



# ASSESSMENT AND SUPPORT FOR ACTION ON CHILD AND YOUTH HEALTHCARE

Conducted for Children's Healthcare Canada

November 2023

# Methodology

- Sample size: 2,000 adult Canadians.
- Survey field dates: November 9 to 12, 2023.
- The data was weighted by age, gender, education and region.
- Totals may not add up to 100 due to rounding.



# Key Findings

- Creating an accessible, strong children's healthcare system in Canada still receives very high levels of support, in fact, intensity of support has risen since January of this year.
  - 94% of Canadians agree we need to improve Canada's healthcare system to better meet the needs of children and youth in Canada including 57% who strongly agree (up from 47% earlier this year). Support is still strong across the country and among parents and non-parents alike.
  - 93% of Canadians also agree governments in Canada should be doing more to ensure every child can achieve health and wellness.
- The prioritization of children and youth healthcare in Canada is likely due to, at least in part, to the current challenges Canadians see in the system.
  - 83% of Canadians are concerned about long delays in accessing time-sensitive healthcare services for children and youth.
  - Only half of Canadian parents (59%) are confident they can access necessary healthcare services for their children right now.
  - Half of Canadians are aware of negative impacts caused by delays in access to healthcare services. 8% of parents have experienced these challenges themselves- among toddler parents a quarter (24%) have first-hand experience.
- Finally, despite high levels of concern and personal challenges with the healthcare system, nearly all assume Canada is doing better than it is when compared to our counterparts. Only 8% guess Canada is at the back of the pack compared to other wealthy countries.
  - Along with the data above, there is an opportunity to capitalize on these results. Most Canadians are concerned about the state of healthcare in Canada but, based on where they rank Canada compared to others, likely believe these challenges are the norm. Highlighting Canada's current ranking and that things can be better can further ignite the frustrations and concerns Canadians express with the system today.

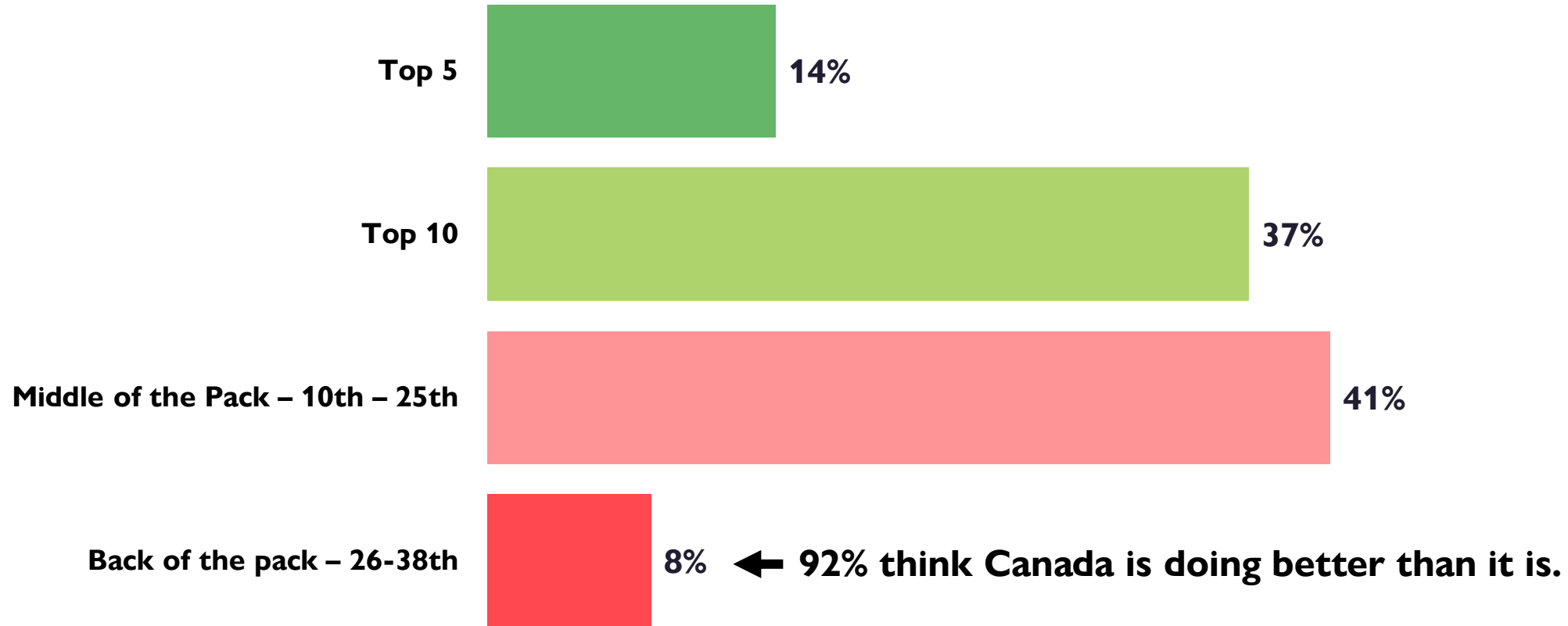
# Results





Compared to other wealthy international countries, where do you believe Canada ranks for the health and well-being of our children? 1st is the highest, 38th is the lowest

