

Eurostudent Survey 8



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EUROSTUDENT Project

Survey which focuses on the social dimension of higher education.

21,000 responses from students in Irish HEIs in 2022.

Data is comparable across Europe.

Student voice on living situation, family, jobs, finances, workload, well-being...

eurostudent.eu
★★★★★★

HEA | AN tÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS
HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY



EUROSTUDENT SURVEY VIII

REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND LIVING
CONDITIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
STUDENTS IN IRELAND 2022

Report Layout

1. Demographic profile of students
2. College entry route, transition and access
3. Course characteristics
4. Student income and expenditure
5. Student accommodation
6. Course workload, student employment and time budget
7. Student mobility
8. Mental health and well-being
9. Effects of the Covid-19 pandemic
10. Digitalisation of teaching, learning and student life
11. Experiences of discrimination

Student wellbeing

Today's presentation will focus on:

- Mental health
- Effect of Covid 19
- Discrimination
- Workload and employment
- Financial difficulties
- Belonging



Mental Health and Well-being



Disability

Students were asked if they had a disability, impairment, long-standing health problem, functional limitation or learning disability:

- 17% mental health condition
- 7% learning condition
- 7% other condition
- 5% physical condition
- 5% sensory condition
- 1% mobility condition

Overall 32% of students.



How happy are you?

Across all students:

- 15% extremely happy
- 41% happy
- 29% neither happy nor unhappy
- 11% unhappy
- 3% extremely unhappy



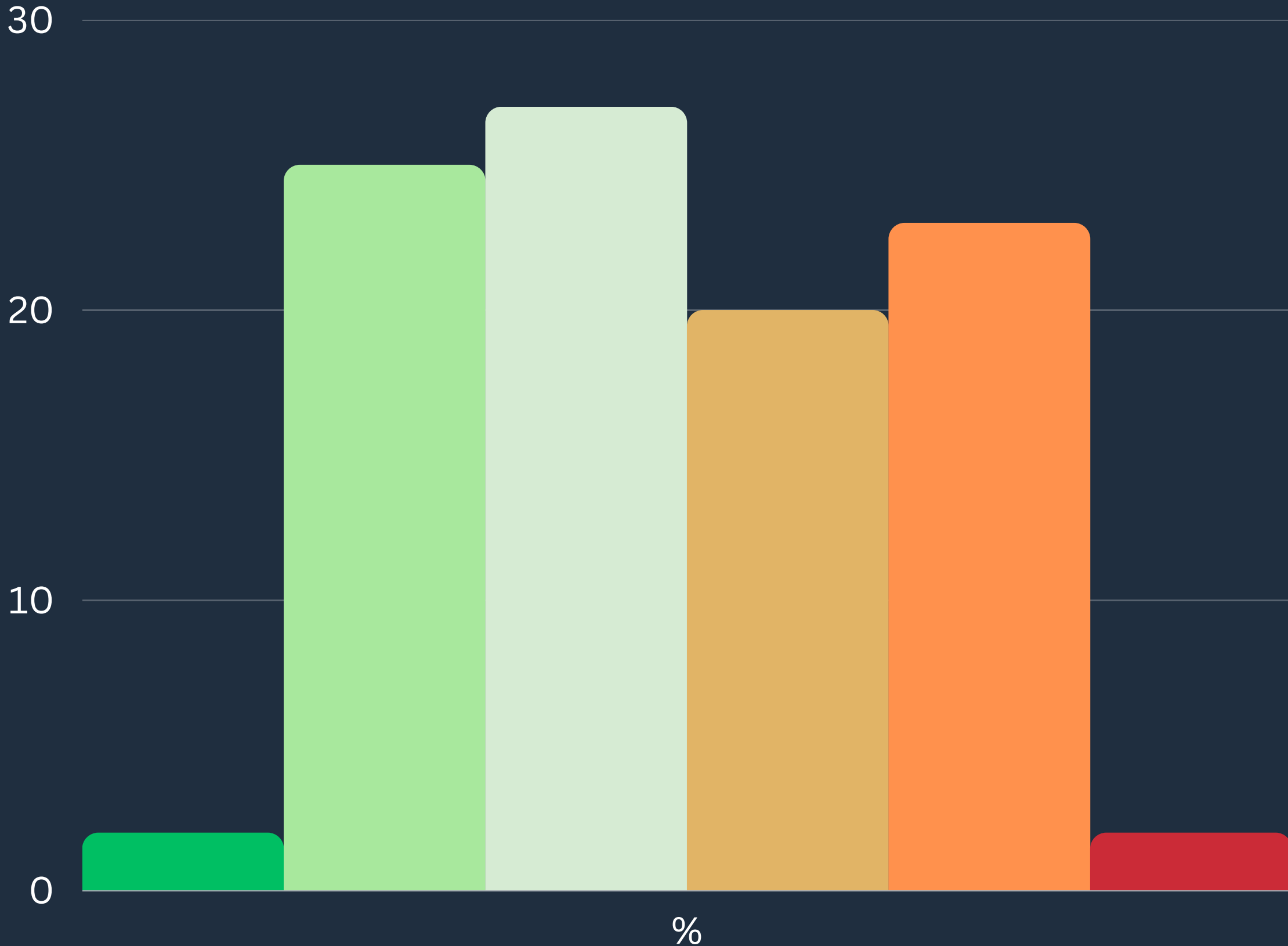
In the last two weeks...

