

2018 Social and Emotional Learning Report

Fall 2018

McGraw-Hill Education
in conjunction with Morning Consult



About the McGraw-Hill Education 2018 Social and Emotional Learning Report

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, set and achieve positive goals and make responsible decisions.

The findings included in this report are based on responses to a survey conducted by Morning Consult from September 6-11, 2018, among a national sample of 1,140 teachers, administrators and parents. The survey was conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of teachers, administrators and parents based on age, race/ethnicity, gender, educational attainment and region. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.



Contents

Key Findings	4
Importance and Benefits of Social and Emotional Learning	8
SEL in the Classroom: Prevalence and Trends	16
Professional Development in SEL Instruction	29
Communication Between Teachers and Parents	34

OVERVIEW

KEY FINDINGS

KEY FINDING #1

ADMINISTRATORS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS AGREE: SEL IS CRUCIAL

The overwhelming majority of administrators (96%), teachers (93%) and parents (81%) believe that **social and emotional learning (SEL) is just as important as academic learning.**

Teachers and administrators most commonly cite **“negative student behaviors such as bullying”** as the issue that SEL instruction is most important in combatting. Parents, meanwhile, most commonly cite improving school safety as the most important benefit of teaching SEL skills in the classroom.

96% OF ADMINISTRATORS

Believe SEL is just as important as
academic learning

KEY FINDING #2

TIME SPENT ON SEL IS INCREASING, BUT TEACHERS WANT MORE

Three-quarters of teachers say they are teaching SEL in the classroom, and **74% of teachers report that they are devoting more time to teaching SEL skills today compared to five years ago.**

Yet while teachers are increasingly embracing SEL, 65% indicate that they need more time than they currently have to teach SEL skills, and 79% of educators believe that SEL should be explicitly **included as a part of state academic standards.**

65% OF TEACHERS

Indicate that they need more time than they currently have to teach SEL skills

KEY FINDING #3

TEACHERS WANT MORE SUPPORT

While the majority of teachers report teaching SEL skills in the classroom, **only 22% feel they are “very prepared”** to do so, and 51% report that the level of SEL professional development offered at their school is not sufficient.

Teachers view parental support and engagement as the top factor that would help them be more effective when teaching SEL (with 46% of teachers indicating it to be one of their top three factors).

22% OF
EDUCATORS

Feel “very prepared” to teach SEL skills

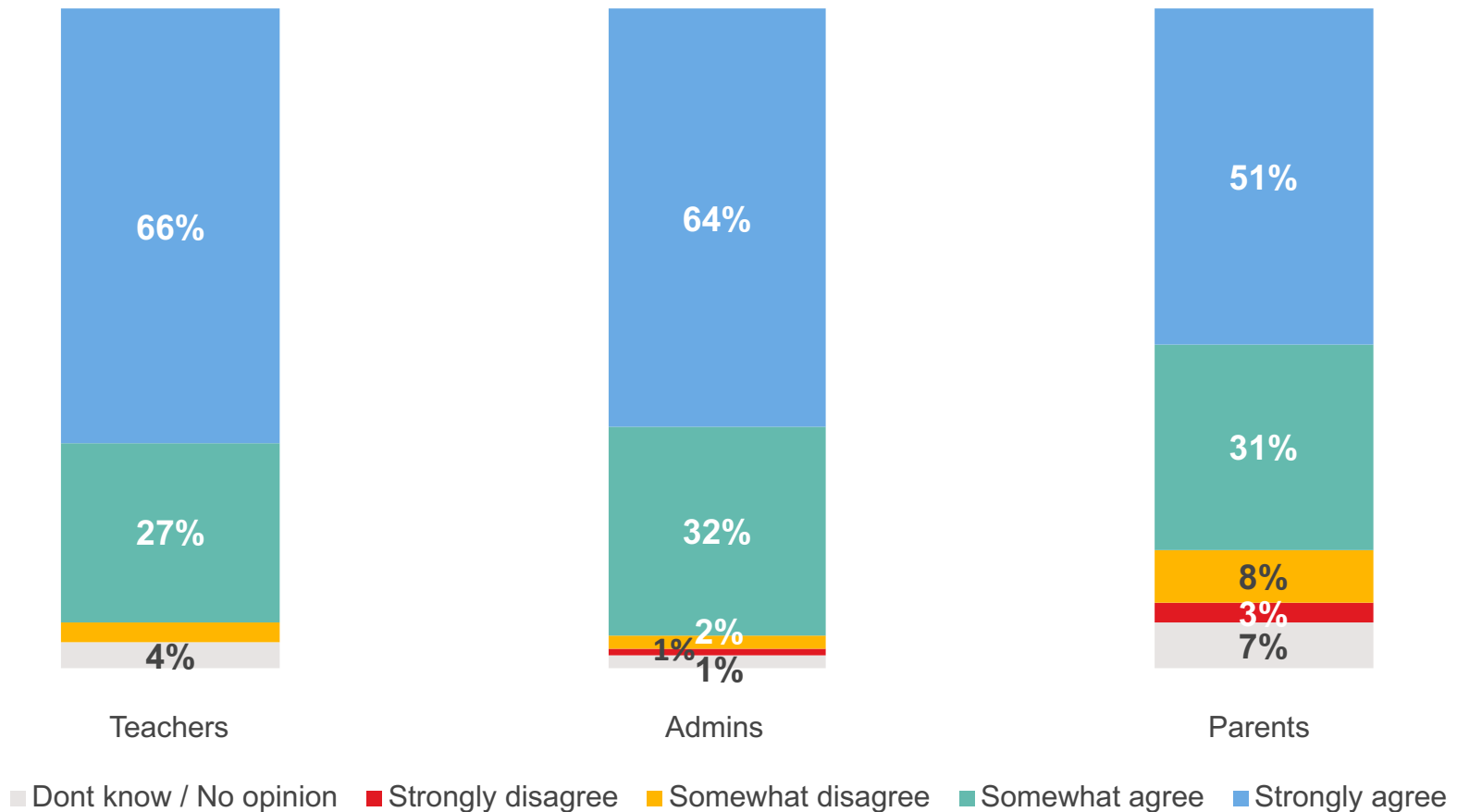
SECTION I

Importance and Benefits of Social and Emotional Learning

Teachers, administrators and parents overwhelmingly agree that SEL is just as important as academic learning.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

“Social and emotional learning (SEL) is just as important as academic learning.”

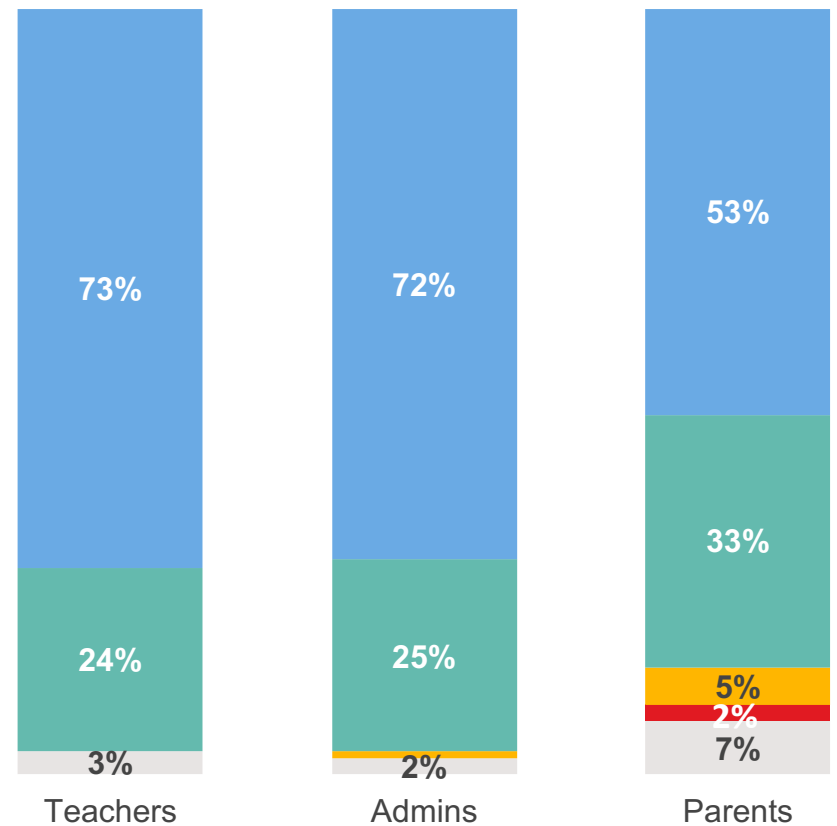
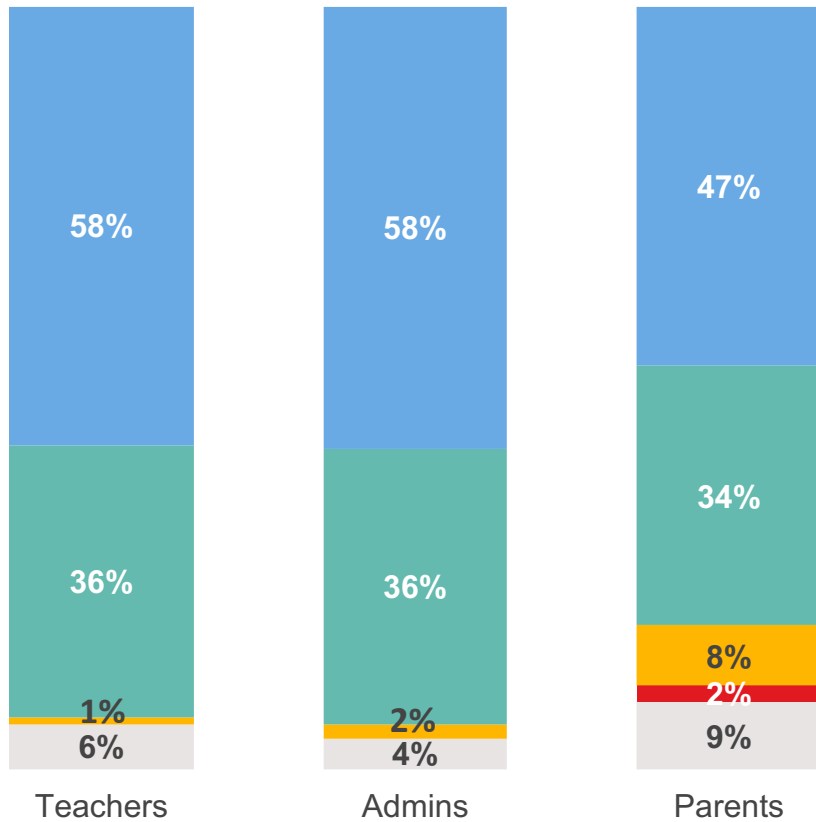


Teachers, administrators and parents strongly agree that SEL significantly impacts academic performance and future success.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

“Social and emotional learning (SEL) has a significant positive impact on a child's test scores, grades and overall academic performance.”

“Social and emotional learning (SEL) significantly helps children be more successful in the future.”

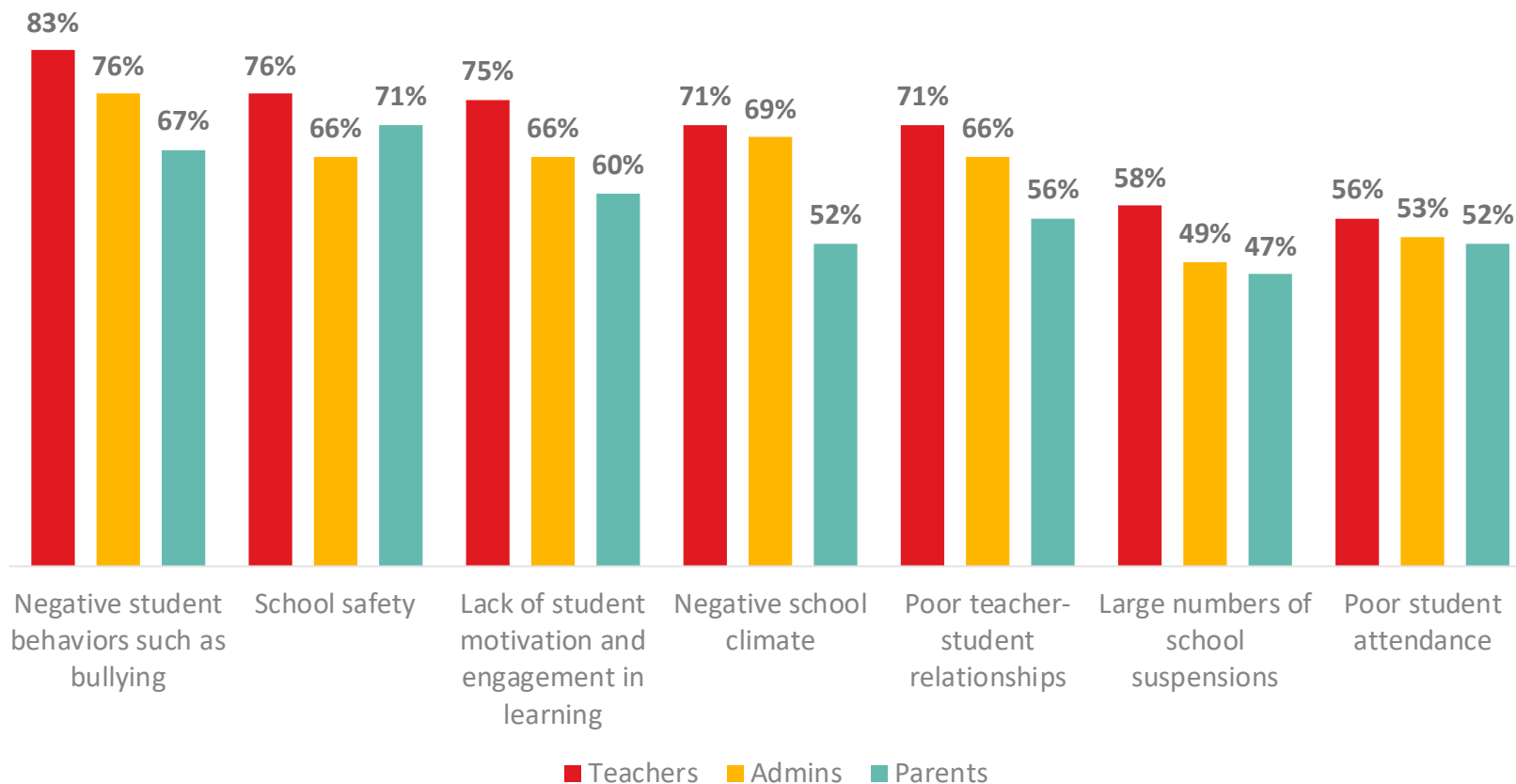


Improving Negative Behaviors

Teachers and administrators most commonly cite “negative student behaviors such as bullying” as the issue that SEL instruction is most important in combatting against. Parents most commonly cite improving school safety as the most important benefit of teaching SEL skills in the classroom.

