

Nourishing Diversity: Perspectives on Black, Indigenous, and Hispanic Community Food Initiatives

**REIMAGINING
RURAL**
THE RURAL
CHILD HUNGER
SUMMIT 2023

Housekeeping

- This session is being recorded.
- All recording will be available after the event.
- Closed captioning and language translation is available.
- Q&A will be at the end of this session.
Please enter all questions into the Q&A box.



2023 RURAL HUNGER SUMMIT

Nayshma Jones
Program Manager, No Kid Hungry Florida

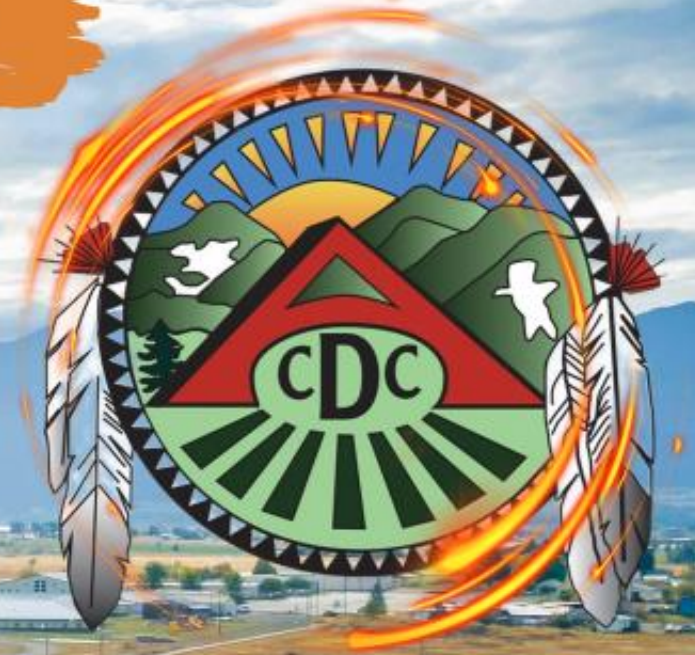


2023 RURAL HUNGER SUMMIT

Shelly Fyant, Bitterroot Salish
Arlee Community Development Corporation



Arlee Community Development Corporation



No Kid Hungry

2023 Programs and Activities



- Cooking classes
- Community dinners
- Garden for Life

Cooking Classes



- Open to all ages
- Taught by professional Indigenous chefs
- Focus on local, seasonal and traditional foods



Cooking Classes



- Teaches a full range of skills:
 - Menu planning on a budget
 - Knife skills
 - Different cooking methods
 - Working together in a kitchen
 - Service to community

Community Dinners



- Cooking class chef & students prepared the dinners
- The entire community is welcome
- Brings together multi-generational families
- Encourages the sharing of food traditions

Garden for Life



- The project started with an acre of bare land on Powwow Road
- Land use donated by the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

Garden for Life



- Volunteers cleaned up the site on Earth Day
- The site was cleared of weeds and overgrowth and prepared for topsoil



Garden for Life



- The initial compost was brought in from Kickstart Compost
- Volunteers provided additional compost
- Lessons included creating and using compost



- A garden shed was purchased to store equipment, tools and supplies



- Fencing materials were purchased
- Thanks to Tribal Lands Department Fencing Crew for installing the fencing free of charge

Garden for Life



- Planting of seeds and seedlings started in late spring

Garden for Life



- We built an irrigation system to keep the garden watered efficiently and without wasting water

Garden for Life



- Classes and work in the garden continued throughout the summer
- Lessons included soil preparation, planting, cultivation and weed control, feeding the crop, and insect/pest control

Garden for Life



- We released beneficial insects to keep the garden healthy and control pests without using chemicals
- Our garden is 100% organic

Garden for Life



- Early harvests produced radishes and salad greens
- Food was taken home by volunteers, given to local organizations, and distributed through our food pantry

Garden for Life



- With funds provided by an AARP Community Challenge grant, we purchased benches and picnic tables for the garden



- Late summer and early fall harvests yielded a bounty of veggies: greens, radishes, squash, broccoli, cauliflower, eggplant, tomatoes, tomatillos, green beans, cucumbers, kale, peppers, onions, zucchini...



