

The 2017 *EdNext* Poll on School Reform
**Public Thinking on School Choice,
Common Core, Higher Ed, and more**

*Hoover Institution
Washington, D.C.
September 8, 2017*

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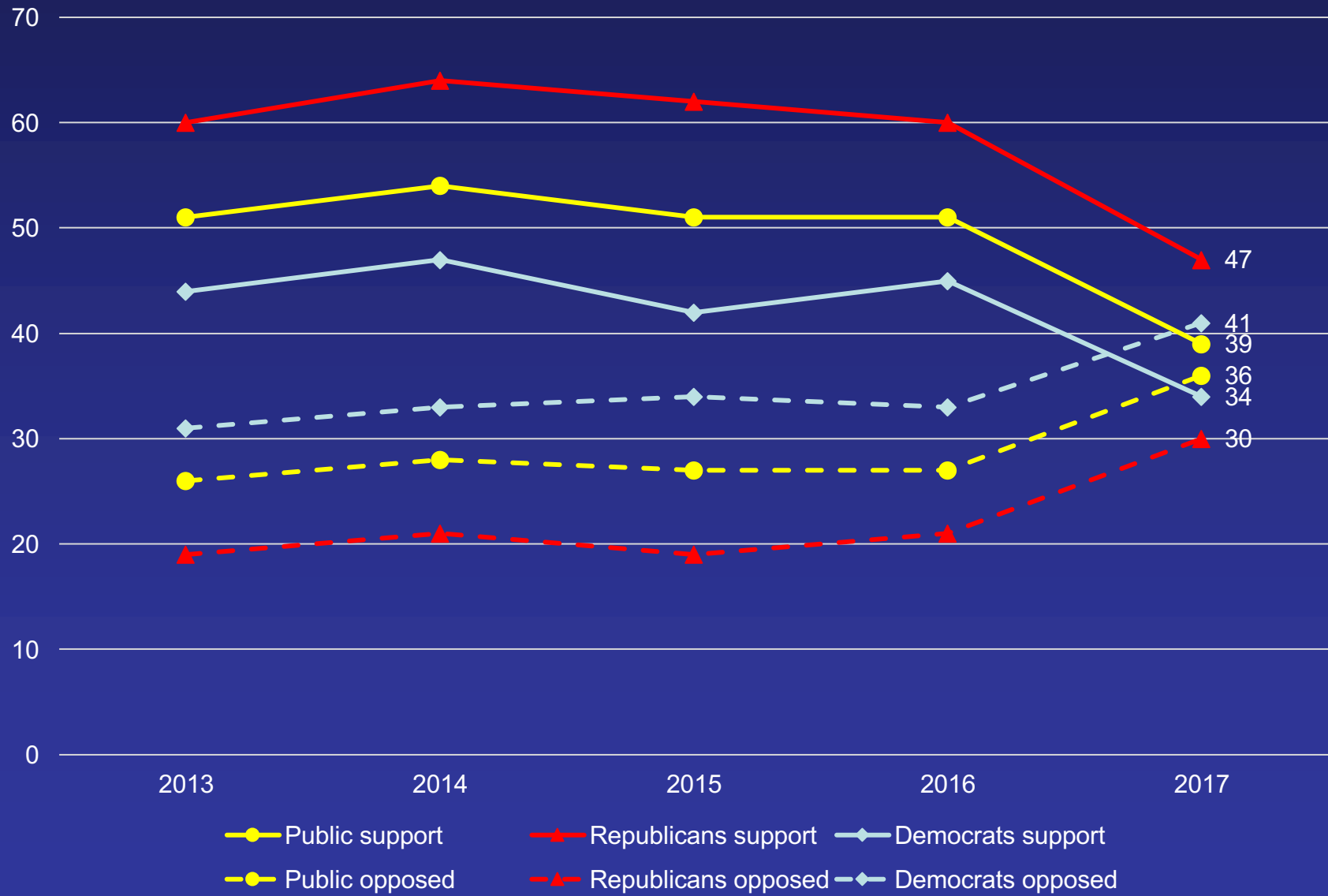
Education Next 2017

- Eleventh Annual Survey
- Nationally representative (May-June 2017)
- 4,200 respondents, including
 - oversamples of parents (2,170), teachers (700), and Hispanics (805)
- Available at educationnext.org
 - See interactive graph that has all results
 - Authors: Martin R. West, Michael Henderson, Paul E. Peterson and Samuel Barrows

Charter Schools

As you may know, many states permit the formation of charter schools, which are publicly funded but are not managed by the local school board. These schools are expected to meet promised objectives, but are exempt from many state regulations. Do you support or oppose the formation of charter schools?

In Both Parties, a Sharp Drop in Support for Charters



Private School Choice

- A proposal has been made to offer a tax credit for individual and corporate donations that pay for scholarships to help low-income parents send their children to private schools. [President Donald Trump has expressed support for this idea.] Would you favor or oppose such a proposal?

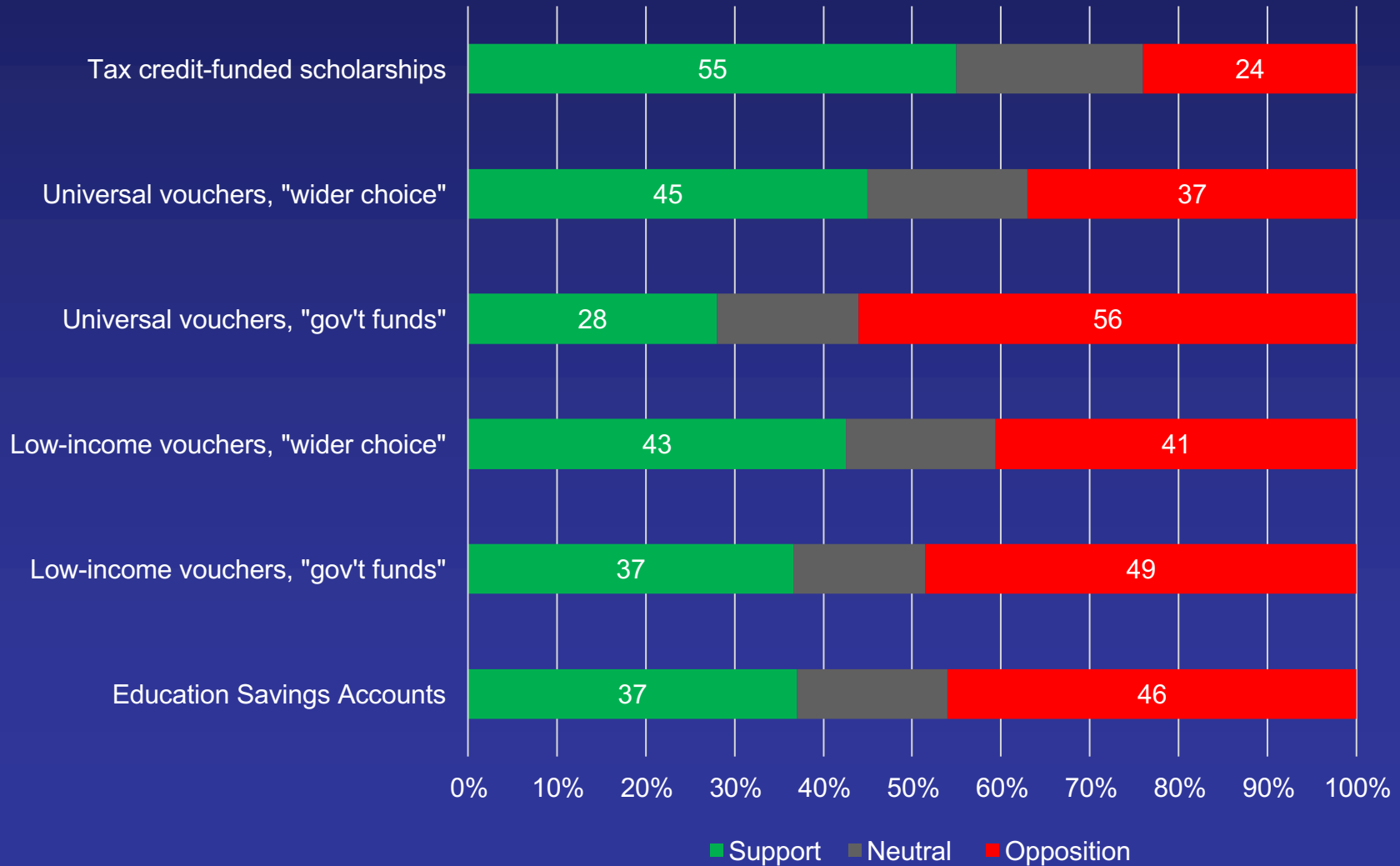
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Private School Choice *(continued)*

