

# Attitudes Toward and Knowledge of Environmental Issues

Research to Inform Nevada's  
Outdoor Education Efforts



Conducted for

Nevada Outdoor Education Advisory Working Group

Nevada Department of Conservation and  
Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation

Together We Can

2024

# **Attitudes Toward and Knowledge of Environmental Issues**

**Research to Inform Nevada's Outdoor Education Efforts**

**2024**

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Responsive Management would like to thank the Nevada Outdoor Education Advisory Working Group, with particular thanks to Kendal Scott, Outdoor Education Lead, Nevada Division of Outdoor Recreation, and Roz Brooks, Chief Executive Officer of Together We Can, for their input, support, and guidance on this project.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This study was conducted for the Nevada Outdoor Education Advisory Working Group (AWG), the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation (the Division), and Together We Can to obtain survey research in support of Nevada's outdoor education curriculum. In particular, the study assessed attitudes and experiences regarding the outdoor learning infrastructure in the state, such as schoolyard and nature access, integration of classroom content into outdoor experiences, and general educational policy, among other topics. The study included an online survey of Nevada classroom teachers, school administrators, outdoor education partners, parents, and community members (collectively referred to as stakeholders in the report) and a similar online survey of Nevada students.

The online survey questionnaires were developed cooperatively by Responsive Management, the Division, and Together We Can, and the surveys were available in English and Spanish. Once the questionnaires were developed, Responsive Management coded the surveys for implementation via an online survey platform and provided the Division with survey links for distribution. The Division directly contacted the stakeholder and student groups with invitations to take the survey.

The online surveys were conducted in May through August 2024. Responsive Management obtained 487 completed interviews with adult stakeholders and 216 completed interviews with students.

The analysis of data was performed using IBM SPSS Statistics as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management.

### IMPORTANCE OF SPENDING TIME OUTDOORS

The large majority of stakeholders think spending time outdoors is *extremely* important for children and youth (79% do so), and nearly all think it is *extremely* or *very* important.

Students place substantially less importance on spending time outdoors than do stakeholders. Among students, only 23% think it is *extremely* important that they spend time outdoors, with most of the remaining saying it is *very* or *somewhat* important to them. Nonetheless, when students were asked if they wanted to spend more or less time on outdoor field trips, they overwhelmingly want to spend more time outdoors (75% of students stated this).

The same question about the importance that youth spend time outdoors was asked of stakeholders, with the questions specific to school levels: PreK, elementary school, middle school, and high school. A final question in the series then asked about the importance among those in non-traditional education. In each case, large majorities think it is *extremely* important, and nearly all think it is *extremely* or *very* important.

Both teachers and the students themselves overwhelmingly feel that being outdoors improves the mood of students: 97% of teachers say it improves their students' mood, and 81% of students say it improves their own mood.

Stakeholders overwhelmingly support (84%) having a minimum time requirement for student breaks or recess; nearly two thirds (63%) *strongly support* the requirement.

If a minimum time requirement for recess or breaks is mandated statewide, stakeholders were asked what the amount of time should be: their median response was 3 hours per week. In addition, 45 minutes was their median response for the ideal amount of break time per day.

A majority of stakeholders support having recess or breaks count as instructional time (61% support this), although 17% oppose the idea. *Strong* support is highest among parents and teachers.

By a nearly 2-to-1 margin, more stakeholders oppose (56%) than support (30%) restricting students from recess or breaks as punishment for poor behavior or school performance. Interestingly, there is more support from students than from any stakeholder group except teachers.

### **IMPORTANCE OF VARIOUS OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES**

Stakeholders were presented with a list of outdoor experiences, and they were asked to select the most important ones for youth growing up in Nevada. The top results were learning about or participating in protecting the state's lands and waters, and the same for plants and animals (both selected by over 80% of stakeholders). A second tier, selected by three quarters of stakeholders, includes exploring parks and using trails.

The top selections by students from the same list are swimming or playing in a lake, playing in the snow, camping, and hiking—all selected by over half of students.

### **SUPPORT OF VARIOUS ASPECTS OF OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

The survey defined outdoor *learning* as taking any type of class outdoors. Nearly all stakeholders (92%) support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards.

Stakeholders gave, in response to an open-ended question, their reasons for supporting the integration of outdoor learning into overall education standards. Common responses include the need for students to get fresh air and sunshine, detachment from technology, appreciation of natural resources and wildlife, and exposure to outside activities that may lead to a healthier lifestyle later in life. (All verbatim comments to open-ended questions are included in the appendix of the report.)

When asked to name reasons for opposing outdoor learning, many of the comments related to lack of time, staff, or budget; heat; safety concerns, particularly with large class sizes; and lack of expertise.

The survey defined outdoor *education* as education related specifically to the outdoors and nature (in contrast to outdoor *learning*, which refers to any subject taught outdoors). As before, however, nearly all stakeholders (92%) *strongly* or *moderately* support integrating outdoor education into overall education standards. Students were included in this question (they were

not for outdoor *learning*), and their overall support is markedly lower compared to stakeholders (71%).

Reasons for supporting the integration of outdoor education into overall education standards include the value of appreciating nature, promotion of mental health, benefits of physical activity, and preparing children for ecosystem stewardship.

When asked to name reasons for opposing the integration of outdoor education, many of the comments related to too many competing requirements, safety and liability concerns, heat, and lack of access to nature areas.

Collectively, 60% of teachers, parents, and community members are *very* or *somewhat* interested in working with other grade levels in outdoor learning settings; teachers are markedly more interested than the other two groups. Meanwhile, two thirds of students are *very* or *somewhat* interested in outdoor learning with other grade levels.

### **GROUPS THAT WOULD BENEFIT FROM OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

Stakeholders were presented with a list of groups and asked which ones would benefit the most from outdoor learning. The top selections were at-risk youth and urban youth (both at 86%), closely followed by underserved populations (79%). At the bottom were English language learners (60%) and rural youth (55%), who were nonetheless selected by a majority of respondents.

### **INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

Teachers and school administrators were asked which types of outdoor learning space they have access to, from a provided list. Nearly three quarters of each group have access to playgrounds, followed by a second tier that includes park spaces, gardens, and outdoor classroom spaces.

Nearly two thirds of outdoor education partners and parents are *very* or *somewhat* likely to use a schoolyard area as a park or recreational area in the next 12 months, whereas a slight majority of community members and students gave one of these responses.

From a provided list, stakeholders selected features or facilities that are most important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment: shade (selected by 79%), trees (71%), and outdoor classroom space (69%) are the top selections. The next tier includes garden space, nature play areas, connectivity to local parks or trails, and native plants—all selected by over 50%.

Students have the same top selections, shade and trees, but in general have lower percentages selecting most of the features. On the other hand, students more often selected sports areas, more grass, water features, and picnic space than did stakeholders.

Students were asked about their interest level in five outdoor activities during school. At the top, 83% are *very* or *somewhat* interested in spending an hour outside every day. In descending order of *very* or *somewhat* interested percentages, the remaining choices are PE classes for

outdoor skills (77%), outdoor career technical training (68%), taking care of a piece of land (64%), and mentoring younger students in outdoor courses (57%).

Teachers, administrators, and students were asked how long they are willing to walk to an area for outdoor learning: teachers gave a median of 20 minutes, administrators gave a median of 30 minutes, and students gave a median of 45 minutes.

### **OUTDOOR EDUCATION RESOURCES AND COORDINATION**

Nearly half of teachers and administrators are *very* or *somewhat* familiar with school gardening as a resource for outdoor education. The other resources, presented in a list, are much less familiar to these respondents: about a quarter or less are *very* or *somewhat* familiar with Project WET (Water Education Today), Project Wild, and local outdoor education providers, and only 6% gave those responses for Project Learning Tree.

The survey asked teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners what resources they need to effectively implement outdoor education, in an open-ended question. Common responses include lesson materials, training, shade, seating, athletic equipment, and access to natural areas.

The survey next asked teachers and administrators which types of outdoor education training or development they would find beneficial for conducting outdoor learning or education. From the provided list, 76% selected prepared lesson plans, followed by classroom management in the outdoors (56%), Career and Technical Education credit courses (49%), and conferences (43%).

Teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners, collectively, most often think that the school district should be most responsible for overseeing outdoor education (56% selected this), followed by the school itself (54%), the State of Nevada (46%), or an outside partner (38%).

### **FUNDING FOR OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

State or federal grants as a single category is the most supported funding source for outdoor education in Nevada, with 91% of stakeholders *strongly* or *moderately* supporting the source. Support is high for the other sources listed in the survey as well: 82% support public-private partnerships, 77% support economic development dollars, and 66% support both corporate school adoption and workforce training dollars.

Other suggestions for funding often included references to other wasteful spending by school districts, state and local governments, other inefficient programs, and standardized testing and curriculum requirements.

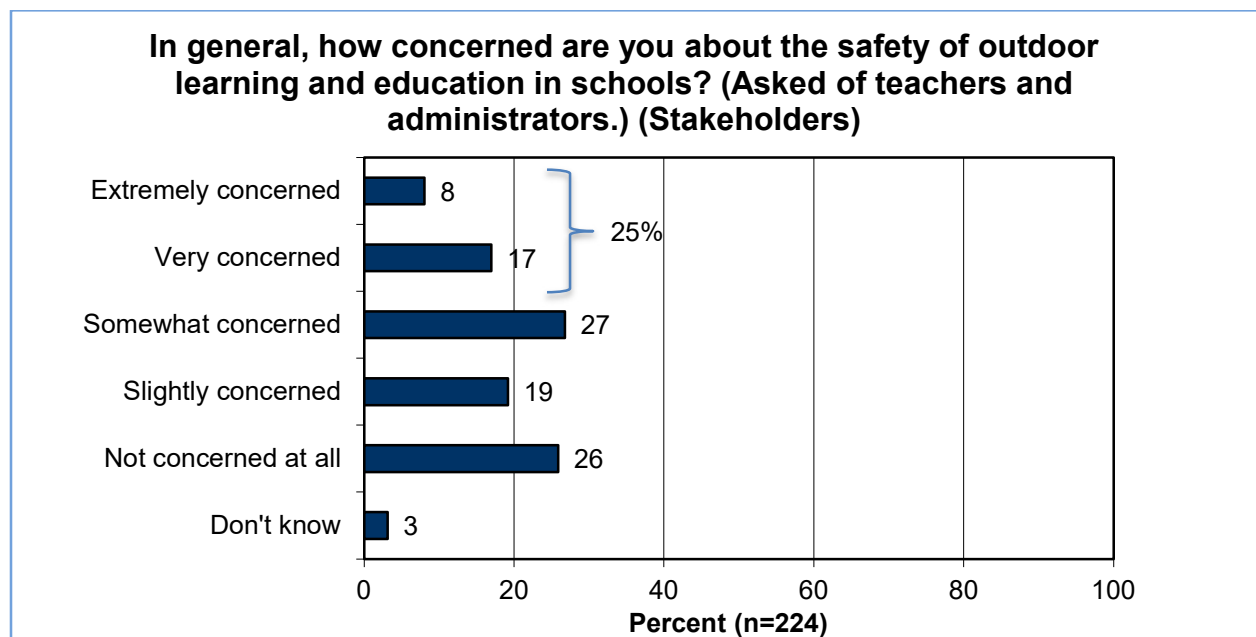
### **OBSTACLES TO AND NEEDS FOR OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

An open-ended question asked stakeholders to name the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools. Common responses include heat, time, staff, budget, administrative and student apathy, training and expertise, safety concerns, legal liability, and access to natural areas.

Another open-ended question asked stakeholders to identify the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools. Many responses overlap with the prior question, such as time within the curriculum, qualified staff, and funding. Other responses include buses or vans, first aid or survival training, community and family outreach, volunteers, and sports or play equipment.

The survey presented teachers and administrators with six potential obstacles to using their current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as they would like or at all. Looking at combined percentages of *extremely* and *very* important reasons, time was the top response at 63%. Otherwise, a little over half gave one of these responses for weather, a little under half did so for lack of training in outdoor education, safety concerns, and restrictions on changing the schoolyard, and about a third did so for the comfort level outdoors.

In general, teachers and administrators are divided on their level of concern about the safety of outdoor learning and education; the graph below shows that all responses across the scale have robust percentages.



Those with safety concerns stated, in a follow-up open-ended question, that their concerns include heat, allergies, too many students to supervise, injuries, and lack of safety supplies.

### INTEREST IN VOLUNTEERING

Roughly half of parents and community members in the stakeholder survey (51%) are *very* or *somewhat* interested in volunteering to assist with outdoor education.

### TIME SPENT OUTDOORS

Parents indicated that their children spend a median of 7 hours outdoors in general per week, while students said they spend a median of 8 hours outdoors each week. Meanwhile, teachers, parents, and students all said that students spend a median of 1 hour per week on outdoor learning or education in school.



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## **INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY**

The Nevada state legislature identified a need to study ways to integrate outdoor activities into the public education curriculum. To that end, Assembly Bill 164, passed during the 2023 legislative session, led to the establishment of the Nevada Outdoor Education Advisory Working Group (AWG).

Consisting of 16 members, the AWG's primary responsibility is to study ways to integrate outdoor education and recreation into the PreK-12 public school system. The group will be reporting its final recommendations to the state legislature and may also submit a bill draft request (BDR) for the 2025 legislative session. With that goal, the AWG contracted Responsive Management to gather and analyze data from education stakeholders and students on outdoor education ideas to inform its report to the legislature and its concept for a BDR. The research effort targeted classroom teachers, school administrators, outdoor education partners, parents, community members, and students.

Specifically, this study was conducted for the AWG, the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation (the Division), and Together We Can to obtain survey research in support of Nevada's outdoor education curriculum. In particular, the study assessed attitudes and experiences regarding the outdoor learning infrastructure in the state, such as schoolyard and nature access, integration of classroom content into outdoor experiences, and general educational policy, among other topics. The study included online surveys of Nevada stakeholders and classroom students. The research methodology is discussed in detail below.

The online survey questionnaires were developed cooperatively by Responsive Management, the Division, and Together We Can, based in part on the research team's familiarity with conservation and outdoor recreation. Different questionnaires were administered to the adult stakeholders and the students, although there was substantial overlap between the surveys.

Responsive Management conducted pre-tests of the questionnaires to ensure proper wording, flow, and logic in the surveys. Once the questionnaires were finalized in English, Responsive Management worked with a professional translator to provide Spanish versions with identical content. Respondents could take the online survey in their preferred language.

Once the questionnaires were developed, Responsive Management coded the surveys for implementation via an online survey platform and provided the Division with survey links for distribution.

The Division directly contacted the stakeholder and student groups with invitations to take the survey; the full list of these groups is shown on the next page.

**Stakeholder and Student Groups Invited to Take the Survey**

Outdoor education stakeholders email list  
School districts and charter schools via Department of Education newsletter  
Environmental education providers via Nevada Department of Wildlife  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources employee emails  
Nevada Division of Outdoor Recreation email list  
Community Education Advisory Boards  
FACES teacher and parents' group  
Nevada Outdoor School email list  
Douglas school district teachers  
Carson High School track team  
Carson High School students  
Carson High School Google classrooms  
Schools in Clark County  
Safekey  
Teachers' union  
Assemblywoman Mosca contact list  
Charter school associations  
Nevada Association of School Administrators  
Clark County Pre-K programs, home schools  
Various social media outlets

Note that the online survey questionnaires were programmed to branch and substitute phrases in the survey based on previous responses to ensure the integrity and consistency of the data collection. The survey questionnaire also contained error checkers and computation statements to ensure quality and consistent data.

For additional quality checks of the online surveys, the Survey Center managers and statisticians checked each completed survey to ensure clarity and completeness, as well as to identify potentially invalid surveys.

The online surveys were conducted in May through August 2024. Responsive Management obtained 487 completed questionnaires with adult stakeholders and 216 completed questionnaires with students.

The analysis of data was performed using IBM SPSS Statistics as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management. Although demographic data were collected by the surveys, results were not weighted to demographic characteristics because the samples were closed datasets.

In examining the results, it is important to be aware that the questionnaire included several types of questions:

- Single response questions: Some questions allow only a single response.
- Multiple response questions: Other questions allow respondents to give more than one response or choose all that apply. Those that allow more than a single response are indicated on the graphs with the label, "Multiple Responses Allowed."
- Closed-ended questions have an answer set from which to choose.
- Open-ended questions are those in which no answer set is presented to the respondents; rather, they can respond with anything that comes to mind from the question.
- Scaled questions: Some closed-ended questions (but not all) are in a scale, such as one that ranges from extremely important to not important at all.
- Series questions: Some questions are part of a series, and the results are primarily intended to be examined relative to the other questions in that series (although results of the questions individually can also be valuable). Typically, results of all questions in a series are shown together.

For open-ended questions, verbatim responses are presented in tables. The tables are too long to be conveniently presented within the body of the report, and therefore they are included in the report appendix.

Most graphs show results rounded to the nearest integer; however, all data are stored in decimal format, and all calculations are performed on unrounded numbers. For this reason, some results may not sum to exactly 100% because of this rounding on the graphs. Additionally, rounding may cause apparent discrepancies of 1 percentage point between the graphs and the reported results of combined responses (e.g., when "strongly support" and "moderately support" are summed to determine the total percentage of support).

On questions that asked respondents to provide a number (e.g., hours per week spent outdoors), graphs may show ranges of numbers rather than the precise numbers. Nonetheless, in the survey each respondent provided a precise number, and the dataset includes this precise number, even if the graph shows only ranges of numbers. Note that the calculation of means and medians used the precise numbers that the respondents provided.

The data are presented in a number of ways. First, for each question, overall stakeholder results are shown. This is followed by stakeholder results crosstabulated by age categories (18 to 34 years old, 35 to 54 years old, and 55 years old or older).

Next, results are broken out by stakeholder categories. A question in the adult stakeholder survey had respondents classify themselves as one of the following:

- Classroom teacher
- School administrator
- Outdoor education school partner
- Parent of child in school
- Community member

Students are included in this crosstabulation as a sixth category. Although students received a separate questionnaire, many questions are identical or similar between the surveys, and therefore it was decided to include students on these graphs as a convenient comparison to adult stakeholder results. When questions in the two surveys were similar enough for comparison but worded differently, both questions were included on the graph. (A few questions are unique to the student questionnaire, in which case the results are shown individually.)

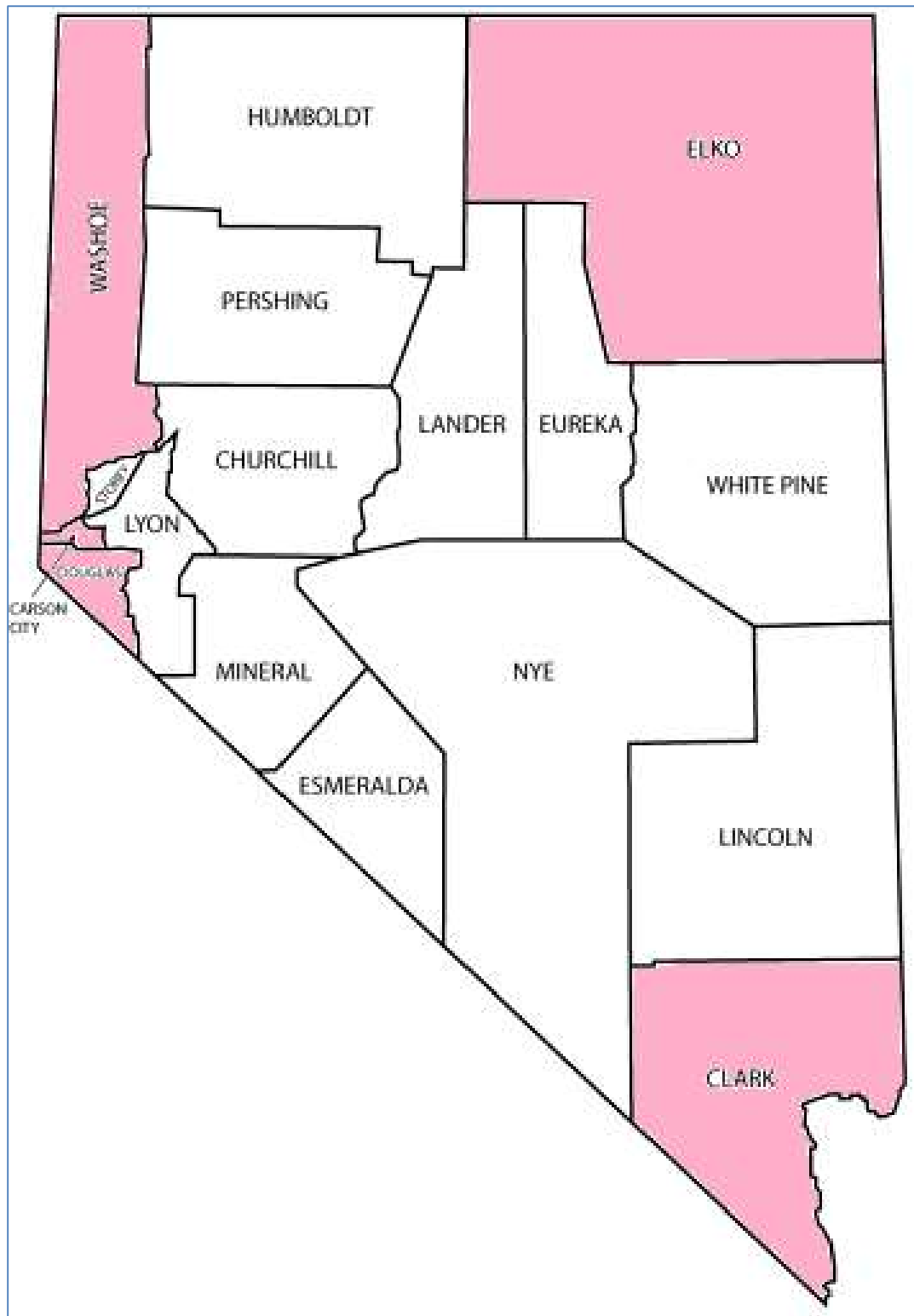
Finally, stakeholder results are shown by county. Rather than showing all county results in tables, the research team agreed to present the results in 6-bar graphs, showing the five most populous counties (including Carson City), with combined results of the less populated counties combined as a sixth category:

- Washoe County
- Carson City
- Douglas County
- Elko County
- Clark County
- All other counties

In summary, the results are presented as follows:

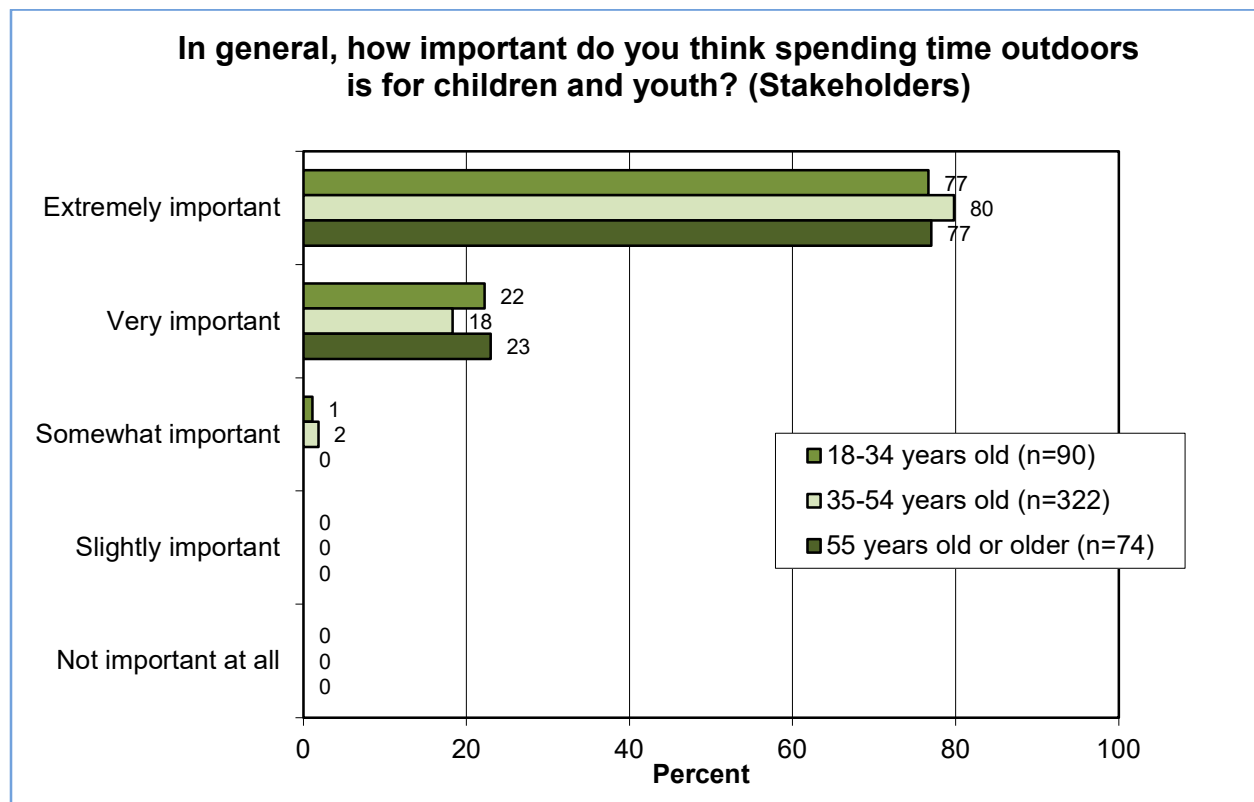
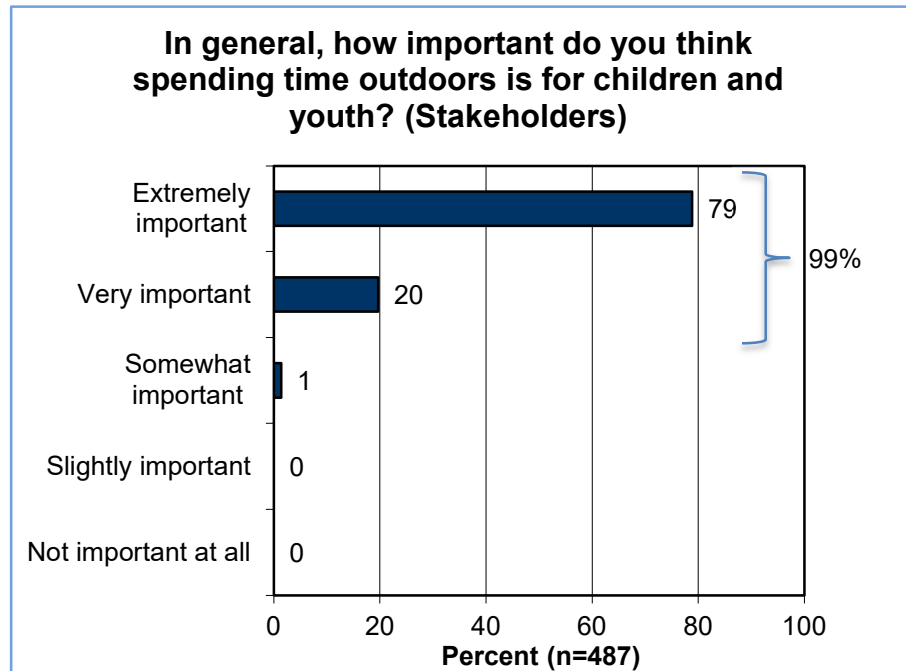
- Overall stakeholder results
- Stakeholder results by age (3-bar graphs)
- Stakeholder results by roles, including students (6-bar graphs)
- Stakeholder results by county (6-bar graphs)

A map of the county breakout is shown on the following page.

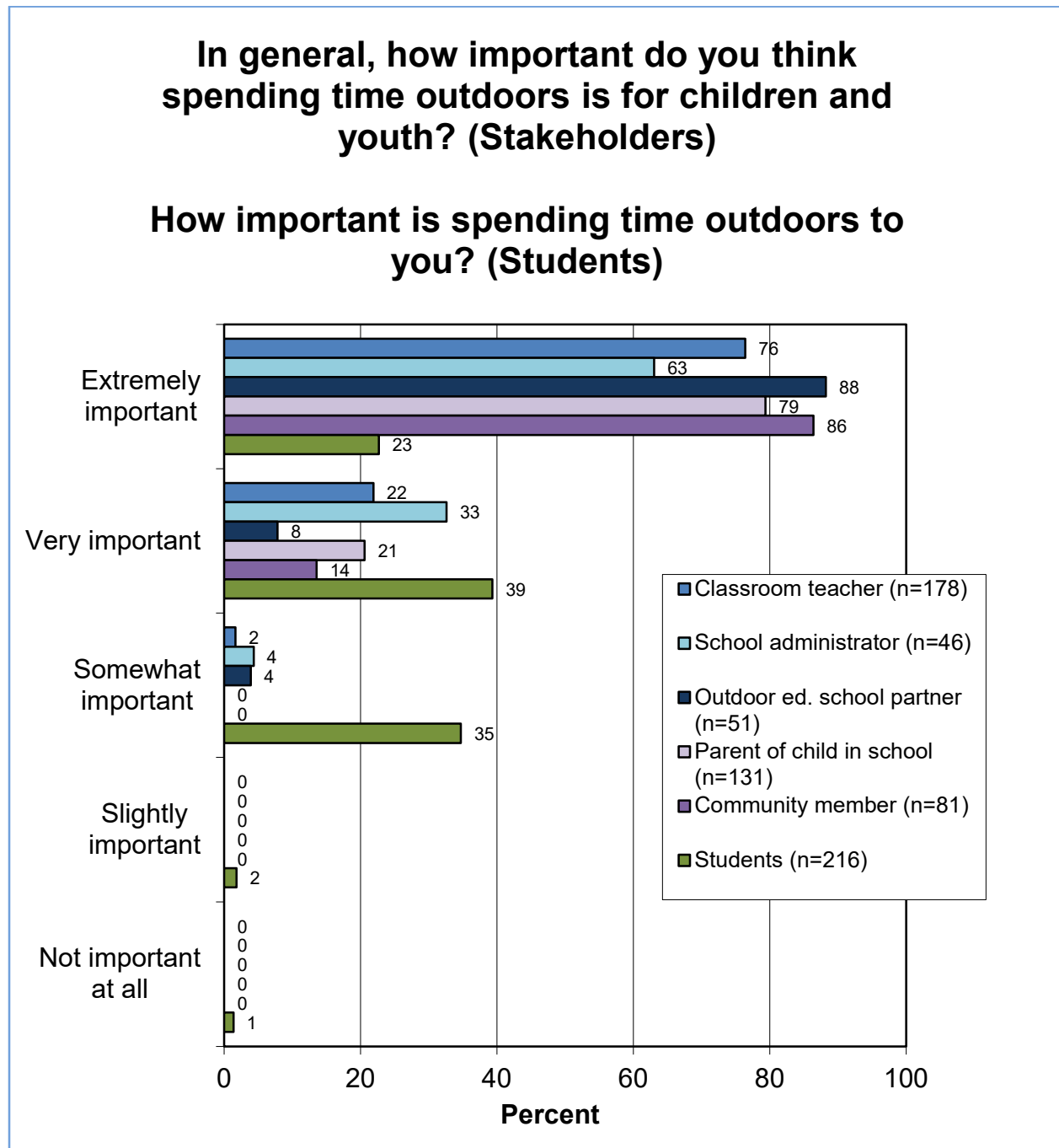


## IMPORTANCE OF SPENDING TIME OUTDOORS

The large majority of stakeholders think spending time outdoors is *extremely* important for children and youth (79% do so), and nearly all think it is *extremely* or *very* important.

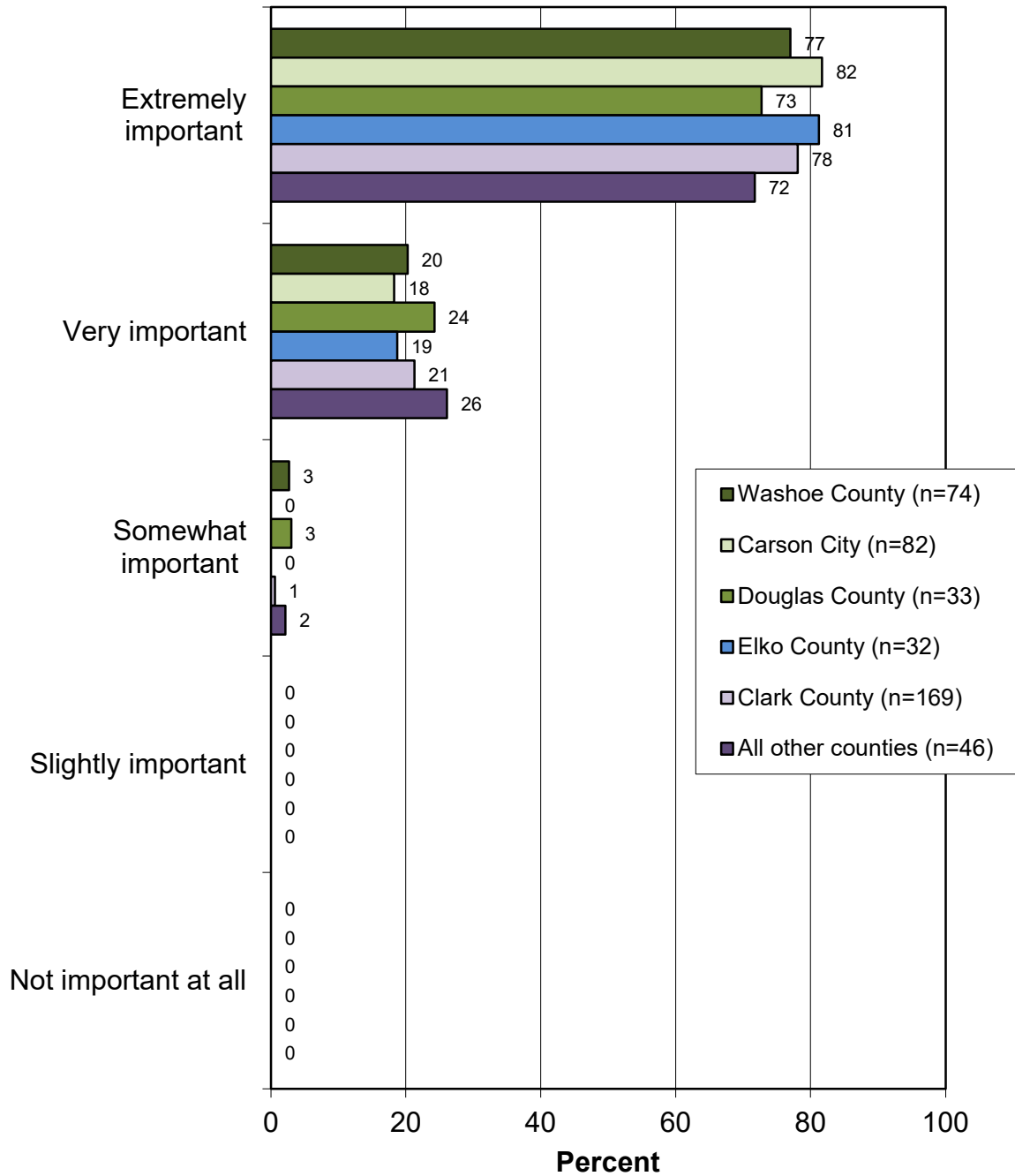


Of the non-student groups, school administrators are the least likely to think it is *extremely* important (although nearly all of them think it is *extremely* or *very* important). The students' version of this question asked about the importance of spending time outdoors, and they place substantially less importance on it than do stakeholders. Among students, only 23% think it is *extremely* important that they spend time outdoors, with most of the remaining saying it is *very* or *somewhat* important to them. The county crosstabulation on the next page shows only small differences between the counties.

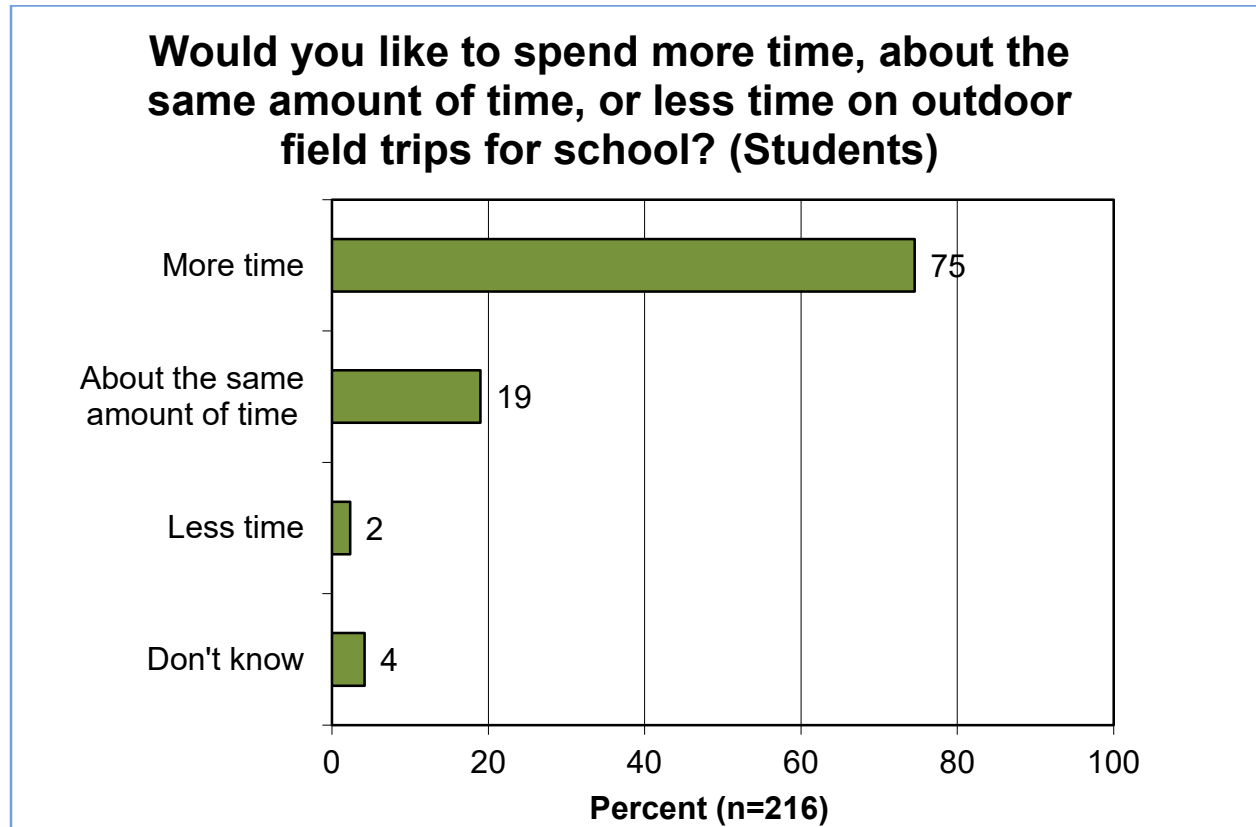




### In general, how important do you think spending time outdoors is for children and youth? (Stakeholders)

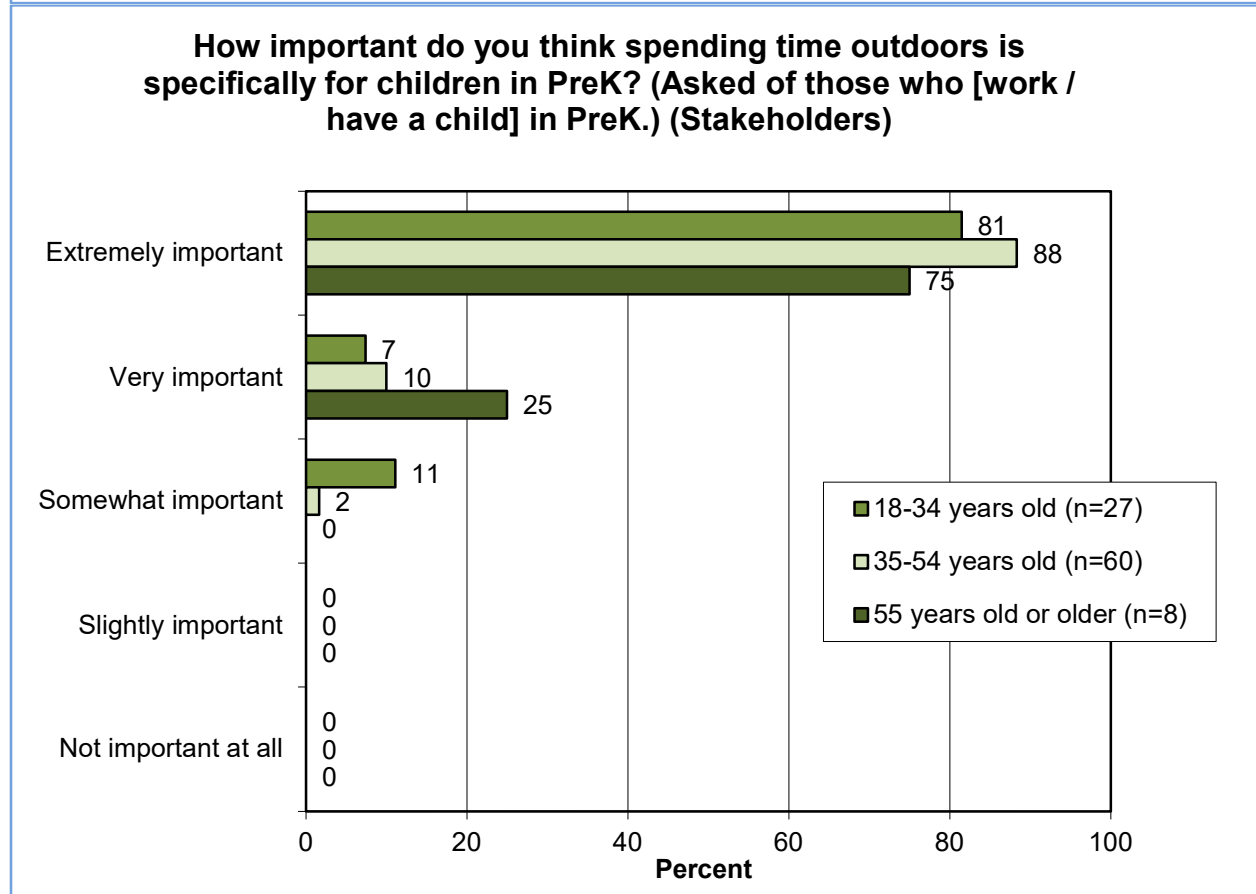
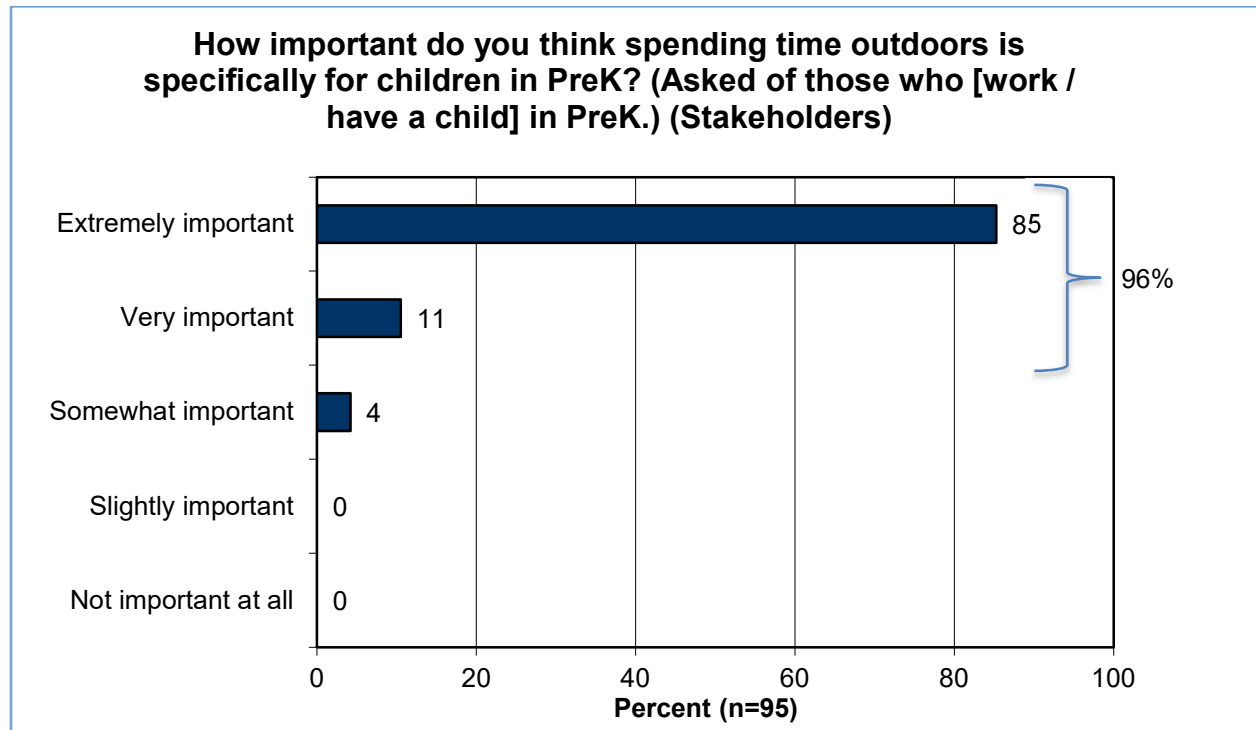


Nonetheless, when students were asked if they want to spend more or less time on outdoor field trips, they overwhelmingly want to spend more time outdoors (75% of students stated this).

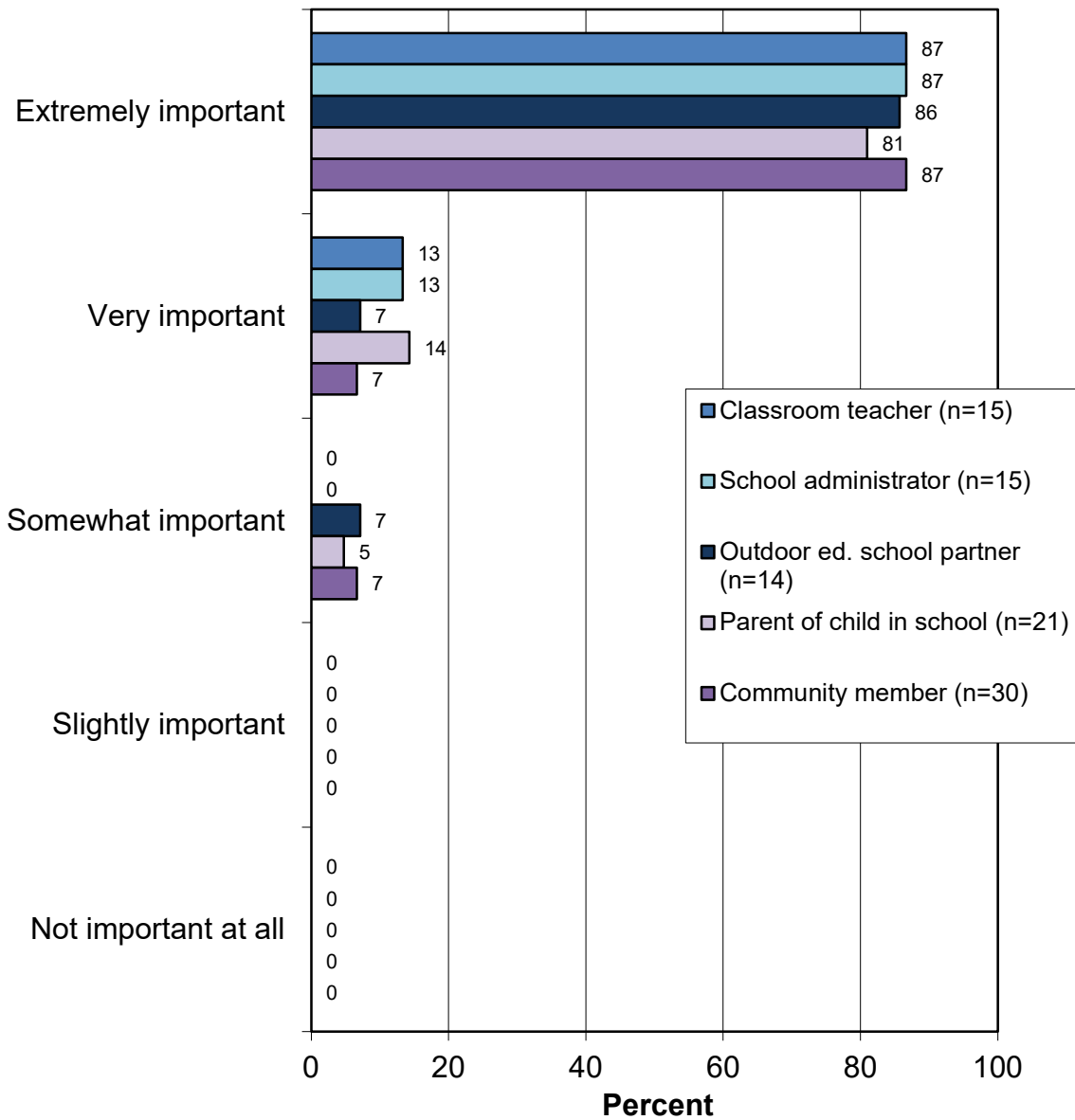


The same question about the importance that youth spend time outdoors was asked of stakeholders, with the questions specific to school levels: PreK, elementary school, middle school, and high school. A final question in the series then asked about the importance among those in non-traditional education. In each case, large majorities think it is *extremely* important, and nearly all think it is *extremely* or *very* important. Results are summarized below, and the graphs start on the following page. Students were not included in this series of questions.

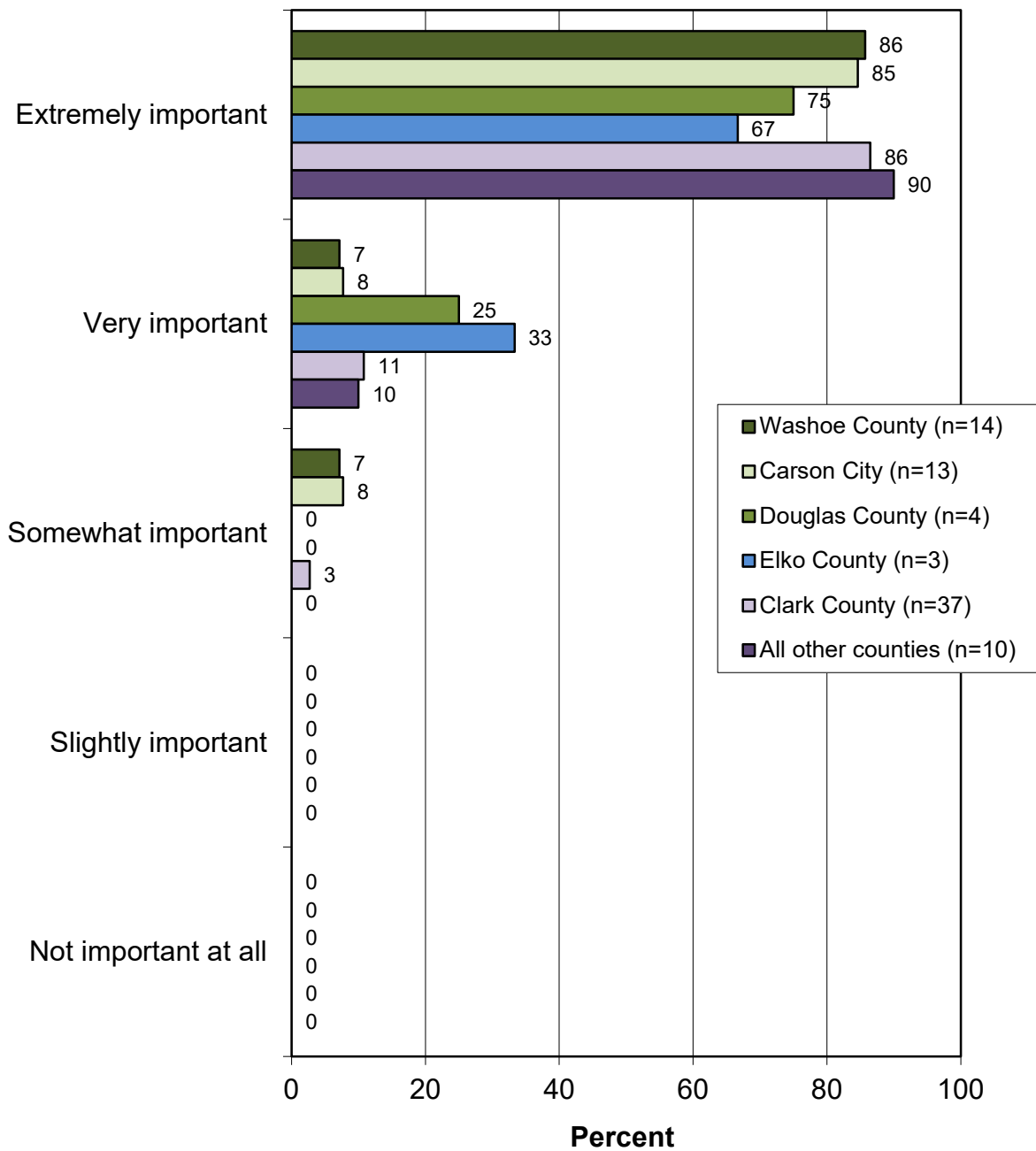
How important do you think spending time outdoors is specifically for children in [school type]? (Asked of those who [work / have a child] in the given school type.) (Stakeholders)					
School type	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Slightly important	Not important at all
PreK	85	11	4	0	0
Elementary	85	14	0	0	0
Middle	81	17	2	1	0
High	73	25	2	0	0
Non-traditional	83	9	4	4	0

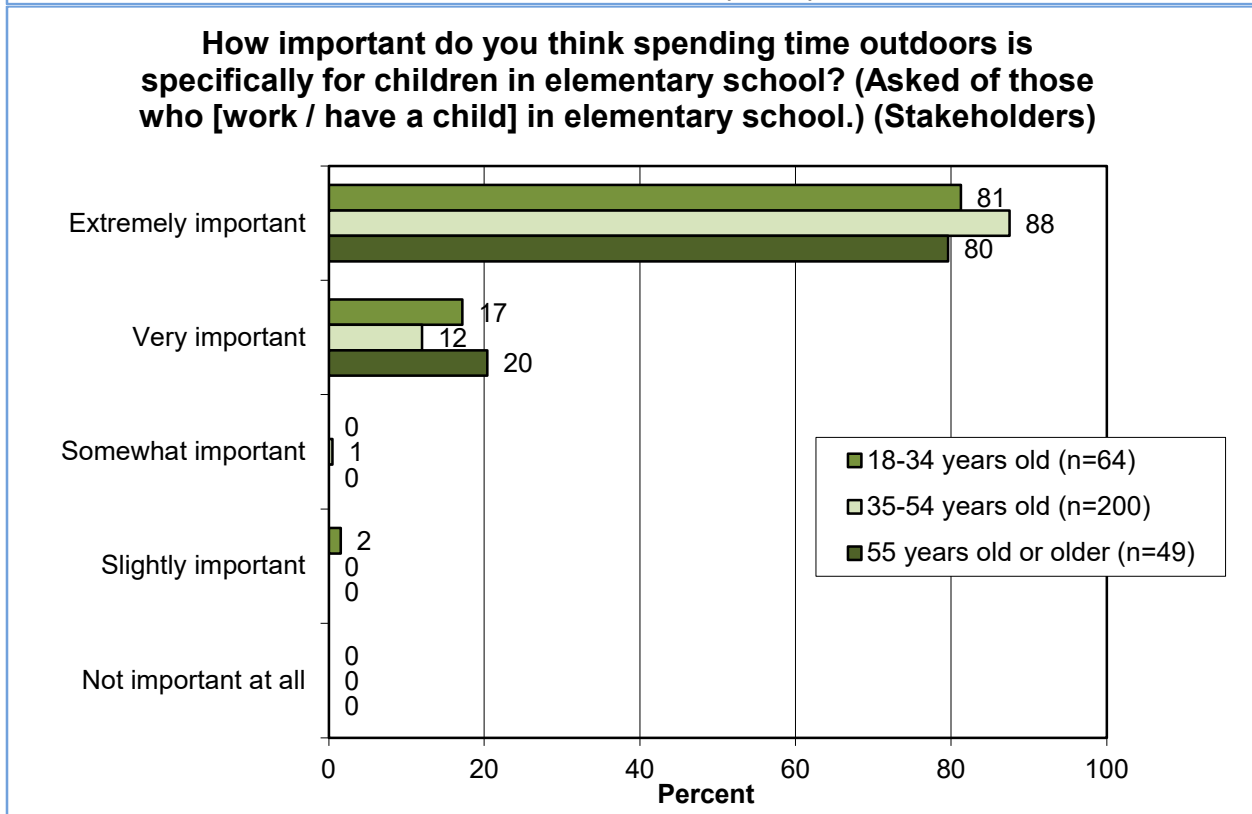
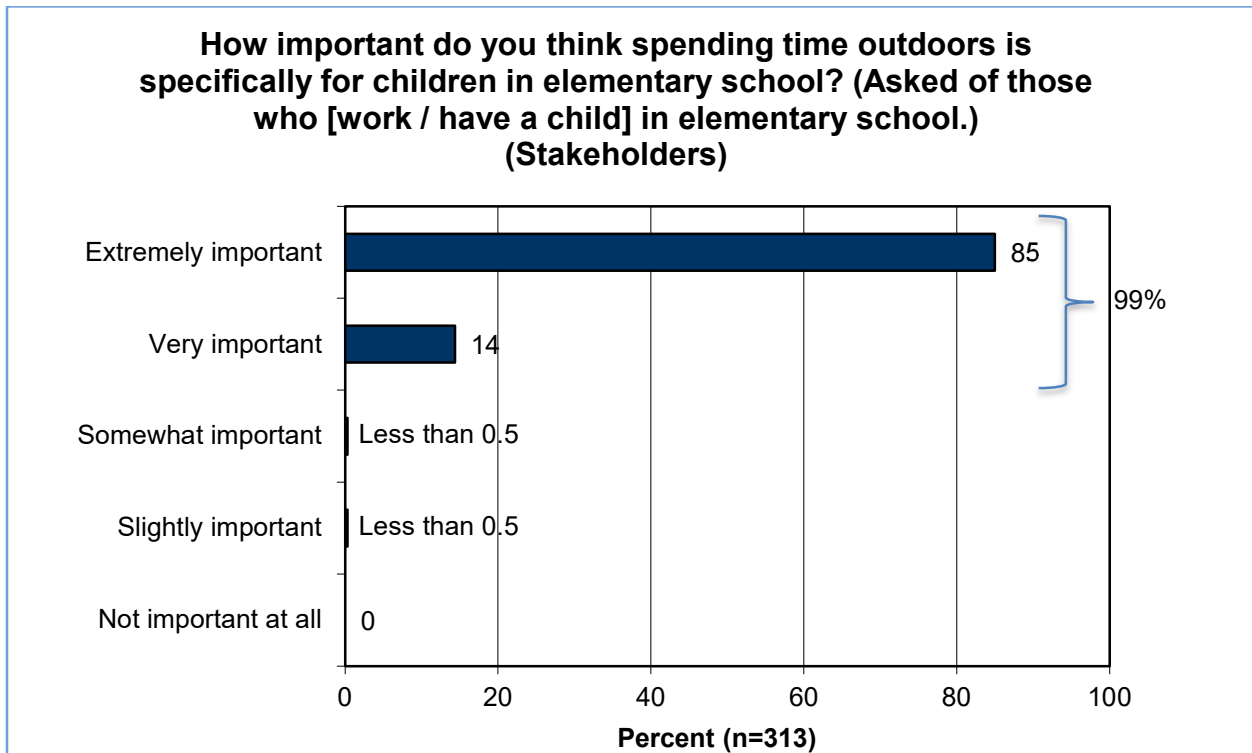


**How important do you think spending time outdoors is specifically for children in PreK?  
(Asked of those who [work / have a child] in PreK.) (Stakeholders)**

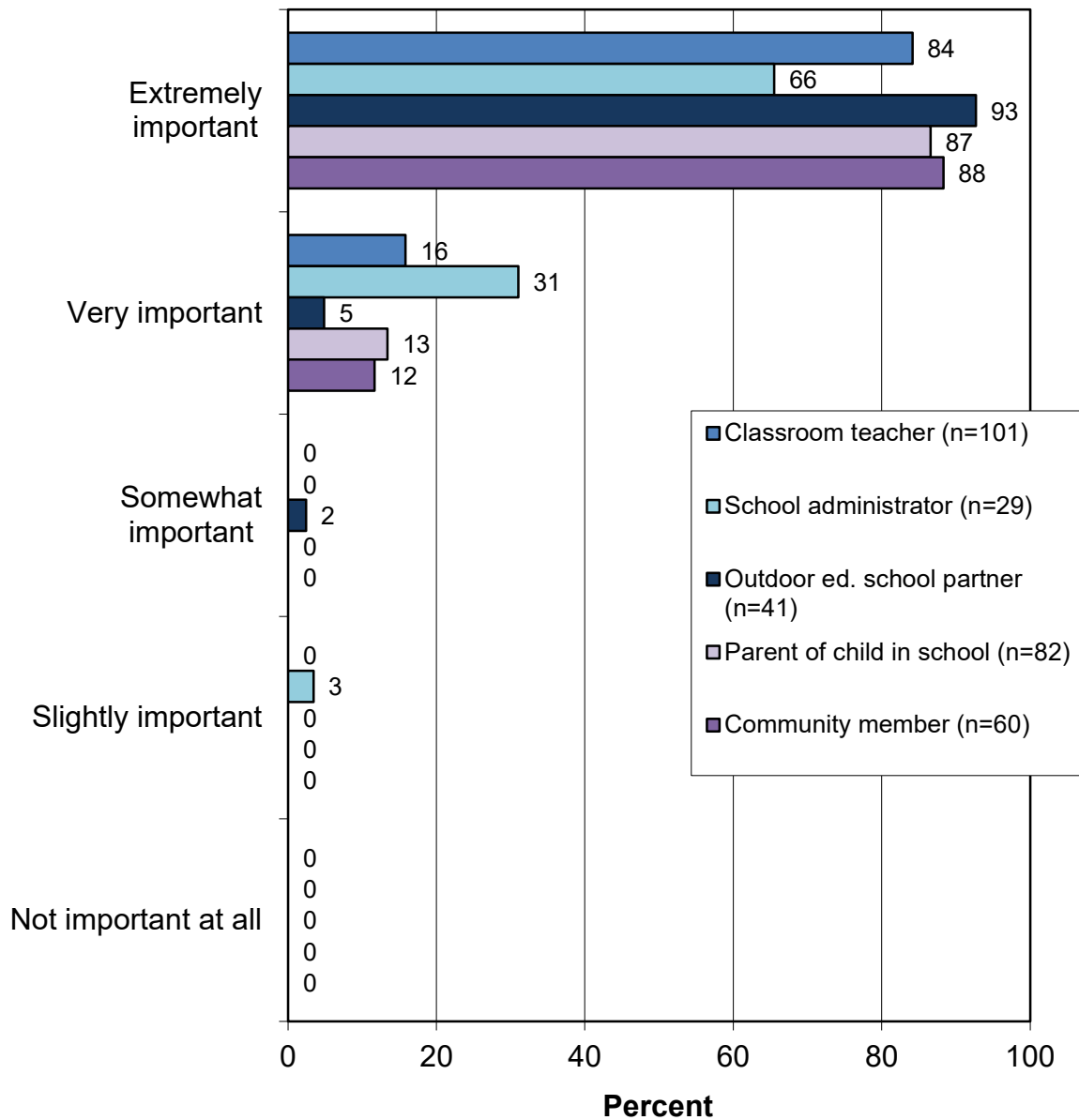


**How important do you think spending time outdoors is specifically for children in PreK?  
(Asked of those who [work / have a child] in PreK.) (Stakeholders)**

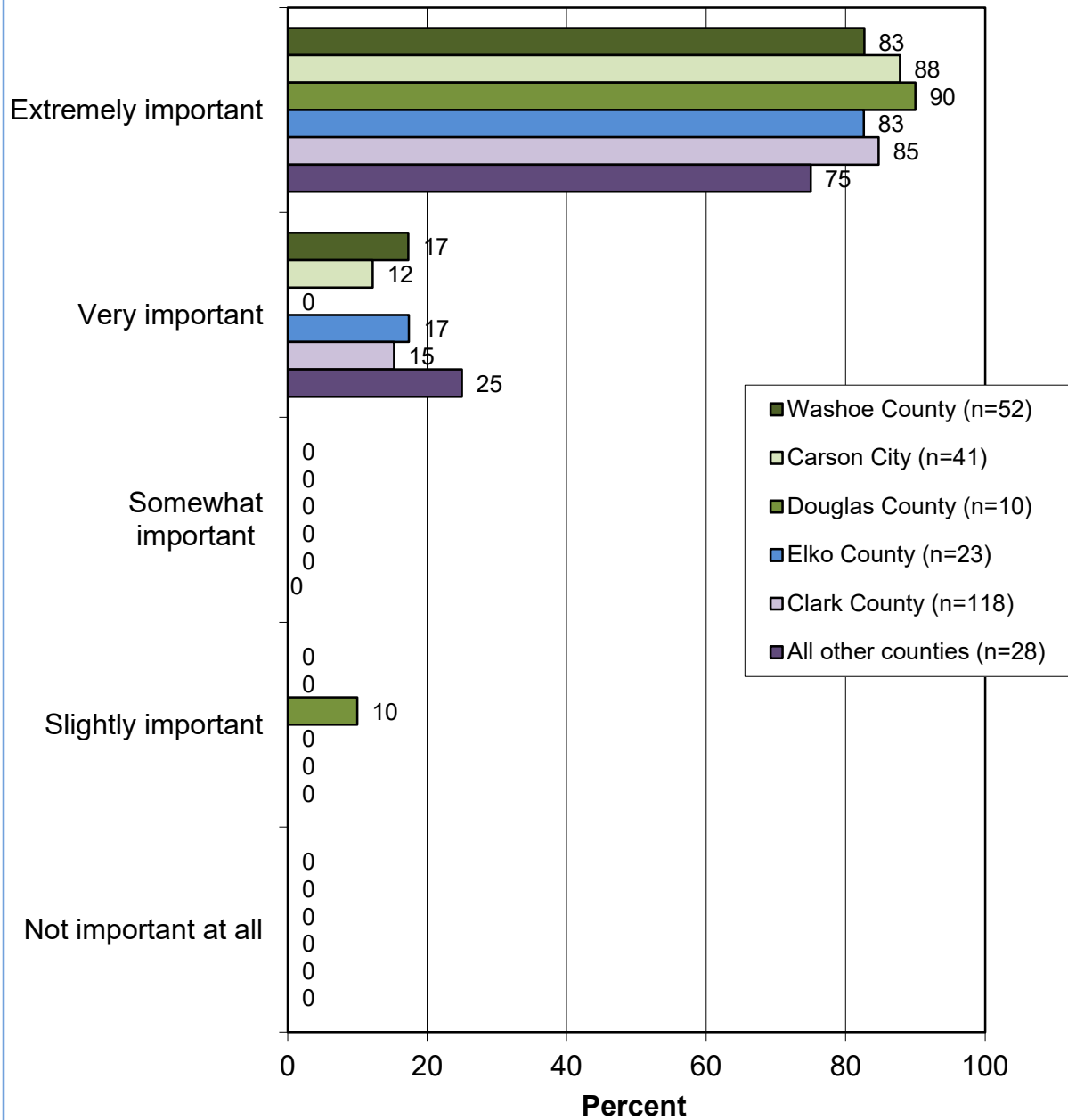




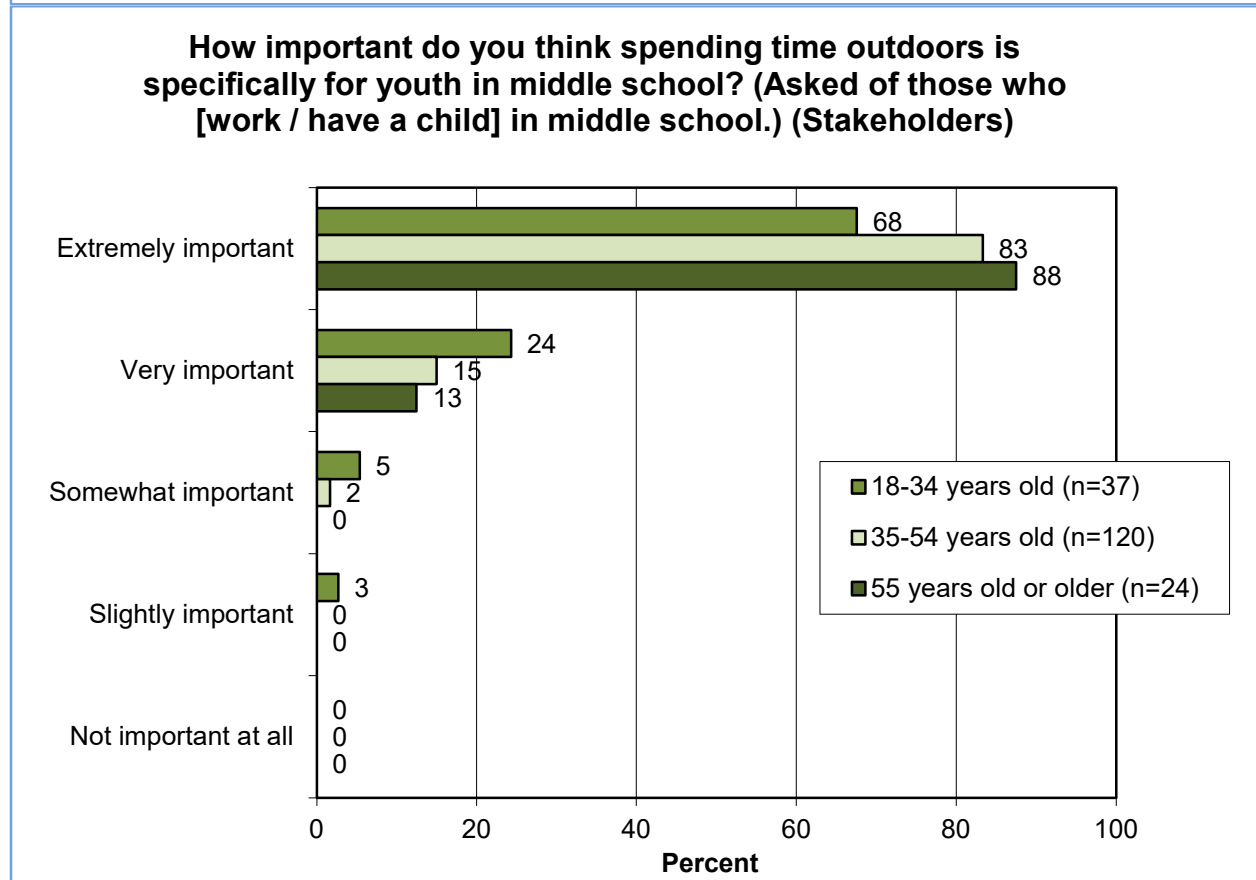
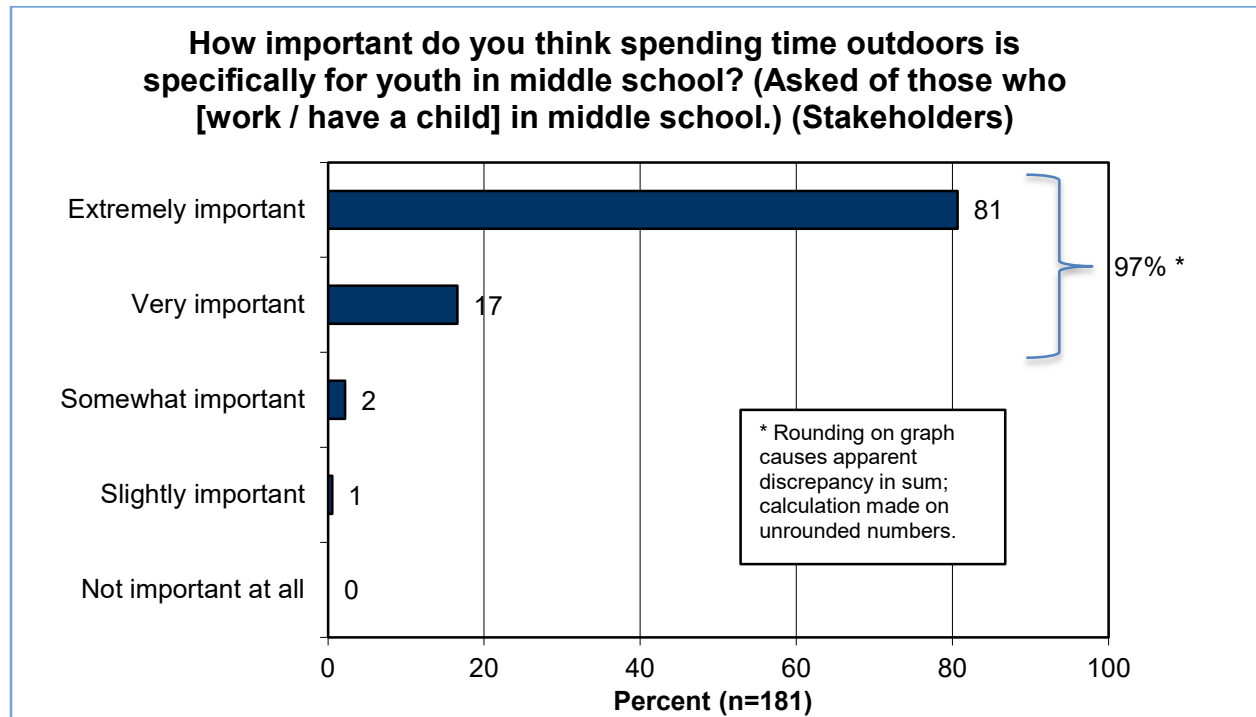
**How important do you think spending time outdoors is specifically for children in elementary school? (Asked of those who [work / have a child] in elementary school.) (Stakeholders)**



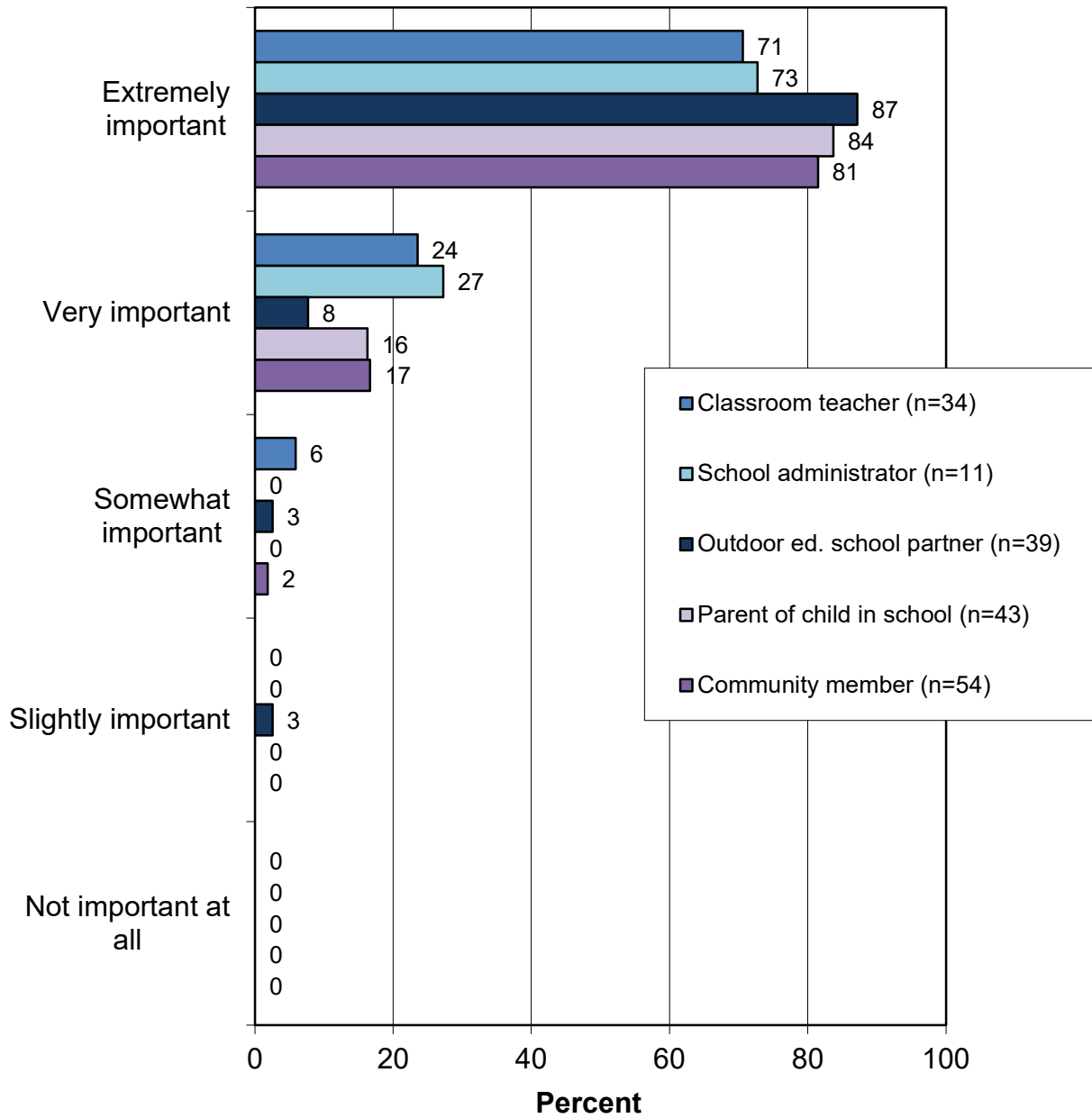
**How important do you think spending time outdoors is specifically for children in elementary school? (Asked of those who [work / have a child] in elementary school.)  
(Stakeholders)**



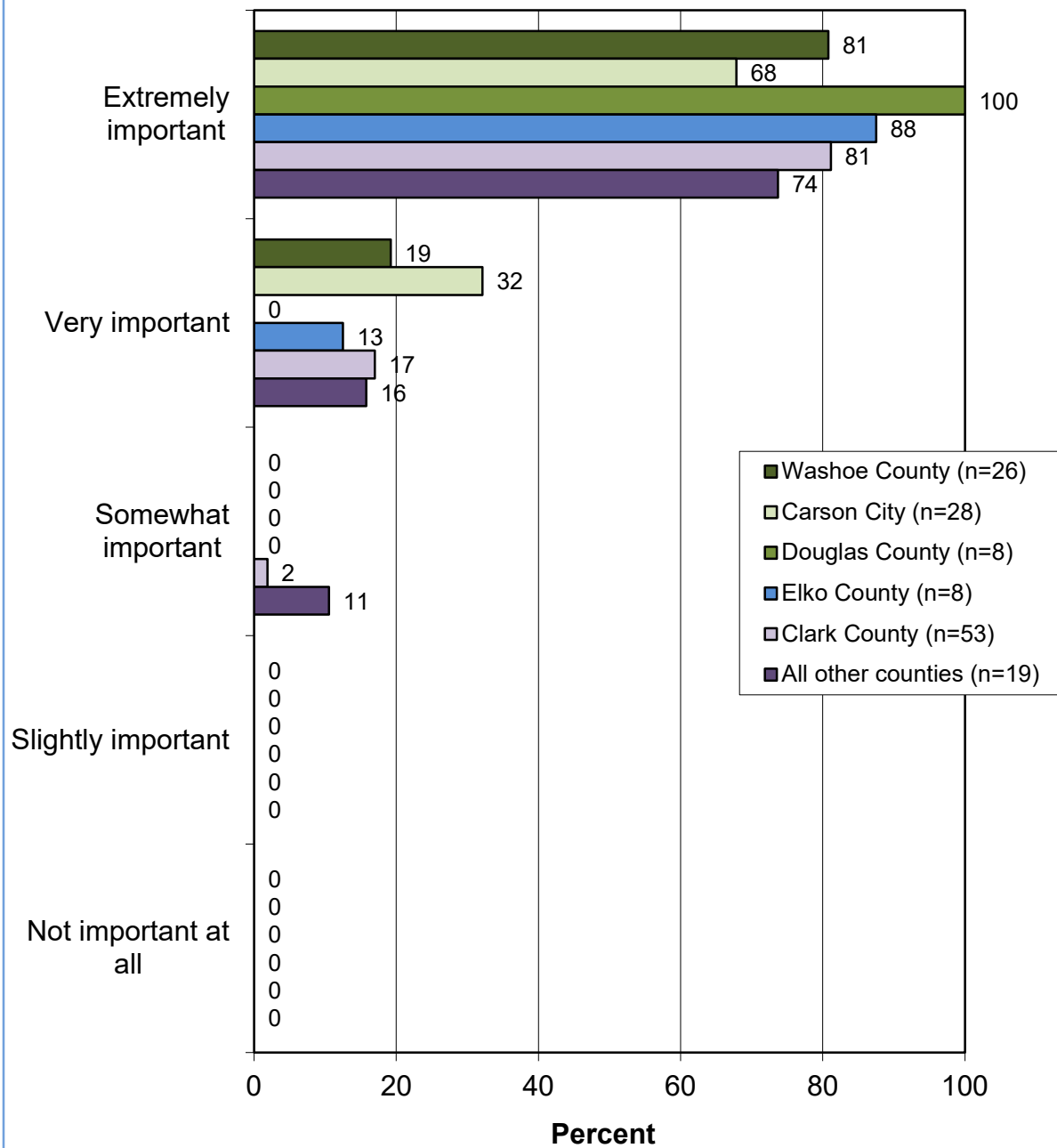


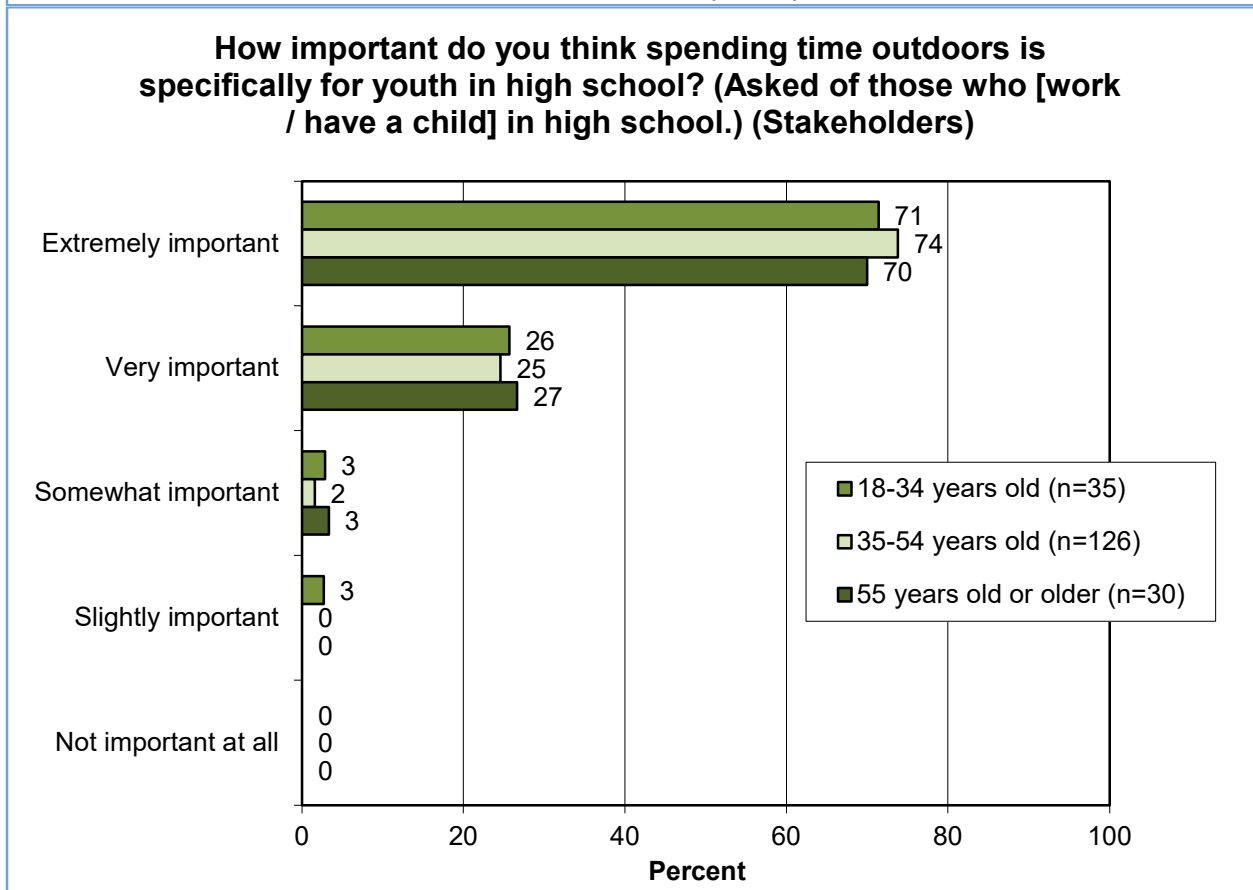
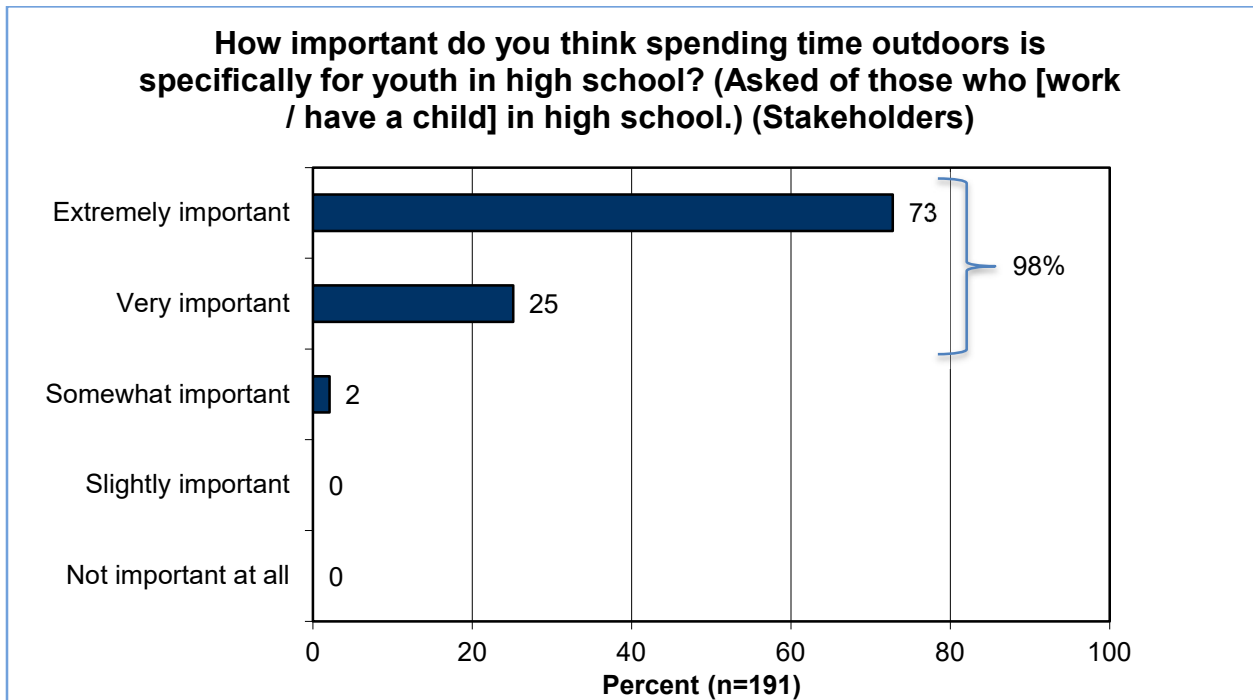


**How important do you think spending time outdoors is specifically for youth in middle school? (Asked of those who [work / have a child] in middle school.) (Stakeholders)**

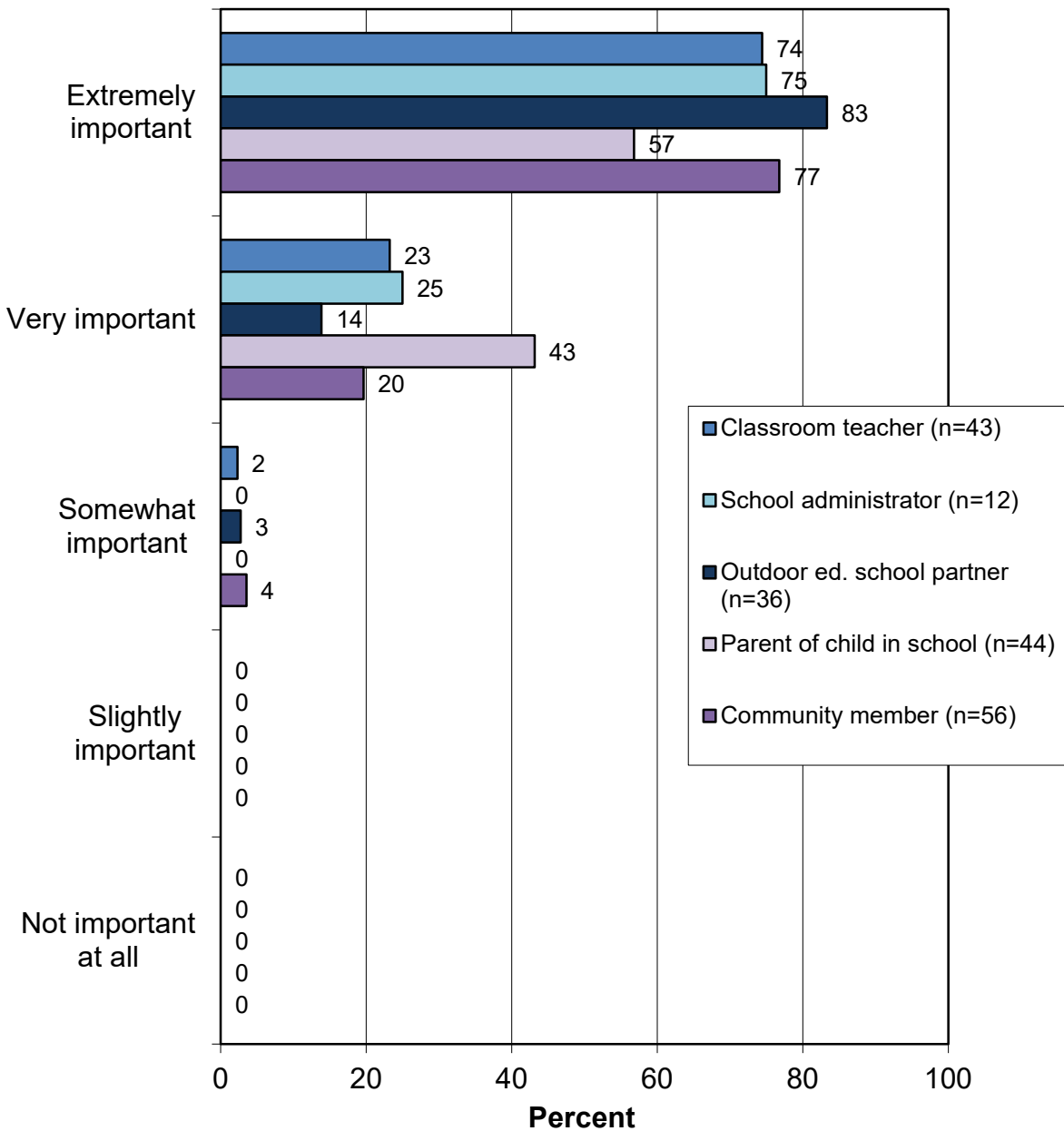


**How important do you think spending time outdoors is specifically for youth in middle school? (Asked of those who [work / have a child] in middle school.) (Stakeholders)**

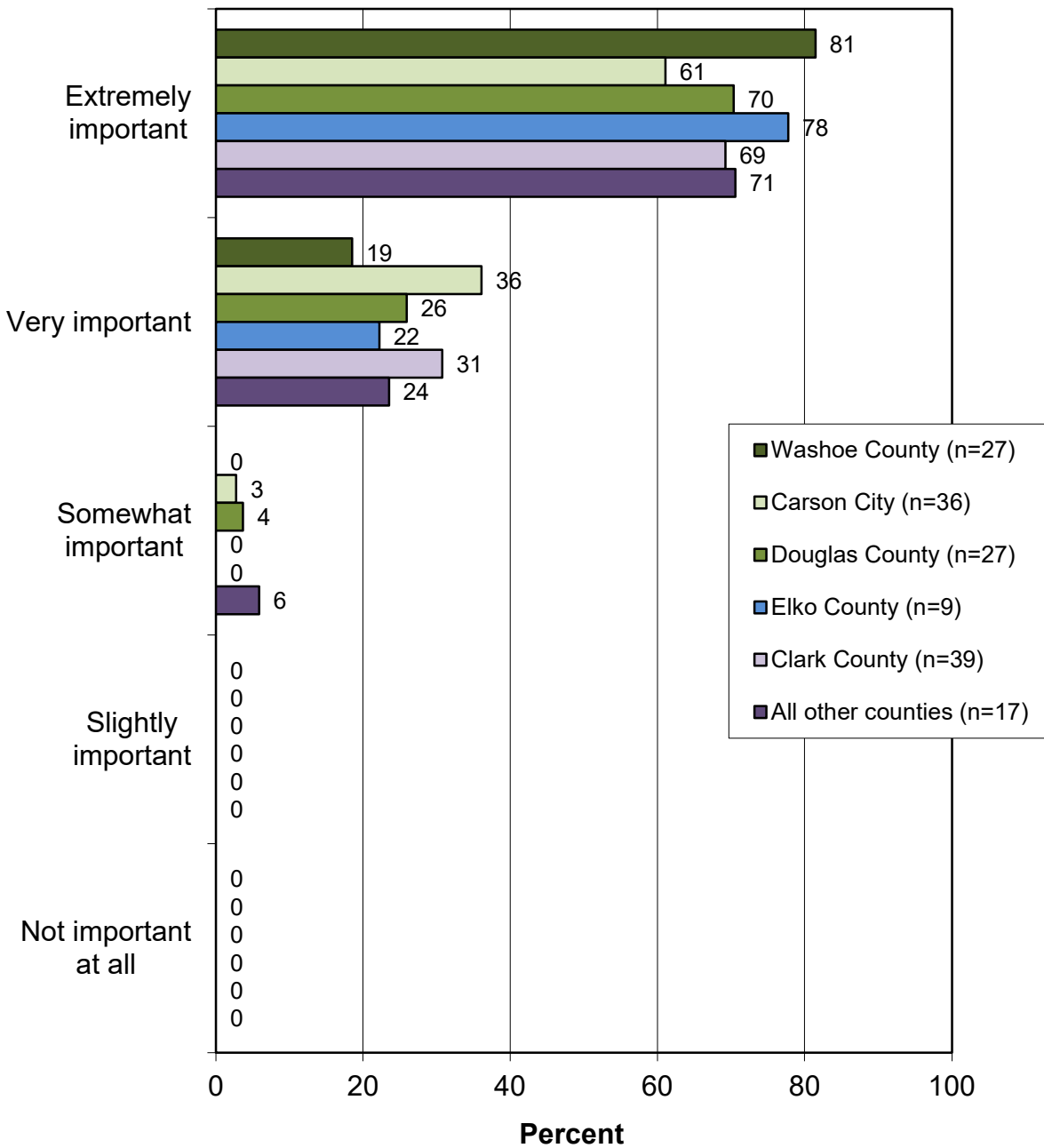


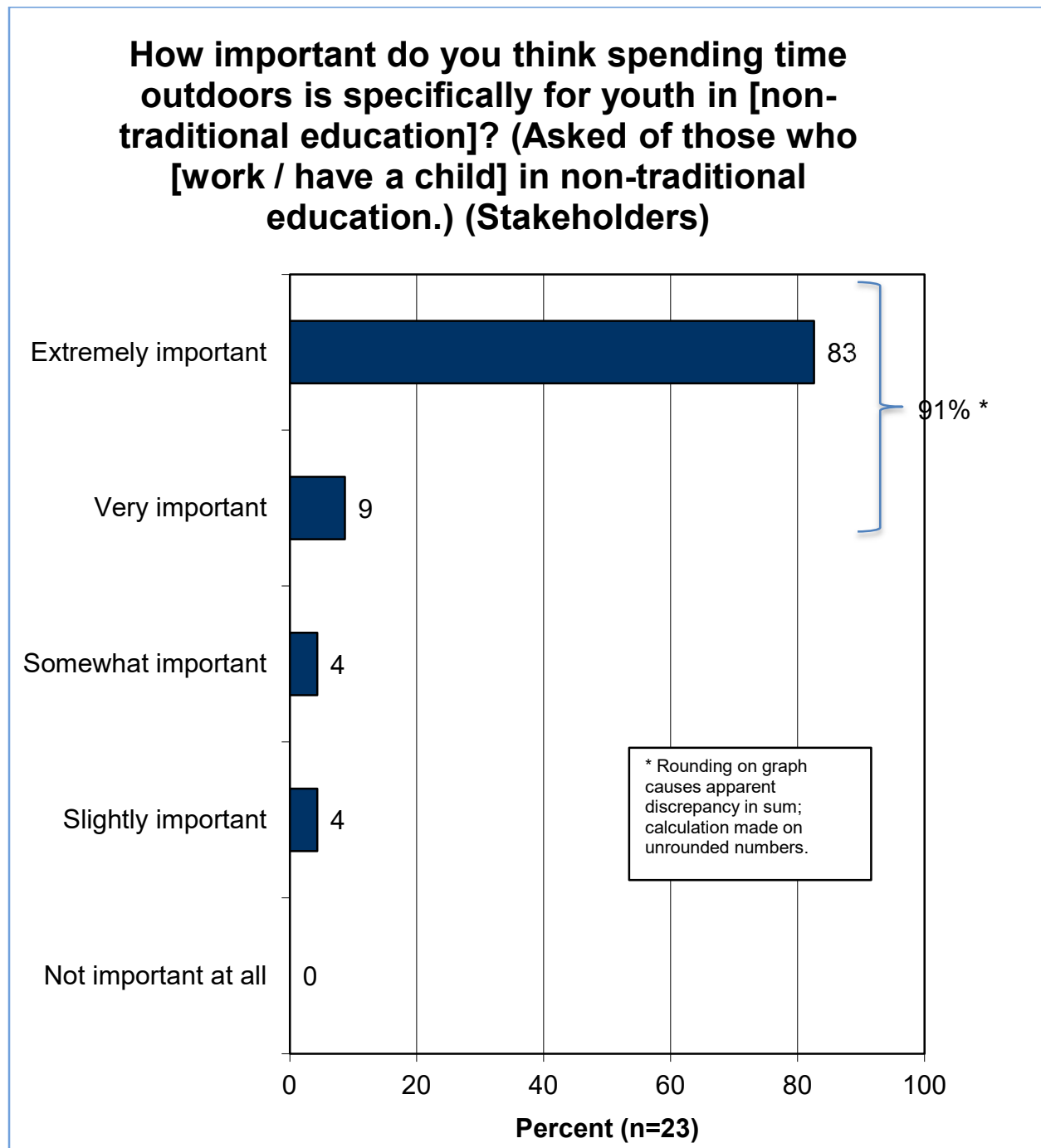


**How important do you think spending time outdoors is specifically for youth in high school? (Asked of those who [work / have a child] in high school.) (Stakeholders)**



**How important do you think spending time outdoors is specifically for youth in high school? (Asked of those who [work / have a child] in high school.) (Stakeholders)**



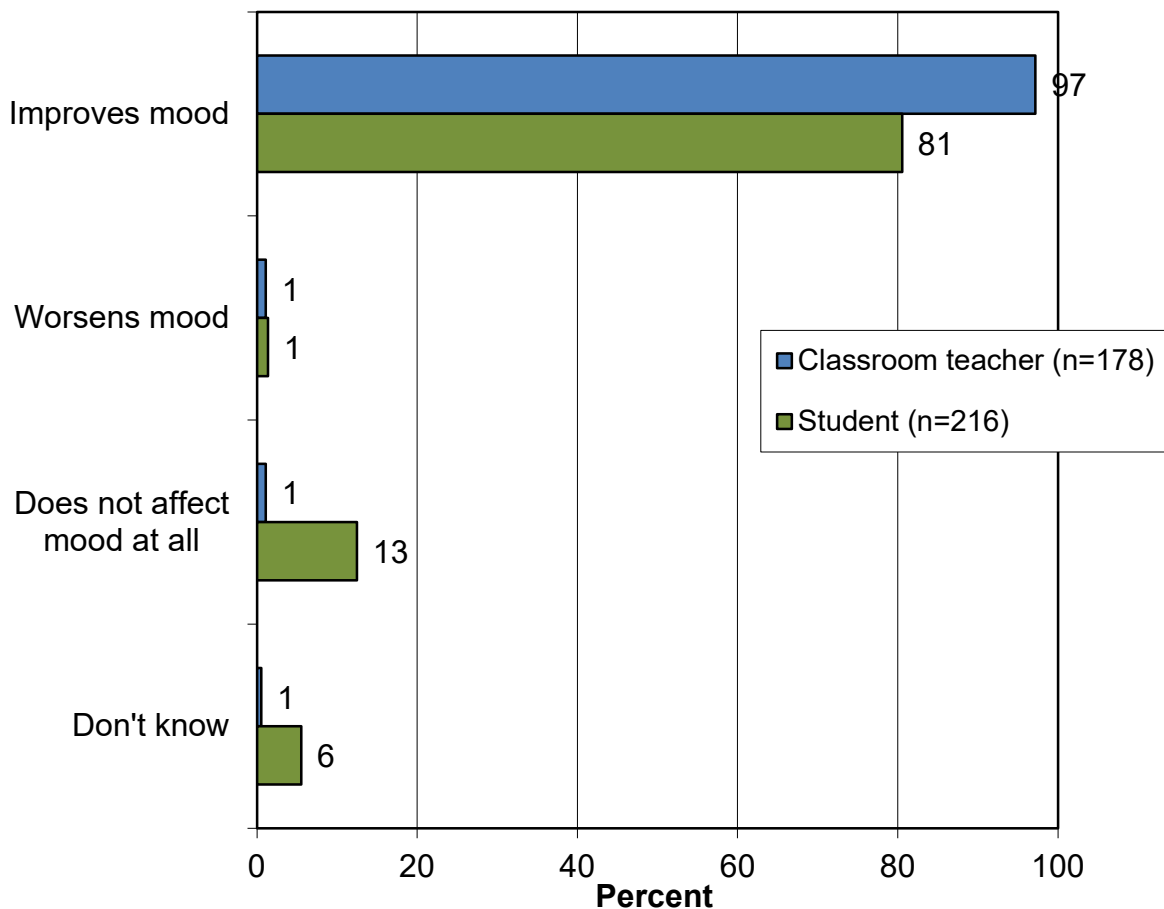


The sample size getting this question was too small for crosstabulations.