Garden for Life



7 Reservation gardens--to date--yielded 12,486 pounds of fresh produce worth \$47,000 retail value.



Arlee Community Development Corporation



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2023 RURAL HUNGER SUMMIT

Dr. Deborah Moore
Delta Fresh Foods Initiative, Board Member



Delta Fresh Foods Initiative Our Story





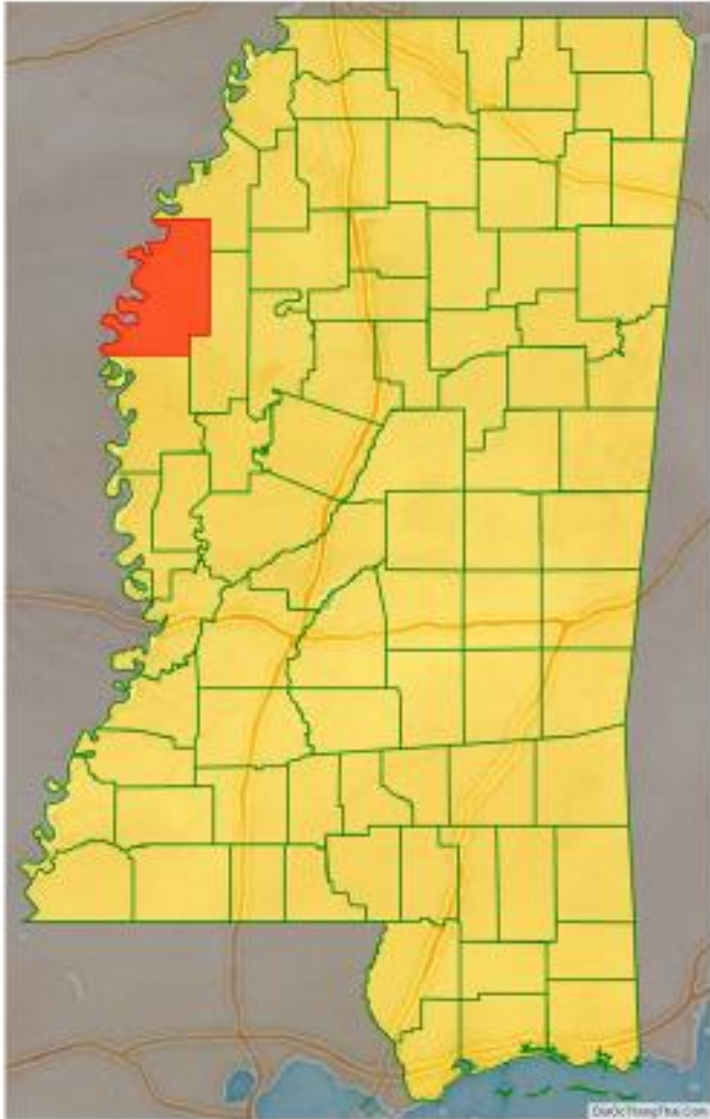
Mission

Committed to building sustainable, equitable, community-driven food systems to strengthen the local food economy and promote healthy lifestyles in the Mississippi delta.

18 Counties in Mississippi Delta



★ State capital



Bolivar County, MS

Delta Fresh Foods Initiative Service Area



About Bolivar County

According to the County Health Rankings and Road Maps Health Outcomes, health outcomes represent how healthy a county is right now, in terms of length of life but quality of life as well.

Bolivar (BO)-Mississippi is ranked among the least healthy counties in Mississippi (Lowest 0%-25%).

Health Factors represent those things we can modify to improve the length and quality of life for residents.

Bolivar (BO-Mississippi) is ranked in the lower middle range of counties in Mississippi (Lower 25%-50%).

About Bolivar County

According to the US Census Bureau Quick Facts, the median income of individuals in Bolivar County is \$32,412 as compared to \$ 64,994 for the United States. In addition, 28.1% of the residents in Bolivar County are in poverty as compared to 11.6% for the United States.

According to Map the Meal Gap in all 50 states and Washington, D.C., the estimated rate of child food insecurity is higher than the rate of overall food insecurity. Child food insecurity ranges from 10% in North Dakota to 25% in Louisiana. 86% of counties with high child food insecurity are rural. The child food insecurity rate is 23% for Mississippi, the second highest in the nation.



154,568	95,054
56,845	97,511
110,000	99,011
150,000	99,216
35,000	101,090
83,000	101,684
45,000	101,962
	102,747
	1006



Theory of Change

- Delta Fresh Foods' goal is to shift the paradigm in the Mississippi Delta to one of access and preference for healthy foods, sustainable agricultural practices and deep community engagement that can improve health and provide economic opportunities for the residents of the Delta region.
- Delta Fresh's Theory of Change is that communities can change their own reality by being involved in program planning, decisions and implementation. Delta Fresh offers convening, facilitation and technical assistance while allowing community groups to develop strategies to transform their food systems and economies.



Bolivar County Good Food Revolution Farm To Table Project

The Bolivar County Good Food Revolution-Farm to Table Project consists of a collaboration of partners working together to increase access and affordability to fresh fruits and vegetables for families and children in Bolivar County to improve health outcomes. The project is implemented on the Delta Fresh Foods 13.1 acre farm in Cleveland, MS through an outdoors demonstration kitchen and demonstration farm.



North Bolivar Consolidated School District

North Bolivar Consolidated School is a public school district located in Mound Bayou, MS. It has 869 students in grades K-12 with a student-teacher ratio of 16 to 1. According to state test scores, 19% of students are at least proficient in math and 20% in reading.

100% of the children are eligible for free lunch.



Cleveland Central School District

For the 2022-23 school year, there are 10 public schools serving 2,968 students in Cleveland Consolidated School District. This district's average testing ranking is 3/10, which is in the bottom 50% of public schools in Mississippi.

Public Schools in Cleveland Consolidated School District have an average math proficiency score of 29% (versus the Mississippi public school average of 47%), and reading proficiency score of 28% (versus the 41% statewide average).

100% of the children are eligible for free lunch.



Goals

Goal #1-To increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables for students in Cleveland Central School District and North Bolivar Consolidated School District and their families in Bolivar County through a demonstration farm and demonstration kitchen.

Goal #2- Utilize the demonstration farm and demonstration kitchen to teach healthy eating using culturally appropriate foods to students in Cleveland Central School District and North Bolivar Consolidated School District and their families.



Youth Ambassador Corps

Our Youth Ambassador Corps empowers young people to be agents for change. Local young people, ages 16-24 in the Good Food Revolution Youth Ambassador Corps are trained in community organizing, food production, distribution, marketing and ongoing consumer education.







We bring the idea of back to the table.

