

A grayscale electron micrograph of a virus particle, likely SARS-CoV-2, showing its characteristic spherical shape and surface spikes. The particle is centered in the upper half of the frame.

RCEM COVID-19 Survey 2020

May-June 2020

Introduction



Between 22 May and 7 June 2020 The Royal College of Emergency Medicine surveyed its 9,500 members and fellows for their thoughts on the Covid-19 pandemic so far.

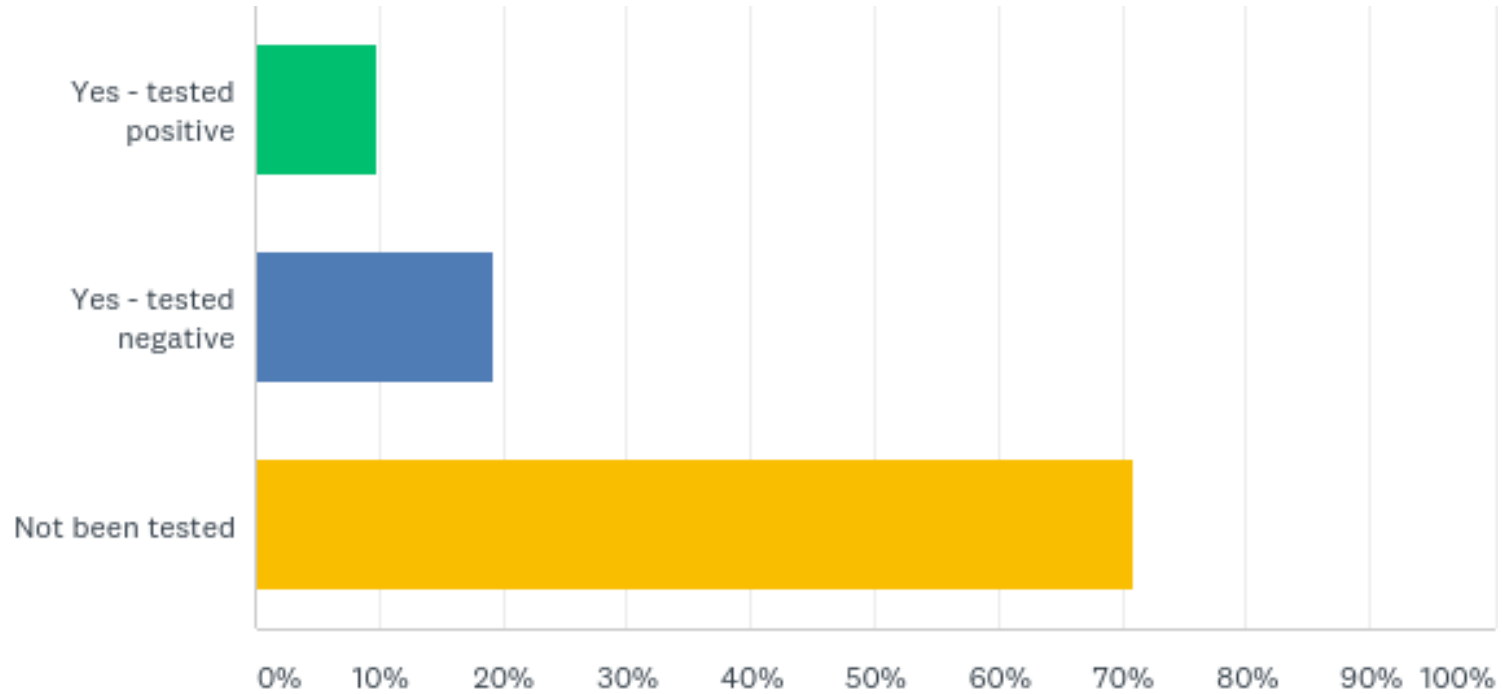
1,167 responses were collected from Emergency Medicine clinicians across the UK. All responses were anonymous.

We asked general questions about Covid-19, testing, PPE, how clinicians felt their ED was setup, and about their mental health.

The results are presented here.

Have you been tested for COVID-19?

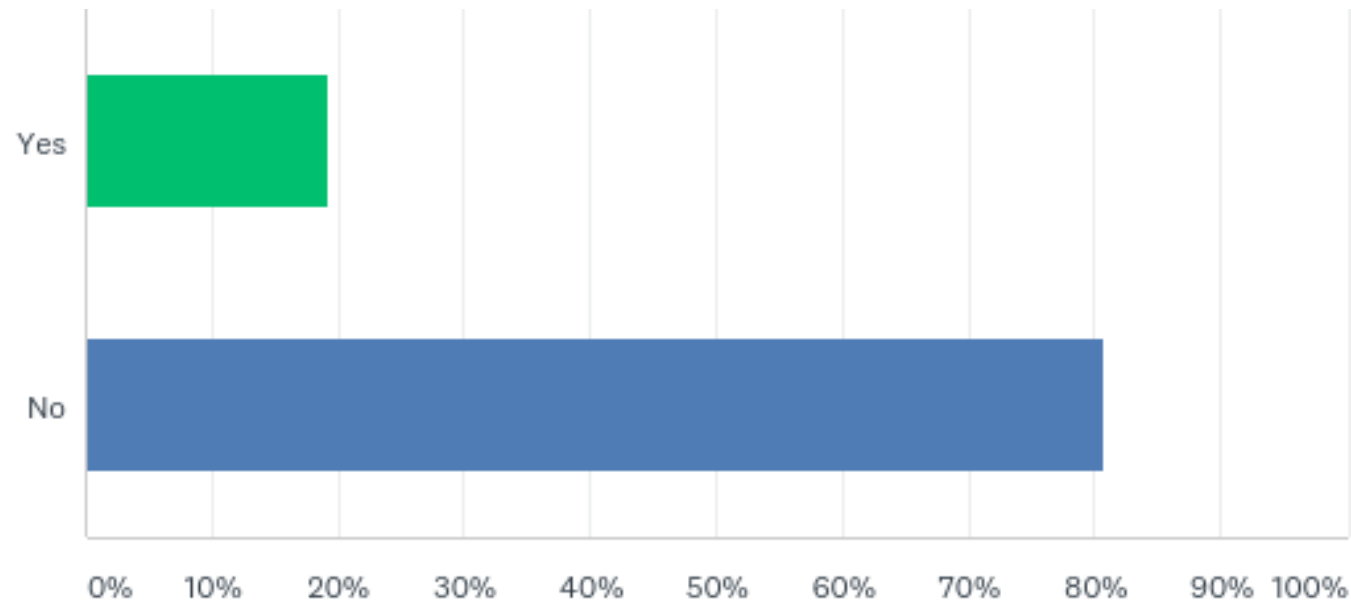
Answered: 1,158
Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes - tested positive	9.76%	113
Yes - tested negative	19.34%	224
Not been tested	70.90%	821
TOTAL		1,158

Did you experience any problems accessing testing?

Answered: 331
Skipped: 836

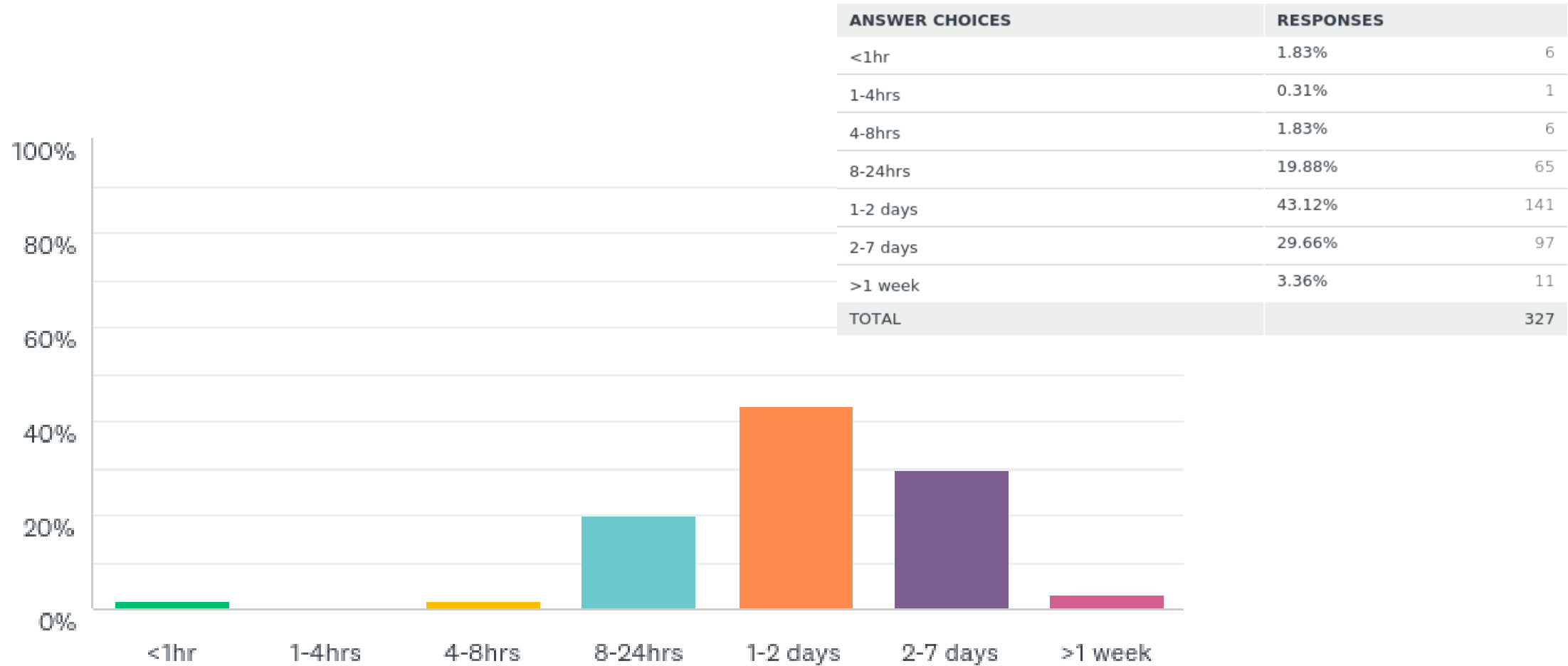


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	19.34%	64
No	80.66%	267
TOTAL		331

How long did it take to get your test results?

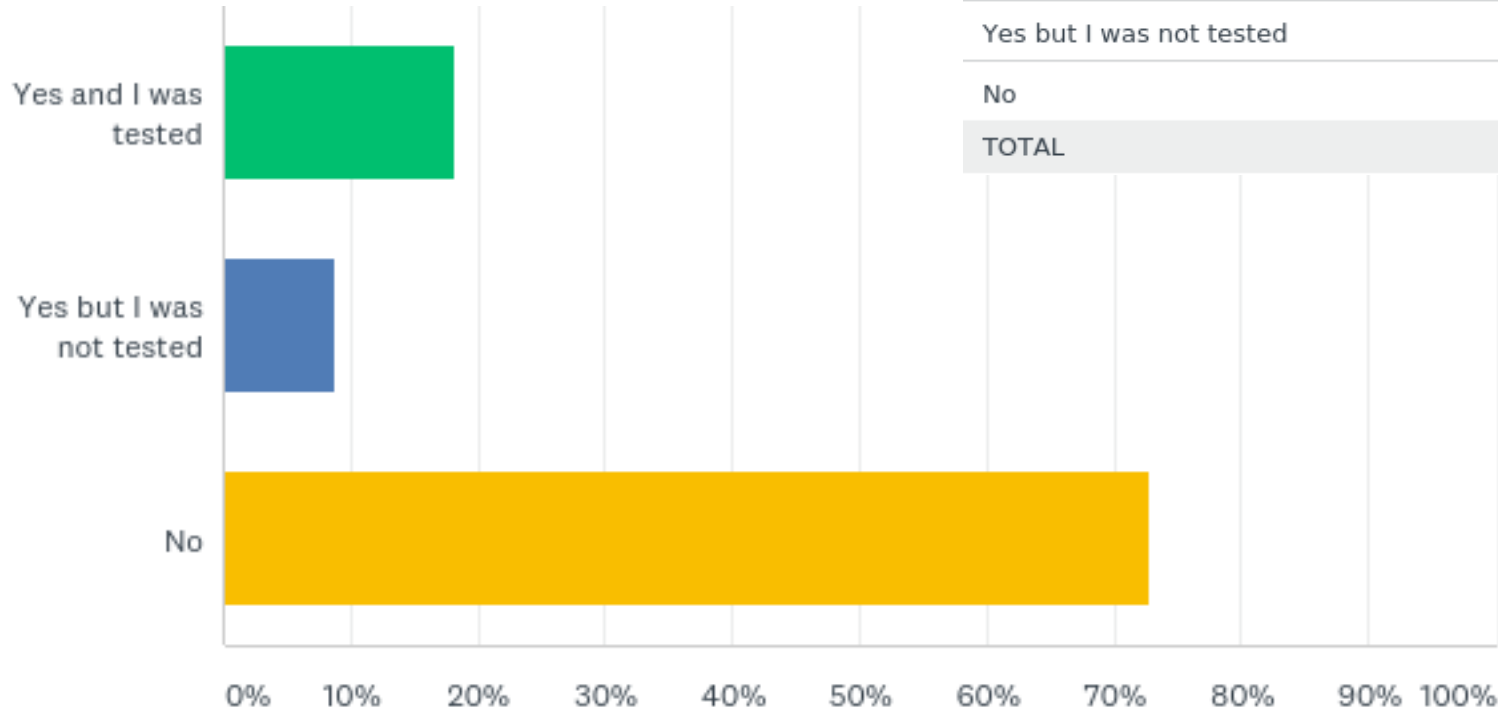


Answered: 327
Skipped: 840



Have you been off work with COVID-19 symptoms?

