

Public Opinion Research Ukrainian Refugees in Poland



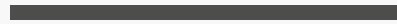
NATIONAL
DEMOCRATIC
INSTITUTE

December 2023
*Research conducted by
Minds and Roses*

Research Methodology

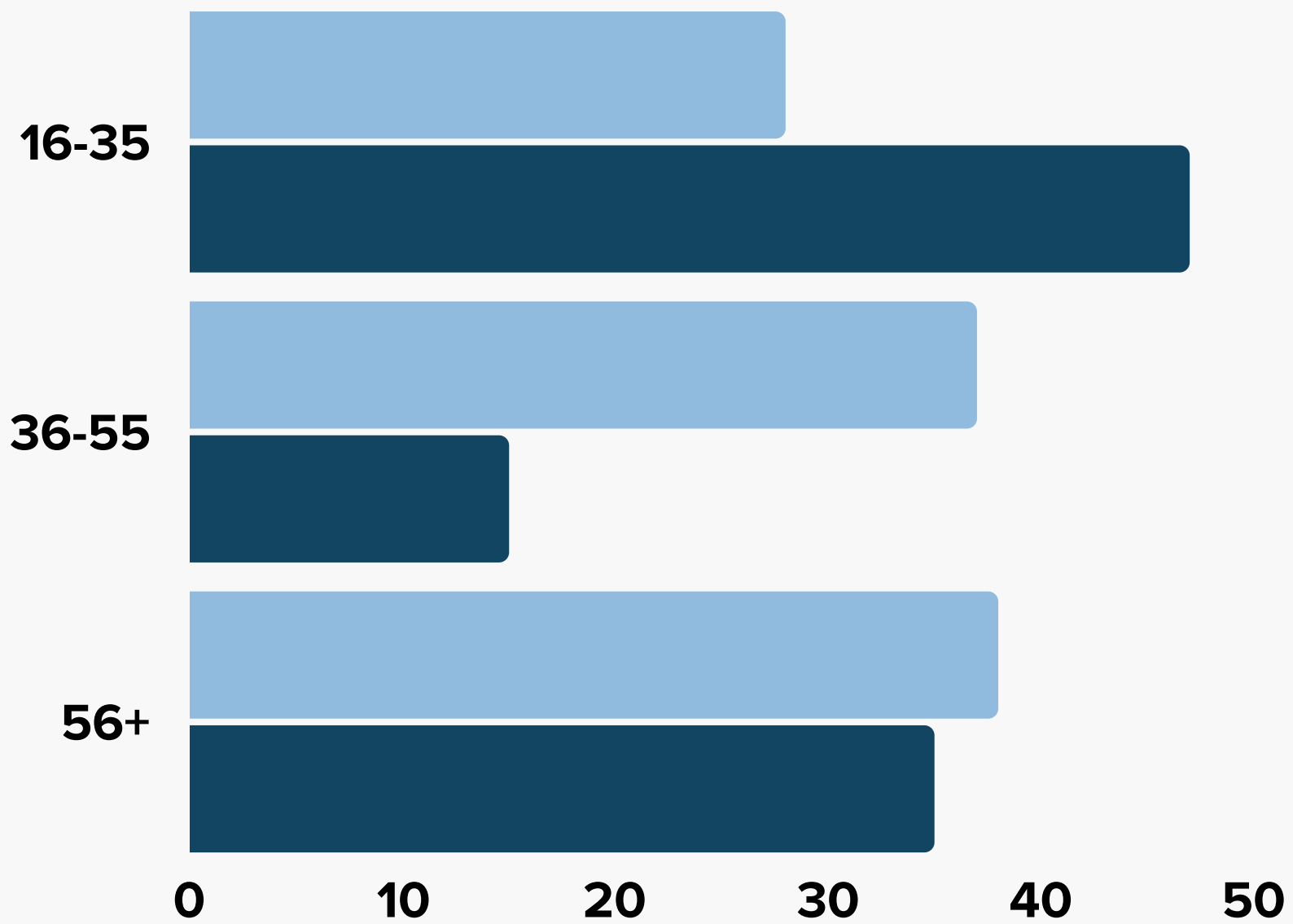
- Data Collection Time Period: May - June 2023
- Total Number of Interviews: 1400
 - 700 Polish residents & 700 Ukrainian residents in Poland
 - Białystok, Katowice, Łódź, Lublin, Rzeszów, Wrocław, Kraków
- Quantitative Research (700 F2F and 700 CATI interviews: 100 Ukrainian, 100 Polish, in each of the seven cities)
- Qualitative Research using 14 focus groups (seven with Polish citizens and seven with Ukrainians)
- Sample weighted to ensure the results reflect the structure of the population, relating to age, parental status (70% with children under the age of 13) and gender (50% women for Polish respondents; 80% women for Ukrainian respondents)

