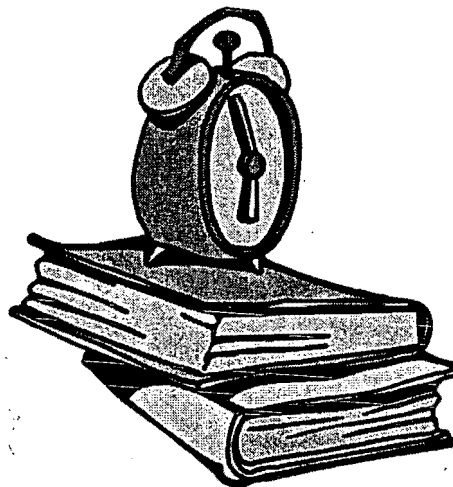
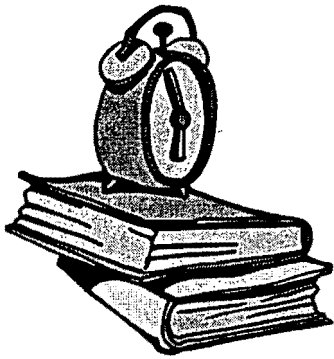


An Ongoing Look at Afterschool Programs

Presentation of Findings From a Mott/ JCPenney Nationwide Survey of
Registered Voters

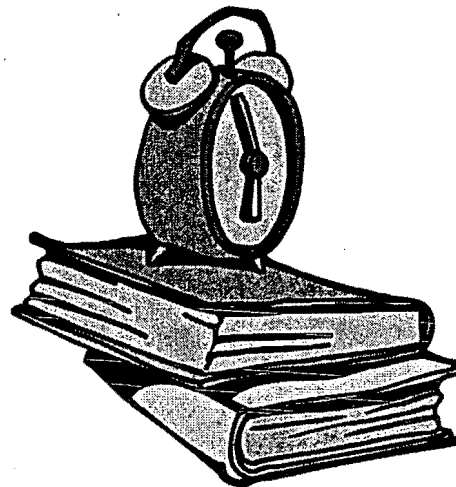


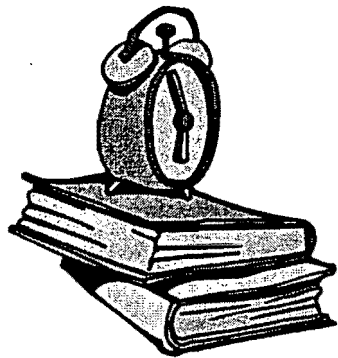


Survey Methodology

Lake Snell Perry & Associates designed and administered this survey which was conducted by phone using professional interviewers. The survey reached 1,100 registered voters ages 18 or older who reported they are registered to vote and likely to vote in the November 2000 elections. The survey was conducted between July 27-29, 1999. Telephone numbers for the survey were drawn from a random digit dial sample, thereby allowing access to all listed and unlisted numbers. The sample was stratified geographically by state based on the proportion of voters in each region. The interviews consisted of a base sample of 1,000 registered voters with one oversample of 100 registered parents of school-age children. The margin of error is +/-3.1%.

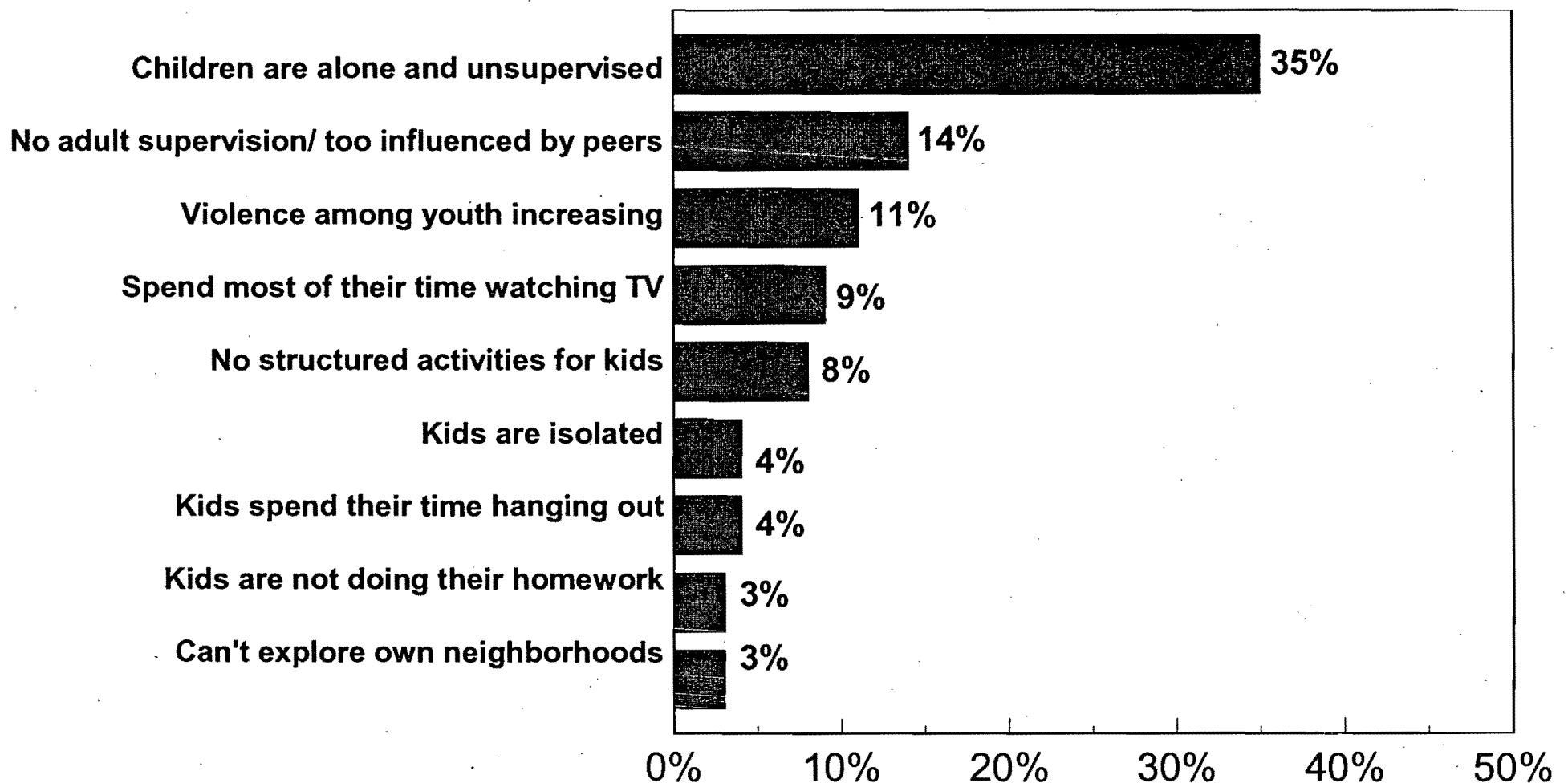
Background and Context





More than a third of voters believe that the biggest problem facing children today is the fact that they are alone and unsupervised. This is followed distantly by children having no adult supervision and are too influenced by peers and violence among children is increasing.

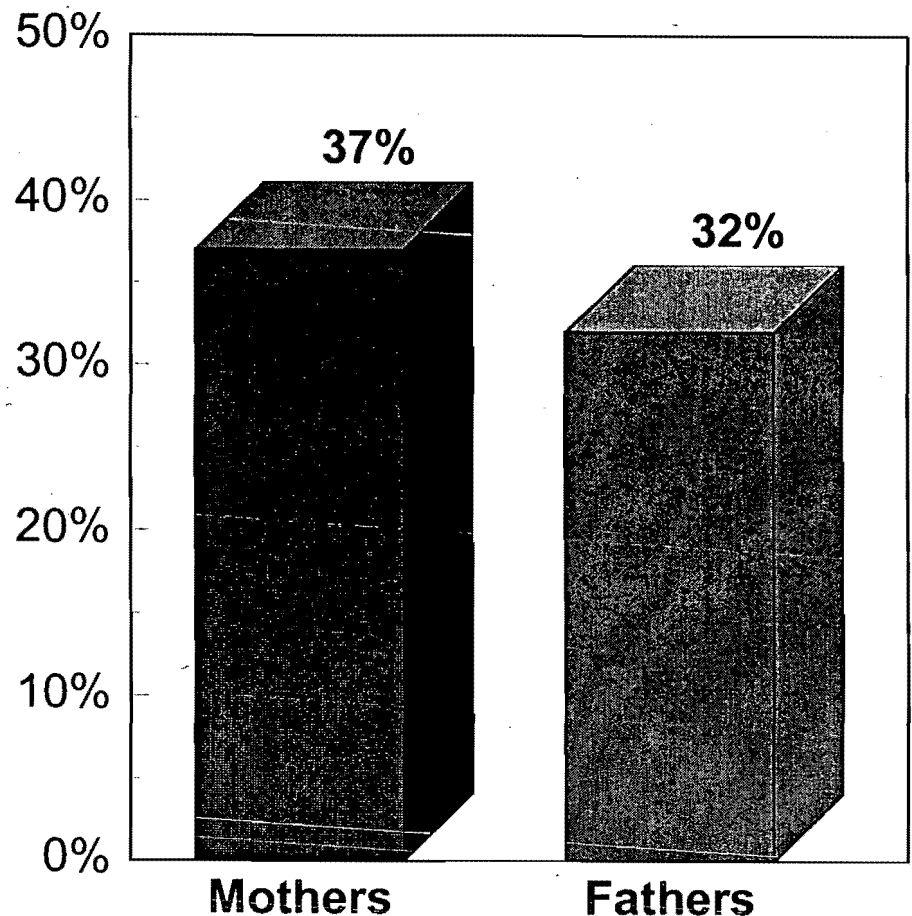
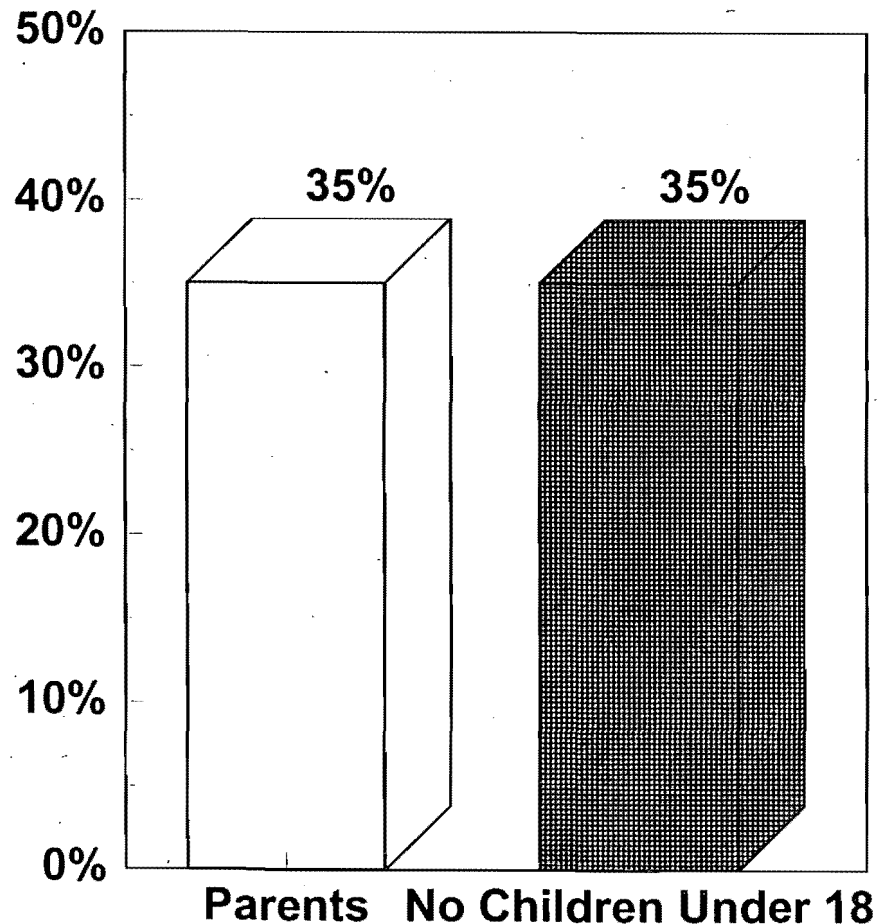
Thinking specifically about the time children spend after school hours, of the following what worries you most about this time after school?





There is no difference between voters with or without children under the age of 18 on this issue. However, mothers are slightly more worried about children being alone than fathers.