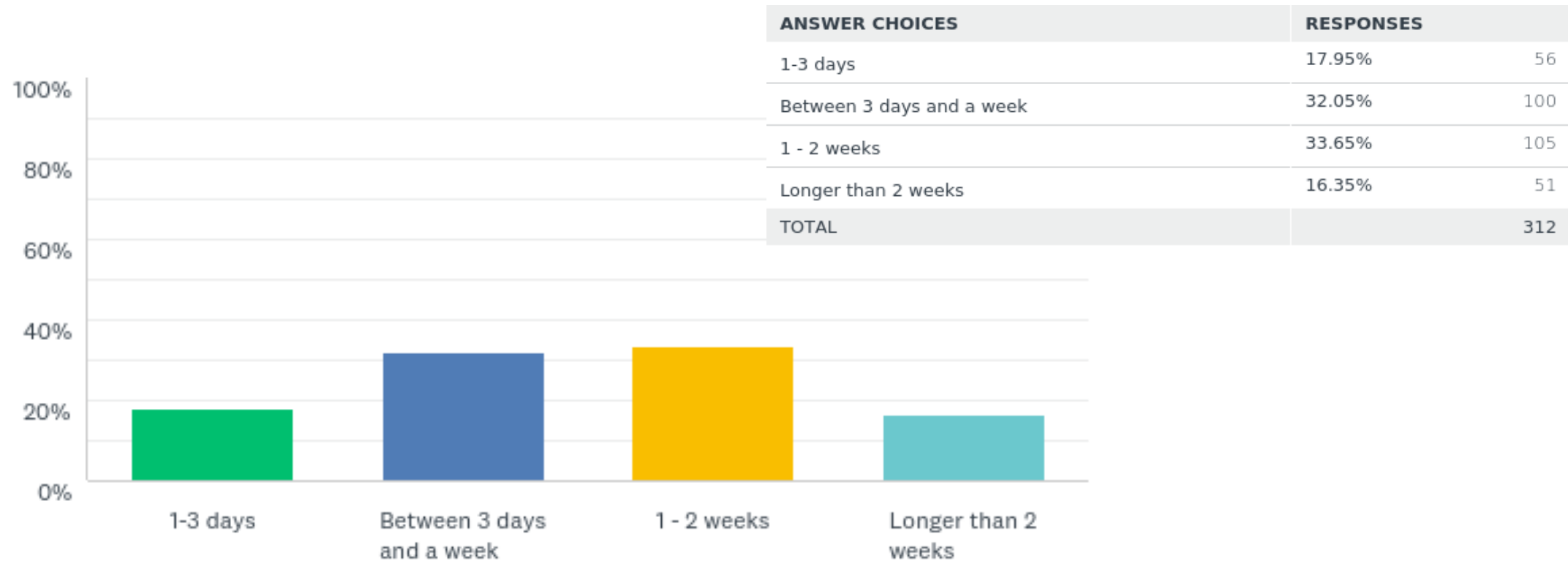
Answered: 1,143
Skipped: 24



How many days were you off work for?

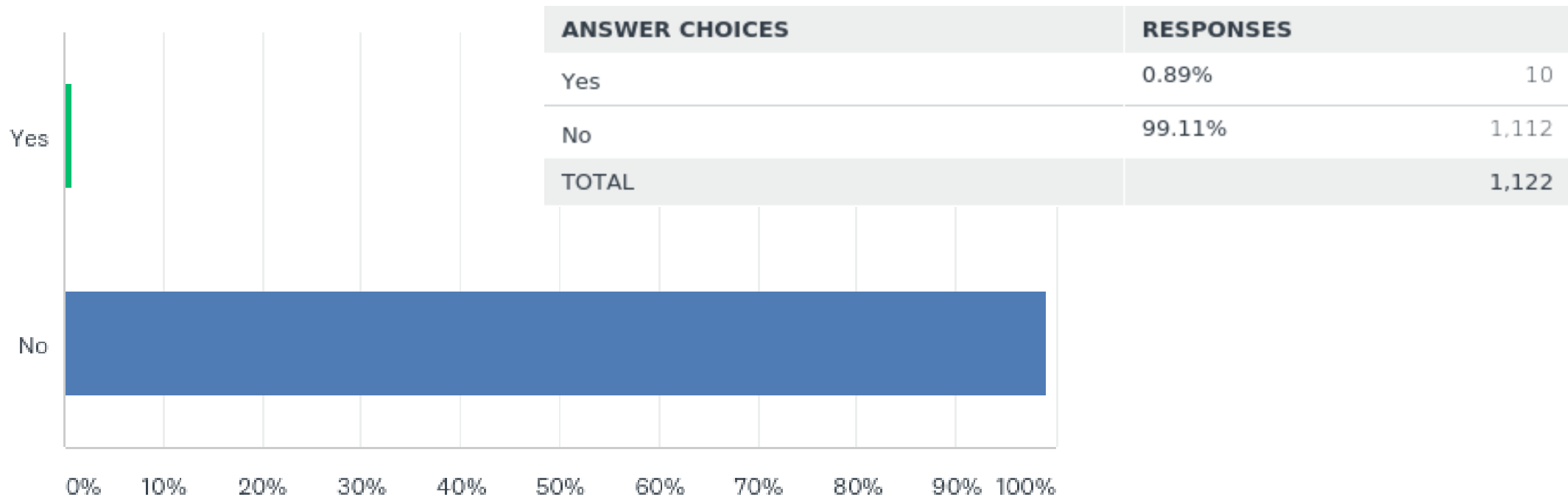


Answered: 312
Skipped: 855



Have you been hospitalised due to having COVID-19?

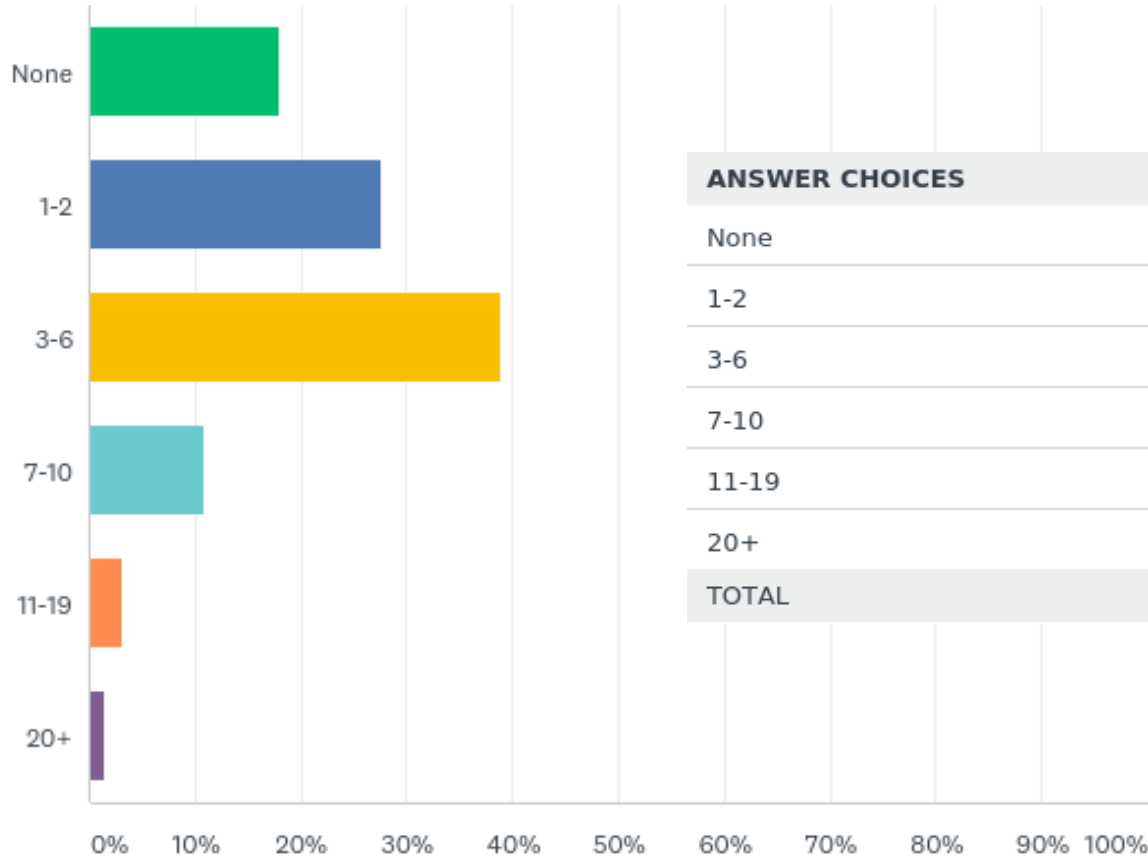
Answered: 1,122
Skipped: 45



Approximately how many of your Consultants, Junior Doctors and ACPs are currently shielded?



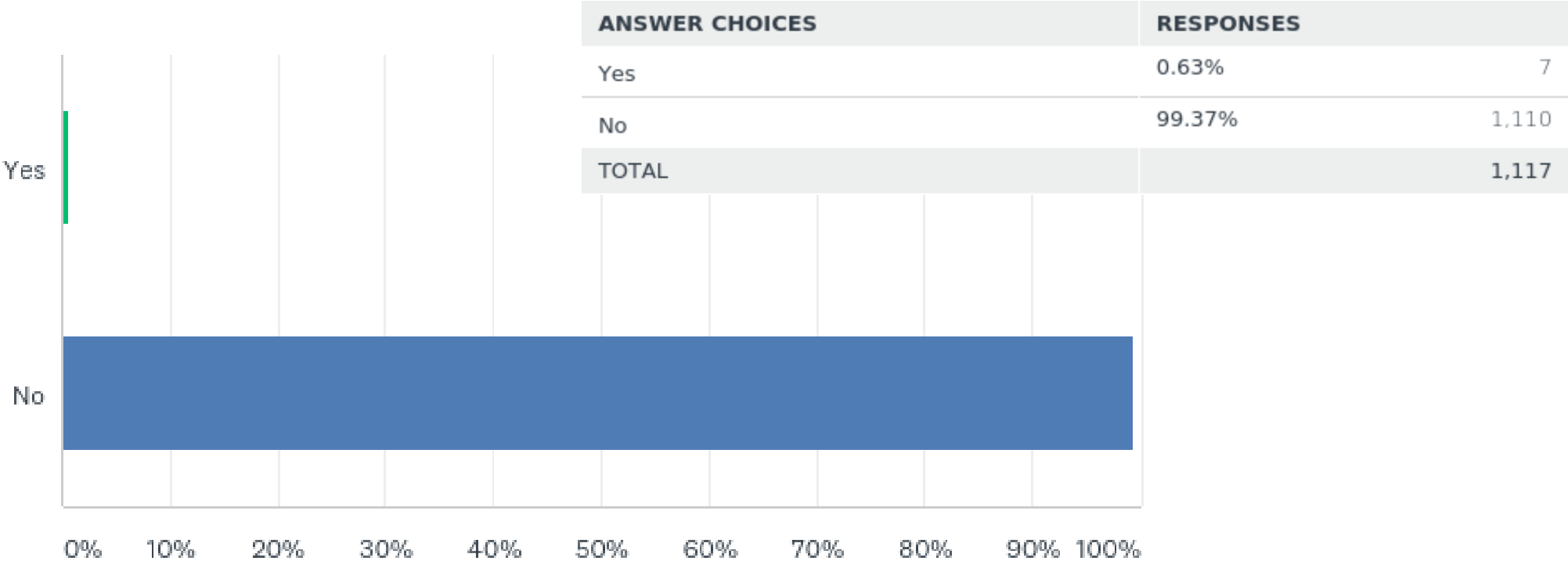
Answered: 1,101
Skipped: 66



Have you taken time off due to testing positive for COVID-19 but not had symptoms?

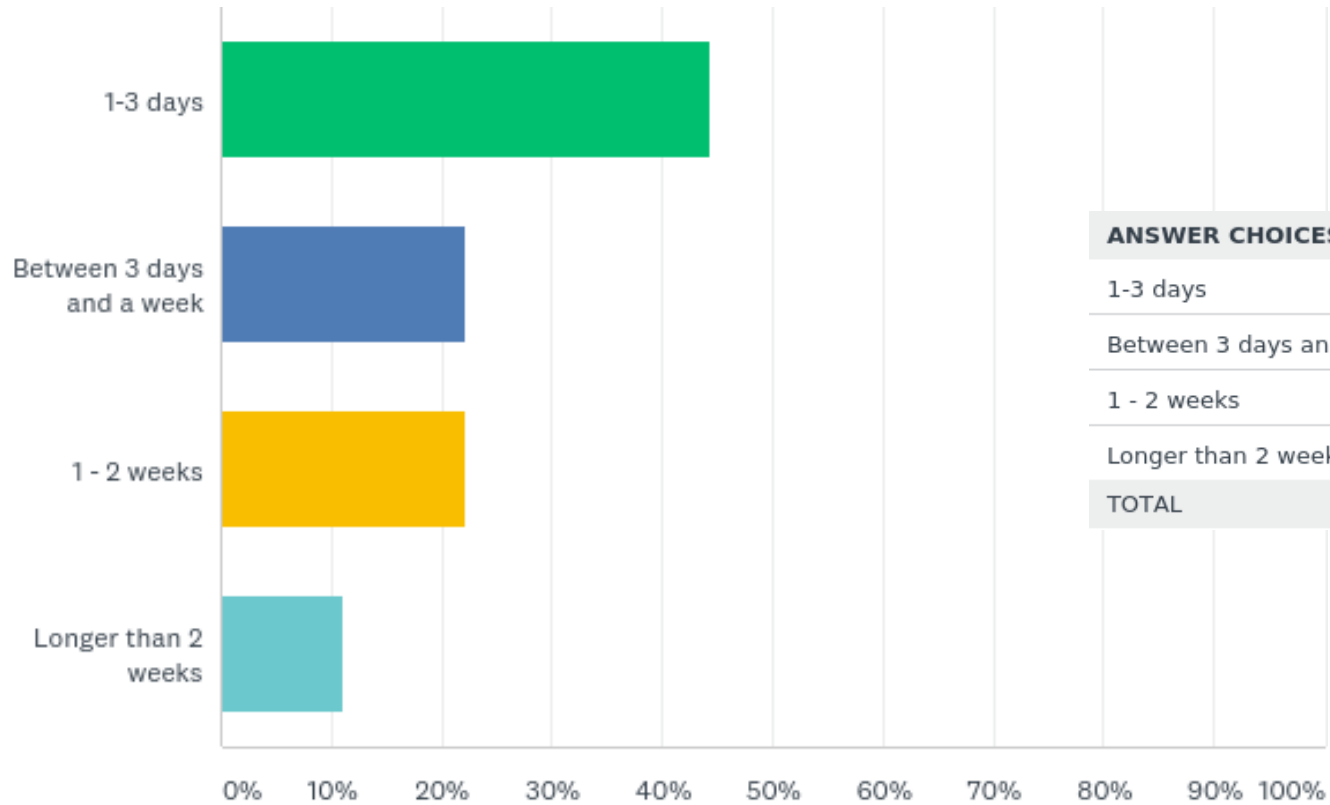


Answered: 1,117
Skipped: 50



How many days were you off work for?

