

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

BPC Campus Free Expression Project

NOVEMBER 2021

BACKGROUND & METHODOLOGY

Survey Objectives

The research conducted by Morning Consult on behalf of the Bipartisan Policy Center seeks to understand the following research objectives:

1. Overall confidence, trust, and perceived value of higher education institutions in comparison to other institutions
2. Comfort level adults have in expressing different types of views in different settings
3. Value adults place on free expression and academic freedom and the role of higher education including importance of colleges preparing students to have conversations with people who are different from them

Methodology

This poll was conducted between November 16-19, 2021 among a sample of 2,199 adults. The interviews were conducted online and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of adults based on gender, educational attainment, age, race, and region. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.

Key Findings

- 1. Trust in colleges and universities is particularly high among current undergraduate students.** Of the tested institutions, current undergraduate students are most likely to trust colleges and universities broadly (83%) and in their state (85%) to create an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues.
- 2. Two in five adults (42%) say colleges and universities are going in the right direction in having an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their views on different issues,** while 29% say they have gotten off on the wrong track.
- 3. Current students are more likely than adults overall to have conversations with people who have different political views.** Four in five (79%) frequently have a conversation with someone who has a different political viewpoint, compared to 51% of adults overall.
- 4. Current college students are more comfortable sharing their political, religious, and social or cultural views in the classroom than they are on social media.** However, employed adults are equally comfortable sharing their views in the workplace as they are on social media.
- 5. While a large majority of adults say colleges should be thinking core skills: independent thinking, ability to work with a diverse workforce, discuss disagreements, only half of adults say colleges are successfully teaching these skills.** Democrats are more likely than independents and Republicans to say colleges and universities are teaching the listed skills to students well. A minority (45%) of adults say colleges and universities are doing excellent or well at teaching the ability to converse with people they disagree with to students.
- 6. Current college students are more likely than adults overall to agree colleges should restrict words and language deemed harmful.** Current undergraduate students are more likely than adults overall to say colleges and universities should be able to restrict words and language they deem harmful to students (80%) and that some ideas are hateful and should not be discussed on a college campus (66%).

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AGENDA

FREE EXPRESSION

COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER
EDUCATION

DEMOGRAPHICS

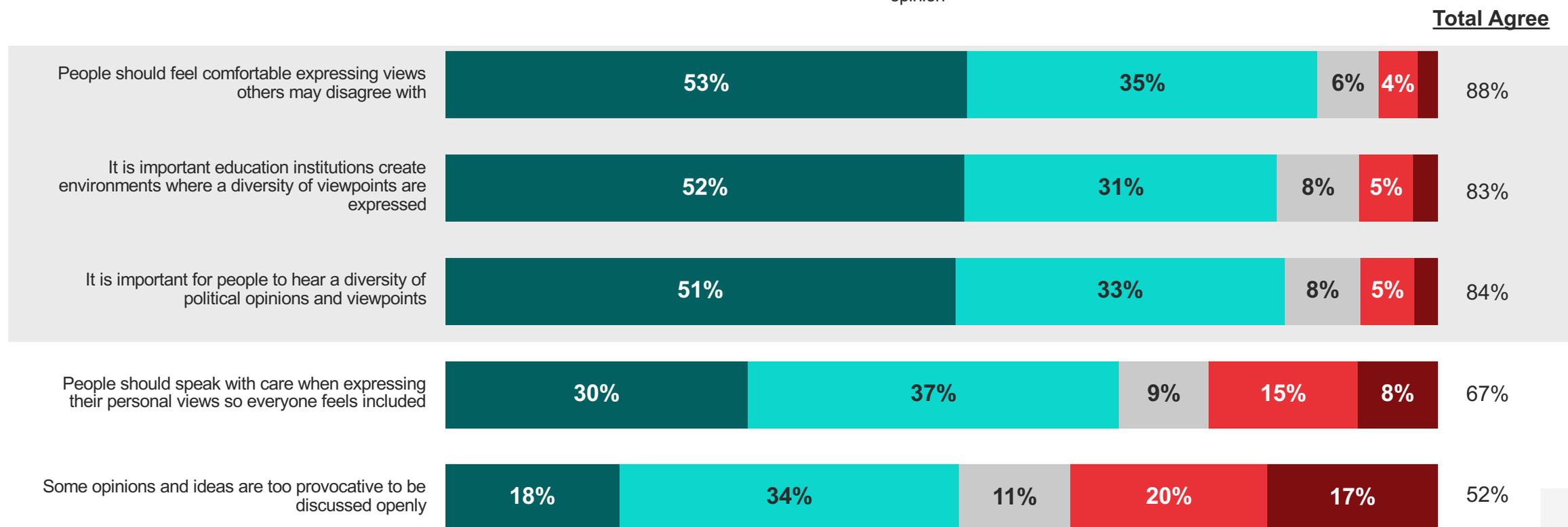


FREE EXPRESSION

Half of adults *strongly agree* that people should feel comfortable expressing views others may disagree with (53%), that it is important for education institutions to create environments where a diversity of viewpoints to be expressed (52%), and that it is important for people to hear a diversity of political opinions and viewpoints (51%).

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

● Strongly agree
 ● Somewhat agree
 ● Don't know/No opinion
 ● Somewhat disagree
 ● Strongly disagree



FREE EXPRESSION

While a bipartisan majority agree with each of the tested statements, Democrats (77%) are more likely than independents (63%) and Republicans (63%) to agree that people should speak with care when expressing their personal views so everyone feels included.

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

<i>Total Agree...</i>	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
People should feel comfortable expressing views others may disagree with	88%	90%	83%	90%	89%	85%	82%	83%
It is important education institutions create environments where a diversity of viewpoints are expressed	83%	88%	82%	80%	85%	86%	80%	80%
It is important for people to hear a diversity of political opinions and viewpoints	84%	89%	81%	83%	85%	85%	77%	87%
People should speak with care when expressing their personal views so everyone feels included	67%	77%	63%	63%	67%	74%	68%	77%
Some opinions and ideas are too provocative to be discussed openly	52%	57%	43%	54%	52%	55%	51%	53%

FREE EXPRESSION

Black adults (77%) are less likely than white (85%), Hispanic (85%) and adults of other ethnicities (87%) to agree that it is important for people to hear a diversity of political opinions and viewpoints.

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

<i>Total Agree...</i>	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
People should feel comfortable expressing views others may disagree with	88%	90%	83%	90%	89%	85%	82%	83%
It is important education institutions create environments where a diversity of viewpoints are expressed	83%	88%	82%	80%	85%	86%	80%	80%
It is important for people to hear a diversity of political opinions and viewpoints	84%	89%	81%	83%	85%	85%	77%	87%
People should speak with care when expressing their personal views so everyone feels included	67%	77%	63%	63%	67%	74%	68%	77%
Some opinions and ideas are too provocative to be discussed openly	52%	57%	43%	54%	52%	55%	51%	53%

FREE EXPRESSION

Adults with higher levels of education are more likely than those with lower levels of education to agree that people should speak with care when expressing their personal views so everyone feels included.

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

<i>Total Agree...</i>	All Adults	Current Undergraduate Student	< College	Bachelor's Degree	Post Graduate Degree
People should feel comfortable expressing views others may disagree with	88%	88%	86%	92%	94%
It is important education institutions create environments where a diversity of viewpoints are expressed	83%	83%	81%	87%	92%
It is important for people to hear a diversity of political opinions and viewpoints	84%	83%	82%	90%	91%
People should speak with care when expressing their personal views so everyone feels included	67%	74%	67%	70%	74%
Some opinions and ideas are too provocative to be discussed openly	52%	60%	52%	52%	53%

FREE EXPRESSION

Current undergraduate students (60%) are more likely than adults overall (52%) to agree that some opinions and ideas are too provocative to be discussed openly.

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

<i>Total Agree...</i>	All Adults	Current Undergraduate Student	< College	Bachelor's Degree	Post Graduate Degree
People should feel comfortable expressing views others may disagree with	88%	88%	86%	92%	94%
It is important education institutions create environments where a diversity of viewpoints are expressed	83%	83%	81%	87%	92%
It is important for people to hear a diversity of political opinions and viewpoints	84%	83%	82%	90%	91%
People should speak with care when expressing their personal views so everyone feels included	67%	74%	67%	70%	74%
Some opinions and ideas are too provocative to be discussed openly	52%	60%	52%	52%	53%

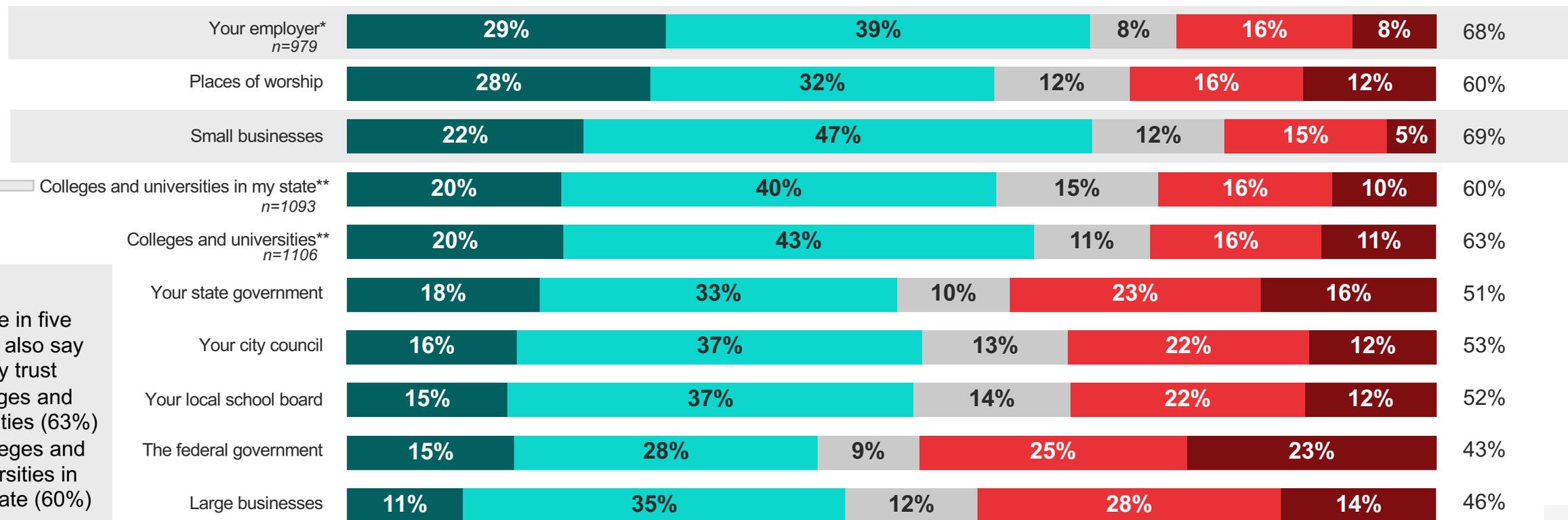
FREE EXPRESSION

Of the options tested, adults are most likely to say they trust their employer (68%) and small businesses (69%) to have an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues.

