FINAL REPORT
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Findings from the RWJF Perspectives on Families in America Survey

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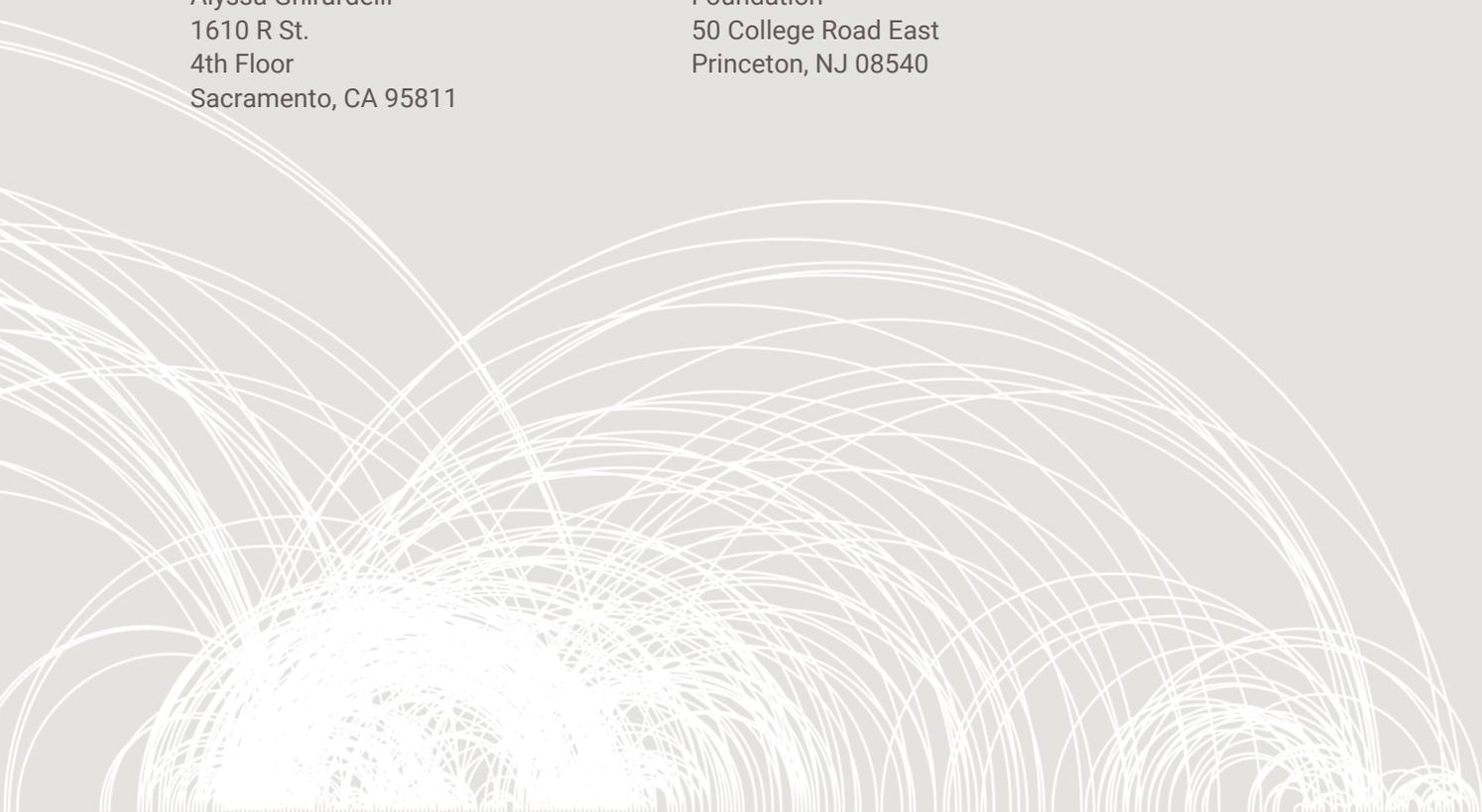50 College Road East
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1. Executive Summary

Millions of families in the United States lack the vital resources they need to ensure that their children are able to grow up healthy: resources such as adequate incomes and access to healthy food, child care, and preschool programs. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and its Healthy Children and Families theme, has a goal that all families, no matter their background, have access to the resources they need to raise thriving children, fostering healthy development from a child's earliest years. Its strategy for achieving the goal is twofold: first, to shift mindsets so that all families and children are seen as deserving of good health and well-being and, second, to shift policy so that families and children are at the forefront of state and national policy agendas.

In 2019 RWJF commissioned NORC at the University of Chicago (NORC) to survey U.S. adults and develop a typology to better understand current mindsets within the U.S. adult population. The idea was to use a typology to understand values and beliefs related to promoting solutions to these resource problems, including differing views about the deservingness of low-income families, the importance of systemic-level causes, and the proper role for government to play in addressing the problems.

The NORC survey, fielded between January 25 and March 8, 2021, involved completion of approximately 6,700 self-administered surveys with a national probability sample of U.S. adults age 18 or older. Respondents were selected from NORC's probability-based web survey panel, AmeriSpeak.

Key Findings

We identified six groups of U.S. adults based on their values and beliefs: three supportive of increased societal efforts to promote children's and family health and three more skeptical. The three supportive groups represent 60% of U.S. adults. The more skeptical groups represent 40%.

The most supportive group, *Systems Change Advocates* (19% of adults), is more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that child health and development is an important issue for the nation and that three major problems affecting families with young children—lack of adequate income and access to healthy food as well as child care and preschool—significantly impact the development of young children. The group is more likely to view the major causes of these problems as systems-level causes and to see a role for society and government in addressing the problems. The group is the most likely to be civically engaged on children's and family issues.

Another supportive group, *Systems Change Supporters* (22% of adults), resembles the first in many respects, except that it is less likely to believe that the child health and development issue should be given top priority by the federal government and believes that the income and food problems have a greater impact than the child-care/preschool problem. It is also less likely to be civically engaged on children's and family health issues. A third supportive group, *Concerned Realists* (19% of adults), differs from the others in that it is more likely to believe that both

systems- and family-level causes of the three problems are major ones and that solutions at both levels are effective. Also, while it sees a role for society to play in addressing problems affecting young children, its views about a government action are mixed, as are its views about deservingness of low-income families. Concerned Realists resemble U.S. adults generally in their degree of civic engagement on children's and family issues.

One of the skeptical groups, *On the Sidelines* (11% of adults), is less likely to see child health and development as an important national issue and less likely to see the three problems having major impacts on the development of young children. It is the group least likely to believe that family-level causes of the problems are major and that family-level solutions are very effective. Interestingly, it is also less likely to believe that systems-level causes and solutions are important. Its views on societal responsibility for addressing the problems resemble those of U.S. adults generally, but it is less likely to favor an active role for government. The group is less likely to be civically engaged on children's and family issues generally.

The other two skeptical groups, *Status Quo Accepters* (16% of adults) and *Status Quo Defenders* (13% of adults) are quite similar to each other. Like the On the Sidelines group, they are both less likely to see child health and development as an important issue for the nation and to see the three specific problems as significantly impacting child development. Unlike the previous group, however, they are more likely to see family-level causes and embrace family-level solutions for the problems and less likely to view systems-level causes and solutions as important. Both groups are less likely to see a role for society and government in addressing the problems. They are also more likely to question whether low-income families with children deserve government help and to be less civically engaged. The main difference between these two groups is that there is more unanimity of opinion within the Status Quo Defenders group.

2. Background/Study Objectives

Millions of families in the United States lack the vital resources they need to ensure that that their young children grow up to be healthy and well developed: resources such as adequate incomes and access to healthy food, child-care programs, and preschool.

In 2019, RWJF commissioned NORC to survey U.S. adults and develop a typology to better understand current mindsets within the U.S. adult population related to these resource problems. The idea was to use a typology to understand values and beliefs related to promoting solutions to the problems, including differing views about the deservingness of low-income families, the importance of systemic-level causes, and the proper role for government to play in addressing the problems. The work was to be modeled on previous NORC American Health Values Survey work completed for RWJF.

Specific objectives of the work were to:

- Identify prevailing values and beliefs related to child and family health promotion among U.S. adults, especially those related to the causes, solutions, and impacts of important problems facing families with young children along with who should be responsible for addressing the problems
- Better understand differences in these values and beliefs through development of a typology
- Generate strategic insights for stakeholders working to address the important problems facing families with young children.

3. Methodology

3.1 Instrument Development

The development of survey items for the study was based on the focus of the Healthy Children's and Families theme area at RWJF. We worked closely with RWJF staff to identify topics and constructs as well as measures. We included other measures to help describe the resulting typology groups—for example, standard demographic items as well as measures of political ideology, party affiliation and media usage. Instrument development proceeded through the steps described below.

3.1.1 Literature Search and Review

We conducted a literature review to identify previous work on the issues of greatest interest to the theme area. We initially relied on a very extensive review prepared for the theme area by a consultant, Dr. Penny Foster-Fishman.[1] We supplemented her review with an NORC team review of several dozen of the articles referenced in her review. We then conducted an additional review to identify supplemental areas of interest as well as measures for the instrument. Databases and search engines used in the process were EBSCOhost Online Research, Elsevier ScienceDirect, PsycINFO, PubMed, iPoll, and Google Scholar.

3.1.2 Preliminary Development of Survey Topics, Constructs and Measures

We worked closely with RWJF to identify a preliminary list of topics and constructs, based on the literature search and review, to be explored in the survey. The list included the importance given to child health and development as an issue by U.S. adults; the extent to which they see systems- versus family-level factors as important causes of some of the major problems facing children and families; their embrace of systems- versus family-level solutions; and what roles society and government should play in efforts to address the problems. With RWJF guidance, we selected lack of enough family income, lack of access to enough healthy foods, and lack of access to affordable, quality child care or preschool as the three main problems to focus on in our exploration of these issues in the survey. In addition, we identified beliefs about the deservingness of low-income families related to government support or benefits, justice of the economic system, and other topics relevant to the promotion of child and family health. Once the problem selection and other work was completed, we identified suitable measures on all the prioritized topics and related constructs. Where we could not find existing measures, we worked with RWJF to develop new ones. The final full list of survey topics and related constructs are presented in section 3.2 below.

3.1.3 In-depth Interviews

We conducted in-depth interviews (IDIs) after the preliminary development of constructs and measures to gain insights into how the survey population (U.S. adults) viewed them. We conducted the interviews virtually with the general population and an oversample of parents in

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[1] Foster-Fishman, Pennie. "Understanding Deservingness and Its Impact on Pro-Social Policy Support." Internal Report to RWJF, 20 Apr. 2020.

Kansas City, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles. We conducted twenty-three interviews in English, and six in Spanish. The IDIs helped to refine the questions and response categories to be used in the survey questionnaire.

3.1.4 Technical Expert Consultation

Technical experts advised NORC on quality of the survey measures and terminology used, following completion of the IDIs. The project team sincerely appreciates the contribution of the reviewers and colleagues listed below:

- Pennie Foster-Fishman, Michigan State University

- Mike Perry, PerryUndem

- Dianne Paulsell, Mathematica

- Liz Hamel, Kaiser Family Foundation

- Mark Lopez, Pew Research Center

- Abigail Williamson, ARCHES

- Angela Fontes, NORC at the University of Chicago

3.1.5 Cognitive Testing

In the next step of the instrument development process, NORC conducted eight interviews to cognitively test the new survey items. Participants were a mix of males and females as well as individuals of different ages, racial/ethnic backgrounds, and education levels. During each cognitive interview, the interviewer had respondents complete the survey questions in real time using a virtual screen-sharing interface and then asked a set of predetermined follow-up questions about their experience answering the questions. The questions were designed to capture insights into how respondents cognitively processed the questions and composed their responses. They focused on question comprehension, logic, and sequencing, as well as how decisions were made among response options. Data from the interviews and interviewer debriefing sessions helped to finalize the survey questionnaire. The final version of the survey questionnaire is provided in Appendix B.

3.1.6 Pretest

We invited a sample of 255 English-speaking participants in NORC's national, probability-based survey panel, AmeriSpeak, to complete a self-administered pretest version of the survey questionnaire on December 10, 2020. We review the data to check for validity of response distributions and to assess respondent burden. NORC reviewed the data to identify nonresponse patterns and other red flags and to make any final adjustments to the questionnaire.

3.2 Survey Constructs and Measures

The constructs covered in the survey, and a description of the actual survey questions related to each, are discussed below. In some cases, there are multiple survey measures on a given

construct, each addressing a different aspect of it. In other instances, there is only one survey measure for a construct.

The survey measures used in the cluster analysis to define the typology groups are presented first. The next section provides an overview of the measures used to describe the resulting groups.

Value and Belief Measures That Define the Groups in the Typology

Importance of the child health and development issue: We asked what priority the federal government should place on ensuring that all young children have an opportunity to thrive. We also asked about whether respondents believed that all children in the U.S. have an equal opportunity to thrive, where thrive was defined to mean that the children "are healthy and well developed, and not just surviving."

Causes of some U.S. children not thriving: In order to explore the extent to which U.S. adults view the most important causes as systems- versus family-level factors, we included items focused on a mix of both. The systems-level causes included lack of enough income, lack of access to affordable, quality child care and preschool, lack of access to enough healthy food, racial prejudice/discrimination, violent neighborhoods, homelessness/housing instability, and lack of access to health care and well-child check-ups. The family-level causes included parents not having enough time with their children and parents not taking good enough care of their children.

Causes of three major problems affecting children and families: As noted above, these three specific problems – not enough income, lack of access to enough healthy food, and lack of access to affordable, quality child care or preschool – were selected to facilitate our detailed exploration of many of the study issues. We asked about a mix of systems- and family-level causes of the three problems. The systems-level causes of the income problem included lack of jobs that pay a livable wage, too little government financial support for families with children, racial prejudice and discrimination, lack of access to education and job training for parents, lack of affordable child care/preschool, and the high cost of housing. The family-level causes of the income problem included parents who are not willing to work hard enough, too many single parent households, and parents with substance-use problems.

The systems-level causes of the food access problem were lack of jobs, too little government assistance, lack of healthy food access, the expense of healthy foods, and too much advertising of unhealthy foods. The family-level causes were parents not prioritizing healthy eating and parents lacking knowledge of what is healthy.

The systems-level causes of the child care and preschool access problem were lack of jobs, lack of government financial assistance, and not enough program options in communities. The family-level causes were parents lacking knowledge about financial assistance and how to find programs that exist, as well as parents who cannot find family members, neighbors, or friends to help with child care.

Impacts of the problems on children: For each of the three problems, we asked about the significance of its impact on children's overall health, early learning, school performance, earning potential, and happiness and well-being.

Experiencing the problems: race/ethnic disparities: Items focused on whether Latino, Black, and Asian American and Pacific Islander families differentially experience each of the problems or not.

Solutions to the problems: As with the causes of the three problems, we asked about a mix of systems- and family-level solutions in order to assess the degree to which respondents viewed them differently. The systems-level solutions for the income problem were more government financial assistance, more access to child care/preschool, addressing racial prejudice, more jobs that pay a livable wage, better education and job training programs for parents, more affordable housing, and more substance-use treatment programs for parents. The family-level solutions were parents working harder to get ahead and more two-parent households.

The systems-level solutions for lack of access to healthy food were more government financial assistance, increased healthy food access in communities, limits on advertising of unhealthy products, and more jobs that pay a livable wage. The family-level solutions were more education of parents about healthy foods and more parents prioritizing healthy eating.

The systems-level solutions for access to the child care and preschool problem were more government financial assistance, more child-care/preschool programs, more jobs that pay a livable wage, more child-care programs in communities, more help to get information out about what options are available, and higher wages for child-care/preschool workers. There was only one family-level solution: more two-parent households.

Responsibility for addressing the problems: We first asked about who should be most responsible for addressing each of the three problems—the families themselves, society (as a whole), or both about equally. For those who said society or both, we followed up and asked whether the government or concerned individuals and groups acting on their own should have the most responsibility or whether this should be shared about equally across the two sectors. For those who said government or both sectors about equally, we followed up and asked which level of government should have most responsibility: federal, state, or local. In addition to this series of items, we asked a forced-choice question about whether government in general should do more to address each problem "even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more" or whether government "cannot afford to do more to address the problem."

Deservingness of families without enough income: Deservingness has been viewed as an implicit heuristic that people use to determine their stance toward a social policy or practice.[2] Deservingness researchers posit that if the beneficiaries of the policy or practice are viewed as deserving, people tend to adopt a positive stance toward it. On the other hand, if beneficiaries are viewed as undeserving, people tend to take a more negative view. Questions to ascertain deservingness beliefs were added to the survey to understand possible motivations for opposing efforts to address the lack of financial resources that many U.S. families with young

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[2] Meuleman, B., Roosma, F., & Abts, K. (2020). Welfare Deservingness Opinions from Heuristic to Measurable Concept: The CARIN Deservingness Principles Scale. *Social Science Research*, *85*, 102352.

children experience. The questions are based on the Control, Attitude, Reciprocity, Identity and Need (CARIN) deservingness scale developed by Meuleman,[3] which assesses five dimensions of deservingness:

- **Control**: beliefs about the degree of control that individuals in the group receiving assistance have over their situation; the more control, the less deserving

- **Attitude**: beliefs about the docility or gratefulness of individuals in the group; the more grateful for assistance, the more deserving

- **Reciprocity**: beliefs about the degree of reciprocity or giving back to society by individuals in the group; the more reciprocation, the more deserving

- **Identity**: beliefs about the degree of closeness or similarity of individuals in the group to those in the broader society; the more like everyone else, the more deserving

- **Need**: beliefs about the magnitude of need individuals in the group face; the greater the need, the more deserving

The item measuring control asked whether families without enough income for their young children to thrive should not receive special help if their problems stem from their own poor choices. The item measuring attitude asked whether these families should feel grateful for the help they get from the government. The item measuring reciprocity asked whether these families should receive help from the government since they make a contribution to our society. The item measuring identity asked whether these families should only receive government help if the parents are American citizens. Finally, the item measuring need asked whether these families should only receive government help if they are in very great need.

Other beliefs about families without enough income: One item asked about belief in an unfair world, the idea that while the lack of income among the families is unfortunate, the world is not always fair.[4] Another asked about the value of adversity for children, whether experiencing income-related stress in children leads them to become stronger adults. Finally, another item asked whether families without enough income "are trying hard and playing by the rules and need help now and then."

Justice of U.S. economic system: An item was asked whether hard work in the United States leads to economic success or whether the right background or some other advantage is necessary in order to be economically successful.

Personal willingness to take action to support addressing the problems: Items were asked across the three problems regarding personal willingness to pay more taxes, donate money, volunteer time, and vote in a certain way in the future.

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[3] Ibid.

[4] Jost, J. T., Gaucher, D., & Stern, C. (2015). "The world isn't fair": A system justification perspective on social stratification and inequality. In M. Mikulincer, P. R. Shaver, J. F. Dovidio, & J. A. Simpson (Eds.), *APA handbook of personality and social psychology, Vol. 2. Group processes* (pp. 317–340). American Psychological Association. https://doi.org/10.1037/14342-012

Civic engagement on children's and family issues generally: Items identified whether respondents had been personally engaged in children's and families' issues through some type of involvement in the recent past with political organizations, media outlets, public officials, voting, public forums, social media, petitioning, protest, fund donation, and time volunteering.

Measures of Demographic and Other Descriptive Characteristics of the Groups

Media usage and information source trust: The media usage items explored the frequency of use of various print, radio, television, online, and social media outlets. Trusted information source items assessed the level of trust in a wide range of media sources, including local news, national news, and digital media. The focus was on trusted sources for current events and issues related to U.S. families.

Employment status and employment in child-care-related profession: Items asked whether respondents were employed. If they were, they were asked whether they worked in child care/preschool, teaching, medical care, or other jobs that brought them into significant contact with children.

Country of origin and years living in the United States: Respondents were asked what their country of origin is and how many years they have lived in the United States.

Language dominance: Respondents were asked whether they were English or Spanish dominant.

American Communities Project (ACP) county types: Respondents provided their zip code information, which was used to assign them to one of seven areas in a geodemographic typology of U.S. counties developed by the ACP.[5] The ACP uses 40 demographic variables to classify all U.S. counties within one of 15 types. For our analysis, we used a collapsed, seven-segment version of the typology: Big Cities; Urban Suburbs; The Sprawl (a collapsed category composed of Middle Suburbs and Exurbs); Minority Centers (composed of the African American South, Hispanic Centers, and Native American Lands); Faith-Driven America (composed of Evangelical Hubs, Working Class Country, and Latter-Day Saints Enclaves); Greying America (composed of Greying America, Rural Mid America, and Aging Farmlands); and Books & Barracks (composed of College Towns and Military Posts).

Other demographics: We included items on race, ethnicity, gender, marital status, age, homeownership, income, education, and sexual orientation.

Political party affiliation, ideology, and participation: Respondents were asked to provide their political ideology from liberal to conservative, their identification with a political party, whether they vote regularly, and whether they voted in 2020.

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[5] Chinni, D. and Gimpel, J. (2010). Our Patchwork Nation: The Surprising Truth About the "Real" America, The American Communities Project. New York: Penguin Groups.

Importance of religion/spirituality: We asked about the importance of religion and the frequency with which respondents attended religious services. There are also questions on the amount of effort given to prayer or meditation in daily life.

3.3 Sampling and Data Collection

Data collection began on January 25, 2021 and ended March 8, 2021. We collected data using a multi-mode web and phone survey design from a general population sample of U.S. adults aged 18 and older with oversamples of parents of children age 0–5 years old, Asian/Pacific Islanders, and American Indian/Alaska Natives from the NORC probability-based panel, AmeriSpeak.[6] In total, NORC collected 6,207 responses, 5,831 by web mode and 376 by phone mode.

Following data collection and cleaning, NORC calculated survey weights. AmeriSpeak panel-based sampling weights for all sampled housing units were computed as the inverse of probability of selection from the NORC National Frame or address-based sample. Panel weights are raked to external population totals associated with age, sex, education, race/Hispanic ethnicity, housing tenure, telephone status, and Census Division. The external population totals are obtained from the Current Population (CPS) Survey.[7]

We derived study-specific base sampling weights using a combination of the final panel weights and the probability of selection associated with the sampled panel member. At the final stage of weighting, we trimmed any extreme weights based on the approach of minimizing the mean squared error associated with key survey estimates. Then, we re-raked the weights to the same population totals. Raking and re-raking is done during the weighting process so that the weighted demographic distribution of the completed survey interviews resembles the demographic distribution within the study population. The assumption is that the key survey items are related to the demographics. Therefore, by aligning the survey respondent demographics with those of the study population, the resulting data can be considered as representative of the study population. The survey-wide margin of error is +/- 1.71 percentage points.

The graphs below provide weighted frequencies and proportions. Unless otherwise noted, the base of respondents to each question is the total sample size of 6,207, and proportions are calculated relative to this base.

Additional information about sampling and data collection methods is presented in Appendix A of the report.

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[6] NORC at the University of Chicago. (2021). Technical Overview of the AmeriSpeak® Panel: NORC'S Probability-Based Household Panel.
https://amerispeak.norc.org/Documents/Research/AmeriSpeak%20Technical%20Overview%202019%2002%2018.pdf.

[7] University of Minnesota. (n.d.). Homepage. IPUMS. http://www.ipums.org/.

3.4 Analysis Approach

K-means Clustering

We used K-means clustering to create the typology. K-means is a frequently used classification approach that seeks to identify a set of mutually exclusive segments based on the input variables.[8] In k-means, randomly selected cluster centroids are selected, and observations are partitioned into k clusters based on each observation's distance from the cluster mean (centroid), with the goal of identifying the optimal solution where observations within the cluster are similar, and the difference between cluster means is greatest. We examined the diagnostic solutions between two and fifteen segments by utilizing several statistical metrics (e.g., the cubic clustering criterion, area under the curve, and Pseudo F statistic). We also examined differences in the demographic and other purely descriptive measures across the segments within the hypothesized solution to assess the face validity of this solution. In this process, we looked for whether the differentiation of the segments was consistent with known differences between our attitudinal and belief measures and the demographic, health, and political characteristics of U.S. adults. After evaluating several alternatives, we selected a six-segment solution because of its strong performance against these metrics as well as its relative simplicity. More information about the analytical methods and process is presented in Appendix A.

3.5 Study Team

Larry L. Bye, NORC Senior Fellow, served as Principal Investigator and was directly involved in all aspects of instrument development, data analysis, and reporting work. Alyssa Ghirardelli, NORC Senior Research Scientist, served as Co-Principal Investigator and Project Director and oversaw work in all the task areas. Dr. Melissa Newberry, Research Scientist, served as project manager, managing survey programming and testing, and supported fielding, data management, and reporting. David Reisner, AmeriSpeak Client Services Manager, led fielding and management of the survey. Erin Tanenbaum, Senior Statistician, led data analysis efforts. Dr. Chris La Rose, Senior Research Scientist, led reporting. Additional NORC staff provided support with testing during instrument development, task coordination, sampling, data management, analytical support, and other assistance on the project, including Statistician Bryn David, Research Methodologist Shivani Srivastava, Senior Research Analyst Laura Wagstaff, Research Director Danielle Noriega, and Research Analysts Jessica Fox and Praveen Karunatileka.

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[8] Maibach, E., Maxfield, A., Ladin, K., & Slater, M. (2014). Translating Health Psychology into Effective Health Communication. *Journal of Health Psychology, 1*(3), 261-277.

4. About This Report

The remaining sections of the report present the main findings.

Section A provides an overview of the typology and the six groups within it. It also presents detailed profiles of the six groups.

Section B presents findings on how the groups differ on each of the specific health value and belief measures used to define the typology groups.

Section C presents findings on how the groups differ on demographic, health, and political characteristics. Differences on religion, media use, trusted information sources, and organizational affiliations are also discussed in this section.

Finally, we discuss some of the most important conclusions from the work.

5. Typology Overview and Profiles of the Groups

This section of the report presents the main findings from the study. Throughout the report, we primarily focus on how each group compares to U.S. adults in general. Occasionally we also compare the groups with one another. Unless otherwise noted, readers should assume that the comparison is between the group being discussed and the total sample of U.S. adults.

5.1 Typology Overview

We identified six groups of U.S. adults based on their values and beliefs, three supportive of increased societal efforts to promote children's and family health and three more skeptical.

- **Systems Change Advocates (19% of U.S. adults):** This group is the most supportive. It is much more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that child health and development is an important issue for the nation. It is also more likely to believe that lack of income and access to healthy food, child care, and preschool significantly impact the development of young children. Members of the group are more likely to view the major causes of these problems, and the most effective solutions, as systems-level and not family-level and likely to see a role for society and especially government in addressing the problems. Compared to other U.S. adults, they are much less likely to question whether low-income families are deserving of government help and less likely to embrace the "world is not fair" and the children's resilience justifications for the situation of the families. They believe that the families deserve help because they contribute to society and are "trying hard, playing by the rules but just need help every now and then." The group is the most likely to be civically engaged on children's and family issues.

- **Systems Change Supporters (22% of U.S. adults):** Like Systems Change Advocates, this group is also very supportive. The group is more likely to see systems-level causes, and embrace systems-level solutions, to the income, food, child-care/preschool problems facing families with young children. It is also more likely to favor a role for society in solving the problems. It has mixed views about a government role as well as the importance of child health and development as an issue, however; while it agrees that not all children in the nation have the same opportunity to thrive, it is less likely to believe that child health and development should be given top priority by the federal government. It is more likely to believe that the income and food problems have major impacts on the development of children than the child-care/preschool problem. As with Systems Change Advocates, this group is less likely to question whether low-income families deserve government help and less likely to embrace the "world is not fair" and children's resilience justifications for the status quo. Systems Change Supporters are less likely to civically engaged on children's and family issues.

- **Concerned Realists (19% of adults):** Concerned Realists are also supportive but less so than the two previous groups. They are more likely to see child health and development as an important issue facing the nation and the three problems as significantly impacting child development. Unlike the first two groups, however, Concerned Realists are more likely to believe that that both systems- and family-level causes of the problems are major ones and that solutions at both levels are very effective ones. They see a role for society in addressing the problems but have mixed views about a role for government. They also have more mixed views than the first two groups about the deservingness of low-income families, believing that those who receive government assistance should feel grateful for what they receive and should only receive assistance if the need is great. Concerned Realists are most likely of all the groups to embrace the "world is not fair" justification for the situation the families find themselves in and more likely to accept the children's resilience justification. Concerned Realists resemble U.S. adults generally in their degree of civic engagement on children's and family issues.

- **On the Sidelines (11% of adults):** This group tends to be skeptical – it is less likely to see child health and development as important national issue and less likely to see the three problems having major impacts on the development of young children. Interestingly, however, it is the group least likely to believe that family-level causes of the problems are major, and that family-level solutions are very effective. At the same time, it is less likely to believe that systems-level causes and solutions are important. Its views resemble those of U.S. adults generally on the question of societal responsibility, but it is less likely to see a role for government. This group is less likely to question that low-income families are deserving of government help and least likely to embrace a "world is not fair" justification for the status quo. It resembles U.S. adults generally in the extent to which it embraces the children's resilience justification for the status quo. The group is less likely to be civically engaged on children's and family issues generally.

- **Status Quo Accepters (16% of adults):** This skeptical group is also less likely than U.S. adults generally to see child health and development as important issue for the nation and less likely to see the three specific problems as significantly impacting child development. It is more likely to see family-level factors as major causes of the problems and family-level actions as the most effective solutions. It is less likely to see a role for either society or government in addressing the problems. Status Quo Accepters are more likely to question whether low-income families with children deserve government help and more likely than U.S. adults generally to embrace the "world is not fair" and children's resilience justification for the status quo. The group is the least likely to be civically engaged on children's and family issues.

- **Status Quo Defenders (13% of adults):** This group is the most skeptical of the groups. It is least likely of the groups to see child health and development as important issue for the nation and the three specific problems as significantly impacting child development. It is more likely to see family-level causes and embrace family-level solutions for the problems rather than those at a systems-level. It is less likely to see societal role and governmental role. Status Quo Defenders are more likely to question whether low-income families with children deserve government help. They are less likely to feel that the families deserve help because they contribute to society. They are more likely to believe that the families should only receive assistance if the need is great, if parents are U.S. citizens, and if family problems are not the result of their own choices. They are more likely to believe that the

families should feel grateful for any assistance they get. Status Quo Defenders are also more likely to embrace the "world is not fair" and children's resilience justification for the status quo. The group is less likely to be civically engaged on children's and family issues.

The graphic below presents the typology groups on a continuum plotting the average agreement or disagreement with beliefs in family-level causes and societal causes for the problem of families without enough income in the U.S. The groups are plotted using an average of measures related to beliefs in *family-level* causes for the problem of not enough income on the *left* of the continuum arrow. The groups plotted to the *right* of the arrow, also use an average of measures, but for beliefs in *societal* causes. The groups above the center line of the continuum increasingly agree with the beliefs on either side of the arrow and for those below the center line, the level of disagreement increases as the arrow drops below the center line.

Figure 5.1.: Continuum of Beliefs in Family-Level Causes versus Societal Causes for Families Without Enough Income Among Typology Groups
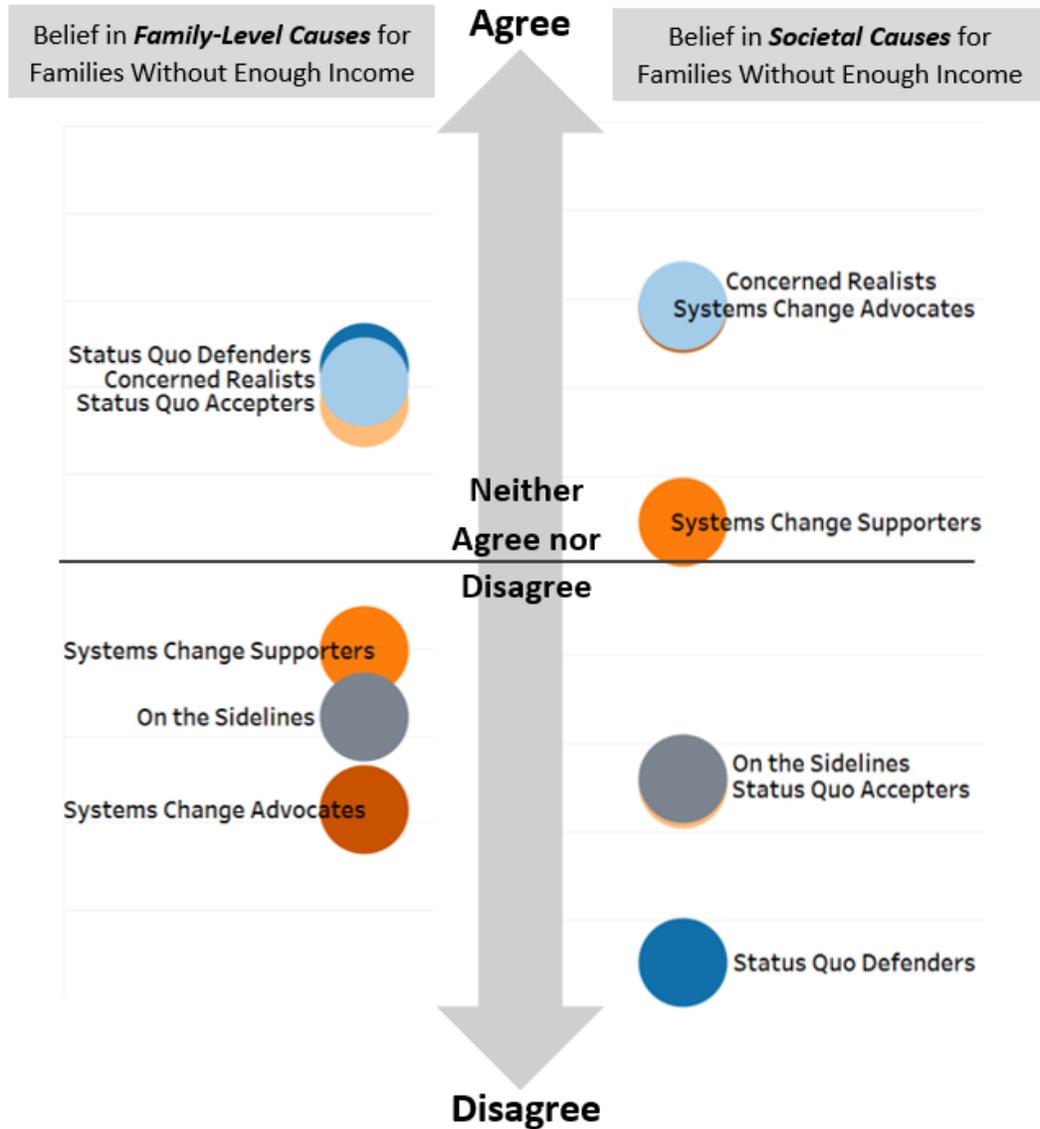
To the right of the arrow, there are two sets of groups with very similar levels of agreement in beliefs about societal causes for families without enough income. These include the Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates who are above the center line, and the On the Sidelines group and Status Quo Accepters who are below the center line. The On the Sidelines group tends to disagree with either a family-level cause or a societal level cause for families without enough income, rejecting both causes. On the other hand, the Concerned Realists agree with both sets of beliefs, that both family-level causes and societal level causes are to blame for families without enough income. Status Quo Defenders are at the furthest point of disagreement in their beliefs about societal causes for families without enough income, strongly disagreeing with societal causes. Concerned Realists are at the furthest point of agreement, strongly agreeing with the beliefs in societal causes for families without enough income, and Systems Change Advocates also strongly agreeing with societal causes. Status Quo Defenders have the highest level of agreement in family-level causes for not enough income among families. Concerned Realists and Status Quo Accepters also strongly agree with family-level causes. Systems Change Advocates have the most disagreement with family-level causes of families without enough income. Systems Change Supporters are the closest to the center in their agreement and disagreement in their beliefs about the causes.

5.2 Profiles of the Typology Groups

This section presents the profiles of each of the six typology groups. Each profile first highlights whether, and how, the group differs from U.S. adults generally on the core value and belief measures used to construct the typology and define each group. The second portion of each profile focuses on the differences with U.S. adults generally on demographic and other purely descriptive characteristics. When no differences are noted, readers can assume no significant difference exists between the group and the total sample of U.S. adults.

Systems Change Advocates (19%)

Values and Beliefs that Define Systems Change Advocates:

Views on the Importance of Child Health and Development Issue
Systems Change Advocates view the issue as important. It is least likely to believe that every child in the nation has about the same opportunity to thrive and more likely to believe that the federal government should make it a top priority.

Views on the Causes of Some U.S. Children Not Thriving
Systems Change Advocates are most likely to believe that systems-level issues are major causes of children not thriving in the United States and less likely to believe that family-level causes are major ones.

Views on the Causes of Three Major Problems Affecting Children and Families: Not Enough Income, Lack of Access to Healthy Food, Lack of Access to Child Care and Preschool
Systems Change Advocates are overall more likely than U.S. adults to believe that systemic causes of the problems are major ones and less likely to view family-level causes as major ones.

Views on the Impacts of the Problems on Children

Systems Change Advocates are overall more likely than U.S. adults to believe that the problems listed above have major impacts on children, such as with their brain development, performance in school, and happiness and well-being.

Views on Race/Ethnic Disparities: How Different Groups Experience the Problems

Systems Change Advocates are most likely to believe in the existence of racial/ethnic disparities related to the three problems.

Views on the Solutions to the Three Problems

Systems Change Advocates are more likely than U.S. adults to believe in the effectiveness of systemic solutions to the problems and less likely overall to believe that family-level solutions are effective solutions.

Views on the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Role of Families vs. Society

Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe that society as a whole should assume responsibility for addressing the problems and not only families.

Views on the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Government vs. Private Sector within Society

Systems Change Advocates are most likely to believe that government should do more to help families without enough income, child care/preschool, and food for their young children to thrive, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more. They are least likely to place this responsibility solely on the private sector on its own and most likely to believe that government has the primary responsibility to become address these problems.

Views on the Deservingness of Families without Enough Income

Systems Change Advocates are generally most likely to believe that families without enough income for their young children to thrive should get help from the government. They are most likely to strongly agree that these families deserve help because they contribute to U.S. society (reciprocity) and less likely than U.S. adults in general to agree that these families should feel grateful for the help they get (attitude). They are least likely to agree that they should only receive government help if they are in very great need (need), if the parents are American citizens (identity), and if their problems did not stem from their own poor choices (control).

Other Beliefs about Families without Enough Income: World Is Not Fair, Children's Resilience, and Playing by the Rules

Systems Change Advocates are less likely than U.S. adults to strongly agree that while the lack of income is unfortunate, the world is not always fair and least likely to strongly agree that if children have stressful life experiences, it helps them become stronger adults. They are most likely to believe that these families are trying hard, playing by the rules, and need help every now and again. The first two beliefs are sometimes used to justify the current social system status quo. The latter reflects the idea that families may need help from time to time but are trying hard and playing by the rules.

Beliefs about Justice of U.S. Economic System

Systems Change Advocates are least likely to strongly agree that if you work hard, you have a good chance of becoming economically successful in the United States today.

Personal Willingness to Take Action in Support of Addressing the Problems

Systems Change Advocates are overall most willing to personally engage in activities to address the three problems that face families with young children.

Civic Engagement on Children's and Family Issues Generally

Systems Change Advocates are overall most likely to report being civically engaged in support of causes related to families with young children in the past 12 months.

Characteristics that Describe Systems Change Advocates:

Media Usage

Systems Change Advocates are slightly less likely to get their news from local television stations and slightly more likely to get it from national television stations. They are most likely to obtain news through newspapers. Similarly, they are also slightly more likely to get it from national radio stations. They are also most likely to obtain news via digital sources.

Trust in Media Sources

Systems Change Advocates are the most likely to trust almost all media sources for information about current events and issues related to U.S. families. Exceptions include people they follow on social media, where they resemble other U.S. adults in terms of trust, and Fox News, which they are the least likely to trust. This group has particularly high levels of trust for outlets including *The New York Times*, MSNBC, CNN, PBS/NPR, and network radio news.

Demographic Characteristics

While Systems Change Advocates resemble the general U.S. adult population in terms of being employed, its members are less likely to be disabled. They are least likely to report being foreign born. Systems Change Advocates are most likely to live in Urban Suburbs and Books and Barracks and least likely to live in Faith Driven America. They are slightly less likely to own their own homes and have children and when they do, they are more likely to have fewer children. They are also more likely to be female; Black; younger; more highly educated; and earn higher incomes. They are most likely to identify as LGBTQ+.

Party Affiliation, Political Ideology, Voting

Systems Change Advocates are most likely to identify as Democrat and liberal and most likely among all groups to report a "strong" political opinion. They are most likely to always vote, including in the 2020 election.

Importance of Religion/Spirituality

Systems Change Advocates are least likely to report that religion is very important and most likely among all groups to report not attending religious services.

Systems Change Supporters (22%)

Values and Beliefs that Define Systems Change Supporters:

Views of the Importance of Child Health and Development Issue

Systems Change Supporters are somewhat mixed on the importance of child health and development. They are less likely than U.S. adults to believe that every child has about the

same opportunity to thrive but also slightly less likely to believe that the federal government should ensure all young children have an opportunity to thrive.

Views on the Causes of Some U.S. Children Not Thriving

Overall, Systems Change Supporters are slightly more likely than U.S. adults to believe in that the systemic causes of children not thriving are major ones and slightly less likely to believe that the family-level causes are major ones.

Views on the Causes of Three Major Problems Affecting Children and Families: Not Enough Income, Lack of Access to Healthy Food, Lack of Access to Child Care and Preschool

Systems Change Supporters are slightly more likely than U.S. adults to believe that the systemic causes are major ones and are less likely to believe that the family-level causes are major ones.

Views on the Impacts of the Problems on Children

In general, Systems Change Supporters are slightly more likely to view the problems as having major impacts on children. They are slightly more likely than U.S. adults to believe that the income and food access problems have major impacts on children. They are slightly less likely, however, to believe that the child-care/preschool problem has major impacts on children.

Views on Race/Ethnic Disparities: How Different Groups Experience the Problems

Overall, Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults to see the existence of at least some race/ethnic disparities related to the problems. They are more likely than U.S. adults to believe that Black and Latino families face disparities but slightly less likely to believe the same about Asian families.

Views on the Solutions to the Three Problems

Systems Change Supporters are slightly more likely than U.S. adults to believe that systemic solutions to the problems are very effective. They are less likely overall to believe that family-level solutions are effective solutions to the problems.

Views on the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Role of Families vs. Society

Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe that society as a whole has a role to play in addressing the problems.

Views on the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Government vs. Private Sector within Society

Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults to believe that government should do more to help families without enough income, child care, and food for their young children to thrive, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more, and slightly more likely to believe that government should be primarily responsible for addressing all three problems.

Views on the Deservingness of Families without Enough Income

Systems Change Supporters are more likely to feel that families without enough income for their young children to thrive should get help from the government. The group is more likely than U.S. adults to strongly agree that these families deserve help because they contribute to U.S. society (reciprocity). They are less likely to strongly agree that they should feel grateful for the help they get from the government (attitude). They are also less likely to agree that they should only

receive government help if they are in very great need (need), if the parents are American citizens (identity), and if their problems did not stem from their own poor choices (control).

Other Beliefs about Families without Enough Income: World Is Not Fair, Children's Resilience, and Playing by the Rules

Systems Change Supporters are less likely than U.S. adults to strongly agree that while lack of income is unfortunate, the world is not always fair and that if children have stressful life experiences, it helps them become stronger adults. They were, however, also less likely to agree that these families are trying hard, playing by the rules, and need help every now and again.

Beliefs about Justice of U.S. Economic System

Systems Change Supporters are less likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that the U.S. economic system is just: that if you work hard, you have a good chance of becoming economically successful.

Personal Willingness to Take Action in Support of Addressing the Problems

Systems Change Supporters are less willing than other U.S. adults to personally engage in activities in support of addressing the problems, with one exception: paying a little more in taxes to assist families who lack income.

Civic Engagement on Children's and Family Issues Generally

Systems Change Supporters are less likely than U.S. adults to be civically engaged on issues affecting families with young children in the past 12 months.

Characteristics that Describe Systems Change Supporters:

Media Usage

Systems Change Supporters are less likely than U.S. adults in general to get their news on a daily basis from newspapers or radio. While they are also less likely to obtain news from certain digital sources (online-only news source and media-sharing networks), they are slightly more likely to obtain news from online discussion forums.

Trust in Media Sources

Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults in general to trust almost all the media sources for information about current events and issues related to U.S. families, with the exception of people they follow on social media and Fox News, which they are slightly less likely to trust.

Demographics Characteristics

Systems Change Supporters are most likely to be employed and less likely to be retired. Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults to live in Urban Suburbs and less likely to live in Faith Driven America. They are slightly more likely to have one or two children older than five years of age and have them living in the household. They are almost equally male/female. They are more likely to be younger in age than other U.S. adults, to be of Hispanic ethnicity or Asian race, and to earn low-income. However, they are less likely to own their own homes or be married.

Party Affiliation, Political Ideology, Voting
Systems Change Supporters are more likely to identify as Democrat or Independent and most likely to identify as moderate. They are more likely than U.S. adults to report never voting.

Importance of Religion/Spirituality
Systems Change Supporters are less likely than U.S. adults generally to report that religion is very important to them and less likely to report attending religious services frequently.

Concerned Realists (19%)

Values and Beliefs that Define Concerned Realists:

Views of the Importance of Child Health and Development Issue
Concerned Realists view child health and development as an important problem. They are less likely than U.S. adults to believe that every child has about the same opportunity to thrive and most likely to believe that federal government should make this a top priority.

Views on the Causes of Some U.S. Children Not Thriving
Concerned Realists are more likely to believe that both systemic and family-level causes are major ones. They are most likely of all the groups to believe that a lack of access to healthy food is a major systemic cause and that parents not having enough time with their children is a major family-level cause.

Views on the Causes of Three Major Problems Affecting Children and Families: Not Enough Income, Lack of Access to Healthy Food, Lack of Access to Child Care/Preschool
Concerned Realists are overall most likely to believe in that systems-level issues of these problems are major causes. It is also most likely to believe that family-level causes are major ones.

Views on the Impacts of the Problems on Children
Concerned Realists are more likely—and in some cases *most* likely—to believe that the problems listed above can have a major impact on children across multiple health and developmental domains.

Views on Race/Ethnic Disparities: How Different Groups Experience the Problems
Concerned Realists are overall slightly more likely than U.S. adults to believe that Black and Latino families face disparities and somewhat more likely to believe the same about Asian families.

Views on the Solutions to the Three Problems
Concerned Realists are overall most likely to believe that both systemic and family-level solutions are very effective in addressing them.

Views on the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Role of Families vs. Society
Concerned Realists are more likely to believe that society as a whole has a role to play in addressing the problems and not just families on their own.

Views on the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Government vs. Private Sector within Society

Concerned Realists are more likely than U.S. adults generally to believe that the government should do more to help families without enough income, child care, and food for their young children to thrive, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more. They are also slightly more likely to assign the primary responsibility for addressing the problems solely to the government.

Views on the Deservingness of Families without Enough Income

Concerned Realists question whether families without enough income for their young children to thrive should get help from the government. While they are more likely than U.S. adults to believe families should receive help from the government since they make a contribution to society (reciprocity), group members also are more likely to believe that the families should feel grateful for this (attitude) and most likely of the groups to agree that families should only receive government help if they are in very great need (need). The group is also slightly more likely to believe those families should only receive help if their problems aren't caused by their own choices (control).

Other Beliefs about Families without Enough Income: World Is Not Fair, Children's Resilience, and Playing by the Rules

Concerned Realists are most likely to strongly agree that while lack of income is unfortunate, the world is not always fair. They are also more likely to believe that it can be healthy for children to have stressful life experiences. On the other hand, they are more likely than U.S. adults to believe families without enough income are trying hard and playing by the rules and need a little help every now and then.

Beliefs about Justice of U.S. Economic System

Concerned Realists are less likely than U.S. adults to believe in the justice of the U.S. economic system, the idea that hard work makes it possible to be economically successful.

Personal Willingness to Take Action in Support of Addressing the Problems

Concerned Realists are more willing than U.S. adults in general to personally engage in activities in support of addressing the problems.

Civic Engagement on Children's and Family Issues Generally

Concerned Realists resembles U.S. adults for the most part in terms of their degree of civic engagement. On four of the forms of civic engagement, however, they were more likely to report action in the last 12 months: contacting media outlets about issues, attending a protest, participating in virtual or in-person town halls, and signing petitions.

Characteristics that Describe Concerned Realists:

Media Usage

Concerned Realists are most likely to get their news on a daily basis from television and radio. While they are more likely to get their news from a local print newspaper, they are slightly less likely to get their news from a national print newspaper. They are more likely than U.S. adults in general to get their news from digital sources.

Trust in Media Sources

Concerned Realists are the only group to be more likely to trust information about current events and issues from all media sources. Notably, they are most likely of all groups to trust people they follow on social media.

Demographic Characteristics

Members of Concerned Realists are least likely to be employed and most likely to be disabled, to have a job working with children, and be foreign born. They are most likely to live Minority Centers and least likely to live in The Sprawl. They align with other U.S. adults in terms of whether or not they have children and are slightly more likely to be older. However, they are most likely to be female, non-White, to have achieved lower levels of education, to earn lower incomes, to be not married, and to not own their homes. They are less likely than U.S. adults to report identifying as LGBTQ+.

Party Affiliation, Political Ideology, Voting

Concerned Realists are more likely to identify as Democrat or Independent. While they resemble other U.S. adults in terms of reporting that they are liberal or moderate, they are less likely than U.S. adults to say that they are conservative. They are more likely than U.S. adults to report never voting.

Importance of Religion/Spirituality

Concerned Realists are most likely to report that religion is very important and more likely to report attending religious services more than once a week.

On the Sidelines (11%)

Values and Beliefs that Define those "On the Sidelines":

Views of the Importance of Child Health and Development

Those On the Sidelines are more likely than U.S. adults generally to believe that every child has about the same opportunity to thrive and less likely to believe that the federal government should make this a top priority.

Views on the Causes of Some U.S. Children Not Thriving

Members of the On the Sidelines group are less likely than U.S. adults generally to believe that systemic causes are major ones and least likely of all the groups to believe that family-level causes are major ones.

Views on the Causes of Three Major Problems Affecting Children and Families: Not Enough Income, Lack of Access to Healthy Food, Lack of Access to Child Care/Preschool

Those On the Sidelines are less likely than U.S. adults generally to believe that systemic factors are major causes of the three problems affecting children and families and least likely of all the groups to believe that family-level factors are major causes.

Views on the Impacts of the Problems on Children

The On the Sidelines group is less likely than U.S. adults to believe that the problems listed above have a major impact on children.

Views on Race/Ethnic Disparities: How Different Groups Experience the Problems

Those On the Sidelines are slightly less likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that disparities exist in how these problems affect Black and Latino families but more likely to believe that they impact Asian families.

Views on the Solutions to the Three Problems

Members of the On the Sidelines group are less likely to believe that systemic solutions are very effective ways of addressing the problems and least likely in general to believe that family-level solutions are very effective.

Views on the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Role of Families vs. Broader Society

Overall, the On the Sidelines group is more likely to believe that society has a role to play in addressing the problems.

Views on the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Government vs. Private Sector within Society

Those On the Sidelines are less likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that the government should do more to help families without enough income, child care, and food for their young children to thrive, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more, and less likely to believe that the government should play any role in addressing the problems. They are more likely to assign the primary responsibility for this to the private sector alone rather than have any role for the government.

Views on the Deservingness of Families without Enough Income

Members of the On the Sidelines group are less likely to question whether families without enough income for their young children to thrive should get help from the government. While they are less likely than U.S. adults generally to agree that families deserve help because they contribute to U.S. society (reciprocity), they are also least likely to believe that these families should feel grateful for the help they get from the government (attitude). They are also less likely to believe that the families should only receive government help if they are in very great need (need), if parents are American citizens (identity), and if their problems did not stem from their own poor choices (control).

Other Beliefs about Families without Enough Income: World Is Not Fair, Children's Resilience, and Playing by the Rules

Those On the Sidelines are least likely to strongly agree that income problems are unfortunate, but the world is not always fair. It is also least likely to agree that the families are trying hard, playing by the rules and need help every now and again. It resembles the adult sample as a whole on whether stressful life experiences help children become stronger adults.

Beliefs about Justice of U.S. Economic System

The On the Sidelines group is slightly more likely than U.S. adults to believe that the U.S. economic system is just: that if you work hard, you have a good chance of becoming economically successful.

Personal Willingness to Take Action in Support of Addressing the Problems

Those On the Sidelines are least likely to express willingness to take action in support of efforts to address the problems.

Civic Engagement on Children's and Family Health Issues Generally

Members of the On the Sidelines group are less likely to have been civically engaged on these issues in the last 12 months.

Characteristics that Describe those "On the Sidelines":

Media Usage

The On the Sidelines group is least likely to get their news from television or radio. They are less likely than U.S. adults in general to obtain news from print or digital sources.

On the Sidelines' Trust in Different Media Sources Trust

Those On the Sidelines are less likely than U.S. adults in general to trust most media sources, with the exception of people they follow on social media, which they are slightly more likely to trust, and Fox News, where they resemble other U.S. adults.

Demographic Characteristics

Members of the On the Sidelines group resemble other U.S. adults in terms of being employed, but they are most likely of all groups to be unemployed, and least likely to be retired. They are most likely to live in Minority Centers. They are least likely to be married and less likely to own their own homes, but most likely to both have one or more children and have children in the household. They are generally more likely to be male, of Hispanic ethnicity or identify as "other" race, younger, earn lower income and have achieved less education.

Party Affiliation, Political Ideology, Voting

Those On the Sidelines are most likely to identify as Independent and more likely to identify as conservative or moderate. They are also the least likely to vote, including in the 2020 election.

Importance of Religion/Spirituality

Members of the On the Sidelines group are less likely to report that religion is very important to them. They resemble U.S. adults generally in terms of frequent attendance at religious services but are more likely to report monthly than weekly or more than weekly participation.

Status Quo Accepters (16%)

Values and Beliefs that Define Status Quo Accepters:

Views of the Importance of Child Health and Development

Status Quo Accepters are less likely to view child health and development as important. This group is slightly more likely than U.S. adults to believe that every child has about the same opportunity to thrive. It is less likely to believe that the federal government should make ensuring this a top priority.

Views on the Causes of Some U.S. Children Not Thriving

Status Quo Accepters are less likely than U.S. adults to believe in systemic causes to be major ones and more likely to believe that family-level causes are major ones.

Views on the Causes of Three Major Problems Affecting Children and Families: Not Enough Income, Lack of Access to Healthy Food, and Lack of Access to Child Care/Preschool

Status Quo Accepters are generally less likely than U.S. adults to believe that systemic factors lead to the major causes of children not thriving. It is typically more likely than U.S. adults to believe that family factors cause children to not thrive.

Views on the Impacts of the Problems on Children

Regarding major impacts that stem from the problems listed above, Status Quo Accepters are overall less likely than U.S. adults to believe that these problems have a major impact on children.

Views on Race/Ethnic Disparities: How Different Groups Experience the Problems

Status Quo Accepters are less likely than U.S. adults to believe that there are disparities in how families from different racial/ethnic backgrounds are affected by the three problems.

Views on the Solutions to the Three Problems

Status Quo Accepters are less likely than U.S. adults to believe systemic solutions are very effective solutions to the problems but more likely to believe that family-level solutions are very effective.

Views on the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Role of Families vs. Society

This group is less likely than U.S. adults in general to assign a major role to society for addressing the problems.

Views on the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Government vs. Private Sector within Society

Status Quo Accepters are less likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that the government should do more to help families without enough income, child care, and food for their young children to thrive, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more, and less likely to believe that the government should play a role in addressing the problems. Conversely, they are more likely to believe that the private sector should be primarily responsible.

Views on the Deservingness of Families without Enough Income

Status Quo Accepters are more likely than U.S. adults to believe that families without enough income for their young children to thrive don't deserve help from the government. They are less likely to strongly agree that families deserve help because they contribute to U.S. society (reciprocity). They are most likely to agree that families should feel grateful for the help they get from the government (attitude) and more likely to believe that they should only receive government help if they are in very great need (need) and if parents are American citizens (identity). They are also more likely to agree that help is appropriate only if problems did not stem from their own poor choices (control).

Other Beliefs about Families without Enough Income: World Is Not Fair, Children's Resilience, and Playing by the Rules

Status Quo Accepters are more likely than U.S. adults to strongly agree that while insufficient income is unfortunate, the world is not always fair and that if children have stressful life experiences it can help them to become stronger adults.

Beliefs about Justice of U.S. Economic System

Status Quo Accepters are more likely than U.S. adults to believe that the U.S. economic system is a just one—the idea that hard work gives everyone a good chance for economic success.

Personal Willingness to Take Action in Support of Addressing the Problems

Status Quo Accepters are less willing than other U.S. adults to report willingness to engage in activities in support of addressing the problems.

Civic Engagement on Children's and Family Issues Generally

Status Quo Accepters are least likely to be civically engaged in the past 12 months in supporting causes related to families with young children.

Characteristics that Describe Status Quo Accepters:

Media Usage

Status Quo Accepters are less likely than U.S. adults to get their news on a daily basis from print newspapers and less likely to get it from digital sources. They resemble U.S. adults in terms of getting their news every day via radio or television.

Trust in Media Sources

Status Quo Accepters are most likely to somewhat or completely trust Fox News for information about current events and issues related to U.S. families. They are overall less likely than U.S. adults in general to trust all other media sources.

Demographic Characteristics

Status Quo Accepters resemble U.S. adults in terms of employment but are most likely of all groups to be retired and least likely to be unemployed. Status Quo Accepters are less likely than U.S. adults to live in Big Cities and Urban Suburbs, more likely to live in Faith Driven America, and most likely to live in Rural America. They are less likely to have children. They are equally likely to be male or female and generally more likely to be White, older, married, and own their own homes. They are much less likely than U.S. adults to report being LGBTQ+.

Party Affiliation, Political Ideology, Voting

Status Quo Accepters are much more likely than U.S. adults to identify as Republican and conservative. They are slightly more likely than U.S. adults generally to always vote in elections, including in the 2020 elections.

Importance of Religion/Spirituality

Status Quo Accepters are more likely than U.S. adults in general to report that religion is very important to them and more likely to report attending religious services at least weekly.

Status Quo Defenders (13%)

Values and Beliefs that Define Status Quo Defenders:

Views of the Importance of Child Health and Development

Status Quo Defenders are less likely to view the child health and development issue as an important one. It is least likely to believe that federal government should make it a top priority to

ensure that all young children have an opportunity to thrive. In addition, it is most likely to believe that every child in the nation has about the same opportunity to thrive.

Views on the Causes of Some U.S. Children Not Thriving
Status Quo Defenders are least likely to believe that the major causes of children not thriving in the U.S. are systemic. They are more likely than U.S. adults in general to embrace family-level causes as major ones.

Views on the Causes of Three Major Problems Affecting Children and Families: Not Enough Income, Lack of Access to Healthy Food, Lack of Access to Child Care and Preschool
Status Quo Defenders are overall least likely to believe that systemic factors are major causes of these problems. They are more likely to believe that family factors are major causes, especially on the lack-of-income problem.

Views on the Impacts of the Problems on Children
Status Quo Defenders are least likely overall to see the problems above as having a major impact on children across various health and developmental domains, including overall health, performance in school, and happiness and well-being.

Views on Race/Ethnic Disparities: How Different Groups Experience the Problems
Status Quo Defenders are least likely to believe there are racial/ethnic disparities in how families are affected by the three problems.

Views on the Solutions to the Three Problems
Status Quo Defenders are overall least likely to believe that systemic solutions to the problems are very effective and more likely overall to believe that family-level solutions are very effective.

Views of the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Role of Families vs. Society
Status Quo Defenders are less likely to see a role for society in addressing the problems.

Views of the Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Government vs. Private Sectors within Society
Status Quo Defenders are least likely to believe that the government should do more to help families without enough income, child care, and food for their young children to thrive, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more, and least likely to believe that the government should play any role in addressing the problems. It is most likely to believe that the private sector should be primarily responsible.

Views on the Deservingness of Families without Enough Income
Status Quo Defenders are more likely to question whether families without enough income for their young children to thrive should receive help from the government. Status Quo Defenders are least likely to strongly agree that these families deserve help because they contribute to U.S. society (reciprocity), but it is more likely overall to strongly agree that they should only receive government help if they are in very great need (need) and that they should feel grateful for the help they get from the government (attitude). It is also most likely to believe that families should only receive government help if the parents are American citizens (identity) and if their problems did not stem from their own poor choices (control).

Other Beliefs about Families without Enough Income: World Is Not Fair, Children's Resilience, and Playing by the Rules

Status Quo Defenders are more likely than U.S. adults to strongly agree that while it is unfortunate when families with young children have to make do with less than they need, the world is not always fair. This group is less likely to agree that these families are trying hard and playing by the rules and need help every now and then. It is also most likely of all groups to agree that it is healthy for children to have stressful life experiences as it helps them become stronger adults.

Beliefs about Justice of U.S. Economic System

Status Quo Defenders are most likely to believe that the U.S. economic system is a just one, that if you work hard, you have a good chance of becoming economically successful in the United States today.

Personal Willingness to Take Action in Support of Addressing the Problems

Status Quo Defenders are less willing than U.S. adults generally to engage in activities supporting efforts to address the problems that families face.

Civic Engagement on Children's and Family Issues Generally

In general, Status Quo Defenders reported that they are less likely than U.S. adults to have contributed time and/or money in the past 12 months in support of efforts to address children's and family issues.

Characteristics that Describe Status Quo Defenders:

Media Usage

Status Quo Defenders are less likely than U.S. adults in general to get their news on a daily basis from television. In contrast, they are slightly more likely to use radio to obtain news about current events and issues. They are least likely overall to receive news from newspapers or most digital sources.

Trust in Media Sources

While Status Quo Defenders are one of two groups most likely to trust Fox News for information about current events and issues related to U.S. families, they are least likely to trust all the other media sources, including television, newspaper, radio, and social media. Distrust of MSNBC and CNN was notable in this group.

Demographic Characteristics

Status Quo Defenders are slightly more likely than the general U.S. adult population to be employed and most likely to be self-employed. They are most likely to live in The Sprawl and Faith-Driven America and least likely to live in Big Cities or Urban Suburbs. They are least likely overall to have children. They are most likely to be White, male, married, and older in age and to own their own home and more likely to earn a higher income and have achieved some college or a bachelor's degree. They are least likely to report LGBTQ+ sexual orientation.

Party Affiliation, Political Ideology, Voting

Status Quo Defenders are most likely to identify as Republican and conservative. They are also one of two groups most likely to always vote, including in the 2020 election.

Importance of Religion/Spirituality

Status Quo Defenders are more likely than U.S. adults in general to report that religion is very important to them and most likely of all groups to report religious services at least once a week.

6. Detailed Findings: Values and Beliefs Used to Define the Typology Groups

This section of the report presents tables for each measure for the total sample and for each group.

6.1 Importance of Child Health and Development

Overview: U.S. adults overwhelmingly believe that some children have less opportunity to thrive than others. Nearly half believe that Congress and the President should make attending to child health and development a top priority. Collectively, these stances indicate that the issue is an important one for many.

Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to adopt either stance. Systems Change Advocates and the Concerned Realists group are more likely to adopt both stances. Systems Change Supporters are mixed: they are more likely to believe that all children do not have the same opportunity but slightly less likely to believe that addressing the issue should be a top federal priority.

6.1.1 Federal Priority for Ensuring that Children Thrive

Figure 6.1.1: Federal Priority for Ensuring that Children Thrive

In your opinion, what priority should Congress and the President give to each of the following needs in the U.S.?

Ensuring all young children have an opportunity to thrive - be healthy and well developed[9]
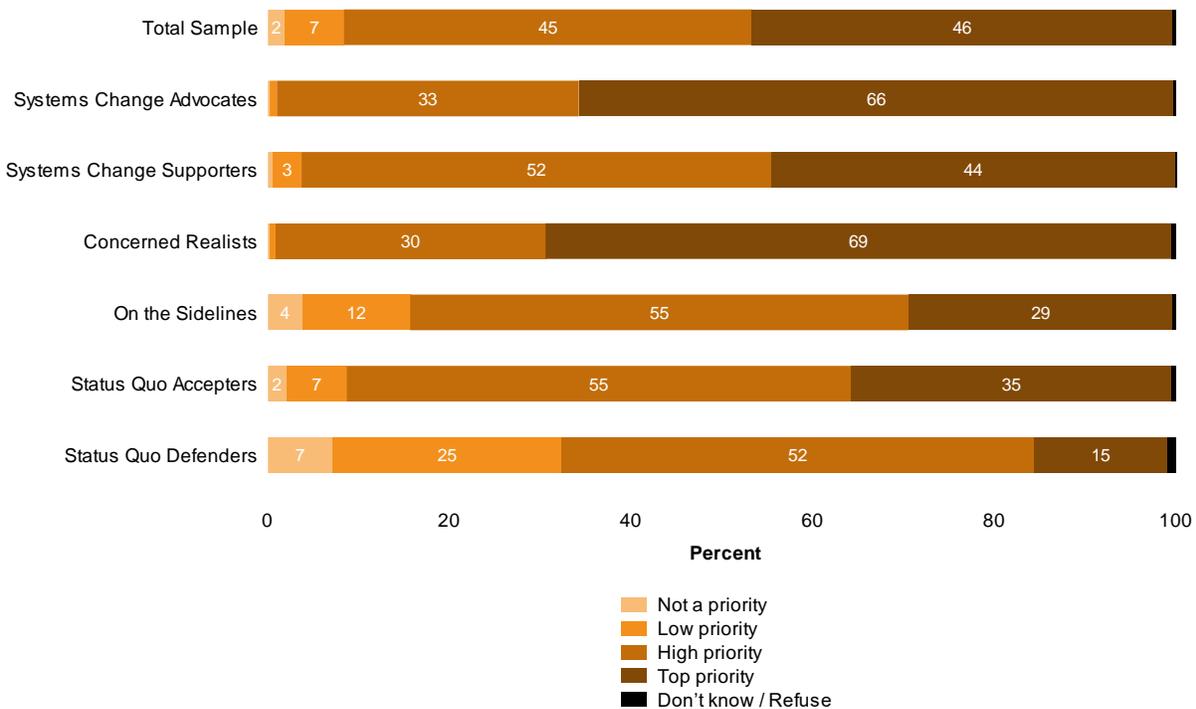
Forty-six percent of U.S. adults say that Congress and the President should make the child health and development issue a top priority. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe that this should be a top federal priority, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe that this is the case. Status Quo Defenders are least likely overall to believe that this issue should be a top federal priority.

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[9] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.39), Systems Change Advocates (0.22), System Change Supporters (0.10), Concerned Realists (0.50), Status Quo Defenders (0.93), Status Quo Accepters (0.44), and On the Sidelines (0.34).

6.1.2 Does Equality of Opportunity for All Children Exist?

Figure 6.1.2: Does Equality of Opportunity for All Children Exist?

Some people say that it is important that young children (age 0-8) have the opportunity to thrive as they start out in life. By thrive, we mean to be healthy and well developed, not just survive. Would you say that every child has about the same opportunity to thrive in the U.S. or that some children have less opportunity than others?[10]
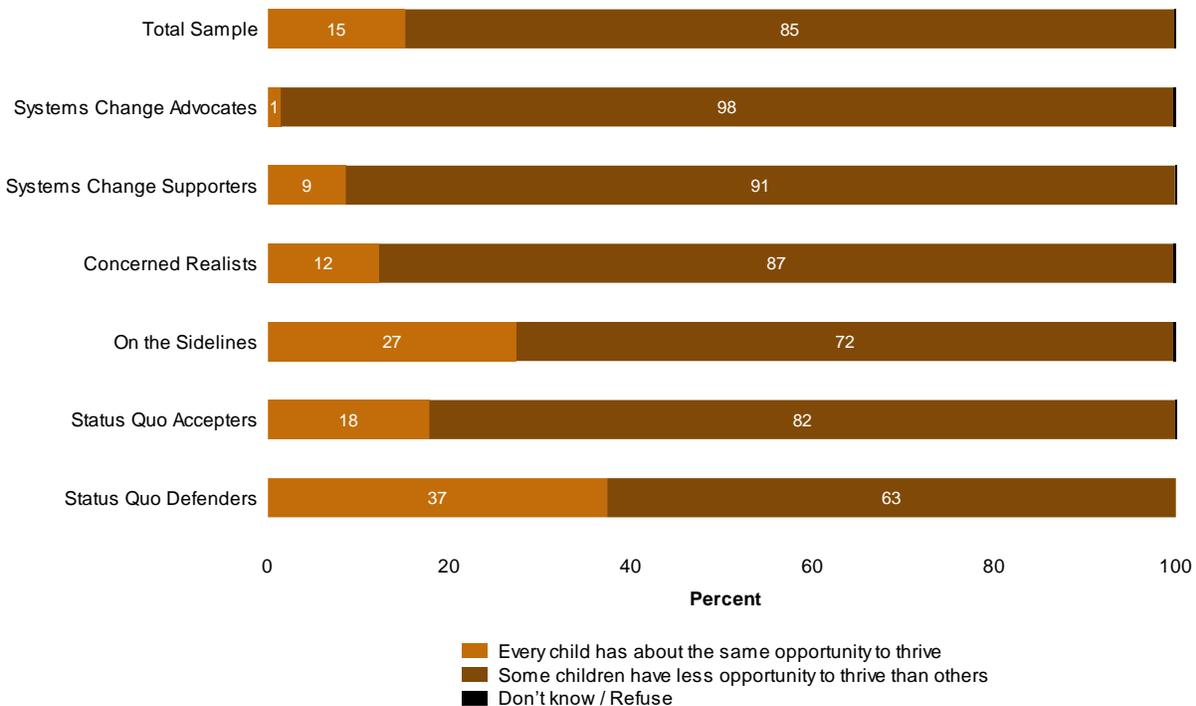
Eighty-five percent of U.S. adults say that some children have less opportunity than others to thrive in the U.S. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe that this is the case, while Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are slightly less likely to believe this.

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[10] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.17), Systems Change Advocates (0.30), System Change Supporters (0.10), Concerned Realists (0.26), Status Quo Defenders (0.07), Status Quo Accepters (0.26), and On the Sidelines (0.34).

6.2. Causes of Some U.S. Children Not Thriving

Overview: Overall, U.S. adults tend to believe that both systems-level and family-level factors are major causes of some children not thriving in the United States. Many pointed to systems-level causes, such as lack of income, homelessness and housing instability, and violent neighborhoods as well as lack of access to child care and preschool as well as healthy food. Large numbers also pointed to parents not taking good enough care of their children and parents not having enough time with their children at the family level.

6.2.1 Systems-level Causes

Overview: Overwhelming majorities of U.S. adults believe that homelessness and housing instability, lack of sufficient income, and violent neighborhoods are major causes of young children not thriving in the United States. Majorities also agree that lack of access to child care and preschool, healthy foods, and health care are major systems-level causes. Exactly half, 50%, point to racial prejudice and discrimination as a major cause. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely believe that the systems-level factors are major causes, while the other groups are less likely.

6.2.1.1 Lack of Income

Figure 6.2.1.1: Lack of Income

The following are some things that may cause young children not to thrive. For each, please indicate if you believe it is a major cause, minor cause, or not a cause of young children not thriving in the U.S.

Families without enough income[11]
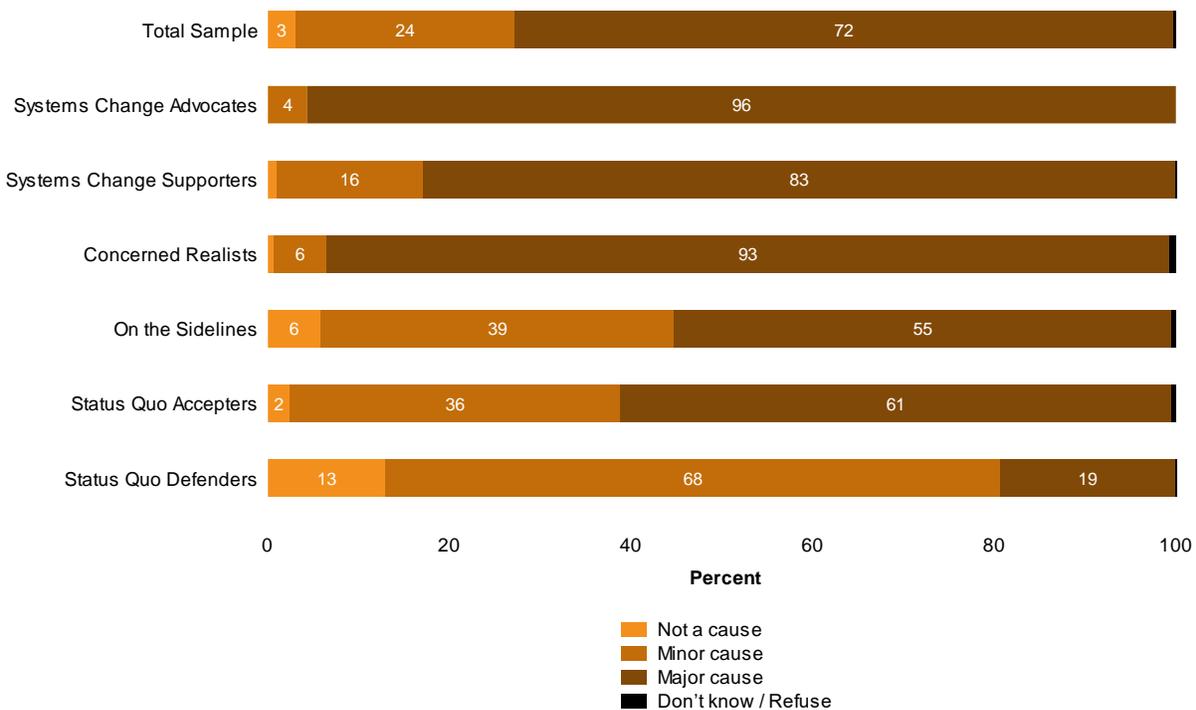
Seventy-two percent of U.S. adults say that they believe that families without enough income is a major cause of young children not thriving in the United States. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe that this is a major cause, while Status Quo Accepters and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe that this is the case. Status Quo Defenders are much less likely than all other groups to believe that this is a major cause.

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[11] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.30), Systems Change Advocates (0.08), System Change Supporters (0.73), Concerned Realists (0.07), Status Quo Defenders (0.51), Status Quo Accepters (0.51), and On the Sidelines (0.34).

6.2.1.2 Lack of Child Care/Preschool Access

Figure 6.2.1.2: Lack of Child Care/Preschool Access

The following are some things that may cause young children not to thrive. For each, please indicate if you believe it is a major cause, minor cause, or not a cause of young children not thriving in the U.S.

Lack of access to quality, affordable child care and pre-school[12]

Sixty-one percent of U.S. adults say they believe that families without access to quality, affordable child care and preschool is a major cause of young children not thriving in the United States. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe that this is a major cause, while Status Quo Accepters and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe that this is the case. Status Quo Defenders are much less likely than all other groups to believe this is a major cause.

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[12] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.29), Systems Change Advocates (0.14), System Change Supporters (0.02), Concerned Realists (0.57), Status Quo Defenders (0.57), Status Quo Accepters (0.52), and On the Sidelines (0.34).

6.2.1.3 Lack of Enough Food

Figure 6.2.1.3: Lack of Enough Food

The following are some things that may cause young children not to thrive. For each, please indicate if you believe it is a major cause, minor cause, or not a cause of young children not thriving in the U.S.

Lack of access to enough healthy food to eat[13]

Sixty-four percent of U.S. adults say that they believe families without access to enough healthy food to eat is a major cause of young children not thriving in the United States. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Status Quo Accepters and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe it. Status Quo Defenders are least likely of all groups to believe this is a major cause.

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[13] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.27), Systems Change Advocates (0.16), System Change Supporters (0.36), Concerned Realists (0.35), Status Quo Defenders (0.57), Status Quo Accepters (0.01), and On the Sidelines (0.16).

6.2.1.4 Racial Prejudice

Figure 6.2.1.4: Racial Prejudice

The following are some things that may cause young children not to thrive. For each, please indicate if you believe it is a major cause, minor cause, or not a cause of young children not thriving in the U.S.

Racial prejudice and discrimination[14]

Fifty percent of U.S. adults say that they believe racial prejudice and discrimination is a major cause of young children not thriving in the United States. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while those On the Sidelines and Status Quo Accepters are less likely to believe that this is the case. Status Quo Defenders are least likely to believe racial prejudice and discrimination is a major cause.
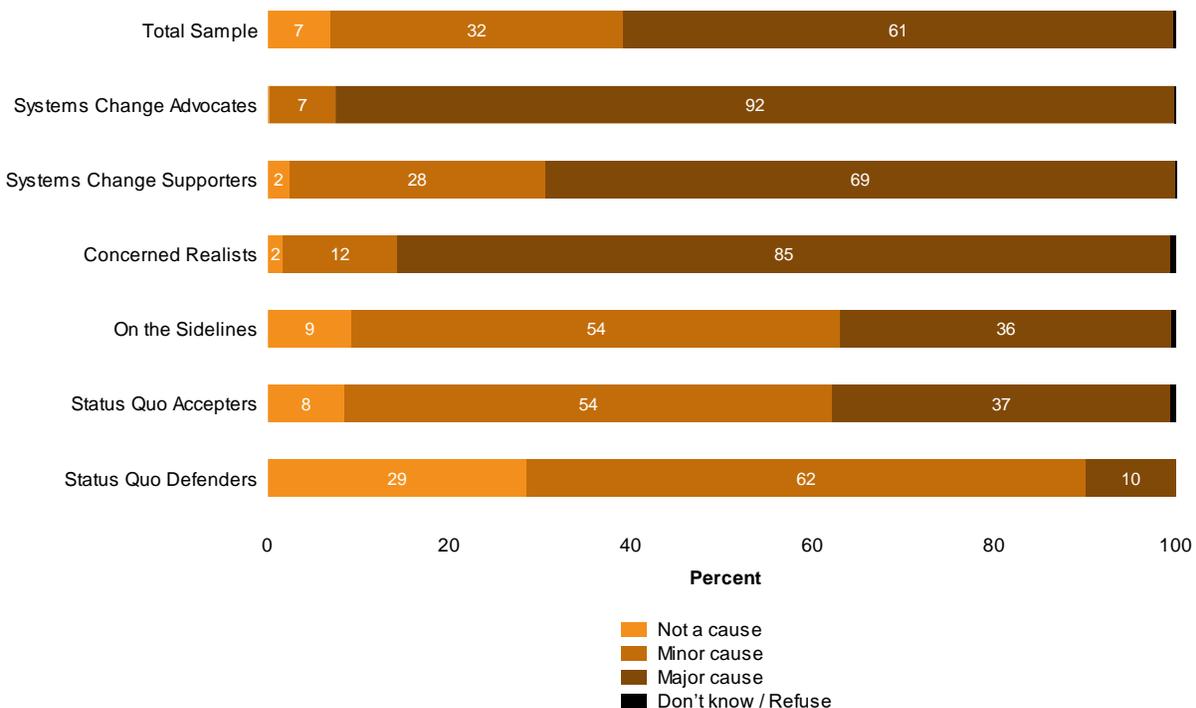
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[14] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.52), Systems Change Advocates (0.65), System Change Supporters (0.17), Concerned Realists (0.59), Status Quo Defenders (0.06), Status Quo Accepters (0.72), and On the Sidelines (1.06).

6.2.1.5 Violent Neighborhoods

Figure 6.2.1.5: Violent Neighborhoods

The following are some things that may cause young children not to thrive. For each, please indicate if you believe it is a major cause, minor cause, or not a cause of young children not thriving in the U.S.

Violent neighborhoods[15]

Seventy percent of U.S. adults say that they believe violent neighborhoods are a major cause of young children not thriving in the United States. Concerned Realists, Status Quo Accepters, and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe that this is a major cause, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe this is the case.
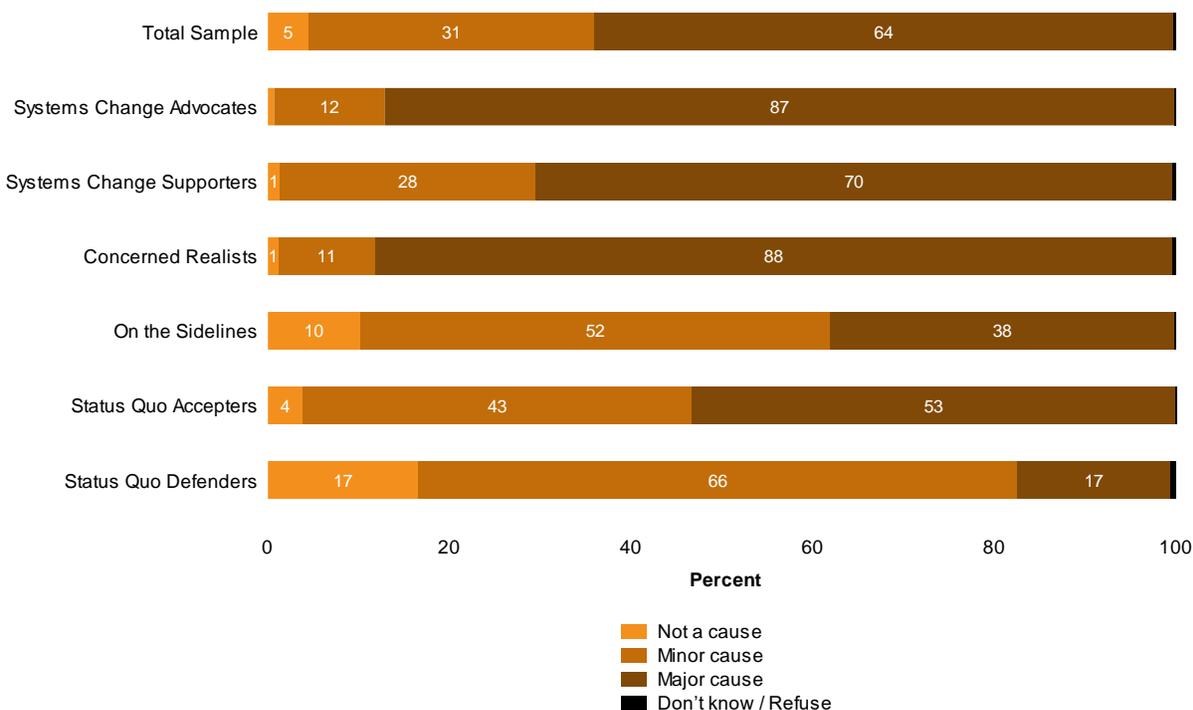
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[15] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.33), Systems Change Advocates (0.23), System Change Supporters (0.16), Concerned Realists (0.68), Status Quo Defenders (0.14), Status Quo Accepters (0.36), and On the Sidelines (0.39).

6.2.1.6 Homelessness and Housing Instability

Figure 6.2.1.6: Homelessness and Housing Instability

The following are some things that may cause young children not to thrive. For each, please indicate if you believe it is a major cause, minor cause, or not a cause of young children not thriving in the U.S.

Homelessness and housing instability[16]

Seventy-five percent of U.S. adults say that they believe homelessness and housing instability is a major cause of young children not thriving in the United States. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Status Quo Accepters and those On the Sidelines are less likely. Status Quo Defenders are least likely to believe that homelessness and housing instability is a major cause.

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[16] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.37), Systems Change Advocates (0.16), System Change Supporters (0.17), Concerned Realists (0.52), Status Quo Defenders (0.58), Status Quo Accepters (0.57), and On the Sidelines (0.30).

6.2.1.7 Lack of Health Care Access

Figure 6.2.1.7: Lack of Health Care Access

The following are some things that may cause young children not to thrive. For each, please indicate if you believe it is a major cause, minor cause, or not a cause of young children not thriving in the U.S.

Lack of access to healthcare and well-child check-ups[17]

Fifty-seven percent of U.S. adults say that lack of access to health care and well-child check-ups is a major cause of young children not thriving in the United States. System Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Status Quo Accepters and people On the Sidelines are less likely. Status Quo Defenders are much less likely than other groups to believe this is a major cause.
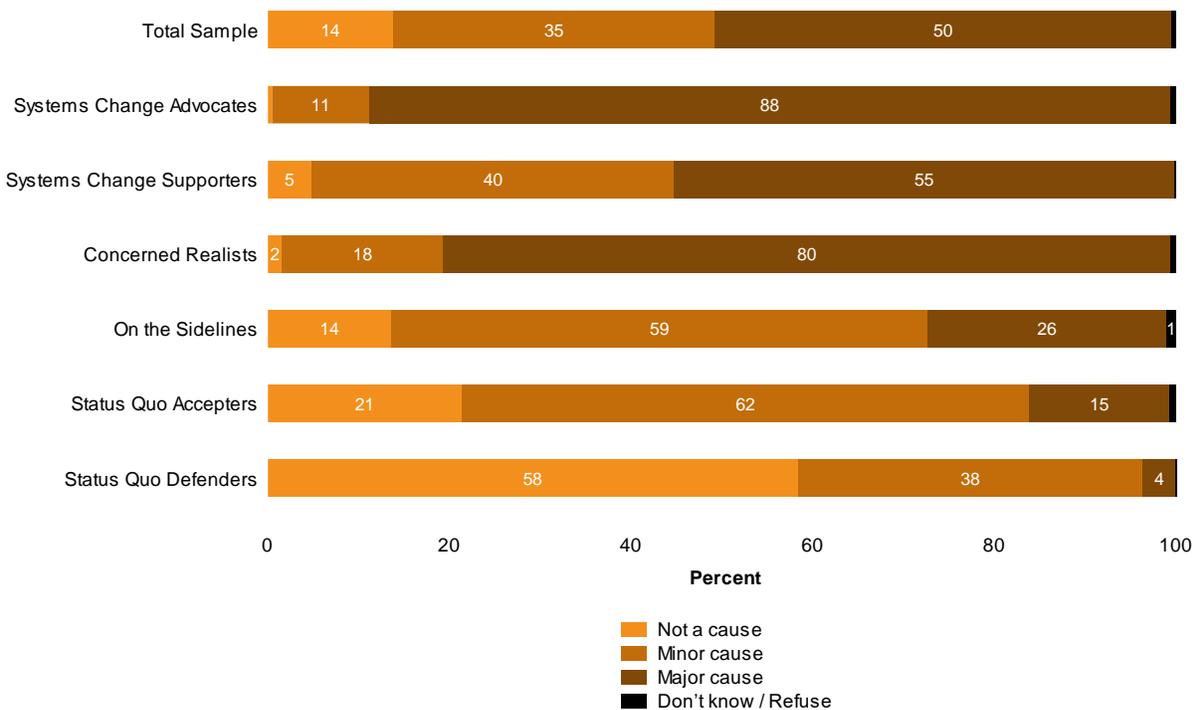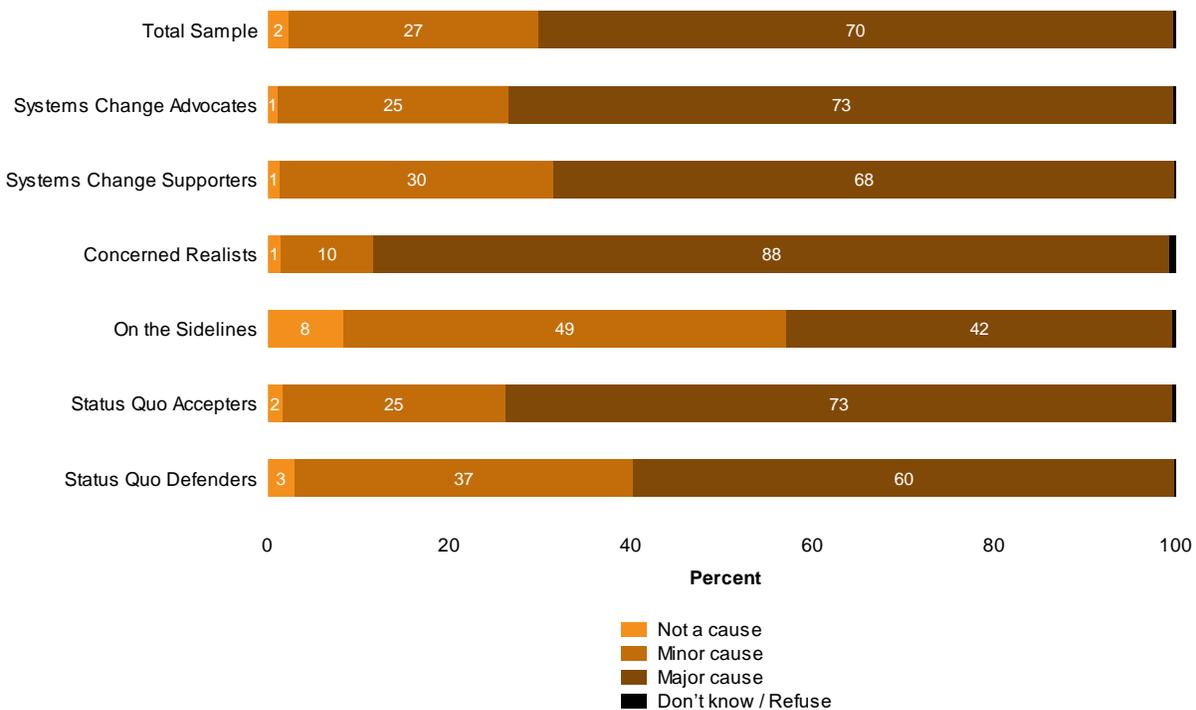
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[17] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.42), Systems Change Advocates (0.39), System Change Supporters (0.13), Concerned Realists (0.56), Status Quo Defenders (0.43), Status Quo Accepters (0.10), and On the Sidelines (1.23).

