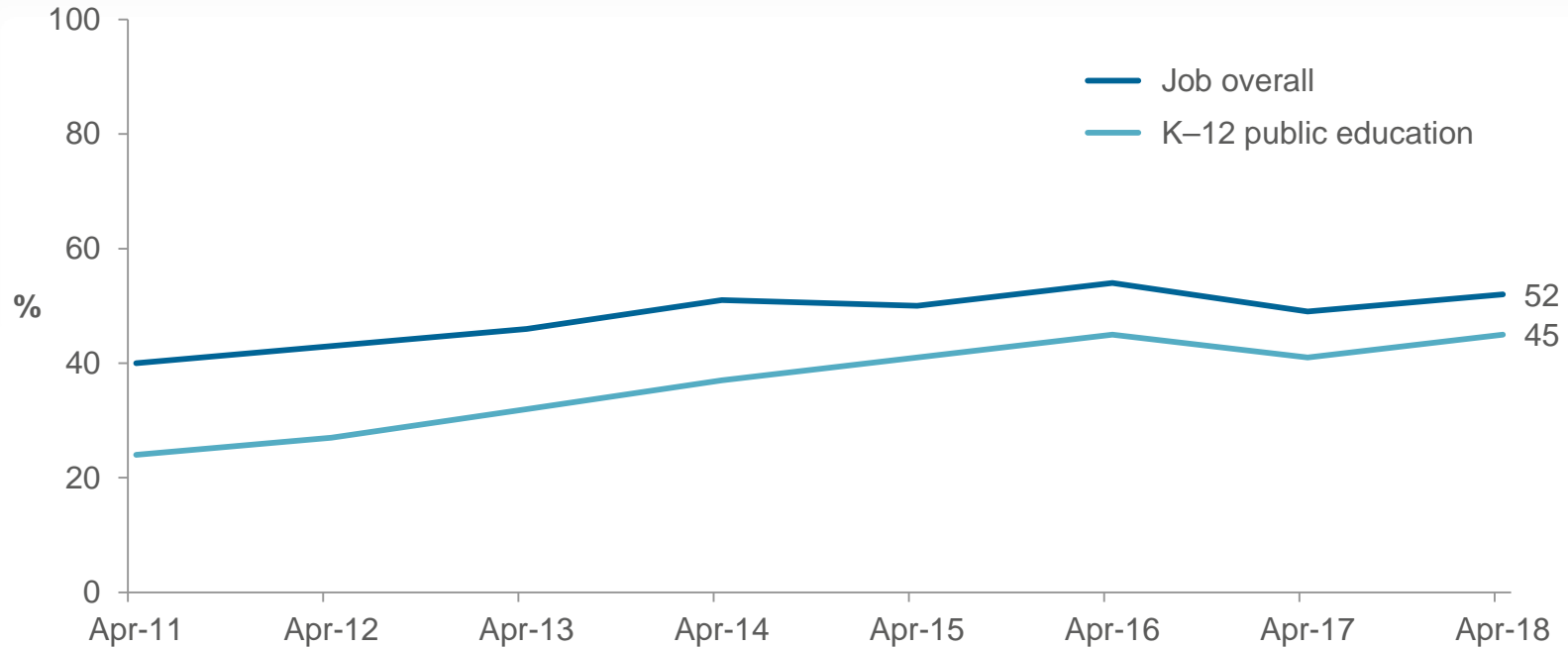
Californians and education

- Conducted with funding from the Dirk and Charlene Kabcenell, S. D. Bechtel, Jr., Silver Giving, and Stuart Foundations
- Telephone interviews, March 25–April 3, 2018
 - 1,704 adults, $\pm 3.2\%$ margin of error; 867 likely voters, $\pm 4.4\%$ margin of error
 - 523 parents of children 18 or younger, $\pm 5.5\%$ margin of error
 - 391 public school parents, $\pm 6.2\%$ margin of error
- Approval ratings and opinions on local public schools, immigration policy, school safety, and the 2018 election
- Perceptions on adequacy of funding, revenue sources, the Local Control Funding Formula, and parental involvement

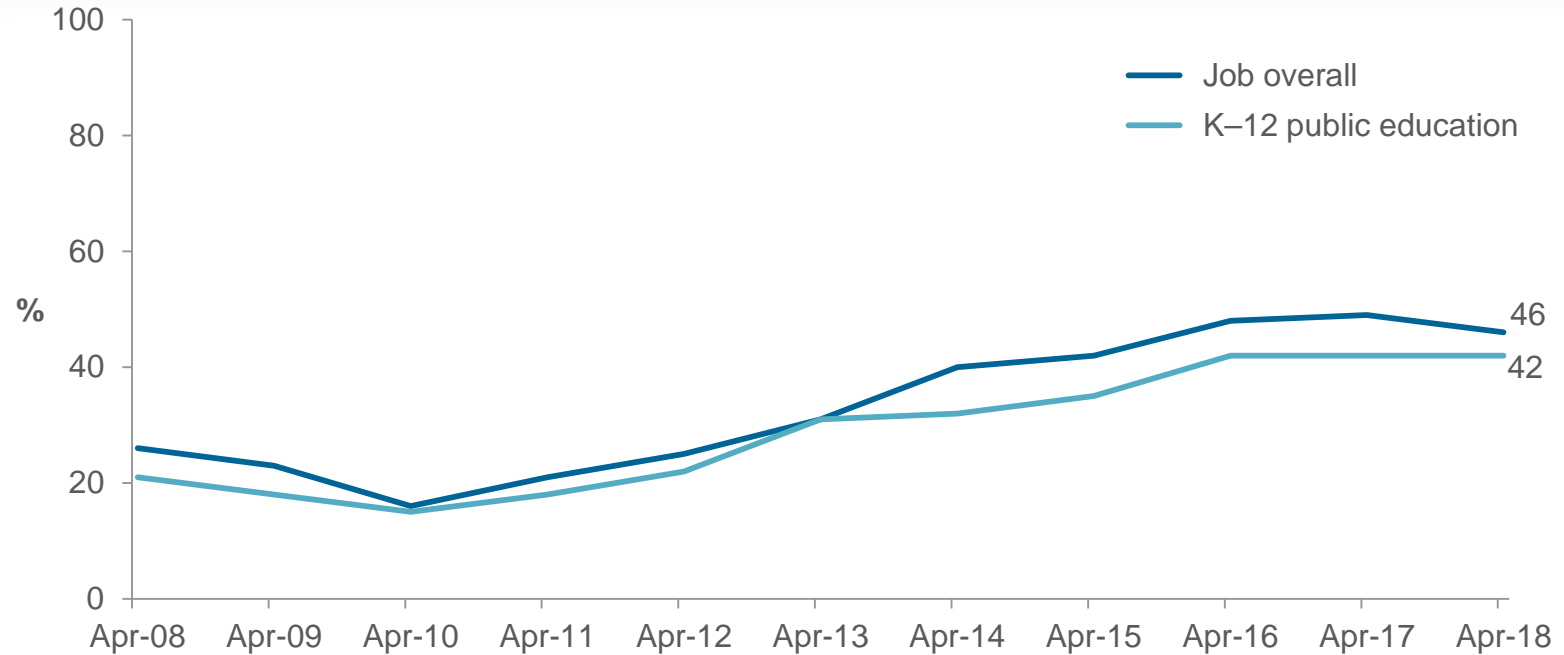
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Approval of Governor Brown