In your opinion, how much do you trust, if at all, the following to have an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues?

● A lot ● Some ● Don't know/No opinion ● Not much ● Not at all

Total Trust



Three in five adults also say they trust colleges and universities (63%) or colleges and universities in their state (60%)

*only asked among adults who indicated they are currently employed
**each term was shown to half of the audience only as part of a split sample

FREE EXPRESSION

Democrats (60%) are nearly twice as likely as independents (34%) and Republicans (31%) to say they trust the federal government to have an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues.

In your opinion, how much do you trust, if at all, the following to have an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues?

Total Trust...	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
Your employer*	68%	72%	65%	67%	70%	72%	56%	64%
Places of worship	60%	59%	51%	69%	61%	56%	53%	55%
Small businesses	69%	71%	61%	73%	71%	67%	58%	64%
Colleges and universities**	63%	79%	58%	49%	62%	59%	66%	69%
Colleges and universities in my state**	60%	72%	49%	53%	60%	66%	57%	60%
Your state government	51%	60%	41%	48%	52%	52%	43%	53%
Your city council	53%	60%	44%	52%	54%	52%	51%	46%
The federal government	43%	60%	34%	31%	43%	45%	45%	44%
Your local school board	52%	62%	42%	50%	52%	56%	51%	52%
Large businesses	46%	51%	40%	45%	46%	50%	44%	46%

*only asked among adults who indicated they are currently employed

**each term was shown to half of the audience only as part of a split sample

FREE EXPRESSION

Democrats are more likely than independents and Republicans to trust colleges and universities to have an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues.

In your opinion, how much do you trust, if at all, the following to have an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues?

Total Trust...	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
Your employer*	68%	72%	65%	67%	70%	72%	56%	64%
Places of worship	60%	59%	51%	69%	61%	56%	53%	55%
Small businesses	69%	71%	61%	73%	71%	67%	58%	64%
Colleges and universities**	63%	79%	58%	49%	62%	59%	66%	69%
Colleges and universities in my state**	60%	72%	49%	53%	60%	66%	57%	60%
Your state government	51%	60%	41%	48%	52%	52%	43%	53%
Your city council	53%	60%	44%	52%	54%	52%	51%	46%
The federal government	43%	60%	34%	31%	43%	45%	45%	44%
Your local school board	52%	62%	42%	50%	52%	56%	51%	52%
Large businesses	46%	51%	40%	45%	46%	50%	44%	46%

*only asked among adults who indicated they are currently employed

**each term was shown to half of the audience only as part of a split sample

FREE EXPRESSION

Black adults are more likely to trust higher education institutions broadly than they are to trust universities in their state (66% vs. 57%).

In your opinion, how much do you trust, if at all, the following to have an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues?

Total Trust...	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
Your employer*	68%	72%	65%	67%	70%	72%	56%	64%
Places of worship	60%	59%	51%	69%	61%	56%	53%	55%
Small businesses	69%	71%	61%	73%	71%	67%	58%	64%
Colleges and universities**	63%	79%	58%	49%	62%	59%	66%	69%
Colleges and universities in my state**	60%	72%	49%	53%	60%	66%	57%	60%
Your state government	51%	60%	41%	48%	52%	52%	43%	53%
Your city council	53%	60%	44%	52%	54%	52%	51%	46%
The federal government	43%	60%	34%	31%	43%	45%	45%	44%
Your local school board	52%	62%	42%	50%	52%	56%	51%	52%
Large businesses	46%	51%	40%	45%	46%	50%	44%	46%

*only asked among adults who indicated they are currently employed
 **each term was shown to half of the audience only as part of a split sample

Adults with a higher education level are more likely to trust colleges and universities to have an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their views about different issues.

In your opinion, how much do you trust, if at all, the following to have an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues?

<i>Total Trust...</i>	All Adults	Current Undergraduate Student	< College	Bachelor's Degree	Post Graduate Degree
Your employer*	68%	79%	67%	67%	69%
Places of worship	60%	72%	59%	59%	61%
Small businesses	69%	78%	68%	70%	71%
Colleges and universities**	63%	83%	60%	74%	68%
Colleges and universities in my state**	60%	85%	54%	69%	77%
Your state government	51%	69%	46%	57%	57%
Your city council	53%	71%	48%	63%	60%
The federal government	52%	71%	50%	56%	56%
Your local school board	43%	61%	39%	52%	52%
Large businesses	46%	62%	44%	48%	48%

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FREE EXPRESSION

Over 4 in 5 current undergrad students trust colleges and universities to have an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues.

In your opinion, how much do you trust, if at all, the following to have an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues?

<i>Total Trust...</i>	All Adults	Current Undergraduate Student	< College	Bachelor's Degree	Post Graduate Degree
Your employer*	68%	79%	67%	67%	69%
Places of worship	60%	72%	59%	59%	61%
Small businesses	69%	78%	68%	70%	71%
Colleges and universities**	63%	83%	60%	74%	68%
Colleges and universities in my state**	60%	85%	54%	69%	77%
Your state government	51%	69%	46%	57%	57%
Your city council	53%	71%	48%	63%	60%
The federal government	52%	71%	50%	56%	56%
Your local school board	43%	61%	39%	52%	52%
Large businesses	46%	62%	44%	48%	48%

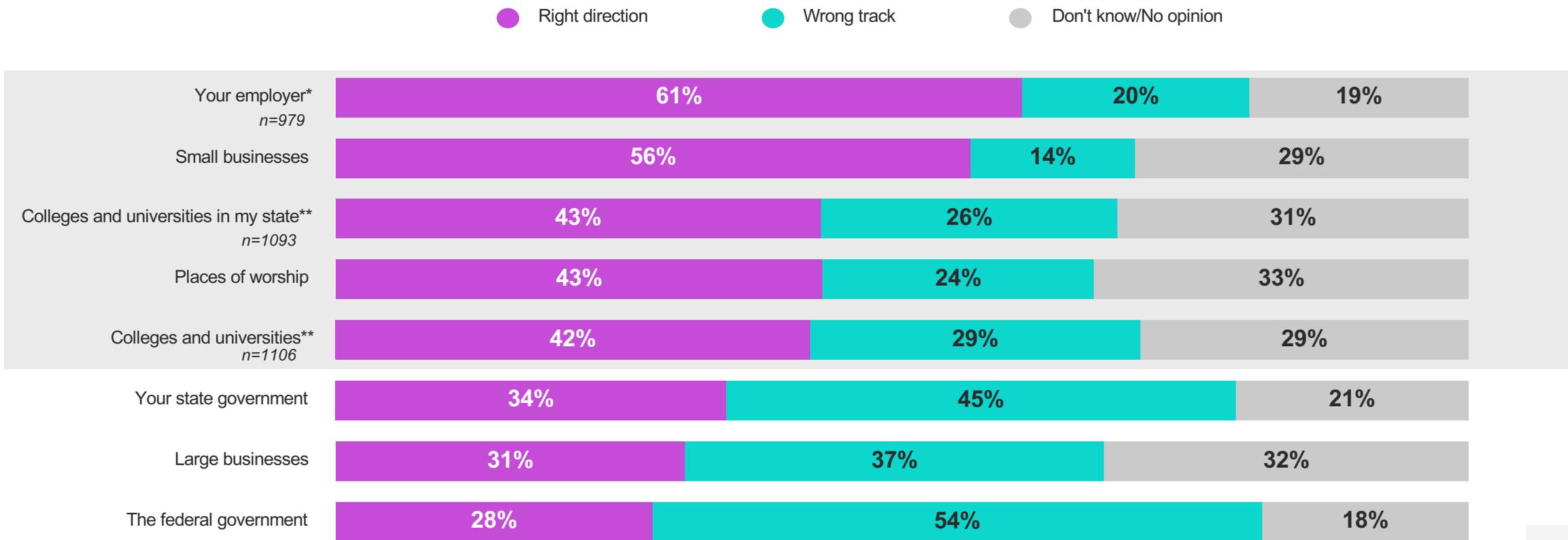
*only asked among adults who indicated they are currently employed

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FREE EXPRESSION

At least a plurality of adults say their employer (61%), small businesses (56%), colleges and universities in their state (43%), places of worship (43%), and colleges and universities overall (42%) are going in the right direction in having an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues.

Generally speaking, would you say that the following are going in the right direction, or have they gotten off on the wrong track having an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues?



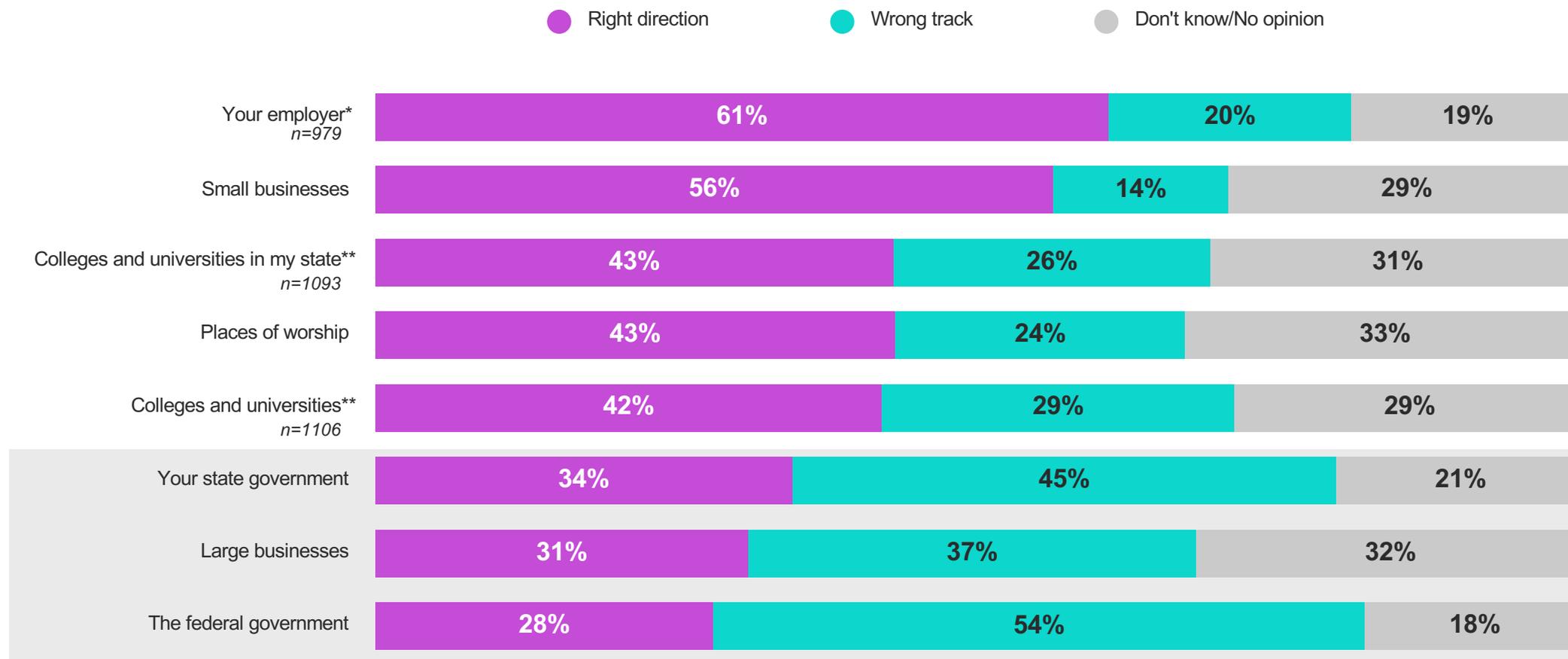
*only asked among adults who indicated they are currently employed

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FREE EXPRESSION

On the other hand, a plurality of adults say the state government (45%), large businesses (37%), and federal government (54%) have gotten off on the wrong track having an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their views about different issues.