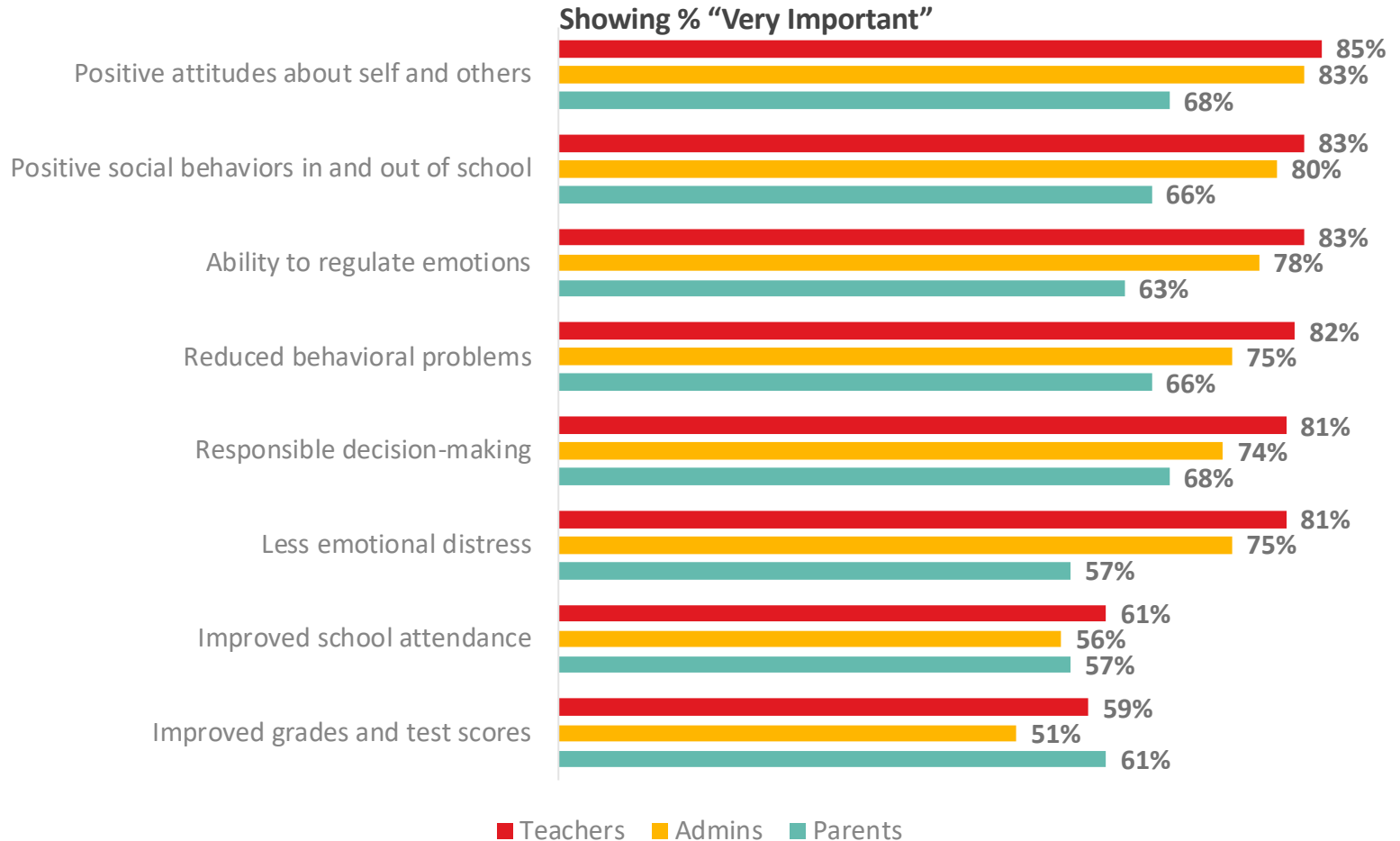
In your opinion, please say how important you think social and emotional learning (SEL) is in terms of helping to improve the following issues that may exist at your school.

Showing % “Very Important”



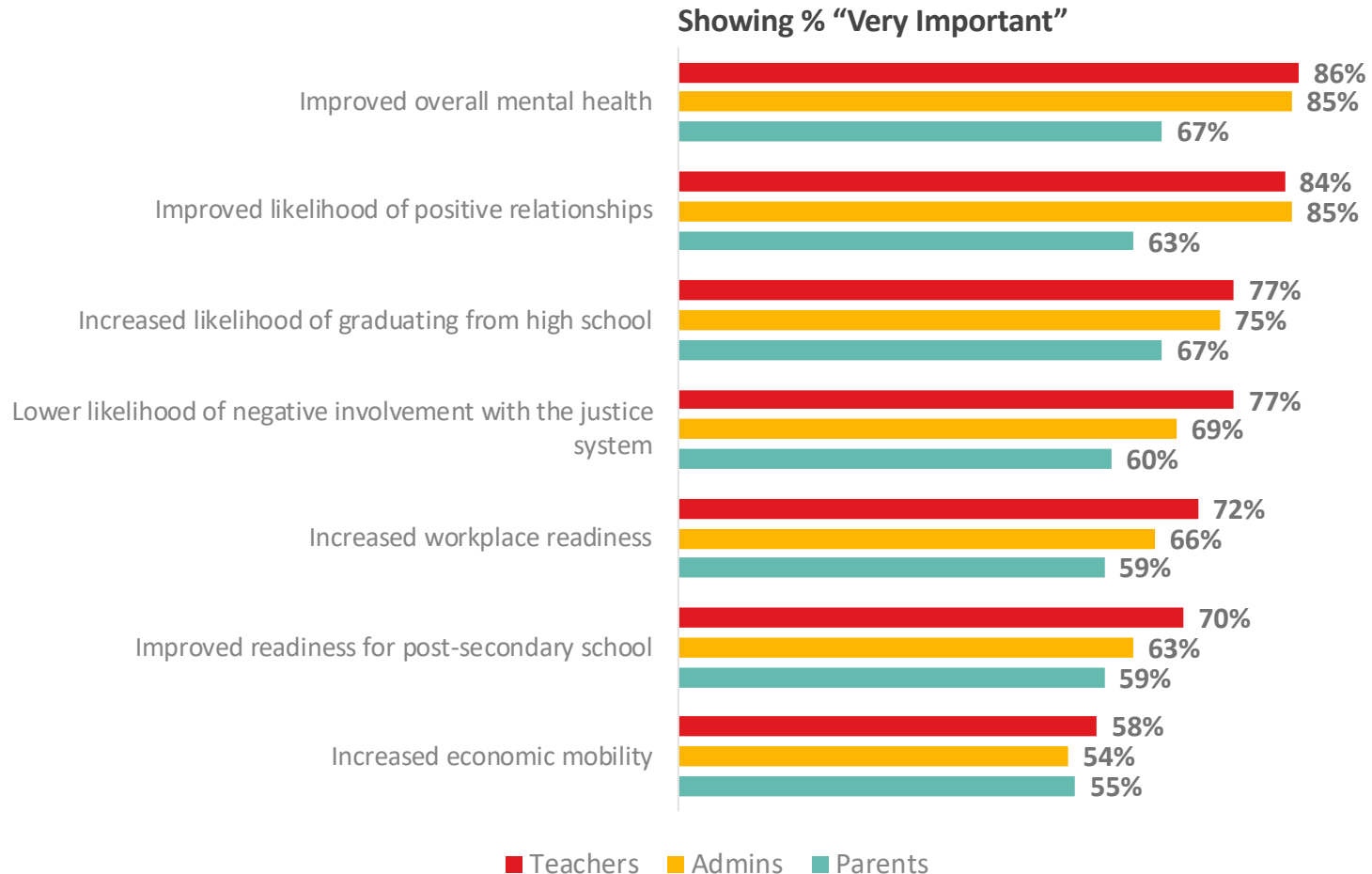
Teachers, administrators and parents alike rank “positive attitudes about self and others” as the most important short-term benefit of SEL.

In your opinion, please say how important you think social and emotional learning (SEL) is in terms of contributing to the following SHORT-TERM benefits for students.



Improved mental health ranks as the most important long-term benefit of SEL among teachers, administrators and parents.

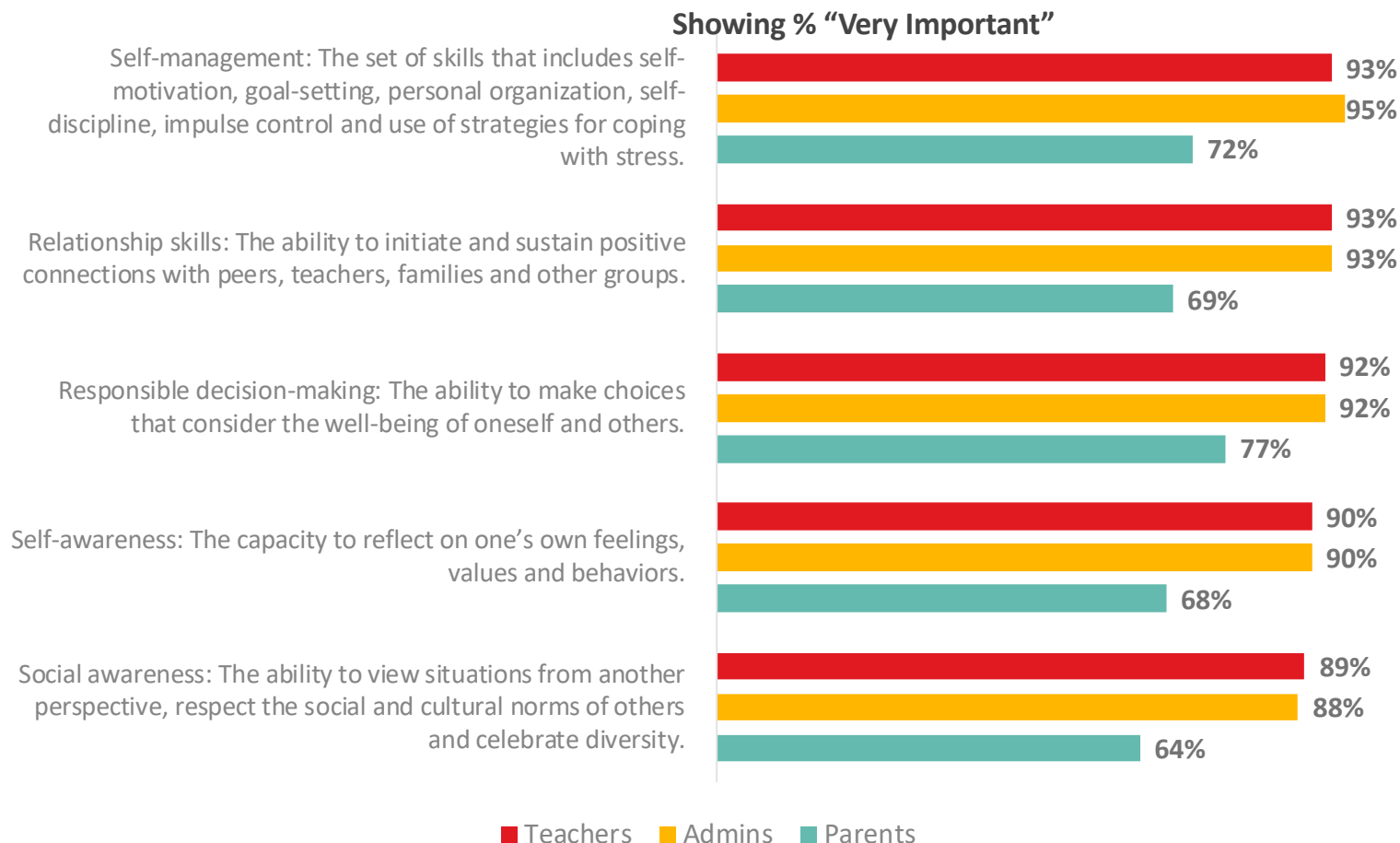
In your opinion, please say how important you think social and emotional learning (SEL) is in terms of contributing to the following LONG-TERM benefits for students.



