



*Butler County Department of*  
**Job & Family Services**



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**  
Hamilton

Butler Co, Hamilton and Middletown

# Butler County Community Needs Assessment

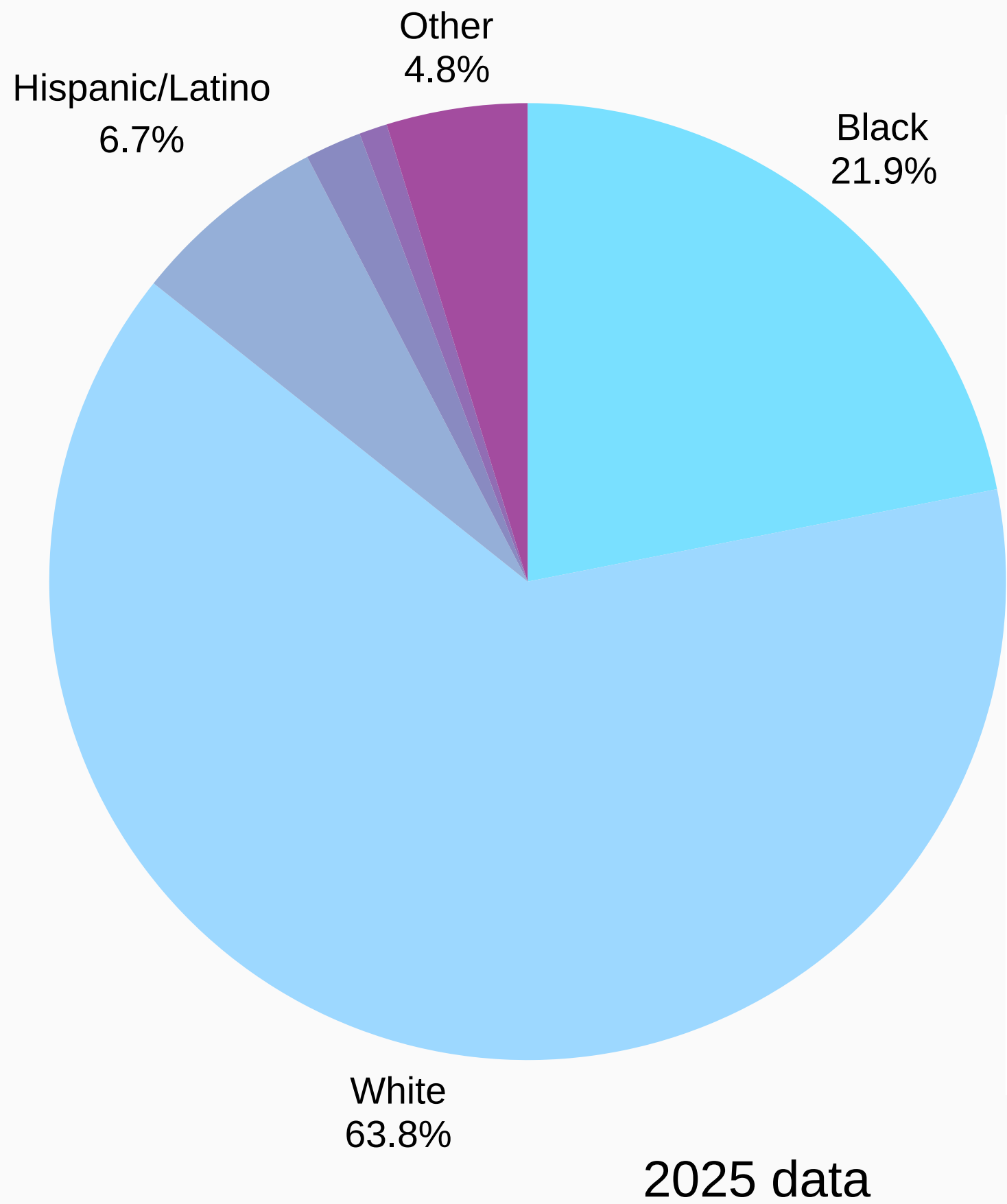
- 454 adults completed the survey
- 353 residents of Butler County
- 87 residents who didn't specify
- 14 residents of Preble County

**HISTORY OF ASSESSMENT:**

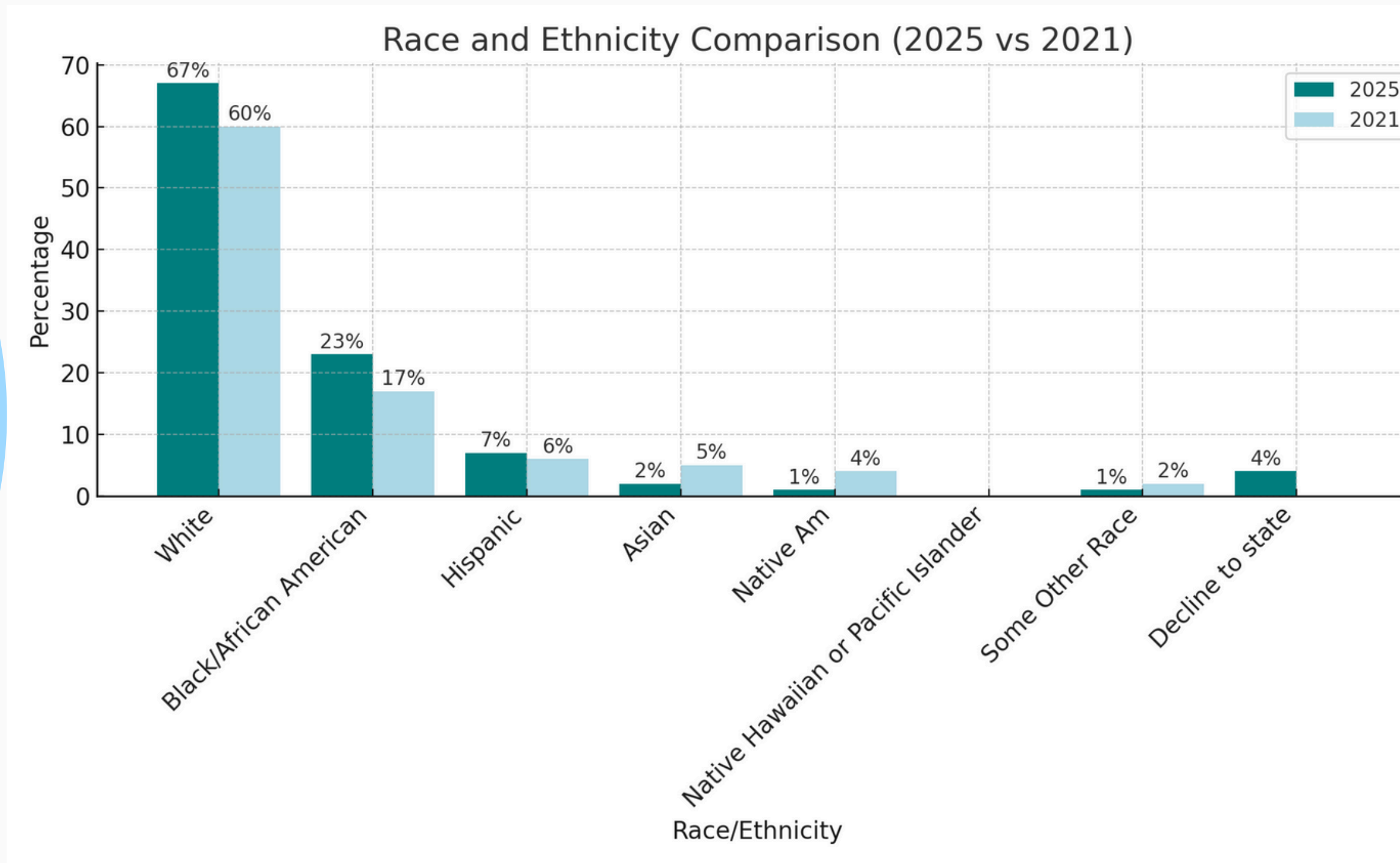
**BETH RACE, FCFC**

**DEMOGRAPHIC DATA:**

**KEVIN BUSH, MIAMI UNIVERSITY**



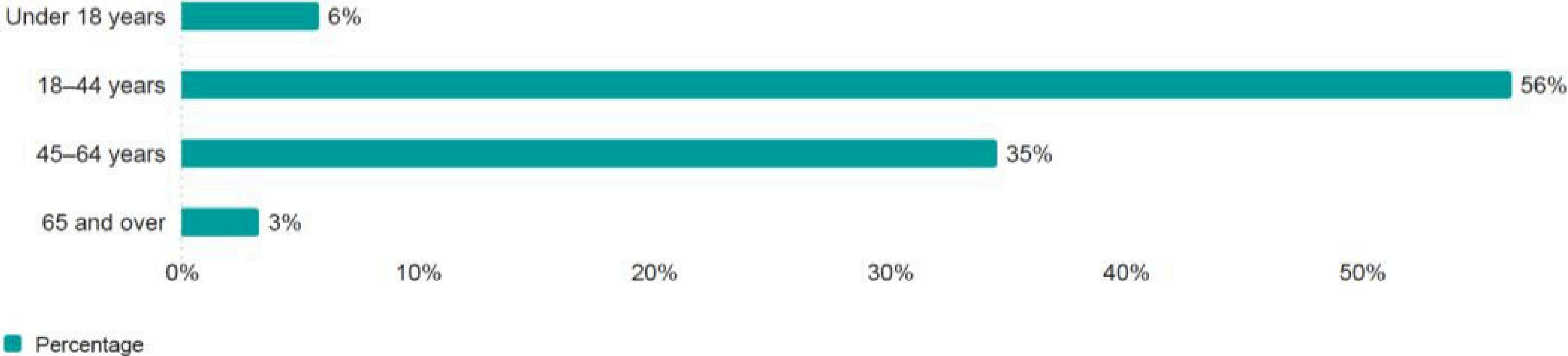
2025 data



The 2025 sample has fewer Native Americans and Asians; about 6% more African Americans; and about 7% more Caucasians.

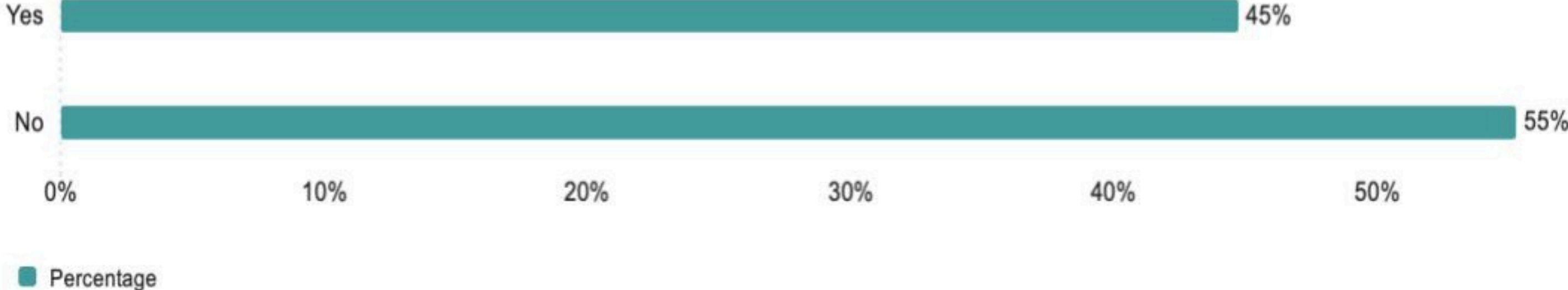
### Q5 - What is your age?

