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TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS®

Key Findings Presentation

Survey Of Los Angeles High School
Students, Parents, And Voters

March 2024

Research Approach

- A first-of-its-kind public opinion survey in L.A. County of voters, parents, and high school students to understand perceptions and attitudes towards skilled trades education and future career paths.
- Intentional community-centered approach to capture voices often not included.



Methodology

Four Focus Groups:

August 28–September 8, 2023

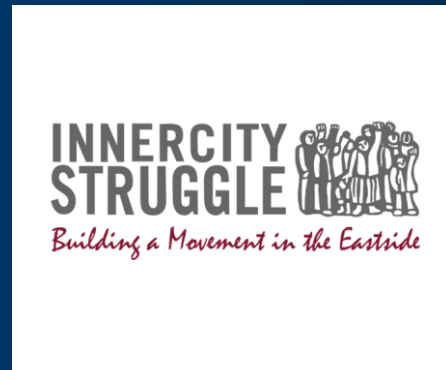
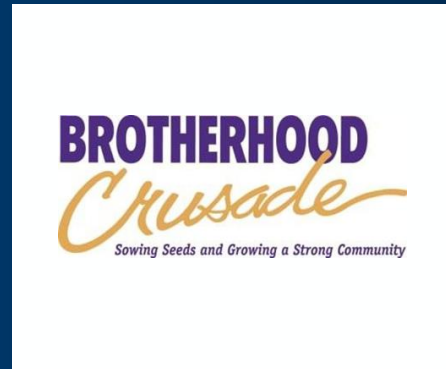
- South L.A. Black/African American Parents
- L.A. Harbor Latino High School Students
- L.A. Harbor Latino Parents (in Spanish)
- South L.A. Black/African American High School Students

Three Online Surveys:

November 20, 2023–January 21, 2024

- 400 L.A. County Registered **Voters**
- 495 **Parents** of Students attending L.A. County Public High Schools
- 258 **Students** attending L.A. County Public High Schools

Community Partners: LA County Youth-Serving Non-Profit Organizations





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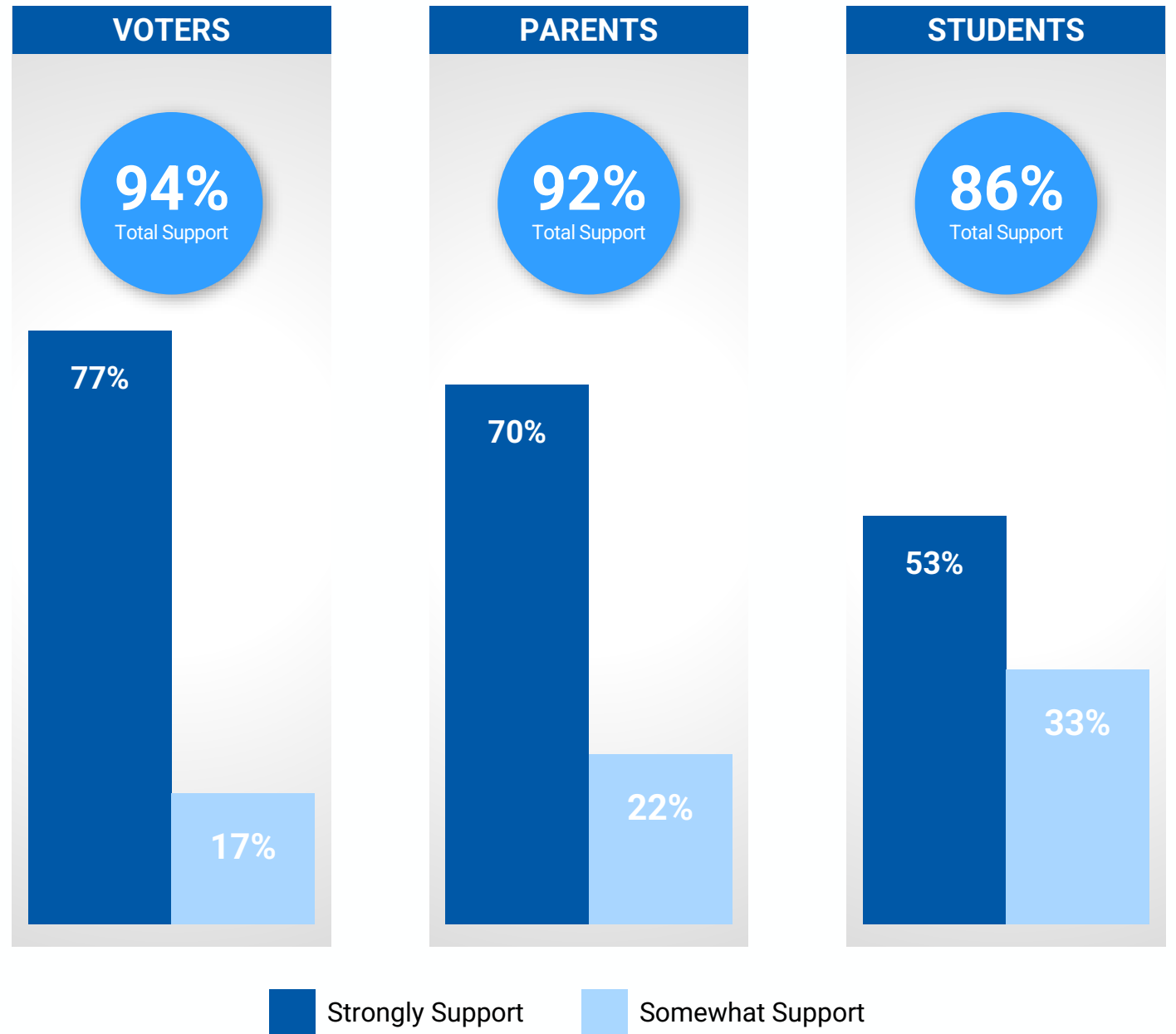
Key Findings