Survey Demographics



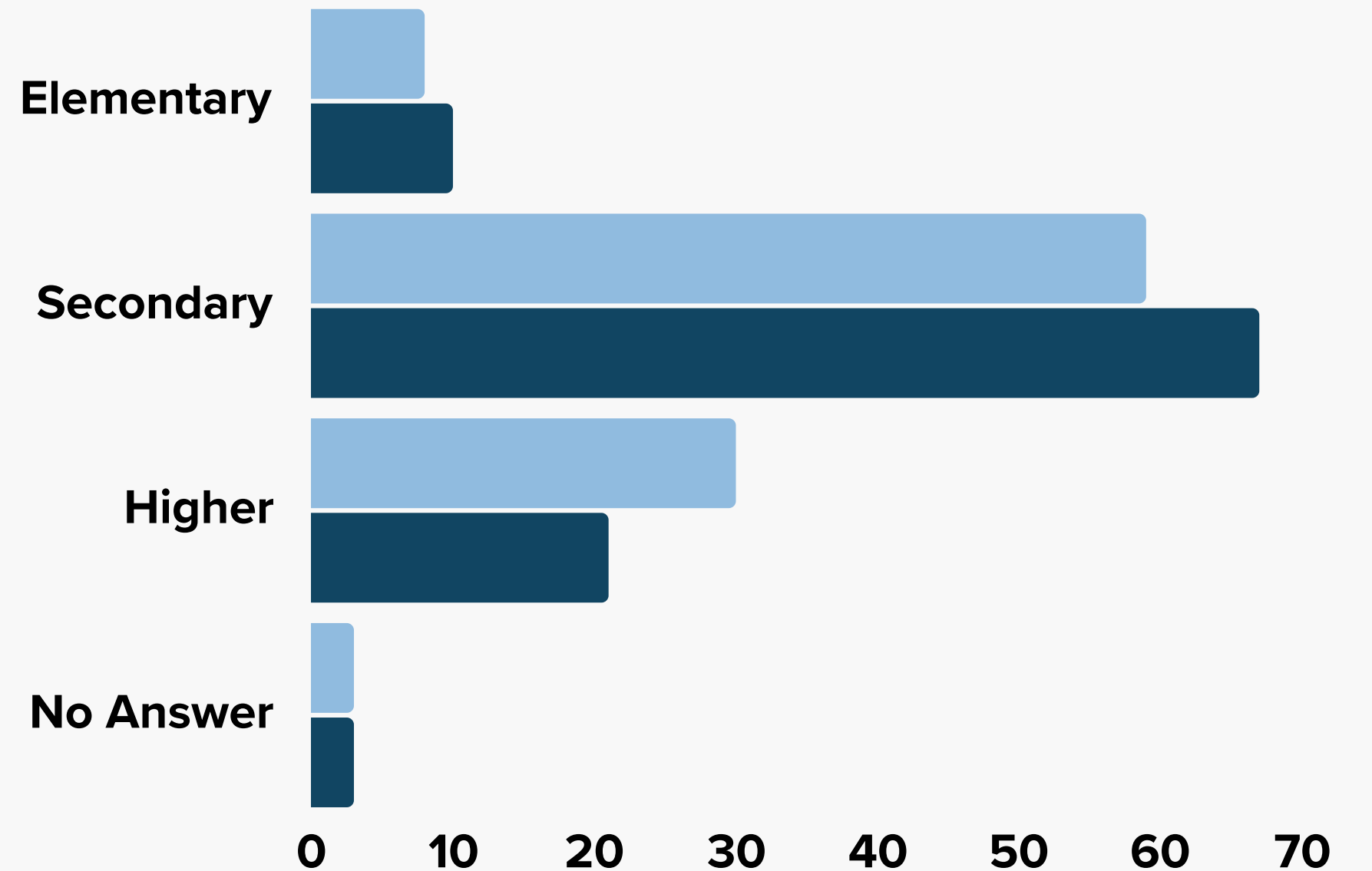
Age

Polish Ukrainian

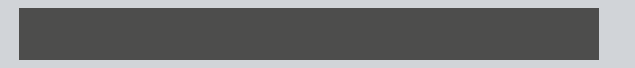


Educational Attainment

Polish Ukrainian

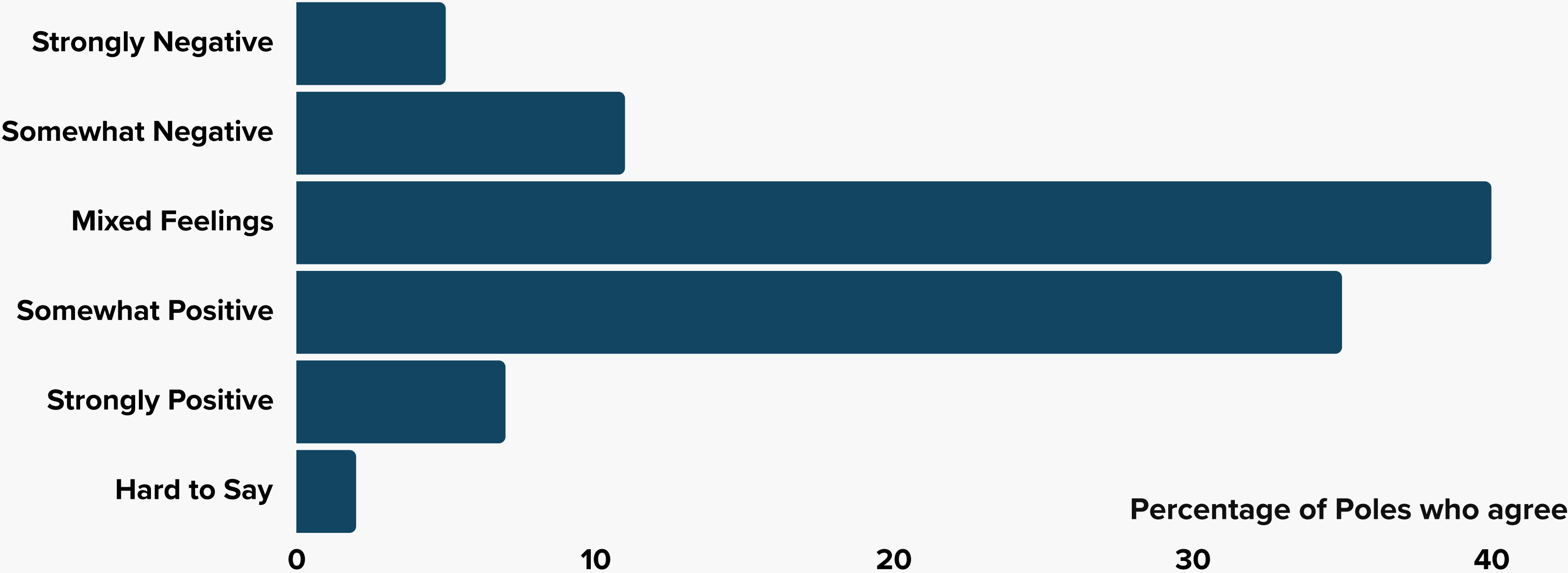


**Attitudes of Polish
Respondents
toward Ukrainian
Refugees**



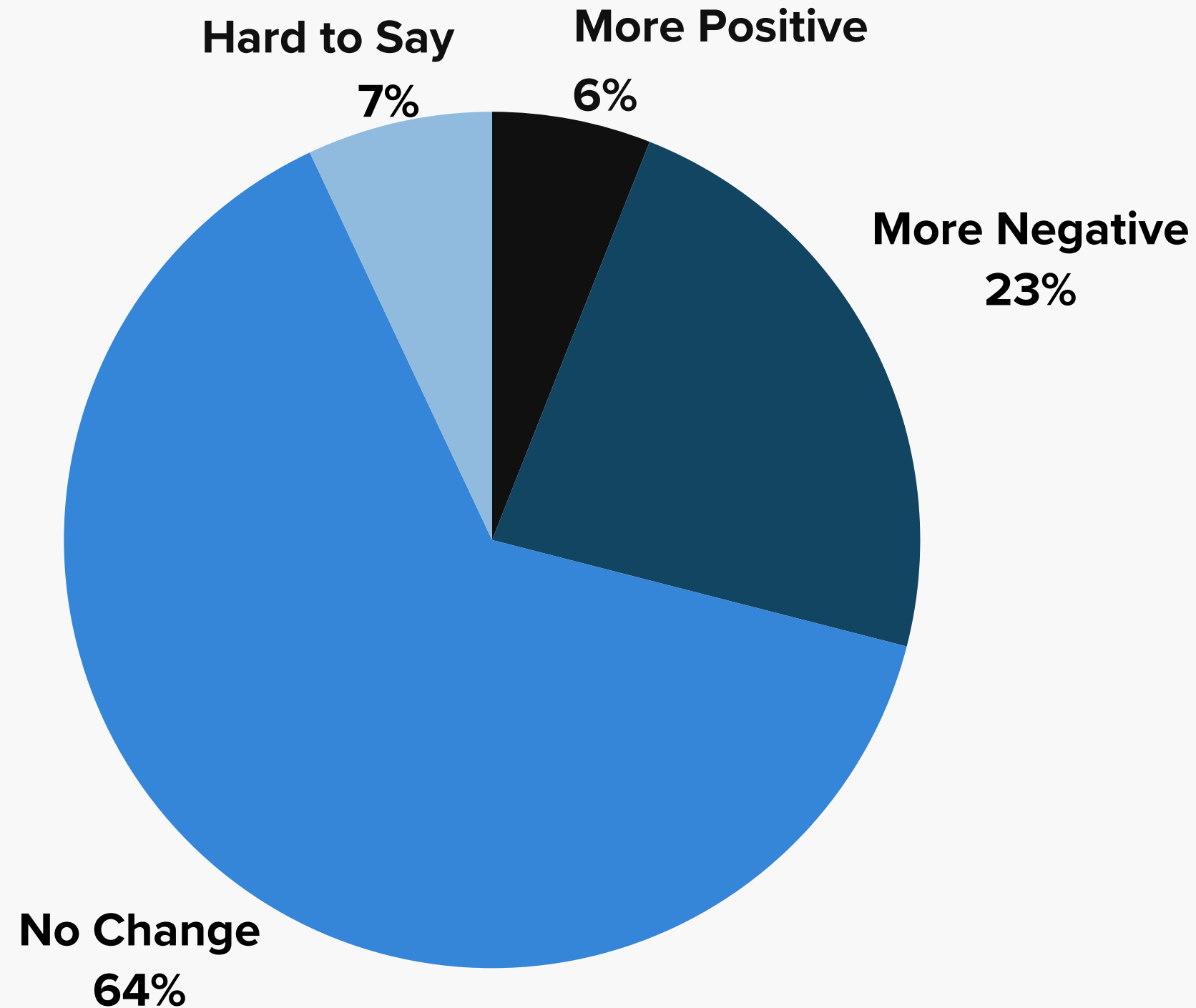
Polish sentiment toward Ukrainians ranges from positive to ambivalent.

What is your opinion about the refugees from Ukraine living in your city?



64% of Polish respondents have not changed their opinions about Ukrainian refugees, though negative sentiment has grown in the last year.

Since last year, when the migration of Ukrainian refugees began, has your opinion of them changed?

