

2022



**PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT SURVEY  
INFOGRAPHICS**

[deafspotlight.org](http://deafspotlight.org)



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## **At First Glance**

This survey does not capture the ENTIRE Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled and Hard of Hearing arts community. This is a screenshot of artists who participated in the survey 2022, which is our second year in doing this survey. This data is based on 61 artists' responses from three countries (Brazil, Canada and United States) capture helps us to compare to the previous year to see if there are trends or changes. We will continue tracking data annually to see the trends and growth in various industries. This will also help us identify areas where gaps are and research on how to resolve those gaps.

While reviewing the 2022 data and comparing to the 2021 data, there are outreach gaps in communities: BIPOC, LGBTQIA, and more. It may signal a lack of support, exposure, and resources for these specific artists which are potential artists to work with and to hire.

## **Artists in General**

The artists in this survey are based in various locations with the majority being located on the west and east coasts, living in an urban setting. This is similar to 2021 data.

Most of the artists considered themselves in emerging: in the early stage of their artistic careers. When looking toward 2021 data, new people may have entered the artistic careers in past year and different people filling out the survey. Majority have reported to be in their careers for 20 years or less. This is similar to the last year's data.

The majority of the artists have post-secondary training and/or education. Top three artistic disciplines are digital, visual, and mixed media, with many different mediums identified. This is similar to 2021. Majority reported the reasons why they picked that medium is passion and creativity being top two.

A bit more than half of the artists earns less than \$40,000 and fall within the age group of 15 to 44, which is similar to 2021 data. Most of the artists are reported as female cisgender. The sexual orientation question showed more LGBTIA+ reported than last year. Most of the artists identify as Deaf with ASL as their primary language. The race and ethnicity increased slightly for BIPOC identities when compared to 2021 data.

A bit more than half of the artists feels discriminated or somewhat discriminated in the hearing arts world. This is still an area to address since there are suggestions on how to address this with education, awareness, and access being the main suggestions.

Top five groups of people that have a huge impact on the artists' journey pursuing their crafts/careers are friends, community, fans/viewers, parents, and social media followers for 2022. For 2021, the top four groups were peers, parents, teachers, and relatives. Based on this, continued and supportive relationships are essential to help artists develop their skills and creativity during their journey.

The artists continue to report a strong use of social media, along with websites and online video platforms to exhibit their works. What is new for 2022 was the question asking how COVID-19 changed how they show/exhibit their works since some of artists have been in their careers for a while. Majority reported that COVID-19 did change how they show/exhibit their works, switching more to virtual options but also lost some of their physical settings which impacted their financial stability.

## Challenges

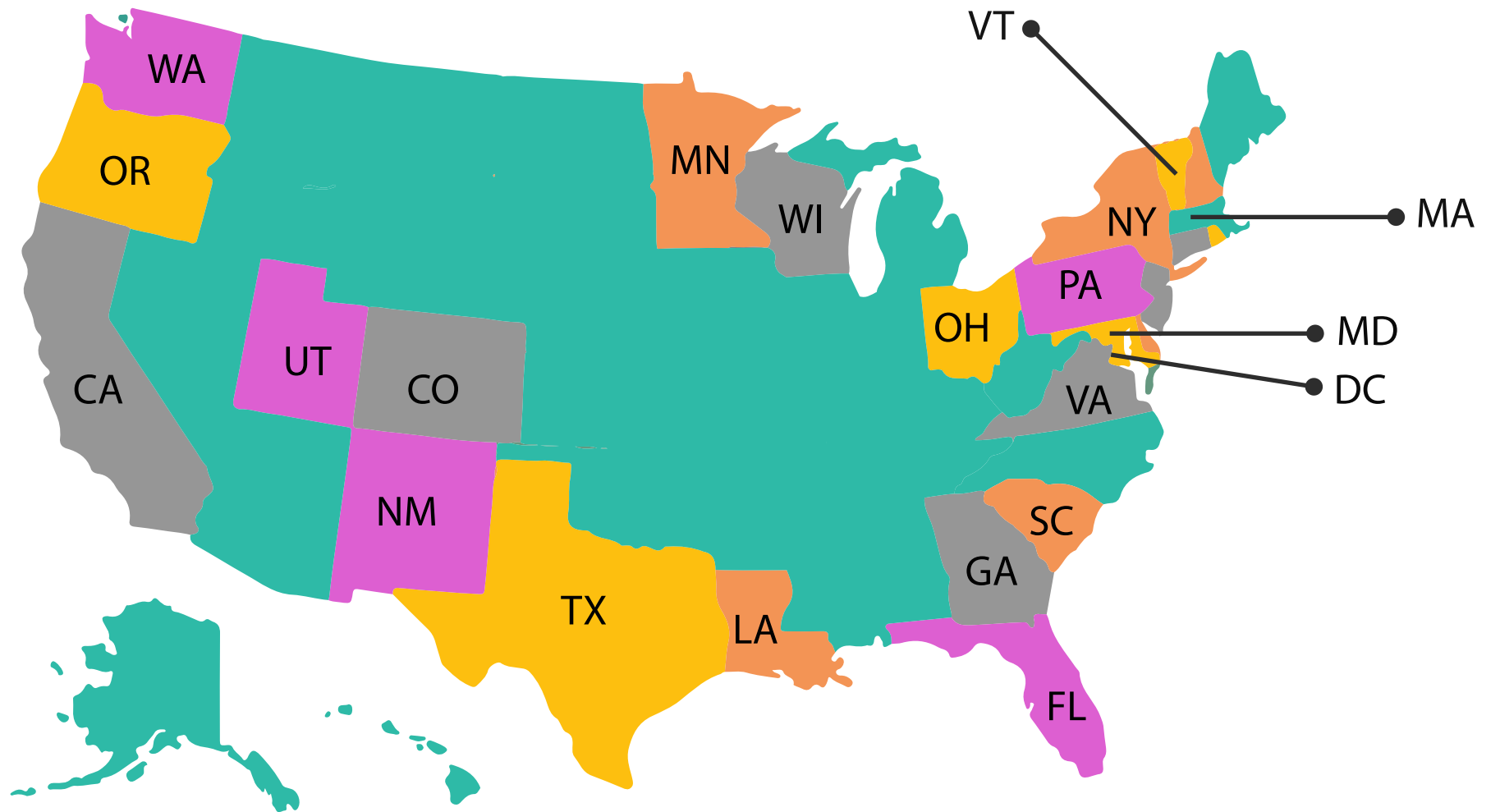
Challenges that the majority of the artists faced as reported for 2022 are marketing, affordability of studio space, networking/support, financial stability, and how to manage/run their businesses. Most artists reported that to build a sustainable practice, they need community support and they also need money, along with exposure, collaboration, and professional development. This is similar to last year since they reported the need for representation and money. Majority of the artists want training on marketing, pricing (financial aspect so they can get their worth out of their works), and networking which is similar to last year. Marketing and networking often go together because both involve people/connections.

The majority of the artists reported that they need access to information/communication to be a full participant in the hearing arts world. Access needs can be sign language interpreters, captions, transcripts and childcare. This was also reported last year. More information is needed to understand what access means to different artists due to some reporting deaf signers, visual access to facial cues, and travel accommodations.

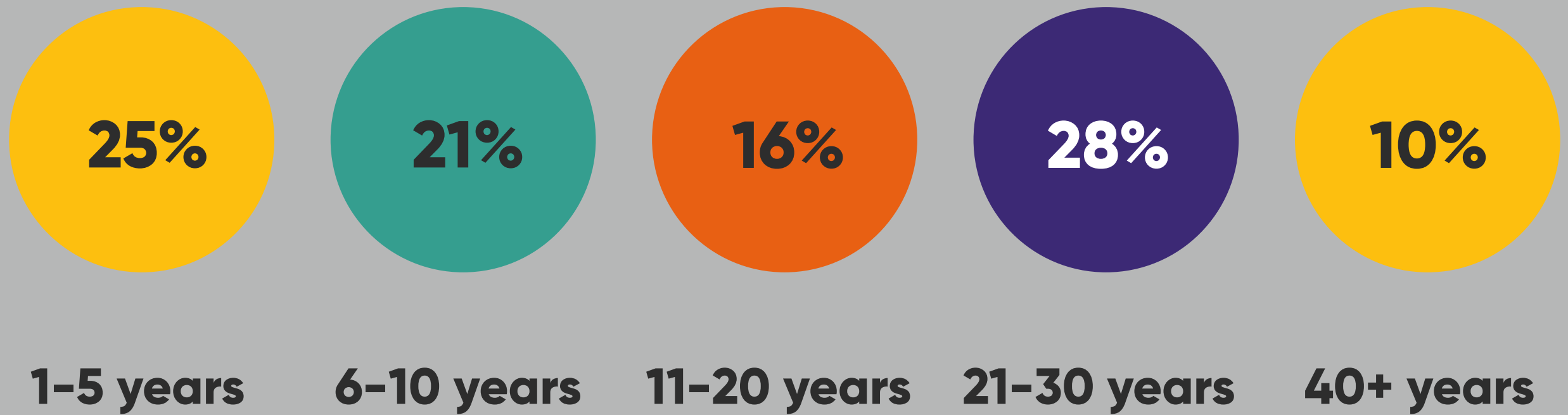
If you want to join our future surveys, please send us an email at [info@deafspotlight.org](mailto:info@deafspotlight.org) and we will include you on the email list serv. Also, if you used our data for your research, grant writing, and/or grants, let us know if this information led to more opportunities for you.