6.2.2 Family-level Causes

Overview: Two-thirds of U.S. adults say they believe that parents not having enough time with their children and not taking good enough care of their children are major causes of young children not thriving in the United States. Concerned Realists, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are more likely to believe that these are major causes, while the other groups are less likely to believe that these family-level causes are major ones.

6.2.2.1 Parents Not Taking Enough Time

Figure 6.2.2.1: Parents Not Taking Enough Time

The following are some things that may cause young children not to thrive. For each, please indicate if you believe it is a major cause, minor cause, or not a cause of young children not thriving in the U.S.

Parents not having enough time with their children[18]
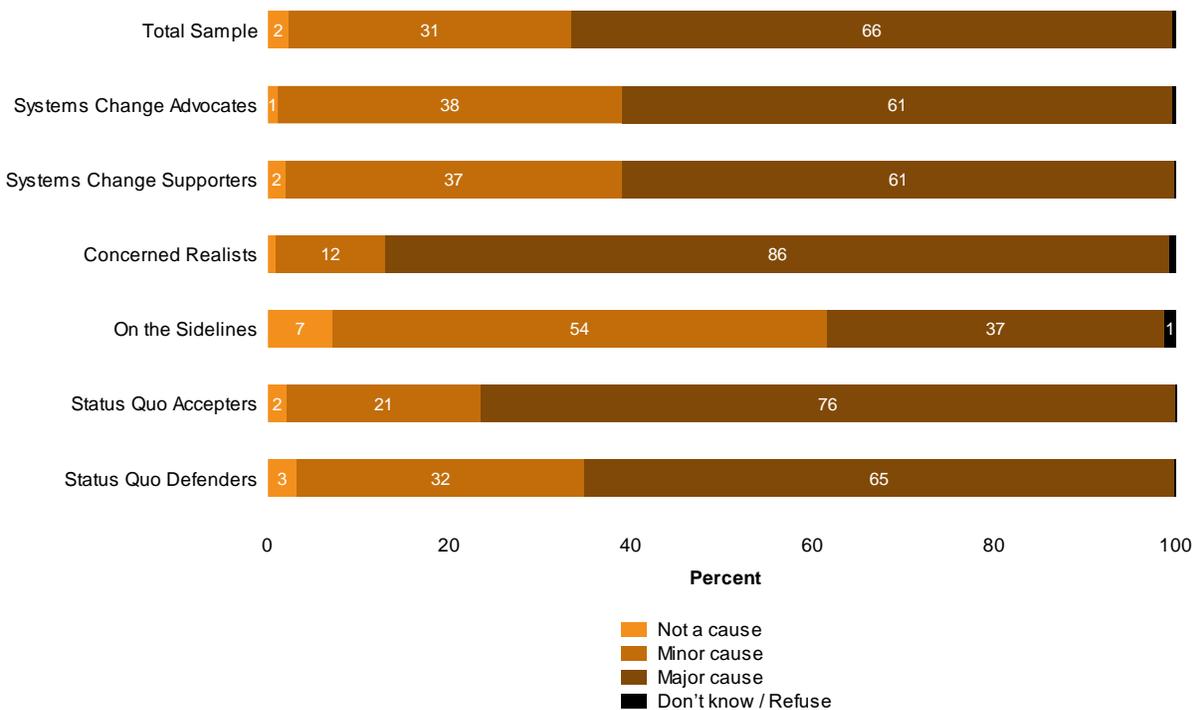
Sixty-six percent of U.S. adults say they believe that parents not having enough time with their children is a major cause of young children not thriving in the United States. Concerned Realists and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to believe that this is a major cause, while Systems Change Advocates and Systems Change Supporters are less likely to believe this is the case. Those On the Sidelines are least likely to believe this is a major cause. Status Quo Defenders closely resemble U.S. adults in general.

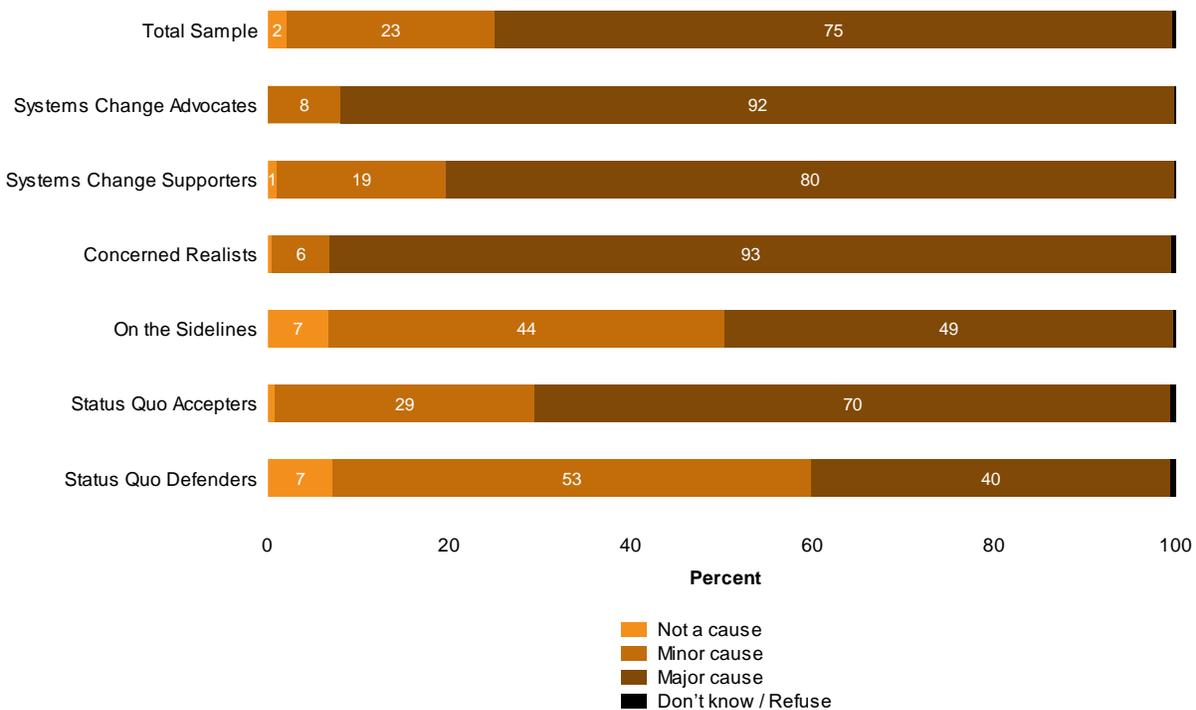[18] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.41), Systems Change Advocates (0.35), System Change Supporters (0.13), Concerned Realists (0.66), Status Quo Defenders (0.21), Status Quo Accepters (0.10), and On the Sidelines (1.27).

6.2.2.2 Parents Not Taking Good Enough Care

Figure 6.2.2.2: Parents Not Taking Good Enough Care

The following are some things that may cause young children not to thrive. For each, please indicate if you believe it is a major cause, minor cause, or not a cause of young children not thriving in the U.S.

Parents not taking good enough care of their children[19]
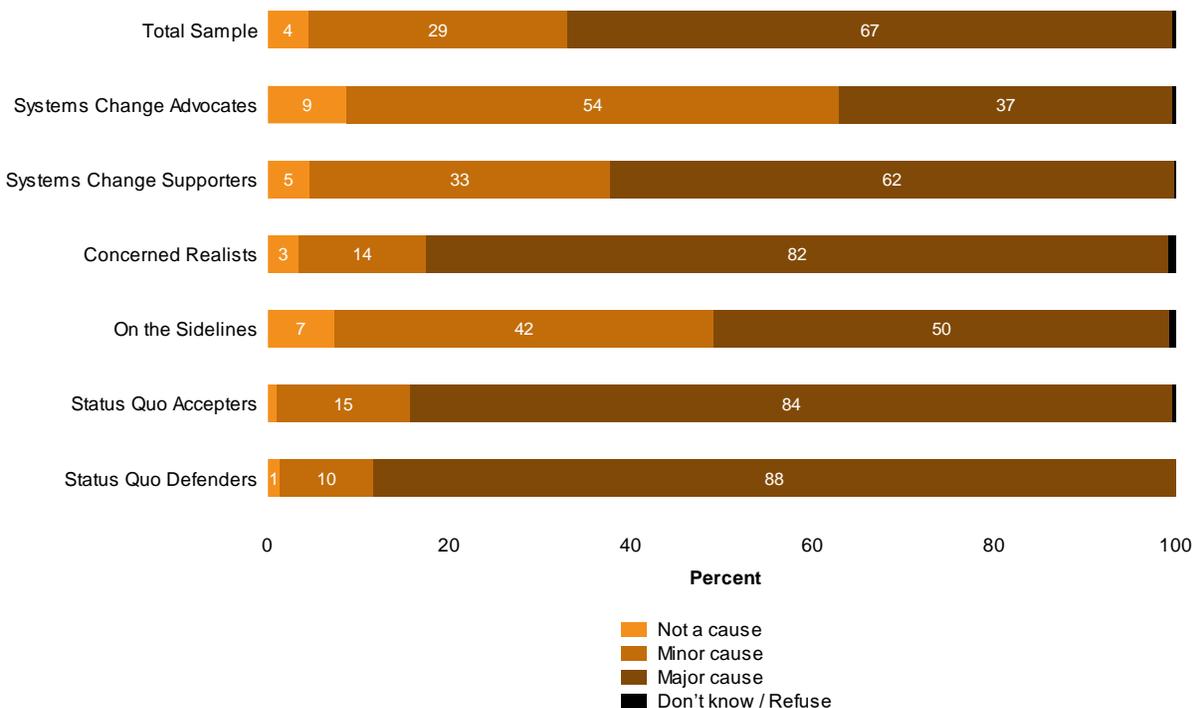
Sixty-seven percent of U.S. adults say that they believe parents not taking good enough care of their children is a major cause of young children not thriving in the United States. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Systems Change Supporters and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe this is the case. Systems Change Advocates are least likely to believe that this is a major cause.
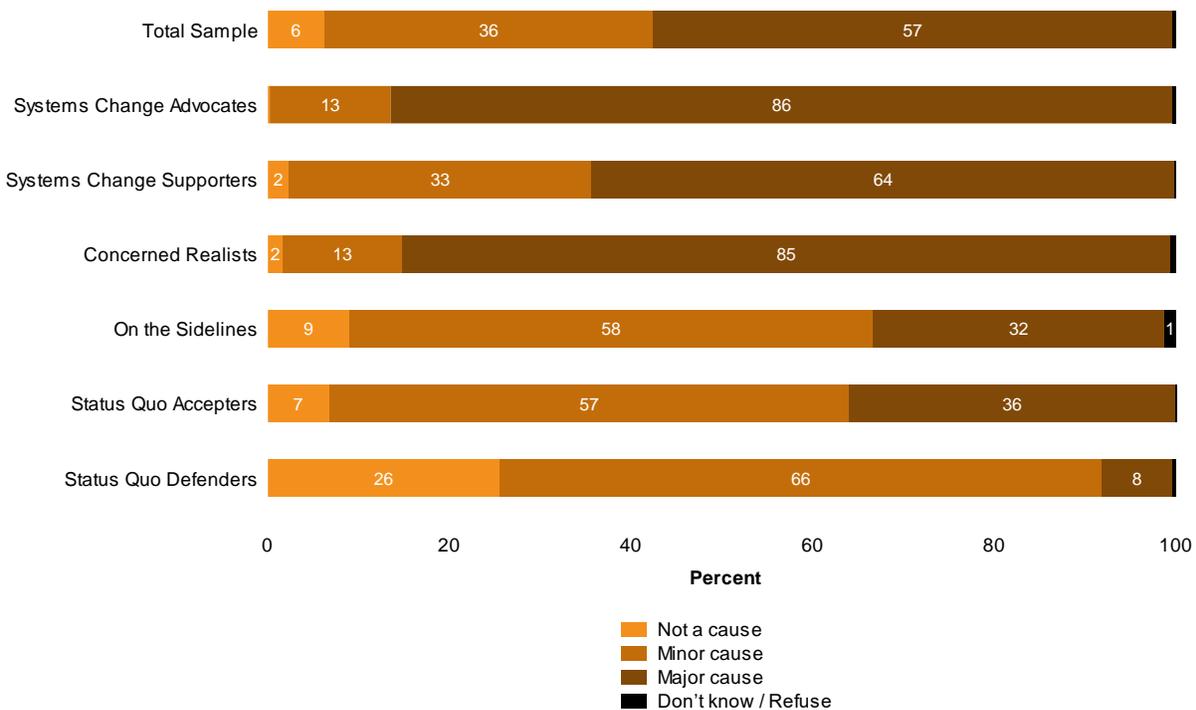
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[19] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.40), Systems Change Advocates (0.33), System Change Supporters (0.17), Concerned Realists (0.82), Status Quo Defenders (0.37), Status Quo Accepters (0.73), and On the Sidelines (1.27).

# 6.3 Causes of Three Major Problems Affecting Children and Families: Not Enough Income, Lack of Access to Healthy Food, Lack of Access to Child Care and Preschool

Overview: Generally speaking, U.S. adults tend to point to systems-level causes about as frequently as family-level causes for the three problems. On the child-care/preschool problem more tended to point to systems-level rather than family-level causes. Findings related to the specific causes in each category, as well as differences between the typology groups, are reported below. Concerned Realists are more likely than U.S. adults in general to see both systems-and family-level causes as major. Overall, Systems Change Advocates and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to see systems-level causes as major ones but less likely to believe that family-level causes are major. Conversely, Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters, are more likely to favor family-level factors over systems-level ones. Those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe in both systems- and family-level causes.

6.3.1 Systems-level Causes

Overview: Large numbers of U.S. adults believe that systems-level causes are major ones for all three problems. The causes include lack of jobs that pay a livable wage, cost of housing, cost of healthy foods, and lack of various program options in communities where people live. The jobs and cost-of-living factors tended to rank highest across all three problems. Generally, Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults in general to see systems-level causes as major ones, and the other groups are less likely to do so.

6.3.1.1 Income Problem

Overview: About two-thirds of U.S. adults believe that lack of jobs paying a livable wage is a major cause of the income problem faced by lower-income families. Large majorities also believe that the cost of housing and lack of affordable child care are major causes. Fewer but still substantial numbers of U.S. adults find the other systems-level causes we asked about to also be major ones. In general, Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely than U.S. adults in general to see systems causes as major ones, and the other groups are less likely to do so.

6.3.1.1.1 Lack of Jobs

Figure 6.3.1.1.1: Lack of Jobs

Experts say that nearly 15 million young children live in families without enough income to ensure the children can thrive in their early years. Most of these families have a family member who is working. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause of the problem.

Not enough jobs that pay a livable wage[20]
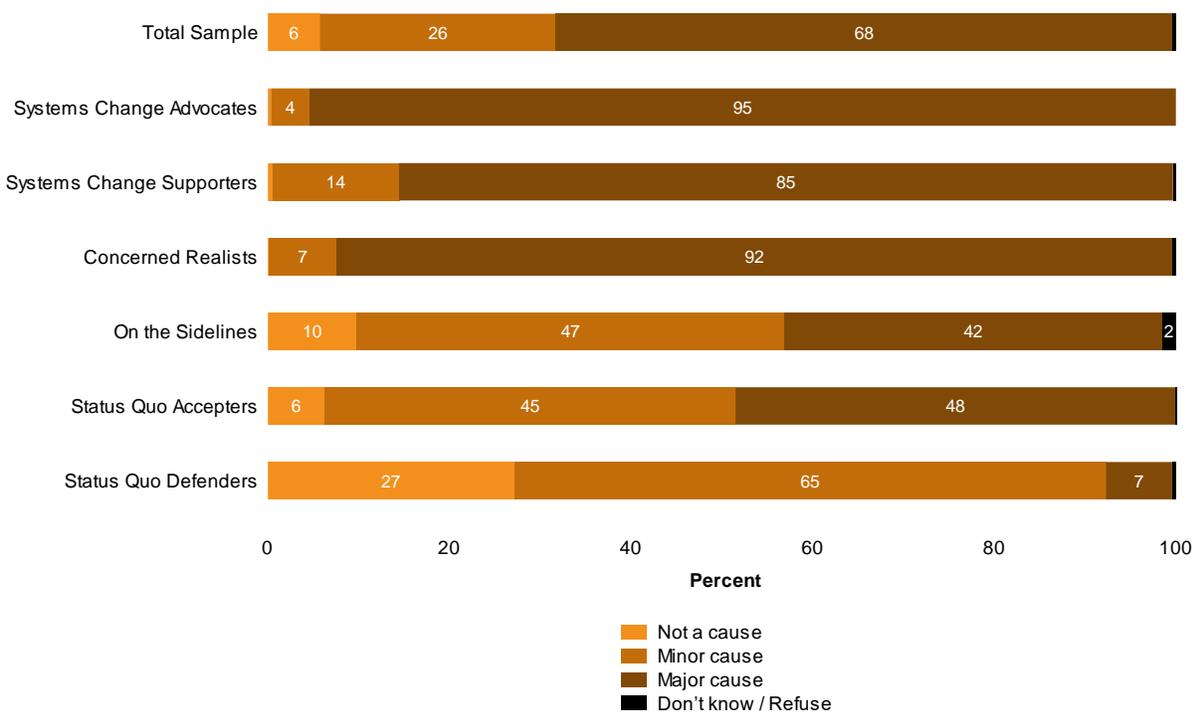
Sixty-eight percent of U.S. adults say that not enough jobs that pay a livable wage is a major cause of the income problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Status Quo Accepters, the On the Sidelines group, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe this is a major cause.

[20] https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/poverty-and-its-effects-on-children/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.37), Systems Change Advocates (0.32), System Change Supporters (0.37), Concerned Realists (0.41), Status Quo Defenders (0.06), Status Quo Accepters (1.53), and On the Sidelines (1.27).

6.3.1.1.2 Too Little Government Financial Assistance

Figure 6.3.1.1.2: Too Little Government Financial Assistance

Experts say that nearly 15 million young children live in families without enough income to ensure the children can thrive in their early years. Most of these families have a family member who is working. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause of the problem.

Too little government financial support for families with children[21]

Thirty-four percent of U.S. adults believe that too little government financial support is a major cause of the income problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe that this is a major cause, while those On the Sidelines, Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe this is a major cause.

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[21] https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/poverty-and-its-effects-on-children/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.61), Systems Change Advocates (0.69), System Change Supporters (0.56), Concerned Realists (0.85), Status Quo Defenders (0.12), Status Quo Accepters (0.60), and On the Sidelines (0.74).

6.3.1.1.3 Racial Prejudice

Figure 6.3.1.1.3: Racial Prejudice

Experts say that nearly 15 million young children live in families without enough income to ensure the children can thrive in their early years. Most of these families have a family member who is working. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause of the problem.

Racial prejudice and discrimination[22]

Forty-six percent of U.S. adults say that racial prejudice is a major cause of the income problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to believe this is the case. Systems Change Supporters closely resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[22] https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/poverty-and-its-effects-on-children/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.53), Systems Change Advocates (0.41), System Change Supporters (0.24), Concerned Realists (0.48), Status Quo Defenders (0.56), Status Quo Accepters (0.73), and On the Sidelines (1.08).

6.3.1.1.4 Access to Education and Training

Figure 6.3.1.1.4: Access to Education and Training

Experts say that nearly 15 million young children live in families without enough income to ensure the children can thrive in their early years. Most of these families have a family member who is working. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause of the problem.

Not enough access to education and training so parents can get good jobs[23]

Fifty-one percent of U.S. adults say that limited access to education and training is a major cause of the income problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to believe this is a major cause.

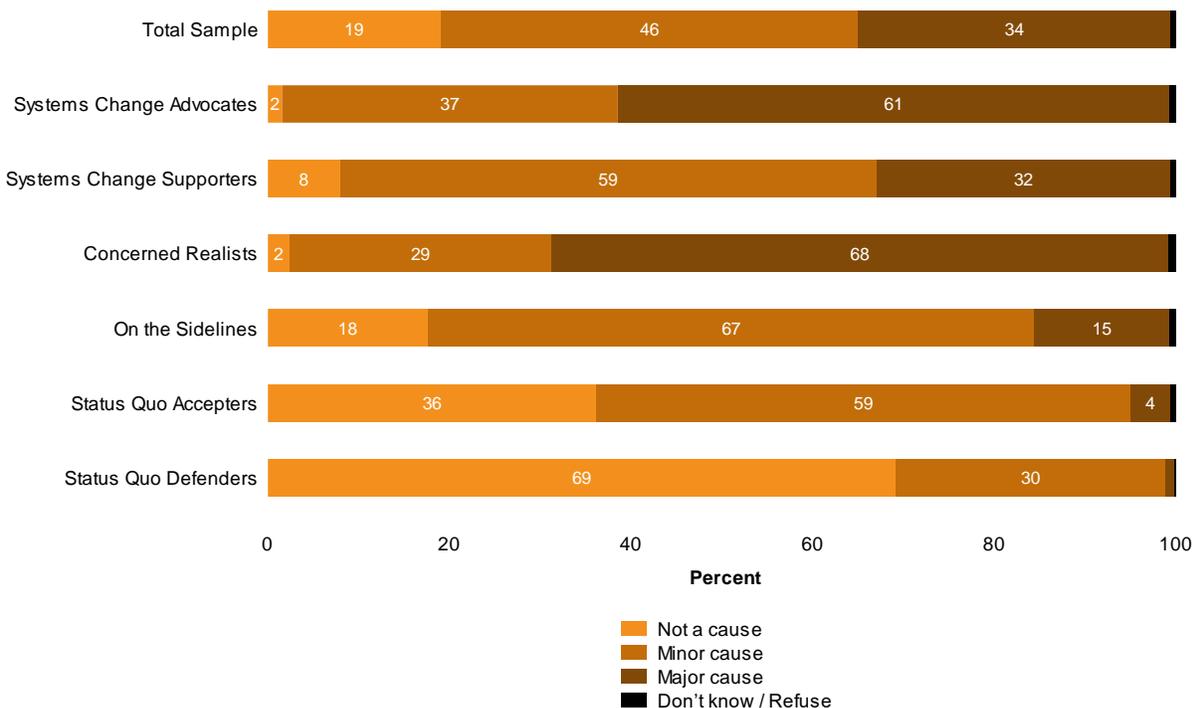[23] https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/poverty-and-its-effects-on-children/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.31), Systems Change Advocates (0.15), System Change Supporters (0.58), Concerned Realists (0.26), Status Quo Defenders (0.52), Status Quo Accepters (0.47), and On the Sidelines (1.08).

6.3.1.1.5 Lack of Affordable Child Care/Preschool

Figure 6.3.1.1.5: Lack of Affordable Child Care/Preschool

Experts say that nearly 15 million young children live in families without enough income to ensure the children can thrive in their early years. Most of these families have a family member who is working. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause of the problem.

Not enough affordable child care so parents can work[24]

Legend:
- Not a cause
- Minor cause
- Major cause
- Don't know / Refuse

Group	Not a cause	Minor cause	Major cause
Total Sample	4	33	62
Systems Change Advocates	10		89
Systems Change Supporters	1	29	69
Concerned Realists	10		89
On the Sidelines	7	58	34
Status Quo Accepters	3	52	44
Status Quo Defenders	21	66	13

Sixty-two percent of U.S. adults say that lack of affordable child care/preschool is a major cause of the income problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to believe this is a major cause.

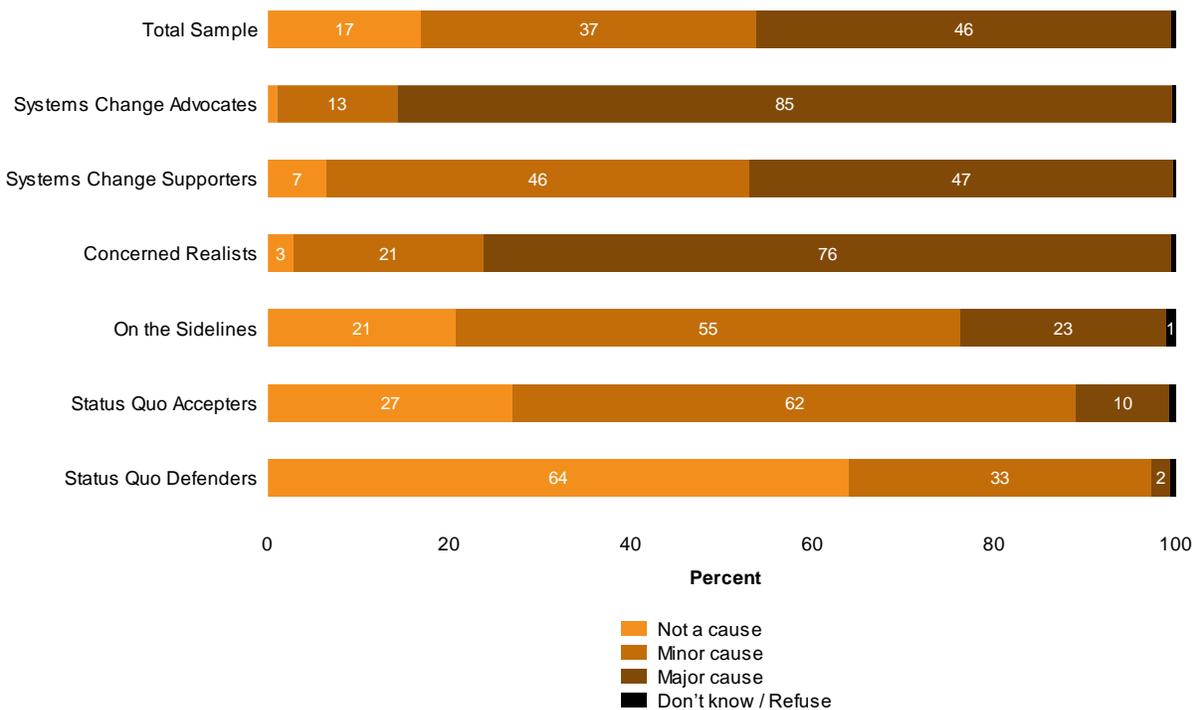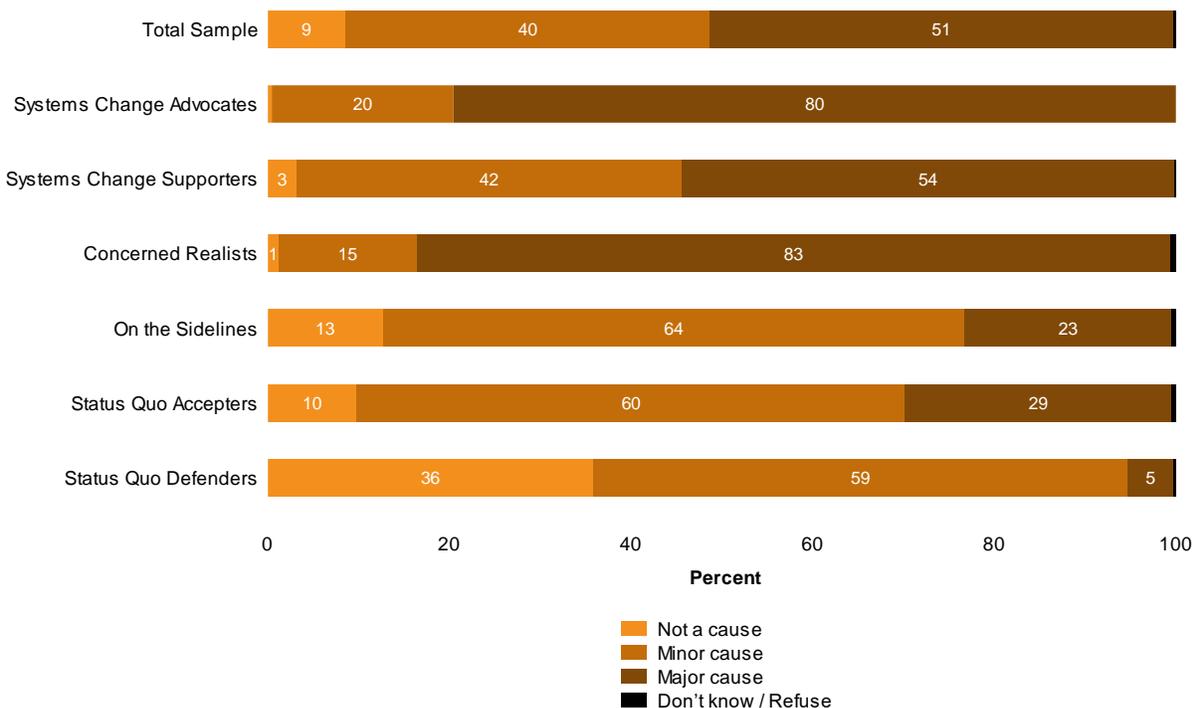[24] https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/poverty-and-its-effects-on-children/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.34), Systems Change Advocates (0.30), System Change Supporters (0.44), Concerned Realists (0.20), Status Quo Defenders (0.27), Status Quo Accepters (0.48), and On the Sidelines (0.33).

6.3.1.1.6 Lack of Affordable Housing

Figure 6.3.1.1.6: Lack of Affordable Housing

Experts say that nearly 15 million young children live in families without enough income to ensure the children can thrive in their early years. Most of these families have a family member who is working. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause of the problem.

Too much income spent on rent/mortgage because of a lack of affordable housing[25]
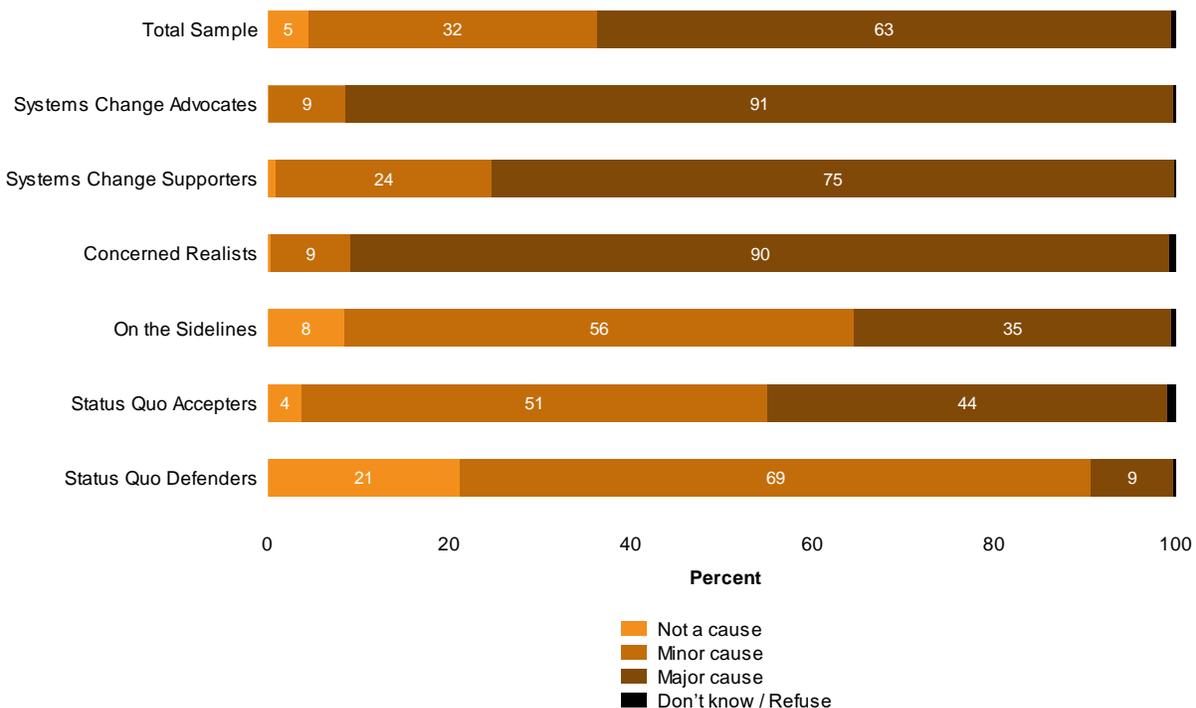
Sixty-three percent of U.S. adults say that lack of affordable housing is a major cause of the income problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to believe this is a major cause.

6.3.1.2 Food Problem

Overview: Two-thirds of U.S. adults believe a lack of jobs that pay livable wages is a major cause of the food problem, and almost three-quarters believe the expense of healthy foods is a

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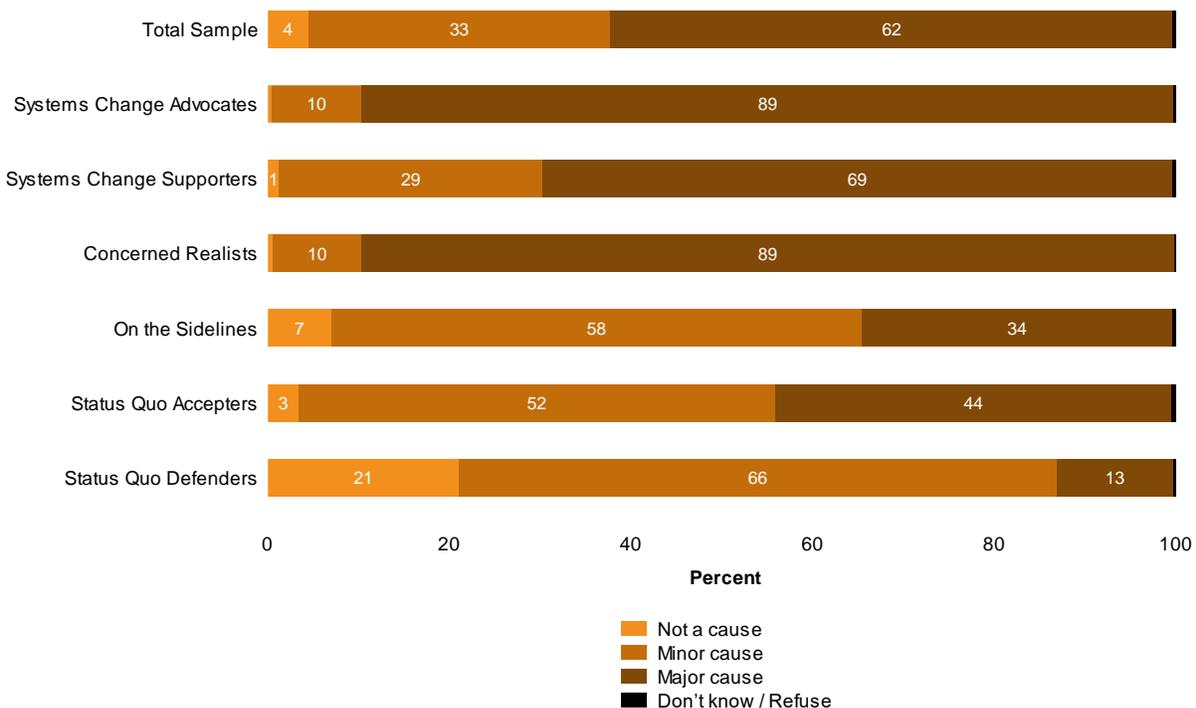[25] https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/poverty-and-its-effects-on-children/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.47), Systems Change Advocates (0.30), System Change Supporters (0.21), Concerned Realists (0.67), Status Quo Defenders (0.30), Status Quo Accepters (0.92), and On the Sidelines (0.50).

major cause. About half of U.S. adults believe that lack of easy community access to affordable healthy food and too much advertising of unhealthy products are also major causes. Fewer, less than a third, believe that too little government food program assistance is a major cause. In general, Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that these systemic factors are important causes of the food problem experienced by low-income families; all of the other groups are less likely to share this sentiment.

6.3.1.2.1 Lack of Jobs

Figure 6.3.1.2.1: Lack of Jobs

Experts say that nearly 14 million young children live in households where there is not enough healthy food to eat. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Lack of jobs that pay livable wages making parents struggle to afford healthy foods[26]
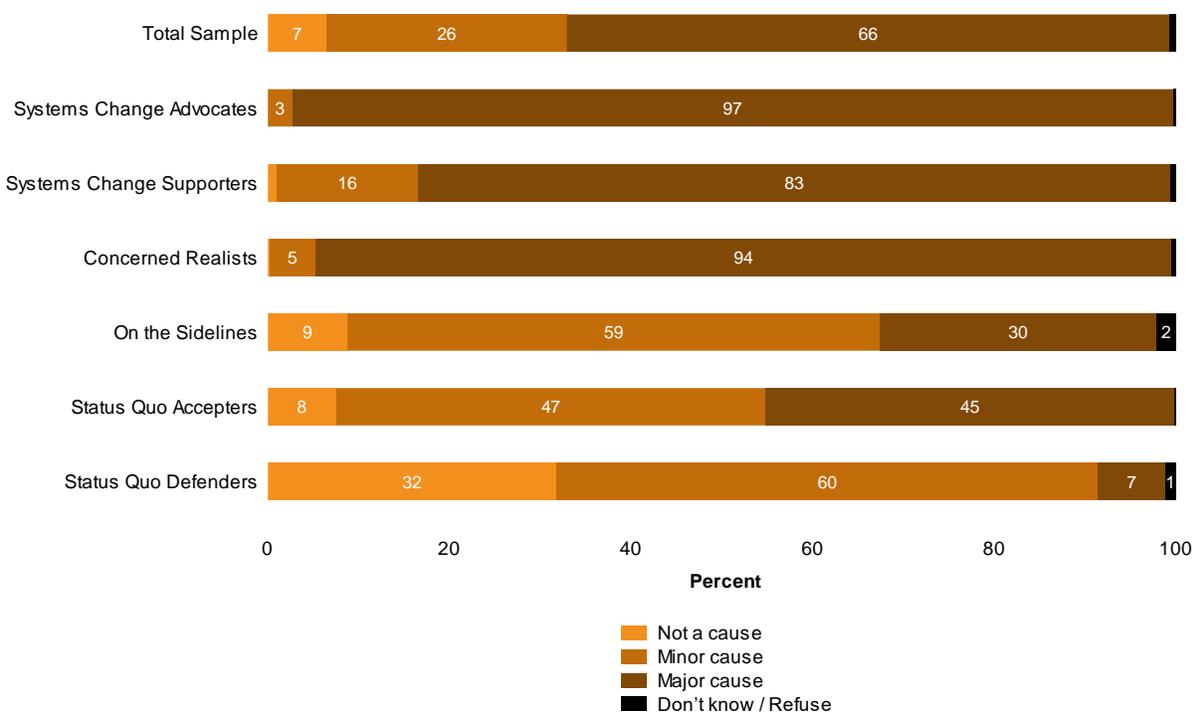
Sixty-six percent of U.S. adults believe that a lack of jobs with livable wages that impacts parents' ability to afford healthy foods is a major cause of the food problem that lower-income

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[26] https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/07/09/about-14-million-children-in-the-us-are-not-getting-enough-to-eat/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.69), Systems Change Advocates (0.29), System Change Supporters (0.59), Concerned Realists (0.50), Status Quo Defenders (1.16), Status Quo Accepters (0.15), and On the Sidelines (2.11).

families face. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are much more likely to believe that this is a major cause of this problem. In contrast, Status Quo Accepters and those On the Sidelines are much less likely to hold this view, and Status Quo Defenders are overwhelmingly least likely.

6.3.1.2.2 Too Little Government Assistance

Figure 6.3.1.2.2: Too Little Government Assistance

Experts say that nearly 14 million young children live in households where there is not enough healthy food to eat. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Not enough families with low incomes getting help from government food programs, such as SNAP or WIC[27]
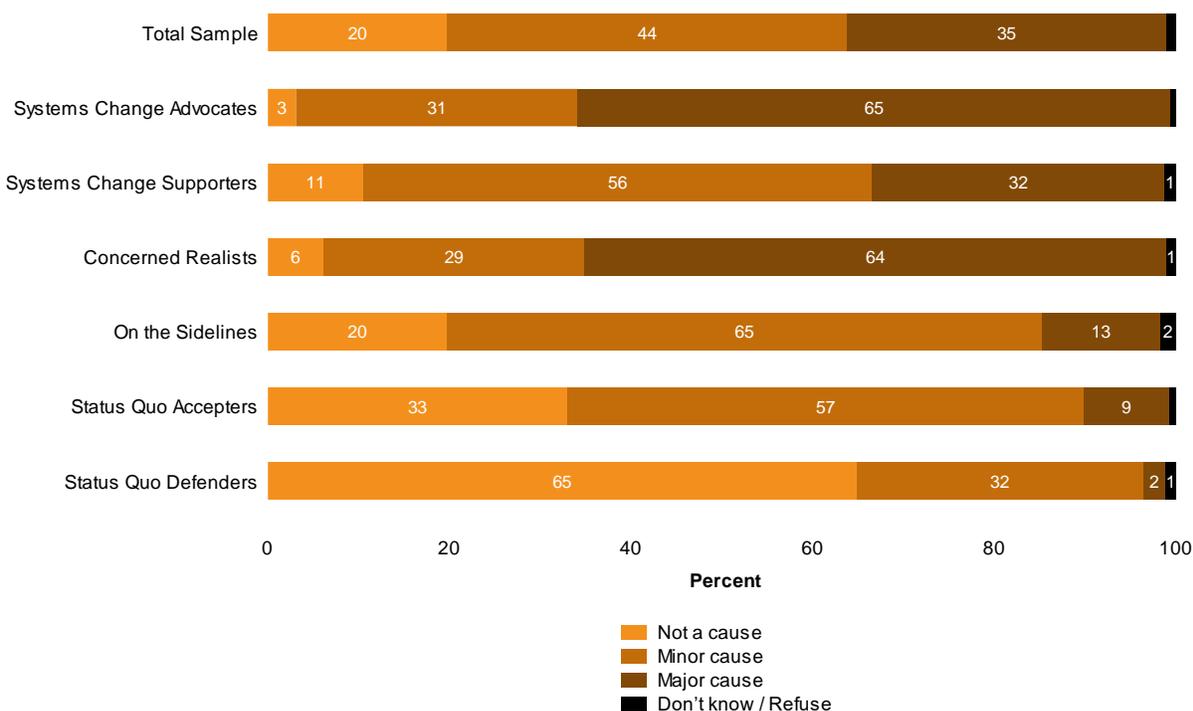
Thirty-five percent of U.S. adults say that too little government assistance is a major cause of the food problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned

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[27] https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/07/09/about-14-million-children-in-the-us-are-not-getting-enough-to-eat/. This link was not shown to respondents. Respondents were provided more information about this question: "SNAP is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps, that provides help with the purchase of foods. WIC is the Women, Infants and Children program that provides nutrition assistance and help with the purchase of food to pregnant and breastfeeding women, and to parents of children from ages 0-5." Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.04), Systems Change Advocates (0.59), System Change Supporters (1.23), Concerned Realists (1.05), Status Quo Defenders (1.12), Status Quo Accepters (0.77), and On the Sidelines (1.75).

Realists are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to believe this is the case.

6.3.1.2.3 Lack of Healthy Food Access

Figure 6.3.1.2.3: Lack of Healthy Food Access

Experts say that nearly 14 million young children live in households where there is not enough healthy food to eat. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Lack of access in some communities to grocery stores, farmers' markets, and local sources for affordable, healthy food[28]
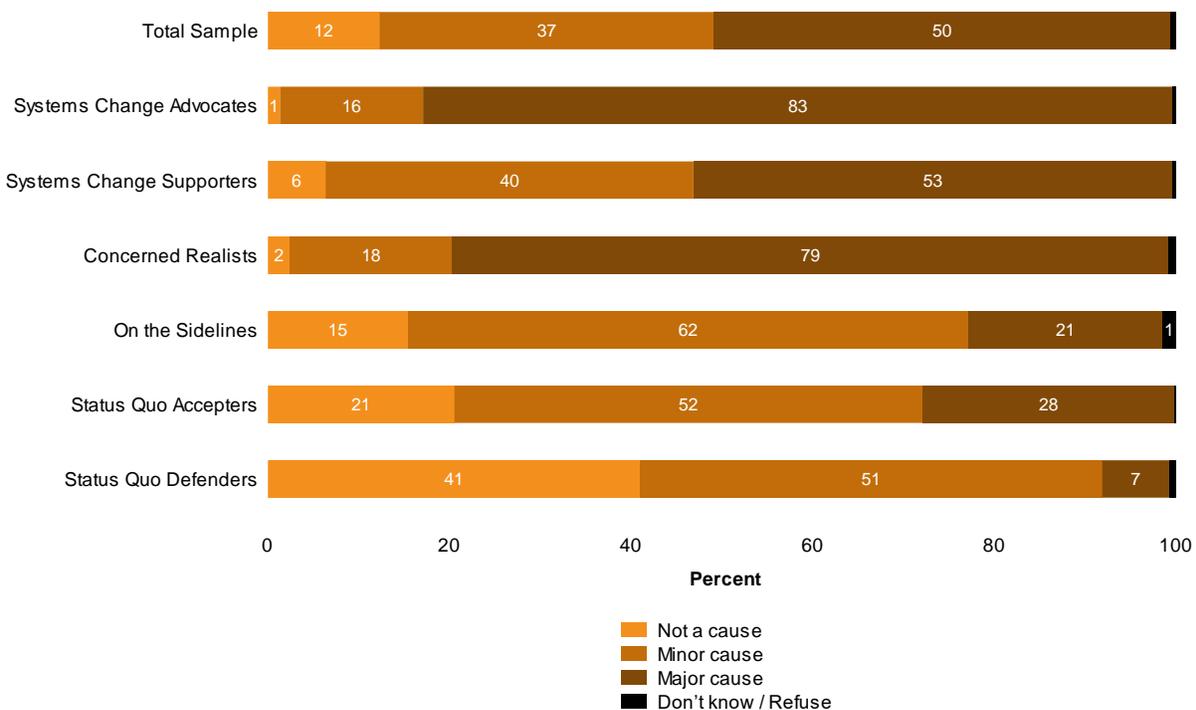
Fifty percent of U.S. adults say that lack of healthy food access is a major cause of the food problem. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to hold this view, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to believe so.

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[28] https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/07/09/about-14-million-children-in-the-us-are-not-getting-enough-to-eat/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.58), Systems Change Advocates (0.36), System Change Supporters (0.38), Concerned Realists (0.77), Status Quo Defenders (0.73), Status Quo Accepters (0.14), and On the Sidelines (1.45).

6.3.1.2.4 Expense of Healthy Foods

Figure 6.3.1.2.4: Expense of Healthy Foods

Experts say that nearly 14 million young children live in households where there is not enough healthy food to eat. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Unhealthy foods tend to be cheaper than healthy foods[29]
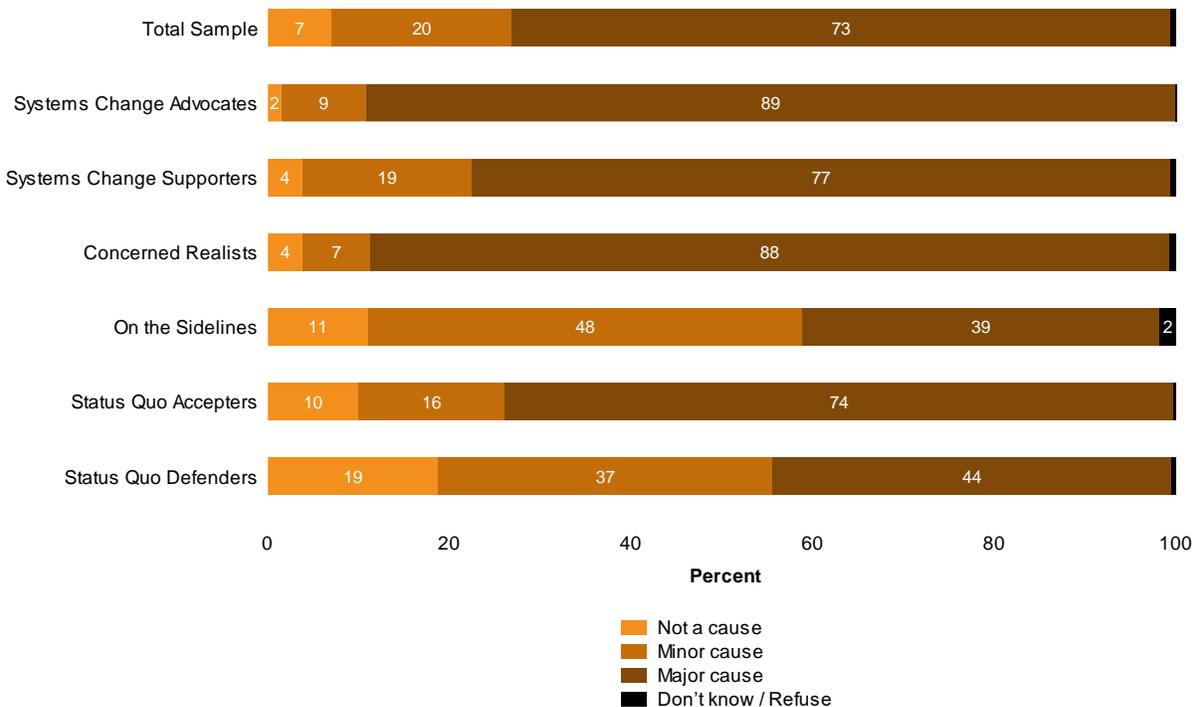
Seventy-three percent of U.S. adults say that expense of healthy foods is a major cause of the food problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this, while Status Quo Defenders and the On the Sidelines group are less likely. Status Quo Accepters closely resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[29] https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/07/09/about-14-million-children-in-the-us-are-not-getting-enough-to-eat/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.59), Systems Change Advocates (0.07), System Change Supporters (0.60), Concerned Realists (0.76), Status Quo Defenders (0.44), Status Quo Accepters (0.27), and On the Sidelines (1.78).

6.3.1.2.5 Too Much Advertising

Figure 6.3.1.2.5: Too Much Advertising

Experts say that nearly 14 million young children live in households where there is not enough healthy food to eat. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Too much advertising of unhealthy foods to children[30]
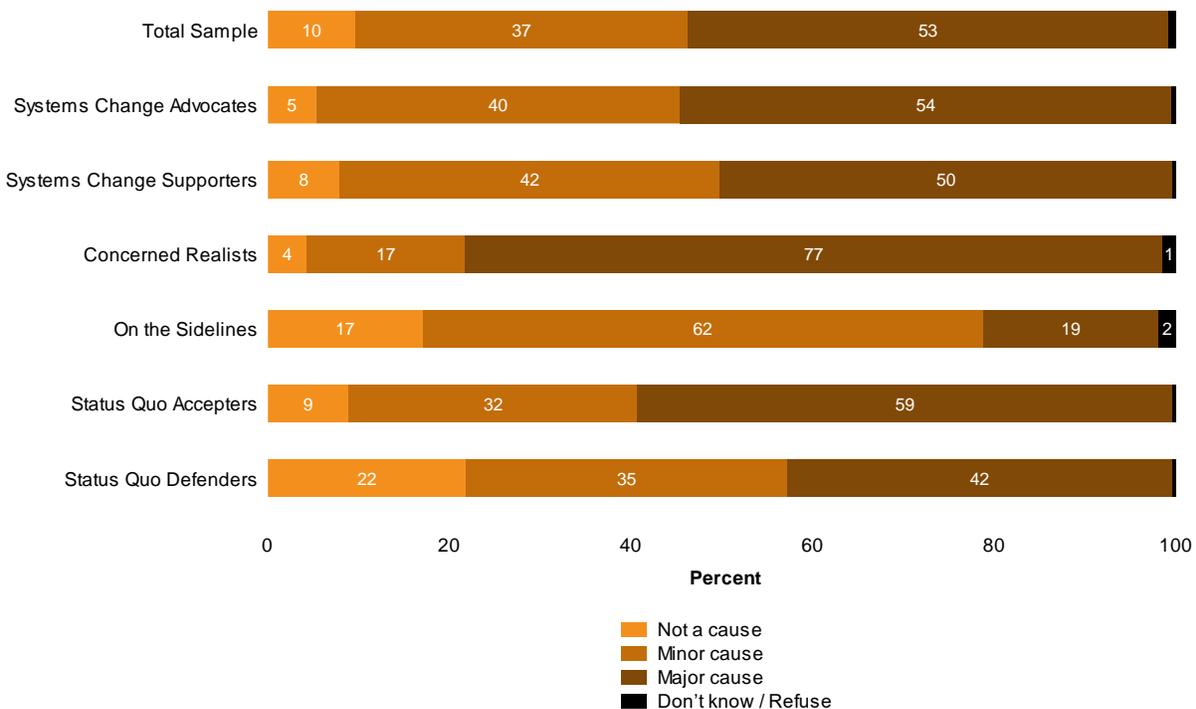
Fifty-three percent of U.S. adults say that too much advertising is a major cause of the food problem faced by lower-income families. Concerned Realists and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Defenders, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to believe this is the case. The On the Sidelines group is least likely of all groups to believe this is a major cause of this problem. Systems Change Advocates closely resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[30] https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/07/09/about-14-million-children-in-the-us-are-not-getting-enough-to-eat/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.79), Systems Change Advocates (0.47), System Change Supporters (0.41), Concerned Realists (1.48), Status Quo Defenders (0.43), Status Quo Accepters (0.41), and On the Sidelines (1.89).

6.3.1.3 Child Care/Preschool Problem

Overview: Seven in 10 U.S. adults believe that a lack of jobs that pay livable wages is a major cause of the child care/preschool problem. A majority also views lack of program service options in the community as a major cause. Overall, Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that these and other systems-level causes are major causes; the other groups are less likely.

6.3.1.3.1 Lack of Jobs

Figure 6.3.1.3.1: Lack of Jobs

Experts say that millions of U.S. families do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school for their young children. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Lack of jobs that pay a livable wage which makes it difficult to pay for child care and pre-school[31]

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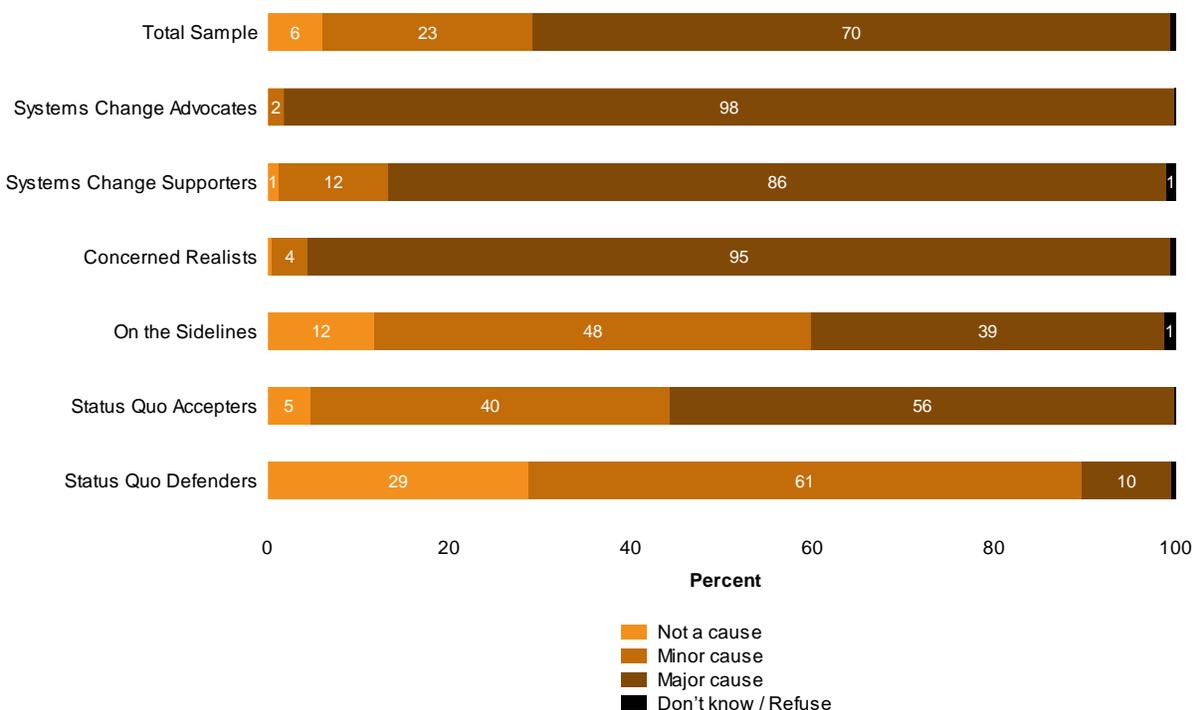
[31] Respondents were provided more information about this question: "Early childhood care and education takes place in providers' homes, child care centers, and schools. Care may also be provided by family members like grandparents, by neighbors, friends, or professional educators. This is what we mean by early childhood care and pre-school." Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.60), Systems Change Advocates (0.14), System Change Supporters (1.08), Concerned Realists (0.61), Status Quo Defenders (0.46), Status Quo Accepters (0.13), and On the Sidelines (1.29).

Seventy percent of U.S. adults believe that a lack of jobs that pay livable wages is a major cause of the child care/preschool problem that low-income families face. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are much more likely to believe this is a major cause of this issue. Other groups are less likely to believe that this is a major cause.

6.3.1.3.2 Lack of Government Financial Assistance

Figure 6.3.1.3.2: Lack of Government Financial Assistance

Experts say that millions of U.S. families do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school for their young children. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Lack of government financial assistance to families to pay for child care and pre-school[32]

Forty-six percent of U.S. adults say that a lack of government financial assistance is a major cause of the child-care/preschool problem. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe that this is a major cause. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are all less likely to believe this is the case.

6.3.1.3.3 Not Enough Program Service Options in Community

Figure 6.3.1.3.3: Not Enough Program Service Options in Community

Experts say that millions of U.S. families do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school for their young children. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Not enough child care and pre-school options in many communities[33]
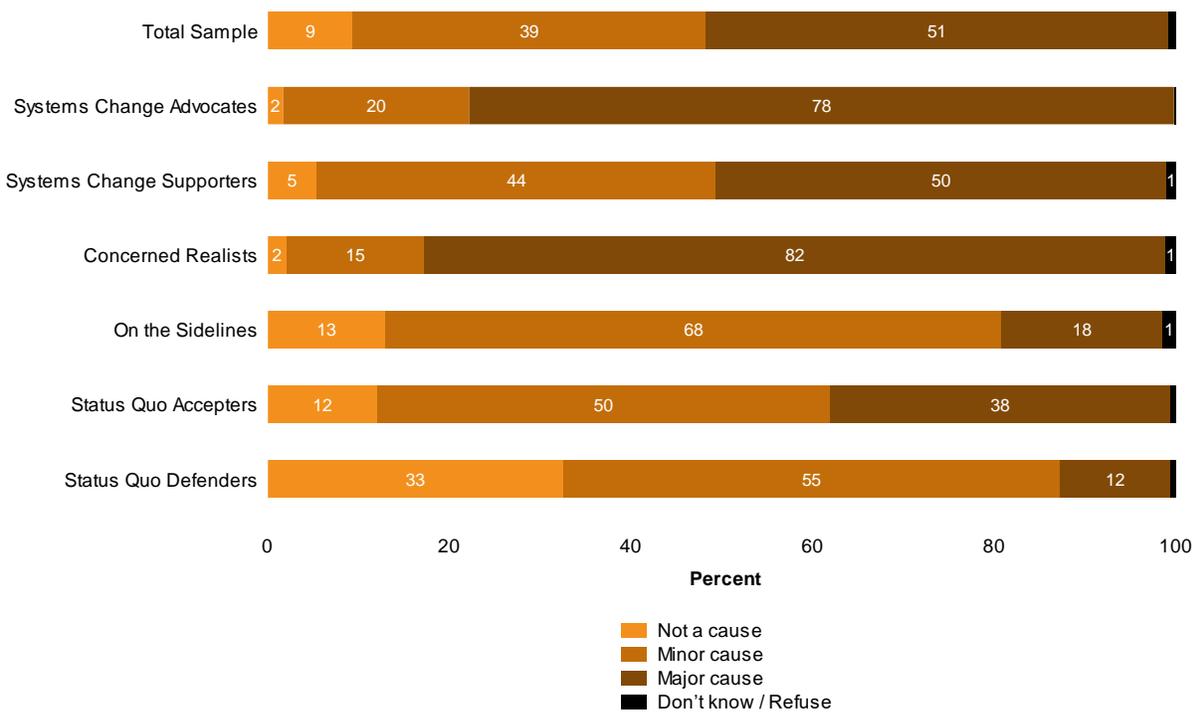
Fifty-one percent of U.S. adults say that not enough program service options in the community is a major cause of the child-care/preschool problem. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to hold this view, and Status Quo Defenders while Status

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[33] Respondents were provided more information about this question: "Early childhood care and education takes place in providers' homes, child care centers, and schools. Care may also be provided by family members like grandparents, by neighbors, friends, or professional educators." This is what we mean by early childhood care and preschool. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.82), Systems Change Advocates (0.21), System Change Supporters (1.07), Concerned Realists (1.12), Status Quo Defenders (0.56), Status Quo Accepters (0.58), and On the Sidelines (1.49).
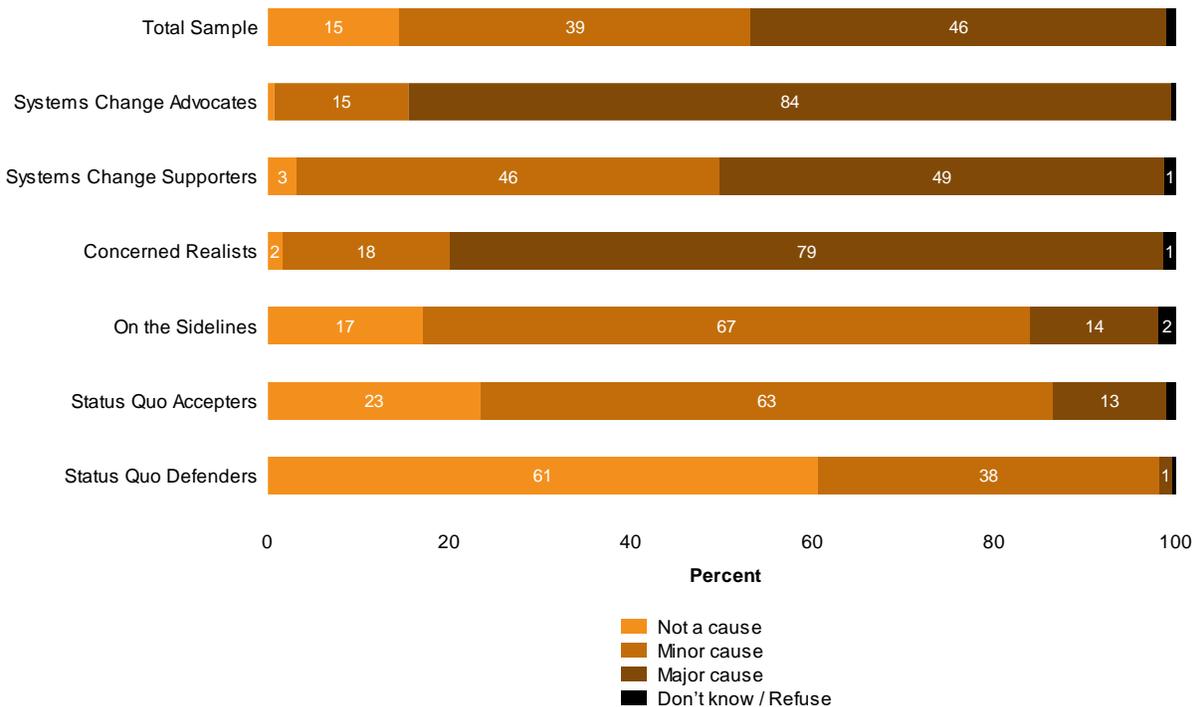
Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely. Systems Change Supporters closely resemble U.S. adults in general.

6.3.2 Family Level Causes

Overview: Large numbers of U.S. adults believe that various family-level causes of the problems are of major importance. The family-level factors we included in the survey are varied and, for the most part, problem-specific. Hence, it is difficult to identify those of cross-cutting importance across the group of problems. Findings related to each problem are presented below. In general, Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that family-level factors are major causes, and the other groups are less likely to share this view.

6.3.2.1 Income Problem

Overview: While less than half of U.S. adults believe that parents who are not willing to work hard enough is a major cause of the income problem, a majority believe that too few two-parent families are a major cause, and six in ten believe that parental substance use problems rank as a major cause. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that these factors are major causes; the other groups all less likely.

6.3.2.1.1 Parents Not Working Hard Enough

Figure 6.3.2.1.1: Parents Not Working Hard Enough

Experts say that nearly 15 million young children live in families without enough income to ensure the children can thrive in their early years. Most of these families have a family member who is working. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause of the problem.

Parents who are not willing to work hard enough[34]
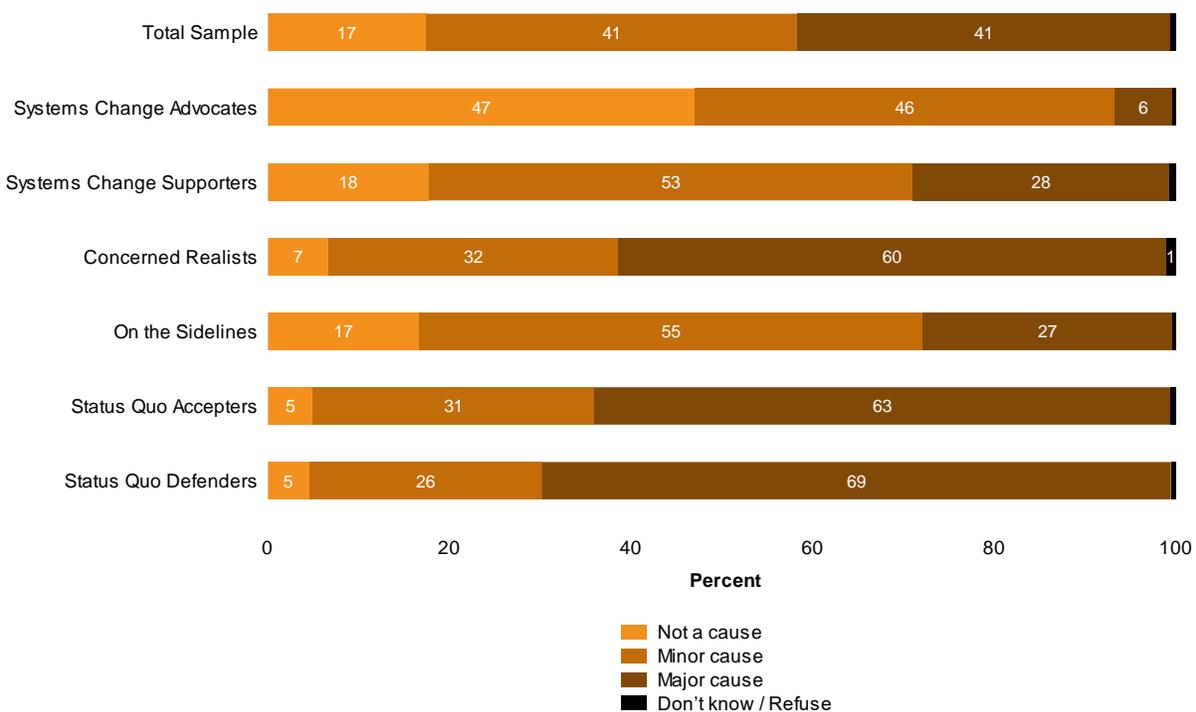
Forty-one percent of U.S. adults say they believe that parents who are not willing to work hard enough is a major cause of the income problem that families face. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this is a major cause, but Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, and Systems Change Advocates are less likely to believe this is the case.

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[34] https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/poverty-and-its-effects-on-children/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.65), Systems Change Advocates (0.37), System Change Supporters (0.75), Concerned Realists (1.08), Status Quo Defenders (0.55), Status Quo Accepters (0.57), and On the Sidelines (0.41).

6.3.2.1.2 Too Few Two-parent Families

Figure 6.3.2.1.2: Too Few Two-parent Families

Experts say that nearly 15 million young children live in families without enough income to ensure the children can thrive in their early years. Most of these families have a family member who is working. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause of the problem.

Too many single parent households[35]
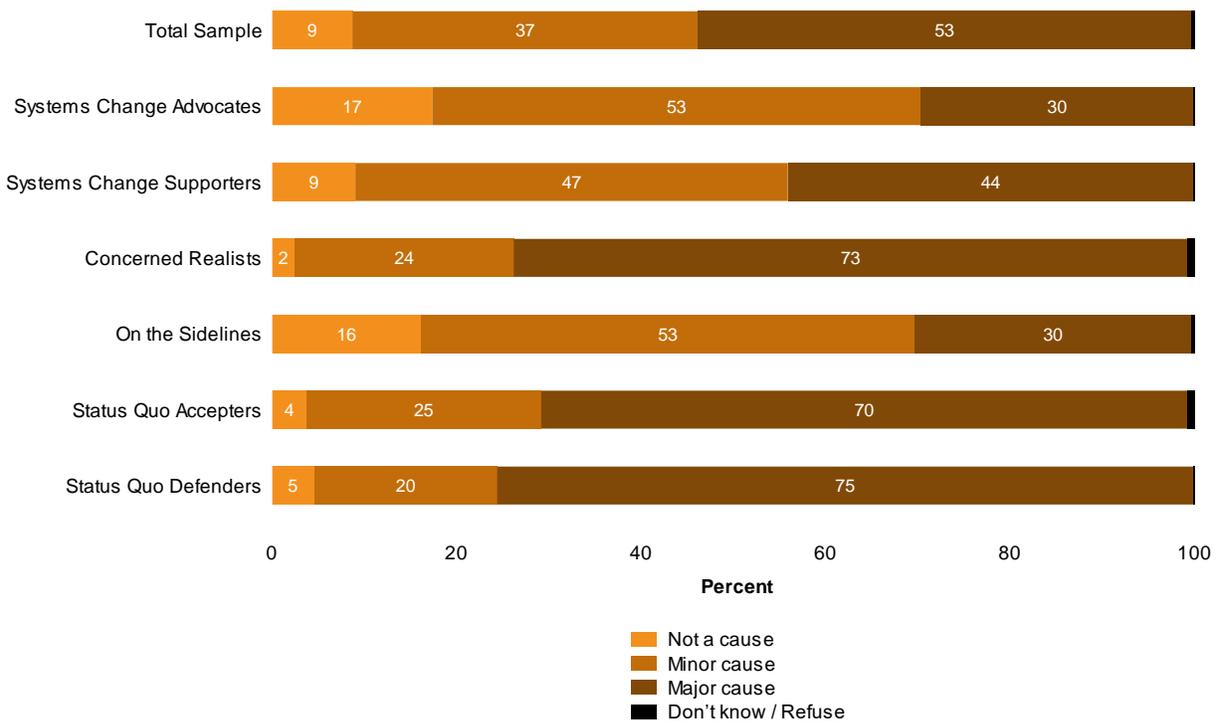
Fifty-three percent of U.S. adults say that too few two-parent families are a major cause of the income problem faced by low-income families. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Systems Change Supporters, Systems Change Advocates, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe this is the case.

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[35] https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/poverty-and-its-effects-on-children/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.37), Systems Change Advocates (0.11), System Change Supporters (0.08), Concerned Realists (0.77), Status Quo Defenders (0.14), Status Quo Accepters (0.79), and On the Sidelines (0.33).

6.3.2.1.3 Parents with Substance-use Problems

Figure 6.3.2.1.3: Parents with Substance-use Problems

Experts say that nearly 15 million young children live in families without enough income to ensure the children can thrive in their early years. Most of these families have a family member who is working. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause of the problem.

Parents with substance use problems[36]
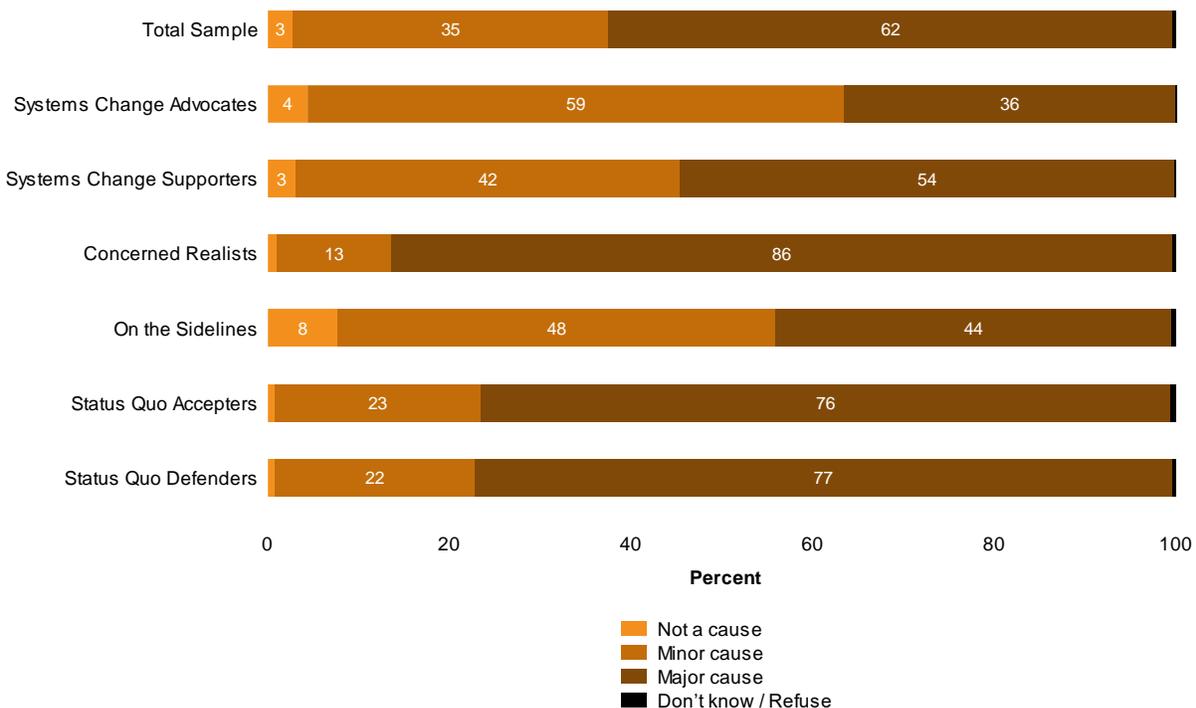
Sixty-two percent of U.S. adults say parents with substance-use problems are a major cause of the income problem faced by low-income families. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Systems Change Supporters, Systems Change Advocates, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe this is the case.

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[36] https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/poverty-and-its-effects-on-children/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.33), Systems Change Advocates (0.05), System Change Supporters (0.16), Concerned Realists (0.44), Status Quo Defenders (0.40), Status Quo Accepters (0.60), and On the Sidelines (0.53).

6.3.2.2 Food Problem

Overview: The majority of U.S. adults believe parents not prioritizing healthy eating and their lack of knowledge about what is healthy are major causes of the food problem. Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and Concerned Realists are more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe these are major causes; the other groups less likely.

6.3.2.2.1 Parents Do Not Prioritize Healthy Eating

Figure 6.3.2.2.1: Parents Do Not Prioritize Healthy Eating

Experts say that nearly 14 million young children live in households where there is not enough healthy food to eat. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Parents do not prioritize healthy eating for their children[37]
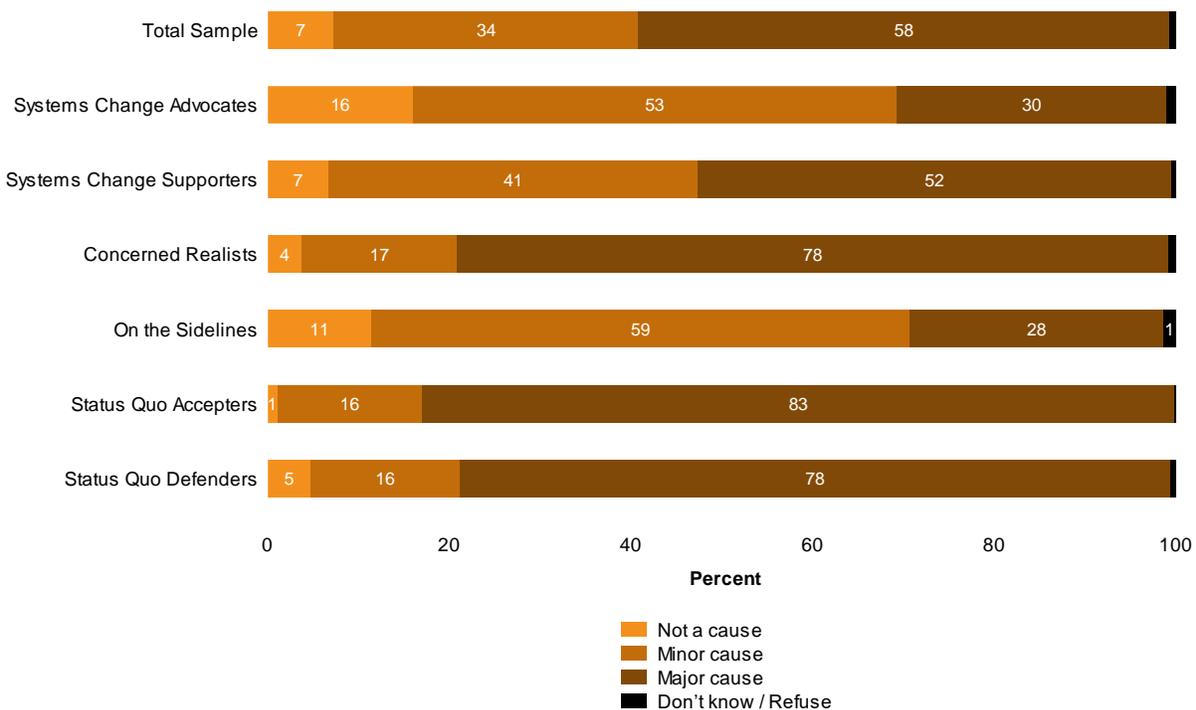
Fifty-eight percent of U.S. adults say that parents not prioritizing healthy eating for their children is a major cause of the food problem. Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and Concerned Realists are more likely to hold this view, and Systems Change Supporters, Systems Change Advocates, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to do so.

[37] https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/07/09/about-14-million-children-in-the-us-are-not-getting-enough-to-eat/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.72), Systems Change Advocates (1.02), System Change Supporters (0.53), Concerned Realists (0.85), Status Quo Defenders (0.58), Status Quo Accepters (0.15), and On the Sidelines (1.37).

6.3.2.2.2 Parents Lack Knowledge

Figure 6.3.2.2.2: Parents Lack Knowledge

Experts say that nearly 14 million young children live in households where there is not enough healthy food to eat. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Parents' lack of knowledge about what is healthy and unhealthy for children[38]
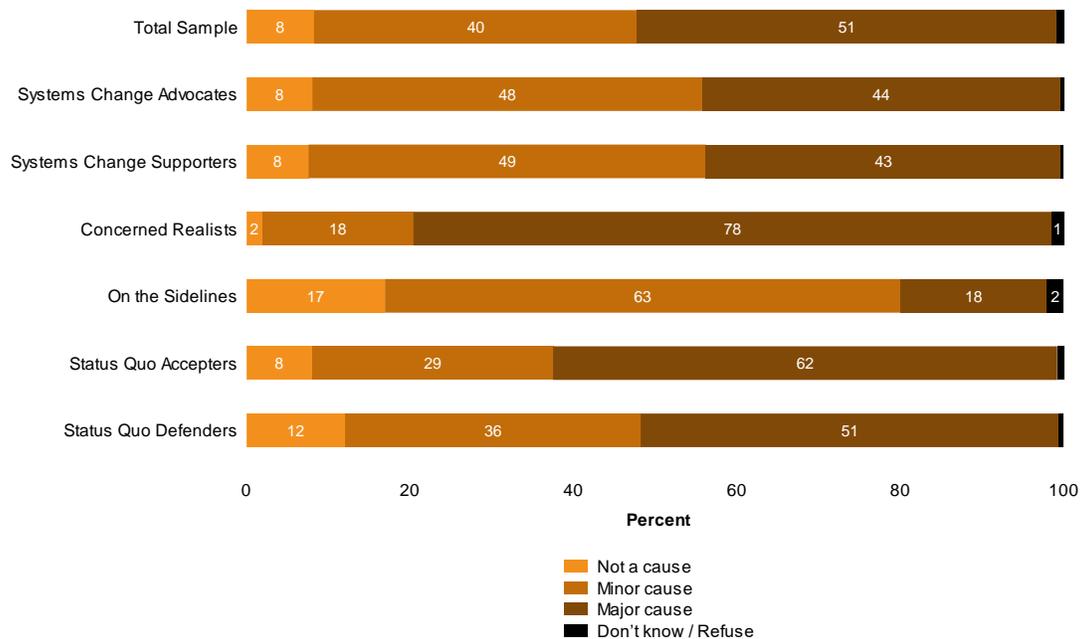
Fifty-one percent of U.S. adults say that parents' lack of knowledge is a major cause of the food problem low-income families face. Status Quo Accepters and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Systems Change Supporters, Systems Change Advocates, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe it is a major cause. The On the Sidelines group is least likely to believe this is a major cause. Status Quo Defenders resemble U.S. adults in general.

[38] https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/07/09/about-14-million-children-in-the-us-are-not-getting-enough-to-eat/. This link was not shown to respondents. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.87), Systems Change Advocates (0.42), System Change Supporters (0.36), Concerned Realists (1.48), Status Quo Defenders (0.58), Status Quo Accepters (0.80), and On the Sidelines (2.04).

## *6.3.2.3 Child-care/Preschool Problem*

Overview: About four in ten U.S. adults believe that parents not knowing how to find child-care/preschool programs, not knowing what financial assistance is available, and not being able to find informal social support for child care are major causes of the child-care/preschool problem. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe parents' lack of knowledge or ability to find affordable child care/preschool or that the struggle to find informal child care are a major causes. All other groups are less likely to believe that any of these factors are major family-level causes of the child-care/preschool problem.

6.3.2.3.1 Parents Lack Knowledge/Information about Programs

Figure 6.3.2.3.1: Parents Lack Knowledge/Information about Programs

Experts say that millions of U.S. families do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school for their young children. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Parents who do not know how to find programs that do exist[39]
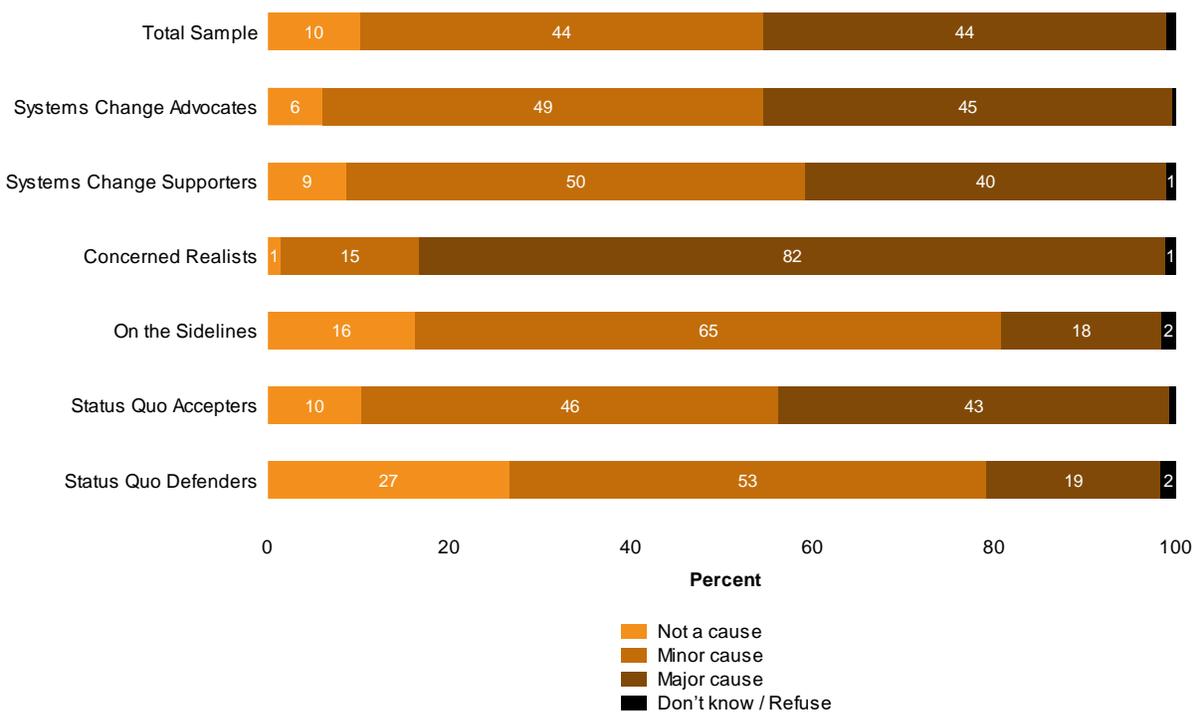
Forty-four percent of U.S. adults believe that parents not knowing how to find programs that do exist is a major cause of the child-care/preschool problem U.S. families face. Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this is a major cause, but Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to do so. Systems Change Advocates resemble U.S. adults in general.