Individual SEL Skills

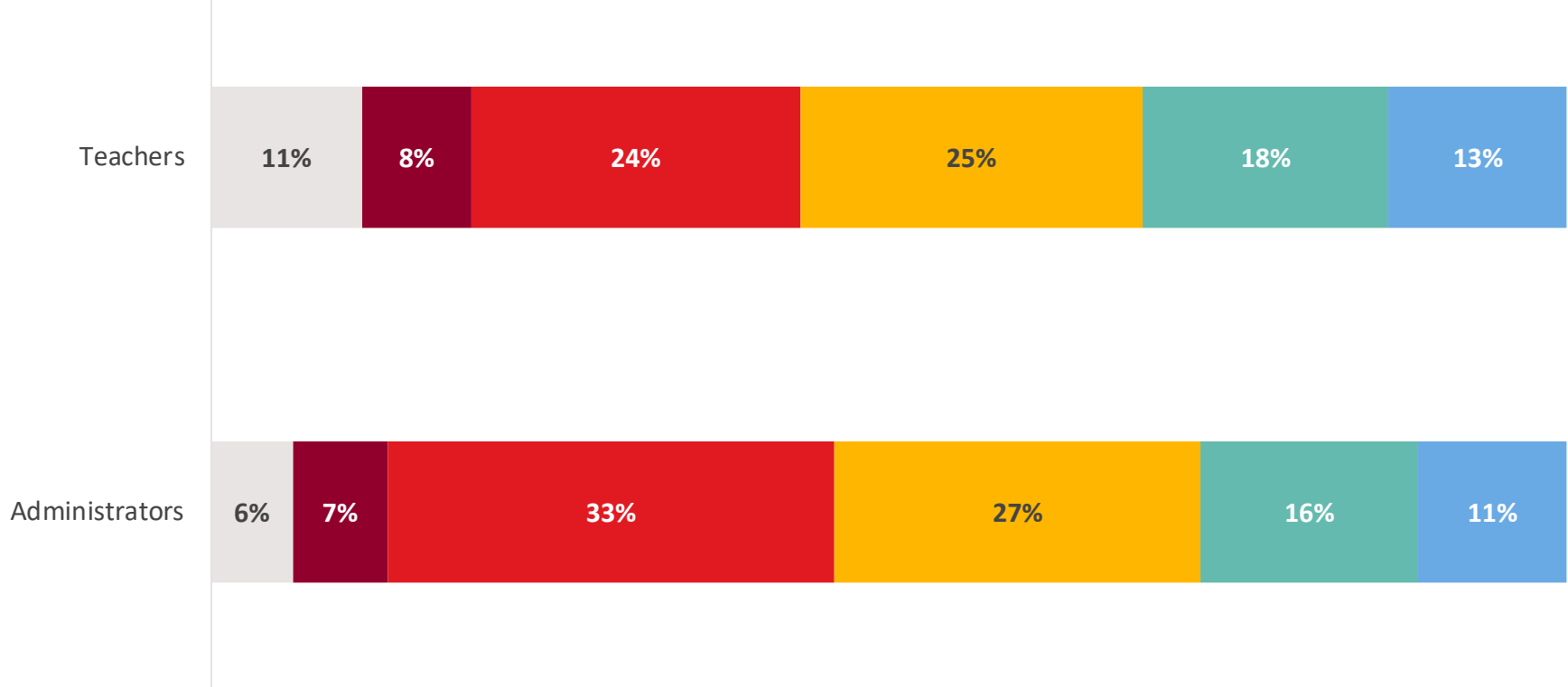
Administrators and teachers rank “self-management” as the most important SEL skills for students to learn, followed by “relationship skills.” Parents rank “responsible decision-making” as the most important SEL skill to learn.

In your opinion, how important is it for students to develop the following social and emotional learning (SEL) skills in the classroom?



Roughly one-third of teachers and administrators feel that the current socio-political climate has a negative impact on student behavior.

In your opinion, what influence would you say the current socio-political climate has on your students behavior at your school?



■ Don't know / No opinion

■ A strongly negative influence

■ Somewhat a negative influence

■ Neither a positive nor negative influence

■ Somewhat of a positive influence

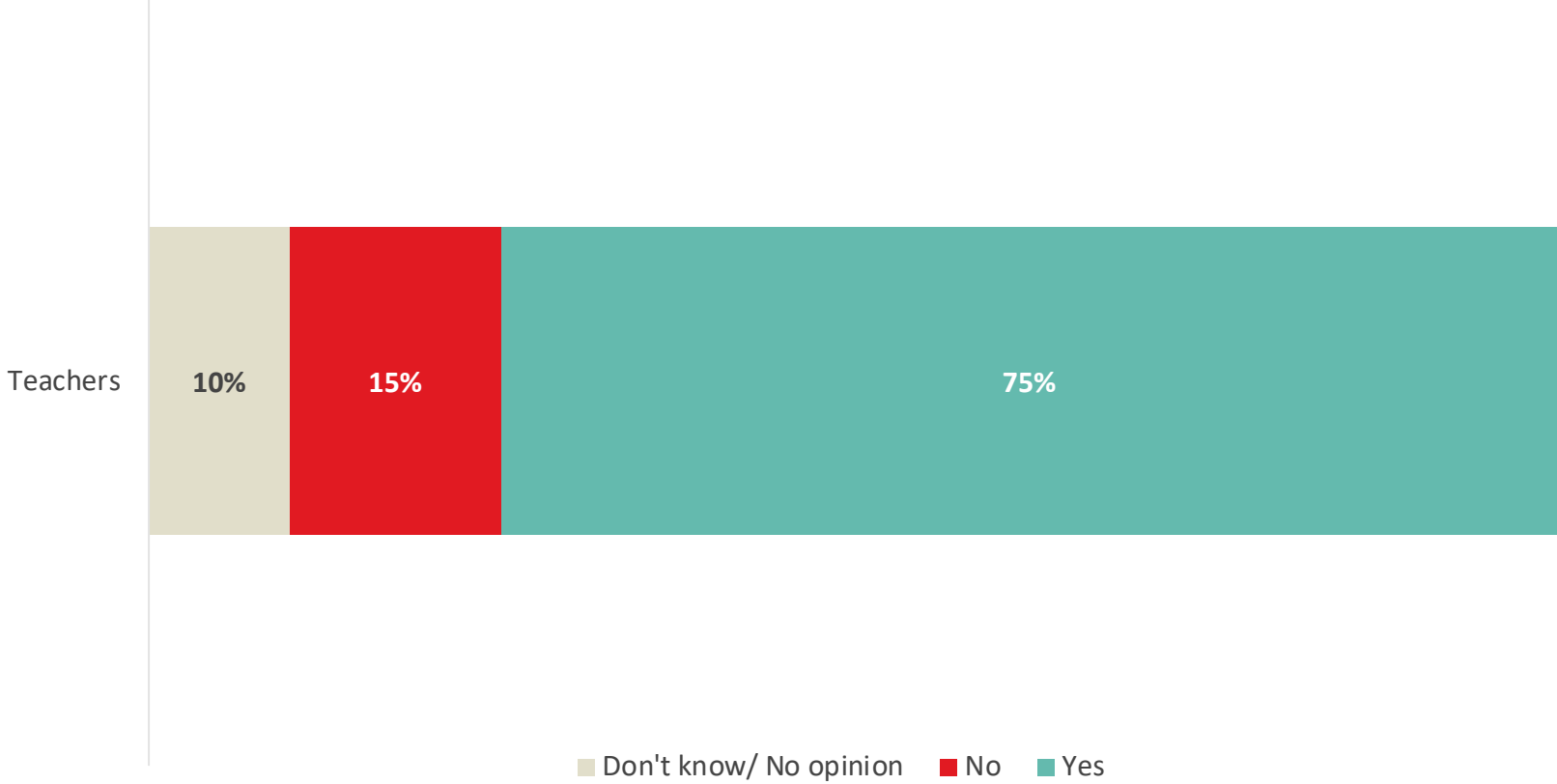
■ A strong positive influence

SECTION II

SEL in the Classroom: Prevalence and Trends

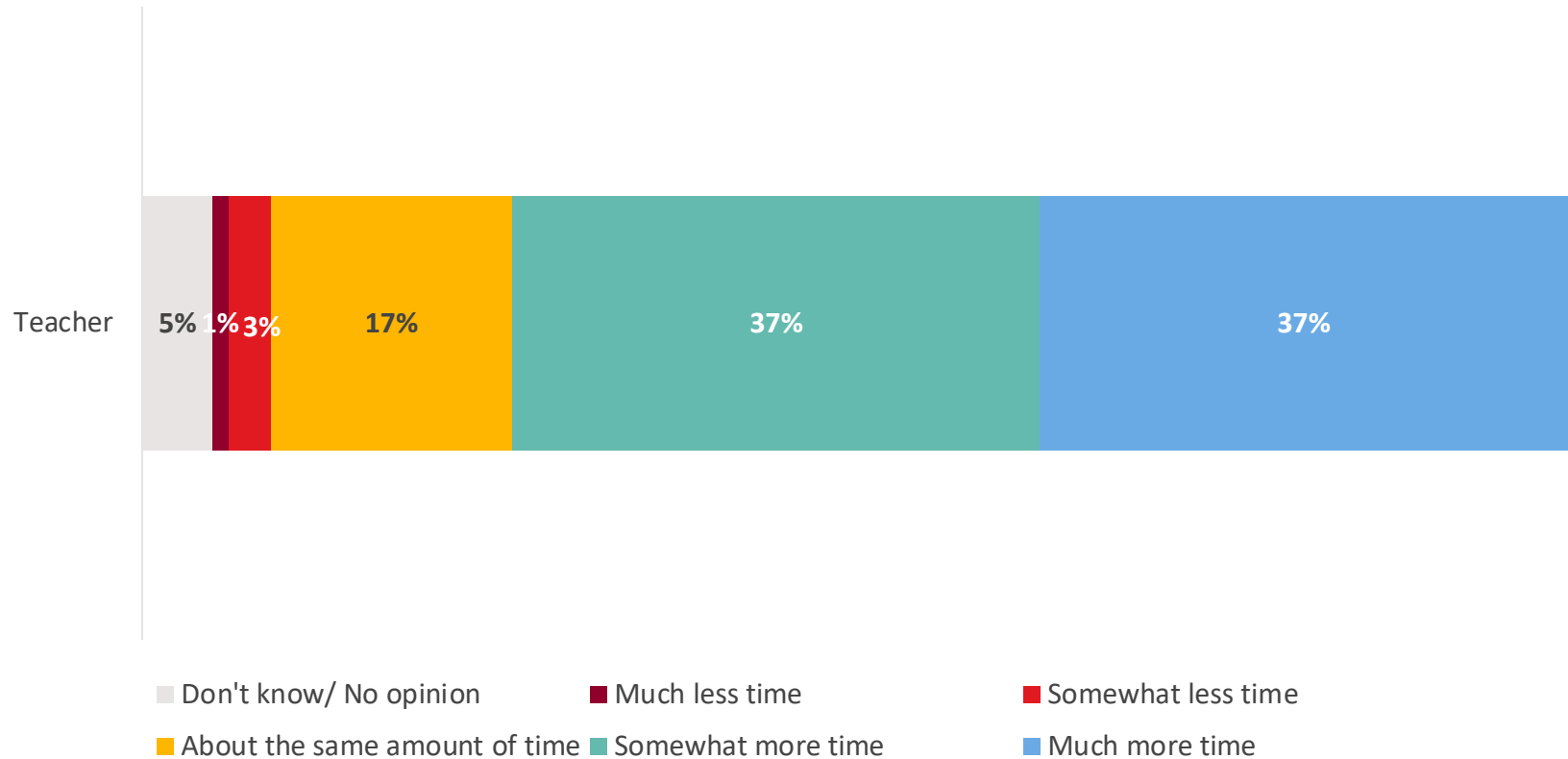
Three-quarters of teachers say they currently teach SEL skills in their classroom.

Do you currently teach social and emotional learning (SEL) skills in your classroom?



74% of teachers who currently teach SEL say they devote more time to it today than they did five years ago.

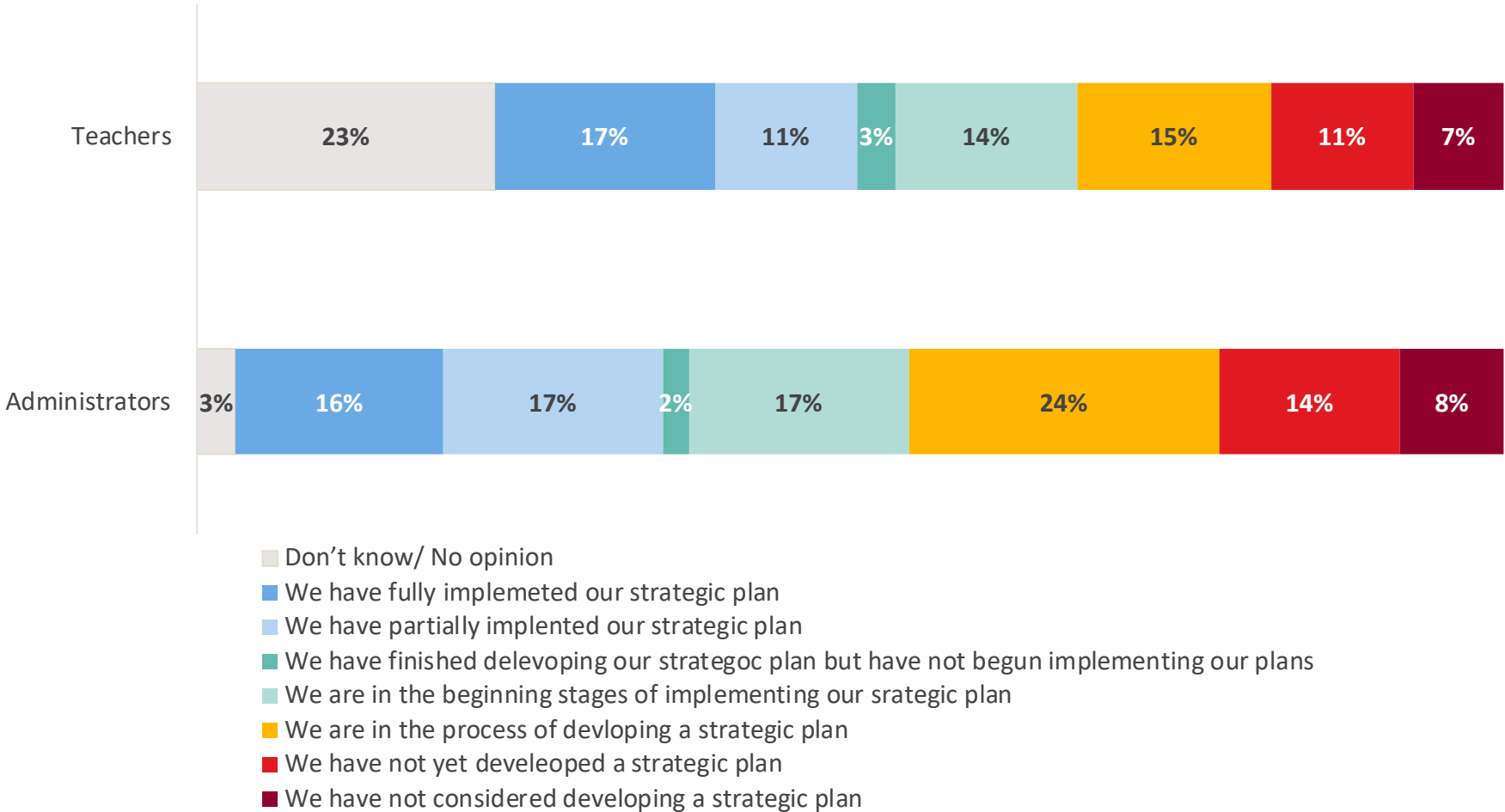
Compared to five years ago, are you devoting more, less or about the same amount of time teaching social and emotional learning (SEL) skills today?



