



SMALL BUSINESS
FOR AMERICA'S FUTURE

Survey: Healthcare Costs Putting Financial Pressure on Small Business

October 2022

About Small Business for America's Future

- Small Business for America's Future is a national coalition of business owners and leaders working to provide small businesses a voice at every level of government.
- We're committed to ensuring policymakers prioritize Main Street by advancing a just and equitable economic framework that works for small business owners, their employees and their communities.





Key Findings

High Cost of Healthcare Has Real Economic Impacts on Small Businesses and Their Employees

From Sept. 27-Oct. 13, 2022, Small Business for America's Future surveyed 1,209 small business owners in its network about the impact the cost of healthcare coverage has on their business. The results show that high healthcare prices are leading Main Street entrepreneurs to raise prices for goods and services, stifling small business growth and hiring, and cutting into employee paychecks.

- **95%** of small business owners responding have seen the cost of health insurance increase over the last four years. **More than half** estimate the yearly increase of their healthcare costs is 10% or more.
- **Nearly half** have increased the prices of their goods or services to offset healthcare costs, **38%** have delayed growth opportunities, and **28%** have held off on hiring new employees
- **53%** have thought about no longer providing health insurance for their employees due to the rising cost of coverage, and **74%** thought about reducing how much their business contributes to the cost of health insurance
- **More than half** said employees raise the possibility of not being able to afford medical expense
- **Four in ten** have forgone offering health insurance altogether, and nearly **80%** said it was because the cost was too high.



Small Business Owners Want Lawmakers to do Something About Healthcare Prices—But Worry They Won't

Ahead of November's election, the survey shows that small business owners want lawmakers to focus on finding solutions to the high cost of healthcare but are worried our leaders will fail to act or not go far enough in addressing the issue.

- **79%** of small business owners responding to the survey feel **very strongly** that this is an issue that the nation's lawmakers need to address
- **77%** worry our leaders will fail to act or not go far enough in addressing the issue. Specifically:
 - **52%** are worried that lawmakers will do nothing to address healthcare costs
 - **25%** are worried that lawmakers will not go far enough in addressing healthcare costs
 - **Just 23%** worry that lawmakers will go too far

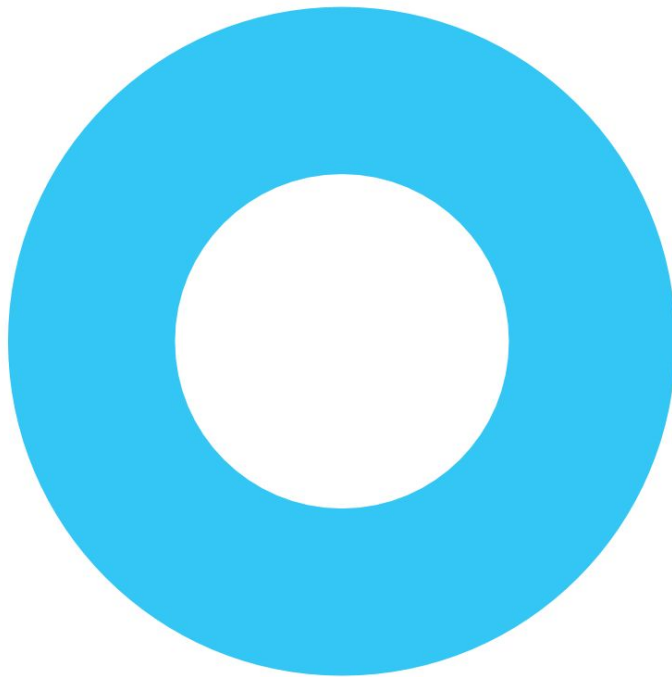


An overhead, top-down view of a wooden office desk. Several people are seated at the desk, their hands visible as they work. On the left, a person's hands are on a white keyboard. In the center, another person's hands are on a white keyboard. On the right, a person is using a mouse. In the bottom left, a person is typing on a laptop. In the bottom center, a person is holding a tablet. The desk is cluttered with various items: a small potted plant, a coffee cup, a smartphone, a pen holder with pens, a spiral notebook, a calculator, and a mouse. The entire image has a light blue tint.

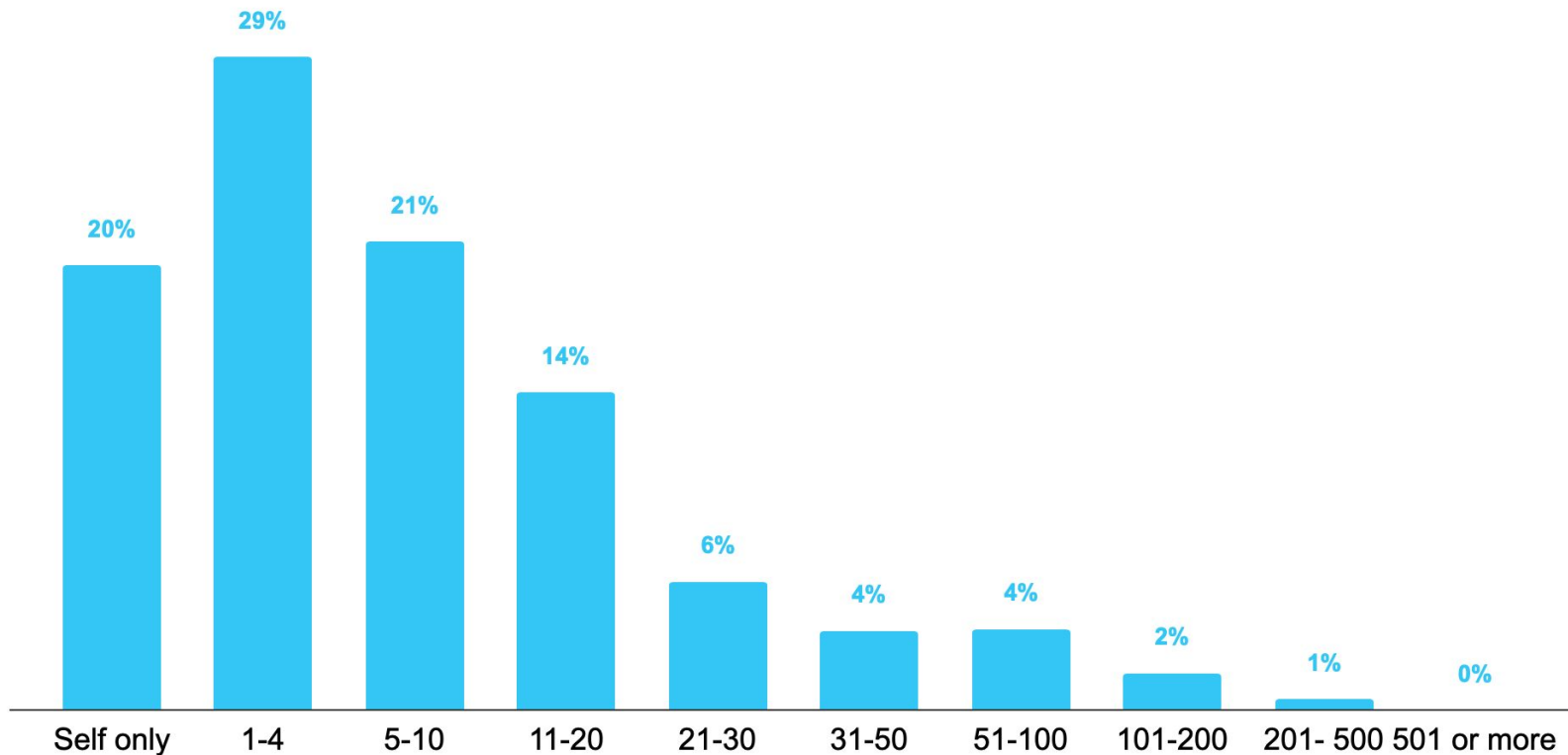
Survey Results

Q1: Are you a small business owner?