Answered: 9
Skipped: 1,158

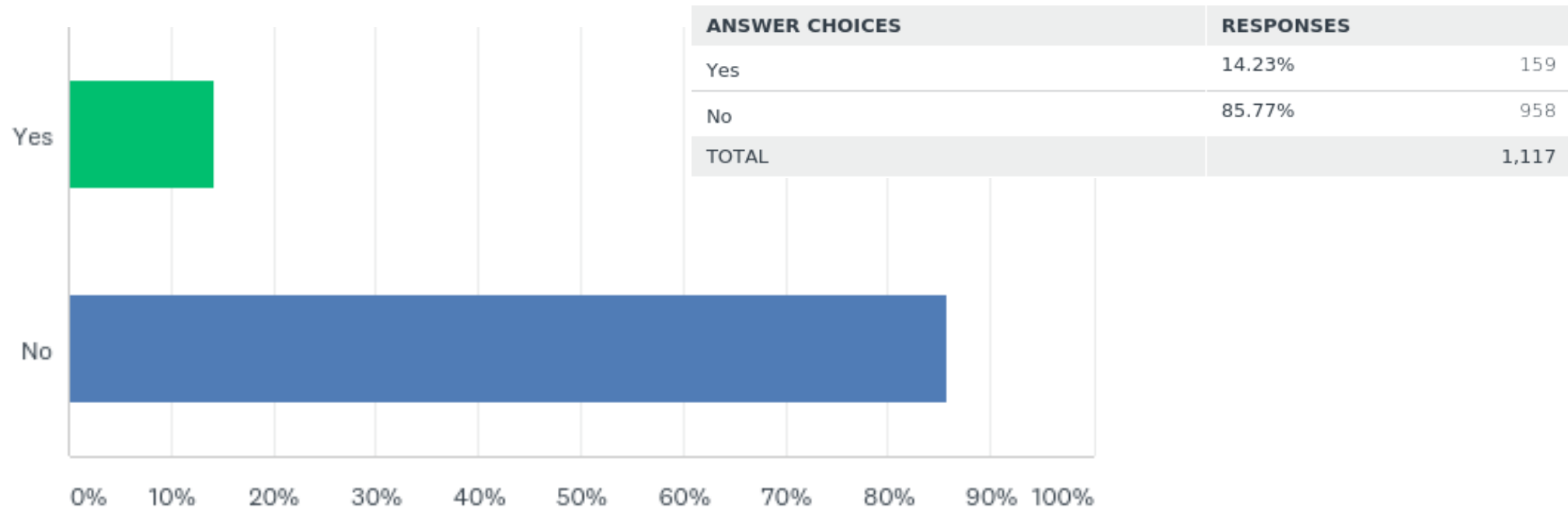


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
1-3 days	44.44% 4
Between 3 days and a week	22.22% 2
1 - 2 weeks	22.22% 2
Longer than 2 weeks	11.11% 1
TOTAL	9

Have you been off work because a family member was symptomatic/positive?

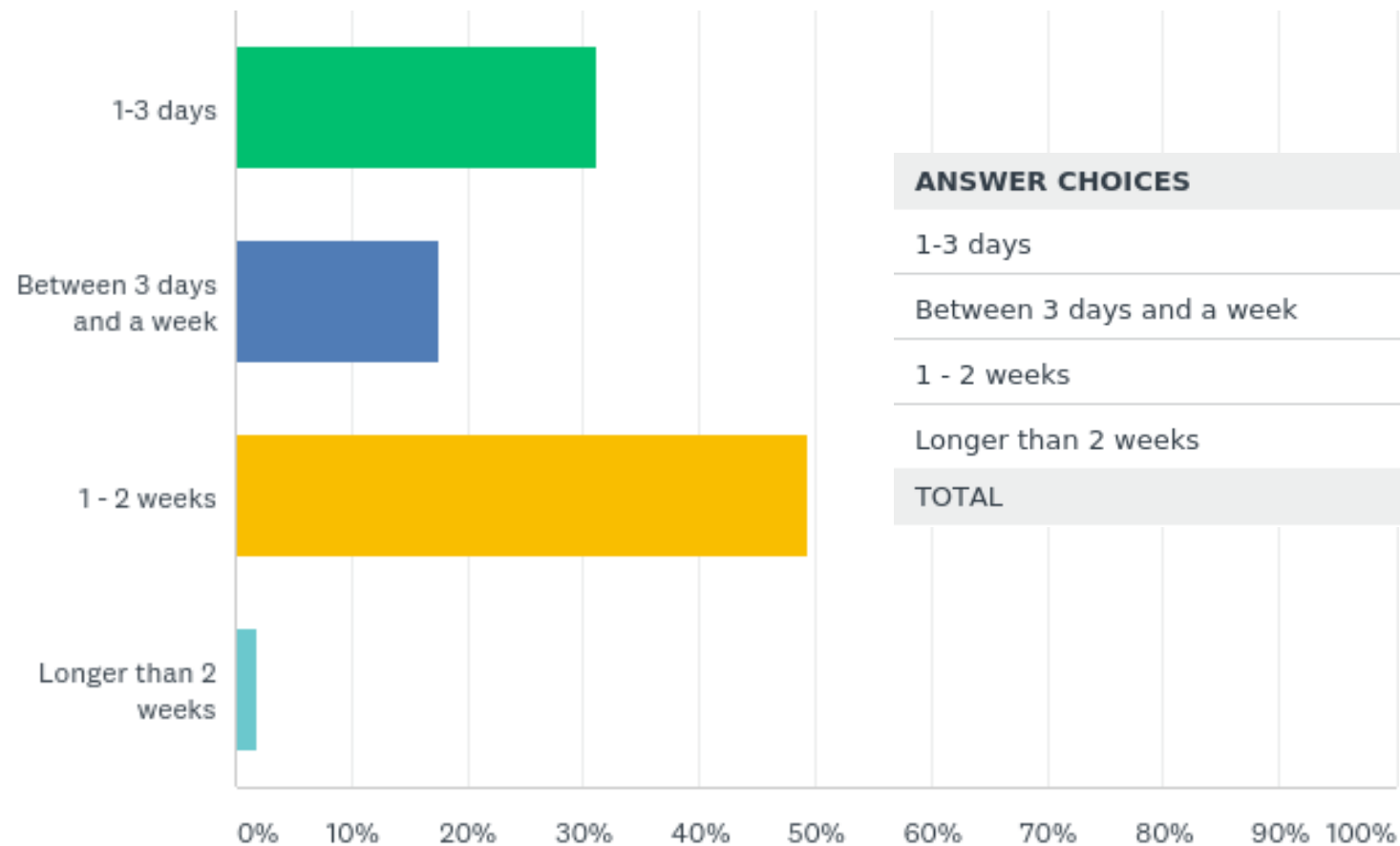


Answered: 1,117
Skipped: 50



How many days were you off work for?

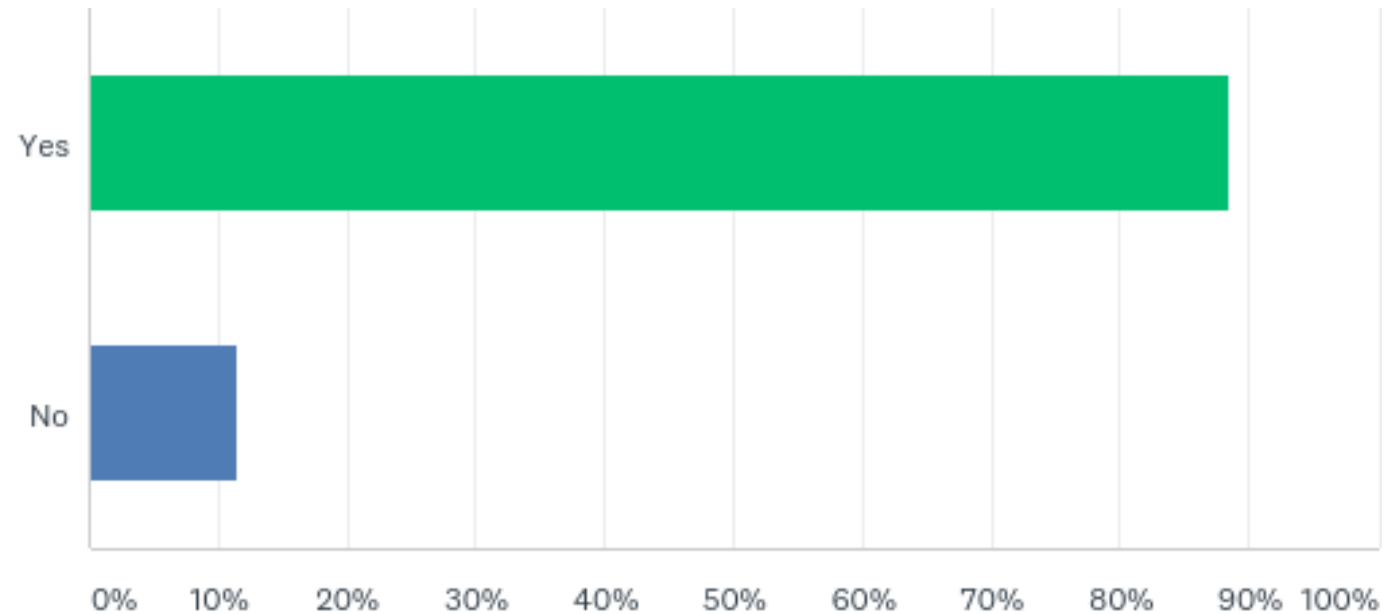
Answered: 160
Skipped: 1,007



Have you had training in the use of PPE?

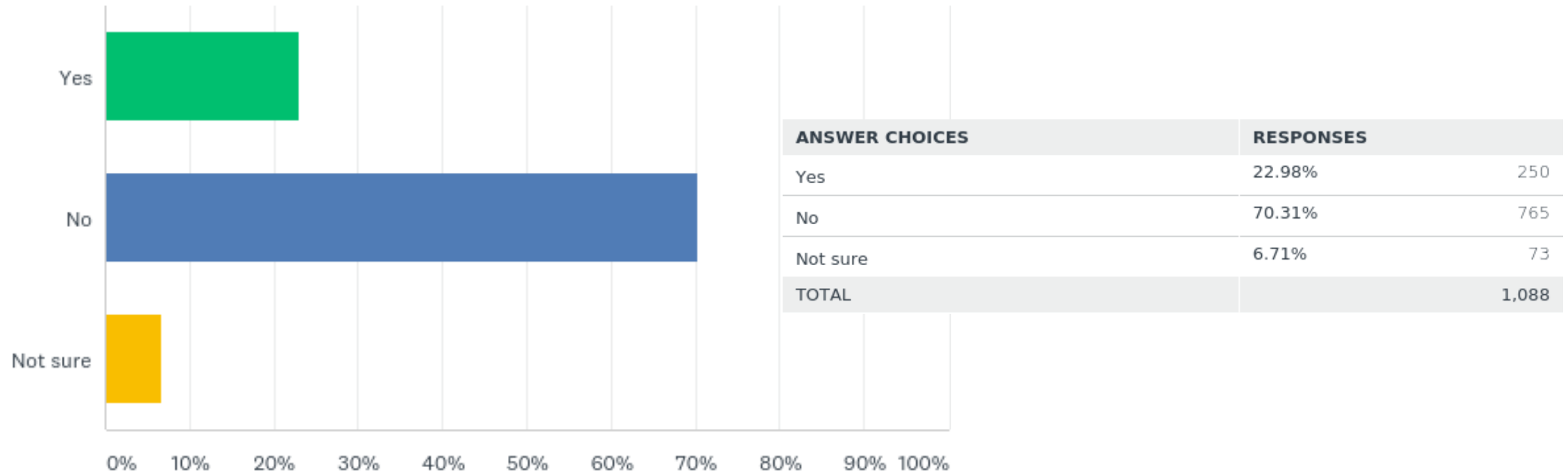
Answered: 1,090
Skipped: 77

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	88.53%	965
No	11.47%	125
TOTAL		1,090



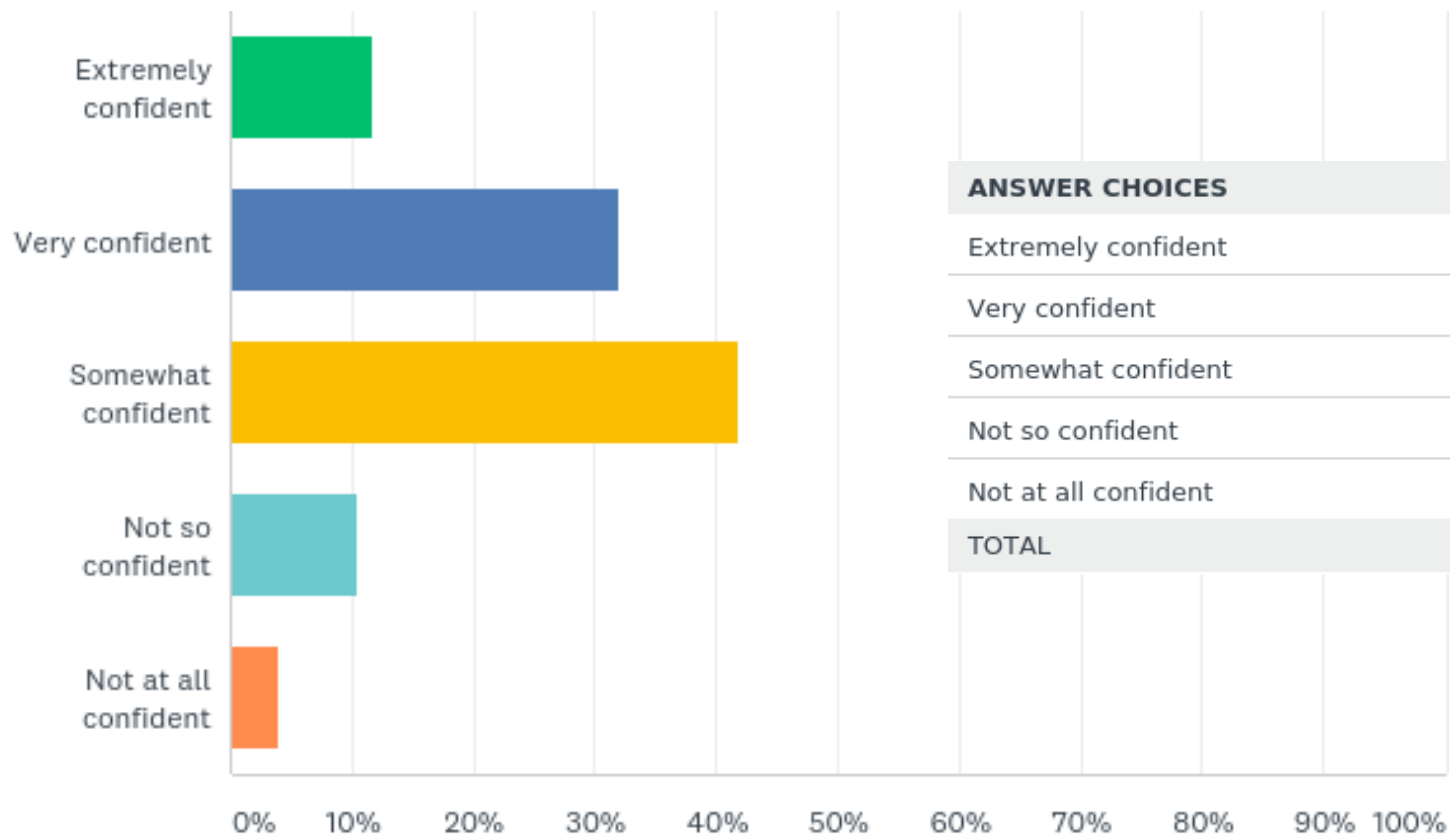
Do you have a PPE buddy?

