



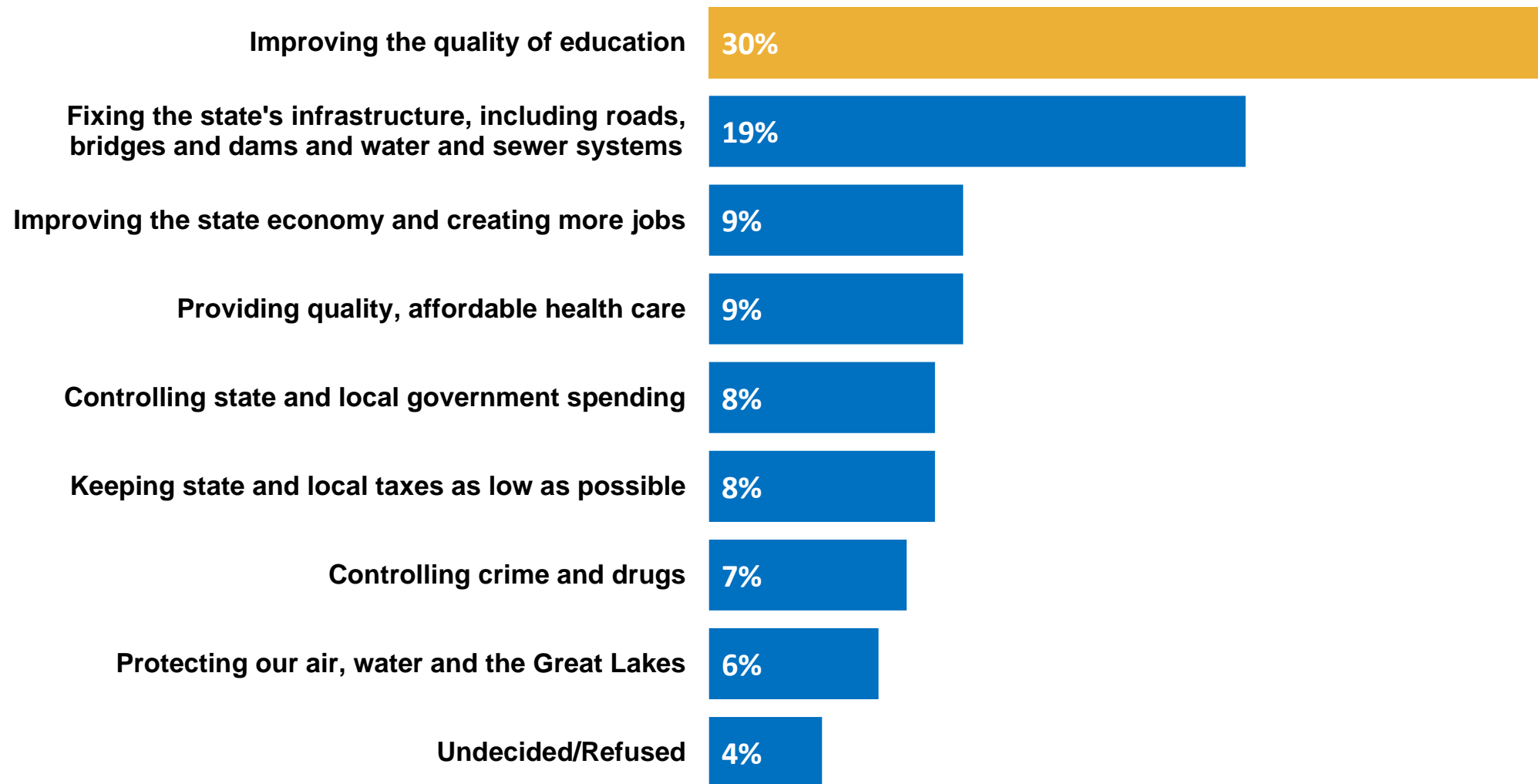
The Education Trust—Midwest

Michigan Parent Survey: Key Findings

Common Ground Found Across Race, Geography, Income Levels, Gender and Political Affiliation,
According to Statewide Poll Results

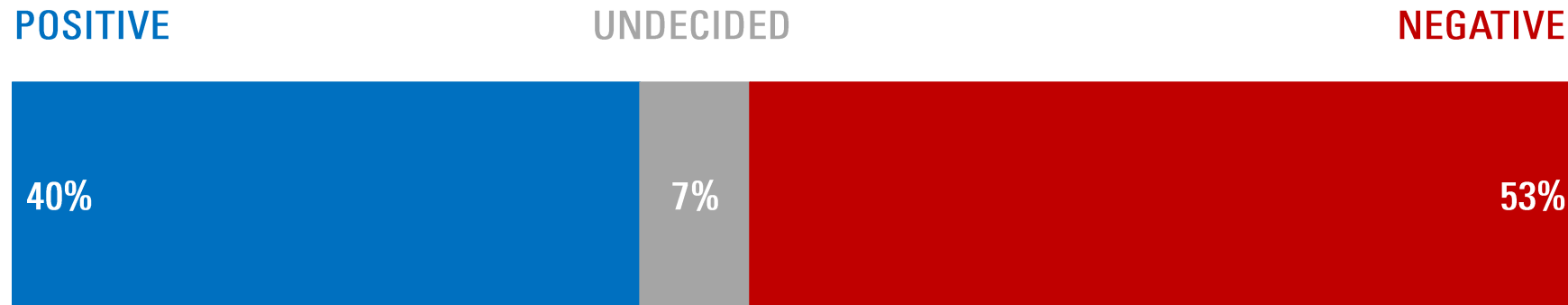
EPIC-MRA conducted a survey of 600 parents in Michigan with one or more children 18 or younger from February 19-March 1, 2019 on behalf of The Education Trust-Midwest. The results of this survey have a margin of error of +/-4% at the 95% confidence level.