362 Responses

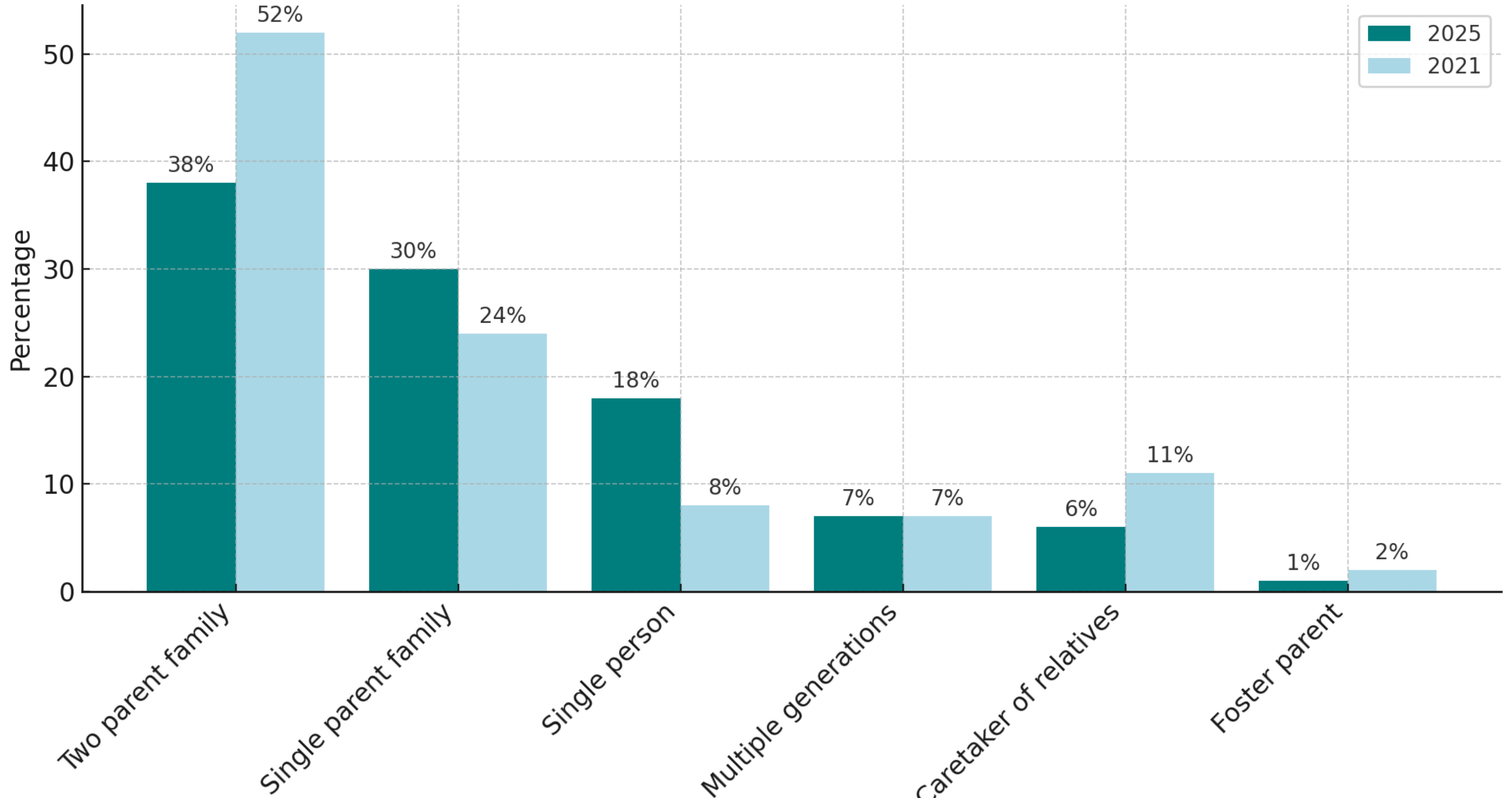


### Q9 - Do you have children in your household ages 0-5?

264 Responses

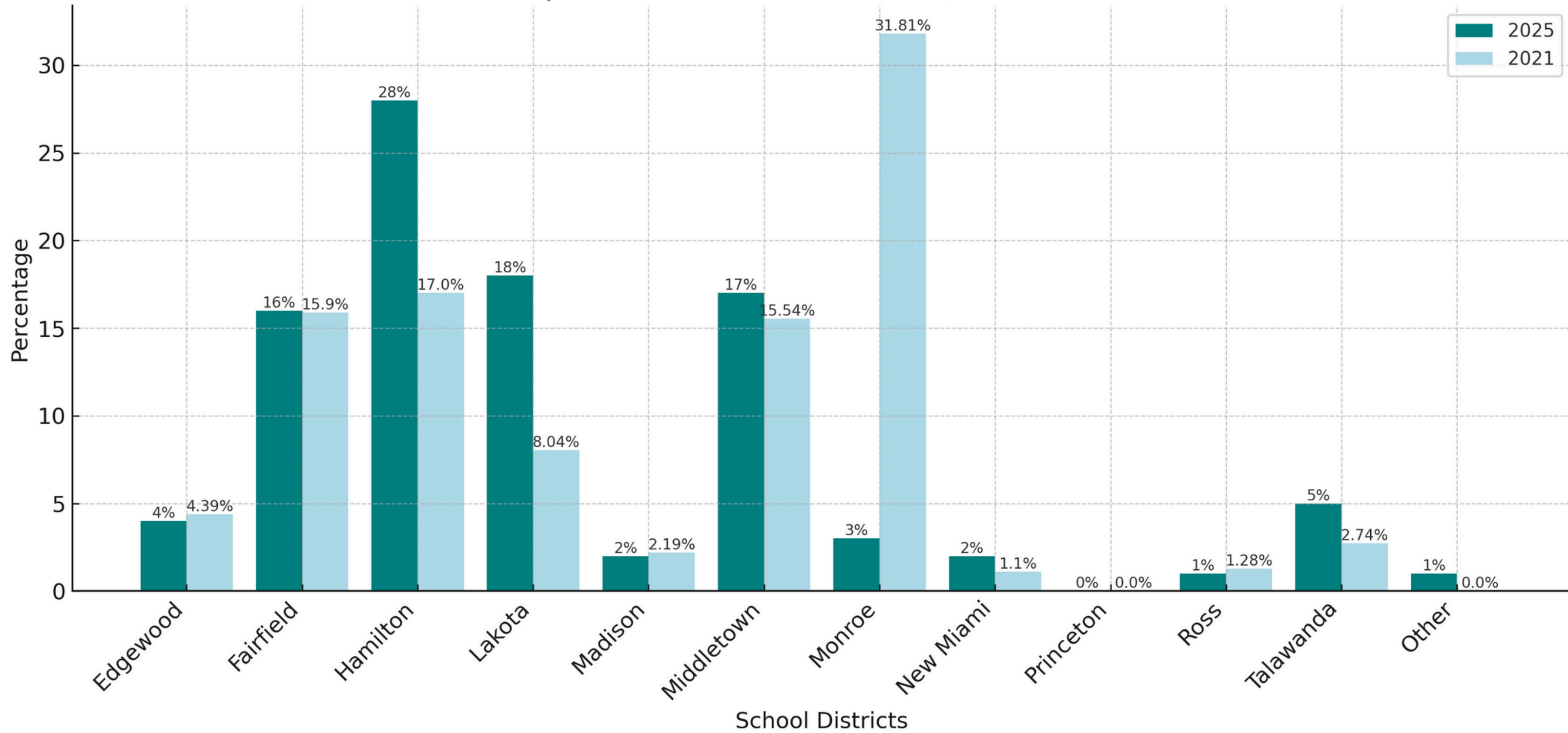


# Household Composition Comparison (2025 vs. 2021)



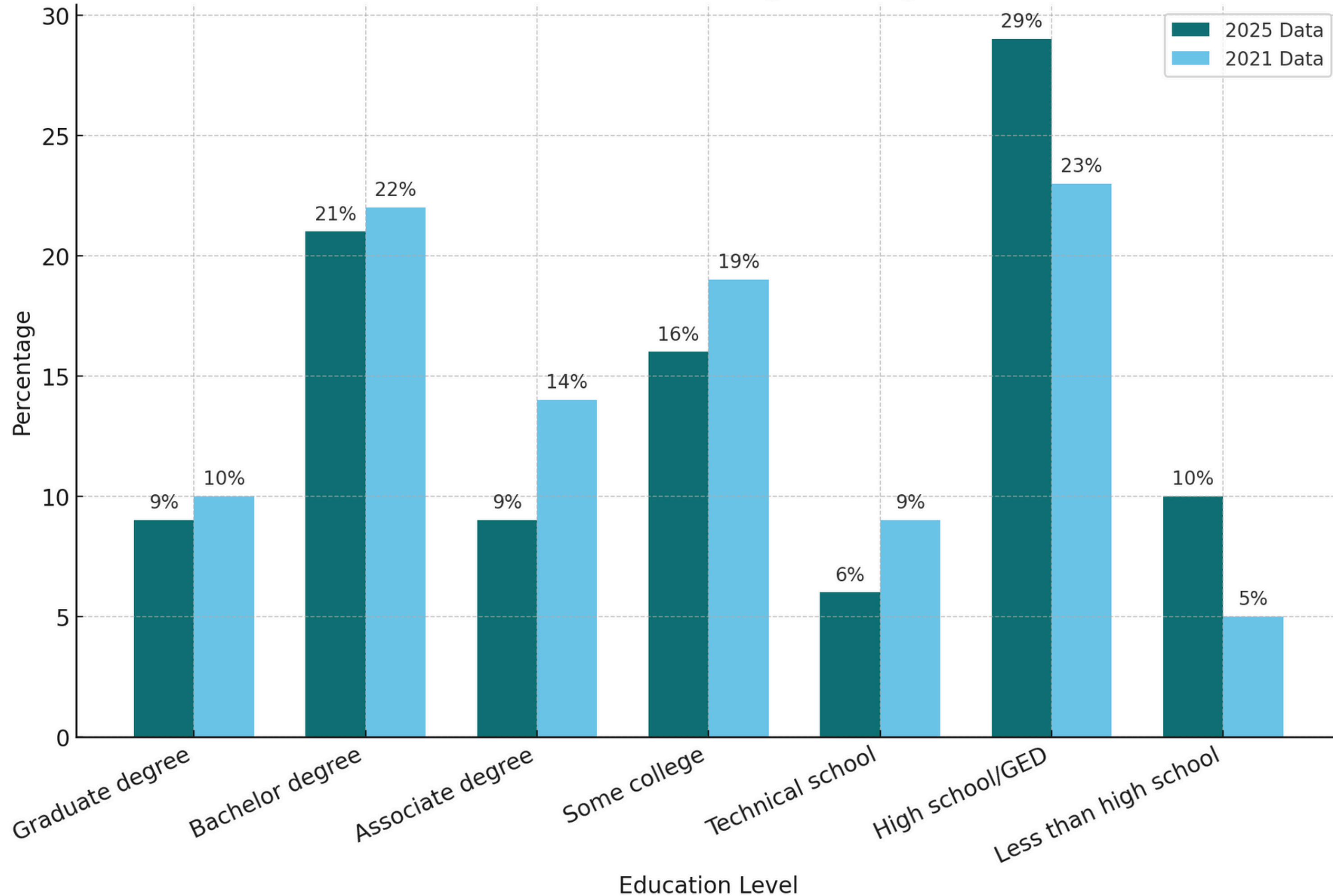
Single parent family was 7% higher; two parent family is lower by about 14%; caretaker of relatives decreased by 5%.

### Comparison of School Districts (2021 vs 2025)



The 2025 sample consisted of about 10% more families living in the Hamilton district; and triple the number living in Lakota compared to 2021; the 2025 sample consisted of only 3% from Monroe, which is close to a 30% decrease from 2021.

Education Level (Sorted from Highest Degree to Lowest)



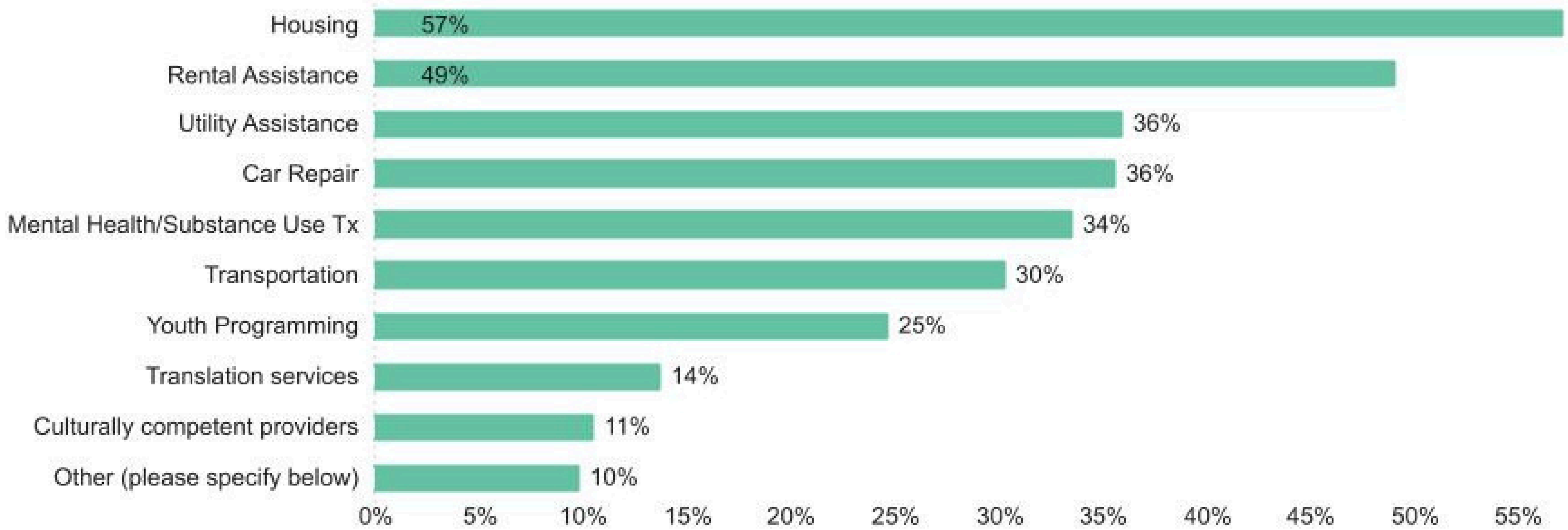
# Q23 - Does your household have internet service that you can access on at least one device?

