

OPINION SURVEY

# VIEWS OF PARENTS IN LOUISIANA

# Design and Methodology

Arc Insights conducted this study of parents of k-12-aged children in Louisiana. Interviews were collected from a combination of online panel and text message invitations to cell phones. These interviews were collected June 15-18, 2023. Survey design and the analysis presented here was carried out by Arc Insights. Fieldwork was led by Dynata, a data and analytics company. The online panel sample was provided by Dynata, and the text-to-web sample was provided by Data Trust.

## Sample Characteristics

| Responsibility for education decisions            | %   |
|---|-----|
| I hold the responsibility for education decisions | 51% |
| I share responsibility for education decisions    | 49% |
| Gender  | %   |
| Male  | 46% |
| Female  | 53% |
| Other   | 1%  |
| Age   | %   |
| 18-29   | 8%  |
| 30-39   | 38% |
| 40-49   | 41% |
| 50 or over  | 13% |

| School Type           | %   |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Public school         | 69% |
| Private school        | 17% |
| Charter school        | 10% |
| Homeschool            | 5%  |
| Public magnet school  | 3%  |
| Online/Virtual school | 6%  |
| Hybrid school         | 1%  |
| Learning Pod          | *   |
| Unsure                | -   |

Four-in-ten public school parents say their current public school was the only option, compared with 18% of private school parents.

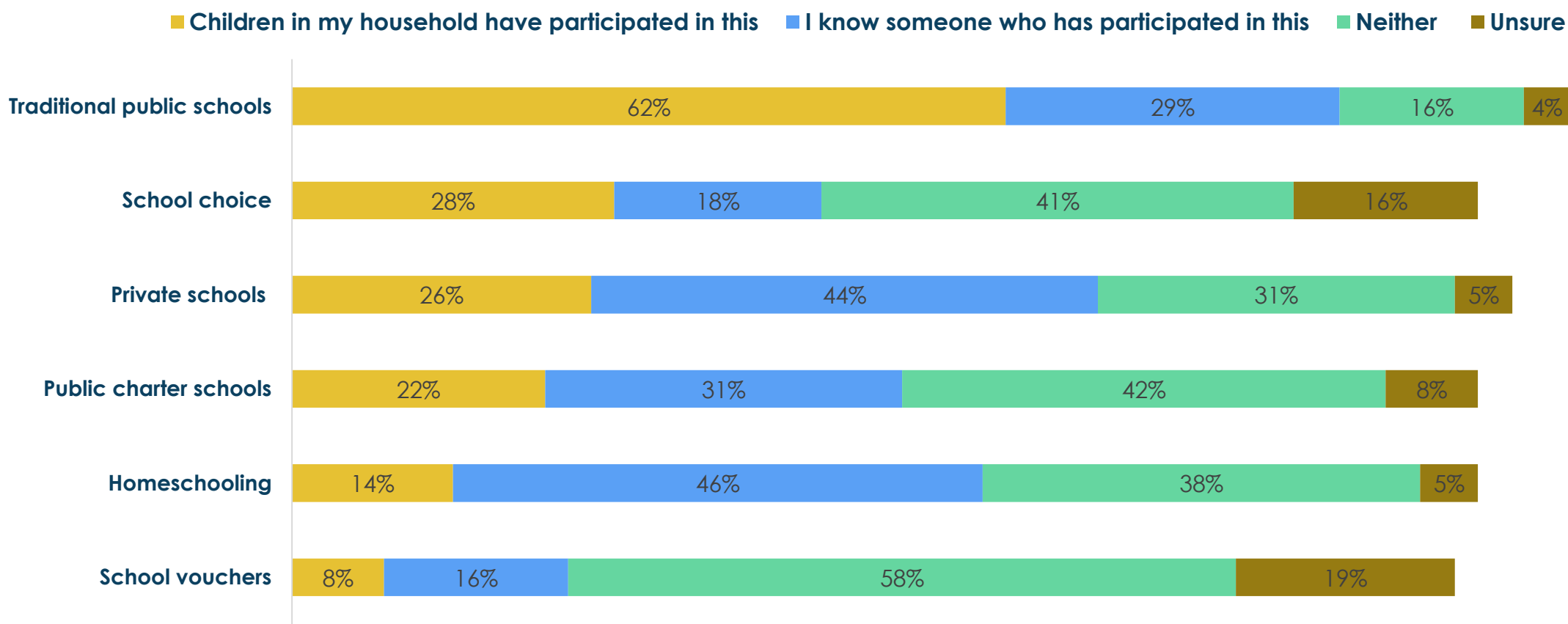
|                             | SCHOOL WHERE CHILDREN ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED |                |                |             |                      |                        |               |              |
|-----------------------------|--|----------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|
|                             | Public School                                | Private School | Charter School | Home School | Public Magnet School | Online/ Virtual School | Hybrid School | Learning Pod |
| Sample Size                 | 224  | 55             | 33             | 16          | 10                   | 20                     | 3             | 1            |
| There were multiple options | 59%  | 82%            | 71%            | 84%         | 80%                  | 72%                    | 100%          | 100%         |
| This was the only option    | 40%  | 18%            | 22%            | 16%         | 20%                  | 28%                    | -             | -            |
| Unsure                      | 2%   | -              | 6%             | -           | -                    | -                      | -             | -            |

# Of parents who reported having multiple options...

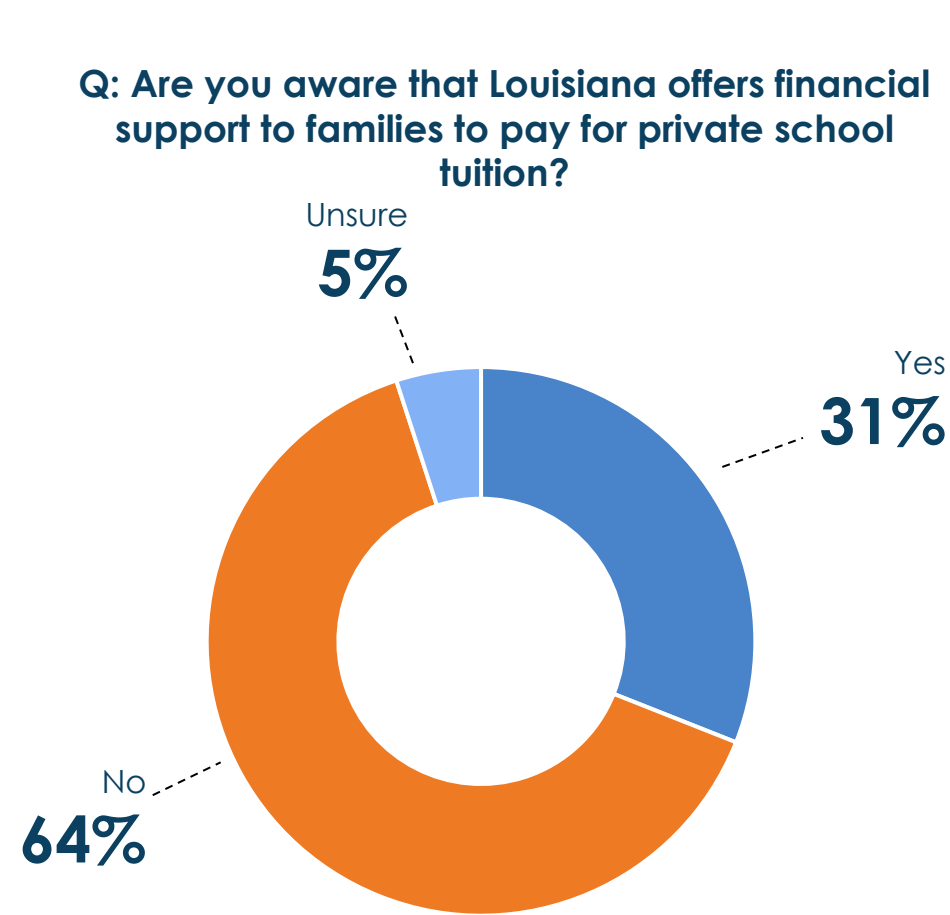
- ❖ Parents of children in a public school report location as the top factor in choosing the school
- ❖ School reputation and values/beliefs of the school were the top factors among parents of children in a private school

