

Public opinion check-in

Public education, school boards and superintendents, critical race theory

Oregon statewide survey, data release 2

January 2022

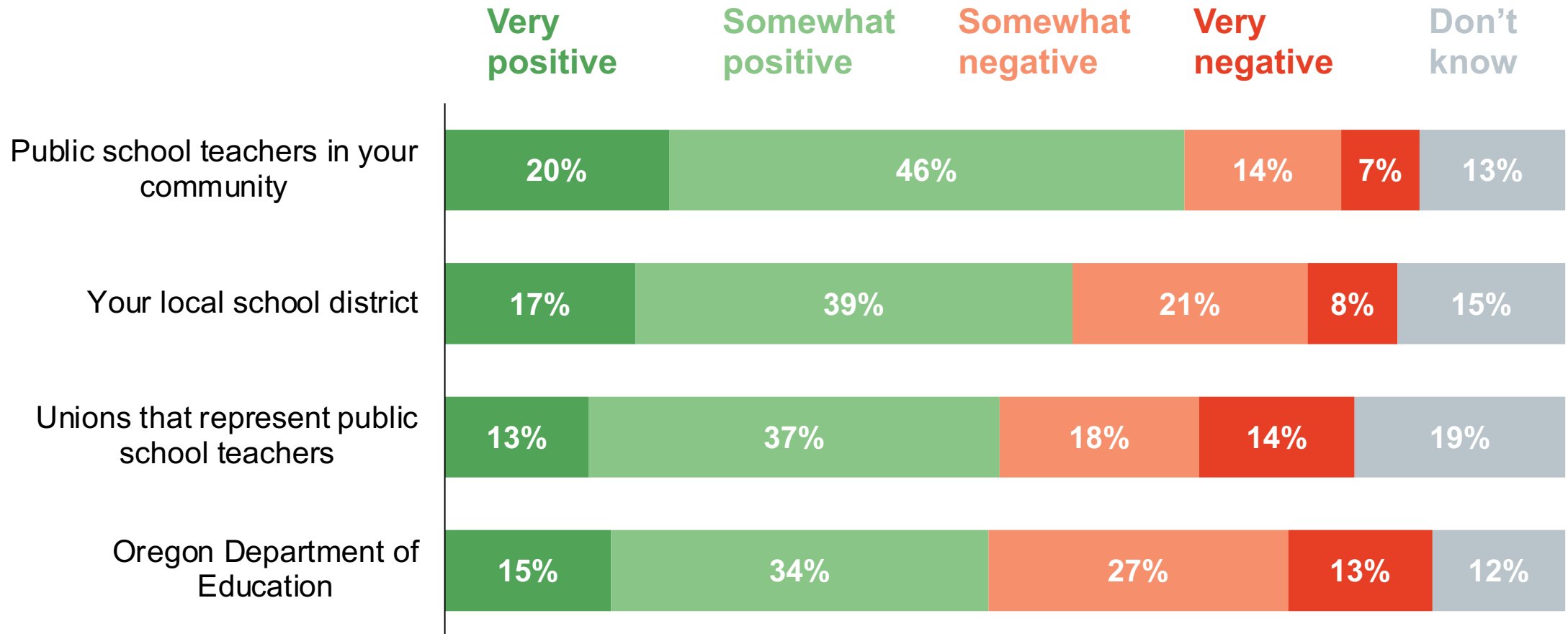


Methodology

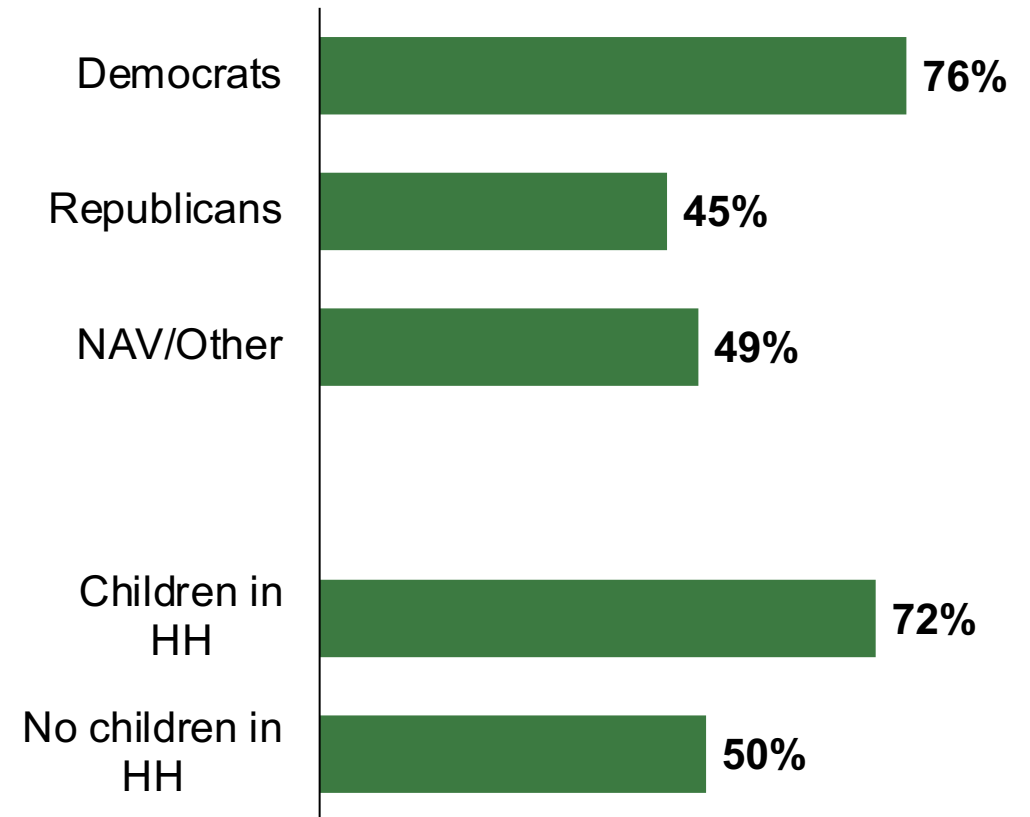
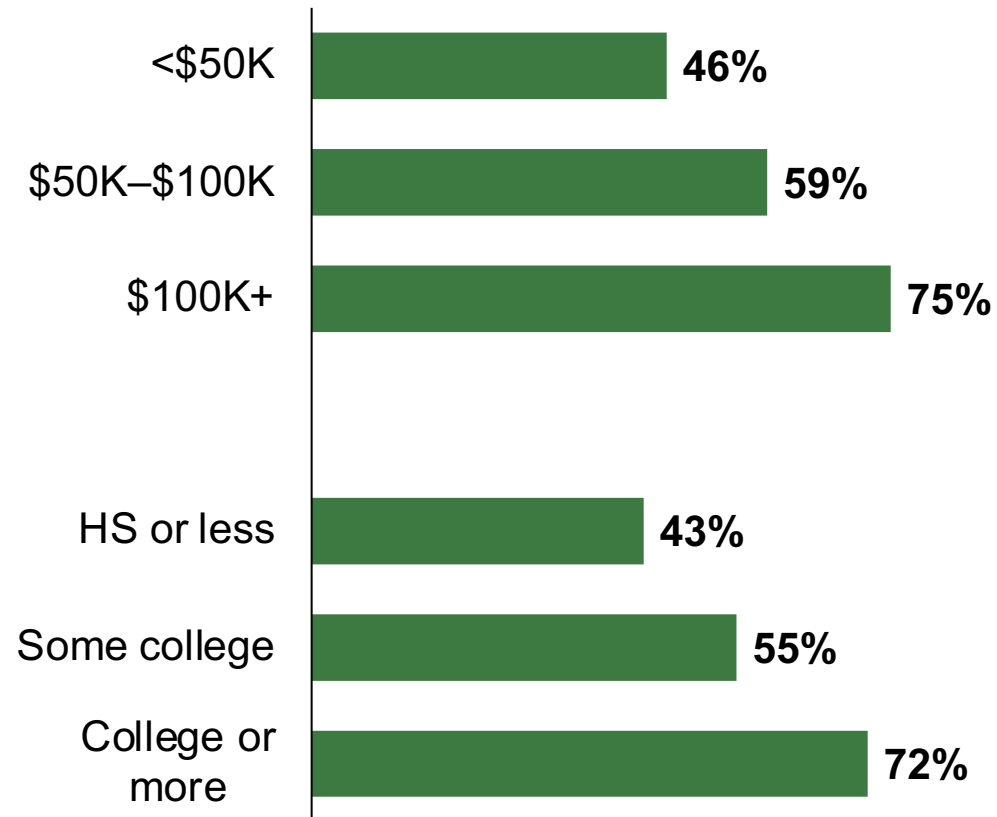
- Online survey of N=400 Oregonians ages 18+
- Conducted January 18–22, 2022
- Quotas and statistical weighting by gender, age, education, race, area of the state and political affiliation to match Oregon's general population
- Margin of error $\pm 4.9\%$
- Due to rounding, some totals may differ by ± 1 from the sum of separate responses