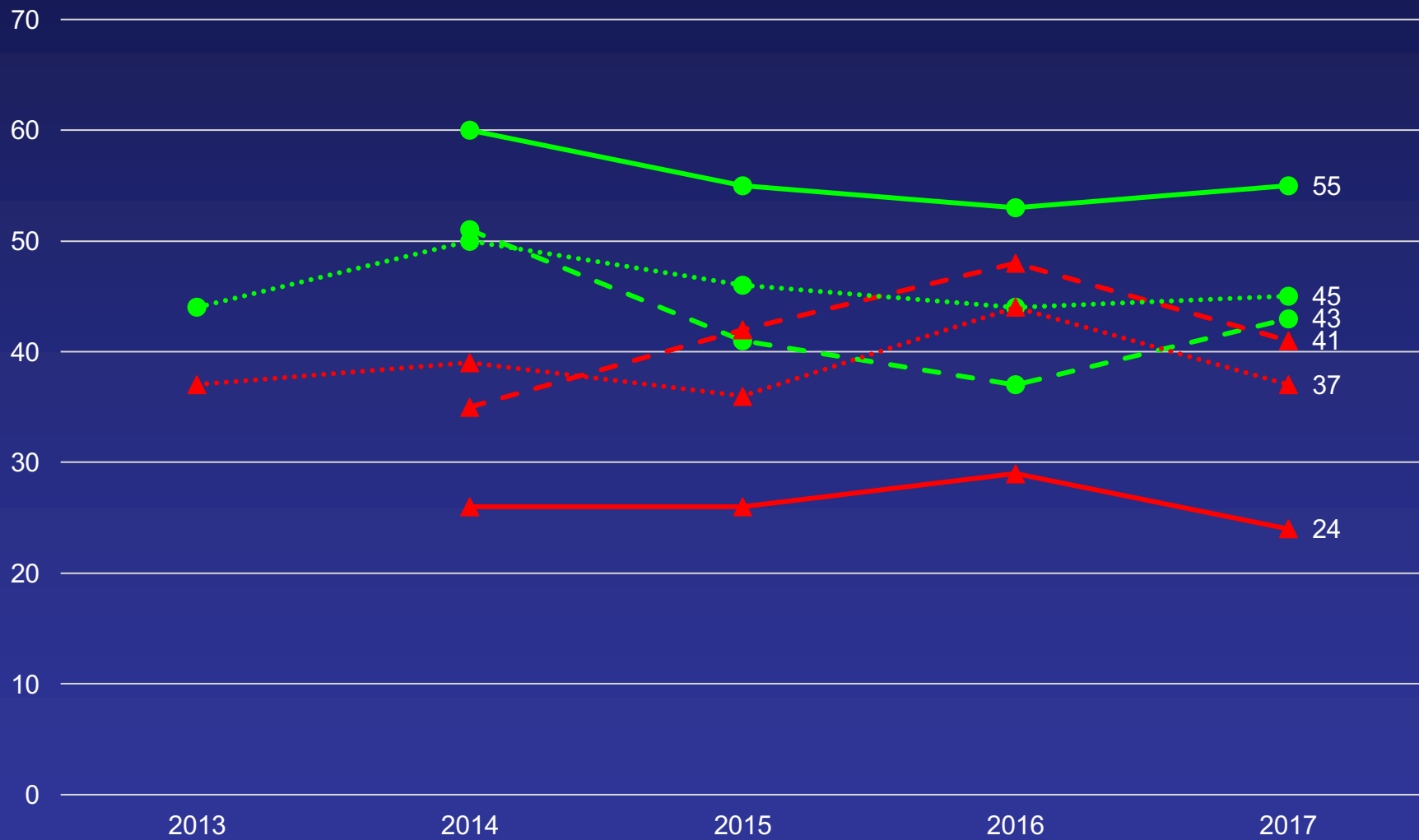
- A proposal has been made that would give [all families / low-income families] with children in public schools a wider choice, by allowing them to enroll their children in private schools instead, with government helping to pay the tuition. Would you support or oppose this proposal?
- A proposal has been made that would use government funds to pay the tuition of [all students / low-income students] who choose to attend private schools. Would you support or oppose this proposal?
- If parents do not send their children to public school, some state governments provide those parents with money they can spend only for educational expenses, such as private school tuition, tutoring and transportation. Do you support or oppose this policy?

Tax Credits Most Popular Private Choice Option

Opinion on private school choice, 2017



Opposition to Vouchers Eases



—●— tax credit-funded scholarships support

—●— Low-income vouchers, "wider choice" support

...●... Universal vouchers, "wider choice" support

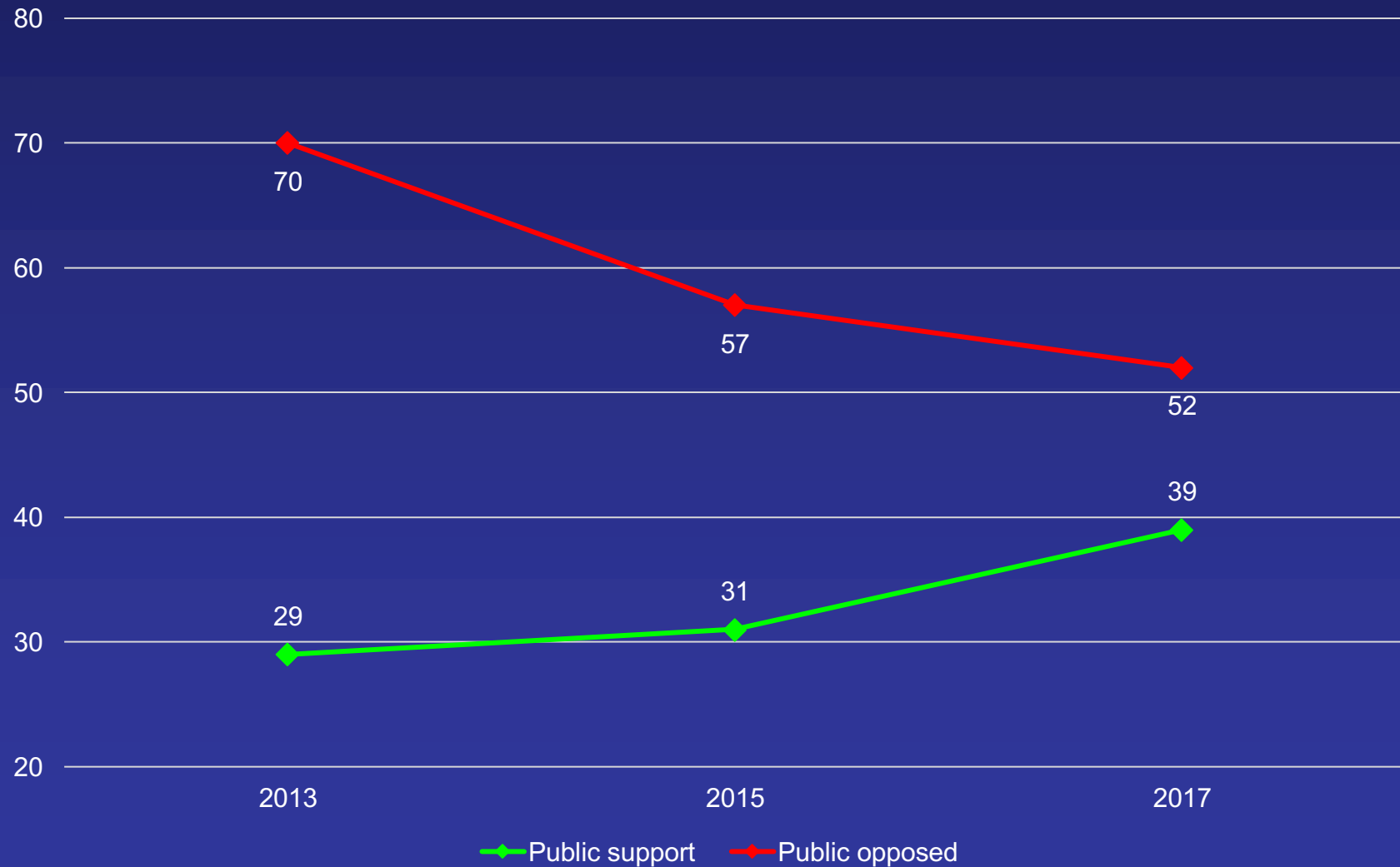
—▲— tax credit-funded scholarships opposition

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...▲... Universal vouchers, "wider choice" opposition