6.3.2.3.2 Parents Lack Information about Available Financial Assistance

Figure 6.3.2.3.2: Parents Lack Knowledge about Available Financial Assistance

Experts say that millions of U.S. families do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school for their young children. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Parents who do not know that financial assistance is available[40]
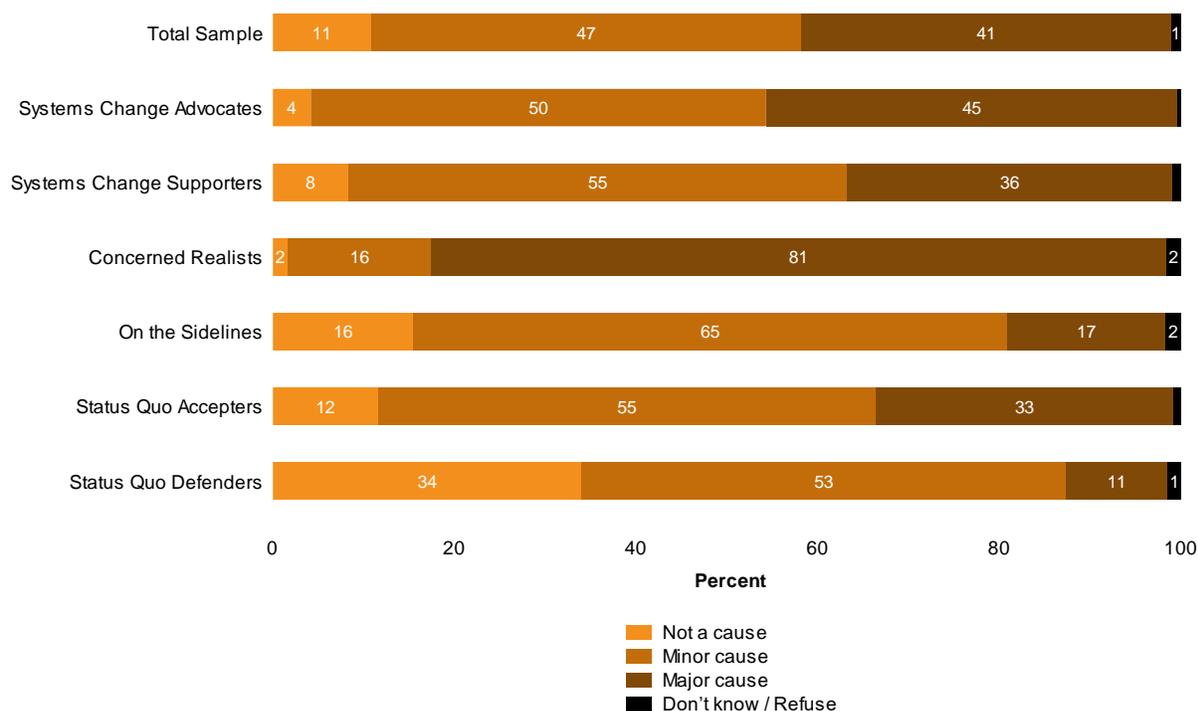
grandparents, by neighbors, friends, or professional educators. This is what we mean by early childhood care and pre-school." Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.03), Systems Change Advocates (0.42), System Change Supporters (1.07), Concerned Realists (1.13), Status Quo Defenders (1.64), Status Quo Accepters (0.72), and On the Sidelines (1.62).

[40] Respondents were provided more information about this question: "Early childhood care and education takes place in providers' homes, child care centers, and schools. Care may also be provided by family members like grandparents, by neighbors, friends, or professional educators. This is what we mean by early childhood care and

Forty-one percent of U.S. adults say parents not knowing that financial assistance is available is a major cause of the child-care/preschool problem. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe it is a major cause.

6.3.2.3.3 Parents Cannot Find Child-care Help They Need from Family and Friends

Figure 6.3.2.3.3: Parents Cannot Find Child-care Help They Need from Family and Friends

Experts say that millions of U.S. families do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school for their young children. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem. For each, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

Parents who cannot find family members, neighbors, or friends to help with child care[41]
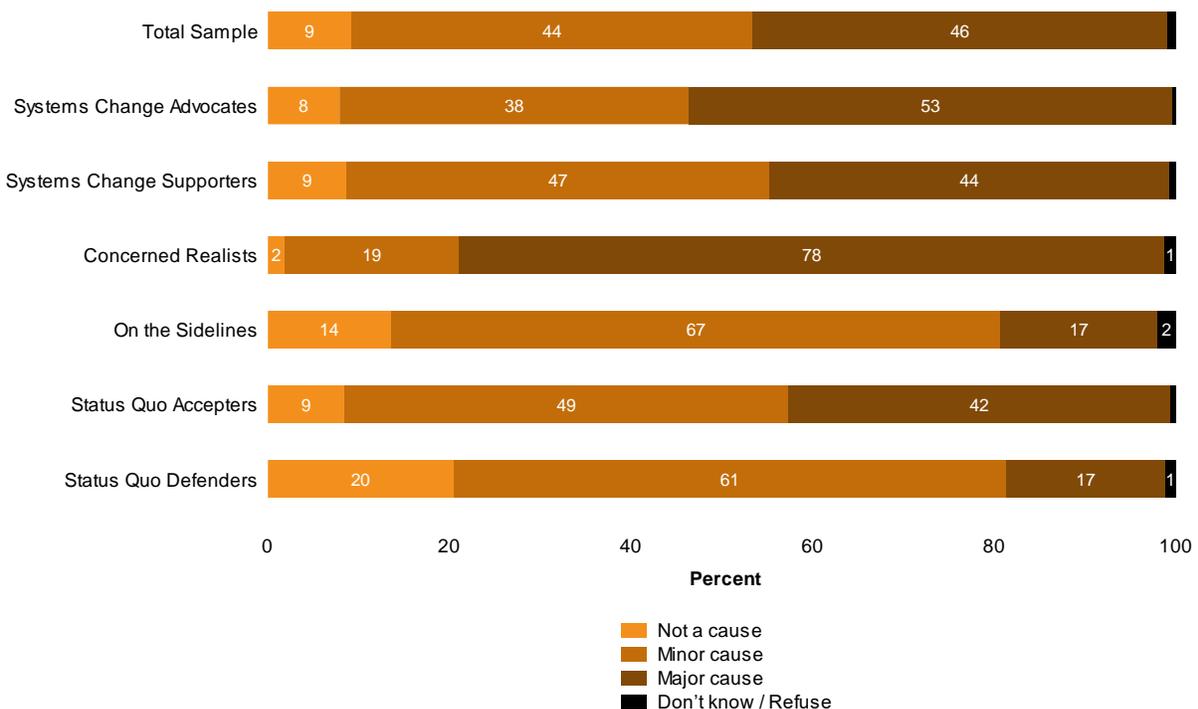
preschool." Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.09), Systems Change Advocates (0.36), System Change Supporters (0.95), Concerned Realists (1.63), Status Quo Defenders (1.44), Status Quo Accepters (0.84), and On the Sidelines (1.67).

[41] Respondents were provided more information about this question: "Early childhood care and education takes place in providers' homes, child care centers, and schools. Care may also be provided by family members like grandparents, by neighbors, friends, or professional educators. This is what we mean by early childhood care and preschool." Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.94), Systems Change Advocates (0.41), System Change Supporters (0.75), Concerned Realists (1.21), Status Quo Defenders (1.17), Status Quo Accepters (0.55), and On the Sidelines (2.07).

Forty-six percent of U.S. adults say that parents without informal child-care support is a major cause of the child-care/preschool problem faced by low-income families. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe this is a major cause, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe it is a major cause.

6.4 Impacts of the Problems on Children

Overview: We asked about the impact of each of the problems on five dimensions of child health and development: overall health, brain development and early learning, performance in school, earnings potential later in life, and happiness and well-being. Large numbers of U.S. adults believe that each of the problems have major impacts, although the number was largest on the food problem.

Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe that the problems have a major impact on these aspects of a child's life. Status Quo Defenders, those On the Sidelines and Status Quo Accepters are less likely.

6.4.1 Income Problem

Overview: A majority of U.S. adults say lack of income has a major impact on all five dimensions of child health and development. Compared to U.S. adults in general and to other groups, Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this problem has a major impact; all other groups are less likely to do so.

6.4.1.1 Overall Health

Figure 6.4.1.1: Overall Health

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by families not having enough income. Please indicate if families not having enough income has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's overall health[42]
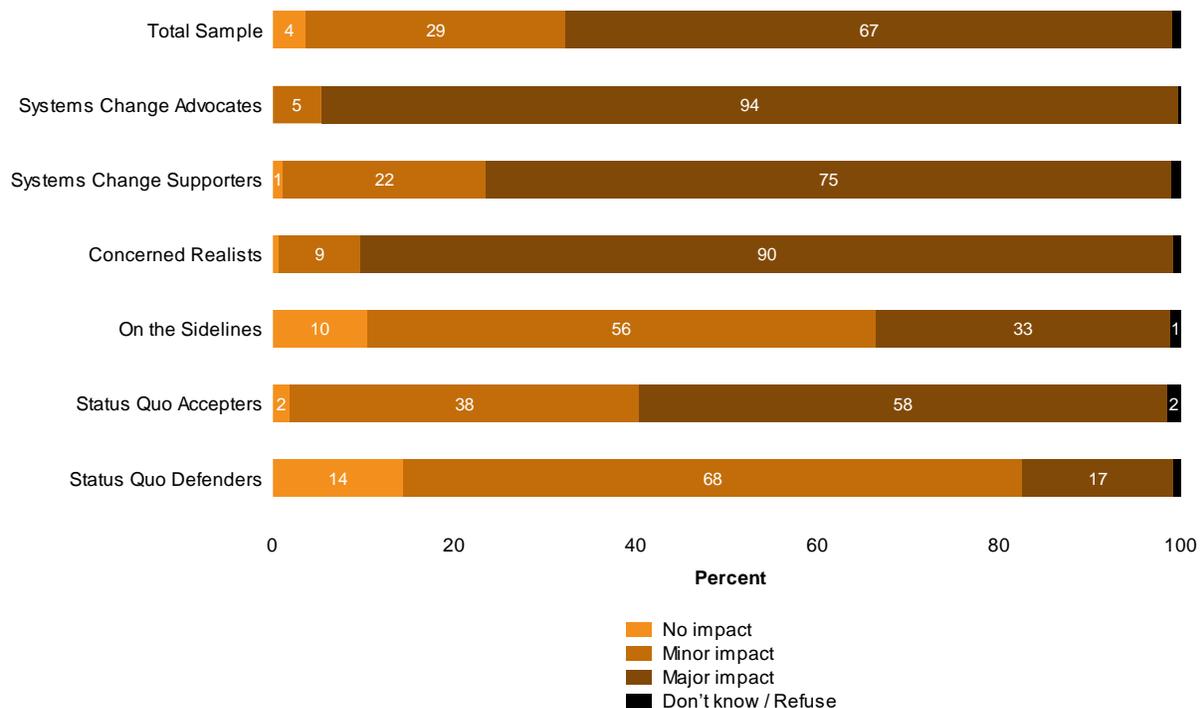
Sixty-seven percent of U.S. adults say that families not having enough income has a major impact on a child's overall health. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this has a major impact, but Status Quo Accepters and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe that this is the case. Status Quo Defenders are much less likely to believe it has a major impact.

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[42] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.90), Systems Change Advocates (0.31), System Change Supporters (1.02), Concerned Realists (0.79), Status Quo Defenders (0.77), Status Quo Accepters (1.53), and On the Sidelines (1.11).

6.4.1.2 Early Learning

Figure 6.4.1.2: Early Learning

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by families not having enough income. Please indicate if families not having enough income has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's brain development and early learning[43]

Sixty percent of U.S. adults say that families not having enough income has a major impact on a child's brain development and early learning. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe that this has a major impact. While Status Quo Accepters are less likely to believe this is the case, those On the Sidelines and Status Quo Defenders are much less likely to believe it has a major impact.

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[43] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.74), Systems Change Advocates (0.29), System Change Supporters (0.66), Concerned Realists (0.70), Status Quo Defenders (0.36), Status Quo Accepters (1.49), and On the Sidelines (1.08).

6.4.1.3 School Performance

Figure 6.4.1.3: School Performance

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by families not having enough income. Please indicate if families not having enough income has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's performance in school[44]

Fifty-nine percent of U.S. adults say that families not having enough income has a major impact on a child's performance in school. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are all more likely to believe income has a major impact in this regard. While Status Quo Accepters are less likely to believe this is the case, those On the Sidelines and Status Quo Defenders are much less likely to believe that this has a major impact.

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[44] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.65), Systems Change Advocates (0.29), System Change Supporters (0.37), Concerned Realists (0.98), Status Quo Defenders (0.29), Status Quo Accepters (1.00), and On the Sidelines (1.21).

6.4.1.4 Earning Potential

Figure 6.4.1.4: Earning Potential

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by families not having enough income. Please indicate if families not having enough income has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's earning potential later in life[45]

Fifty-three percent of U.S. adults say that families not having enough income has a major impact on a child's earning potential later in life. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe that this has a major impact, but Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are all much less likely to believe that income has a major impact on earning potential.

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[45] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.36), Systems Change Advocates (0.32), System Change Supporters (0.17), Concerned Realists (0.82), Status Quo Defenders (0.09), Status Quo Accepters (0.79), and On the Sidelines (1.21).

6.4.1.5 Happiness and Well-being

Figure 6.4.1.5: Happiness and Well-being

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by families not having enough income. Please indicate if families not having enough income has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's happiness and well being[46]

Fifty-six percent of U.S. adults say that families not having enough income has a major impact on a child's happiness and well-being. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this has a major impact. Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are all much less likely to believe income has a major impact in this regard.
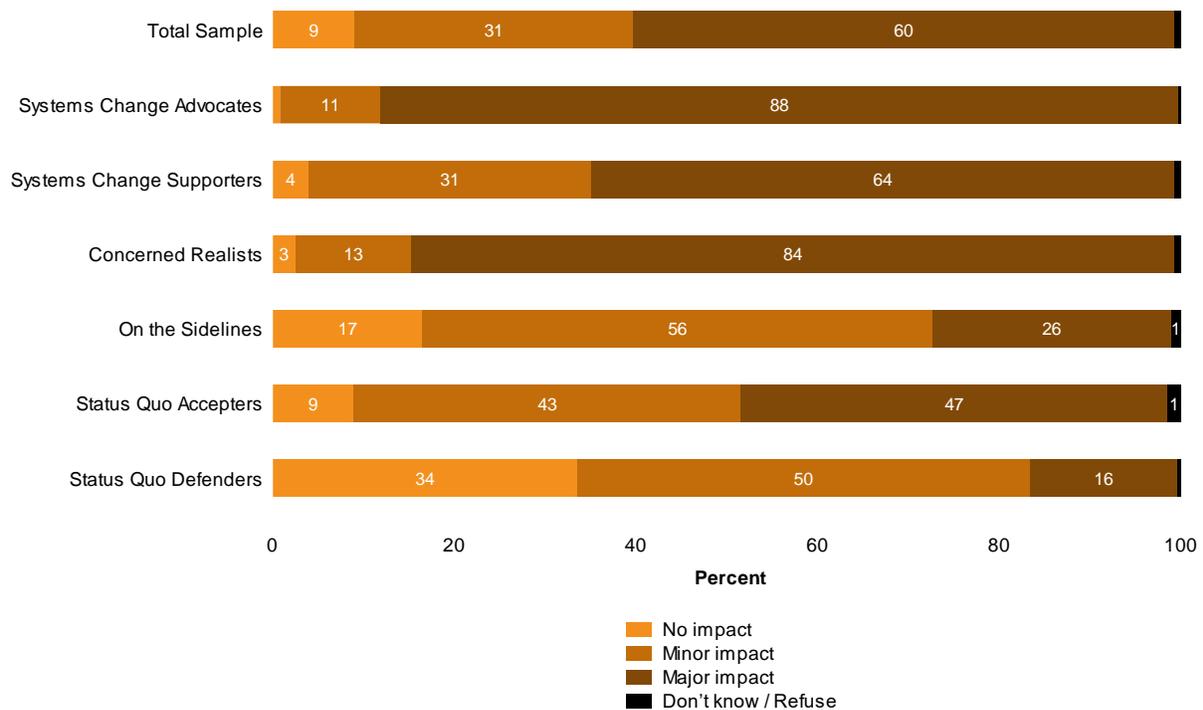
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[46] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.42), Systems Change Advocates (0.39), System Change Supporters (0.51), Concerned Realists (0.66), Status Quo Defenders (0.18), Status Quo Accepters (0.22), and On the Sidelines (0.14).

6.4.2 Food Problem

Overview: A majority of U.S. adults say that lack of access to enough healthy food has a major impact on all the dimensions of child health and development, except for later earning potential, where there was a lower level of agreement. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, Status Quo Accepters, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that food has a major impact on these facets of a child's life, and all other groups less likely to do so.

6.4.2.1 Overall Health

Figure 6.4.2.1: Overall Health

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by a lack of access to enough healthy food to eat. Please indicate if a lack of healthy food to eat has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.
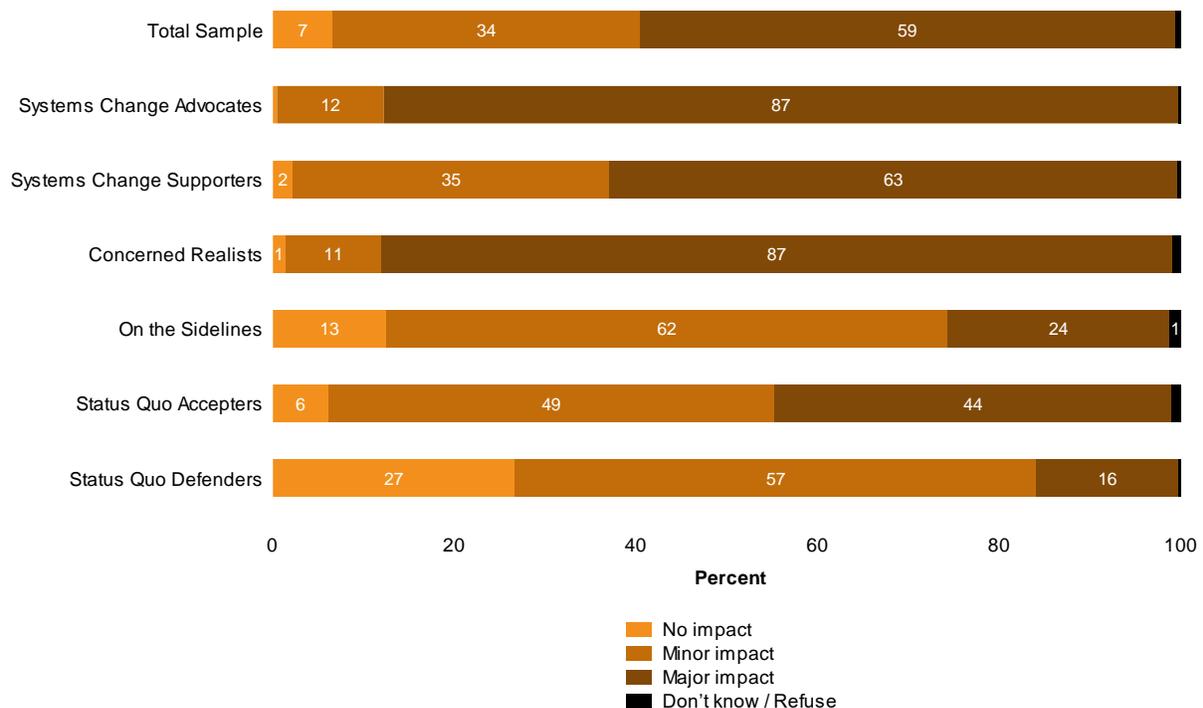
Child's overall health[47]
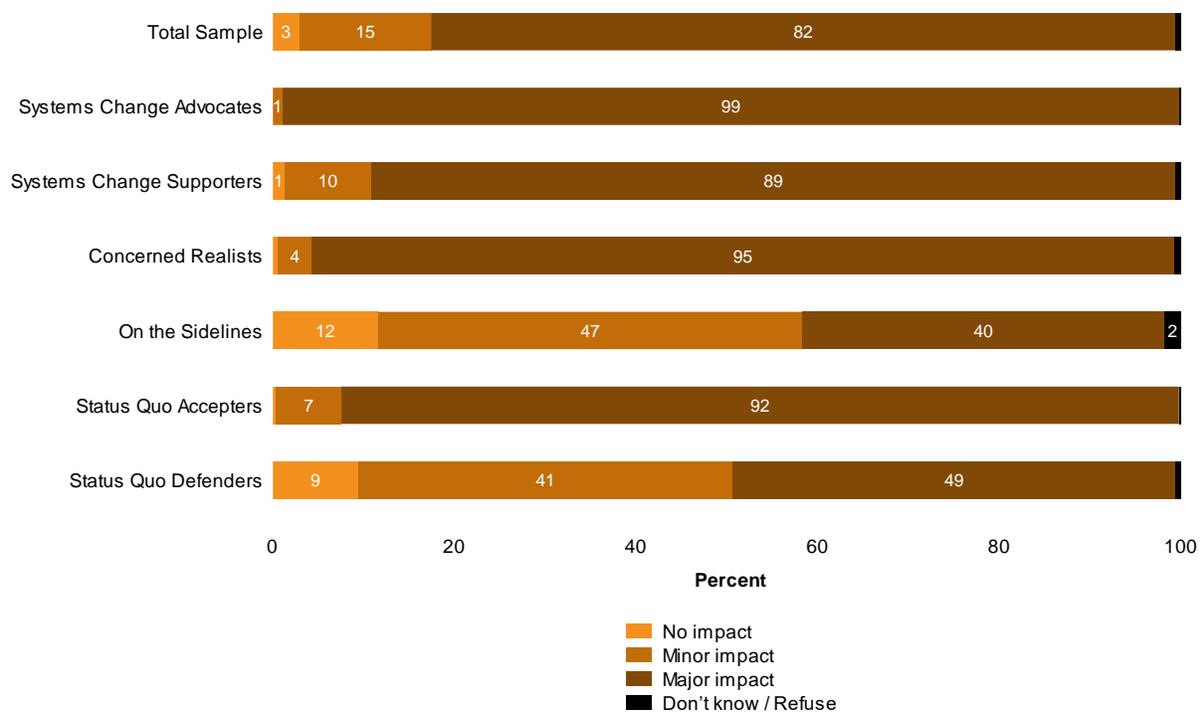
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[47] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.62), Systems Change Advocates (0.18), System Change Supporters (0.57), Concerned Realists (0.76), Status Quo Defenders (0.62), Status Quo Accepters (0.21), and On the Sidelines (1.86).

Eighty-two percent of U.S. adults say lack of healthy food has a major impact on a child's overall health. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to believe this has a major impact. Status Quo Defenders and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe this has a major impact.

6.4.2.2 Early Learning

Figure 6.4.2.2: Early Learning

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by a lack of access to enough healthy food to eat. Please indicate if a lack of healthy food to eat has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's brain development and early learning[48]
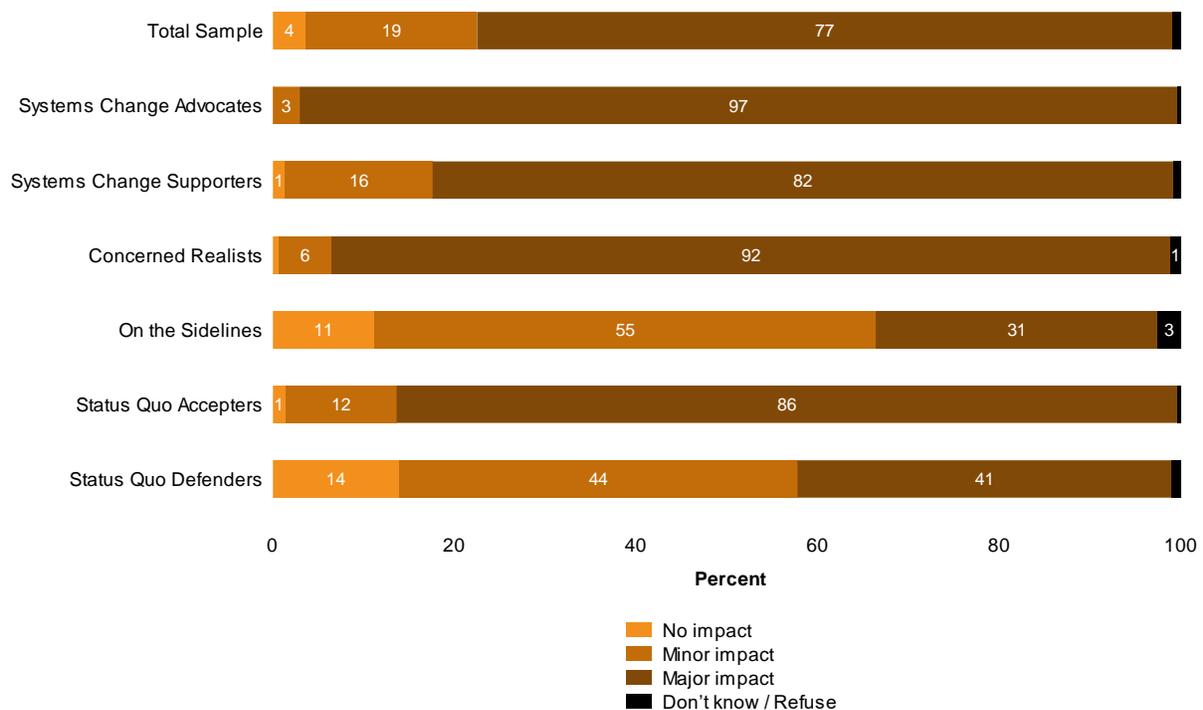
Seventy-seven percent of U.S. adults say a lack of healthy food has a major impact on a child's brain development and early learning. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to believe this has a major impact. Status Quo Defenders and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe it has a major impact.
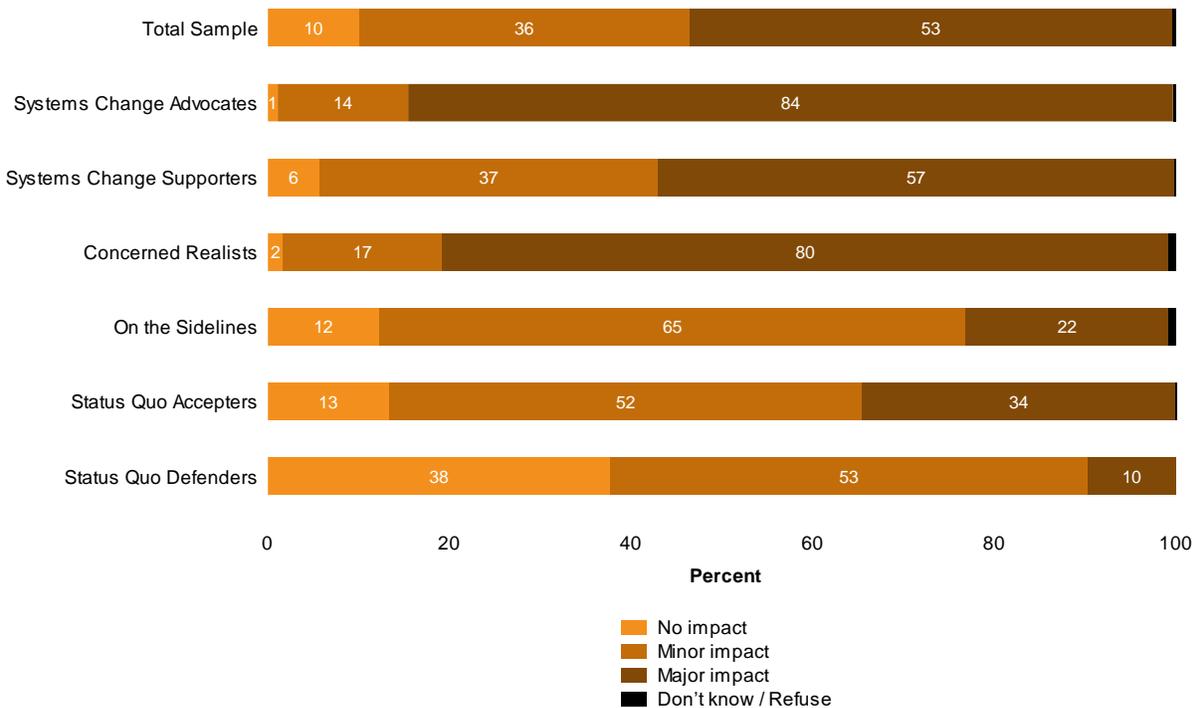
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[48] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.95), Systems Change Advocates (0.37), System Change Supporters (0.85), Concerned Realists (1.15), Status Quo Defenders (1.00), Status Quo Accepters (0.38), and On the Sidelines (2.59).

6.4.2.3 School Performance

Figure 6.4.2.3: School Performance

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by a lack of access to enough healthy food to eat. Please indicate if a lack of healthy food to eat has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's performance in school[49]

Seventy-one percent of U.S. adults say that a lack of healthy food has a major impact on a child's performance in school. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to believe this has a major impact. Status Quo Defenders and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe this has a major impact.
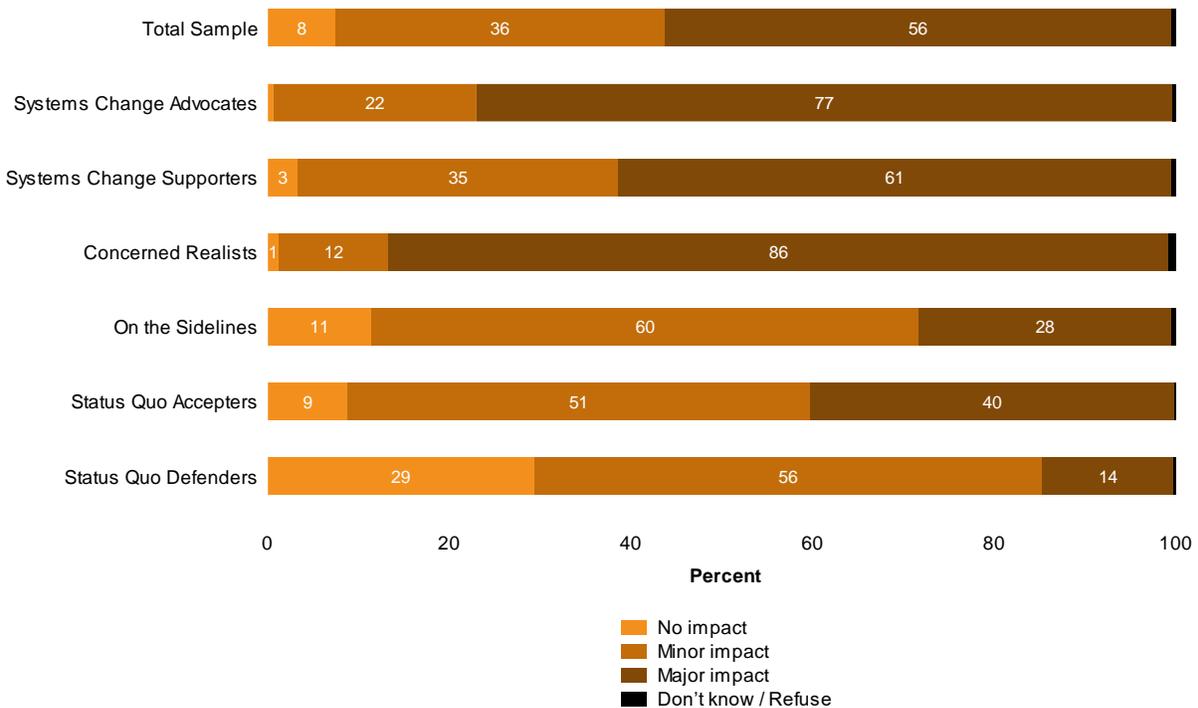
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[49] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.84), Systems Change Advocates (0.40), System Change Supporters (0.67), Concerned Realists (1.07), Status Quo Defenders (0.89), Status Quo Accepters (0.45), and On the Sidelines (2.04).

6.4.2.4 Earning Potential

Figure 6.4.2.4: Earning Potential

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by a lack of access to enough healthy food to eat. Please indicate if a lack of healthy food to eat has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's earning potential later in life[50]

Forty-seven percent of U.S. adults say a lack of healthy food has a major impact on a child's earning potential. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe this has a major impact. Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe it has a major impact.

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[50] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.05), Systems Change Advocates (0.37), System Change Supporters (0.51), Concerned Realists (1.71), Status Quo Defenders (1.39), Status Quo Accepters (1.13), and On the Sidelines (1.63).

6.4.2.5 Happiness and Well-being

Figure 6.4.2.5: Happiness and Well-being

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by a lack of access to enough healthy food to eat. Please indicate if a lack of healthy food to eat has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's happiness and well being[51]

Sixty-two percent of U.S. adults say a lack of healthy food has a major impact on a child's happiness and well-being. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe this has a major impact. Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe this has a major impact. Systems Change Supporters closely resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[51] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.32), Systems Change Advocates (0.34), System Change Supporters (1.00), Concerned Realists (1.99), Status Quo Defenders (1.18), Status Quo Accepters (1.37), and On the Sidelines (2.61).

6.4.3 Child-care/Preschool Problem

Overview: Except for earning potential later in life, a majority of U.S. adults believe that all the child health and developmental domains are impacted in a major way by the child-care/preschool problem. There was a lower level of agreement on the earning potential impact. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe that the problem has a major impact on these aspects of a child's life. The views of Systems Change Supporters are mixed. The other groups are less likely to believe that the problem impacts these aspects of a child's life.

6.4.3.1 Overall Health

Figure 6.4.3.1: Overall Health

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by lack of access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school. Please indicate if not having access to quality child care or pre-school has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's overall health[52]
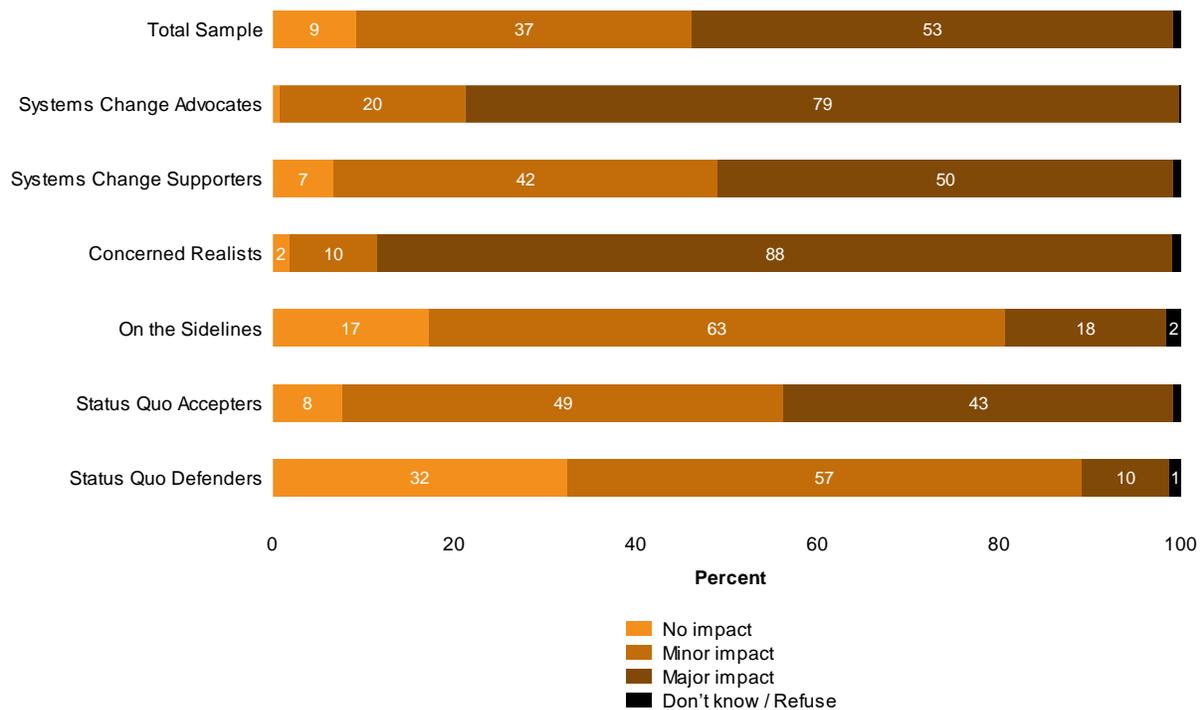
Fifty-three percent of U.S. adults say that lack of child care/preschool has a major impact on a child's overall health. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe this has a major impact, with all other groups less likely to do so.
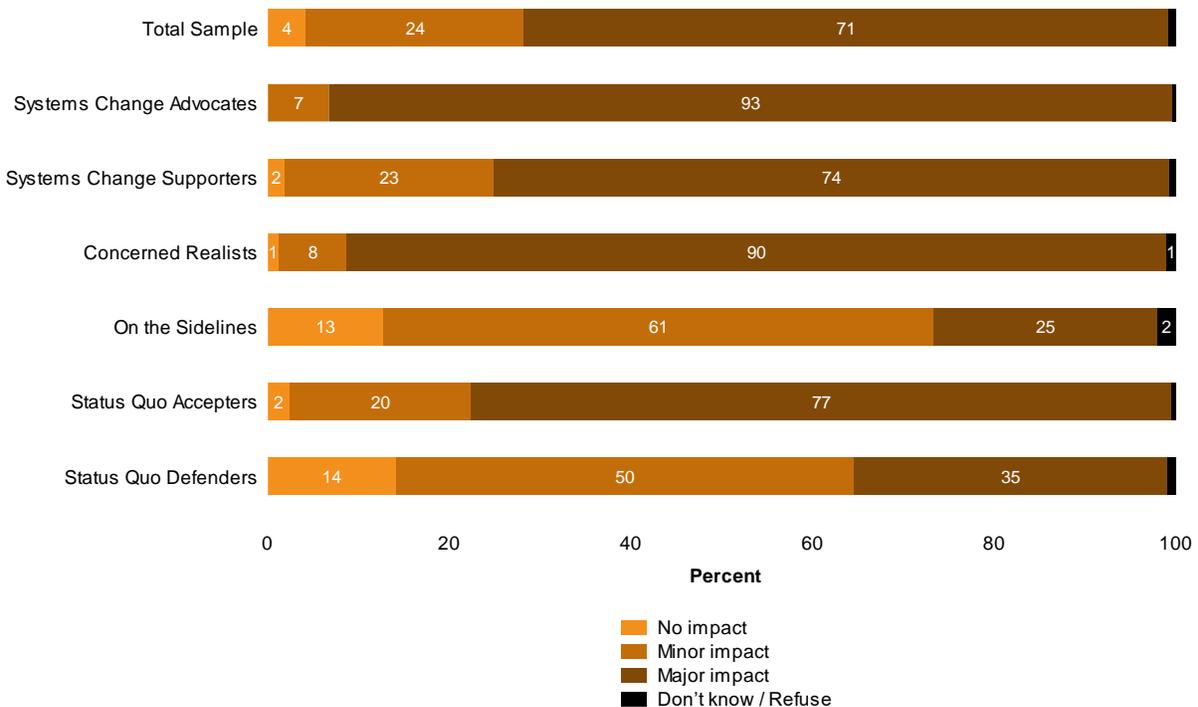
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[52] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.83), Systems Change Advocates (0.13), System Change Supporters (0.78), Concerned Realists (0.90), Status Quo Defenders (1.21), Status Quo Accepters (0.82), and On the Sidelines (1.58).

6.4.3.2 Early Learning

Figure 6.4.3.2: Early Learning

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by lack of access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school. Please indicate if not having access to quality child care or pre-school has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's brain development and early learning[53]

Sixty-six percent of U.S. adults say that lack of child care/preschool has a major impact on a child's brain development and early learning. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this has a major impact. Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe it has a major impact.
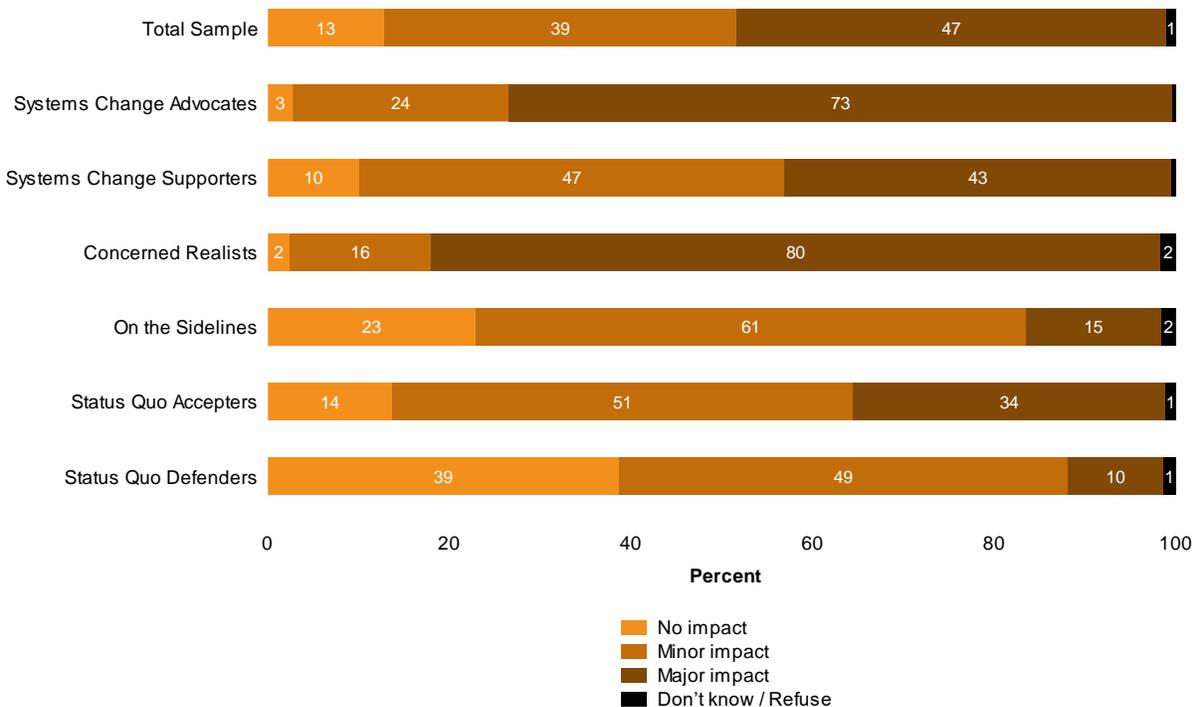
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[53] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.89), Systems Change Advocates (0.06), System Change Supporters (0.74), Concerned Realists (1.04), Status Quo Defenders (1.32), Status Quo Accepters (0.89), and On the Sidelines (1.85).

6.4.3.3 School Performance

Figure 6.4.3.3: School Performance

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by lack of access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school. Please indicate if not having access to quality child care or pre-school has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's performance in school[54]

Sixty-four percent of U.S. adults say that lack of child care/preschool has a major impact on a child's performance in school. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this has a major impact. Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe this has a major impact.
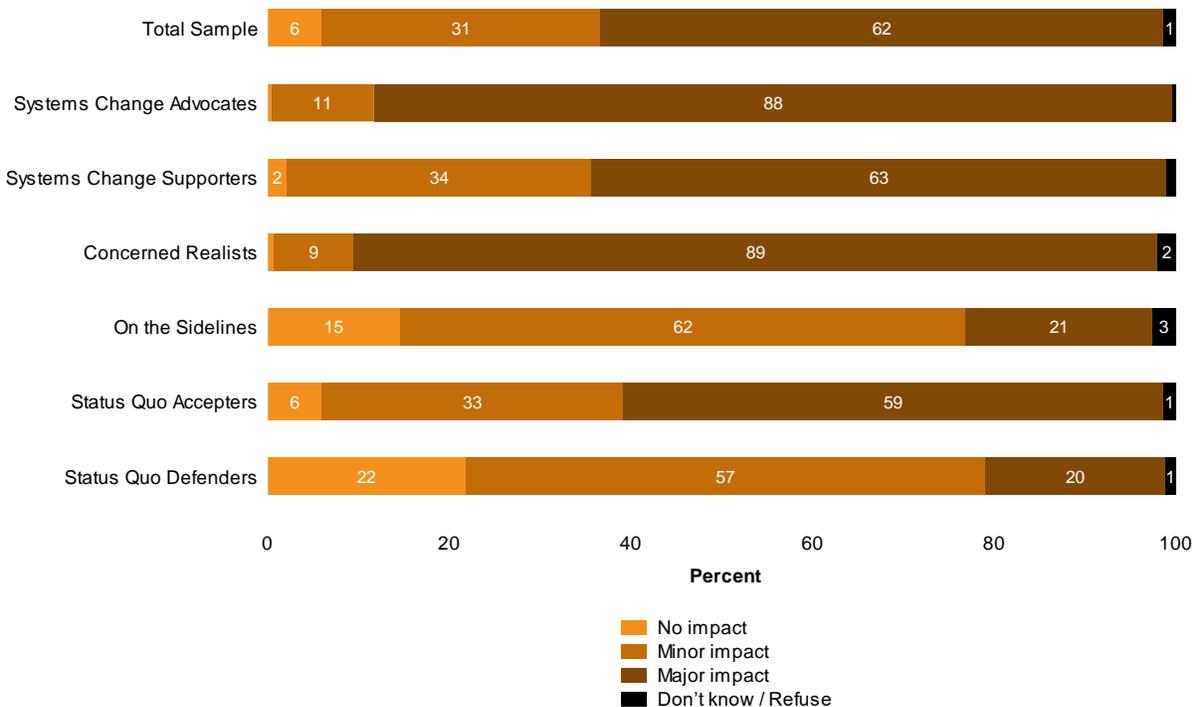
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[54] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.72), Systems Change Advocates (0.11), System Change Supporters (0.58), Concerned Realists (0.85), Status Quo Defenders (0.83), Status Quo Accepters (0.62), and On the Sidelines (1.83).

6.4.3.4 Earning Potential

Figure 6.4.3.4: Earning Potential

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by lack of access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school. Please indicate if not having access to quality child care or pre-school has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's earning potential later in life[55]

Forty-eight percent of U.S. adults say that lack of child care/preschool has a major impact on a child's earning potential later in life. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this has a major impact. Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe it has a major impact.

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[55] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.32), Systems Change Advocates (0.46), System Change Supporters (1.27), Concerned Realists (1.37), Status Quo Defenders (1.46), Status Quo Accepters (1.29), and On the Sidelines (2.72).

6.4.3.5 Happiness and Well-being

Figure 6.4.3.5: Happiness and Well-being

The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by lack of access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school. Please indicate if not having access to quality child care or pre-school has a major impact, minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

Child's happiness and well being[56]

Fifty-four percent of U.S. adults say that lack of child care/preschool has a major impact on a child's happiness and well-being. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe this has a major impact. Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to do so. Systems Change Supporters beliefs resemble U.S. adults in general.
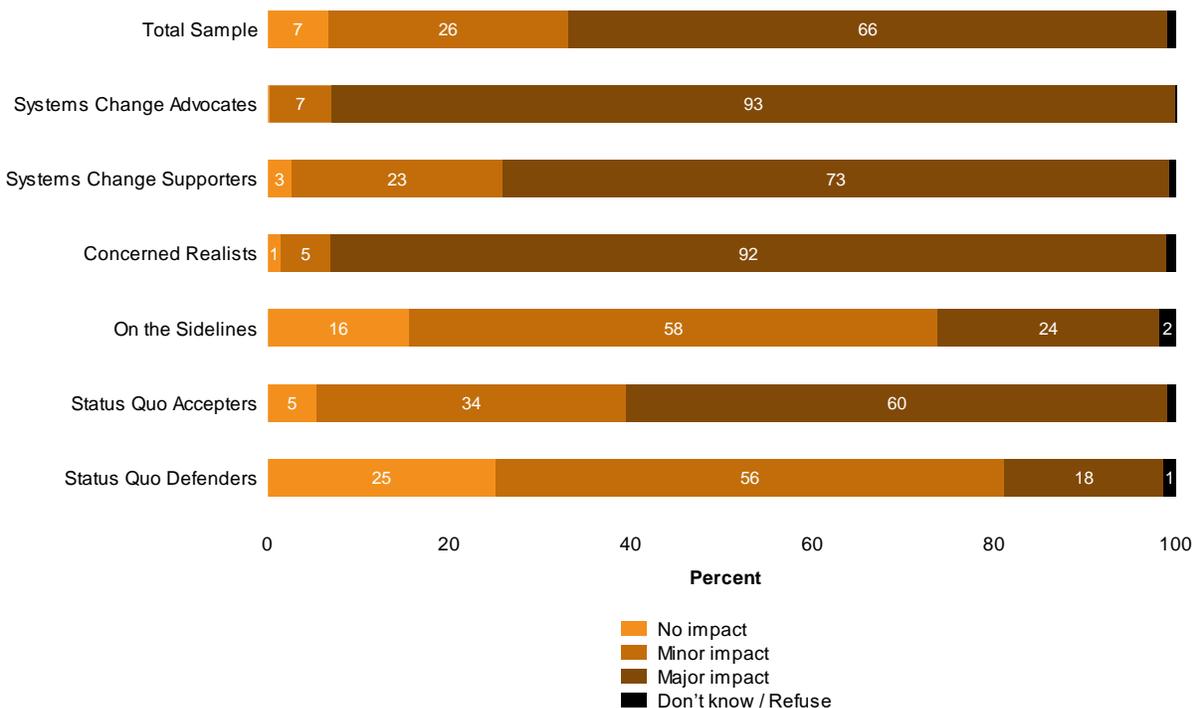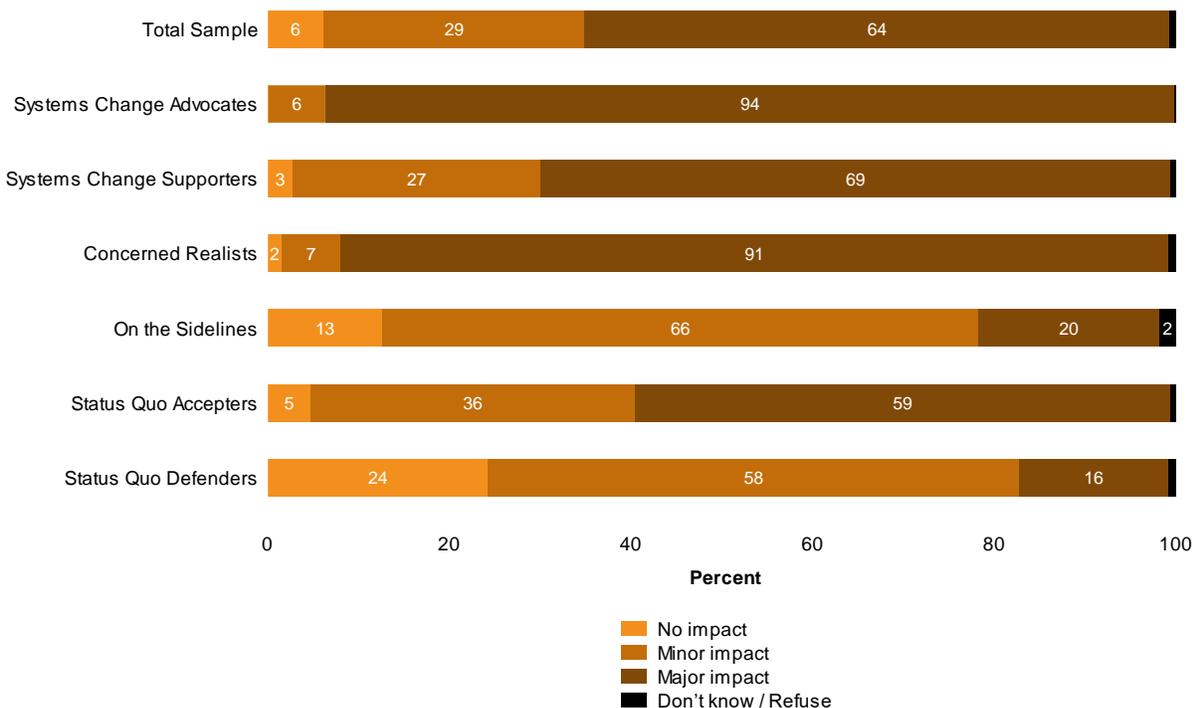
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[56] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.35), Systems Change Advocates (0.53), System Change Supporters (1.25), Concerned Realists (1.98), Status Quo Defenders (1.44), Status Quo Accepters (0.87), and On the Sidelines (2.50).

6.5 Experiencing the Problems: Race/Ethnic Disparities

Overview: Large numbers of U.S. adults believe there are race/ethnic disparities in how the problems are experienced. More adults believe Black and Latino families are adversely impacted than Asian American and Pacific Islander families.

Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are generally more likely than U.S. adults to believe that there are racial/ethnic disparities in how the three problems are experienced. Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are less likely to believe this. Those in the On the Sidelines group are either less likely to believe this or have views resembling those of the overall sample.

6.5.1 Income Problem

Overview: About two-thirds of U.S. adults believe that Black families are less likely to have enough income for their children to thrive. Six in ten adults believe the same about Latino families. However, only about a quarter of U.S. adults believe this about Asian American and Pacific Islander families. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists and Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe racial/ethnic disparities in how families are affected by the income problem. Other groups are less likely to believe in such racial/ethnic disparities.

6.5.1.1 Income Problem for Black Families

Figure 6.5.1.1: Income Problem for Black Families

Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to have enough income for their children to thrive, or is there not much difference?

Black families[57]
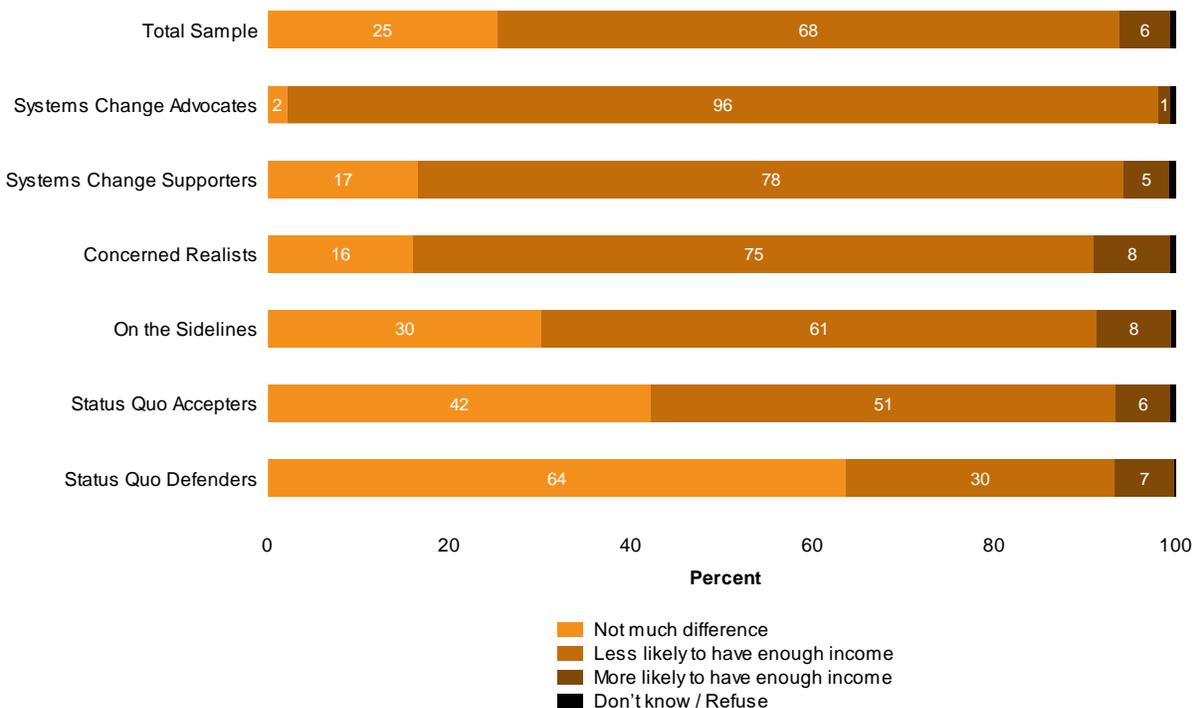
Sixty-eight percent of U.S. adults believe that Black families are less likely to have enough income for their children to thrive. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters and Concerned Realists are more likely to share this view, but those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe this.
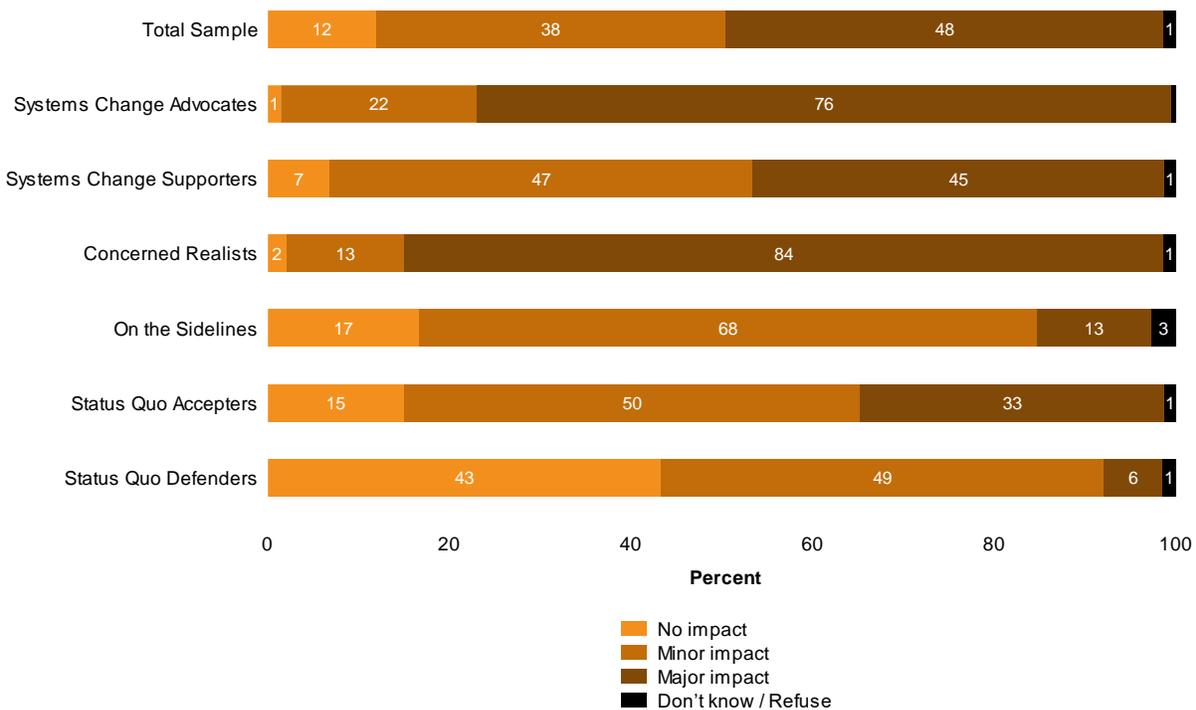
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[57] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.57), Systems Change Advocates (0.60), System Change Supporters (0.73), Concerned Realists (0.62), Status Quo Defenders (0.14), Status Quo Accepters (0.63), and On the Sidelines (0.52).

6.5.1.2 Income Problem for Latino Families

Figure 6.5.1.2: Income Problem for Latino Families

Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to have enough income for their children to thrive, or is there not much difference?

Latino families[58]

Sixty-two percent of U.S. adults believe that Latino families are less likely to have enough income for their children to thrive. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to share this view, while those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are all less likely to believe that this is the case.
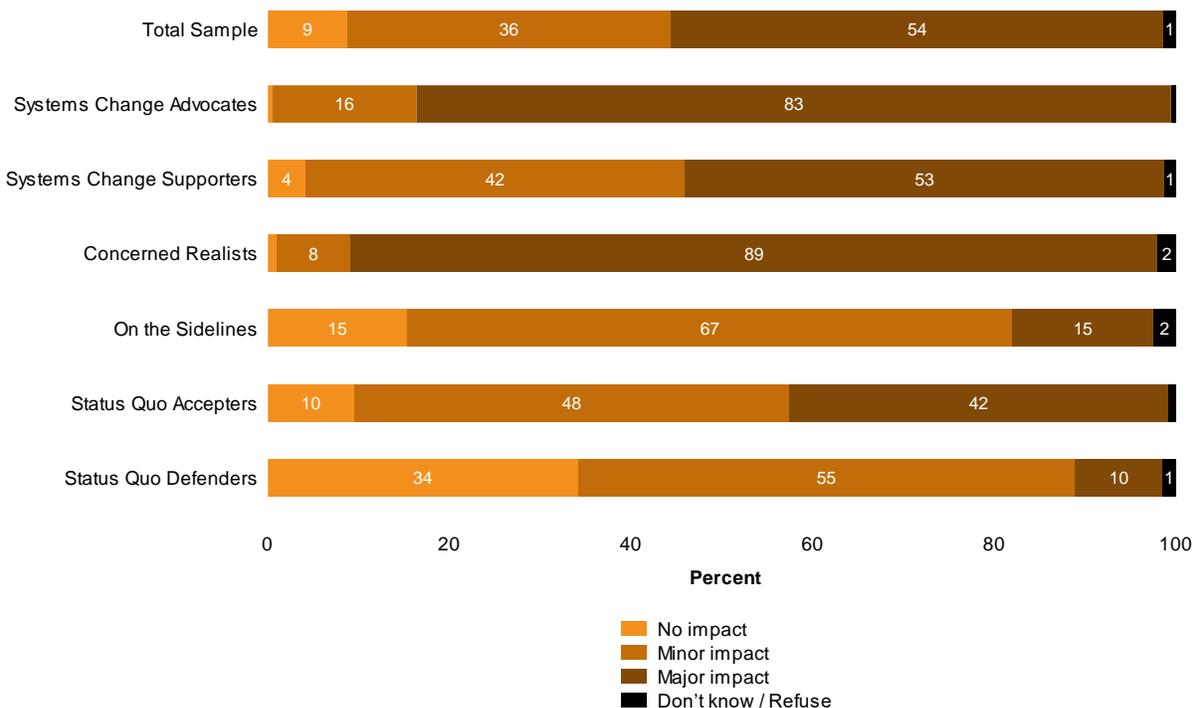
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[58] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.58), Systems Change Advocates (0.42), System Change Supporters (0.75), Concerned Realists (0.38), Status Quo Defenders (0.24), Status Quo Accepters (1.08), and On the Sidelines (0.57).

6.5.1.3 Income Problem for Asian American and Pacific Islander Families

Figure 6.5.1.3: Income Problem for Asian American and Pacific Islander Families

Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to have enough income for their children to thrive, or is there not much difference?

Asian American and Pacific Islander families[59]

Twenty-six percent of U.S. adults believe that Asian American and Pacific Islander families are less likely to have enough income for their children to thrive. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and those On the Sidelines are more likely to share this view, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are all less likely to believe that this is the case.

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[59] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.87), Systems Change Advocates (0.86), System Change Supporters (1.39), Concerned Realists (0.88), Status Quo Defenders (0.10), Status Quo Accepters (0.71), and On the Sidelines (0.99).

6.5.2 Food Problem

Overview: A majority of U.S. adults believe that Black families with young children are less likely to have enough healthy food to eat. Less than half believe the same about Latino families and less than a quarter believe it about Asian American and Pacific Islander families. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe in disparities in food access. Systems Change Supporters tend to resemble U.S. adults in general. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and those On the Sidelines are generally less likely to believe that disparities in food access exist.

6.5.2.1 Food Problem for Black Families

Figure 6.5.2.1: Food Problem for Black Families

Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to have access to enough healthy food to eat, or is there not much difference?

Black families[60]
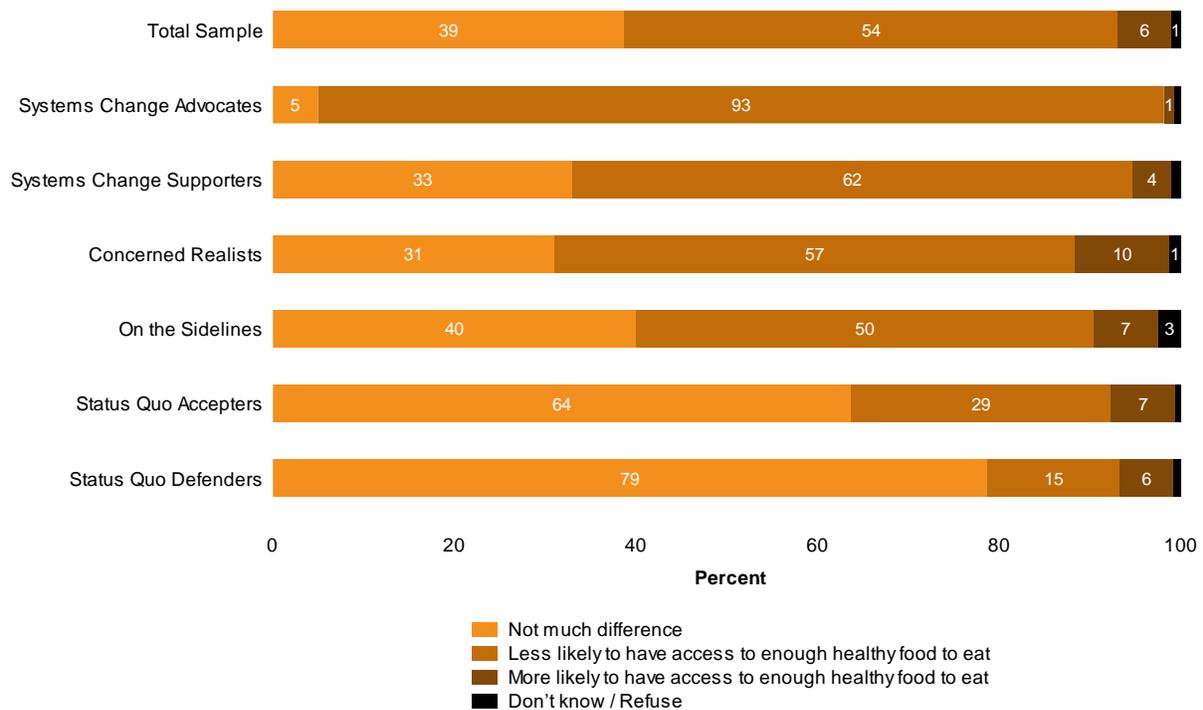
Fifty-four percent of U.S. adults believe that Black families with young children are less likely to have enough healthy food to eat. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe that this is the case, whereas Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are all less likely to believe that Black families are affected by this issue.

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[60] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.08), Systems Change Advocates (0.71), System Change Supporters (1.01), Concerned Realists (1.25), Status Quo Defenders (0.85), Status Quo Accepters (0.61), and On the Sidelines (2.51).

6.5.2.2 Food Problem for Latino Families

Figure 6.5.2.2: Food Problem for Latino Families

Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to have access to enough healthy food to eat, or is there not much difference?

Latino families[61]

Forty-six percent of U.S. adults believe that Latino families with young children are less likely to have enough healthy food to eat. Systems Change Advocates and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this is the case, whereas Status Quo Accepters and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe Latino families are affected by this issue. Concerned Realists and those On the Sidelines are more likely to resemble U.S. adults in general.
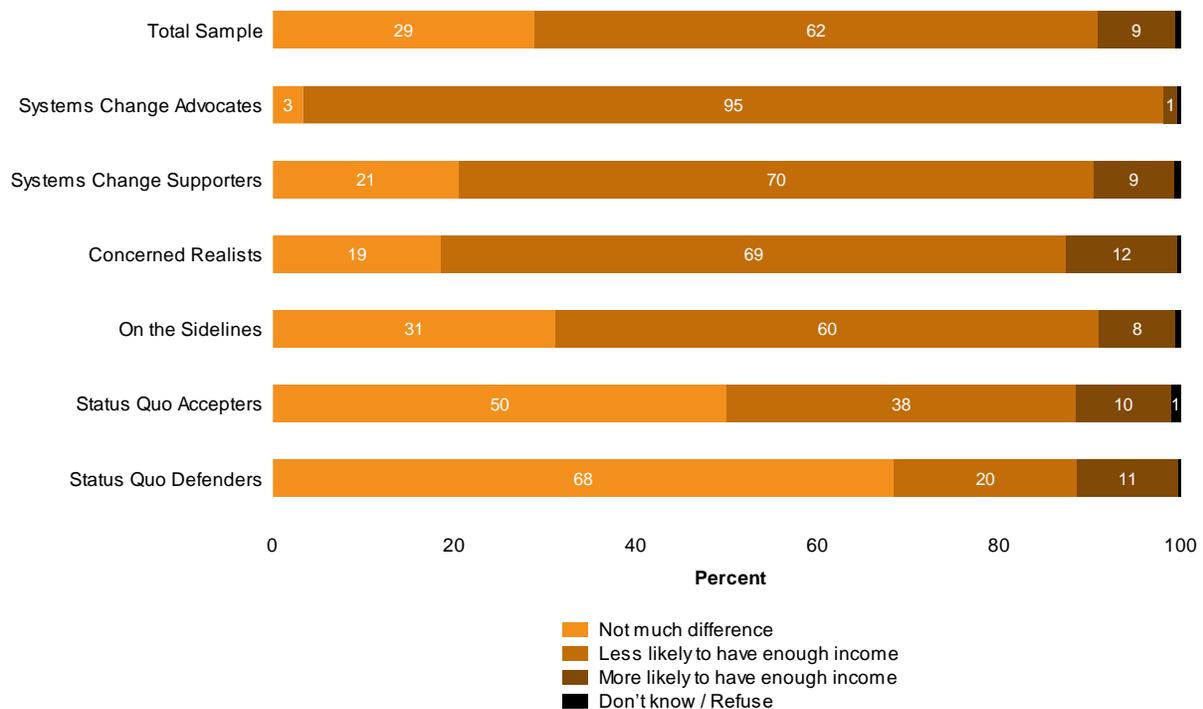
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[61] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.95), Systems Change Advocates (0.85), System Change Supporters (0.77), Concerned Realists (1.04), Status Quo Defenders (0.85), Status Quo Accepters (0.72), and On the Sidelines (1.76).

6.5.2.3 Food Problem for Asian American and Pacific Islander Families

Figure 6.5.2.3: Food Problem for Asian American and Pacific Islander Families

Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to have access to enough healthy food to eat, or is there not much difference?

Asian American and Pacific Islander families[62]

Twenty-three percent of U.S. adults believe that Asian American and Pacific Islander families with young children are less likely to have enough healthy food to eat. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and those On the Sidelines are more likely to believe this is the case, whereas Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe that Asian American and Pacific Islander families are affected by this issue.
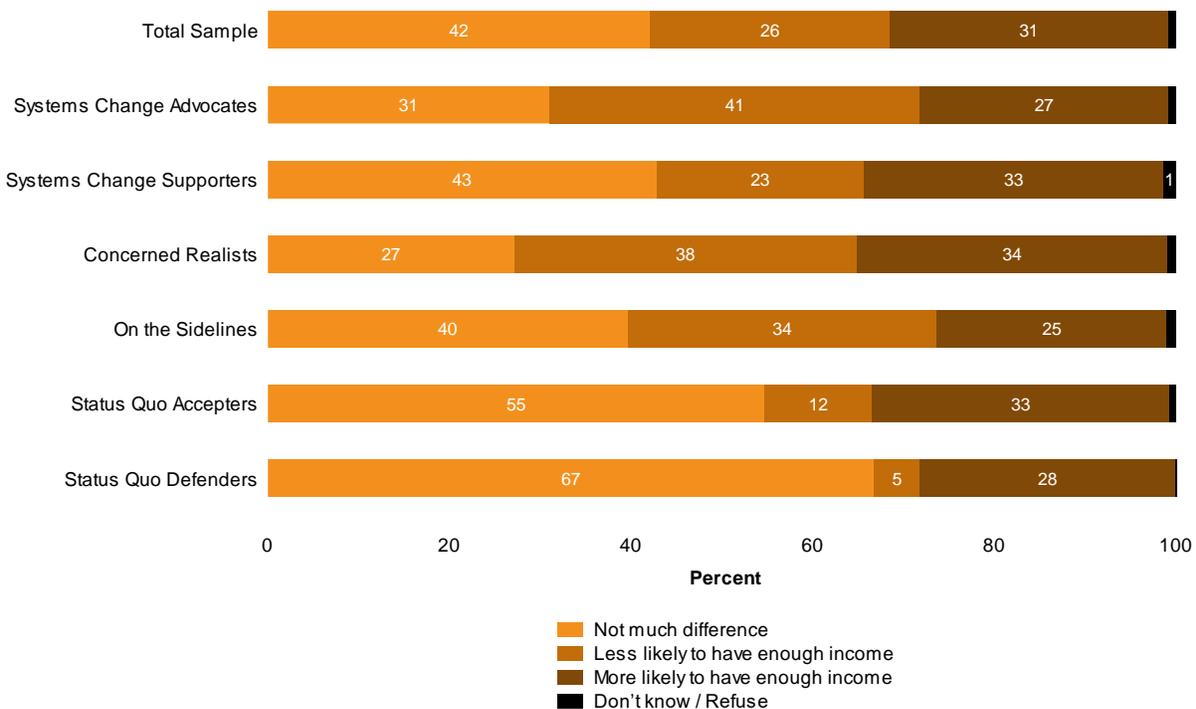
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[62] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.36), Systems Change Advocates (0.86), System Change Supporters (1.52), Concerned Realists (1.86), Status Quo Defenders (0.88), Status Quo Accepters (0.78), and On the Sidelines (2.49).

## 6.5.3 Child-care/Preschool Problem

Overview: A majority of U.S. adults believe that Black and Latino families are less likely to have access to affordable, quality child care and preschool. Fewer—only about one-quarter of adults—believe that this is true of Asian American and Pacific Islander families. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe that there are racial/ethnic disparities related to the child care/preschool problem. Status Quo Accepters and Status Quo Defenders are much less likely to believe in that these disparities exist. Those in the On the Sidelines group tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.

6.5.3.1 Child-care/Preschool Problem for Black Families

Figure 6.5.3.1: Child-care/Preschool Problem for Black Families

Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school, or is there not much difference?

Black families[63]
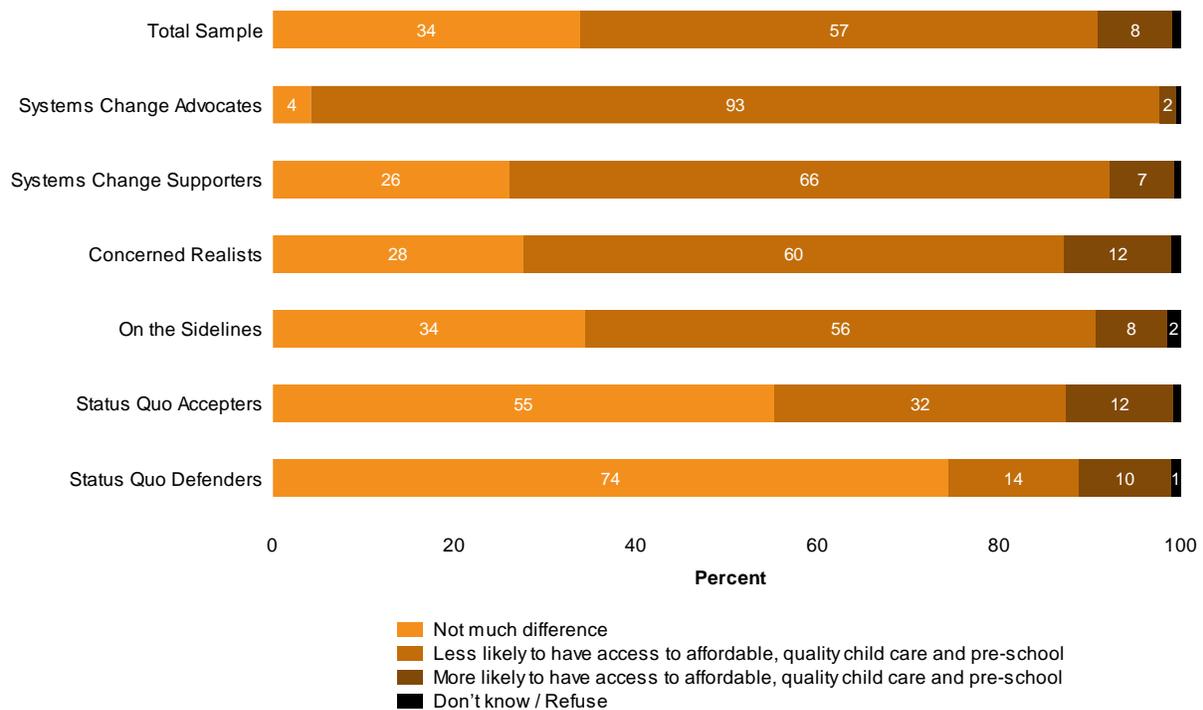
Fifty-seven percent of U.S. adults believe that Black families are less likely to have access to affordable, quality child care and preschool. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to share this view. Status Quo Accepters and Status Quo Defenders are much less likely to believe this is the case. Those On the Sidelines are more likely to resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[63] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.88), Systems Change Advocates (0.50), System Change Supporters (0.69), Concerned Realists (1.02), Status Quo Defenders (1.08), Status Quo Accepters (0.82), and On the Sidelines (1.53).

6.5.3.2 Child-care/Preschool Problem for Latino Families

Figure 6.5.3.2: Child-care/Preschool Problem for Latino Families

Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school, or is there not much difference?

Latino families[64]
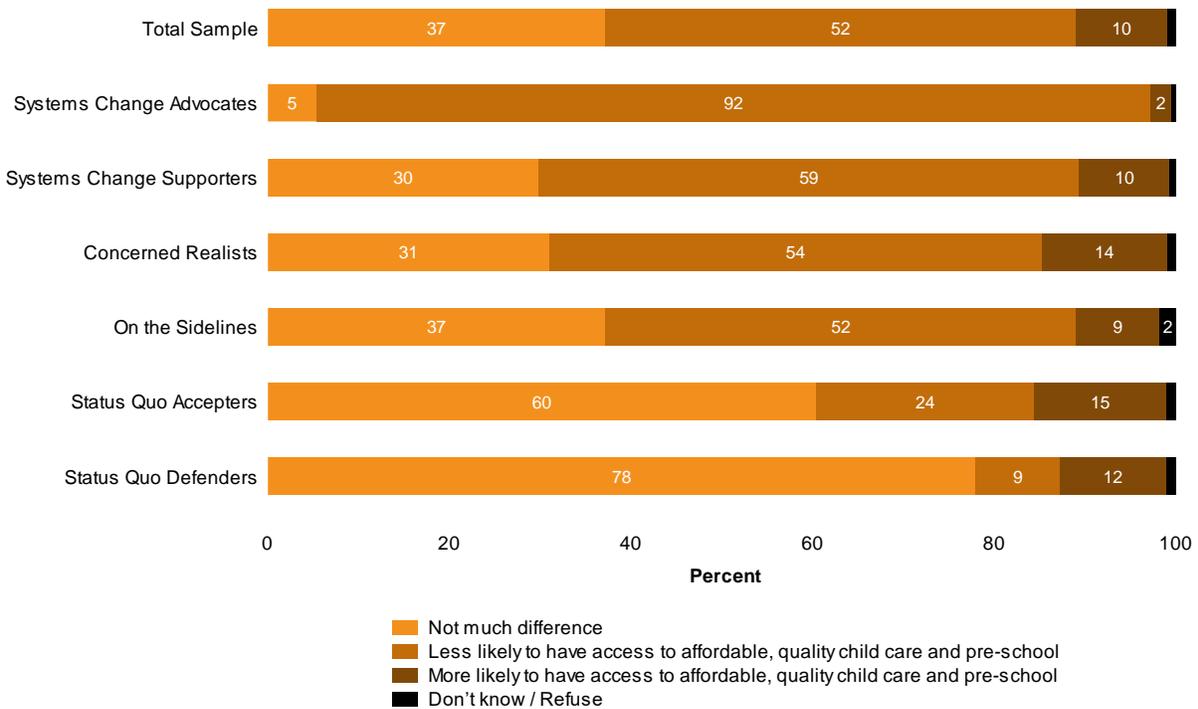
Fifty-two percent of U.S. adults believe that Latino families are less likely to have access to affordable, quality child care and preschool. Systems Change Advocates and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to share this view. Status Quo Accepters and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe this is the case. Concerned Realists and those On the Sidelines are more likely to resemble U.S. adults in general.
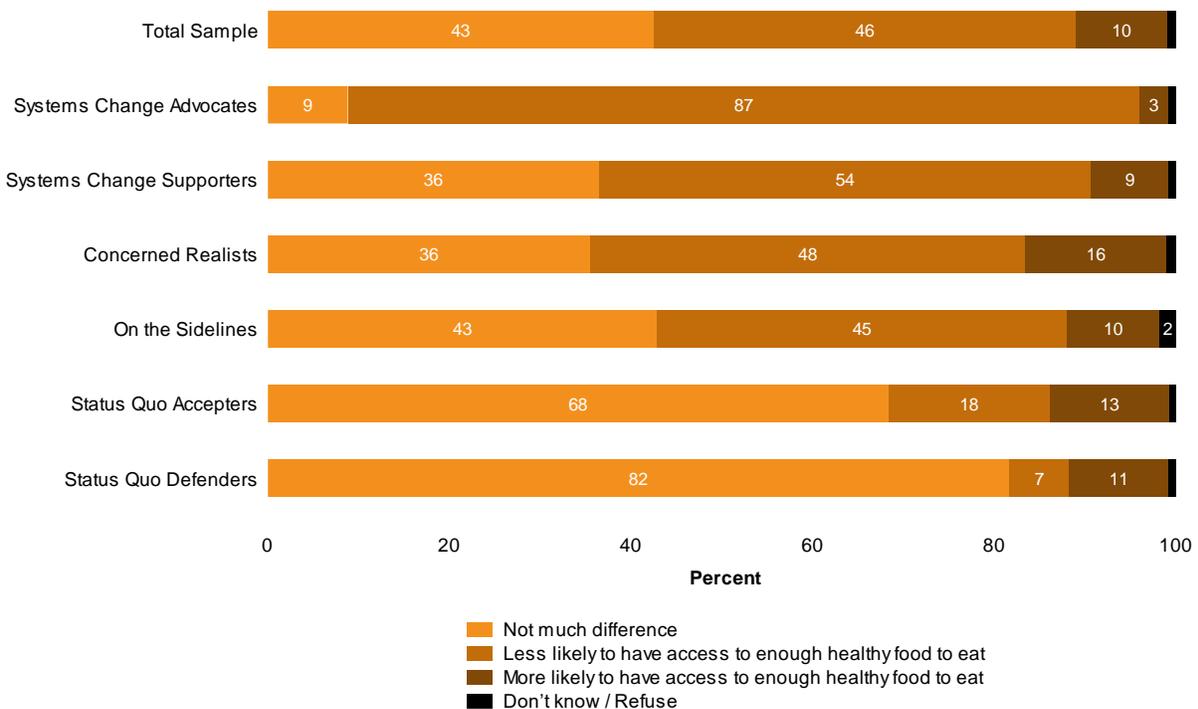
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[64] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.92), Systems Change Advocates (0.48), System Change Supporters (0.66), Concerned Realists (0.98), Status Quo Defenders (1.04), Status Quo Accepters (1.02), and On the Sidelines (1.80).

6.5.3.3 Child-care/Preschool Problem for Asian American and Pacific Islander Families

Figure 6.5.3.3: Child-care/Preschool Problem for Asian American and Pacific Islander Families

Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school, or is there not much difference?

Asian American and Pacific Islander families[65]

Twenty-seven percent of U.S. adults believe that Asian American and Pacific Islander families are less likely to access to affordable, quality child care and preschool. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and those On the Sidelines are more likely to share this view. Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe this is the case.
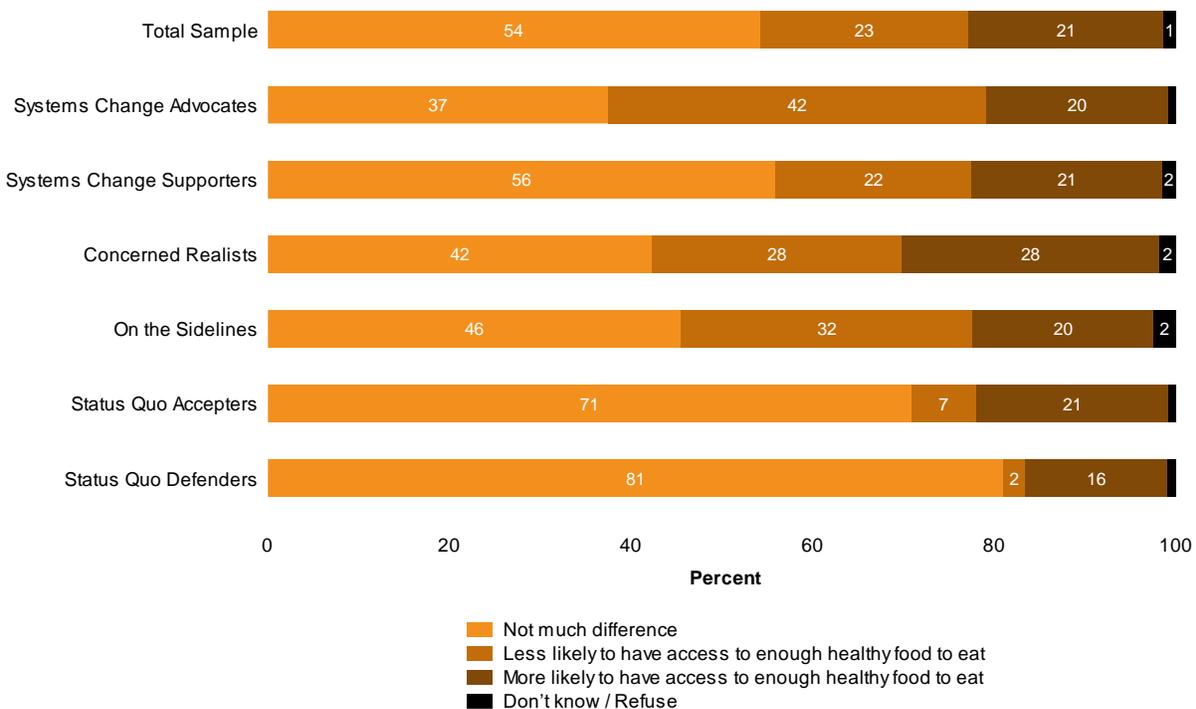
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[65] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.32), Systems Change Advocates (0.74), System Change Supporters (1.43), Concerned Realists (1.75), Status Quo Defenders (1.59), Status Quo Accepters (0.89), and On the Sidelines (1.67).

6.6 Solutions to the Problems

Overview: U.S. adults point to the effectiveness of family-level solutions about as often as systems-level solutions on the child-care/preschool problem. On the income problem, more view systems-level solutions as effective. With regard to the problem of healthy food access, they are more likely to embrace family-level solutions as very effective ones.

Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to believe in the effectiveness of family-level solutions in contrast to Systems Change Advocates who are more likely to believe in the effectiveness of systems-level solutions. Systems Change Supporters tend to favor systems-level solutions except on child care/preschool. Interestingly, those On the Sidelines are *less* likely to view both family- and systems-level solutions as very effective and Concerned Realists are more likely to view *both* family- and systems-level solutions as very effective.

