OEQA 2025 First Year Teacher Survey Report

Office for Educational Quality and Accountability

May 21, 2025

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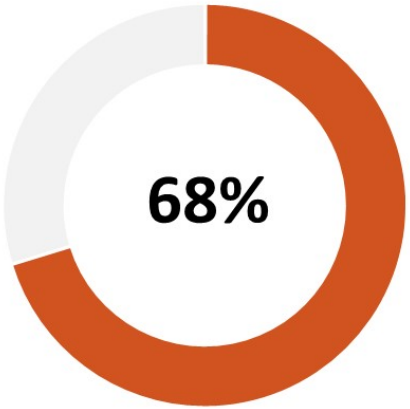
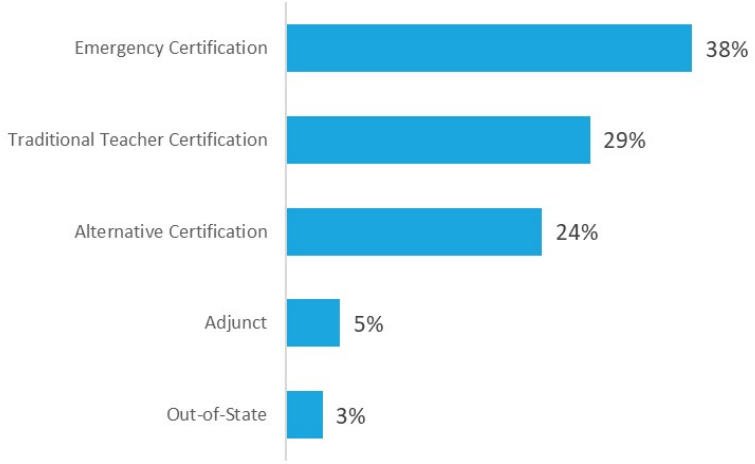
Response Rate and Makeup

The surveys summarized in this report were administered to teachers in their first year of teaching in the spring of 2025.
First Year Teachers Contacted = 2,912; Survey Respondents = 1,163 ; Response Rate = 40%

More than two thirds of respondents are not traditionally certified



Through which route did you receive your teaching license?



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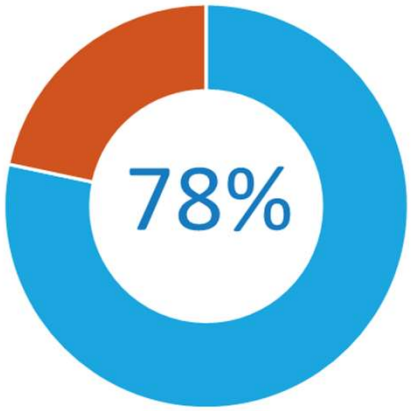
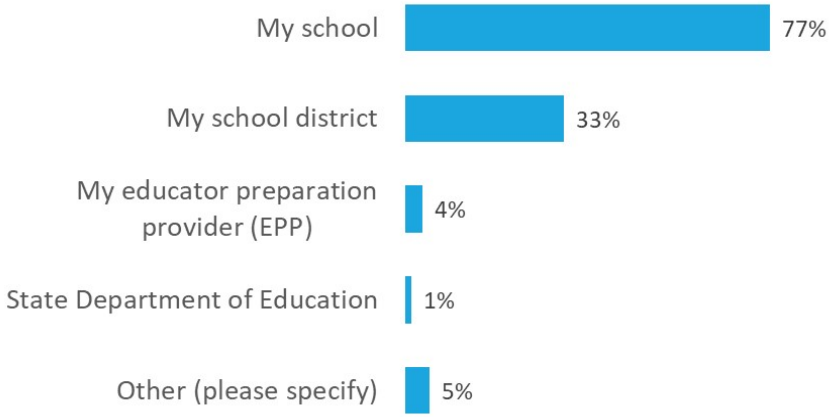
Who Provided First Year Teachers with Prep and Mentoring?

Three quarters of teachers reported having a designated mentor/support person



Who assigned you a mentor/support person for this school year?



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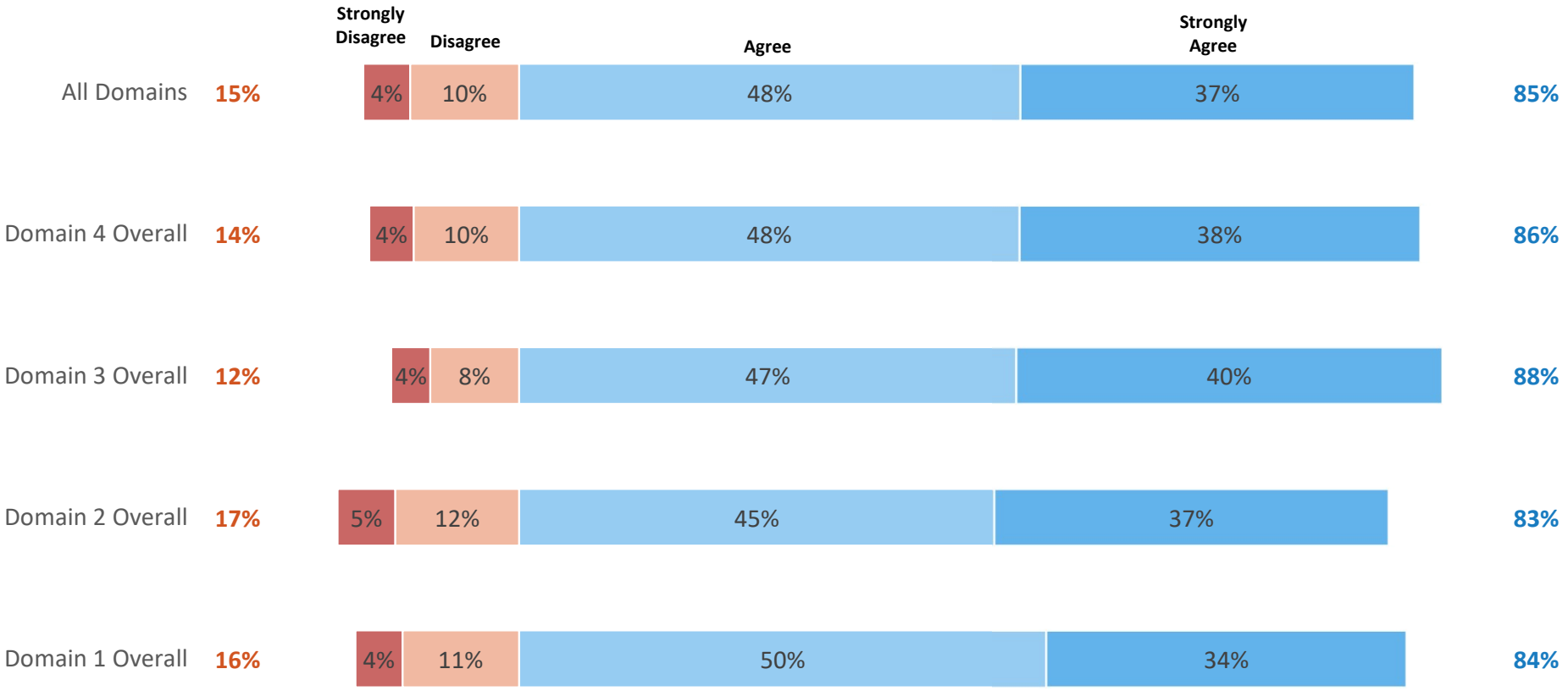
Teacher Excellence and Support System (TESS) Domains

- This survey measures respondents' preparedness across for teaching domains derived from Arkansas' Teacher Excellence and Support System (TESS)
- The Domains are:
    1. Planning and Preparation
    2. Classroom Environment
    3. Instruction
    4. Professional Responsibilities

TESS Domains 1-4 – Overall Averages



Red numbers = Negative Response Percentage
Blue numbers = Positive Response Percentage

