



Opinions on the Future of Central High School

Results of a Survey of Central Unified School District Residents

*Survey Conducted:
July 10 – August 6, 2018*

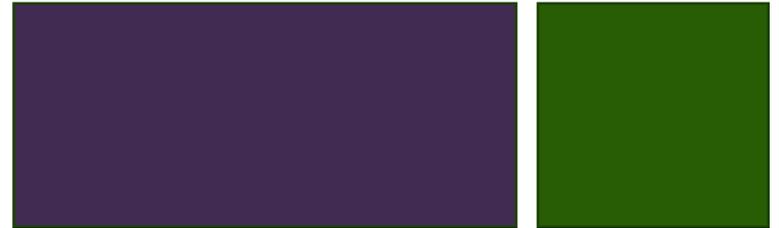
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FAIRBANK, MASLIN,
MAULLIN, METZ
& ASSOCIATES

Methodology

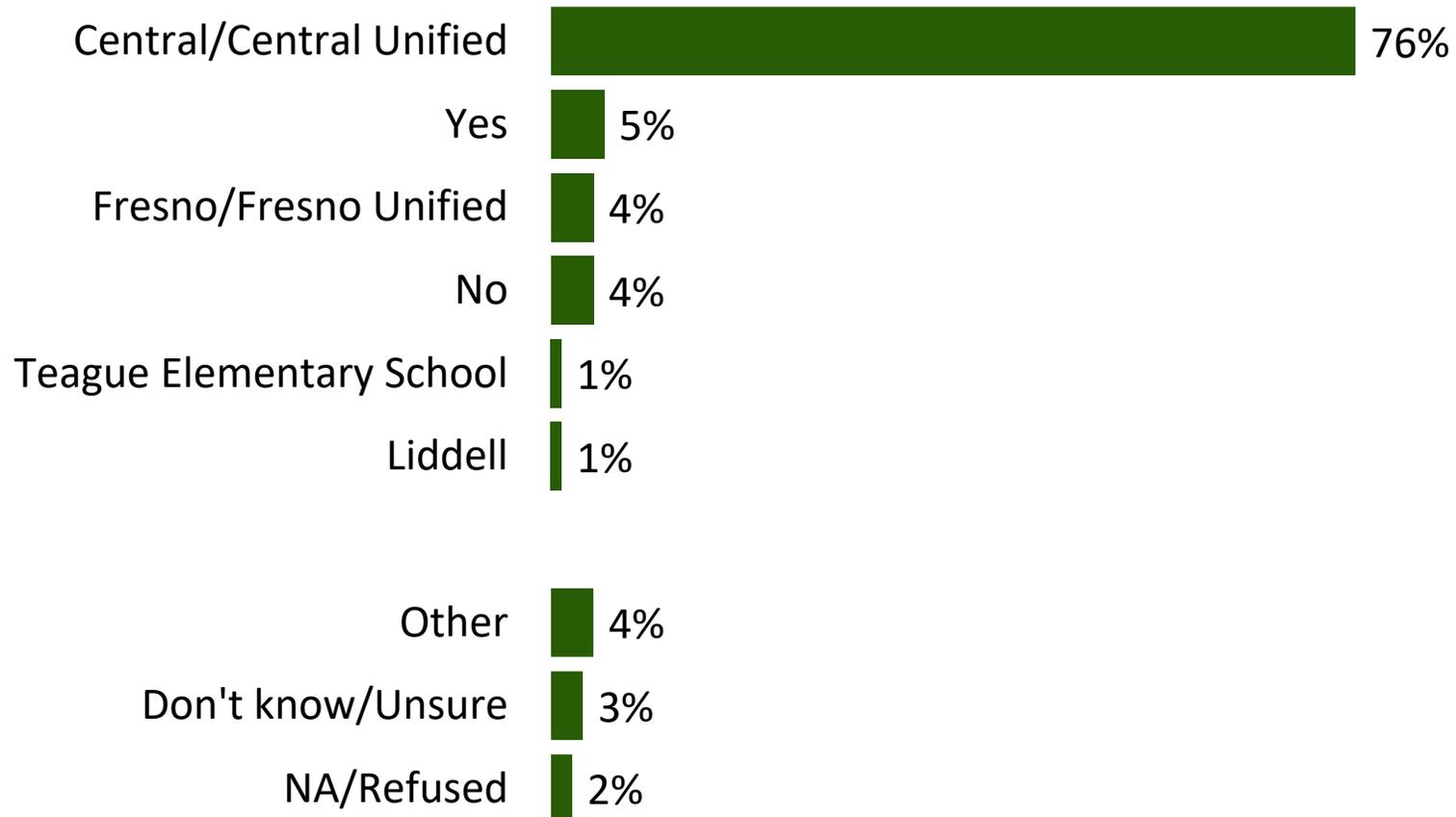
- ✓ 550 interviews with residents 18 years of age or older in the Central Unified School District
- ✓ Interviews online and on landlines/cell phones
- ✓ Survey available in English, Spanish and Punjabi
- ✓ Margin of sampling error of +/- 4.4% at the 95% confidence interval
- ✓ Some percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding





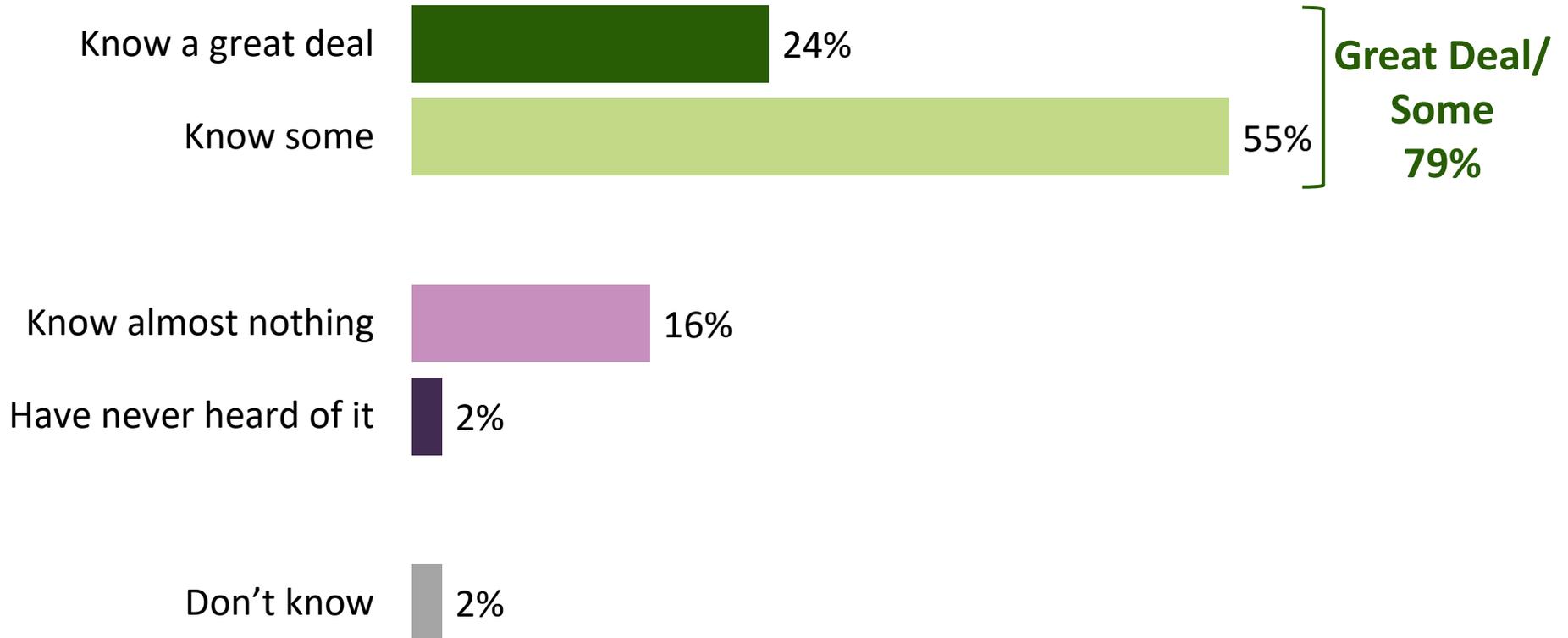
Awareness of Central Unified and Central High School

About three in four respondents recognize that they live in the Central Unified School District.