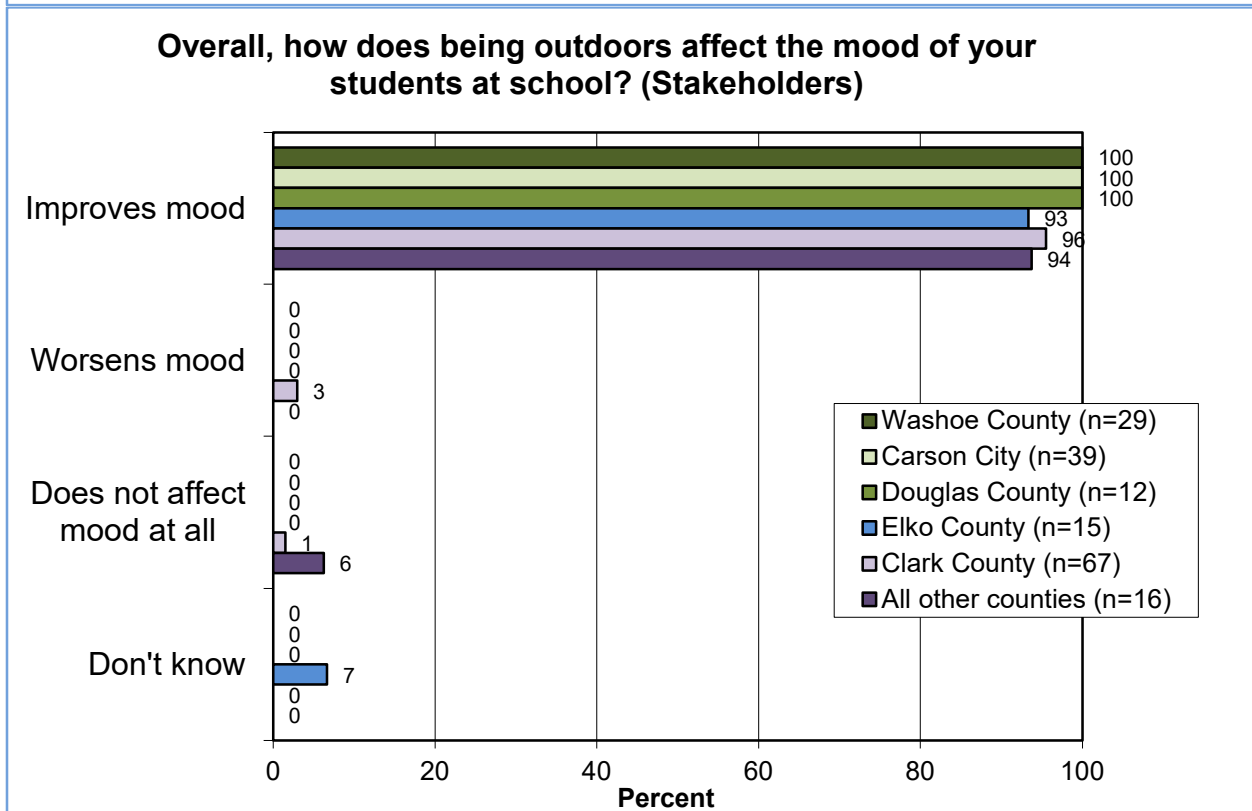
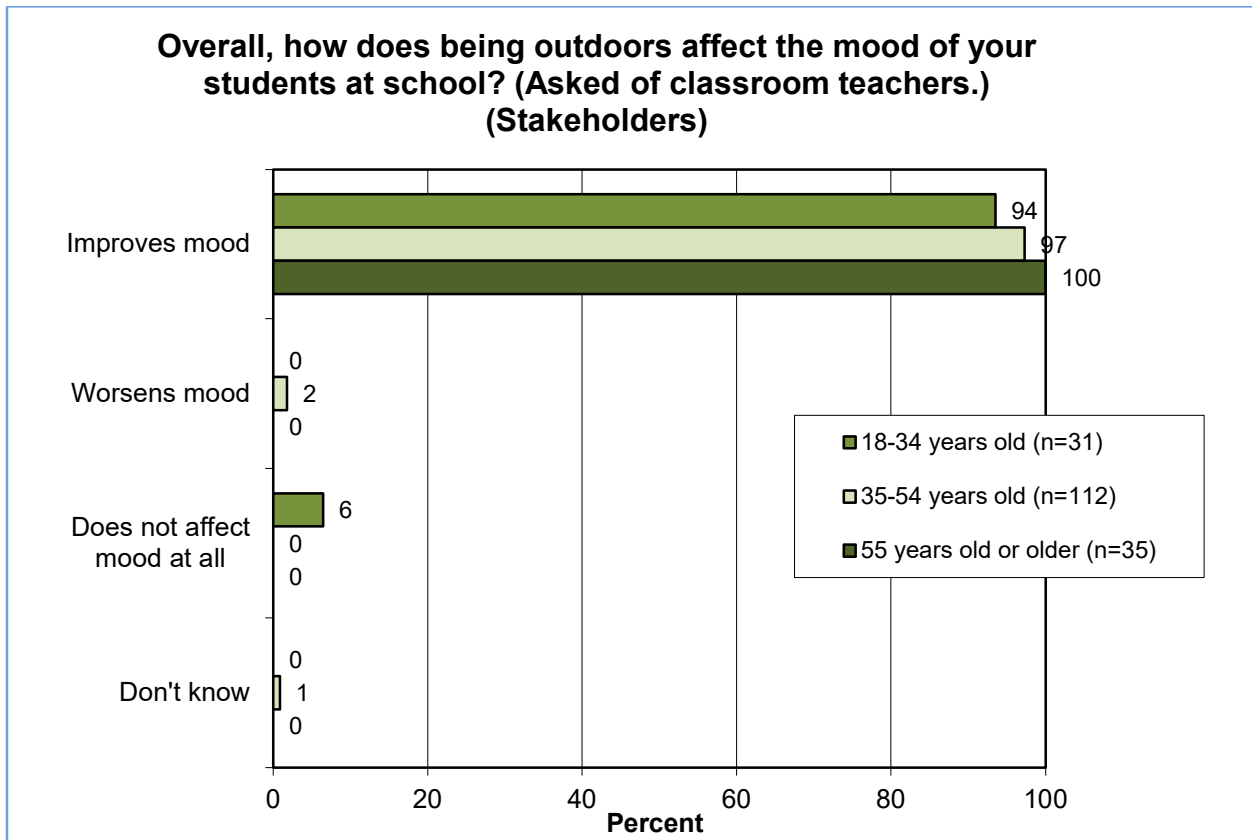
Both teachers and the students themselves overwhelmingly feel that being outdoors improves the mood of students: 97% of teachers say it improves their students' mood, and 81% of students say it improves their own mood. (Among stakeholders, only teachers were asked the question.)

**Overall, how does being outdoors affect the mood of your students at school? (Asked of classroom teachers.) (Stakeholders)**

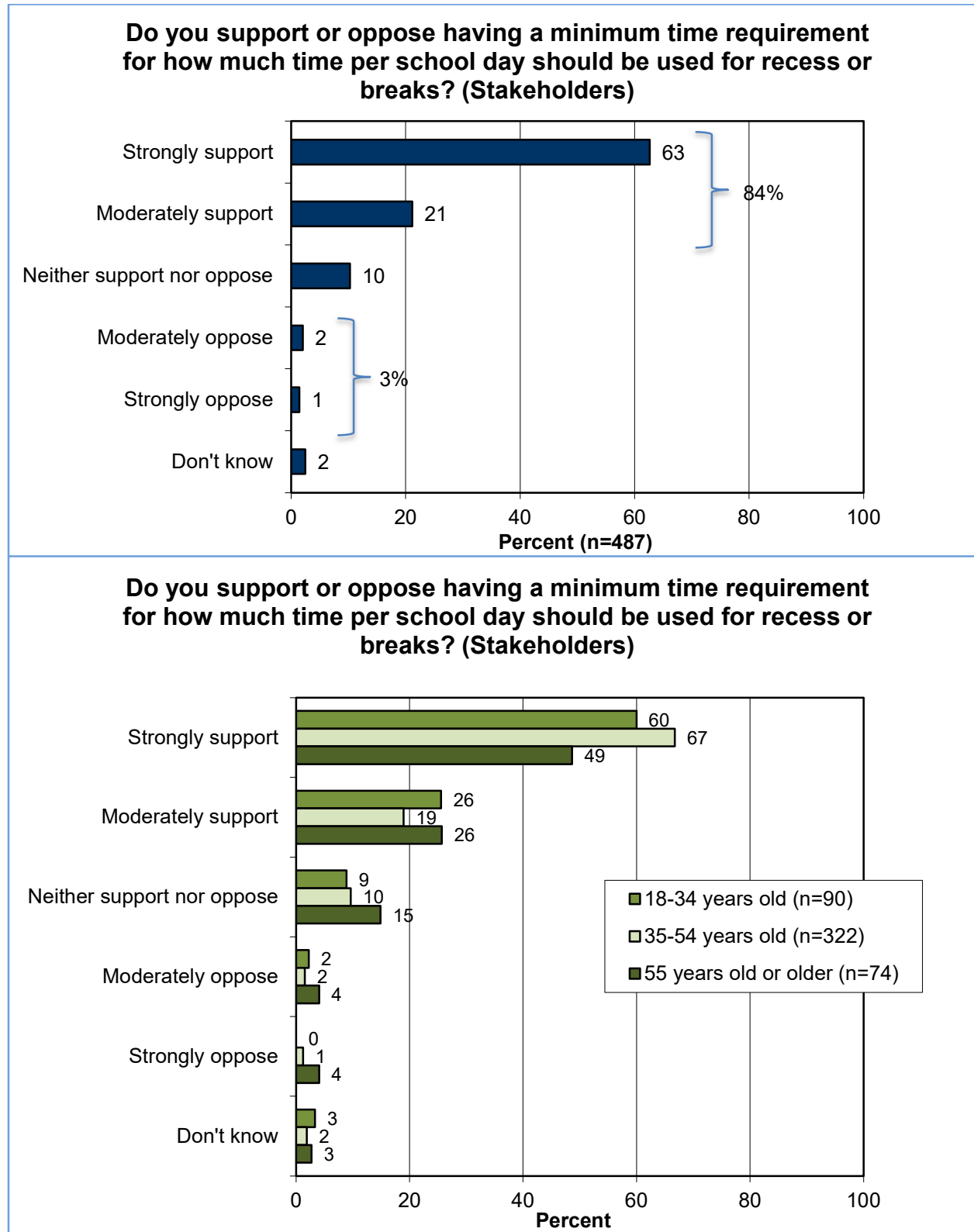
**Do you think spending some time outdoors during the school day makes your mood better or worse, or does it not affect your mood at all? (Students)**



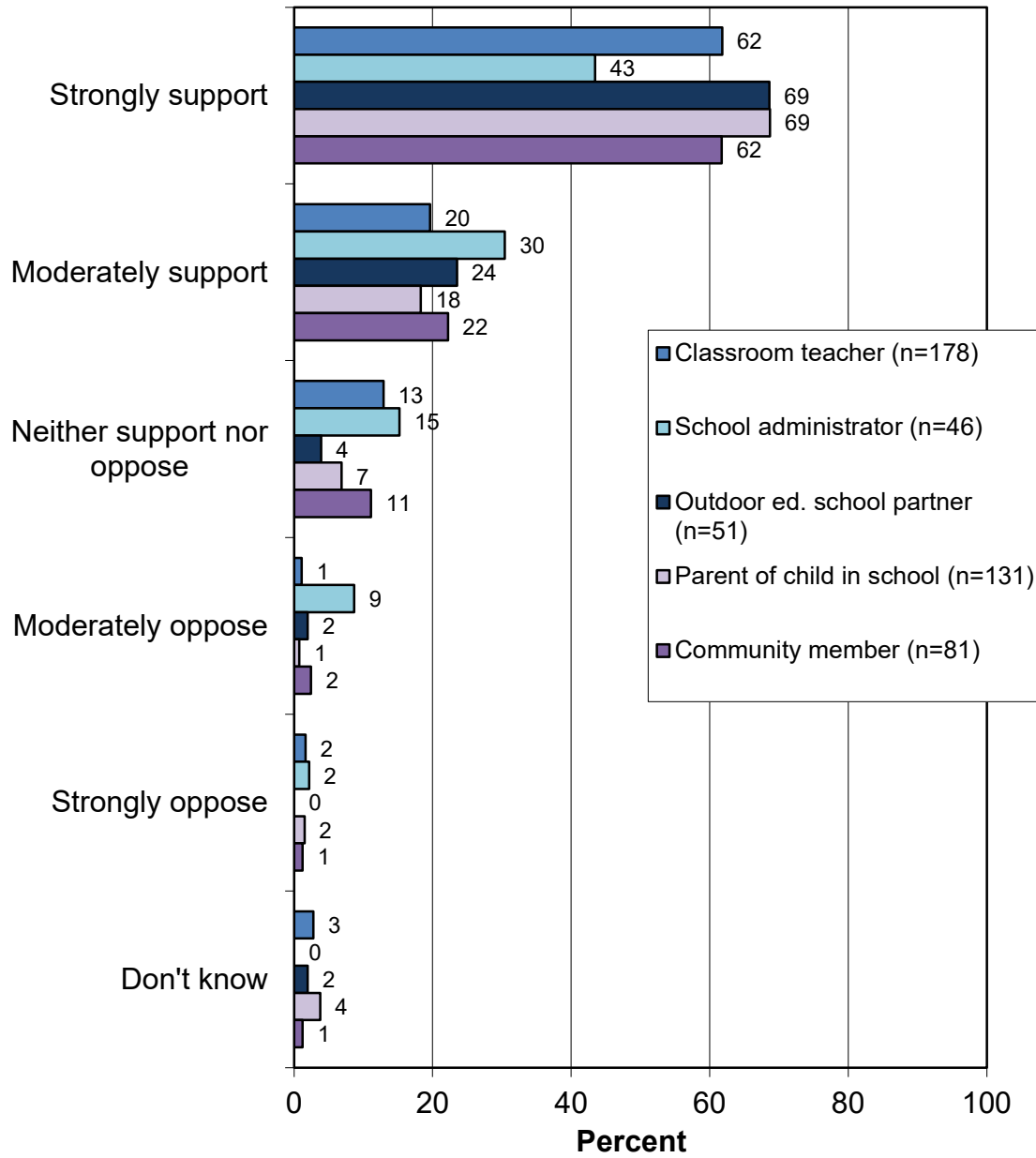




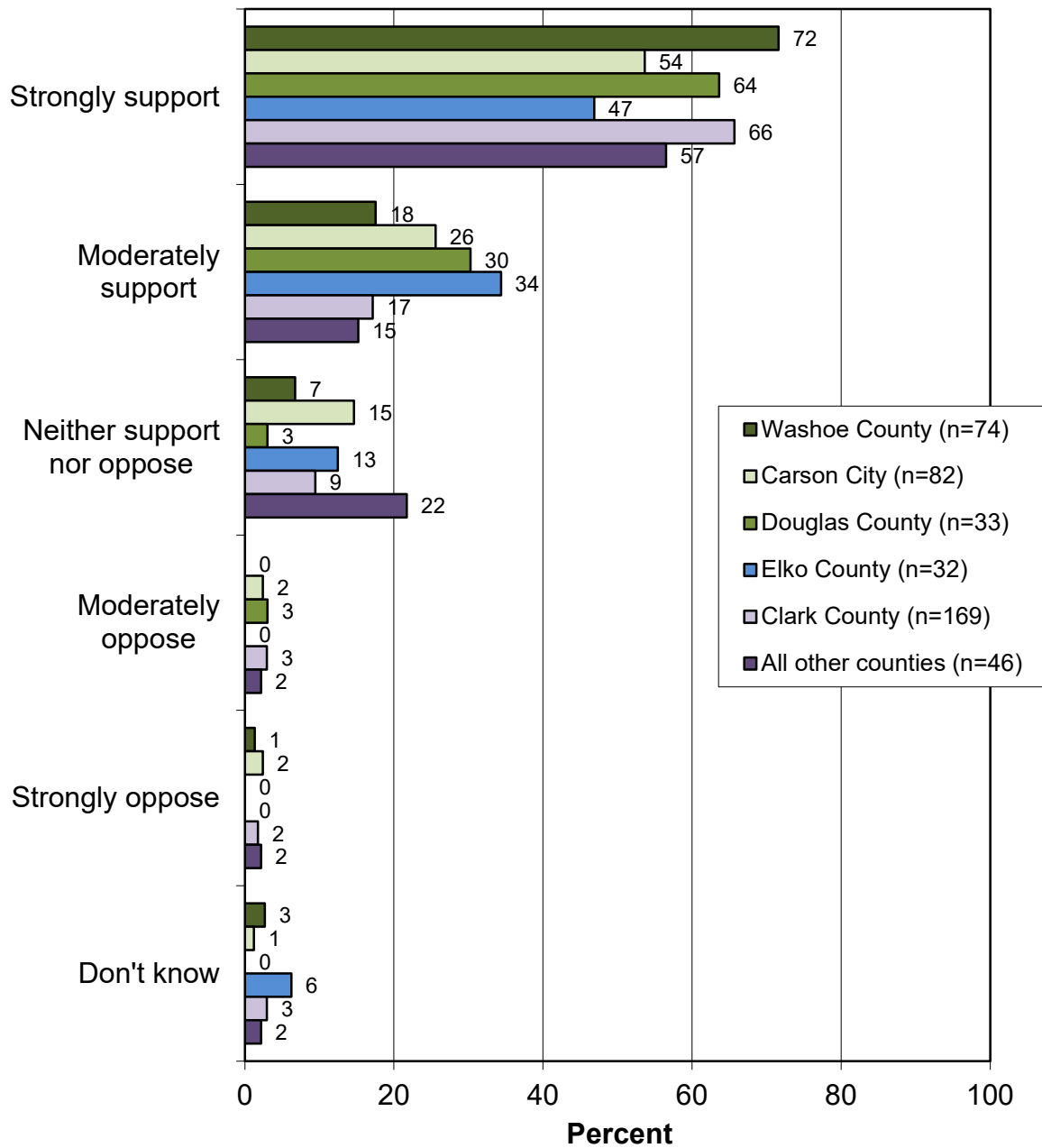
Stakeholders overwhelmingly support (84%) having a minimum time requirement for student breaks or recess; nearly two thirds (63%) *strongly* support the requirement. There is less strong support from school administrators, compared to the other stakeholder groups.



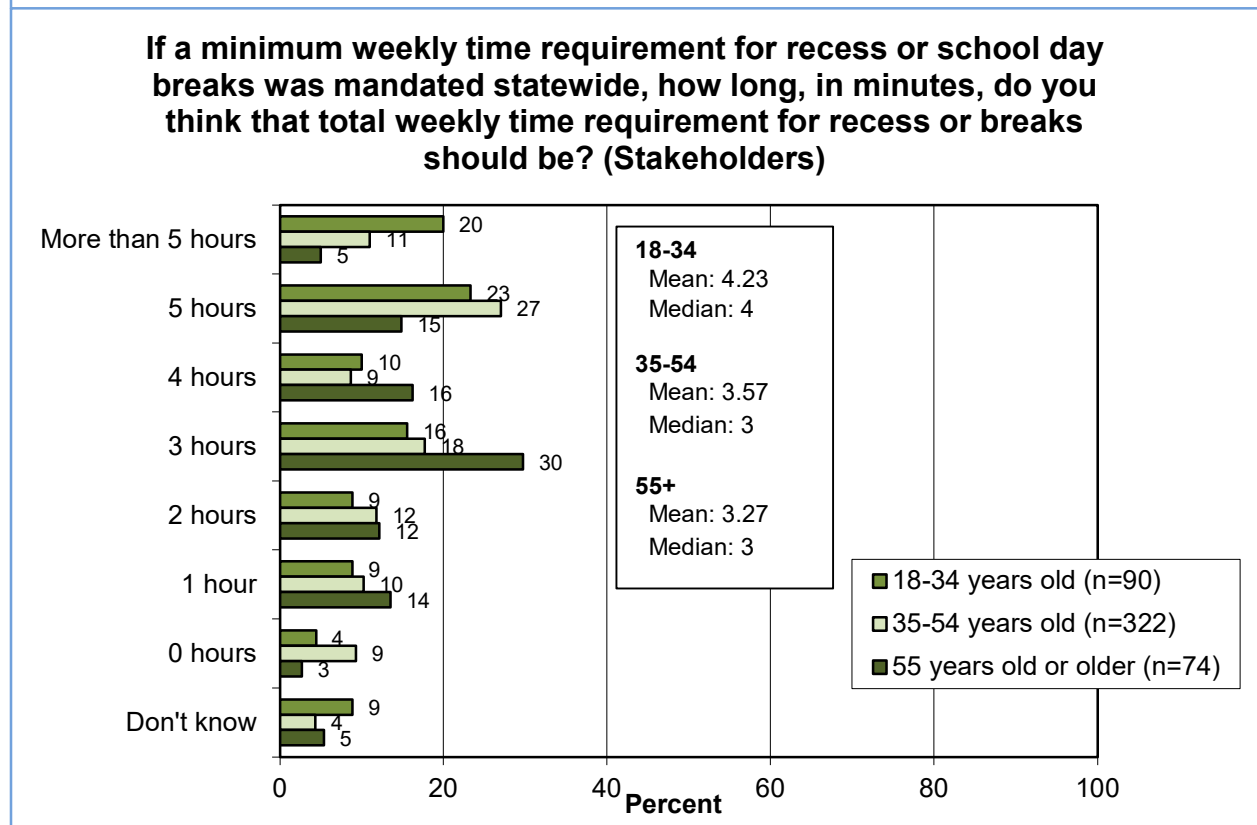
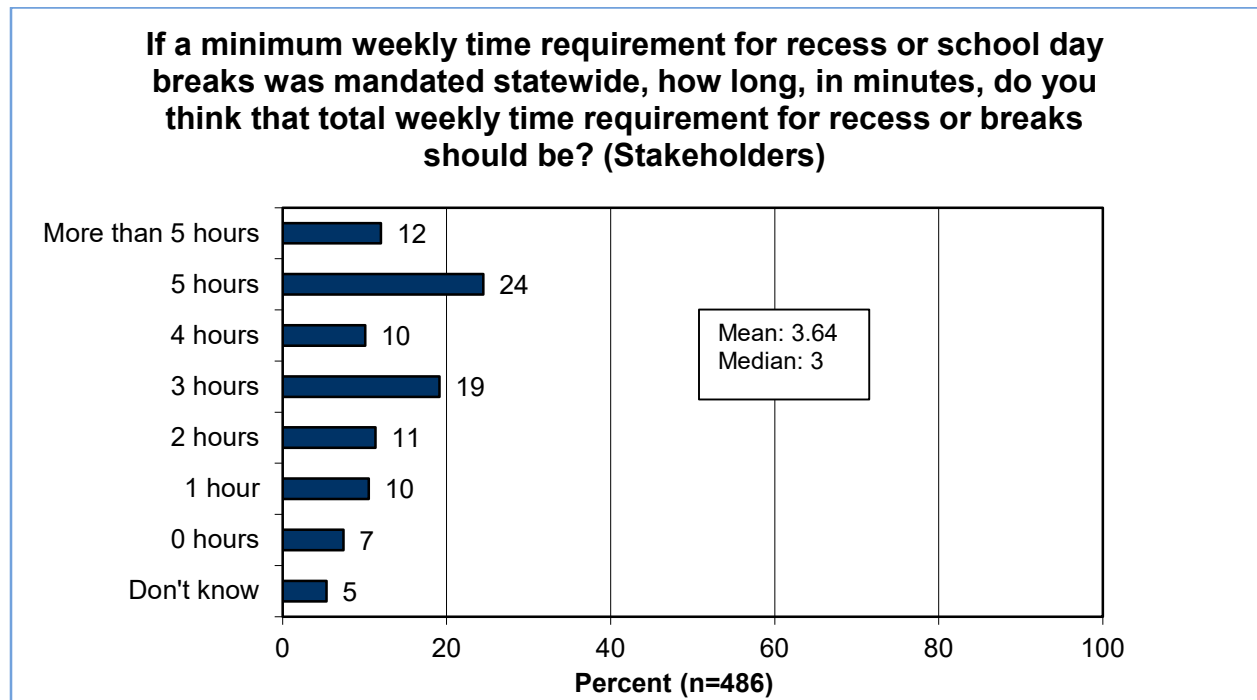
### Do you support or oppose having a minimum time requirement for how much time per school day should be used for recess or breaks? (Stakeholders)



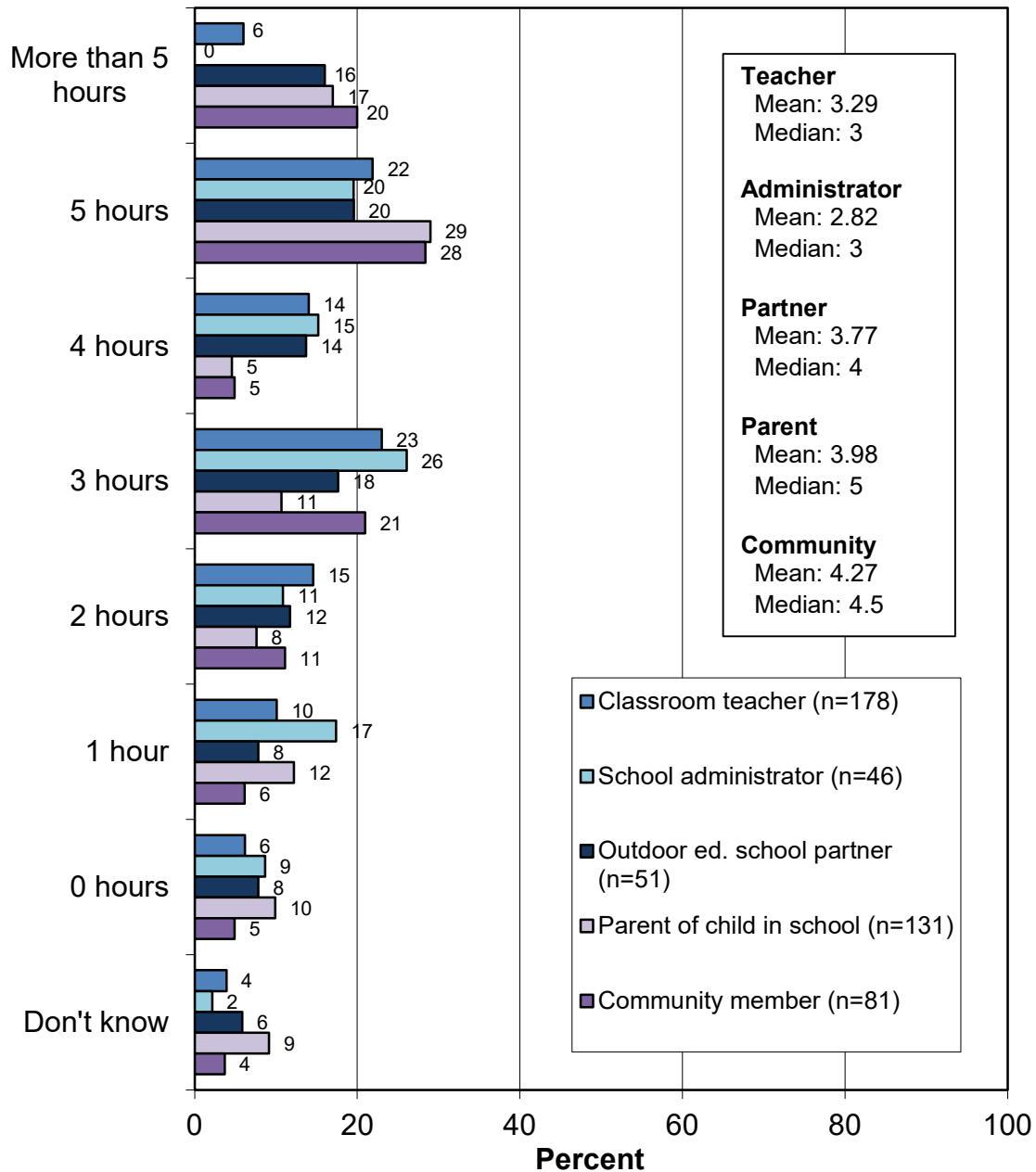
### Do you support or oppose having a minimum time requirement for how much time per school day should be used for recess or breaks? (Stakeholders)



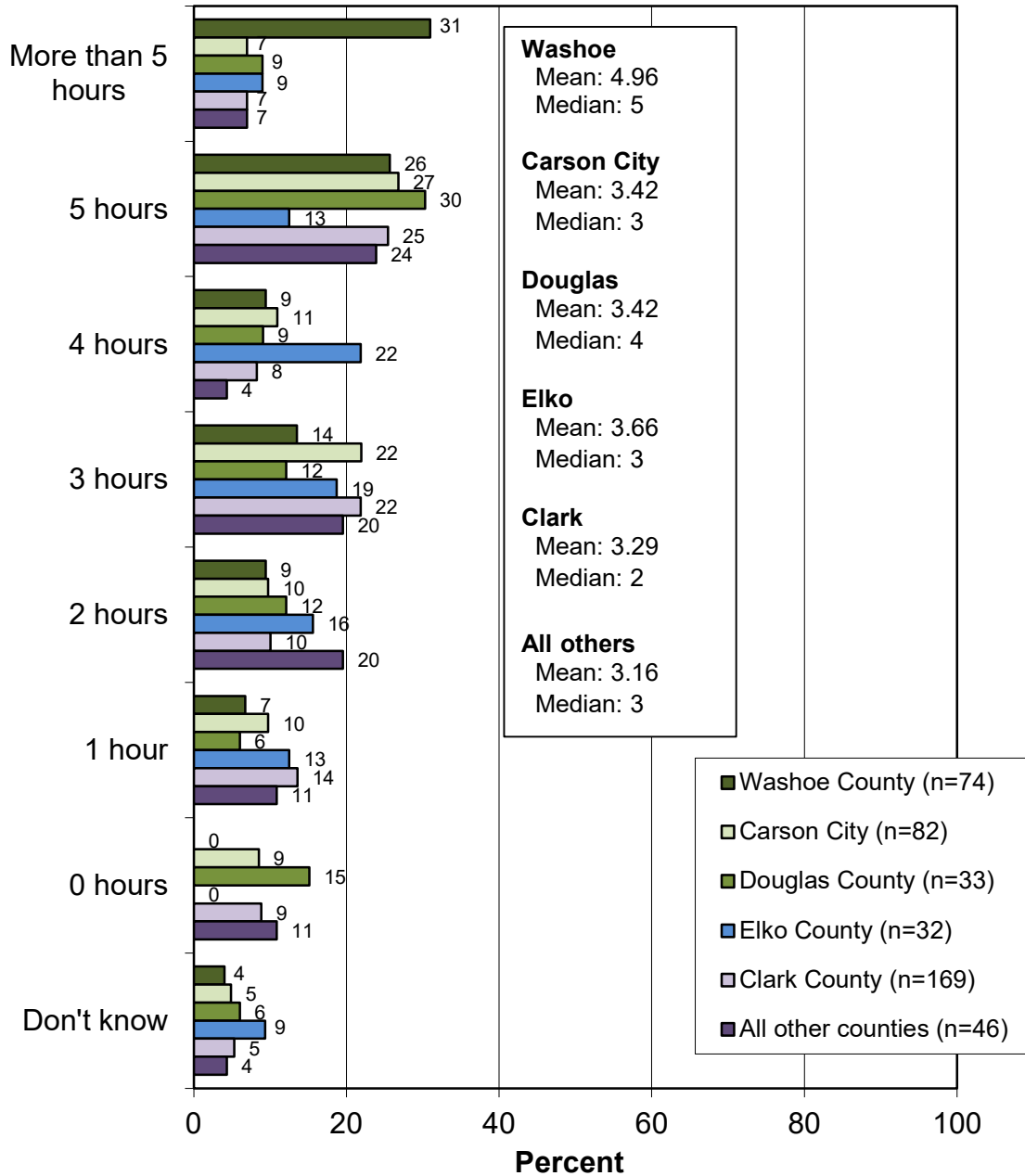
If a minimum time requirement for recess or breaks is mandated statewide, stakeholders were asked what the amount of time should be: their median response was 3 hours per week. Those who responded with 0 hours were essentially saying that they do not want a mandate.



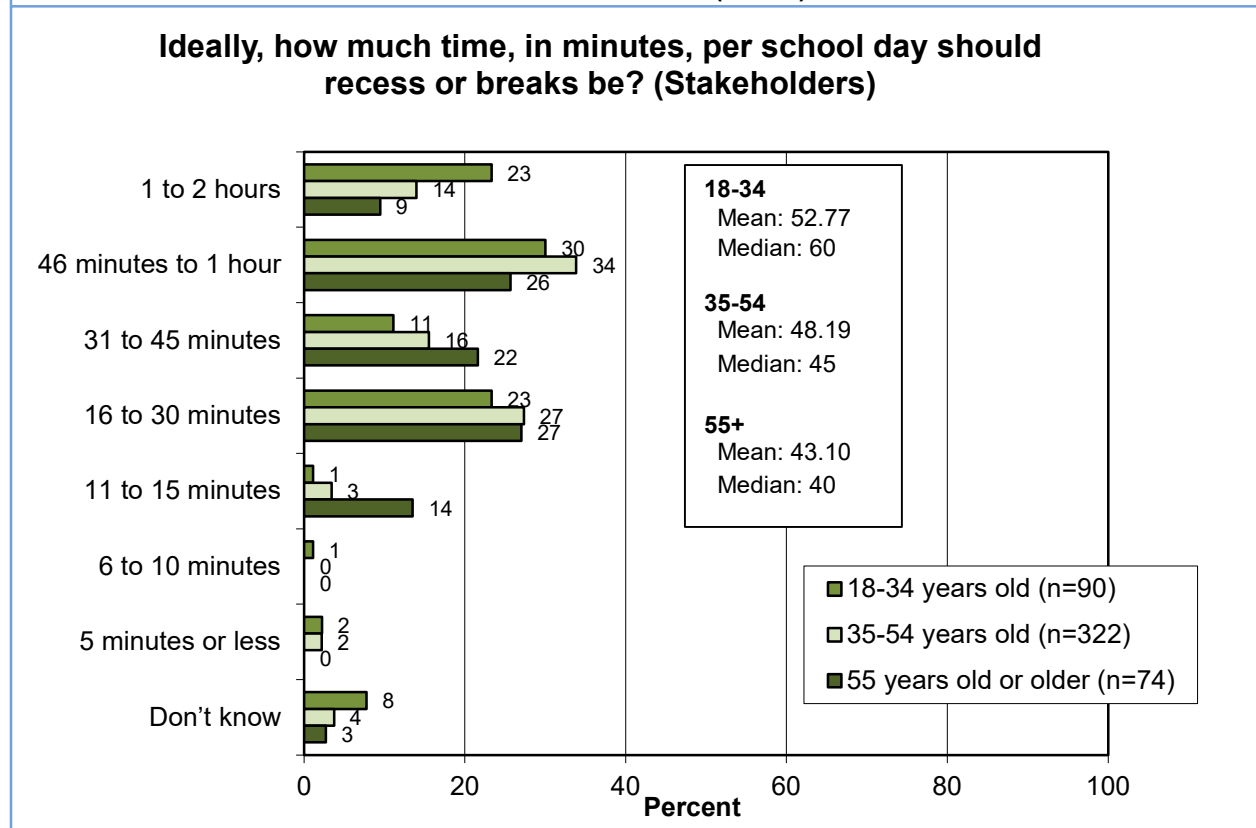
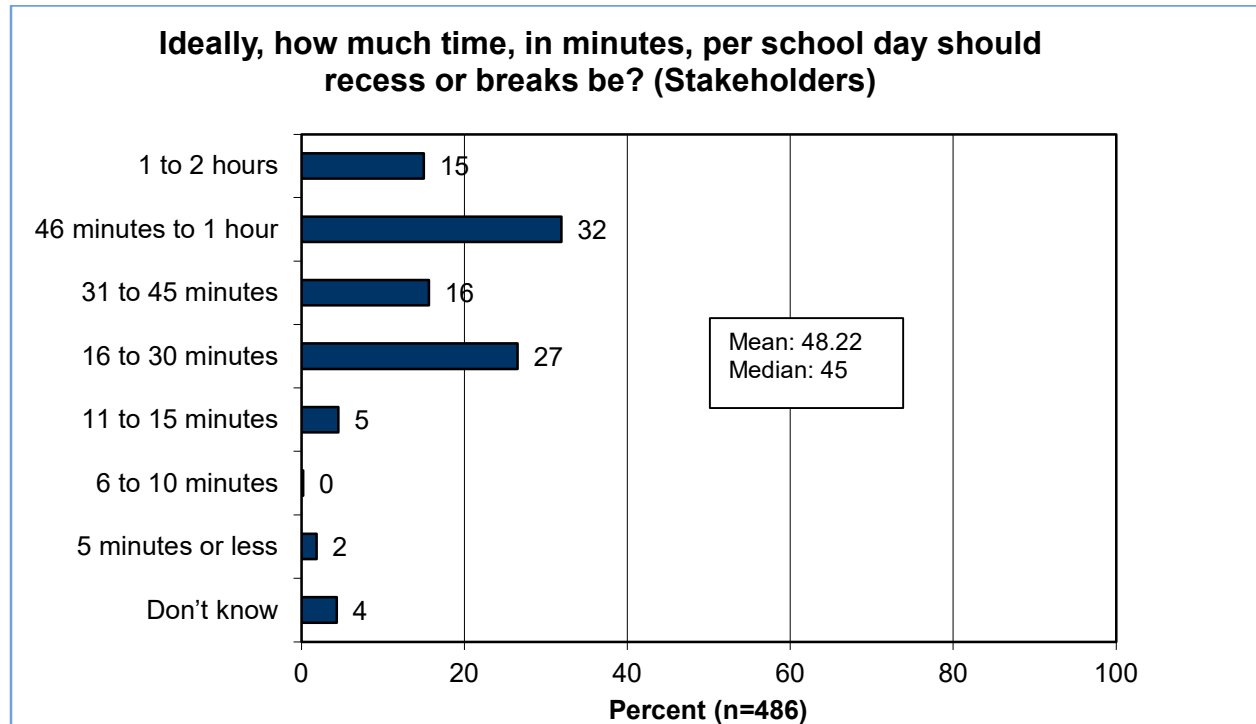
**If a minimum weekly time requirement for recess or school day breaks was mandated statewide, how long, in minutes, do you think that total weekly time requirement for recess or breaks should be? (Stakeholders)**



**If a minimum weekly time requirement for recess or school day breaks was mandated statewide, how long, in minutes, do you think that total weekly time requirement for recess or breaks should be? (Stakeholders)**

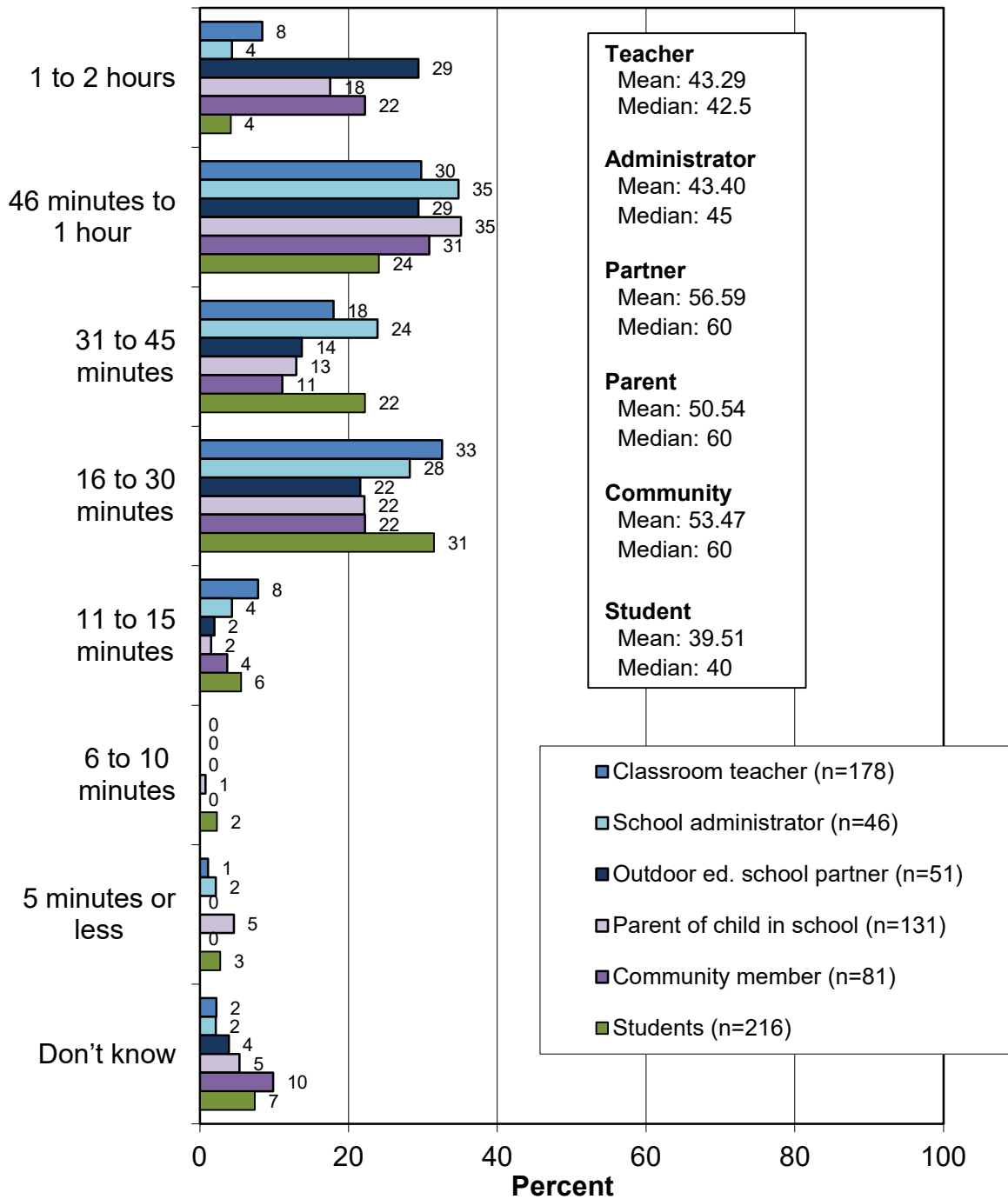


After asking about the ideal amount of break time per week, the survey asked about break time per day: stakeholders gave a median response of 45 minutes per day as ideal. It is interesting to note that students responded with a lower median than all stakeholder groups except teachers.

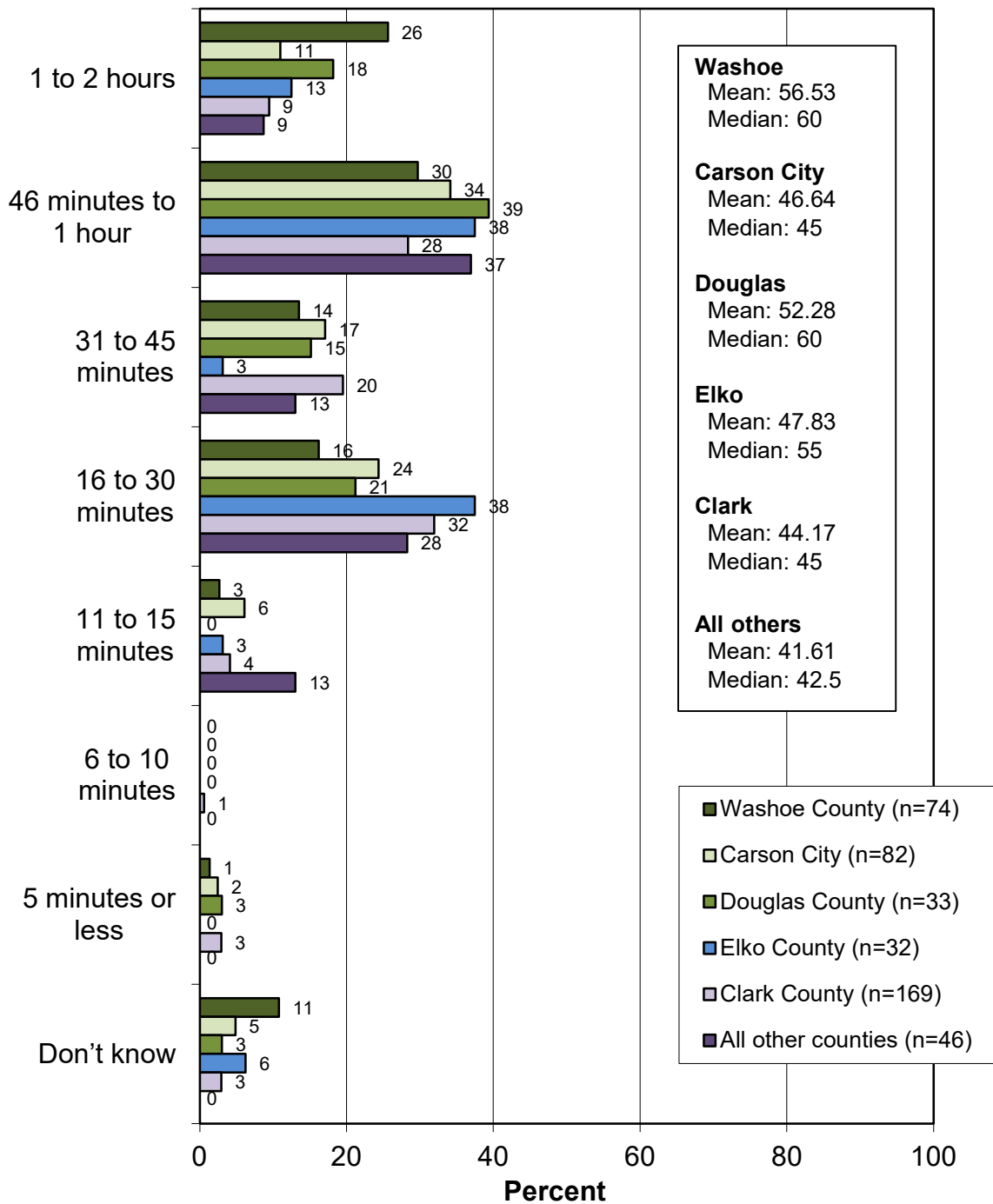




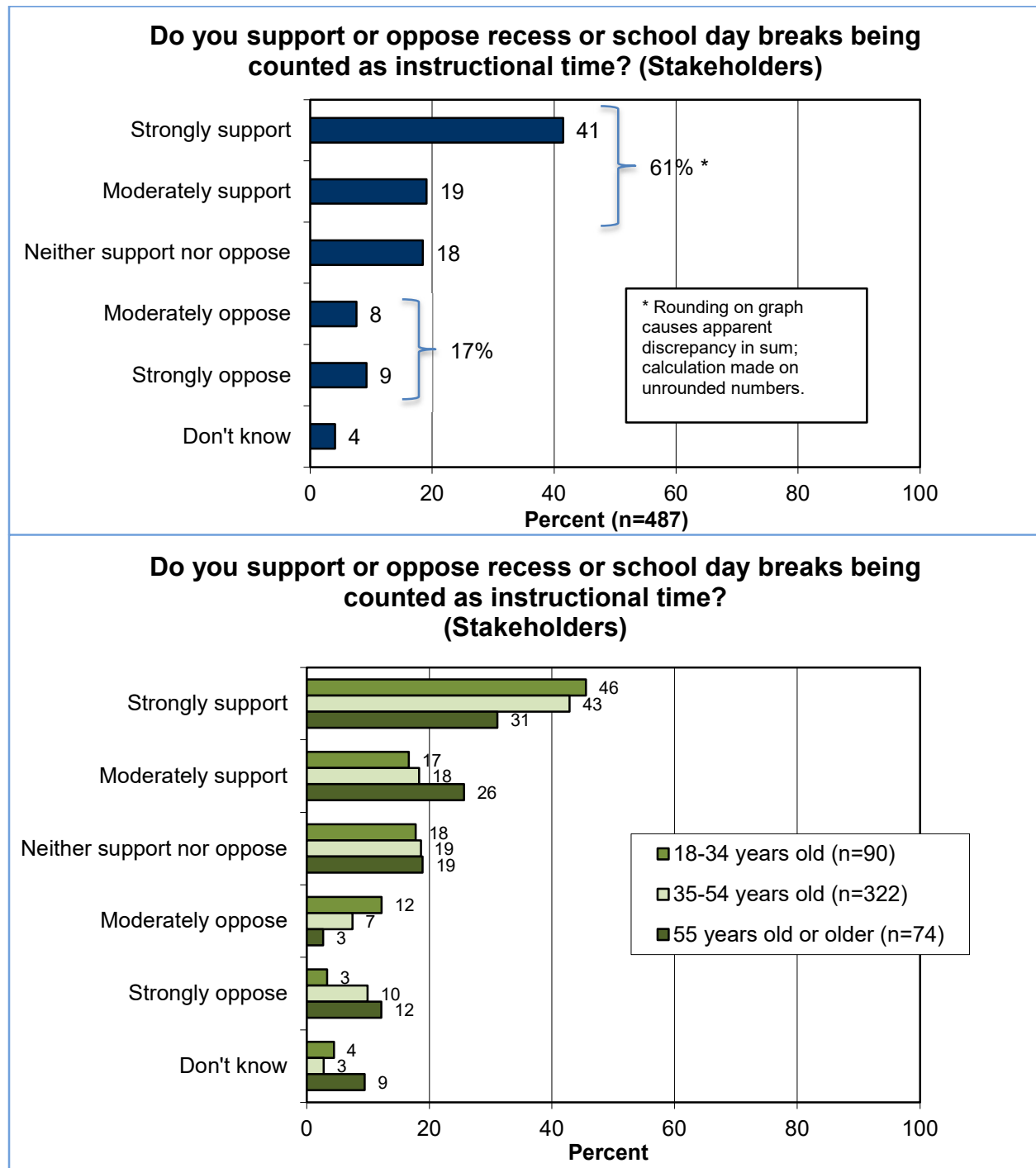
### Ideally, how much time, in minutes, per school day should recess or breaks be? (Stakeholders) (Students)



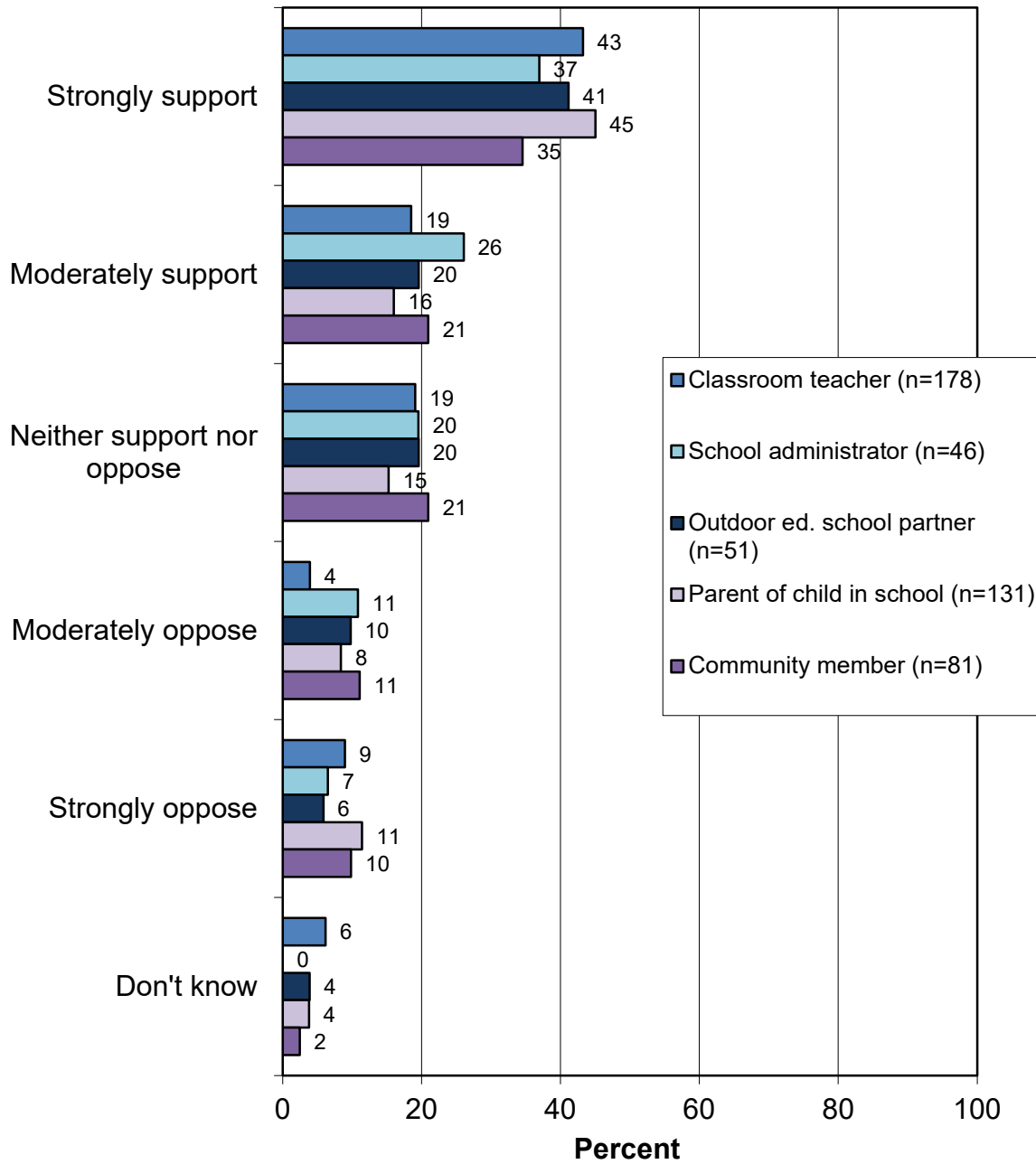
### Ideally, how much time, in minutes, per school day should recess or breaks be? (Stakeholders)



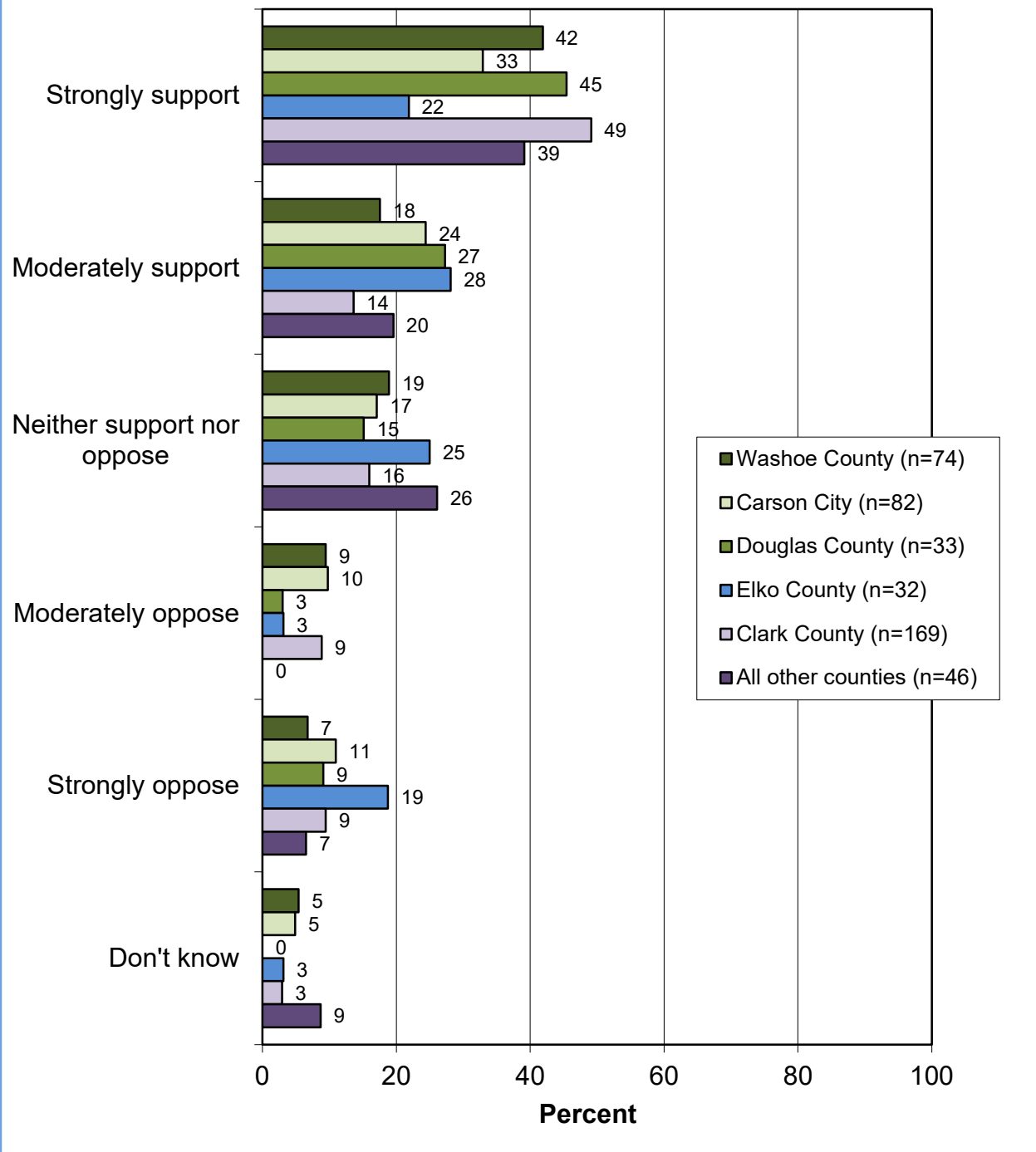
A majority of stakeholders support having recess or breaks count as instructional time (61% support this), although 17% oppose the idea. *Strong* support is highest among parents and teachers.



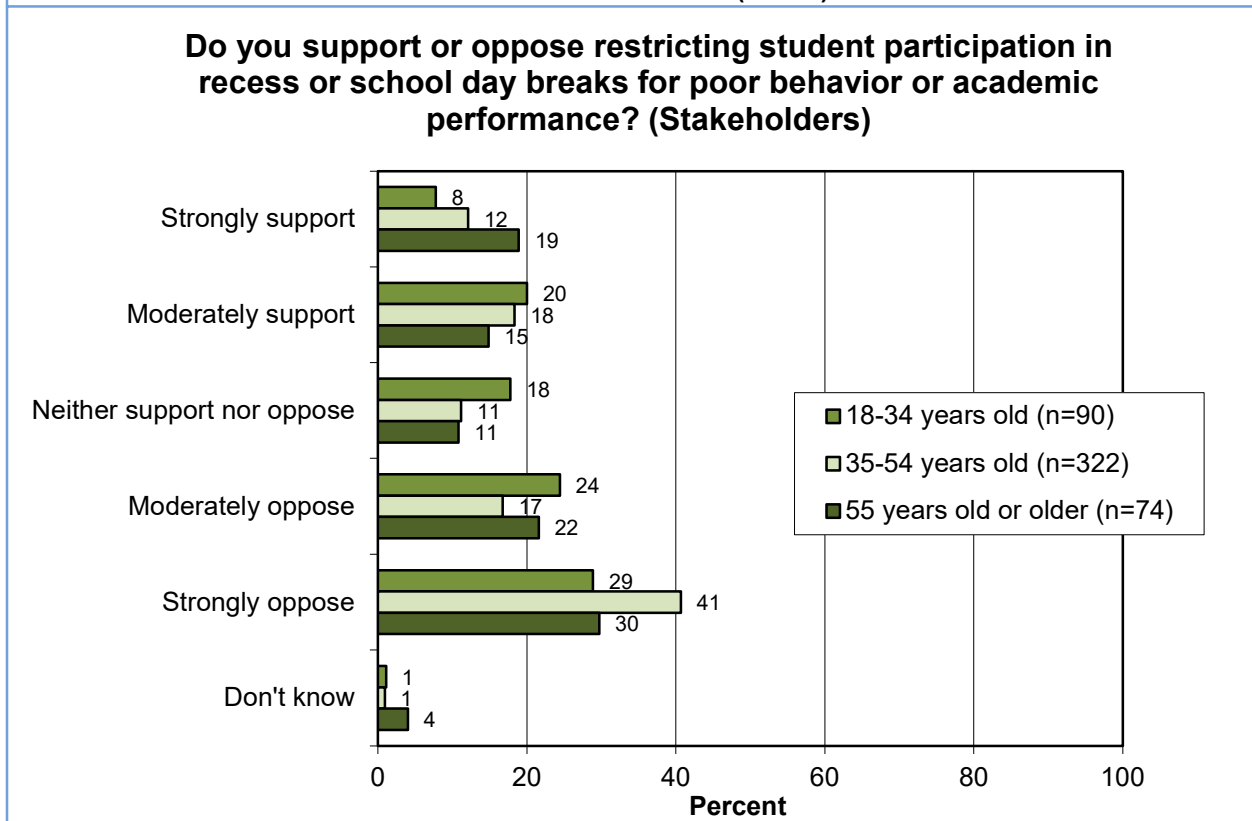
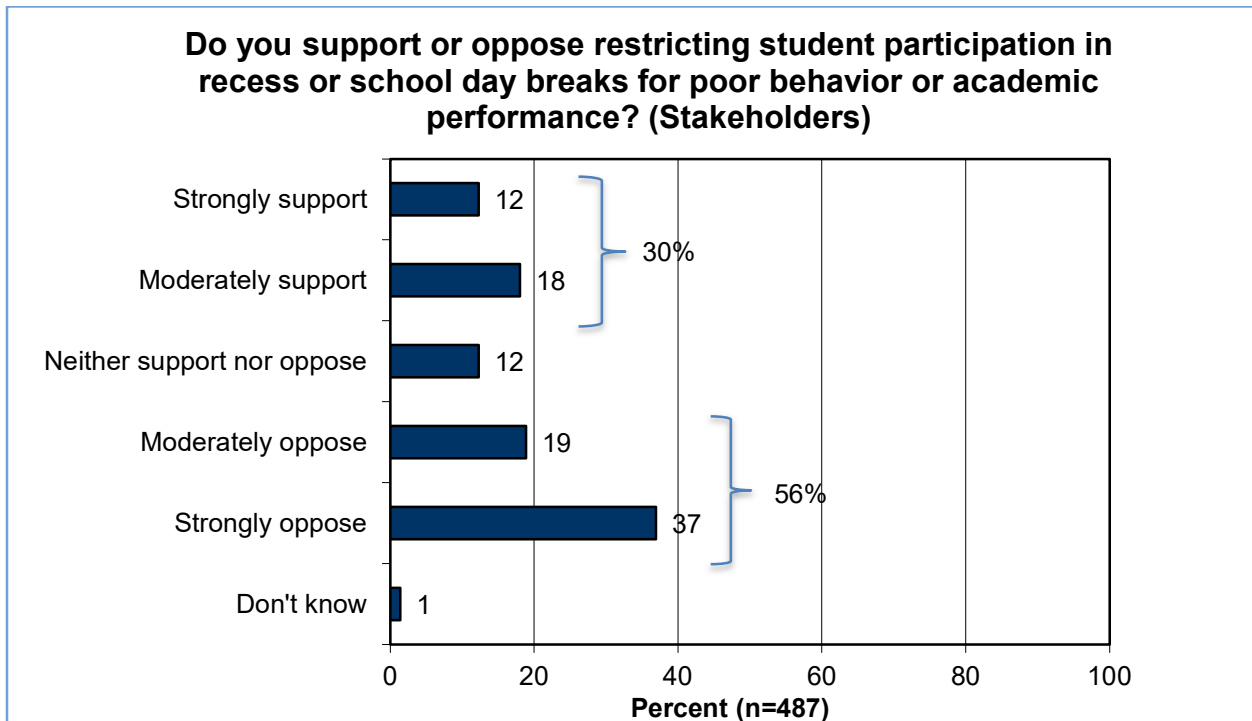
### Do you support or oppose recess or school day breaks being counted as instructional time? (Stakeholders)



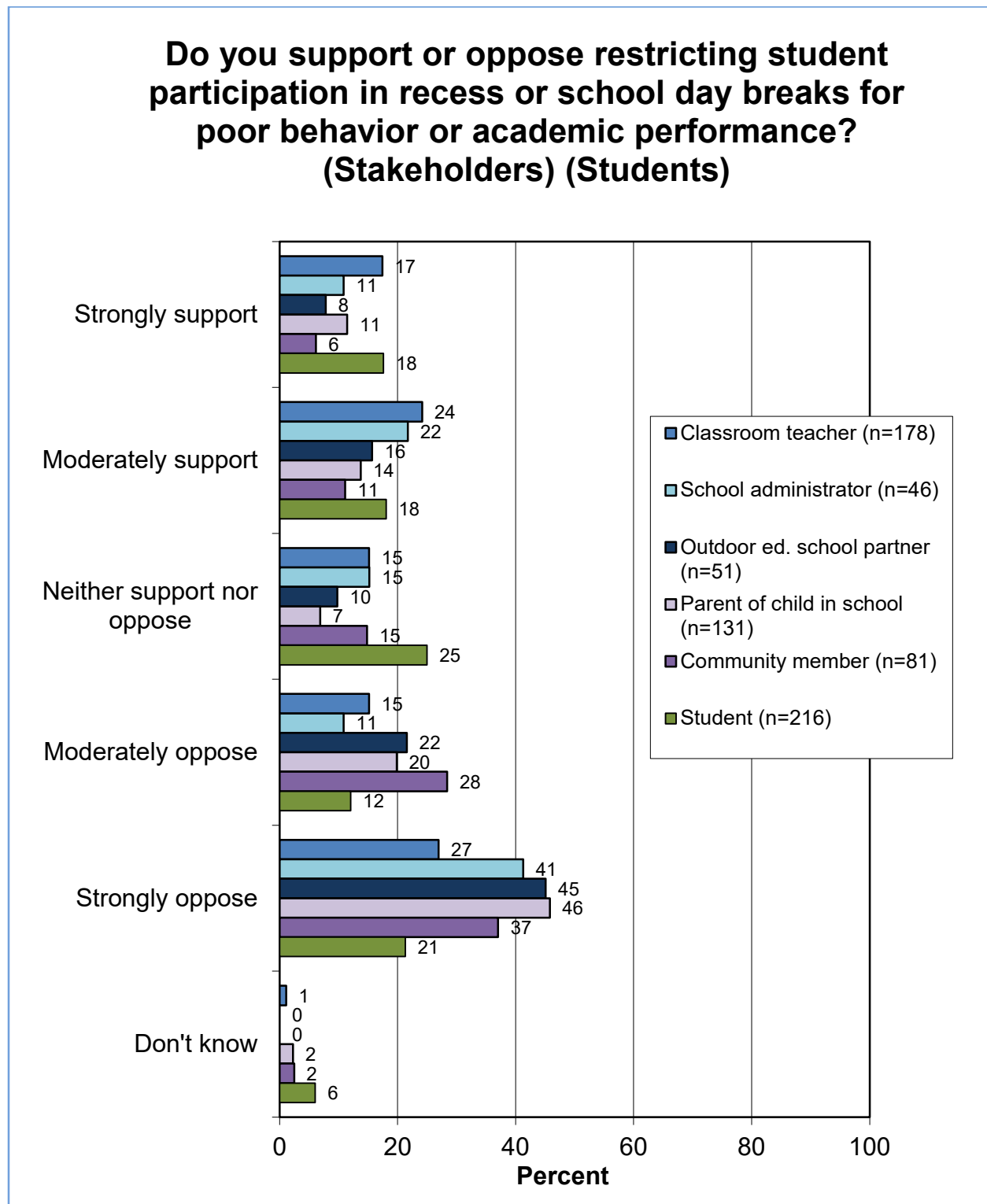
### Do you support or oppose recess or school day breaks being counted as instructional time? (Stakeholders)



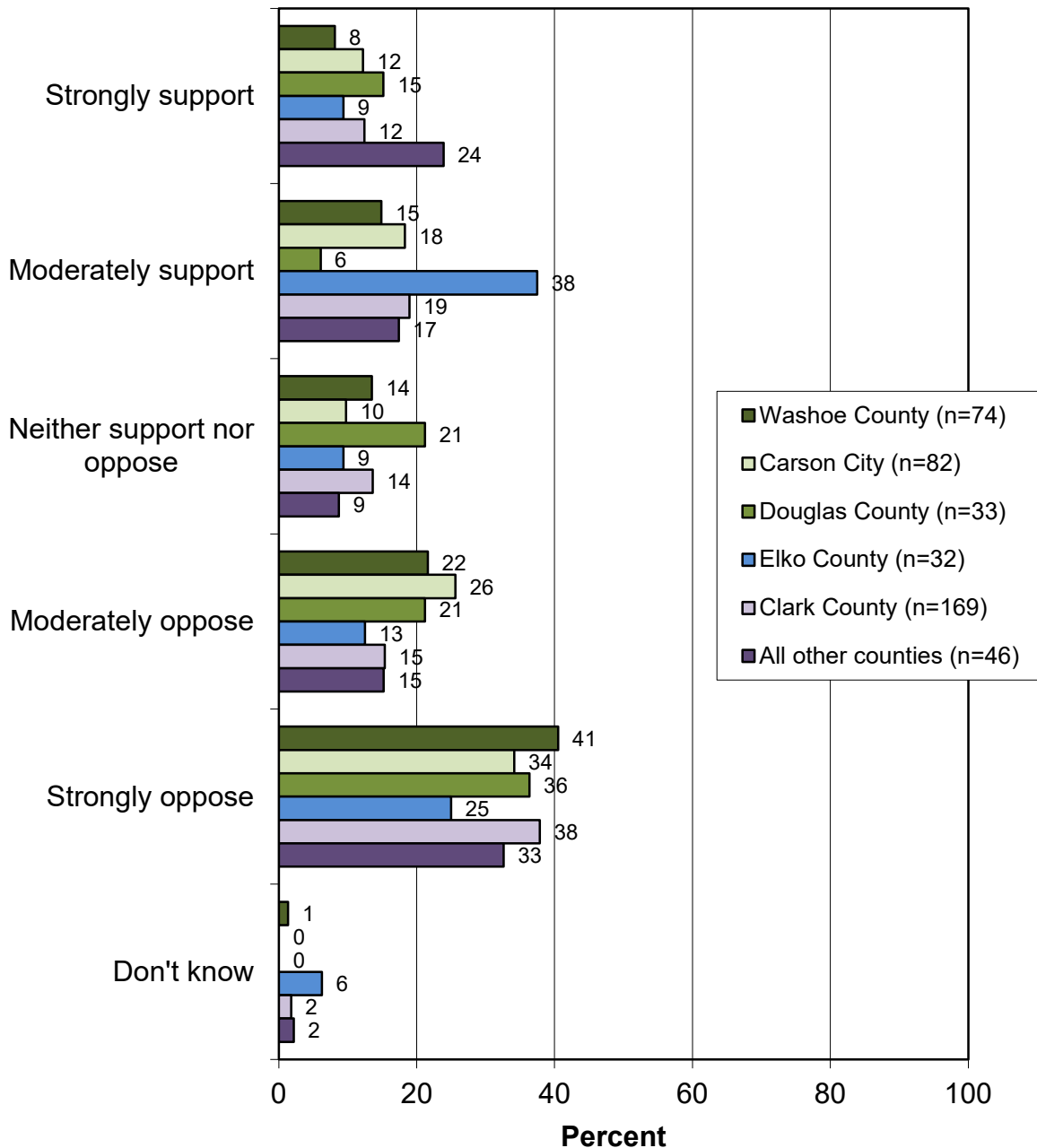
By a nearly 2-to-1 margin, more stakeholders oppose (56%) than support (30%) restricting students from recess or breaks as punishment for poor behavior or school performance.



Interestingly, there is more support from students than from any stakeholder group except teachers.



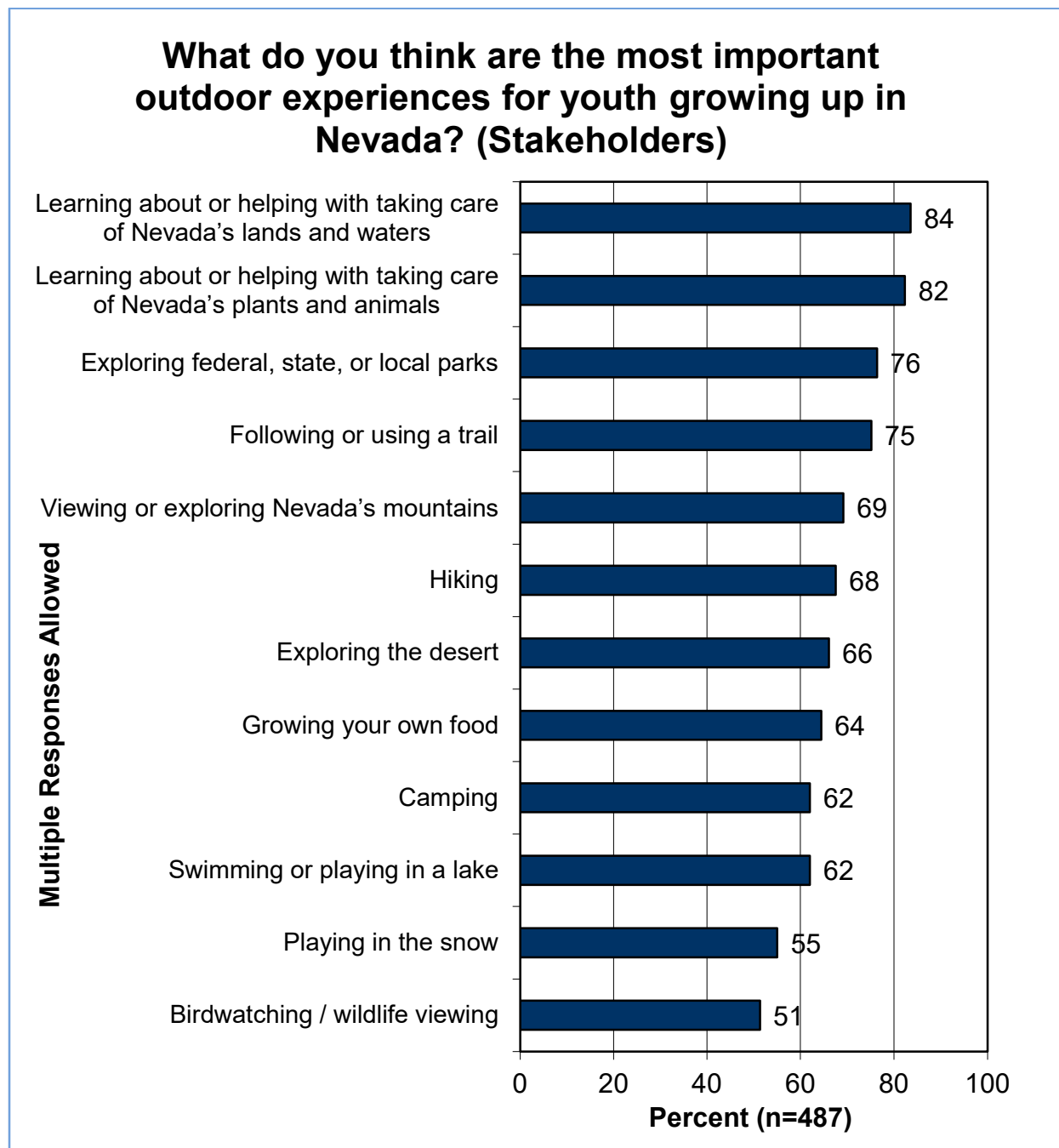
### Do you support or oppose restricting student participation in recess or school day breaks for poor behavior or academic performance? (Stakeholders)



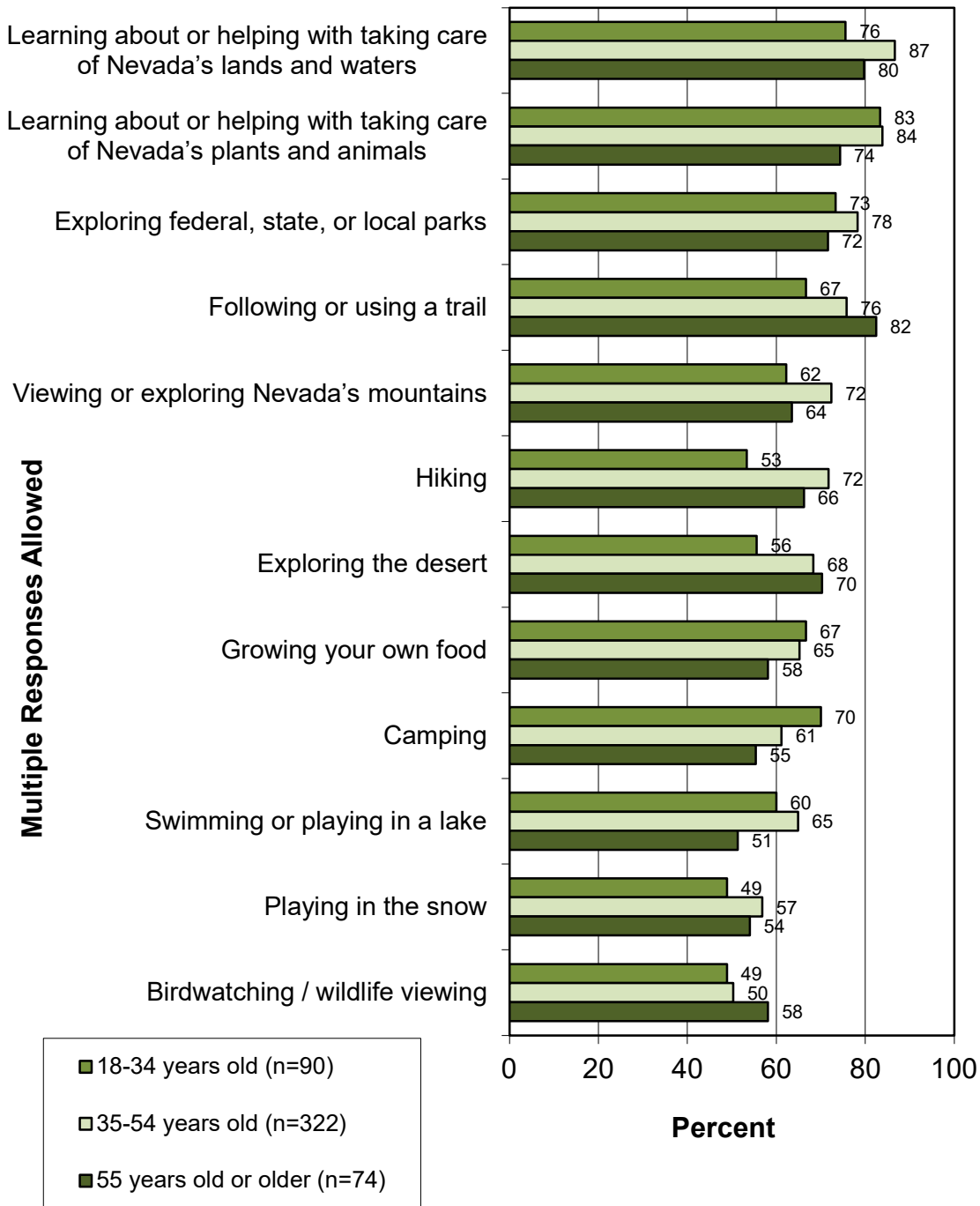


### IMPORTANCE OF VARIOUS OUTDOOR EXPERIENCES

Stakeholders were presented with a list of outdoor experiences, and they were asked to select the most important ones for youth growing up in Nevada. The top results were learning about or participating in protecting the state’s lands and waters, and the same for plants and animals (both selected by over 80% of stakeholders). A second tier, selected by three quarters of stakeholders, includes exploring parks and using trails. The full list is shown, followed by crosstabulations.



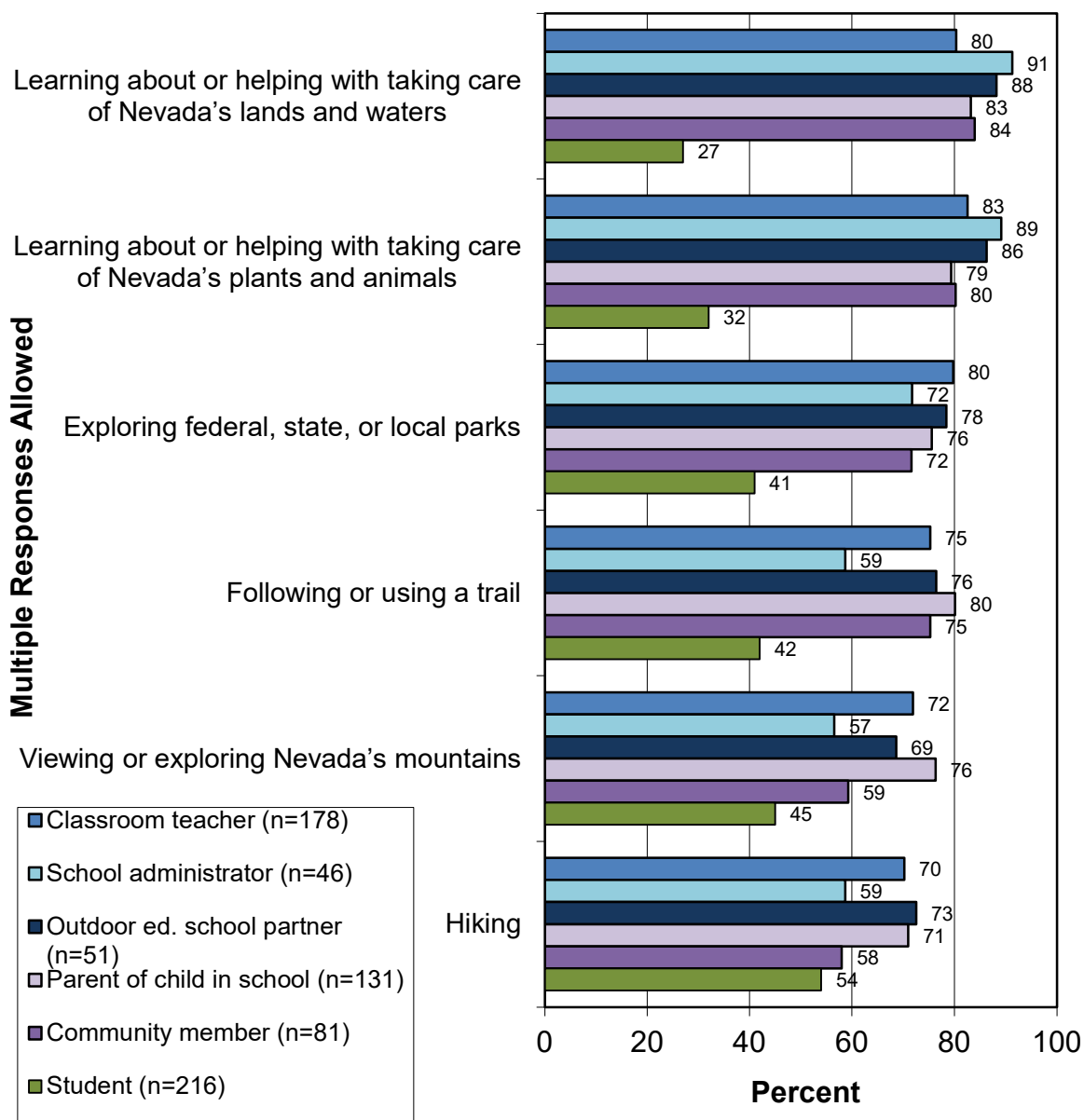
### What do you think are the most important outdoor experiences for youth growing up in Nevada? (Stakeholders)



The top selections by students from the same list are swimming or playing in a lake, playing in the snow, camping, and hiking—all selected by over half of students.

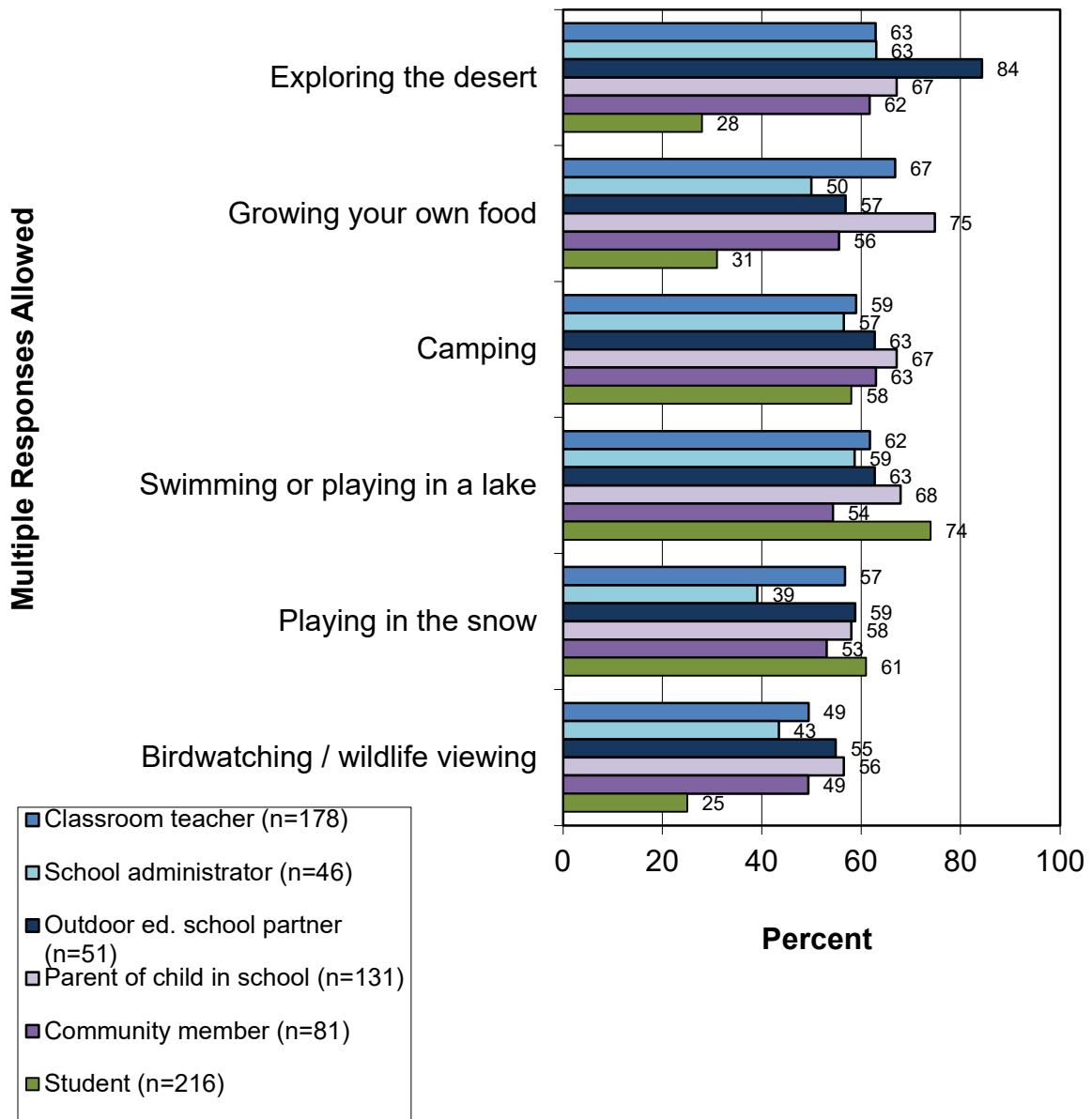
### What do you think are the most important outdoor experiences for youth growing up in Nevada? (Stakeholders)

### What do you think have been the most important outdoor experiences or activities in Nevada for you? (Students) (Part 1)

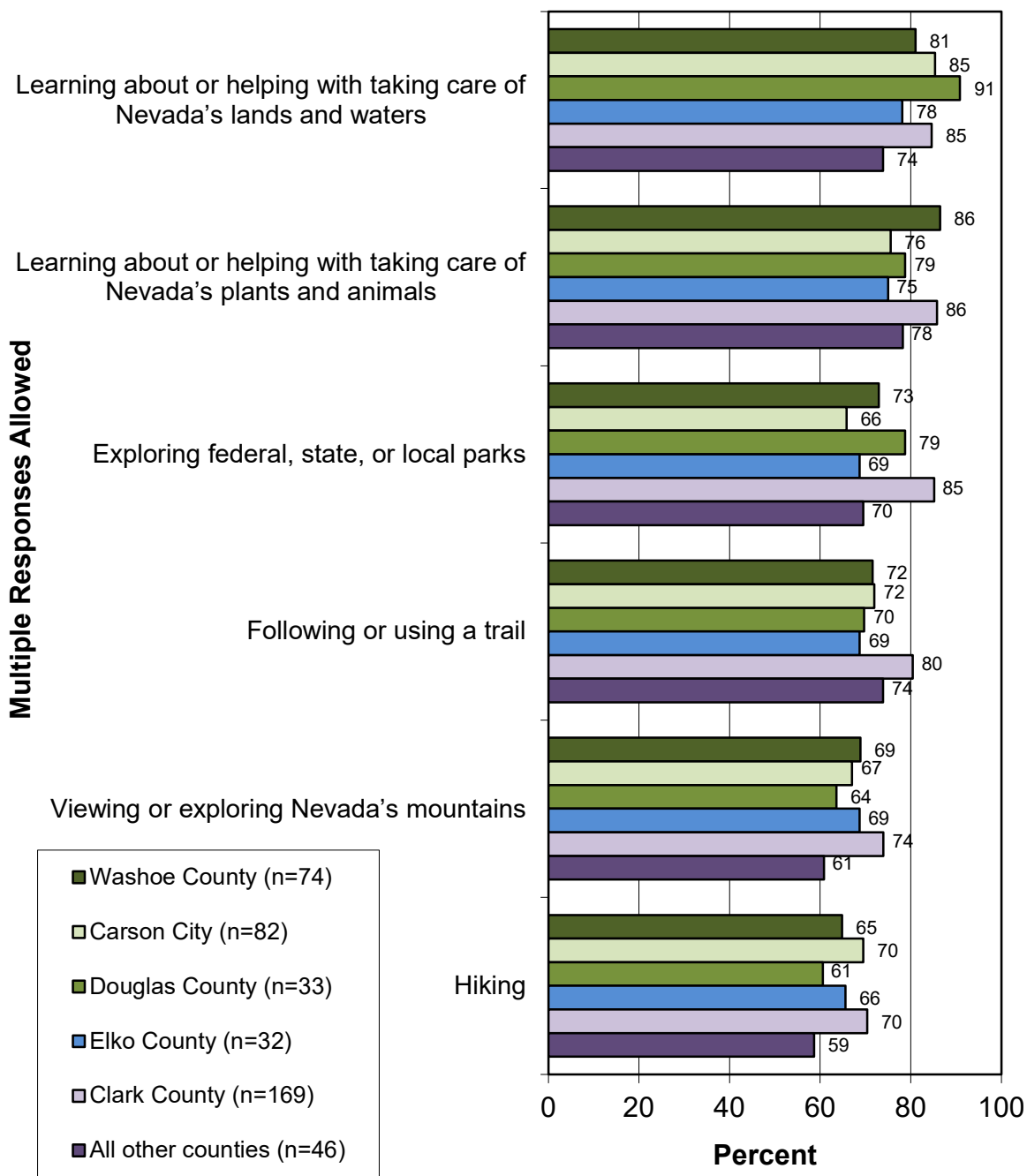


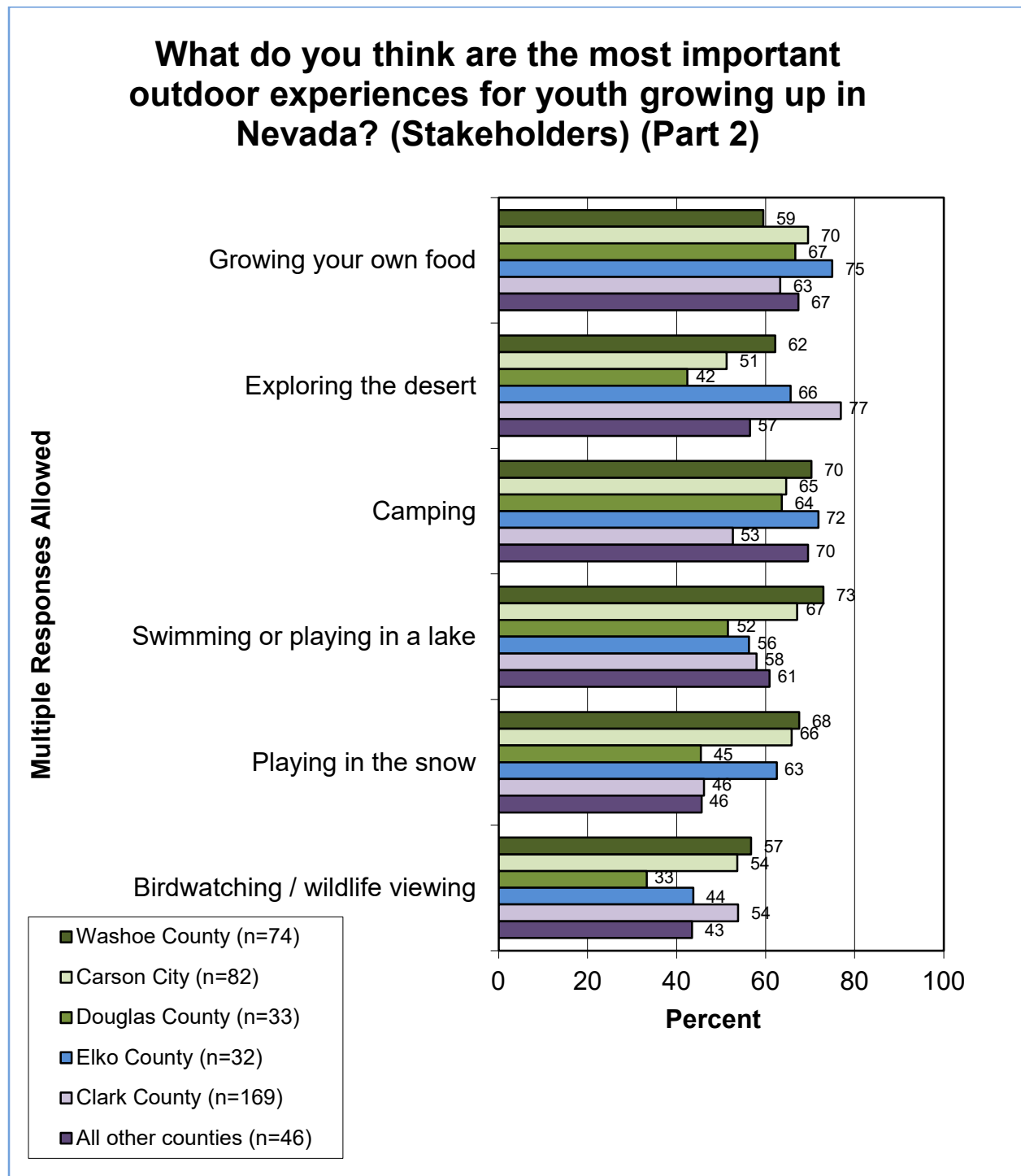
### What do you think are the most important outdoor experiences for youth growing up in Nevada? (Stakeholders)

### What do you think have been the most important outdoor experiences or activities in Nevada for you? (Students) (Part 2)



## What do you think are the most important outdoor experiences for youth growing up in Nevada? (Stakeholders) (Part 1)

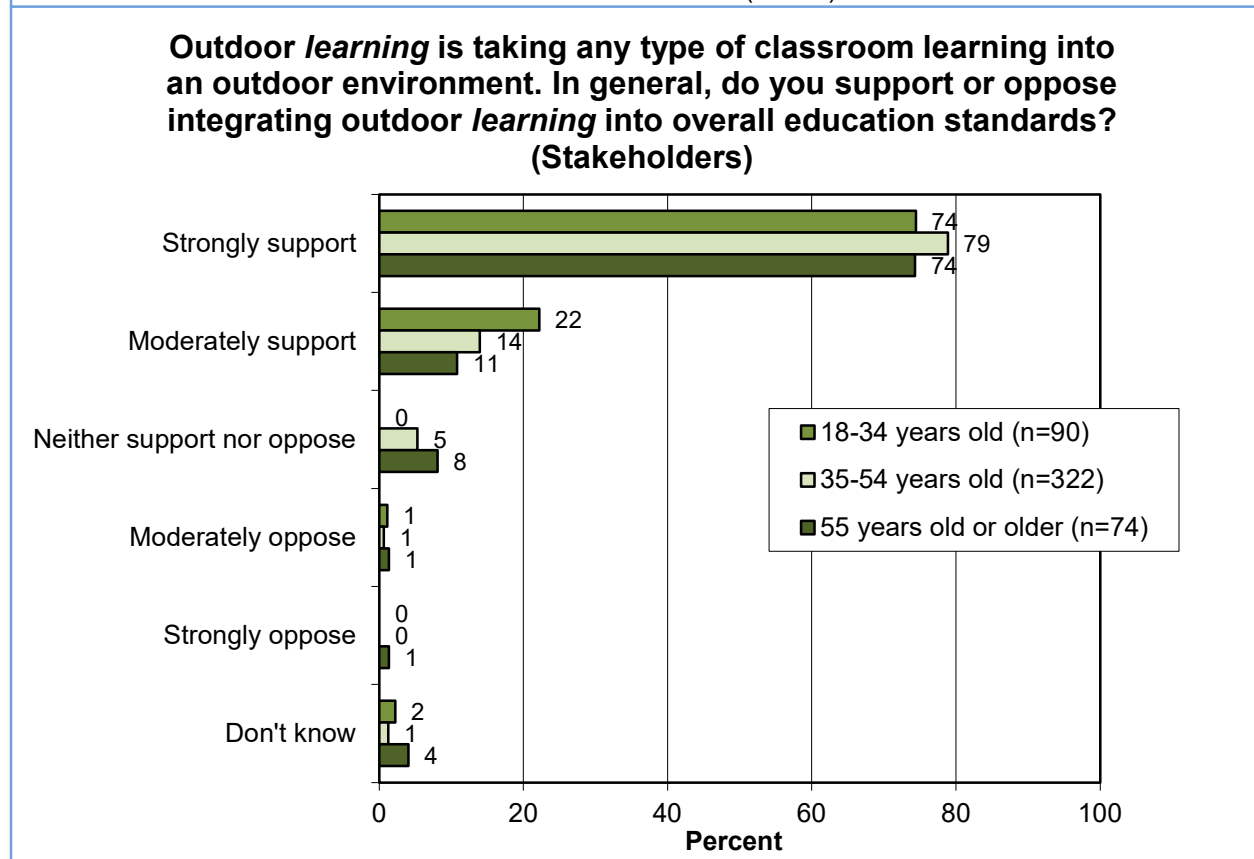
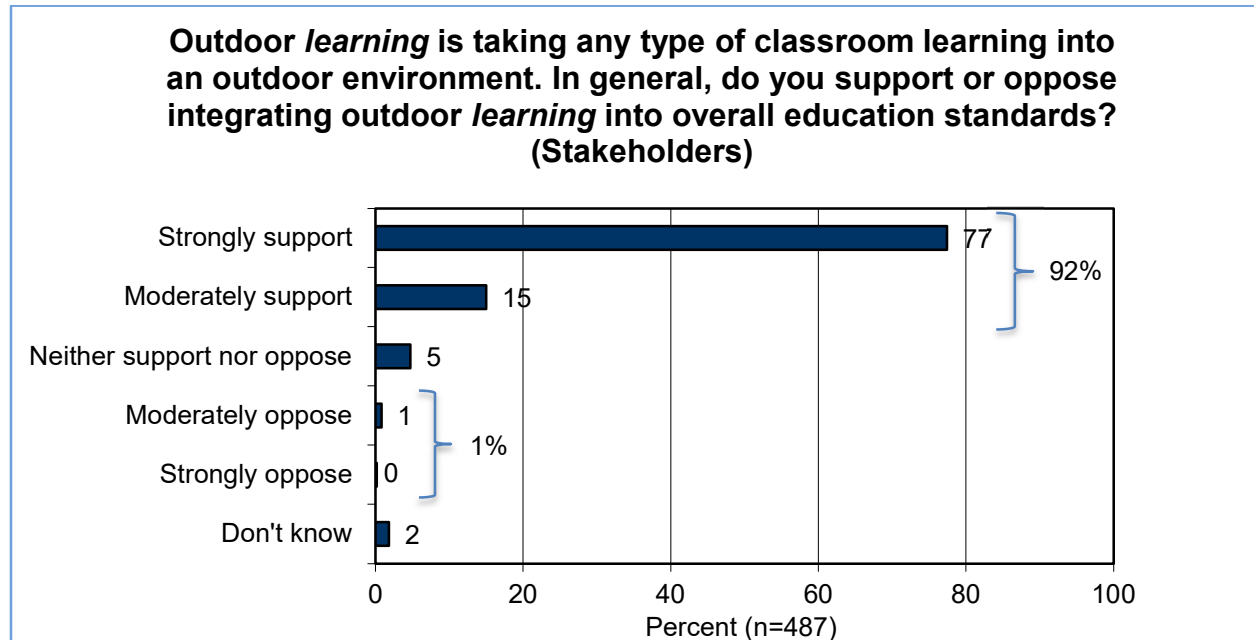




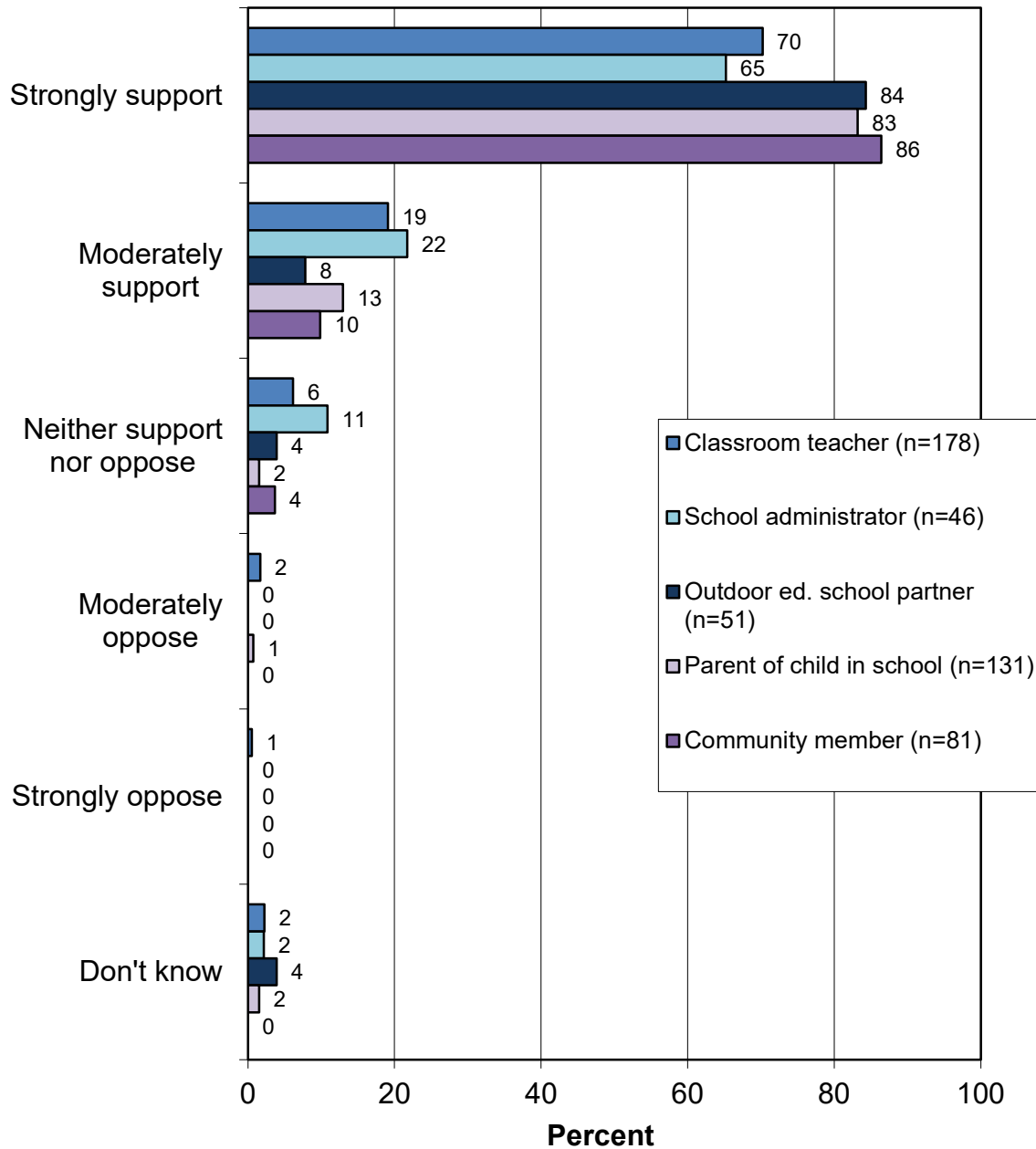
An open-ended follow-up question in each survey asked stakeholders and students if there are any other outdoor experiences or activities that are important for Nevada youth. Both respondent groups gave a wide range of responses that defy useful categorization. However, all verbatim responses are included in the appendix of the report.

