

Bassetlaw State of the Sector



2022

Bassetlaw State of the Sector 2022

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BASSETLAW STATE OF THE SECTOR 2022 KEY FINDINGS

1

Stable - but mainly Micro Organisations

- 51% of respondents are registered charities.
- 75% deliver solely across Nottinghamshire.
- 50% of respondents have been operating for over 50 years – 14% have been operating for less than 4 years.
- 58% have an annual income under £50,000.
- 20% are micro organisations with a further 45% not employing any staff at all. 27% employ between 10-49 staff.
- 29% have increased their paid staff, with just 6% having to make redundancies due to COVID-19.
- 48% have up to 10 volunteers involved, 11% have 51+ volunteers involved. 68% currently work with young volunteers aged 16 -18.
- 38% reported a decrease in volunteers, with 36% believing that the pandemic has affected volunteering levels.

2

Areas of Support and Demand for Services

- 41% have reassessed their organisational aims and service delivery.
- The majority of respondents support any client group, with 16% offering services that are categorised as Health and Wellbeing; 13% as Social Activities, 11% General support and 10% offering Advice and Information.
- 59% confirmed that demand for services has increased, with 42% of those feeling that this is due to COVID-19.
- 59% are unlikely to close any services in the next 12 months and 97% are unlikely to close in the next 12 months.

BASSETLAW STATE OF THE SECTOR 2022 KEY FINDINGS

3

Financial Stability

- 48% report that income has increased over the last 2 years, with 47% reporting that they had benefited from an increase in funding due to COVID-19.
- 54% reported that funding is stable.
- However 38% reported that funding does not cover all costs, 38% have less than 6 months reserves with 8% having no reserves at all.

4

Sources of Funding

- 29% reported receiving grants, the highest source of funding, with private donations being the second highest source of funding at 20%.
- 18% had received funding from Bassetlaw District Council, 14% from Notts County Council and 9% from the National Lottery.
- 40% had benefited from Coronavirus Community Support Funding.

In the last 2 years:-

- 45% reported that overall income from council funding has increased.
- 23% reported that overall income from NHS providers had increased.
- 34% reported that income from donations and fundraising had decreased and this was directly attributable to COVID-19.
- 48% have found it easier to access funds.

BASSETLAW STATE OF THE SECTOR 2022 KEY FINDINGS

5

Partnership Working and Influence

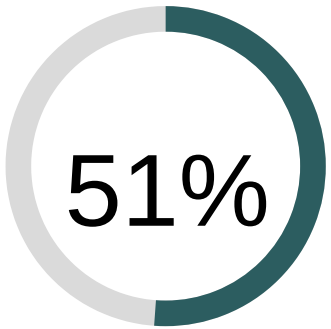
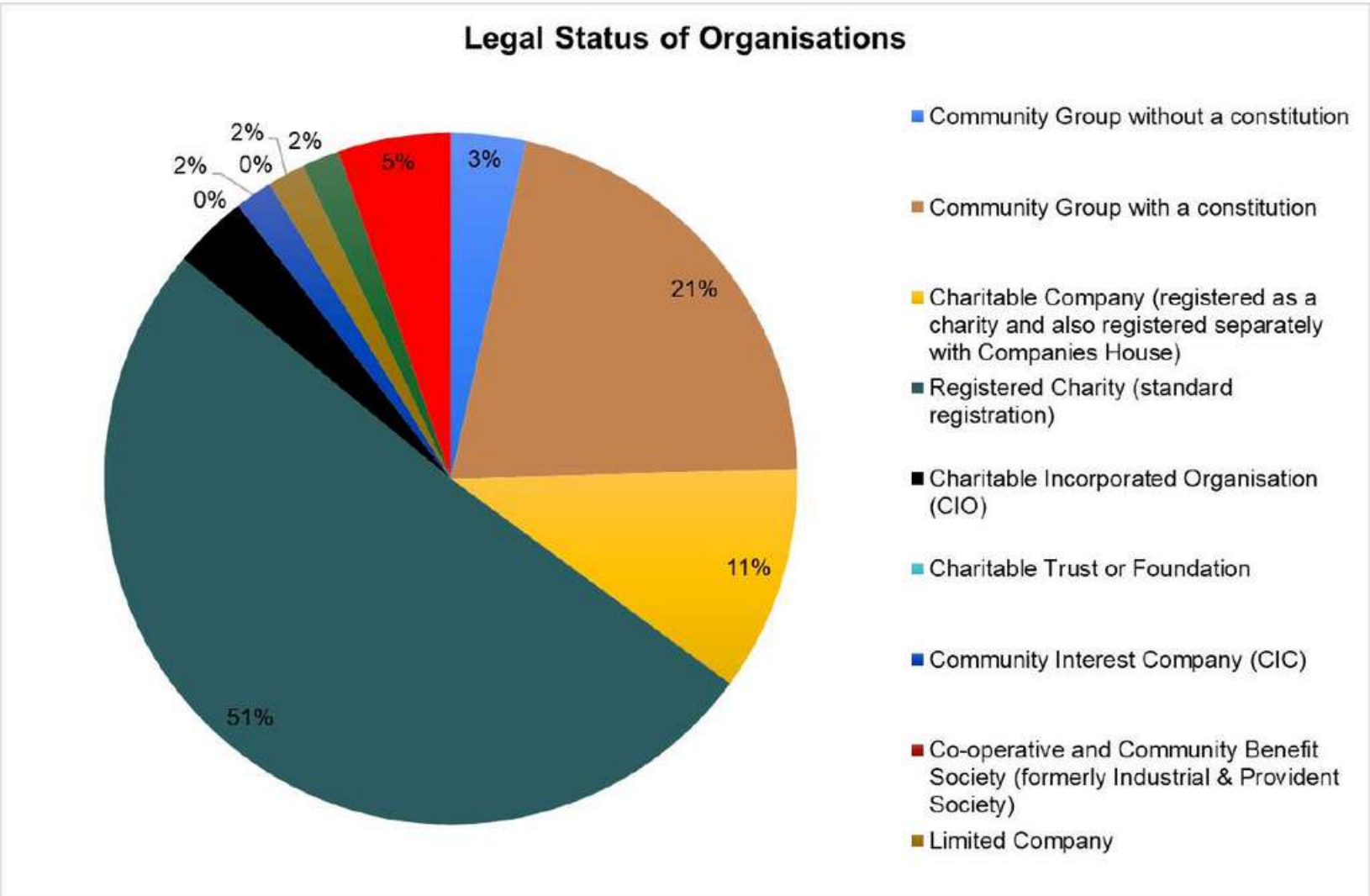
- Re partnership working, 41% reported that this has increased.
- 48% agree that they can influence local decisions.
- 28% agree that they are informed re ICS developments, with 18% feeling that this is not the case.

6

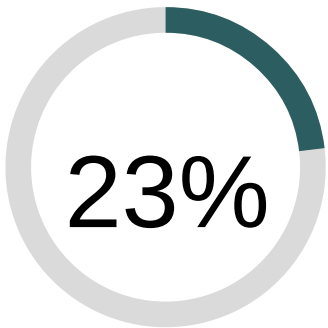
Challenges

- Income generation (20%), creating a sustainable funding base (17%) and meeting demand (16%) were the most frequently cited challenges.
- Bid writing, digital skills and recruiting and supporting volunteers were cited as the biggest skills shortages.
- This was reflected in the demand for support from BCVS – Volunteer Development and Recruitment, Funding Applications and Network Facilitation were the most cited requirements.
- ‘Place’ top priorities included ‘Other’ where respondents cited Mental Health, Reducing Health Inequalities followed by Supporting the Most Vulnerable Citizens and Children and Young People.

PART ONE - ABOUT THE SECTOR



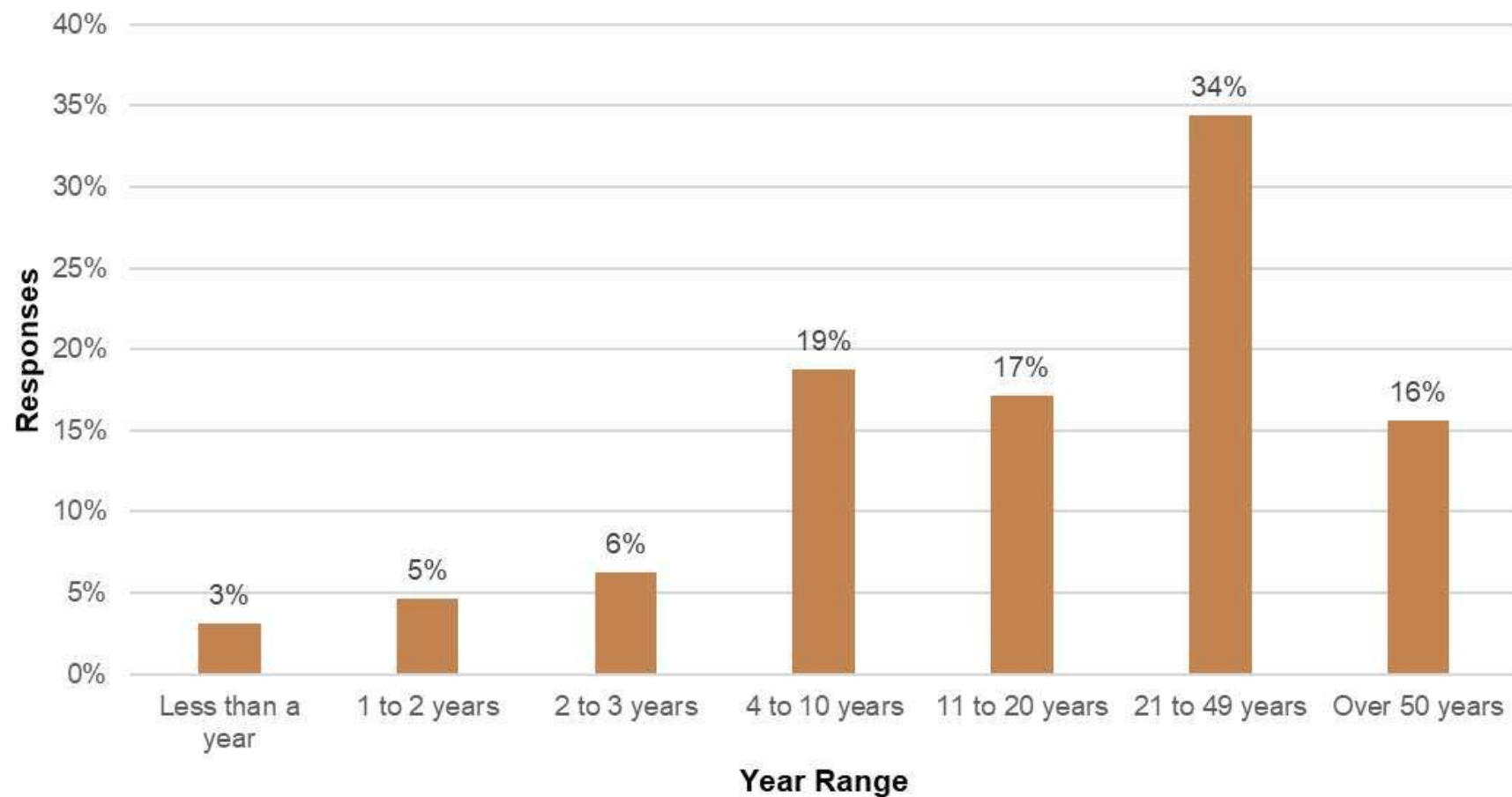
organisations are registered charities.



organisations are registered as a Community Group.

PART ONE - ABOUT THE SECTOR

Period of Operation



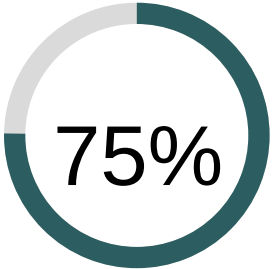
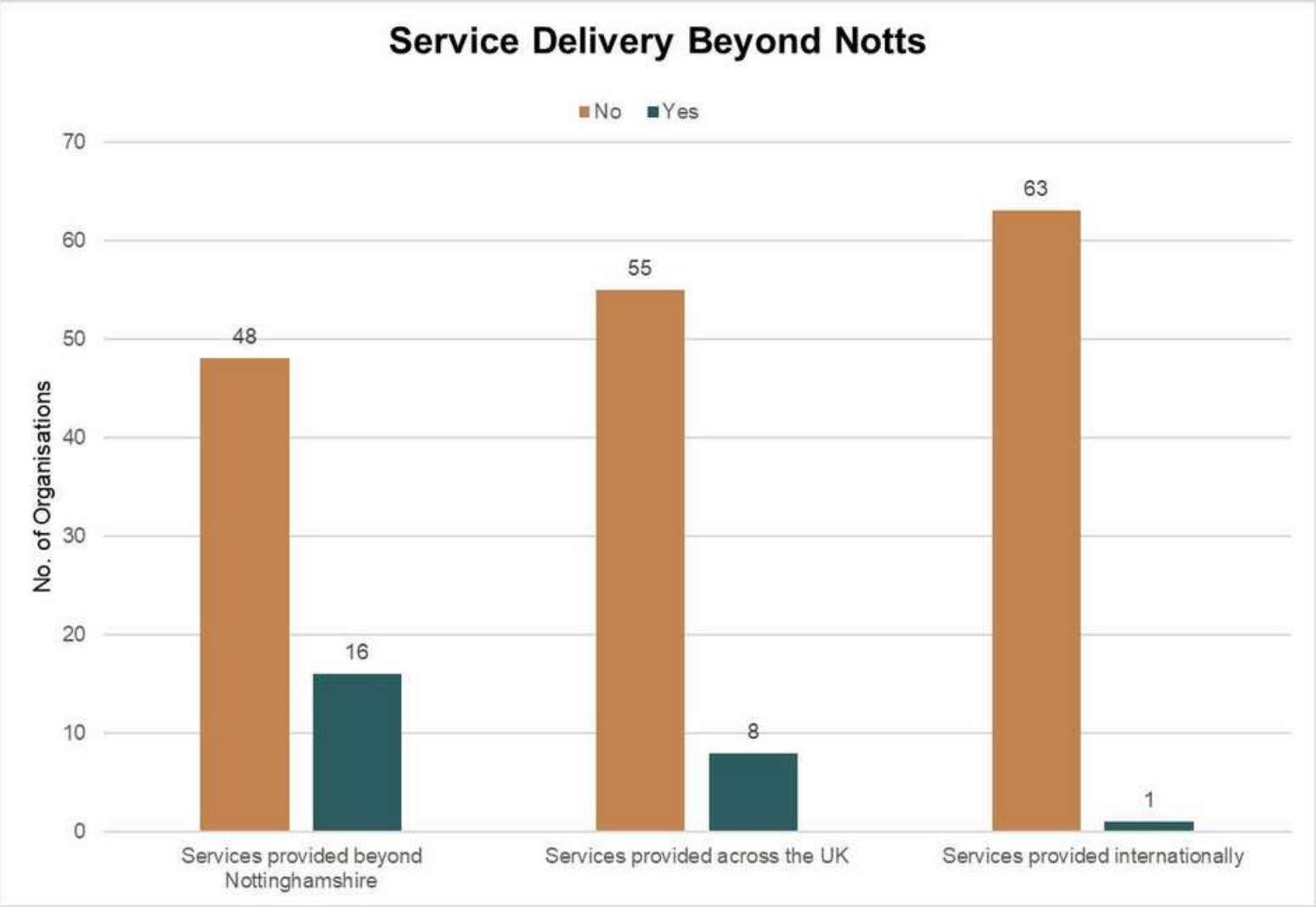
50%

organisations have been operating for over 20 years.

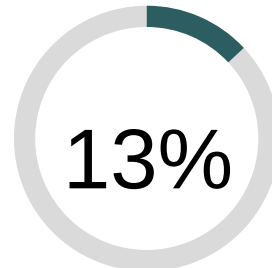
14%

organisations have been operating for less than 4 years.

PART ONE - ABOUT THE SECTOR

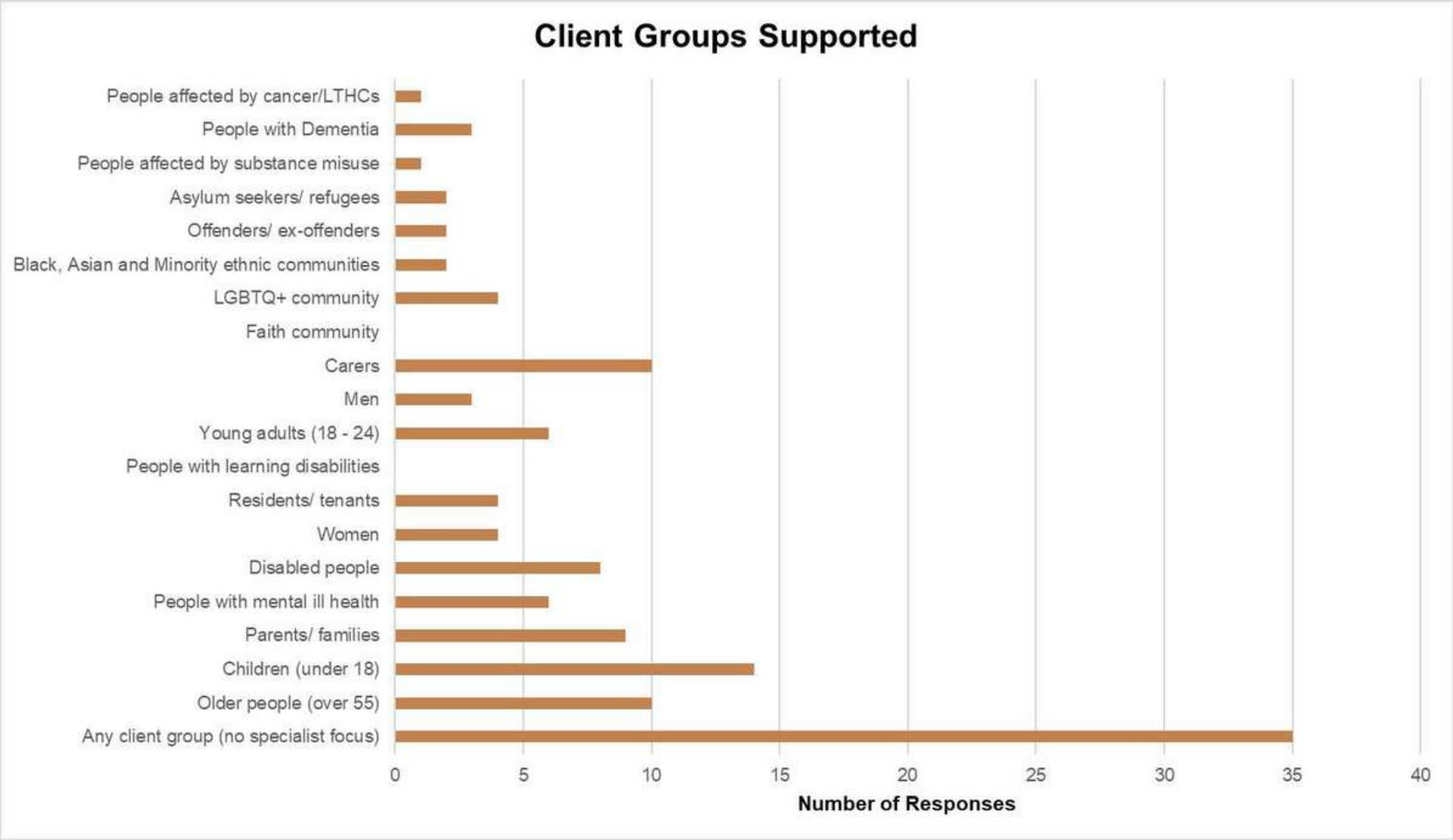


organisations deliver solely across the Nottinghamshire area.

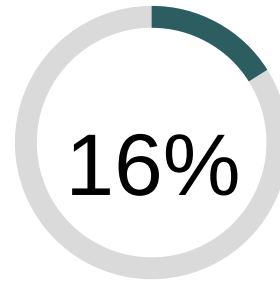
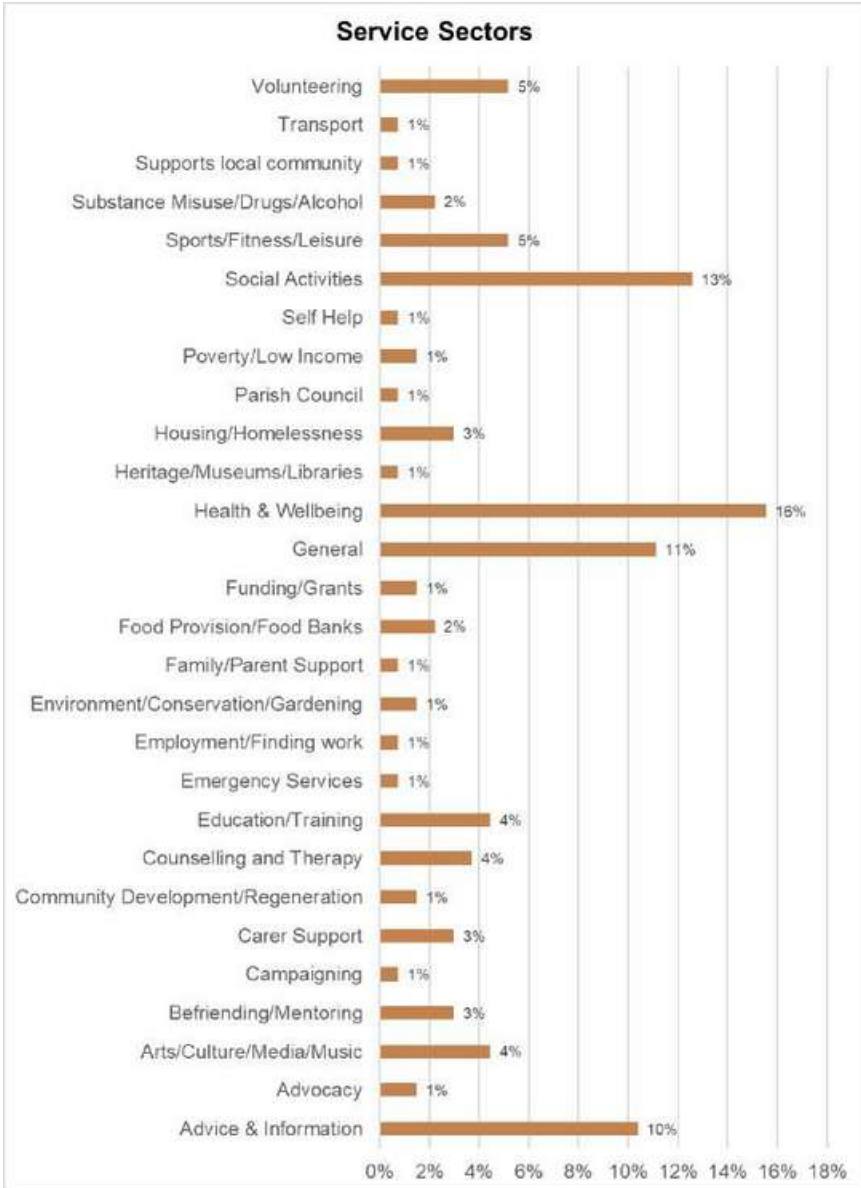


organisations operate regionally.