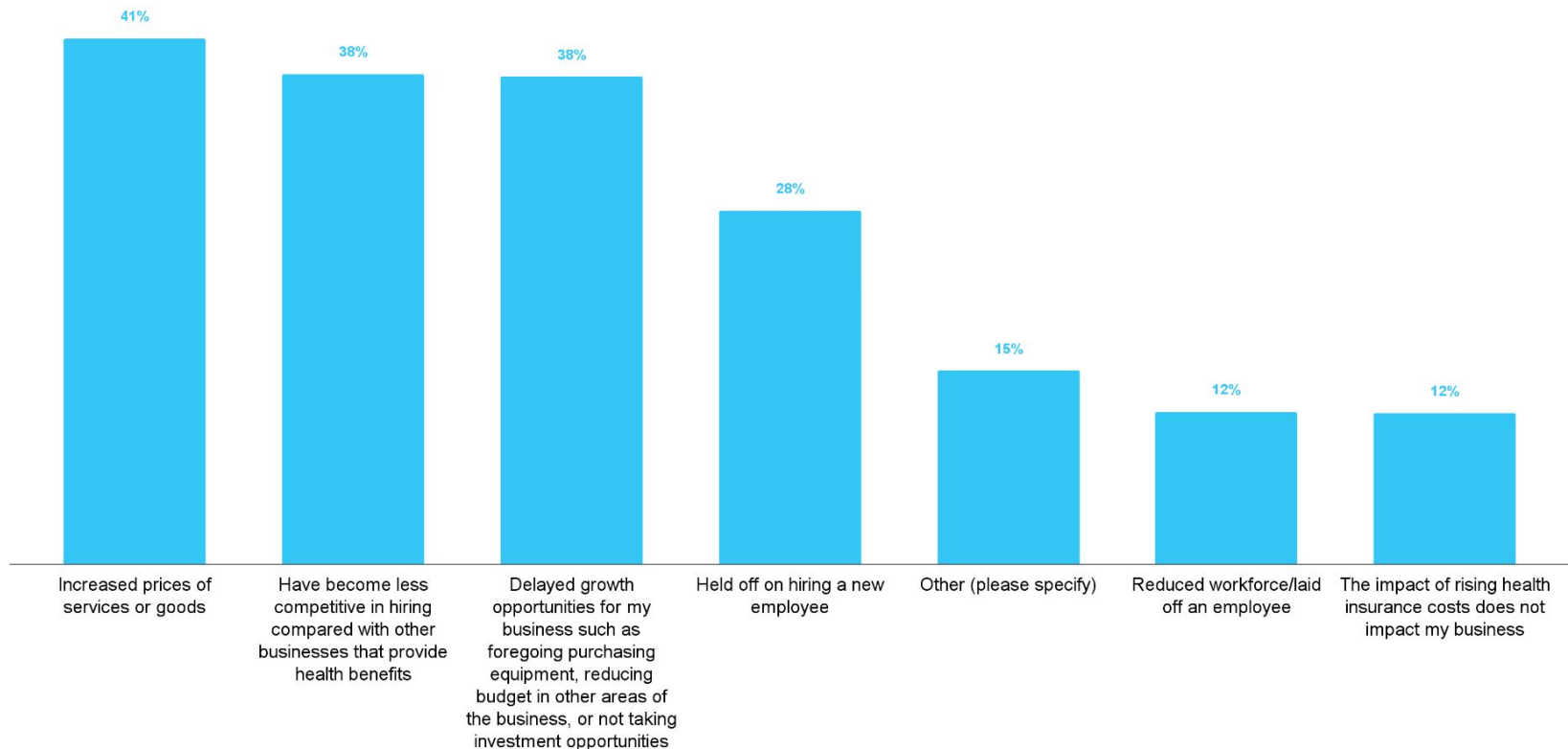
● Yes



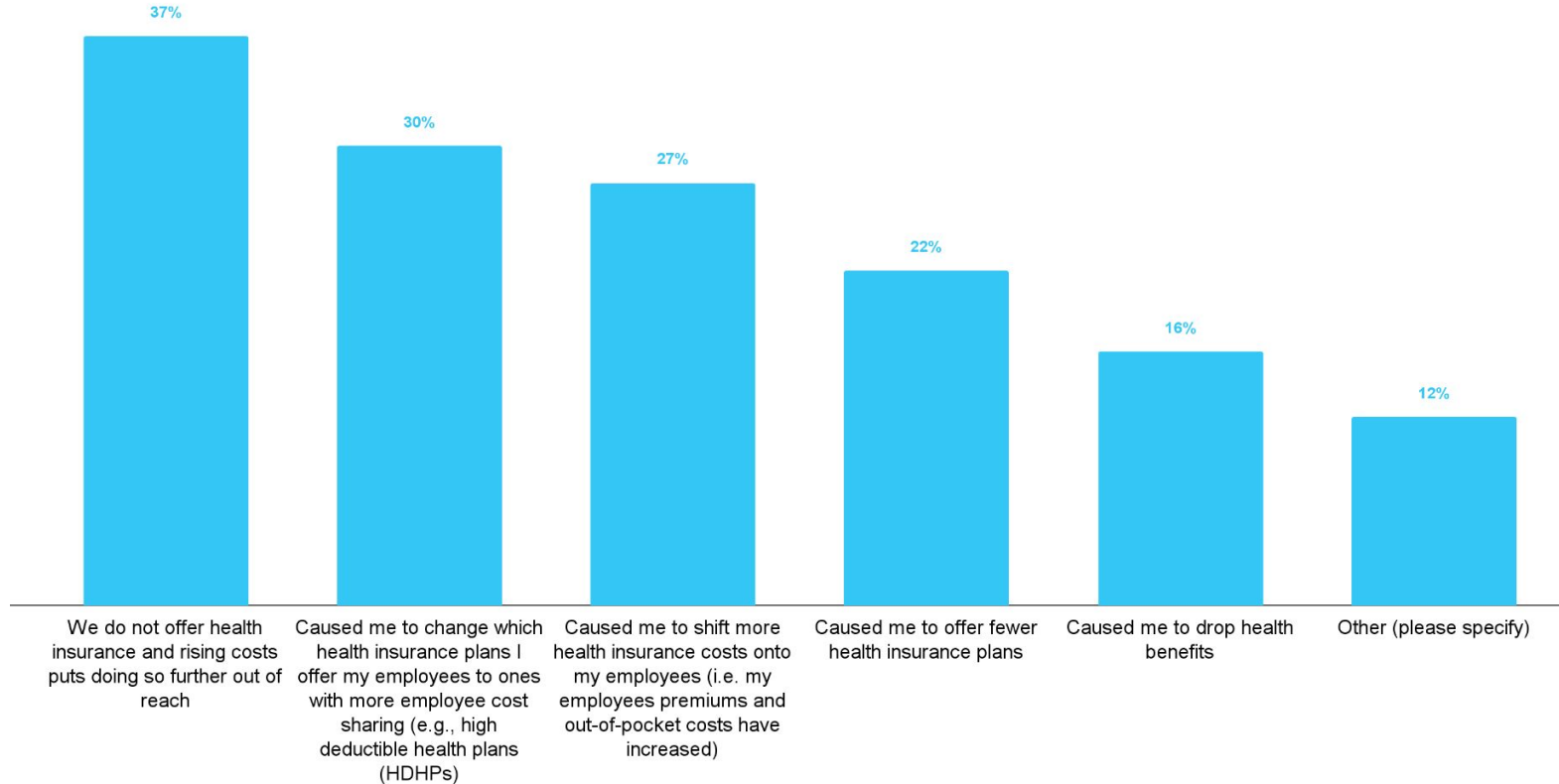
Q2: Not including yourself, how many people do you employ?



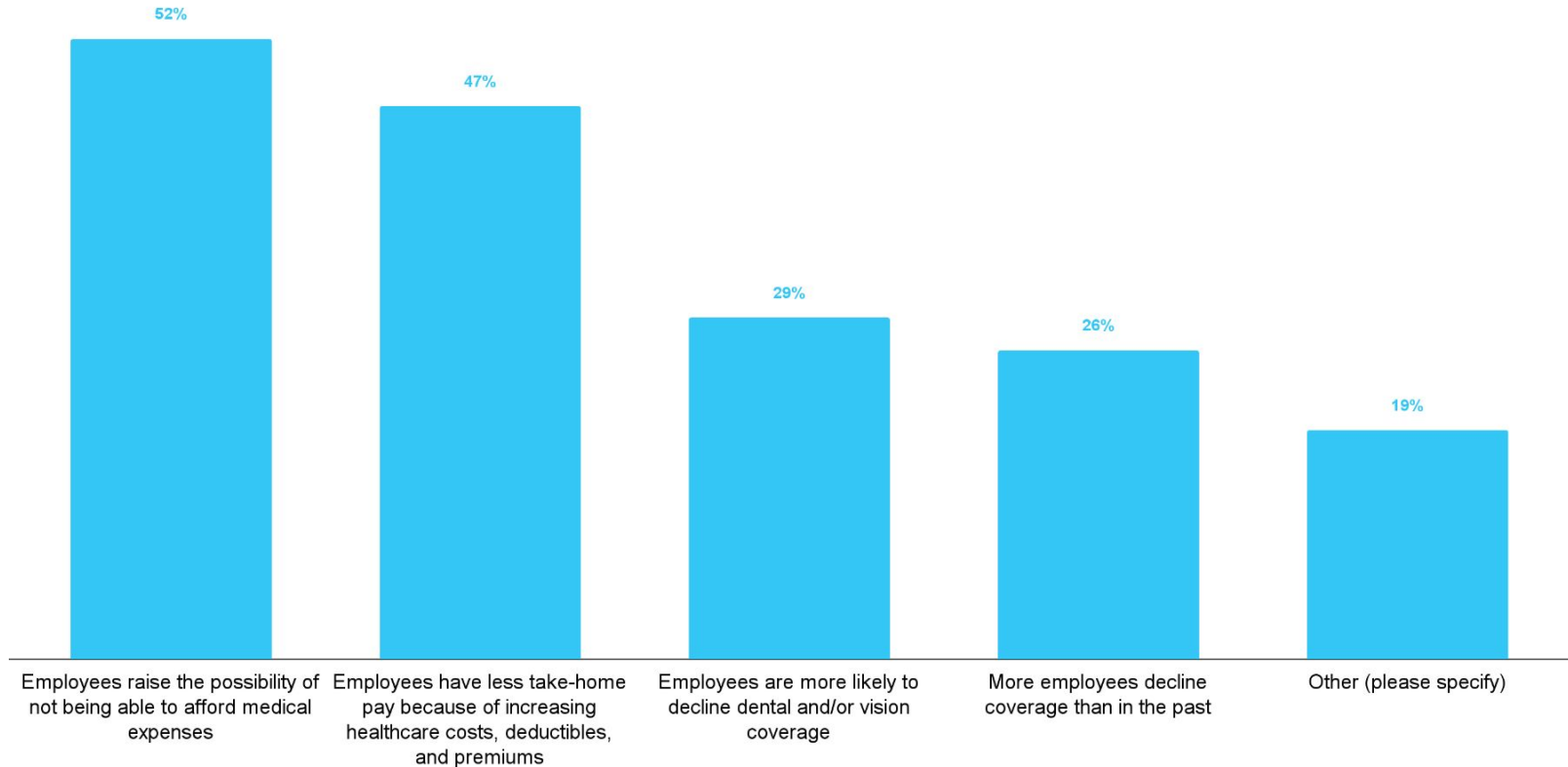
Q3: How does the rising cost of health insurance impact your business? (Select all that apply)