## SUPPORT OF VARIOUS ASPECTS OF OUTDOOR EDUCATION

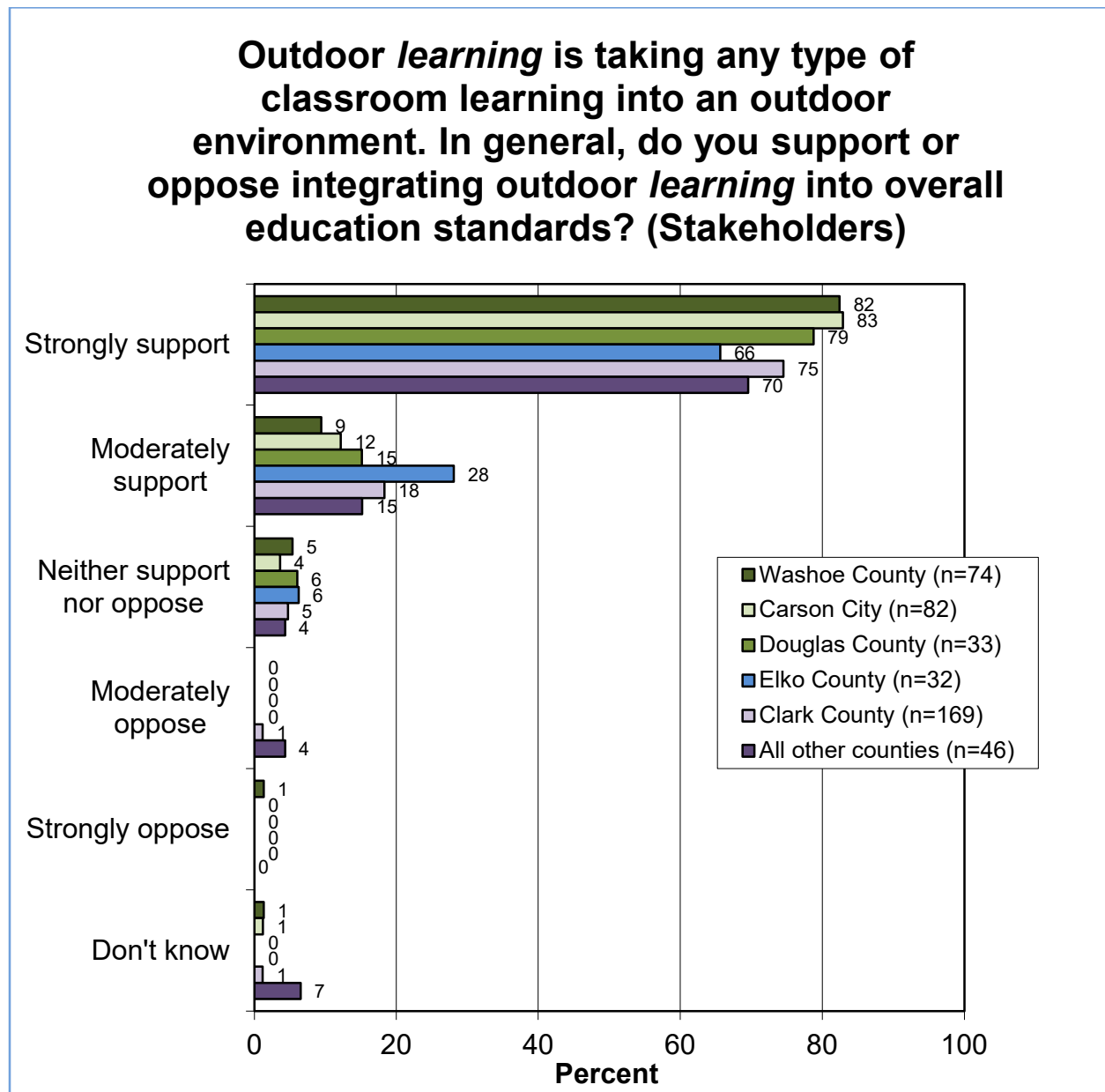
The survey defined outdoor *learning* as taking any type of class outdoors. Nearly all stakeholders (92%) support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards. *Strong* support is lower among administrators and teachers compared to their counterparts.



**Outdoor learning is taking any type of classroom learning into an outdoor environment. In general, do you support or oppose integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards? (Stakeholders)**



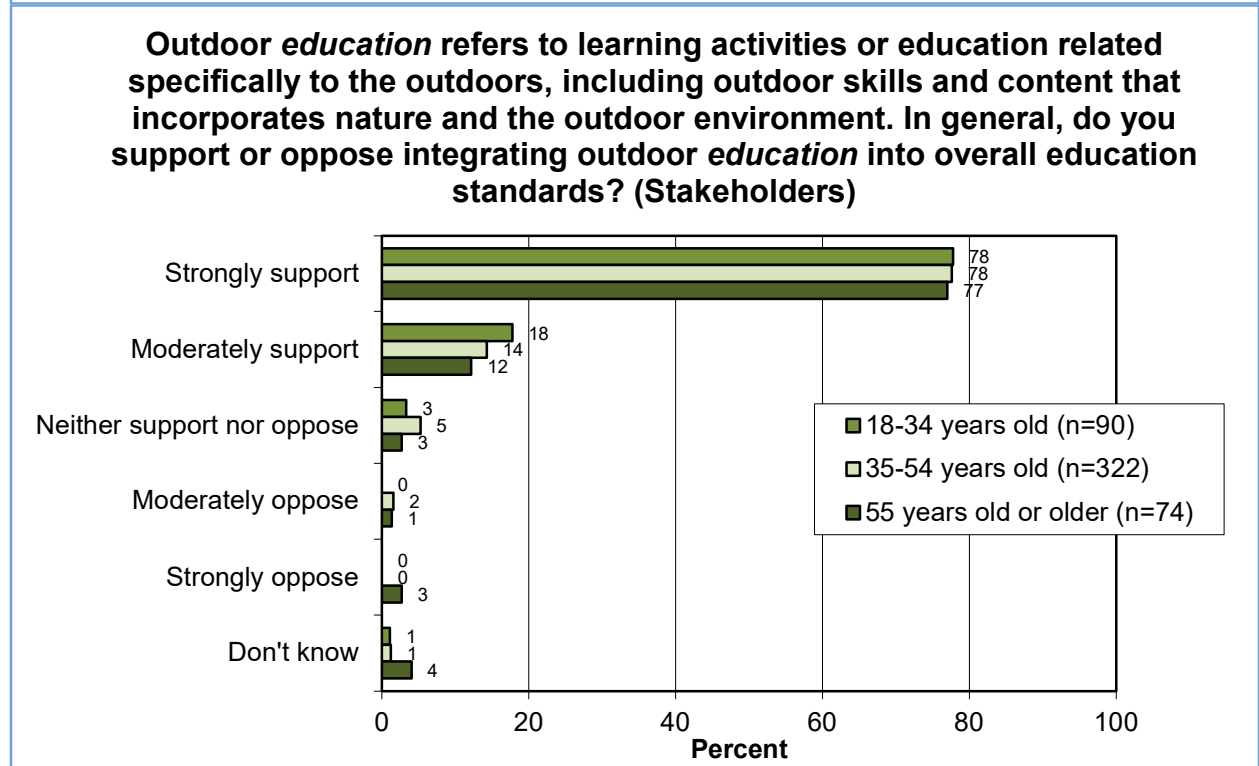
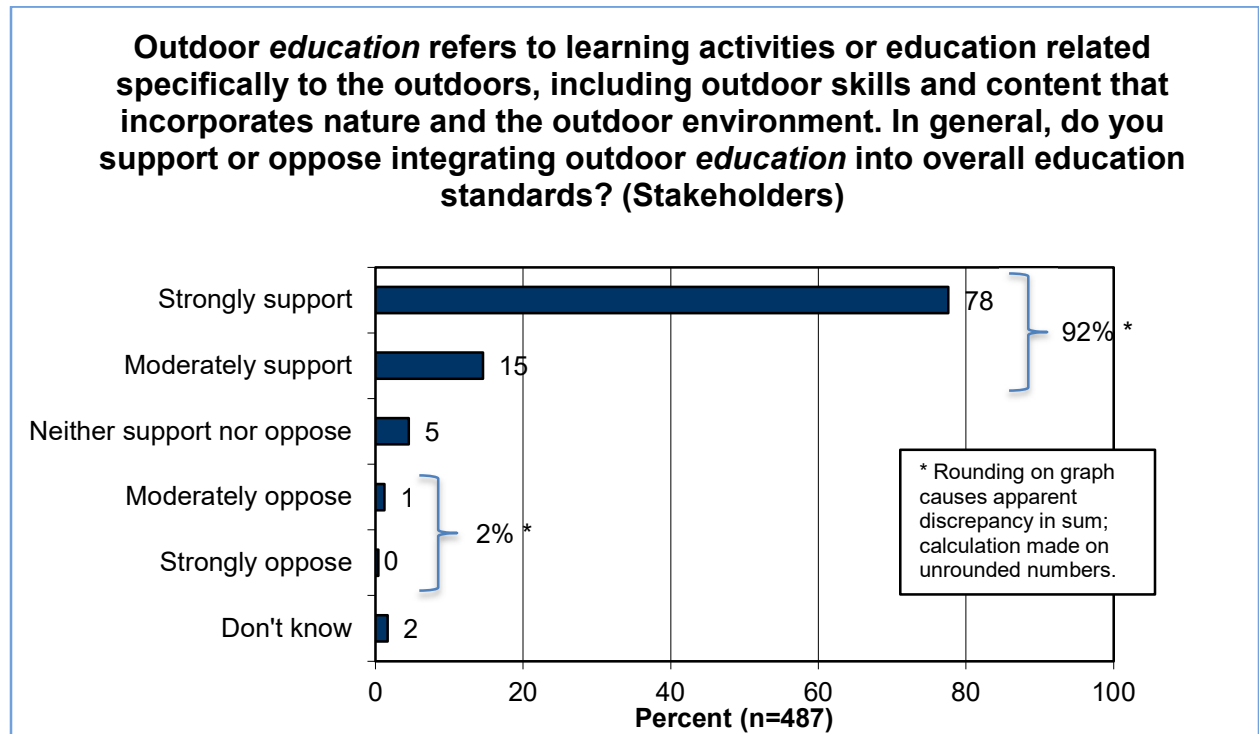




Stakeholders gave, in response to an open-ended question, their reasons for supporting the integration of outdoor learning into overall education standards. The appendix shows the full list of verbatim comments, but common responses include the need for students to get fresh air and sunshine, detachment from technology, appreciation of natural resources and wildlife, and exposure to outside activities that may lead to a healthier lifestyle later in life.

When asked to name reasons for opposing outdoor learning, many of the comments related to lack of time, staff, or budget; heat; safety concerns, particularly with large class sizes; and lack of expertise. The appendix shows the full list.

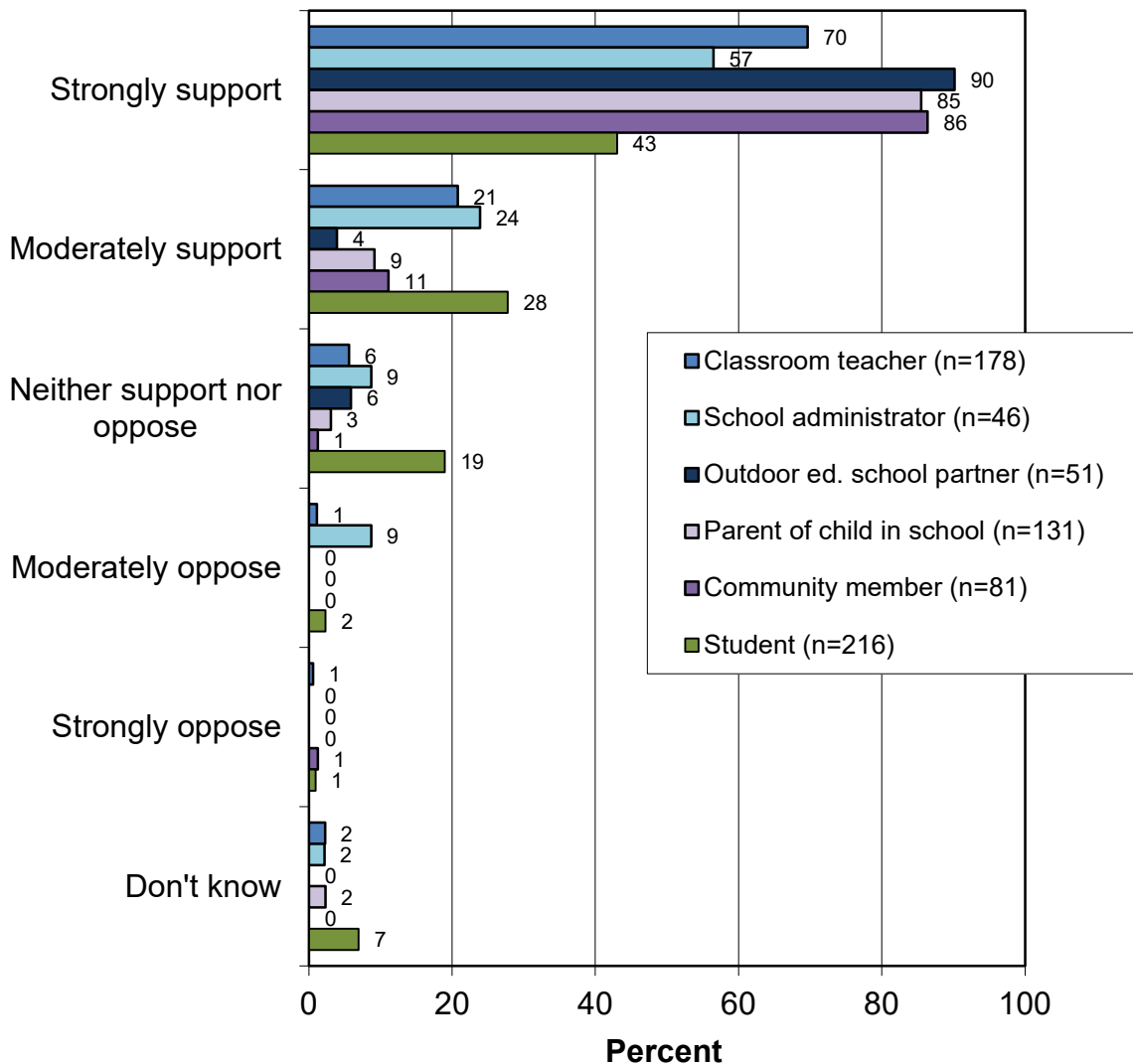
The survey defined outdoor *education* as education related specifically to the outdoors and nature (in contrast to outdoor *learning*, which refers to any subject taught outdoors). As before, however, nearly all stakeholders (92%) *strongly* or *moderately* support integrating outdoor education into overall education standards. Students were included in this question (they were not for outdoor *learning*), and their overall support is markedly lower compared to stakeholders (71%).



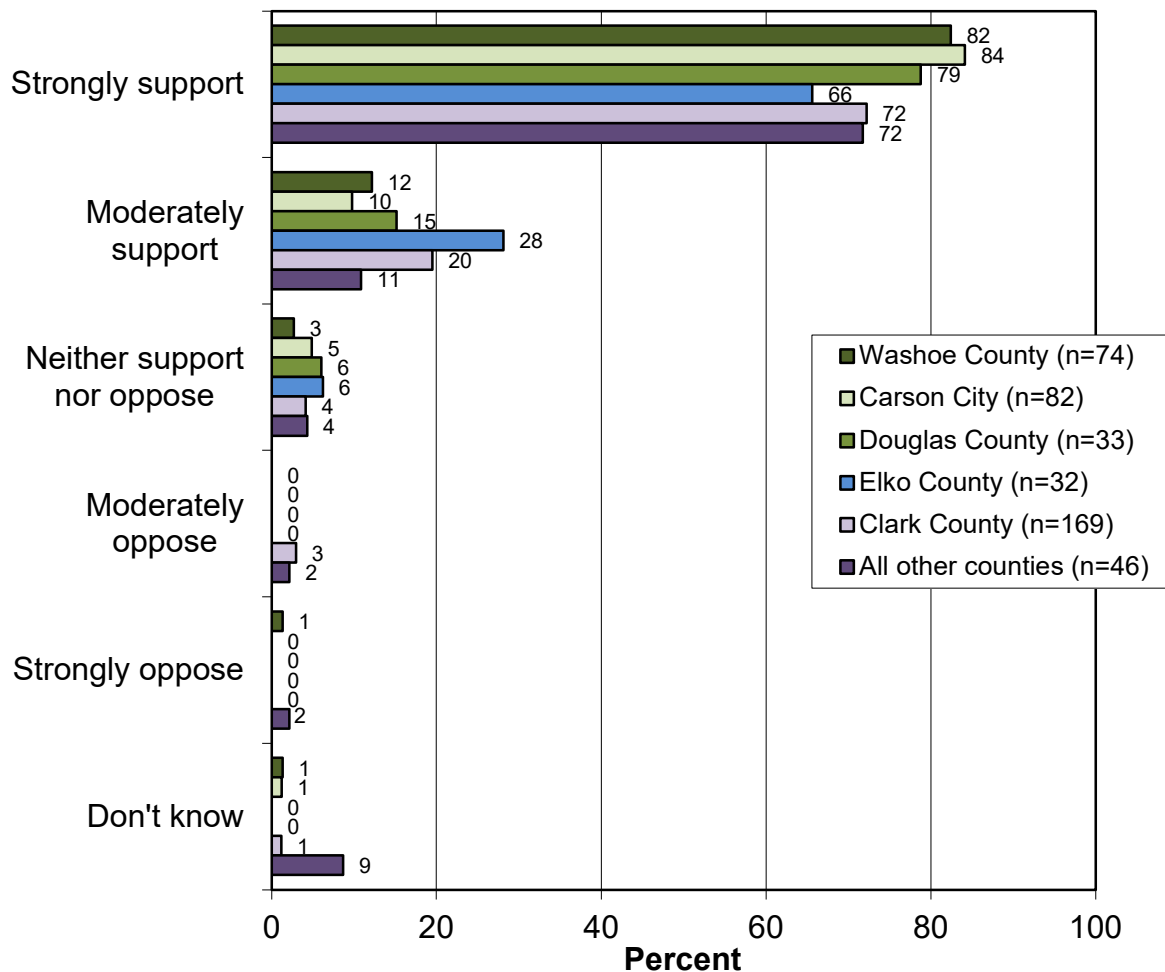
**Outdoor education** refers to learning activities or education related specifically to the outdoors, including outdoor skills and content that incorporates nature and the outdoor environment.

**In general, do you support or oppose integrating outdoor education into overall education standards? (Stakeholders)**

**In general, do you support or oppose requiring outdoor education in school? (Students)**



**Outdoor education refers to learning activities or education related specifically to the outdoors, including outdoor skills and content that incorporates nature and the outdoor environment. In general, do you support or oppose integrating outdoor education into overall education standards? (Stakeholders)**

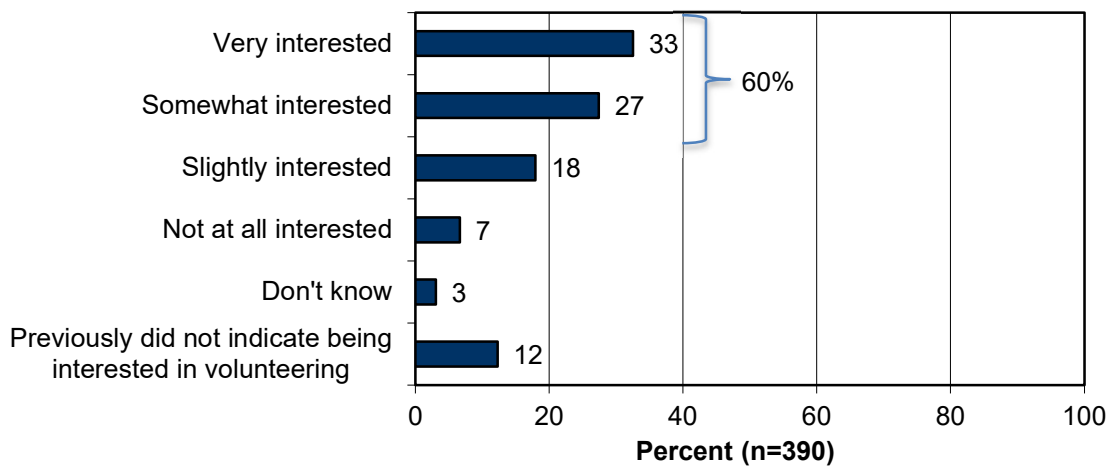


Reasons for supporting the integration of outdoor education into overall education standards, given by stakeholders in an open-ended question, include the value of appreciating nature, promotion of mental health, benefits of physical activity, and preparing children for ecosystem stewardship. The appendix shows the full list.

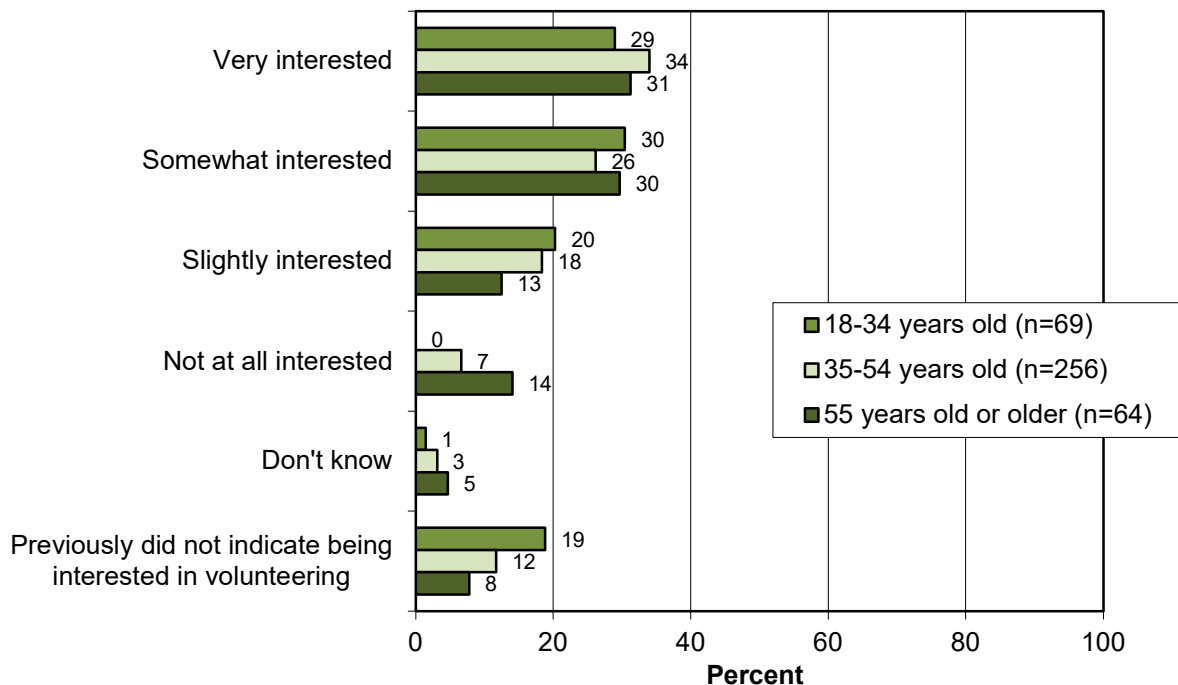
When asked to name reasons for opposing the integration of outdoor education, many of the comments related to too many competing requirements, safety and liability concerns, heat, and lack of access to nature areas. Refer to the appendix for the full list of responses.

Collectively, 60% of teachers, parents, and community members are *very* or *somewhat* interested in working with other grade levels in outdoor learning settings. Teachers are markedly more interested than the other two groups (all teachers received the question, while only parents and community members who expressed interest in volunteering received it; results are shown out of all these groups). Meanwhile, two thirds of students are *very* or *somewhat* interested in outdoor learning with other grade levels.

**How interested are you in working with other grade levels in outdoor learning settings? (Asked of teachers, parents, and community members.) (Stakeholders)**

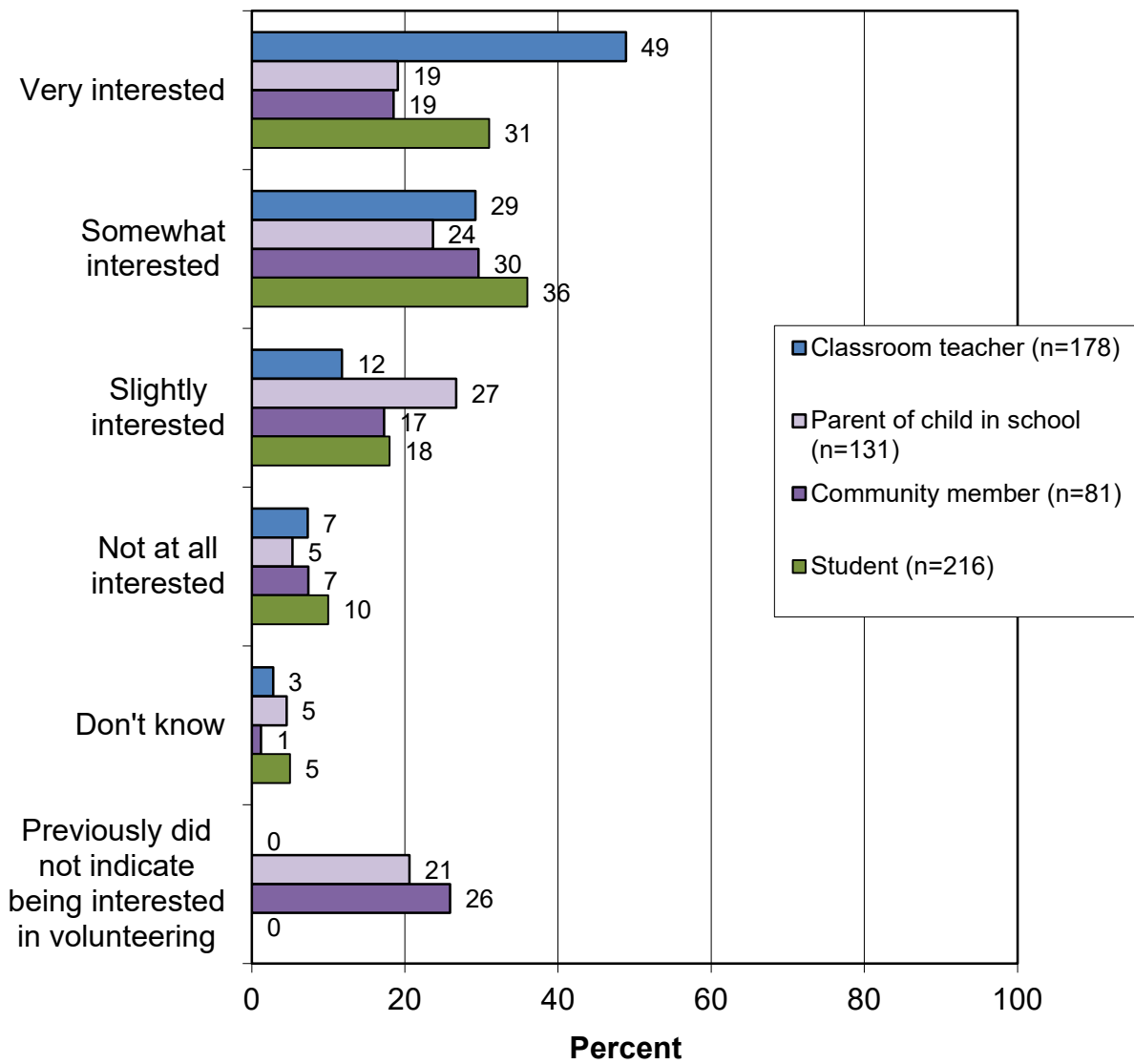


**How interested are you in working with other grade levels in outdoor learning settings? (Asked of teachers, parents, and community members.) (Stakeholders)**

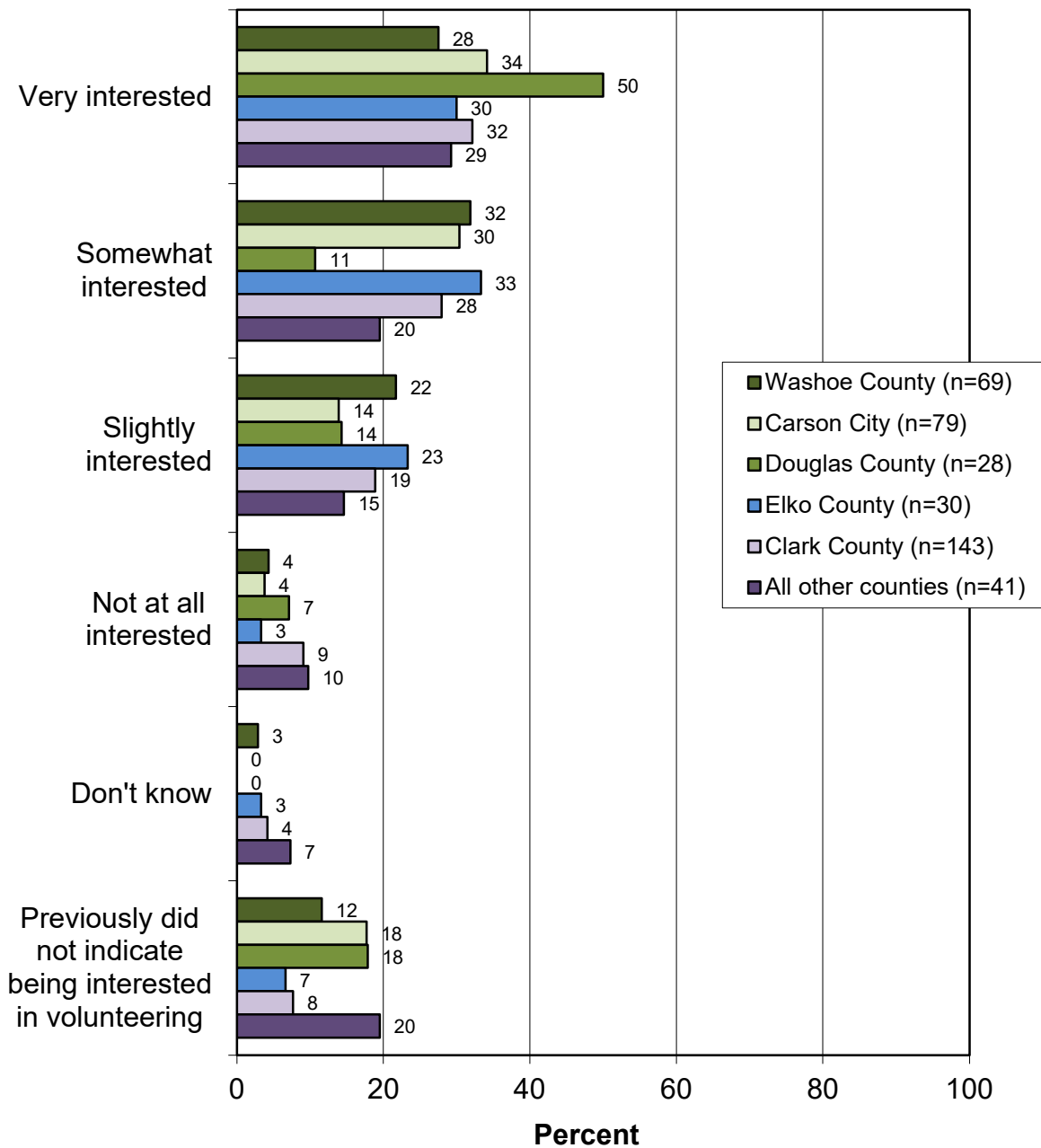


**How interested are you in working with other grade levels in outdoor learning settings? (Asked of teachers, parents, and community members.) (Stakeholders)**

**How interested are you in participating in outdoor learning with students in other grade levels? (Students)**

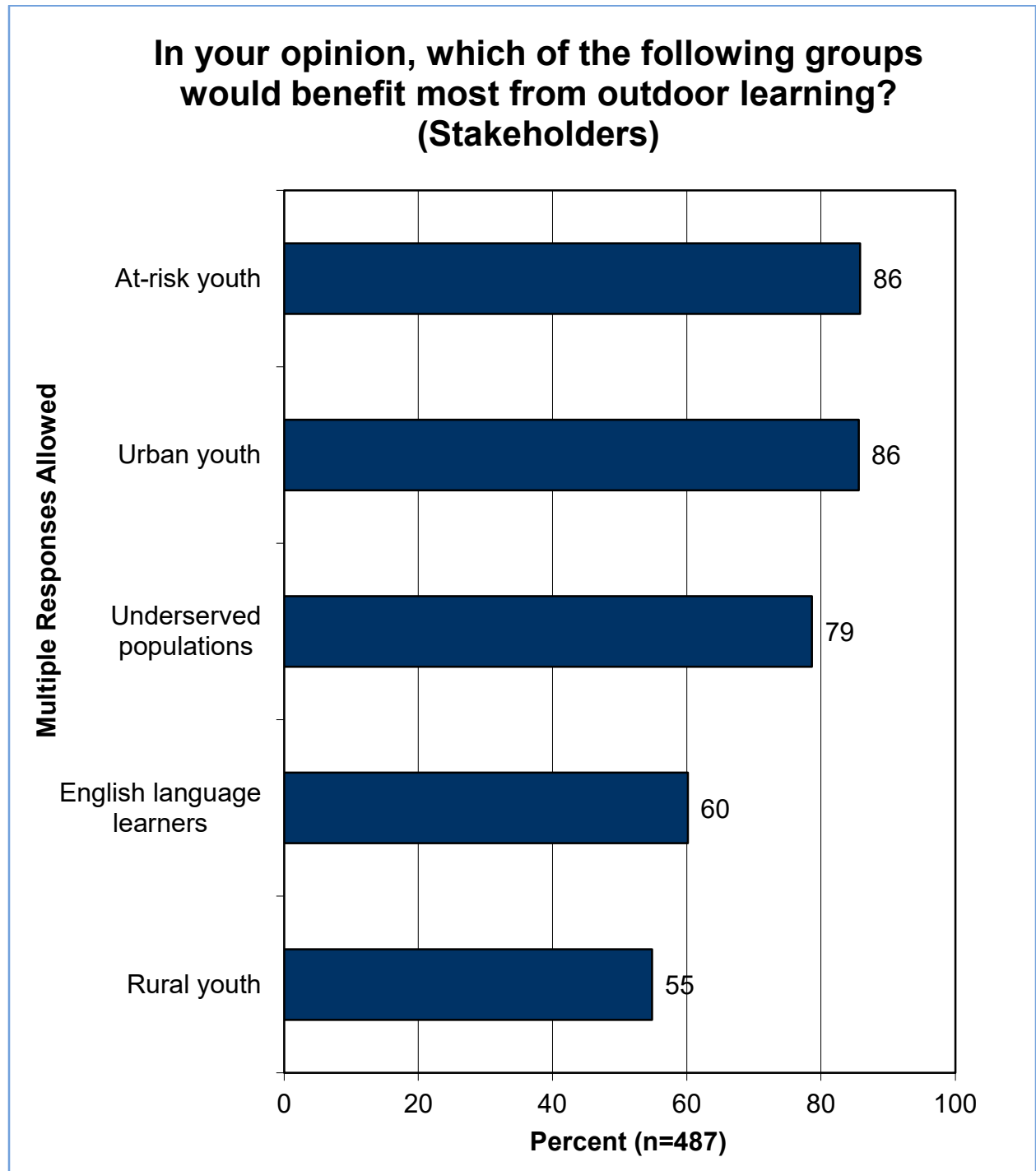


### How interested are you in working with other grade levels in outdoor learning settings? (Asked of teachers, parents, and community members.) (Stakeholders)



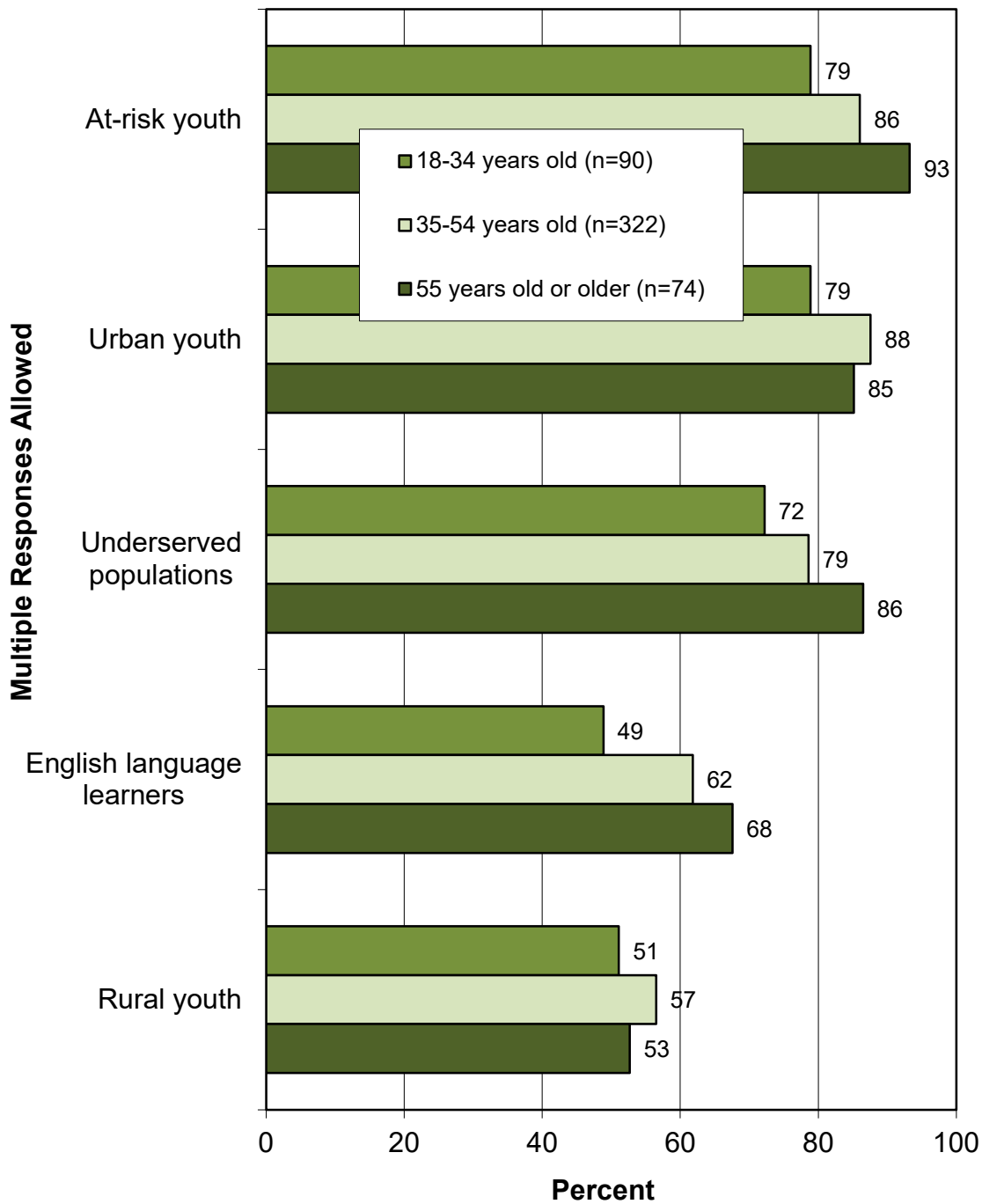
### GROUPS THAT WOULD BENEFIT FROM OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Stakeholders were presented with a list of groups and asked which ones would benefit the most from outdoor learning. The top selections were at-risk youth and urban youth (both at 86%), closely followed by underserved populations (79%). At the bottom were English language learners (60%) and rural youth (55%), who were nonetheless selected by a majority of respondents.

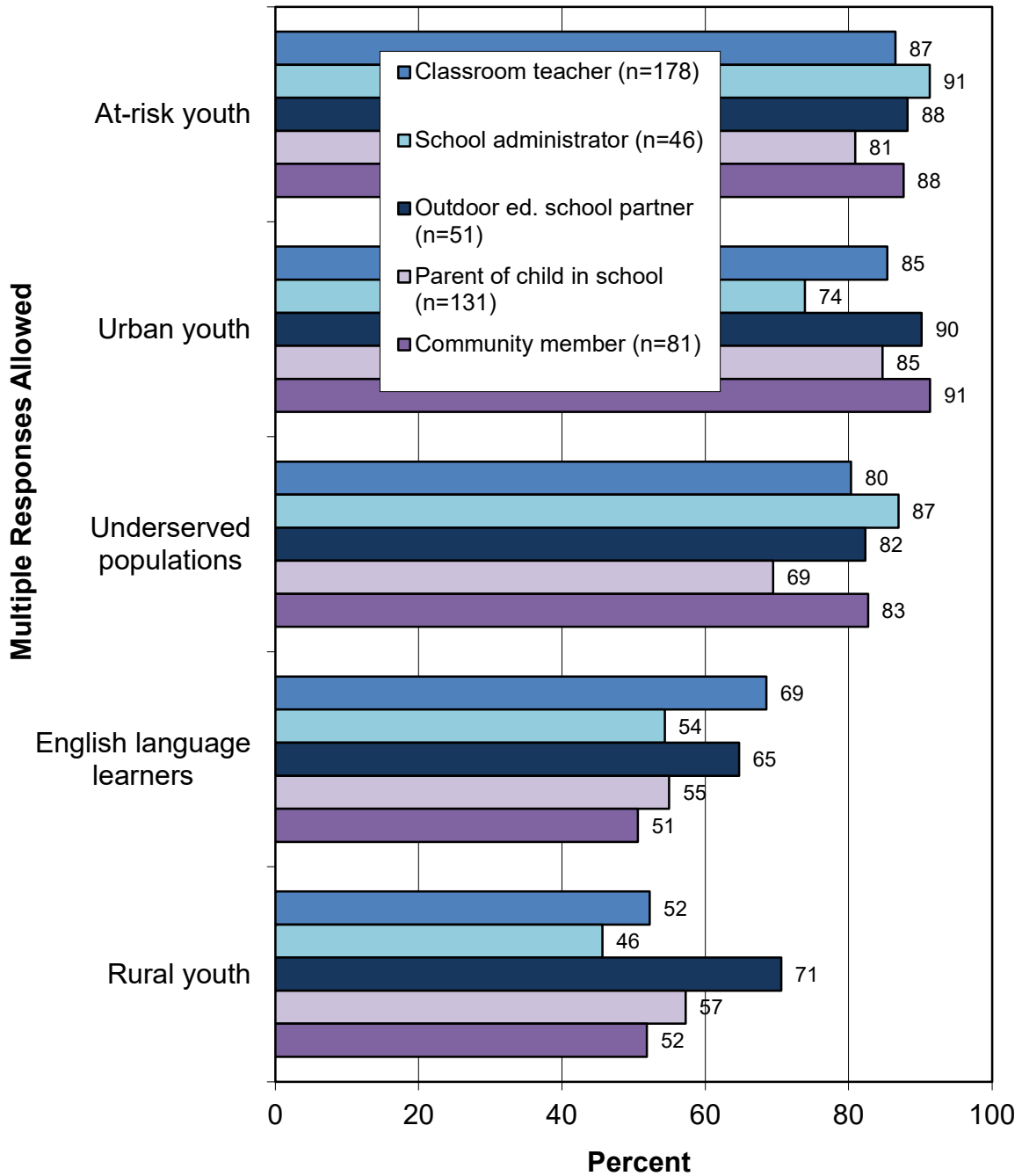


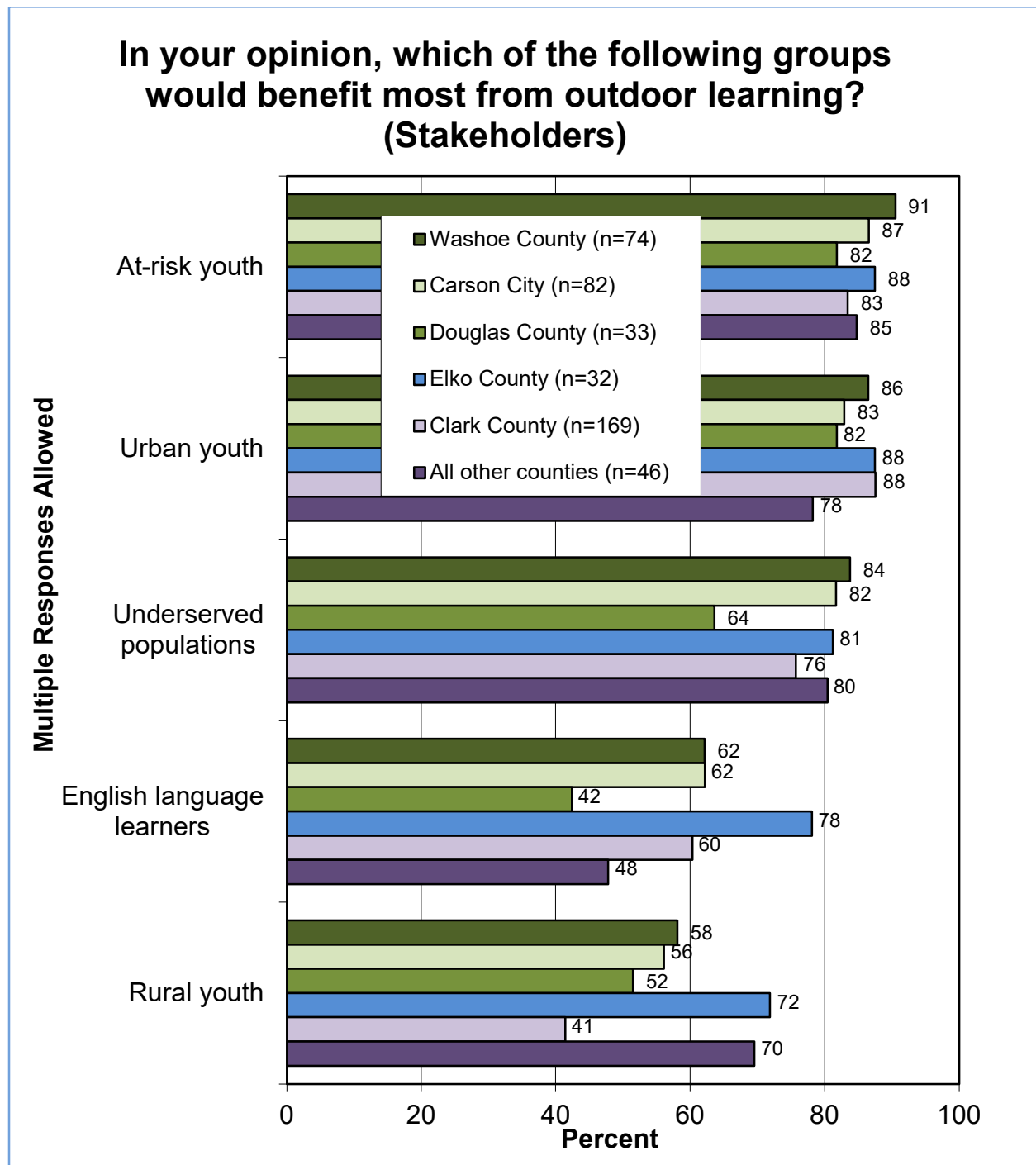


### In your opinion, which of the following groups would benefit most from outdoor learning? (Stakeholders)



### In your opinion, which of the following groups would benefit most from outdoor learning? (Stakeholders)

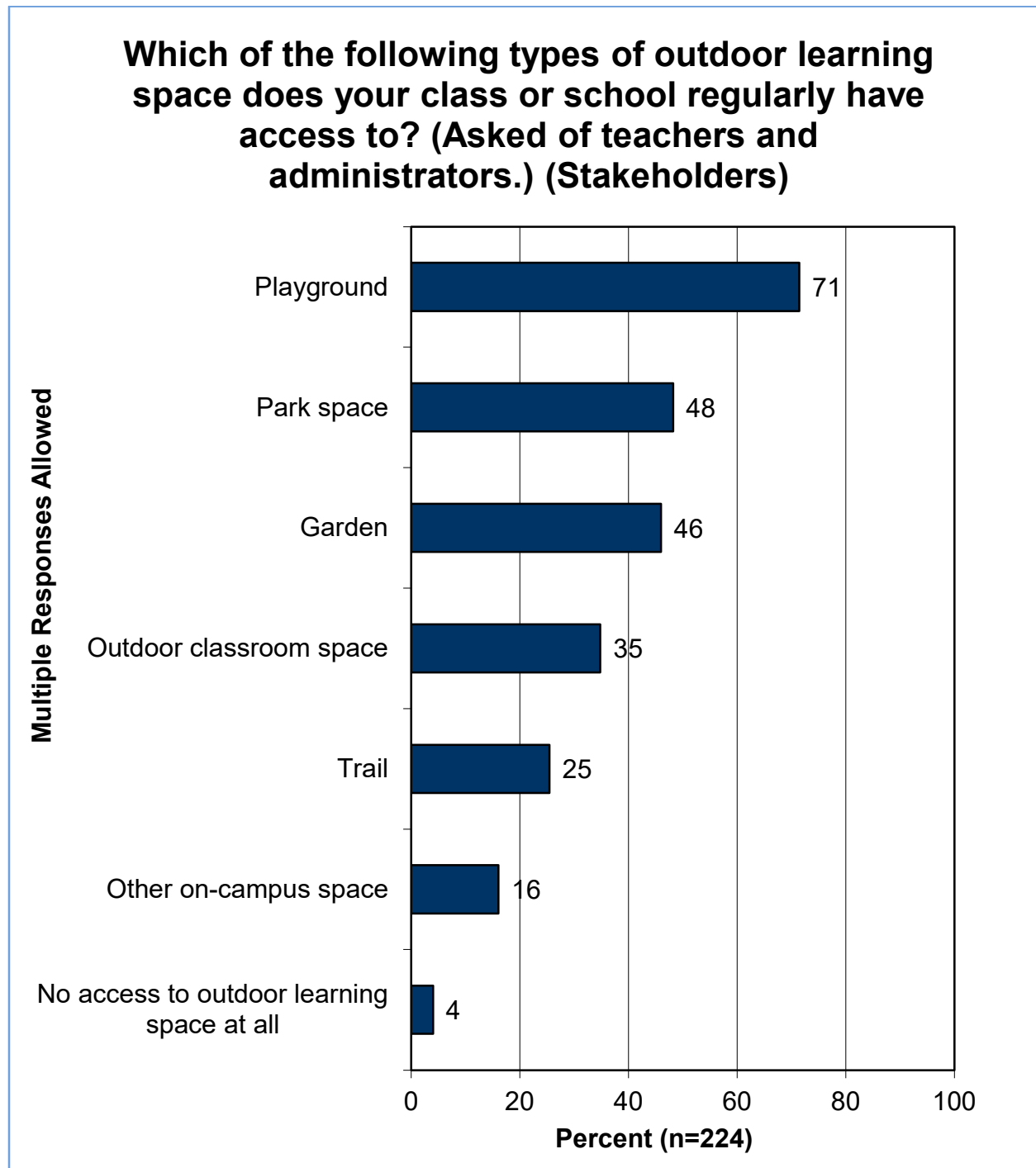




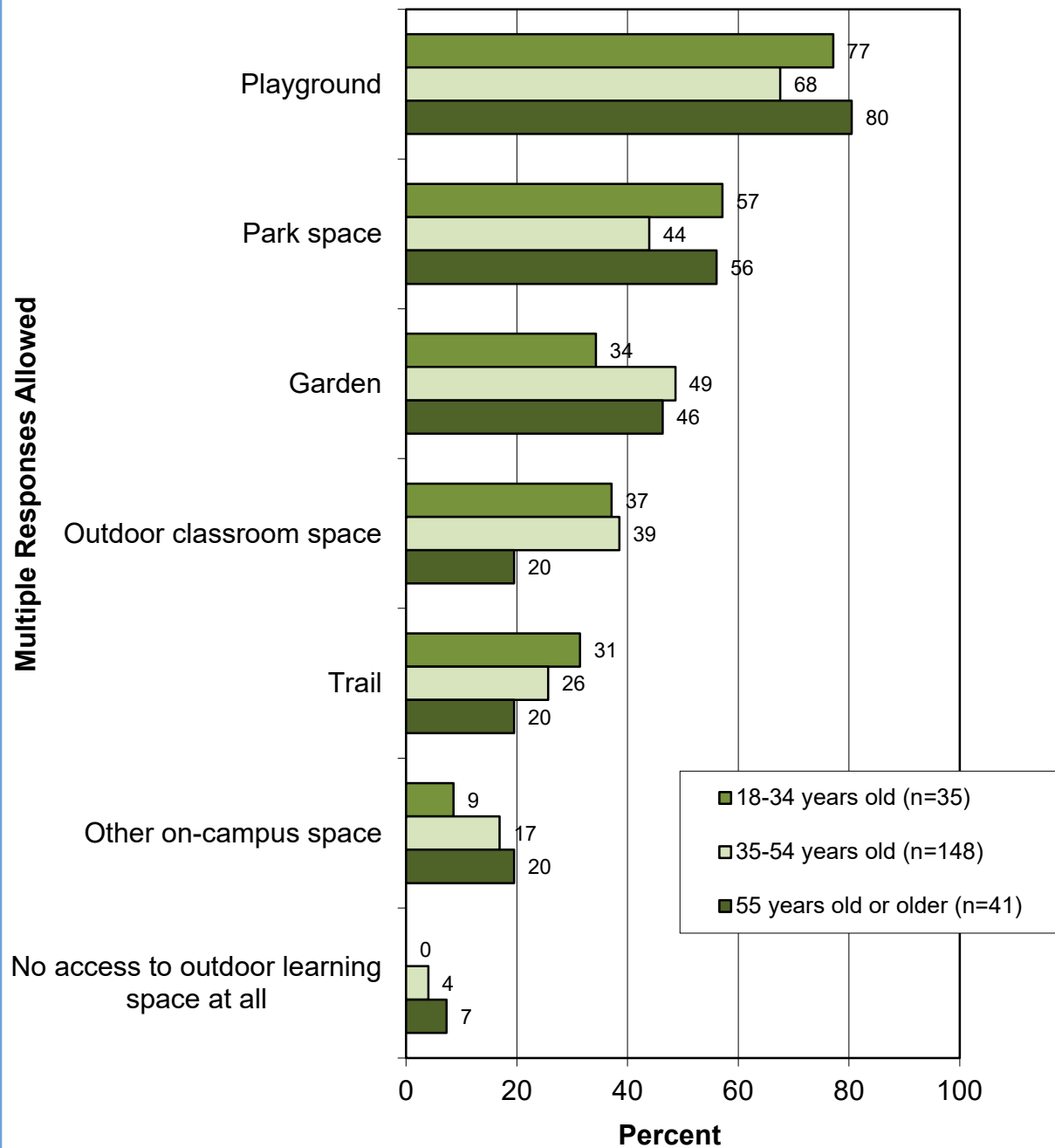
In an open-ended question, stakeholders were asked if any other groups would benefit from outdoor learning. Many responded that all students would benefit; other common responses were mentally challenged students, the disabled, all age groups (PreK to college), parents, and the elderly. The full list is shown in the appendix.

## INFRASTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT OUTDOOR EDUCATION

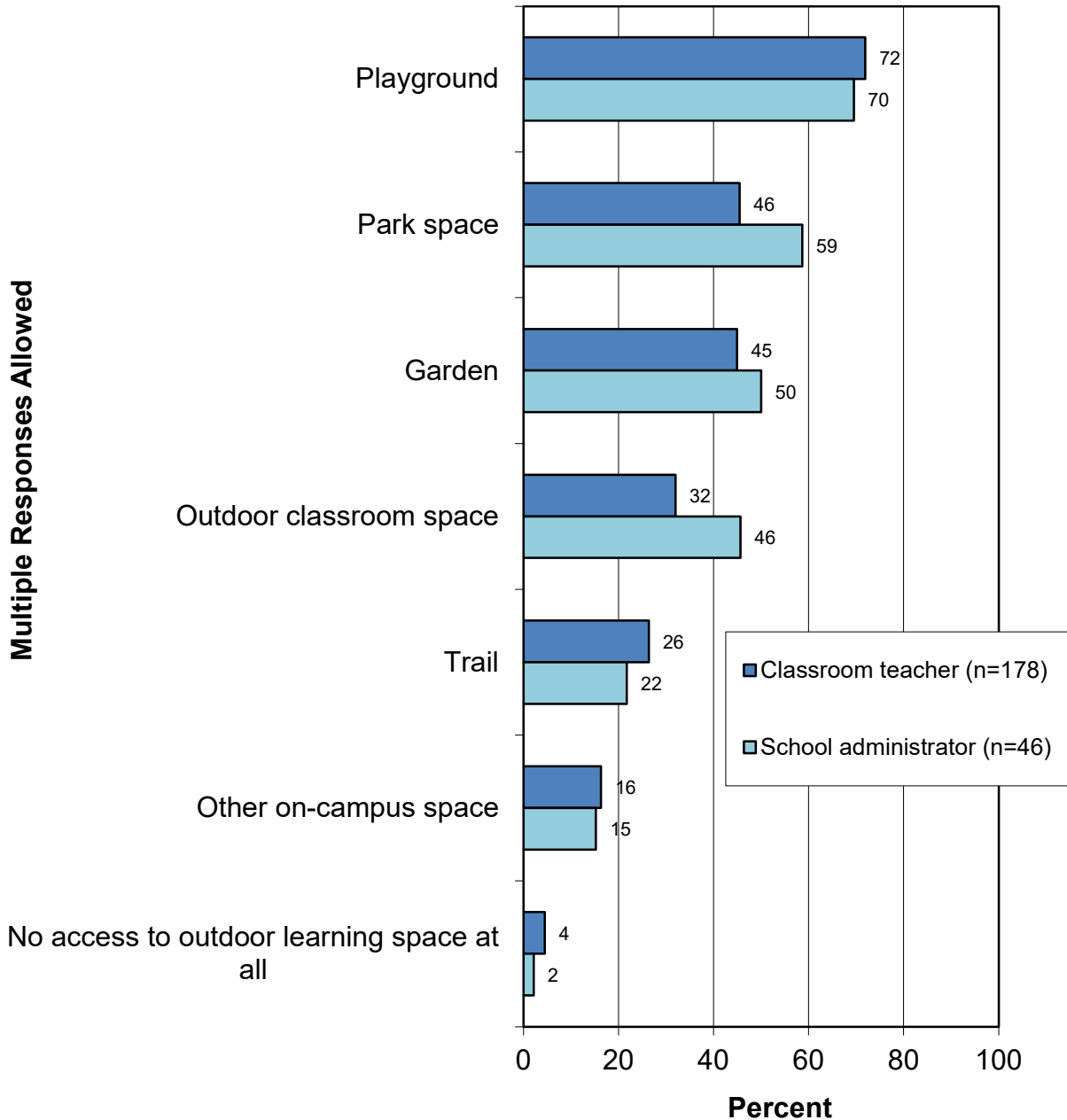
Teachers and school administrators were asked which types of outdoor learning space they have access to, from a provided list. Nearly three quarters of each group have access to playgrounds, followed by a second tier that includes park spaces, gardens, and outdoor classroom spaces.



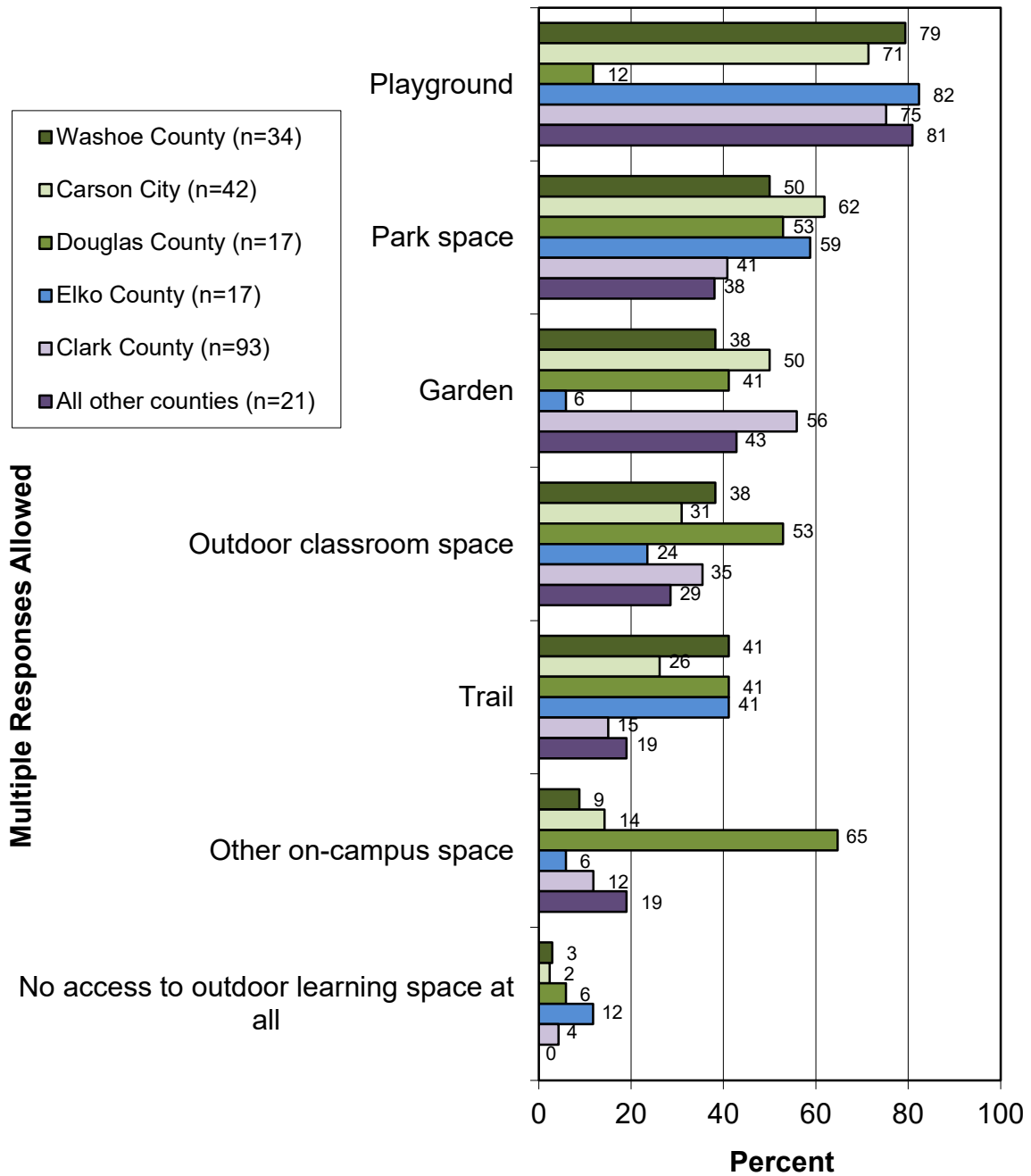
**Which of the following types of outdoor learning space does your class or school regularly have access to? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders)**



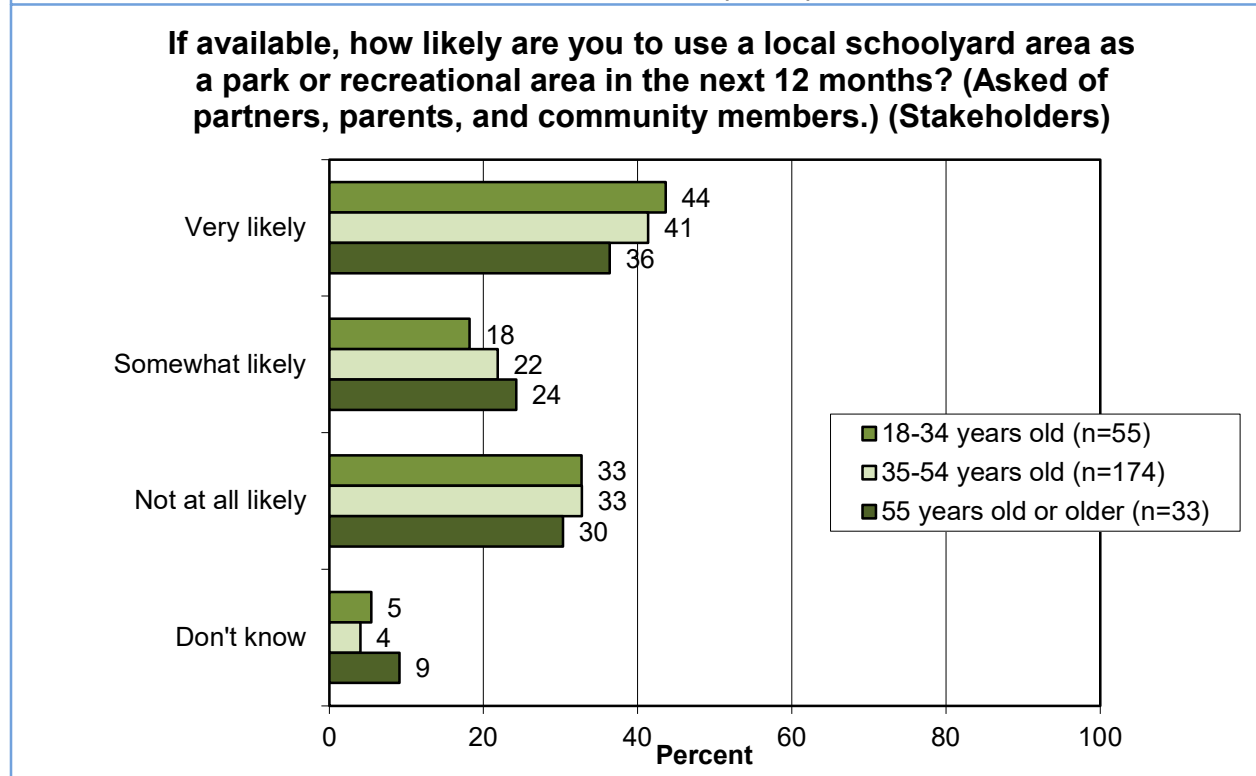
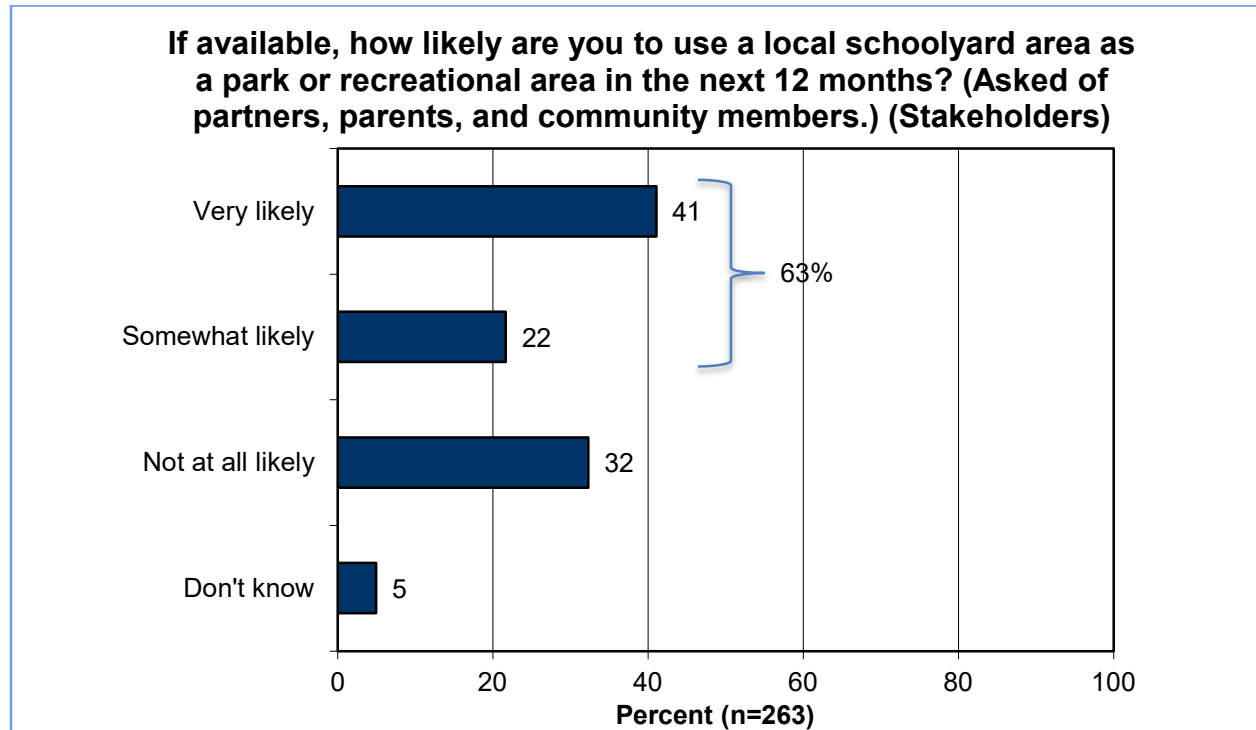
**Which of the following types of outdoor learning space does your class or school regularly have access to? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders)**



### Which of the following types of outdoor learning space does your class or school regularly have access to? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders)



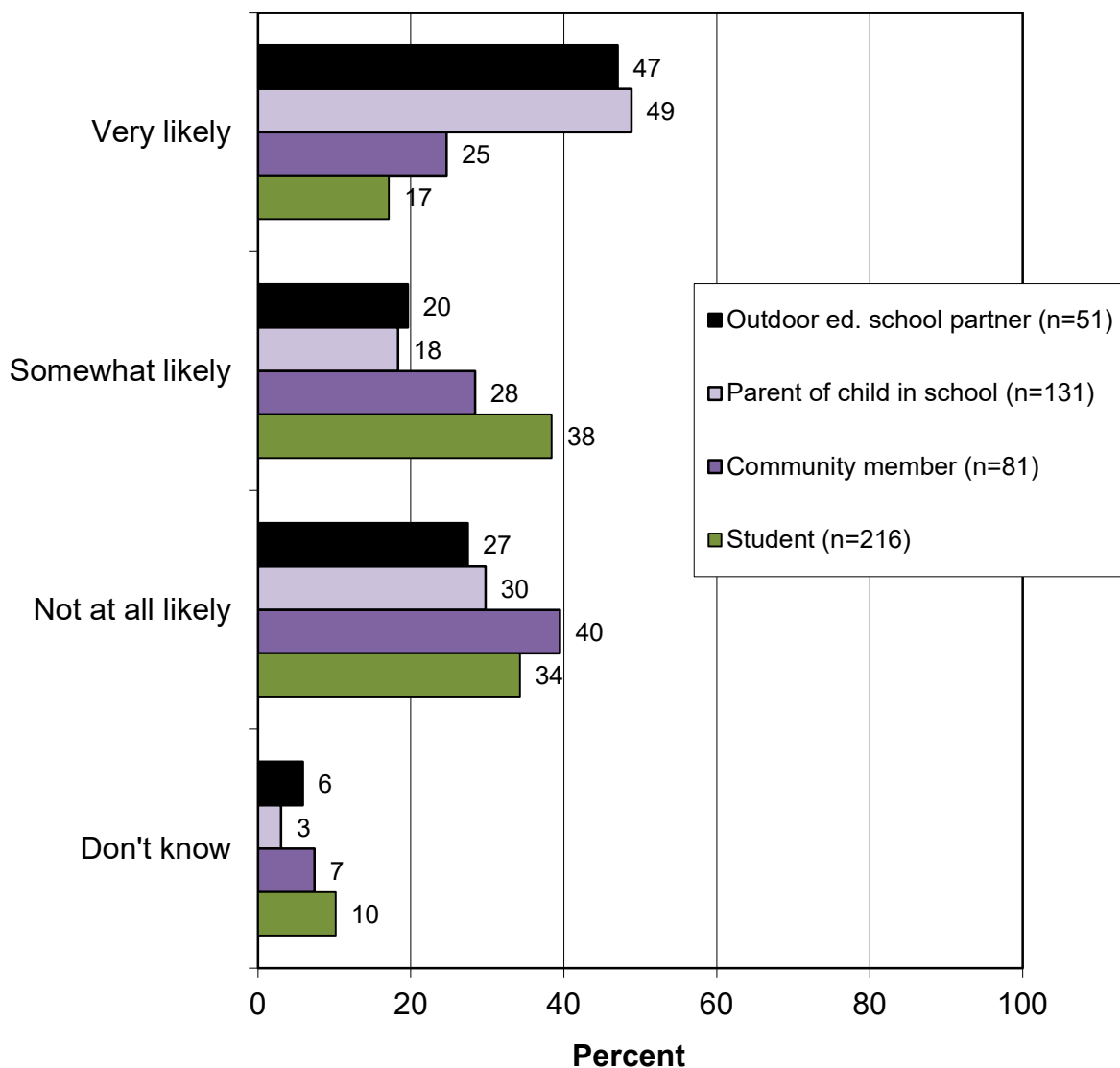
Nearly two thirds of outdoor education partners and parents are *very* or *somewhat* likely to use a schoolyard area as a park or recreational area in the next 12 months, whereas a slight majority of community members and students gave one of these responses.



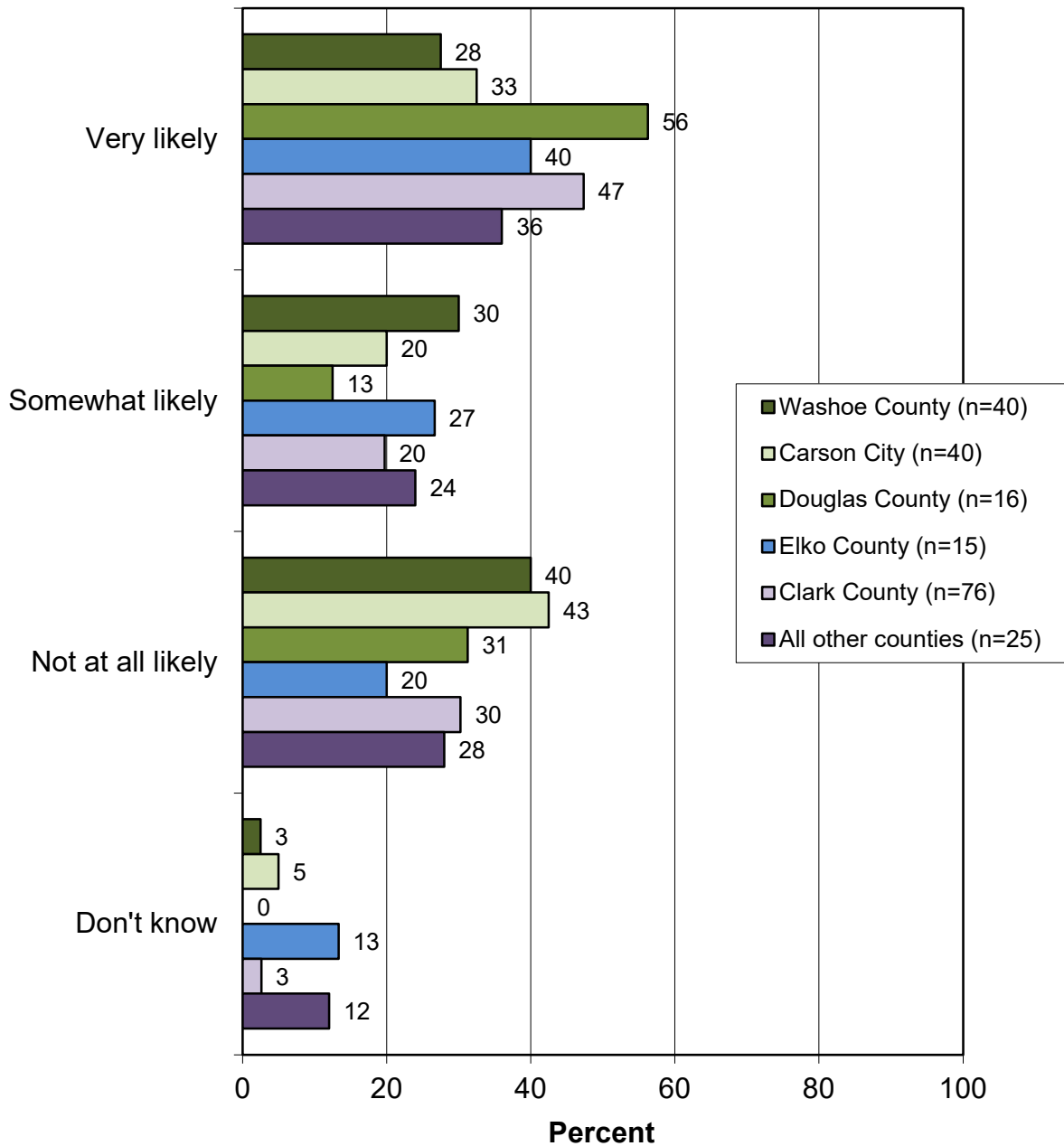


**If available, how likely are you to use a local schoolyard area as a park or recreational area in the next 12 months? (Asked of partners, parents, and community members.) (Stakeholders)**

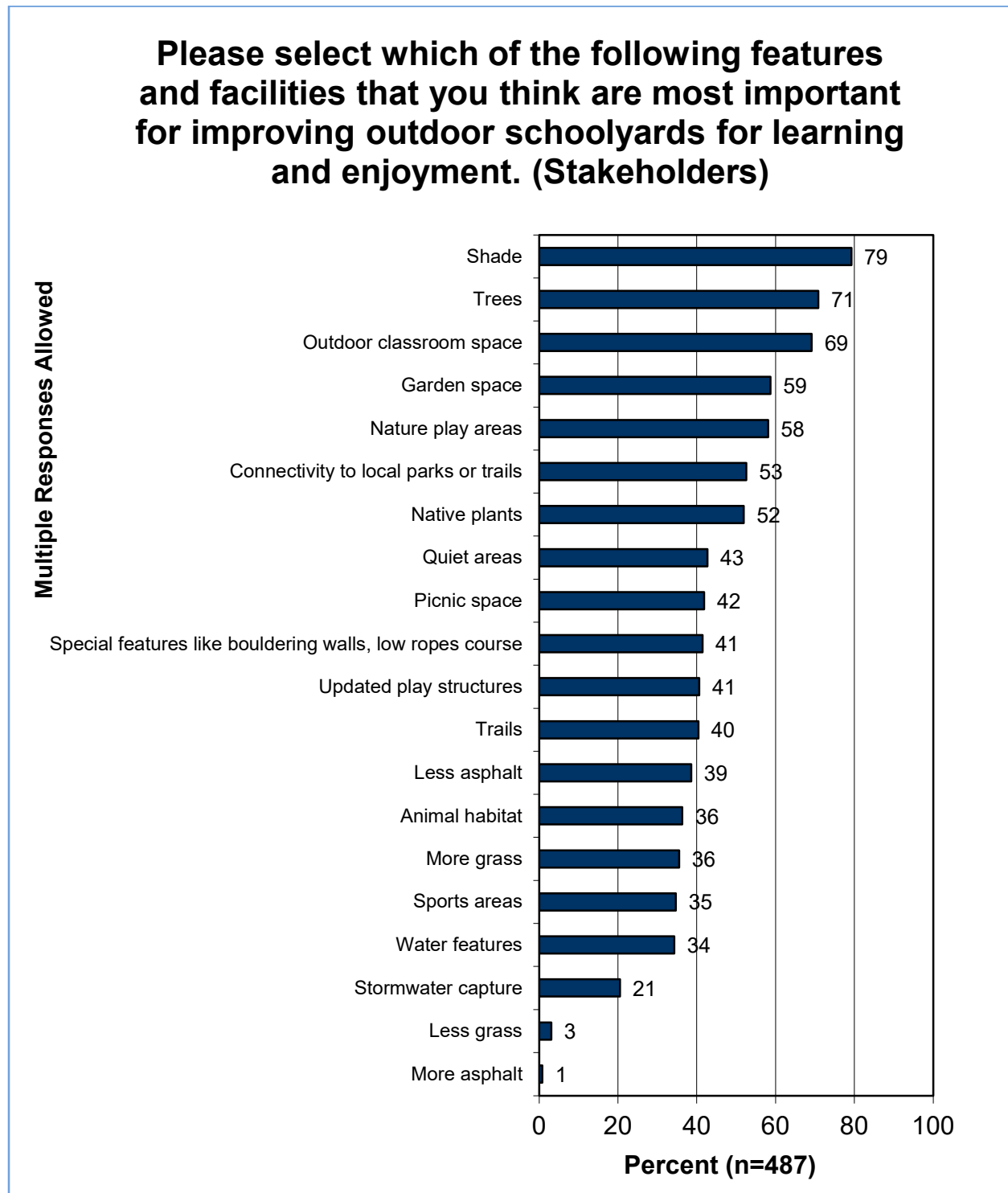
**Not including when you are in school, how likely are you to use a local schoolyard or school playground for fun in the next 12 months? (Students)**



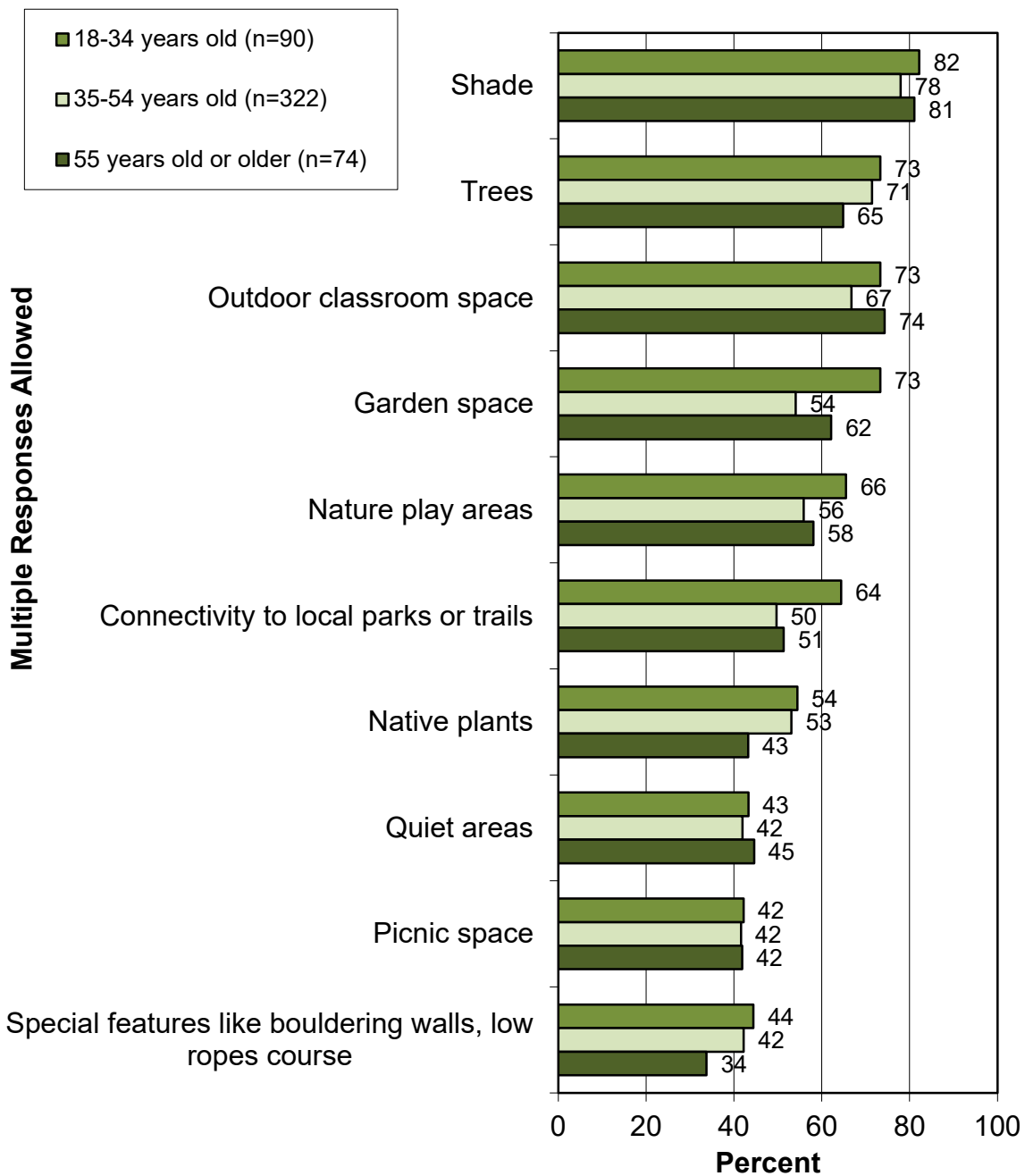
**If available, how likely are you to use a local schoolyard area as a park or recreational area in the next 12 months? (Asked of partners, parents, and community members.) (Stakeholders)**



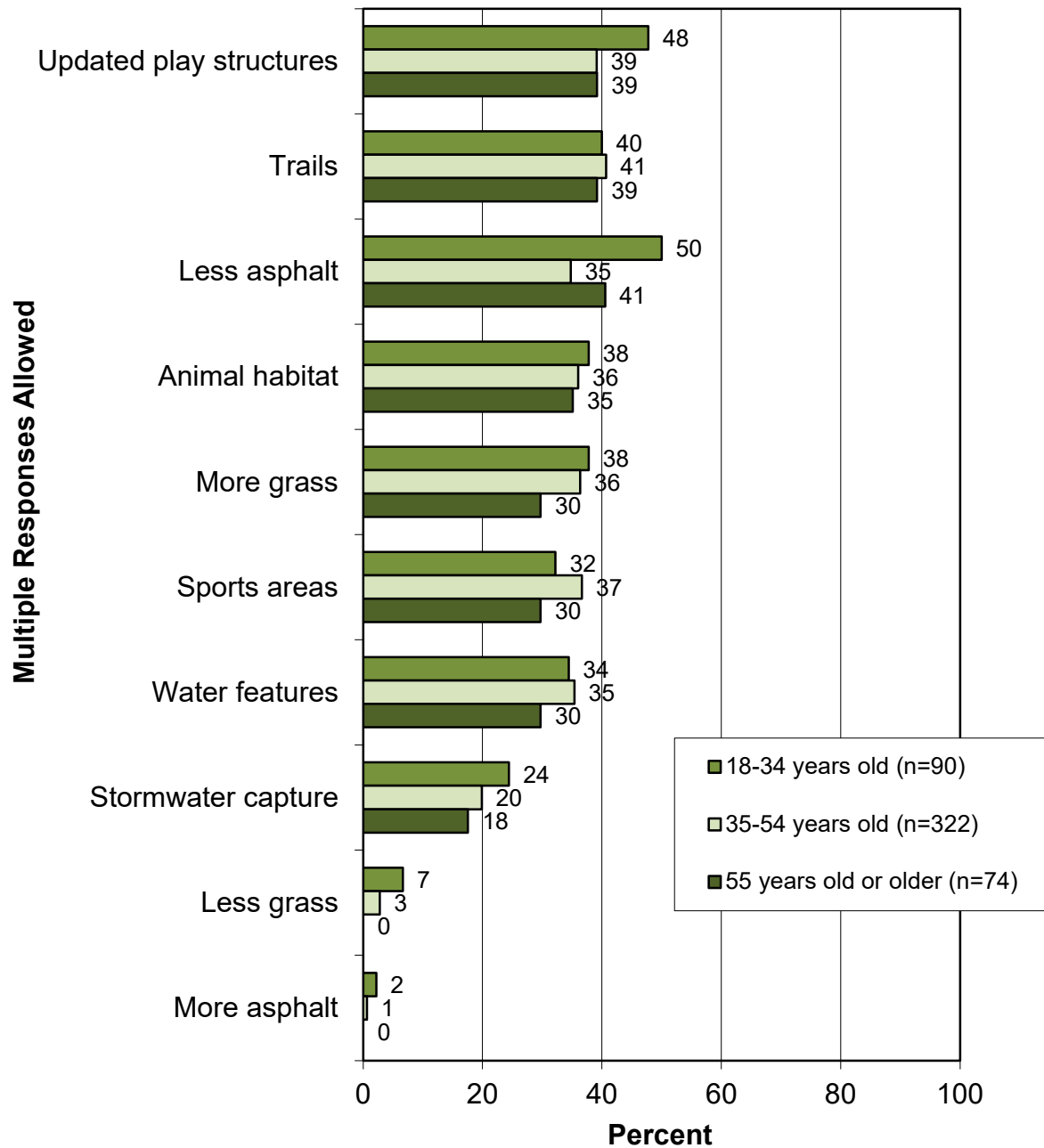
From a provided list, stakeholders selected features or facilities that are most important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment: shade (selected by 79%), trees (71%), and outdoor classroom space (69%) are the top selections. The next tier includes garden space, nature play areas, connectivity to local parks or trails, and native plants—all selected by over 50%. The full list is shown.



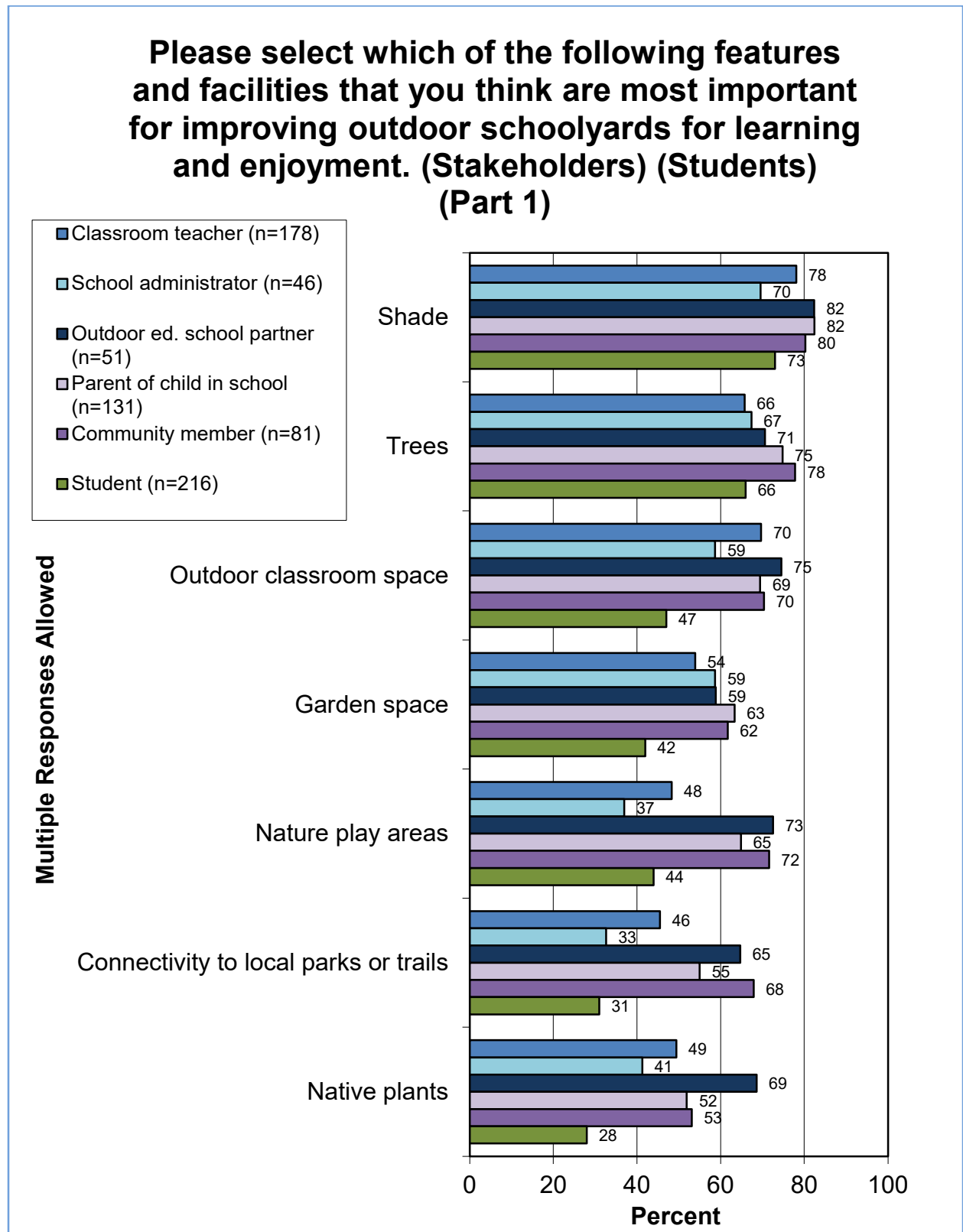
**Please select which of the following features and facilities that you think are most important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment. (Stakeholders) (Part 1)**



**Please select which of the following features and facilities that you think are most important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment. (Stakeholders) (Part 2)**



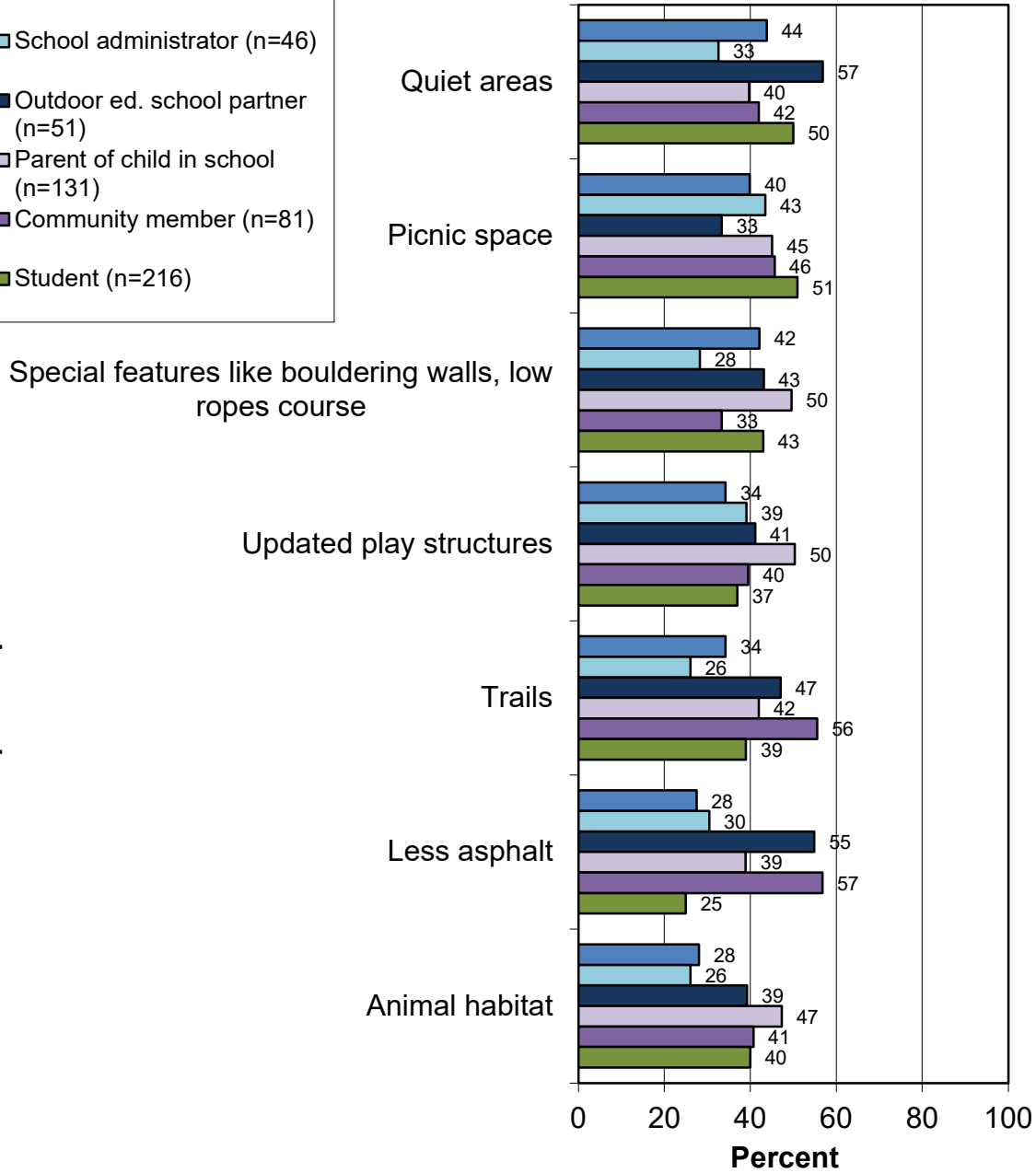
Students have the same top selections, shade and trees, but in general have lower percentages selecting most of the features. On the other hand, students more often selected sports areas, more grass, water features, and picnic space than did stakeholders.