Education and COVID-19

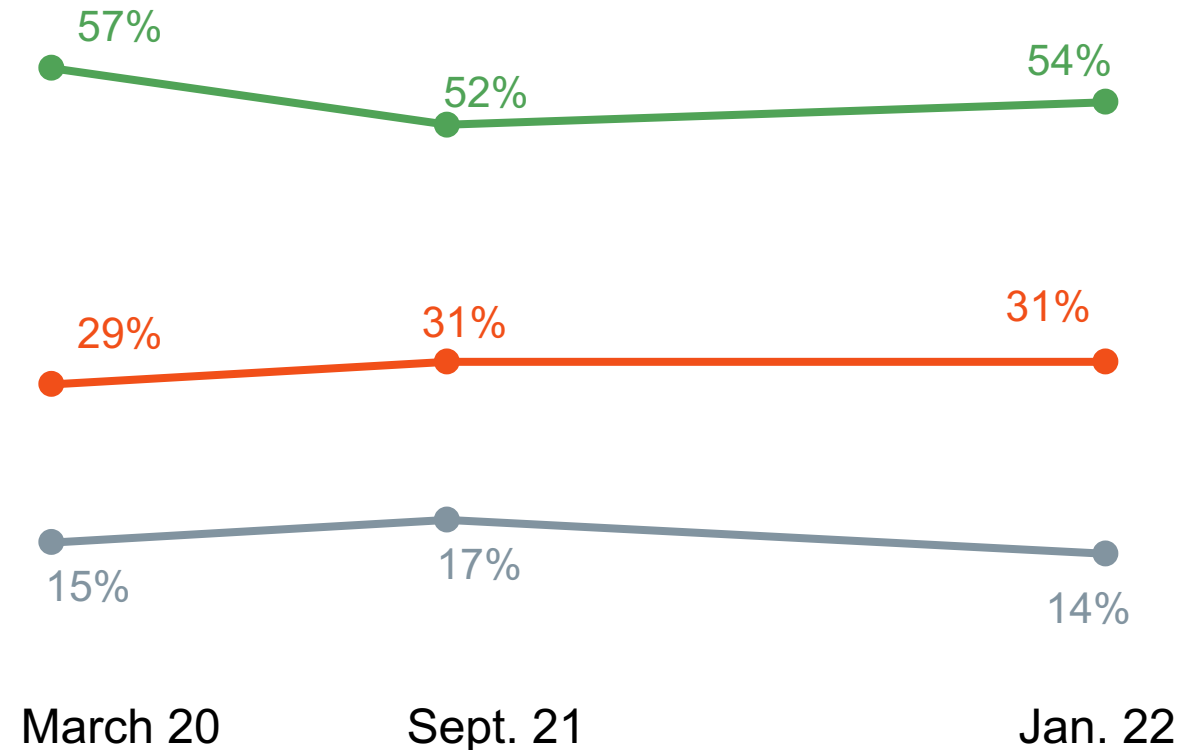
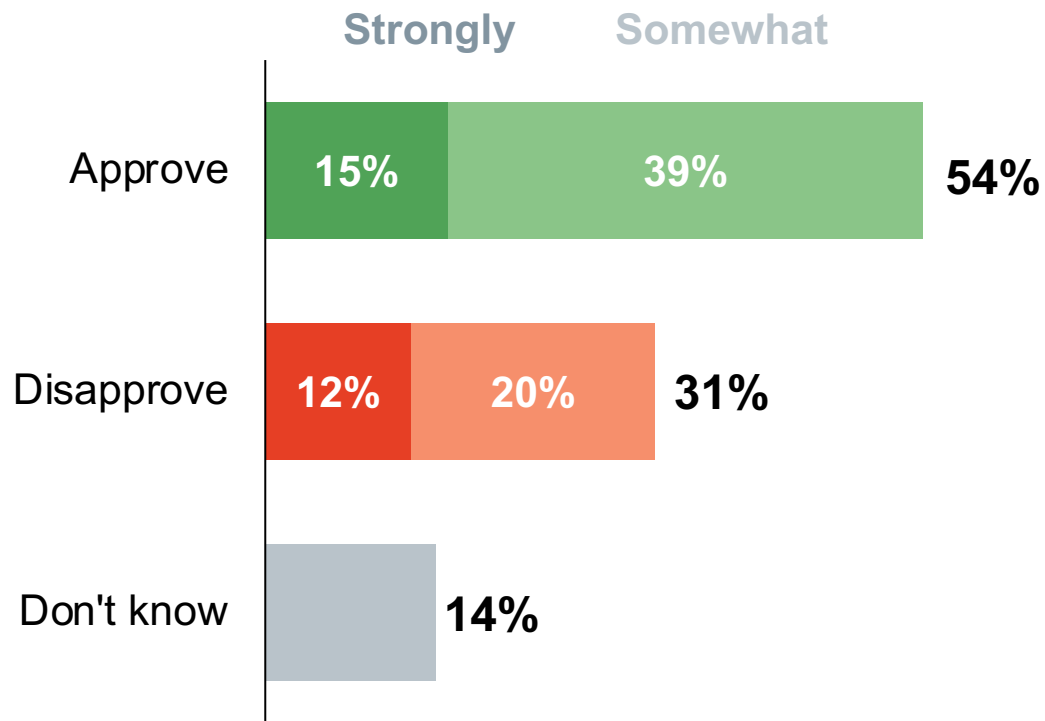
Most Oregonians hold positive opinions of their public school teachers and local school district.



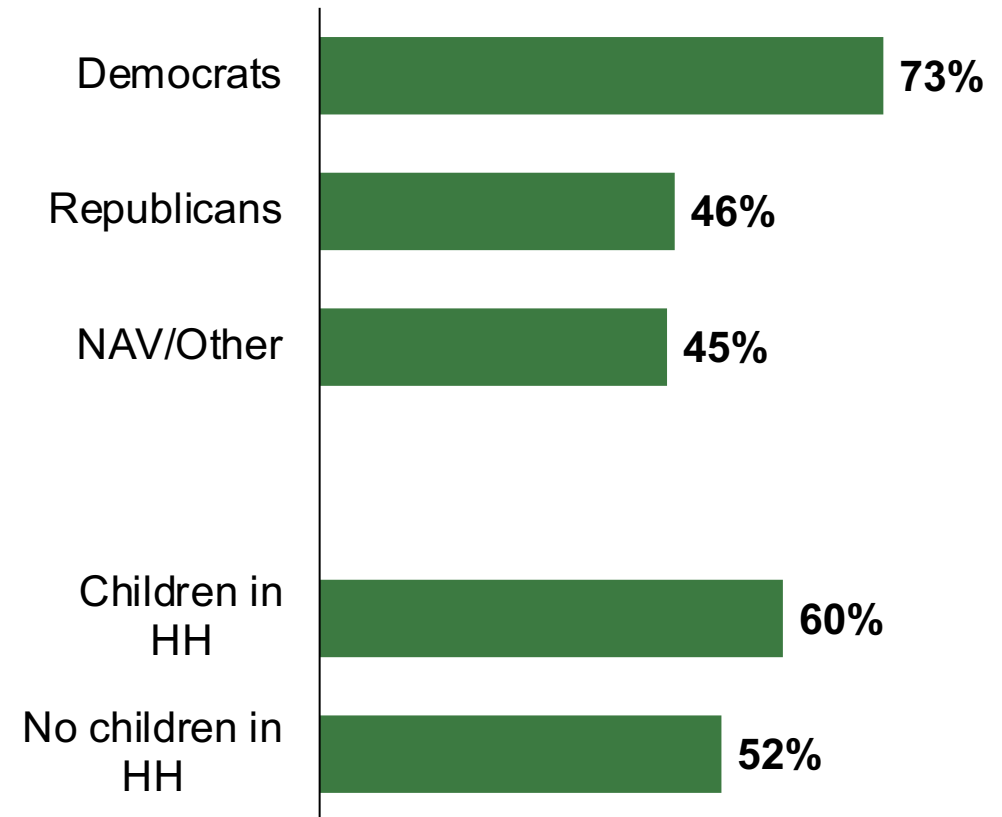
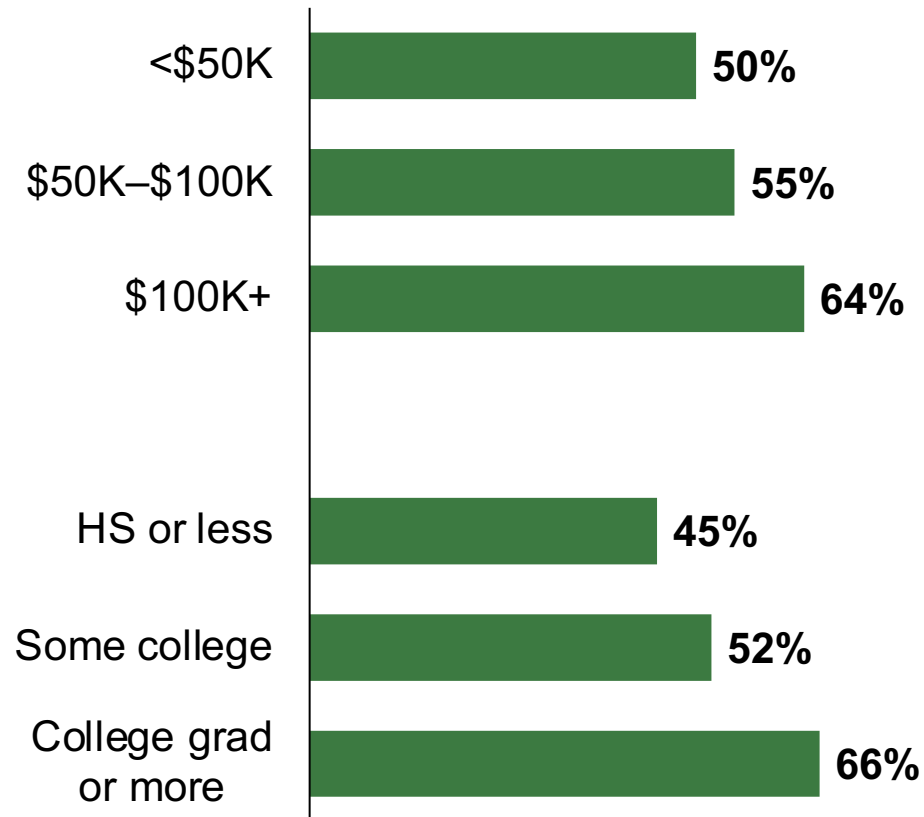
Oregonians with higher socioeconomic status, those with children in the household, and Democrats have a more positive view of their local school districts. These trends hold true for all other groups tested.



