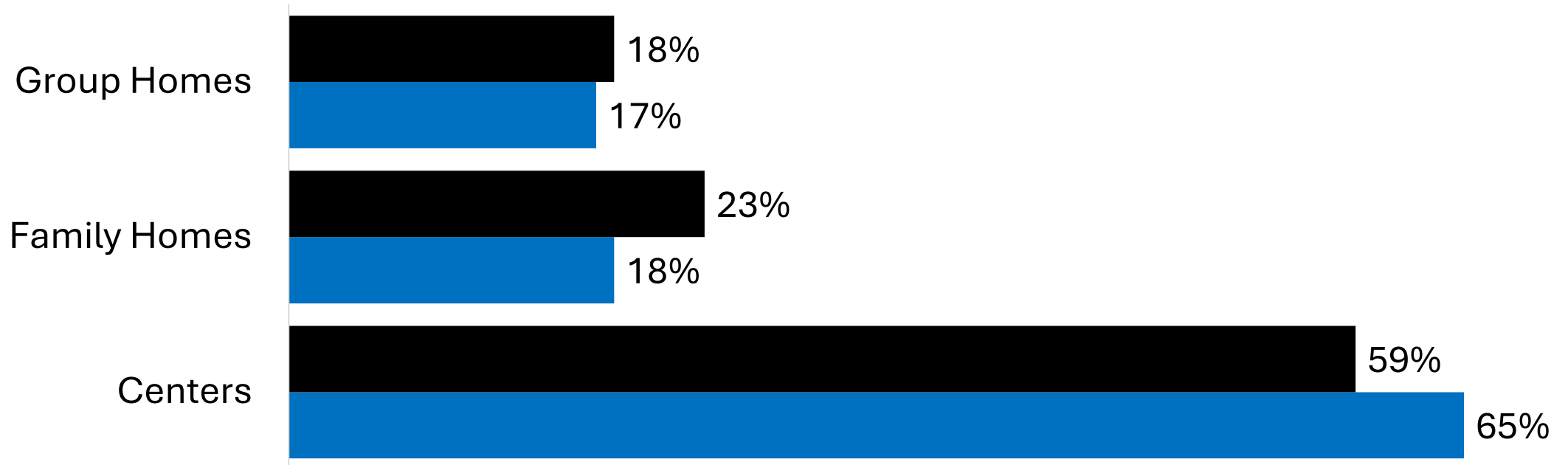# Caring For MI Future: Survey Findings

382 complete responses / 456 total

Comparison between Survey Sample and MI Providers

# Provider Type

Provider types were relatively similar across the survey sample and Michigan provider population.

Group Homes
- 18%
- 17%

Family Homes
- 23%
- 18%

Centers
- 59%
- 65%

■ MI Licensed Provider Population (N = 7,824) ■ Survey Sample (n = 484) $X^2(2) = 3.56$, p = .169

Urbanicity

There were slightly fewer suburbs and more rural areas represented in the survey sample than MI provider population, but no significant differences.

	MI Licensed Provider Population (N = 7,798)	Survey Sample (n = 450)
Suburban	27%	23%
Rural	51%	57%
City	21%	20%
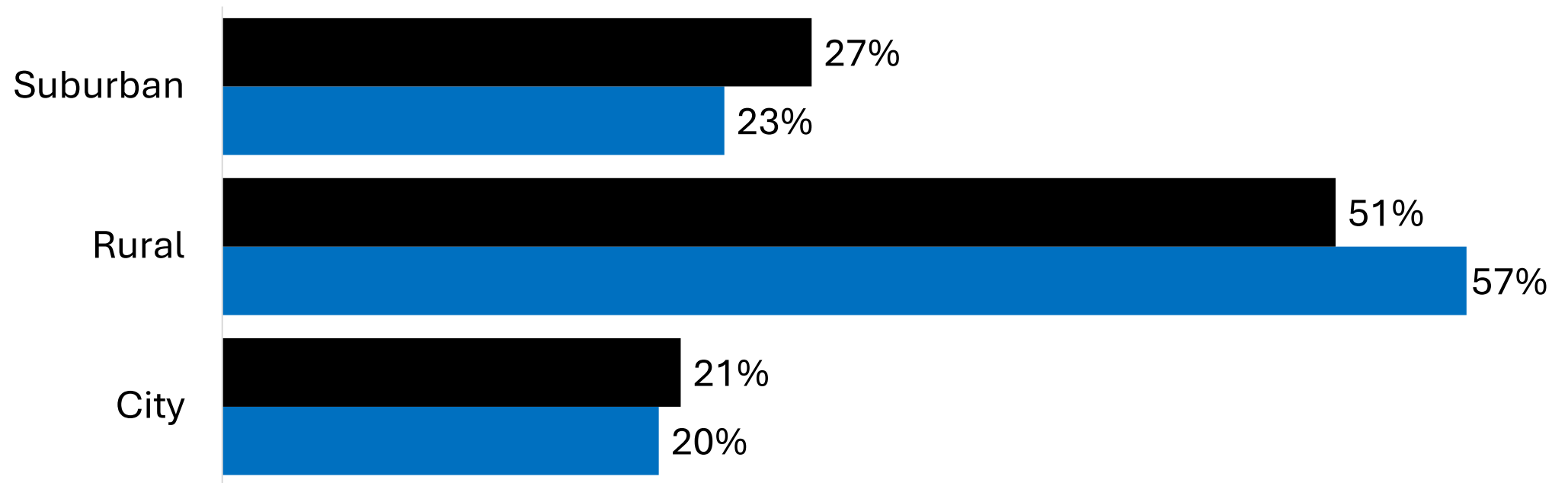
■ MI Licensed Provider Population (N = 7,798) ■ Survey Sample (n = 450) $X^2(2) =5.87, p = .053$

Ages Served

The sample included fewer infant/toddlers and school-aged providers than the provider population.

School Age
- MI Licensed Provider Population: 87%
- Survey Sample: 67%

Preschoolers
- MI Licensed Provider Population: 98%
- Survey Sample: 98%

Infant/Toddlers
- MI Licensed Provider Population: 79%
- Survey Sample: 73%

■ MI Licensed Provider Population (N = 7,798)   ■ Survey Sample (n = 450) $ps < .05$
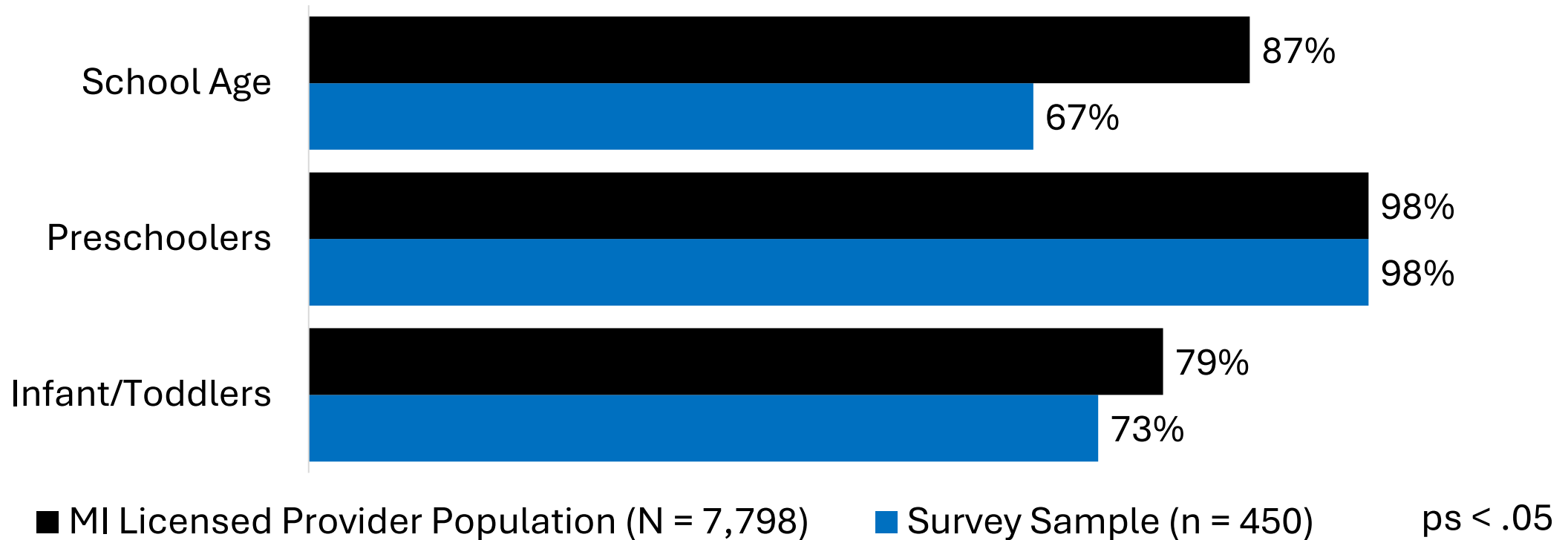
# CFMF Grant Details: Application, Achievements, Prevention, and Needs

CFMF Grants Overview

From Fall 2022 to 2024, the State's Caring for MI Future project offered several grants and services to support Michigan's child care providers:
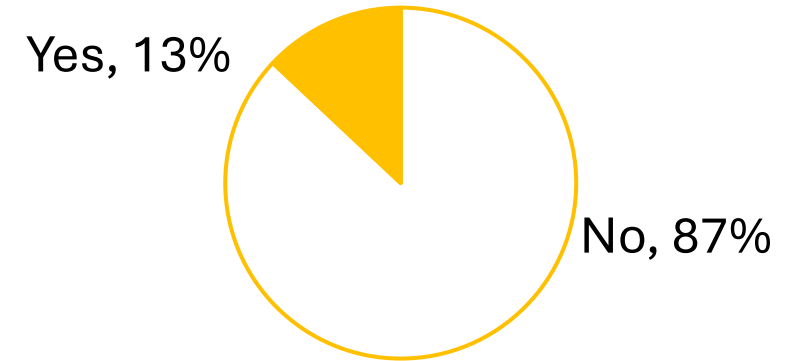
- **Facility Improvement Grants** fund facility equipment, repair, and renovations.

- **Our Strong Start** supports child care business expansion via licensing.

- **Workforce Supports** enhances staff education via the <u>Child Development Associate (CDA)</u> credential, <u>apprenticeships</u>, and <u>Family Child Care Networks</u> with other child care providers.

- **Business Sustainability** offers coaching, consulting, and training to maintain businesses.