|                                     | Public School | Private School | Charter School | Home School | Public Magnet School | Online/ Virtual School | Hybrid School | Learning Pod |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>Sample Size</b>                  | 131           | 45             | 23             | 14          | 8                    | 14                     | 3             | 1            |
| Location from home                  | 69%           | 47%            | 37%            | 14%         | 53%                  | 9%                     | 61%           | -            |
| Overall Reputation of the school    | 63%           | 75%            | 73%            | 33%         | 89%                  | 47%                    | 61%           | -            |
| Quality of teachers                 | 49%           | 62%            | 33%            | 40%         | 58%                  | 53%                    | 100%          | -            |
| Academic record                     | 35%           | 47%            | 51%            | 19%         | 77%                  | 50%                    | -             | -            |
| Class size                          | 23%           | 62%            | 40%            | 33%         | 34%                  | 20%                    | 39%           | -            |
| Good Fellow Students                | 28%           | 41%            | 20%            | 14%         | 23%                  | 14%                    | 39%           | -            |
| Cost (if applicable) of attending   | 28%           | 17%            | 21%            | 49%         | 11%                  | 26%                    | -             | 100%         |
| Values/beliefs of the school        | 24%           | 64%            | 14%            | 45%         | 34%                  | 25%                    | 39%           | -            |
| Athletic programs                   | 22%           | 12%            | 17%            | -           | 27%                  | 6%                     | 39%           | -            |
| Extracurriculars                    | 22%           | 19%            | 30%            | -           | 33%                  | 18%                    | 39%           | -            |
| Art Programs                        | 15%           | 4%             | 20%            | -           | 22%                  | 6%                     | 39%           | -            |
| Specialization Options (stem, arts) | 13%           | 6%             | 25%            | -           | 25%                  | -                      | -             | -            |
| Other                               | 4%            | 9%             | 5%             | 34%         | -                    | 30%                    | -             | 100%         |

# Most parents have neither participated in school vouchers and nor know of someone who has. Other than school choice, parents report either personal involvement or knowledge of involvement in other areas of education.

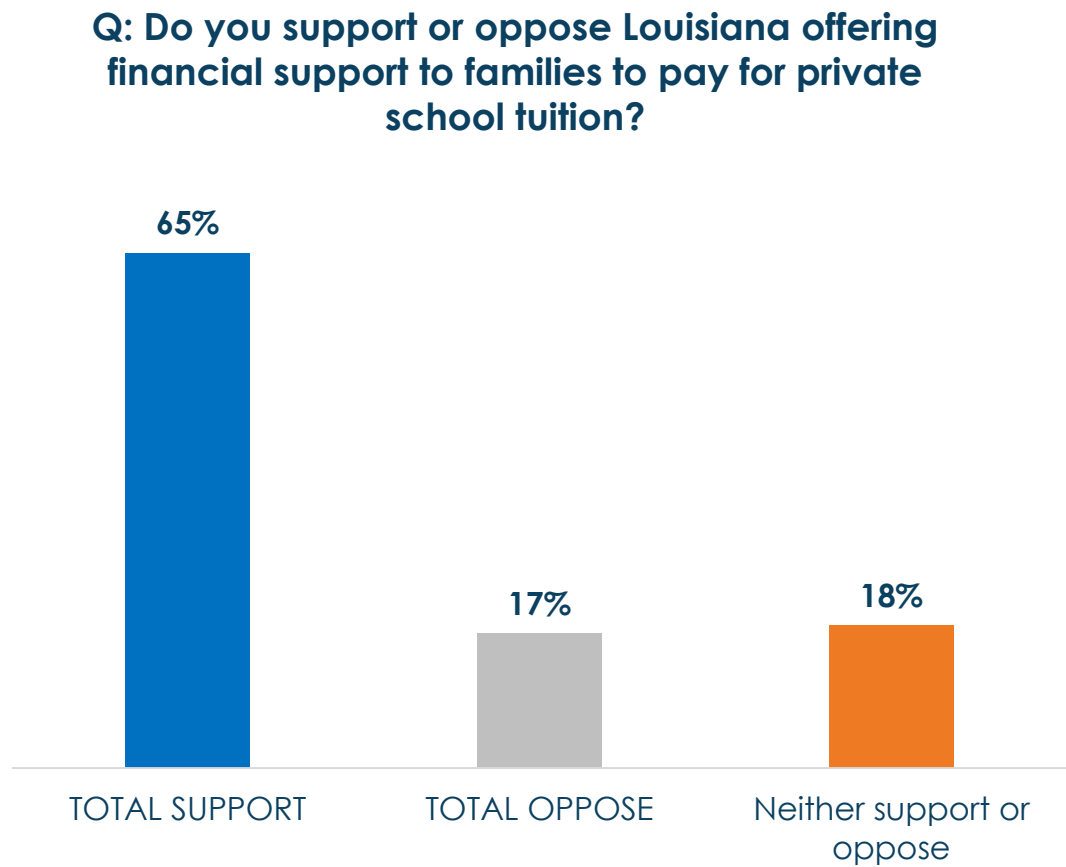


# Awareness of financial support for private school is highest among private school, urban, and 35-40 year old parents. It is lowest among 18-34 year old and rural parents.



|                               | % Aware |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Overall                       | 31%     |
| Private School Parent         | 42%     |
| Urban                         | 40%     |
| 35-40                         | 40%     |
| 41-44                         | 37%     |
| Male                          | 35%     |
| College grad                  | 35%     |
| White                         | 33%     |
| Suburban                      | 31%     |
| Some College                  | 29%     |
| Female                        | 28%     |
| Public School Parent          | 28%     |
| Non-public/non-private Parent | 28%     |
| Black                         | 28%     |
| 45+                           | 28%     |
| Hs Or Less                    | 26%     |
| Rural                         | 24%     |
| 18-34                         | 21%     |

# Support for financial assistance is highest among parents of children enrolled in a non-public or non-private school, Black parents, and younger parents.