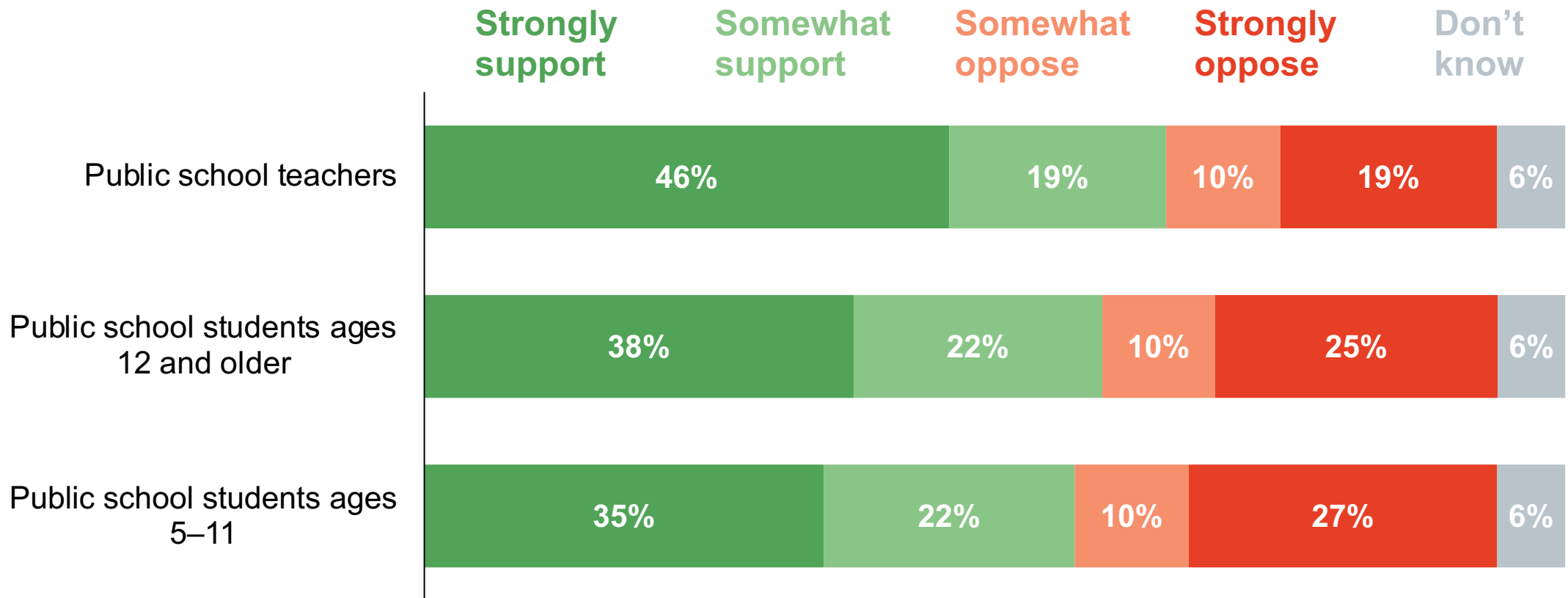
Oregonians largely approve of the job their local school district is doing responding to COVID-19. This sentiment has remained steady dating back to September 2020.



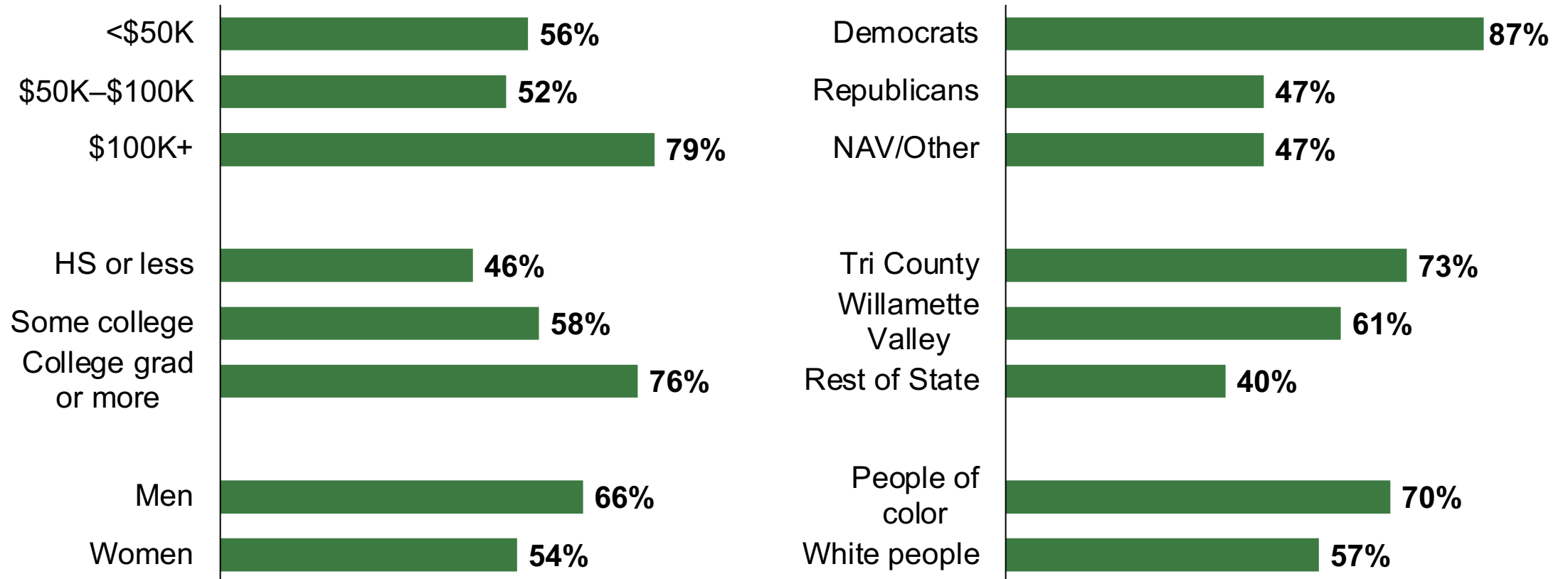
Again, Oregonians with higher socioeconomic status, those with children in the household, and Democrats are more positive about the job their district is doing.