**responses from teachers who report teaching SEL*

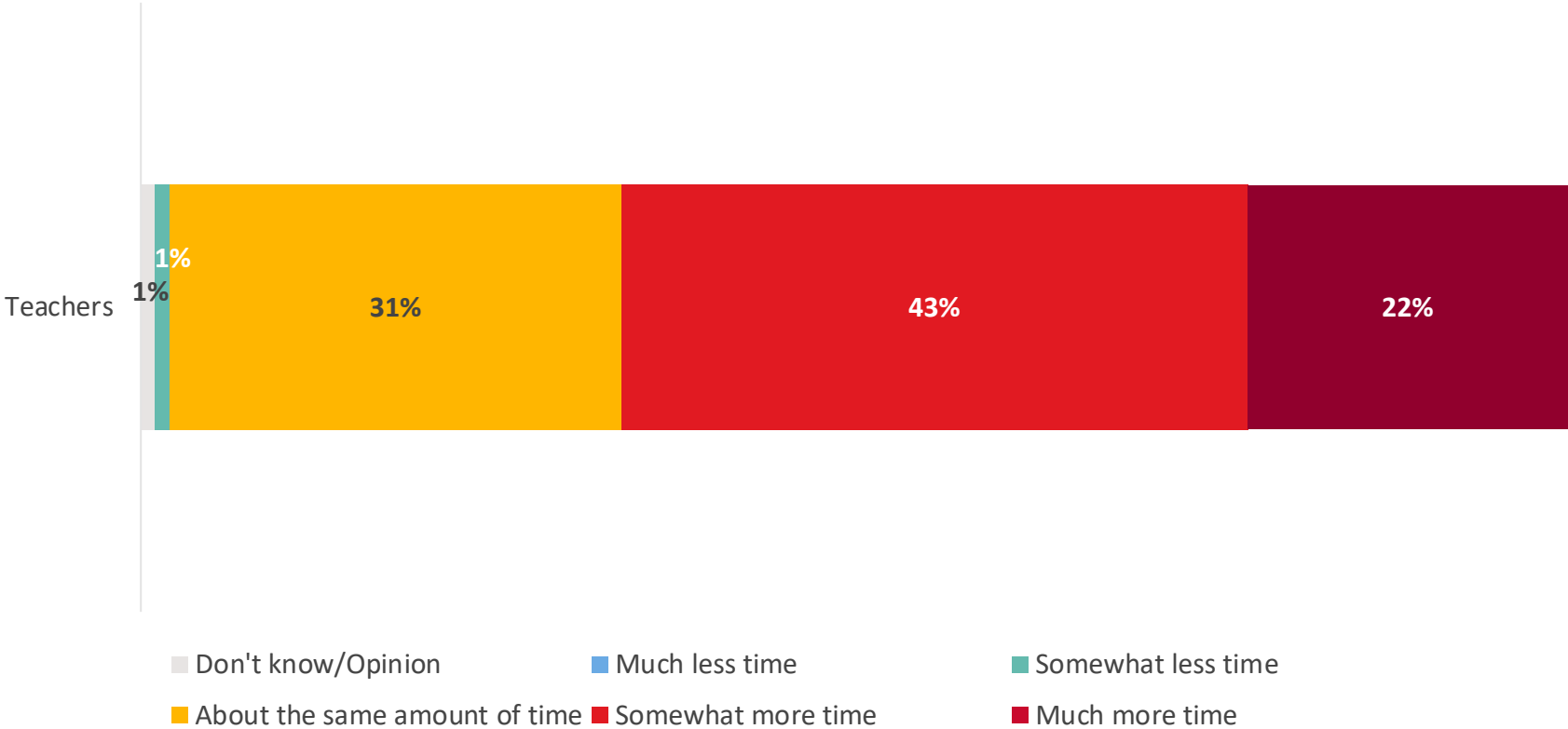
Two-thirds of educators report that their school is in the process of implementing a school-wide SEL plan.

To the best of your knowledge, please indicate which of the following statements best describes where your school is in terms of developing and implementing a school-wide strategic plan to teach social and emotional learning (SEL) skills.



Nearly two-thirds of teachers say they need more time to teach SEL in the classroom than they currently have.

To effectively teach social and emotional learning (SEL) skills, do you think you need more, less or about the same amount of time you currently have in the classroom?



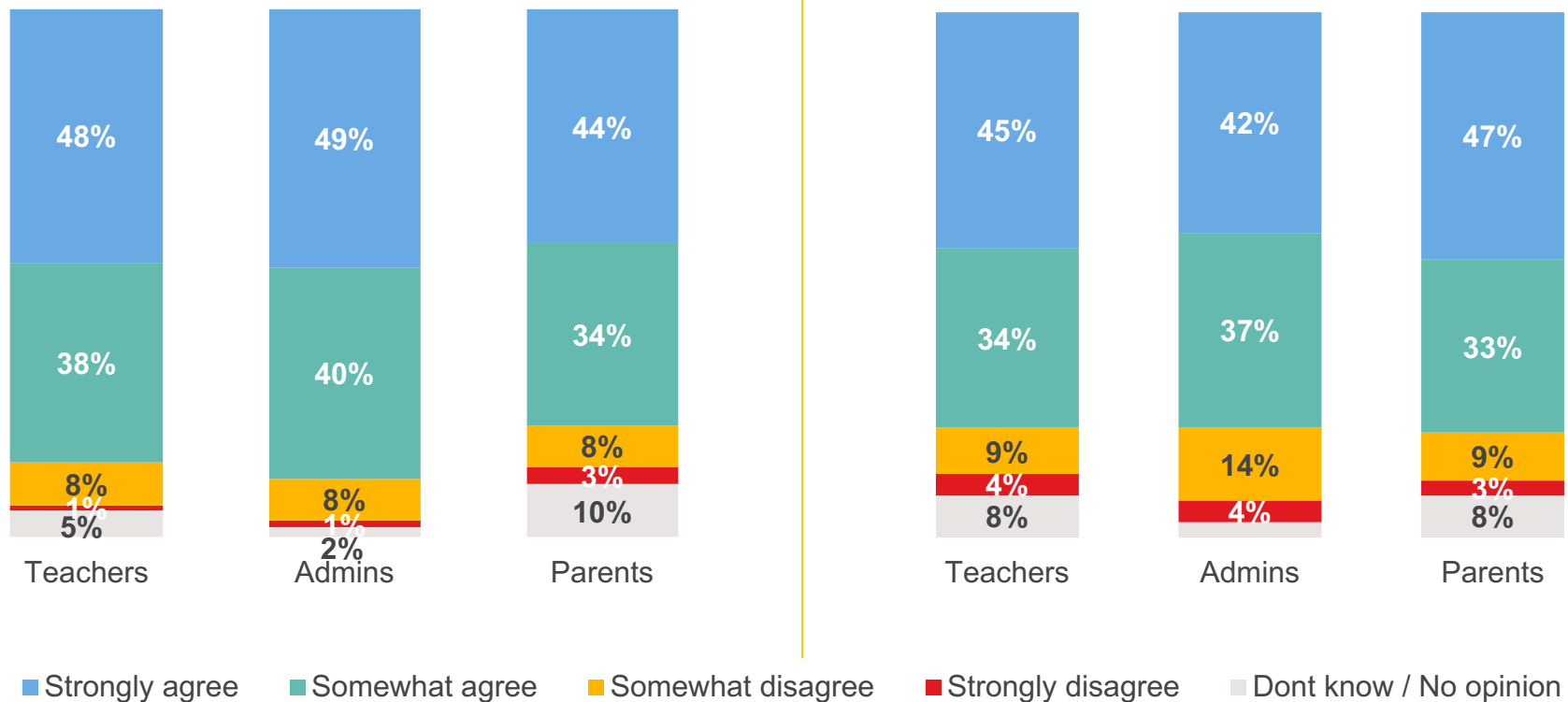
**responses from teachers who report teaching SEL*

Teachers, administrators and parents agree that SEL is under-emphasized in schools and classrooms.

Nearly 80% of respondents feel SEL should be included among state academic standards.

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is not emphasized as much as it should be in classrooms/schools.

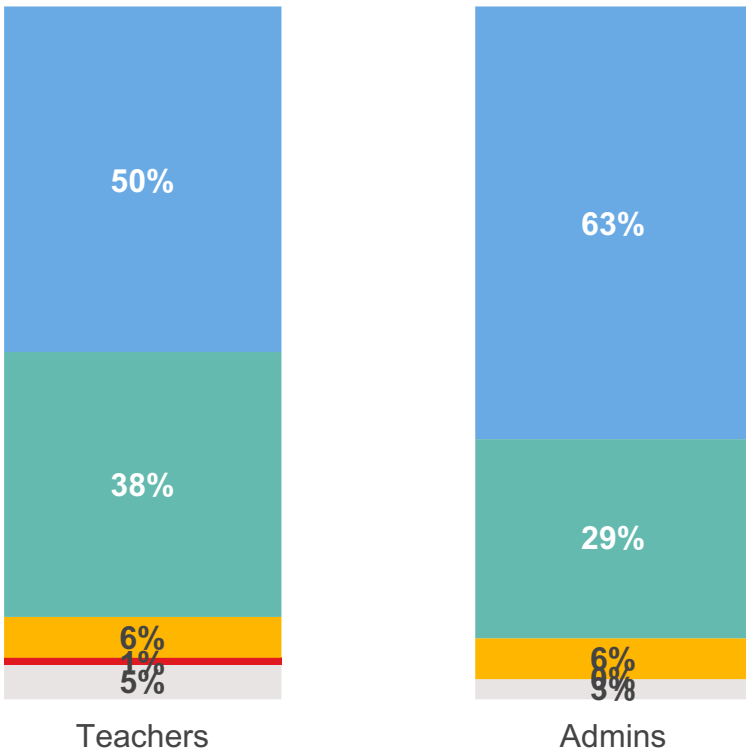
Social and emotional learning (SEL) should be explicitly stated as part of a state's academic standards.



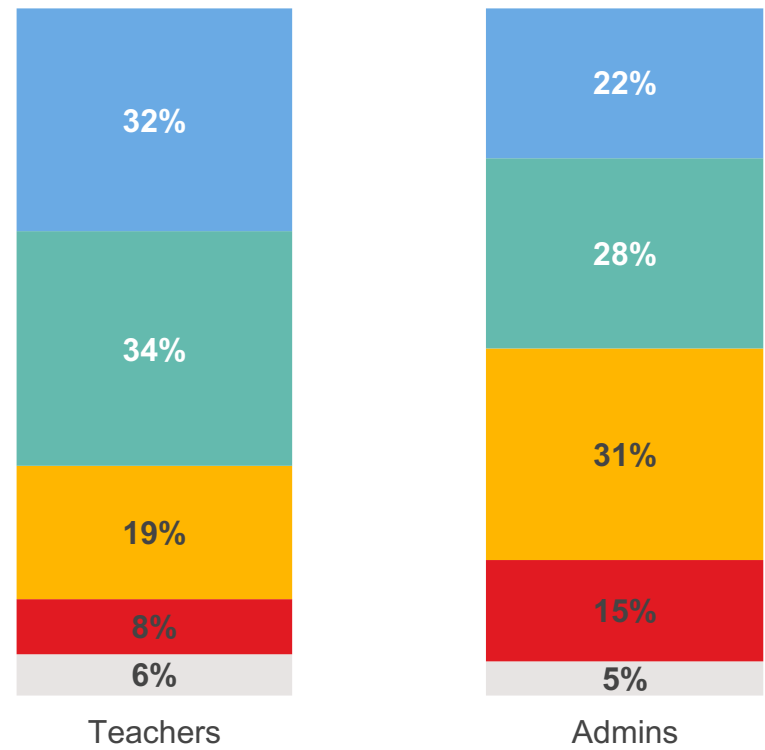
Curriculum Integration

The vast majority of teachers and administrators agree that SEL should be integrated into existing academic curricula, but two-thirds of teachers and half of administrators also feel it should be taught as a standalone subject, as well.

Social and emotional learning (SEL) should be integrated into curriculum with reading, math, history and other core subjects.