We are grateful to all who filled out the 2022 survey. This data has helped us start compiling a picture of the Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled and Hard of Hearing art community. Please let us know if we can change how we capture data for the next survey by emailing us at [info@deafspotlight.org](mailto:info@deafspotlight.org). We are looking forward to the next year's data which will be our third year in doing this survey. Thank you for your support!

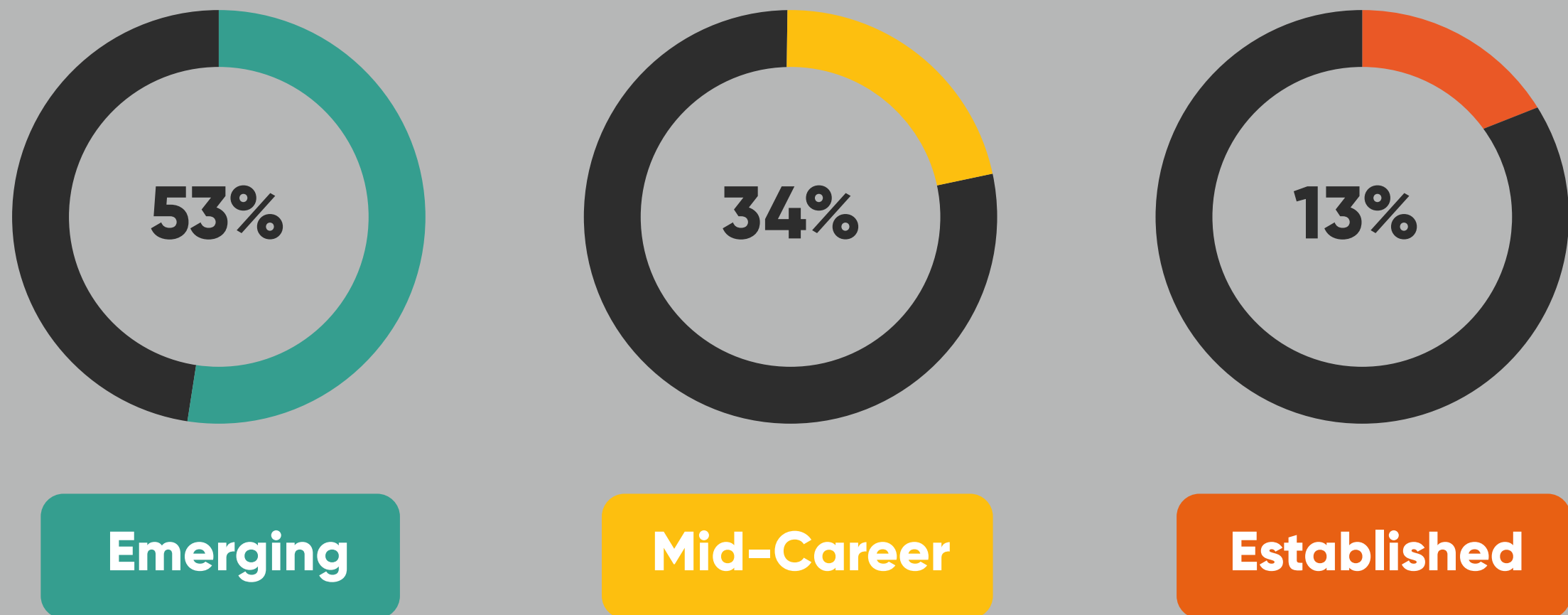
# Where do you live?



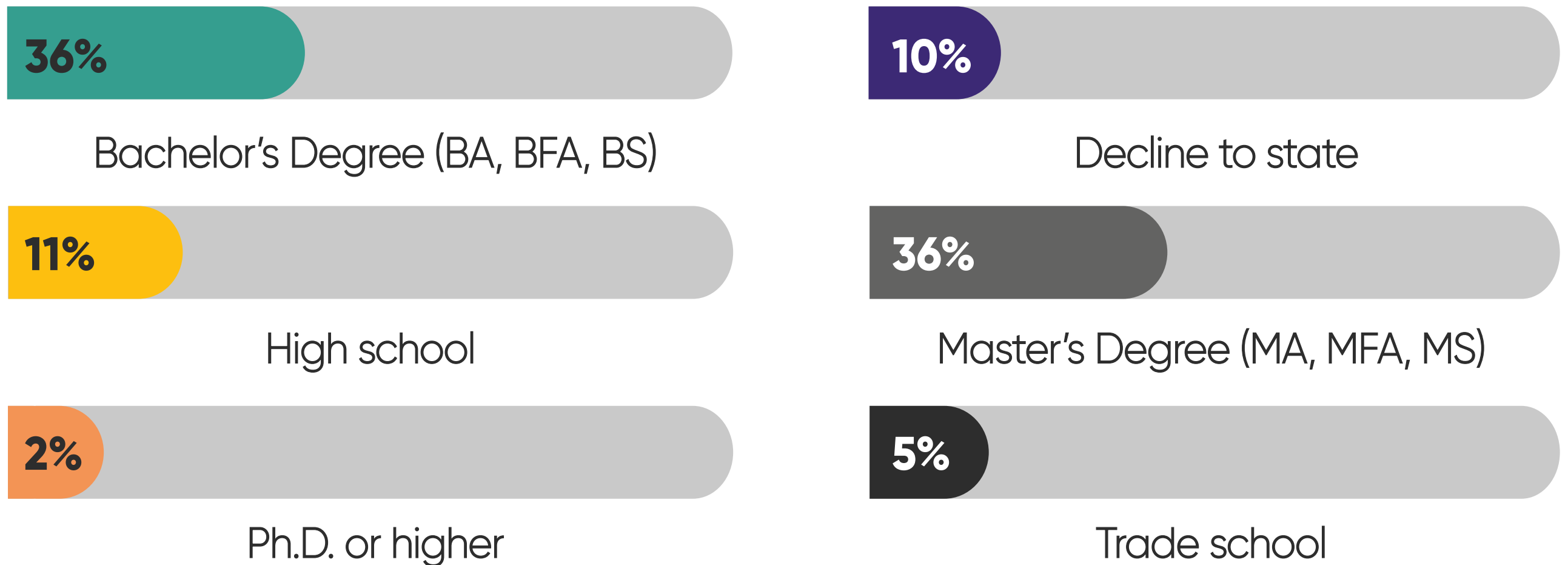
## How long have you been a practicing artist?



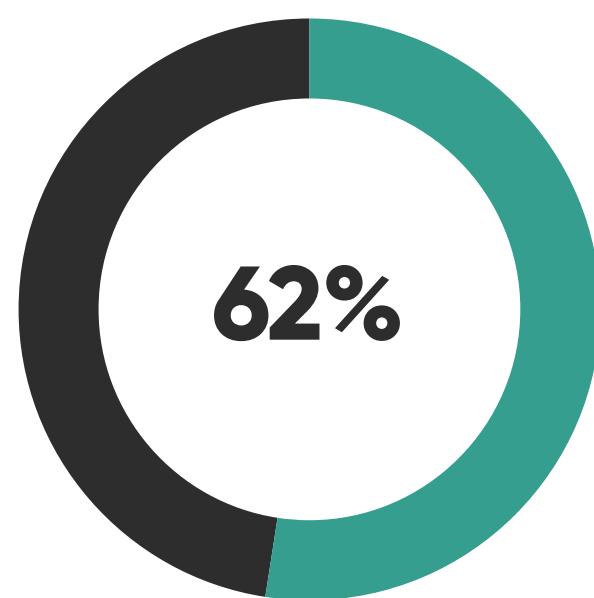
## How do you identify yourself in your career?



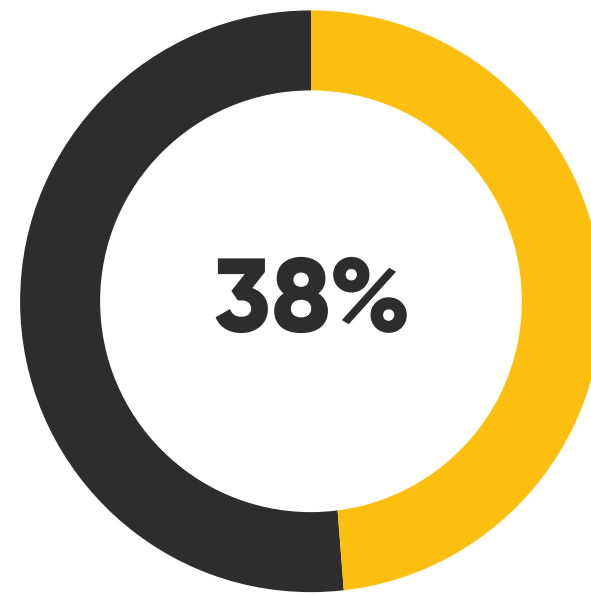
## What is the highest degree or level of education you have completed?



## Do you have formal education in your artistic discipline (college degree, professional development courses, workshops, certifications, on-the-job training)?