"I have felt cheerful and in good spirits"

At least half of the time: 54%

At no time: 2%

- All of the time
- Most of the time
- More than half of the time
- Less than half of the time
- Some of the time
- At no time



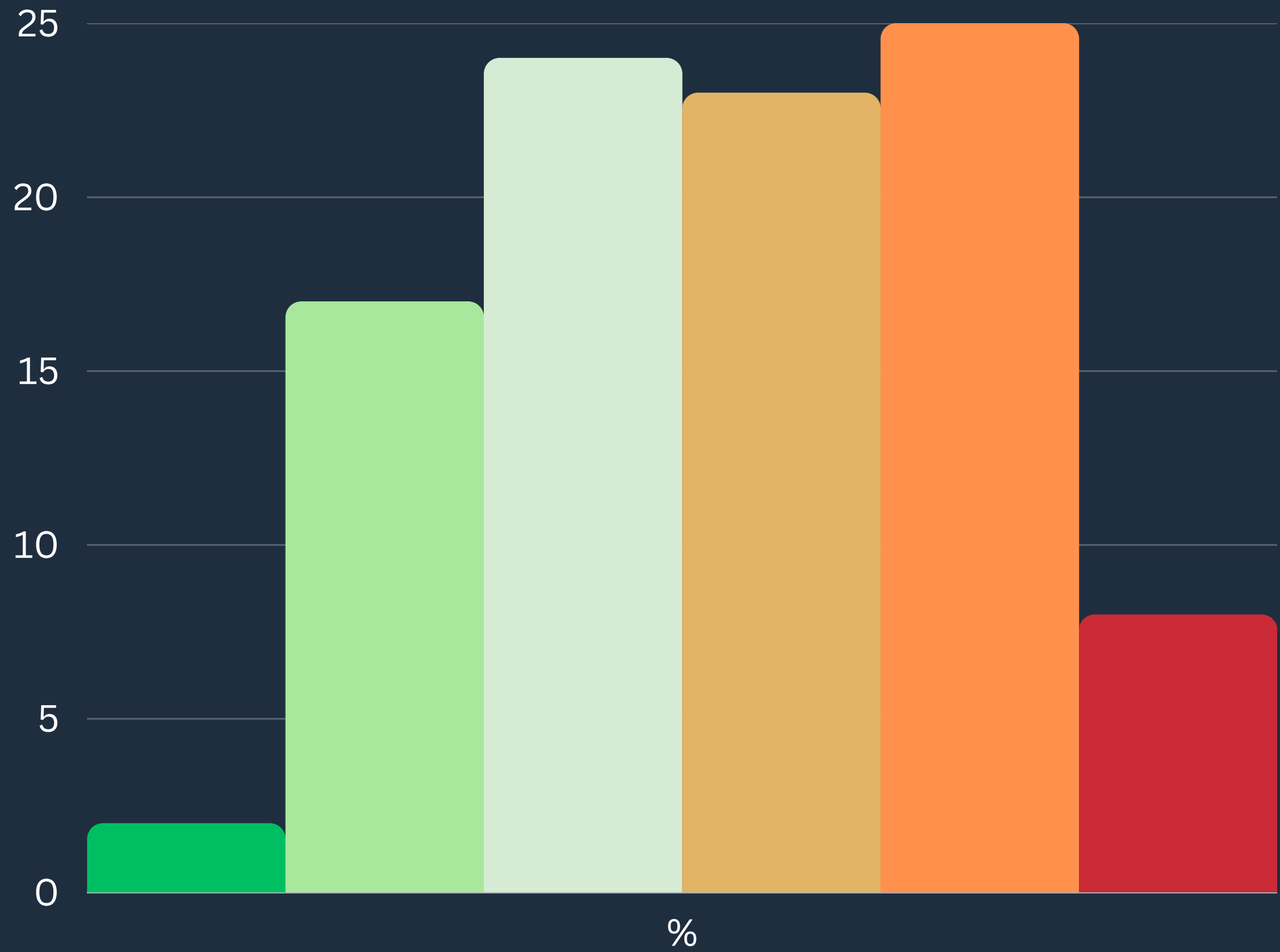
In the last two weeks...

"I have felt calm and relaxed"

At least half of the time: 43%

At no time: 8%

- All of the time
- Most of the time
- More than half of the time
- Less than half of the time
- Some of the time
- At no time