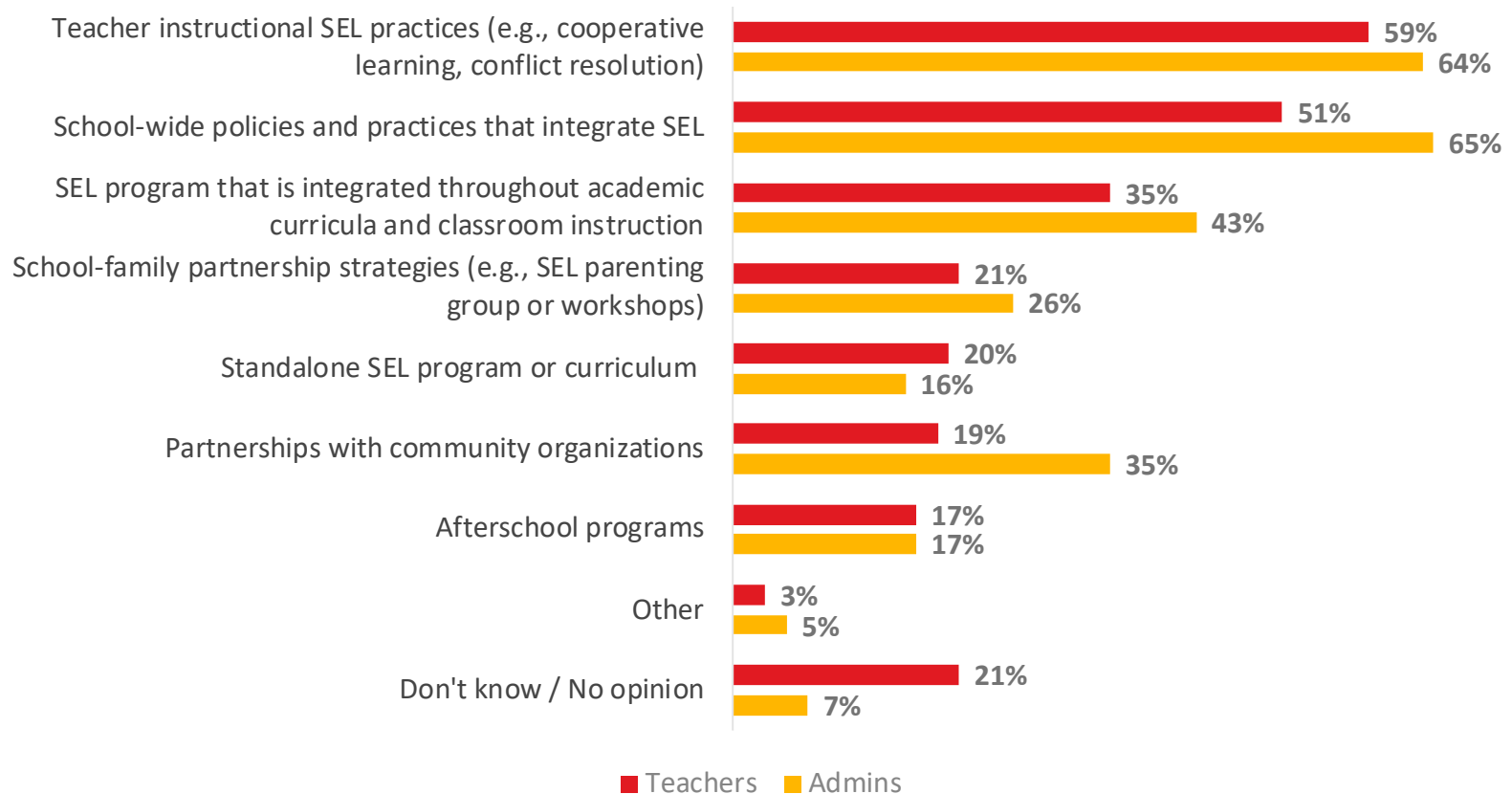
Social and emotional learning (SEL) should be taught separately from reading, math, history and other core subjects.



■ Strongly agree
 ■ Somewhat agree
 ■ Somewhat disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Dont know / No opinion

Teachers and administrators report a mix of SEL teaching approaches in their schools, with teacher instructional practices and school-wide policies being the most common.

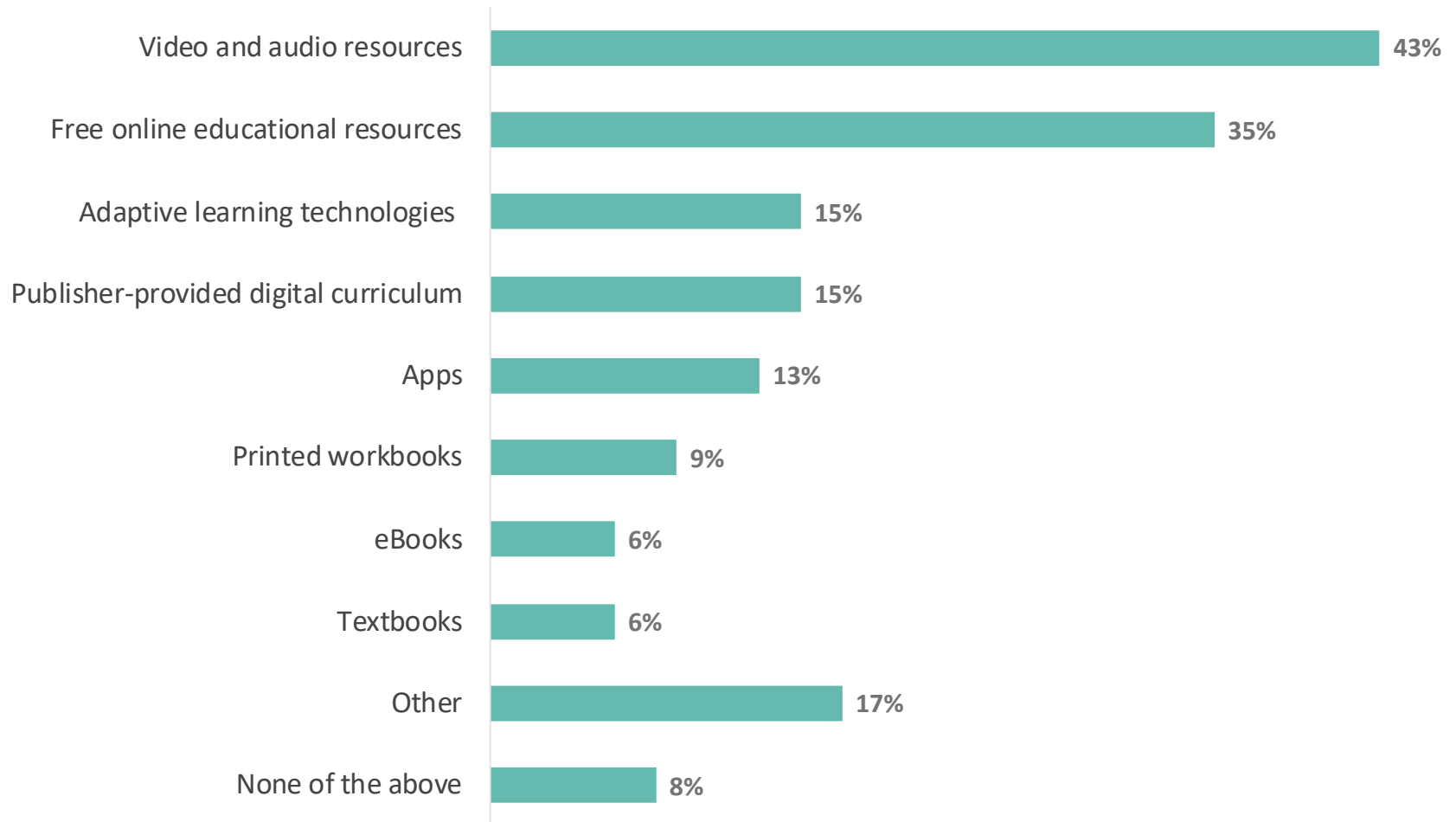
To the best of your knowledge, please select which approaches your school uses to teach social and emotional learning (SEL) skills. Please select all that apply.



SEL Resources Used

The most commonly used resources for SEL instruction are video and audio resources, followed by free online educational resources.

What resources do you use to teach social and emotional learning (SEL) skills? Please select all that apply.

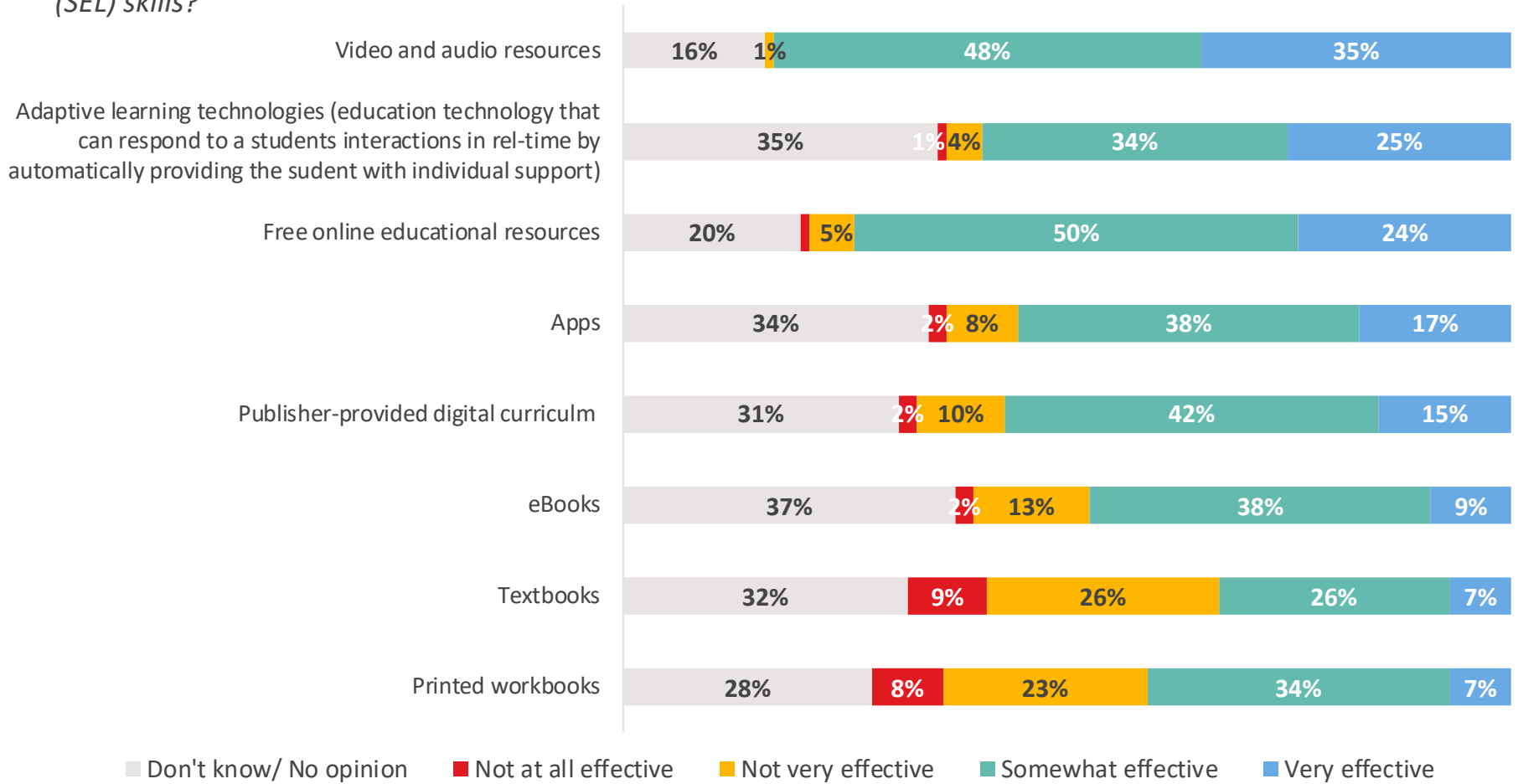


**responses from teachers who report teaching SEL*

Effectiveness of Instructional Resources

Teachers report that the most effective resources for teaching SEL are video and audio resources, followed by free online educational resources.

In general, how effective do you find each of the following resources for teaching social and emotional learning (SEL) skills?



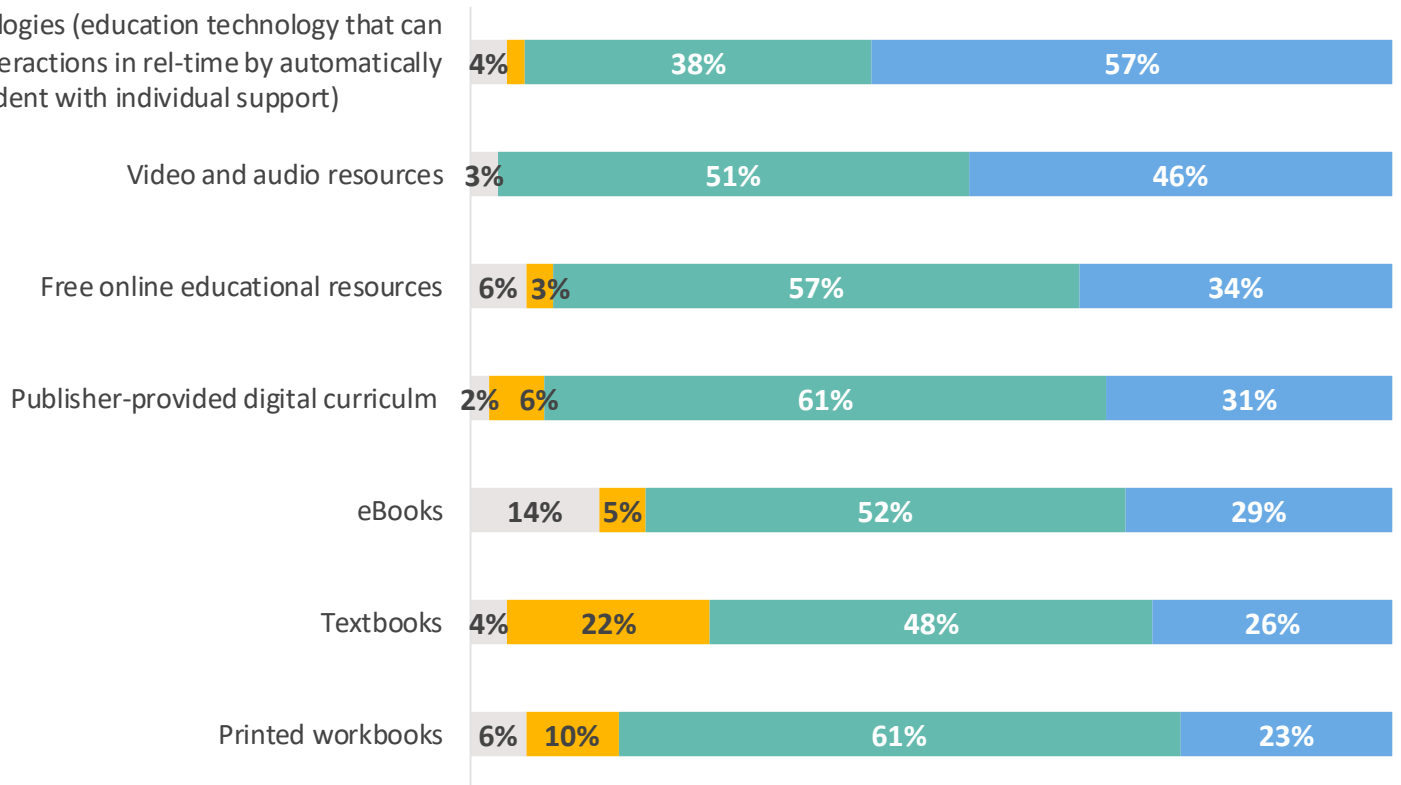
**responses from teachers who report teaching SEL*

Effectiveness of Instructional Resources

Among teachers who have used each of the following SEL teaching resources, adaptive learning technologies were cited as the most effective.

