Vision Coalition 2035 Public Survey Full Results

VISION
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OF DELAWARE

Question 1: What best describes you?

Student 👤 *11%*

Parent 👤👤 *20%*

Educator 👤👤👤👤👤 *49%*

Other 👤👤 *20%*
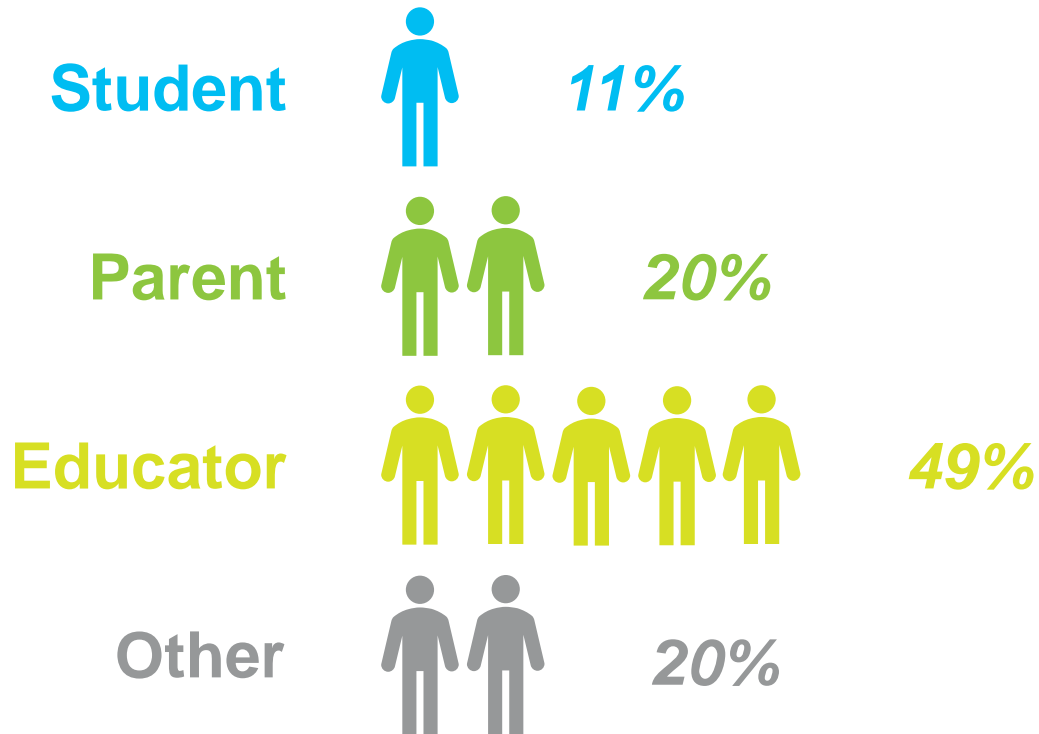
Some "other" responses include former educators, family and community members, non-profit and business leaders, and paraprofessionals.

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Question 2: Do you live or work in Delaware?

Work

8%

Live

33%

Live & Work

59%

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Question 3: In which counties do you live or work?

New Castle 74%

Kent 19%
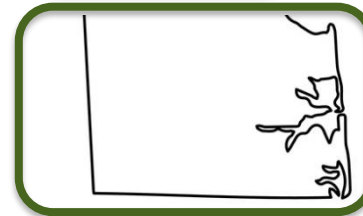
Sussex 23%

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select all that apply.

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Question 4: What is the primary language spoken in your home?

Language	Count	Number of people who completed the survey in this language
Spanish	19	13
English	151	568
Haitian-Creole	11	0

Note: This question was added on October 19th to better track outreach and engagement efforts in the Spanish and Haitian communities. Due to this timing, only 181 responses were collected for this question out of the 581 total survey responses. The survey was offered in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole.

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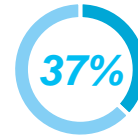
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Question 5: In what areas has Delaware's public education system improved or made progress over the last few years? (select a maximum of five areas from the list below)

1. Education technology
2. Mental health support
3. Early childhood education
4. Communication and engagement with families
5. Early literacy
6. School climate and safety
7. Preparing students for college and careers
8. Meeting the learning needs of each student
9. Core academic subjects (language arts, math, science, social studies)
10. Supporting educators and leaders
11. Other
12. Appropriate and sufficient school funding

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple. Respondents could select up to 5 areas.

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Question 5: In what areas has Delaware's public education system improved or made progress over the last few years? (select a maximum of five areas from the list below)

Top Responses:

#1 Education Technology
53%

#2 Mental Health Support
37%

#3 Early Childhood Education
35%

Area	Educator	Other	Parent	Student	Total
Education technology	56%	47%	49%	53%	53%
Mental health support	40%	38%	31%	33%	37%
Early childhood education	37%	42%	25%	30%	35%
Communication and engagement with families	21%	18%	28%	25%	22%
Early literacy	19%	23%	15%	11%	18%
School climate and safety	16%	21%	20%	19%	18%
Preparing students for college and careers	9%	19%	14%	44%	15%
Meeting the learning needs of each student	12%	6%	13%	26%	12%
Core academic subjects (language arts, math, science, social studies)	7%	5%	17%	39%	12%
Supporting educators and leaders	9%	12%	12%	19%	11%
Other	8%	14%	9%	4%	9%
Appropriate and sufficient school funding	4%	13%	9%	19%	8%