Answered: 1,088
Skipped: 79



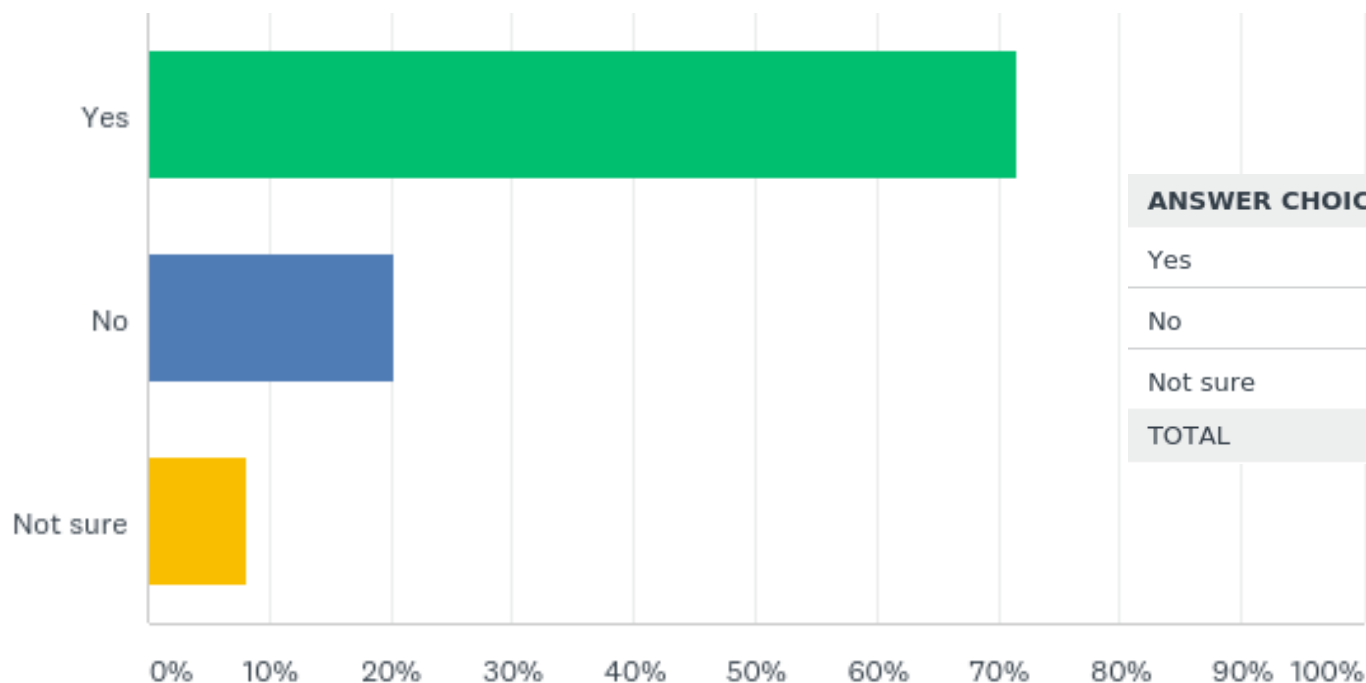
Are you confident in fit checking your PPE before you enter patient facing areas?

Answered: 1,088
Skipped: 79



Do you feel that you currently have the PPE that you need to wear for managing patients with COVID-19?

Answered: 1,088
Skipped: 79

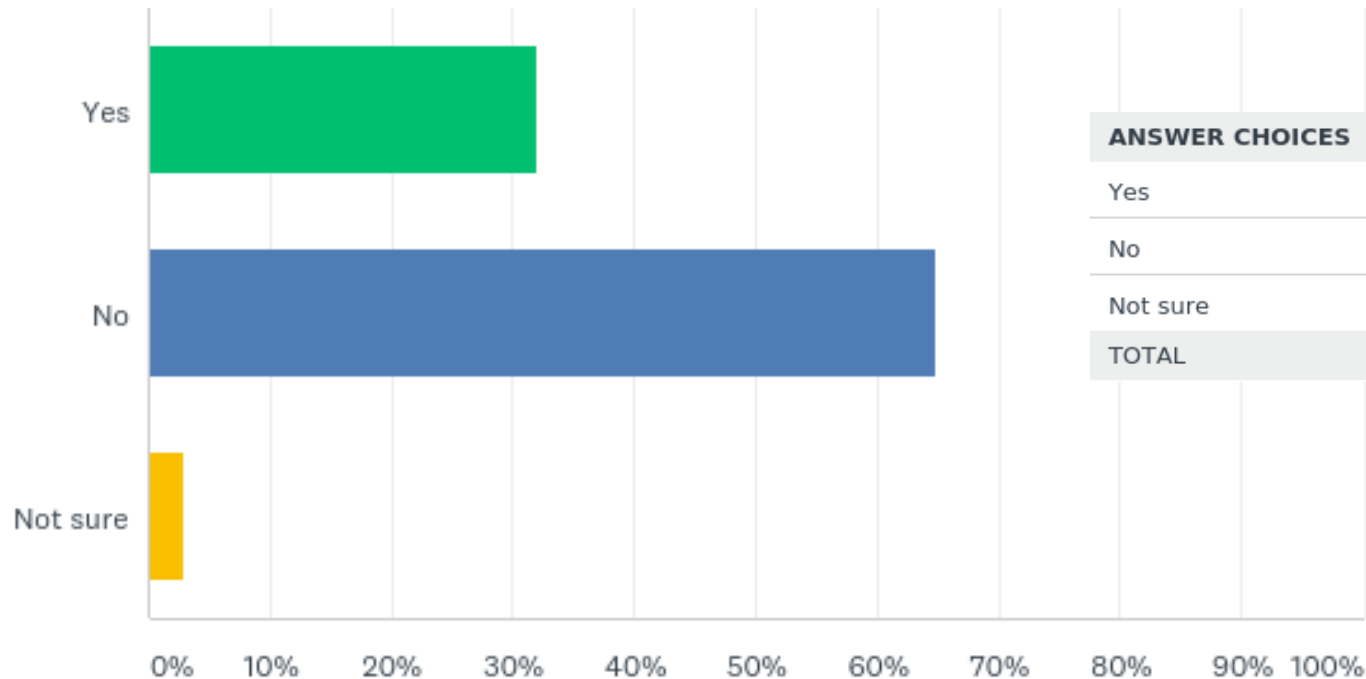


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	71.60% 779
No	20.22% 220
Not sure	8.18% 89
TOTAL	1,088

Have you had any episodes where you lacked access to PPE items when having clinical contact with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients?



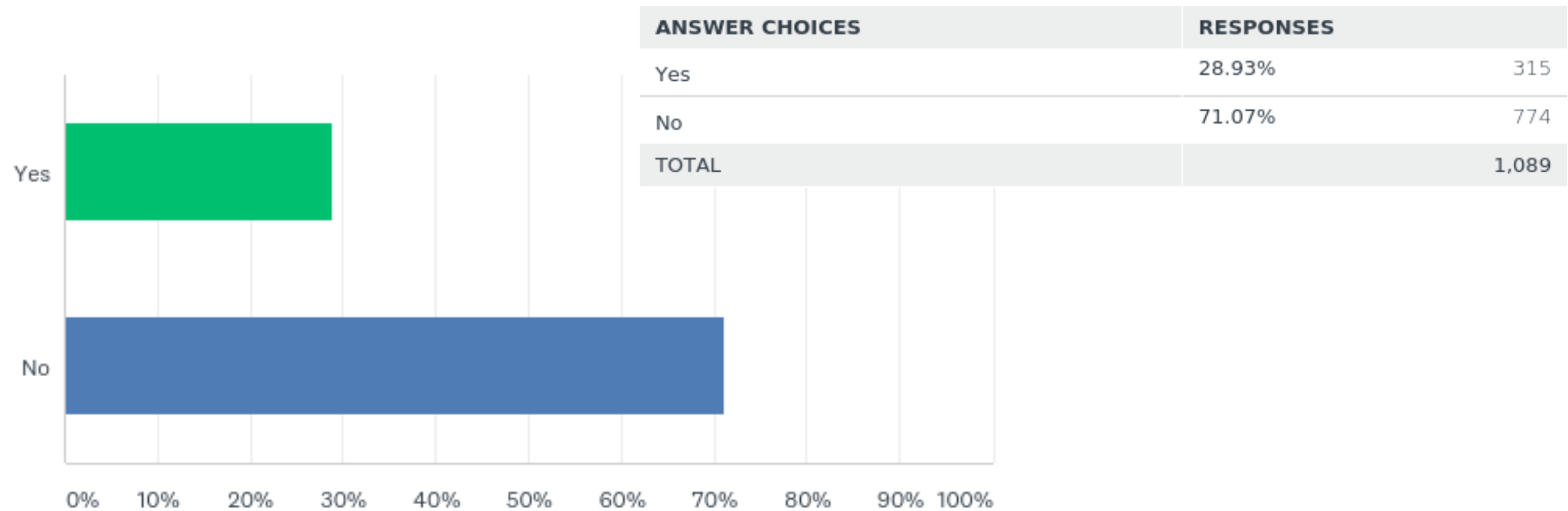
Answered: 1,087
Skipped: 80



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	32.11%	349
No	64.95%	706
Not sure	2.94%	32
TOTAL		1,087

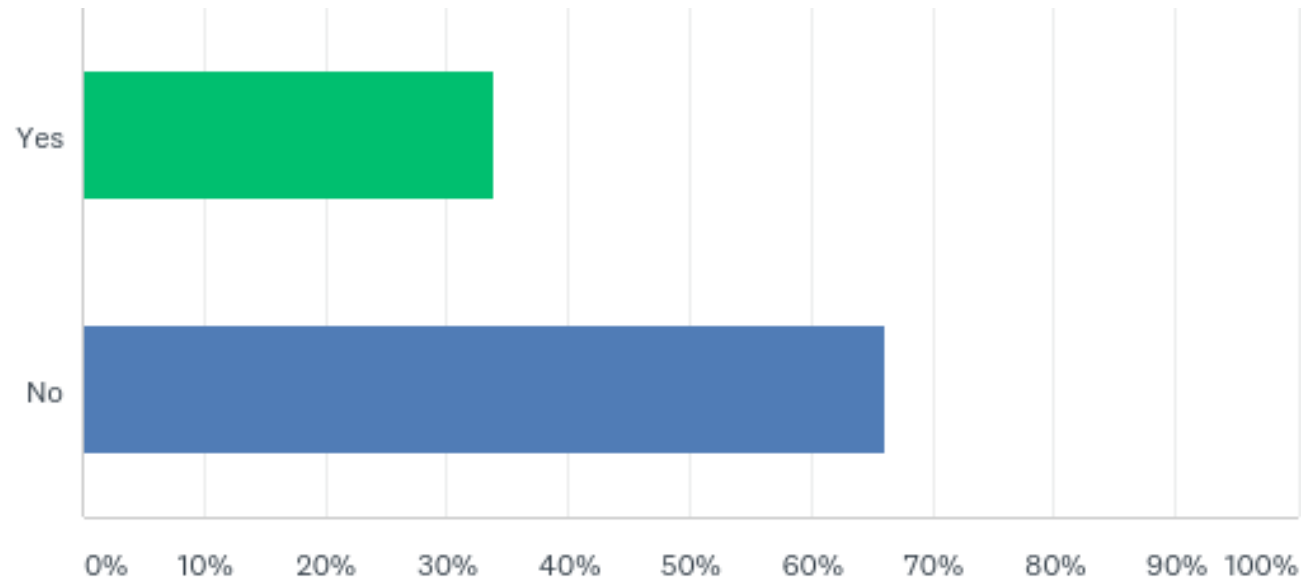
Have you had any clinical contact with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 where you could not use adequate PPE?

Answered: 1,089
Skipped: 78



Have you ever had to reuse disposable PPE items?