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Dr. Gabe Sanchez
Vice President, BSP Research



***FOOD INSECURITY AND ECONOMIC
STRESS REMAINS A CHALLENGE***

TAKEAWAYS FROM RECENT LATINO SURVEY DATA

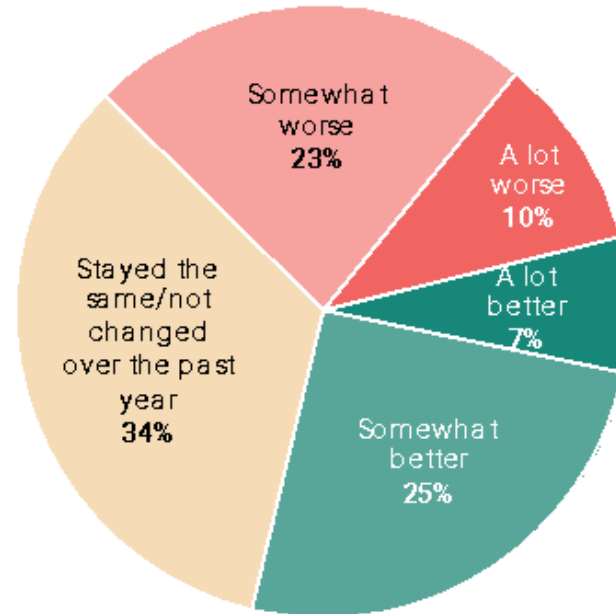
FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

One-third of Latinos can barely afford where they live.

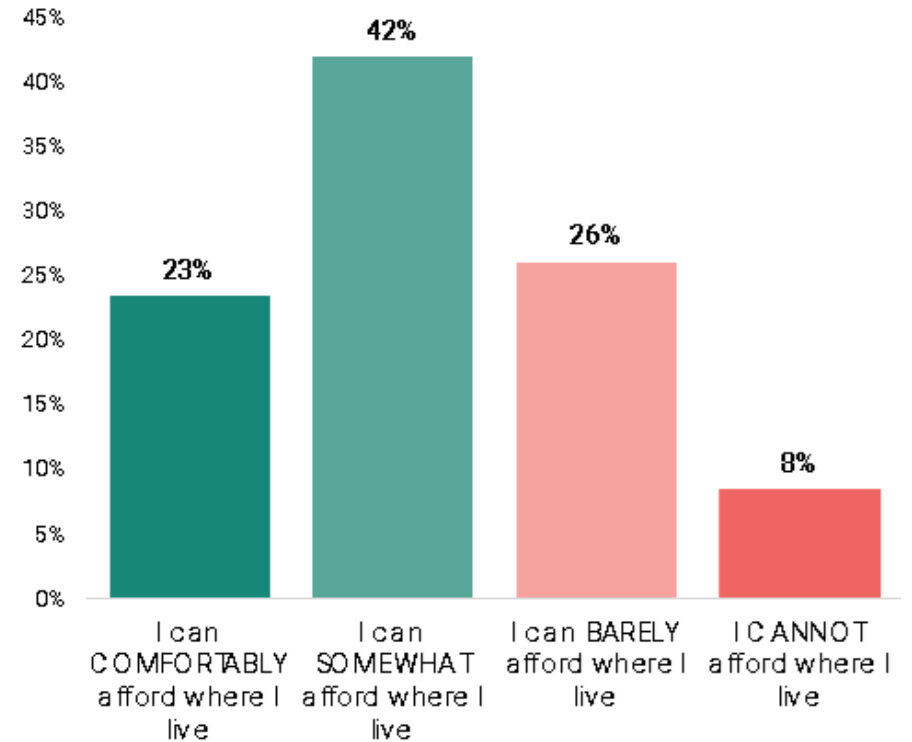
6 out of 10 Latinos have \$1,000 or less in emergency savings.

A third of Latinos' financial situation grew more dire in 2023 while another third had not changed over the past year.

All in all, over the past 12 months, would you say that your own financial situation has gotten:

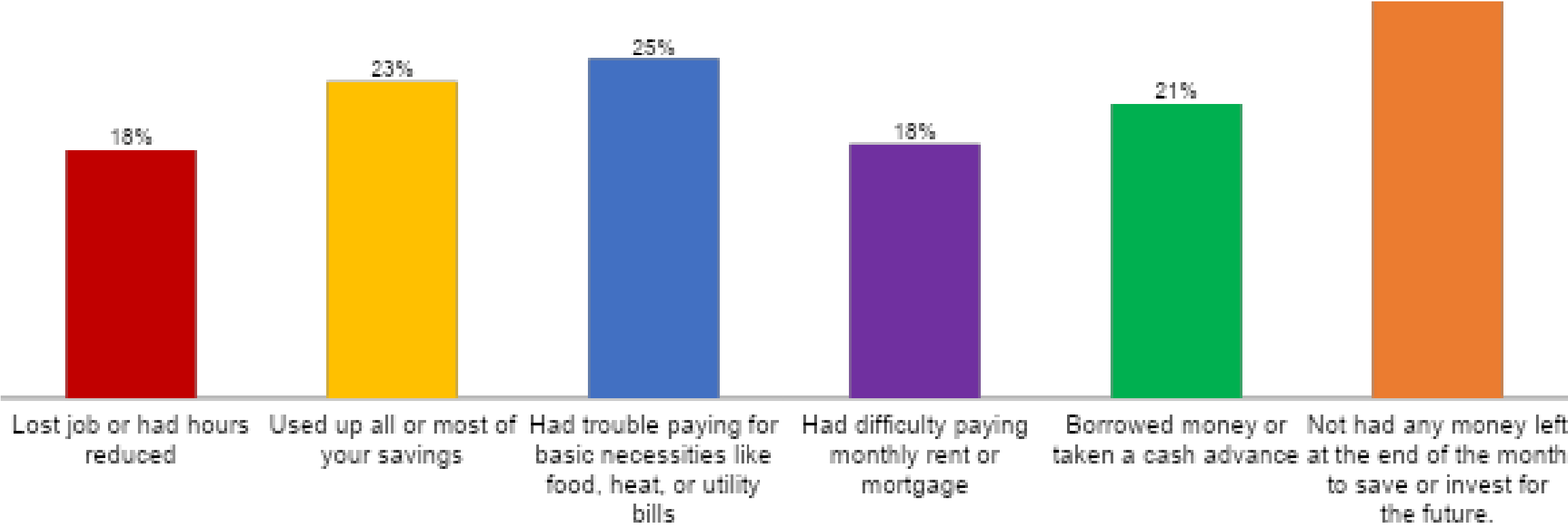


Which of the following statements best describes your situation?