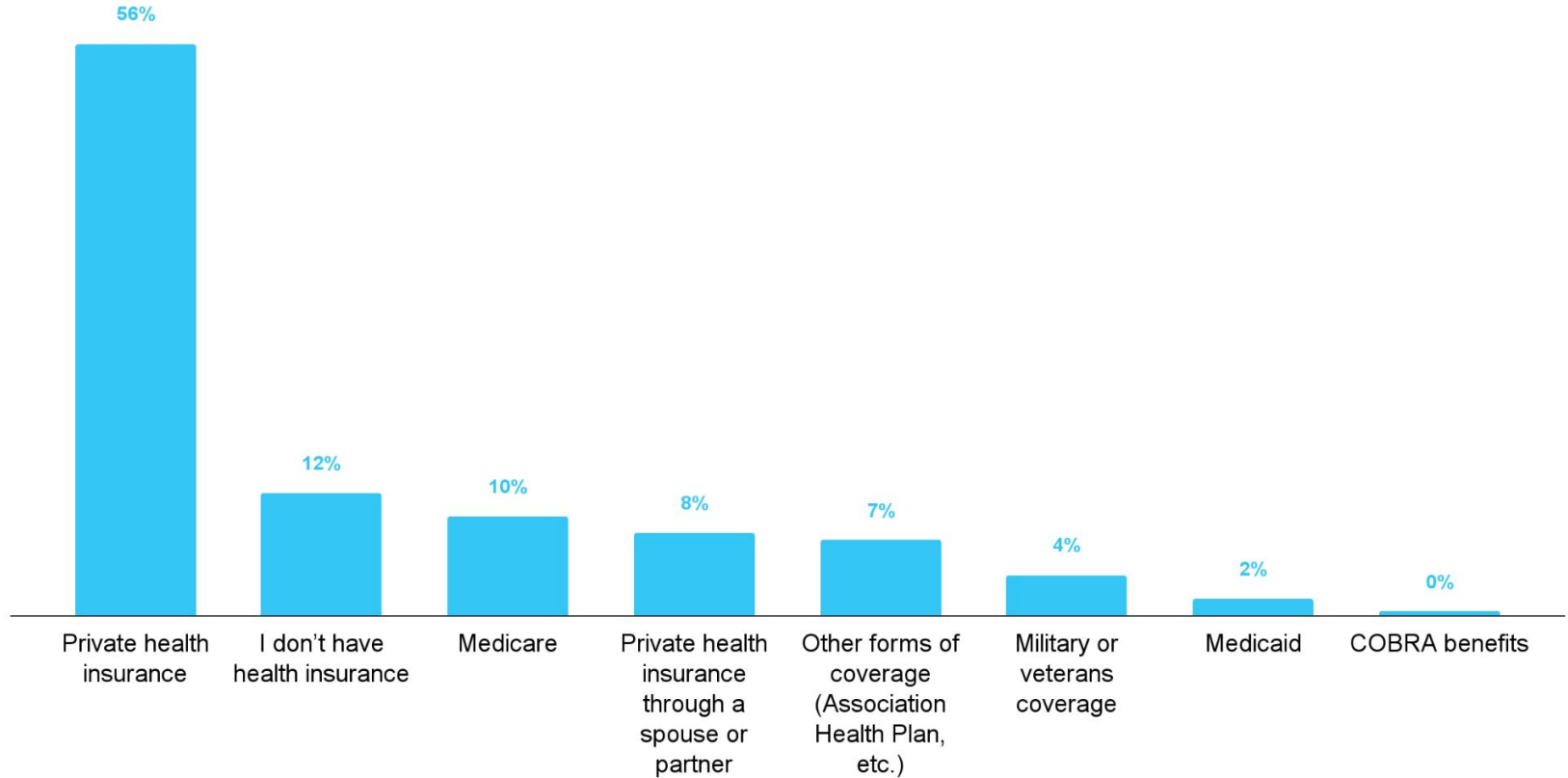
Q4: How does the rising cost of health insurance impact your health insurance offerings? (Select all that apply)



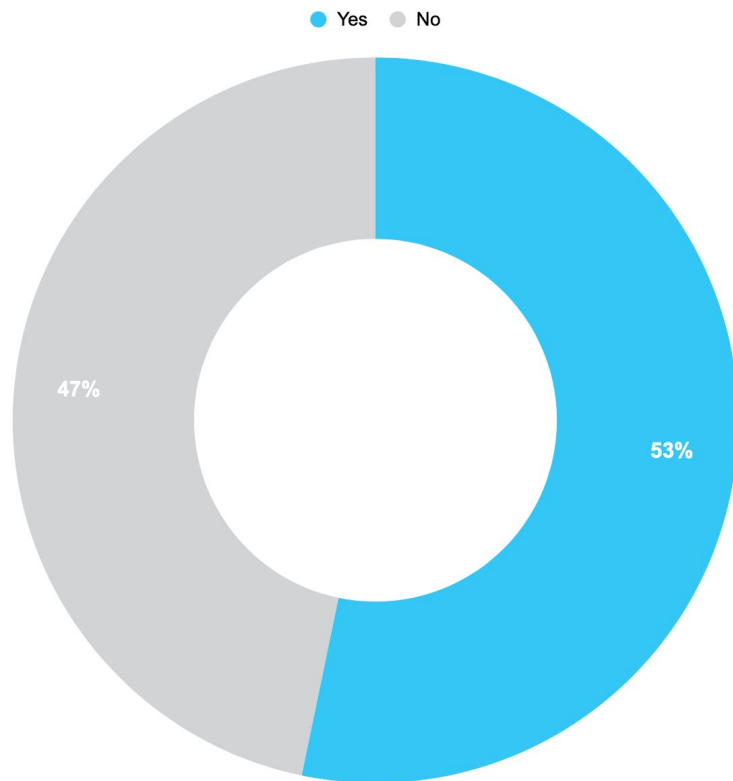
Q5: How does the rising cost of health insurance impact your employees? (Select all that apply)



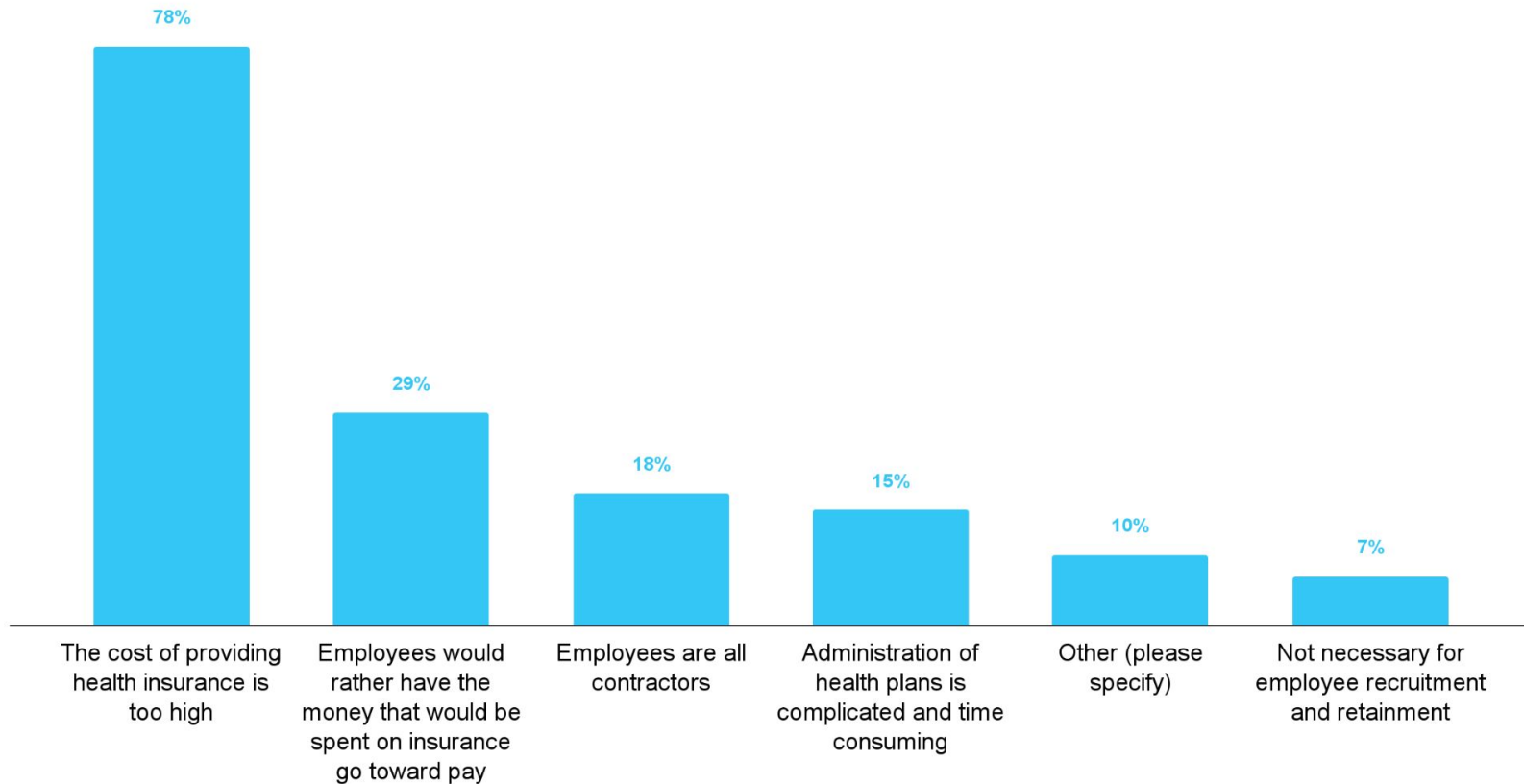
Q6: What is your current primary source of health insurance?



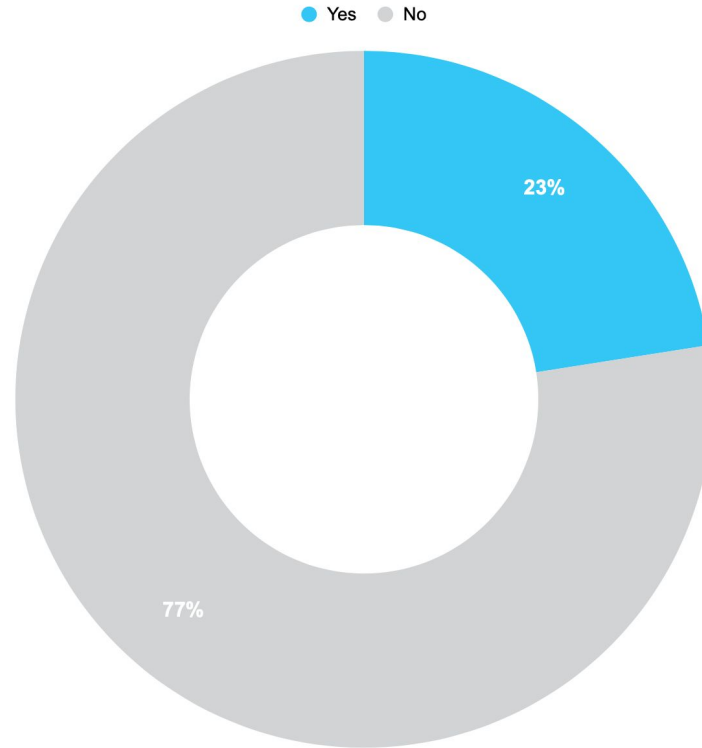
Q7: Do you provide health insurance as a benefit to your employees?



