



HANOVER
RESEARCH

PRIVATE SCHOOL COVID-19 RESPONSE SURVEY

Prepared for EdChoice

April 2020

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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW

In this report, Hanover Research presents the results of a Private School COVID-19 Response Survey conducted on behalf of EdChoice.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Understand how private schools are handling the response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

SURVEY ADMINISTRATION & SURVEY SAMPLE

- The survey was administered online in April 2020 using the Qualtrics platform.
- The analysis includes a total of 771 respondents following data cleaning.
- Results are segmented by school type (Catholic Private School, Non-Catholic, Christian Private School, Other Religious Private School, Nonreligious Private School) in the report.

RESPONDENT QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be employed at a private school in the United States.



INTRODUCTION

METHODOLOGY

- Sample sizes vary across questions as some questions only pertain to a subset of respondents.
- Conclusions drawn from a small sample size ($n < 20$) should be interpreted with caution.
- Statistically significant differences (95% confidence level) between groups are noted with an asterisk (*).
- After data collection, Hanover identified and removed low-quality respondents.
- “Don’t Know or Not Applicable” responses, and equivalent, are often excluded from the figures and analysis in order to focus on respondents who did express an opinion.

KEY FINDINGS

KEY FINDINGS - 1

- **Private schools have responded to the pandemic by shifting to online learning with formal curricula.**
 - When asked about their current status, nearly all respondents (88%) indicate that their school has shifted to **online learning with formal curricula**.
 - Non-religious private schools are the least likely (of all private school types) to indicate that they have shifted to online learning with formal curricula (68%).
 - The next most common response (5%) is that their school working to support families by **providing some resources and support short of formal curricula**.
 - Less than 5% of respondents indicate that their school has either **entirely closed** (3%), **currently on spring break and plan to resume online** (3%), **open as usual** (1%), or **on spring break and plan to close after** (<1%).
- **Respondents are highly uncertain about the remainder of the school year.**
 - Only 10% of respondents expect students to return to classes as usual this school year.
 - Approximately one-third do not expect students to return to classes as usual this school year, and 57% are unsure.
- **Private Schools do not have much previous experience with online learning.**
 - Nearly half of respondents (45%) report that they **never** offered eLearning to students prior to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Another 26% of respondents report that they only ever offered eLearning a few times or less per school year.
- **Private Schools are staying in close contact with parents.**
 - Over half (55%) of respondents indicate that their school is communicating with parents **multiple times a week**, and 30% of respondents are communicating with parents **daily** or **multiple times a day**.

KEY FINDINGS - 2

- **Private schools expect teachers to work full-time virtually, and they are providing support to special student populations.**
 - Approximately two-thirds (65%) of respondents indicate that they are expecting their teachers to teach full-time virtually right now, and 20% expect their teachers to be working part-time virtually.
 - Sixty-two percent of respondents are providing support for students in special education and 20% are providing support for students who are English learners.
 - Only 10% of respondents indicate that they have special student populations but are not providing support for them.
- **Respondents are worried about finances, lost enrollment, and the length of the pandemic.**
 - At least half of respondents are either “very” or “extremely worried” about **students’ families struggling financially** (65%) and **losing enrollment next school year** (51%).
 - At least 40% of respondents are either “very” or “extremely worried” about **drops in philanthropic support** (44%), **collecting tuition for the remainder of the school year** (41%), and **this crisis lasting into next school year** (41%).
 - Compared with catholic private schools and non-religious private schools, Christian (non-Catholic) private schools are *less worried about* **collecting tuition for the remainder of the school year**, **losing enrollment next school year**, or **drops in philanthropic support**.
- **Private schools are providing a number resources to assist in online learning.**
 - At least half of respondents indicate that their school has offered **Devices for students** (80%), **professional development for teachers around online learning** (79%), and **assistance obtaining internet access for students and their families** (50%).
 - Catholic private schools (86%) are the most likely private school type to offer **devices for students**, and non-religious private schools are the least likely (61%).
 - Catholic private schools (25%) are more likely than any other private school type to offer **meals for students**.

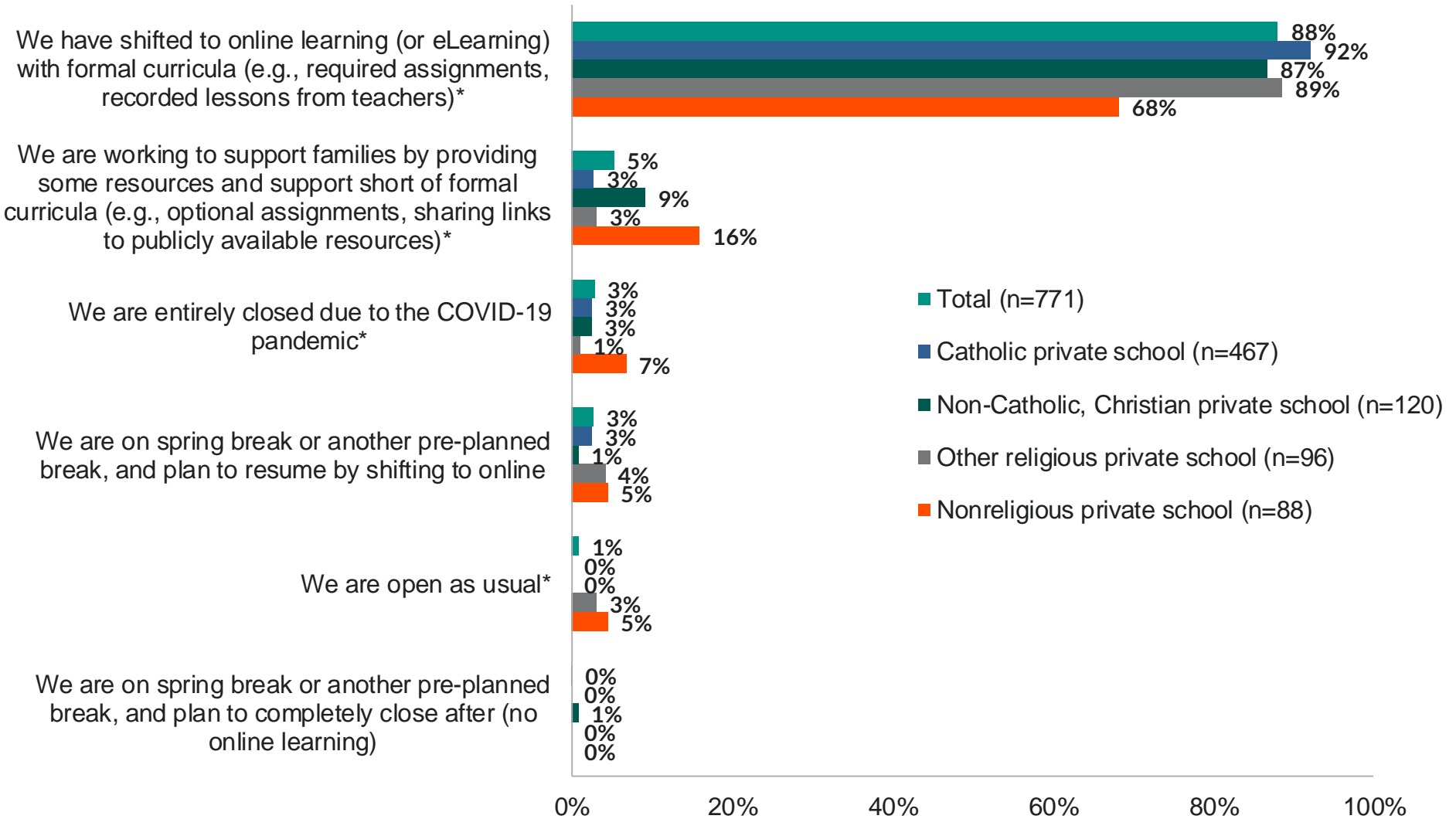
KEY FINDINGS - 3

- The biggest philanthropic priorities right now are financial support for the school and financial support for students and their families.
 - Over half (54%) of respondents rank **Financial Support for Students and their Families** as either the first or second priority that they would ask a potential donor to support.
 - Similarly, 56% of respondents rank **Financial Support for the School** as either the first or second priority that they would ask a potential donor to support.
- Private schools indicate that their biggest need from government is clear guidance about what is expected of schools during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - A majority of respondents (54%) rank **giving clear guidance about what is expected of schools during the COVID-19 pandemic** as the top (first) priority that state/local governments could do to help their school.
- Private schools rely on multiple sources to get information about COVID-19 and schools.
 - At least half of respondents rely on **state government agencies** (90%), **federal government agencies** (71%), **news media** (62%), **the local public school district** (58%), and **school associations** (50%).
- Respondents have heard of many online learning tools, but so far, they are only using a few.
 - At least half of respondents have heard of **Zoom** (98%), **Google Classroom** (95%), **Khan Academy** (90%), **Facebook Live** (70%), **BrainPop** (69%), and **Blackboard** (57%).
 - At least half of respondents are using **Zoom** (83%), **Google Classroom** (73%), and **Khan Academy** (66%).

SECTION I: SURVEY FIGURES

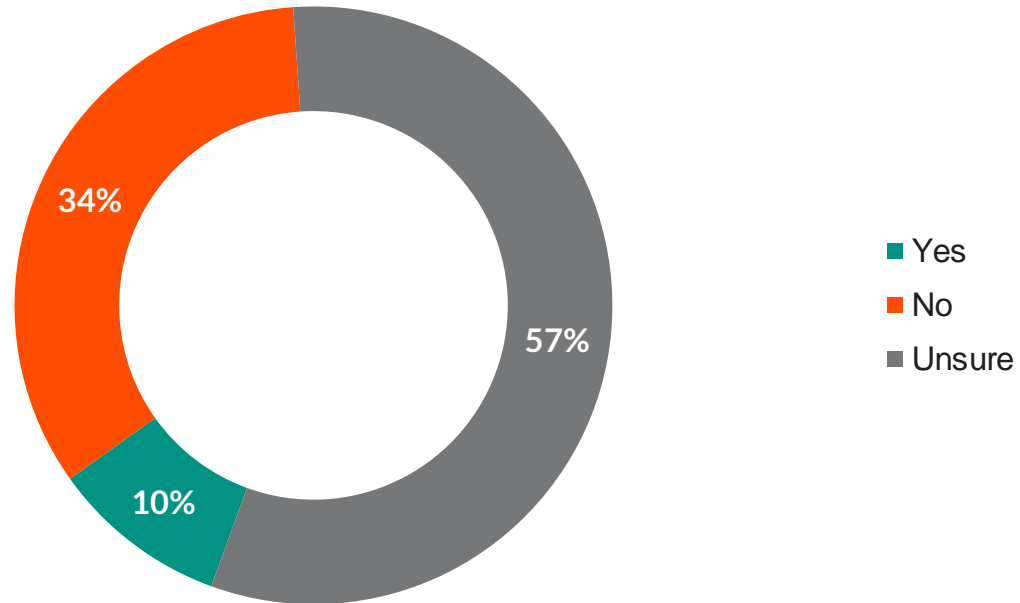
CURRENT STATUS

What is the current status of your school?