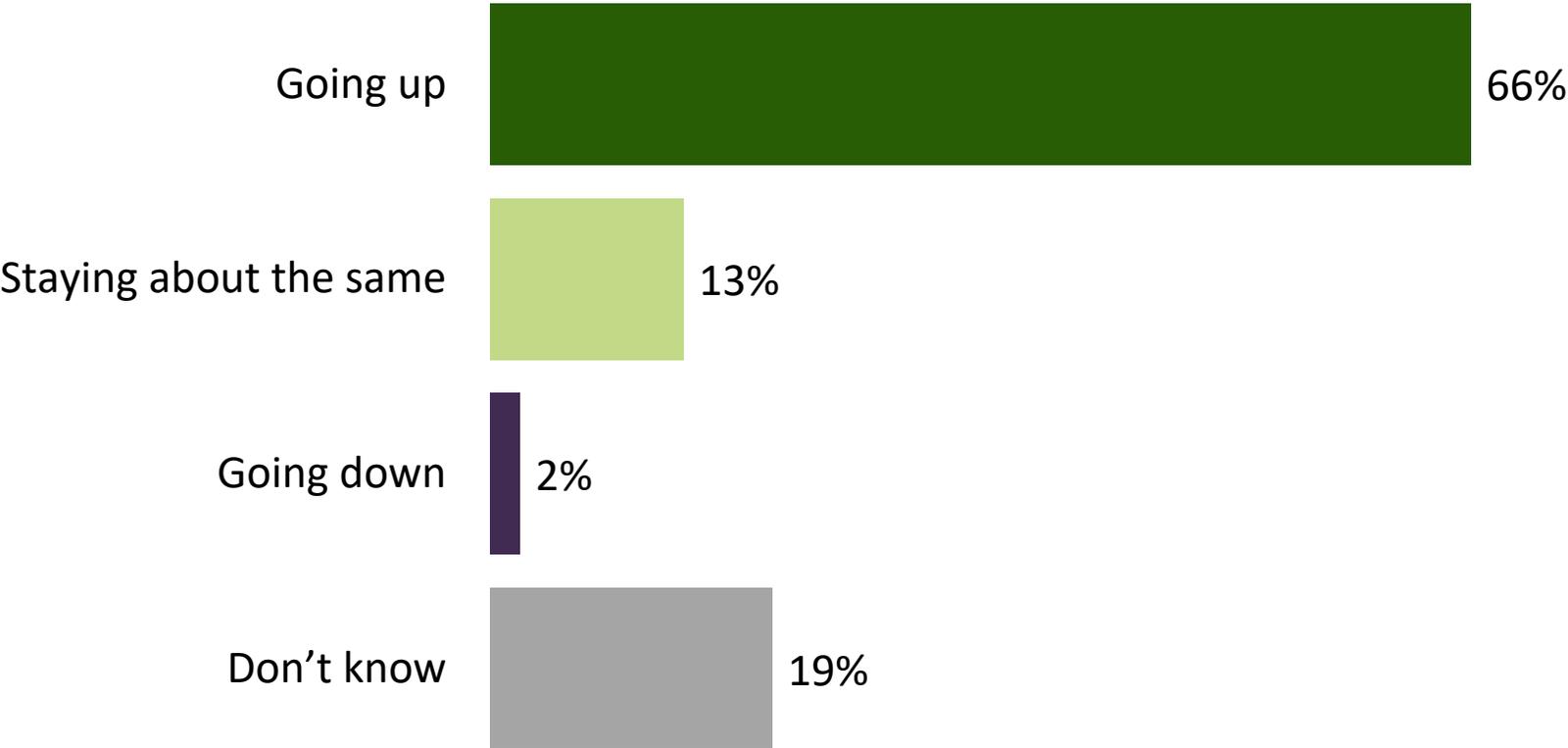


Roughly the same number say they know at least something about the District.

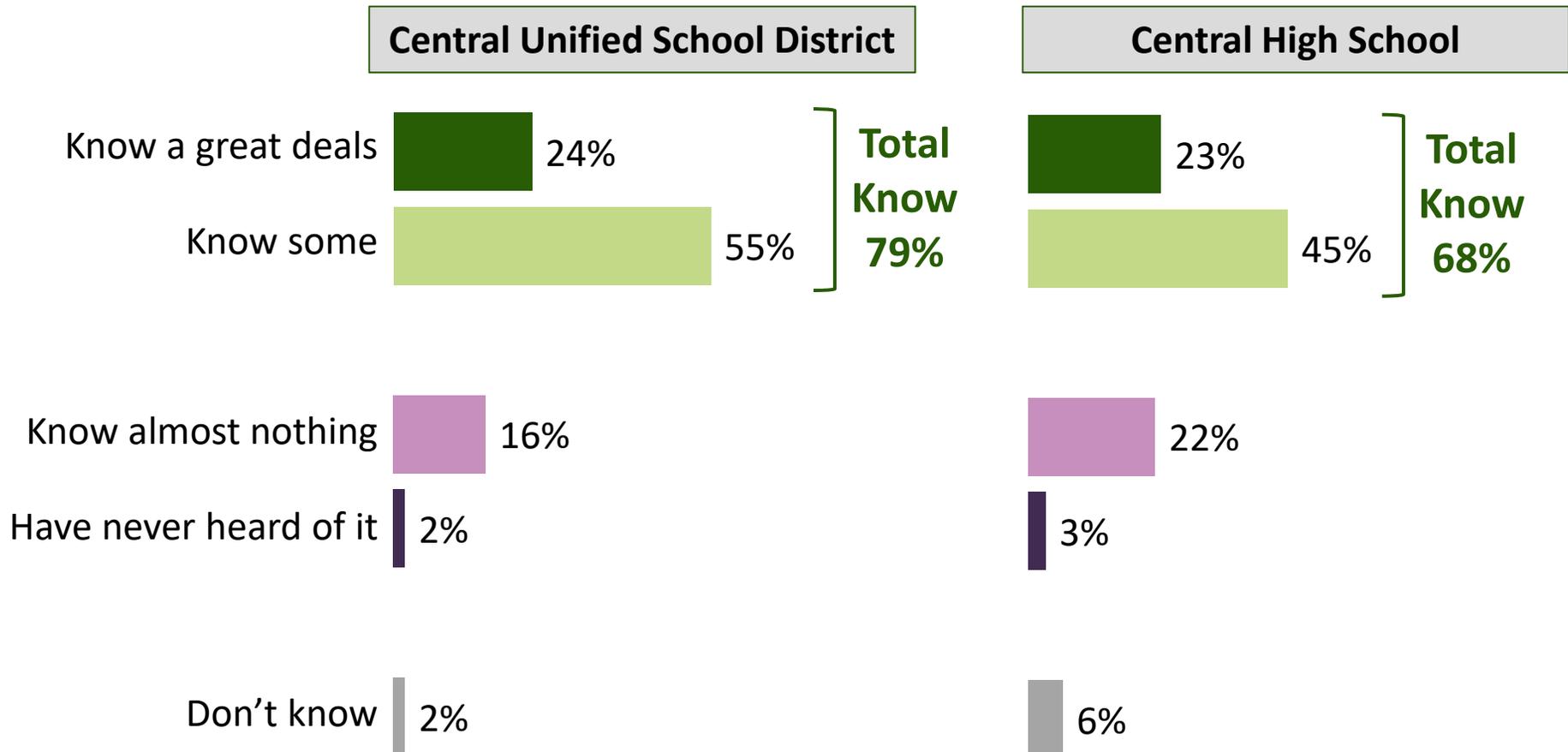
*You live in an area served by the Central Unified School District.
How much do you know about Central Unified overall? Would you say that you...?*