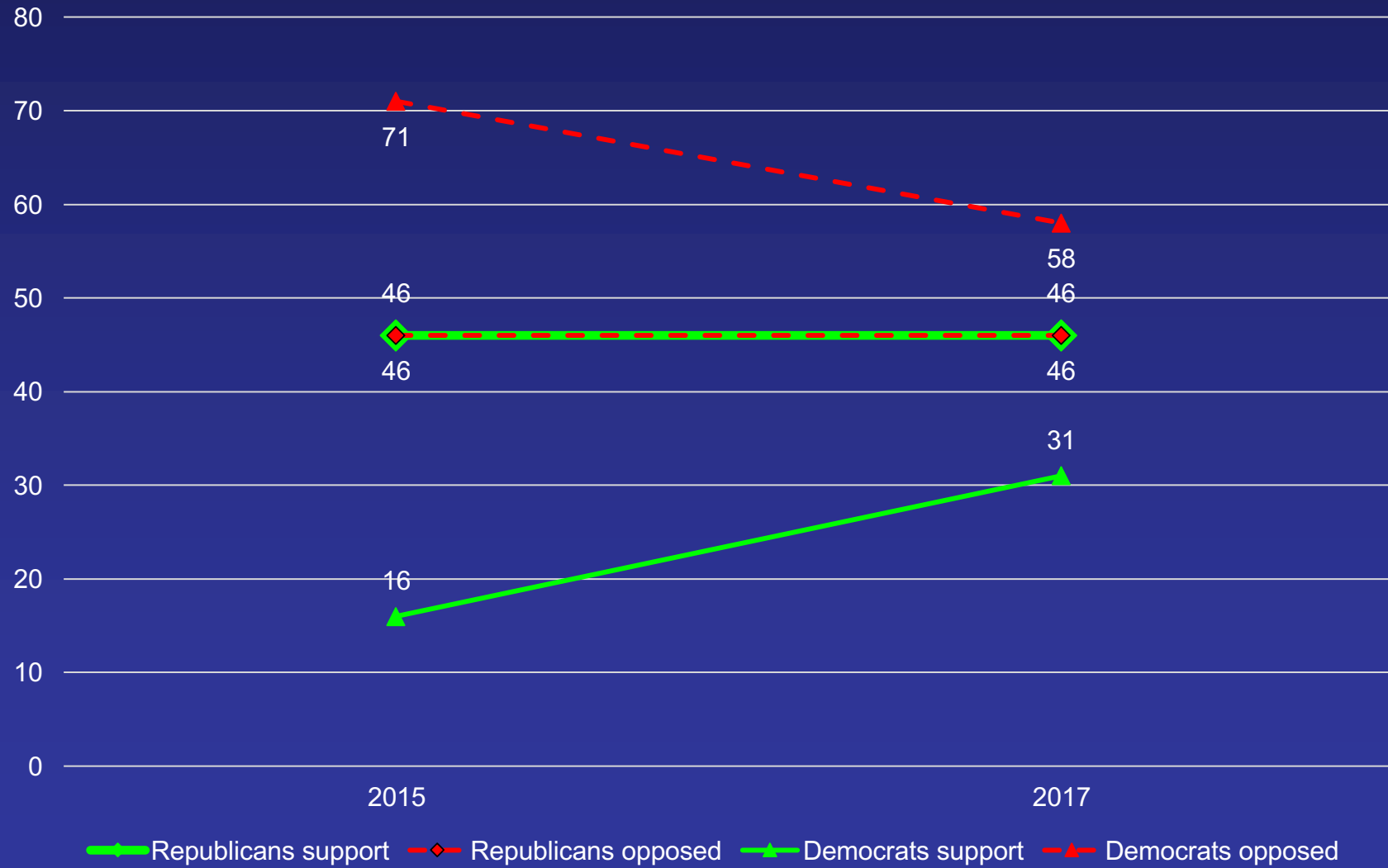
PDK Poll 2017

Do you favor or oppose allowing students and parents to choose a private school to attend at public expense?



PDK Poll 2017

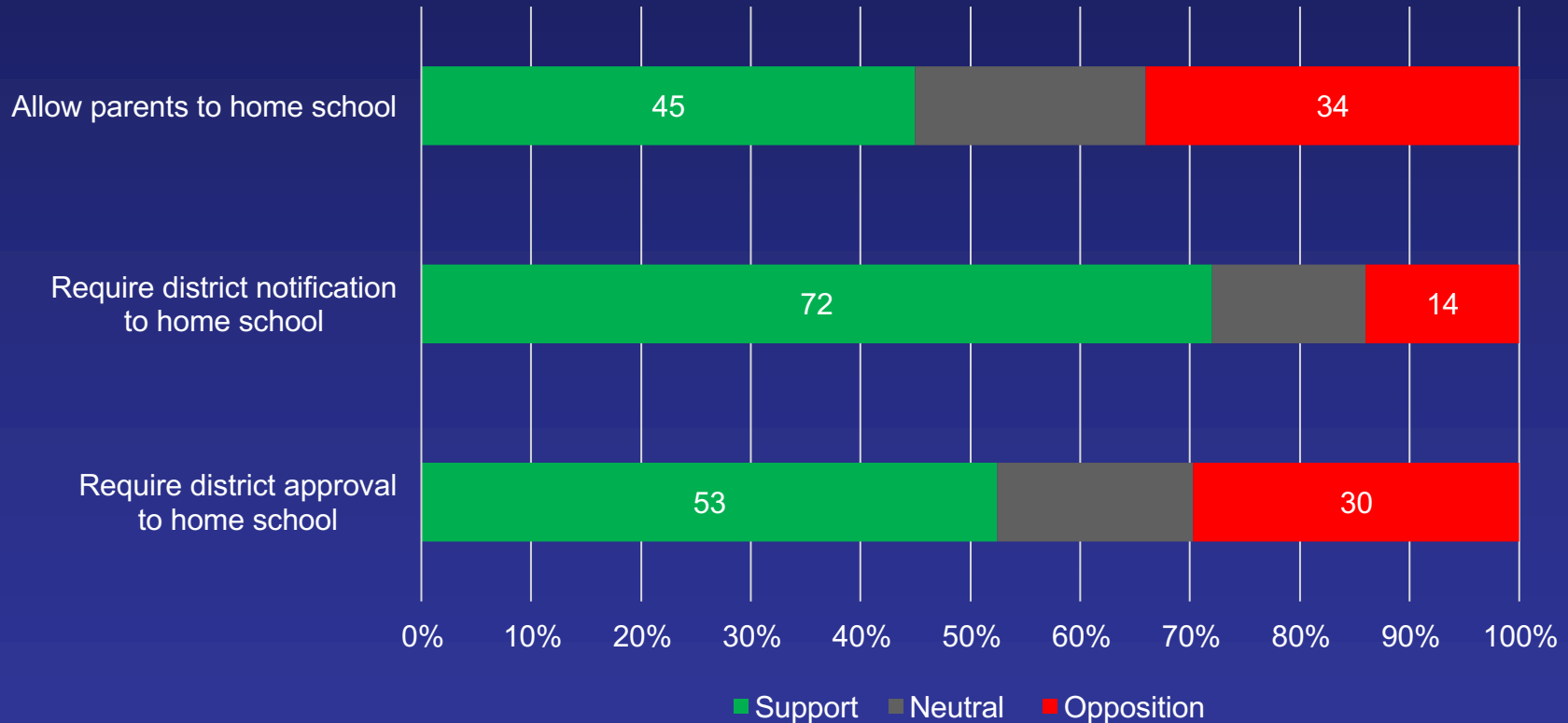
Do you favor or oppose allowing students and parents to choose a private school to attend at public expense?



Homeschooling

- Do you support or oppose allowing parents to educate their children at home instead of sending them to school?
- Do you support or oppose requiring parents to receive approval from their local school district if they want to homeschool their children?
- Do you support or oppose requiring parents to notify their local school district if they want to homeschool their children?