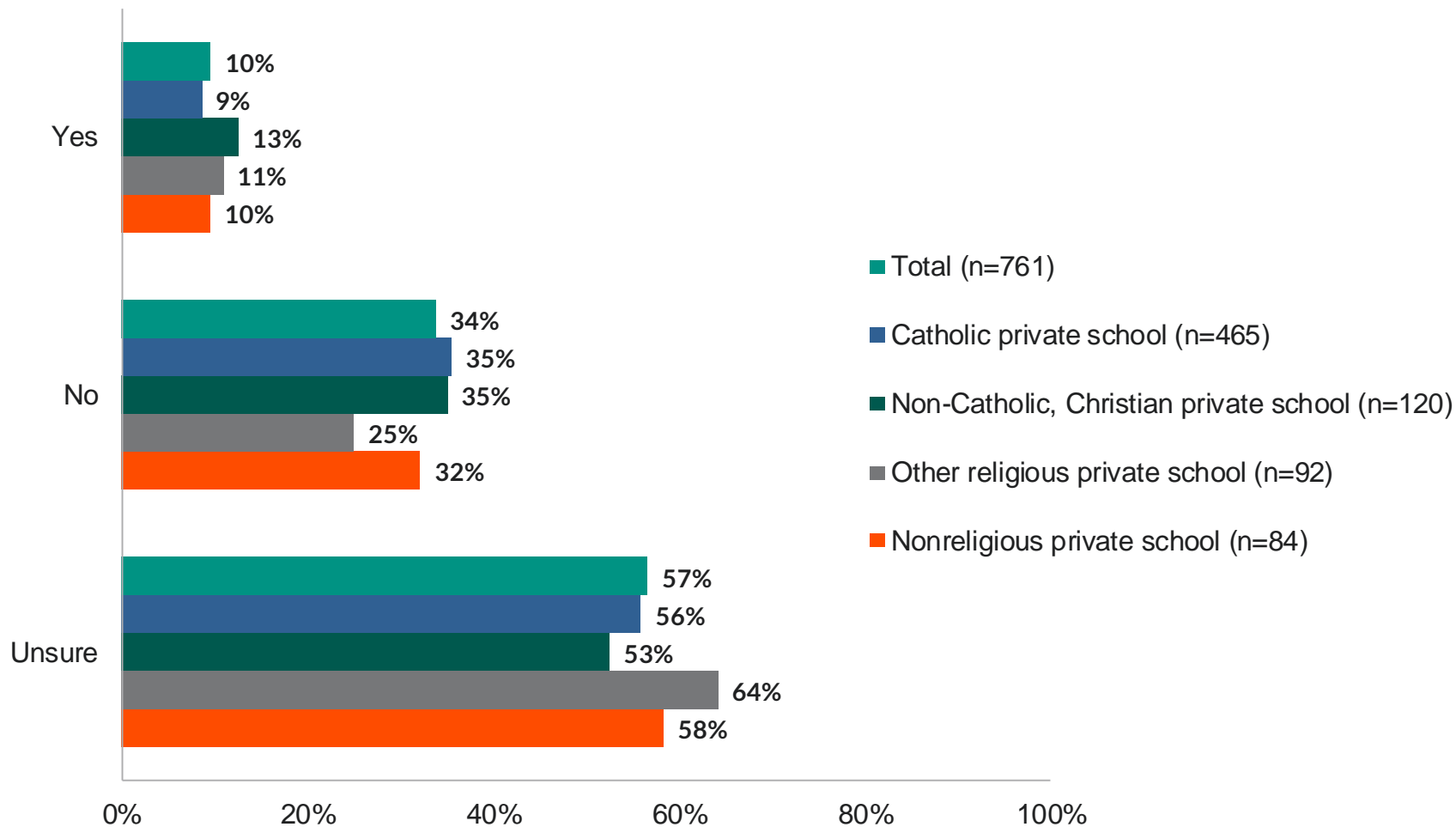
RETURNING TO SCHOOL (OVERALL)

Do you expect students to return to classes as usual this school year?



RETURNING TO SCHOOL (BY GROUP)

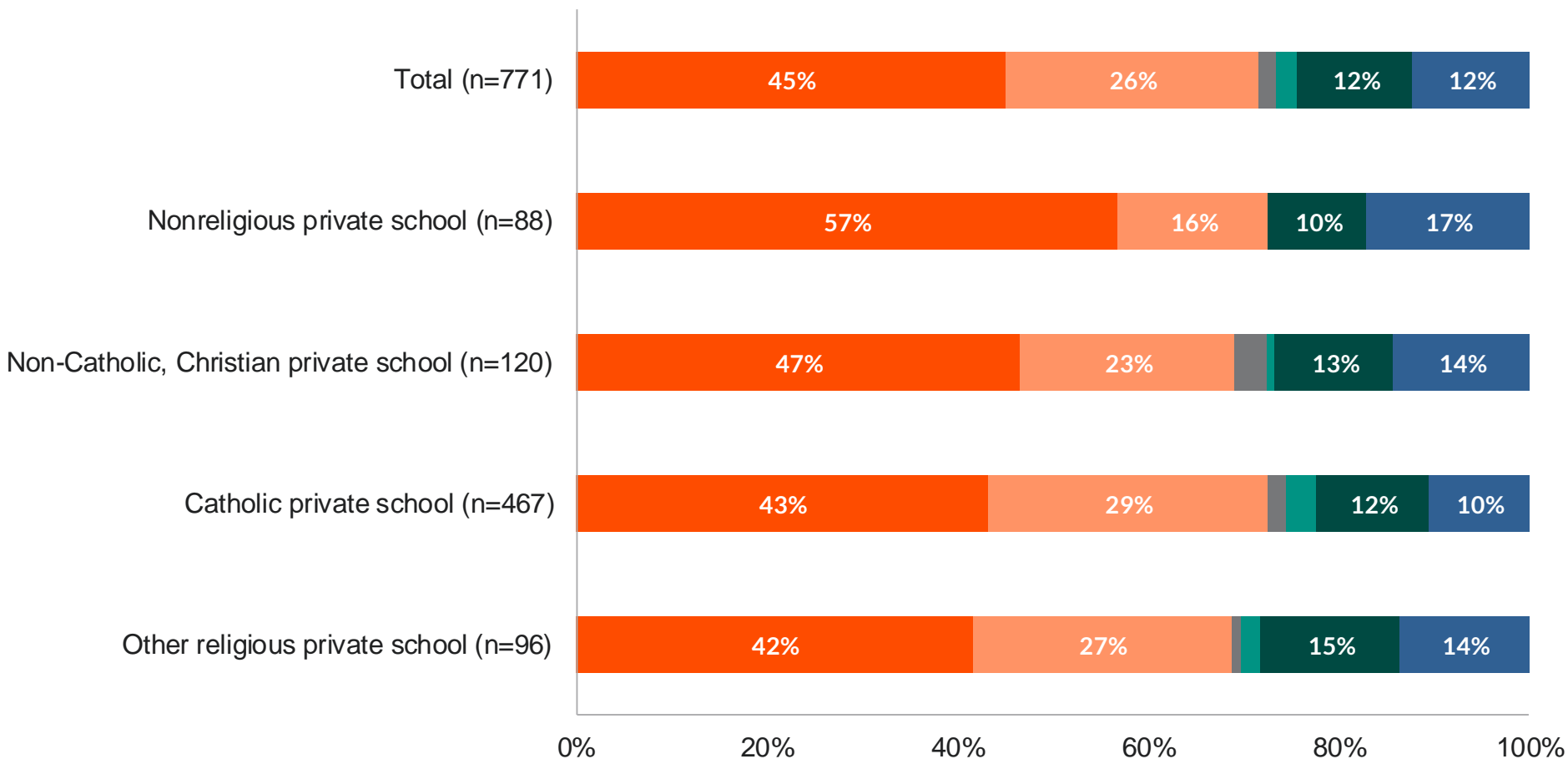
Do you expect students to return to classes as usual this school year?



PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH ONLINE LEARNING

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, how often did your school provide eLearning to your students, if at all?

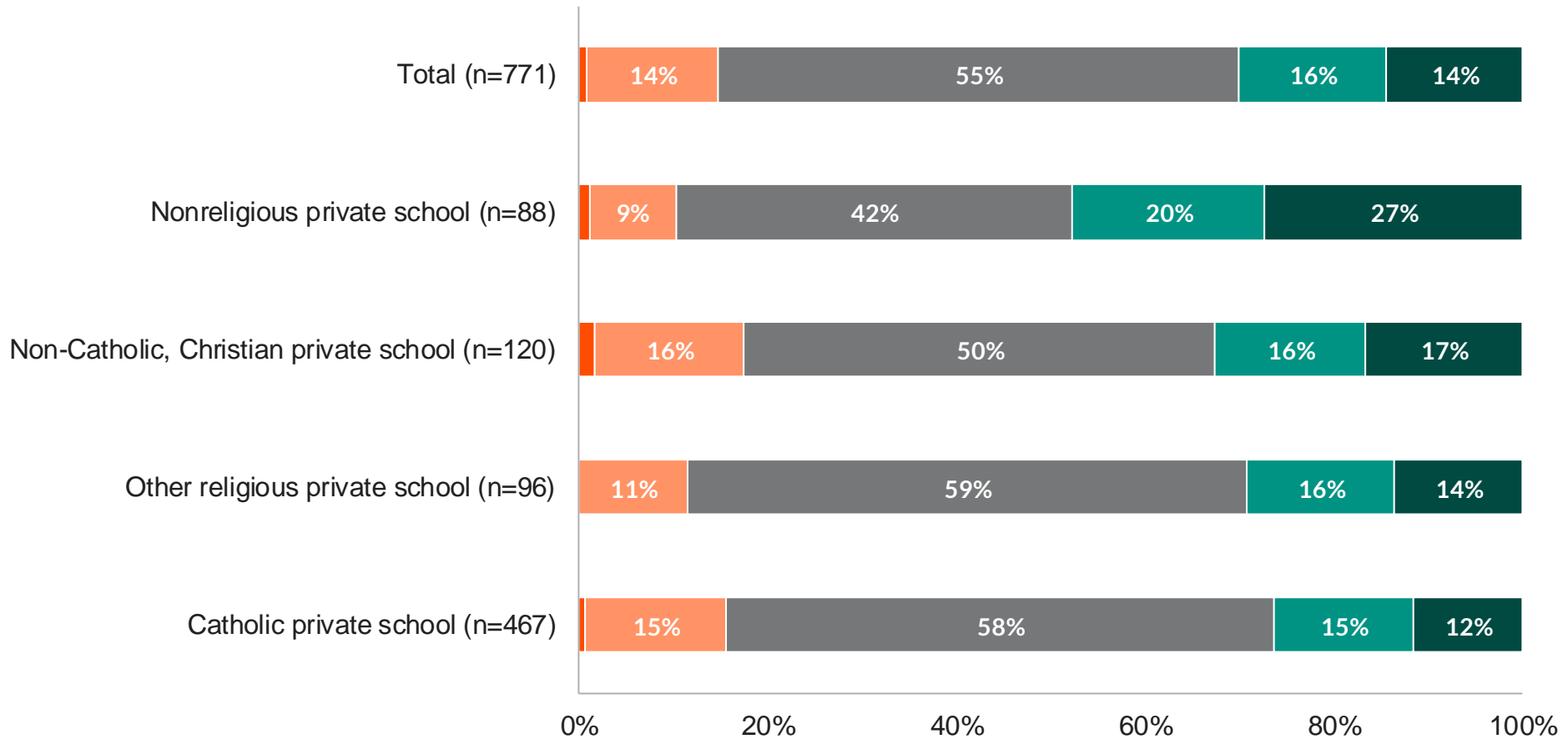
■ Never*
 ■ A few times or less per school year*
 ■ Quarterly
 ■ Monthly
 ■ Weekly
 ■ Daily



COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

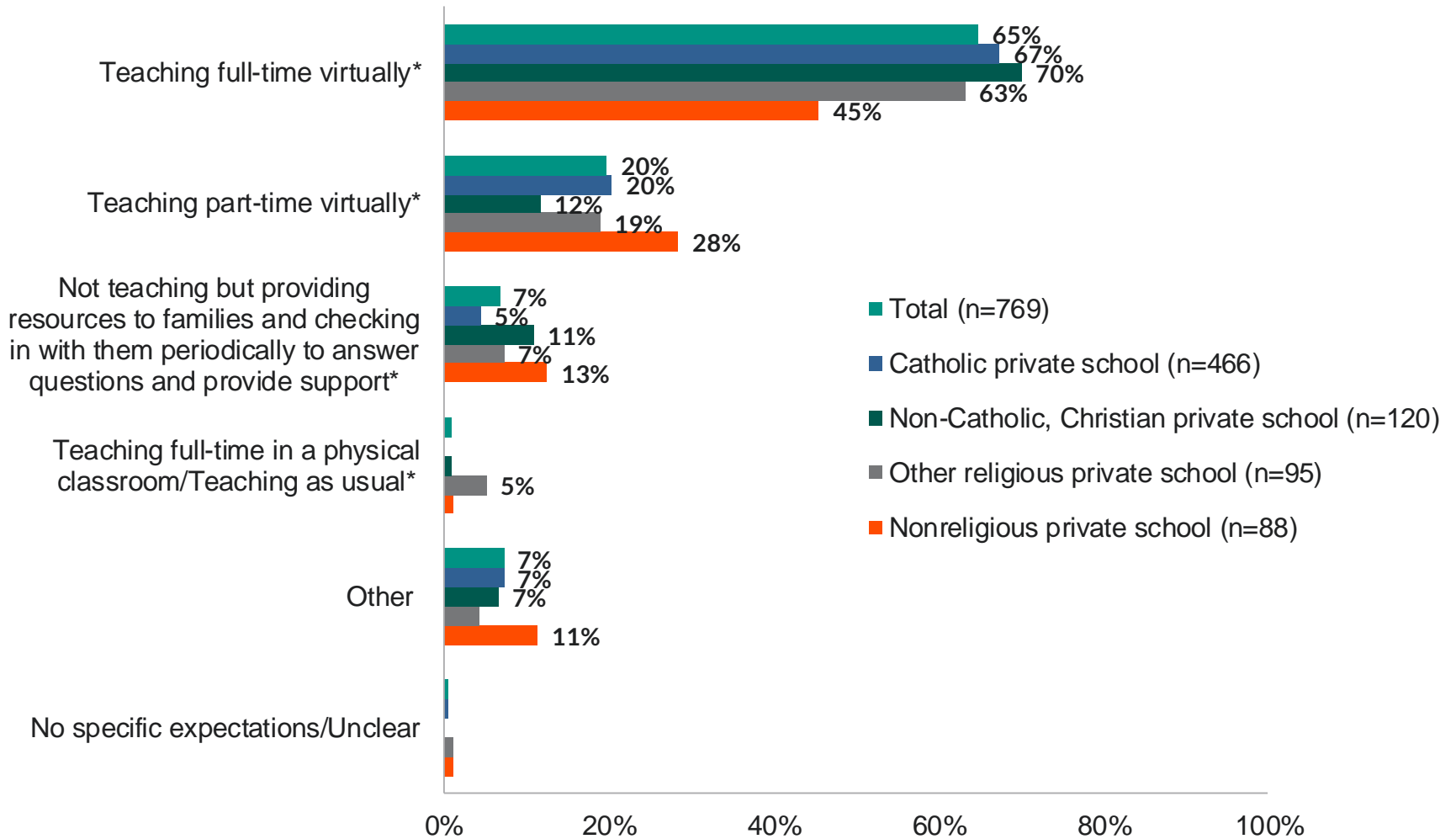
How frequently have you been communicating with parents?

■ Less than once a week ■ Once a week ■ Multiple times a week* ■ Once a day ■ Multiple times a day*



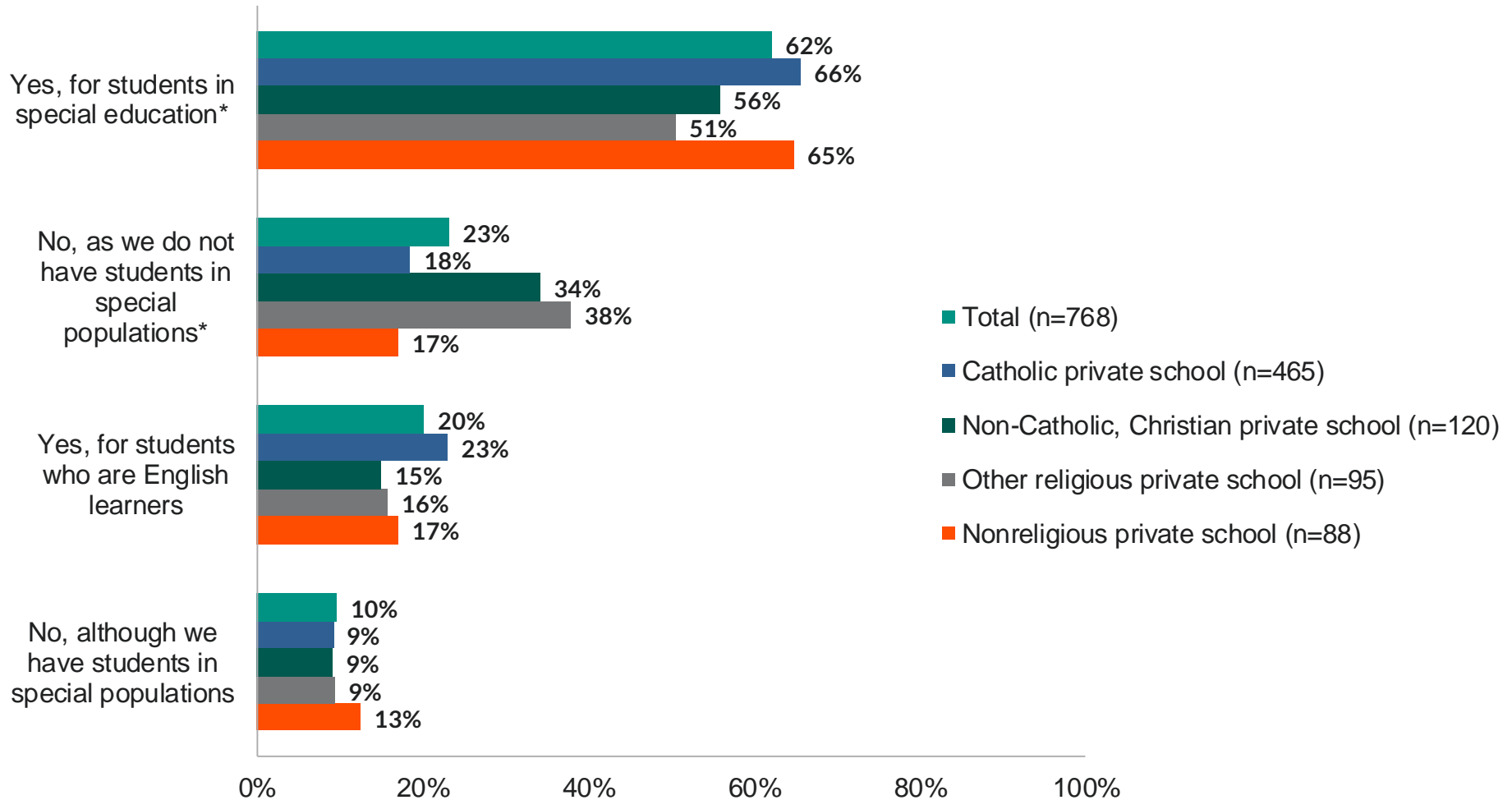
TEACHER EXPECTATIONS

What are your expectations for your teachers right now?



SPECIAL STUDENT POPULATION SUPPORT

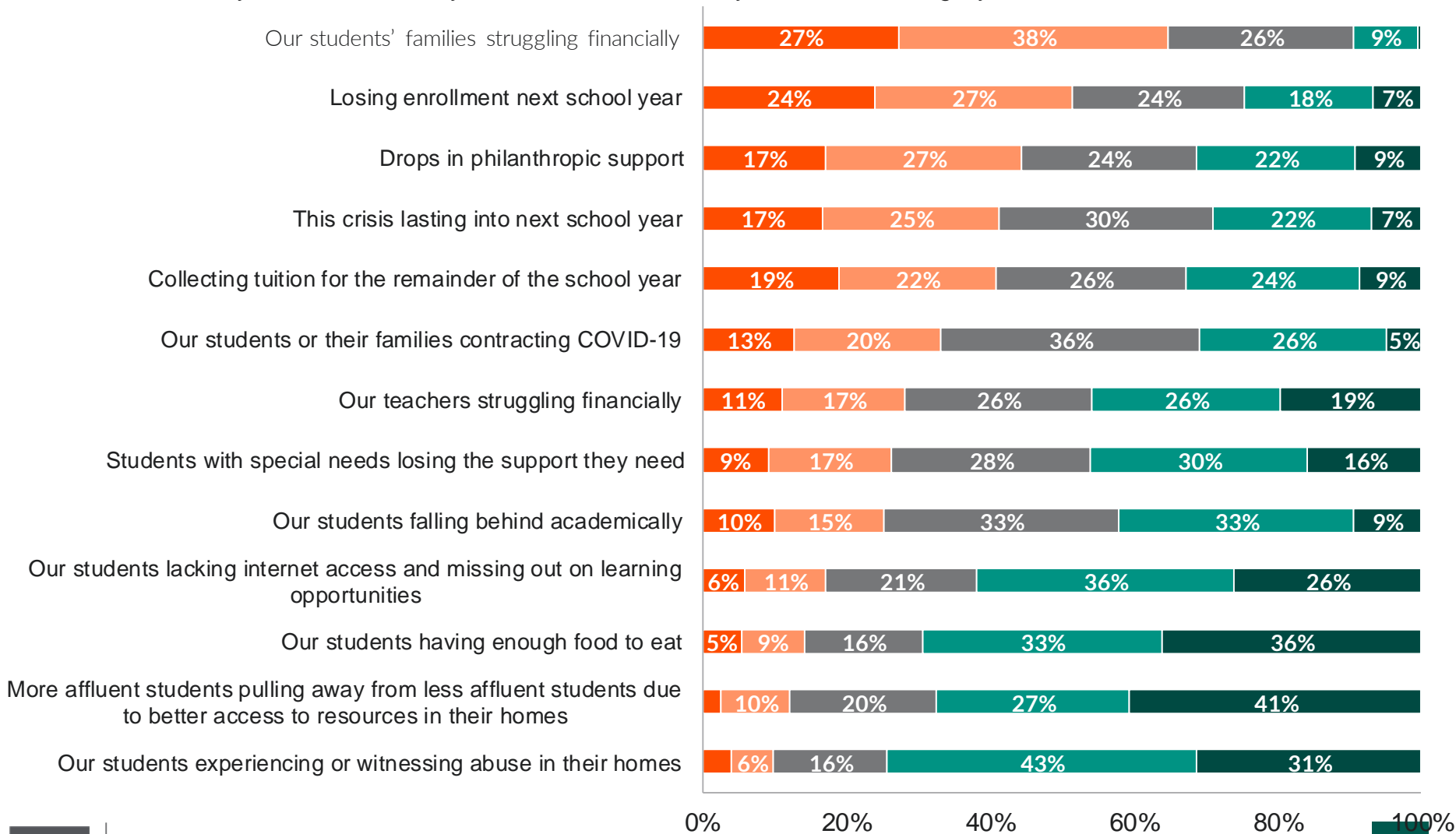
Are you providing support for students who are part of special populations (e.g., special education, English learners)?