## NEARLY ALL CANADIANS ARE OPTIMISITIC ABOUT CANADA'S RANKING ON CHILD HEALTH/WELLBEING

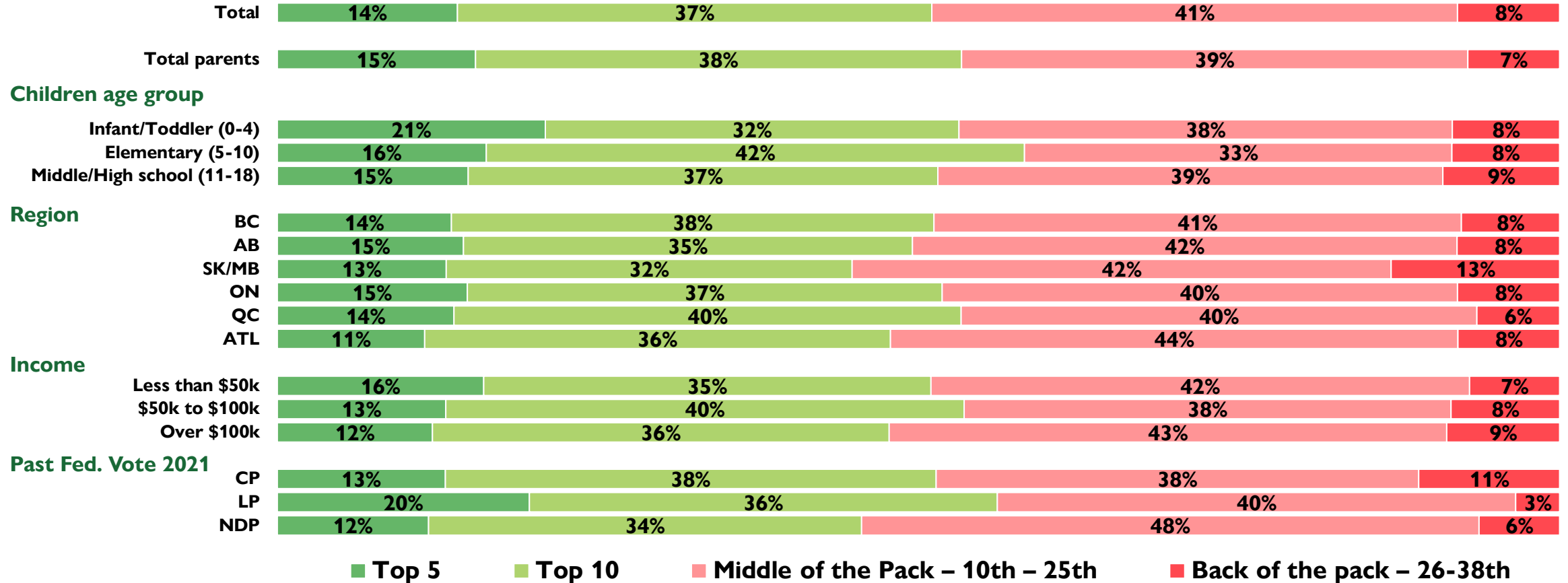


[all] Base n = 2,000



Compared to other wealthy international countries, where do you believe Canada ranks for the health and well-being of our children? 1st is the highest, 38th is the lowest

## WHERE DO YOU BELIEVE CANADA RANKS ON HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF CHILDREN?

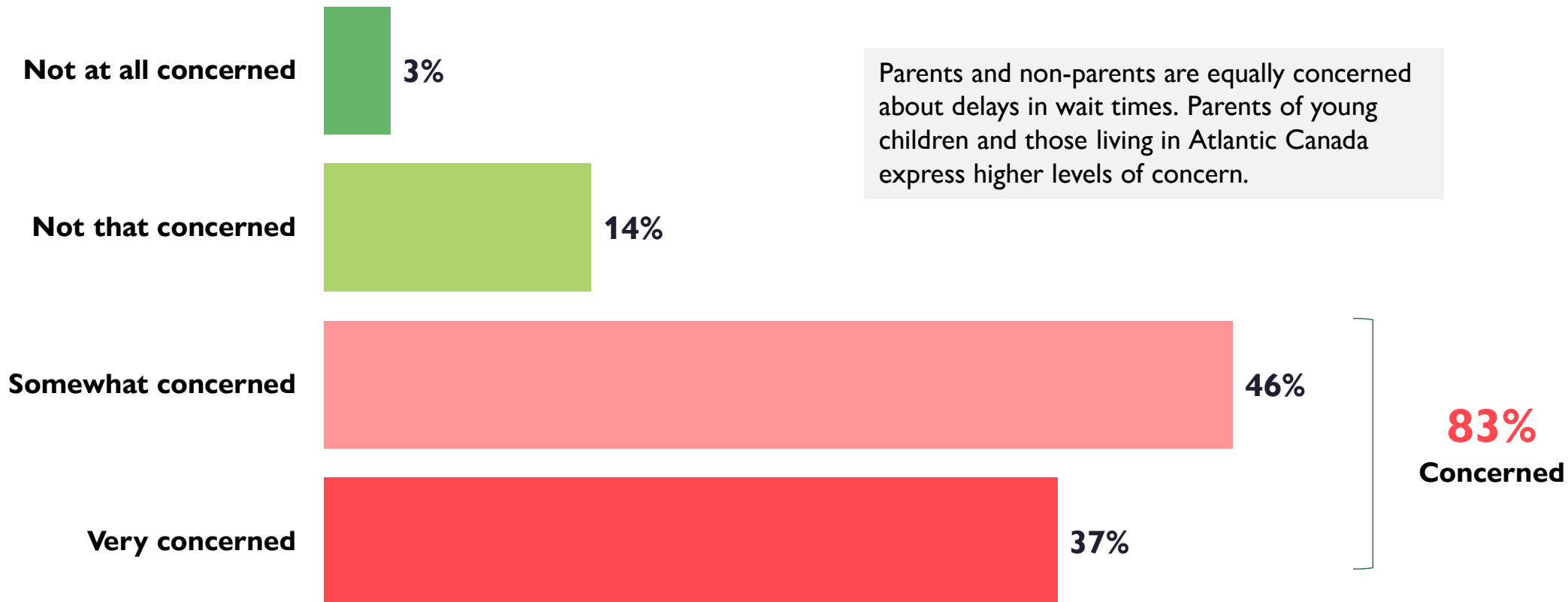


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Please rate your level of concern, if at all, for the following Long delays in access to time-sensitive and essential health services for children and youth in Canada

## HIGH LEVEL OF CONCERN FOR DELAYS IN HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN



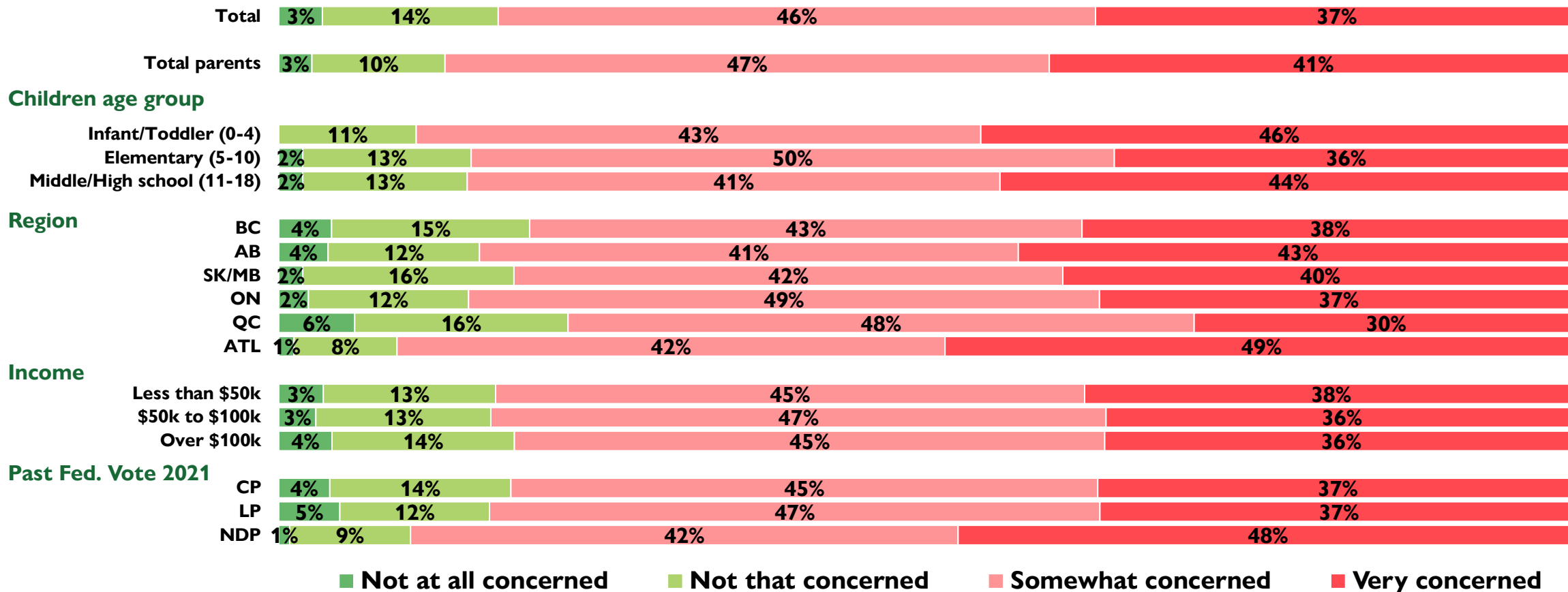
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Please rate your level of concern, if at all, for the following Long delays in access to time-sensitive and essential health services for children and youth in Canada