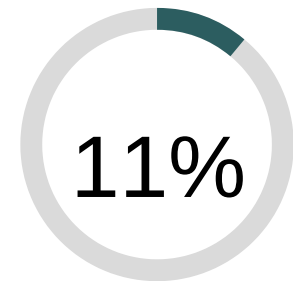
PART ONE - ABOUT THE SECTOR



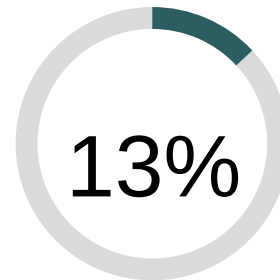
PART ONE - ABOUT THE SECTOR



of all services delivered fall within Health and Wellbeing.

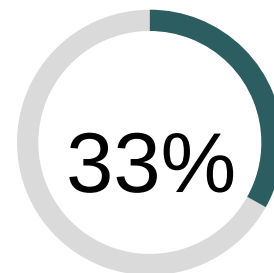
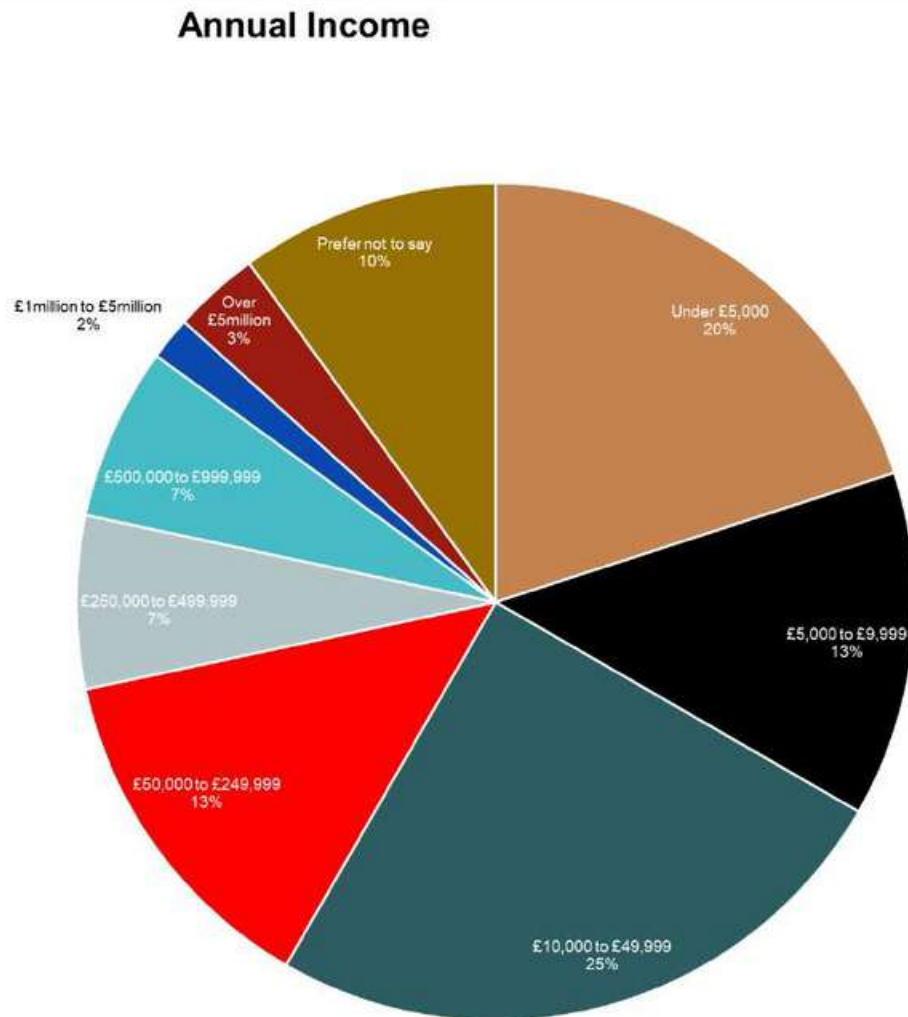


of all service delivery is non-sector specific - General.

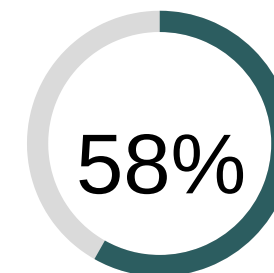


of all services delivered fall within Social Activities.

PART ONE - ABOUT THE SECTOR

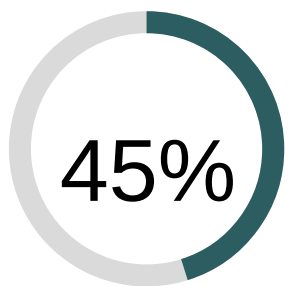
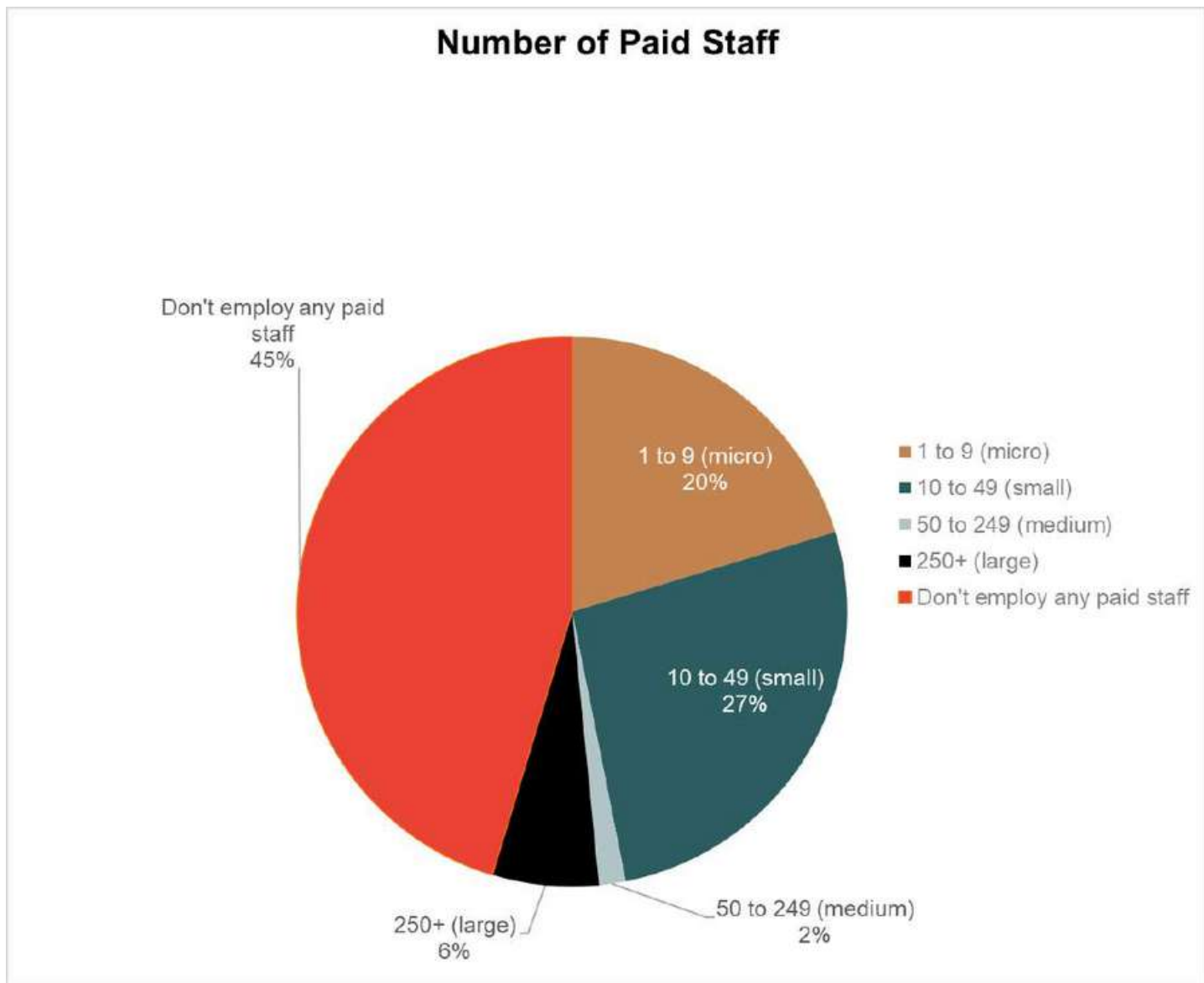


*annual income under
£10,000.*

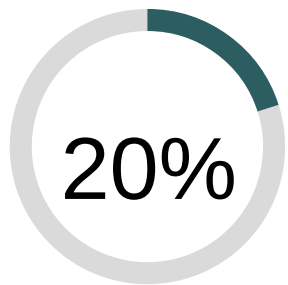


*annual income under
£50,000.*

PART ONE - ABOUT THE SECTOR



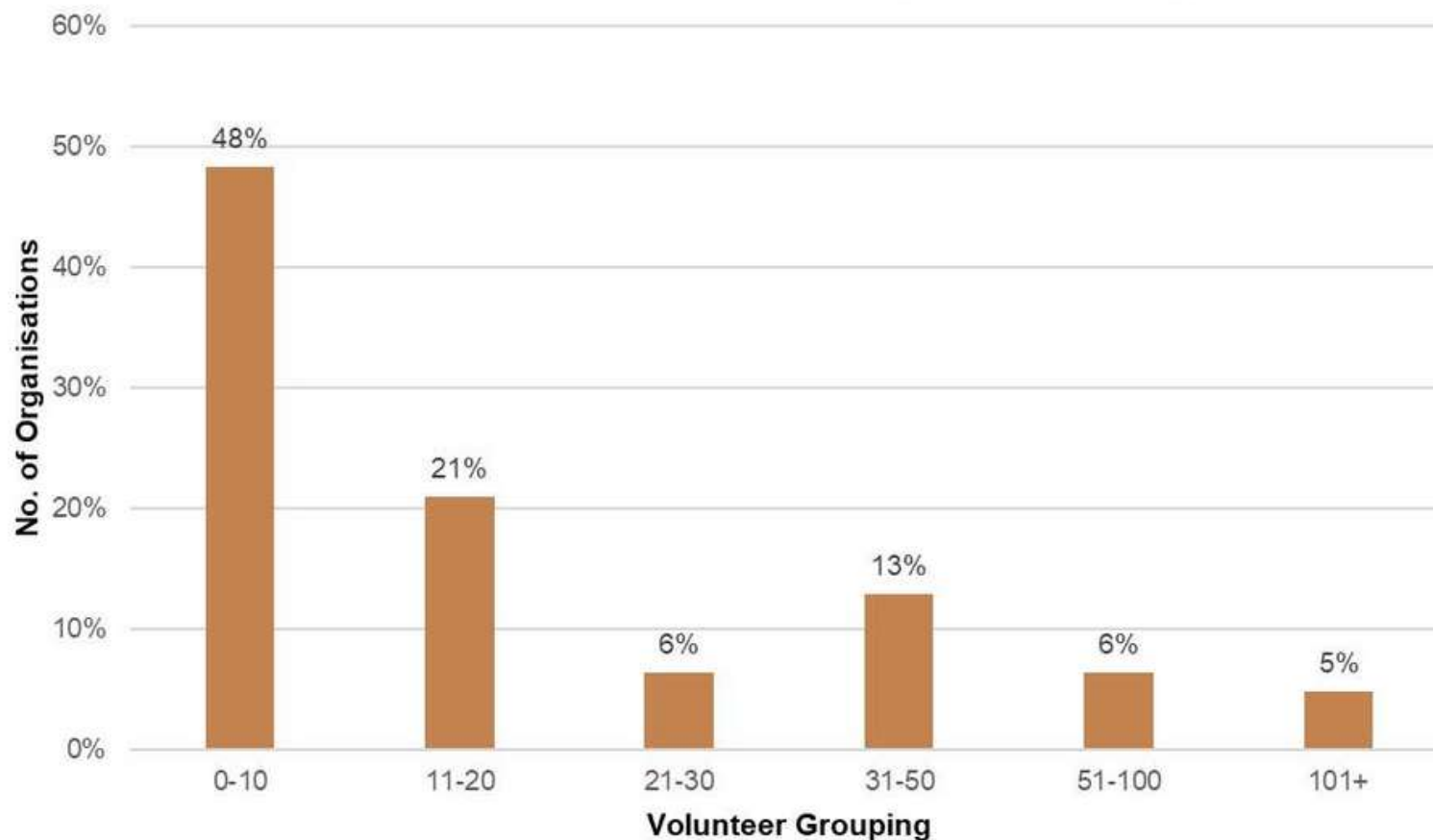
***organisations
have no employed staff.***



***organisations
have 1 - 9 paid staff.***

PART ONE - ABOUT THE SECTOR

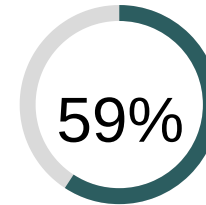
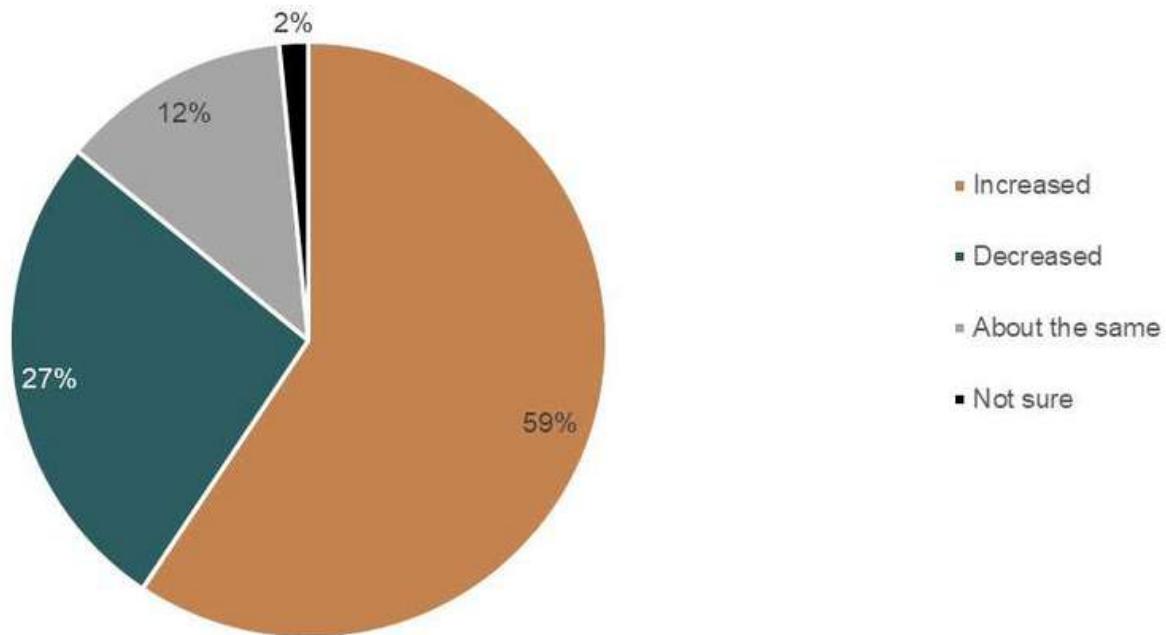
Volunteer Involvement by Grouping



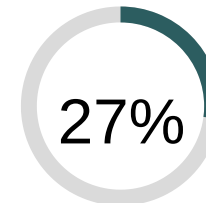
✓ **65% of organisations located in Bassetlaw currently work with young volunteers age 16-18.**

PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE

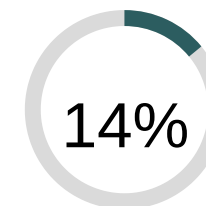
Changes in Demand to Services



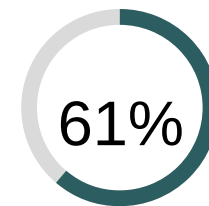
organisations confirmed that demand for their services had increased.



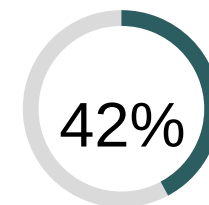
organisations confirmed that demand for their services had decreased.



reported no change in demand for their services and 2% unsure.

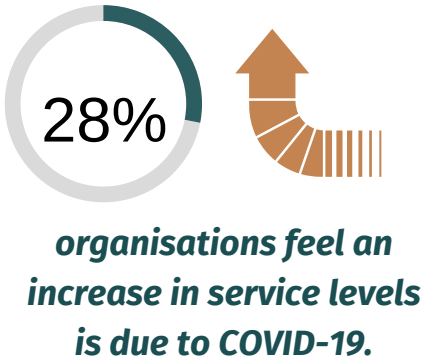
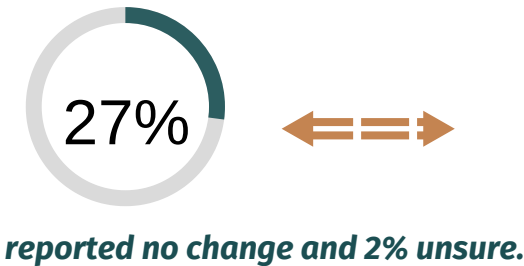
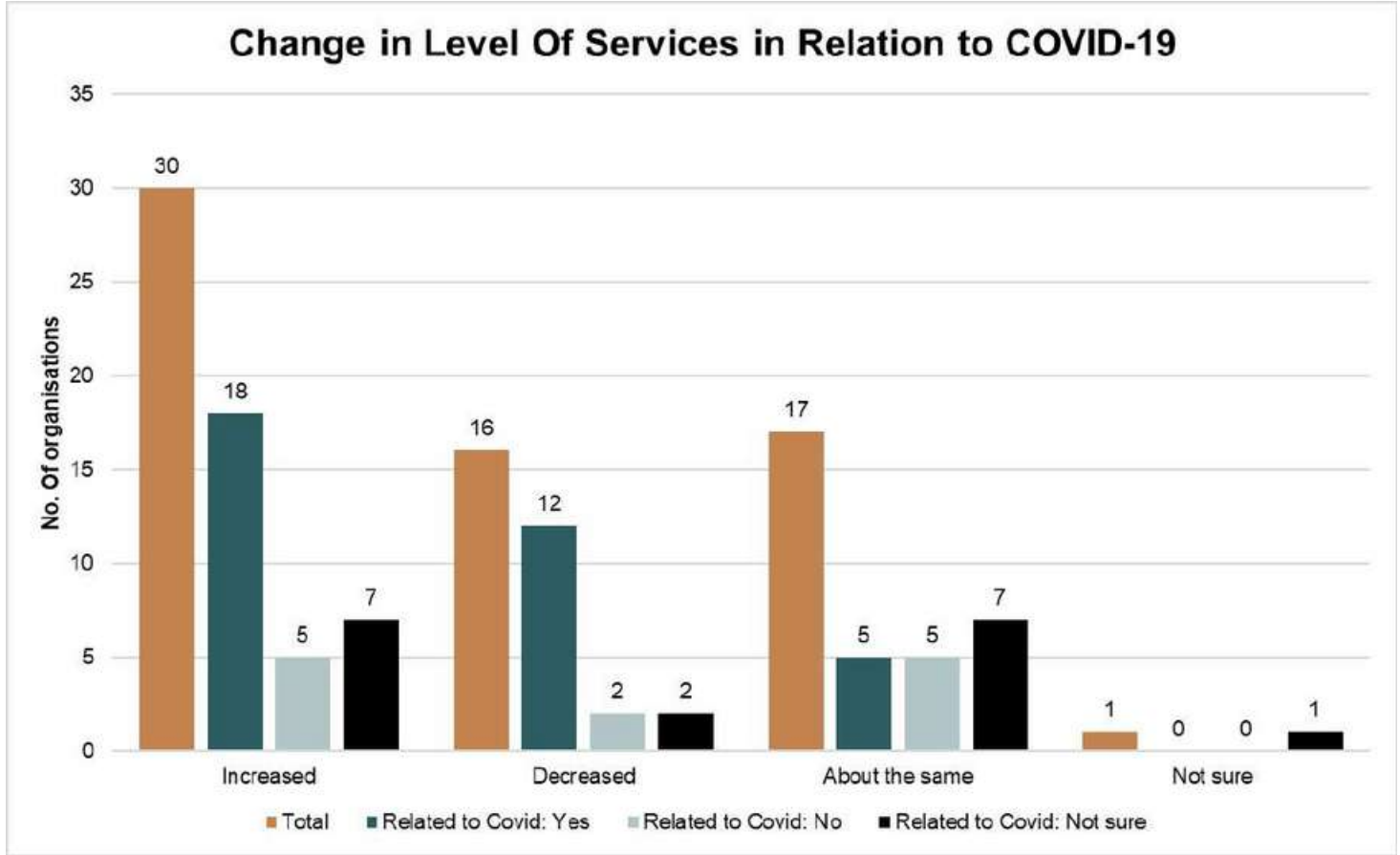


organisations feel that demand has been affected by COVID-19.