Percent of Respondents Applying to Each Grant
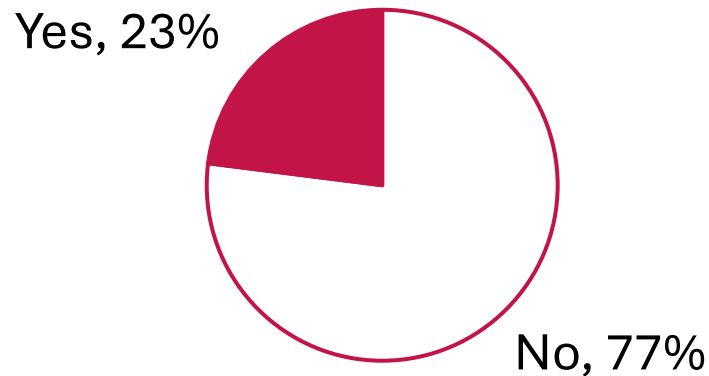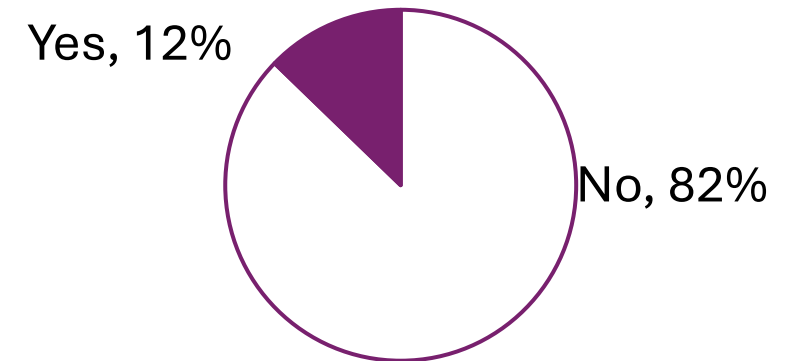
Facility Improvement Grants (n = 456)

Yes, 40%

No, 60%
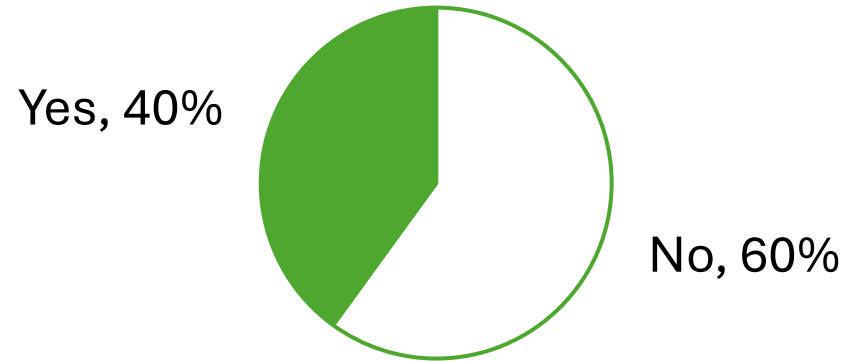
Our Strong Start (n = 438)

Yes, 13%

No, 87%

Workforce Supports (n = 394)

Yes, 23%

No, 77%

Business Sustainability (n = 383)

Yes, 12%

No, 82%

Facility Improvement Grant (n = 169)
What Did You Achieve?

Minor Repairs/Renovations	72%
Quality Rating Increase	31%
Enrollment Increase	29%
Capacity Increase	26%
Licensing	24%
Applied/Not Selected	9%
Didn't Help	9%
Unable to Use Funds	2%
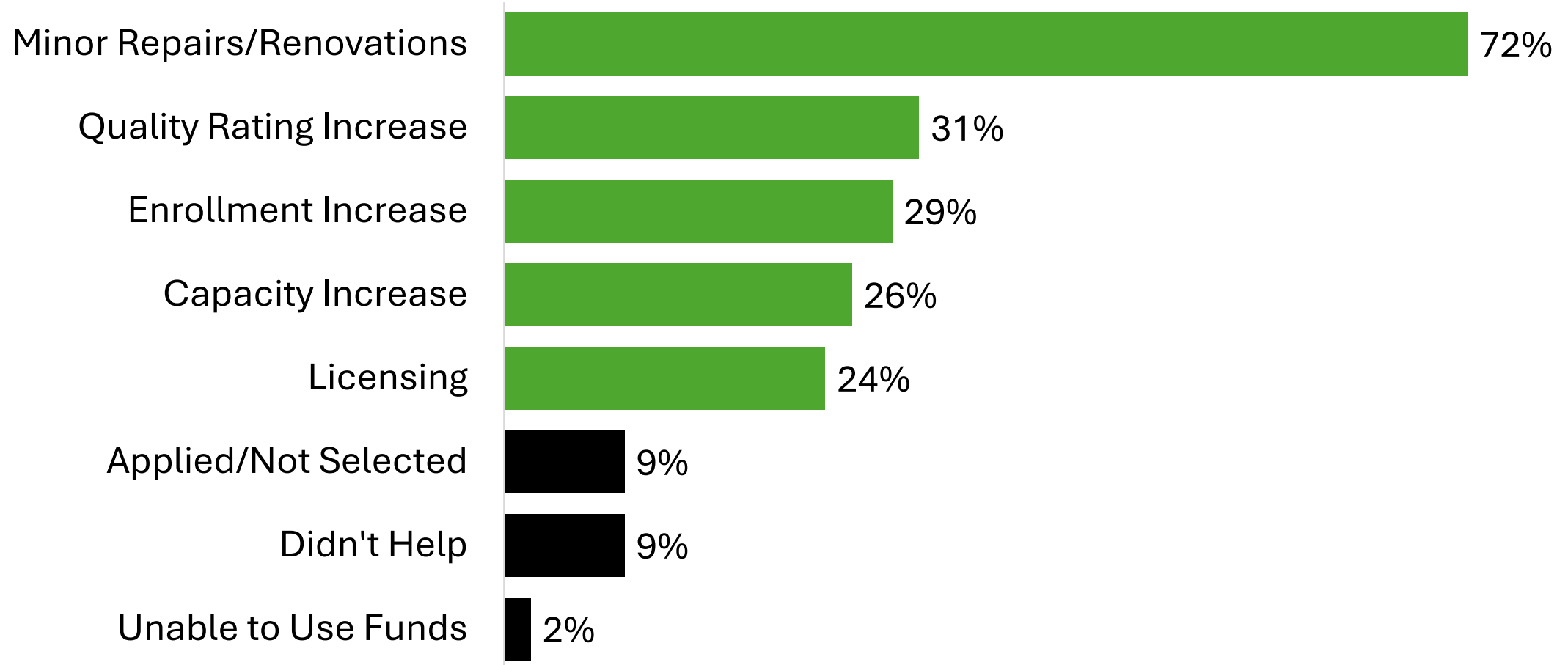
Facility Improvement Grant (n = 248)
What Prevented You From Applying?

Category	Percentage
Didn't Know	55%
Didn't Meet Requirements	27%
Not Needed	21%
No Time	7%
Didn't Complete/Submit	6%
No Resources	4%
Unsure If Applied*	4%
Concerned About Grant*	2%
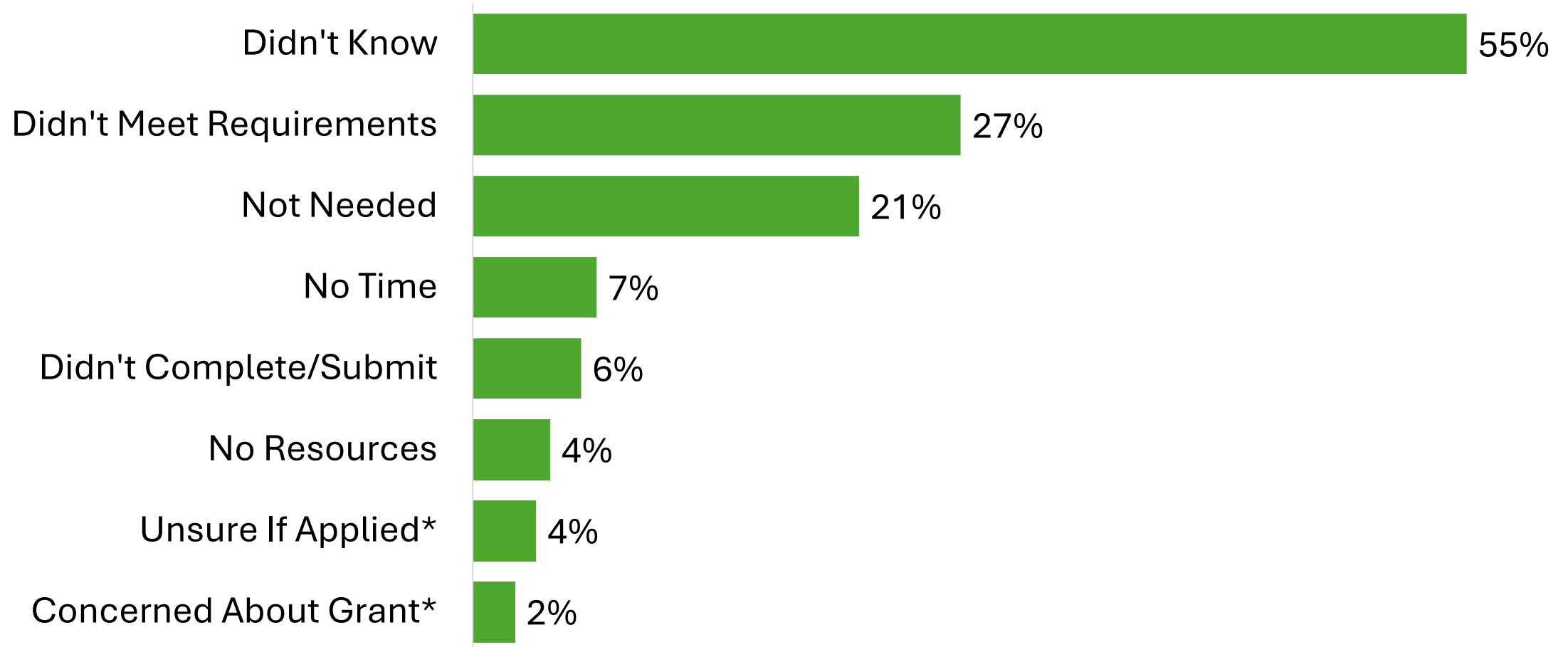
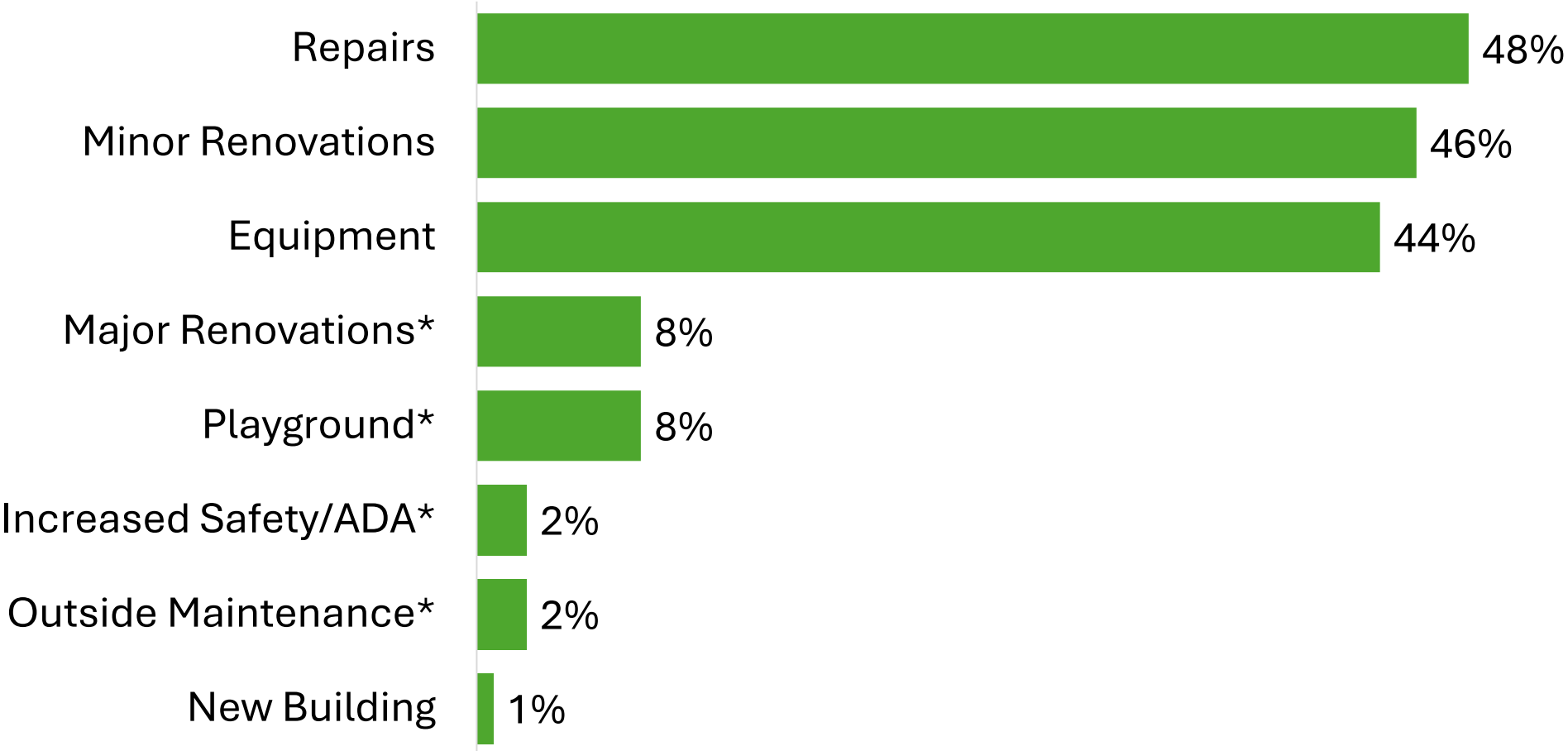* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.