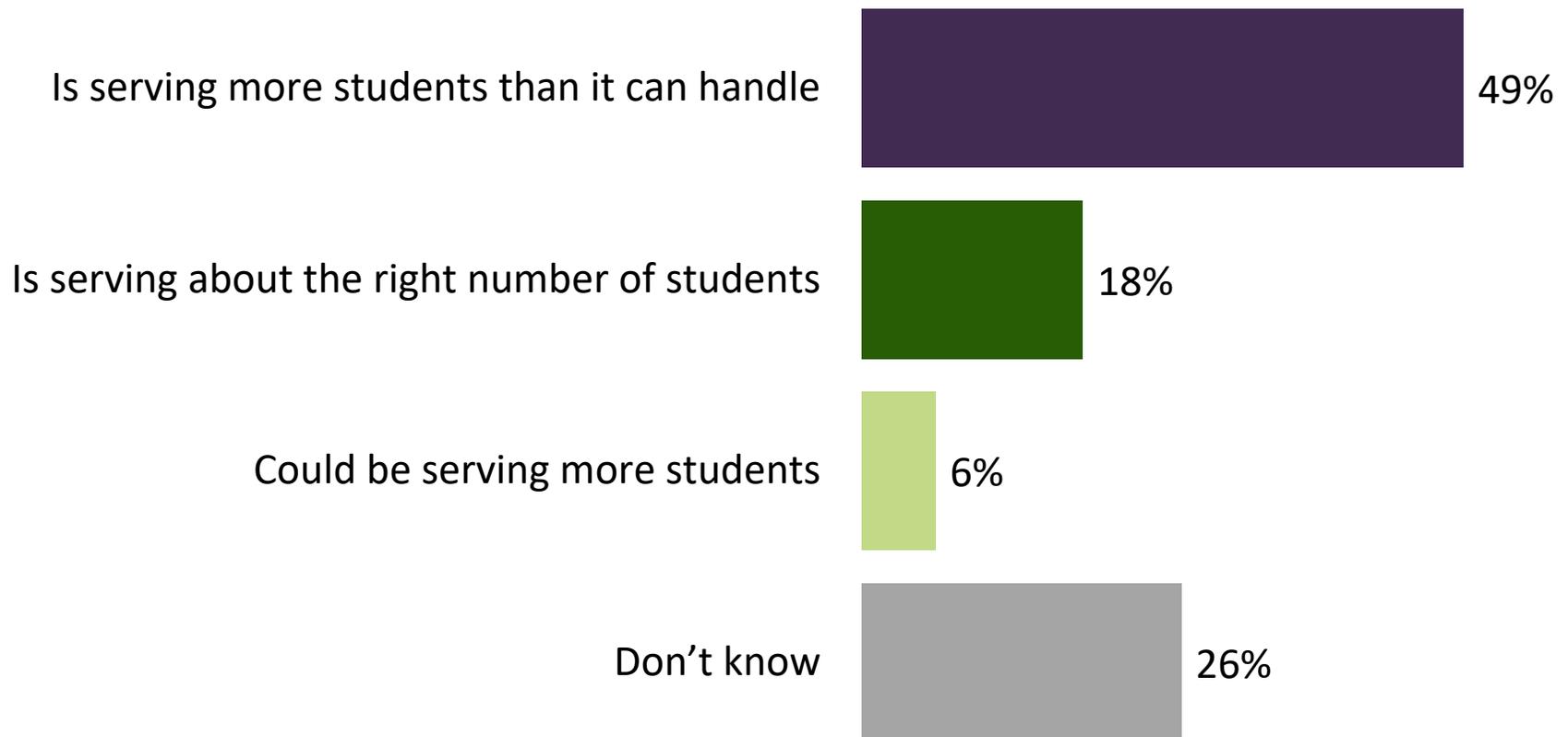
Six-in-ten respondents think enrollment at Central Unified has been going up in recent years.



Compared to the School District overall, somewhat fewer residents know about Central High School.



Nearly half think Central High School is serving more students than it can handle.