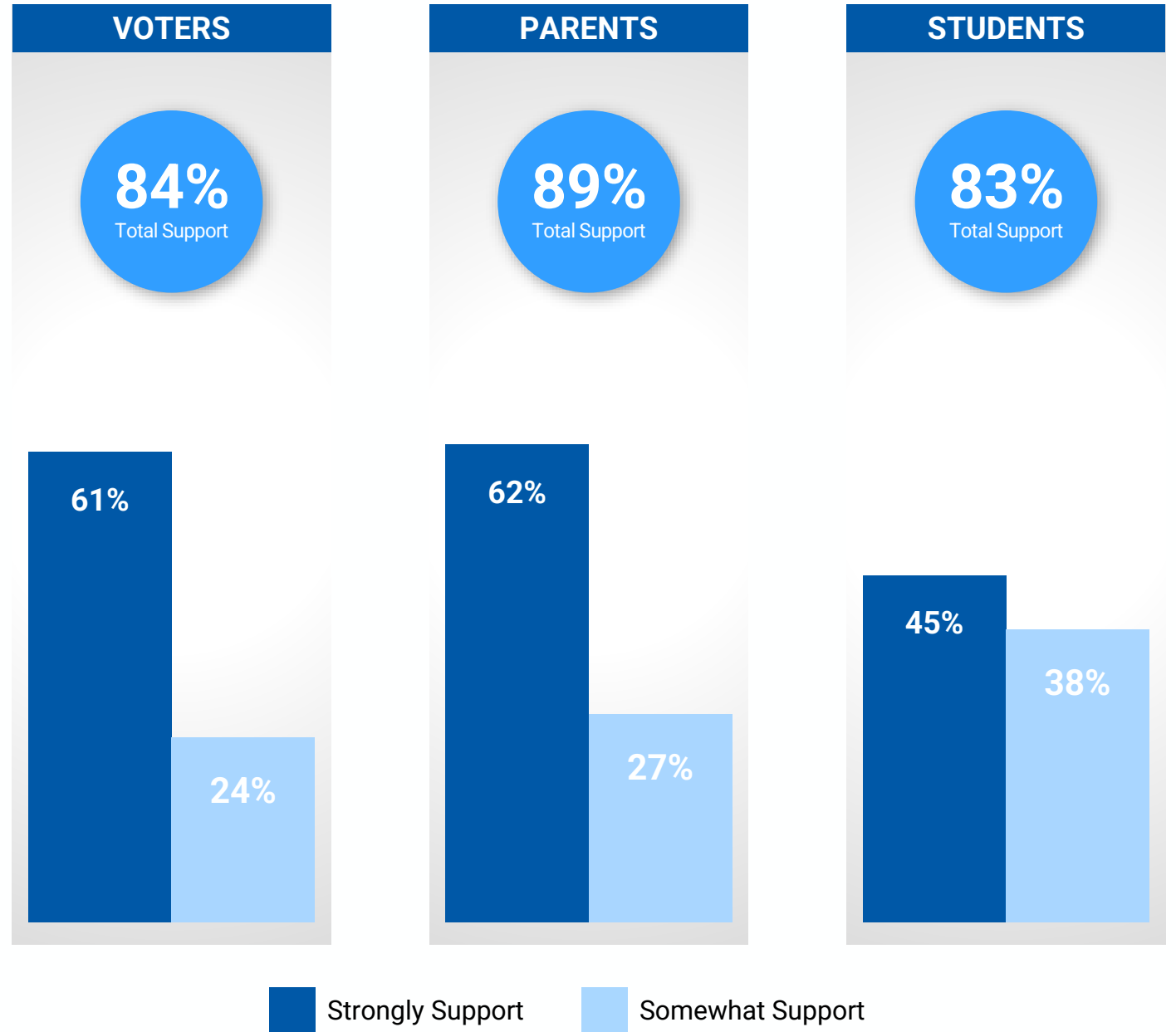
KEY FINDING #1

Voters, parents and high school students **overwhelmingly support** the expansion and increased funding of skilled trades education in Los Angeles County high schools.