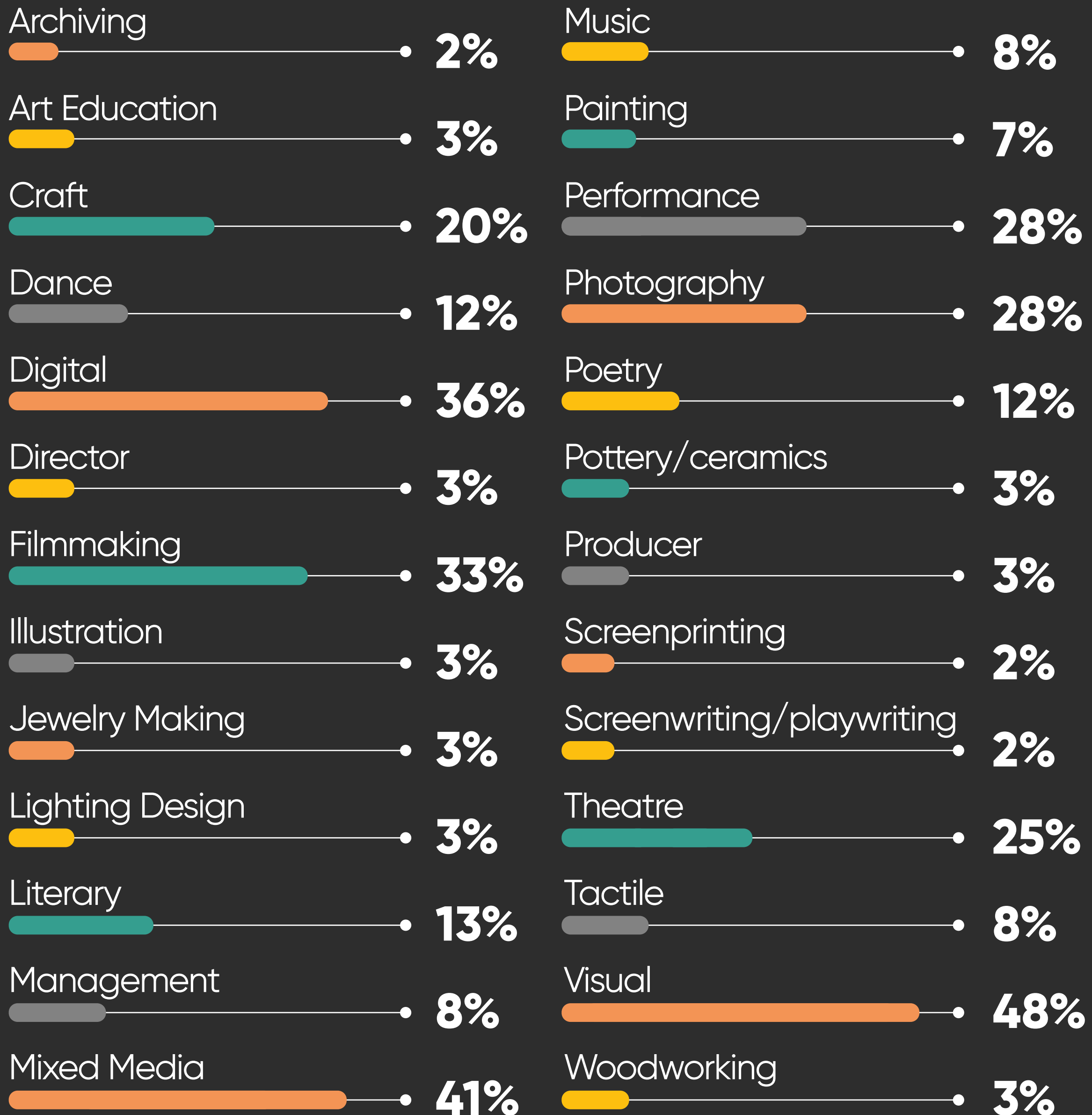
YES



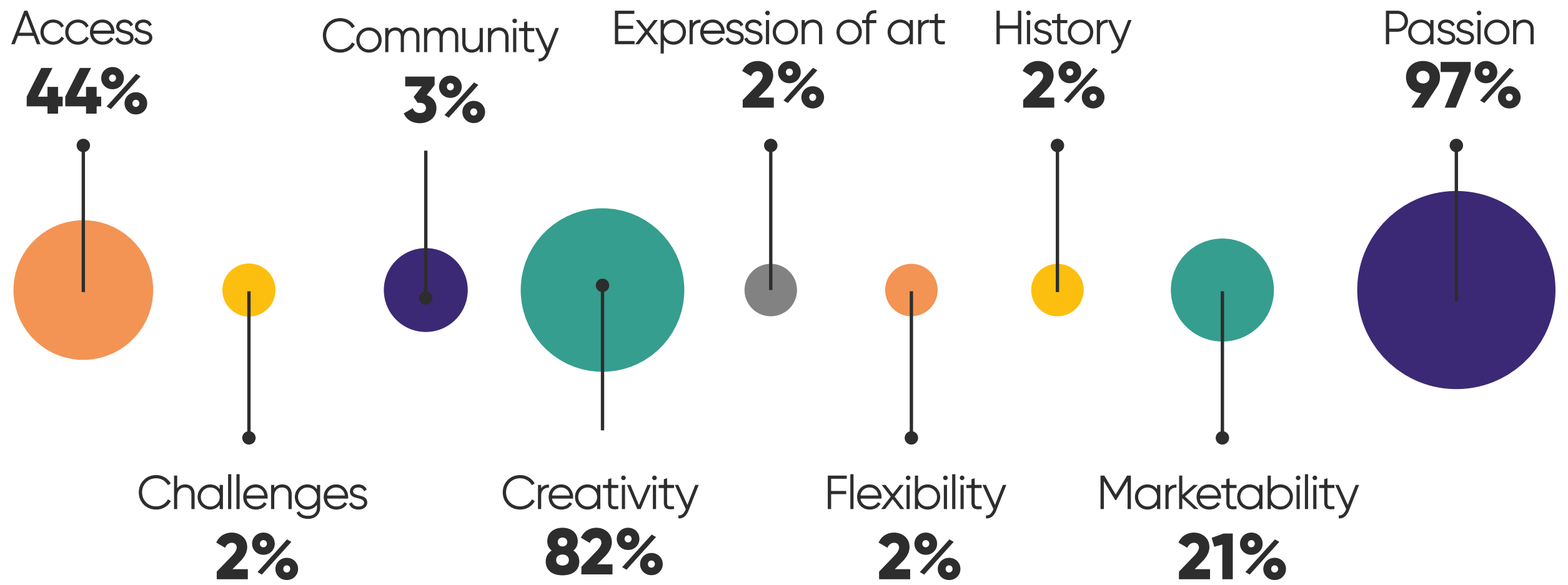
NO



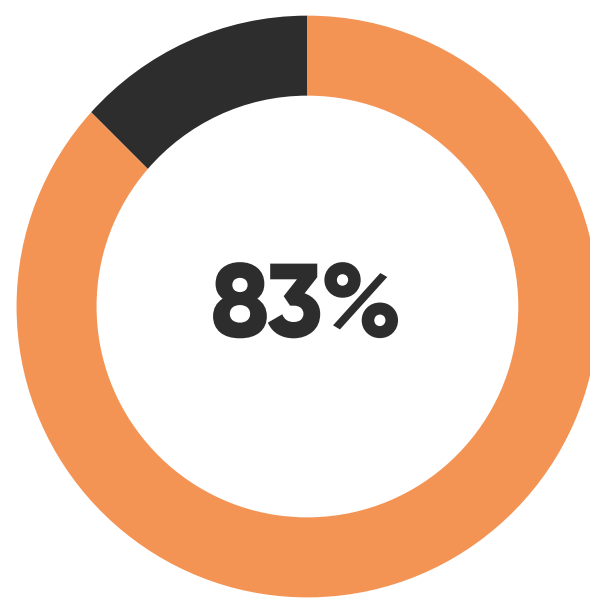
# What is your current artistic discipline?



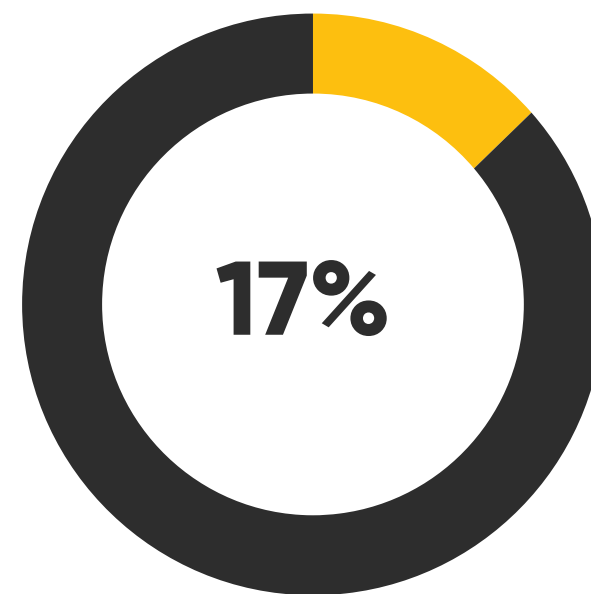
# Why did you pick this as your current medium?