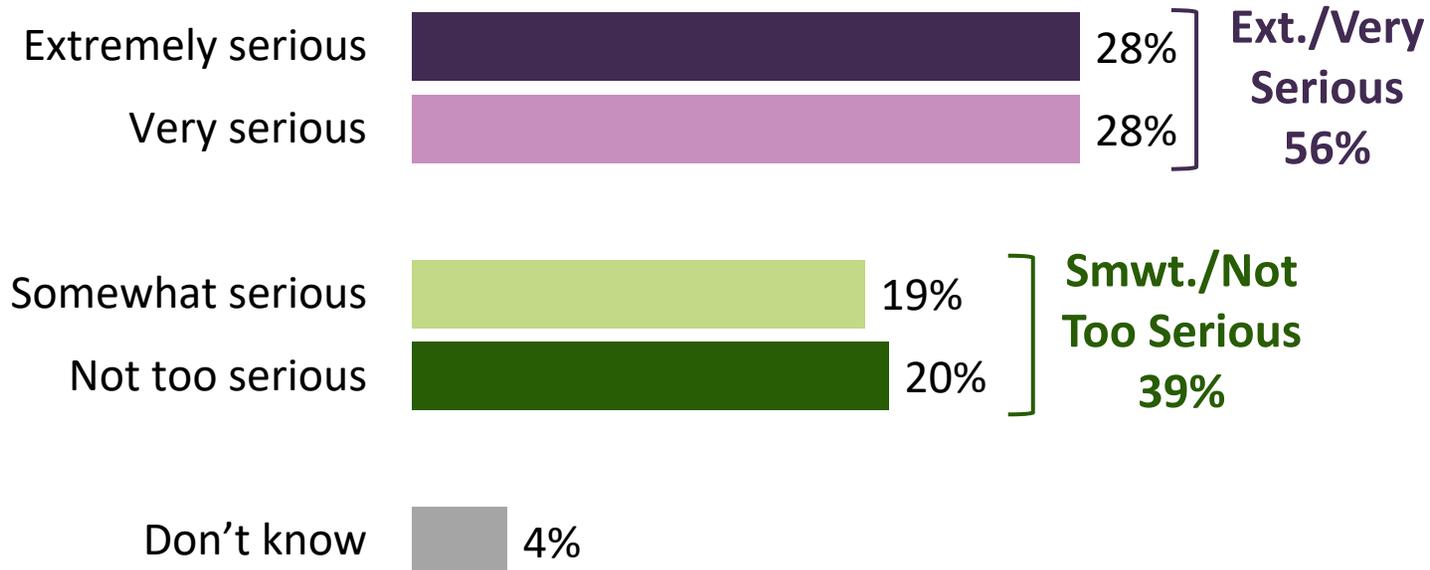




Opinions about the Future of Central High School

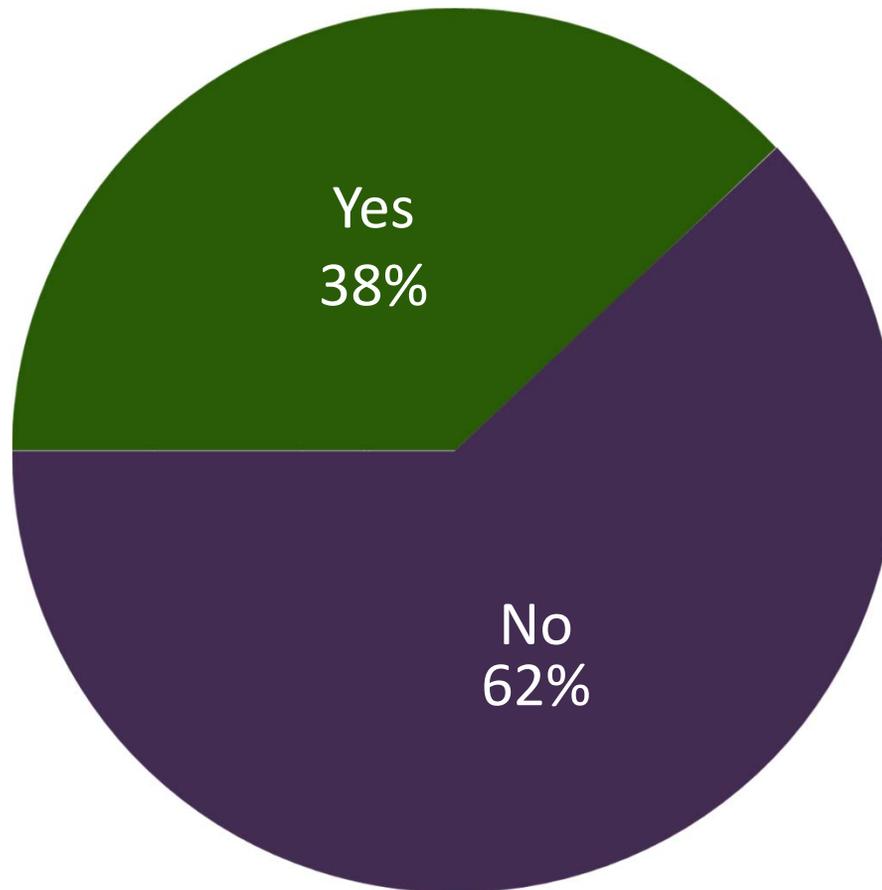
Just over half think shuttling Central High School students is an extremely or very serious problem.

Central High School currently operates on two campuses: the East campus is the larger campus and that is where most classes and programs are offered. But, there is not enough space there to offer all of the classes and programs that students need. So multiple times per day, hundreds of students are shuttled by bus approximately seven miles to the West campus. Taken together, the two campuses make a comprehensive high school.



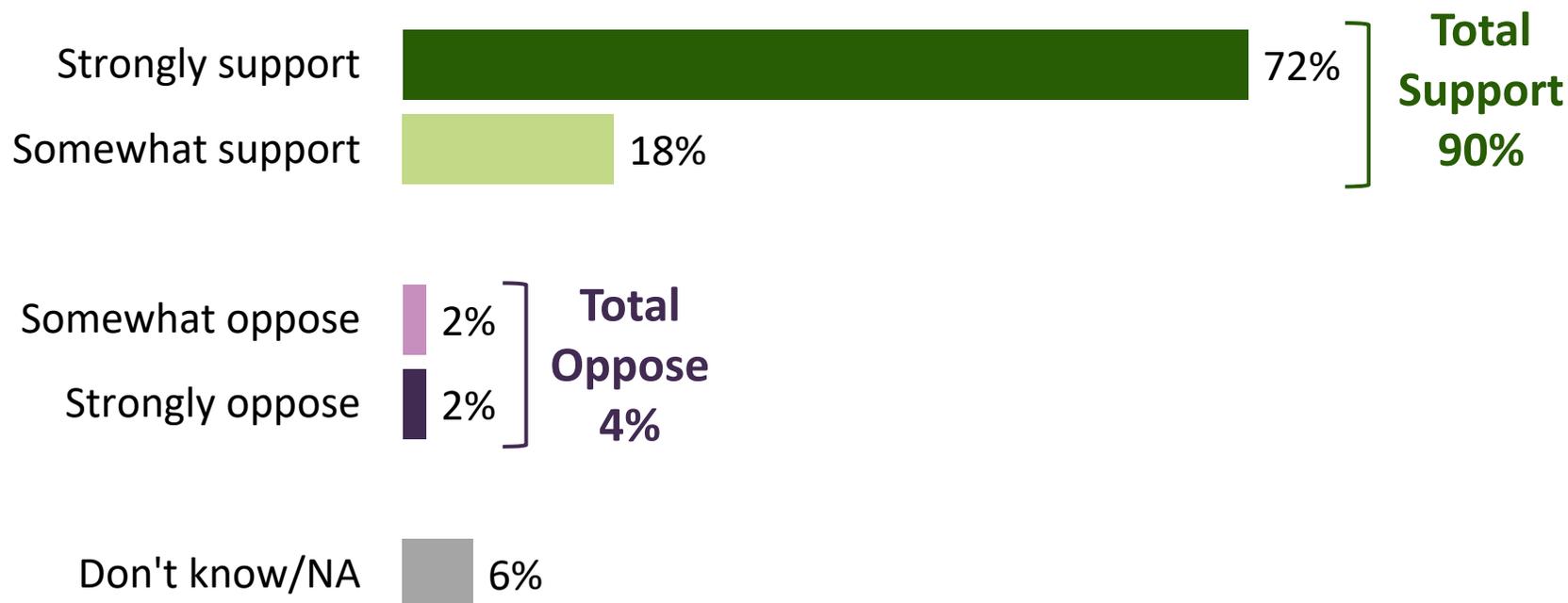
Nearly four-in-ten respondents are aware of plans to build a new high school.