## LEVEL OF CONCERN FOR DELAYS IN HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN



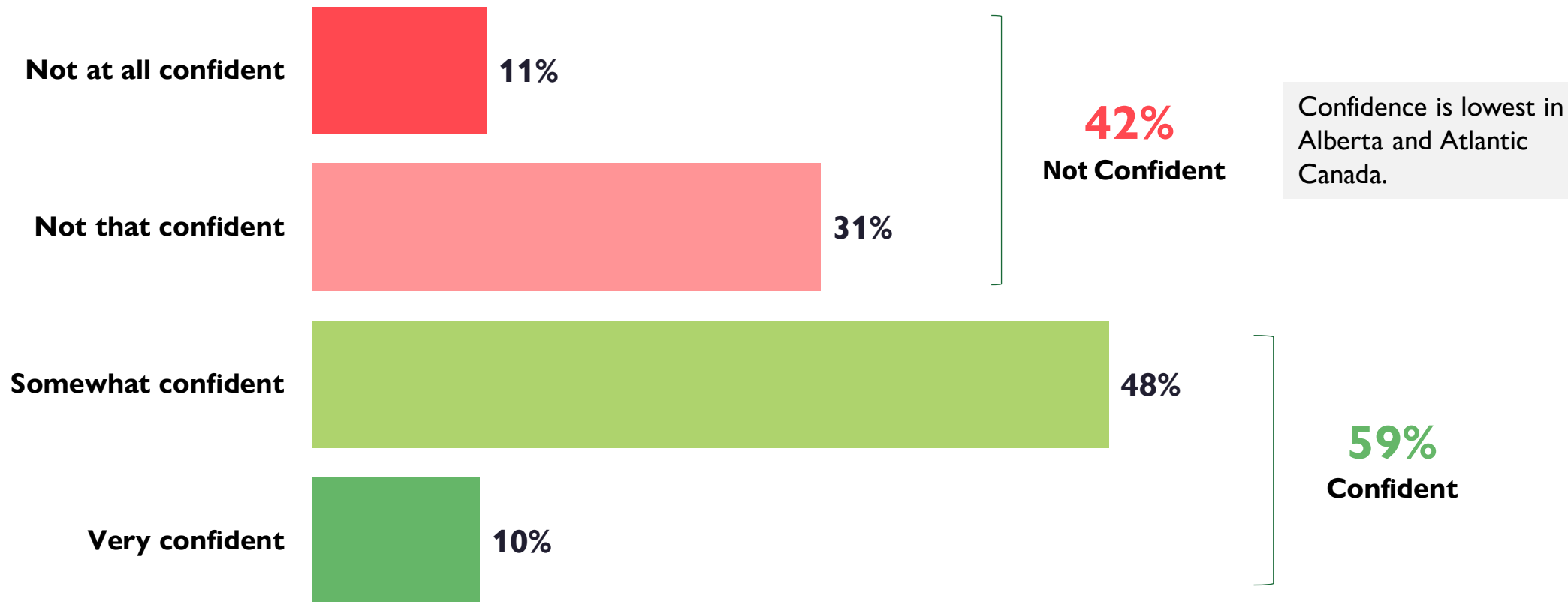
[all] Base n = 2,000





Do you feel confident that you can access necessary healthcare services for your child[ren] right now?

## 4 IN 10 PARENTS AREN'T SURE THEY CAN ACCESS NECESSARY HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR THEIR CHILDREN RIGHT NOW

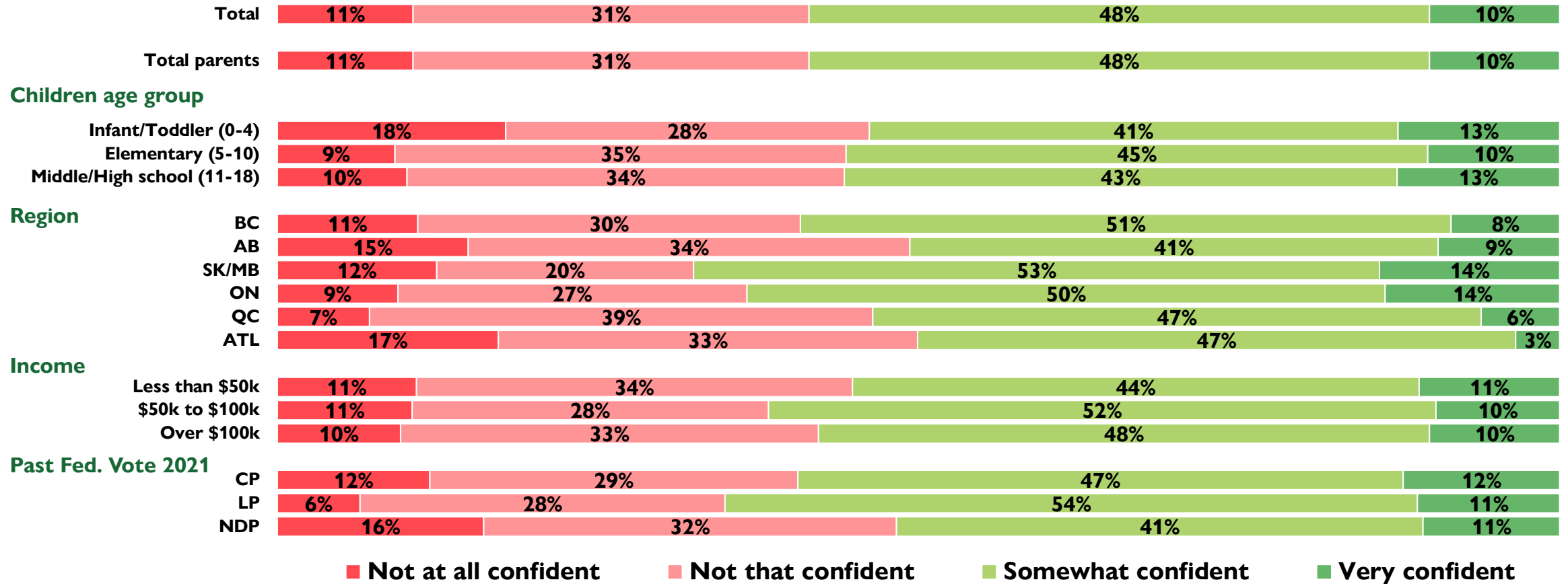


[those who are parents] Base n = 1,069



Do you feel confident that you can access necessary healthcare services for your child[ren] right now?

