

2020 HOMELESS SURVEY

Eureka Police Department



OVERVIEW

- **Dates:** March 8th to April 4th, 2020
- **Personnel:** CSET & UPLIFT Eureka
- **Platform:** Survey Monkey on smartphones, tablets, laptops
 - (5) initial/pilot surveys conducted on paper and then transferred to Survey Monkey
- **Method:** in-person and via telephone*
 - *(20) into Eureka Rescue Mission due to COVID-19 lockdown
- **Margin of error:** 4%



OVERVIEW

- 38 Questions
- Responses to each question is self-reported
- Most open-ended with pre-set responses/categories
- Option for fill-in “other”
- Names were included but not required
 - Helped to identify duplicate surveys
 - Secure - only Sgt. La France and Chief Watson have access to individual responses



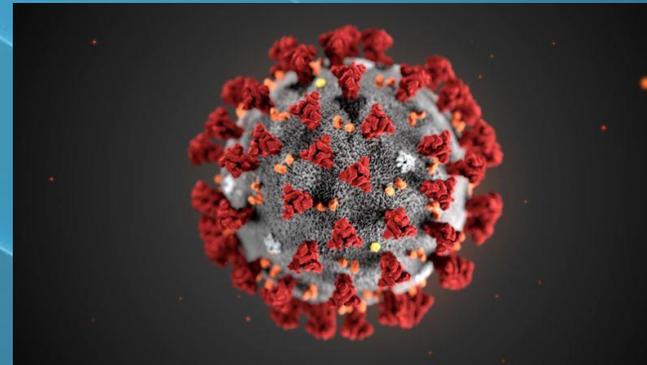
SURVEY VERIFICATION

- After survey ended...
 - Looked at “other” responses
 - Placed “other” response into appropriate categories
 - Some “other” responses did not fit any category/theme
 - Created additional categories based on common categories/themes
 - Checked for and removed duplicate surveys
 - (10) duplicate caused by system submission errors
 - (2) individuals surveyed twice
 - Most recent survey used.
 - 223 initial surveys to **211 total/final surveys**



FACTORS IMPACTING SURVEY

- Time of year
 - We recognize possible fluctuation in homeless population based on time of year.
 - Long-term survey strategy
 - Conduct survey every other year
 - Start 2nd week of March
 - 4 week period
- **COVID-19**



2018 / 2020 SURVEY COMPARISON FACTORS

- 2018 – conducted over 4 month period, August to December
- 15 questions
- Less response categories
- 190 individual surveys conducted



HOMELESS DEFINITION FOR 2020 SURVEY

- Someone living on the street
- Someone living in a vehicle
- Someone who is commonly overnight guest at a shelter but...
 - Not a Eureka Rescue Mission program member
 - Not staying at Betty's Blue Angel Village
- Meets one of the above criteria and is contacted within the city limits of Eureka

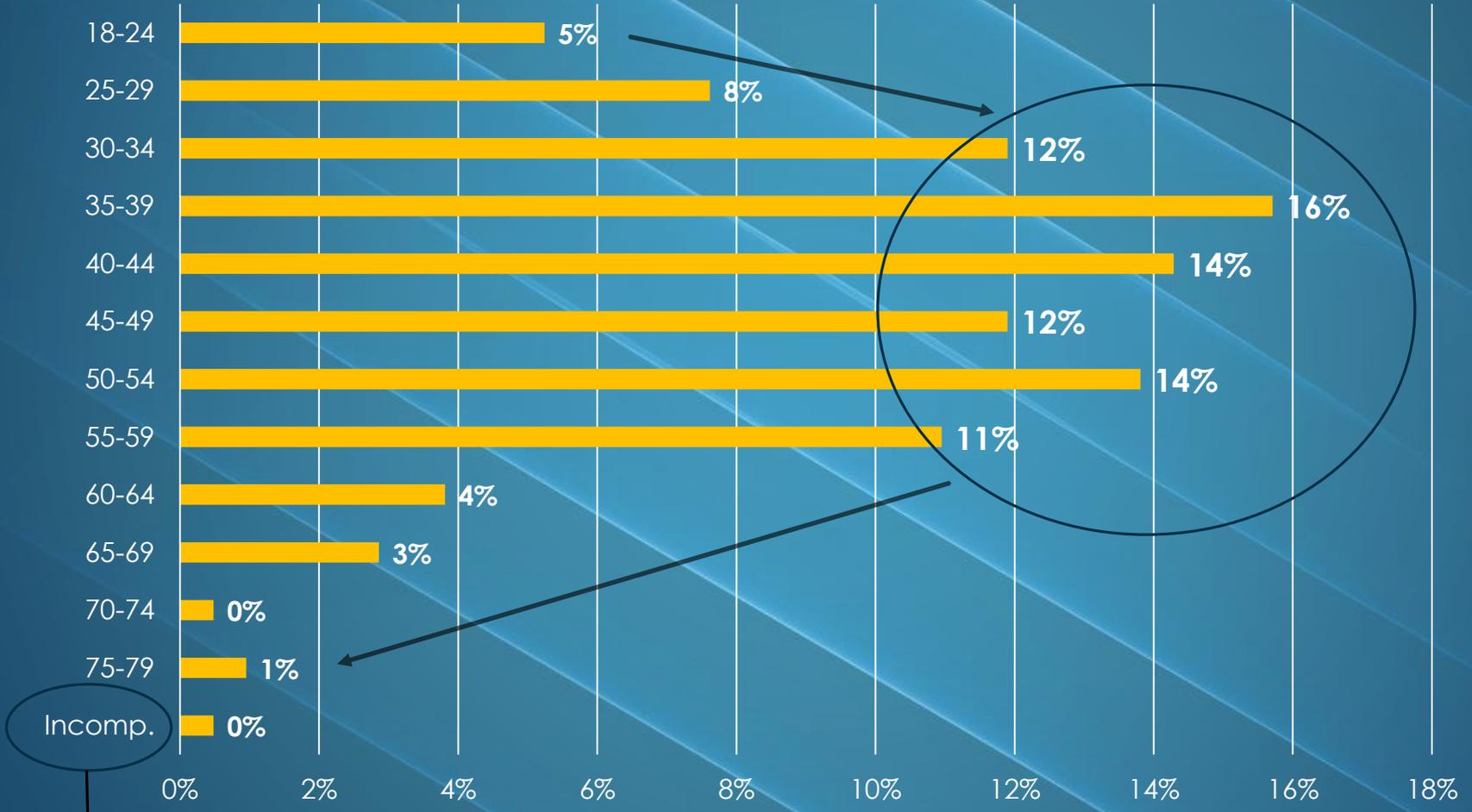


PRESENTATION INFORMATION

- 2018 Homeless Survey - yellow bars
- 2020 Homeless Survey – gold bars
- Number are rounded, some 0% are <1%
- Actual survey data and this presentation will be posted on EPD Transparency Portal



