

Independent Contractor Survey Results

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JUNE 20, 2019

MT Worker Health
Montana Occupational Health & Safety Surveillance



Montana Department of
LABOR & INDUSTRY

Grant Funding Disclaimer

This presentation was prepared by the Montana Occupational Health and Safety Surveillance program in the Montana Department of Labor & Industry.

This work was funded by Grant Number 5U600H010902-04-00 from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC/NIOSH).

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Motivation

- Important worker population in Montana
- High risk industries (construction, trucking, home health care, etc)
- Currently, these workers are not captured in our key injury data sources:
 - Bureau of Labor Statistics
 - Workers' Compensation
 - (unless they opt to have WC coverage)

Main Research Questions:

- Frequency of work-related injuries among independent contractors?
 - Occupations?
 - Nature of injuries?
- If workers' comp is not covering the costs of injuries, how are they paying for the associated costs?
 - Impact ability to work and pay for necessities?
- Are independent contractors even willing to share this type of information, and self-report?

Data Collection

- Began mailing out postcards with links to an online survey in April 2018
- Postcards were sent to all ICs due for renewal
- In November 2018, sent paper surveys to 3,000 ICs due for renewal
- Offered \$100 Amazon gift card raffle



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INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR SURVEY

We would like to hear from you!

Please visit the link below to complete a short survey on health and safety issues affecting independent contractors in our state.

Responses will be used to conduct important research to learn about work-related injuries and their impacts on independent contractors.

You can also provide feedback about the independent contractor system in Montana at the end of the survey. **Completed surveys will be entered in a \$100 gift card drawing.**

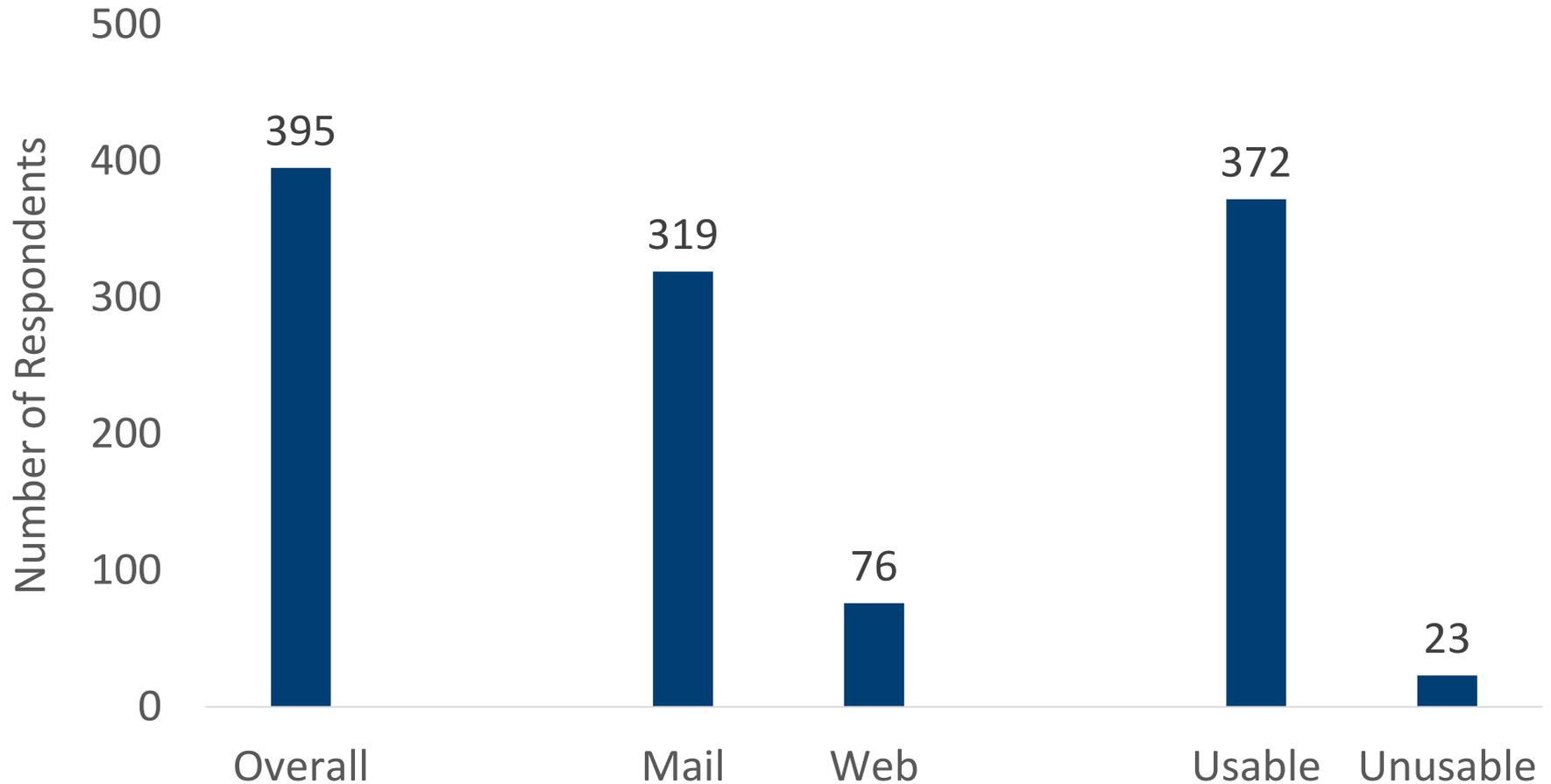
To take our survey, please visit:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/MTIC2018

Your survey answers are anonymous, and will be kept completely confidential. If you have questions or concerns, please contact (406) 444-1722, or by email jbrennan@mt.gov.