Majority Support for Expansion of Skilled Trades Exists Among Poll Respondents



Strong Support Also Exists for Expansion of Funding for Skilled Trades Education

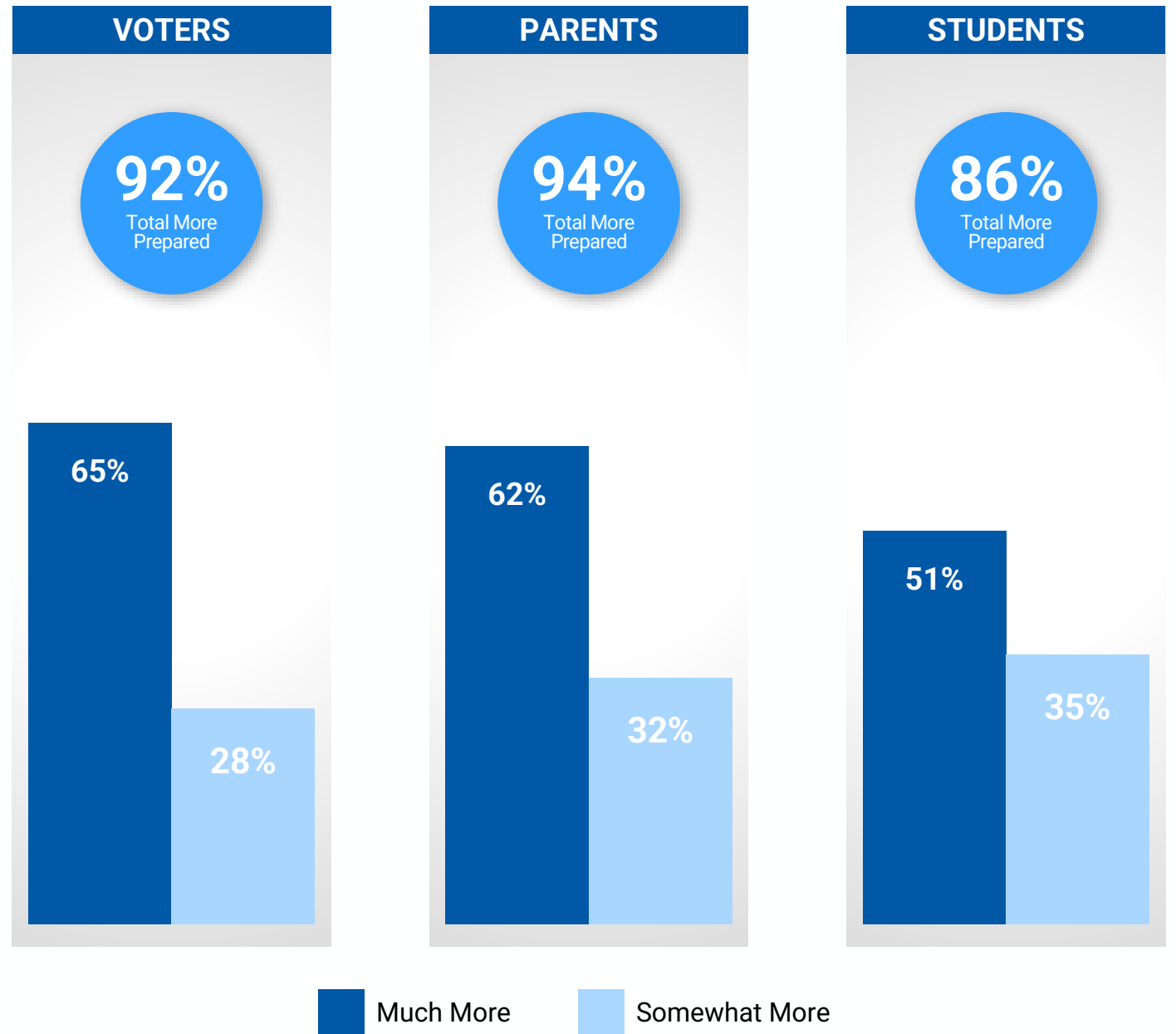




KEY FINDING #2

Nearly **all** poll respondents agree that skilled trades classes will **provide better access to a good career** and **can help students prepare for college.**

Poll Respondents Believe Studying Skilled Trades in High School Would Make Students More Prepared For a Career