**If you had formal education, did you receive any training in financial, marketing, and/or networking?**

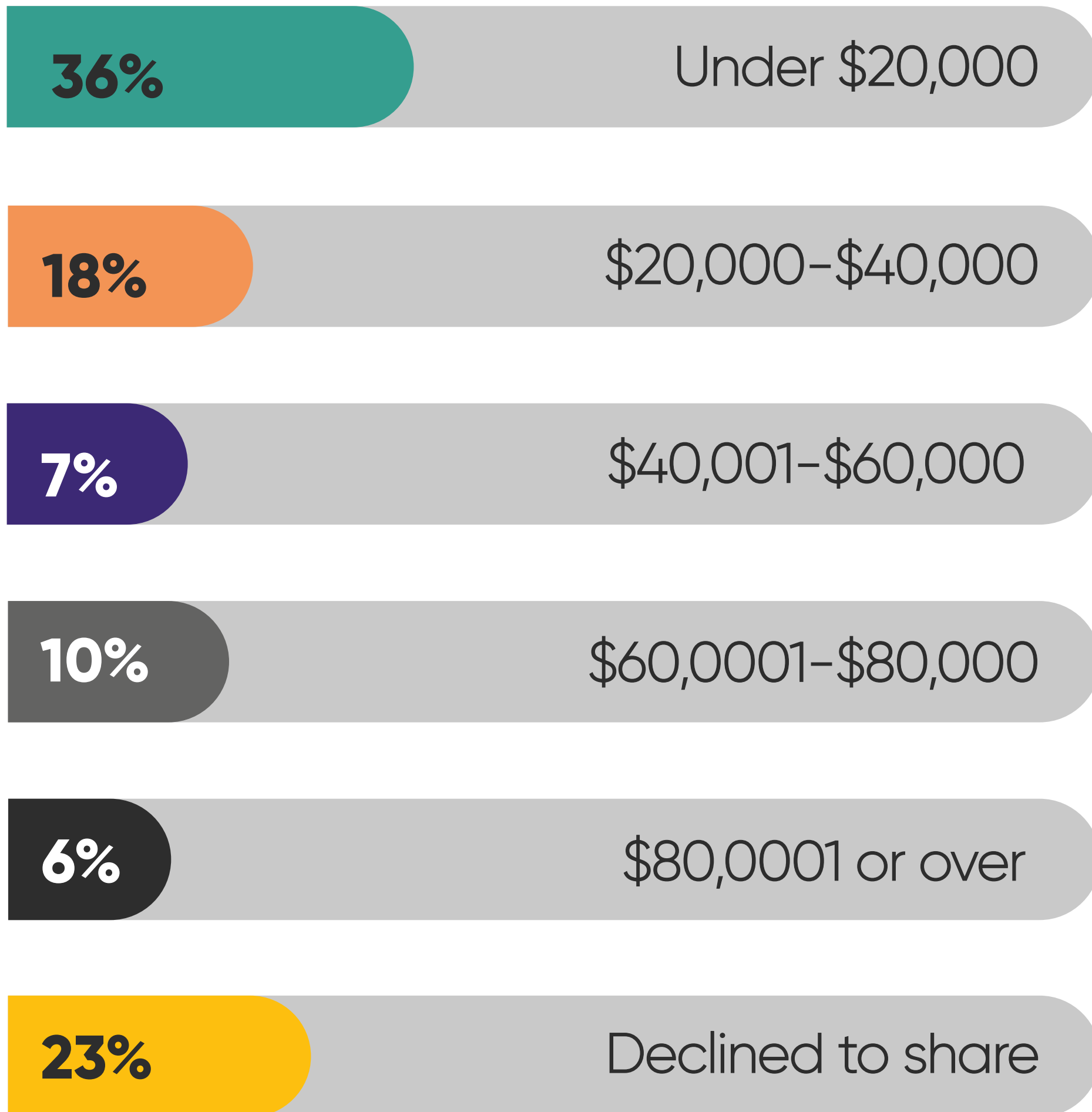


**YES**

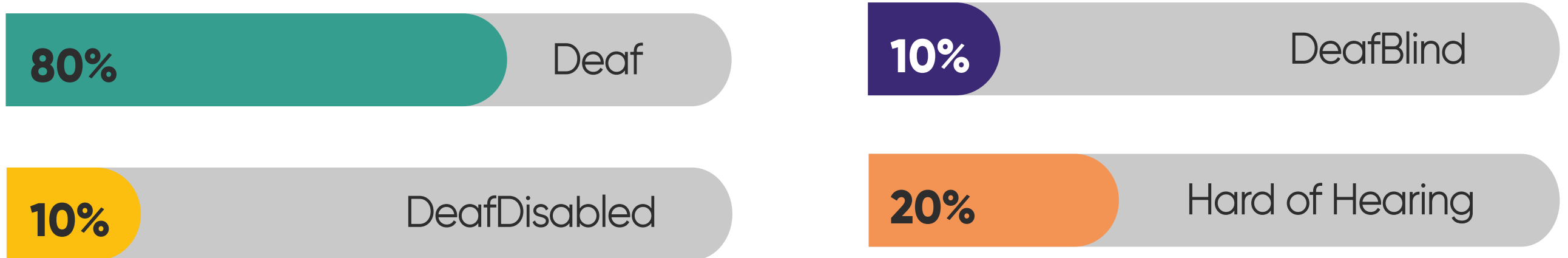


**NO**

## What is your income level?



## How do you identify yourself?



## What is your primary Language?

American Sign Language



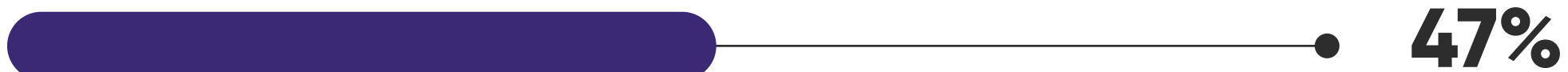
Black American Sign Language



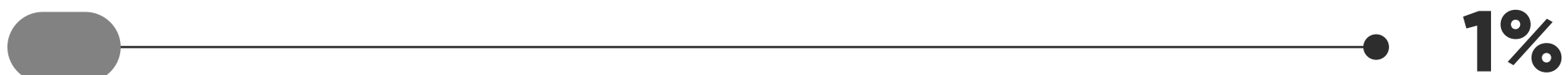
Bilingual



English (Spoken language)



Lingua Brasileira de Sinais (LIBRAS)



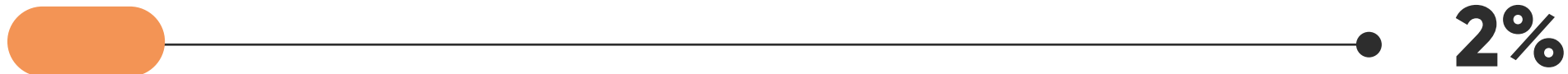
ProTactile American Sign Language



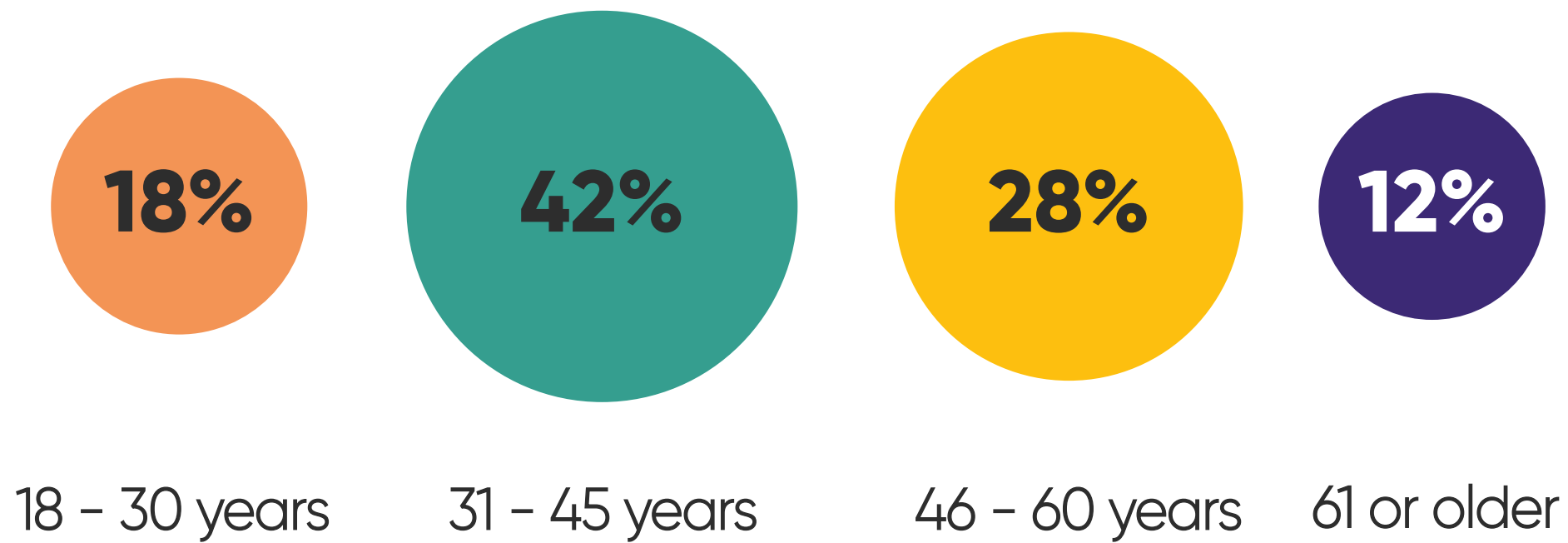
Spanish (Spoken language)