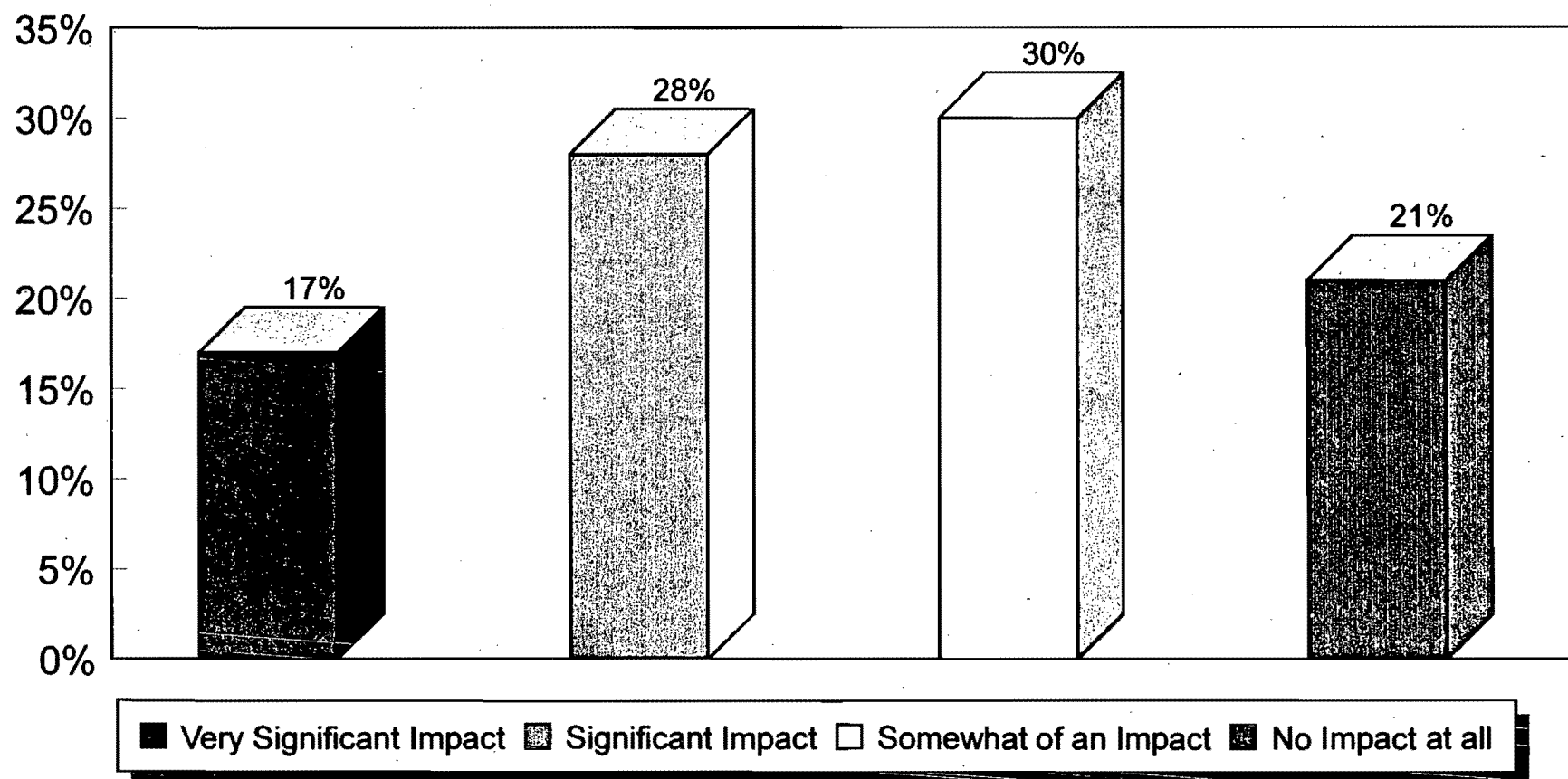
*Thinking specifically about the time children spend after school hours, of the following what worries you most about this time after school? -- % **Children are Alone and Unsupervised***



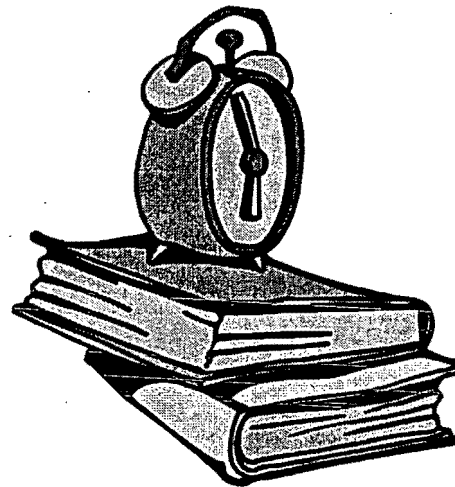


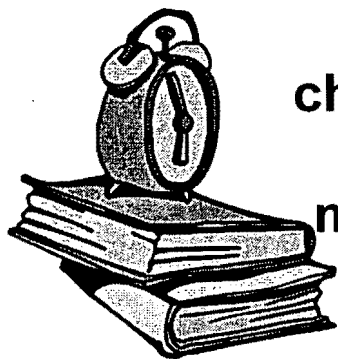
Three-quarters of voters think afterschool programs could have had some impact on preventing the Columbine tragedy. Forty-five percent feel they could have had a very significant or significant impact.

Now thinking of the tragedy at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. How much of an impact, if any, do you think after school programs could have had in preventing this tragedy?



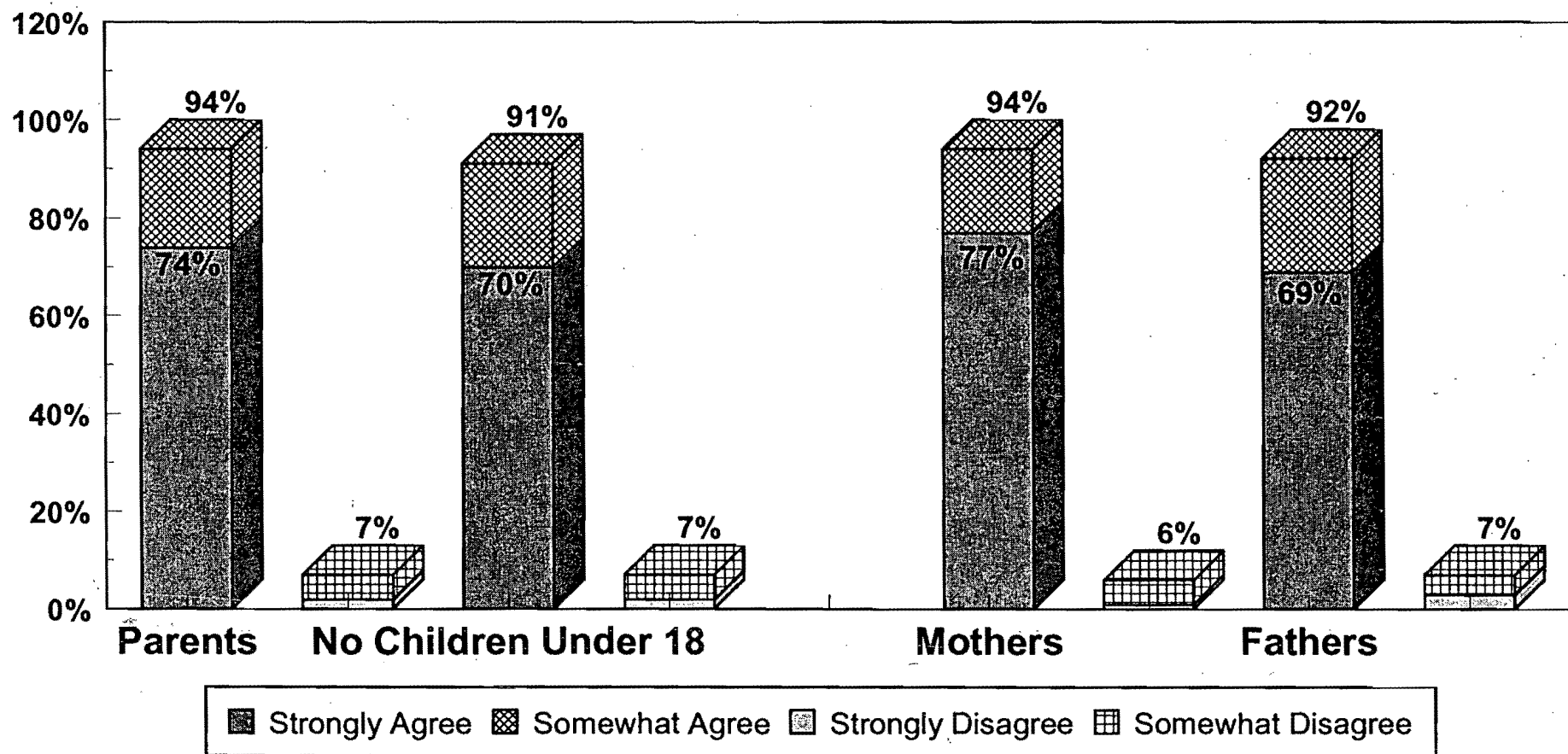
The Need for Afterschool Programs





Parents with children under the age of 18 and voters without children under the age of 18 agree with virtually the same intensity about the need for organized activities after school. However, mothers are slightly stronger in their agreement than fathers, but support is still strong for organized activities after school.

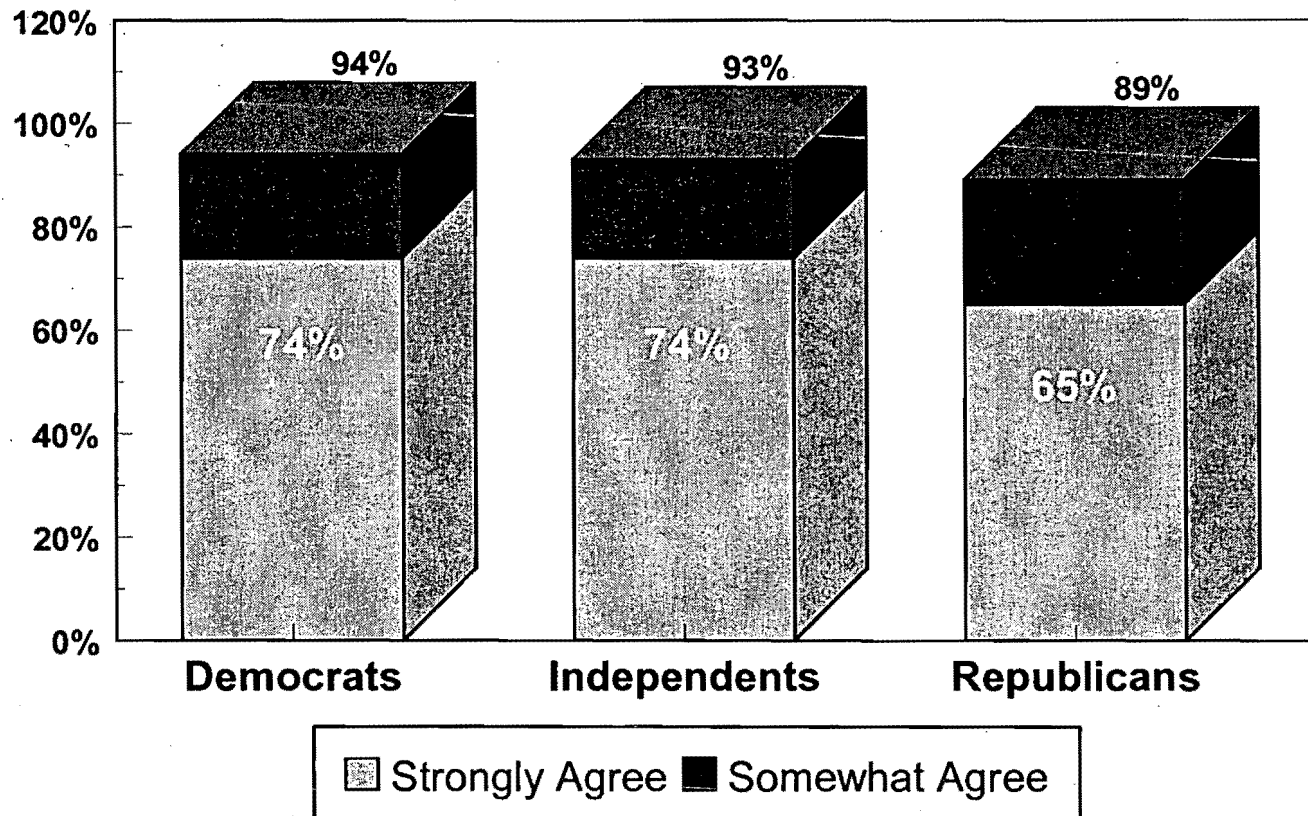
Do you agree or disagree that there should be some type of organized activity or place for children and teens to go after school every day?

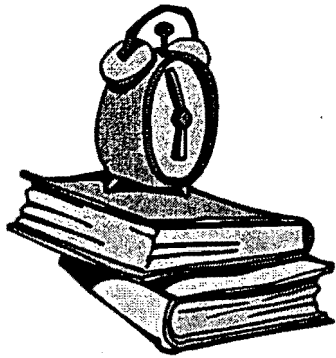




Agreement crosses partisan lines with approximately three-quarters of Democrats and Independents in strong support followed by two-thirds of Republicans.

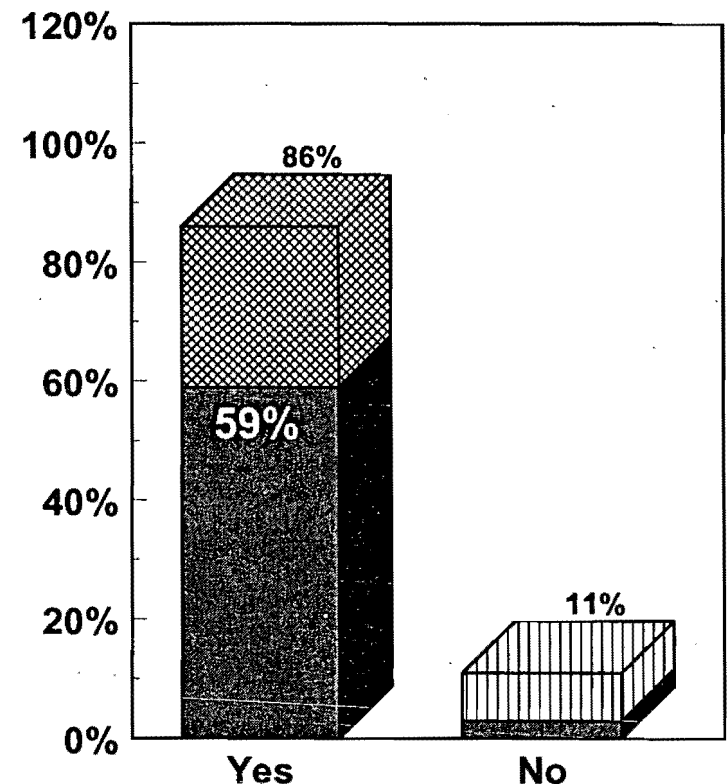
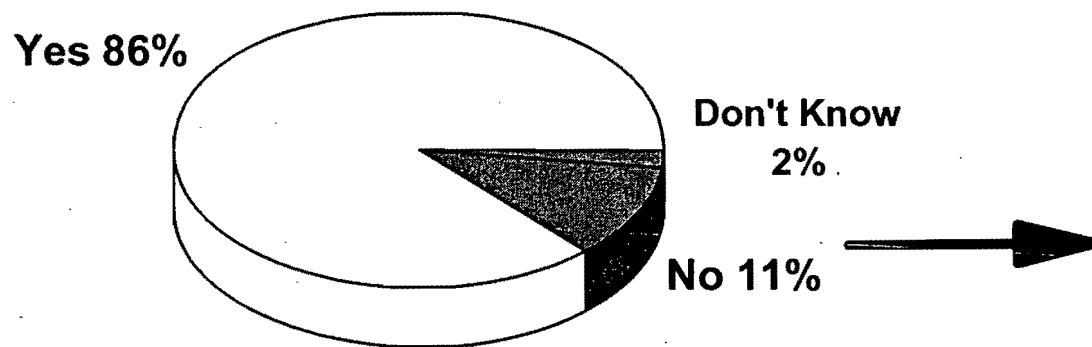
Do you agree or disagree that there should be some type of organized activity or place for children and teens to go after school every day?