301 Responses



# Q33 - What are the gaps in services that you see in your local community? (Select your top 3). - Selected Choice

283 Responses



■ Percentage of Responses

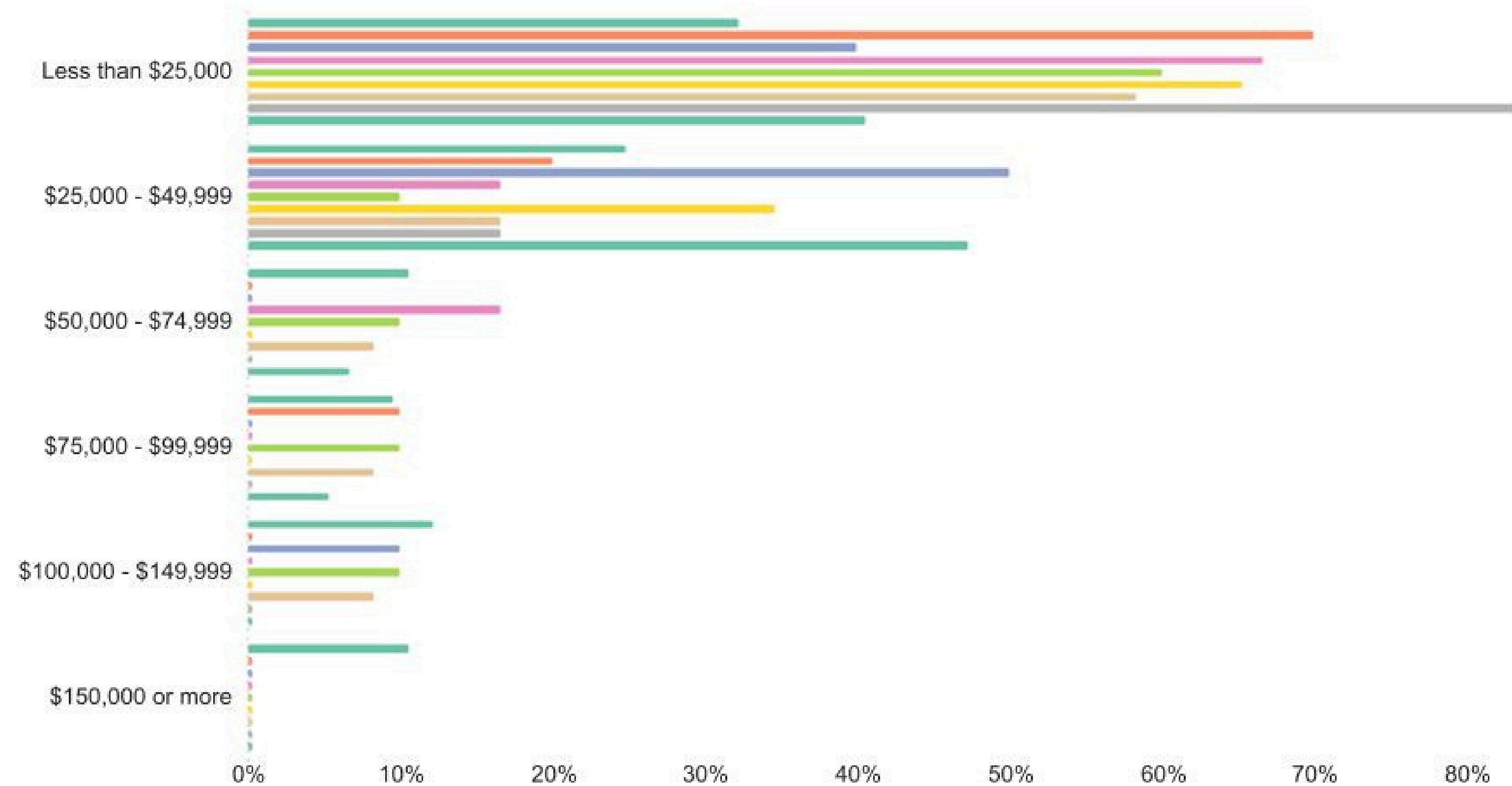
**FOOD INSECURITY:**

**EMILY WHITE**

**BUTLER COUNTY ESC**

# Q25 - Do you have any barriers to accessing food (Select all that apply)?

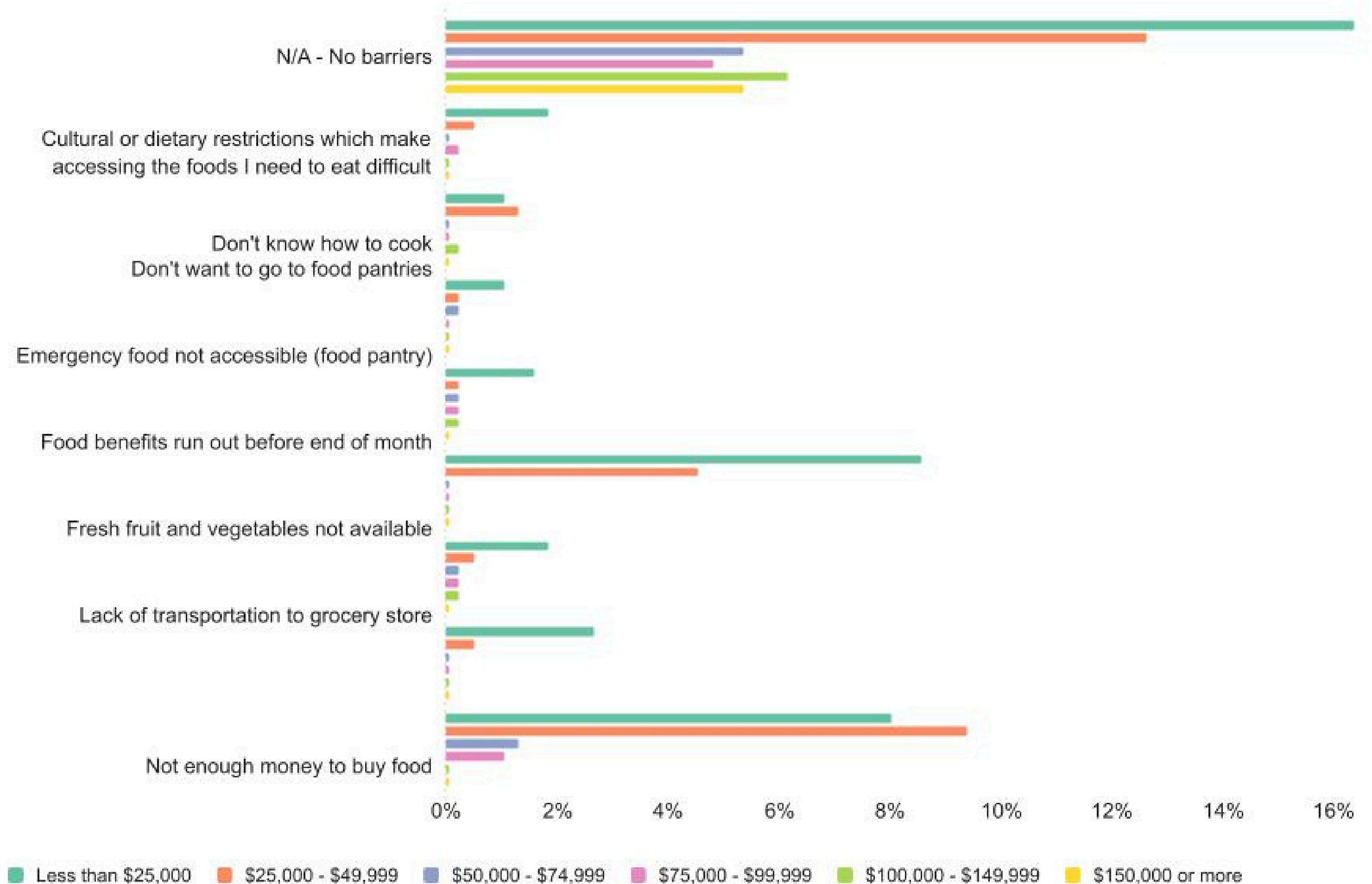
292 Responses



- N/A - No barriers
 ■ Cultural or dietary restrictions which make accessing the foods I need to eat difficult
 ■ Don't know how to cook
- Don't want to go to food pantries
 ■ Emergency food not accessible (food pantry)
 ■ Food benefits run out before end of month
- Fresh fruit and vegetables not available
 ■ Lack of transportation to grocery store
 ■ Not enough money to buy food

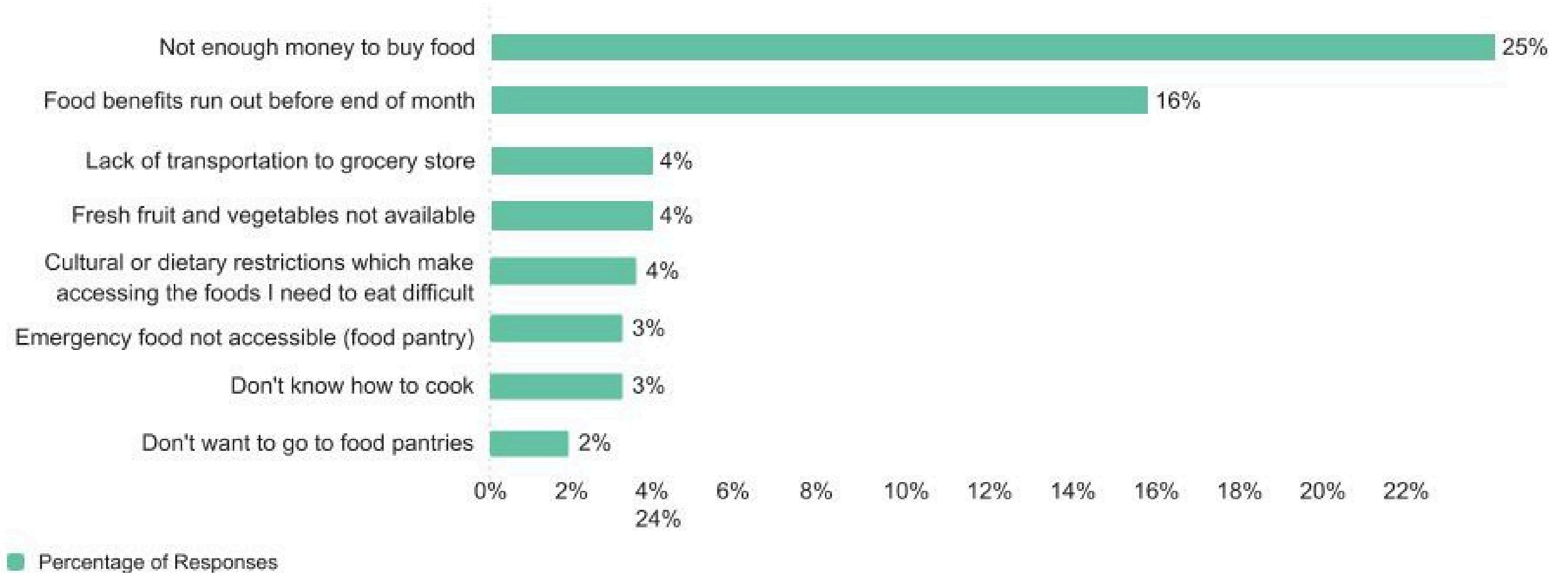
# Q25 - Do you have any barriers to accessing food (Select all that apply)?

292 Responses



## Q25 - Do you have any barriers to accessing food (Select all that apply)?

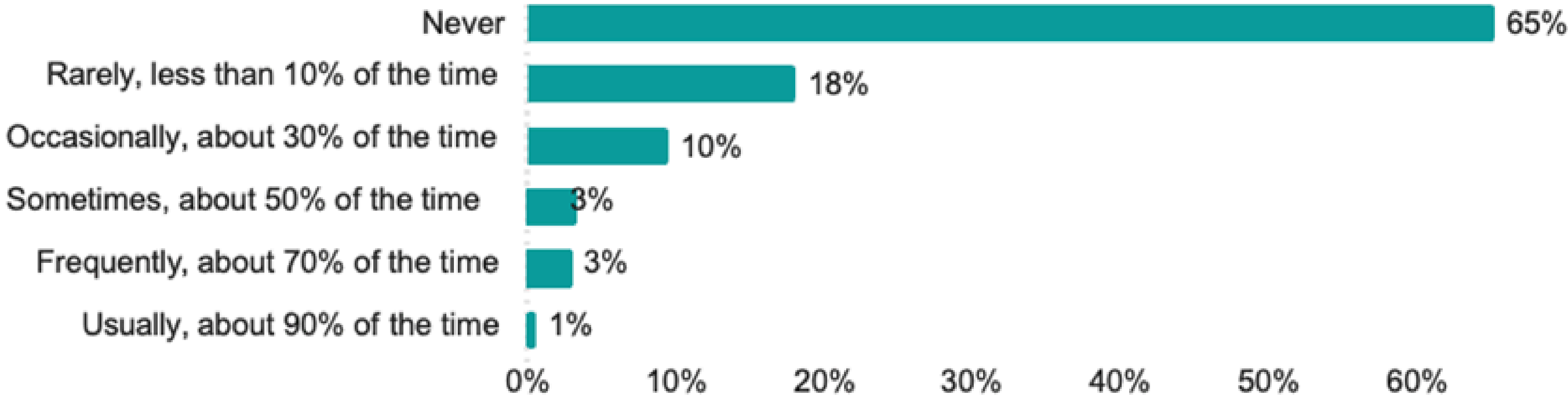
300 Responses



Majority of the respondents report no barriers to food access (65%)  
“Not enough money to buy food” was endorsed highly across both assessment periods,  
with 10% more agreeing to this in 2025 compared to 2021.