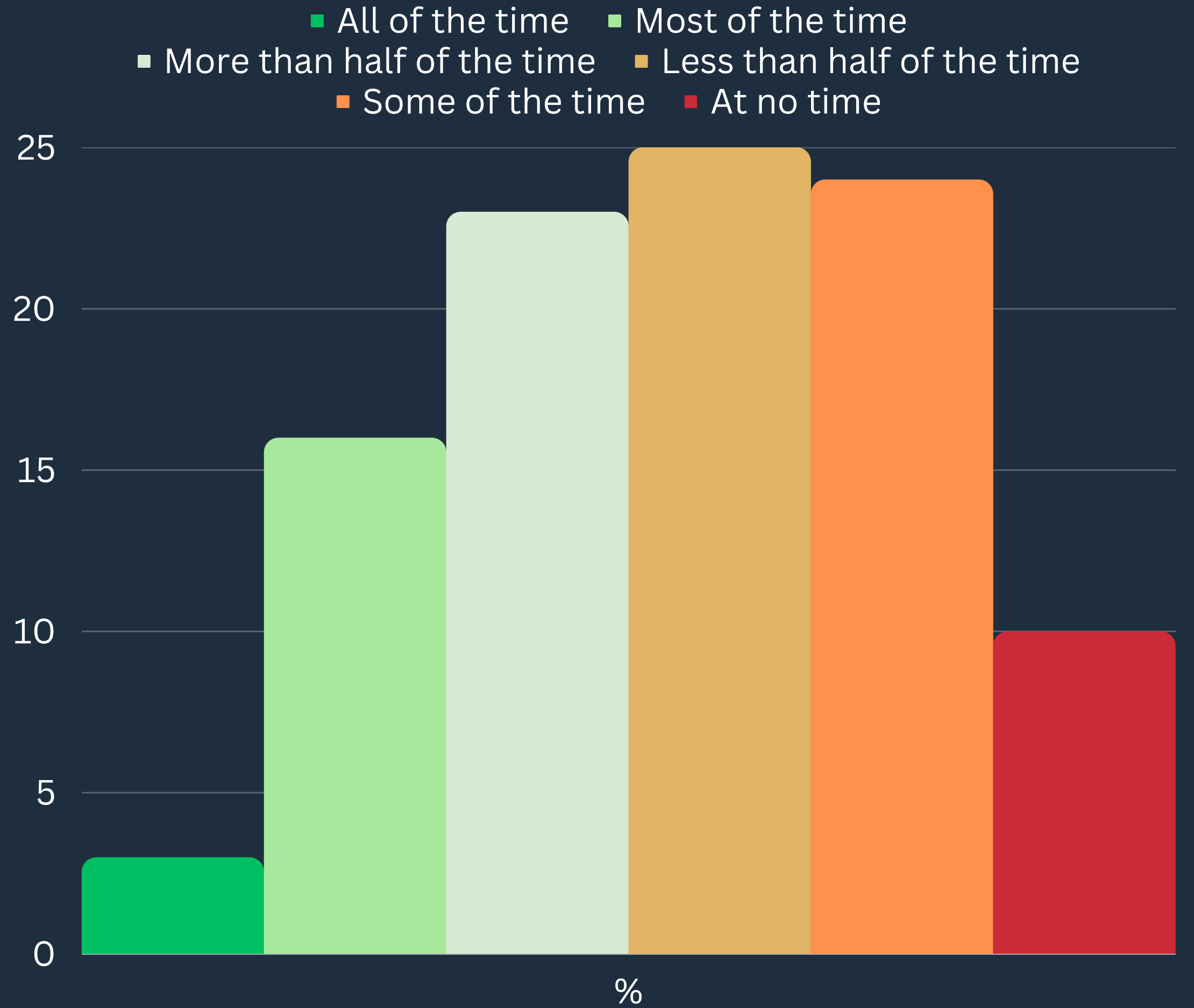


In the last two weeks...

"I have felt active and vigorous"