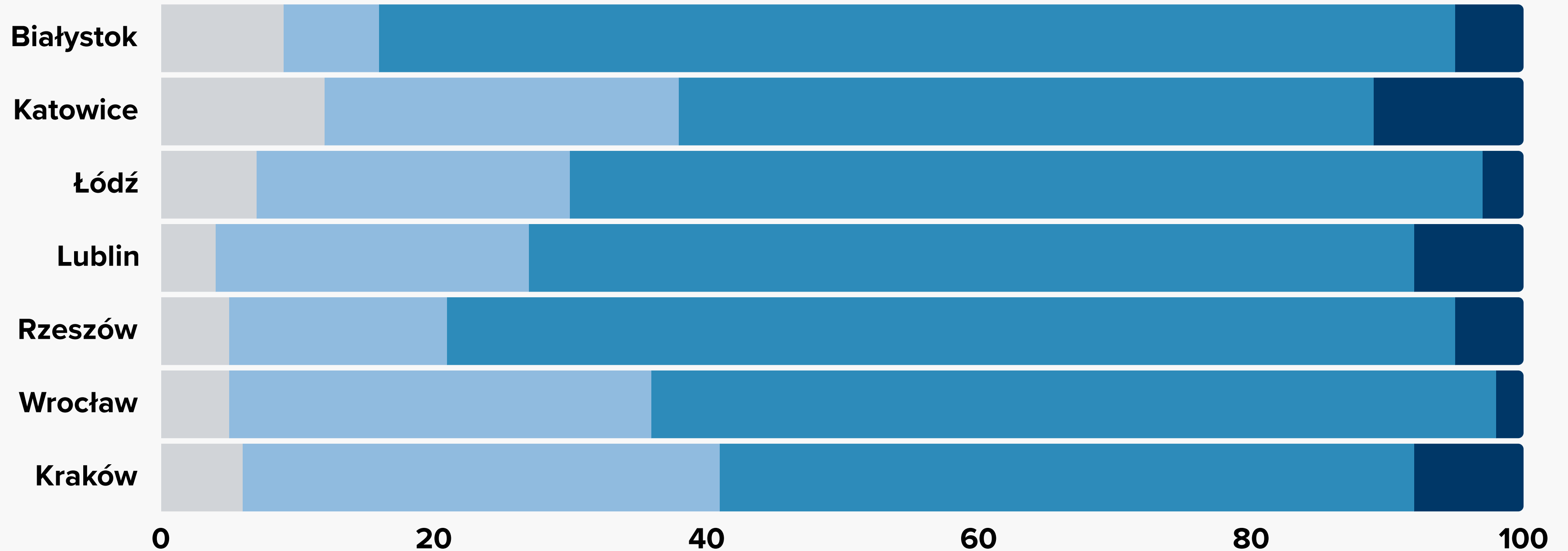


Percentage of Poles who agree

64% of Polish respondents have not changed their opinions about Ukrainian refugees, though negative sentiment has grown in the last year.

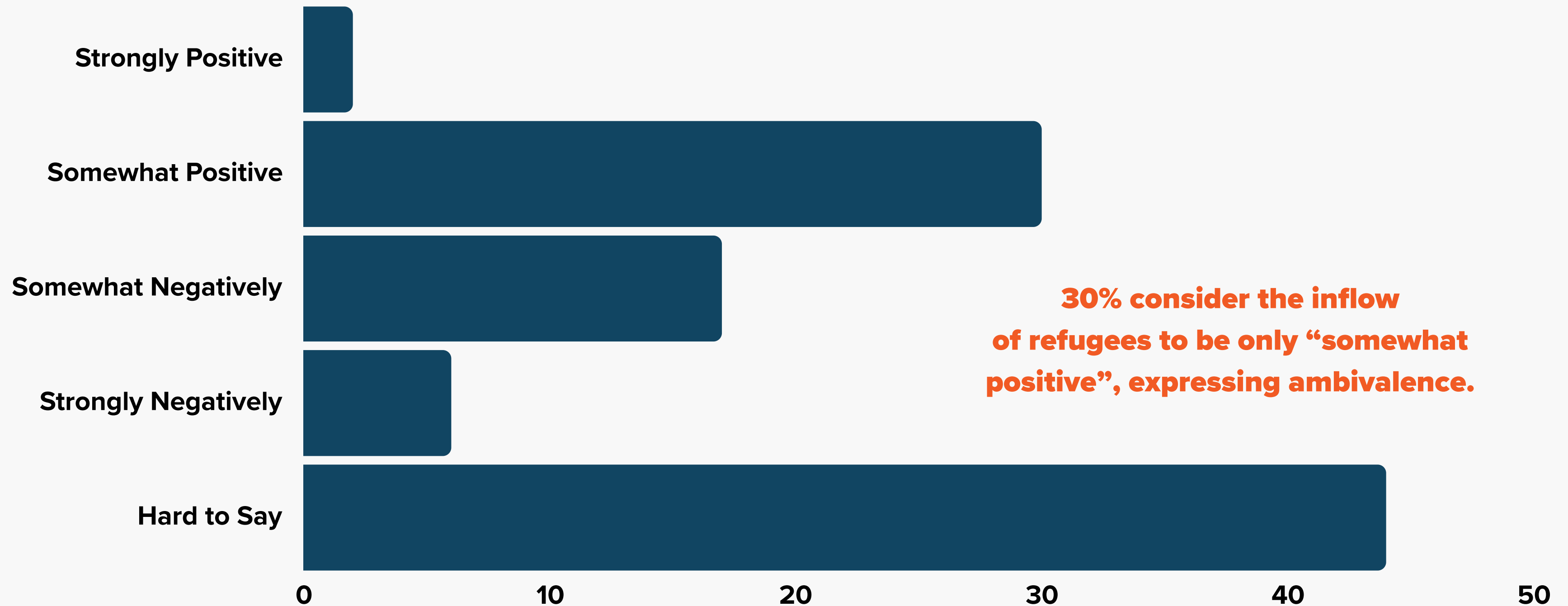
Percentage of Ukrainians reporting income relative to expectations