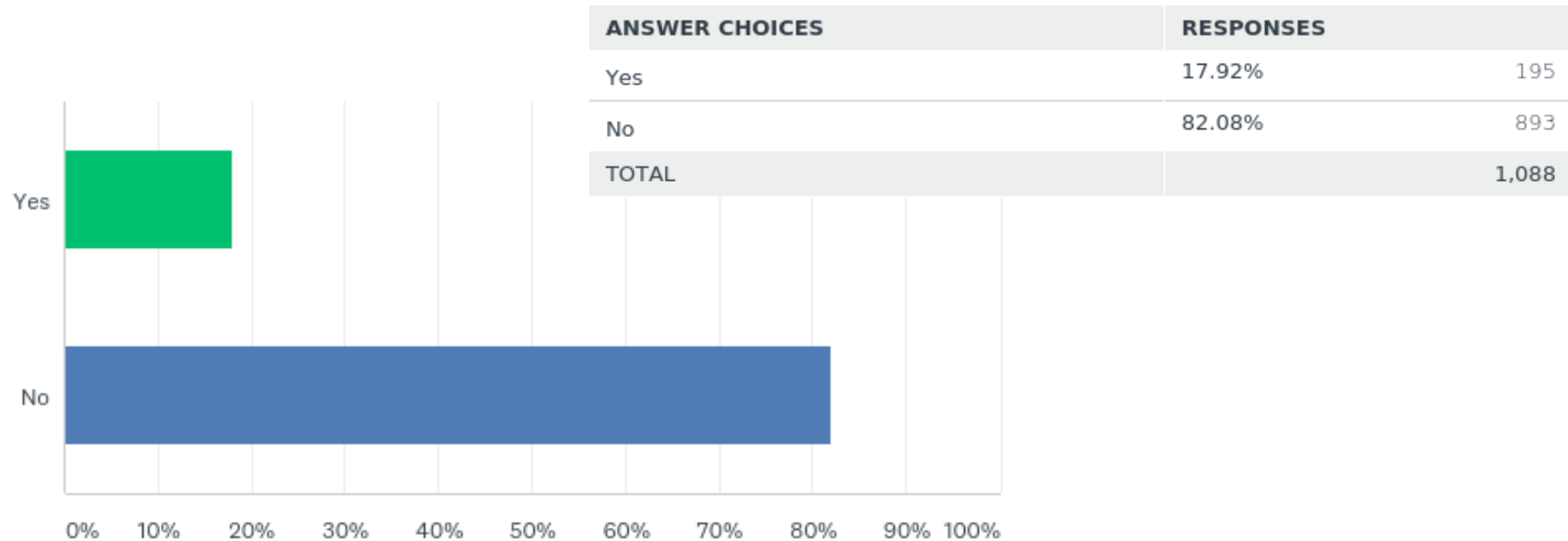
Answered: 1,089
Skipped: 78



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	33.79%	368
No	66.21%	721
TOTAL		1,089

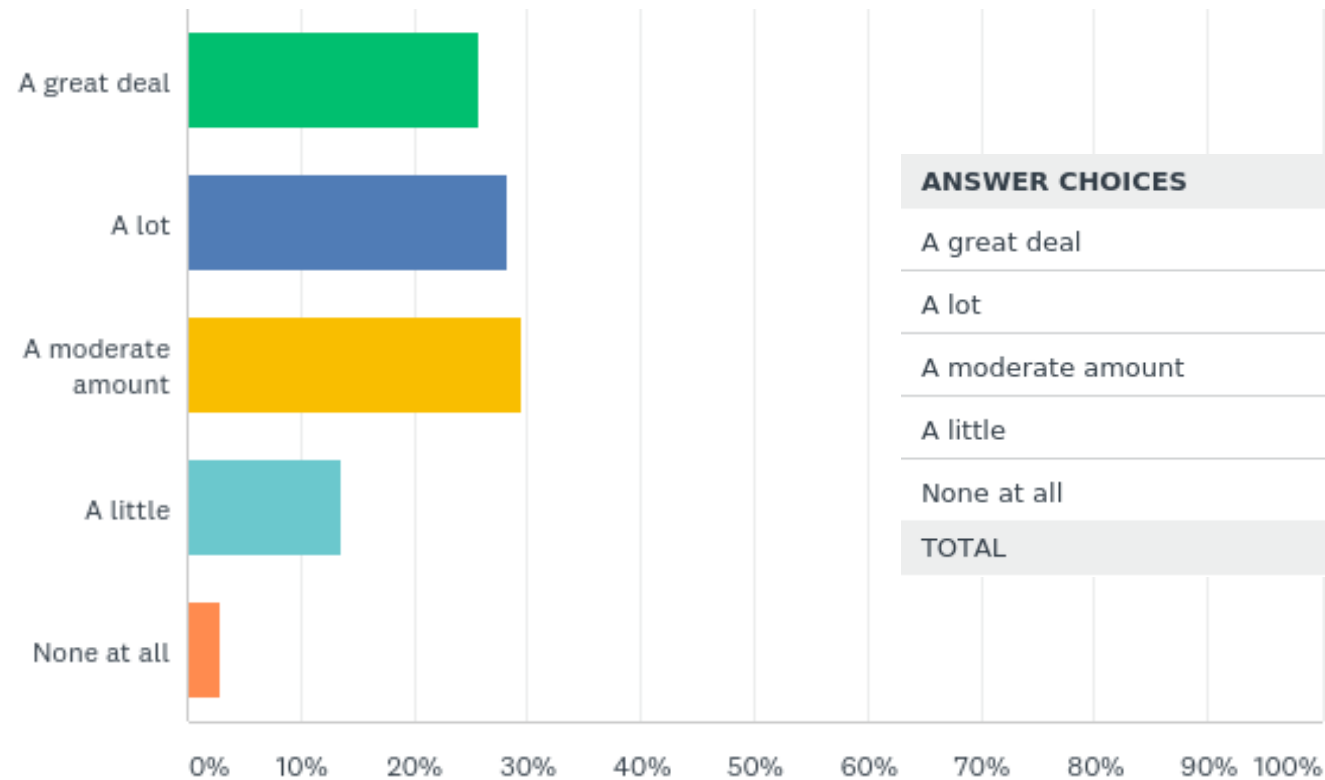
Have you ever had to improvise or make your own PPE items?

Answered: 1,088
Skipped: 79



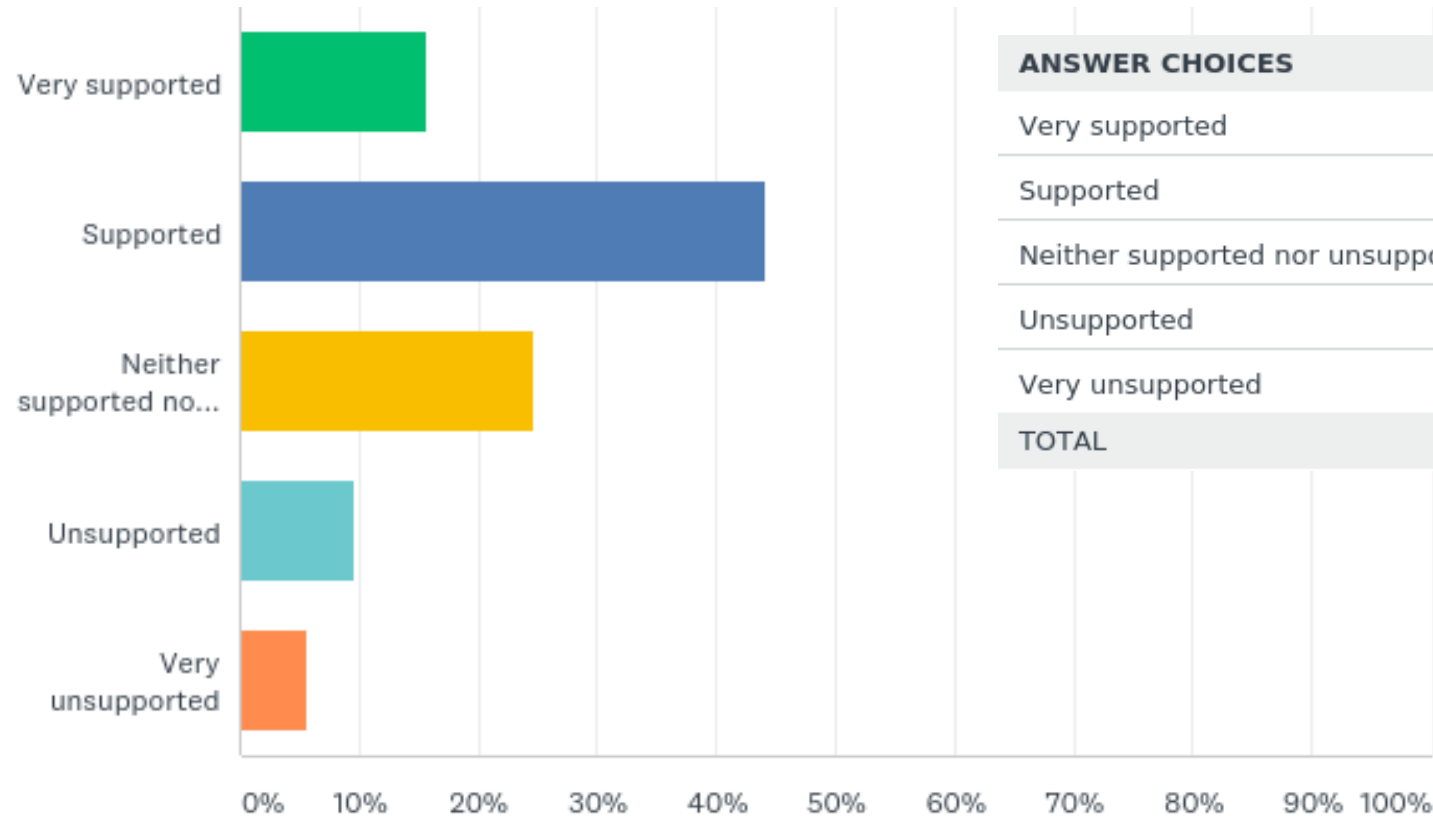
To what extent has PPE had an impact on your on your ability to communicate effectively with patients?

Answered: 1,088
Skipped: 79



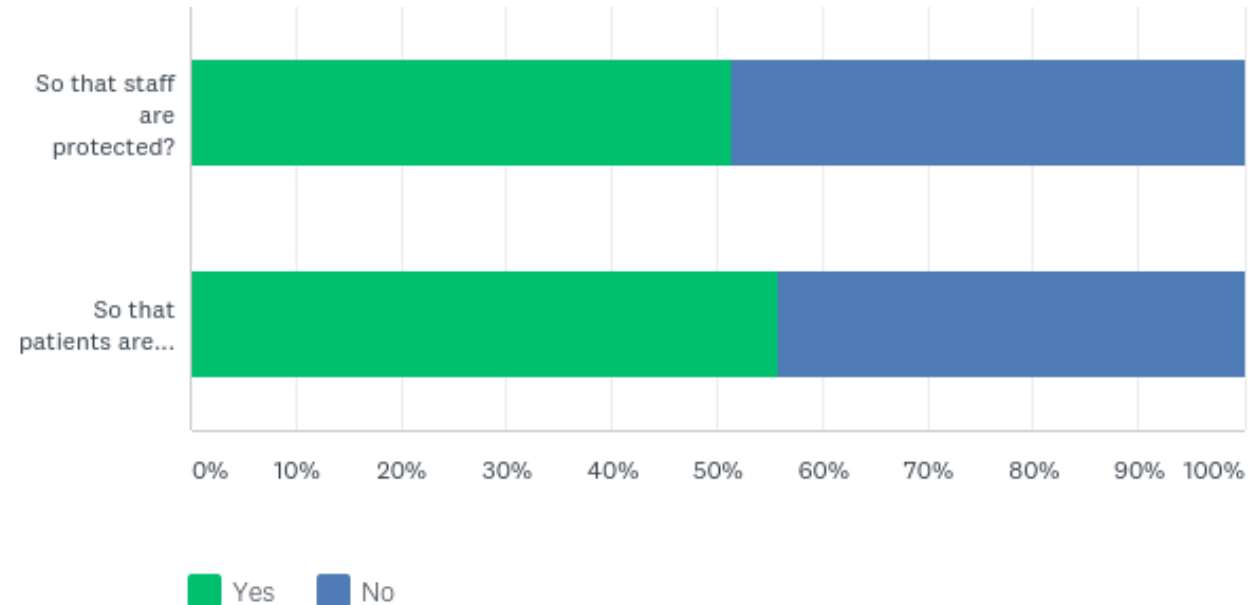
How supported would you feel raising concerns about PPE shortages?

Answered: 1,088
Skipped: 79



Do you think your emergency department layout is safe enough for adequate infection control:

Answered: 1,075
Skipped: 92

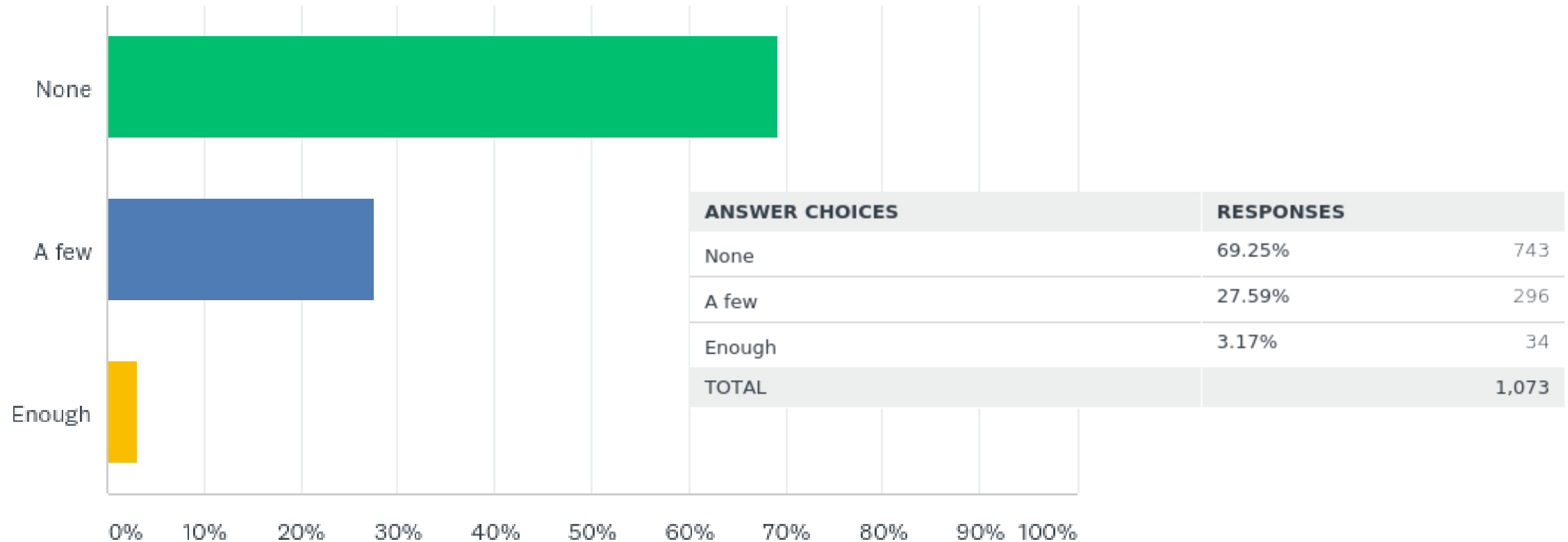


	YES	NO	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
So that staff are protected?	51.40% 552	48.60% 522	1,074	1.49
So that patients are protected?	55.73% 598	44.27% 475	1,073	1.44

Do you have negative pressure rooms in your ED?