1/4 of Respondents Have Have Trouble Paying for Necessities Including Food

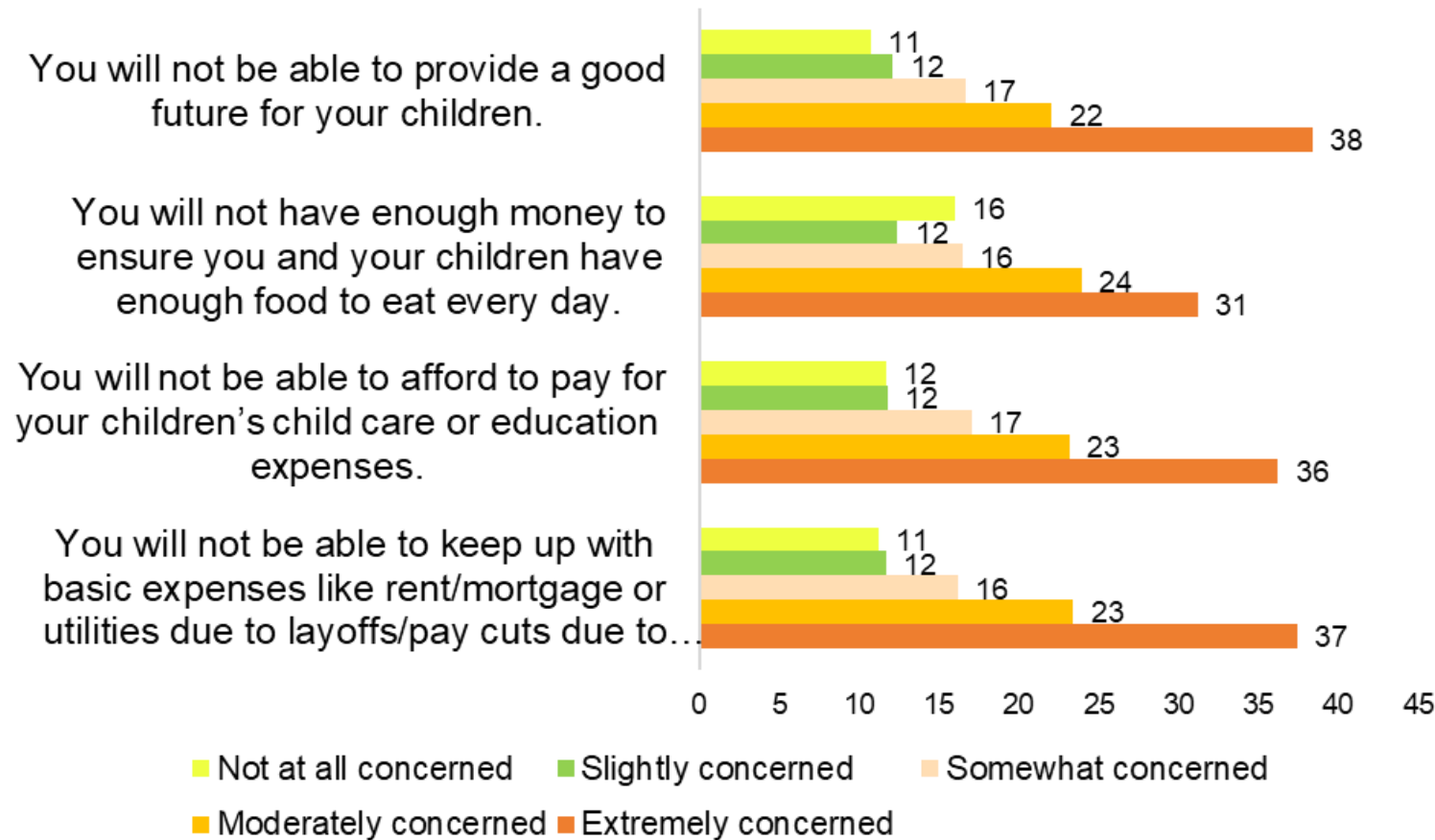
In the past twelve months, have you or another household member: All that apply



April 26-May8, 2023 – N=1,900 National Sample +/- 2.2%)

Many Latino Families Concerned About Children's Future and Face Food Insecurity

How concerned or unconcerned are you, personally, that:



Almost 40% of the sample is extremely concerned that they will not be able to provide a good future for their children.

Nearly one-third (31%) are extremely concerned that they will not have enough food to eat every day.