WORRIES OVER COVID-19 ISSUES (OVERALL)

How worried are you about each of the following issues?

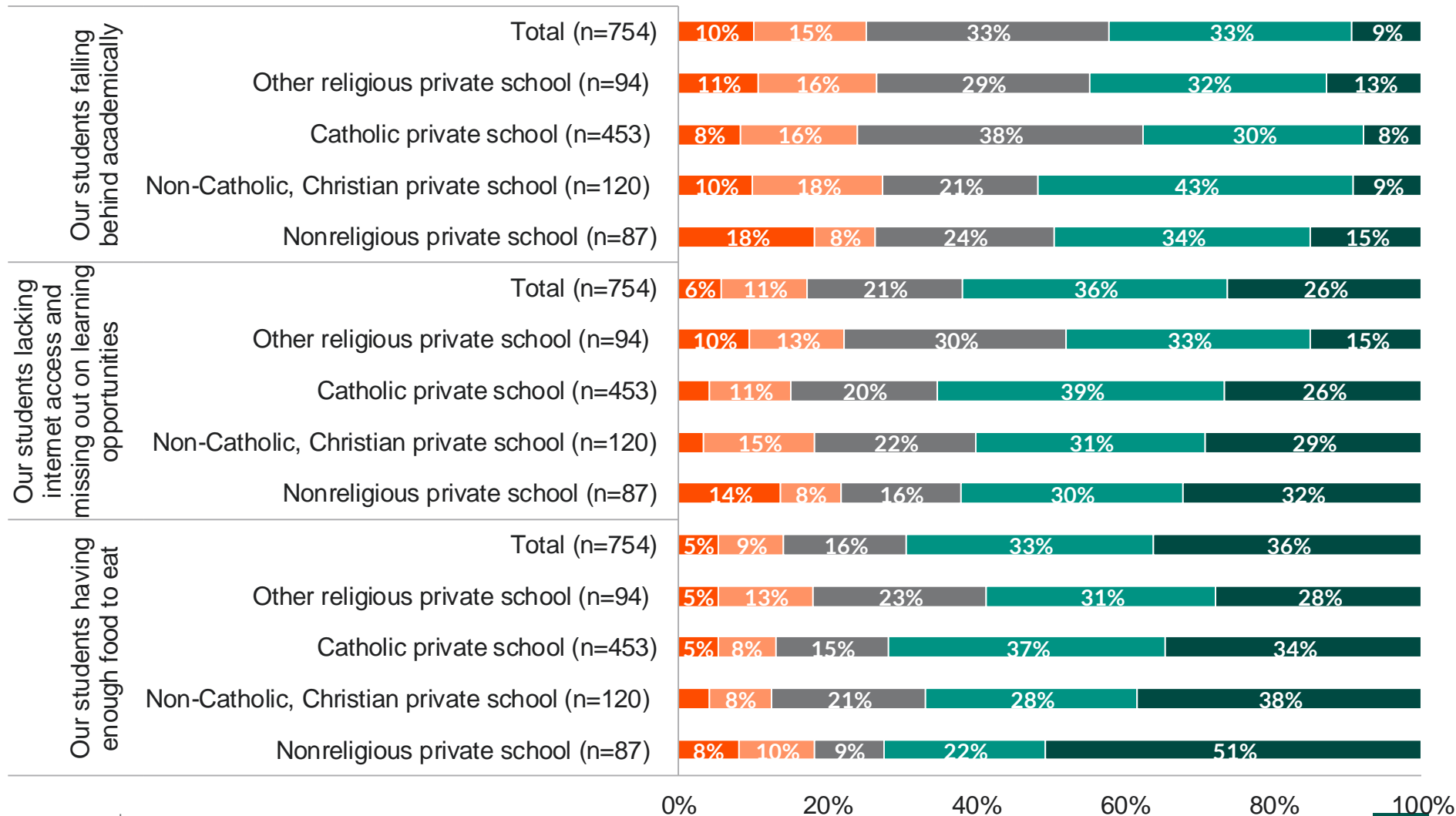
■ Extremely Worried
 ■ Very Worried
 ■ Moderately Worried
 ■ Slightly Worried
 ■ Not at All Worried



WORRIES OVER COVID-19 ISSUES (BY GROUP)

How worried are you about each of the following issues? (by group)

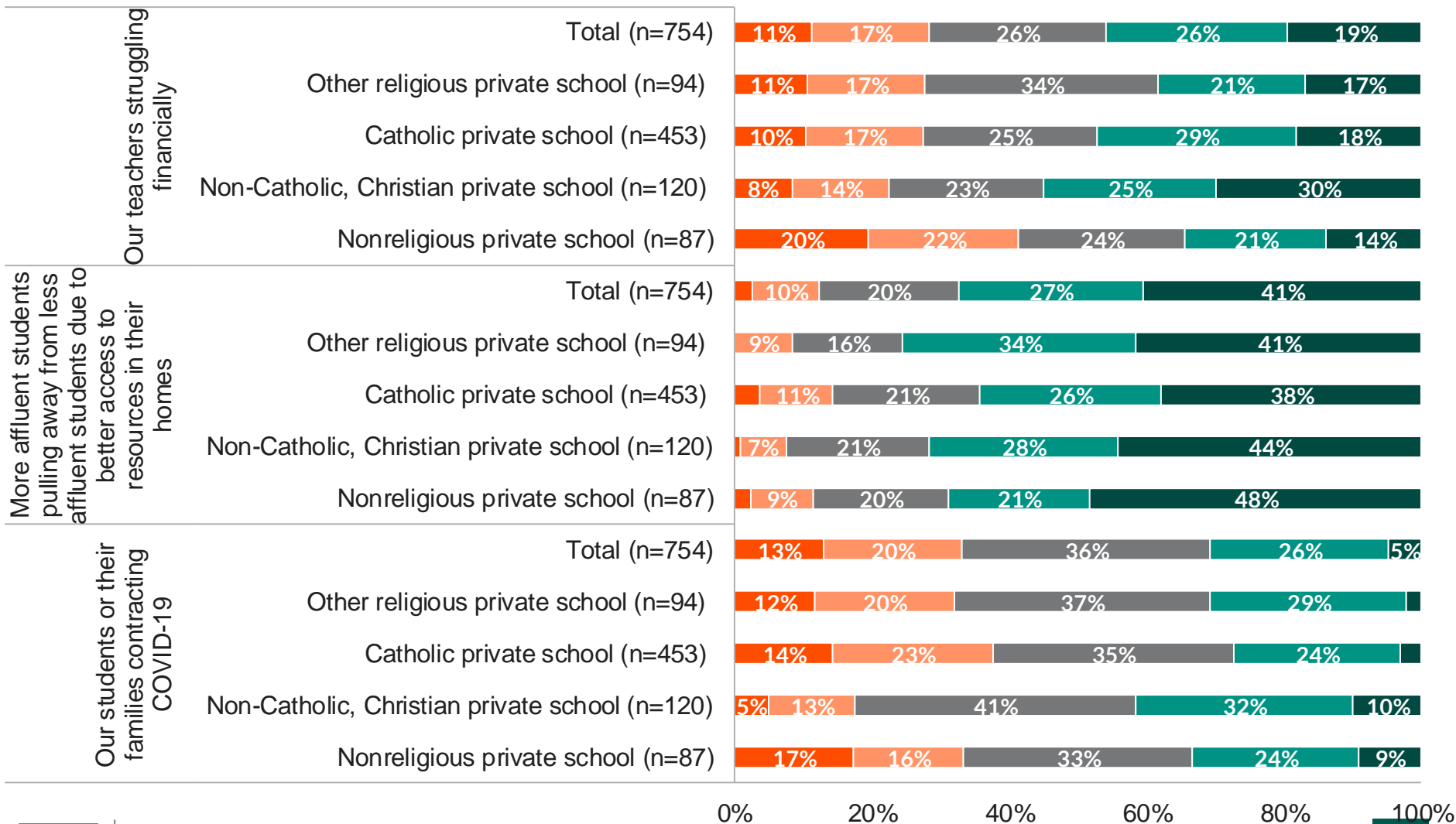
Extremely Worried Very Worried Moderately Worried Slightly Worried Not at All Worried



WORRIES OVER COVID-19 ISSUES (BY GROUP)

How worried are you about each of the following issues? (by group)