Q2 – Age*

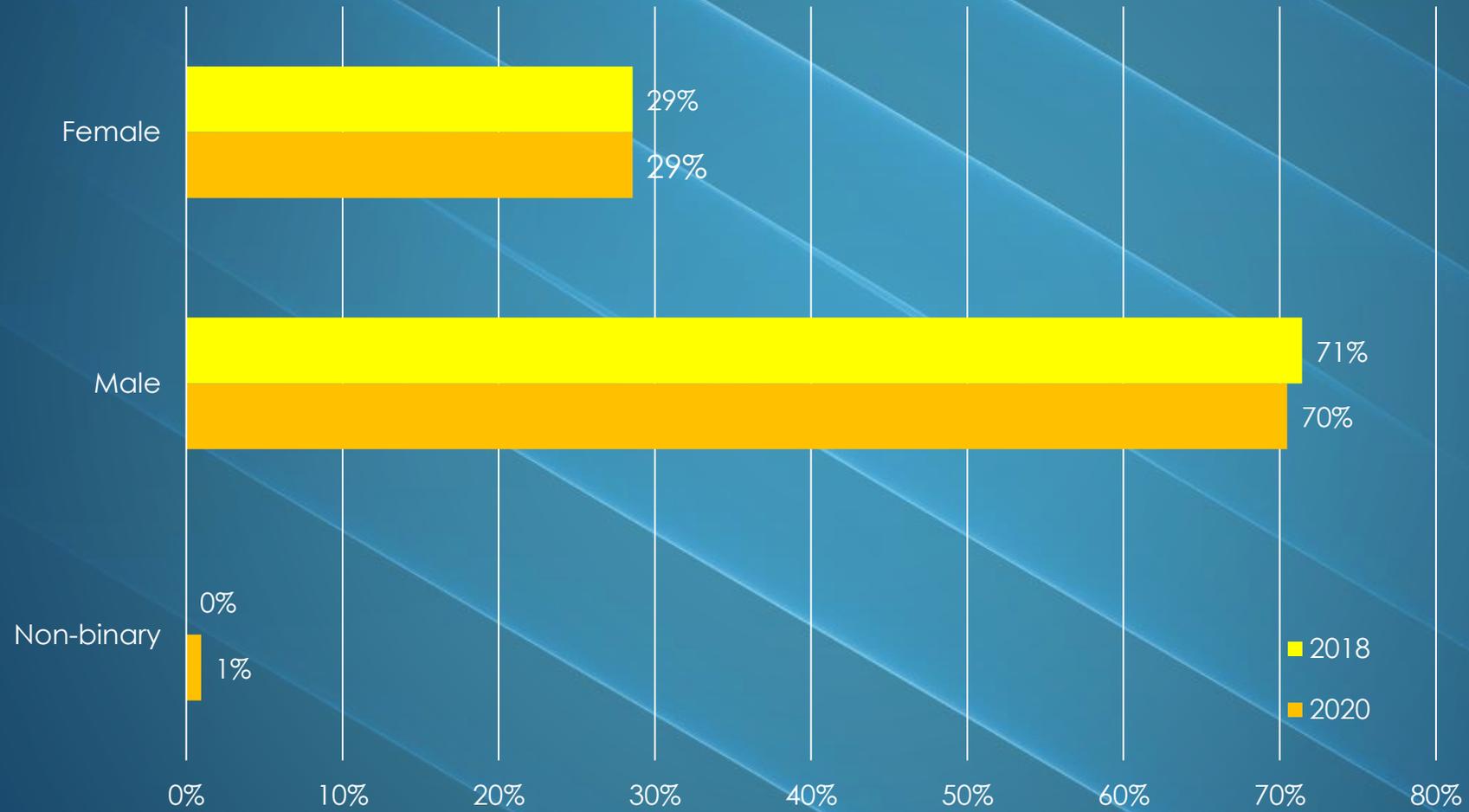


incomprehensible / nonsensical response

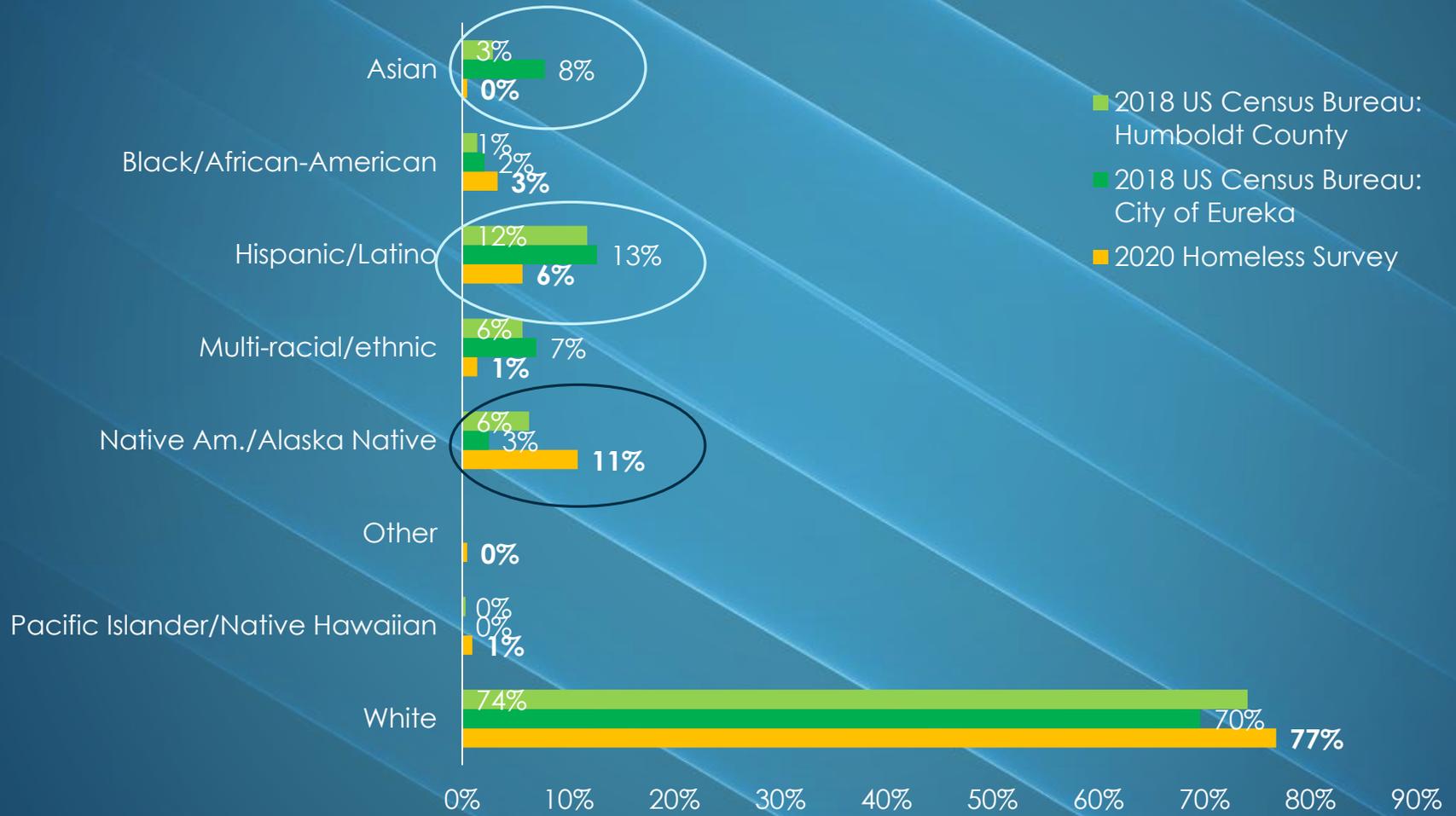
*Zero unaccompanied <18 years



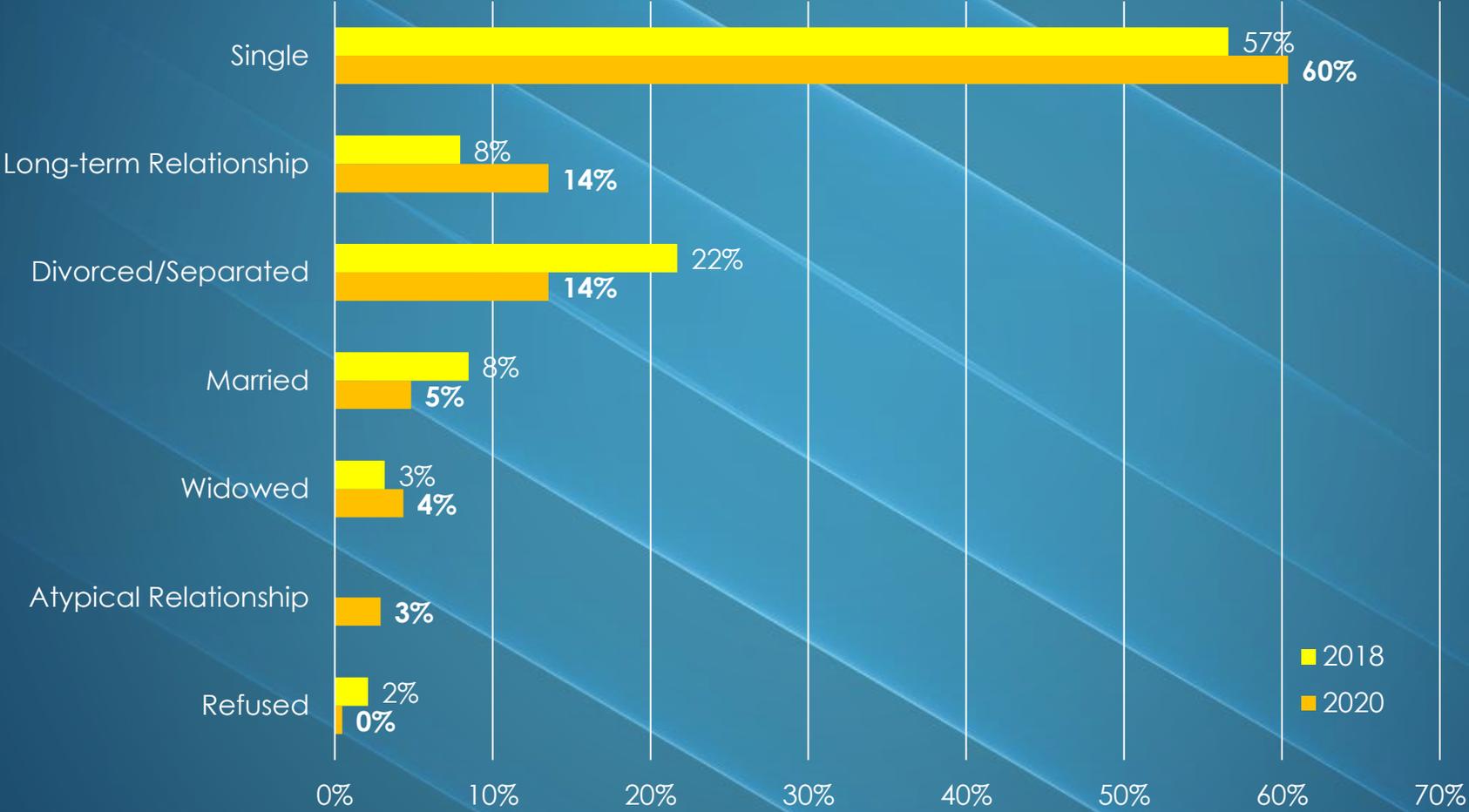
Q3 – Gender



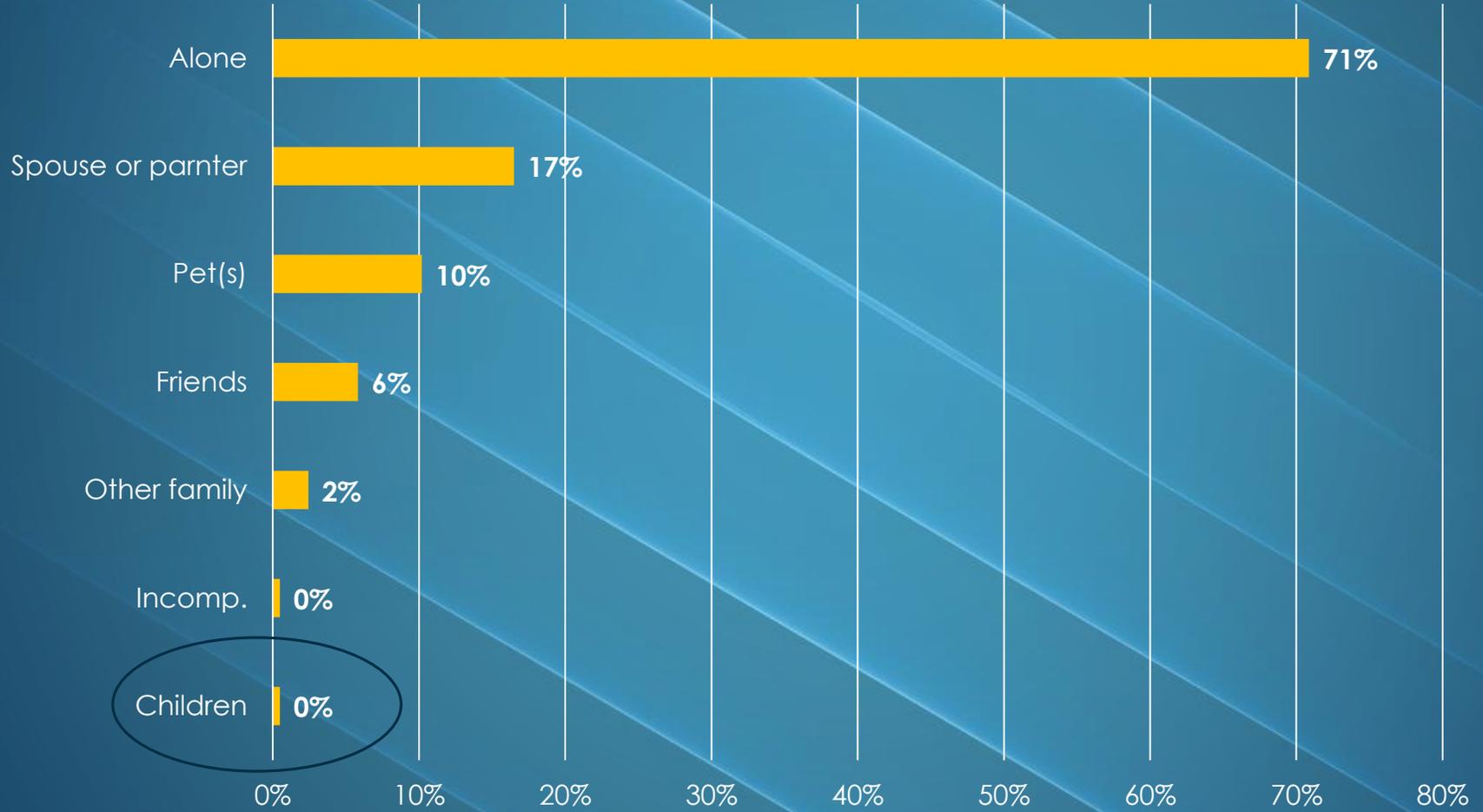
Q4 – Race or ethnicity



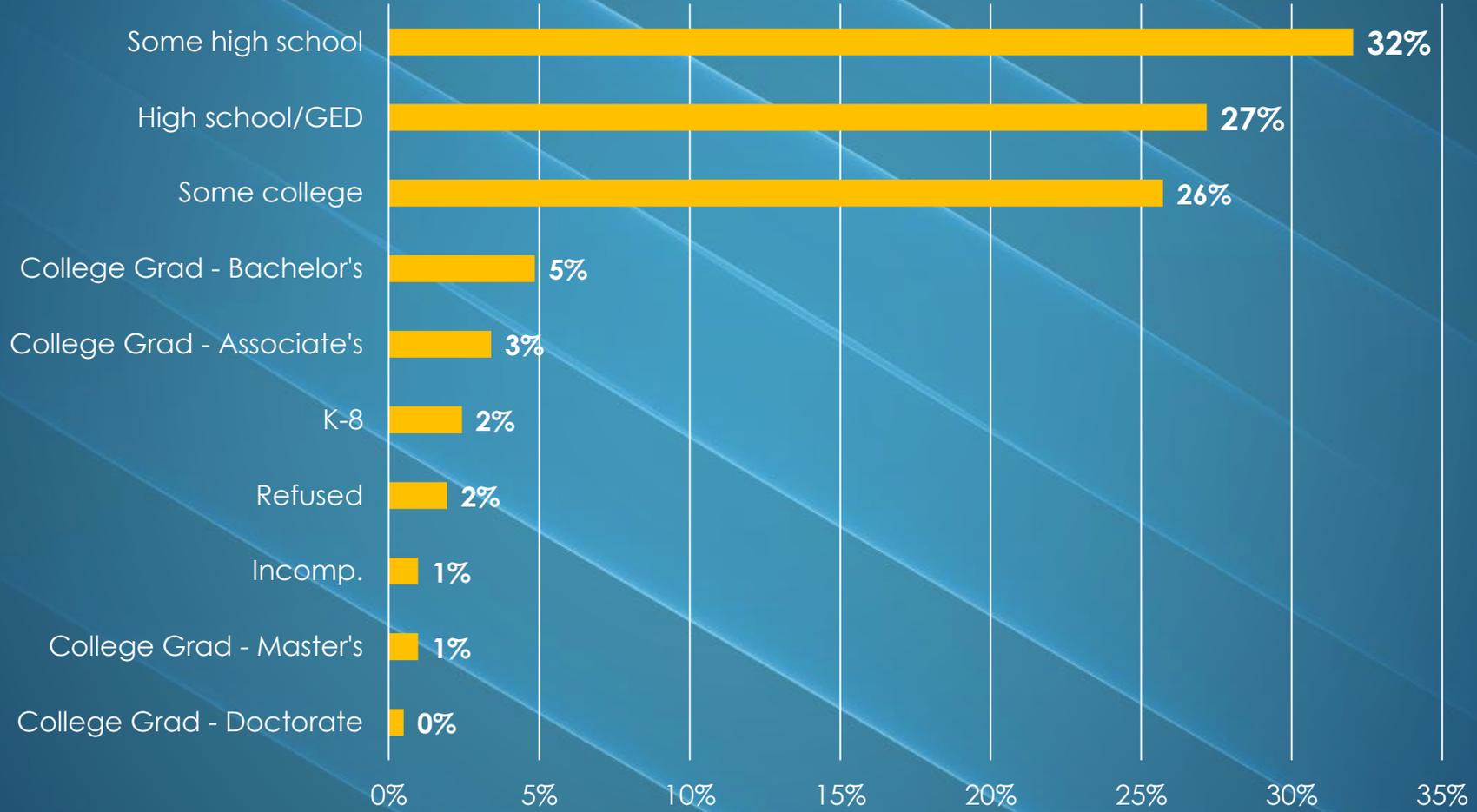
Q5 – Household, family, or relationship status



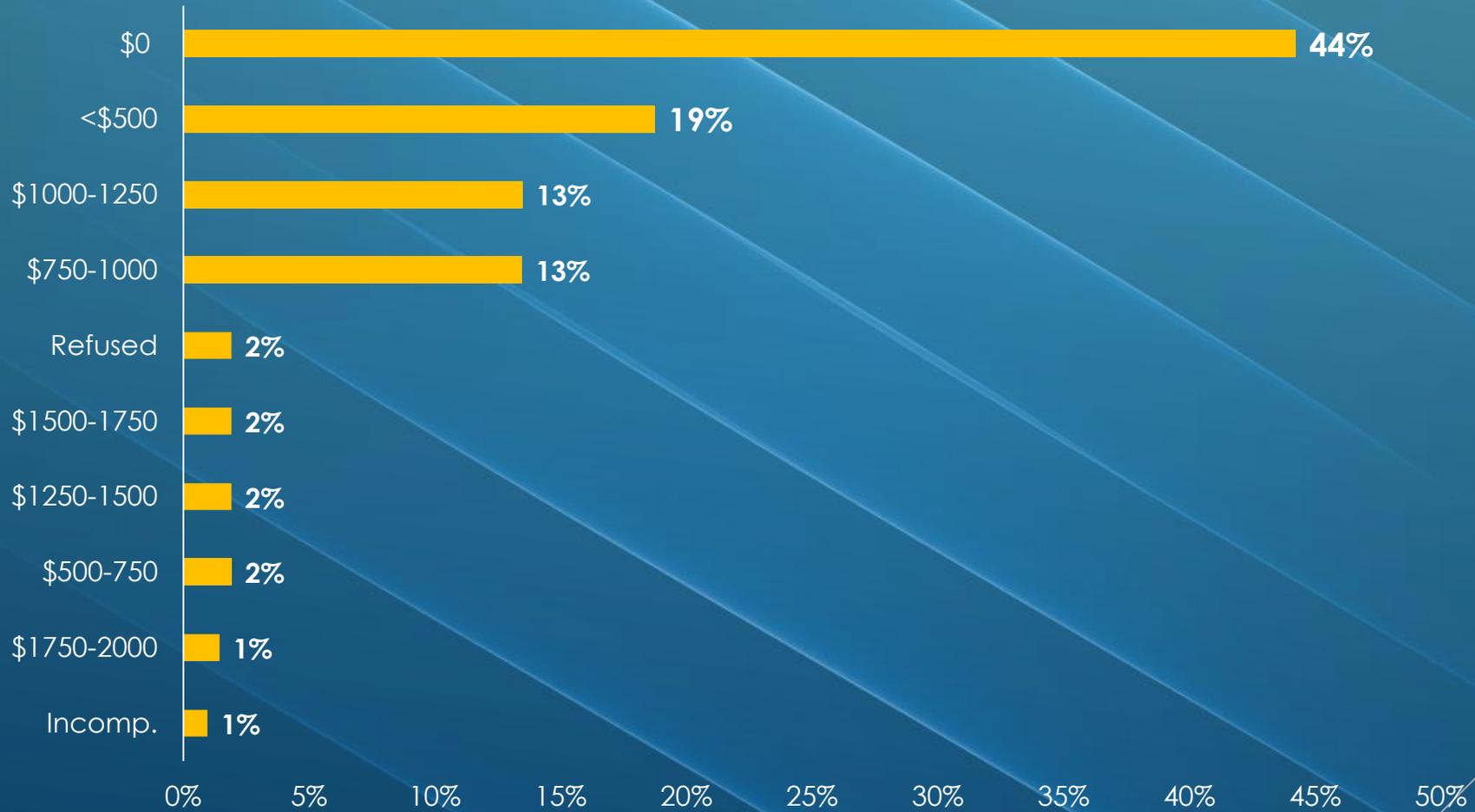
Q6 – Who do you live with?