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Survey Response Breakdown



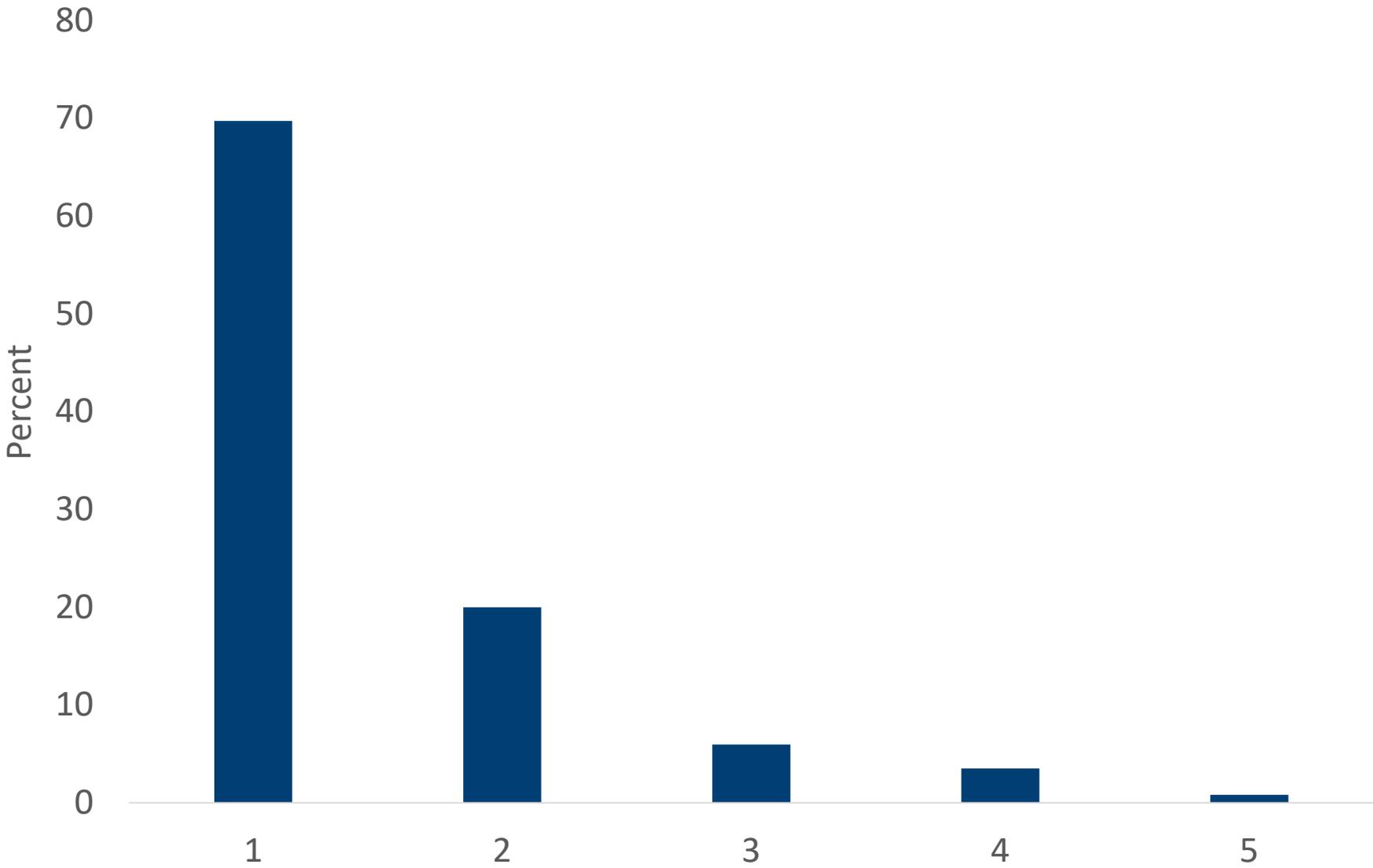
Caveats to the Data

- Self-coding of occupations
- Responses do not always match the expected results
- Skip patterns did not match between the web and paper survey – 18.5% of respondents
- Error with one question
- For ICs who reported an injury and multiple occupations, there is no way to know what occupation they were performing when injured

Questions on Survey

- IC occupations
- Job tenure
- IC or employee injury
- Nature, cause, and part of body injured
- Health issues
- Payer of medical expenses
- Safety resources used
- Importance of safety
- Safety motivation
- Demographics
- Feedback on IC system