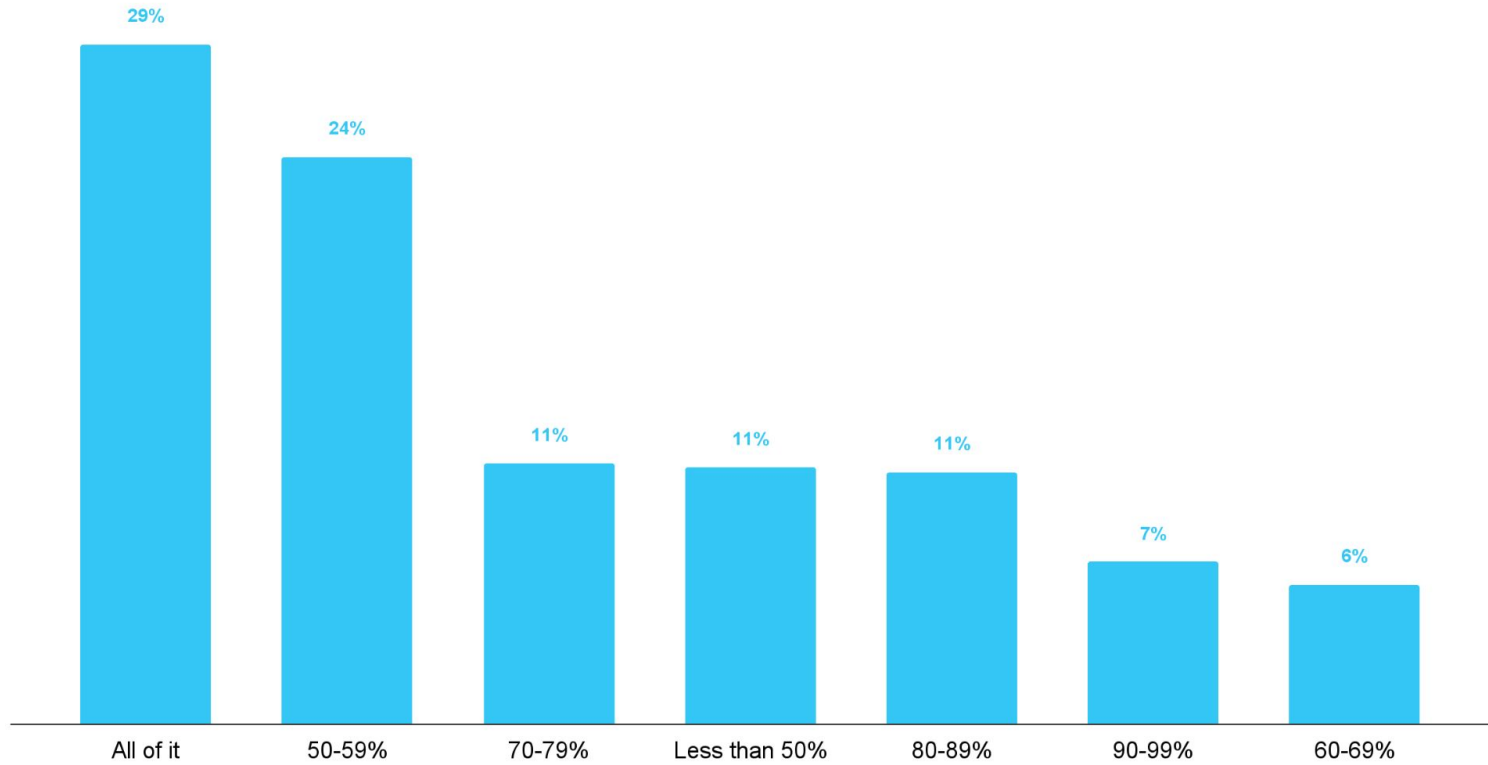
Q8: (If no to Q7) Why do you not provide health insurance to your employees? (Select all that apply)



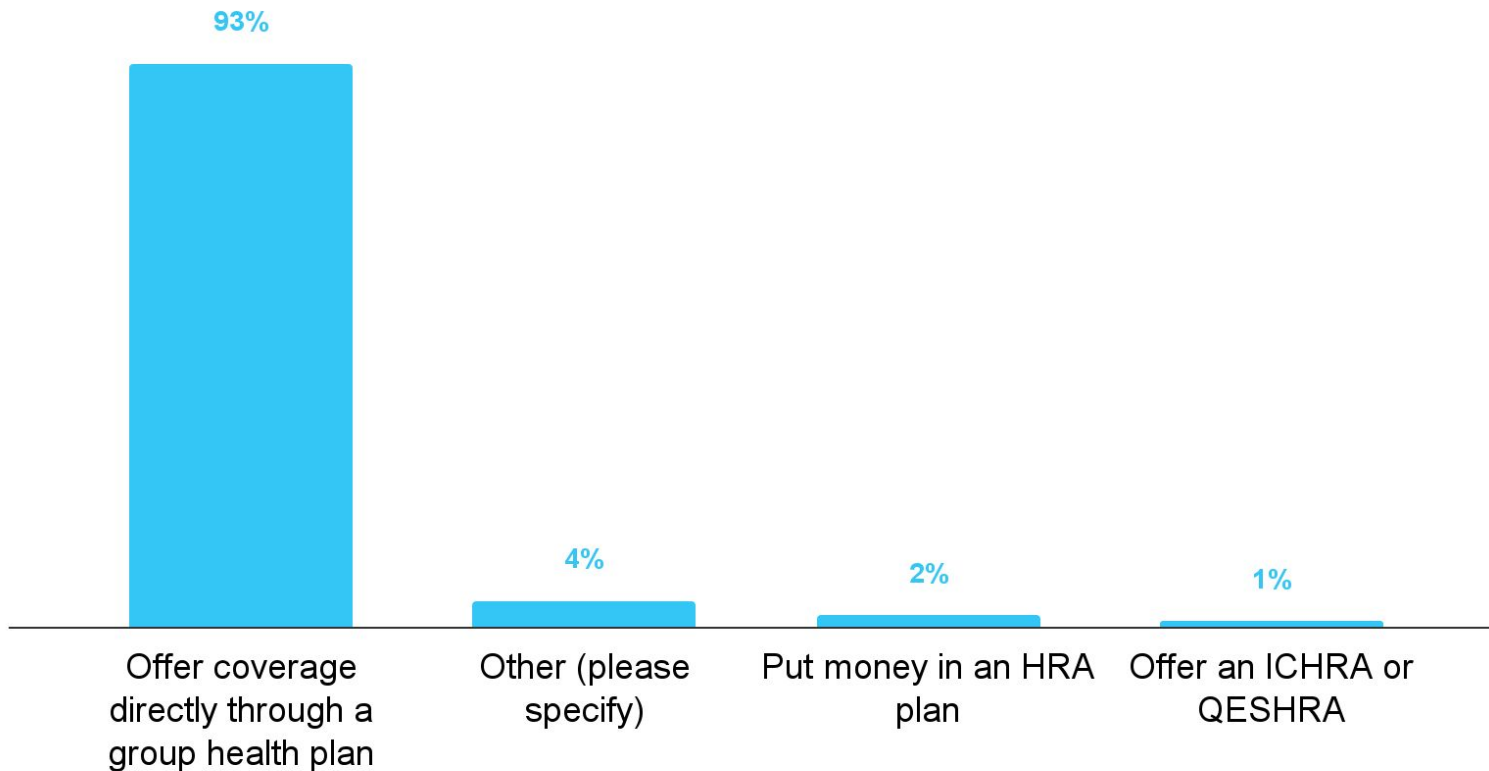
Q9: Is the healthcare insurance you provide to your employees mandated by any state or local government?



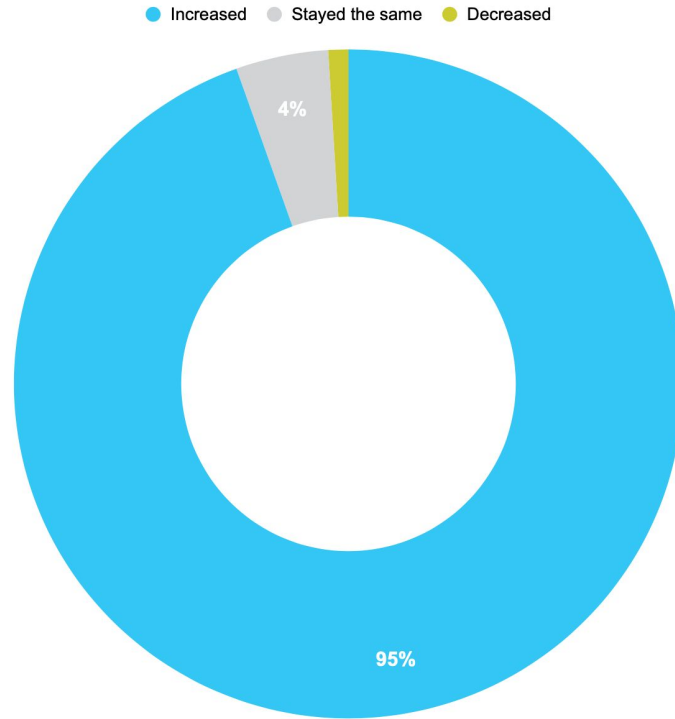
Q10: How much of the cost of an employee's healthcare insurance does your business contribute?



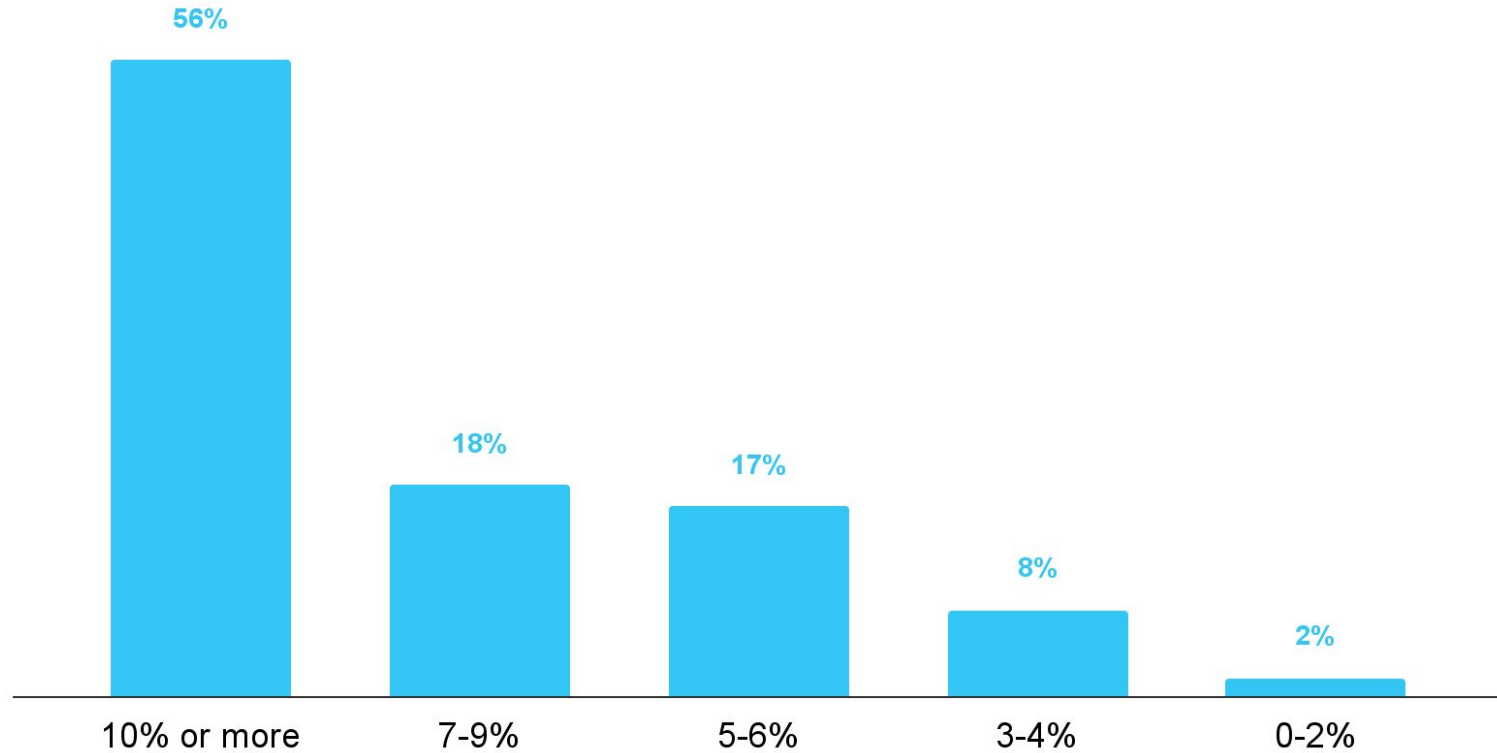
Q11: How do you offer healthcare insurance to your employees?