Facility Improvement Grant (n = 247)
If You Didn't Apply, What Are Your Current Facility Needs?

Category	Percentage
Repairs	48%
Minor Renovations	46%
Equipment	44%
Major Renovations*	8%
Playground*	8%
Increased Safety/ADA*	2%
Outside Maintenance*	2%
New Building	1%

* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.

Our Strong Start
What Did You Achieve? (n = 54)

Start-Up Grant	57%
Pre-Licensure Grant	52%
Expanded Program	26%
Opened New Program	26%
Increased Capacity	21%
Increased Enrollment	20%
Applied/Not Selected	13%
Didn't Help	4%
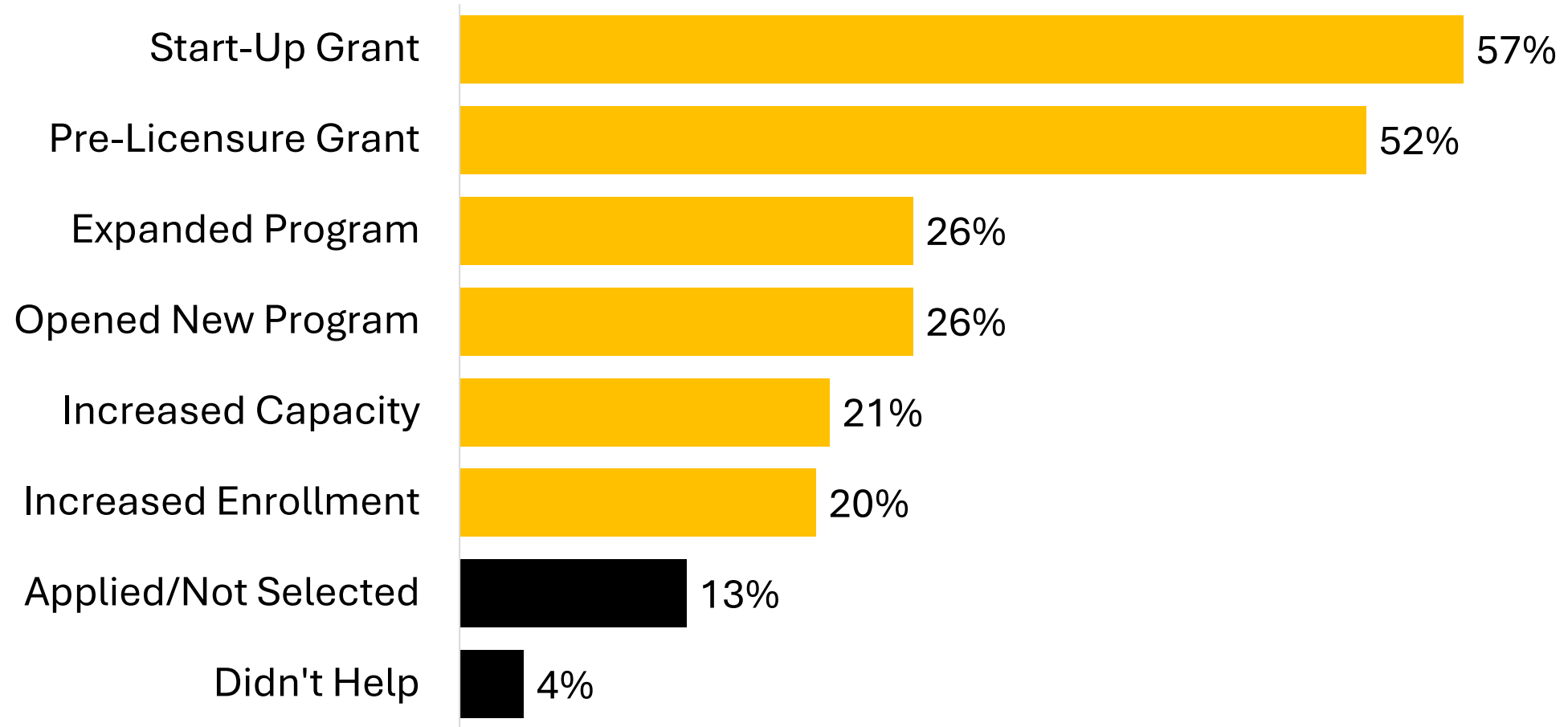
Our Strong Start (n = 346)
What Prevented You From Applying?

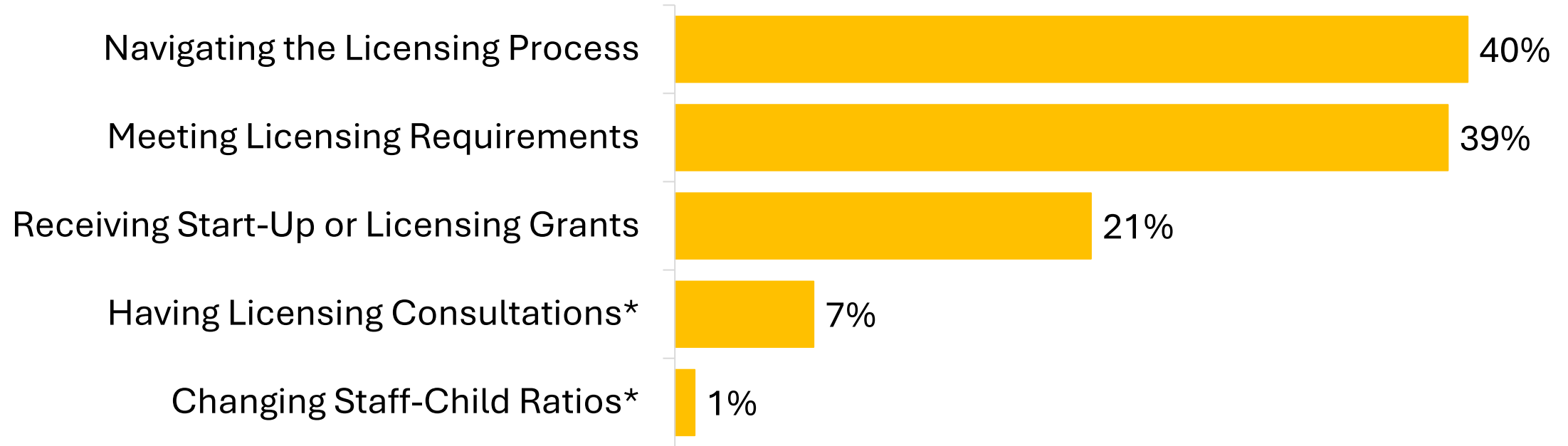| Category	Percentage
Not Needed	51%
Didn't Know	37%
Didn't Meet Requirements	7%
No Resources	2%
No Time	2%
Didn't Complete/Submit	1%
Concerned About Grant*	0.3%
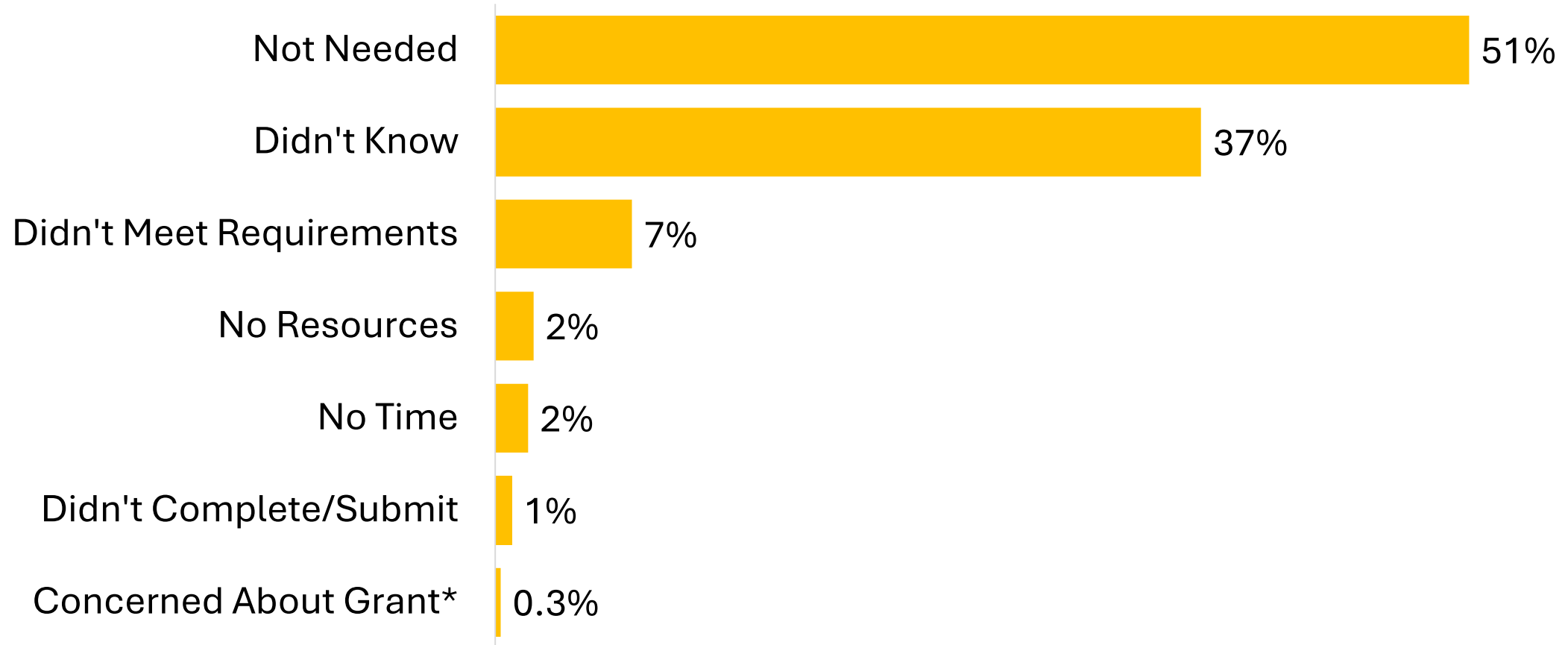
* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.

Our Strong Start (n = 174)
If You Didn't Apply, What Are Your Current Licensing Needs?

Category	Percentage
Navigating the Licensing Process	40%
Meeting Licensing Requirements	39%
Receiving Start-Up or Licensing Grants	21%
Having Licensing Consultations*	7%
Changing Staff-Child Ratios*	1%

* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.

Workforce Supports (n = 90)

What Did You Achieve?