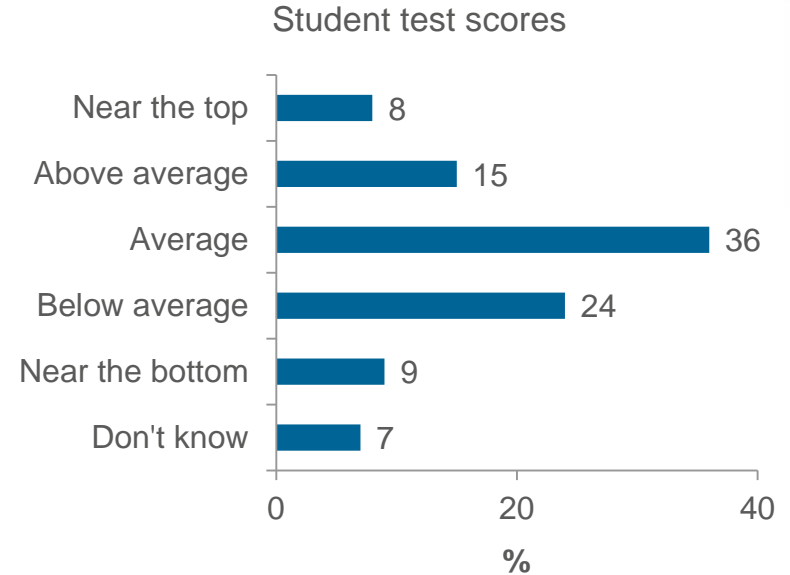
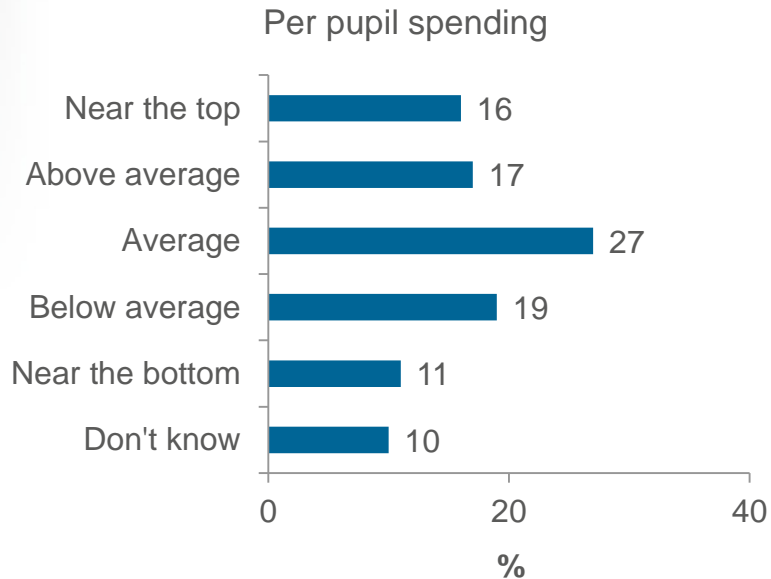


Approval of California Legislature



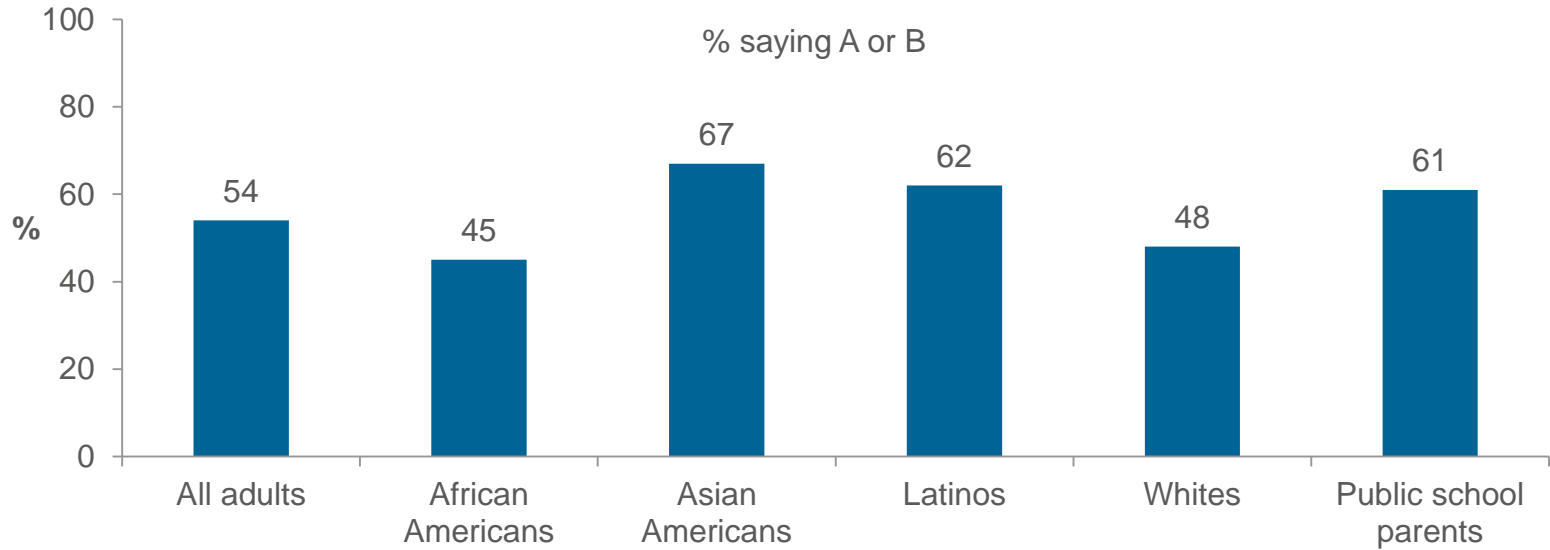
Perception of California's rankings

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



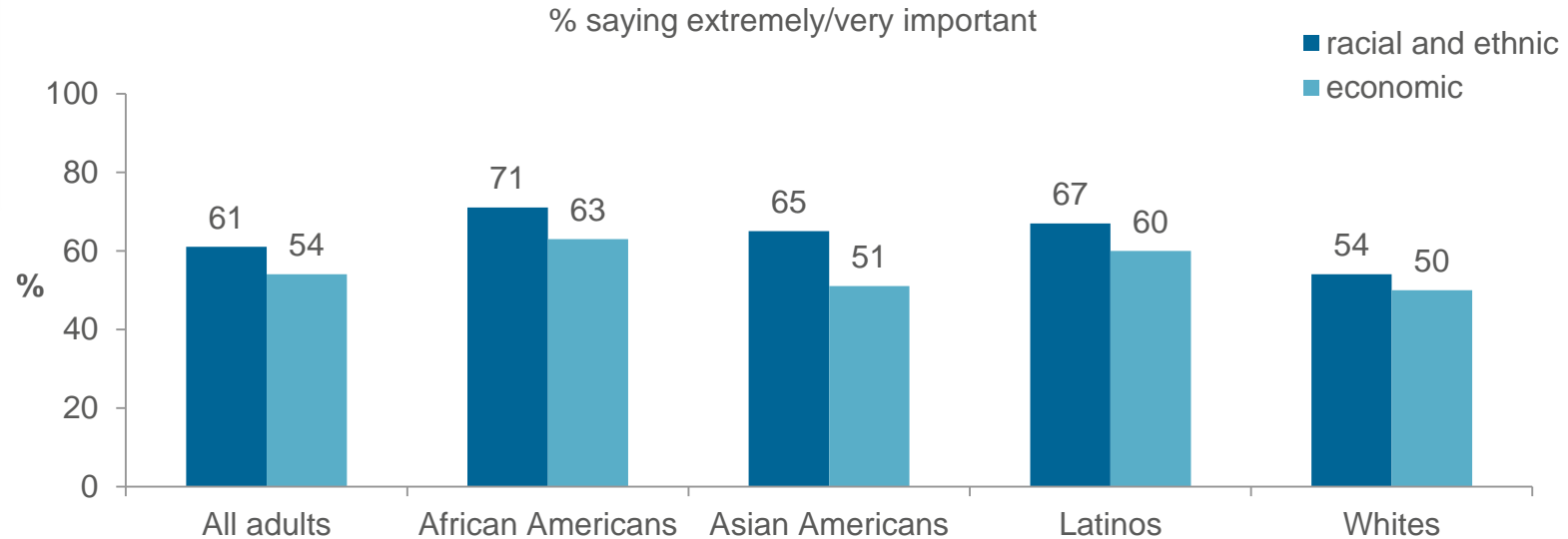
Grading local public schools

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?