THAWING THE CHILL

TAKEAWAYS FROM PIF'S IMMIGRANT FAMILIES POLL



SUREY SPECIFICATIONS

- The survey included 1,000 completed interviews with adults who either live in mixed-status families or who have family members/close friends who are non-citizens (MOE of +/- 3.1%).
- The survey was fielded from September 1 – 30, 2021 and was fielded through a mix of both online and live phone interviews (both landline and cellphone).
- To ensure representativeness, the survey was available in English, Spanish, Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese), Korean, Vietnamese and Tagalog.
- The data was weighted to ensure demographic balance of the sample based on the demographic parameters defined by the American Community Survey's adult population who live in mixed-status families
- In many cases, respondents were able to identify more than one response option which resulted in totals not always equaling 100%



MANY NEEDED HELP

Needed help



**Have not
needed help**

**Don't
know**

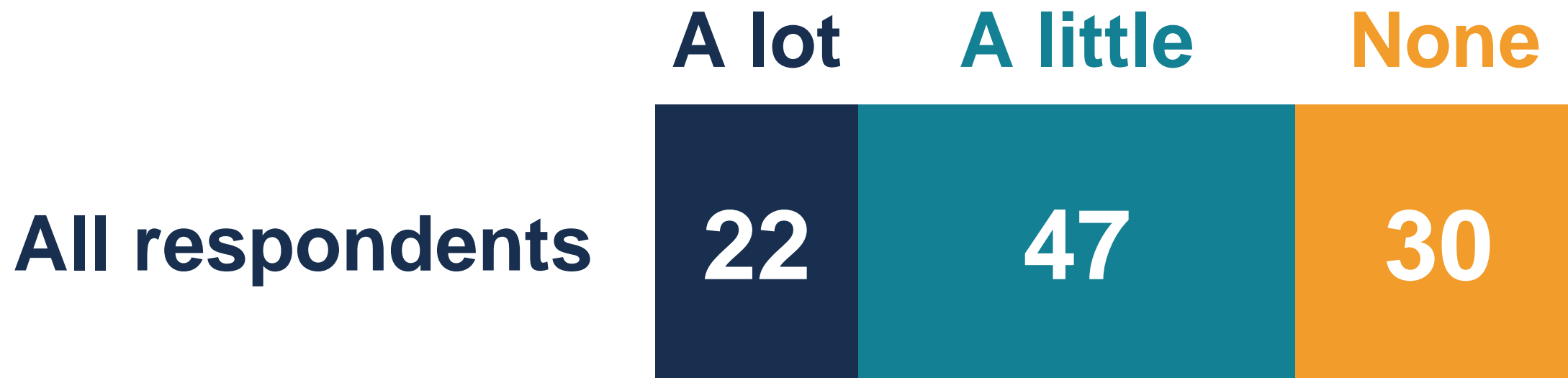
HALF IN NEED DIDN'T APPLY

**Needed help, applied,
and got help**



**Needed help, but didn't
apply due to immigration
concerns**

3/4 DON'T KNOW OF POLICY REVERSAL

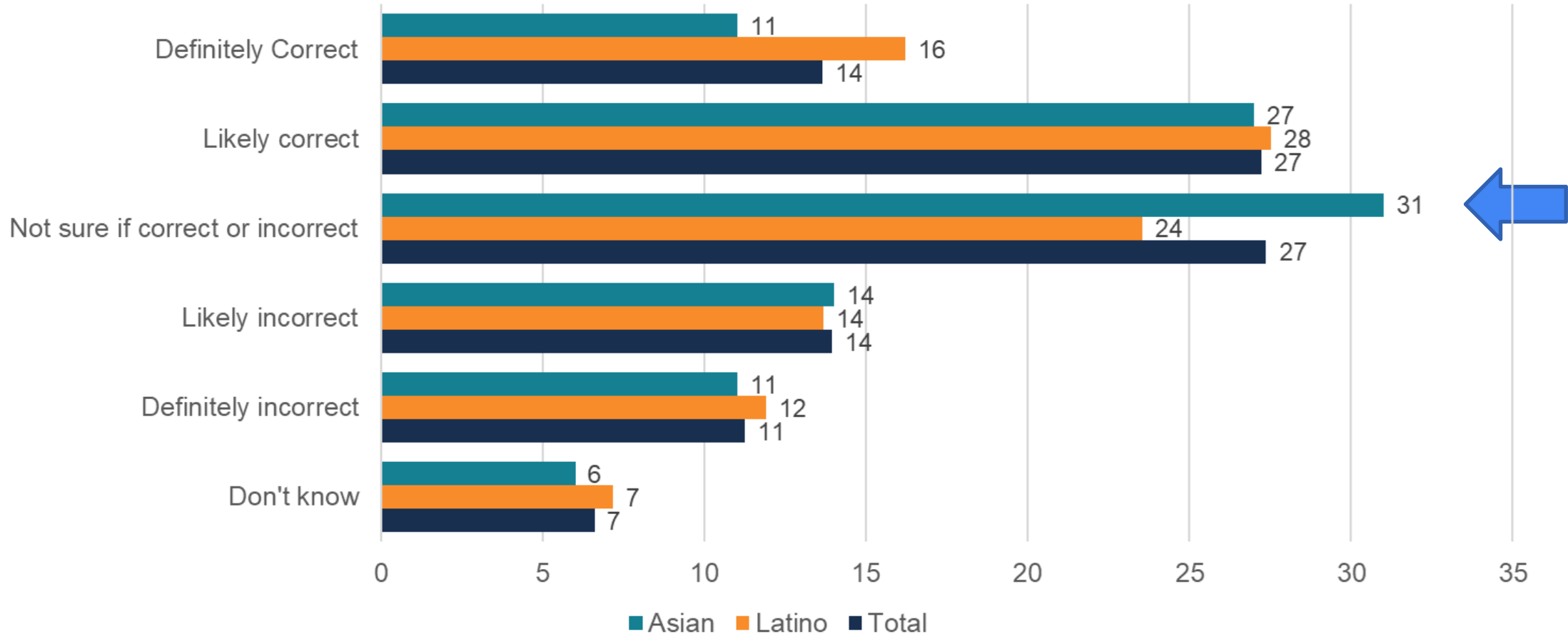


Lower knowledge among AAPI Families in the survey-
nearly 10% higher “none” responses.