Category	Percentage
TEACH	53%
CDA	48%
Verification Visit	46%
Training for Licensing	28%
Apprenticeship	26%
College Admissions	22%
FCC Network	20%
Director Network	16%
Supports for Hiring Staff	16%
Early Foundations	10%
Didn't Help	4%
Applied/Not Selected	3%
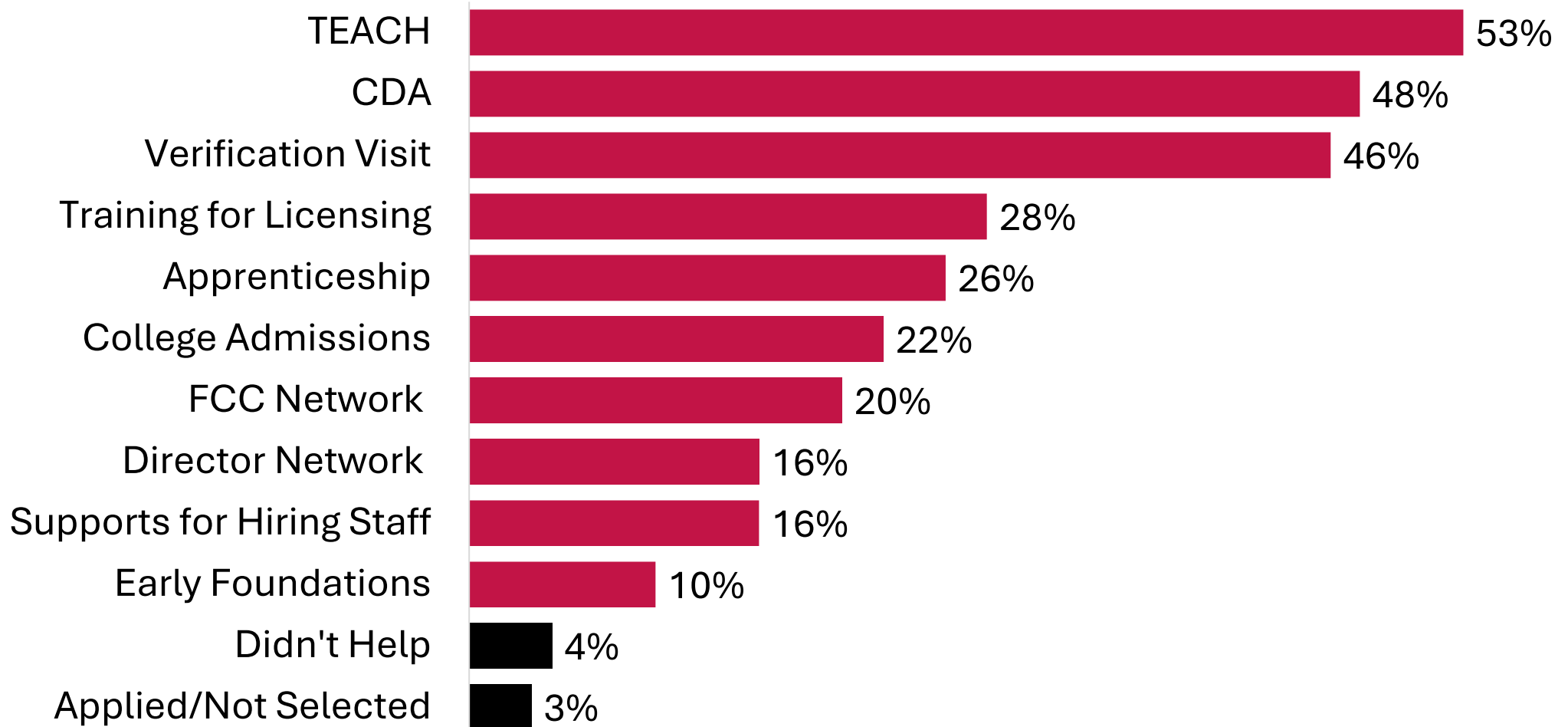
Workforce Supports (n = 302)
What Prevented You From Applying?

Didn't Know	53%
Not Needed/No Interest	28%
No Time	10%
Didn't Meet Requirements	6%
No Resources	4%
Unsure If Applied	3%
Concerned About Grant*	1%
Didn't Complete/Submit	0%

* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.
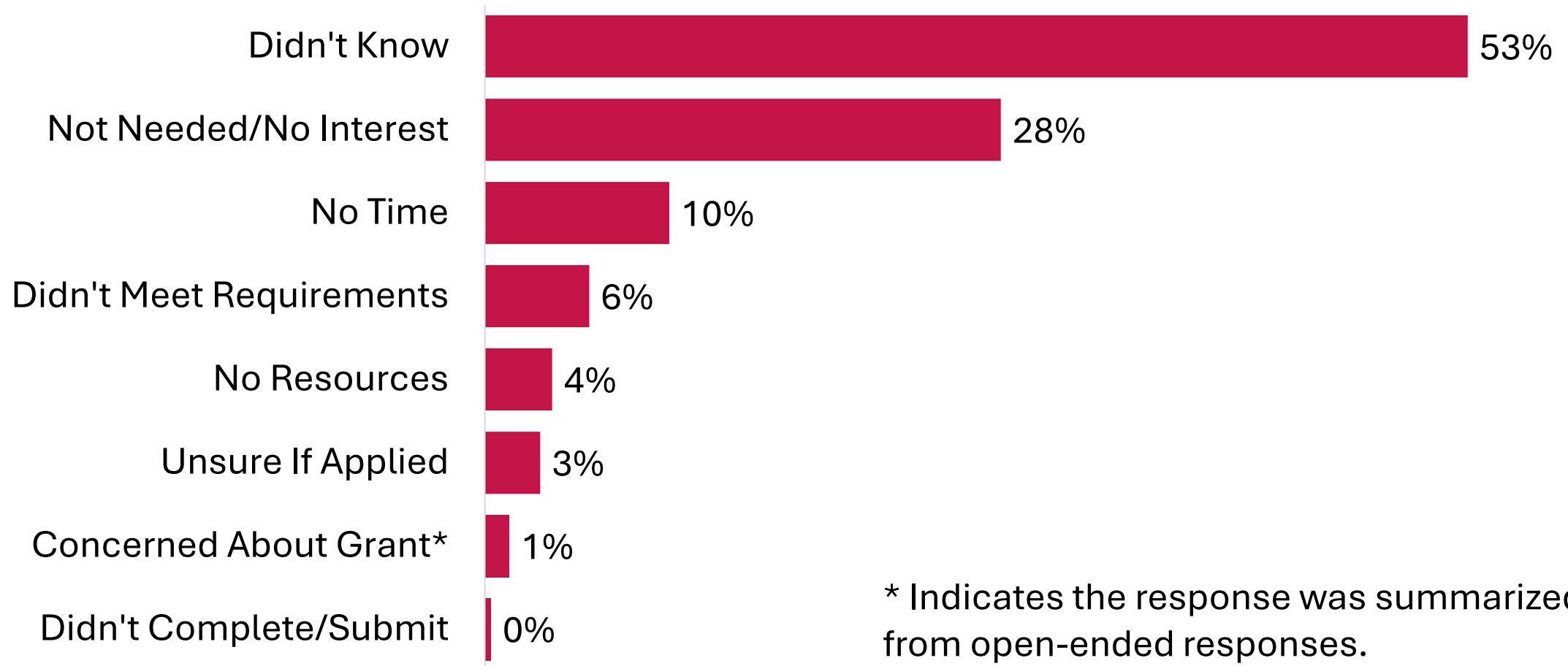
Workforce Supports (n = 234)
If You Didn't Apply, What Are Your Current Support Needs?
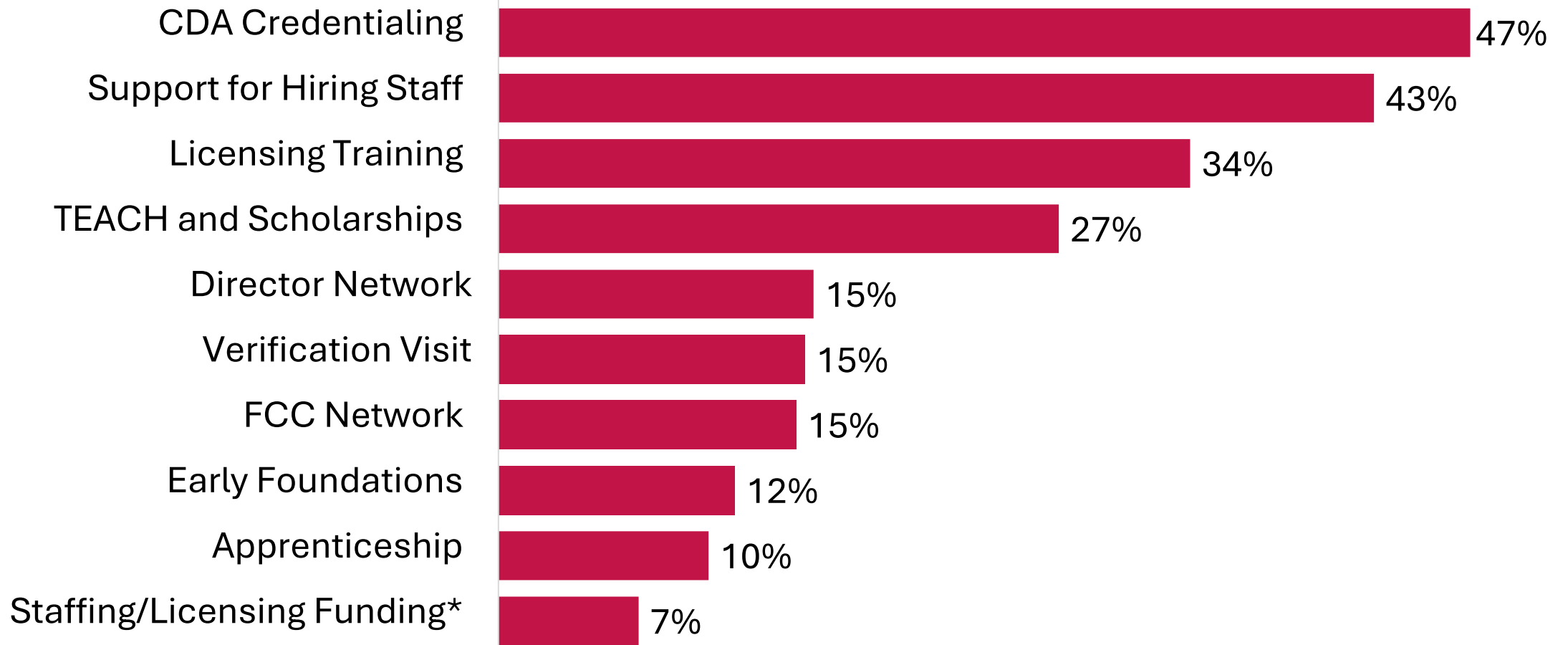
Category	Percentage
CDA Credentialing	47%
Support for Hiring Staff	43%
Licensing Training	34%
TEACH and Scholarships	27%
Director Network	15%
Verification Visit	15%
FCC Network	15%
Early Foundations	12%
Apprenticeship	10%
Staffing/Licensing Funding*	7%

* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.