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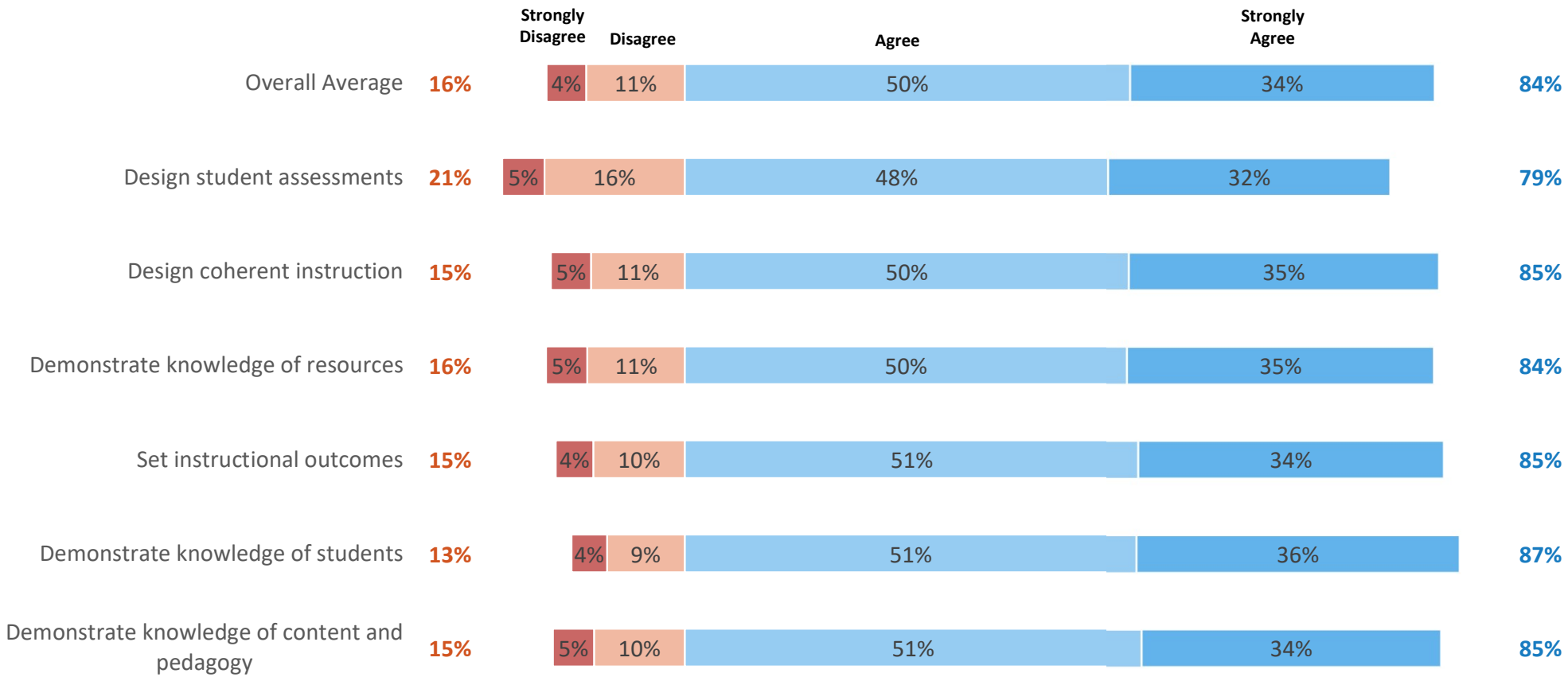
Domain 1: Planning and Preparation

We asked first year teachers how well their EPP or route to certification prepared them to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of content and pedagogy
2. Demonstrate knowledge of students
3. Set instructional outcomes
4. Demonstrate knowledge of resources
5. Design coherent instruction
6. Design student assessments

Domain 1- Planning and Preparation- My Route to Certification prepared me to:



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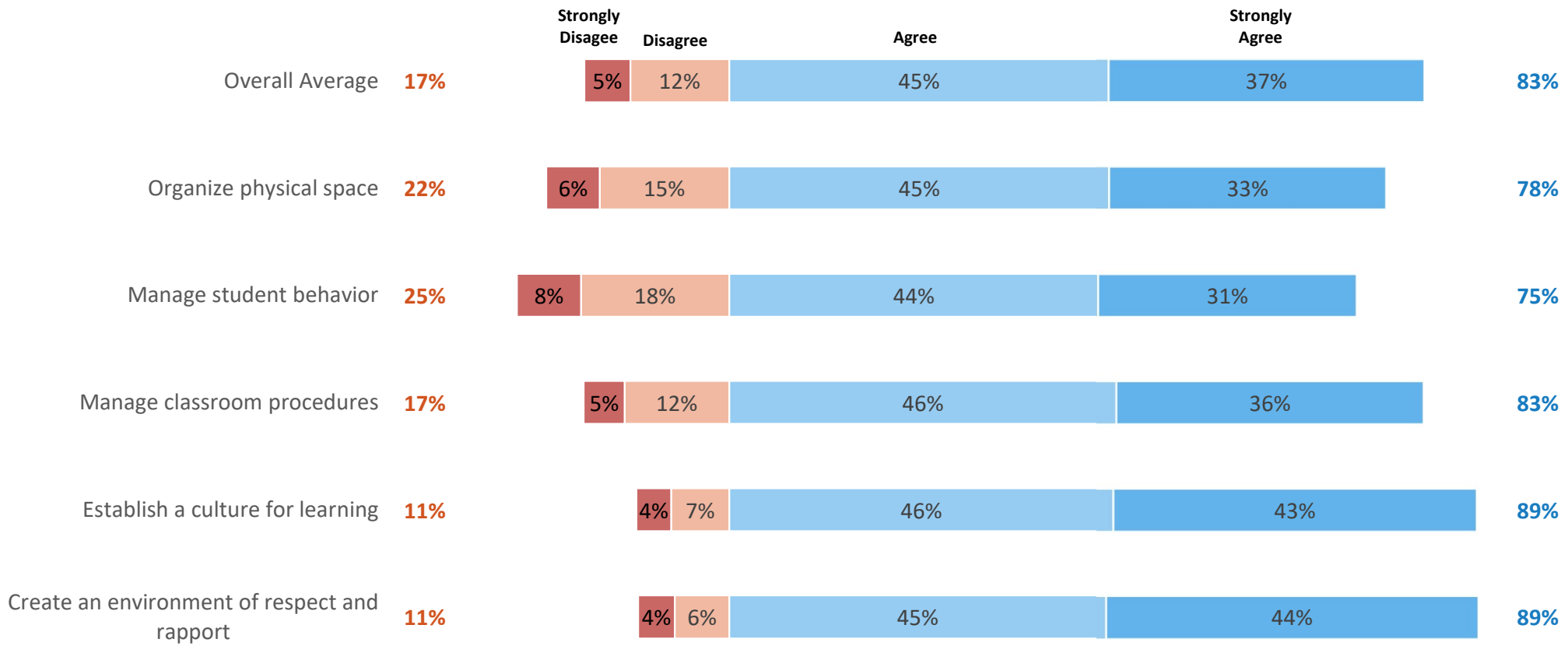
Domain 2: Classroom Environment

We asked first year teachers how well their EPP or route to certification prepared them to:

1. Create an environment of respect and rapport
2. Establish a culture for learning
3. Manage classroom procedures
4. Manage student behavior
5. Organize physical space

Domain 2- Classroom Environment- My route to certification prepared me to:



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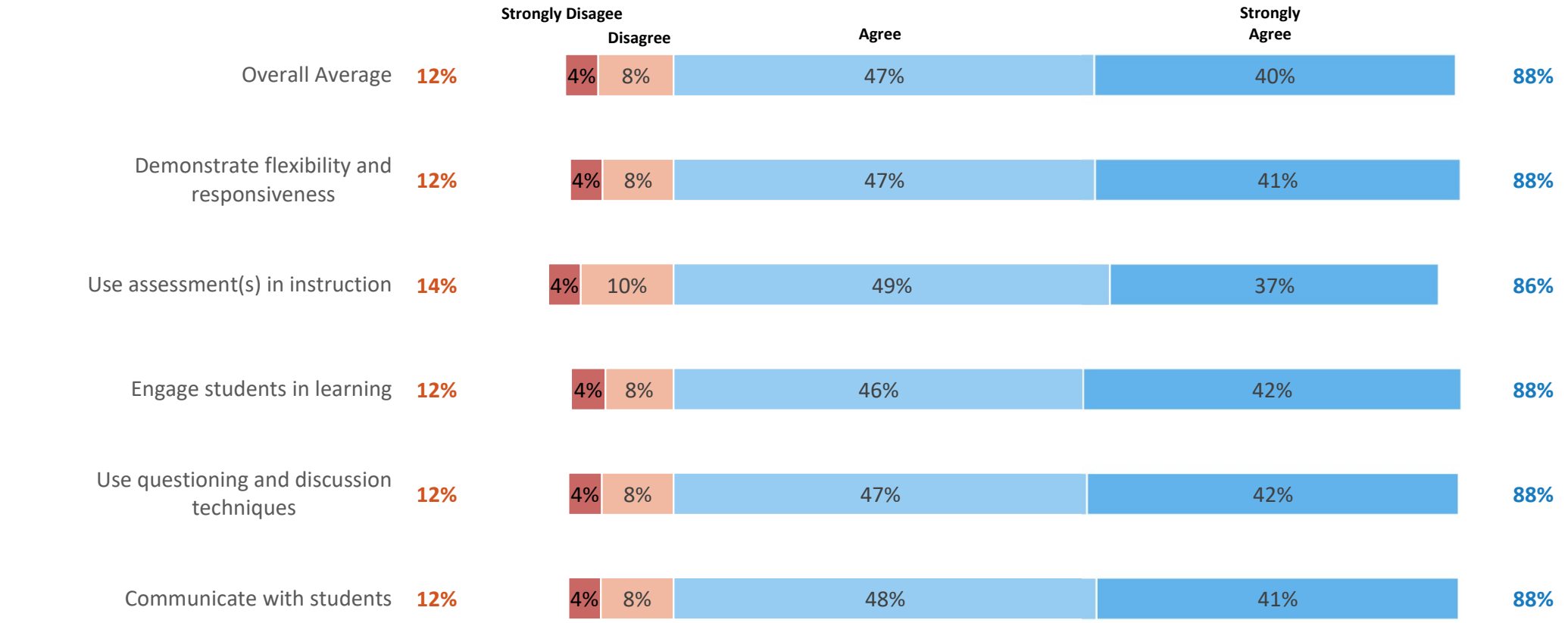
Domain 3: Instruction

We asked first year teachers how well their EPP or route to certification prepared them to:

1. Communicate with students
2. Use questioning and discussion techniques
3. Engage students in learning
4. Use assessment in instruction
5. Demonstrate flexibility and responsiveness

Domain 3- Instruction - My route to certification prepared me to:



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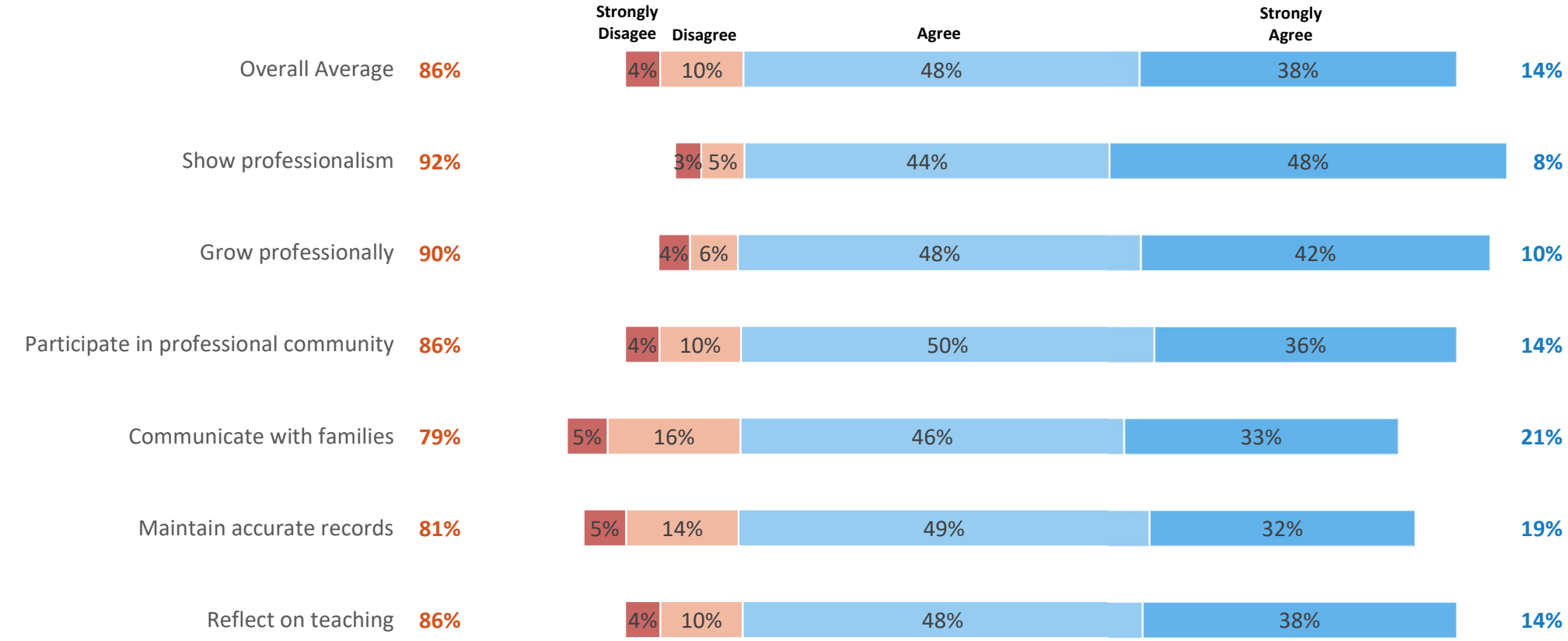
Domain 4: Professional Responsibilities

We asked first year teachers how well their EPP or route to certification prepared them to:

1. Reflect on teaching
2. Maintain accurate records
3. Communicate with families
4. Participate in professional community
5. Grow professionally
6. Show professionalism

Professional Responsibilities - My Route to certification prepared me to:



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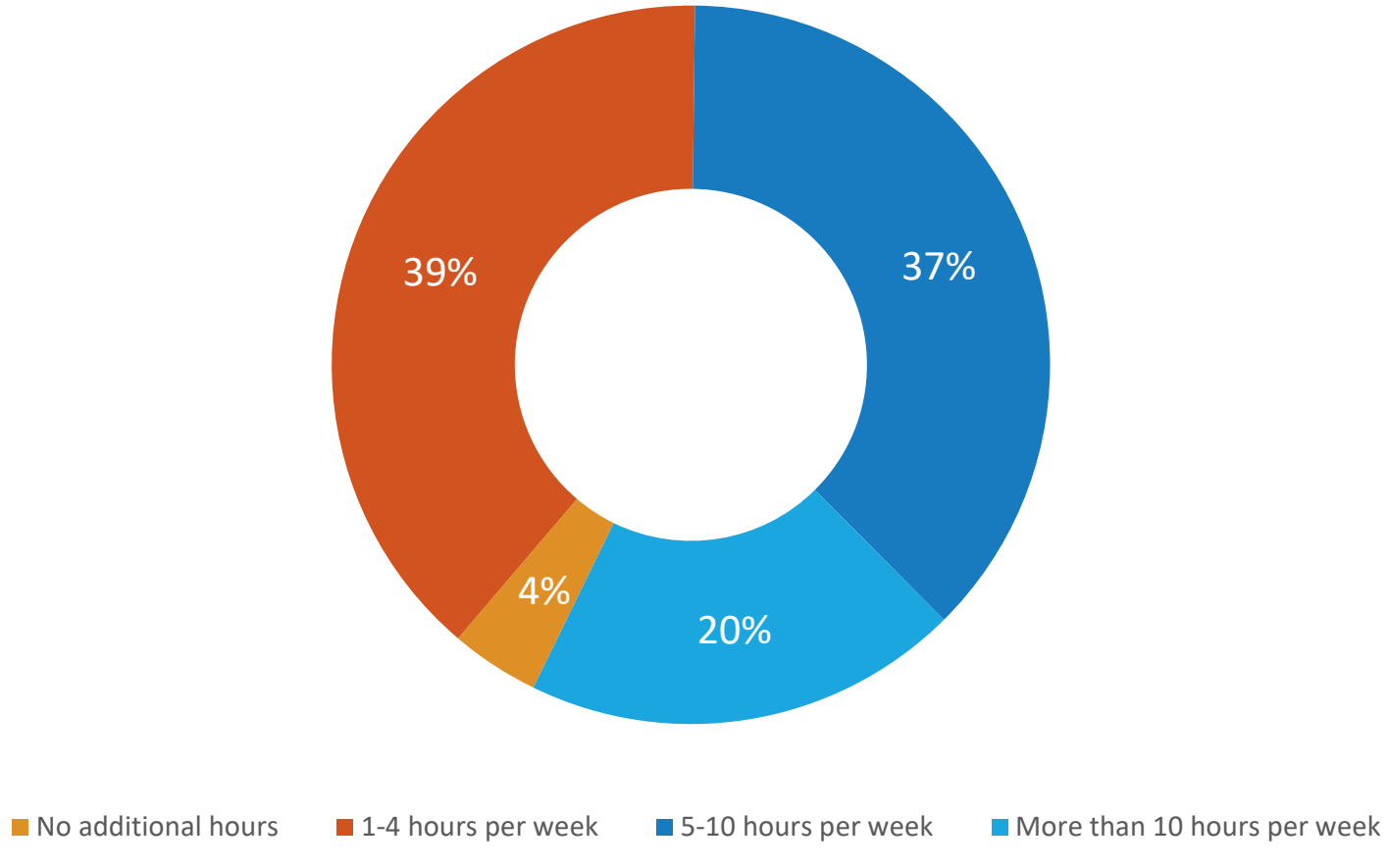
Most respondents spend 5+ hours a week outside of contract time on preparation