At least half of the time: 42%

At no time: 10%

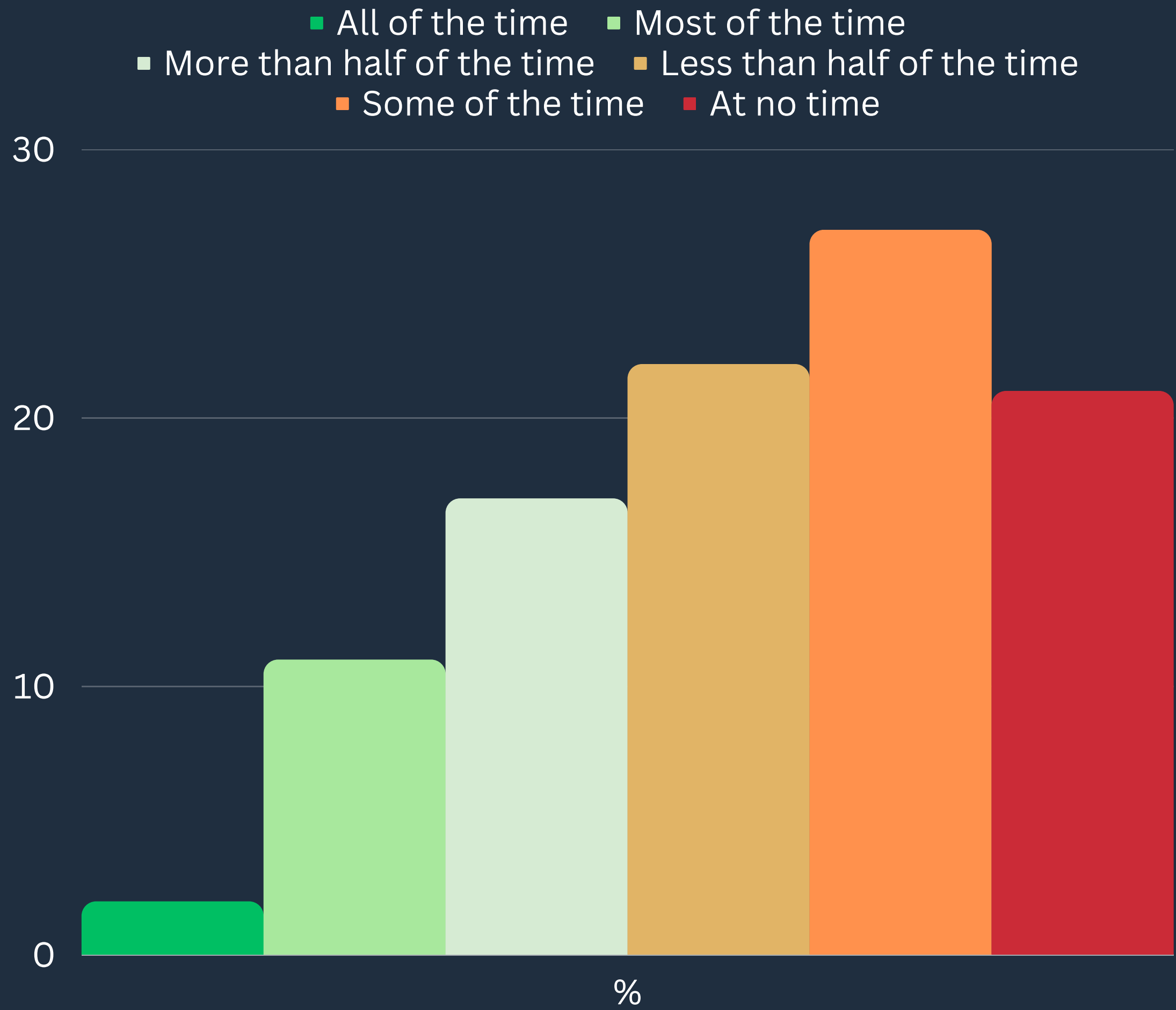


In the last two weeks...

"I woke up feeling fresh and rested"