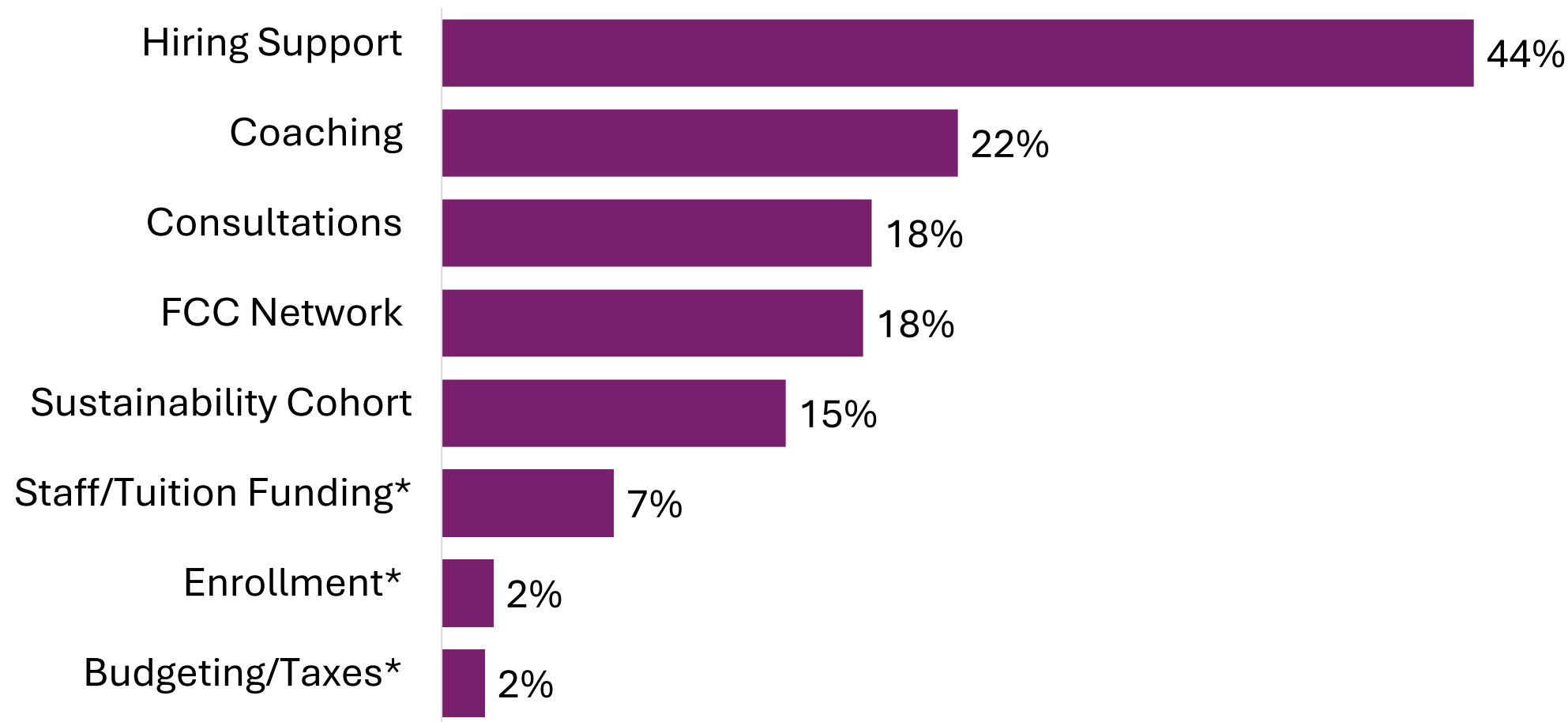# Business Sustainability (n = 47)
What Did You Achieve?

Category	Percentage
Business Plan	53%
Sustainability Cohort	40%
FCC Network	40%
Coaching	34%
Consultations	28%
Hiring Support	28%
Didn't Help	9%
Applied/Not Selected	6%
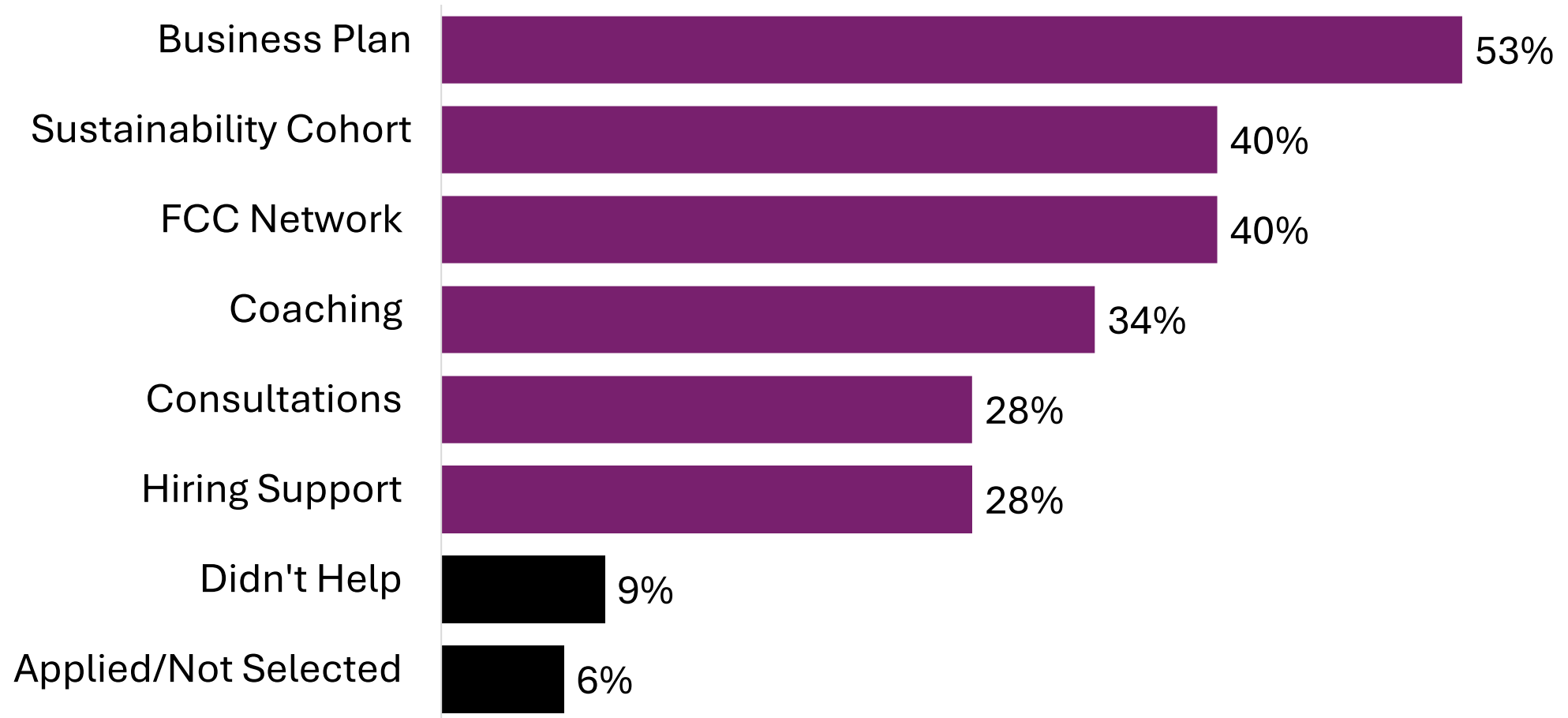
Business Sustainability (n = 332)
What Prevented You From Applying?
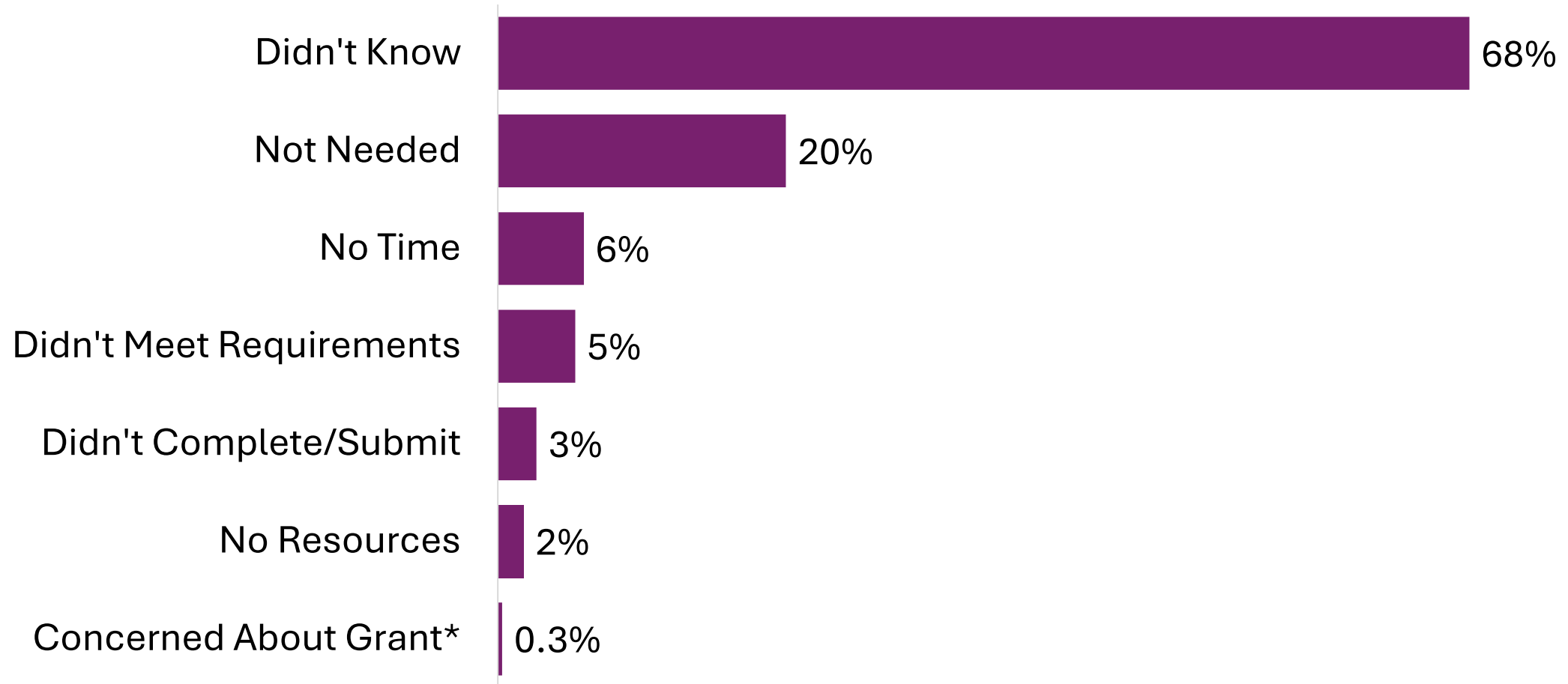
Category	Percentage
Didn't Know	68%
Not Needed	20%
No Time	6%
Didn't Meet Requirements	5%
Didn't Complete/Submit	3%
No Resources	2%
Concerned About Grant*	0.3%

* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.

Business Sustainability (n = 271)
If You Didn't Apply, What Are Your Current Sustainability Needs?