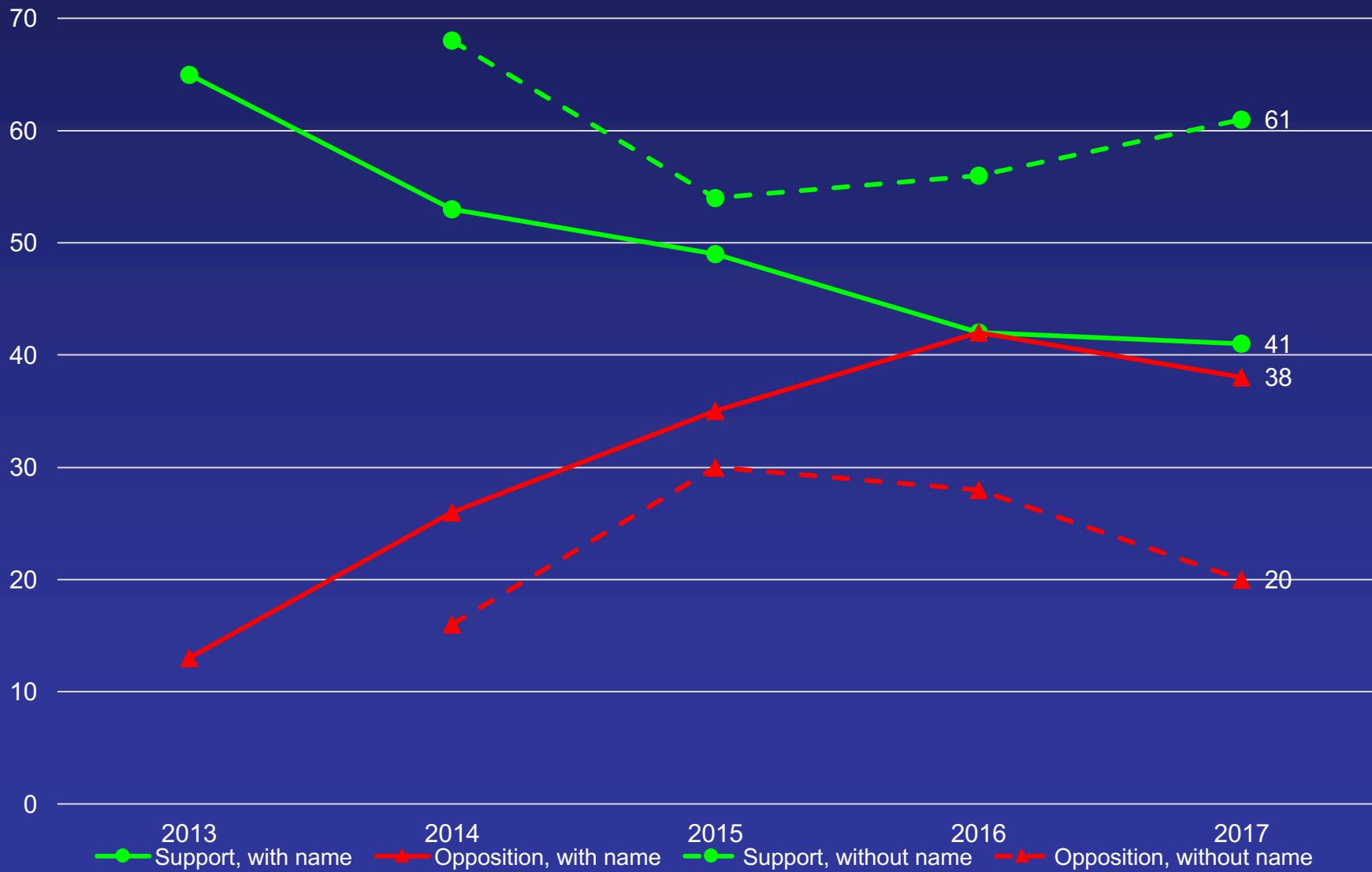
Plurality Supports Home Schooling, but Majority thinks Family Should Receive District Approval



Common Core

As you may know, in the last few years states have been deciding whether or not to use [INSERT “the Common Core, which are”] standards for reading and math that are the same across the states. In the states that have these standards, they will be used to hold public schools accountable for their performance. Do you support or oppose the use of [INSERT EITHER “the Common Core standards” OR “these standards”] in your state?

Public Support for Common Core Grows ... When It's Not Called Common Core



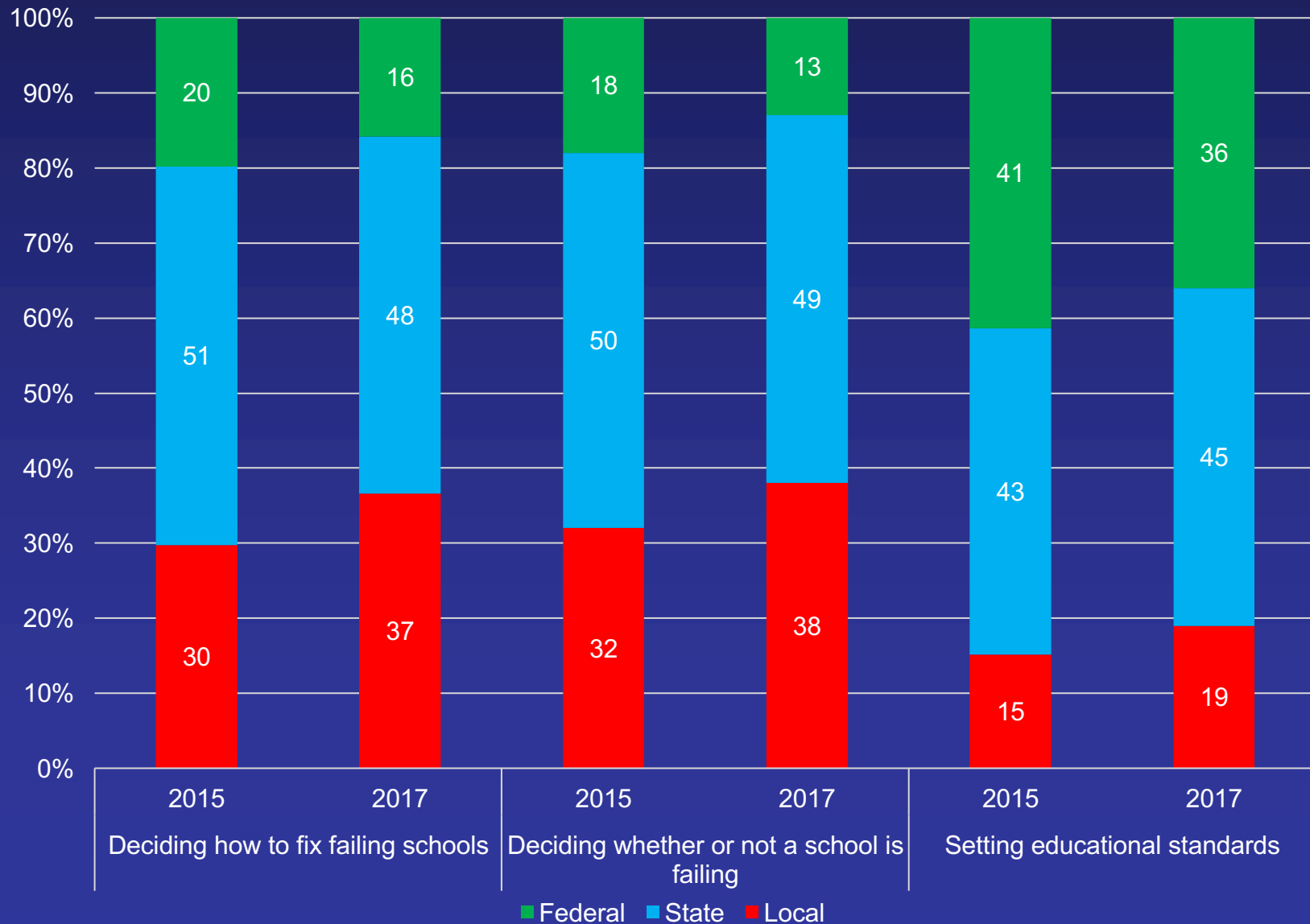
Federalism

What level of government should play the biggest role in...

1. Deciding how to fix failing schools?
2. Deciding whether or not a school is failing?
3. Setting educational standards for what students should know?

Growing Support for Local Role in School Accountability

Which level of government should play the biggest role in ...