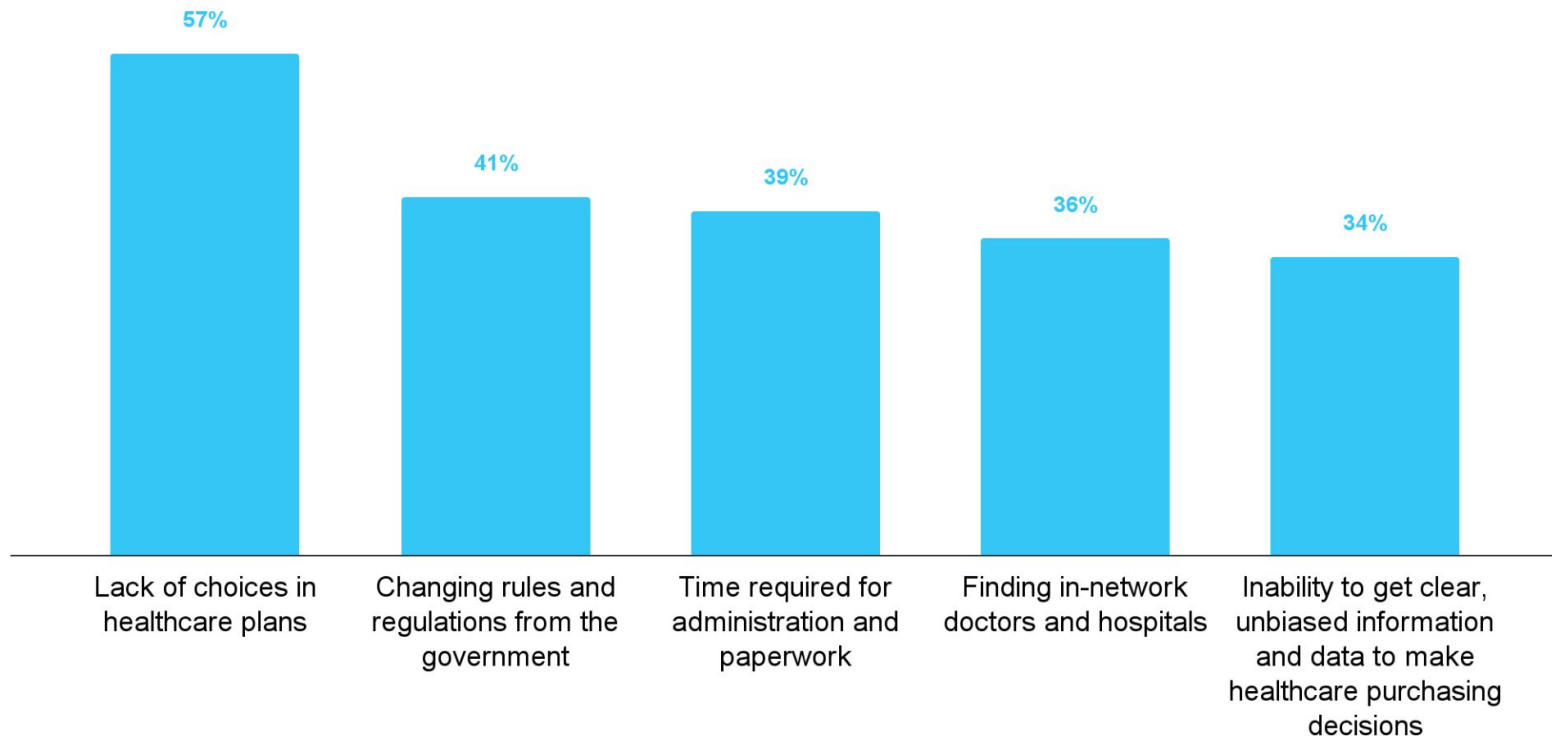
Q12: Over the last four years, would you say the costs of healthcare insurance for you and/or your employees have increased, decreased or stayed about the same?



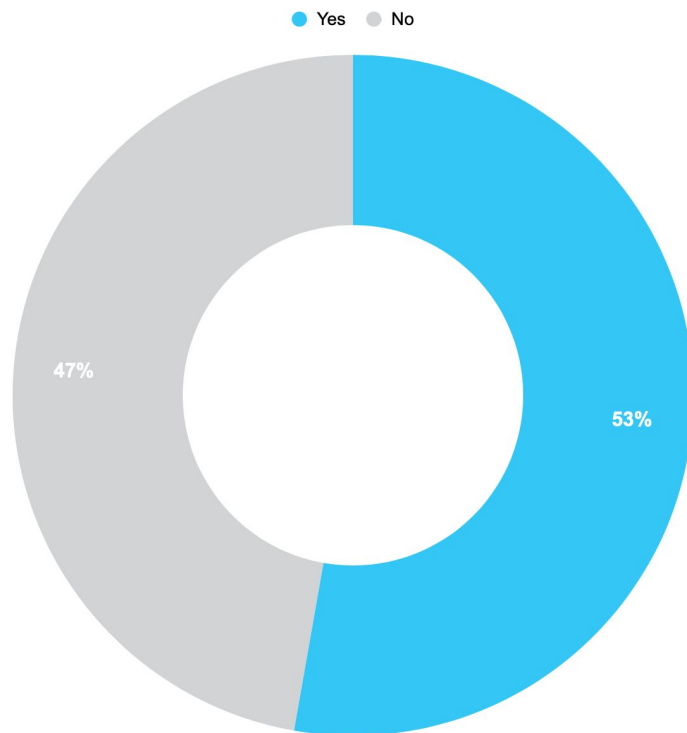
Q13: Please estimate the yearly increase of your health care costs of your business:



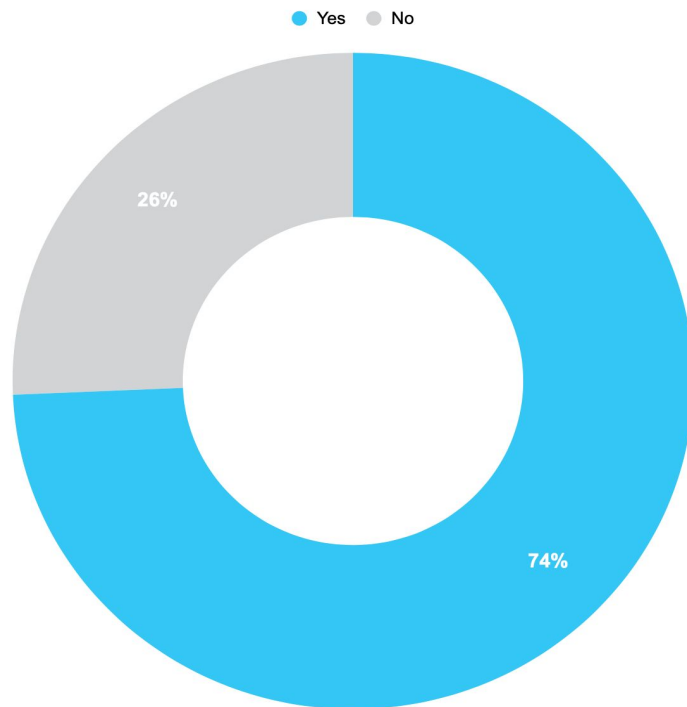
Q14: Outside of costs, which one of the following do you consider the biggest challenge when it comes to providing healthcare to your employees? (Select all that apply)