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple. Respondents could select up to 5 areas.
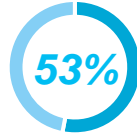
Preparing our students for a lifetime of success
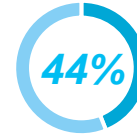
VISION COALITION OF DELAWARE

Question 5: In what areas has Delaware's public education system improved or made progress over the last few years? **Top Responses by Group**
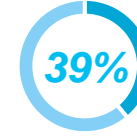
Students

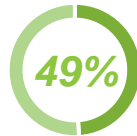**#1** Education Technology

53%

#2 Preparing students for college and careers

44%

#3 Core academic subjects

39%

Parents

#1 Education Technology

49%

#2 Mental Health Support

31%

#3 Communication and engagement with families

28%

Educators

#1 Education Technology

56%

#2 Mental Health Support

40%

#3 Early Childhood Education

37%

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Question 6: In what areas does Delaware's public education system still need to improve? (select a maximum of five areas from the list below)

1. Appropriate and sufficient school funding
2. Supporting educators and leaders
3. Meeting the learning needs of each student
4. School climate and safety
5. Mental health support
6. Preparing students for college and careers
7. Core academic subjects (language arts, math, science, social studies)
8. Early childhood education
9. Communication and engagement with families
10. Early literacy
11. Other
12. Education technology

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple. Respondents could select up to 5 areas.

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Question 6: In what areas does Delaware's public education system still need to improve? (select a maximum of five areas from the list below)

Top Responses:

#1 Appropriate and sufficient school funding
56%

#2 Supporting educators and leaders
55%

#3 Meeting the learning needs of each student
49%

Area	Educator	Other	Parent	Student	Total
Appropriate and sufficient school funding	63%	52%	52%	33%	56%
Supporting educators and leaders	70%	38%	48%	28%	55%
Meeting the learning needs of each student	46%	48%	55%	49%	49%
School climate and safety	45%	41%	43%	33%	43%
Mental health support	38%	44%	31%	53%	39%
Preparing students for college and careers	34%	36%	45%	35%	37%
Core academic subjects (language arts, math, science, social studies)	28%	35%	44%	28%	33%
Early childhood education	26%	30%	34%	25%	28%
Communication and engagement with families	22%	36%	27%	26%	26%
Early literacy	24%	28%	26%	25%	25%
Other	8%	15%	10%	2%	9%
Education technology	7%	6%	7%	19%	8%

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple. Respondents could select up to 5 areas.

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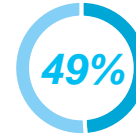
VISION COALITION OF DELAWARE

Question 6: In what areas does Delaware's public education system still need to improve? **Top Responses by Group**

Students

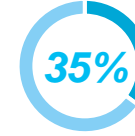**#1** Mental health support

53%
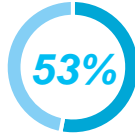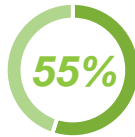
#2 Meeting the learning needs of each student