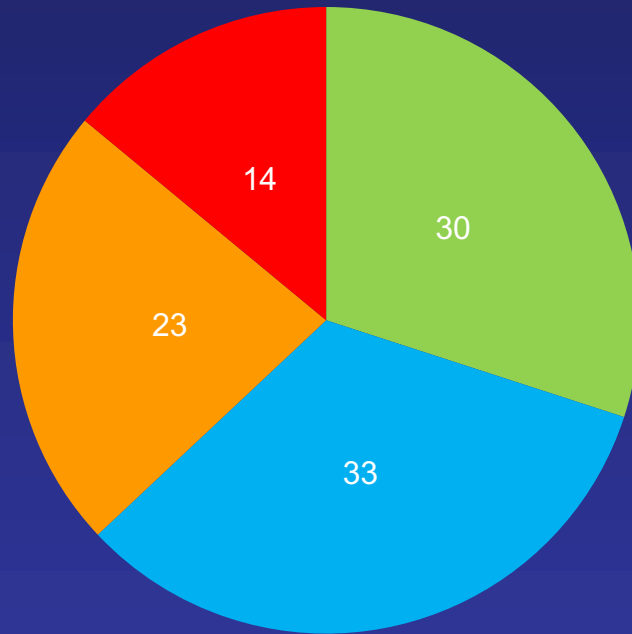


Evaluating Teachers

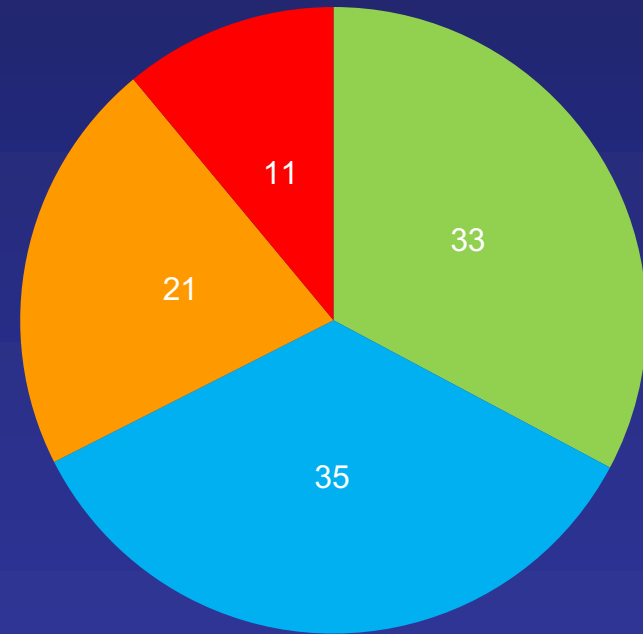
Suppose you had to evaluate each teacher in your local schools for the quality of their work. What percent of teachers in your local schools would you put in each category? Your answers should add to 100.

As Many as 15% of Teachers Are Unsatisfactory

Parents



Teachers



- Excellent
- Good
- Satisfactory
- Unsatisfactory

Personnel Policies

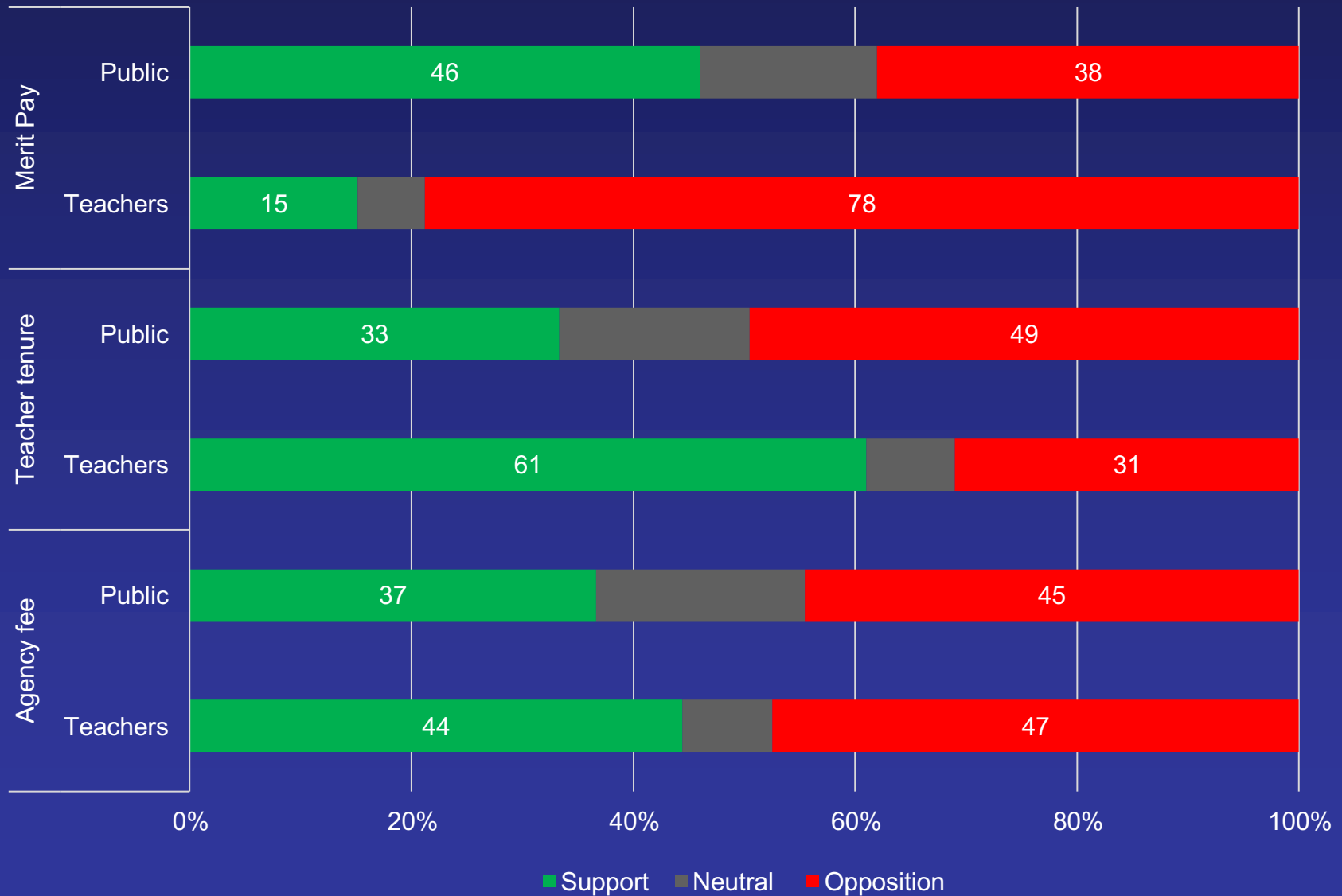
- Teachers with tenure cannot be dismissed unless a school district follows detailed procedures. [RANDOMIZE ORDER: Some say that tenure protects teachers from being fired for arbitrary reasons./Others say that it makes it too difficult to replace ineffective teachers.] Do you support or oppose giving tenure to teachers?

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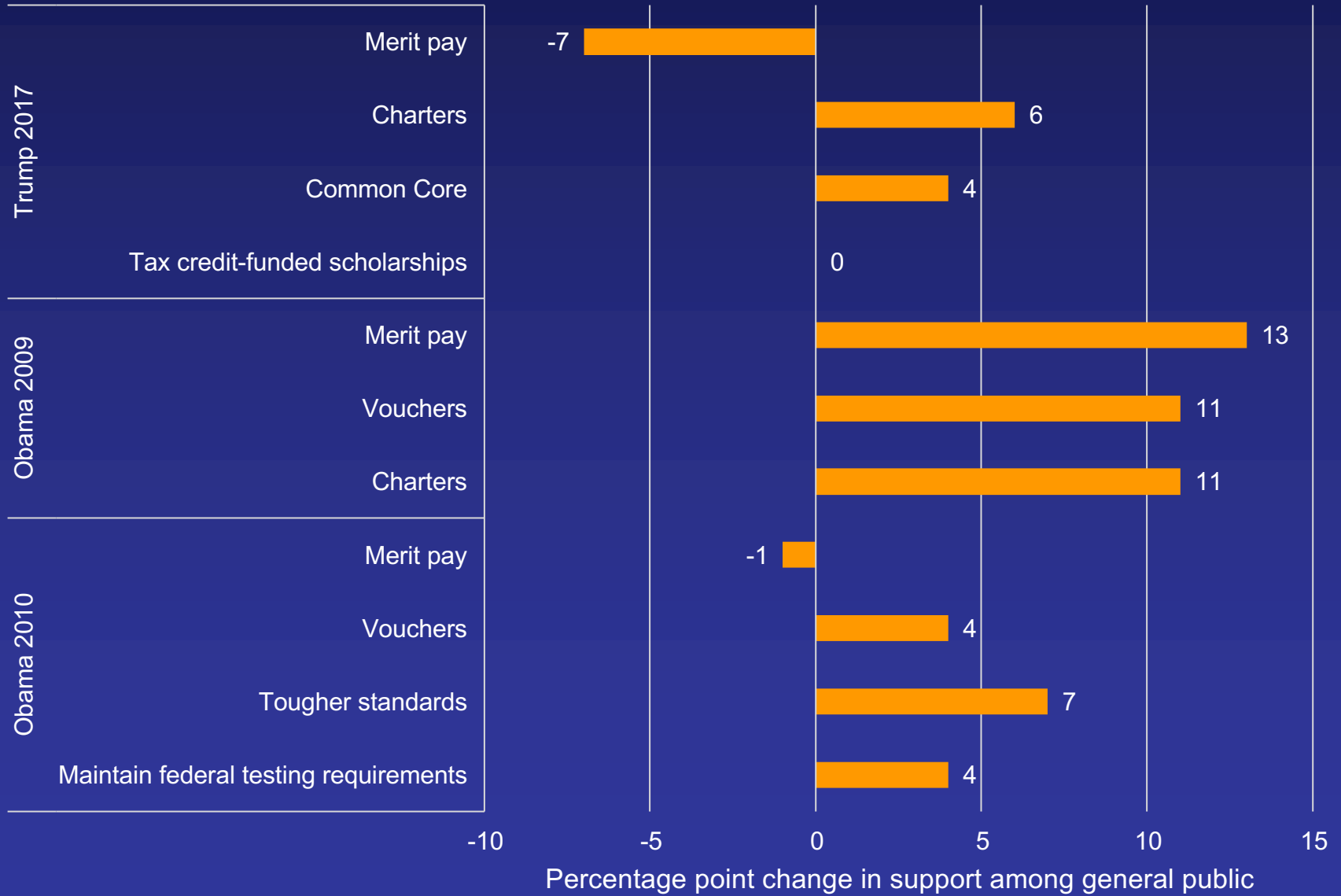
Personnel Policies *(continued)*