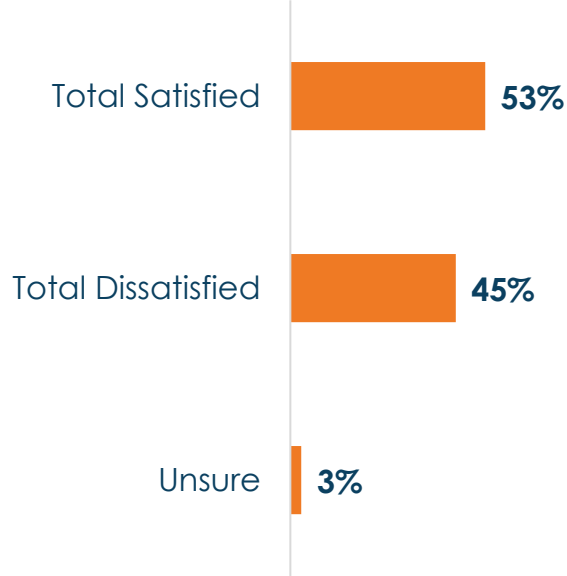


|                               | % Support |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Overall                       | 65%       |
| Non-public/non-private Parent | 79%       |
| Black                         | 74%       |
| 18-34                         | 73%       |
| Some College                  | 70%       |
| Hs Or Less                    | 68%       |
| Suburban                      | 68%       |
| Private School Parent         | 67%       |
| 35-40                         | 67%       |
| Male                          | 66%       |
| Female                        | 64%       |
| Public School Parent          | 64%       |
| Rural                         | 63%       |
| 45+                           | 63%       |
| White                         | 62%       |
| Urban                         | 61%       |
| College Grad                  | 60%       |
| 41-44                         | 54%       |

# More than four-in-ten parents are dissatisfied with the quality of education in Louisiana.

❖ Rural parents are the most dissatisfied with education in the state, while urban parents are the least dissatisfied.

Q: Overall, how satisfied are you with the quality of education students receive in Louisiana today?



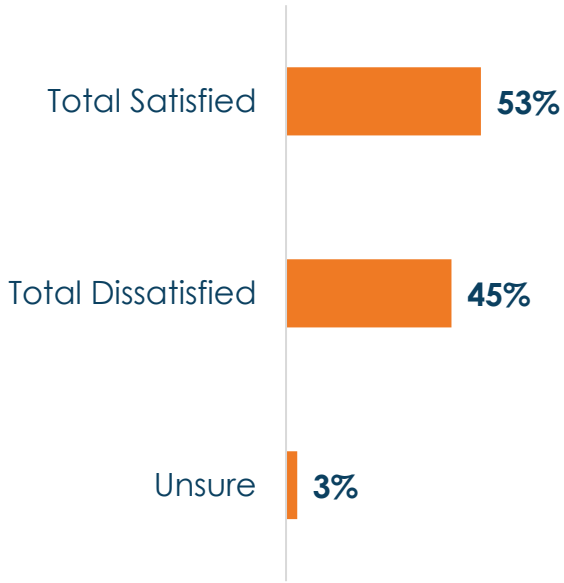
|                               | % Dissatisfied |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Overall                       | 45%            |
| Rural                         | 55%            |
| College Grad                  | 51%            |
| Private School Parent         | 50%            |
| 45+                           | 50%            |
| Non-public/non-private Parent | 49%            |
| White                         | 47%            |
| 35-40                         | 46%            |
| Female                        | 46%            |
| Suburban                      | 45%            |
| 18-34                         | 43%            |
| Male                          | 43%            |
| Public School Parent          | 43%            |
| Black                         | 41%            |
| Some College                  | 40%            |
| Hs Or Less                    | 38%            |
| 41-44                         | 36%            |
| Urban                         | 31%            |



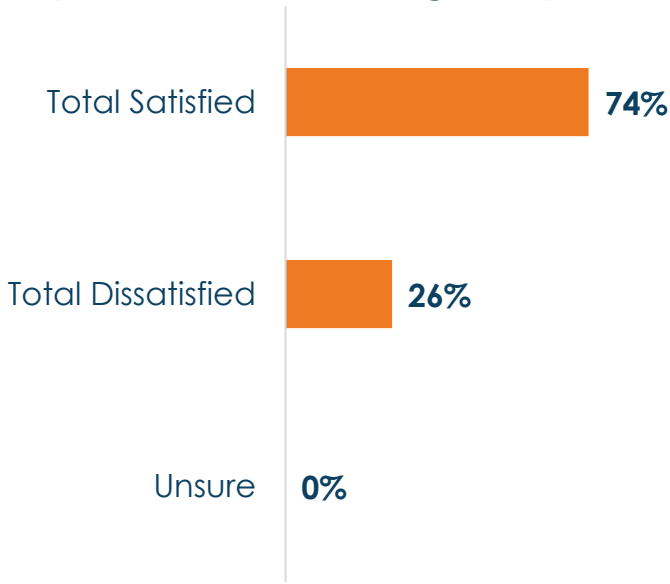
# By more than a 20-point gap, more parents are satisfied with their own child’s educational experience than they are for students throughout the state.

- ❖ Urban and suburban parents are more likely to be satisfied with their child’s education than rural parents.
- ❖ Private school parents are more likely to be satisfied than public school parents.

Q: Overall, how satisfied are you with the quality of education students receive in Louisiana today?



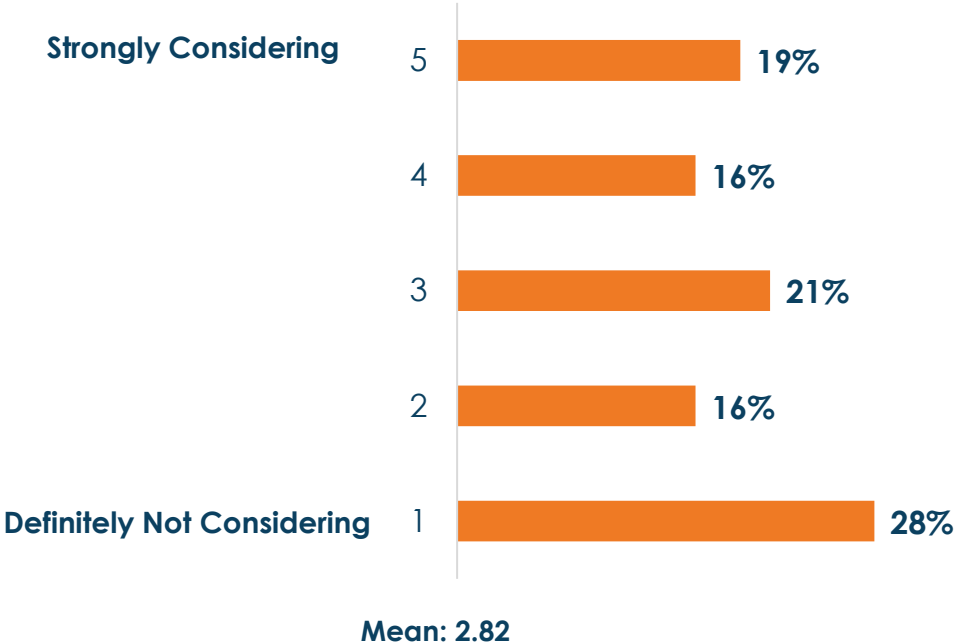
Q: Now thinking only about your child and their education... how satisfied are you with the quality of education your child is receiving today?



|                               | % Satisfied |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Overall                       | 74%         |
| Private School Parent         | 92%         |
| Urban                         | 83%         |
| 41-44                         | 80%         |
| Suburban                      | 77%         |
| 35-40                         | 76%         |
| College Grad                  | 76%         |
| Male                          | 75%         |
| Black                         | 74%         |
| Hs Or Less                    | 74%         |
| White                         | 73%         |
| Female                        | 73%         |
| Non-public/non-private Parent | 72%         |
| 18-34                         | 71%         |
| Some College                  | 71%         |
| 45+                           | 70%         |
| Public School Parent          | 70%         |
| Rural                         | 61%         |

# A little over one third of parents are considering a new school. This is driven by parents with children outside of public or private schools, urban, and Black parents.