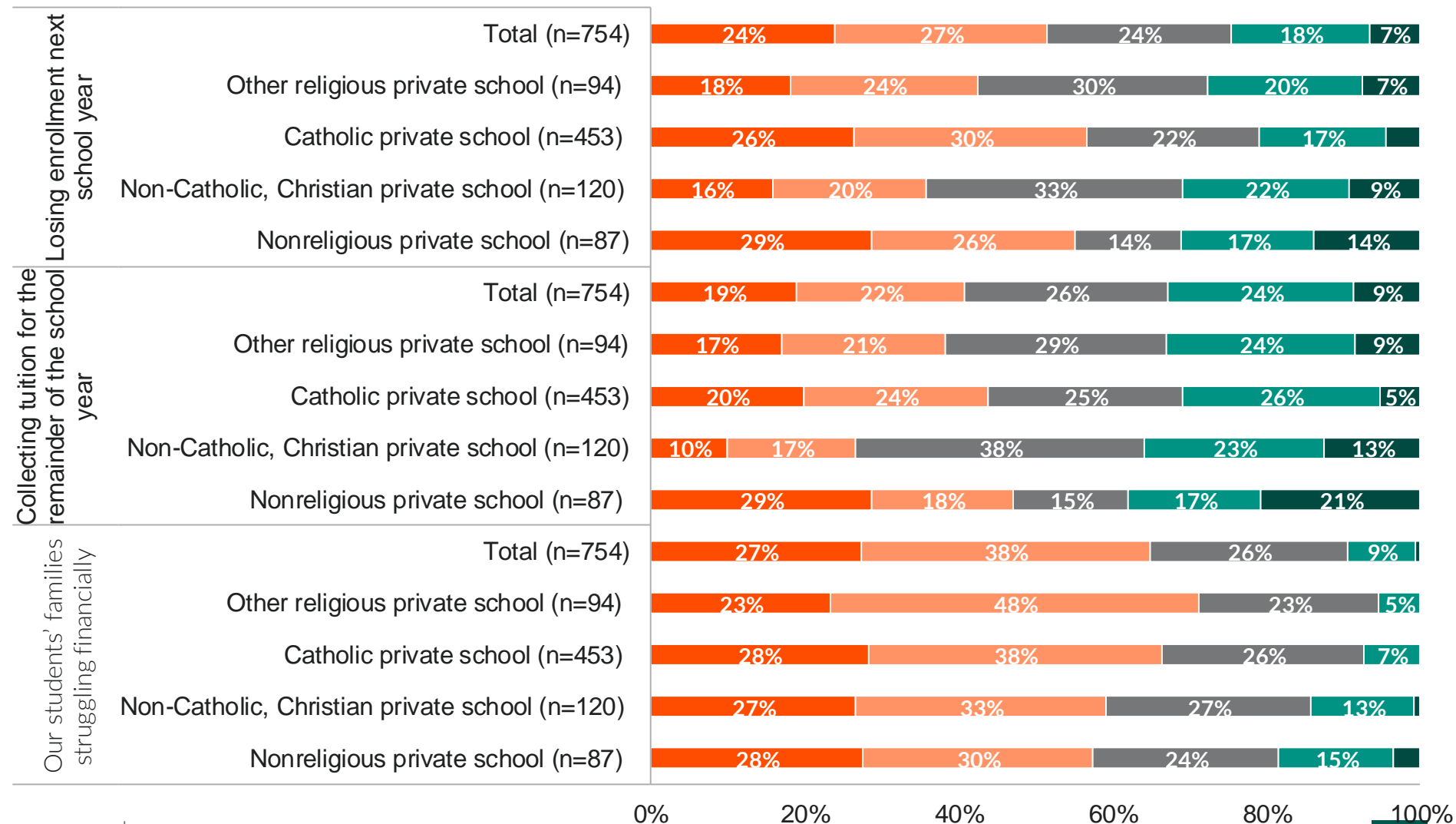
Extremely Worried Very Worried Moderately Worried Slightly Worried Not at All Worried



WORRIES OVER COVID-19 ISSUES (BY GROUP)

How worried are you about each of the following issues? (by group)

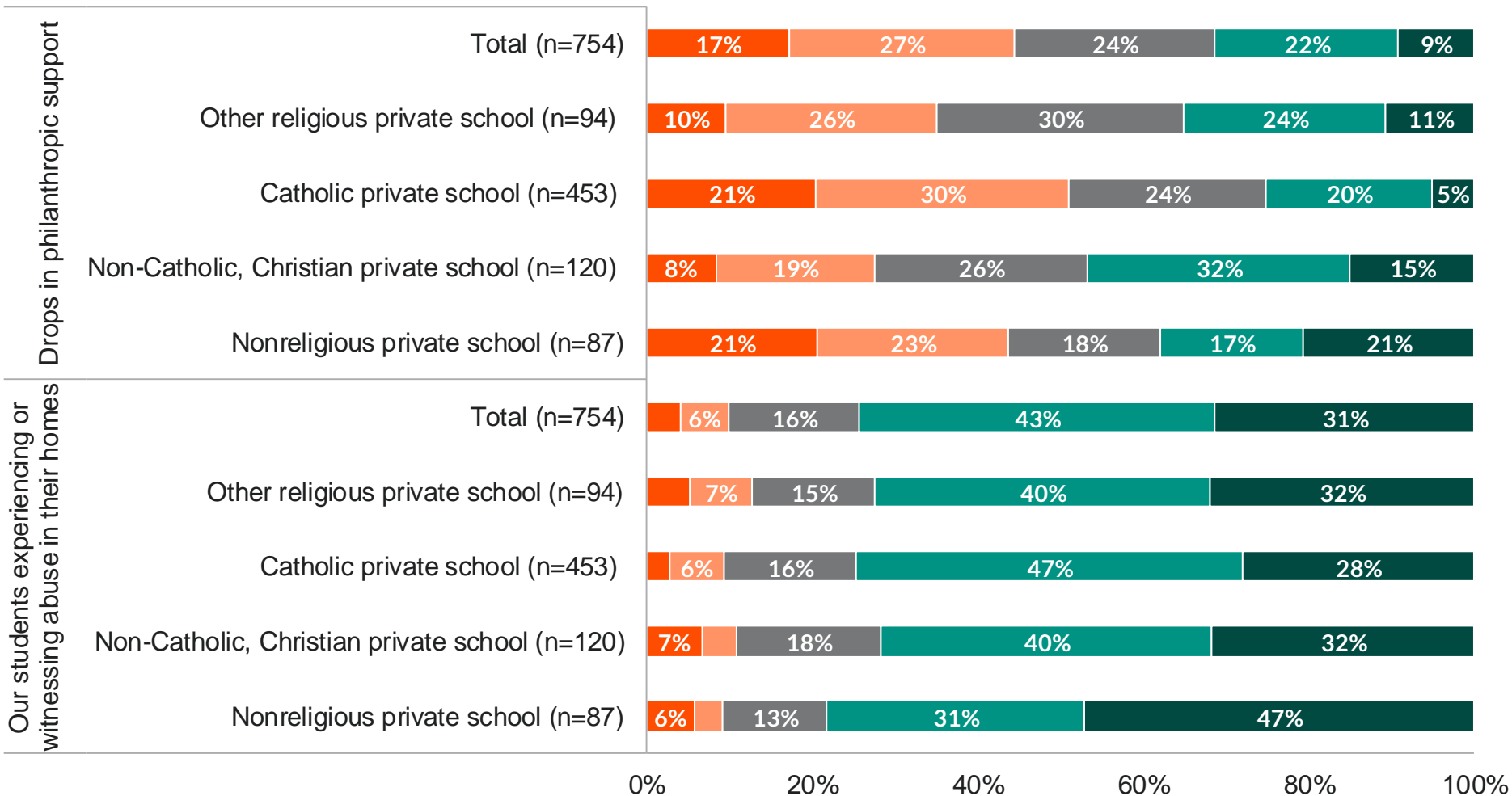
Extremely Worried Very Worried Moderately Worried Slightly Worried Not at All Worried



WORRIES OVER COVID-19 ISSUES (BY GROUP)

How worried are you about each of the following issues? (by group)

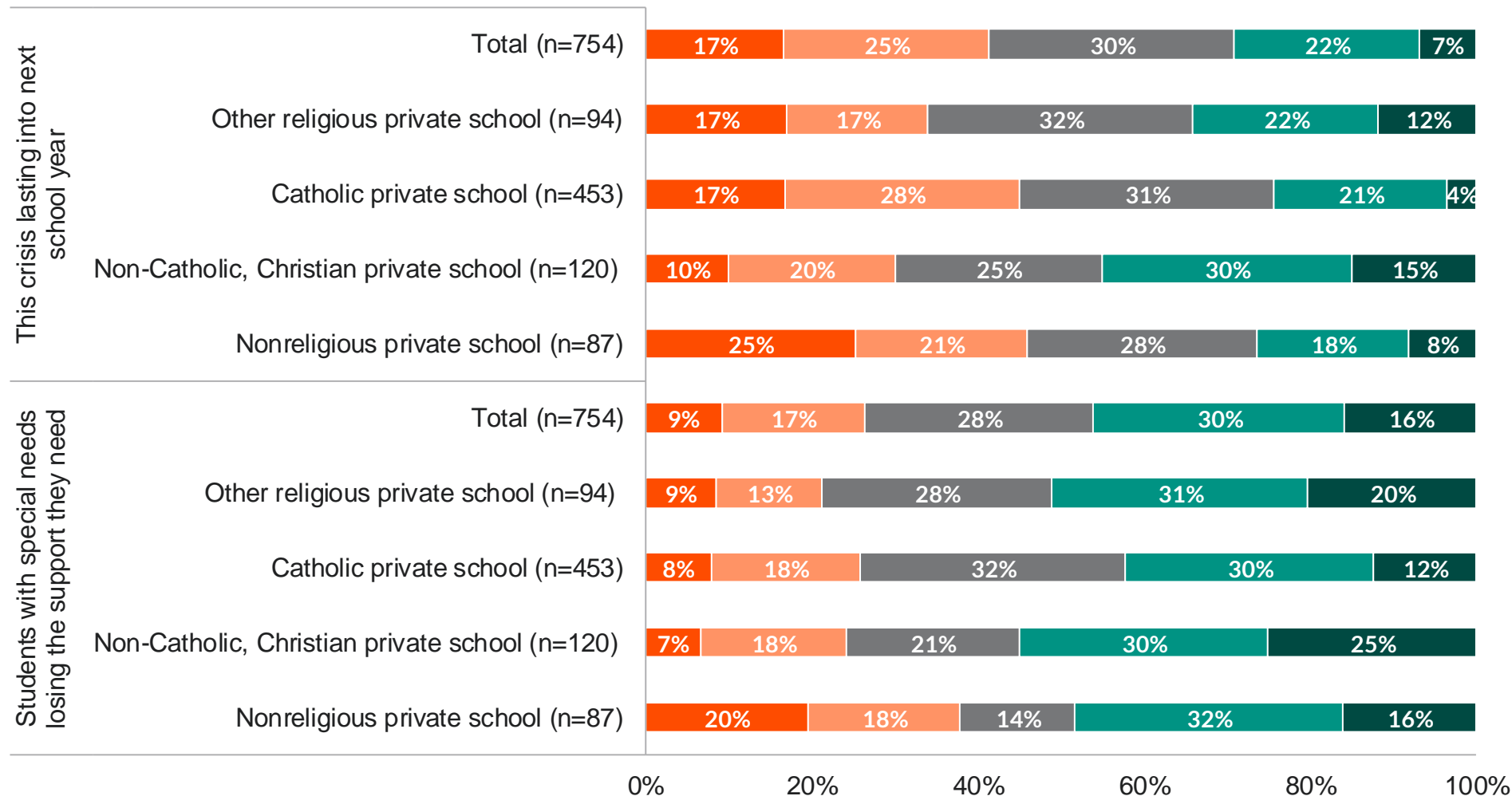
Extremely Worried Very Worried Moderately Worried Slightly Worried Not at All Worried



WORRIES OVER COVID-19 ISSUES (BY GROUP)