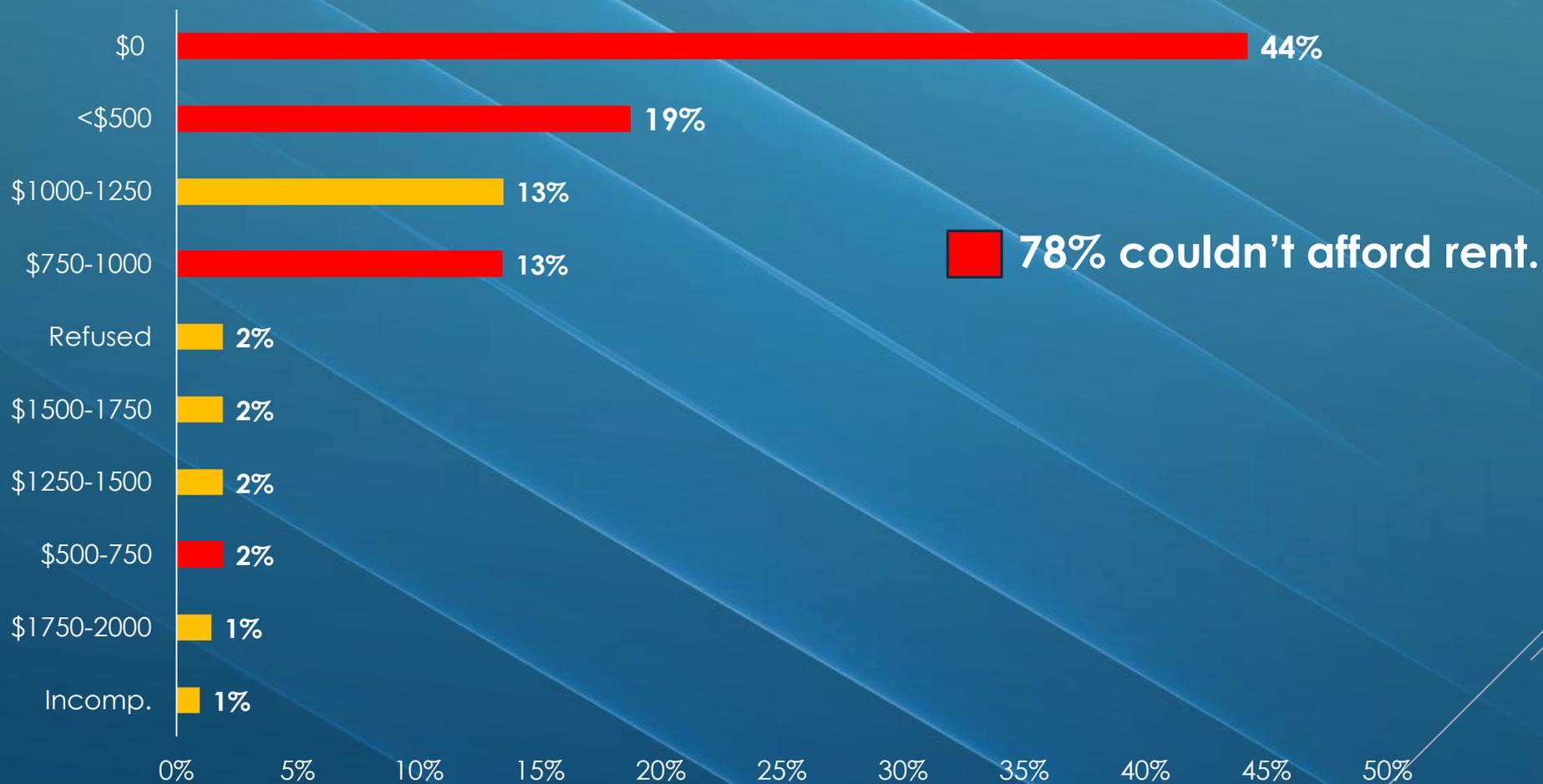
Q7 – Highest level of education



Q8 – Monthly income



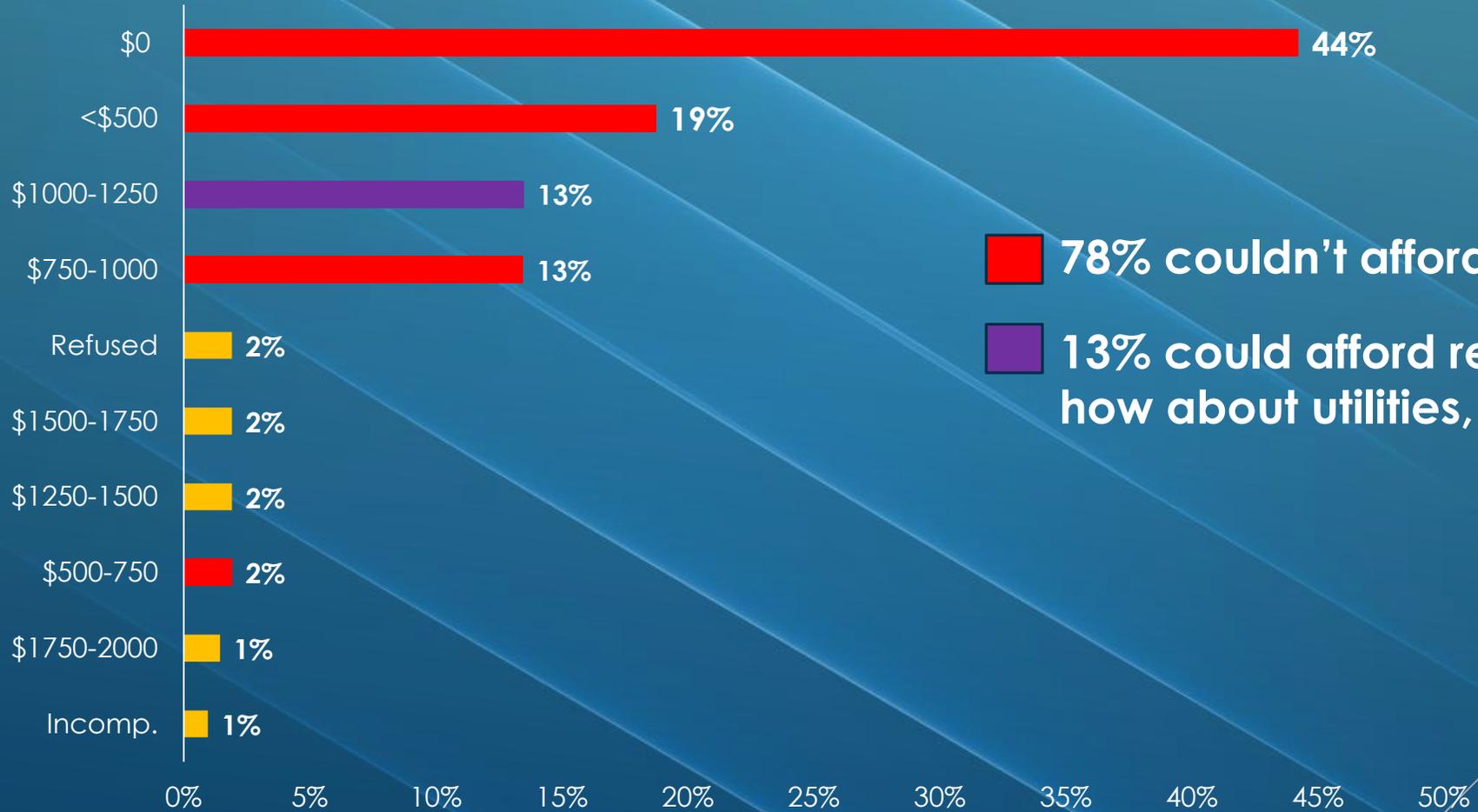
Q8 – Monthly income



2018 Eka/HumCo Median Gross Rent: \$879/\$947 (US Census Bureau)



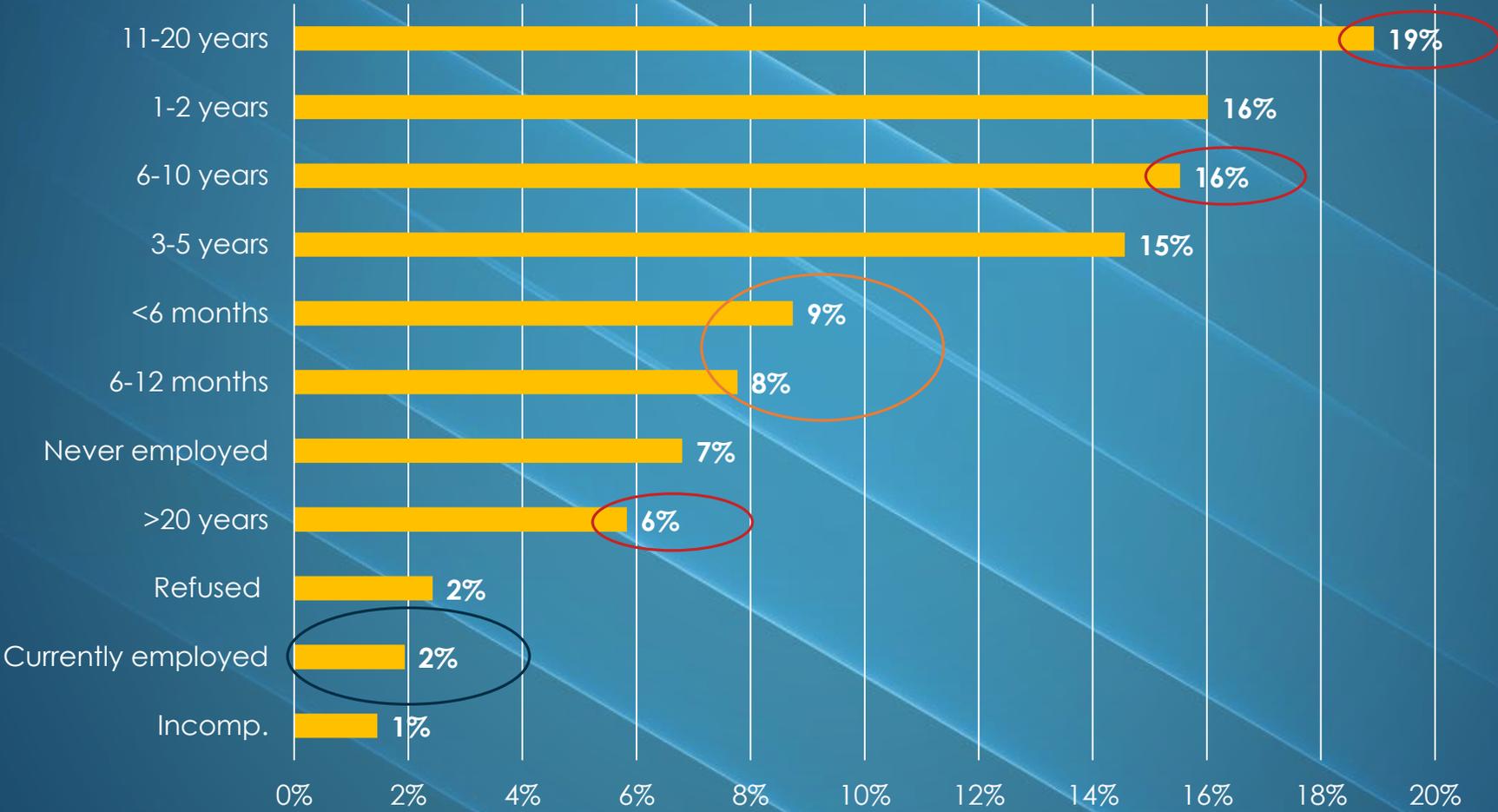
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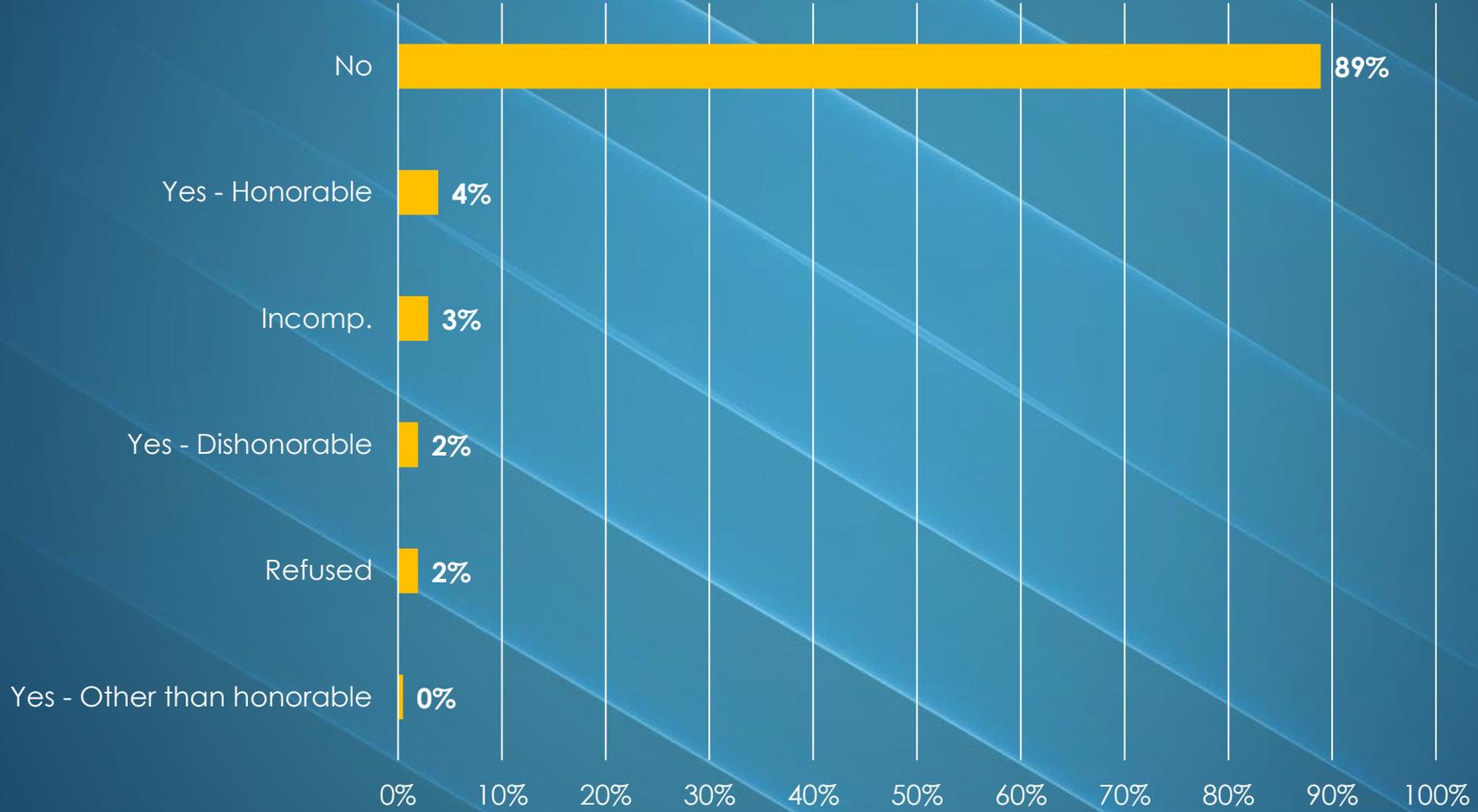
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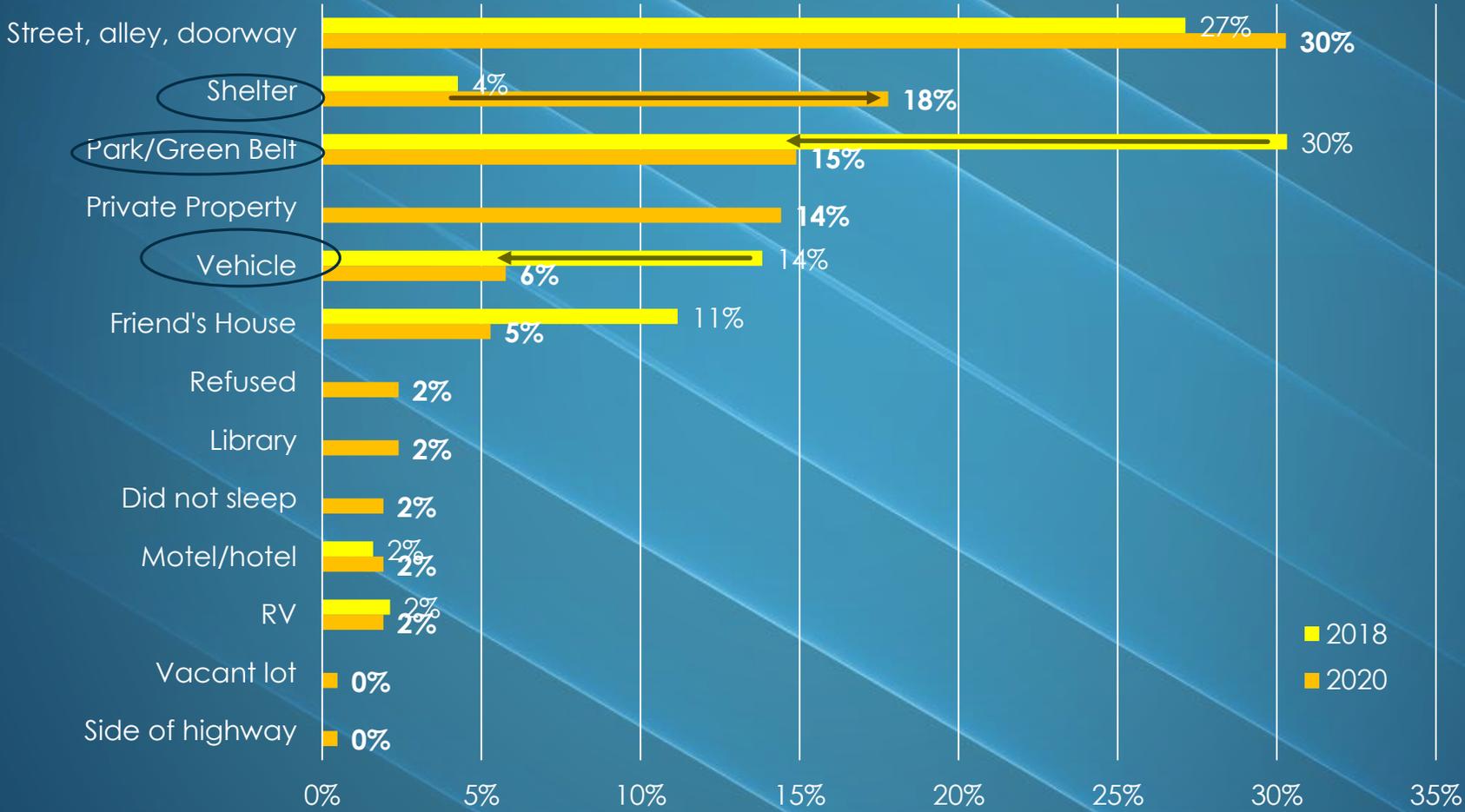
Q9 – Last time employed



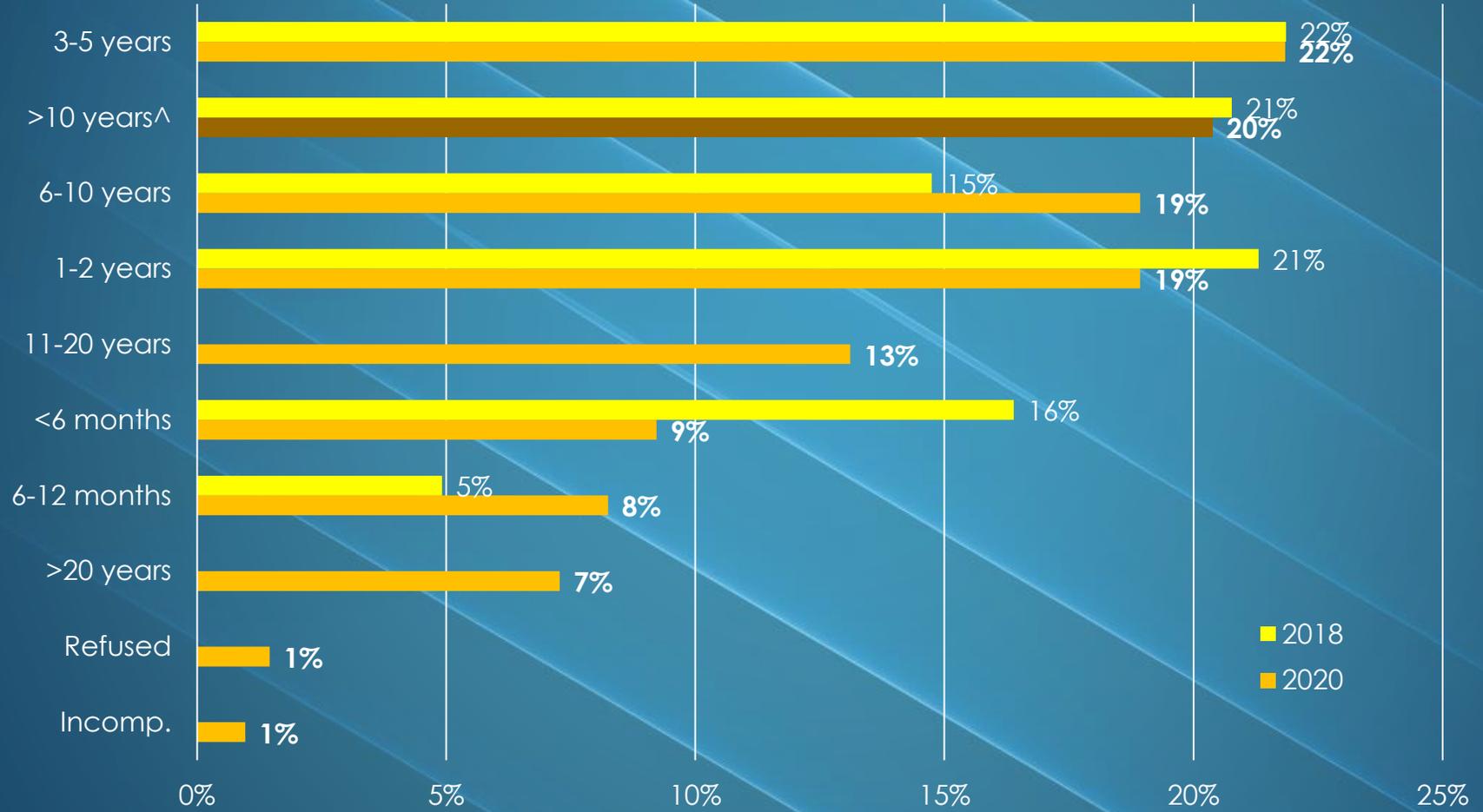
Q10 – Military service



Q11 – Where did you sleep last night?



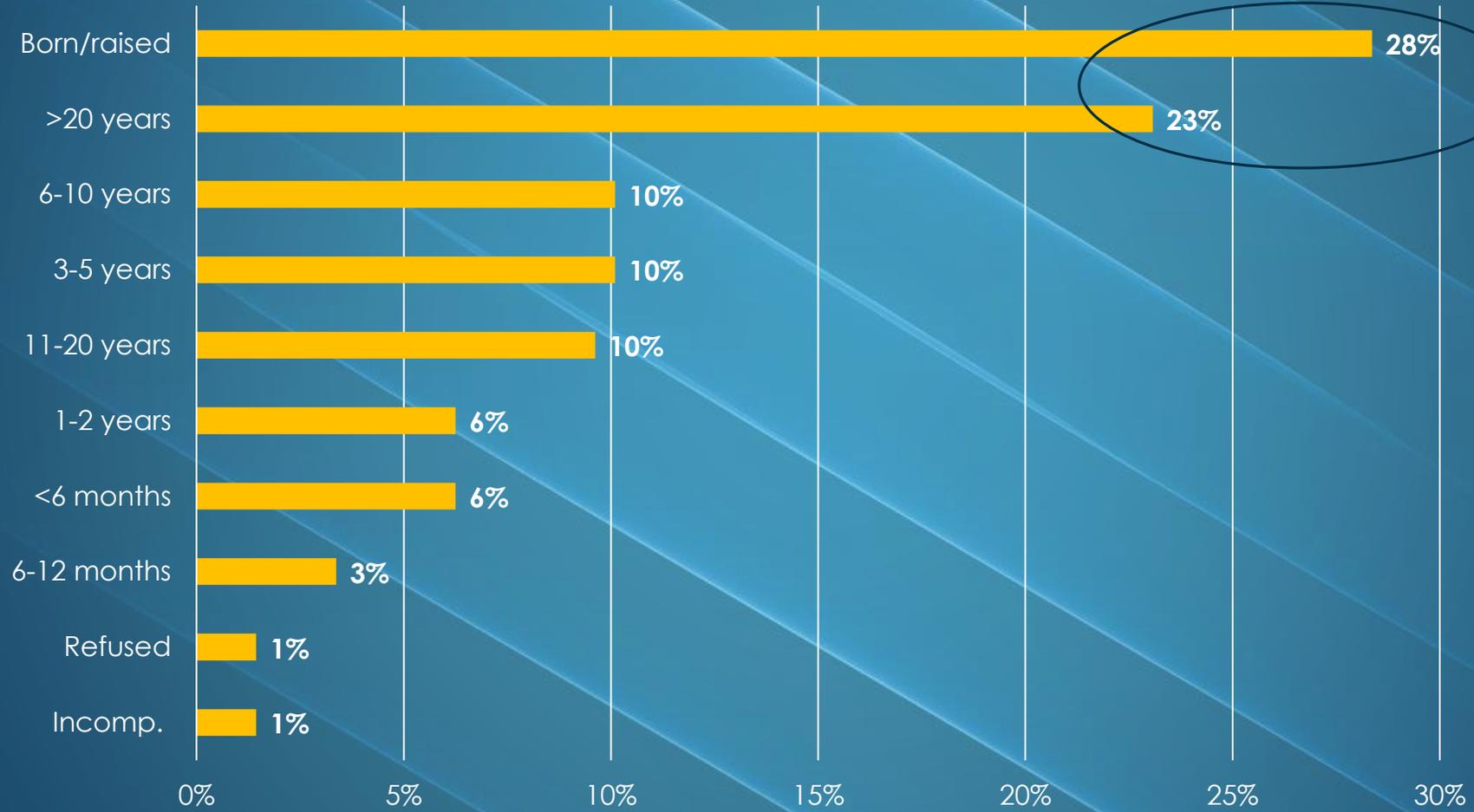
Q12 – How long have you been homeless?



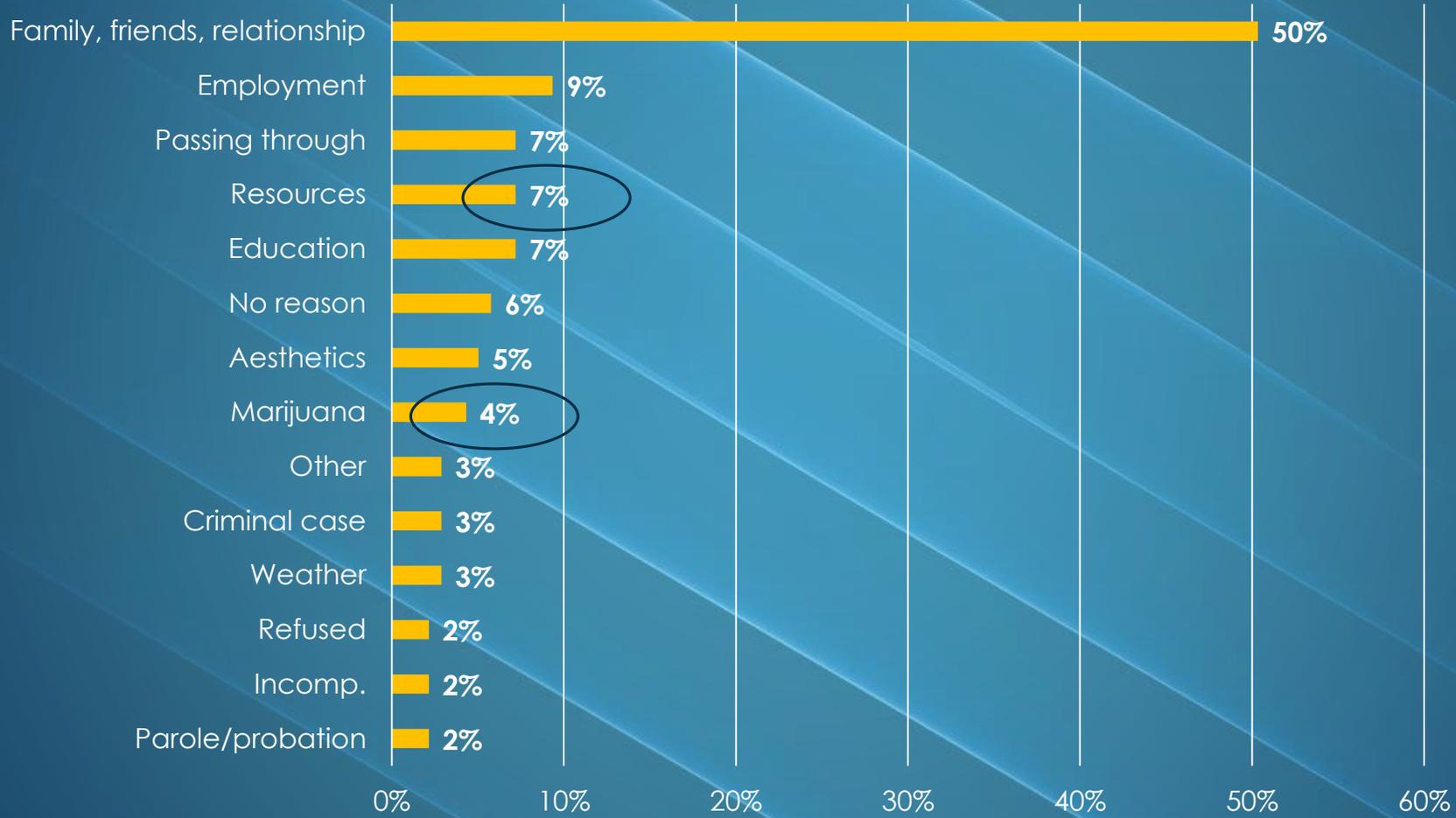
>10 years for 2020 – combination of categories 11+ years



Q13 – How long have you lived in Humboldt?