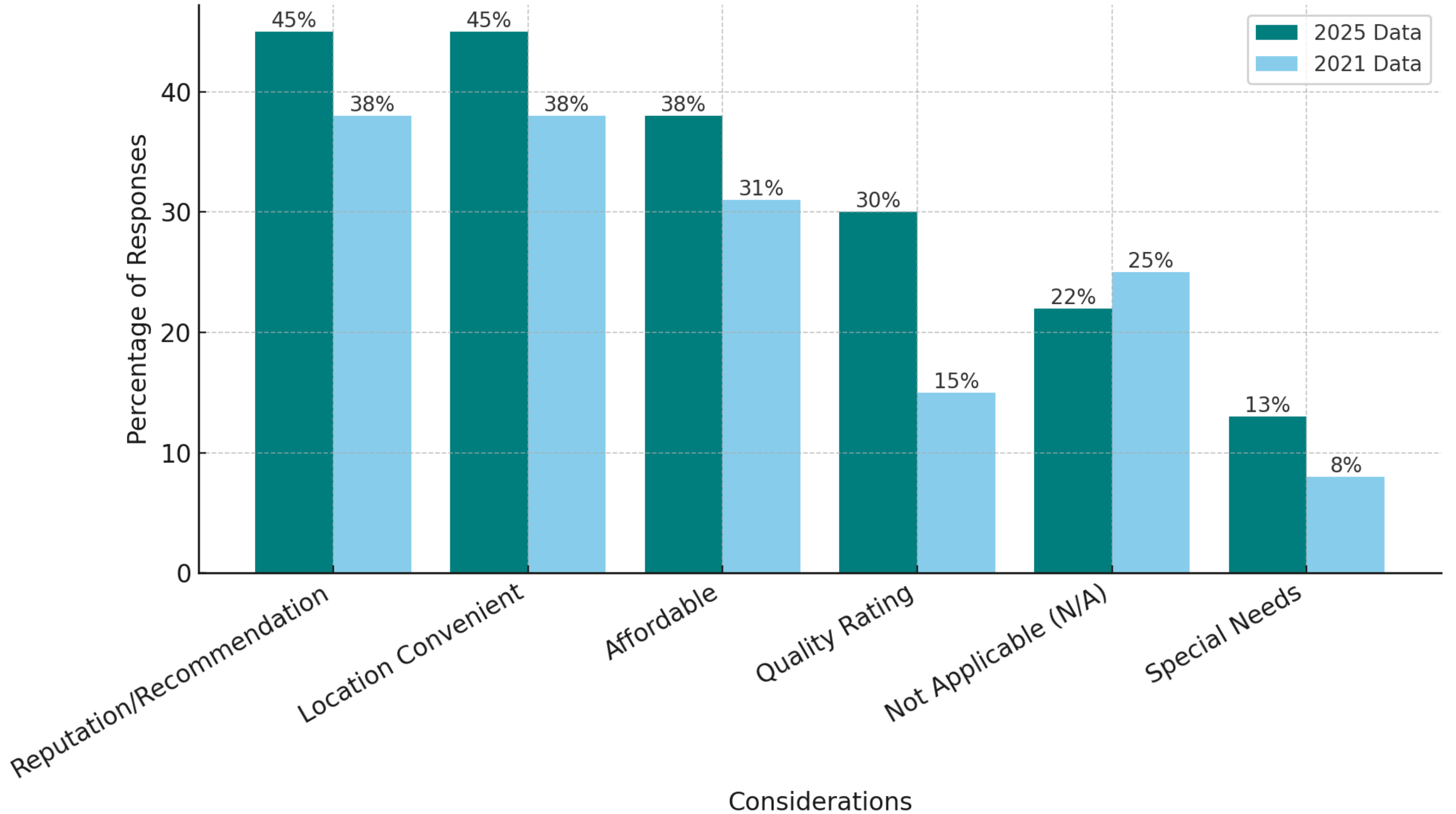
# Q24 - In the last year I had to skip meals so I could feed my children.

303 Responses



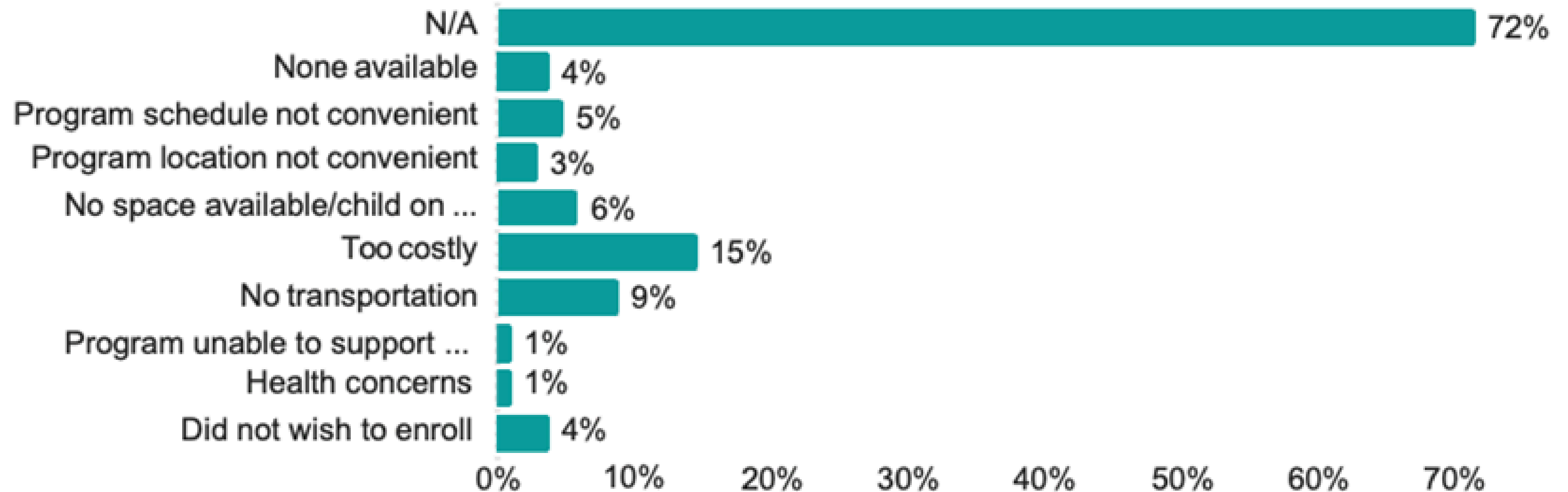
**CHILD CARE:  
NANCY BAKER,  
BUTLER COUNTY ESC**

# Comparison of Childcare Considerations (2021 vs 2025)



# Q12 - If you did not enroll your child in preschool or childcare, please tell us why (select all that apply)?

102 Responses

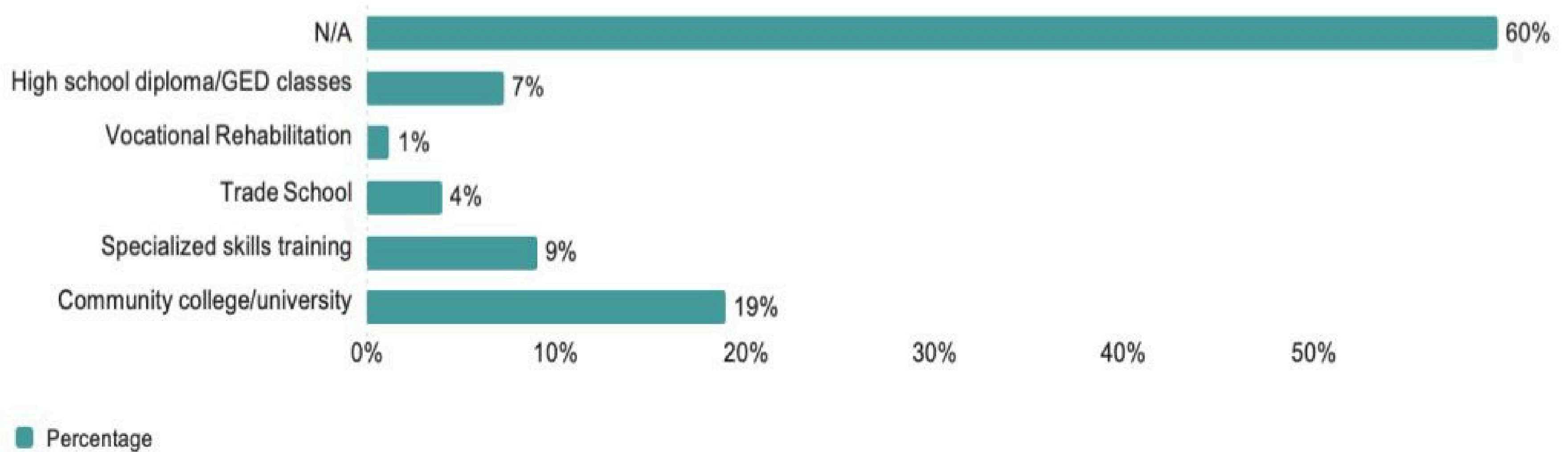


■ Percentage of Responses

**EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT:  
AMY MILLER, OHIO MEANS JOBS**

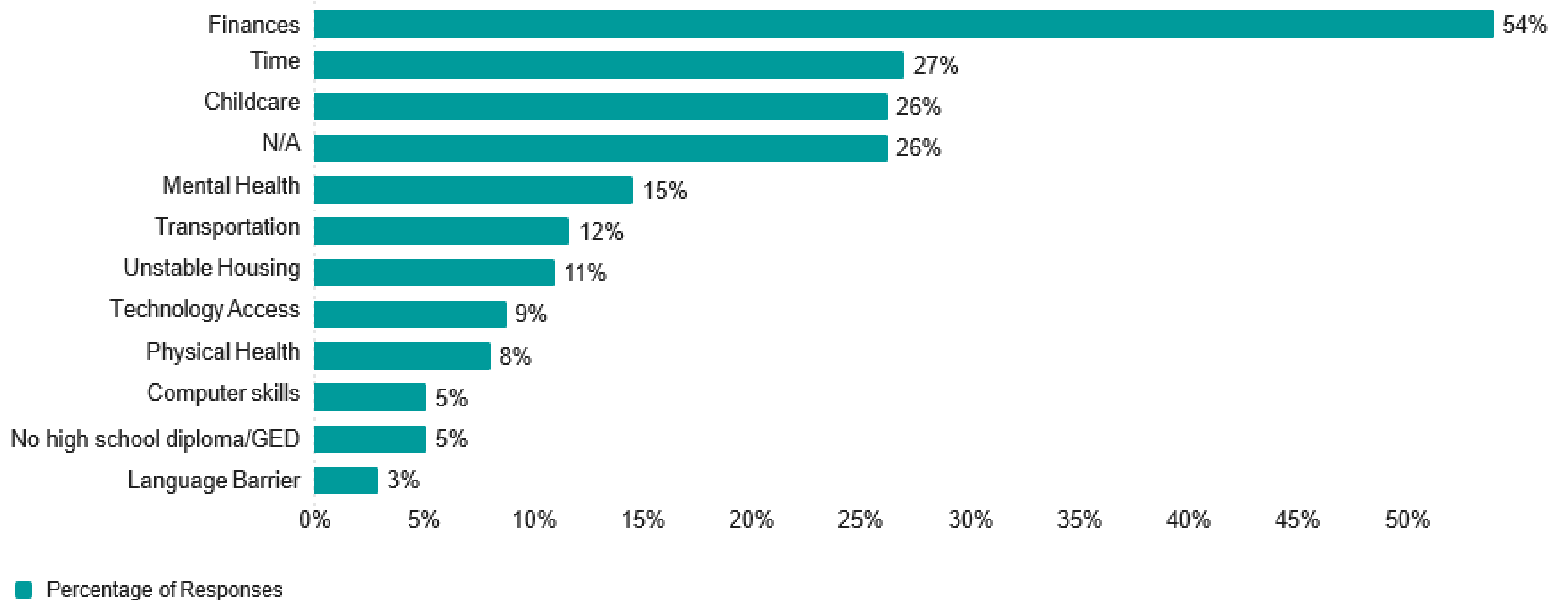
# Q15 - Do you have any continuing education goals?

333 Responses



# Q16 - Do you have any barriers to accomplishing your educational goals? Select all that apply:

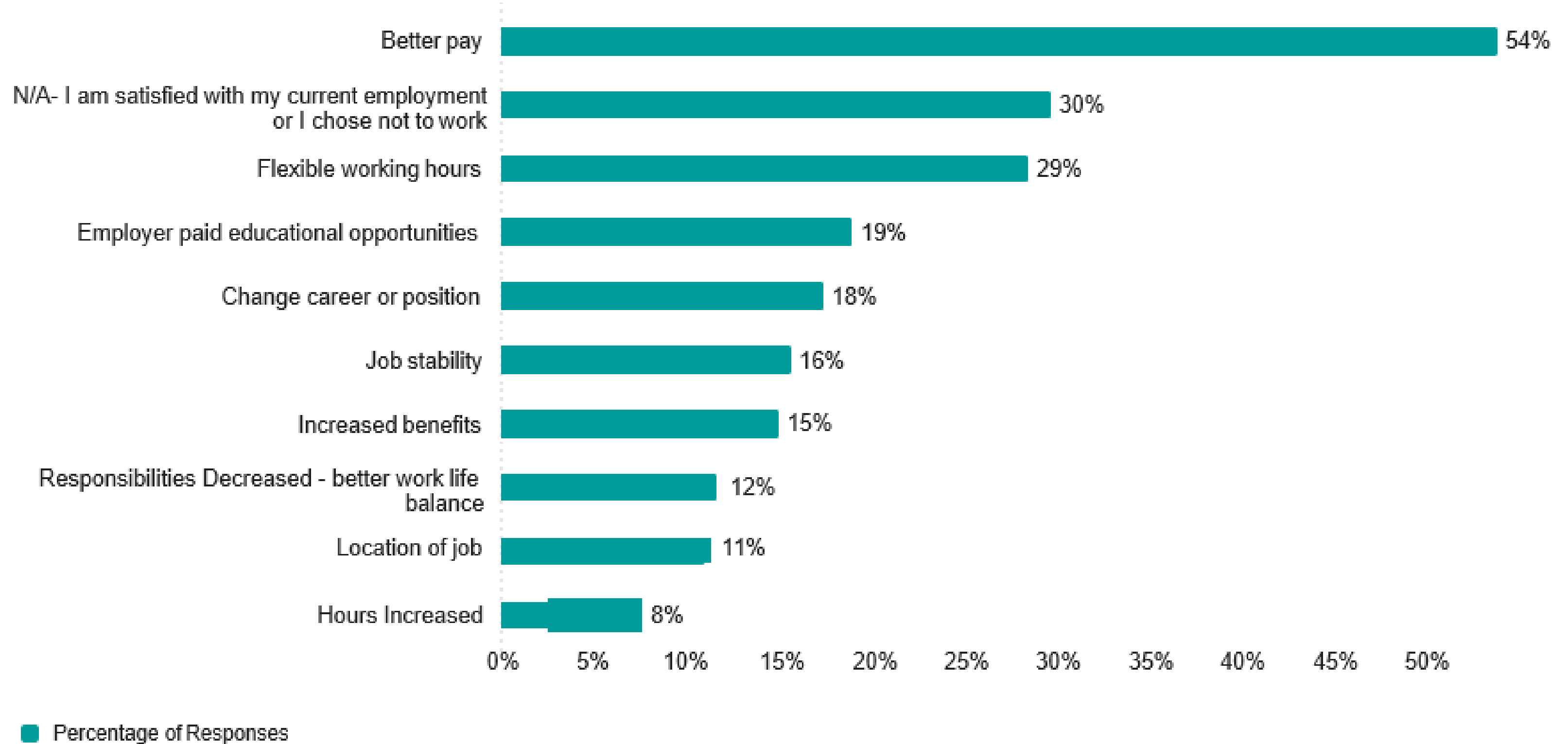
137 Responses



Compared to 2021-22 data: Childcare doubled and N/A decreased by half.  
"Lack of Finances" is still the highest barrier and more than doubled.