■ Hard to Say ■ Negatively ■ Same ■ Positively



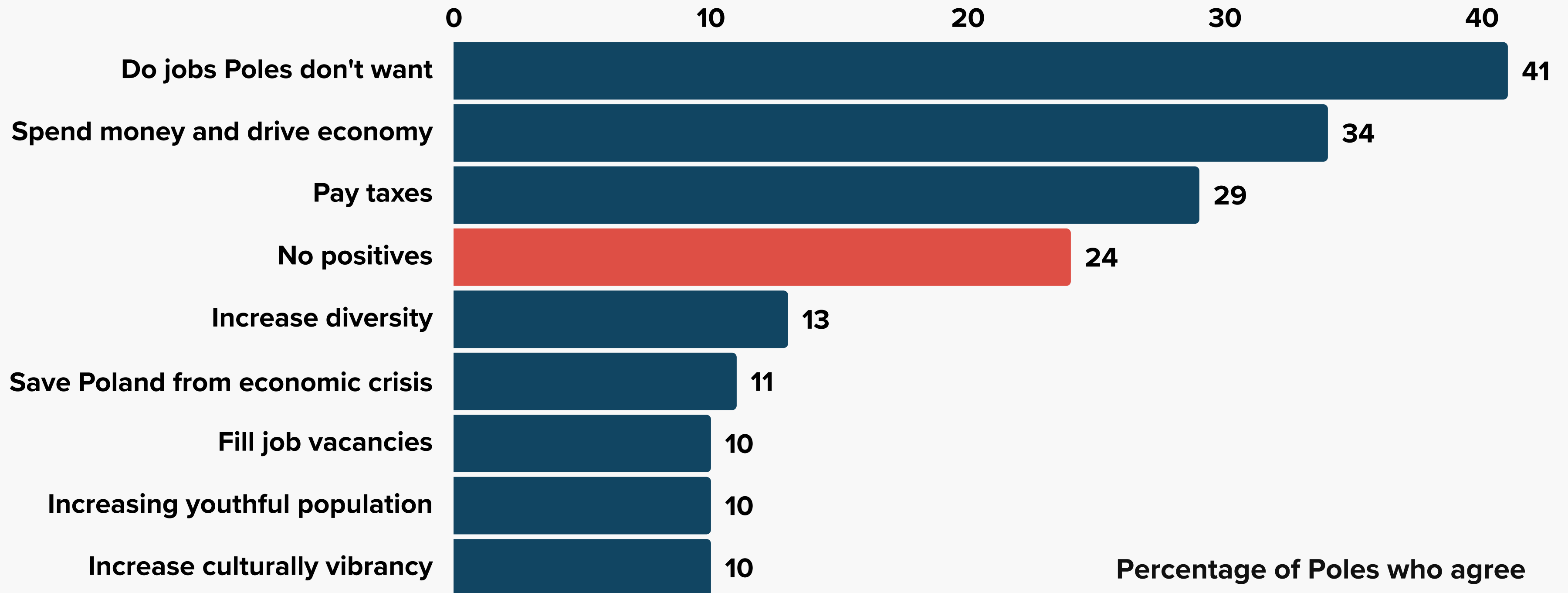
Respondents are unsure of how the influx of refugees will affect the future of their city.

How will the influx of refugees from Ukraine affect the future of your city?



Positive opinions toward refugees are primarily in regards to their economic impact.

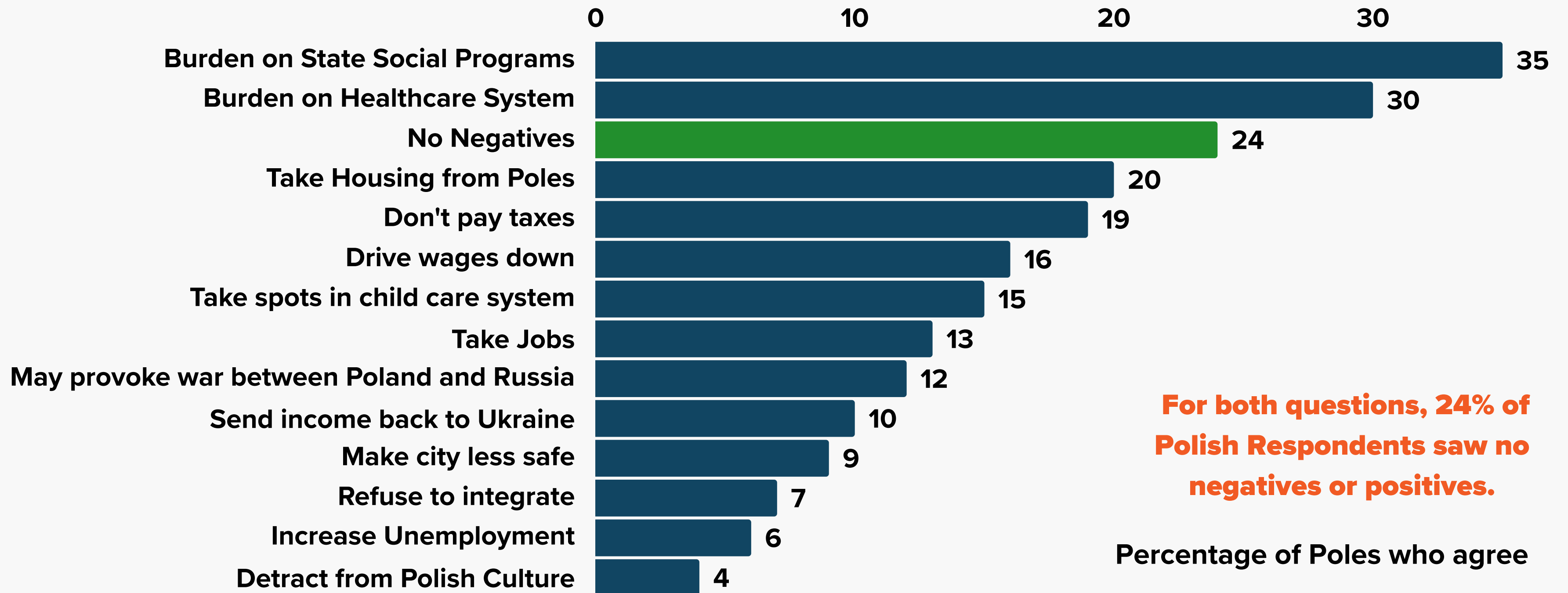
*What are the biggest benefits of the presence of refugees in your city?**



**Respondents selected up to three of the provided responses*

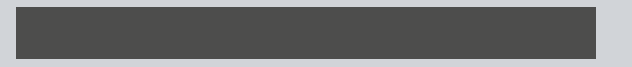
Poles' negative views concern refugees' use of social programs and their perceived burden on the healthcare system.