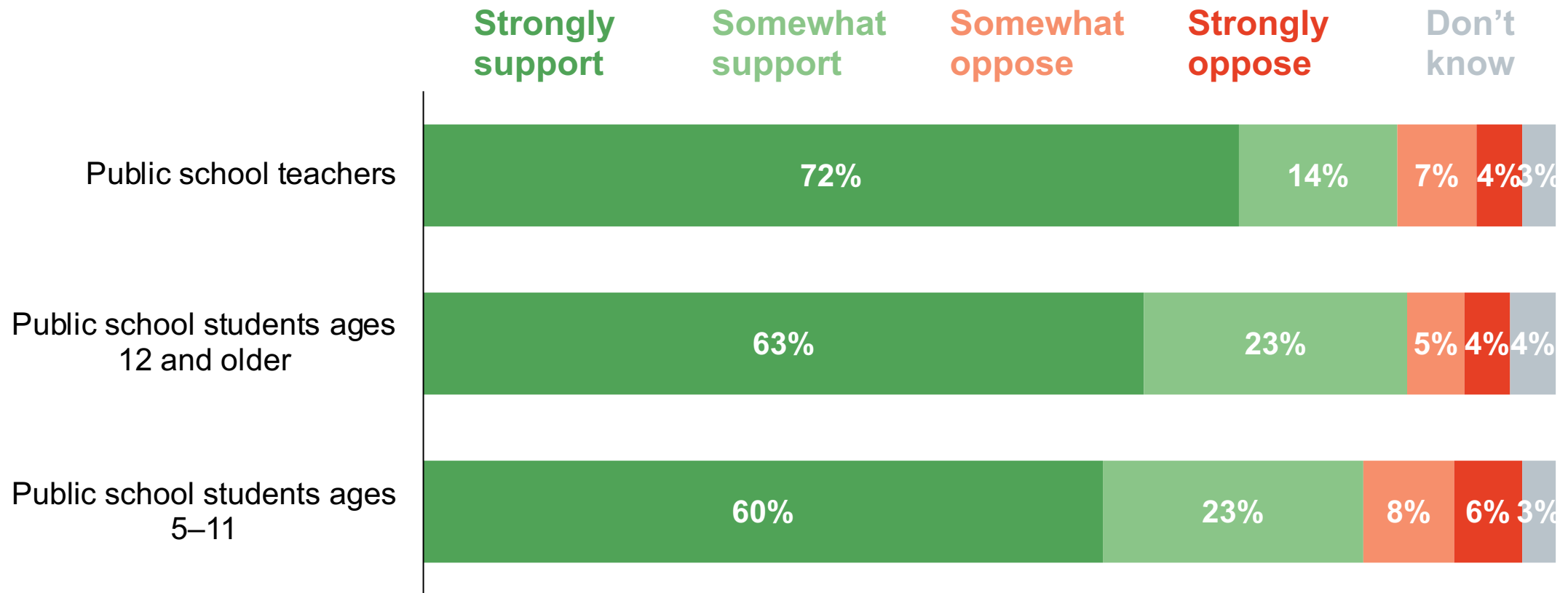
A majority of Oregonians support vaccination requirements for public school teachers and students.



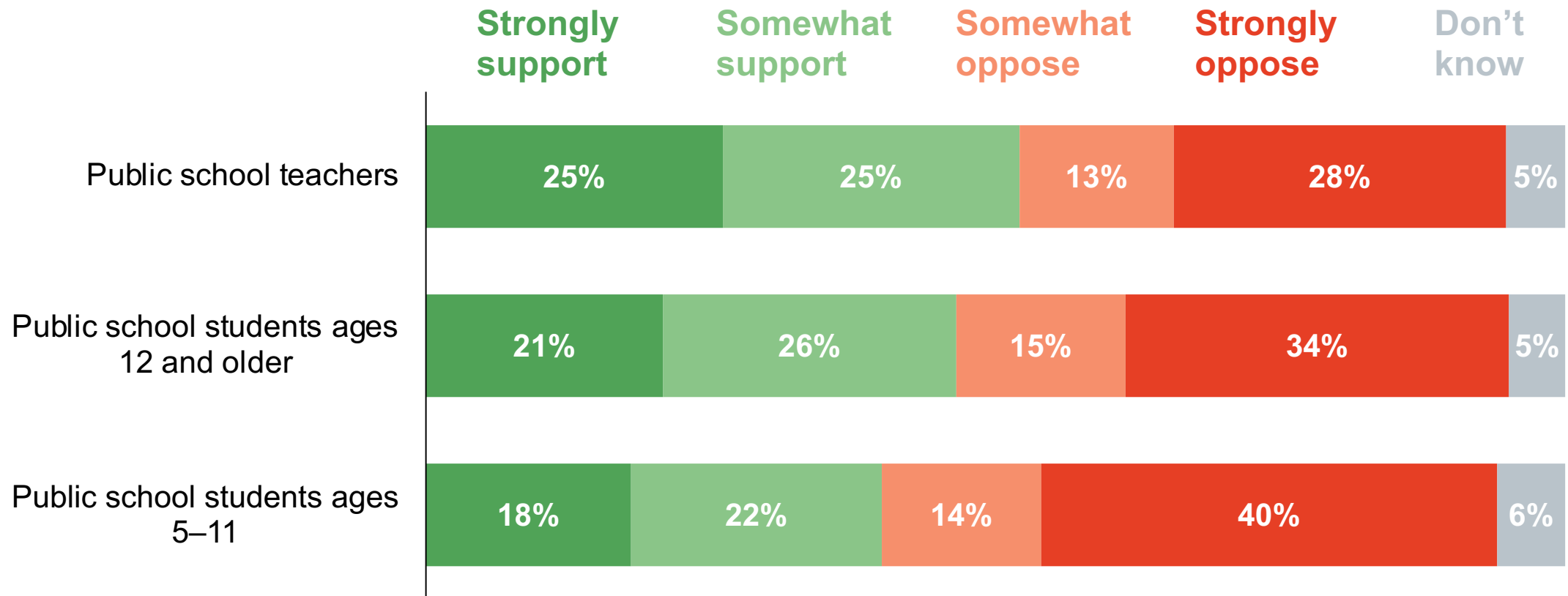
There are notable and consistent demographic trends for perceptions of vaccination requirements—such as those shown here regarding students ages 12 and older.



The biggest differences are by partisan affiliation: Democrats overwhelmingly support vaccination requirements for teachers and students alike.



While Republicans are less supportive than Democrats of vaccination requirements, they are split rather than overwhelmingly opposed.