Generally speaking, would you say that the following are going in the right direction, or have they gotten off on the wrong track having an environment where people feel comfortable expressing their beliefs, thoughts, ideas, and emotions about different issues?



*only asked among adults who indicated they are currently employed

**each term was shown to half of the audience only as part of a split sample

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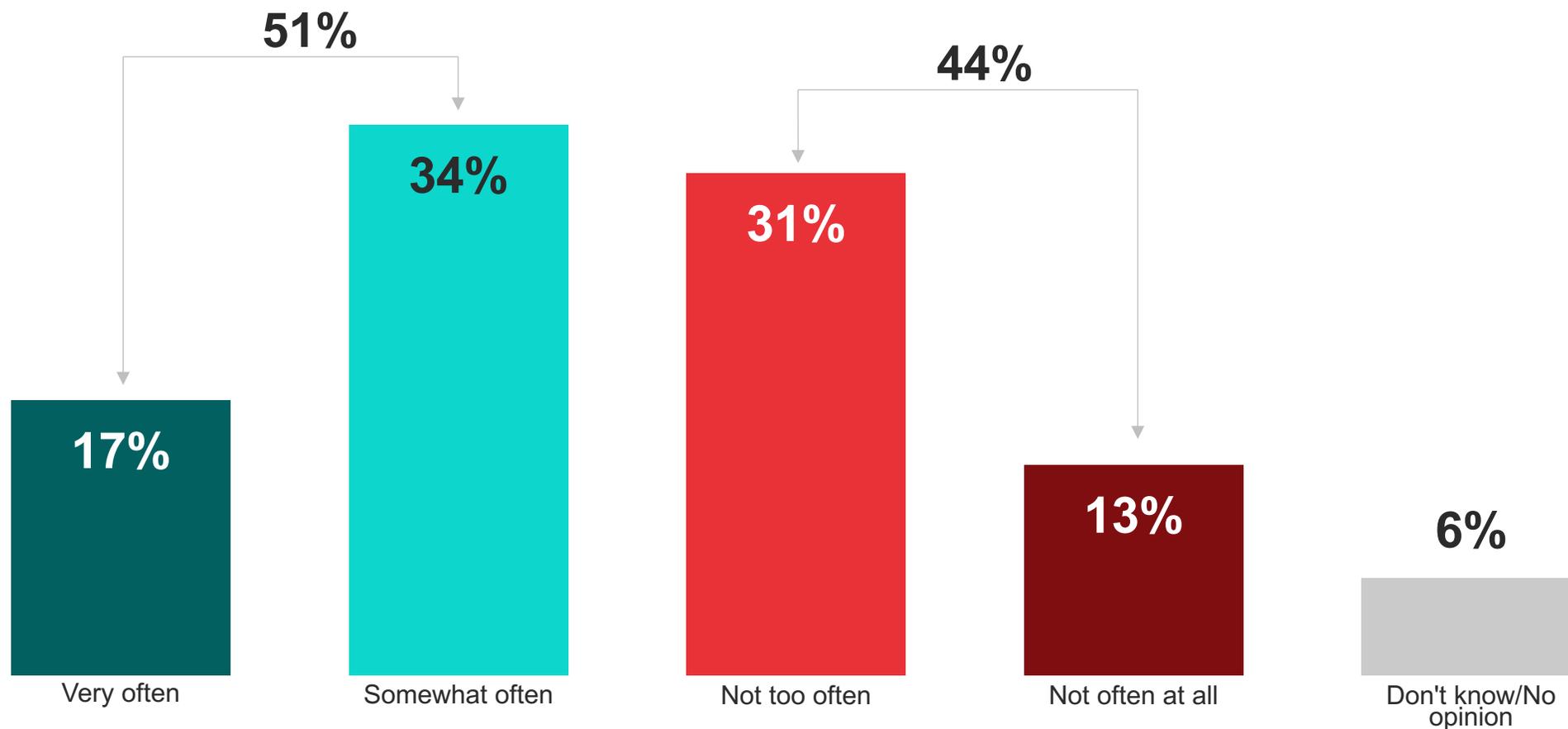
DEMOGRAPHICS



COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

Adults are divided on how frequently they have a conversation with people who have a different political view than them.

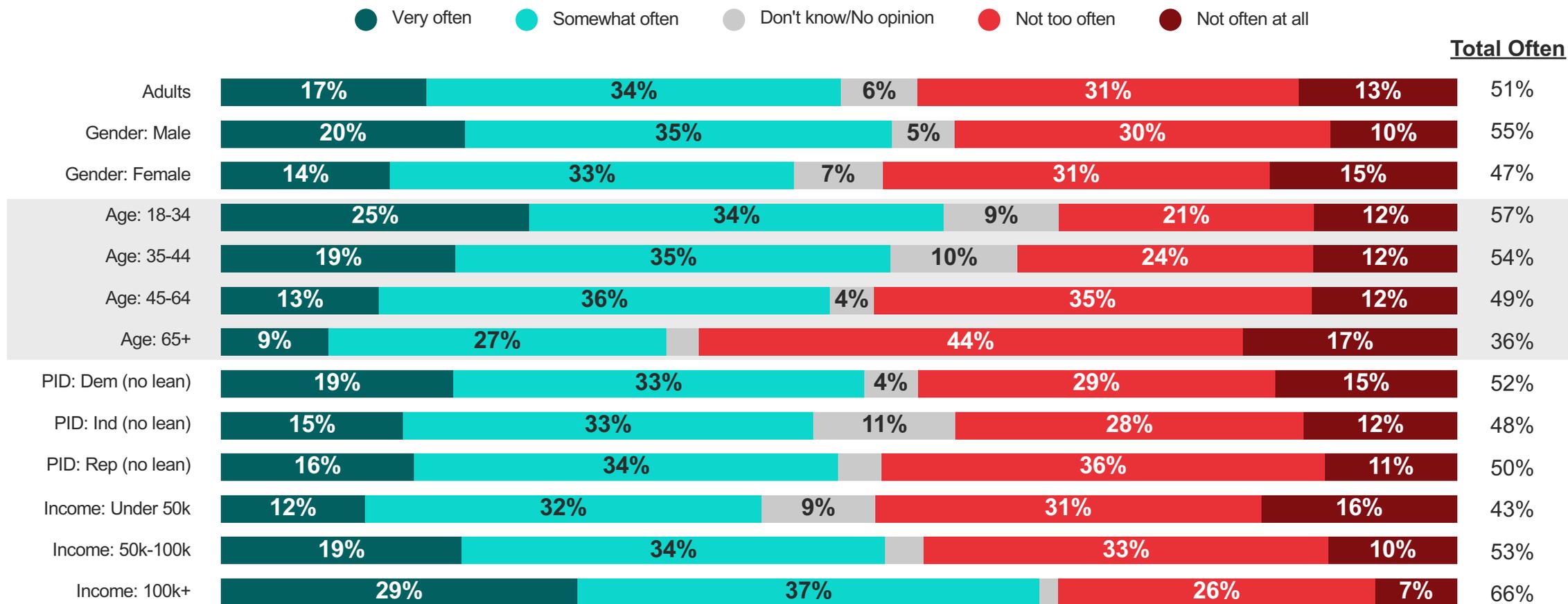
How often, if at all, do you have a conversation with people who have a different political view than you?



COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

Younger adults are more likely than older adults to say they often have a conversation with people who have a different political view than them.

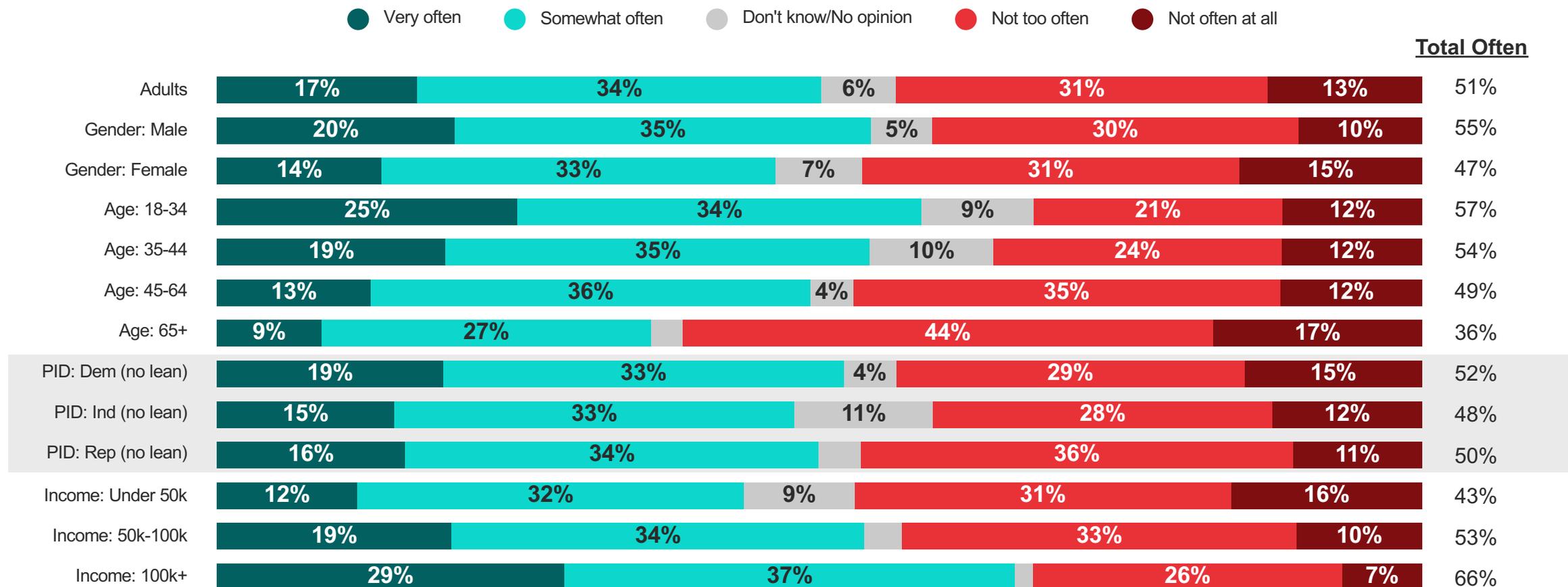
How often, if at all, do you have a conversation with people who have a different political view than you?



COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

Across political parties, about half of adults say they often have a conversation with people who have a different political view than them.

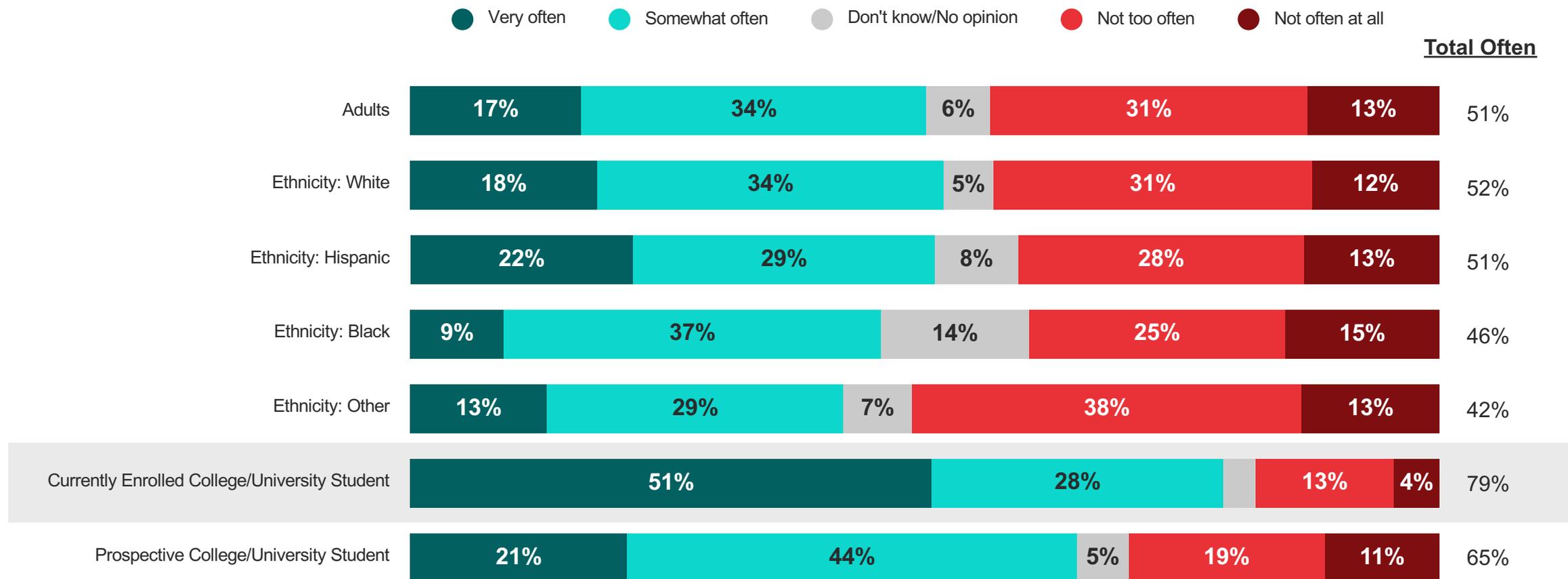
How often, if at all, do you have a conversation with people who have a different political view than you?



COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

A majority (79%) of currently enrolled college students say they often have a conversation with people who have a different political view than them, including 51% who say *very often*.

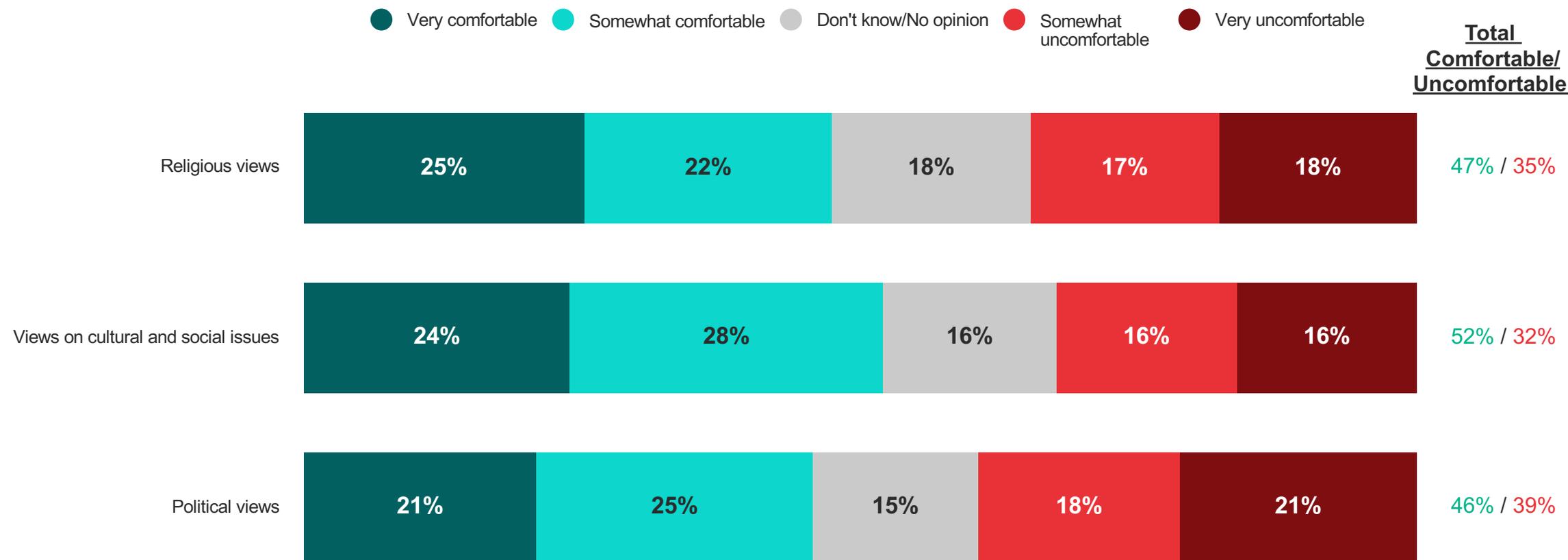
How often, if at all, do you have a conversation with people who have a different political view than you?



COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

In general, adults are more comfortable expressing views on cultural and social issues (52%) than religious (47%) or political (46%) views on social media.

In general, how comfortable or uncomfortable do you feel expressing the following types of views on social media?



COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

Democrats are more likely than independents and Republicans to feel comfortable expressing political views and views on cultural and social issues on social media.

In general, how comfortable or uncomfortable do you feel expressing the following types of views on social media?

	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
<i>Total Comfort...</i>								
Religious views	47%	50%	41%	51%	48%	45%	51%	39%
Political views	46%	56%	35%	43%	44%	50%	54%	45%
Views on cultural and social issues	52%	61%	44%	47%	51%	56%	58%	52%

COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

Black adults are more comfortable than white adults expressing their political views (+10%) and views on cultural and social issues (+7%) on social media.

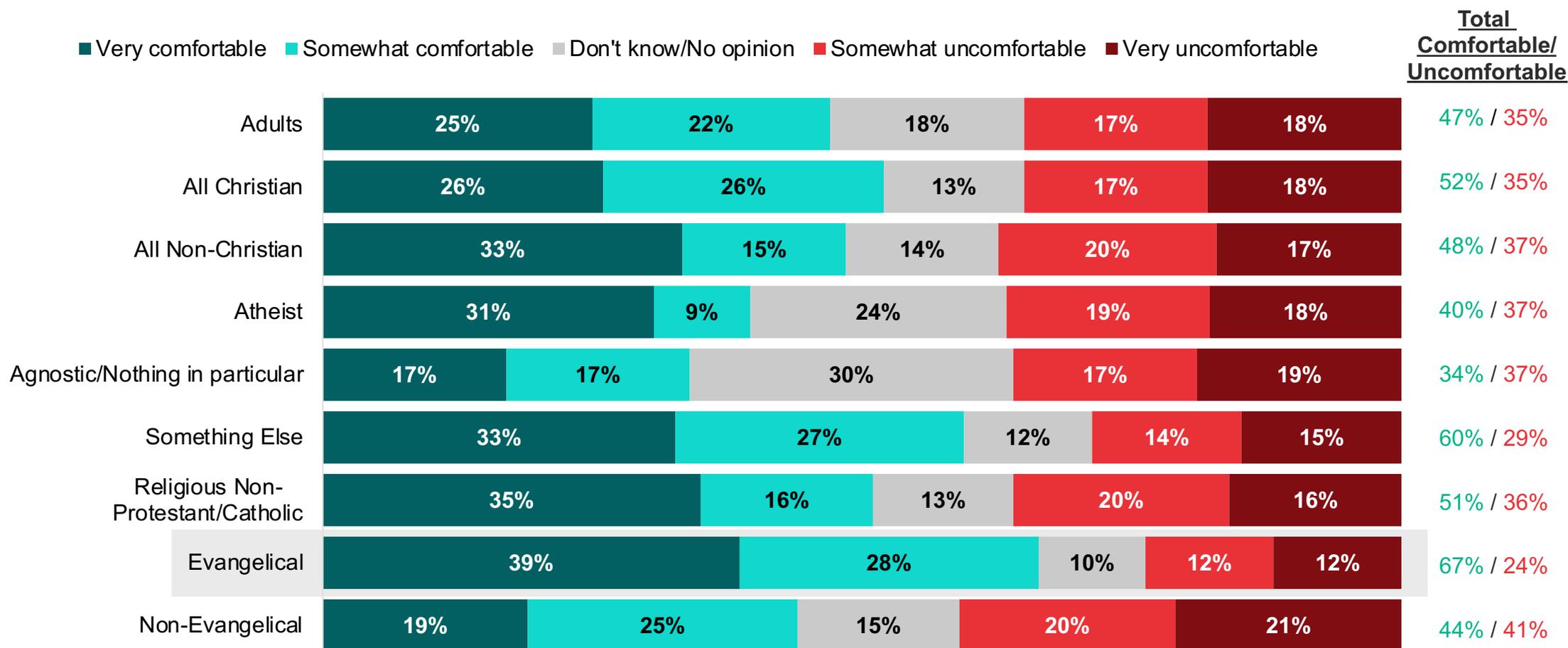
In general, how comfortable or uncomfortable do you feel expressing the following types of views on social media?