Number of IC Occupations Per Person



Occupations

Construction

Building & grounds cleaning & maintenance

Transportation & material moving

Personal care & service

Office & admin support

Production

Farming, fishing, & forestry

Installation, maintenance, & repair

Healthcare practitioners & technical

Sales & related

Computer & math

Business & financial operations

Arts, entertainment, & sports

Life, physical, & social science

Legal

Arch & eng

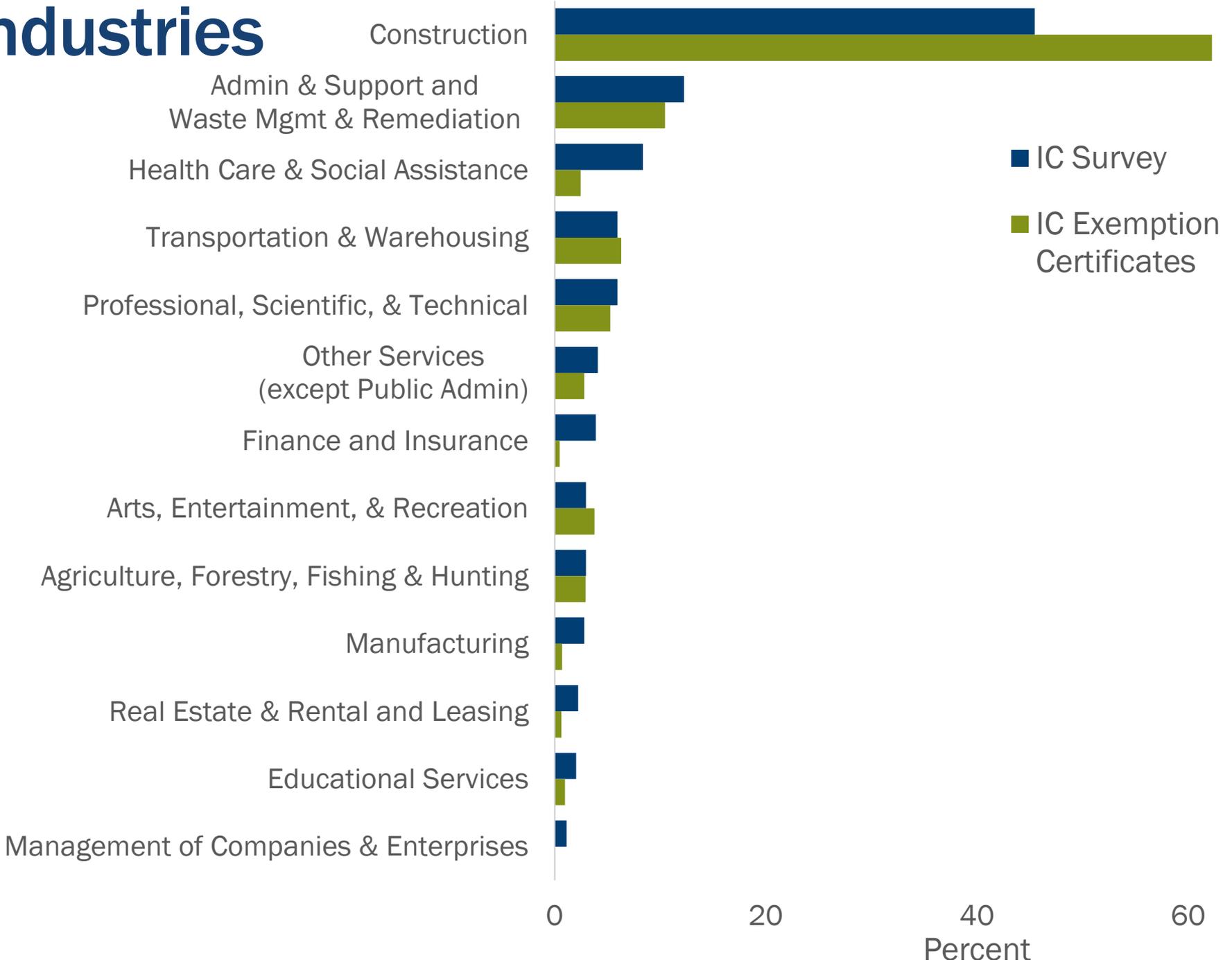
Education & library

Health care support

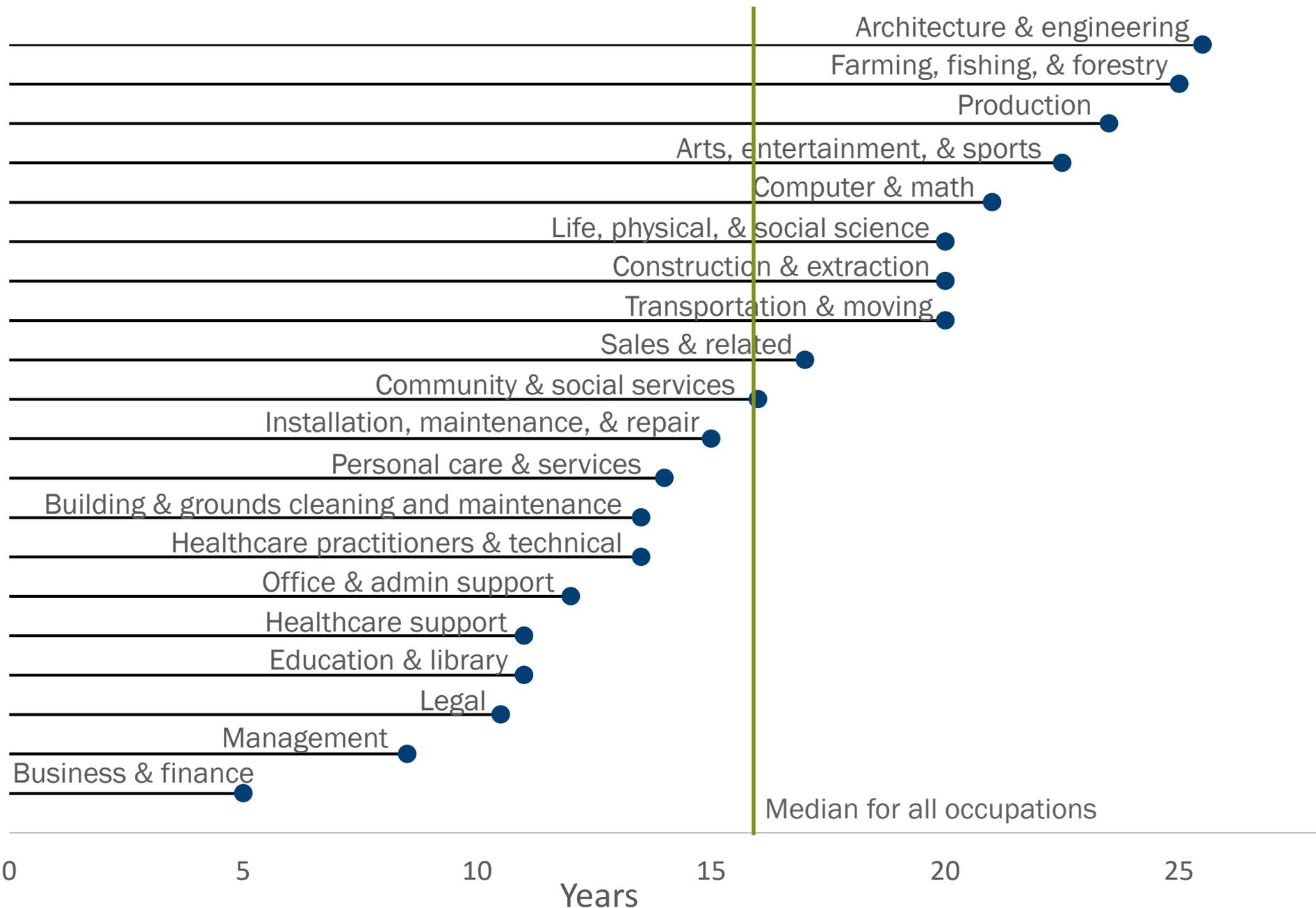
Mgmt

Com & soc serv

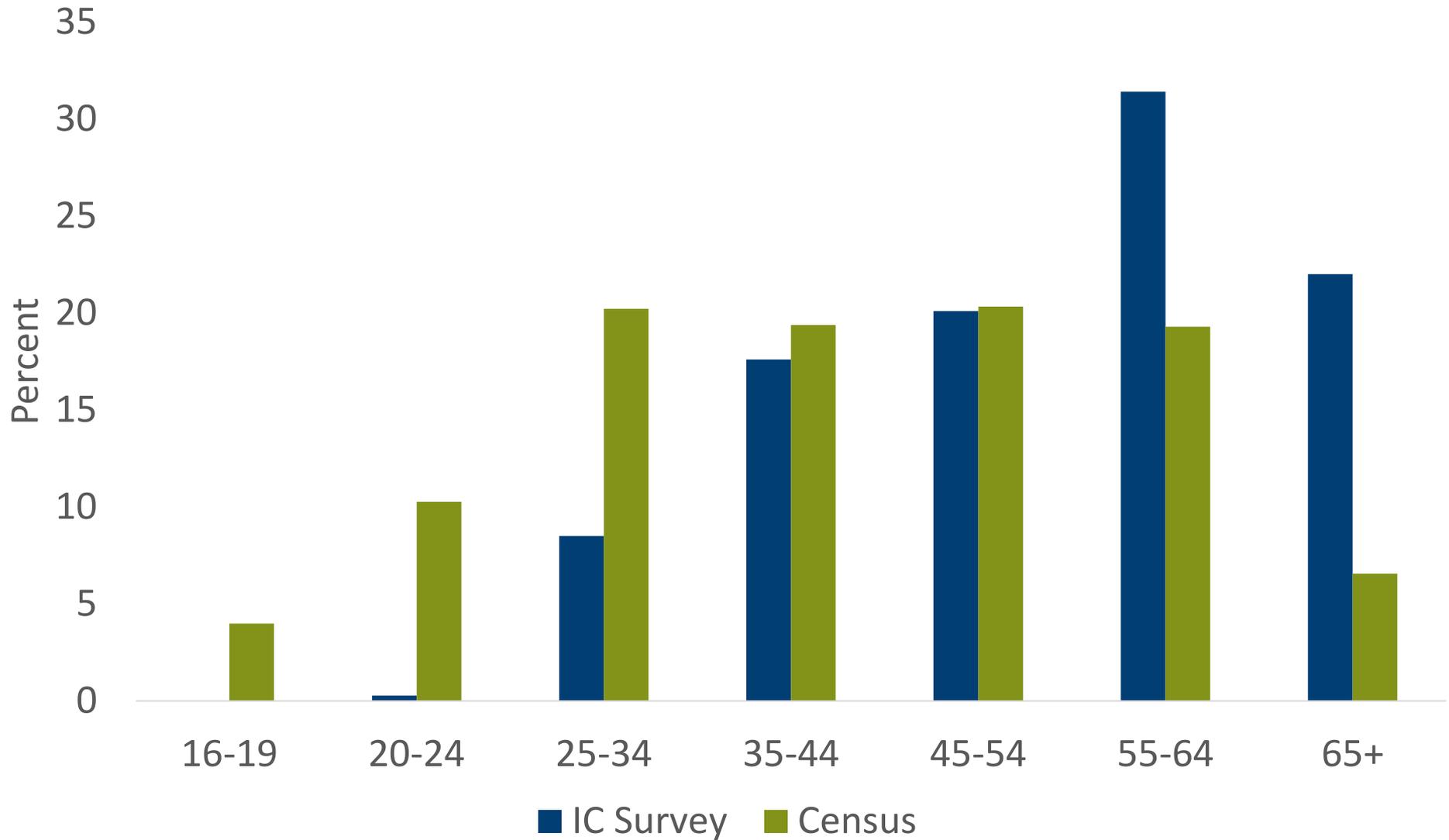
Industries



Median Job Tenure

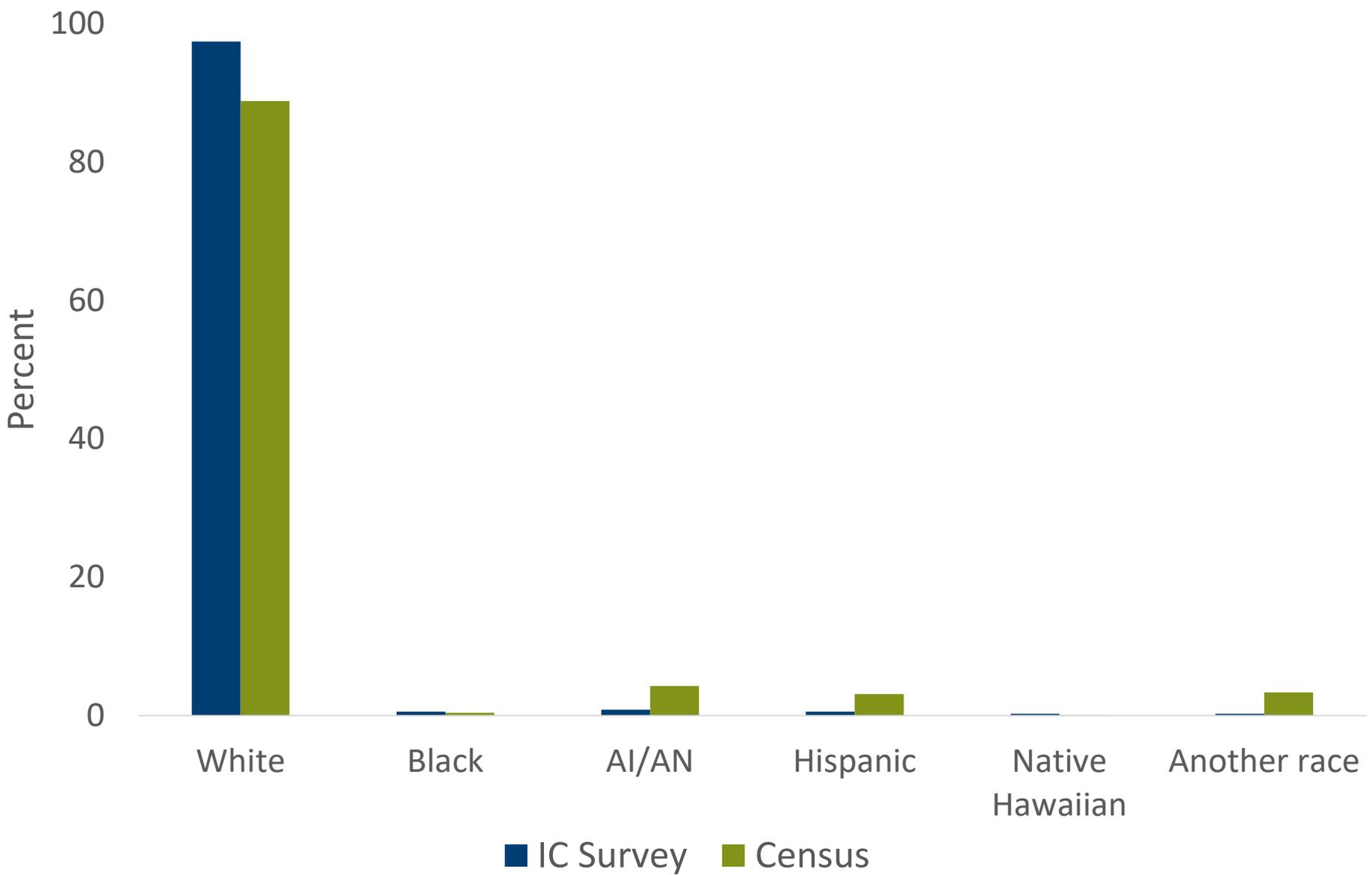


Age



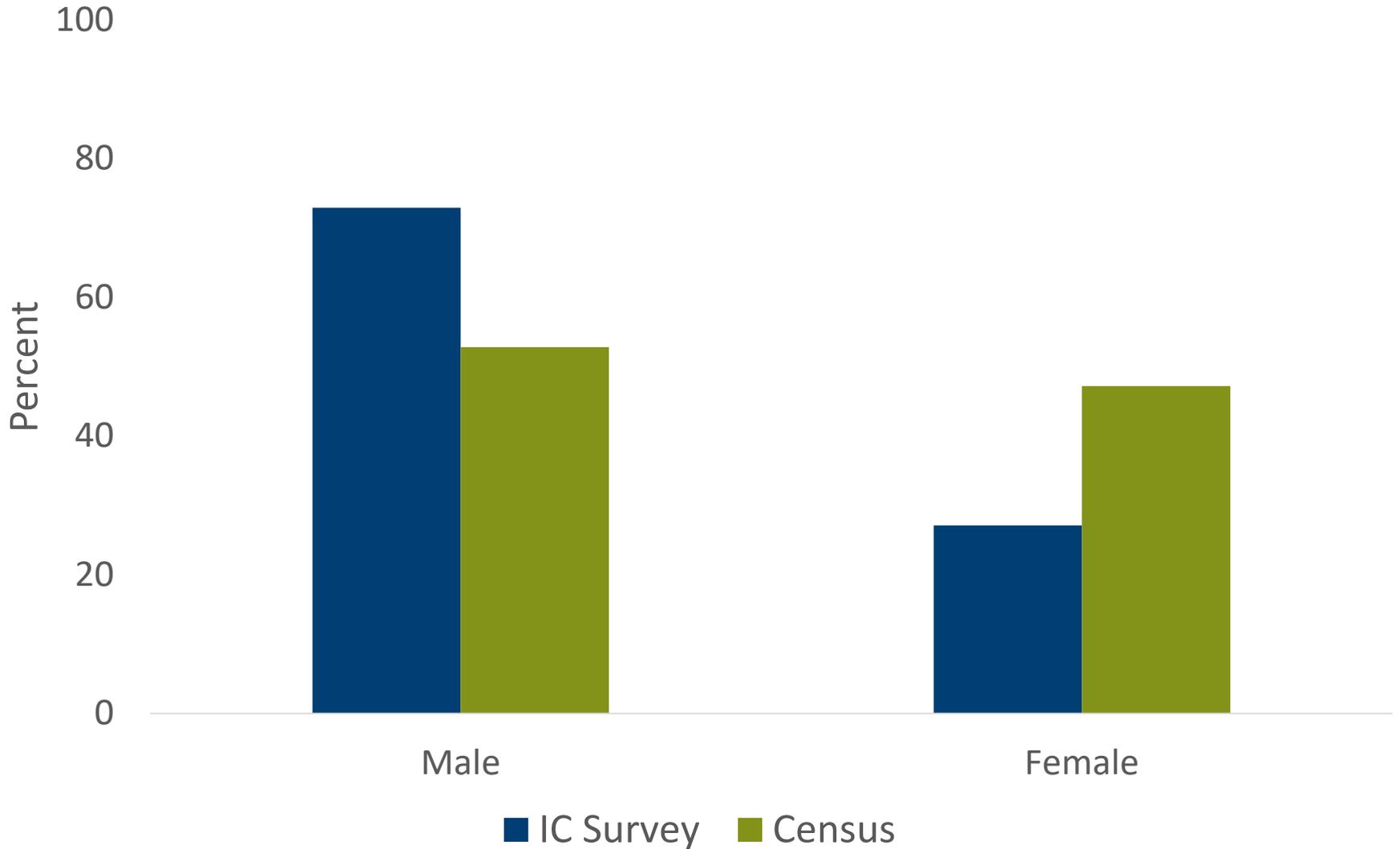
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Race/Ethnicity