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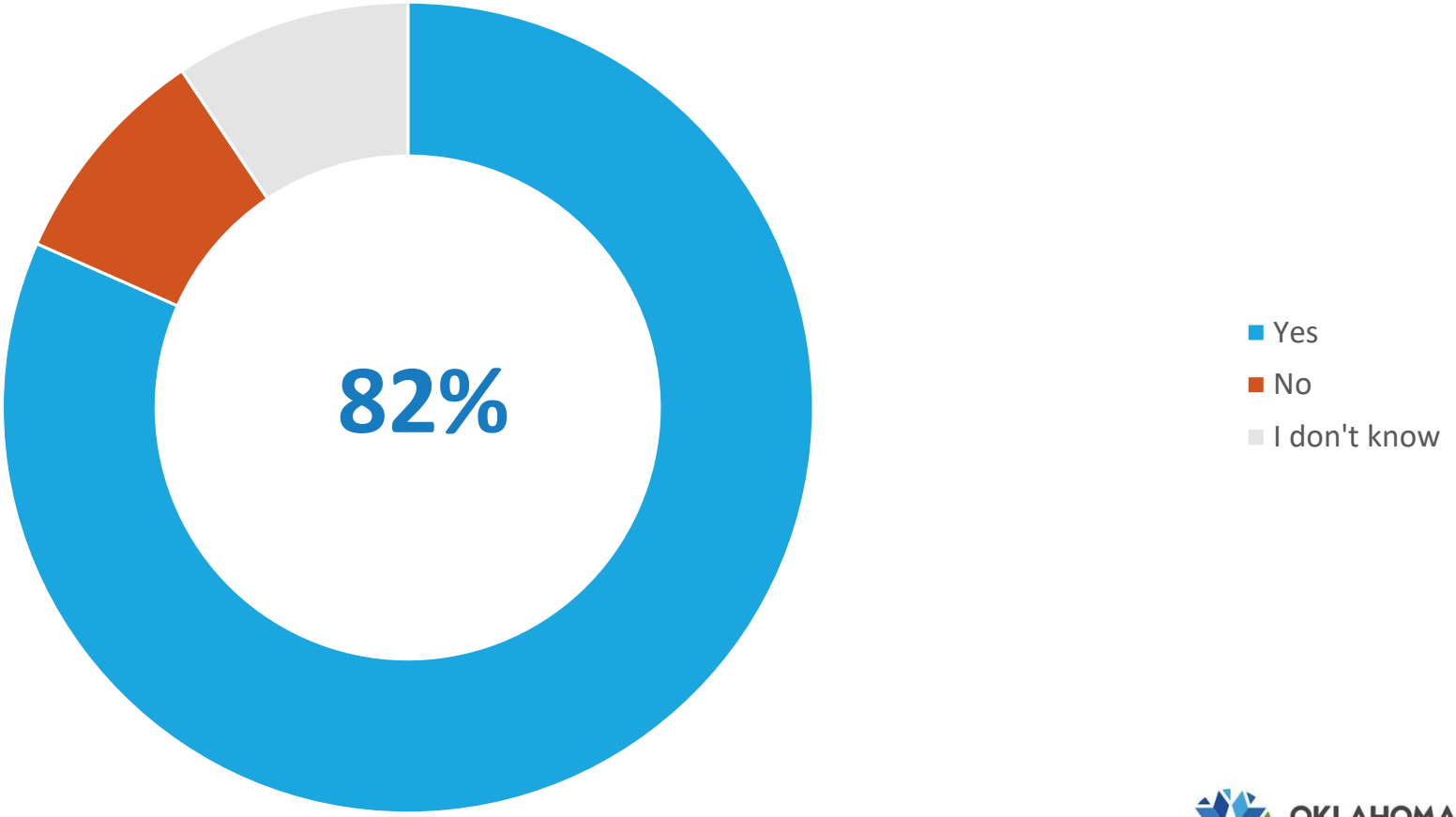
Over three-quarters of respondents with a support person reported that their support person had taught in the same subject area/grade level



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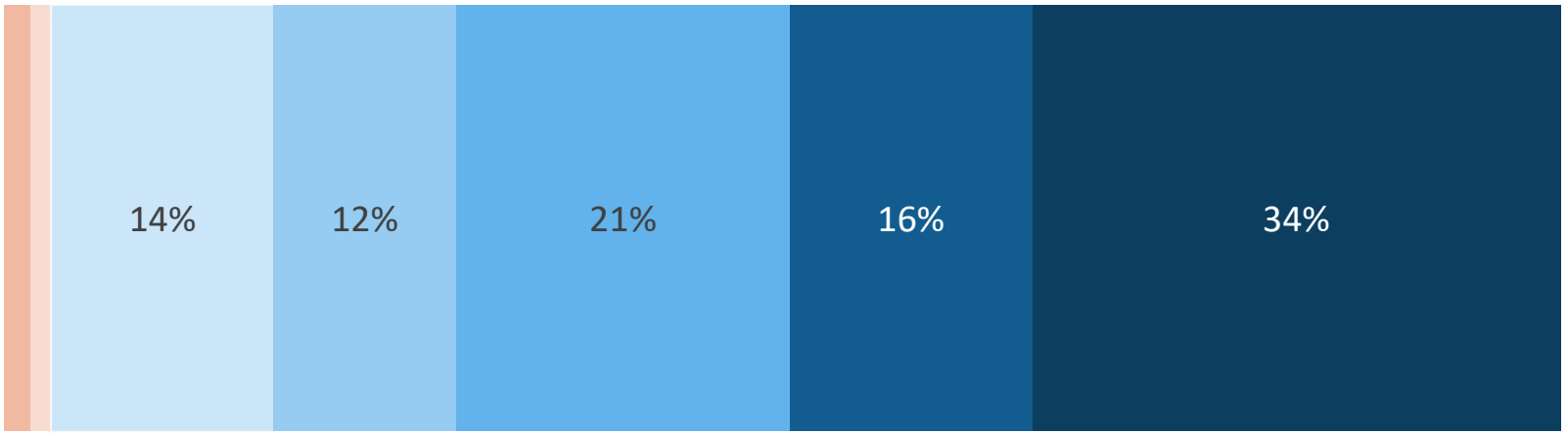
How frequently did you work with your assigned mentor/support person this school year?