At least half of the time: 30%

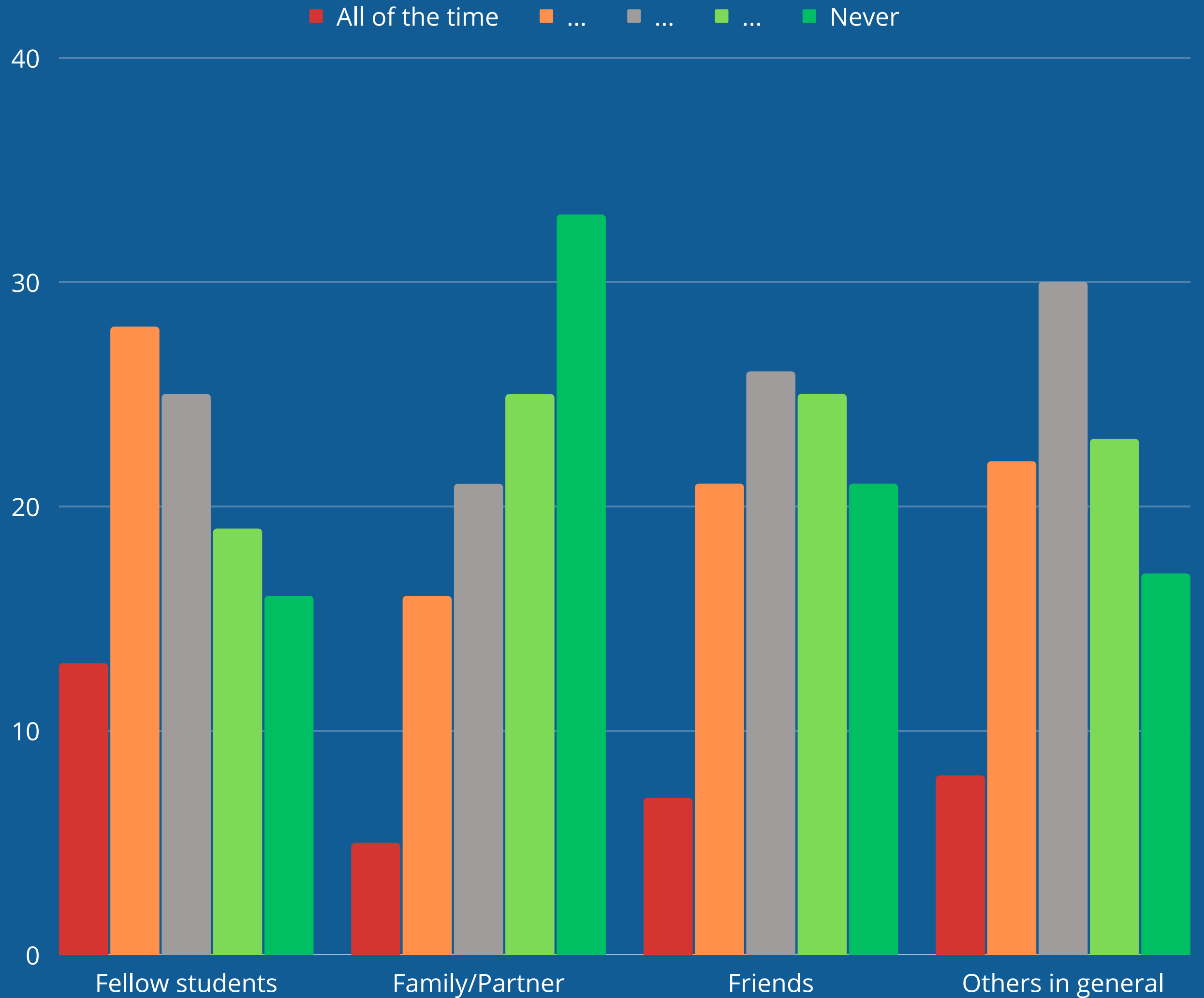
At no time: 21%



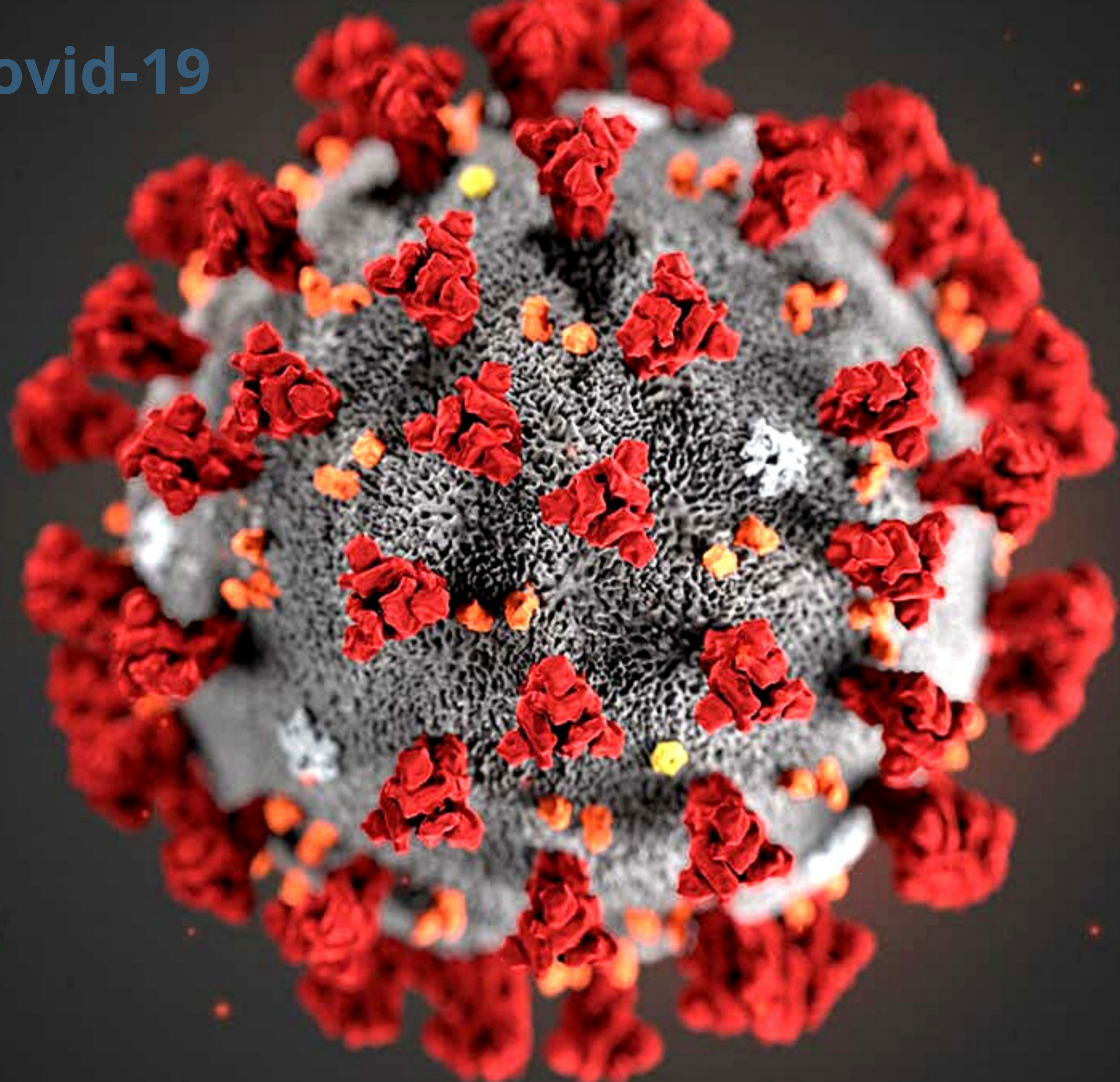
Isolation

From:

- Fellow students
- Family/partner
- Friends
- Others in general



Effects of Covid-19 Pandemic



Effect of pandemic

Motivation

Negative or very negative impact: 59%

No impact: 28%

Positive or very positive impact: 13%

Mental health

Negative or very negative impact: 58%

No impact: 35%

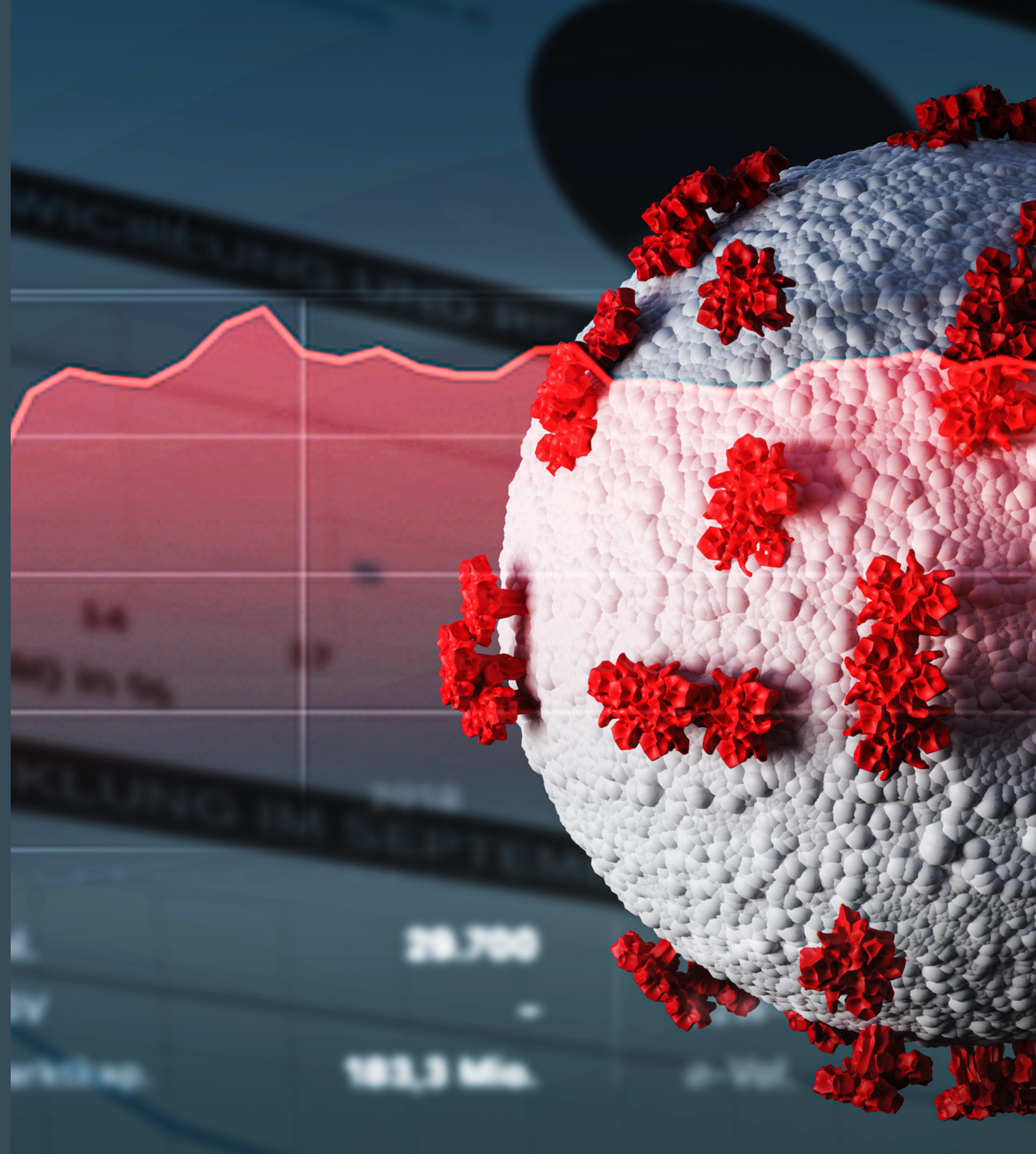
Positive or very positive impact: 7%

Contact with students

Negative or very negative impact: 68%

No impact: 23%

Positive or very positive impact: 9%



Experiences of discrimination



Because of who you are...

Subjected to physical violence

Many times: 0%

Never: 90%

Treated as less smart or capable

Many times: 6%

Never: 70%

Experienced sexual harrassment

Many times: 5% (7% female, 2% male)

Never: 77% (68% female, 86% male)



How safe do you feel...

Walking alone in the dark in your neighbourhood

Very safe: 29% (15% female, 45% male)

Very unsafe: 11% (19% female, 3% male)

Walking alone in the dark in your institution

Very safe: 37% (20% female, 56% male)

Very unsafe: 6% (10% female, 1% male)





Course workload and student employment

Age

Full-time undergraduates

- 71% under 21 years old
- 5% over 30 years old

Part-time undergraduates

- 5% under 21 years old
- 68% over 30 years old

Full-time postgraduates

- 76% under 30 years old
- 24% over 30 years old

Part-time postgraduates

- 26% under 30 years old
- 74% over 30 years old



Children

11% of the total student population have children:

Full-time undergraduates: 4%

Part-time undergraduates: 46%

Full-time postgraduates: 12%

Part-time postgraduates: 43%





Average weekly workload for full-time students

Taught studies: 18 hours

Personal study: 19 hours

Subtotal: 37 hours

Total including paid jobs: 46
hours



Average weekly workload for part-time students

Taught studies: 7 hours

Personal study: 13 hours

Subtotal: 20 hours

Total including paid jobs: 55
hours

OPPORTUNITIES

Student Jobs

JOB OPPORTUNITY
ability in succ
efficient

Employment

Full-time students

Undergraduates

- 57% work during term-time

Postgraduates

- 58% work during term-time

Part-time students

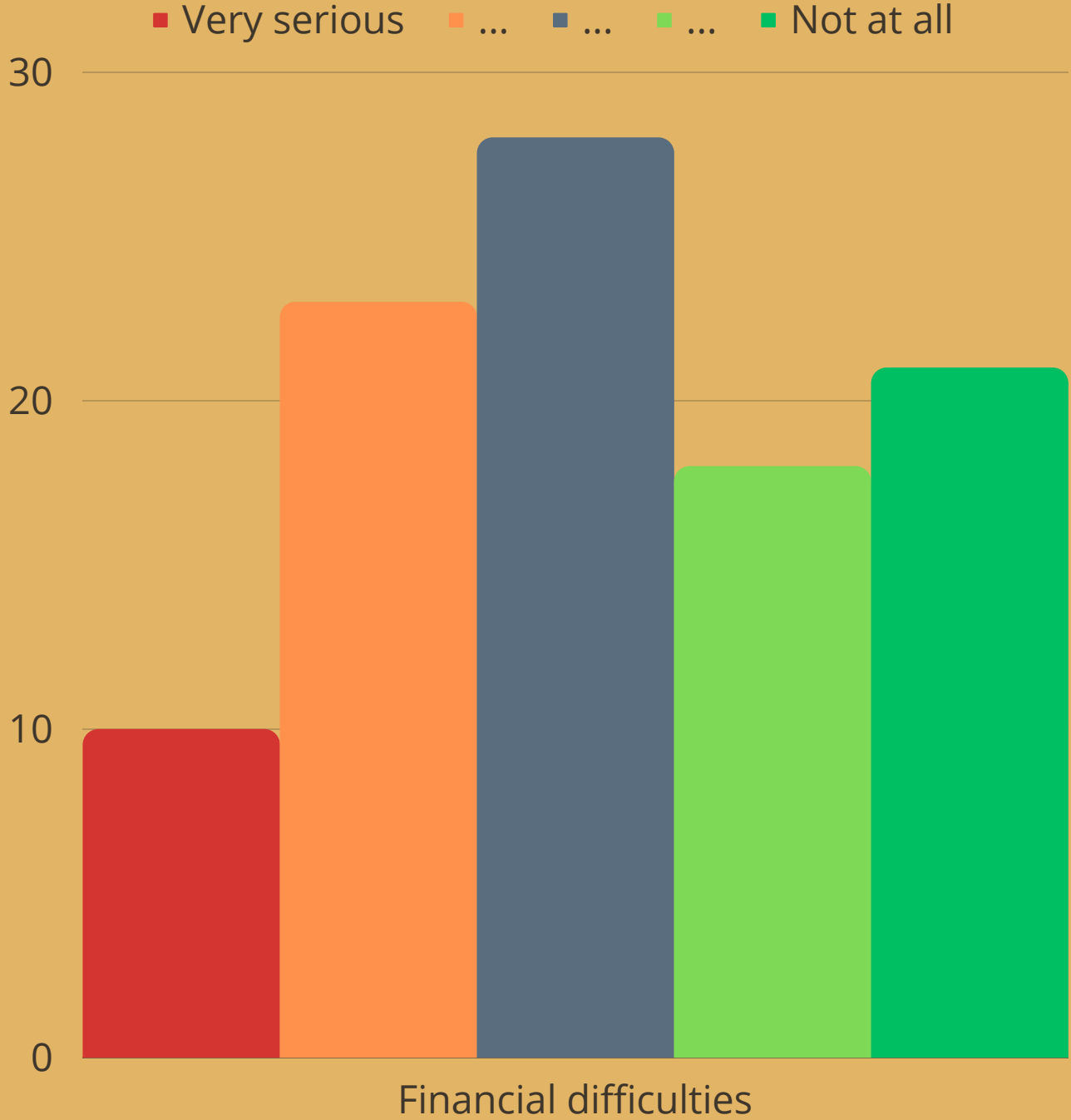
Undergraduates

- 90% work during term time

Postgraduates

- 93% work during term-time

Financial Well-being



- 33% experiencing financial difficulties
- Compares with 26% in previous Eurostudent report