## CONFIDENT YOU ACCESS HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR YOUR CHILDREN RIGHT NOW?

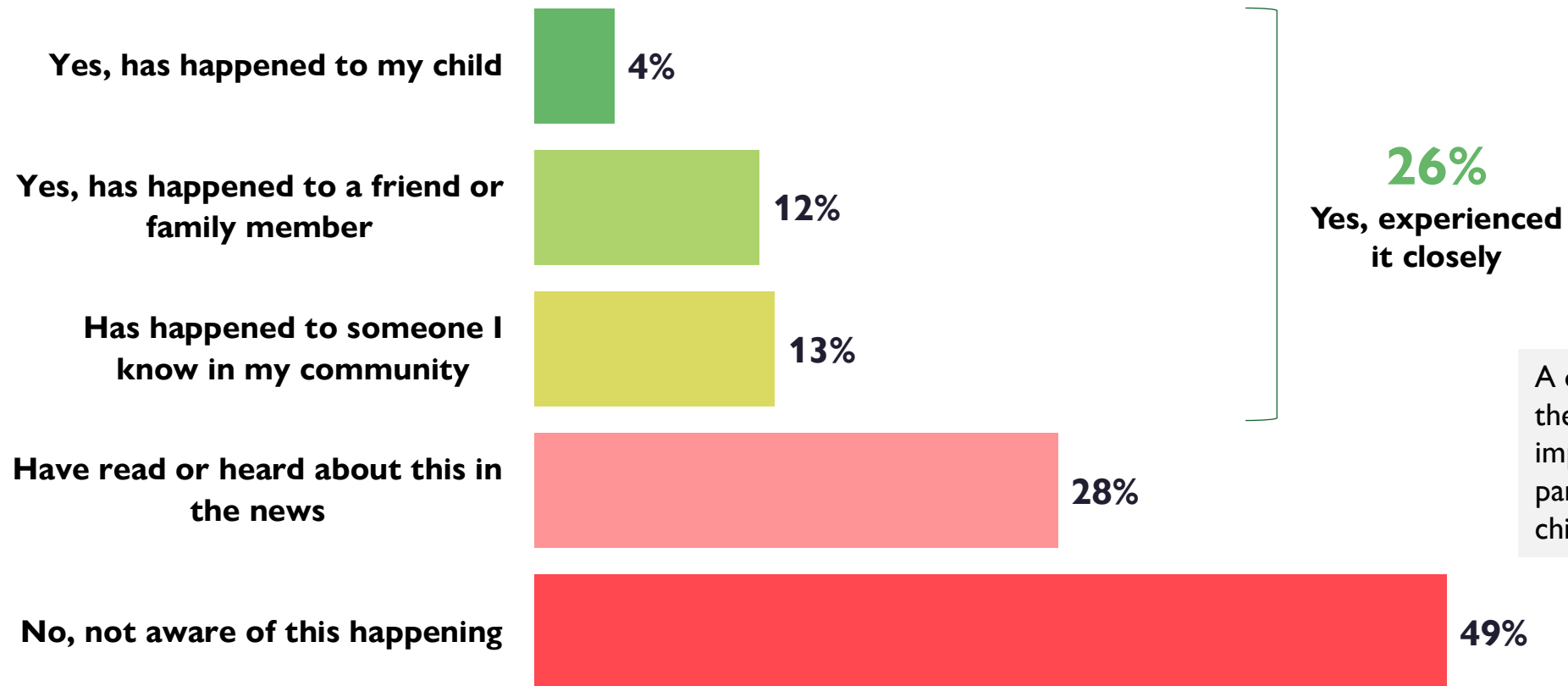


[those who are parents] Base n = 1,069



Are you aware of any children that have been negatively impacted by delays to access health services in the last year? Please select all that apply

## HALF OF CANADIANS ARE AWARE OF NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF DELAYS, A QUARTER HAVE EXPERIENCED THIS CLOSELY



A quarter of toddler parents say their child has been negatively impacted by delays. 1 in 5 parents of elementary- aged children say the same.

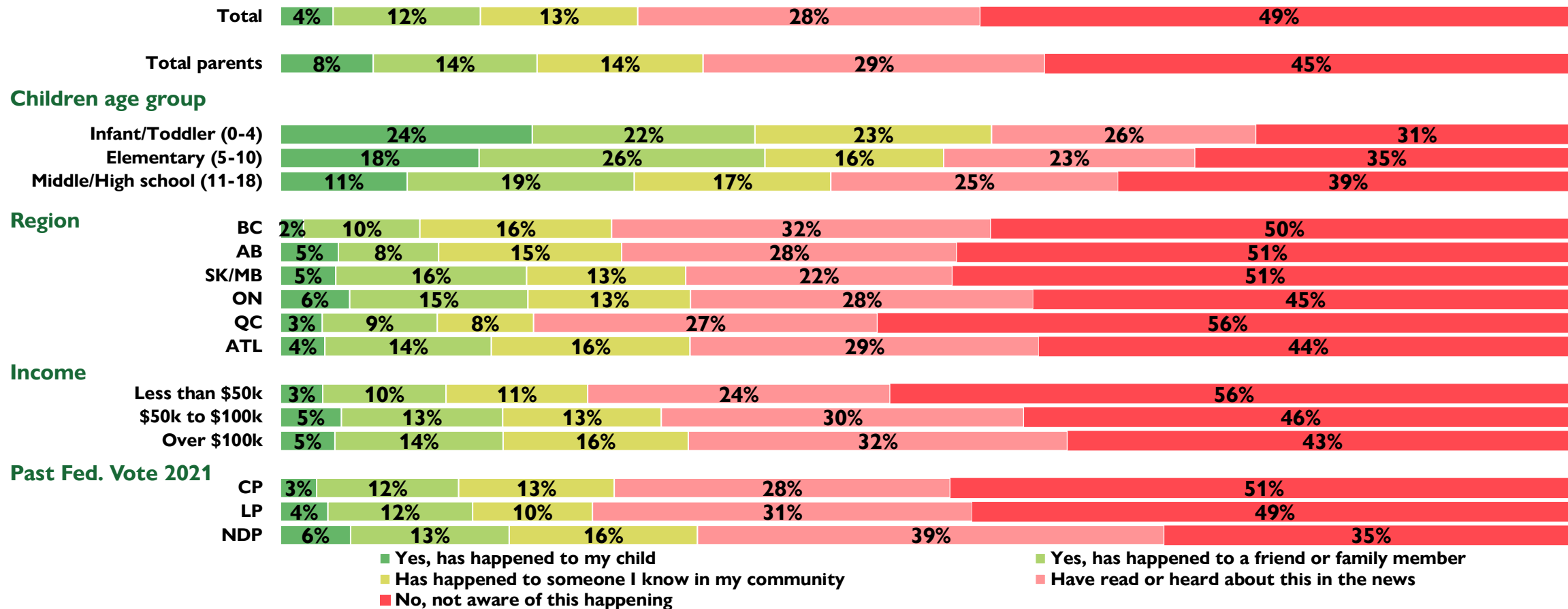
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Are you aware of any children that have been negatively impacted by delays to access health services in the last year? Please select all that apply