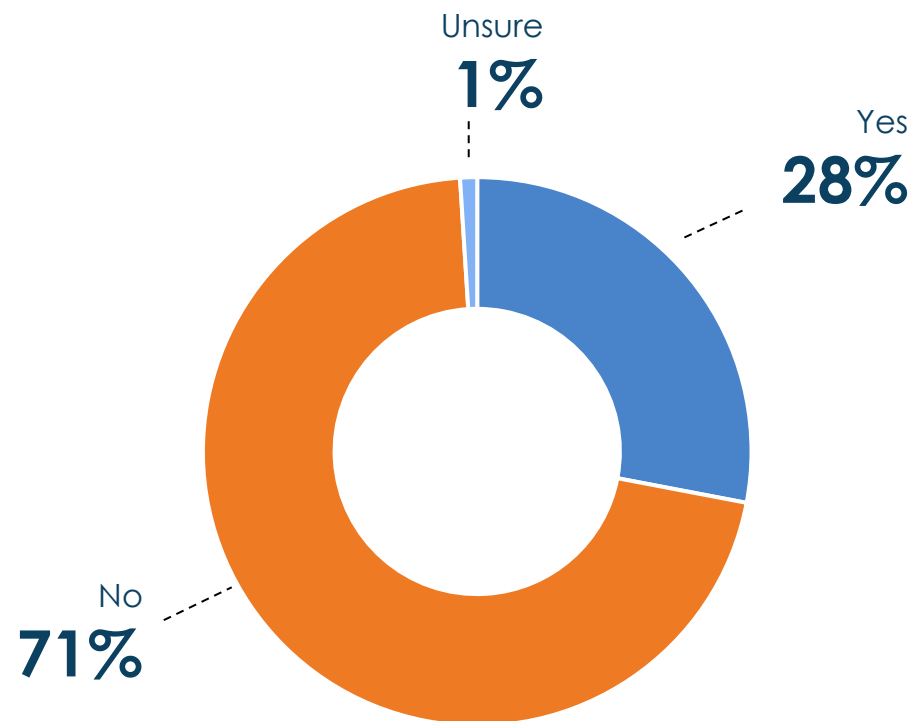
Q: How much, if at all, are you considering a new or different school or learning environment for any of the school-aged children in your household?



|                               | % Considering (4,5) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Overall                       | 35%                 |
| Non-public/non-private Parent | 45%                 |
| 18-34                         | 44%                 |
| 35-40                         | 43%                 |
| Urban                         | 42%                 |
| Black                         | 41%                 |
| Public School Parent          | 37%                 |
| College Grad                  | 37%                 |
| Female                        | 36%                 |
| Some College                  | 36%                 |
| Rural                         | 34%                 |
| Male                          | 33%                 |
| White                         | 32%                 |
| Suburban                      | 32%                 |
| Private School Parent         | 30%                 |
| Hs Or Less                    | 30%                 |
| 41-44                         | 29%                 |
| 45+                           | 23%                 |

# More than one quarter of parents have switched their child's school.

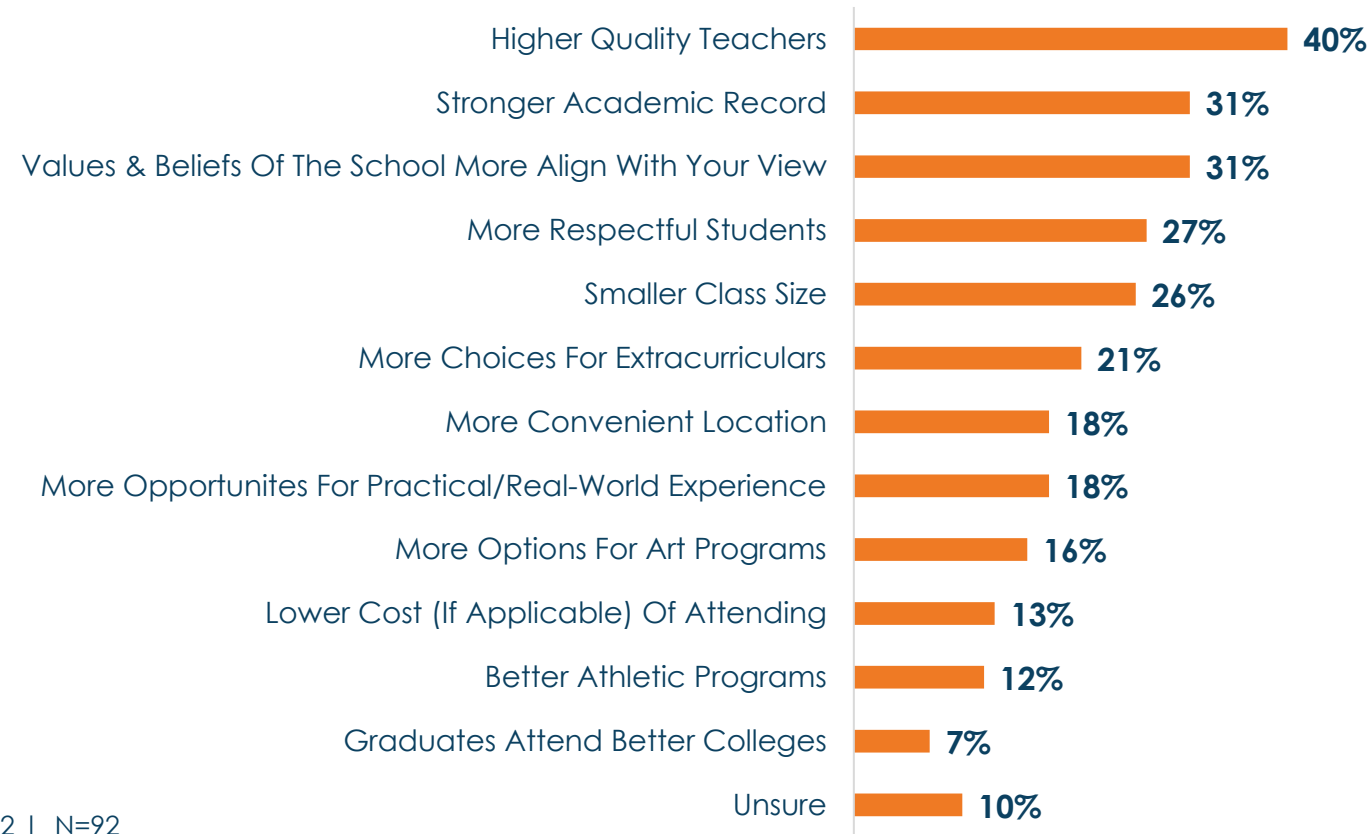
Q: Have you ever, at any time during your child's k-12 education, switched to a different school for a reason other than moving/changing residences?