6.6.1 Systems-level Solutions

Overview: Majorities of U.S. adults believe that a range of systems-level changes would be promising solutions to the three problems. These include more jobs that pay a livable wage, better education and training programs, more affordable housing, and improved access to affordable healthy food and child-care/preschool programs. They are generally less supportive of solutions that involve direct financial assistance from the government.

Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that the systems-level solutions are very effective, while Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to see them as effective.

6.6.1.1 Income Problem

Overview: Seven in ten U.S. adults believe that more jobs paying a livable wage would be a very effective solution to the income problem. A large majority also agree that better education and training programs, more affordable housing and better access to child care and preschool would be effective. There was less support for the effectiveness of the other systems-level solutions we included in the survey. In general, Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that systems-level solutions are very effective, and the other groups are generally less likely to see any systems-level solution as very effective.

6.6.1.1.1 More Government Financial Assistance for Income

Figure 6.6.1.1.1: More Government Financial Assistance for Income

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make in the reducing the number of families without enough income.

Government financial assistance to families with young children in need[66]
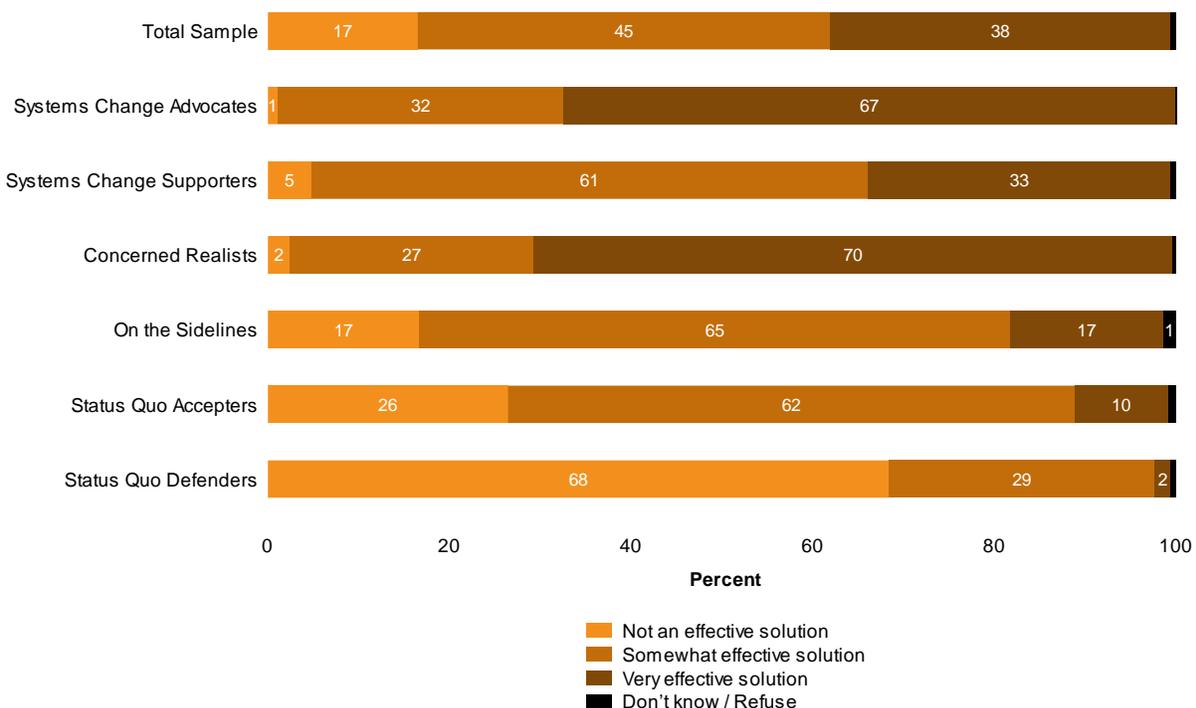
Thirty-eight percent of U.S. adults believe that government financial assistance to families with young children in need would be a very effective solution to the income problem faced by lower-income families. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe that this is a very effective solution, but Systems Change Supporters are slightly less likely to agree. Those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe this would work.
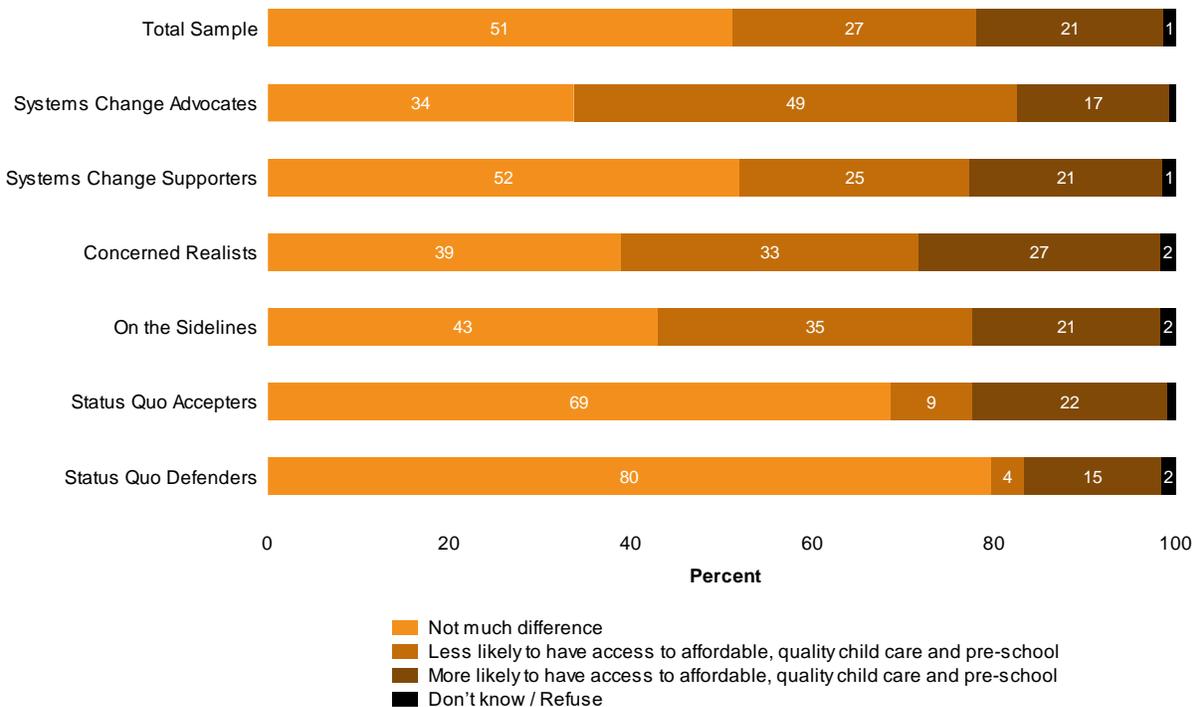
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[66] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.56), Systems Change Advocates (0.08), System Change Supporters (0.56), Concerned Realists (0.34), Status Quo Defenders (0.55), Status Quo Accepters (0.87), and On the Sidelines (1.37).

6.6.1.1.2 More Access to Child Care/Preschool

Figure 6.6.1.1.2: More Access to Child Care/Preschool

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make in the reducing the number of families without enough income.

More access to child care and pre-school[67]

Sixty percent of U.S. adults believe that more access to child care and preschool would be a very effective solution to the income problem faced by lower-income families. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe that this is a very effective solution. Status Quo Accepters and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe this would help, and Status Quo Defenders are much less likely to believe in it.

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[67] Total sample may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.68), Systems Change Advocates (0.44), System Change Supporters (0.70), Concerned Realists (0.44), Status Quo Defenders (0.86), Status Quo Accepters (0.38), and On the Sidelines (1.70).

6.6.1.1.3 Address Racial Prejudice

Figure 6.6.1.1.3: Address Racial Prejudice

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make in the reducing the number of families without enough income.

Reduced racial prejudice and discrimination to increase opportunities for all families[68]

Forty-eight percent of U.S. adults believe that reduced racial prejudice and discrimination to increase opportunities for all families would be a very effective solution to the income problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are much more likely to believe this is a very effective solution. Those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe it is very effective. Systems Change Supporters are similar to U.S. adults in general.

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[68] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.75), Systems Change Advocates (0.50), System Change Supporters (0.65), Concerned Realists (0.21), Status Quo Defenders (1.00), Status Quo Accepters (1.14), and On the Sidelines (1.47).

6.6.1.1.4 More Jobs That Pay a Livable Wage

Figure 6.6.1.1.4: More Jobs That Pay a Livable Wage

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make in the reducing the number of families without enough income.

More jobs that pay a livable wage[69]

Seventy percent of U.S. adults believe more jobs that pay a livable wage would be a very effective solution to the income problem face by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Advocates, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this is very effective. Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are all much less likely to believe this would work.
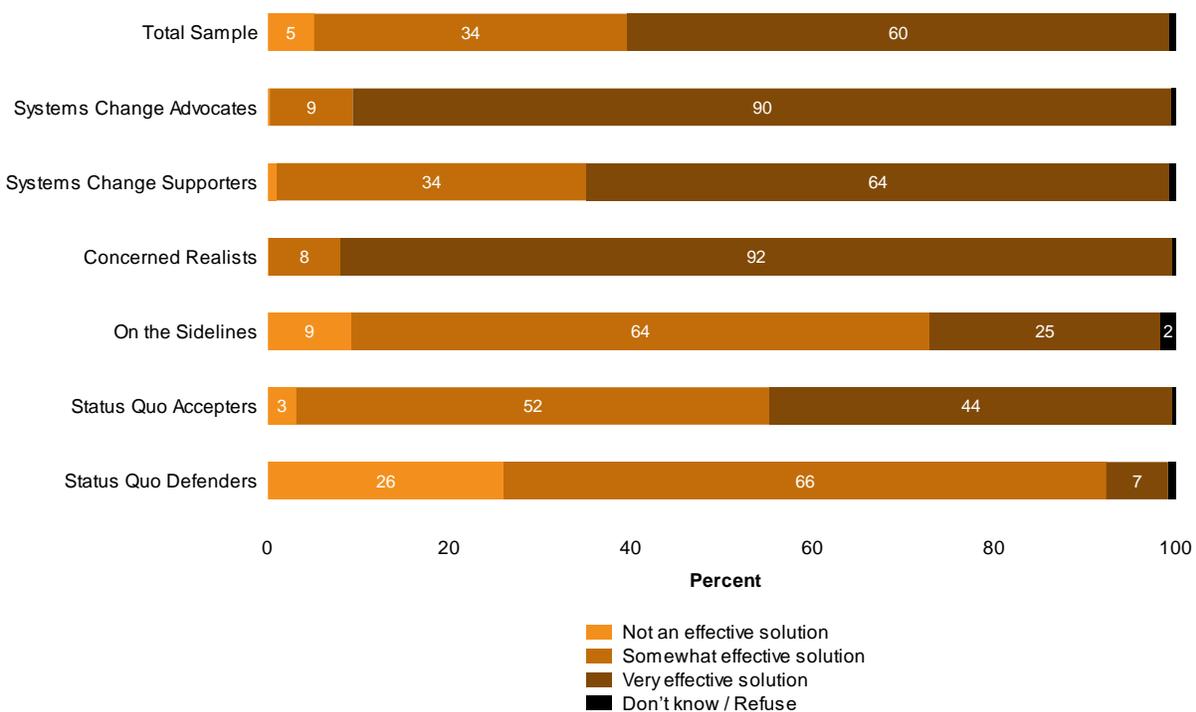
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[69] Total sample may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.64), Systems Change Advocates (0.17), System Change Supporters (0.36), Concerned Realists (0.53), Status Quo Defenders (0.99), Status Quo Accepters (0.30), and On the Sidelines (2.32).

6.6.1.1.5 Better Education and Job Training Programs for Parents

Figure 6.6.1.1.5: Better Education and Job Training Programs for Parents

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make in reducing the number of families without enough income.

Better education and job training programs for parents who lose their jobs or want to change careers[70]

Sixty-six percent of U.S. adults believe that better education and job training programs for parents would be a very effective solution to the income problem faced by lower-income families. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to think this would work. Status Quo Defenders and those On the Sidelines are less likely to agree. Systems Change Supporters resemble U.S. adults generally.
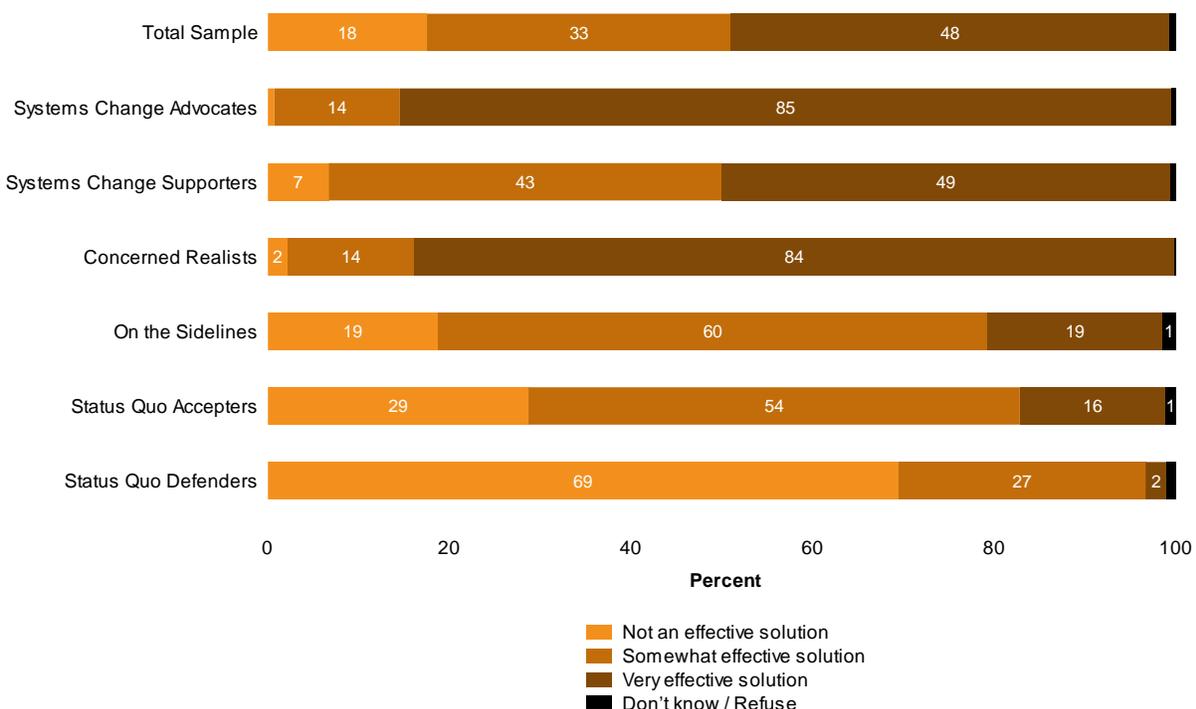
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[70] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.44), Systems Change Advocates (0.08), System Change Supporters (0.42), Concerned Realists (0.50), Status Quo Defenders (0.83), Status Quo Accepters (0.15), and On the Sidelines (1.00).

6.6.1.1.6 More Affordable Housing

Figure 6.6.1.1.6: More Affordable Housing

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make in reducing the number of families without enough income.

More affordable housing[71]

Sixty-two percent of U.S. adults believe that more affordable housing would be a very effective solution to the income problem faced by lower-income families. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are much more likely to believe this solution would be effective, but Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe it would be very effective.
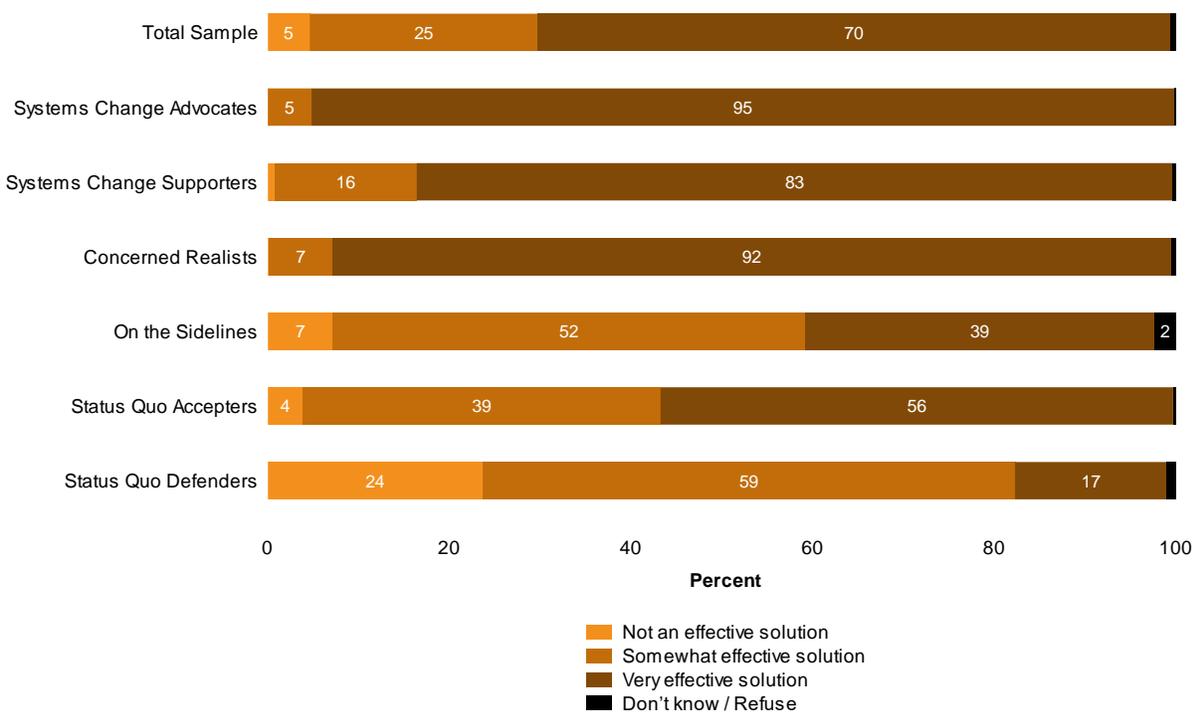
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[71] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.72), Systems Change Advocates (0.45), System Change Supporters (1.22), Concerned Realists (0.11), Status Quo Defenders (0.99), Status Quo Accepters (0.28), and On the Sidelines (1.59).

6.6.1.1.7 More Substance-use Treatment Programs for Parents

Figure 6.6.1.1.7: More Substance-use Treatment Programs for Parents

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make in reducing the number of families without enough income.

More substance use treatment programs for parents who need them[72]

Forty-eight percent of U.S. adults believe that more substance-use treatment programs for parents who need them would be a very effective solution to the income problem faced by lower-income families. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe this is a very effective solution. Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to agree.
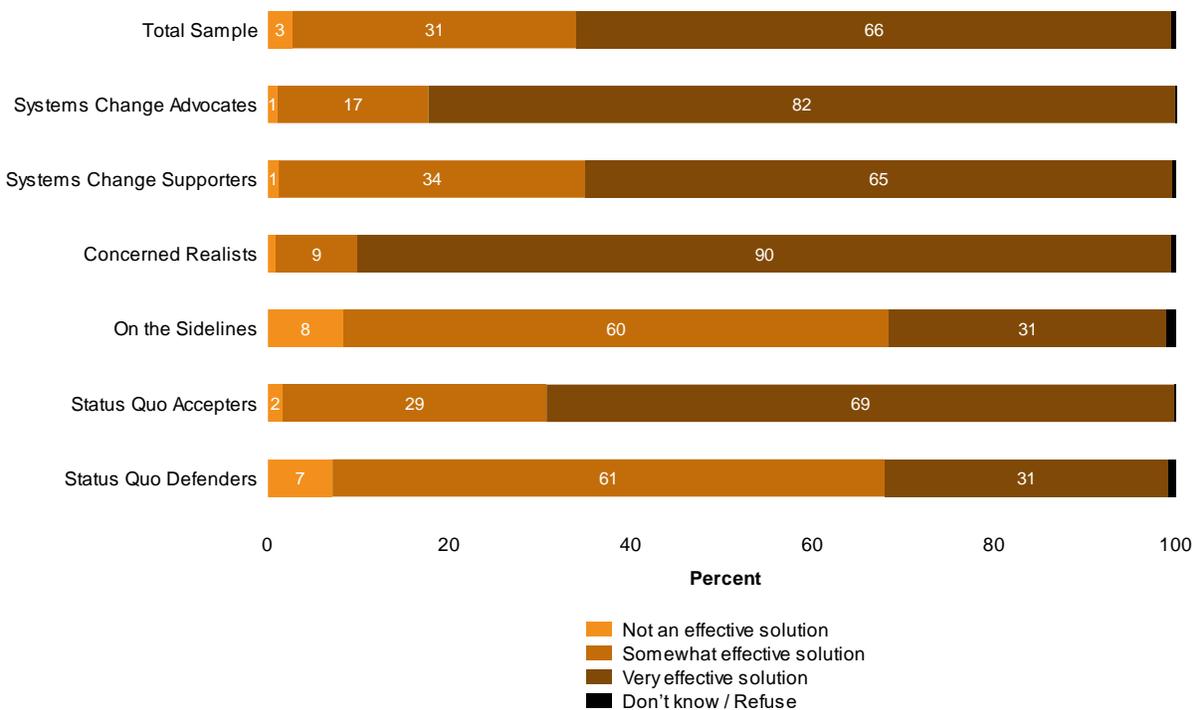
[72] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.85), Systems Change Advocates (0.46), System Change Supporters (1.14), Concerned Realists (0.38), Status Quo Defenders (0.76), Status Quo Accepters (0.65), and On the Sidelines (2.22).

6.6.1.2 Food Problem

Overview: Higher-paying jobs and easier neighborhood access to affordable, healthy foods are viewed as very effective systems-level solutions by the largest number of U.S. adults. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely than U.S. adults in general to view these solutions as very effective. Those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Defenders, and Status Quo Accepters are less likely to do so.

6.6.1.2.1 More Government Financial Assistance for Food

Figure 6.6.1.2.1: More Government Financial Assistance for Food

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families without enough healthy food to eat. For each, indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solutions, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families without enough healthy food to eat.

More access to government food programs, such as SNAP or WIC[73]

Forty-six percent of U.S. adults believe that more access to government food programs, such as SNAP or WIC, would be a very effective solution to the food problem lower-income families face. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this solution would be very effective. In contrast, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are much less likely to agree.
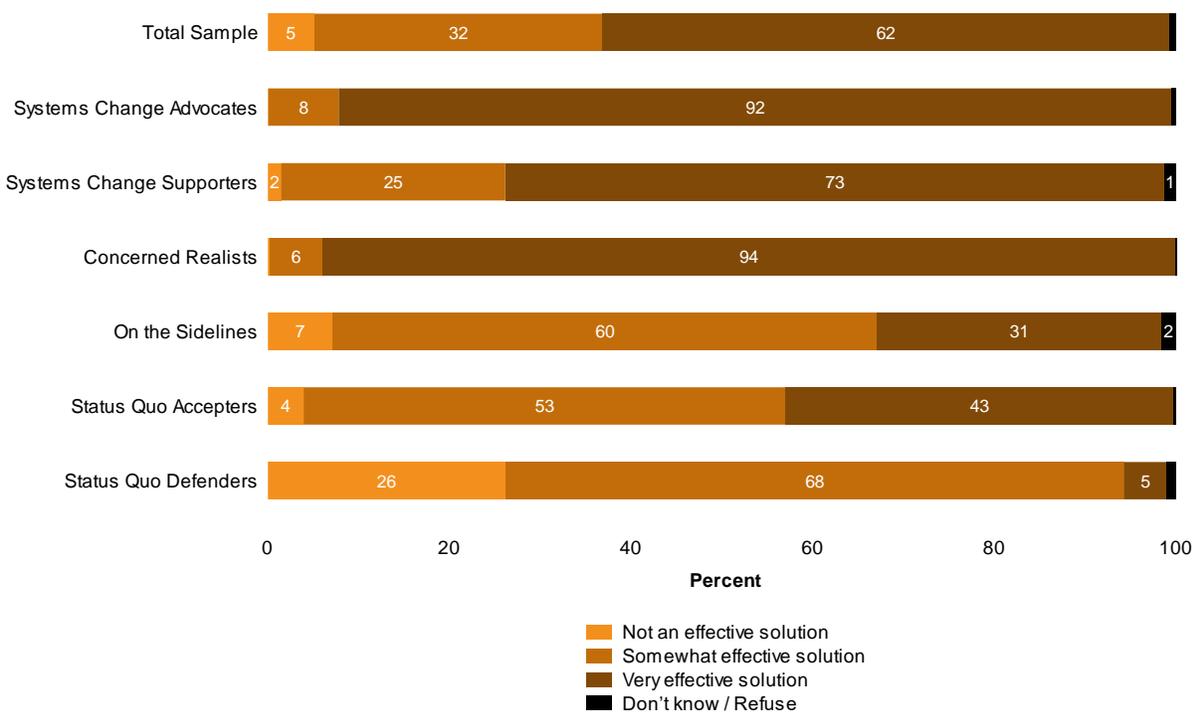
sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.81), Systems Change Advocates (0.17), System Change Supporters (1.13), Concerned Realists (0.93), Status Quo Defenders (0.56), Status Quo Accepters (0.28), and On the Sidelines (2.20).

6.6.1.2.2 Increase Food Access

Figure 6.6.1.2.2: Increase Food Access

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families without enough healthy food to eat. For each, indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solutions, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families without enough healthy food to eat.

Increase access in low-income neighborhoods to healthy, affordable food in grocery stores and farmers' markets[74]

Sixty-three percent of U.S. adults believe that more access in low-income neighborhoods to healthy, affordable food in grocery stores and farmers' markets would be a very effective solution to the food problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are much more likely to believe that this solution would be very effective. Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are much less likely to believe this solution would be very effective.
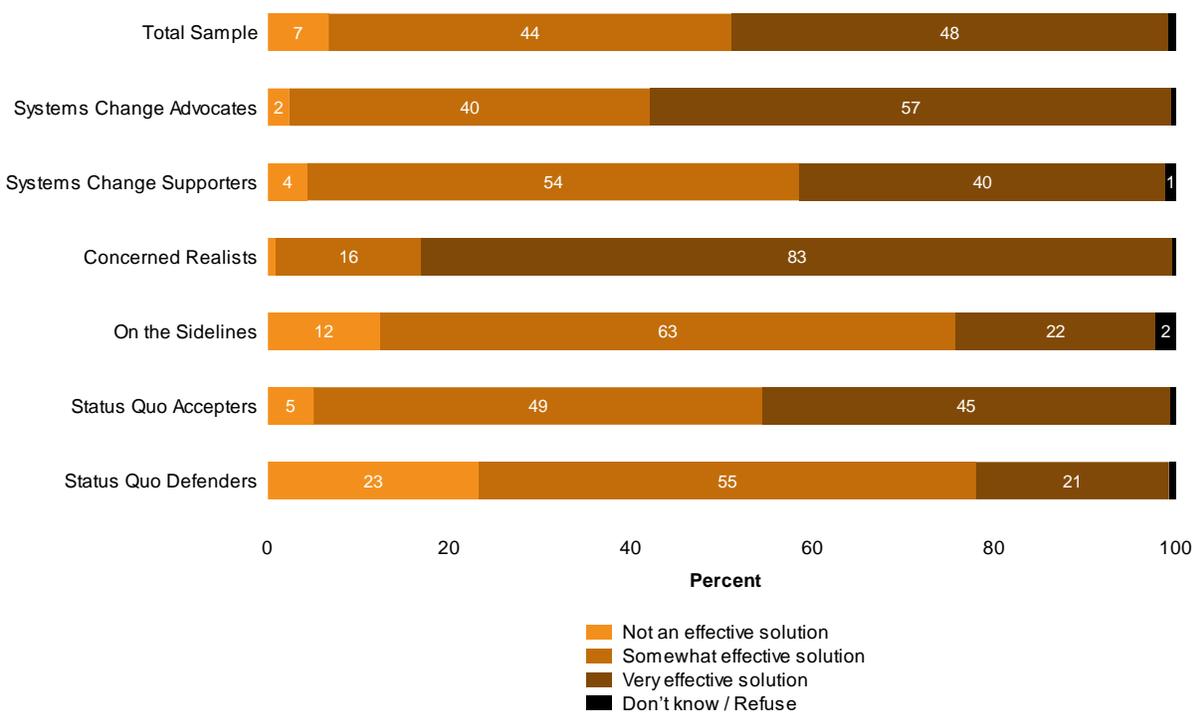
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[74] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.58), Systems Change Advocates (0.05), System Change Supporters (1.01), Concerned Realists (0.51), Status Quo Defenders (0.25), Status Quo Accepters (0.11), and On the Sidelines (1.88).

6.6.1.2.3 Limit Ads

Figure 6.6.1.2.3: Limit Ads

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families without enough healthy food to eat. For each, indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solutions, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families without enough healthy food to eat.

Limits on advertising of unhealthy products to children[75]

Thirty-nine percent of U.S. adults believe that limits on advertising of unhealthy products to children would be a very effective solution to the food problem that lower-income families face. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe this would be very effective. Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to find it very effective. Status Quo Accepters are similar to U.S. adults generally.

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[75] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.08), Systems Change Advocates (0.88), System Change Supporters (1.41), Concerned Realists (1.11), Status Quo Defenders (0.62), Status Quo Accepters (0.43), and On the Sidelines (2.22).

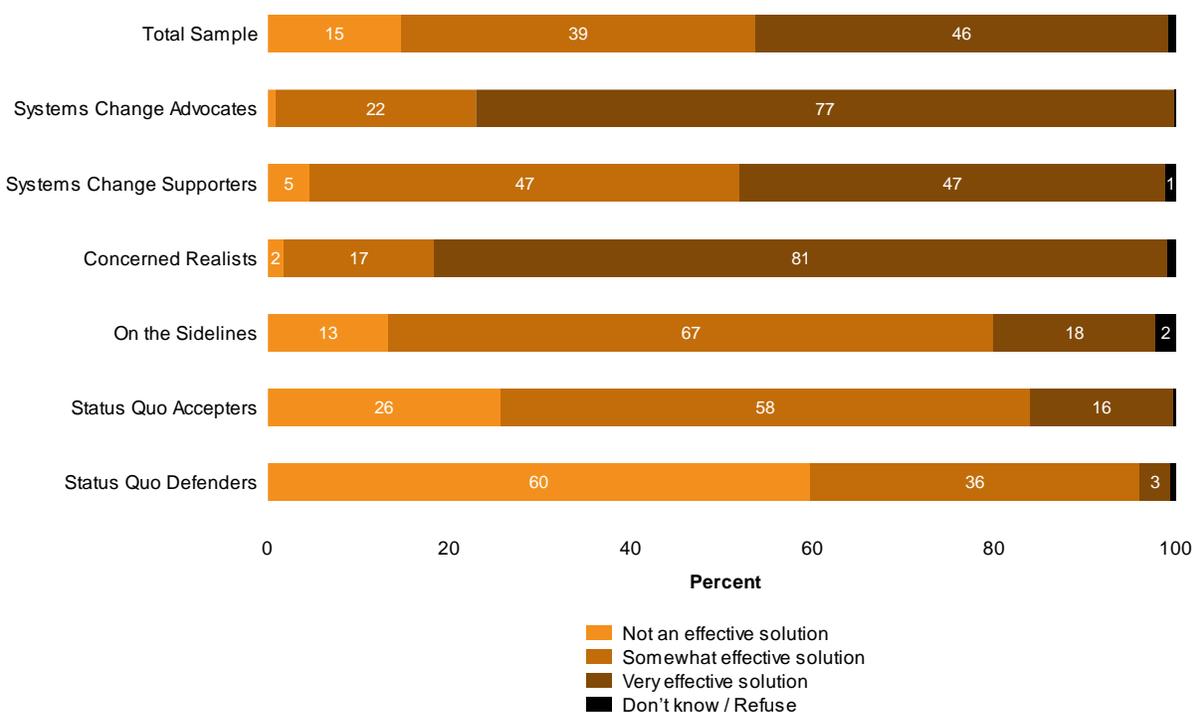## 6.6.1.2.4 More Jobs That Pay Livable Wages for Food

Figure 6.6.1.2.4: More Jobs That Pay Livable Wages for Food

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families without enough healthy food to eat. For each, indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families without enough healthy food to eat.

More jobs that pay livable wages so that families can buy food[76]

Sixty-five percent of U.S. adults believe that more jobs that pay livable wages so families can buy food would be a very effective solution to the food problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are much more likely to believe this solution would be very effective, followed by Systems Change Supporters. Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe this solution would be very effective.

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[76] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.03), Systems Change Advocates (0.34), System Change Supporters (1.84), Concerned Realists (0.80), Status Quo Defenders (0.46), Status Quo Accepters (0.72), and On the Sidelines (2.18).

6.6.1.3 Child-care/Preschool Problem

Overview: More jobs paying a livable wage, more government-funded child care and preschool programs, and more help for parents looking for information are the systems-level solutions viewed as most effective among the largest number of U. S. adults. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely than U.S. adults in general to embrace systems-level solutions. The other groups are less likely.

6.6.1.3.1 More Government Financial Assistance for Child Care/Preschool

Figure 6.6.1.3.1: More Government Financial Assistance for Child Care/Preschool

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school.

More government financial assistance to help families with young children pay for quality child care and pre-school[77]
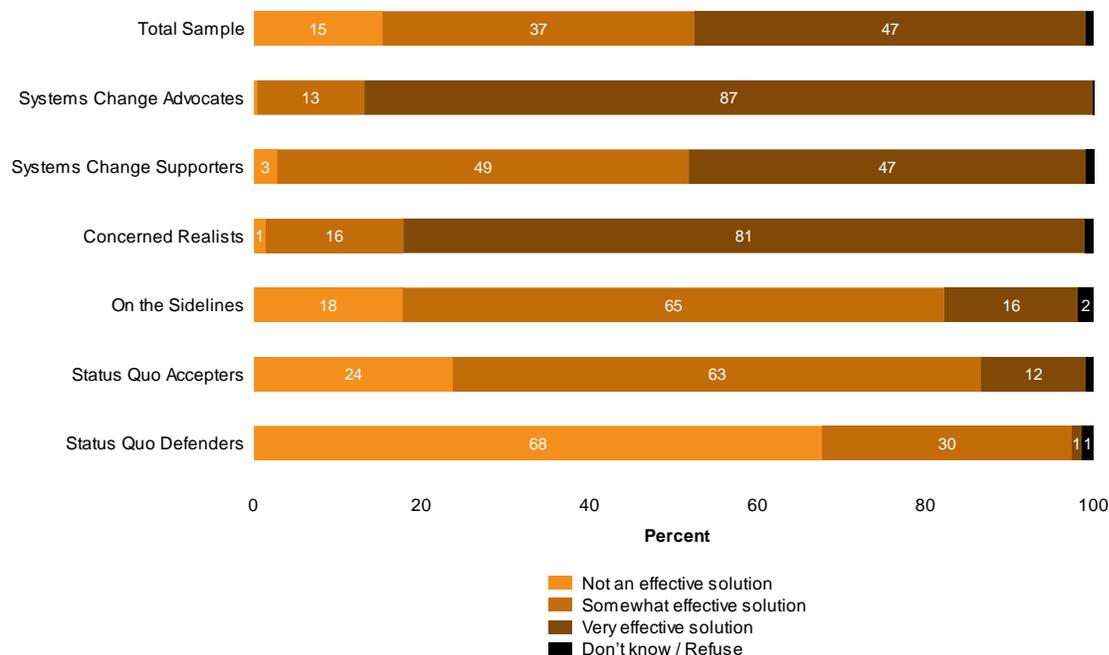
Forty-seven percent of U.S. adults believe that more government financial assistance to pay for quality child care and preschool would be a very effective solution to the child-care/preschool problem facing lower-income families. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are much more likely to believe that this solution would be very effective. In contrast, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are much less likely to agree. Systems Change Supporters resemble U.S. adults in general.
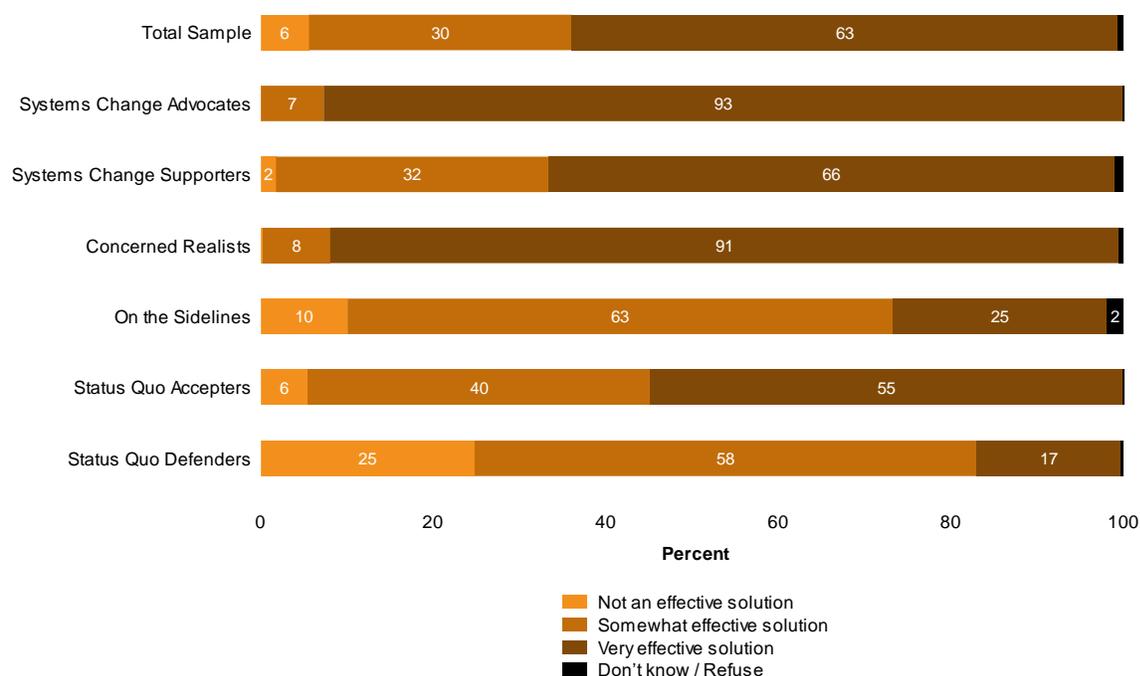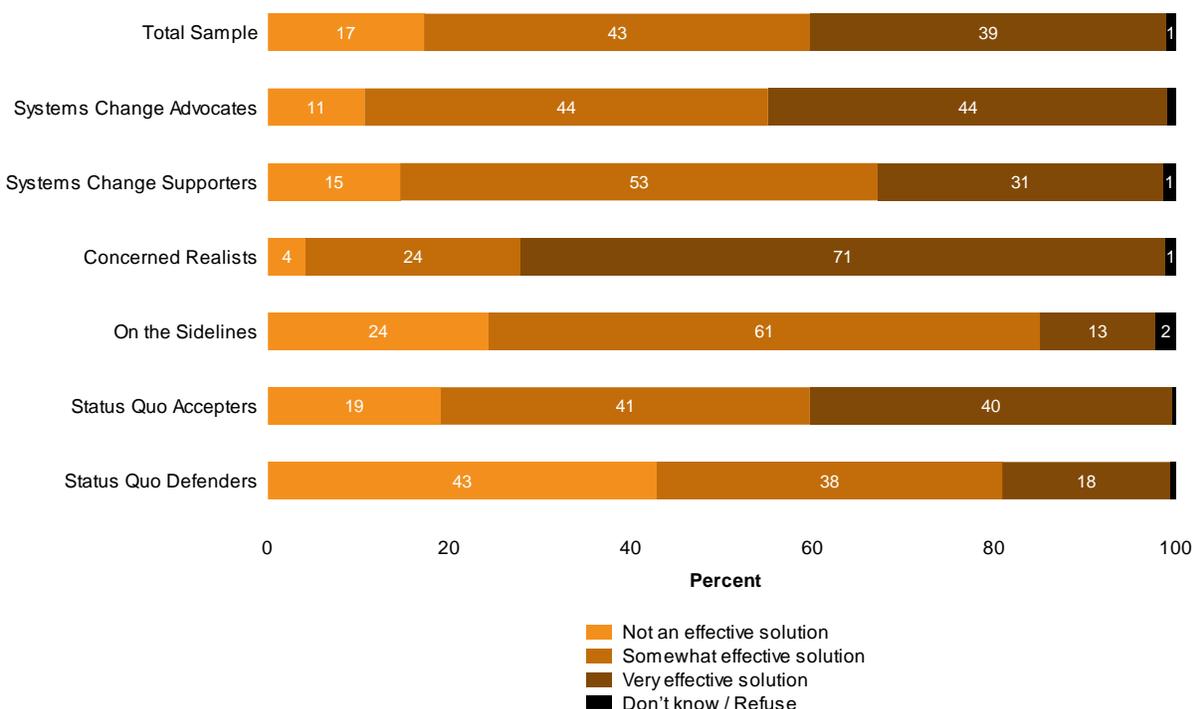
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[77] Total sample may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.94), Systems Change Advocates (0.06), System Change Supporters (0.95), Concerned Realists (1.02), Status Quo Defenders (1.40), Status Quo Accepters (0.90), and On the Sidelines (1.82).

6.6.1.3.2 More Child-care/Preschool Programs

Figure 6.6.1.3.2: More Child-care/Preschool Programs

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school.

More government-funded child care and pre-school programs[78]

Fifty-two percent of U.S. adults believe that more government-funded child-care and preschool programs would be a very effective solution to the child-care/preschool problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to believe this would be very effective, while Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are much less likely.
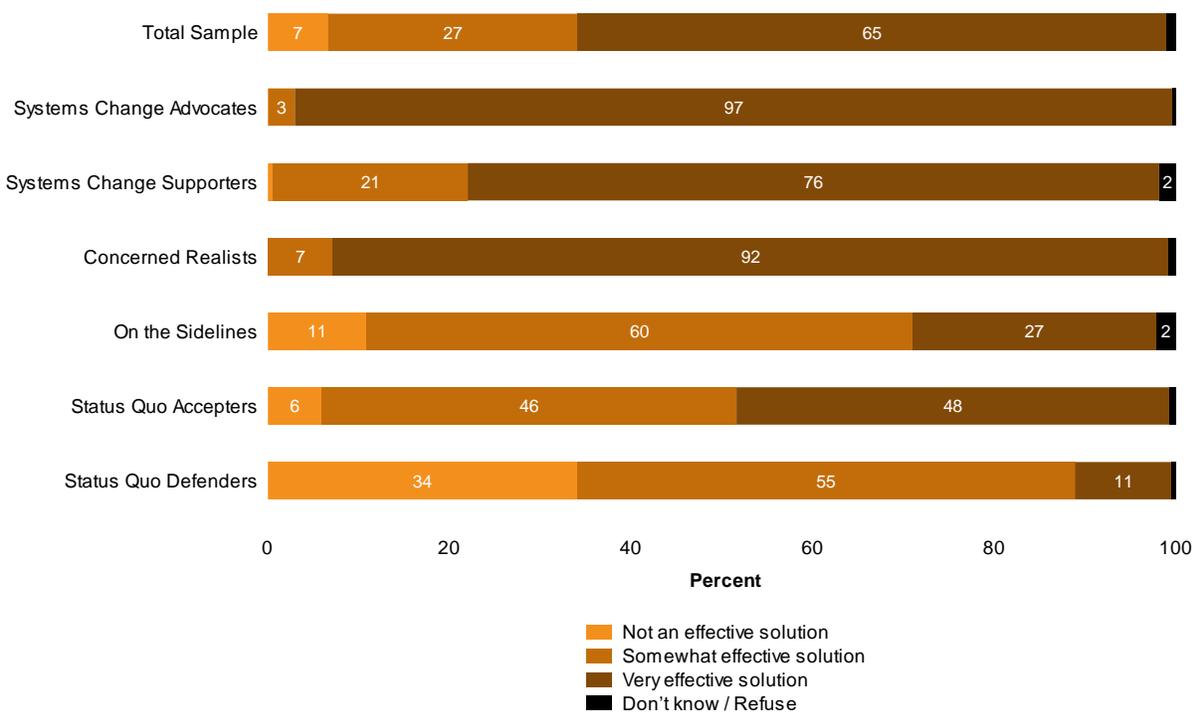
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[78] Total sample may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.00), Systems Change Advocates (0.13), System Change Supporters (1.24), Concerned Realists (1.30), Status Quo Defenders (1.13), Status Quo Accepters (0.87), and On the Sidelines (1.52).

6.6.1.3.3 More Jobs that Pay Livable Wages for Child Care/Preschool

Figure 6.6.1.3.3: More Jobs that Pay Livable Wages for Child Care/Preschool

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school.

More jobs that pay a livable wage[79]

Sixty-six percent of U.S. adults believe more jobs that pay a livable wage would be a very effective solution for the child-care problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are much more likely to believe this, while Systems Change Supporters are somewhat more likely. Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are much less likely to find it very effective.

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[79] Total sample may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.93), Systems Change Advocates (0.15), System Change Supporters (0.88), Concerned Realists (1.28), Status Quo Defenders (1.16), Status Quo Accepters (0.62), and On the Sidelines (1.93).

6.6.1.3.4 Programs to Help with Child Care/Preschool

Figure 6.6.1.3.4: Programs to Help with Child Care/Preschool

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school.

Programs supporting family members, friends, and neighbors to help out with child care[80]

Forty-seven percent of U.S. adults believe that programs supporting family members, friends, and neighbors to help out with child care would be a very effective solution to the child-care/preschool problem facing lower-income families. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are much more likely to believe this would be very effective. In contrast, Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Defenders, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Accepters are less likely to believe this.

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[80] Total sample may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.89), Systems Change Advocates (0.07), System Change Supporters (0.78), Concerned Realists (1.30), Status Quo Defenders (1.51), Status Quo Accepters (0.62), and On the Sidelines (1.51).

6.6.1.3.5 More Help Looking for Information about Child Care/Preschool

Figure 6.6.1.3.5: More Help Looking for Information about Child Care/Preschool

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school.

More help for parents looking for information about program options and financial assistance that is available[81]

Fifty-two percent of U.S. adults believe that more help for parents looking for information about program options and financial assistance that is available would be a very effective solution for the child-care/preschool problem that lower-income families face. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are much more likely to believe this would be very effective. Status Quo Accepters, Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe in this solution.
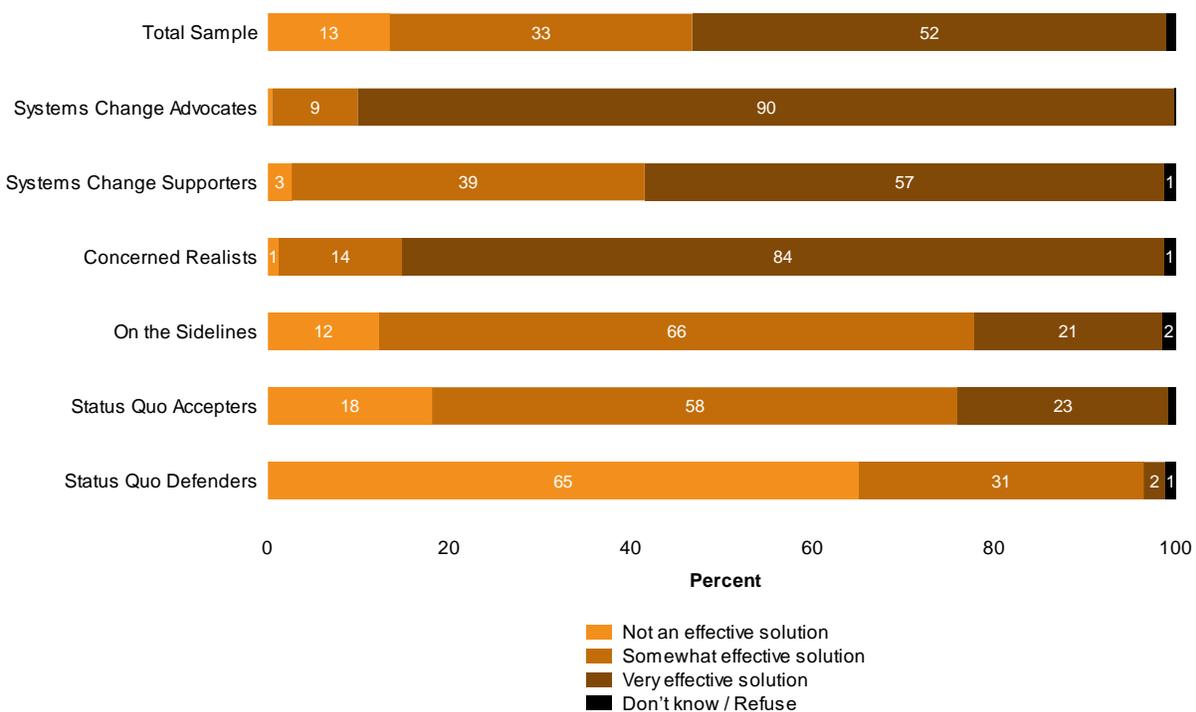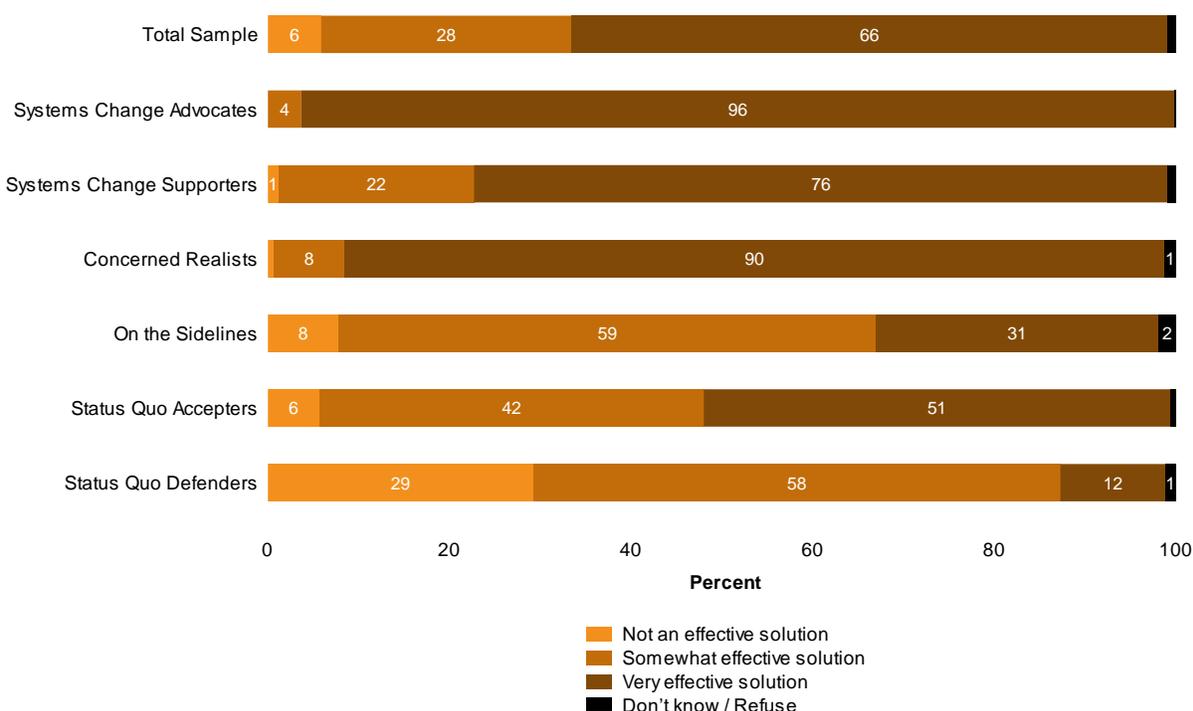
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[81] Total sample may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.13), Systems Change Advocates (0.50), System Change Supporters (1.42), Concerned Realists (1.43), Status Quo Defenders (1.56), Status Quo Accepters (0.46), and On the Sidelines (1.61).

6.6.1.3.6 Higher Wages for Child-care and Preschool Workers

Figure 6.6.1.3.6: Higher Wages for Child-care and Preschool Workers

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school.

Higher wages for child care and pre-school workers to improve program quality[82]

Forty-seven percent of U.S. adults believe that higher wages for child-care and preschool workers to improve program quality would be a very effective solution to the child-care/preschool problem lower-income families face. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are much more likely to believe that this solution would be very effective. Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe in this solution.
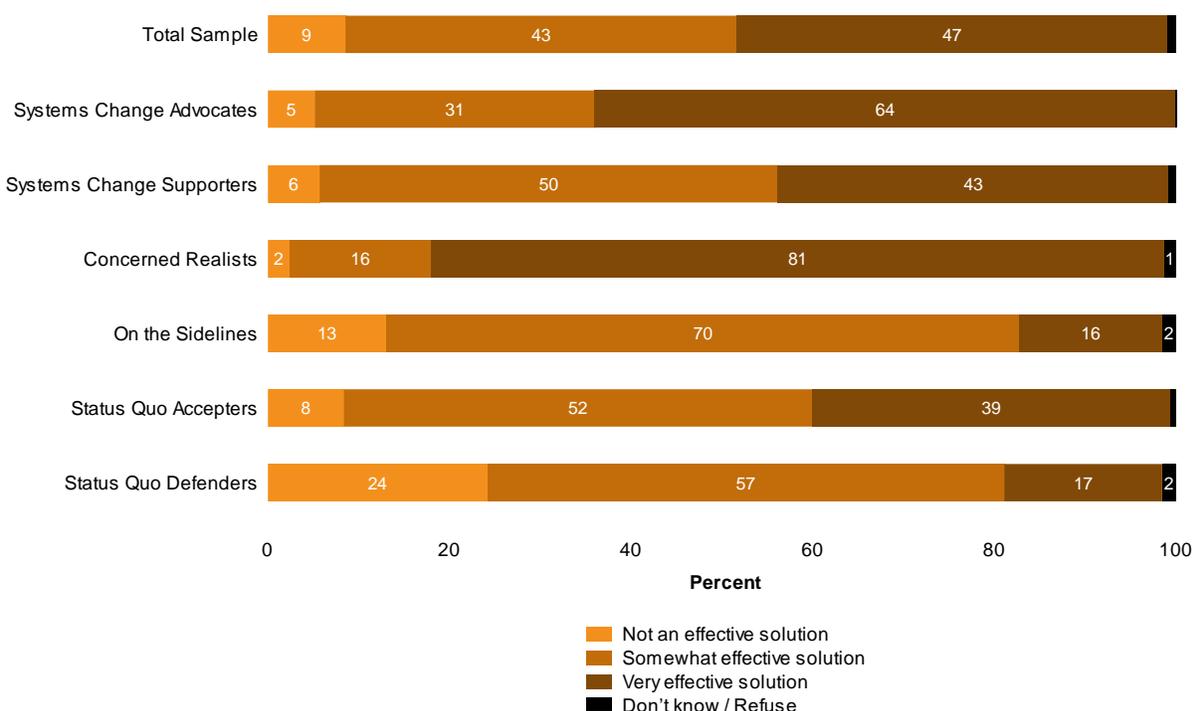
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[82] Total sample may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.21), Systems Change Advocates (0.50), System Change Supporters (1.55), Concerned Realists (1.25), Status Quo Defenders (1.97), Status Quo Accepters (0.76), and On the Sidelines (1.47).

6.6.2 Family-level Solutions

Overview: Many U.S. adults embrace family-level solutions to the problems, including more parental prioritizing of healthy eating and better parent education to address the food problem and more two-parent families to address the income and child-care/preschool problems. Findings for each of the three problems are presented below. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to embrace family-level solutions for all three problems. In general, Systems Change Advocates, those On the Sidelines, and Systems Change Supporters are less likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that family-level solutions would be very effective

6.6.2.1 Income Problem

Overview: Just under half of U.S. adults believe that more two-parent households would be an effective solution and about four in ten believe the same about parents working harder to get ahead. Systems Change Advocates, those On the Sidelines, and Systems Change Supporters are less likely to believe these solutions would be very effective, but Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are much more likely to believe that these would be effective.

6.6.2.1.1 Parents Working Harder to Get Ahead

Figure 6.6.2.1.1: Parents Working Harder to Get Ahead

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make in the reducing the number of families without enough income.

Parents working harder to get ahead[83]
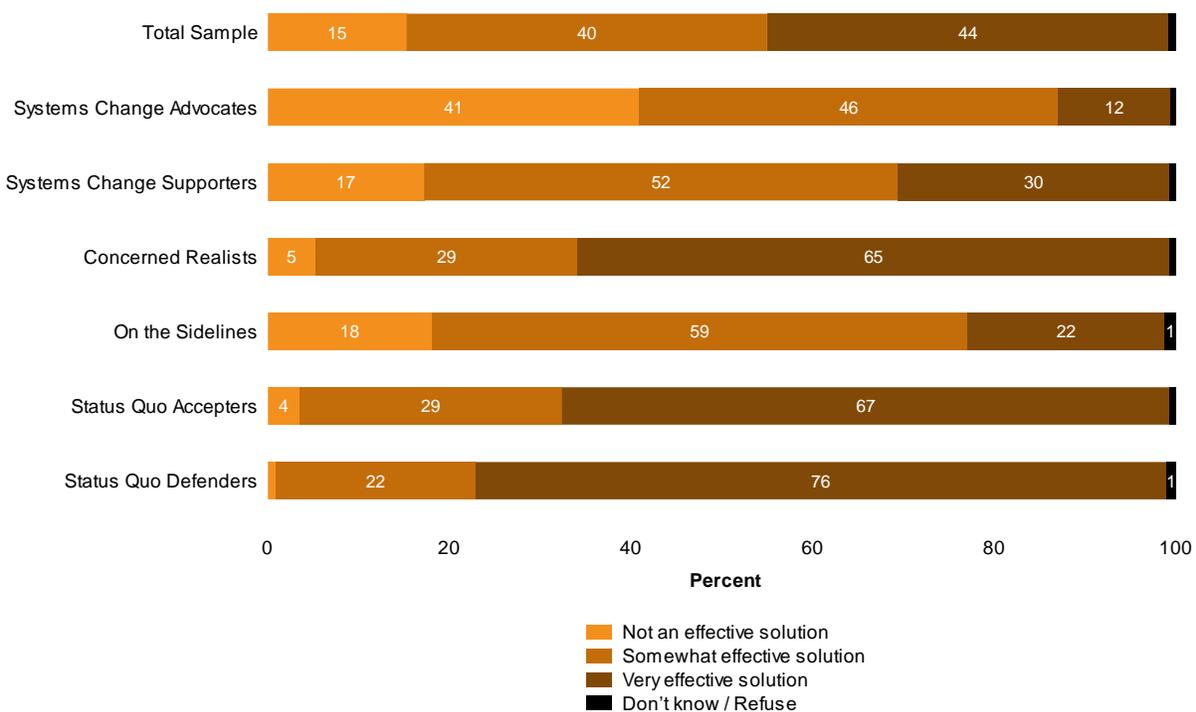
Forty-four percent of U.S. adults believe that parents working harder to get ahead would be a very effective solution to the income problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates, those On the Sidelines, and Systems Change Supporters are less likely to believe this solution would be very effective, but the other groups are much more likely to believe that this a very effective solution to this problem.
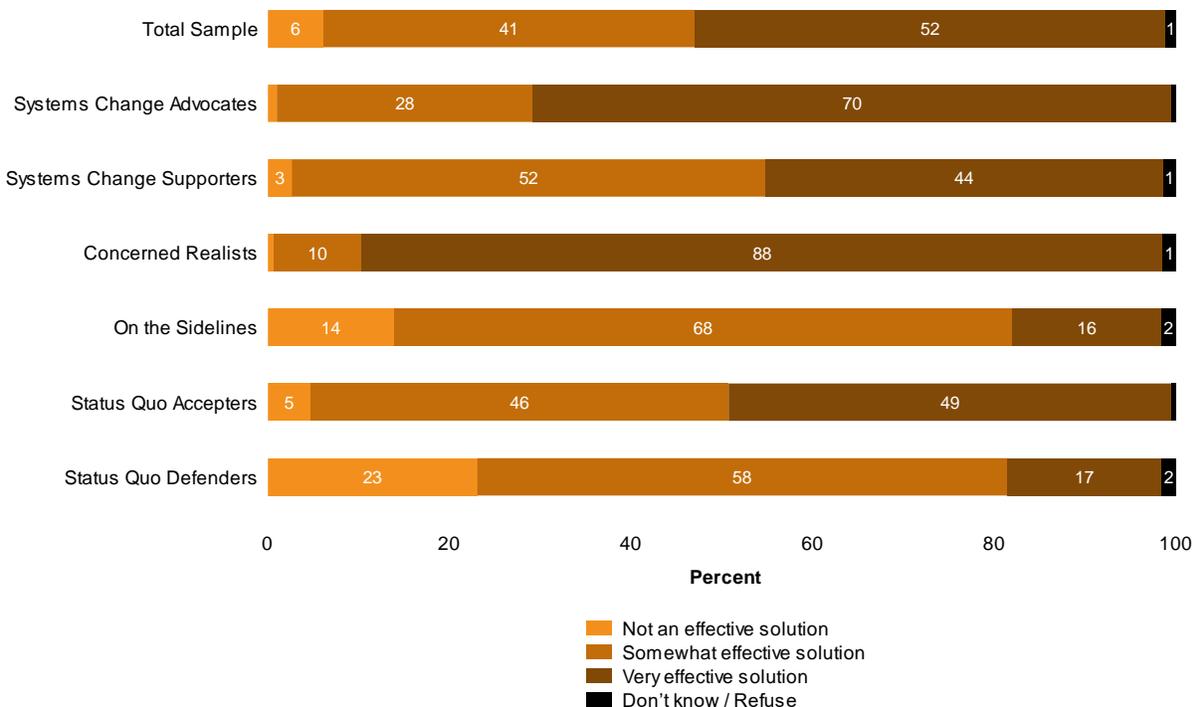
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[83] Total sample may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.78), Systems Change Advocates (0.59), System Change Supporters (0.69), Concerned Realists (0.70), Status Quo Defenders (1.06), Status Quo Accepters (0.68), and On the Sidelines (1.21).

6.6.2.1.2 More Two-parent Households

Figure 6.6.2.1.2: More Two-parent Households

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make in reducing the number of families without enough income.

More two parent households[84]

Forty-nine percent of U.S. adults believe that more two-parent households would be a very effective solution to the income problem that lower-income families face. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are much more likely to believe that this solution would be very effective, and Systems Change Supporters, Systems Change Advocates, and those On the Sidelines are much less likely to believe in this solution.

6.6.2.2 Food Problem

Overview: The majority of U.S. adults believe that educating parents and more prioritizing of healthy eating are very effective solutions to the food problem. Concerned Realists and Status

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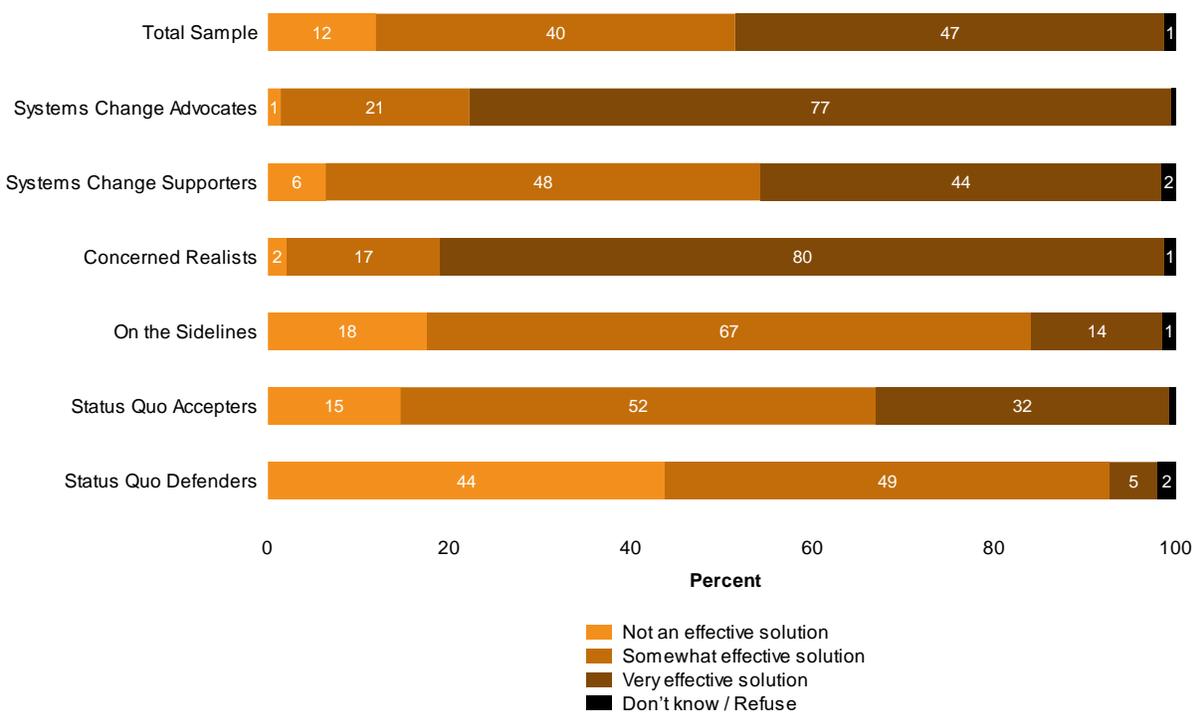[84] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.99), Systems Change Advocates (0.44), System Change Supporters (0.86), Concerned Realists (1.00), Status Quo Defenders (1.64), Status Quo Accepters (0.79), and On the Sidelines (1.73).

Quo Accepters are more likely to believe in these solutions. Systems Change Supporters and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe that they would be effective. Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe that parental education is effective and resemble U.S. adults in terms of more prioritizing of healthy food. System Change Advocates resemble U.S. adults in general on the benefit of educating parents and are less likely to believe in the effectiveness of more prioritizing of healthy eating.

6.6.2.2.1 Educate Parents about Food

Figure 6.6.2.2.1: Educate Parents about Food

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families without enough healthy food to eat. For each, indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solutions, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families without enough healthy food to eat. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

Educate parents and children on what is healthy and unhealthy[85]
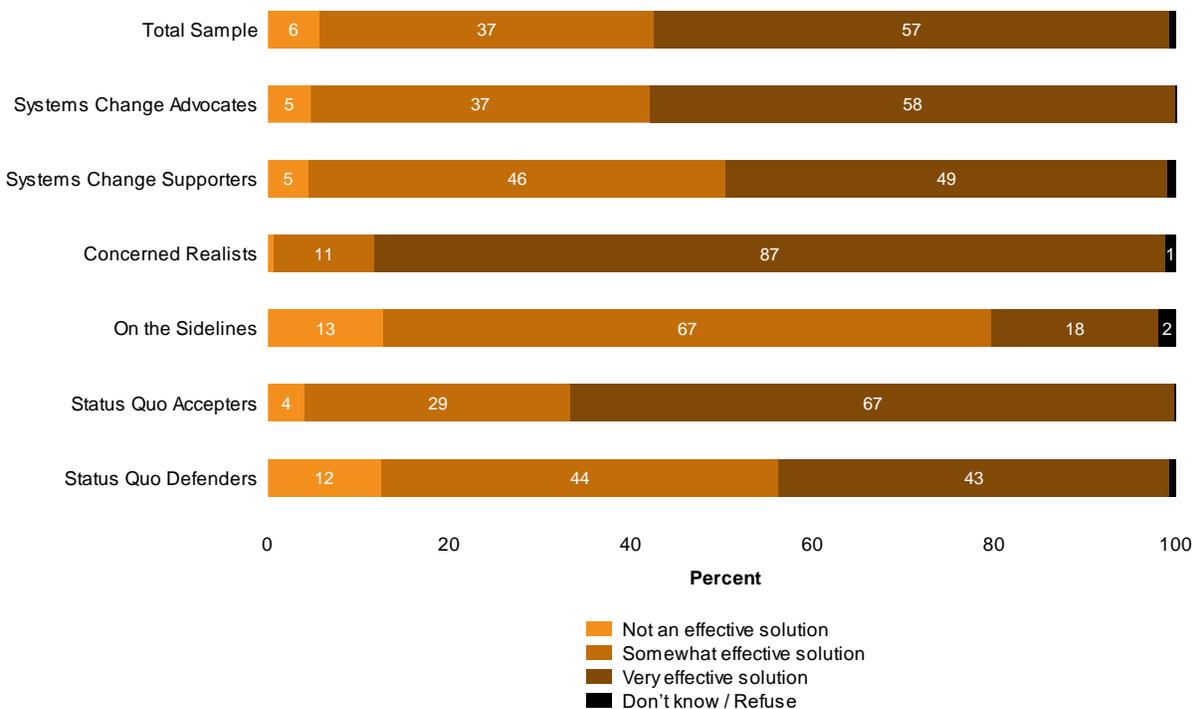
Fifty-seven percent of U.S. adults believe that educating parents and children on what is healthy and unhealthy would be a very effective solution to the food problem that low-income families

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[85] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.77), Systems Change Advocates (0.07), System Change Supporters (0.93), Concerned Realists (1.19), Status Quo Defenders (0.71), Status Quo Accepters (0.11), and On the Sidelines (1.94).

face. Concerned Realists and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to believe this solution would be very effective. Systems Change Supporters and Status Quo Defenders and those On the Sidelines are more likely to disagree. Systems Change Advocates resemble U.S. adults in general.

6.6.2.2.2 More Parents Prioritizing Healthy Eating

Figure 6.6.2.2.2: More Parents Prioritizing Healthy Eating

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families without enough healthy food to eat. For each, indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families without enough healthy food to eat.

More parents prioritizing healthy food for their children at meals and snacks[86]
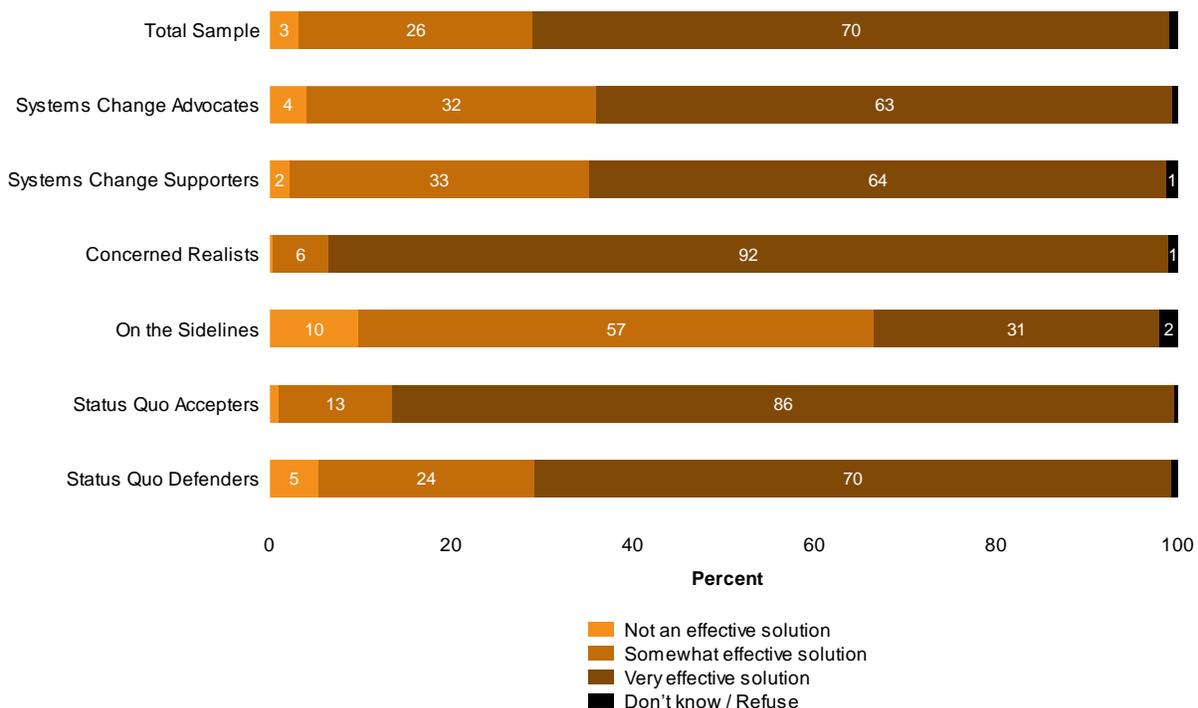
Seventy percent of U.S. adults believe that more parents prioritizing healthy food for their children at meals and snacks would be a very effective solution to the food problem faced by lower-income families. Concerned Realists and Status Quo Accepters are much more likely to believe this is a very effective solution to this problem. Systems Change Supporters and

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[86] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.95), Systems Change Advocates (0.55), System Change Supporters (1.22), Concerned Realists (1.06), Status Quo Defenders (0.70), Status Quo Accepters (0.42), and On the Sidelines (2.02).

Systems Change Advocates are slightly less likely to agree, while those On the Sidelines are much less likely to agree. Status Quo Defenders resemble U.S. adults in general.

6.6.2.3 Child-care/Preschool Problem

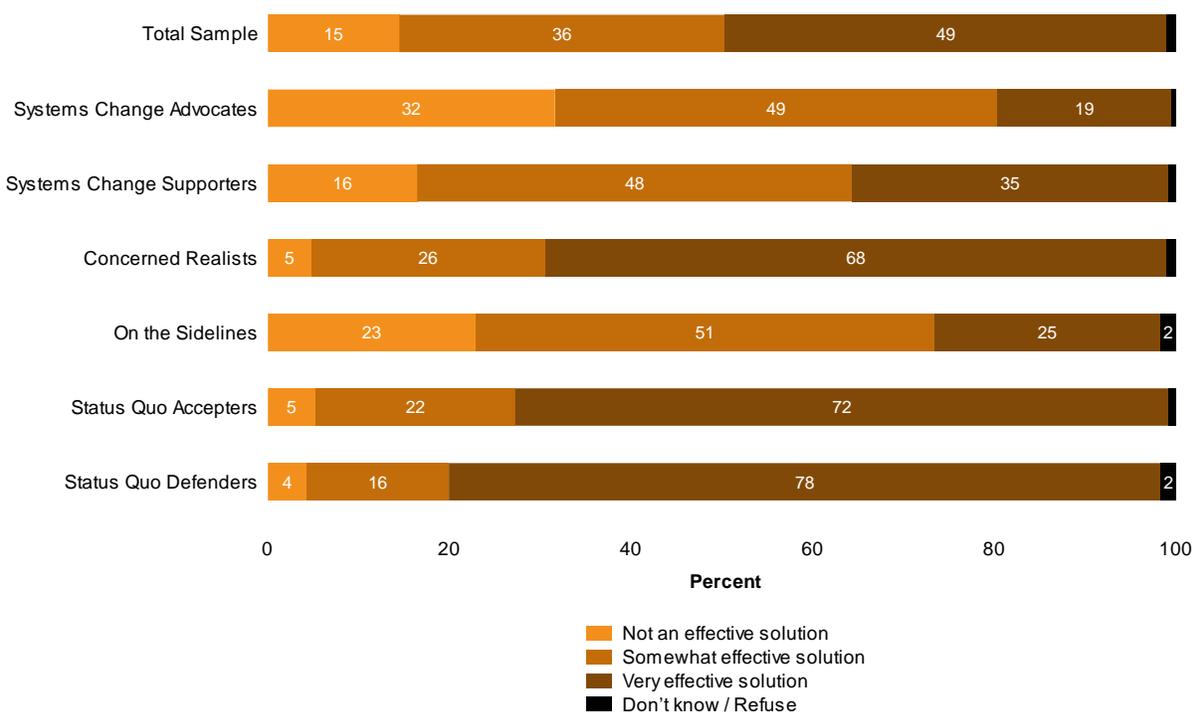*Overview:* Less than half of U.S. adults believe that more two-parent households would be a very effective solution to the child-care/preschool problem faced by lower-income families. This is the only family-level solution included for this problem. Concerned Realists, Status Quo Defenders, and Status Quo Accepters are much more likely than U.S. adults in general to believe that this an effective solution; the other groups are less likely.

6.6.2.3.1 More Two-parent Households for Child Care

Figure 6.6.2.3.1: More Two-parent Households for Child Care

The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school.

More two parent households[87]
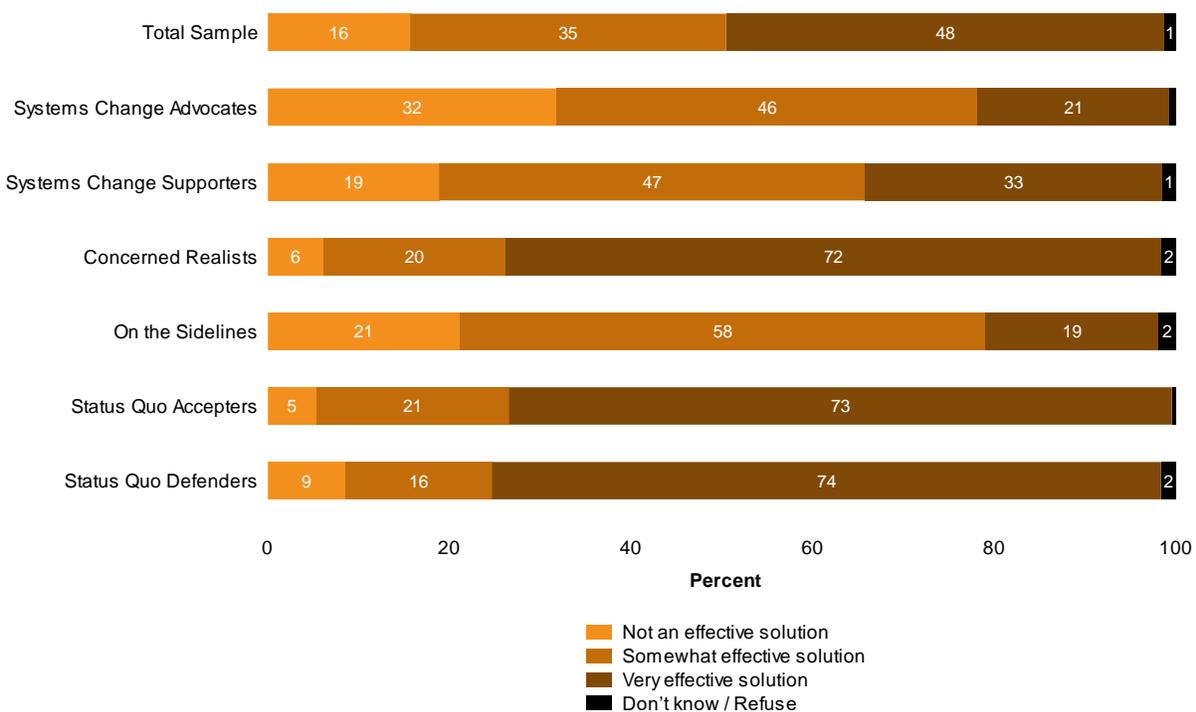
Forty-eight percent of U.S. adults believe that more two-parent households would be a very effective solution to the child-care/preschool problem that lower-income families face. Concerned Realists, Status Quo Defenders, and Status Quo Accepters are much more likely to believe this a very effective solution to this problem, whereas the other groups are less likely to believe this is a very effective solution.

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[87] Total sample may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.24), Systems Change Advocates (0.66), System Change Supporters (1.48), Concerned Realists (1.56), Status Quo Defenders (1.63), Status Quo Accepters (0.43), and On the Sidelines (1.92).

6.7 Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Role of Families vs. Society

Overview: U.S. adults overwhelmingly believe that society as a whole should have some role in addressing the income, food, and child-care/preschool problems. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe that society should be responsible. Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are much less likely, placing this responsibility on parents and families themselves. The On the Sidelines group resembles the total sample.

6.7.1 Who Should Be Responsible for Addressing Income Problem

Figure 6.7.1: Who Should Be Responsible for Addressing Income Problem

Who should be mainly responsible for addressing the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive?[88]
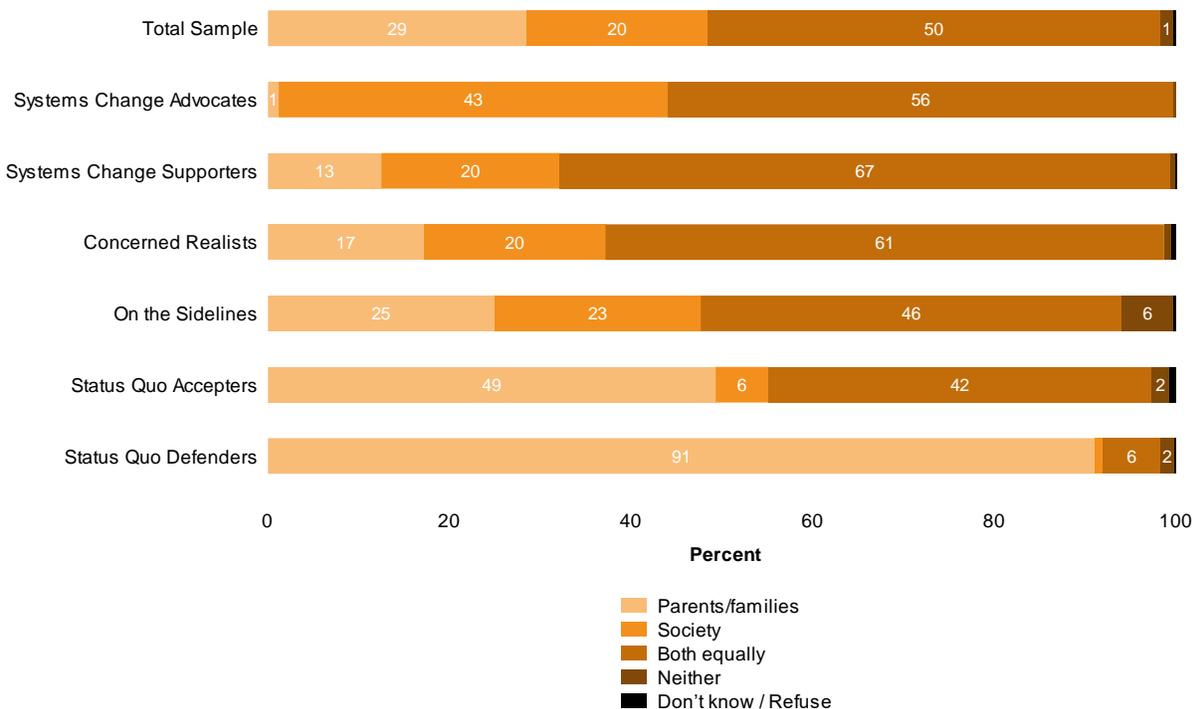
Seventy percent of U.S. adults believe that society should have some role in addressing the income problem. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to believe that society should play a role. Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are much more likely to place this responsibility on parents and families themselves. Those On the Sidelines tend to resemble U.S. adults in general in terms of assigning this responsibility to society.

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[88] Original question language was "The parents/families themselves" and "Society as a whole." Society as a whole includes individuals and groups from every sector, government as well as non-government. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.25), Systems Change Advocates (0.66), System Change Supporters (0.01), Concerned Realists (0.47), Status Quo Defenders (0.14), Status Quo Accepters (0.70), and On the Sidelines (0.28).

6.7.2 Who Should Be Responsible for Addressing Food Problem

Figure 6.7.2: Who Should Be Responsible for Addressing Food Problem

Who should be mainly responsible for addressing the problem of so many families with young children who do not have enough healthy food to eat?[89]
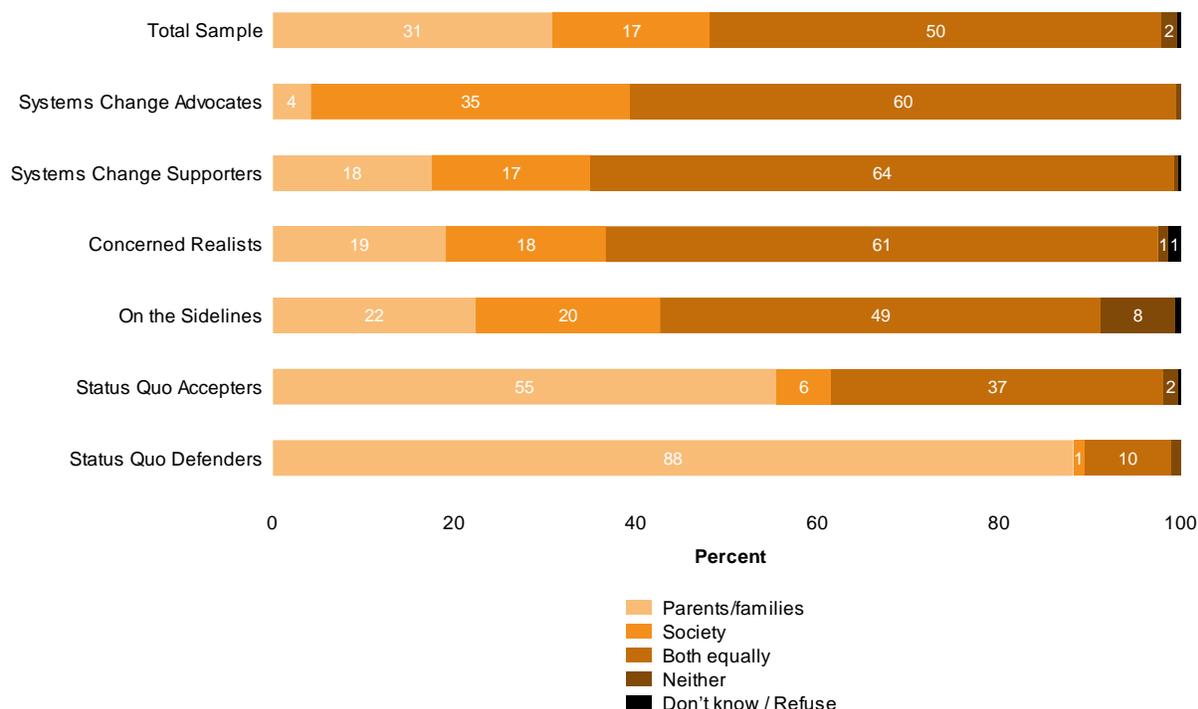
Sixty-seven percent of U.S. adults believe that society should play some role in addressing the food problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to place this responsibility on society. Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are much more likely to place it on parents and families themselves. The On the Sidelines group resembles the total sample.

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[89] Original question language was "The parents/families themselves" and "Society as a whole." Society as a whole includes individuals and groups from every sector, government as well as non-government. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.41), Systems Change Advocates (0.66), System Change Supporters (0.24), Concerned Realists (1.32), Status Quo Defenders (0.14), Status Quo Accepters (0.24), and On the Sidelines (0.63).