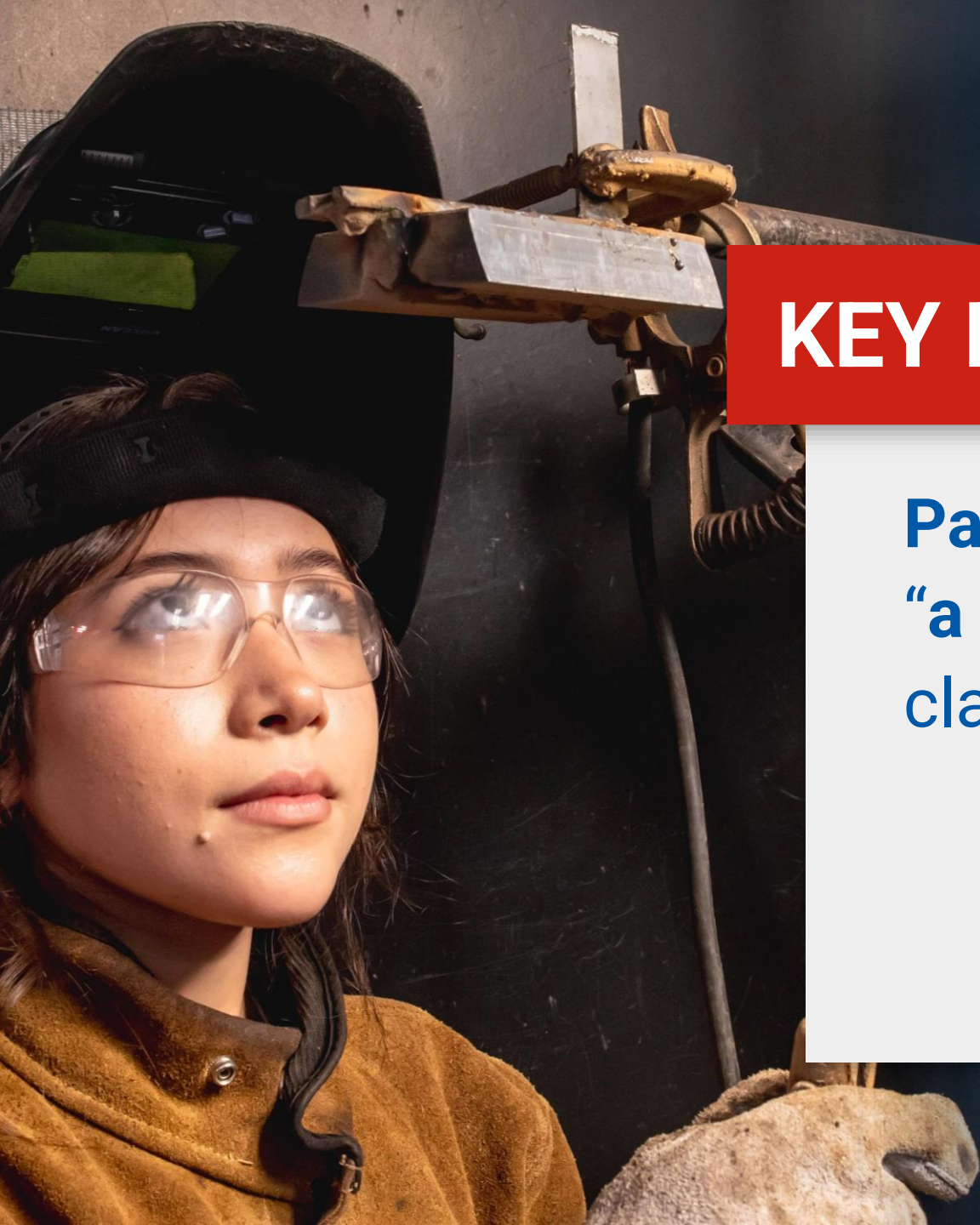


**Voters, Parents,
and Students Agree
that Skilled Trades
Classes will Provide
Better Access to a
Good Job**

“ I would feel proud [if my child pursued a skilled trade] because you won't only have one job, but you'll know how to do something. If a door closes, another one opens. With so many doors, you can become your own boss.”