Quality education is shared top concern, with Michigan parents listing 'improving the quality of education' as their top priority.





Slightly more than half of parents offered all public school districts in Michigan a negative rating for the quality of education they provide to students.



But, on the contrary, a majority of parents gave their local public school district a positive rating for quality of education.



A majority of parents offered a positive rating for the quality of education currently provided in the local public school district where they live.

POSITIVE

UNDECIDED

NEGATIVE





Parents support both transparent accountability and equitable school funding

Transcending racial and political divides, Michigan parents say they want greater transparency, public reporting, accountability for school performance and greater investment in vulnerable students, the poll finds. Key findings include:

Strong majority supports greater transparency and accountability for school performance.



84 percent of all parents agree that Michigan public schools should be held accountable through “an A through F grading system” based on performance and student improvement, “so parents have a clear understanding of how the school is doing.”

AGREE

UNDECIDED **DISAGREE**



African American parents, in particular, show strong support for accountability and public reporting.



An A-F grading system enjoys support from White parents (83 percent), Black parents (93 percent) and all other parents (88 percent).



Parents of all political parties strongly support an A through F letter grading system.



Regardless of political affiliation, a majority of Michigan parents agree with an A through F letter grading system to hold every Michigan public school accountable for their performance in educating their students.





Broad, diverse support for greater investment in vulnerable students.

Nearly two-thirds of all parents would support a “proposal to provide more state and local funding than average for school districts that serve students with the greatest need, including high rates of low-income and minority students.”