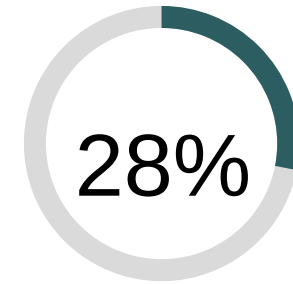
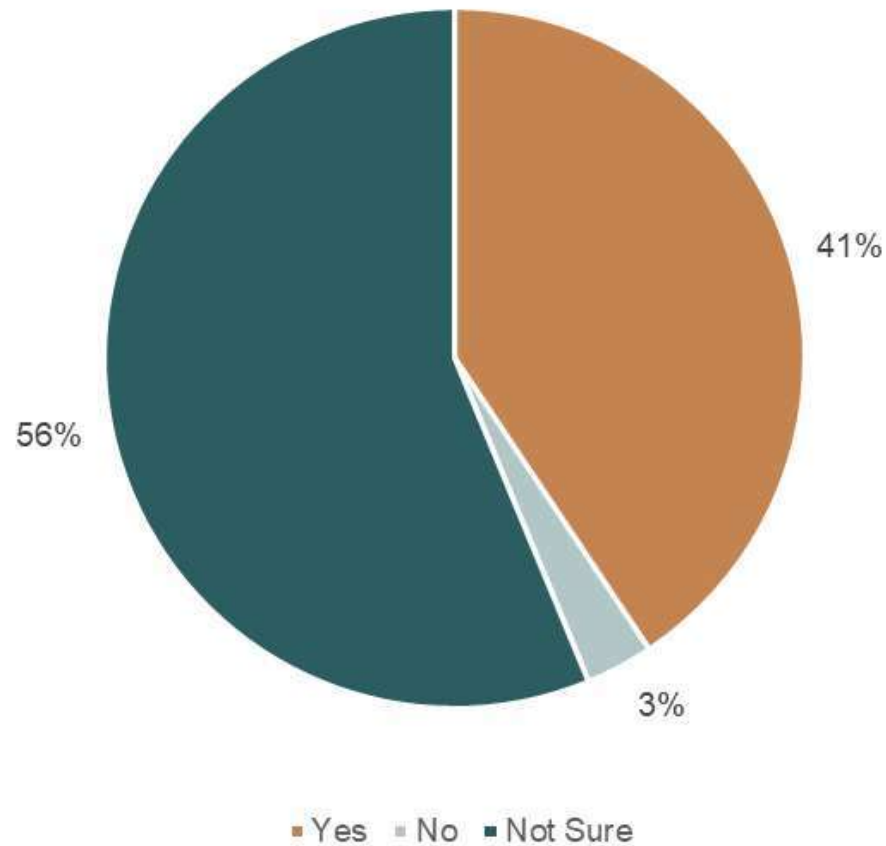
organisations feel an increased in demand is due to COVID-19.

PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE

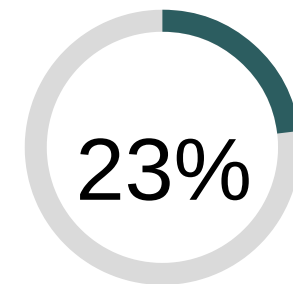


PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE

Have Reassessed Organisational Aims and Service Delivery



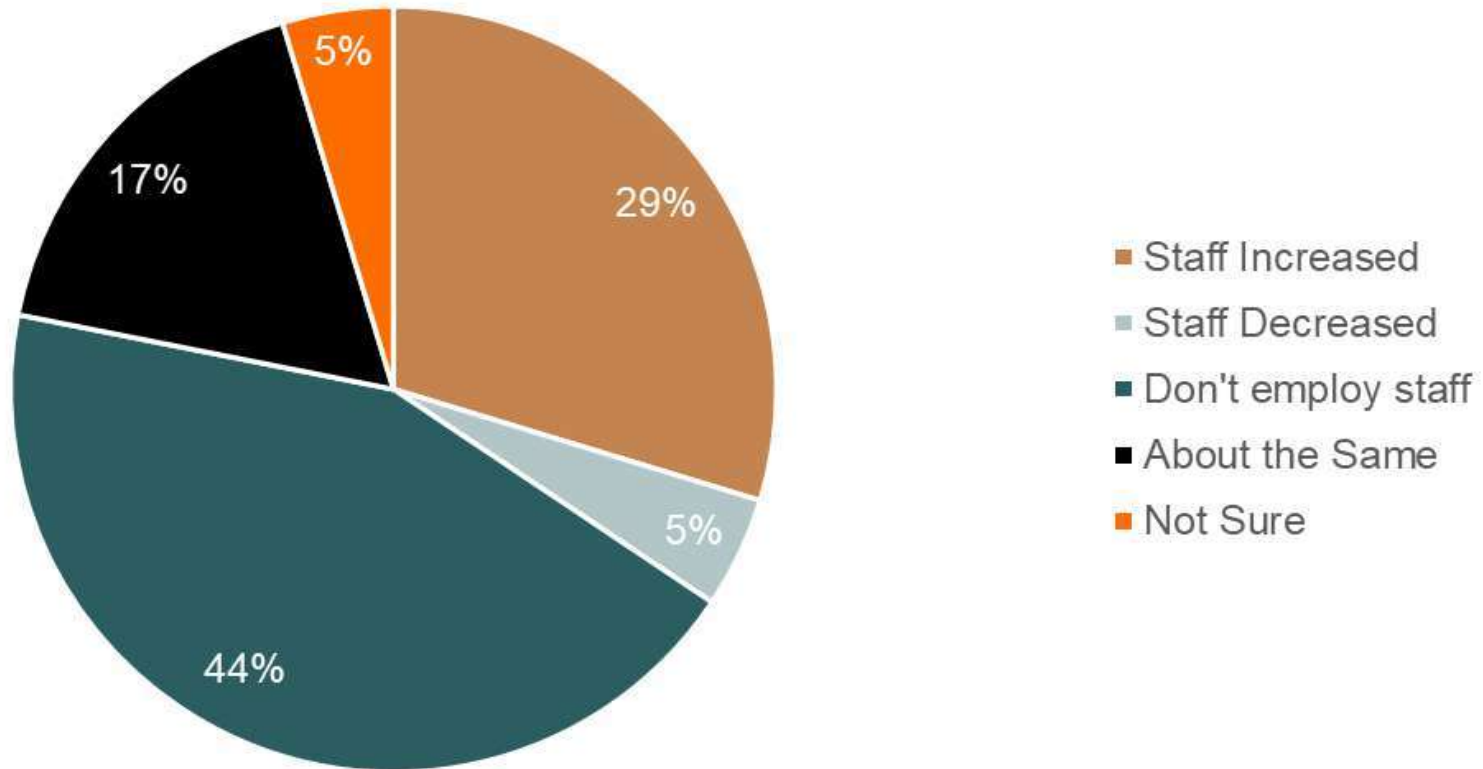
of all organisations believe COVID-19 has influenced the need to change.



of all organisations expect changes to be permanent.

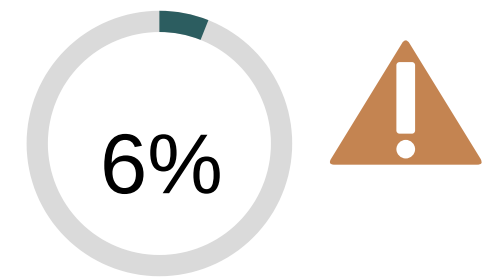
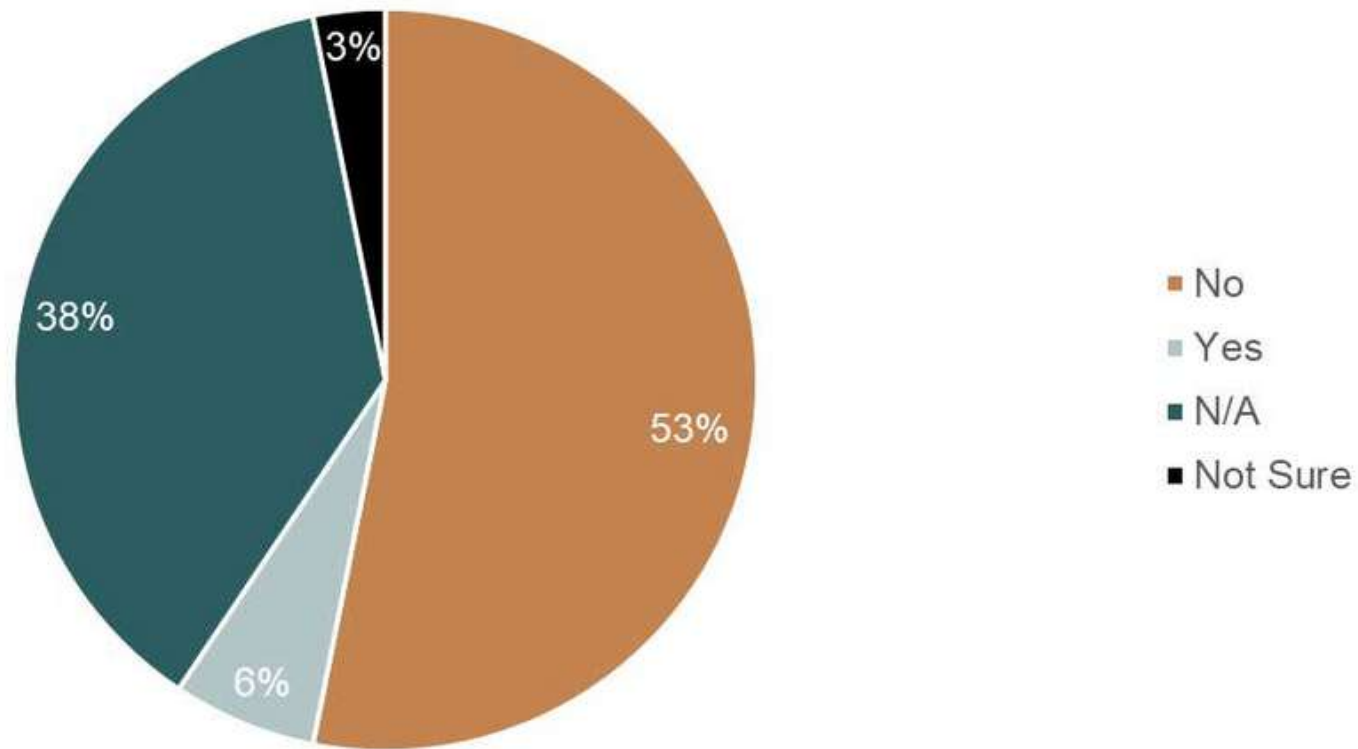
PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE

Changes in Paid Employed Staff



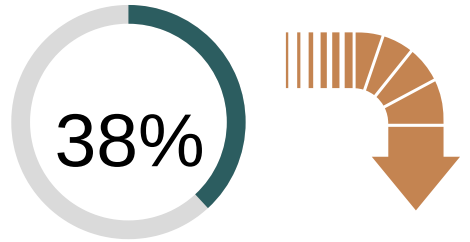
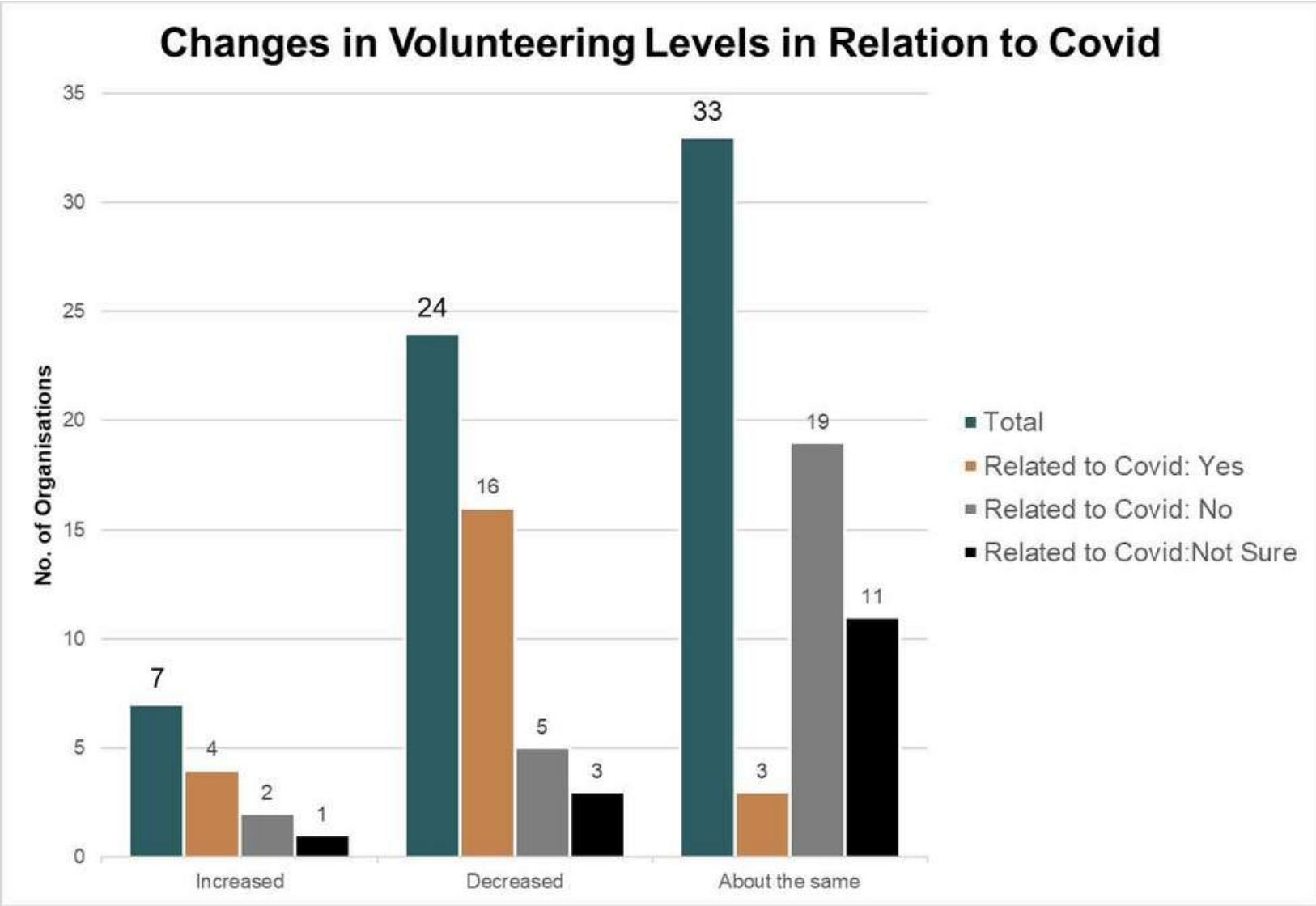
PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE

Made Redundancies

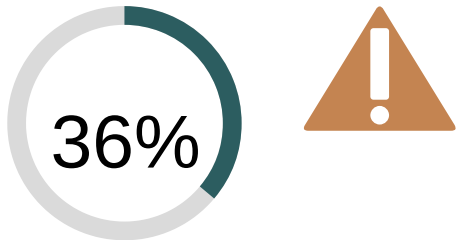


***organisations have had
to make redundancies
due to COVID-19.***

PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE

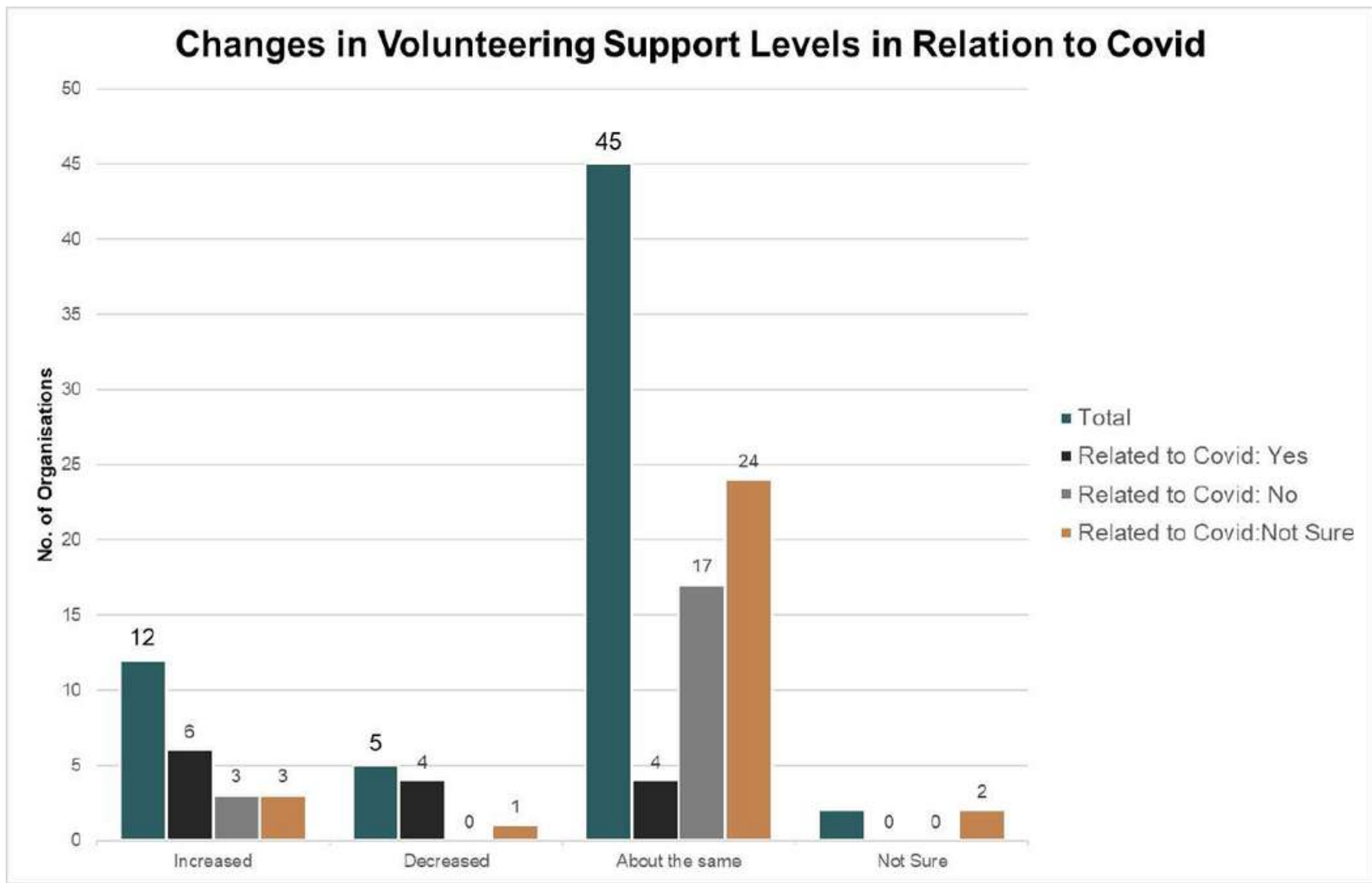


*reported a decrease in
volunteers.*



*COVID-19 has affected
volunteering levels*

PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE



PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE

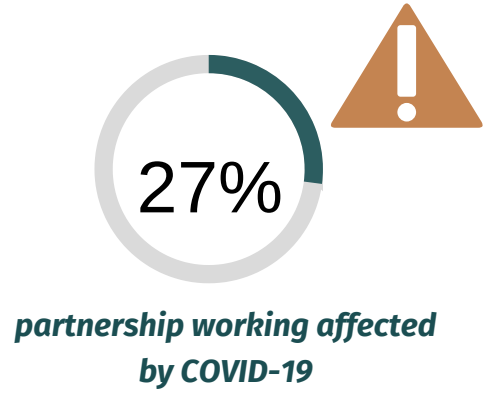
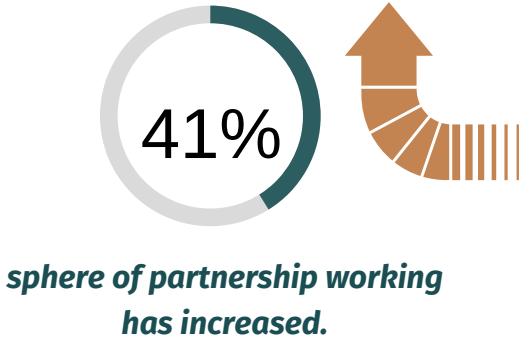
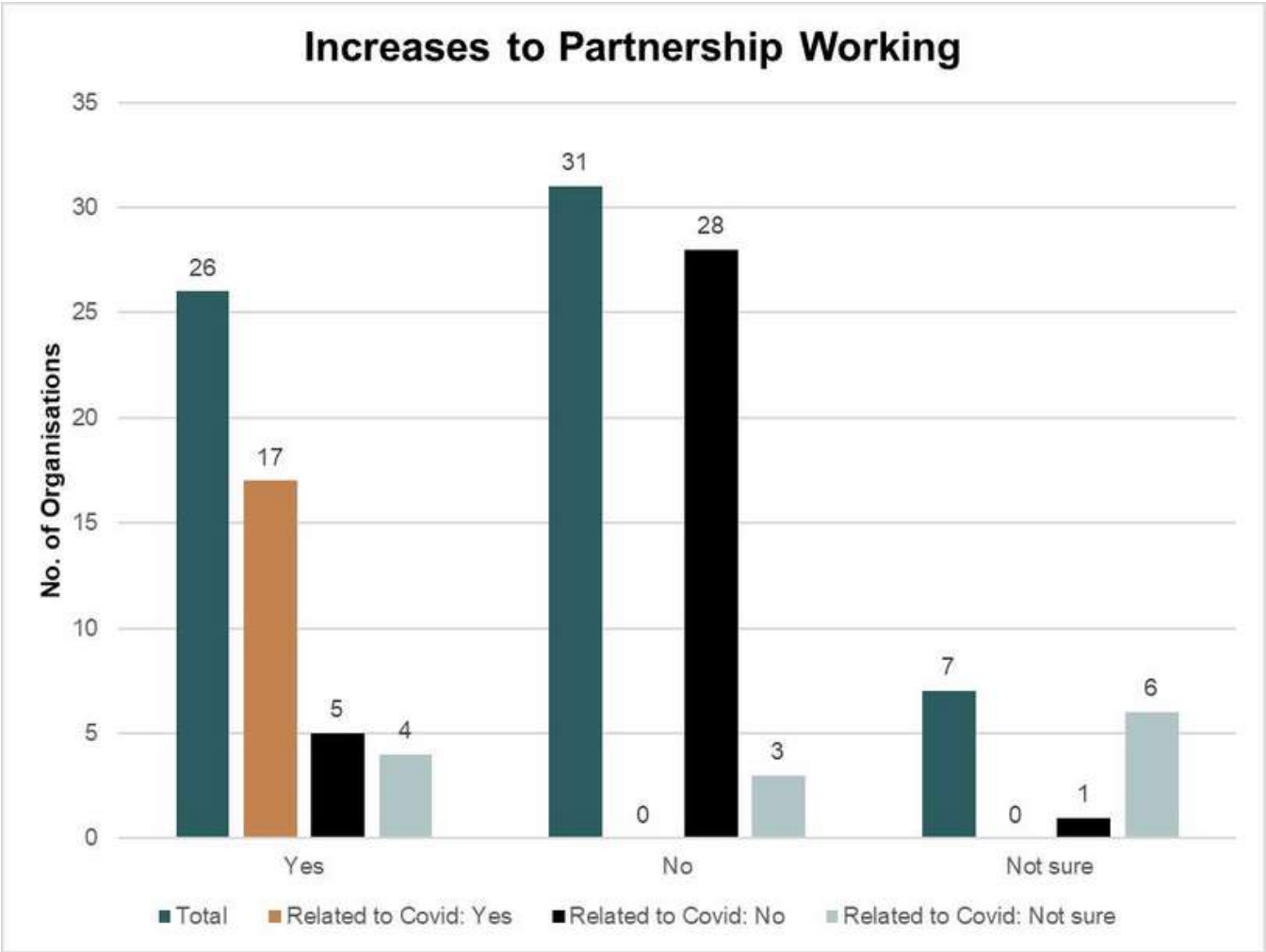