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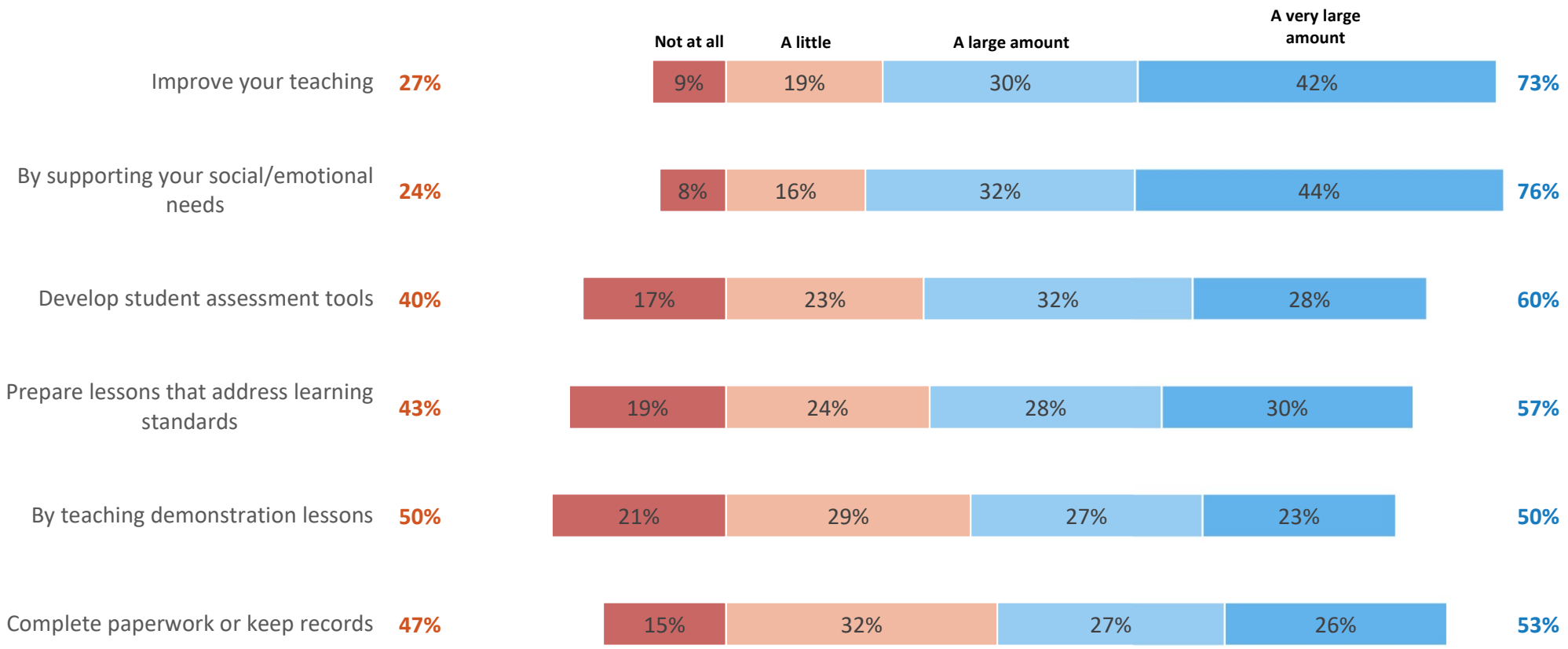
How much did your mentor/assigned support person help you...



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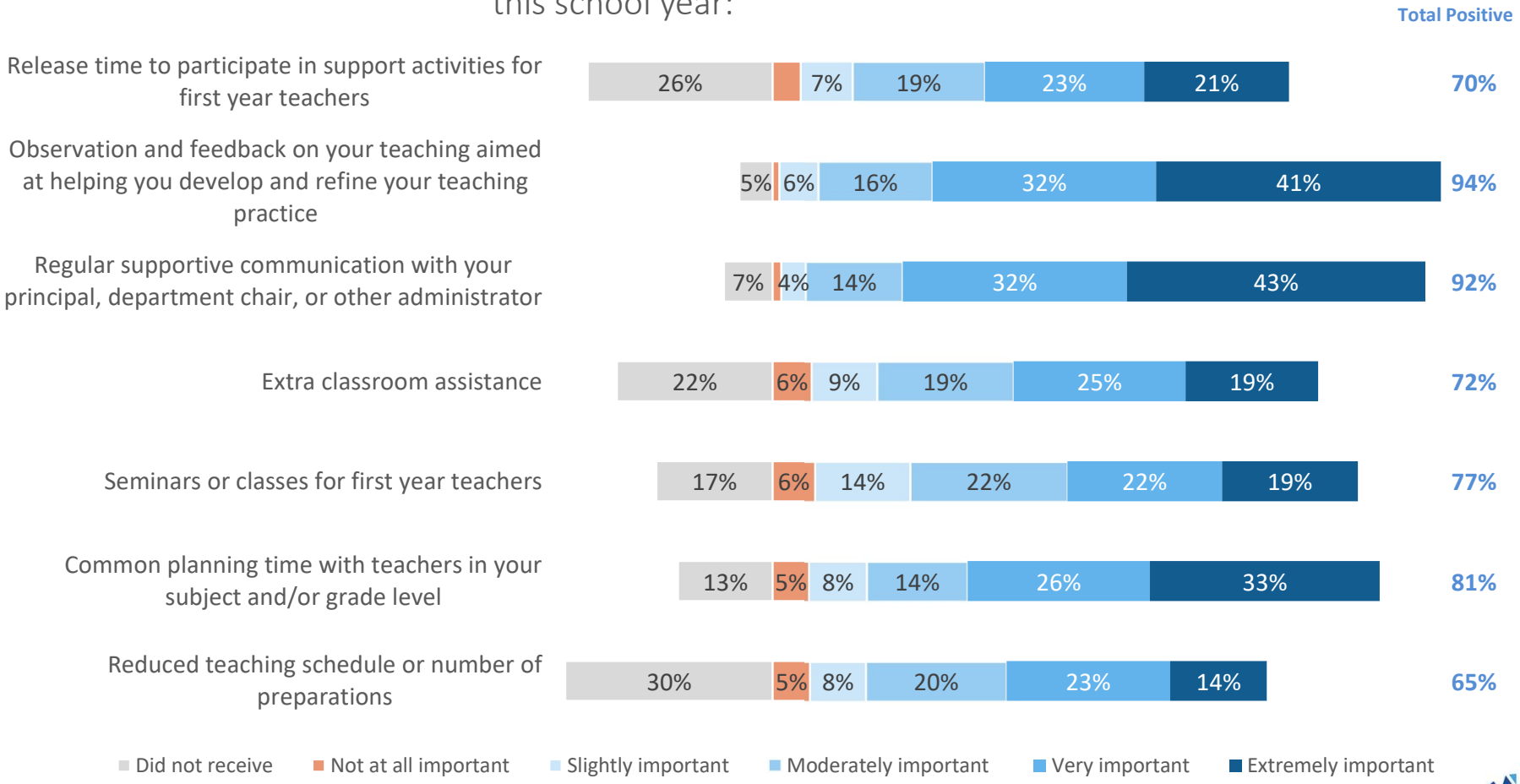
Please indicate how important the following kinds of support were to you during this school year:



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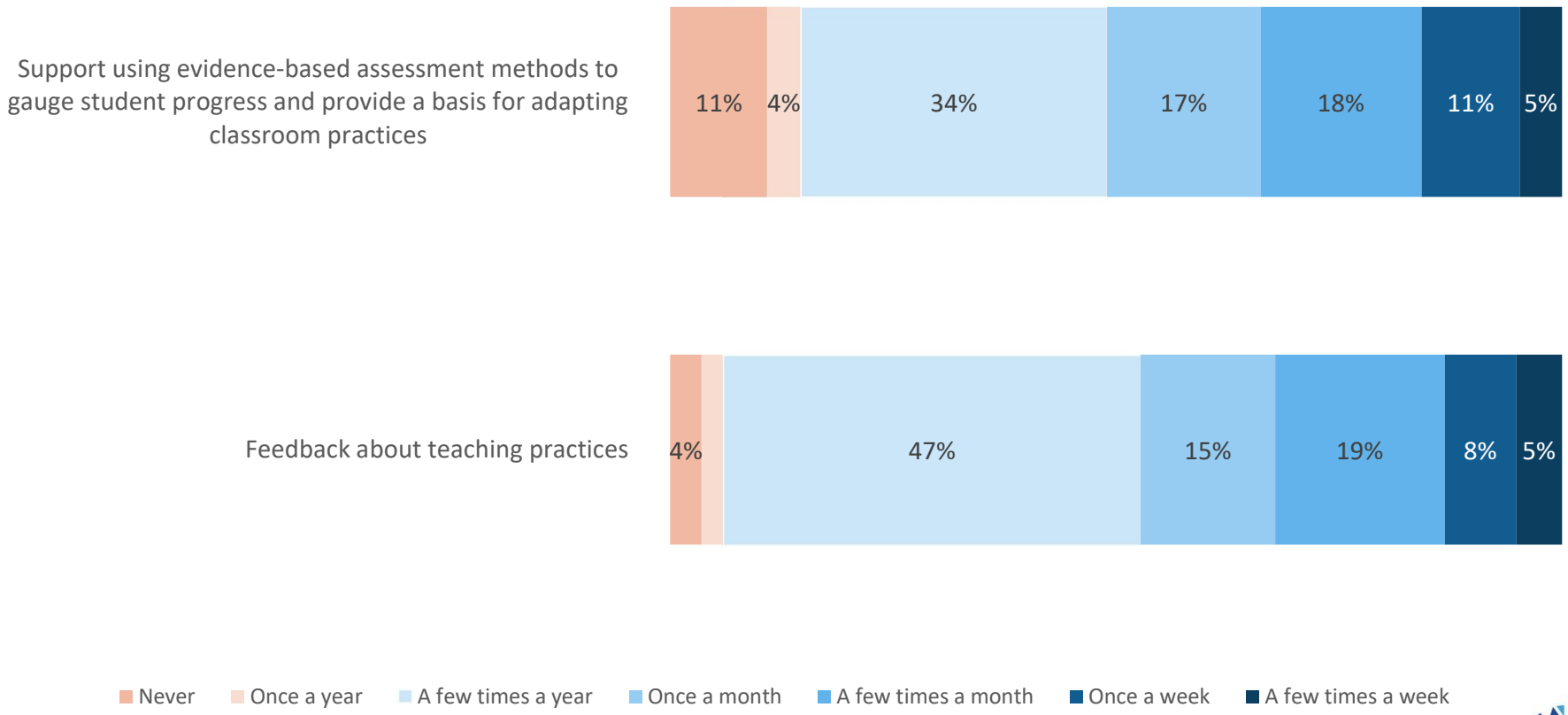
Please indicate how often you are provided with...



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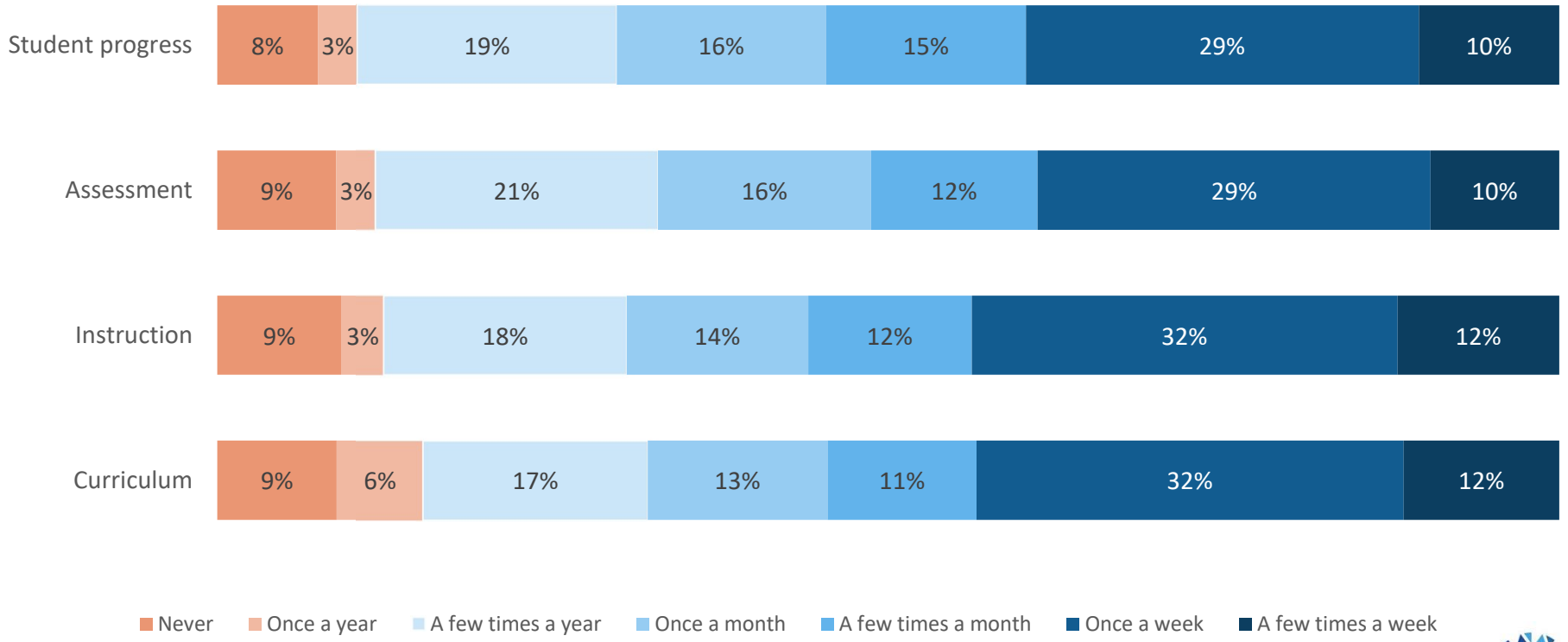
How often do teacher teams and/or collaborative groups at your school meet to discuss...



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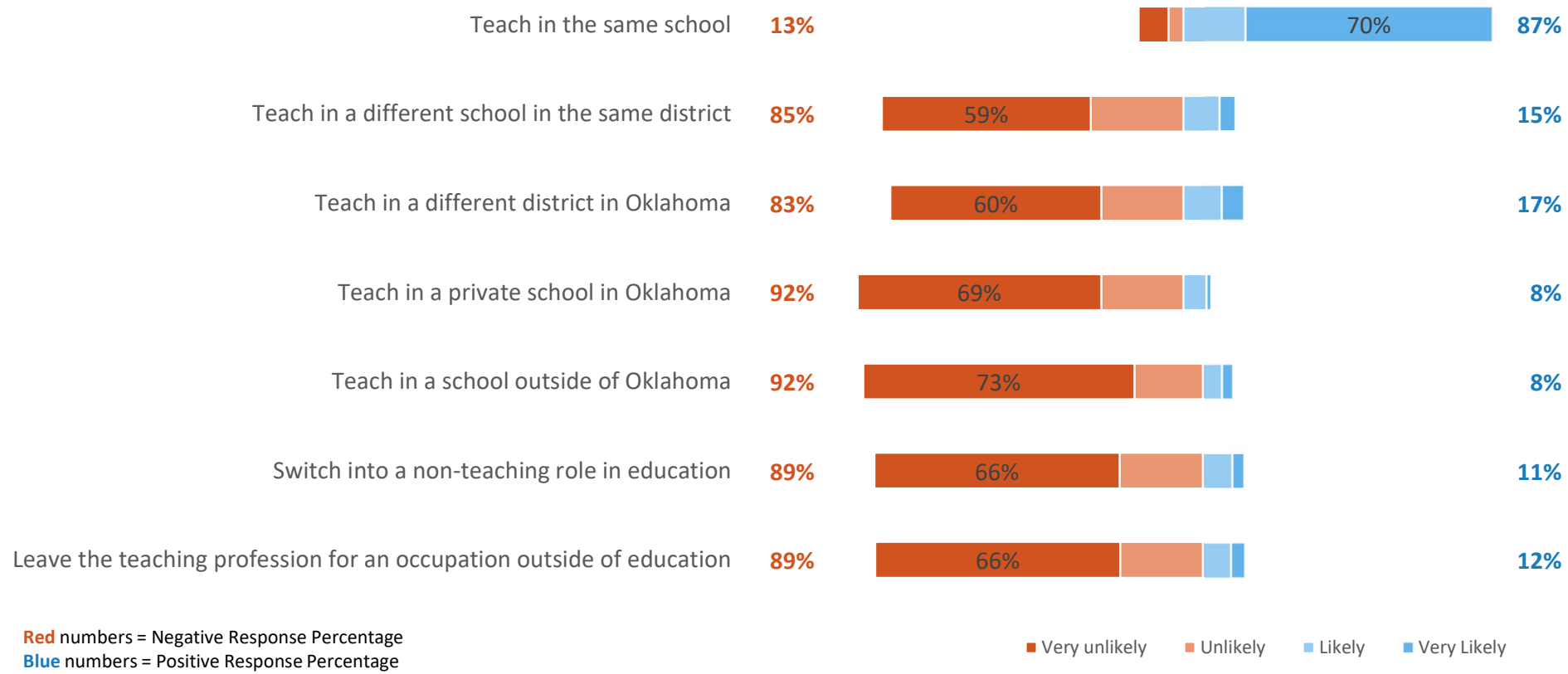
How likely are you to pursue the following options next school year?