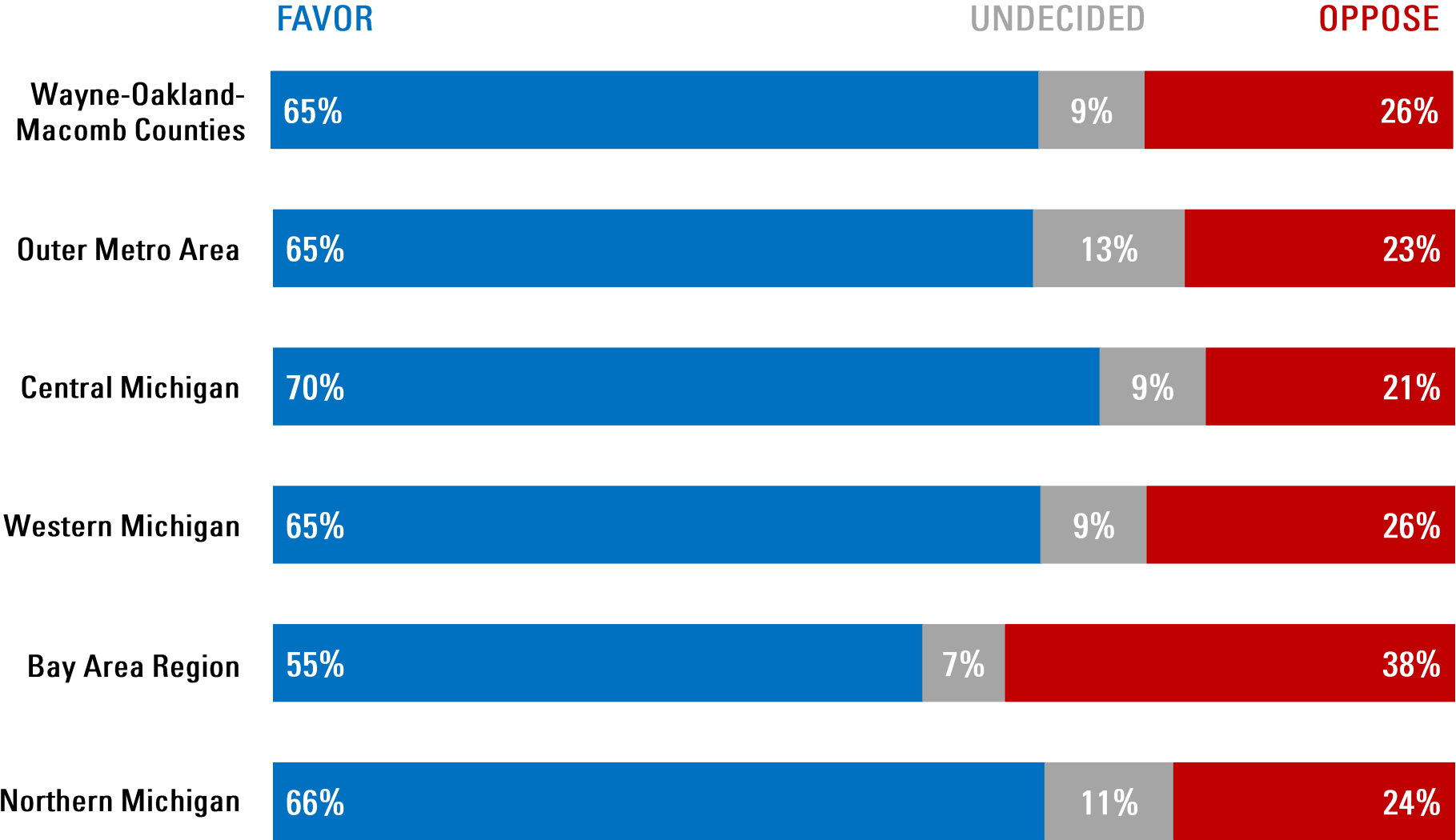
FAVOR

UNDECIDED

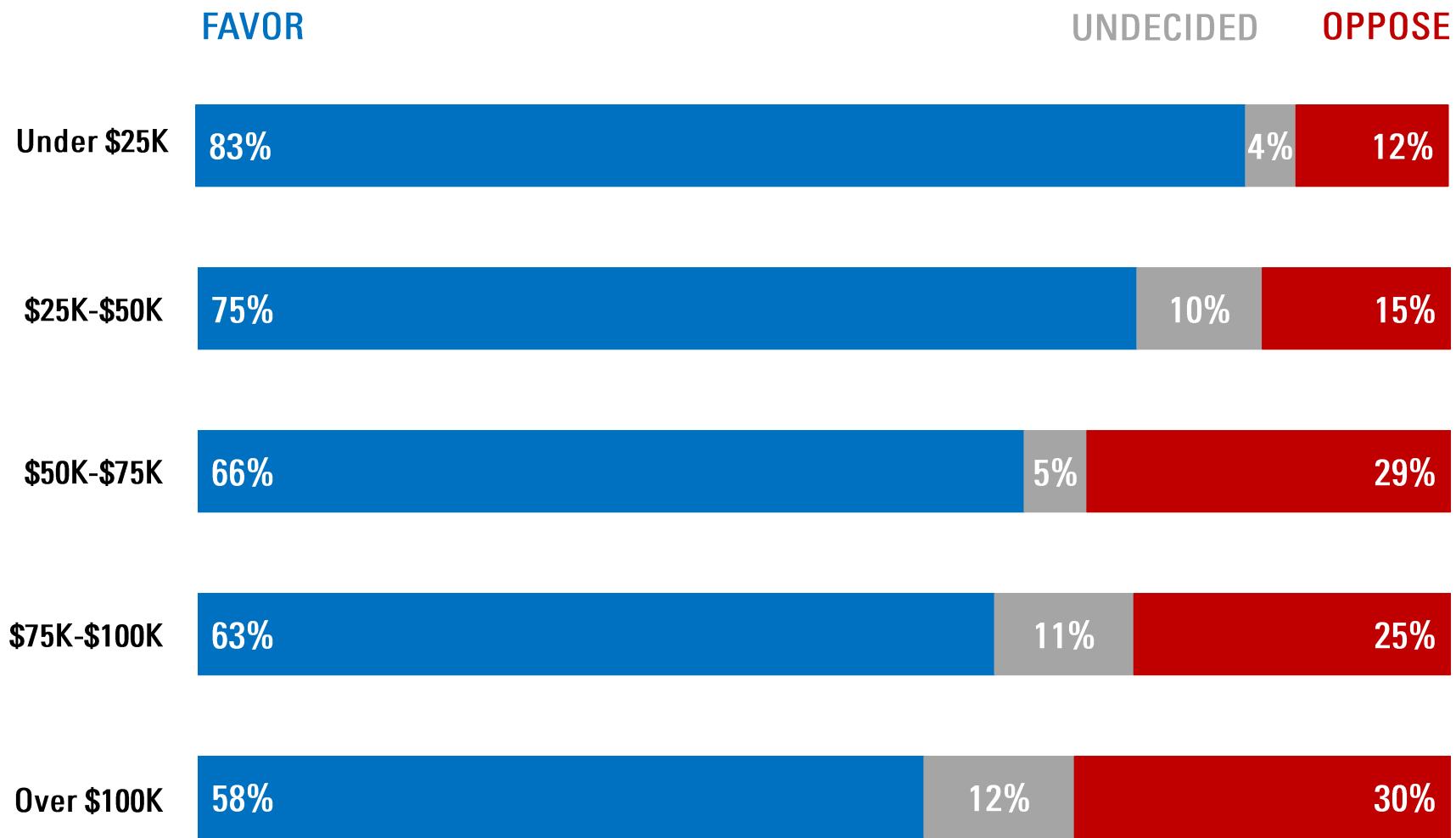
OPPOSE



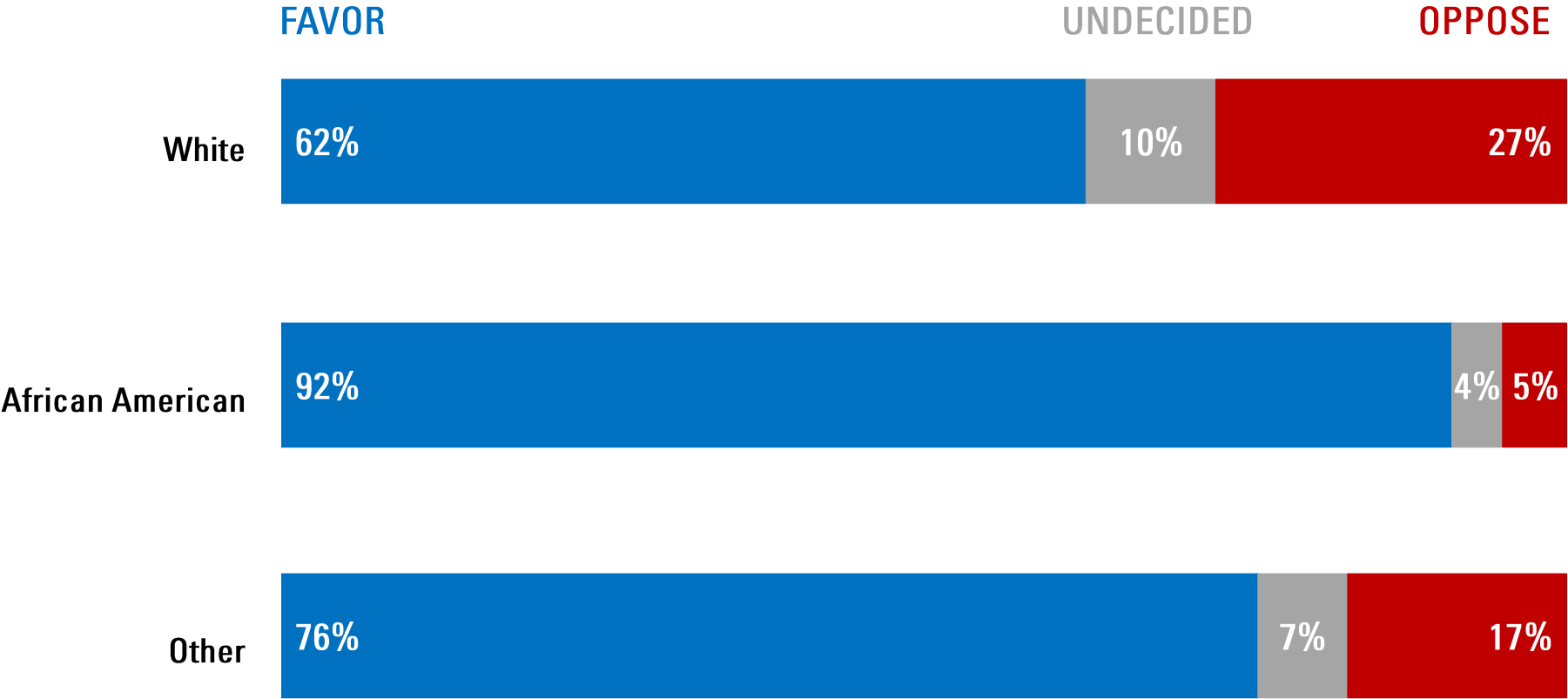
Greater investment in vulnerable students