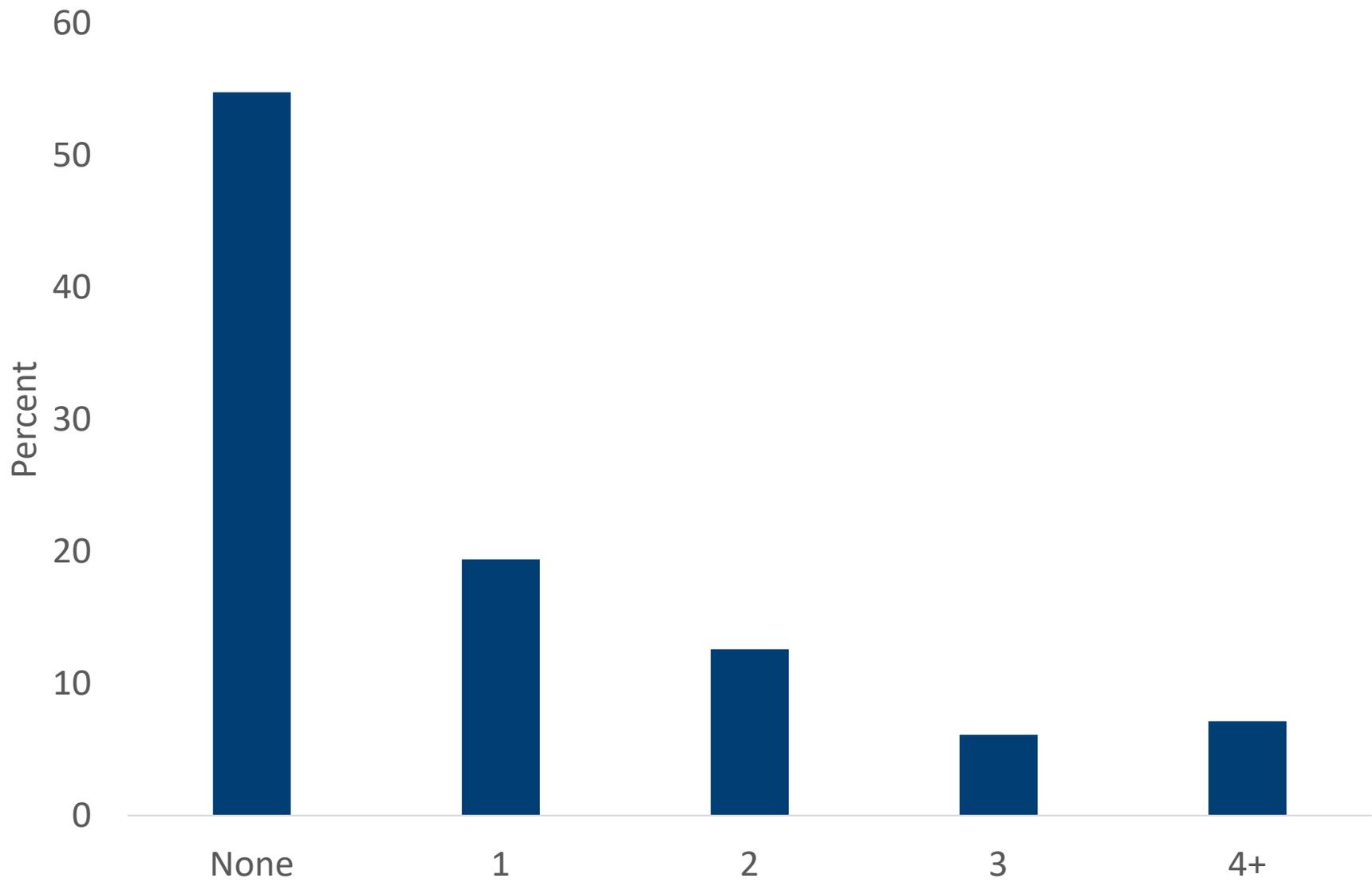
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Sex