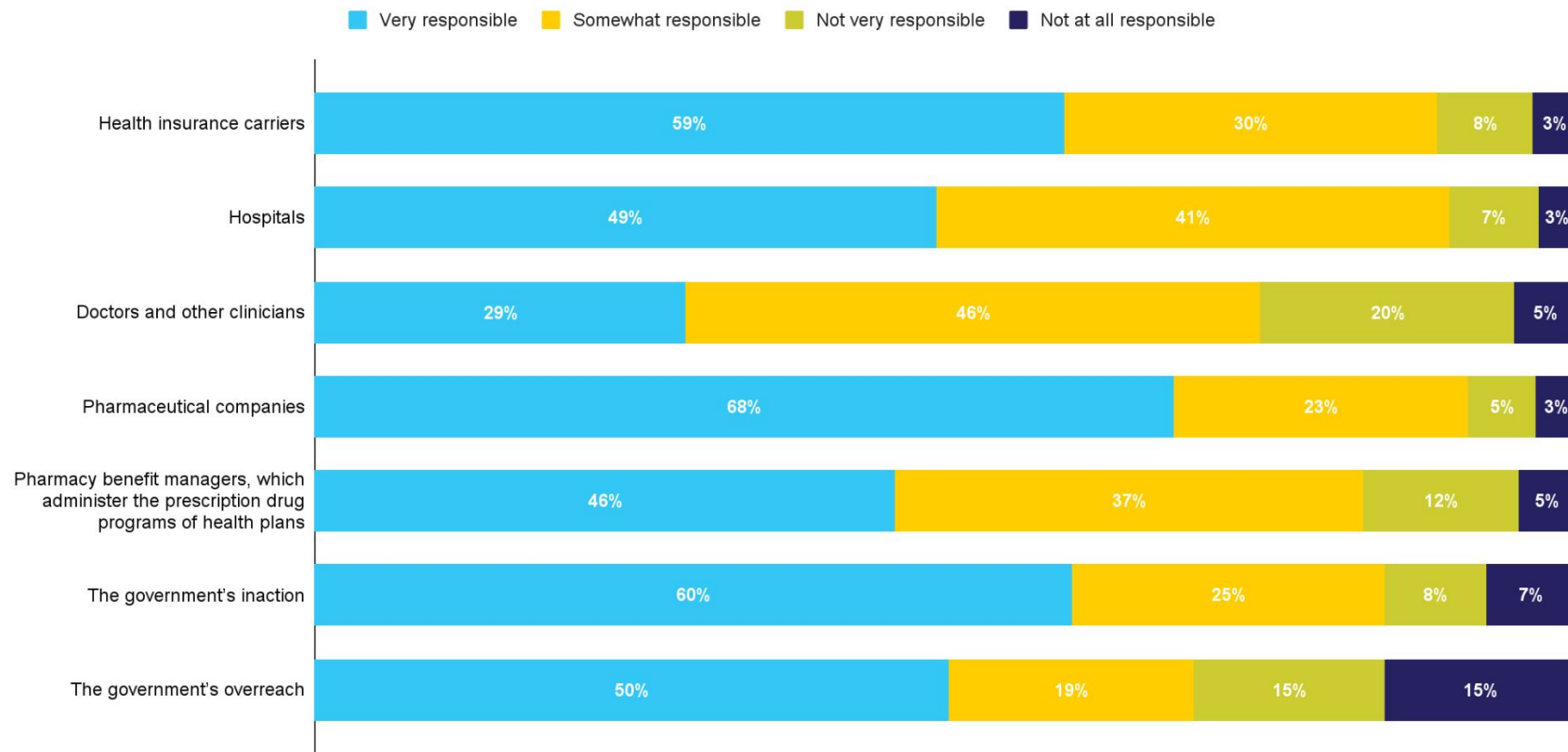
Q15: Have you thought about no longer providing health insurance for your employees due to the rising cost of coverage?



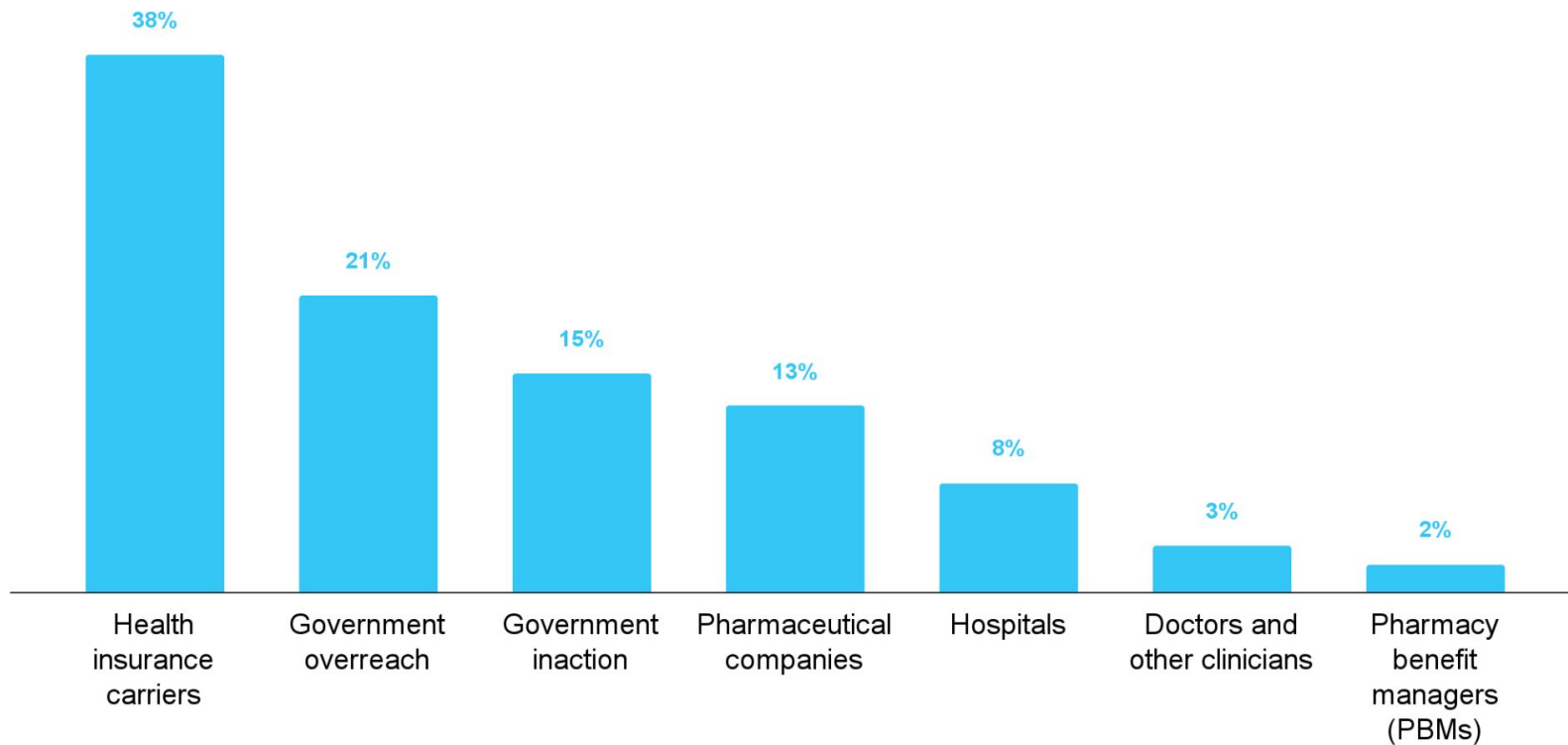
Q16: Have you thought about reducing how much your business contributes to the cost of health insurance due to the rising cost of coverage?



Q17 - Q23: Below are groups that some people might say are responsible for the rising costs of providing healthcare. For each group, please indicate how much responsibility you think they have for the rising costs of providing healthcare

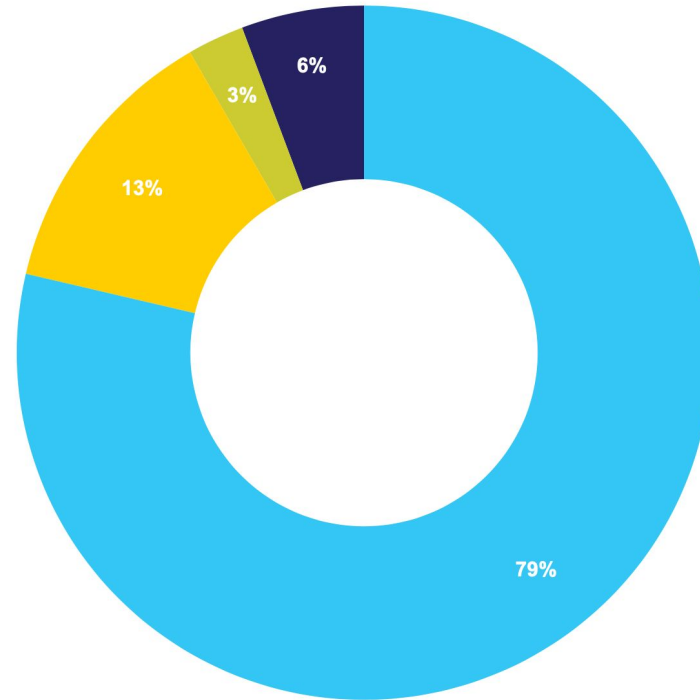


Q24: Which one of the following do you find the most responsible for the rising costs of providing health care?



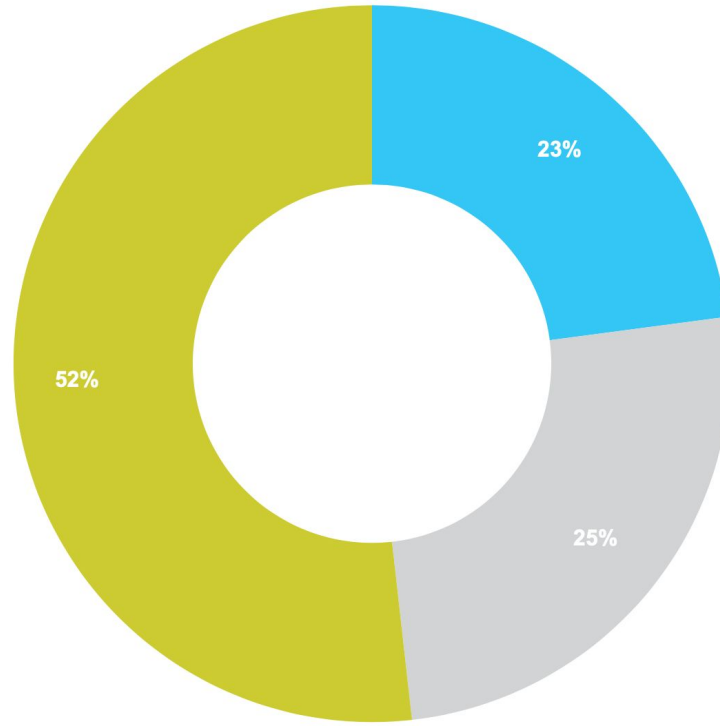
Q25: How important do you feel it is for Congress and the Administration to take action to reduce the cost of healthcare?