– High School Parent,
L.A. Harbor Focus Group



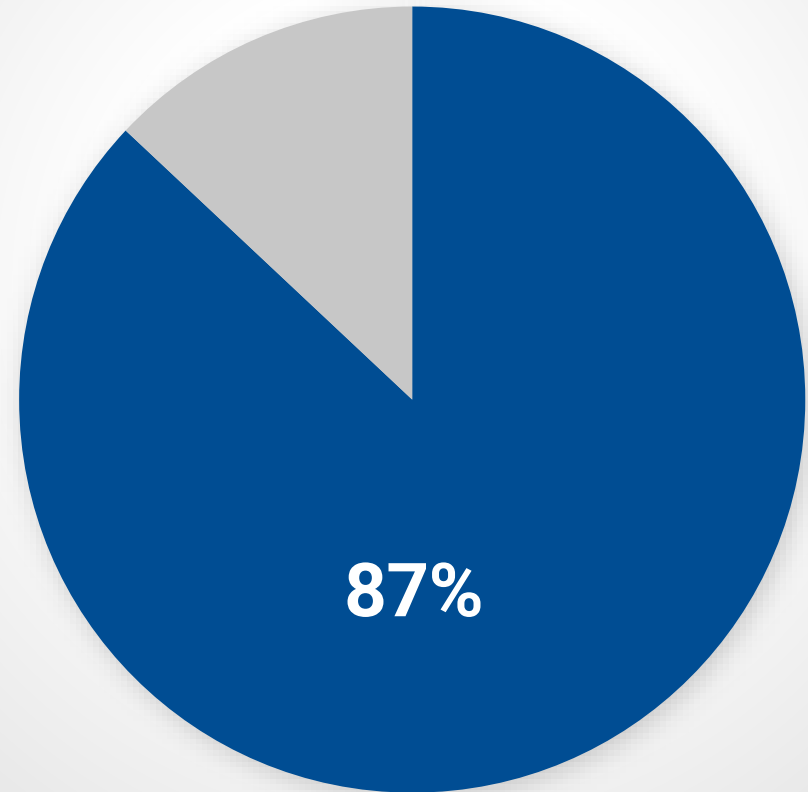


KEY FINDING #3

Parents and voters agree it was “a mistake” to remove skilled trades classes from public high schools.



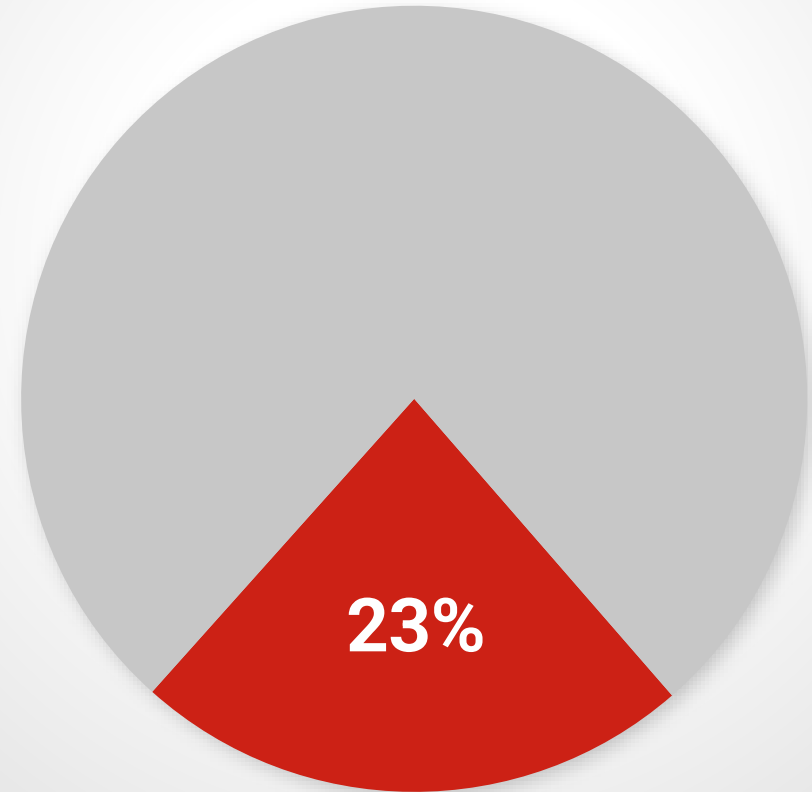
**Voters Who Agree it “Was a Mistake”
to Remove Skilled Trades Programs
from Local High Schools.**





Voters Who Believe that Public High Schools are Doing a Good Job of Preparing Students for Jobs of the Future

Q: How would you rate the job public high schools in the Los Angeles region are doing in the following areas?