	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
<i>Total Comfort...</i>								
Religious views	47%	50%	41%	51%	48%	45%	51%	39%
Political views	46%	56%	35%	43%	44%	50%	54%	45%
Views on cultural and social issues	52%	61%	44%	47%	51%	56%	58%	52%

COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

Across religious affiliation, evangelical adults are most likely to feel comfortable expressing religious views on social media, including 39% who are *very comfortable*.

In general, how comfortable or uncomfortable do you feel expressing the following types of views on social media? **Religious Views**

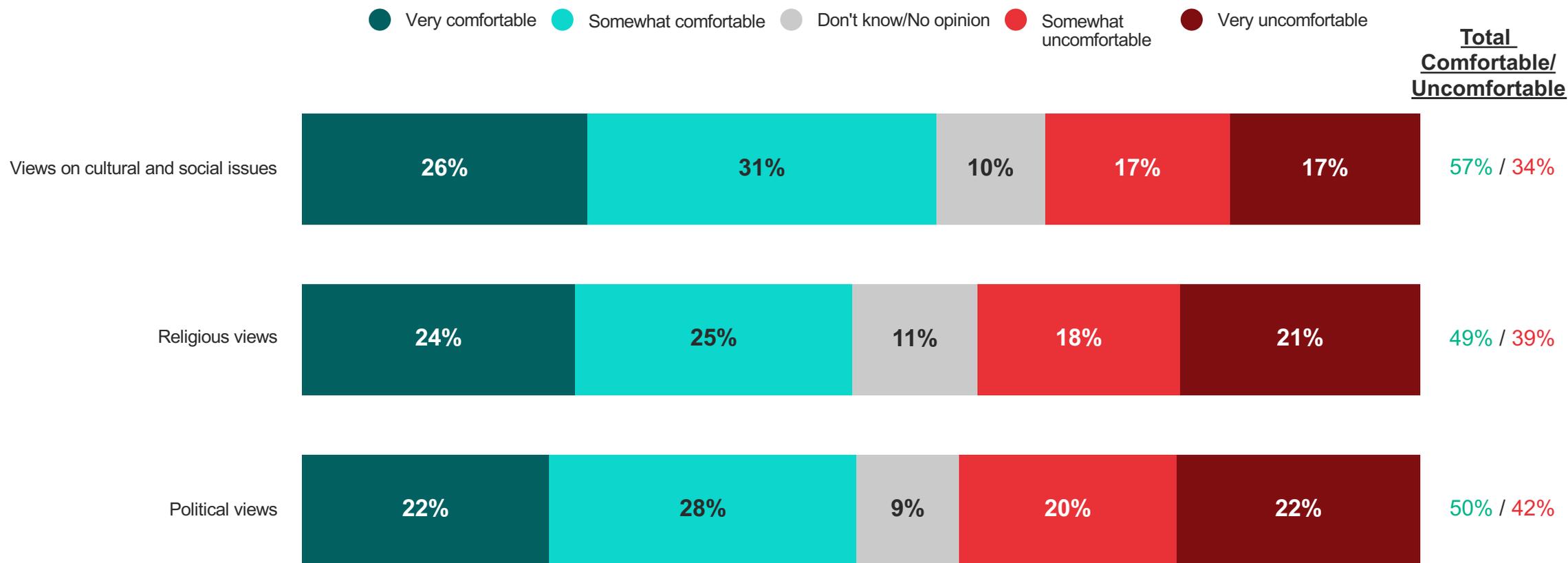


COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

In general, employed adults are also more comfortable expressing views on cultural and social issues (57%) than religious (49%) or political (50%) views in the workplace.

In general, how comfortable or uncomfortable do you feel expressing the following types of views **in the workplace**?

AMONG ADULTS WHO SAY THEY ARE EMPLOYED, n=979

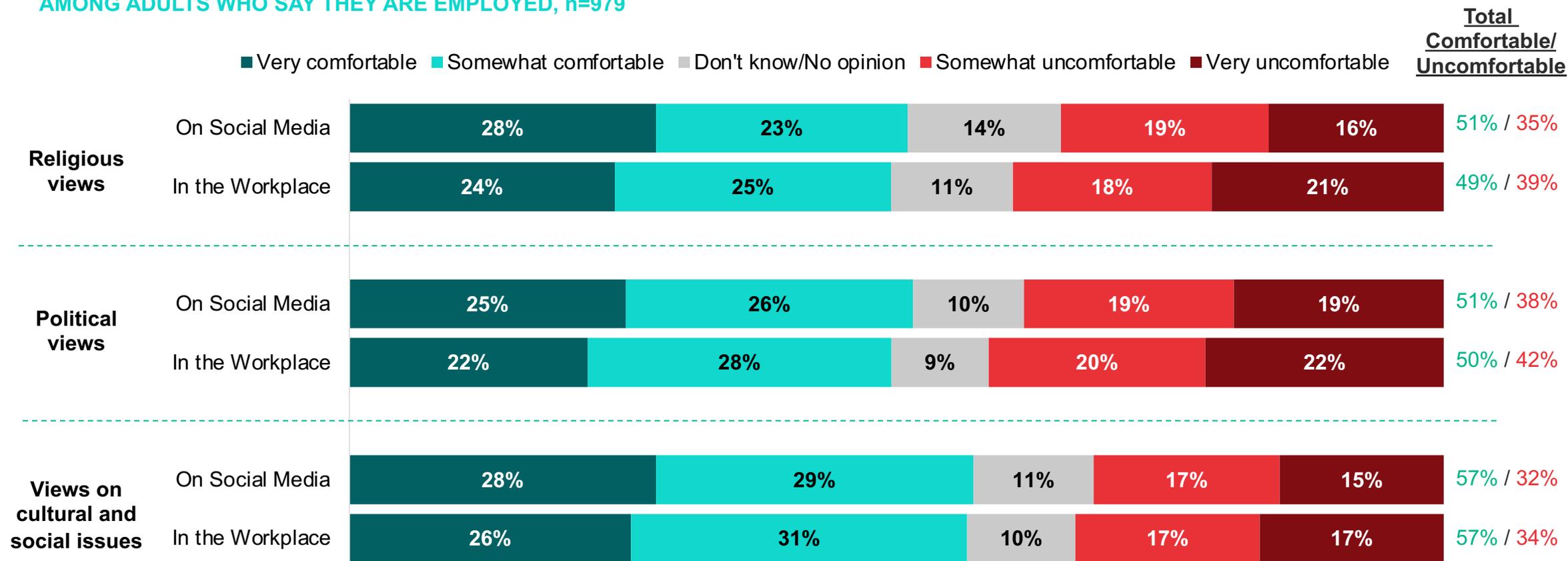


COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

In general, employed adults are as comfortable on social media as they are in the workplace expressing religious, political, and cultural and social views.

In general, how comfortable or uncomfortable do you feel expressing the following types of views...

AMONG ADULTS WHO SAY THEY ARE EMPLOYED, n=979



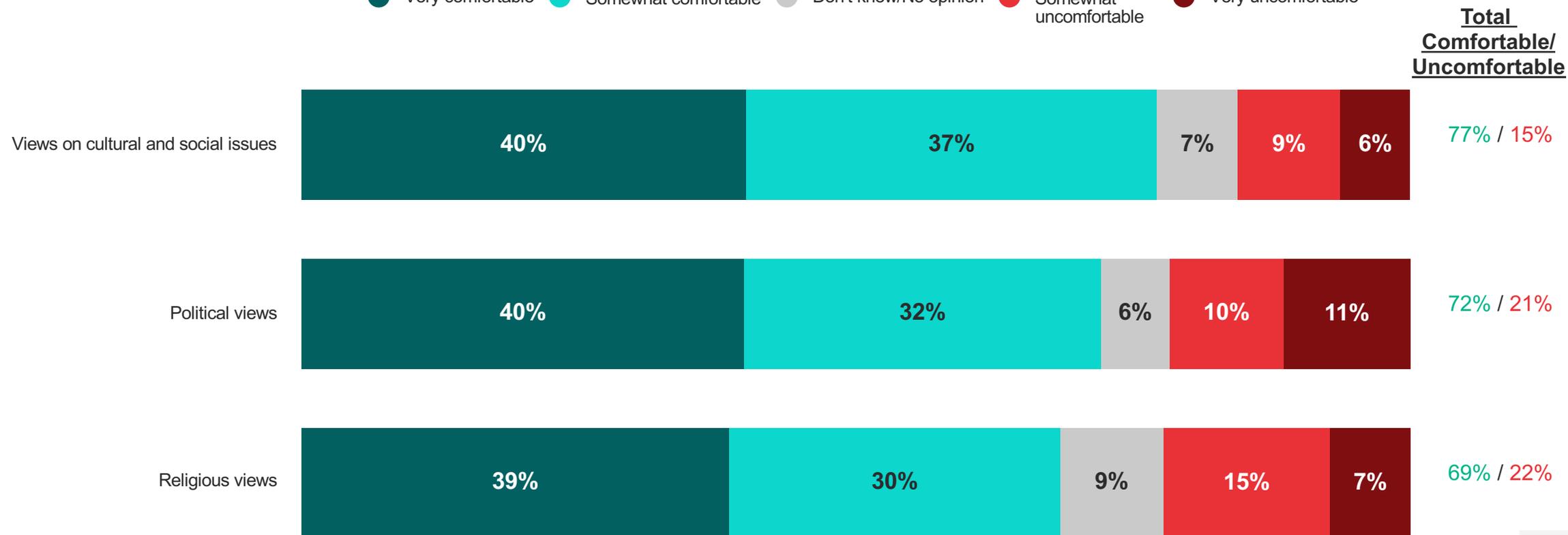
COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

In general, undergraduate students are more uncomfortable expressing political (21%) and religious (22%) views in the classroom than they are views on cultural and social issues (15%).

In general, how comfortable or uncomfortable do you feel expressing the following types of views at your college or university in the classroom?