In general, how effective do you find each of the following resources for teaching social and emotional learning (SEL) skills?

Adaptive learning technologies (education technology that can respond to a students interactions in rel-time by automatically providing the sudent with individual support)



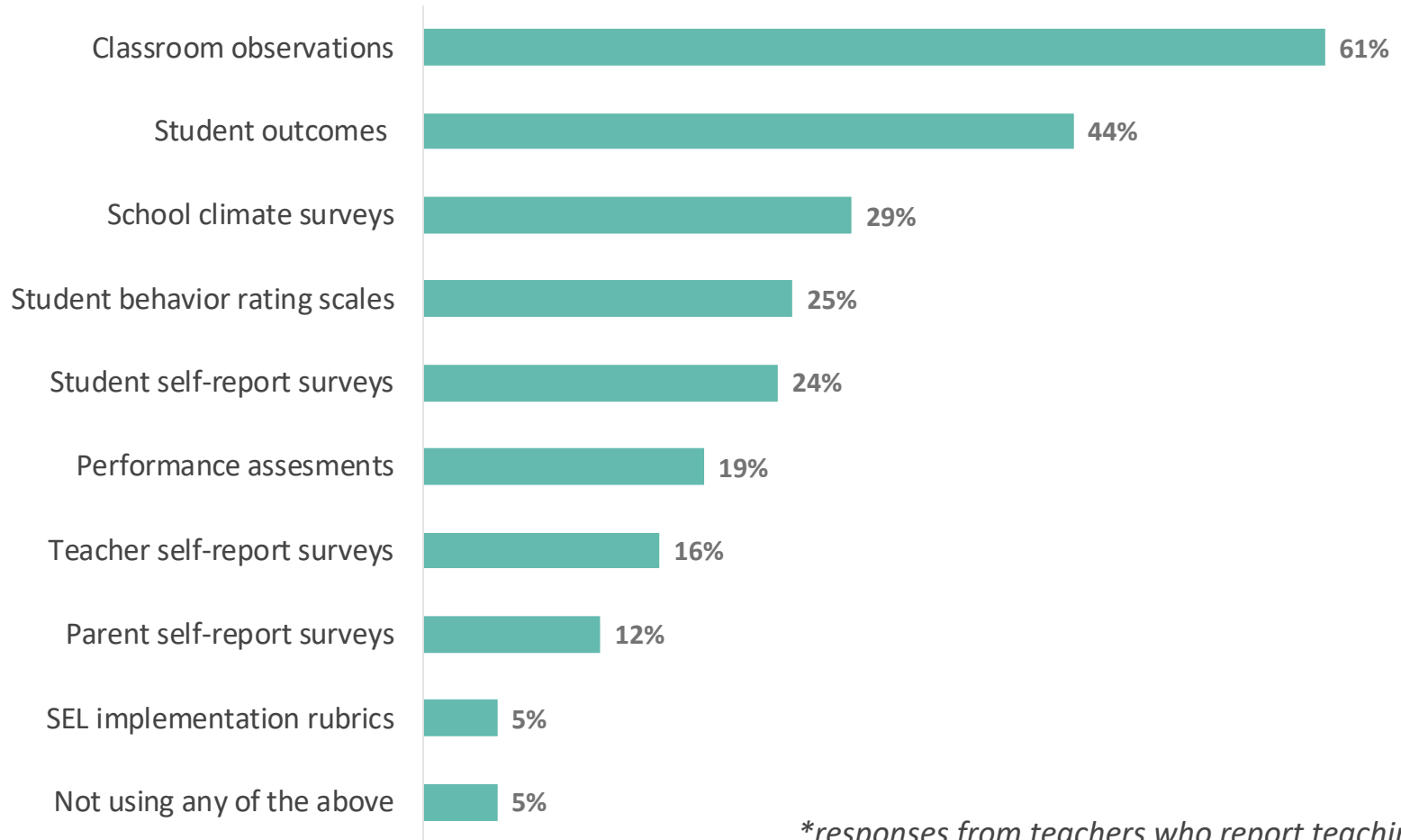
■ Don't know/ No opinion
 ■ Not at all effective
 ■ Not very effective
 ■ Somewhat effective
 ■ Very effective

**responses from teachers who report having used each respective resource to teach SEL*

Most Common Methods for Measuring SEL Skills

Teachers most commonly report using classroom observations and student outcomes to measure students' SEL skills.

Which of the following methods below are you currently using to measure your students' social and emotional learning (SEL) skills?

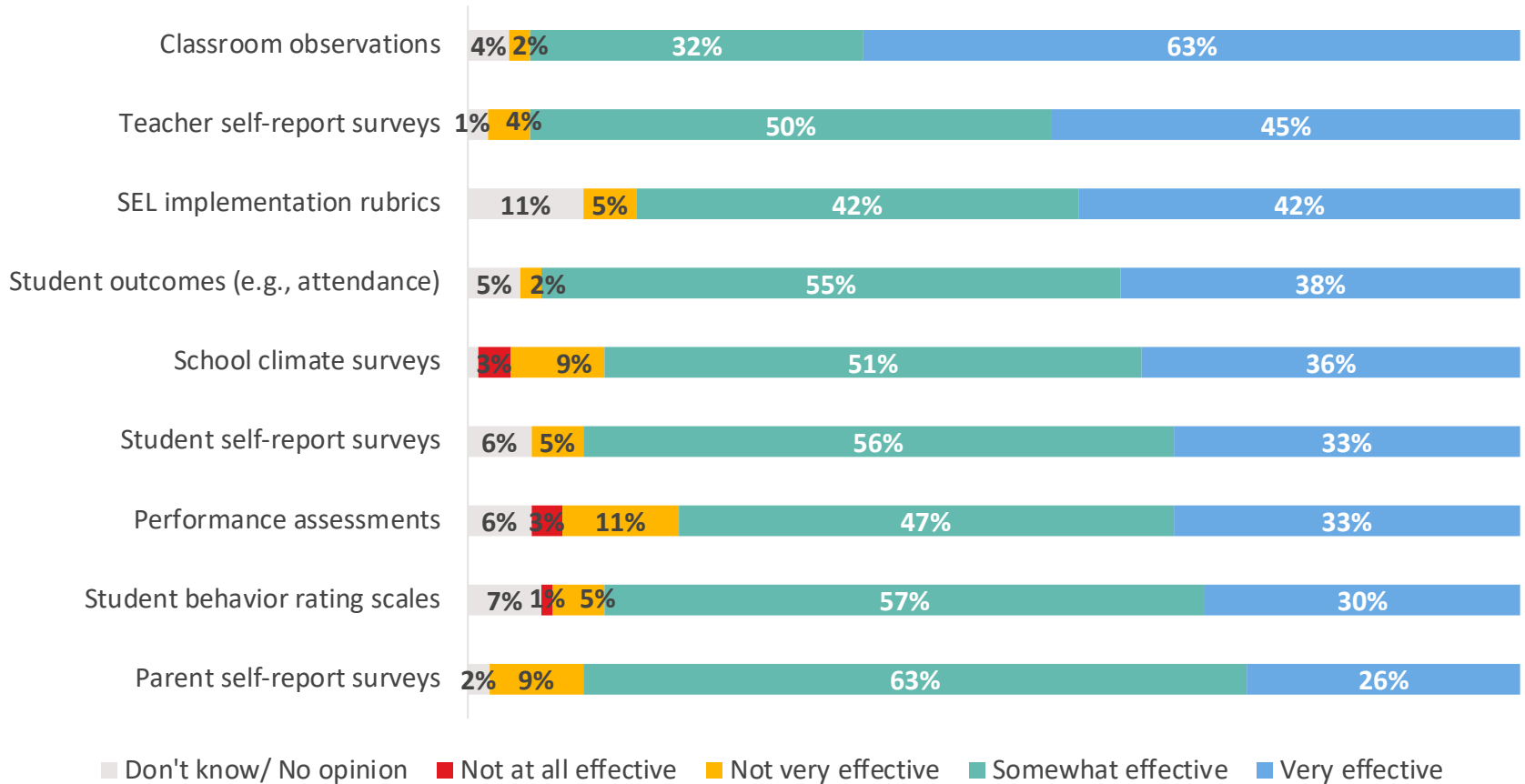


**responses from teachers who report teaching SEL*

Most Effective Methods for Measuring SEL Skills

Among teachers who have used the following methods for measuring SEL, the most effective method for measuring SEL skills is classroom observation – by a significant margin.

In your opinion, how effective are the following approaches for measuring students’ social and emotional learning (SEL) skills?



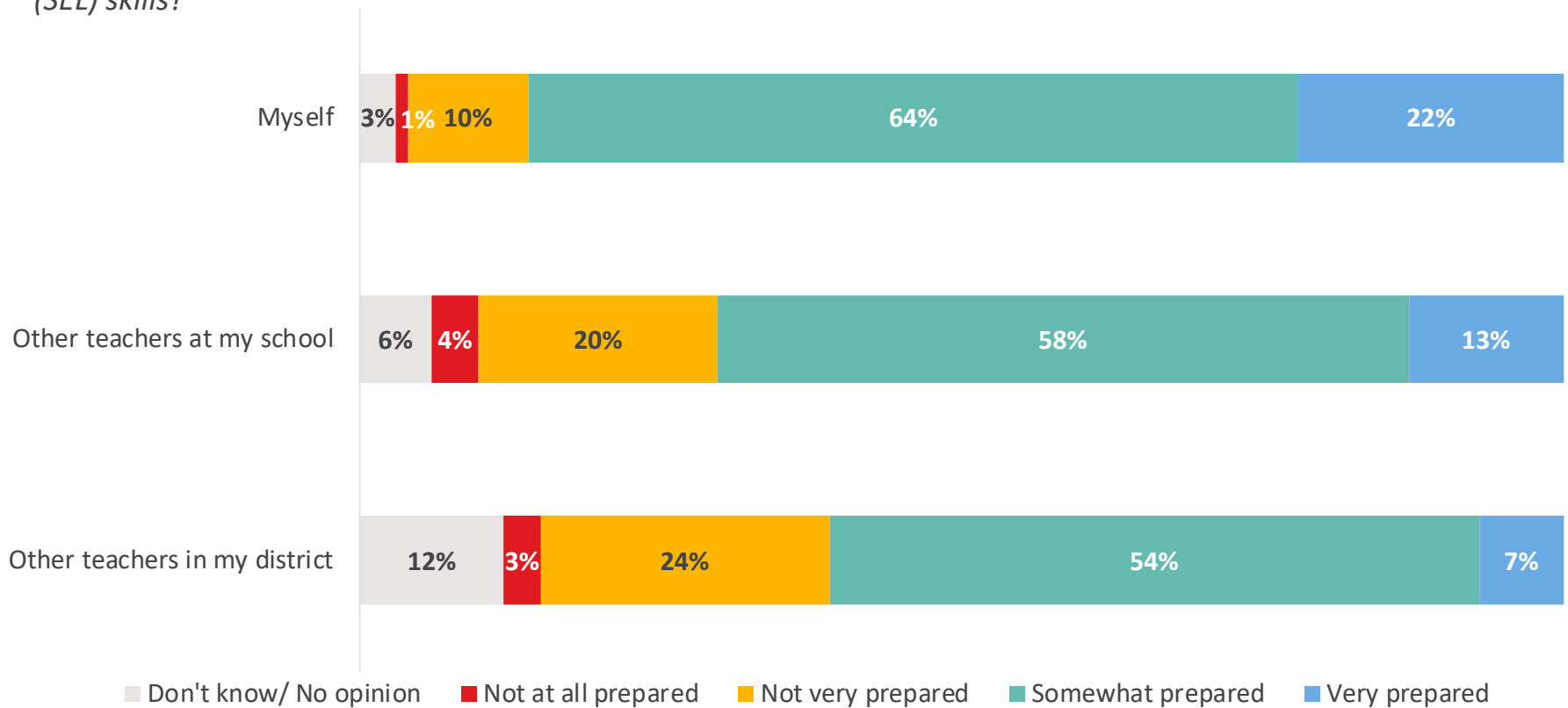
**responses from teachers who report having used each respective method*

SECTION III

Professional Development in SEL Instruction

Teachers who teach SEL understandably tend to rate their own SEL-preparedness as higher than that of their colleagues, though the majority reports that their colleagues are at least “somewhat” prepared.