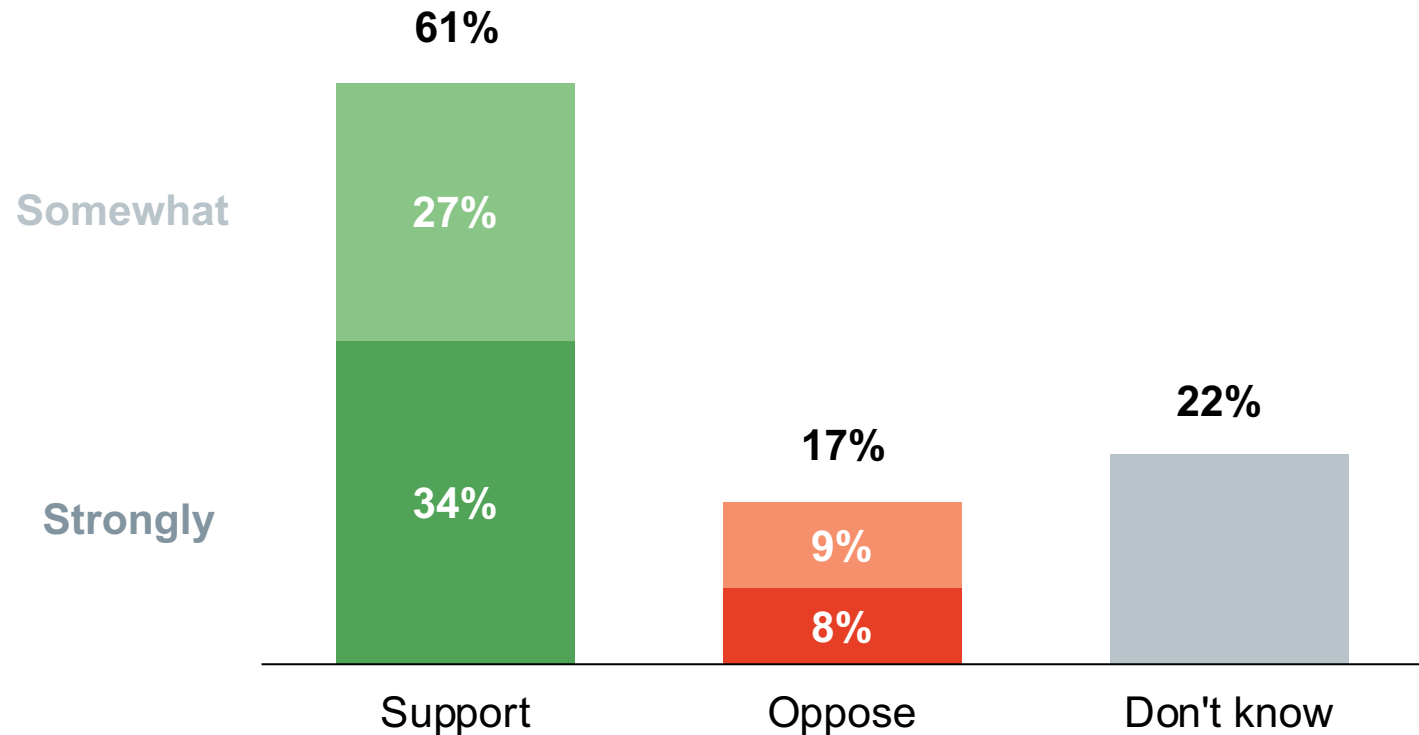


Legislation: superintendents & school boards

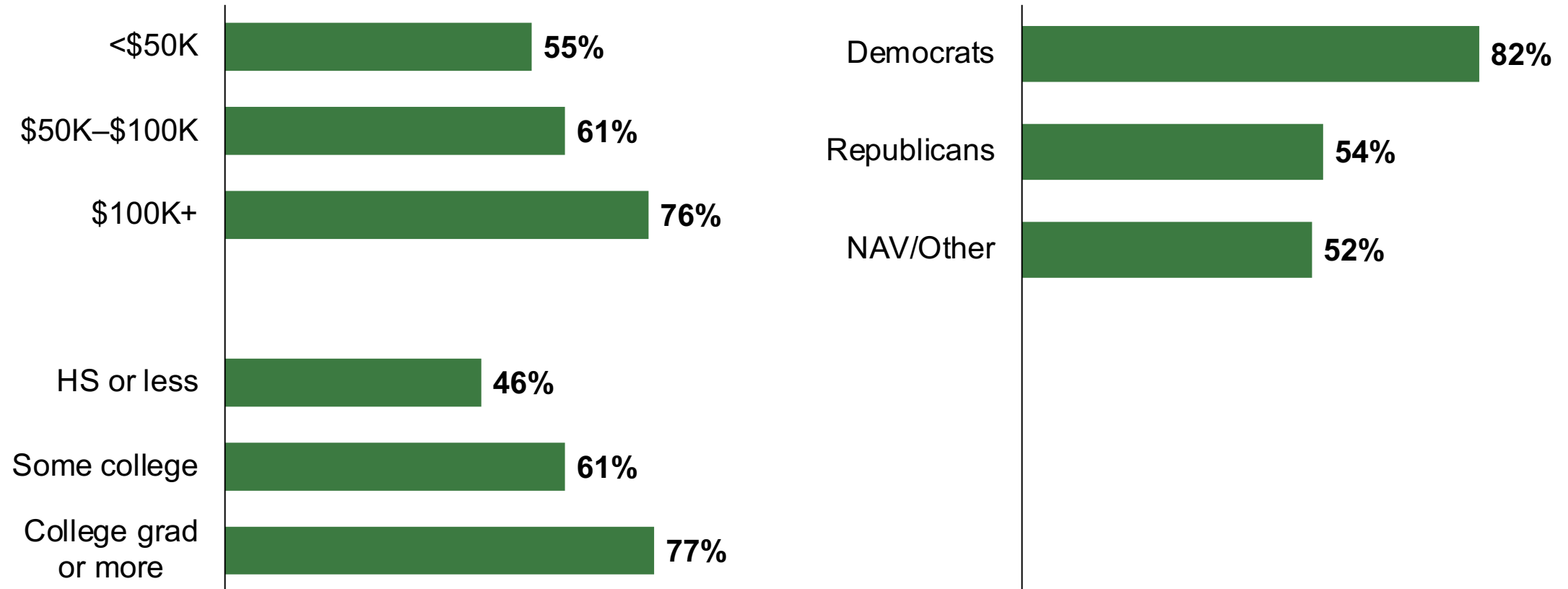
Oregonians are largely supportive of prohibiting school boards from firing superintendents for following laws or emergency and executive orders (Senate Bill 1521).

The Oregon legislature may consider the following two issues in the upcoming session. Indicate if you would support or oppose each.

Prohibit school boards from firing superintendents for following state and federal laws and emergency and executive orders.



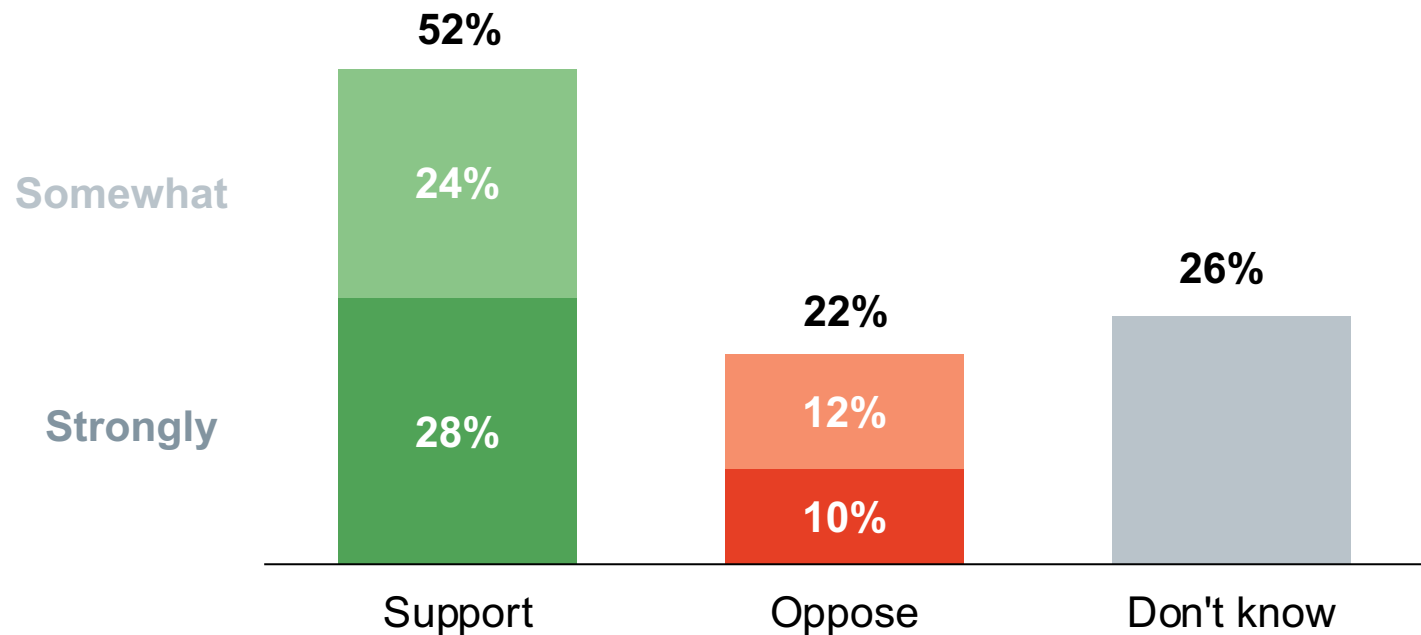
Support for this legislation is stronger among Oregonians with higher socioeconomic status and Democrats.



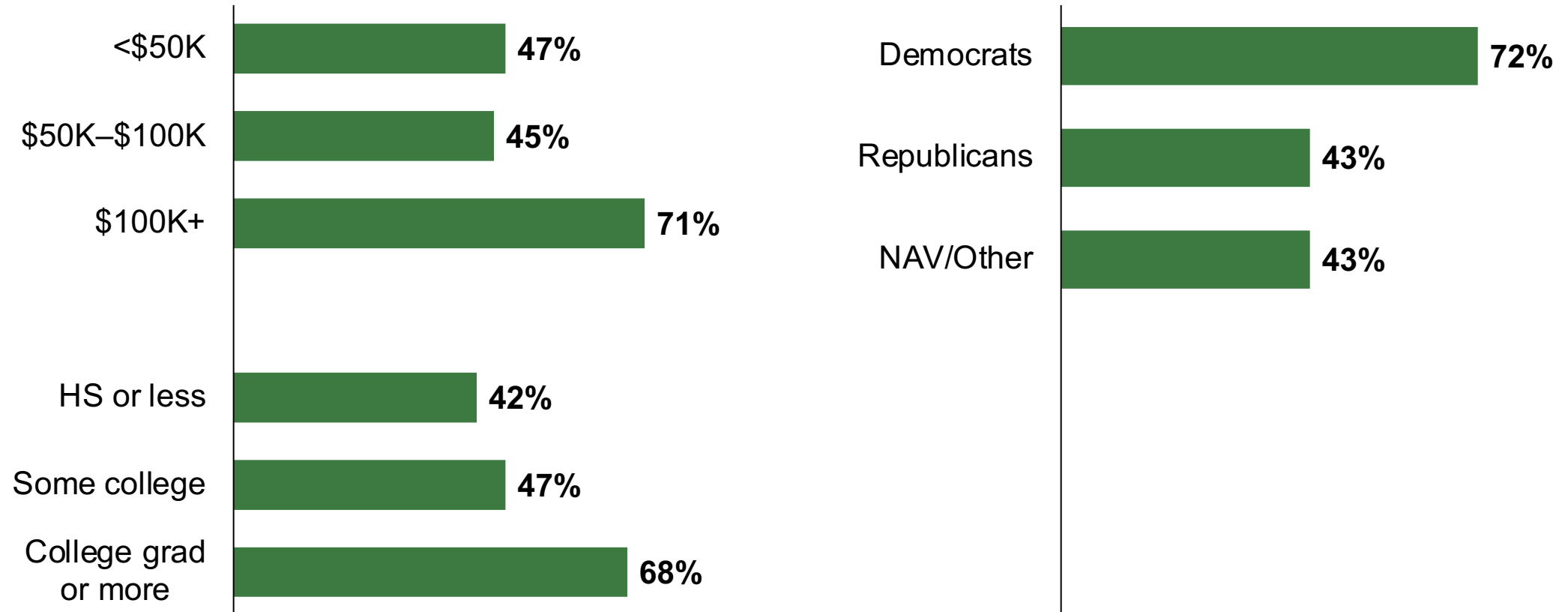
A majority also support prohibiting school boards from mandating superintendents to ignore or violate laws or emergency and executive orders.

The Oregon legislature may consider the following two issues in the upcoming session. Indicate if you would support or oppose each.