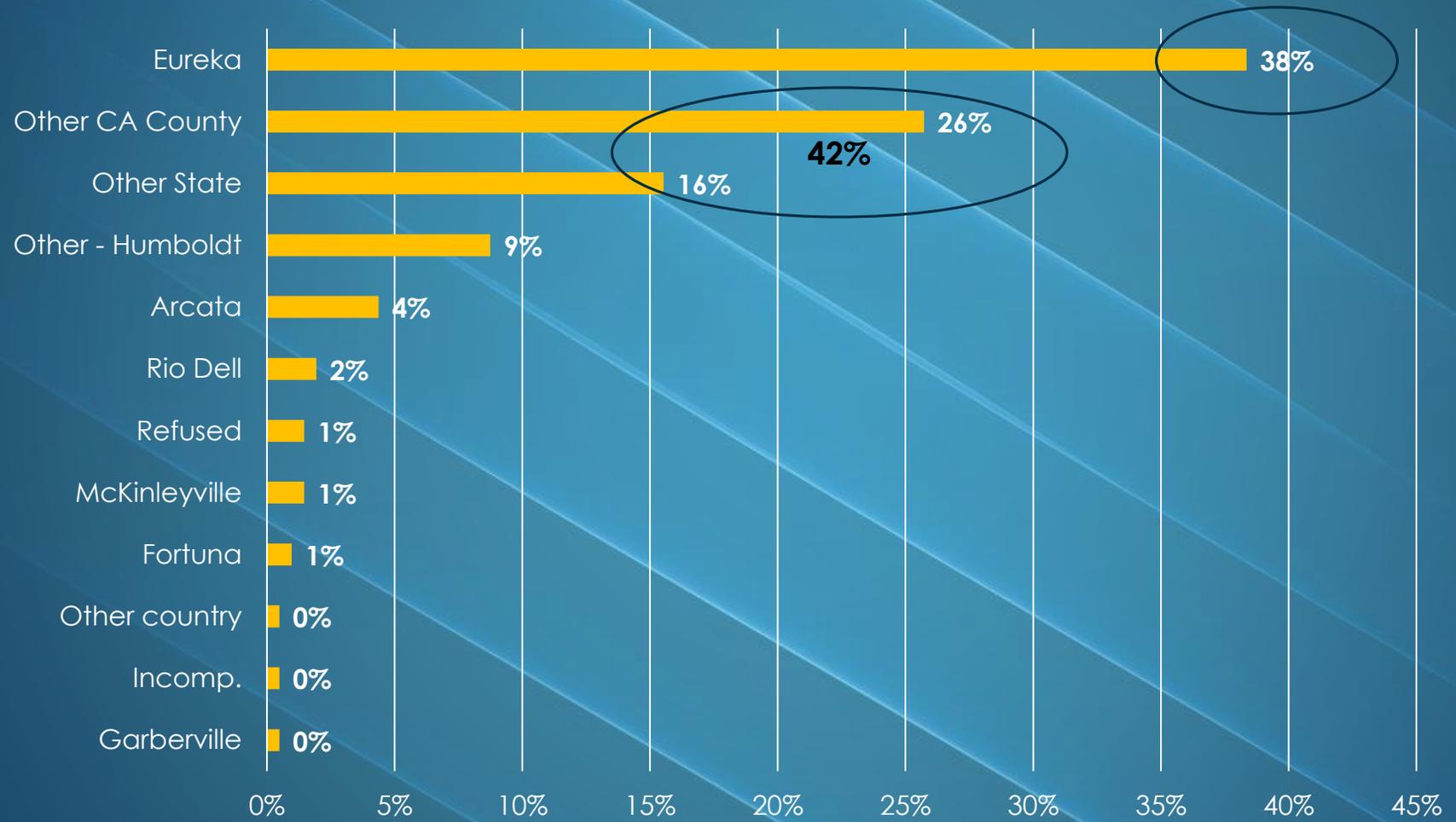
Q14 – Why did you come to Humboldt?*



*57 n/a, 139 responses, multiple responses allowed

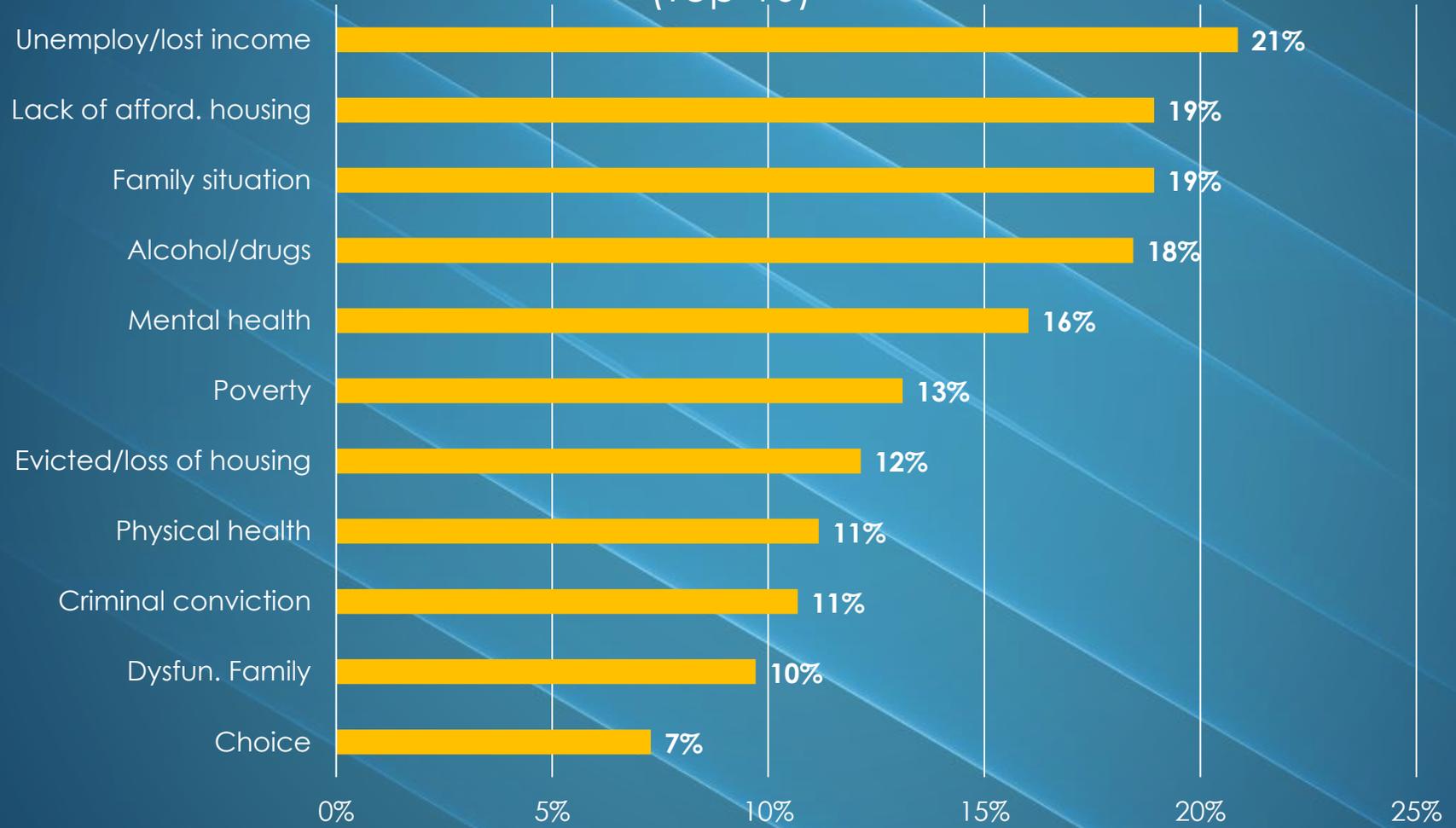


Q15 – Where did you live prior to becoming homeless?



Q16 – Why are you homeless?*

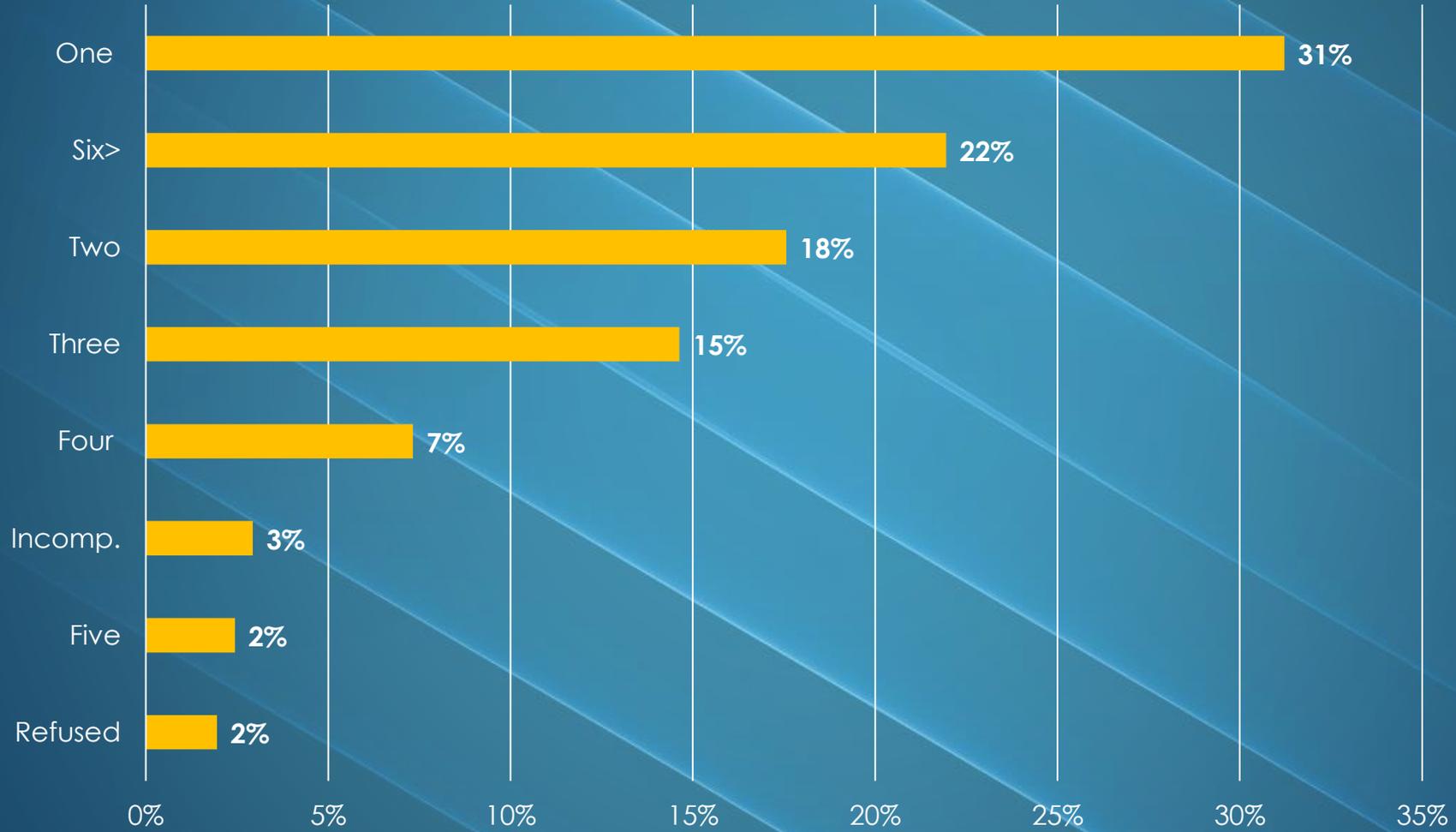
(Top 10)



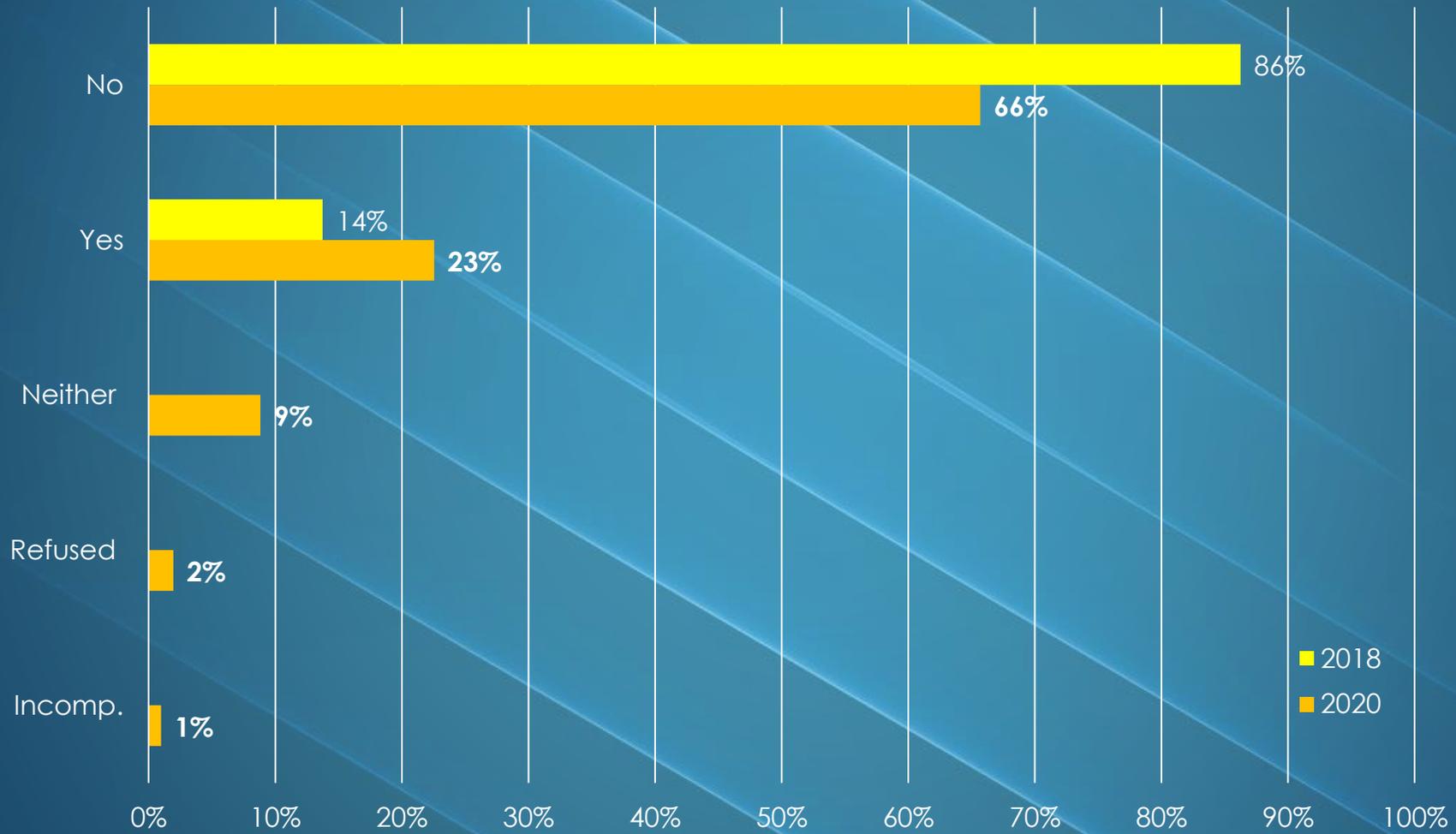
*multiple responses allowed



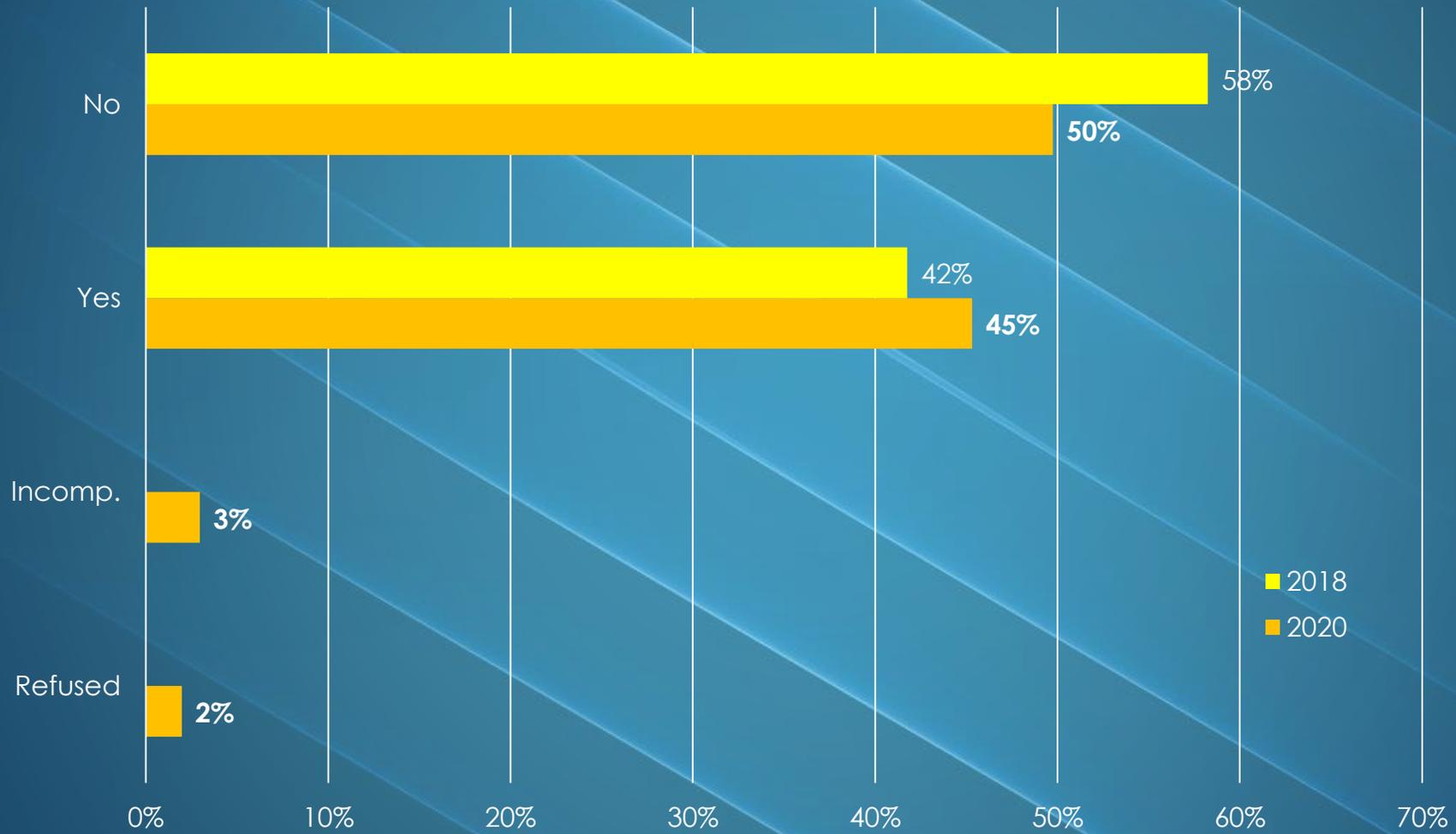
Q17 – Periods of homeless in life



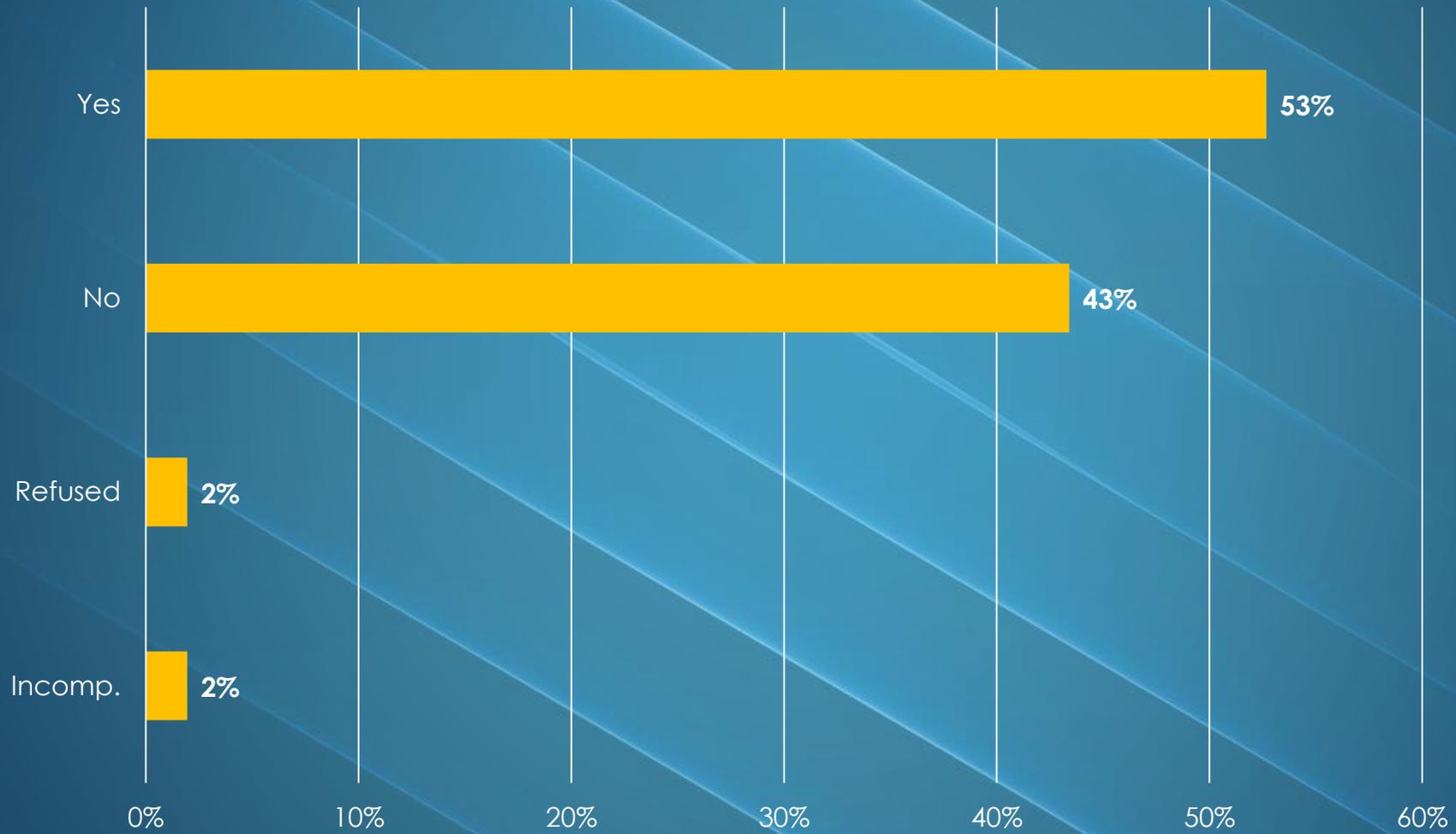
Q18 – Are you satisfied with your current life?