How and why volunteer involvement and support has changed:

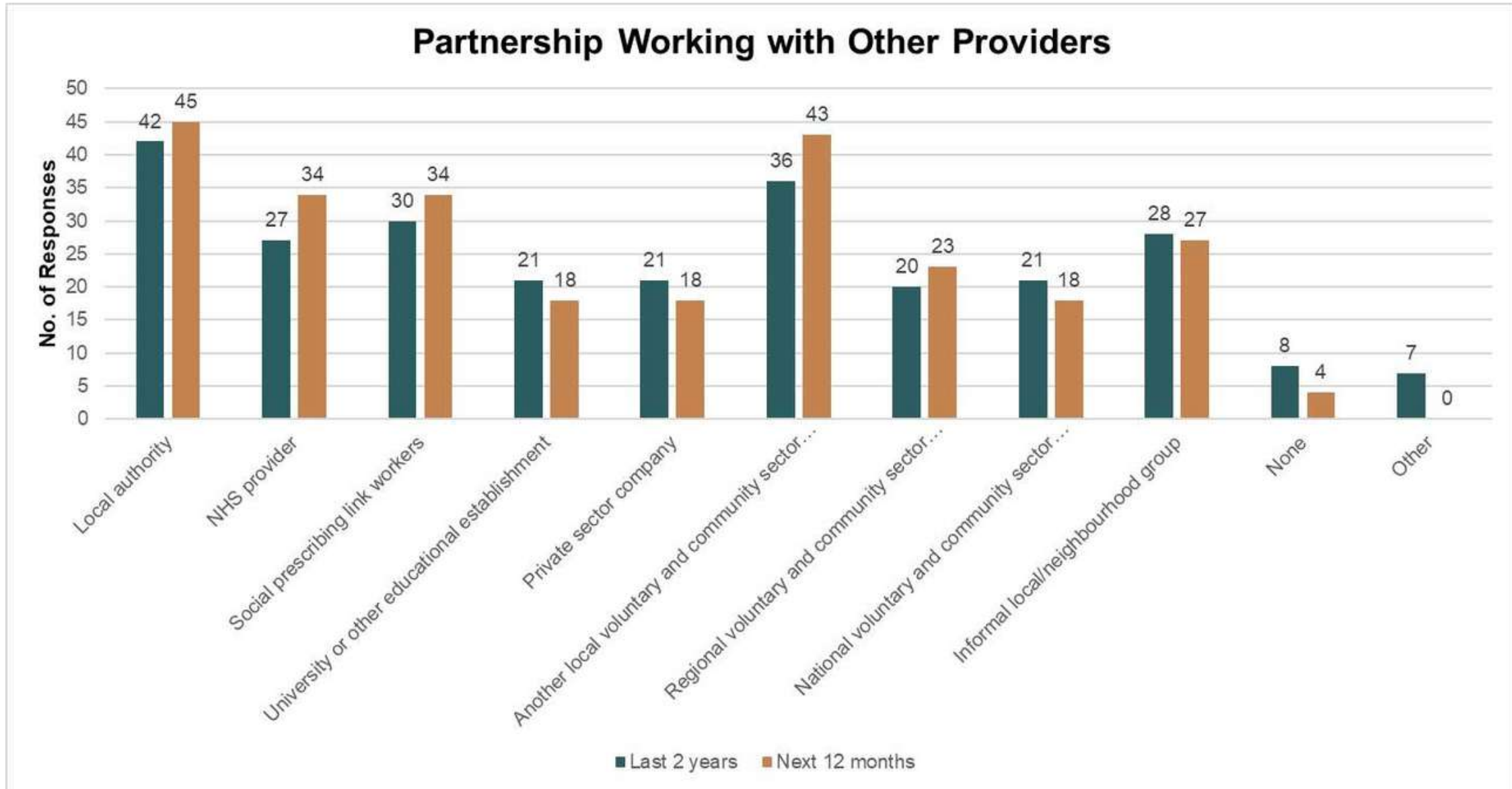
COVID-19 Impact

Some volunteers have either been made redundant from their jobs and had to find alternative employment which doesn't fit with working hours, some have got used to being at home, some have had mental health issues partially due to COVID-19 and do not feel confident enough to start volunteering again. More residents, however, are willing to get involved.

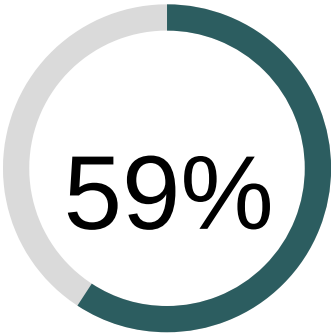
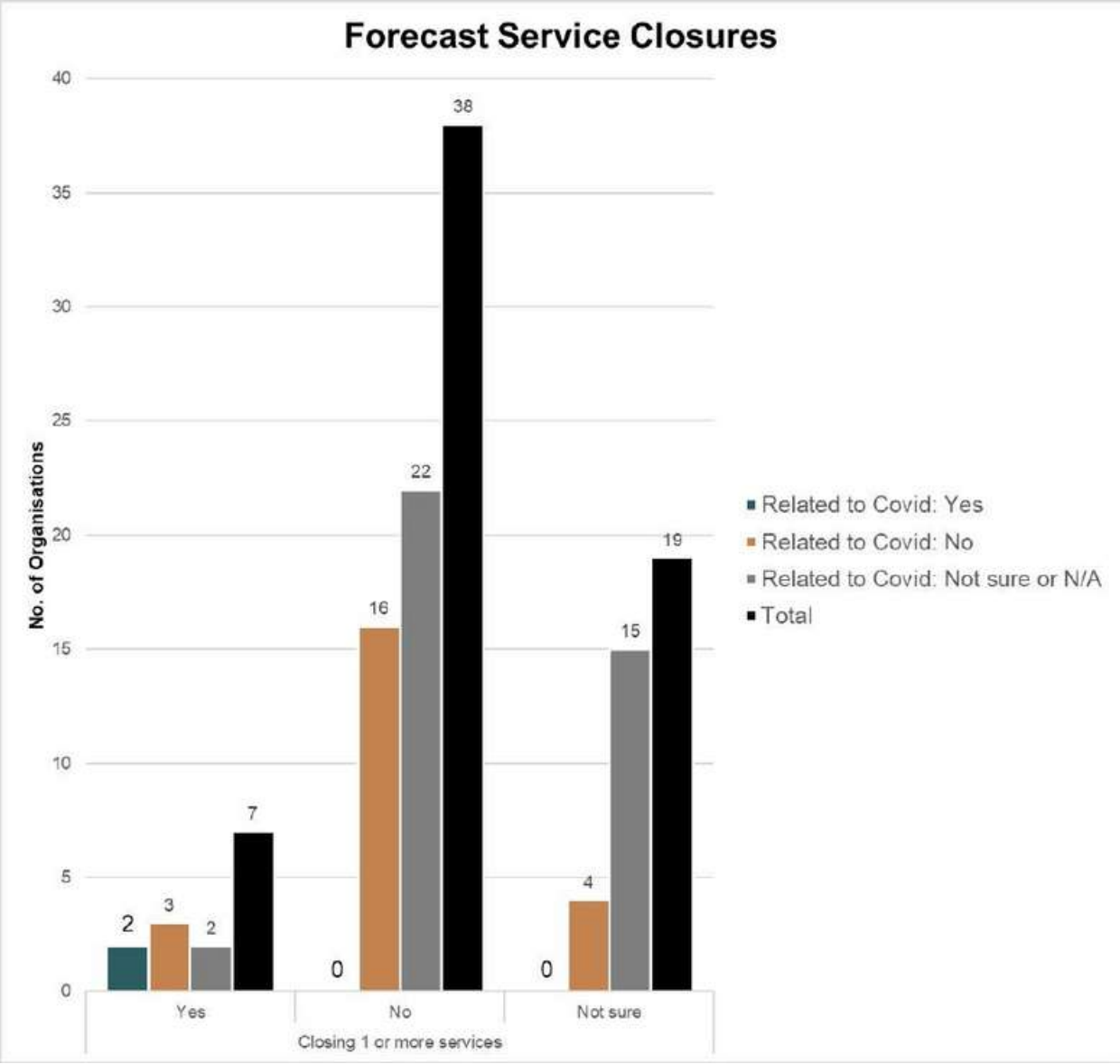
PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE



PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE

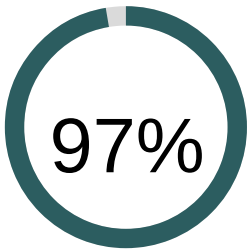
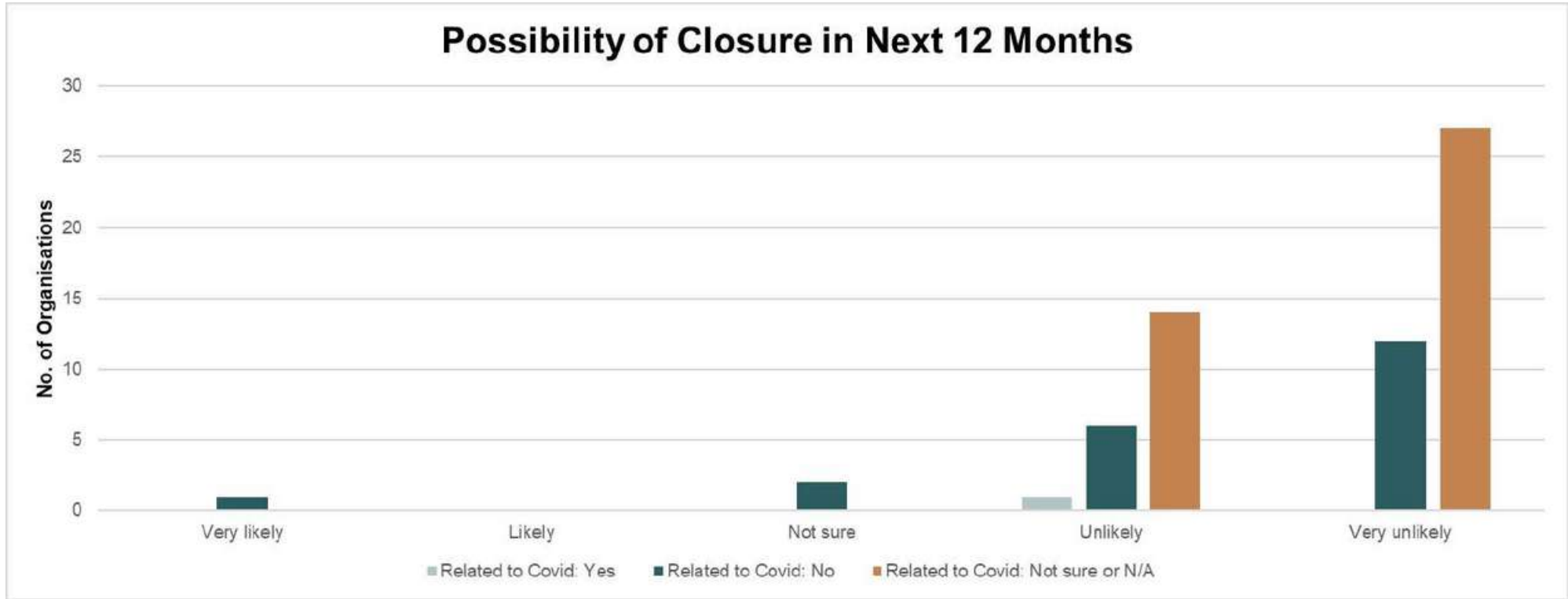


PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE



***are unlikely to close any
services in the next 12
months.***

PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE



are unlikely or very unlikely to close in the next 12 months.

PART TWO- UNDERSTANDING CHANGE



How and why your service delivery has changed in the last two years, or is likely to change over the next 12 months?

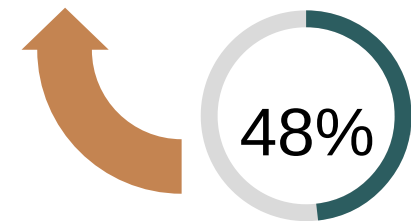
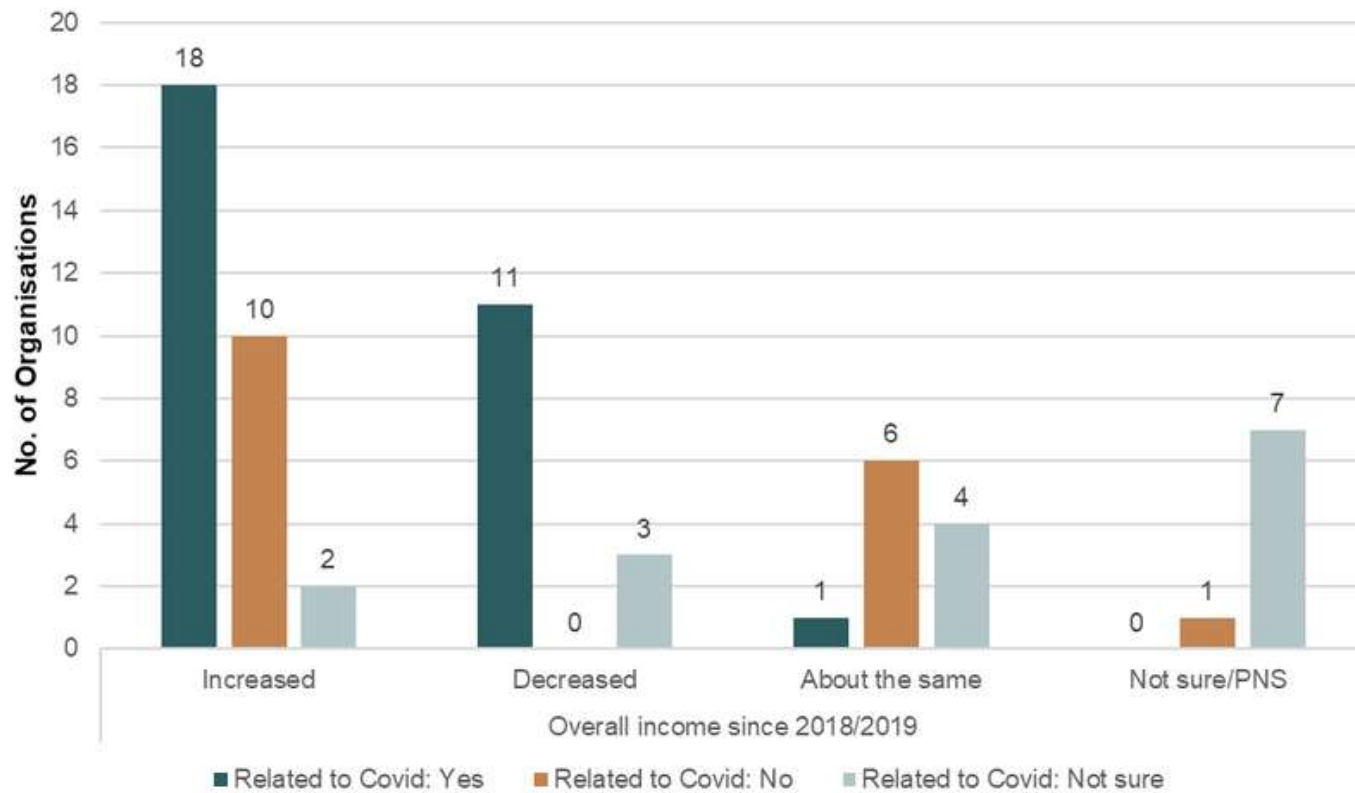
If your organisation closes or stops providing a service, which other organisations could potentially pick up your work? What problems could there be?

"More of a focus on young people's mental health & wellbeing and their social connections, due to COVID-19. Although this is something we have always had some focus on anyway. Our organisation is in a better place since COVID-19, so we have more capacity to look at additional projects, partnership working, etc."

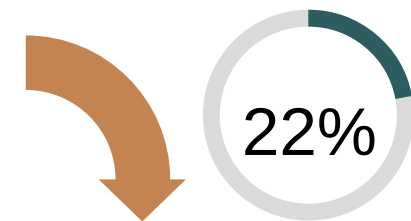
"Other community arts organisations could potentially pick up some of our work. No other local or countywide arts organisation has been working as long as us and so won't have the established relationships with partners or the community that we have."

PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING

Overall Income Since 2018/2019

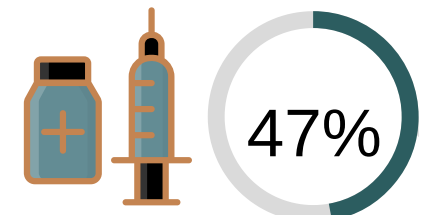


overall income has increased since 2018/19.



overall income has decreased since 2018/19.

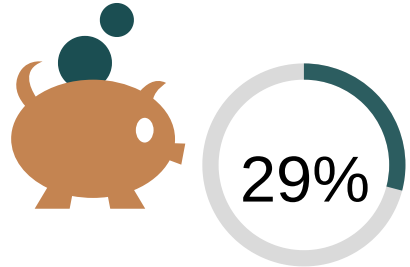
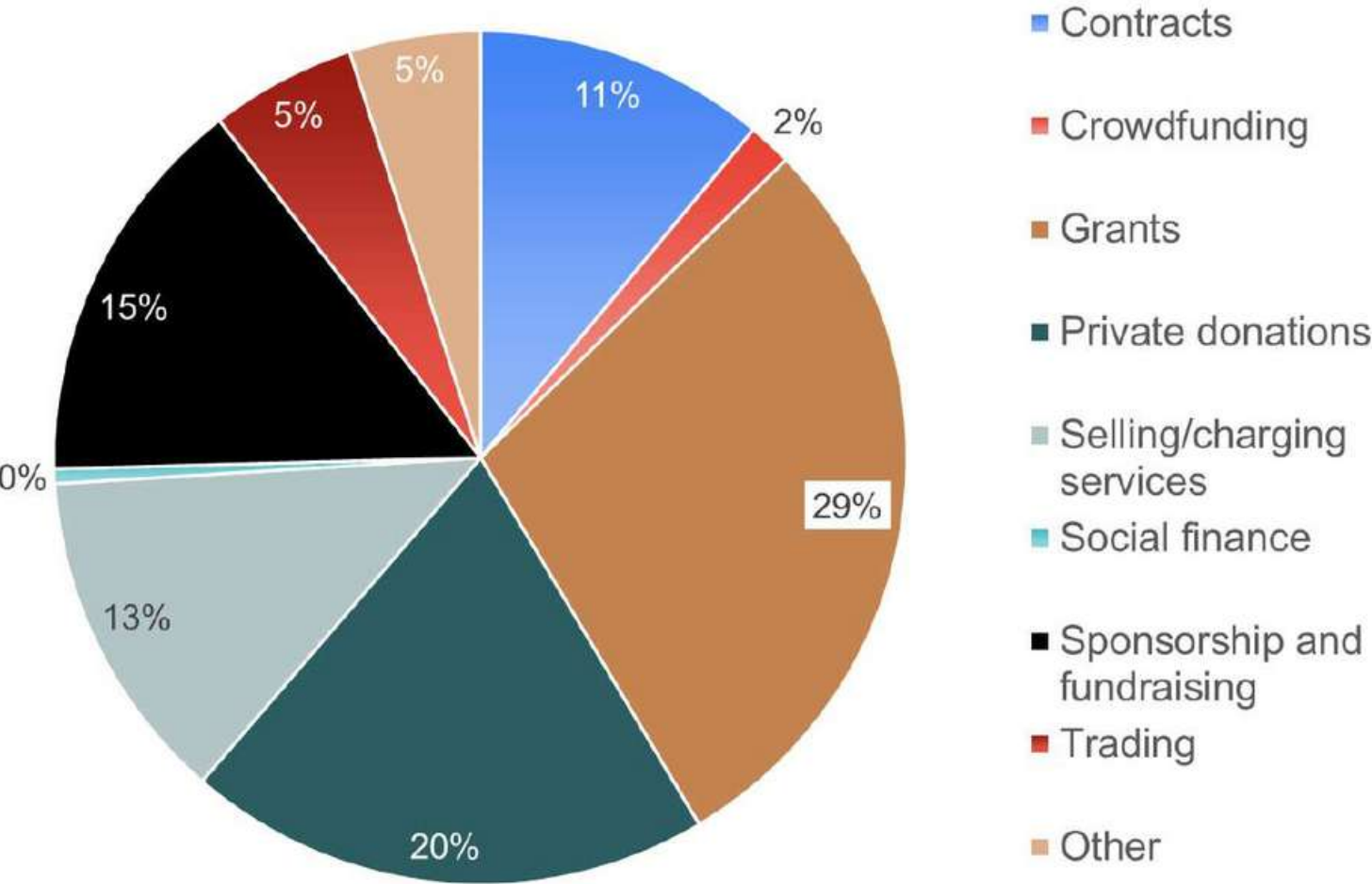
DIRECT IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON INCOME LEVELS



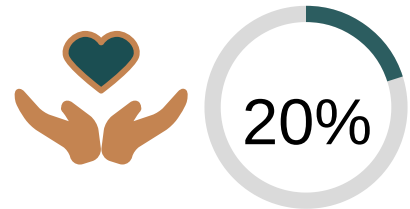
reported that COVID-19 has had a direct impact on income levels, with the majority reporting it has directly caused an increase.

PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING

Funding Received by Organisations in the Last Two Years



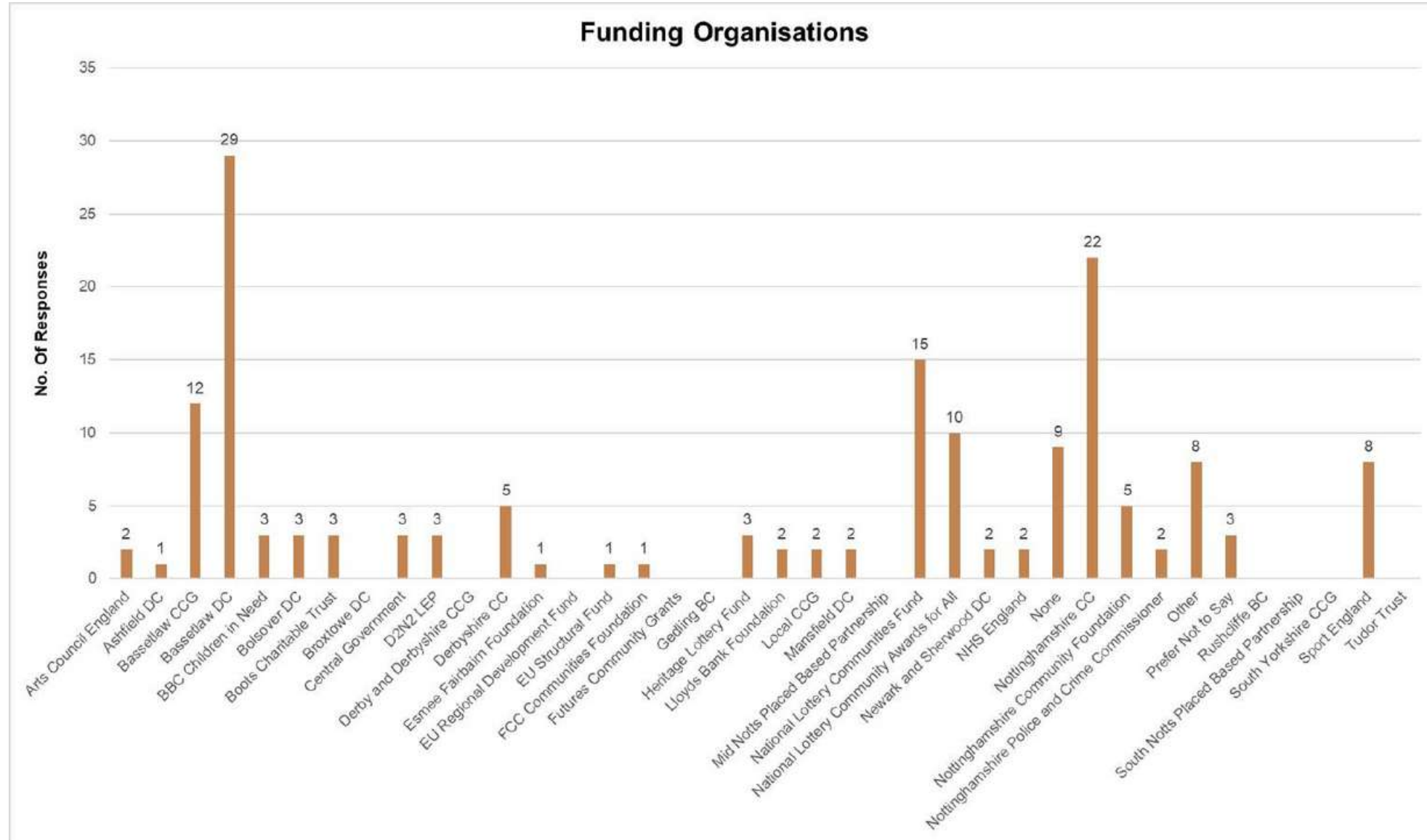
funding grant related.



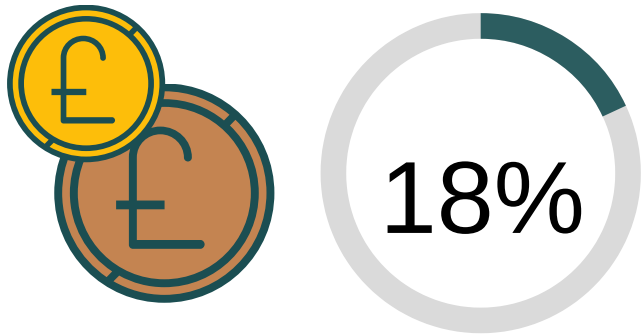
funding from private donations.

13% of funding came from selling or charging for services.

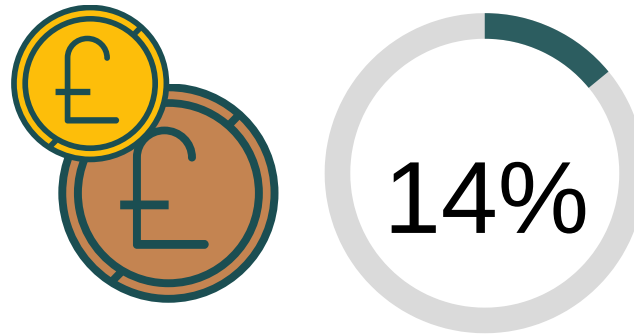
PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING



PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING



funding from Bassetlaw District Council.



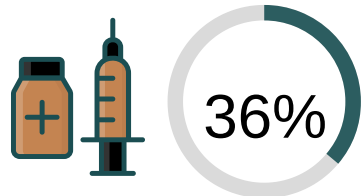
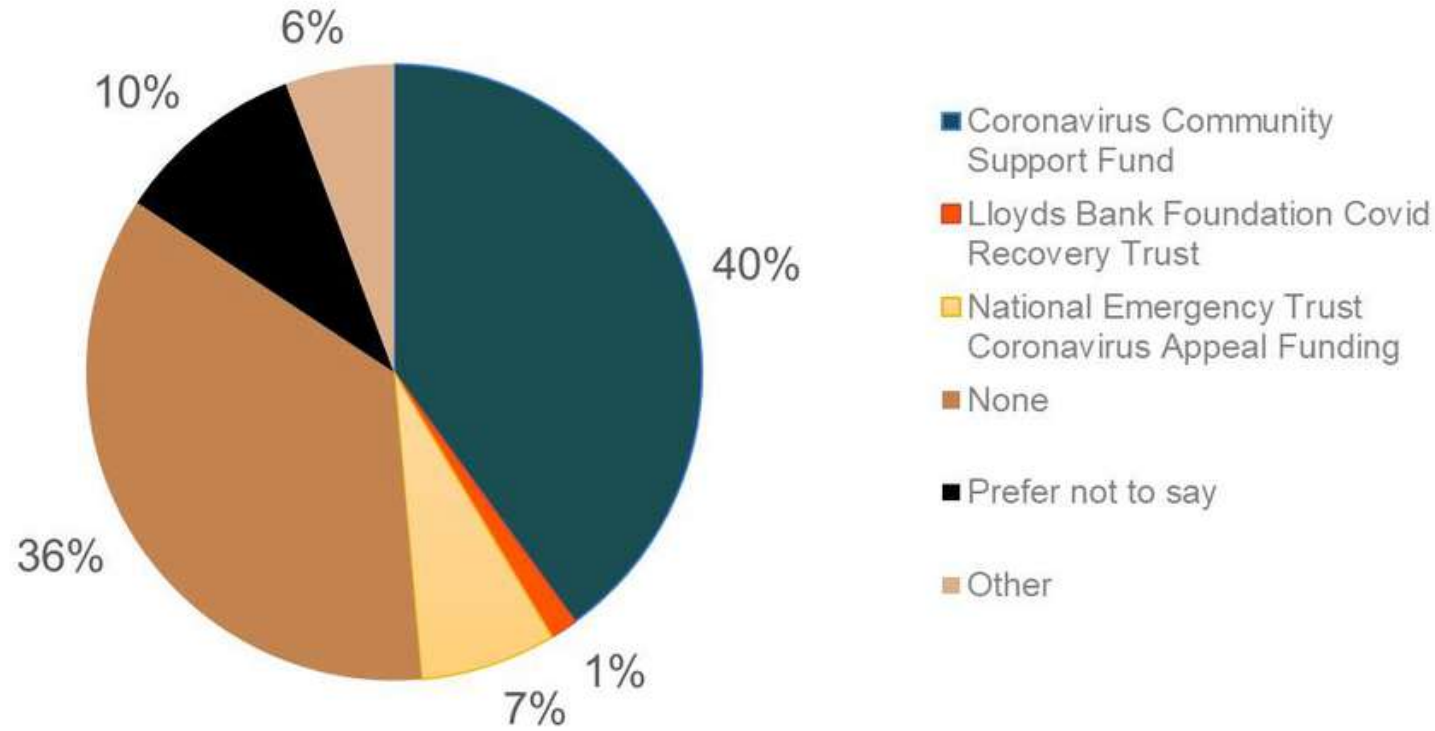
funding from Nottinghamshire County Council.



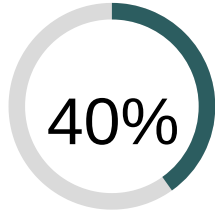
funding from National Lottery.

PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING

COVID-19 Funding Sources

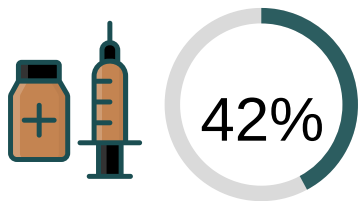
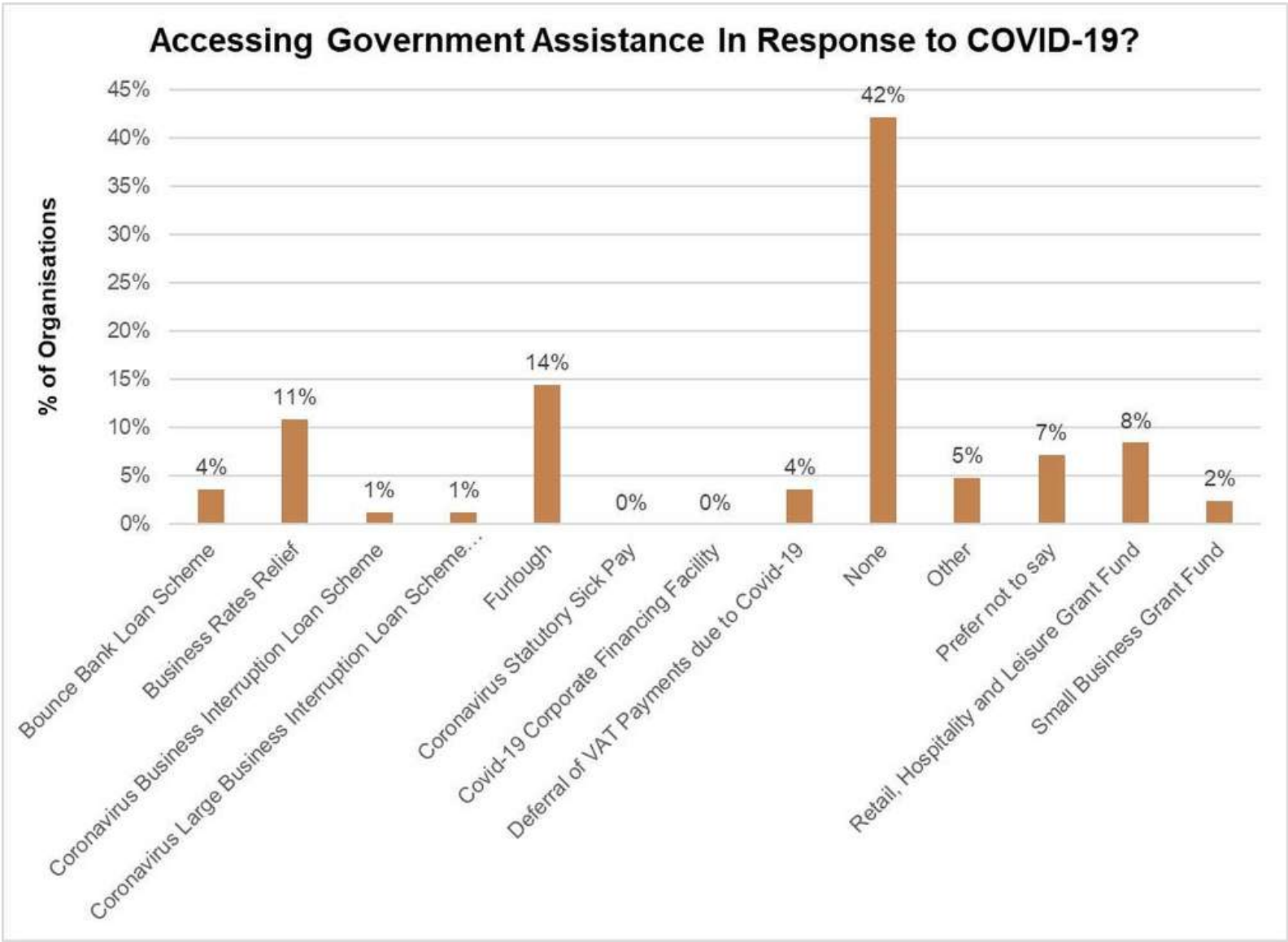


NO COVID-19 related funding received.

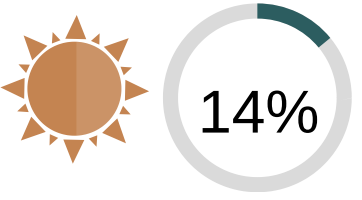


received Coronavirus Community Support Funding, managed through the Lottery Community Fund.

PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING

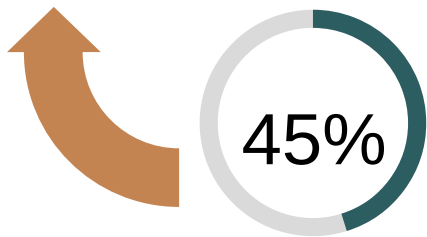
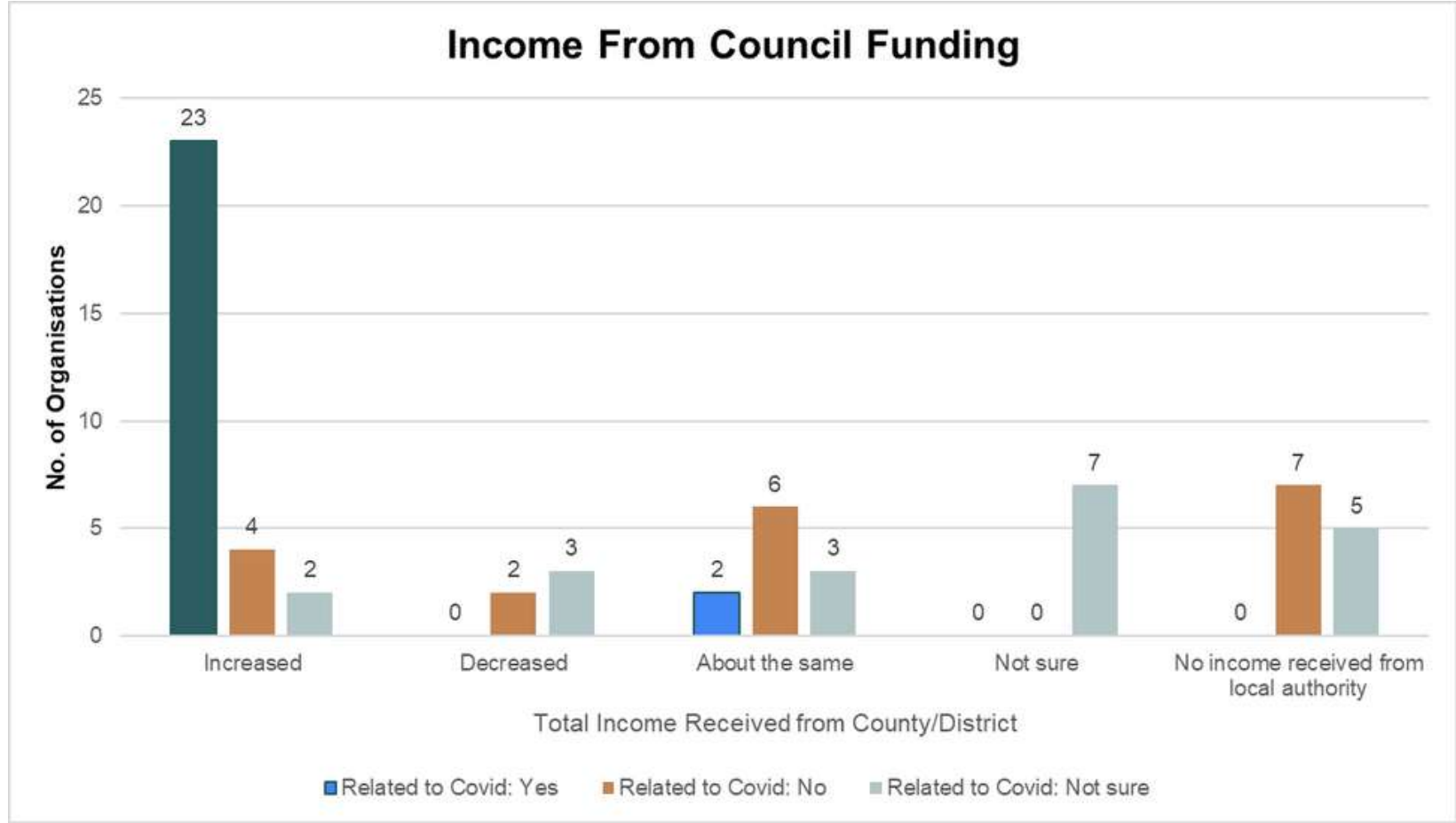


NO COVID-19 related funding received from government.

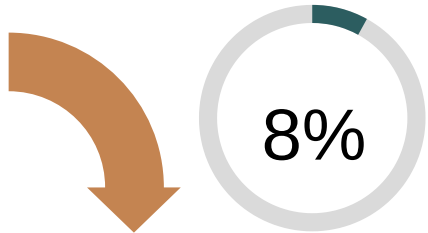


benefitted from Furlough Support.

PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING



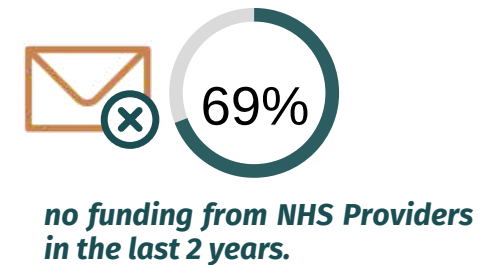
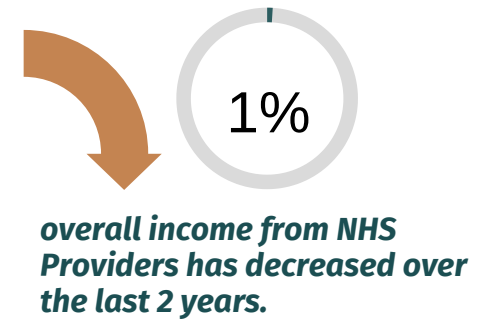
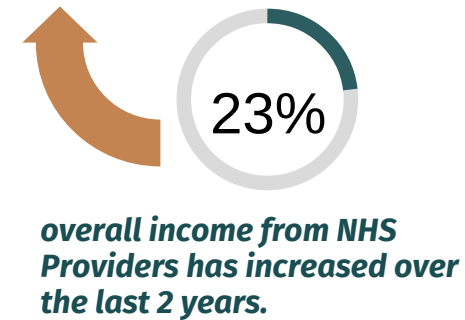
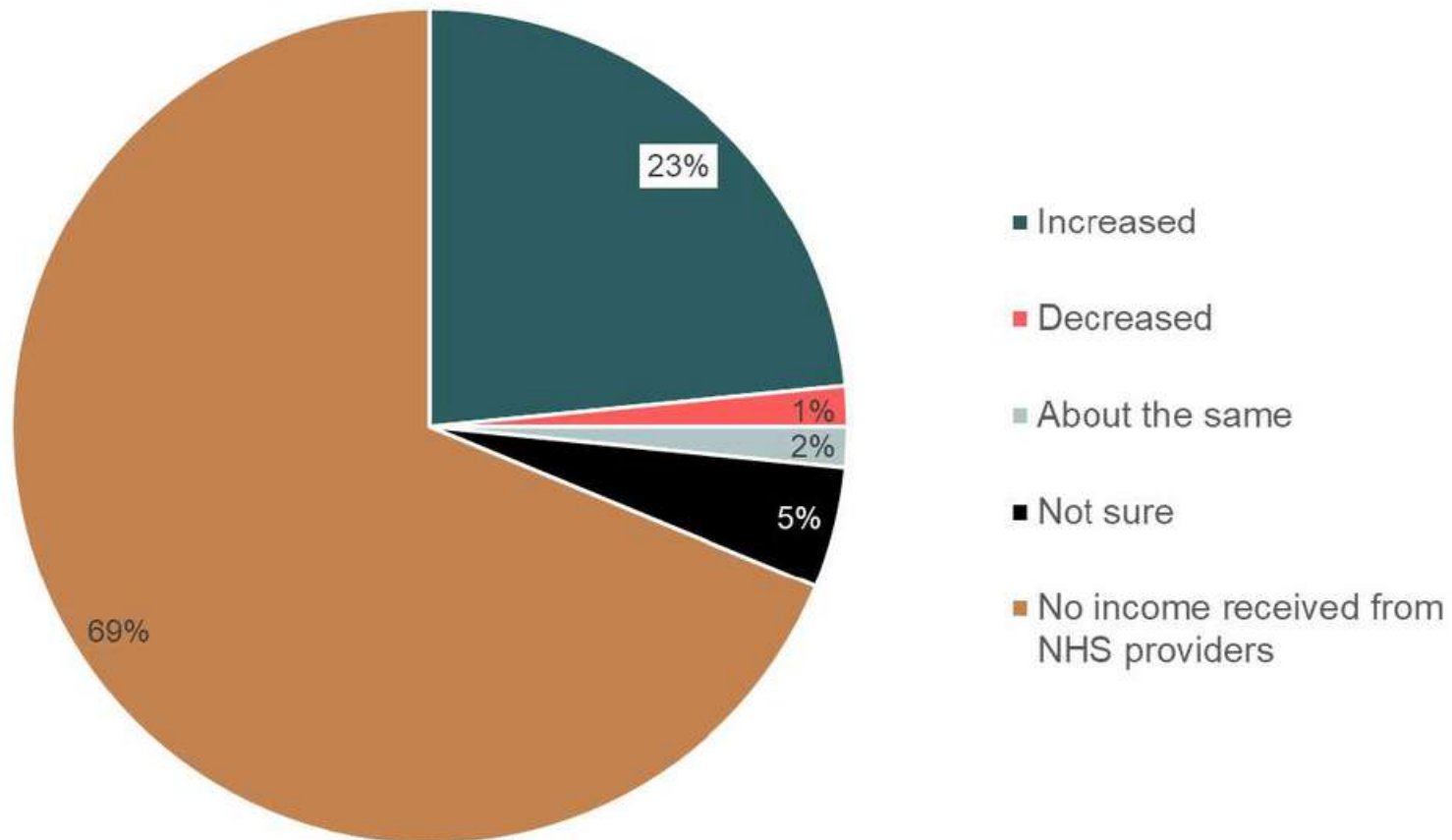
overall income from council funding has increased over the last 2 years.