LOW CLARITY ON HOW USE OF ASSISTANCE CAN IMPACT IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS

Some immigrants and members of their family can qualify for federal assistance, but applying for assistance programs could cause immigration problems.



***ACTION
FOCUSED
MESSAGES***

TOP MESSAGES

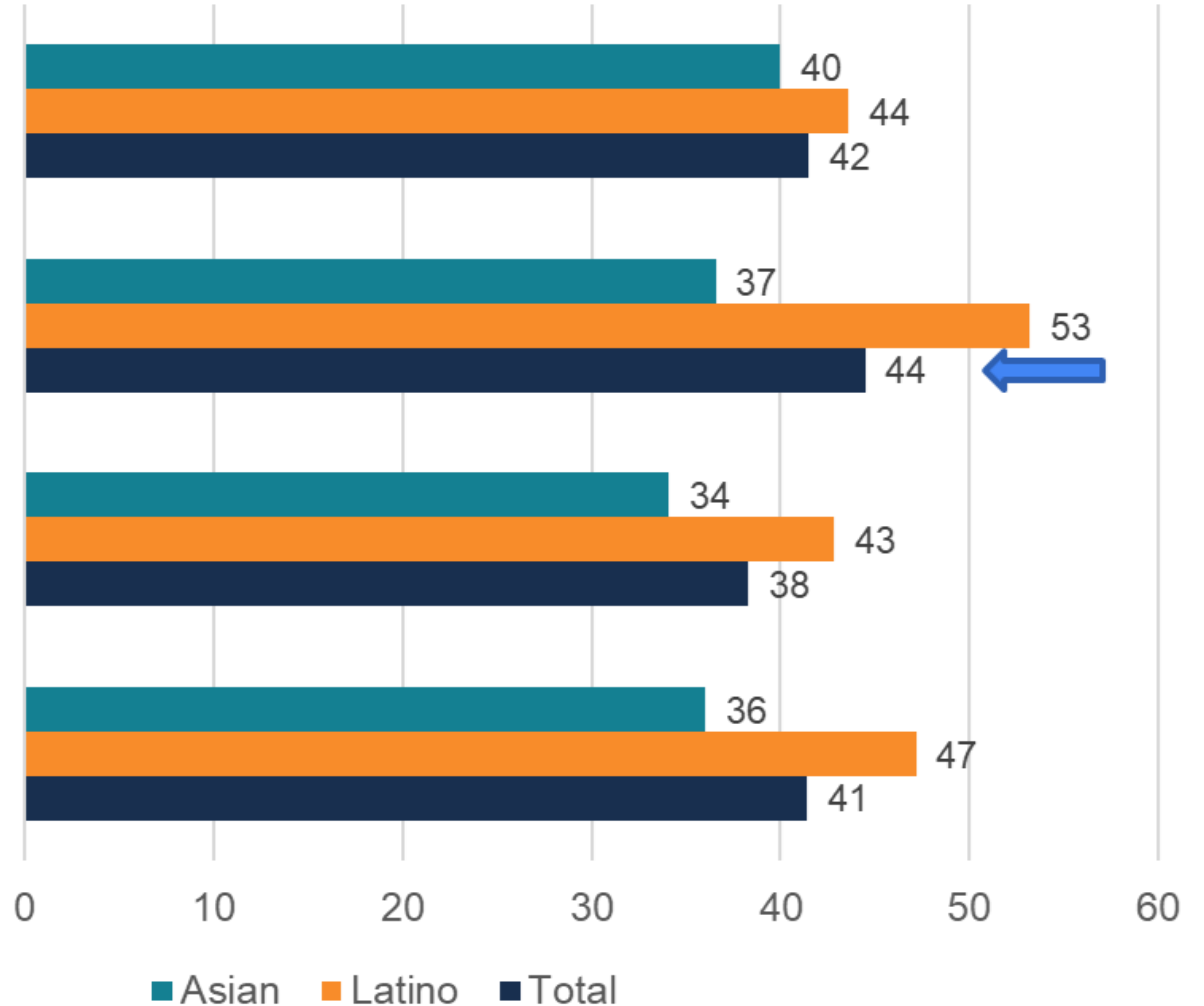
% of Respondents who found each message “very convincing”

The government recently made some immigrant families with children eligible for Child Tax Credit payments of up to \$300 a month. Claiming the Child Tax Credit will have no immigration consequences for you or for anyone in your family.

Your family counts on you, and you always do what it takes. And applying for public programs like WIC and SNAP will have no immigration consequences for you or for anyone in your family. Find out how WIC and SNAP can help you get your family the food they