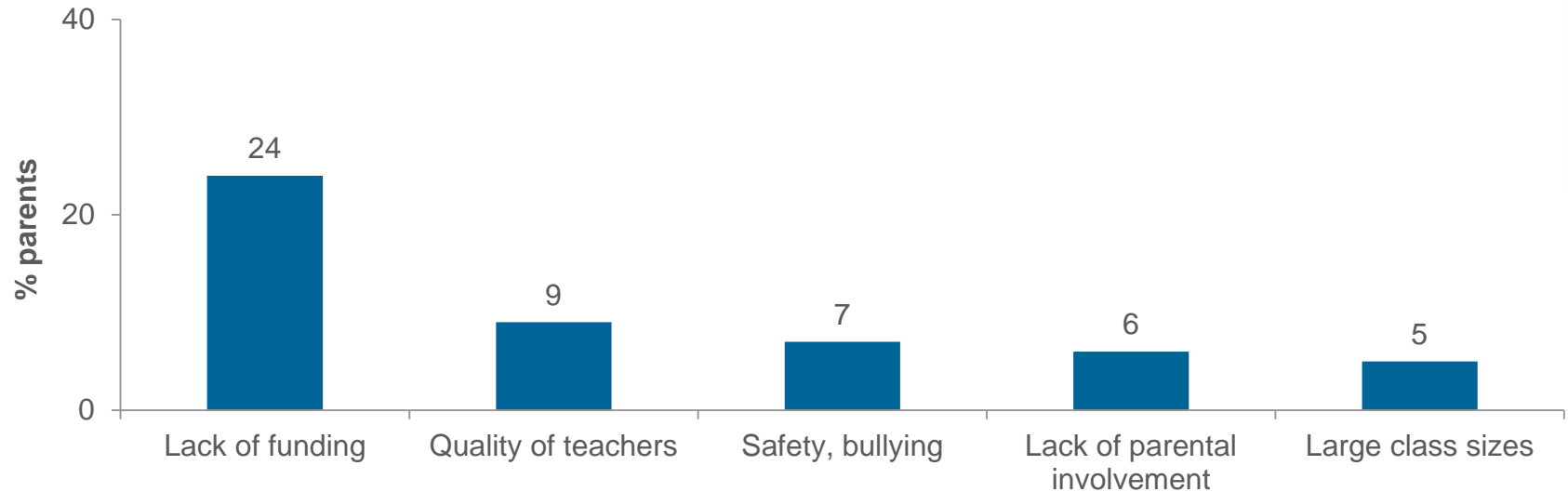
Importance of racial and economic diversity in schools

How important is it to you that the public schools in your community have a mix of students from different _____ backgrounds?



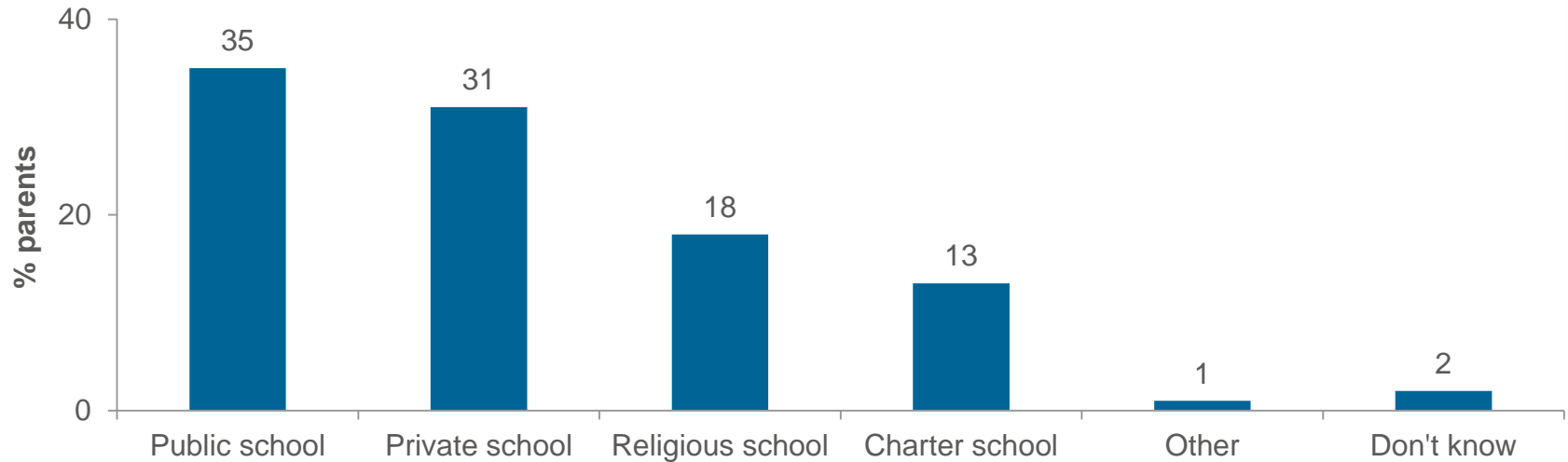
Biggest problem facing local public schools

What do you think is the biggest problem facing K–12 public schools in your community?



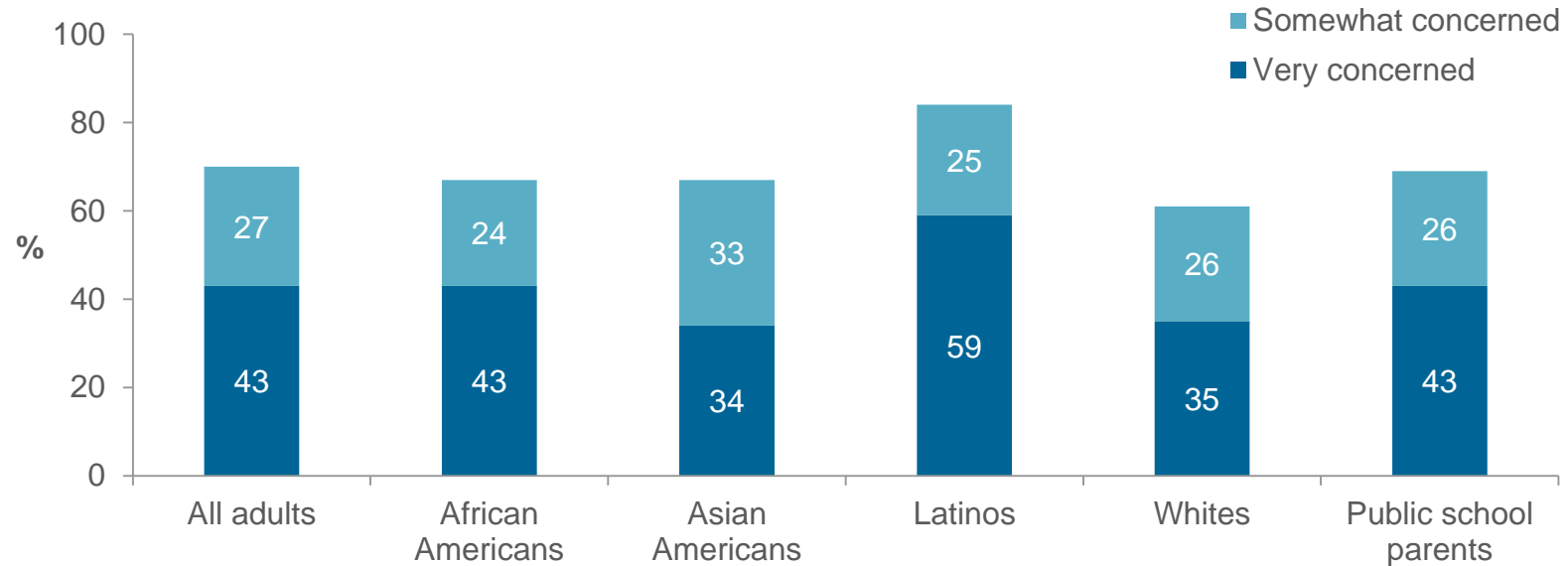
School preference

I have a question about four school types.... Imagine you could send your youngest child to any one of these four kinds of schools and cost and location were not an issue. All things equal, which would you pick?