- In some states, all teachers must pay fees for union representation even if they choose not to join the union. [RANDOMIZE ORDER: Some say that all teachers should have to contribute to the union because they all get the pay and benefits the union negotiates with the school board./Others say teachers should have the freedom to choose whether or not to pay the union.] Do you support or oppose requiring all teachers to pay these fees even if they do not join the union?
- Do you support or oppose basing part of the salaries of teachers on how much their students learn?

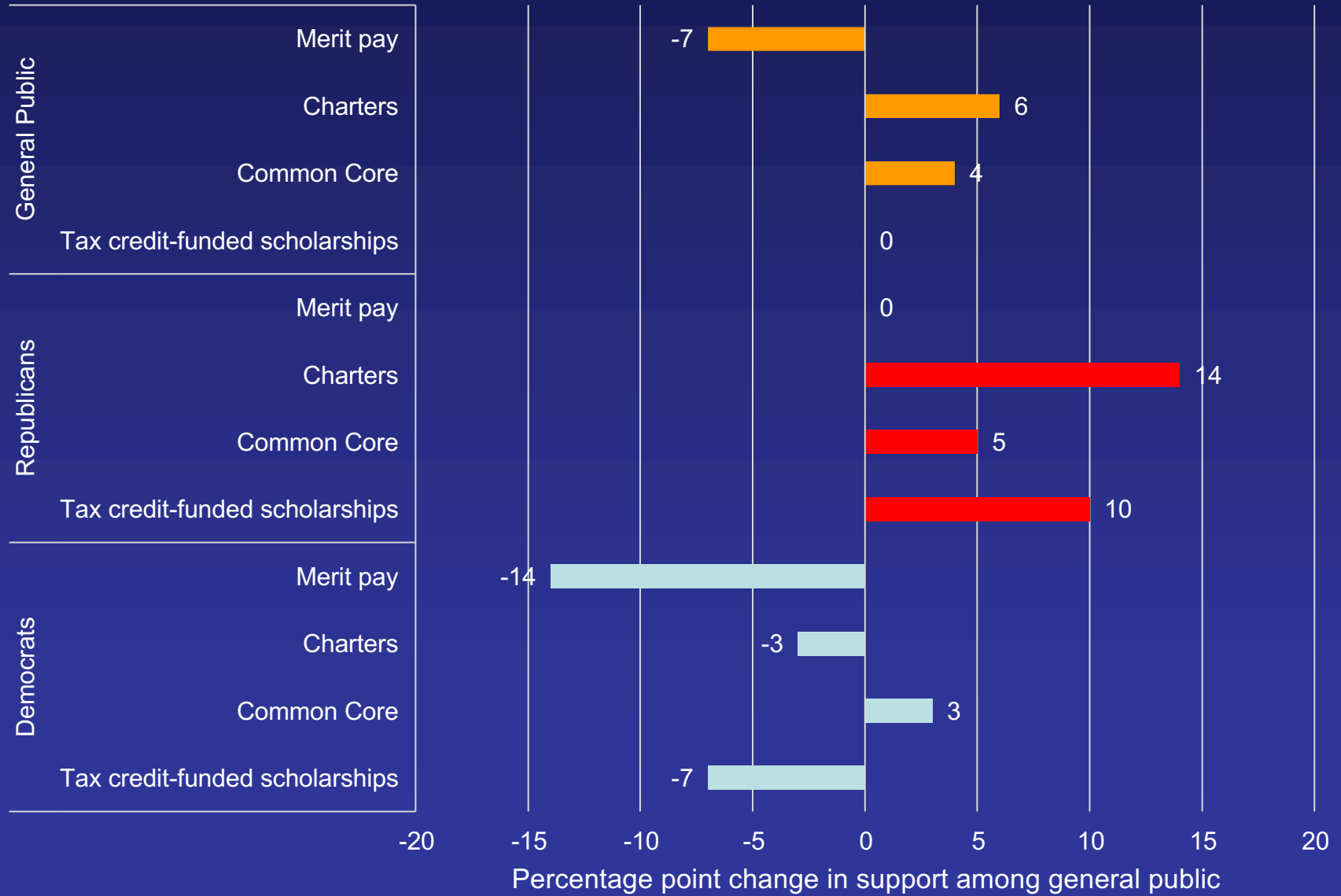
Teachers versus the Public on Merit Pay and Tenure... But Not on Agency Fees



No Honeymoon Period for President Trump



Information on Trump's Position Polarizes

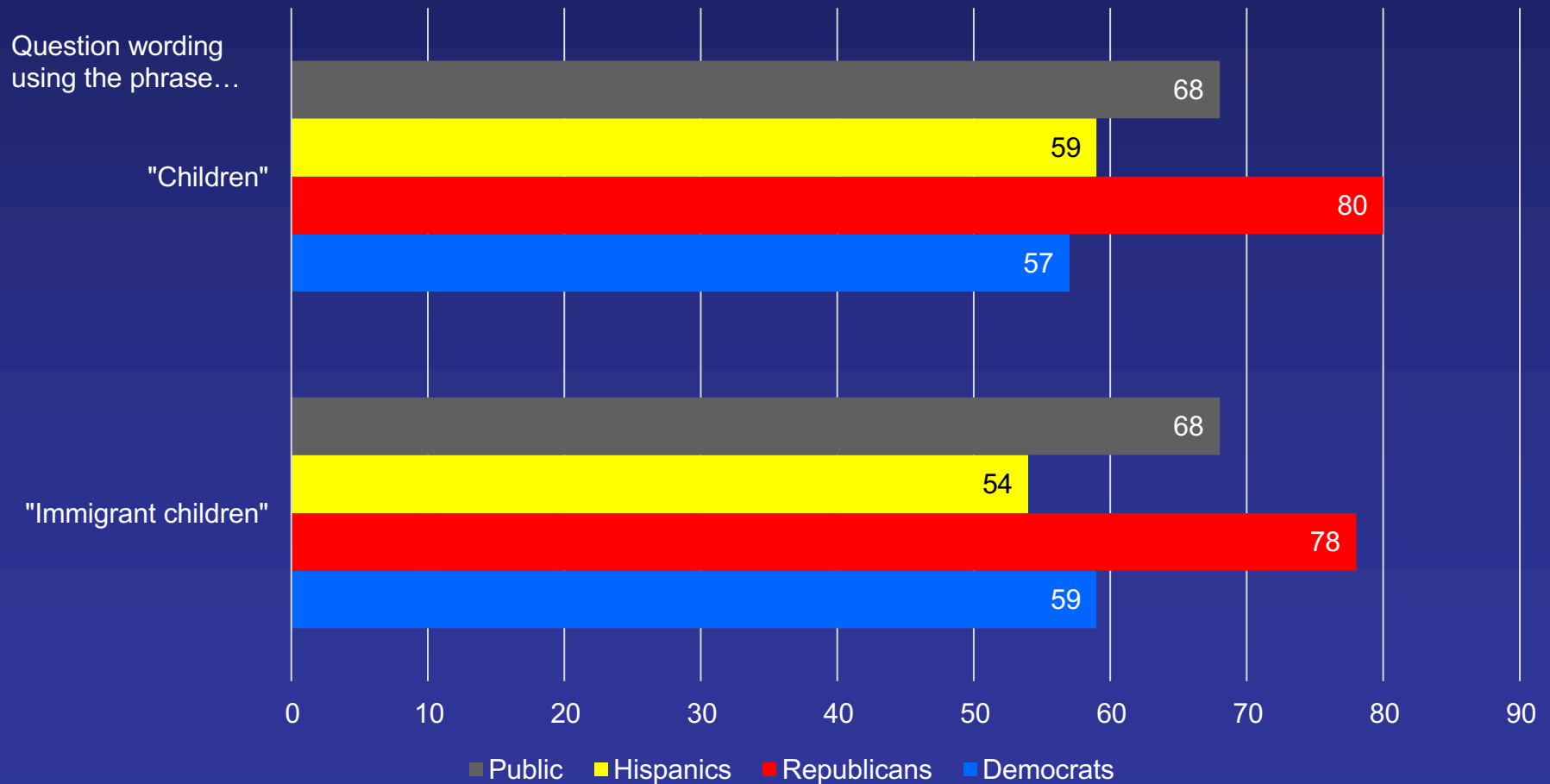


English-Only Instruction

Some people say that [INSERT EITHER “children” OR “immigrant children”] who are not proficient in speaking English should initially be placed in English-speaking classrooms. Others say these children should initially be placed in classrooms taught in their primary language? Which comes closest to your view?