Are you aware of any plans for Central Unified to build a new high school?



There is overwhelming support for building a new high school.

There are plans for a new comprehensive high school near Harvest Elementary School and Glacier Point Middle School. The new high school is scheduled to open in three years for the 2021-22 School Year. When the school is open, many of the students who currently attend Central High School will attend the new high school and the need to shuttle students between the Central High School campuses will be reduced or eliminated.



By more than a two-to-one margin, respondents prefer completing the new high school before dividing the high school population.

Some people have suggested that, instead of this plan, the school district should upgrade the West campus of Central High School in time for the 2019-20 school year – before the new high school is completed – so some students would attend the West campus as their main high school and others would continue to attend the East campus. When the new high school opens, the student attendance areas would be rearranged.

25%

Other people suggest waiting until the new high school is complete, because it will be less disruptive for students. Also, the West campus requires significant upgrades and improvements to be able to offer programs and classes that are equal to the East campus and the school district does not have the resources to make those upgrades until after the new high school is built.

55%

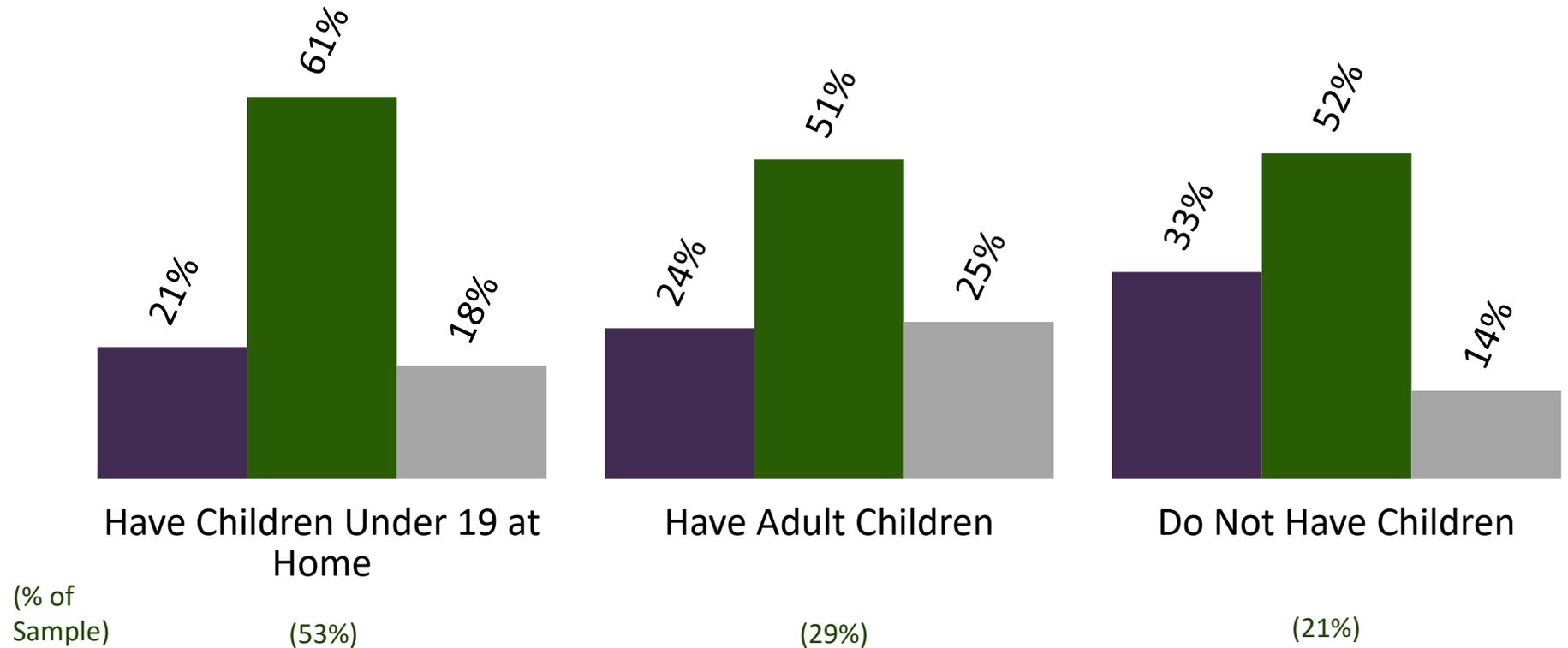
Don't Know/No Answer

19%

A majority of residents prefer waiting until the new high school is built, regardless of their parental status.