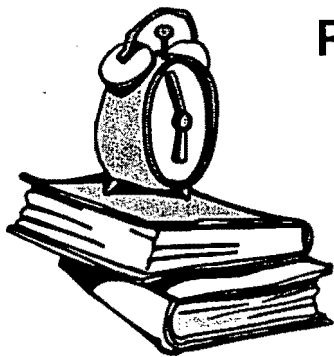




Not only do voters think there is a need for an organized activity, but eight out of ten voters believe afterschool programs are a necessity. A strong majority (59 percent) strongly believe afterschool programs are a necessity for their community.

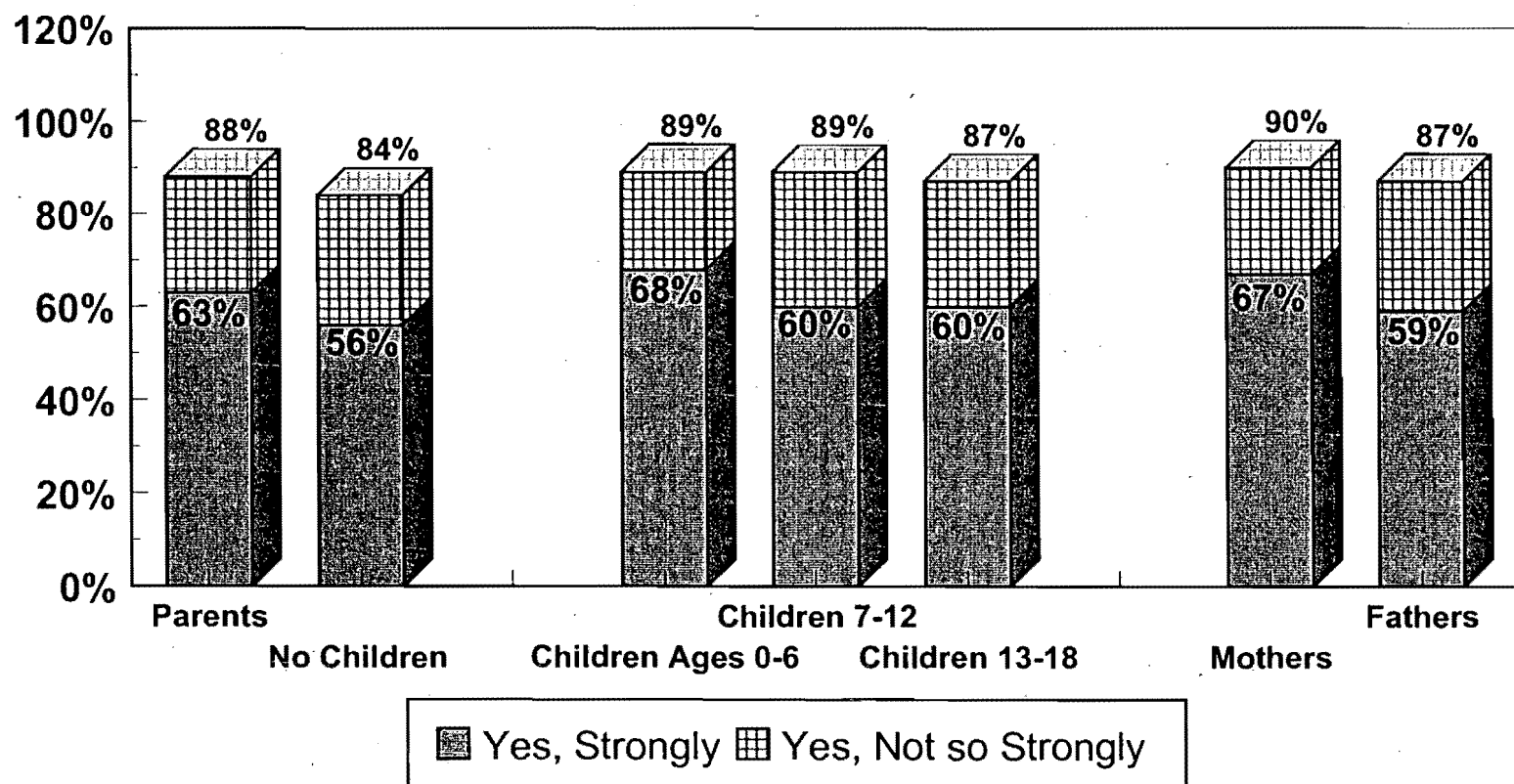
Still thinking about afterschool programs, would you say that afterschool programs are a necessity for your community? Is that strongly or not so strongly yes/no?





Parents who have children in the home are more intense in their need for these programs than voters who do not. Moreover, parents of younger children are most likely to see a strong need for programs than parents of children ages 7 to 18. Again we see differences according to gender with mothers more intense in their belief that afterschool programs are a necessity than fathers.

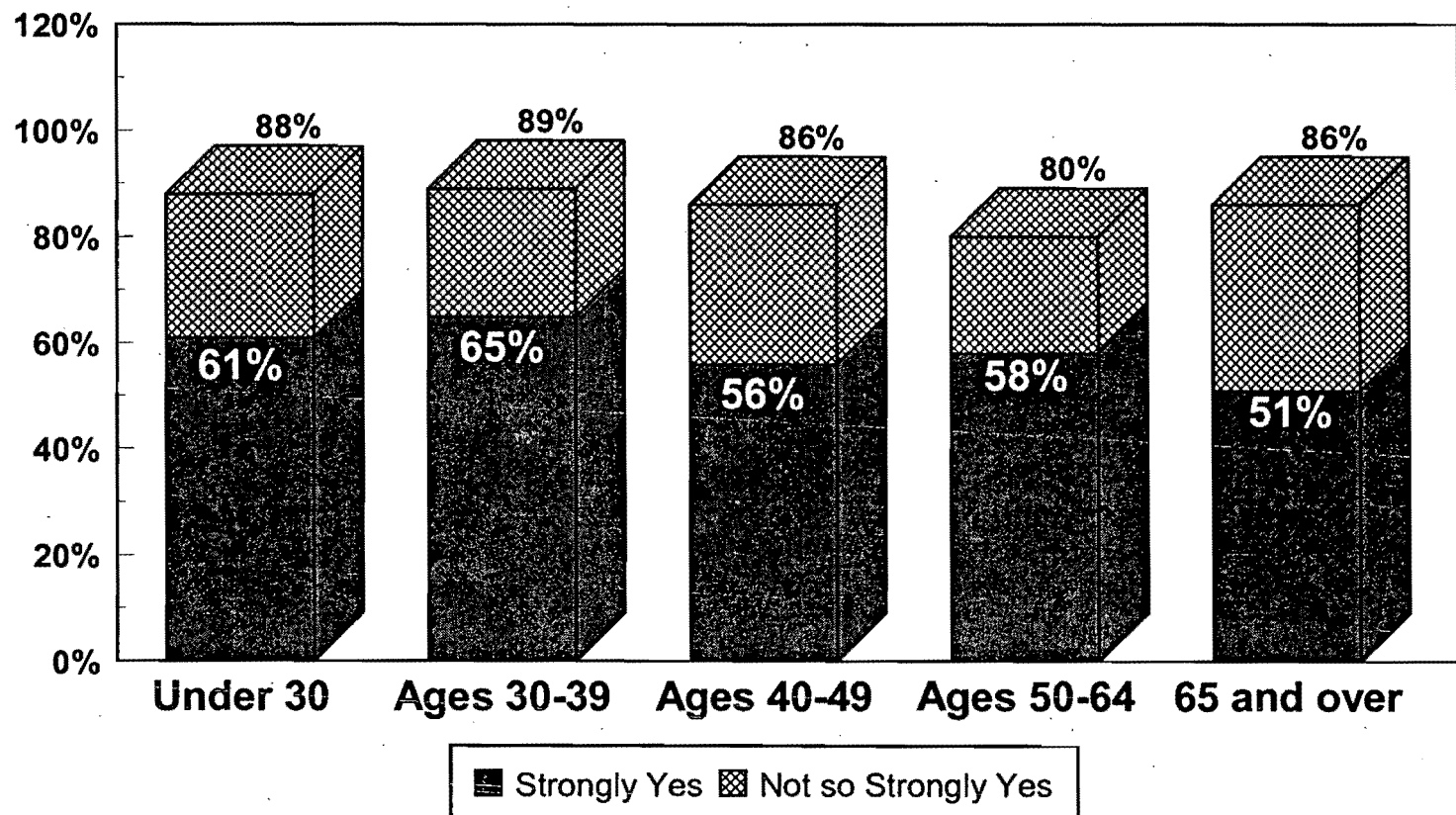
Still thinking about afterschool programs, would you say that afterschool programs are a necessity for your community? Is that strongly or not so strongly yes/no?

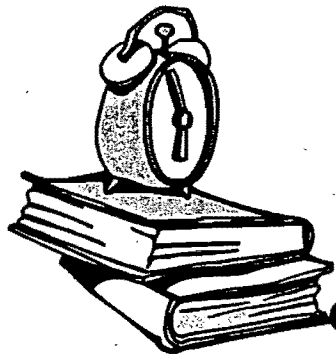




Seniors also see these programs as a necessity but they have less intensity than their younger cohorts.

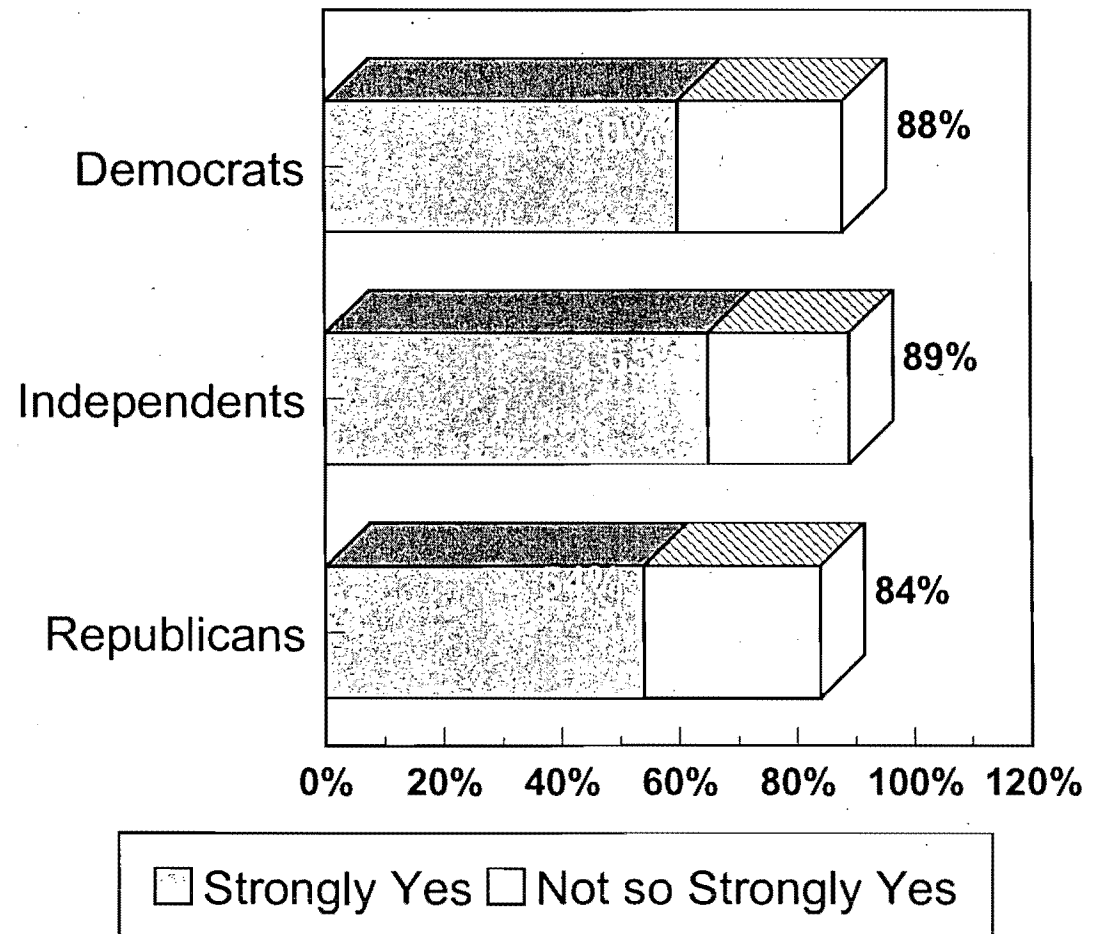
Still thinking about afterschool programs, would you say that afterschool programs are a necessity for your community? Is that strongly or not so strongly yes/no?

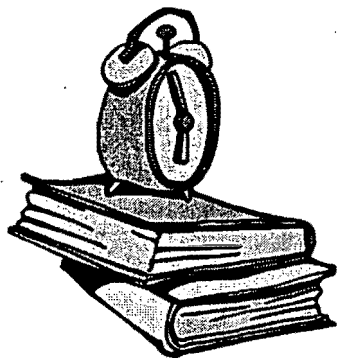




Democrats and Independents are slightly more likely to say afterschool programs are a necessity than their Republican counterparts. Independents are the most intense in their beliefs, with two thirds in strong consensus around the need for afterschool programs.