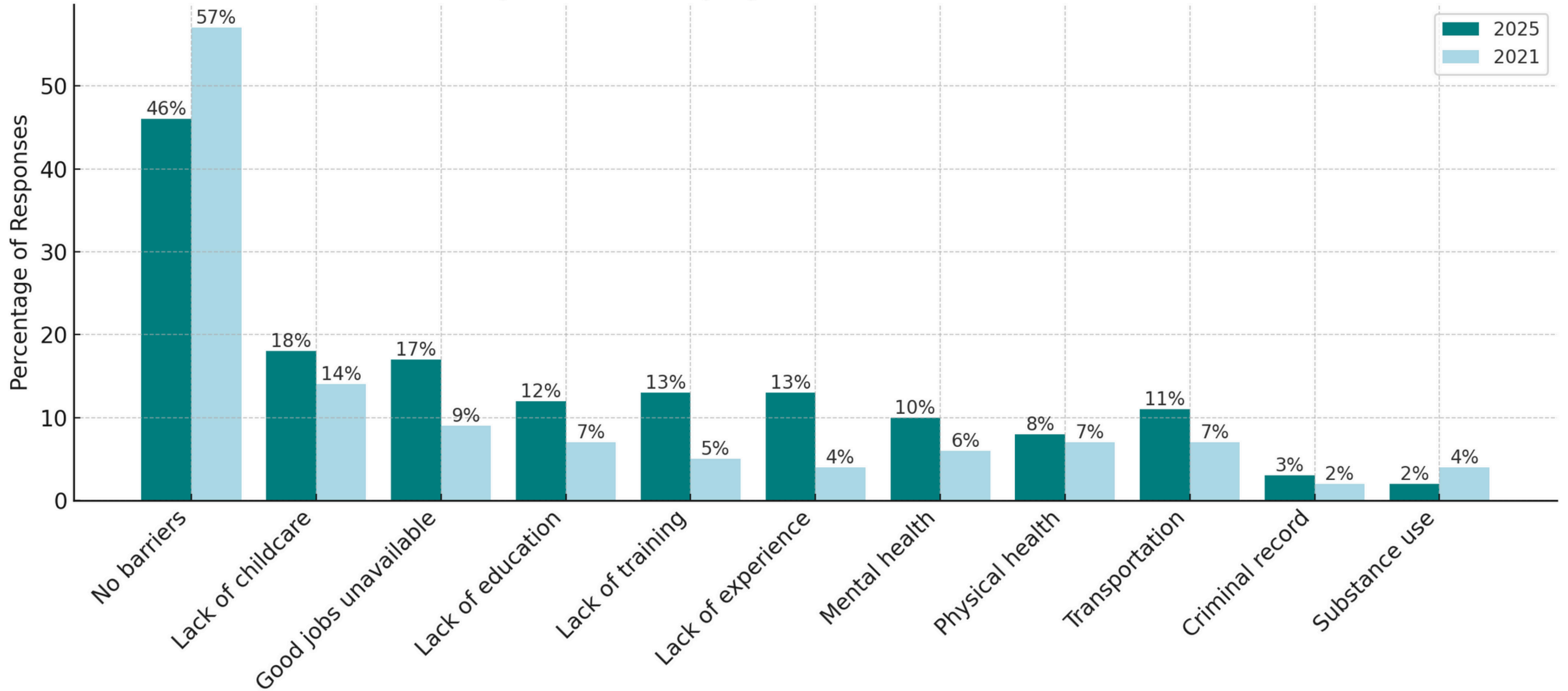
# Q17 - If you could improve your current employment what areas would you focus on (select your top 3 considerations)?

325 Responses



**Better pay was the most endorsed area across both assessments, but was 15% higher in 2025 when compared to 2021-22 data**  
Flexible work hours was frequently endorsed across both assessment periods, but was about 10% higher in 2025 compared to 2021.

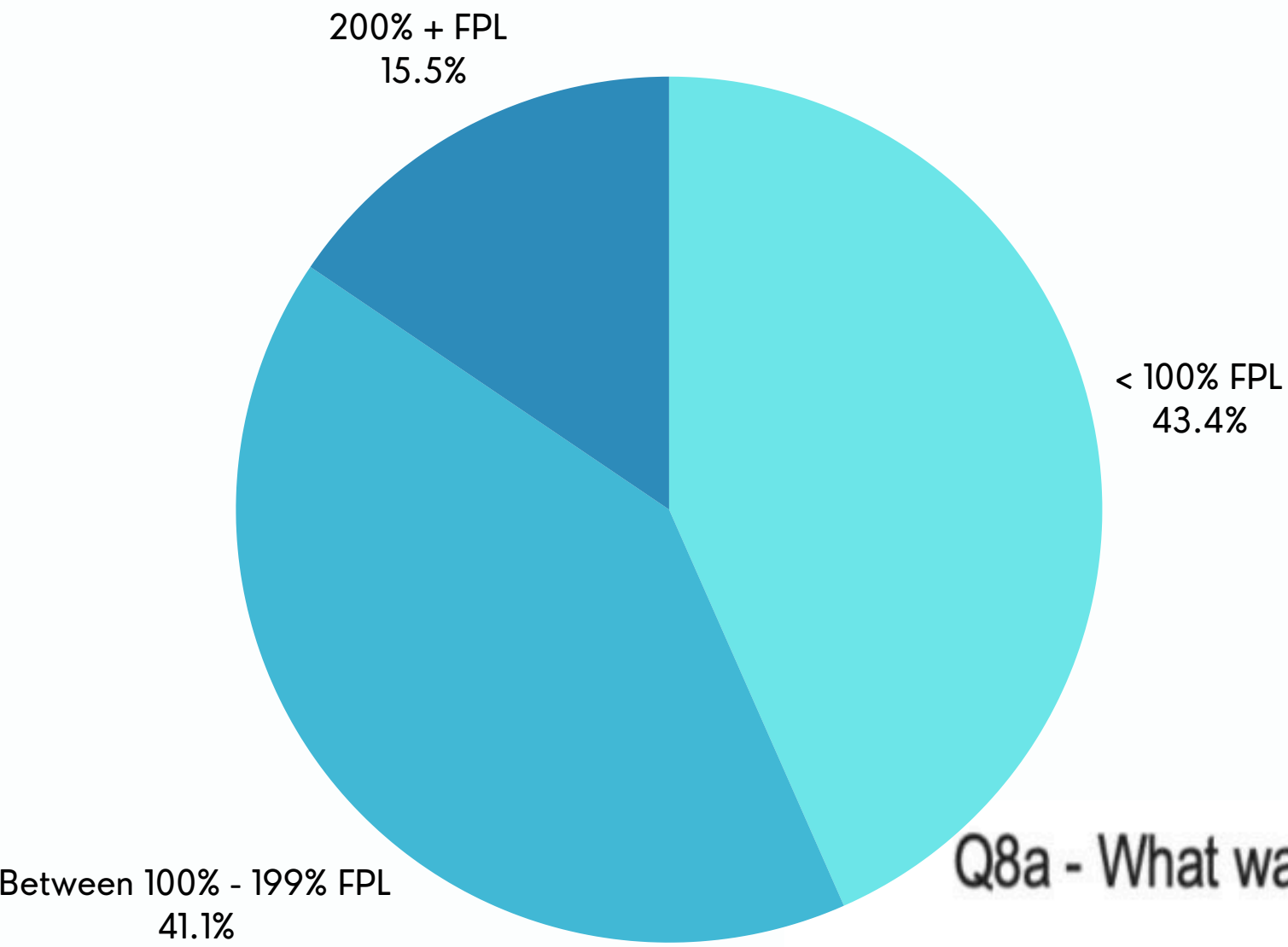
# Comparison of Employment Barriers (2025 vs 2021)