6.7.3 Who Should Be Responsible for Addressing Child-care/Preschool Problem

Figure 6.7.3: Who Should Be Responsible for Addressing Child-care//Preschool Problem

Who should be mainly responsible for addressing the problem of so many families with young children who do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school?[90]
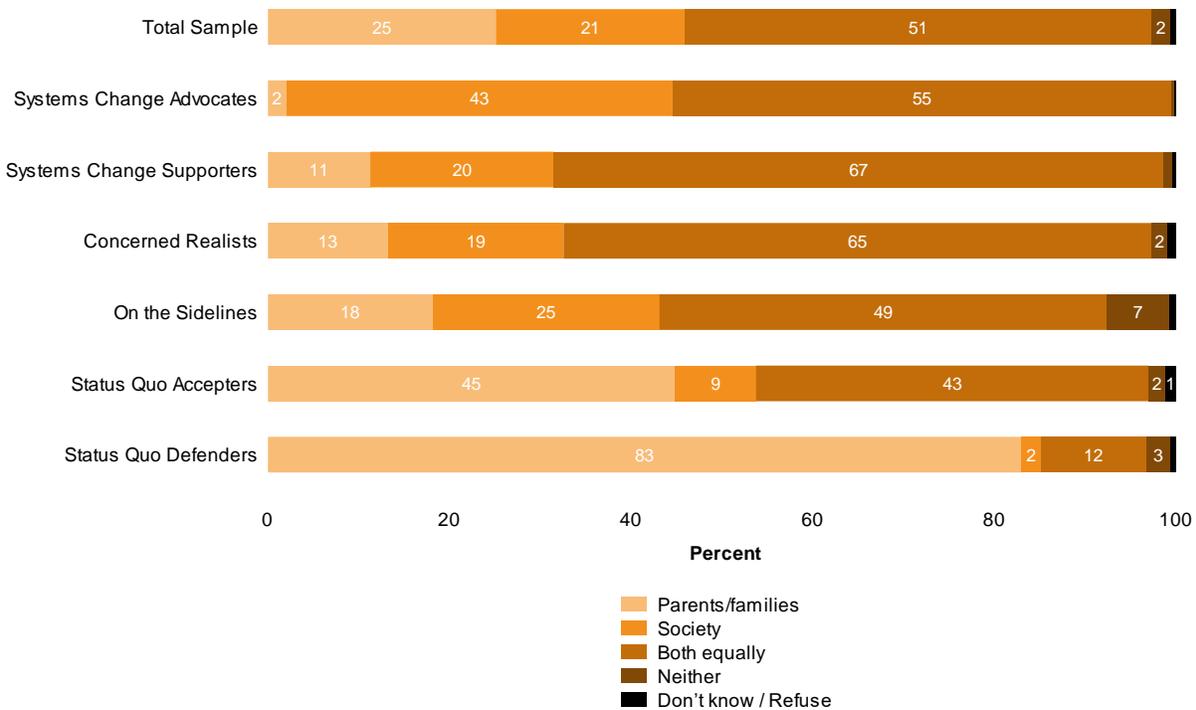
Seventy-two percent of U.S. adults believe that society as a whole should play some role in addressing the child-care/preschool problem. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters and Concerned Realists are more likely to hold society responsible, while Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are much more likely to hold parents and families responsible. The On the Sidelines group resembles the total sample.

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[90] Original question wording is "The parents/families themselves" and "Society as a whole." Society as a whole includes individuals and groups from every sector, government as well as non-government. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.65), Systems Change Advocates (0.13), System Change Supporters (0.42), Concerned Realists (0.97), Status Quo Defenders (0.58), Status Quo Accepters (1.20), and On the Sidelines (0.74).

6.8 Responsibility for Addressing the Problems: Role of Government vs. Others

Overview: Those survey respondents agreeing that society has a role were asked who in society should be responsible. More than four out of five said that government should play some role in addressing the three problems, either on its own or working with businesses and community organizations from the private sector. In terms of what levels of government, the vast majority said that they favor equal involvement of all levels. In response to an additional forced-choice question, almost two-thirds reported believing that government should do more to address each of the problems even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more.

Systems Change Advocates are more likely to favor a role for government. Systems Change Supporters and Concerned Realists have somewhat ambiguous views, responding more favorably to the idea of government action on the forced choice questions we posed but like U.S. adults generally on the other roles and responsibility questions. The On the Sidelines group as well as Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are less likely to favor a role for government.

6.8.1 Government vs. Others

Overview: The vast majority of U.S. adults who see a role for society believe that government should play some role in addressing the three problems. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to see a role for government. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to hold this view. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Supporters tend to resemble U.S. adults generally.

6.8.1.1 Who in Society Should Be Responsible for Income Problem: Government or Others?

Figure 6.8.1.1: Who in Society Should Be Responsible for Income Problem: Government or Others?

What part of society should have the most responsibility?[91]
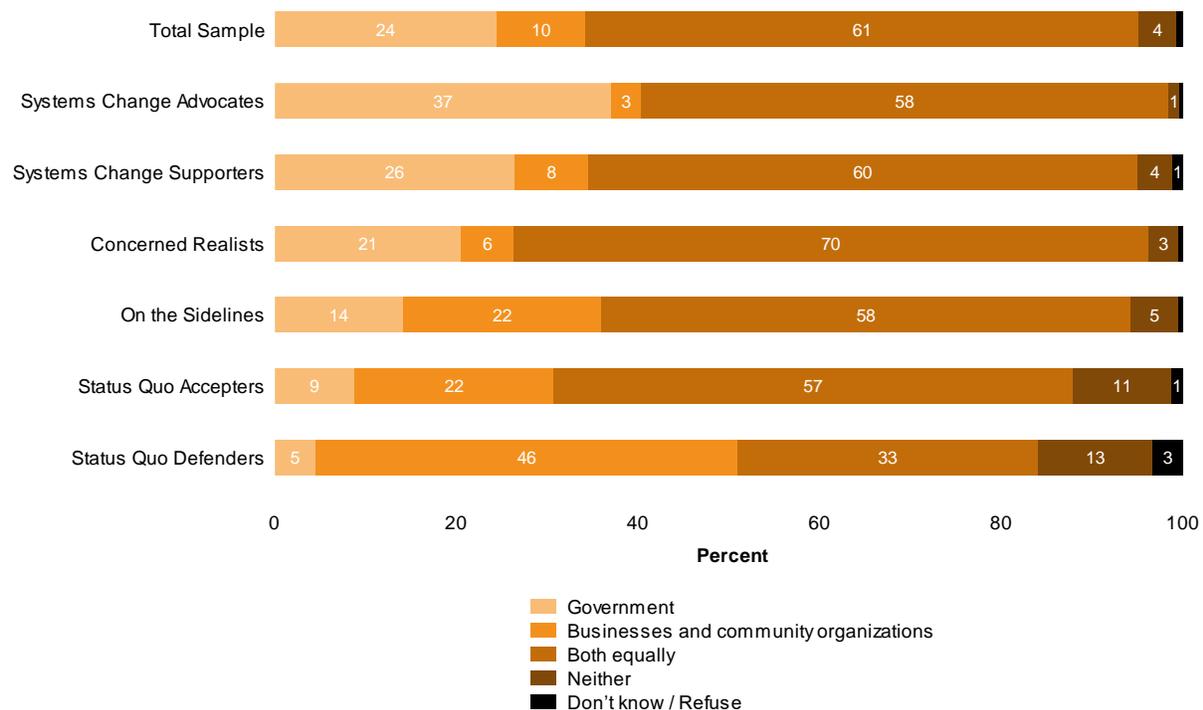
Eighty-five percent of U.S. adults believe that government (alone or in collaboration with businesses and community organizations) should have some role to play in addressing the income problem. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe that government has a role to play. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to agree. Systems Change Supporters and Concerned Realists resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[91] Original question wording is "Concerned individuals and non-governmental groups acting on their own such as businesses and community organizations" and "Both about equally." Those who said that society or both society and government should be mainly responsible for addressing the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive were asked this question. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.74), Systems Change Advocates (0.37), System Change Supporters (1.12), Concerned Realists (0.45), Status Quo Defenders (3.29), Status Quo Accepters (1.23), and On the Sidelines (0.47).

6.8.1.2 Who in Society Should Be Responsible for Food Problem: Government or Others?

Figure 6.8.1.2: Who in Society Should Be Responsible for Food Problem: Government or Others?

What part of society should have the most responsibility?[92]
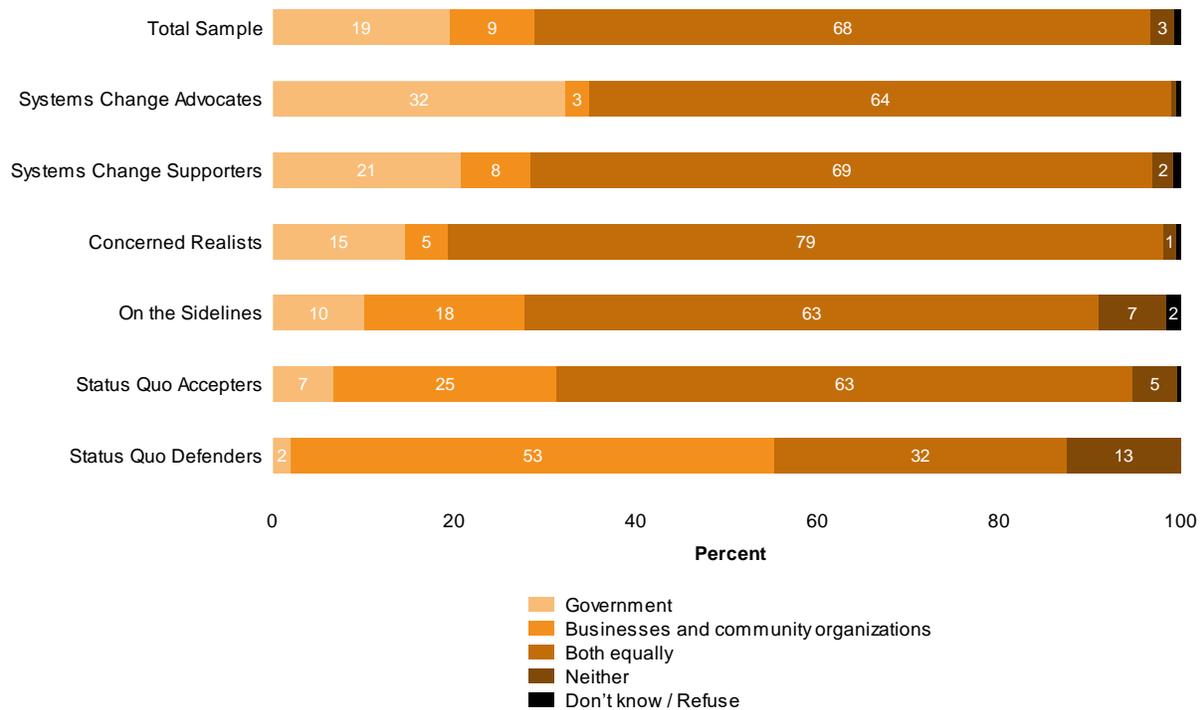
Eighty-seven percent of U.S. adults believe that government has some role to play in addressing the food problem. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe that government has a role to play. Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to hold this view. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Supporters resemble the total sample.

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[92] Those who said that society or both society and government should be mainly responsible for addressing the problem of so many families with young children who do not have enough healthy food to eat were asked this question. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.69), Systems Change Advocates (0.47), System Change Supporters (0.85), Concerned Realists (0.48), Status Quo Defenders (1.72), Status Quo Accepters (0.41), and On the Sidelines (1.63).

6.8.1.3 Who in Society Should Be Responsible for Child-care/Preschool Problem: Government or Others?

Figure 6.8.1.3: Who in Society Should Be Responsible for Child-care/Preschool Problem: Government or Others?

What part of society should have the most responsibility?[93]
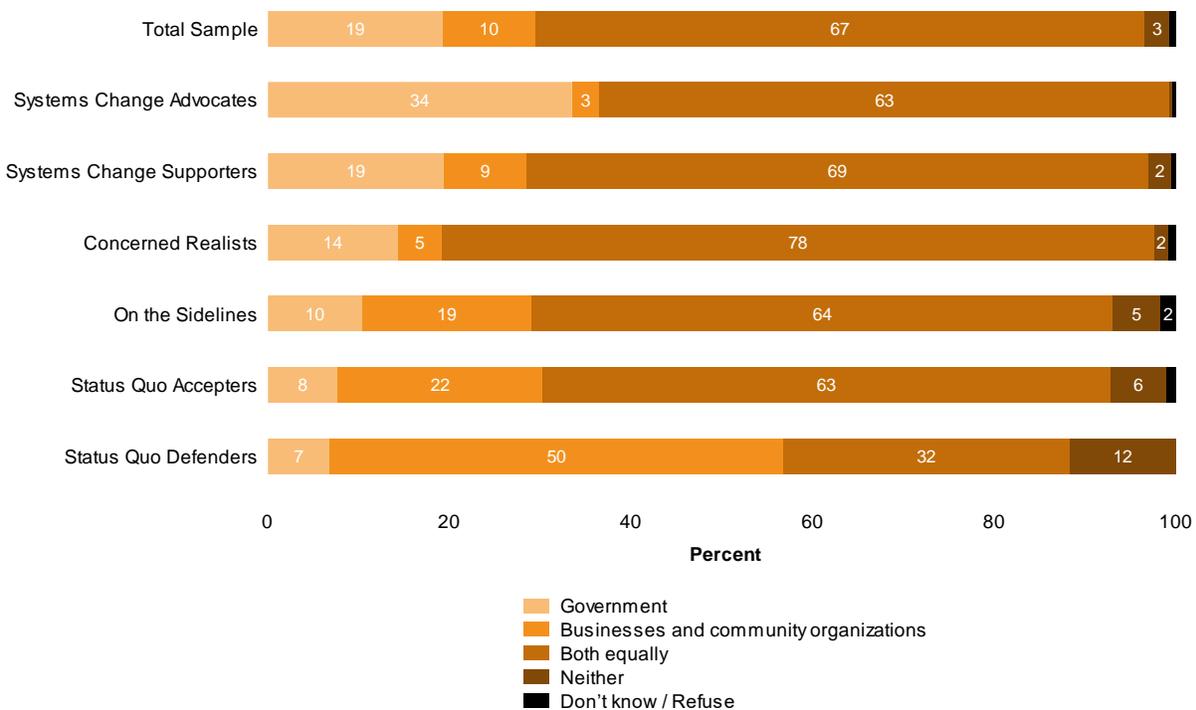
Eighty-six percent of U.S. adults believe that government has some role to play in addressing the child-care/preschool problem. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to see a role for the government. Those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Defenders, and Status Quo Accepters are less likely to hold this view. Systems Change Supporters resemble the total sample.

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[93] Original question wording is "Concerned individuals and non-governmental groups acting on their own such as businesses and community organizations" and "Both about equally." Those who said that society or both society and government should be mainly responsible for addressing the problem of so many families with young children who do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school were asked this question. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.73), Systems Change Advocates (0.35), System Change Supporters (0.52), Concerned Realists (0.86), Status Quo Defenders (2.65), Status Quo Accepters (1.03), and On the Sidelines (1.71).

6.8.2 If Government, What Level?

Overview: Among those seeing a role for government, there is consensus that all levels should be equally responsible for addressing the three problems. Concerned Realists are more likely to agree with this sentiment across all three problems. Status Quo Defenders are most likely to disagree. Those On the Sidelines, Systems Change Advocates, and Status Quo Accepters are less likely to agree across most of the three problems. Systems Change Supporters are less likely to agree for the food and income problems but resemble U.S. adults in general for the child-care/preschool problem.

6.8.2.1 What Part of Government Should Be Responsible for Income Problem

Figure 6.8.2.1: What Part of Government Should Be Responsible for Income Problem

What part of government should have the most responsibility?[94]

Legend:
- Federal government
- State governments
- Local governments (cities and counties)
- All equally
- Don't know / Refuse

Sixty-three percent of U.S. adults believe that all parts of the government, including federal, state, and local governments, should be equally responsible for addressing the income problem that lower-income families face. Concerned Realists are more likely to agree with this sentiment, but Status Quo Defenders and those On the Sidelines are least likely to agree. Systems Change Advocates and Systems Change Supporters are less likely to agree. Status Quo Accepters tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[94] Those who said government or both should have the most responsibility were asked this question. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.87), Systems Change Advocates (0.46), System Change Supporters (0.87), Concerned Realists (0.70), Status Quo Defenders (0.55), Status Quo Accepters (0.73), and On the Sidelines (2.83).

6.8.2.2 What Part of Government Should Be Responsible for Food Problem

Figure 6.8.2.2: What Part of Government Should Be Responsible for Food Problem

What part of government should have the most responsibility?[95]
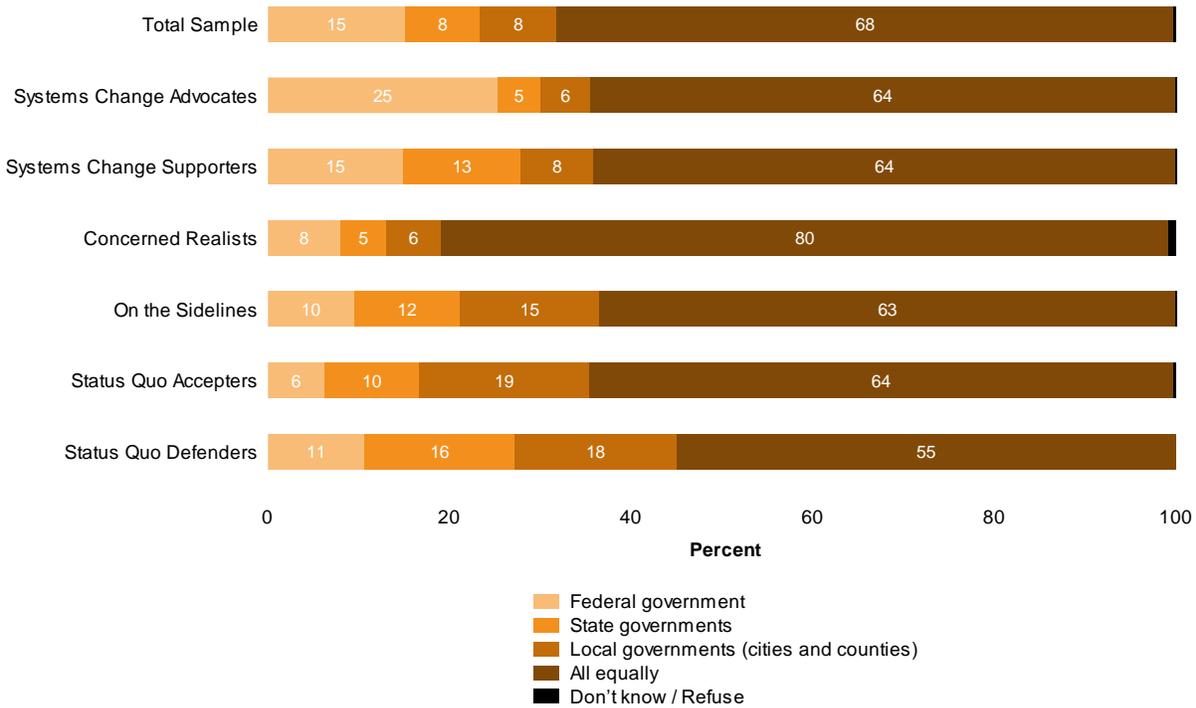
Sixty-eight percent of U.S. adults believe that all parts of the government should be equally responsible for addressing the food problem that lower-income families face. Concerned Realists are much more likely to believe in this point of view, but Status Quo Defenders are least likely to agree. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to hold this view.

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[95] Those who said government or both should have the most responsibility were asked this question. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.27), Systems Change Advocates (0.10), System Change Supporters (0.07), Concerned Realists (0.77), Status Quo Defenders (0.55), Status Quo Accepters (0.32), and On the Sidelines (0.07).

6.8.2.3 What Part of Government Should Be Responsible for Child Care/Preschool Problem

Figure 6.8.2.3: What Part of Government Should Be Responsible for Child Care/Preschool Problem

What part of government should have the most responsibility?[96]
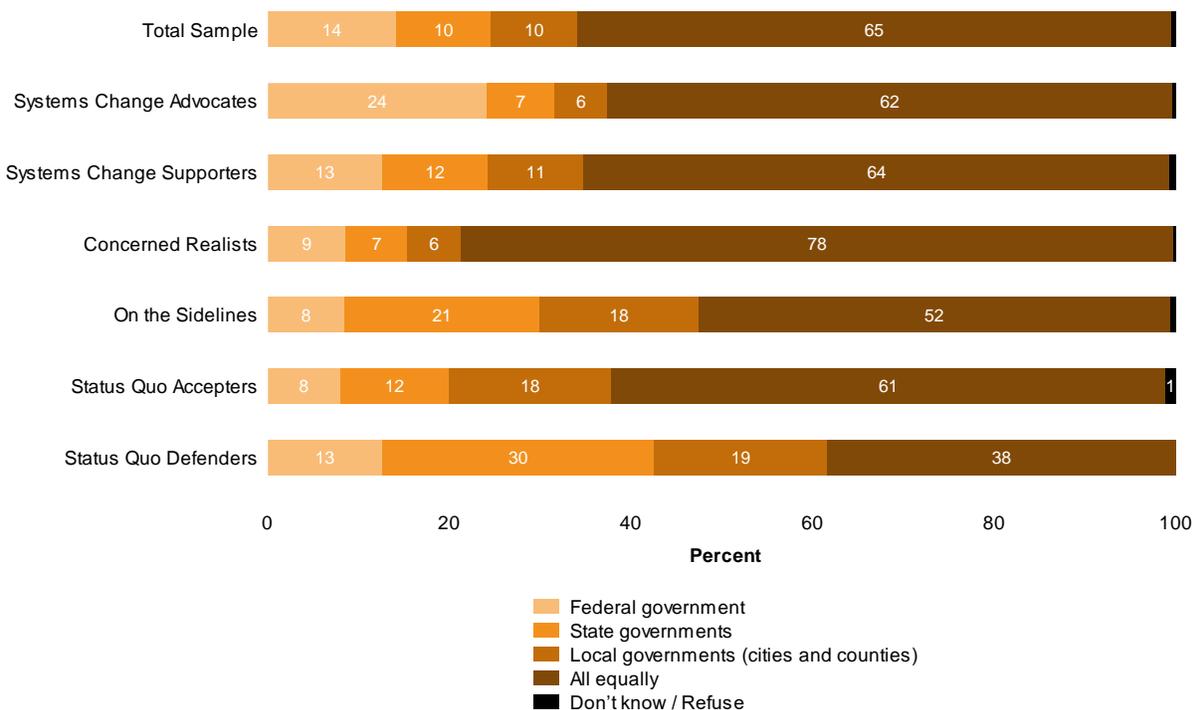
Sixty-five percent of U.S. adults believe that all parts of the government should be equally responsible for addressing the child-care/preschool problem that lower-income families face. Concerned Realists are more likely to have this perspective, but Status Quo Defenders and, to a lesser extent, those On the Sidelines, Systems Change Advocates, and Status Quo Accepters are all less likely to jointly assign this responsibility to all parts equally. Systems Change Supporters tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[96] Those who said government or both should have the most responsibility were asked this question. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.55), Systems Change Advocates (0.40), System Change Supporters (0.72), Concerned Realists (0.27), Status Quo Defenders (0.55), Status Quo Accepters (1.16), and On the Sidelines (0.65).
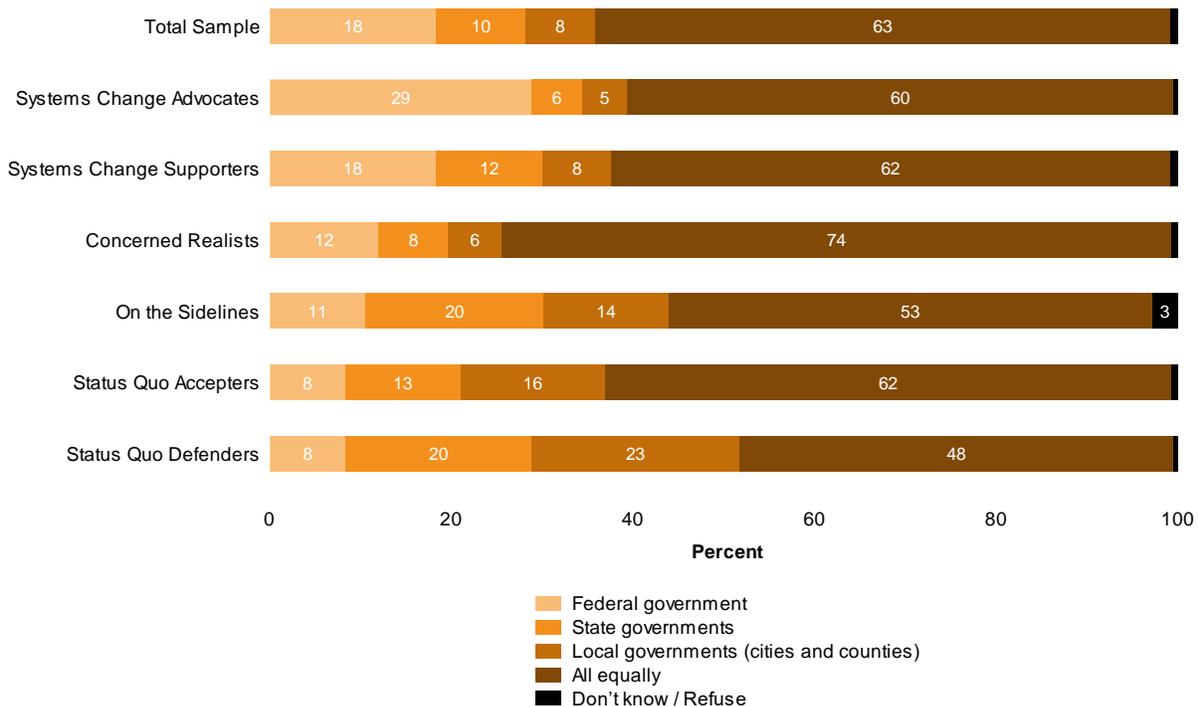
6.8.3 Should Government Do More or Not?

Overview: We included another question to assess views about government action to address the three problems. It was a forced-choice question about whether in general government should do more to address the problems or whether it should not because it cannot afford to do so. Just under two-thirds of U.S. adults believe that government should do more to address each of the problems, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more. Almost all Systems Change Advocates hold this view, followed by Concerned Realists and Systems Change Supporters. Those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe that government should do more. The stance of Concerned Realists and Systems Change Supporters on these measures differs from that of the groups on the government role series reported on above in section 6.81. As noted in the overview of the roles and responsibilities section, this suggests that the groups are ambivalent overall on the issue of government action.

6.8.3.1 Should Government Do More on Income Problem or Not

Figure 6.8.1.1: Should Government Do More on Income Problem or Not

Which statement do you agree with most?[97]
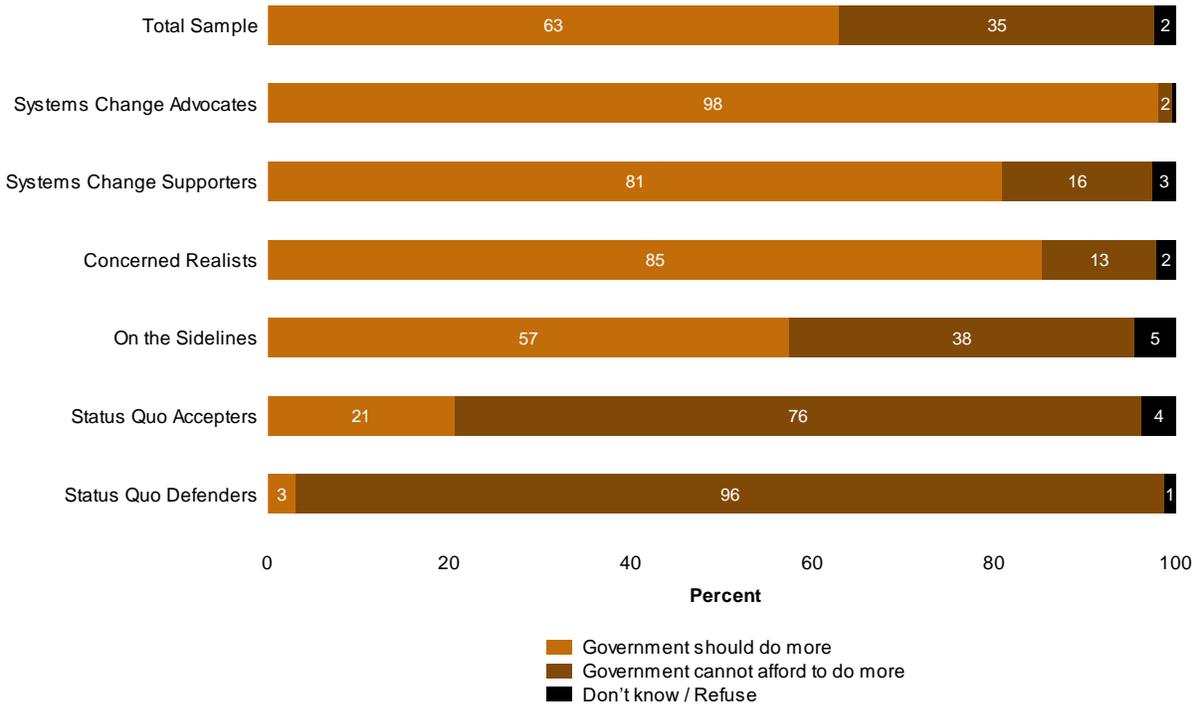
Sixty-three percent of U.S. adults believe that government should do more to address the income problem faced by lower-income families, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more. Almost all Systems Change Advocates hold this view, as do large numbers of Concerned Realists and Systems Change Supporters. Those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to believe that government should do more in this regard.

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[97] Original question wording is "Government should do more to help families without enough income for their young children to thrive, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more" and "Government cannot afford to do much more to help families without enough income for their young children to thrive." Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (2.30), Systems Change Advocates (0.33), System Change Supporters (2.60), Concerned Realists (2.14), Status Quo Defenders (1.26), Status Quo Accepters (3.77), and On the Sidelines (4.54).

6.8.3.2 Should Government Do More on Food Problem or Not

Figure 6.8.3.2: Should Government Do More on Food Problem or Not

Which statement do you agree with most?[98]
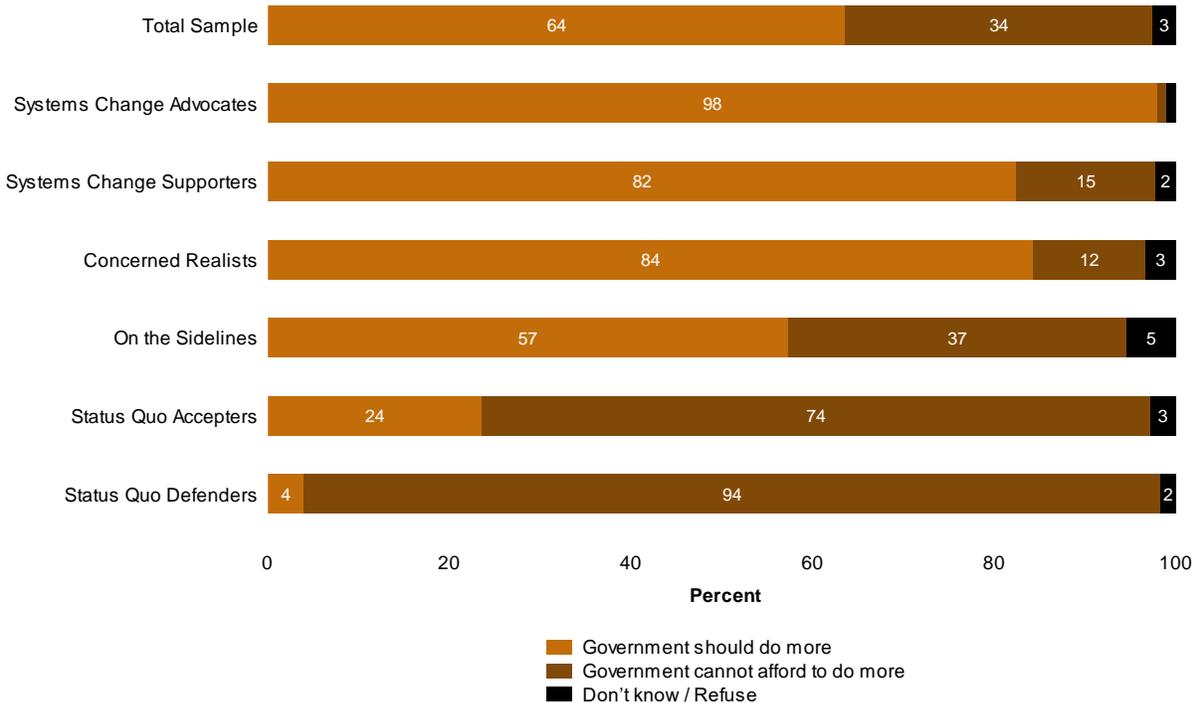
Sixty-four percent of U.S. adults believe that government should do more to address the food problem faced by lower-income families. Almost all Systems Change Advocates hold this view, followed by large numbers of Concerned Realists and Systems Change Supporters. Those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are all less likely to believe that government should do more to address the food problem.

[98] Original question wording is "Government should do more to help families without enough healthy food to eat, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more." And "Government cannot afford to do much more to help families without enough healthy foods to eat." Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (2.60), Systems Change Advocates (1.01), System Change Supporters (2.25), Concerned Realists (3.35), Status Quo Defenders (1.72), Status Quo Accepters (2.83), and On the Sidelines (5.42).

6.8.3.3 Should Government Do More on Child-care/Preschool Problem or Not?

Figure 6.8.3.3: Should Government Do More on Child-care/Preschool Problem or Not?

Which statement do you agree with most?[99]
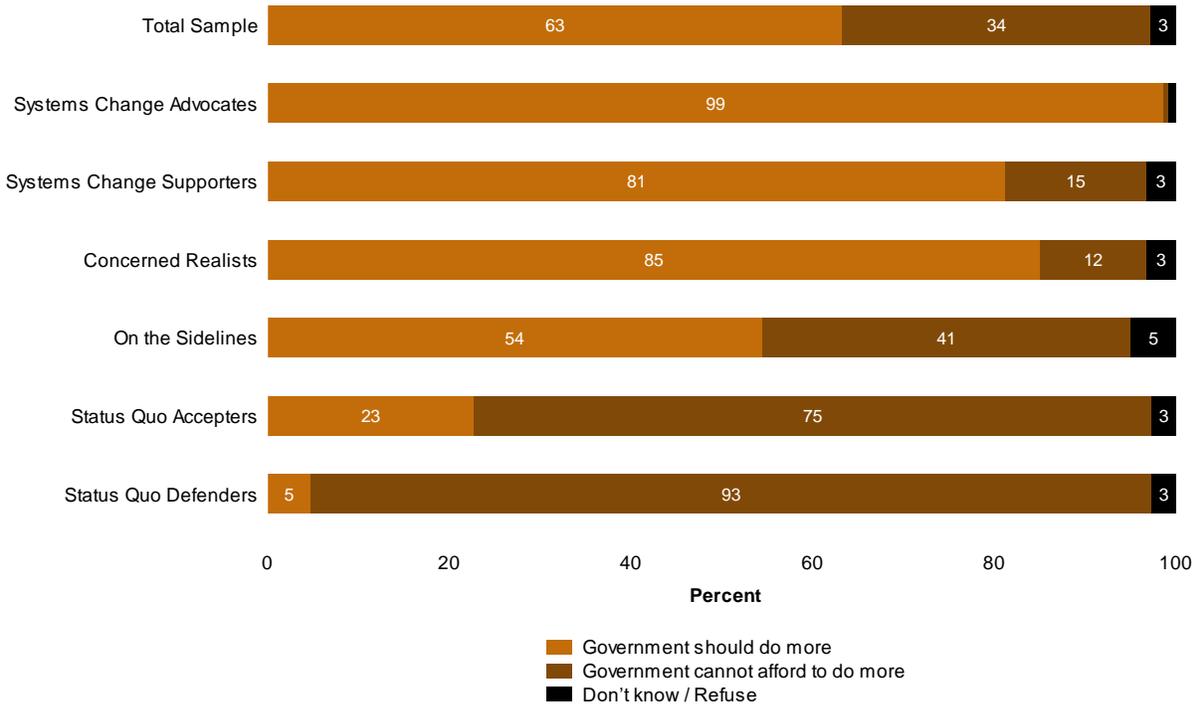
Sixty-three percent of U.S. adults believe that government should do more to address the child-care/preschool problem. Almost all Systems Change Advocates hold this view, followed by large numbers of Concerned Realists and Systems Change Supporters. Those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are more likely to believe that government cannot afford to do much more.

[99] Original question wording is "Government should do more to help families with young children access affordable, quality child care and pre-school, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more." and "Government cannot afford to do much more to help families to access affordable, quality child care and pre-school." Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (2.81), Systems Change Advocates (0.83), System Change Supporters (3.28), Concerned Realists (3.25), Status Quo Defenders (2.65), Status Quo Accepters (2.66), and On the Sidelines (4.94).

6.9 Deservingness of Families Without Enough Income

Overview: Six in ten U.S. adults agree that the families should receive help from the government since they make a contribution to U.S. society. Three in ten strongly agree. On the other hand, a majority (51%) believe that the families should only receive government help if they are in very great need, with about one in five agreeing strongly with this idea. Pluralities agree that the families should feel grateful for the help they get from the government, should only receive government help if the parents are American citizens and if their problems do not stem from their own poor choices. The level of strong agreement is highest on the citizenship and gratitude issues.

Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to question the deservingness of low-income families across these measures. Status Quo Defenders, and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to question their deservingness. The Concerned Realists have a mix of views. They are less likely to question deservingness in terms of reciprocity and identity but likely to in terms of need and attitude; on control, their views resemble those of U.S. adults generally.

6.9.1 Deservingness Based on Reciprocity

Figure 6.9.1: Deservingness Based on Reciprocity

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements about families without enough income for their young children to thrive. Families without enough income for their young children to thrive…

Should receive help from the government since they make a contribution to our society in the U.S.[100]
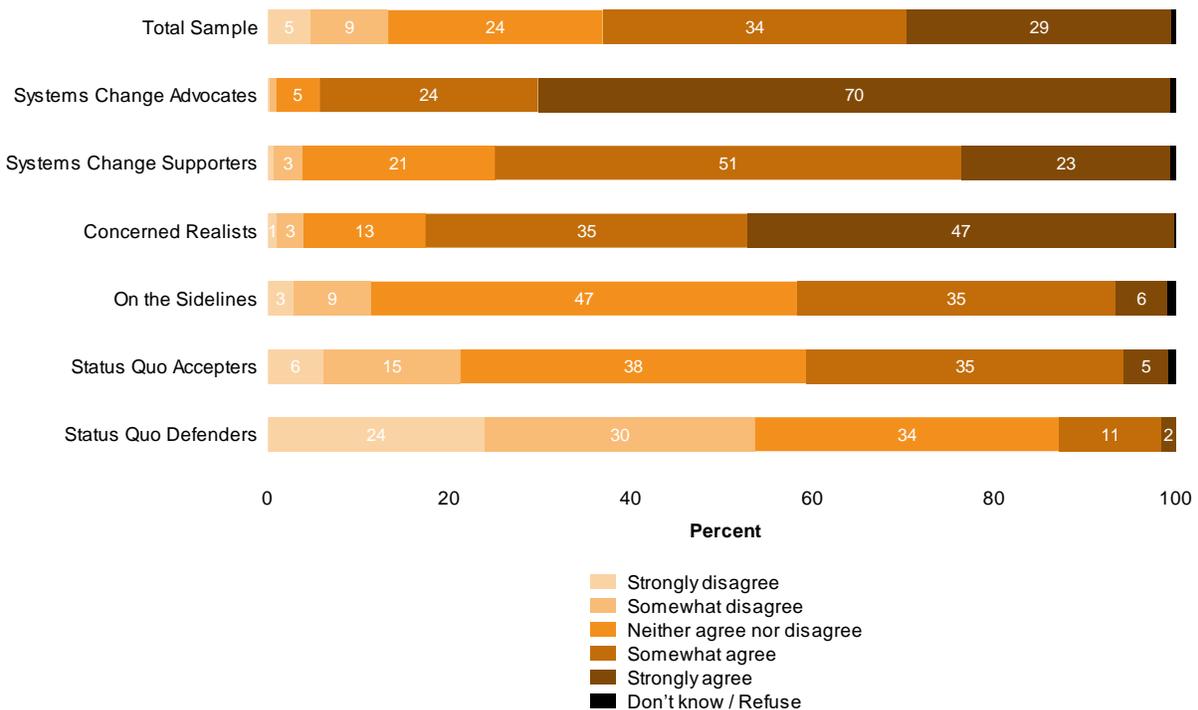
Sixty-three percent of U.S. adults strongly or somewhat agree that families without enough income for their young children to thrive should receive help from the government since they make a contribution to our society in the United States. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are much more likely to agree with this view, but those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are all much less likely to believe that these families deserve help.

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[100] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.50), Systems Change Advocates (0.56), System Change Supporters (0.61), Concerned Realists (0.19), Status Quo Defenders (0.55), Status Quo Accepters (0.78), and On the Sidelines (0.89).

6.9.2 Deservingness Based on Need

Figure 6.9.2: Deservingness Based on Need

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements about families without enough income for their young children to thrive. Families without enough income for their young children to thrive…

Should only receive government help if they are in very great need[101]

Fifty-one percent of U.S. adults somewhat strongly agree that families without enough income for their young children to thrive should only receive government help if they are in very great need. Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and Concerned Realists are more likely to agree with this view, many of them strongly. Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, and Systems Change Advocates are less likely to agree.

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[101] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.81), Systems Change Advocates (0.75), System Change Supporters (0.82), Concerned Realists (0.65), Status Quo Defenders (0.75), Status Quo Accepters (0.79), and On the Sidelines (1.31).

6.9.3 Deservingness Based on Attitude

Figure 6.9.3: Deservingness Based on Attitude

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements about families without enough income for their young children to thrive. Families without enough income for their young children to thrive…

Should feel grateful for the help they get from the government[102]

Sixty-four percent of U.S. adults somewhat or strongly agree that families without enough income for their young children to thrive should feel grateful for the help they get from the government. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to agree with this view, with many agreeing strongly. Those in the On the Sidelines group and Systems Change Advocates are less likely to agree. Systems Change Supporters tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[102] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.81), Systems Change Advocates (0.75), System Change Supporters (0.82), Concerned Realists (0.65), Status Quo Defenders (0.75), Status Quo Accepters (0.79), and On the Sidelines (1.31).

6.9.4 Deservingness Based on Identity

Figure 6.9.4: Deservingness Based on Identity

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements about families without enough income for their young children to thrive. Families without enough income for their young children to thrive…

Should only receive government help if the parents are American citizens[103]

Forty-four percent of U.S. adults strongly agree that families without enough income for their young children to thrive should only receive help from the government if the parents are American citizens. Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to agree. Many in the two groups strongly agree. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, and Systems Change Advocates are less likely to agree.

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[103] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.83), Systems Change Advocates (0.71), System Change Supporters (0.63), Concerned Realists (1.05), Status Quo Defenders (0.39), Status Quo Accepters (0.90), and On the Sidelines (1.47).

6.9.5 Deservingness Based on Control

Figure 6.9.5: Deservingness Based on Control

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements about families without enough income for their young children to thrive. Families without enough income for their young children to thrive…

Should not receive special help if their problems stem from their own poor choices[104]

Forty percent of U.S. adults somewhat or strongly agree that families without enough income for their young children to thrive should not receive special help if their problems stem from their own poor choices. Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to agree with this view, with many feeling strongly about their stance. In contrast, those On the Sidelines, Systems Change Supporters, and Systems Change Advocates are less likely to believe this. Concerned Realists tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.
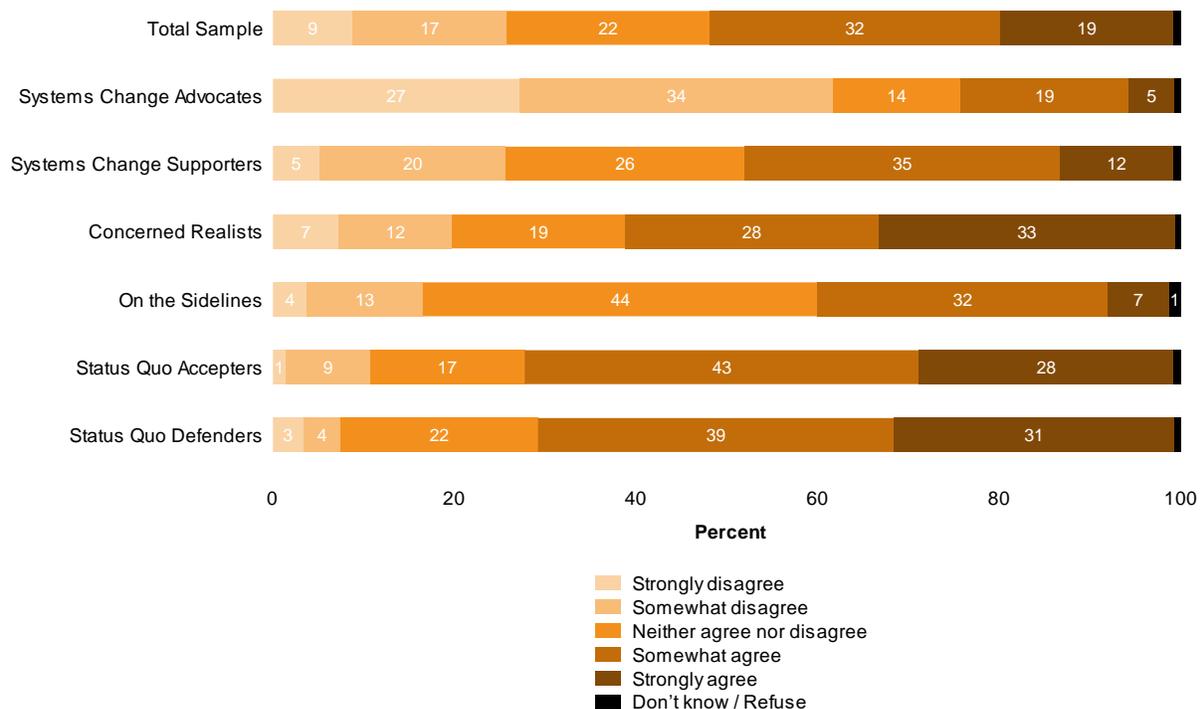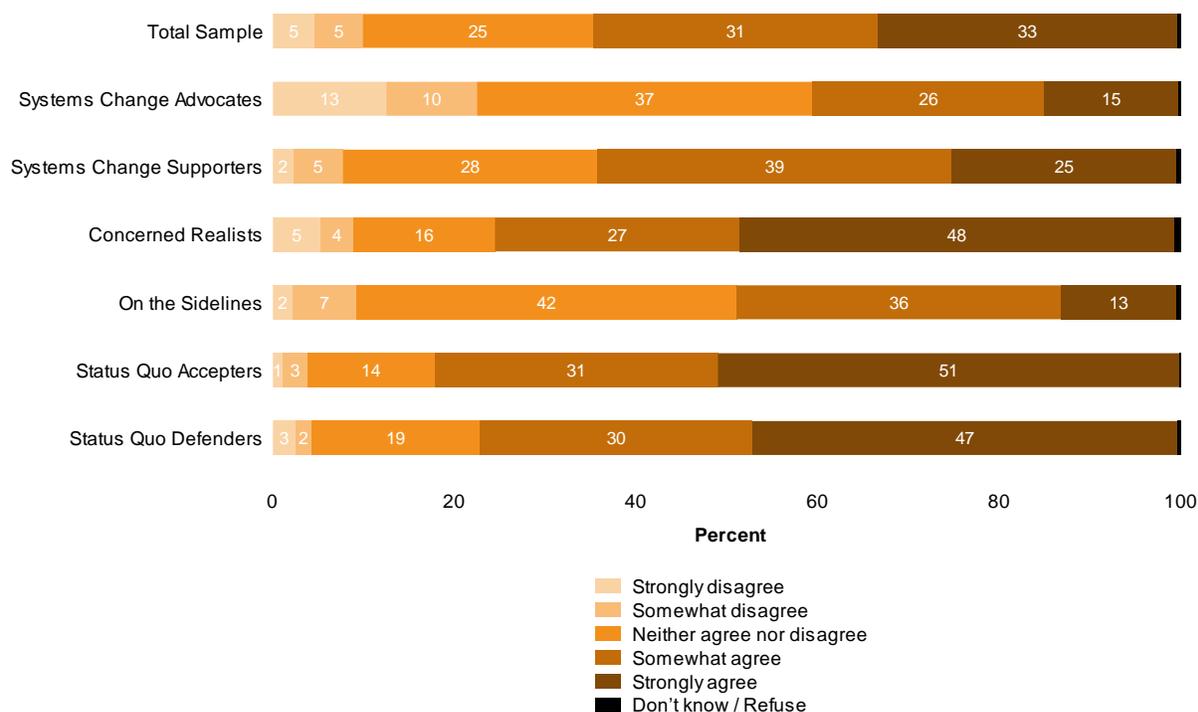
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[104] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.39), Systems Change Advocates (0.15), System Change Supporters (0.44), Concerned Realists (0.84), Status Quo Defenders (0.39), Status Quo Accepters (0.24), and On the Sidelines (0.60).

6.10 Other Beliefs about Families Without Enough Income

Overview: About one-half of U.S. adults agree that while it is unfortunate that some families have to do with less, the world is not always fair; one in five believe this strongly. On the idea that it is healthy for children in these families to have stressful life experiences because it builds stronger adults, only about three in ten U.S. adults agree. Acceptance of these views might serve to justify the challenging situations faced by low-income families.

We also asked about another belief, whether low-income families "are trying hard, playing by the rules and need help every now and then." Three quarters agree with more than four in ten agreeing strongly.

Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are more likely than U.S. adults in general to agree with the unfair world and childhood resilience ideas. Systems Change Supporters and Systems Change Advocates are less likely. The On the Sidelines group is less likely to believe in an unfair world and resembles the overall sample on childhood resilience. On "trying harder and playing by the rules," Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists and, interestingly, Status Quo Accepters are more likely to agree. Status Quo Defenders and the On the Sidelines group are less likely. Systems Change Supporters resemble the overall sample.

6.10.1 Unfair World

Figure 6.10.1: Unfair World

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements about families without enough income.

It is unfortunate when families with young children have to make do with less than they need, but the world is not always fair.[105]
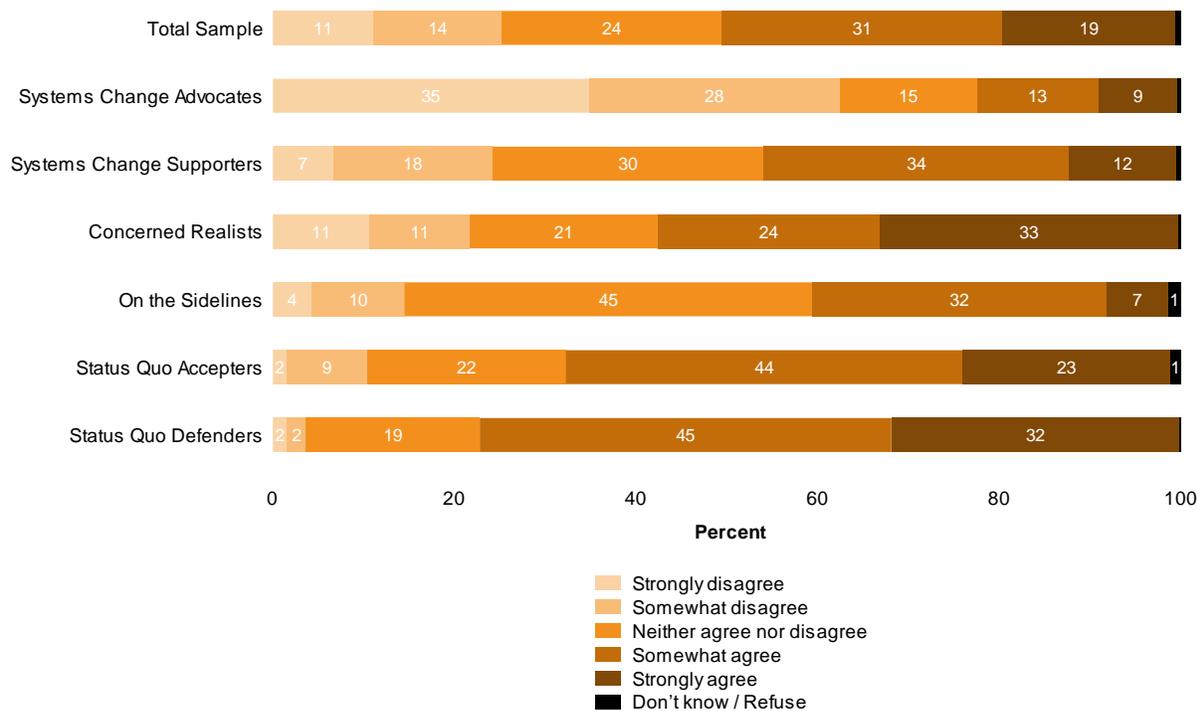
Fifty percent of U.S. adults somewhat or strongly agree that while it is unfortunate when families with young children have to make do with less than they need, the world is not always fair. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to agree with this view, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, and Systems Change Advocates are less likely to believe this is the case.

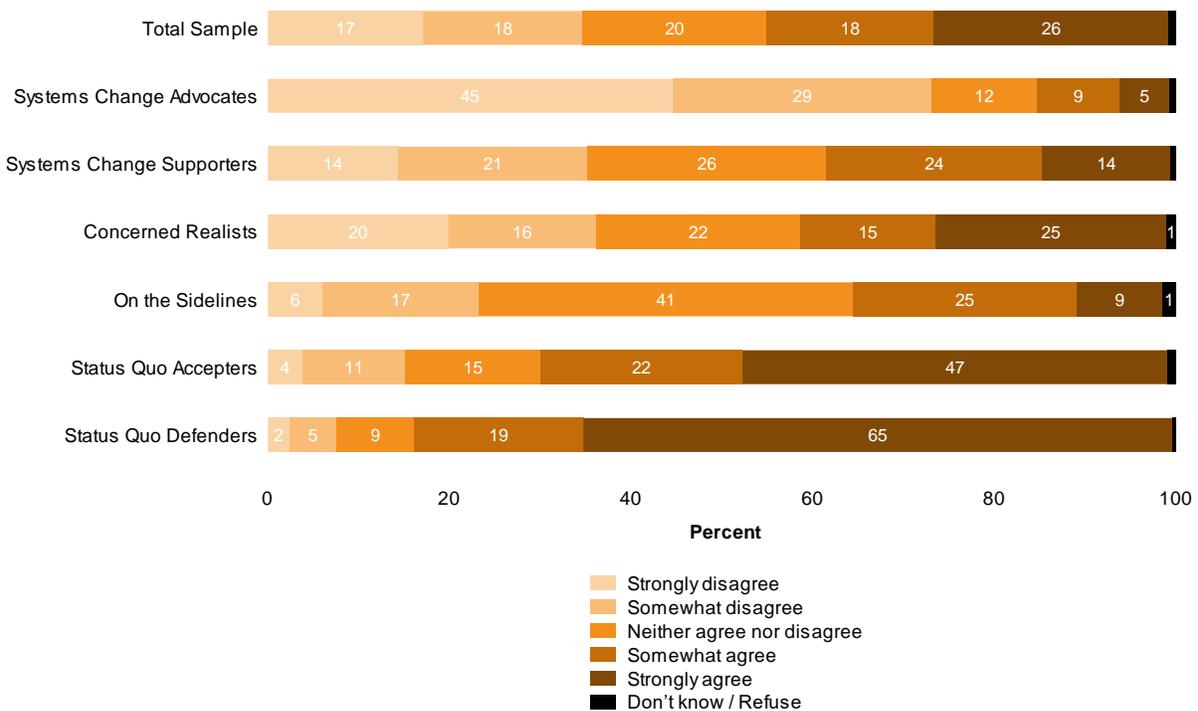[105] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.58), Systems Change Advocates (0.34), System Change Supporters (0.53), Concerned Realists (0.22), Status Quo Defenders (0.14), Status Quo Accepters (1.20), and On the Sidelines (1.38).

6.10.2 Trying Hard and Playing by the Rules

Figure 6.10.2: Trying Hard and Playing by the Rules

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements about families without enough income for their young children to thrive. Families without enough income for their young children to thrive…

Are trying hard and playing by the rules, and need help every now and then[106]

Seventy-six percent of U.S. adults agree that families without enough income for their young children to thrive are trying hard and playing by the rules and need help every now and then. Forty-three percent agree strongly. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to agree with this view. Status Quo Defenders and those On the Sidelines are less likely to believe this is the case. Systems Change Supporters resemble U.S. adults generally.
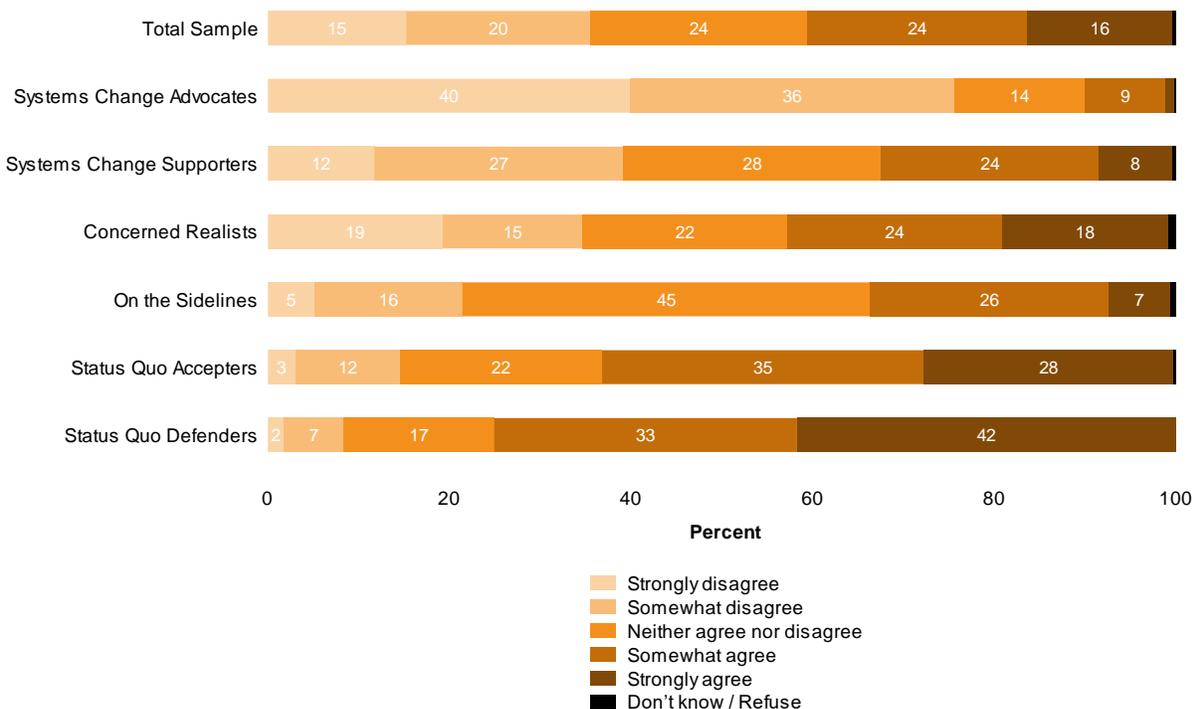
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[106] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.60), Systems Change Advocates (0.56), System Change Supporters (0.81), Concerned Realists (0.54), Status Quo Defenders (0.25), Status Quo Accepters (0.54), and On the Sidelines (0.85).

6.10.3 Childhood Resilience

Figure 6.10.3: Childhood Resilience

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements about families without enough income.

It is healthy for these children to have stressful life experiences. When they go through tough times, it helps them become stronger adults.[107]

Twenty-nine percent of U.S. adults agree that it is healthy for children to have stressful life experiences, as it helps them become stronger adults. Status Quo Defenders, Concerned Realists, and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to agree with this view. In contrast, Systems Change Supporters and Systems Change Advocates are less likely to believe that this is the case. Those On the Sidelines tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[107] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.54), Systems Change Advocates (0.26), System Change Supporters (0.47), Concerned Realists (1.13), Status Quo Defenders (0.04), Status Quo Accepters (0.49), and On the Sidelines (0.81).

6.11 Justice of U.S. Economic System

6.11.1 Hard Work Leads to Economic Success

Figure 6.11.1: Hard Work Leads to Economic Success

Which statement do you agree with most?[108]
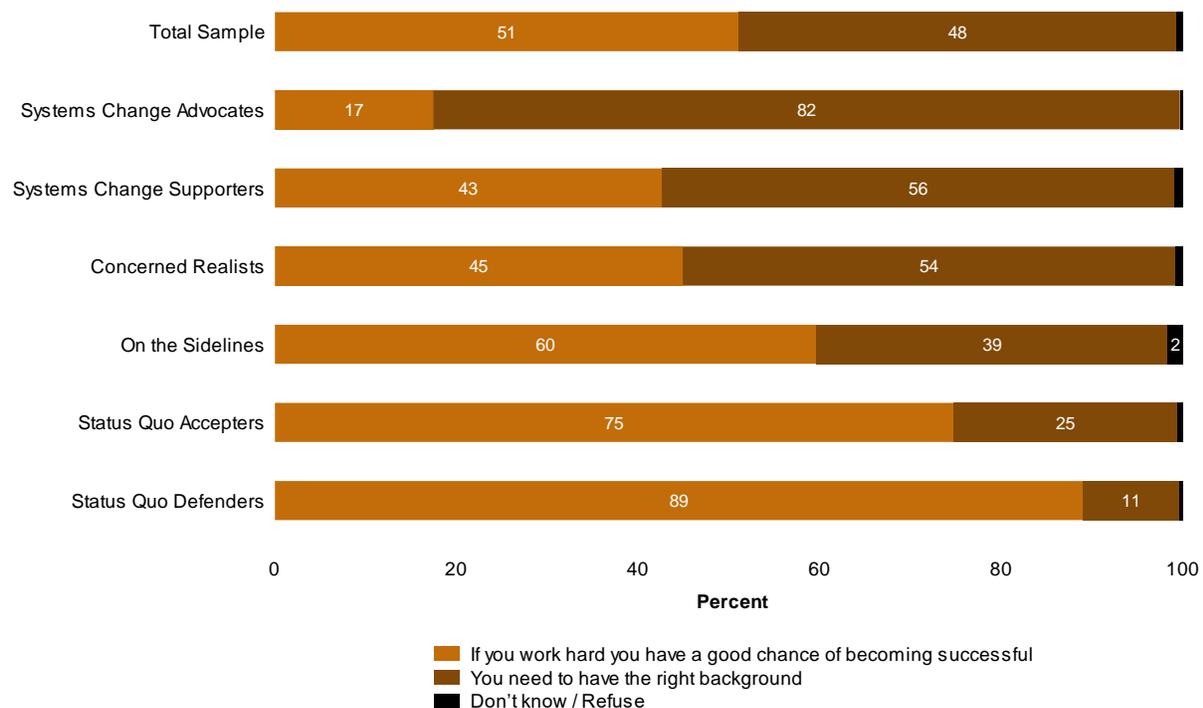
Fifty-one percent of U.S. adults agree that in the United States today, if you work hard, you have a good chance of becoming economically successful. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and those On the Sidelines are more likely to strongly agree with this view. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Supporters, and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to believe that you need to have the right background or some other advantage to have a good chance of becoming economically successful.

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[108] Original question wording is "In the U.S. today, if you work hard you have a good chance of becoming economically successful." and "In the U.S. today, you need to have the right background or some other advantage to have a goo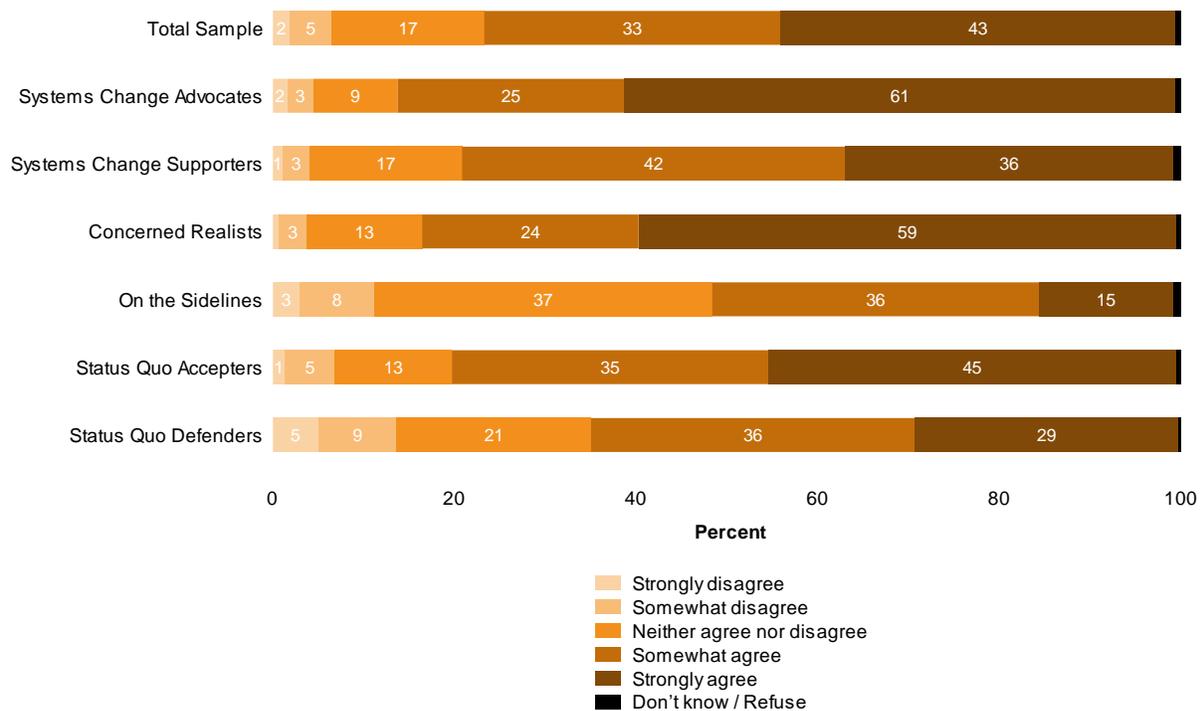d chance of becoming economically successful." Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.75), Systems Change Advocates (0.33), System Change Supporters (0.92), Concerned Realists (0.82), Status Quo Defenders (0.43), Status Quo Accepters (0.58), and On the Sidelines (1.65).

6.12. Personal Willingness to Take Action to Support Addressing the Problems

Overview: Substantial numbers of U.S. adults are very willing[109] to participate in future activities to support addressing the income, food, and child-care/preschool problems faced by low-income families. The activity that the largest number of adults are willing to engage in is voting for a political candidate that believes the issue to be a priority. The least number reported being very willing to pay a more in taxes.

Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely than U.S. adults in general to express a willingness to take action. Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.

6.12.1 Income Problem

Overview: About one-quarter or more U.S. adults say they are very willing to help address the income problem by paying more taxes, donating money, volunteering time, or voting for a political candidate who addresses the needs of low-income families. Systems Change Advocates are most willing to help across all measures, with Concerned Realists also generally more willing than U.S. adults to help, and all other groups generally less likely. Systems Change Supporters and Status Quo Accepters are somewhat less likely to be willing to help, but Status Quo Defenders and the On the Sidelines group are least likely to be willing to help overall.

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[109] Given the tendency of survey respondents to over-report on issues with a strong social acceptance bias, we focused our analysis on those who said that they were *very willing*.

6.12.1.1 Willingness to Pay More Taxes to Help Income Problem

Figure 6.12.1.1: Willingness to Pay More Taxes to Help Income Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families without enough income for their young children to thrive. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Pay a little bit more taxes[110]
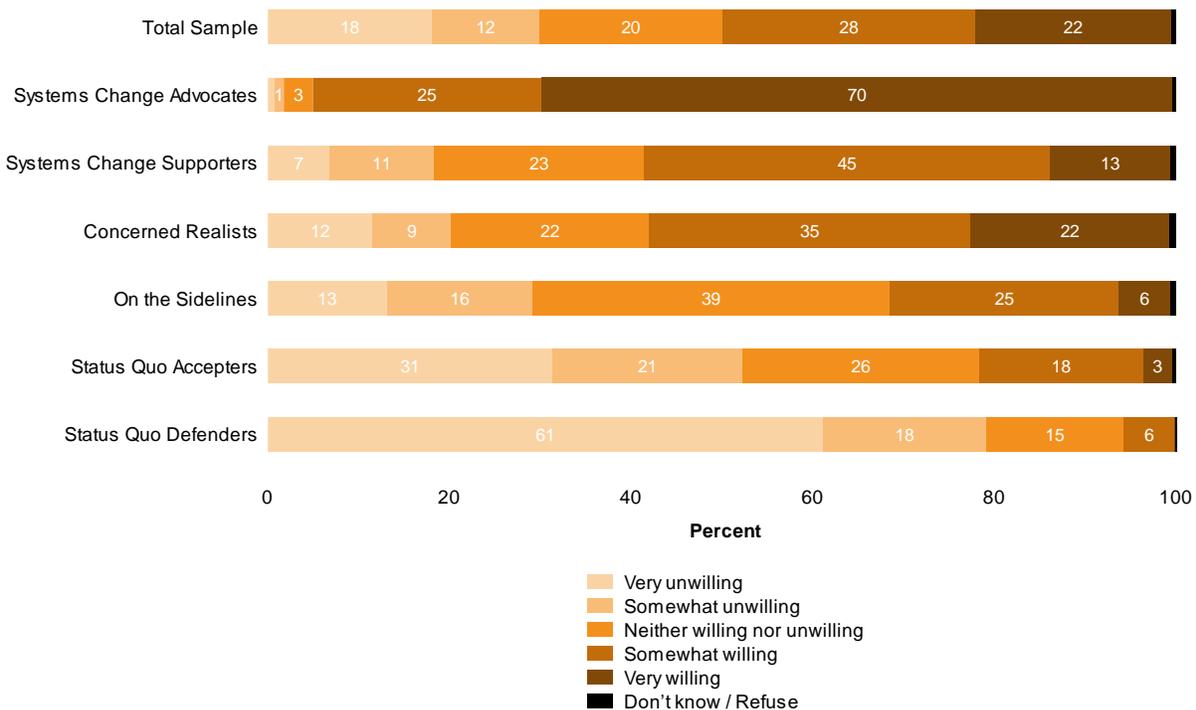
Overall, 22% of U.S. adults are very willing to pay a little bit more in taxes to help address the income problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates are overwhelmingly willing to do so, but Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Accepters are all less willing to pay a little more in taxes. No Status Quo Defenders are very willing to pay more in taxes, though a few are somewhat willing. Concerned Realists tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.
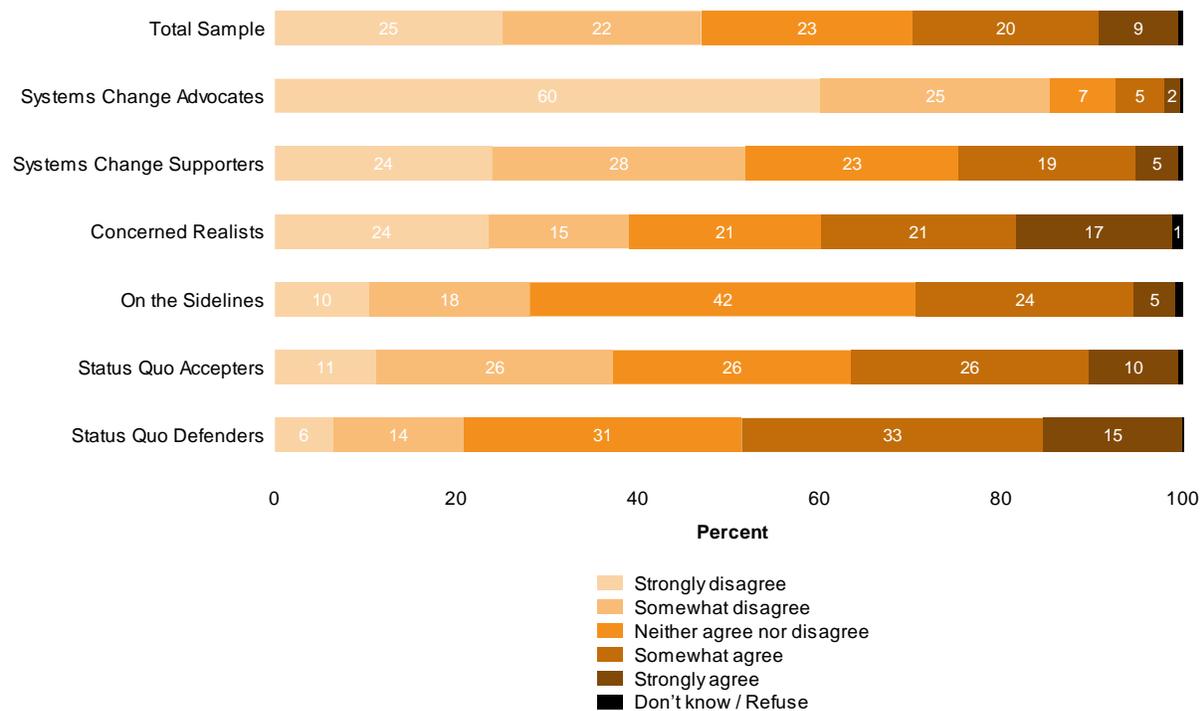
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[110] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.47), Systems Change Advocates (0.34), System Change Supporters (0.59), Concerned Realists (0.68), Status Quo Defenders (0.08), Status Quo Accepters (0.43), and On the Sidelines (0.62).

6.12.1.2 Willingness to Donate Money to Help Income Problem

Figure 6.12.1.2: Willingness to Donate Money to Help Income Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families without enough income for their young children to thrive. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Donate money to a charity, service organization, or community group working to address the problem[111]

Twenty-eight percent of U.S. adults are very willing to donate money to help address the income problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less willing to donate money.

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[111] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.37), Systems Change Advocates (0.05), System Change Supporters (0.54), Concerned Realists (0.21), Status Quo Defenders (0.08), Status Quo Accepters (0.69), and On the Sidelines (0.83).

6.12.1.3 Willingness to Volunteer Time to Help Income Problem

Figure 6.12.1.3: Willingness to Volunteer Time to Help Income Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families without enough income for their young children to thrive. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Volunteer your time to groups working to address the problem when/if COVID-19 is no longer a pandemic[112]

Twenty-four percent of U.S. adults are very willing to volunteer their time to help address the income problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less willing to do so.

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[112] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.52), Systems Change Advocates (0.25), System Change Supporters (0.83), Concerned Realists (0.51), Status Quo Defenders (0.14), Status Quo Accepters (0.52), and On the Sidelines (0.81).

6.12.1.4 Willingness to Vote to Help Income Problem

Figure 6.12.1.4: Willingness to Vote to Help Income Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families without enough income for their young children to thrive. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Vote for a political candidate who sees this as a high priority[113]

Forty-five percent of U.S. adults are very willing to vote for a political candidate to help address the income problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less willing to do so.

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[113] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.51), Systems Change Advocates (0.05), System Change Supporters (0.68), Concerned Realists (0.83), Status Quo Defenders (0.08), Status Quo Accepters (0.77), and On the Sidelines (0.53).

6.12.2 Food Problem

Overview: About one-quarter or more of U.S. adults are very willing to help address the food problem by paying more taxes, donating money, or volunteering their time. About four in ten are very willing to vote for a political candidate who sees helping low-income families as a priority.

Systems Change Advocates are most willing compared to U.S. adults in general to help across all measures, with the highest being paying more taxes and voting. Concerned Realists are also generally more willing to help than U.S. adults, with all other groups generally less likely. Systems Change Supporters and Status Quo Accepters are somewhat less likely to be willing to help low-income families address the food problem, followed by Status Quo Defenders and the On the Sidelines group, who are least likely to be willing to help.

6.12.2.1 Willingness to Pay More Taxes to Help Food Problem

Figure 6.12.2.1: Willingness to Pay More Taxes to Help Food Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families with young children without enough healthy food to eat. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Pay a little bit more taxes[114]
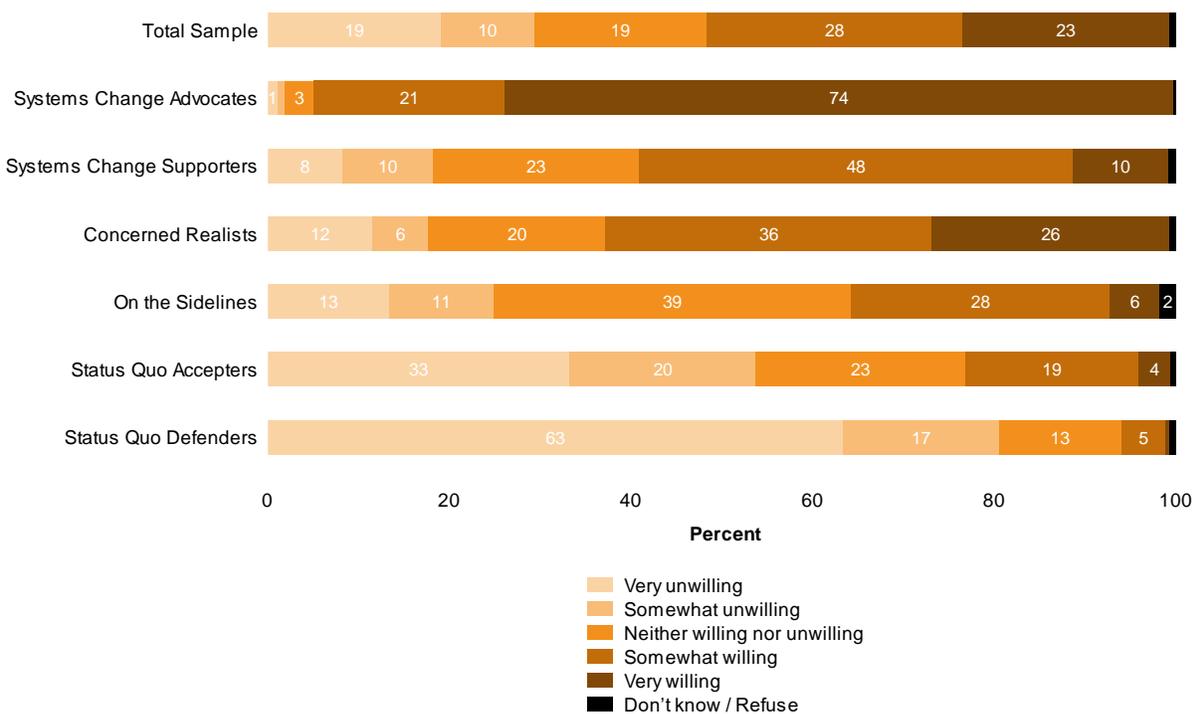
Twenty-three percent of U.S. adults are very willing to pay more taxes to help address the food problem lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less willing to do so.

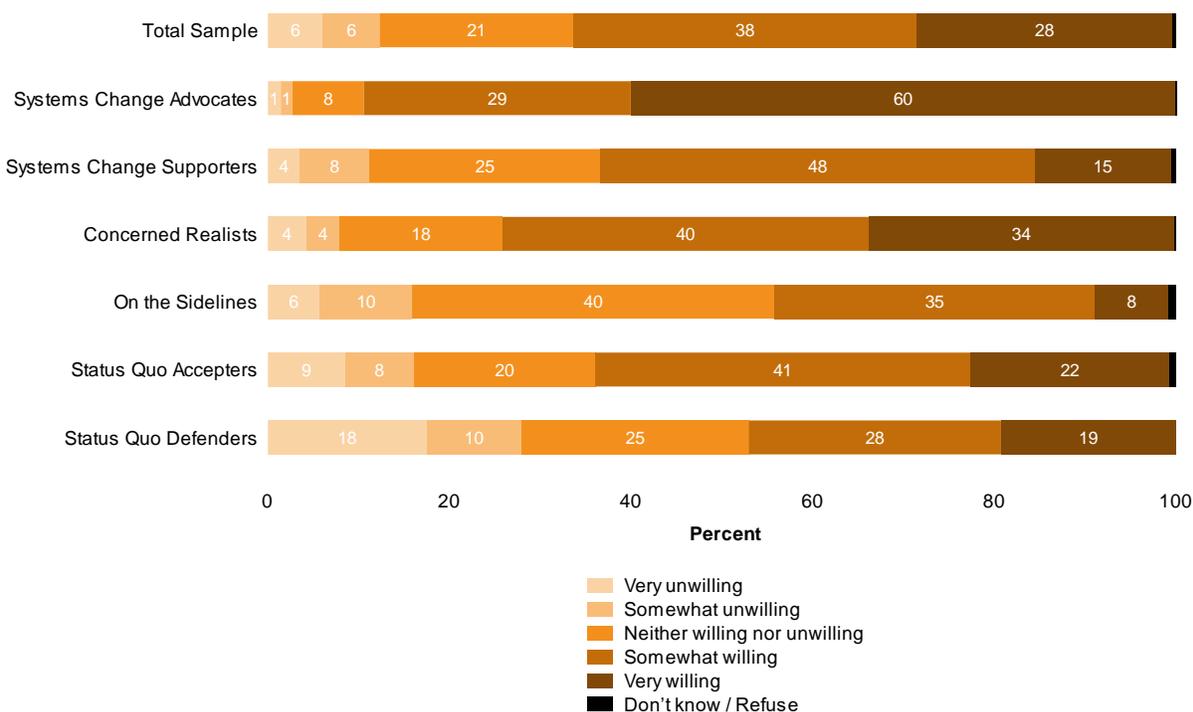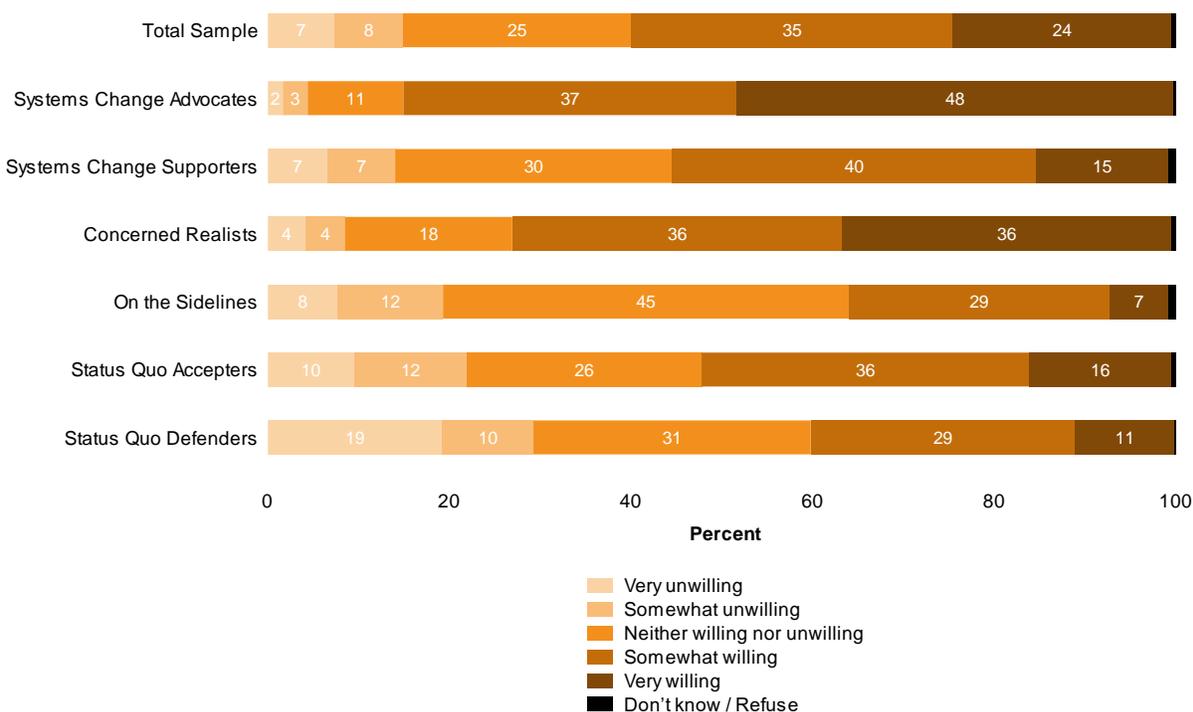[114] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.77), Systems Change Advocates (0.28), System Change Supporters (0.87), Concerned Realists (0.74), Status Quo Defenders (0.76), Status Quo Accepters (0.56), and On the Sidelines (1.75).

6.12.2.2 Willingness to Donate Money to Help Food Problem

Figure 6.12.2.2: Willingness to Donate Money to Help Food Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families with young children without enough healthy food to eat. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Donate money to a charity, service organization, or community group working to address the problem[115]

Twenty-nine percent of U.S. adults are very willing to donate money to help address the food problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less willing to do so.

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[115] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.71), Systems Change Advocates (0.11), System Change Supporters (0.89), Concerned Realists (0.73), Status Quo Defenders (0.21), Status Quo Accepters (0.56), and On the Sidelines (2.15).

6.12.2.3 Willingness to Volunteer Time to Help Food Problem

Figure 6.12.2.3: Willingness to Volunteer Time to Help Food Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families with young children without enough healthy food to eat. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Volunteer your time to groups working to address the problem when/if COVID-19 is no longer a pandemic[116]

Twenty-three percent of U.S. adults are very willing to volunteer to help address the food problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less willing to do so.
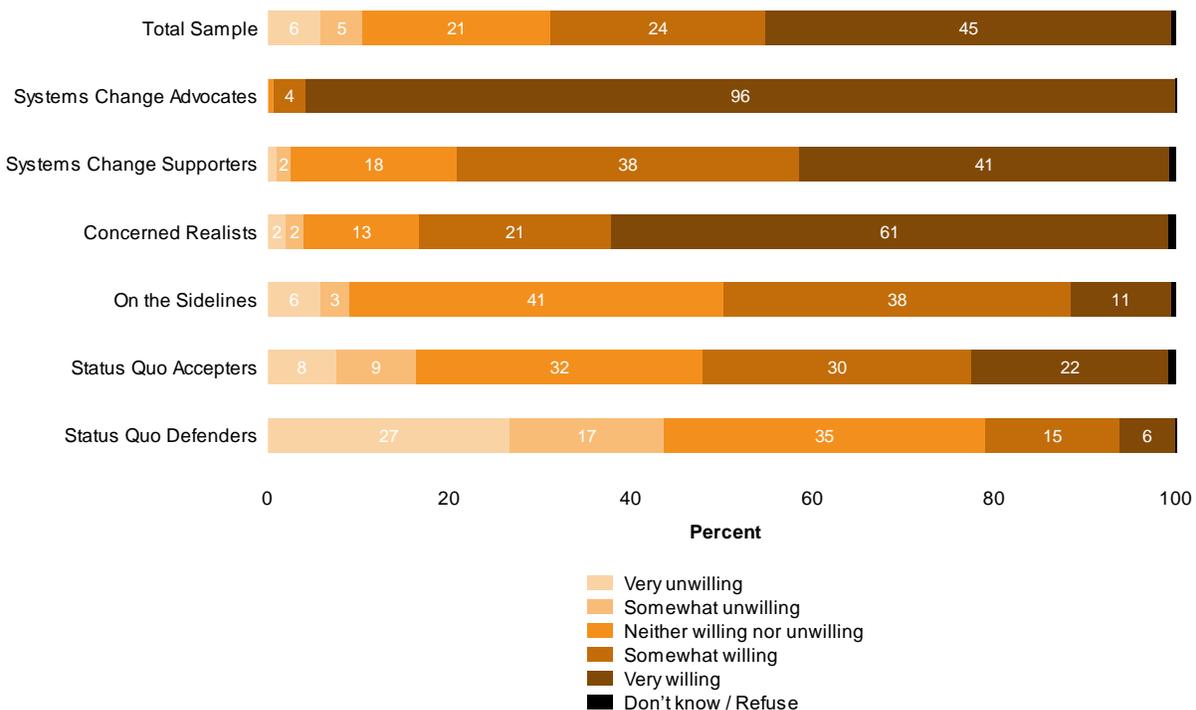
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[116] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.82), Systems Change Advocates (0.26), System Change Supporters (0.77), Concerned Realists (1.13), Status Quo Defenders (0.62), Status Quo Accepters (0.90), and On the Sidelines (1.52).