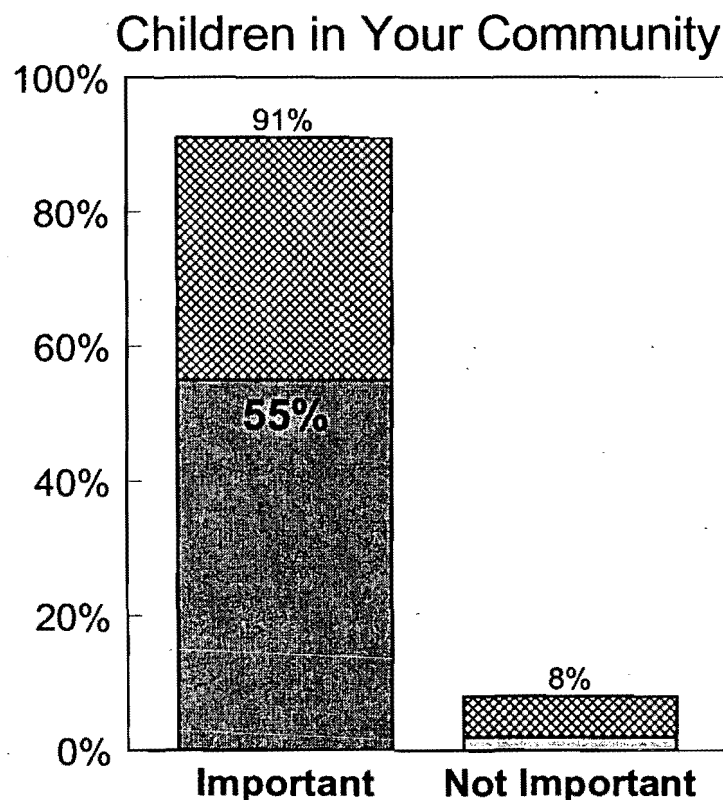
Still thinking about afterschool programs, would you say that afterschool programs are a necessity for your community? Is that strongly or not so strongly yes/no?



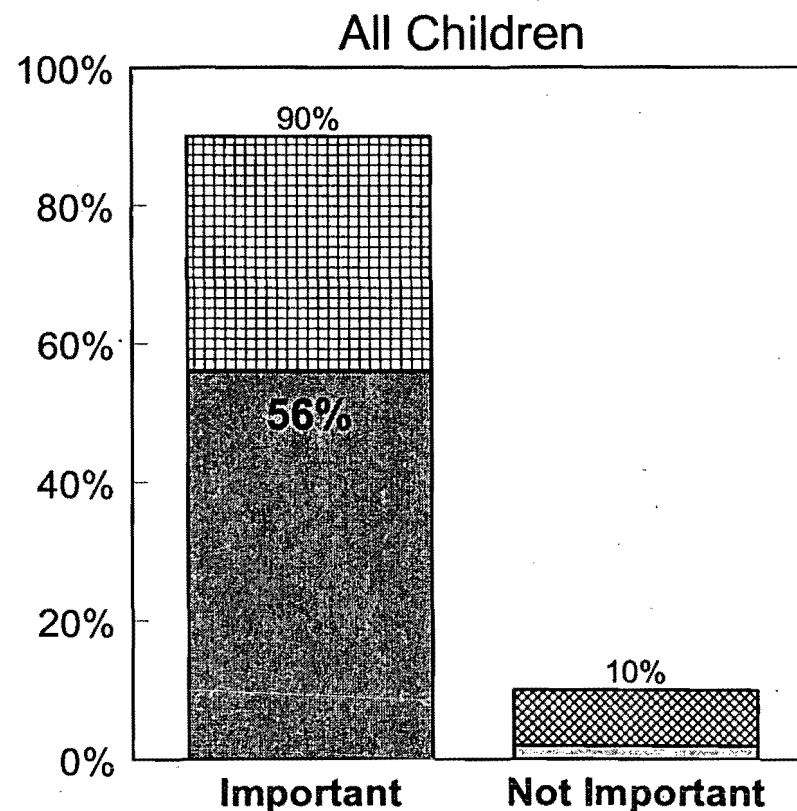


Nine out of ten adults say it is personally important to them to ensure access to afterschool programs for children. Support remains high for both community and national programs.

How important is it to you personally to ensure access to afterschool programs for ... (Split Sampled Questions -- Each asked of only half of respondents)



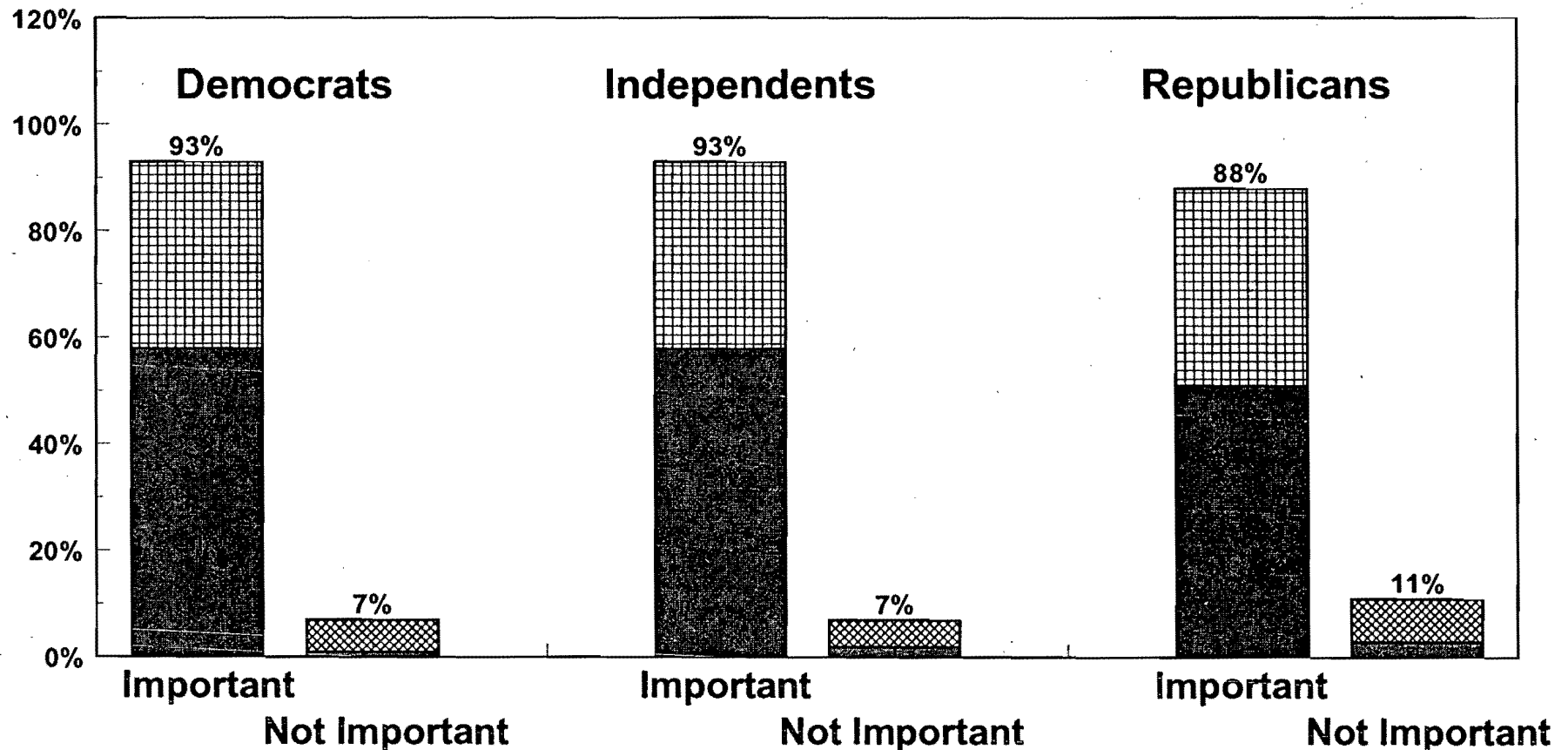
OR





Equal numbers of Democrats and Independents say it is personally important to them to ensure children access to afterschool programs. Republicans are slightly less supportive, but a majority still believe it is very important.

How important is it to you personally to ensure access to afterschool programs? (Data represents combined responses)



Current Conditions

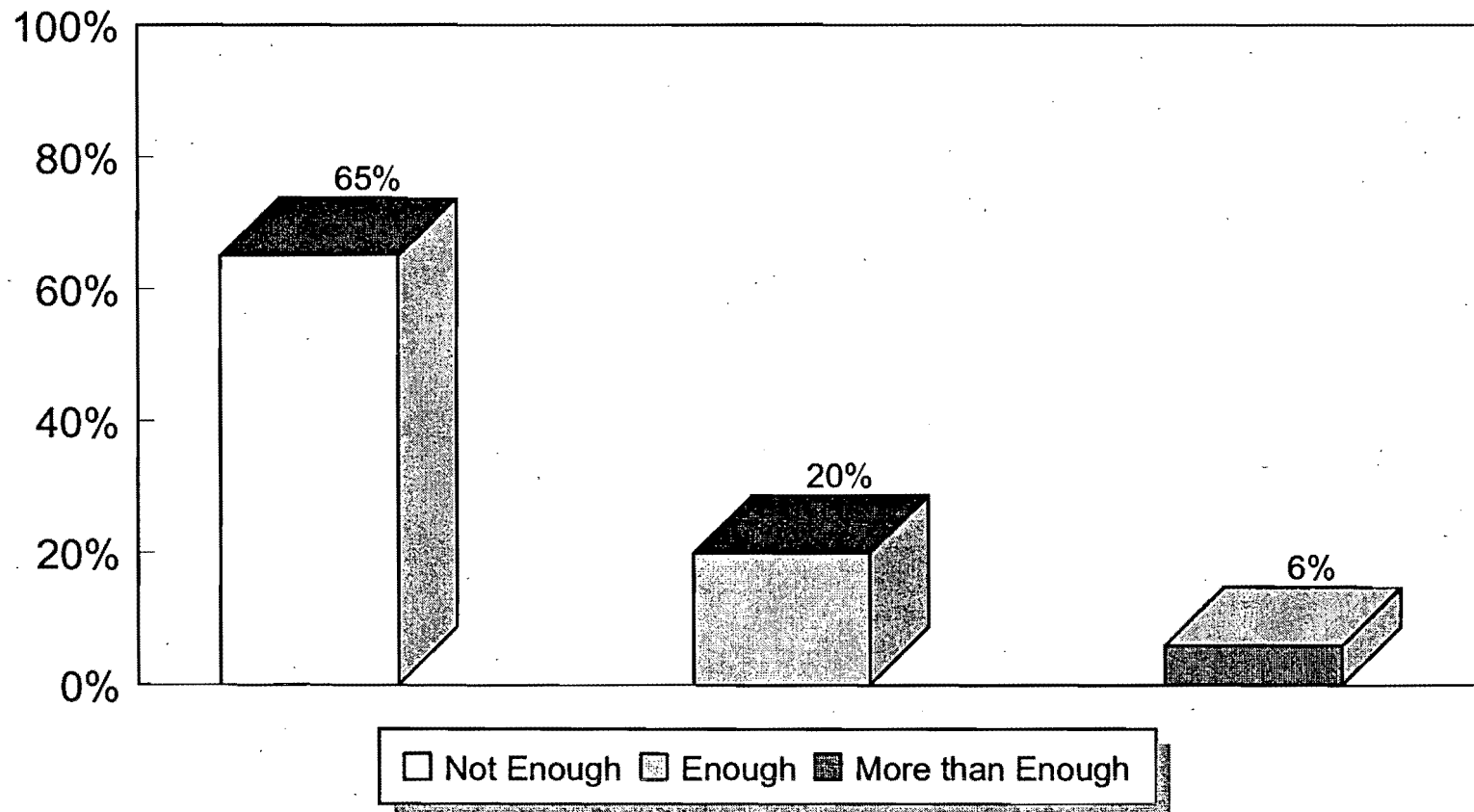
Not Enough Available

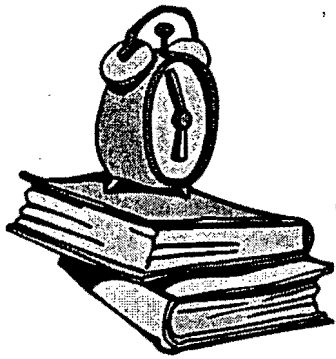




Two-thirds of voters do not think there are enough afterschool programs available for children in America today, while 20 percent feel there are enough and only 6 percent believe there are more than enough.

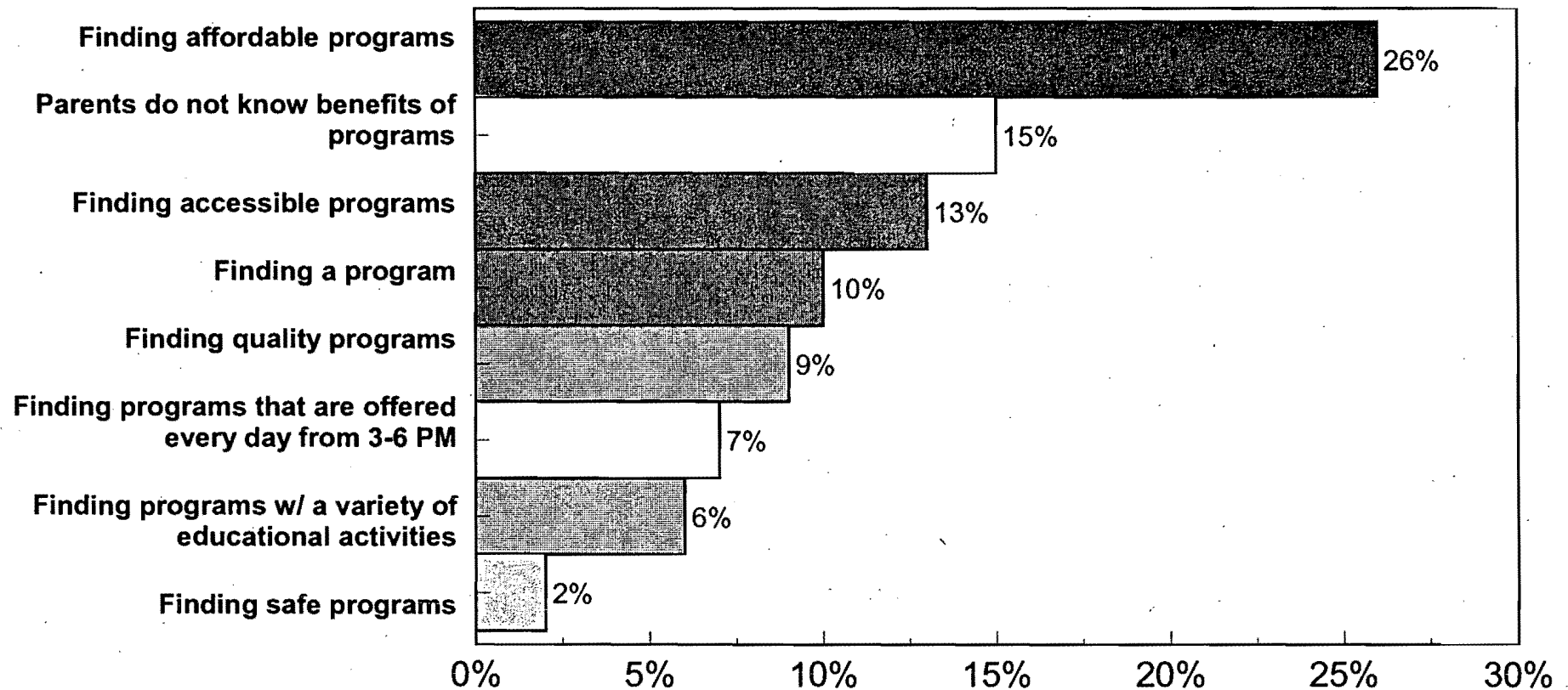
Do you think there are more than enough, enough, or not enough afterschool programs available for children in America today?