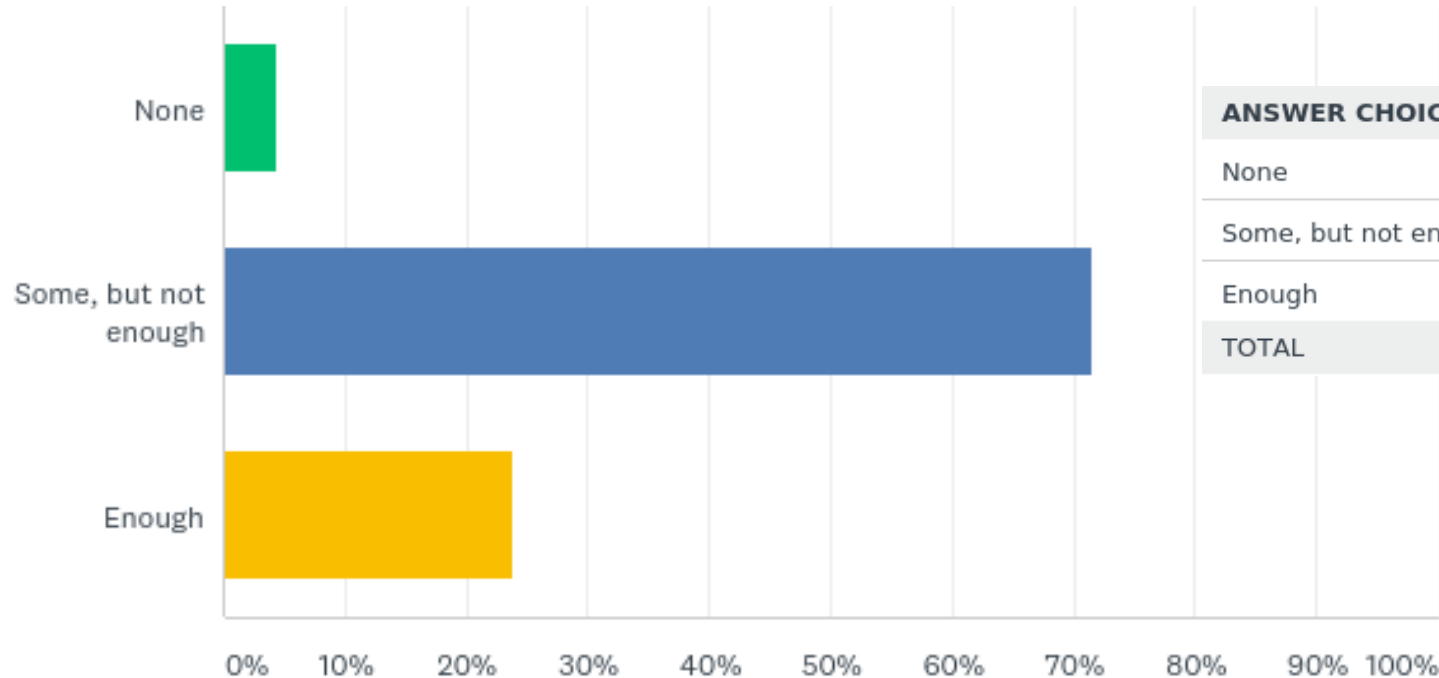
Answered: 1,073
Skipped: 94



Do you have siderooms in your ED?



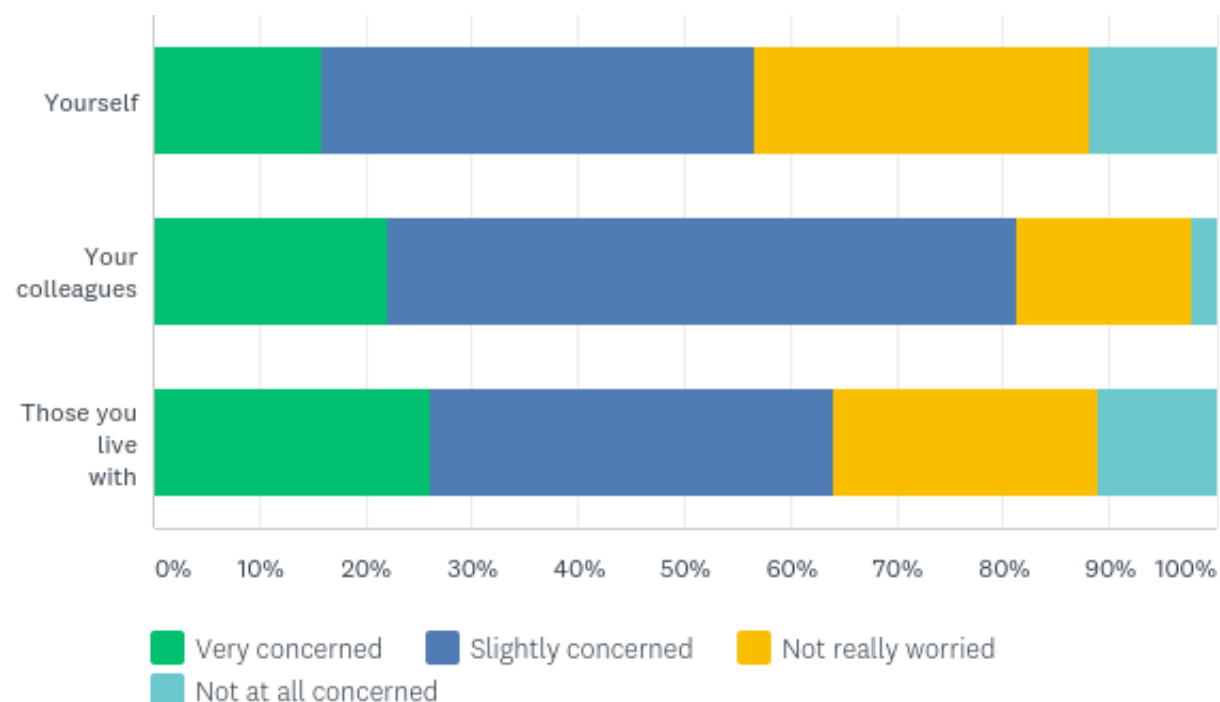
Answered: 1,075
Skipped: 92



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
None	4.47% 48
Some, but not enough	71.63% 770
Enough	23.91% 257
TOTAL	1,075

In the current situation, how concerned are you for the health of:

Answered: 1,072
Skipped: 95



	VERY CONCERNED	SLIGHTLY CONCERNED	NOT REALLY WORRIED	NOT AT ALL CONCERNED	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Yourself	15.87% 170	40.80% 437	31.47% 337	11.86% 127	1,071	2.39
Your colleagues	22.04% 236	59.20% 634	16.53% 177	2.24% 24	1,071	1.99
Those you live with	26.13% 278	37.97% 404	24.81% 264	11.09% 118	1,064	2.21

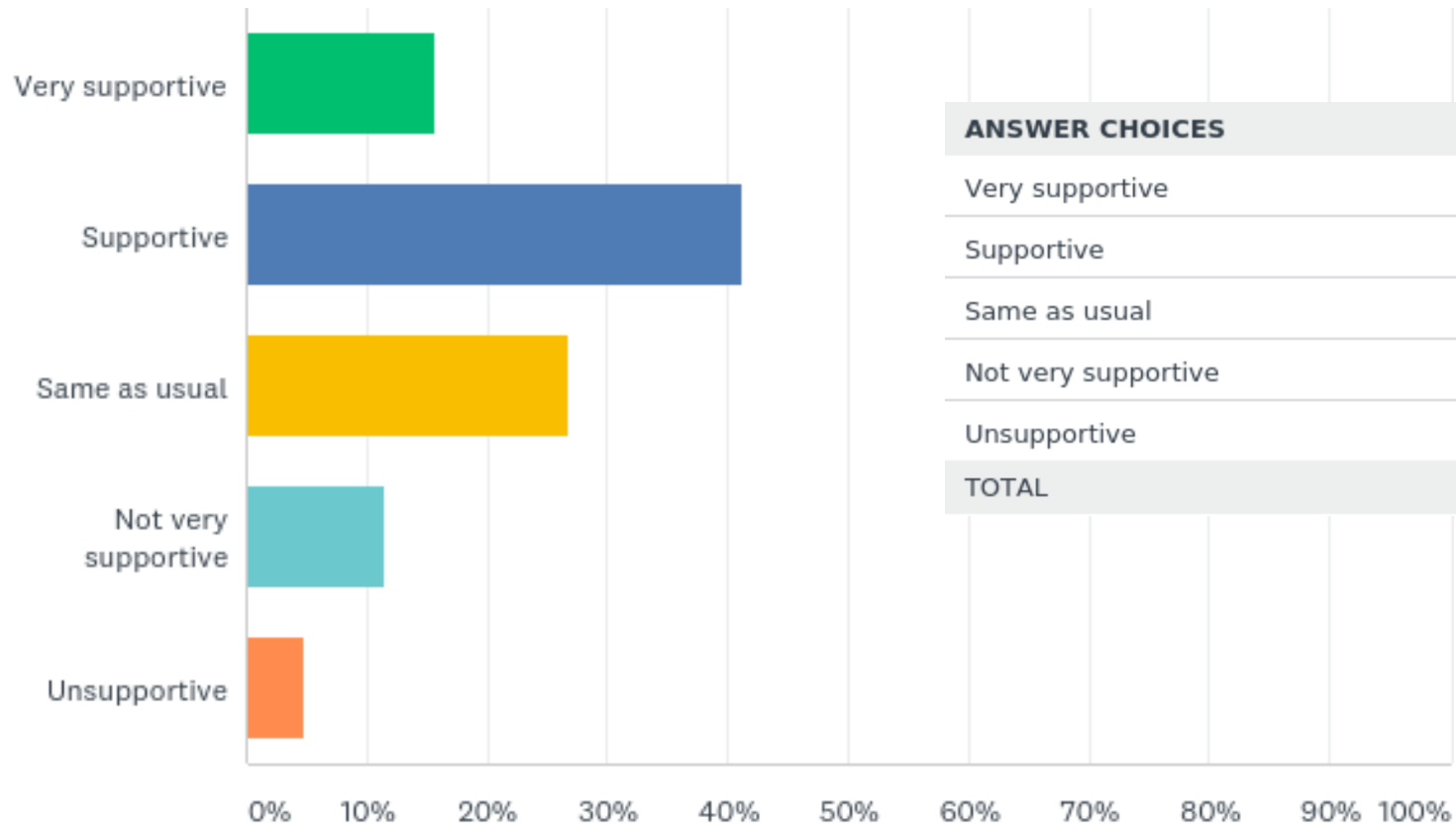
To what degree do you think the pandemic has affected your mental health?

Answered: 1,068
Skipped: 99



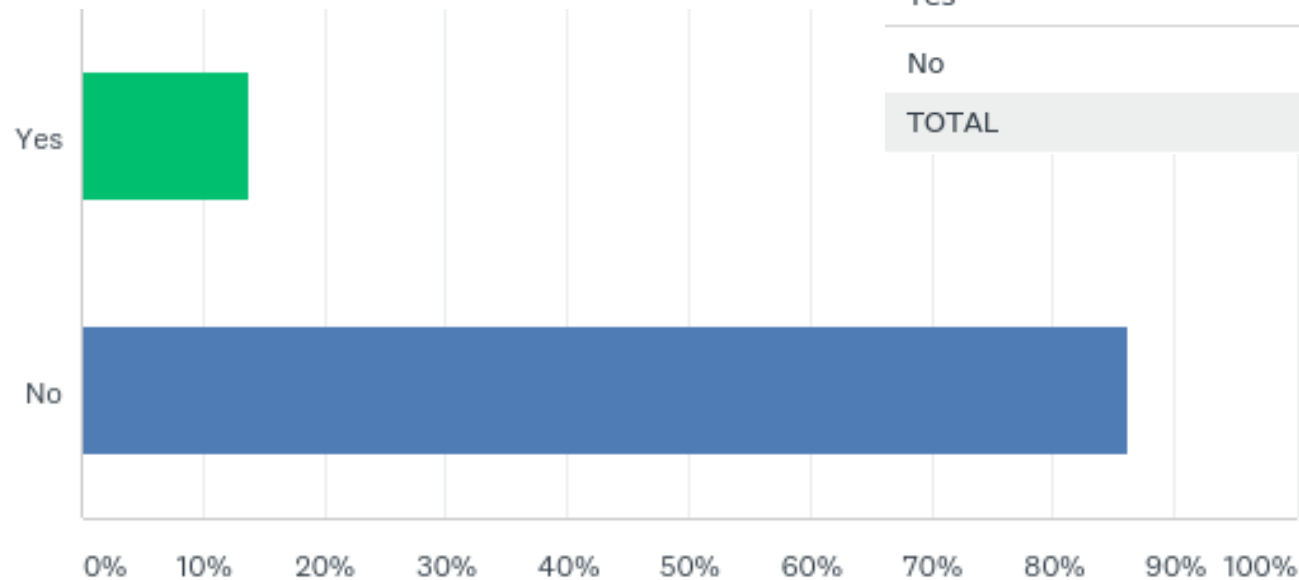
How supportive do you feel your trust/board has been?

Answered: 1,070
Skipped: 97



Have you suffered financial hardship as a direct consequence of the pandemic?