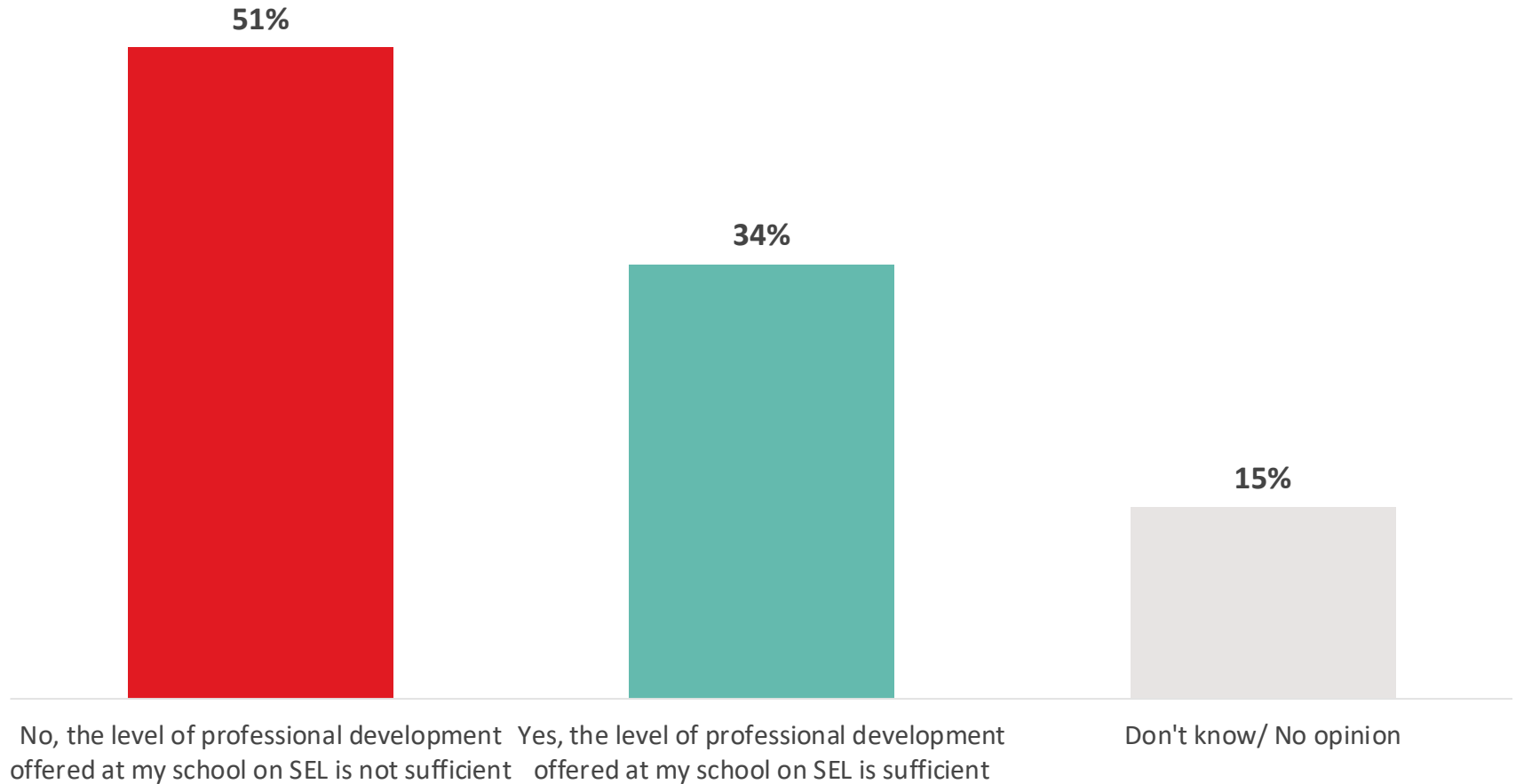
In your opinion, how prepared do you feel each of the following are to teach social and emotional learning (SEL) skills?



**responses from teachers who report teaching SEL*

More than half of teachers say the amount of SEL professional development offered in their school is not sufficient.

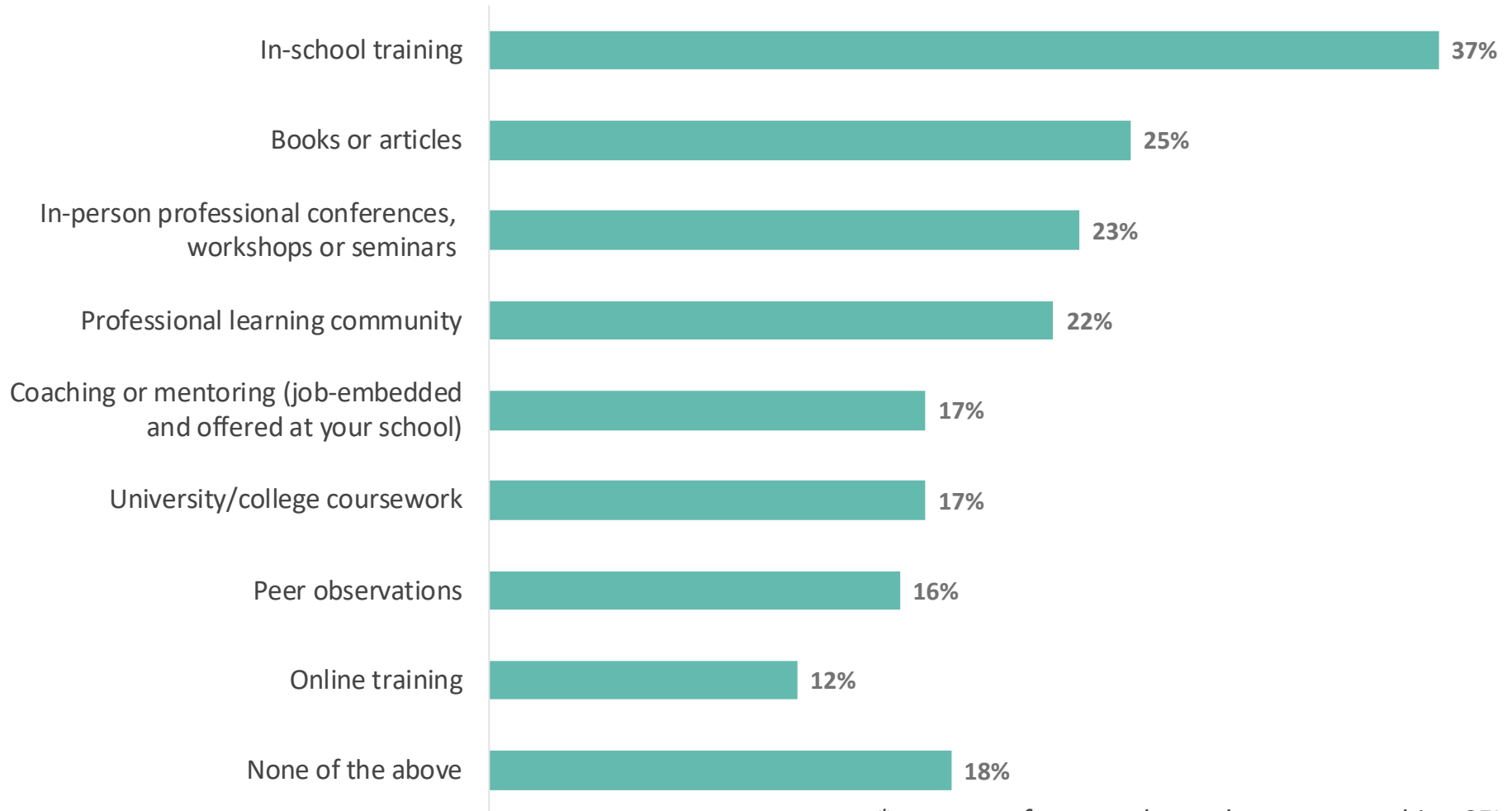
In your opinion, do you feel the amount of professional development that is offered on social and emotional learning (SEL) at your school is sufficient?



**responses from teachers who report teaching SEL*

The most commonly reported method of SEL professional development is in-school training.

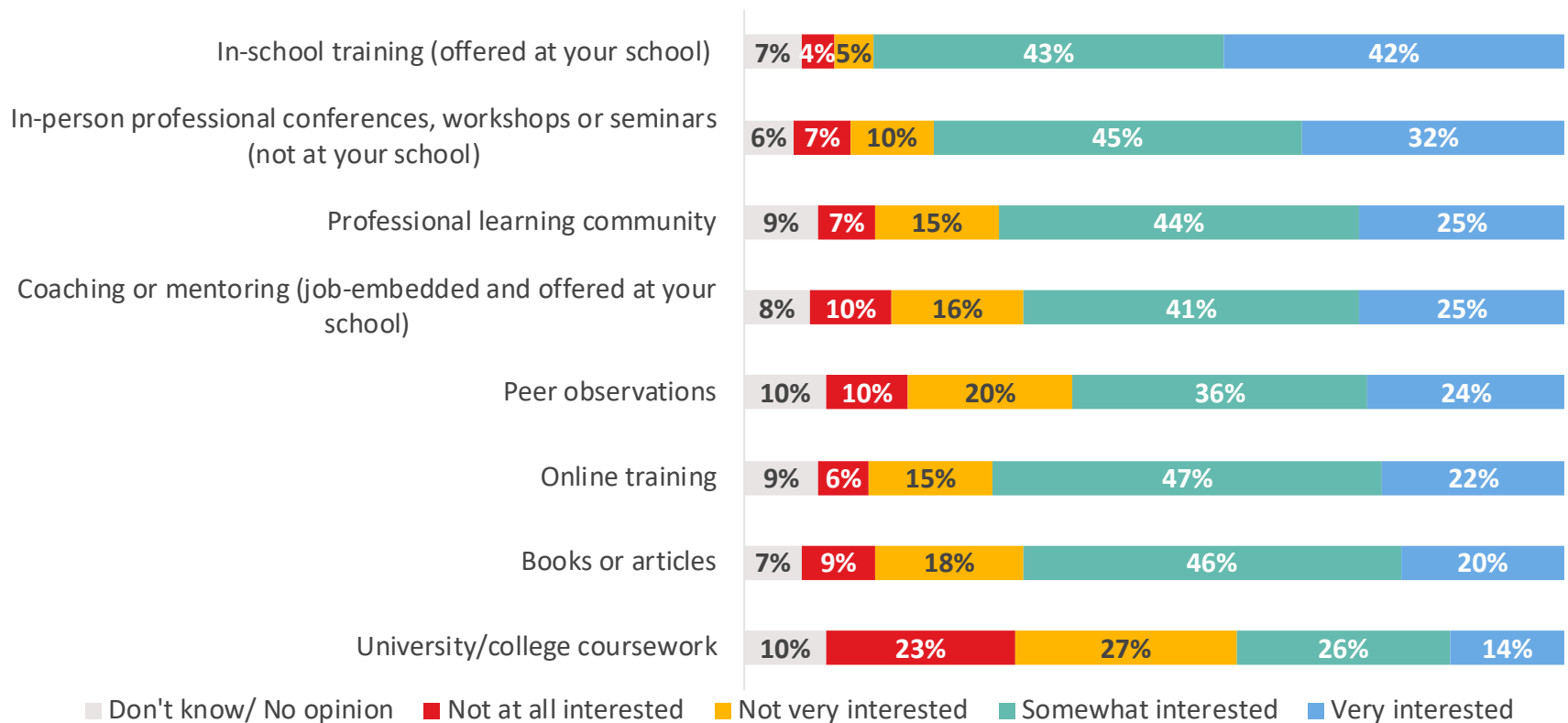
Please indicate if you've ever received professional development training on teaching social and emotional learning (SEL) through the following methods. Please select all that apply.



**responses from teachers who report teaching SEL*

Teachers are most interested in receiving professional development training on SEL through in-school training and in-person professional conferences, workshops or seminars.

How interested would you be in receiving professional development training on teaching social and emotional learning (SEL) skills through the following methods?



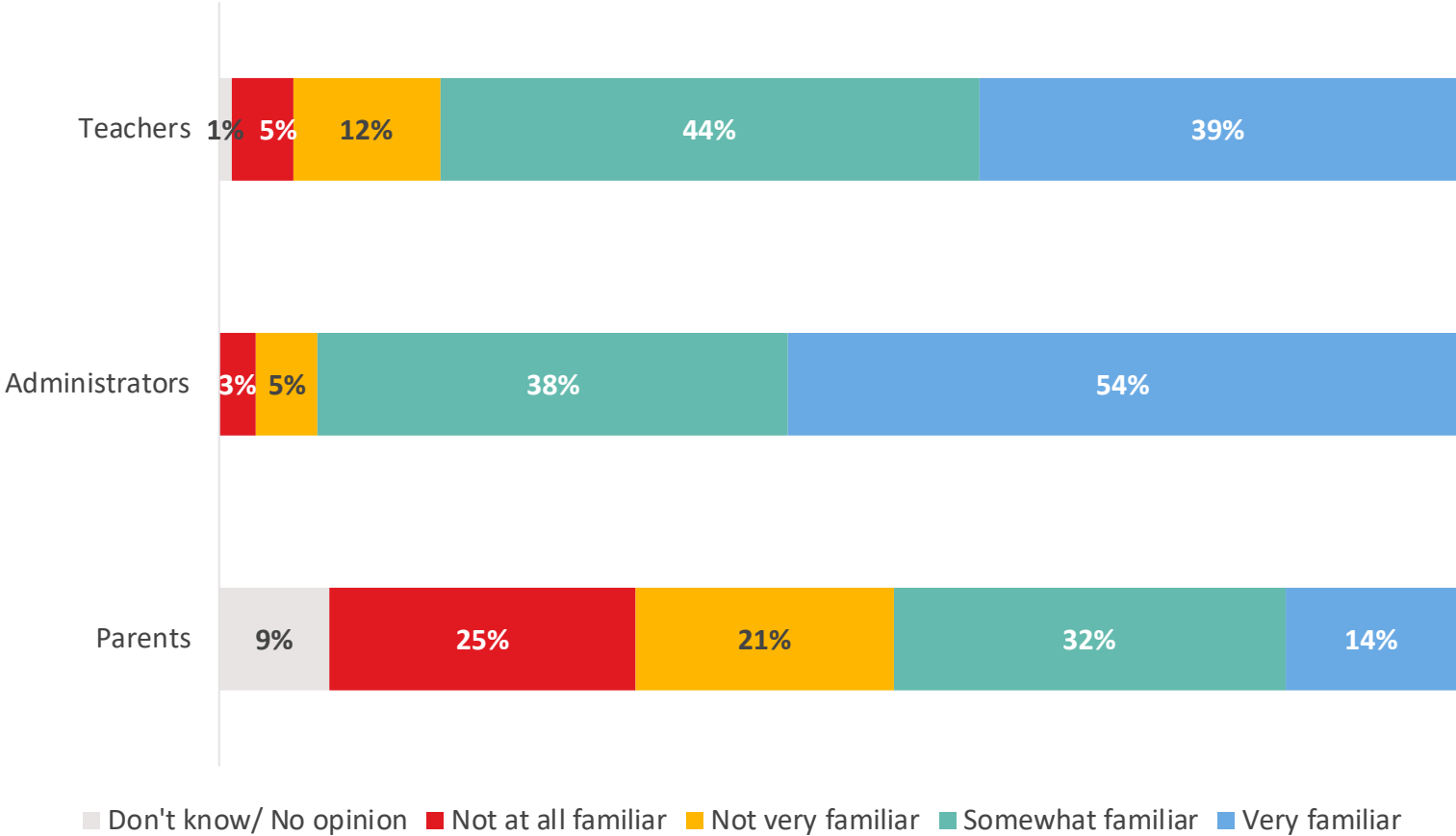
**responses from teachers who report teaching SEL*