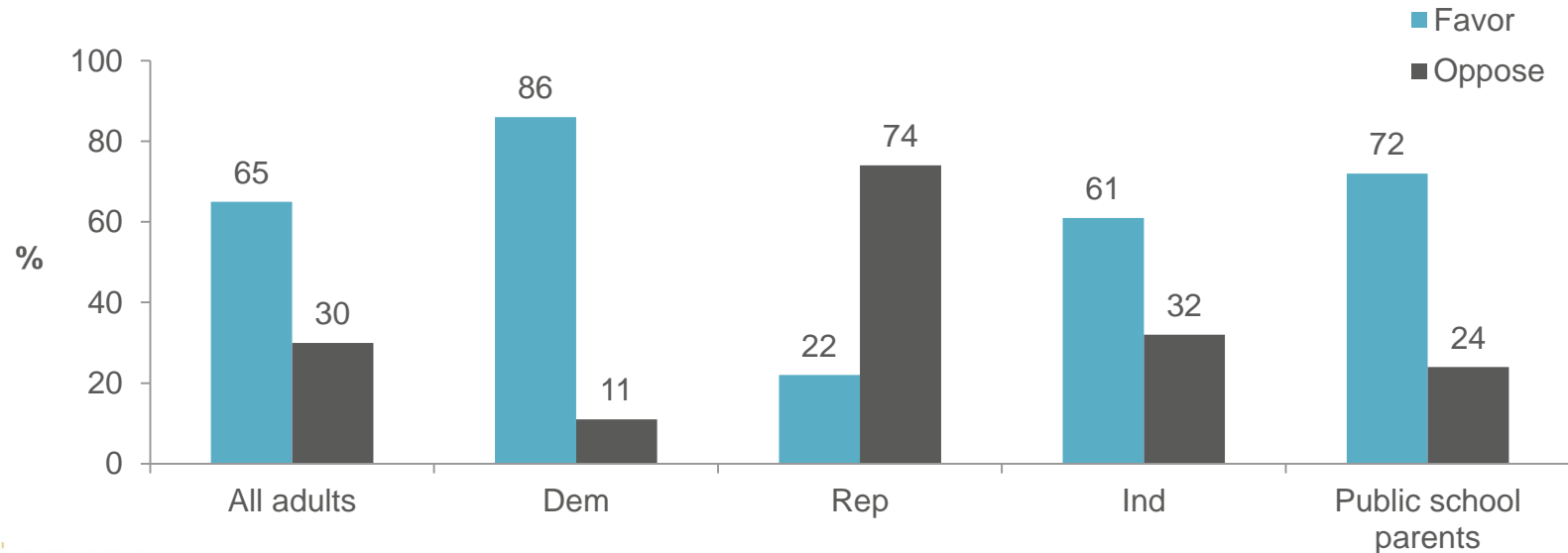
Concern about increased immigration enforcement

How concerned are you that increased federal immigration enforcement efforts will impact undocumented students and their families in your local public schools?



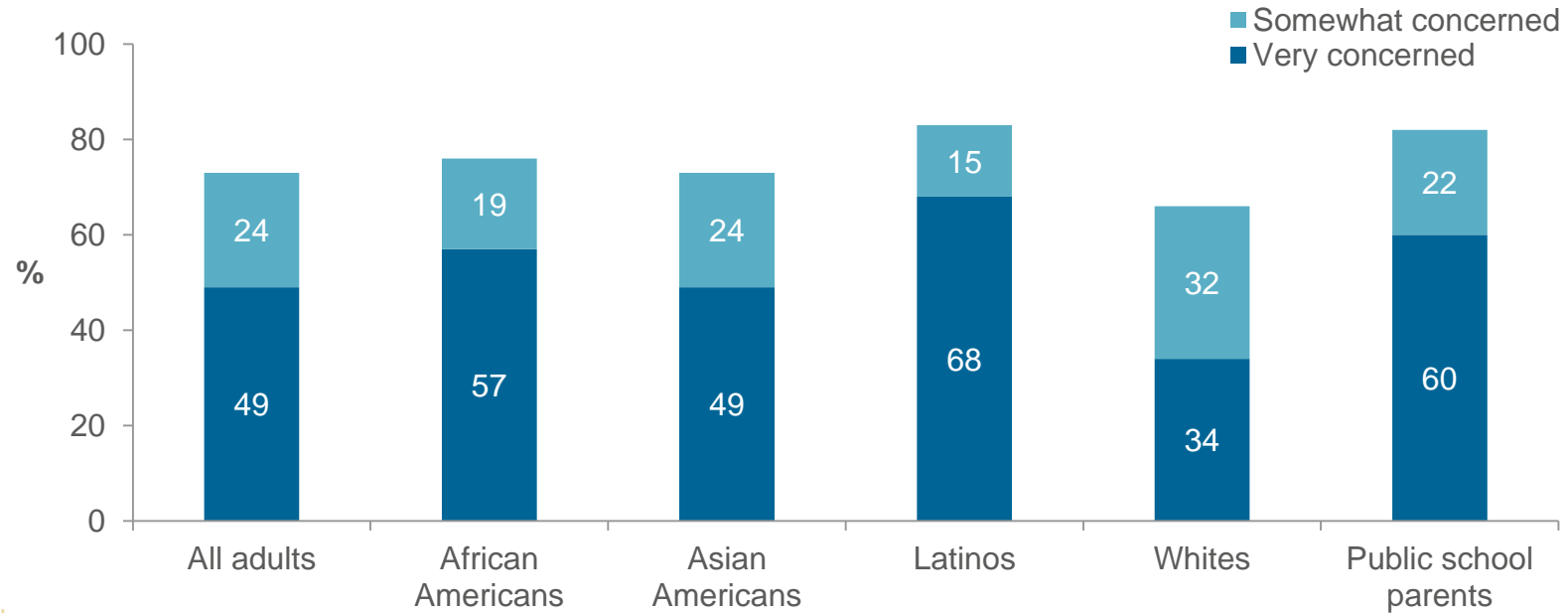
Support for sanctuary school districts

Do you favor or oppose your public school district designating itself as a “sanctuary safe zone” to indicate it will protect its undocumented students and their families from federal immigration enforcement efforts?



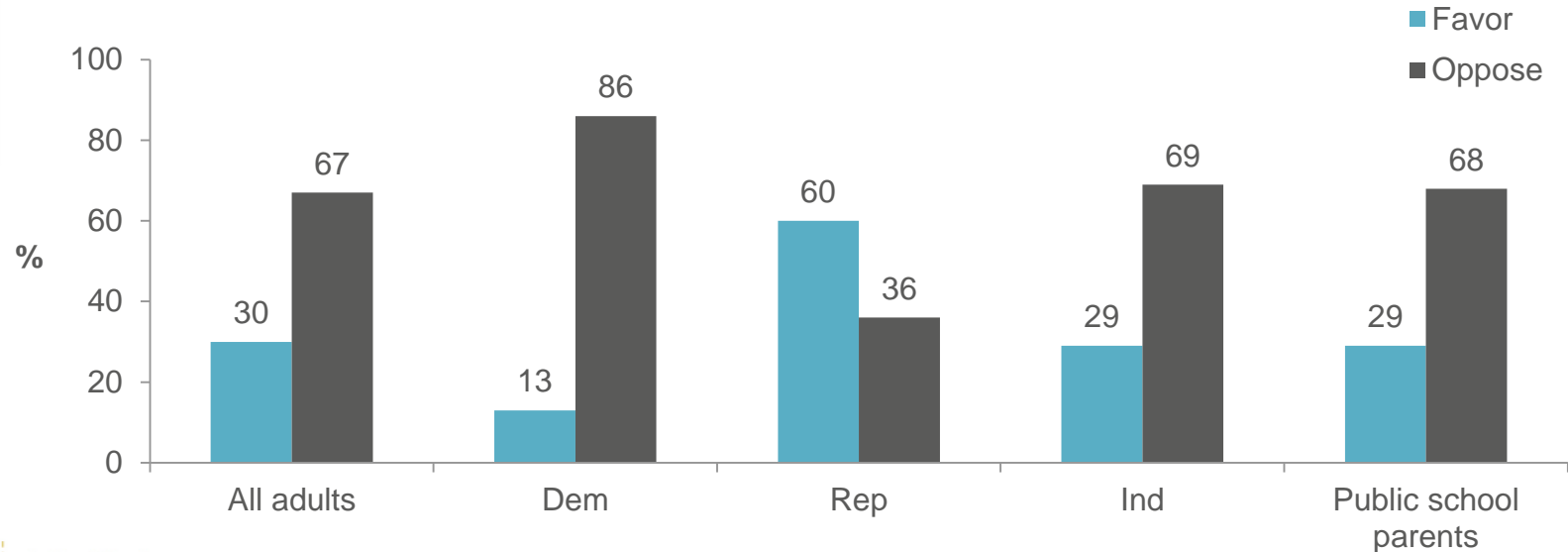
Concern about threat of mass shooting in local schools