**FINANCIAL:**

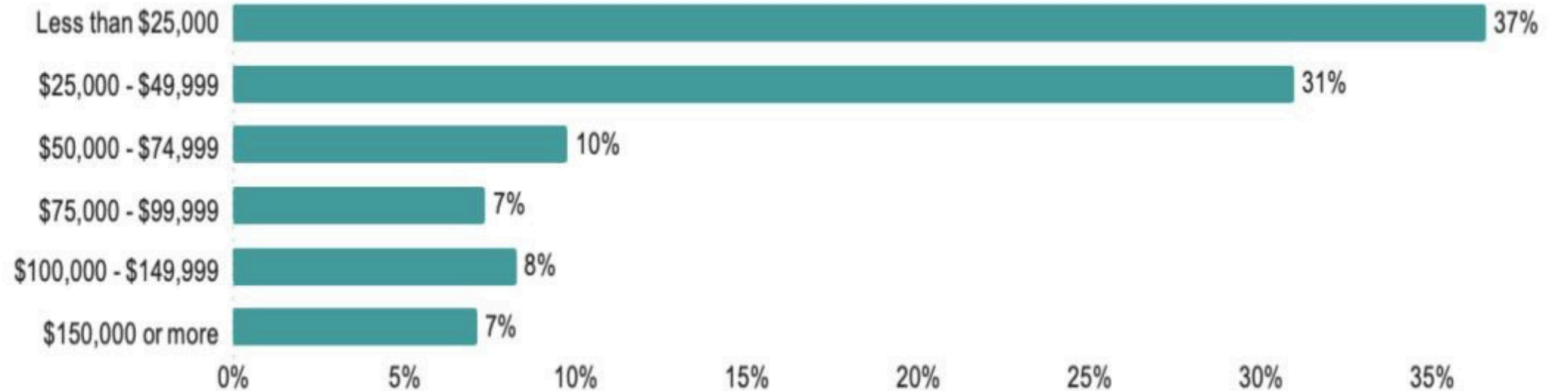
**GAYLE DREXLER, SELF**

# POVERTY LEVEL GRAPH



## Q8a - What was your total household income before taxes during the past 12 months

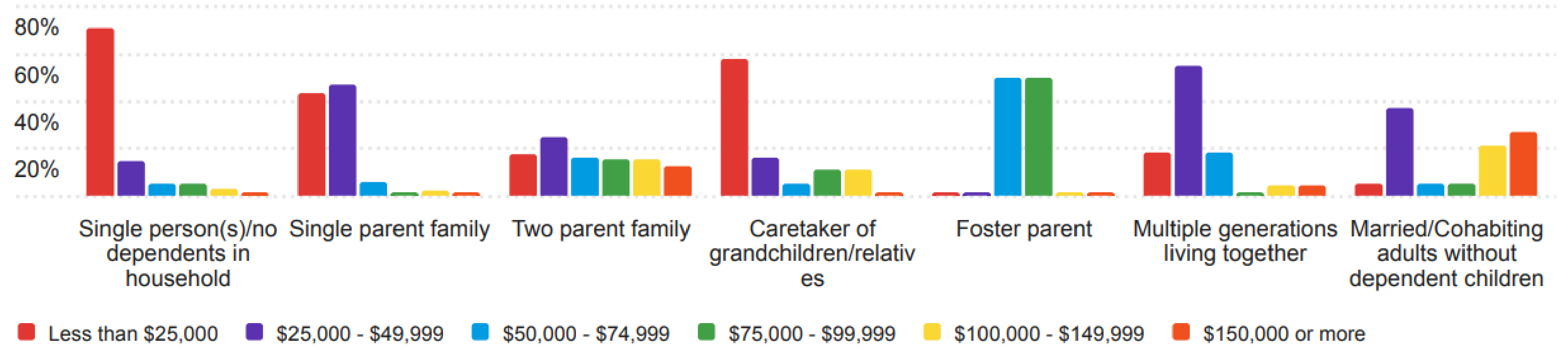
339 Responses



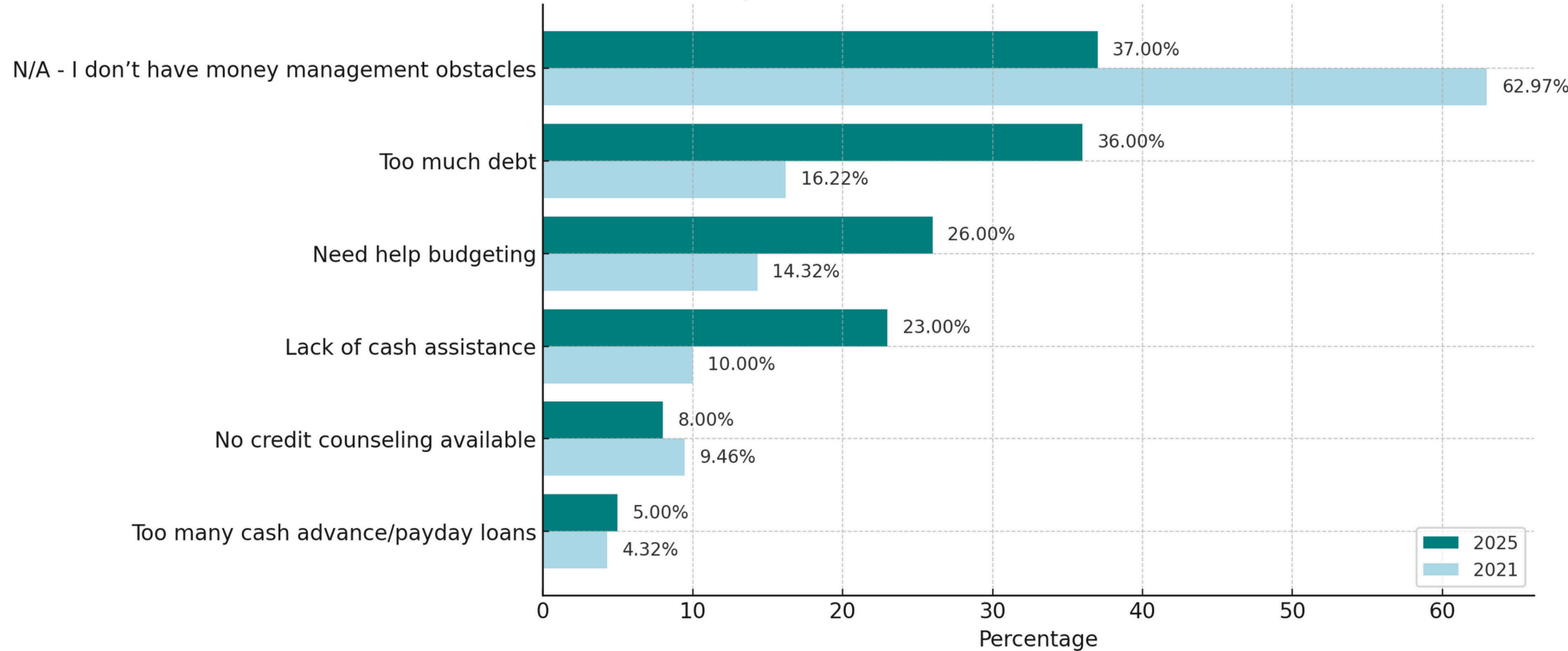
# Q8a - What was your total household income before taxes during the past 12 months

ALL INCOMES

333 Responses



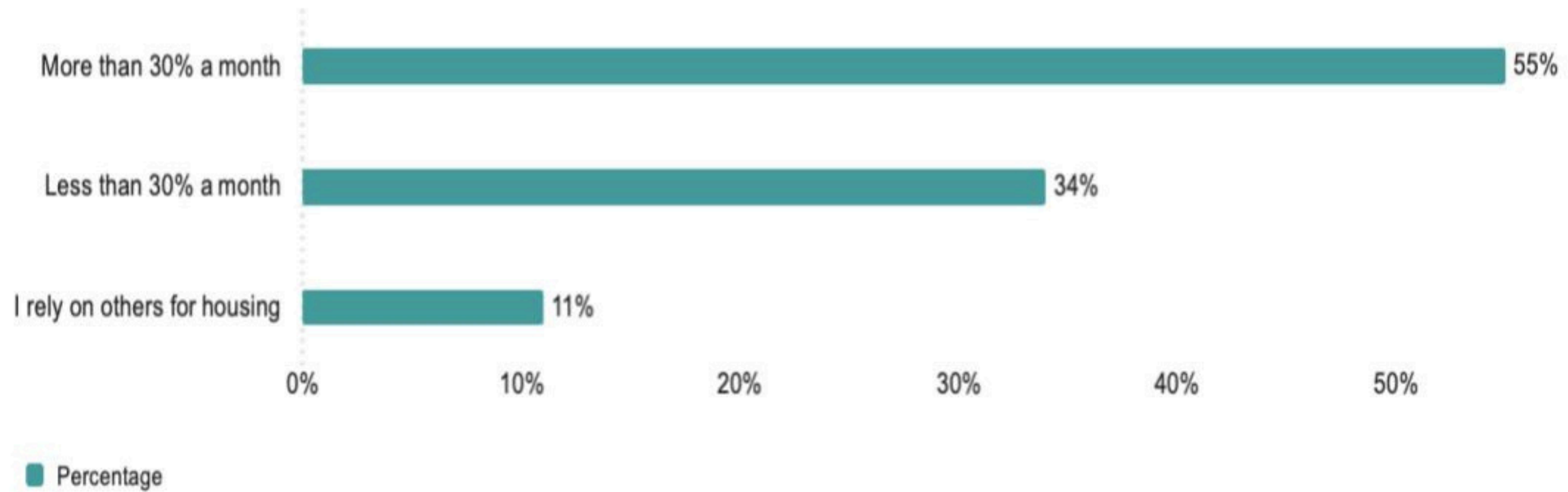
## Comparison of Financial Obstacles (2025 vs. 2021)



25% decrease in responses of N/A, 20% increase in too much debt response, 12% increase in need help budgeting category, 13% higher lack of cash assistance response

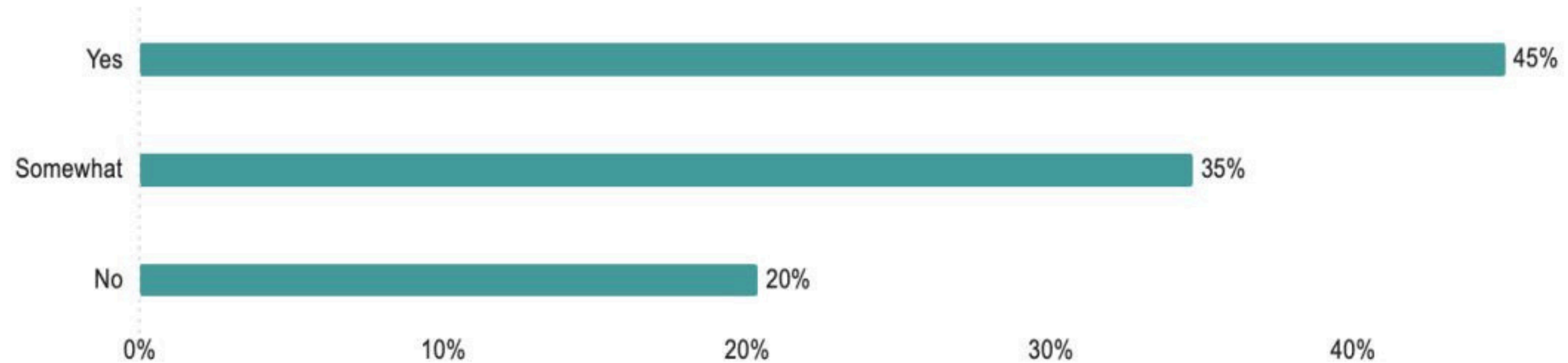
## Q21 - How much of your income do you spend on housing?

300 Responses



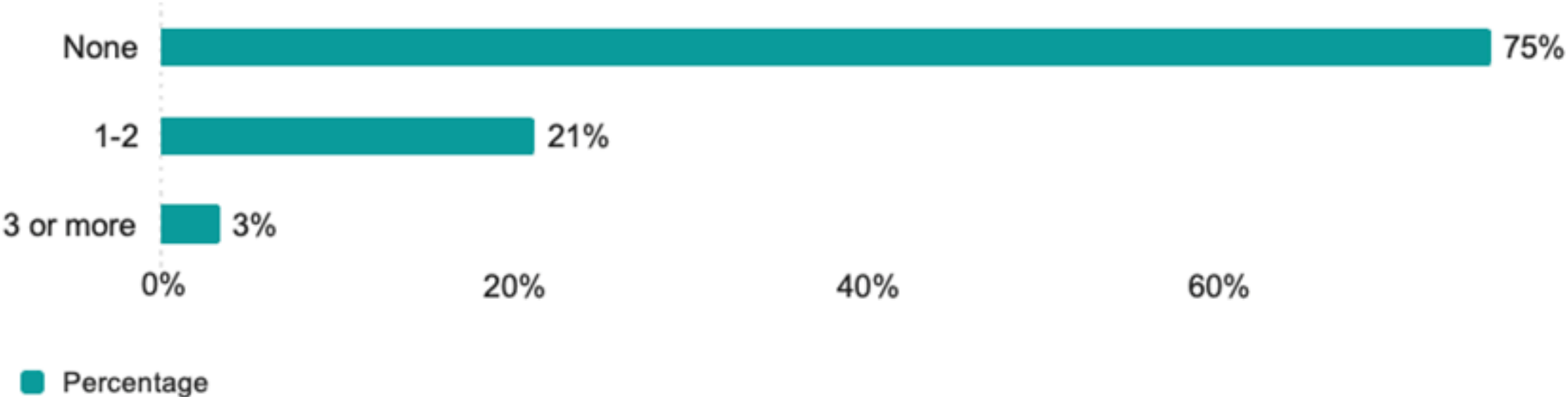
## Q22 - Do you know your rights as a potential homebuyer or renter/tenant?

300 Responses



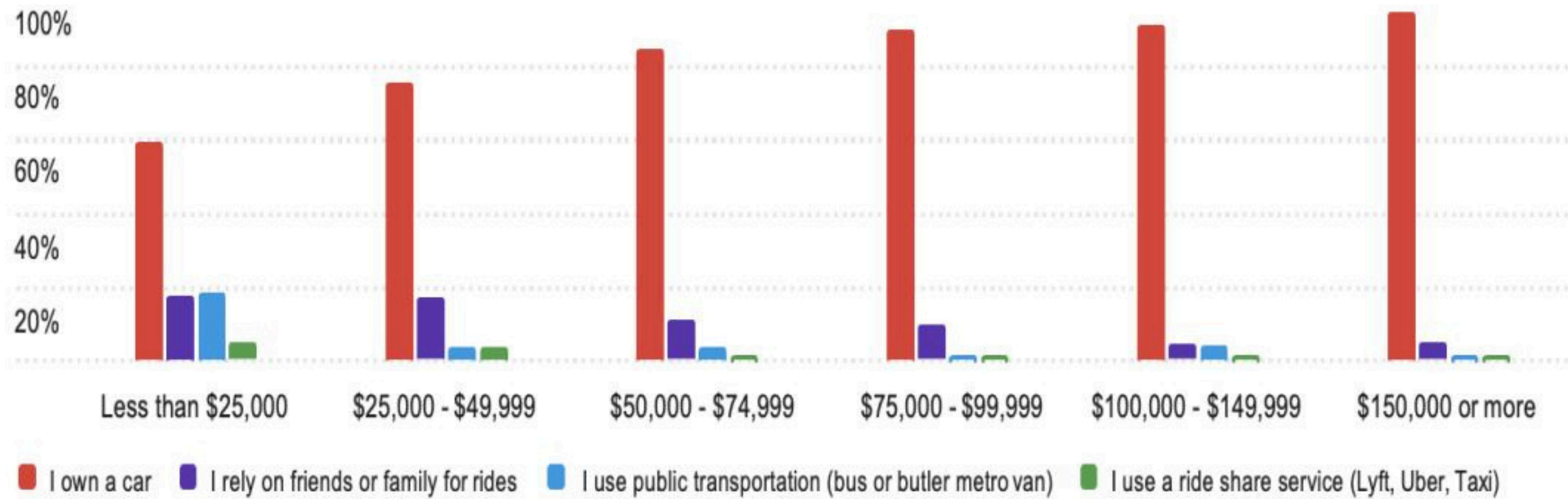
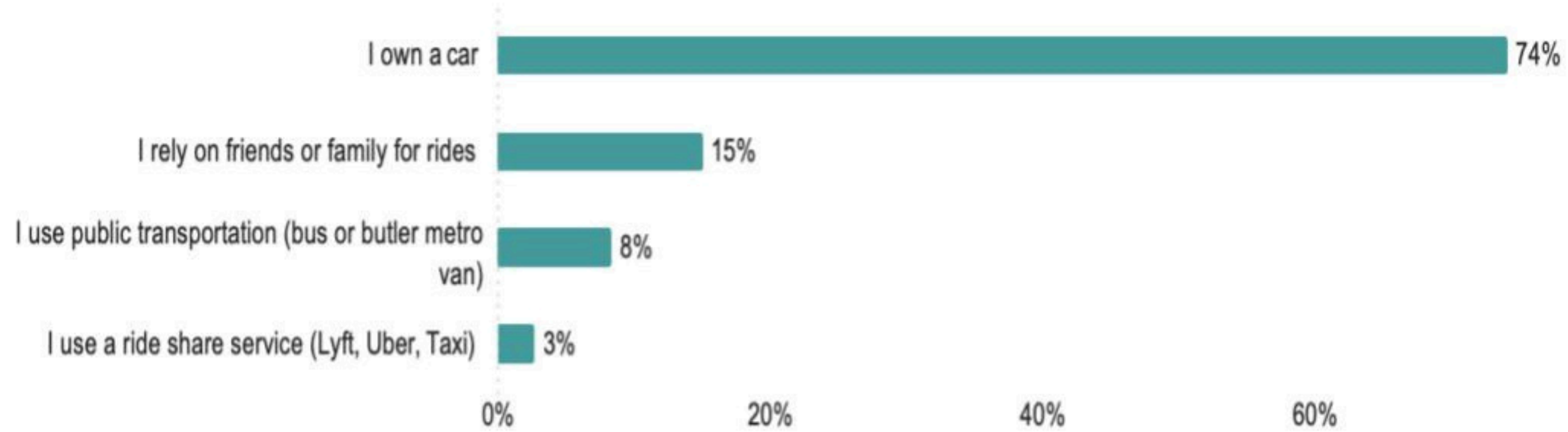
Q20 - I have moved this many times in the last year.