Majority Support for English-Only Instruction

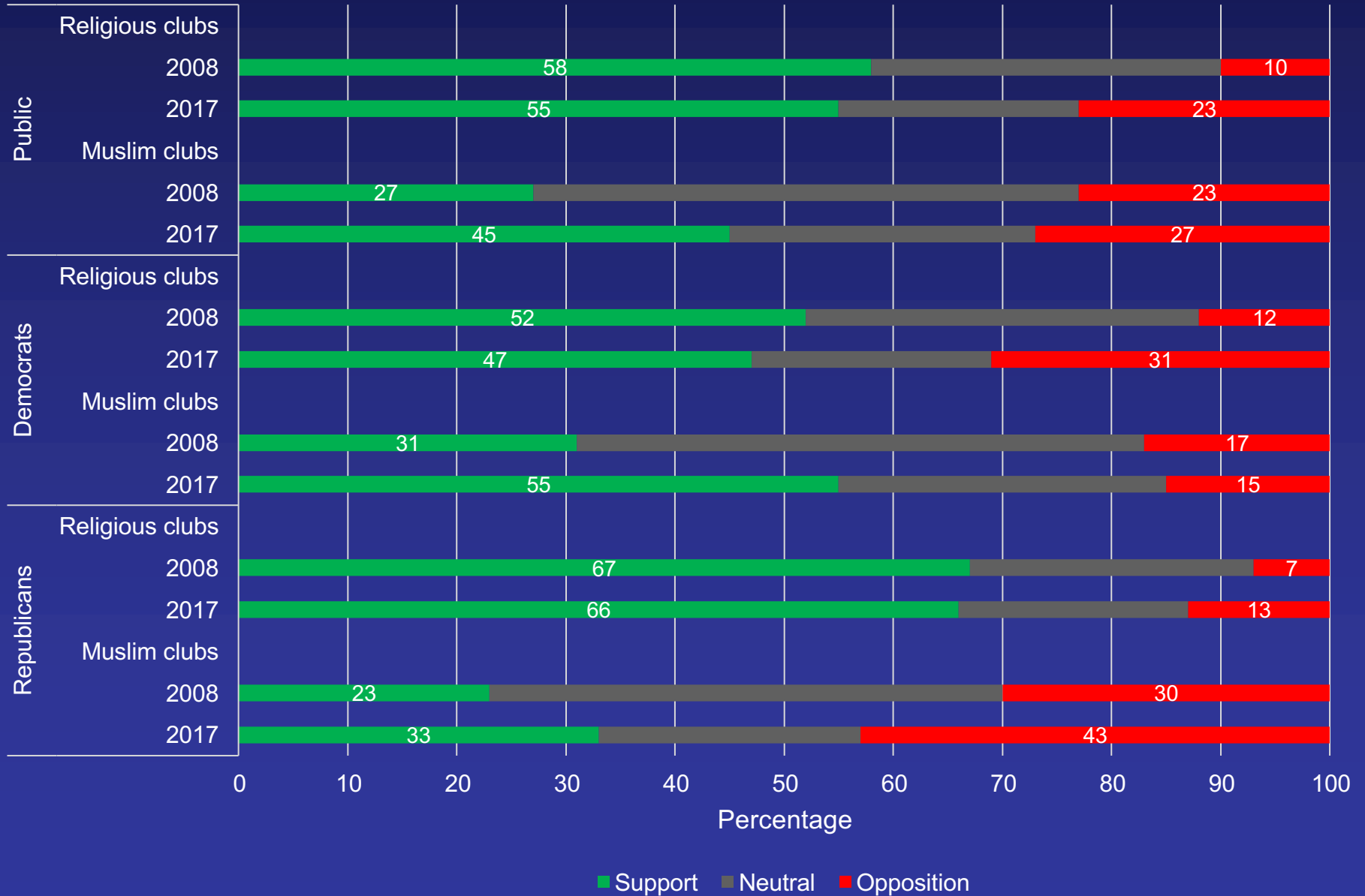
Percentage responding that children who are not proficient in English should initially be placed in English-speaking classrooms



Religious Afterschool Clubs

Do you support or oppose allowing a group of [INSERT EITHER “religious students” OR “Muslim students”] to organize an after-school club at your local public school?

Tolerance of Muslim Students on the Rise

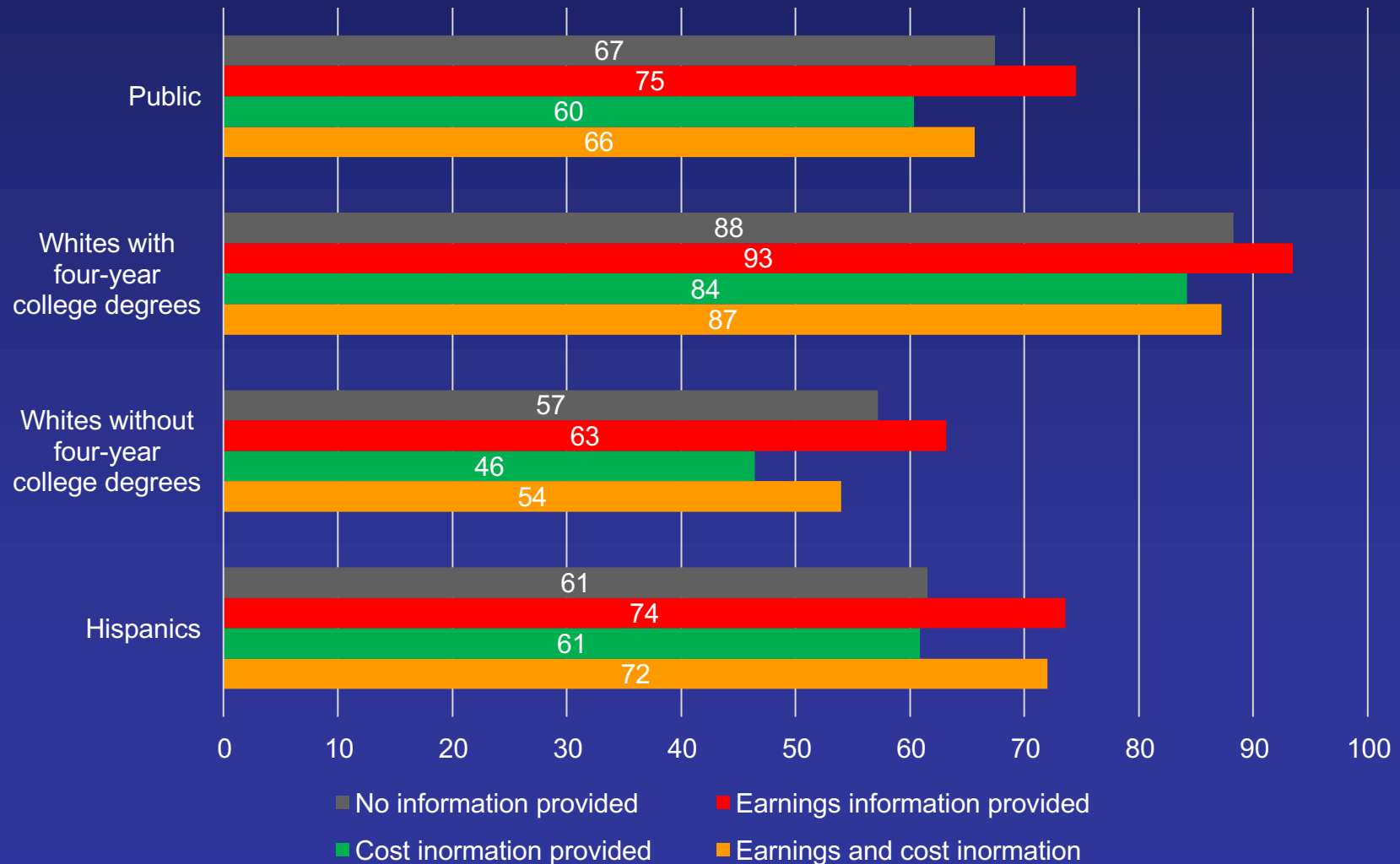


College Aspirations

If you had a child of college-going age, would you want your child to go to a community college to earn a two-year degree, a university to earn a four-year degree, or neither?