Category	Percentage
Hiring Support	44%
Coaching	22%
Consultations	18%
FCC Network	18%
Sustainability Cohort	15%
Staff/Tuition Funding*	7%
Enrollment*	2%
Budgeting/Taxes*	2%

* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.
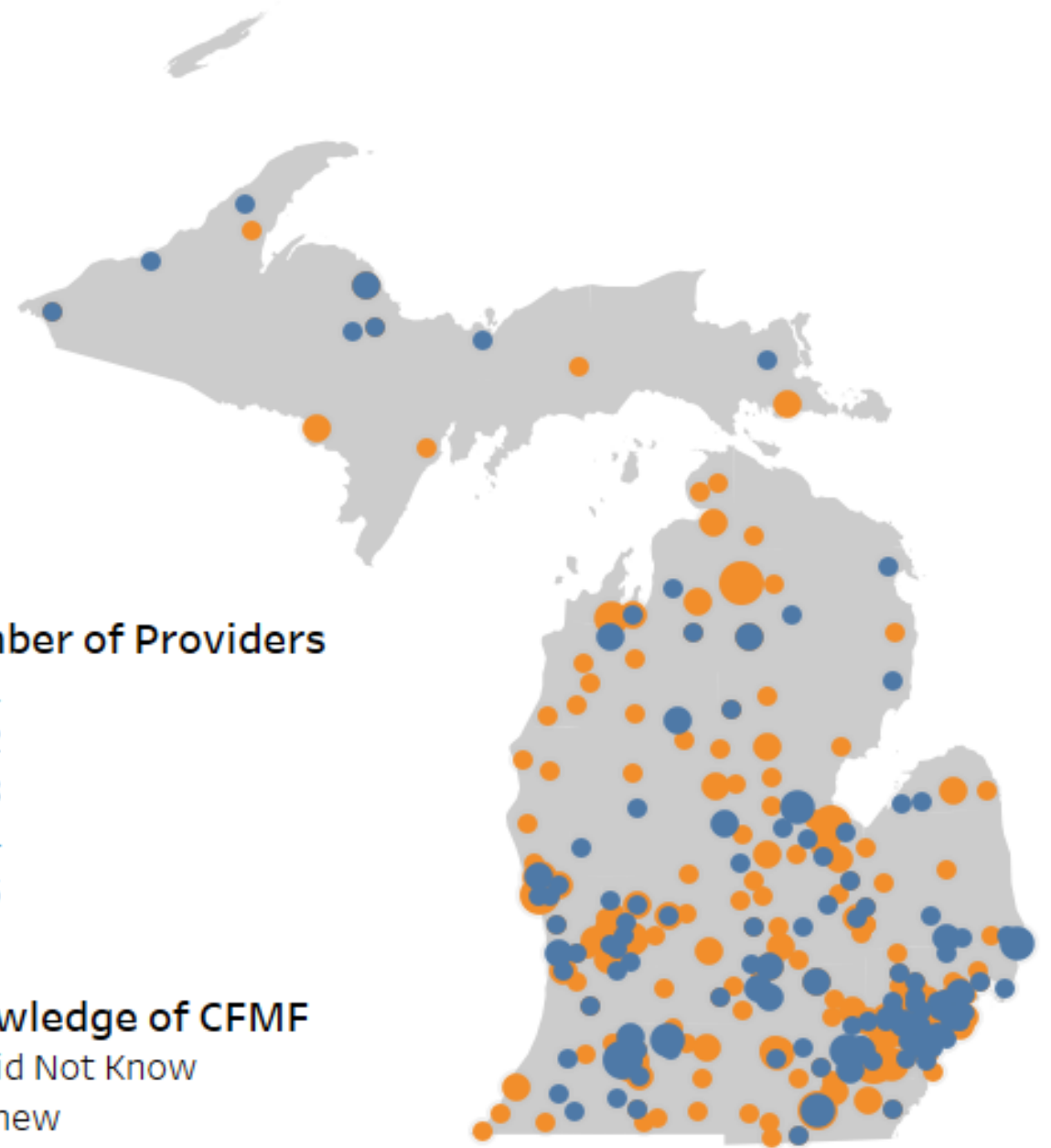
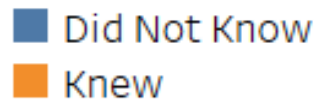# Providers' Knowledge of CFMF Grants (n = 450)

Knowledge **mostly did not vary** by economic development regions or geographic types.

Providers in **rural** areas were less likely to know about the <u>Business Sustainability grant</u> than those in urban or suburban areas.
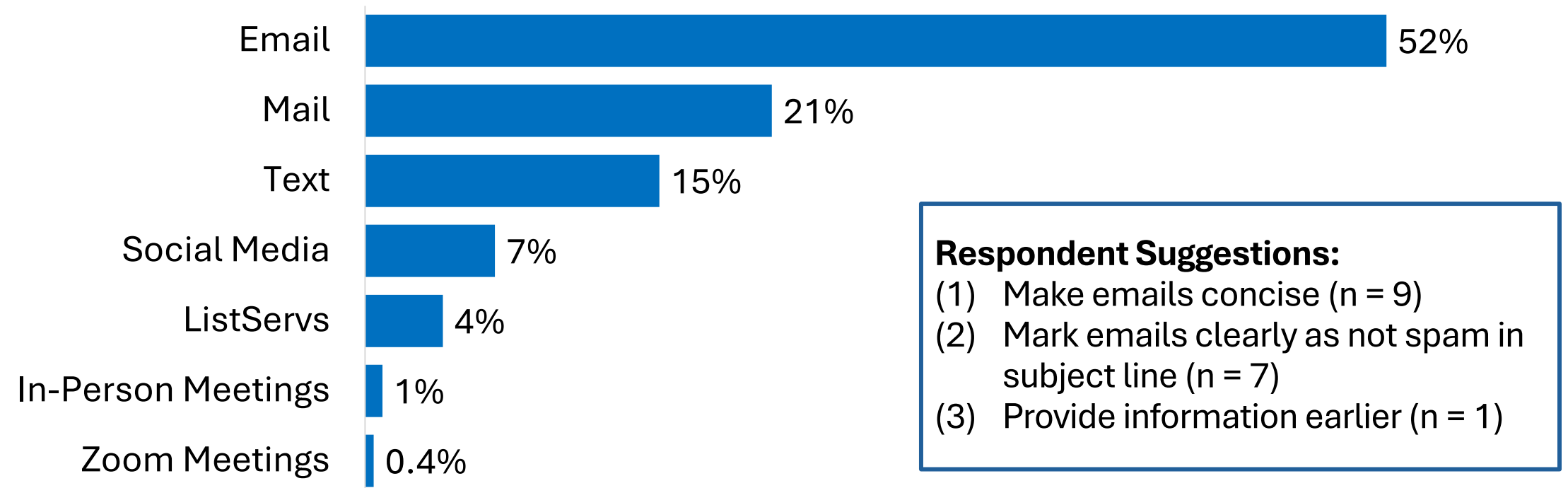
Number of Providers
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
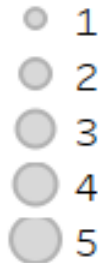
Knowledge of CFMF
- Did Not Know
- Knew

Dissemination, Funding, Challenges, & Supports

What Prevents You From Accepting the CDC Scholarship? (n = 352)

Category	Percentage
Accepts CDC	76%
Doesn't Know How	7%
At Full Capacity	6%
Accepts Other Subsidized Payments*	6%
Reimbursement/Pay Delays	4%
Too Much Paperwork	4%
Not Enough CDC Demand	3%
Prioritizes Tuition-Paying Families	3%
Reimbursement Too Low	2%
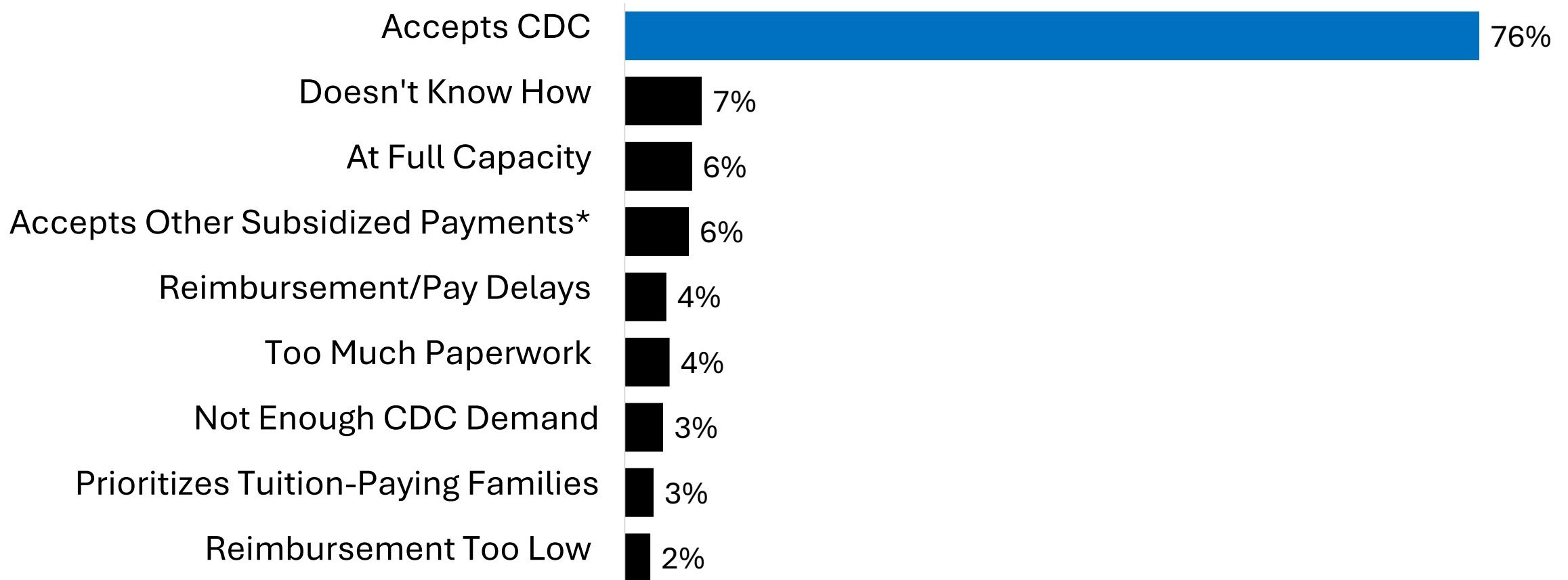
* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.

Respondent Funding Sources (n = 352)

Funding Source	Percentage
Tuition	69%
CDC	61%
CACFP	48%
GSRP	29%
Great Start to Quality	28%
Tri-Share	18%
Donations	18%
Head Start	6%
Strong Beginnings	2%

* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.
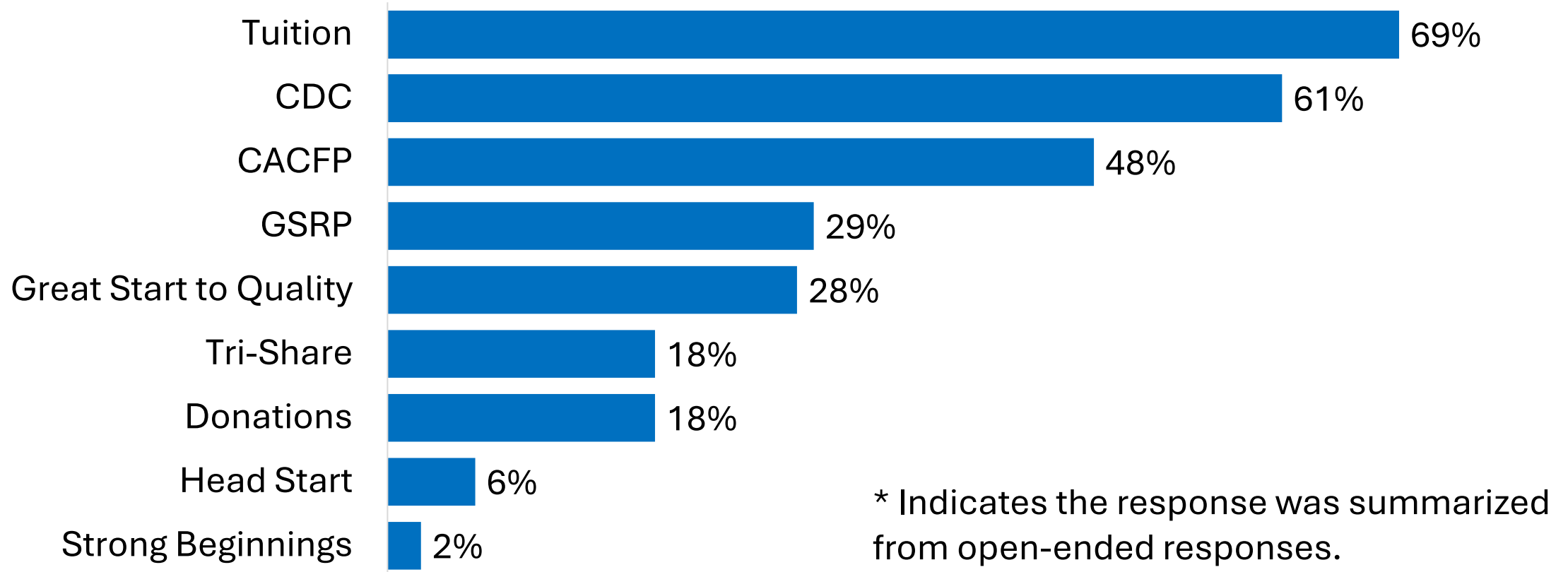
Other Sources* (<1%): 32n OST Grant, Department of Human Services, 21st CCLC Grant, AARPA, CCAMPIS, County-Level Grant, Employer Retention Grant, Family Support Grant, Frey Foundation Grant, ITQI Grant, Steelcase Foundation Grant, United Way Grant, WKKF Grant