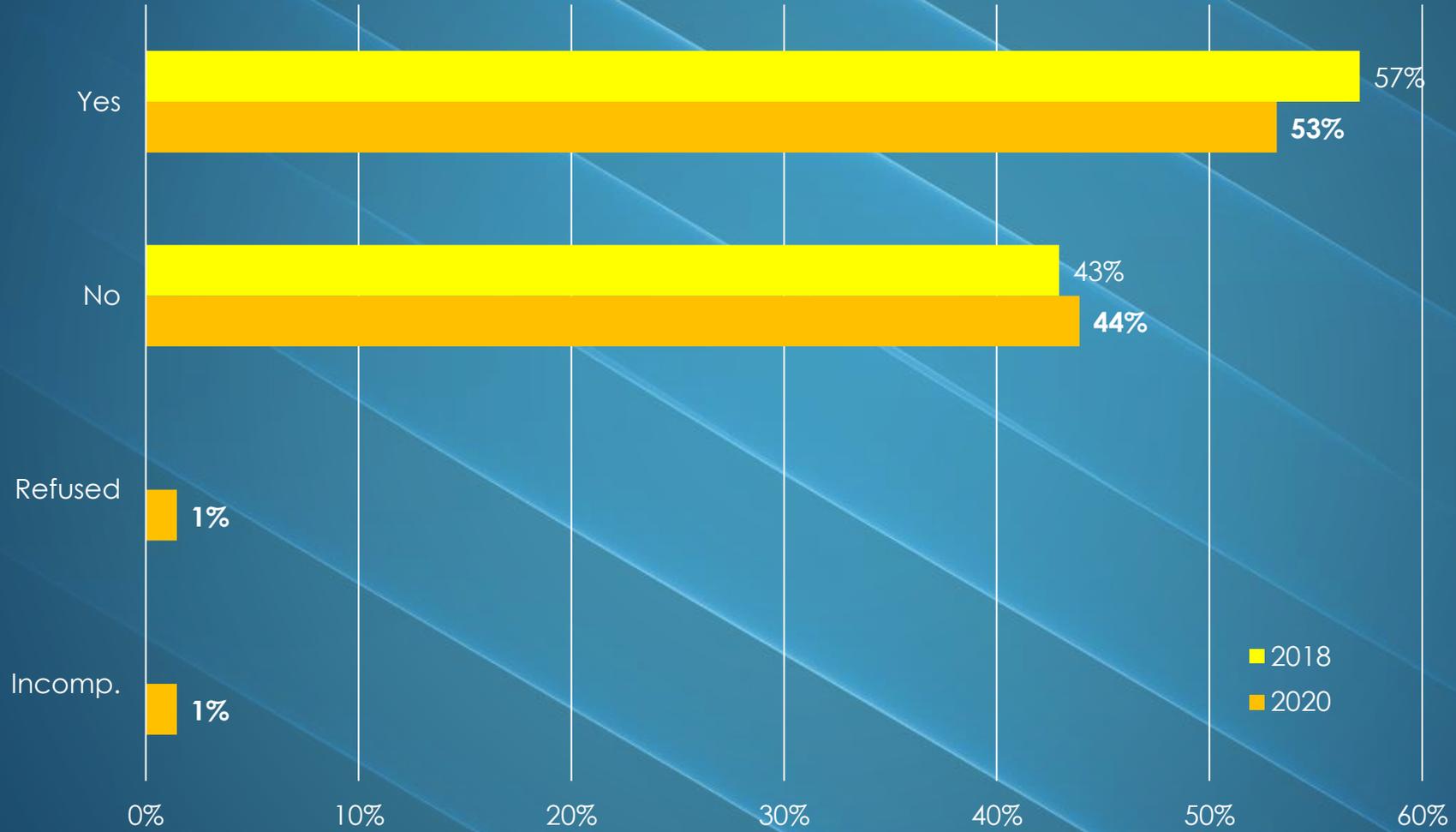
Q19 – Is you lifestyle a matter of choice?



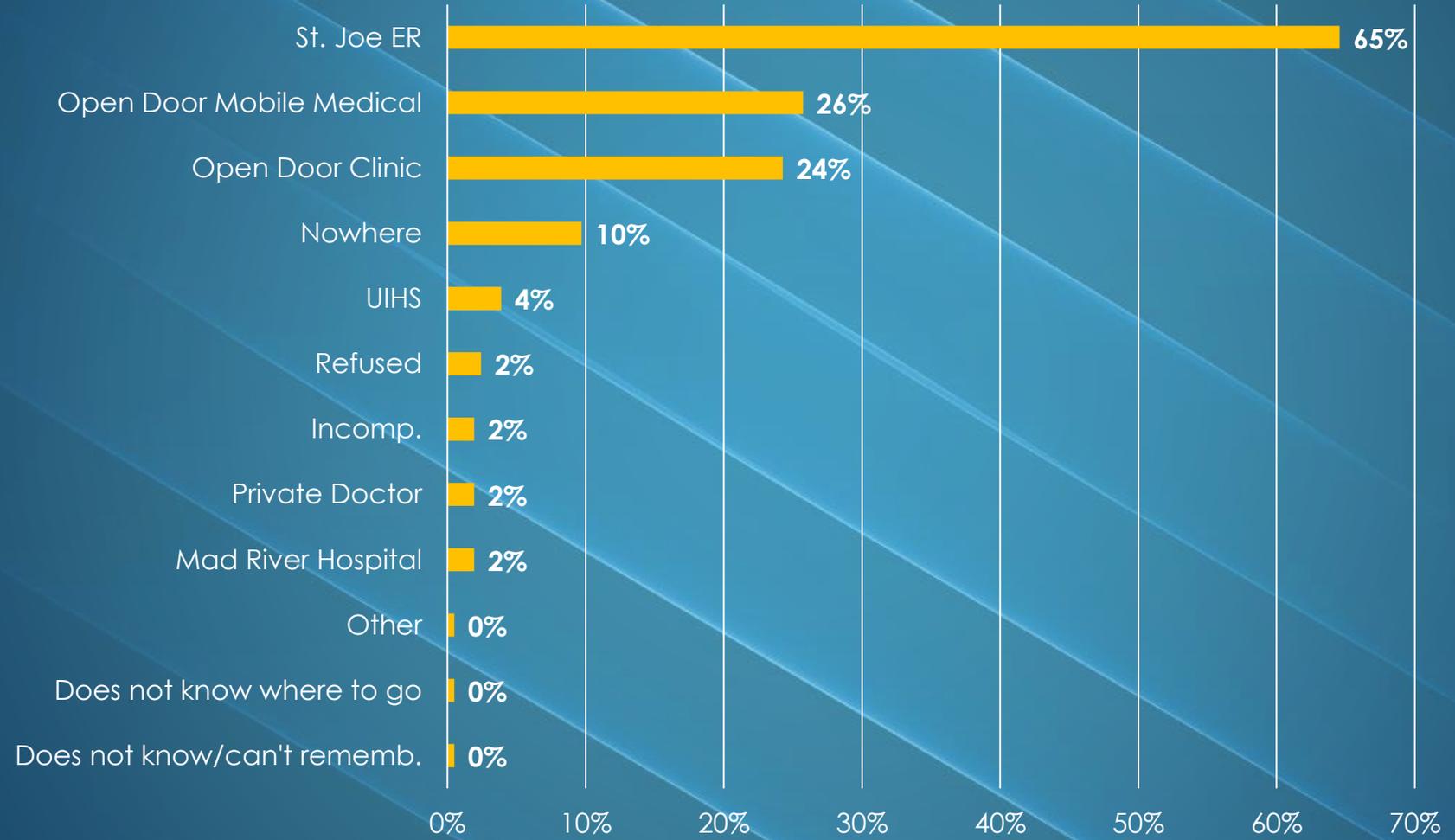
Q20 – Physical disabilities or chronic health problems



Q21 – Diagnosed or treated for mental health issue



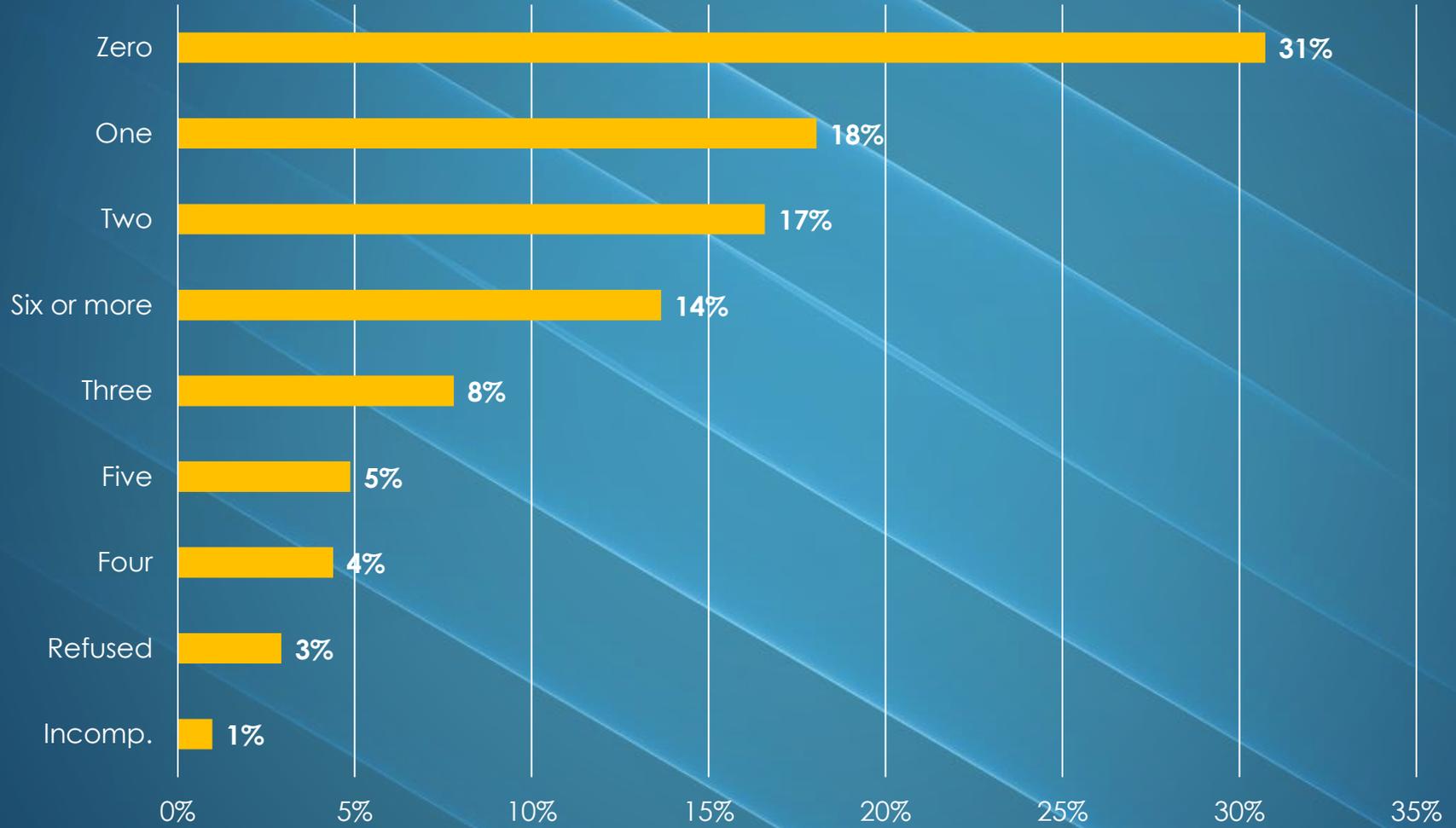
Q22 – Where do you usually go when sick or injured?*