AMONG ADULTS WHO SAY THEY ARE CURRENTLY PURSUING AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE, n=186

● Very comfortable
 ● Somewhat comfortable
 ● Don't know/No opinion
 ● Somewhat uncomfortable
 ● Very uncomfortable

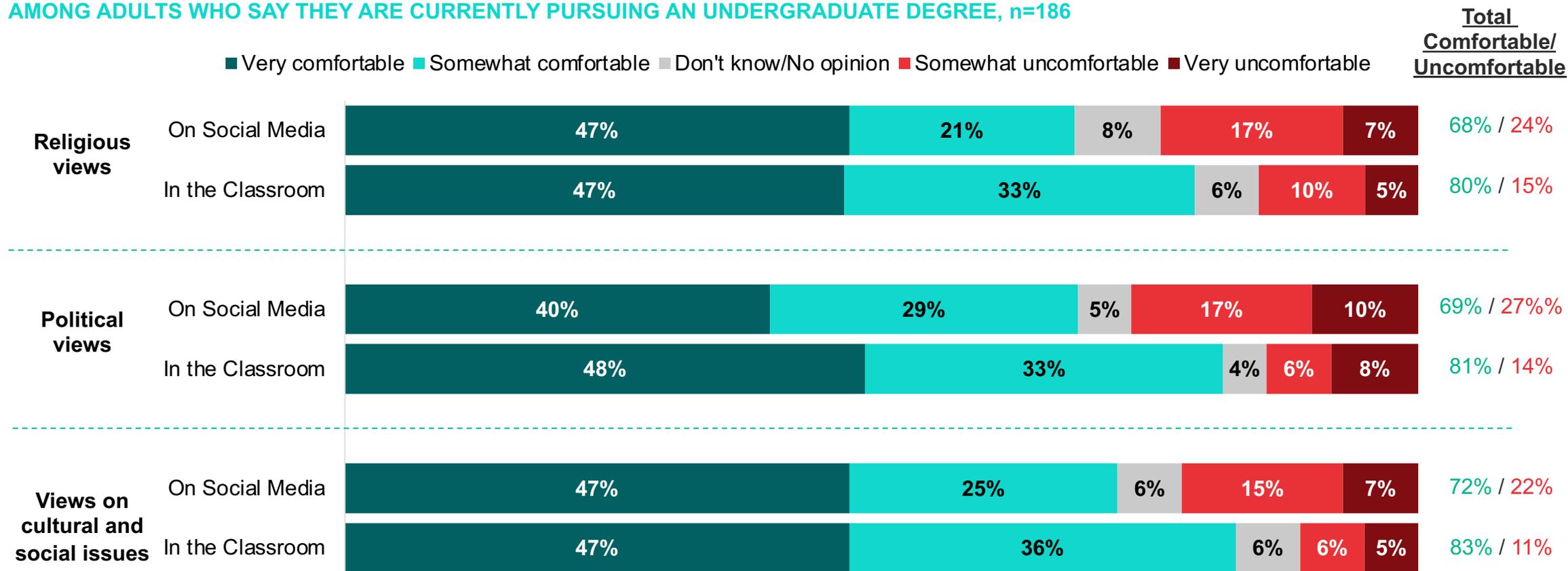


COMFORT EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

Undergraduate students are more comfortable in the classroom than on social media expressing religious, political, and cultural and social views.

In general, how comfortable or uncomfortable do you feel expressing the following types of views...

AMONG ADULTS WHO SAY THEY ARE CURRENTLY PURSUING AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE, n=186



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FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

In an open-end question, when asked what value colleges and universities bring to society, responses focused on job preparation, diversity of thought, social advancement, and personal development.

In a short phrase or sentence, what value do colleges and universities bring to society?

JOB PREPARATION

“ To further education to the extent that people can pursue their goals.

“ They teach knowledge and they teach a person to be disciplined in their studies/job.

DIVERSITY OF THOUGHT

“ ...The campuses are open to ideas that create an atmosphere of learning where people can learn new things from each other and observe different points of view.

“ Diverse knowledge and experiences.

SOCIETAL ADVANCEMENT

“ ...It brings the value of making a difference in your community family or area of study.

“ Society couldn't function as well without doctors, veterinarians, teachers, lawyers, etc. We wouldn't have them without colleges and universities.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

“ High schools help prepare young people to function in society. Colleges and Universities help those that choose them to focus on a certain path going forward as adults.

“ Its important for personal and intellectual growth.

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

However, adults are also critical of the value colleges and universities bring to society referencing cost and involvement in political and social issues.

In a short phrase or sentence, what value do colleges and universities bring to society?

“
Universities have become too politically liberal and ... don't allow for free speech unless you agree with them.

“
None. Colleges and universities have turned young individuals into liberal zombies.

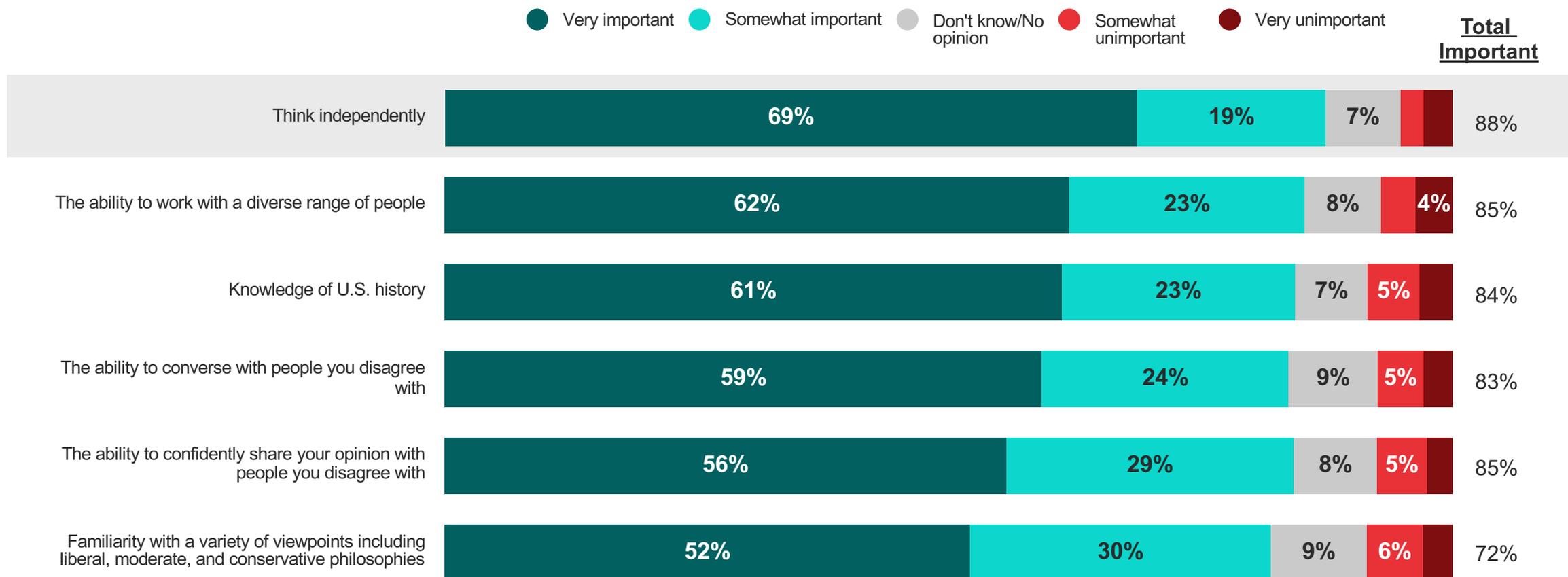
“
... They have gotten off track on social issues and critical thinking.

“
I am not sure what they do for society other than take a lot of money.

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

A strong majority of adults say all of the tested skills are important for colleges and universities to teach to students, placing the highest importance on teaching students to think independently (88%).

In your opinion, how important or unimportant is it that colleges and universities teach the following to students?



Of the options tested, adults are least likely to say it is important that colleges and universities teach familiarity with a variety of viewpoints including liberal, moderate, and conservative philosophies (72%) to students.

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

A bipartisan majority of adults think it is important colleges and universities teach each of the tested skills to students, however Democrats consistently place more importance on these items than Republicans.

In your opinion, how important or unimportant is it that colleges and universities teach the following to students?

<i>Total Important...</i>	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
Think independently	88%	91%	83%	88%	89%	88%	77%	86%
The ability to work with a diverse range of people	85%	89%	80%	85%	87%	85%	76%	82%
Knowledge of U.S. history	84%	88%	78%	85%	87%	81%	76%	79%
The ability to converse with people you disagree with	83%	86%	77%	86%	87%	78%	73%	75%
The ability to confidently share your opinion with people you disagree with	85%	90%	76%	84%	87%	82%	74%	80%
Familiarity with a variety of viewpoints including liberal, moderate, and conservative philosophies	82%	88%	75%	81%	84%	79%	74%	76%

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Black adults are less likely than white, Hispanic, and other adults of color to say that it is important that colleges and universities teach the tested skills to students.

In your opinion, how important or unimportant is it that colleges and universities teach the following to students?

<i>Total Important...</i>	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
Think independently	88%	91%	83%	88%	89%	88%	77%	86%
The ability to work with a diverse range of people	85%	89%	80%	85%	87%	85%	76%	82%
Knowledge of U.S. history	84%	88%	78%	85%	87%	81%	76%	79%
The ability to converse with people you disagree with	83%	86%	77%	86%	87%	78%	73%	75%
The ability to confidently share your opinion with people you disagree with	85%	90%	76%	84%	87%	82%	74%	80%
Familiarity with a variety of viewpoints including liberal, moderate, and conservative philosophies	82%	88%	75%	81%	84%	79%	74%	76%

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Adults with a higher level of education are more likely to say it is important that colleges and universities teach the tested skills to students.

In your opinion, how important or unimportant is it that colleges and universities teach the following to students?

<i>Total Important...</i>	All Adults	Current Undergraduate Student	< College	Bachelor's Degree	Post Graduate Degree
Think independently	88%	84%	85%	92%	98%
The ability to work with a diverse range of people	85%	83%	82%	92%	96%
Knowledge of U.S. history	84%	80%	81%	88%	94%
The ability to converse with people you disagree with	83%	84%	80%	90%	95%
The ability to confidently share your opinion with people you disagree with	85%	84%	80%	92%	95%
Familiarity with a variety of viewpoints including liberal, moderate, and conservative philosophies	82%	81%	78%	89%	92%

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Half of adults say colleges and universities are doing well at teaching students to think independently (54%) and the ability to work with a diverse range of people (55%).

In your opinion, how would you rate how colleges and universities are doing generally at teaching the following to students?



FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Democrats are more likely than independents and Republicans to say colleges and universities are teaching all of the tested skills to students well.

In your opinion, how would you rate how colleges and universities are doing generally at teaching the following to students?