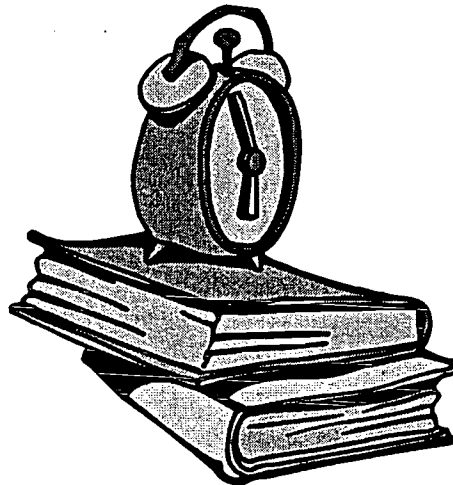
Thinking about the problems facing parents when it comes to afterschool programs, voters are most likely to mention cost, followed by knowing the benefits of the programs, and finding accessible programs.

Which of the following would you say is the biggest problem facing parents in your community when it comes to afterschool programs?



The Program

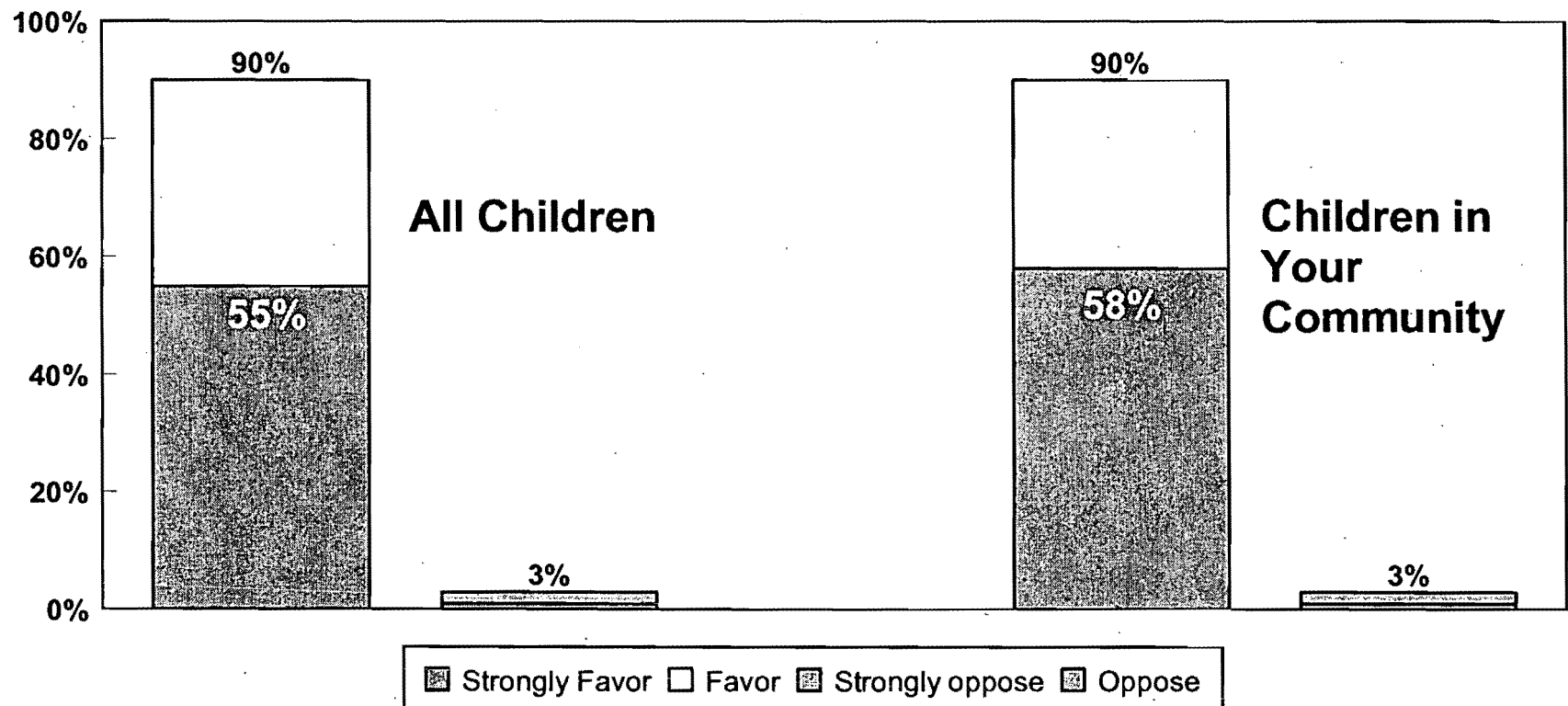
Strong Support for Daily Enriching
Programs



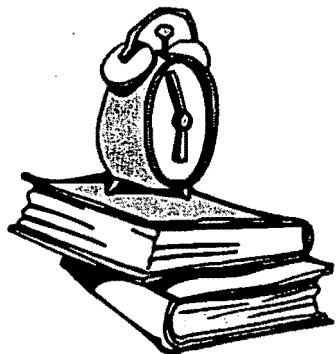


Adults overwhelmingly favor providing daily afterschool programs from 3-6 pm for children in both their communities and nationwide.

Now let me read you a program which some people have recommended implementing. This program would take place during afterschool hours five days a week from 3pm to 6pm to provide children with fun, enriching learning opportunities that extend beyond school's traditional academic style, that challenge them, and that give them more individualized attention. Having heard this description would you favor or oppose providing this program... to children in your community **or** to all children?

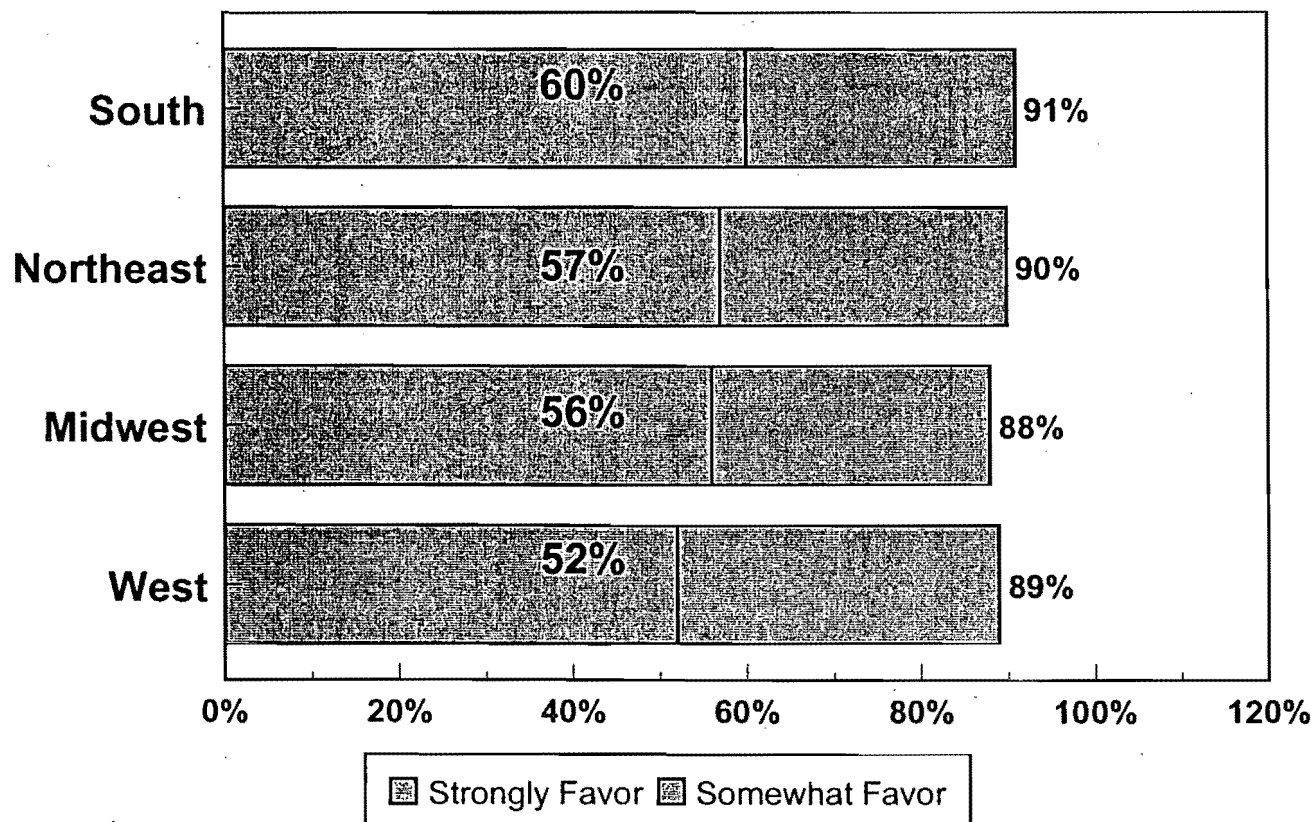


*Split Sampled Questions -- Each question asked to only half of respondents.



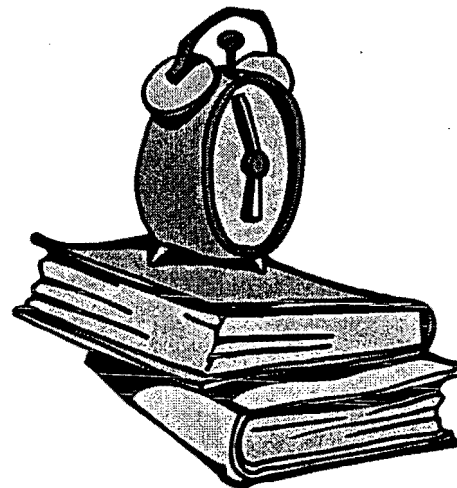
Regionally, support is highest in the South where 60 percent of voters strongly favor establishing daily afterschool programs, followed by a strong majority of voters in the Northeast, Midwest, and West.

Now let me read you a program which some people have recommended implementing. This program would take place during after-school hours five days a week from 3pm to 6pm to provide children with fun, enriching learning opportunities that extend beyond school's traditional academic style, that challenge them, and that give them more individualized attention. Having heard this description would you favor or oppose providing this program? **Data represents combined responses from Q16A and Q19B.**



Responsibility for Setting Up Afterschool Programs

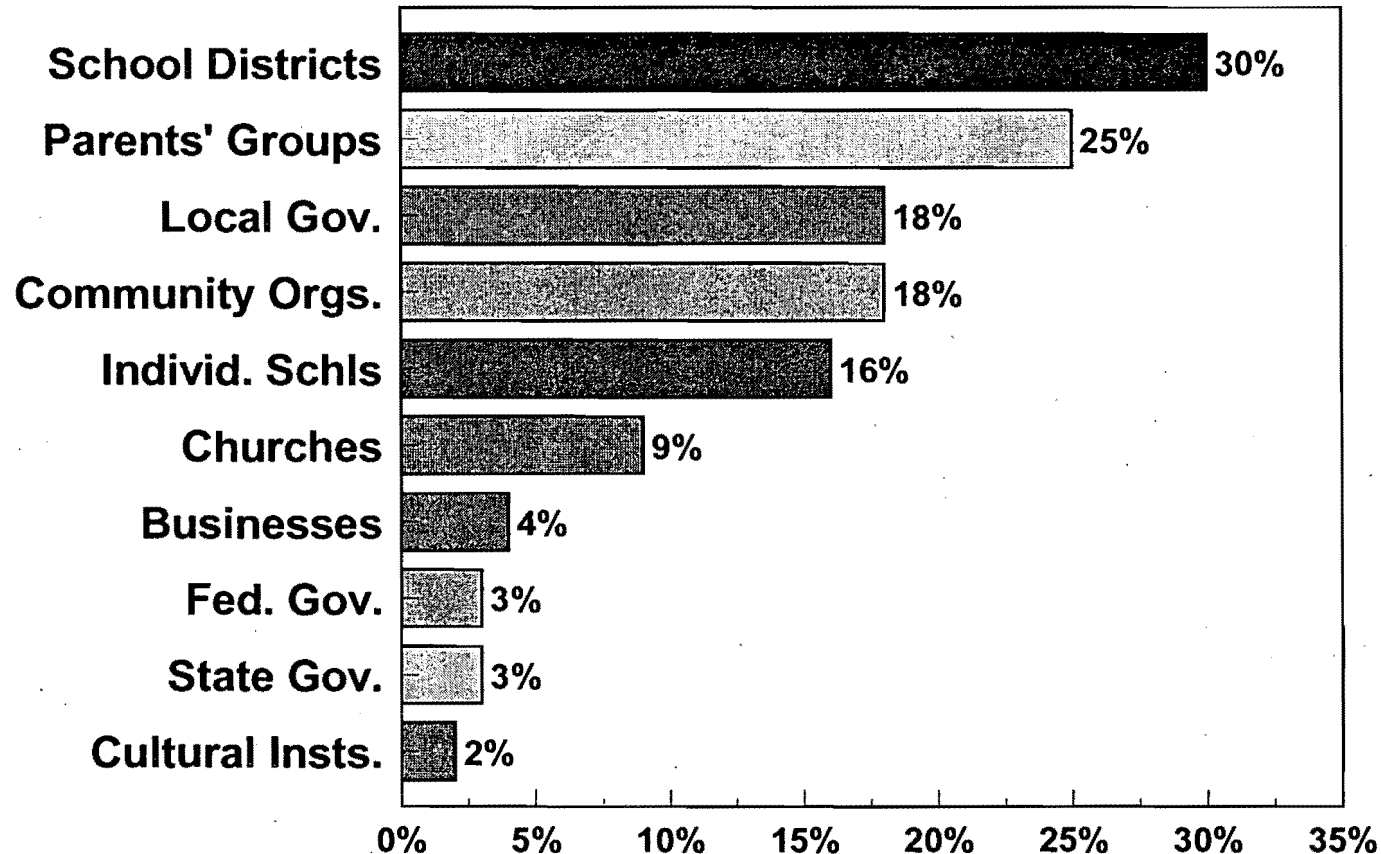
School Districts and Parents' Groups

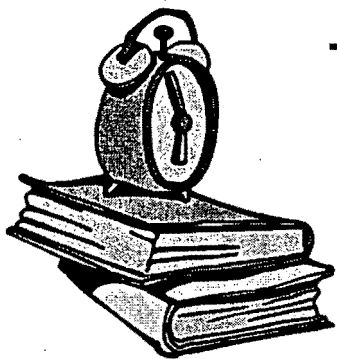




Voters place the burden on school districts and parents' groups to set up afterschool programs in their communities. Almost a third of voters point to school districts, while a quarter of voters point to parents. These options are trailed by local government, community organizations, and individual schools.