By Parental Status

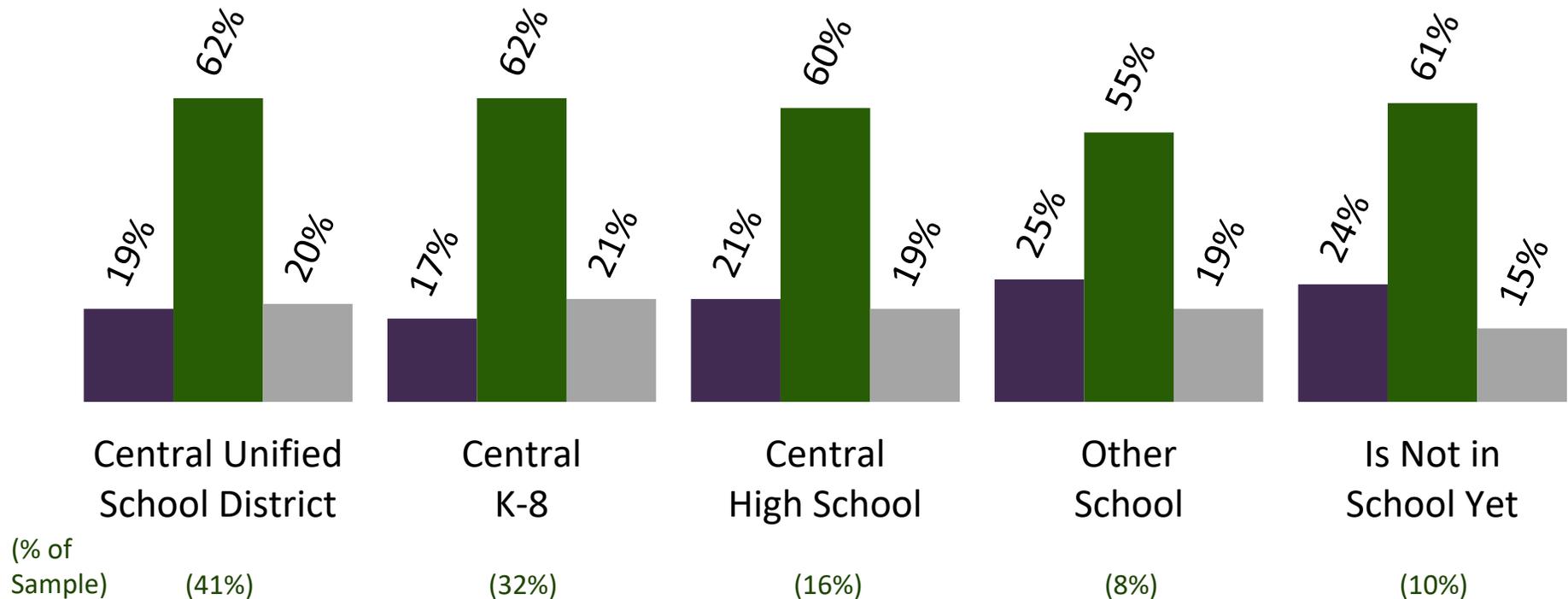
■ Upgrade West Campus ■ Build New High School ■ Don't Know



There is little variation in opinions based on what type of school respondents' children attend.

By School Type

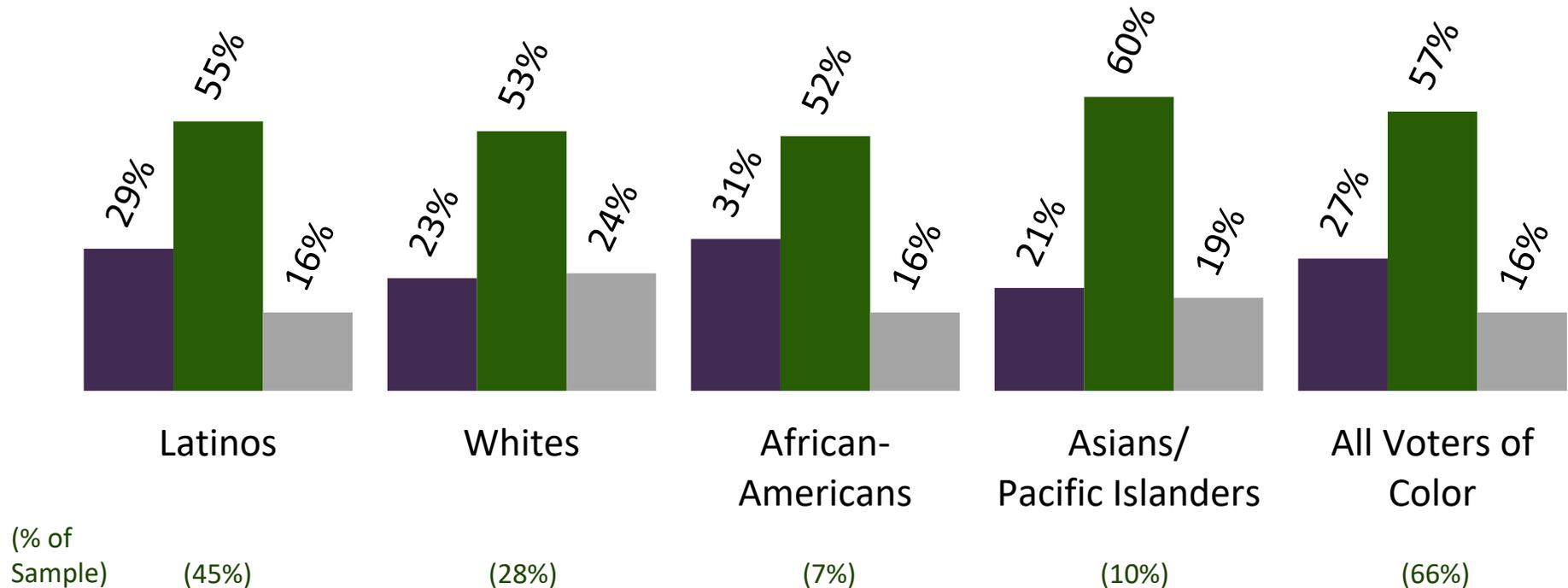
■ Upgrade West Campus ■ Build New High School ■ Don't Know