● Very important ● Somewhat Important ● Somewhat unimportant ● Very unimportant



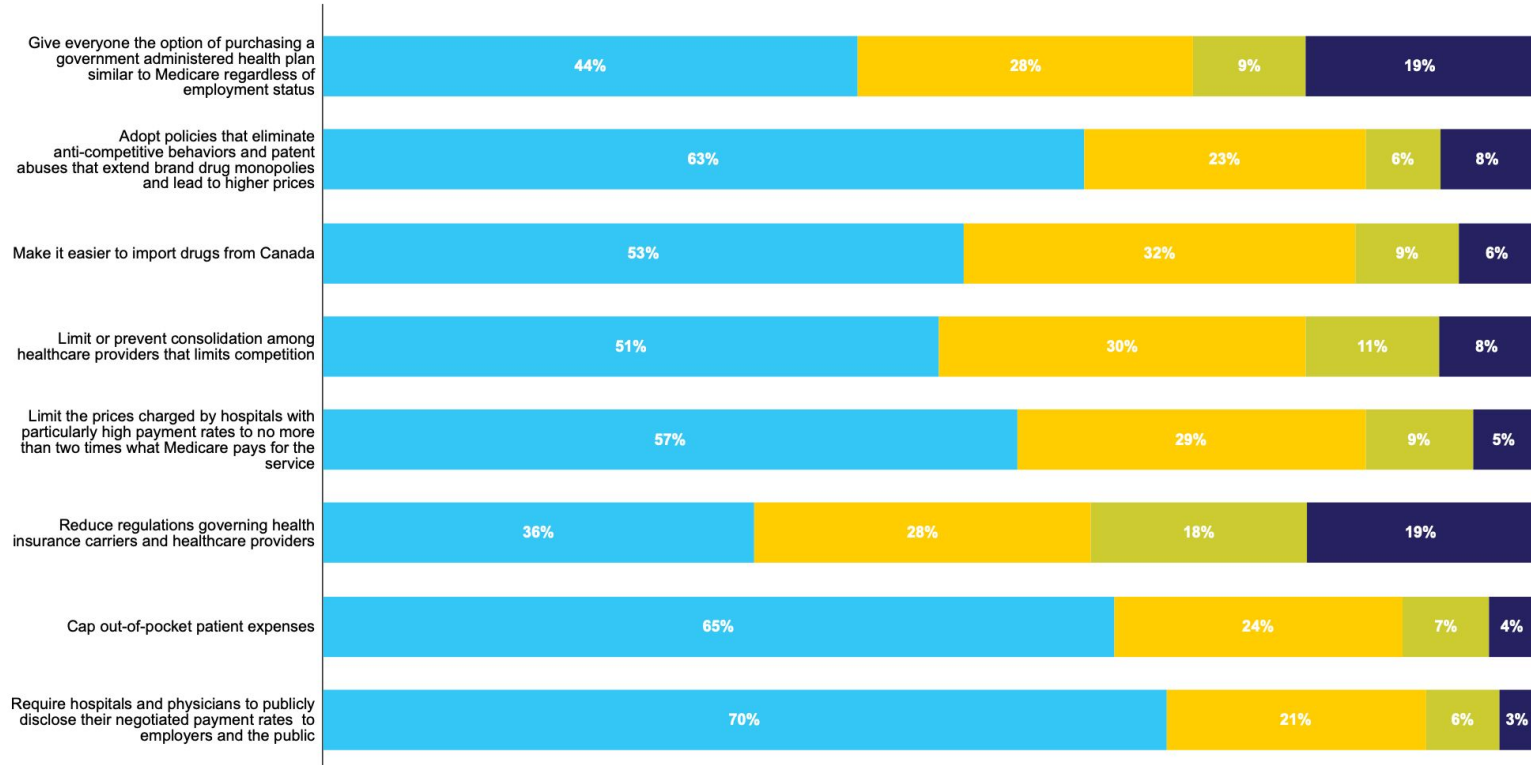
Q26: What are you most concerned about when it comes to the federal government's efforts to reduce the cost of healthcare?

- The Administration and Congress will go too far
- The Administration and Congress will not go far enough
- The Administration and Congress will not do anything to address this issue



Q27: Below are suggestions some people have made to reform healthcare in this country. For each solution, please indicate whether you support it.

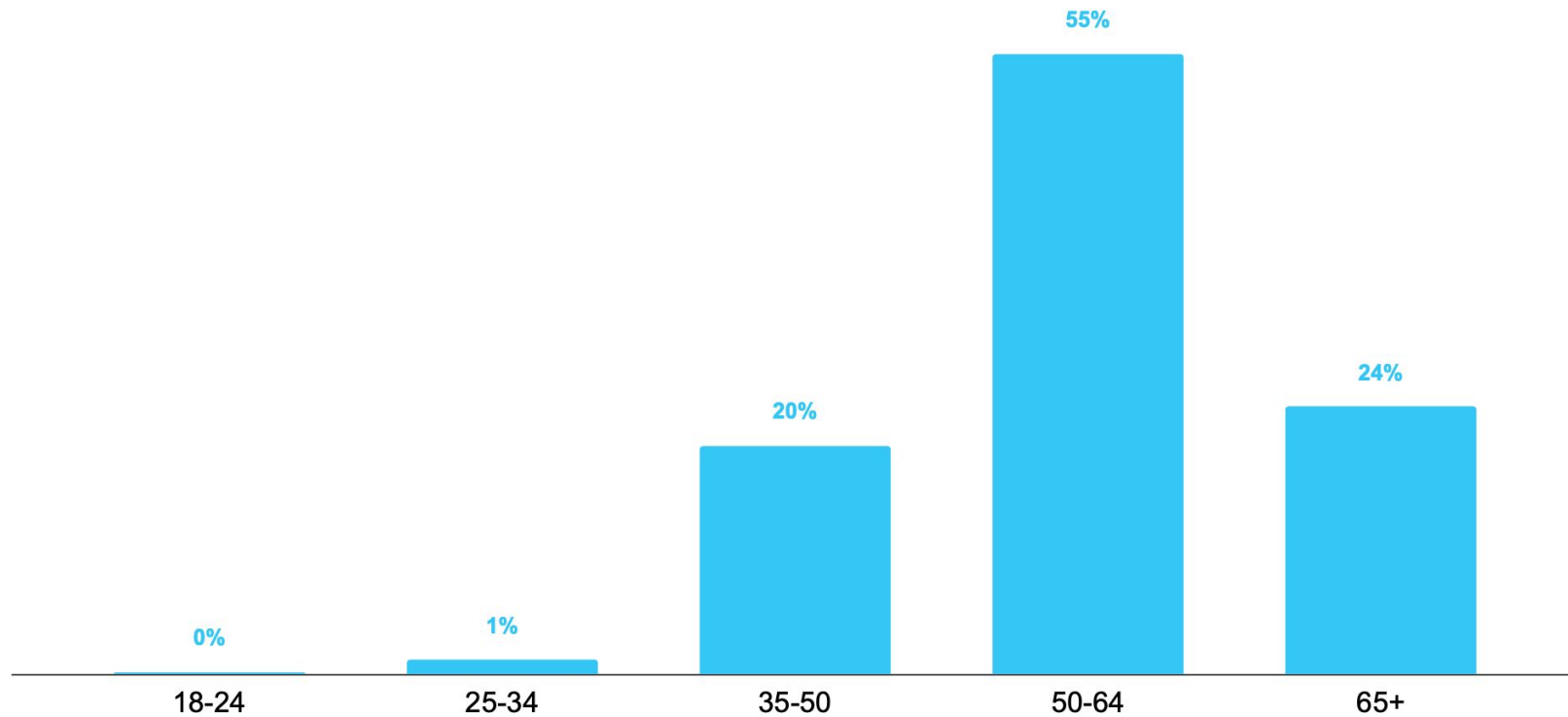
■ Strongly support
 ■ Somewhat support
 ■ Somewhat oppose
 ■ Strongly oppose



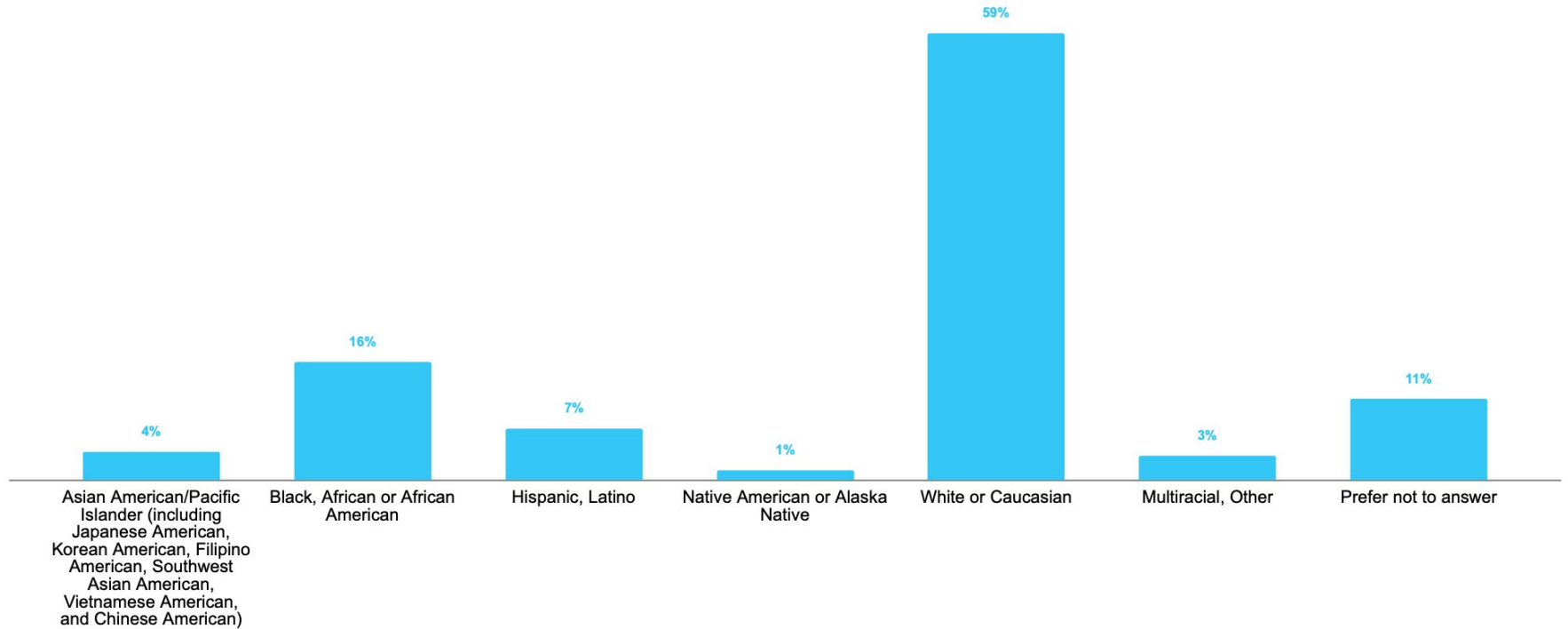
An aerial, top-down view of a busy pedestrian walkway, likely in a public space like a transit station or a large building lobby. The floor is composed of light-colored, rectangular tiles. A group of about seven people is walking along a set of stairs on the left side of the frame. Other individuals are scattered across the walkway, some walking alone and others in small groups. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue color. The text "Demographic Data" is centered in the middle of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

Demographic Data

Q28: What is your age?