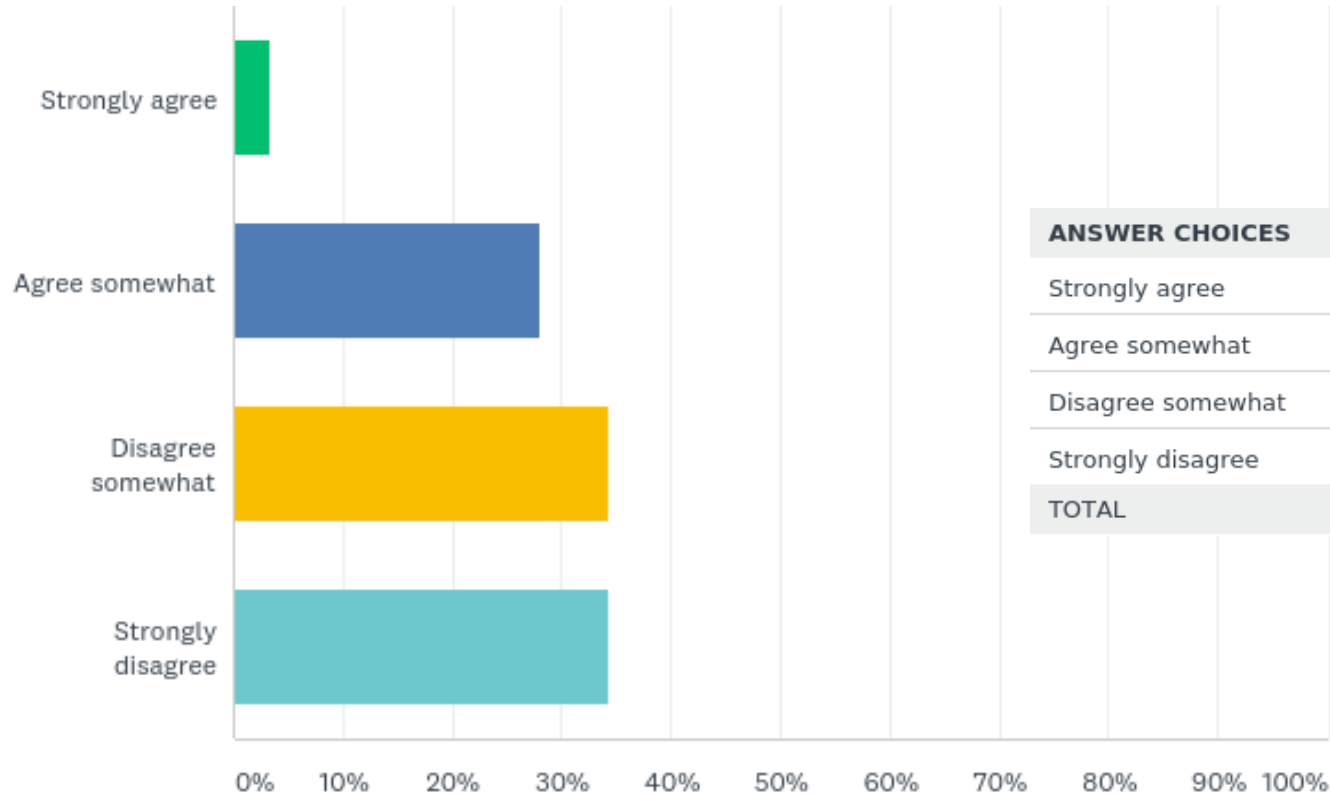
Answered: 1,070
Skipped: 97



Please rate your agreement with the following statement: the UK government is doing enough to protect and test healthcare workers.



Answered: 1,046
Skipped: 121

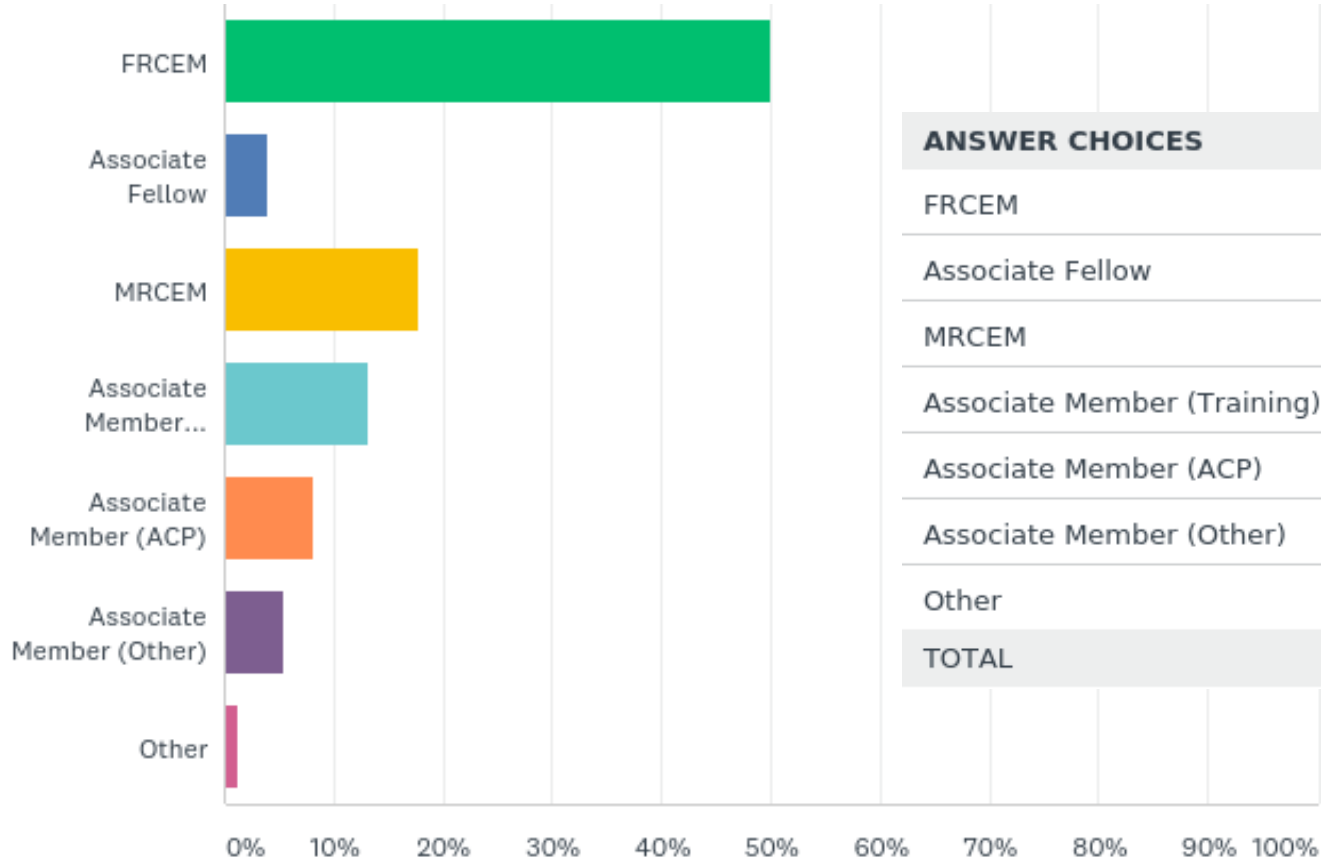


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly agree	3.44% 36
Agree somewhat	28.01% 293
Disagree somewhat	34.23% 358
Strongly disagree	34.32% 359
TOTAL	1,046

Please indicate your membership category.



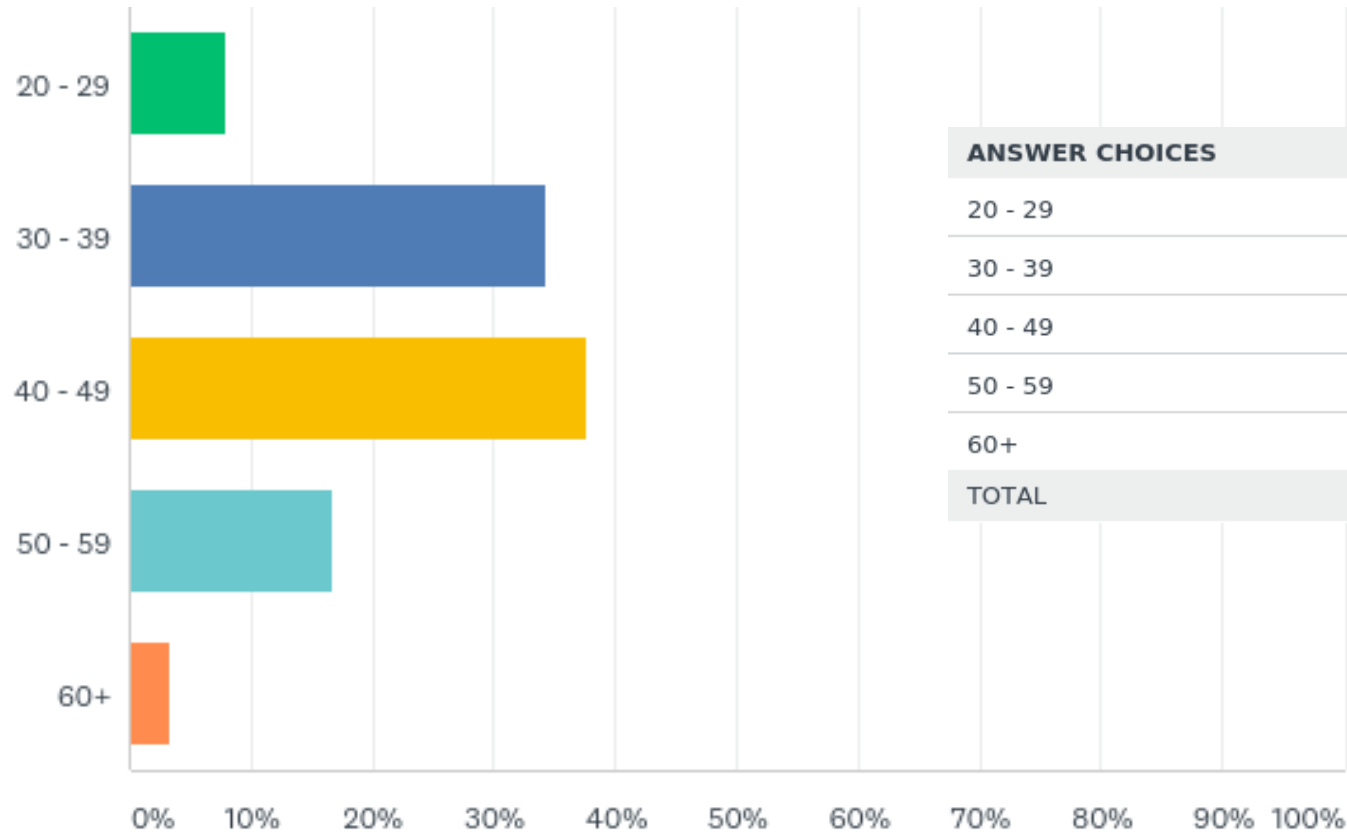
Answered: 1,047
Skipped: 120



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
FRCEM	50.05%	524
Associate Fellow	3.92%	41
MRCEM	17.86%	187
Associate Member (Training)	13.18%	138
Associate Member (ACP)	8.12%	85
Associate Member (Other)	5.54%	58
Other	1.34%	14
TOTAL		1,047

Please indicate your age group.

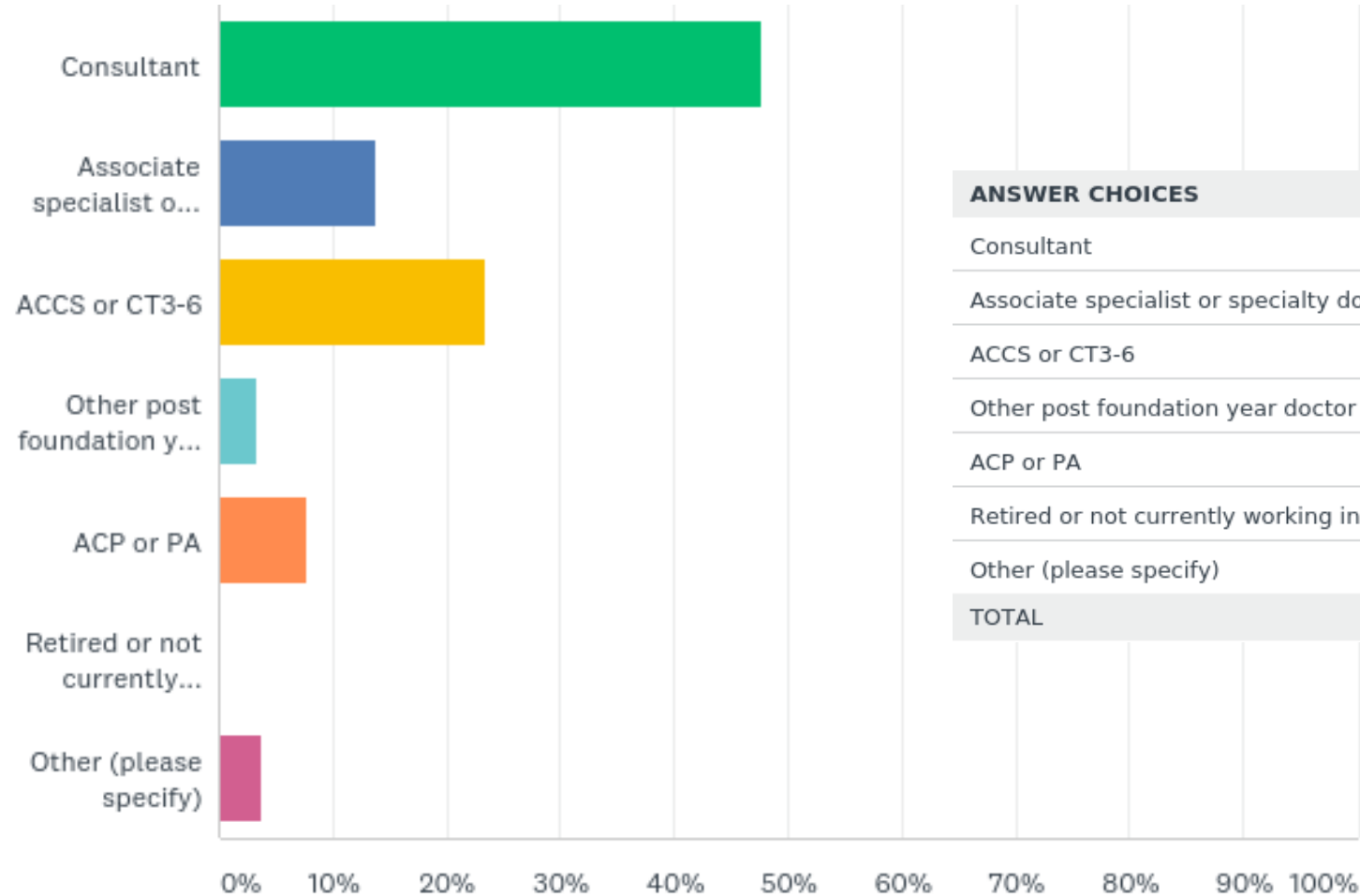
Answered: 1,046
Skipped: 121



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
20 - 29	7.93%	83
30 - 39	34.32%	359
40 - 49	37.67%	394
50 - 59	16.83%	176
60+	3.25%	34
TOTAL		1,046

What is your current role in EM?