## ARE YOU AWARE OF ANY DELAY IN CHILDREN'S HEALTH SERVICES?

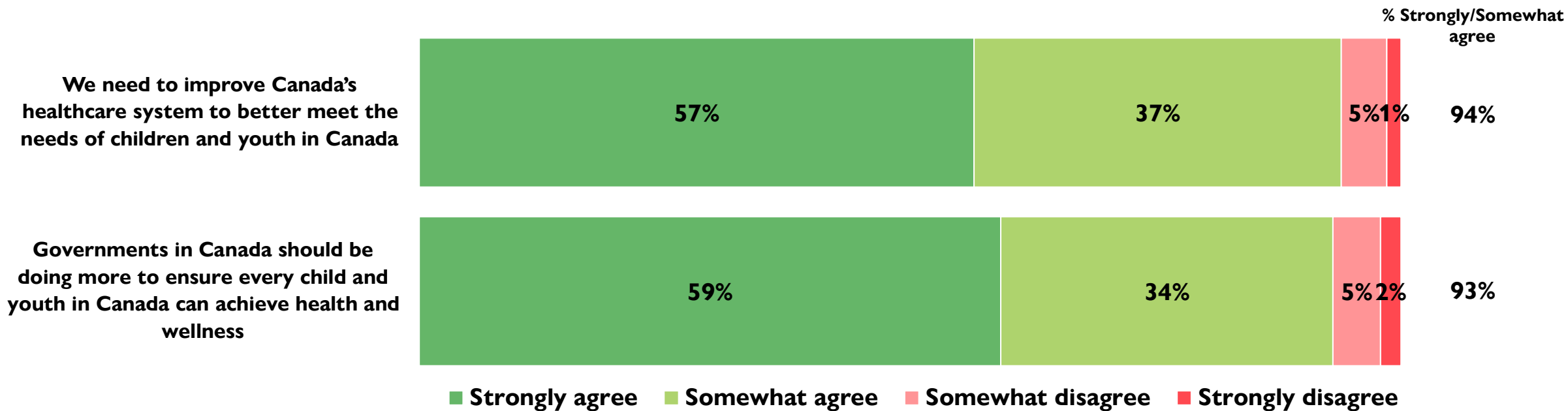


[all] Base n = 2,000



Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

## STRONG SUPPORT FOR MORE ACTION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH HEALTHCARE



On the surface there has been no increase in overall agreement in improving the healthcare system, however the intensity of this sentiment has grown since January. Now 57% strongly agree with this sentiment, up 10 pts since January.

Well over 90% also agree governments in Canada should be doing more to ensure every child and youth in Canada can achieve health and wellness.

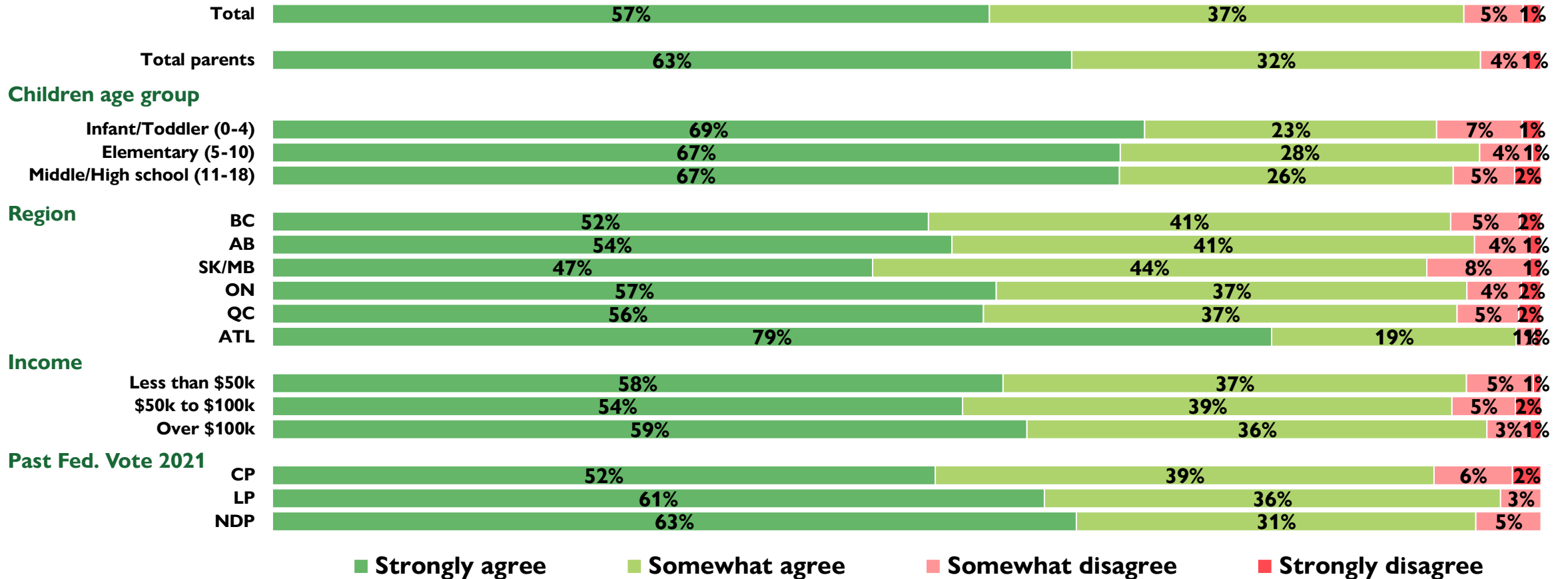
[all] Base n = 2,000



Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

## DO YOU AGREE WITH...

WE NEED TO IMPROVE CANADA'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM TO BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN CANADA