49%

#3 Preparing students for college and careers

35%

Parents

#1 Meeting the learning needs of each student

55%

#2 Appropriate and sufficient school funding

52%
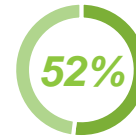
#3 Supporting educators and leaders

48%
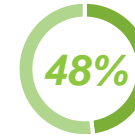
Educators

#1 Supporting educators and leaders
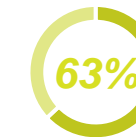
70%

#2 Appropriate and sufficient school funding

63%

#3 Meeting the learning needs of each student

46%

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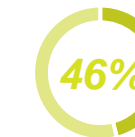
Question 7: In 2015, Delawareans highlighted the following skills and attributes that an educated Delawarean should have. Which skills and attributes are still important today? (select your top 5 from the list below)
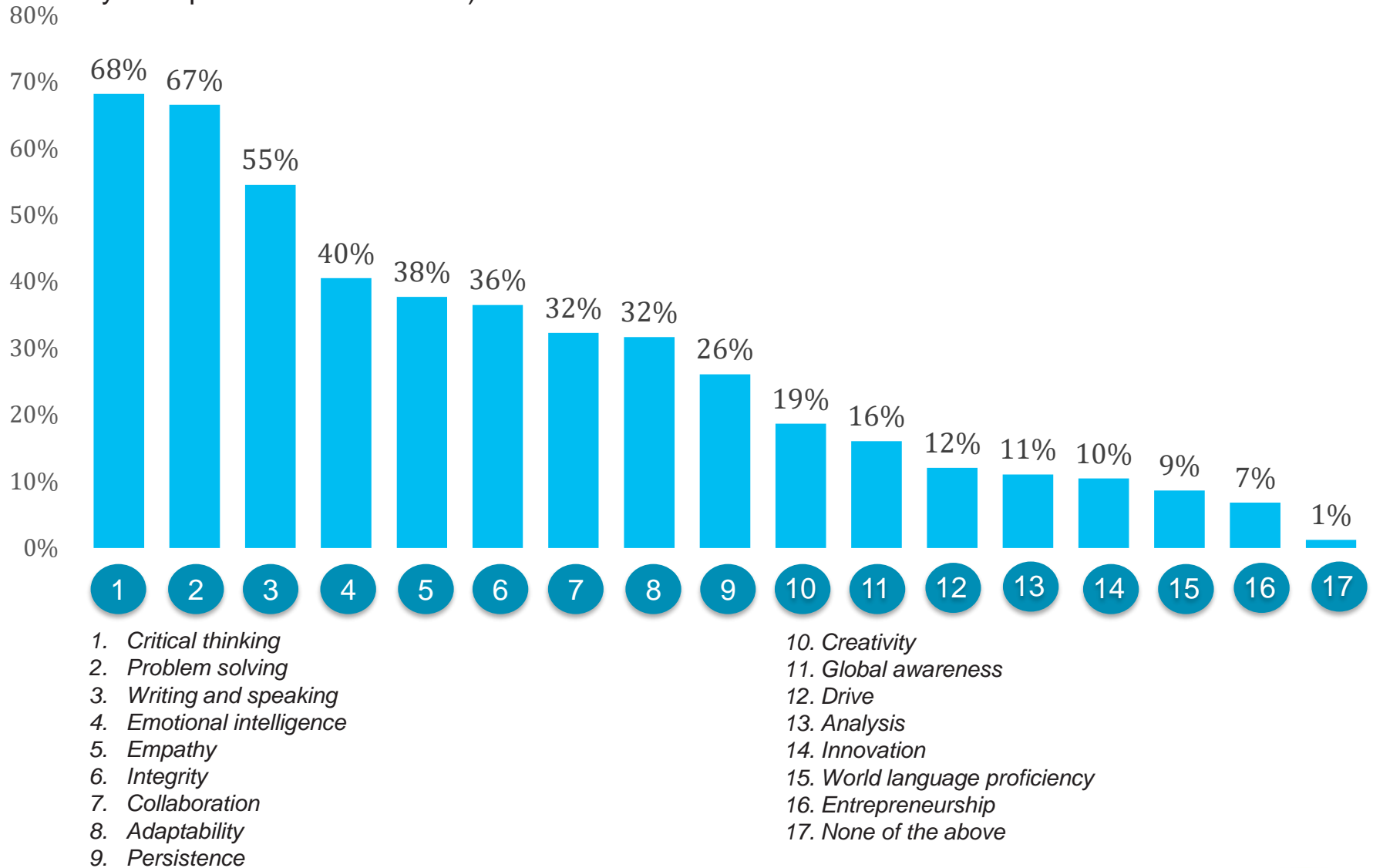
Bar chart values:
- 1: 68%
- 2: 67%
- 3: 55%
- 4: 40%
- 5: 38%
- 6: 36%
- 7: 32%
- 8: 32%
- 9: 26%
- 10: 19%
- 11: 16%
- 12: 12%
- 13: 11%
- 14: 10%
- 15: 9%
- 16: 7%
- 17: 1%

1. *Critical thinking*
2. *Problem solving*
3. *Writing and speaking*
4. *Emotional intelligence*
5. *Empathy*
6. *Integrity*
7. *Collaboration*
8. *Adaptability*
9. *Persistence*

10. *Creativity*
11. *Global awareness*
12. *Drive*
13. *Analysis*
14. *Innovation*
15. *World language proficiency*
16. *Entrepreneurship*
17. *None of the above*

*This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple. Respondents selected up to 5 skills.

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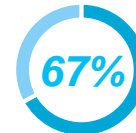
VISION COALITION OF DELAWARE

Question 7: In 2015, Delawareans highlighted the following skills and attributes that an educated Delawarean should have. Which skills and attributes are still important today?

Top Responses:

#1 Critical thinking — 68%

#2 Problem solving — 67%

#3 Writing and speaking — 55%

Skill	Educator	Other	Parent	Student	Total
Critical thinking	70%	71%	74%	44%	68%
Problem solving	70%	67%	65%	50%	67%
Writing and speaking	54%	51%	65%	42%	55%
Emotional intelligence	39%	45%	42%	36%	40%
Empathy	42%	31%	33%	36%	38%
Integrity	37%	41%	37%	24%	36%
Collaboration	38%	31%	24%	22%	32%
Adaptability	35%	29%	31%	20%	32%
Persistence	32%	24%	16%	20%	26%
Creativity	17%	14%	19%	34%	19%
Global awareness	12%	24%	14%	26%	16%
Drive	14%	6%	8%	20%	12%
Analysis	11%	19%	7%	6%	11%
Innovation	8%	11%	18%	8%	10%
World language proficiency	6%	12%	11%	12%	9%
Entrepreneurship	2%	5%	13%	20%	7%
None of the above	0%	2%	1%	6%	1%

*This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple. Respondents selected up to 5 skills.

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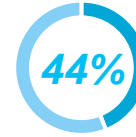
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Question 7: In 2015, Delawareans highlighted the following skills and attributes that an educated Delawarean should have. Which skills and attributes are still important today?
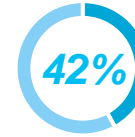**Top Responses by Group**

Students

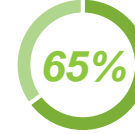| #1 Problem solving	#2 Critical thinking	#3 Writing and speaking
50%	44%	42%