Prohibit school boards from mandating superintendents ignore or violate state and federal laws, or any emergency or executive order that applies to school and education service districts.

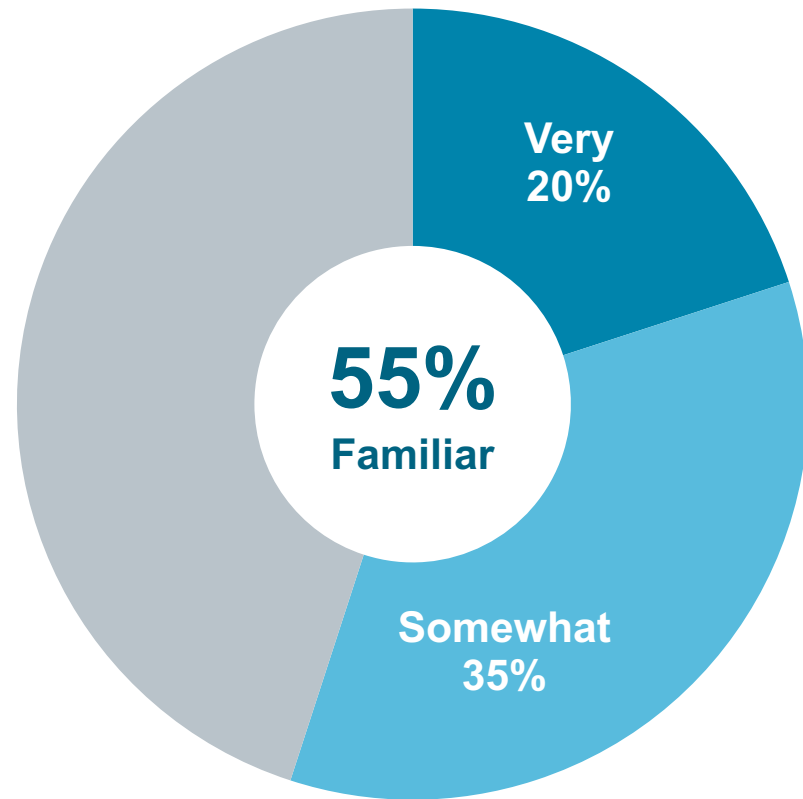


Similar demographic trends are seen for this proposal.

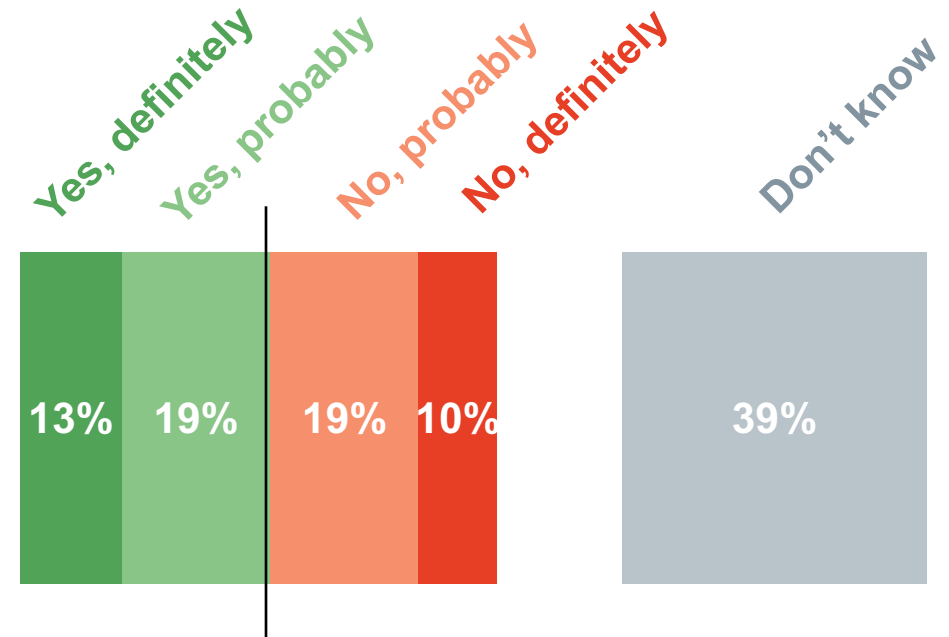


Critical race theory

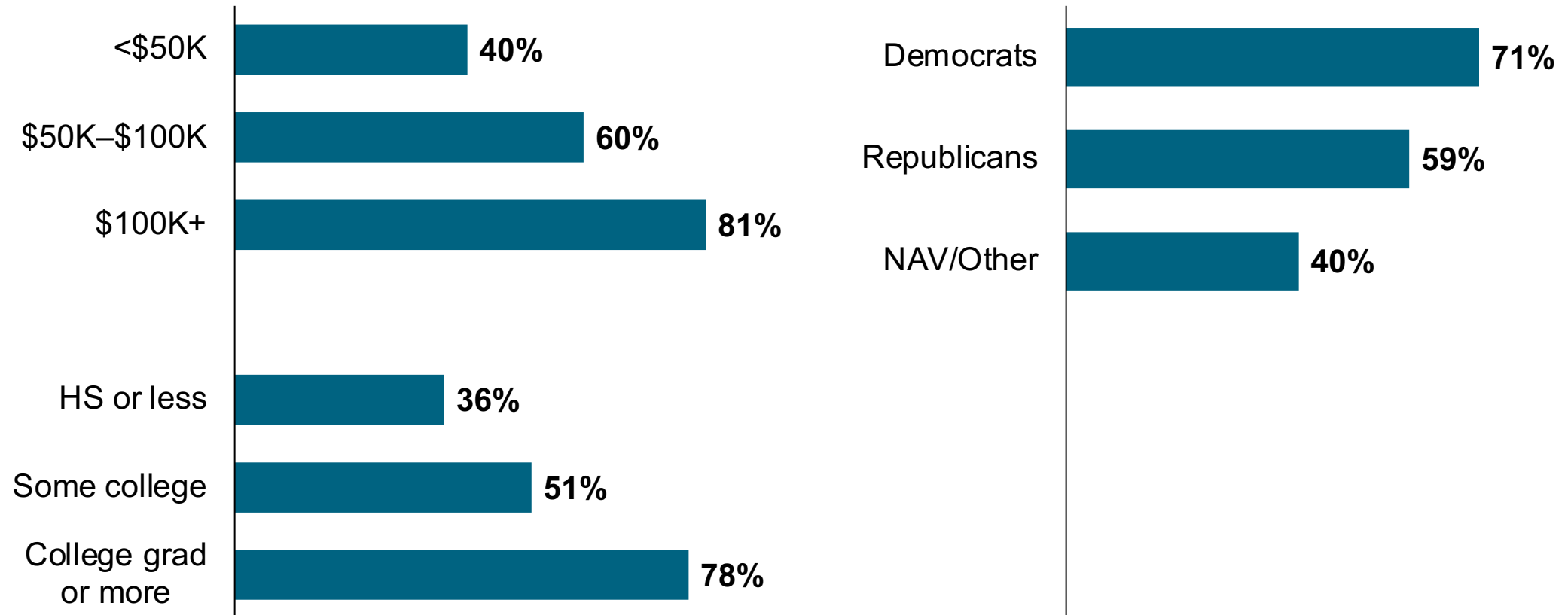
While a majority of Oregonians say they are familiar with critical race theory, there's little consensus about whether it is being taught in local public schools.



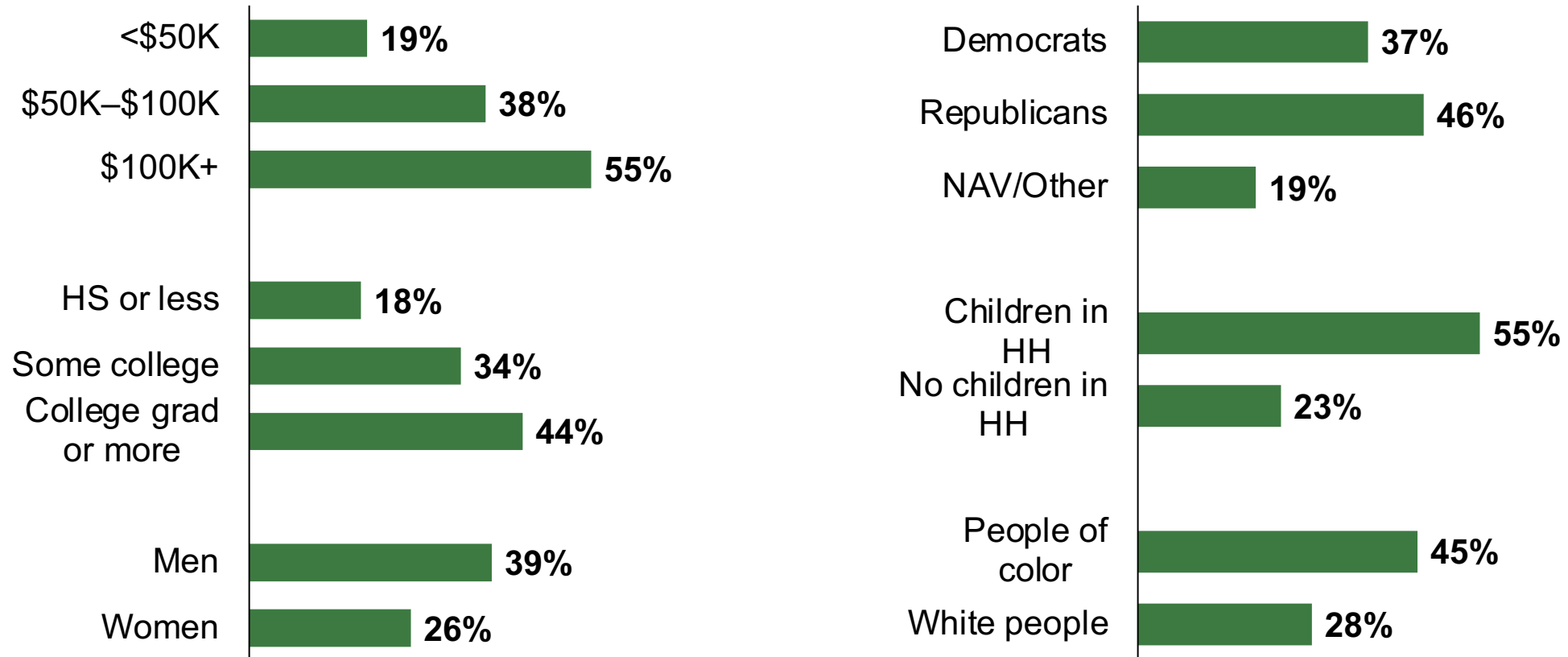
To the best of your knowledge, is critical race theory being taught in your local public schools?