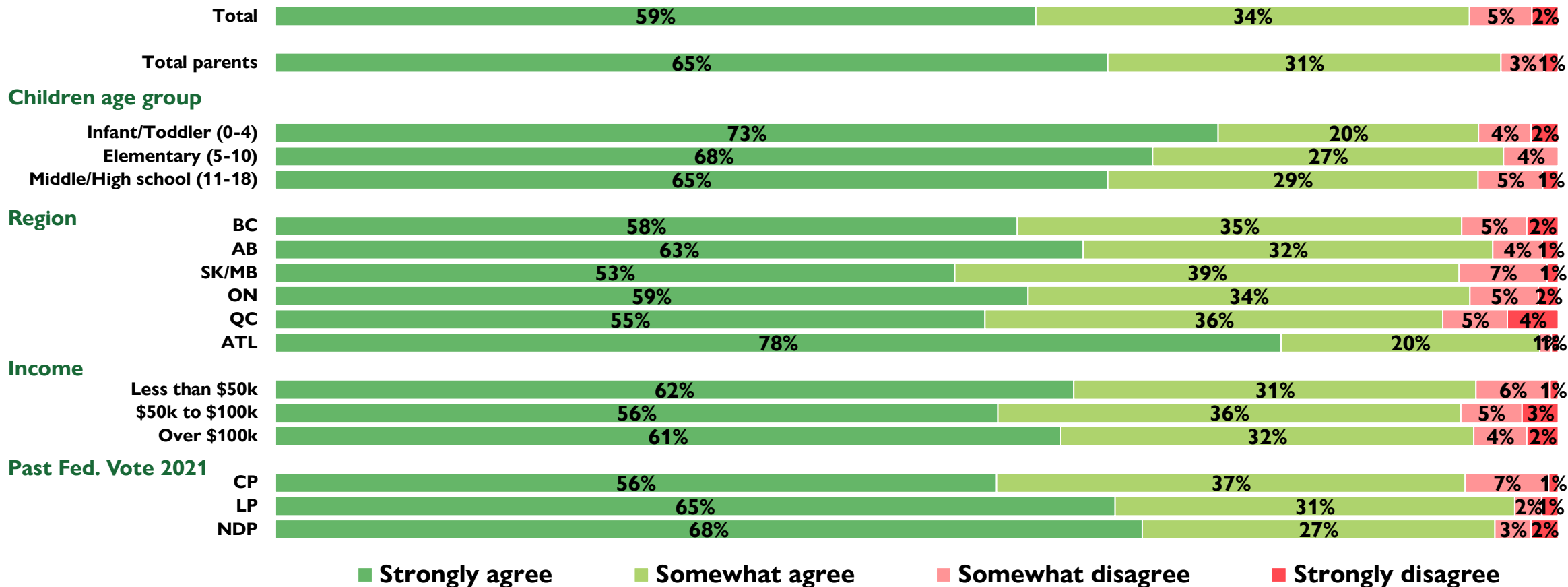
[all] Base n = 2,000



Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

## DO YOU AGREE WITH...

GOVERNMENTS IN CANADA SHOULD BE DOING MORE TO ENSURE EVERY CHILD AND YOUTH IN CANADA CAN ACHIEVE HEALTH AND WELLNESS



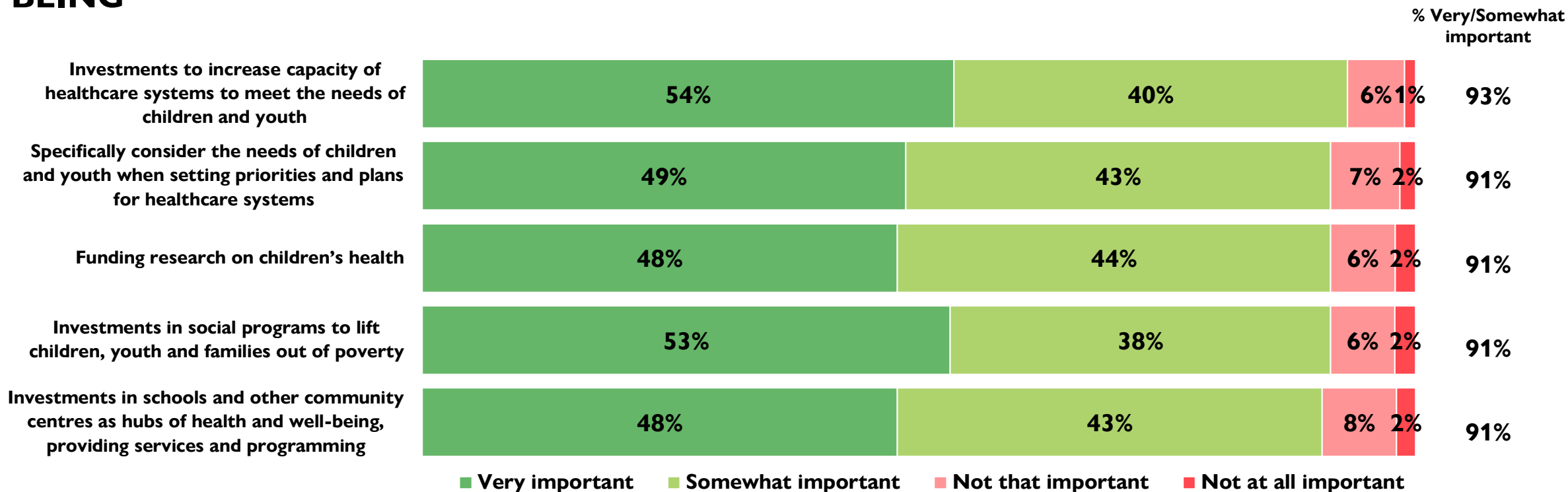
[all] Base n = 2,000





Are the following very important, somewhat important, not that important or not at all important for improving child health and well-being in Canada?

## STRONG SUPPORT FOR ALL ACTIONS TO IMPROVE CHILD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



All actions receive support of 90% or higher. Canadians are especially supportive of investments in social programs to lift children, youth and families out of poverty and investments to increase the capacity of the healthcare system.