6.12.2.4 Willingness to Vote to Help Food Problem

Figure 6.12.2.4: Willingness to Vote to Help Food Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families with young children without enough healthy food to eat. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Vote for a political candidate who sees this as a high priority[117]

Forty-three percent of U.S. adults are very willing to vote for a political candidate to help address the food problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less willing to do so.

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[117] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.69), Systems Change Advocates (0.05), System Change Supporters (0.94), Concerned Realists (0.87), Status Quo Defenders (0.63), Status Quo Accepters (0.54), and On the Sidelines (1.25).

6.12.3 Child-care/Preschool Problem

Overview: About one in five U.S. adults are willing to help address the child-care/preschool problem by paying more in taxes, donating money, or volunteering their time. About four in ten are very willing to vote for a political candidate who sees helping low-income families as a priority.

Compared to U.S. adults in general, Systems Change Advocates are most willing to help, across all measures, followed by Concerned Realists. All other groups are less willing to help than U.S. adults on average. Systems Change Supporters are somewhat less willing to help, as are Status Quo Accepters. Status Quo Defenders are least likely to be willing to help low-income families through paying more taxes, volunteering, or voting, while the On the Sidelines group is least likely to be willing to help through donating money.

6.12.3.1 Willingness to Pay More Taxes to Help Child-care/Preschool Problem

Figure 6.12.3.1: Willingness to Pay More Taxes to Help Child-care/Preschool Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families with young children who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Pay a little bit more taxes[118]
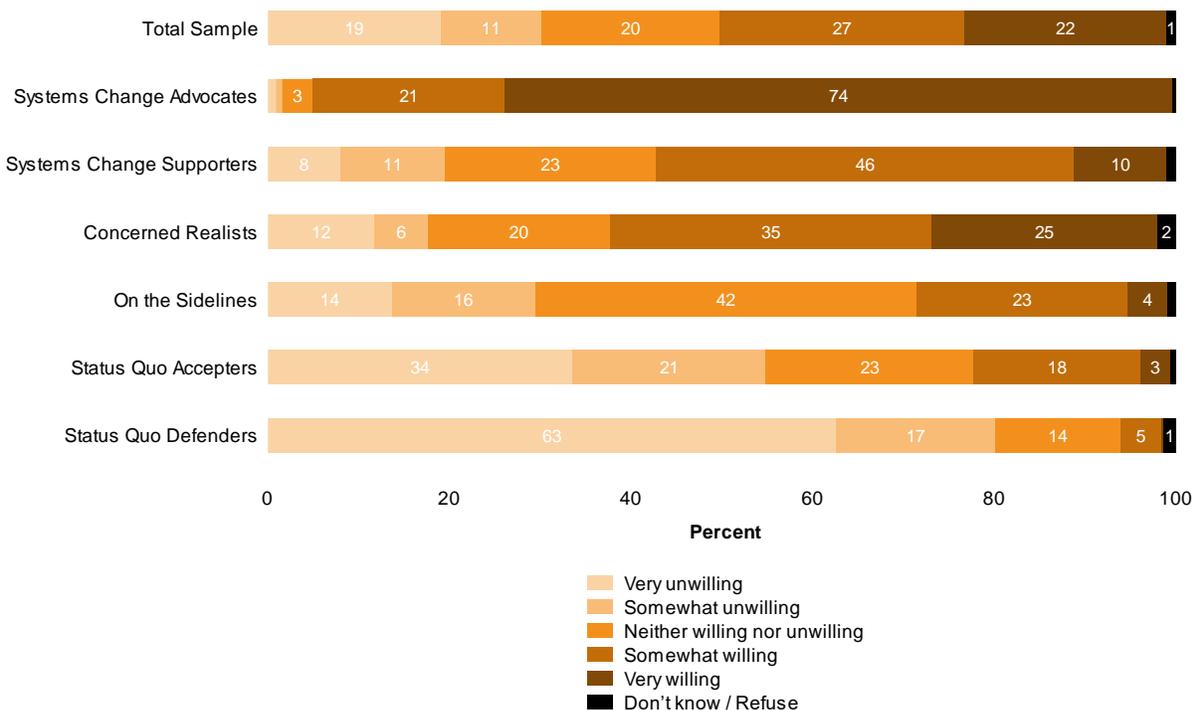
Twenty-two percent of U.S. adults are very willing to pay more taxes to help address the child-care/preschool problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, and Status Quo Accepters are less willing to do so. No Status Quo Defenders are very willing to pay for taxes to help address this problem.
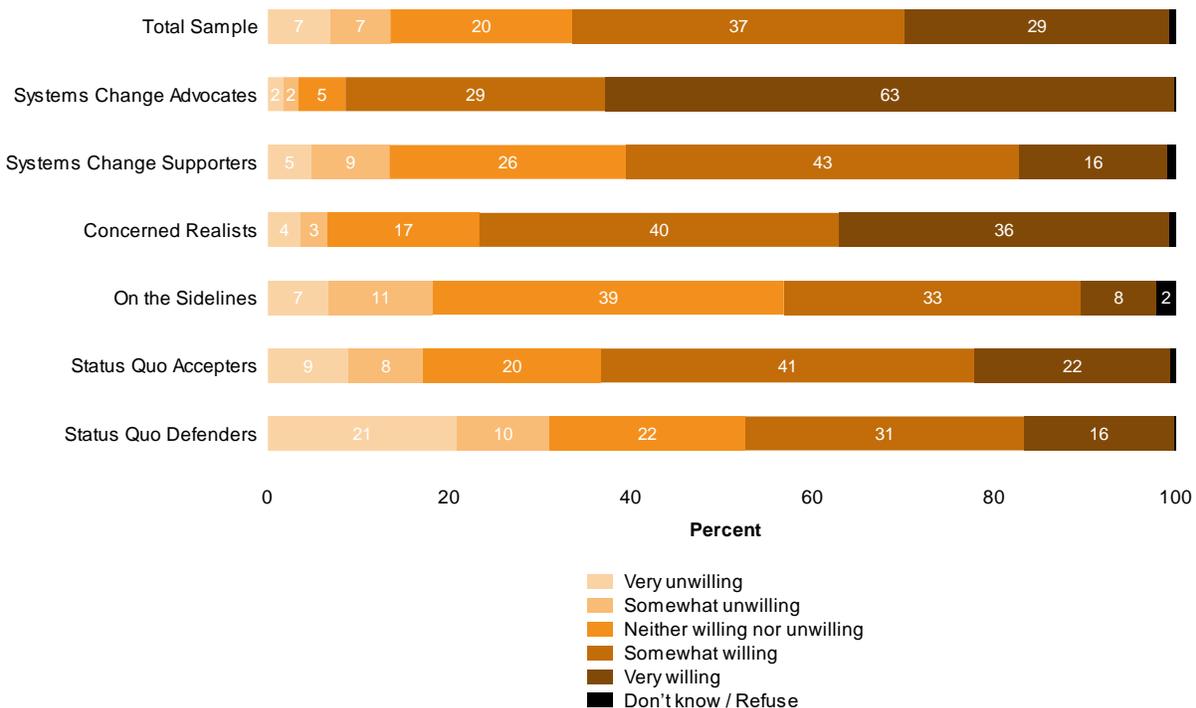
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[118] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.05), Systems Change Advocates (0.37), System Change Supporters (0.99), Concerned Realists (2.05), Status Quo Defenders (1.36), Status Quo Accepters (0.60), and On the Sidelines (0.92).

6.12.3.2 Willingness to Donate Money to Help Child-care/Preschool Problem

Figure 6.12.3.2: Willingness to Donate Money to Help Child-care/Preschool Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families with young children who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Donate money to a charity, service organization, or community group working to address the problem[119]

Twenty-six percent of U.S. adults are very willing to donate money to help address the child-care/preschool problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less willing to do so.
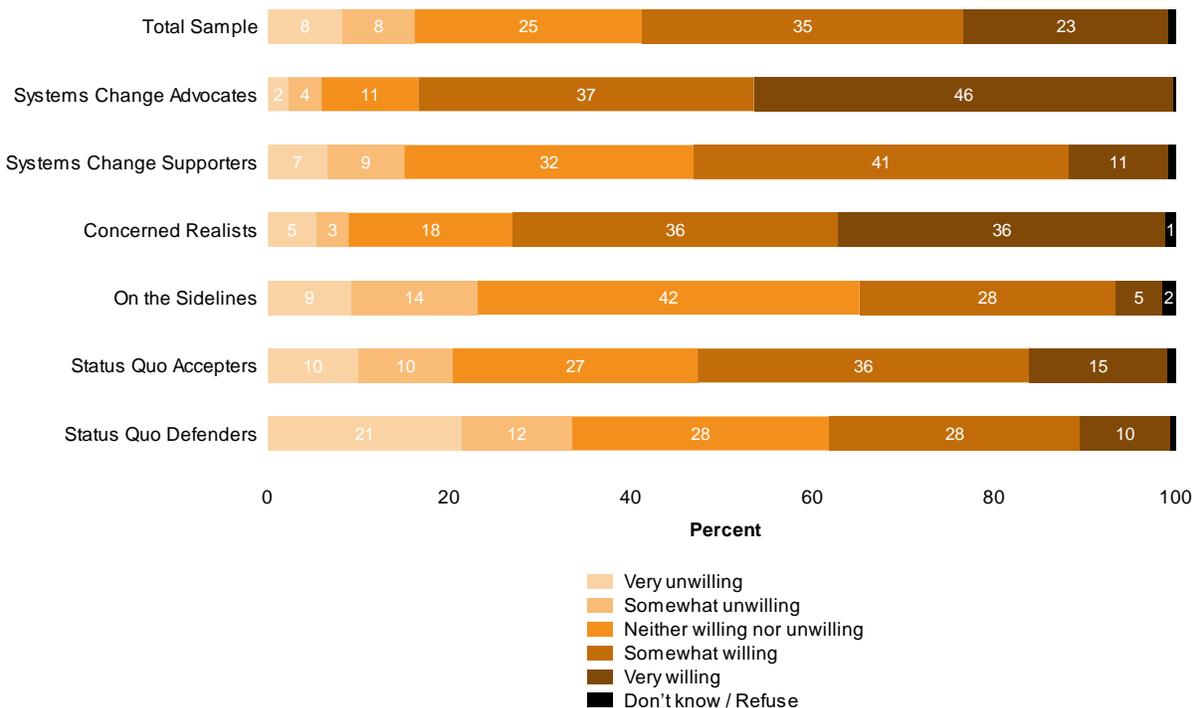
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[119] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.88), Systems Change Advocates (0.17), System Change Supporters (0.74), Concerned Realists (1.27), Status Quo Defenders (1.82), Status Quo Accepters (0.67), and On the Sidelines (0.93).

6.12.3.3 Willingness to Volunteer Time to Groups to Help Child-care/Preschool Problem

Figure 6.12.3.3: Willingness to Volunteer Time to Groups to Help Child-care/Preschool Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families with young children who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Volunteer your time to groups working to address the problem when/if COVID-19 is no longer a pandemic[120]

Twenty percent of U.S. adults are very willing to volunteer with an organization to help address the child-care/preschool problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less willing to do so.
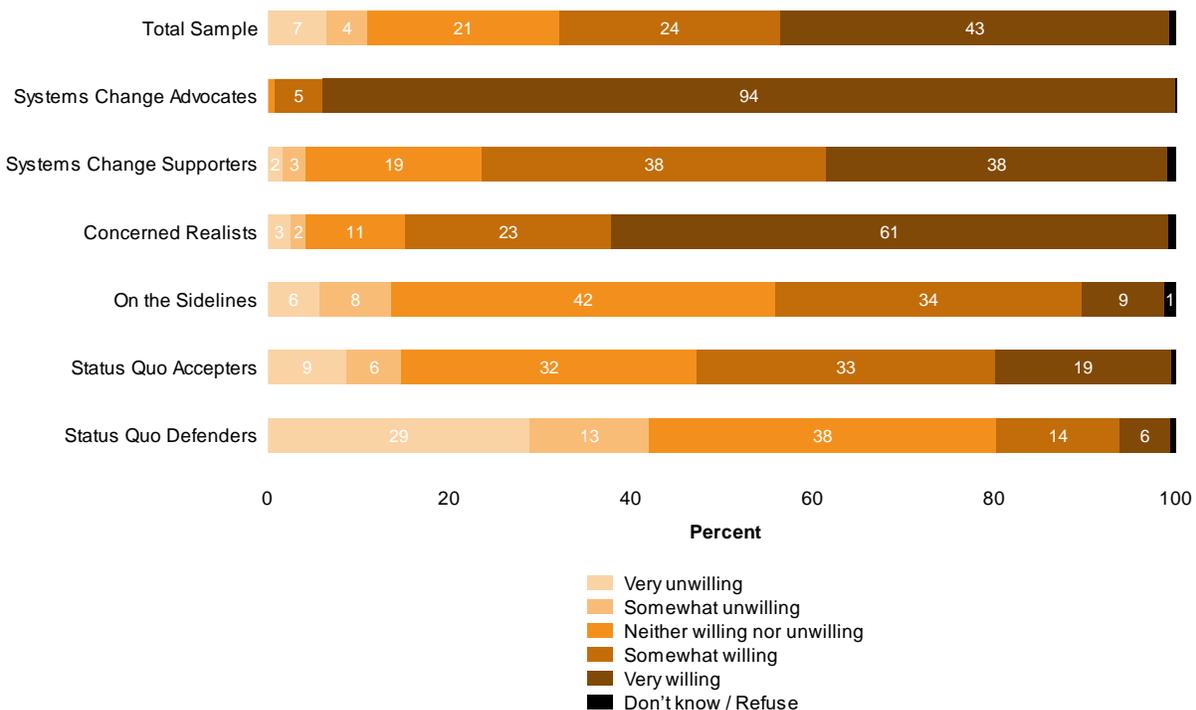
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[120] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.98), Systems Change Advocates (0.27), System Change Supporters (0.75), Concerned Realists (1.55), Status Quo Defenders (1.70), Status Quo Accepters (0.88), and On the Sidelines (1.01).

6.12.3.4 Willingness to Volunteer Time to Family to Help Child-care/Preschool Problem

Figure 6.12.3.4: Willingness to Volunteer Time to Family to Help Child-care/Preschool Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families with young children who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Volunteer your time to help a family you know with child care when/if COVID-19 is no longer a pandemic[121]

Twenty-two percent of U.S. adults are very willing to volunteer with a family to help address the child-care/preschool problem that lower-income families face. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less willing to do so.

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[121] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.91), Systems Change Advocates (0.30), System Change Supporters (0.67), Concerned Realists (1.29), Status Quo Defenders (0.94), Status Quo Accepters (0.65), and On the Sidelines (2.11).

6.12.3.5 Willingness to Vote to Help Child-care/Preschool Problem

Figure 6.12.3.5: Willingness to Vote to Help Child-care/Preschool Problem

We just asked about what the government can do to help families with young children who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

Vote for a political candidate who sees this as a high priority[122]

Forty-one percent of U.S. adults are very willing to vote for a political candidate to help address the child-care/preschool problem faced by lower-income families. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more willing to do so, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less willing to do so.

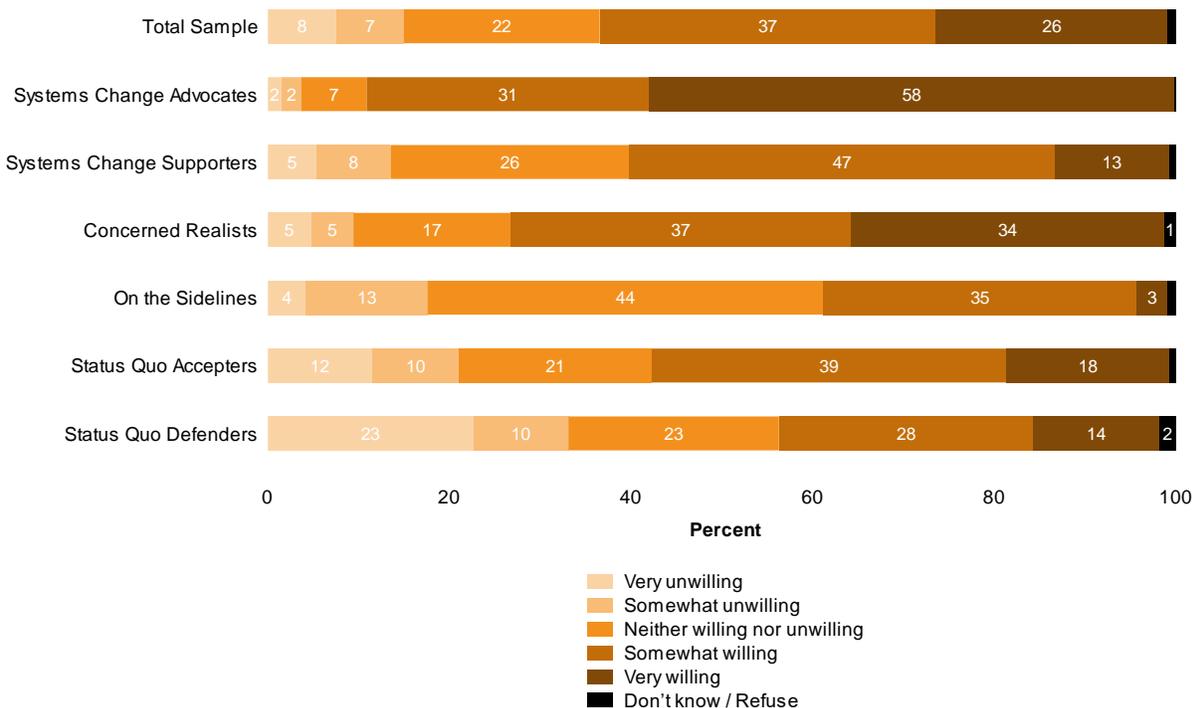[122] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.96), Systems Change Advocates (0.13), System Change Supporters (0.69), Concerned Realists (1.47), Status Quo Defenders (2.35), Status Quo Accepters (0.77), and On the Sidelines (0.69).

6.13 Civic Engagement on Children's and Family Issues Generally

Overview: The majority of U.S. adults report voting, and nearly half report donating to charities in support of children's and family issues over the last year. Fewer report engagement in other more time-intensive activities.

Systems Change Advocates are most engaged compared to U.S. adults in general. Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Defenders, and Status Quo Accepters are less likely to be engaged. Concerned Realists and those in the On the Sidelines group fall somewhere in the middle, reporting a mix of responses across our measures of civic engagement.

6.13.1 Contributed to Political Organization

Figure 6.13.1: Contributed to Political Organization

Have you done the following in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children?

Contributed time and/or money to a candidate or political organization in support of a policy or some other action[123]
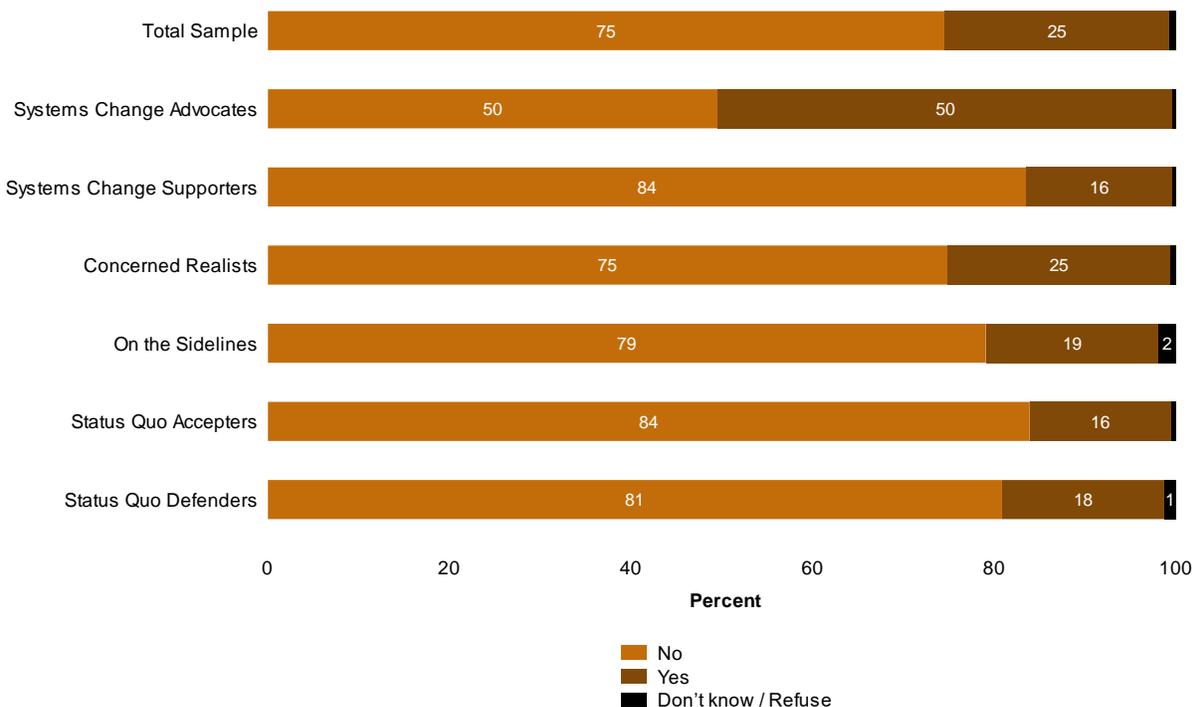
Twenty-five percent of U.S. adults have contributed time and/or money to a candidate or political organization in support of a policy or some other action in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children. Systems Change Advocates are much more likely to have engaged in this activity. Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to have done so. Concerned Realists resemble the U.S. population in general.

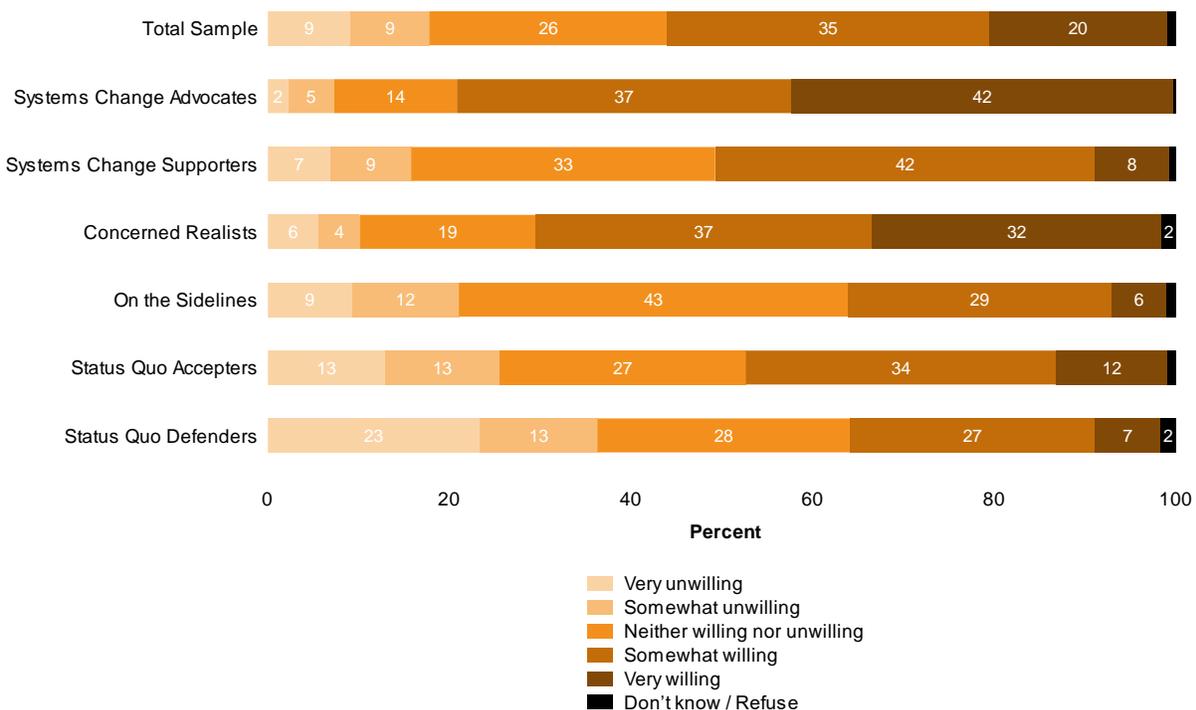[123] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.70), Systems Change Advocates (0.33), System Change Supporters (0.35), Concerned Realists (0.58), Status Quo Defenders (1.25), Status Quo Accepters (0.54), and On the Sidelines (1.89).

6.13.2 Contacted a Media Outlet

Figure 6.13.2: Contacted a Media Outlet

Have you done the following in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children?

Contacted a newspaper, television station, or talk show[124]

Six percent of U.S. adults had contacted a newspaper, television station, or talk show in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children. Those On the Sidelines are more likely to contact a media outlet. Concerned Realists are slightly more likely to have contacted the media, but all other groups are less likely.
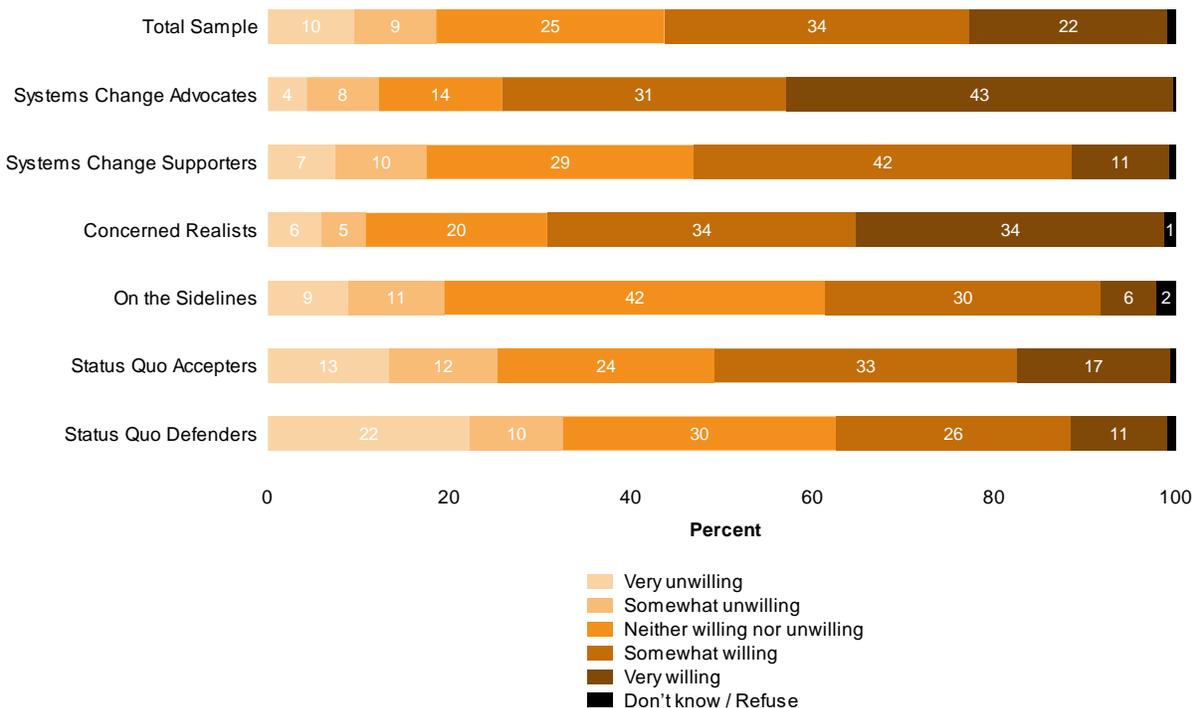
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[124] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.84), Systems Change Advocates (0.39), System Change Supporters (0.49), Concerned Realists (0.81), Status Quo Defenders (1.83), Status Quo Accepters (0.63), and On the Sidelines (1.49).

6.13.3 Contacted a Public Official

Figure 6.13.3: Contacted a Public Official

Have you done the following in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children?

Contacted a public official[125]

Sixteen percent of U.S. adults have contacted a public official in the last 12 months to support causes related to families with young children. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to contact a public official. Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and Systems Change Supporters are less likely to contact a public official. Concerned Realists and those On the Sidelines are similar to U.S. adults in general.
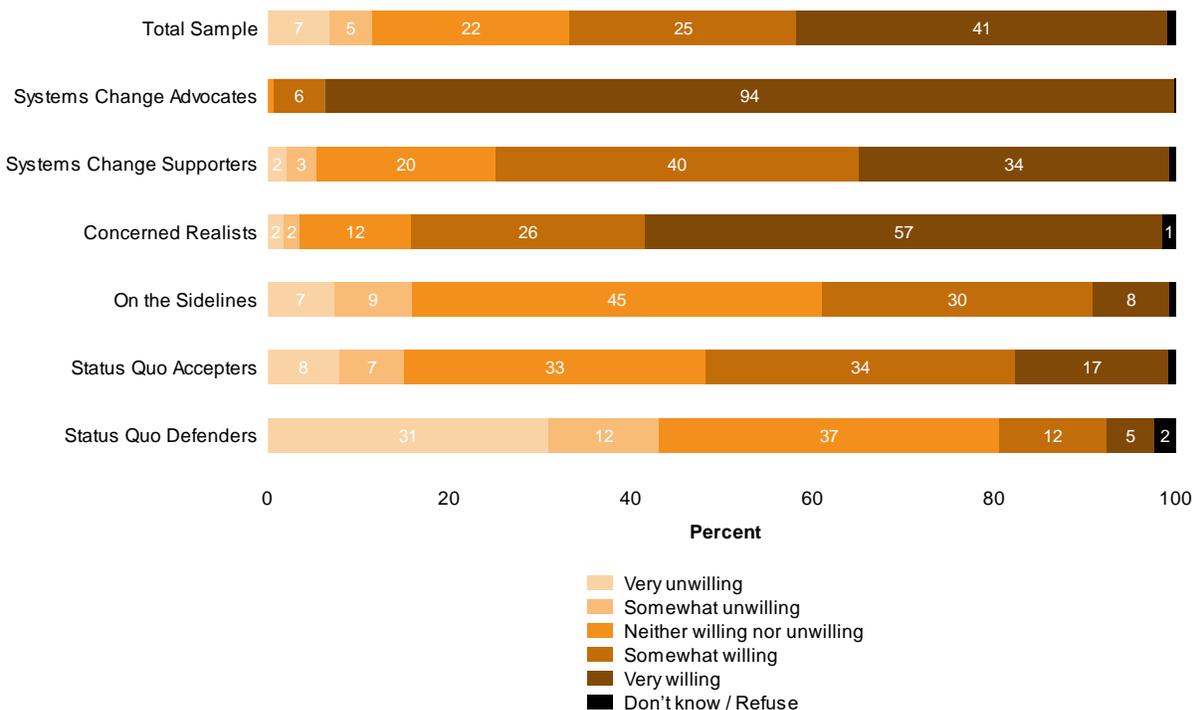
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[125] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.98), Systems Change Advocates (0.94), System Change Supporters (0.46), Concerned Realists (1.26), Status Quo Defenders (1.39), Status Quo Accepters (0.90), and On the Sidelines (1.21).

6.13.4 Voted Based on Candidate's Position

Figure 6.13.4: Voted Based on Candidate's Position

Have you done the following in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children?

Voted for or against a candidate for public office based on his or her position[126]

Fifty-five percent of U.S. adults have voted for or against a candidate for public office based on his or her position in the last 12 months to support causes related to families with young children. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to have voted based on a candidate's position, while Status Quo Defenders, Systems Change Supporters, and Status Quo Accepters are less likely. Those On the Sidelines are least likely. Concerned Realists are similar to the U.S. population in general in this regard.

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[126] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.84), Systems Change Advocates (0.10), System Change Supporters (0.69), Concerned Realists (1.11), Status Quo Defenders (1.57), Status Quo Accepters (0.54), and On the Sidelines (1.52).

6.13.5 Participated in a Forum

Figure 6.13.5: Participated in a Forum

Have you done the following in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children?

Participated in a forum or town hall meeting either in-person or virtually[127]

Thirteen percent of U.S. adults participated in a forum or town hall meeting in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and those On the Sidelines are more likely to have engaged in this activity, while Status Quo Accepters, Systems Change Supporters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely.

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[127] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.65), Systems Change Advocates (0.40), System Change Supporters (0.34), Concerned Realists (0.59), Status Quo Defenders (1.11), Status Quo Accepters (0.54), and On the Sidelines (1.43).

6.13.6 Engaged on Social Media

Figure 6.13.6: Engaged on Social Media

Have you done the following in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children?

Engaged in discussion on social media[128]

Twenty-six percent of U.S. adults engaged in discussion on social media in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to have engaged in this activity, and those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, Systems Change Supporters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely. Concerned Realists are similar to U.S. adults generally.

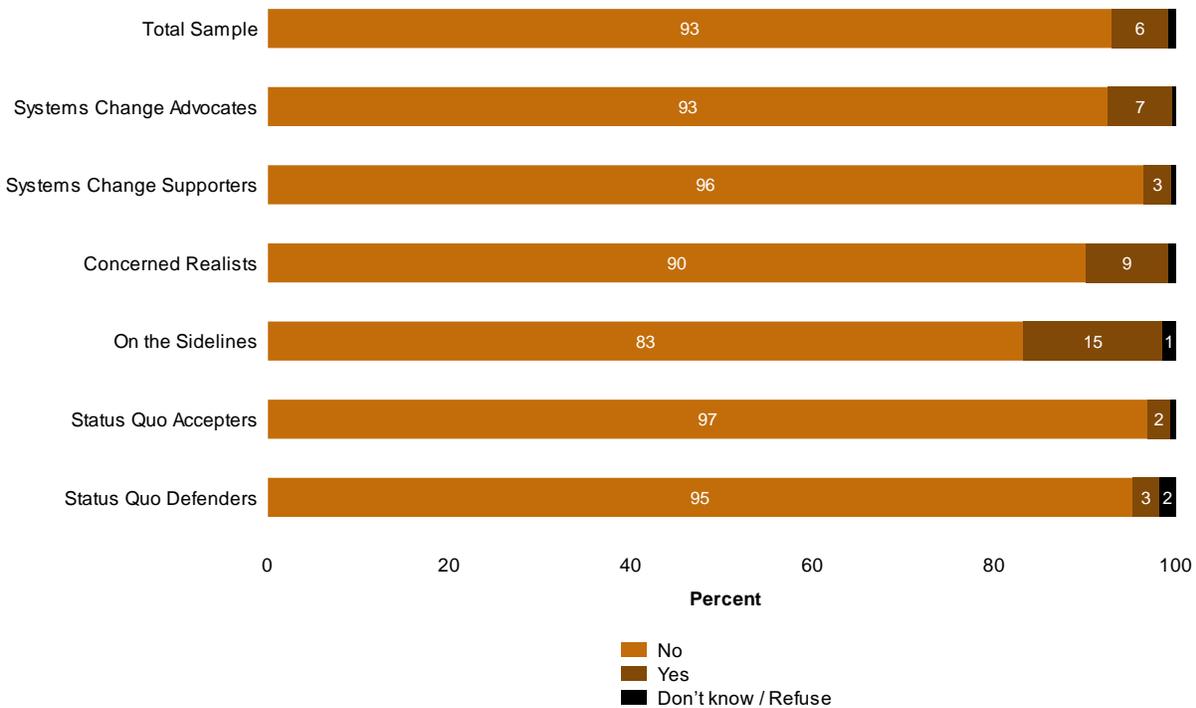[128] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.61), Systems Change Advocates (0.31), System Change Supporters (0.50), Concerned Realists (0.80), Status Quo Defenders (1.12), Status Quo Accepters (0.29), and On the Sidelines (0.89).

6.13.7 Signed a Petition

Figure 6.13.7: Signed a Petition

Have you done the following in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children?

Signed a petition[129]

Twenty-eight percent of U.S. adults have signed a petition in the last 12 months to support causes related to families with young children. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to have engaged in this activity. Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are least likely to sign a petition.
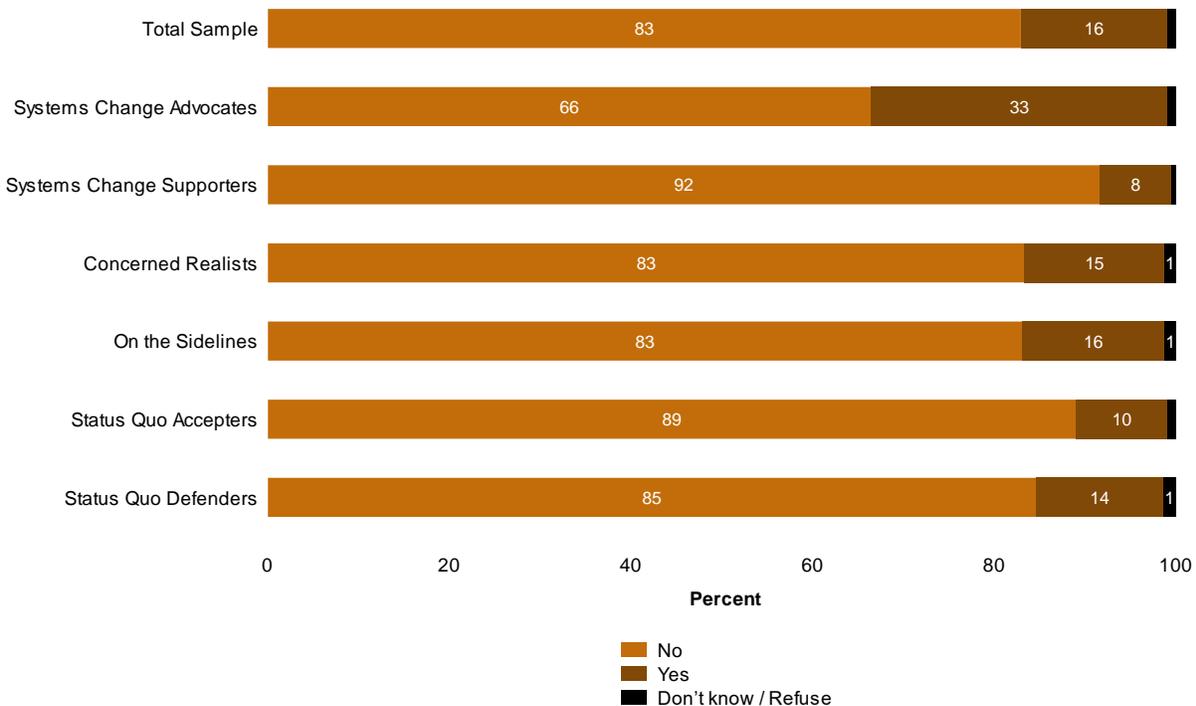
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[129] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.59), Systems Change Advocates (0.40), System Change Supporters (1.00), Concerned Realists (1.28), Status Quo Defenders (0.05), Status Quo Accepters (1.32), and On the Sidelines (0.89).

6.13.8 Attended a Protest

Figure 6.13.8: Attended a Protest

Have you done the following in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children?

Attended a protest[130]

Seven percent of U.S. adults have attended a protest in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and those On the Sidelines are more likely to attend a protest, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are least likely.

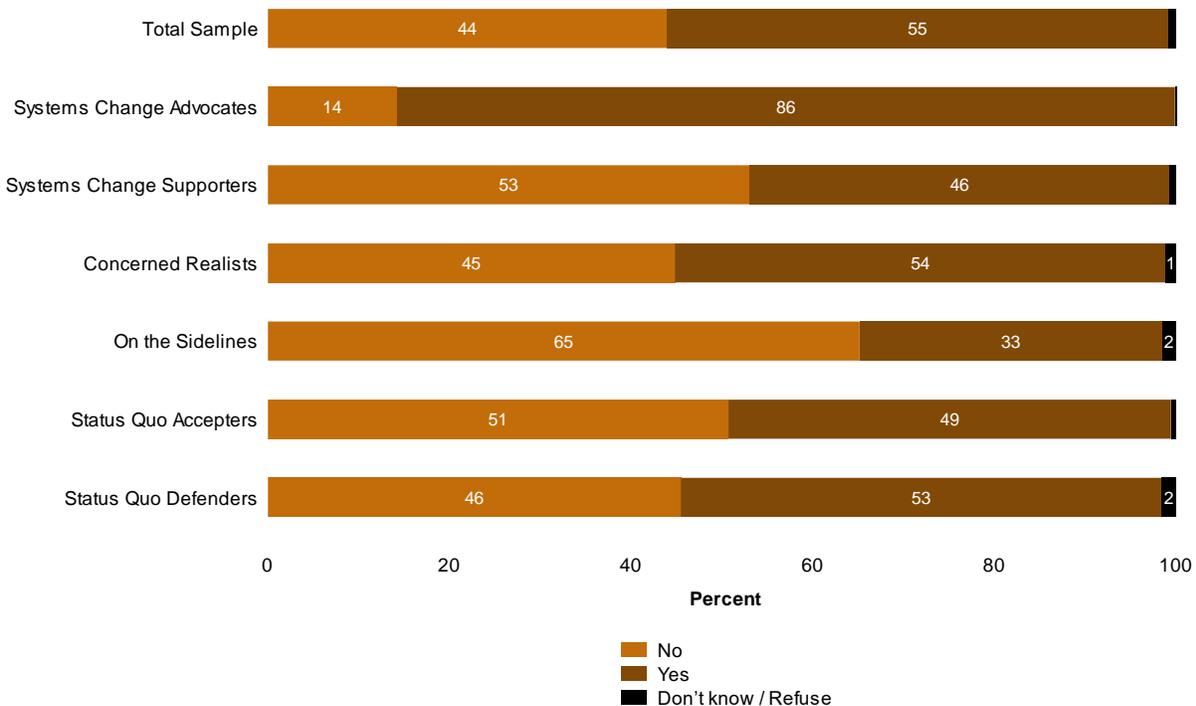[130] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.79), Systems Change Advocates (0.44), System Change Supporters (0.38), Concerned Realists (1.38), Status Quo Defenders (1.62), Status Quo Accepters (1.40), and On the Sidelines (0.89).

6.13.9 Donated Money

Figure 6.13.9: Donated Money

Have you done the following in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children?

Donated money to volunteer or charitable groups[131]

Forty-six percent of U.S. adults have donated money to volunteer or charitable groups in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children. Systems Change Advocates and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to have engaged in this activity, while Concerned Realists, Systems Change Supporters, and those On the Sidelines are less likely to do so. Status Quo Defenders resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[131] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.67), Systems Change Advocates (0.32), System Change Supporters (0.46), Concerned Realists (0.47), Status Quo Defenders (1.50), Status Quo Accepters (0.35), and On the Sidelines (1.57).

6.13.10 Volunteered

Figure 6.13.10: Volunteered

Have you done the following in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children?

Volunteered at any charitable groups[132]

Twenty-two percent of U.S. adults volunteered at any charitable group in the past 12 months to support causes related to families with young children. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to have done so, and Systems Change Supporters are less likely. The other four groups are similar to U.S. adults in general.
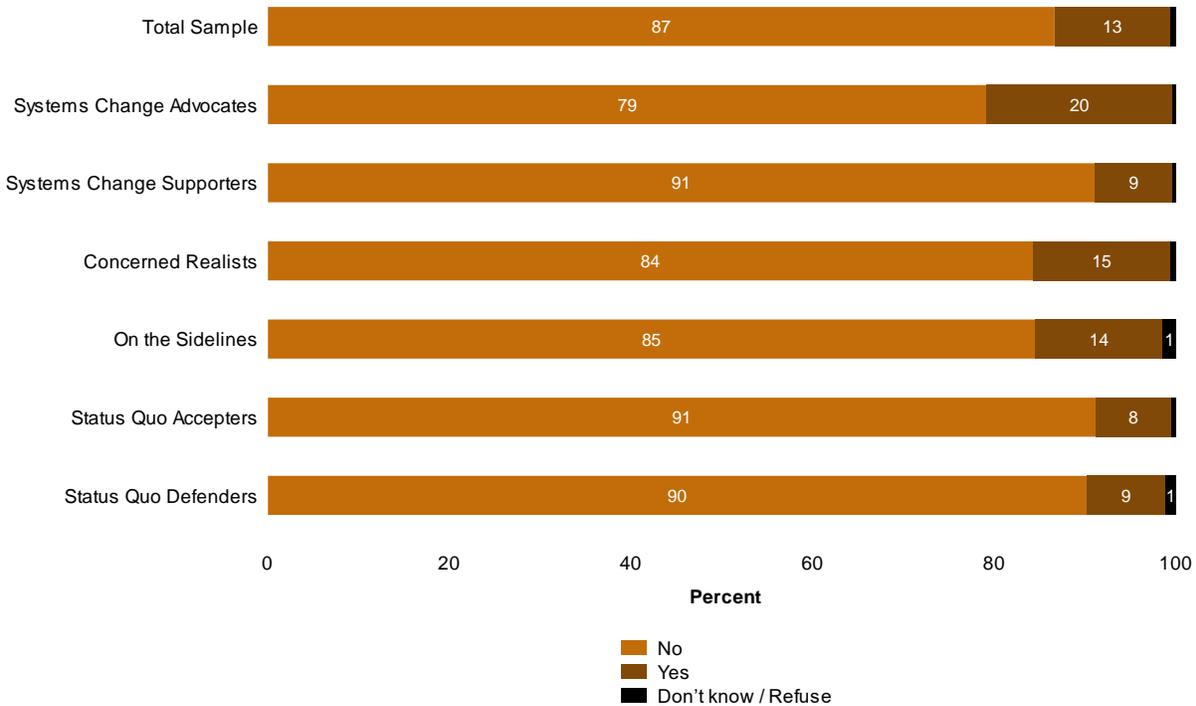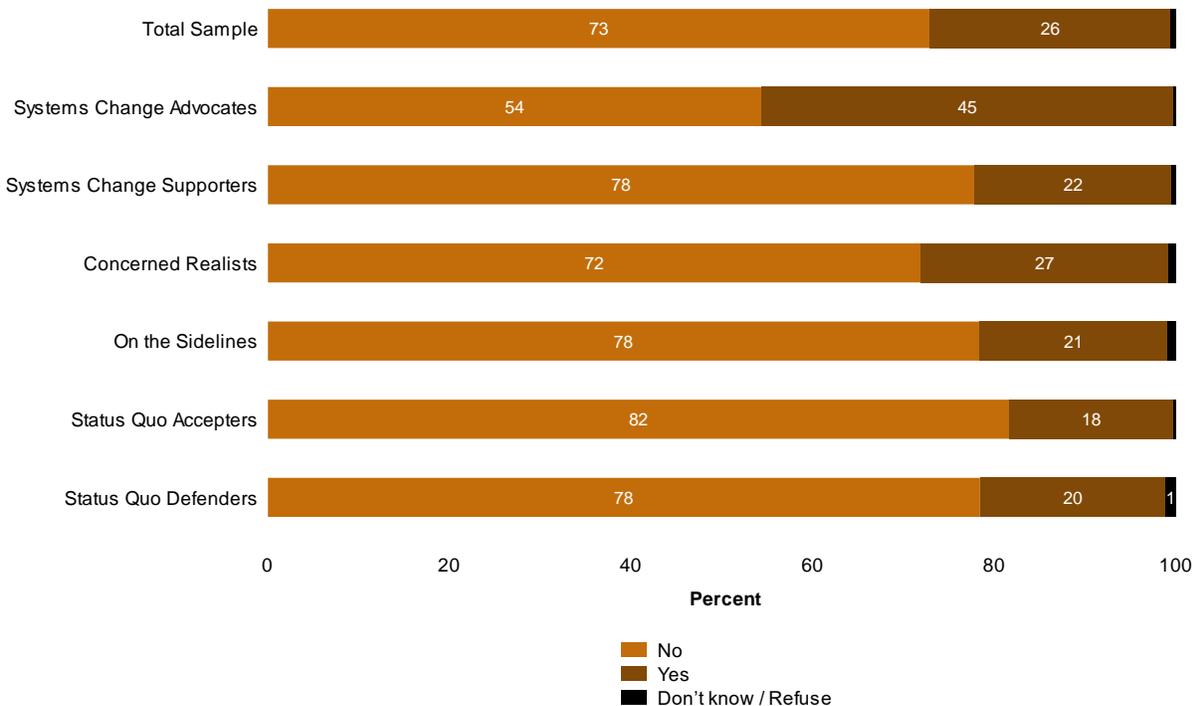
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[132] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.75), Systems Change Advocates (0.65), System Change Supporters (0.60), Concerned Realists (0.70), Status Quo Defenders (1.57), Status Quo Accepters (0.22), and On the Sidelines (1.17).

7. Detailed Findings: Descriptive Characteristics of the Groups

7.1 Media Usage

Overview: Television is by far the leading media source of information for the U.S. adult population. Almost half get their news on a daily basis from television. Less than a third get it from the popular digital sources. Around a quarter get daily news from radio, and the same is true for print sources.

Media usage varies considerably across the groups. For all four media types (television, radio, print, and digital), compared to U.S. adults in general, Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates tended to report daily consumption at the highest levels. Status Quo Defenders and the On the Sidelines group tended to consume less news. The section below reports on group differences in the use of specific media sources.

7.1.1.1 Consumption of Local Television News

Figure 7.1.1.1: Consumption of Local Television News

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

Local television news[133]
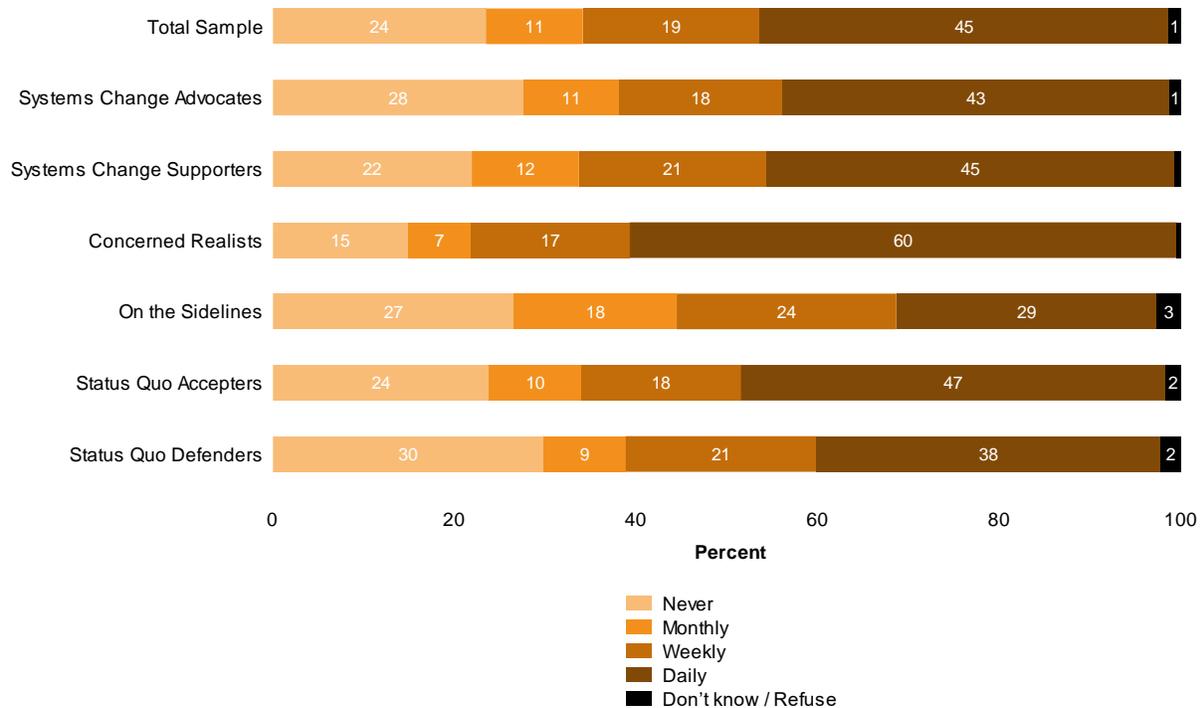
Forty-five percent of U.S. adults watch local television news daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Concerned Realists are more likely to use this media source to get their news, while Systems Change Advocates, Status Quo Defenders, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so. Systems Change Supporters and Status Quo Accepters are similar to U.S. adults in general.

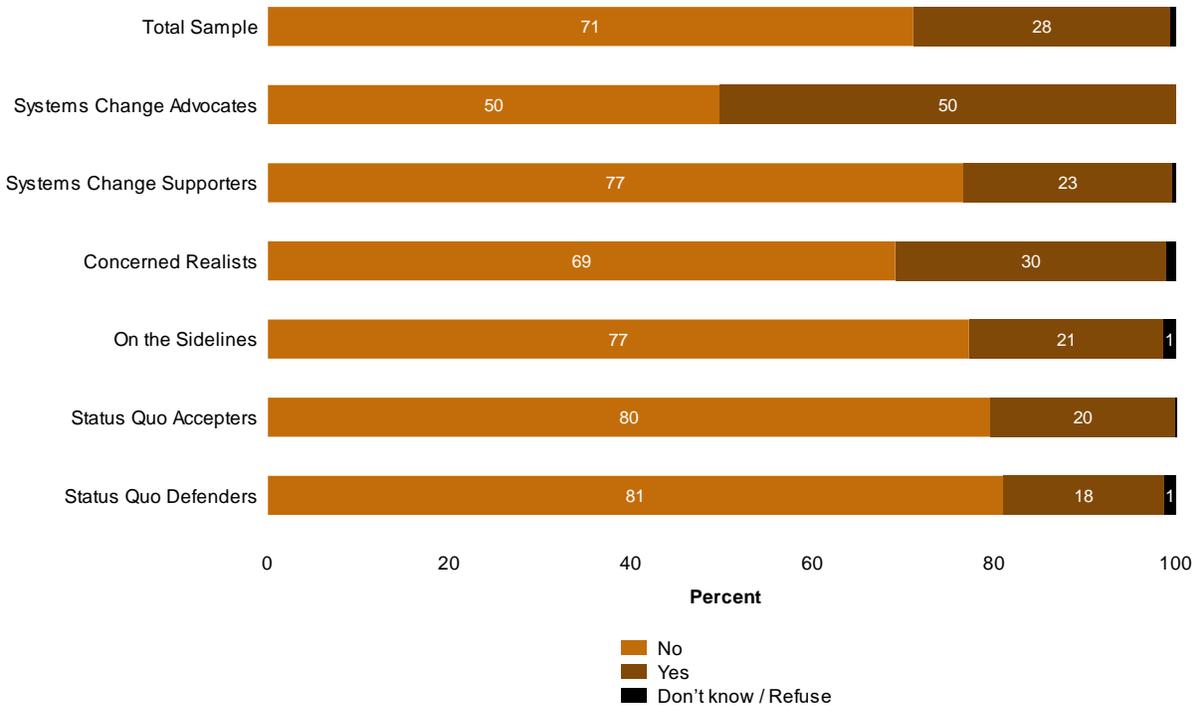[133] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.32), Systems Change Advocates (1.23), System Change Supporters (0.68), Concerned Realists (0.47), Status Quo Defenders (2.23), Status Quo Accepters (1.70), and On the Sidelines (2.63).

7.1.1.2 Consumption of National Television News: Broadcast and Cable

Figure 7.1.1.2: Consumption of National Television News: Broadcast and Cable

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

National television news via broadcast (CBS, ABC, or NBC), cable (CNN, MSNBC, Fox News)[134]

Forty-six percent of U.S. adults watch national television news via broadcast daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to use this media source to get their news, while Status Quo Defenders and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so. Systems Change Supporters and Status Quo Accepters are similar to U.S. adults in general.
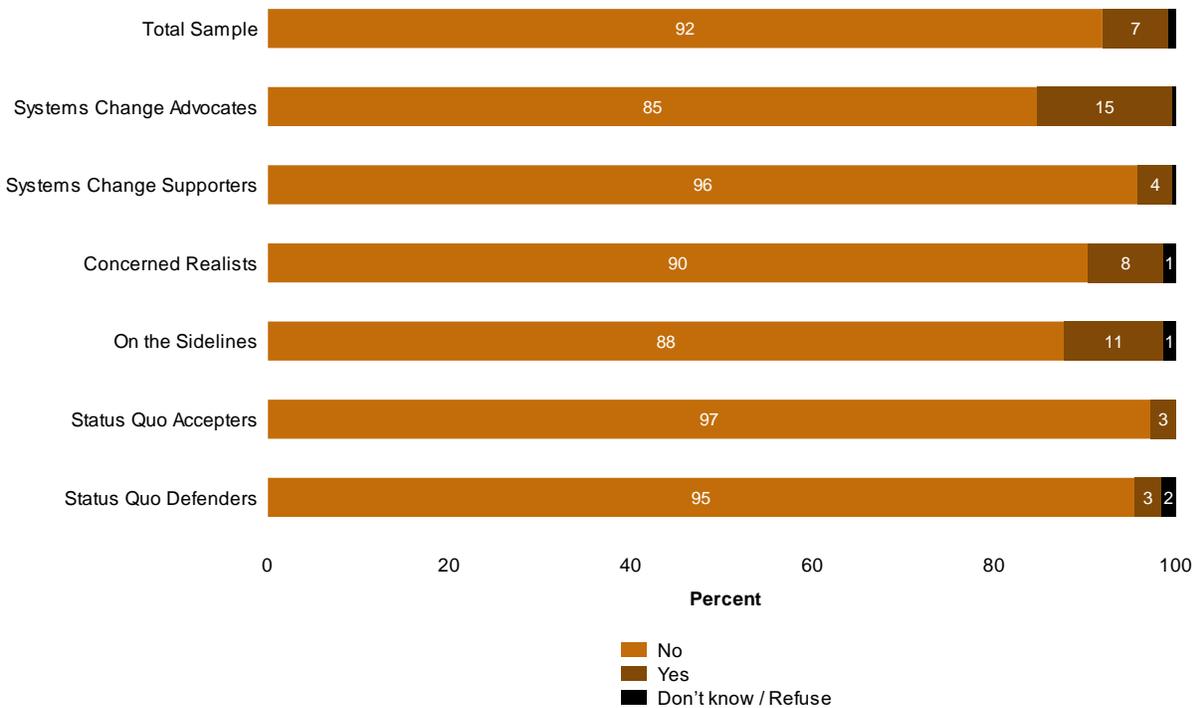
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[134] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.79), Systems Change Advocates (0.51), System Change Supporters (0.53), Concerned Realists (0.27), Status Quo Defenders (1.84), Status Quo Accepters (0.67), and On the Sidelines (1.70).

7.1.1.3 Consumption of Other Television News: Streaming

Figure 7.1.1.3: Consumption of Other Television News: Streaming

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

National news via streaming (broadcast, cable, and other sites such as Newsy, NewsON and Watchup)[135]

Thirteen percent of U.S. adults watch national television news via streaming services daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Concerned Realists are more likely to use this media source to get their news, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so. Status Quo Defenders and Systems Change Advocates resemble U.S. adults more generally.

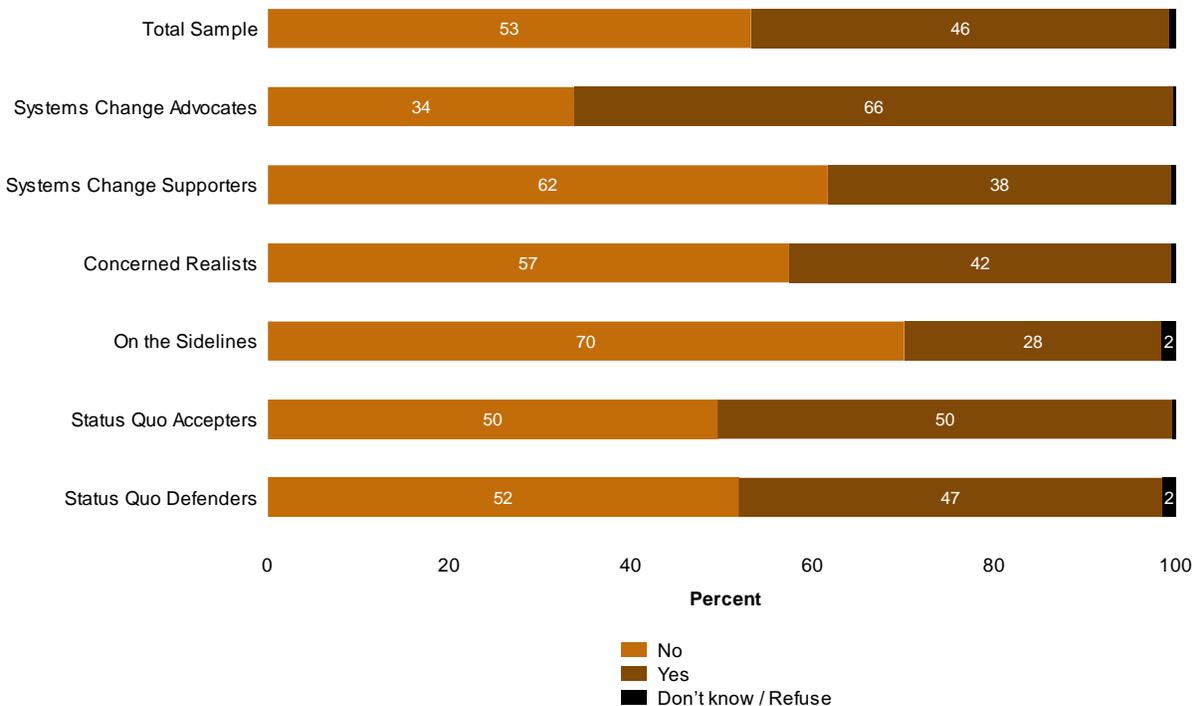[135] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.85), Systems Change Advocates (0.67), System Change Supporters (1.12), Concerned Realists (0.83), Status Quo Defenders (1.11), Status Quo Accepters (0.11), and On the Sidelines (1.43).

7.1.2.1 Consumption of Local Radio News

Figure 7.1.2.1: Consumption of Local Radio News

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

Local news on AM/FM radio[136]

Twenty-six percent of U.S. adults listen to local news on AM/FM radio daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Concerned Realists and Status Quo Defenders are more likely to use this media source to get their news, while Systems Change Supporters and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so. Status Quo Accepters and Systems Change Advocates are similar to U.S. adults in general.
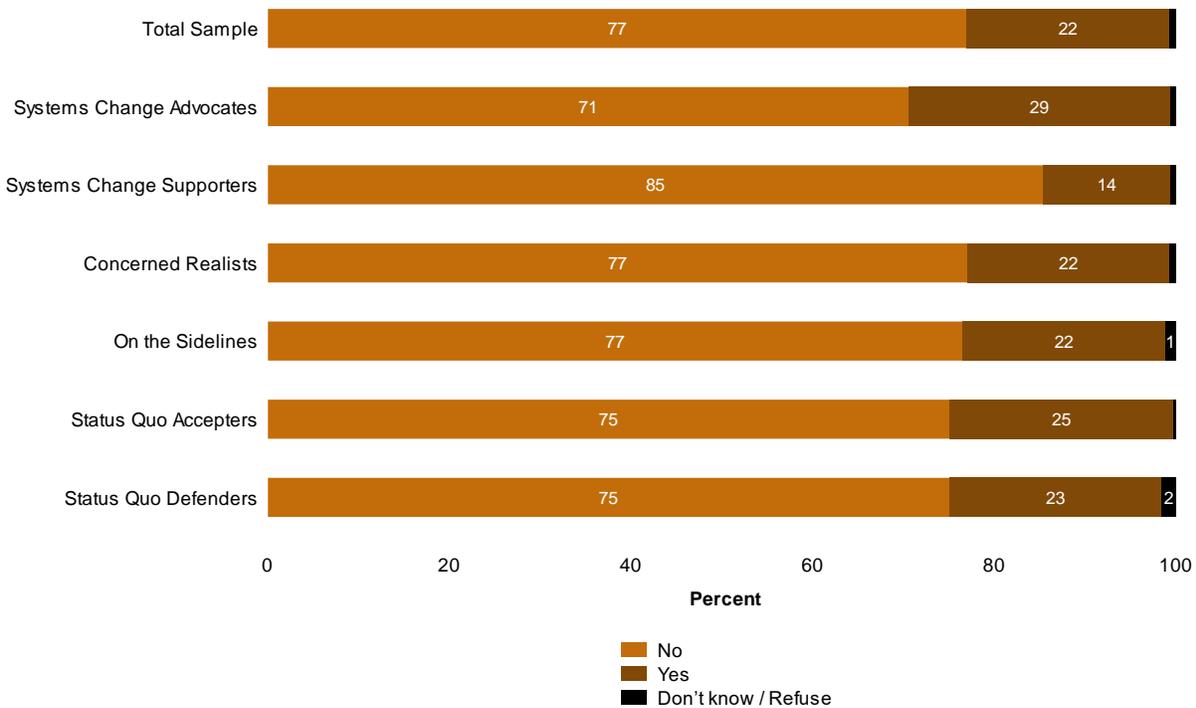
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[136] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.68), Systems Change Advocates (0.31), System Change Supporters (0.90), Concerned Realists (0.38), Status Quo Defenders (1.65), Status Quo Accepters (0.27), and On the Sidelines (0.91).

7.1.2.2 Consumption of National Radio News

Figure 7.1.2.2: Consumption of National Radio News

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

National news on AM/FM radio[137]

Twenty-three percent of U.S. adults listen to national news on AM/FM radio daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, and Status Quo Defenders are more likely to use this media source to get their news, while Systems Change Supporters and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so. Status Quo Accepters are similar to U.S. adults in general.

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[137] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.59), Systems Change Advocates (0.15), System Change Supporters (0.41), Concerned Realists (0.59), Status Quo Defenders (1.15), Status Quo Accepters (0.17), and On the Sidelines (1.65).

7.1.2.3 Consumption of National News on Online/Satellite Radio or via Podcast

Figure 7.1.2.3: Consumption of National News on Online/Satellite Radio or via Podcast

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

National news on online/satellite radio or via podcasts[138]

Twenty-four percent of U.S. adults listen to national news on online/satellite radio or via podcasts daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to use this media source to get their news, while Systems Change Supporters and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so. Status Quo Accepters and Status Quo Defenders are similar to U.S. adults in general.
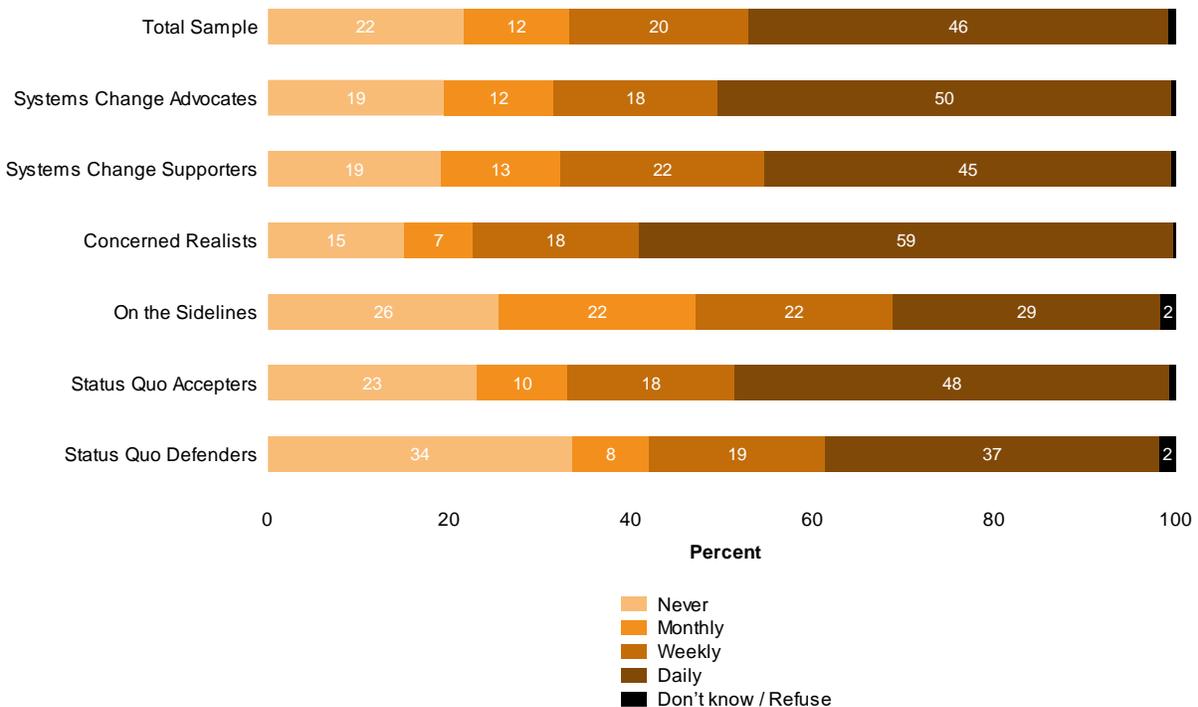
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[138] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.82), Systems Change Advocates (0.56), System Change Supporters (0.14), Concerned Realists (1.34), Status Quo Defenders (1.55), Status Quo Accepters (0.06), and On the Sidelines (1.94).

7.1.3.1 Consumption of Local Print News

Figure 7.1.3.1: Consumption of Local Print News

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

Local print newspapers or news magazines either hard copy or online[139]

Twenty-four percent of U.S. adults read local print newspapers or news magazines daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to use this media source, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.

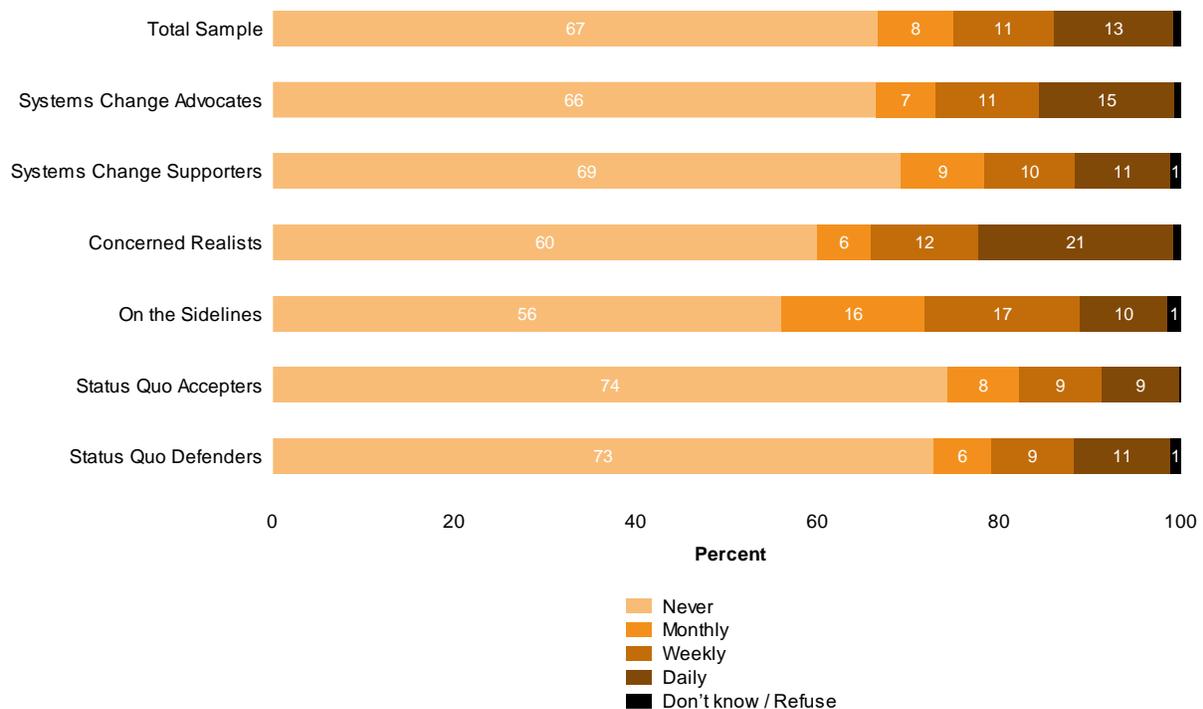[139] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.41), Systems Change Advocates (0.10), System Change Supporters (0.26), Concerned Realists (0.57), Status Quo Defenders (1.07), Status Quo Accepters (0.19), and On the Sidelines (0.50).

7.1.3.2 Consumption of National Print News

Figure 7.1.3.2: Consumption of National Print News

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

National print newspapers or news magazines either hard copy or online[140]

Twenty-two percent of U.S. adults read national print newspapers or news magazines daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to use this media source, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so. Concerned Realists are similar to U.S. adults in general.
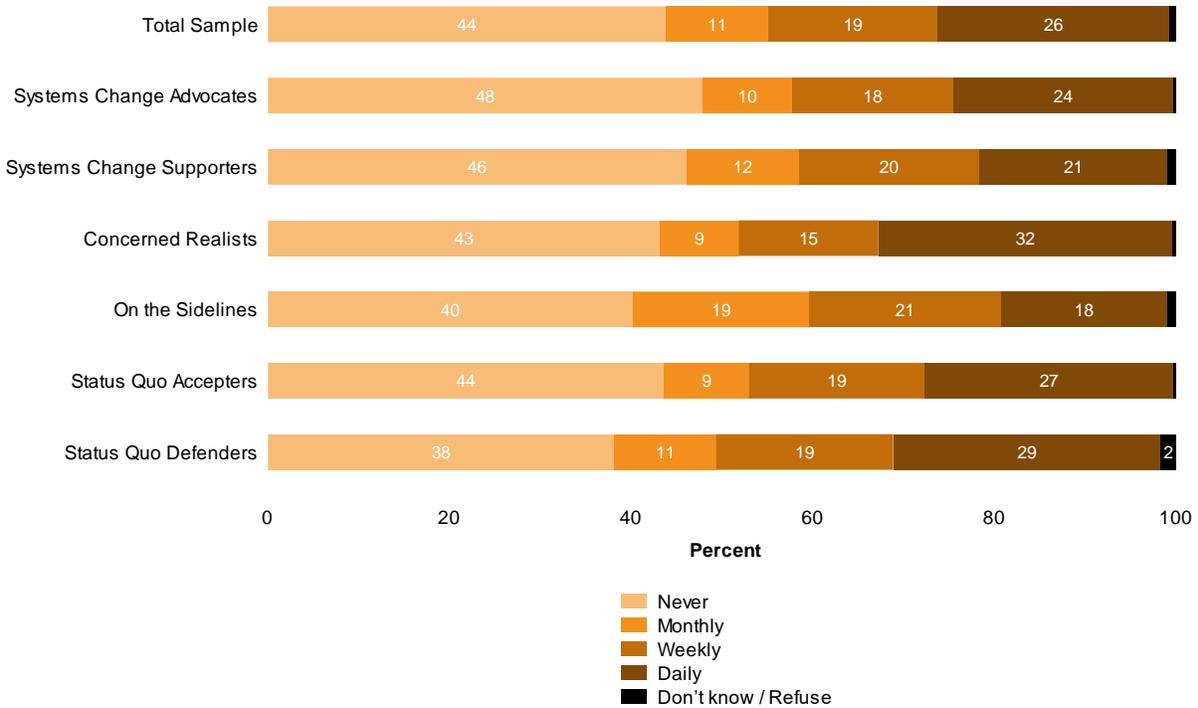
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[140] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.49), Systems Change Advocates (0.08), System Change Supporters (0.53), Concerned Realists (0.24), Status Quo Defenders (1.14), Status Quo Accepters (0.10), and On the Sidelines (1.41).

7.1.3.3 Consumption of Neighborhood Newsletters/Listservs

Figure 7.1.3.3: Consumption of Neighborhood Newsletters/Listservs

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

Neighborhood newsletter or listserv either hard copy or online[141]

Six percent of U.S. adults read neighborhood newsletters or listservs daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to use this media source, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to do so. The On the Sidelines group is similar to U.S. adults in general.
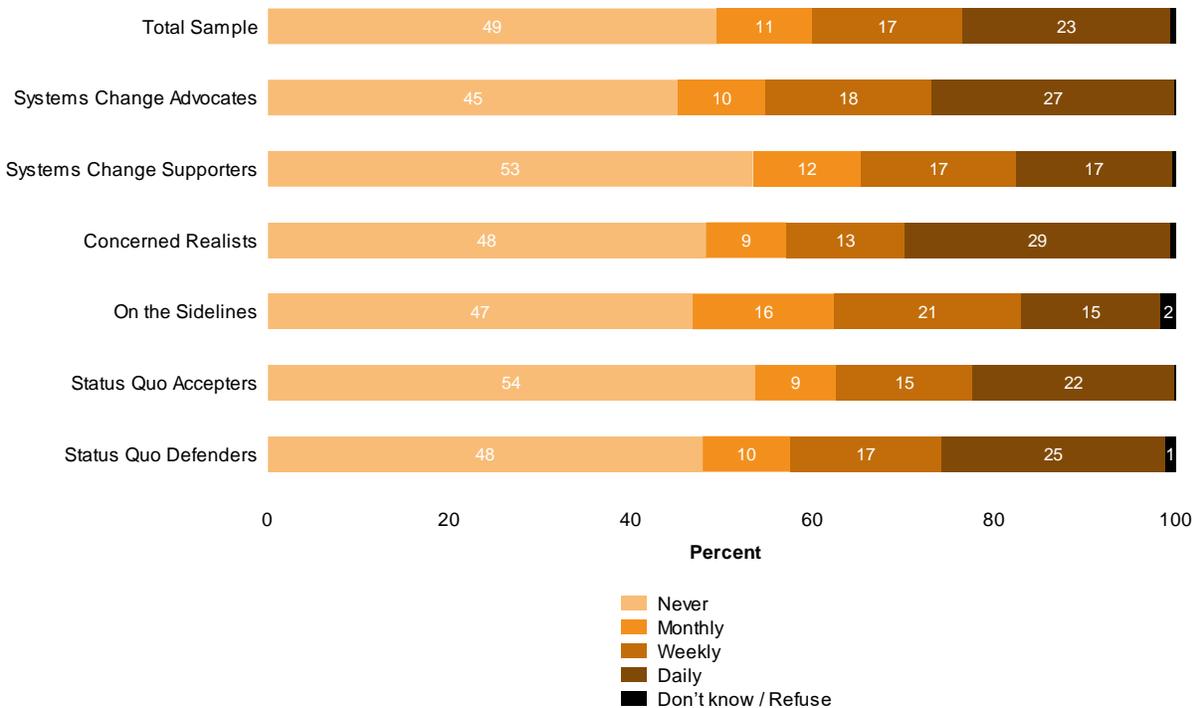
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[141] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.03), Systems Change Advocates (0.43), System Change Supporters (1.01), Concerned Realists (1.17), Status Quo Defenders (2.55), Status Quo Accepters (0.64), and On the Sidelines (0.66).

7.1.4.1 Consumption of News on a Handheld Device

Figure 7.1.4.1: Consumption of News on a Handheld Device

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

News alerts via push notifications that appears on a smart phone/handheld device main screen[142]

Twenty-nine percent of U.S. adults receive news alerts via push notifications daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to use this media source, while Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so. Systems Change Supporters are similar to U.S. adults in general.
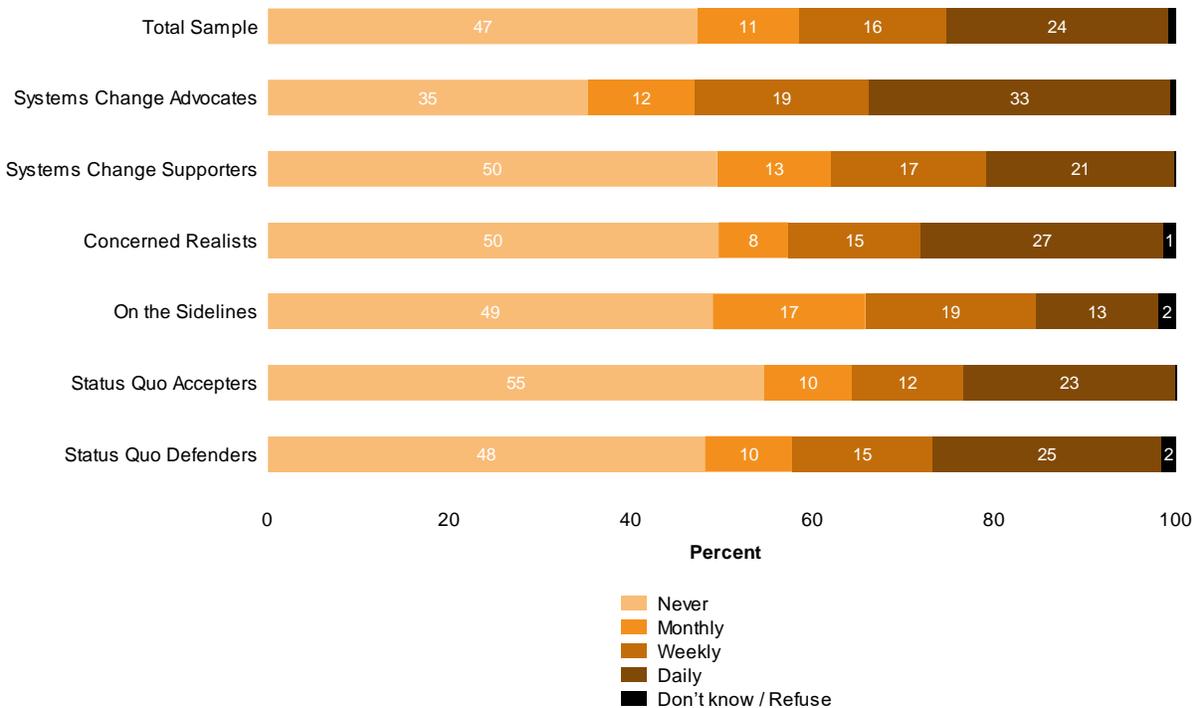
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[142] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.98), Systems Change Advocates (0.61), System Change Supporters (0.81), Concerned Realists (1.02), Status Quo Defenders (1.32), Status Quo Accepters (0.66), and On the Sidelines (2.00).

7.1.4.2 Consumption of News from an Online-Only Source

Figure 7.1.4.2: Consumption of News from an Online-Only Source

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

News online by a news source that ONLY publishes online[143]

Twenty-two percent of U.S. adults use an online-only news source daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to use this media source, while Systems Change Supporters and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so. Concerned Realists, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are similar to U.S. adults in general.

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[143] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.13), Systems Change Advocates (0.40), System Change Supporters (0.99), Concerned Realists (1.20), Status Quo Defenders (2.40), Status Quo Accepters (0.43), and On the Sidelines (2.09).

7.1.4.3 Consumption of News on Social Networks

Figure 7.1.4.3: Consumption of News on Social Networks

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

News on social networks (such as Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn)[144]

Thirty percent of U.S. adults use social networks daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to use this media source, while Status Quo Accepters, Status Quo Defenders, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so. Systems Change Supporters are similar to U.S. adults in general.
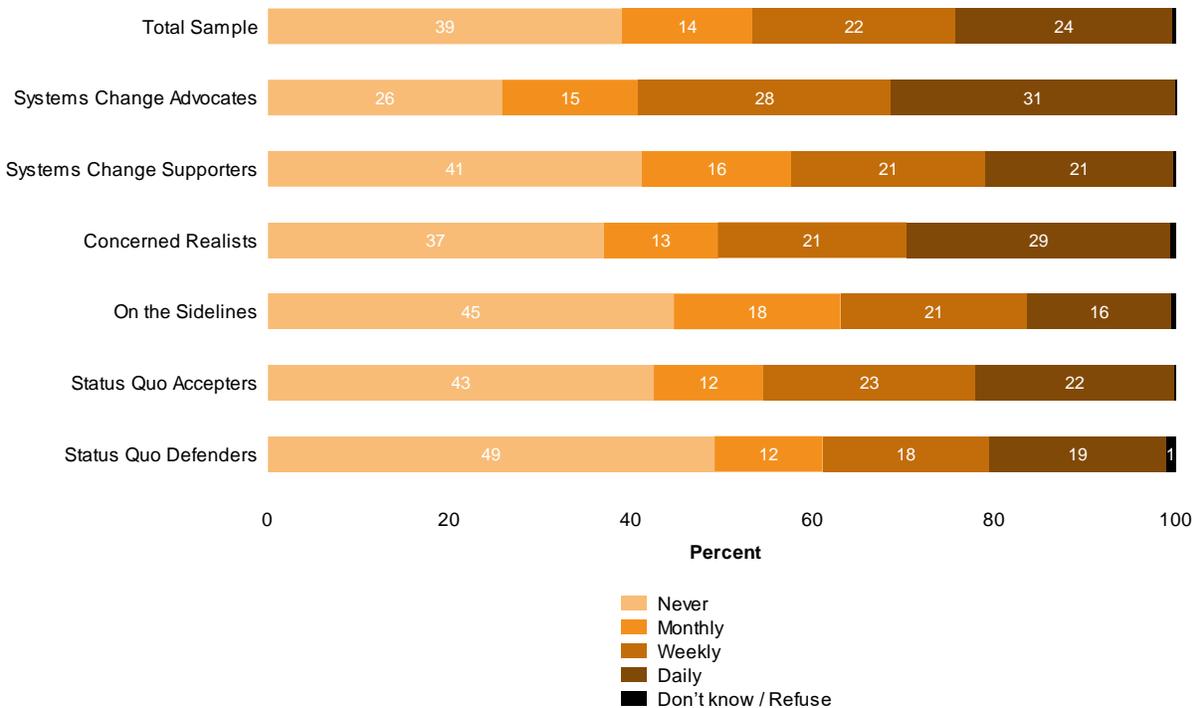
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[144] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.85), Systems Change Advocates (0.08), System Change Supporters (0.84), Concerned Realists (0.54), Status Quo Defenders (1.81), Status Quo Accepters (0.37), and On the Sidelines (2.38).