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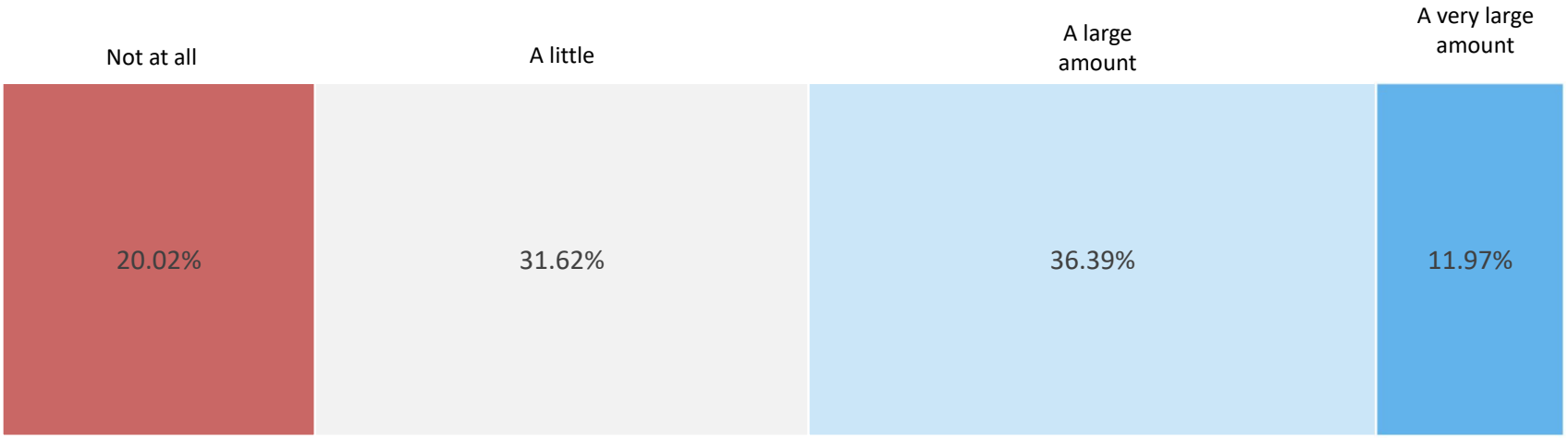
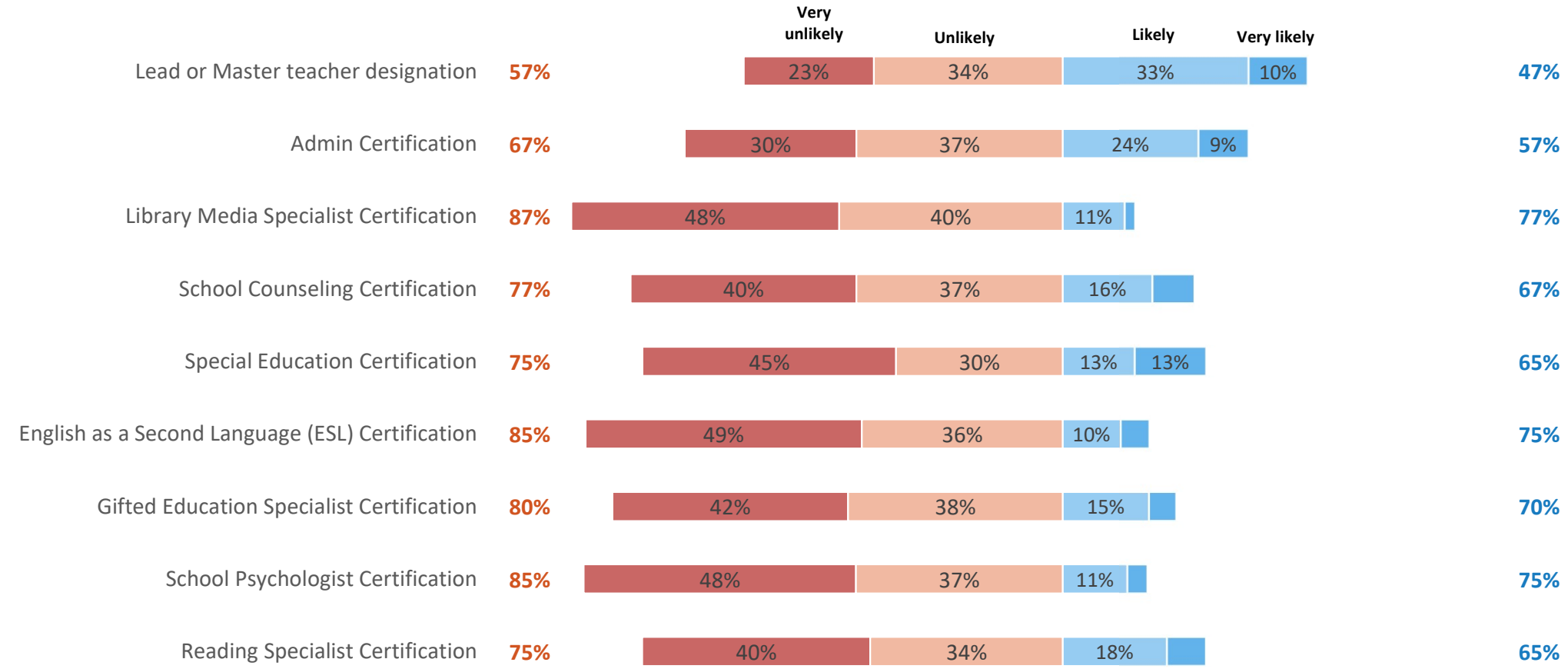
To what extent did the support you received as a first year teacher influence your decision to remain in your current teaching position?



Please rate how likely you are to pursue the following options in the future:



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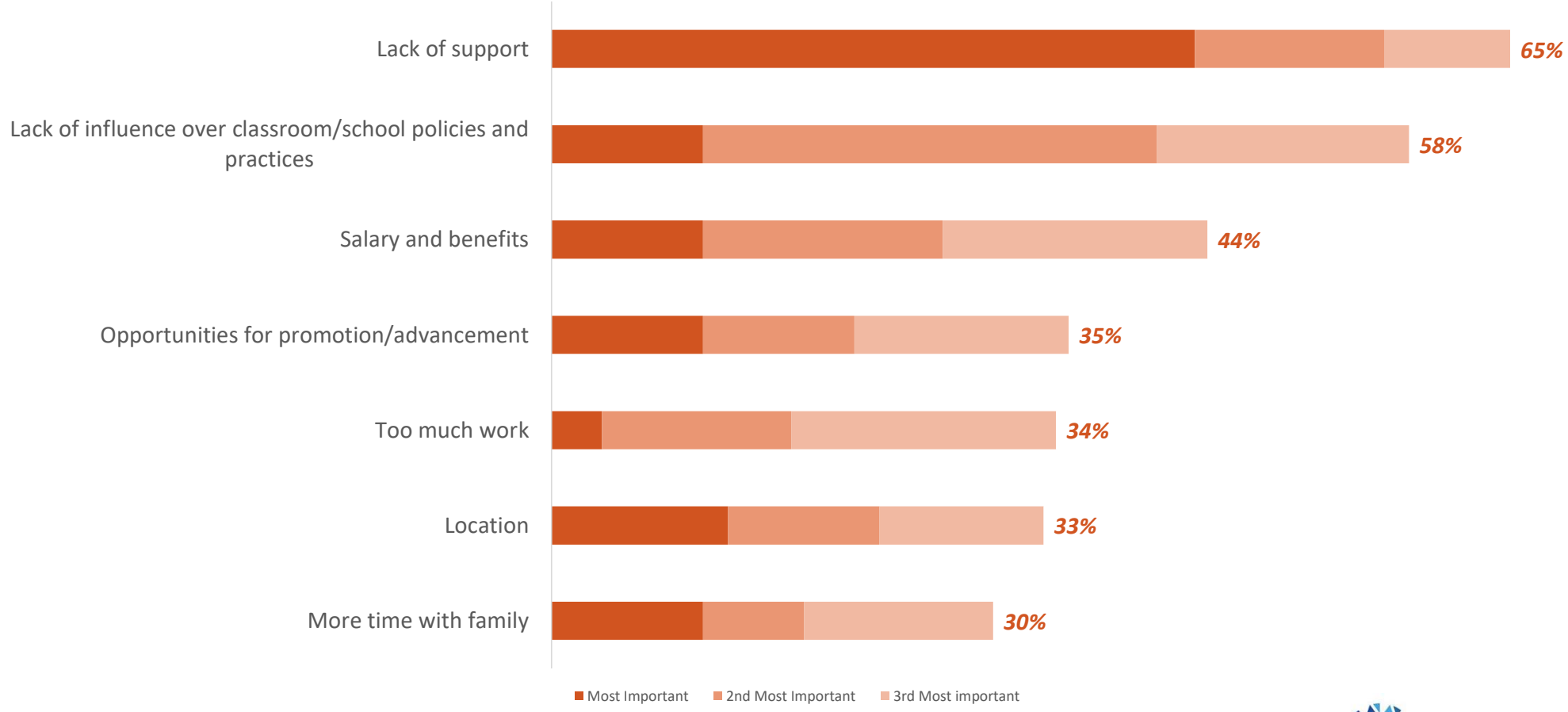
Please rank the top three reasons you are considering leaving your current teaching position