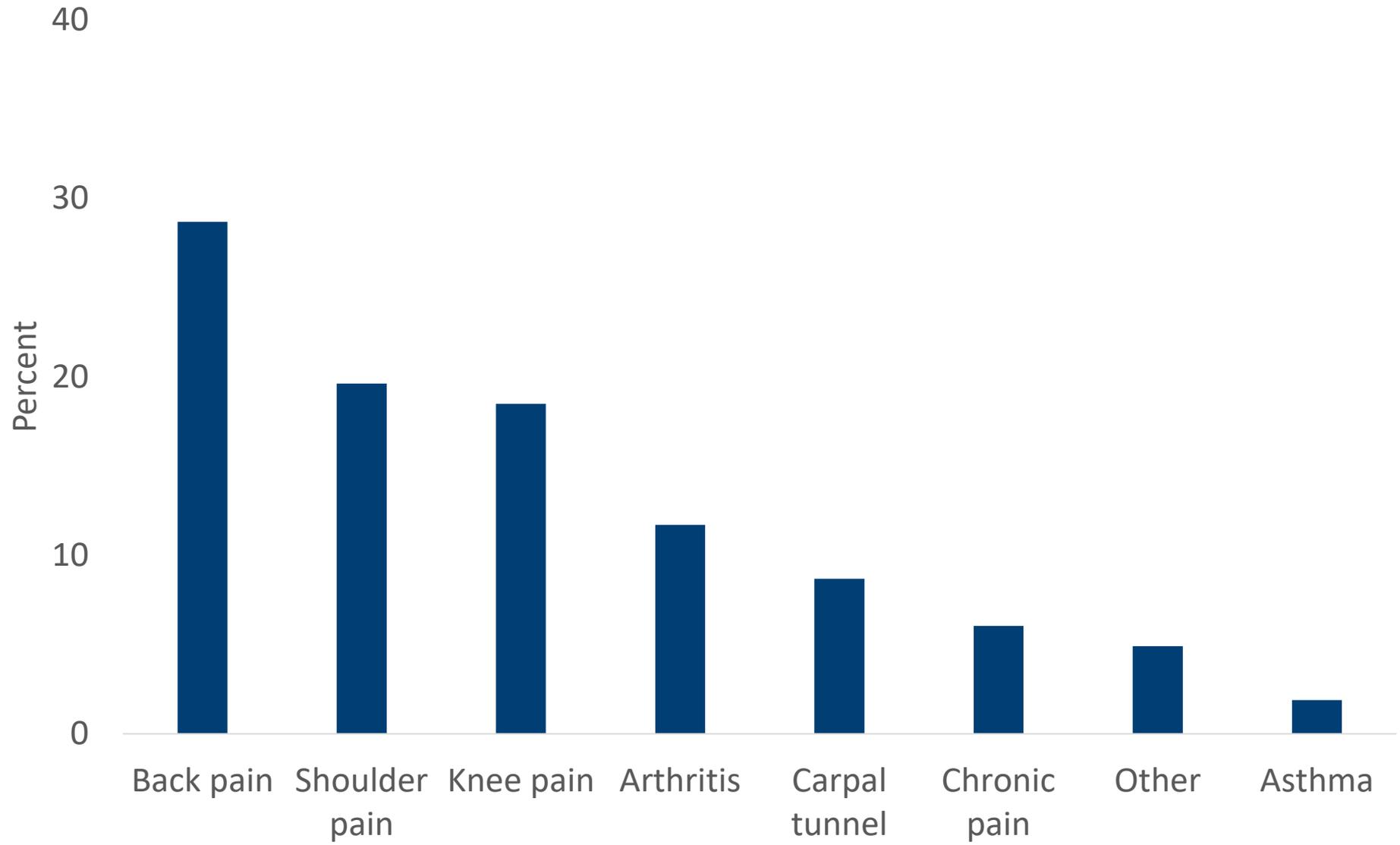


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

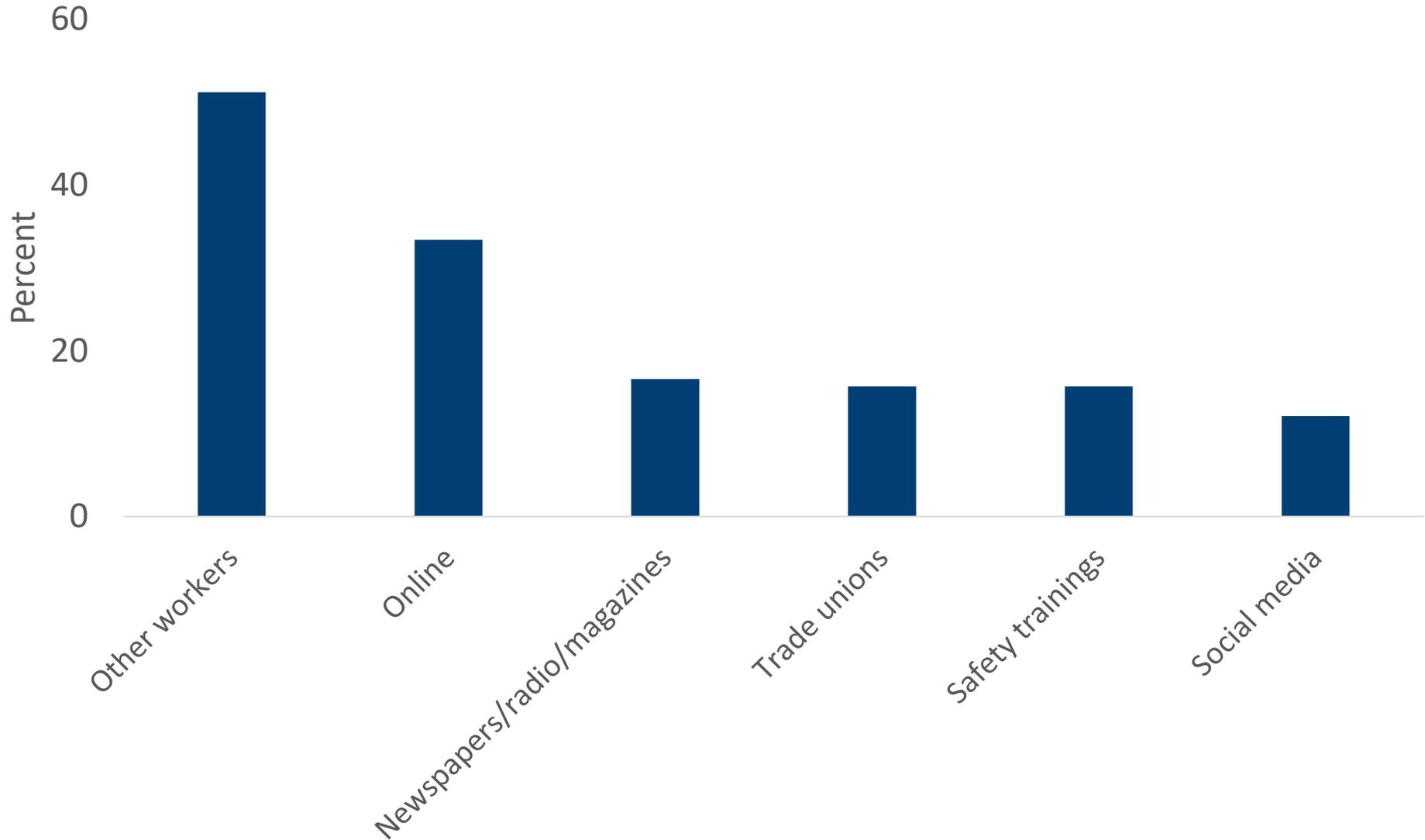
Number of Health Issues



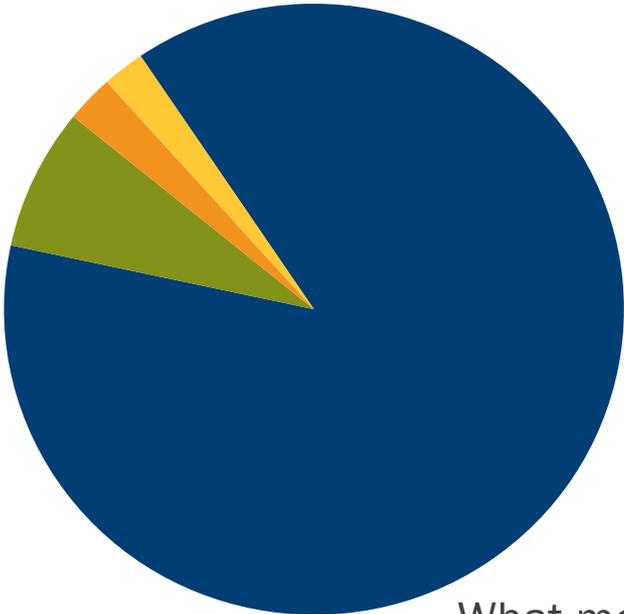
Health Issues



Where do you get safety & health information related to your occupation(s)?



Safety at Work

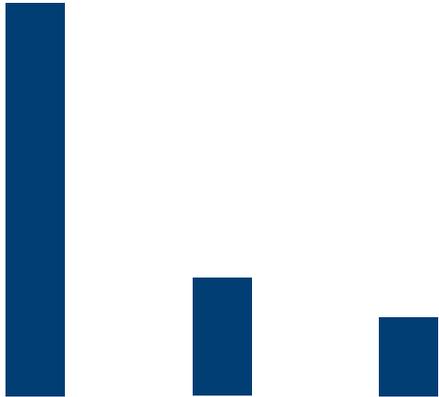


- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not so important
- Not at all important