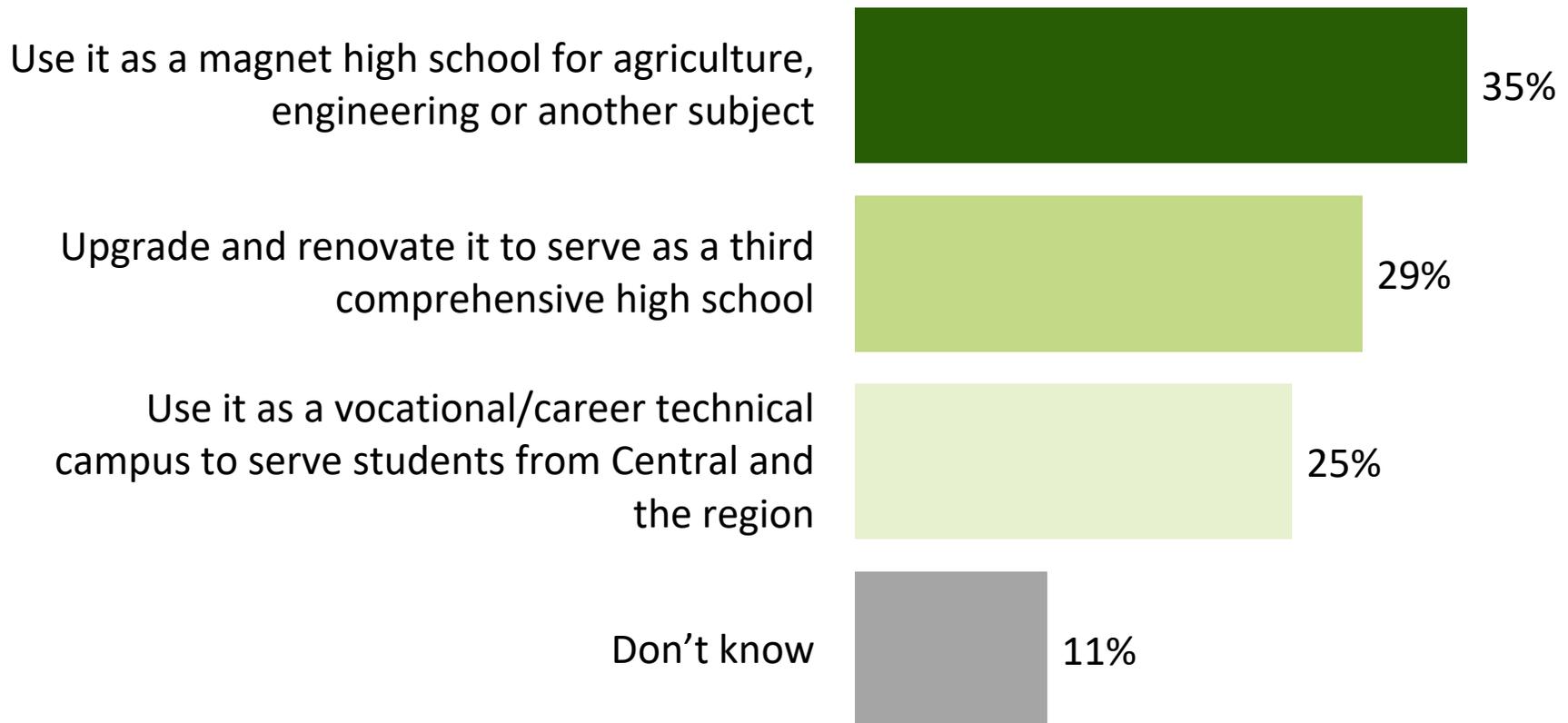
Majorities of all racial/ethnic groups support waiting until the new high school is built.

By Ethnicity

■ Upgrade West Campus ■ Build New High School ■ Don't Know



Respondents are divided in their preference for potential uses for the West Campus after the new high school is built.





Conclusions

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- ✓ There is relatively high awareness of Central Unified among local residents, however a quarter of residents do not know the name of their school district.
- ✓ Residents mostly believe that Central High School is at or above its capacity and cannot serve more students.
- ✓ Approximately half of residents think it is an extremely or very serious problem that students are shuttled between the East and West campuses.
- ✓ Residents overwhelmingly support the development of a new Central Unified High School.
- ✓ By more than a two-to-one margin, residents want the District to continue with the plan of building the new high school and dividing the student population of Central High when it is complete, instead of upgrading the West campus and having some students attend West campus full-time in the 2019-2020 school year.
- ✓ There is no clear preference for what should be done with the West campus after the new high school opens.

For more information, contact:



**FAIRBANK, MASLIN,
MAULLIN, METZ
& ASSOCIATES**

12100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 350
Los Angeles, CA 90025
Phone (310) 828-1183
Fax (310) 453-6562

John Fairbank

John@FM3research.com

Adam Sonenshein

Adam@FM3research.com