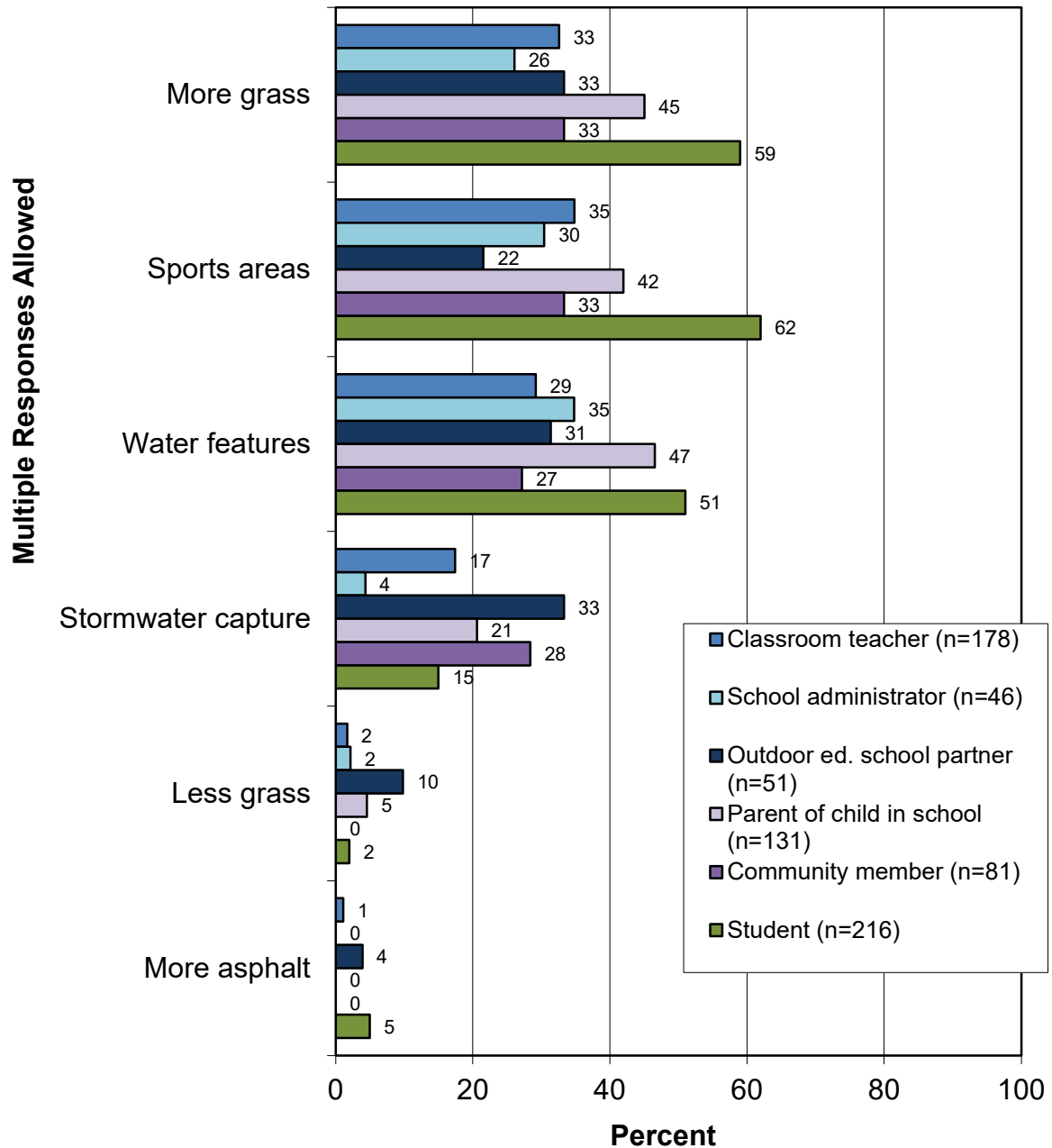
**Please select which of the following features and facilities that you think are most important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment. (Stakeholders) (Students)  
(Part 2)**

- Classroom teacher (n=178)
- School administrator (n=46)
- Outdoor ed. school partner (n=51)
- Parent of child in school (n=131)
- Community member (n=81)
- Student (n=216)

**Multiple Responses Allowed**

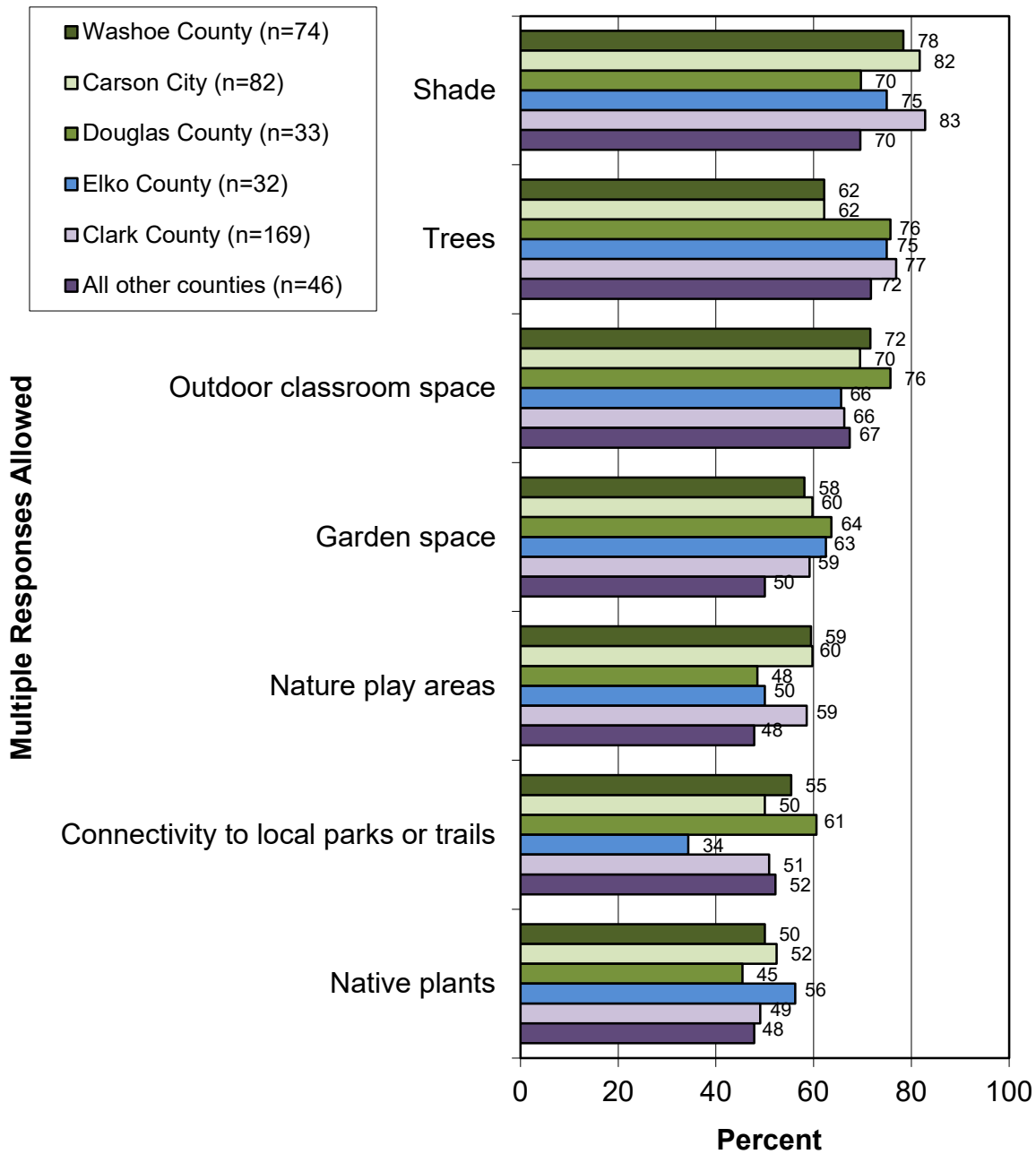


**Please select which of the following features and facilities that you think are most important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment. (Stakeholders) (Students)**  
**(Part 3)**

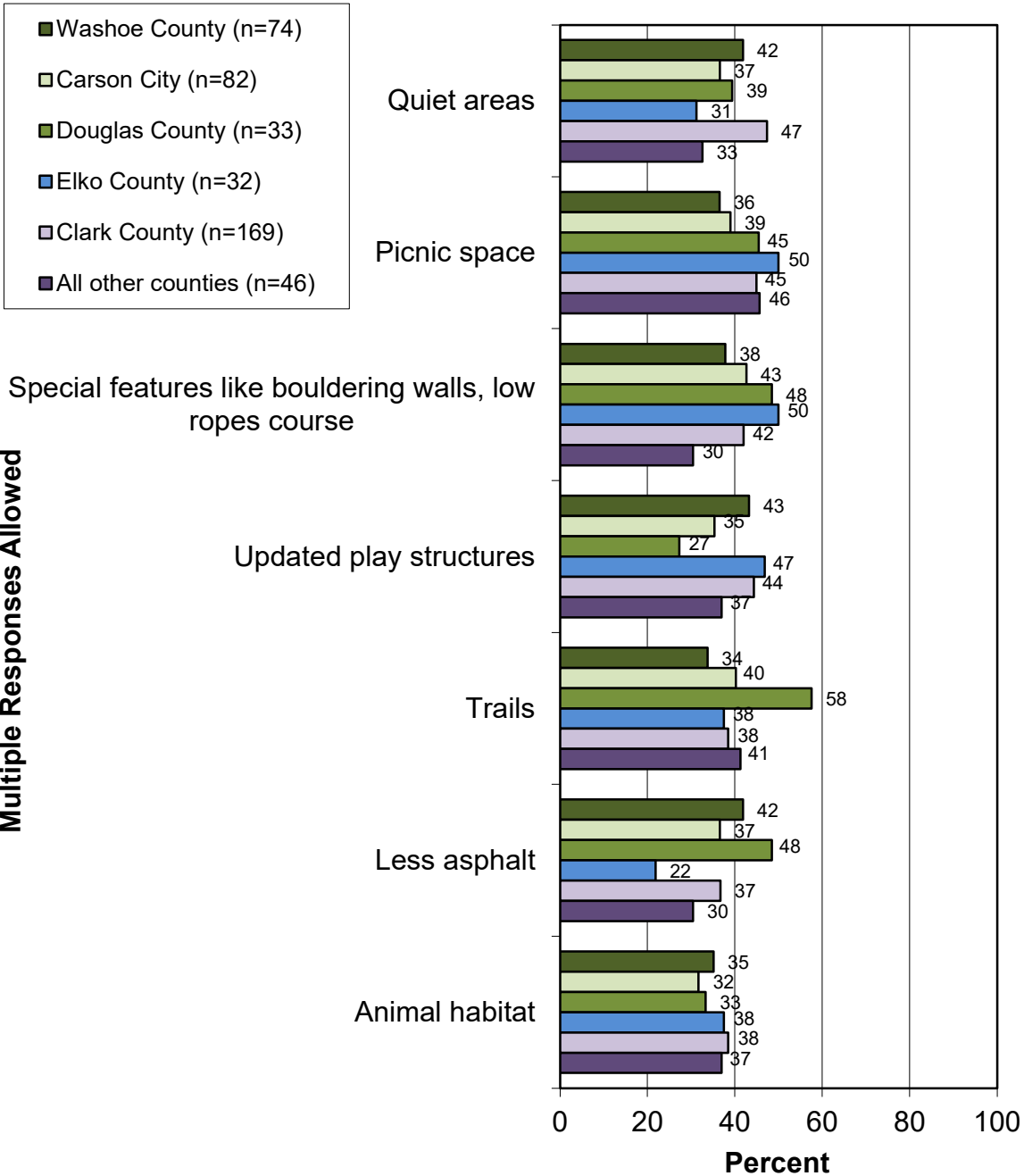




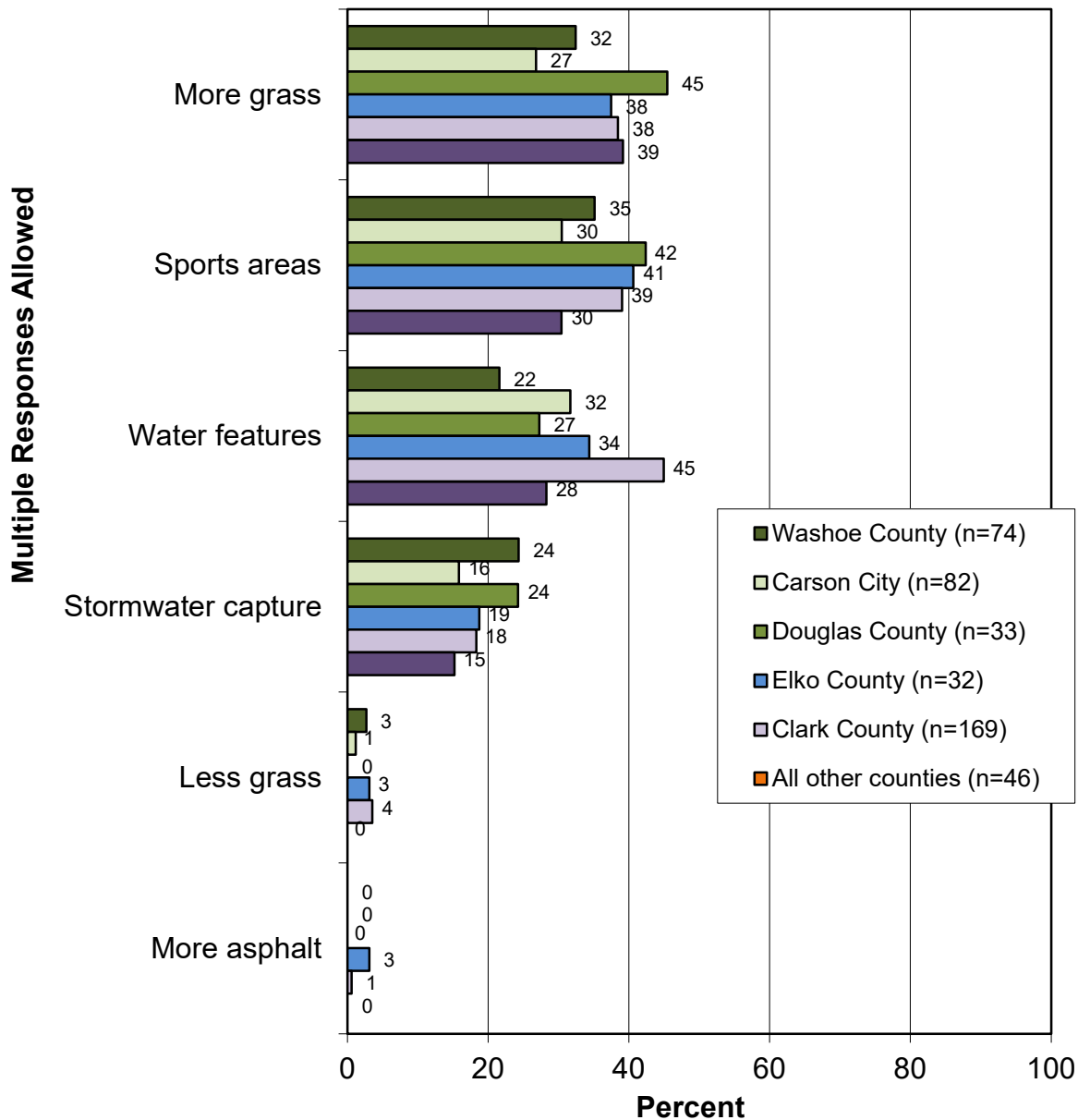
**Please select which of the following features and facilities that you think are most important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment. (Stakeholders) (Part 1)**



**Please select which of the following features and facilities that you think are most important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment. (Stakeholders) (Part 2)**



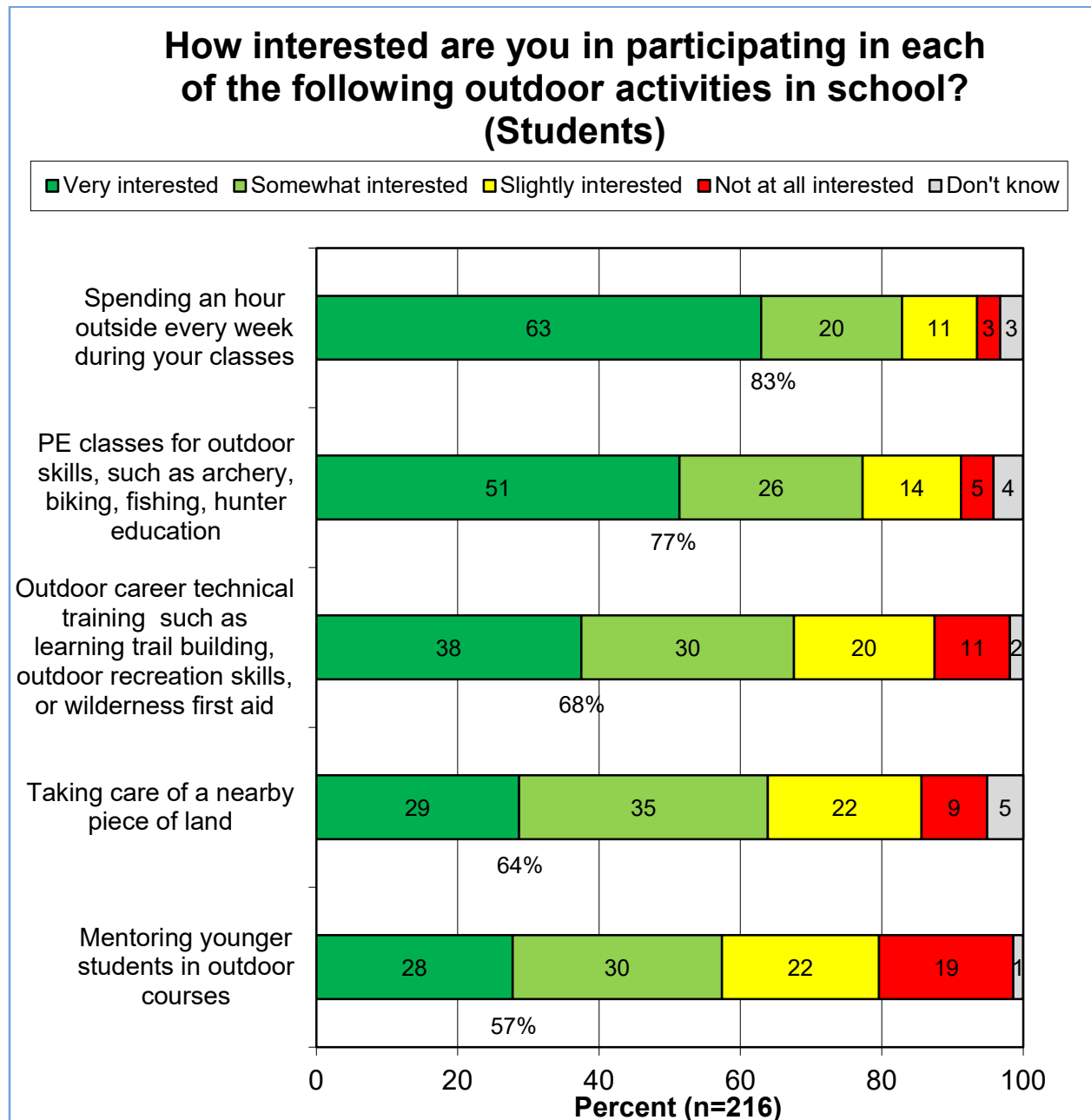
**Please select which of the following features and facilities that you think are most important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment. (Stakeholders) (Part 3)**



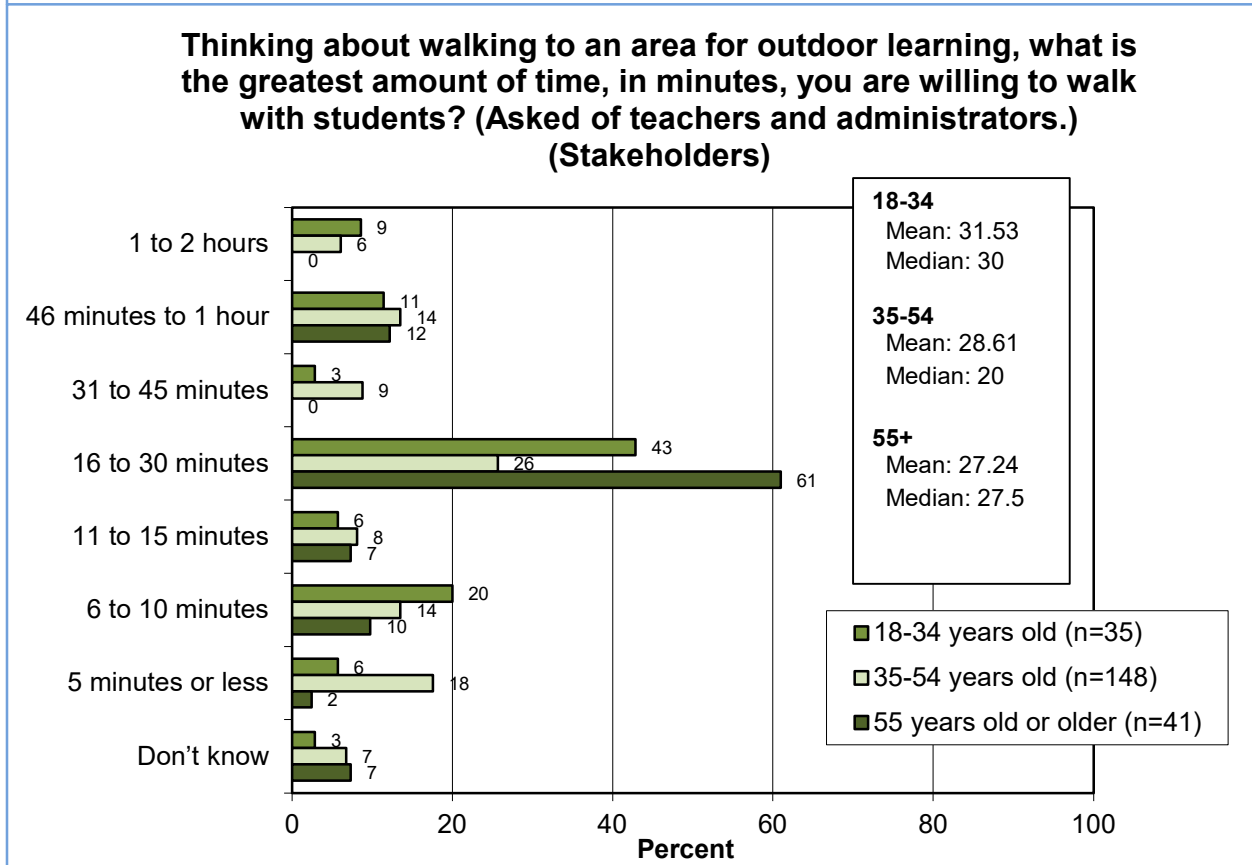
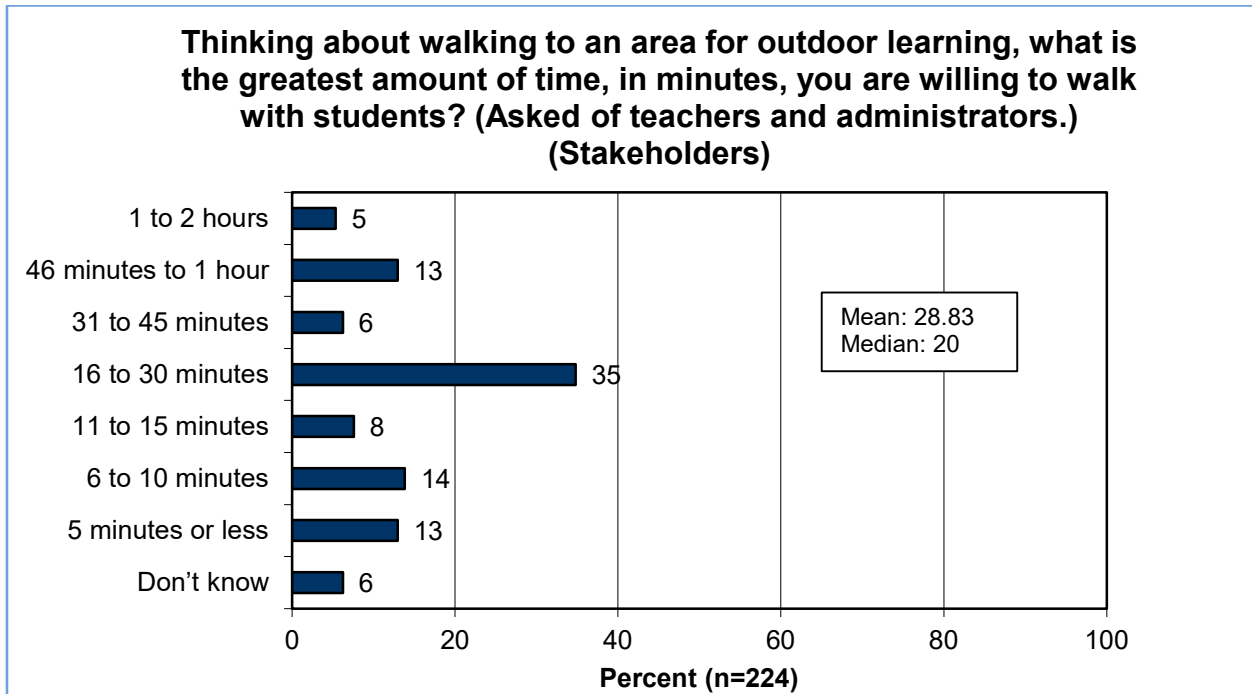
Stakeholders continued to emphasize the need for shade, water, and protection from the heat in general through open-ended comments. Improvements to playgrounds and athletic fields or structures, secured areas, restrooms, and gardens were also suggested. Refer to the appendix for the full list of suggestions.

Students were asked about their interest level in five outdoor activities during school. At the top, 83% are *very* or *somewhat* interested in spending an hour outside every day. In descending order of *very* or *somewhat* interested percentages, the remaining choices are PE classes for outdoor skills (77%), outdoor career technical training (68%), taking care of a piece of land (64%), and mentoring younger students in outdoor courses (57%).

All series graphs are shown in descending order of the top response option (in this case, *very* interested). The sums of *very interested* and *somewhat interested* are shown below each bar. Apparent discrepancies in sums may appear due to rounding of numbers on the graph, but calculations are made on unrounded numbers.

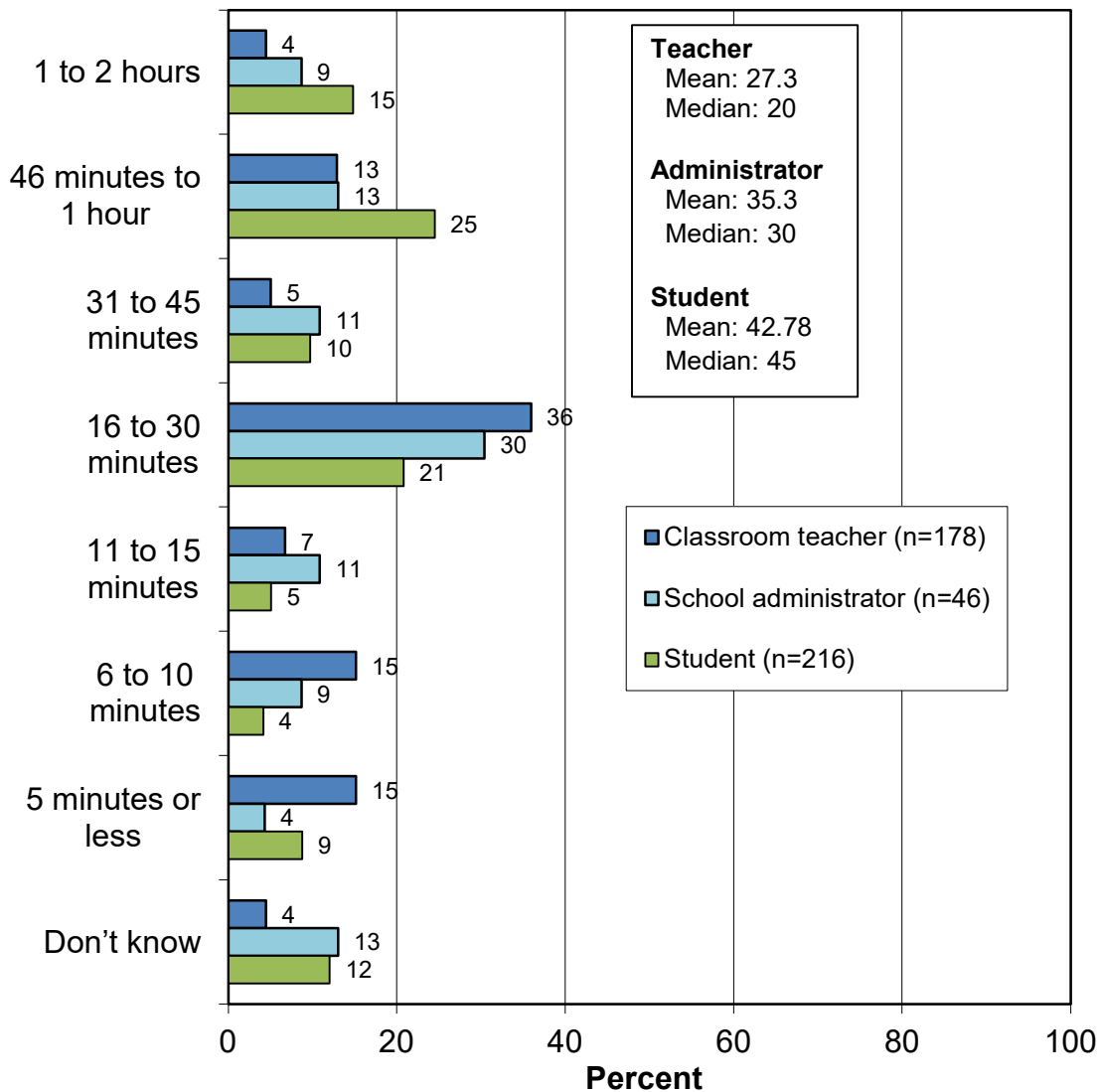


Teachers, administrators, and students were asked how long they are willing to walk to an area for outdoor learning: teachers gave a median of 20 minutes, administrators gave a median of 30 minutes, and students gave a median of 45 minutes.

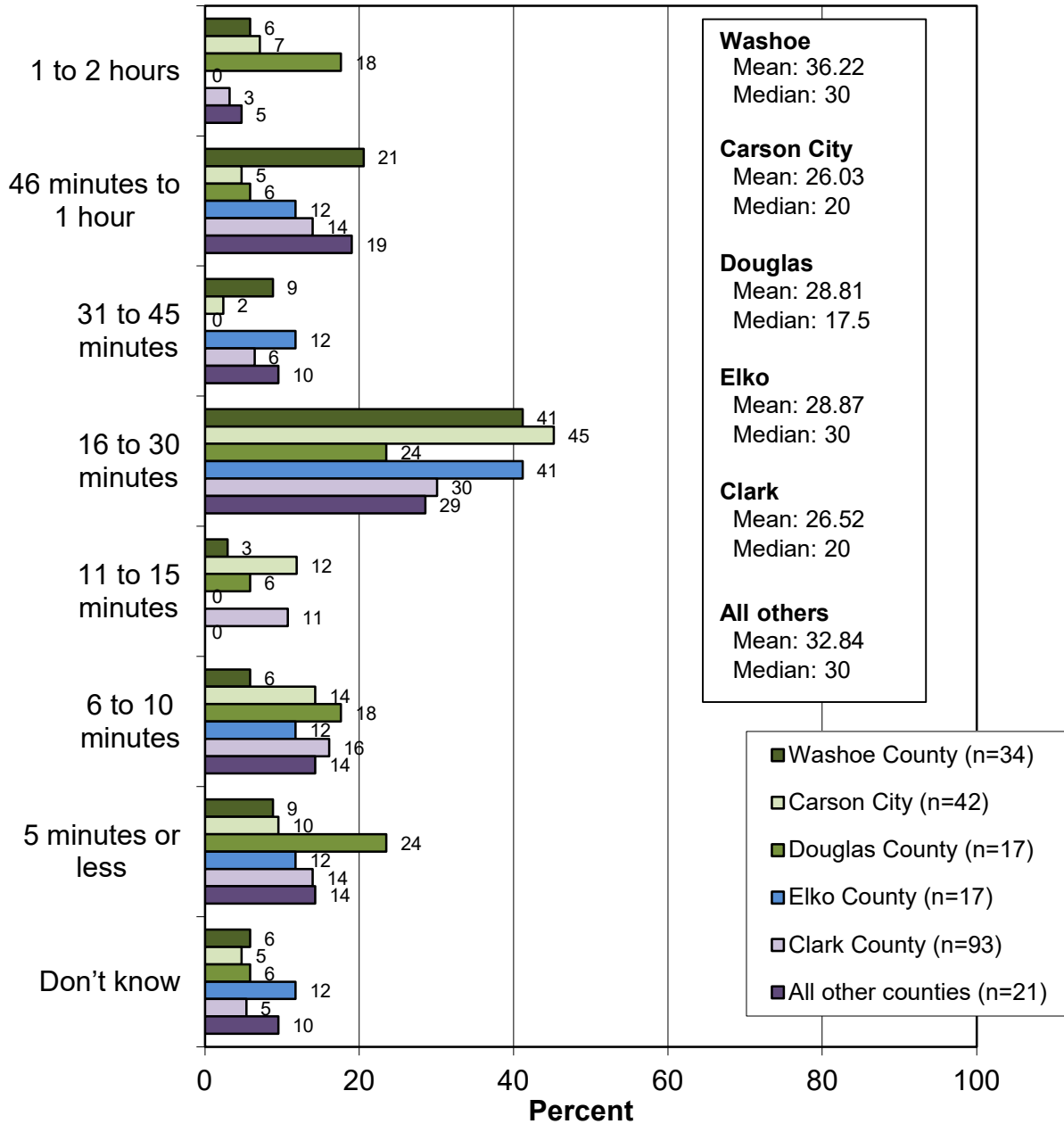


**Thinking about walking to an area for outdoor learning, what is the greatest amount of time, in minutes, you are willing to walk with students? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders)**

**What is the greatest amount of time, in minutes, that you are willing to walk to spend time outdoors? (Students)**

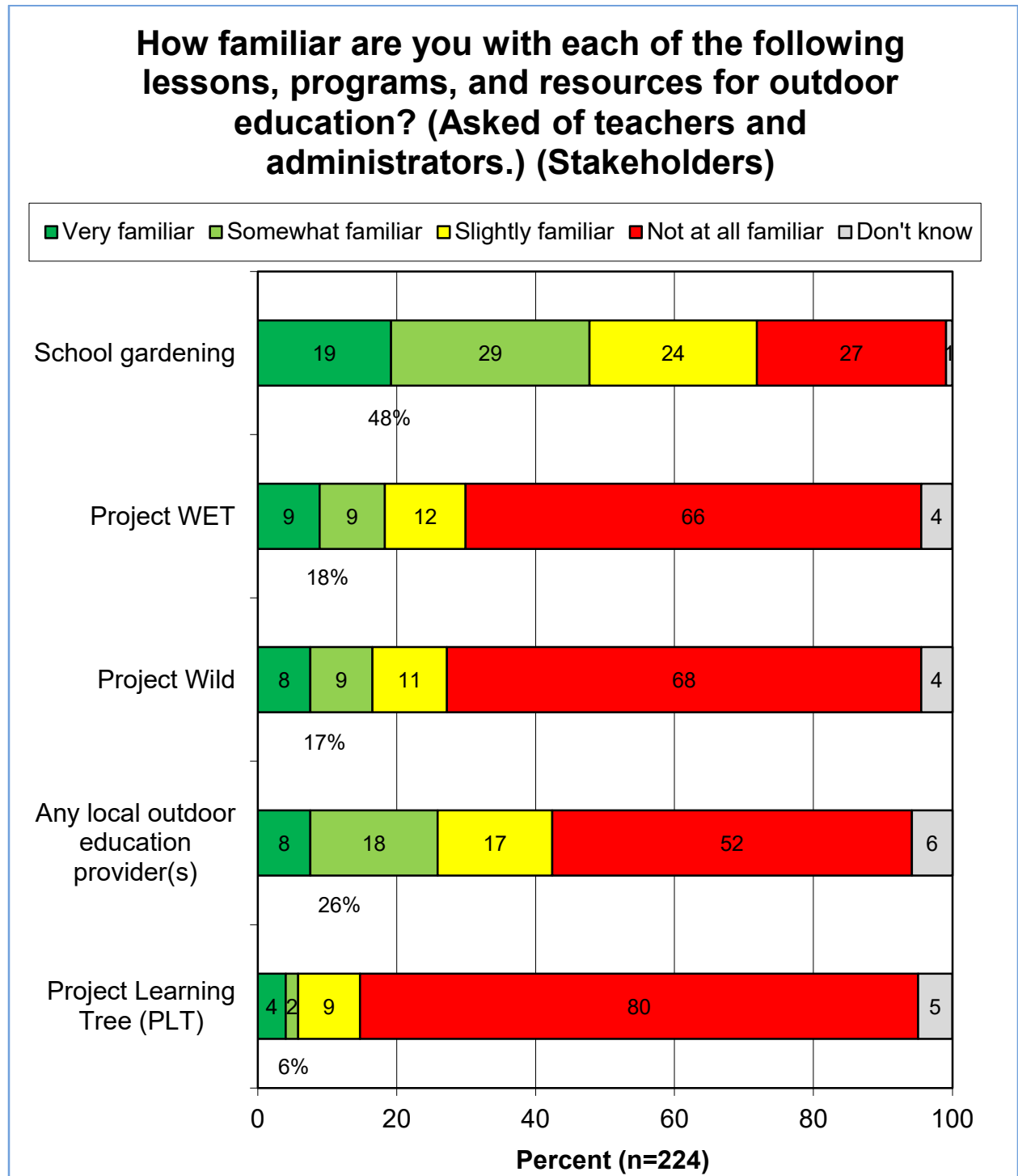


### Thinking about walking to an area for outdoor learning, what is the greatest amount of time, in minutes, you are willing to walk with students? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders)



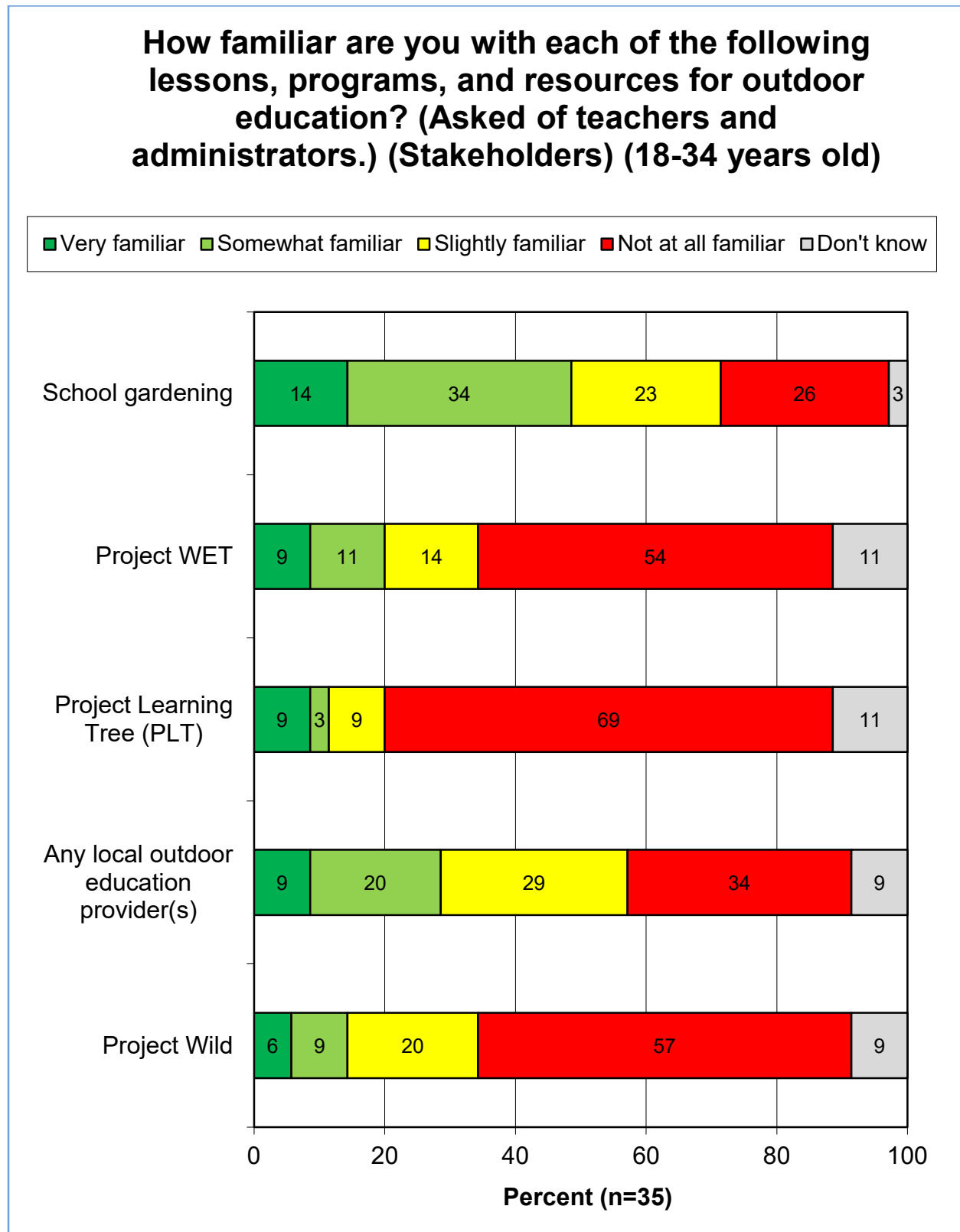
### OUTDOOR EDUCATION RESOURCES AND COORDINATION

Nearly half of teachers and administrators are *very* or *somewhat* familiar with school gardening as a resource for outdoor education. The other resources, presented in a list, are much less familiar to these respondents: about a quarter or less are *very* or *somewhat* familiar with Project WET (Water Education Today), Project Wild, and local outdoor education providers, and only 6% gave those responses for Project Learning Tree.



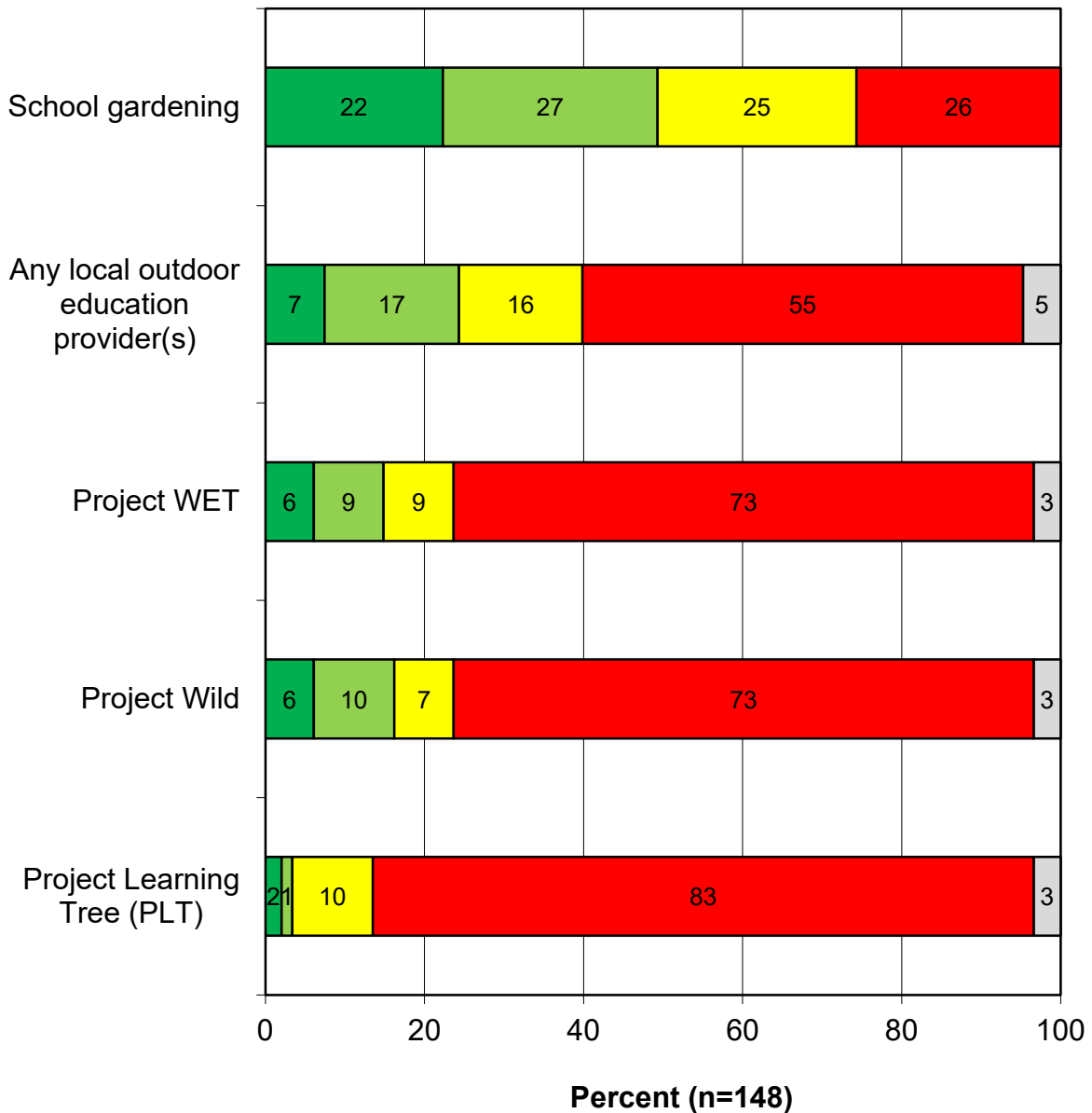


The following graphs show these results by age category.



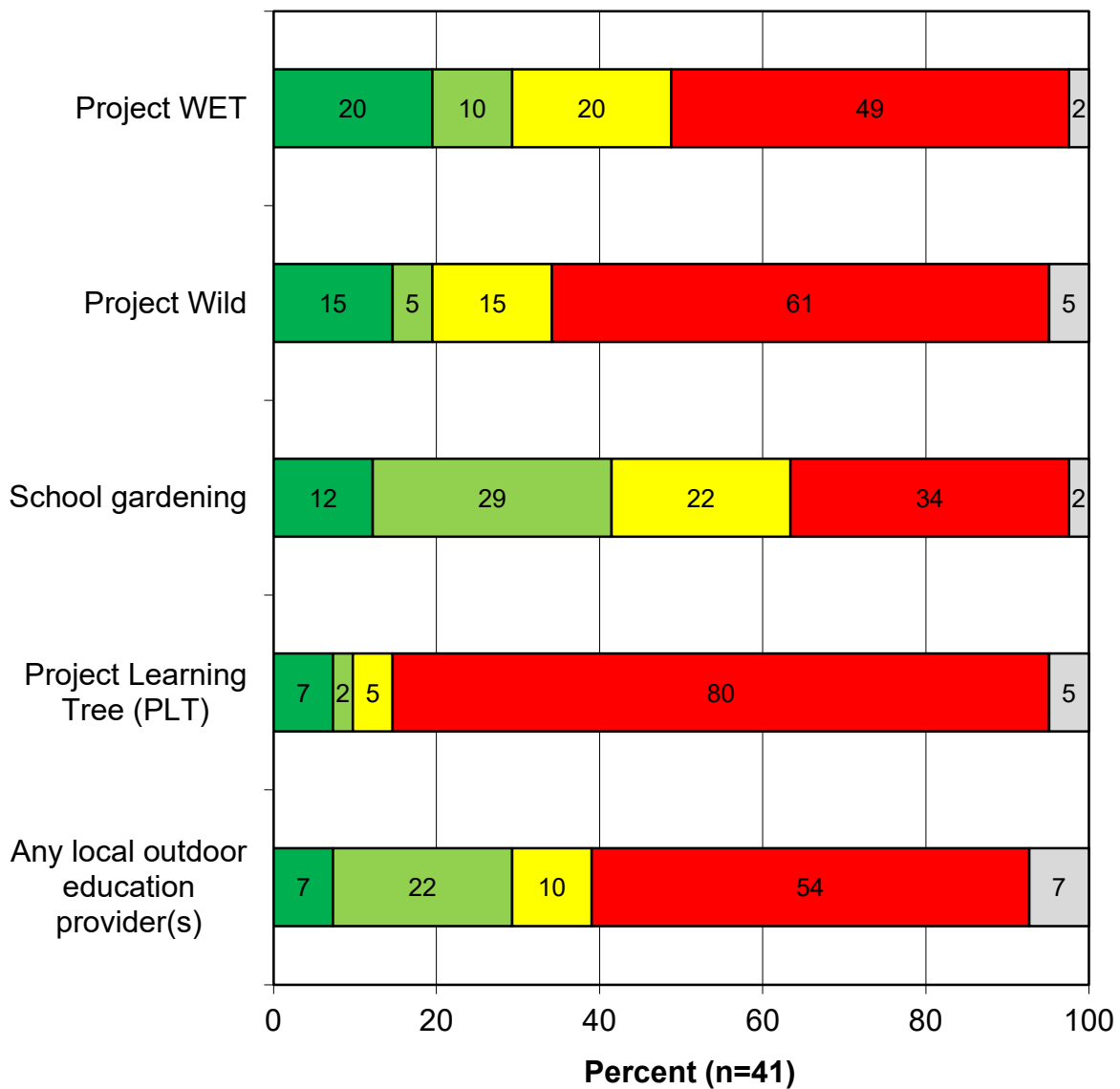
### How familiar are you with each of the following lessons, programs, and resources for outdoor education? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders) (35-54 years old)

■ Very familiar 
 ■ Somewhat familiar 
 ■ Slightly familiar 
 ■ Not at all familiar 
 ■ Don't know

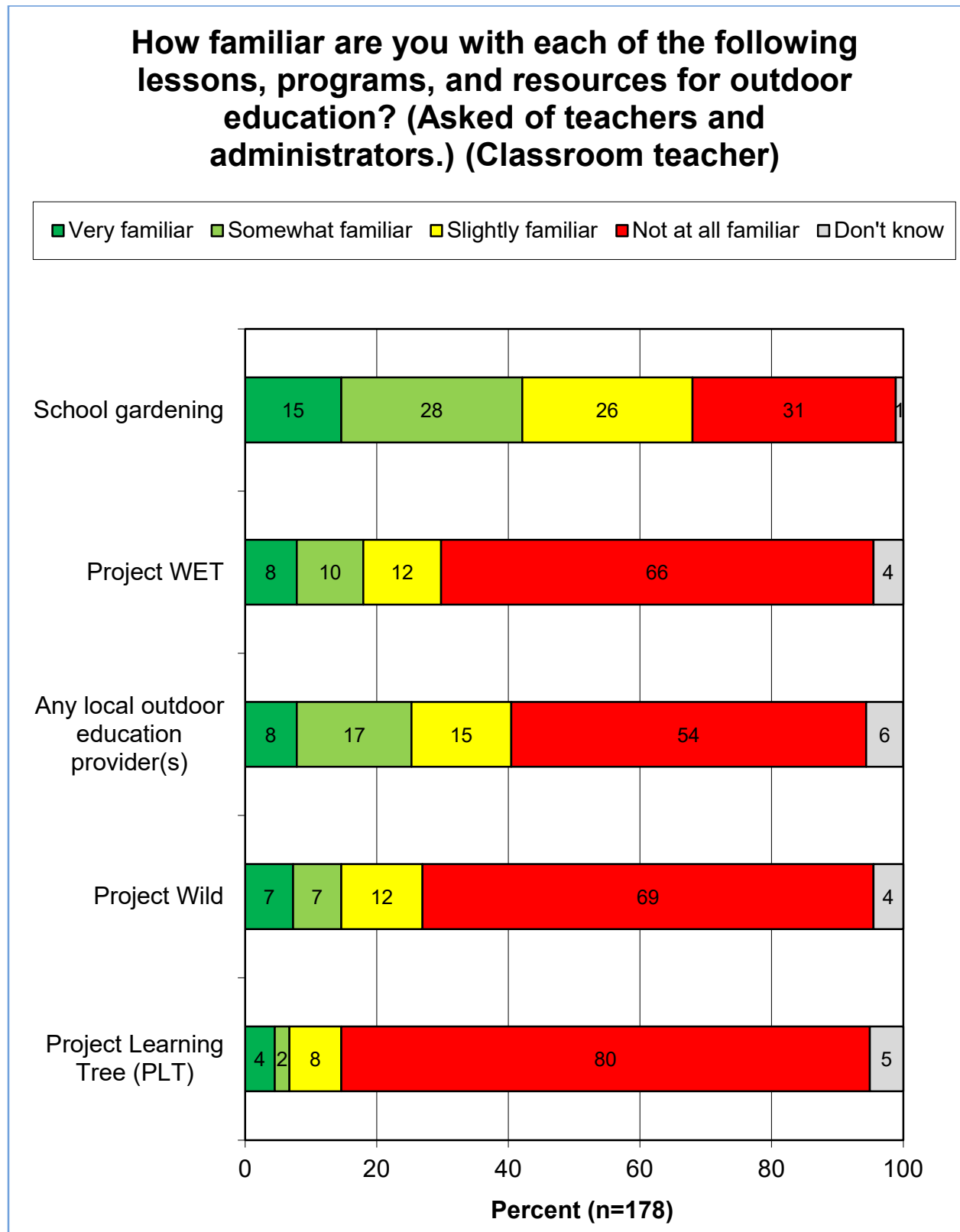


**How familiar are you with each of the following lessons, programs, and resources for outdoor education? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders) (55 years old or older)**

Very familiar Somewhat familiar Slightly familiar Not at all familiar Don't know

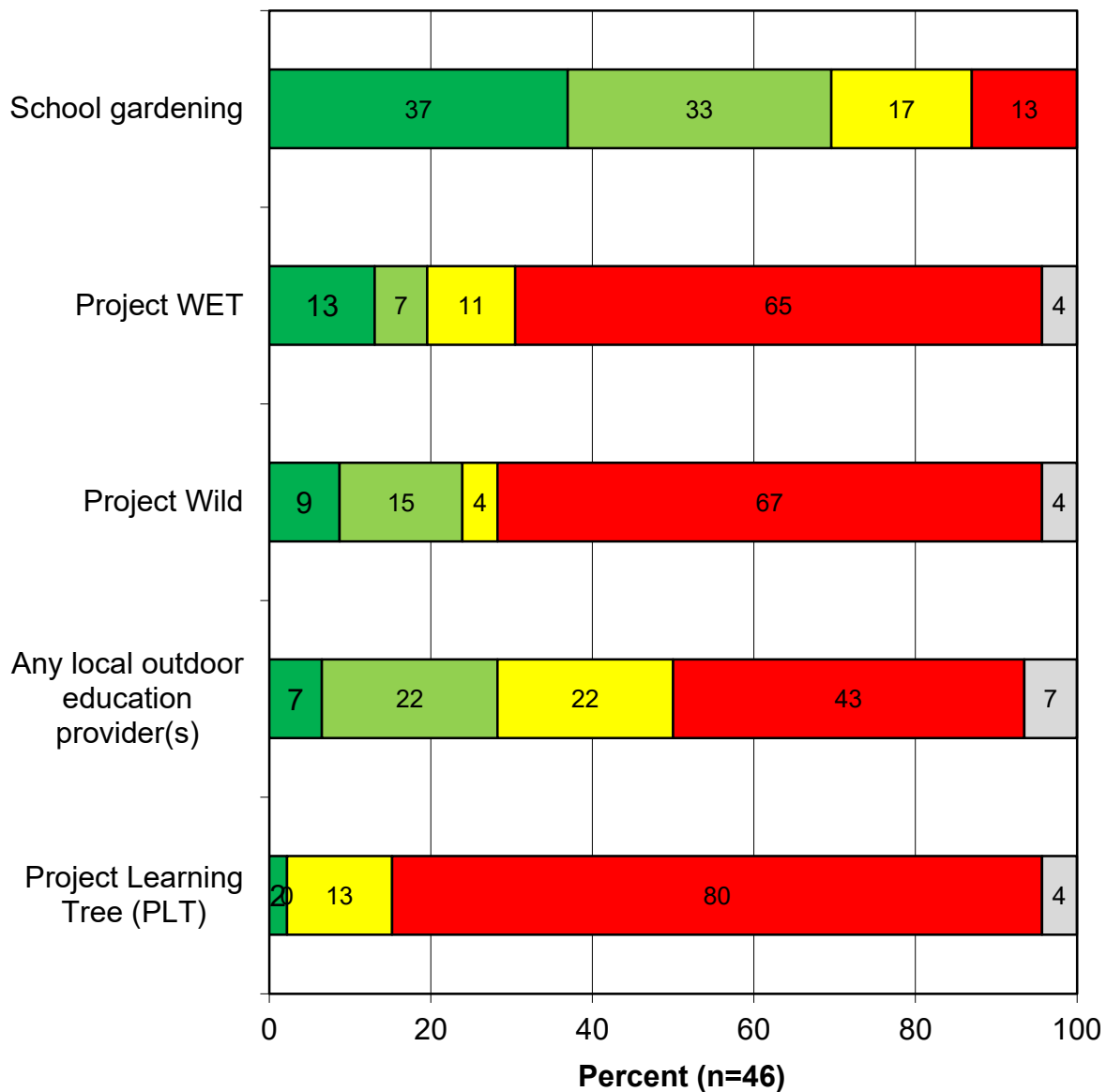


Responses are shown separately for classroom teachers and school administrators.



**How familiar are you with each of the following lessons, programs, and resources for outdoor education? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (School administrator)**

Very familiar Somewhat familiar Slightly familiar Not at all familiar Don't know

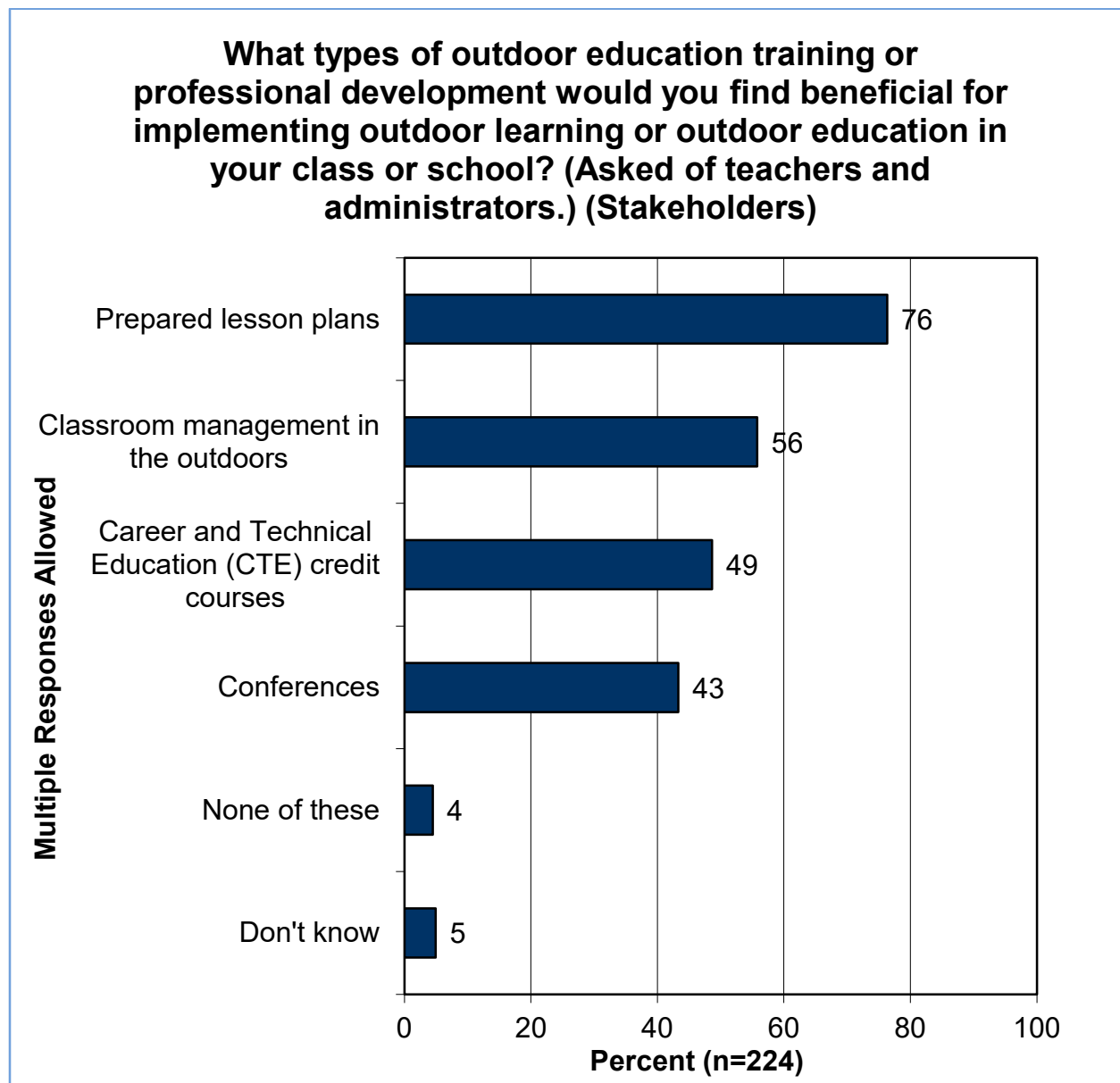


County results are shown separately in the table on the following page.

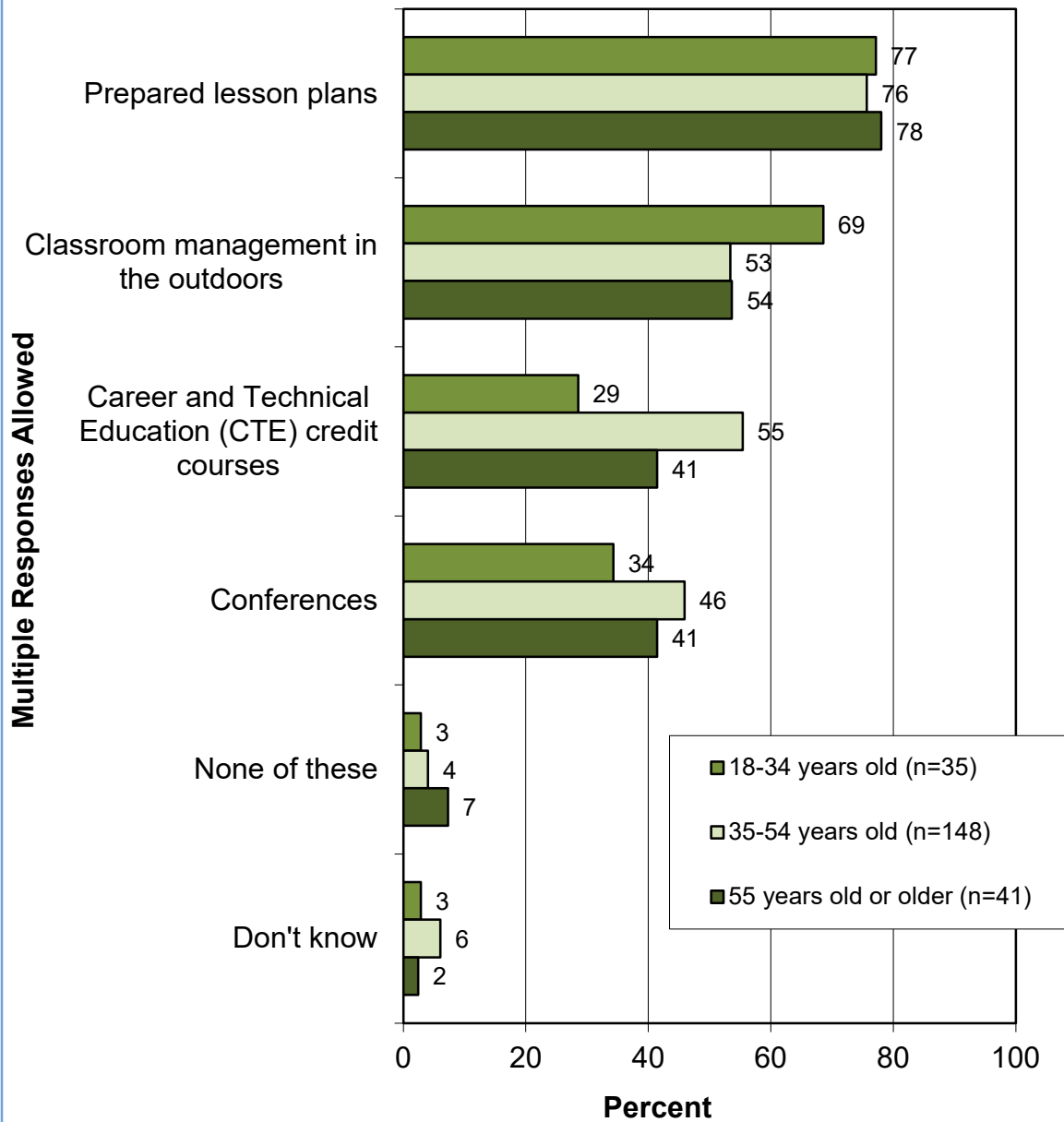
<b>How familiar are you with each of the following lessons, programs, and resources for outdoor education? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders)</b>					
<b>Washoe County</b>	<b>Very familiar</b>	<b>Somewhat familiar</b>	<b>Slightly familiar</b>	<b>Not at all familiar</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
School gardening	21	12	29	35	3
Project WET	9	12	21	59	0
Project Wild	3	12	26	59	0
Any local outdoor education provider(s)	12	32	15	38	3
Project Learning Tree (PLT)	6	3	12	79	0
<b>Carson City</b>	<b>Very familiar</b>	<b>Somewhat familiar</b>	<b>Slightly familiar</b>	<b>Not at all familiar</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
School gardening	12	26	29	31	2
Project WET	12	14	19	55	0
Project Wild	10	7	12	69	2
Any local outdoor education provider(s)	5	24	14	50	7
Project Learning Tree (PLT)	5	2	7	83	2
<b>Douglas County</b>	<b>Very familiar</b>	<b>Somewhat familiar</b>	<b>Slightly familiar</b>	<b>Not at all familiar</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
School gardening	12	24	24	41	0
Project WET	0	12	12	76	0
Project Wild	6	12	24	59	0
Any local outdoor education provider(s)	6	0	41	47	6
Project Learning Tree (PLT)	0	6	29	65	0
<b>Elko County</b>	<b>Very familiar</b>	<b>Somewhat familiar</b>	<b>Slightly familiar</b>	<b>Not at all familiar</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
School gardening	0	18	41	41	0
Project WET	24	6	12	59	0
Project Wild	18	12	18	53	0
Any local outdoor education provider(s)	18	35	18	29	0
Project Learning Tree (PLT)	12	0	12	76	0
<b>Clark County</b>	<b>Very familiar</b>	<b>Somewhat familiar</b>	<b>Slightly familiar</b>	<b>Not at all familiar</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
School gardening	24	39	19	18	0
Project WET	6	6	5	73	9
Project Wild	6	8	1	77	8
Any local outdoor education provider(s)	5	11	13	63	8
Project Learning Tree (PLT)	2	0	5	84	9
<b>All other counties</b>	<b>Very familiar</b>	<b>Somewhat familiar</b>	<b>Slightly familiar</b>	<b>Not at all familiar</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
School gardening	33	29	14	24	0
Project WET	10	10	10	62	10
Project Wild	10	10	10	62	10
Any local outdoor education provider(s)	10	19	19	48	5
Project Learning Tree (PLT)	5	5	5	76	10

The survey asked teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners what resources they need to effectively implement outdoor education, in an open-ended question. Common responses include lesson materials, training, shade, seating, athletic equipment, and access to natural areas. The appendix shows the full range of responses.

The survey next asked teachers and administrators which types of outdoor education training or development they would find beneficial for conducting outdoor learning or education. From the provided list, 76% selected prepared lesson plans, followed by classroom management in the outdoors (56%), Career and Technical Education credit courses (49%), and conferences (43%).

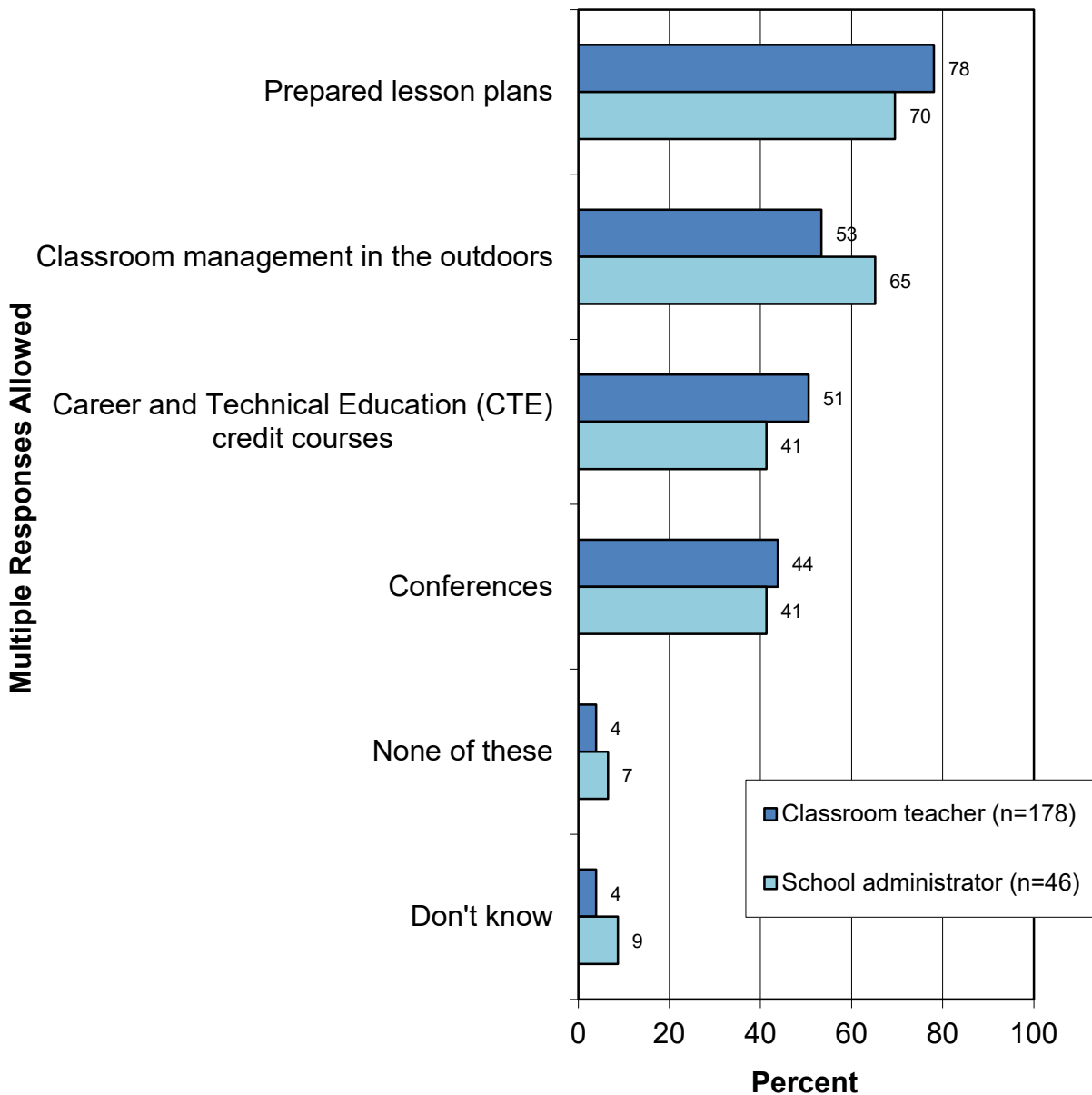


**What types of outdoor education training or professional development would you find beneficial for implementing outdoor learning or outdoor education in your class or school?  
(Asked of teachers and administrators.)  
(Stakeholders)**

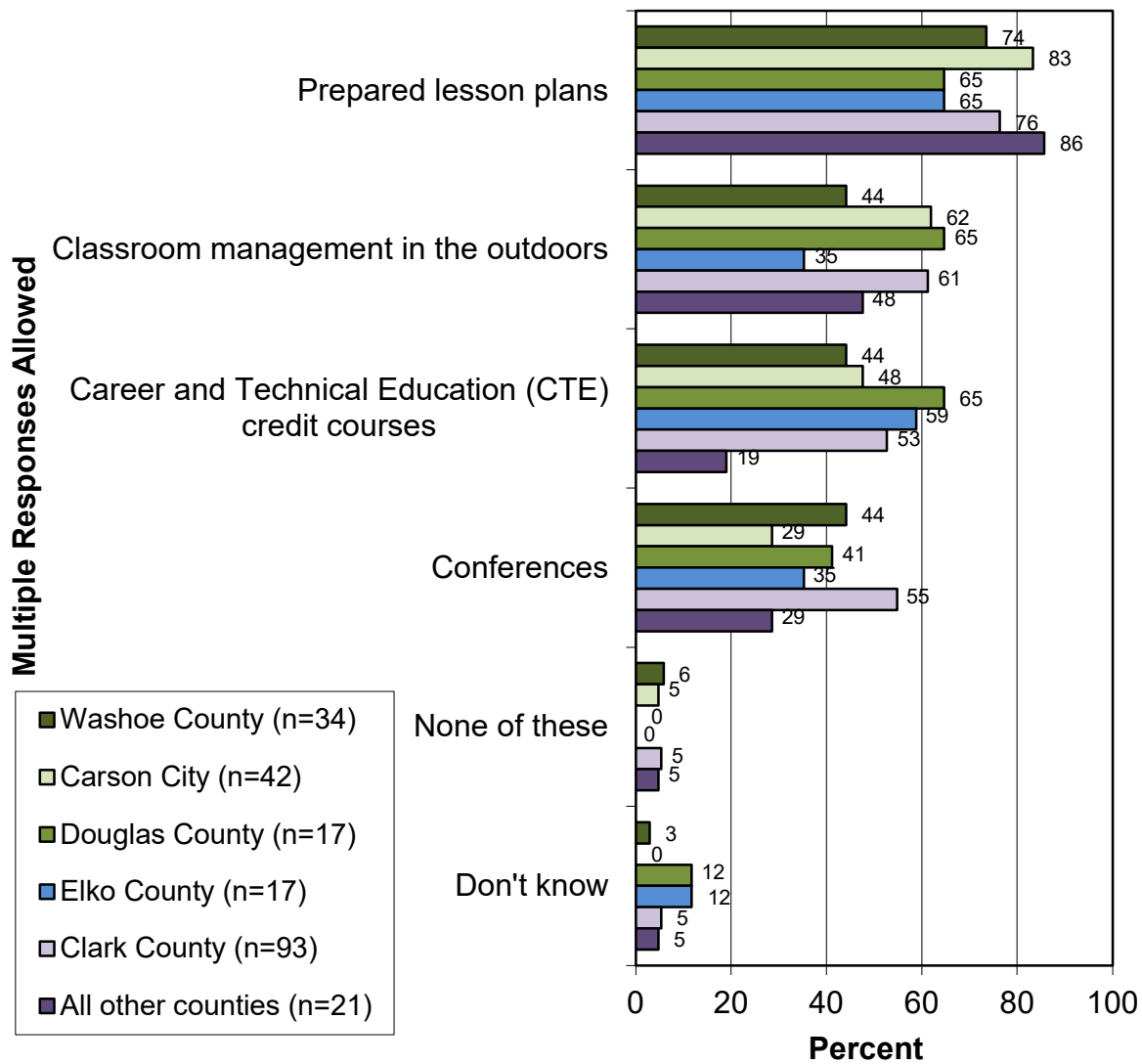




**What types of outdoor education training or professional development would you find beneficial for implementing outdoor learning or outdoor education in your class or school?  
(Asked of teachers and administrators.)  
(Stakeholders)**

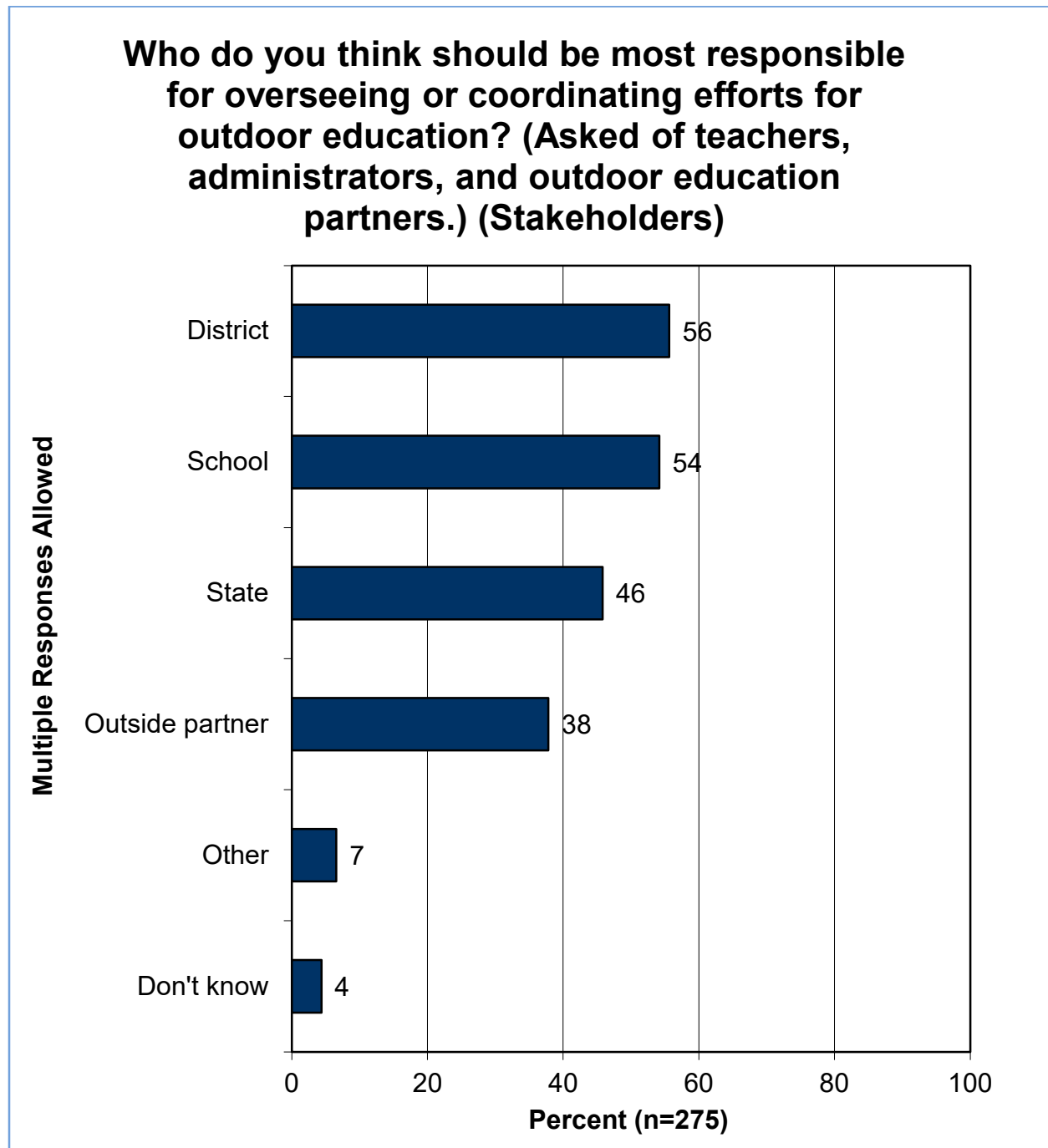


**What types of outdoor education training or professional development would you find beneficial for implementing outdoor learning or outdoor education in your class or school?  
(Asked of teachers and administrators.)  
(Stakeholders)**

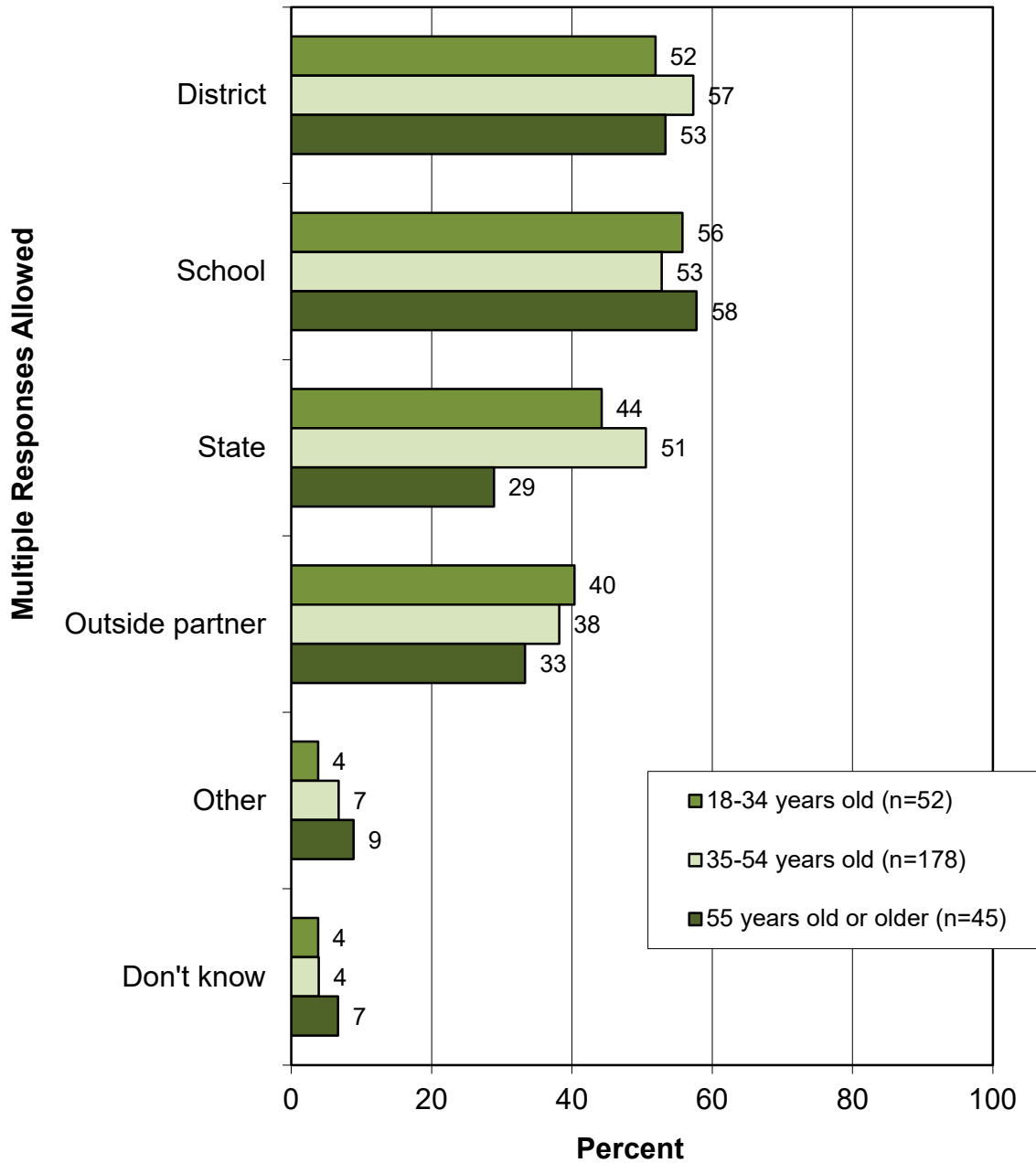


On-site training, professional development accreditation, and visits from experts were additional training suggestions provided by teachers and administrators in a follow-up open-ended question. The appendix shows the full list.

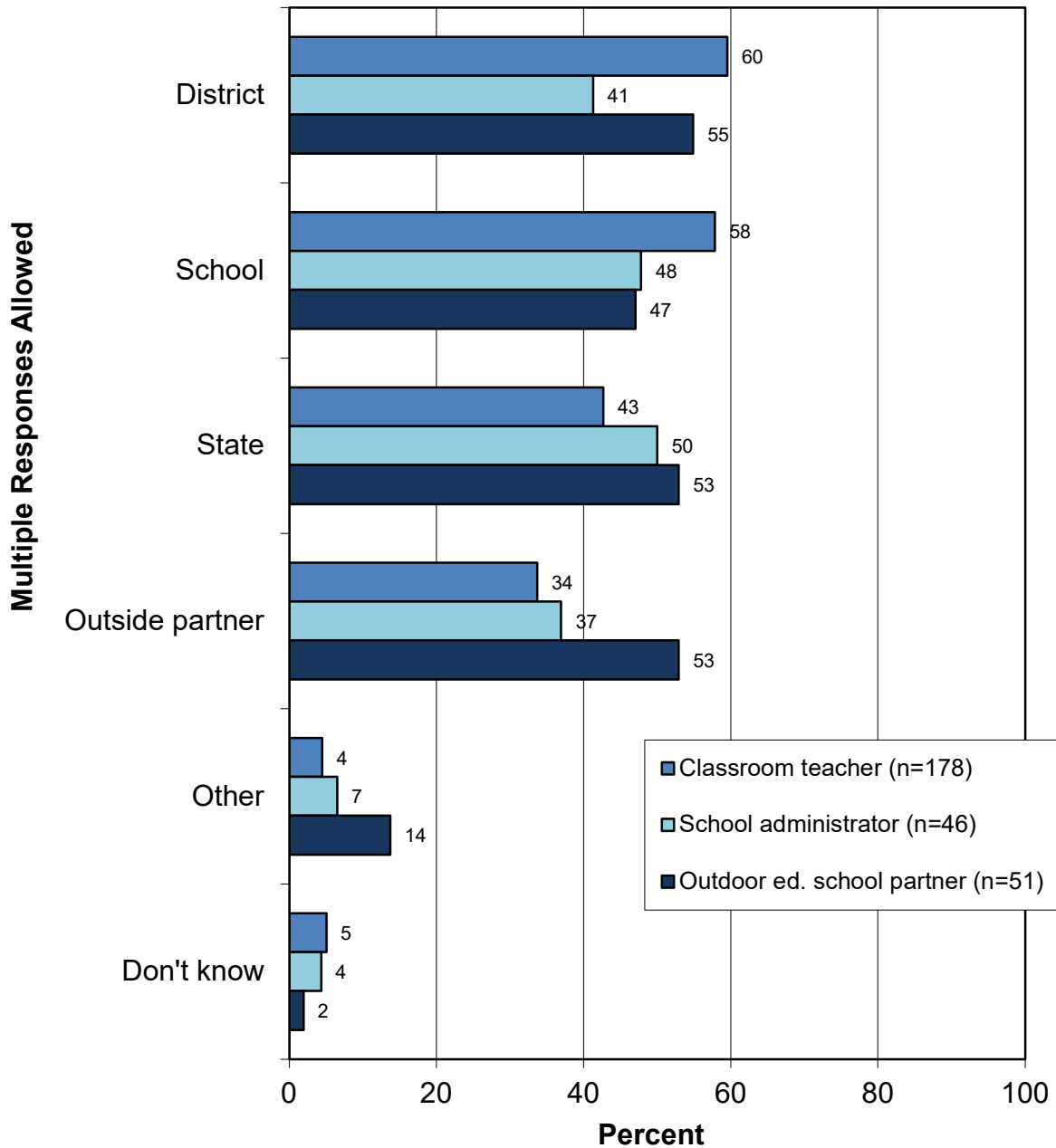
Teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners, collectively, most often think that the school district should be most responsible for overseeing outdoor education (56% selected this), followed by the school itself (54%), the State of Nevada (46%), or an outside partner (38%). Outside partners were much more likely to say that groups like themselves should be responsible, compared to teachers and administrators.



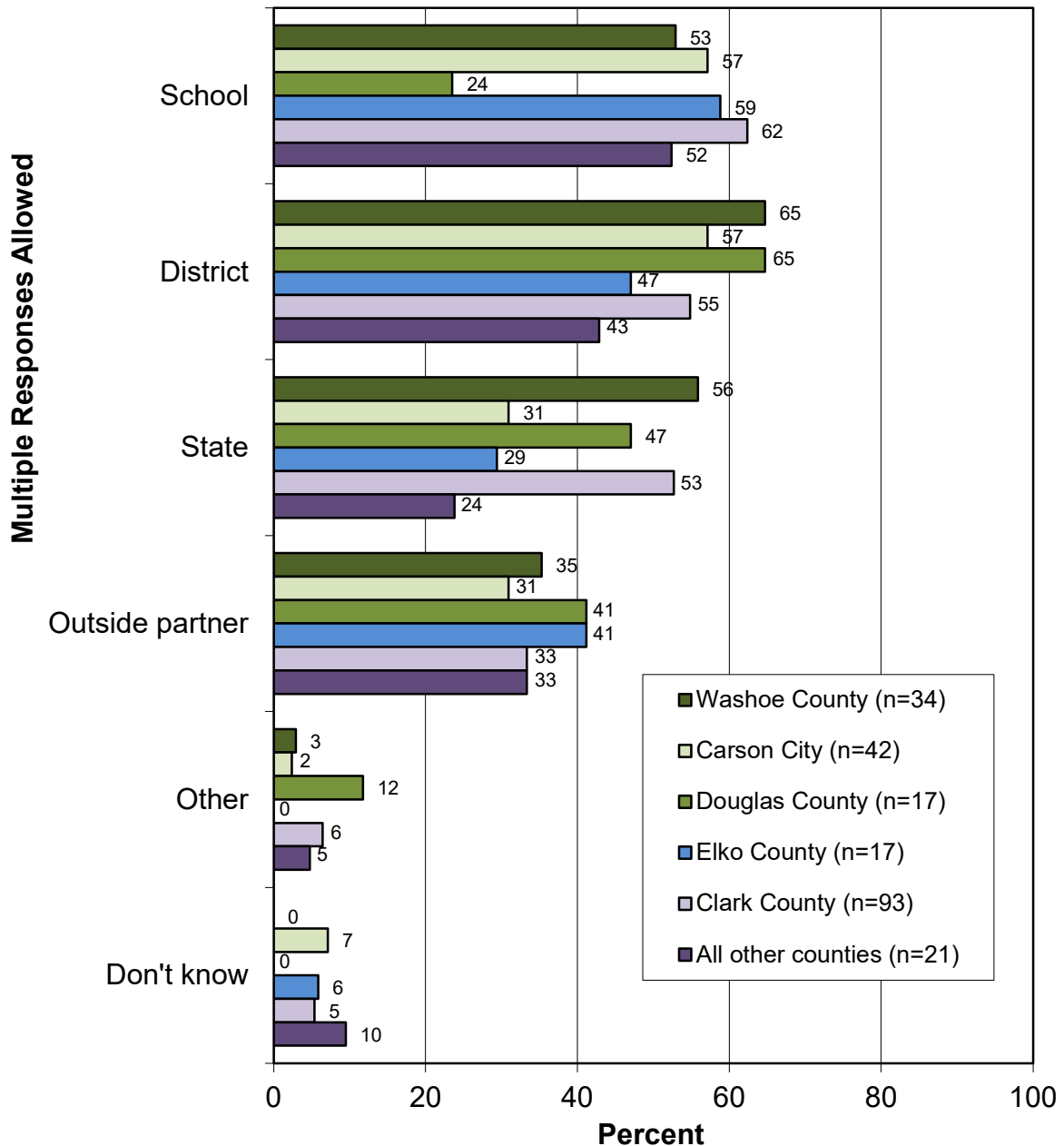
**Who do you think should be most responsible for overseeing or coordinating efforts for outdoor education? (Asked of teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners.) (Stakeholders)**



**Who do you think should be most responsible for overseeing or coordinating efforts for outdoor education? (Asked of teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners.) (Stakeholders)**



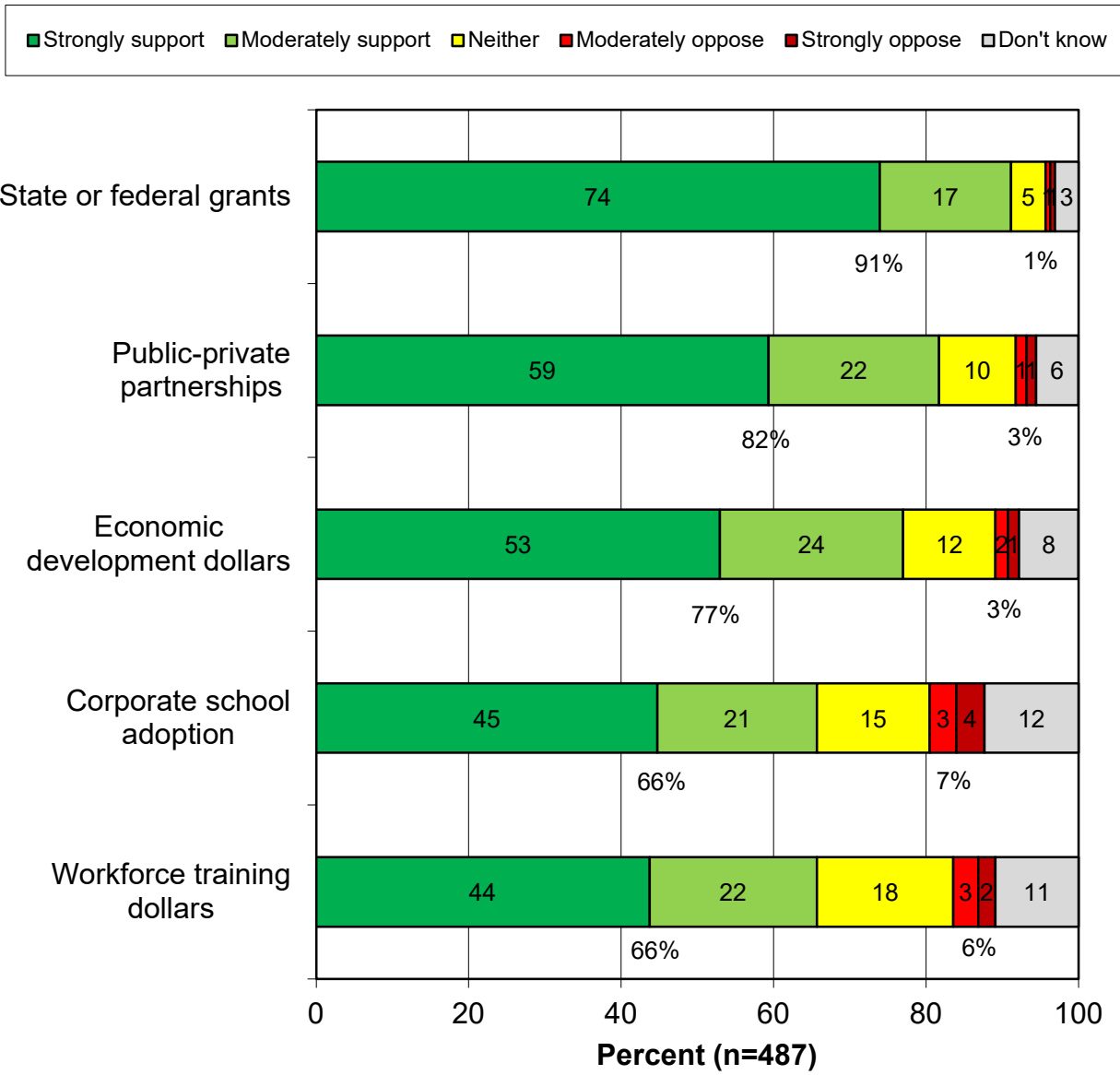
**Who do you think should be most responsible for overseeing or coordinating efforts for outdoor education? (Asked of teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners.) (Stakeholders)**



### FUNDING FOR OUTDOOR EDUCATION

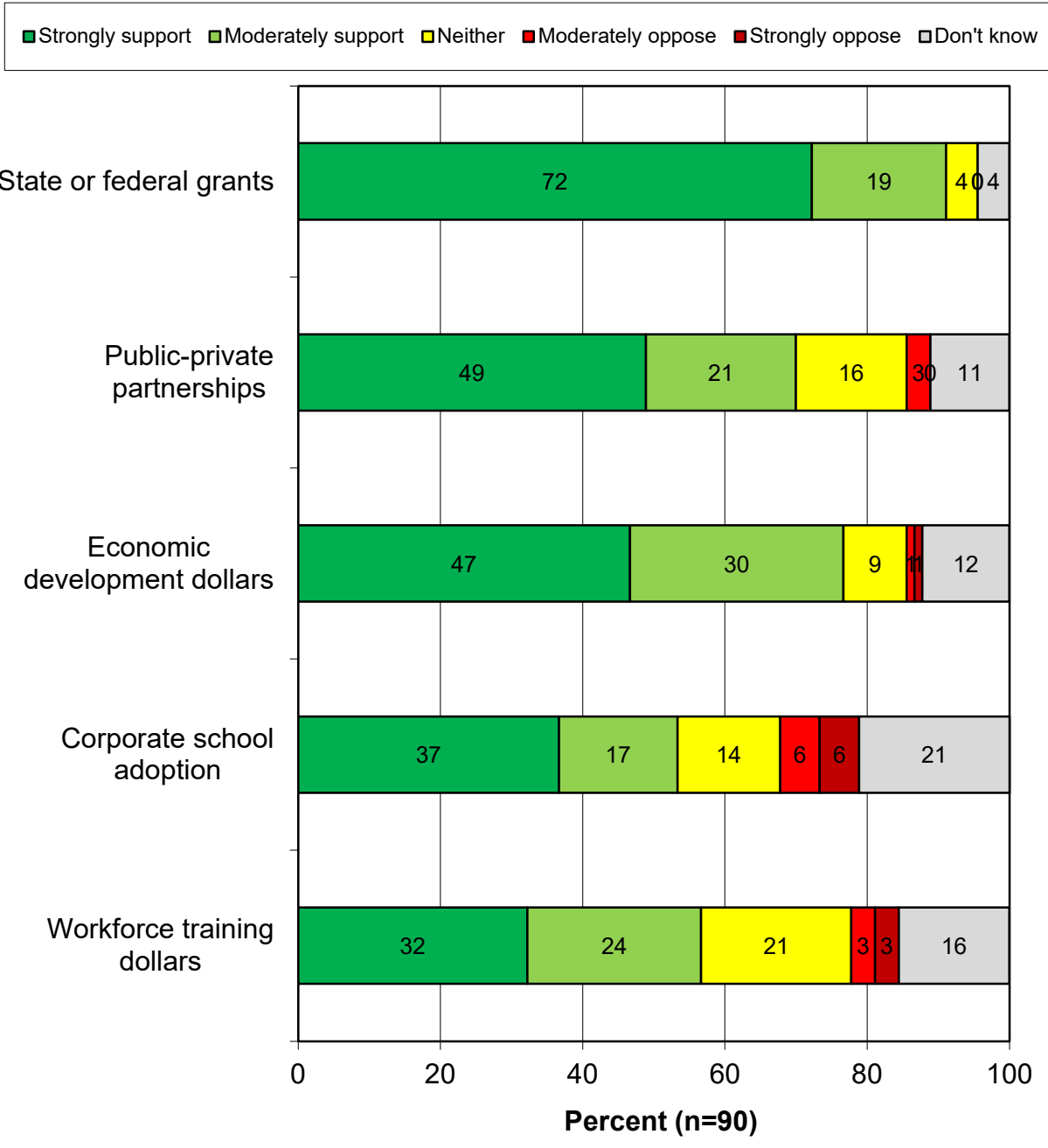
State or federal grants as a single category is the most supported funding source for outdoor education in Nevada, with 91% of stakeholders *strongly* or *moderately* supporting the source. Support is high for the other sources listed in the survey as well: 82% support public-private partnerships, 77% support economic development dollars, and 66% support both corporate school adoption and workforce training dollars.

**For each of the following potential funding sources, please indicate to what extent you support or oppose using it as a source of funding for outdoor education in Nevada. (Stakeholders)**



The next three pages show the series crosstabulated by age.

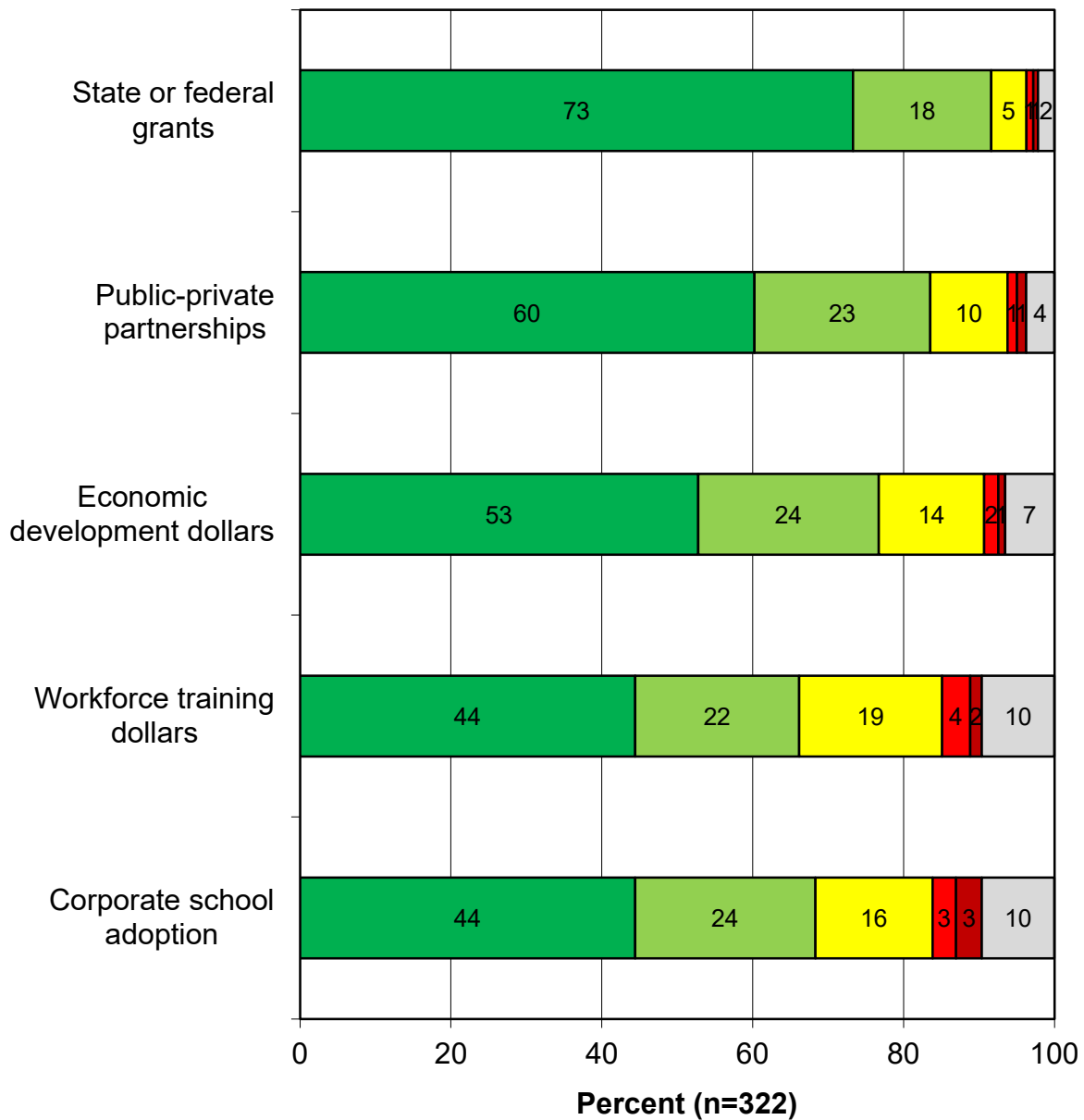
**For each of the following potential funding sources, please indicate to what extent you support or oppose using it as a source of funding for outdoor education in Nevada. (Stakeholders) (18-34 years old)**





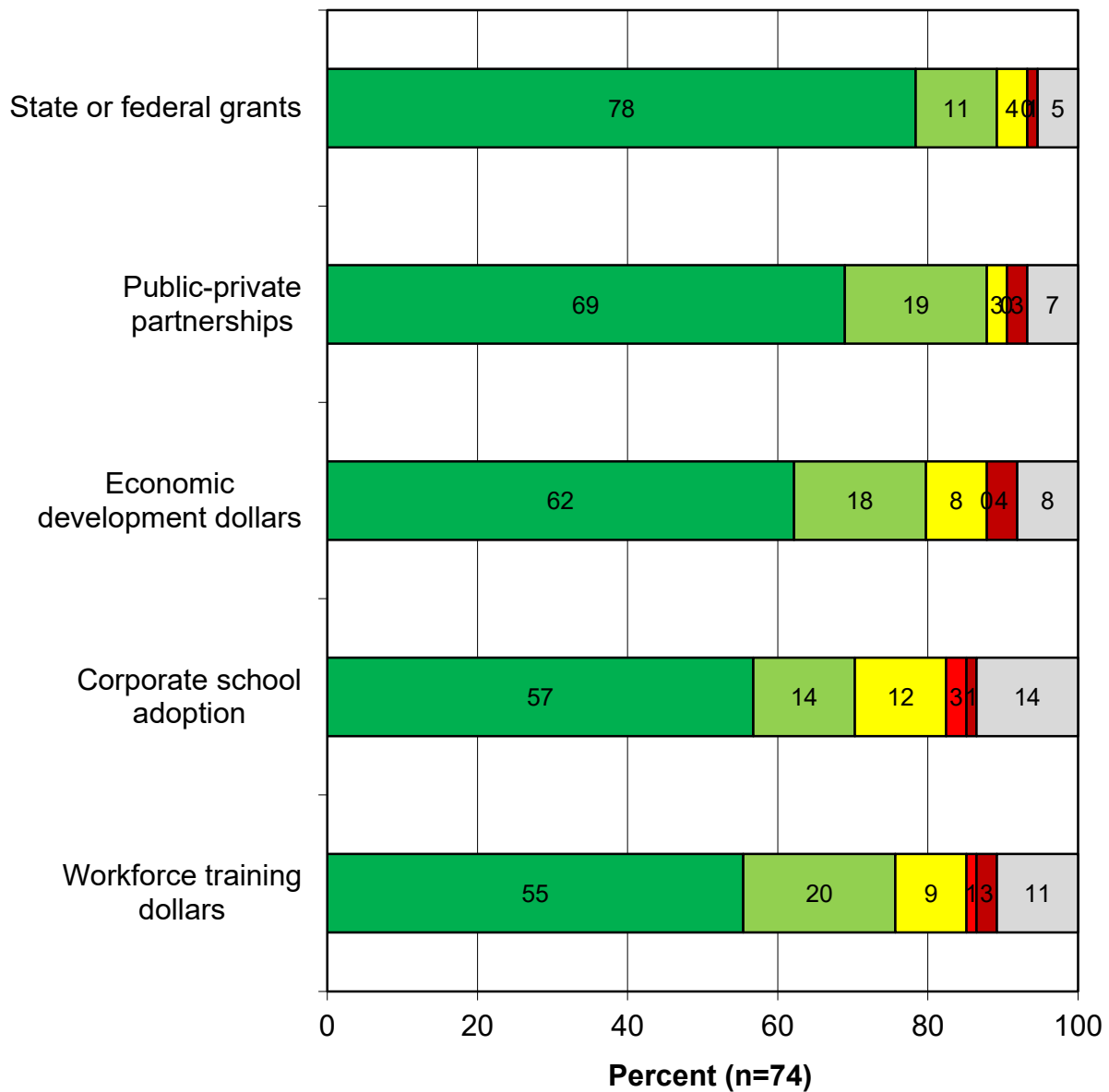
**For each of the following potential funding sources, please indicate to what extent you support or oppose using it as a source of funding for outdoor education in Nevada. (Stakeholders) (35-54 years old)**

■ Strongly support 
 ■ Moderately support 
 ■ Neither 
 ■ Moderately oppose 
 ■ Strongly oppose 
 ■ Don't know



**For each of the following potential funding sources, please indicate to what extent you support or oppose using it as a source of funding for outdoor education in Nevada. (Stakeholders) (55 years old or older)**

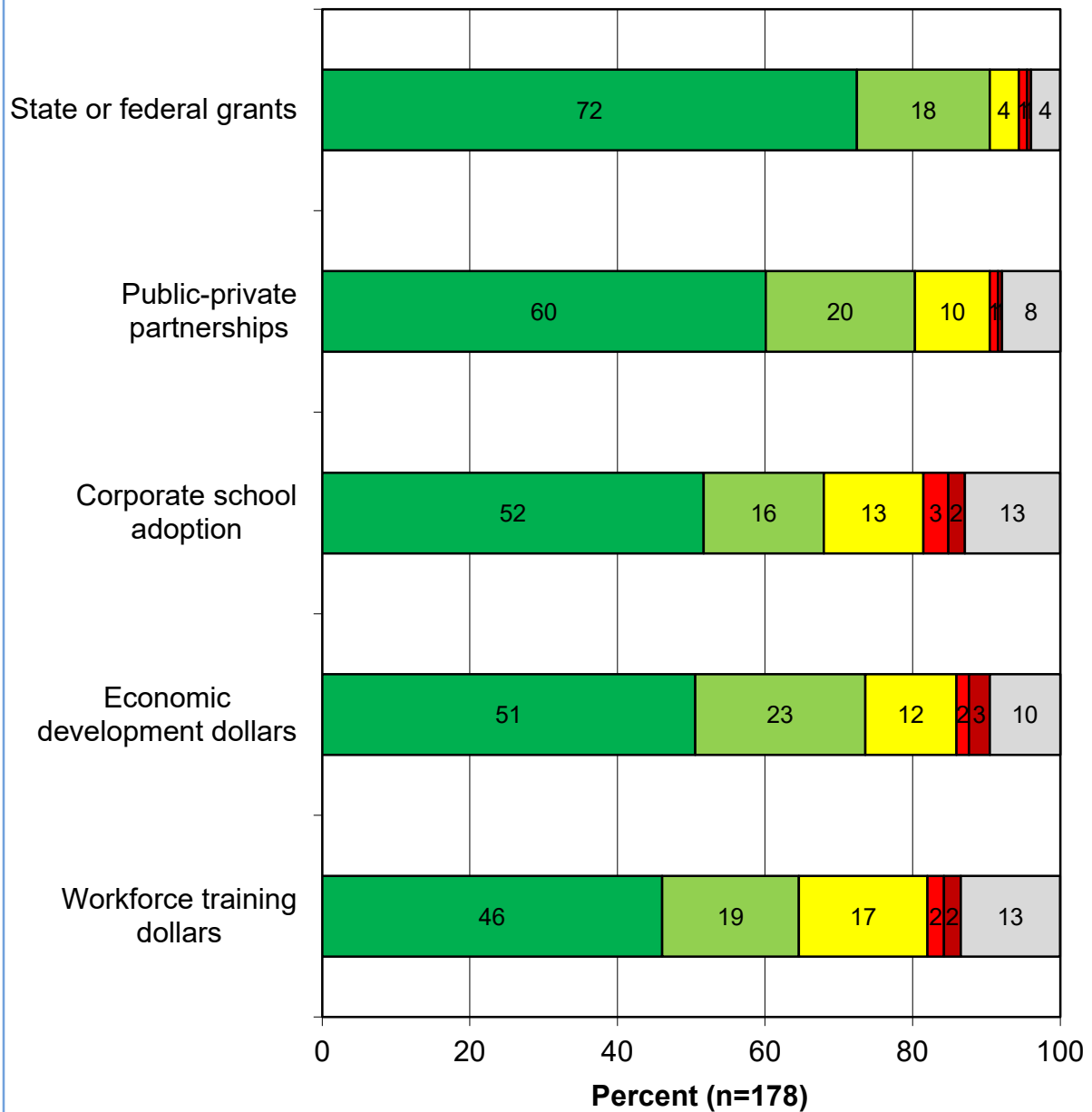
■ Strongly support 
 ■ Moderately support 
 ■ Neither 
 ■ Moderately oppose 
 ■ Strongly oppose 
 ■ Don't know



The next five pages show the series crosstabulated by stakeholder categories.