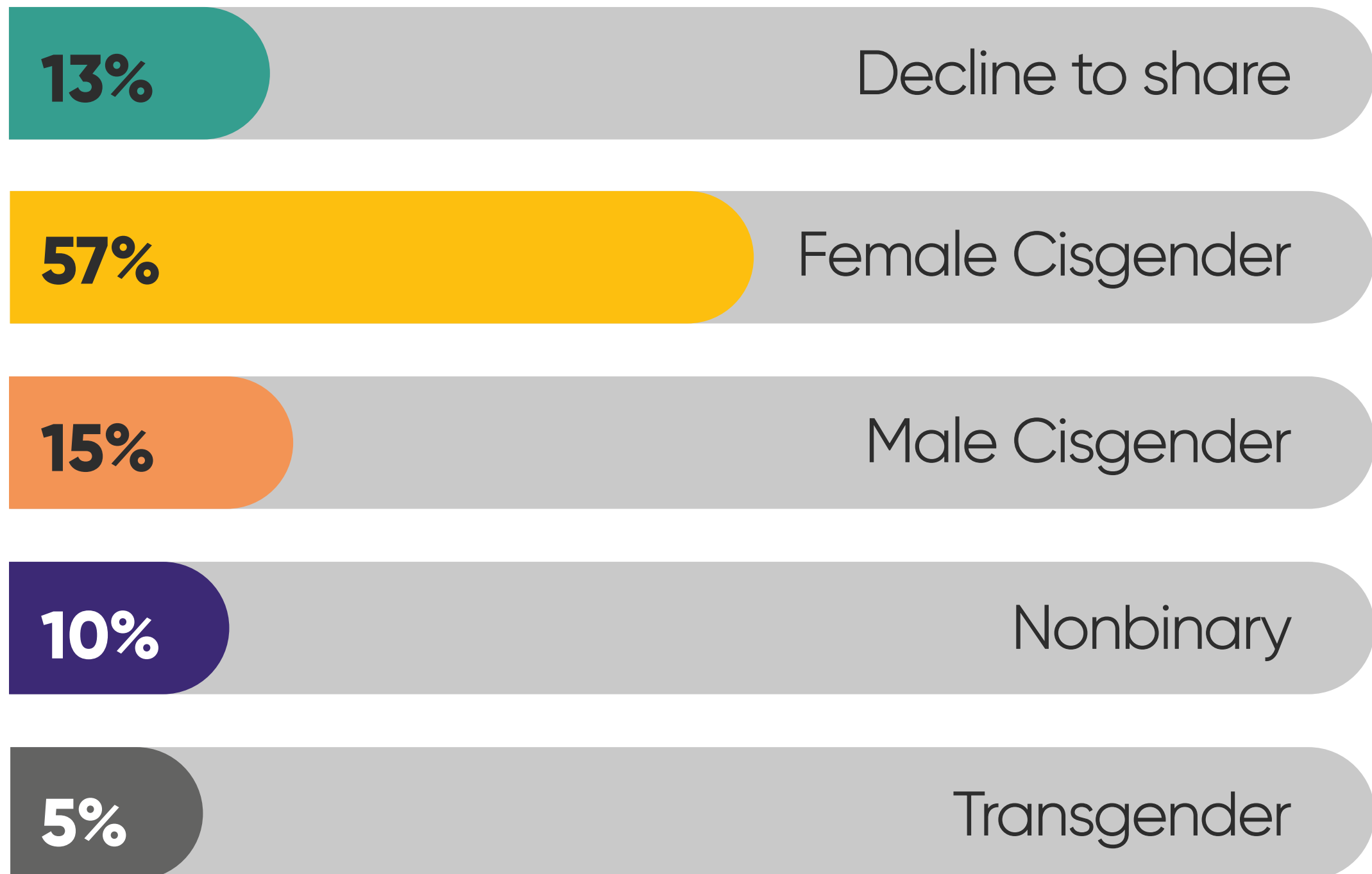
Written English



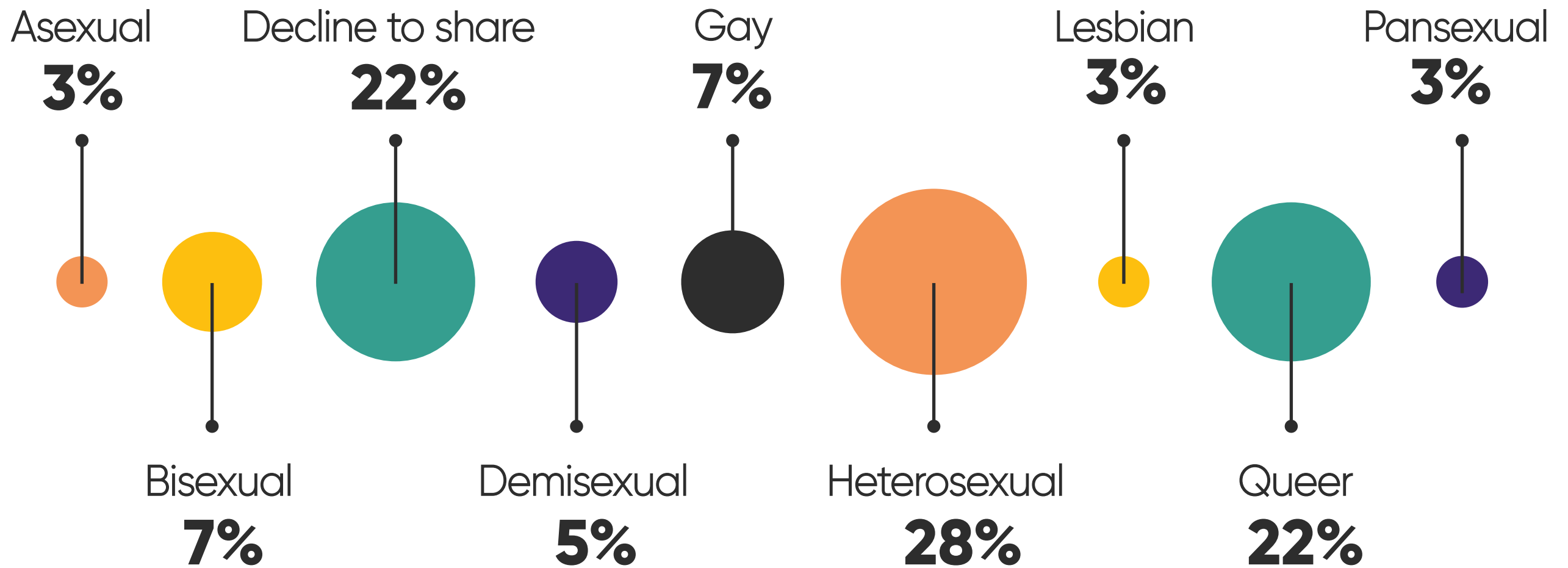
## What is your age?



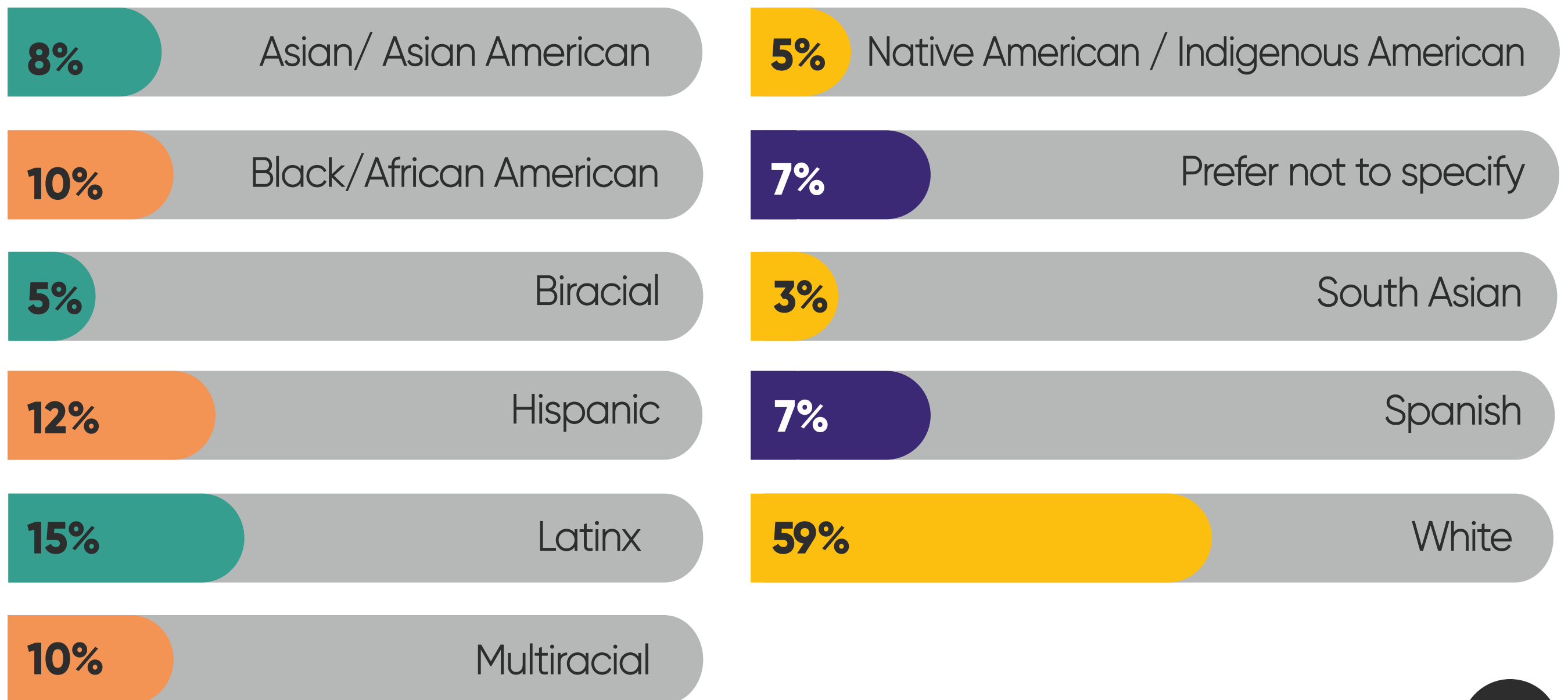
## What is your gender?