What are the biggest disadvantages of the presence of refugees in your city? Indicate up to three.



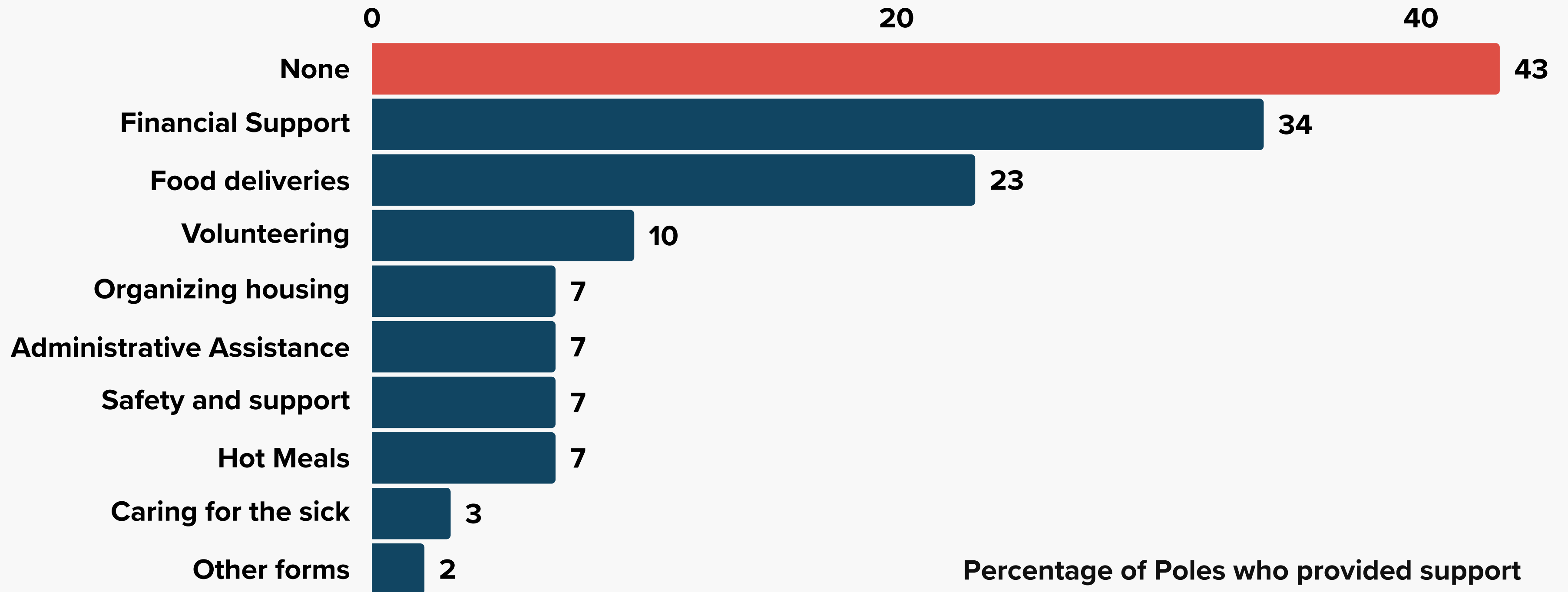


Support to Ukrainians in Poland



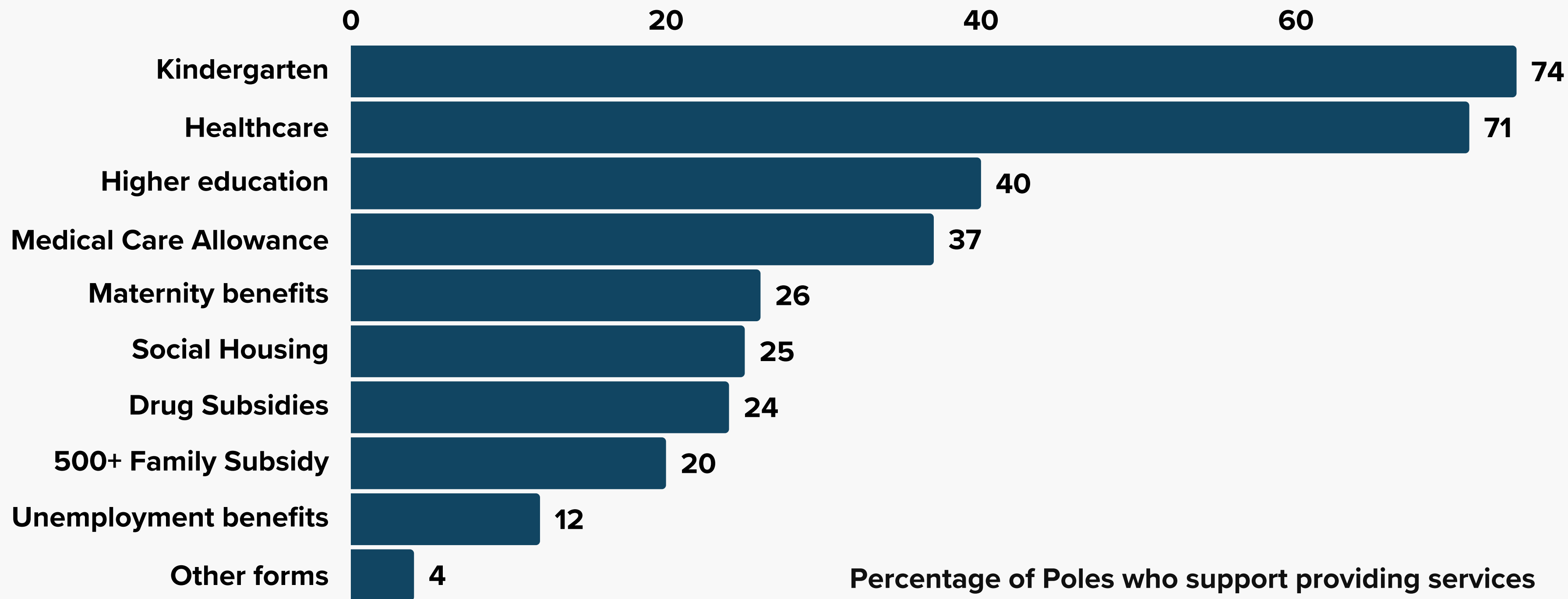
57% of Polish respondents were involved in at least one form of support, most often financial help.