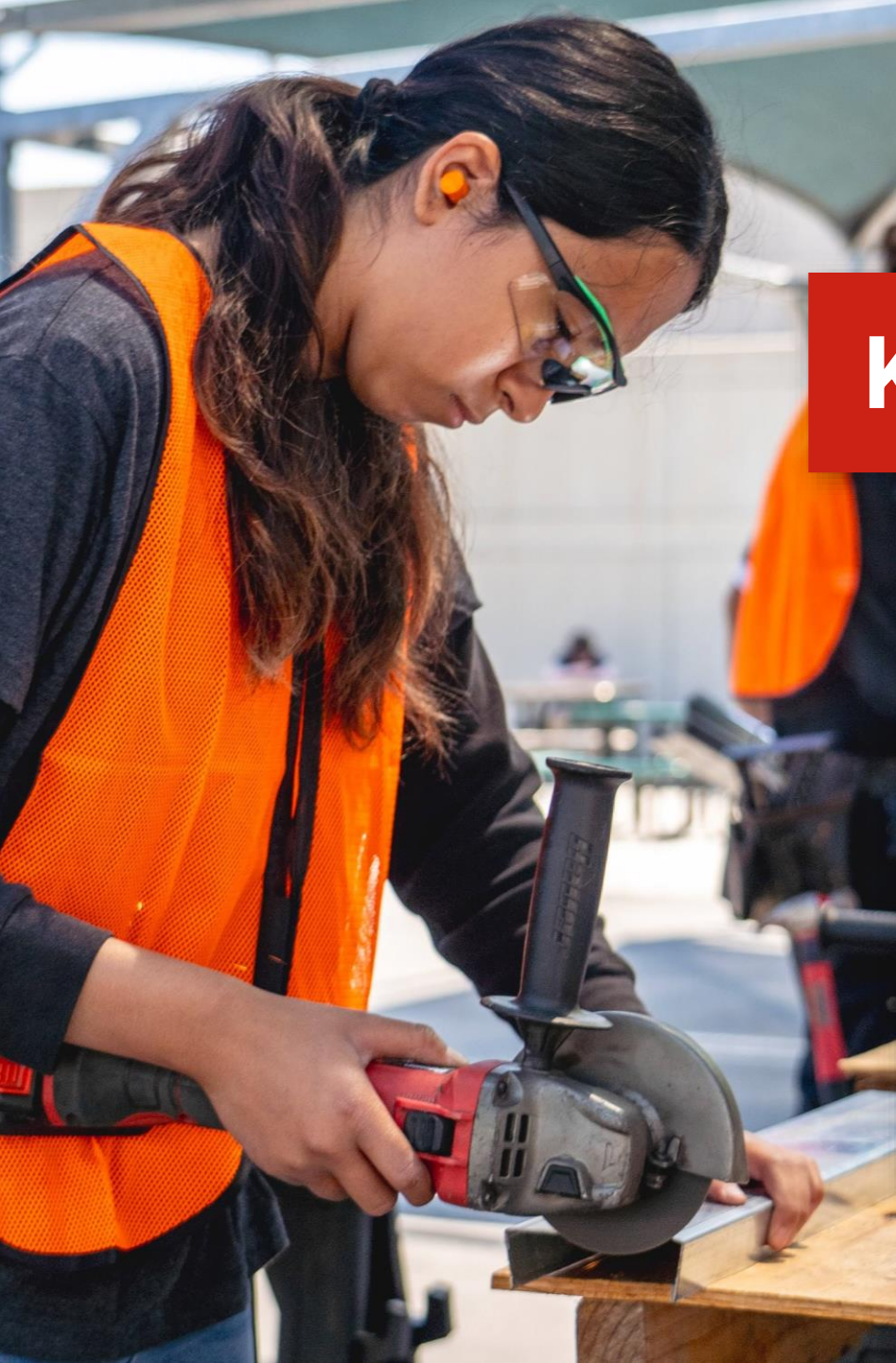




KEY FINDING #4

Nearly 7 in 10 L.A. County public high school students surveyed said they would consider **taking a skilled trades class** if it were offered.