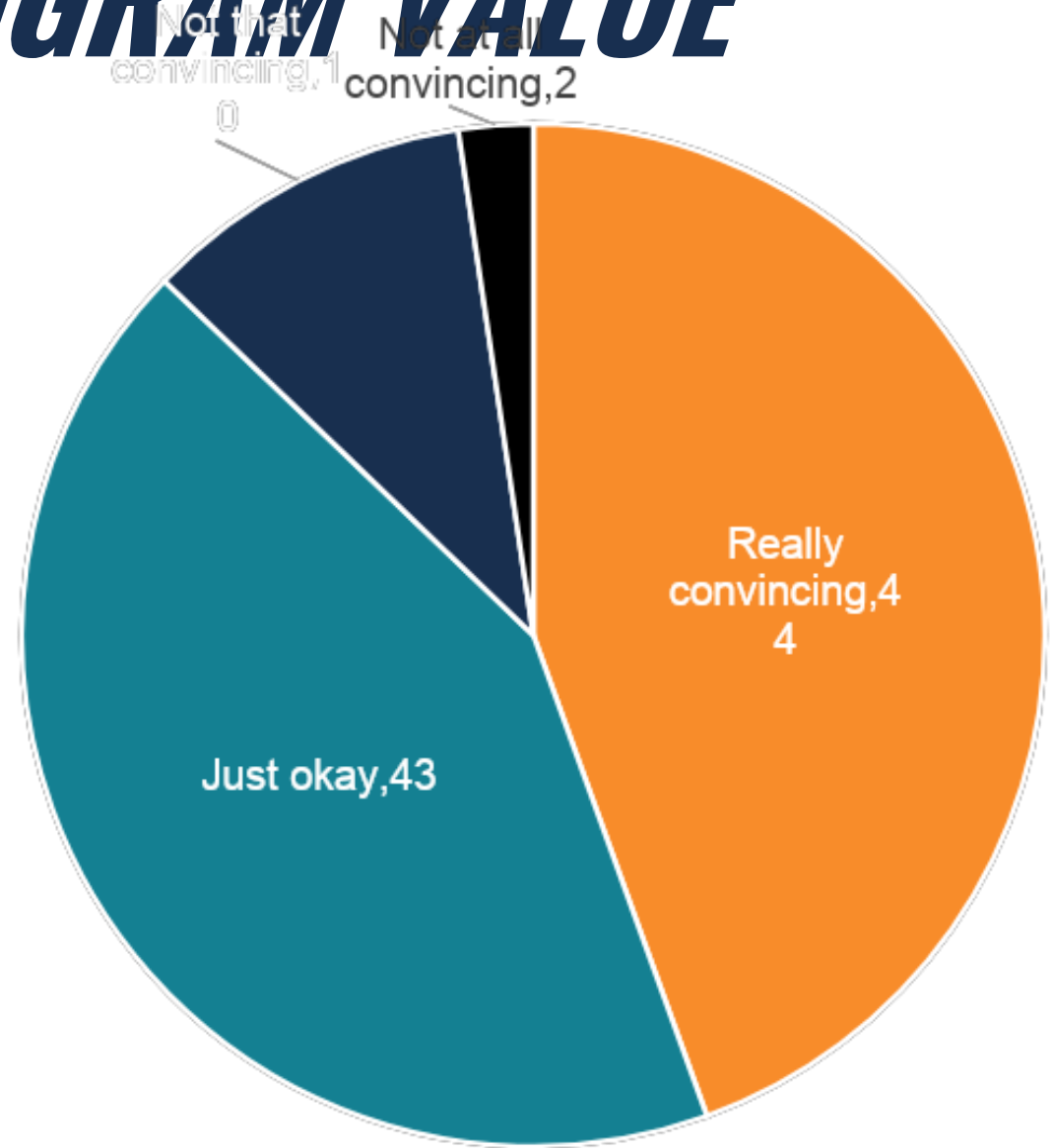
Getting the health care you need will have no immigration consequences for you or for anyone in your family. The Trump immigration policies have ended.

President Biden has ended the Trump administration's policies that put immigrants at risk if they used specific healthcare, nutrition, or housing programs. It is now legal and safe to apply.