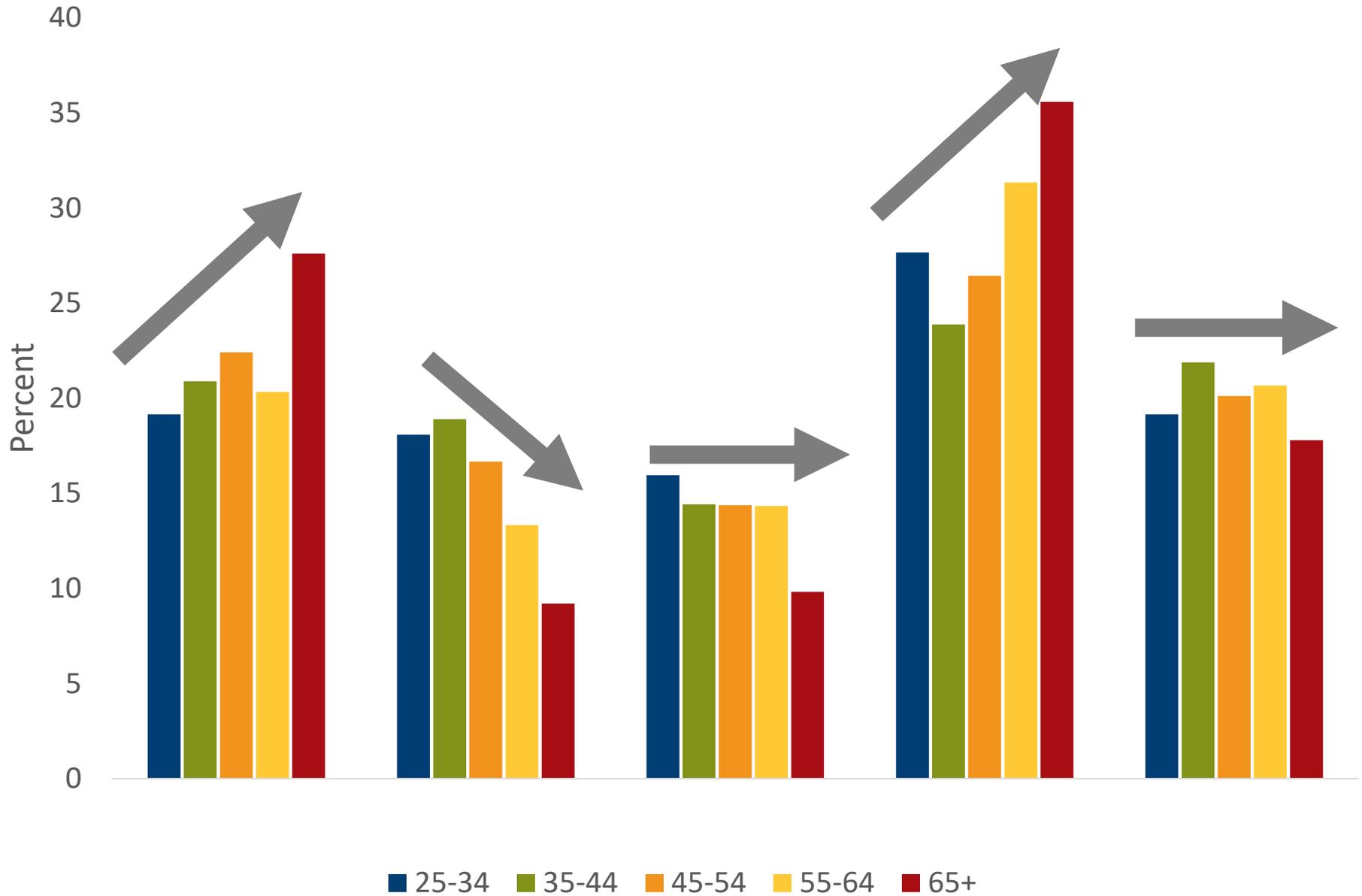
What motivates you to work safely? –respondents who think safety is important



Why is safety a lower priority? –respondents who think safety is NOT important

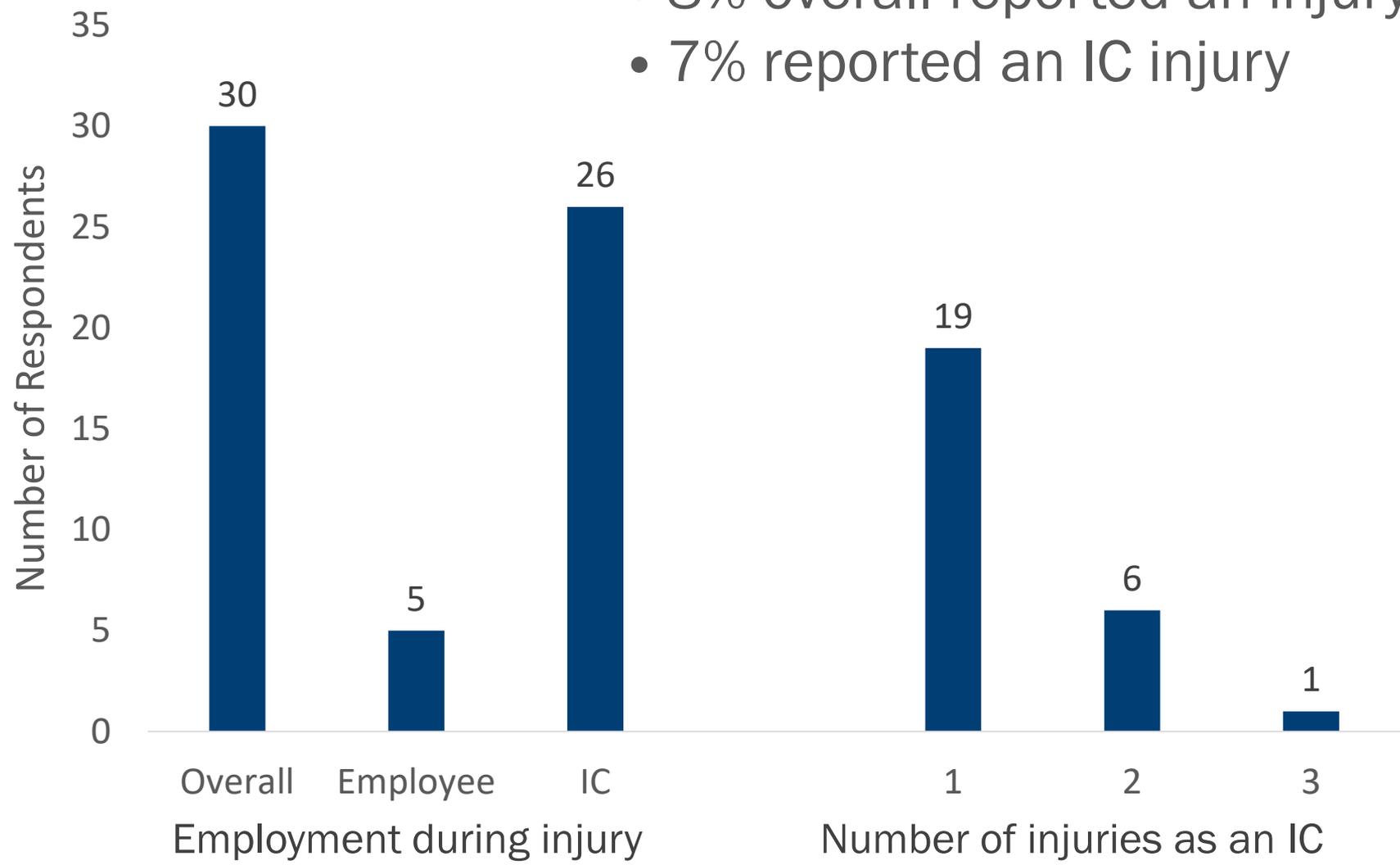


Safety Motivation by Age Group



Reported Injuries in Past Two Years

- 8% overall reported an injury
- 7% reported an IC injury



Top 5 Cause, Nature, and Part of Body

Top 5 Causes of Injury

Cause	IC Survey	Claims
Strain	1	1
Unknown	2	-
Fall, slip, or trip	3	2
Foreign matter in eye	4	9
Struck by object	5	3

Top 5 Natures of Injury

Nature	IC Survey	Claims
Sprain, strain	1	1
Unknown	2	-
Cut, puncture, abrasion	3	2
Foreign body	4	6
Fracture	5	4