How have you provided support to Ukrainian citizens in Poland in the last 18 months?



A majority support Ukrainian access to education and healthcare.

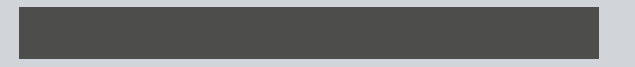
*What public services and social programs should refugees be able to benefit from? **



**(Multiple answers possible)*

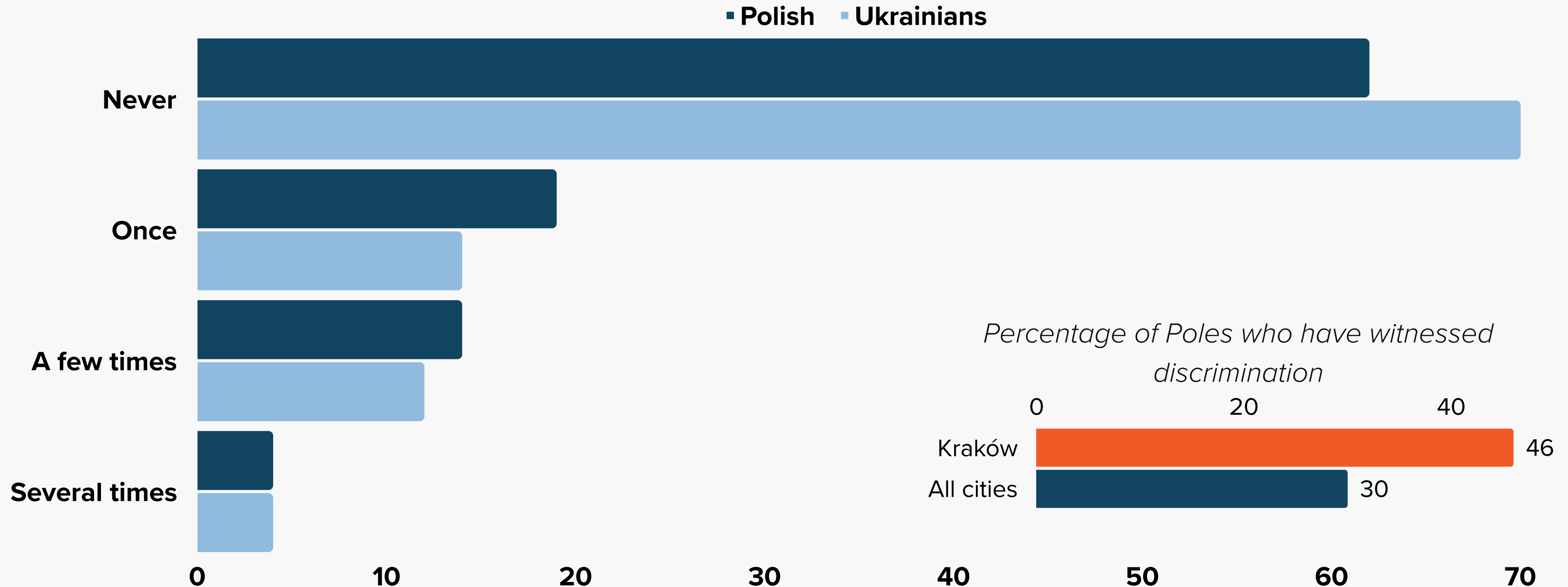


Discrimination & the Status of Ukrainian Refugees



All respondents reported encountering minimal discrimination against refugees.