Parents

#1 Critical thinking	#2 Problem solving	#3 Writing and speaking
74%	65%	65%

Educators

#1 Problem solving	#2 Critical thinking	#3 Writing and speaking
70%	70%	54%

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Question 8: In addition to your selections above, what qualities or skills should a well-educated Delawarean have 10 years from now? (select your top 3 from the list below)
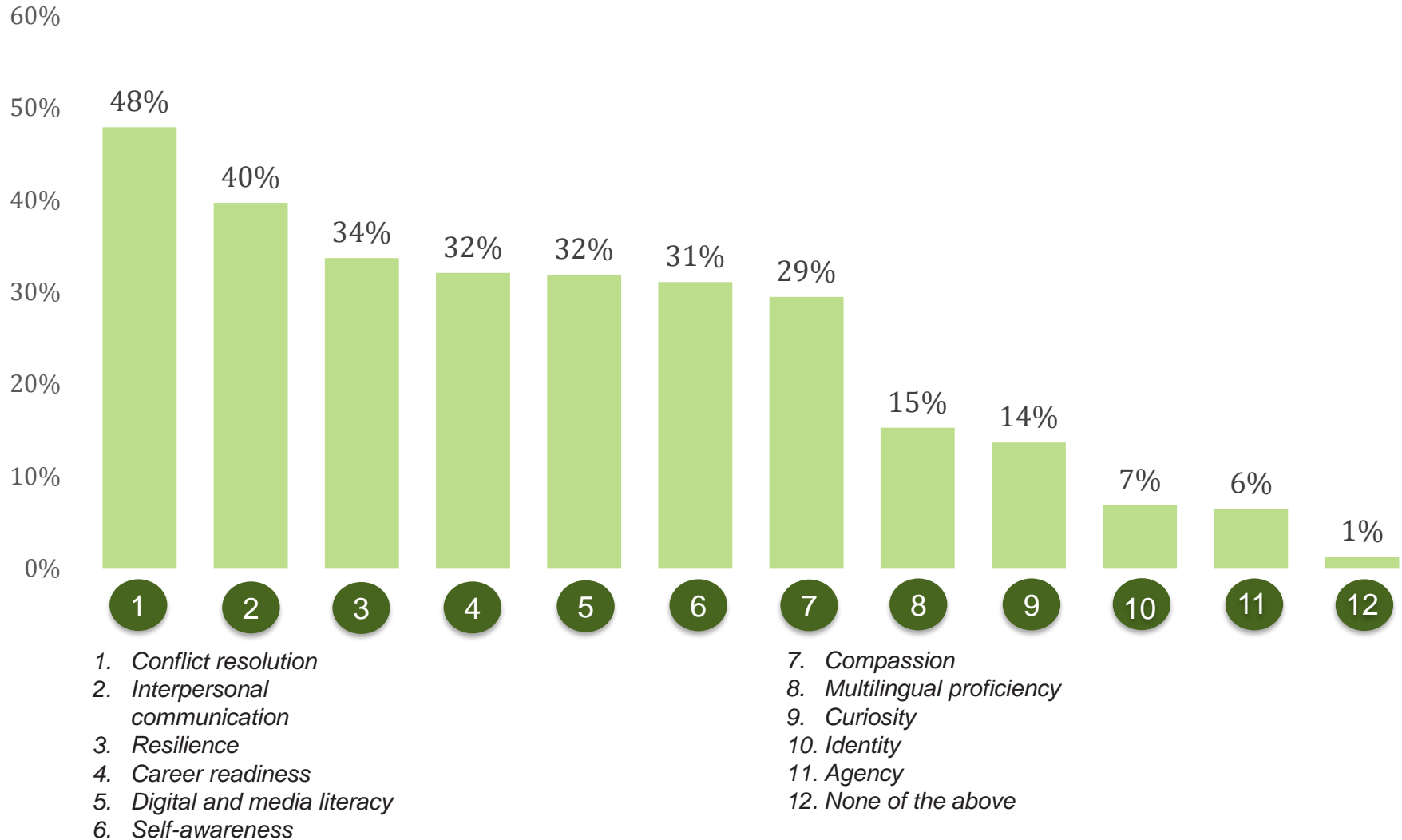
Number	Category	Percentage
1	Conflict resolution	48%
2	Interpersonal communication	40%
3	Resilience	34%
4	Career readiness	32%
5	Digital and media literacy	32%
6	Self-awareness	31%
7	Compassion	29%
8	Multilingual proficiency	15%
9	Curiosity	14%
10	Identity	7%
11	Agency	6%
12	None of the above	1%

1. Conflict resolution
2. Interpersonal communication
3. Resilience
4. Career readiness
5. Digital and media literacy
6. Self-awareness
7. Compassion
8. Multilingual proficiency
9. Curiosity
10. Identity
11. Agency
12. None of the above

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple. Respondents could select up to 3 areas.

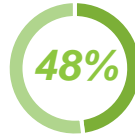Preparing our students for a lifetime of success

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Question 8: In addition to your selections above, what qualities or skills should a well-educated Delawarean have 10 years from now?
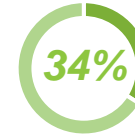
Top Responses:

#1 Conflict resolution — **48%**

#2 Interpersonal communication — **40%**

#3 Resilience — **34%**

Skill	Educator	Other	Parent	Student	Total
Conflict resolution	52%	44%	47%	36%	48%
Interpersonal communication	39%	46%	43%	24%	40%
Resilience	37%	33%	33%	18%	34%
Career readiness	30%	35%	32%	38%	32%
Digital and media literacy	33%	38%	32%	14%	32%
Self-awareness	30%	24%	33%	44%	31%
Compassion	34%	18%	28%	30%	29%
Multilingual proficiency	13%	24%	14%	14%	15%
Curiosity	14%	16%	8%	18%	14%
Identity	4%	8%	7%	20%	7%
Agency	8%	7%	3%	6%	6%
None of the above	0%	1%	1%	6%	1%

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple. Respondents could select up to 3 areas.
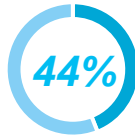
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Question 8: In addition to your selections above, what qualities or skills should a well-educated Delawarean have 10 years from now? **Top Responses by Group**

Students
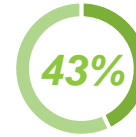
#1 Self-awareness

44%

#2 Career readiness

38%

#3 Conflict resolution

36%

Parents

#1 Conflict resolution

47%

#2 Interpersonal communication

43%

#3 Self-awareness

33%

Educators

#1 Conflict resolution

70%

#2 Interpersonal communication

70%

#3 Resilience

54%

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Question 9: OPEN ENDED: Are there other qualities or skills that you think are important?