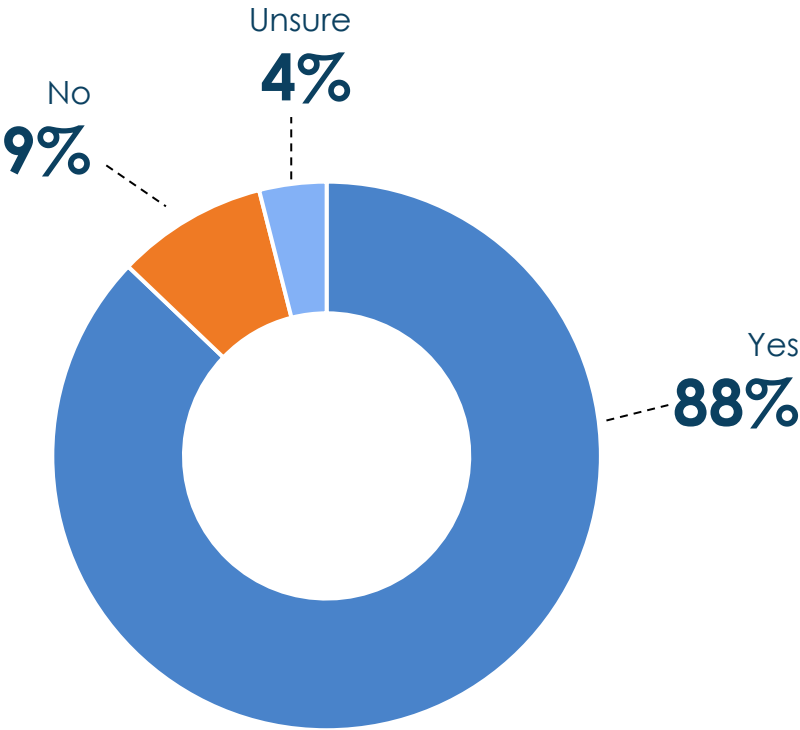
|                               | % Switched |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Overall                       | 28%        |
| Non-public/non-private Parent | 55%        |
| 41-44                         | 35%        |
| Rural                         | 33%        |
| College Grad                  | 32%        |
| Private School Parent         | 31%        |
| 45+                           | 31%        |
| Male                          | 30%        |
| White                         | 29%        |
| Urban                         | 29%        |
| 35-40                         | 28%        |
| HS Or Less                    | 28%        |
| Female                        | 27%        |
| Black                         | 27%        |
| Public School Parent          | 26%        |
| Suburban                      | 25%        |
| Some College                  | 22%        |
| 18-34                         | 20%        |

Of the parents who have switched schools, the most common reason for switching was for higher quality teachers. Nearly nine-in-ten say switching schools was the right decision.

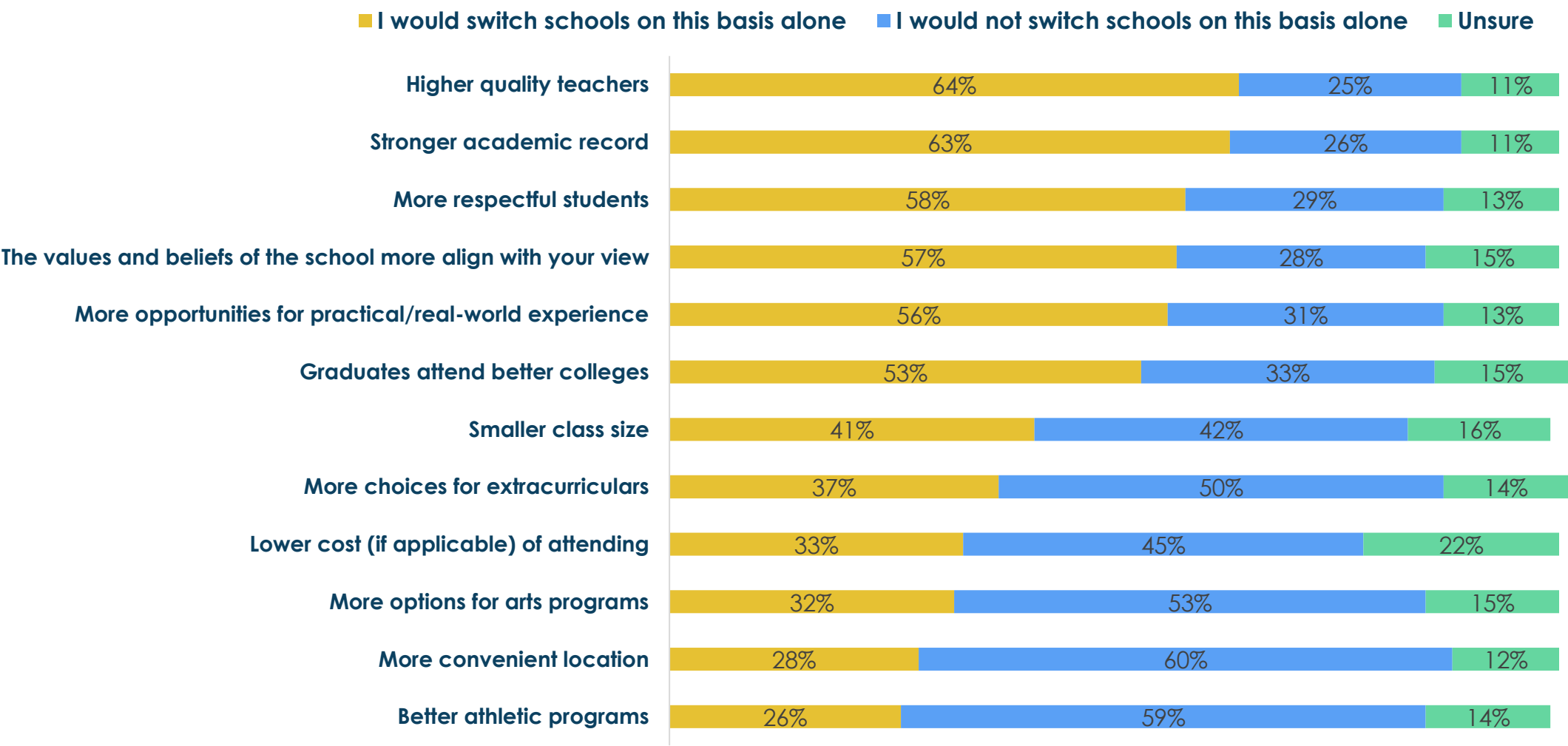
Q: From the list below, please select the reasons that you switched schools? Select all that apply



Q: In hindsight, was switching schools the right decision?