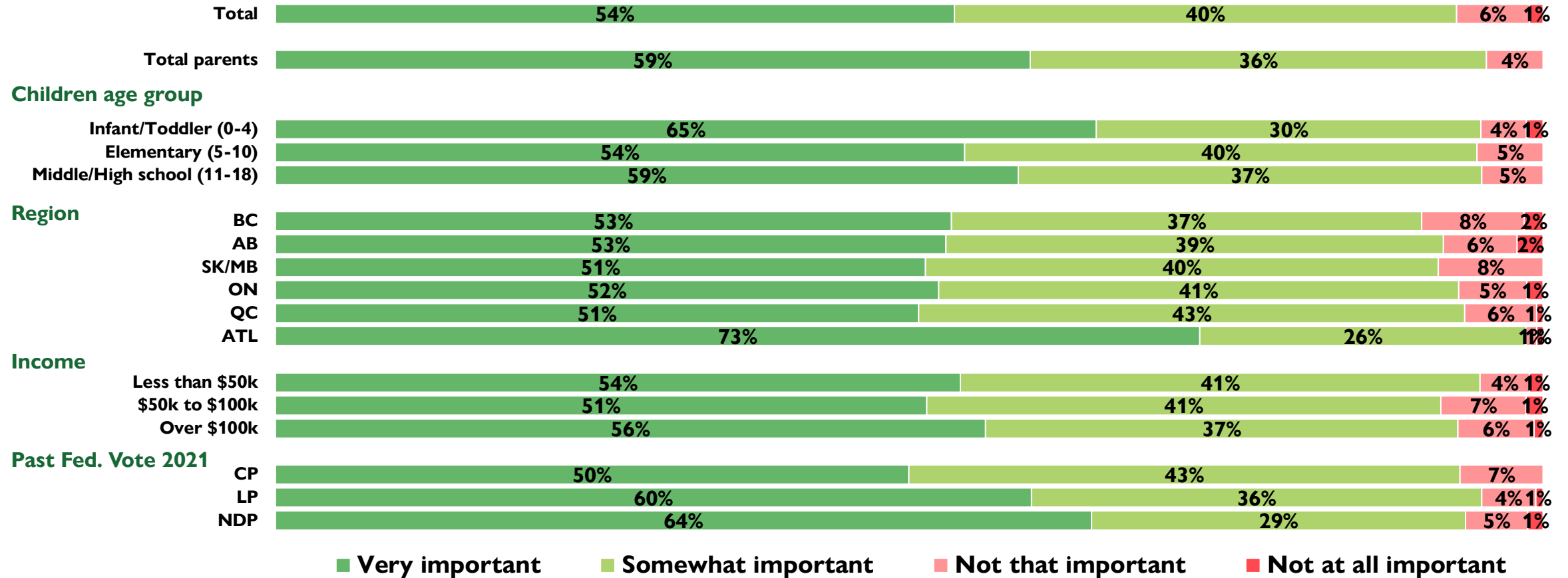
[all] Base n = 2,000



Are the following very important, somewhat important, not that important or not at all important for improving child health and well-being in Canada?

# Actions to improve child health and well-being in Canada

## Investments to increase capacity of healthcare systems to meet the needs of children and youth



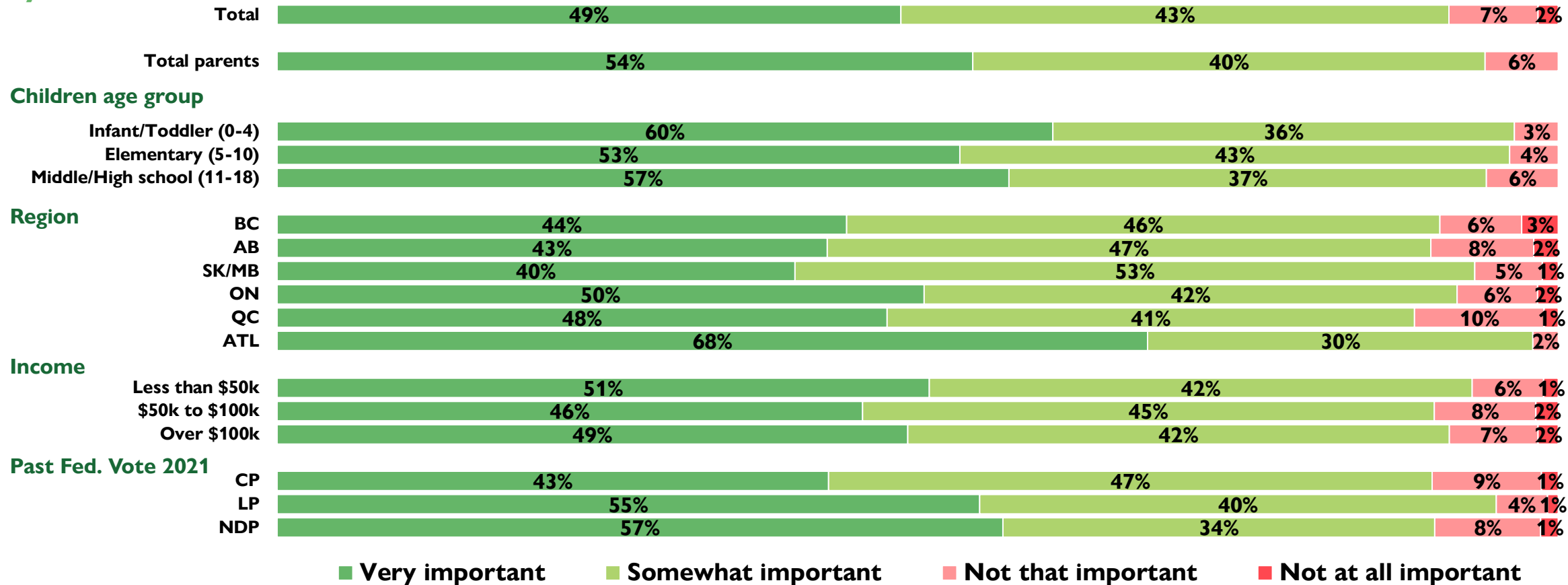
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Are the following very important, somewhat important, not that important or not at all important for improving child health and well-being in Canada?

# Actions to improve child health and well-being in Canada

Specifically consider the needs of children and youth when setting priorities and plans for healthcare systems



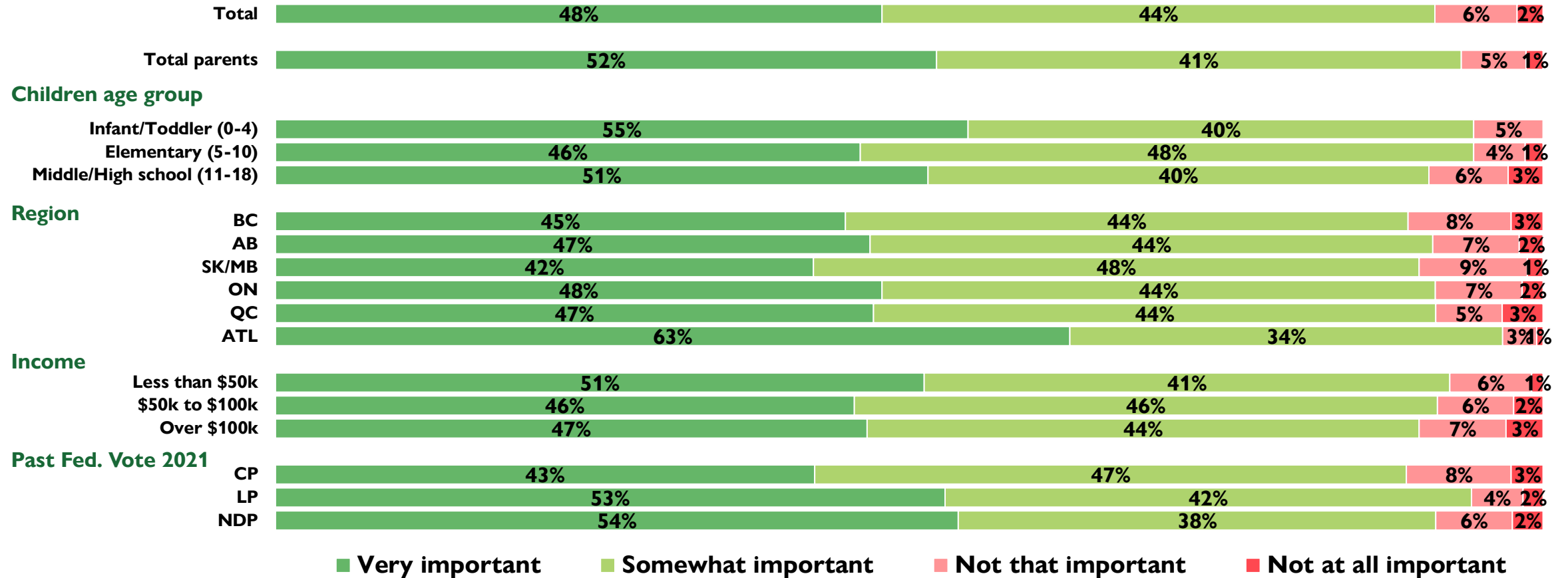
[all] Base n = 2,000



Are the following very important, somewhat important, not that important or not at all important for improving child health and well-being in Canada?