Respectfulness
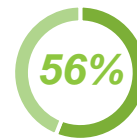
Financial Literacy

Grit

Community

Acceptance

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Question 10: What should Delaware public education prioritize in the future? (select all that apply)
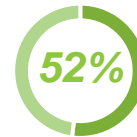
Overall

67% **Educators and School Leaders:** Professional pay and improved working conditions, and attracting and retaining a more diverse workforce of educators and leaders

56% **K-12 Academics:** Providing high-quality classroom instruction that incorporates technology in learning and develops critical knowledge and skills

60% **Funding:** Creating a system that funds schools adequately, equitably, and flexibly

52% **Early Childhood:** Investing in high-quality early care and education for children from birth to age 5

57% **Student Supports:** Supporting positive school climate and students' unique needs, including physical and mental health, special education services, and supports for multilingual

52% **Career and College Readiness:** Engaging students in a variety of meaningful courses and work-based learning experiences that set students up for success after high school

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple. Respondents could select up to 6 areas.

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Question 10: What should Delaware public education prioritize in the future? (select all that apply)

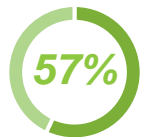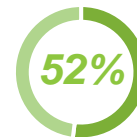| Area	Educator	Other	Parent	Student	Total
Educators and School Leaders: Professional pay and improved working conditions, and attracting and retaining a more diverse workforce of educators and leaders	77%	66%	58%	30%	67%
Funding: Creating a system that funds schools adequately, equitably, and flexibly	62%	65%	56%	45%	60%
school climate and students' unique needs, including physical and mental health, special education services, and supports for multilingual	58%	67%	47%	57%	57%
K-12 Academics: Providing high-quality classroom instruction that incorporates technology in learning and develops critical knowledge and skills	48%	64%	68%	53%	56%
Early Childhood: Investing in high-quality early care and education for children from birth to age 5	50%	60%	58%	38%	52%
Career and College Readiness: Engaging students in a variety of meaningful courses and work-based learning experiences that set students up for success after high school	46%	58%	62%	55%	52%
Student Supports: Supporting positive school climate and students' unique needs, including physical and mental health, special education services, and supports for multilingual	58%	26%	47%	57%	57%

*This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple. Respondents could select up to 6 areas.

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Question 11: Within each selected area, please suggest priorities or areas of focus:

Open-ended responses categorized based on top themes presented

Early Childhood

- **Early childhood system attributes**: affordable, free, adequately funded, inclusive of ages 0-4, mandatory, equitable
- **Early childhood programming that**: exposes children to social skills, creative and positive environments, multiple languages, offers transparent developmental goals and milestones to families or caretakers, has high quality staff and educators, improves reading and math readiness, includes trauma informed care

Student Supports

- **Student Supports system components:** prioritizes mental health support, improves special education resources and funding, improves school safety and school climate, and shows compassion and tolerance

K-12 Academics

- Better train educators on instructional technologies so that they can be effectively leveraged
- Better curriculum **flexibility** and more interactive and **applied-academic learning opportunities**
- More opportunities for educators to explore, create, and share examples of materials developed with UDL standards and **culturally responsive pedagogy** in mind
- Adequate **resources and technology** in all DE schools

Career and College Readiness

- **More diverse opportunities:** More pathways (areas of study), and work-based learning opportunities
- **Paying for college:** Concerns about funding postsecondary education
- **Guidance, awareness, and supports:** Starting career awareness early (before high school) and providing more supports
- **Pursuing a future other than college:** preparing students who will go straight into the workforce
- **Student readiness:** preparing students with "life skills" such as financial literacy and broader non-academic skills that will prepare them for life after high school
- **Design of Vo-Tech versus traditional high schools:** all students getting access to pathways and WBL experiences, high schools need more high quality CTE and pathways programs, while Vo-Tech are full of students who plan to go to college, not study CTE.

Educators and Leaders

- **Working and pay conditions:** Significant concerns around better pay and working conditions (hours, safety, environment, respect, etc.)
- **Training and support services:** Increased access to professional and leadership training, support mentorship and mental health services, encourage STEM workshops and training

Funding

- **Funding system attributes**: equitable, adequate, flexible, needs-based, follows the child
- **Funding system uses:** arts, improved facilities, buildings, teacher pay and support in classrooms, STEM and robotics, trainings, classroom supplies

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Our Spanish speaking respondents (n=19) indicated:

- **Delaware has made progress in:** Early Childhood education, Mental Health Supports, and Education Technology
- **Delaware still needs to improve:** School Climate and Safety, Meeting the learning needs of each student, and appropriate and sufficient school funding
- **Important skills that remain today:** Problem solving, critical thinking, and writing and speaking
- **Skills that will be important 10 years from now:** Resilience, career readiness, and self-awareness
- **Delaware should prioritize the following areas in the future:** Early Childhood, Student Supports, Funding, and Educators and School Leaders

Our Haitian-Creole speaking respondents (n=10) indicated:

- **Delaware has made progress in:** Education Technology, Mental Health Support, and Communication and engagement with families
- **Delaware still needs to improve:** Preparing students for college and careers, Meeting the learning needs of each student, and Core academic subjects
- **Important skills that remain today:** Creativity, world language proficiency, critical thinking, and persistence
- **Skills that will be important 10 years from now:** Multilingual proficiency, career readiness, and identity
- **Delaware should prioritize the following areas in the future:** Student Supports, K-12 academics, and Career and college readiness

The top 3 responses were included for this overview.