How concerned are you about the threat of a mass shooting in your local schools?



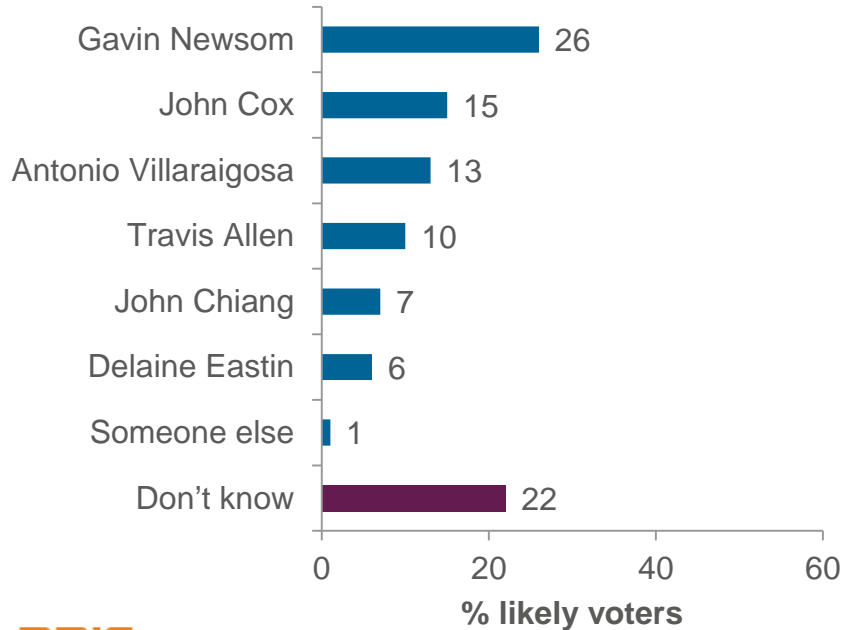
Support for allowing more teachers to carry guns

Do you favor or oppose allowing more teachers and school officials to carry guns in schools?

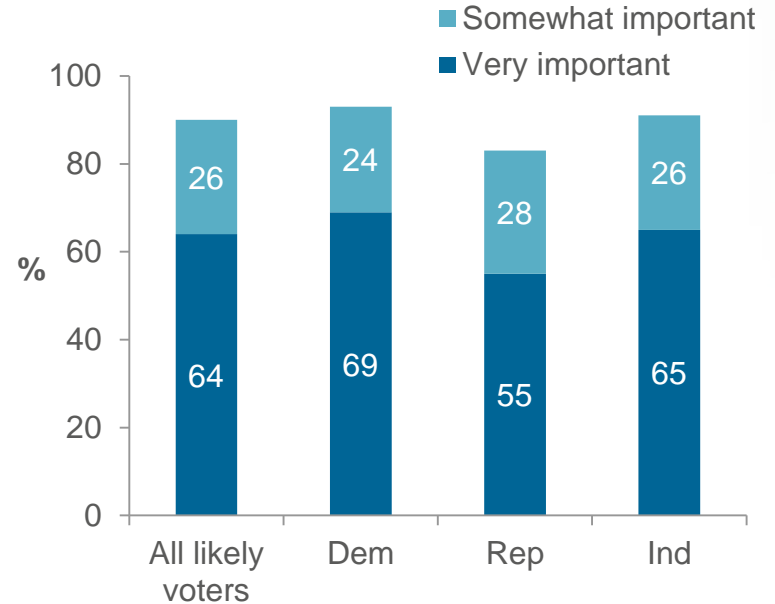


2018 gubernatorial primary

Candidate preference

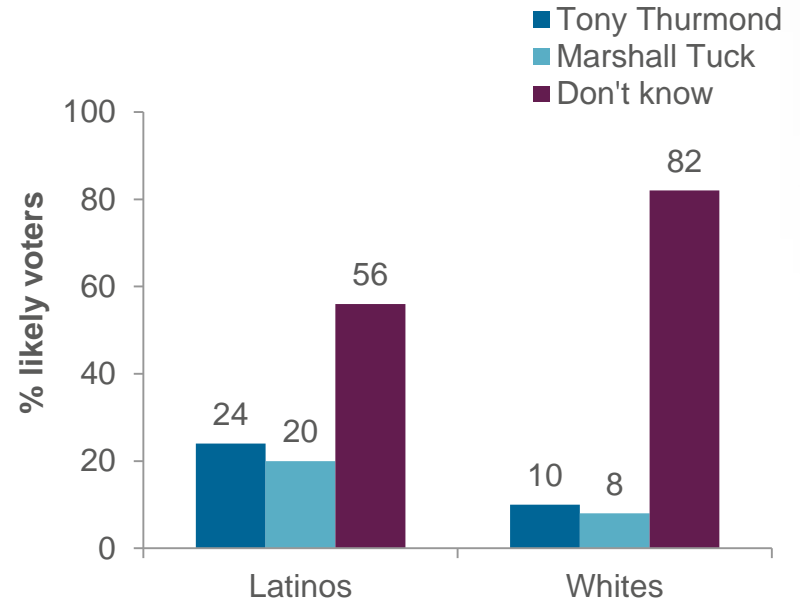
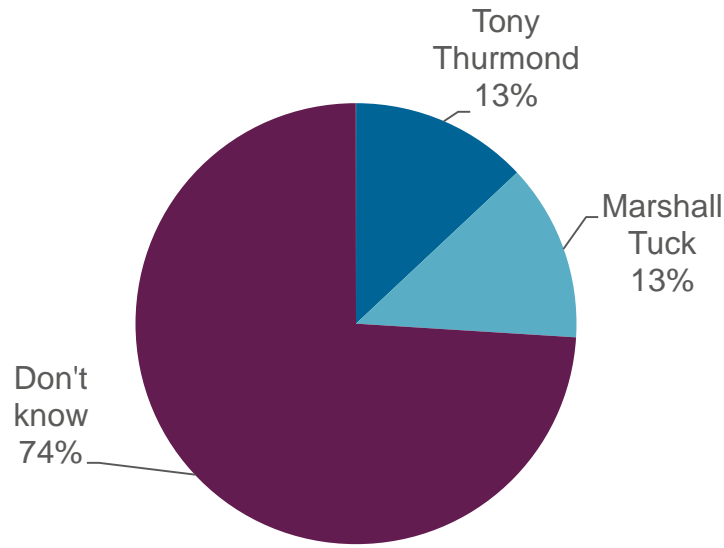


Importance of gubernatorial candidates' positions on K-12 education



2018 race for state superintendent of public instruction

If the June nonpartisan primary election for state superintendent of public instruction were being held today, and these were the candidates, who would you vote for?