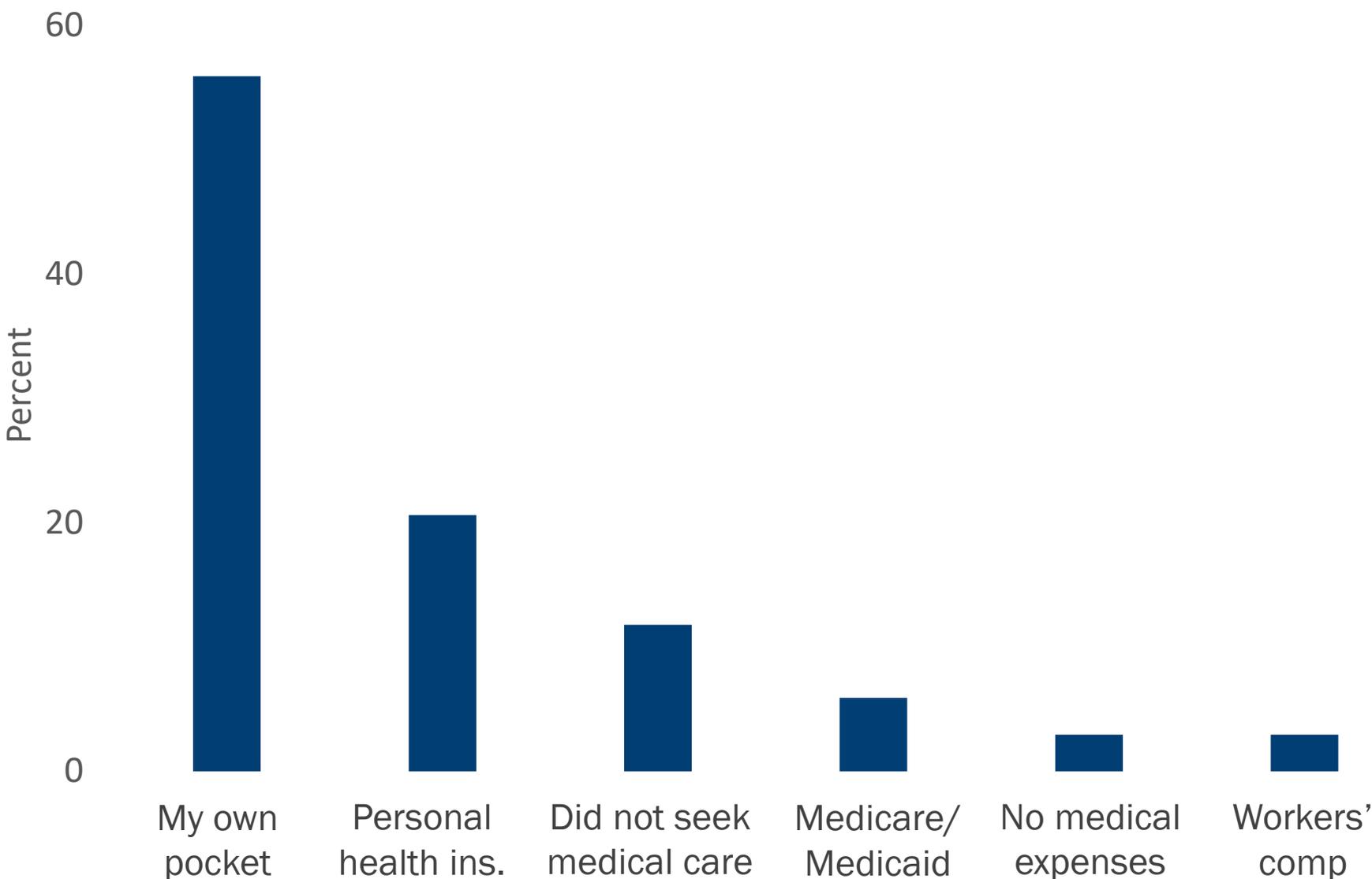


Top 5 Body Parts Injured

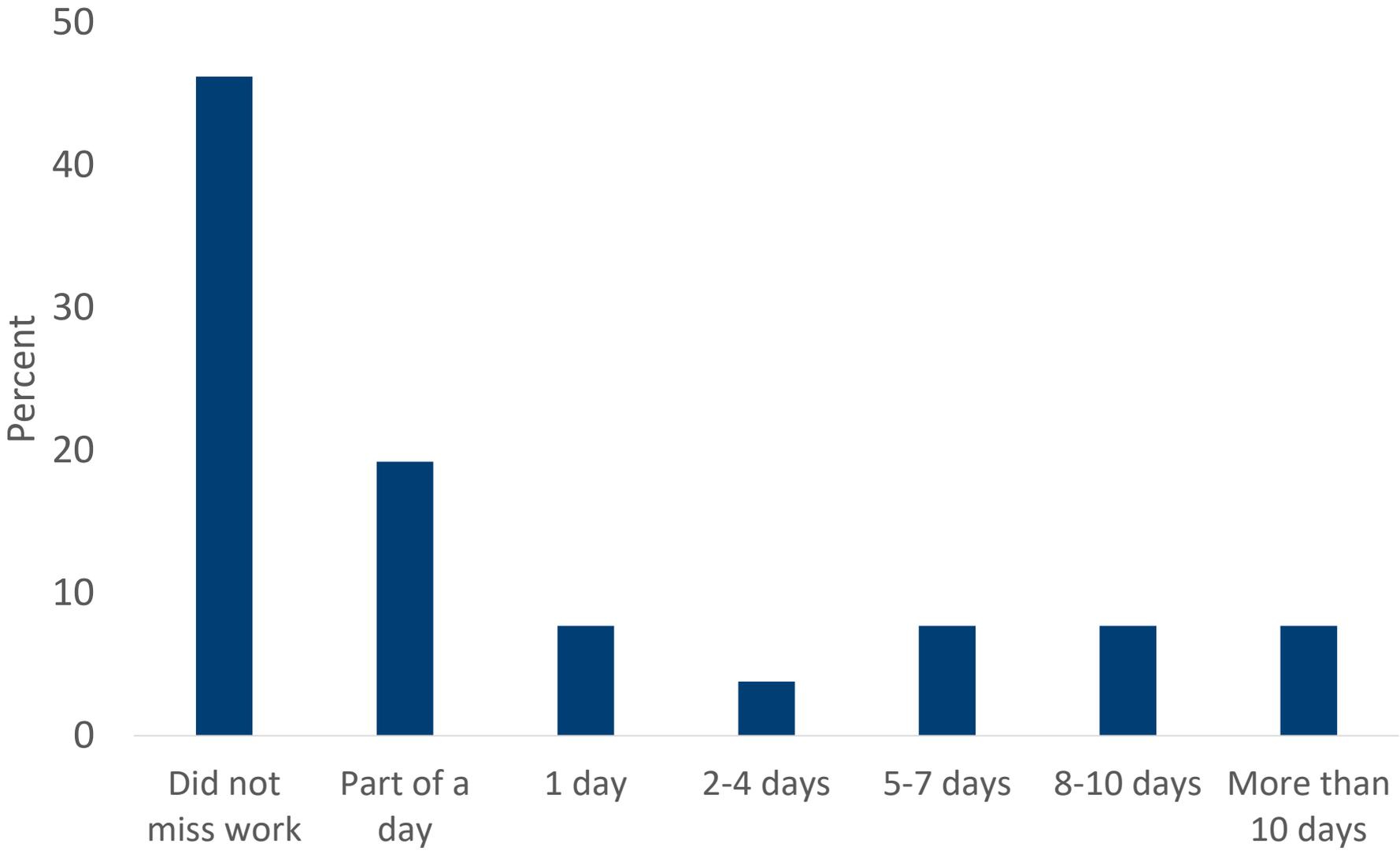
Part of body	IC Survey	Claims
Hand, finger(s)	1	1
Back	2	2
Eye	3	10
Shoulder	4	7
Foot, toe(s)	5	9



How did you pay for medical expenses related to IC injury?



Days of Missed Work



Comments/Feedback

- 120 comments
- 50 constructive feedback
- 33 positive
- 15 negative
- 15 commenting on safety
- 7 “other”

Lessons Learned

- Double check skip patterns
- Have someone else test the survey for understanding
- Start right away with mailing paper surveys
- Use address cleaning software to reduce returned mail

Questions?

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444-1722