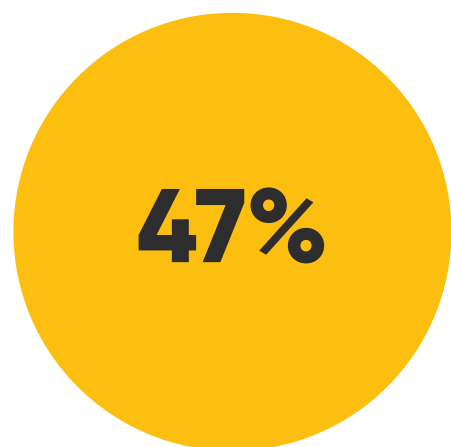
# What is your sexual orientation?



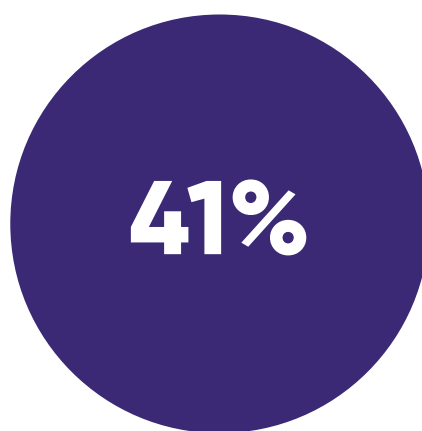
# How do you define your race and ethnicity?



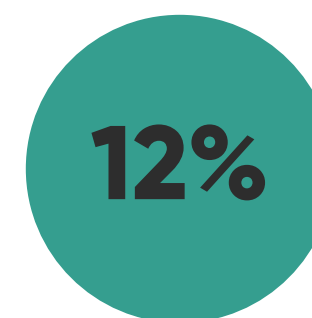
## Do you live in a rural, suburban, or urban area?



Suburban

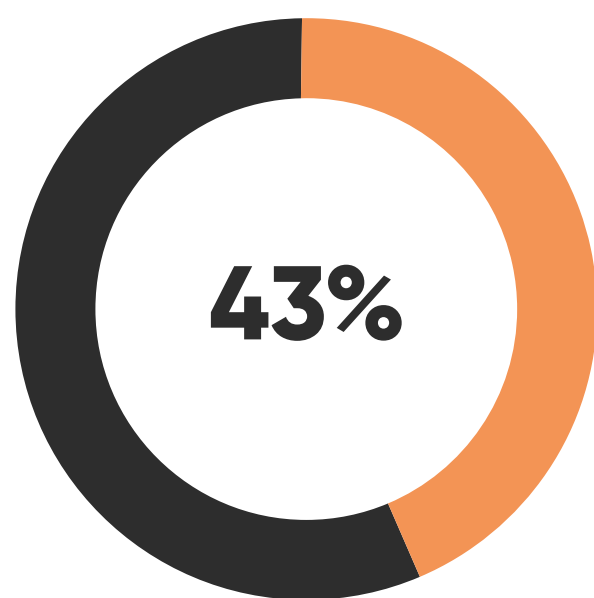


Urban

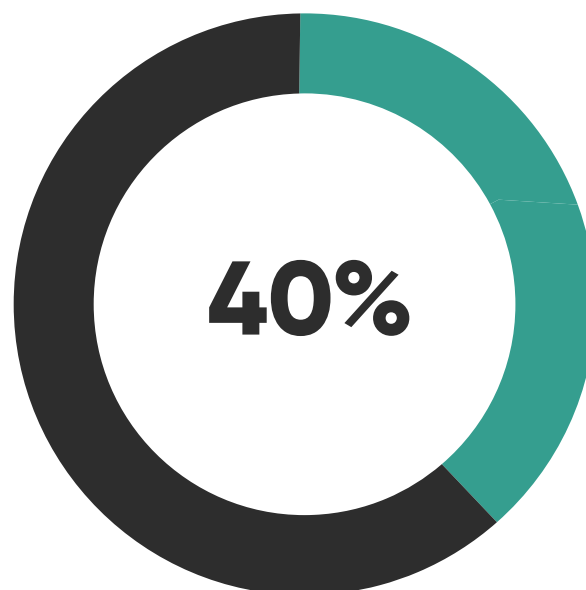


Rural

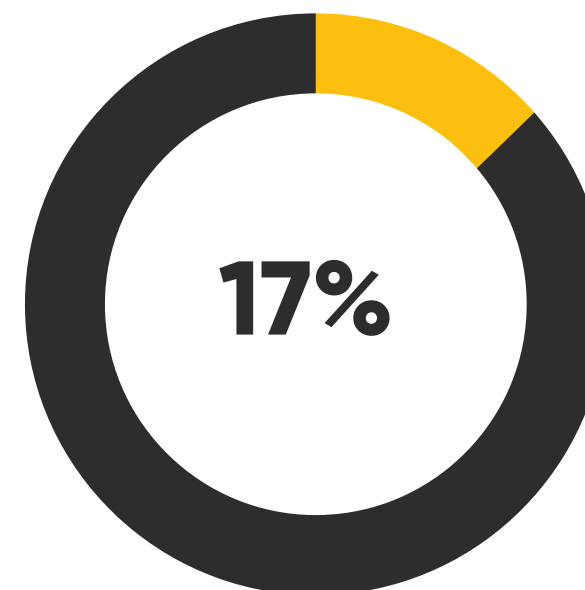
## Have you felt discriminated from the hearing arts world?