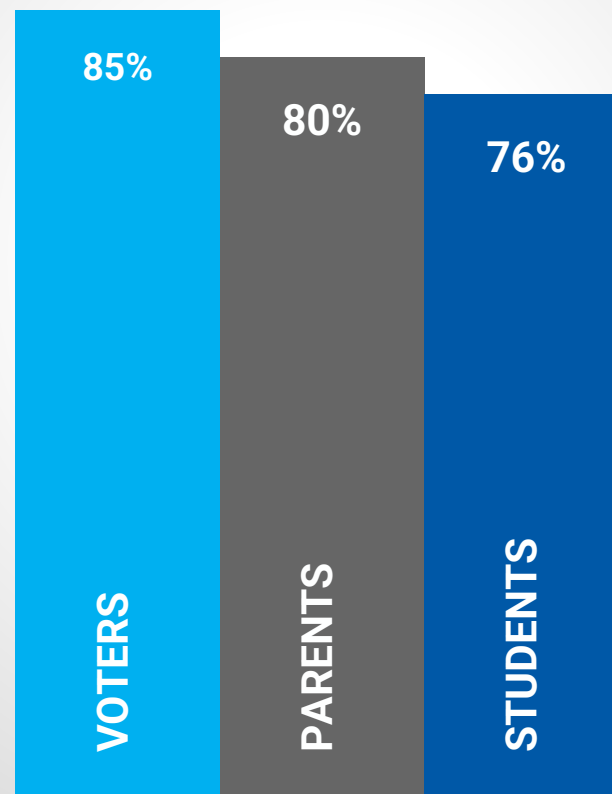


KEY FINDING #5

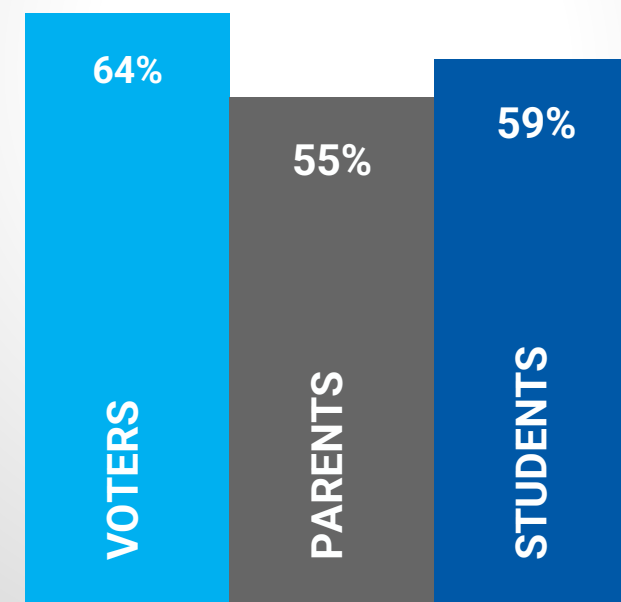
Despite the overwhelmingly positive attitudes and perceptions of skilled trades, notable percentages of students, parents, and voters see barriers to entry—based on gender and race/ethnicity.

Poll Respondents Believe Skilled Trades are Highly Important to the Local Economy and Pay Well

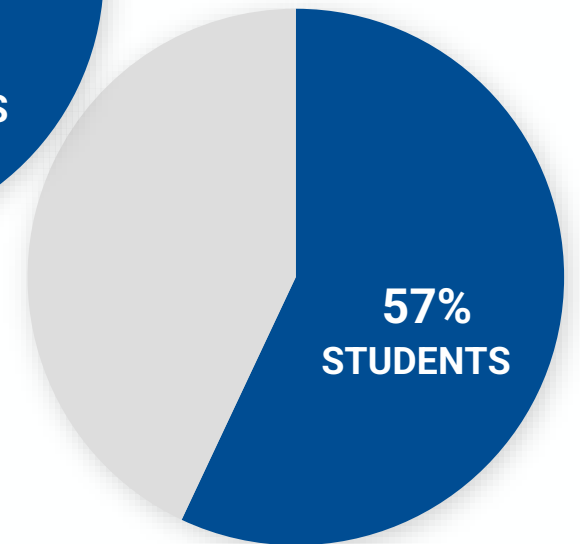
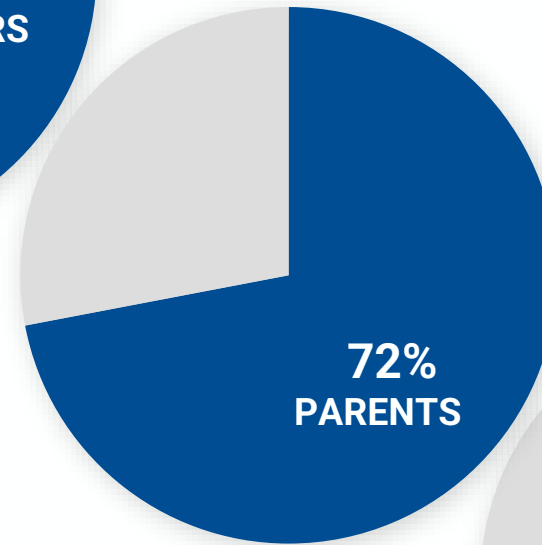
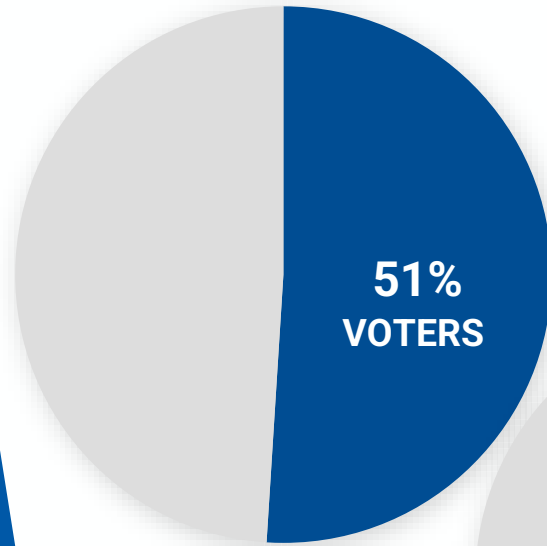
Believe Skilled Trades are Important to the Local Economy




Believe Skilled Trades Pay Well



Many Poll Respondents Believe there are Barriers to Access Skilled Trades Careers Based on Gender



 Believe there are barriers to entry based on gender.