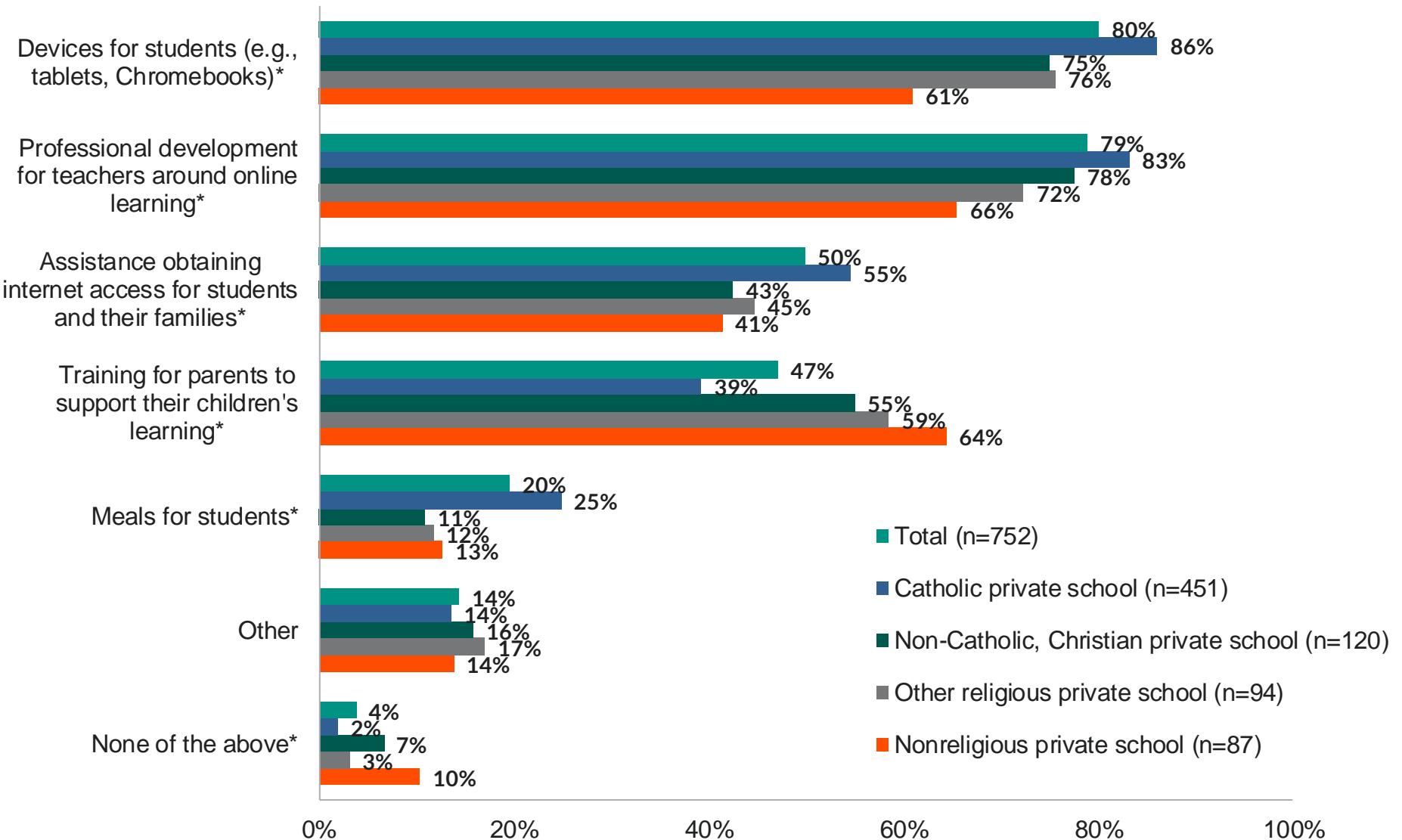
How worried are you about each of the following issues? (by group)

■ Extremely Worried
 ■ Very Worried
 ■ Moderately Worried
 ■ Slightly Worried
 ■ Not at All Worried



RESOURCES

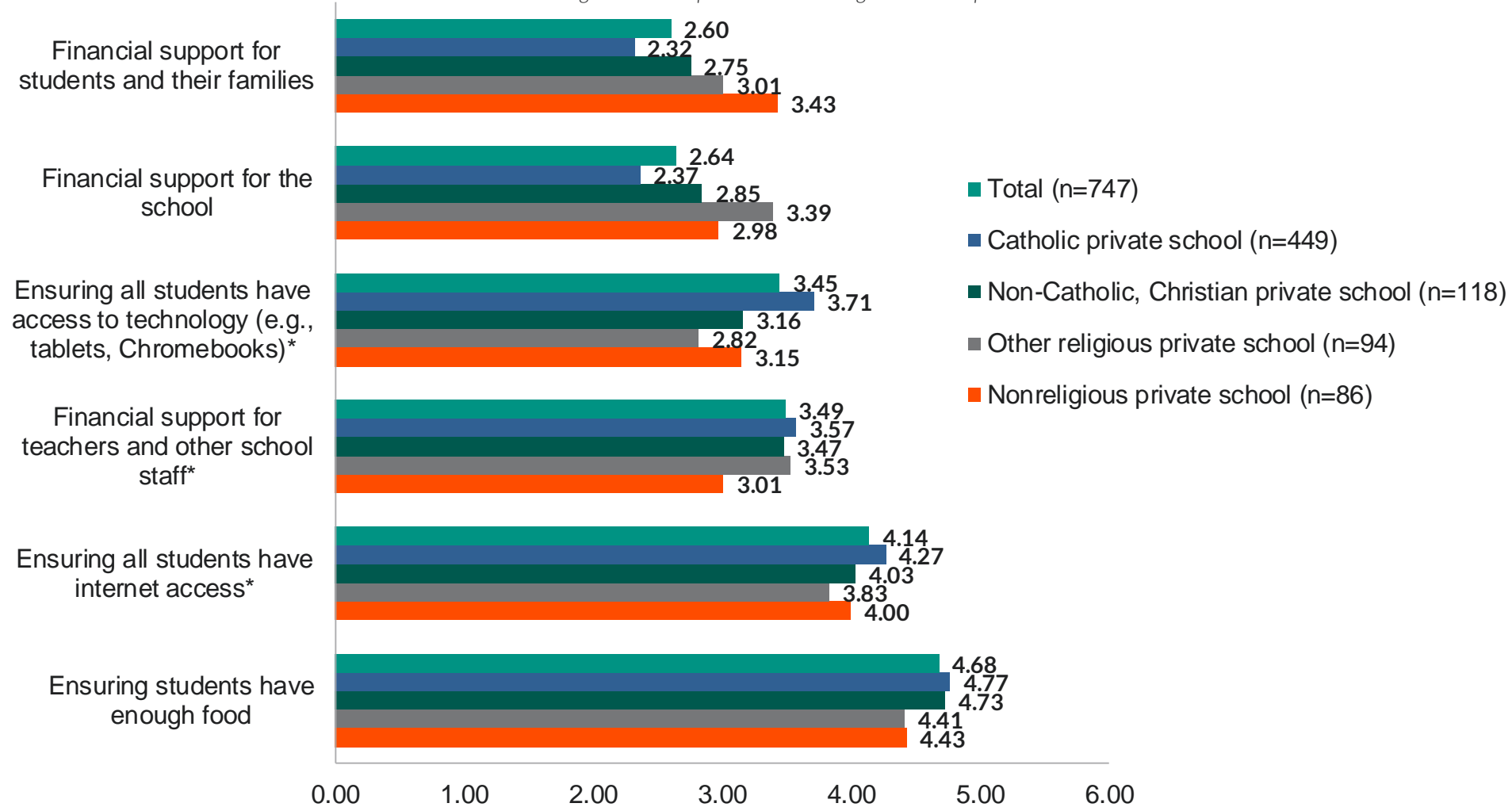
Which of the following resources or support has your school offered?



AREAS FOR PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

If you were speaking to a potential donor, what needs does your school have that could use philanthropic support?

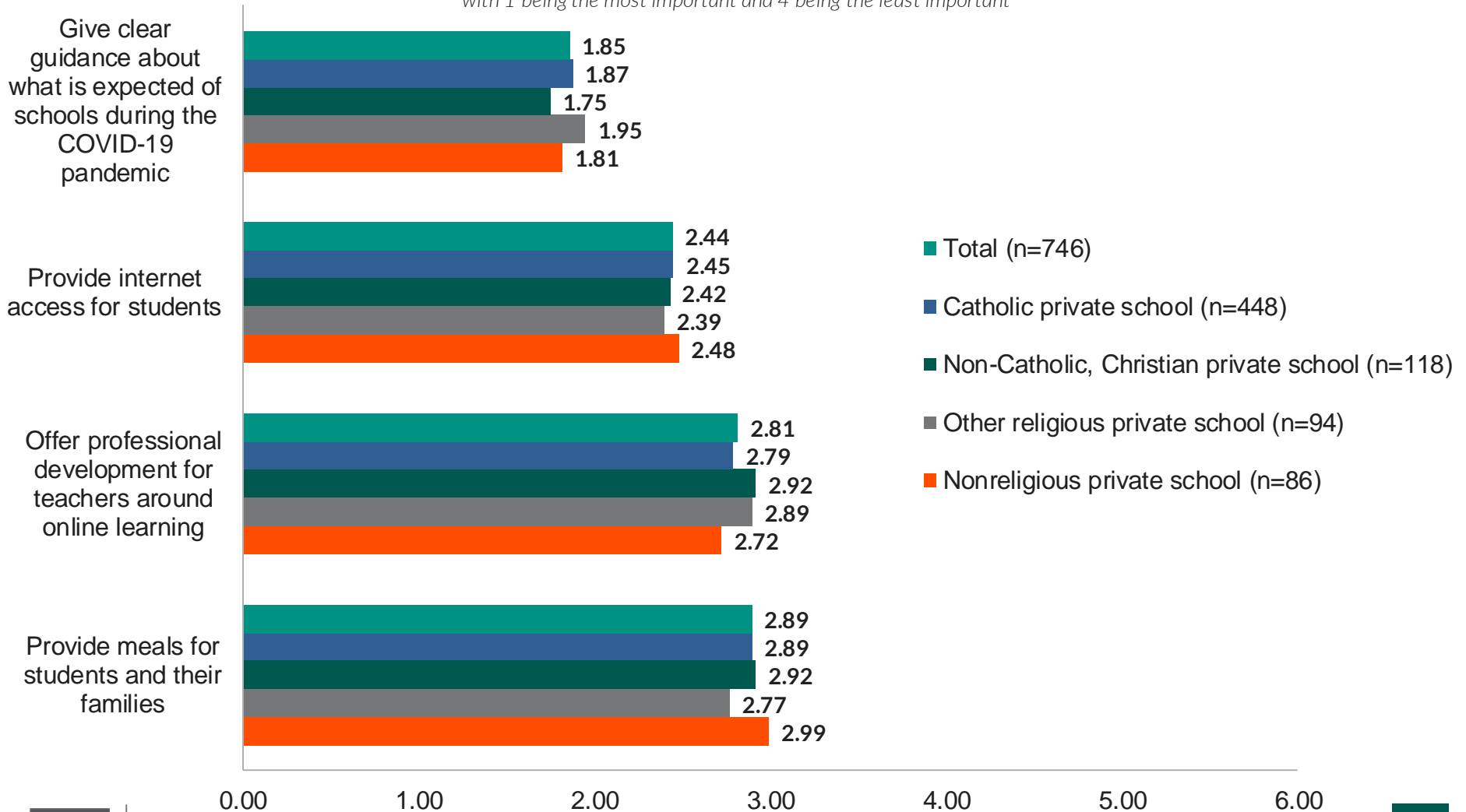
with 1 being the most important and 6 being the least important