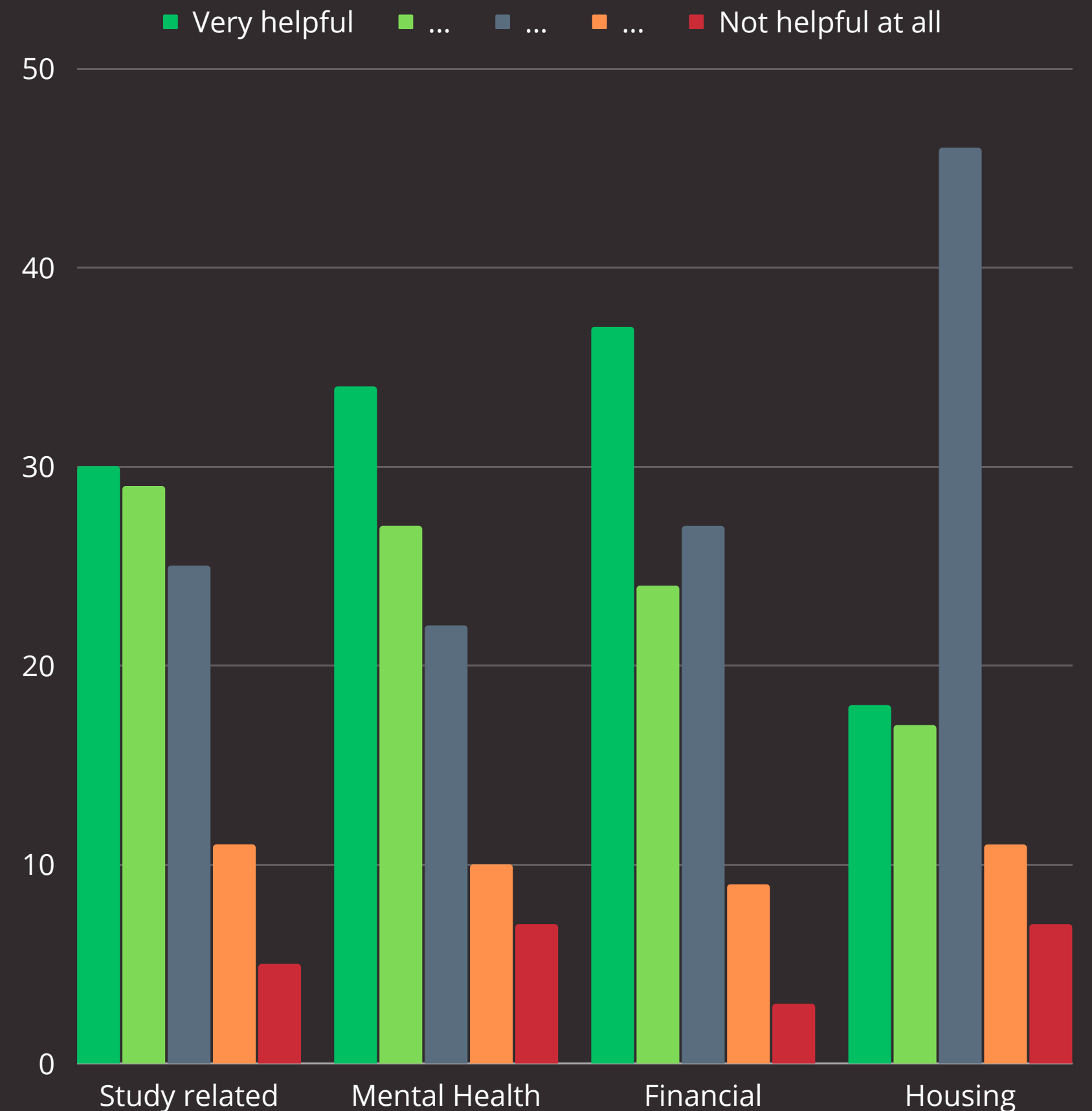
Institutional services

Knowledge of services:

- 68% know of study-related counselling
- 75% know of mental health counselling
- 56% know of financial counselling
- 39% know of housing counselling

Use of services:

- 8% have used study-related counselling
- 13% have used mental health counselling
- 6% have used financial counselling
- 2% have used housing counselling





Belonging



Belonging

"It was always clear I would study in higher education one day."

75% strongly agree or agree

13% strongly disagree or disagree

"I know a lot of fellow students with whom I can discuss subject-related questions."

58% strongly agree or agree

24% strongly disagree or disagree



Belonging

"I often have the feeling that I don't really belong in higher education."

22% strongly agree or agree

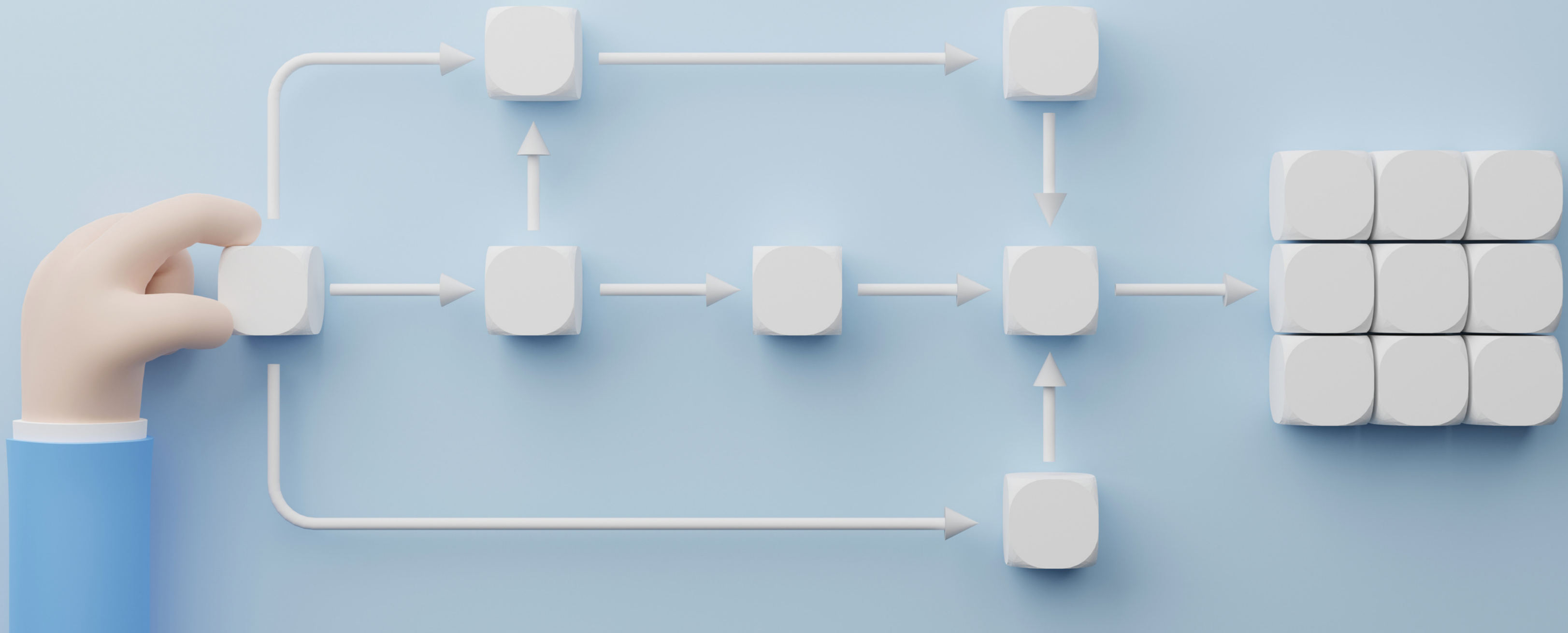
61% strongly disagree or disagree

"I am seriously thinking of completely abandoning my higher education studies."

6% strongly agree or agree

87% strongly disagree or disagree

Conclusions



Student well-being

Overall high levels of student satisfaction with higher education provision!

Significant numbers of students reporting challenges with mental health and well-being.

Isolation from fellow students, partly driven by Covid-19, has impacted negatively on students.

Financial challenges are a reality for many students.

Critical importance of student support services in mental health, finances, study support, and efforts to combat discrimination.





THANK YOU

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