7.1.4.4 Consumption of News on Media-sharing Networks

Figure 7.1.4.4: Consumption of News on Media-sharing Networks

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

News on media sharing networks (such as Snapchat, Instagram, and YouTube)[145]

Eighteen percent of U.S. adults use media-sharing networks daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists are more likely to use this media source, while Status Quo Defenders, Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.
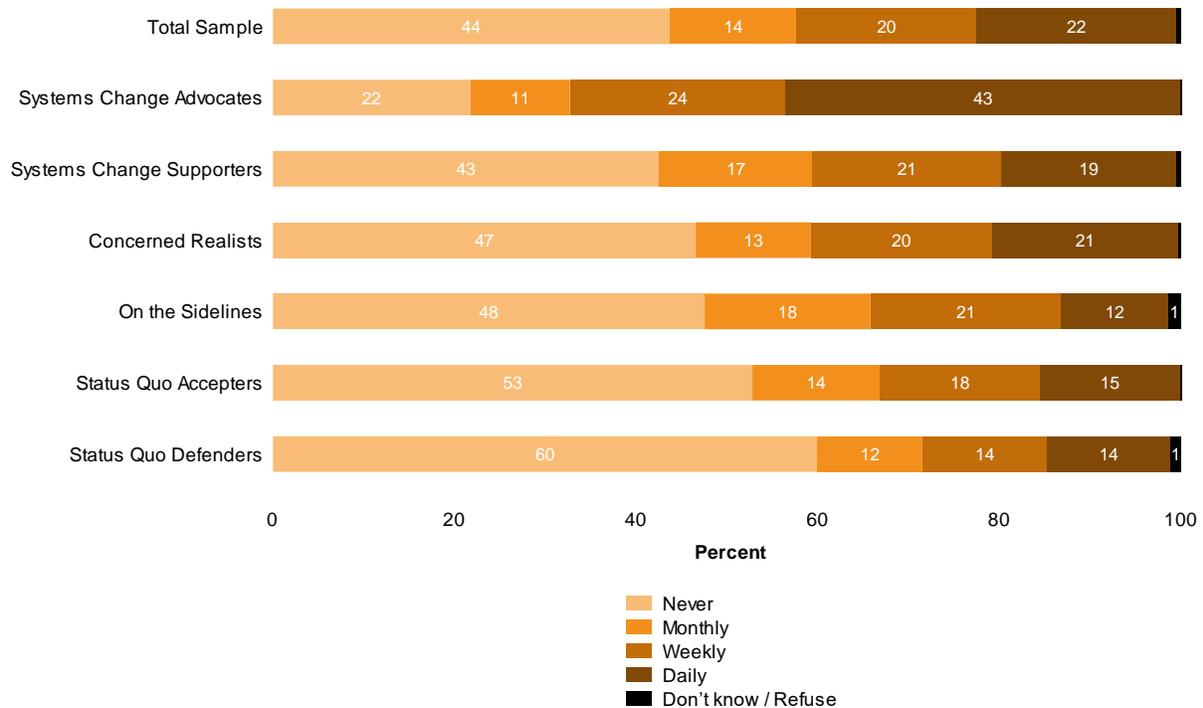
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[145] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.82), Systems Change Advocates (0.19), System Change Supporters (0.69), Concerned Realists (0.58), Status Quo Defenders (1.77), Status Quo Accepters (0.37), and On the Sidelines (2.15).

7.1.4.5 Consumption of News on Online Discussion Forums

Figure 7.1.4.5: Consumption of News on Online Discussion Forums

How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

News on online discussion forums (such as Quora or Reddit)[146]

Eight percent of U.S. adults use online discussion forums daily to obtain information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to use this media source, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.

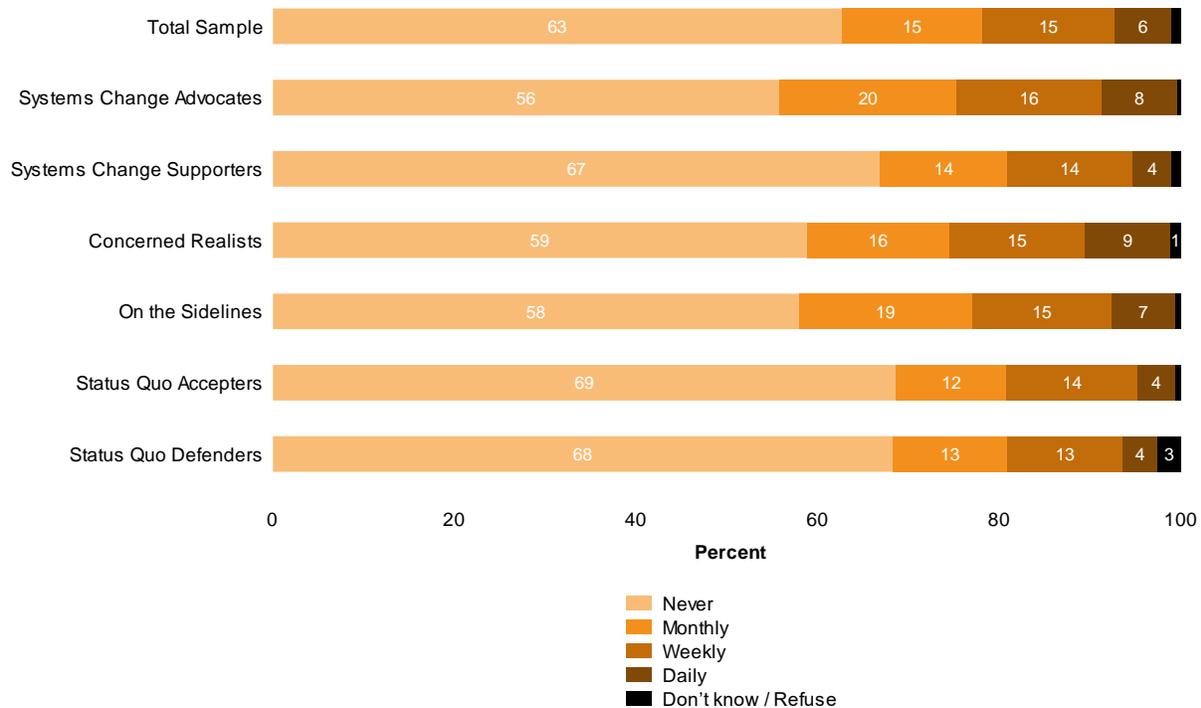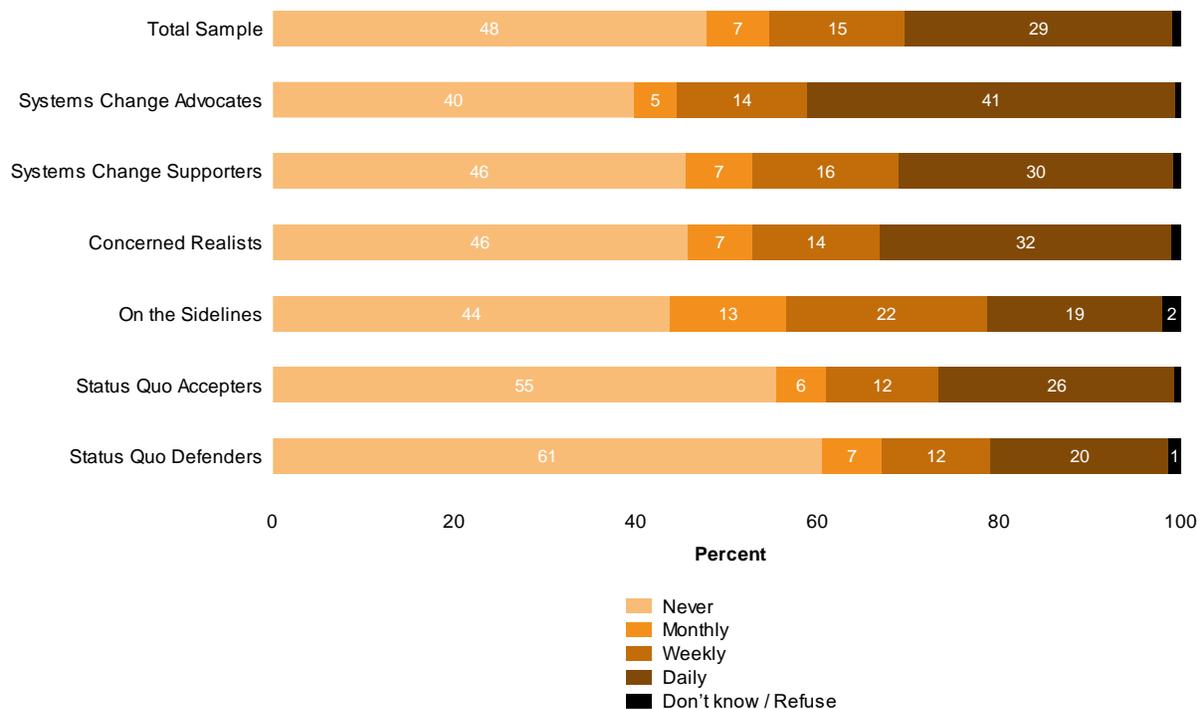[146] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.97), Systems Change Advocates (0.27), System Change Supporters (0.66), Concerned Realists (0.97), Status Quo Defenders (1.58), Status Quo Accepters (0.35), and On the Sidelines (2.97).

7.2 Media Source Trust

Overview: The most highly trusted sources for news are local television stations and local newspapers. In addition, majorities of U.S. adults report trusting PBS/NPR, network television, and radio, as well as some of the leading cable television outlets. National newspapers like *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* are also trusted by a majority of U.S. adults.

The media source trust data provide additional insights into the character of the groups. Systems Change Advocates and Systems Change Supporters are more likely than U.S. adults in general to trust all the sources except for Fox News and social media. The Systems Change Advocates group is especially likely to trust *The New York Times*, CNN, PBS, MSNBC, and network radio news. Concerned Realists are also more likely to trust all the sources, including social media, which they trust more than any of the other groups. Both Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are less likely to trust all of the sources other than Fox News. The On the Sidelines group is also less likely to trust all of the sources except for Fox News and social media sources.

7.2.1.1 Trust Local Newspaper for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.1.1: Trust Local Newspaper for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

Your local newspaper[147]
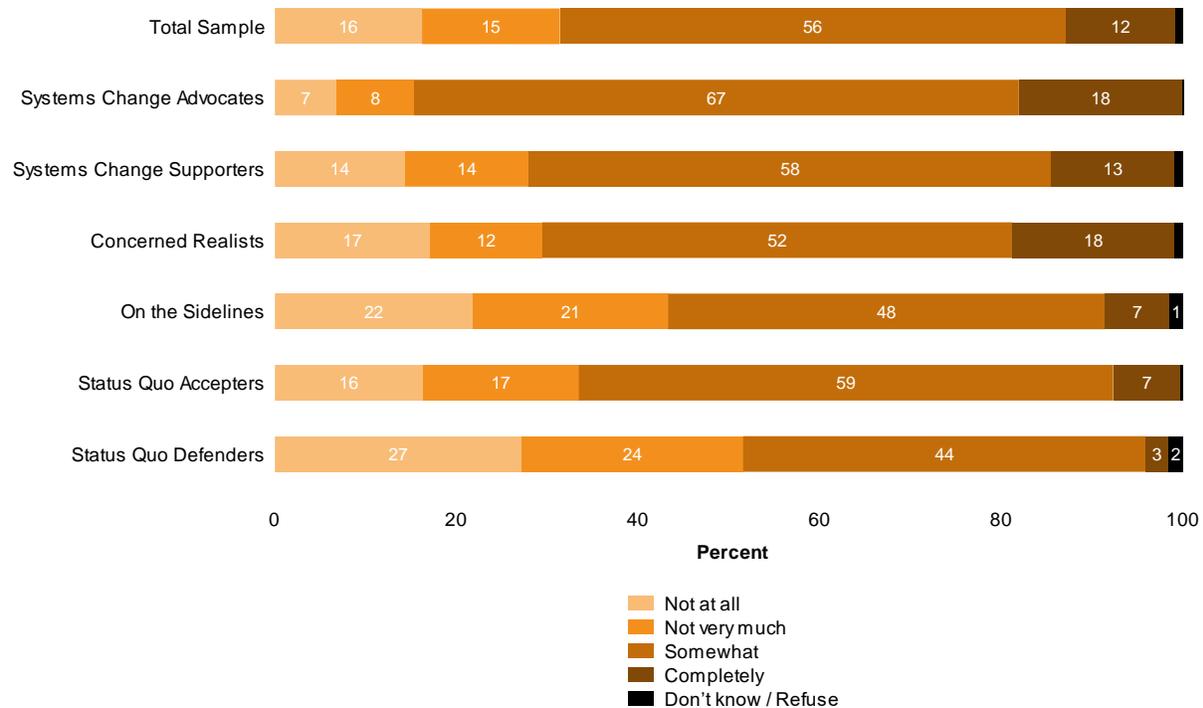
Sixty-eight percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust local newspapers for information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to trust this media source, while Status Quo Accepters, the On the Sidelines group, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to do so.
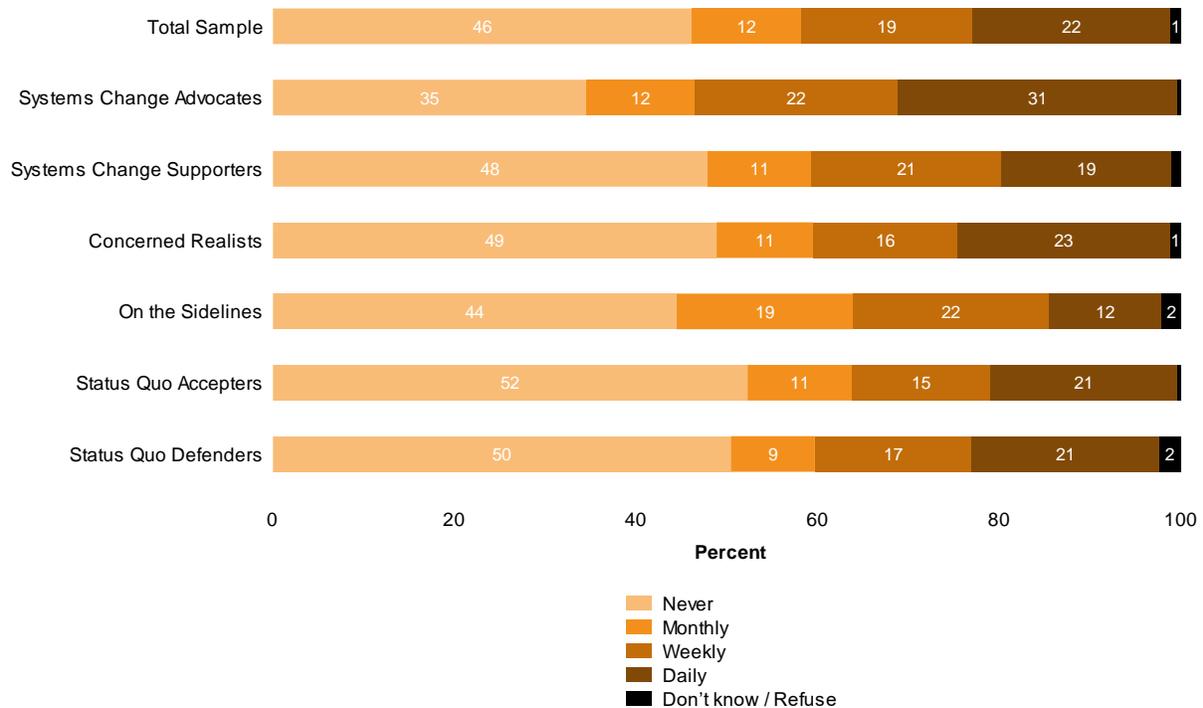
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[147] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.78), Systems Change Advocates (0.04), System Change Supporters (0.95), Concerned Realists (0.90), Status Quo Defenders (1.58), Status Quo Accepters (0.23), and On the Sidelines (1.44).

7.2.1.2 Trust Local Television News for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.1.2: Trust Local Television News for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

Local TV news[148]

Seventy-four percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust local television news for information about current events and issues. Concerned Realists, Systems Change Advocates, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to trust this media source, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.
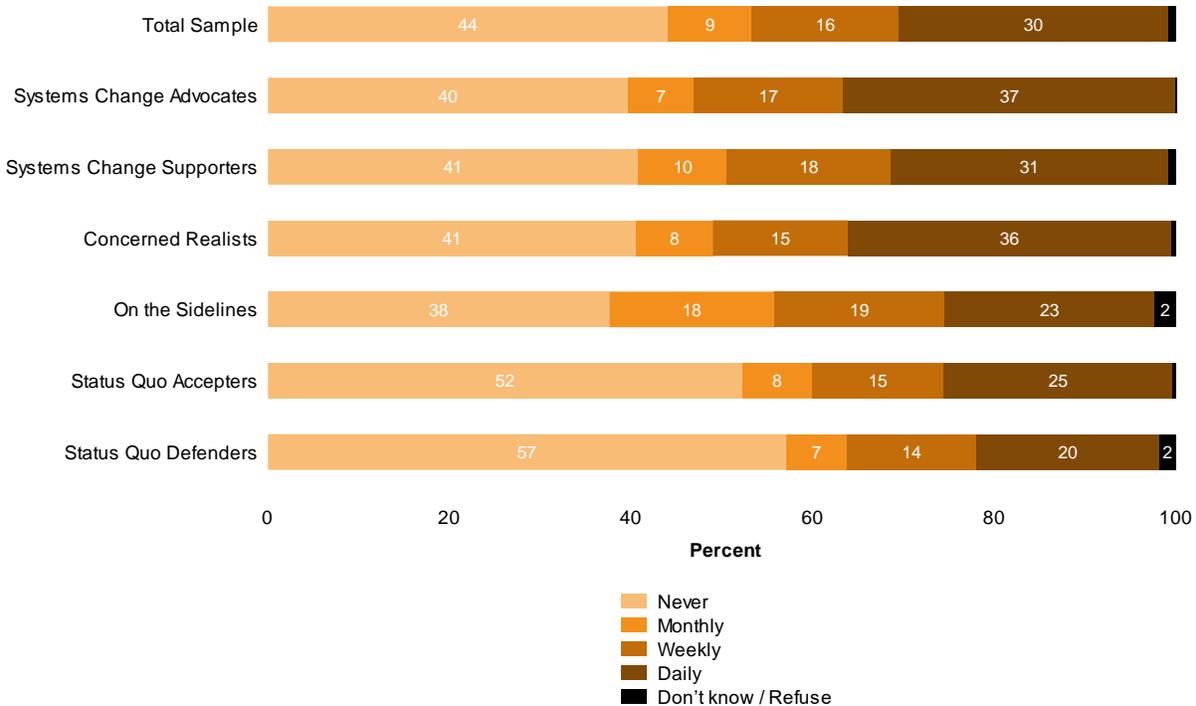
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[148] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.04), Systems Change Advocates (1.44), System Change Supporters (1.00), Concerned Realists (0.93), Status Quo Defenders (1.15), Status Quo Accepters (0.47), and On the Sidelines (1.35).

7.2.2.1 Trust Network Television News for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.2.1: Trust Network Television News for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

Network TV news (ABC, CBS, or NBC)[149]

Sixty-four percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust network television news for information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to trust this media source, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.
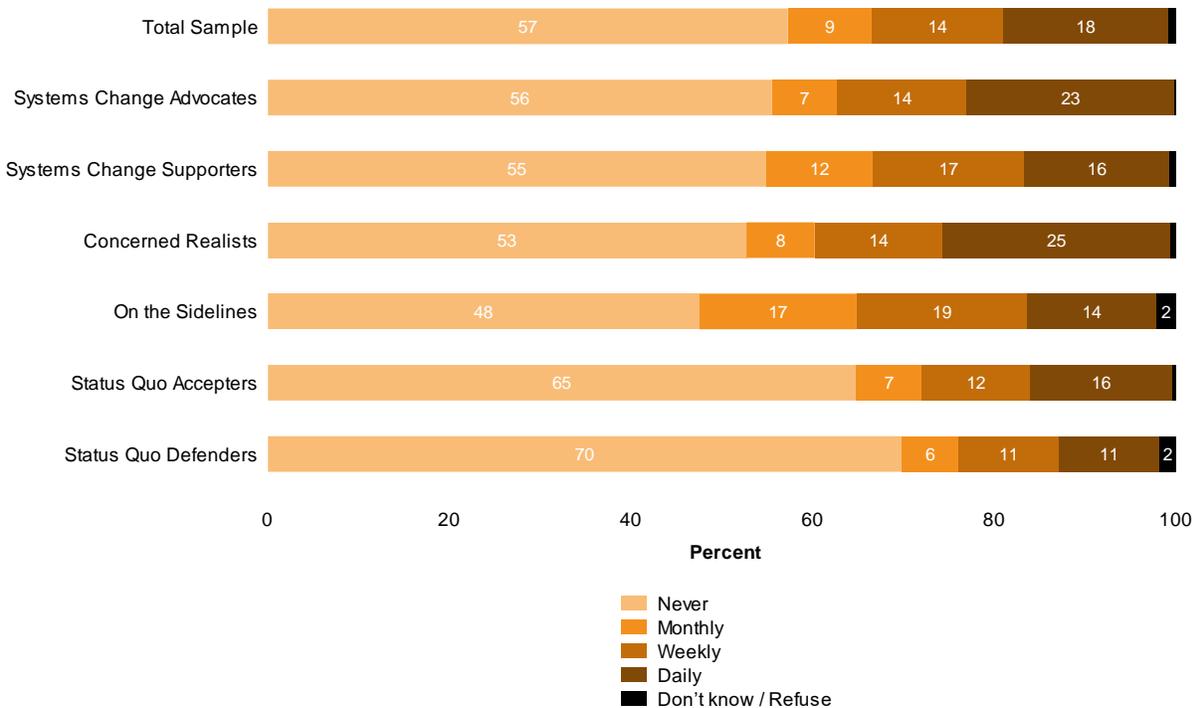
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[149] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.00), Systems Change Advocates (0.32), System Change Supporters (1.77), Concerned Realists (1.24), Status Quo Defenders (0.83), Status Quo Accepters (0.51), and On the Sidelines (1.16).

7.2.2.2 Trust PBS/NPR for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.2.2: Trust PBS/NPR for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

PBS/NPR[150]

Sixty-two percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust PBS/NPR for information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to trust this media source, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.
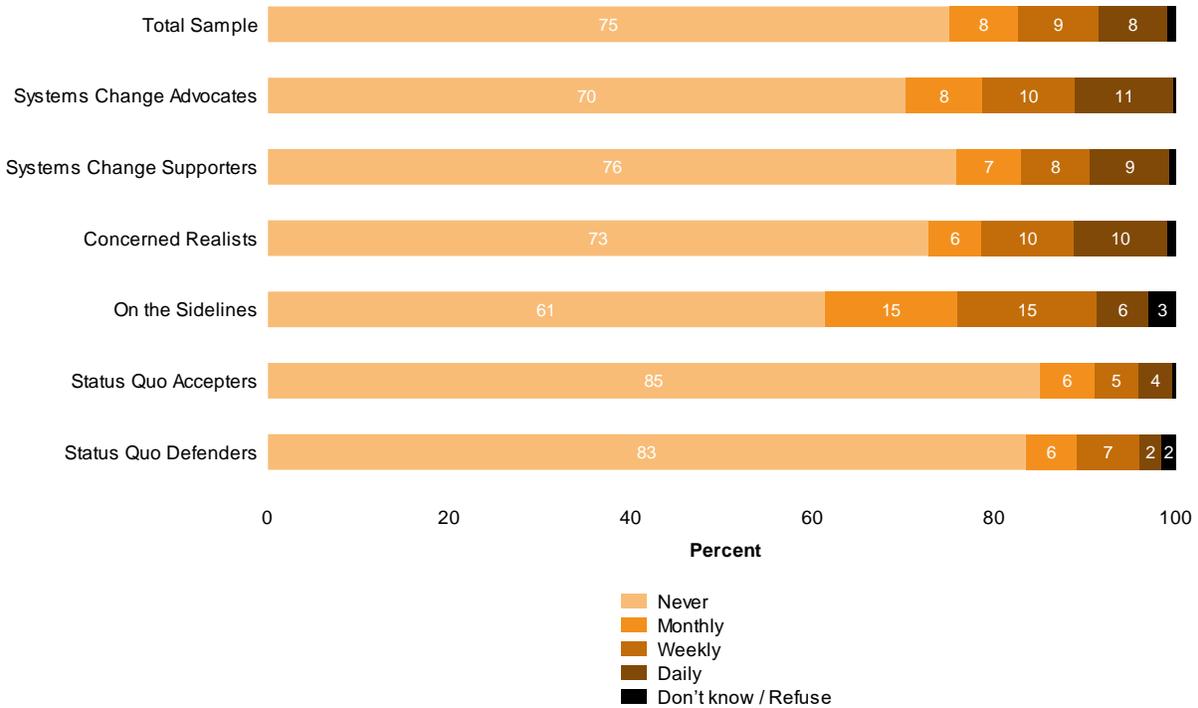
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[150] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.39), Systems Change Advocates (0.26), System Change Supporters (2.08), Concerned Realists (1.85), Status Quo Defenders (1.15), Status Quo Accepters (1.65), and On the Sidelines (1.12).

7.2.2.3 Trust Fox News for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.2.3: Trust Fox News for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

Fox News Channel[151]

Thirty-nine percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust Fox News for information about current events and issues. Concerned Realists, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are more likely to trust this media source, while Systems Change Supporters and Systems Change Advocates are less likely to do so. The On the Sidelines group resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[151] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.13), Systems Change Advocates (0.24), System Change Supporters (2.16), Concerned Realists (1.58), Status Quo Defenders (1.17), Status Quo Accepters (0.13), and On the Sidelines (1.24).

7.2.2.4 Trust CNN for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.2.4: Trust CNN for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

CNN[152]

Fifty-six percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust CNN for information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to trust this media source, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.

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[152] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.99), Systems Change Advocates (0.43), System Change Supporters (1.43), Concerned Realists (1.28), Status Quo Defenders (1.08), Status Quo Accepters (0.56), and On the Sidelines (1.09).

7.2.2.5 Trust MSNBC for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.2.5: Trust MSNBC for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

MSNBC[153]

Fifty-three percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust MSNBC for information about current events and issues. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to trust this media source, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.
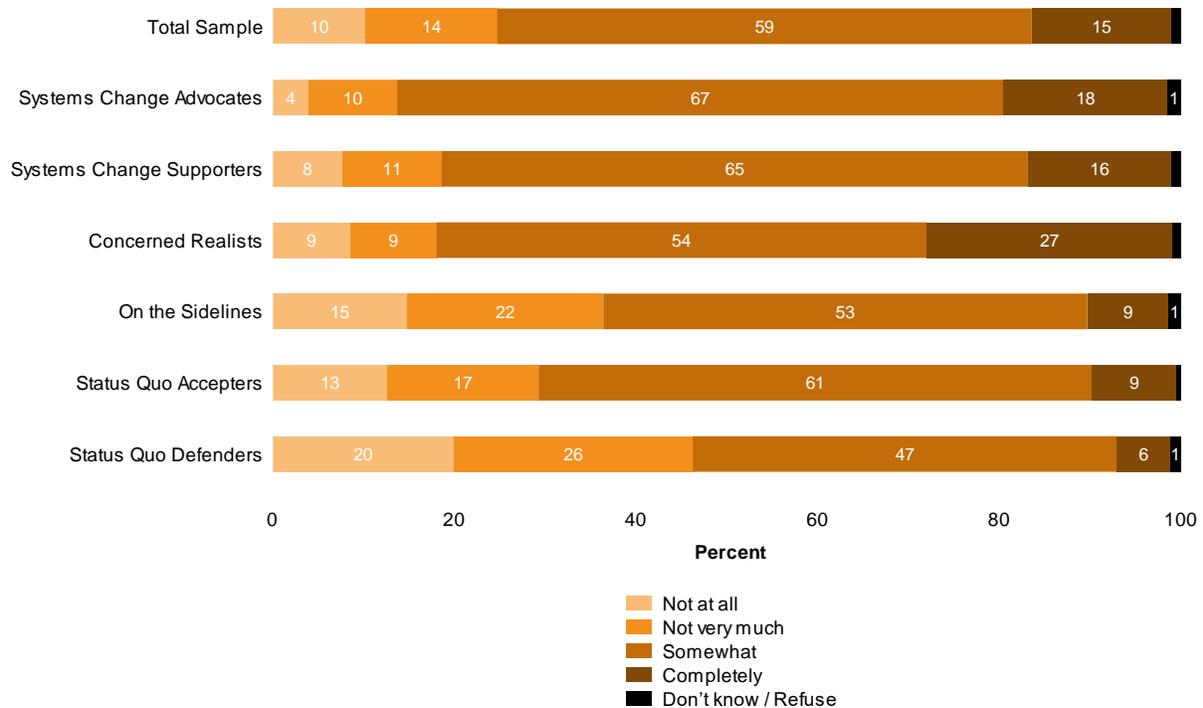
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[153] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.33), Systems Change Advocates (0.90), System Change Supporters (1.97), Concerned Realists (1.24), Status Quo Defenders (1.22), Status Quo Accepters (0.87), and On the Sidelines (1.73).

7.2.2.6 Trust WSJ for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.2.6: Trust *WSJ* for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

The Wall Street Journal[154]

Fifty-five percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust *The Wall Street Journal* for information about current events and issues related to families. Systems Change Advocates and Systems Change Supporters are more likely to trust this media source, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so. Concerned Realists tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.
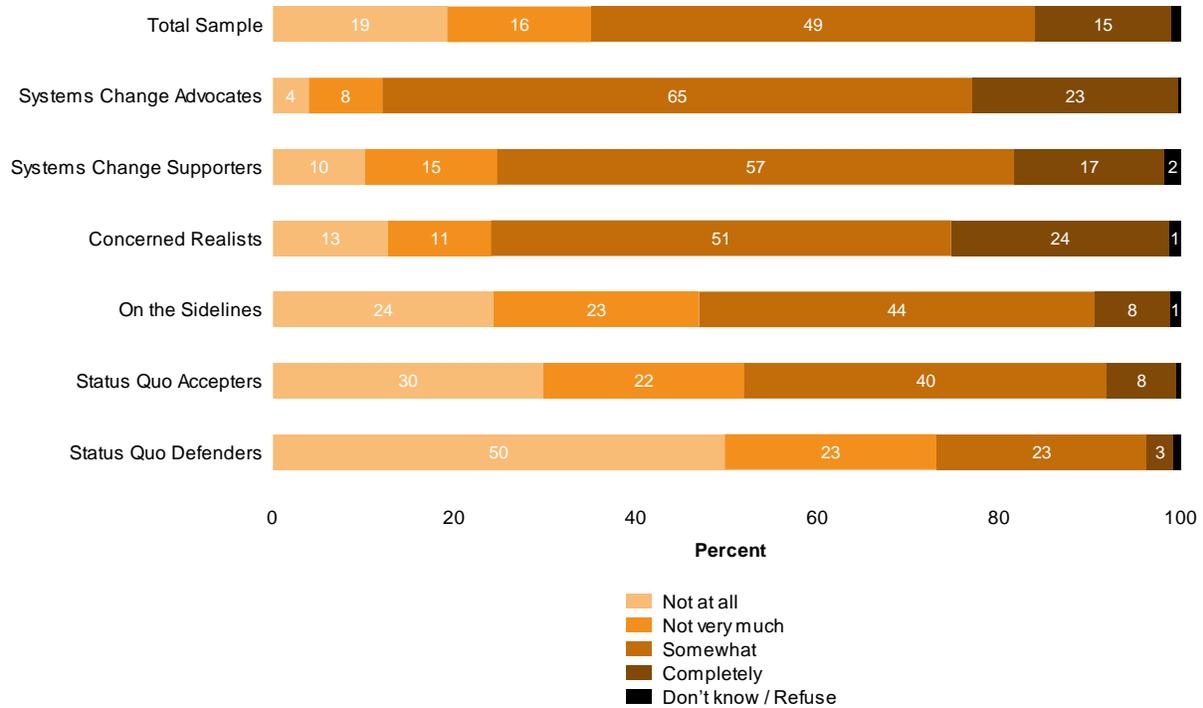
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[154] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (2.07), Systems Change Advocates (0.80), System Change Supporters (3.40), Concerned Realists (2.76), Status Quo Defenders (1.63), Status Quo Accepters (2.10), and On the Sidelines (0.95).

7.2.2.7 Trust NYT for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.2.7: Trust *NYT* for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

New York Times[155]

Fifty-four percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust *The New York Times* for information about current events and issues related to families. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to trust this media source, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.
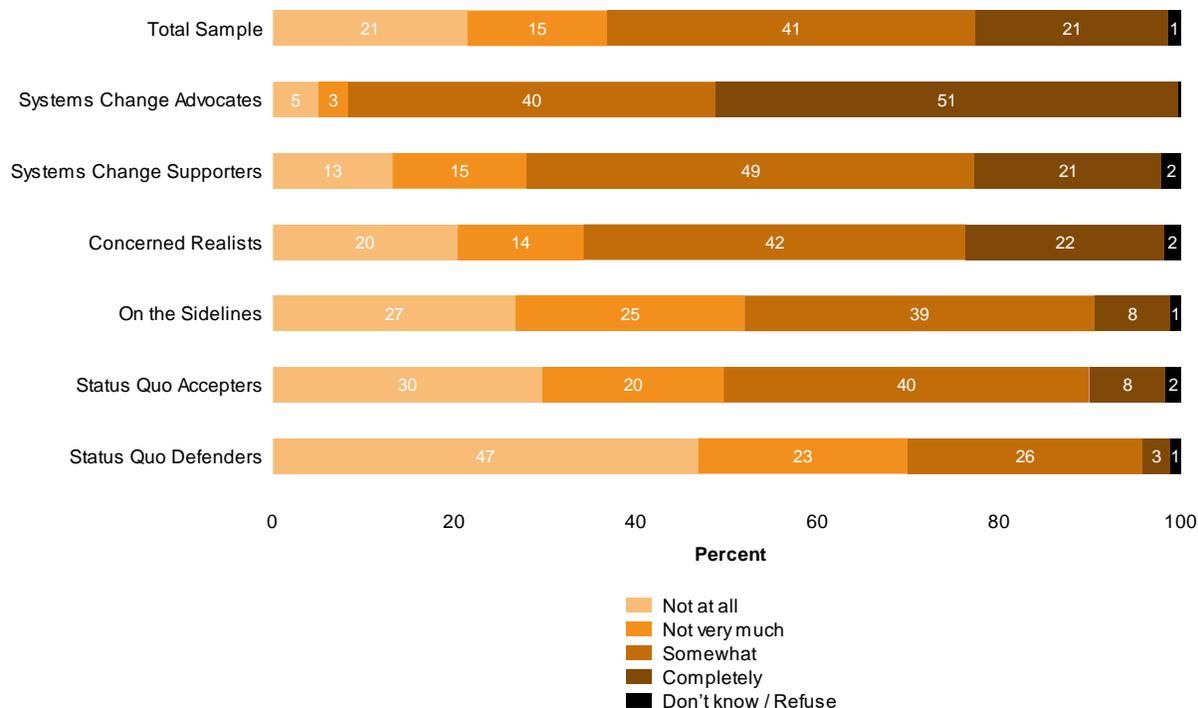
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[155] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (2.04), Systems Change Advocates (0.55), System Change Supporters (3.09), Concerned Realists (3.22), Status Quo Defenders (1.44), Status Quo Accepters (1.91), and On the Sidelines (1.39).

7.2.2.8 Trust USA Today for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.2.8: Trust *USA Today* for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

USA Today[156]

Fifty-four percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust *USA Today* for information about current events and issues related to families. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to trust this media source, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.
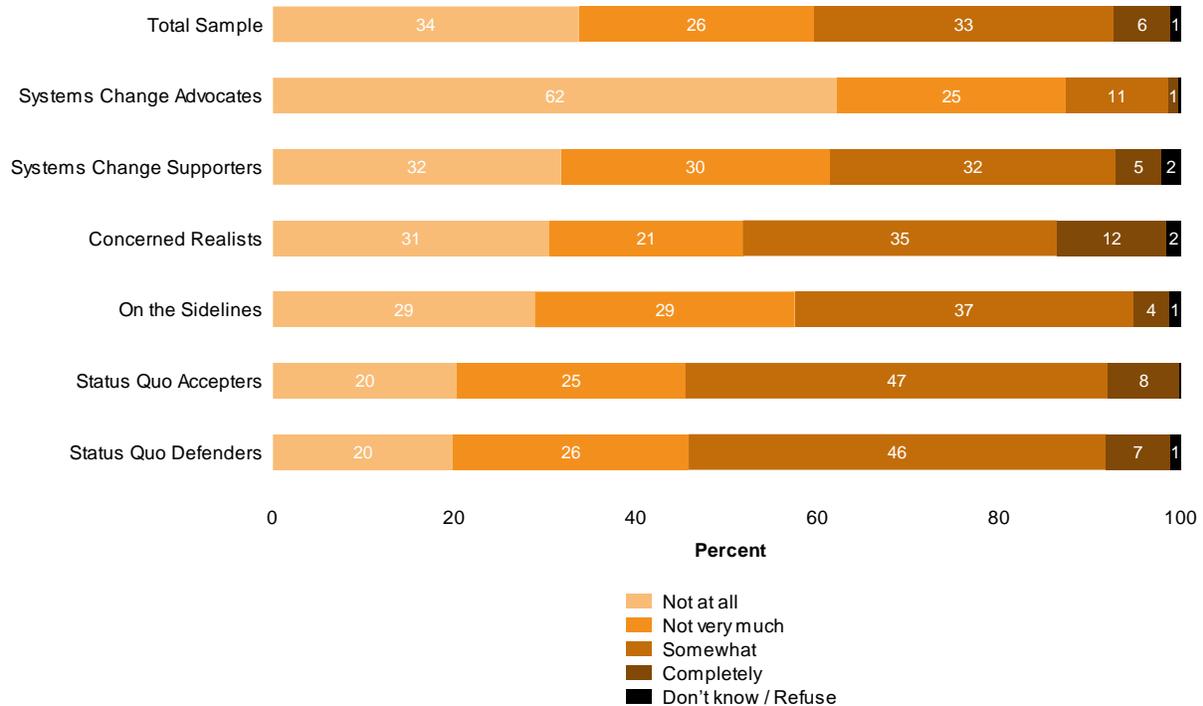
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[156] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.75), Systems Change Advocates (0.84), System Change Supporters (2.15), Concerned Realists (3.08), Status Quo Defenders (1.19), Status Quo Accepters (1.56), and On the Sidelines (1.14).

7.2.2.9 Trust Network Radio News for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.2.9: Trust Network Radio News for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

Network radio news (ABC, CBS, or NBC)[157]

Fifty-eight percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust network radio news for information about current events and issues related to families. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to trust this media source, while Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and the On the Sidelines group are less likely to do so.
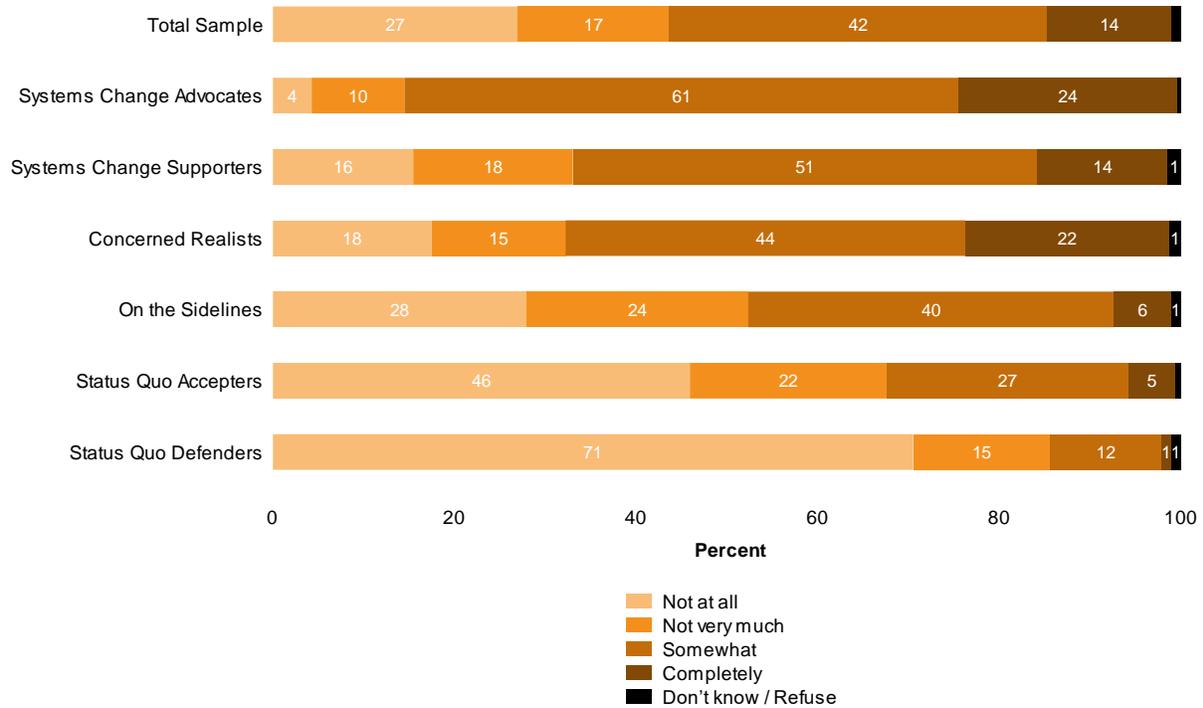
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[157] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.78), Systems Change Advocates (0.77), System Change Supporters (2.67), Concerned Realists (2.27), Status Quo Defenders (0.99), Status Quo Accepters (2.20), and On the Sidelines (1.27).

7.2.3.1 Trust People You Follow on Social Media for Information on Issues Related to Families

Figure 7.2.3.1: Trust People You Follow on Social Media for Information on Issues Related to Families

How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to U.S. families?

People you follow on social media (e.g., bloggers, vloggers, Instagram celebrities, and YouTubers)[158]
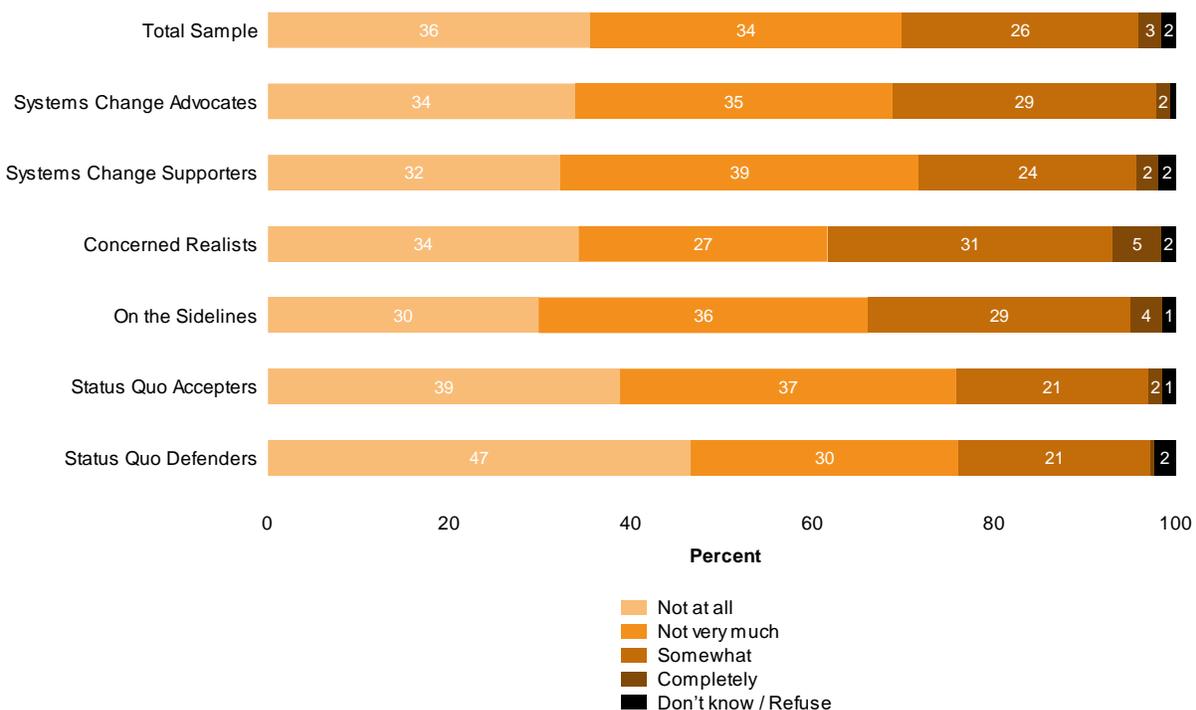
Twenty-nine percent of U.S. adults somewhat or completely trust people they follow on social media for information about current events and issues related to families. Concerned Realists and the On the Sidelines group are more likely to trust this media source, while Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are less likely to do so. Systems Change Advocates more closely resemble other U.S. adults generally.
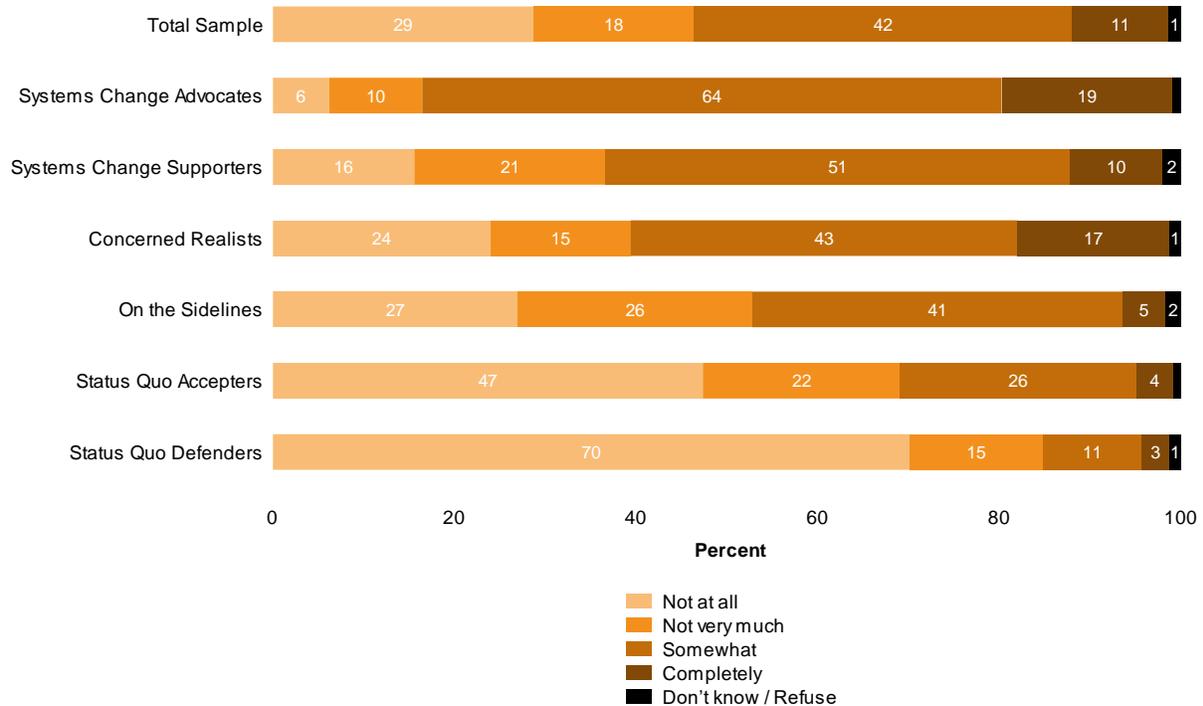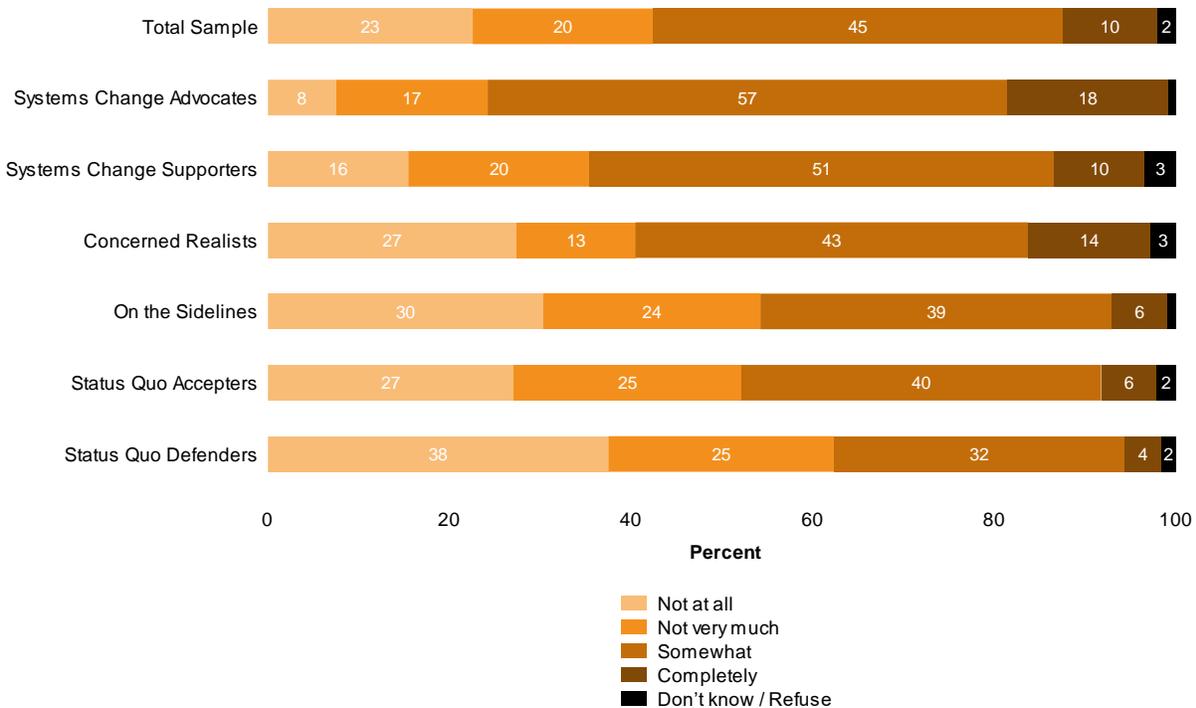
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[158] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.55), Systems Change Advocates (0.63), System Change Supporters (1.92), Concerned Realists (1.59), Status Quo Defenders (2.40), Status Quo Accepters (1.47), and On the Sidelines (1.48).

7.3 Demographics

Overview: There are important demographic differences between the groups. For example, two of the groups, Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters, are more likely to be White than the U.S. adult population; the other four groups are more non-White. Some of the groups are skewed by gender. Concerned Realists are disproportionately female, while the On the Sidelines group and Status Quo Defenders are disproportionately male. There are also differences in terms of socioeconomic status. Two of the groups skew higher: the Status Quo Defenders and Systems Change Advocates. Three skew lower: On the Sidelines, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters. The section below presents the detailed findings on demographic differences.

7.3.1 Employment Status

Figure 7.3.1: Employment Status

Which statement best describes your current employment status?
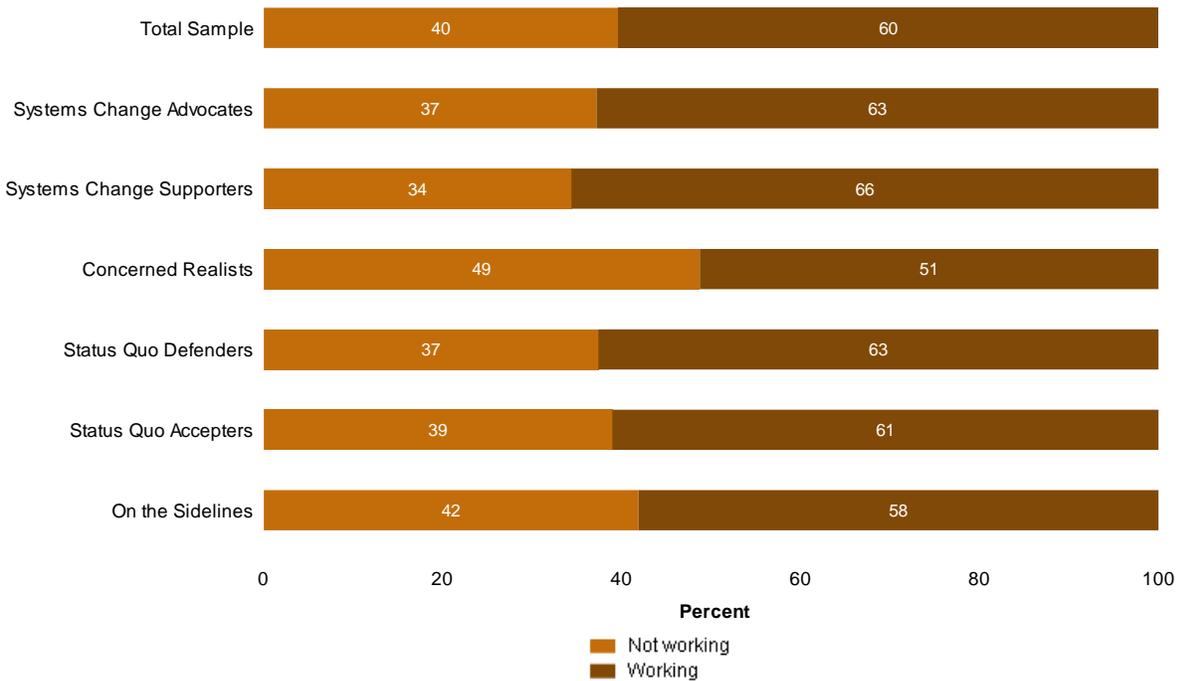
Sixty percent of U.S. adults are employed. Systems Change Supporters, Systems Change Advocates, and Status Quo Defenders are slightly more likely to be employed. Concerned Realists are more likely to unemployed in these fields, and Status Quo Accepters and those On the Sidelines tend to closely represent U.S. adults in general.

7.3.2.1 Employment in Child Care or Teaching Profession

Figure 7.3.2.1: Employment in Child Care or Teaching Profession

Does your current job involve any of the following?

Providing day-to-day care, teaching, guidance or support directly to children (aged 0-17)?[159]
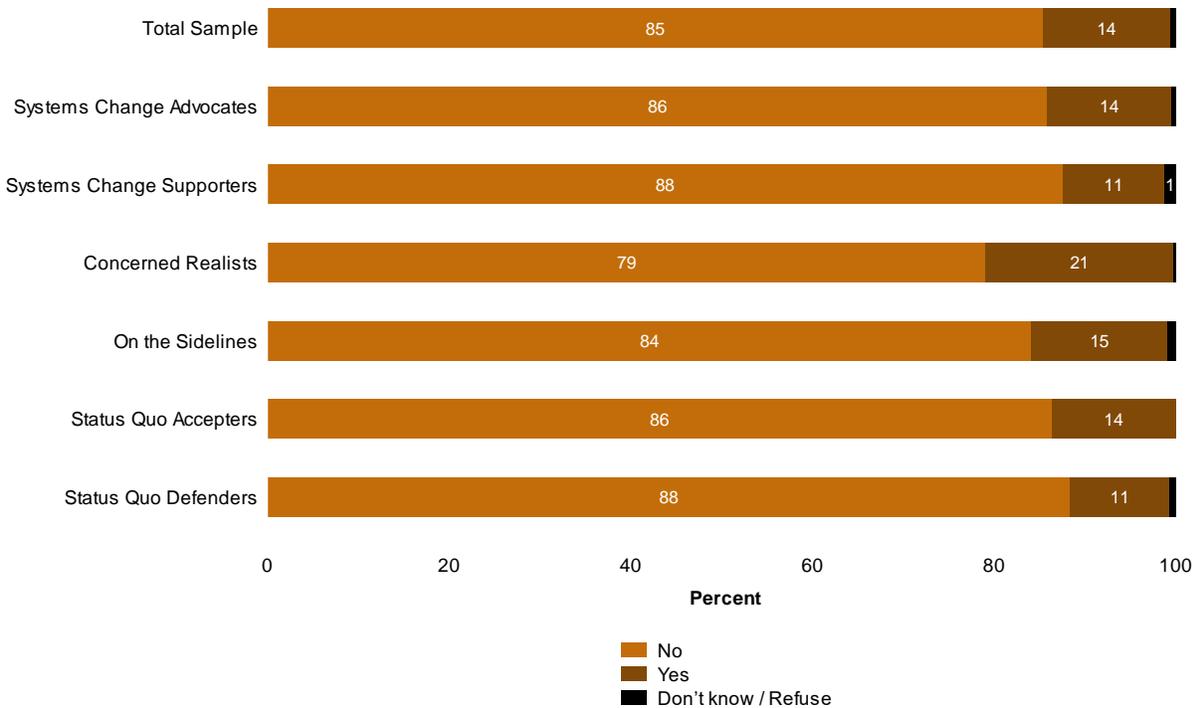
Fourteen percent of U.S. adults are employed providing day-to-day care, teaching, guidance, or support directly to children. Concerned Realists are more likely to employed in these fields, whereas Systems Change Advocates, Status Quo Defenders, those On the Sidelines Systems Change Supporters and Status Quo Accepters tend to closely represent U.S. adults in general.
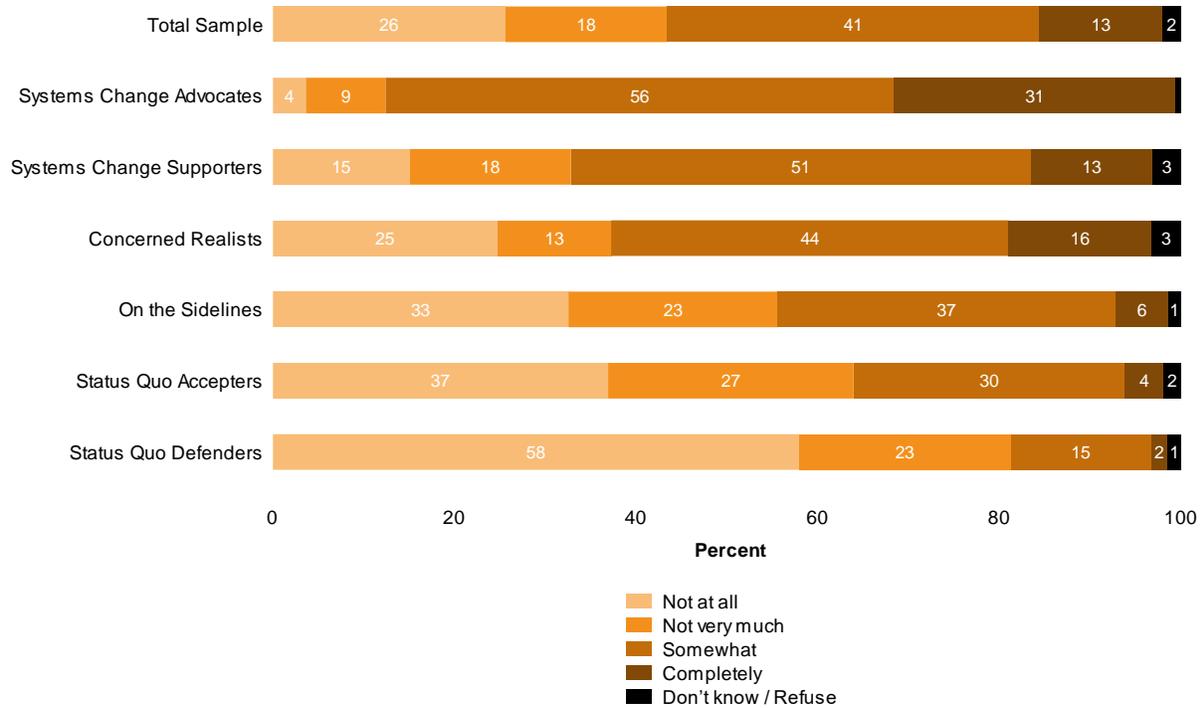
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[159] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.63), Systems Change Advocates (0.52), System Change Supporters (1.23), Concerned Realists (0.29), Status Quo Defenders (0.71), Status Quo Accepters (61.01), and On the Sidelines (0.92).

7.3.2.2 Employment Providing Medical Care to Children

Figure 7.3.2.2: Employment Providing Medical Care to Children

Does your current job involve any of the following?

Providing medical care to children (aged 0-17)?[160]

Fifteen percent of U.S. adults are employed providing medical care to children. Concerned Realists are more likely to be employed in these fields, whereas Systems Change Advocates are less likely. Those On the Sidelines Systems Change Supporters, Status Quo Defenders, and Status Quo Accepters tend to closely represent U.S. adults in general.

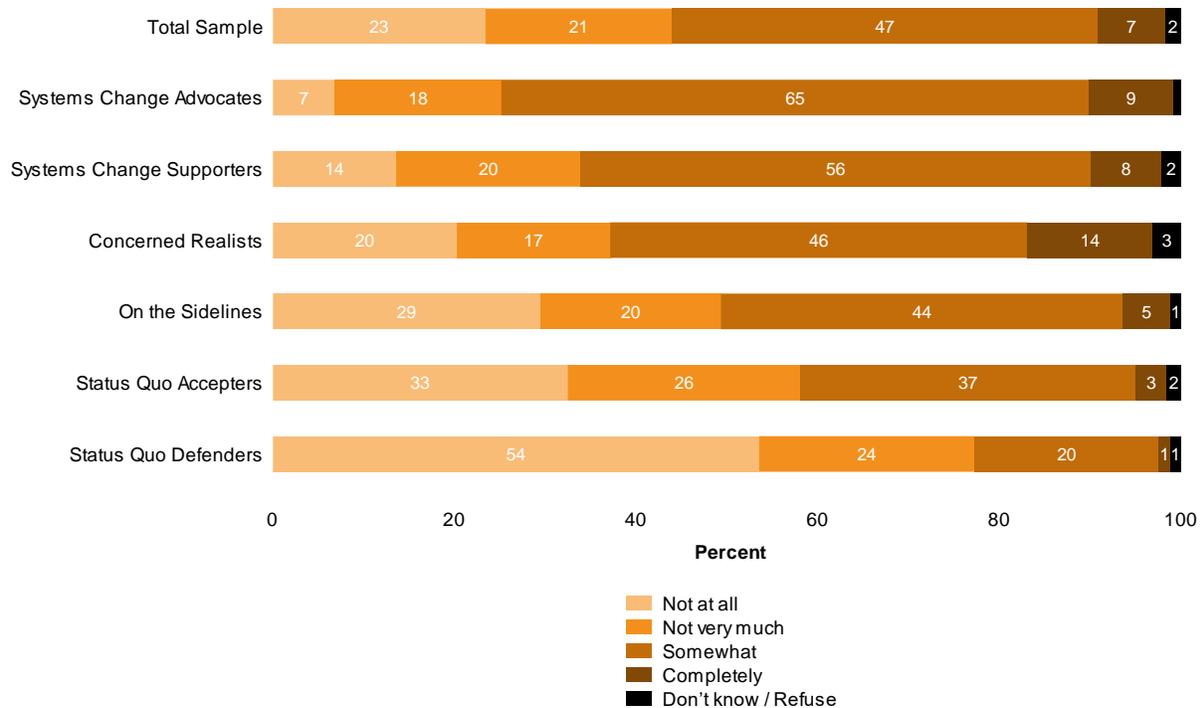[160] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.95), Systems Change Advocates (0.83), System Change Supporters (2.10), Concerned Realists (0.40), Status Quo Defenders (0.56), Status Quo Accepters (0.28), and On the Sidelines (1.00).

7.3.2.3 Employment in Other Child Care–related Profession

Figure 7.3.2.3: Employment in Other Child Care-related Profession

Does your current job involve any of the following?

Something else related to meeting the needs of children (aged 0-17)?[161]
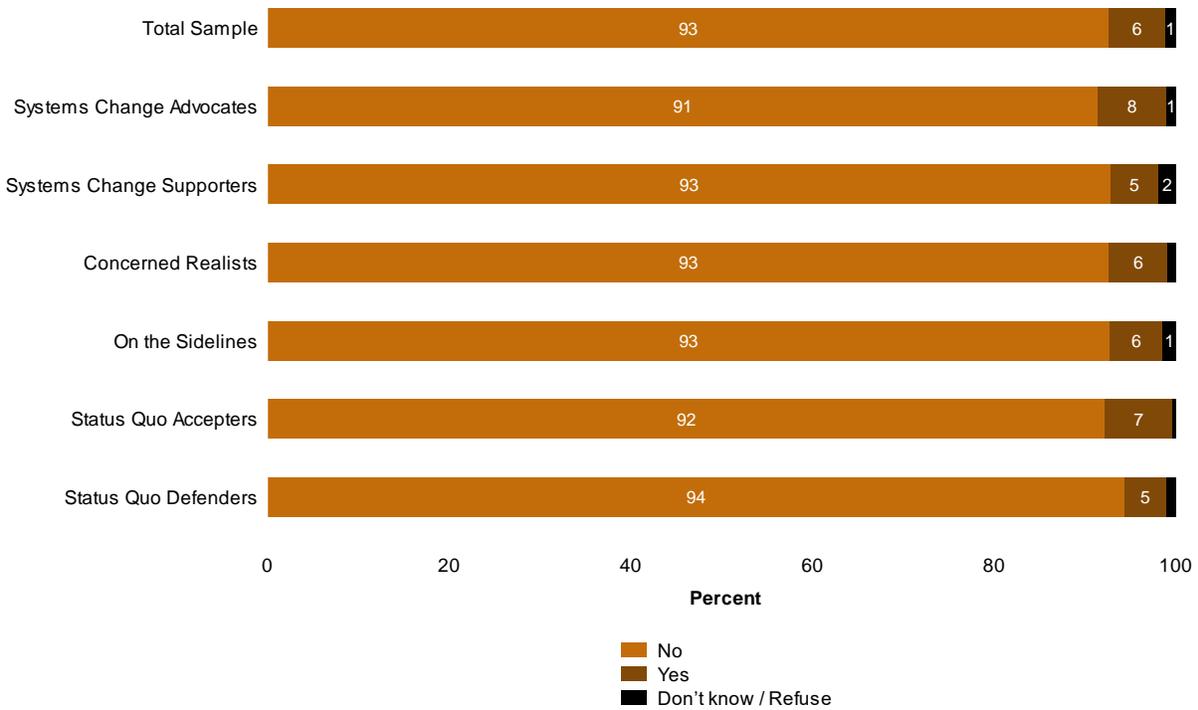
Six percent of U.S. adults worked with children in areas beyond teaching, child care, and medical care. There were few differences between the groups on this measure.

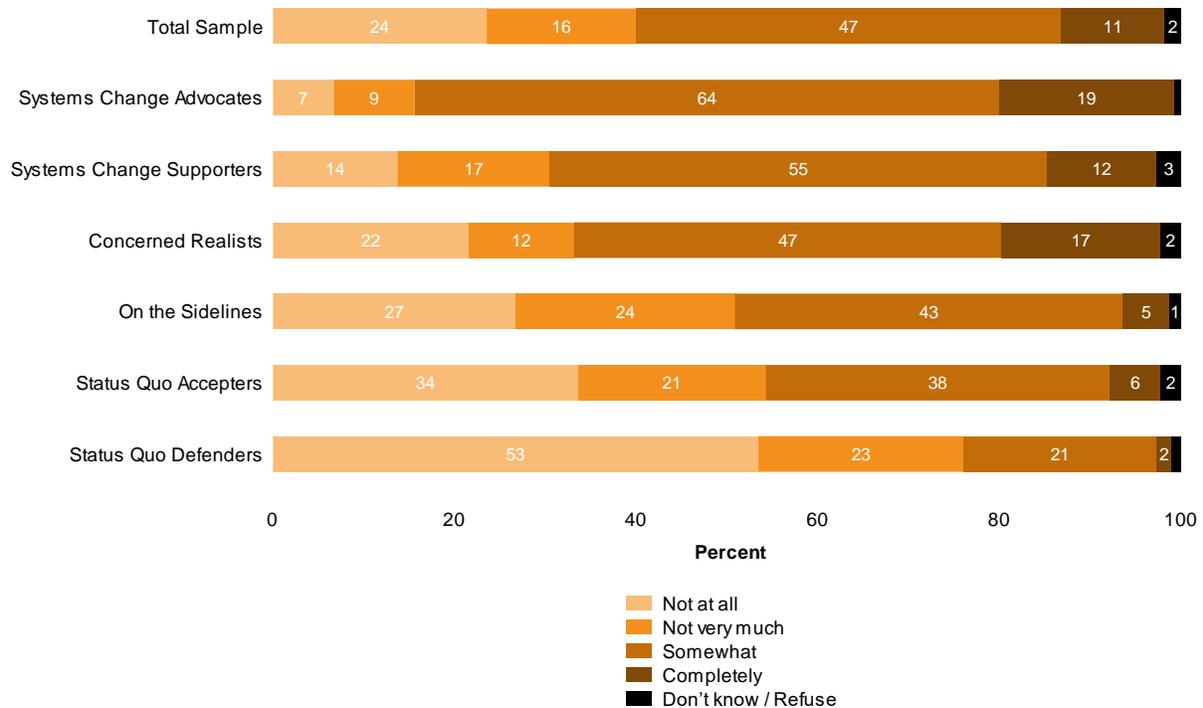[161] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.17), Systems Change Advocates (1.06), System Change Supporters (1.95), Concerned Realists (0.91), Status Quo Defenders (1.04), Status Quo Accepters (0.40), and On the Sidelines (1.44).

7.3.3 Country of Origin

Figure 7.3.3: Country of Origin

In what country were you born?[162]
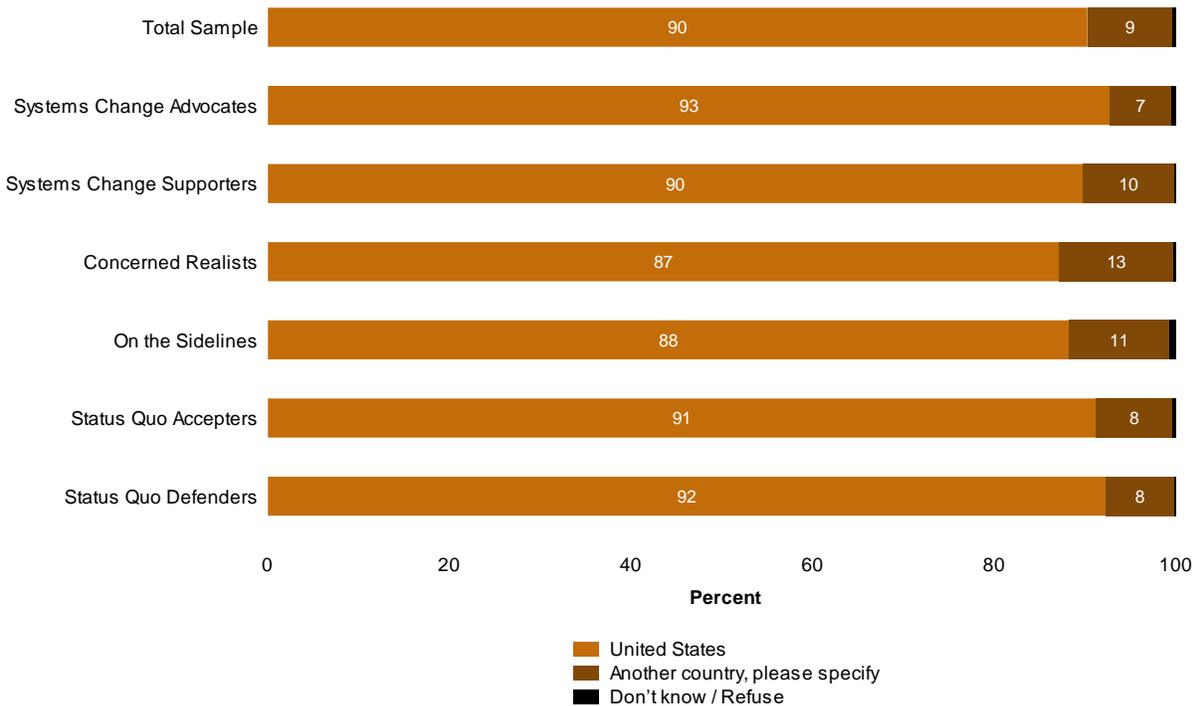
Ninety percent of all respondents had been born in the United States. Systems Change Advocates and Status Quo Defenders were slightly more likely to be born in the United States, while Concerned Realists and those On the Sidelines were slightly less likely to have been. Status Quo Accepters and Systems Change Supporters tended to closely represent U.S. adults in general.

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[162] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.35), Systems Change Advocates (0.52), System Change Supporters (0.21), Concerned Realists (0.23), Status Quo Defenders (0.16), Status Quo Accepters (0.39), and On the Sidelines (0.73).

7.3.4 Years Living in the United States

Figure 7.3.4: Years Living in the United States

If not born in the United States, in what year did you come to live the United States?[163]
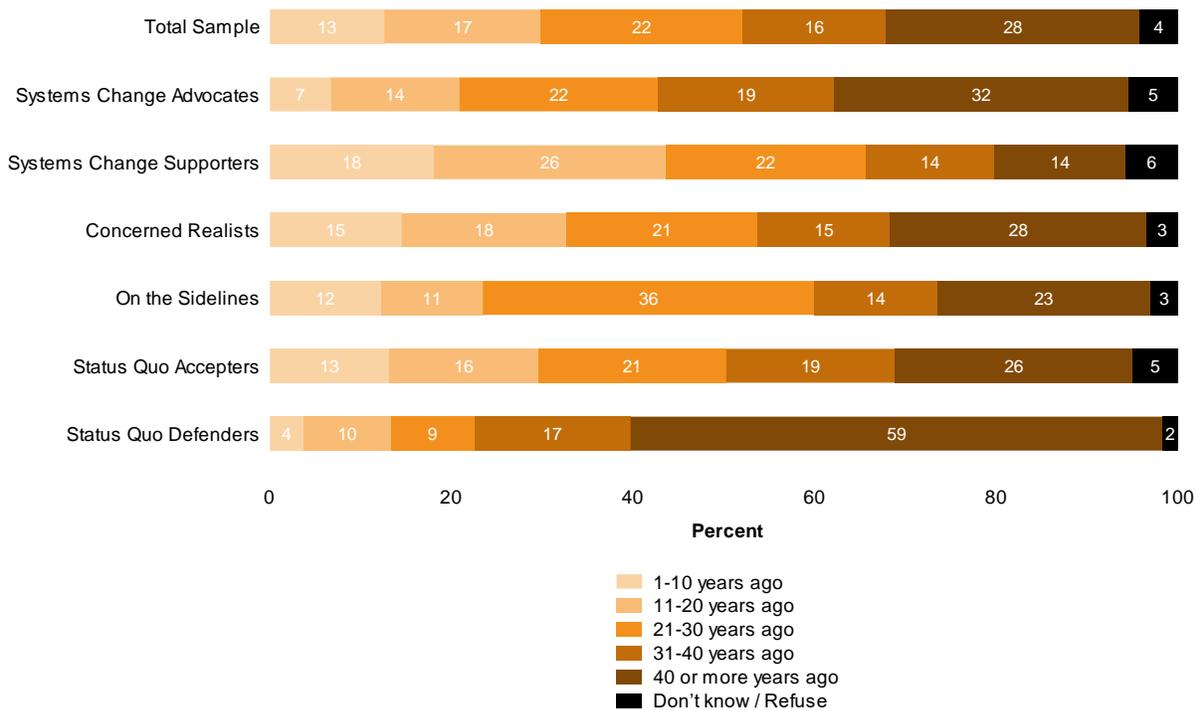
Of those respondents who indicated that they were not born in the United States, 66 percent had been living in the U.S. for at least 20 years. Status Quo Defenders are most likely to have lived in the United States the longest, and Systems Change Supporters are least likely to have lived in the United States for over 20 years. Concerned Realists, Status Quo Accepters, those On the Sidelines and Systems Change Advocates tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.

[163] Those who said they were not born in the U.S. were asked this question. Responses were categorized based on distribution. Respondents chose from years between 1920 and 2021. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (4.24), Systems Change Advocates (5.41), System Change Supporters (5.75), Concerned Realists (3.44), Status Quo Defenders (1.67), Status Quo Accepters (4.96), and On the Sidelines (3.04).

7.3.5 Language Dominance

Figure 7.3.5: Language Dominance

Survey language
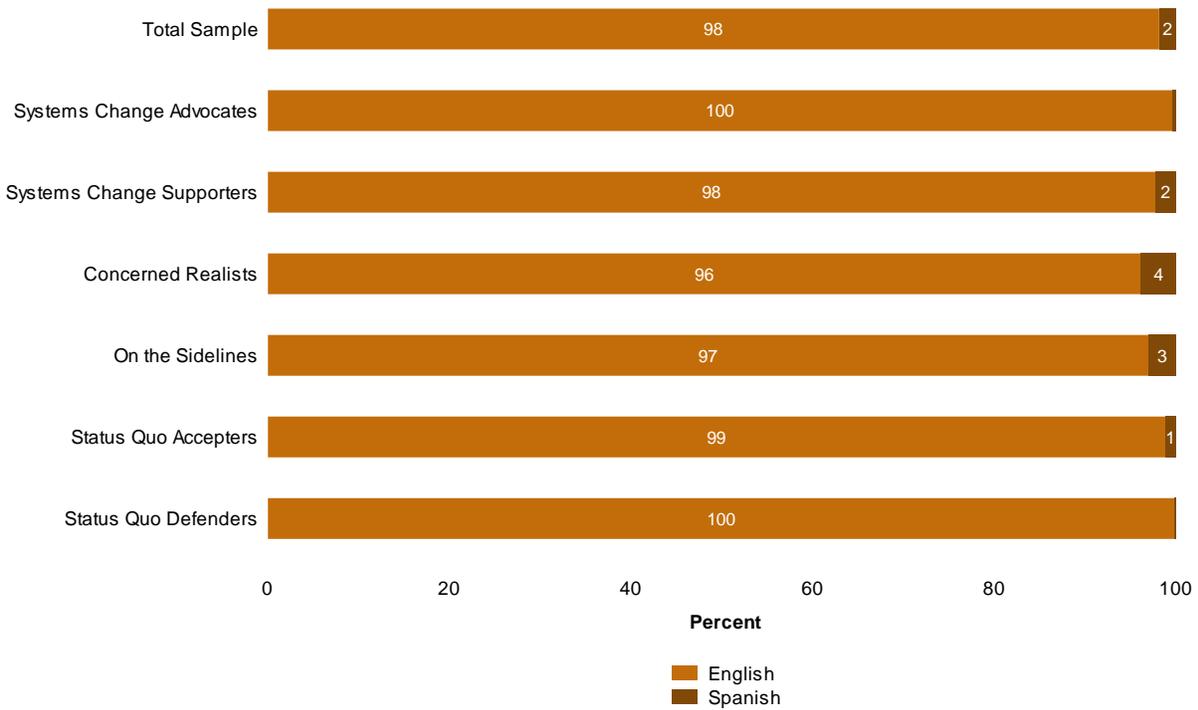
Based on the language they opted to take the survey, ninety-eight percent of survey respondents are English-language dominant. Systems Change Advocates, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders were all more likely to be English-dominant, but Concerned Realists and those On the Sidelines are less so. Systems Change Supporters tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.

7.3.6 American Communities Project (ACP) Region

Figure 7.3.6: American Communities Project (ACP) Region

What is your mailing address?[164]
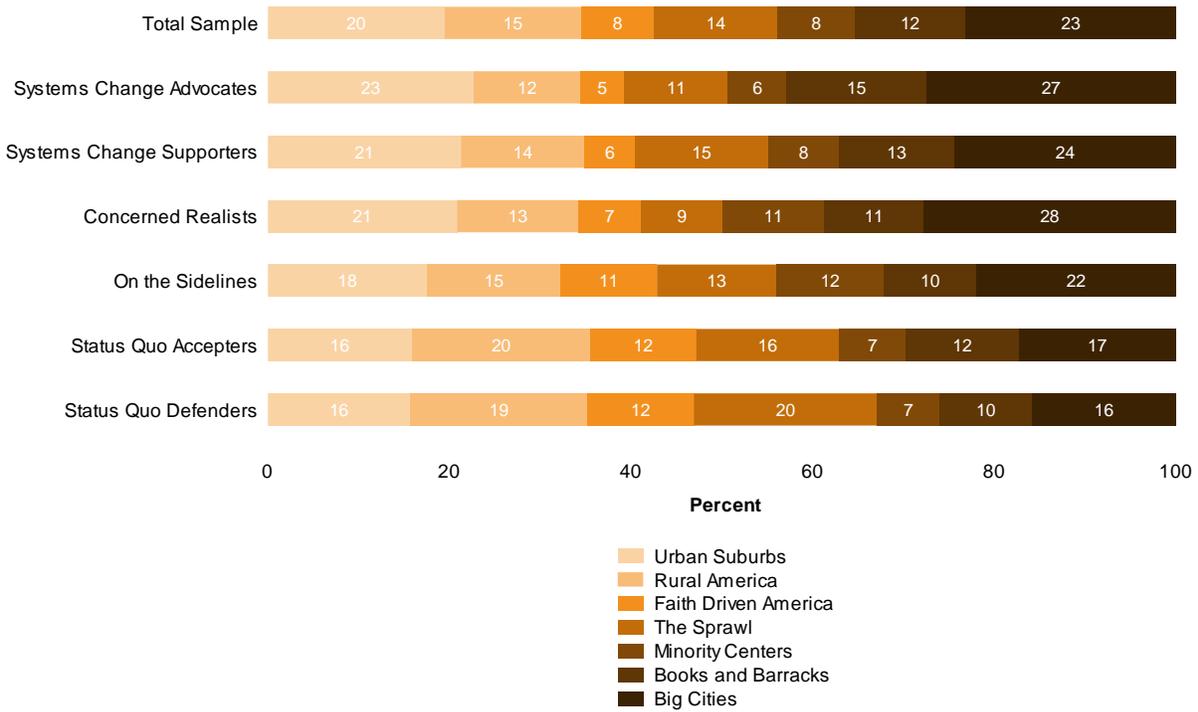
The majority of U.S. adults live in Big Cities and Urban Suburbs, followed by Rural America and The Sprawl. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to live in Big Cities, as are Systems Change Supporters and those On the Sidelines. Status Quo Defenders are more likely to live in The Sprawl. Status Quo Accepters are more likely to live in Rural America.

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[164] Respondents' reported zip codes were utilized to derive American Communities Project Divisions. American Communities Project divisions were collapsed from fifteen groups to seven groups. Located at: https://www.americancommunities.org/. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

7.3.7 Number of Children in Households

Figure 7.3.7: Number of Children in Households

How many children age 17 or under live in your household?[165]
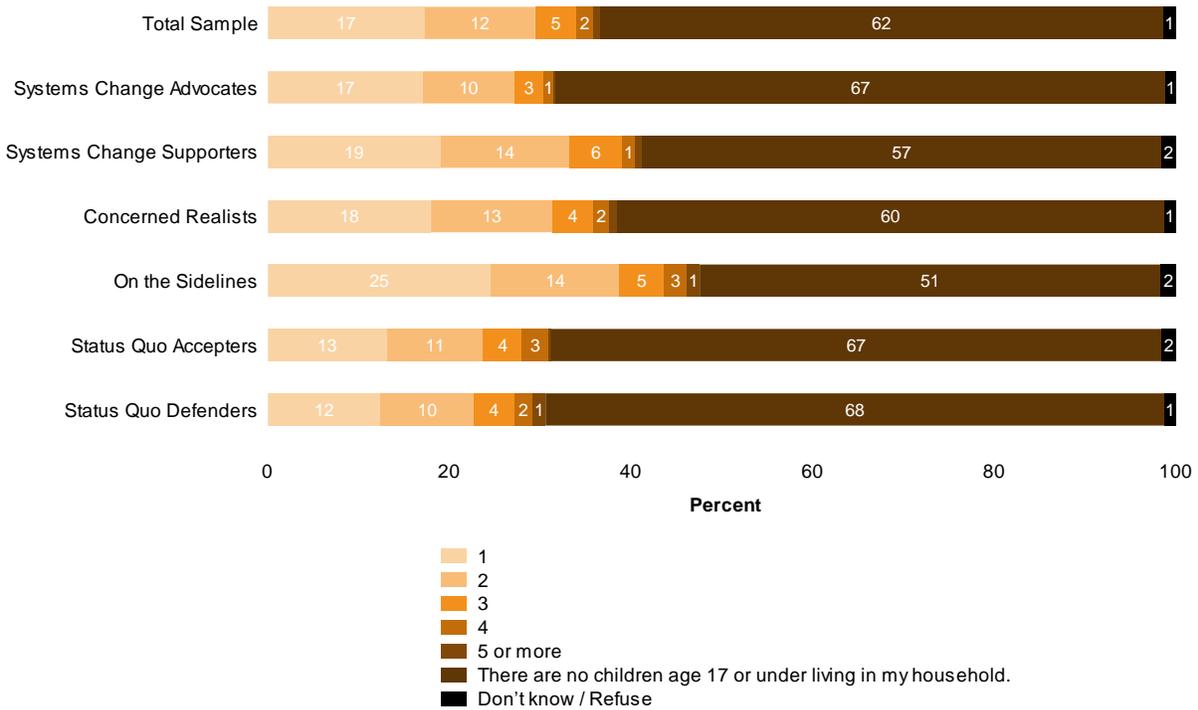
Thirty-eight percent of U.S. adults have at least one child living at home. The On the Sidelines group is most likely to have children in their homes, followed by Systems Change Supporters. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Systems Change Advocates are all less likely to have children living at home, and Concerned Realists tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[165] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.41), Systems Change Advocates (1.14), System Change Supporters (1.62), Concerned Realists (1.30), Status Quo Defenders (1.25), Status Quo Accepters (1.54), and On the Sidelines (1.65).