AREAS FOR GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

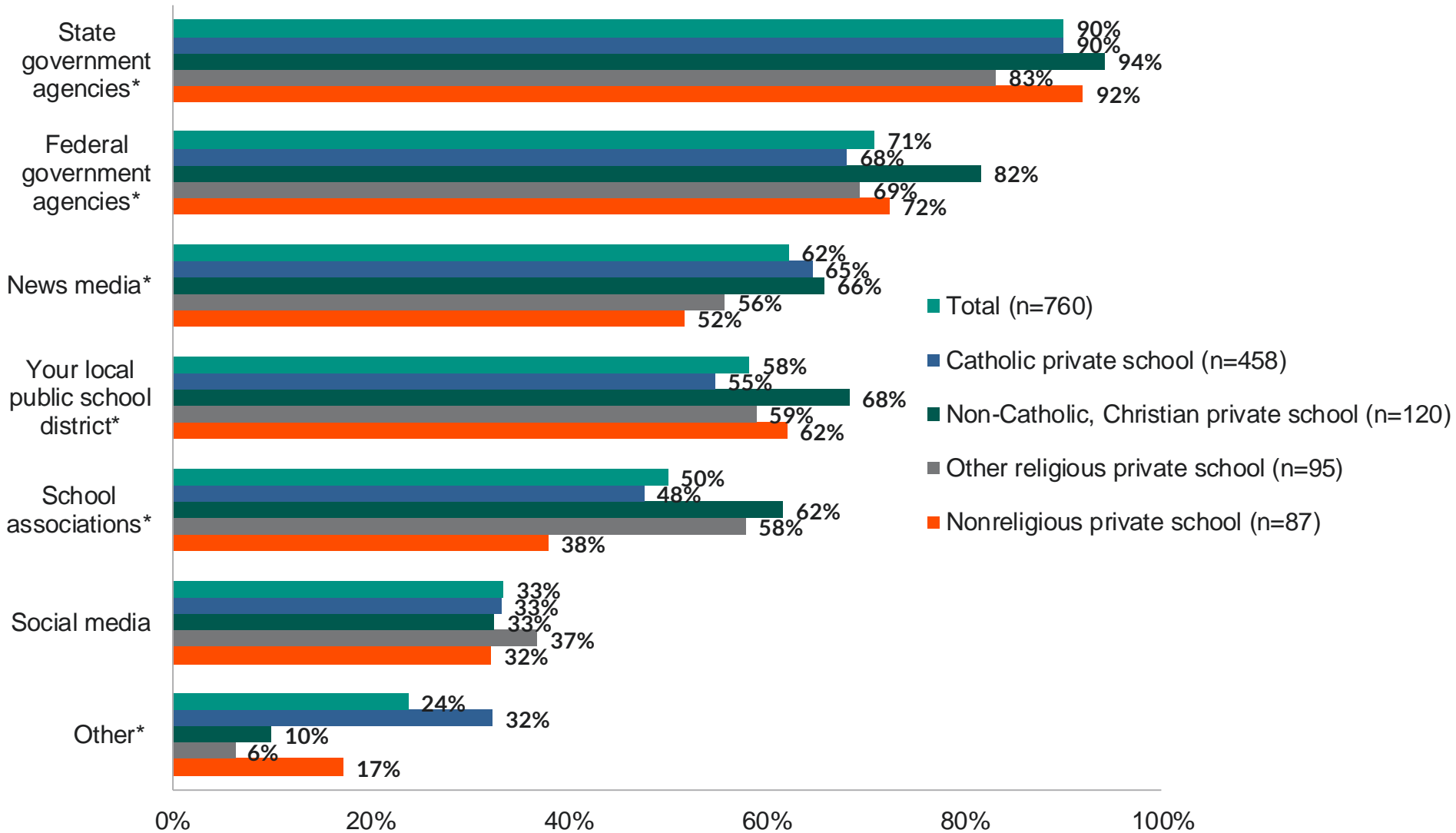
If you were speaking to your Governor or Mayor, what steps could state or local governments take to help your school?

with 1 being the most important and 4 being the least important



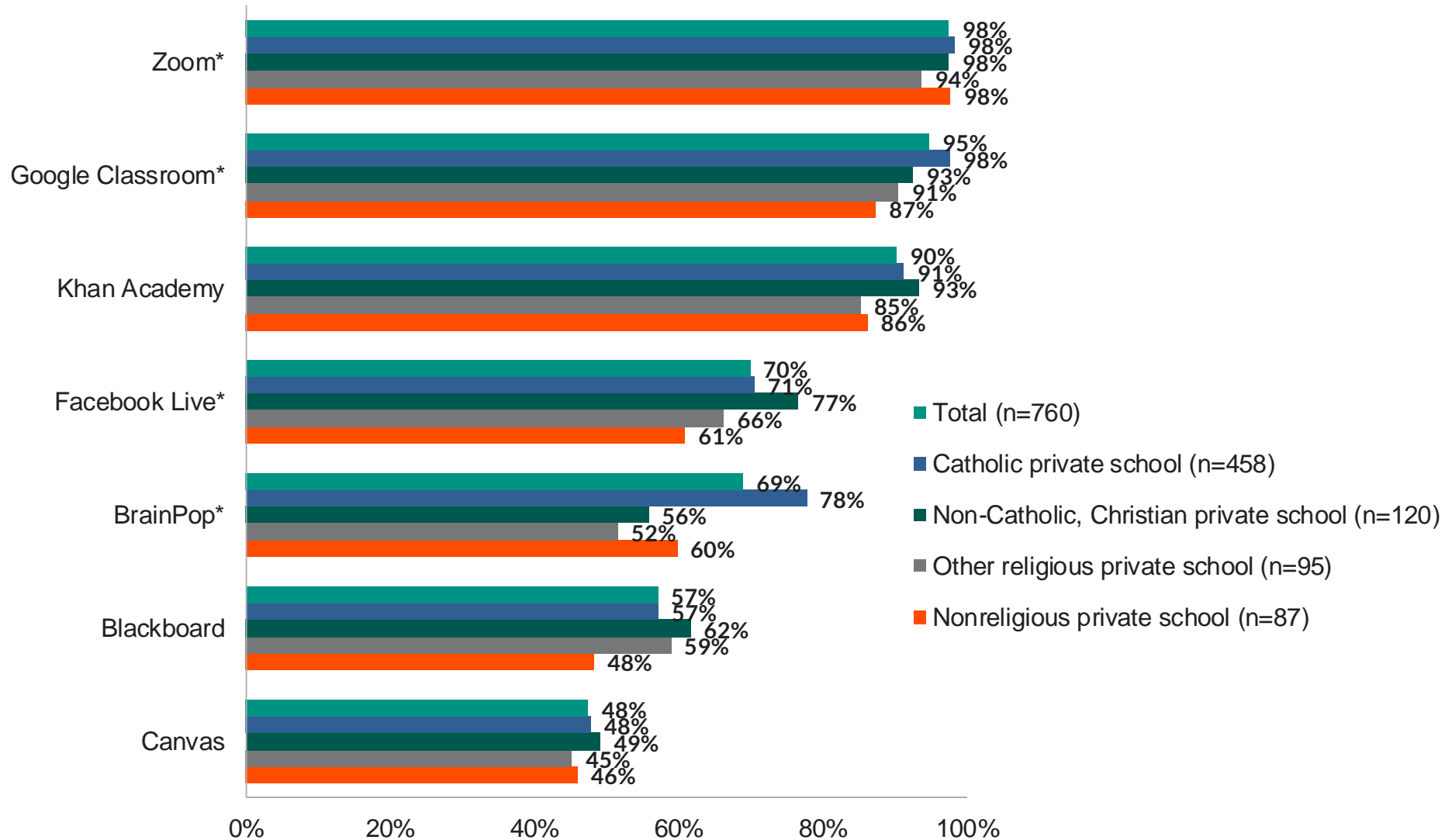
INFORMATION SOURCES

Which of the following sources have you relied on for information about COVID-19 and schools?



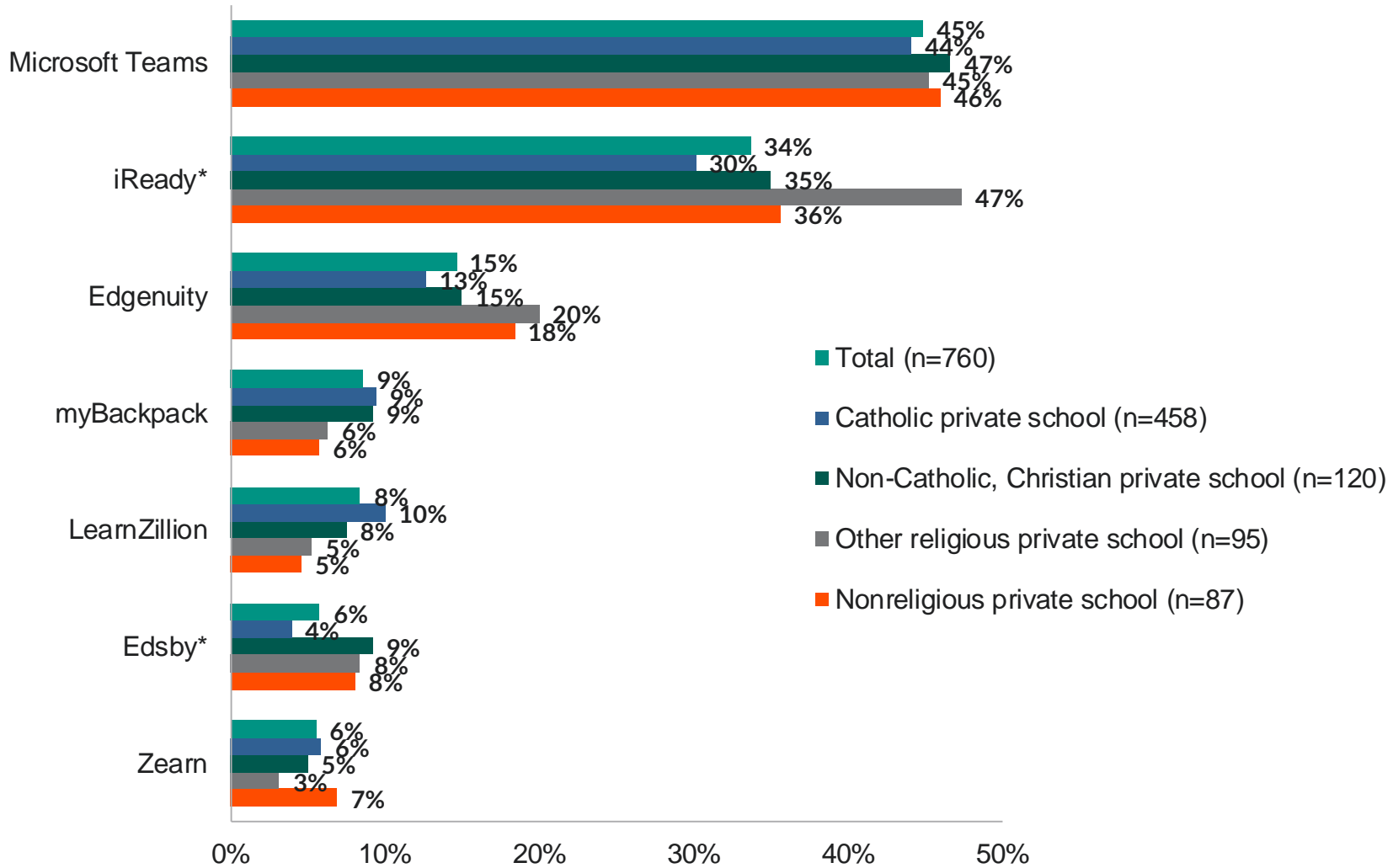
FAMILIARITY WITH ONLINE LEARNING TOOLS

Which of the following learning tools have you heard of?