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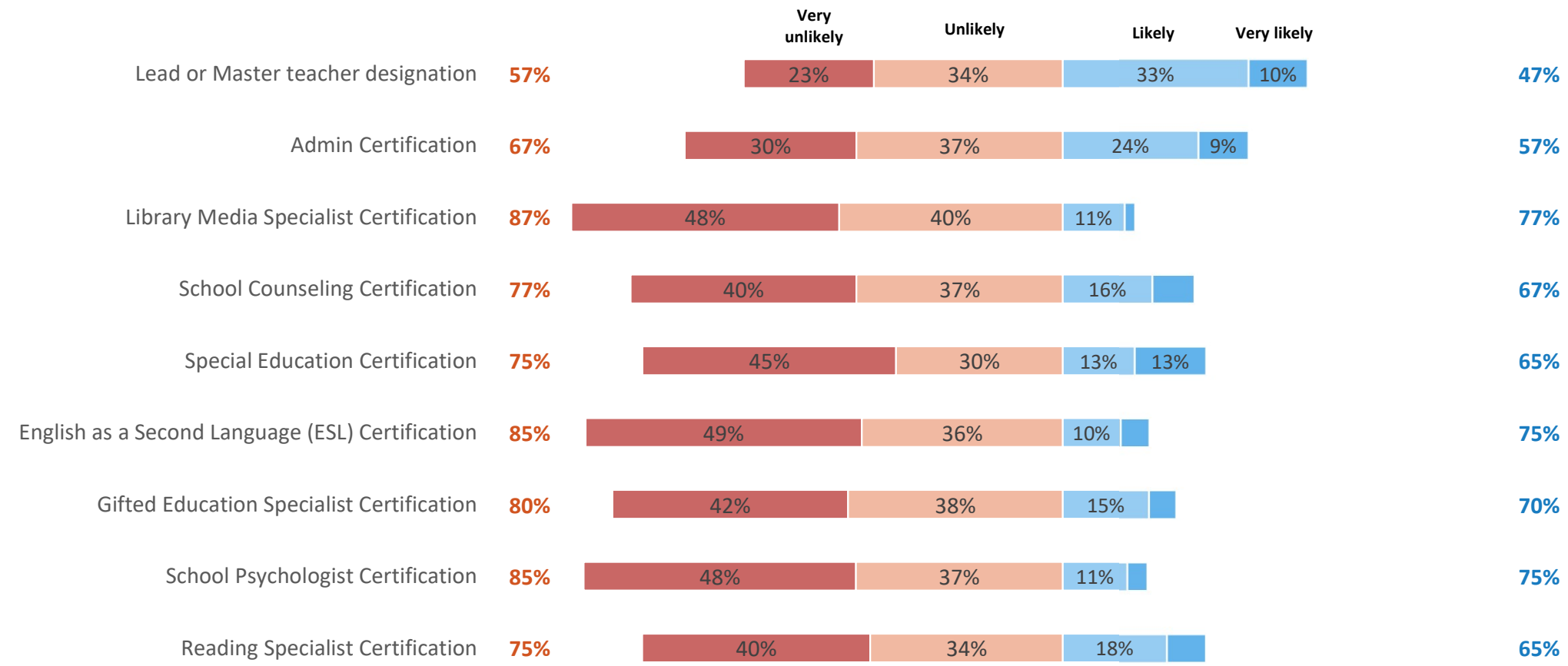

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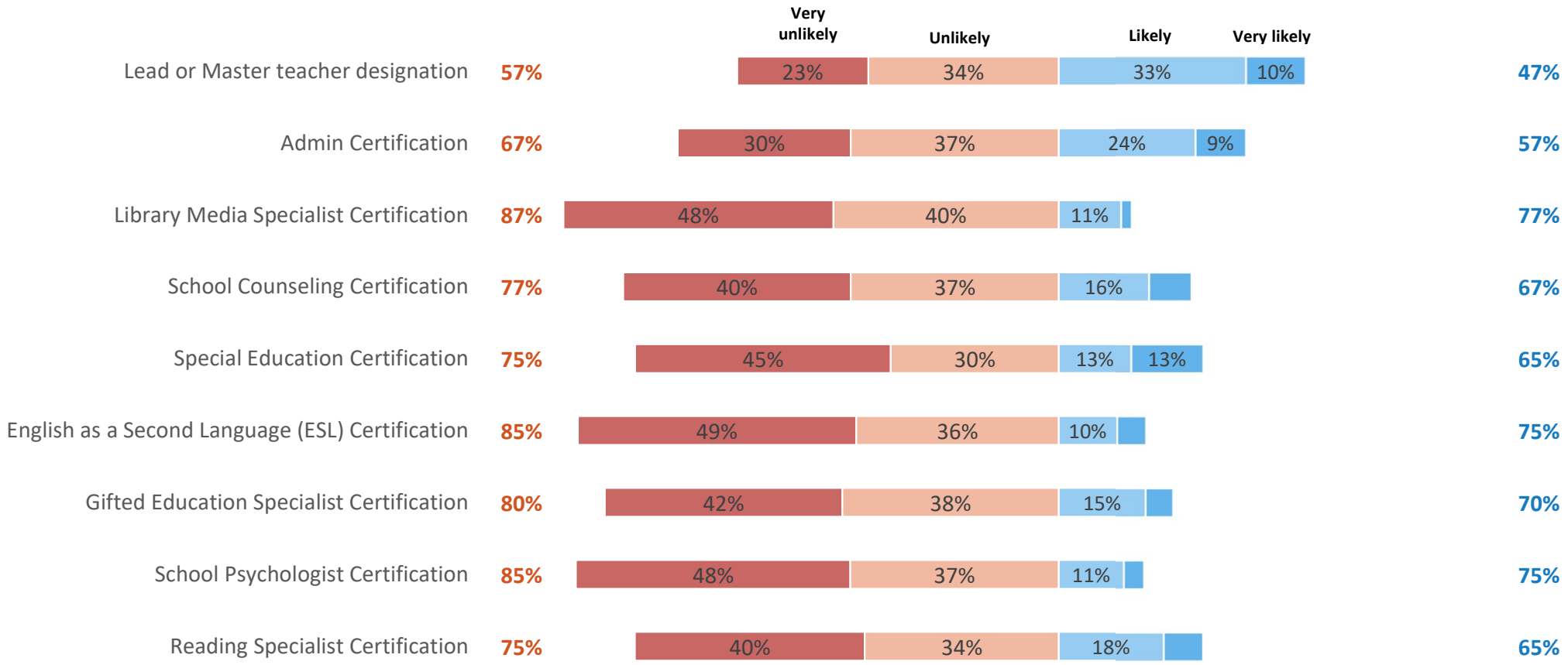

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