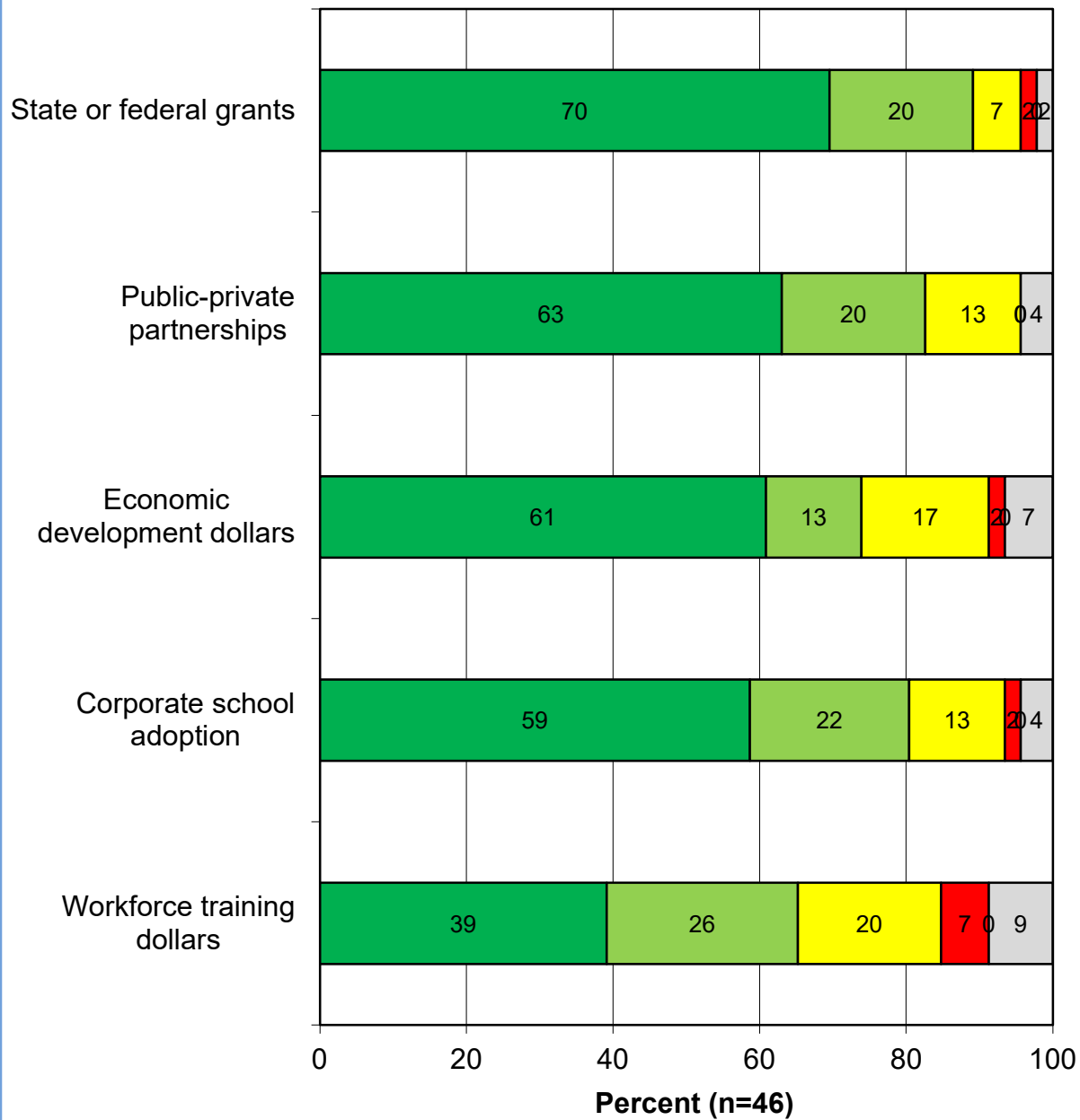
**For each of the following potential funding sources, please indicate to what extent you support or oppose using it as a source of funding for outdoor education in Nevada.  
(Stakeholders) (Classroom teacher)**

■ Strongly support  
 ■ Moderately support  
 ■ Neither  
 ■ Moderately oppose  
 ■ Strongly oppose  
 ■ Don't know



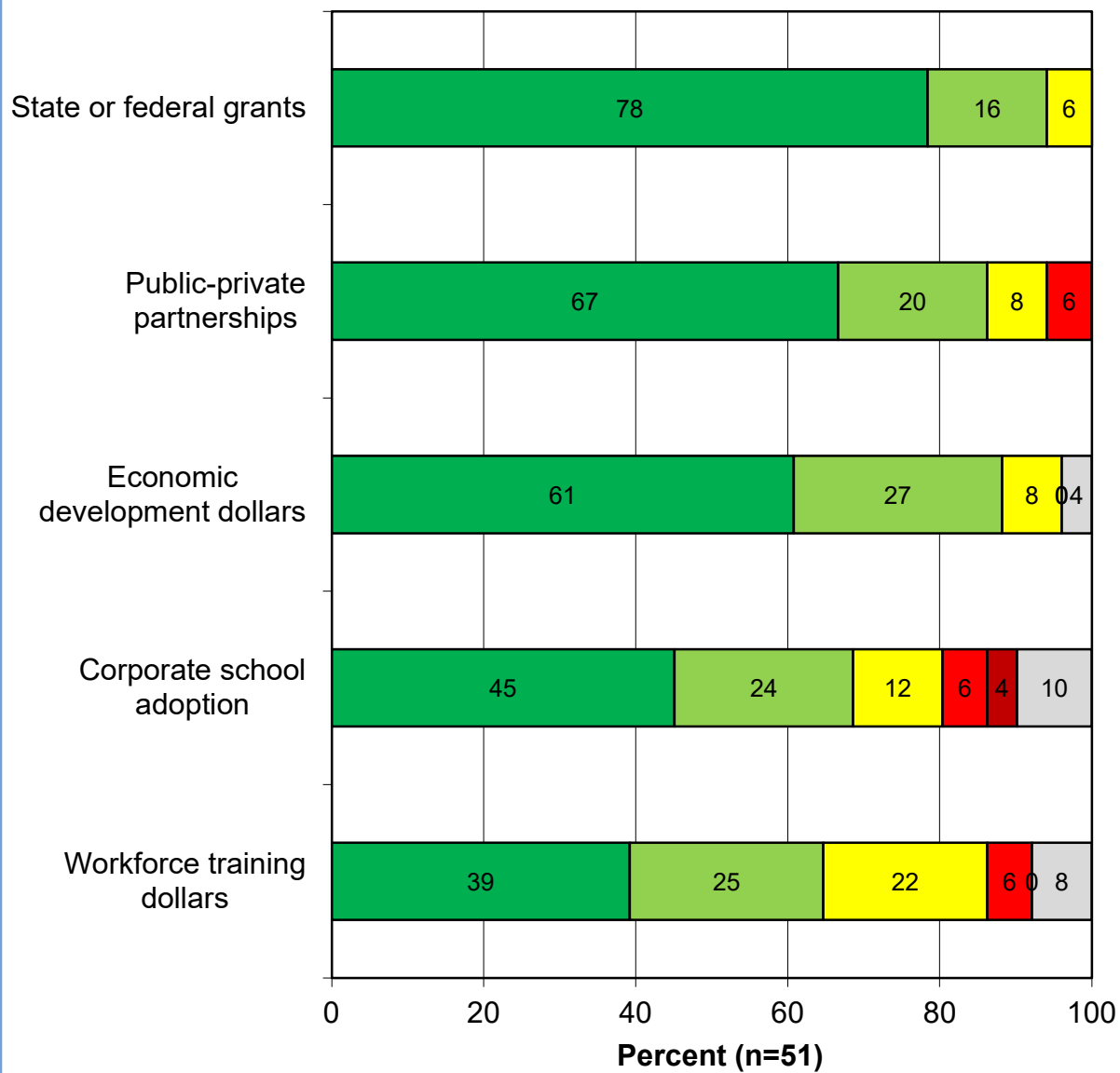
**For each of the following potential funding sources, please indicate to what extent you support or oppose using it as a source of funding for outdoor education in Nevada.  
(Stakeholders) (School administrator)**

■ Strongly support  
 ■ Moderately support  
 ■ Neither  
 ■ Moderately oppose  
 ■ Strongly oppose  
 ■ Don't know



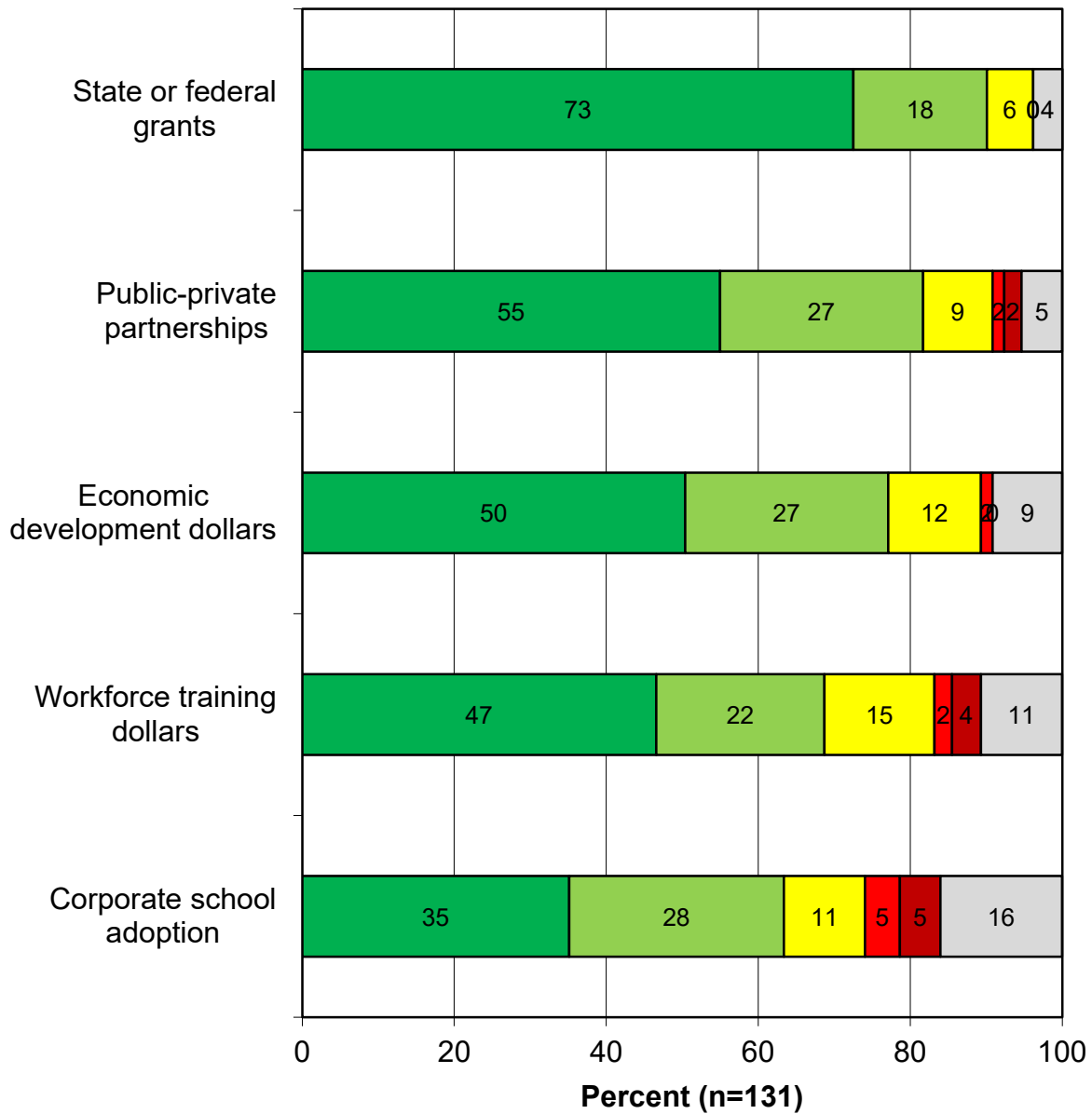
**For each of the following potential funding sources, please indicate to what extent you support or oppose using it as a source of funding for outdoor education in Nevada.  
(Stakeholders)  
(Outdoor education school partner)**

■ Strongly support  
 ■ Moderately support  
 ■ Neither  
 ■ Moderately oppose  
 ■ Strongly oppose  
 ■ Don't know



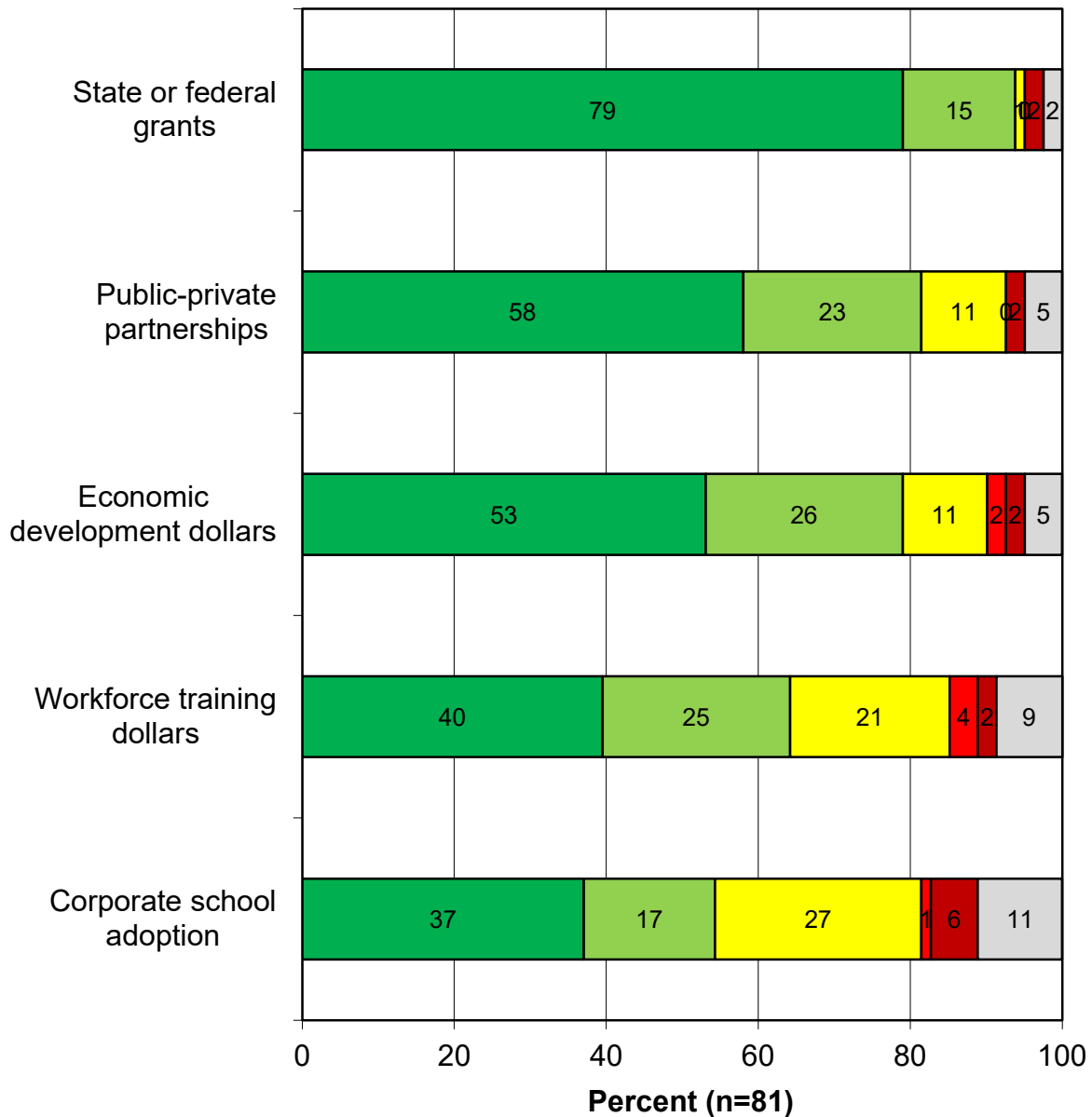
**For each of the following potential funding sources, please indicate to what extent you support or oppose using it as a source of funding for outdoor education in Nevada. (Stakeholders) (Parent of child in school)**

■ Strongly support 
 ■ Moderately support 
 ■ Neither 
 ■ Moderately oppose 
 ■ Strongly oppose 
 ■ Don't know



**For each of the following potential funding sources, please indicate to what extent you support or oppose using it as a source of funding for outdoor education in Nevada.  
(Stakeholders) (Community member)**

■ Strongly support  
 ■ Moderately support  
 ■ Neither  
 ■ Moderately oppose  
 ■ Strongly oppose  
 ■ Don't know



County results are shown.

<b>For each of the following potential funding sources, please indicate to what extent you support or oppose using it as a source of funding for outdoor education in Nevada. (Stakeholders) (Part 1)</b>								
<b>Washoe County</b>	<b>Strongly support</b>	<b>Mod. support</b>	<b>Total support*</b>	<b>Neither</b>	<b>Mod. oppose</b>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Total oppose*</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
State or federal grants	85	11	96	1	0	1	1	1
Public-private partnerships	62	24	86	9	1	0	1	3
Economic development dollars	65	20	85	3	4	1	5	7
Corporate school adoption	47	16	64	19	5	4	9	8
Workforce training dollars	43	22	65	20	1	3	4	11
<b>Carson City</b>	<b>Strongly support</b>	<b>Mod. support</b>	<b>Total support*</b>	<b>Neither</b>	<b>Mod. oppose</b>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Total oppose*</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
State or federal grants	79	16	95	4	0	0	0	1
Public-private partnerships	65	18	83	10	1	1	2	5
Economic development dollars	52	23	76	16	1	4	5	4
Corporate school adoption	48	21	68	10	4	5	9	13
Workforce training dollars	54	20	73	17	2	2	5	5
<b>Douglas County</b>	<b>Strongly support</b>	<b>Mod. support</b>	<b>Total support*</b>	<b>Neither</b>	<b>Mod. oppose</b>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Total oppose*</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
State or federal grants	79	15	94	3	0	0	0	3
Public-private partnerships	61	15	76	15	0	3	3	6
Economic development dollars	52	30	82	12	3	0	3	3
Corporate school adoption	45	15	61	24	0	3	3	12
Workforce training dollars	55	24	79	9	3	0	3	9

\* Rounding in table causes apparent discrepancies in some sums; calculations are made on unrounded numbers.



<b>For each of the following potential funding sources, please indicate to what extent you support or oppose using it as a source of funding for outdoor education in Nevada. (Stakeholders) (Part 2)</b>								
<b>Elko County</b>	<b>Strongly support</b>	<b>Mod. support</b>	<b>Total support*</b>	<b>Neither</b>	<b>Mod. oppose</b>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Total oppose*</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
State or federal grants	50	28	78	13	0	3	3	6
Public-private partnerships	47	28	75	9	0	3	3	13
Economic development dollars	25	25	50	31	3	3	6	13
Corporate school adoption	31	31	63	13	3	6	9	16
Workforce training dollars	31	25	56	25	3	3	6	13
<b>Clark County</b>	<b>Strongly support</b>	<b>Mod. support</b>	<b>Total support*</b>	<b>Neither</b>	<b>Mod. oppose</b>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Total oppose*</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
State or federal grants	72	18	91	5	1	1	1	4
Public-private partnerships	60	24	83	8	1	2	3	5
Economic development dollars	55	24	79	9	0	1	1	11
Corporate school adoption	49	21	69	13	3	4	7	11
Workforce training dollars	45	21	66	15	3	3	6	12
<b>All other counties</b>	<b>Strongly support</b>	<b>Mod. support</b>	<b>Total support*</b>	<b>Neither</b>	<b>Mod. oppose</b>	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Total oppose*</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
State or federal grants	61	22	83	4	4	0	4	9
Public-private partnerships	43	26	70	17	0	0	0	13
Economic development dollars	39	24	63	22	4	0	4	11
Corporate school adoption	30	24	54	22	2	0	2	22
Workforce training dollars	28	22	50	22	7	2	9	20

\* Rounding in table causes apparent discrepancies in some sums; calculations are made on unrounded numbers.

Other suggestions for funding often included references to other wasteful spending by school districts, state and local governments, other inefficient programs, and standardized testing and curriculum requirements. The appendix shows the full list.

## OBSTACLES TO AND NEEDS FOR OUTDOOR EDUCATION

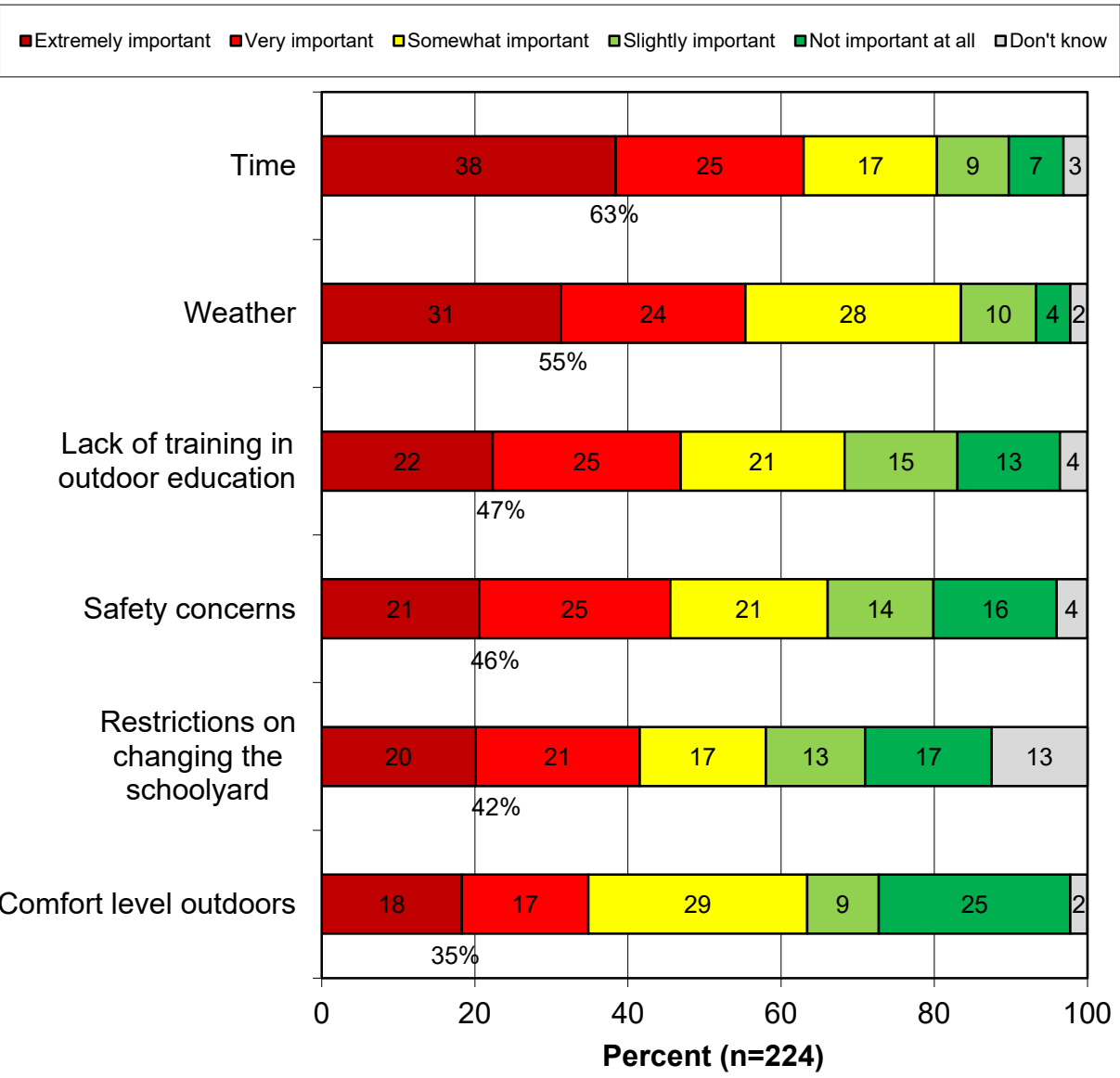
An open-ended question asked stakeholders to name the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools. The appendix includes the full list of comments, but some common responses include heat, time, staff, budget, administrative and student apathy, training and expertise, safety concerns, legal liability, and access to natural areas.

Another open-ended question asked stakeholders to identify the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools. Many responses overlap with the prior question, such as time within the curriculum, qualified staff, and funding. Other responses include buses or vans, first aid or survival training, community and family outreach, volunteers, and sports or play equipment. Refer to the appendix for the full list.

The survey presented teachers and administrators with six potential obstacles to using their current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as they would like or at all. Results are shown on the following page. Looking at combined percentages of *extremely* and *very* important reasons, time was the top response at 63%. Otherwise, a little over half gave one of these responses for weather, a little under half did so for lack of training in outdoor education, safety concerns, and restrictions on changing the schoolyard, and about a third did so for the comfort level outdoors.

(The standard “traffic light” color scheme was used for these graphs, but because obstacles are negative responses, the top of the scale is red.)

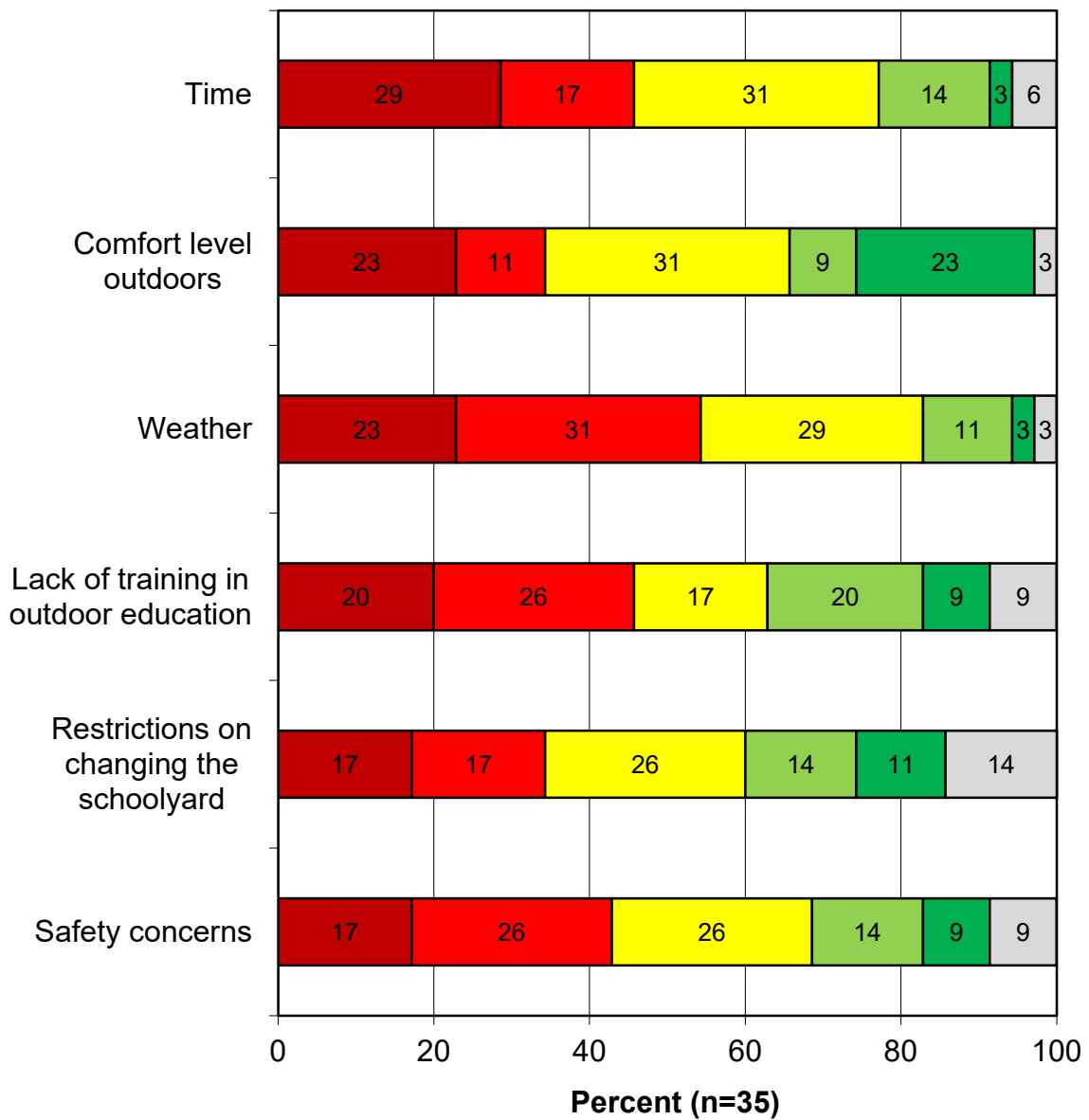
**Please rate how important each of the following is as a reason you do not use your current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as you would like or at all. (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders)**



Results by age category are shown.

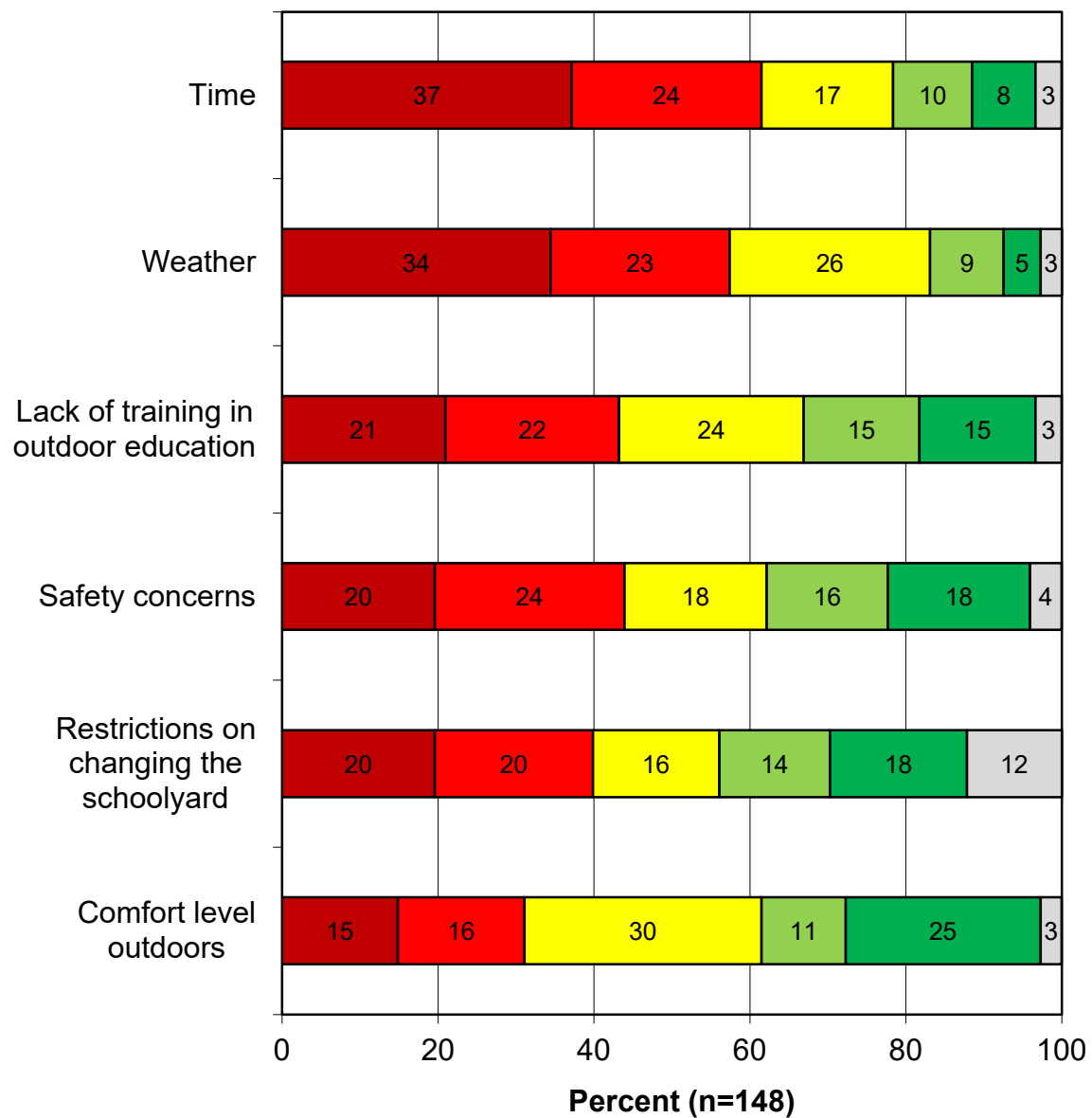
**Please rate how important each of the following is as a reason you do not use your current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as you would like or at all. (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders) (18-34 years old)**

■ Extremely important 
 ■ Very important 
 ■ Somewhat important 
 ■ Slightly important 
 ■ Not important at all 
 ■ Don't know



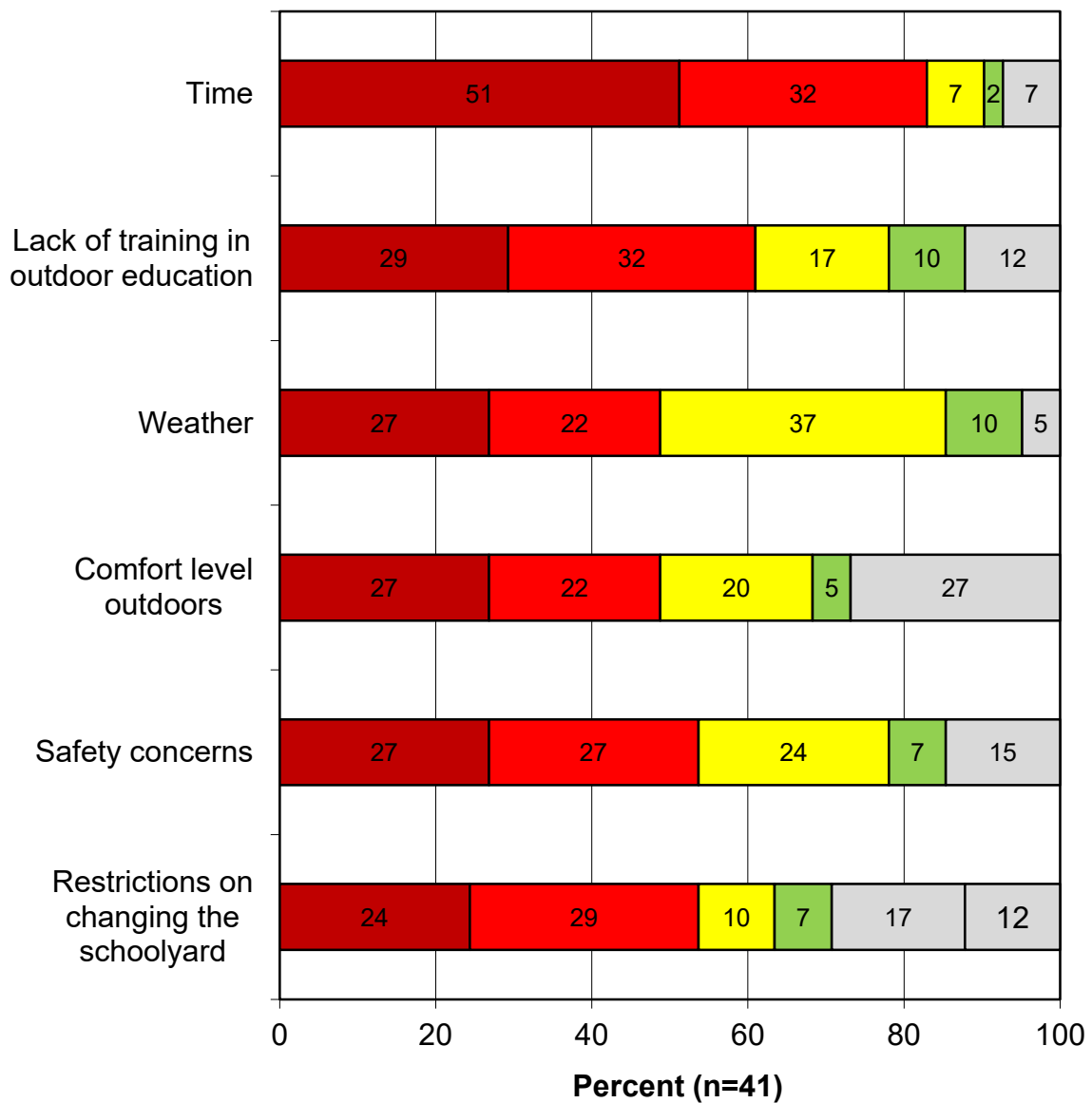
**Please rate how important each of the following is as a reason you do not use your current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as you would like or at all. (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders) (35-54 years old)**

■ Extremely important ■ Very important ■ Somewhat important ■ Slightly important ■ Not important at all ■ Don't know



**Please rate how important each of the following is as a reason you do not use your current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as you would like or at all. (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders) (55 years old or older)**

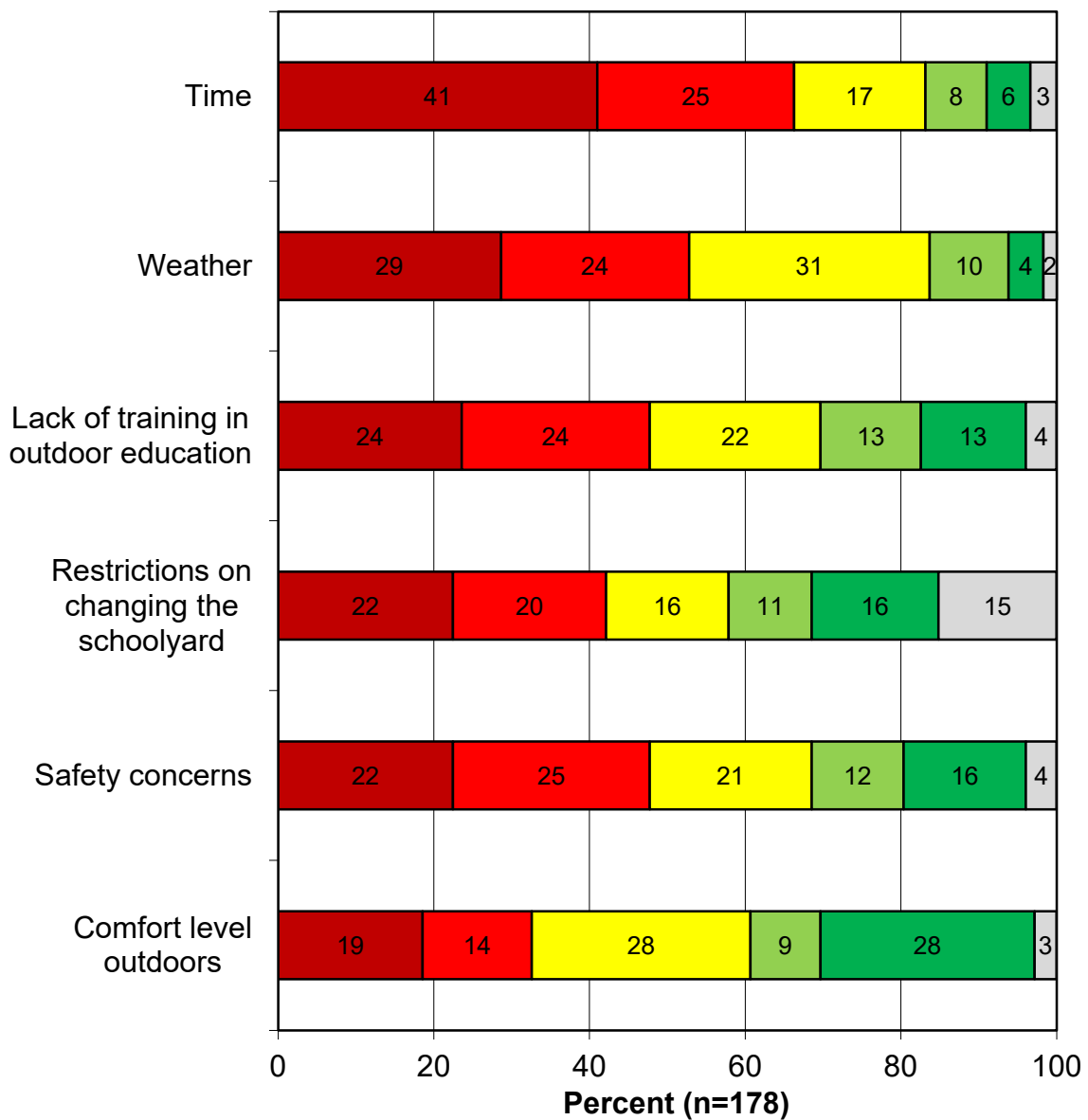
■ Extremely important  
 ■ Very important  
 ■ Somewhat important  
 ■ Slightly important  
 ■ Not important at all  
 ■ Don't know



Classroom teacher and school administrator results are shown by themselves.

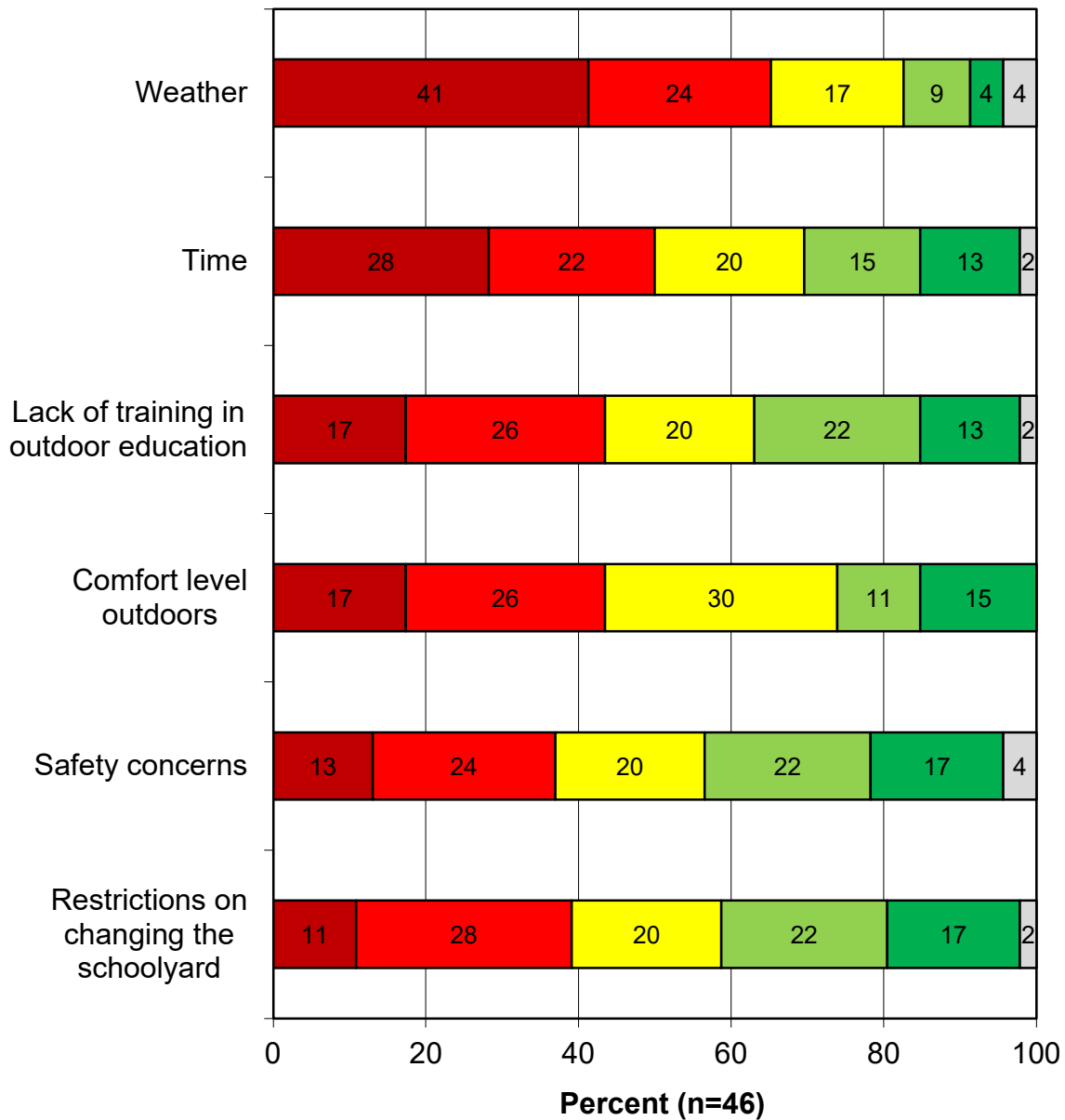
**Please rate how important each of the following is as a reason you do not use your current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as you would like or at all. (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Classroom teacher)**

■ Extremely important ■ Very important ■ Somewhat important ■ Slightly important ■ Not important at all ■ Don't know



**Please rate how important each of the following is as a reason you do not use your current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as you would like or at all. (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (School administrator)**

■ Extremely important  
 ■ Very important  
 ■ Somewhat important  
 ■ Slightly important  
 ■ Not important at all  
 ■ Don't know





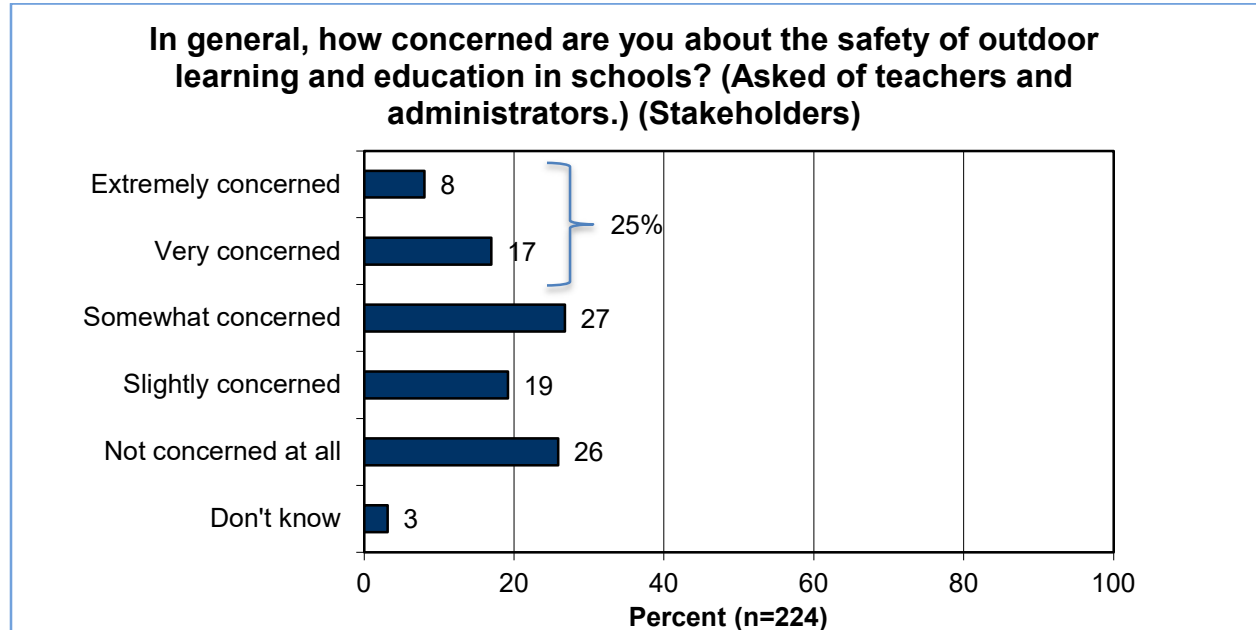
The table below shows county-level results.

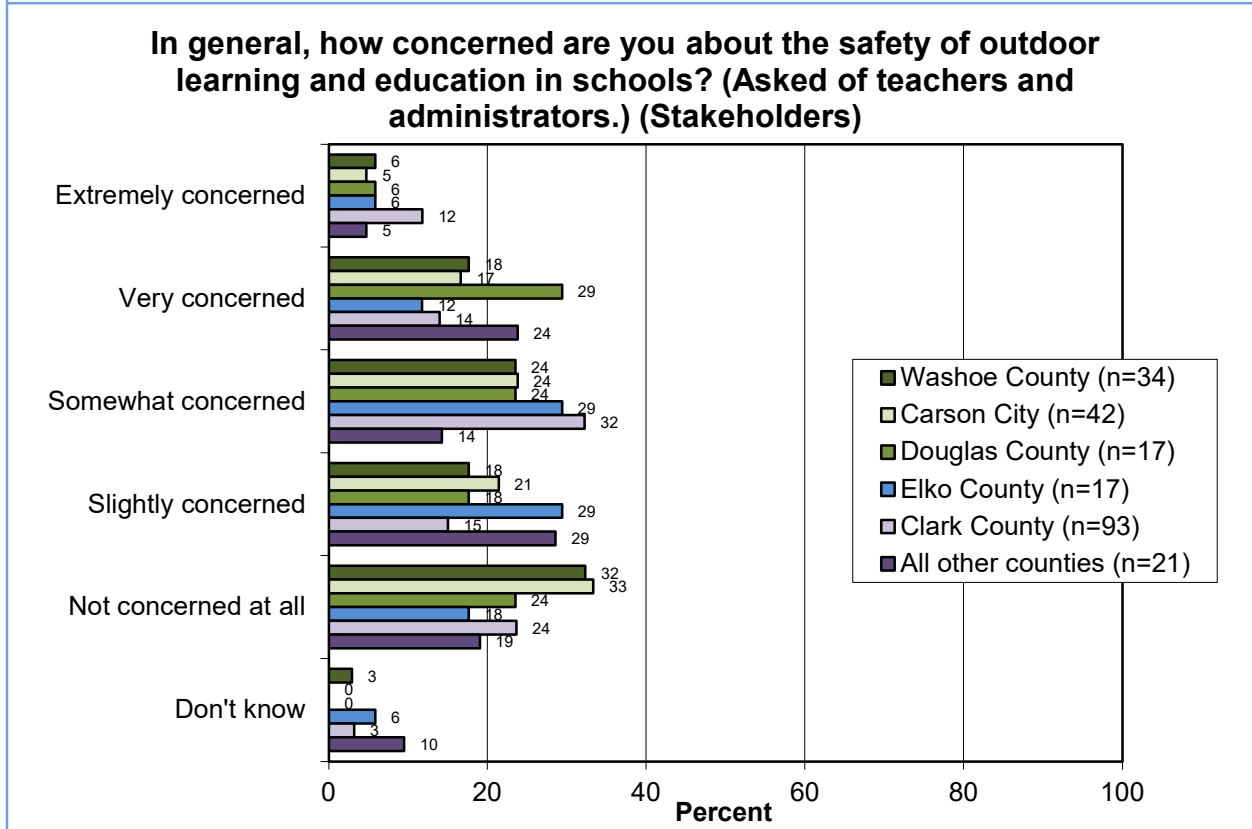
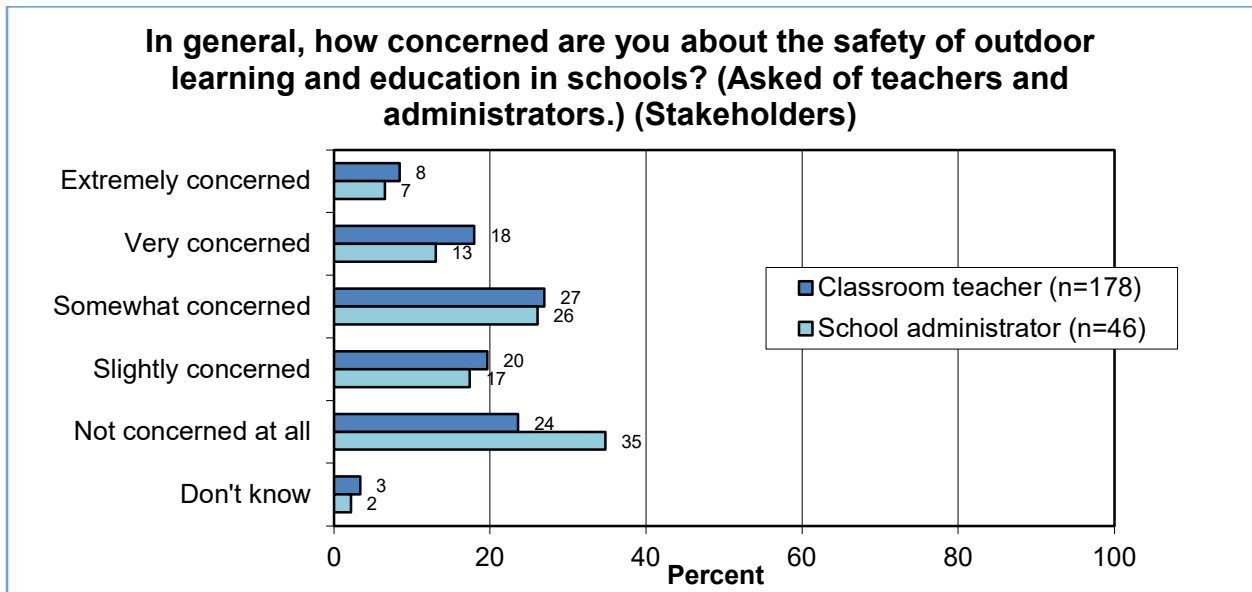
<b>Please rate how important each of the following is as a reason you do not use your current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as you would like or at all. (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders) (Part 1)</b>						
<b>Washoe County</b>	<b>Extremely important</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Slightly important</b>	<b>Not important at all</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
Time	26	32	26	3	9	3
Weather	15	32	32	6	15	0
Lack of training in outdoor education	9	32	29	12	12	6
Safety concerns	15	26	32	12	12	3
Restrictions on changing the schoolyard	24	21	26	6	18	6
Comfort level outdoors	9	24	35	3	26	3
<b>Carson City</b>	<b>Extremely important</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Slightly important</b>	<b>Not important at all</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
Time	33	36	17	12	2	0
Weather	19	24	31	19	5	2
Lack of training in outdoor education	24	24	24	14	10	5
Safety concerns	21	26	26	10	14	2
Restrictions on changing the schoolyard	19	24	10	17	19	12
Comfort level outdoors	24	7	29	10	29	2
<b>Douglas County</b>	<b>Extremely important</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Slightly important</b>	<b>Not important at all</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
Time	47	24	24	6	0	0
Weather	29	12	41	12	6	0
Lack of training in outdoor education	35	18	6	24	12	6
Safety concerns	29	18	6	24	18	6
Restrictions on changing the schoolyard	24	12	6	29	6	24
Comfort level outdoors	29	12	35	12	6	6
<b>Elko County</b>	<b>Extremely important</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Slightly important</b>	<b>Not important at all</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
Time	29	24	18	18	6	6
Weather	29	29	41	0	0	0
Lack of training in outdoor education	12	18	35	18	18	0
Safety concerns	0	41	24	18	12	6
Restrictions on changing the schoolyard	6	24	18	0	29	24
Comfort level outdoors	12	18	35	6	29	0

<b>Please rate how important each of the following is as a reason you do not use your current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as you would like or at all. (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders) (Part 2)</b>						
<b>Clark County</b>	<b>Extremely important</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Slightly important</b>	<b>Not important at all</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
Time	43	18	15	10	11	3
Weather	44	23	20	8	2	3
Lack of training in outdoor education	25	24	17	15	17	2
Safety concerns	22	27	18	15	16	2
Restrictions on changing the schoolyard	24	23	19	12	14	9
Comfort level outdoors	19	18	19	14	27	2
<b>All other counties</b>	<b>Extremely important</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Somewhat important</b>	<b>Slightly important</b>	<b>Not important at all</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
Time	48	19	10	10	5	10
Weather	29	24	29	14	0	5
Lack of training in outdoor education	29	29	24	10	5	5
Safety concerns	33	5	10	10	29	14
Restrictions on changing the schoolyard	10	19	10	19	19	24
Comfort level outdoors	14	19	48	0	19	0

A follow-up open-ended question asked teachers and administrators if there are any other important reasons they do not use their schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as they would like. Responses include lack of access to natural areas, no activities available, lack of time or flexibility in the curriculum, and student behavior. Refer to the appendix for the full list.

In general, teachers and administrators are divided on their level of concern about the safety of outdoor learning and education; the graph below shows that all responses across the scale have robust percentages. Teachers are markedly more concerned than administrators, and the oldest category of respondents are more concerned about safety than those younger.

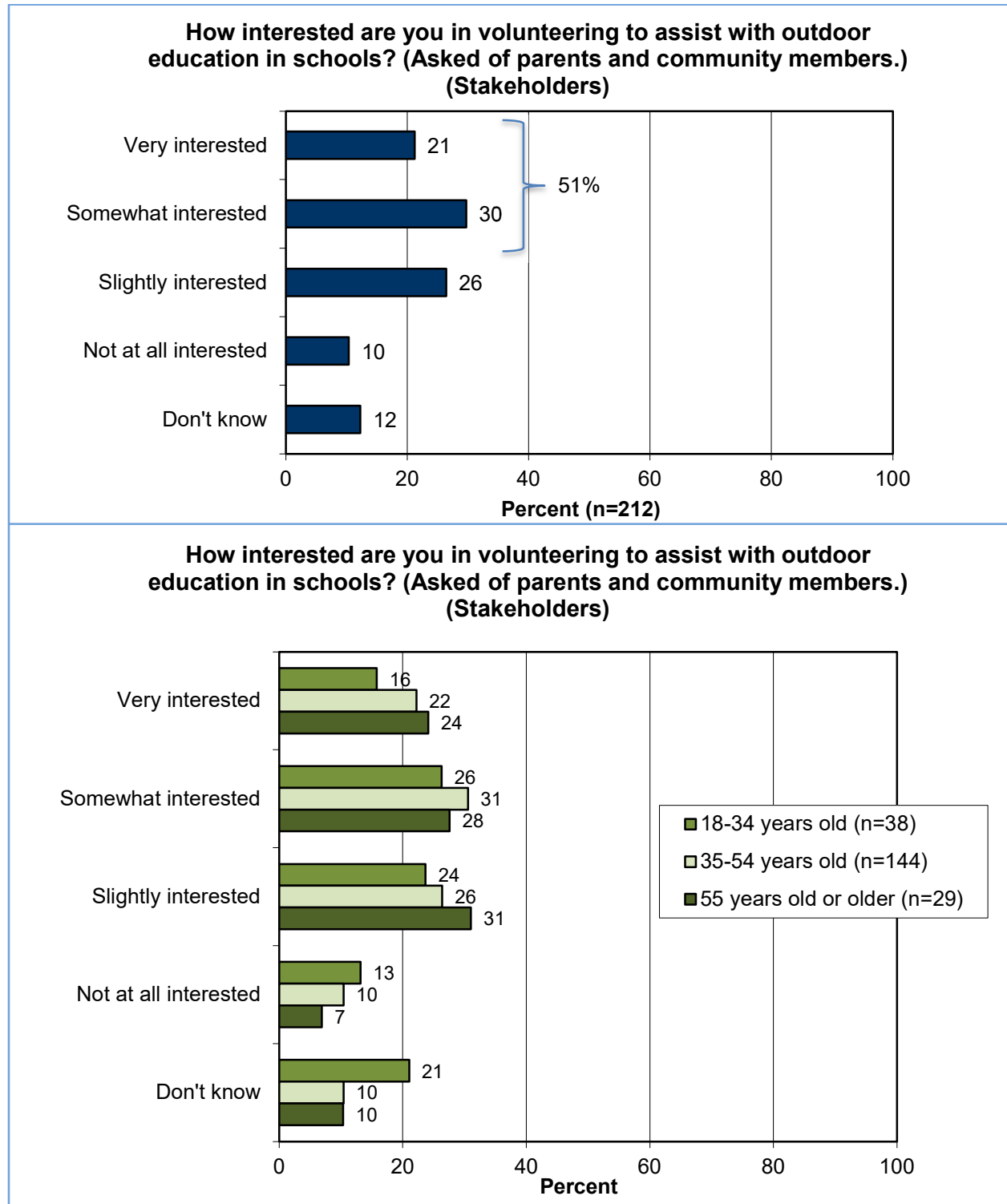


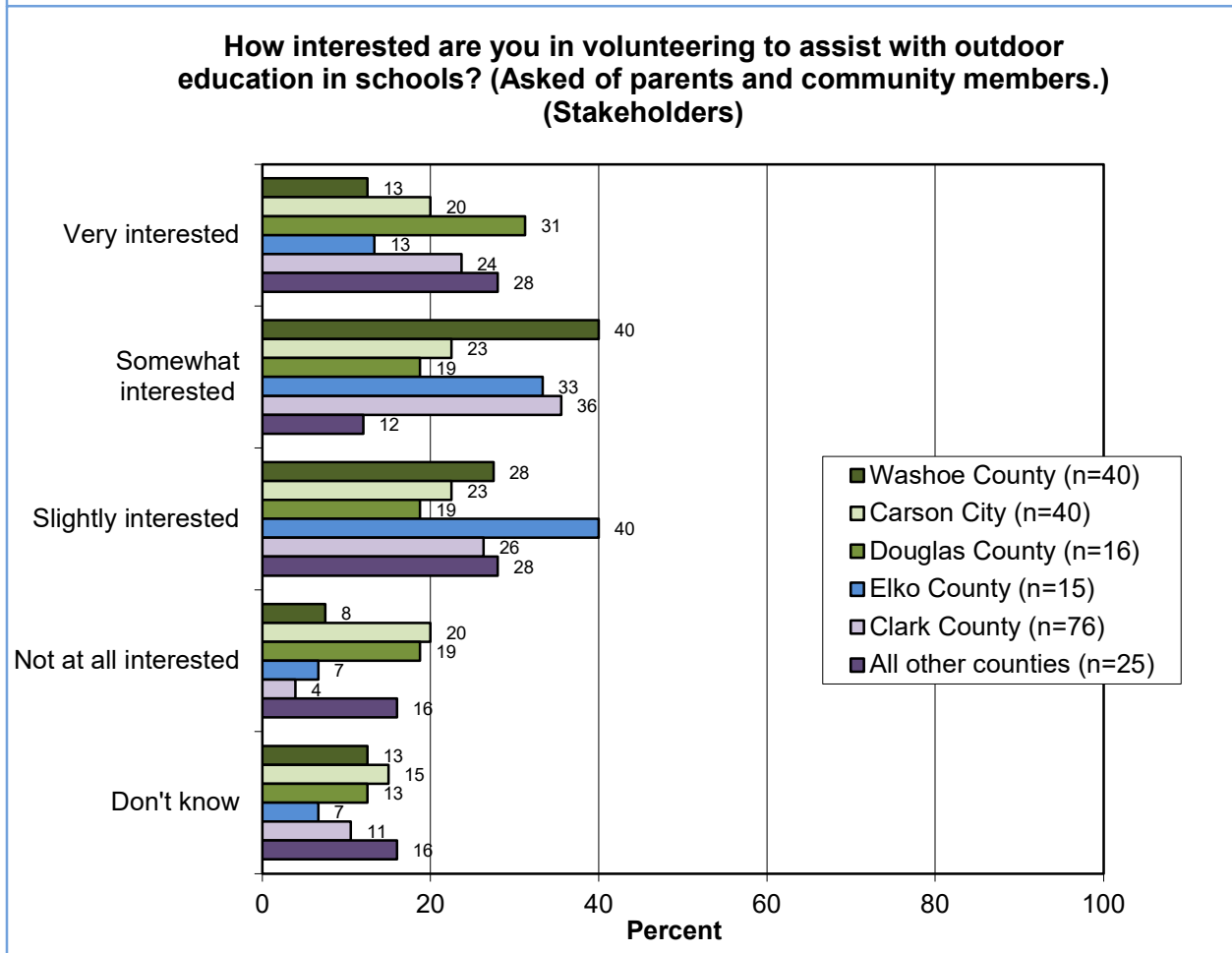
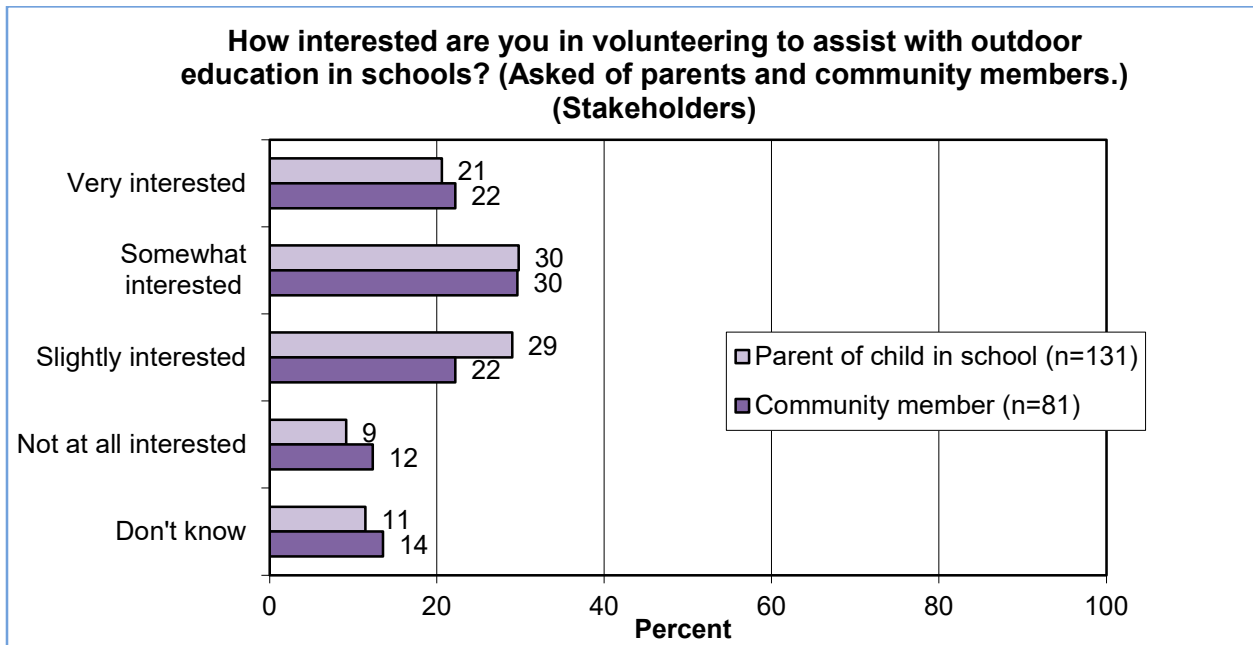


Those with safety concerns stated, in a follow-up open-ended question, that their concerns include heat, allergies, too many students to supervise, injuries, and lack of safety supplies. The full list is included in the appendix.

## INTEREST IN VOLUNTEERING

Roughly half of parents and community members in the stakeholder survey (51%) are *very* or *somewhat* interested in volunteering to assist with outdoor education. Interest is higher among older stakeholders than among younger stakeholders.

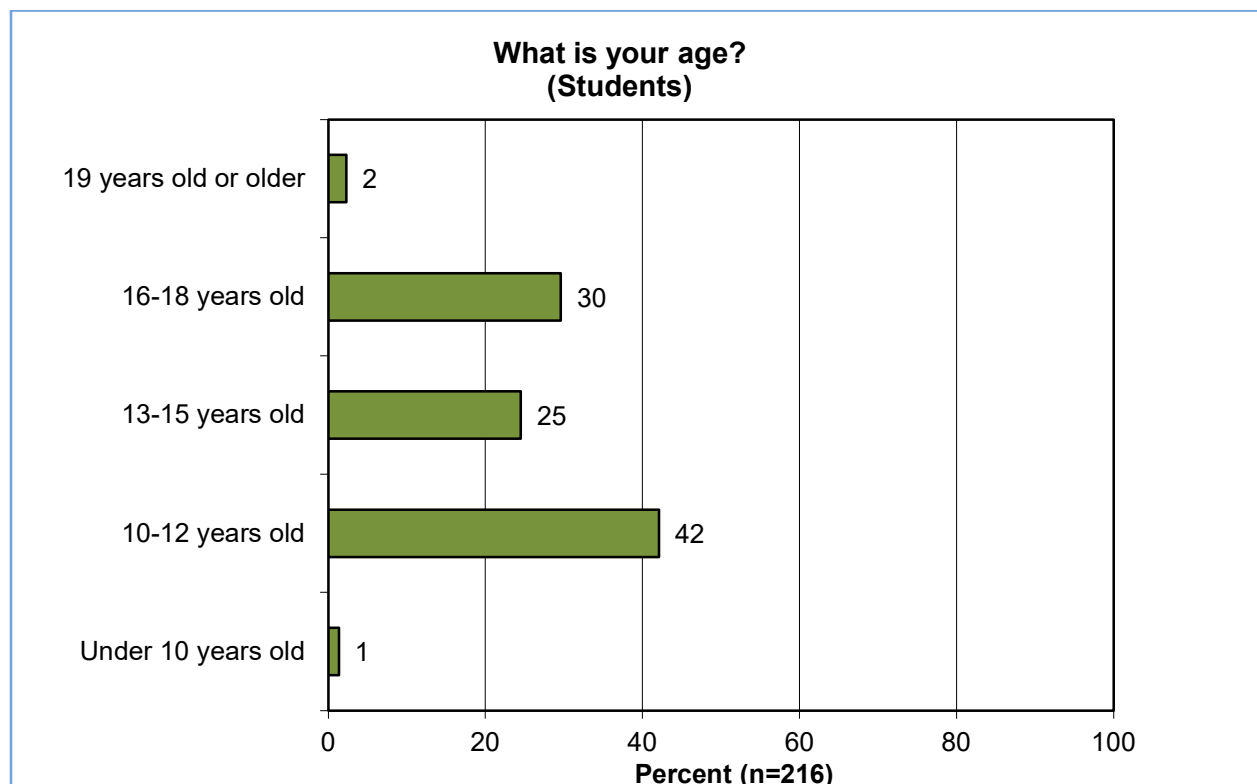
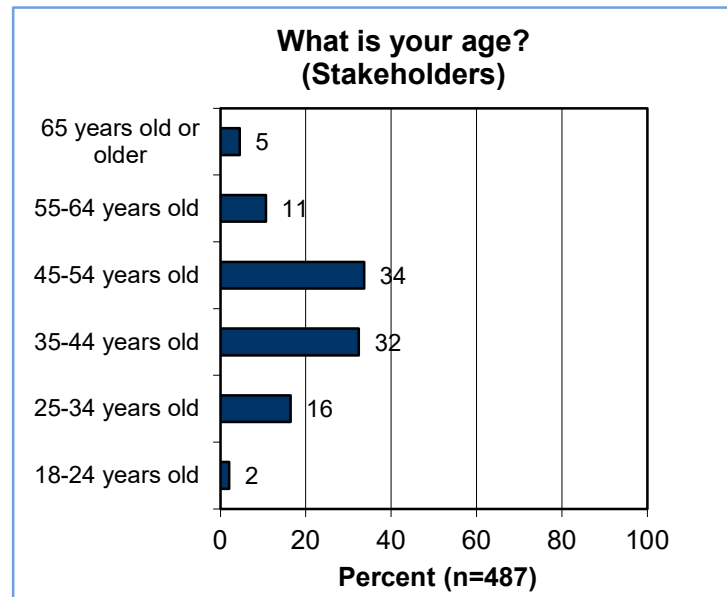


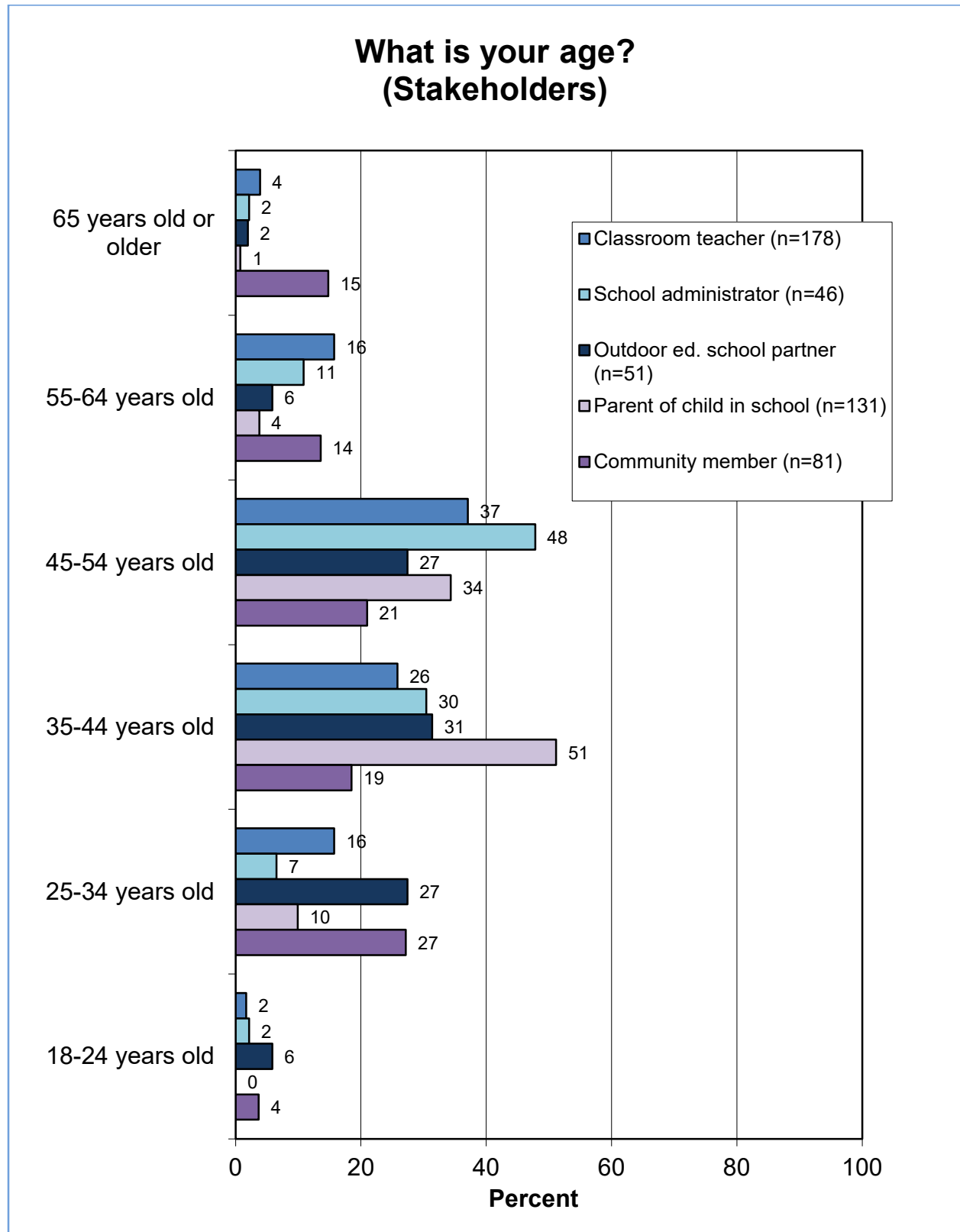


## DEMOGRAPHIC AND SCHOOL INFORMATION AND TIME SPENT OUTDOORS

The following information was collected, some of which was used for crosstabulations:

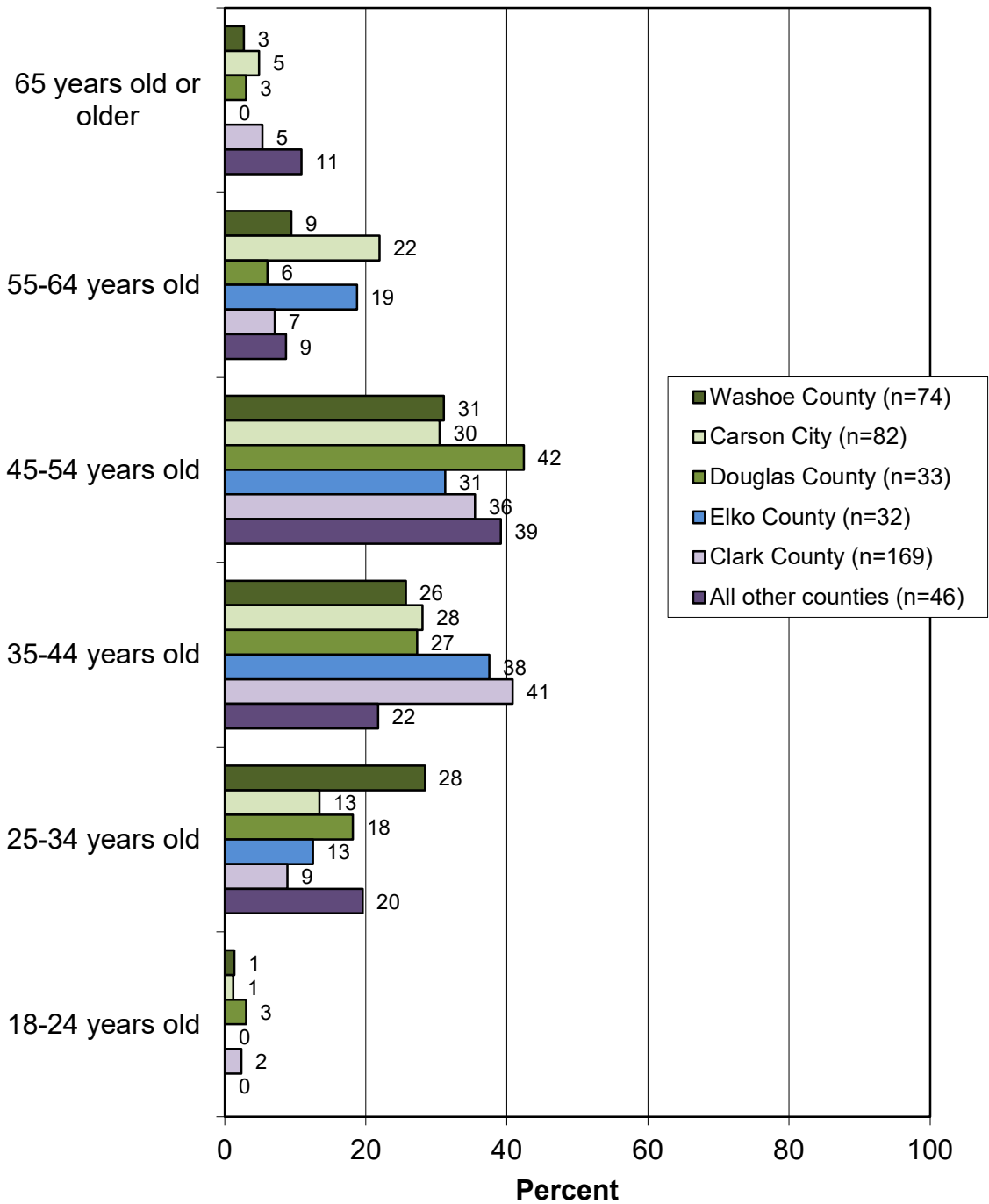
- Age
- Gender
- Role in education
- School/education level
- County of school/residence
- Time spent outdoors

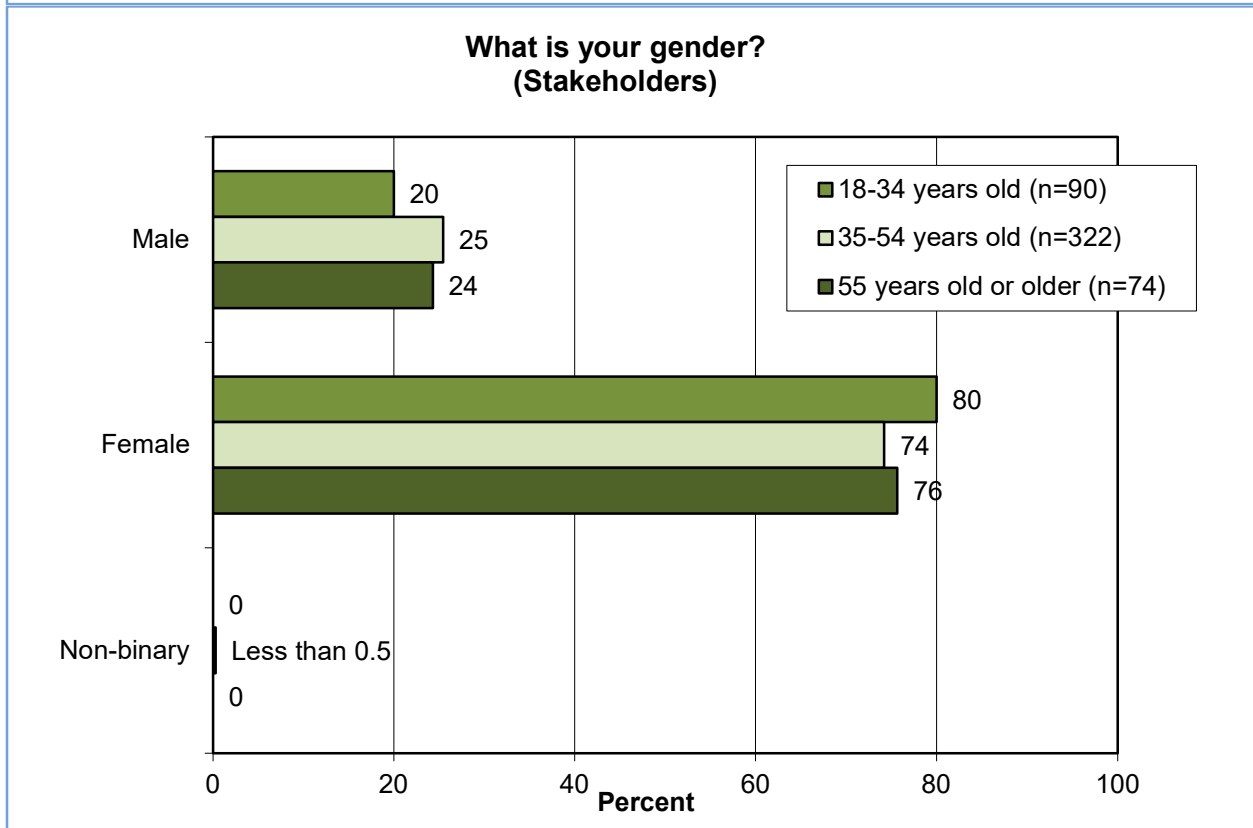
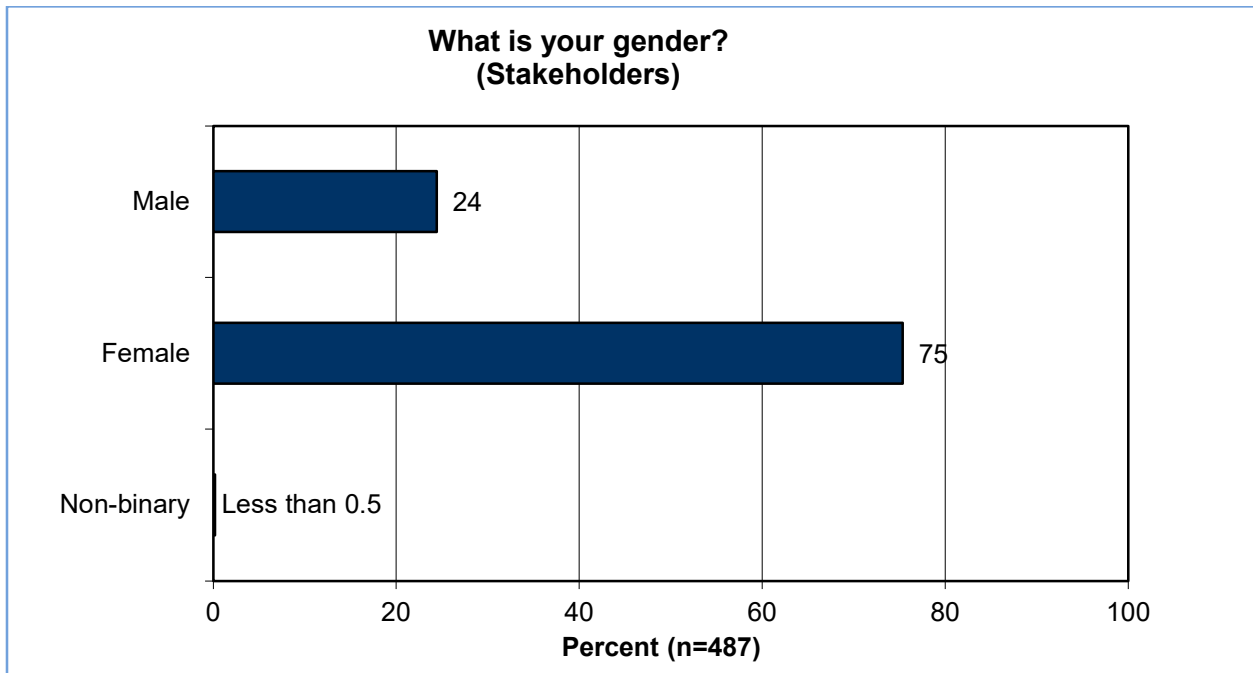


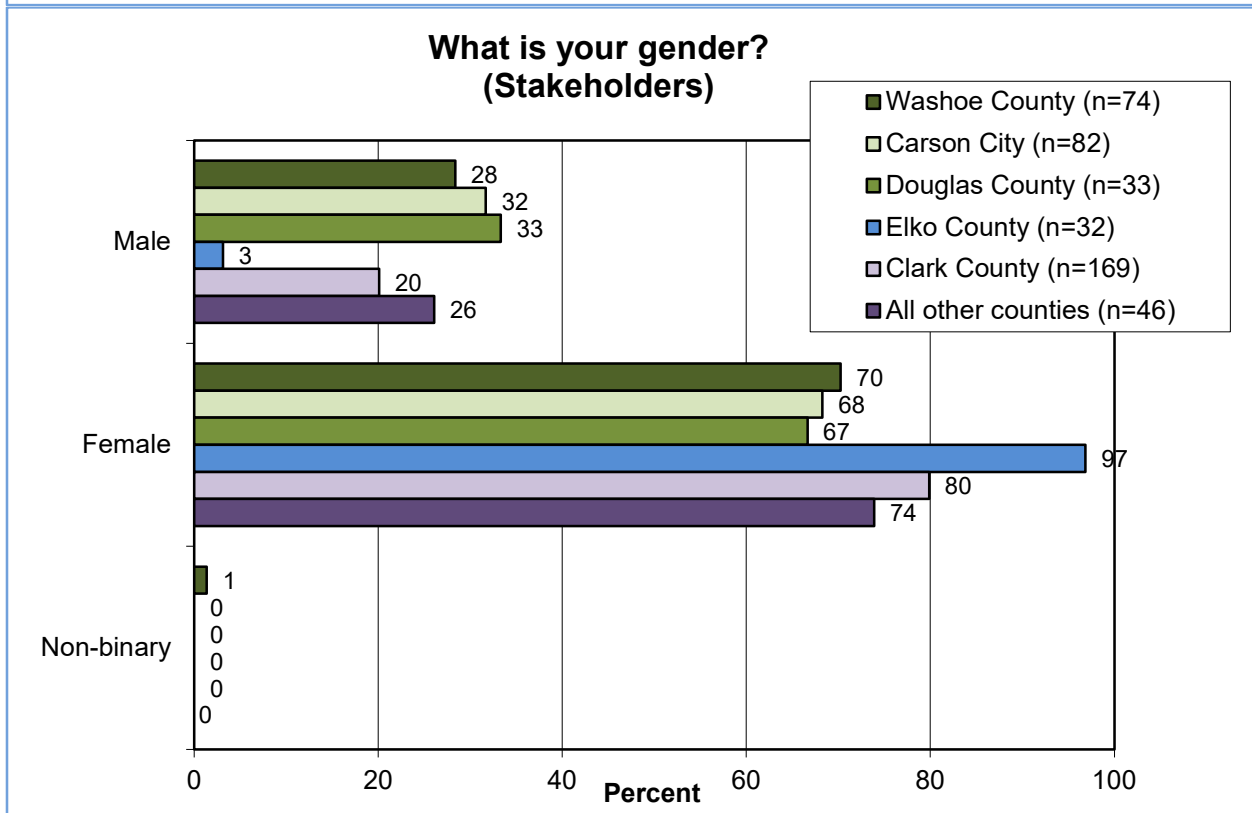
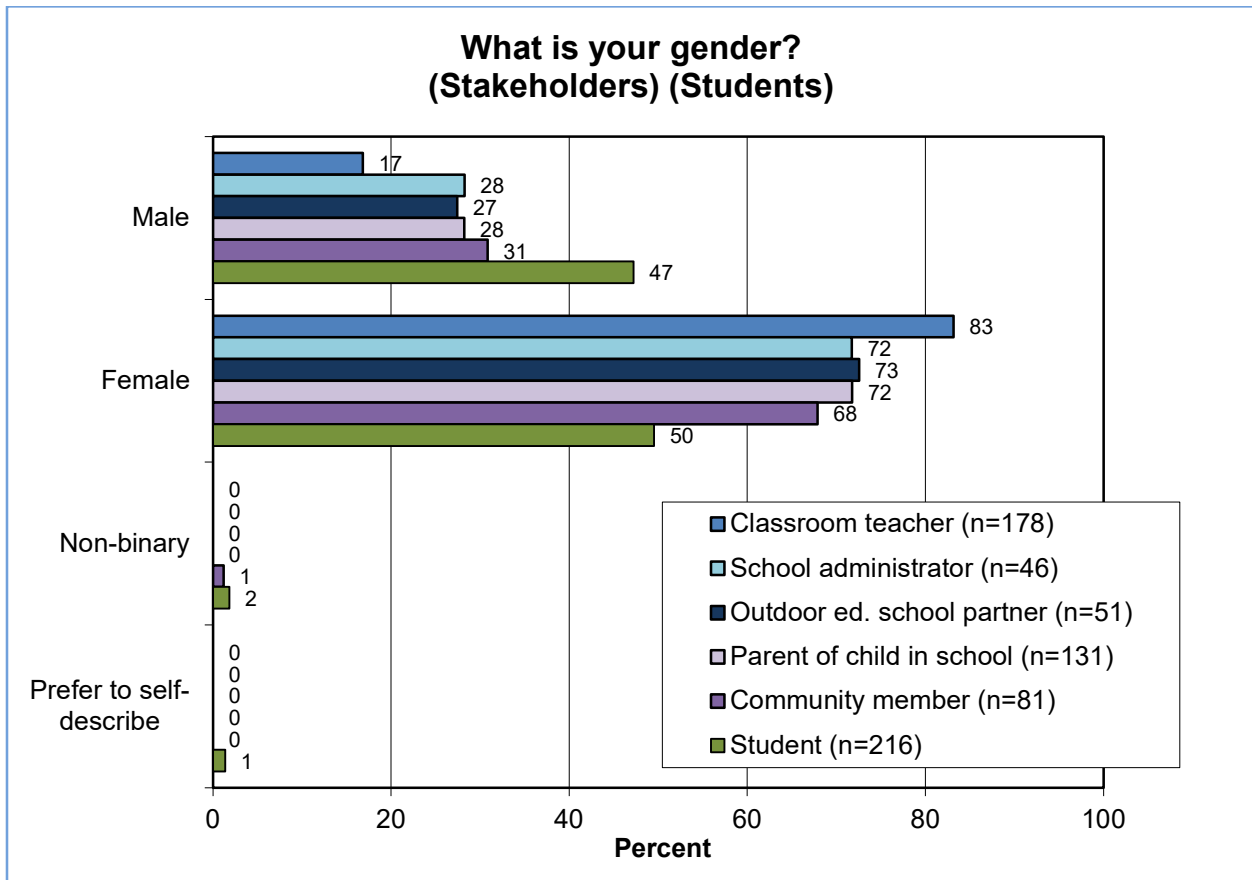




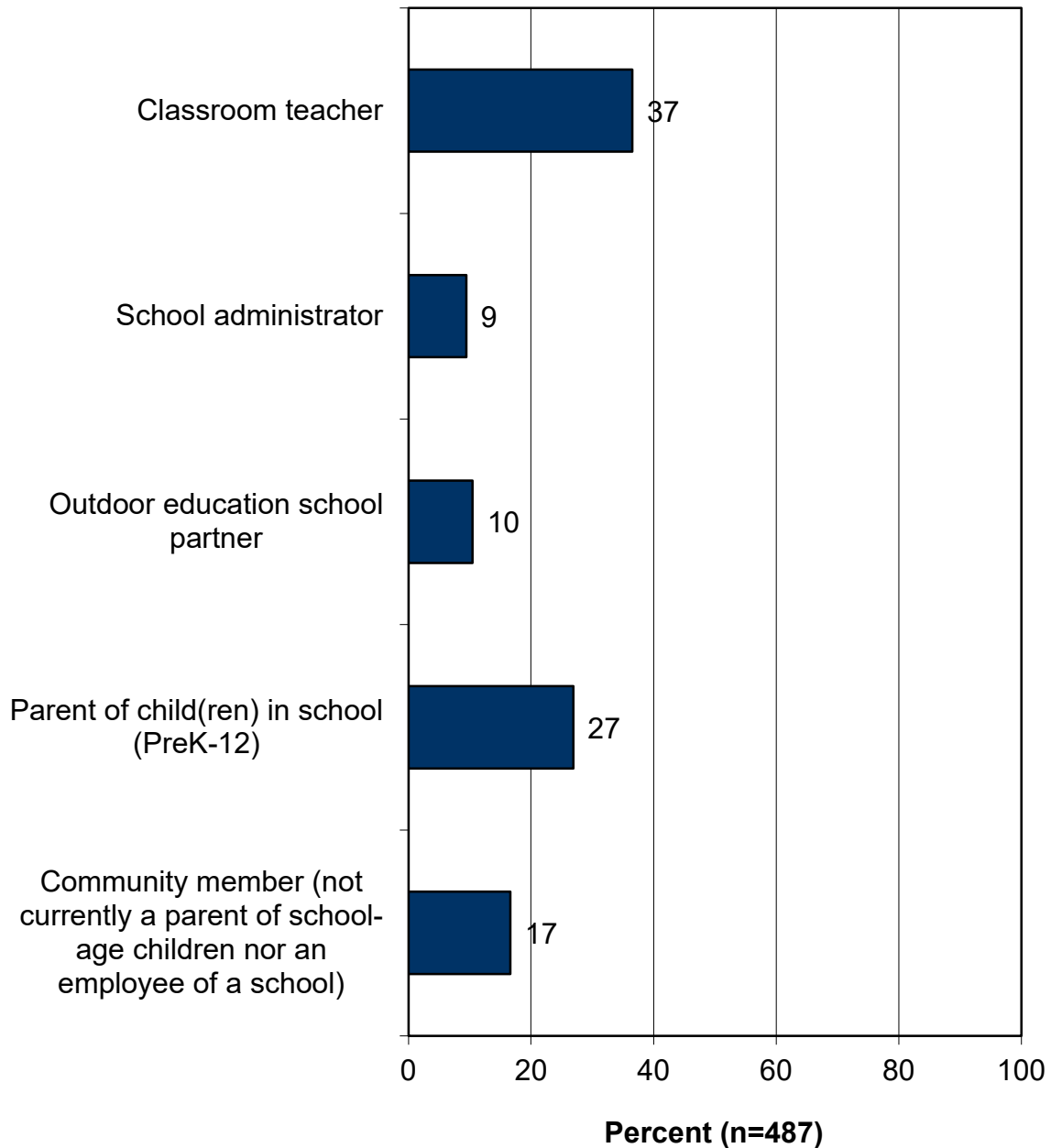
### What is your age? (Stakeholders)



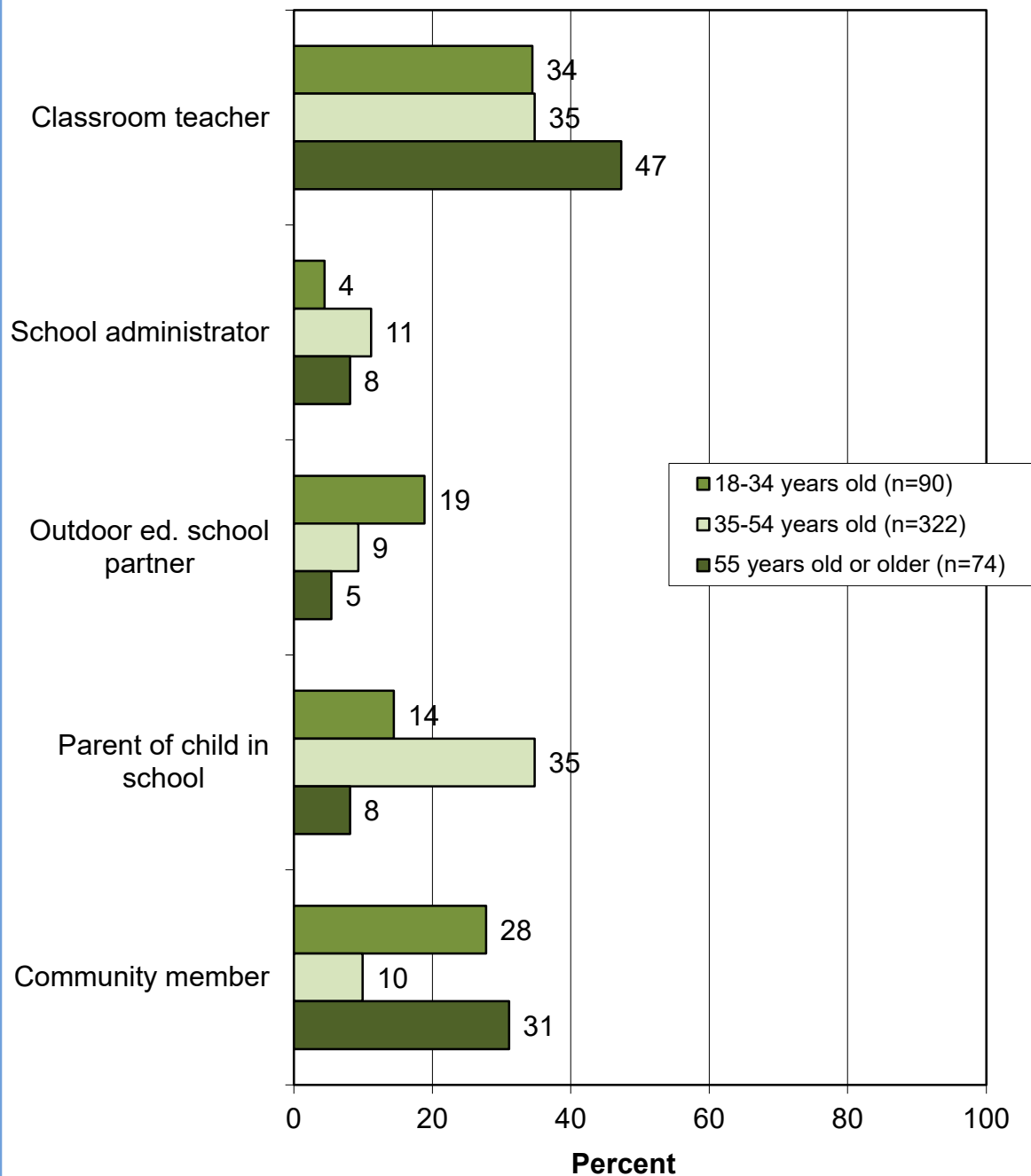




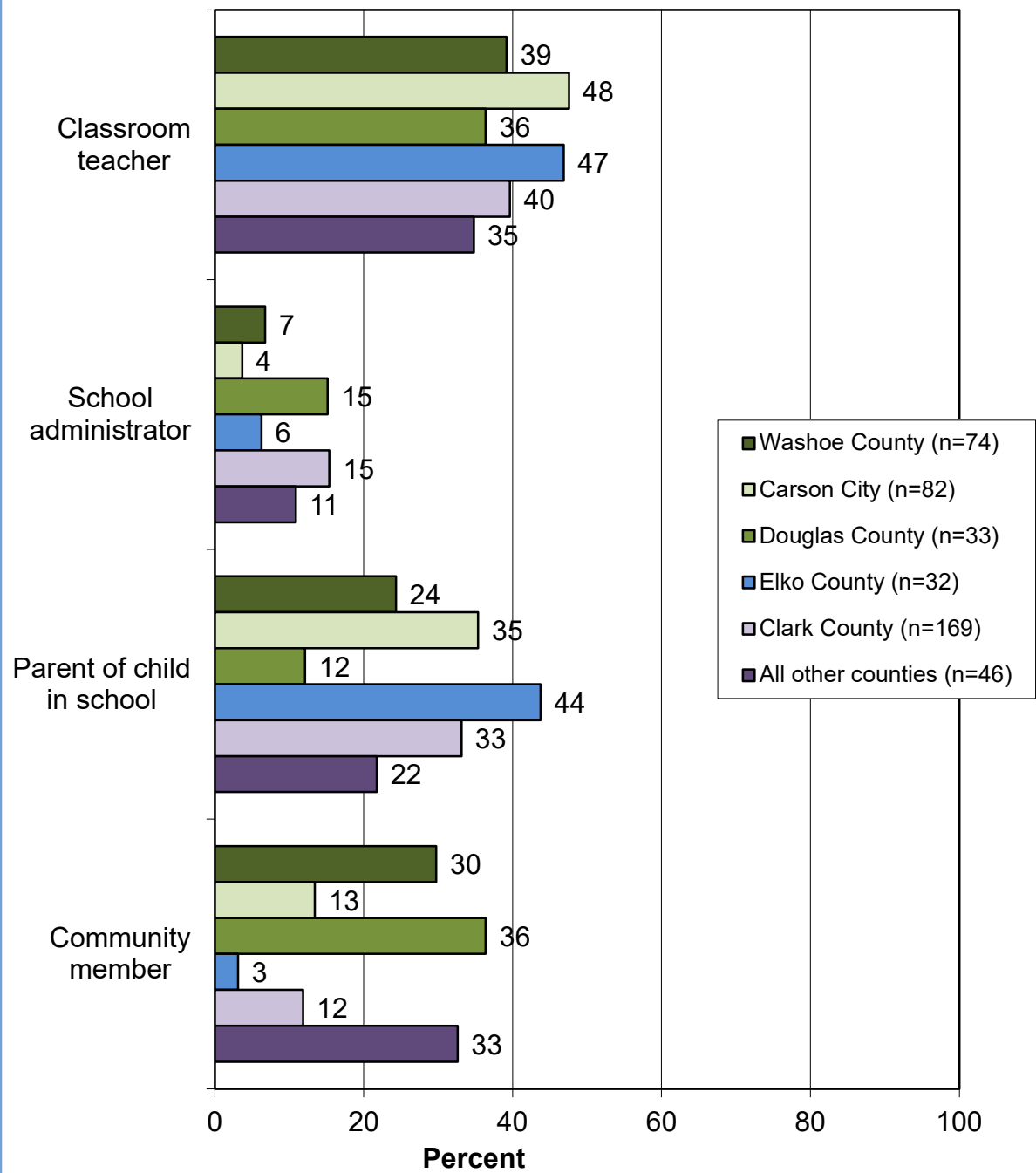
### Which of the following best describes your current position or role in education? (Stakeholders)

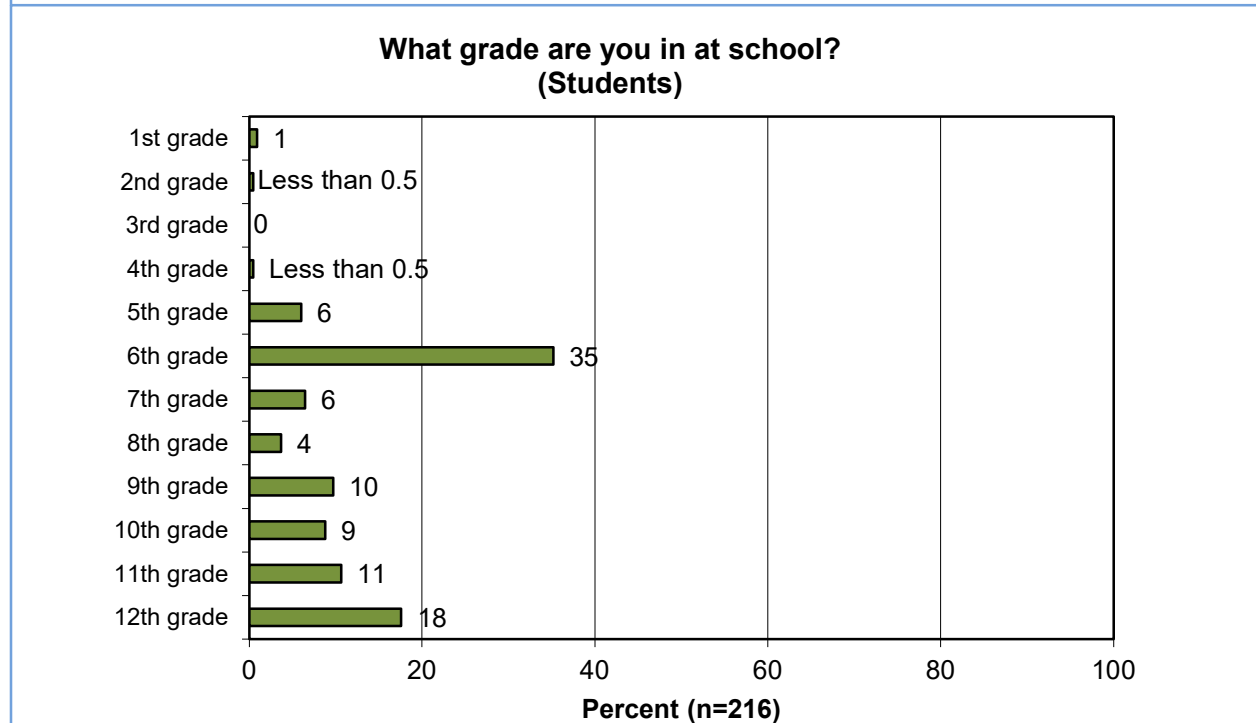
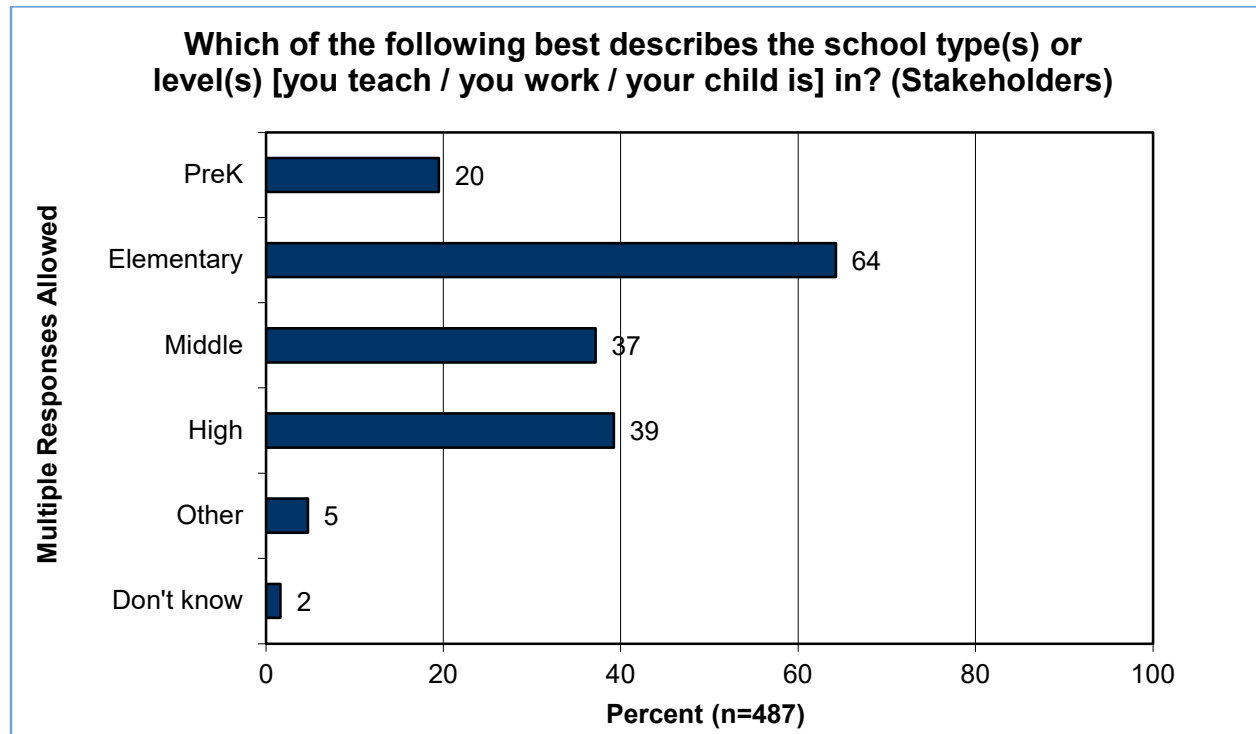