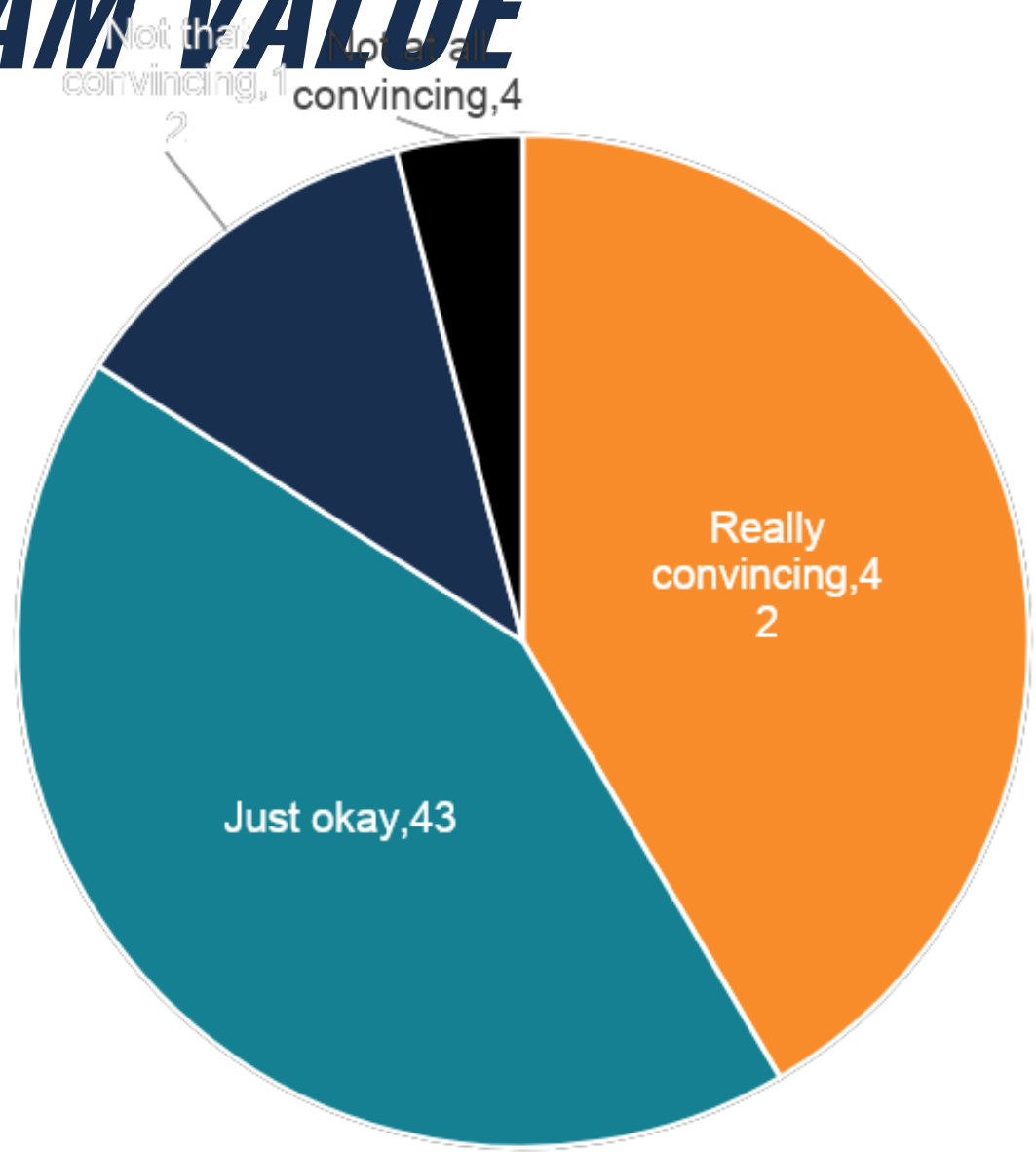
OBLIGATIONS, PROGRAM VALUE

Your family counts on you, and you always do what it takes. And applying for public programs like WIC and SNAP will have no immigration consequences for you or for anyone in your family. Find out how WIC and SNAP can help you get your family the food they need to thrive.



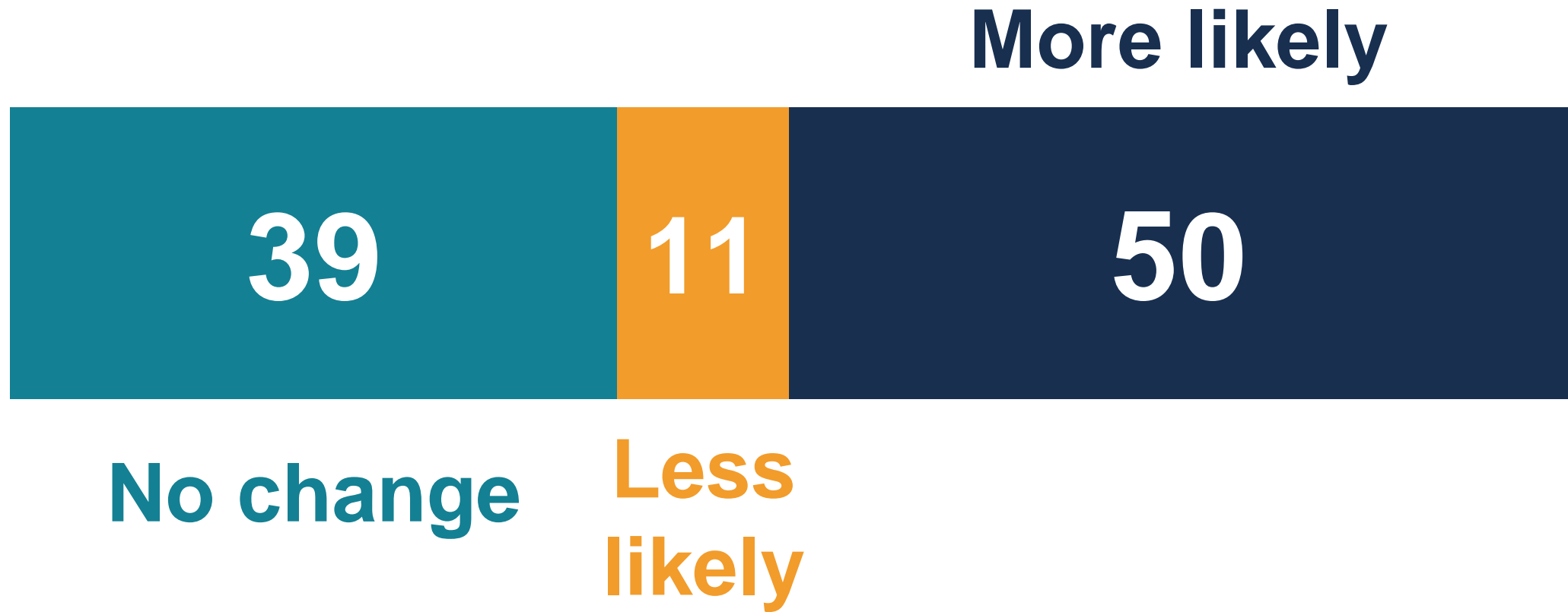
CONCRETE PROGRAM VALUE

The government recently made some immigrant families with children eligible for Child Tax Credit payments of up to \$300 a month. Claiming the Child Tax Credit will have no immigration consequences for you or for anyone in your family.





KNOWING THE POLICY HAS CHANGED MAKES 50% MORE LIKELY TO GET HELP



TRUSTED MESSENGERS - YOUR WORK WILL MOVE NEEDLES

TV News

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Friends & family

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Social media

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Federal govt

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Newspapers

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Attorneys

21

State govt

20

Community org

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Radio

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Q&A



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THANK YOU

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