301 Responses



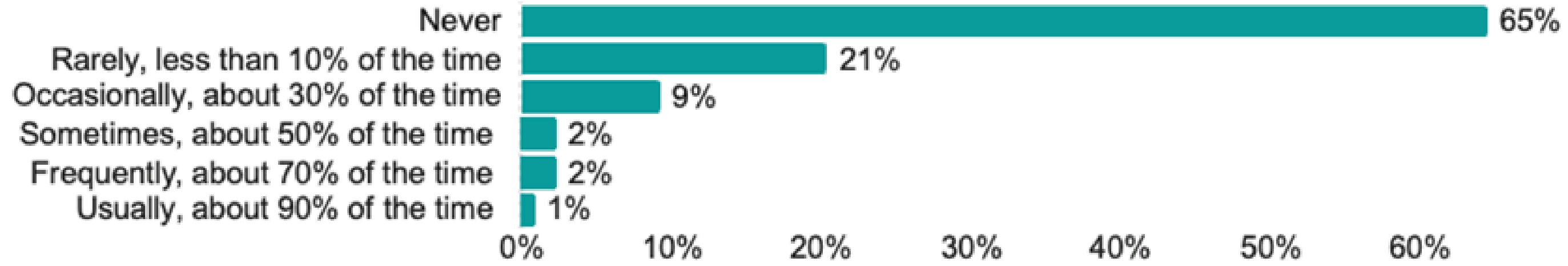
# Q27 - What is your primary means of transportation?

301 Responses



# Q28 - I missed work, school or appointments in the last year due to lack of transportation.

302 Responses



■ Percentage

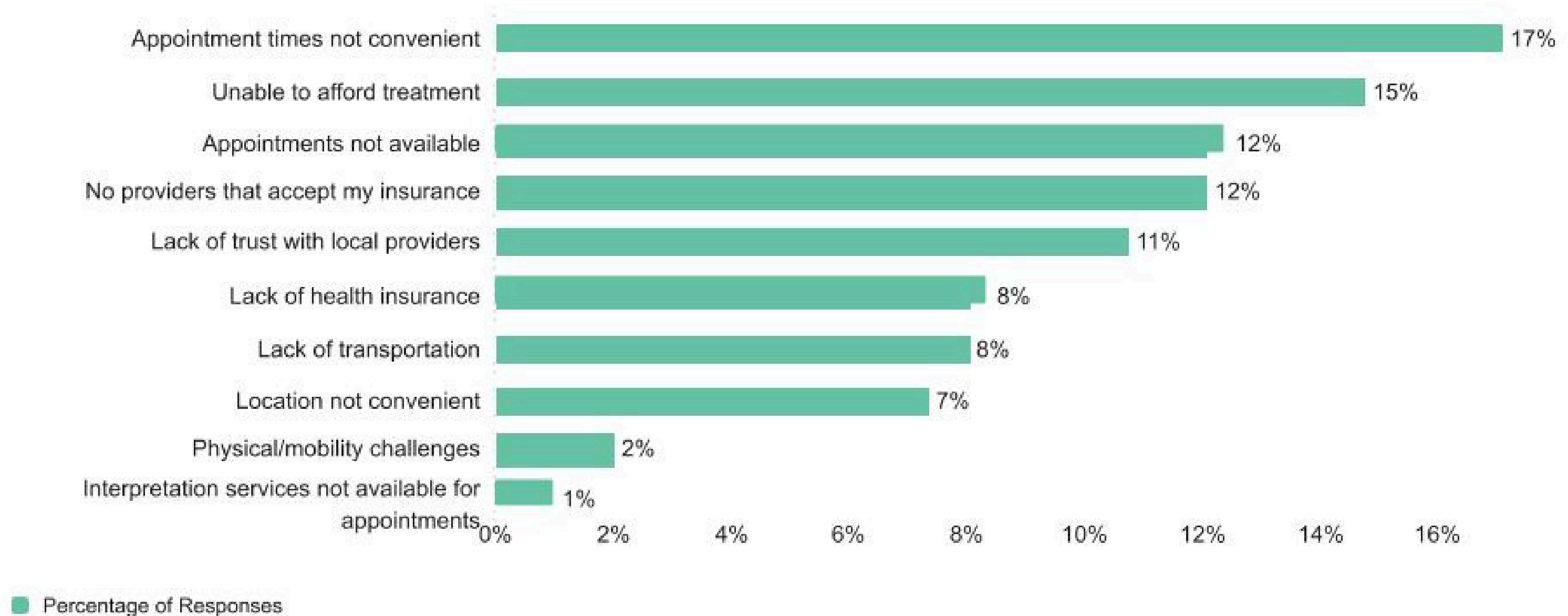
**MENTAL WELLNESS:**

**ASHLEY DOBROZSI-FERGUSON,**

**FCFC**

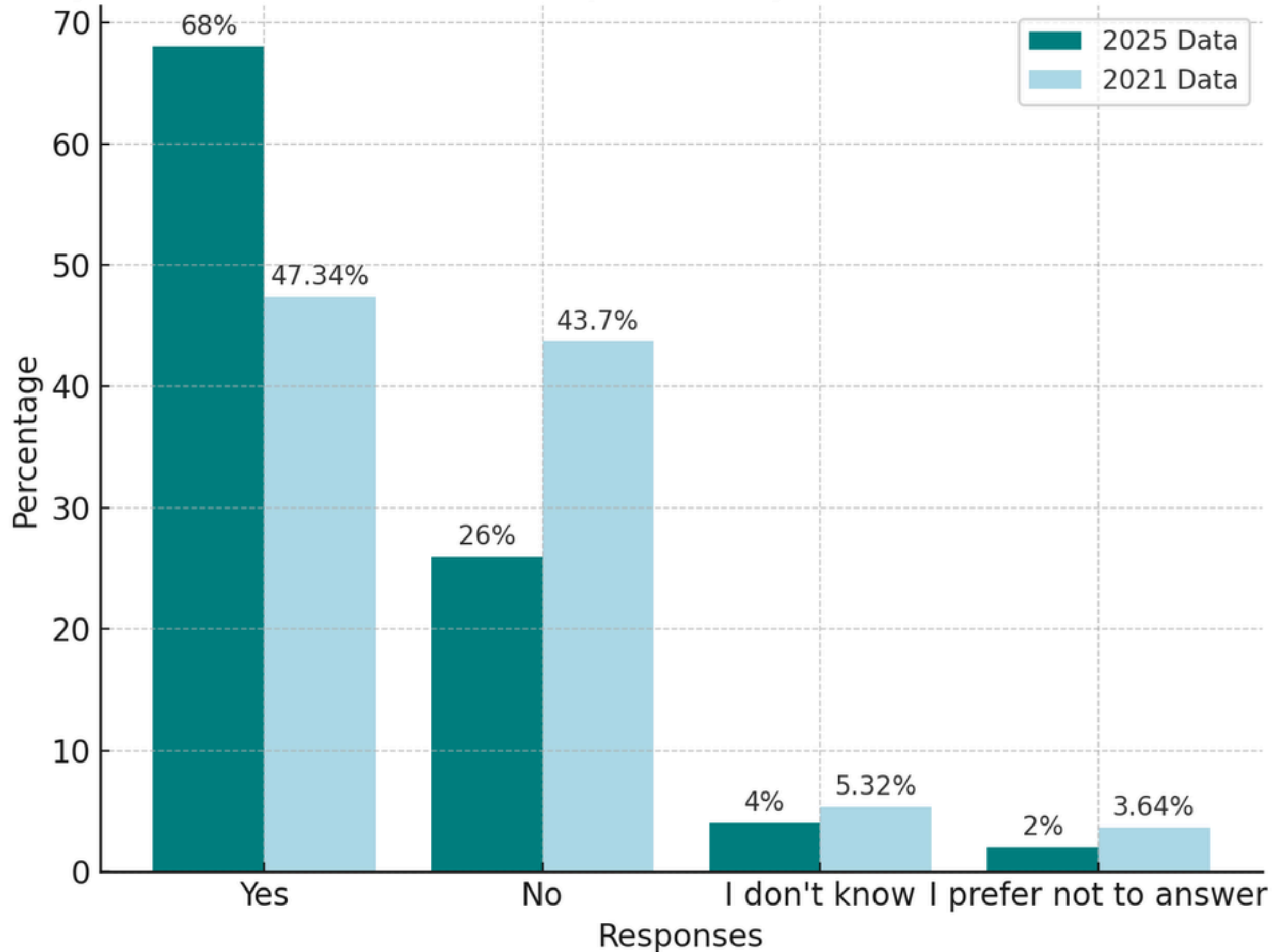
Q32 - What barriers do you have for accessing medical, mental health, and/or substance use treatment? (select all that apply).

299 Responses



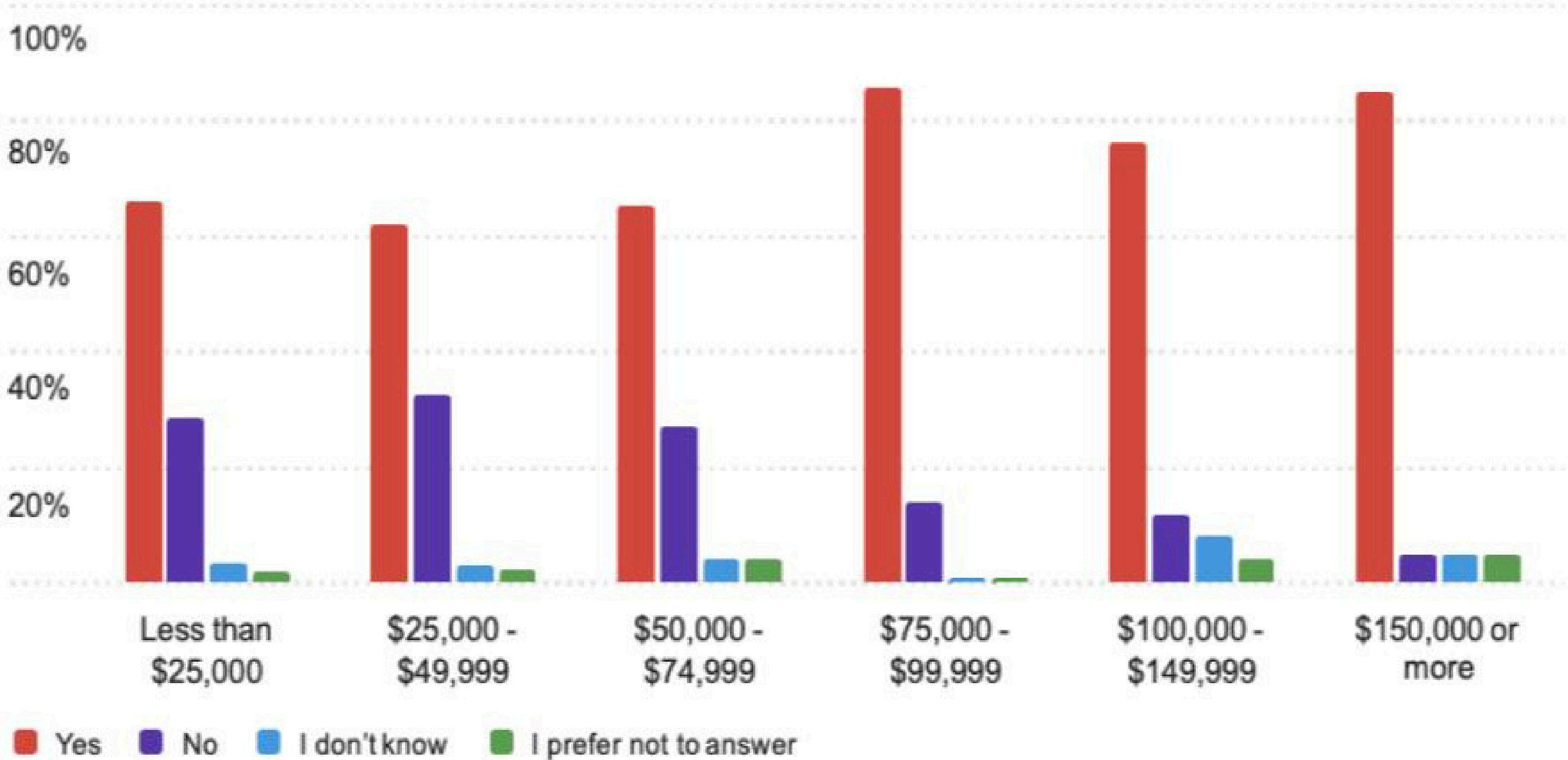
A majority of respondents, 56%, indicated N/A