SECTION IV

Communication Between Teachers and Parents

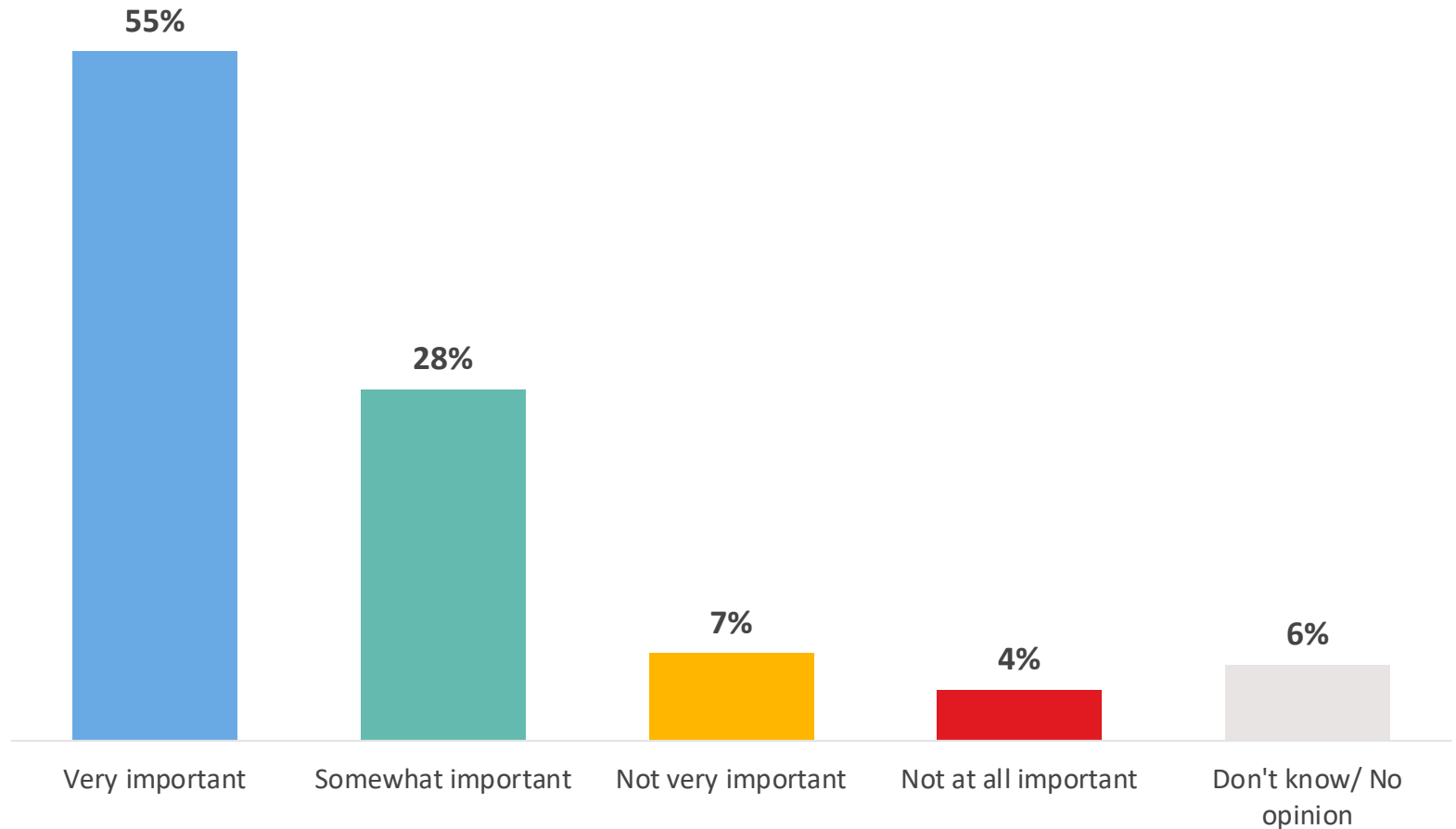
Administrators are the most likely group to report being familiar with SEL, followed by teachers. Parents are significantly less likely to report being familiar with it.

Prior to taking this survey, how familiar were you with the concept of social and emotional learning (SEL)?



After learning what SEL is, more than four-fifths of parents say it is important that SEL skills are taught in the classroom.

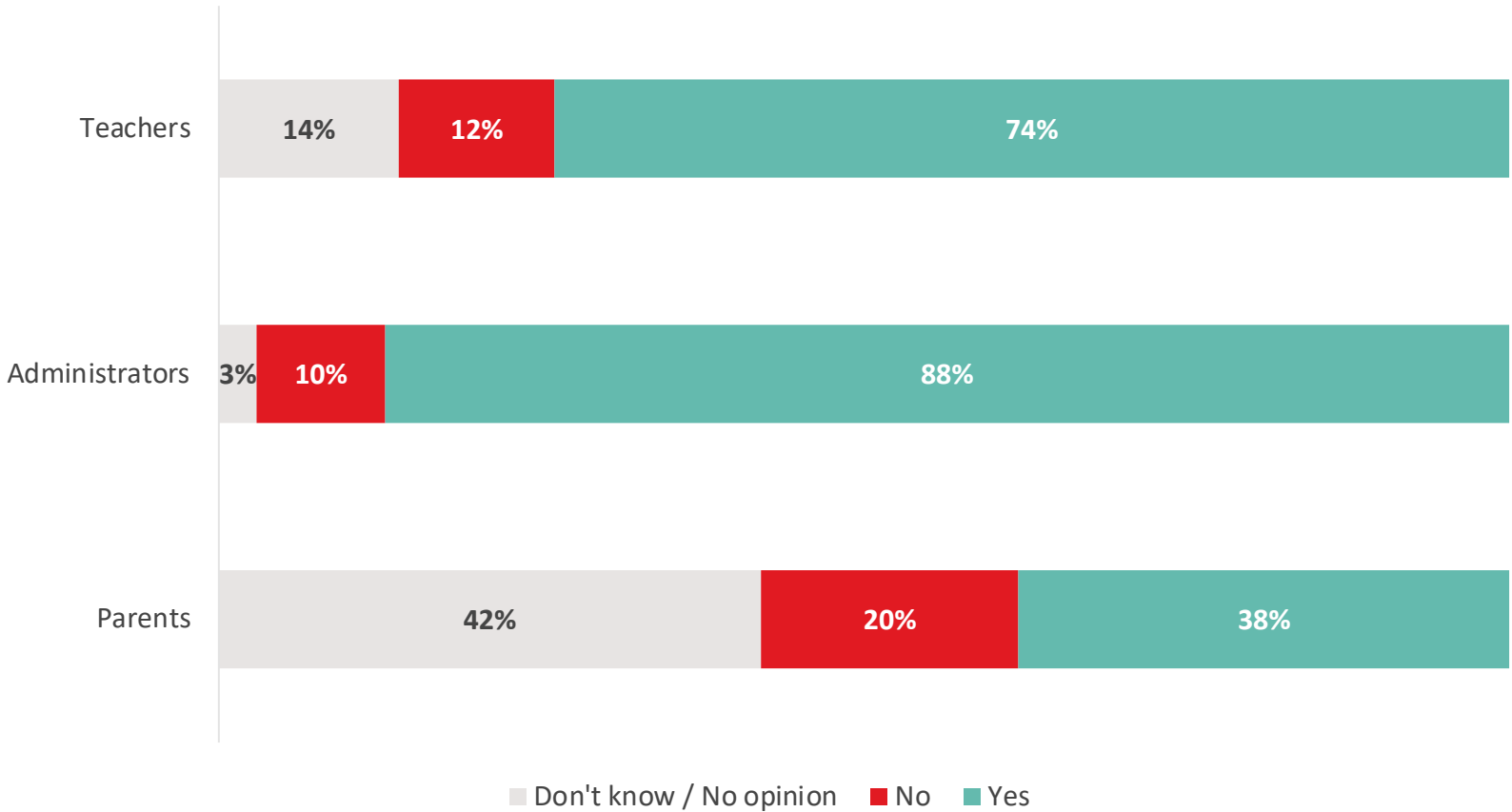
How important is it to you that social and emotional learning (SEL) skills are taught in the classroom at your child(ren)'s school?



**responses from parents*

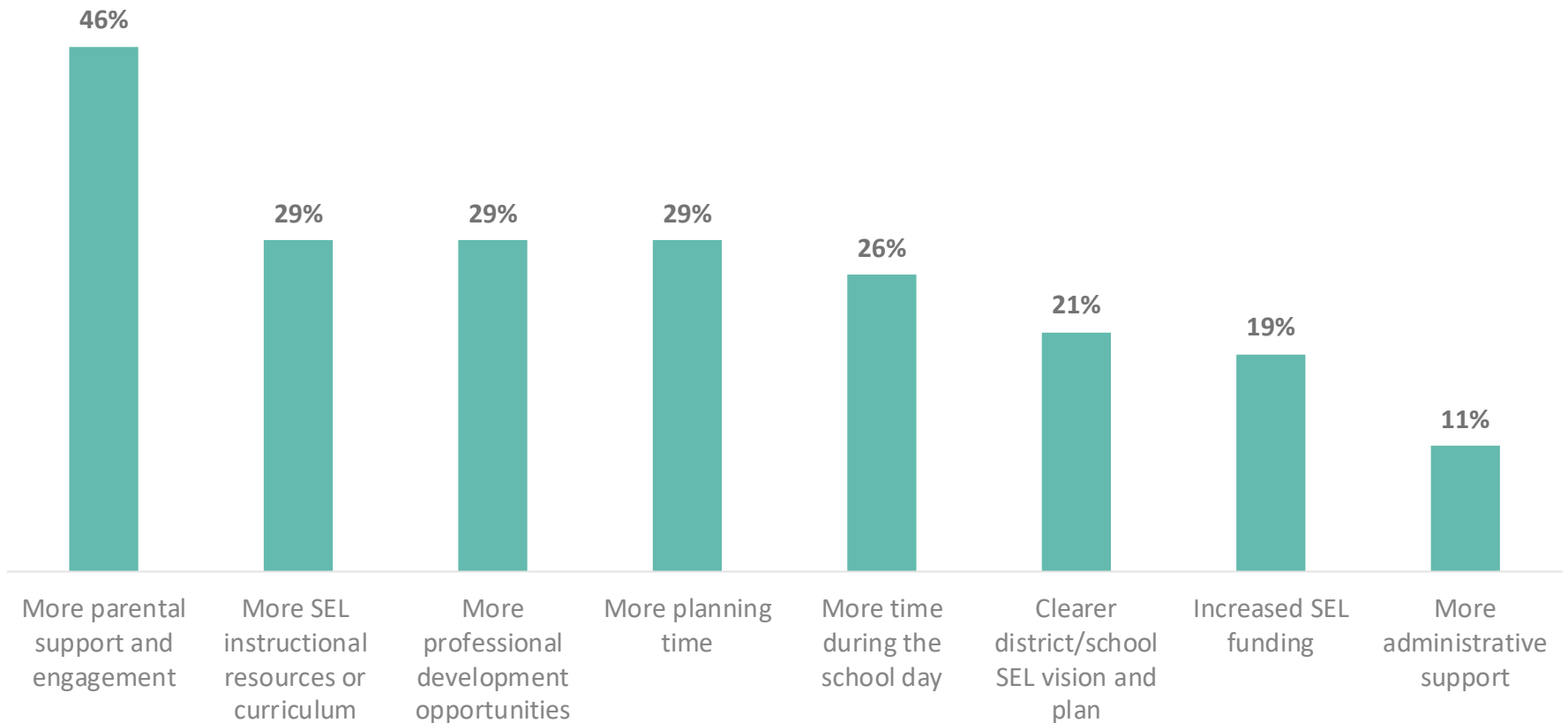
While a majority of teachers and administrators say SEL is taught at their schools, only 38% of parents say SEL skills are taught at their child(ren)'s schools.

To the best of your knowledge, are social and emotional learning (SEL) skills being taught at your school?



Teachers view “parental support and engagement” as the top factor that that would help them to be more effective in teaching SEL.

From the list below, please select the top three factors that you think would help you be more effective when teaching social and emotional (SEL) skills.



**responses from teachers who report teaching SEL*

Because learning changes everything.®



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