is widely supported in all parts of the state.



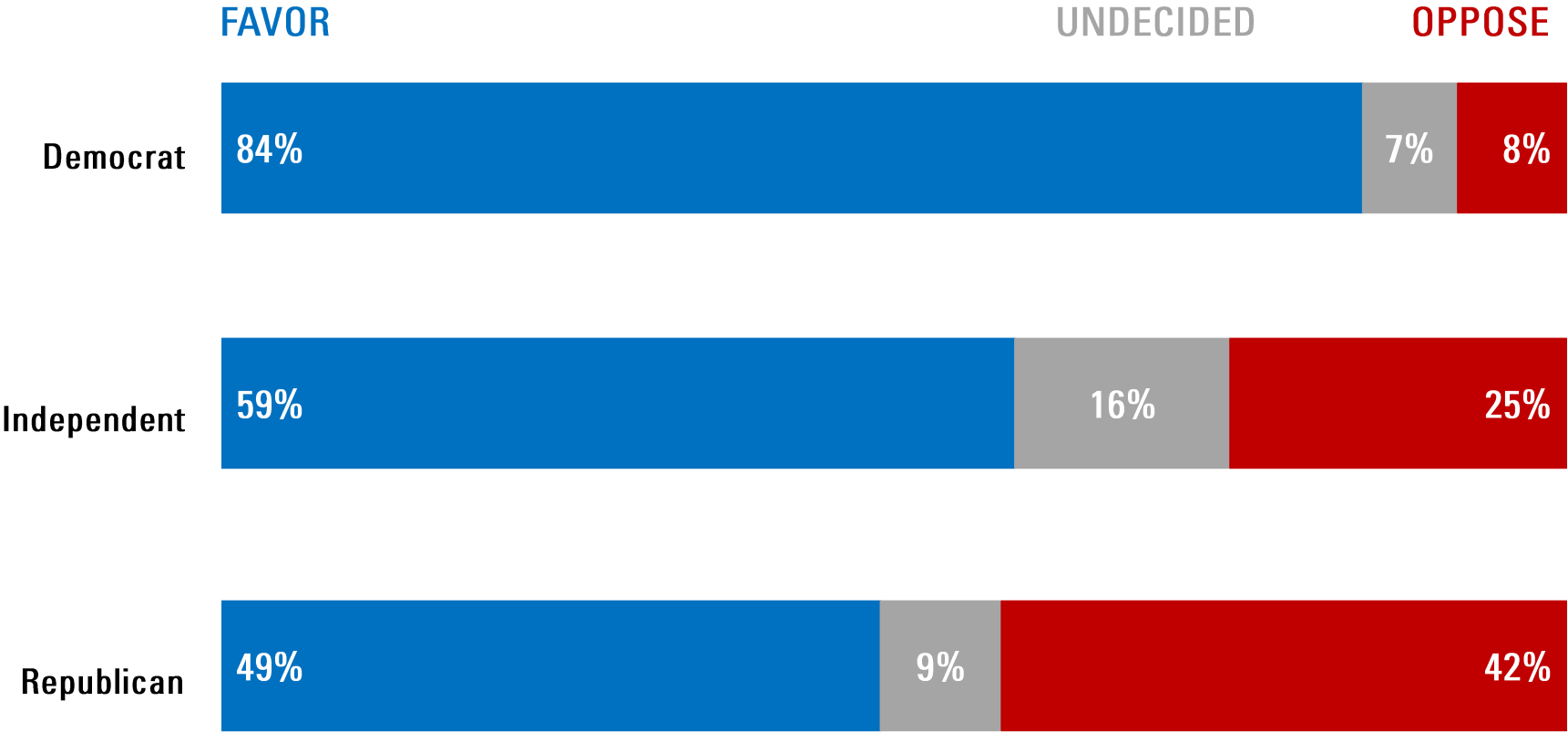
There also is support across family income levels for investing more dollars in vulnerable students.