Current Sustainability Challenges* (n = 351)

Hiring Staff — 31%
Enrollment — 21%
Staff Pay/Benefits — 15%
Operational Costs — 15%
Facility Improvements/Expansion — 10%
Staff Retention — 8%
Tuition/Payment Barriers — 4%
Licensing Costs/Renewals — 3%
Earning No Profit — 3%
Resources/Information Updates — 3%
Training — 3%
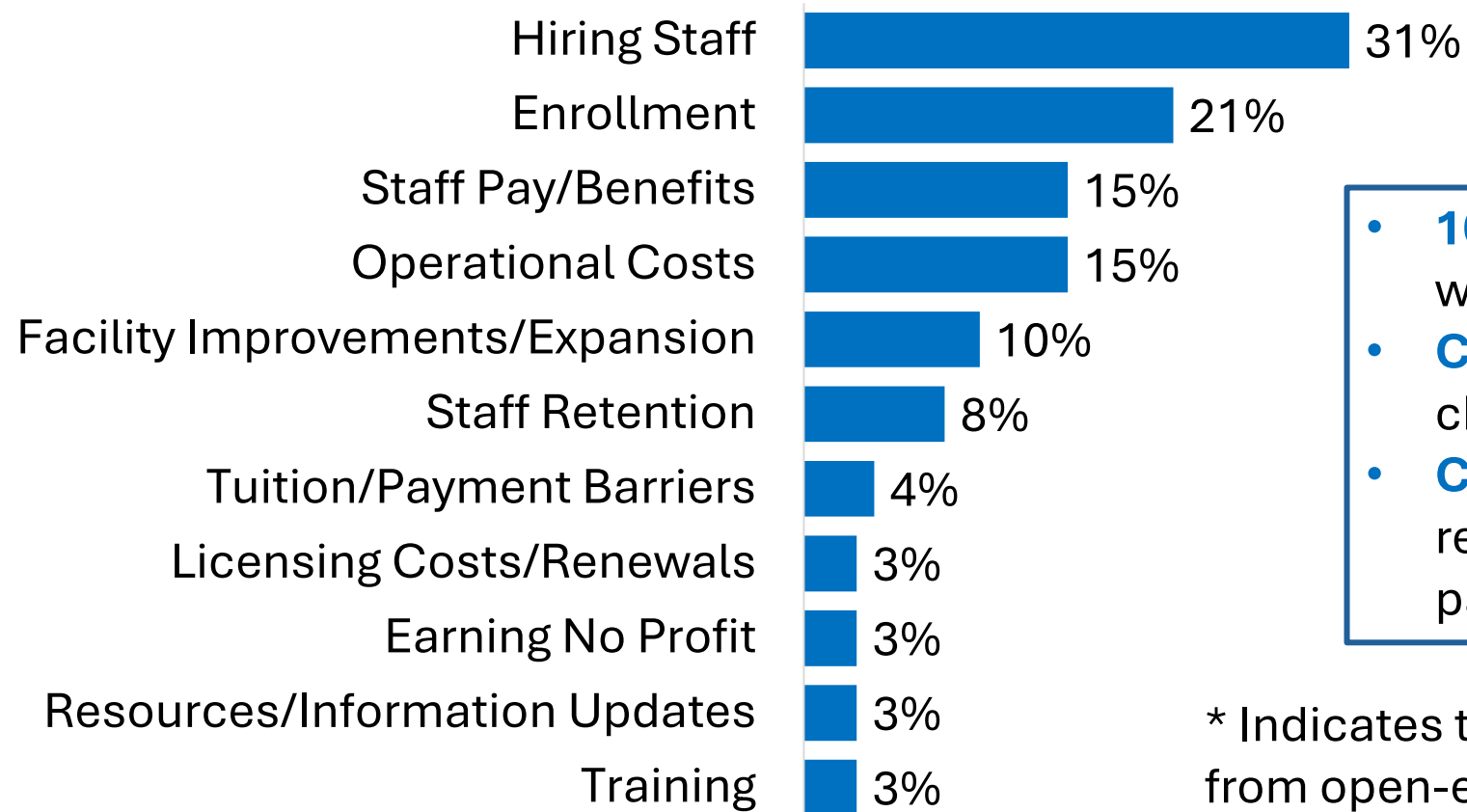
- **10%** of providers noted the issues with hiring **"quality"** staff.
- **Centers** reported more challenges with hiring staff.
- **Centers and group homes** reported more challenges in paying staff.

* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.

Other (<2%): Family Communication/Administrative Burdens, Marketing, and Provider Health

Providers Under Capacity Or With Closures
(n = 452)
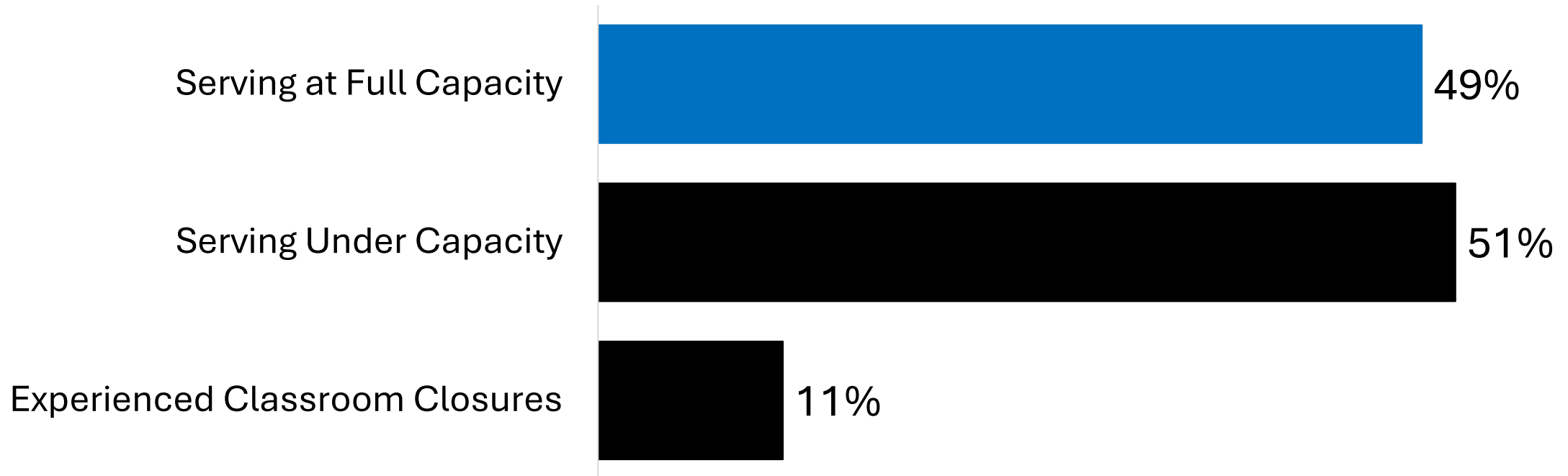
Map of Capacity
(n = 452)

Being at full or under capacity and experiencing closures **did not vary** by economic development region.
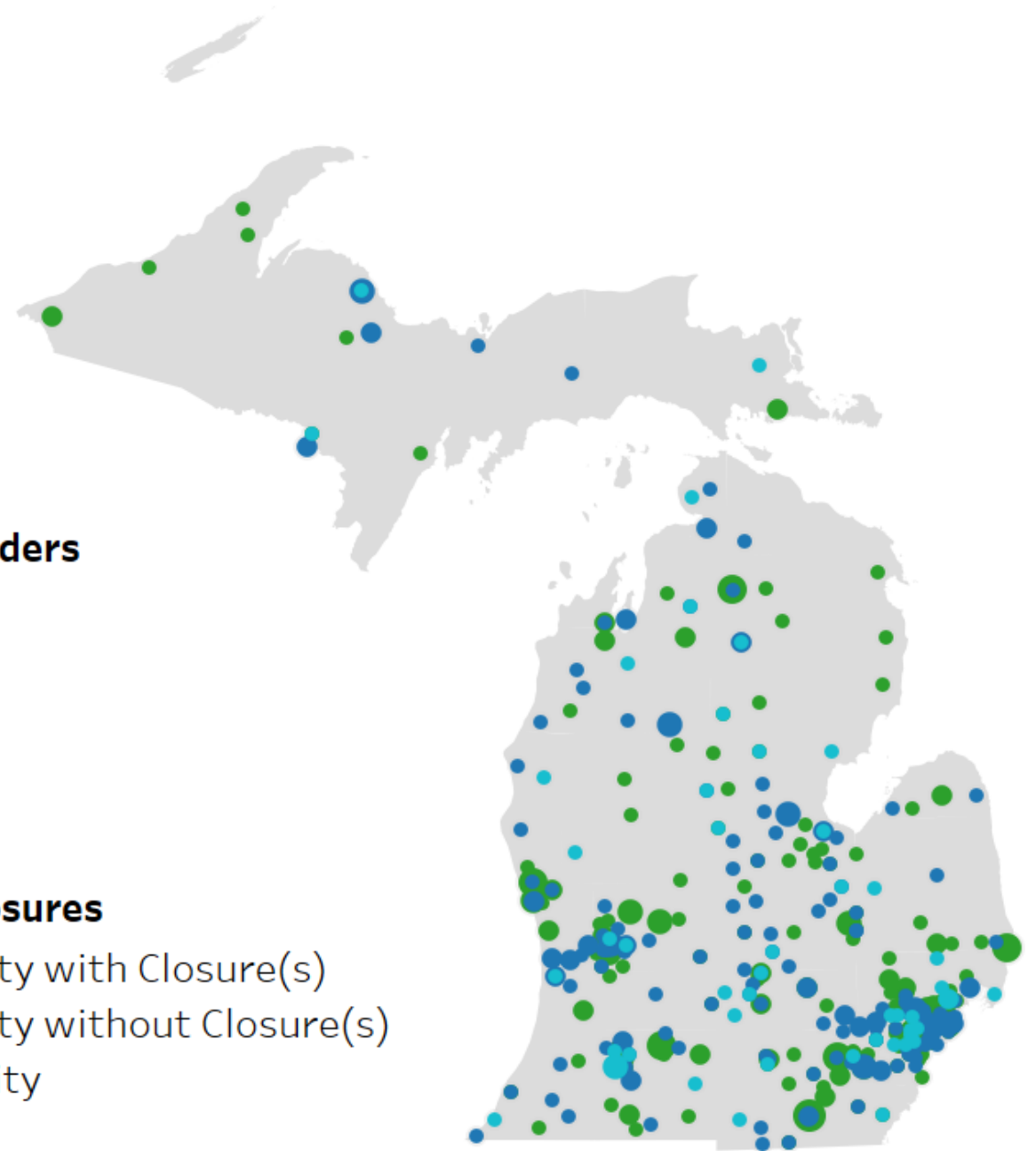
Centers, providers in rural areas, and providers serving preschoolers were **more likely** to report being under capacity.
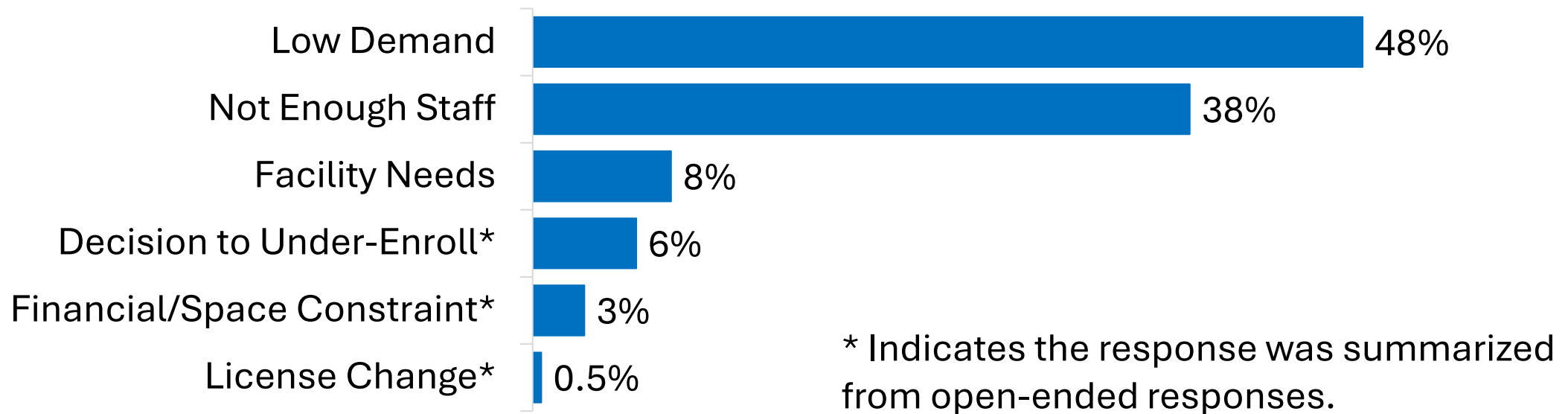
Number of Providers