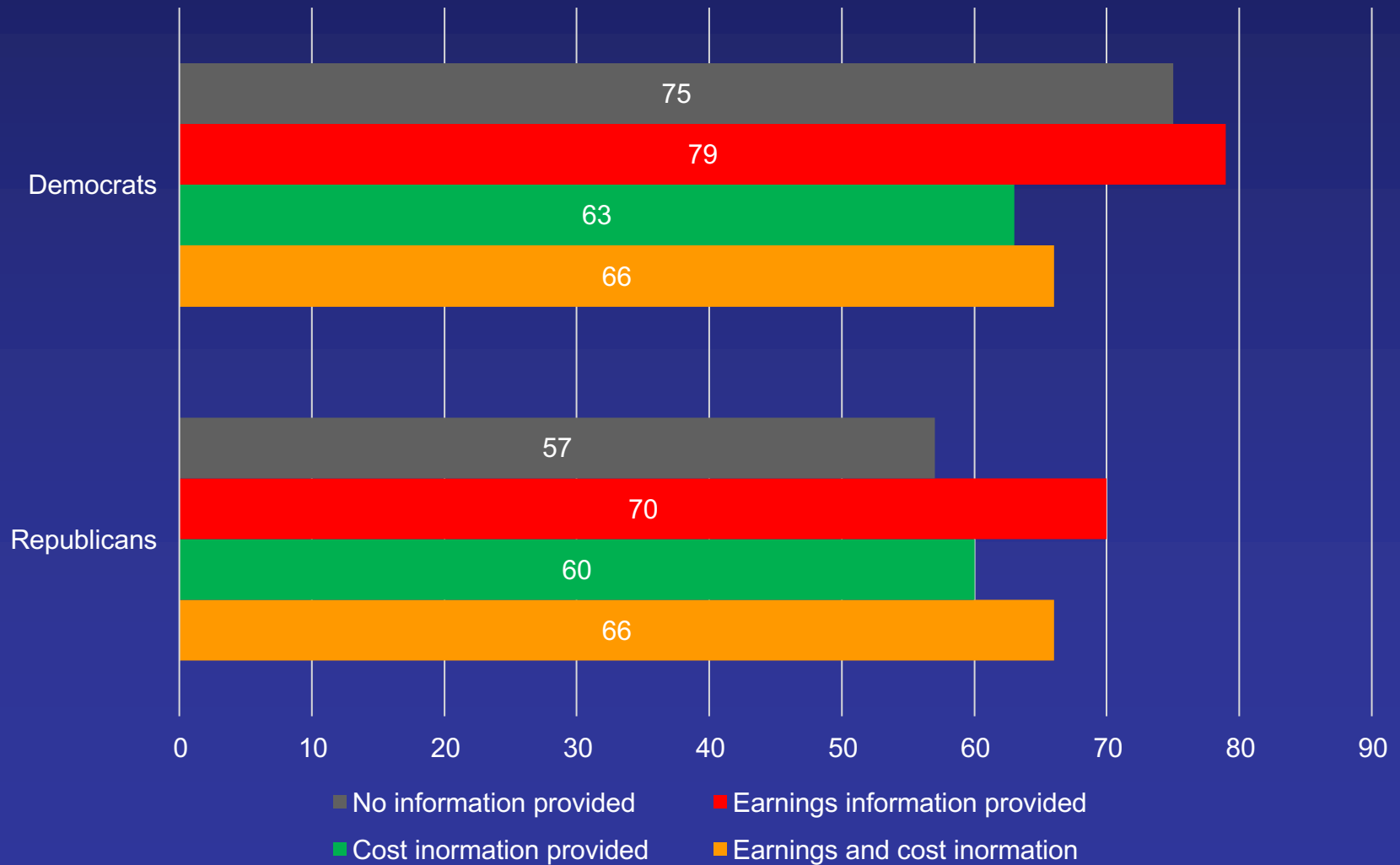
Who Wants a University Degree?

Percentage who would want their child to pursue a four-year university degree



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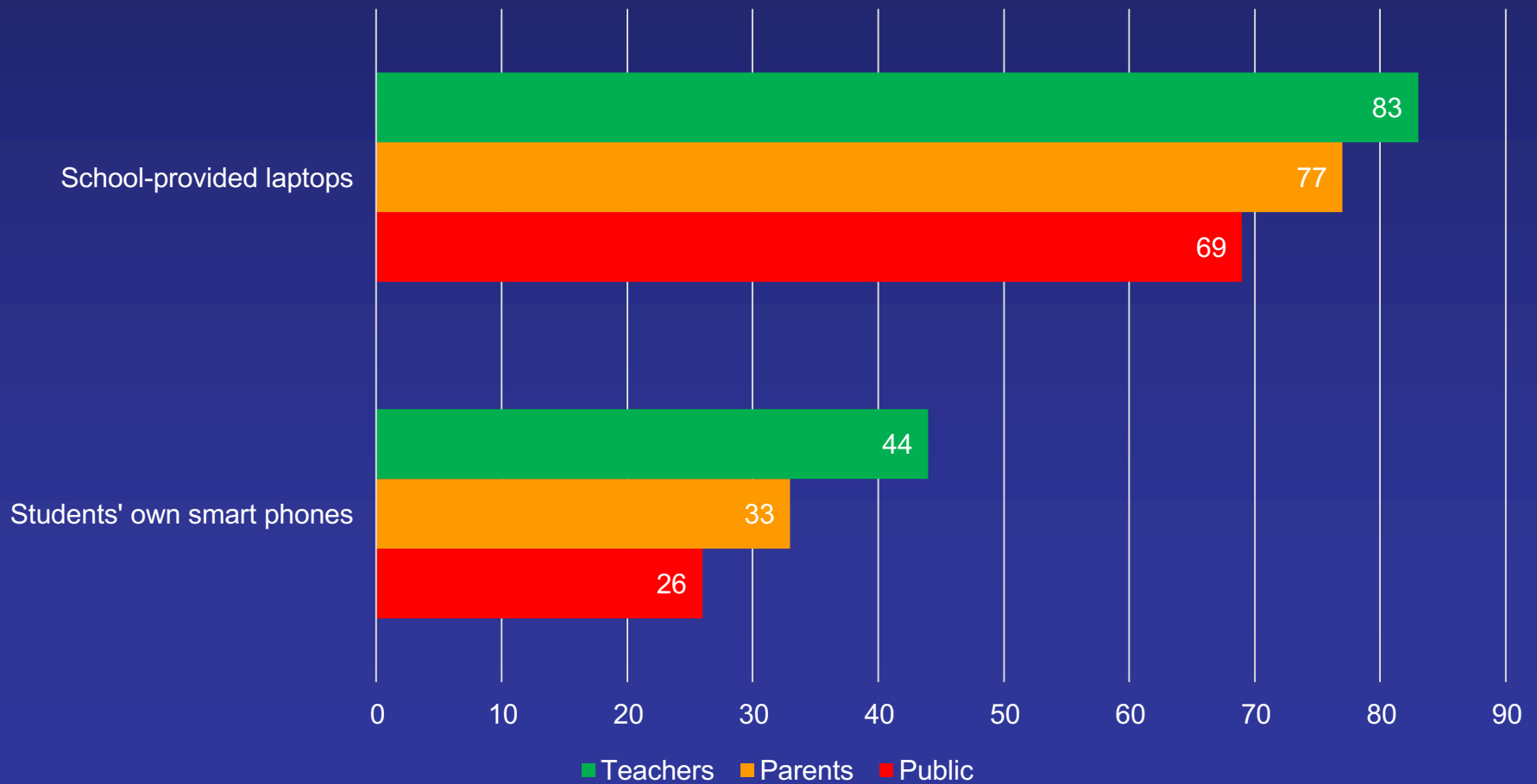


Technology-Enabled Learning

Do you support or oppose high schools in your community [providing students with laptop computers to use / allowing students to use their own smart phones] in the classroom for educational purposes?

Support for Technology-Enabled Learning Higher among Parents, Teachers

Percentage who support local high schools allowing technology in the classroom for learning



Technology-Enabled Learning

- If a school does not offer an advanced course for college credit, should students be allowed to take the course online, or do you think students should be required to take all their courses from teachers at their school?
- If students fail a course in a public high school, should they be allowed to retake the course online, or do you think they should be required to retake the course from teachers at their school?

Support for Technology-Enabled Learning Higher among Parents, Teachers

Percentage who believe students should be allowed to (re)take a course online