Answered: 1,045
Skipped: 122

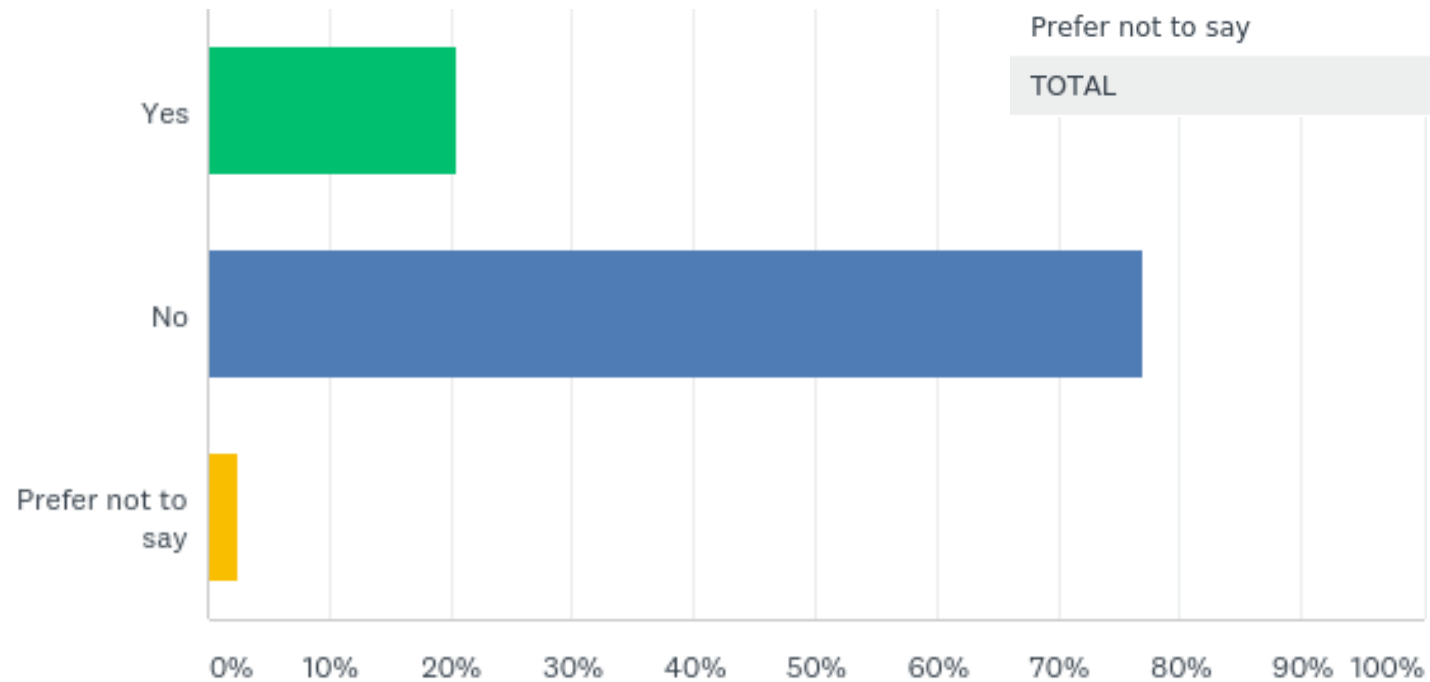


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Consultant	47.66%	498
Associate specialist or specialty doctor	13.88%	145
ACCS or CT3-6	23.35%	244
Other post foundation year doctor working in EM	3.44%	36
ACP or PA	7.66%	80
Retired or not currently working in EM	0.29%	3
Other (please specify)	3.73%	39
TOTAL		1,045

Do you have any underlying health problems/conditions?

Answered: 1,047
Skipped: 120

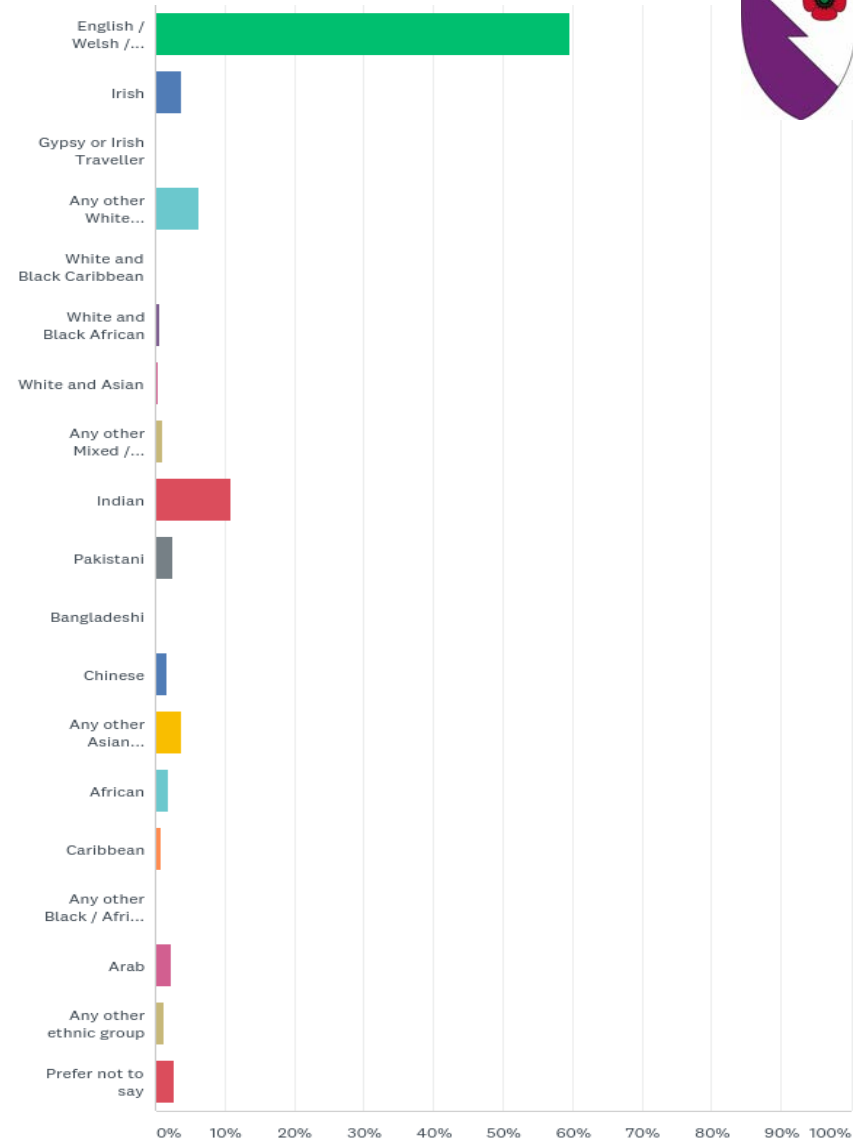
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	20.44%	214
No	77.08%	807
Prefer not to say	2.48%	26
TOTAL		1,047



I identify my ethnicity as:

Answered: 1,039
Skipped: 128

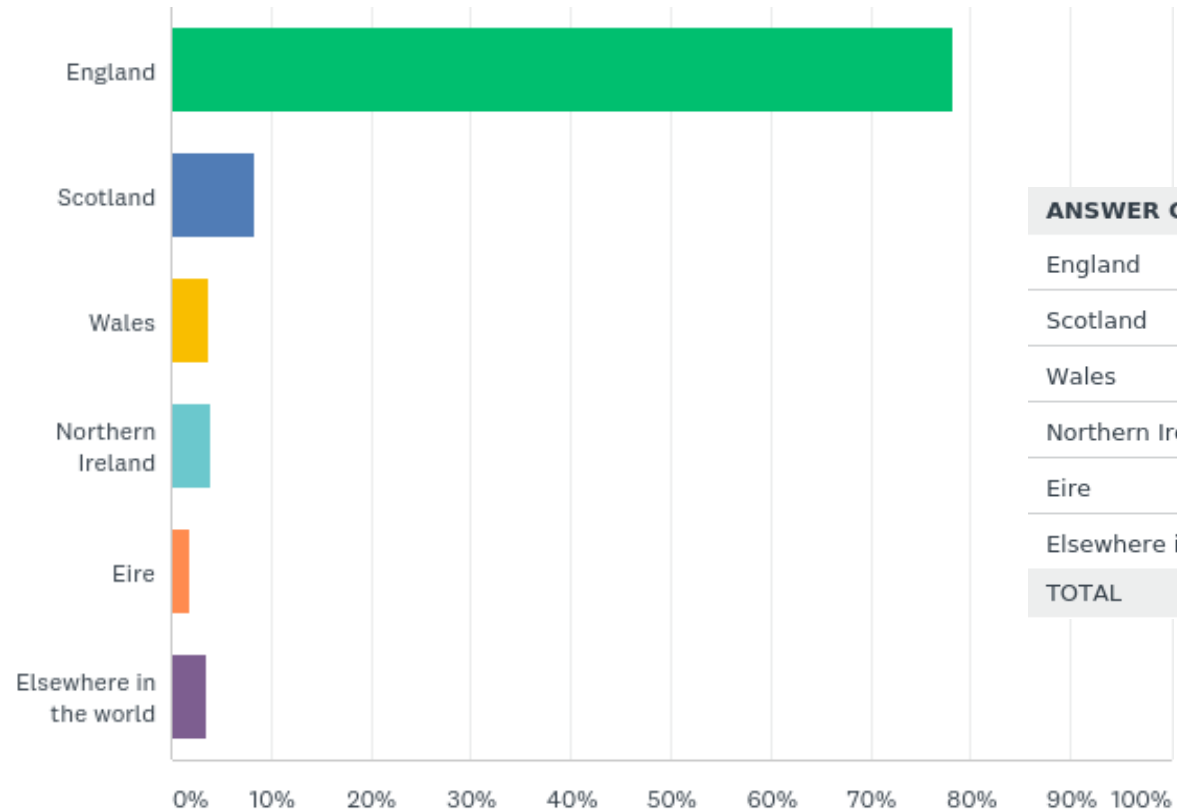
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British	59.67%	620
Irish	3.85%	40
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0.00%	0
Any other White background	6.26%	65
White and Black Caribbean	0.10%	1
White and Black African	0.58%	6
White and Asian	0.38%	4
Any other Mixed / Multiple ethnic background	0.96%	10
Indian	10.97%	114
Pakistani	2.60%	27
Bangladeshi	0.19%	2
Chinese	1.64%	17
Any other Asian background	3.85%	40
African	1.83%	19
Caribbean	0.77%	8
Any other Black / African / Caribbean background	0.19%	2
Arab	2.21%	23
Any other ethnic group	1.15%	12
Prefer not to say	2.79%	29
TOTAL		1,039



The Royal College of
Emergency Medicine

Where are you based?

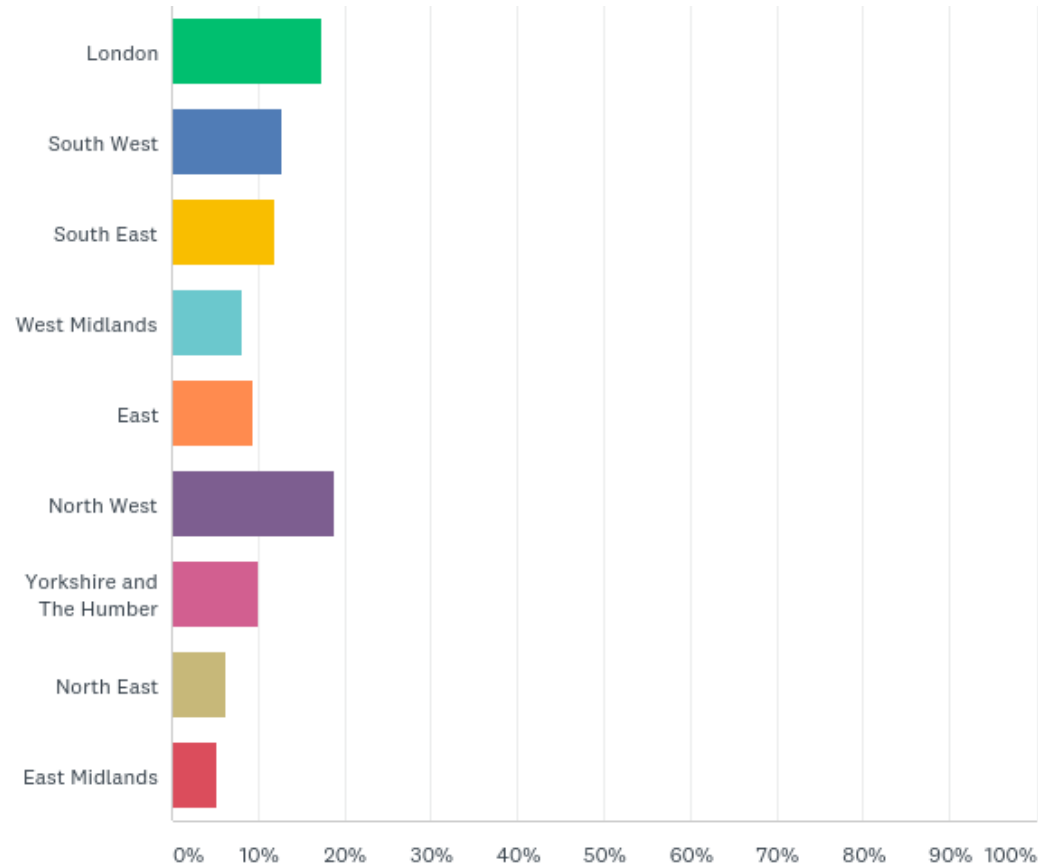
Answered: 1,043
Skipped: 124



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
England	78.33%	817
Scotland	8.44%	88
Wales	3.74%	39
Northern Ireland	4.03%	42
Eire	1.82%	19
Elsewhere in the world	3.64%	38
TOTAL		1,043

In which region do you live?

Answered: 905
Skipped: 262



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
London	17.46% 158
South West	12.82% 116
South East	11.93% 108
West Midlands	8.18% 74
East	9.39% 85
North West	18.78% 170
Yorkshire and The Humber	9.94% 90
North East	6.19% 56
East Midlands	5.30% 48
TOTAL	905