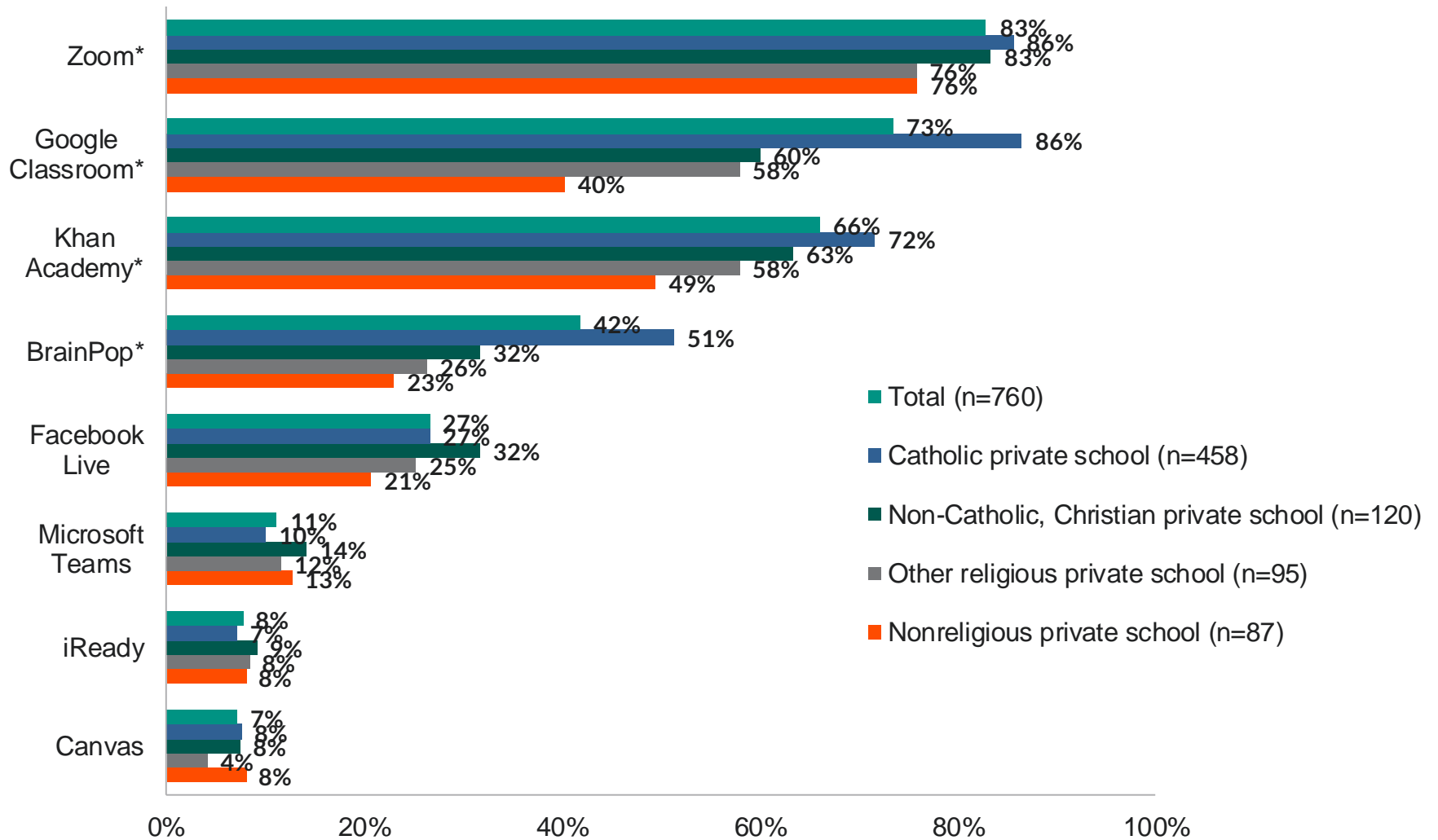
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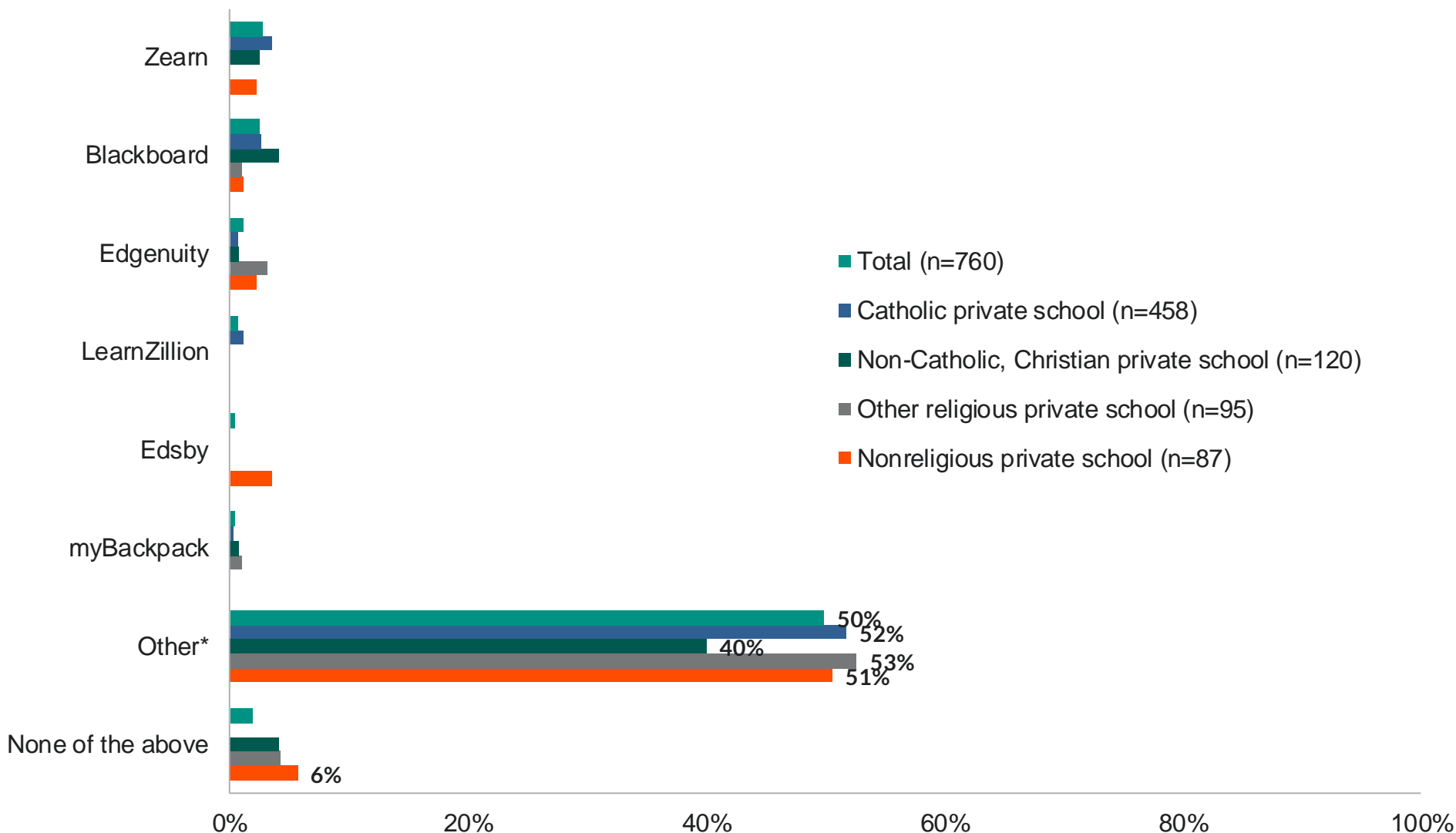
USE OF ONLINE LEARNING TOOLS

Which of the following learning tools is your school using?



USE OF ONLINE LEARNING TOOLS

Which of the following learning tools is your school using?



APPENDIX: SURVEY PROFILE AND SUMMARY STATISTICS

SURVEY PROFILE, 1

Dates	April 1 to 17, 2020
Survey Data Collection & Quality Control	Hanover Research
Survey Sponsor	EdChoice
Population	Private School Leaders, Administrators, Educators (U.S.)
Sampling Frame	Lists generated and obtained by EdChoice, Hanover Research
Sampling Method	Sample lists generated and obtained by EdChoice, Hanover Research
Mode	Online Survey
Language	English

SURVEY PROFILE, 2

Sample Size	Total, N = 771 (Principals, n = 647; Administrators, n = 93; Teachers, n = 7)
Oversampling?	None
Quotas?	None
Weighting?	None
Margin of Error (adjusted for weighting)	n/a
Participation Rate	n/a
Project Contact	Paul DiPerna, paul@edchoice.org

PRIVATE SCHOOL TYPE

Type of Private School	Count	Percentage
Catholic private school	467	61%
Non-Catholic, Christian private school	120	16%
Other religious private school	96	12%
Nonreligious private school	88	11%

n=771

Respondents by State

Florida	29%	Alabama	1%
Texas	7%	New Hampshire	1%
California	7%	Georgia	1%
Pennsylvania	6%	Oregon	1%
Illinois	6%	Virginia	1%
Ohio	4%	Arkansas	<1%
Indiana	3%	Delaware	<1%
Massachusetts	3%	Idaho	<1%
Nebraska	2%	Kansas	<1%
New York	2%	Mississippi	<1%
Minnesota	2%	New Mexico	<1%
New Jersey	2%	Rhode Island	<1%
Michigan	2%	South Dakota	<1%
South Carolina	2%	West Virginia	<1%
Arizona	2%	Colorado	<1%
Iowa	2%	District of Columbia	<1%
Washington	2%	North Carolina	<1%
Missouri	1%	Oklahoma	<1%
Nevada	1%	Vermont	<1%
Connecticut	1%	Alaska	<1%
Maryland	1%	Maine	<1%
Wisconsin	1%	North Dakota	<1%
Kentucky	1%	Puerto Rico	<1%
Louisiana	1%	Utah	<1%
Tennessee	1%		

n=771

SCHOOL CHOICE PARTICIPATION, SCHOOL SIZE, AND GRADE LEVEL

Does your school currently participate in a publicly funded school choice program?	
Yes	51%
No	47%
Unsure	2%

n=771

School Size	
Small (Under 100 Students)	23%
Medium (Between 100 and 250 Students)	40%
Large (Over 250 Students)	37%

n=771

Grade Levels	
% of schools serving at least one grade in Elementary School (K-5), Middle School (6-8), or High School (9-12)	
Elementary School	90%
Middle School	88%
High School	33%

n=771

AVERAGE INCOME AND TUITION LEVELS

What is the average annual household income of your student population?	
Less than \$47,000	26%
\$47,000 to \$99,999	41%
\$100,000 or more	11%
Unsure	22%

n=771

What is the <u>annual</u> average (per student) tuition and fees at your school?	
Kindergarten (n=566)	\$6,129.51
Elementary School (n=572)	\$6,323.93
Middle School (n=527)	\$6,606.95
High School (n=246)	\$8,433.25



Thank you.

CONTACT

Jee Deogracias
Senior Content Director

E: jdeogracias@hanoverresearch.com

P: 202-517-6254

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