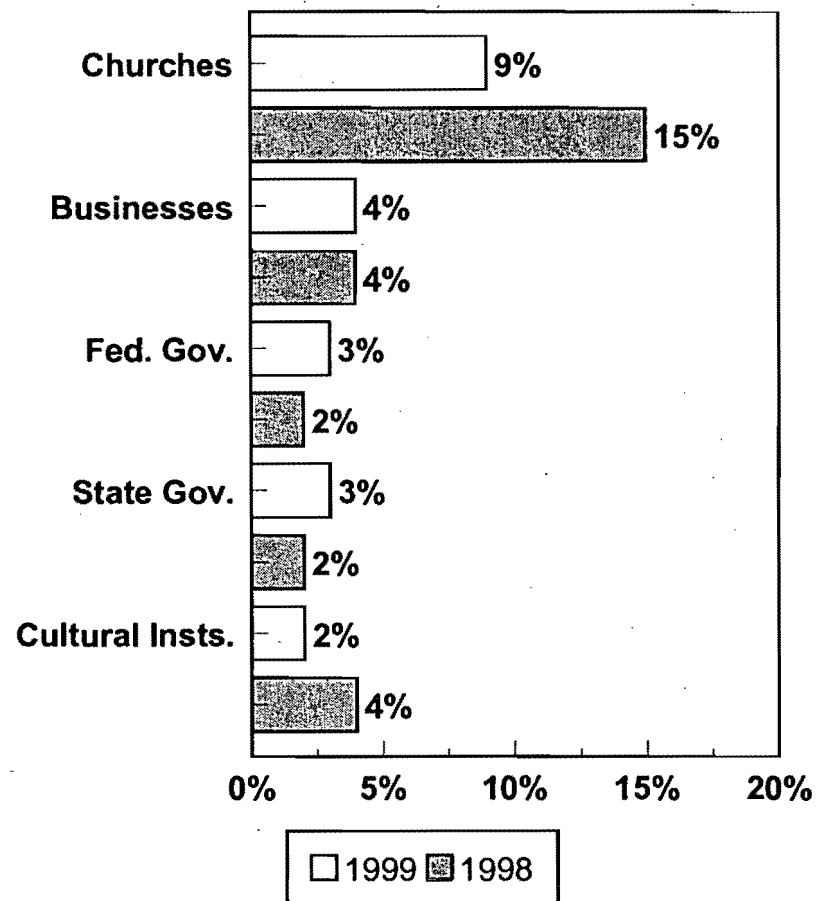
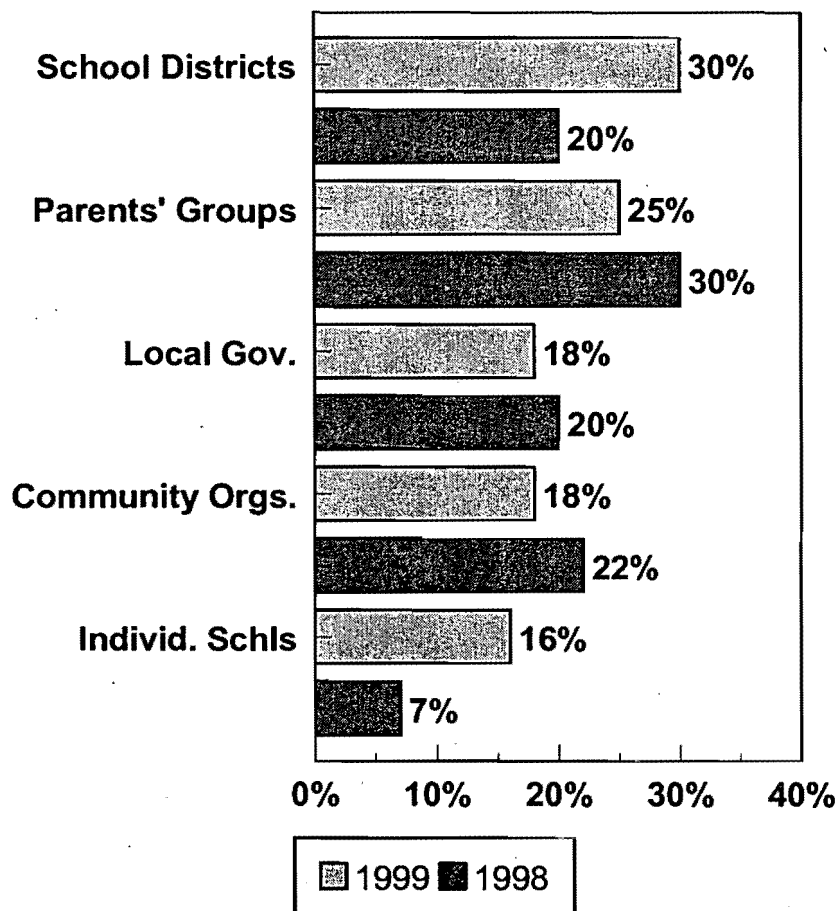
Of the following, who do you think should be responsible for setting up afterschool programs in your community?



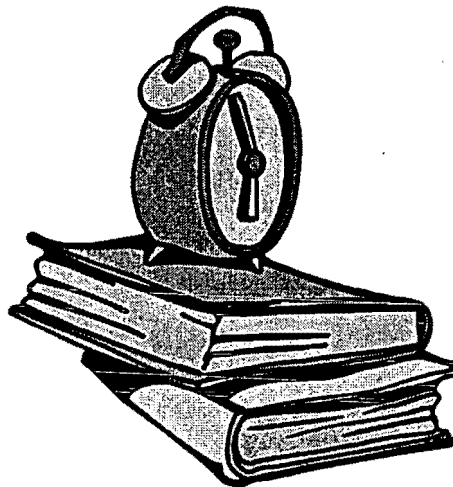


There has been a sharp increase over the course of the past year in the number of voters who believe it is the school districts' responsibility to set up afterschool programs. In 1998, school districts ranked fourth, preceded by parents' groups, community organizations, and local government.

Of the following, who do you think should be responsible for setting up afterschool programs in your community?



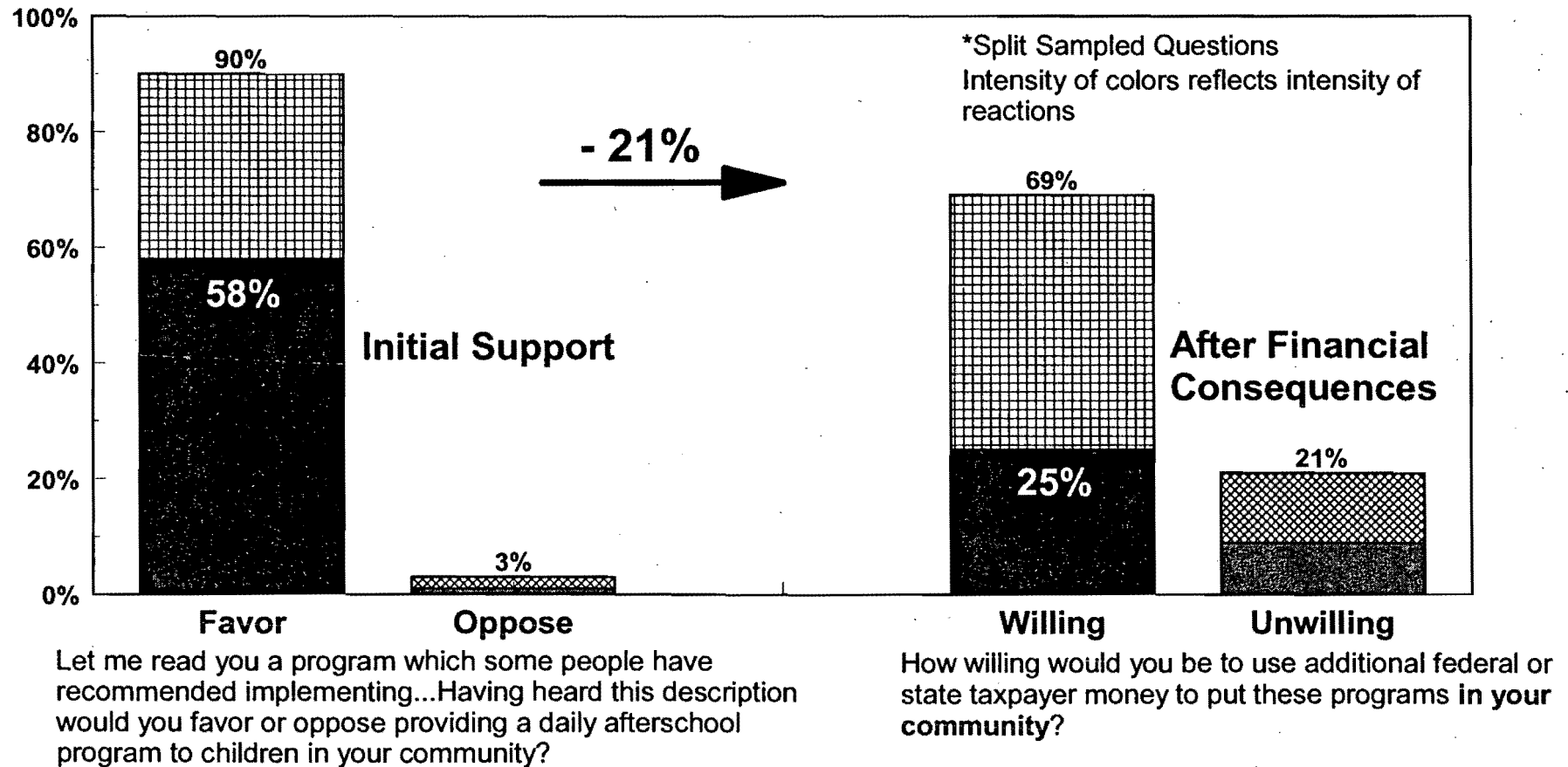
Responsibility for Paying for Afterschool Programs

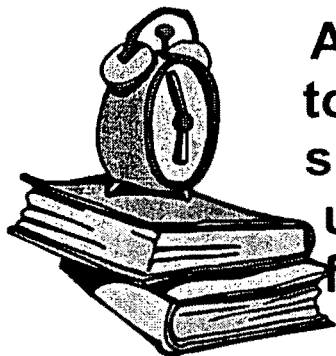




Two-thirds of voters are willing to use additional federal or state taxpayer money to put these programs in their communities, but intensity is greatly decreased from support for the program.

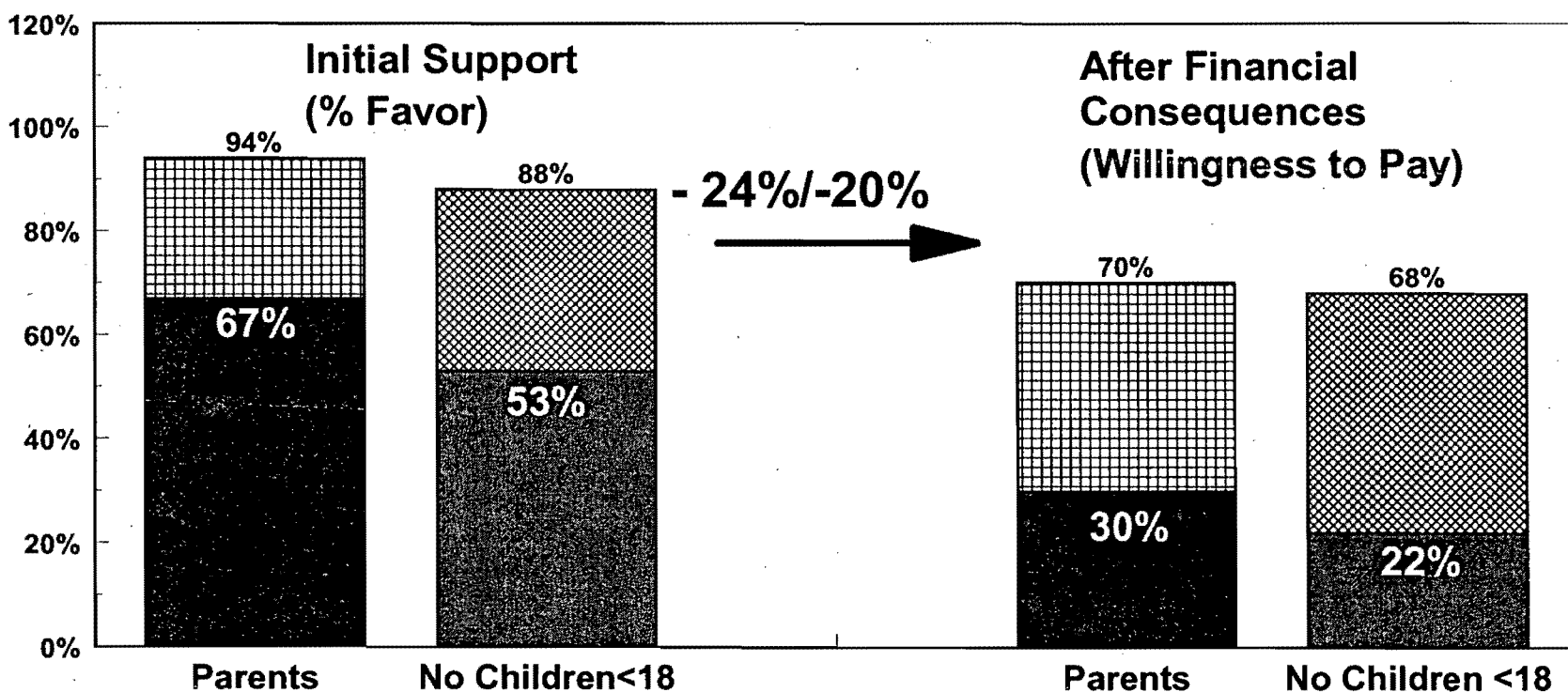
This program will cost \$1,000 per child, per school year, how willing would you be to use additional federal or state taxpayer money to put these programs **in your community** -- very willing, somewhat willing, not too willing, or not willing at all?