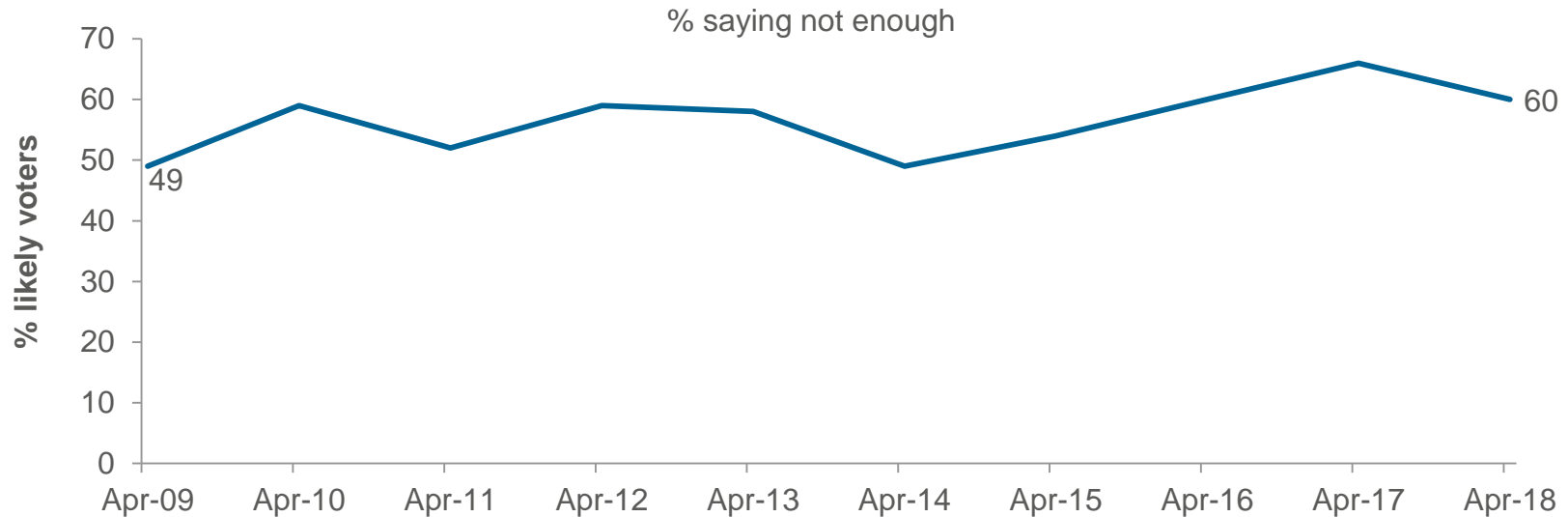


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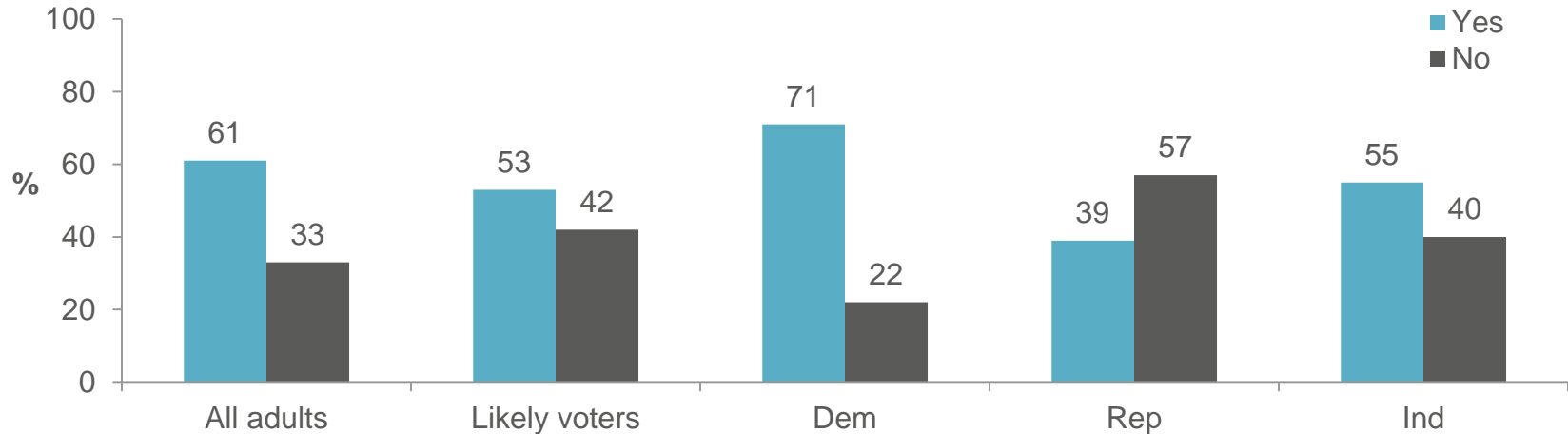
Level of state funding for local schools

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



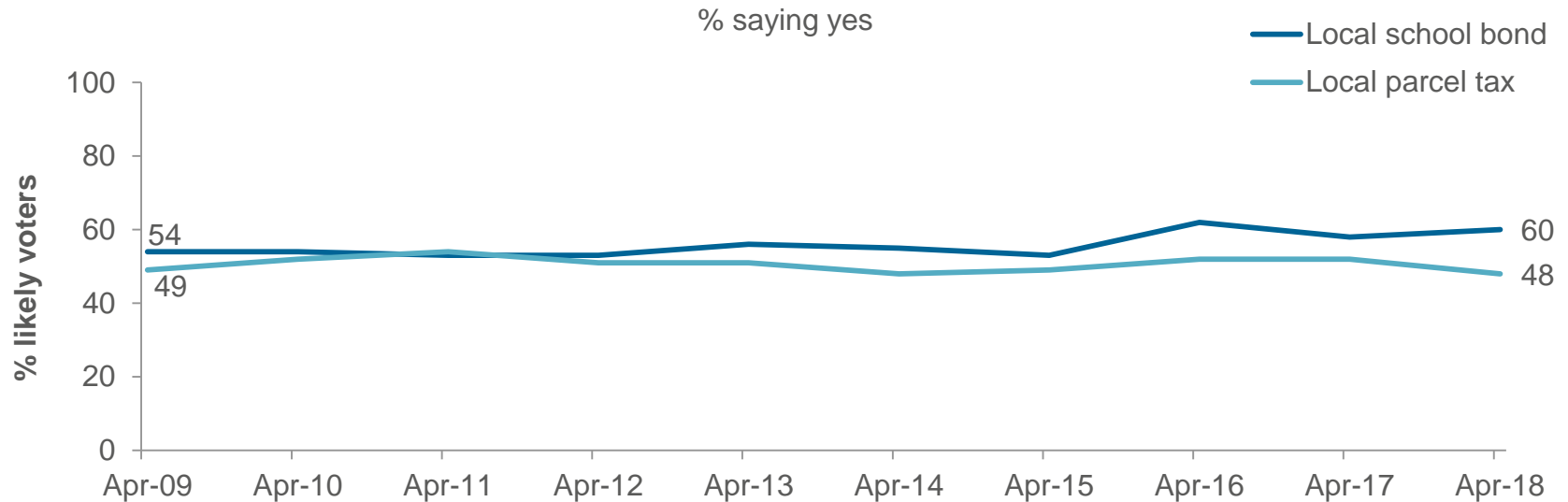
Taxing commercial properties at market rate

Under Proposition 13, residential and commercial property taxes are both strictly limited. What if there was a state ballot measure to have commercial properties taxed according to their current market value and direct some of this new tax revenue to state funding for K–12 public schools? Would you vote yes or no?