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Additional Results for Reference

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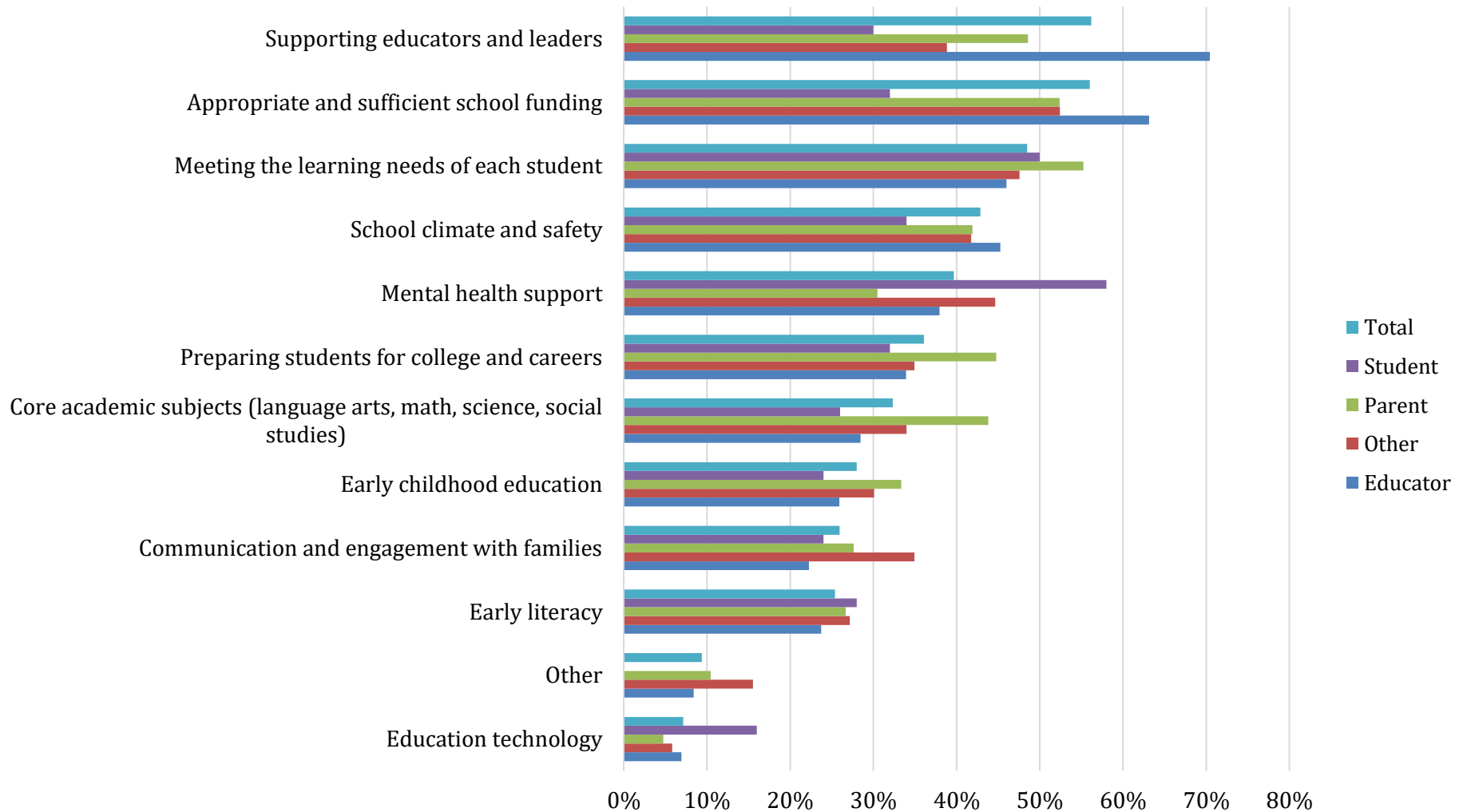COALITION
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# Q5. In what areas has Delaware's public education system improved or made progress over the last few years?

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple.