Although parents of children under the age of 18 are more willing to pay for afterschool programs than their counterparts, there is a substantial drop in support among both voters who have children under the age of 18 and voters who do not when informed of the financial burdens imposed by community afterschool programs.

This program will cost \$1,000 per child, per school year, how willing would you be to use additional federal or state taxpayer money to put these programs **in your community** -- very willing, somewhat willing, not too willing, or not willing at all? (Split Sampled Question)



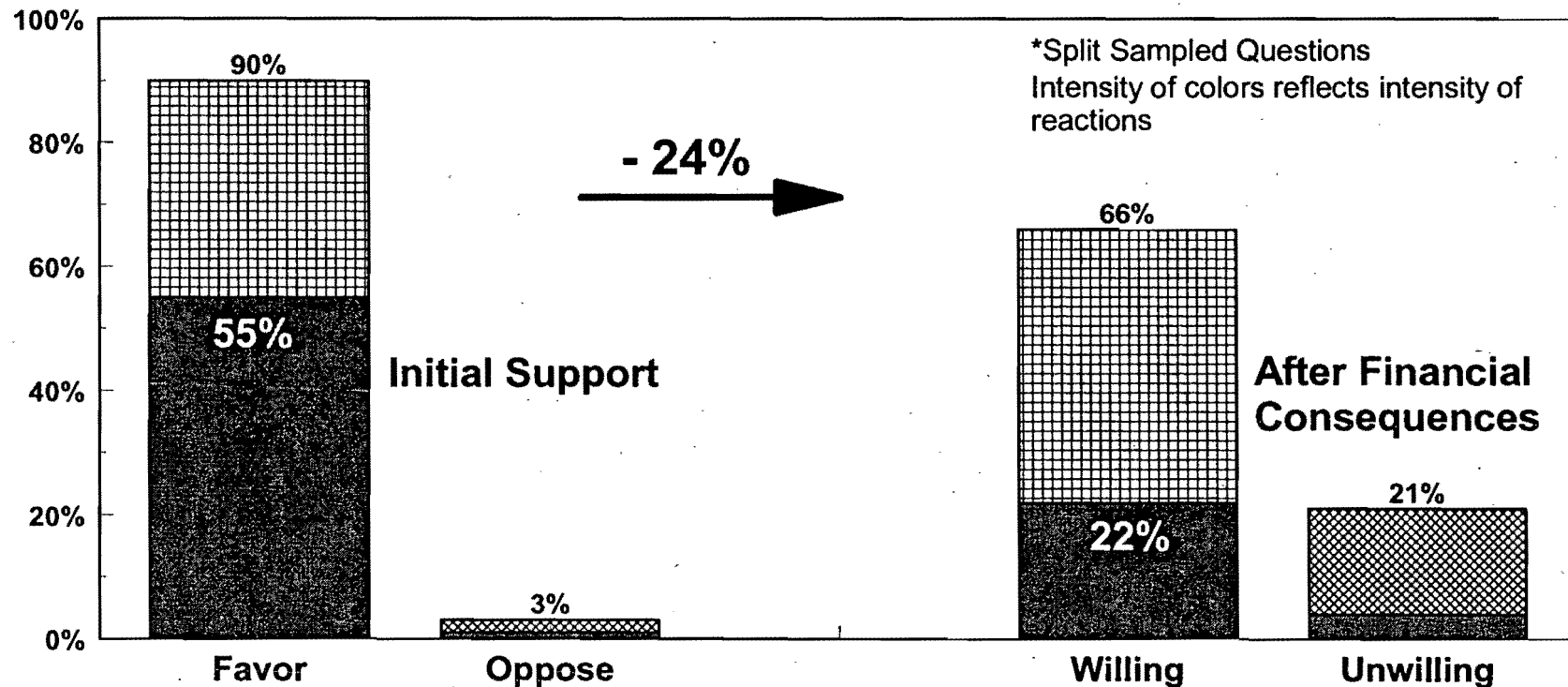
Let me read you a program which some people have recommended implementing...Having heard this description would you favor or oppose providing a daily afterschool program to children in your community?

How willing would you be to use additional federal or state taxpayer money to put these programs **in your community**?



Willingness to use additional taxpayer dollars does not change significantly when voters are asked whether or not they would pay to provide afterschool programs for all children.

This program will cost \$1,000 per child, per school year, how willing would you be to use additional federal or state taxpayer money to make these programs **available to all children**-- very willing, somewhat willing, not too willing, or not willing at all?



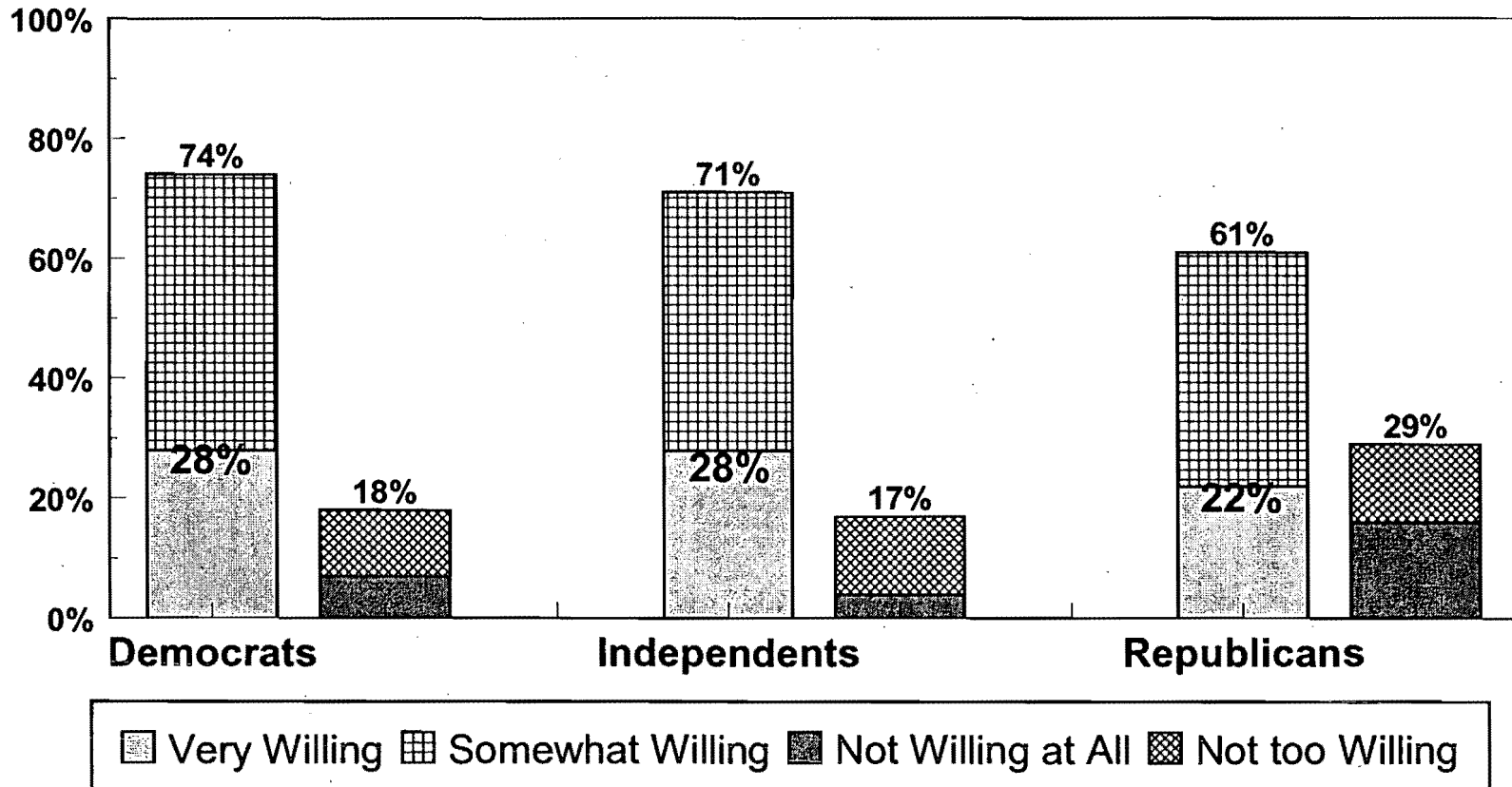
Let me read you a program which some people have recommended implementing...Having heard this description would you favor or oppose providing a daily afterschool program to all children?

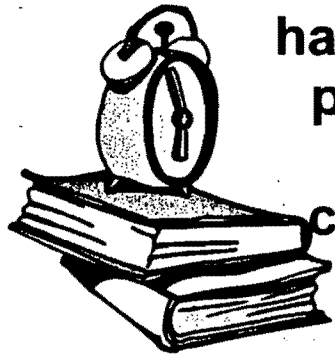
How willing would you be to use additional federal or state taxpayer money to make these programs available to **all** children?



Democrats are most willing to pay for afterschool programs, whereas Republicans are less willing.

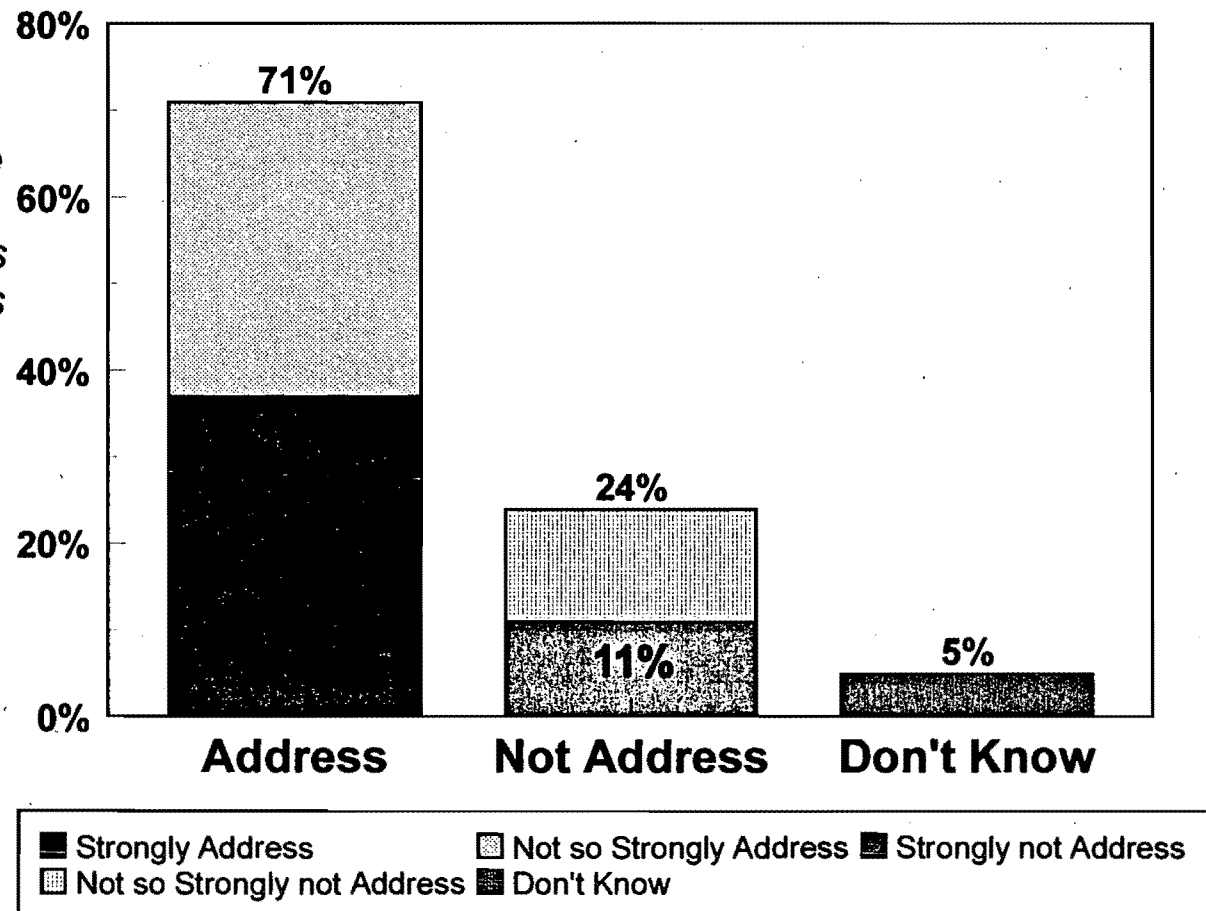
This program will cost \$1,000 per child, per school year, how willing would you be to use additional federal or state taxpayer money to put these programs **in your community** -- very willing, somewhat willing, not too willing, or not willing at all? (Split Sampled Question)





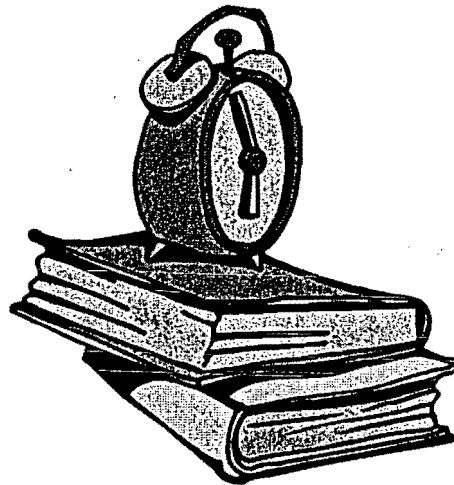
While only 7 percent of voters say the private sector should have the responsibility for paying for afterschool programs, 71 percent think expanding quality afterschool programs is an issue that should be addressed by businesses in their community. A quarter of voters do not think this is an issue for businesses.