Moreover, majority of White and Black parents support more investment for low-income and minority students.



The poll found the strongest support for more investment in vulnerable students among Democrats.



Majority believe that improving Michigan public education depends on funding schools to meet the needs of all students.



79% of parents agree that we will not make the strides needed unless we make sure that schools have the funding needed to meet the needs of their students, including investing more into schools and districts with large numbers of students from low-income families and minority students.

AGREE

UNDECIDED

DISAGREE





Parents: effective teachers matter

Michigan parents also clearly understand the importance of effective teachers and high-quality instruction – and they are united in just how important those are for improving the quality of education:

Wide consensus that strong teaching and high-quality instruction is important.



94 percent of parents said it is important to have effective teachers and high-quality instruction if we are going to have the greatest possible impact on improving the quality of education, and 77 percent say it is absolutely essential.

ESSENTIAL/IMPORTANT

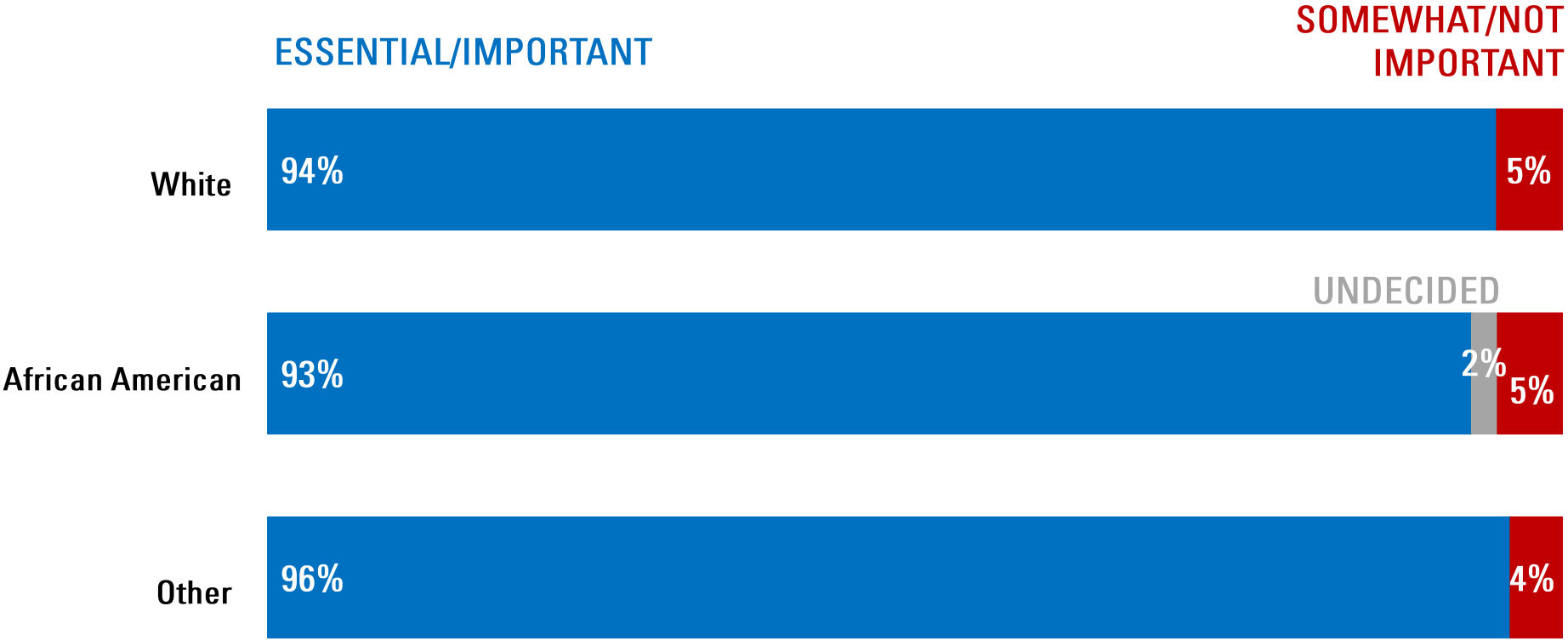
SOMEWHAT/NOT
IMPORTANT



Michigan parents of every race strongly believe that strong teaching and high-quality instruction is important.