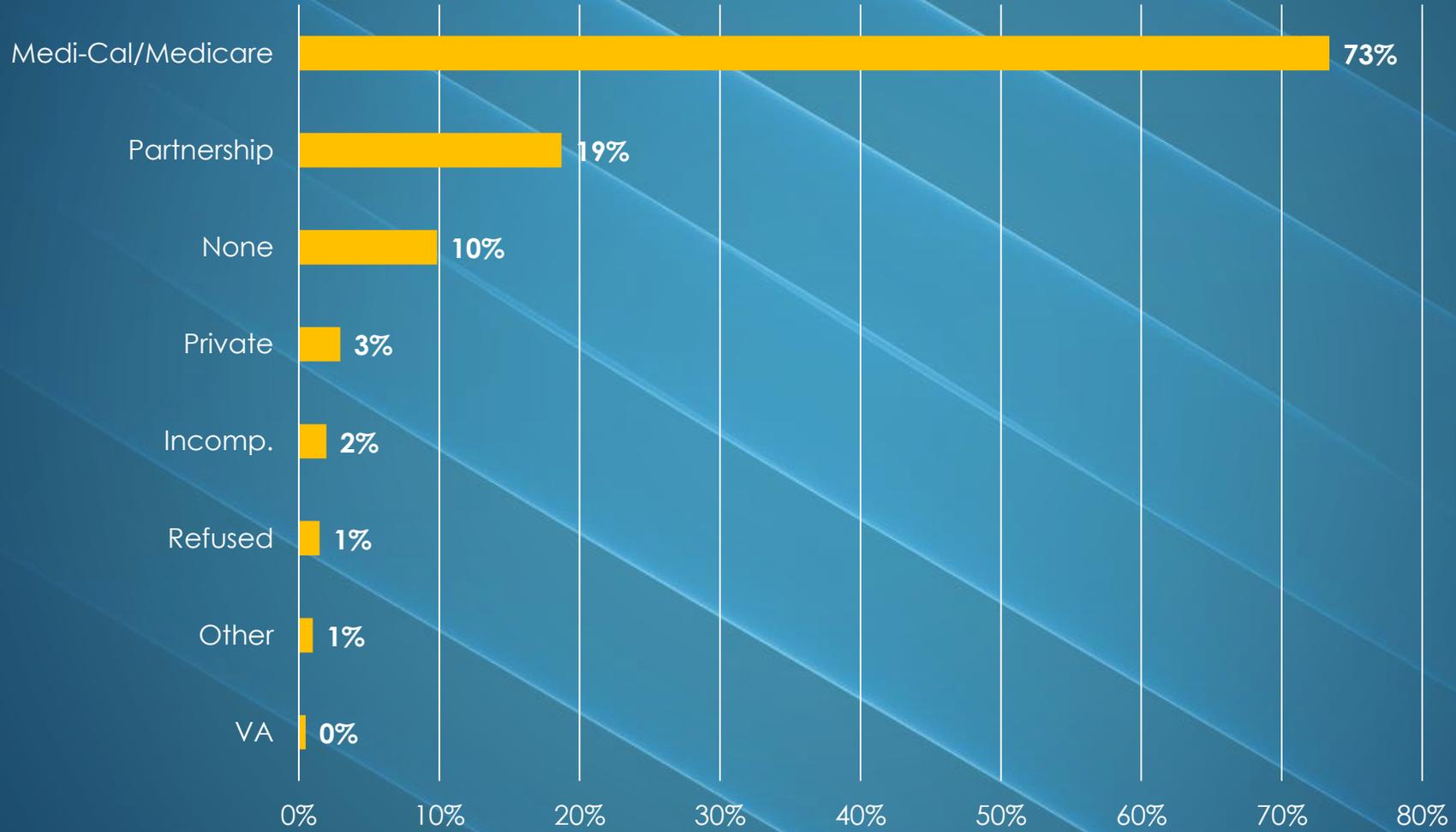
*multiple responses allowed



Q23 – Visited ER in past 12 months



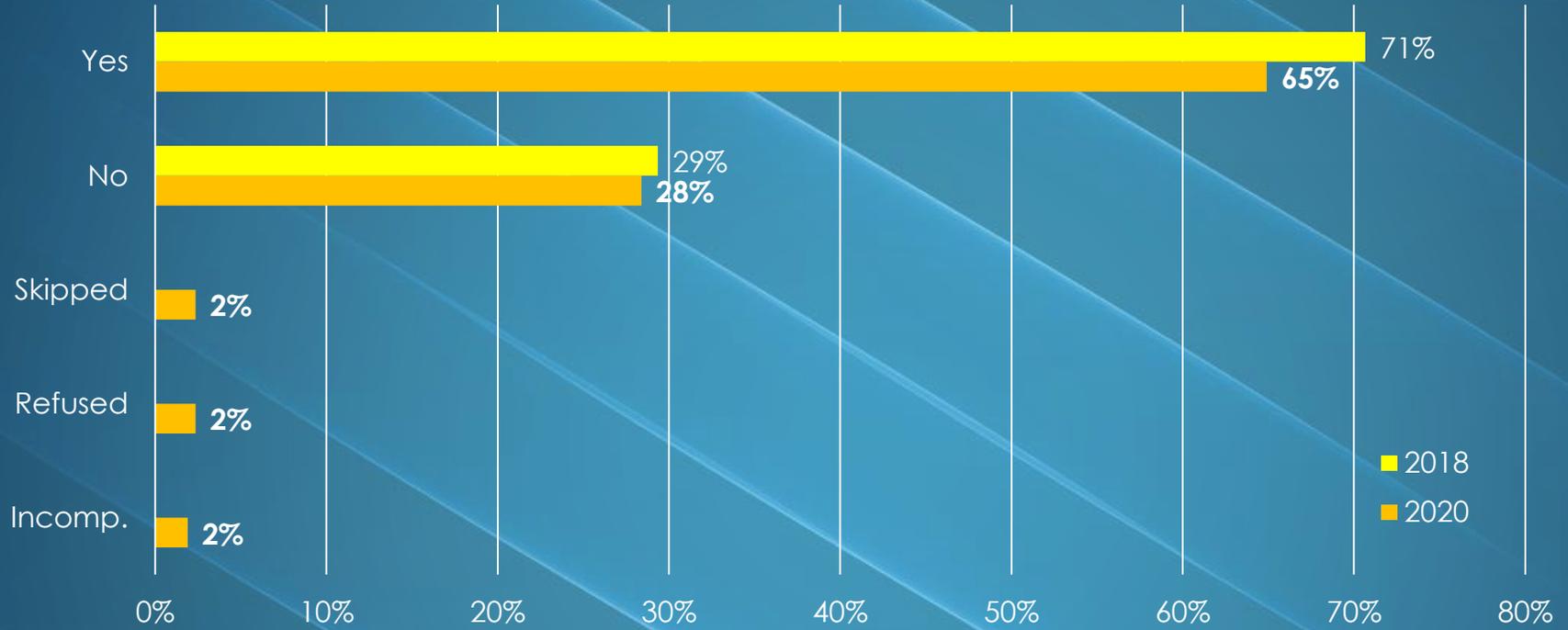
Q24 – Health Insurance



*multiple responses allowed



Q25a – Drugs/alcohol been a problem in your life?*

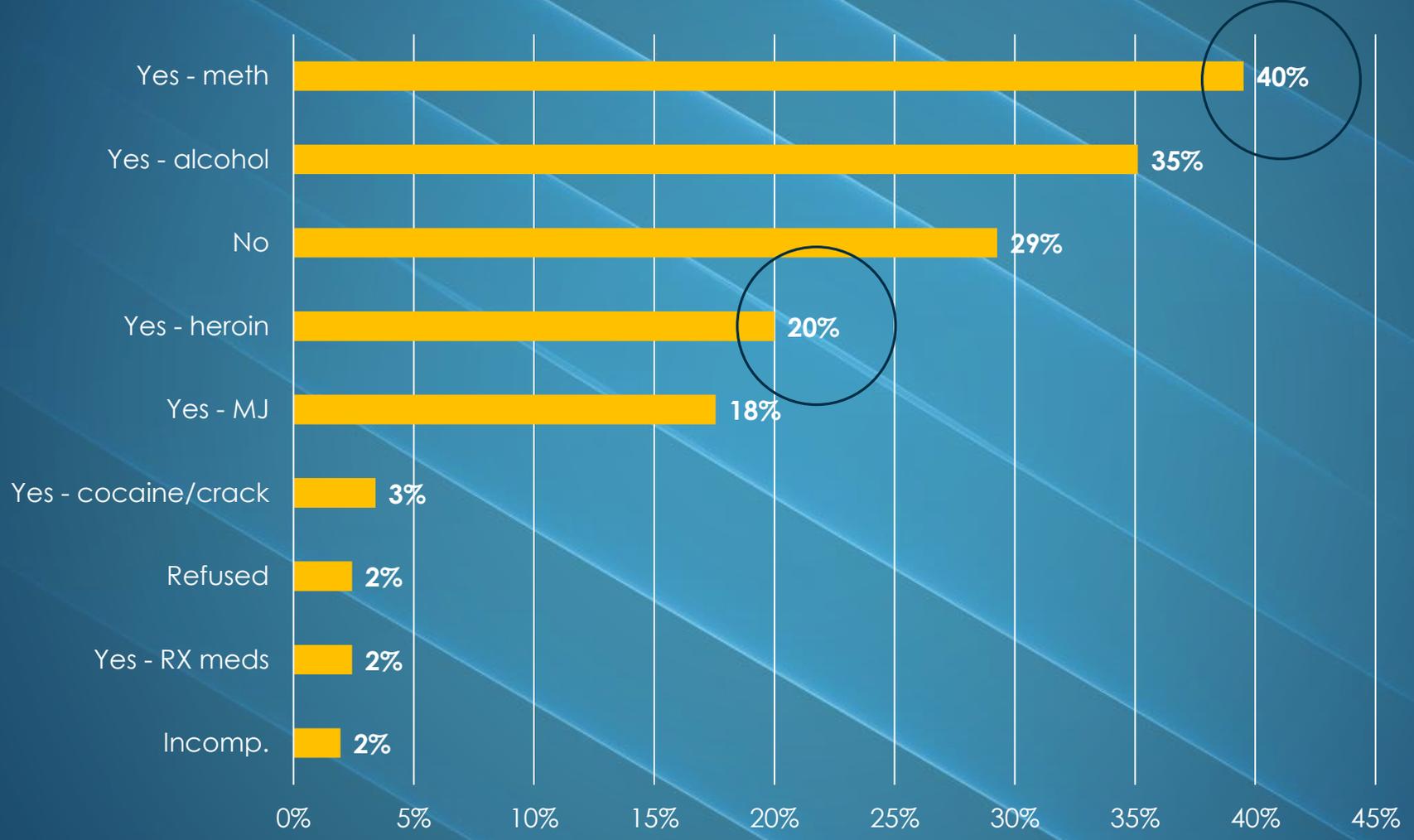


- 2020 Responses
- (137) at least one “yes”
 - (60) at least one “no”
 - (5) skipped question
 - (5) refused to answer
 - (4) incomprehensible

*Statistics were calculated through survey data. Searched for at least one “yes”.



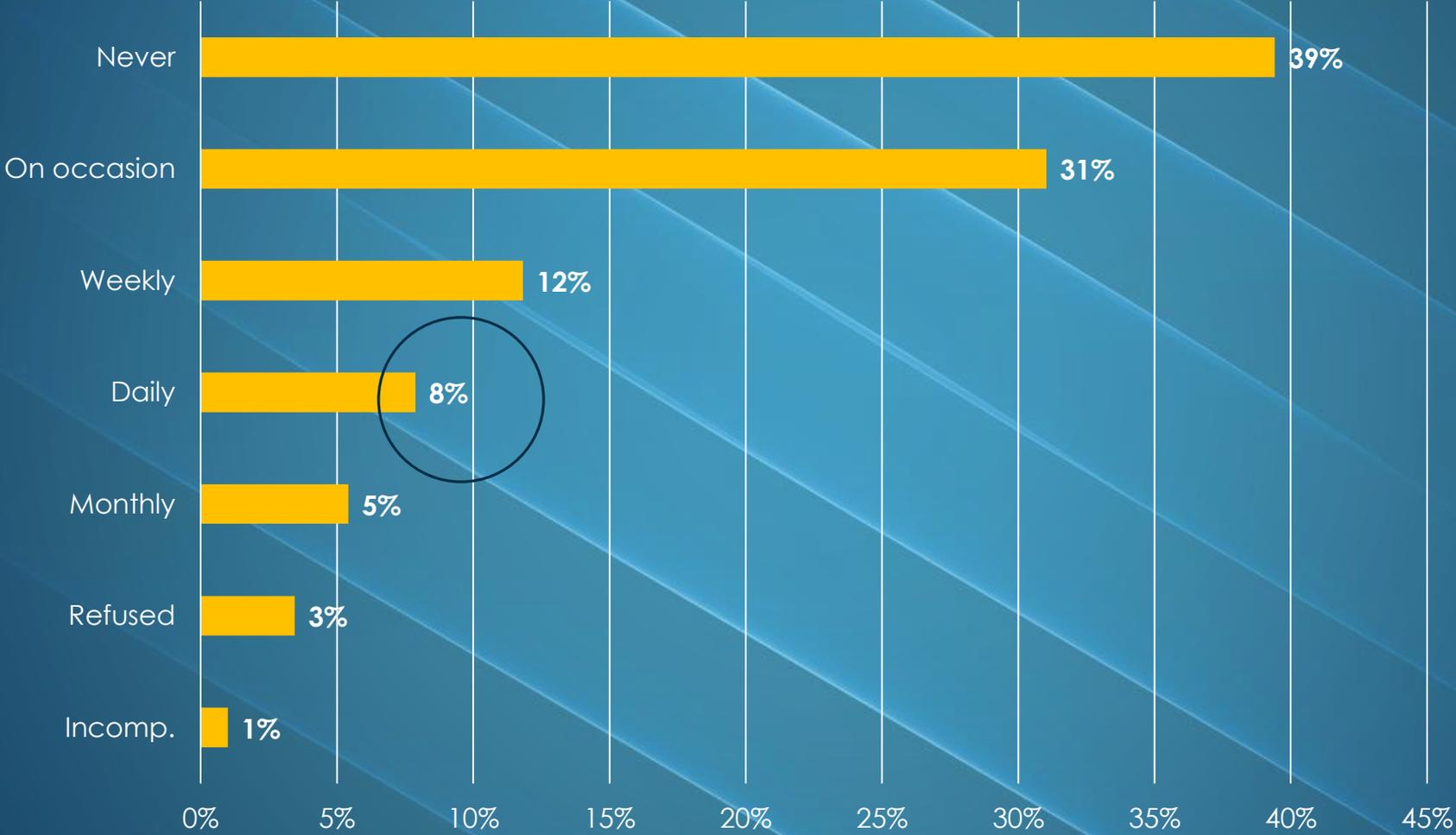
Q25b – Drugs/alcohol been a problem in your life?*



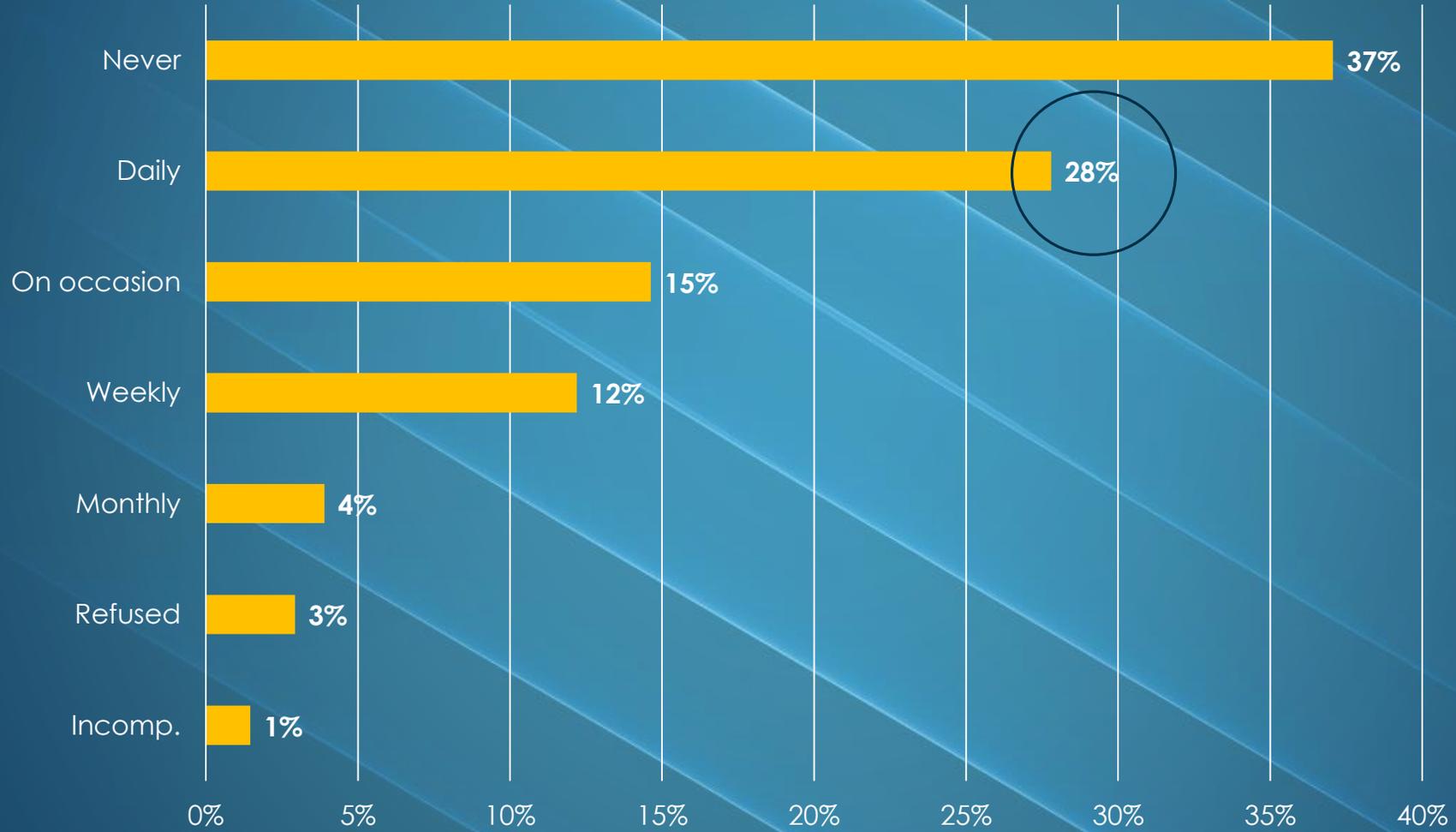
*multiple responses allowed



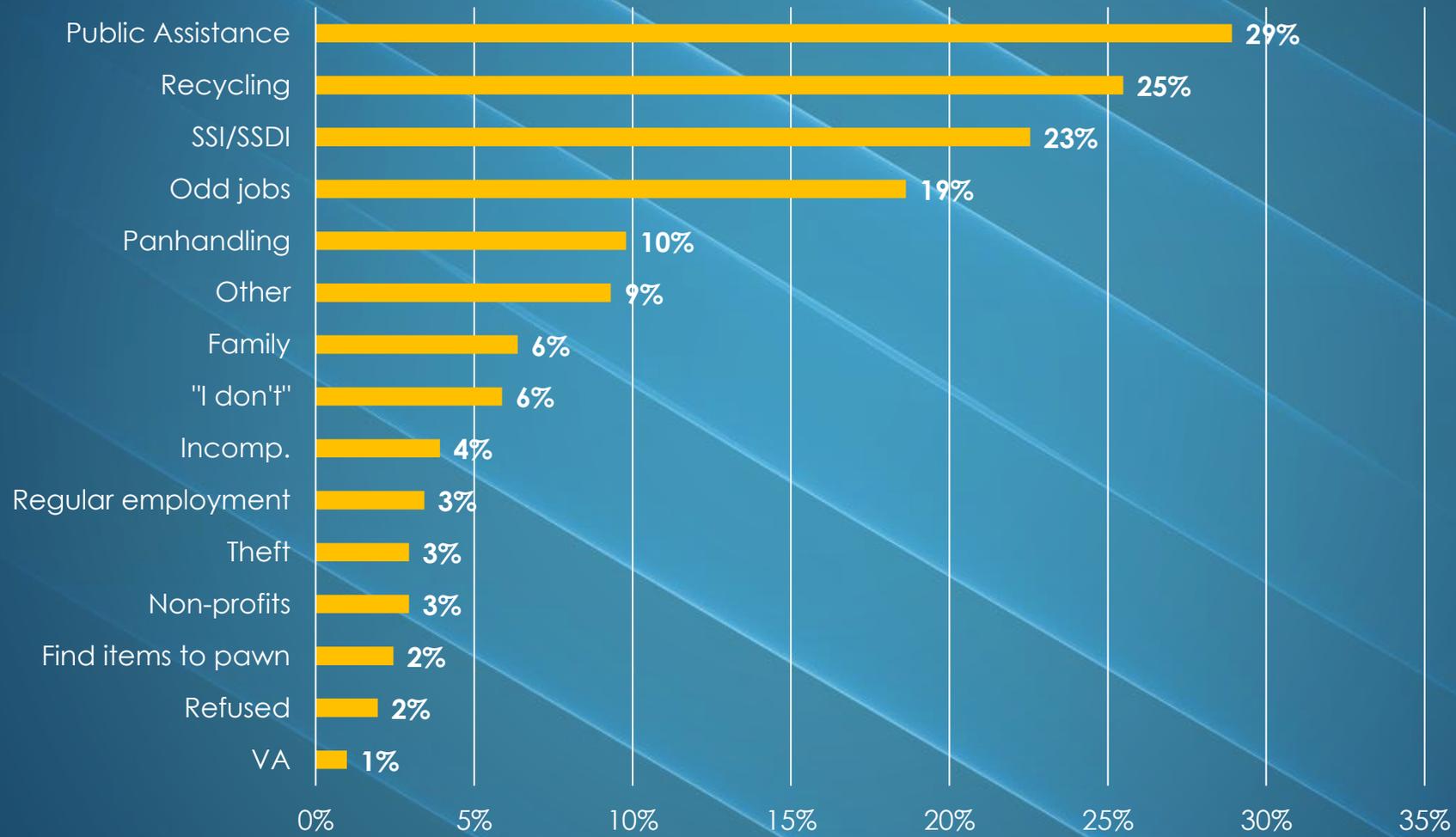
Q26 – How often do you use alcohol?



Q27 – How often do you use drugs?