# Have you or someone you are close to been impacted by mental health concerns in any way?

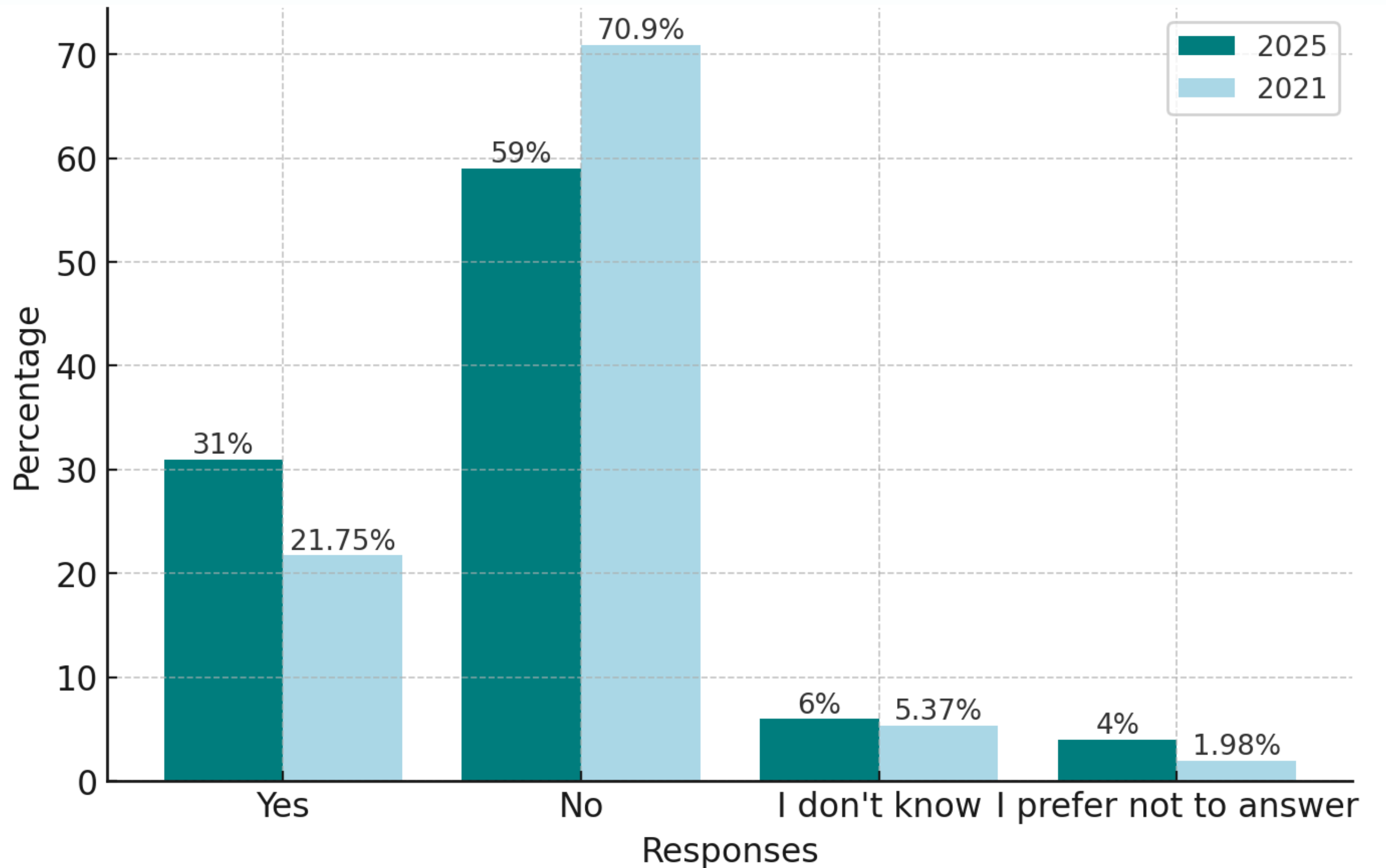


# Q30 - Have you or someone you are close to been impacted by mental health concerns in any way?

293 Responses



# Have you or someone you are close to been impacted by suicide in any way?

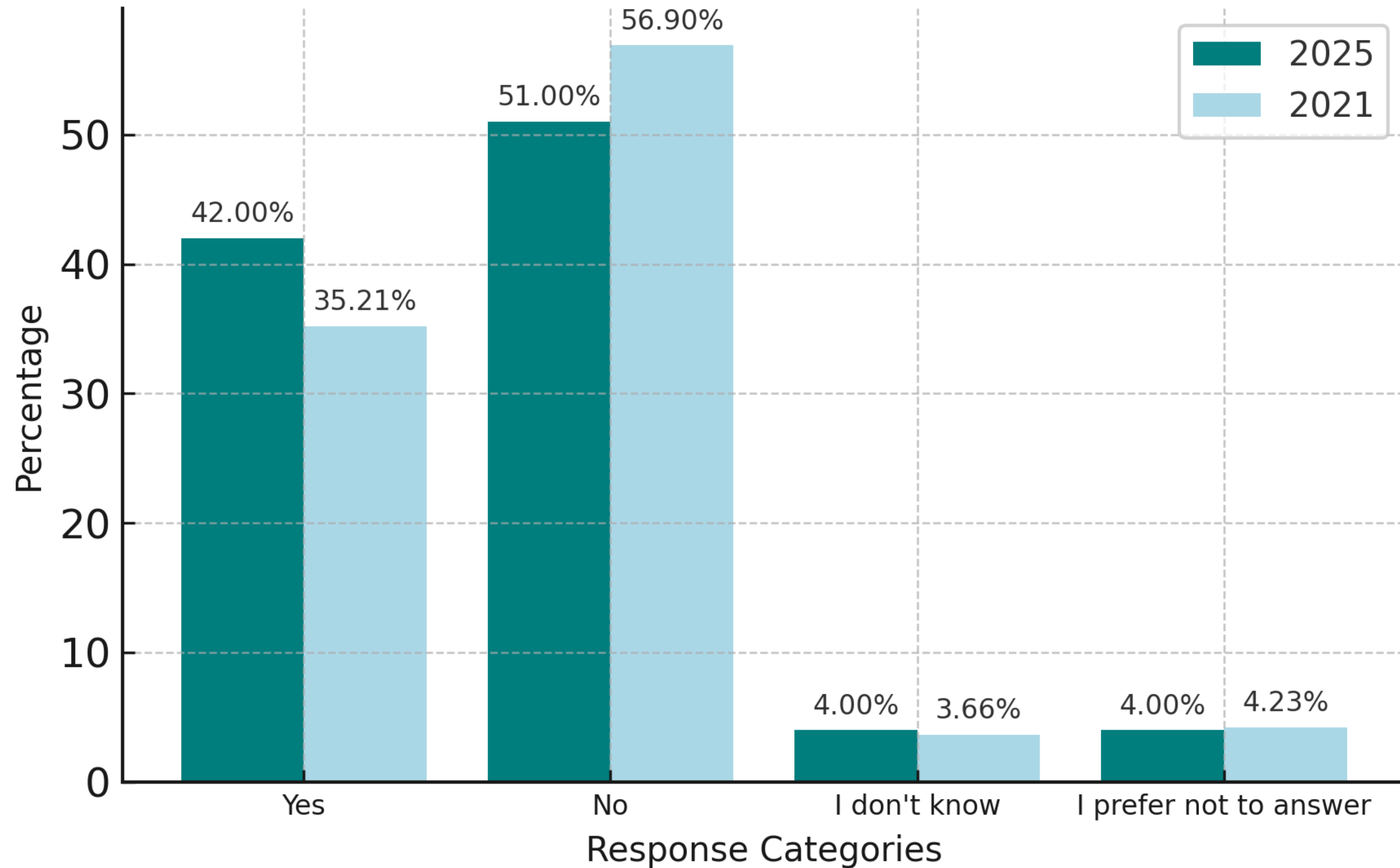


# Q31 - Have you or someone you are close to been impacted by suicide in any way?

292 Responses

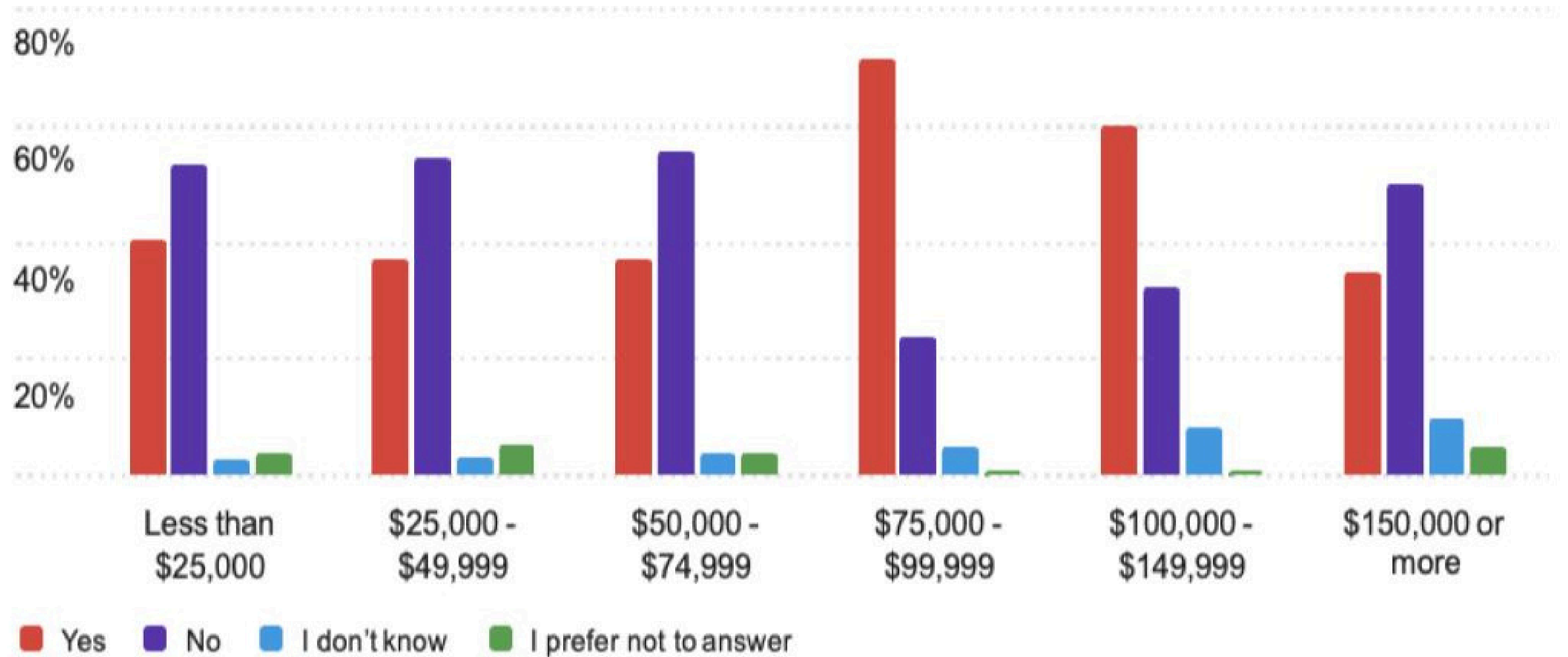


# Have you or someone you are close to been impacted by substance use in any way?



# Q29 - Have you or someone you are close to been impacted by substance use in any way?

294 Responses



**FAMILY VOICE**

**COMMENTS:**

**GRACE CARR,**

**FCFC FAMILY REP**

## **TOP 5 THEMES (BY FREQUENCY OF MENTIONS):**

1. **Housing & Basic Needs (36 mentions)** The most prominent concern among residents centers around affordable housing and meeting basic needs. Comments frequently mentioned rising costs of living, housing affordability, and the need for better housing assistance programs. Residents expressed particular concern about rental costs and housing accessibility.
2. **Employment & Financial Support (21 mentions)** Many comments highlighted the interconnected challenges of employment and financial stability. Residents discussed barriers to maintaining steady employment, including childcare constraints and the need for better-paying job opportunities. Several comments also addressed the need for financial assistance programs and support for low-income families.
3. **Service Accessibility (19 mentions)** A significant number of comments focused on the accessibility of existing services. Residents pointed out challenges in accessing various social services, including complicated application processes, limited service hours, and difficulties in reaching service locations. There were calls for more streamlined access to assistance programs.

4. Transportation (15 mentions) Transportation emerged as a critical barrier to accessing both services and employment opportunities. Residents highlighted the need for better public transportation options and support for reliable transportation to reach jobs, medical appointments, and social services.

5. Healthcare Access (15 mentions) Healthcare accessibility and affordability were frequently mentioned concerns. Comments highlighted challenges with medical debt, the need for better access to mental health services, and difficulties accessing affordable medications for chronic conditions like diabetes and high blood pressure.

**Feedback suggests that many of these challenges are interconnected with issues in one area (such as transportation or childcare) directly impacting residents' ability to maintain employment and access other essential services. Residents emphasized the need for more integrated and accessible support systems that address multiple challenges simultaneously.**

# AROUND THE TABLES:

-WHAT STRUCK YOU?

-WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO ASK TO LEARN MORE?

-HOW WILL YOU USE THIS DATA IN YOUR WORK?