# Actions to improve child health and well-being in Canada

## Funding research on children's health



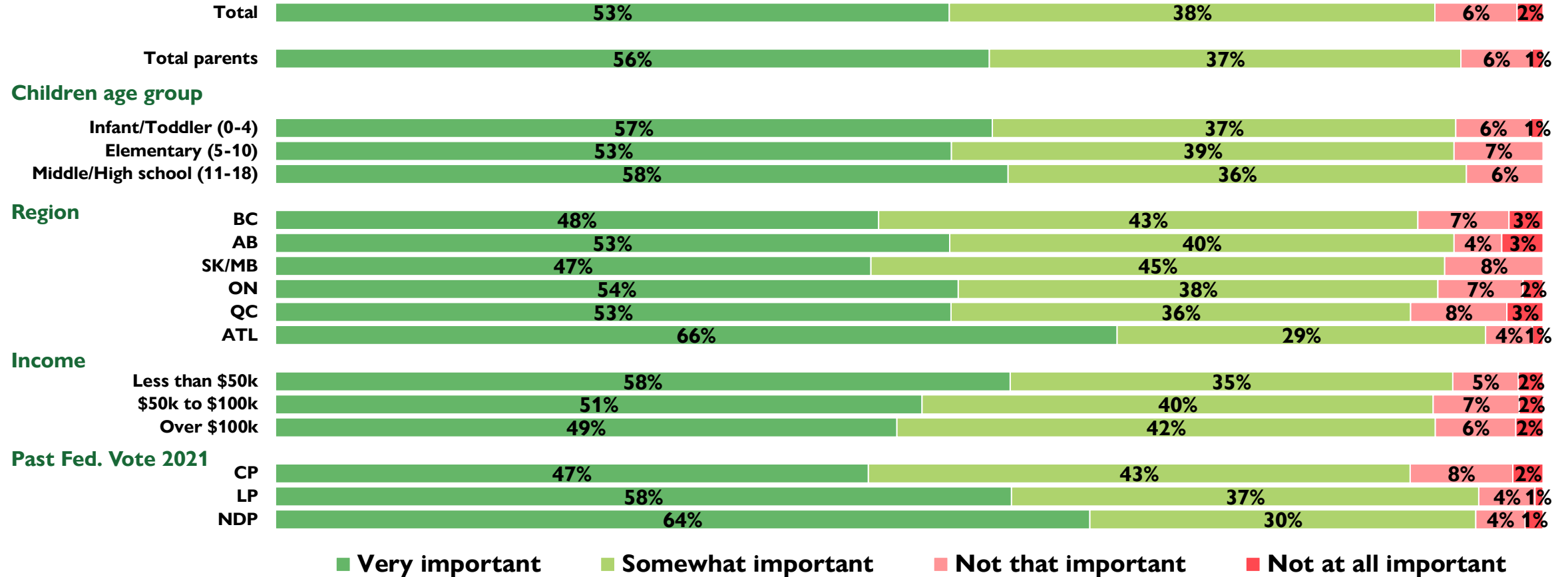
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Are the following very important, somewhat important, not that important or not at all important for improving child health and well-being in Canada?

# Actions to improve child health and well-being in Canada

## Investments in social programs to lift children, youth and families out of poverty



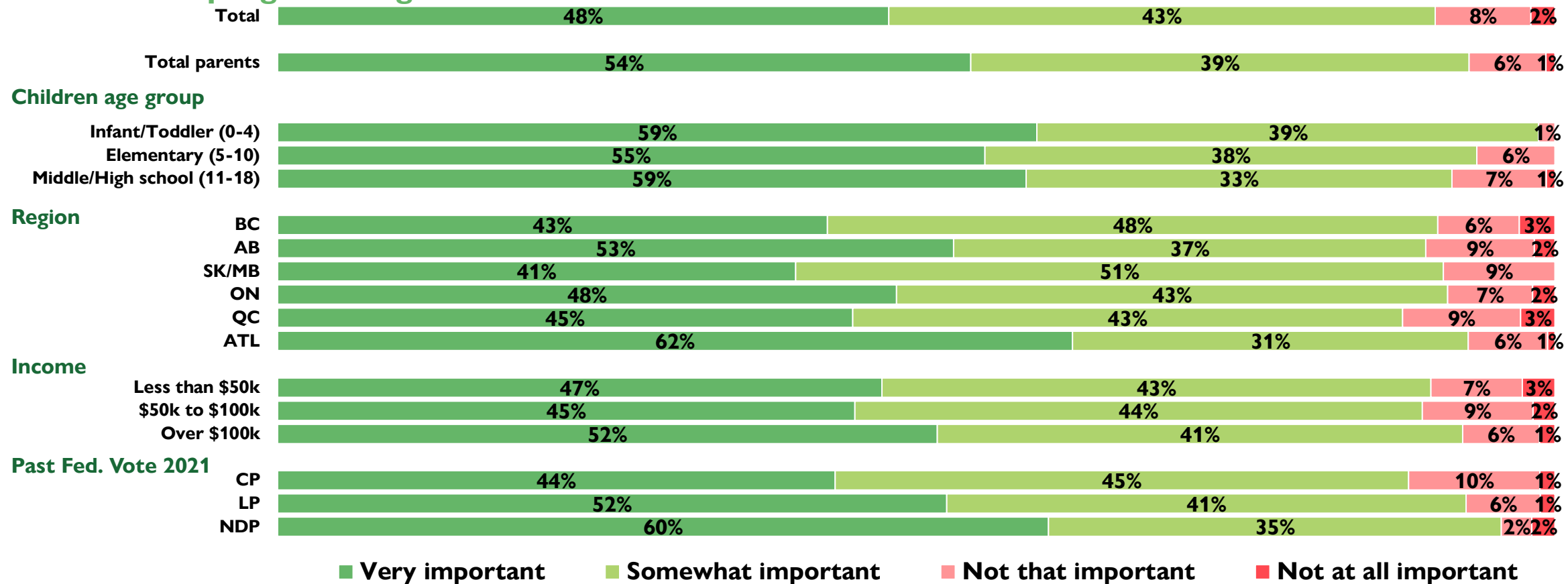
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Are the following very important, somewhat important, not that important or not at all important for improving child health and well-being in Canada?

# Actions to improve child health and well-being in Canada

## Investments in schools and other community centres as hubs of health and well-being, providing services and programming



[all] Base n = 2,000