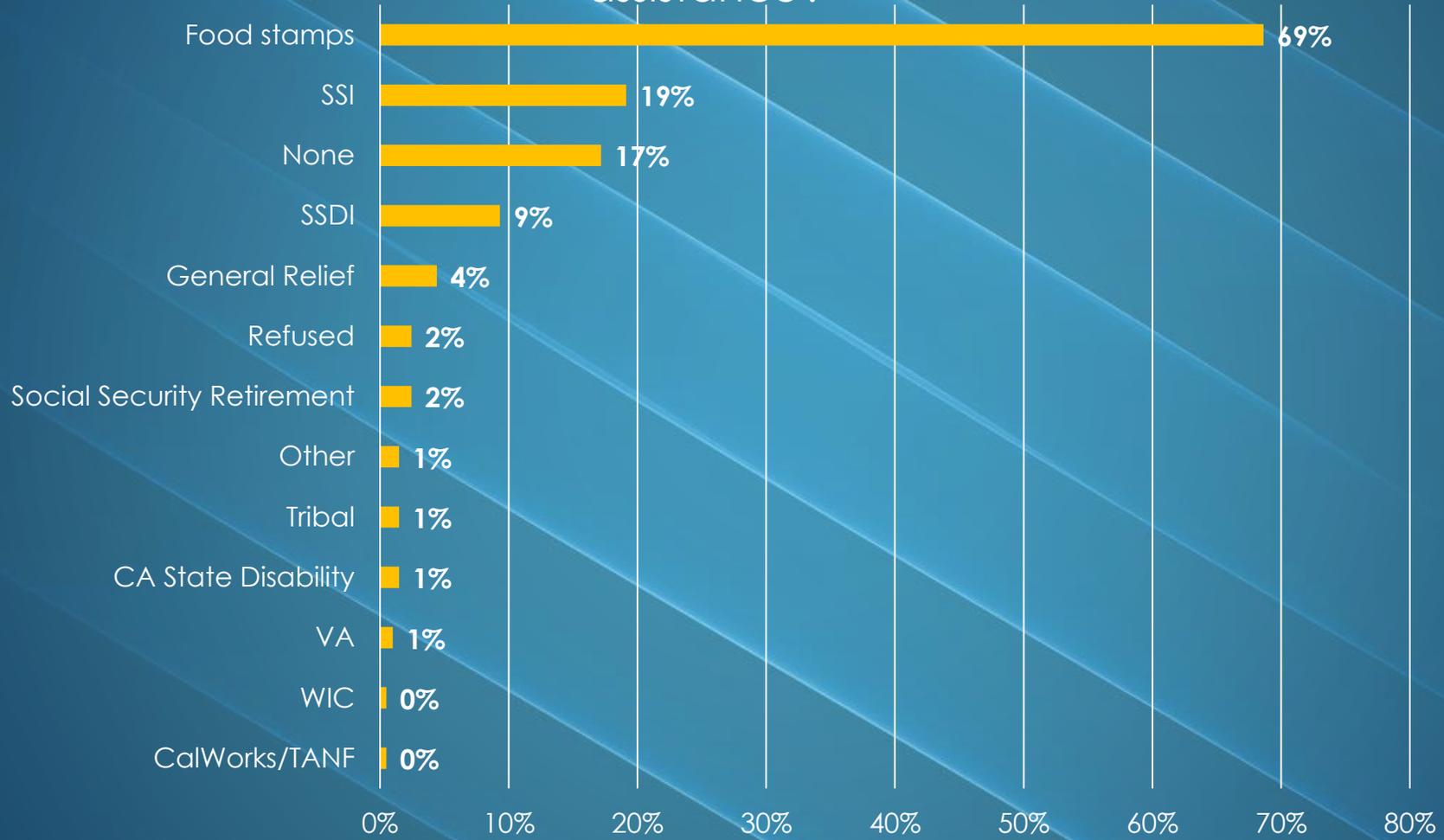
Q29 – How do you support yourself?*



*multiple responses allowed



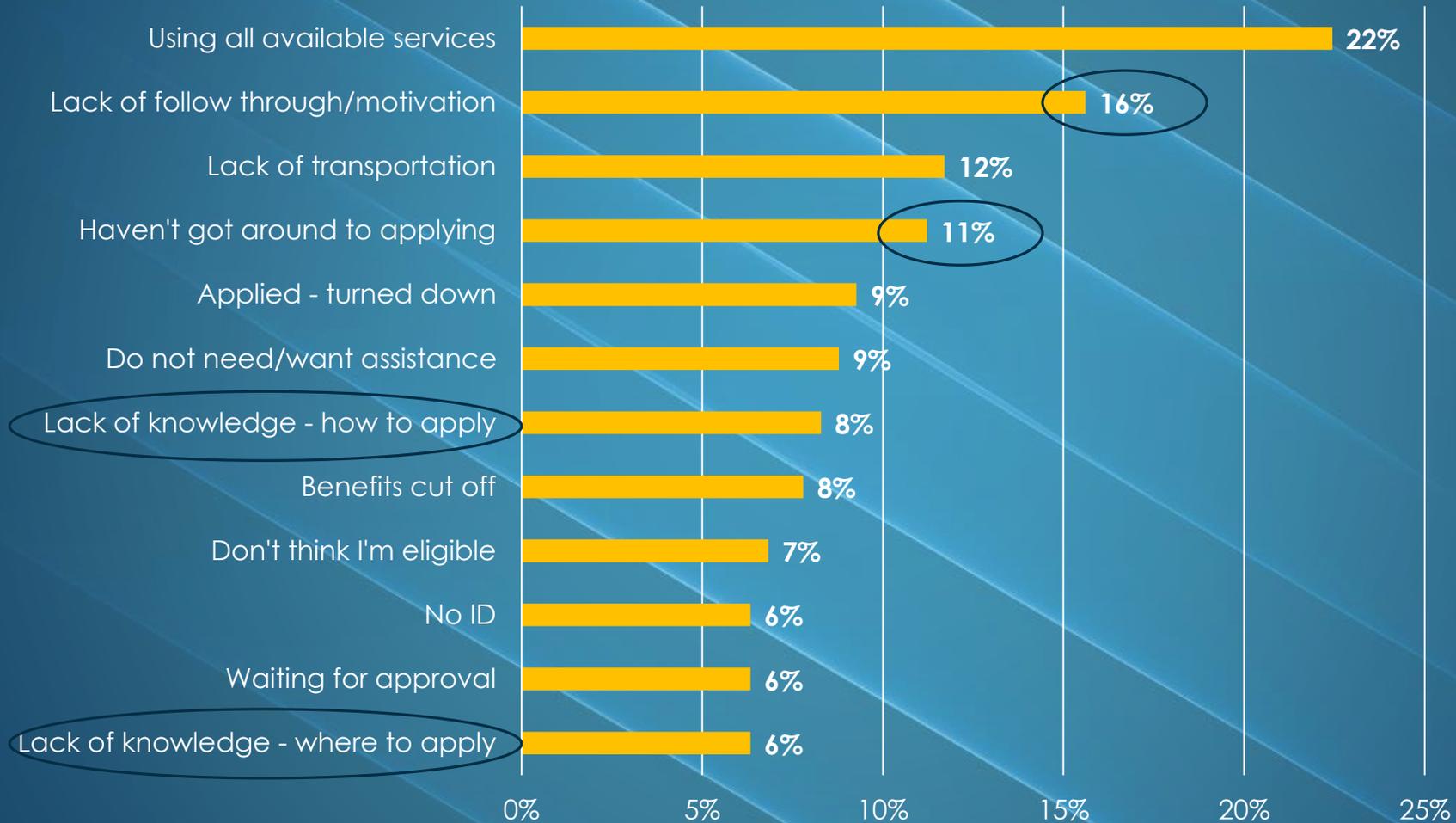
Q30 – Do you receive any of the following public assistance?*



*multiple responses allowed



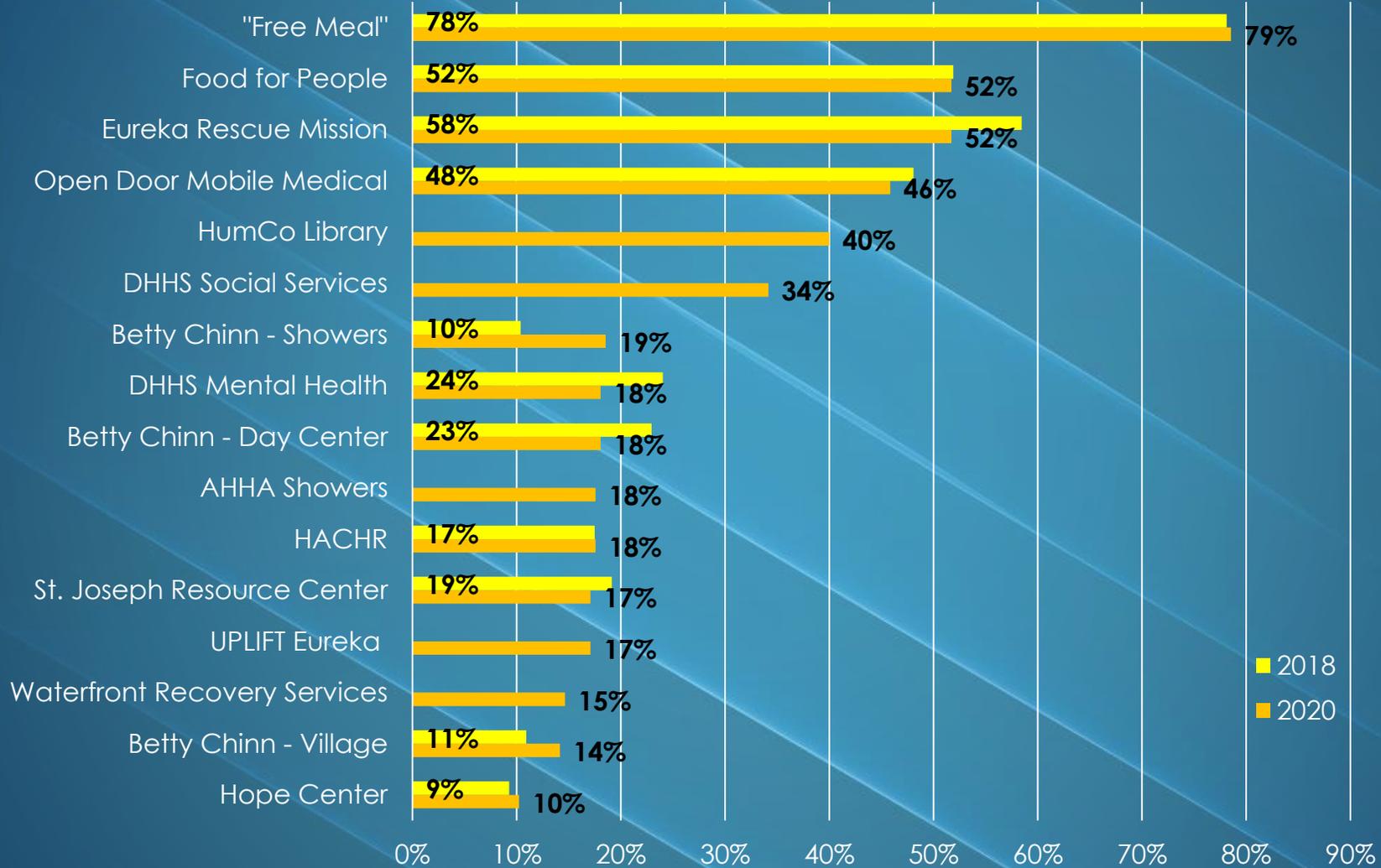
Q31 – What prevents you from using public assistance? (Top 10)



*multiple responses allowed



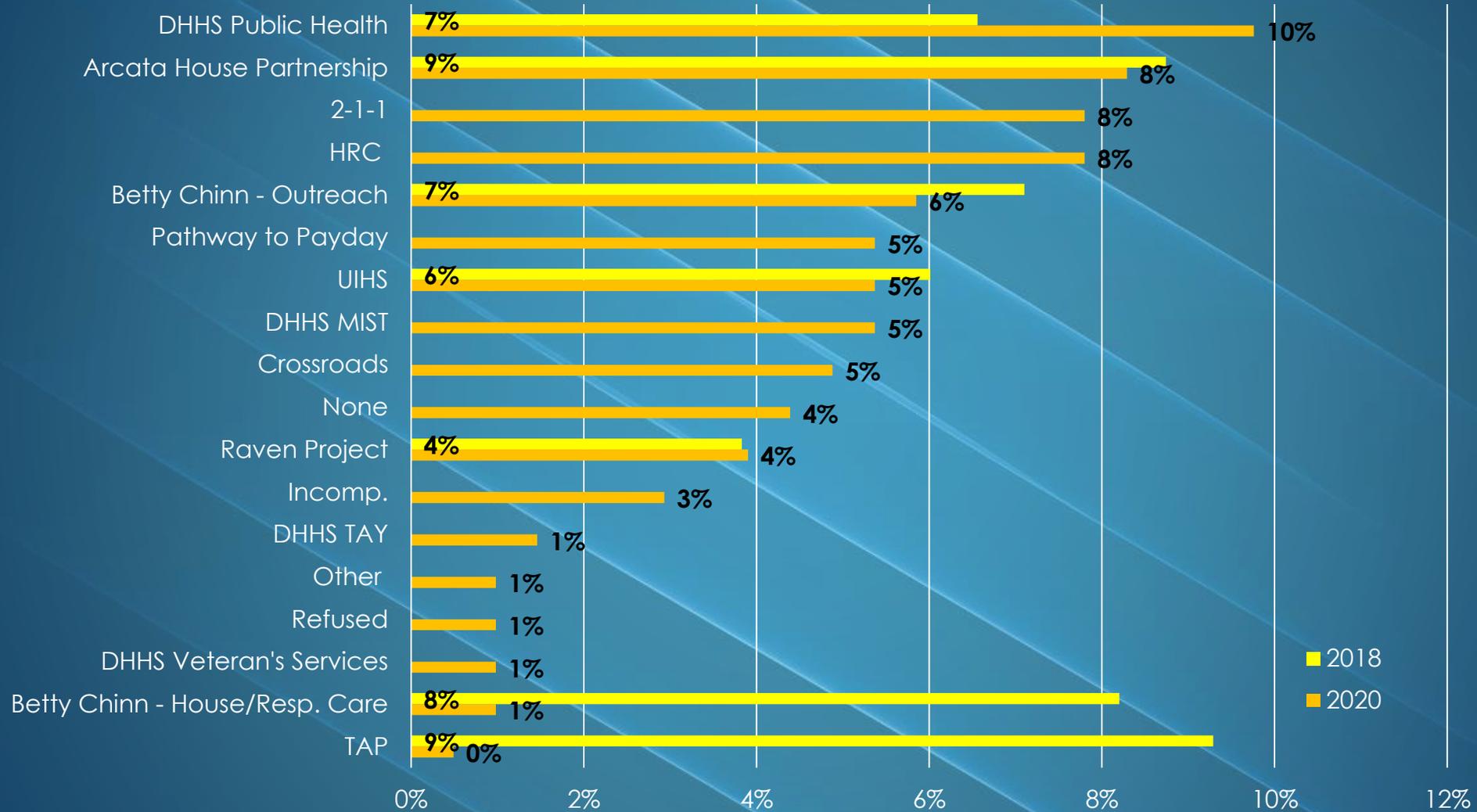
Q32 – What resources do you use?* (Chart 1)



*multiple responses allowed



Q32 – What resources do you use?* (Chart 2)

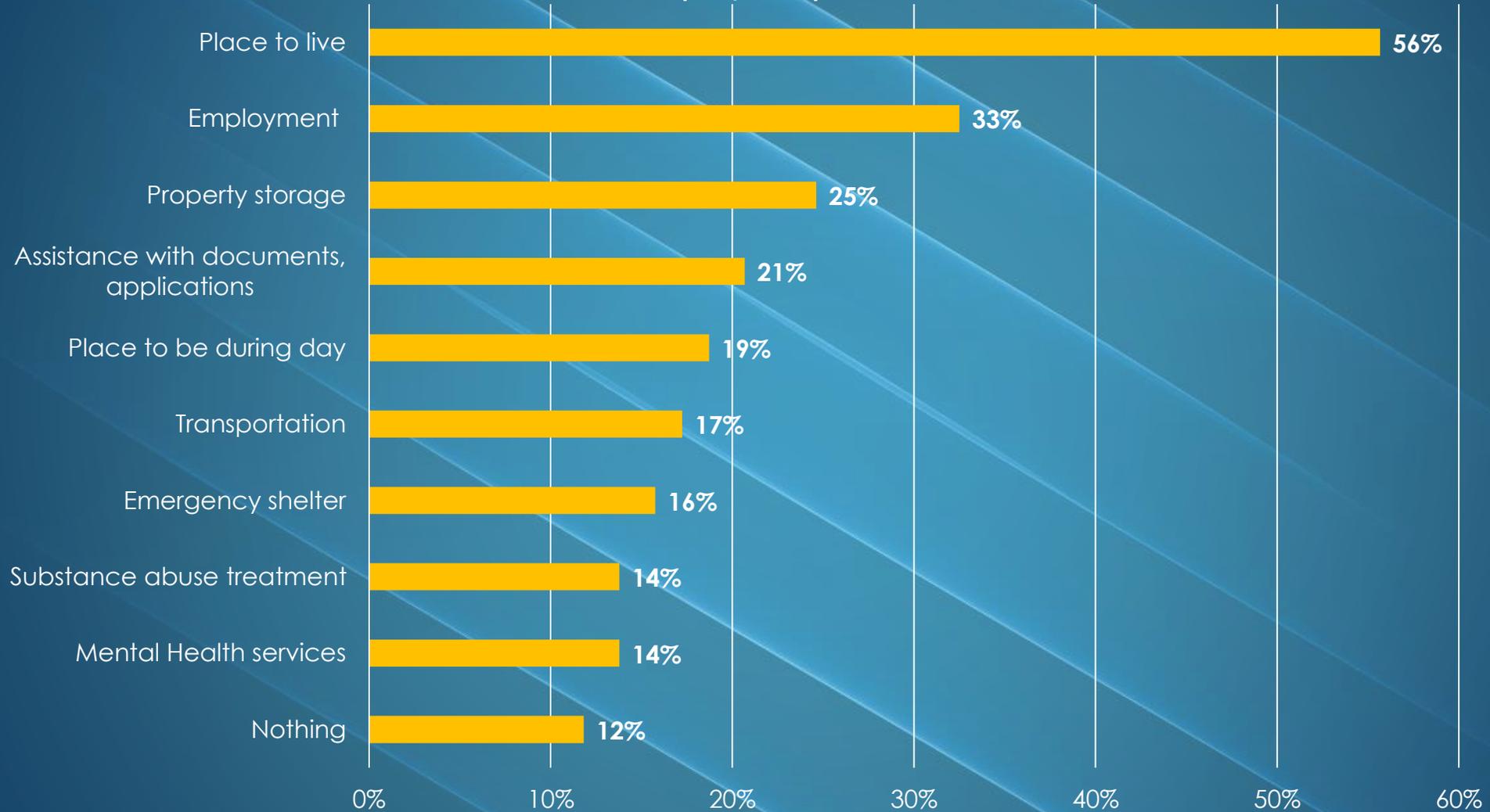


*multiple responses allowed



Q33 – What resources, services or opportunities do you need?*

(Top 10)

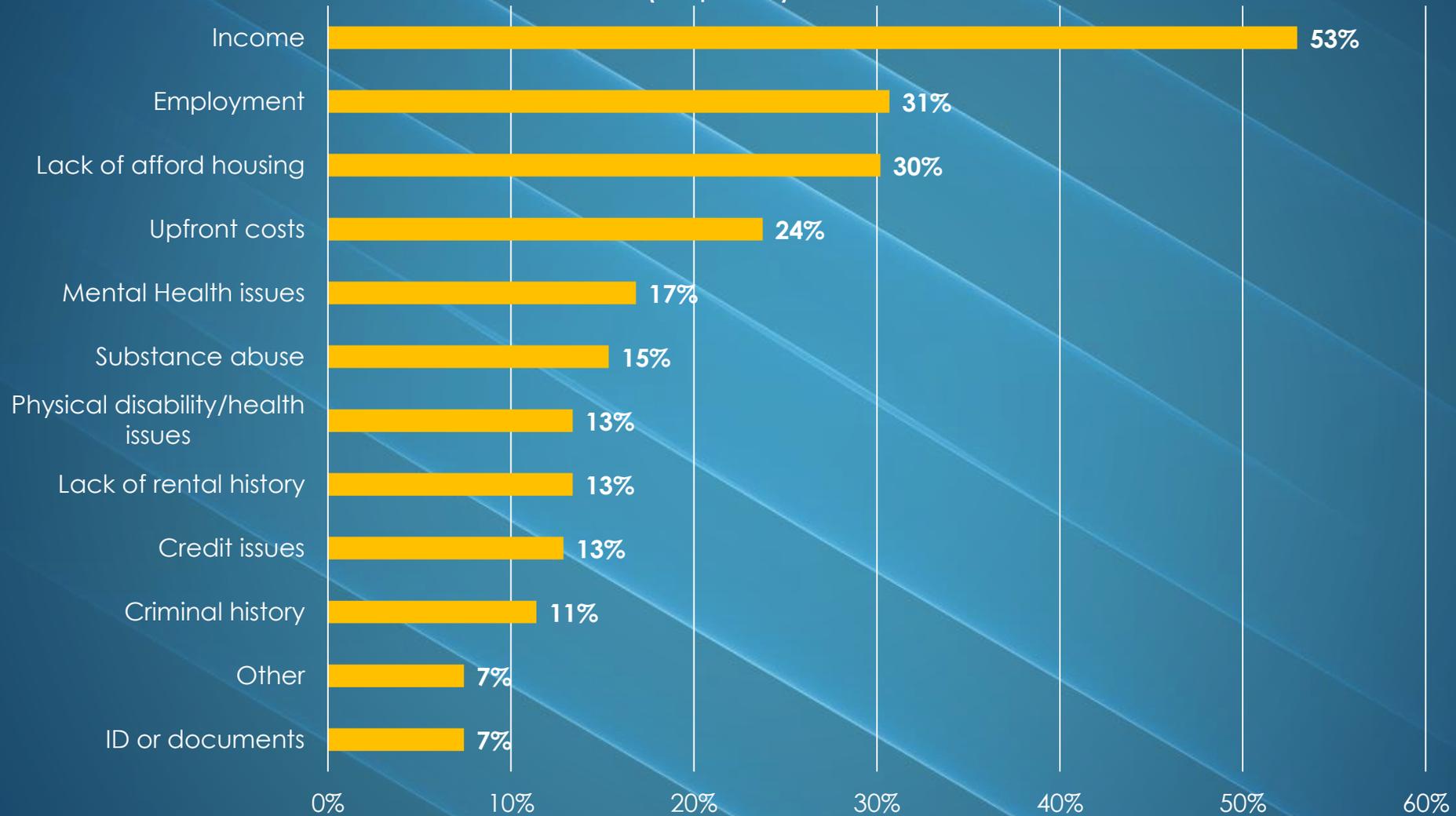


*multiple responses allowed



Q34 – Biggest barriers for obtaining housing?*

(Top 10)