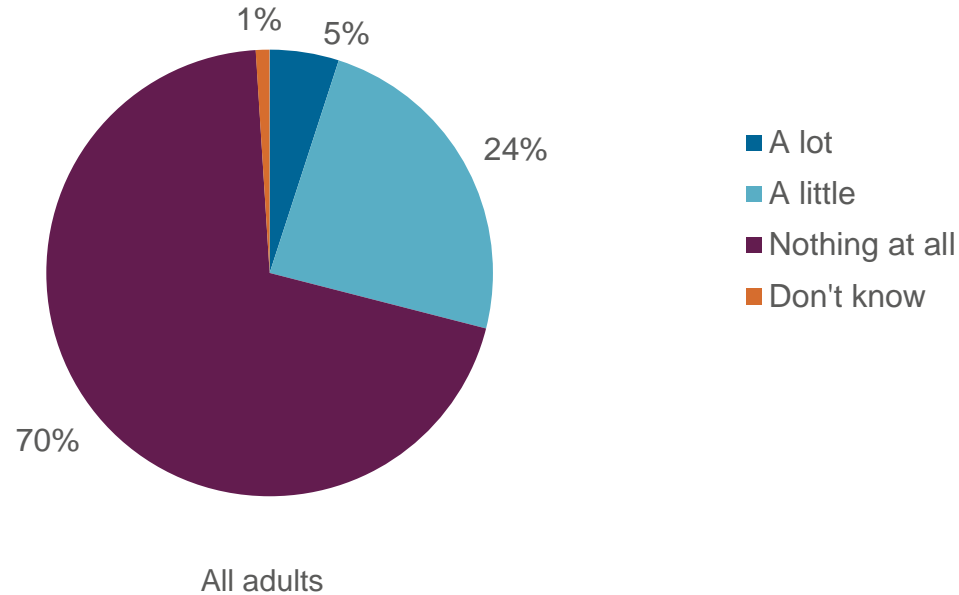
Support for local school bond and parcel tax

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



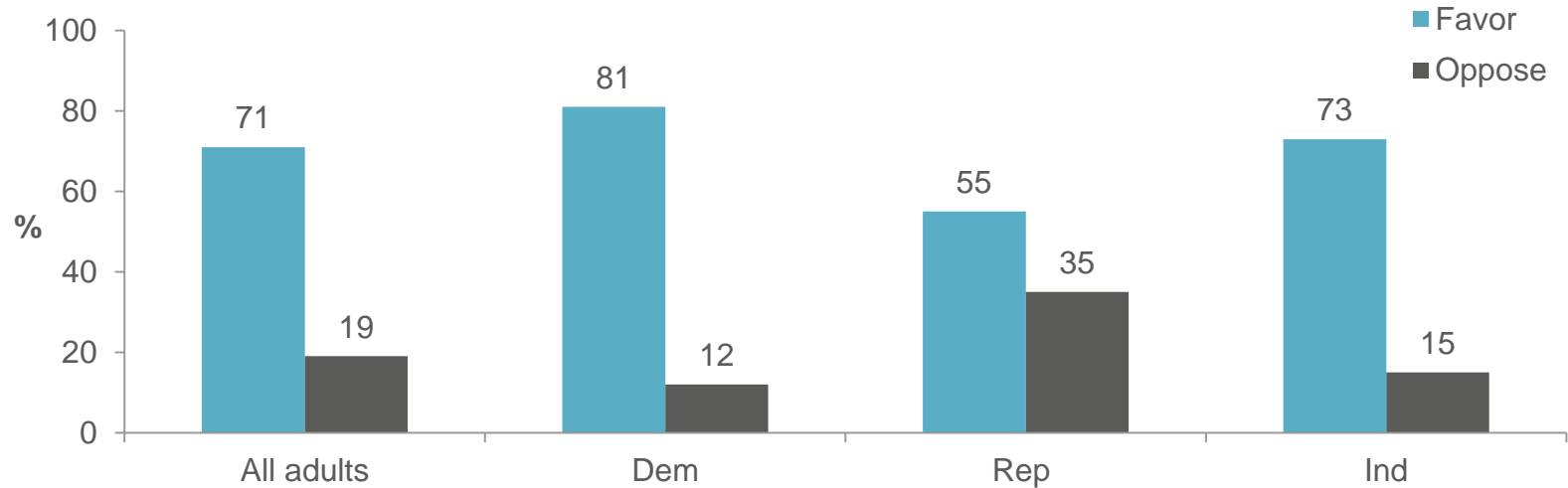
Awareness of the Local Control Funding Formula

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



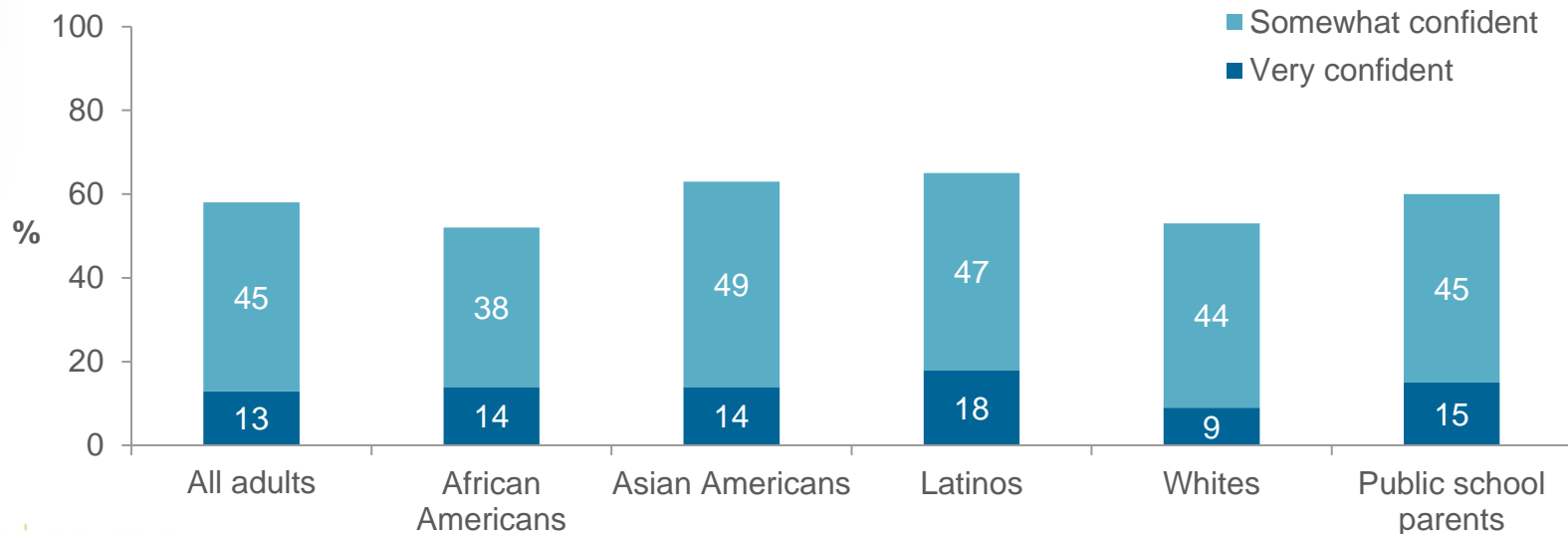
Support for the Local Control Funding Formula

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 policy?