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Capacity and Closures

- Under Capacity with Closure(s)
- Under Capacity without Closure(s)
- At Full Capacity

Reason for Being Under Capacity or Experiencing Closures (n = 231)

Reason	Percentage
Low Demand	48%
Not Enough Staff	38%
Facility Needs	8%
Decision to Under-Enroll*	6%
Financial/Space Constraint*	3%
License Change*	0.5%

* Indicates the response was summarized from open-ended responses.

Providers serving **preschoolers** were most likely to attribute being under capacity or closed to **low demand**, whereas providers serving **infants and toddlers** were most likely to report **not having enough staff**.

Map of providers under capacity or facing classroom closure due to *low demand*
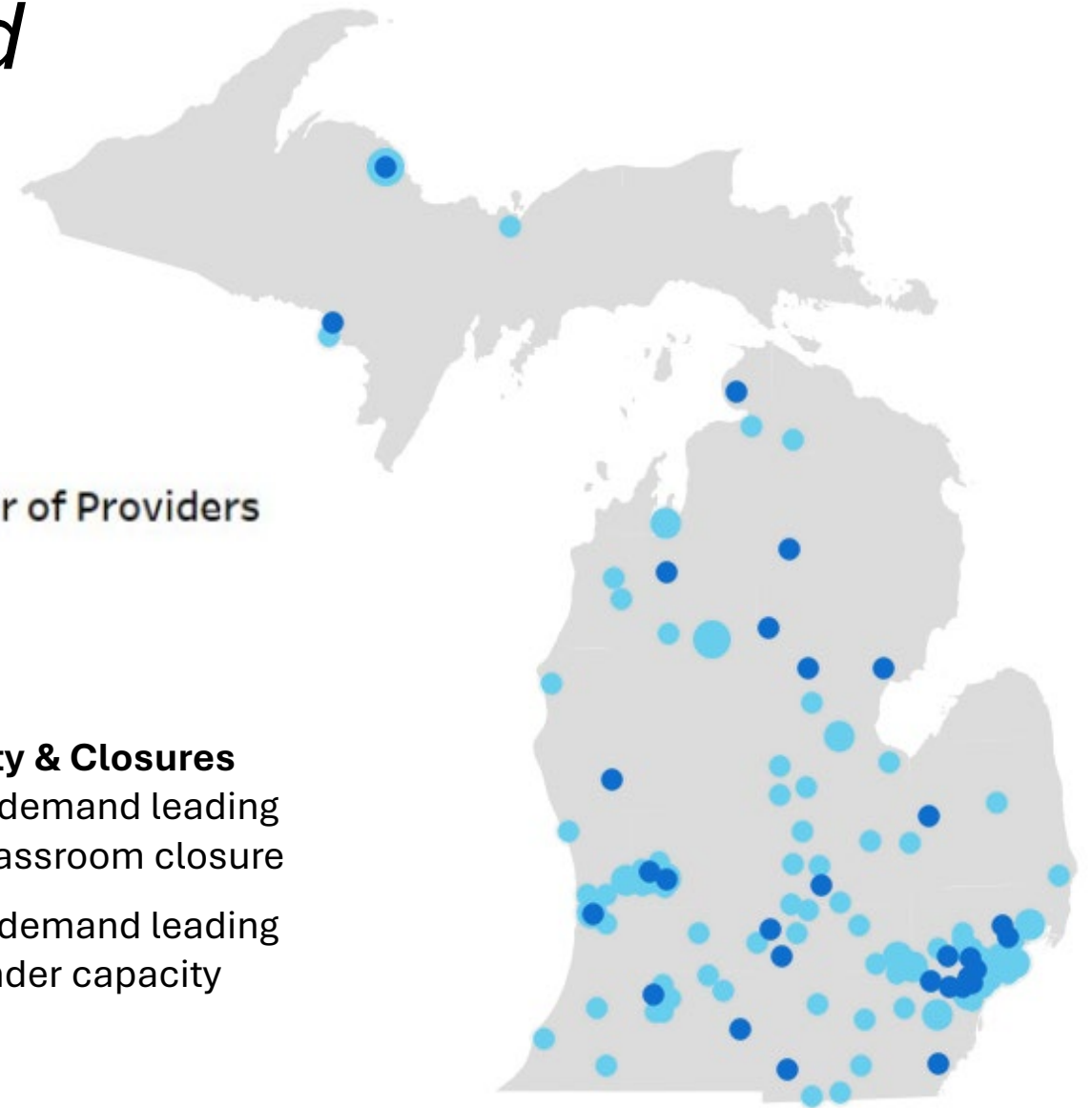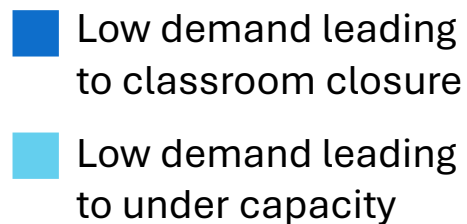
Providers' being under capacity or facing classroom closures due to low demand **varied significantly** by economic development region.

The Detroit Metro and West Michigan regions were most affected, representing 31.8% and 17.1% of impacted providers across regions.
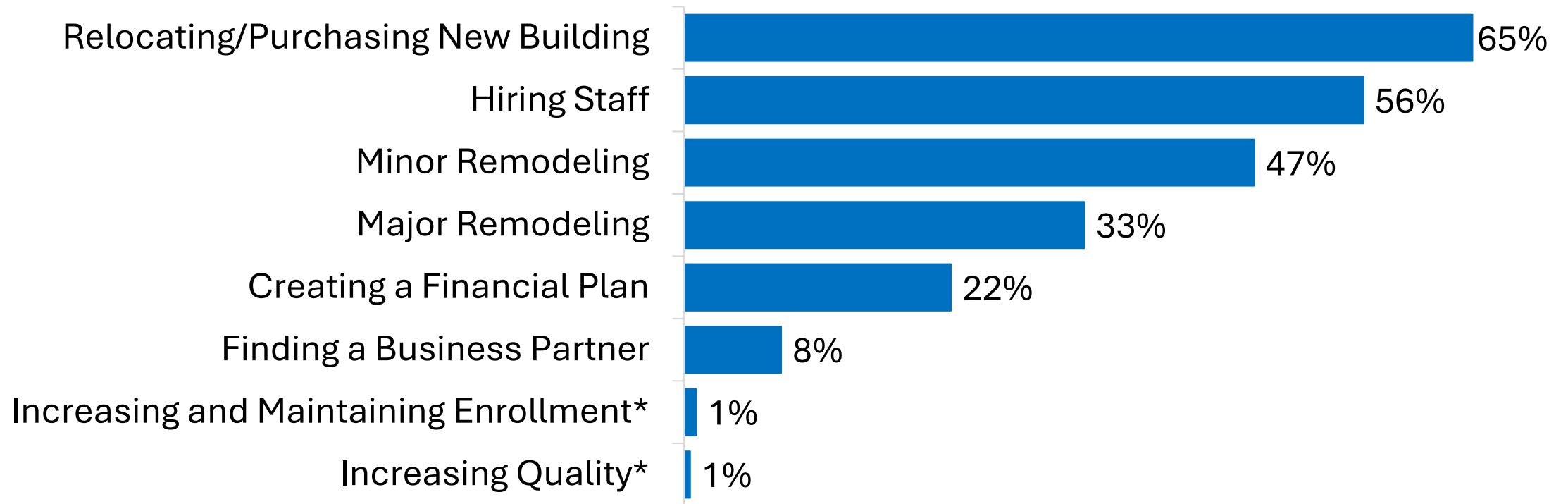
Number of Providers
- 1
- 2
- 3

Capacity & Closures
- Low demand leading to classroom closure
- Low demand leading to under capacity

Of 352 respondents, 184 (52%) were interested in expansion

Category	Percentage
Relocating/Purchasing New Building	65%
Hiring Staff	56%
Minor Remodeling	47%
Major Remodeling	33%
Creating a Financial Plan	22%
Finding a Business Partner	8%
Increasing and Maintaining Enrollment*	1%
Increasing Quality*	1%

* Indicates the responses were summarized from open-ended responses.

Main Conclusions

CFMF Grants

The most common reason for not applying to CFMF grants was **not knowing** about them.

Major Challenges

1. Hiring, paying, and retaining staff
2. Increasing and maintaining enrollment
3. Managing operational costs

Expansion Support Needs

1. Facility improvements (e.g., relocating, minor and major remodeling)
2. Hiring staff

Dissemination

Email preferred with concise content, clear subject lines, and early communications.

Reasons Under Capacity or Closing Classrooms

1. Low demand (especially for preschool)
2. Not having enough staff (especially for providers serving infants/toddlers)

Contact:
Jamie Wu (wuhengch@msu.edu)
Marissa Castellana (caste121@msu.edu)
Holli Schlukebir (schluke4@msu.edu)