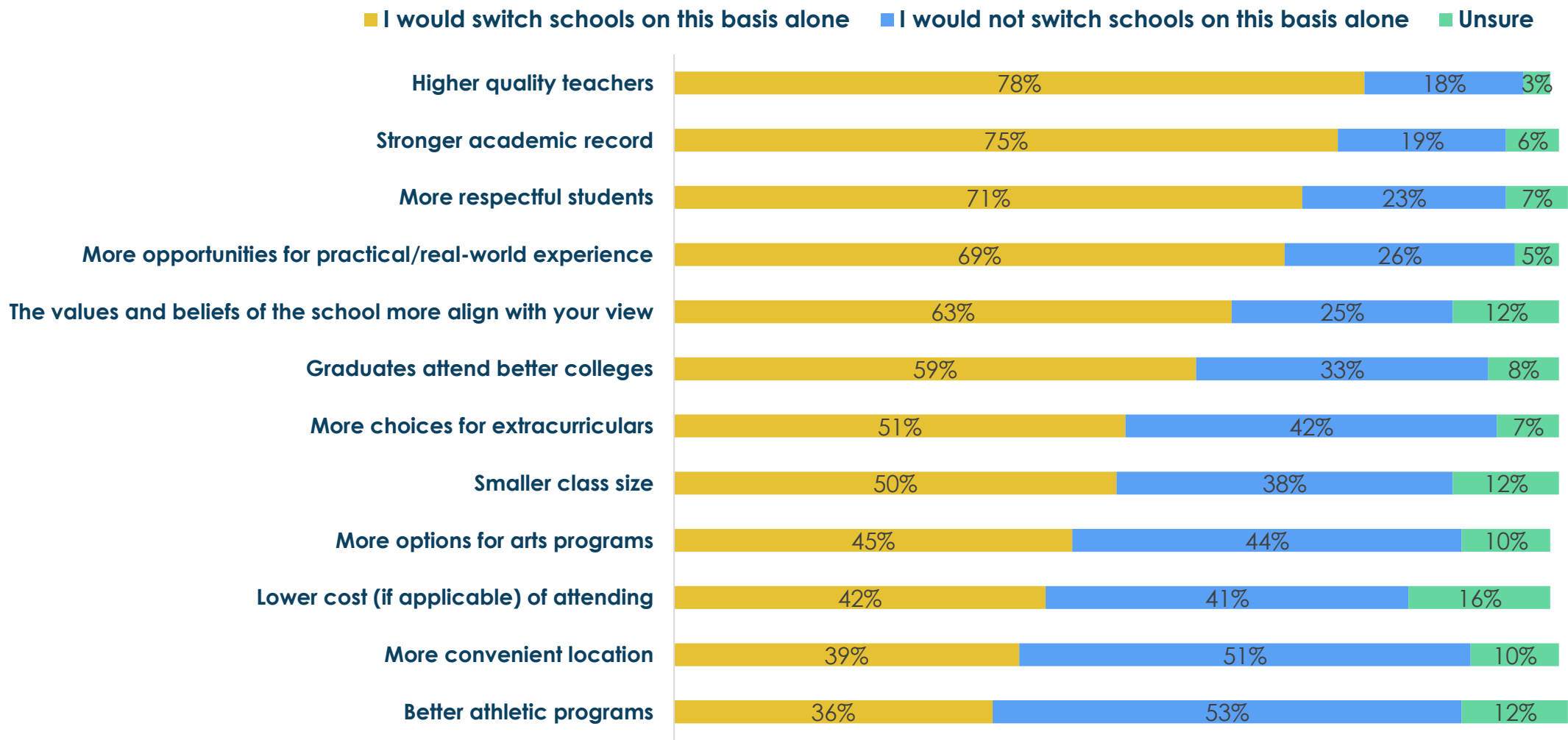


# Higher quality teachers and a stronger academic record are the top reasons that parents would switch schools.



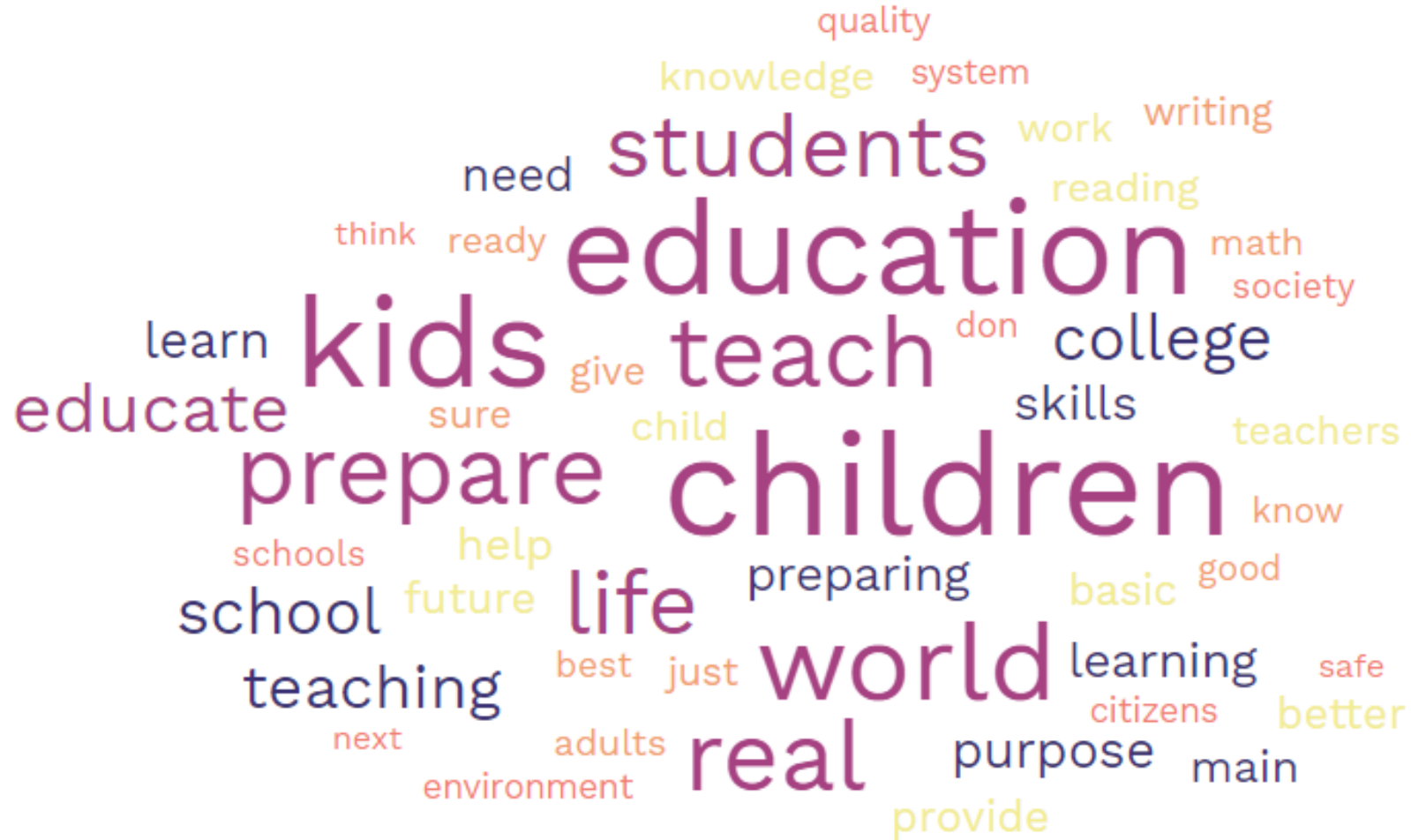
# For parents considering a new school, the priorities for switching are similar to all parents.

Sample: Parents Considering a New School



**When asked to identify the purpose of k-12 education in their own words, the theme of preparing children for the real world was most commonly mentioned.**

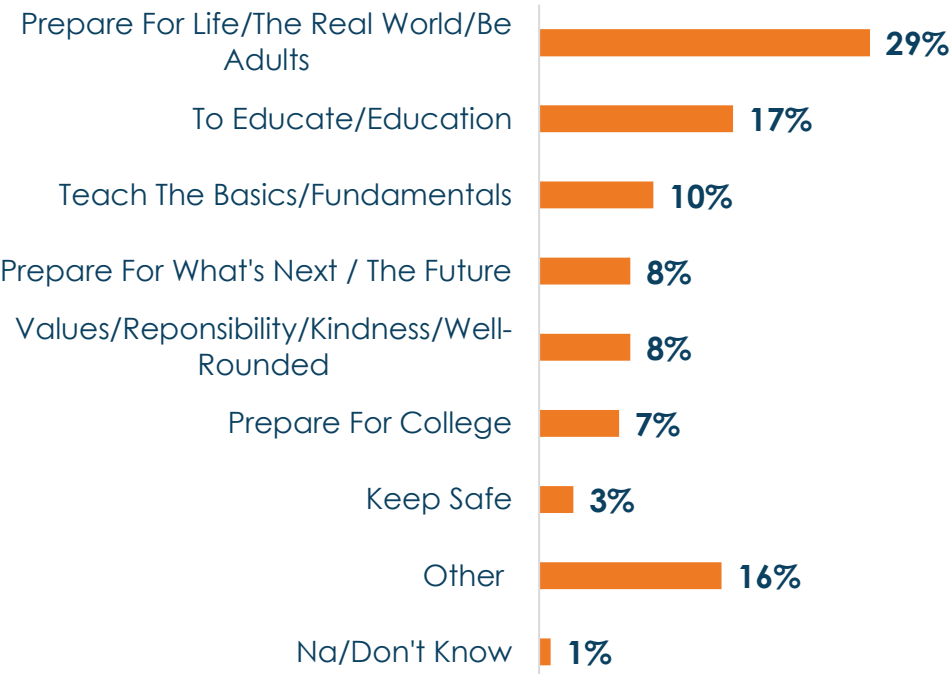
**Q: In a few words, what would you say should be the main purpose of the k-12 education system?**