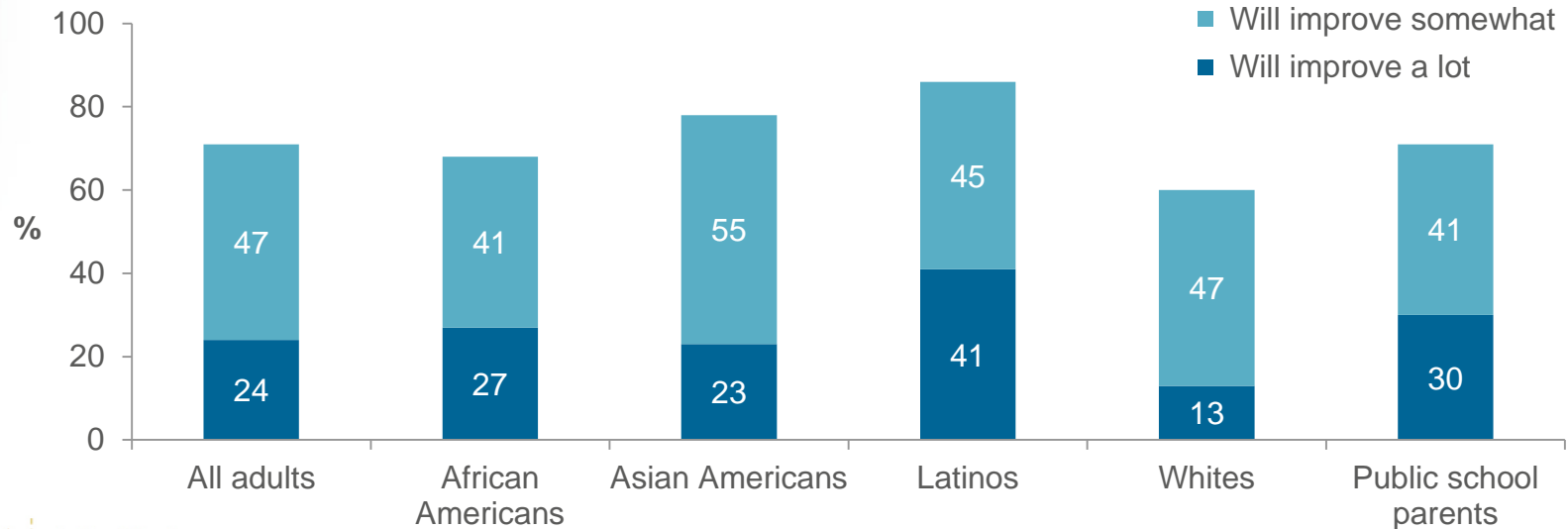
Confidence that LCFF funds will be spent on lower-income and English language learner students

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?



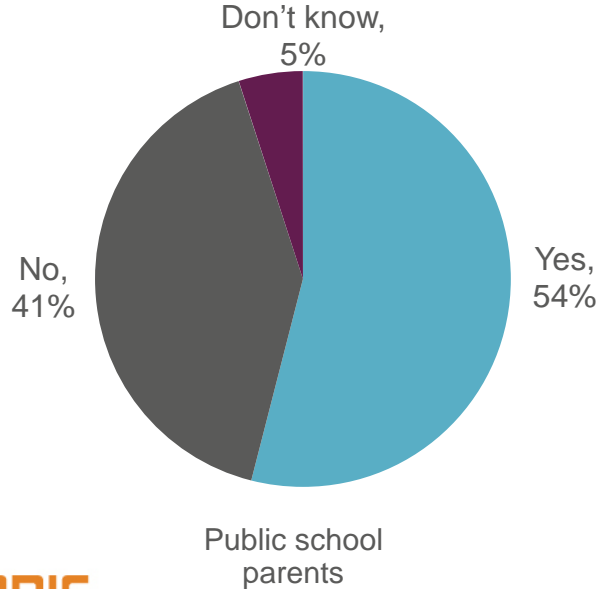
LCFF's impact on student achievement

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?

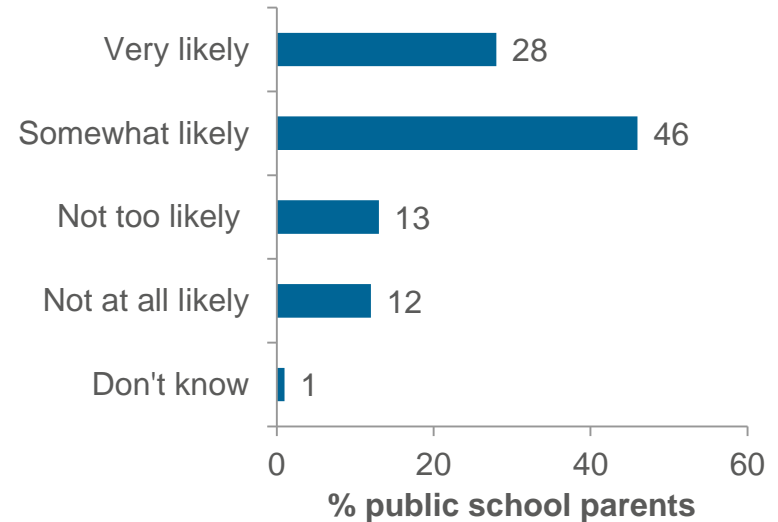


Parental involvement in local district accountability plans

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

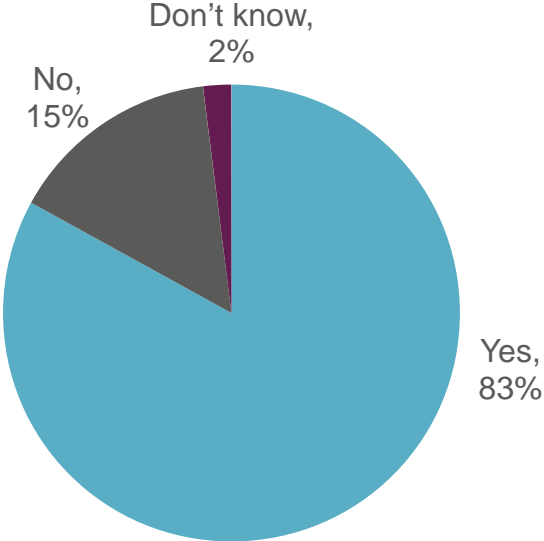


How likely are you to participate in the process of revising and updating your local school district's accountability plan?

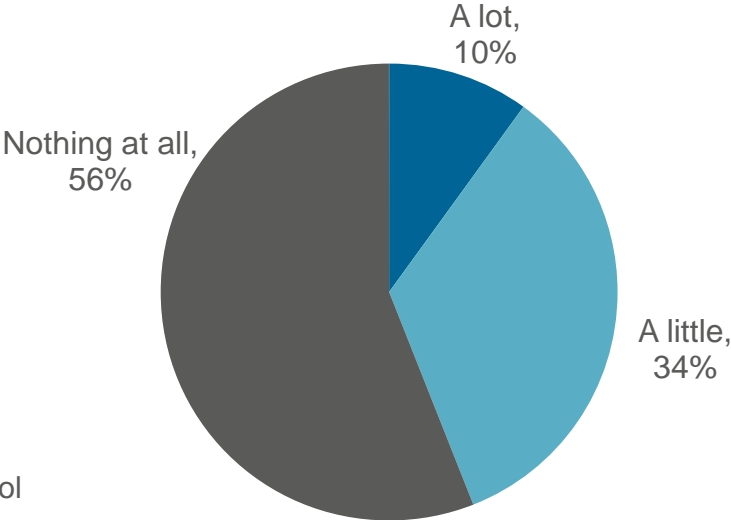


School quality information and the California School Dashboard

Do you feel you can easily find information about the quality of your child's school?



How much, if anything, have you heard about the California School Dashboard, a new online tool which uses multiple measures to evaluate how the state's K-12 schools are performing?



Public school parents

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Conclusions

- Californians support having local school districts declared sanctuary safe zones for undocumented students, but there are deep partisan divisions.
- Many public school parents are concerned about school safety, while most oppose having more teachers carry guns in schools.
- Across parties, majorities of likely voters agree that gubernatorial candidates' positions on K–12 education are very important. An overwhelming majority are undecided in the race for superintendent of public instruction.
- California adults and likely voters continue to see the state's K–12 funding as inadequate. Solid majorities of likely voters favor local school bonds, while fewer support local parcel taxes for schools.
- Public school parents say they can easily find information on the quality of their child's school, but a majority have not heard about the new school dashboard.

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Notes on the use of these slides

These slides were created to accompany a presentation. They do not include full documentation of sources, data samples, methods, and interpretations. To avoid misinterpretations, please contact:

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Thank you for your interest in this work.