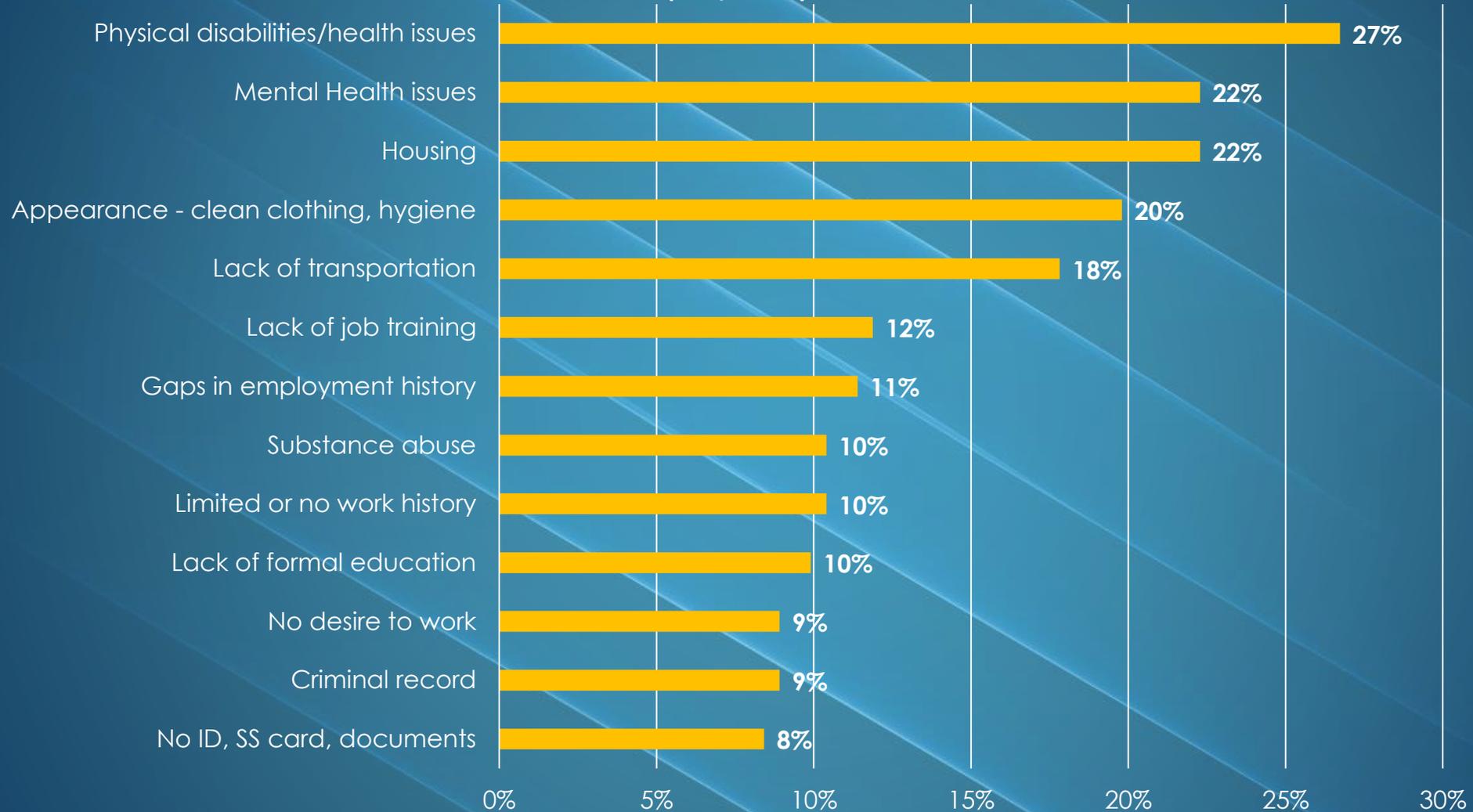


*multiple responses allowed



Q35 – Biggest barriers for obtaining employment?*

(Top 10)



*multiple responses allowed



- Question #36 – Additional/misc. comments
- Question #37 – Location of survey
- Question #38 – Who conducted survey



COMPARISON

| | Female | Male |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| Age | 30-34 (18%) | 35-44 (33%) |
| Race | White (68%) | White (80%) |
| Relationship | Single (45%) | Single (67%) |
| Education | Some college (33%) | Some HS (32%) |
| Monthly income | \$0 (55%) | \$0 (40%) |
| Where slept last night | Street (23%) <i>Homeless Shelter (2%)</i> | Street (32%) <i>Homeless Shelter (25%)</i> |
| Years homeless | 1-2 years (29%) | 3-5 years (23%) |
| Where from? | Born/Raised (40%) | Born/Raised (24%) |
| Reason for homelessness | Family/relationship breakdown (33%) | Unemployment/loss income (24%) |



COMPARISON

| | Female | Male |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Satisfied with life | No (82%) Yes (12%) Neither (5%) | No (58%) Yes (27%) Neither (11%) |
| Lifestyle a choice | No (54%) Yes (44%) | No (48%) Yes (46%) |



COMPARISON

| | Female | Male |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Physical disability/ chronic health | Yes (55%) | Yes (51%) |
| Diagnosed mental health | Yes (53%) | Yes (52%) |
| Drug / Alcohol as problem | Yes (77%) | Yes (60%) |



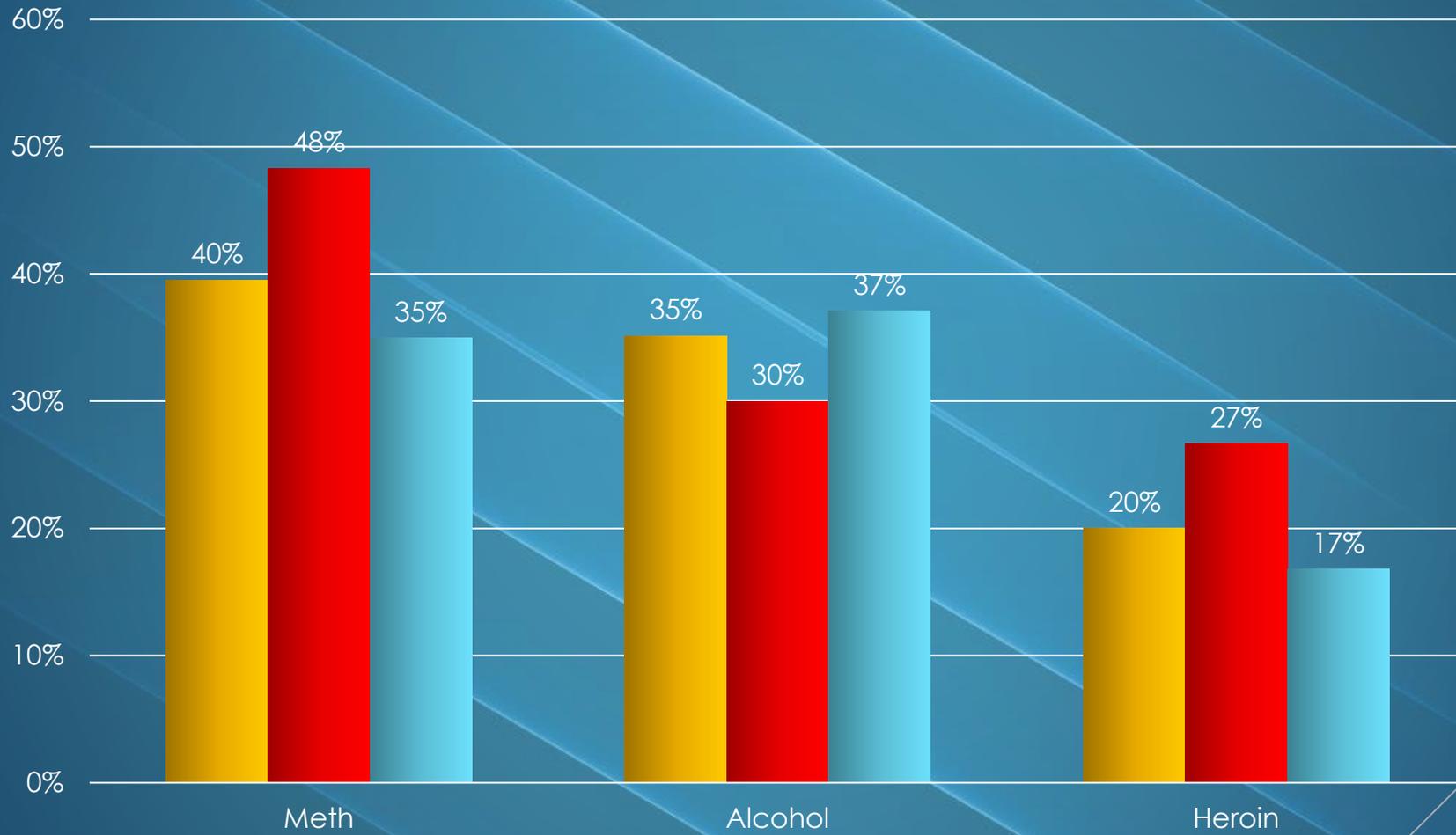
COMPARISON

| | Female | Male |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Drug / Alcohol as problem | Yes (77%) | Yes (60%) |
| Alcohol as a problem | 30% | 37% |
| Meth as a problem | 49% | 35% |
| Heroin as a problem | 27% | 17% |
| MJ as a problem | 15% | 19% |
| Cocaine/Crack as problem | 0% | 5% |
| RX meds as problem | 0% | 4% |
| Alcohol Use | 50% use On occasion (28%) | 59% use On occasion (32%) |
| Drug Use | 70% use Daily (35%) | 54% use Daily (25%) |
| Treated for substance abuse | 53% | 56% |



Meth, Alcohol, Heroin

Overall/Combined Females Males



COMPARISON

| | Female | Male |
|--|---|--|
| How support self | Public Assistance (25%) Recycling (25%) | Public Assistance (30%) |
| What prevents from using public assistance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using all services (22%)• Did not get around to applying (19%) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using all services (23%)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lack follow-through/motivation (17%) |
| Resource used | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Free Meal (75%)2. Food for People (63%)3. Open Door Mobile (47%) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Free Meal (80%)2. Rescue Mission (59%)3. Food for People (47%) |



COMPARISON

| | Female | Male |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Barrier for housing | Income (55%) | Income (51%) |
| Barrier for employment | Housing (27%) | Physical disability/health (27%) |



CONCLUSIONS / SUMMARY



NATIVE AMERICAN HOMELESS

- Dig into underlying causes
- Aggressive outreach strategies from appropriate resources
- This is an area where significant improvement must/can be made.

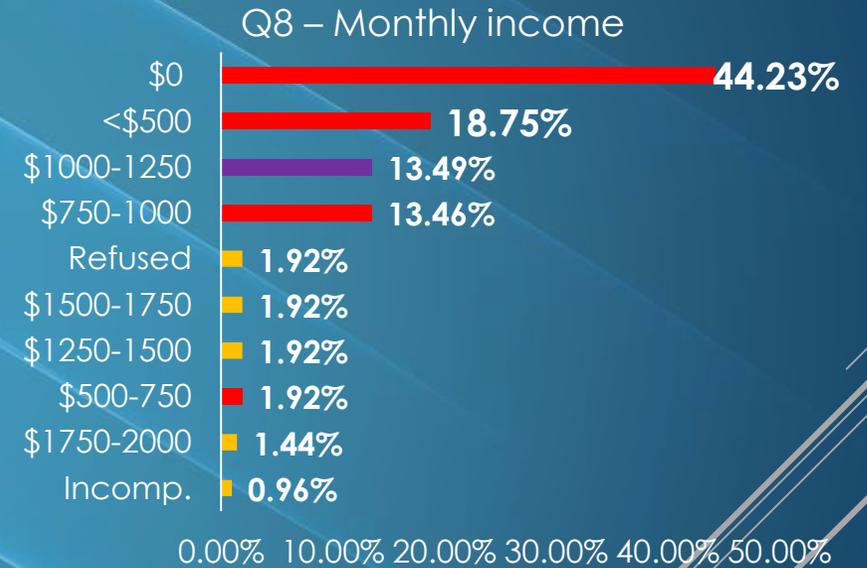


- 2018 US Census Bureau: Humboldt County
- 2018 US Census Bureau: City of Eureka
- 2020 Homeless Survey



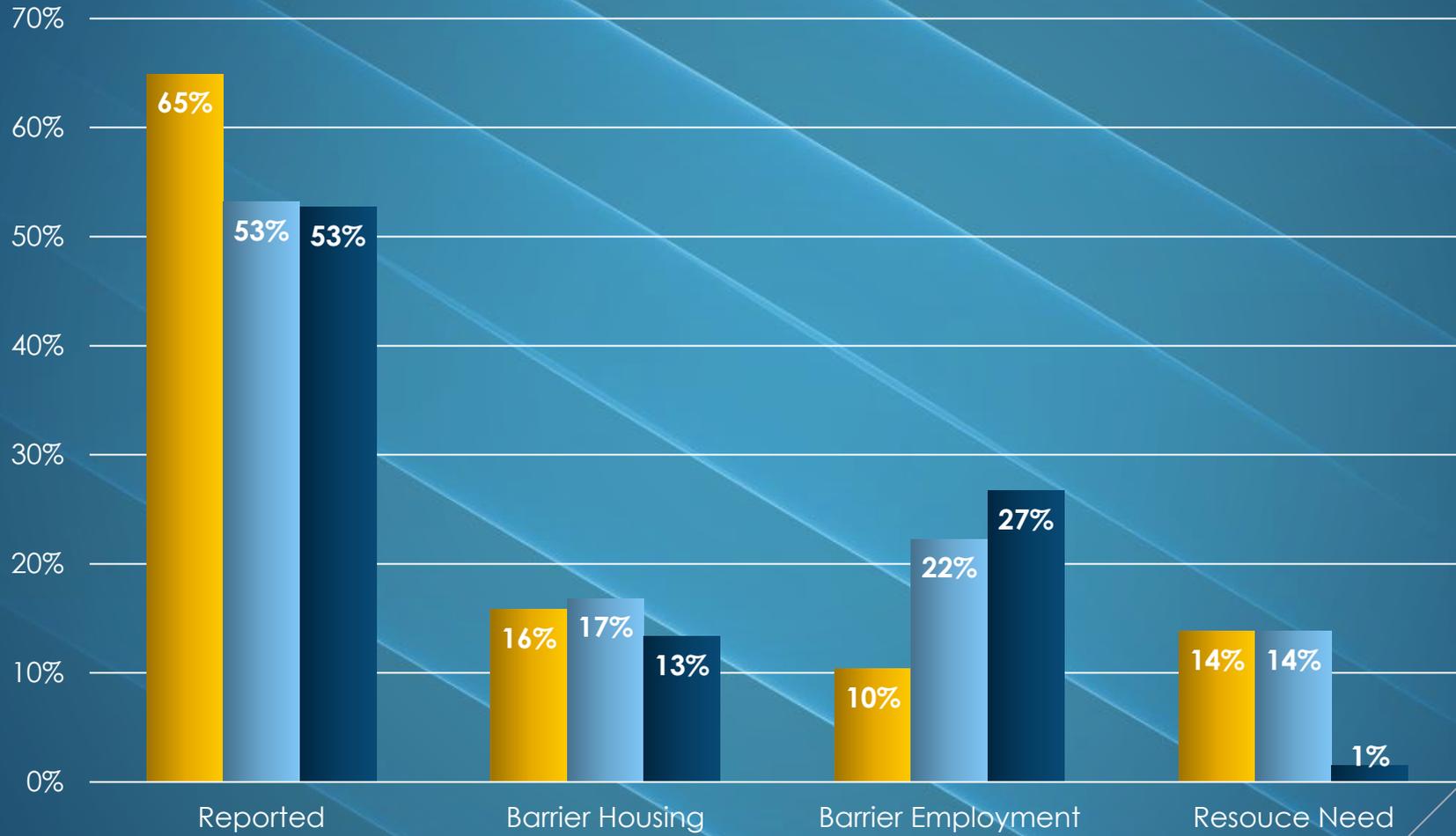
92% can't afford / would struggle to afford housing.

HOUSING

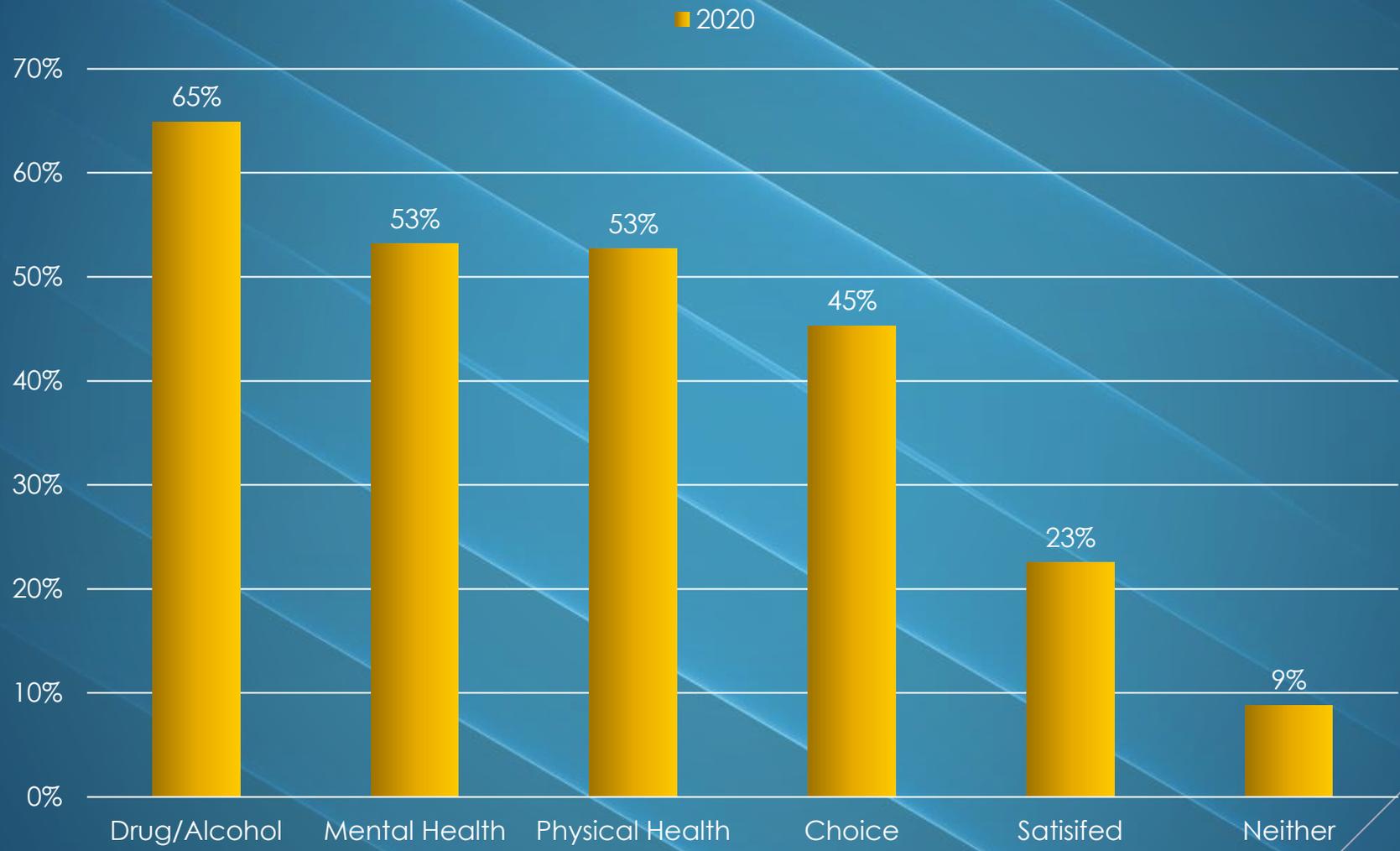


Insight to Barriers and Needs

■ Substance Abuse ■ Mental Health ■ Physical Health



Complexity of Homelessness



SUMMARY



- Better understanding of Eureka's homeless community.
- Eureka's homeless community is unique overall but we also have to look at the individual – balance big picture and detailed picture.
 - Look beyond the numbers and at each individual's story.
- Helps to guide our overall strategies and resources needed while realistically recognizing barriers/challenges of each individual.