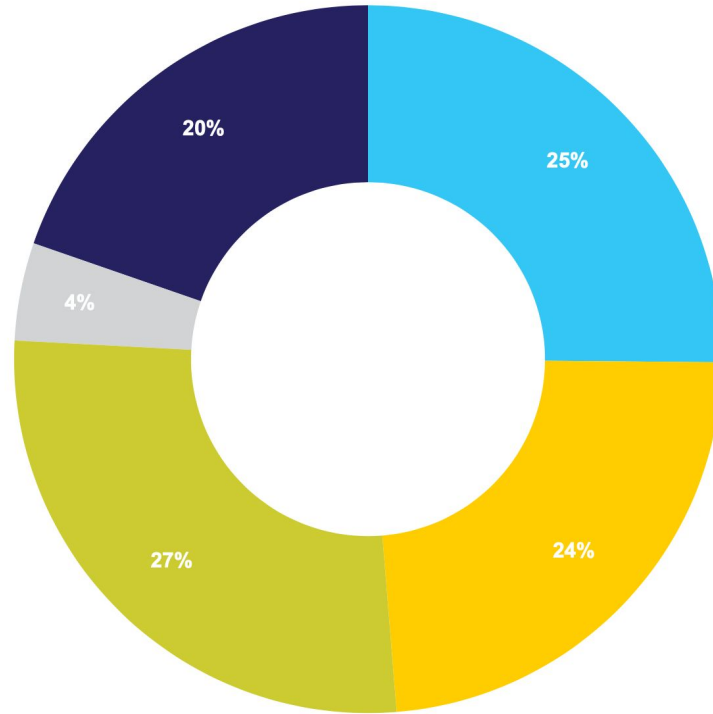


Q29: How do you identify yourself?

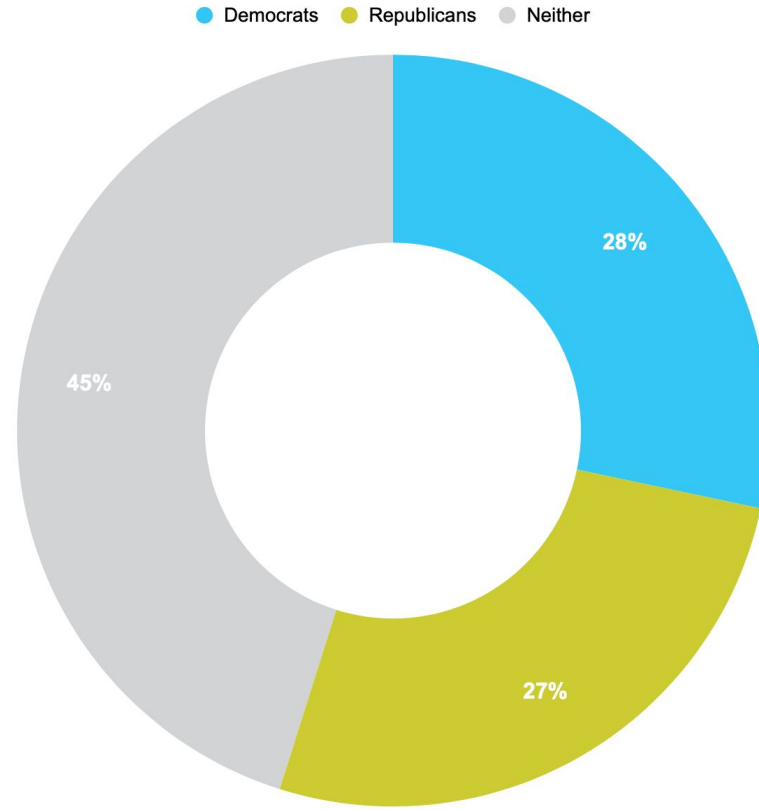


Q30: Which best represents how you typically vote in elections?

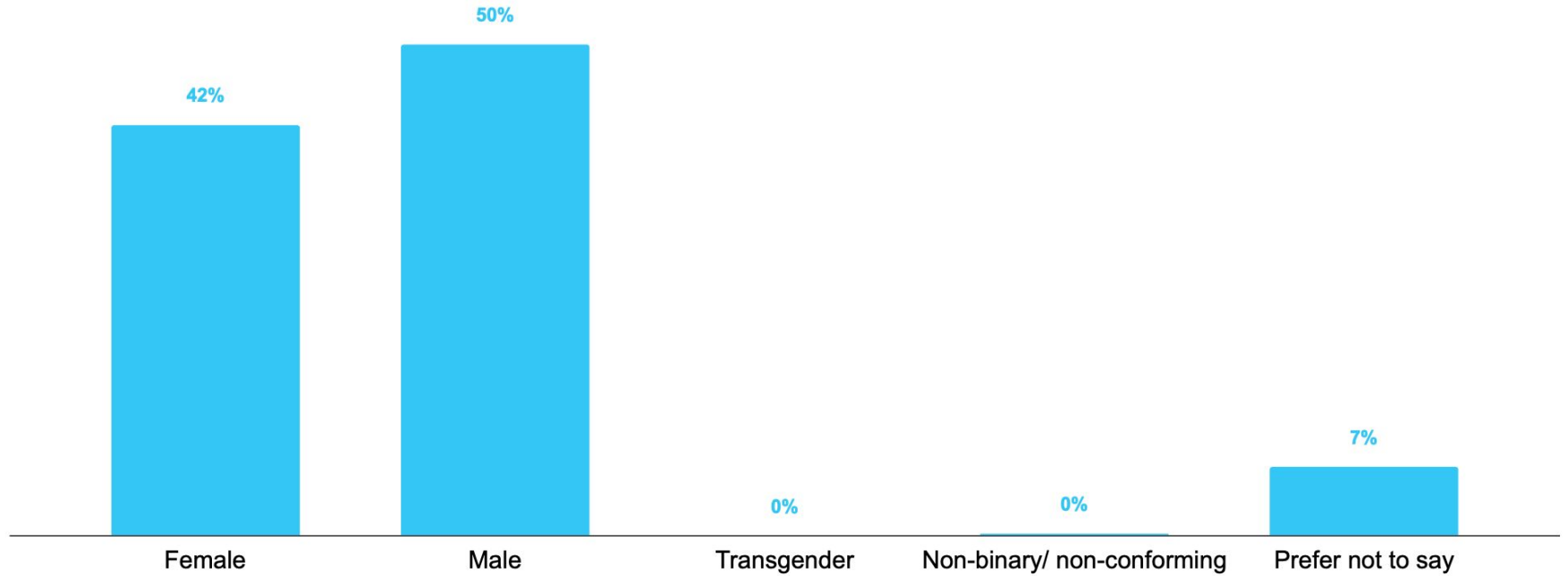
● Democrat ● Independent ● Republican ● Other ● Don't know/Prefer not to say

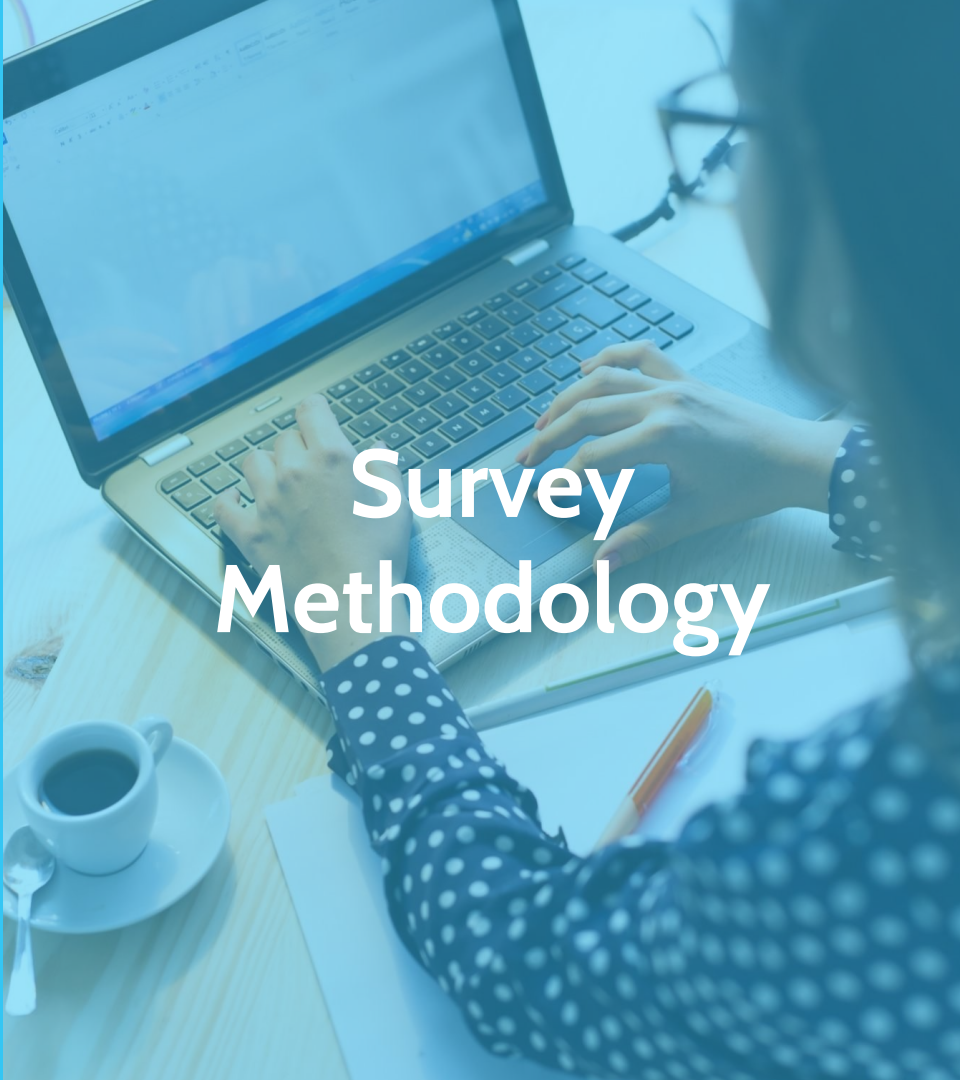


Q31: Do you more often vote for democrats or republicans?



Q32: What is your gender identity?





Survey Methodology

1,209 Total Responses

Methodology:
Survey Monkey survey of the Small Business for
America's Future small business network
Fielded from Sept. 27-Oct. 13, 2022

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