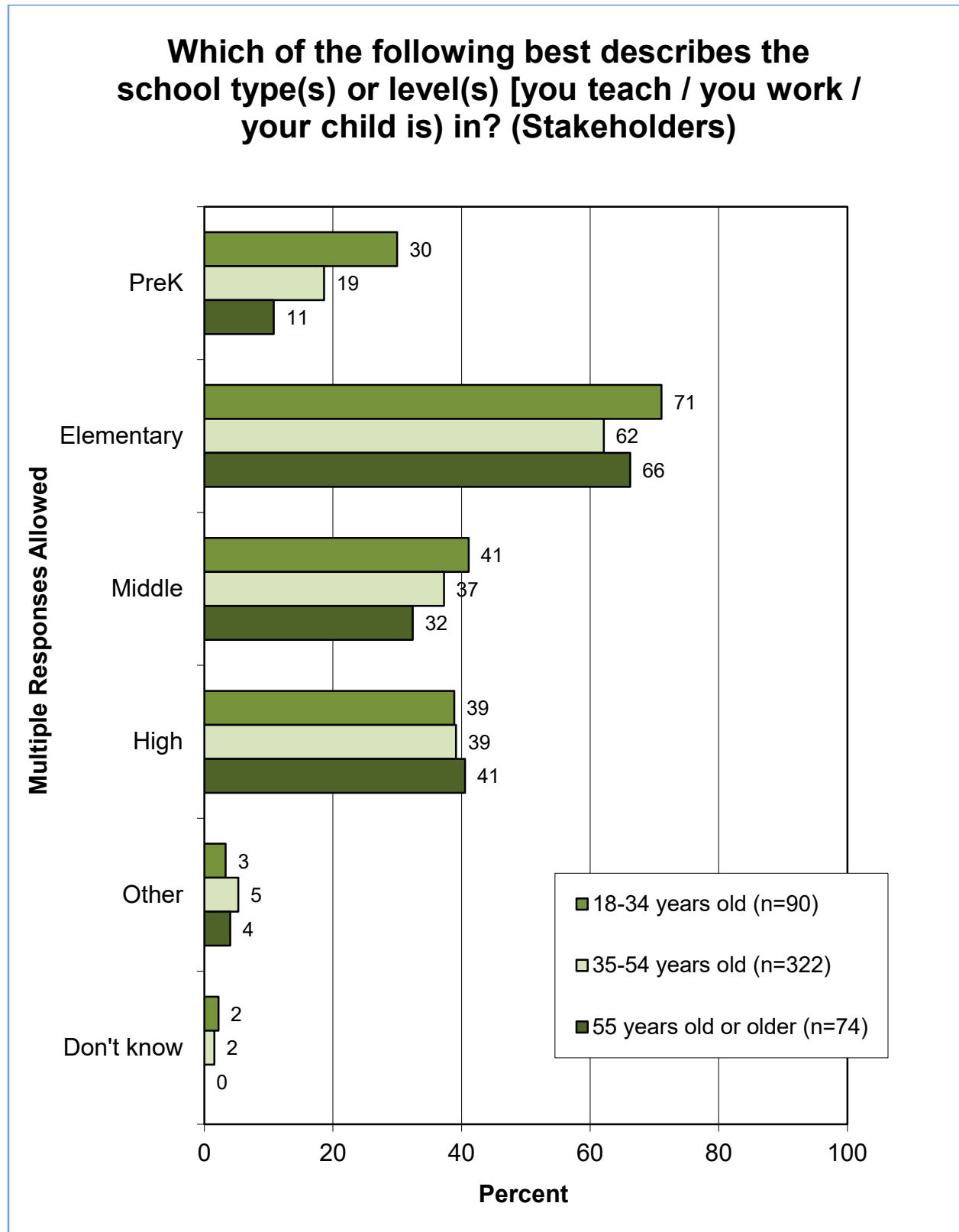
**Which of the following best describes your current position or role in education?  
(Stakeholders)**



### Which of the following best describes your current position or role in education? (Stakeholders)

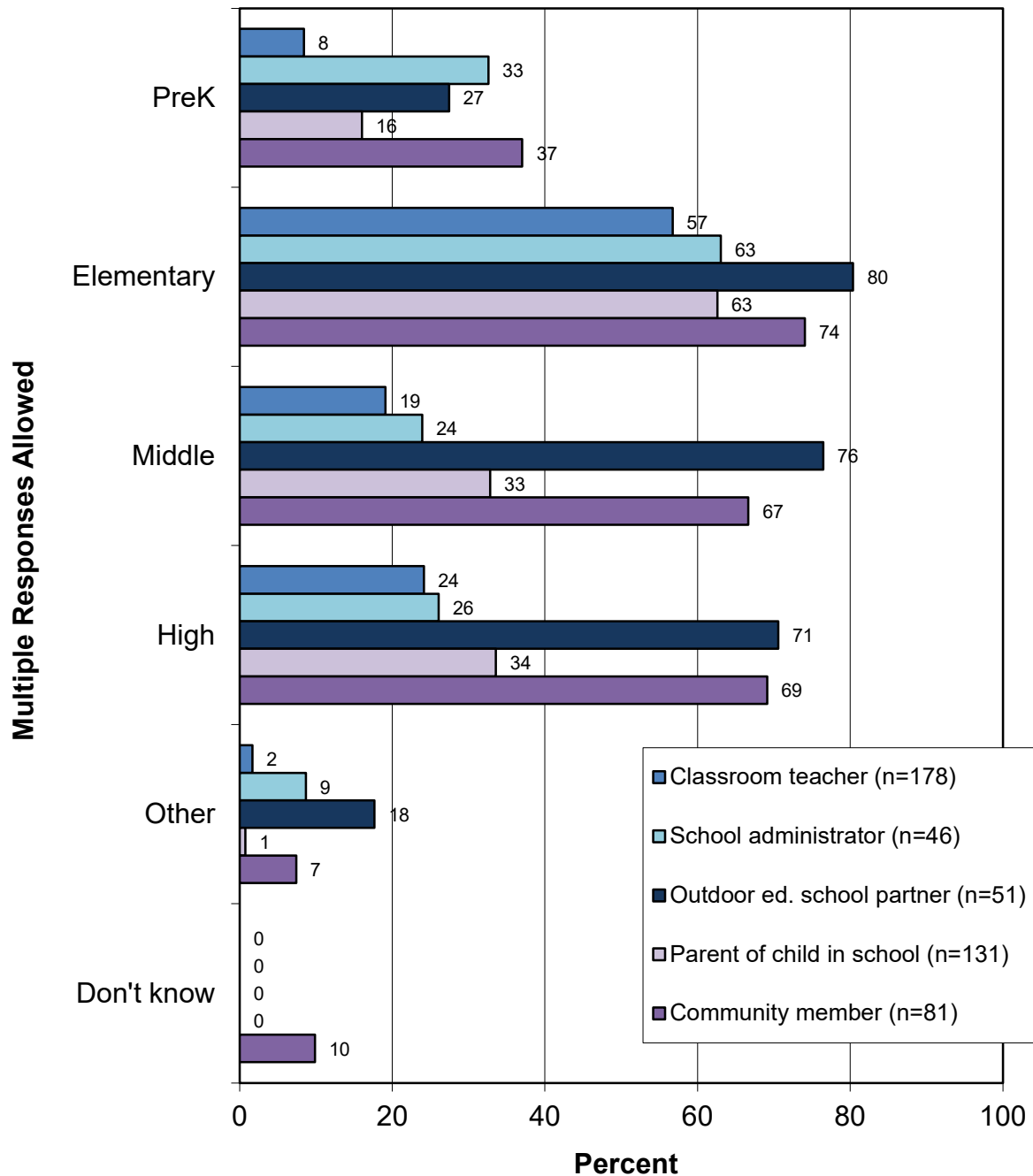


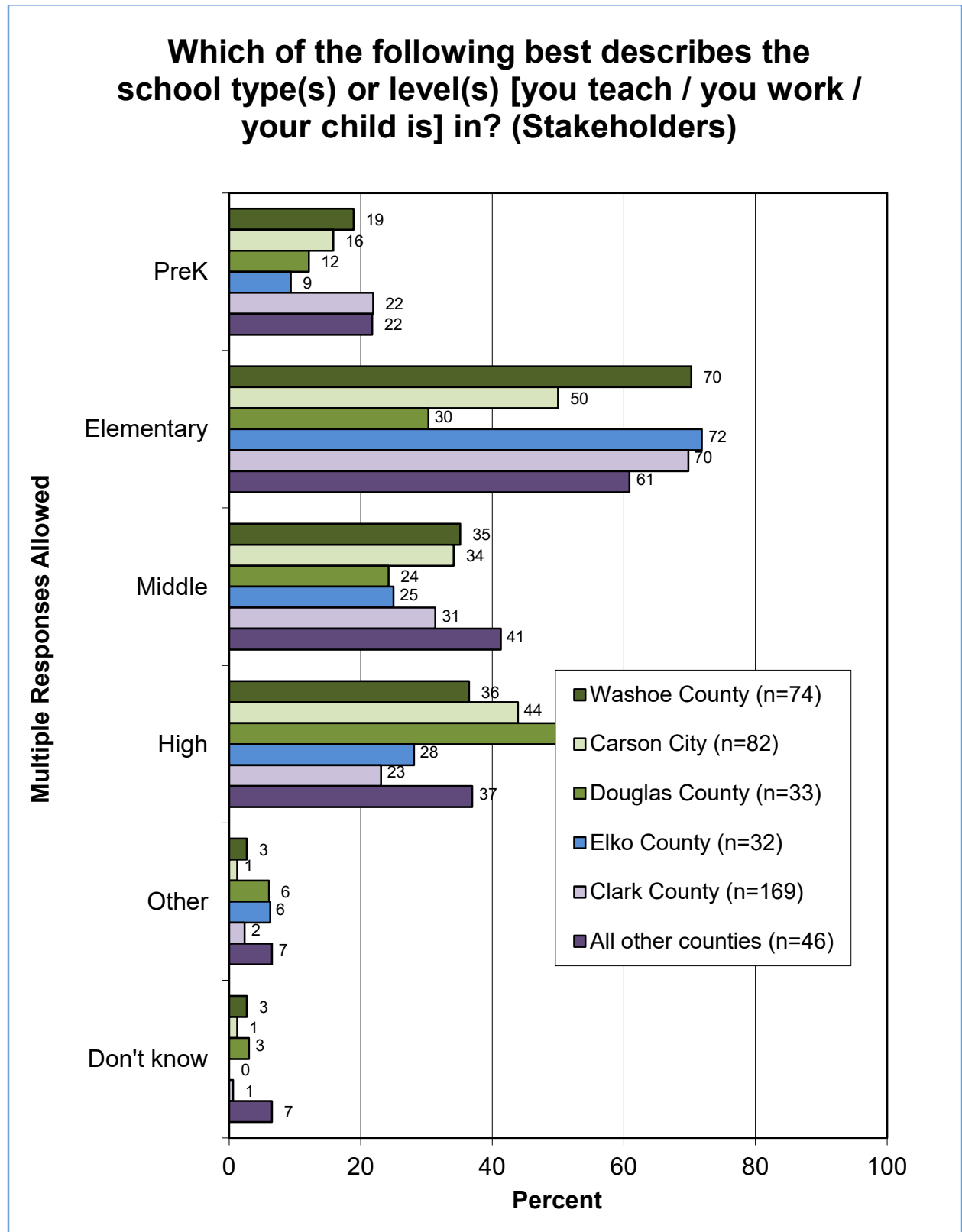




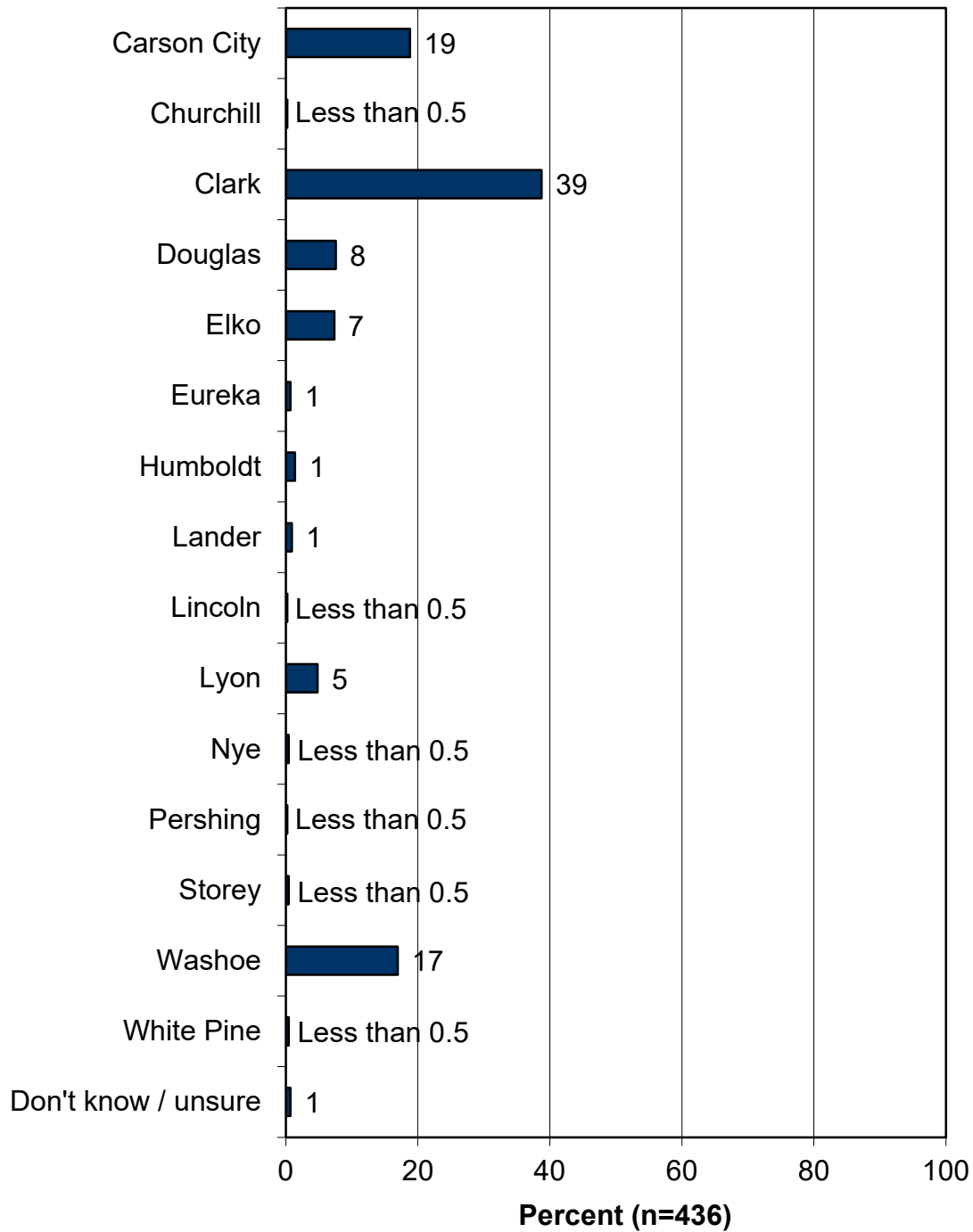


### Which of the following best describes the school type(s) or level(s) [you teach / you work / your child is] in? (Stakeholders)

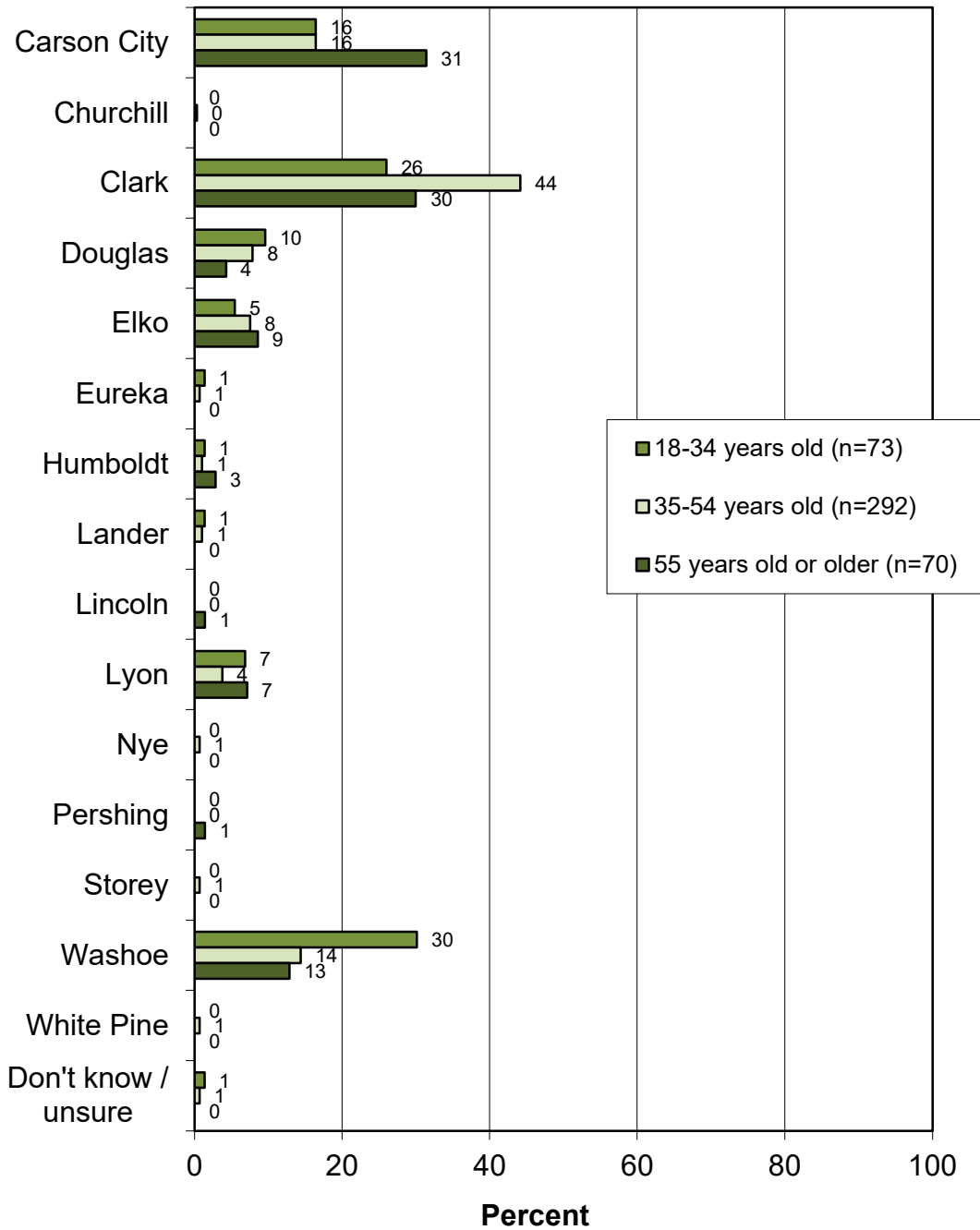




**County in which school is located (or county of residence of community members).  
(Stakeholders)**

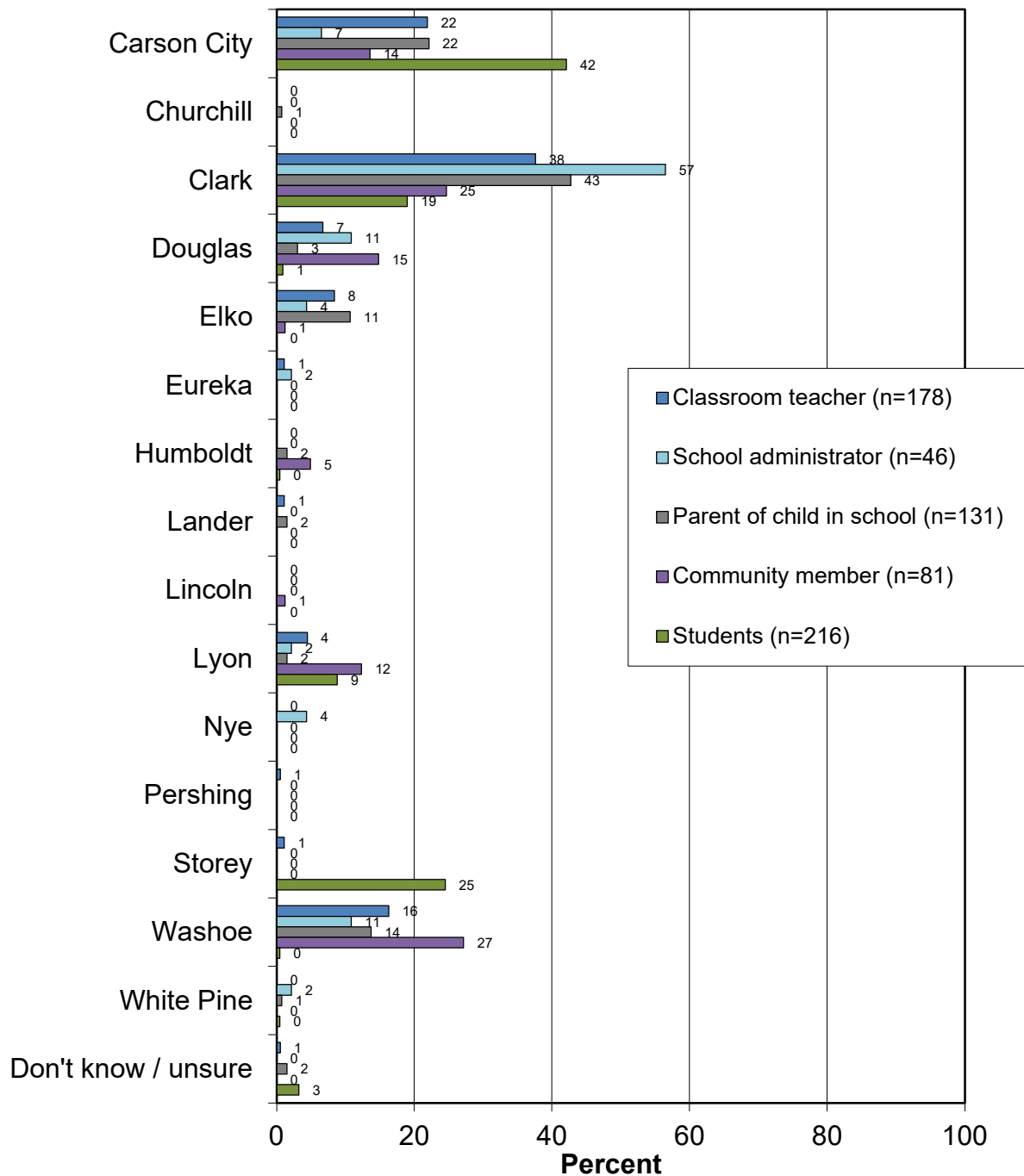


### County in which school is located (or county of residence of community members.) (Stakeholders)

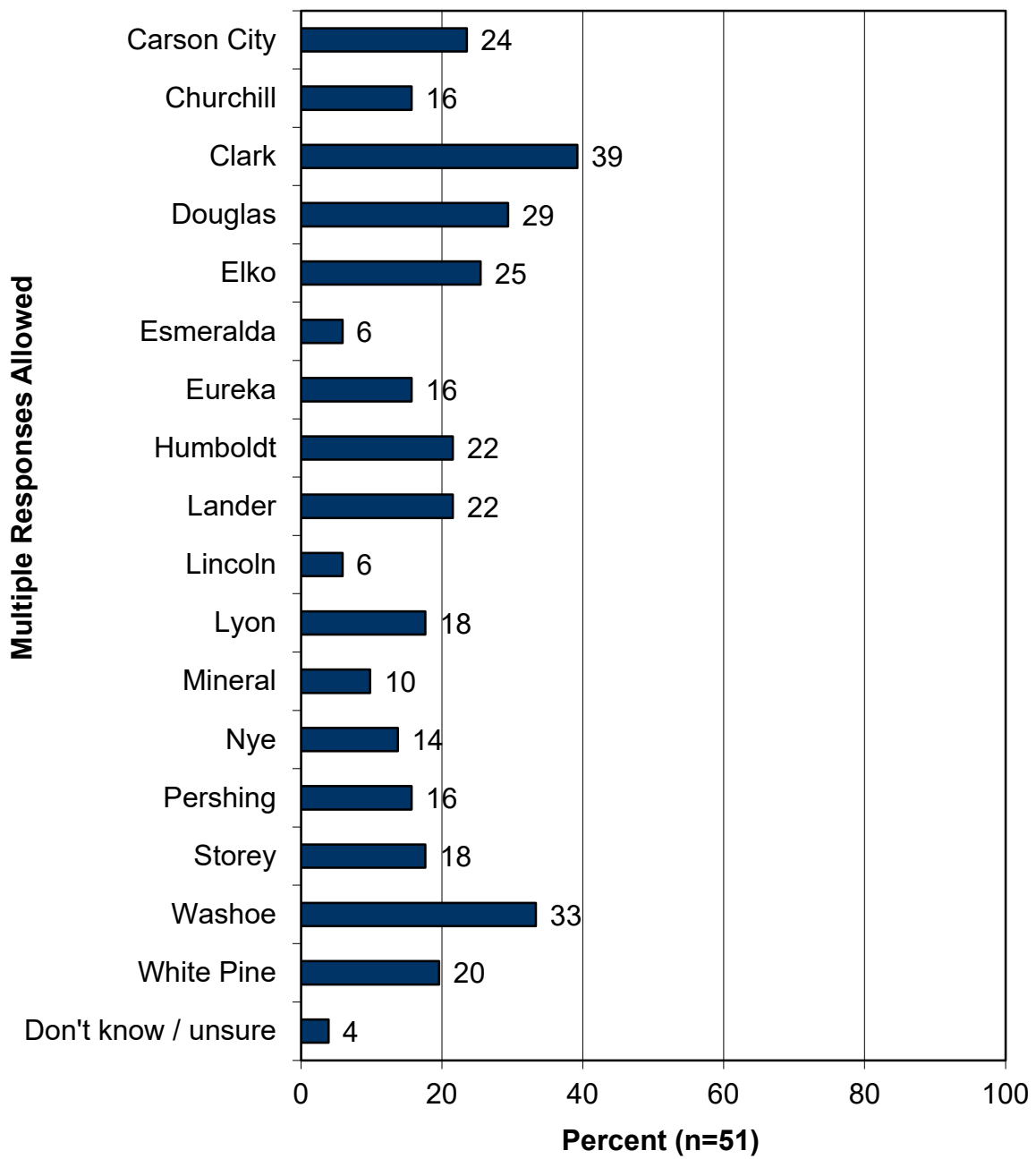


**County in which school is located (or county of residence of community members).  
(Stakeholders)**

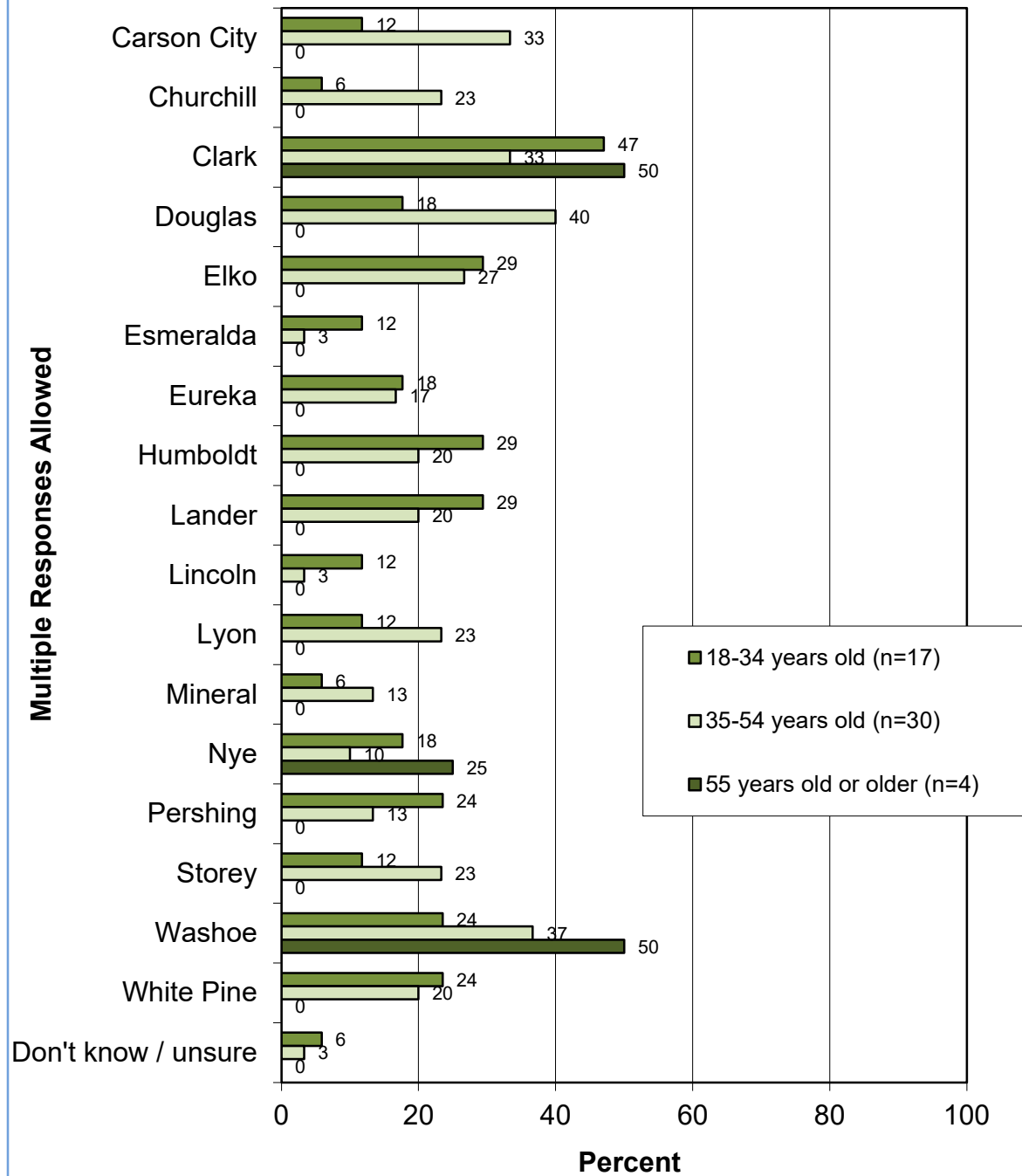
**Which county is your school in?  
(Students)**



**In which county or counties are the schools you work with located? (Asked of outdoor education school partners.) (Stakeholders)**

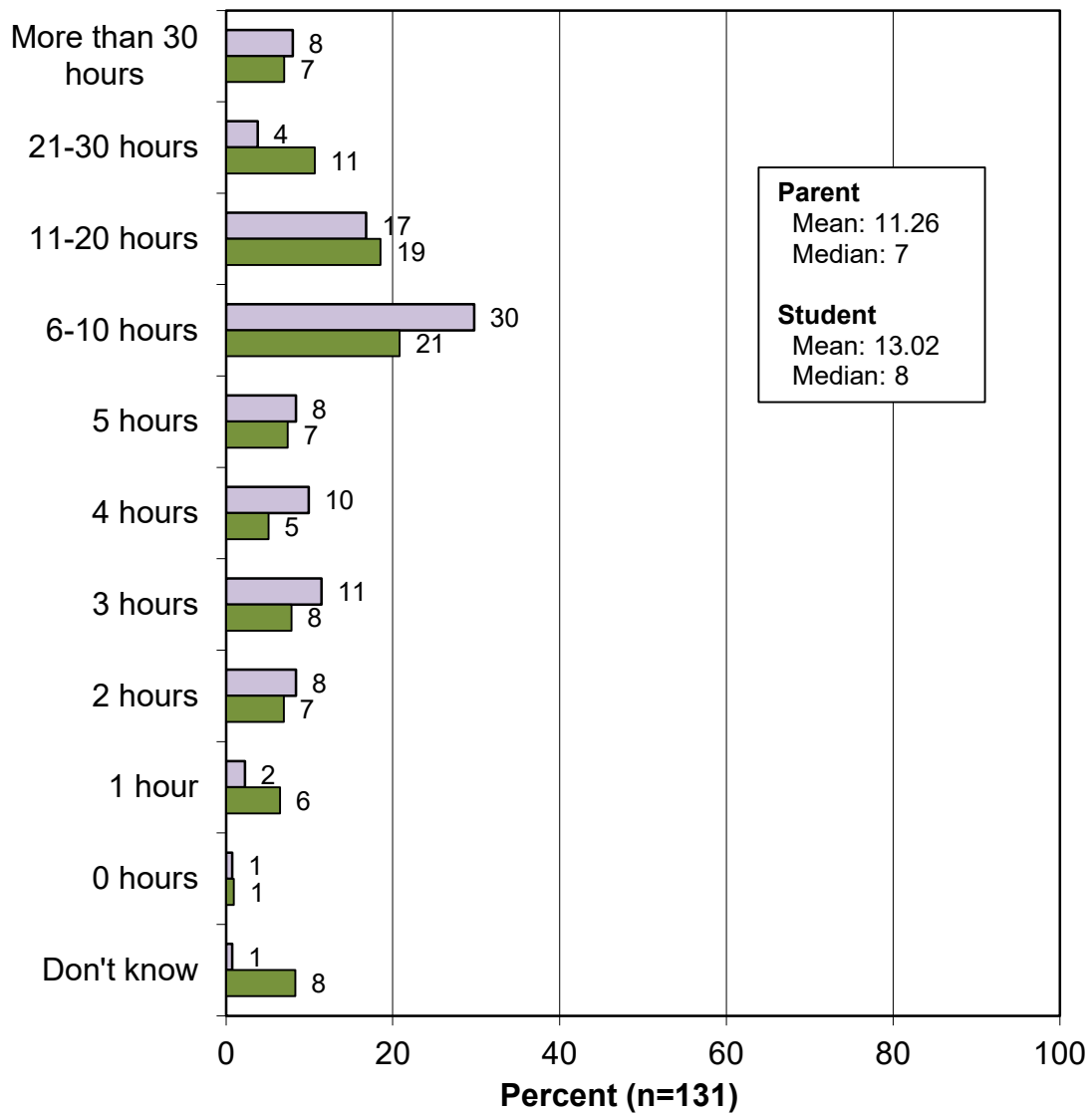


### In which county or counties are the schools you work with located? (Asked of outdoor education school partners.) (Stakeholders)



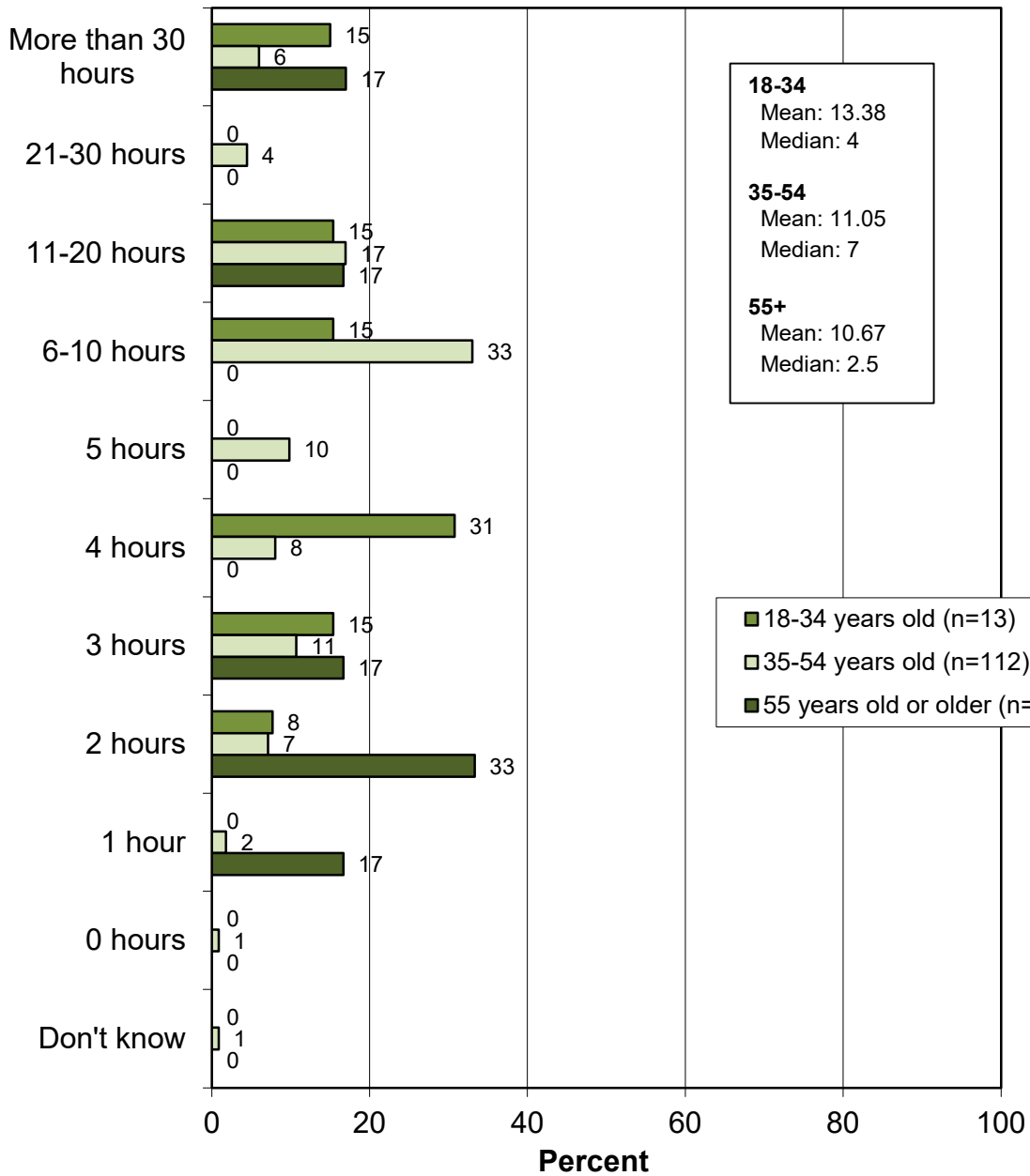
**Not including school, how many hours per week, on average, [does your child / do your children] spend outdoors in general? (Asked of parents.)  
(Stakeholders)**

**Not including school, how many hours per week, on average, do you spend outdoors in general?  
(Students)**

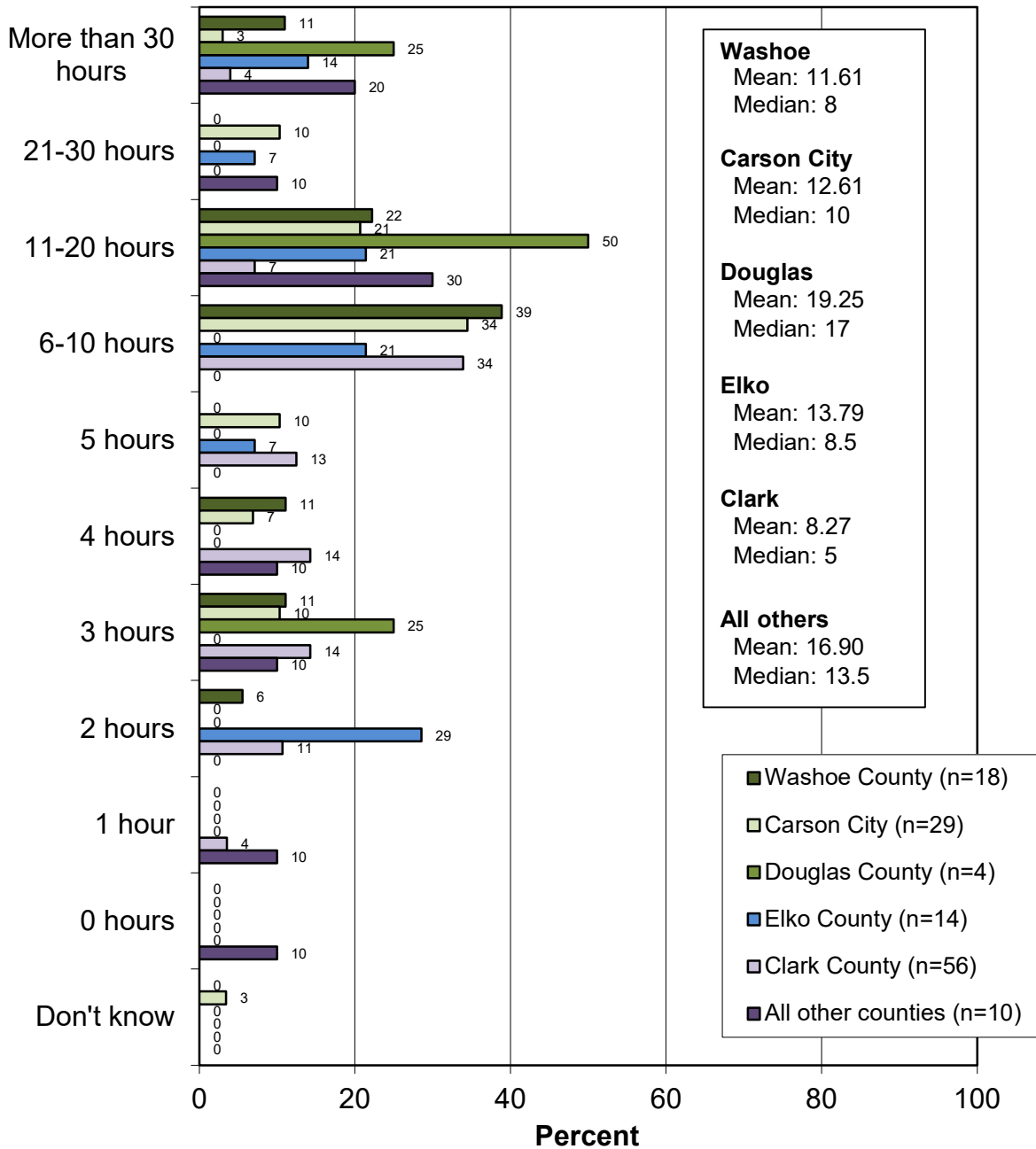




**Not including school, how many hours per week, on average, [does your child / do your children] spend outdoors in general?  
(Asked of parents.) (Stakeholders)**

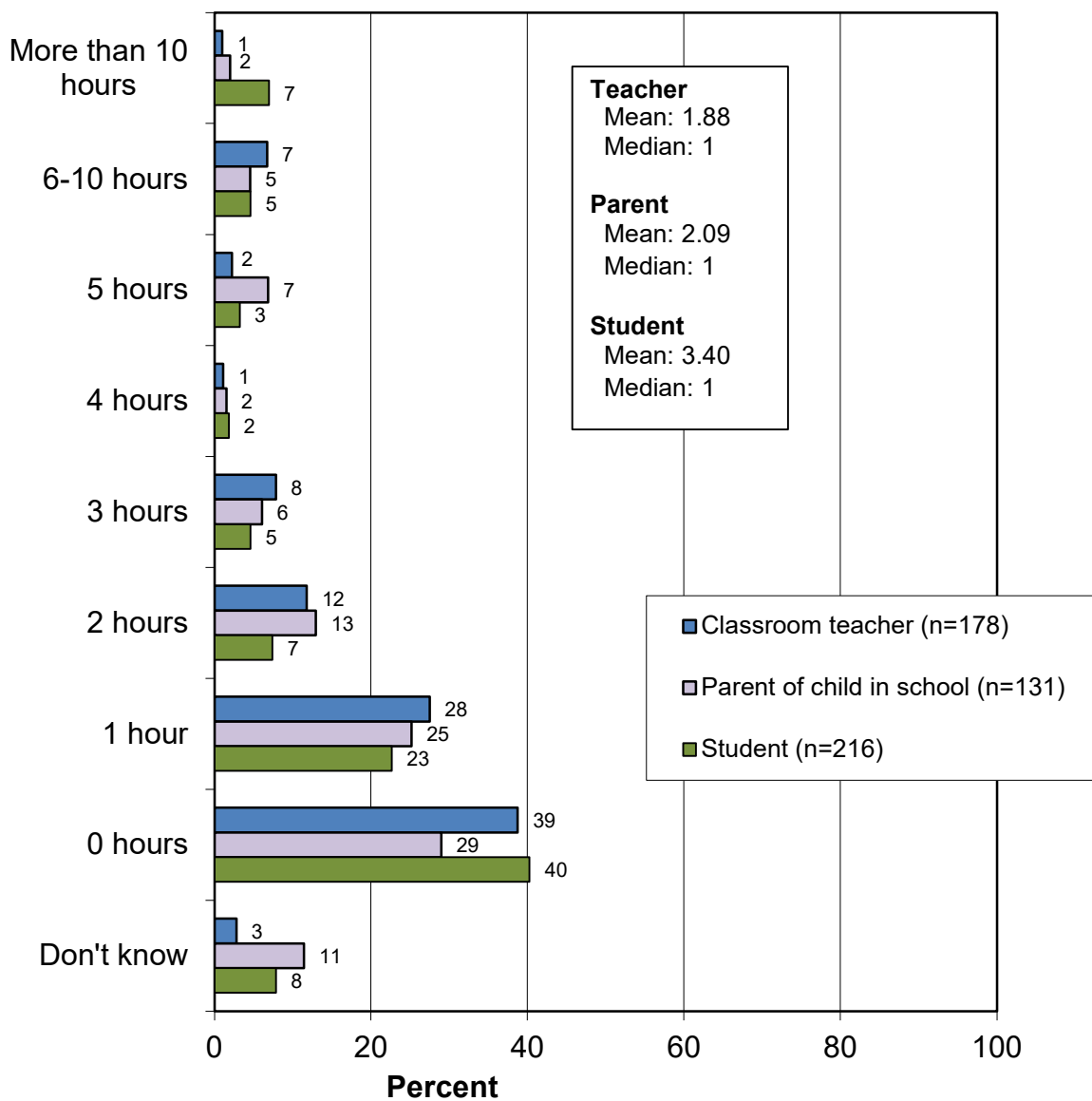


**Not including school, how many hours per week, on average, [does your child / do your children] spend outdoors in general? (Asked of parents.) (Stakeholders)**

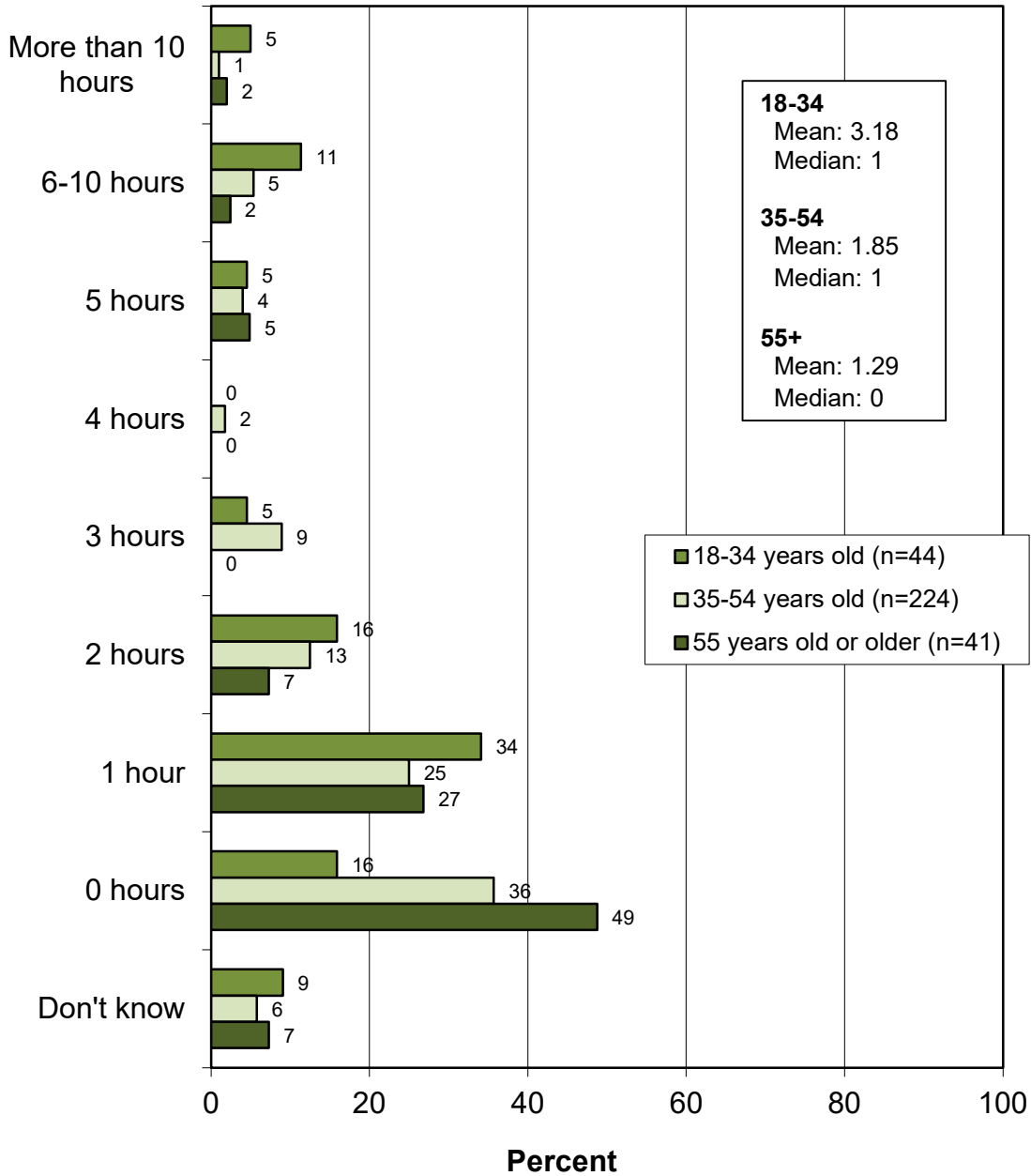


**On average, how many hours per week do your [students / child(ren)] spend on outdoor learning or outdoor education in school? (Asked of parents and teachers.) (Stakeholders)**

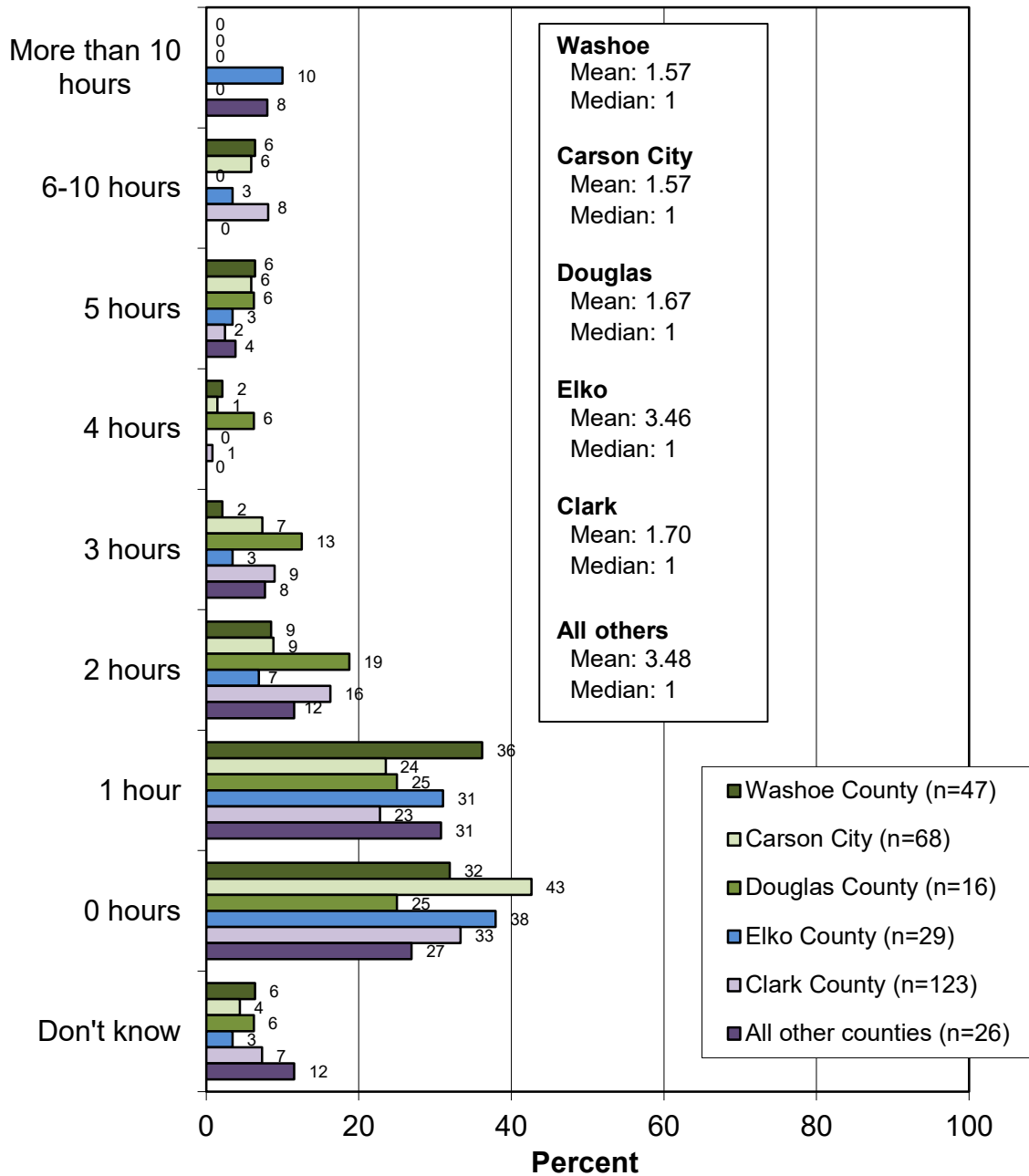
**On average, how many hours per week do you spend on outdoor learning or outdoor education in school? (Students)**



**On average, how many hours per week do your [students / child(ren)] spend on outdoor learning or outdoor education in school?  
(Asked of parents and teachers.) (Stakeholders)**



**On average, how many hours per week do your [students / child(ren)] spend on outdoor learning or outdoor education in school?  
(Asked of parents and teachers.) (Stakeholders)**



## APPENDIX: VERBATIM OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES

Because there are far more open-ended comments from the stakeholder survey, verbatim responses from the student survey are shown first. For each survey group, the tables include responses to specific questions throughout the survey as well as any general comments that were provided at the end.

### STUDENTS

Are there any other outdoor experiences or activities in Nevada that have been important to you? (Students)
Helping dogs
Stargazing while camping or at the Observatory at Western Nevada College, Fishing, Wildlife study participation (geese), Nevada Range Camp, and Backpacking.
I like building things.
Playing sports
The lake and beach
Hunting, fishing, camping, just playing outside, dirt bike, riding, and hiking
Riding my horse outside and playing with my chickens.
Yes one experience that was important is when is when I went skiing at the lake and when I do school sports
Visiting the Parks and Lakes
Getting physical activity and fresh air
Playing football, going on hikes, and doing track.
Waterfall hike, other hikes, biking, and field trips.
Just participating in physical activities/sports
Just being outside is great.
Playing sports walking my dogs
Yes because it helps me be happier
Having fun with my friend
I like to ride my dirt bike with my friends and I race to
Yes it is definitely camping all the time it's so nice to sleep right under the stars and hear the crickets chirp just makes me feel so good
Running on bike paths, trails etc.
For me playing outside like sports and relaxing are most important for me.
Horse riding bike riding playing dirt bike riding etc.
Going to a camp in lake Tahoe where we learned astronomy
Tahoe trails
Going ATV riding
There are not any other outdoor experiences or activities that I can think of right now that has been important to me.
Playing in a lake and jumping into lakes off cliffs.
Fishing.
Speeding time with friends
Walking in the dry lake
Yes; rock climbing, cleanup projects, and kayaking
Biking
Learning about our planet
I like dirt bikes and this is because I am pretty competitive and like the wilderness around me also I get to push myself to get more laps
One very important detail is dirt bike riding I love and race them and ride then and I participate in races.
Riding off-road motorized vehicles
Sports

<b>Are there any other outdoor experiences or activities in Nevada that have been important to you? (Students)</b>
Outdoor experience is playing basketball
Fishing
Sports and walking
Sledding
I love camping so much! I also love rafting!
Frogs
Take care of the wildlife I see injured or abandoned
I always try my best to spend as much time outdoors as possible. I greatly enjoy participating in events from Get Outdoors Nevada organization. I feel they provide a great mix of learning opportunity, as we gain a lesson of how-to best care for the environment, as well as time outdoors as we are actively cleaning the park. It really is a one-stop-shop for outdoor education! Due to this, I have planned Get Outdoors Nevada events with my school through student government, and other students have shared that they enjoy them as well.
Going outside with my mom when she waters her garden to look at the plants.
Fishing
There is not an experience that's stands out to me.
Mountain Biking
Running because it is a good activity and challenging
Just seeing new animals like go explore to do like silence like go find new animals or animals I've never seen
Going on side by side
Mainly just walking with my family. My dad would take us walking around the neighborhood every night during quarantine and although I didn't like it, it was good for me.
Going on a trail walk with my grade on the Mexican Ditch Trail Raising fish in class in fourth grade from eggs and releasing them in a pond when they were grown
Playing little league baseball
I don't know if this counts, but I like to draw flowers, and I draw the ones I see outside.
Other outdoor experiences are types of workouts. Such as running.
Walking, on your bike
Swimming, and climbing trees
The outdoor activities that are important to me are walking, swimming, playing in the snow and camping.
Stargazing or learning about astronomy Outdoor nature service projects Learning wilderness survival skills
I do not have any other
I like to hang out with friends and family outside and just going on walks with them or relaxing.
Sports
Just being able to walk around a bit and get air. Sometime doing art outside as well.
Rock climbing
I went to the pool with some friends and the water was cool
I like to watch bugs and plants throughout the day.
Snowboarding
Sports are important to most kids.
Disc Golfing
Exploring outdoors
Riding dirt bikes
Dirt bike riding
Sitting in a shaded area painting, feeding animals, read a book, playing fetch with my dog.
Riding bikes
I like to hang out with family and other people that are not bad outside differently when camping
Having fun with your family in outside games
Playing in the sand
Yes I like hiking and camping
I like planting flowers
Soil Conservation and Environmental and Natural Resources Management competitions through FFA hosted by

<b>Are there any other outdoor experiences or activities in Nevada that have been important to you? (Students)</b>
NDA and NRCS
Going to the 'C' hill and seeing the wildlife.
Moving classes outside
Playing sports, yard work
Yes because it helps me be happier.
Jumping on the trampoline and exploring the yard, this also includes feeding our animals.
Hunting, fishing, conservation
Sports, chilling, biking
Going to Lake Tahoe and seeing the view. The beach and the water is the most beautiful sight to see.
Taking care of the wildlife
It's not exactly outdoors but I love exploring abandoned places, with the right safety measures of course.
Outdoor sports such as basketball, but lack of courts and good ones too

<b>Please briefly explain why you support requiring outdoor education in school. (Asked of those who support the requirement.) (Students)</b>
I feel like it's beneficial to have outdoor time, this is because the sunlight gives us vitamin D in which we need it. Not only that, if we were to spend all our time inside on our Chromebooks learning, what time we would have to learn the basic needs of natural survival in the wild or the dangers of nature.
It is really good for you so I say yes.
I believe that outdoor education is a necessity to kids like me, because in today's world, everyone is trying to make it seem like obesity is ok, but really it is killing you.
Being outdoors is proven to increase mood and aid with depression. I know being outside helps me focus, get energy out, and feel less sad, even if it's just sitting in my backyard.
When students are more active, they tend to be more focused and engaged in their learning. The sunshine is super important for our wellbeing. I just dislike when it is super hot out.
Outdoor education provides important lessons for students that will be used throughout life. Builds skills and is engaging.
I am a big fan of being outside and in nature. I feel as if specific time set in schools to be outside would be awesome and super beneficial to learning
I support it because you can do better in class
Being in the class makes me feel often tired from using my brain for six hours without a break other than the 20 minutes for lunch. It also leaves me with headaches almost every day without fail. I feel like if we had a way to take out that energy while also doing something we like can keep other students leveled.
Outdoor education would be a great way for students to learn more about the environment and skills that could prove to be useful in future applications. In addition, being outdoors could also serve as a way for students to take a break and relieve themselves of any stress they may feel in school. It can help them to come back to a classroom space with a more clear, engaged mind.
As this country is becoming more technologically intelligent, i feel we are losing connection with nature and how it is truly important to us. Although we are more aware on how the environment is deteriorating or improving, we lack the why it matters to us personally. I believe not only teaching students why environment matters but also experiencing why environment matters will build a more caring generation.
Outdoors gets us away from technology and into the realm of real life.
Because it builds up strength and health and it is fun for all of us kids
I support outdoor education because it can help students get more involved and can be more engaging.
In an age of increasing concern for our environment, it is extremely important that all students forge a connection with the outdoors so that they understand what they're protecting. Also, things like recess should continue through high school because physical activity is PROVEN to decrease stress, improve health, and improve learning functions across the board. This is especially important because an increasingly large number of students aren't in PE as a class because they took summer courses for more electives, and these students still need opportunities to have physical activity during school.



<b>Please briefly explain why you support requiring outdoor education in school. (Asked of those who support the requirement.) (Students)</b>
I support outdoor education because it will help you learn about nature and outdoor things.
I support it because getting outside can be a nice brain break and get out of the stuffy classroom and move our legs.
Sunlight and fresh air help learning experiences
It can teach you stuff
I support requiring outdoor education because I'd like to go outside in school sometimes.
Well it's nice to know how to take of yourself while you are outside because if you don't there is a good way you might never learn
Because being outside is good for mental and physical health
Outside of school is good because you can go to the pool and then you can go our side and you can also go to Mexico and then you can go i don't know
Because we then get to enjoy the outdoors while learning at school
Because if learning about something you can see outside, you could use it as an example.
I suppose this because we need more time outside all of the kids just sit inside all day.
Because you can learn how to get out of things like ditches
I believe that it is great to spend time outside. It makes student's moods better, and burns energy.
Because it interests me more.
Outdoor education will help kids learn more.
Because some people like to go outside because a lot of people that can't always go outside
Students when cramped in a class all day will lose focus, as outside they put in the physical effort.
I support because kids are miserable indoors all day sitting and eating its not healthy.
I think that having an outdoor education in school will improve the overall school experience.
I support outdoor education because it can help kids be more active and can motivate them to go outside more.
I feel like it is better to get outside once in a while. The kids who are really busy at home might not have time to or have anything to do outside so if the school provided it it actually might feel good for them. Also I feel like most kids dot go outside or anything so they won't know how to do certain things in the future.
I feel like if everyone had a chance to go outside, get some fresh air, it'd be nice for everyone.
It's crucial for students to get the proper amount of time outside, which they may not get at home due to large homework amounts and household chores, it's good for interactive learning, and it often feels safer than indoor classroom settings (at least for me).
I think that it would be fun, but also it's a change and being in a classroom all day is boring. It would be nice to go out in the sun to do work.
I have found that time outdoors is highly beneficial to students. That being said, some students do have a lot of allergies that may get in the way of learning, and so I think there would need to be some exceptions to the rule.
So students can learn more than what they know about wild life
Fun
So many kids sit at computers or stare at their phones all day and don't realize how much is going on in the world around them. Kids need to be taught to appreciate and recognize the natural world.
I support this because kids and adults need vitamin D and other vitamins.
It good for us students to go outside and take out our energy instead of doing it in the classroom.
Helps with clearing mental grief, enhances energy, etc.
The environment is a very delicate thing that's easily thrown off by irresponsible human activities. I think ignorance is a huge factor in why people are so careless when it comes to the environment. If younger people are taught about the importance of protecting the environment and the intricate systems that support our lives, they're more likely to make informed decisions about how they live their lives and to take actions to protect the environment.
Because it is very fun and important.
I have felt major mental and physical benefits from the outdoors, and I believe that outdoor education makes school more engaging.
I feel like it is necessary in order to keep students engaged in classrooms
I Like to be outside
I think it's good for kids to be outside, so then they can learn about nature, animals, and outdoor skills. But some

<b>Please briefly explain why you support requiring outdoor education in school. (Asked of those who support the requirement.) (Students)</b>
kids are allergic to grass, flowers, or leaves.
I support requiring outdoor education in school because it allows students to not be trapped inside a room for a whole day. It allows students to get excited and involved about school with the activities provided. It also allows students to explore the real world and real life skills that could be useful.
It is good to get a break from being inside all day.
To learn how to help if you get hurt
Outdoor education is an important way to build character and get people to experience more outdoor recreation. Being outdoors and off phones, interacting with nature or other humans personally, is a great way to improve mental health. I enjoy running outdoors every day and I have found that my mental and physical health as well as my mood has improved. To be human, we should interact with our surroundings as much as possible to really fulfill our connection with life. In addition, it is important for people to be educated in outdoor medical and survival tactics if anything happens. Many people think that nothing will happen to them, even if they don't go outdoors. But I have heard many stories and have been in situations myself where I have needed that training to help someone out. Those lessons are very valuable in real life and students should learn more of those lessons when they are in high school as they would be more prepared for whatever they do once graduated.
I support requiring outdoor education at school because, you'd need to know first aid and probably some other good skills such as fishing in order to survive in the wilderness or to just be able to get more fit and enjoy more time out-doors than being on a chrome book almost 70% of the time.
We need outdoor education in school because its a really good why to have fun and not stay inside all day.
Outdoor education feels better for students
I support this because students can have less stress when they are able to breathe calmly and have fresh air around them.
Because kids need time outside to learn and we are stuck inside all day, it gets us stressed and tired of school and not a lot of sunlight.
Because I enjoy being outside.
Because we can learn about nature, and I would have physical activity and to learn more than sitting in a seat all day
It's fun
I strongly support outdoor education in school because I think that kids need to spend more time outside. Nature and the outdoors are also so fun to hang out in. The kids could learn so much when spending time outdoors during school.
I support outdoor education because it is important to care about our environment and have physical exercise
For us to have time outside
Important to spend time outside
It is a great way to improve mental and physical health for all young people. They usually don't spend nearly enough time outdoors, so encouraging a little more outdoor exercise would be great for them.
If we have outdoor education we will have more time to connect and interact with nature.
I like being outside and learning about nature. I want to go to school where I don't just sit in a classroom
Support outdoor education because it helps protect our planet and see the beauty in it
Why because it helps us to be healthy and helps us to reconnect with our ancestors to learn
Kids need sun and exercise
Learning to take care of the world around us and take care of ourselves in the world is an integral part of effective schooling and necessary to ensure a positive future for individuals and the Earth as a whole.
The reason why I think it's important because it helps your physical health
It is good for boosting a person's mood to be outside instead of sitting inside in the same building and classrooms all day. It is also good for your physical health not only mental.
I support outdoor education in schools because despite the need to understand typical school subjects, it fails to encourage physical activity due to the fact that common school courses ignore outdoor education. If students are more aware of what to expect in the outdoors, such as how to care for it and traverse it, I believe student mental health would improve and that even the nonathletic kids such as me would have a much better time outside if more people, aside the very athletic kids, were involved. I'm sure if it was worked in, school would be much more enjoyable.

<b>Please briefly explain why you support requiring outdoor education in school. (Asked of those who support the requirement.) (Students)</b>
Most kids my age do not possess the skills to exist outside, and I think they should learn
I think it's needed to get outside vitamin d, as a person who doesn't go outside that much.
I support requiring outdoor education in school because we spend so long inside and would enjoy getting to spend more time outside.
I support outdoor learning because at school we only go outside for pe and nothing else so I think we need to spend more time outside.
Humans need to connect with nature because we are nature itself. We are encasing ourselves with our own creations and that gives so much potential to abuse that type of authority and it's just not healthy. We rarely know the effects that industrialism has on our physical health and most likely our mental health goes along with it.
So we can teach other kids how to plant things and for me to get some sun
I really like outside
To help us show what is outside and learn about our surroundings
I like to do this because I love to learn new things and I think it would be more fun if we can do it out side.
You never you if you will need education to build a house and protect yourself.
Outdoor education may lead to many more learning activities
I think it is important for children to spend time outside and enjoy it. When children learn about the outdoors, it can make it more enjoyable.
It is good for students physical and mental well being
Natural light would keep more kids awake in class and make most people feel better than a room that has no windows and is either dark or very bright.
I support requiring outdoor education in school because it can give students a chance to reconnect with nature and appreciate what they have, it may get students off of their phones more, and gives students a chance to release more energy and maybe even be healthier physically.
I support because more students need to have more time outside and just more interactive things to do instead of staying inside the entire day
Outdoor education improves the mental state and better health for kids
The outdoors is a huge part of our lives and learning about it and promoting education of our environment is crucial to us as global citizens.
It helps the students get outside more instead of being cooped up in a classroom
Being outdoors has become something that is seen as not necessary, however in building today's youth it serves as a powerful teaching opportunity to teach the youth about their surroundings and how special it is compared to other places in the world.
I support requiring outdoor education in school because it could help in the future if we need to go out and there are things we should have learned about. I also support it cause a lot of students probably don't go outside a lot at home.
Good for student's heath.
I strongly support bringing in outdoor education in schools because it gives students a sense of what's around. It can help them see the beauty of the earth rather than sitting inside a classroom for most of the day. I would find it very relaxing.
Less chance of students for potential hip problems.
I think that this generation has been stuck inside for so long and has become addicted to screens. It is better for your physical and mental health go outside and be grateful for our planet.
Being outdoors benefits both the body and the mind. When people spend time outdoors, it improves their mood and attitude. If more time is spent outdoors, students are likely to be more excited to go to school just because they get to spend time outdoors instead of stuck in classrooms all day.
The sun is great for us and it makes teenagers more happy. We get to get out of a classroom that we don't like being in or we get to see something we don't every day.
since kids mainly spend their time in front of a screen
It is good for kids to let their brains breathe and get a little brain break so our brains can work better
It helps with body activities
Spending time outdoors is not only beneficial for the mental health of students, but also their physical health. It

**Please briefly explain why you support requiring outdoor education in school. (Asked of those who support the requirement.) (Students)**

provides real world knowledge while also providing a much needed break from the grind of a regular classroom environment.

**Are there any other features and facilities you think are important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment? (Students)**

I think some kids would really enjoy a pond or small river in their school yard, it would also be good for learning.

Having a jungle gym and a slide

Dirt bike trailers.

More places outside to eat lunch!

Most definitely more shade because it gets so hot outside sometimes that it's really hard to keep cool

Just better playgrounds and more things to do at parks

Creative yards where you can build stuff

Less rubber filling on playgrounds

Mini fountain it's a good idea and it's pretty.

Not particularly. However, I would greatly enjoy if more outdoor breaks were allowed for middle school and high school students, as I remember finding them enjoyable as an elementary schooler.

Frogs

Trails and other outdoor sports

Places to hang out, sport areas

One hour more of playing outside

Picnic tables on concrete plate form in shade and sunlight

Sand pit

We have no playground or a park

I like playing a lot more sports.

Playground

Football fields

Lights around the field

A place to sit in the shade that is cool and quiet

Soccer goals

The side of school is good and i want to go to camp and go to Mexico. I was going and then I wanted to go swimming.

Spending more time outdoors learning about pant or animals

Relax areas

Yes because we can have a better environment

I think that more grass would being more people outside.

Bring back playgrounds

Jump ropes and kick balls, basically outdoor equipment for playing jump rope, 4 square or kickball

Access to shorts equipment, mainly things like basketballs, footballs, frisbees, etc. perhaps through a library-like lending system.

Our school does tend to be a little dirty, students are pretty disrespectful with their environment. It's also a little bland, mainly just grey from concrete or brick

Swings

More trash cans and recycling bins

More sports equipment, more access to open space, more learning about how to take care of plants and animals so they can be implemented and cared for, more swing sets and climbing structures

Flexible seating/fun types of seating

Taking care of animals and plants

Bird feeders and other things to attract wildlife so we can watch and observe.

Flowers

A shaded area for things like reading and talking so students don't have to go into the sun.

<b>In general, do you have any comments, input, or suggestions about how outdoor learning, outdoor education, outdoor recreation, or outdoor skills should be included in schools? (Students)</b>
Outdoor learning will help boost people's moods. And we should do more outdoor learning.
Let the schools give breaks in the open air, so that the students do not get stressed for the school day.
More outdoor labs in science classes.
Providing regular field trips as well as voluntary activities such as farmers markets are a great way to integrate learning into an outdoor space, ESPECIALLY in high school!! We don't get many breaks or field trips so I think it would be very beneficial to the student body.
Add extra classes or clubs that let students do these activities
Yes it should
I feel like outdoor first aid or what to do to keep someone stable outside while ur not near any ambulance
Yes, more time spent out on trails and other outdoor activities.
to show if you get hurt what to do if there is no one around
Good basketball court outdoor
Stop keeping us locked up in a classroom. There is more in this world that we need to see
I feel like while some recess should be required, it could also do good to bring some classes as electives. It could be something students willingly commit to, like gardening or swimming or something like that.
Yes because some kids could have different skill then other do
Just walking around outside or sitting outside
They should teach kids basic skills and survival skills that can help them in the real world or even emergencies. They should also bring recess back, i firmly believe it could reduce school fights as it releases energy.
Have us learn outside in the sun.
More access to pleasant outdoors spaces and slightly longer breaks would encourage students to spend more time outside during the school day. Outdoor classrooms and classes designed to teach about the outdoors would be awesome as well, but I think it would also be a good idea to go outside more and incorporate outdoor learning and education into every curriculum.
If it wasn't there people definitely get obese and diabetic and overweight
It should be built into lesson plans and/or more outdoor classrooms should be built and used during warmer months.
I would LOVE if schools included outdoor learning. The kids would have so much fun and they could learn so much. Outdoors can help students calm down.
In whichever PE credit they take, either JROTC or PE, a nature involvement activity should be mandatory at least once a week. This could include going for a walk, learning about plants or animals in the area by observing them, doing physical activity (such as an obstacle course), etc.
I think time outdoors is important, but so is finding shaded spaces for students to learn outside. Student health is just as important as the positives of time outdoors.
Only to ask students before making a decision that affects them
I love the idea of outdoor education
Students should know how to plant and grow plants.
At the high school level, offer more outdoor education electives such as wilderness preservation, hiking, outdoor survival or astronomy.
More places for students to interact, not just elongated grass fields, and on top of that, more sports areas as well
I support and agree
Good baseball field
We need to learn outdoor skills more.
We should be allowed to have more breaks (recess), and have more outdoor learning times
At the very least, breaks for middle school and high school students should be longer as well as allow for more outside activity during the day. It would encourage students to go and play outside more often and boost mental health along with aid in socialization. Not to mention, the breaks between classes are far too short and I'm aware that short breaks spread across a period of work are far more effective than shorter but longer breaks like how the current break schedule works. Us high school students spend all the five minutes between classes getting to our classrooms, and I believe that a 10 minute break between classes would allow for more effective

<b>In general, do you have any comments, input, or suggestions about how outdoor learning, outdoor education, outdoor recreation, or outdoor skills should be included in schools? (Students)</b>
break times. Students at my school are commonly late to class on purpose so they can talk to their friends. We need more socialization time outside of a cramped classroom, and it's best to accommodate such needs in a way that works for both sides. If we need to socialize, we're going to do it, but the current system doesn't support that outside of lunch time.
Shade trees somewhere to work
We should increase outside spending time!
We should learn how to use guns but like with fake ones.
Outdoor education is what teaches today's youth to provide for the future in ways of farming or conservation. By allowing students to spend more time outdoors those same students that never took an interest could see how important these processes are to our future as a community and country.
Outside time will increase productivity and focus, potentially decrease unwanted behaviors, and overall just make everyone happier. We use our screens way too much. Even just reading outside, sitting in the grass, literally anything. In high school, we don't have opportunities to do that. Our lunch break is only 30 minutes and I truly believe that is not enough time considering our campus is decently large.
I think outdoor learning for all ages should be allowed in Nevada schools or any schools.
I think we should spend more time outdoors
A little outdoor play time or working time would be suggested for a more fun and educational ways for learning.
Field trips to Tahoe
I feel like which environment you're in would determine what type of outdoor learning you do! Like if you're in a forest you should do things about how to do things like that. or if you're in a mountainous area you learn things like hiking or whatever.
We should spend more time outdoors instead of 15 minutes an hour

<b>Finally, if you have any additional comments regarding outdoor learning or outdoor education in schools, please enter them in the text box below. (Students)</b>
Let us outside so we can learn about plants and animals
I think that middle schoolers should still get recess
Outdoor learning should be touring the mountains.
We are inside way too much.
To throw rocks to aim wood targets
I think many students would greatly benefit from being able to spend more time outside while at school
I just wanted to have a bigger basketball court with two sides
Let the schools give breaks in the open air, so that the students do not get stressed for the school day
We should learn how to survive in the wilderness
It is important to be outside for some time instead of indoors
I think we should have a nap time
More outdoor activities
Our middle school should have a outdoor lunch program
I think we should go outside more
Thank you for putting out this survey, Outdoor Education or Learning would be a treasure to have in my school.
Some trips could be rewards for academic success, while others are for everyone to enjoy. That way students would have more incentive to excel in their studies.
I would love spending some time outdoors during school.
Outdoor learning is good
I would love a gardening class, with flowers. A flower class would be awesome. Learning things that are safe to eat in the wild would also be cool. I know if the world ever ended, I wouldn't survive because I don't have any survival skills. Camping basics would be nice.
More need
Why don't students go outside as much during school?
I fully support the idea of increasing outdoor learning and education in schools

## STAKEHOLDERS

<b>Are there any other outdoor experiences or activities that you think are important for youth growing up in Nevada? (Stakeholders)</b>
I think that experiencing the variety of state and national parks in Nevada and surrounding states is really important. Our state is unique in that students can experience desert climates, forests, lakes, and mountains, all within just a few hours drive of their homes. Basic outdoor survival, map-reading, and environmental awareness are important outdoor experiences, in my opinion.
Basic outdoor survival skills, reading maps, using gps
I didn't think we had desert here: it's Great Basin, a historic, ex-inland ocean.
Safety and survival skills
Nature safety, and remembering to leave no trace. Meditation or exercises to relax outside.
Responsible recreation and learning how to safely recreate
Outdoor survival skills; First Aid and Preparedness
Playing a sport they love for fun
Hunting, fishing. Preparing fish and game for food.
Sports, PE etc
Navigation & survival skills
Mountain Biking and using the available trails in Lincoln County
Backpacking, rock climbing, mountain biking, sailing local lakes, kayaking or paddle boarding local lakes and rivers, doing trauma-informed yoga outdoors (hike to a meadow, yoga, hike back), star watching.
Aquatic water life and how to protect it. How to preserve trails and ecological sites Human impact on our environment.
Developing stewardship
Hunting
Learning while doing all the recreational activities listed youth outdoor camps that give lessons in all of these - if the parents do not have ability or time take them on outdoor recreational trips Learning to enjoy all above
Fishing skills
Survival skills as a human being is premised upon knowledge of your surroundings. They say 'knowledge is power'. This is a perfect example.
Responsibility for own personal safety
Playgrounds.
All of them. It is amazing how many students don't even know we have a river in our valley or have never been to Lake Tahoe. The experiences are priceless for teaching science related topics as well as good stewardship.
Fishing and hunting are very important. Nevada has many great opportunities to explore these wholesome adventures.
Hunting, fishing, firearms safety and recreational shooting. Basic first aid in a wilderness setting.
Team building activities
Cycling, water sports, snow sports, fishing, native trees and flowers....etc...
I believe all activity outdoors is extremely important to everyone. It is also important to learn survival skills and emergency preparedness skills
I believe all outdoor experiences are valid and important. Any connections students can make with science when enjoying the outdoors is a bonus. Also, developing SKILLS that enhance outdoor adventures can build confidence and increase chances of continued outdoor recreation and exploration.
Fishing, snow sports, planting trees and desert plants
Watersheds and ecosystems!
Neighborhood Socialization
Learning how to ride OHVs safely
Exploring nature by bike and on foot involves all of the above
Although rarely discussed due to the hazard... wild ice skating is Nevada's best outdoor activity. I considered moving to Canada and other states prior to realizing that Nevada is one of the top destinations in the world for 'Wild' outdoor ice skating on lakes and ponds. I uprooted my life in California and left all my family and friends so that I could move to Carson City to pursue outdoor ice skating. Carson City produces the best skating due to

<b>Are there any other outdoor experiences or activities that you think are important for youth growing up in Nevada? (Stakeholders)</b>
the cold temperatures, intermittent storms, cirque lakes with varying elevation (unlike Canada and Alps), and lack of snow (unlike Canada). Unlike other areas, it produces a lengthy season with late season glass which is rare in other areas of the country. Outdoor ice also produces health benefits at 3-4 inches, allowing for spinal shock therapy for those with spine and alignment issues, which can help youth and adults. It is also very dangerous which is why I just started the North America Pond Project in my personal time, that aims to offer Ice Safety (likely paired with Fire Safety or General Outdoor Safety) to Nevada schools and Outdoor Schools with 'Draw-Free' curriculums and age-appropriate curriculums.
Wildlife safety. For instance, how to deal with problems that arise (exp: dehydration, avalanche, bear encounters, not feeding wildlife, etc.)
Hiking and exploring the desert.
Exploring local natural areas, flora, and fauna
Fishing, shooting
Yes. It is important to learn the history of Nevada that can be explored by taking field trips and see native plants and animals. Also, water conservation because we live in a dry climate and the outcome of not having water does to plants and animals. Another thing is littering, keep our home state clean and learn how long things take to break down to its natural element.
Hunting, fishing, trial riding on horses/ranching, paddleboarding, OHV use, rock climbing
Community outreach Fellowship with the communities Elderly Learning about the communities' natural resources getting involved in community groups
Just exposing children to nature and letting them know how much beauty the State of Nevada truly has to offer them.
Learning how spending time outdoors can support your mental health through nature journaling, recreation opportunities, through the arts, science, and physical activities. Learning about climate change and the actions they can take to preserve our natural resources.
Learning how to shelter in the heat, learning to access water and drink it safely, how to safely navigate in urban environments. Being outside should not just be about 'nature' as millions of people live in a city here. Not all children are exposed to art walks, etc within city confines.
Outdoor snow activities should be experienced by all children and youth.
I think outdoor time is critical for children and teen's mental health. This is heightened by the increase in screen time and sedentary lifestyle. Families experiencing poverty are especially impacted, due to living in housing without beauty or safe outdoor space and the lack of resources required to have access to outdoor activities (no transportation, equipment or working two jobs so no time do do it with family.)
Learning to fish. Firearm safety. Archery. Hunting or how wildlife is managed by hunting. How Pittman-Robertson affects wildlife.
Safety regarding open land and how people like to go out 'shooting' signs and things to look for when in open terrain that may or may not be public. the importance of not dumping or leaving behind trash in said open terrain that may or may not be public
Lots of outdoor recreation opportunities that require equipment (mountain biking, kayaking, skiing, etc.) that kids can also be exposed to
History of Conservation and Indigenous Peoples History and Culture.
Safety on a bicycle, skateboard, roller blades or recreating on an atv/ohv. Many bike ride around town but not many wear helmets or even own one.
Inspiration for artwork
Any reason to be outside.
In general kids need to be outside more. We have taken that out of our schools. It is also a valuable resource for our state to have or kids grown into adults that understands the environment they are in and how to protect it.
Sports
Swim lessons/recreation for all age levels -biking -litter education/cleanup/restoration
Fishing and Hunting
Hunting
Sustainability and Stewardship for future generations. Making sure underserved youth have access to the NV outdoors



<b>Are there any other outdoor experiences or activities that you think are important for youth growing up in Nevada? (Stakeholders)</b>
Desert survival. Education about the unique animals that live in the desert and how they have adapted to drought. Mitigating excessive heat
Cultural activities. All culture inclusive.
In addition to the pretty exhaustive list above, I'd add climbing. Not necessarily rock climbing but getting to the top of a peak is really cool.
Fishing
Farming, solar options, water conservation
All outdoor experiences are extremely important as culture is consistently taking us away from nature to put us in front of devices and screens.
Incorporating mindfulness and wellness practices to improve mental and physical health. Helping to cultivate future generations who value nature and want to care for it and protect it, who see it as a necessary component of cities and communities.
More recess time during school so that kids have unstructured play with their peers
Basic survival
Remaining safe while outdoors in different settings.
Learning how to fish, tie flies, make a campfire, bike riding, and how to stay stay when hiking or camping
Hiking. Understanding the desert from its beauty to its dangers.
Understanding the nuanced role of wildfire and how to protect both themselves and Nevada's natural resources from wildfire.
Learning why it's important not to litter learning how to prevent forest fires
Using the outdoors as the classroom to present common standards in all disciplines.
Ropes courses, snow shoeing, Back-packing
Making terrain maps
Bicycling
Learning about native flora and fauna as well as invasive species.
Yes, biking, playing sports, team activities, scavenger hunts
Learning about Nevada's rich minerals
Understanding Nevada's history!
Hunting and Fishing. Not sure why these weren't on the list. These are the two most prevalent activities in NV for the youth
Kayaking, fishing, boating, mountain biking, horseback riding, hunting
Rivers Whitewater kayaking and or rafting Fly fishing
Bike trails, backpacking, playing in streams, fishing,
Just getting outdoors and learning how to hike and respect the environment is critical and too many in Clark Co have never experienced it with their families.
Kayaking, water safety, awareness of animals, basic survival skills.
Education in hunting and ethical harvest.
Learning Leave No Trace principles
Gun safety ATV safety
Exploring the desert
Being in a boat or water means of transportation.
Learning how actions we take (good or bad) affect the environment.
Volunteering to help - seed cleaning, park clean up efforts, animal habitat restoration - gaining an understanding of how vital it is to help protect desert ecosystem habitats, particularly related to water resources and wildlife impacts
Kayaking, scrambling and rock climbing, geology and paleontology, bush craft and survival, conservation and general appreciation of the environment.
Outdoor activity safety
They need to get off their phones and enjoy nature.
Experiencing / learning about rivers and watersheds
Fossil digging, mining education
Gardening and volunteering to keep our landscape clean. If they help clear trash maybe they will grow up and

<b>Are there any other outdoor experiences or activities that you think are important for youth growing up in Nevada? (Stakeholders)</b>
not litter our landscape.
Dark sky stargazing
Animal conservation, foraging, holistic medicine, insect education, poisonous plant education.
Wilderness safety/basic survival skills
Sports, individual and team
I think all outdoor activities are important especially in education. Learning and being more active in outdoor is always a plus for the youth
To learn areas of the state
Basic survival skills and how to prepare for being out side. For example, bring enough water and food, how to dress for the elements, what to do if you are lost, etc..
Play at a park
Many years ago when I taught in CCSD student cleaned up the Great Unconformity from trash and also learned about the geology. We also took student to Death Valley for the ROCK program and they learned geology, meteorology, leadership, and camping skills. I feel that even in our rural areas of NV students still need these types of experiences and wish they were still going on in CCSD but I am not sure.
Learning about living with fire (wildfire, prescribed burns, etc.)
Learning how to read a paper map and use a compass.
Making quilts and mini crafts
Local features of the areas students live in, directional awareness, night sky (light pollution), Leave No Trace when recreating on the land, basic responsibility when using natural resources for recreation.
PE
One year we had the kids try fishing. It was a fun experience for my young students but it took a lot of adult supervision and set up.
This entire list is valuable to kids and teaching stewardship of the lands they live in/around.
Rock climbing
Outdoor safety and careers in public lands management
Playing kickball, playing tag, playing capture the flag
Hunting and fishing
Survival skills
Learning about Nevada history through the state parks, land, and historical sites
Visits to the conservation parks and areas.
Just get the youth outdoors .!
ALL of them: snowshoeing, skiing, hiking, boating, camping, biking, etc.
Fishing/hunting
Outdoor safety and stewardship are super important for creating future explorers who are conscientious and responsible. Thanks for considering implementing this as part of the school curriculum.
Learning how to experience the outdoors safely in the heat.
Working in groups outdoors to complete a common task.
Just spending time in nature off screens
Operating ATVs, driving, riding a bike, these are activities that will help them learn proper etiquette for drivers and riders
Fresh air is important for healthy development. Our schools do not put enough emphasis on letting the kids go outside.
Survival skills and taking a break from technology.
learning how to play cooperative games, playing by rules, sportsmanship, citizenship, stewardship.
Cycling, running or walking on our trails
Fishing, boating, mountain biking, dirt biking
Citizen science projects such as bird counts, identifying invasive species, astronomy observations for NASA/JPL/etc.; guided tours by Park Rangers/Scientists/city employees who work in conservation and the like
Learning the history of the native stewardship of the lands.
Yes! Any outdoor experiences are good for everyone, not just youth. Learning about habitats, weather, animals, the Earth and so on are all important.

<b>Are there any other outdoor experiences or activities that you think are important for youth growing up in Nevada? (Stakeholders)</b>
Knowing how to access nearby natural areas for leisurely enjoyment
If these do not include safety, they should. Always have water etc.
Varies by the region. I have worked in Clark County, Lake Tahoe and Carson and the environment has similarities and larger differences.
Bat conservation// building bat houses. Monarch butterfly habitats
Hunting, Fishing, Star parties, boating,
Learning how to be respectful in nature - leaving it better than you found it. take only pictures, leave only footprints, kill only time.
Basic survival skills, training on how to protect yourself if lost in the mountains, snow, etc. Tips for safe hiking like looking behind you to always know which way you came, etc.
Conservation of natural resources within NV
History of the land: tribal history of how they utilized and balanced their communities with the land. Also, geologic timelines and biologic diversity. How we have impacted animal/plant diversity and how we work to restore that.
It is very important for youth to have safe experiences with self-sufficiency- being able to take care of themselves and be self-sufficient. The outdoors is a perfect place for parents to give their children space to practice this under supervision. Navigation is another important skill that can be honed outdoors.
I think fishing and hunting can be important as well
Angling, hunting, swimming, riding bikes, riding horses, just being outdoors in a peaceful setting
Rafting, biking, fishing, backpacking, hot springs, learning to be a good steward, not littering, recycling, minimizing consumption/reducing landfill disposal
Swimming, outdoor sports, bike-riding, playing outdoors in general
Having unstructured playtime.
Learning how to understand, respect, and live with nature in Clark County.
Everyone should know how to swim and how to 'leave no trace.' Everyone should also know how to urinate or defecate in the wilderness not by a water source and how to take care of toilet paper. Knowing how to treat the water to drink is essential and people should know to leave a note or tell someone before heading into the wilderness areas and expected return time.
Kayaking, boating, biking
Outdoor sports
Riding bikes and playing at the park/ playground.
Getting kids out into the nature around our state is massively important imo. Red rock and Mount charelston are both great.
Yoga - breathing to calm nervous system and increase focus
Everything. Outdoors helps with mental health, physical health, etc.
I believe fishing and hunting should be added to this list as well as other water sports like rafting.
All encompassing - being active in the outdoors and learning about where to go and how to do that responsibly, regardless of activity type (swimming, hiking, fishing, etc.). As well as skill building like reading maps, using a compass, how to handle waste in the backcountry, trail user best practices, etc.
Youth deserve to experience nature and the outdoors where they are most of the time: in their neighborhood and at their school. We believe living schoolyards and schoolyard forests can provide these experiences (of play and learning outside) for students everyday.
Skiing
Conservatorship, safety, finding joy in the outdoors
Learning about the environment and how to be a good steward of it, not just a place to be when computers are off.
Learning how to fish
Our students, especially those in lower socioeconomic backgrounds, may rarely get a chance to really be outside not just for fun but for educational purposes too. A lot of my 5-6 year old kids came in this year knowing how to identify Amazon or Takis before they knew how to identify a caterpillar or pinecone. There's no time for a working family struggling pay check to pay check to take their kids out for a camping trip where frankly the only place left to really be immersed is outside major city limits. The plants in most the parks around the city are non-

<b>Are there any other outdoor experiences or activities that you think are important for youth growing up in Nevada? (Stakeholders)</b>
native, invasive or flat out picked and thrown away because 'weeds' aren't considered aesthetic. Which leads to less native insects and animals such as butterflies. We need outdoor education in our classrooms (although when it comes to growing food their should be more of a focus on hydroponics, kratsky method and aquarium based food farming as soil is becoming less and less viable) and we need students to experience more than just the city
I think there are many classroom lessons in a variety of subjects (math, science, art, etc.) that can be taught in an outdoor environment with natural resources/objects in our state. Children need time out doors and at minimum 1 hour of outdoor gross motor play and learning per day.
Survival
Using ATVs and OHVs, Kayaking and Other Water Sports, Wilderness Safety and Survival
Playing outside
Outdoor safety
How to be safe in all outdoor settings.
Native plant and animal identification,
Really important to be educated about what to do during extreme weather.
It's important for young people to experience different landscapes outside of the city. Engaging in physical activities such as skiing, rock climbing, mountain biking, and kayaking can help them connect with nature. Additionally, practicing meditation and yoga outdoors can be beneficial. Exploring the outdoors, observing local wildlife, and interacting with scientists, for example, by surveying macroinvertebrates, are also valuable experiences.
Realize there is more than just sagebrush
Students should have a solid understanding about how natural resources are managed, how ecosystems work, and how these resources are essential for healthy living. Students should understand about living sustainably.
I think it's important to teach our kids the dangers that are associated with living in a desert and how to be proactive to protect ourselves from those dangers , I also think it's important to teach expectations of being a NV resident (water smart/conservationist, how to recycle, go green, implementing strategies they can use at home now and when they're adults. How to follow a trail and what you would do in an emergency situation if you were lost. Survival guidance . The Risks of hot weather and what you can do to Protect yourself from dehydration and the sun and how dangerous too much sun can be and what can happen to a person with prolong sun exposure the importance of sunblock on a person skin.
Biking; study of insects; survival skills
Learning about fishing and the process of hatchery's have to contribute to our wild life.
Intercity children need to have experience in nature
I think a good mixture of education and exploring is the best. Being able to see what you are learning about is extremely important and is also very engaging.
Swimming in local reservoirs and rivers.
In general, spending time outdoors, in nature, observing, playing, building, being creative, journaling what they see/experience, etc. There is great value in 'free' time outdoors where children engage in their own learning free from demands of others.
Making sure students know that native peoples still occupy the land they are on and to learn respect for land that isn't yours.
Foods and medicines in Nevada
Learning about the 'why and how' of the natural terrain and biology in a pragmatic and hands on way. (Interactive education)
Just being outdoors in nature and getting the opportunity to explore their surroundings and environment.
Children are playing and exploring less and less in the outdoors, its all important.
I believe it is important for kids to be fully aware of their surroundings. Learning about the medicinal and nourishing benefits of the local flora and fauna. The ability to thrive and survive in the wilderness.
Fishing and hunting
Urban hikes and walking trails

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
Kids need to get outside and not be stuck inside. Some students may benefit from learning outdoors more often than during PE.
There is a huge social disconnect occurring between nature/outdoors and society. This gap needs to be eliminated or reduced
Students need the fresh air and sunshine
Important on so many levels for students to get to know the environment around them. Students become better stewards of the land and more self-sufficient as they understand the realities of the natural environment.
Nature is essential for a child's development
Students need to get outside and off technology a few hours a week.
I think the student would be so excited to be outside and learn about nature and enjoy their surroundings.
Kids are too reliant on social media, etc. It would do them good to get out, learn something relevant, learning team building and fresh air
Kids need to be outside. Not stuck inside as a 'phone zombie.'
If the students are going to be sedentary in learning then being outside is better than being indoors. During the school year is when the weather is usually the most agreeable in Clark county, so we should seize the opportunity to get kids outdoors.
I think students would benefit from outdoor learning and there would be less behavior problems.
Technology has pretty much taken over the youth and some down to earth time is very much needed for not only their physical development but also their mental development
Students enjoy reading and art activities outside. The classrooms can be hot and stuffy and they can stifle students' creativity.
It helps kids to release their stress and energy and helps them to learn
Understanding connections between ecology and community help improve sustainability outcomes and can provide common shared value which may reduce conflict and increase cultural tolerance
Helps to build a sense of shared stewardship responsibilities and a land ethic with general public
I'm not an expert, but from what I've read, it seems that particularly in early childhood education, children having lots of play/social time and access to the outdoors is incredibly beneficial for their mental health and school performance.
At a minimum, formal education provides insight into the world around us, how it works, and why it is the way it is. So much of the world around us is a state as vast as NV would be classified as 'outdoors.' Without the knowledge and confidence to experience the scenic wonders all around us, students are potentially missing out on appreciating and understanding a major part of the world around them. Oh, and the obvious mental health benefits - which kids could use these days.
Student learning has become so screen oriented that the addition of a new and very different learning environment could help reinvigorate students. Also this gives many students the opportunity to experience things they never would experience otherwise
Important for mental health of children; only if children know their environment will they care for it; it's crucial that we empower our children with intimate knowledge and connection with their environment in the urgent effort to harness climate change and a positive future for our children on a healthy planet
I think it is great to integrate outdoor learning for all children when it is possible (due to weather conditions being a barrier). ALL children can participate in being outside if proper shade/protection from sun or elements is provided. Not all children need to run around outside, but the fresh air is the key to it being useful.
To teach our youth how to protect our lands for the future. To teach them how to survive if needed and what plants and animals are safe or unsafe
Being outdoors is just as important as sitting in an inside classroom... it's good for the senses, fresh air, etc
It's important for children to be well-rounded. And you never know when you might spark a child's interest and lead them in a beautiful direction.
Being outside is good for mental health
Because we all have the right to enjoy our own 'backyard', but not every kid gets an introduction to our own 'backyard'. Many kids I have talked to are stuck in front of an iPad for most of the weekend. Nevada's slogan is important -- 'don't fence me in'

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
It's important for youth to be outside
Students have enough time on screens now. It's a daily part of life that everyone needs in order to even work. There are screens in the home, the library, the car, the classroom, etc. Being in an environment that allows for real life interactions with it gives students a sense of care for what they are holding.
For all the reasons I listed in a previous answer regarding multiple topics of education that may be discussed and also for mental and physical health purposes.
Time would be difficult. Almost every minute is dictated to academics, so outdoor time must be aligned with that.
Only support if adding standards comes with a fiscal marker to support effective professional development and accountability measures for implementation
It is teaching the students good life skills.
In general, being outside of the classroom is good for children.
Students learn best when they have a positive experience. Providing a positive experience in nature will help them understand how important the natural world is.
It helps establish a connection between how us as humans are all connected to the earth and our surroundings.
As mentioned previously, it makes learning authentic and relevant.
Outdoor learning provides a functional framework for students from which to guide all learning and growth. Recognizing our natural resources and the importance of conservation as well as being able to navigate the outdoors insures the preservation of our earth and our society.
As our society becomes more dependent on technology, cultivating an understand of how to use outdoor spaces safely and the health benefits of being outside become an important balance in schools.
Outdoor education teaches mindfulness and greater O2 intake which directly correlates to more success academically. It can turn a lesson from abstract to realistic.
Change of pace
I think anytime you are able to teach through experience and in different environments students will learn in ways they were not able to before.
It involves engineering
Students should feel the vastness of the desert and the environment they survive everyday. Learning to survive in extreme heat is essential as they grow into the labor force. They must know how to protect themselves.
Exposure to the outdoors is important to kids for so many reasons and if we can make that happen at school, then I don't see a downside. Also, when kids use their hands to learn something, it'll stick better than learning it from a book.
I had the pleasure of working at a school that implemented mandatory outdoor experiential education for all high schoolers, and it was such a meaningful experience. In the fall, we took our students on a 3 day retreat that required them to hike/climb a mountain peak, rock climb on a via ferrata, river raft, complete outdoor community service, and play group games. It was such a valuable experience for all! It challenged students to push their boundaries in a safe environment, it built community, it instilled confidence. I am also a big fan of the outdoors myself, and I would love students to experience more of nature; this is important for their own well-being and for developing more environmentally conscious citizens.
Everyone benefits from having a change of venue. Being outdoors is positive for the body and mind.
It does advertising good to be outside more.
We belong outside
It connects the person to their surroundings and shows them the environmental impacts to activities, good and bad. May lead to increase stewardship.
Allowing students to be outside of the 4 walls of a classroom is so important. Just little things like exposure to sunlight and fresh air aids in learning.
I feel that if the lessons address NGSS and NVACS standards it helps students to build connections across all subject areas.
Our society currently tends to produce children who are dependant on electronic devices for entertainment and learning. Outdoor learning opportunities let them 'unplug' and think independently, while discovering nature and learning to appreciate it. Without that appreciation and respect, future generations are in trouble- they won't know where their food comes from, how to survive in outdoor environments, how to sustain themselves and their environment in a healthy manner. People need to have a balance in their lives, and outdoor activities reduce stress

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
and increase physical development while allowing them to think and reflect- healthy behaviors, as opposed to spending their days in front of a tv or video game.
Many of my students don't get to play outside at their homes. Being outside helps students to be more alert.
I think it's important for kids to play outside, learn about their environment (NOT touch poison ivy, learn where clean water is in rivers and creeks), have moments of solitude without distractions
I have a happier, healthier family when we spend time outside. It improves mental clarity, promotes movement and fosters a love for our environment.
Fresh air and sunshine is very important to our overall health and many times I notice that our youth are spending less and less time outdoors and more time indoors plugged in!
Being outside is important to our health
Integrating outdoor learning increases student buy-in and provides hands-on learning beyond the classroom.
It is very important to educate our youth about the outdoors and respecting nature
Fresh air and a change in scenery will allow the students to enjoy rare nice weather, observe different environments, and learn more excitedly and freely.
Children are not meant to spend all day indoors. They need to be outside exploring and solving problems.
It allows the facilitator to give the audience a connection to the benefits of getting a breath of fresh air and classroom teaching
I feel like children are indoor too often these days. I think showing children new ways to enjoy being outdoors will encourage them to do these activities on their own.
Kids aren't very active in general and almost seem like they don't know what to do outside. Outdoor learning is a great way to teach social skills, collaboration, and physical health.
Many students excel while doing things outdoors
Students need to explore, learn how to play, and spend time outdoors (different perspectives).
It is critical to engaging students. Students need to get active and avoid sedentary lifestyle.
Outdoor learning provides students the ability to learn in an environment that will keep their attention, support physical activity, improve mental health and provide a fun engaging experience that supports education and appreciation for their environment
The children would benefit hugely from having outdoor learning time, the extra vitamin D which their bodies need. The fresh air. I feel like they would pay attention better as well.
Outdoor learning helps students understand the importance of protecting our Earth. Understanding how/where their food comes from and just how easily they can grow in their own home too.
Students all have different learning styles and it is great that all learning styles get the exposure that is needed so that all students have a fair chance in life. It is all about opportunities in life and taking advantage of them.
I feel better and more alive outside so I think that correlates to others. School isn't always fun these days. We need a shake up.
I support outdoor learning if it is coordinated with reading, writing, critical thinking and discussion.
Society has gotten so far away from nature that we are pushing the edges of survival, the next generation needs to know the most basic survival skills without using their phone or the internet, and I don't think this generation of parents was given the tools to teach them all so it needs to be covered in public education to ensure the whole population has the best chance.
It offers new perspectives to learning. It gives teachers relief from mundane routine and can assist kids who have ADD/ADHA and can be a peaceful option for providing new learning opportunities.
Fresh air is always great for the student and educators but the feasibility of the educators to complete this is very hard.
I have taken my kindergarten students outside many times to do reading, writing or science lessons. They loved it and were very engaged in completing their work. I did feel like administration weren't too keen on the idea by the looks I got as they walked by and felt they thought we were taking away from classroom instruction when we just moved the classroom and institution outside. Students also need a change of environment sometimes to help them understand the lesson better or just a space to learn in that would help them to calm down and redirect them. I love taking our learning outside!
I believe it is important, however, the current time constraints make it impossible.
Youth should learn conservation and sustainability for future generations to enjoy the outdoors

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
The integration of outdoor learning standards is important so that students see how all areas of education are connected.
Kids are not meant to stare at four walls under fluorescent lighting all day.
Most kids in Northern Nevada have a vitamin D deficiency, they need more time outside. The modern classroom environment is not equally great for all students with different learning styles, and also fluctuates significantly based on teach quality and/or principal quality. If outdoor learning were in the standards, at minimum I would feel good about my kids getting some fresh air which completing their monotonous and completely counter-productive testing prep exercises.
Outdoor learning helps keep our communities safer, healthier, and happier. Outdoor learning provides additional learning spaces and resources to support a growing population of students. Outdoor learning diversifies student experience to prepare them for a diverse array of professional opportunities.
Please see previous response. And, it is very important to integrate outdoor learning into the overall education standards as teachers are really busy and it will make sense to provide these experiences if they are part of the curriculum.
Outdoor learning allows students to explore and understand nature on their own terms. Students ask questions and can find the answers independent of the teacher.
Integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards offers numerous benefits, which can enhance students' educational experiences and contribute to their overall development. Overall, integrating outdoor learning into education standards can lead to a more engaging, effective, and well-rounded educational experience, benefiting students academically, physically, socially, and emotionally.
There is an overall push in education to digitize everything. Almost all of education exists on a screen in some way. In the real world however this is far from the case. If we cannot introduce youth to the outdoors, in any of its variations, there will exist substantial gaps in their developmental experience. These gaps in development can and will impact their adult life and outlook shaping future experiences and priorities.
Outdoor learning presents a different perspective to students of the subjects about nature taught in class, it allows students to directly engage and experience nature as they learn about it. The level of engagement is higher and thus more effective learning occurs. It's important also that children see and learn about their state nature and how important it is to take care of it. Being outdoors may contribute to a better mood and disposition to learning in some students and a better assimilation of the content.
As a Psychotherapist, being outdoors helps promote overall well being and fosters healthy habits and hobbies
Bringing education to the outdoors benefits mood overall and connects students to the real world. They begin to find many of the outdoor interests fun and could continue that type of interest into a deeper knowledge and will be efficient in different skills
I think students need to ground themselves in nature and not technology
Interacting safely and with respect towards the outdoors fosters a sense of community and an appreciation for nature
I agree students should be outside more
I think it's good for kids to learn about
Firstly, because learning happens through play. At all ages. When you play, and are enjoying yourself, you're going to learn more and hold onto what you learn.
Only as extra-curricula activities.
I believe many skills and connections with the outdoors are being lost.
Children being outdoor makes them more active and they are less likely to act up if they could move freely instead of being stuck in their chairs all day.
Kids spend enough time inside.
Students should be aware of the physical environment around them, and how to interact with it safely and in a way that promotes stewardship of our lands.
Outdoor learning teaches kids skills like teamwork and problem solving, helps build self-efficacy, and provides a stimulating environment for learning outside the classroom. Kids who do not thrive in traditional classrooms often connect to learning through outdoor education and become more engaged. Furthermore, outdoor education creates healthy habits that lead to a lifelong improvement in health indicators, and also inspires students to be better environmental stewards.