7.3.8 Ages of Children in Households

Figure 7.3.8: Ages of Children in Households

Please provide the ages of the children age 17 or under living in your household[166]
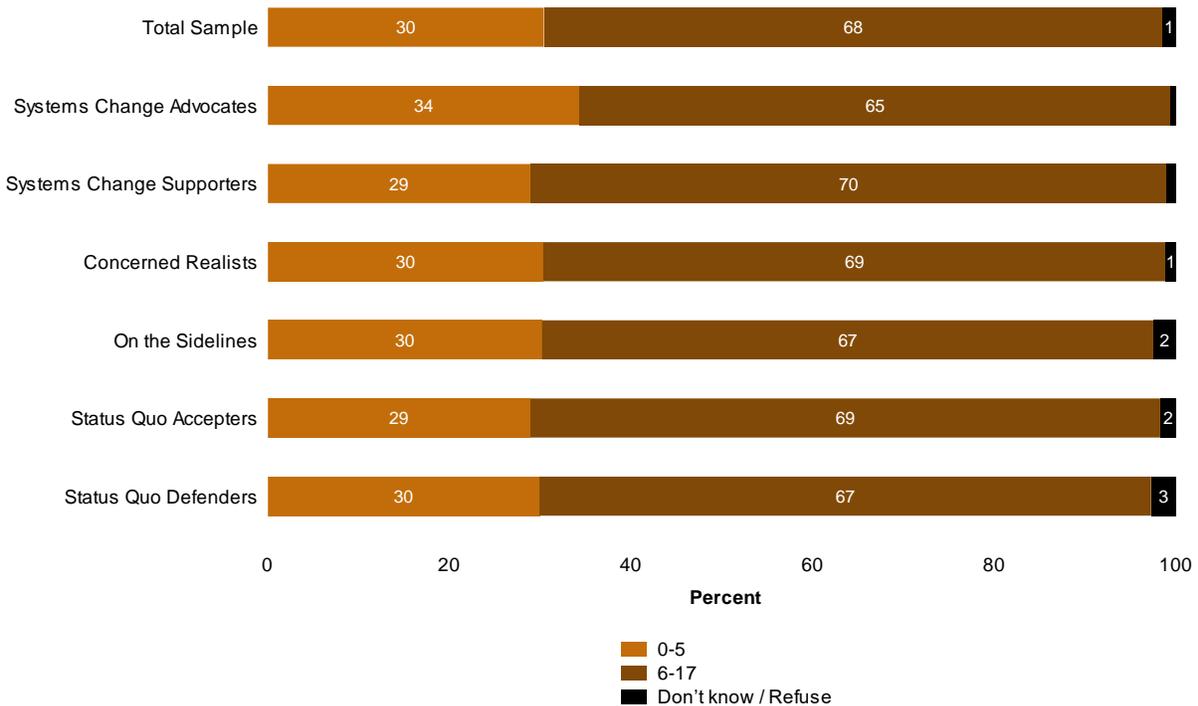
Thirty percent of U.S. adults who do have children living at home have children age five or under. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to have children age five and under in their homes, but all other groups tend to resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[166] Those who said they had children living in the household were asked this question. If respondents had at least one child b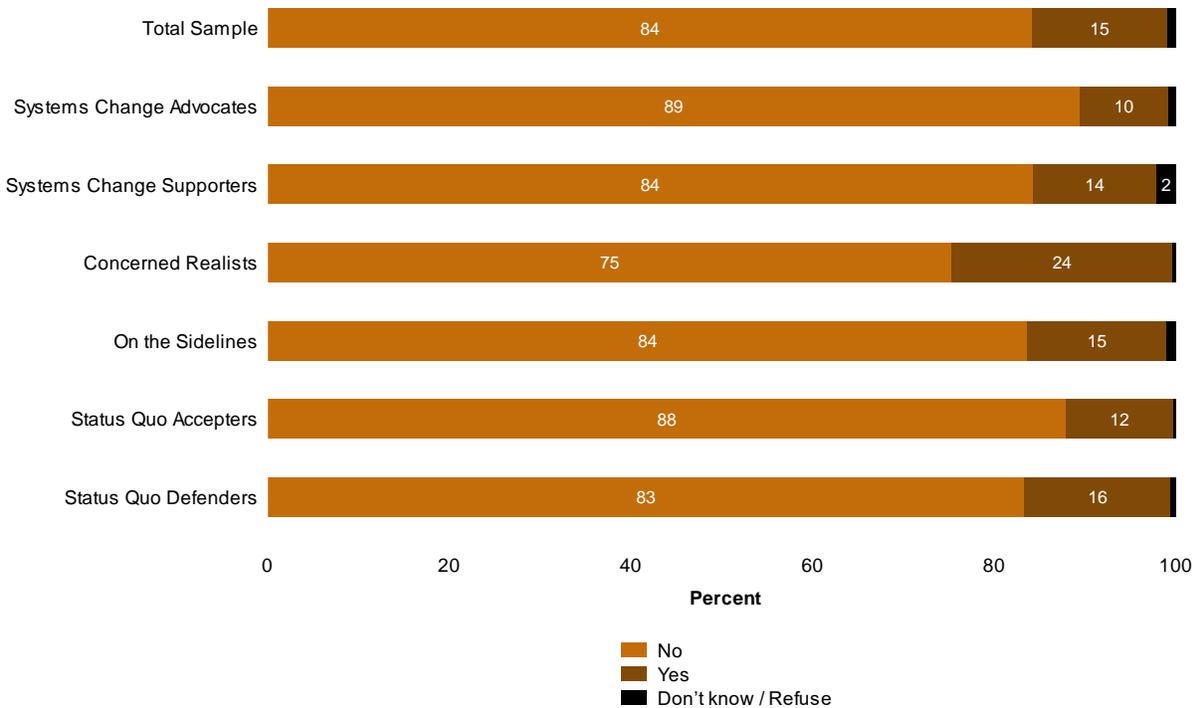etween the ages of 0-5 they were counted in that category only. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.45), Systems Change Advocates (0.60), System Change Supporters (0.99), Concerned Realists (1.10), Status Quo Defenders (2.73), Status Quo Accepters (1.73), and On the Sidelines (2.47).

7.3.9 Race/Ethnicity

Figure 7.3.9: Race/Ethnicity

Combined race/ethnicity[167]
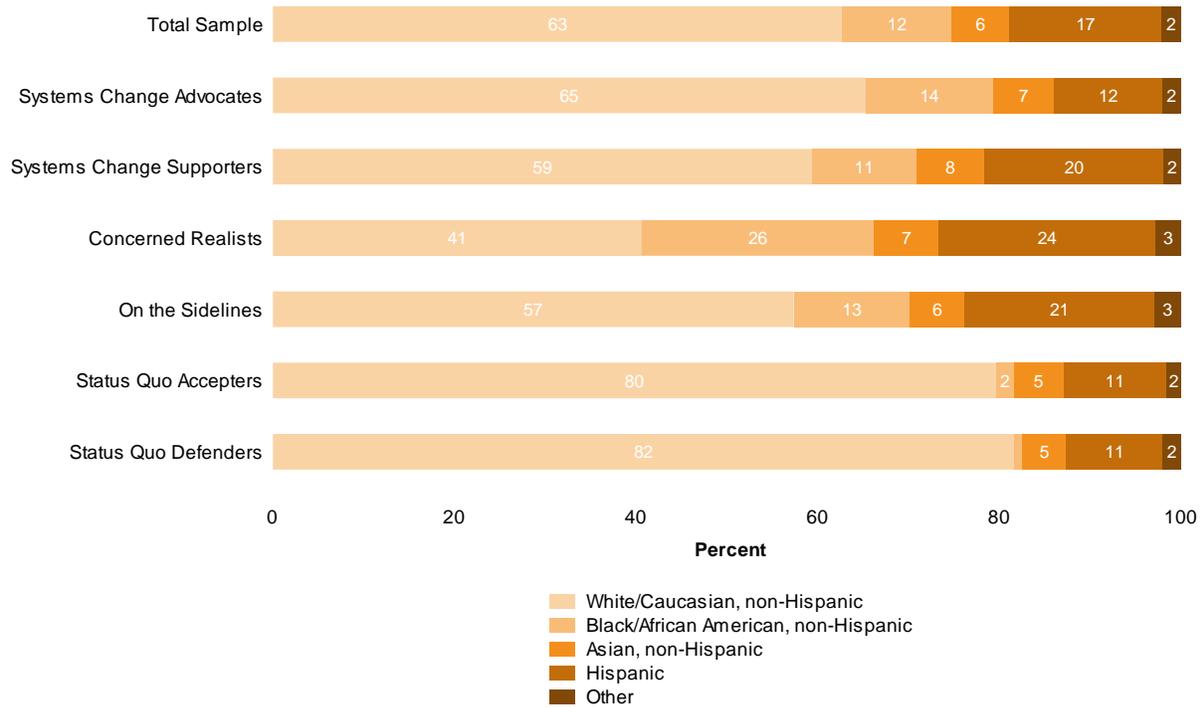
Sixty-three percent of U.S. adults are White/Caucasian, non-Hispanic. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to be White, while Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, and Concerned Realists are least likely to be White.

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[167] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

7.3.10 Gender

Figure 7.3.10: Gender

How do you describe yourself?[168]
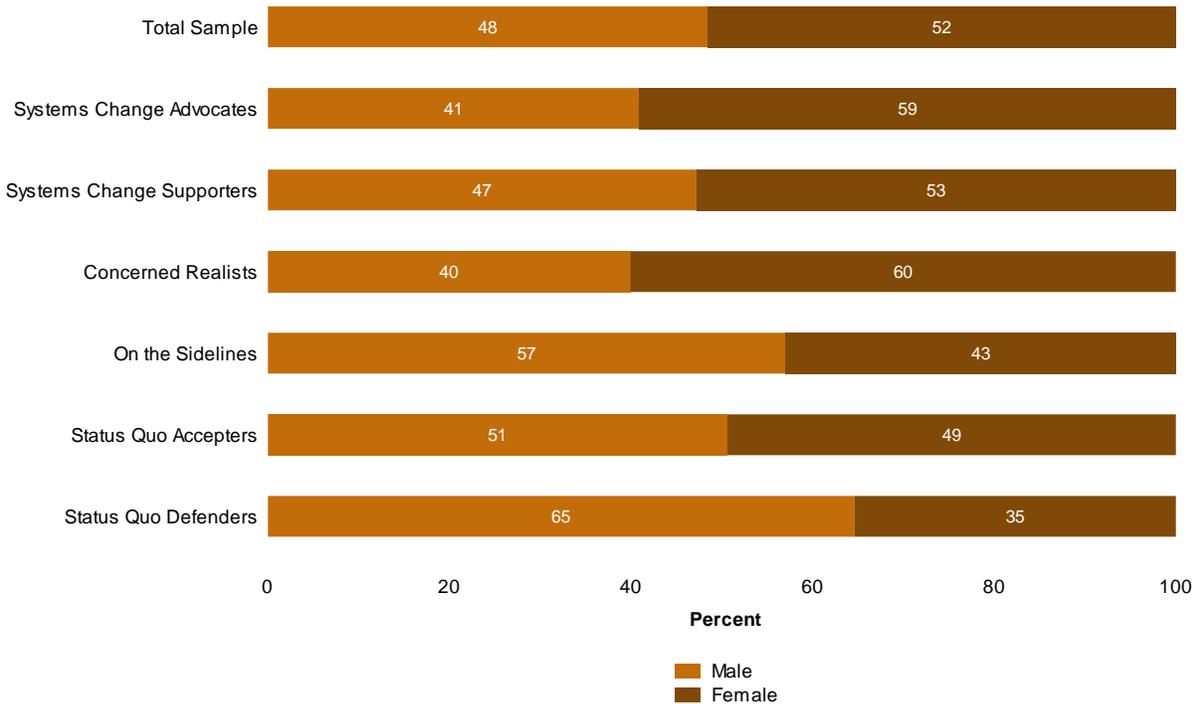
Fifty-two percent of U.S. adults are female. Concerned Realists and Systems Change Advocates are more likely to be female, while Status Quo Defenders and those On the Sidelines are less likely to be female. Systems Change Supporters and Status Quo Accepters resemble the gender of U.S. adults in general.

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[168] There were no responses to the Trans male, Trans female, or gender queer/non-binary categories.

7.3.11 Marital Status

Figure 7.3.11: Marital Status

Are you…[169]
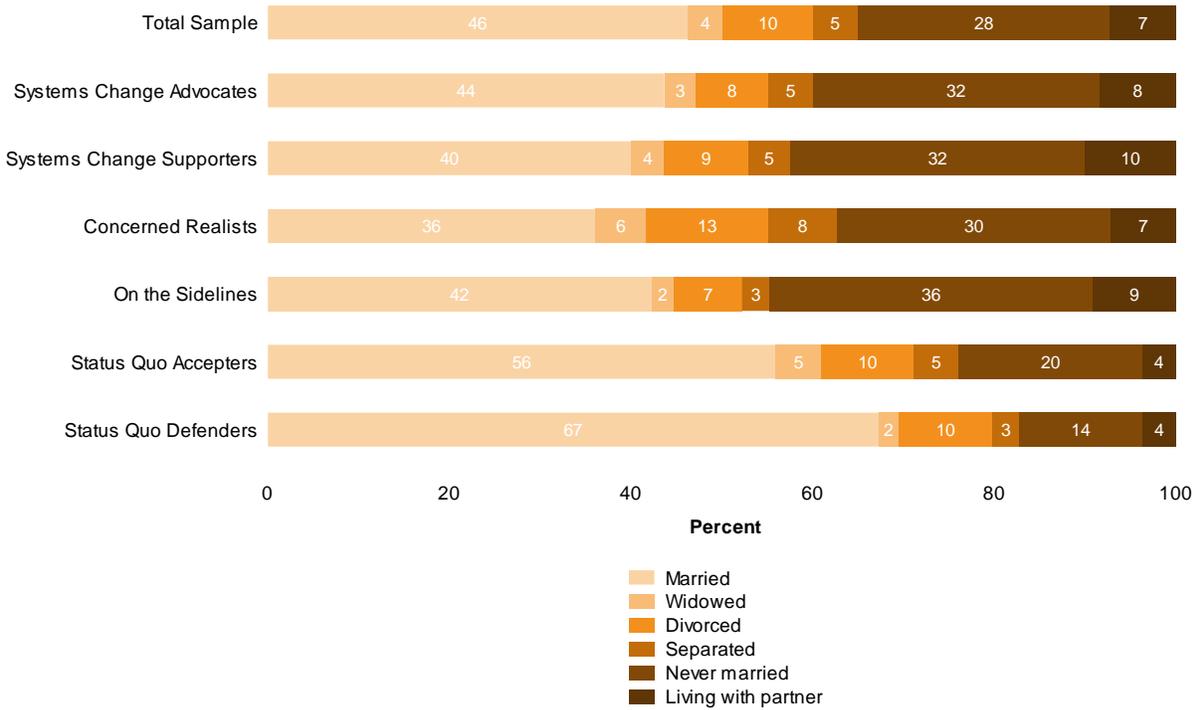
Forty-six percent of U.S. adults are married. Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to be married. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, and Concerned Realists are least likely to be married.

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[169] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

7.3.12 Age

Figure 7.3.12: Age

Respondent age[170]
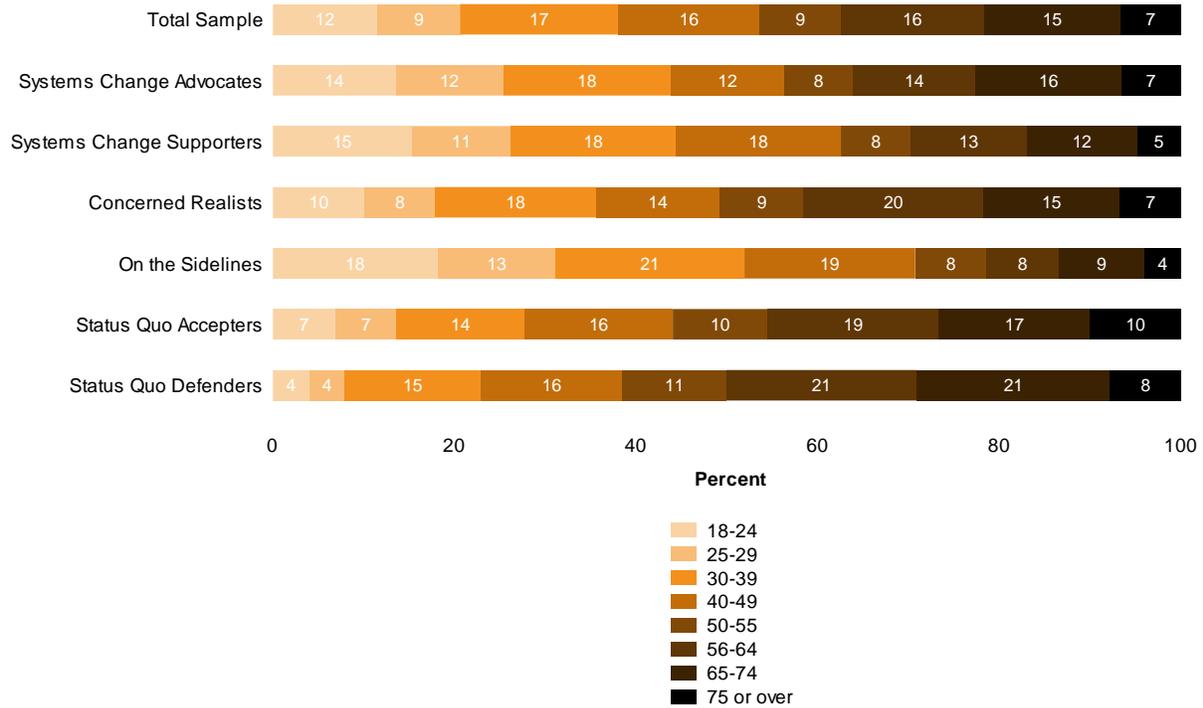
Systems Change Supporters and those On the Sidelines tend to be younger compared to U.S. adults generally. Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters tend to be over the age of 50. Systems Change Advocates and Concerned Realists resemble U.S. adults in general in terms of age.

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[170] Responses have been categorized based on date of birth of respondent. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

7.3.13 Homeownership

Figure 7.3.13: Homeownership

Share with us a little about where you live. Are your living quarters…[171]

Group	Owned or being bought	Rented for cash	Occupied without payment of cash rent
Total Sample	68	30	3
Systems Change Advocates	65	32	2
Systems Change Supporters	64	32	4
Concerned Realists	57	40	2
On the Sidelines	63	35	3
Status Quo Accepters	76	21	2
Status Quo Defenders	85	12	3

Legend:
- Owned or being bought by you or someone in your household
- Rented for cash
- Occupied without payment of cash rent

Sixty-eight percent of U.S. adults live in a home owned or being bought by them or someone in their household. Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to be homeowners. Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters, those On the Sidelines, and Concerned Realists are less likely to be homeowners.

---

[171] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

7.3.14 Income

Figure 7.3.14: Income

The next question is about the total income of YOUR HOUSEHOLD for 2020. Please include your own income PLUS the income of all members living in your household (including cohabiting partners and armed forces members living at home). Please count income BEFORE TAXES and from all sources (such as wages, salaries, tips, net income from a business, interest, dividends, child support, alimony, and Social Security, public assistance, pensions, or retirement benefits). Which one of the following includes your total HOUSEHOLD income in 2020 before taxes?[172]
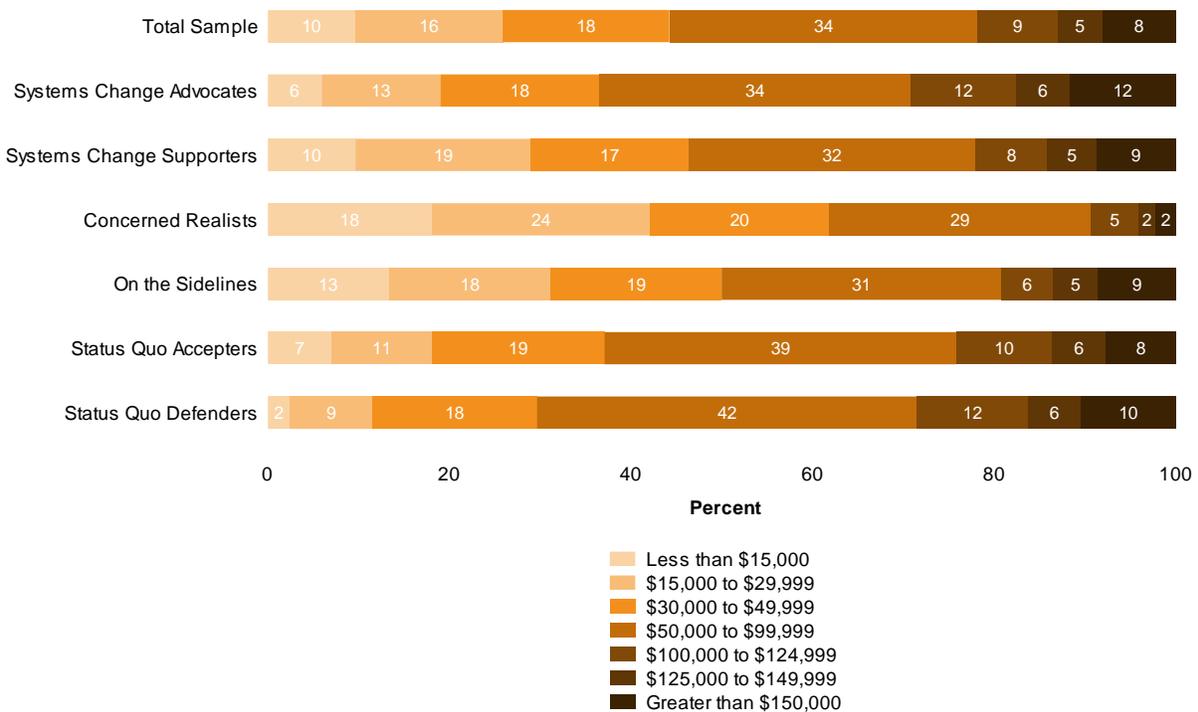
Systems Change Advocates, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders report higher incomes compared to the total sample of U.S. adults, while those On the Sidelines, Systems Change Supporters, Concerned Realists, and Status Quo Supporters report lower incomes.

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[172] Household income of panel respondents is updated periodically. The majority of our respondents had reported income between 2014 and 2018. Responses have been collapsed from: Less than $5,000; $5,000 to $9,999; $10,000 to $14,999; $15,000 to $19,999; $20,000 to $24,999; $25,000 to $29,999; $30,000 to $34,999; $35,000 to $39,999; $40,000 to $49,999; $50,000 to $59,999; $60,000 to $74,999; $75,000 to $84,999; $85,000 to $99,999; $100,000 to $124,999; $125,000 to $149,999; $150,000 to $174,999; $175,000 to $199,999; $200,000 or more; Don't know. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

7.3.15 Education

Figure 7.3.15: Education

What is the highest level of school you have completed?[173]
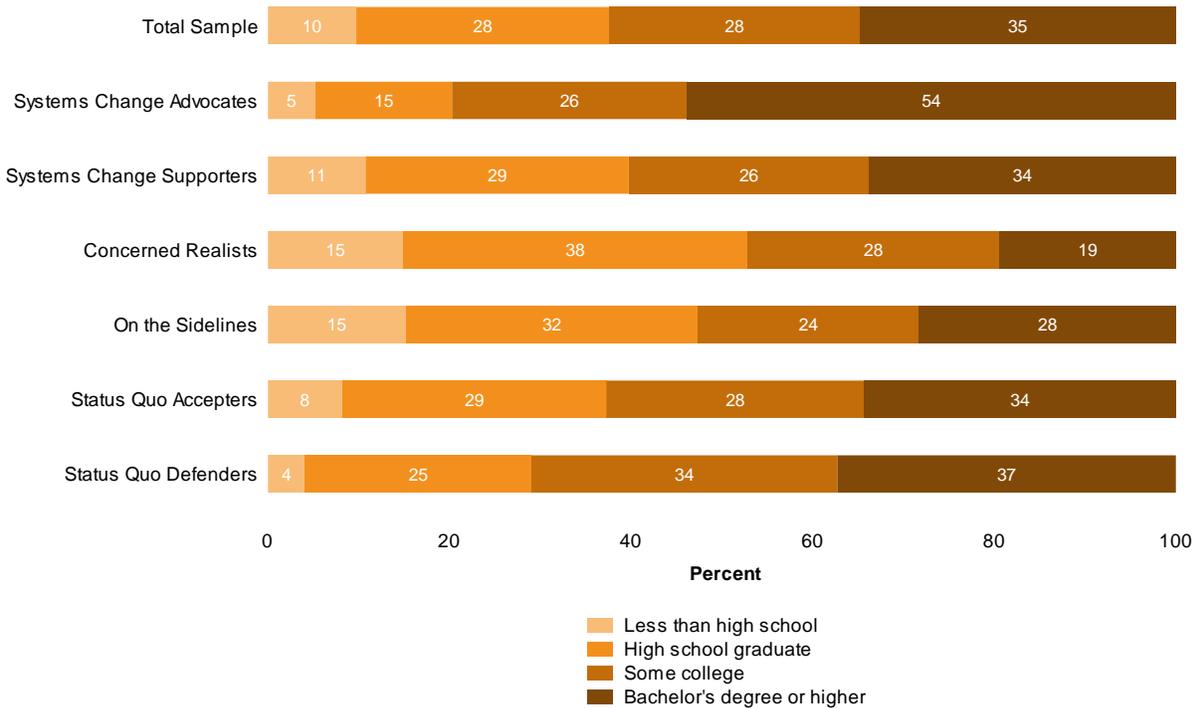
Thirty-five percent of U.S. adults have a bachelor's degree or higher education. Systems Change Advocates and Status Quo Defenders are more likely to have a bachelor's degree or higher. Concerned Realists and those On the Sidelines are less likely to have a bachelor's degree or higher. Systems Change Supporters and Status Quo Accepters tend to have similar levels of education to U.S. adults in general.

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[173] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

7.3.16 Sexual Orientation

Figure 7.3.16: Sexual Orientation

Which of the following best represents how you think of yourself?[174]
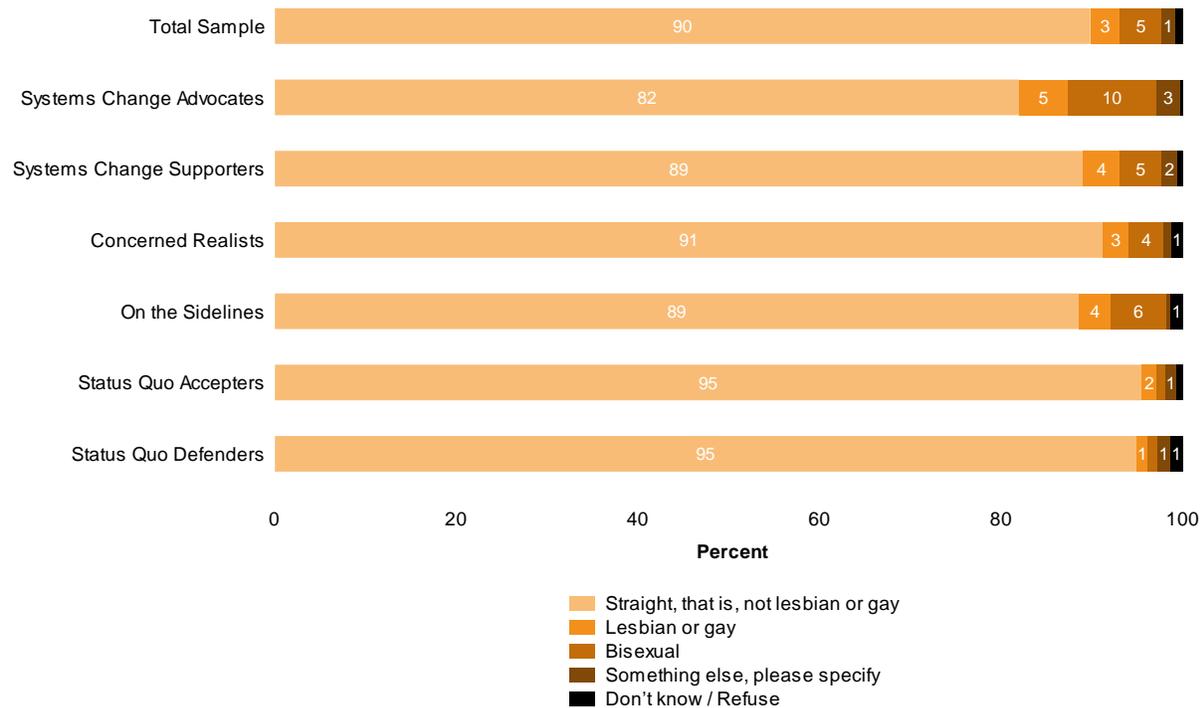
Ninety percent of U.S. adults identify as straight. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to identify as LGBTQ+. Concerned Realists, Status Quo Accepters, and Status Quo Defenders are least likely. Systems Change Supporters and those On the Sidelines are more likely to closely resemble the U.S. population in general.

---

[174] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.88), Systems Change Advocates (0.28), System Change Supporters (0.61), Concerned Realists (1.28), Status Quo Defenders (1.38), Status Quo Accepters (0.75), and On the Sidelines (1.33).

7.4 Political Party Affiliation, Ideology, and Participation

Overview: There are important political differences between the groups, differences that make sense given their other values and beliefs*.* Systems Change Advocates are most likely to identify as Democrats and liberals and most likely among all groups to always vote in local and national elections. Systems Change Supporters and Concerned Realists are more likely to identify as Democrats or Independents and to report never voting. Systems Change Supporters are more likely to identify as political moderates. While Concerned Realists resemble other U.S. adults in terms of reporting that they are liberal or moderate, they are less likely than U.S. adults to say that they are conservative.

Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to identify as Republicans and conservatives and to always vote, including in the 2020 election. Those On the Sidelines are most likely to identify as Independents and more likely to identify as conservative or moderate. They are also the least likely to vote, including in the 2020 election.

7.4.1 Political Party Affiliation

Figure 7.4.1: Political Party Affiliation

Do you consider yourself:[175]
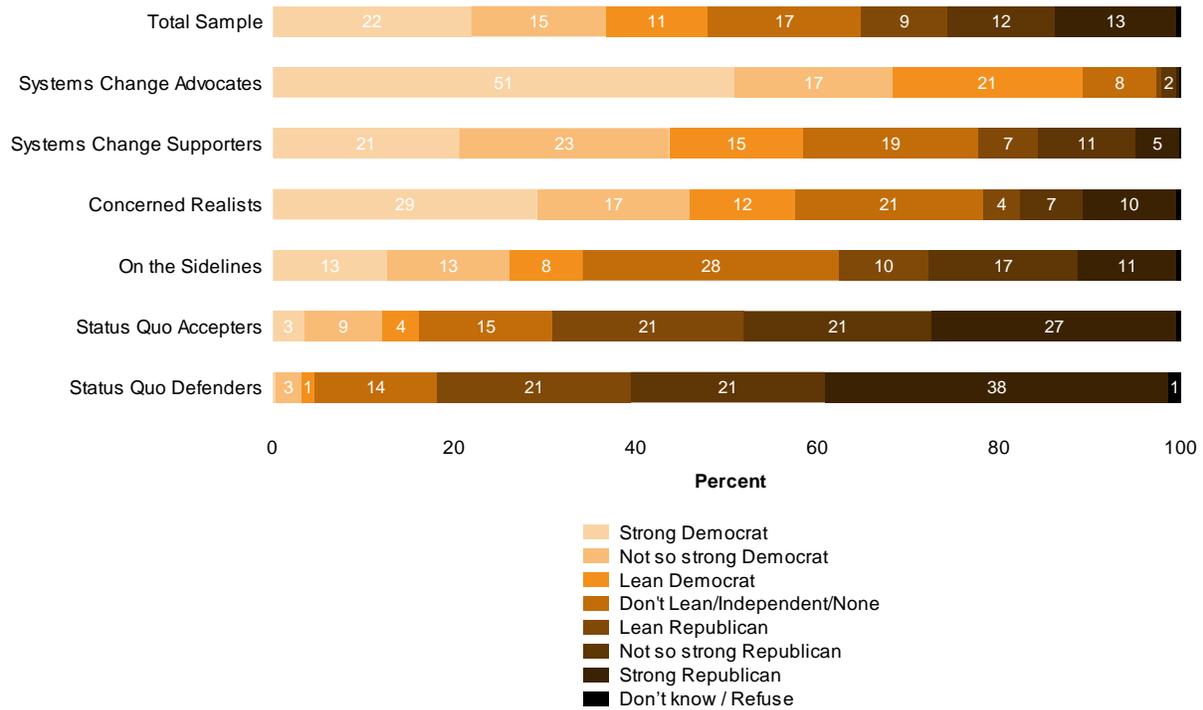
Systems Change Advocates are more likely to be Democrats, and Systems Change Supporters and Concerned Realists are more likely to be Democrat or Independent. Those On the Sidelines are more likely to be Independent. Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to be Republicans.

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[175] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.47), Systems Change Advocates (0.14), System Change Supporters (0.12), Concerned Realists (0.55), Status Quo Defenders (1.33), Status Quo Accepters (0.49), and On the Sidelines (0.54).

7.4.2 Political Views

Figure 7.4.2: Political Views

Do you consider yourself:[176]
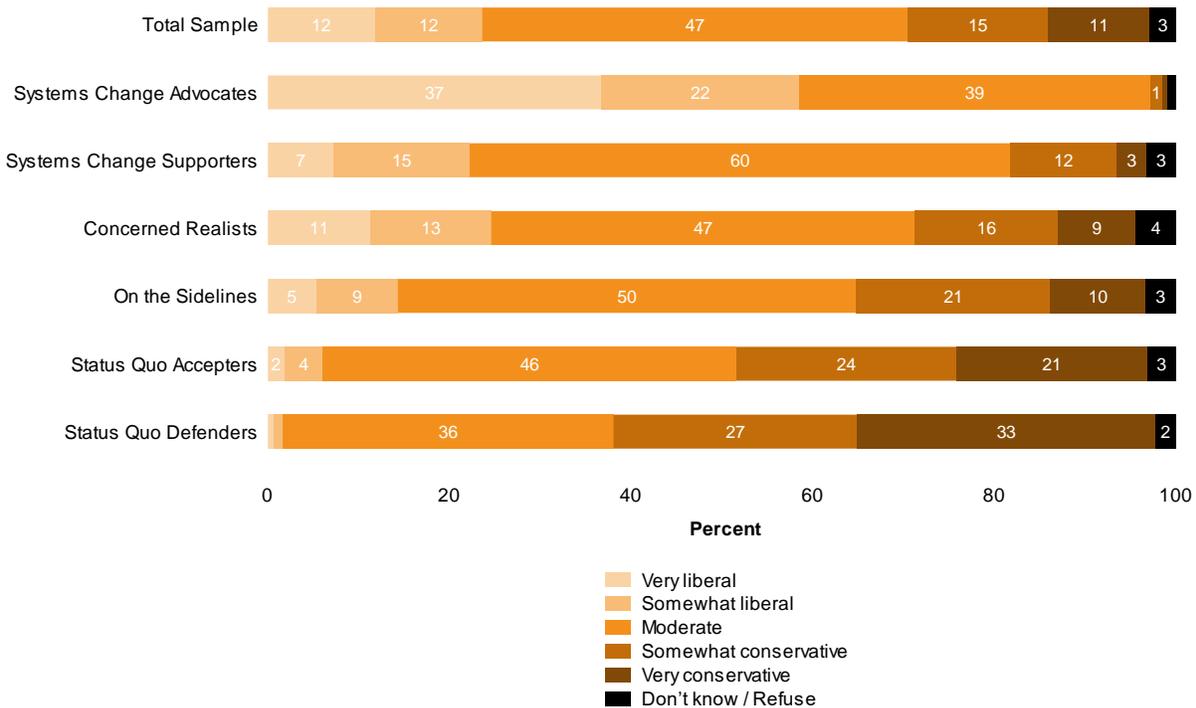
Forty-seven percent of U.S. adults have moderate political views. Systems Change Advocates are more likely to be liberal, Systems Change Supporters and those On the Sidelines are more likely to be moderate, but Status Quo Accepters and Status Quo Defenders are more likely to be conservative. Concerned Realists resemble U.S. adults in general in terms of their likelihood of being liberal or moderate but are less likely to be conservative. Systems Change Supporters also resemble U.S. adults in general in terms of their likelihood of being liberal, and Status Quo Accepters resemble the U.S. population in terms of being moderate.

[176] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (2.88), Systems Change Advocates (0.89), System Change Supporters (3.21), Concerned Realists (4.43), Status Quo Defenders (2.28), Status Quo Accepters (3.13), and On the Sidelines (3.36).

7.4.3 Voter Registration

Figure 7.4.3: Voter Registration

Many people are not registered to vote because they are too busy or move around often. Are you registered to vote in your election district?[177]
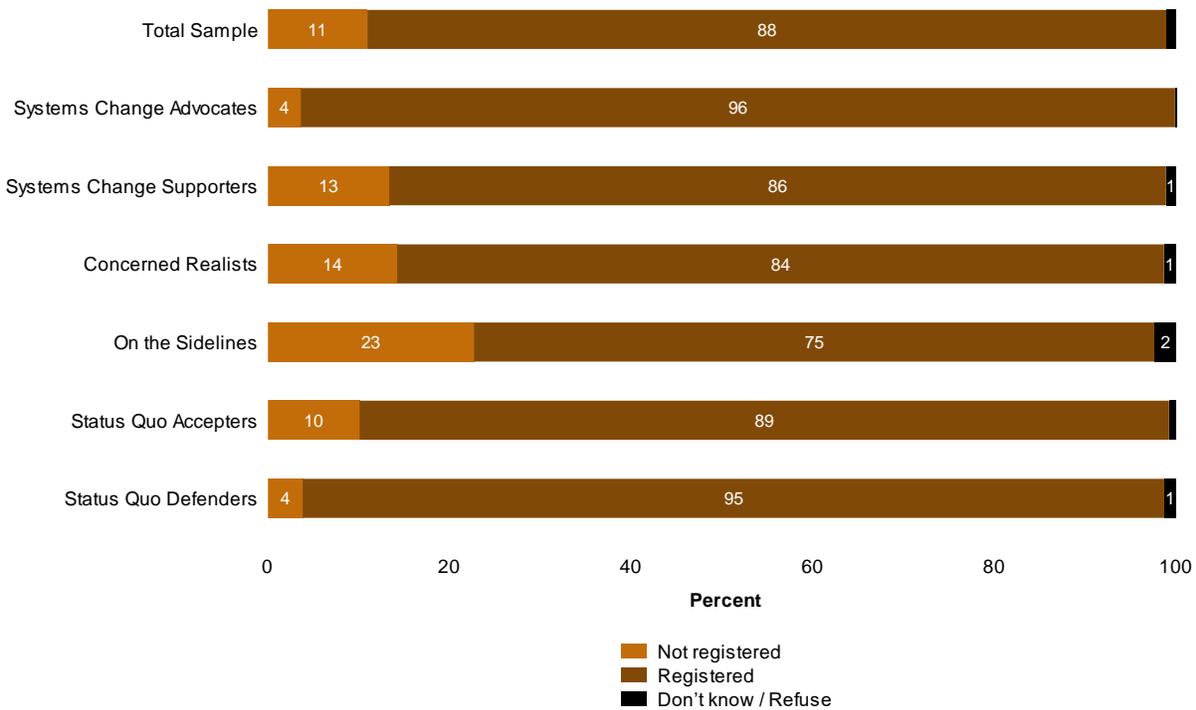
Eighty-eight percent of U.S. adults are registered to vote. Systems Change Advocates and Status Quo Defenders are more likely to be registered, while Systems Change Supporters, Concerned Realists, and those On the Sidelines are less likely. Status Quo Accepters, resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[177] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (1.03), Systems Change Advocates (0.09), System Change Supporters (1.08), Concerned Realists (1.31), Status Quo Defenders (1.22), Status Quo Accepters (0.75), and On the Sidelines (2.31).

7.4.4 Voting Frequency Among Registered Voters

Figure 7.4.4: Voting Frequency Among Registered Voters

Some people do not vote in all elections. How often do you vote in local and national elections?[178]
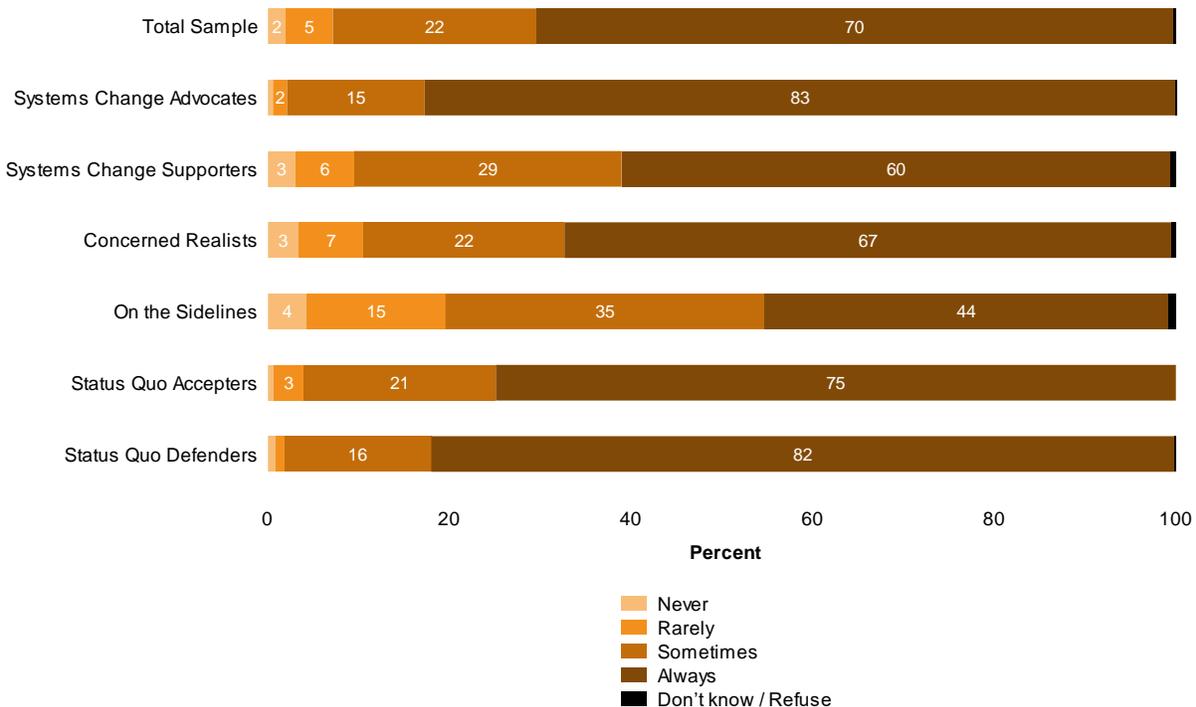
Seventy percent of U.S. adults say they always vote in local and national elections. Systems Change Advocates, Status Quo Defenders, and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to say they always vote, and Concerned Realists, those On the Side lines, and Systems Change Supporters are least likely to say they vote.

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[178] Those who said they were registered to vote were asked this question. Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.32), Systems Change Advocates (0.04), System Change Supporters (0.56), Concerned Realists (0.46), Status Quo Defenders (0.18), Status Quo Accepters (0.86), and On the Sidelines (2.31).

7.4.5 2020 Election Voting Participation

Figure 7.4.5: 2020 Election Voting Participation

Did you vote in the 2020 presidential election?[179]
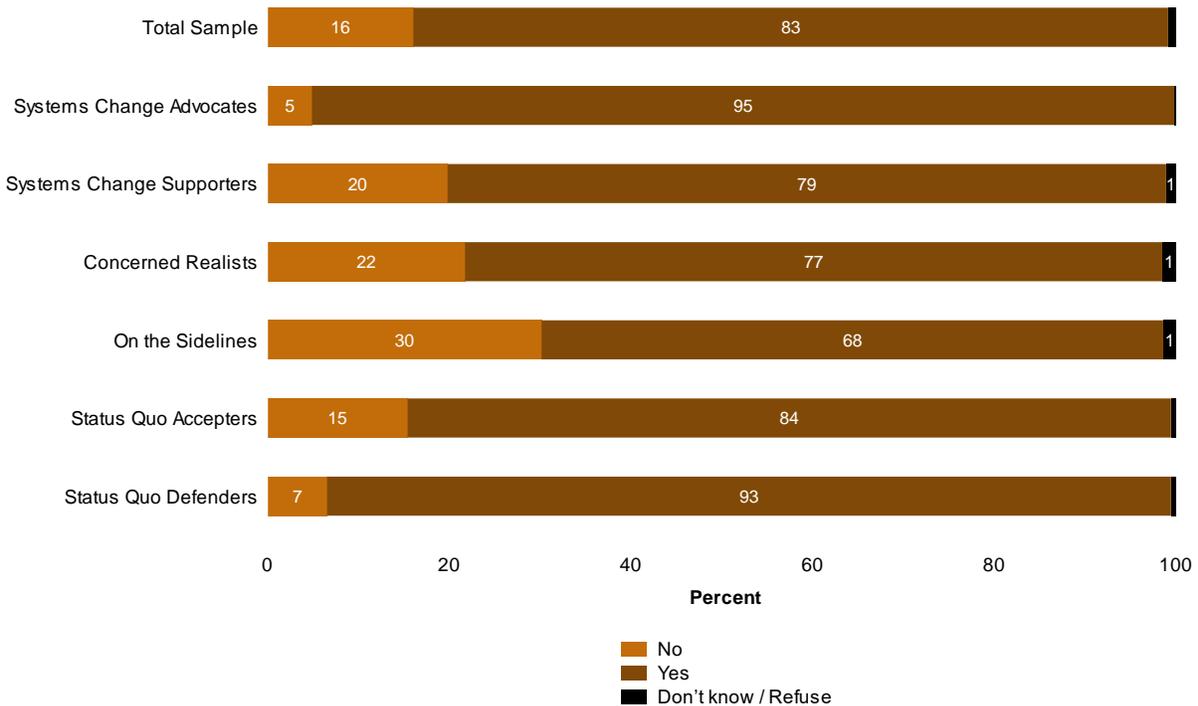
Eighty-three percent of U.S. adults voted in the 2020 presidential election. More Systems Change Advocates and Status Quo Defenders voted in the 2020 election, while fewer of those On the Sidelines, Concerned Realists, and Systems Change Supporters voted at this time. Status Quo Accepters resemble U.S. adults in general.

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[179] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.85), Systems Change Advocates (0.17), System Change Supporters (1.07), Concerned Realists (1.48), Status Quo Defenders (0.53), Status Quo Accepters (0.54), and On the Sidelines (1.33).

7.5 Importance of Religion/Spirituality

Overview: About four in ten adults say religion and/or spirituality is very important to them and an additional 23% say that it is somewhat important. Just less than a third attend religious services at least once per week, however. Systems Change Advocates and Systems Change Supporters are less likely than U.S. adults generally to report that religion is very important to them and less likely to report attending religious services frequently. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are more likely to report that religion is very important to them and to attend religious services at least once a week. Members of the On the Sidelines group are less likely to report that religion is very important to them and resemble U.S. adults generally in terms of frequent attendance at religious services.

7.5.1 Importance of Religion

Figure 7.5.1: Importance of Religion

How would you rate the importance of religion and/or spirituality in your life?[180]
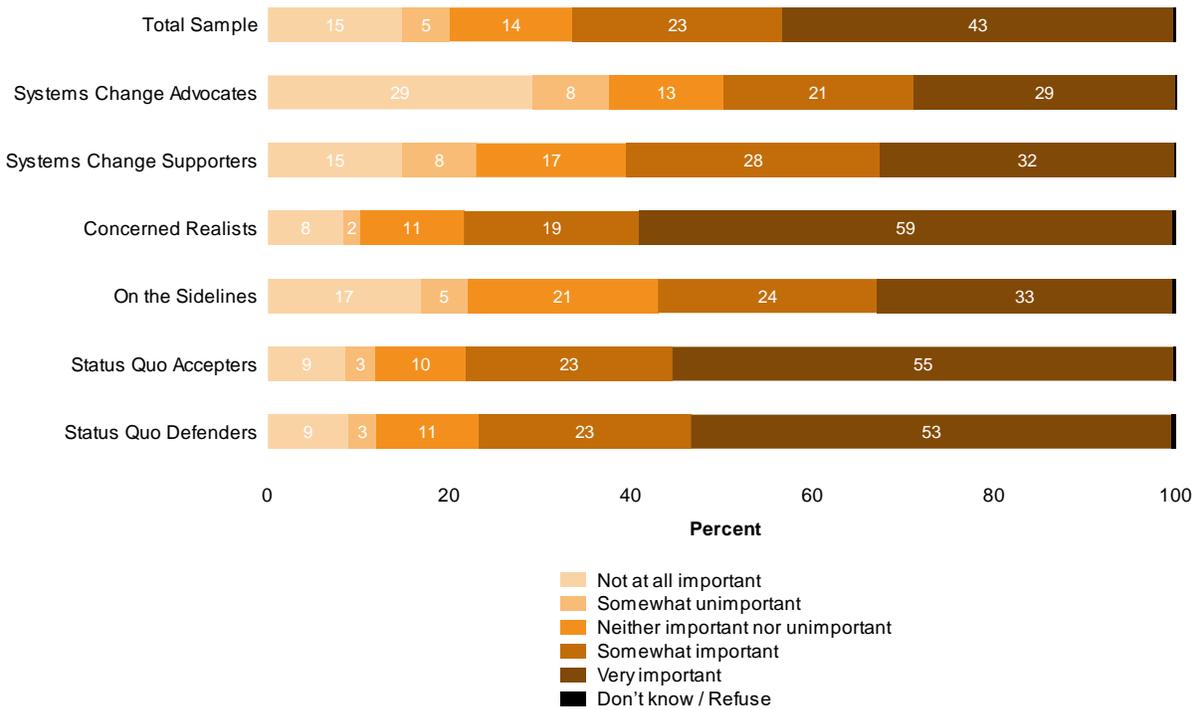
Forty-three percent of U.S. adults say religion and/or spirituality is very important to them. Concerned Realists, Status Quo Defenders, and Status Quo Accepters are more likely to rate religion as very important, while those On the Sidelines, Systems Change Supporters, and Systems Change Advocates are less likely.

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[180] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.27), Systems Change Advocates (0.02), System Change Supporters (0.19), Concerned Realists (0.43), Status Quo Defenders (0.45), Status Quo Accepters (0.24), and On the Sidelines (0.39).

7.5.2 Religious Service Attendance

Figure 7.5.2: Religious Service Attendance

Apart from weddings and funerals, about how often do you attend religious services in person or virtually these days?[181]
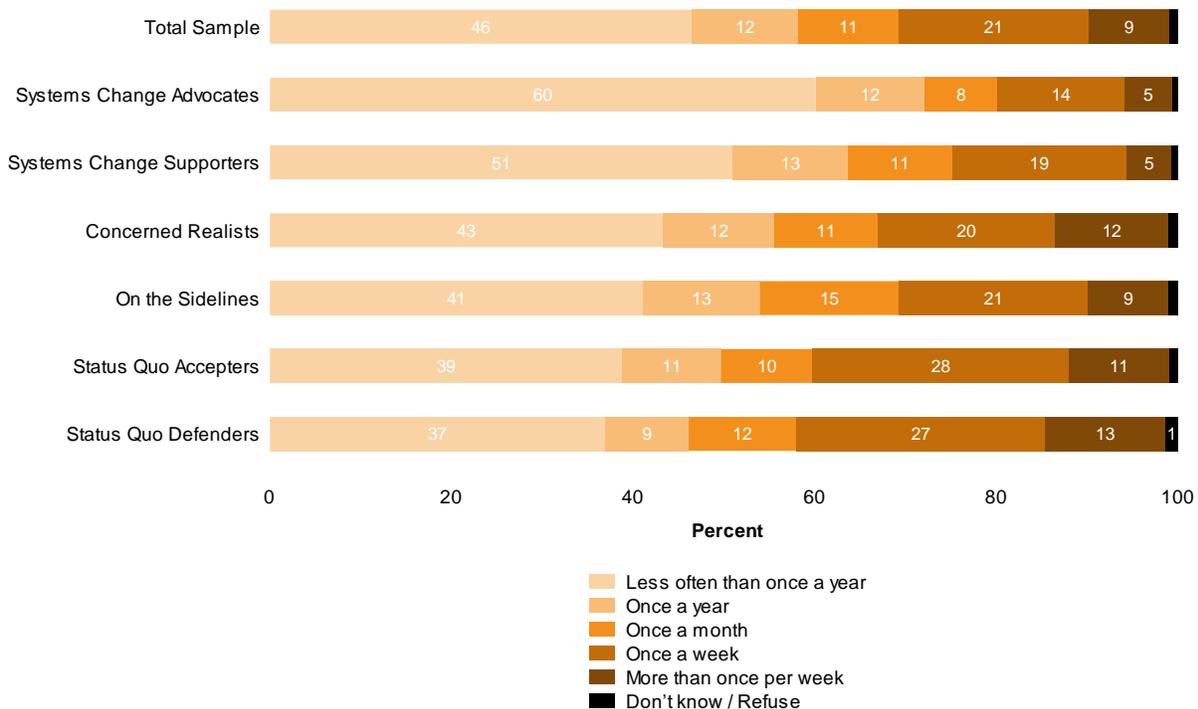
Thirty percent of U.S. adults attend religious services in person or virtually at least once a week. Status Quo Defenders, Status Quo Accepters, and Concerned Realists are slightly more likely to attend religious services at least once per week, while Systems Change Advocates and Systems Change Supporters are slightly less likely. Those On the Sidelines are similar to U.S. adults generally.

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[181] Totals may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding. The percentage of respondents who either don't know, refused, or missed the question is as follows: Total Sample (0.91), Systems Change Advocates (0.60), System Change Supporters (0.71), Concerned Realists (1.03), Status Quo Defenders (1.36), Status Quo Accepters (0.95), and On the Sidelines (1.02).

8. Conclusions

Typologies are primarily tools for understanding differences—in our case, how U.S. adults differ in their values and beliefs related to the promotion of children's and family health. This section of the report discusses the main conclusions we draw about these differences and their patterns among U.S. adults.

There is a sizeable group very aligned, supportive, and engaged.

Systems Change Advocates are aligned on all the issues we examined and very supportive of societal efforts to improve child and family health. As we reported, the group is much more likely to believe that child health and development is an important issue and that the three problems we focused on—lack of income and access to healthy food, child care, and preschool— significantly affect young children. Members of the group are more likely to view the major causes of these problems, and the most effective solutions, as systems-level and not family level and to see a role for society, and especially government, to address the problems.

Members of this group are most likely to see race/ethnic disparities in how the problems are experienced by families and are least likely to believe that hard work alone rewards one with economic success in the United States. They are the group most likely to believe that low-income families deserve help because they contribute to society and that they are "trying hard, playing by the rules but just need help every now and then." There is more within-group agreement on key issues than in any of the other supportive groups. The group is also the one most likely to already be civically engaged on children's and family issues. In these respects, they remind us of the Committed Activists from the American Health Values Survey (AHVS) typology.

The distinct characteristics of the group mean that it can be rather easily targeted for future communications and engagement efforts. The group is disproportionately female, Black, younger, higher in socioeconomic status, politically liberal, most likely to vote, and the least religious of the groups.

There is another sizeable group that is supportive, but ambiguous on some issues and less engaged.

Like Systems Change Advocates, Systems Change Supporters are also supportive. The group is more likely to see systems-level causes—and embrace systems-level solutions—to the problems. It is more likely to favor a role for society in addressing the problems, but its views on the role of government are ambiguous. Its views are mixed on the importance of child health and development as an issue for the country to address and on the relative significance of the impacts of the three problems on young children. This group may be more challenging to mobilize for change efforts. It is less likely to vote, less civically engaged, and—although they are more likely to have children under age five in the home—less likely to report a willingness to take action in

the future to support efforts on behalf of families with young children. Members of the group are also likely to be younger, from Asian or Hispanic backgrounds, and lower in income.

A third supportive group is focused on both family- and systems-level causes and solutions.

Concerned Realists remind us that those who care about child health and development can have quite varied views. This is a supportive group that agrees very broadly on many of the issues, like Systems Change Advocates. It is the group *most* likely to say that it should be a top federal priority to ensure that all children have an equal opportunity to thrive and *most* likely to agree that the three problems have major impacts on children. It is also *most* likely to say that both systems- and family-level causes and solutions are important, making it different from the other two supportive groups. It is also different in its ambivalent views about the deservingness of low-income families, questioning their deservingness based on both attitude and need. They are the group most likely to embrace the "world is not fair" justification for the situation the families find themselves in and are more likely to accept the children's resilience justification. Despite these views, the group is more likely to see a role for society in addressing the problems facing families with young children.

The group's demographics can perhaps help us to better understand its character. It tends to be older, non-White, female, and of lower socioeconomic status. It is most likely of the groups to be foreign-born, to reside in Minority Centers, to have jobs with significant contact with children, and to say that religion is very important. It is politically moderate. Given their overall stance, Concerned Realists will be supportive of most efforts to address issues faced by families and children. They resemble U.S. adults generally in their degree of current civic engagement on children's and family issues but are more likely to report a willingness to act in the future.

There are two groups of skeptics with common views that mainly differ in the degree of within-group agreement on the issues.

Two skeptical groups are very similar: the Status Quo Defenders and Status Quo Accepters. They are both less likely to see child health and development as an important issue for the nation and to see the three specific problems as significantly impacting child development. They are more likely to see family-level causes and embrace family-level solutions for the problems rather than those at a systems-level and are less likely to see a societal role and governmental role. They are also more likely to question whether low-income families with children deserve government help and to be less civically engaged. They only differ in terms of the degree of within-group agreement on the issues, with more diversity of views in the Accepters group than the Defenders group.

The two groups have very similar demographic and other descriptive characteristics. They tend to be White, married, older, religious political conservatives who trust Fox News. The profiles remind us of the Self-Reliant Individualists in the AHVS typology. These groups will be very hard to reach and mobilize for societal efforts to address children's and family issues.

Another skeptical group rejects much of the conventional thinking about the issues.

As we reported, the On the Sidelines group is less likely to see child health and development as an important national issue and less likely to see the three problems having major impacts on the development of young children. It is the group least likely to believe that family-level causes of the problems are major and that family-level solutions are very effective. Surprisingly, it is also less likely to believe that systems-level causes and solutions are important. It is less likely to question that low-income families are deserving of government help and least likely to embrace a "world is not fair" justification for the status quo. On the other hand, it is least likely to believe the low-income families "are trying hard, playing by the rules and need help now and then." On the childhood resilience justification, its views resemble those of the total sample.

This is a set of beliefs that is difficult to explain. One common thread that ties together many of the group's descriptive characteristics is one of social disconnection. It is the group most likely to be unemployed, less likely to say religion is important, least likely to vote, and most likely to identify as Independent rather than with either political party. It consumes news at a low level and is less trusting of most of the news sources except for social media, which it is slightly more likely to trust, and Fox News, which it trusts at about the same level as the total sample.

This is the group least likely to say they will take future action in support of family and children's issues. It is also less likely to be currently civically engaged. While it is the group most likely to have children in the household, its overall skepticism and other characteristics will make it hard to reach and mobilize this group. It tends to be conservative or moderate in its political views, more likely to be of Hispanic ethnicity or an "other race" background, male, younger, of lower socioeconomic status, and least likely to be married.

The study confirms our assumptions about U.S. values and beliefs but at the same time challenges them.

We assumed that some members of the study population would embrace systems-level causes and solutions and that this would be associated with support for societal and governmental action to address the problems. Similarly, we assumed that some would embrace family-level causes and solutions and that this would be associated with skepticism about societal and government efforts. These associations are confirmed by the study data, at least partially. On the other hand, the study challenges our assumption about the likely relationship between deservingness questions and support for action to address the problems of low-income families, as well as the assumption that people can be neatly divided into two worlds: one with an exclusively systemic orientation to the issues and the other with one focused only on family responsibility. The values and beliefs of the Concerned Realists challenge these assumptions. To some extent, the pattern of skeptical beliefs of the On the Sidelines group also challenges our thinking, although to find an association between such unconventional and contradictory beliefs and the social disconnection that seems to characterize the group may, in the end, not be all that surprising.

Appendix A: Additional Information about Sampling and Data Collection, Weighting, and Analytical Methods

This appendix provides more detailed information about study methods. It focuses on sampling, data collection, weighting, and analytical methods.

Sampling/Data Collection

A general population sample of U.S. adults age 18 and older was selected from NORC's AmeriSpeak Panel for this study. In addition, oversamples of parents of children age 0–5 years old, Asian/Pacific Islanders, and American Indian/Alaska Natives were included.

The sample for a specific study is selected from the AmeriSpeak Panel using sampling strata based on age, race/Hispanic ethnicity, education, and gender (48 sampling strata in total). The size of the selected sample per sampling stratum is determined by the population distribution for each stratum. In addition, sample selection takes into account expected differential survey completion rates by demographic groups so that the set of panel members with a completed interview for a study is a representative sample of the target population. If a panel household has one more than one active adult panel member, only one adult in the household is eligible for selection (random within-household sampling). Panelists selected for an AmeriSpeak study earlier in the business week are not eligible for sample selection until the following business week.

Weighting

Statistical weights for the study-eligible respondents were calculated using panel base sampling weights to start.

Panel base sampling weights for all sampled housing units are computed as the inverse of probability of selection from the NORC National Frame (the sampling frame that is used to sample housing units for AmeriSpeak) or address-based sample. The sample design and recruitment protocol for the AmeriSpeak Panel involves subsampling of initial nonrespondent housing units. These subsampled nonrespondent housing units are selected for an in-person follow-up. The subsample of housing units that are selected for the nonresponse follow-up have their panel base sampling weights inflated by the inverse of the subsampling rate. The base sampling weights are further adjusted to account for unknown eligibility and nonresponse among eligible housing units. The household-level nonresponse adjusted weights are then post-stratified to external counts for number of households obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS). Then, these household-level post-stratified weights are assigned to each eligible adult in every recruited household. Furthermore, a person-level nonresponse adjustment accounts for nonresponding adults within a recruited household.

Finally, panel weights are raked to external population totals associated with age, sex, education, race/Hispanic ethnicity, housing tenure, telephone status, and Census Division. The external population totals are obtained from the CPS. The weights adjusted to the external population totals are the final panel weights.

Panel Weighting Variables & the Variable Categories
- Age: 18–24, 25–29, 20–39, 40–49, 50–59, 60–64, and 65+

- Gender: Male and Female

- Census Division: New England, Middle Atlantic, East North Central, West North Central, South Atlantic, East South Central, West South Central, Mountain, and Pacific

- Race/Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic White, Non-Hispanic Black, Hispanic, and Non-Hispanic Other

- Education: Less than High School, High School/GED, Some College, and BA and Above

- Housing Tenure: Home Owner and Other

- Household phone status: Cell Phone-only, Dual User, and Landline-only/Phoneless

Study-specific base sampling weights are derived using a combination of the final panel weight and the probability of selection associated with the sampled panel member. Since not all sampled panel members respond to the survey interview, an adjustment is needed to account for and adjust for survey nonrespondents. This adjustment decreases potential nonresponse bias associated with sampled panel members who did not complete the survey interview for the study. Thus, the nonresponse adjusted survey weights for the study are adjusted via a raking ratio method to general population totals associated with the following topline socio-demographic characteristics: age, sex, education, race/Hispanic ethnicity, and Census Division, and the following socio-demographic interactions: age x gender, age x race/ethnicity, and race/ethnicity x gender.

Study-Specific Post-Stratification Weighting Variables & the Variable Categories
- Age: 18–24, 25–29, 20–39, 40–49, 50–59, 60–64, and 65+

- Gender: Male and Female

- Census Division: New England, Middle Atlantic, East North Central, West North Central, South Atlantic, East South Central, West South Central, Mountain, and Pacific

- Race/Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic White, Non-Hispanic Black, Hispanic, and Non-Hispanic Other

- Education: Less than High School, High School/GED, Some College, and BA and Above

- Age x Gender: 18–34 Male, 18–34 Female, 35–49 Male, 35–49 Female, 50–64 Male, 50–64 Female, 65+ Male, and 65+ Female

- Age x Race/Ethnicity: 18–34 Non-Hispanic White, 18–34 All Other, 35–49 Non-Hispanic White, 35–49 All Other, 50–64 All Other, 50–64 All Other, 65+ Non-Hispanic White, and 65+ All Other

- Race/Ethnicity x Gender: Non-Hispanic White Male, Non-Hispanic White Female, All Other Male, and All Other Female

The weights adjusted to the external population totals are the final study weights.

At the final stage of weighting, any extreme weights were trimmed based on a criterion of minimizing the mean squared error associated with key survey estimates and then weights re-raked to the same population totals.

Raking and re-raking is done during the weighting process such that the weighted demographic distribution of the survey completes resemble the demographic distribution in the target population. The assumption is that the key survey items are related to the demographics. Therefore, by aligning the survey respondent demographics with the target population, the key survey items should also be in closer alignment with the target population.

Analytical Methods

Once the fielding period was completed, the data were aggregated for analysis. Frequencies of all variables were analyzed to understand the characteristics of the sample. Based on the measure development work described above, the variables to define typology construction were selected. Dichotomized variables were created based on the distribution of each variable, and these transformed variables were examined for extreme correlation.

K-means clustering was used to develop the segments within the typology. The goal in this work was to identify a set of segments such that within-segment homogeneity and between-segment heterogeneity were optimized. Solutions from two k-means options[182] with between two and fifteen segments each were examined for diagnostics.

The values and beliefs measures were used to generate the solutions. Several metrics were used to investigate the solutions; specifically, the cubic clustering criterion was examined to understand the model fit, the area under the curve was examined to understand the separation between clusters, and the Pseudo F statistic was examined to understand the tightness of the clusters. Based on these metrics, a six-segment solution was selected for further investigation. To ascertain validity of this solution, we examined differences in the demographic and other purely descriptive variables across the segments. From this evaluation, a six-segment solution[183] was selected because of its simplicity and ease of interpretation.

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[182] All observations may be a cluster seed vs. observations that include missing values cannot be a cluster seed.

[183] Observations that include missing values cannot be a cluster seed.

Appendix B: Survey Questionnaire

Instrument Programming Notes

- Text in all caps or in brackets are not shown to respondents and are for programming only.
- Questions in this version are posed using language for an online survey interview in a Word format. A telephone version was also be offered to respondents.
- Randomization of items are noted.
- This survey was fielded with NORC's AmeriSpeak panel. As a part of their panel membership, panelists provide general demographic information such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, education, marital status, household income, state of residence, and zip code.

Introduction

Thank you for agreeing to participate in our new AmeriSpeak survey! The survey will ask you what you think about the needs of families in America.

This survey is interested in gathering opinions from both those living with and without children.

To thank you for sharing your opinions, we will give you a reward of AmeriPoints after completing the survey. As always, your answers are confidential.

Please use the "Continue" buttons to navigate between the questions within the questionnaire. Do not use your browser buttons.

CHILD1

1. How many children age 17 or under live in your household?

[Drop down 1-10]
☐ There are no children age 17 or under living in my household?

CHILD2

2. Please provide the ages of the children age 17 or under living in your household.

[Insert number of drop downs that the person chose in the previous question]

<1 year – 17 years

The first question asks about the competing needs facing Congress and the President.

> 3. In your opinion, what priority should Congress and the President give to each of the following needs in the U.S.?
>
> [RANDOMIZE GRID]

CONGRESS_PRIORITYA-I	Top priority	High priority	Low priority	Not a priority
Ensuring everyone has access to affordable health care	1	2	3	4
Ensuring all young children have an opportunity to thrive - be healthy and well developed	1	2	3	4
Controlling illegal immigration	1	2	3	4
Reducing racial prejudice and discrimination	1	2	3	4
Fixing roads, bridges, and the physical infrastructure	1	2	3	4
Improving public education	1	2	3	4
Reducing crime	1	2	3	4
Creating more good paying jobs	1	2	3	4
Making housing more affordable	1	2	3	4

The next question is about reaching economic success in the U.S.

EQUALOPP

> 4. Which statement do you agree with most?

1. In the U.S. today, if you work hard you have a good chance of becoming economically successful.
2. In the U.S. today, you need to have the right background or some other advantage to have a good chance of becoming economically successful.

Our next two questions have to do with children living in America and their needs as they start out in life.

OPP_THIRVE

5. Some people say that it is important that young children (age 0-8) have the opportunity to thrive as they start out in life. By thrive, we mean to be healthy and well developed, not just survive. Would you say that every child has about the same opportunity to thrive in the U.S. or that some children have less opportunity than others?

1. Every child has about the same opportunity to thrive

2. Some children have less opportunity to thrive than others

6. The following are some things that may cause young children not to thrive. For each, please indicate if you believe it is a major cause, minor cause, or not a cause of young children not thriving in the U.S.

   [RANDOMIZE GRID]

CAUSES_NOTHRIVEA-I	Major cause	Minor cause	Not a cause
Families without enough income	1	2	3
Parents not taking good enough care of their children	1	2	3
Lack of access to quality, affordable child care and pre-school	1	2	3
Lack of access to enough healthy food to eat	1	2	3
Violent neighborhoods	1	2	3
Homelessness and housing instability	1	2	3
Racial prejudice and discrimination	1	2	3
Parents not having enough time with their children	1	2	3
Lack of access to healthcare and well-child check-ups	1	2	3

The remainder of our survey is about three different problems affecting children in the U.S. We'd like your views about each of the three problems, their causes and how to solve them. The first problem is <u>families without enough income for their young children to thrive in their early years</u>.

> 7. Experts say that nearly 15 million[184] young children live in families <u>without enough income</u> to ensure the children can thrive in their early years. Most of these families have a family member who is working. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem.
>
> For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause of the problem.
>
> [RANDOMIZE GRID]

SES_CAUSEA-I	Major cause	Minor cause	Not a cause
Not enough jobs that pay a livable wage	1	2	3
Not enough access to education and training so parents can get good jobs	1	2	3
Parents with substance use problems	1	2	3
Not enough affordable child care so parents can work	1	2	3
Too many single parent households	1	2	3
Too little government financial support for families with children	1	2	3
Too much income spent on rent/mortgage because of a lack of affordable housing	1	2	3
Racial prejudice and discrimination	1	2	3
Parents who are not willing to work hard enough	1	2	3

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[184] https://www.all4kids.org/news/blog/poverty-and-its-effects-on-children/. This link was not shown to respondents.

Next are some statements about different types of families with young children.

8. Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to <u>have enough income</u> for their children to thrive, or is there not much difference?

SES_COMPARE1A-C	More likely to have enough income	Less likely to have enough income	Not much difference
Latino families	1	2	3
Black families	1	2	3
Asian American and Pacific Islander families	1	2	3

9. The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by families <u>not having enough income</u>. Please indicate if families not having enough income has a major impact, a minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

[RANDOMIZE GRID]

SES_PROBLEMA-E	Major impact	Minor impact	No impact
Child's overall health	1	2	3
Child's brain development and early learning	1	2	3
Child's performance in school	1	2	3
Child's earning potential later in life	1	2	3
Child's happiness and well being	1	2	3

Next are some statements about assisting families without enough income for their young children to thrive.

SES_RSP1

10. Who should be <u>mainly</u> responsible for addressing the problem of so many families <u>without enough income</u> for their young children to thrive?

3. The parents/families themselves
4. Society as a whole (society includes individuals and groups from every sector, government as well as non-government)
5. Both equally
6. Neither

SES_RSP2

10a. [If society or both to SES_RSP1] What part of society should have the <u>most</u> responsibility?

7. Government
8. Concerned individuals and non-governmental groups acting on their own such as businesses and community organizations
9. Both about equally
10. Neither

SES_RSP3

10b. [If government or both to SES_RSP2] What part of government should have the <u>most</u> responsibility?

11. Federal government
12. State governments
13. Local governments (cities and counties)
14. All equally

11. The following are some possible solutions to the problem of so many families without enough income for their young children to thrive. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution? By effective, we mean how much difference it would make in reducing the number of families without enough income.

    [RANDOMIZE GRID]

SES_SOLUTIONA-I

	Very effective solution	Somewhat effective solution	Not an effective solution
More jobs that pay a livable wage	1	2	3
Better education and job training programs for parents who lose their jobs or want to change careers	1	2	3
Government financial assistance to families with young children in need	1	2	3
More two parent households	1	2	3
Parents working harder to get ahead	1	2	3
Reduced racial prejudice and discrimination to increase opportunities for all families	1	2	3
More access to child care and pre-school	1	2	3
More affordable housing	1	2	3
More substance use treatment programs for parents who need them	1	2	3

SES_GOVHELP

12. Which statement do you agree with most?

15. Government should do more to help families without enough income for their young children to thrive, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more.

16. Government cannot afford to do much more to help families without enough income for their young children to thrive.

13. We just asked about what the government can do to help families without enough income for their young children to thrive. Now, we want to ask about what you might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

[RANDOMIZE GRID]

SES_INDVHELPA-D	Very willing	Somewhat willing	Neither willing nor unwilling	Somewhat unwilling	Very unwilling
Pay a little bit more taxes	1	2	3	4	5
Donate money to a charity, service organization, or community group working to address the problem	1	2	3	4	5
Volunteer your time to groups working to address the problem when/if COVID-19 is no longer a pandemic	1	2	3	4	5
Vote for a political candidate who sees this as a high priority	1	2	3	4	5

Next are some more statements about the families <u>without enough income</u> for their young children to thrive.

14. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements about families <u>without enough income</u> for their young children to thrive.

Families without enough income for their young children to thrive…

[RANDOMIZE GRID]

SES_PERCEPT1A-F	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
Should receive help from the government since they make a contribution to our society in the U.S.	1	2	3	4	5
Should feel grateful for the help they get from the government	1	2	3	4	5
Should <u>not</u> receive special help if their problems stem from their own poor choices	1	2	3	4	5
Are trying hard and playing by the rules, and need help every now and then	1	2	3	4	5
Should only receive government help if the parents are American citizens	1	2	3	4	5
Should only receive government help if they are in very great need	1	2	3	4	5

15. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the statements about families without enough income.

[RANDOMIZE GRID]

SES_PERCEPT2A-B	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
It is unfortunate when families with young children have to make do with less than they need, but the world is not always fair.	1	2	3	4	5
It is healthy for these children to have stressful life experiences. When they go through tough times, it helps them become stronger adults.	1	2	3	4	5

[The blocks of questions about access to enough healthy food to eat and access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school will be shown to respondents in a random order.]

Next are some questions about another problem that some families with young children may have—lack of access to enough healthy food to eat.

16. Experts say that nearly 14 million[185] young children live in households where there is not enough healthy food to eat. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem.

For each of the following, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

[RANDOMIZE GRID]

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[185] https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/07/09/about-14-million-children-in-the-us-are-not-getting-enough-to-eat/. This link was not shown to respondents.

FOOD_CAUSE1A-G	Major cause	Minor cause	Not a cause
Parents' lack knowledge about what is healthy and unhealthy for children	1	2	3
Parents do not prioritize healthy eating for their children	1	2	3
Lack of access in some communities to grocery stores, farmers' markets, and local sources for affordable, healthy food	1	2	3
Lack of jobs that pay livable wages making parents struggle to afford healthy foods	1	2	3
Too much advertising of unhealthy foods to children	1	2	3
Not enough families with low-incomes getting help from government food programs, such as SNAP or WIC [Pop-up for more information: SNAP is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps that provides help with the purchase of foods. WIC is the Women, Infants and Children program that provides nutrition assistance and help with the purchase of food to pregnant and breastfeeding women, and to parents of children from ages 0-5.]	1	2	3
Unhealthy foods tend to be cheaper than healthy foods	1	2	3

Next are some statements about different types of families with young children.

17. Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to have access to enough healthy food to eat, or is there not much difference?

FOOD_COMPARE1A-C	More likely to have access to enough healthy food to eat	Less likely to have access to enough healthy food to eat	Not much difference
Latino families	1	2	3
Black families	1	2	3
Asian American and Pacific Islander families	1	2	3

18. The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by a lack of access to enough healthy food to eat. Please indicate if a lack of healthy food to eat has a major impact, a minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

[RANDOMIZE GRID]

FOOD_PROBLEMA-E	Major impact	Minor impact	No impact
Child's overall health	1	2	3
Child's brain development and early learning	1	2	3
Child's performance in school	1	2	3
Child's earning potential later in life	1	2	3
Child's happiness and well being	1	2	3

Next are some statements about assisting families <u>without enough healthy food to eat</u>.

FOOD_RSP1

19. Who should be <u>mainly</u> responsible for addressing the problem of so many families with young children <u>who do not have enough healthy food to eat</u>?

1. The parents/families themselves
2. Society as a whole (society includes individuals and groups from every sector, government as well as non-government)
3. Both equally
4. Neither

FOOD_RSP2

19a. [If society or both to FOOD_RSP1] What part of society should have the <u>most</u> responsibility?

1. Government
2. Concerned individuals and non-governmental groups acting on their own such as businesses and community organizations
3. Both about equally
4. Neither

FOOD_RSP3

19b. [If government or both to FOOD_RSP2] What part of government should have the <u>most</u> responsibility?

1. Federal government
2. State governments
3. Local governments (cities and counties)
4. All equally

20. The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families <u>without enough healthy food to eat</u>. For each, indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution or not an effective solution?

By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families without enough healthy food to eat.

[RANDOMIZE GRID]

FOOD_SOLUTIONA-F	Very effective solution	Somewhat effective solution	Not an effective solution
Increase access in low-income neighborhoods to healthy, affordable food in grocery stores and farmers' markets	1	2	3
Educate parents and children on what is healthy and unhealthy	1	2	3
More access to government food programs, such as SNAP or WIC **[Pop-up for more information:** **SNAP is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps that provides help with the purchase of foods. WIC is the Women, Infants and Children program that provides nutrition assistance and help with the purchase of food to pregnant and breastfeeding women, and to parents of children from ages 0-5.]**	1	2	3
More jobs that pay livable wages so that families can buy food	1	2	3
More parents prioritizing healthy food for their children at meals and snacks	1	2	3
Limits on advertising of unhealthy products to children	1	2	3

FOOD_GOVHELP

21. Which statement do you agree with most?

1. Government should do more to help families without enough healthy foods to eat, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more.
2. Government cannot afford to do much more to help families without enough healthy foods to eat.

22. We just asked about what the government can do to help families with young children <u>without enough healthy food to eat</u>. Now, we want to ask about what <u>you</u> might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

   [RANDOMIZE GRID]

FOOD_INDVHELPA-D	Very willing	Somewhat willing	Neither willing nor unwilling	Somewhat unwilling	Very unwilling
Pay a little bit more taxes	1	2	3	4	5

Donate money to a charity, service organization, or community group working to address the problem	1	2	3	4	5
Volunteer your time to groups working to address the problem when/if COVID-19 is no longer a pandemic	1	2	3	4	5
Vote for a political candidate who sees this as a high priority	1	2	3	4	5

Next are some questions about another problem that some families with young children may have—lack of access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school.

23. Experts say that millions of U.S. families do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school [Pop-up for more information: Early childhood care and education takes place in providers' homes, child care centers, and schools. Care may also be provided by family members like grandparents, by neighbors, friends, or professional educators. This is what we mean by early childhood care and pre-school.] for their young children. The following is a list of possible causes of this problem.

For each, please indicate if it is a major cause, a minor cause, or not a cause.

[RANDOMIZE GRID]

CARE_CAUSEA-F	Major cause	Minor cause	Not a cause
Lack of jobs that pay a livable wage which makes it difficult to pay for child care and pre-school	1	2	3
Not enough child care and pre-school options in many communities	1	2	3
Lack of government financial assistance to families to pay for child care and pre-school	1	2	3
Parents who do not know how to find programs that do exist	1	2	3
Parents who do not know that financial assistance is available	1	2	3
Parents who cannot find family members, neighbors, or friends to help with child care	1	2	3

Next are some statements about different types of families with young children.

24. Compared to White families, do you believe that the following types of families with young children are more or less likely to have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school, or is there not much difference?

CARE_COMPARE1A-C	More likely to have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school	Less likely to have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school	Not much difference
Latino families	1	2	3
Black families	1	2	3
Asian American and Pacific Islander families	1	2	3

25. The following is a list of areas in a child's life that could be impacted by <u>lack of access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school</u>. Please indicate if not having access to quality child care or pre-school has a major impact, a minor impact, or no impact on each of the following areas.

[RANDOMIZE GRID]

CARE_PROBLEMA-E	Major impact	Minor impact	No impact
Child's overall health	1	2	3
Child's brain development and early learning	1	2	3
Child's performance in school	1	2	3
Child's earning potential later in life	1	2	3
Child's happiness and well being	1	2	3

Next are some statements about assisting families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school.

CARE_RSP1

26. Who should be <u>mainly</u> responsible for addressing the problem of so many families with young children who <u>do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school</u>?

17. The parents/families themselves
18. Society as a whole (society includes individuals and groups from every sector, government as well as non-government)
19. Both equally
20. Neither

CARE_RSP2

26a. [If society or both to CARE_RSP1] What part of society should have the most responsibility?

21. Government
22. Concerned individuals and non-governmental groups acting on their own such as businesses and community organizations
23. Both about equally
24. Neither

CARE_RSP3

26b. [If government or both to CARE_RSP2] What part of government should have the most responsibility?

25. Federal government
26. State governments
27. Local governments (cities and counties)
28. All equally

27. The following are some possible solutions to the problem of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school. For each, please indicate how effective you think the solution would be. Would it be a very effective solution, somewhat effective solution, or not an effective solution?

By effective, we mean how much difference it would make to reduce the number of families who do not have access to affordable, quality child care or pre-school.

[RANDOMIZE GRID]

CARE_SOLUTIONA-G	Very effective solution	Somewhat effective solution	Not an effective solution
More government financial assistance to help families with young children pay for quality child care and pre-school	1	2	3
More jobs that pay a livable wage	1	2	3
More government-funded child care and pre-school programs	1	2	3
Programs supporting family members, friends, and neighbors to help out with child care	1	2	3
More help for parents looking for information about program options and financial assistance that is available	1	2	3

	1	2	3
Higher wages for child care and pre-school workers to improve program quality	1	2	3
More two parent households	1	2	3

CARE_GOVHELP

28. Which statement do you agree with most?

29. Government should do more to help families with young children access affordable, quality child care and pre-school, even if it costs U.S. taxpayers more.

30. Government cannot afford to do much more to help families to access affordable, quality child care and pre-school.

29. We just asked about what the government can do to help families with young children who <u>do not have access to affordable, quality child care and pre-school</u>. Now we want to ask about what <u>you</u> might be willing to do personally to help them. For each statement, please indicate how willing or unwilling you would be.

[RANDOMIZE GRID]

CARE_INDVHELPA-E	Very willing	Somewhat willing	Neither willing nor unwilling	Somewhat unwilling	Very unwilling
Pay a little bit more taxes	1	2	3	4	5
Donate money to a charity, service organization, or community group working to address the problem	1	2	3	4	5
Volunteer your time to groups working to address the problem when/if COVID-19 is no longer a pandemic	1	2	3	4	5
Volunteer your time to help a family you know with child care when/if COVID-19 is no longer a pandemic	1	2	3	4	5
Vote for a political candidate who sees this as a high priority	1	2	3	4	5

Now we would like to ask about actions you have taken to support families with young children in general.

> 30. Have you done any of the following in the <u>past 12 months</u> to support causes related to families with young children?
>
> [RANDOMIZE GRID]

12MO_ACTIONA-J	Yes	No
Contributed time and/or money to a candidate or political organization in support of a policy or some other action	1	2
Contacted a newspaper, television station, or talk show	1	2
Contacted a public official	1	2
Voted for or against a candidate for public office based on his or her position	1	2
Participated in a forum or town hall meeting either in-person or virtually	1	2
Engaged in discussion on social media	1	2
Signed a petition	1	2
Attended a protest	1	2
Donated money to volunteer or charitable groups	1	2
Volunteered at charitable groups	1	2

The next questions ask about where you get information about the news or current events.

31. How often do you use each of the following sources to obtain news about current events and issues?

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Never
PRINT MEDIA				
SOURCE1 **Local print newspapers or news magazines either hard copy or online**	1	2	3	4
SOURCE2 **National print newspapers or news magazines either hard copy or online**	1	2	3	4
SOURCE3 **Neighborhood newsletter or listserv either hard copy or online**	1	2	3	4
RADIO				
SOURCE4 **Local news on AM/FM radio**	1	2	3	4
SOURCE5 **National news on AM/FM radio**	1	2	3	4
SOURCE6 **National news on online/satellite radio or via podcasts**	1	2	3	4
TELEVISION				
SOURCE7 **Local television news**	1	2	3	4
SOURCE8 **National television news via broadcast (CBS, ABC, or NBC), cable (CNN, MSNBC, Fox News)**	1	2	3	4
SOURCE8b **National news via streaming (broadcast, cable, and other sites such as Newsy, NewsON, and Watchup)**	1	2	3	4
DIGITAL ONLY MEDIA				
SOURCE9 **News alerts via push notifications that appear on a smart phone/handheld device main screen**	1	2	3	4
SOURCE10 **News online by a news source that ONLY publishes online**	1	2	3	4
SOURCE11 **News on social networks (such as Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn)**	1	2	3	4
SOURCE12 **News on media sharing networks (such as Snapchat, Instagram, and YouTube)**	1	2	3	4

SOURCE13 **News on online discussion forums (such as Quora or Reddit)**	1	2	3	4

32. How much, if at all, would you trust information from the following sources about current events and issues related to families in the U.S.?

	Completely	Somewhat	Not very much	Not at all
TRUST1 **Your local newspaper**	1	2	3	4
TRUST2 **Local TV news**	1	2	3	4
TRUST3 **People you follow on social media (e.g., bloggers, vloggers, Instagram celebrities, and YouTubers)**	1	2	3	4
TRUST4 **MSNBC**	1	2	3	4
TRUST5 **CNN**	1	2	3	4
TRUST6 **Fox News Channel**	1	2	3	4
TRUST7 **PBS/NPR**	1	2	3	4
TRUST8 **USA Today**	1	2	3	4
TRUST9 **The Wall Street Journal**	1	2	3	4
TRUST10 **New York Times**	1	2	3	4
TRUST11 **Network TV news (ABC, CBS, or NBC)**	1	2	3	4
TRUST12 **Network radio news (ABC, CBS, or NBC)**	1	2	3	4

Demographics

Now we are going to ask a little more about you. These questions are used for research purposes only.

EMPLOY2

33.   Which statement best describes your current employment status?

1. Working – as a paid employee
2. Working – self-employed
3. Not working – on temporary layoff from a job
4. Not working – looking for work
5. Not working – retired
6. Not working – disabled
7. Not working – other [TEXTBOX]

34.   [IF WORKING] Does your current job involve any of the following?

CCJOBA-C	Yes	No
Providing day-to-day care, teaching, guidance or support directly to children (aged 0-17)?	1	2
Providing medical care to children (aged 0-17)?	1	2
Something else related to meeting the needs of children (aged 0-17)? Please specify: [TEXTBOX]	1	2

SO

35.   Which of the following best represents how you think of yourself?

1. Lesbian or gay
2. Straight, that is, not lesbian or gay
3. Bisexual
4. Something else, please specify: [TEXTBOX]

ORIGIN

36.   In what country were you born?

1. United States
2. Another country, please specify: [TEXTBOX]

ORIGIN_1A

37.   [If another country] If not the United States, in what year did you come to live the United States?

[Drop down 1920-2021]

Because people with different political views may think differently about our survey topics, we next ask about your political party affiliation, political views, and voting.

PID1

> 38.   Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or none of these?

1. Democrat
2. Republican
3. Independent
4. None of these

PIDA

> 39.   [If Democrat] Do you consider yourself a strong or not so strong Democrat?

31. Strong Democrat
32. Not so strong Democrat

PIDB

> 40.   [If Republican] Do you consider yourself a strong or not so strong Republican?

33. Strong Republican
34. Not so strong Republican

PIDI

> 41.   [If Independent or none of these] Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?

35. Lean Democrat
36. Lean Republican
37. Don't lean

D3

> 42.   Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

1. Liberal
2. Moderate
3. Conservative

D4

> 43.   [If liberal] Do you consider yourself:

1. Very liberal
2. Somewhat liberal

D5

> 44.   [If conservative] Do you consider yourself:

1. Very conservative
2. Somewhat conservative

VOTE_REG

45. Many people are not registered to vote because they are too busy or move around often. Are you registered to vote in your election district?

1. Registered
2. Not registered

VOTE

46. [If registered] Some people don't vote in all elections. How often you vote in local and national elections?

1. Never
2. Rarely
3. Sometimes
4. Always

VOTE2020

47. Did you vote in the 2020 presidential election?

1. Yes
2. No

Our last two questions are about religion and spirituality.

IMP_REL

48.   How would you rate the importance of religion and/or spirituality in your life?

1.   Very important
2.   Somewhat important
3.   Neither important nor unimportant
4.   Somewhat unimportant
5.   Not at all important

REL_SERV

49.   Apart from weddings and funerals, about how often do you attend religious services in person or virtually these days?

1.   More than once per week
2.   Once a week
3.   Once a month
4.   Once a year
5.   Less often than once a year

ZIP1

50.   In what zip code do you currently live?

[NUMBERBOX, ZIP CODE ACCEPT ONLY 5 DIGIT RESPONSES]

Those are all the questions we have. We will add [Incentive amount] AmeriPoints to your AmeriPoints balance for completing the survey. If you have any questions at all for us, you can email us at support@AmeriSpeak.org or call us toll-free at **888-326-9424**. Thank you for participating in our new AmeriSpeak survey!
You can close your browser window now if you wish or click Continue below to be redirected to the AmeriSpeak member website.

Appendix C: References

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