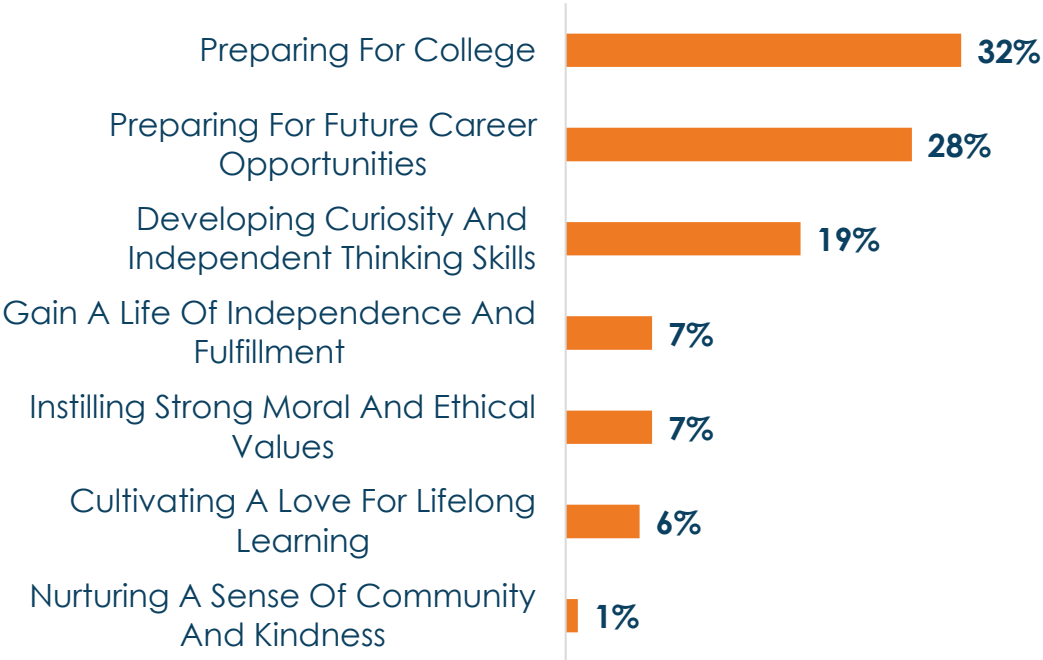
# Parents say preparing children should be the main purpose of education, and this is also what they believe most people would say is the main purpose.

Q: In a few words, what would you say should be the main purpose of the k-12 education system?

### Coded Verbatim Responses



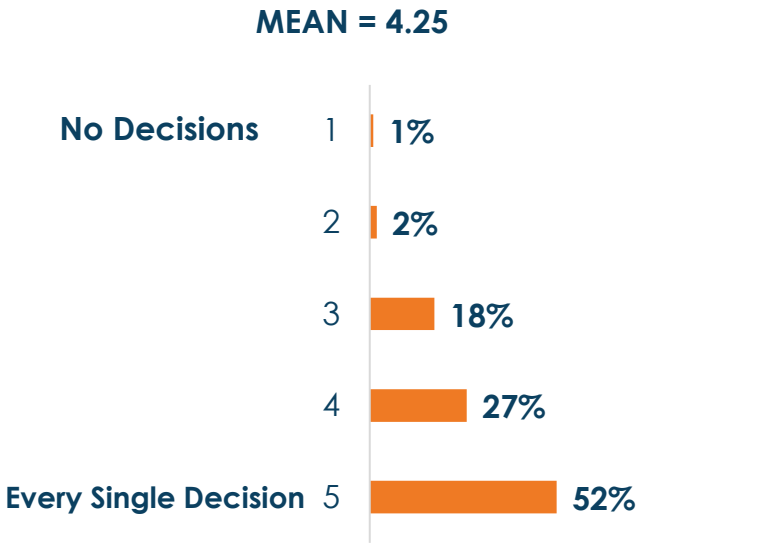
Q: Which of the following do you think most people would say is the main purpose of the k-12 education system?



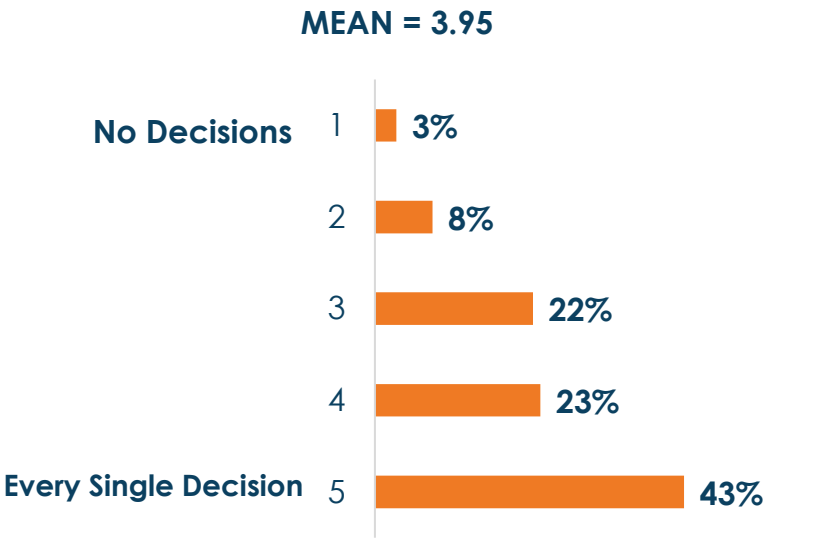


**While 52% of parents wants to be responsible for every single decision with their child’s education, just 43% say they currently have these decision rights. Parents rate what other parents want the same as their current status of decision rights.**

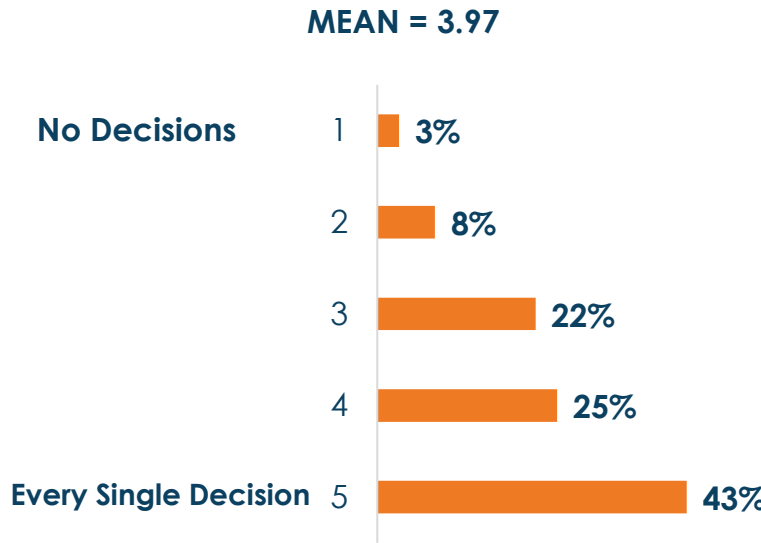
Q: How many decisions do you want to be responsible for when it comes to the different aspects of your child’s education?