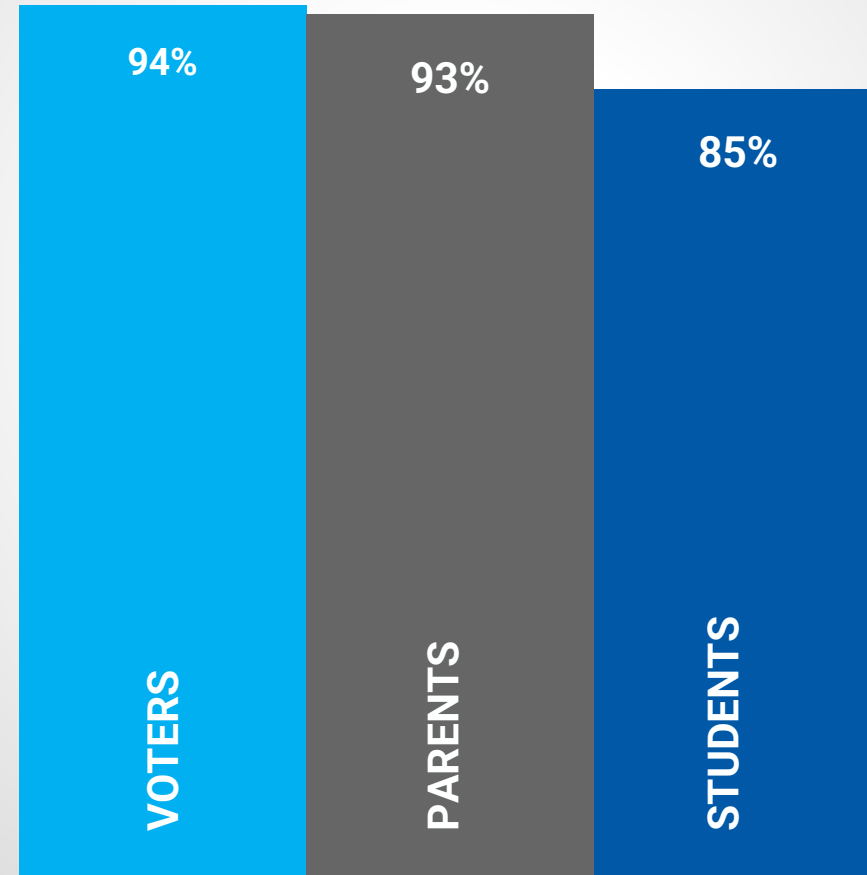


KEY FINDING #6

More than three-quarters of voters agreed high schools in L.A. County need to do a better job creating pathways for students not attending college.

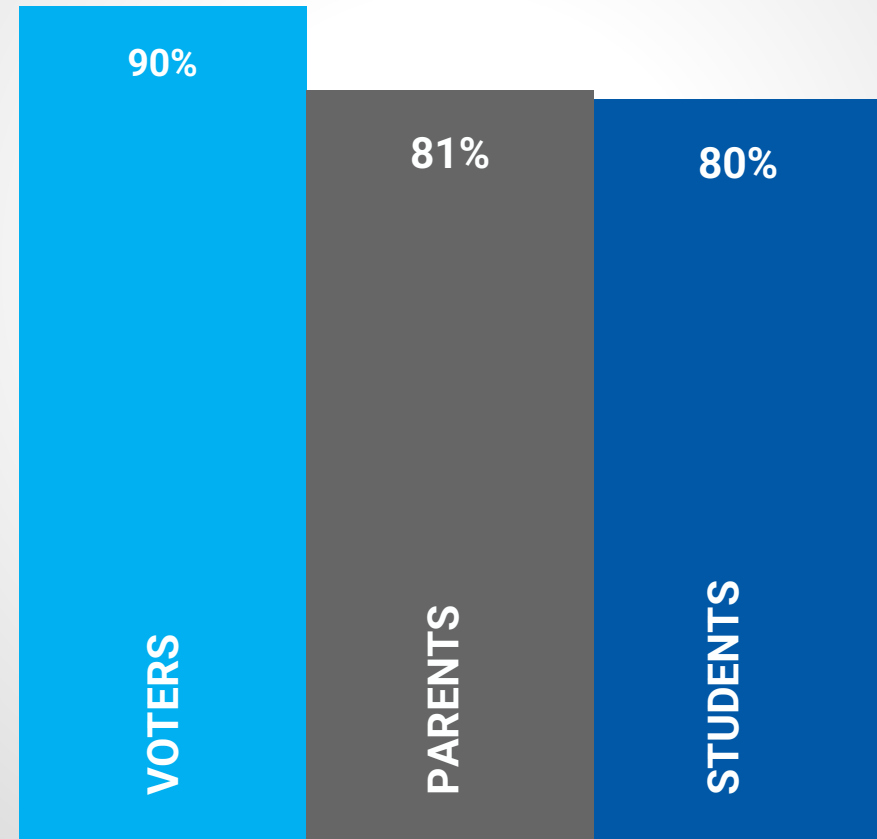
A Majority Believe High Schools Need to Create Career Pathways for ALL Students – Especially Those Who May Not Be College Bound.

Agree High Schools in L.A. County Need to Do a Better Job Creating Pathways for Students Not Attending College



A Majority Believe High Schools Need to Create Career Pathways for ALL Students

Agree There Will Always Be Work for Those in Skilled Trades.





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Final Thoughts & Questions