Yes

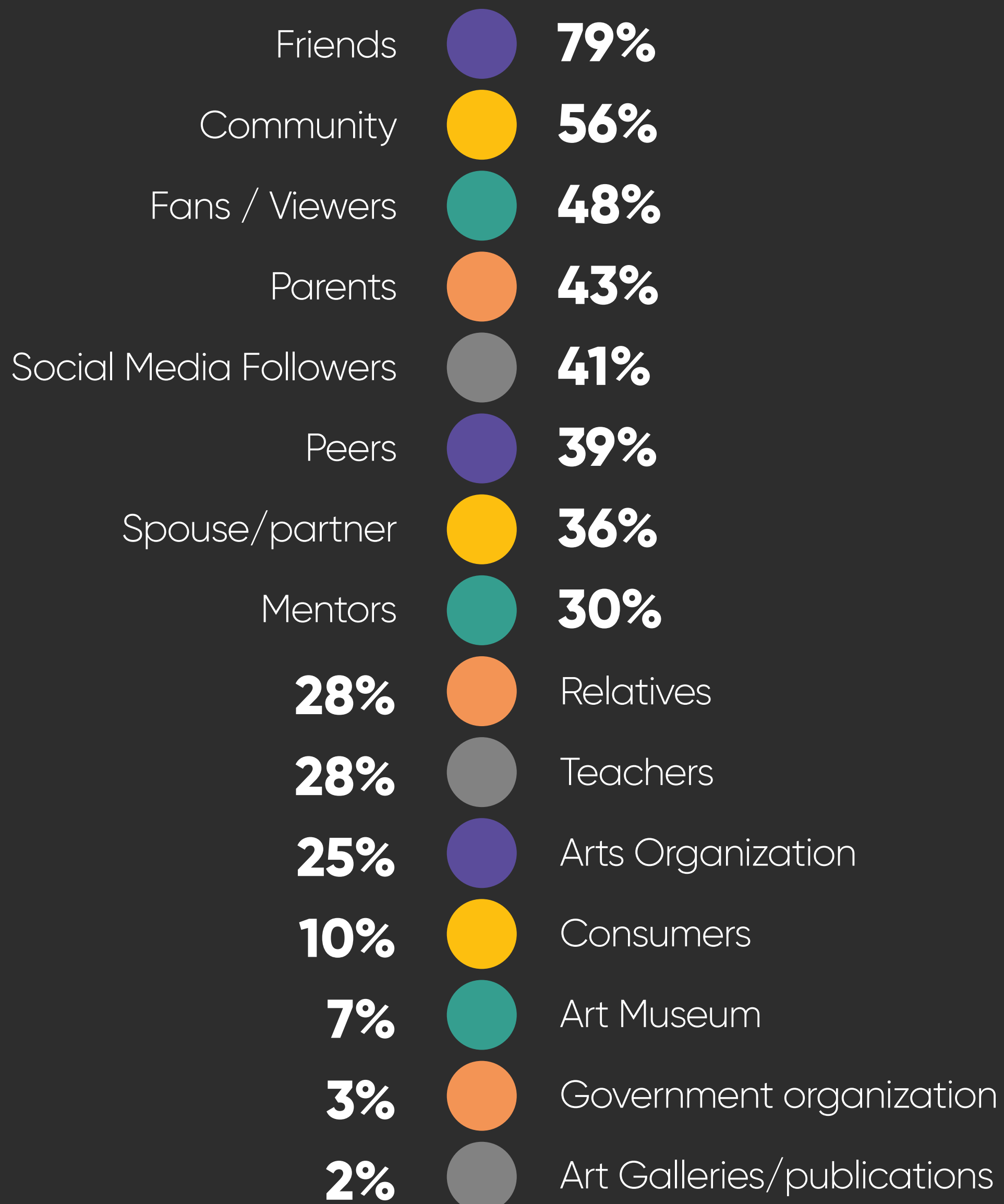


Somewhat



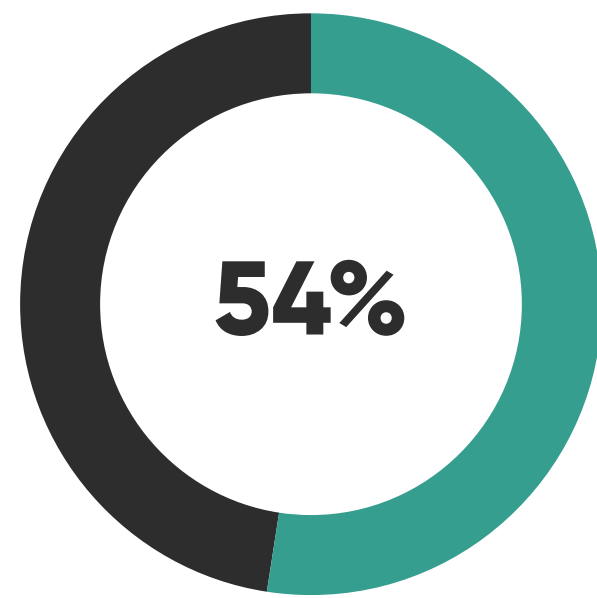
No

# Who were your biggest supporters as you developed your artistic skills?

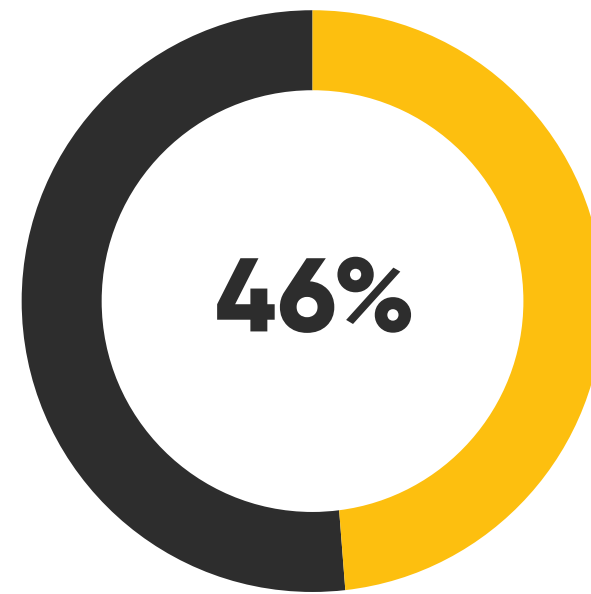




## Have you ever collaborated with other Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled and /or Hard of Hearing artists?

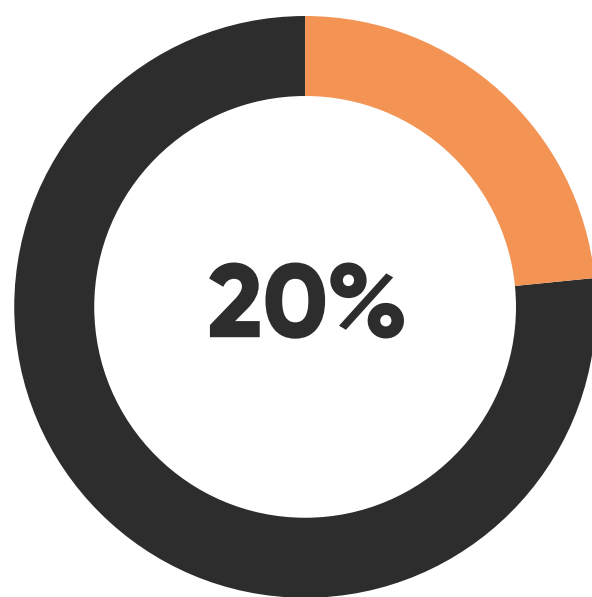


YES

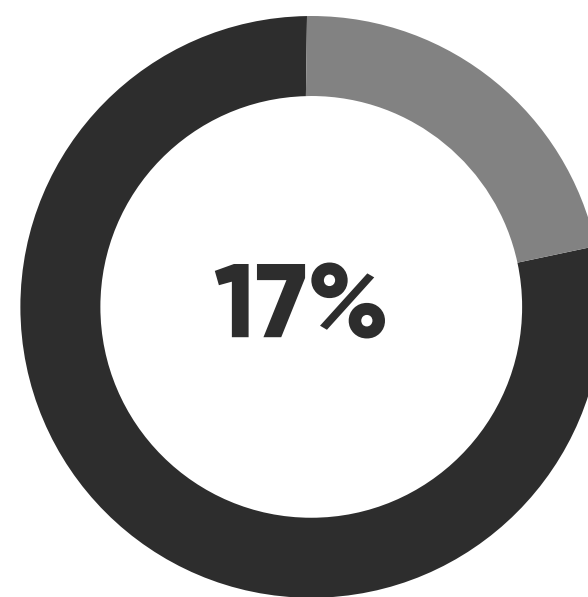


NO

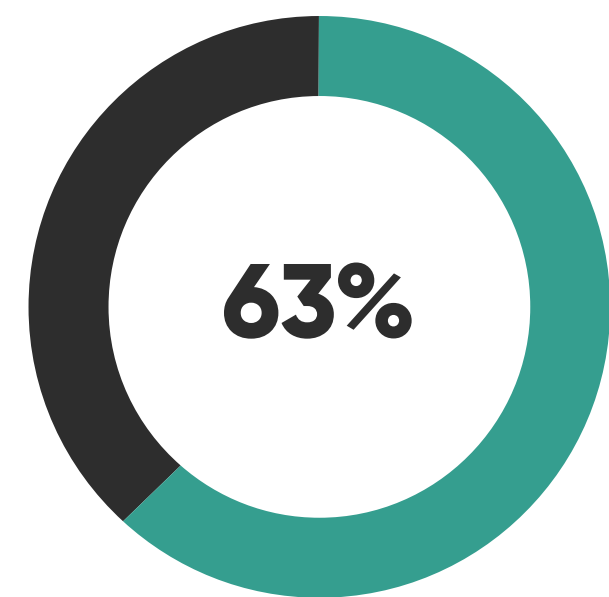
## If you are a member of an underrepresented racial group including BIPOC, do you feel welcome in Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled and / or Hard of Hearing arts community?