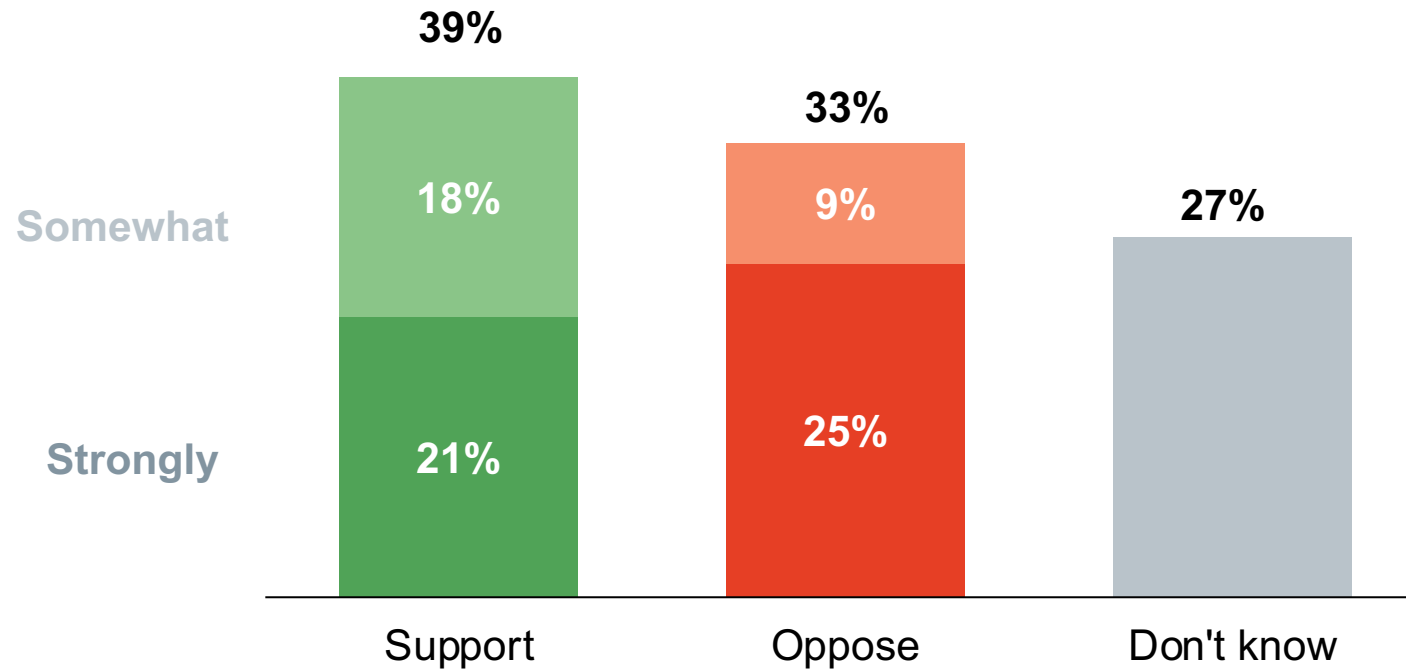
Familiarity with critical race theory is higher among Oregonians with higher socioeconomic status and Democrats.



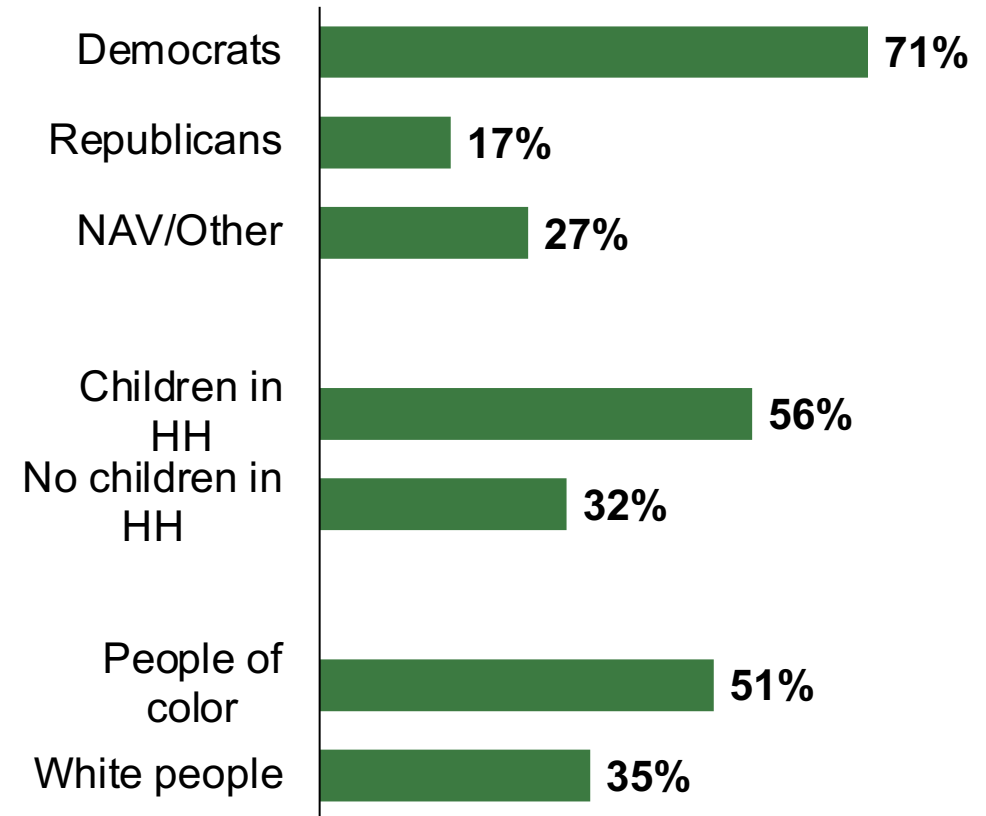
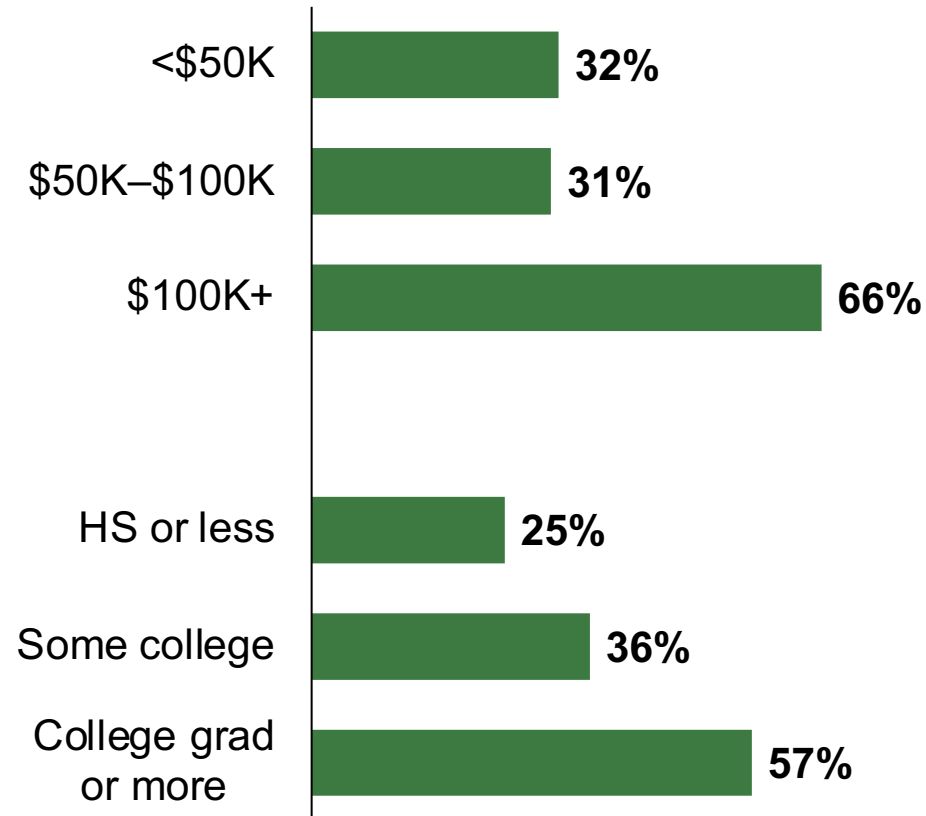
A similar set of groups to those who are more familiar are more likely to think critical race theory is being taught in their local schools.