<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
Getting outdoors helps with mental health as well as physical
Wide-scale incorporation of outdoor learning into school activities is very unlikely to happen if there isn't top-down support within the standards and curricula.
1st career before being a public school educator was USDA Forest Service/USDI BLM Outdoor Recreation specialist and Public Information Services. Included interpretation and outdoor education. I know the value of outdoor education to the public and youth.
Time outside is an important factor in decreasing depression, increasing health, and engaging in life.
Some kids need the flexibility outside of 4 walls. The fresh air and open environment can help kids relax into learning.
Hands on experiential learning is the best way to learn (and care) about the great outdoors and build stronger citizens of the future
Getting students out in to nature helps them appreciate the world around them and makes them curious to learn more about their world.
It's important and more beneficial than other things they learn.
Engaging students
I think that exposure is important. Not every parent is going to be able to provide a well rounded outdoor education and having it in school gives that exposure. Also, if a kid enjoys something they may bring that home and get more adults involved in outdoor education.
Classroom learning topics can be connected to outdoor environment. Experiential learning tends to be retained in the memory longer. We are not separate from nature, but part of it.
Getting kids outdoors sets their minds right
Kids don't spend enough time outdoors now...even their recesses are curtailed!
To help further develop the whole child and their access and interests
Children need to be outdoors for their mental and physical well being
outdoor space is important for people
Outdoor learning gives opportunity to integrate subjects around interest areas... this is far more real-world and gives more inspiration by providing context for learning brains. I am a children's author, and have chosen to spend my personal time promoting outdoor, experiential education with my book, curricula, activities, and volunteerism around Nevada and other west coast communities. This is how we thrill, and get the whole brain interested. This is how we engage, and get the hands involved. This is how we allow children to become stewards, by getting the heart involved.
It gives all students access to being outside- every student needs a chance to learn outside
I grew up in Northern California (Bay Area) and it was required for us to attend a week-long outdoor school and it profoundly impacted my life and daily learning. I think it is majorly helpful for students at that age (I was 12) to learn about their environment and why they should care about it - after that age, without the proper implementation or involvement in the outdoors, it feels like kids are significantly less motivated to be involved with the outdoors.
Kids need to be outside because they spend so much time indoors on electronics.
Children learn better through hands-on, experiential learning. Outdoor learning helps learners with different learning styles. Time outdoors is good for youth mental health, which is a serious and growing issue.
Kids learn by doing, seeing, and experiencing their world! They'll never learn half as much by reading about a volcano as they will be seeing one (and we have a lot here in Nevada!).
More time outside is beneficial to learning and focus.
Outdoor learning encourages experiential learning. The lessons learned from experiential learning can help define strength of character for youth and begin an appreciation for conservation.
It fully demonstrates humans' connection to and dependence on the natural world for everything we do.
Giving students the opportunity to learn in a different way/setting.
Students need fresh air, sunlight, and exposure to weather conditions. It is the best medicine
Increased learning and engagement with experiences
I am a magnet theme coordinator/instructional strategist. We have K-5 vertically aligned curriculum for our 3 garden areas which we tie to NGSS. We our innovative when creating Project Based Learning (ie: solar ovens) that require outdoor learning.

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
It's key to understanding what's happening in the classroom from reading to math to all life skills
Physical and mental health benefits associated with physical activity are well documented. Ecological benefits also help society as a whole. Healthy habits learned early set up said habits to continue throughout life.
Students (and teachers) are trapped inside most of the day. It is not natural.
It is important for kids to understand the benefits of natural resources and how they fit into the natural world
It is important for all!
There is more to life than sitting on a computer in a room with no windows.
Would make students much better citizens of our area and the world, improve mental health of everyone involved, and better overall campus camaraderie.
I support integrating outdoor learning in education standards because it allows students to relate the educational concepts they learn in a very tangible way.
Not all children learn the same and having an opportunity may spark the interest and influence our youth to do better than us.
Physical activity promotion to support physical, social, and mental/emotional health
It's a nice change from being in the classroom all the time. Getting sun is importance for health, and I'm not sure students get it enough these days. My students are always happy when we take a walk outside when it rains.
In general, most educators are already stressed to provide the current standards, and will only provide education to meet the required standards. Teachers unions currently strongly oppose the integration of anything that's not absolutely mandated, and will fight any attempts to add tasks to a teacher's roster. If outdoor education is not required, it's unlikely to be integrated into most curriculums.
Taking the lessons outside of the classroom opens up the students to hands-on experiences
I am a retired elementary science teacher and was a strong supporter of outdoor learning. I saw what an impact it makes on my students. Unfortunately, I was not supported in most of my schools.
Enhances students' overall learning; provides another way to reinforce concepts taught in the classroom setting; not all students learn by reading text or listening to the teacher explain - many learn by doing and outdoor education provides hands-on experiences
Varied education approaches can support students who don't learn as well in traditional settings.
The students enjoy going outside, and it is a nice break for me, too, even though I only do it about once a semester
Providing different ways to learn all the core curriculum
It can be hands on science. It teaches children to care about nature. There are lots of reasons.
It's a key part of being a well-rounded human. We are stewards of the earth and if we do not have an appreciation for the outdoors and understanding of it, we are going down the wrong path.
From our work, most of the youth in school settings are not engaged with outdoor learning or have visited many of the amazing outdoor recreation areas available to them near their communities, hindering curiosity and interest in the area they live.
Must be integrated otherwise it will be extra work for the teachers
Outdoor learning would enhance instruction and get our kids fresh air and movement, which they need desperately.
It increases buy in and experience for students to get outside and see the world around them.
Being in nature is known to benefit children's mental and physical development as well as improve their immune system and mental and physical health. Not only will they be healthier and happier, but we also need future generations who value our natural areas and want to preserve them for future generations to benefit from and enjoy. With natural areas being destroyed more and more for development, now is the time for raising generations who will value the land and work to integrate nature into our cities, rather than destroying it. Children can not appreciate something they don't know about and have never experienced.
Nature is important to experience and is a great learning environment.
There are many studies that show how outdoor learning benefits students. We have put together a document called 'Making the Academic Case for Schoolyard Forests' and it can be found here: <a href="https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57682b81725e25259d8396e3/t/6553f9db7d3be86aae3e75ec/1700002277532/National+Academic+Casemaking_Schoolyard+Forests_23_11_09++.pdf">https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57682b81725e25259d8396e3/t/6553f9db7d3be86aae3e75ec/1700002277532/National+Academic+Casemaking_Schoolyard+Forests_23_11_09++.pdf</a>
It is important for students to appreciate and have experience being outdoors. Our students spend to much time on computers, in front of the TV or playing games.

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
I believe the more kids are outdoors the more the core class benefit in the long run. Students should spend majority of time outside learning.
Physical activity, fresh air, and learning how amazing the outdoors is. Also for the ability to learn why it is so important to have and take care of our outdoor areas and water resources in our State.
Connecting to nature is regulating to the nervous system. Also, with the right support, you can learn to appreciate the give/take relationship between us and nature. This can lead to learning how to care and be patient if that is lacking in the home. It can help with bravery, trust in the self, and independence as you learn competence in navigating the outdoors.
Kids need to be exposed to their outdoor environments and to learn to be good stewards.
Passion for the outdoors and our home starts from a young age. Integrating outdoor learning into education standards is a key part in that, especially because many students don't have access to nature-related activities outside of school. Bring kids outside to boost their passions and create a better future.
To be outside learning about the history of Nevada. Also the weather.
We live in a region that is 90% open. Our area is heavily dependent on outdoor tourism and recreation. Students/young people (all people) need to unplug more and experience life outside of the electronic world we have created.
Any and all experiences boost the child's ability to retain learning. My son learned the word 'crevice' while studying about bobcats, after one killed our chicken. He then remembered that word when visiting the Travertine Hotsprings and saw that the hot water flowed from a crevice in the earth.
Connections with Mother Earth are necessary for life
Being outdoors is important to children's health and development. Learning experiences outside are more memorable and will help students in their learning. They are usually more hands on and engaging. For some children, this might be the only opportunity they get to spend time outside.
Outdoor learning ties to all types of STEM activities; I think the outdoor component gives kids some real-life experience and not just learning information from books.
The benefits have been proven via studies and experiments many times. It has long-lasting positive effects on the students
Spending time outside helps our mental health and educates us on how to have good survival skills and how to take care of our planet.
I think it's important for kids to get the opportunity to work outside.
I grew up taking outdoor ed courses including backpacking and canoeing, and they trips included ones to the wilderness.
I support integrating outdoor learning as the 'progressions' we seem to be experiencing in today's world create a focus on remaining indoors; this alone makes outdoor learning that much more important. Outdoor learning also brings lessons into an environment that is more suitable for person-to-person interactions and allows space to explore different ideas in a less rigid format.
Getting outside will get the children moving. It is proven knowledge that kids that move learn better. It also will cultivate a love and interest in their own environment around them.
I advocate for outdoor learning because it provides a place-based approach. It allows students to witness real-life examples of various phenomena, sparking their curiosity. You can engage in any subject outdoors. It offers youth the chance to connect with their environment, and research indicates that outdoor activities positively impact mental health and overall well-being.
More applicable to real life experiences, what to do if you encounter animals; know which ones are harmful, safe foraging practices
The natural world is one of the most important parts of our lives. Integrating outdoor education into overall education standards will motivate our youth to be curious about the world around them, and stimulate passion for learning.
Students are seriously addicted to electronics and getting them involved in outdoor learning would introduce them a fantastic opportunity to learn about real life. (I grew up on a farm and (yes I'm old) I love being outdoors and doing real things.
Kids aren't meant to sit in classrooms all day
Outdoor Learning provided hands on experiences for youth to apply STEM and it's proven we all learn better by

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doing rather than just by reading or listening.
Children need to be outdoors for the fresh air and to stimulate all their senses. It will improve their mental health and help them gain a better understanding of what they can do to help protect our natural resources
I support any type of classroom learning in an outdoor environment because being outside has so many health benefits. Being out in the fresh air and the sunshine is so good for ones mental and physical health. It can help reduce stress and anxiety, which in turn will make an individual feel happier. It can increase your vitamin D levels, which is just overall better for your body and it's development. Caution and common sense during extreme weather conditions such as extreme heat, cold or other inclement weather conditions would of course be necessary.
I have a background in environmental education and some understanding of the amazing social, developmental and health benefits that come from outdoor learning and nature based experiences
Humans have a responsibility to integrate our activities into the planet. Learning to be comfortable outdoors and learning about this environment in crucial in combatting global warming.
indoor learning is underperforming
Everyone loves to be outside.
Outdoor education is an important part of understanding the geography of the area where you live in including plants and animals.
Great opportunity for students and I think we would see a rise in good health and mental health.
Great lifelong fitness and knowledge. Could even save someone's life.
Student/teacher mental health - student/teacher physical health - SEL - EQ
Because the current learning standards are awful, they need to be changed. You can't apply them to a general population. They're not helpful. They're actually hurtful. We're not teaching the kids much of what they need to know when they get out of school we're not helping them grow we make them feel imprisoned . It's time to revamp our education and completely change every aspect of it because it hasn't been changed in so long and it doesn't pertain to this generation. We need change now or we're gonna completely lose this generation and who knows what's gonna come of that.
Students sometimes just need a change of scenery to make learning interesting.
Being outside is good for most people, it only adds to the learning experience.
Students need to understand their environment and how nature works. Reading about nature is important, but it is no substitute for experiencing nature.
Kids need some fresh air. They need to get away from tech/devices/etc. They need oxygen to flow.
Studies have shown the benefits of time spent in outdoor spaces. Many standards can be met while outdoors, and academic performance improves for children who have access to outdoor spaces and learning.
Any time students can move around they are more engaged and learn better. Students need to get out and off of the technology more often to be healthier and more aware of their surroundings.
Outdoors is healthy and enjoyable.
Healthy for all learners
I believe outdoor learning engages students and provides students the opportunity to connect school learning with real-life.
Outdoor education is important for all those living in Nevada. Nevada is unique in that it has high desert, desert, mountain, and all sorts of ecosystems. There are diverse climates and wildlife. With the majority of the state population residing in two counties, there are hundreds of thousands of acres that are open for hiking, hunting, fishing, OHV, etc. I think all children should understand these diverse areas and be aware of all the outdoor activities there are in our state, so they can safely participate in them. Being outdoors also benefits children's emotional, physical, and mental health, so there are many benefits to knowing all that our great state has to offer.
It can be a great interdisciplinary lens to teach other subjects. It also is good for the whole child.
We support outdoor learning in education standards because there is a plethora of data to support the positive behaviors and overall learning that outdoor education provides.
I support this learning because youth have been staying more indoors. This breaks my heart as the outdoors is key to mental health as well as survival. Students need to be able to understand how to appreciate the outdoors, how to survive in the outdoors, and understand how the outdoors is key to our survival!
I was fortunate to grow up in the outdoors. And got more involved in college. It was then that I realized how much

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
it impacts my health and mental wellbeing. With the data showing how our youth mental health is declining, more exposure, knowledge and education on the outdoors to our youth can have a positive impact on mental health and transfer to the learning in the classroom.
It will increase student interests and participation.
Much like health education, physical education, outdoor learning is part of an overall approach to providing youth with an understanding of the world they live in and prepare them for independent life. Outdoor learning can apply and integrate STEM learning, history and more in a blended approach.
I support it because children need to learn about the world around them hands-on
The standards are skills designed to serve kids as they integrate into society as adults, and outdoor skills can be included in this
Incorporating outdoor learning into education standards is crucial for fostering holistic development in students. By engaging with nature, learners not only deepen their understanding of environmental concepts but also cultivate essential life skills. Outdoor education promotes physical health, encourages curiosity, and enhances creativity. Moreover, it instills a sense of stewardship towards the environment, fostering environmental consciousness and sustainability. Overall, integrating outdoor learning into education standards enriches academic experiences, nurtures well-rounded individuals, and prepares them to thrive in a diverse and dynamic world.
In certain instances, incorporating the 5 senses makes a greater impact and solidifies the lesson.
Exercise, teamwork, socialization - all important parts of being outdoors.
If kids have an opportunity to learn about the world around them, then they're more likely to want to preserve it for future generations.
Students need to get outside and be active in the sun and fresh air. Integrating outdoor learning into education standards helps students do just that while still learning in an educational environment.
No classroom focus academic studies give children a break from boring
Outdoor learning can improve children's mental and physical health, improve school performance, teach valuable skills, and help children connect with nature.
Outdoor learning is very important for our youth, and needs to be addressed and improved. There are many health benefits from being outside, and for some, might help improve their learning experience, as a rigid, indoor classroom might be too intense for them to relax, listen and learn. Not only is it good for children's health, it's also a great way to educate our youth about the environment they live in and how to harmoniously live with it, to help preserve it for future generations.
Most kids today don't get enough time outdoors.
I support integrating outdoor learning because it provides students with a different learning environment. I also support it because it provides a unique opportunity for teachers to educate with different techniques including visual and sensory.
Educating our students in the environment that can support their interests and inspire them can be very powerful.
Outdoor learning supports each child's ability to self-sustain and teaches accountability. Having the ability to read a compass/map, learn native plants/wildlife, grow food etc is such an important and useful skill that they will carry with them for a lifetime!
Students should experience the real world aspects of science. ex. plants, bird, grass, nature in general
Schools spend too much time on social learning whereas outdoor learning and recreation are natural activities that promote social interaction.
I think outdoor experiential education can be tremendously beneficial to youth, it also provides a different learning experience which can help with retention
Tranquility for both students and teachers/professors. Change of scenery can provide a reduction in stress. Students learn adaptability to different environments and learn new skills.
Kids need to learn to value outside time. Screen time is killing their desire to engage with other people and their surroundings. Classrooms don't provide the same environment or opportunities to learn about their environment.
Students, especially high school, are not granted enough opportunities to be outside throughout the day. They also have many stressors in life, and being in nature is a free way to feel more grounded and calm (note: nature therapy). Students WANT to go outside (just as much as elementary students) but we don't have the supports to allow them to do so. As they age, we take away recess and outdoor time as if they somehow can suddenly tolerate being in fluorescent lighting all day long, and even though we know being outdoors improves mental functioning.

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
Children feel less trapped when outside and don't feel cooped up
We as a society are slowly losing all connection to the outdoor by the way of technology. Children need to have a positive first experience in the outdoors to continue their exploration positively
Children need to be outside for their own mental well being as well as the teachers. Even if it's to get fresh air and have the sun beam on them. They need to move around, release pent up energy... move around and be more active and healthy rather than sitting non stop and be told not to fidget...
Society and changing culture constantly takes away from the outdoors only to be put in front of devices and screens. We should be grounded by the nature around us.
Increases mental and physical health. develops healthy habits and growth. children will learn to appreciate the outdoors and have a deeper connection with the environment to eventually come better stewards of the land
Because there is a lot of mis information spread to these groups that actual facts in a classroom setting would allow people to form there own opinion
It is very engaging, and students need as much engagement as possible, especially post-COVID.
Because kids were not designed to spend all their time inside with no choices, freedom, or opportunity to explore and develop their curiosity. Many bodies need physical experiences and stimulation to regulate their emotions and nervous systems. Children with privilege get more opportunity to be in nature, do outdoor sports, experience gardens and animal life. For me it is definitely an equity issue. If you live in multi-family housing, don't have discretionary income for recreation you are left out. Also most young parents may not have had exposure to nature/outdoor experiences, so they do not prioritize those for their children. I think our children's mental health crisis is tied to the disconnect from nature and outdoor play experiences.
Kids need connection to the outdoors.
Kids learn by experiences and memories. Classrooms are often too sterile and cookie cutter esp for kids that have attention issues or hate classroom and books. They get too much time on devices so best way is fresh air, sunlight, and being out
Being outside more, and learning about the landscapes, vegetation, wildlife and the dangers involved with being outside (wildfire, wildlife awareness) has a huge impact on children's education and their mental health. If we spend more time on outdoor learning, we can nurture their strong desire to continue their education, reduce their desire to be glued to technology and have more fun. Being outside is just generally good for you.
I support it because people need to be more sensitive to their environment.
There is evidence to prove outdoor learning enhances indoor learning. Students are more engaged, healthy, happy and learn hands on survival skills.
Outdoor learning calms students and allows them to remember better.
No one wants to sit inside and behind a desk all day. Introducing students to the outside world and learning about it makes sense.
Exposure to nature, the sunlight and just being outside is good for kids. Too much time under florescent lights is bad!!
There needs to be more stewards of the land who can work as well.
If it is integrated into the standards then it is more likely that the time will be made for it to happen.
Benefits learning
Outdoor learning provides students with valuable opportunities to connect with nature, engage in hands-on activities, and develop a deeper understanding of the environment. It also promotes physical activity and helps students develop important life skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and resilience.
To promote a balanced educational environment and make outdoor education an integral part of the learning process.
Being connected to nature is paramount to well being
It's beneficial to the students as well as to the morale of the staff.
I believe it is important for all students to experience the outdoors. We need to teach the future of preserving and caring for earth.
The environment is becoming less and less available through expansion amongst other things. Additionally, our resources being the driest state in the nation are of immense importance to protect. Teaching and explaining that will
In my experience as an educator and school administrator, students benefit greatly from outdoor education. They

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
disengage from technology and engage with nature - I have seen positive changes in attitude, demeanor, and academic and social outcomes when students are engaged in this way. The only way it will become a regular component of students' educational experience is if it is integrated into required standards. I'm for it!
Students who learn about the outdoors are more likely to take care of it.
<a href="https://wondervalleyoe.com/blog/why-outdoor-education-is-essential-for-kids/">https://wondervalleyoe.com/blog/why-outdoor-education-is-essential-for-kids/</a> This site can explain it better than I
Makes Science lessons more concrete. Improves mental health.
Changing environments for learning has been proven to reengage the brain for learning. Furthermore, novelty of a space engages the brain, in terms of serotonin, as getting something new, engaging in a favorite activity, or other methods that increase the brain's happiness. With this increased engagement, students' brains are better poised to receive and interact with information, thus allowing any standard the appropriate space to be mastered.
On one hand, I do believe it is important for our school population in particular to be introduced to nature and outdoor activities that they may not have an opportunity to be exposed to.
It's important to teach children how to explore the world in different ways. Having the knowledge of playing outside will help with being on tablets all day.
beneficial/ mental health benefits
It is important to have kids educated.
Self-care and influence
Getting outdoors is better for everyone's mental and physical health.
Fresh air is Great for everyone. Some of these school buildings literally look like jails. Concrete all gray no color whatsoever.
Change of scenery, learn about life-long concepts
Kids need to be outdoors. In today's society kids are indoors more due to technology. Plus, city kids have no choice but to be inside vs. suburb kids and country kids.
Kids these days aren't being taught how to enjoy the outdoors or how to take care of themselves. And for physical fitness reasons.
Students need a change in environment and scenery. Classrooms are stale and stuffy.
Kids need to be outside. We all do. It's important for our mental and physical health
Outdoor play reduces obesity, increases socialization, and the Vitamin D provides health benefits.
Because we need to teach children to appreciate our planet so that they will be dedicated to saving it.
Taking what we are learning in the classroom and applying it to real, tangible things.
I think it will help students regulate peace.
It's long been established that lack of outdoor learning is detrimental to children's growth and development.
I believe students learn best by being in different environments that allow their minds and bodies to connect and flourish.
The curriculum is easy to visualize due to the various landscape surroundings we have in Nevada
Nature is amazing for kids
Most of our modern day behavior issues stem from the restriction of being hooked on technology in a classroom building constantly
Studies show that time in nature help develop youth to be more confident, reduce stress and anxiety and some studies are showing that time outside may even reduce some of the symptoms of autism. Break from screens. More appreciation for nature and better stewardship for the future.
It provides a change of scenery for kids, and outdoor activities can help kids of any and all learning styles learn different concepts.
I am an environmental science teacher, and I would like to teach more outdoors
Please see previous answers. In addition to previous answers, children need sunshine, vitamin d, and fewer germs are spread outdoors. Further, many, many children are diagnosed with an illness -ADHD - and medicated - when what they really need is more exercise and time to run around outdoors. Outdoor learning supports children's health.
Children should be exposed to the world around them.
Outdoor learning provides our youth opportunities for collaboration and learning in natural environments through participation rather than passive listening or watching.

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
It teaches responsibility and work ethic
It is proven that children learn best when exposed to nature and the outdoors. Being able to have outdoor classrooms is getting harder and harder with a variety of restrictions that the district is implementing.
SEL and emotional regulation Environment & Citizenship Survival
Benefits to learning in an outdoor environment.
Although Physical Education (PE) is a requirement for graduation, there is not a requirement for students to take physical education daily, or during every year. Middle School PE, is being reduced in Clark County to accommodate instruction for a High School Credit Computer class and double block English Language Arts. Elementary PE, is also being reduced at many schools from a 2 in 5 day rotation, to once a week. Integration in overall education standards will increase student exposure to Outdoor Learning.
I used to work for and outdoor education facility in St. Louis and we sometimes had students visit the property who had never been in woods or prairies, and it was sad, but also seeing the students learning to enjoy the space was gratifying
fresh air, new environment can be stimulating and encourage creativity; students and teachers deserve a change in scenery; if integrated in to curriculum, shows real world application
To broaden the scope of learning to all students.
It will help greatly students with their mental health. Doing physical things can help tremendously with their capacity to learn.
Students are losing connections to their outdoor spaces because of lack of access and distractions from technology. And, it is the outdoor spaces that provide us our resources to live so students need to aware of their surroundings so they can take action to protect these places.
Fresh air and sunshine are essential to emotional support for children. As are other types of weather and learning how to 'play' in those types of weather. Not all student populations have access to gear for inclement weather.
I believe in the whole child educational priorities that enhance the full scope of a child's developmental needs to depend on welcoming learning environments and rich learning experiences in and out of a school setting.
It expands our minds. It's gives us an opportunity to connect with our youth.
Kids need to learn how to take care of their environment and where their food comes from.
I strongly support outdoor learning because it, I grew up out on a ranch alongside the Truckee River. Being able to walk to the river and take a dip or take a truck out 45 minutes to Pyramid Lake was something I value growing up. I believe children need to breathe in the environment they live and thrive. I broke down all things that are man-made are made from rocks and plants. The real questions were which formula to use. Each plant has a special quality and to be able to identify when & where they grew was something I gained as a naturalist and incorporated it into a career of growing baby plants. Growing up outdoors can lead into a career or passion.
I think outdoor learning is wonderful, but as far as placing it in standards, I think that is a great motivator, but the quality will depend upon the teachers and school leaders commitments. I would suggest quality will have higher impact over reaching large numbers with small and relatively un-impactful activities.
Kids need to get outdoors. Get out of the class. Breathe the air (unless there is too much pollution/pollen).
less tech, more exploring
The research on the positive physical, mental, academic and social impact when we integrate outdoor learning is overwhelming. It supports children (and teachers!) of all ages. It can also build on STEAM approaches to support learning and interest in Green Jobs for the future.
Because it will be healthy for the kids
So much more to learn then out of a book or a classroom. The outdoor environment is amazing.
Huxley's Island explains better than i can.
In the 70's and 80's had many more EE opportunities - we had a group called Nev Natural Resource Education Coalition - we didn't use EE - Resource education didn't cause concerns as much as the word 'environmental' WE did treacher workshops and student programs all over the state and collaborated with the USFS who had great EE programs then. Need desperately to get back in this mode with all the world concerns about environment - the need is really critical now the need to better send the message to everyone the importance of understanding the planet we live on and its needs for healthy respect.
Outdoor learning provides students with a large playground of learning opportunities. It can show direct application to what they are learning inside the classroom. Also, being in nature is shown to improve mental health



<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
and with a mental health crisis in the country, it is important to show students how to be outside.
Being outside while learning can make for a better environment.
Genuine and authentic education for students
fresh air always does a body good, getting vitamin D is always a plus students feel less confined
It is an important part of our ecosystem and we need to understand how to interact better with it.
When students use the outside to learn and play they learn to respect and take care of it more
Changing the learning environment always seems to increase engagement in the classroom.
fresh air
Being outside provides a fresh perspective for the teacher as well as the students, and it will stimulate learning while potentially relieving stress. The option for physical activity during outdoor lessons is a massive bonus and can easily be incorporated without too much opposition if it is low impact such as walking or exploring.
The place based aspects of outdoor learning improve overall education outcomes but presenting relevant phenomena to youth.
Fresh air is good for the brain.
Problems with obesity and mental health
Children have less time outdoors. Research supports physical activity and academic outcomes.
Outdoor access is vital to connect to Nature/Outdoors and key ingredients: fresh air, sunshine, exercise
Love that kids spend more time outside
.
It creates a better understanding of our role in our environment and how important it is to be respectful for others to enjoy.
Getting outside and knowing how or what to do in certain situations is EXTREMELY important. You can only get that kind of education from experience. Also, being outside and away from screens are IMPERATIVE for both mental and physical health
Integrating outdoor learning into education standards offers several benefits. First, it promotes experiential learning, allowing students to engage directly with nature, fostering a deeper understanding of ecological systems and environmental stewardship. Second, it enhances physical health by encouraging outdoor activity and reducing sedentary behavior. Third, it cultivates important life skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and resilience in unpredictable environments. Finally, it promotes mental well-being by providing opportunities for stress reduction and connection with the natural world. Overall, integrating outdoor learning enriches the educational experience and prepares students for success in a dynamic world.
It's just beneficial for students to get outside. Learn about our environment and there part in it. But also be out of a deal and be more hands on.
important to get students outside
Important
By introducing outdoor learning, children will become more comfortable functioning outdoors, whether in a work, or recreation setting.
because our kids don't know how to play outside anymore...they are so wrapped up in technology that they are no longer able to just be outside and use their imagination to play...they always need a device..they need to stop saying things like I'm bored and get outside and be kids.
Being outdoors has many physical and mental health benefits. Children learn best by exploring and asking questions.
I think it would be great to get kids outside, but everything in moderation. In Elko we have a lot of cold, wet weather. I think giving educators tools and resources is always a powerful move. Keep in mind our state is very diverse in terms of Elko county compared to Clarke county! Elko outdoor Ed will look much different so the standards will be met, how frequently?
Being connected with nature is good for the kids. Being outside and active helps with a healthy lifestyle. Even if choices outside of school hours don't go with the healthy lifestyle at least during school hours they will get that benefit.
Being outdoors promotes healthy habits into a child's life and can be incorporated into all areas of education.
I believe that the world should be seen as a classroom and learning environment, to help our students better appreciate the desert, environment, and the world we live in.

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards: (Stakeholders)</b>
Will improve education and retention while increasing breadth and depth of learning.
Children's behavior now a days are becoming more erratic and I believe changing some part of their routine learning environment into an adventure / fun activity like outdoor learning would somewhat make difference.
Children will be aware of the world they live in, learn about habitat, safety, animals, survival, and stewardship
I think students should know how to have good times outdoors and how to do gardening.
Today's youth (and actually most people) are so removed from nature that they don't realize how important natural environments are to the health of the planet. Most people probably couldn't even identify the common birds or other animals they see (or actually don't see) in their neighborhoods let alone out in a natural habitat. Kids especially need to spend less time on their digital machines (phones, iPads, etc.) and more time out in nature observing native plants and animals and learning more about how endangered so many of our habitats and species are.
Being outdoors generally promotes physical and mental health. If people enjoy being outdoors, it will motivate them to protect the environment and leave it better than they find it. It is a much better alternative to screen time.
Sitting inside classrooms made of concrete blocks for 6 hours a day instead of encouraging movement and play (especially in k-6) discourages healthy brain activity and can inhibit learning.
I think being outdoors is important for child development.
accommodates different learning styles, promotes unstructured play, helps with social skills, improves physical and mental health, better understanding of the natural environment

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you oppose integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards. (Stakeholders)</b>
<b>About 80 respondents indicated that they do not oppose without additional comment.</b>
Just not sure how it relates to our standards and academic learning.
I oppose outdoor learning integration if there is not adequate risk management and professional development for professionals to adequately facilitate this process. Just because a person is passionate about the outdoors does not mean they are qualified to be responsible for the safety of another person while outdoors, let alone many young persons. Just because an organization has experience and resources to engage with the outdoors does not mean they are always able to engage or educate youth effectively. Connecting these experiences for youth without adequate resources for risk management could end up hurting youth and therefore the entire project.
I just need more information on how to do this in the best way that is educational and uses our time wisely.
They also need to learn how to read, write and do math! Not enough time in the school year to do everything.
It's hot and you can lose kids
It could be distracting for students if they're not accustomed to it.
If it were a standard, we would HAVE to do it instead of it being optional or available to be included in our curriculum. Then it would be one more thing I had to integrate, whether it worked for me or not.
It could be too hot, mosquitos or bugs, difficulty concentrating
Outdoor Learning needs to be incorporated in a way that it does not cause too much of a burden on teachers, students, and parents. There are many stressors those groups are facing and outdoor learning should act as a release from stress rather than adding to it.
Safety concerns
In the northern Nevada area finding an outside location that supports learning is more times than not weather restrictive.
Some topics are better taught inside
It needs to be an option not a mandate.
Educators that act more as activists than teachers might misguide students.
I don't. The only concern would be the allergy kids.
I oppose Outdoor Learning if it is treated like recess by the students. I am concerned that it will not forward their learning skills if not linked with reading, writing, critical thinking and discussions.
Hopefully this space isn't used by many
Too much time away from other subjects

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you oppose integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards. (Stakeholders)</b>
I cannot see any way to fit outdoor education in the schedule based on current time restrictions. Educators cannot possibly fit it in with the current Tier I requirements and asking them to continually do more without additional time in the school day is a disservice to them and the students.
I don't oppose this. I think it's valuable. If I had to think of one reason I would say it is because children would be exposed to outside, potentially unsafe people. But that happens everyday anyhow
Legalities, current trends in education. Testing and paperwork seems to be the priority. The district is focus on not getting sued and parents are focused on finding opportunities to sue.
The opposition to integrating outdoor learning is the many other content standards that need to be covered in the classroom.
Will it be tested and standardized - applicability of standards as a 'one for all' without regard to reality of some school locations - personnel did not enter education to be nature teachers
Some cynics may see outdoor education as a gimmick, or as a waste of funding. I really do think that outdoor education and experiences can provide a well-rounded education, full of creative learning opportunities. I think that both children and parents need to be reminded sometimes that education doesn't only happen within four walls, nor does it end with 12th grade or college.
As a teacher I'm not trained in this, it doesn't seem to apply much to my subject area, and I'm not very interested in outdoorsy activities.
We have VERY large class sizes
Don't want to add a load to teachers without considerations of how they will be supported and ed. leaders developed to support implementation
I don't oppose anything about integrating outdoor learning. You just get beat down daily by CCSD. They do not see the value.
Maybe in the cold it wouldn't be so fun 😊
The amount of time and curriculum alignment to support grade level standards.
There needs to be a safe, quiet, place to do it, and some schools sadly may not have access to that
I don't oppose it, but it's hard to work into my content. We can take our work outside, which we do sometimes. But space is limited and only 2 classes at a time can be working outside. And my content isn't improved upon through outdoor learning standards. The most I know how to do is simply take paperwork outside so they get some sun.
Teacher pay and scheduling can be conflicts
Some students truly may be uncomfortable going outside in some circumstances, like allergies, hypersensitivity, etc. Hopefully there is options.
Management of children, safety of children
Can cause heath issues and behavior issues
As a former teacher, there are so many regulated standards that it isn't feasible to implement everything that is suppose to be implemented. It is one more thing. If its out of the teacher's comfort zone, it isn't going to be taught.
Ongoing attacks by dogs
Some people say that teaching kids to go outdoors (especially city kids) will create, down the road, an increased use of our natural resources. The increase in outdoor users can cause general overuse of outdoor places; however, I feel that society members are not productive, healthy, or mentally healthy if they cannot get outdoors. So getting people outdoors should be a #1 goal for our country. The effect that increased outdoor use has upon the wilderness has to be monitored as well.
There might also be concerns about curriculum coverage and meeting academic standards within the constraints of outdoor settings. Some stakeholders might argue that focusing on outdoor learning detracts from other important educational priorities or that it's not feasible to allocate resources for outdoor education within existing budgets
Outdoors can be a huge distraction.
I would recommended that spaces designed and built for the Vegas heat is essential. Our students need to be outside, but they need to able to be in a place that accommodates their learning in the Vegas weather.
If I'm not given the appropriate training and time, then it just interferes with instruction
A classroom is well-suited for most types of learning and it isn't always transferrable to the outdoors in an effective way.
Weather plays a huge part in whether of not kids can be outside.
I don't see a reason to oppose anything new because we can't get any worse. It can only get better from where

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you oppose integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards. (Stakeholders)</b>
we're at.
#1 function is critical thinking and working knowledge of reading, writing, math, civics, and factual history as opposed to revised history.
There would need to be specific curriculum connections that are expected otherwise outdoor Ed becomes working on your Chromebook outside. It is just a substitution that doesn't really improve learning. This is much like the use of computers in class. Most of the activities are just the same as what was done before but just typing or reading on the Chromebook. This doesn't enhance learning. I would fear similar things might happen with outdoor education
Not opposed but most of our work uses computers and the wifi does not reach the outside areas which makes it difficult to move the classroom outdoors.
There is too much already to cover. Not enough time or support especially when you consider behaviors. The younger the students, the more micromanagement is necessary. We don't have aides to help with classroom projects.
Weather and time constraints with a lack of 'outdoor classroom' facilities makes learning outdoors impractical.
I have no opposition. I do, however, understand the challenges that educational institutions are faced with that hinder outdoor education.
TIME
There is a risk in all things. But does that risk out way the benefits? Probably not. So I say go for it.
My concern might have more to do with lack of appropriate clothing, not all kids show up to school dressed for the elements especially winter in northern Nevada. Offering sunscreen when outside would be nice.
If there is no connection to the land, then do not do it, let's not teach our children to exploit the outdoors.
Not an academic and schools cannot be responsible for everything.
On the other hand, there is the question of if outdoor education is to be part of the curriculum, who will have to teach it, what will he/she use and where, in a day that is already overloaded with required curriculum, is this supposed to be taught.
If not carefully managed, outdoor learning can become a dumping ground for children. If not used towards pragmatic ends and with good intentions it can just become dead time serving no purpose and further detracting from a child's educational experience.
More work and organization efforts for teachers.
Appropriate space is an issue. Safety and behavior management could be an issue.
I just want to emphasize the need to give the student the foundation of Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic while incorporating outdoor activities.
Well....you'd need to take out something else! Plus: leave out all the DEI baloney. Our Social Studies curriculum is ruined because it's all about teaching children how awful people used to be. Let nature be nature...
I do not oppose this learning. I only worry about the logistics.
The weather can sometimes prohibit us from being outside, not that we can truly control that.
I don't feel we should require it, I feel we should enhance our options and encourage it.
If it becomes a standard, then teachers will think of it as 'one more thing' Instead, it should be incorporated
In the high school, it can be difficult to carve time away from the designated curriculum. However, it's totally worth it.
Time and training
Always afraid of 'standards' set by someone who doesn't know about the REAL standards of life!!
More time requirements would be impossible to meet
If it is just moving a class outside with no connection to what is being taught, what is the purpose of the effort to move students, find space, and encourage engagement?
There are too many standards already. I strongly support outdoor education, but not the creation of outdoor education standards.
In my state the heat and cold are the only factors.
Very important
Weather
I would oppose outdoor learning if this puts children at any risk (ex heat exposure, poor air quality, risk of insect bits, etc.). Additionally if outdoor learning is taking away from other education standards

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you oppose integrating outdoor learning into overall education standards. (Stakeholders)</b>
Outdoor education is fundamental to our kids understanding and integration into the world around them. It should not need to be a government requirement...although, as noted above, it's unlikely to be implemented if it's not required and any associated costs are not funded.
I don't oppose it, but I understand concerns schools would have about access to outdoor space as well as student safety. I also know from my teaching experience that until students are trained on it, outdoor learning can be very distracting.
It's critical --- so help teachers be better able to support it
Let kids get sucked into a digital world? Don't let me think of the future as bleak.
I have no opposition to integrating Outdoor Learning into overall education standards; get the children outside!
How many teachers have time and access to adequate outside areas to teach and evaluate students on outdoor learning standards? I'm surmising very few.
Lack of properly trained staff trying to do activities with kids that become dangerous without proper training

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor education into overall education standards. (Stakeholders)</b>
Access for all - expectation that it will be included in learning
Outdoor education will benefit students and may inspire them and help them reach their potential
As stated previously
The evidence supporting outdoor education and the positive impact it has on integrated academic learning is overwhelming. We need to support school systems to understand and build this into curriculums, and invest in the professional development of teachers to enable it.
Ultimately my answer is the same as the answer for Outdoor LEARNING.
Teaches work ethic
Not sure how this question is different from previous: accommodates different learning styles, promotes unstructured play, helps with social skills, improves physical and mental health, better understanding of the natural environment
Explained in previous questions. Experiential learning outdoors have been proven to be the most effective way of educating students but need to use good science.
This is more effective than classroom learning, and engages students immediately. When children, especially at risk youth, get outdoors and identify with beauty and vastness, it mirrors their own self-worth back to them. They become invested, and find solace enough to realize that they DO MATTER. This is the magic of nature.
Outdoor Education allows students to better understand and appreciate the world around them.
Repeat question.
It is easier to learn about ecology if you can experience it. Being in the place you are learning about helps with engagement.
Learning about the environment is extremely important for children to gain skills in resource management. They need to learn about where their food comes from, not just the grocery store. They need to learn that we do not have unlimited resources. If they haven't learned about the environment, they won't understand the need to preserve what we have.
Learning about the outdoors and what your community and other communities may offer is supper important to our youth. Learning how to respect the area and its wildlife is very important as well as conserving and making sure it is still around for the next generation.
1) Outdoor learning promotes mental health. There is strong scientific evidence to support the positive impact of nature on people's mental health and overall wellbeing. Simply the exposure to sunlight can boost serotonin levels in the body, enhancing overall mood and focus. This would mean that students, in an outdoor setting, would 'feel' more apt to learn. 2) Nature offers realistic and hands-on opportunities for learning. Many classroom lessons can be adapted to learning outdoors, even when a topic may not seem possible. For example, a lesson in diversity- whether in science or humanities- can be applied through nature. A teacher can take their classroom to the parking lot of their school and calculate the richness and abundance in car types. A teacher can take their students outside, sit in a circle underneath a tree, and listen to a story told by an elder about their

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor education into overall education standards. (Stakeholders)</b>
people and their life living on the land. A teacher can take their students on a walk around their school/garden and look for all kinds of bugs. These examples can all be tied to diversity and can all be done in an outdoor setting. 3) Opportunity to become connected to- and stewards of the land. When students are able to physically interact with the land- the plants, the soil, the water- and care for it, then they are more likely to want to do it in the future. Get students involved in designing and building a garden- watch how many students become more engaged in the process. A gardening lesson can easily be tied to stewardship. A gardening lesson can be easily tied to educational standards, especially those part of the Next Generation Science Standards.
Need to get the kids off the phone and computers and outside
Outdoor learning provides students with valuable opportunities to connect with nature, engage in hands-on activities, and develop a deeper understanding of the environment. It also promotes physical activity and helps students develop important life skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and resilience.
I feel like I'm repeating myself... Being outdoors is good for your health
It is important to learn about the environment in which you live
Increasing understanding of connections between ecology and community helps lead to more sustainable outcomes in future. Shared appreciation of nature can also be point of shared value which can reduce conflict and increase tolerance
Outdoor activities help calm stress
We need to educate the whole child. Outdoors open up a new world to youth. It can support coping and stress management strategies, emotion regulation, and finding joy and hope.
Reducing obesity, socialization, and Vitamin D.
Native plants and natural fire management techniques are how we are going to fix things, and if we get kids invested and interested or at least a little bit knowledgeable when they're young they'll have a better toolset to be sustaining and intentional adults.
Already stated
If it is in the standards then there will be funding for it and no pressure to balance this with demands for improving test scores. It needs to 'check a box'
It's important for kids to understand the natural world and how to preserve our Earth
As a standard educators and administration would be responsible for instruction of the standard.
It is time for the education system to change for the better. Our antiquated system is not working. Successful schools integrate many changes to the old and tired system, and one of the changes should be more outside learning opportunities.
Get to know and enjoy outdoor activities
Makes for better local and world citizens
First, this state is a place where this can actually happen in a substantive way. Second, as I said, I grew up doing this and it's the reason I moved here.
The benefits to exercise and being outside are endless!
Natural systems provide the basic necessities of live. Understanding the natural world can be done at any level of education and should be done at all levels.
It can be tied into any lesson.
Same as prior page
Being outside for anyone relives stress, increases productivity and imagination. The health benefit is enormous on many levels.
Children need space to move and experience the natural world in a safe learning environment while learning.
It would be easier for teachers to teach if it they the outdoor education is already included in the standards rather than having them look for lessons to teach.
It is practical
It would be beneficial for many students to learn more about helping Nevada's wildlife and bio
I think it would be fun to have outdoor education added for students to learn more about where they live.
Answered this already
I believe that now, more than ever our children need to be outside! I also think it should be a life skill that we at the very least know how to grow our own food. To be sustainable and not dependent.
Improve real life applicability and better understanding of professional and job opportunities that really exist.

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor education into overall education standards. (Stakeholders)</b>
Because we need change and this is what you're offering
It's important
Let's give our kids more opportunities!
Outdoor education is important for all those living in Nevada. Nevada is unique in that it has high desert, desert, mountain, and all sorts of ecosystems. There are diverse climates and wildlife. With the majority of the state population residing in two counties, there are hundreds of thousands of acres that are open for hiking, hunting, fishing, OHV, etc. I think all children should understand these diverse areas and be aware of all the outdoor activities there are in our state, so they can safely participate in them. Being outdoors also benefits children's emotional, physical, and mental health, so there are many benefits to knowing all that our great state has to offer.
Same reason as before
Providing students the opportunities for outdoor education sounds fantastic if we have the time, resources, and training.
Because children could start learning and expanding their knowledge and make informed decisions on projects and issues
Students who live in rural areas struggle to make learning connections to their outdoor world. They don't understand jobs or opportunities for outdoor learning or jobs.
Strongly support any outdoor education into overall education.
More social interaction, it promotes more creative thinking and offers opportunity for problem solving and life skills, it could help decrease behavior problems and increase productivity among students. It gives kids a different atmosphere for learning and encourages different learning styles. It can also encourage independent learning and improve moods.
Hands on experience Life skills
Student engagement
We need to reinforce the value of the outdoors as an intrinsic part of our being
I think that basic outdoor skills and an understanding of one's environment should be an essential part of education.
The children need the opportunity to see how their environment affects their learning abilities.
It seems to fit into all subjects
To give children skills and foster their independence as well as teach them about being good stewards of the planet.
Children who are aware of the outdoors are more likely to be good stewards of the land when they are older and care about their local ecosystems
For physical & mental health and helping create adults who will be responsible when recreating, leaving it better than they found it for the environment and others.
Children learn so much from nature, it's important that they are able to engage with the natural surroundings. It will also help to raise citizens who care about the environment.
Learning how to survive and thrive in our habitat should be a basic skill possessed by citizens.
If we look at school as preparation for the work force, it's worth noting there are many jobs that involve working with and interacting in the outdoors. From an educational perspective, it provides more opportunities to learn. And from a social perspective, it helps students decide what role they want to play in how natural spaces exist.
Getting students to experience outside learning helps them understand nature better. It builds an appreciation of the natural world.
By integrating outdoor education skills you are showing students real world applications of classroom skills. For instance map reading in nature vs out of a book. By connecting the skill to real life meaning and engagement increase leading to better learning outcomes
Incorporating outdoor learning into education standards is crucial for fostering holistic development in students. By engaging with nature, learners not only deepen their understanding of environmental concepts but also cultivate essential life skills. Outdoor education promotes physical health, encourages curiosity, and enhances creativity. Moreover, it instills a sense of stewardship towards the environment, fostering environmental consciousness and sustainability. Overall, integrating outdoor learning into education standards enriches academic experiences, nurtures well-rounded individuals, and prepares them to thrive in a diverse and dynamic

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world.
We try to teach outdoor education indoors and it is not relatable.
So important for student well being.
I consider outdoor education essential to fostering a well educated citizen, especially in the harsh desert environment of Nevada. Learning about nature foster an appreciation for the facilities that make outdoor activities possible, such as dams that create lakes.
Humans need to care about nature and outdoors in order to make changes. Kids are the future and we need them to be involved stewards of the environment to have a planet that we can live on.
Practical experience and hands on learning outdoors can offer another avenue to teach kids that struggle in traditional classroom environments.
Please see the reasons provided previously.
It is important to incorporate the standards into our everyday lives.
Keeps them busy & sparks interests
All student should have an opportunity that puts them in the best place for them to be successful.
There are ways to integrate Outdoor recreation into all content areas, which good teachers can help with.
Bringing education to the outdoors benefits mood overall and connects students to the real world. They begin to find many of the outdoor interests fun and could continue that type if interest into a deeper knowledge and will be efficient in different skills
Benefit to our children
Helps children become more aware of how interconnected the world is and how important it is to be good caretakers
It is very easy to integrate outdoor education into the standards. The roughest students usually will respond favorably to being outside. It is also great for kids with special needs.
The outdoors is a major part of our living environment. Learning how our daily lives interact and are connected with the outdoor environment is important. Learning cause and effect, what we do here affects what is there.
Children should familiarize themselves with how to properly interact or, if needed, avoid native animals and flora
Studies show that time in nature help develop youth to be more confident, reduce stress and anxiety and some studies are showing that time outside may even reduce some of the symptoms of autism. Break from screens. More appreciation for nature and better stewardship for the future.
It makes Science lessons more hands on
Outdoor education provides life skills
Outdoor education is important and integrating it into overall education standards helps hold teachers and schools accountable for getting students outdoors.
It makes learning more comprehensive because it gives student the opportunity to experiment directly with nature what they learn in the classroom.
Genuine and authentic education for students
Not every kid has someone willing or knowledgeable to work with them outside, but I feel so much of our outdoor education is importan to safety.
The current coursework selected for education in our systems has no doubt served a purpose and has done so very well over several generations; however, these curricula aren't being supported as important as they once were when evaluating how today's world (or the world of the future) is meant to be experienced. The topics of Outdoor Education would foster a greater sense of connection to what truly matters when exploring this world and to what lessons (life lessons not just educational know-how) we are meant to instill within our youth population as they age. Many topics of Outdoor Education can translate into effective skills and a more holistic approach to interests and passions.
This is an interesting distinction between outdoor learning and outdoor education and I'm not sure there is a real difference. Do you consider outdoor education survival skills?
This type of learning activates all parts of the brain.
It helps establish a connection between how us as humans are all connected to the earth and our surroundings.
Children need to learn about nature and how to protect it.
The environment is essential to human well-being, and the more students are aware of it, the better off humanity will be.



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I think that students today do not spend enough time outdoors and have an excess amount of energy for constant indoor learning. They would learn more effectively if outdoor learning were part of weekly lessons.
Physical activity, fresh air, and learning how amazing the outdoors is. Also for the ability to learn why it is so important to have and take care of our outdoor areas and water resources in our State.
It's beneficial for growth
Integrating outdoor education into standards could increase opportunities for youth who may not be exposed to outdoor education otherwise. It could eventually contribute to increased diversity and participation in outdoor recreation. It could also allow for more widespread education on safe and sustainable outdoor recreation.
Young people don't just learn from reading textbooks and taking tests. True learning comes from experiencing the world through our senses and creating lasting memories. We observe and learn through our senses. To truly grow and learn, we must engage all our senses - seeing, smelling, hearing, tasting, and touching the world around us. This is why I am supportive of outdoor education.
It is good to learn outdoors and connect that to the topic being learned. Plus, it offers a change in learning.
Increases physical activities, promotes free thought and expression.
Learn skills out the close areas
There is no reason not to incorporate outdoor education into the curriculum, and so it makes sense to develop a standard of understanding the outdoors by which we can measure understanding of the material presented.
Sitting inside for 8 hours with only a few short breaks can be difficult for many children.
Outdoor skills
Growing up, I was required to do an outdoor education unit in elementary school. To this day, it is the only useful thing I remember learning in elementary school. I loved that we had to learn how to survive in our native wilderness and learn about our access to nature and weather and features of our surrounding areas. I think that being knowledgeable about the outdoors is as much a life skill as driving. Students should know how to access natural areas, understand weather and the importance of weather safety (think lightning, thunderstorms, flash flooding, heat stroke, etc.) while outside, and be able to appreciate and acknowledge the land that we live in. It also would be a great way to include native tribal land use discussions into school as well. We should teach students about all the Earth can provide us and how to take care of her responsibly. When students are more connected to nature, they are more likely to utilize and understand appropriate practices, such as leave no trace. If we created standards for outdoor ed, then students could take electives with those standards and use outdoor ed as a way to fulfill their electives credit. Schools need more elective opportunities for students anyhow.
To learn about things only that can be learned outdoors
It is important
We live in a beautiful place with so much to offer outside, yet many kids do not have the opportunity to learn about it.
Children are our future and need to learn how to manage and survive with nature around them, learning planting habits and growing their knowledge
New studies are showing the detrimental effect of focusing only on school testing. Students need more play and they need more outdoor experiences in order to develop their social-emotional learning and to develop confidence that fights against anxiety.
It can be hands on science. It teaches children to care about nature. There are lots of reasons.
The natural world gives students a future
I am a firm believer that there exists a certain minimum set of skills and knowledge that all people should have regarding the outdoors. Historically this education has fallen to family or outside groups (boy scouts, etc.) but as this line of information falters, children may not have access to what I would consider basic knowledge and skills. Furthermore, outdoor education introduces a very pragmatic environment to learn problem solving and critical thinking skills in a way that they would not be exposed to in a classroom environment. This impacts students in a far greater way than simply being able to hike or build a fire and can benefit all students in all walks of life. There also exists a subset of students, particularly in urban and underserved communities, where exposure to outdoor education through public means may be the only opportunity they have in their formative years to obtain these experiences and knowledge. On an additional note, youth who are not exposed to the outdoors grow into adults who are apathetic towards the outdoors and natural concerns. If we want people to care about our natural lands and the outdoors, this experience is critical.

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Kids need an appreciation of the area where they live from a Geographical and Historical standpoint
Gets students engaged in the Nevada landscape, supports appreciation and understanding of the environment and supports interest/knowledge of agriculture/food sustainability
1st career before being a public school educator was USDA Forest Service/USDI BLM Outdoor Recreation specialist and Public Information Services. Included interpretation and outdoor education. I know the value of outdoor education to the public and youth.
Every human at this point needs an education on climate change, resilience, native plants. For mental health as well these kids need to know how to go outside, what to do outside.
Important for students to learn about nature and get away from screens
Being connected to nature is paramount to one's well being
It is important to have educated kids.
Already did on the previous page.
Outdoor education and skills intersect with and support aspects of core curriculum.
Outdoor education introduces students to a form of learning that exercises the brain in a different way.
Moments of solitude out in nature, learning about the environment (NOT to touch poison ivy, learning where clean water is in creeks and rivers), learning how to live with the environment - not just take from it
Real life examples and references
Students need to learn to appreciate and seek outdoor spaces and time away from technology
We all need to get outside
Appreciation and knowledge about the outdoors is likely to result in youth wanting to spend more time doing outdoor activities which is good for health, wellness and learning.
Many of our children are at the risk of being obese and don't play outside like they used to. we need to change the way we look at the outdoors.
For knowledge of our lands and natural resources
Outdoor skills are an imperative part of life. We never know what may happen to us at any given time, especially in an outdoor setting. It's important to understand how you can prepare and protect yourself, and integration of these skills into education standards would greatly benefit the lives of youth.
This will engage students and increase their motivation for learning.
There aren't assessments provided to teachers with the standards listed to have students show what they learned.
Hands on is best for kids to learn
Students who typically struggle may excel while outdoors
It's very important for the future of our youth to be educated on the outdoors.
Outdoor learning is very important for our youth, and needs to be addressed and improved. There are many health benefits from being outside, and for some, might help improve their learning experience, as a rigid, indoor classroom might be too intense for them to relax, listen and learn. Not only is it good for children's health, it's also a great way educate our youth about the environment they live in and how to harmoniously live with it, to help preserve it for future generations.
Students need to know about the outdoors
Our society currently tends to produce children who are dependant on electronic devices for entertainment and learning. Outdoor learning opportunities let them 'unplug' and think independently, while discovering nature and learning to appreciate it. Without that appreciation and respect, future generations are in trouble- they won't know where their food comes from, how to survive in outdoor environments, how to sustain themselves and their environment in a healthy manner. People need to have a balance in their lives, and outdoor activities reduce stress and increase physical development while allowing them to think and reflect- healthy behaviors, as opposed to spending their days in front of a tv or video game.
<a href="https://wondervalleyoe.com/blog/why-outdoor-education-is-essential-for-kids/">https://wondervalleyoe.com/blog/why-outdoor-education-is-essential-for-kids/</a> Again, this site explains it better than I
I feel there is a positive connection and students will have more success
Nature conservation, basic navigation and survival skills - these are topics that should be offered to our youth K-12.
It teaches independence and self-reliance; it also demonstrates the interconnectedness of systems better than

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any diagram.
I support this learning because it helps students see they why in so many things. It also helps them be able to see that the outdoors is important. It is a vital biome that allows us to survive. We need to take care of it, so it can take care of us. Plus when students learn outdoors it improves their mood and health.
Learning about the environment and outdoors that sustains our society is paramount. All children should learn the basics of how our food is grown, how we get drinking water, how our societal pursuits impact the environment and how to have fun responsibly outdoors
It's part of life nature has been here way before us and getting to know it can benefit in the long run run to care for out eco system
For the reasons I mentioned in an earlier question regarding educational topics and mental health purposes.
For same reason as before
EVERY child should have access to outdoor education. Without education standards, many schools will ignore the need for students to engage and learn about the great outdoors
Modern life is disconnecting people from the outdoors and physical skills development. This would help reverse this so youth would possess the necessary physical and mental skills to safely recreate in the outdoors.
Getting outdoors is better for everyone's mental and physical health.
We get one Earth and learning to take care of it, appreciate it and be a part of it is important. Also as stated before, learning with your hands and full experience is so beneficial. And with the growing short attention span of children, this would be vital to helping them learn.
Support for reasons previously stated.
It is good for the kids
All students need to learn about the outdoors, plants, animals, pollution, the environment, and all that fun stuff.
It could be someone's passion!
Students need a sense of community and outdoor learning builds that naturally.
It's proven beneficial to children and adults of all ages, and can make a major impact in a variety of ways
We need to raise better stewards of our earth and students who appreciate the world around them.
Same as the previous questions. Kids need to be outside. they thrive outside and if they can learn and be knowledgeable about the landscape they are surrounded by, how to respect and take care of it it would benefit the entire community as a whole.
Our in-school presentations have been widely received, fostering positive relationships with students and teachers. There is a demand among educators and teachers alike for outdoor education in the class and associated field trips.
Kids will learn more. Why teach the kids about fossils if they never get to find any where they live???
In general, most educators are already stressed to provide the current standards, and will only provide education to meet the required standards. Teachers unions currently strongly oppose the integration of anything that's not absolutely mandated, and will fight any attempts to add tasks to a teacher's roster.
Integrating outdoor education into education standards can create a richer, more engaging learning environment that supports students' academic, physical, mental, social, and emotional development. It fosters a holistic approach to education that prepares students for the complexities of the real world while promoting a lifelong connection to nature and environmental stewardship.
Integrating outdoor learning into education standards offers several benefits. First, it promotes experiential learning, allowing students to engage directly with nature, fostering a deeper understanding of ecological systems and environmental stewardship. Second, it enhances physical health by encouraging outdoor activity and reducing sedentary behavior. Third, it cultivates important life skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and resilience in unpredictable environments. Finally, it promotes mental well-being by providing opportunities for stress reduction and connection with the natural world. Overall, integrating outdoor learning enriches the educational experience and prepares students for success in a dynamic world.
It's needed. Our youth need to be exposed to outdoor elements for many different development needs and growth.
Providing kids with real-world experiences helps to activate their minds and provides children with less distractions if done on a daily basis.
We are all stewards to our environment, and it is our responsibility to help ensure it will be there for future

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generations. Part of that responsibility includes teaching younger generations skills and knowledge learned in outdoor education programs.
I rarely come across a student (7 yo) that knows outdoor safety of skills and I think they should.
Students need to learn about the outdoors to take care of it.
It provides a new way to view the academics
Drowning is the #2 cause of accidental death for children, second only behind car crashes. We can directly impact these accidents by teaching children of all ages to be safe in, on, and around the water. Learning about the outdoors keeps our community safer, healthier, and happier, whether by the water, in the mountains, in the desert, or anywhere!
So many students do not get outside anymore. They are always 'plugged' in. It is amazing to see them light up when they realize what is outside.
Children learn better through hands-on, experiential learning. Outdoor learning helps learners with different learning styles. Time outdoors is good for youth mental health, which is a serious and growing issue.
It will improve the child's mental health to be outside
I already answered this question.
Learning in different environments helps learners access information
Connecting students to their place is important for many reasons. Outdoor Education supports the development of a sense of place by engaging students in their environment on the deepest level by visiting local parks, national parks, and other natural areas. Overall, outdoor experiences should be woven into students' prep-12 career at every stage and according to developmental levels. David Sobel also has a great ideas about what is appropriate for outdoor education at different levels.
I believe many skills and connections with the outdoors are being lost.
Healthy for students to go outside
It helps the kids with life skills
knowledge of the world around us, stewardship, animals and their habitats, the joy of being outdoors
Children need to connect to the outdoors so they learn to take care of it.
If it is integrated into overall education standards, it won't be the teachers' or students choice to attend or not. It should be a requirement.
Children spend way too much time on electronics and really need to learn about reality. Nature can be harsh, but there is also so much amazing beauty and joy and reality out there.
Outdoor learning should be a vital part of all K-12 curriculum. Not only are we creating safe places for children to develop and enjoy the outdoors but also encouraging stewardship principals for younger generations.
Students will be interested and want to participate.
Students need to know more about what is outside the school walls.
Children can benefit from learning basic outdoor skills. Too many children wouldn't know what to do in some outdoor situations if no one ever took the time to show them the benefits and dangers of the outdoors.
As an outdoor enthusiast, I understand that everyone has different levels of enthusiasm for outdoor activities. But in general, getting kids and people out into nature is good for body and mind and can build confidence in new situations, whether they plan to continue doing those activities in the future or not. Additionally, exposing kids that may not have considered outdoor activities previously may open the door to a whole new world of things to do.
I teach science so integrating the standards into outdoor education wouldn't be too difficult.
Students need a well-rounded education, which involves outdoor education.
Gets kids out of the building
It promotes awareness and sensitivity.
Our kids are being ruined by technology and it needs to be prioritized and written down so teachers have to do it...there needs to be more outside play time that is unstructured.
Although Physical Education (PE) is a requirement for graduation, there is not a requirement for students to take physical education daily, or during every year. Middle School PE, is being reduced in Clark County to accommodate instruction for a High School Credit Computer class and double block English Language Arts. Elementary PE, is also being reduced at many schools from a 2 in 5 day rotation, to once a week. Integration in overall education standards will increase student exposure to Outdoor Learning.

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Physical and mental health benefits associated with physical activity are well documented. Ecological benefits also help society as a whole. Learning about how to interact with the outdoors goes hand-in-hand with both of those. Healthy habits learned early set up said habits to continue throughout life.
Increases awareness of natural resource career paths for young people.
While creating a standard supports uniformity in bringing outdoor education to schools, making it a standard may create a metric that has to be met that could detract from the learning experience. It should be fun, not a checkbox schools need to complete.
We should be teaching children everything about living on this planet.
Break the monotony of the routine indoor learning.
If we do not teach people these skills as children, the likelihood of them learning them as adults is much lower. By teaching these skills, we will not only open the door to a whole other world of exploration for Nevada children, we gain better stewards of Nevada's outdoors.
If it will benefit the students and give them more play time then I support it fully.
It's needed. Kids need to get away from tech and get more in touch with nature
Enhances students' overall learning; provides another way to reinforce concepts taught in the classroom setting; not all students learn by reading text or listening to the teacher explain - many learn by doing and outdoor education provides hands-on experiences
Kids need to learn more about the environment and our influence upon it. They need to respect the environment and care for it. This is all we have.
I think it's important for our school population to be exposed to outdoor learning opportunities.
It gets kids who normally don't have the opportunities to get out and learn about there environment to do so.
It's important for our youth
We need people who are capable in more things than simply manufacturing, not talking to one another, and passing a test. We need those who know how to grow, how to cook, how to heal, how to clean, how to be patient/caring/calm, how to connect. This will do that.
Outdoor-related education provides context for disciplines already covered in schools, such as geology, biology environmental science, etc. Outdoor Ed can provide lifelong benefits, unlike some other topics taught in public schools...such as imaginary numbers. What was that about?
This is important to overall health and well-being of children as well as nature.
Teaching to the whole child is very important. We need farmers, and ranchers in order to support the community and if students don't know that those are career options they will never get to explore them.
Children need to be taught these fundamental life skills, as integral parts of a healthy late 21st century academic education.
Being in nature is known to benefit children's mental and physical development as well as improve their immune system and mental and physical health. Not only will they be healthier and happier, but we also need future generations who value our natural areas and want to preserve them for future generations to benefit from and enjoy. With natural areas being destroyed more and more for development, now is the time for raising generations who will value the land and work to integrate nature into our cities, rather than destroying it. Children can not appreciate something they don't know about and have never experienced.
For better or worse standards guide what happens in the classroom. I support integrating outdoor education into education standards as it supports teachers and schools more easily justifying class time and resources toward outdoor education.
Understanding how to protect the environment will make for a more well-rounded citizen
Outdoor learning allows students the opportunity to connect what they are learning in school with their leisure time and becoming a lifelong learner.
It makes real life connections to standard curriculum. This is motivating to students.
All children benefit from learning outdoor skills and learning more about nature and the outdoor environment, and not all children have that opportunity at home.
Knowledge is power.
When we grew up, we were able to take small walks down to the river to visit the animals, seek out owl pellets for science class, and get out for simply fresh air as a classroom.
For safety reasons and for the safety of our wilderness first responders, and to get kids outside.

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you support integrating outdoor education into overall education standards. (Stakeholders)</b>
It allows for variety in learning
Outdoor education can easily be linked into standard education standards, especially Science and art.
To help the overall well-being of children. Allowing an outlet for them to destress
I think its beneficial for youth (and all people) to spend time in nature and learn more about the environment that we live in.
Kid mind development is greater when the learn how to play and interact outdoors with other kids .
Nature is real life.
Students need to learn to live off the land.
If it is integrated, then the time will be given for it to happen.
The environment is rapidly deteriorating, and these students are our best bet for creating a better future. Outdoor education is extremely important to help kids regulate their emotions as well as foster a sense of stewardship for their environment. Teach students about environmental science and they will thrive.
Because its an easy and effective way of teaching respect for the planet and our environment
Fresh air, happier children, academic improvement
Great for all kids
I am an environmental science teacher and believe real life learning matters
Students need to understand their connection with the world (outside environment) around them. Their understanding matters in how they perceive themselves as interconnected.
It is good for kids.
Students need to be cognizant of the world around them, feel comfortable in the curiosity it breeds, and feel confident in facing real world application of classroom concepts. The connection between 'school' and 'world' is critical in building a well-rounded student who can utilize the world around them to make educated, thoughtful decisions.
It is important to understand our ecosystem(s)
Standards guide teachers in what to target.

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you oppose integrating outdoor education into overall education standards. (Stakeholders)</b>
There are too many standards, rules, regulations, policies, procedures assigned by Dept of Education and Districts. Nothing is ever removed to allow for 'new' standards and time to do 'new'.
There might also be concerns about curriculum coverage and meeting academic standards within the constraints of outdoor settings. Some stakeholders might argue that focusing on outdoor learning detracts from other important educational priorities or that it's not feasible to allocate resources for outdoor education within existing budgets
I think teachers already have too much on their plate. I also believe that if it is like so many other programs the Clark County School District has mandat5ed, they do not put enough time, effort, resources and money into doing it the correct way which results in a rushed 30-minute before-school video and then left to teachers to jam the program into an already overloaded schedule.
I do not oppose integrating outdoor education standards.
Again, zero opposition
None. There is zero harm in adding the standards.
The cold weather 🖱
I do not oppose it.
I do not.
Liability and external factors
Safety
I have none
I do not oppose.
I support integrating outdoor education into education standards, but what to emphasize that monetary and professional learning support for schools, teachers, and outdoor education providers is crucial to expanding

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you oppose integrating outdoor education into overall education standards. (Stakeholders)</b>
outdoor education programming for youth.
More responsibilities for teacher
I do not that's crazy look where that got us. Its HOT here folks!
Same as previously stated- I oppose outdoor education without adequate resources for risk management and professional development training. I also am opposed to providing outdoor education without adequate funding for transportation- all students in Nevada should be able to see the sights our state has to offer, whether gas will cost \$2 or \$2000. It shouldn't be that students can only see what's closest to them based on geographic or income demographics.
Time.
Again, there needs to be access.
I do not
For the kids who hate the outdoors, making it a requirement would be rough. This should be a positive thing to give more learning opportunities and not a way to torture the nature haters in the world.
Can't do everything. Too much already required.
Without being outdoors, it is another abstract concept that students are not connected to in an interesting way
I don't really oppose it though I do worry about time constraints. We already put a lot on teachers.
Safety and management of children in an educated fashion
Money
I don't want this to be something I have to teach to add to what I am already responsible for teaching. I just want the students to be able to have more time outside.
Outdoor education is fundamental to our kids understanding and integration into the world around them. It should not need to be a government requirement...although, as noted above, it's unlikely to be implemented if it's not required and any associated costs are not funded.
Without true connections between content and outdoors going outdoors is just a fun activity but not an enhancement of learning
Time away from core classes.
Time constraints
Don't teach children to exploit the outdoors.
There are too many standards already. I strongly support outdoor education, but not the creation of outdoor education standards.
I do not oppose
I don't.
I do not oppose integrating outdoor education into overall education standards.
Please see the reasons provided previously.
#1 purpose should be critical thinking with a strong base in reading, writing, math, civics and factual history rather than revised history serving political indoctrination.
Not everyone is interested in it, although it would make a great CTE optional program
I don't oppose any new measures. Please change the curriculum? please help my child feel like he's not in prison.
BS
Adding more to the curriculum without adjustments in the schedule is similar to filling a glass. You can only pour so much in the glass before it overflows.
There are so many other standards that the state requires schools to teach that adding outdoor education will continue to overload the expectations of teachers and reduce the time they have to teach all the other curriculum expectations.
I do not oppose integrated outdoor education in any way shape or form
Personnel are not trained or equipped - this standard requires money. I don't trust the state to fund it into the 'overall education'
I would oppose outdoor learning if this puts children at any risk (ex heat exposure, poor air quality, risk of insect bits, etc.). Additionally if outdoor learning is taking away from other education standards
It concerns me that explicitly including outdoor education into education standards will just create one more metric for us to judge schools by. They are stretched very thin as it is, and I worry that tacking on more

<b>Please briefly explain any reasons why you oppose integrating outdoor education into overall education standards. (Stakeholders)</b>
standards, particularly ones that require some creativity and flexibility to implement (as well as cost), would break them.
It's one more thing for teachers to have to get to with already limited time.
Again, it seems like it would be just adding more to teachers' plates and asking them to integrate it into the current Tier I curriculum is too much.
Cost and time

<b>Are there any other features and facilities you think are important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment? (Stakeholders)</b>
More Ponds near schools for fishing
Shade
Less non-native landscaping in general. Please focus on native plants for landscaping schools.
Interactive situations, scavenger hunts, animals always appeal to children and adults.
They need to be unlocked and accessible to children.
Connect with local Nevada Department of Wildlife biologists for expertise and ideas
Hunter education classes even for those who don't hunt to spread the knowledge for them to see training and safety that is put in
Natural playgrounds (according to google: a natural playground is a play environment that consists of elements and textures from the earth such as tree logs, tree stumps, boulders, plants, and drainage paths.)
Material that does not burn and no do rules. Location of our public play area is near a dog run where owners love to allow their dogs off the lease from the car to the dog run. This has caused some dogs to run up to children and put them at risk. We no longer walk around the neighborhood because dogs remain off leash and the local animal service does not do a good job enforcing the laws. In my area they do a good job keeping play areas spaced out by age but the little ones only like the bigger slides because they swirl. Be nice to have a bit more challenging slide for toddlers so they are more appealing.
Grass( adds life to the landscape, allows for safer play during a variety of activities, etc.)
If artificial groundcover must be done, look into innovative concrete/artificial turf... that doesn't get so hot. LA did a pilot project on 'cool concrete' but natural materials should be utilized in all outdoor spaces.
Separate by ages
Natural toys (logs, sticks, rocks, etc.)
A garden is a must. I think that almost all the options of the previous question are great, however, with our current society, there is way too many liability issues.
Can't access school yard they are all fenced off
I don't know if people know they can use schoolyards outside of school hours. It looks all locked up
Snow cover in winter and rain. Kids stay inside during rain, a way to stay dry but outside would be great.
More flat fields
More shade and water
Updated play fields for sports. Baseball fields at schools are in poor shape.
Need more open space near downtown
Create shade, allow use of facilities (don't lock up the track, etc.). School yards/grounds would ideally be public parks whenever school is not in session.
Need funding into local parks both in rural and urban places. Especially, lower income areas a free park is the first level of interaction most children will have outdoors. It is important to make that relationship strong early and at the easiest and most used location which is a public park.
Outdoor art spaces
Art and murals. patterns for active play like hop scotch and foursquare. There are innovative versions of these patterns to pretend to be a bear or a crab to promote physical activity. It would be great to see NV trails and mountains as murals
Since grass is not native, I do not think it needs to be a necessity, however, it is nice to have for the children to run around on. I think they need to provide more exposure to native flora and fauna.



<b>Are there any other features and facilities you think are important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment? (Stakeholders)</b>
We need more greenery, preferable real but even fake is ok
Habitat for native animals
Plenty of shade and a place to instruct.
I think we need more outdoor activities for high school kids to do at lunch/break. Basketball courts, balls, etc
Secured areas for the features and facilities important for improving outdoor schoolyards. Protect from vandalism and daily student behavior from poorly informed or uneducated students.
Playground equipment that allows workout for kids and adults! Hanging bars! There is only one Calisthenics park in the Reno/Carson City area. I would like to see more Calisthenics equipment. I've seen awesome wooded parks in France where you can follow a 2 mile loop in the woods and each quarter mile (at least), there is obstacle equipment or workout equipment. Super fun for the kids! Also add more grass, trees, and shrubs. Yes, it takes water, but it reduces the HEAT island effect...one of the reasons why more grass and more golf courses aren't always a bad thing. A park should be somewhere people can take refuge from the heat. A water feature like a children's play fountain would be loved, but expensive. Community gardens are sometimes nice, if they are run appropriately. Building new trails is also great. As far as animal habitat and native plants, we already have that everywhere since it is Nevada. I really think people in Nevada go to parks to play with their family in coolness of the shade and grass.
Needs depend on the school. In Washoe County most school yards are closed to the community outside of school hours. Having these taxpayer-supported spaces being accessible to the community is important for access to outdoor recreational spaces that are close to where people live.
More outdoor shaded seating areas are needed so that students don't have to sit on wet grass or grass that has goose poop all over it, and so they can see their Chromebooks if working on a project.
Jungle Gyms. Monkey Bars, Natural features that challenge humans; large rocks to climb, balance beams, etc.
Playgrounds
Amphitheatres, interpretive signs, QR code interactions, library or community centers nearby or connected somehow.
If school yards aren't feasible enough then field trips could be considered on a quarterly basis.
Pools, but with a caveat- they need to be staffed with lifeguards & swim instructors (aka high school juniors & seniors-they could do it for credit!) Pools can operate as a classroom year round for all ages levels, multiple schools, and general community with the right schedule & design.
Nature play areas that relate to local flora and fauna, opportunities for inquiry play in sand/water (consciously)/rocks
Shade. Available drinking water.
Better playgrounds
Restrooms
More nature opposed to asphalt
I think having an outdoor garden space as well as having additional types of playing structures and features.
More grass and trees
Adult training/programs to facilitate quality experiences and buy-in among community partners
More water fountains
Allow schools to have bird feeders and bird nest boxes in, or at least close to, the schoolyard.
I think every school would be different. Have funding available so motivated teachers/administration could develop a space that is right for them. Also, the community should be involved. Every school could be an outdoor lab for native plants (and therefore insects) if the landscaping on school grounds and the surrounding area was rethought. If more purposeful planning was done, most space at every school could be made into learning space.
Dedicated outdoor 'laboratories.' They don't have to be large, but adequate for a proper education.
Shade most schoolyards are closed for personal use
Messy play areas like a mud kitchen and a sand pit.
More toys
I think update what you have modernize if possible especially in the lower income areas, up cycle even , allow the children to assist in the reconstruction of updating parks/areas allow them to garden, make things more accessible and inviting exciting and fun

<b>Are there any other features and facilities you think are important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment? (Stakeholders)</b>
Proper seating and shaded area
Shade is important
Increase and take care of natural outdoor spaces, plants
Trees
Workout space
More shade, trees, plants.
Appropriate risk-taking play structures on the playground
Having outdoor on campus spaces for students to cluster in
Wall for wall ball, sandpits for volleyball or badminton.
Hours available, seating options for older adults to watch kids, security when onsite
No herbicide or pesticide
Diversity of land cover and connectivity to the neighborhood.
Riding trails, good fishing spots
Interpretive signage, exposed geologic features
Natural climbing features
A garden is powerful. :)
Trails connectivity between school and towns for safe traveling to and from home.
More play equipment, we don't have much equipment in terms of structures. most students have to play ball of some sort and I know more of them would want to be outside if there was more to do.
I think you covered it all very comprehensively.
Outdoor type classrooms
Rock Climbing programs for high school students and midnight run clubs
We could use shade of any type for about 4 months during the year. The rest of the time we're gtg.
We need updated play structures with shade/ tree cover. I also think we need adaptive play structures for children and youth with special health care needs. Splash pads, or water play ares would be a huge help as well. Overall, Lyon county needs more parks and also a swim center.
World love to see garden spaces to teach children how to grow food and what that entails in the desert.
On the previous question, it asked if I intended to use a schoolyard for recreation. In Washoe County, all school yards are completed fenced off and locked. No one can utilize them outside of school hours, and they are locked within 20 minutes of school hours both in the morning and in the afternoon.
Due to liability school yards are not always open to parents and kids when school is not in session, though this does not necessarily impact learning and enjoyment for teachers and kids during school hours.
Shade structure. Comfortable seating. More space to run and play.
We need shade and natural areas.
Seating and shade
Exploring native dwelling structures from local tribes.
While I selected more grass, we are in desperate need of artificial grass.
Playgrounds that are marked with organized games and activity lines.
PE type space that is interactive such as a ropes course
Gardens
Volunteers
Catering to all kinds of learning (different types of learning provided in each environment) and providing activities that keep kids active.
There is a garden area for younger children. I think the garden area could be opened up for the older children to 'continue' to learn & grow their own foods.
Low scale agility courses
It gets so hot in Nevada so shade would be important
Shaded outdoor classroom areas would be so nice!
Experiential education features that include cause/effect activities
Shade is important and water fountains
Shade shade shade

<b>Are there any other features and facilities you think are important for improving outdoor schoolyards for learning and enjoyment? (Stakeholders)</b>
Student produced, nature-inspired art/ murals
Better shade and water misters for cooling down and less asphalt, rocks, and wood chips.
Give children more time to be outside to explore
Outdoor space dedicated to outdoor education and participation (community gardens, native plant education, pollinator support gardens, etc.). We can use the space for more than just play and we can do more than just pave it over with rubber. Also, once any feature is installed, it must be maintained, which is often overlooked.
Cooperation between local school districts and non-profit organizations, higher education (college level) outdoor curriculum and grant opportunities.
We believe the items we chose above, together, are important. Trees and shade are critical for extreme heat mitigation, particularly in urban areas, and they are also the items that require the least amount of maintenance in the long run. They can also double as nature play areas and habitat. Trees should be planted in small groves, without asphalt, for the most benefits. Outdoor classrooms can be amongst the trees and taking out asphalt helps stormwater capture through permeable surfaces.
School gardens, chicken coops

<b>What resources or support do you need to effectively implement outdoor education in your class or school? (Asked of teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners.)</b>
Materials * lesson ideas that relate to standards
A place to go, supervision
Parental support and understanding
Planning
Opportunities that align with my content area. So often it's just science that gets involved with outdoor education.
It would be helpful to have adults that are comfortable doing outdoor stuff.
Access to multiple outdoor classrooms so that more than one class at a time can be learning outdoors. We need connections to who can come and teach or take us on guided tours
More time in the school day.
I need access to more educational resources like curriculum or supplies to be able to implement into my classroom.
Time, space, facilities, transportation and finances.
Food and materials
Curriculum or programs that can be implemented with little to no preparation.
Some comfortable seating and some protection from the elements (shade and rain/snow/wind cover).
To effectively implement outdoor education, we need adequate funding for equipment and transportation, specialized training for teachers, and a well-developed curriculum that integrates outdoor learning with traditional subjects. We also require comprehensive safety protocols, support for accessibility to ensure all students can participate, and strong backing from parents and the community. Additionally, regular time allocation within the school schedule and effective assessment tools to evaluate the program's impact are essential.
I am creating curriculums that can be appropriately implemented in outdoor education during my own personal free time. I have no relation to any class or school at this time. You need volunteers with free time or funding, a proper curriculum, and permission from the school.
Outdoor learning spaces, prepared lesson plans, and administrative support
I would need administrative support to approve field trips that pulled students from multiple classes and activities: a single high school day involves 4 classes/teachers, and all would need to be on board. I would also want professional development to make sure teachers know how to transform it from 'recess' or 'play' to education.
Time, support, encouragement - effective evaluation models to prove time spent on outdoor education is valuable and important to academic and personal success
I am an outdoor education provider, so for me I need a stronger connection with the school district to partner with the school district in helping them run programs.

<b>What resources or support do you need to effectively implement outdoor education in your class or school? (Asked of teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners.)</b>
Funding
Support from admin and time.
Funding. Training for staff.
Outdoor materials
Curriculum, time, materials
Materials / curriculum
Trainings or seminars
School/Admin support Updated playground equipment (shading, grassy areas, etc)
1) Appropriate structure/architecture (more shading, more trees, less concrete) 2) implementation of native habitats and native plants 3) changes in scheduling at the secondary level (7 classes back-to-back is exhausting! to both students and teachers).
More Funding more teachers
Standards - how they can tie into current NVACS Money Time
Time and lesson plans and extra supervision
Funding
More space and time to access it
Time, materials, and ability to make decisions versus being micromanaged.
Designated spaces for specific activities that are multi-use with incorporated seating and shade.
Time to plan and agencies willing to help.
Lessons
Shade and materials such as a white board.
Ideas and minimal preparation materials.
All currently there is nothing
Lesson plans admin support materials
Outside support/qualified professionals (think Nevada Dept of Wildlife) to teach and lead partnered activities with the schools
A place to go. Money to get there or build it.
Engaging trainings Safety requirements
Time and how to embed into subject area
Educated/trained individuals on what and how to teach outdoor education. An outdoor learning space and a guide.
Space, time, money. One way that other places do this are through residential trips where students go away for up to a week and get to experience a wide variety of outdoor activities.
Safe areas for students to go and education for teachers on what to do
Literally, more time and support from admin to make it happen.
Outdoor spaces that are student friendly and provide other seating options for students and teachers alike besides the ground
Time to get to the locations that are outside without interferences from other classes
I would need appropriate tools and training.
Funding
A teacher to teach it.
Funding
Safety certifications, supplies so students are comfortable outdoors (mistifiers, water bottles, electrolytes, backpacks)
Money for making outdoor classroom area
Support from school administrators.
Education and more time in a day
Time!
Money and time
Money\$
Money to make everything possible

<b>What resources or support do you need to effectively implement outdoor education in your class or school? (Asked of teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners.)</b>
Curriculum, materials, time, space
Enough Equipment, supplies for all.
Training
Funding and staffing.
Sufficient staff
Curriculum support and teachers' manuals would help schools to effectively implement outdoor education.
Coordination help
Support from outside sources (BLM/NOS)
Educators that actually know about the environment. I've worked with teachers that essentially make up what they're teaching the kids because they think it's right, when it couldn't be further from the truth.
Likely resources and funding to create curriculum and infrastructure for outdoor spaces. Creating educational opportunities for middle school/HS kids to pursue a career path in the environmental sciences or outdoor recreation industries should be on the table.
The district would have to actually care
Funding - funding for teachers, materials, and field trips Support from administrators and district
Time, lesson plans, willing students,
More shade
Curriculum more supervision to manage large groups of students outdoors at a time
Outdoor learning spaces at school
More access
Outdoor areas
Money, time, training, curriculum
Information on how the lessons would connect with state standards.
N/A - I am an educator at a State Park. (But bussing and time to come to the parks is something our school partners need)
Space and authority
A teacher
Internet connectivity outdoors and curriculum
The space and tools to do so. My school is currently trying to start a community garden and the water system is out of date and my admin says it is too expensive to fix...
Funding
The willingness to do more of outdoor ed by district and schools
Instructional and training
Human, time, and educational resources
Support getting to spaces and fitting it into curriculum.
Materials and lesson plans/information
Lesson plans, activities, supplies for activities.
Staff training
Financial resources and professional development for staff. Community outreach and partnerships! Financial support to revamp our outdoor space!
Clear standards and goals, lesson plans with resources, access to transportation, access to state and national parks, funding to cover building improvements/modifications, funding for staff
Time and guidance
A program would be helpful.
Proper equipment and playground structure/ and or playground supplies
We already have plenty of resources to make this viable except perhaps for some more training for our volunteers
Transportation, allocated number of days, cooperation from experts at locations, instructional materials.
We need more time allotted
Planning time
Money to create shade and mosquito abatement.

<b>What resources or support do you need to effectively implement outdoor education in your class or school? (Asked of teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners.)</b>
It would be effective to sponsor a club that takes place after school with support for bussing to take kids home at 4:00. This could be a hiking club or gardening club. I think there would be a lot of interest in the Middle School.
Lesson ideas or strategies to take regular lessons outdoors.
A curriculum and perhaps training from local agencies. Resources with supplies and equipment.
To effectively implement outdoor education in our class or school, we need adequate funding, trained educators, access to natural spaces, appropriate equipment, reliable transportation, curriculum resources, community involvement, health and safety protocols, inclusivity measures, and partnerships with external organizations.
Outdoor spaces to learn in.
Funding, time, and community connections.
Everything. We have little to no resources. We used to have NDOW water presenters that came in and Ag in the classroom (run by local Ranching women), but none lately.
Bus and entry fee support
More space and accessibility
Resources and supplies for outdoor education. Safe and close locations to the schools
Local program opportunities
Money, district and administration support, and outdoor space.
I believe by making my outdoor club a class would highly improve and motivate students to be more involved with learning about the great outdoors.
Money for bussing
Curriculum, hands on activities
Experts - gardeners/farmers, park rangers Budget - access to grants that we do not have to write (especially when no longer receiving Title I funds) Field trip experiences that we can rely on and are not done on a lottery system
Financial support.
It has to be close by, preferably on the school grounds because it is too difficult to take children off campus and it takes too long. Children need daily exposure to really benefit from observing nature, changes and caring for nature.
Less fear of ramifications
Professional development, school wide goals and expectations, time and resources.
Money, time, curriculum
Possible trainings? Updated list of resources
Time.
Aligned curriculum Time added to the schedule Training for staff Resources
Transportation funds and ease of paperwork with the school district to participate in outdoor activities.
A clear set of trainings for staff. A dedicated coordinator for the programs so they can effectively manage risk and efficacy of programs
Time to plan and ideas
Fishing poles, compass use
Curriculum materials and training
Admin support, district support, integration of gardens, outdoor learning areas into existing campuses.
I would love to know what an 'outdoor classroom' looks like
If we had a couple outdoor classrooms where they can do my classwork, I would allow them to do the class outside.
Funding opportunities (awarded to both schools and land managers) for students to participate in outdoor education experiences at federal and state parks.
Curriculum space transportation
Time. Access to resources (gear such as tents, ropes, compasses, etc) Guideline clarification (can I teach fire building, outdoor cooking, knife skills?)
MONEY- funding for equipment and field trips; outside presenters from groups such as search and rescue, Department of wildlife and Agriculture.
Support funding

<b>What resources or support do you need to effectively implement outdoor education in your class or school? (Asked of teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners.)</b>
Permission from admin, Seating and shade for outdoor lessons, Trails
Ways to integrate the current curriculum into more outdoor time. Or, lessons that support the curriculum that take us outside. We have such little time the lessons need to be meaningful.
Content-specific integration ideas, flexibility, trails
Shade structures
Outdoor classroom space. Support from leaders on the importance of being outside so admin will allow it.
A bus/van
Added supervision when outside, new spaces
Empowerment, available space, and change in focus of education.
Professional Learning trainings about programs and standards
1. Outdoor Spaces: Schools need access to outdoor environments such as school grounds, nearby parks, nature reserves, or outdoor classrooms. 2. Educational Materials: Curated curriculum resources tailored for outdoor learning, including lesson plans, activities, and materials that align with academic standards. 3. Teacher Training: Professional development programs to equip educators with the knowledge and skills to facilitate outdoor learning effectively. 4. Safety Measures: Guidelines and protocols to ensure the safety and well-being of students during outdoor activities, including risk assessments and supervision strategies. 5. Equipment and Supplies: Adequate supplies and equipment for outdoor exploration, experimentation, and observation, such as field guides, binoculars, magnifying glasses, and scientific instruments. 6. Community Partnerships: Collaboration with local organizations, environmental experts, and community members to enhance outdoor learning experiences through guest speakers, field trips, and volunteer opportunities. 7. Supportive Policies: Institutional support and policies that prioritize and encourage outdoor learning as an integral component of the curriculum. 8. Funding: Adequate financial resources to sustain outdoor learning initiatives, including funding for infrastructure development, professional development, and ongoing program maintenance.
Money
More staff, flexibility in schedules, trees/shade
Time - the most valuable resources in a school environment. Professional Development for teachers to enable them to implement it into their lessons.
Funding, curriculum and providers
Local examples
Because I am not a traditional educator, there isn't much that I need. I am able to incorporate the outdoors in my educational environment already. I am sure I could do more.
Lessons
Information.
Schools need them.
Resources
Transportation, connection to programs, support from district leadership
Curriculum, more time in the student's school day.
Supplies that i do not have to purchase.
Transportation
Designated spaces, funding, staff, materials, curriculums, training
Guidance and equipment, I don't know anything about teaching outdoor education but I think it would be a good thing for the kids to have
Space, curriculum guides, time for planning and time for implementation
Better understanding
Curriculum
It's been apparent that matching existing curriculum with outdoor education in class or in the field has been the best avenue to work with local teachers.
Playground, trails flora
Field equipment or science supplies for outdoor activities, curricula with professional learning support that connects an outdoor activity to the rest of a course, access to a natural site either through creating one at my school site or funds for buses.
Lesson plans, ideas,

<b>What resources or support do you need to effectively implement outdoor education in your class or school? (Asked of teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners.)</b>
Adding outdoor education into curriculum standards for the state to ensure districts don't cut outdoor education as budgets get tighter.
Lab supplies, trainings, lab ideas
Funding and outreach for participation
You need to be mindful of all teachers are expected to do now! One more program cannot be added. If this is going to be added then you need to take some things off teachers plates.
More age level appropriate curriculum. Aides in the classroom. OR make it a specials class students go to while teachers have their prep.
A place for students.
Time, training and materials
Curriculum ideas
To effectively implement outdoor education in your class or school, access to outdoor areas (outdoor classrooms, walking paths, more garden areas, etc), funding for outdoor equipment and supplies, support from school administrators and parents, as well as training for teachers on outdoor teaching methods and safety protocols. Additionally, having a network of community partners or organizations that can provide expertise or guidance on outdoor education programs could be valuable.
I personally do not need anything... re-retirement!
Money/time/volunteers
Readily available, easy to use, curriculum
I don't work at a school
A curriculum
The outdoor environment needed for kids to learn
Training, integration with standards
Curriculum that integrates into the current
All recourses needed
Handbook of lessons and sites where students can get outside and learn in real life.
Professional development
School Wellness Policy, CATCH resources
Curriculum and materials
Finances
Materials guide lesson plan instructions a program that helps students at home
Training
Equipment needs
We would need teachers/professionals to present the programs, resources such as books or other materials necessary and a plan for implementation that doesn't add to teacher's already full load.
N/A I work with schools and community groups to provide outdoor education and do not have a specific classroom or school.
All of it!
More training; connection to STEM
Materials such as play structures, water features, and time!
Supplies, transportation, lessons
Structures that support learning outside, including comfortable seating and lots of shade and cooling features such as water features and grass for the hot Nevada temperatures.
Lessons w/ addressed standards and assessments
Time to plan, money to pay for buses and subs, and supportive administrators.
Extra adult support outdoor STEM activities related supplies outdoor foldable chairs and tables proper fence around the school area
Access to outdoor learning areas
Transportation and food to visit different places. State Park Programs that are integrated to the curriculum or standards. Specific outdoor activities created and taught by specialists to enrich classroom learning.
Not a school teacher
Support from admin and a practical space to set up the learning environment.



<b>What resources or support do you need to effectively implement outdoor education in your class or school? (Asked of teachers, administrators, and outdoor education partners.)</b>
Time and more outdoor classroom space
More education on outdoor resources and I formatting school/admin the importance of outdoor education.
Time and curriculum that supports it
More lee way
Curriculum. equipment, access to outdoor trails, parks, etc.
I believe there needs to be loosely guided lessons and field trip opportunities. I believe there also needs to be hands on professional development for teachers.
Training and space (and to be allowed time and flexibility to teach things outside of my standards)
Teacher or educator that is well versed in the topic would be helpful.
Time- we have so much we need to teach that finding time and resources to get outdoors can be difficult
funding and other outdoor learning resources
I don't feel it's a match for my program of adult business education but I support it fully anyhow
Support with busing.
Training and resources
Space permitting appropriate group seating, large group meeting space with shade and wind protection, gear, supplies, power, tech access
Transportation
Being consistent
Cooperation and Communication amongst each level of staff, Funding, Educators, Offices and Institutions
Lesson plans that are interdisciplinary, and that combine materials from that particular environment.
Curriculum to help pull ideas from to integrate into everyday lessons.
Support from nonprofits such as Get Outdoors Nevada can alleviate the burden on teachers by assisting with trip planning, allowing teachers to focus more on lesson planning and less on logistics.
Parent volunteers
Teachers need to be educated themselves about the outdoors and they need to know what organizations are in their area wherein they can tap into a guest speaker/ field trip activity.
Curriculum that aligns with standards Materials for the lessons
Supplies
Training/Admin support
For us, funding and district support would be most helpful.
Increased funding for facilities improvements and travel.
Trainings, professional learning
Extra adults to monitor students to keep them safe.
Shaded tables for students working

<b>Are there any other types of outdoor education training or professional development you would find beneficial for implementing outdoor learning or outdoor education in your class or school? (Asked of teachers and administrators.)</b>
Programs set up for schools to come out and have an expert lead them through the field trip.
Inviting experts into the classroom
I know the curriculum program Green Ninja based out of San Jose State was working on some outdoor education curriculum. Their middle school program is great and did include some outdoor lessons. More information about what they have would be helpful.
Leave no trace, ability to rent/ barrow tents, sleeping bags, supplies for completing the activities.
Teams meeting, Google meet
PDE credit.
Outdoor classroom
Access to trainers who will provide PD at the school site in order to tailor training to each schools' needs/level of implementation.
Partners with outdoor education leaders, such as Department of wildlife, heritage society, local parks and rec associations, local non-profit groups, state and federal groups.
I have a BA in Adventure and Experiential Education and still can't find a way to integrate outdoor ed. in traditional classroom settings.
Outdoor education that teaches how to recreate responsibly outdoors. So much of outdoor education seems focused on biology or geology lessons, when we have huge percentages of the population that don't understand the impact they have on the outdoors when they hike off trail, leave trash, feed animals, etc.
Site based trainings
Having a video or app or site that have examples to show teachers and parents how to teach it.
Hands on training for educators.
Let teachers earn credits with NDOE for teaching license renewal and take classes to then return to their school and teach students.
Training in specific curriculum aligned to standards
How to integrate the outdoors into a math lesson, like measurements, area, perimeter
Leadership building and problem solving.
Content and aligned standards are vital.
Community in schools- the water district, the springs preserve, solar companies, etc, should provide scientists and experts to schools as partners in education
Snow camping, survival Avalanche knowledge and training First aide
Outdoor education training or PD will be the most beneficial/only beneficial if there is buy in from the school district/school. Individual teachers who are passionate about OL or OE will incorporate it where they can. PD would more likely be beneficial if some of the PD showed educators how to incorporate OL/OE into their everyday subjects (Reading, Math, SS, Science)
Something would be better than nothing. No state resources should be spent on paying someone to create lesson plans. The internet is full of that type of resource. Teachers need time and funding to develop plans that would work for their location.
All of the Outdoor learning educational experiences there are available Grant Writing to afford programs, field trips, etc.
Some ways of how to best use the space effectively
Outdoor gardening/landscaping, creating on outdoor classroom space
Teachers need adult support to help them make this successful.
Maybe there should be designated field trips for each grade level to experience mountains, desert, lakes, plants and animals etc.
All of it! LNT, knot tying, shelter building, local flora and fauna, preservation, map and compass, etc
Teachers need to be active participants, and we need to facilitate the experience as coaches.
How to integrate OE into content curriculum areas
Instead of premade lesson plans give teachers professional learning opportunities where they are equal partners in developing the lesson plans and materials that make sense for their classes and nearby natural spaces!!! This is a big and important distinction from handing teachers premade lesson plans and had a huge impact on the

<b>Are there any other types of outdoor education training or professional development you would find beneficial for implementing outdoor learning or outdoor education in your class or school? (Asked of teachers and administrators.)</b>
actual change in teacher behavior.
Local walks with educational focus on urban parks and areas, camping/outdoor based conferences in areas where students could also go for trips, local hikes with a guide to show how to tie in curriculum.
Access to specialists who can mentor and support teachers integrating outdoor activities into the existing curriculum and standards. Someone who can do it successfully and show the generalist how to do it.
NNRPDP in Elko
Life skills in the outdoors is a stimulating option that can be utilized in a field trip format.
Navigation, communication, and first aide

<b>Do you have any other suggestions or thoughts on funding outdoor education in Nevada? (Stakeholders)</b>
More funding for transportation to these state parks
You said it all- money does the talking
Take all the money spent on contracts with standardized testing companies and standardized testing prep materials, and invest it in a more wholistic education for kids that includes outdoor education, physical education, field trips, science experiments, exploratory learning, etc.
Other grants
Find the money somewhere and use it wisely
If this is something the state has as a priority, it needs to be funded at that level. Per pupil funding should include monies to the school that mandate specific criteria for use.
Local bonds, state bonds, state funding/federal funding through legislative action, parcel taxes
I think it should be supported by any ethical means necessary.
Yes. Stop investing in technology that lasts two years. Spend money on outdoor education. An entire school of elementary kids don't need brand new laptops every 2 years. This is absurd. What a waste of money that could go somewhere else.
Corporate school adoptions and partnerships typically focus on Title I schools. However, it is schools who lack that funding; yet still have a high Title I population who still need access to support through partnerships.
An investment in outdoor education is an investment in our natural resource protection, an investment in our future as Nevadans.
Let NDOW come into schools and lecture. Provide field trips to hatcheries. Fishing.
I'm gonna be real, I don't know what some of those are, and I am a state employee. I'm down for a tax of some kind. It's not regressive if it's beneficial, and this would be supremely beneficial for nearly everyone involved.
Just start with getting the teachers a little training and getting children outdoors. We don't need anything fancy to teach children outdoors, we just need to start.
Yes. Take the money from the upper management! The super attendants. All their staff. Thales their money. They honestly don't do anything to support or help further the education of these children. They don't work with the children so they should not be getting paid more than the teachers that are actually doing the hard work.
Donations and fundraisers from school parents
The money and will is out there, we need to make it easier to get and find
Cut other failing programs.
Professional Sports Groups in NV
CTE career pathways such as firefighter
Funding needs to be consistent over time.
No to monopoly corporations funding school programs
Using taxes from the mines or having the mines pay a portion of the cost
Parents donations
All new developments/developers, sports teams, etc, take up open space, green spaces, and develop it, have them give a portion of their revenue to fund outdoor education. They reap the benefits from us, it should be reciprocated.

<b>Do you have any other suggestions or thoughts on funding outdoor education in Nevada? (Stakeholders)</b>
Stop spending money on testing and redundant curriculums and use that money for outdoor education.
Being a homeschool parent, I am unsure of public school funding options. I do know that public funding is severely abused and poorly allocated.
Private donations
Better use of the marijuana tax. Reducing funds in one place and then using the pot tax to fill the hole is not the way- it should be used IN ADDITION to what was previously allotted so the schools can have MORE, not used as an excuse to remove funds.
Use the money already in the budget. Don't increase ANY taxes for this.
Las Vegas Area Council Boy Scouts
Yeah, what happened to the Cannabis money that was supposed to go towards education?
A lot of competition for curriculum in the class - every cause wants a chance to be a part of curriculum - there are funds out there but it takes non-profits to best gather these funds - very difficult for govt to be depended upon with all the politics of the budgets - things change constantly on non-essential classes like EE has been treated in the past.
More funding from States and Feds.
Can we incorporate outdoor activities into our schools without spending a trillion dollars on it?
Animal Control should be a strong partner in building awareness about now not all people like your dogs and when I grew up, we were trained to carry weapons to protect yourself from pack of dogs. I don't feel safe going outdoors in my neighborhood and hate our park that is right next to the dog run because my children have been run up to several times by dangerous breeds. Makes me feel uncomfortable. Start issuing fines and hold people accountable or your money will be wasted
Programs cannot happen without funding for people, travel and materials.
Gambling, alcohol, tobacco, cannabis -money
Work more with non-profits.
I especially support seeking federal funding for this.
Use the marijuana tax money to fund not SUPPLANT.
Grant programs, tie to UNR or UNLV research efforts
What about changing how the state uses tourism money to support outdoor education?
Maybe a High School program for ranching work for credits and small paycheck?
Corporate Sponsorships are more difficult for Rural areas and could create disparity between city schools and their rural peers.
State income tax.
Private or corporate partnership or sponsorship can be a benefit, but must be entered into carefully. We must be hesitant to commercialize our educational process and this should not be seen as an opportunity to advertise or further any brand or product. Also we must be cautious to not allow any corporate agenda to influence the content of the education ('see kids, petroleum dumping is your friend') outside of what is academically and pragmatically beneficial to the students.
Taxes on industries that have adverse environmental impacts (ie mining, drilling, grazing).
Open to ideas
Schools should do whatever they can to secure funding and equipment to better equip students for learning, but we should also focus on basics (working AC and baseline equipment like books and desks) before expanding into other areas. If we have all of the basics covered then more experimental education methods like outdoor learning make a ton of sense.
Tax the mines, tax the casinos, tax the uber-rich.
Typically funding fizzles out when grants are provided and these items become unfunded mandates, which negatively impact schools and staff.
1. Grant Opportunities: Explore grant opportunities from federal, state, and private foundations that support outdoor education, environmental education, or STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) initiatives. Organizations like the National Environmental Education Foundation or the Nevada STEM Coalition may offer grants or funding support. 2. Corporate Sponsorships and Partnerships: Engage local businesses, corporations, and outdoor recreation companies in sponsoring or supporting outdoor education programs. These partnerships can provide financial assistance, in-kind donations, or volunteer resources. 3.