Educator effectiveness and instructional quality is identified as very important or absolutely essential by more than 90 percent of White parents and parents of color.



Belief in the importance of effective teachers and high-quality instruction shared across party lines.



95 percent of Democrats and Independents, and 94 percent of Republicans consider effective teachers and high-quality instruction very important or absolutely essential.





And unlike political discourse on the topic, the vast majority of parents support using data on student learning as a significant factor in evaluating teacher performance.

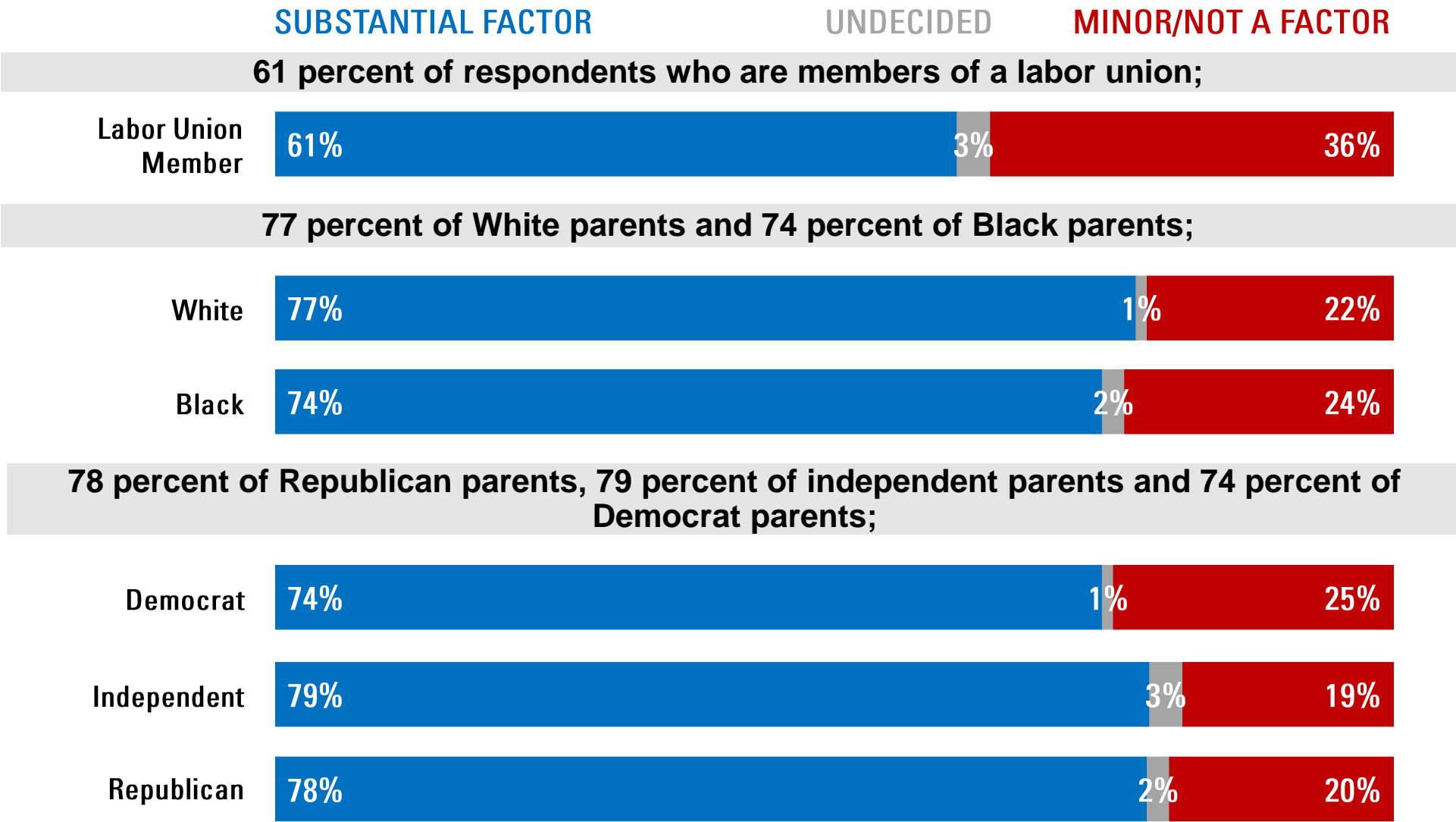
Also, parents share strong support for the inclusion of data on student learning as a factor of teacher evaluations.