Oregonians are split as to whether they support or oppose their local public schools teaching critical race theory.



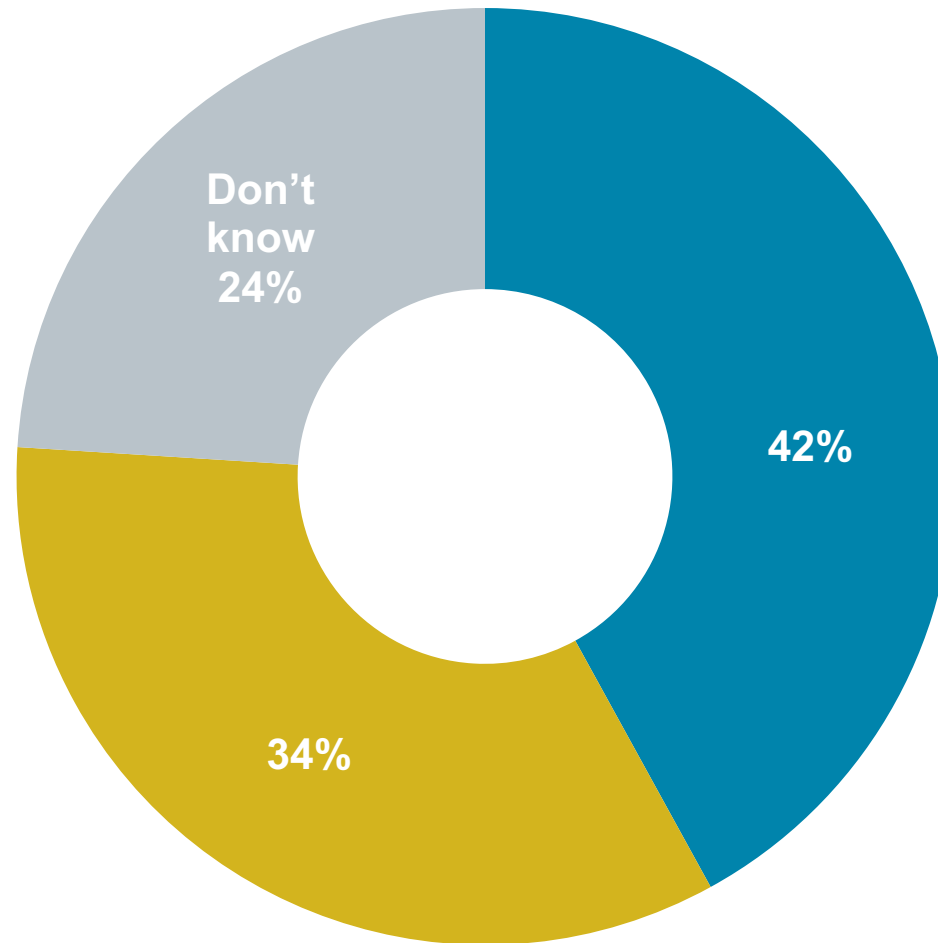
For the most part, the same groups of people support teaching critical race theory in local schools—with the main exception of Republicans.



A similar divide is seen when considering whether the discourse about critical race theory is based on genuine disagreements or political theater.

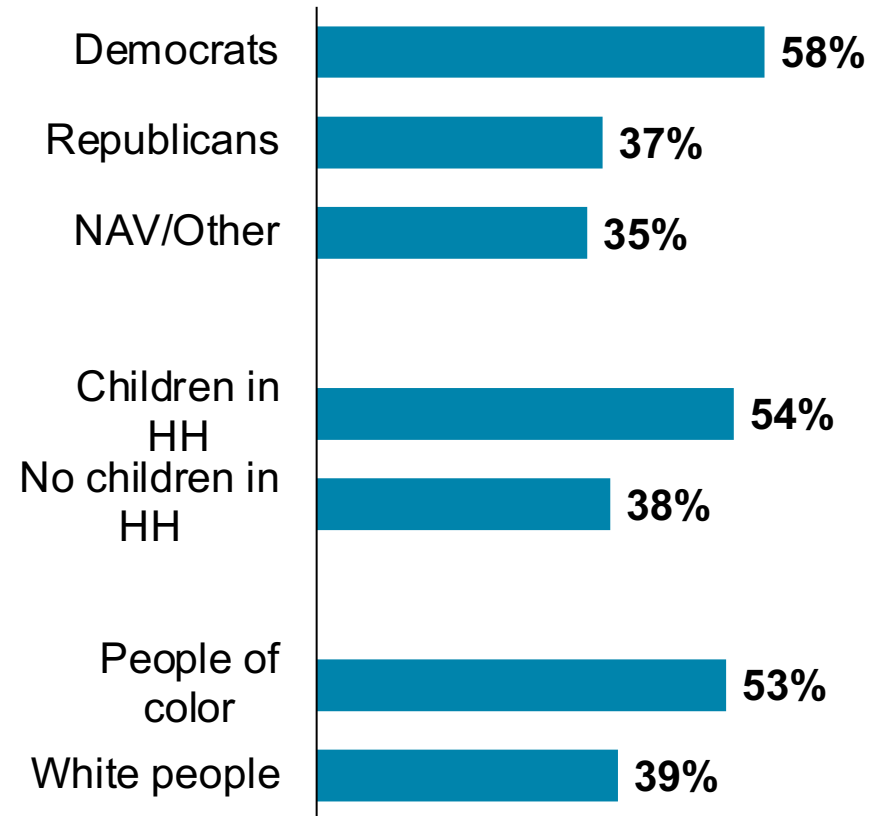
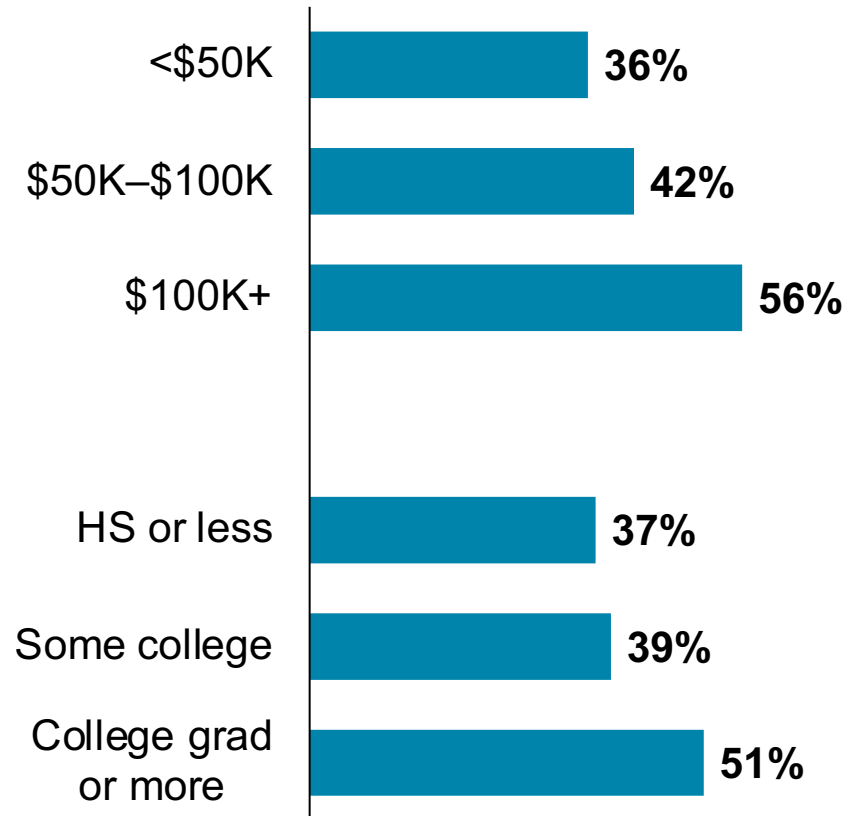
Which is closer to your opinion about the recent controversies about critical race theory in public schools?

It is a made-up controversy and people are using it to advance their own political agenda



People have sincere differences of opinion and genuine political disagreements

These same groups are also more likely to consider disagreements about critical race theory to be grounded in genuine differences.



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