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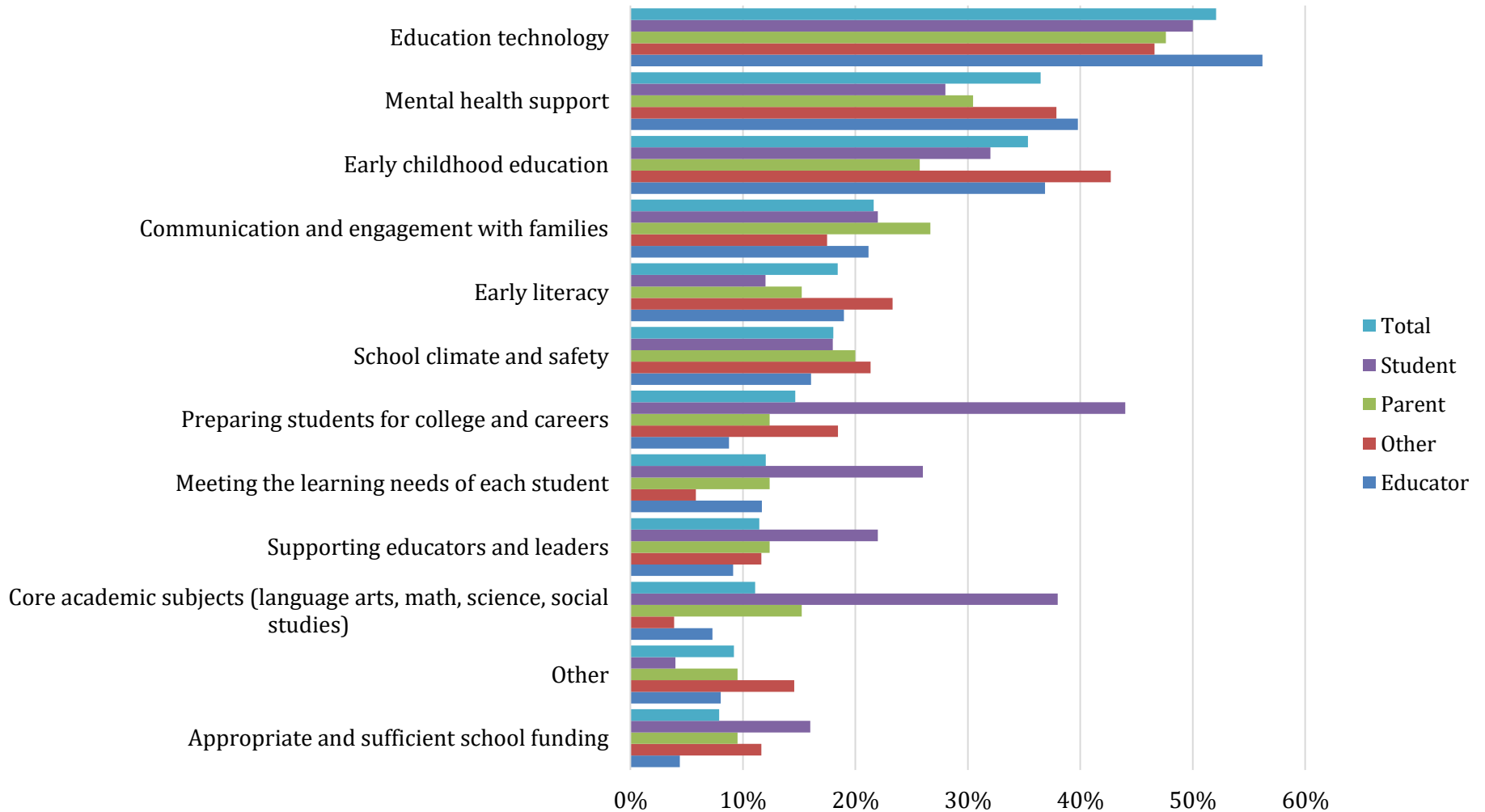
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Q6. In what areas does Delaware's public education system still need to improve?

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple.

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Q7. Which skills and attributes are still important today?

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple.
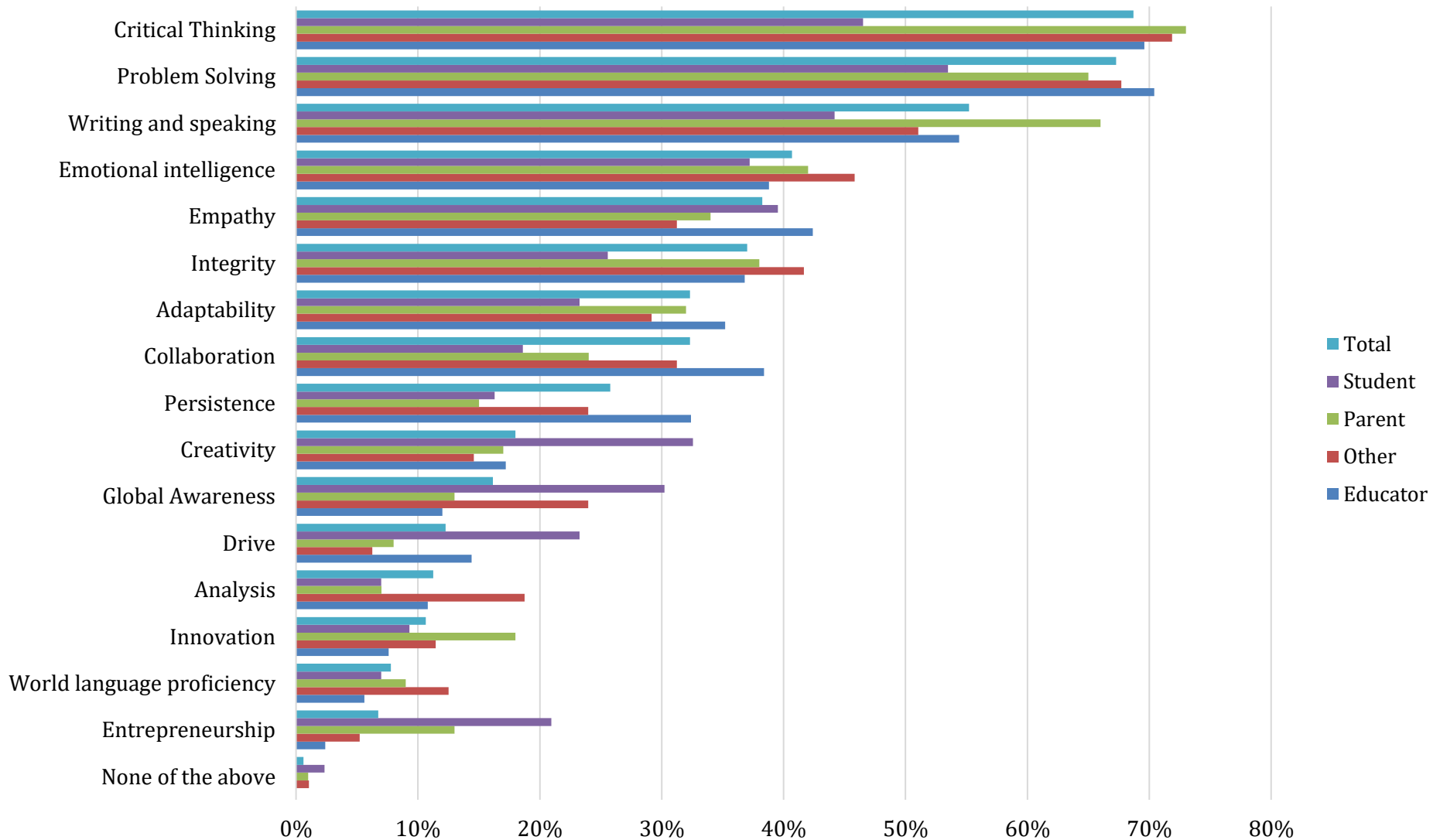
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Q8. What qualities or skills should a well-educated Delawarean have 10 years from now?