YES



NO

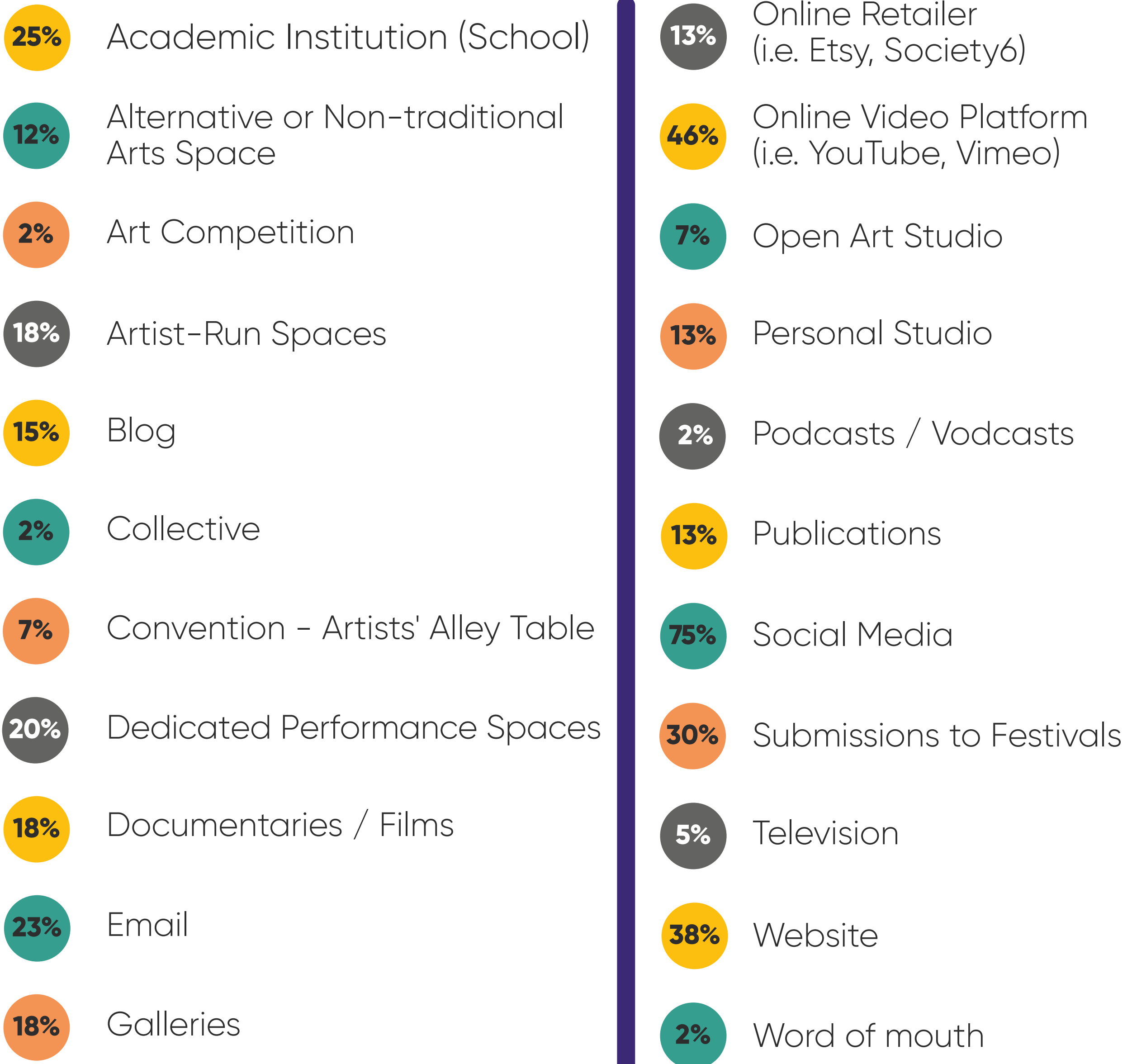


Not applicable

# What challenges do you face as an artist?



# Which platforms do you use to exhibit / show your work?



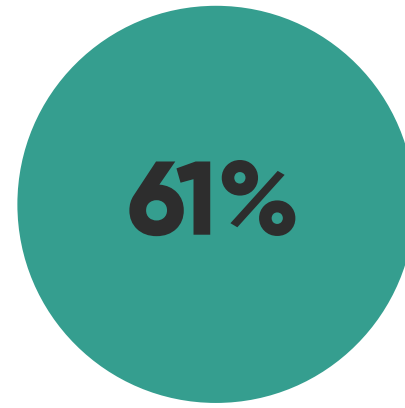
# What do you need to build a sustainable practice?



Community Support



Exposure



Money



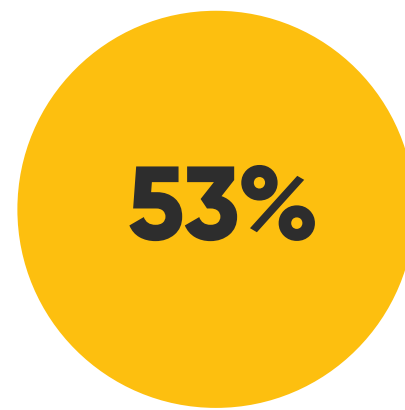
Collaborators



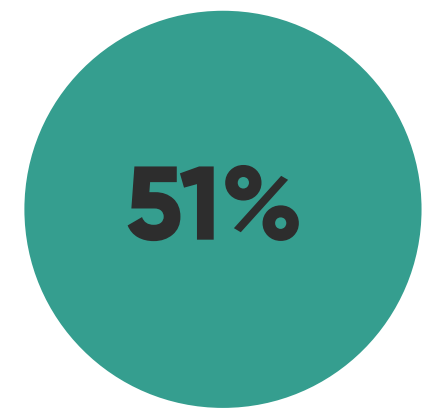
Professional Development



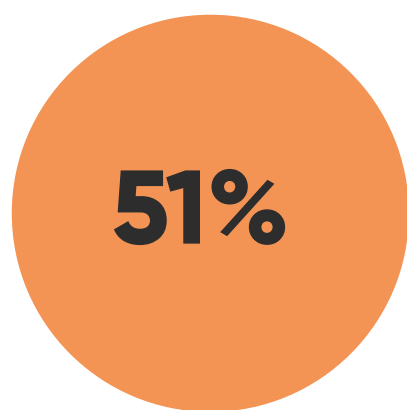
Representation (Gallery/Agency)



Patrons/Connections



Exhibition



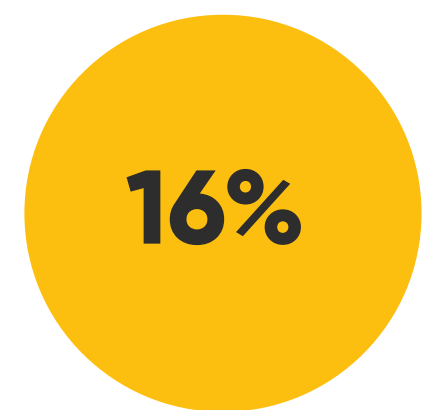
Time



Critique Dialogue

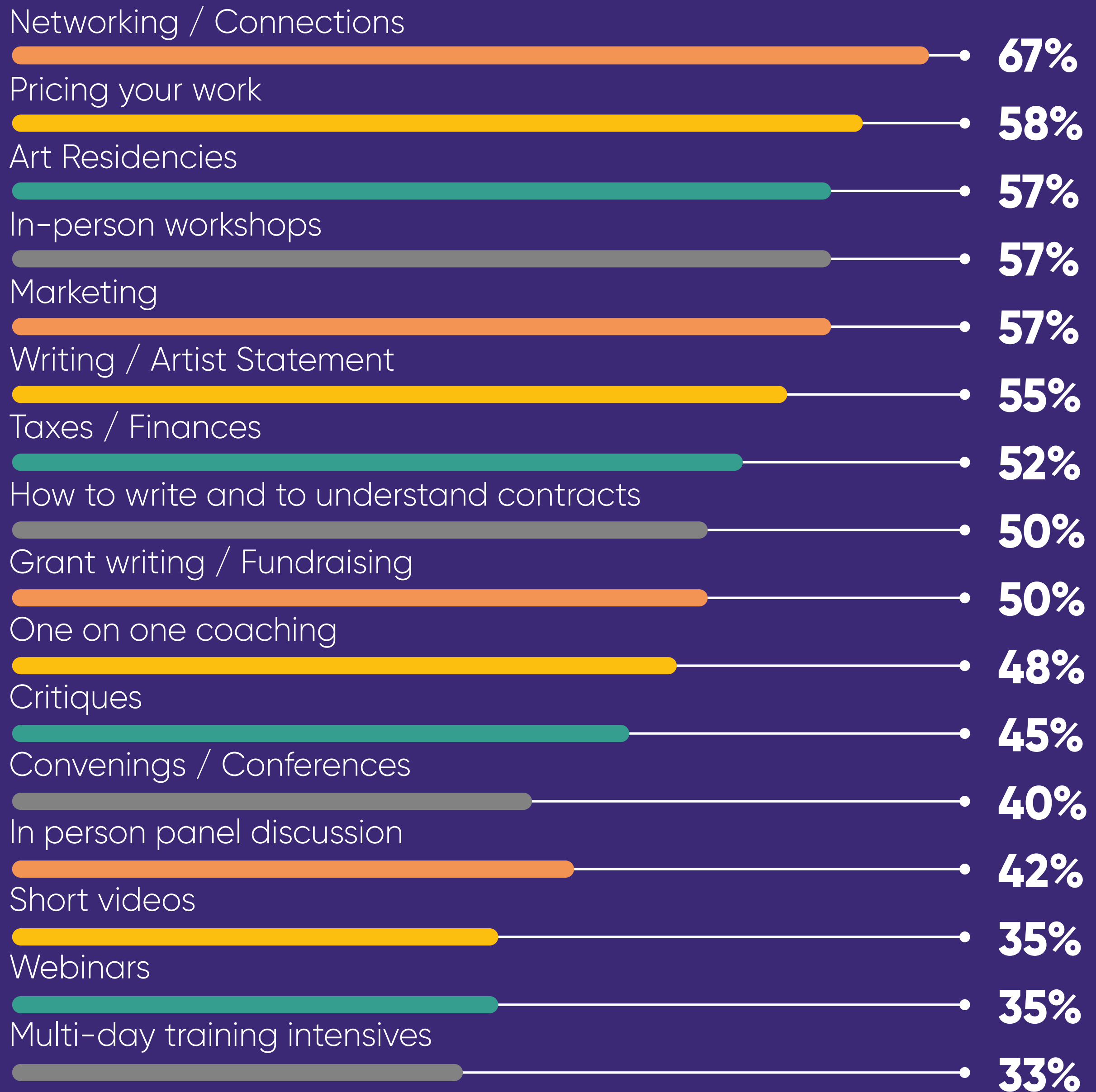


Studio Space



Childcare/Support for families

# How interested are you in receiving business practice training/ resources for artists in the following ways?



# What kind of access do you need to be a full participant?

Captions

87%

Sign language interpreter

87%

Real time captioning

51%

Transcripts

30%

Childcare

12%