<i>Positive Rating...</i>	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
Think independently	54%	70%	47%	41%	54%	55%	58%	59%
The ability to work with a diverse range of people	55%	68%	48%	43%	45%	50%	52%	42%
Knowledge of U.S. history	46%	56%	38%	35%	43%	52%	51%	49%
Familiarity with a variety of viewpoints including liberal, moderate, and conservative philosophies	44%	61%	37%	35%	45%	52%	52%	47%
The ability to converse with people you disagree with	46%	59%	40%	33%	54%	55%	58%	53%
The ability to confidently share your opinion with people you disagree with	45%	62%	38%	34%	46%	50%	51%	48%

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Adults with a higher level of education are more likely to give a positive rating to colleges and universities teaching the tested skills to students.

In your opinion, how would you rate how colleges and universities are doing generally at teaching the following to students?

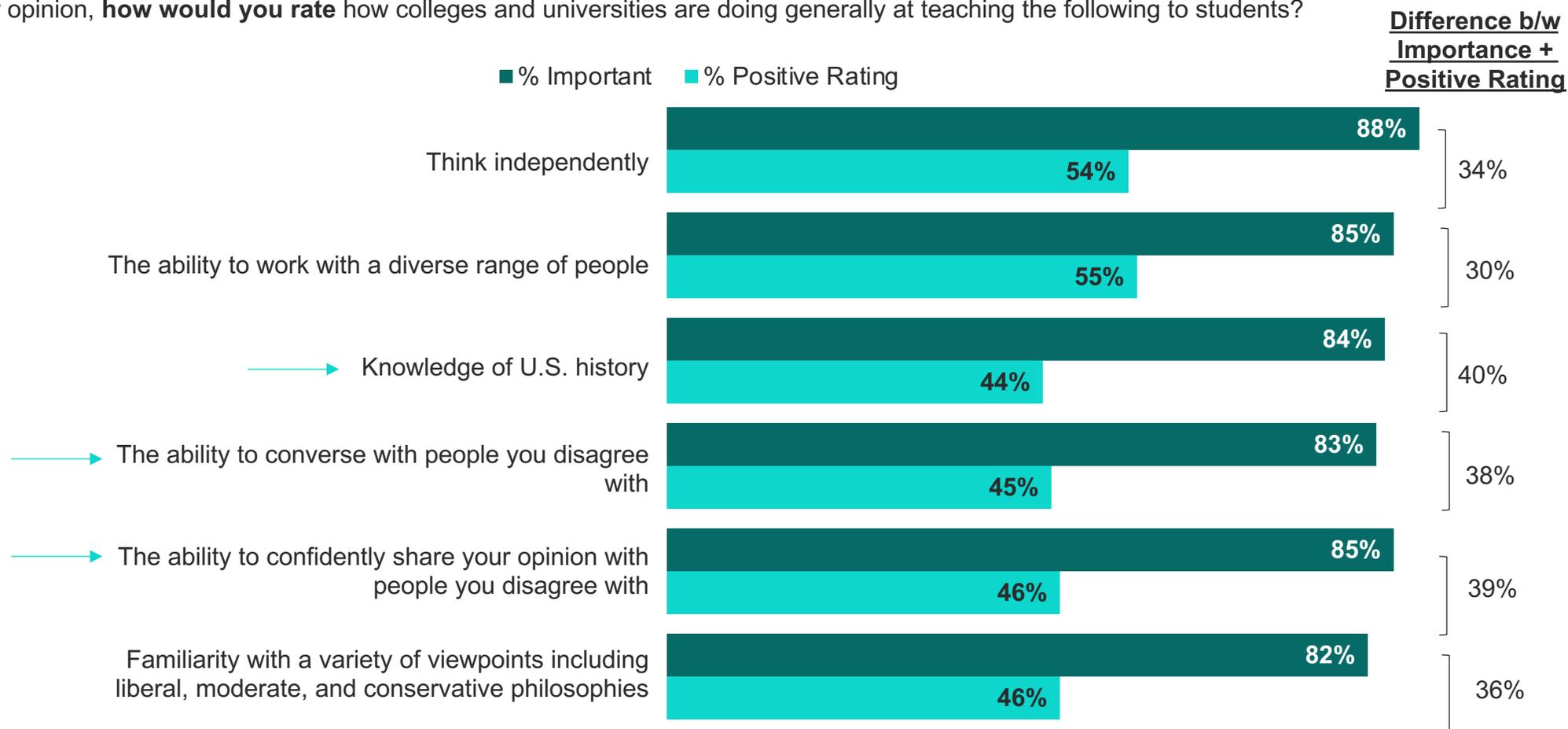
<i>Positive Rating...</i>	All Adults	Current Undergraduate Student	< College	Bachelor's Degree	Post Graduate Degree
Think independently	54%	74%	51%	62%	63%
The ability to work with a diverse range of people	55%	76%	49%	65%	68%
Knowledge of U.S. history	46%	66%	42%	50%	53%
Familiarity with a variety of viewpoints including liberal, moderate, and conservative philosophies	44%	65%	42%	52%	62%
The ability to converse with people you disagree with	46%	64%	41%	53%	56%
The ability to confidently share your opinion with people you disagree with	45%	71%	42%	55%	57%

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Comparing importance to positive rating of colleges and universities teach certain things to students, there is the largest gap on knowledge of U.S. history (40%), the ability to converse with people you disagree with (38%), and the ability to share your opinion with people you disagree with (39%).

In your opinion, **how important or unimportant** is it that colleges and universities teach the following to students?

In your opinion, **how would you rate** how colleges and universities are doing generally at teaching the following to students?

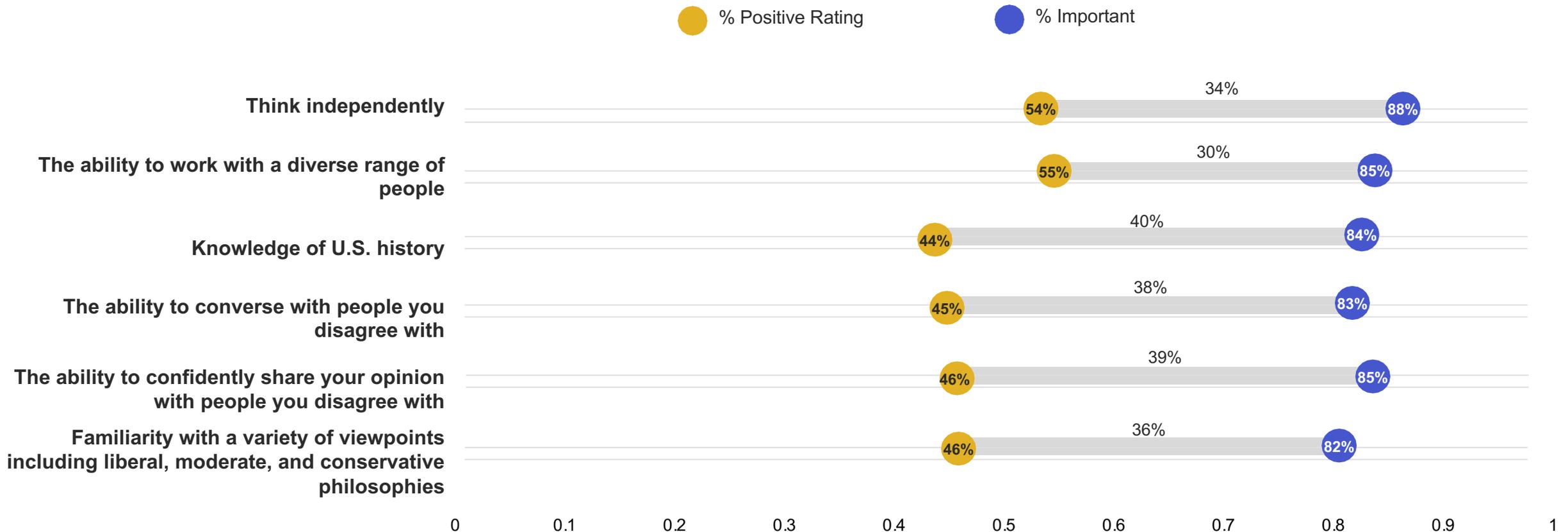


FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Comparing importance to positive rating of colleges and universities teach certain things to students, there is the largest gap on knowledge of U.S. history (40%), the ability to converse with people you disagree with (38%), and the ability to share your opinion with people you disagree with (39%).

In your opinion, **how important or unimportant** is it that colleges and universities teach the following to students?

In your opinion, **how would you rate** how colleges and universities are doing generally at teaching the following to students?



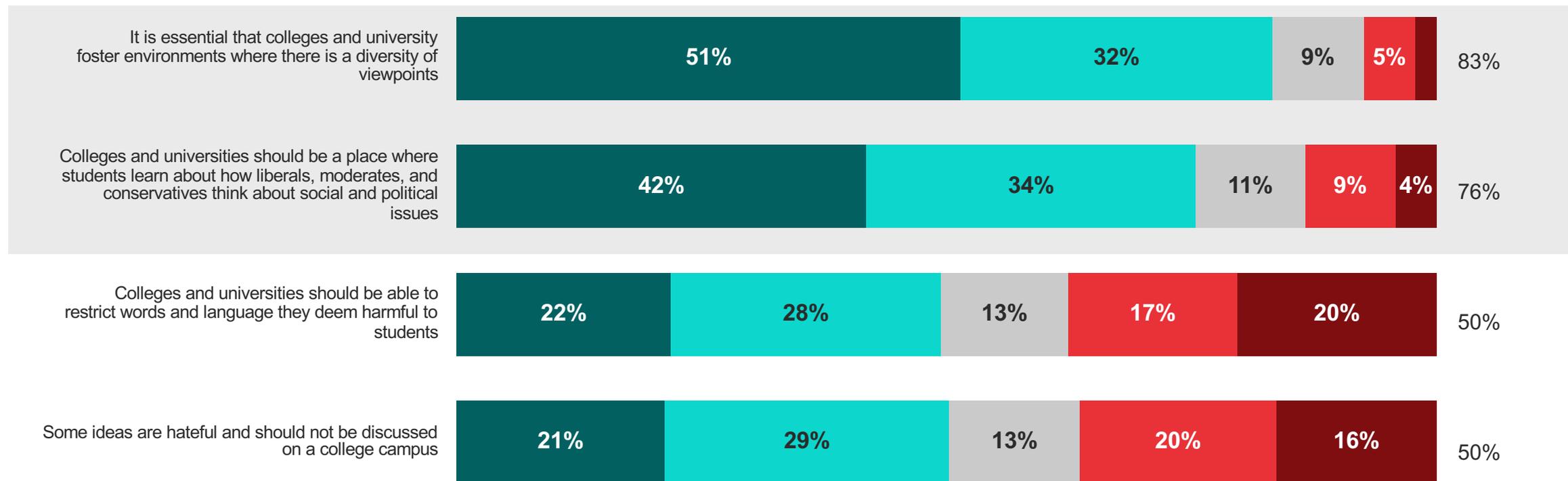
FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

A majority of adults agree that it is essential colleges and universities foster environments where there is a diversity of viewpoints (83%) and that colleges and universities should be a place where students learn about how different ideologies think about social and political issues (76%).