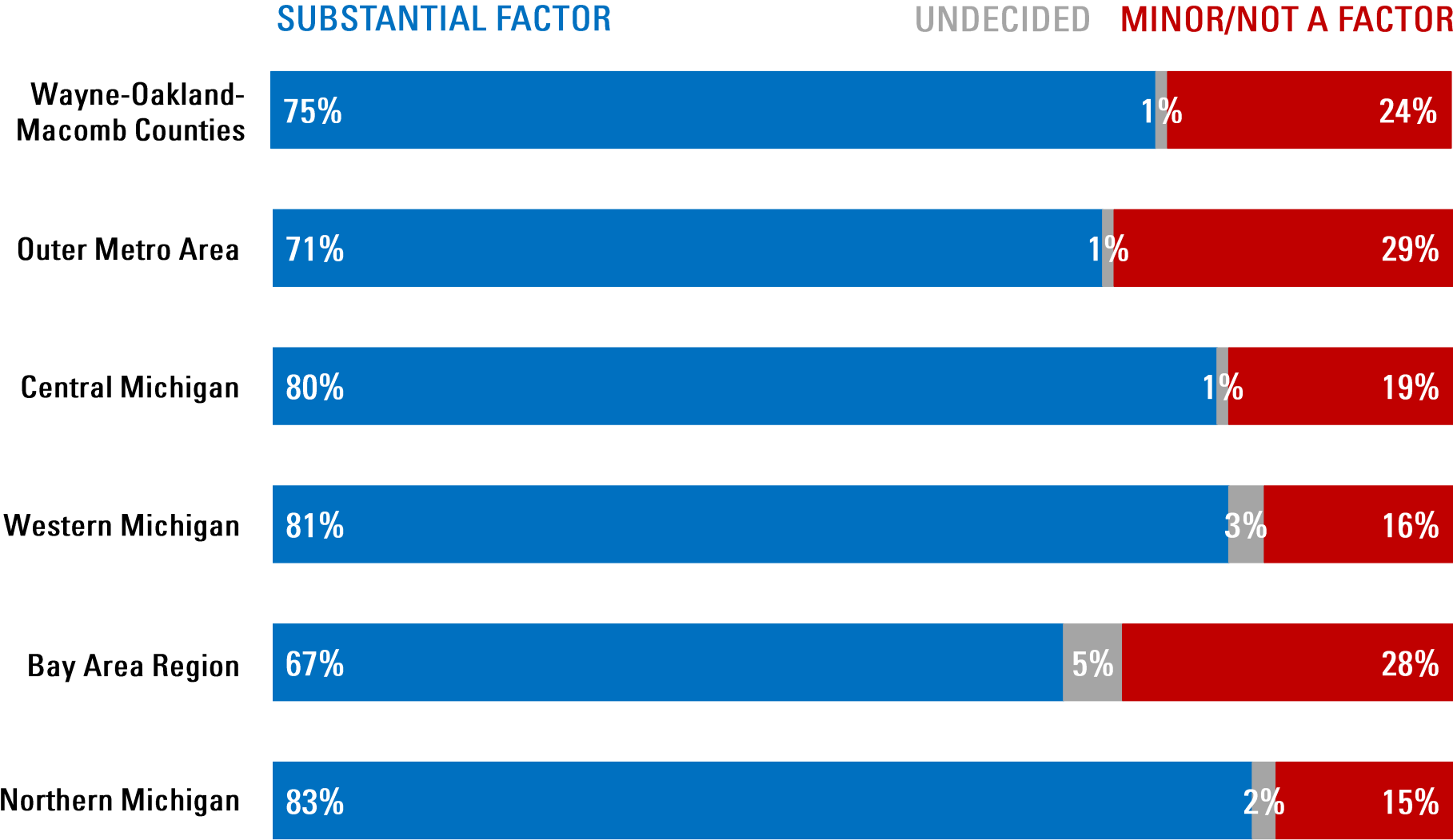
Three-quarters of all parents think that data on student learning should be “one of several factors,” “a major factor,” or “the only factor” in evaluating teachers.



Including data on student learning as a factor of teacher evaluations is supported by a variety of Michigan parents:



Parents from regions across the state support including data on student learning as a factor of teacher evaluations.