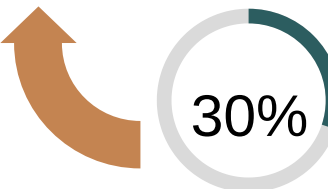
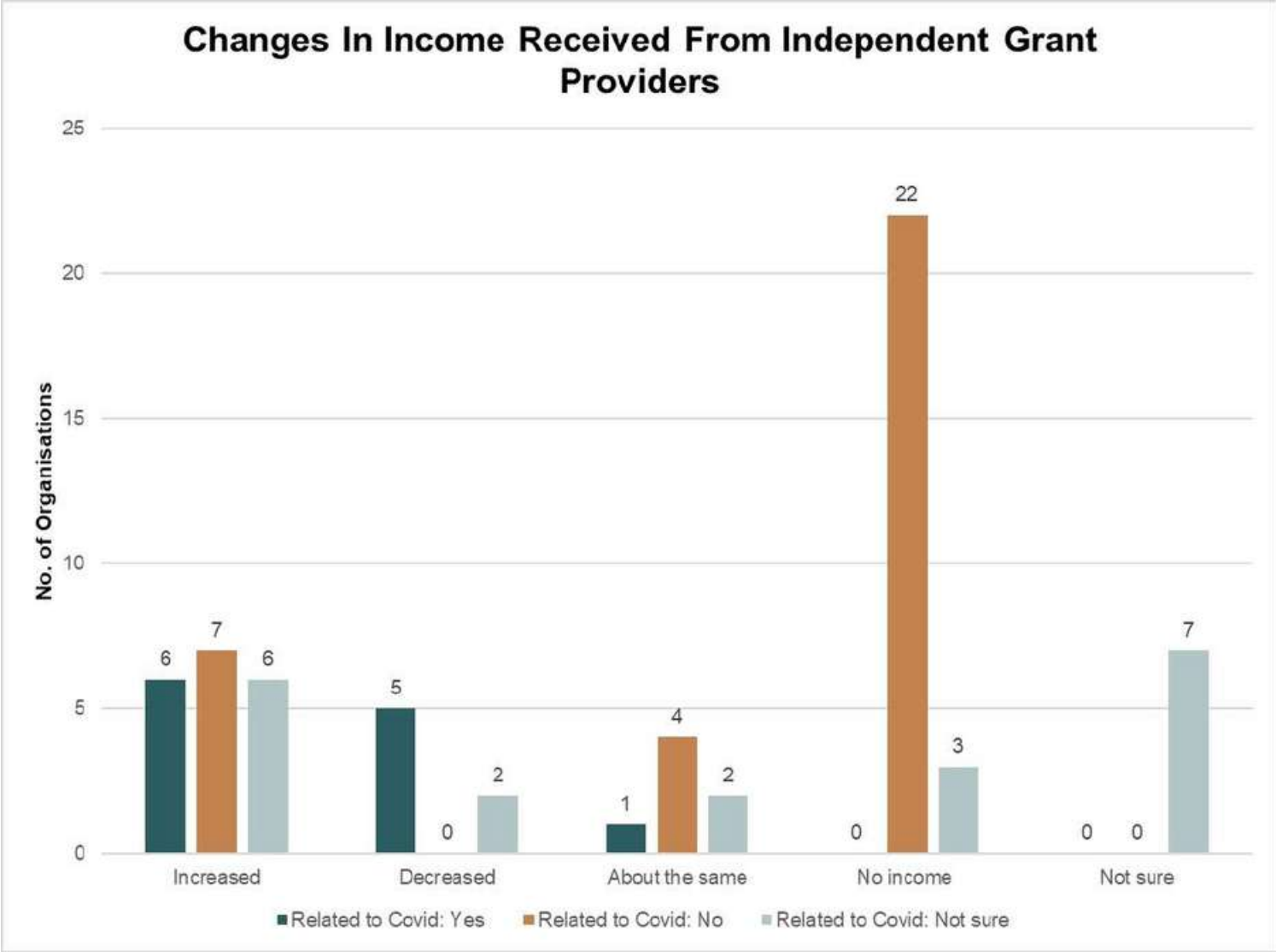
overall income from council funding has decreased over the last 2 years.

PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING

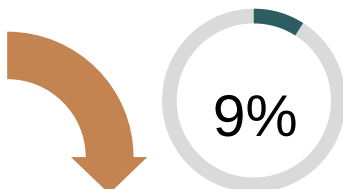
Changes in Income from NHS Providers



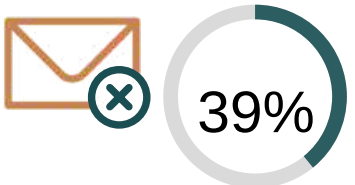
PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING



overall income from grant provider funding has increased over the last 2 years.



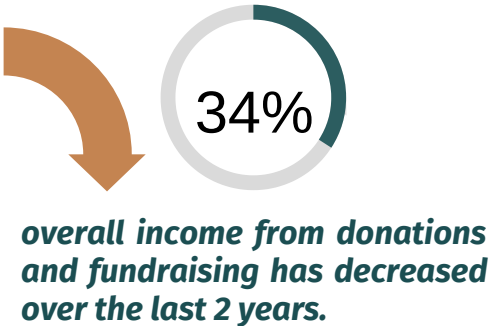
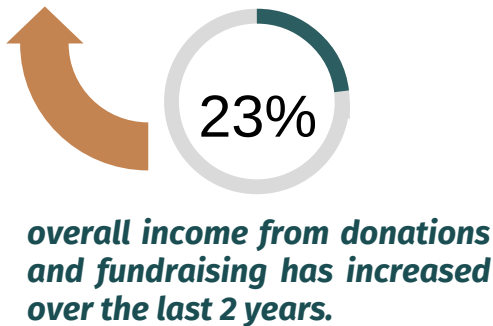
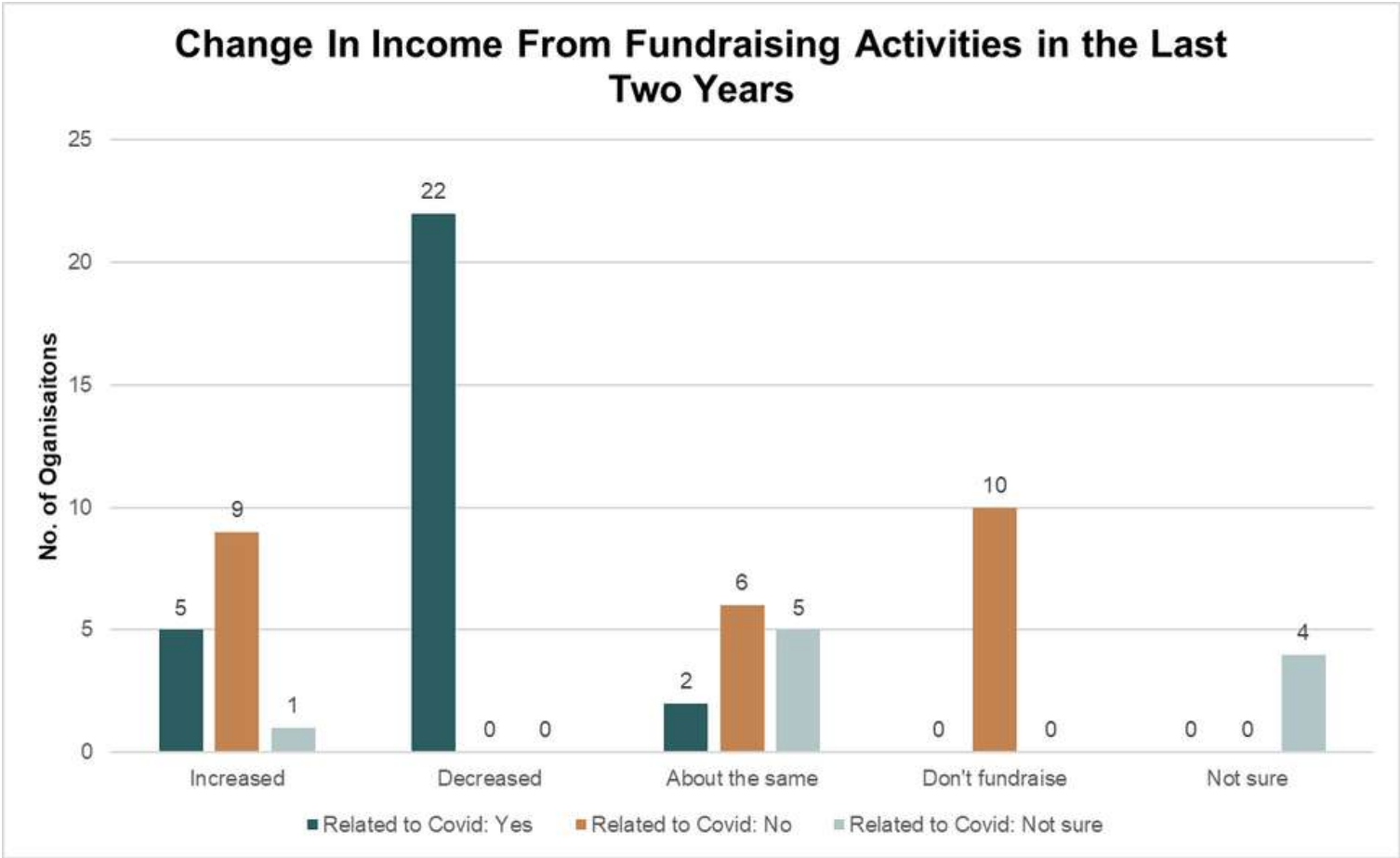
overall income from grant provider funding has decreased over the last 2 years.



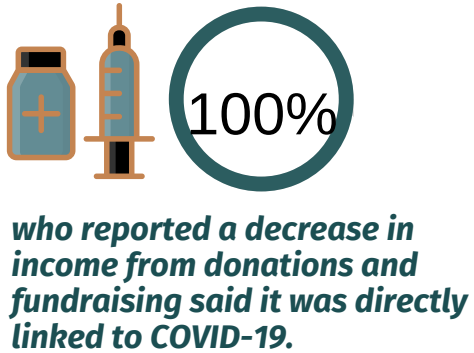
no income from grant providers over the last 2 years.

PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING

Change In Income From Fundraising Activities in the Last Two Years

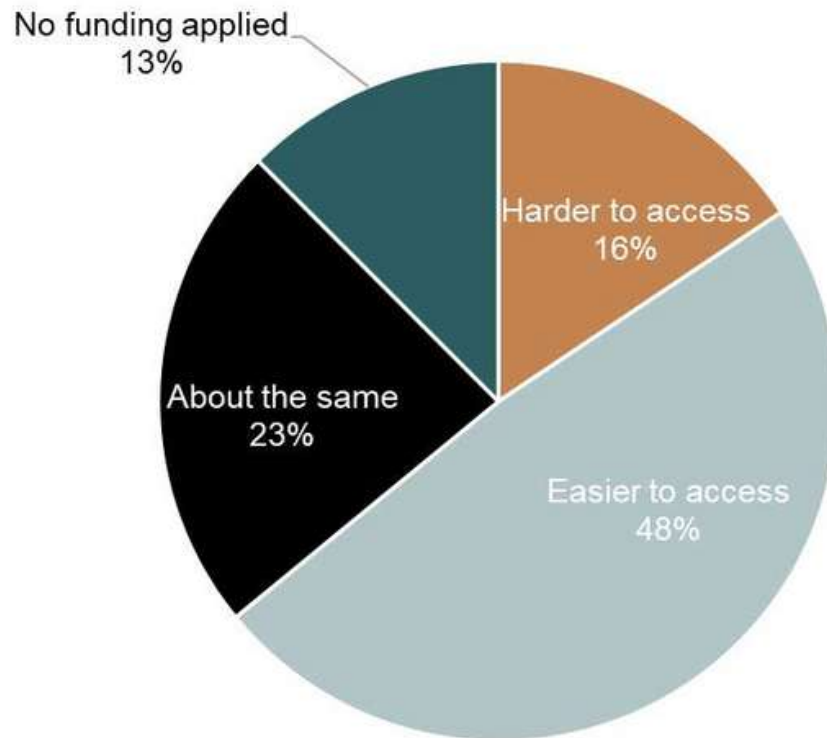


DIRECT IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON INCOME LEVELS



PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING

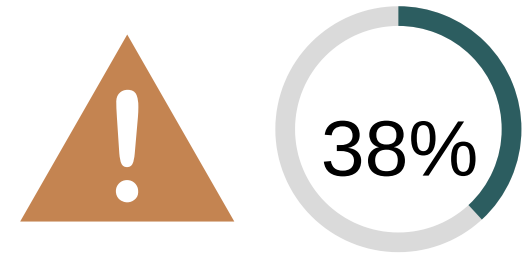
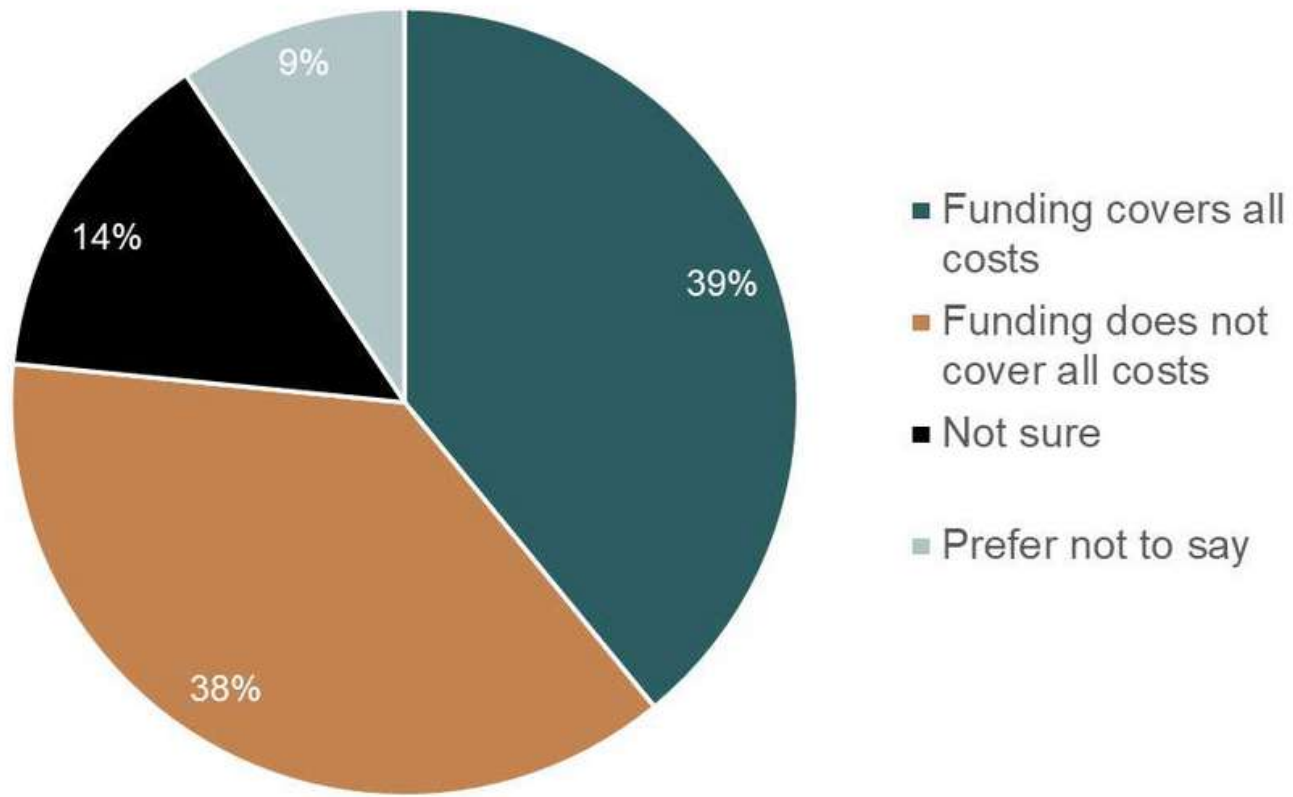
Experience of Applying for Funding in the Last Two Years



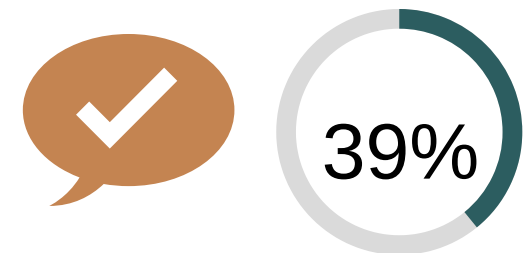
experienced it easier to access funds over the last 2 years.

PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING

Funding vs Operational Costs



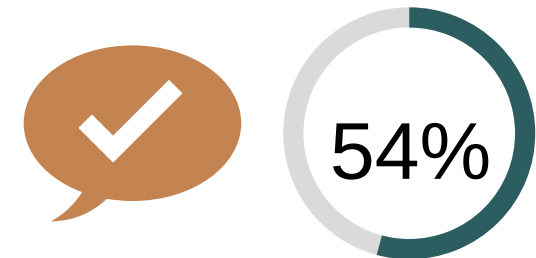
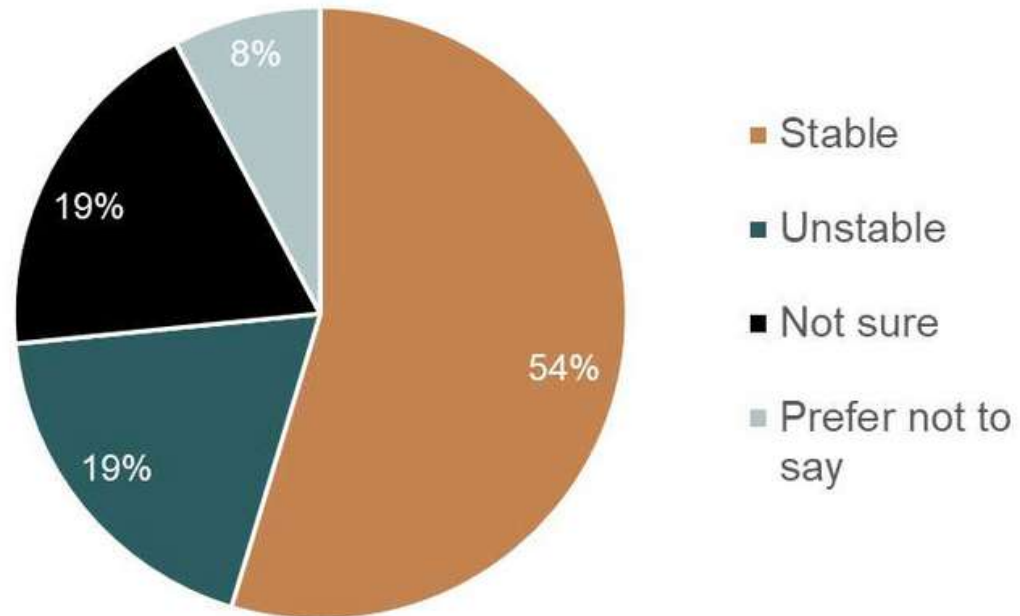
funding does not cover all costs.



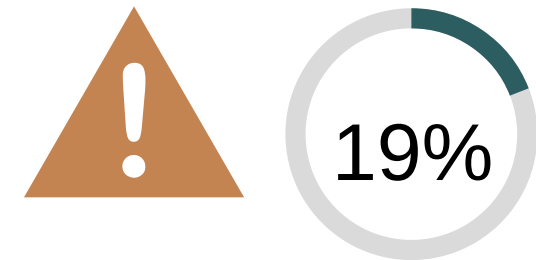
funding does cover all costs.

PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING

Funding Stability



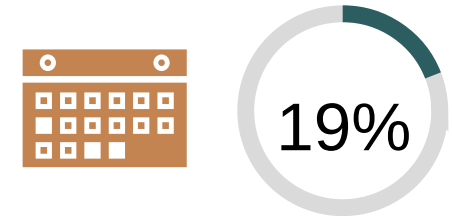
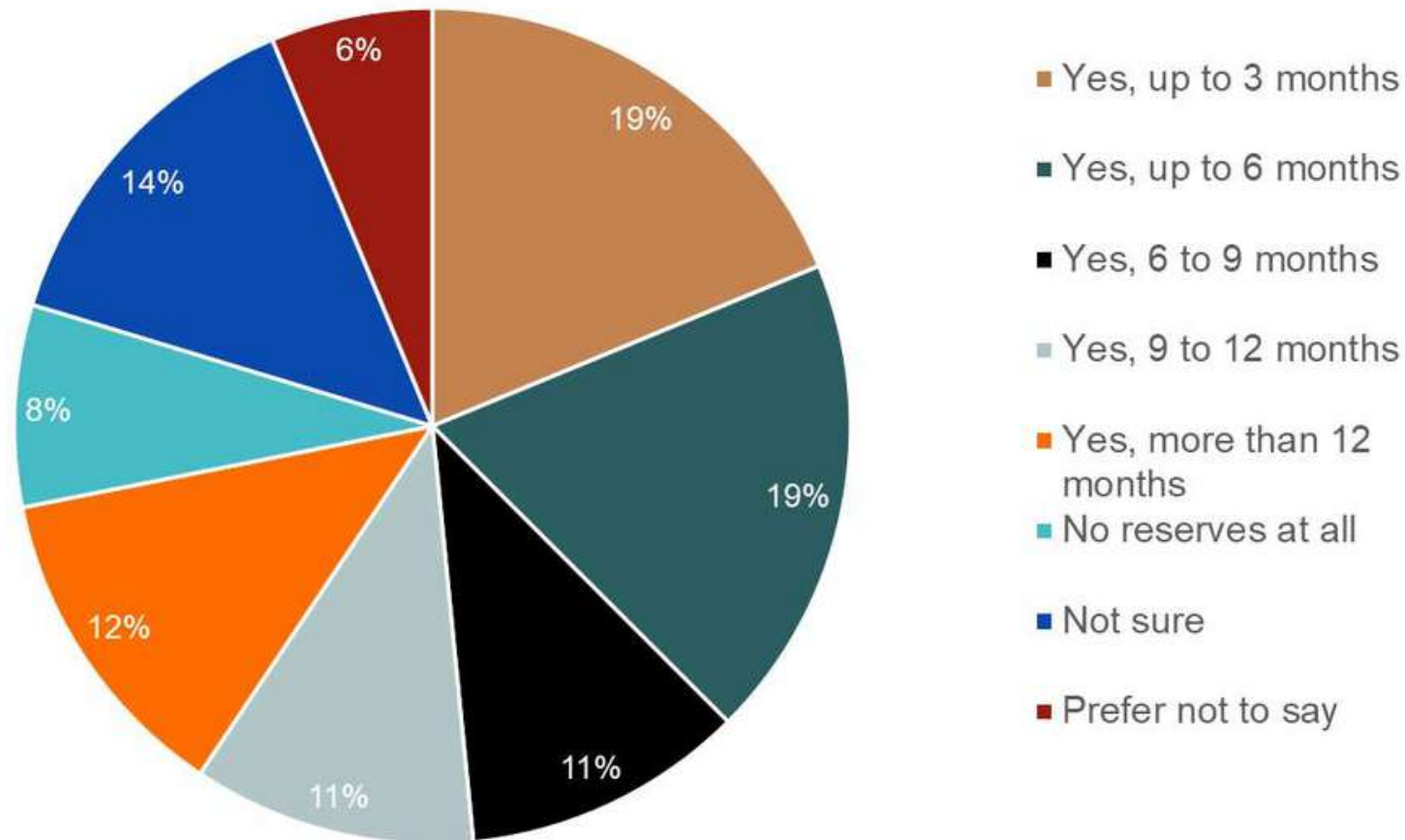
funding is stable.



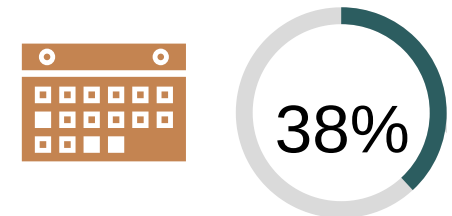
funding is unstable.

PART THREE- FINANCES & FUNDING

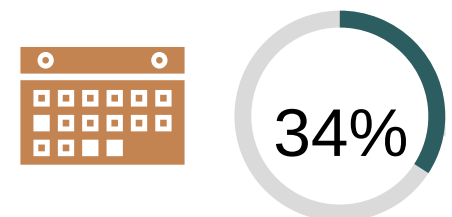
Funding Reserves



up to 3 month reserves
(8% no reserves at all).



less than 6 months reserves.



6 months + reserves.

PART THREE- FINANCES AND FUNDING - COMMENTS



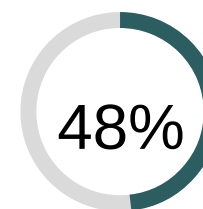
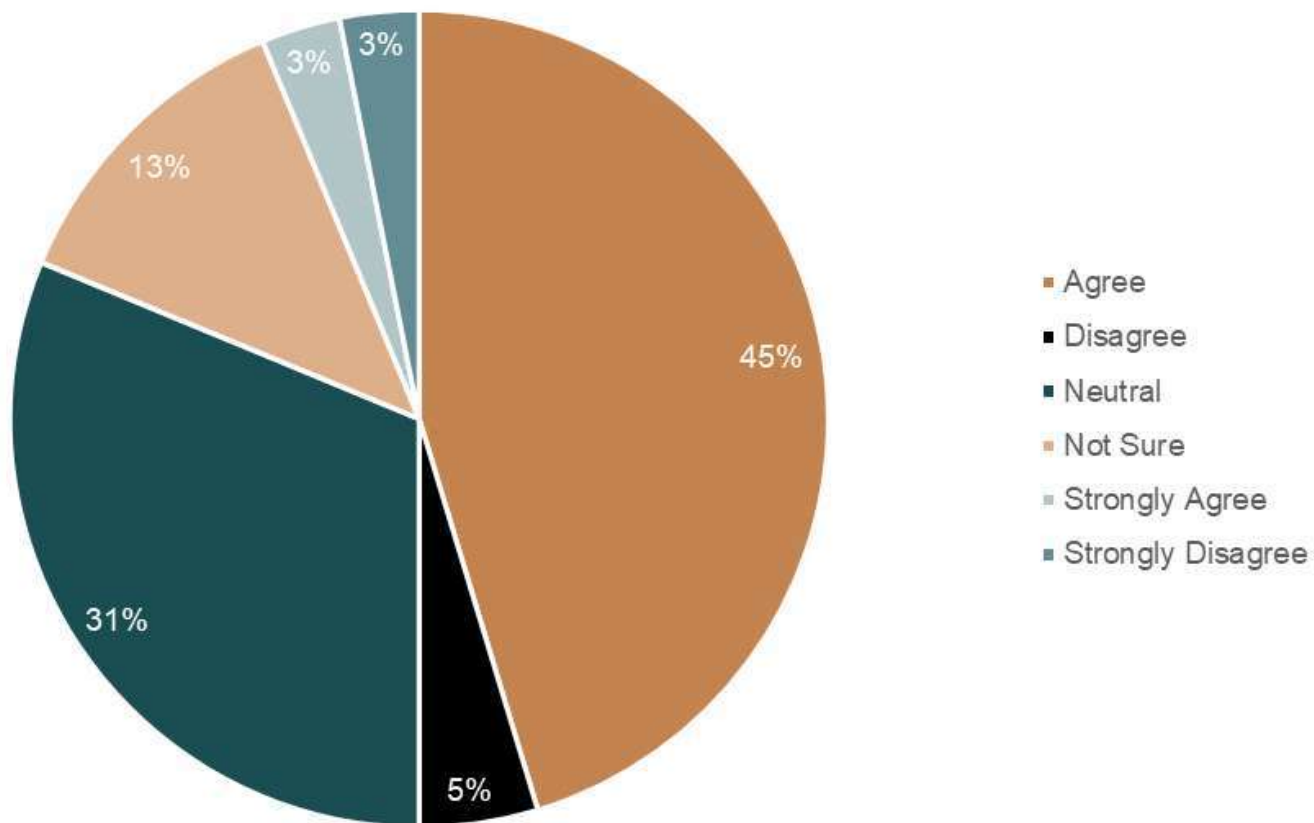
If you would like to tell us more, please explain how and why the type of funding you receive has changed in the last two years.

"We have been raising funding to purchase our building and site; raised funds to restore the EDGE building; raised funds to create the OPERATION OASIS COVID-19 response Project and for COVID-19 recovery Cafe projects; raised £50,000 for our new playground area. We have fought and applied hard to keep going and to be able to deliver all we do for the community,"

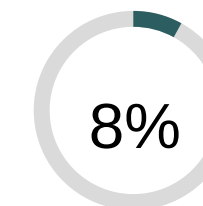
"Face to face fundraising has been greatly impacted due to COVID-19 and we had to rethink how we receive these types of donations, turning to, like many, virtual fundraising. We have only in the last 6 months started to do face to face fundraising again."

PART FOUR- CHALLENGES & SUPPORT

My Organisation is Able to Influence Local Decisions



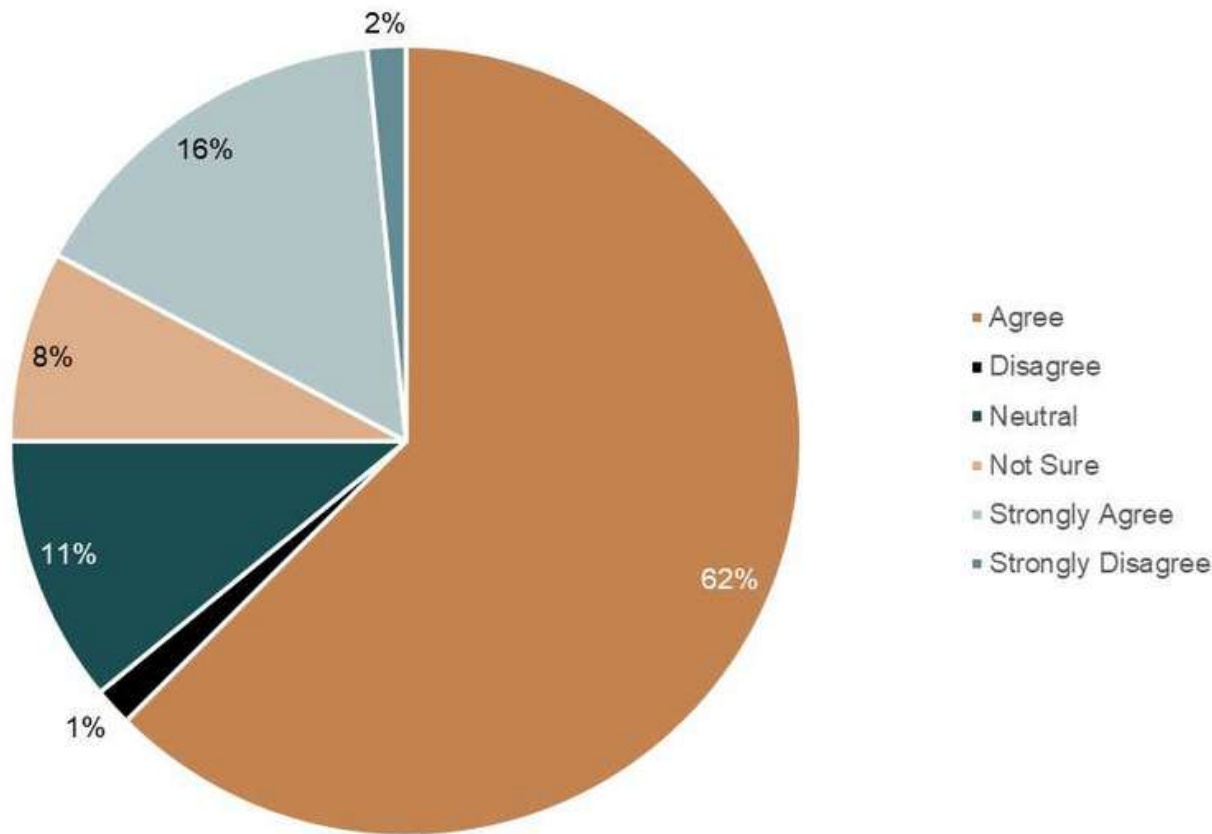
***Agree or strongly agree
on the ability to influence
local decisions***



***Disagree or strongly
disagree on the ability to
influence local decisions***

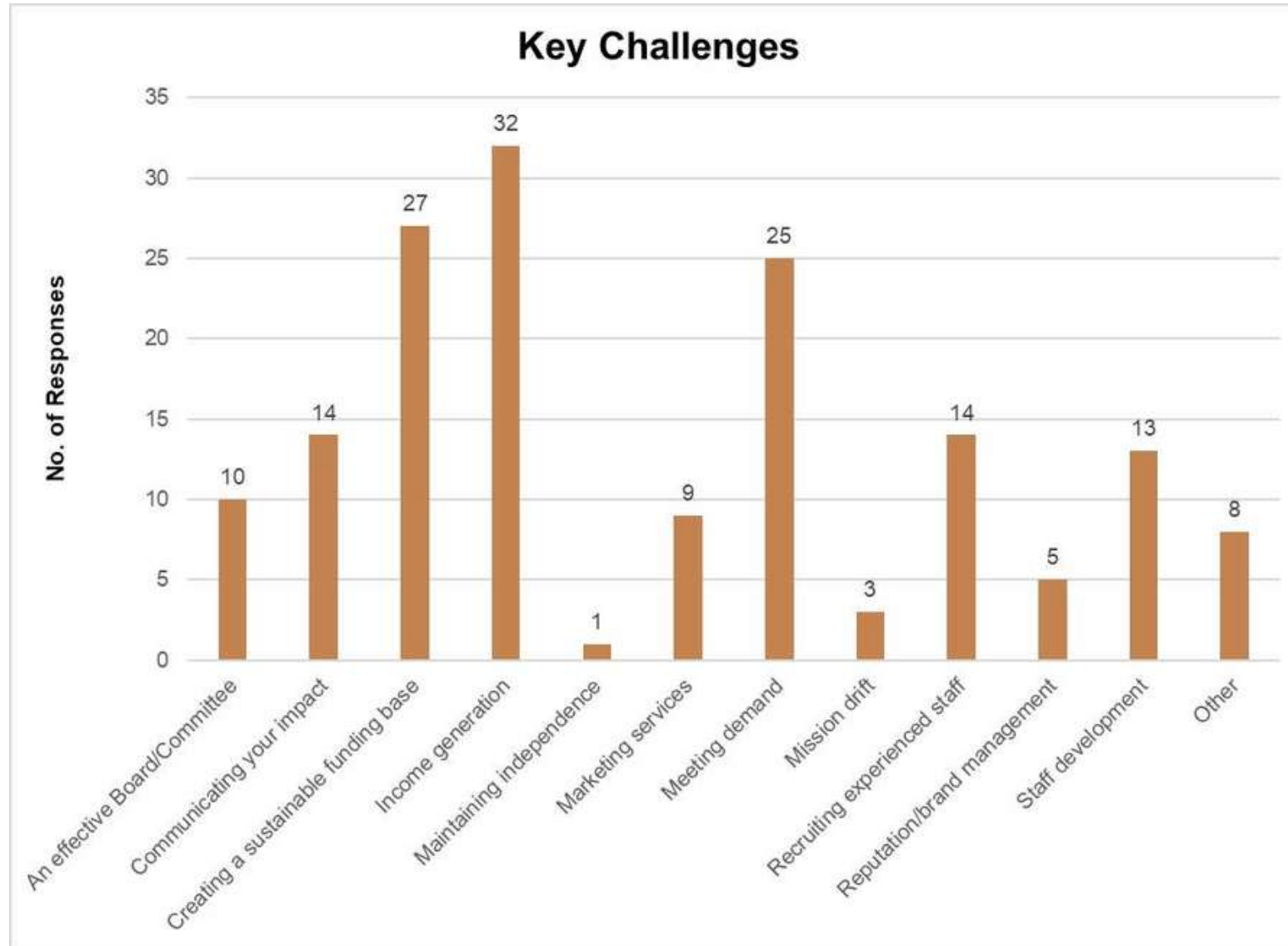
PART FOUR- CHALLENGES & SUPPORT

My Organisation is Able to Speak Out

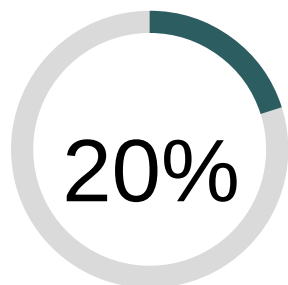


"We need to ensure continuity, consistent support for our members and to continue speaking out when necessary. The support we as an organisation and our members receive from BCVS is invaluable, however, there is a greater need for additional support on the ground and for all partners/organisations/voluntary sector to work together to achieve a better outcome for all."

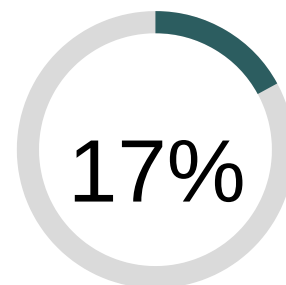
PART FOUR- CHALLENGES & SUPPORT



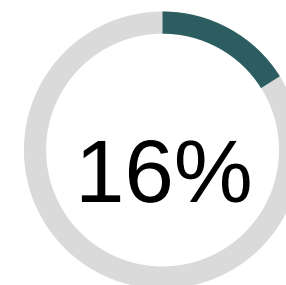
PART FOUR- CHALLENGES & SUPPORT



of all responses cited income generation as a challenge.

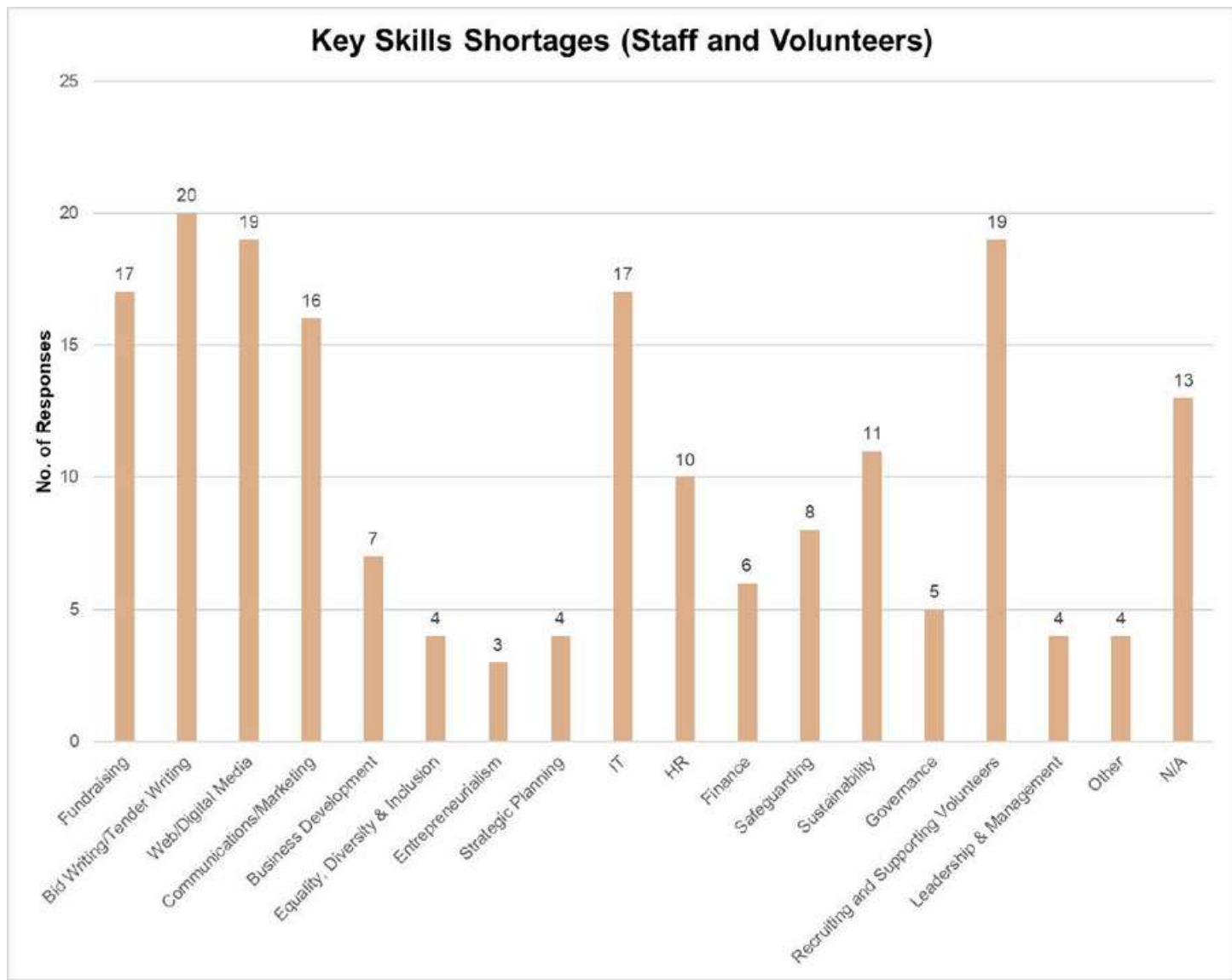


of all responses cited creating a sustainable funding base as a challenge.



of all responses cited meeting demand as a challenge.