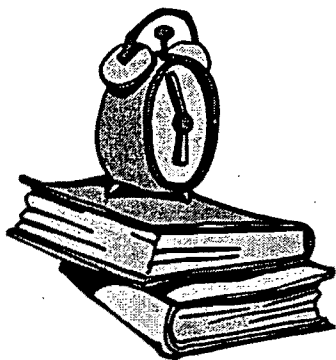
Do you think expanding quality afterschool programs is an issue that should be addressed by business in your community or is this not an issue that businesses need to address? (Is that strongly or not so strongly?)



Activities and Results

Keeping Kids Safe, Conflict Resolution,
Socialization

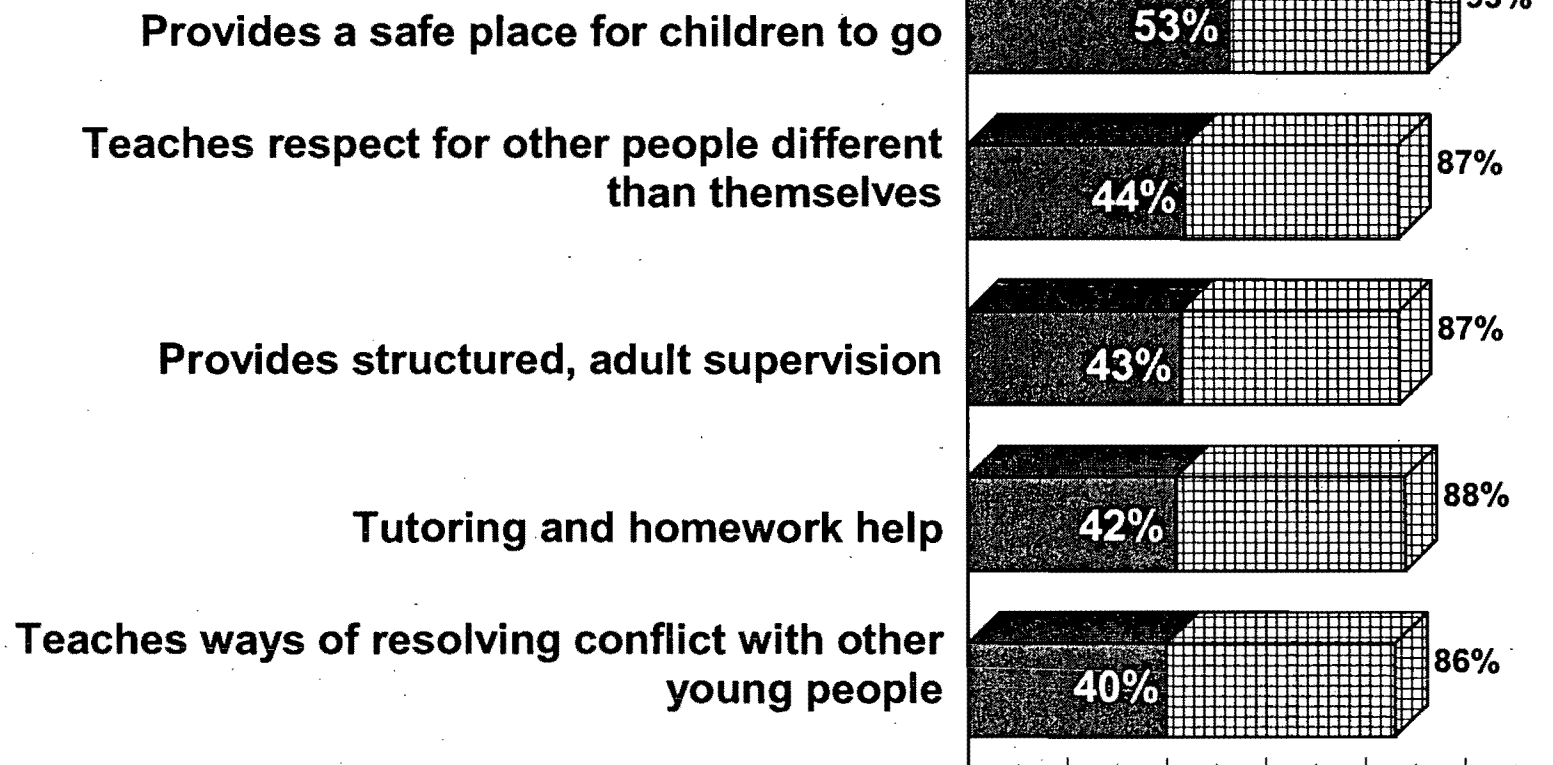




Voters above all want to see afterschool programs provide children with a safe place to go, with a majority of voters placing safety as one of their most important priorities for afterschool programs. Other pressing goals for afterschool programs include teaching respect for differences, structured, adult supervision, tutoring and homework help, and conflict resolution.

Now I am going to read you a list of activities which may be included in afterschool programs and for each one, please tell me if it is one of the most important activities that should be included in afterschool programs, is very important, is somewhat important, is not too important, or is not important at all.

% Most Important/Very Important

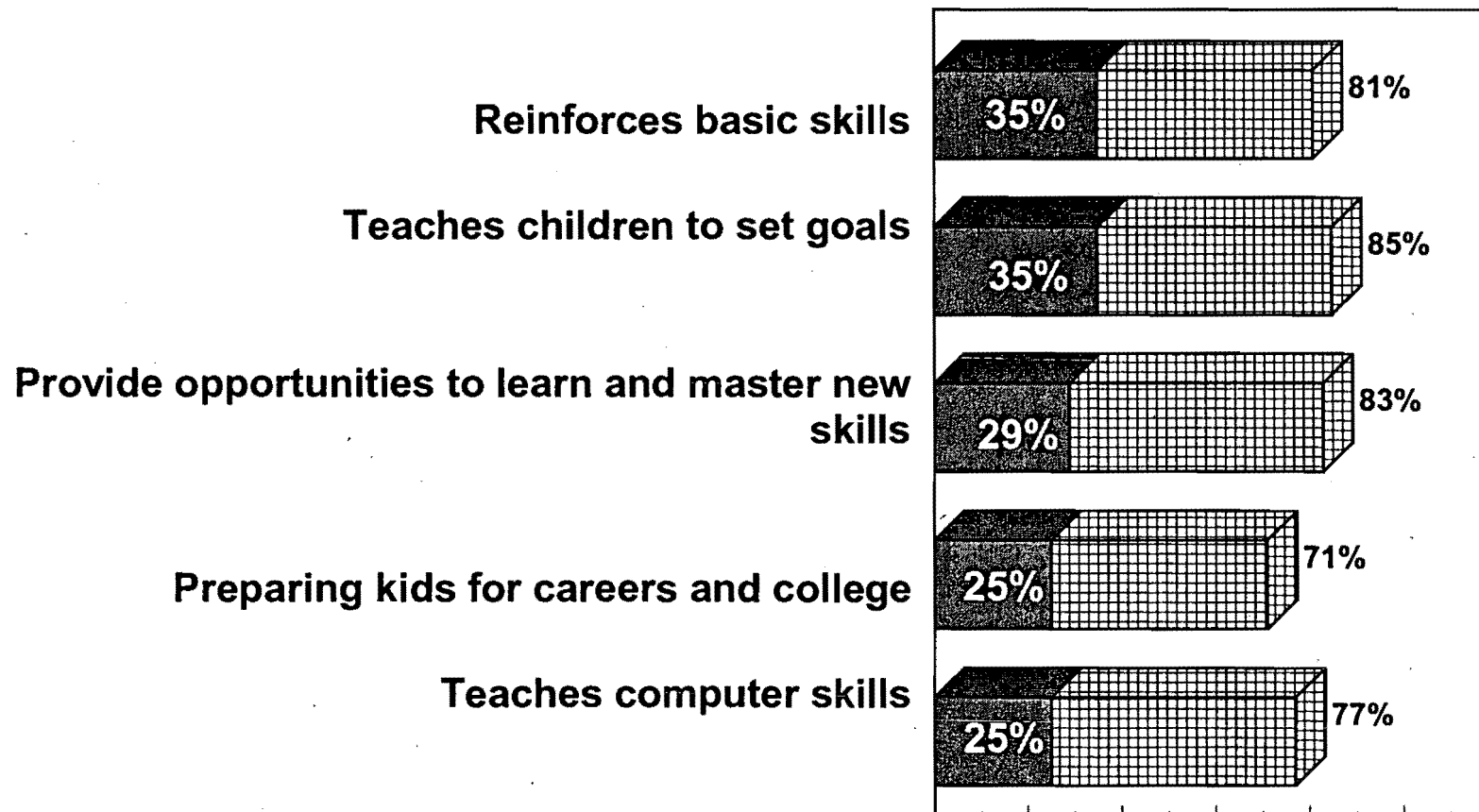


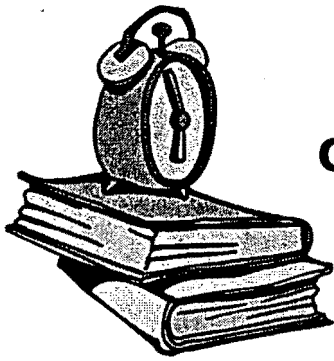


Voters also think it is important to teach children to set goals and reinforce basic skills, with over a third of voters finding each proposal to be one of the most important goals of afterschool programs. They are followed by providing opportunities to learn and master new skills, teaching computer skills, and college preparation.

Now I am going to read you a list of activities which may be included in afterschool programs and for each one, please tell me if it is one of the most important activities that should be included in afterschool programs, is very important, is somewhat important, is not too important, or is not important at all.

% Most Important/Very Important

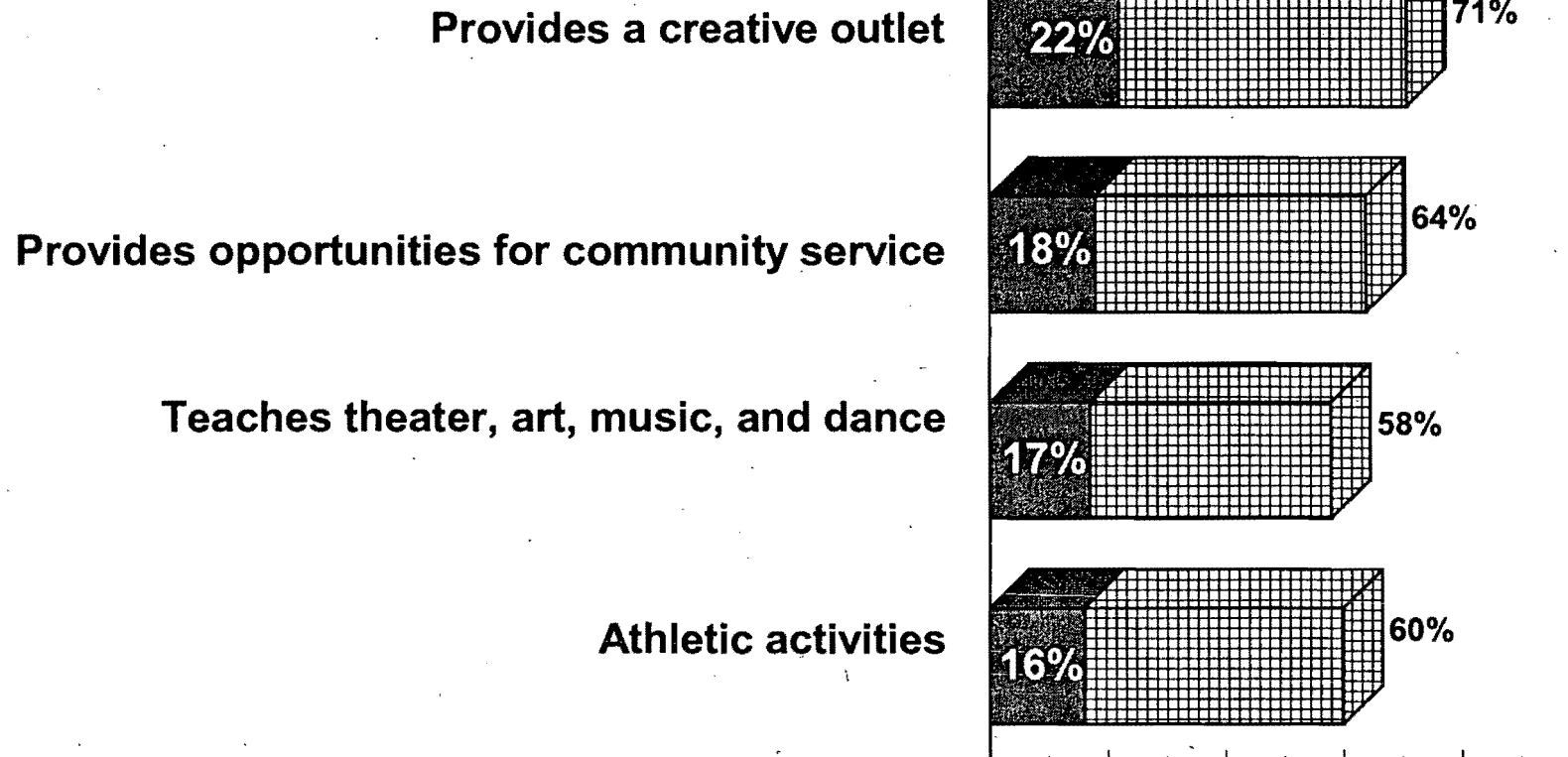


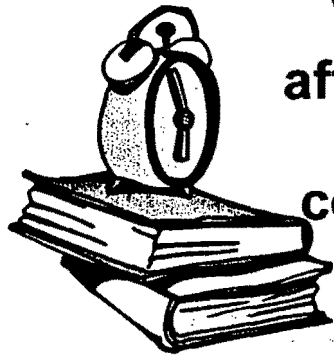


Voters place less importance on providing a creative outlet for children, providing opportunities for community service, teaching the arts, and athletic activities.

Now I am going to read you a list of activities which may be included in afterschool programs and for each one, please tell me if it is one of the most important activities that should be included in afterschool programs, is very important, is somewhat important, is not too important, or is not important at all.

% Most Important/Very Important





Voters see several results as likely to happen as a result of afterschool programs -- helping working families, keeping kids safe, improving socialization, building social skills, and conflict resolution. Of these, voters are most likely to believe programs will help working families.

Now I am going to read you a list of items that could result from an afterschool program. After each item please tell me how likely you think that will happen as a result of a student attending an afterschool program -- very likely to happen, somewhat likely, somewhat unlikely, or very unlikely to happen.

*Split Sampled Questions

% Very Likely/Somewhat Likely