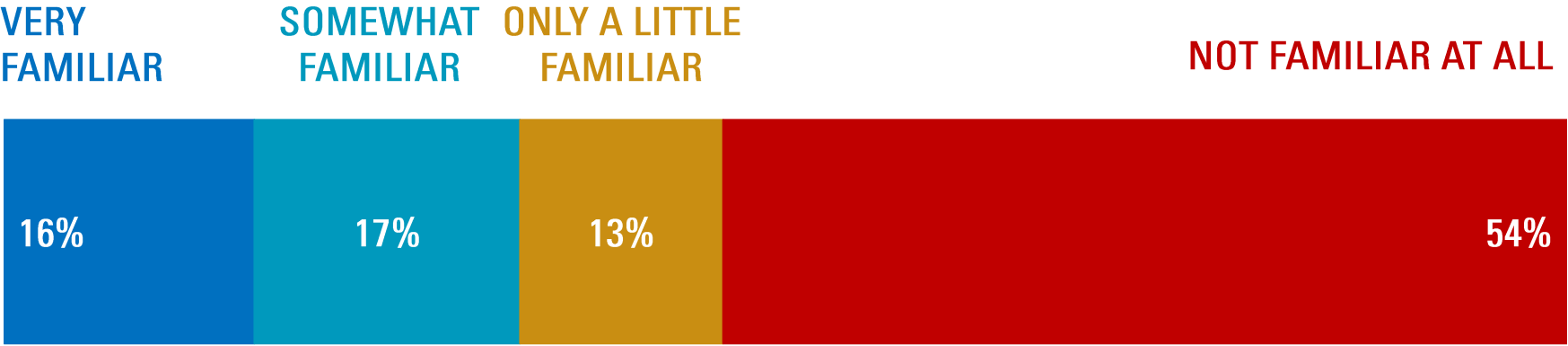


Despite attention to the topic by policymakers and media, **most parents are not familiar with Michigan's third-grade reading law.**

Lack of familiarity with the third-grade reading law shared among many parents.



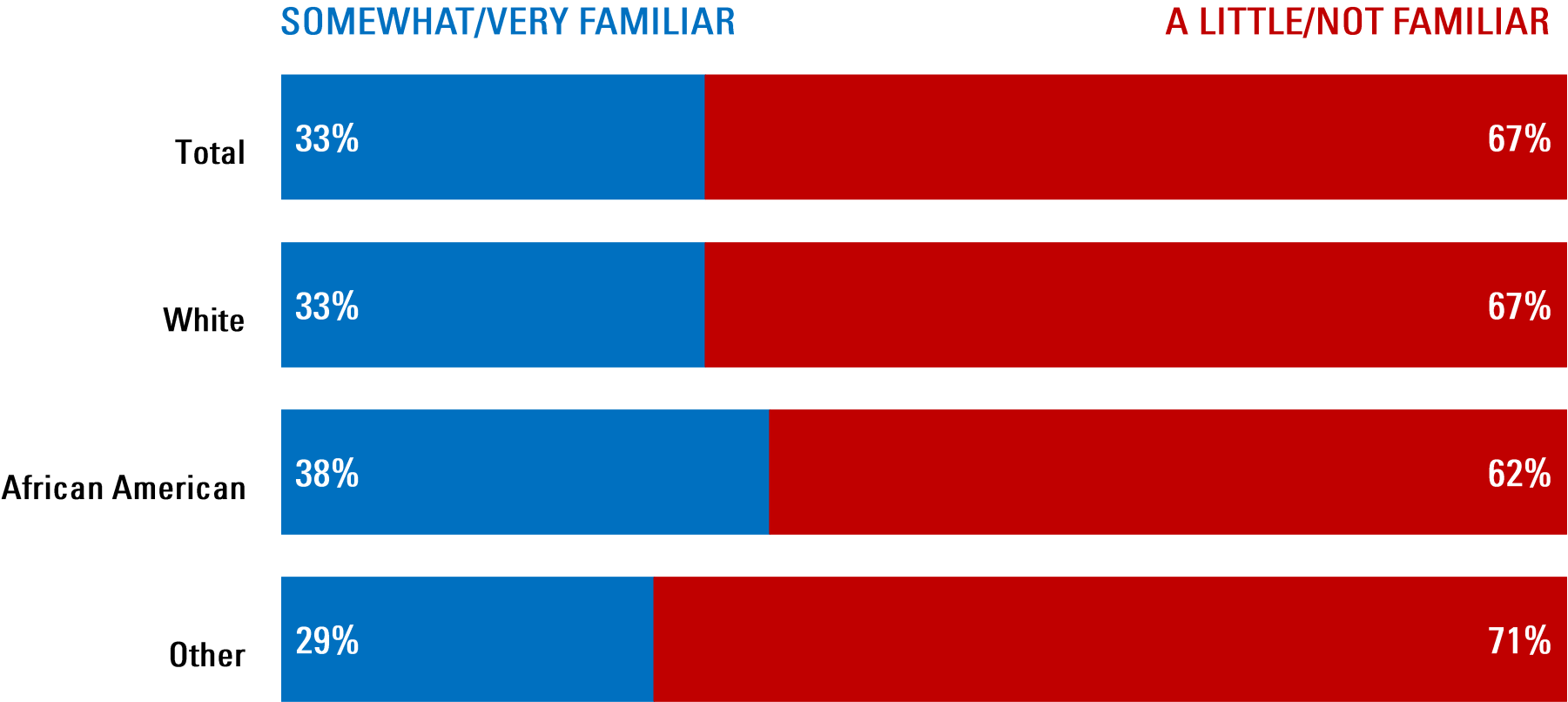
Over half of Michigan parents are not familiar at all with the third-grade reading law that will take full effect in the upcoming 2019-20 school year.



Michigan parents of every race reported they are not familiar with the third-grade reading law.



Regardless of race, a majority of Michigan parents are not fully familiar with the third-grade reading law that will take full effect in the upcoming 2019-20 school year.



EPIC-MRA/The Education Trust-Midwest conducted a survey of 600 parents in Michigan with one or more children age 18 or younger from February 19th through March 1st, 2019. The results of this survey have a margin of error of +/-4% at the 95% confidence level.

Care has been taken to ensure that the designated areas of Michigan were represented in accordance with the estimated “parent population” from each.



The Education Trust—Midwest