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple.

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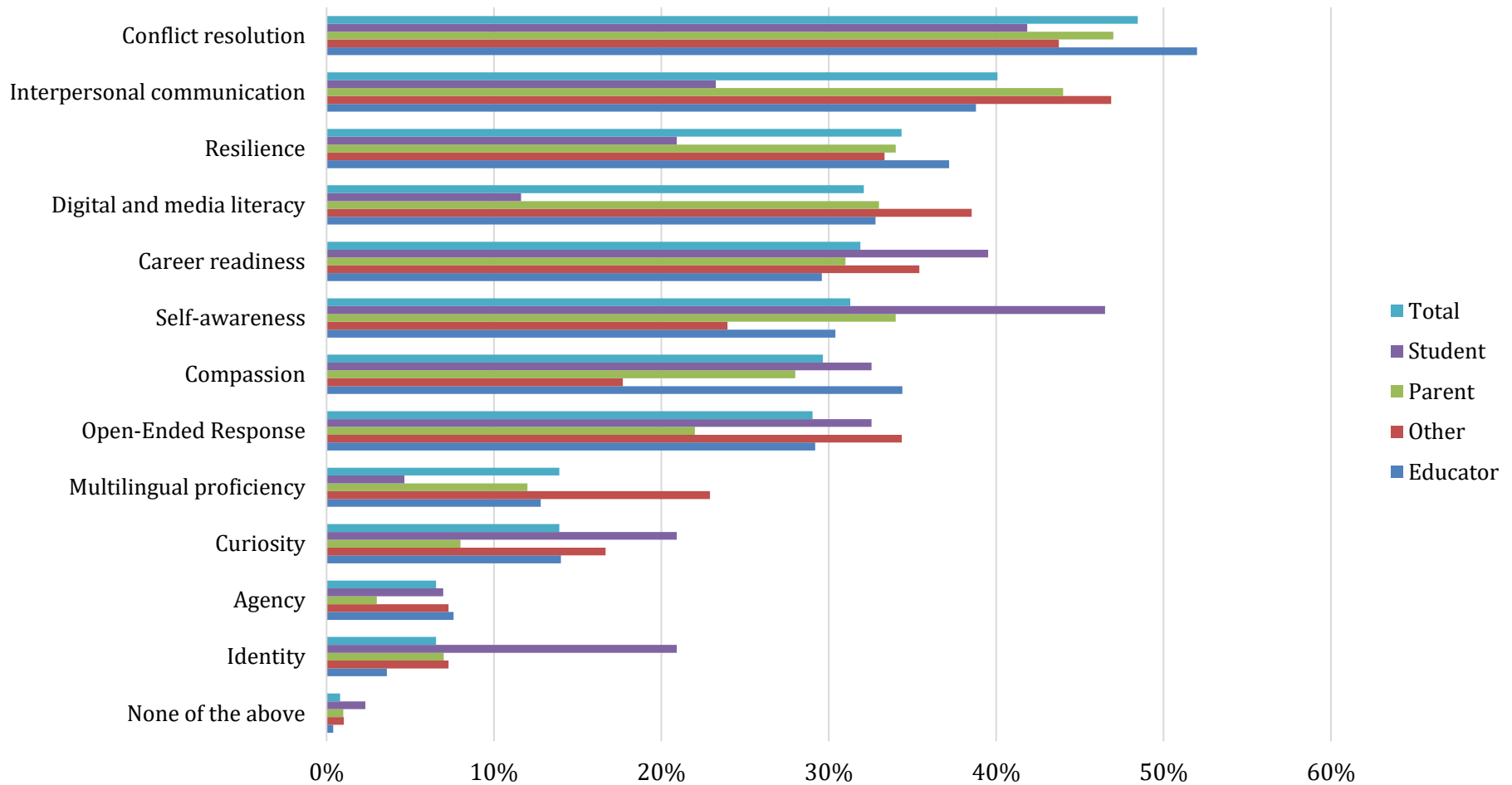
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Q10. What should Delaware public education prioritize in the future?

This adds up to over 100% because we allowed respondents to select multiple.

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