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

● Strongly agree
 ● Somewhat agree
 ● Don't know/No opinion
 ● Somewhat disagree
 ● Strongly disagree

Total Agree



FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Democrats are more likely independent and Republican adults to agree with all of the tested statements.

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

<i>Total Agree...</i>	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
It is essential that colleges and university foster environments where there is a diversity of viewpoints	83%	89%	79%	79%	85%	82%	75%	81%
Colleges and universities should be a place where students learn about how liberals, moderates, and conservatives think about social and political issues	76%	84%	69%	72%	77%	75%	64%	71%
Colleges and universities should be able to restrict words and language they deem harmful to students	50%	61%	43%	40%	47%	54%	57%	54%
Some ideas are hateful and should not be discussed on a college campus	50%	56%	46%	45%	49%	56%	53%	53%

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

White adults are less likely than Hispanic, Black, and other adults of color to agree that colleges and universities should be able to restrict words and language they deem harmful to students and that some ideas are hateful and should not be discussed on a college campus.

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

<i>Total Agree...</i>	All Adults	Democrat	Independent	Republican	White	Hispanic	Black	Other
It is essential that colleges and university foster environments where there is a diversity of viewpoints	83%	89%	79%	79%	85%	82%	75%	81%
Colleges and universities should be a place where students learn about how liberals, moderates, and conservatives think about social and political issues	76%	84%	69%	72%	77%	75%	64%	71%
Colleges and universities should be able to restrict words and language they deem harmful to students	50%	61%	43%	40%	47%	54%	57%	54%
Some ideas are hateful and should not be discussed on a college campus	50%	56%	46%	45%	49%	56%	53%	53%

FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Current undergraduate students are more likely than adults overall to say colleges and universities should be able to restrict words and language they deem harmful to students (80%) and that some ideas are hateful and should not be discussed on a college campus (66%).

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

<i>Total Agree...</i>	All Adults	Current Undergraduate Student	< College	Bachelor's Degree	Post Graduate Degree
It is essential that colleges and university foster environments where there is a diversity of viewpoints	83%	83%	80%	90%	92%
Colleges and universities should be a place where students learn about how liberals, moderates, and conservatives think about social and political issues	76%	78%	71%	86%	89%
Colleges and universities should be able to restrict words and language they deem harmful to students	50%	80%	48%	51%	55%
Some ideas are hateful and should not be discussed on a college campus	50%	66%	50%	53%	51%

AGENDA

FREE EXPRESSION

EXPRESSING VIEWPOINTS

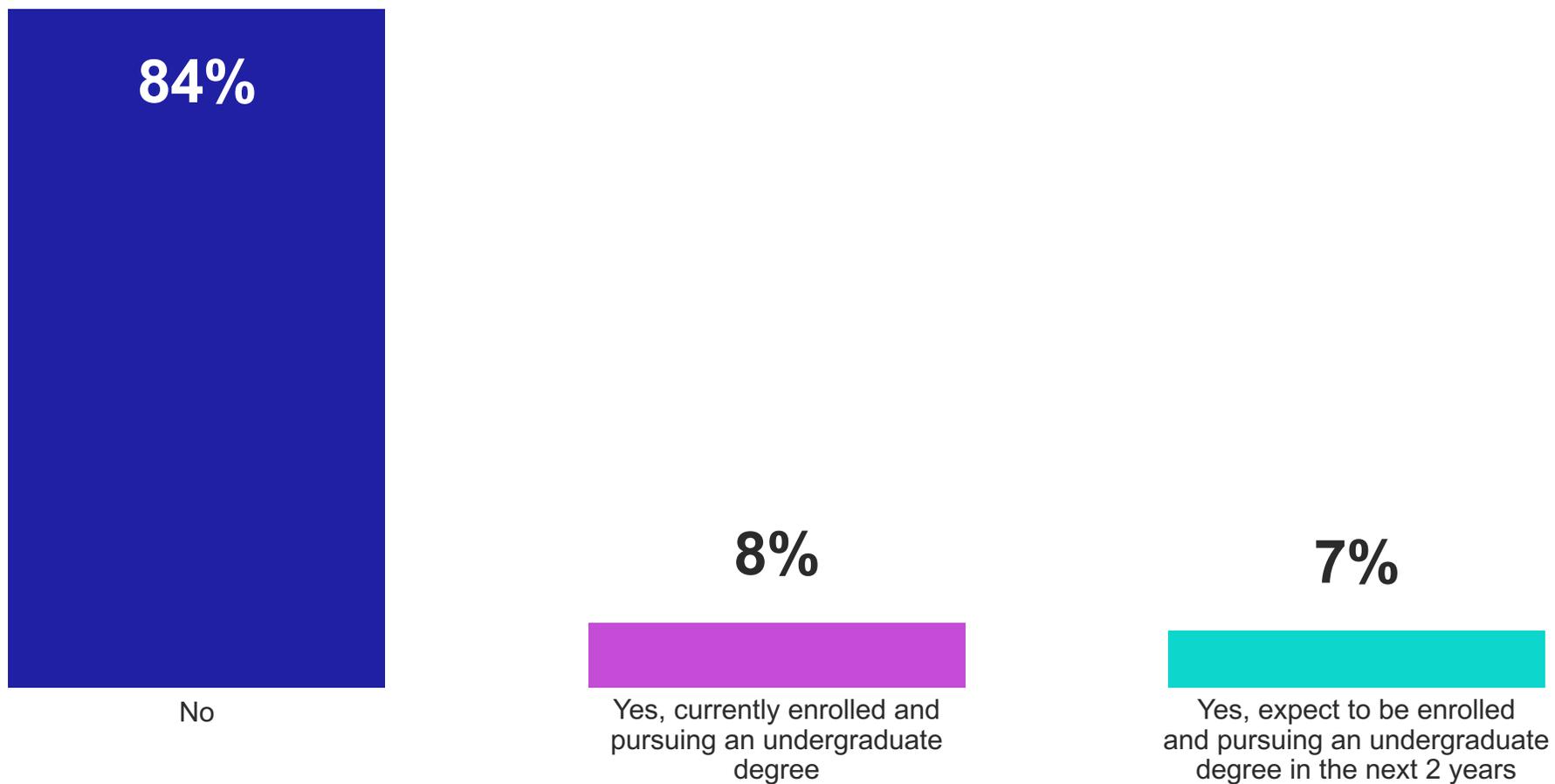
FREE EXPRESSION IN HIGHER
EDUCATION

DEMOGRAPHICS



DEMOGRAPHICS

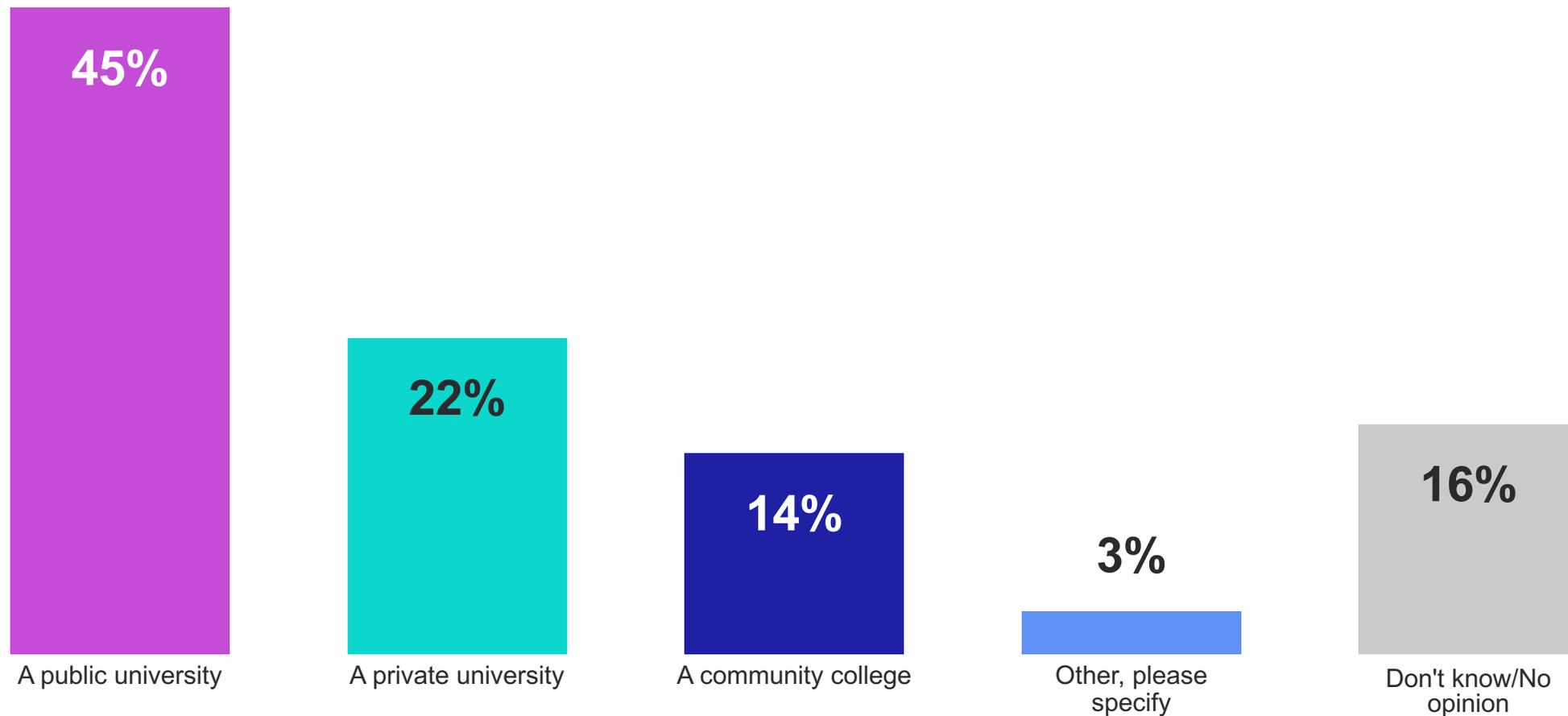
Are you currently enrolled in college or university pursuing an undergraduate degree, and if not, do you expect to be enrolled in the next two years?



DEMOGRAPHICS

Which of the following best describes the institution you graduated from or plan to graduate from?

AMONG ADULTS WHO ARE CURRENTLY PURSUING AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE OR THOSE WHO INDICATED THEY HAVE AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE OR HIGHER, n= 1101





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