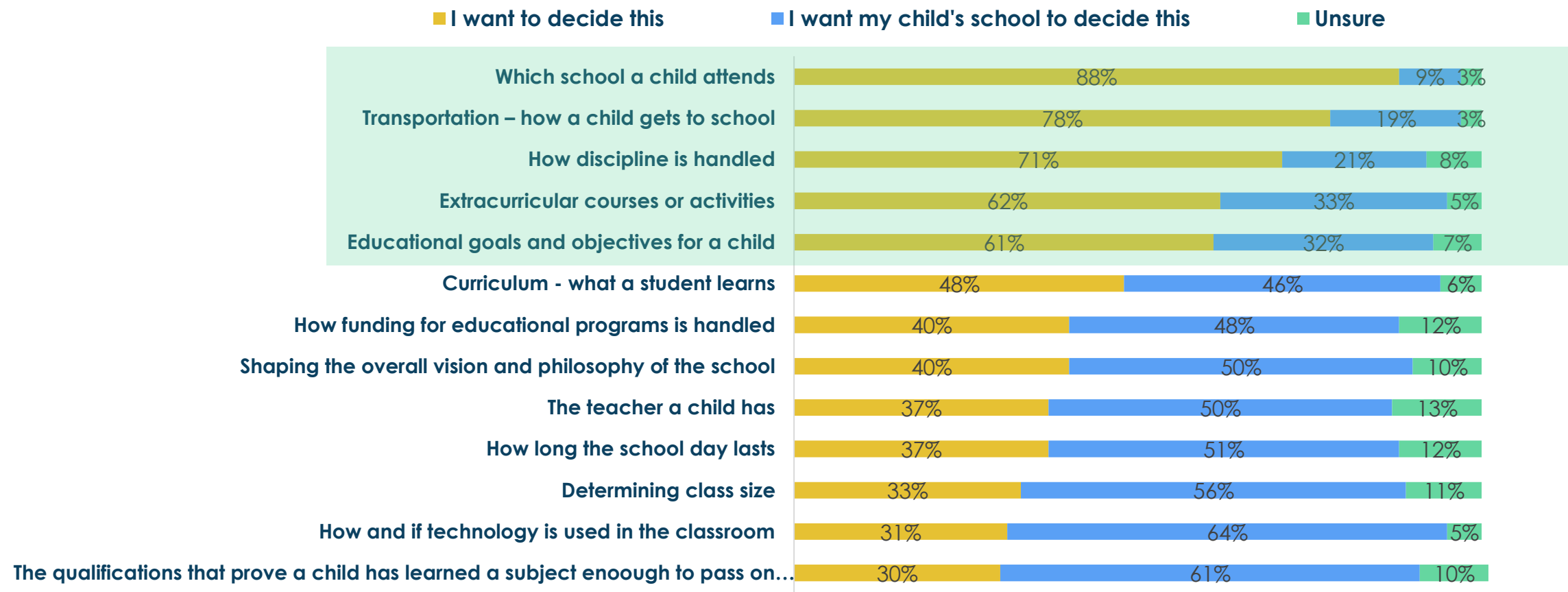
Q: How many decisions are you currently responsible for when it comes to the different aspects of your child’s education?



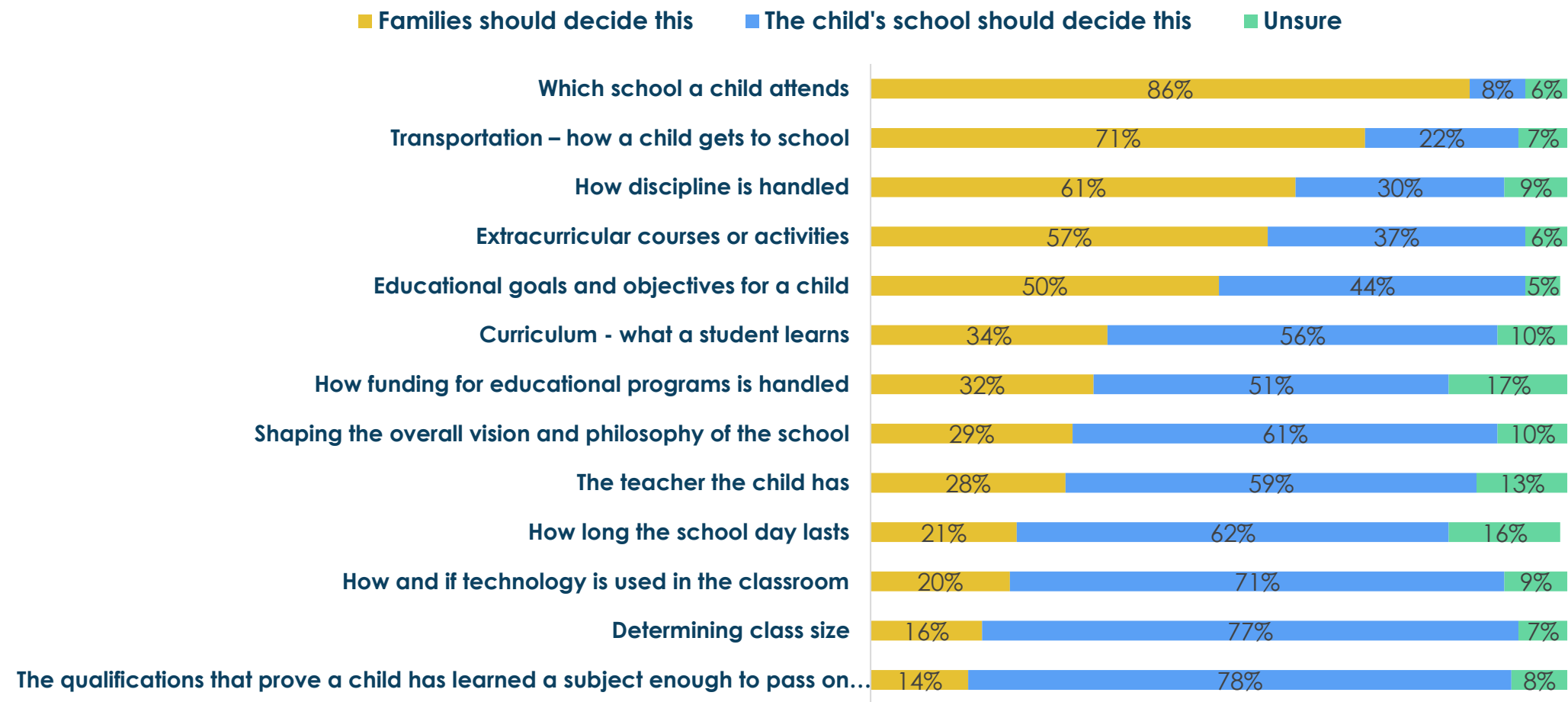
Q: How many decisions do you think most other parents want to be responsible for when it comes to the different aspects of their child’s education?



# Parents express the aspects of education that they want to decide and which they want the school to decide.



# When asked what “most people” in the state would prefer, parents answer their choice of decision rights similarly to what they personally prefer.



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