PART FOUR- CHALLENGES & SUPPORT



TOP 3 SKILLS SHORTAGES

- Bid Writing/Tender Writing (11%)
- Web/Digital Media (10%)
- Recruiting and Supporting Volunteers (10%)

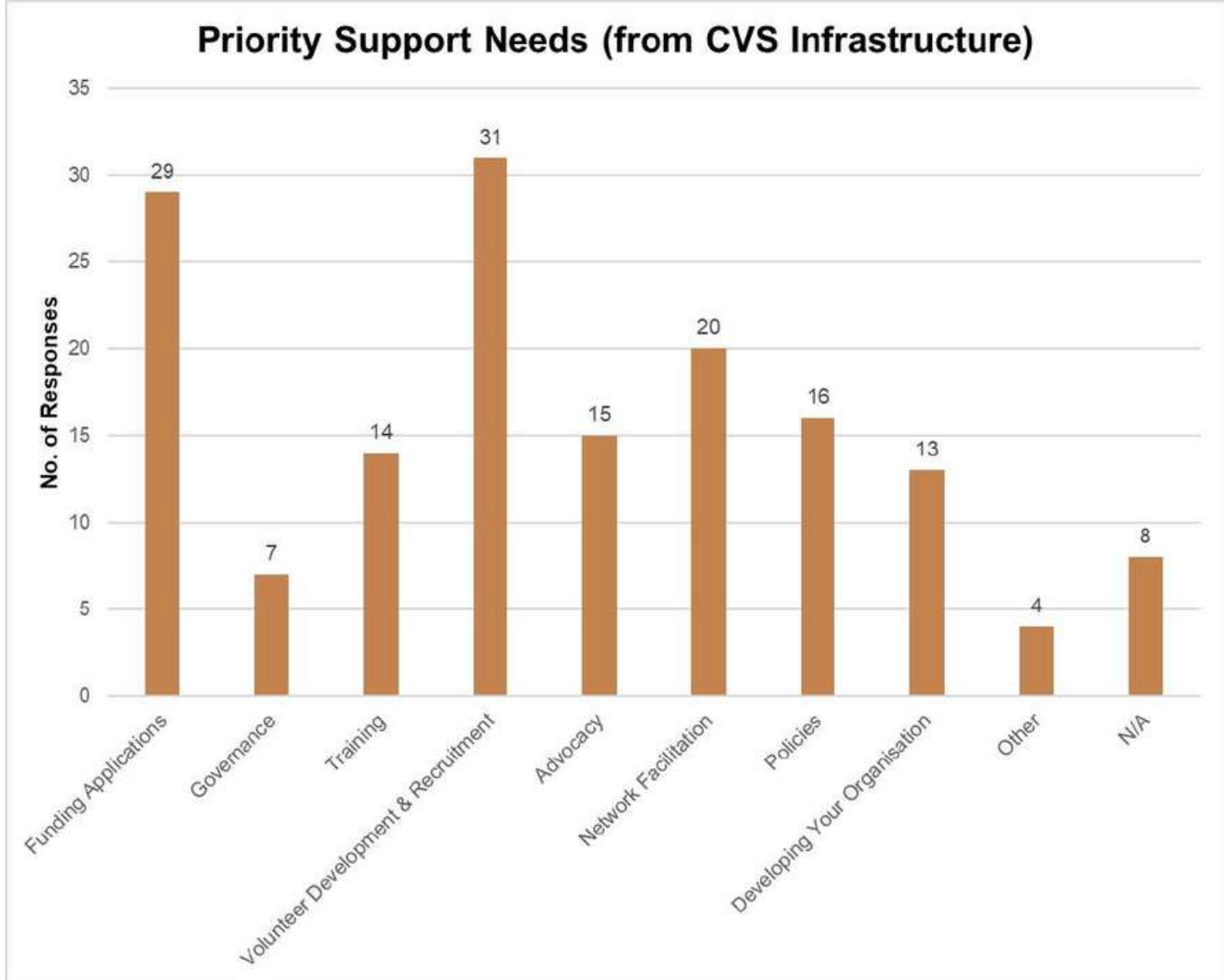
PART FOUR- CHALLENGES & SUPPORT



SKILLS CHALLENGES

Biggest skills shortages reported were recruiting and supporting volunteers and fundraising
Leadership and management skills did not rank highly
Difficulties recruiting staff – competition in terms of salary, short term contracts and wider terms and conditions
Difficulties recruiting trustees
Difficulties recruiting volunteers
Lack of IT skills impacting across Communications/Marketing, Finance, Service Delivery
Lack of expertise in social media and marketing which impacts on wider engagement with service users and volunteers
Lack of expertise in writing funding applications
Difficulties in working remotely
Lack of funds for training staff and volunteers
Need safeguarding training for volunteers

PART FOUR- CHALLENGES & SUPPORT



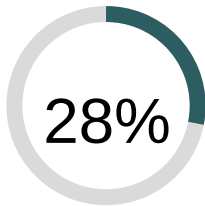
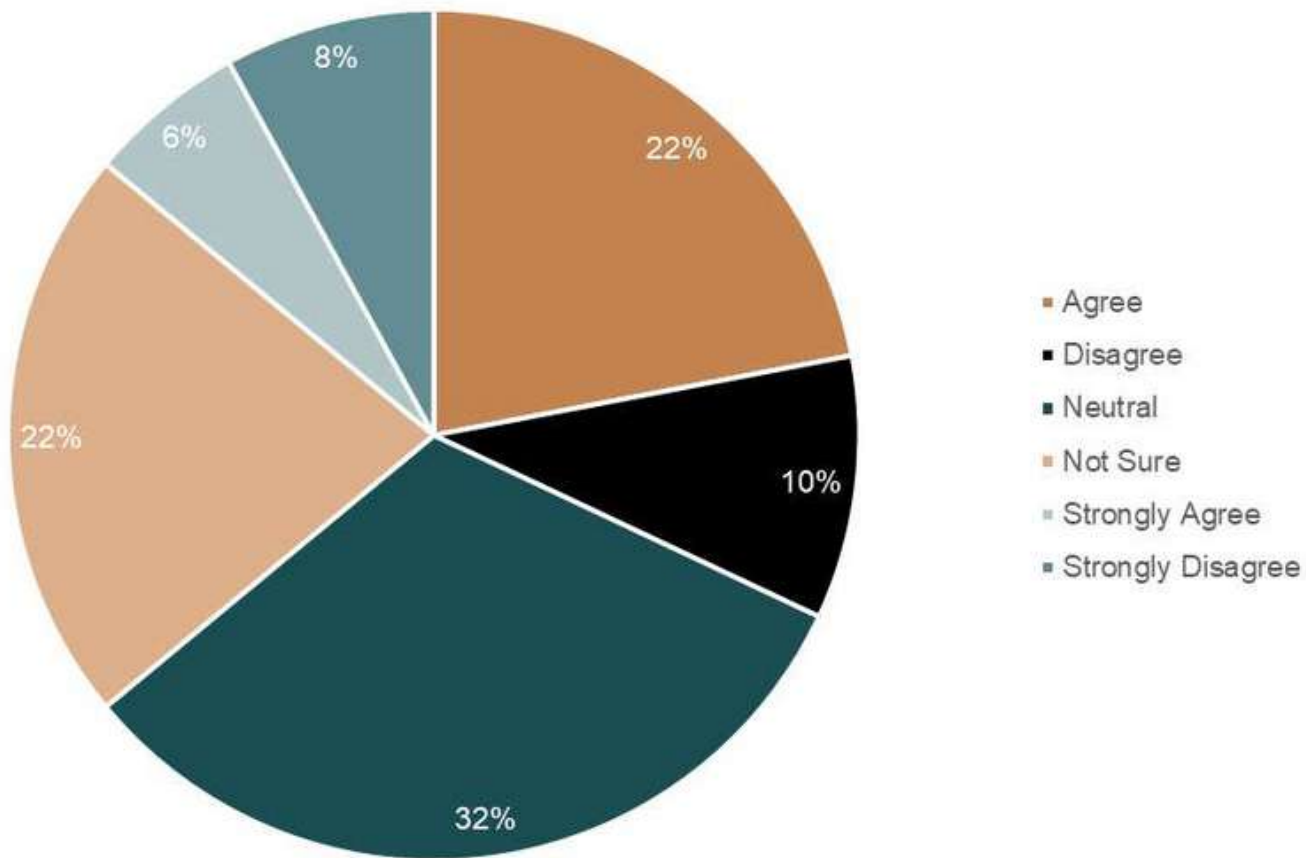
INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

For those organisations that highlighted training as an area that they needed support with, specific areas included:-

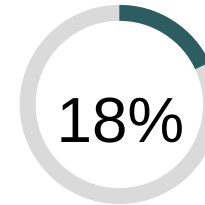
- First aid
- Health and Safety
- IT
- Safeguarding
- Support for Volunteers
- Business Development

PART FOUR- CHALLENGES & SUPPORT

Informed of ICS Development

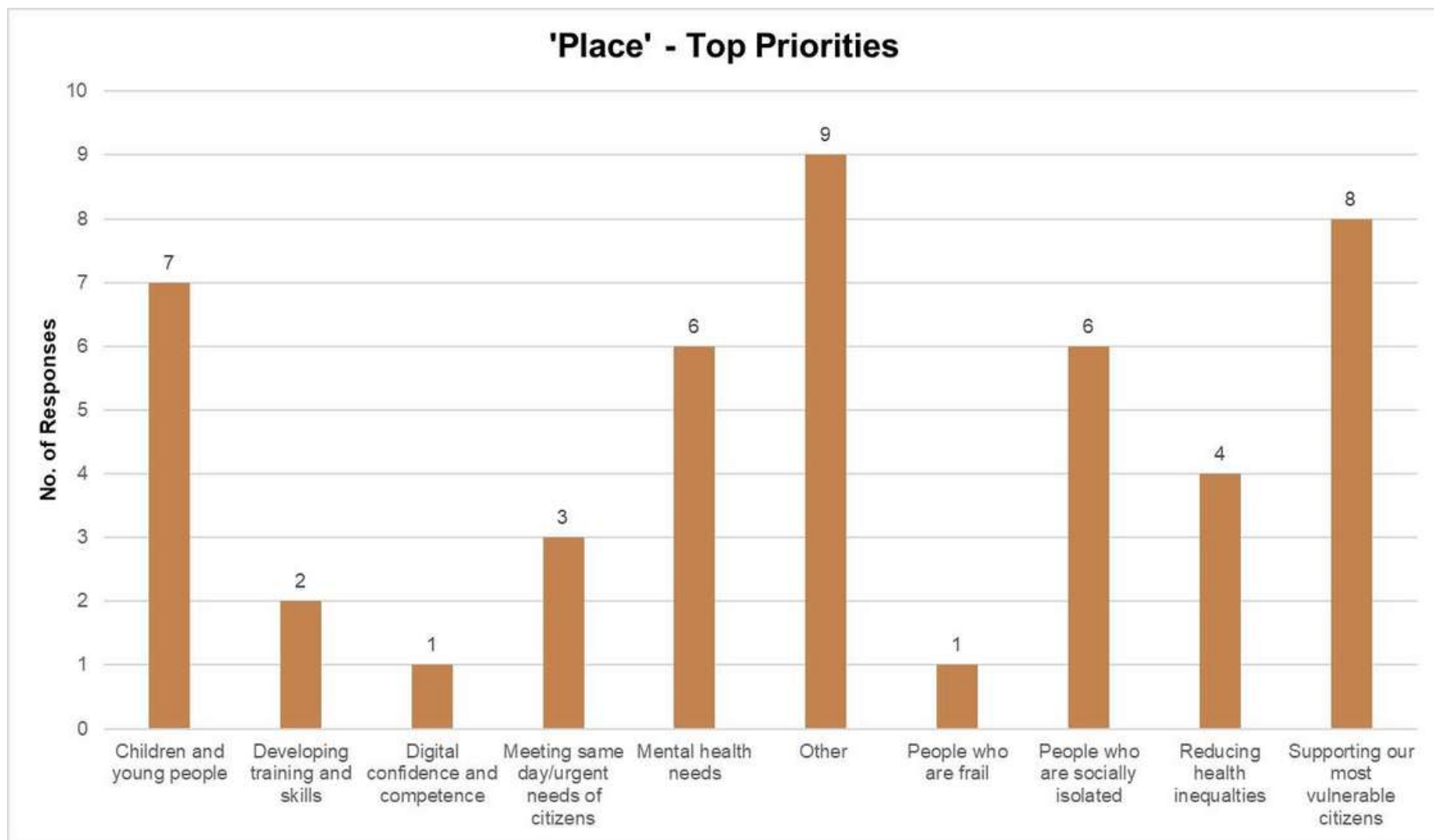


***Agree or strongly agree
that they are informed of
ICS developments.***



***Disagree or strongly
disagree that they are
informed of ICS
developments.***

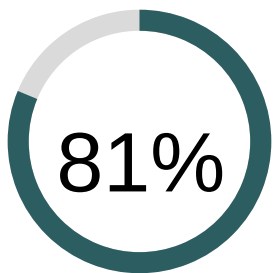
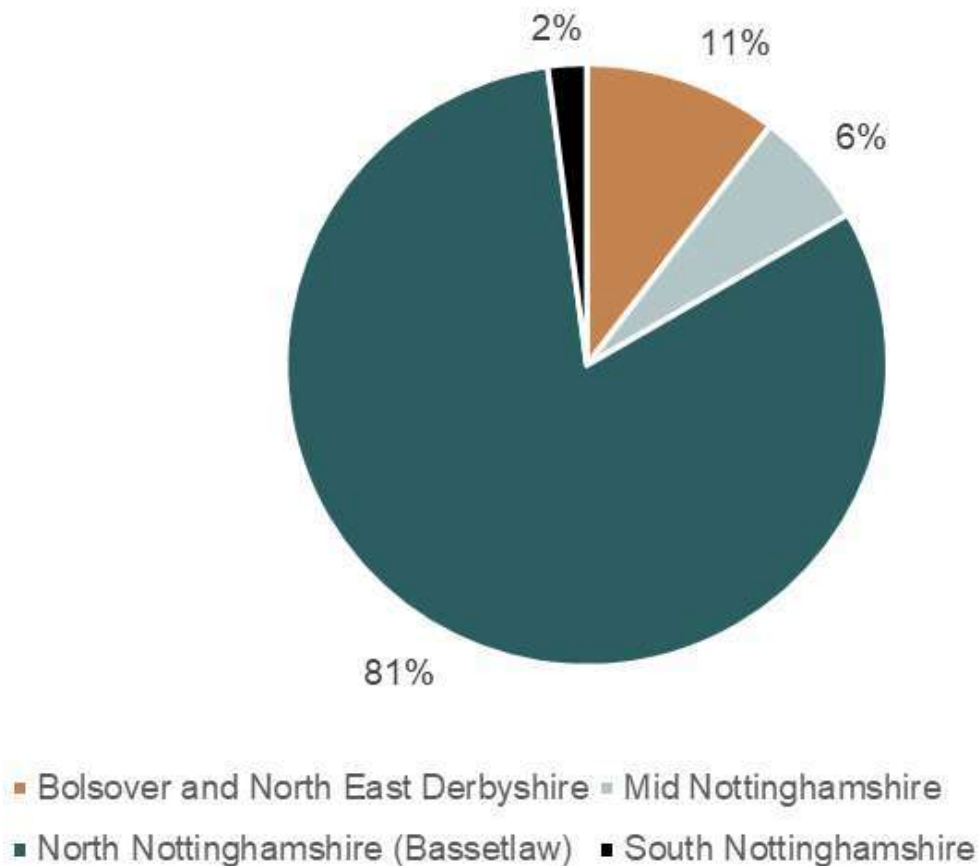
PART FOUR- CHALLENGES & SUPPORT



For 'Other' the top priorities included Mental Health, Reducing Health Inequalities, Supporting the Most Vulnerable Citizens. (The form was limited to only one response instead of the intended multi-selection).

PART FOUR- CHALLENGES & SUPPORT

Place Based Partnership - Focus



Organisations are focusing on the North Nottinghamshire Place Partnership.

All respondents reported that the impact on service users has been negative with the following quotes highlighting the issues for specific service users:-

Clients' issues are more complex, they are more upset and frustrated. The time needed to support them is longer. They trust our advice workers and need time spent with them to explain their situation. They are overwhelmed by technology and form filling.

More children with complex needs- more disadvantaged children with emotional, social or behavioural issues as a result of covid. Increasing numbers of children struggling to cope emotionally.

Families Children and Young People with SEND have increased levels of anxiety, mental health, depression, financial difficulties, loss of routine and more challenging behaviour within the family home.

The majority of our members feel a lot safer now, however they are mindful of the continuing trend of new cases and want to get on with living.

Our shop and workshop facilities had to close during the pandemic. This meant that people were unable to meet here as normal and the volunteers were unable to meet and volunteer for us. This has had a lot of effects on people both mental health has been adversely affected and creatively people have not met up or been stimulated as usual. Zoom meet ups has been a new thing for our volunteers but has helped us to keep in touch. Covid grants have helped us to continue whereas we would have closed totally without them.

Children and young people accessing our service are much more anxious, they struggle in our youth groups to build peer relationships due to being in isolation for so long. Young people also struggle going to new environments, for example if we go on a group trip their anxiety can prevent some young people from going.

Huge impact which we have seen by delivering food and toiletries parcels all across Bassetlaw and further afield. We have found people in the worst situations, with inadequate housing, living in squalor, in food, fuel and financial poverty. The problems got worse through covid. Then we have seen the impact on the mental health of so many people, children, young people, elderly and people on low incomes..... There are so many that live alone with no family or friends or meaningful contacts in Bassetlaw it is tragic.

Our client base have struggled with the lack/clarity of other services available eg NHS. The clients state of anxiety is heightened due to late diagnosis of cancer and their frustrations with this. People have become lonely and isolated due to lockdown and lack confidence and want greater support and interaction with others.

Massive mental & physical impact on the majority of our members, including carers, family members in 2020. Carer breakdown, resulting in loved ones being placed in permanent care. Further mental health impact on loved ones. Breakdown in family units. Death in some instances. Isolation etc.

BASSETLAW – FOCUS GROUP INSIGHT

1. How has the pandemic affected your organisation?

Gypsy Roma Traveller (GRT) Community Insight

- Impact from social isolation for families and elders as families were not able to visit other families on different sites.
 - Some site specific community support schemes were set up, but informally and didn't reach everyone. Some cultural issues meant some families wouldn't engage.
 - Children not at school couldn't all gain access to IT at home mainly due to WIFI in rural areas – this negatively impacted on access to learning.
 - Couldn't always get help from other agencies as still prejudice around sites/encampments in some places.
- Unable to access grant aid/medicine deliveries.
 - Agencies working with GRT communities were unable to provide face to face support.
- Unable to help those who do not read and write.
- Concerns re safeguarding.

Food Insecurity Insight

- Government guidance kept changing.
- Fear from service users not wanting to mix/meet even when restrictions were lifted.
 - Changed the way we did things, delivered food and made collections. We started offering delivery slots which is something that we have kept going as we come out of the pandemic.
 - Changed the eligibility criteria for support to mean that assessment was far faster and no longer needed to come from other agencies - achieved a greater reach.
- Added more practical help in supplies such as nappies, pet food, toiletries as vulnerable people couldn't come to us directly. We worked with local providers to source more fresh products to get these to those most in need.
 - COVID-19 funding was positive for us, we received approx. 3 grants of £10k which helped support our work.
- Mixed and extended demographic increased as the food shortages hit as well as the restrictions on movements.
 - The pandemic has shown us how able we are to respond and change delivery quickly. We are in a strong position to be resilient for future changes, but it will be challenging as things become more expensive and funding priorities change.

Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer (LGBTQ) Community Insight

- Real danger that our membership community would become disengaged, so we tried to retain people's involvement by substituting online events to keep members engaged.
- Allowed social connections to be maintained, but also allowed new ones to be formed – some people have found new friends that they met in real life only after the pandemic!
- The furlough grant was a huge help in us retaining committed staff.
 - During lockdown we encouraged our volunteer event leaders to plan for the time when we could run events again.

Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Community Insight

- Lockdown impact – lost stock due to closures and consequent revenue.
 - Made us look at more online provision, which had pro's and con's not as big an uptake online but something that is being developed further
- Provided shopping and medicine collections for the community.
- Could not open our usual workshops - hoping to reopen these in the summer.
- Increased from 4 volunteers to 10 and started a befriending type service as the nature of support needs changed.
 - Got funding from Notts CC but the need was so high we found at times we were having to buy food for people which was getting expensive.

BASSETLAW – FOCUS GROUP INSIGHT

2. How confident are you regarding the future?

GRT Community Insight

- Unfortunately I am never very confident that services will be put in place for our community. They come and go but there is still a need. We are a resourceful and strong culture, we know what is right and what we need to support ourselves, sometimes communities let us and sometimes we are not wanted.
- Unsure what support services will be available for GRT families, the schemes that ran before the pandemic don't seem to be happening yet.

Food Insecurity Insight

- Quite confident in the short term as lottery funding has helped us massively however new funding is becoming more difficult as the world opens up, with other funding priorities.
- Have a good strong, solid base of volunteers supporting us.
- Levels of practical donations can fluctuate as things are changing, rising prices and the Ukrainian crisis has diverted away some support. Rising prices affect people wanting to donate but also puts more people in a vulnerable situation - 40% of calls we receive are now new users and there is a stigma around that for them.
- Volunteer saturation may impact on capacity, i.e. people returning to work ... we need a certain level of volunteers to be able to function both mornings, afternoons and some evenings which is a challenge if people are back working.

LGBTQ Community Insight

- We've shown that people are committed to the organisation and will make efforts to see us survive.
- Financially we have come out of this better than we had thought so whilst finances aren't strong, they're reasonable considering the situation.

BAME Community Insight

- There seem to be a lot more Afro Caribbean, Indian and other minority groups moving in to Worksop, so hopeful that this will support the business and help us support the community.
- There is not as much footfall still on the High Street which impacts on the support we can offer, advertising is important as is looking to develop online sales which helps both the shop and the charity.
- Funding is important for us to develop the online/ website offer and we need to continue to look at how we can be diverse and attract more business / community members.
- I am confident that social aspects, meetings and helping support projects will continue to be needed by the community.
- Through a volunteer I have heard about social prescribing, so that is something that I think will help us to grow and support people with loneliness.
- We have grown through COVID and there is now more need that there has been for 3 years since I started this as a support thing for our community.
- I am working with BCVS which is good as it gives me support and looking at funding for the future.

BASSETLAW – FOCUS GROUP INSIGHT

3. What are the top 3 priorities in your local community?

GRT Community Insight

- Better understanding of our community.
- Continue to support the community and those in most need.
 - Encourage effective advocacy and inform people of the needs across all sectors of the community.
 - To reach as many families as possible to provide support whether it be health, education, planning.

Food Insecurity Insight

- Increasing staffing to meet capacity and retaining a solid volunteer base.
- Funding and ensuring consistent income and donations.
- Continuing to deliver a good service, so important for well-being our volunteers and the wider community.

LGBTQ Community Insight

- Get back to a full events programme for the benefit of members and for our financial sustainability.
 - Grow our membership base to increase the impact our activities have, including by raising our profile through partnerships and sponsorship.
 - Develop existing volunteers' skills and abilities to offer more events, and more types of events, and recruit new volunteers.

BAME Community Insight

- Better digital and online offer.
- Staffing and consistent income /funding to support staff and help grow.
- Reaching out to the community and engagement - supporting isolation.
 - Better IT, online presence and supporting those who have no access to IT with access /workshops / equipment.