<b>Do you have any other suggestions or thoughts on funding outdoor education in Nevada? (Stakeholders)</b>
Crowdfunding Campaigns: Launch crowdfunding campaigns through platforms like Kickstarter, Indiegogo, or GoFundMe to raise funds for specific outdoor education projects or initiatives. Engage with the community and stakeholders to garner support and donations. 4. Community Fundraising Events : Organize community fundraising events such as outdoor festivals, nature walks, or eco-friendly initiatives to raise funds for outdoor education programs. Partner with local businesses, community organizations, and volunteers to maximize participation and donations. 5. <b>**Legislative Advocacy**</b> : Advocate for state or local government funding for outdoor education through legislative initiatives, policy proposals, or lobbying efforts. Work with education advocacy groups, environmental organizations, and policymakers to highlight the importance of outdoor learning and secure funding support. 6. Donor Engagement and Alumni Giving: Cultivate relationships with donors, alumni, and philanthropic individuals who are passionate about outdoor education and environmental conservation. Develop targeted fundraising campaigns and outreach strategies to solicit donations and support for outdoor education initiatives. 7. Public-Private Partnerships: Collaborate with government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private entities to establish public-private partnerships that pool resources and funding for outdoor education programs. Leverage combined expertise, networks, and funding sources to enhance the impact and sustainability of outdoor education initiatives.
State and federal funds are the best and most equitable option for distribution. Relying on corporate partners or donations widens equity gaps.
Up cycling and recycling equipment that we currently have to implement new structures Will Save money using volunteers in the community will save money Sometimes you just have to rearrange what you have to make it better
All the Nevada counties have existing trails, parks, and open space (federal or otherwise). The counties and/or towns should also promote outdoor activities.
I wish these were defined and/or we were provided examples for each type of funding source. I support almost any type of additional funding for outdoor education, but don't know enough about each type of funding source that I can confidently 'strongly support.'
State education dollars for staff training
I support using any available funding source; however, I caution against using funding sources that can be pulled (corporate funding, for example) without having a backup in place.
Sportsman, natural resource, agriculture agencies and NGOs
Organizations like Get Outdoors Nevada already have a program in place to establish native habitats at schools.
Experience
Cannabis
Funding should be organic and not take money from other things.

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Heat, time
In our urban community, busing students to outdoor opportunities is a huge barrier. Buses can't pick students up until 9am and must be back to school by 1pm, along with other challenges.
Restrictive curriculums, not valued by CCSD, time and money
Lack of efficacy and knowledge among teachers. Time constraints in the classroom. Focus on test scores instead of creating well-rounded, functioning humans who are curious and engaged.
Include PE State Standards. Remove Incompetent School Board members
There really aren't any. I don't want to see a mandate, but I'd like to see the state take a strong position on the importance of being outside in the state with the highest number of mountain ranges in the lower 48.
1. weather 2. time
Administrative opposition, funding, sub shortage
How many standards we need to cover.
Funding for field trips to parks as well as time during the school year set aside for outdoor education
Location, funding
Student apathy

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Financial
Weather, activities in my town,
Too much emphasis on indoor learning and not enough play learning.
Safe locations and funding.
The heat of summer and time
Our weather is extremely cold for most of our school year so it is either too cold for lessons outside or very unbearable to handle.
Weather accessibility Opportunity technology
Finding resources
Enough faculty to properly supervise students
Big class sizes to manage outdoors and transportation
Spaces, transportation, needing to teach to the test or follow specific curriculum.
Schools finding ways to incorporate it. PE is usually a waste and used a free times with access to just being outside not education.
Time and funding. Outdoor education has to be folded into existing education standards which might be difficult. Also, funding for field trips or guess speckers may not be available.
1. All the stupid curriculum that is foisted upon us. We barely have the minutes in a day to do all the minutes required. 2. Many of our schools have no access to any outdoor area other than the playground. There are a couple of good field trips in our country where the students can be in an outdoor area, and whenever I can get funding for those trips, I sign us up because the students LOVE being outside in a natural area.
Legalities, funding, lack of volunteers. As far as how schools chose what programs and outside teaching they allow, and have time for -- that I am still researching.
No time
Heat. Natural Shade. Little to no vegetation.
Parent permission, safety, and transportation costs.
The heat in Las Vegas, getting students to places that are safe outdoors.
School not always being interested
The weather and teachers not thinking outside of the box to allow students the opportunity to explore education outside of the classroom.
Time, transportation, and qualified supervision for field trips.
Perceived importance from school staff, safety related to the number of kids needing supervision while outside and weather conditions
Cost
Time requirements placed on teachers
Funding, fear of the outdoors, transportation
The hot weather
Time. Access. Opportunities to engage with meaningful content. Integration of activities to school/grade level standards.
Funding! I am a federal employee that wishes badly that I could be a full-time employee which my job would be to provide environmental education to youth.
Transportation, logistics
Much of the year is quite hot and it is not enjoyable to be outdoors
Time
Transportation costs
Staff and funding
Location, guided tours We have had to create our own fieldtrips in Southern NV and Northern NV.
The extreme heat in Southern Nevada as well as the long distances our rural schools would need to travel.
Organizing and bussing
Lacking in the required curriculum (standard testing based curriculum)
Funding for busses, available programs, time
Funding and 'buy in' from parents, teachers, and administrators
It is not part of the CCSD curriculum

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Not enough programs
The greatest barriers are not falling behind in the other subjects that have to be taught and stay up to date with all the pacing guides teachers have to follow.
No dedicated space for outdoor learning on campus. Not enough time to go outdoors due to time constraints.
I think the weather is the main obstacle
Access to busses, gear, knowledge...
Space and time/transportation to get area/s
Sometimes the weather being a big barrier, other times just not taking the time to go outside with students to do outdoor learning.
Funding, but more accurately, lack of funding
Lack of teacher resources and transportation
Time out of basic educational needs with our students so far behind academically already, money for field trips, and access to transportation.
Access to rural areas
No funding for field trips
Ideally youth could get out of the school environment, but outdoor learning can happen on the school campus. Barriers - teachers not knowing how to do outdoor learning. In HS I had a math lesson where we went outside to explore how to measure the height of the flagpole with math formulas. Not 'outdoor' focused, but being outside was memorable.
Funding and requirements to follow standardized testing
Financial concerns for field trips
Admin
Cities promote cities and not the great outdoors. Good for those who choose rural living and unfortunate for the city dwellers
Teachers - Educators who have adequate training to be able to facilitate and ensure that there are age appropriate activities and lessons planned that create positive learning environments outdoors for students. Funding / time - I assume there's not currently a lot of money to develop, or expand these programs if they don't exist or just starting. Additionally, where does outdoor education get scheduled for many students?
Time, staff, child behaviors
Equal access for students with different incomes and access to equipment.
CCSD follows a very strict, riddled with work and no time for fun/exploration. It's a very follow to the T curriculum which makes it super difficult for teachers to bring in outdoor education
Access to resources, safety concerns, staff knowledge of content
Staffing
The greatest barriers are time and resources. We need the time to be able to support outdoor learning. We also need transportation, since most of our parents work and are unable to drive their child.
Fear of injury and litigation.
Class sizes and supervision
Does the teacher have support for the effort it takes to make outdoor education possible? Is outdoor education accessible to all, even differently abled children?
As a parent, and not an educator, I'm uncertain of the obstacles or barriers that might be faced in regards to outdoor education in schools.
Funding. Kids need to be able to connect to the outdoors by getting outdoors. Without the funding get to kids to Parks and other open spaces, it is almost impossible for kids to make that connection.
Administrative support, funding for busses
Legal
Buy in from schools. Outdoor education isn't part of standardized testing so may not be considered important.
Time Cost Student Interest Parent Support
Not enough approval from the state
Time- so many other requirements are imposed for classroom learning; however, PE activities could include outdoor education such as Project WILD or Project WET activities
The extreme heat and lack of staff.

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
financial support, resources for classes
District, parents and teachers understanding the importance!
Government oversight and testing.
Lack of interest and supporters
Teachers are not encouraged to take the classroom outside. Not enough teachers are educated in outdoor education
Time and adults priority to get kids outdoors. Often the weather is too extreme to do much. Trips and activities are often pared down to the least common denominator or if not supported by a family unit the kids still won't have much opportunity. Perhaps, link a kid or two up with a mentor, so in small groups can get a more tailored experience for their interests and abilities.
all politics
Lack of funding, shortage of experts for staff.
Time, money, availability of teachers.
Satisfying curriculum requirements
I don't know for sure, but I imagine getting students to locations where they can experience outdoor/nature activities can be difficult.
Time, Transportation
Teachers are required to teach specific curriculum which does not necessarily include outdoor education.
As mentioned above, time is a huge issue. Also access: although the desert is close by, it can be hard to coordinate getting students and staff out there.
We have a club but we don't have a class. I would be willing to teach an outdoor class.
No place in the curriculum which caters to standardized testing
Local schools do not generally have great natural spaces (aside from garden programs like those from Green Our Planet), and the hot desert environment limits summer outdoor education unless access to the mountains/lake can be provided.
I see no obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools- especially in Northern Nevada, weather and easy access to the outdoors are certainly not difficult!
Teacher capacity, funding
Ensuring administration (principal/AP) understand the importance and allow for classes to be given the time to provide adequate outdoor education (eg not 'seen' as simple 'breaks')
Social media, video games, TikTok, Facebook, Instagram
Funding
Transportation Weather - too hot in the late spring, summer, and early fall
Teachers lack of experience and/or interest and/or funding. A program like Sierra Nevada Journey's should be accessible to children across the state. Kids need to get out side not only for biological/geographical/topographical/environmental/ ecological education purposes but also for their own mental health. Being outdoors has multiple health benefits, teaching children this at a young age helps them find the activities that assist them in finding a quiet place/ refuge when they need it later in life. Feeling connected to the greater outdoors helps alleviate feelings of loneliness and isolation etc. There are so many health reasons to be outside including clean air/ fresh oxygen right off the tree's leaves and the physical movement involved in being outside. The benefits are endless.
Getting to outside areas appropriate for outside education: Lake Mead, Mount Charleston, Red Rock are a good deal away from an inner city school, and lining up field trips is cumbersome for teachers and transportation is expensive for schools.
Free breakfast and lunches Field trips that students look forward to (rite of passage) Education of native community traditions and practices
Logistics: Transportation, food, length of a trip. Also, knowledge of the specifics of each natural environment to be able to insert it in our planning. The cost of visiting a place.
We are always, always, always working in a pressure cooker to prepare students for testing, even in early elementary school.
Taking safety seriously.
Time and resources.



<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Transportation, heat in the summertime, lack of qualified professionals to teach about Nevada outdoor education
Time, budget, interest
Funding to get to places. Training required by teachers to attend parks. Lack of volunteers to accompany children. Lack of places close to school or in schools.
Buy in from school board and admin
Cost, parental acceptance of the potential risks involved, and transportation.
Lack of fishing equipment that is user-friendly
Unknown areas, bussing, cost of field trips, CCSD field trip guidelines.
Money and location
A lot of students are very easily distracted, and finding interesting activities can be challenge. Keeping the thought of screens and other technology out of mind while being outdoors is another challenge that presents itself.
Not enough staff to safely supervise classes when in an outdoor setting
A phone has so much more to offer.
Funding - not enough funding to support both the curriculum materials (books, tools, buses) and teachers needed to teach courses Administration not being onboard with the necessity of outdoor ed.
Teachers are not trained in lessons for this
Federal testing requirements on only certain subjects.
Being able to trust my students not to sneak off
Focus on national test scores supersedes all other topics. Too much screen time and lack of outdoor knowledge or interest from parents.
Federal and state rules and regulations that make it difficult to get some where. Also, the funds to do so.
I think the biggest obstacle is having outdoor science curriculum aligned to the standards that I teach in middle school. The thought of utilizing outdoor education is one that excited me, but I don't have the resources to know how to do it for my students yet.
Money for field trips
Having someone to come teach outdoor education
School systems/administrators not seeing the value in outdoor education. Time, resources and teacher professional development.
Transportation in urban areas to get students to the amazing parks and outdoor spaces. Also funds for buses.
Lack of funding
Money; 'government-run' anything with the constant rules, regulations that hinder TRUE education!
Locations- supervision
The state is more concerned with testing than the actual education of our children. Not enough money is going towards the individual schools and teachers. Way to many higher up, out of touch, over paid 'office employees'.
Current educational curriculum leaves little room for Outdoor education, bus and money constraints, school hours, behavior of youth.
The weather and UV
Teachers
The amount of time the kids have school work on the Chromebook
Time. However, if we extend school hours it will alleviate cost of before and after school programs. Even if its 3 days a week. Pre School starts at 9am and over by 11am. My daughter is bored until 3pm and there are not specialized childcare resources to help her keep learning. I would rather her stay longer.
No local places, very little supervision and students who do not listen and are disrespectful-not safe to take outdoors without one on one supervision.
The heat
Staffing in parks to accommodate more groups and larger groups and transportation to these places
Teachers willingness to do it
Kids not having appropriate clothing for when it is cold.
The amount of time required to be in the classroom according to Dept. of Ed.
Cost, time, curriculum

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
What teachers are required to teach and how they teach. Additionally, too much homework that keeps them indoors after school.
Educators aren't paid as well as they should be, so I think there may be a lack of qualified educators.
I don't think they are really taught about at all. The biggest obstacle is probably funding or lack of school district buy in.
Adults' willingness to setup experiences Funding Access to nature Time dedicated to outdoor education Travel/distance Academic priorities override other developmental needs of youth.
Fitting in or aligning with other curricular requirements.
Probably negative attitudes among some teachers and/or administrators about such activities.
Adding it to the main curriculum
Fitting the time in
Educators that don't understand the importance of outdoor education.
Weather, schools aren't really designed to accommodate outdoor learning
A need for educators to develop and plan opportunities in addition to existing job expectations.
Transportation and funding
Lack of training and motivation for teachers. Lack of administrative support for teachers. Lack of outdoor learning facilities. No doubt money is part of the problem in some way as well.
Accessibility, permission to leave campus, kids underprepared for being outdoors (footwear/sunscreen/etc.)
The summer heat
The two biggest obstacles are obtaining transportation TO and FROM areas where our students could participate in outdoor education opportunities and having enough availability to participate in outdoor activities. In some instances, by the time we learned about the opportunity, presented the idea to our administration, received permission, and responded, all spaces were full.
Outrageous standards that make teachers feel like they can not leave the classroom in order to try and hit all of these standards. I also always run into the problem of never having enough funds in order to go outside. I frequently have to fundraise or pay for things by myself.
Transportation to and from outdoor spaces. Funding for transportation and field trips.
Access, allowance, personnel
The heat index during the summer- but there are ways to work around this.
State standards and school rules/policies
Electronic devices
The weather
Curriculum. Teachers do not have the time to add it in at some schools. And if they do, they don't have the support or knowledge to do so.
Keeping interest high and engaging different age groups effectively.
Time constraints, lack of training/understanding and support for outdoor education
Time, staff support
Access to the outdoors; interest from the children to do something that isn't a video game; money
Resources like funding and teachers
Lack of awareness for available programs. School partnership development difficulty do to transiency and bureaucracy of leadership at the district level. Heat, lack of shade, funding, transportation to get students to activities
Too many students, not enough teachers that have the training and knowledge and motivation to teach the children based upon their learning styles. You cannot teach a child who is unwilling to learn a child who is unmotivated due to the way they're being taught is unfortunate because there Sure fire ways to teach each child you just have to target Their learning style and utilize it.
Most likely it would be the teachers or instructors to supervise the kids. They are overworked currently and adding more to their work load would be difficult if they didn't get the correct support.
Every minute is already allocated to different subjects, and there already is not enough time to teach. Also, the extreme heat makes it particularly challenging.
Transportation costs and bus availability
Lockdown campuses, limited knowledge of the campus spaces set aside for learning, other classes utilizing the

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
same areas
The students are able to play for a good amount of time which learns to many behavior issues.
Administration, teachers, and staff as well as parents not wanting students to participate. Also transportation to places and volunteers to attend.
The time it takes to get from the classroom to a suitable outside location and then back to the classroom. The periods are so short it is difficult to give up the travel time. It does not leave enough time for the lesson.
Need to leave the school/ area for some of the activities.
Access. lack of Buses. lack of Local walkable outdoor areas or lack of willingness to make effort to teach outside.
Funding, transportation, teachers with the knowledge and ability to teach about these things
Weather
School schedule. Parent approval. Liability issues.
The failure to tie this education to purpose.
Programs and transportation
Time away from reading, writing, history, science, computer technology, civics
Lack of opportunity and resources
Too much computer learning that isn't hands on and experiential
Lack of Shade, lack of playgrounds in Carson City
Weather (heat), not a lot of events, no designated education organization/unaware of who to go to
1) Lack of people willing or able to engage students in outdoor activities 2) Insurance issues 3) Travel issues
Dependence on electronics.
Planning and logistics of taking kids outside for field trips or learning. Time constraints. Importance of standards focused on reading, writing and math.
The need to travel. Increased tests in schools, double blocking of Math and ELA leaves less time for Health and Physical Education
Money
Money, unawareness of opportunities, focus on standards-based instruction.
Overtaxed school staff. Lack of knowledge about outdoor education. Lack of federal support in meeting requirements for funding.
Funding, time, lack of education about opportunities available to schools/teachers/students, and lack of support from school leaders for students to take field trip experiences
Being in rural Nevada, away from our district seat, we are really put at a disadvantage in terms of getting resources (both human and supply wise) for our students. It can be difficult to get people to come to our school because they don't want to travel.
Limited knowledge and experience of teachers/staff
I kind of stated above, the lack of will. Schools, teachers, even students are so different from when I was in school.
Funding and not enough actual time focusing on the important parts of student education.
Fear of liability, lack of access to experts and equipment, lack of time and knowledge, lack of funds.
Transportation, money to pay for entrance fees, etc.
Weather
Travel to get there, communication to plan outdoor events with national parks
Funding for field trips and transportation. The challenge of rural kids having access to opportunities where transportation is less accessible. There is a need to provide actual curriculum for the needs listed above.
Logistics and educated individuals. Many of the most interesting things about Nevada's outdoors occur far from the schoolyard, making access difficult, especially in urban areas. Also, if the educator is not well informed/educated, lack of information or incorrect information can be harmful.
School/District/Teacher lack of interest or restrictions and funding
Funding, time, low or no interest
Parents not giving permission
Transportation
Getting participation. Classes will not thrive if students do not participate or sign up for them.
Transportation to site admission fees

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Safety during transport, teachers/staff willing to take students, outdoor spaces that are not available or safe
Weather is a concern for a portion of the year, but can be mitigated by proper planning (Mary Jane Falls hike is perfect for July, Historic Railroad hike for February). An increasingly tech driven daily life can prove to be challenging when asking youth to 'unplug' to enjoy nature
I think there is too much focus on testing and test scores and state standards and curriculum, and a lack of prioritization on creating well rounded children that want to play outside and not on their Chromebook...why not have set of outdoor classroom blankets where kids could go outside to read under a canopy a few times per week...get out of the classroom and outside!
Transportation, time, cost
Time, money
Lack of variety in school curriculum that is too rigid in teaching all things, a specific way, on a specific timeline. Too large of a ratio in classrooms of students to teachers prevents the deeper, more personal interactions needed when exploring outdoor education topics.
State required education mandates, allocated minutes, and master schedules
Stipulations associated with financial support
Limited funding and resources. Too many things to do in a day and priorities being placed on other areas.
Lack of Teachers and lack of funding
State standards require many additional items to be taught that there's not enough time to be able to offer them all.
The liberal teachings and discouragement of outdoor recreation
Distance
Materials/supplies. finding time in the curriculum schedule
Removing financial and bureaucratic barriers that prevent schools from taking children outside.
Curriculum aligned with standards Lessons aligned with standards Management of students outdoors (chaperones)
Obtaining the proper educators
Not prioritizing our children's education
The cost of transportation. The lack of formal outdoor education programs or schools dedicated to outdoor education.
We do not have a covered area, and the sun and wind can be very strong throughout the day.
Funding, transportation, viewing learning outside of class room as valid and critical
The greatest obstacle to outdoor education in schools is finding the time to include it in a day that is already very difficult to integrate all curriculum and required content.
'Lack of funds'/ inefficient allocation of financial resources, lack of interest in the outdoors for some kids(boring)
Funding and not having enough educators
Time for this experience in the curriculum. Expertise or comfort level of teachers to undertake this type of teaching.
Time, the requirements on teachers on the materials we have to cover is unwieldy.
Proximity to the terrain outside of the classroom and ensuring all students are met in a safe environment during the school day. In Tahoe we explored the outdoors on a more regular basis.
Access to outdoor opportunities - funding to support outdoor education programs
Making it meaningful for my lesson.
Lack of teachers/volunteers, cost, school limitations onsite
More programs that involve our students in all areas of outdoor education. Desert Survival and Snow Survival are a few.
The biggest obstacle I had when teaching was having an administrator that was supportive. They did not want us to give up any time in the classroom for outdoor activities.
TIME!!!!
Outdoor education is not specifically incorporated into required curriculum paths and success in this type of education is challenging to evaluate.
Access
Time crunches

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Cost. I understand our school takes the kids outdoor swimming at the end of the school year. They also take them out to a farm-like area with pastures to see domestic animals & surrounding wildlife. There are plenty of State Parks the kids could learn from in their own backyard and the school does utilize.
The time allowable for students to be outdoor
Bussing
Funding and precedent
Accessibility, space and Outdoor Education curriculum and providers
Time and the heat
Funding and Innovative Thinking
Money and administrative support.
Behavior management, monitoring dangerous situations, and enough supervision
Changes to tardy policy so that students know where to go if the class is gone
Cell Phones
Location
Heat
Qualified educators.
The kids , they just want to play on their phone
Not enough supervision or funds?
Location of opportunities, student behavior
Funding, Transportation
Established curriculum and testing requirements, budget, teacher time and personal importance, administrative and school support.
The heat and sun
Teachers willing to take time and students staying focused
Policymakers (removing recess and shortening lunch time).
Student Behaviors
Location of the school General safety of walking students off campus Availability of outdoor education resources/areas
Material available / curriculum
1) Transportation cost and availability 2) Lack of green or natural spaces near schools 3) Limiting, test focused, curriculum imposed by the district that doesn't leave room for incorporation of outdoor education 4) Lack of training for teachers of how to take kids outside safely and plan a field trip 5) Teachers lack of local environmental/natural knowledge, as curriculum and curriculum training often focuses on zoo animals from other parts of the world 6) Lack of support from the higher levels of the district.
The heat in Las Vegas, school busses for traveling
Time management, unpredictable weather, student behaviors, space
Unpredictability of weather, preparedness of all students
Having enough adult supervision, student behaviors, transportation
Money/volunteers/time
Outdoor Education should be part of STEM learning and the curriculum in a number of grade levels but I would say particularly 4th grade then 2nd - 8th grade.
My child's elementary school principal (Hunter Lake Elementary School, Washoe County, Mrs. Amanda McWilliams) does not place any priority on anything other than standardized testing results. So, I would say poor leadership and a ridiculous amount of standardized testing and standardized test prep is an obstacle to outdoor education. If it's not a worksheet at a desk, it isn't happening. Science as a subject is completely absent from 3rd grade at Hunter Lake since it's not on a standardized test and limited for 4th and 5th grade. How can teachers provide outdoor education when they are not even allowed to spend time on Science??!
Time and accessibility of outdoor spaces
In all of my years working in school districts the biggest obstacles for any kind of field trip is cost and transportation.
Weather specially during summer
Limited curriculum to include more outdoor skills versus more standardized curriculum regarding plants,

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
animals, and the environment. Limited funding for non-profits working with schools to increase outdoor education.
Money/transportation to outdoor spaces
Getting approved for funding for teachers, grants and resources.
The heat and easy access
Lack of staff
Transportation, nearby nature trails.
Time and accessibility
Cost of school buses and the restricted amount of time they can be devoted to field trips.
Weather and funding
Outdoor education competes with a lot of other educational priorities at CCSD, even though the benefits of teaching students about nature are well established.
The safety of the students.
Using classroom tools outdoors, scheduling
The primary challenge is to build strong relationships with local nonprofits and schools in a specific area. It's crucial to conduct thorough research, involve the local community (including governments, nonprofits, businesses, schools, and residents), and listen to the needs of the community, especially in areas lacking resources. Door-to-door surveys are essential because relying solely on online surveys excludes people without internet access or awareness of these issues and assumes that whoever takes the online survey is representative of the community.
Time, and testing. We are pushed to improve reading and math skills. In seat work.
Not enough time given for extracurricular activities such as this.
Lack of knowledge. And the willingness of parents to allow their kids to stay inside and play video games
Need extra adults Safety concerns
Extreme heat weather
The legal liability of the schools. Everyone is so ready to go to court to make a quick buck. This is the reason a lot of things have been removed.
I would say time and transportation. It is difficult to get students outside, away from the classroom.
Logistics - how to get my class to outdoor spaces appropriate for tasks.
Admin/Powers at be
Transportation, parent involvement
Not enough staff. Not enough willing teachers
Funding, too much time in class having to do required testing.
Heat at certain times of year.
Bureaucracy
Lack of curriculum support to pull learning outdoors.
Citizen/family support who are afraid of their children caring about things. Money for long term program establishment. Number of available teachers. Number of teachers who have the knowledge and capability to start teaching outside.
Resources
Weather and not having the proper structures to continue outdoor education during weather
Getting kids off campus to experience different environments.
Time constraints lack of proximity lack of shade for outdoor activities (S NV) need for higher ups to get onboard need for paperwork/permissions
Transportation, local areas to explore that aren't too far away
The department of education and district expectations. There are too many tests and documentations required, which at minimum should be done.
The focus on schools being on Math, ELA, and Science so heavily because they are the SBAC/MAP/iReady tested subjects. Little time is left in the day to learn anything outside of those 3 subjects.
Unique climate/environment
Very little nature accessible at my school site. Lack of diverse plant life or terrain in the immediate area. No outdoor study space (no shade, no tables, no access to water) We could not even attract any birds to various

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
feeders outside our windows. We have no curriculum that is suitable for the local area, because the curriculum comes from publishing companies that are also tied to standardized testing outcomes. Also ALL the time the district requires for the adopted math and literacy programs, most elementary teacher have NO time or permission to do hands on STEAM activities. There is too much emphasis on standardized test scores, test prep, computer based learning. Administrators prioritize learning activities that they believe will drive higher test scores. If I want to do special science projects or art, I have to pay for materials out of my own pocket or get donations.
Funding and staffing
Time allotted to standardized testing
Lack of green spaces
Current standards and time in schools, the perception that this is not as important as the core subjects.
Transportation (Buses); heat in the region;
Funding and participation
Time and money
Las Vegas heat when temperatures are over 90 degrees for several months out of the year. It can also be very cold in the winter for kids.
Perhaps not integrating the lesson plans for outdoor learning
Time and funding
Weather and resources
Time
Funding and administrative barriers
1: Having proper clothing during the winter 2: Funding to pay for 3rd party programs we would like to use.
Time, resources, transportation
Transportation and funding.
The main challenge of outdoor learning is that school outdoor spaces, such as blacktop areas and those used for PE, only sometimes support learning. There needs to be more outdoor classrooms, gardens, and spaces for learning outside.
They have made all our classroom doors to shut and locked with no time spent outside learning except for lunch recess. I get that safety is important but I believe this does the children and teachers a disservice. Kids need more outside time
Lack of time, resources
Funding
Students right now. The generation is becoming more sedentary and used to staying indoors.
Standards and teaching to standardized tests
Lack of outdoor learning spaces and support from district administrators
Access to outdoor areas and fitting it into the curriculum.
Time - With 52 minute class periods in high school, there is not enough time to get to outdoor spaces even within the school.
Transportation
Having the correct materials - lesson plans for this content area - having a guide that's in different languages
Teachers & funding
Inexperience in the outdoors. Fear of dangers rather than education on how to be aware of surroundings. Also teachers do not have full control of classrooms because students have too much power and not enough boundaries.
Teachers have gone away from teaching and students have gone away from learning. Technology has played a big part in todays society and if not used in moderation can become habitual and time consuming thus takes away from teaching and learning
Bus funding and money for outside programs
The heat, not enough funding, not enough care or energy to take the students on a trip, not enough courage or support to care for a large groups of students in the outdoors.
Regulatory folks forgetting how important it was for them as a child, and in turn not funding or supporting this function in schools

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
It's not in the standards for most subjects and we don't have time for extras
Time and money, resources and training for educator who would like to participate in teaching outdoor education
Lack of support or incentive for teachers to implement OE
Planning
Location Willingness Funds
I have taught an 'outdoor science' class in middle school in the past. We were able to do a field trip to cross country ski, build snow caves, hike, learn how to pitch a tent, cook on a grill, and build a fire. This has since not been happening. Unsure why. However, as a high school teacher, I would love to teach an elective class called, 'outdoor education,' that included multiple field trips, learning to kayak, wilderness survival, hiking, building shelters, learning to swim etc. . . However, we cannot afford to this. Funding is the problem.
Time, transportation, equipment enough for everyone
Teachers don't have time
Other standards that need to be taught
Resources to transport students to educational locations
Locating people that want to help with developing a program that has meaning.
The greatest obstacles to outdoor education in schools include limited funding for resources and equipment, lack of specialized training for teachers, and insufficient time within the school schedule. Safety concerns and the need for risk management plans can also be significant barriers. Additionally, accessibility issues for students with disabilities or those from underprivileged backgrounds, lack of support from parents and the community, and challenges in integrating outdoor activities into the existing curriculum further hinder the implementation of effective outdoor education programs.
Transportation Funding Lack of Adults with specialized risk management training (CPR/First Aid, Wilderness First Aid (WFA) or Wilderness First Responder/WFA) Lack of Field Trip Support Staff (youth/volunteers/parents) (In this state we are not lacking for opportunities or educational resources- but transportation continues to be a major factor in accessibility for all Nevada students)
Time logistics transportation
Funding and staffing
Distractions, cost and safety
Funding and state testing priorities.
Money.
Teachers are concerned with having their authority being taken over.
There shouldn't be any obstacles but perhaps funding for activities such as growing vegetables, planting trees, etc.
Distance, time, red tape for field trip approval, cost
Weather, school regulations/policies
Those who don't value it will say it's more important to have good test scores, stem programs, etc. Outdoor education is just as important.
Attitude that it's just for fun and not educational/knowing who can give tours/where are places we can take our students/building outdoor classrooms on school grounds
Staffs' willingness to support and advocate for outdoor education, access, transportation.
Temperature, access to proper play equipment, and equipment that has shade.
Extreme heat and cold.
Teachers and resources
Time, admin, safety
Transportation 'fitting in' with current curriculum
The length of time it takes to get somewhere, and the costs involved.
Time being allocated toward it.
We are so busy trying to teach all of the standards we are not able to extend activities to the outdoors.
Vocational obligations
The barriers I see are travel logistics and chaperones. In order to get to an outdoor place, we have to travel a minimum distance of 30 minutes. We also would need a certain amount of chaperones to make the outing safe



<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest obstacles or barriers to outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
and successful .
It's overlooked
The needs we listed above could also be called obstacles and/or barriers. Are there enough providers across NV? This could also be a barrier.
Coordinating with teacher's due to all the demands on them.
There are too many alternatives such a electronic games that distract children from exploring outdoor activities. Parents often choose the easy route by allowing their kids to use these devices instead of investing the parent's time in outdoor activities with their kids.
Heat, safety, accessibility
Weather, having enough staff to supervise and keep students safe
Financial resources for guided experiences with naturalists or interpretive specialists.
The state not understanding how important outdoor education is.
No one to teach it and location.
Lack of teachers
Schools lack funds to transport students to outdoor education opportunities, and teachers lack resources and example to provide this education within the school campus.
Curriculum and testing
Teachers having the time and the \$\$ to pay for experiences
In northern Nevada I have to imagine the weather is the biggest challenge. Other than that, I'm not sure why they can't be outside more.
Funding and staffing are huge obstacles in Lyon County.
Not offering a class that focuses on outdoor education.
Belief is not for the child by the child. Access to travel and gear
Lack of funding for field trips and school grounds improvements
The teachers not fully immersed in the idea that outdoor education is vital to the area. Not enough support for teachers to learn how to teach. Not enough funds to have specials where services can showcase their work.
Lack of focus towards it. Obesity is a huge problem. Being outside and moving the body can help that.
My kids schools are located on the outskirts of town so it would be really easy for them to walk to the desert. For other schools in the city, I would imagine the issue is travel to get somewhere to learn more.
Finding new lessons that are not repetitive in nature. Everything we have done is about bird watching and habitats.
Not enough support for teachers (staff and money)
Buy-In from stakeholders
Cost, Time, Providing or reaching outdoor spaces
School board and government
Field trips for real world learning
Time and planning
Upkeep
Student needs vs have- sunscreen, water bottles, correct clothing Weather- blows away papers, rain ruins equipment, too hot/cold to focus Background experience of students
Funding to support outdoor education activities.
Missing information how can enroll like school community outside
Used to be a state NRS that required that EE be taught in the classrooms but for years not enforced or supported so it was eliminated - Field trip money / teachers comfortability with outdoor learning / curriculum requirements changing / getting standards that support outdoor classroom opportunities No EE camps in the state established

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Good guides who know how to interact and speak to children
More funding and also teacher workshops/ trainings so teachers may gain an appreciation of the outdoors and feel more comfortable and confident teaching it to their students or put more effort into finding the programs to get their students outside. Marketing from outside organizations will also help teachers know what's available in their areas. So funding the organizations that get people outside is also important.
Areas and resources.
Funding and educational curriculum
Transportation costs
Having appreciation for the world we live in and the environment we share with others and other species.
teacher training, partnership with local areas willing to help
Programs with defined curriculum Transportation
Transportation, staff willing to chaperone
Funding and curriculum that supports the areas being visited.
Travel costs.
Funding for appropriate equipment and training resources for teachers.
Dedicated spaces within school grounds or near school grounds that would serve as a meeting place and/or educational space for said education (like greenhouses, nature paths, community gardens, etc.). Or partnerships with entities/programs that can provide that space (like bug/wildlife sanctuaries, local microgreen farming locations, local farms/ranches, etc.).
Making room in the required curriculum for this to be a required course.
Less mandated time and curriculum requirements
Again fostering that stewardship amongst educators, showing that it can be used as an interdisciplinary method to educate on other subjects, money, transportation.
Funding and understanding of its importance
Specific teacher, having a class designed for this
More counselors and teachers need to promote the wonderful activities to be had outdoors.
Time, resources, transportation
Students need to learn about the value of enjoying the outdoors, and the necessity of preserving it for themselves, others, and the future.
The greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools are adequate funding, trained educators, access to natural spaces, curriculum integration, community support, robust safety measures, transportation, inclusivity, effective assessment, and partnerships with external organizations.
The greatest need to support outdoor education in schools is curriculum and educational resources to use with students.
Education, money, time, commitment
Money. More school buses or vans. Parental education and involvement. Teacher buy in is important too: when my son was in 6th grade he was not able to participate in a special outdoor program involving snow survival techniques (this was in Reno) because his teacher didn't want to be out in the cold so he canceled the class's participation.
Bus funds and funds to support quality outdoor education programs. Mandating outdoor education in NDE state standards like in Oregon, and supporting that with funds to make it happen is a great model.
Curriculum that embeds outdoor learning into the lessons OR strategies to take learning outdoors.
Funding, and participation
Students need to be able to explore and play that is apart of learning.
Transportation
Reliable transportation, money, and administration support.
Food and materials
Recourses and trained teachers
Curriculum lesson plans in the subject area that allow me to take the time to be outside
Schools and districts must prioritize outdoor activities to enrich students' learning experiences and fully engage their senses. By immersing themselves in the natural environment, students can gain knowledge through hands-

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
on experiences, stimulating all their senses and cultivating a deeper understanding of the world around them.
Shade and water
I like to focus on Outdoor Safety, the safety of humans in the outdoors. Humans are our #1 most beautiful wildlife I see in the outdoors, and it's important to protect humans.
Transportation to state parks. Support from State Parks in creating learning activities together with schools. Knowledge of what state parks have to offer and what is available for children to explore and learn. Incorporate field trips into curriculums to expand about the nature in Nevada and how to take care of it.
Training, advocacy with administrators, data showing benefits to learning.
Transportation and district support.
Not sure what 'NEEDS' means in the context of this Q.
Funding, training for teachers, and transportation
Schools needs more staff and budget to do it
Funding Time
Learn about our wildlife and plants around us
More Field Trips! & normalizing outdoor learning to have more opportunities outside. I think lessons in outdoor education will come naturally.
Time out of the classroom to learn about the world around them.
More grant opportunity
Better-informed teachers, required outdoor time.
I think that creating new activities for kids to enjoy outdoors at school would be very useful
More teachers and better funding
I think the greatest needs are like many other areas, people to present and run programs, resources for the programs and opportunities for all to participate.
Better spaces for kids to be able to learn outside comfortably and better/more resources for teachers to hold classes outside. I think there needs to be a little more focus on the outdoor environment in elementary school. My kids' biggest complaint from last year is that they didn't get the opportunity to have a lot of science classes. They love learning about nature but with focus being heavily on math, reading/writing and testing, outdoor skills and nature were touched on very little.
The greatest needs were funding for field trips.
Extra adult supervision
Have the state subsidize the costs of transportation for students and have park staff guide students on outside activities at parks on a regular basis to impact large numbers of students.
Outdoor education should be written into academic content standards- not adding more on what teachers need to teach- but modifying something that already exists. Also other experts besides classroom teachers should supplement outdoor education for schools. Funding as well as safe, well-trained/ qualified bus drivers for transportation.
Survival skills, plant ID, animal ID, how to read and use a map including how to find yourself
Teachers educated in diverse areas of the outdoors such as animals, plants, insects, waterways, fishing, foraging, etc.
Teacher support. It takes a lot of time to set up, plan and supervise students to make an outing successful.
What is needed is mentioned above. Providing teachers with a higher pay or more support with aides to allow them the space to bring that education to their students. I also think there should be way more funding in the outdoor spaces that would provide the areas for this education to occur. Finally an important need is communication and work that would bring higher collegiate level students into the pre-K-12 grade level students. A program based in science and outdoor education while using older children and younger adults would be efficient and helpful for all parties involved.
Children need to understand where their food comes from. A lot of children never have the opportunity to ride bikes, go to tahoe, learn how to swim, learn how to fish. It is important to educate the whole child and now just cram standards down their throats.
Making it possible for teachers to take their classes outside, even if it's just for reading time. On a nice day if they had a pavilion at their schools they could sit outside as a class and do their work there away from the screens and unnatural light.

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Time and opportunities to fit it in with everything else that is required of educators.
Outreach
Outdoor based curriculum Teacher training Science that supports the benefits of outdoor learning and activities
Outdoor materials including jump ropes, balls, a lot of space or land to run and walk, a school garden
Space, time, freedom to teach creatively
Time and funding
Funding for transportation and resources for the families to learn and understand what activities are taking place.
Teachers. More specifically, \$: Adequate pay for teachers.
Community /family outreach
Professional development funding for outdoor education sites and programs.
To show that outdoor education can improve reading and math skills.
Funding
Funding and locations
We need more access to spaces that are conducive to learning.
In the face of rapid climate and cultural changes, today's children will need to be as resilient and well-rounded as possible to thrive in the future.
More environmental focus in school. I took an environmental science class in high school and it was not very popular at all. The needs are that there needs to be more engagement and involvement with younger students.
Money for interesting After-School programs
Supplies to best observe and explore the outdoors.
Proper educators
Learning about the environment around them...bring plants and animals. Weather watching... learning to grow their own food...
It would have to be part of the curriculum. And I would want materials to follow.
Spreading understanding of the benefits of outdoor education. Teacher training. Creative planning about how schools can achieve outdoor education on site.
Finding volunteers to assist with getting the kids to experience the great outdoors.
Curriculum, transportation access
Someone to teach it.
Financial resources, human resource (bus drivers for field trips), community partnerships
The money to fund the outdoor education is a big one. Schools often cannot support extra supplies for outdoor education as well as the time. Extra support for teacher is another need since most of us are not experts on outdoor education. We often depend on outside sources like Sierra Nevada Journeys or UNR students to come in and teach lessons in the subjects they are knowledgeable in.
Physical activity for kids being able to apply classroom learning such as physical science to outdoor education
More funding
Put the pieces together! We have the brightest students in the brightest place on earth. We have passionate teachers with student buy-in, but no money or transportation. We have universities with outdoor rec programs for recreation, but not for actual Outdoor Recreation/Education degree-seeking programs. (Sorry UNLV, have to call you out here) We have a multi-billion-dollar tourism-based infrastructure that already exists and attracts visitors from all over the world- we don't have to start from scratch, and these industries are positively impacted by more outdoor recreation/tourism opportunities. We have some of the world's most dramatic and accessible natural resources in our backyard. We are uniquely positioned to re-imagine not only what our children's school days will look like but also what our community's future can look like. We just have to put the pieces together.
Education Reform More funding Changes in scheduling
Time outside to be in the sun, exercise, get off screens
Resources
Mapping education, navigation, basic survival skills, first aid.
More educators who are familiar with the topic and have the ability to share the knowledge with students.
FUNDING! Financially supporting the initiative

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Funding to support outdoor education activities.
Places to visit
Materials specific to outdoor education that can start the learning process in the classroom before they go outside.
Financial support, resources for classes
Emphasis on meeting standards with outdoor education/experiences and prioritizing hands-on learning.
Funding to have field trips. Buses cost too much! Donations and funding for a ski day, cross country ski day, and/or snowshoe day. Funding or field trip to learn about fly fishing.
Facilitators and activities for high schoolers, maybe we need camping trips, field trips, outdoor gardens
Time and money, resources and training for educator who would like to participate in teaching outdoor education
Locations
Just the point of being outside and moving around
Resources
Well-developed plans
Funding for non-profit partners and for transportation. Also - a legislative compulsion, such as Every Kid Outside in Oregon.
Funding. Getting buses for fieldtrips out to local federal and state parks is a challenge.
Bussing
Transportation.
Dedicated staff and time to outdoor learning
Government funding and better education requirements.
Admin support
Field trips to give students experiences their families can't always give.
1) Educators or guides with knowledge of Nevada's outdoor areas 2) Funding for regular travel and supervision while engaging in outdoor activities (Redrock hike, for example - we do field trips, but they are rare).
Instructional ideas and materials that match the Nevada State Standards
Transportation- even CCSD buses are expensive for field trips
An inviting place to go, like a shaded amphitheater or benches and tables.
Shade for Vegas heat protection
Age related resources were and when
Logistical support and educated individuals.
Proximity curriculum support of principals/district water for students to use outdoors permanent shade structures near learning areas Outdoor courtyard development into nature spaces
Real live experiences.
More teachers aids willing to help with classes
Demonstration/more communication of the impacts of outdoor education on child health and development at the legislative level, such that we remove the focus on standardized testing and instead focus on developing the whole child. Currently my child does standardized test prep all day every day, which cannot be good for him. Until we can make the case that kids shouldn't be doing test prep all day and hold Principals accountable to metrics other than test scores, then there will be no time in the day for outdoor education. As I said above, at Hunter Lake in Washoe County, my child did not do a SINGLE science lesson in all of 3rd grade because, and I quote, 'It's not on the SBAC'.
To provide the students with the opportunity to get out into nature and to learn about the desert and how important desert life is to our ecosystem.
Built into the curriculum or it won't happen, more educators working directly with natural resource agencies to provide age appropriate content that will also meet the needs of school's standards and needs of students socio-economic backgrounds.
Do schools have dedicated outdoor education specialists or coordinators? I think they should if they don't.
I think we need teacher training to be able to properly implement outdoor education. We need to be given the framework to develop students' growth mindset and teamwork, and we need to be trained to properly debrief students in order to help them take away life lessons from the experiences.

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Access to natural spaces and the transportation needed to get there; educator exposure to the outdoors and confidence to bring students into these areas safely
Tools for desert exploration and survival skills
Funding for transportation a little common sense/leeway when presenting programs- students can learn better when they DO something rather than just reading or being told about it
More opportunities and resources
Funding
A type of curriculum that ties in with our standards, so we have things to use or do.
Provide free transportation and free entrance fees, etc.
Safe playgrounds and study/ secure equipment
Communication about where we can go/who can support students/people who can come to our schools
Giving them a safe place to be outdoors.
Flexibility with schedule so activities may be performed outside when the weather isn't too hot.
I'm not sure.
Equipment with shade, equipment to fight the heat (mistifiers, fans, sunshades), proper play equipment
Funding
Adults willing to put a plan in place and fund it.
Funding and getting kids engaged in outdoors.
Classroom education about opportunities to be self-sufficient through survival skills, hunting, fishing, boating, camping and learning about tribes and the culture of how they lived off of the land in our state for hundreds of years as hunters/gatherers. This would include farming and ranching skills
Detailed lesson plans, preferably with an informed guide or instructor budget for transportation and lodging, as needed
Transportation and free opportunities
Field trips
Funding
Time, transportation, programs, curriculum, supplies, equipment
Time
Letting children have more time outside.
Designated spaces, flexible resources (busing, field trip funds, support from state departments and such)
Curriculum that is locally specific and generates a sense of place while being universal in application.
Enough teachers to look after the students in an open environment and to halt any potential bullying/hazing behaviors or animal abuse (like throwing rocks at squirrels for laughs or something). Teachers who have knowledge of the environment to begin with, so this might mean a new certification program.
Social learning, community building, physical health
Purpose in meeting curriculum.
Physical fitness needs to come back, and students need to spend less time on gaming or computers, social media is not always a positive.
Outdoor recreation
Students need to learn where their food comes from, farms and ranches. They also need to learn about the environment around us outside of the city.
Availability of outdoor facilities to be used for education or play purposes.
More Field trips
Engaging programming that speaks to the target audience - age appropriate, informative in a way that creates buy in, promotes interaction
Money and staff
Funding
The greatest needs are the resources ie the curriculum as well as the time within the schoolyear to be able to do these activities with students.
Support staff to properly chaperone outdoor activities
Funds and flexibility in curriculum
If we're talking about bringing the kids outside to teach them about nature you would need more support staff if

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
we're talking about Indoor education , perhaps a training seminar that motivates teachers to make outdoor education, fun, and simple.
Money and the want to do so. willingness by state and local schools
Structured opportunities for participation
We need our Nevada Department of Education, School Boards and District Administrators to support outdoor education.
Time, staff
Funding and staffing
Transportation and funding
Funding.
Meeting with guest speakers to teach about NV
The students don't get new from the state of Nevada. We get Utah news. We spend more time in Utah
Parental participation, included!
Opportunities in curriculum driven schools
Funding for Buses, Encouragement top down to get kids outside, Flexible Administrator attitude supporting teachers' extra tasks to provide an outdoor classroom, Reducing chemical application on fields to allow for outdoor education without exposure to harmful yard care chemicals for children.
Communities need to support their children in playing and learning outdoors. Family support is critical!
The recess outside portion of their day needs to be longer.
Science knowledge and guidance from BLM
Lesson the other standards and make this as important as the core subjects
Make it a priority.
Kids should have specific modules where they are taken outside and taught about the Nevada wildlife, environment, trails, hunting, fishing, etc. The need here would be, I assume, financial support.
Resources and 'green space' outside of schools
Someone to Tour us a nature walk
Accessible equipment, and mentors who reflect student diversity.
Educators.
Well to implement the plan, you'd need money and I see that being a problem. But if you mean why kids need outdoor education it's because these kids get WAY too much screen time and aren't playing outside they way they used to. That experience is vital for sensory needs, immune system, as well as just plain old fun. Those experiences are vital to make a well rounded person.
1. time 2. materials/tools
Educators need training and support to effectively implement outdoor education programs. This includes training on outdoor teaching techniques, safety protocols, and environmental education.
Lesson plans to connect outdoor education to ALL subject matters.
Equipment and transportation
Funding for field trip to Nevada Hikes and outdoor spaces
Paying teachers more and talk to the parents
Funding
Anything hands on
I don't have much knowledge on this topic but would guess that resources which incorporate both outdoor education and meet required curriculum goals would be helpful.
Helping to meet science standards
Resources: Time, people, transportation
Enough staff on site, green space, cooling stations, covered shelter, funds for more field trips, community support on all levels.
More opportunities to learn outside beyond recess.
Materials and the immediate access to get outside, or the chance to participate in school activities that include field trip and over night activities.
Support from administration
A space to have outdoor learning.

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Funding Willingness to add a curriculum
More support to our teachers and schools
Standards aligned experiences that help to make sense of local phenomena
Money to fund field trips, staff and staff training; adjustments to curriculum to allow for enrichment with outdoor education,
Funds and the relaxation of rules to do so. I can get kids outdoors weekly, yet the minutes in seats, funds for transportation, and getting a sub are all roadblocks.
Curriculum planning teacher support
Water, binoculars, footwear
Additional funding to transportation for field trips and aides to assist the teachers.
Funding and good teachers
Resources
Programs
Time
Funding
Creating differentiation in opportunities that allow students to get outdoors and help the environment.
Parent/Teacher involvement.
Funding coordination efforts with local non-profits
Skilled instructors
Access, spaces, resources, curriculum.
The greatest needs I see are money for transportation cost, a curriculum or outline of expectations for teachers, goals for an outdoor program, and ways to incorporate experiences at school.
Incorporating it into PE. Field Trips for middles schoolers/High schoolers to parks/mountains.
Understanding geography and characteristics native to Nevada.
The lessons contents that should also be in line with the standards
Time and opportunities
Easy access and quick ideas that do not take a lot of preparation time for busy teachers.
Teacher education on the importance of it. Flexibility in schools to allow teachers to have outdoor class time.
Funding and education
Support for teachers who are willing to make the effort. financial support for thoughtful curriculum tied to the outdoors.
Enough faculty and volunteers to assist
Educators need to be given the flexibility and the time to actually get outside.
Teaching young children about exploring new things in Nevada - Hiking and learning about the importance of nature - staying fit and healthy
Development of activities and programs to get all kids into open spaces that are meaningful. This will also allow that to unplug and just be kids.
Funding for field trips to the Nevada outdoors
Safety, space, and materials.
Time built in for it
Curriculum / supplies
It will help our children understand the importance of the natural resources our State has and how to protect and best use them
Time to go outside and explore with a little structure. Allow and encourage our teachers to teach outdoors in an unrestricted area. You also need an administration that will back this sort of learning
Knowledgeable Leaders for children
More Teachers and more funding
Time, cost
Funding and knowledgeable volunteers or employees
Knowledge and instructors
Outside organizations teaching workshops in classrooms or field trips



<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Staff, time for field trips, even walking field trips
Most kids don't spend time outdoors. They need to learn that outside can be fun
Experiential learning
State standards
Dedicated outdoor learning spaces with seating and shade.
Working with field experts to help students be involved in service learning, citizen science, and fun in the field.
Funding, parental support, time for the program to make mistakes & grow from it as the outdoors will always be unpredictable and educators willing to be in unpredictable weather conditions.
School board cooperation & funding
Curriculum activities time transportation
Outside seating. The blacktop is too dirty and or hot for students to sit on. Also, lack of shade.
Space and landscape availability
Having the appropriate activities for our climate.
Educators in town
Funding
Training
Transportation, adults with some real experience and ability to keep kids safe, knowledgeable people that can actually teach something
Providing teachers the tools to take students outside.
Gear for students, and stamina
Add 30 minutes to our school day so that we can add these necessary activities.
Safety of the Kids
Probably funding for schools to pay for transportation (ex; buses) to get to an outdoor location -- especially Title 1 schools.
More staff to implement the outdoor education
Access to experts
Giving more freedom to teachers to teach subjects in a way that can involve the outdoors.
Shade, playgrounds in Carson City
Champions within schools
Specific curriculum in each grade. Schools need to stop with the electronics and take their kids outside and show them the world they live in. Experiments that need to be done outdoors. This requires funding to be redirected from technology to the outdoors. Back to the basics.
Time and transportation. I like to do field trips, but I need to write grants to get funding for buses for these trips.
Time in the curriculum to allow it.
There is so many things they can learn in the big outdoors and exploring and using their imagination help them grow. Kids need to be outside more and less time indoors on technology at home.
Places on campus to spend on outdoor activities.
I'm honestly not sure.
Money
We need time and curriculum.
For school systems to VALUE time spent outdoors. To equip teachers with the needed professional development to understand the value of outdoor education and how they can implement it.
Being able to know the basics of life like planting growing and living off the earth and know survival skills
Wildlife Education, Conservation Bring back mandatory PE so kids are outside and incorporate outdoor education in PE.
The money and teachers who would be willing to do those classes
Resources and materials
Money/volunteers
Budget, third-party organizations to come into the classroom, and outdoor education goals based curriculum
Our kids have lost touch with nature and the benefits of experiencing natural settings.
Approved state courses to function as electives and support of administration to bring those courses to the

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
schools.
Specific curriculum and Admin support
Transportation
1) Teacher training 2) District/curriculum support 3) Community value in outdoor spaces and planned integration of green and natural spaces in communities
Providing more time and opportunities to be outdoors.
More time in the school day.
Incorporating it into standard curriculum
A safe place to be without distractions
Administrators need to be okay with outdoor learning experiences. They only focus on reading and math at this point.
Ready-made lessons and field trips that fit in with classroom standards made available to all schools and funding for those.
Financing, parent involvement
School/District/Teacher/Parent awareness of the importance of outdoor education, and additional funding
Time and resources
Funding! Department of Interior Washington Office support to provide the funding to do so! As a natural resource agency, outdoor education is at our finger tips!
Funding, curriculum, field trips
Funding and experienced persons
Public transportation to state and national parks Fee waivers for all students Pipeline to university environmental science programs Scholarships Bilingual outreach
I am sure it is funding and staff.
Additional funding, FTEs, equipment, etc. for University of Nevada, Reno Extension to develop research-based, local outdoor education curricula for/with local teachers, and partner with and train local teachers, school administrators, parent volunteers, etc. to implement the curricula in the state's schools. They're excellent at doing this. See their Living With Fire Wildfire Science Curriculum as an example, as well as their SNAP-Ed and Childcare Provider work with schools. Also, additional funding, FTEs, equipment, etc. for University of Nevada, Reno Extension to expand their 4-H Youth Development Program outdoor education camps and clubs, including their 4-H Camp programs for youth across the state and held in Lake Tahoe and Alamo, as well as their in and afterschool clubs held in communities across the state. Furthermore, additional funding, FTEs, equipment, etc. for University of Nevada, Reno Extended Studies to expand their outdoor education KIDS University summer camps.
Time Money Parent Support
Time and space Curriculum
Materials and resources to do outdoor science labs
Kids feel good exploring outdoors and sometimes parents don't have the time to take the kids out to because of work etc. kids spend many hours in school computer
Outdoor events to promote education on outdoors, wildlife, and the ecosystem
Education for staff and adequate equipment including transportation and safety. Also, sufficient staffing to properly chaperone in outdoor environments.
Educators who can bring together the knowledge and skills the outdoors offer and tie it into a purpose to which these things can be put.
Leadership support Assurance of support
Make kids take PE in every grade, from K-12
Better trainings for people to be the best
Very important
*Field trip funding *Someone who will come to our school with a planned activity that can follow our curriculum. *realign the curriculum to allow the minutes
Greatest needs are having access to outdoor education
Having a school in the city.
Parental / community support. A positive, learning oriented attitude is developed at home, and cannot be

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
fostered adequately without familial support. Also, there has to be reasonable space for this education to occur, which in some cases may take planning with the community to ensure a safe learning environment free of additional classroom distractions.
Supporting outdoor education in schools requires adequate funding for equipment and logistics, specialized teacher training, integration of outdoor learning into the curriculum, and strict safety measures. Ensuring accessibility for all students, fostering community and parental support, promoting environmental stewardship, and allocating regular time for these activities are also crucial. Effective assessment tools and program evaluations are needed to measure success and demonstrate the value of outdoor education.
More materials for outdoor experiences
Students need to explore and understand the place they live. There is more in education than just a classroom. For teachers, the need would be to have the time to go outside and explore with our students.
Funding & educators
Money, mandates, curriculum, and related academic credit
From our experience working with districts in California, the needs are (1) funding, (2) transportation, and (3) admin education about the benefits.
A facilitator and funding
Bussing, organization
More activities and classes planned outside
Increased funding and more robust curriculum specifically for outdoor education.
Funding for children to be able to experience outdoor learning at school.
Funding Changing the minds of our district leadership
Time, supervision
Experts willing to share and teach
Outdoor Recess or time should not expire in High School. We teach children that when they get older fun time outdoors is over. We should shift this concept and start teaching children how to engage as teenagers outdoors while in High School. Set up outdoor activities that kids can mirror into adult hood like Corn Hole, bean bag, chess, etc.
Funding, support, time.
Financial.
There needs to be more direct support (money and dedicated staff members for outdoor rec) for school districts that does not put a further burden on the teachers/educators.
Available curriculum, time, safe spaces (spaces with sun protection, available volunteers to assist while outdoors, protection from extreme heat/cold)
Providing outdoor education in schools at all grade levels helps to provide interest, appreciation and connectivity to the outdoors. It provides students healthy options to enjoy and recreate in the outdoors which will benefit the individual for life. In addition, these youth would probably also be great advocates for the outdoors throughout their lives.
Resources and staff education
Social emotional learning and behaviors
Transportation to educational outdoor areas
Time and materials
Inner city schools
Exposure regularly and from an early age
Teaching students to fish
An hour a day
Parental support and engagement.
Allowance of time outside
The emphasis of education needs to leave the testing arena. Schools are so focused on learning to the test that there is no time for out door learning and critical thinking activities. Experience is the foundation of learning. The more experiences a child has, the more recall they will have for meaningful learning.
Right now, there is basically no education of this type going on in his school. The school should have a garden and doesn't. His school should spend more time outside in general rather than sitting for so many hours per day.

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
The students should be given opportunity to solve problems outdoors creatively and does none of this. The school needs training for the teachers and more requirements for them to spend time doing this rather than so many sitting down activities that students could complete in one hour if they were at home. Outdoor education is a life skill - take a look at what the scouting programs do and incorporate some of that into public education.
Time allotted for outdoor exploration.
Budget for field trips, curriculum alignment
Equipment and resources
Human capital
Opportunities!
Field trips to state and national parks, more education on the environment and climate change, and more time spent leaning about different types of plants and trees in this area
Community partnerships, field trips
Centralized information for teachers and parents and support from CCSD leadership
School board support or mandate that trickles down to site admin, time built into the curriculum, ways to assess learning,
Staff and funding
Staff to teach outdoor education space to teach outdoor education time to teach outdoor education afterschool programs that teach outdoor education
Financial support that includes bus transportation/ entry fees. Also, programs that can come into the school (and go outside) to learn about the local environment
Time, responsible adults, funds for gas / food / water, items for kids who can't afford them (rain jacket, boots, sunscreen, etc.), fun activities for the kids to get them interested
Opportunity,
Access and ability/willingness to incorporate learning into the outdoor setting
Instructors that care more about their students than they do their union.
Funding is an extremely important part of integrating outdoor education in public schools. Without money, many institutions struggle to implement quality lessons and activities. This includes paying educators at more than livable wage, as well as providing quality benefits to support the educator. People who are passionate about education are needed to support outdoor education as well. Without teachers, staff, and others, education is impossible. It's important to employ people who care about youth and their education.
Outreach to schools and teachers to inform us on available opportunities. Standards-based instruction. Low cost opportunities.
Safe areas
Transportation Lesson plans that align w the standards
Time out of the classroom & resources
Time. Access. Opportunities to engage with meaningful content. Integration of activities to school/grade level standards.
Curriculum, time, resources, encouragement and PD
Places to go and lessons with field trips
An outdoor educational program and outdoor first aid and survival class should be offered at high school level at minimum
Facilitating access to and appreciation for public lands and waters
Funding and Innovative Thinkers
Staffing
Experienced guides
The greatest need to support outdoor education in schools is working with local nonprofits like Get Outdoors Nevada. This nonprofit has worked with youth since 2013 and has a well-established guided field trip program, among other formal and informal educational programs. Get Outdoors Nevada also has close partnerships with local, state, and federal parks.
Saving what we have available today to share tomorrow, learning new experiences and options that can be used in the home, gardening and resourceful farming
Resources such as shade structures, outdoor garden, place to hold classes such as stadium seating

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Access to outdoor opportunities - funding to support outdoor education programs
Money
Funding/volunteers for outdoor field trips to recreation areas.
Money and transportation
Committed staff who are knowledgeable and enthusiastic about outdoor education. Resources to allow for equity among students of different means to experience the outdoors.
Nature playground design and install. funding
Curriculum that allows the outdoor classroom using state and local learning standards/ some states have a requirement that all students go to an EE site for a period of time [ for different grades]
Intensive hands-on training in all aspects of outdoor education for teachers and staff
Taking the classroom out into the environment is authentic learning at its best. It makes learning relevant.
Knowledgeable staff
Alternatives to social media
More outdoor spaces for high schoolers - they do not have play grounds, but nature areas for both learning and stress relief would be highly beneficial.
Parental support, good planning, making it fun
Lessons that can be easily adapted to outdoor education and places to go outdoors that can accommodate a class of students
More programs that involve our students in all areas of outdoor education. Desert Survival and Snow Survival are a few.
I think using the outdoors for a classroom for biology and other natural sciences would make a greater impact on how much information is retained.
Shade in our outdoor amphitheater area.
Those in leadership need to realize that outdoor education is also vital in developing happy, healthy, contributing members of society. Then put their money where their mouth is.
Funding
More outdoor education programs that serve rural school districts.
As a parent, and not an educator, I'm uncertain of the needs that might be necessary to support outdoor education in schools.
More opportunities to incorporate curriculum into the outdoors.
Getting the parents on board and helping to get the kids outside
Dedicated learning spaces, FUNDING for materials and staff
Ideas to make it meaningful for my lesson
Having the kids outdoors.
Time and structure for teachers to do actual work outdoors.
Having extra supplies (food, water, clothing, etc.)
Quality, engaging, interactive instruction
Time, money, availability of teachers.
School gardens
Bus drivers
A site that is staffed with teachers who can provide formal lessons on the topic or topics. For example, in San Diego, California, there is a program for 4th graders that teaches them about missions, explorers, and San Diego/California history. Students and teachers take the bus each day to the 'outdoor school' and then participate in lessons throughout the day. Most lessons are walking tours in the area. There is also a site for 5th graders, located at Balboa Park, focused on animals, wildlife, and visits to museums in the area. Classroom teachers lead some tours, but for most a dedicated staff member at these sites provides the formal lesson to students.
Stewardship of our parks and water resources
Discovery and enjoyment
Learning activities that are geared to outside. More field trips we're learning is done outdoors.
Extra adults for supervision safety issues transportation
Time and money

<b>In your opinion, what are the greatest needs to support outdoor education in schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Funding to get students to proper outdoor areas, and safe locations for students to learn.
Funding
Funding, understanding of administrators and teachers.
Funding for PD to help develop or integrate curriculum into all disciplines.
Just getting kids outdoors and investing in things like hats or sunscreen or portable canopies since it is Vegas and it is hot...the greatest need is to prioritize this as much as testing
Funding for outdoor education and recreation for children
To learn about conservation
More time allotted to outdoor play/learning instead of desk work.
Tying activities to standards for teacher buy-in. Funding Ease of implementation for teachers
Weather, seasons, observation, data gathering, habitat creation and study, environmental conservation and sustainability, introduction to outdoor recreational activities and equipment
Legislation to empower schools and teachers. It is too difficult to put activities like this because some parents are not airing for a 'gotcha' moment to sue the school or teacher.
Funding for busses and educators so parents don't have to foot the bill each time.
Field trips to local state or federal parks may help solidify outdoor education lessons.
More exercise independent of mode --- so all outdoor opportunities matter for this
They want to. I feel like most teachers wouldn't like the hassle of taking classes back and forth from the rooms.
Funding and transportation. People to guide the learning, like park rangers, game wardens, etc.
Shade and more trees
Time, resources, opportunities, Making sure all lessons connect to NVACS and NGSS standards in reading/math/science
(Don't quite understand the question) However, students gain alot from outdoor education, it can improve their focus, improve mental and physical health, and promote creativity.
Time dedicated to this effort through NRS.
Sufficient staff and support and training for them.
Weather elements protection from the sun or heat especially. Shaded and/or fanned areas need to be provided for outdoor education.
Education from a local perspective
Funding, Transportation
Educators
Schools visiting local interpretation gardens.
Cross-curricular lessons aligned with standards

<b>Are there any other important reasons you do not use your current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as you would like or at all? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders)</b>
There isn't a covered space.
Lack of diversity in nature or animals to be able to learn about them. Not enough shaded areas.
Accessibility
Going along with weather, specifically the lack of shade and defined 'learning' space is very prohibitive.
Our schoolyard is blacktop and grass.
I teach English, so sometimes, when the weather is nice, I can take my class outside in the front of the main building. However, sometimes, high school students may wander off. In addition, there are cars that pull up because the main driveway is right there. This can be distracting. Also, it is difficult to take them outside because the teachers do not have keys to let themselves back into the building easily and we are not supposed to prop open exterior doors.
Restrictions concerning following an adopted curriculum that does not include opportunities for going outdoors.
Focus on business classes doesn't complement outdoor learning well
Management of students
This is not an option for my school

<b>Are there any other important reasons you do not use your current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as you would like or at all? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders)</b>
A lack of interesting phenomena in the school yard. It's almost entirely asphalt, manicured grass, and planted trees. This is paces is missing particularly exciting or motivating ecological phenomena for teachers and students.
Safety is a big concern with using the public park next to the school--the homeless population there sometimes includes violent individuals. Administrative opposition is also huge. The standardization initiative in CCSD has produced admin who believe that teachers should only teach the lessons in the prescribed curriculum, never deviating from it.
Restrictions due to fire lanes, budget, approval process of innovative ideas/contractors
Student misbehaviors
Admin restrictions on being outside, rigid time constraints
Time restraints, curriculum takes up all the time when would we be able to do this, we have certain minutes for reading and math etc. and if we do finish early then we're told we should be doing small groups
To do anything but read a book or a specific science observation lesson requires at the least a whiteboard. Often it requires some sort of mic system and places to comfortably work, not just sit on a splintery bench of ground. Also, getting there and back, carrying all the tools kids need takes up 10-12 minutes that we do not have to spare. Bathroom time and transitions are never built into our schedules.
Campus crowding - not enough space/options
Lack of shade and water. Lots of grass and gravel, without any interesting features. Very few plants, birds, insects or natural specimens to observe.
It's too small for everyone.
My schoolyard contains no natural materials, it is asphalt, turf, and rubber
There's not a space to go that is functional for doing schoolwork
It's all pavement, my site doesn't have a square of grass to our name. Started a garden recently but it's all raised beds and only has one table and no rain or shade protection.
Interference with large PE classes
I'm not sure how to do it, I am not awarded the time to do it, and I am not able to start a garden or bring in anything that would disrupt the current playground
The curriculum does not give way to have outdoor learning (standard testing based).
Lack of focus of students in outdoor setting. Difficulty with curriculum in that setting
Our grass field contains holes, weeds, ants, and bees. It is not an ideal play area due to these factors.
We have a shared playground with the Boys and Girls Club which has a small footprint. We use the outdoor space for PE and recesses so it does not allow for it to be used for any other activity. We are located in a neighborhood with a park/pond, however the homeless situation makes that area unsafe to use.
We do stuff throughout the year. It's prioritized.
Space not conducive to teaching a lesson.
Not sure how to incorporate it into existing lesson plans.
My school's outdoor space is just a large grass area with a few trees. There isn't much to see and learn from.
Student behavior issues when outdoors.
Safety concerns
Student behaviors affect outdoors. Sometimes it causes more behaviors because it is not as structured
It is a pain to relocate classroom supplies outside. And outside doesn't provide seating for students; hard to do academic work outside. Also, students get distracted outside.
Lack of appropriate space to do work, i.e. lack of shade, grass only (no tables/benches)
Secondary teachers get yelled @every time we try to take our kids out to enjoy some 'recess'/free time
Student behavior
Nothing to do. It's concrete and grass
Our outdoor amphitheater is very nice but has zero shade. It gets too hot and the kids just complain.
Students are not safe.
We would probably be perceived as not actually teaching if we used outdoor spaces more, which I think is not accurate.
Figuring out how to teach outdoors while also connecting with all of the curriculum that needs to be covered in the schoolyear.

<b>Are there any other important reasons you do not use your current schoolyard for outdoor learning as much as you would like or at all? (Asked of teachers and administrators.) (Stakeholders)</b>
Restrictions by state and federal laws/rules
We don't have an outdoor learning area. We did but it was removed because admin felt it was dangerous. we have a small grass area but no shade and it's part of the playground, so we have to share if others are at recess
In our school's neighborhood, we also have to be concerned about theft and vandalism.
I wish I did more but currently I am teaching computer science
Designated outdoor learning spaces with seating would be ideal.
Weather is too hot for about 3 months.
The schoolyard is limited in space as we are a small school.
Not fitting for outdoor learning. It is just a playground. Classes out there all the time.
Other classes at recess, and no good area to use as a learning classroom. Our playground is flat, boring and too close to the I-80 highway.
Can't take away from the curriculum Not enough space to be outside as playgrounds are used all day for recess and pe
Hard to supervise 30 students by myself
*Curriculum requirements *time spent on required curriculum *resources and training
Permission, money, field trip
I'm a PE teacher so I get to be outside, but I know that classroom teachers have a lot of restrictions.
Time spent on standards, curriculum, and testing
Resources or tools for outside learning, kickball, pennys, equipment, shovels
As mentioned, testing and paperwork are somewhat the minimum requirement, especially for special education teachers.
Tight schedule of district directed curriculum
Space and time
We use it to play basketball.
Time constraints, student ability to plan for outdoor lessons even with ample warning/preparation
Weather and knowing how to use/implement outdoor education in a way that is meaningful and educational.
There's no seating on our playground to be able to experience outdoor learning. There's also hardly anything 'natural' besides the grass.
Admin
Share the playground with every grade level
Setting up activities outdoors while supervising students
We use our outdoor learning daily.

<b>What are your safety concerns related to outdoor learning and education in schools? (Asked of those with safety concerns.) (Stakeholders)</b>
Lack of dedicated nurses or medical practitioners per school. Lack of security personnel per school.
The areas around my school have large homeless camps which make them unsafe for students to use as an outdoor classroom.
My safety concerns related to outdoor learning and education in schools is keeping students from getting injured while outside, and being able to get students to a safe place in the event of an emergency.
To make sure students are aware on how to safely use playground equipment and the dangers of the extreme weather on these playground equipment in the summers.
High school students leaving the area
Weather? Sun safety.
Heat, misplaced children
Extremely hot weather and lack of enough trees and shaded areas
Making sure we use leave no trace and outdoor safety skills. If taught and practiced their should be no issues. Having trained teachers
Behavior kids not following rules.
Off-site experiences require additional supervision and there are also safety concerns for children with physical



<b>What are your safety concerns related to outdoor learning and education in schools? (Asked of those with safety concerns.) (Stakeholders)</b>
disabilities, allergies and other health concerns.
Understanding what to do and teachers not knowing what to do.
Anything related to liability makes me concerned from an administrator aspect.
Training for students and staff
Child allergies, repairing outdoor building/fencing needs
Small things like allergies up to bigger things like broken bones/knife injuries/etc.
Kids being underprepared for being outside (clothing, footwear, sunscreen, coats)
I work in an urban at risk school so weather is an issue and crime is an issue
Heat as we are in the desert
More related to management: If the students wander off, get distracted, engage poorly...
Keeping the students together and paying attention to me while learning.
Enough adults keeping an eye on students
Some children may not be respectful or try to explore in a nonsafe manner. Also making sure the upkeep of spaces are done to ensure nothing breaks or will hurt anyone.
Student safety (getting hurt, lost, wild animals, etc)
Training of using the equipment
Making sure the students respect the learning environment and people teaching.
Student behaviors: wandering off, goofing around, not paying attention to surroundings
Students getting hurt, or using cell phones inappropriately, or leaving the area, or having to use the bathroom
Students not listening or following directions.
Heat is the primary concern I have. We can't go hiking in hot weather.
Parents are very difficult these days and will pounce on anything at all...there needs to be protections for the staff/teachers if anything would happen to a student. People are just not reasonable about any risk at all.
Sprains, scrapes, etc. while outdoors
Children excitement is unpredictable.
Without proper training and management student safety is jeopardized
Outside is always going to be dangerous which is why it is so important to be taught how to handle yourself around nature. Being able to track, read a map, look at weather patterns, know how to avoid being swept by a Flash flood, etc. I am more concerned about how blamey people can get about accidents which could lead to less parent support
Taking kids outside always has its safety concerns.
Keeping students safe is a part of our responsibility as educators.
Worried about liability
Being out of secured school area, kids acting like idiots,
Our students do not love or respect the outdoors or their environment.
Unwelcomed guests
Someone getting hurt and then suing the district/state.
When a student is injured outdoors, possibly off campus, will the teacher have the resources to respond?
Not having safety supplies
The younger the child the more risk there is. Students lack respect for adults and don't follow the safety rules consistently.
Parents and teachers without understanding outdoor learning leading to conflict
Student supervision
Only if classroom management is lacking or teachers are untrained in Outdoor classroom management.
In Las Vegas have a covered area to shield from the heat.
Our students are not familiar with many of the places, animals or things they might be exposed to. It would take a great deal of preparation to introduce/prepare them for the activity/
Underfunded outdoor education providers are sometimes forced to cut corners to keep the lights on. Supporting them is a great way to enhance safety so they can have well trained instructors with reasonable volumes of students.
Ensure that staff are properly trained to instruct and enforce safety protocols.

<b>What are your safety concerns related to outdoor learning and education in schools? (Asked of those with safety concerns.) (Stakeholders)</b>
Designated areas, fenced areas, community access, travel from school to outdoor area, communication from outdoor area to school when students are in outdoor area, emergency operations plan specifics, emergency responder designations (Metro or CCSDPD?)
Training for staff
Training and personnel
Heat
Teacher knowledge to be proactive in classroom management.
Allergies, injuries, sun exposure, keeping track of students
Some students don't behave very responsibly at times.
If schools don't have a gym or room to do the activities during hot or cold season how do we still teach the lesson.
Student behaviors
Heat, cold, allergies
We have students who run and climb the fence, being outdoors makes me nervous.
To ensure there are enough adults to supervise effectively.
Without safety procedures, people can die
Safety concerns for outdoor learning in schools include ensuring proper supervision to prevent accidents and injuries, managing environmental hazards such as extreme weather, uneven terrain, and wildlife, and implementing comprehensive risk management plans. Additionally, it is crucial to have emergency protocols in place, provide adequate first aid training for staff, and ensure all equipment is safe and properly maintained. Addressing these concerns is vital to creating a secure environment where students can explore and learn effectively outdoors.
Allergies
Many parks don't have adequate facilities for students: restrooms, places to eat lunch, shade, nurse's office, accommodations for disabled students.
Depends on climate. I live in a desert area so my concern is heat related issues.
New environment- need shade, potential of allergies, bug bites or stings. Lockdown or security of outdoors.
Lesson plans need to have built in safety features, and students need to initially be trained in appropriate behaviors. I think if teachers are trained and understand the possible safety issues, then they can integrate outdoor learning in their classroom management.
Health issues, behavioral issues
Parents
Other outside people becoming an issue...
There seems to be more behavior issues each year than the previous year. I worry about keeping students safe and engaged in the learning experience outdoors.
Students disrupting plants or animals
Keeping my students safe from a person with ill intent who may enter the playground.
I worry about students getting hurt, sneaking away, or not following directions that could lead to problems.

<b>In general, do you have any comments, input, or suggestions about how outdoor learning, outdoor education, outdoor recreation, or outdoor skills should be included in PreK-12 schools? (Stakeholders)</b>
Gardening *looking for and learning about animals/birds/insects *understanding the water cycle *learning about minerals/rock formations
Students should be able to each outside for lunchtime, but also, lunch shouldn't be lumped in with recess minutes for elementary. There should also be several breaks to go outside during the day. And every classroom should have windows.
Las Vegas is the sixth city I have lived in (four states across the US) in 51 years. I am generally impressed with the parks system (local parks, state parks and national parks) but always support its continued development so not to lose any of the quality present.
It should be included in all ways, at least 3 times per week. Our students LOVE our trips that we take. Not all kids want to go, and that is fine, but with time I have seen many go that did not want to before.
Learn different recreation areas and things to do in the out doors
This may be better served to start it as a club or class - rather than a mandate for all students in all learning. The blanket coverage of overall education standards is somewhat frightening.
ADHD is on the rise as recess and extra activities are declining. Adding another type of learning could help kids burn some energy while still learning.
I think that if there were a way to include outdoor education as a CTE credit, that would be the most effective way to introduce courses into high school. I also believe that each grade/school level has different needs in terms of time outside. I also understand there are differences between schools based on location and what is feasible for that school. It would be nice if schools could determine how to implement their version of outdoor learning/ed so that they can do what's best for their students. The access to natural for a rural Nevada school is very different from an urban school, but that doesn't mean the urban students shouldn't have the same experiences and/or opportunities.
I don't know what outdoor education looks like in the grand scheme of things, but I think in no particular order that these would be important to include: wildlife identification and safety, plant life identification and safety, trail etiquette, environmental stewardship, environmental science, hot and cold weather injuries and treatment, wildfire safety, general outdoor / physical education.
I think it is a great idea and can improve on certain behavioral problems Teachers encounter in a classroom setting with some students. It can also encourage students to engage with science, math and other subjects and become more inquisitive and curious.
Let's get some good programs out to the schools and get our students outside and learning!
I do not believe we should remove outdoor or recess time for bad behavior. Often times children who act out need the outdoor time to regulate themselves.
Honestly, to integrate outdoor ed in public ed we don't need a ton of money. We need time (approved by admin) and plug and play lesson plans and a tiny bit of training.
Elementary students need MORE recess. This is valuable learning time.
I think at the very least field trips should be a regular part of the school experience, but also maybe a class conducted by the river could be added to the curriculum and think of how many things could be taught in just one location.
Activity time should be activity time, not SEAT time. Should be recess and physical education class, taught by a state certified physical education teacher.
Grade school best opportunity for outdoor classrooms since have all the students with one teacher for the day mid to high - teachers have tough time getting the students to miss other classrooms for field trips
Gardening can be included. Growing flowers can be included. Give the kids a sense of pride.
Included as a part of the curriculum
I feel it is imperative to provide these things for our students, and we would be remiss as a society to focus on keeping children indoors as the only way to learn, and remiss in focusing only on 'traditional' subjects.
I support outdoor education to be utilized in various ways. Primarily I would love to see emphasis on the importance of physical activity as well as gardening. Additionally, it is beneficial for students to learn about local wildlife.
Integrated learning, experiential real world scenarios including role playing, debate, games, and field immersion,

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journaling, quiet time, will appeal to all children and provide strength support for existing strengths, provide calming for all, and provide critical thinking skills to diplomatically problem solve and effectively communicate between individuals, as well as journaling to allow the inner self to emerge.
It needs to be supported by the administrator
Kids need more time outside. Outside play shouldn't be taken away as a form of punishment. These kids need to move their bodies and instead of sitting inside for recess due to trouble they should pick weeds or pick up trash outside
I'm very excited to see this come out. I'd love to participate more
large variety of outdoor equipment, and fields for games
Start by building multiple outdoor classrooms at each site and encourage teachers to use them. Obtain feedback of issues, concerns, and celebrations and build from there
It would be a great thing to do I our warm weather months of school ....
Age appropriate curriculum that is aligned with standards would be most meaningful to teachers and students
I do not have children but am please to know advocates are asking smart and probing questions
Trips or residential get aways for outdoor experiences. Outdoor learning space scheduled for each class to use each week.
Funding will stop children from being able to go outside.
I believe outdoor education to be essential, but it involves more than just throwing kids outside. We have to make good use of the time and the access to the outdoors to ensure full benefit to the students.
children should spent as much time as possible outside, for both recess and lessons
I am committee chair of a new Las Vegas pack in east Las Vegas, close to 50 cub scouts and soon to be troop pack as well. I see the importance of outdoor activities for children and families as well.
Student-maintained gardens on school property, more hands-on science experiments/activities on outdoor school property, more intentional planning of school grounds to integrate learning (plants, signage, outdoor skills area, etc.)
Extend the school day and the all the kids can participate in the outdoor learning after the academic day. So extend school until 4 and the kids participate from 3:15 until 4 and then the busses run them home.
Please get it funded so our students can learn.
Part of growing up is playing, exploring, learning about the outdoors - no matter where you live or facilities available. Education settings help facilitate this need and should be used to create and develop means for adapting.
Thank you for working on this. More outdoor education and institutional supports for more outdoor education are needed and incredibly important.
Outdoor education should be included not only in public schools but in private, religious based, and home school curriculum. These programs already tend to have more latitude to integrate outdoor learning and education, so less is needed here...but they can still benefit from the same resources provided to public schools.
I have already stated them
It would be helpful if the state provided funding for field trips, classrooms, and transportation.
Nevada seems to be a step ahead with school activities, conservation groups supporting youth activities, however there is still a large metropolitan number not exposed to outdoor activities.
Get children outdoors ASAP.
Not being a teacher in the school district, I'm not sure how to answer this. But I think there should be some time allowed at least monthly for outdoor activities to be included in the curriculum.
Requiring outdoor breaks leads to less time to teach the curriculum and more time needs to be added to the school day to prepare students. Recess is seen as a luxury and not part of the curriculum.
As mentioned before, I think focusing more on outdoor recreation would be a huge benefit. Outdoor sports are more popular than ever and offer lifelong benefits for kids, yet schools have little to no involvement with outdoor activities like climbing, mountain biking, trail running, etc.
1. Without consideration for transportation cost, liability, and logistics, it won't happen. Who will drive? 2. Make it a full circle. Teach the adults to teach the teenagers to teach the kids. High school students can be trained and certified to work with kids as camp counselors, lifeguards, swim instructors, tutors, mentors, and

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<p>more. This way, more kids get to go on field trips and more teens get experience for their resume. 3. Rachel Carson, the prominent environmentalist, said, 'Those who dwell among the beauties and mysteries of the earth are never alone or weary in life.' Let's teach our students that.</p>
<p>Partner with Animal Control Materials to prevent burning Shade to reduce overheating and Skin Cancer More diverse options with slides and interactive games</p>
<p>If there was more time in the day, schools could meet the requirements and add activities that are educational and fun for students. Previous states I worked in had 7 hour school days (including lunch) and teachers had 8 hour days (minus lunch). Our state is doing our students a disservice by not giving them a full school day. Do not put a requirement in that has no means for holding schools accountable. If you require recess/activity time, then you have to have a repercussion if they do not meet the expectation. If you don't, you are wasting your time.</p>
<p>Find ways for more grant opportunities at the state and local levels.</p>
<p>PE should be required in all grade levels. Not just middle and high school</p>
<p>Partnerships with outdoor education non-profit organizations or with local parks and recreation departments if they have an outdoor education component.</p>
<p>The more we can get our kids involved in nature the better. I'll support anything to broaden our students.</p>
<p>I am happy that this is being considered.</p>
<p>Get the kids outside</p>
<p>Every school should have a garden within a greenhouse so it can be done year round.</p>
<p>I believe our students need more time for play in the school day, but it is impossible under the current time restrictions. Please, do not attempt to add more things to the current school day without giving more time in the day. We already do not spend enough time on academics, and taking away instructional time for more outdoor time will not be beneficial either.</p>
<p>See previous responses.</p>
<p>In partnership with University of Nevada, Reno Extension and the 4-H Youth Development Program.</p>
<p>The national and state parks in the area do a great job of inviting students in but spots are limited so more availability would be great.</p>
<p>I wish you well in this worthwhile venture.</p>
<p>We have a duck pond nearby</p>
<p>Everyone should be encouraged to go outdoors as much as possible.</p>
<p>Children need to play outdoors regularly and for longer periods of time. This reduces disruptive behavior in classroom settings and improves attention to instruction. Educators also need to be supportive of outdoor education and well trained in all aspects of outdoor skills, to include certain topics they may not support or agree with on a personal level. Specifically hunting, fishing and firearms.</p>
<p>Yes, I support PreK-12 since it's never too early to start learning what the great outdoors has to offer.</p>
<p>If outdoor minutes are required, then additional work will need to be done to ensure the required instructional minutes in a school day can accommodate those minutes without adjusting the time students are in school each day.</p>
<p>Teaching science lessons outside-hands on, kids will be more engaged and retain more</p>
<p>Many other states have already implemented outdoor learning &amp; it's working. Now they do not live in the Desert either, you have to have all resources available. Do Your homework</p>
<p>Integrate into existing curriculum.</p>
<p>Here is a link to the new CA Campaign for Outdoor Learning that will be launched this fall in LA. <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sRQA67RuUvZxcPxumewQdUcC7tR9FqV7/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sRQA67RuUvZxcPxumewQdUcC7tR9FqV7/edit</a> It might be interesting to see what their goals are, such as 25% of the school day outside.</p>
<p>Bring in nature and animal groups for show and tell during classroom time. If outdoor trails are nearby, use them. Provide periodic state park entrance/parking fees vouchers to encourage visitation outside of school.</p>
<p>Archery, fly fishing, hunter safety, etc. courses or class segments taught about different outdoor subjects to foster interest in the outdoors.</p>
<p>Longer school days at all levels.</p>
<p>Certain school districts send students to a outdoor-ed camp for a few days. Here is a good example from</p>

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Montgomery County, MD: <a href="https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/outdoored/sites/smith/">https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/outdoored/sites/smith/</a>
Allow the students to explore Nevada. Take small trips to local parks, hiking trails. Work with rangers to help bring some animals or native plants for students to learn.
Make sure to include local teachers and/or local knowledge, and local outdoor safety knowledge. Every place is different.
Please reconsider restricting outdoor time as a form of punishment for young people. Research shows that meditation and yoga significantly improve behavior and help students feel a sense of belonging. Educating adults in self-regulation and applying effective Love and Logic classroom management principles can eliminate the need for detention or suspension. Let's create a positive and supportive environment for our youth.
Too much to write here
E.g. bring ppl from different workplaces that work outside, eg police, firemen, ppl that work with animals, landscapers
4 day school week for basic curriculum that includes OL/OE/OR/OS and a preplanned 5 day 1-2 times per month with designated OL/OE/OE/OS activities, classes, projects.
Administrators should be compelled by law to allow outdoor education even if outdoor experiences aren't included in adopted curricula.
It is as important of an education as subject areas such as math and ELA are. I homeschool my children and they learn so much during out outdoor time.
Should be an option - not mandated
Time for exploration outside of standards. Students naturally are curious so allowing for them to come up with questions, look at things without being told what to do about it, take in nature at their own pace. Montessori Method style
We need change
More Wildlife Education Hunting and Fishing programs for schools and develop standardized curriculum around this subject.
If there is going to be a new opportunity it should come with staff and support staff. Do not put more on our educators and the support staff.
I believe that finding a way to integrate outdoor education into existing curricula and projects is important. Field trips are also a great way to incorporate outdoor education into the school year.
This is not my area of expertise, but there are plenty of child development experts and others that would have good suggestions.
More recess time within the school day allows kids to get their energy out (maybe improving focus in classroom) and provides social learning time, where kids learn to cooperate and engage away from phones, tablets ,etc.
Integrating outdoor learning, education, recreation, and skills into PreK-12 schools can significantly enhance the overall educational experience. Schools can create a dynamic and enriching educational environment that leverages the benefits of outdoor learning, education, recreation, and skills development across all grade levels.
I homeschool because I do not want the limitations enforced by our educational institutions. Because I independently teach, I have many more opportunities for alternative learning. I understand the difficulties the institutions face, but whatever ways they are able to broaden their nature studies, I fully support.
More educational discounts for families to state parks
It would be ideal to have children learning in outdoor classrooms and having mandatory outdoor education classes. Everything from outdoor safety to botany.
Not really, just the more the better!
Children are cooped up on a desk for more than 6 hours . With a 10 minuite lunch and 20 minuite play time . Children should experience outdoors longer and experience outdoors for mental health .
Outdoor learning, including recess, should provide students with opportunities for hands-on exploration and discovery. It should be structured to incorporate educational activities and lessons that complement classroom learning, allowing students to engage with nature and the environment in a meaningful way. This approach ensures that outdoor time is not just about supervision, but also about enriching the educational experience.
More outdoor time for teens. It seems to be emphasized more for the younger kids, but the benefits for older students are just as worthwhile. Green spaces around the school, outdoor classrooms, field trips to these places

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too.
Work with public land agencies to facilitate conservation education programs tied to academic curriculum, and exposure to future conservation career opportunities
I think recess needs to be view and embedded as social emotional learning and so much is to be learned during that time about social dynamics, relationship building and it should be counted as instructional time. You should see recess and outdoor learning activities for students in China, it's amazing. There should be a morning, lunch and afternoon recess/break/social emotional learning/outdoor break times for kids. Also, they should move recess before lunch. They did this at my mom's elementary school and the kids were calmer at lunch time and actually ate slower because they had already played and gotten their energy out and weren't rushing to eat, hyper as hell and throwing/wasting so much food just to hurry and get outside for recess. Kids need to play, kids need to be outside. I have a 3rd grader, but I also teach in a high school and I would love to have outdoor classroom space. My students ask all the time if we can go read outside and I would love to, but we need more turf and turf that is shaded/covered so we can go outside. The students want an outdoor place at lunch, but there are no seating areas and no where that is shaded/covered, but we have plenty of space for it.
Extra programs for the kids at school, such as demos on watershed, sage grouse. Extra activities, such as raising fish, growing gardens.
It would be nice to have parks around our schools instead of parking lots.
Have the state design and implement field trips by grade level to expose students to outside activities.
In a school system like Clark County that faces a lot of challenges, providing opportunities like this for kids could be a game and life changer. I would love to help out
As a former STEM educator, these initiatives are vital to life skills!
Utilize the resources and curriculum that University of Nevada, Reno Extension/4-H Youth Development Program uses. It's research-based, experiential, peer-reviewed, and pilot-tested with youth.
I think a partnership could work. I think we can help with fitting our standards with your opportunities and knowledge
It is extremely important and should be a priority in the school
I would strongly support and lead efforts in outdoor classroom learning!
We need more opportunity
Need more of it in all schools at all ages.
I think outdoor time and learning about our local, natural areas (including Mojave Desert plants and animals) should be an integral part of education.
Classes use outdoor seating/picnic areas or sit on blankets on grass in the shade and learn about relevant topics outside like the water and oxygen cycles. Partner with local entities to learn about the natural environment they live in, ex: State Park tours with Park Rangers.
STEM ideas about how to be a good steward of land and water Propose problems in different counties and ask students for an opinion of how to solve. ie: pollution of water and land
Outdoor education should be a part of school, but the answer isn't a 'one size fits all' approach. The answer isn't to force teachers into outdoor learning, instead it should be to offer teachers the possibility and physical access to outdoor spaces for outdoor learning. Let teachers and students be part of the learning process... In an art class, this may sound like, 'hey class, let's spend some time outside painting the mountains in the horizon'. In a science class, this may sound like, 'I wonder what kinds of plants surround our school and if any attract any pollinators... let's go and find out!' In an elementary school, when a kid in first grade is having trouble regulating their emotions- their anger, 'I need to go on a walk to cool down for a bit.'
Letting the people that know how to do it, do it. The will is there, yet transportation, roadblocks with admin/district is always there.
Outdoor education, recreation should be a class in every high school in America.
Take kids outside! More outdoor clubs, more activity clubs for outdoor sports, more education for families about how to enjoy the outdoors, scholarships for kids to participate in camps.
*Gardening *looking for and learning about animals/birds/insects *understanding the water cycle *learning about minerals/rock formations

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Kids need more outdoor time. It's been proven time and time again to greatly benefit physical and mental health.
School playgrounds need to be open and accessible to all children outside of the school day. Carson City has all school playgrounds on lock down.
Please offer a fishing lesson over a few days for third graders.
Outdoor education in schools would be amazing. Unfortunately, in Washoe County's public schools, this only happens when you have an exceptional teacher willing to make it happen, often with zero support from an administration focused solely on test scores. Parents hate this dynamic. Teachers hate it. Students hate it. It's why so many people are moving to homeschool, charter schools, private schools, etc., even people who care deeply about the public education system. It's heartbreaking that our kids get zero outdoor education. Even recess is reduced or cancelled to make room for more test prep. I hope this data reaches Washoe County School District admin. YOU ARE FAILING OUR KIDS!
Outdoor education is extremely important. Humans may have buildings, but they kinda exist to shield us from the outside, so we should all have some basic degree of understanding what is out there we're hiding from. Additionally, I've had careers in 3 major fields, including the military, construction, and office work. In all three I worked varied jobs that included labor and clerical style work, and in each of these positions in all three fields, work has taken me outdoors. There's a significant portion of the workforce that is exposed to the outdoors on a regular basis, and understanding the environment and how we interact with it and having an understanding of how to deal with it respectfully is important.
I have been at my school for 9 years and we don't have grass. even fake grass.
More professional development opportunities should be provided by school districts for physical education
I am the Chair of the Education Committee for our local Lahontan Audubon Society. As such, I and my volunteers (1) offer school visits to teach kids about birds of Nevada and Nevada's habitats; (2) lead field trips for school kids at Washoe Lake every Spring where they search for birds and bird nests, and examine lake and wetland water under microscopes to learn about the microscopic creatures and food chains that support bird and animal life at the lake; (3) offer demonstration tables at many public events (ex: the annual Sheep Show) to educate the public about Nevada's birds and habitats. It seems that many teachers are not aware of these opportunities that we can offer school kids, so I wonder just how efficiently the schools advertise our activities.
When the schools were all closed during the pandemic and all of our children were at home using Chromebooks and kitchen tables as classrooms, I eventually decided to have mine sit outside at the picnic table with their Chromebooks and participate in their classes outside. They thought it was great, I thought it was great. In the midst of all of the unforeseeable change we were all suddenly facing, a simple change in where they sat for class benefited my kids so much. As a mom first, and a CCSD Support Staff Employee second, I really appreciate your work on this. Thank you for collecting community feedback regarding outdoor learning and outdoor education in schools, I think this is wonderful.
Happy to help!
Outdoor learning is integral to the future of our natural resources and sustainability.
Too much to write
Good Luck :)
Outdoor learning/education can only promote healthy minds and bodies.
I only believe in restricting breaks because we often have no other means of disciplining students for poor behavior or lack of work. The charter school does a much better job of handling behaviors and keeping students in is not as necessary.
I think it's incredibly difficult to try and get resources for gardens or other areas with support from state, district, and the community. Teachers also have their hands tied by district about who they can ask for donations from.
Not enough digits allowed in this survey to answer the question on recess minutes per day. Only 2 digits permitted. Would have liked to respond with 120 minutes per day.
My child was diagnosed with ADHD last year and has struggled with some behavior issues. I noticed that when he is not behaving at school he is often required to sit out at recess or PE. While I understand the need to remove him from a situation if he is being unsafe, I would love to see an approach of redirecting energy by offering an additional physical activity or outdoor opportunity to help calm him.



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I think it's awesome.. imperative even. My first introduction to an outdoor/nature class was in college when I selected that myself and that's a real shame. So much time wasted when I could have been interested so much earlier
For at risk populations (Youth in foster care, Juvenile Justice) transportation remains a barrier for organizations wishing to provide opportunities to explore some of the outstanding resources so close to Las Vegas. If there were a way to collaborate with fleet resources such as school buses for transportation I think it would open up possibilities for many programs to expand access to outdoor education opportunities.
Good luck on this endeavor and lets get the decision makers involved from the beginning - like school boards on up to the local/state/fed to work on having this be a part of the learning experience for all students- private schools have more opportunity for these programs and have a better track record for EE
It's so important.
Base on unique needs on each school district needs and culture area.
Middle schools and high schools should also have carts with activity gear with space to play. Only elementary has space like.
Removing recess or any outdoor access in general in K-5 classrooms is a disservice to the kids. At those age levels, kids need time to explore and exert their energy. Most of their development comes through exposure of such kind. Do not punish students by taking away their access to the outdoors.
Develop more outdoor spaces that can be double used as picnic/instructional spaces. Put in more turf and cover it with pergolas/canopies so it is shaded. Kids want to be outside, but most of the schools here are either dust pits or don't have covered areas. All playground equipment needs to be covered. High schools are widely overlooked with outdoor space...cover the outdoor blacktop areas so kids can sit in the shade, play basketball in the shade...I lived in Spain and taught for a year and they had so many covered outdoor spaces that kids k-12 used daily. We need green spaces that look inviting, but that are covered given the weather dynamics that we live in a desert and its blazing hot a lot of the time.
Green Schoolyards America is beginning work in NV at the state and district level in support of schoolyard forests in the state. We hope to create the conditions that will support the implementation of schoolyard forests across the state. I hope we can continue to collaborate with this initiative for outdoor learning/education. We believe strongly in using these outdoor spaces not only for play, but also for learning. Thanks for the opportunity to do the survey. The zip codes I put are random, FYI, as we are not IN the state.
Reduce the price for students and families since they're more likely to go with families instead of schools
Please fund this type of education in our schools - our kids need it, our teachers and staff need it! Our neighborhoods need the type of students that are respectful in exploring and developing nature.
Implementation of these ideas would be a great value-add for youth of any age and is a much needed break in the 'cycle' of the expectations/regulations of current school regime.
I think it would be great as an option for student learning.
Anything that gets kids away from their phone is a positive.
Some of these questions are complicated to answer with a multiple-choice option. For example, do you support or oppose discipline restricting recess. I can see situations where a student maybe starts fights during recess and should be restricted, however I do not think recess should be restricted because of academic performance.
Please ensure that teachers and administration receive proper training. Simply providing funding is not sufficient; we need to equip them with the tools for success, and training is one essential tool.
Let's do this!
Love the program and the new activities they have been doing! Wish they did more in my town.
I am a science teacher currently working with a PE teacher to create an outdoor education elective. It will be one semester connected to archery class. My focus will be on outdoor recreation skills and appreciation. Here is a link to the plans so far: <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PB4xY6reYA9YBOClIs70bd8WNIucvNWkdBaoUz8dQbw/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PB4xY6reYA9YBOClIs70bd8WNIucvNWkdBaoUz8dQbw/edit?usp=sharing</a> This will work for our school because of the passion, expertise, and motivation of the teachers developing the student experience. Give schools and professionals interested in this opportunities to network and the support to do amazing things within our individual locations.
Guided access and instruction with well educated, well qualified instructors in a beneficial environment is the key. Unstructured access to a blacktop parking lot is of little benefit to anybody.

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I have taken 6 trips this year with students and ALL of them have been huge hits. If I could do one a week, I would. Money, coverage, and classroom time is always hard for admin to okay the trips.
Things like this start out strong and then fizzle out. It needs to be seen as just as important as any other content area.
Please include me in other panels or surveys.
Keep if fun so children stay engaged.
Getting kids away from computers and screens and allowing them to experience nature while still learning opens up options. Every kid has different learning styles and trying to make them all fit the standardized box isn't working.
Outdoor time is so important for childhood development. We have hurt kids well being by forcing them inside on computers during the school day. More seat time hasn't improved student performance
I tried for 25 years to have CCSD see the benefits of outdoor education. It definitely got worse over the years.
This survey is too long.
I think the more outdoor education the better, although I am not a teacher and so I would defer to them...
Follow the latest research-based guidelines for recess/break time, not public opinion.
Opportunities are really needed here, and I'm excited to see these efforts!
This is an important effort. Don't stop punching for this!
This outdoor education conversation is important to every single value, place, and thing we value as Nevadans and Americans.
Help schools create usable natural outdoor spaces
I do see the risk involved there's not enough staff members to provide security.
Must include Tagalog!
School and childhood sucks right now. I think that MANY children are suffering due to the restrictive and computer based learning structures. I think many children need alternative programming so that they can learn and thrive. The school day is TOO long, so why not let kids get outside and play and exercise and make good connections with adults. Instead, we scream at them to not climb on stuff, not challenge their skills, not move their bodies. Even the climbing structure has a million rules! I strongly believe that if kids can get the movement and play they need, they can learn better because their brain is calm and interested. I am sad for kids. I am sad for teachers. We have so much science to prove that the compliance based, lecture based model is not best practice.
This is the way to go . Good Luck!
Outdoor Education is essential and should be prioritized, rather than being treated as an afterthought due to school districts' concerns about test scores.
I was so sad when my elementary age children we given two to three 10-minute recesses during the school day. I personally witnessed teachers not excusing students from class or delaying students from leaving class to go to recess as a punishment for behavior. This was not allowed per the healthy lunch program standards. When I brought it to the attention of the principal, he said it was up to teachers. There was no support for recess time. It is slowly getting chipped away throughout the day. It is one reason why I took my children out of public school and into a private homeschool resource program where they received an hour or more of outside time to play, build, explore a natural landscape.
Let's do more!
If teachers are trained or are allowed to expand their hobby or personal outdoor skills, I feel they are more likely to incorporate those into a classroom. Hire with these types of skill sets or background experience, especially at higher grade levels. Wouldn't it make an education career more enticing if people became educators knowing their outdoor skill sets were valued as part of being a teacher??? That is all... ;)
Unlocking the physical and mental benefits of the outdoors begins with teaching students how to experience these areas. The benefits of being interested in the natural world can last a lifetime.
Outdoor learning/outdoor time is good for students of all ages! Recess, for example, energizes kids so they return to the classroom awake and able to engage in more rigorous instruction. Learning about outdoor areas in Nevada connects students to our state and provides an important perspective on the importance of protecting our natural areas. Spending time outdoors is healthy, exposes kids to new career and interest areas, and can have a profound impact on general wellbeing.

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Our fieldtrip with the Lahontan Audubon Society was absolutely incredible. The kids learned so much, not because they were presented content, but because they were presented opportunity with guidance.

I don't believe that withholding recess from mis-behaving kids is effective. They should still have to go outside, but just may have to sit on a bench instead of play during that time. Teachers are 'punished' when kids don't go to recess. Some kids don't like to go outside to play for recess...I do think they need to be allowed an alternate way to be outside, but not expected to 'free play'.

Get the kids outside

Just start taking simple lessons outside in the spaces you already have. Just get outdoors.

## ABOUT RESPONSIVE MANAGEMENT

Responsive Management is an internationally recognized survey research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues. Our mission is to help natural resource and outdoor recreation agencies, businesses, and organizations better understand and work with their constituents, customers, and the public.

Focusing only on natural resource and outdoor recreation issues, Responsive Management has conducted telephone, mail, and online surveys, as well as multimodal surveys, on-site intercepts, focus groups, public meetings, personal interviews, needs assessments, program evaluations, marketing and communication plans, and other forms of human dimensions research measuring how people relate to the natural world for more than 30 years. Utilizing our in-house, full-service survey facilities with 75 professional interviewers, we have conducted studies in all 50 states and 15 countries worldwide, totaling more than 1,000 human dimensions projects *only* on natural resource and outdoor recreation issues.

Responsive Management has conducted research for every state fish and wildlife agency and every federal natural resource agency, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Coast Guard, and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Additionally, we have also provided research for all the major conservation NGOs including the Archery Trade Association, the American Sportfishing Association, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Dallas Safari Club, Ducks Unlimited, Environmental Defense Fund, the Izaak Walton League of America, the National Rifle Association, the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the National Wildlife Federation, the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Safari Club International, the Sierra Club, Trout Unlimited, and the Wildlife Management Institute.

Other nonprofit and NGO clients include the American Museum of Natural History, the BoatUS Foundation, the National Association of Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs, the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, and the Ocean Conservancy. As well, Responsive Management conducts market research and product testing for numerous outdoor recreation manufacturers and industry leaders, such as Winchester Ammunition, Vista Outdoor (whose brands include Federal Premium, CamelBak, Bushnell, Primos, and more), Trijicon, Yamaha, and others.

Responsive Management also provides data collection for the nation's top universities, including Auburn University, Clemson University, Colorado State University, Duke University, George Mason University, Michigan State University, Mississippi State University, North Carolina State University, Oregon State University, Penn State University, Rutgers University, Stanford University, Texas Tech, University of California-Davis, University of Florida, University of Montana, University of New Hampshire, University of Southern California, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Tech, West Virginia University, Yale University, and many more.

Our research has been upheld in U.S. Courts, used in peer-reviewed journals, and presented at major wildlife and natural resource conferences around the world. Responsive Management's research has also been featured in many of the nation's top media, including *Newsweek*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, CNN, National Public Radio, and on the front pages of *The Washington Post* and *USA Today*.

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