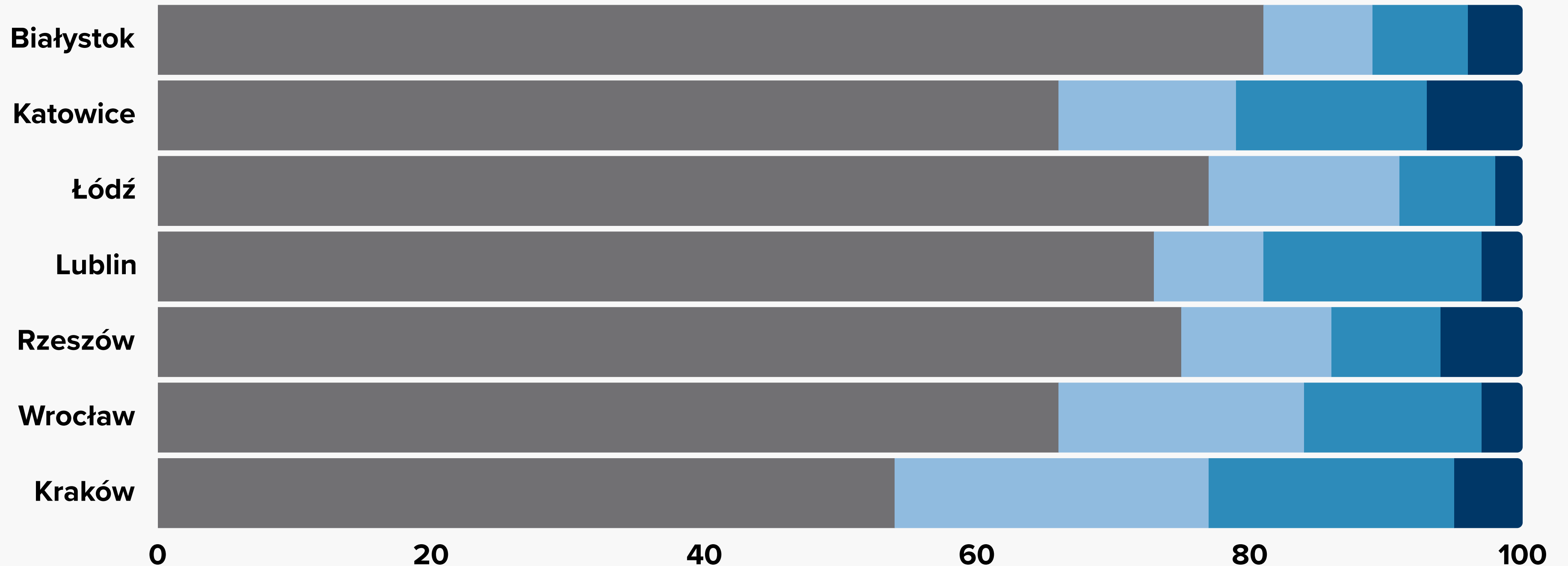
Have you witnessed any form of discrimination against refugees from Ukraine?



Frequency of Poles encountering discrimination against Ukrainians, by city.

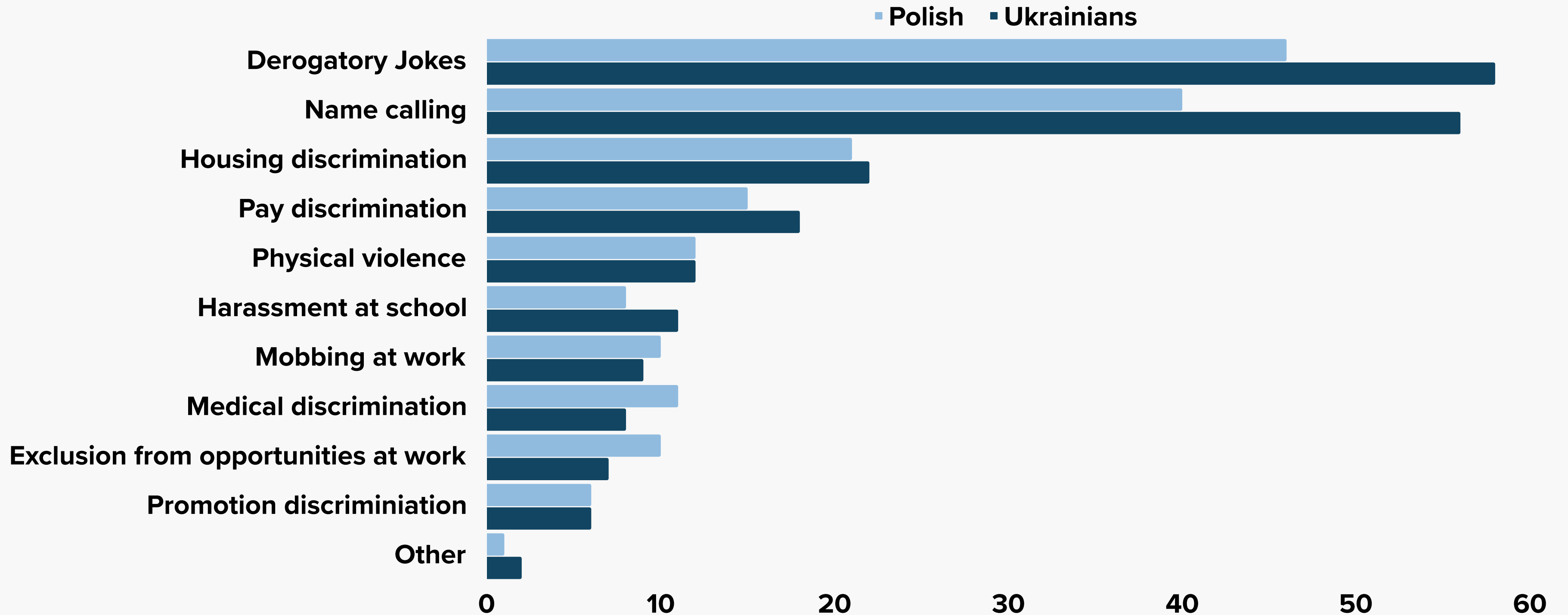
Have you witnessed any form of discrimination against refugees from Ukraine?

■ Never ■ Yes, once ■ Yes, a few times ■ Yes, several



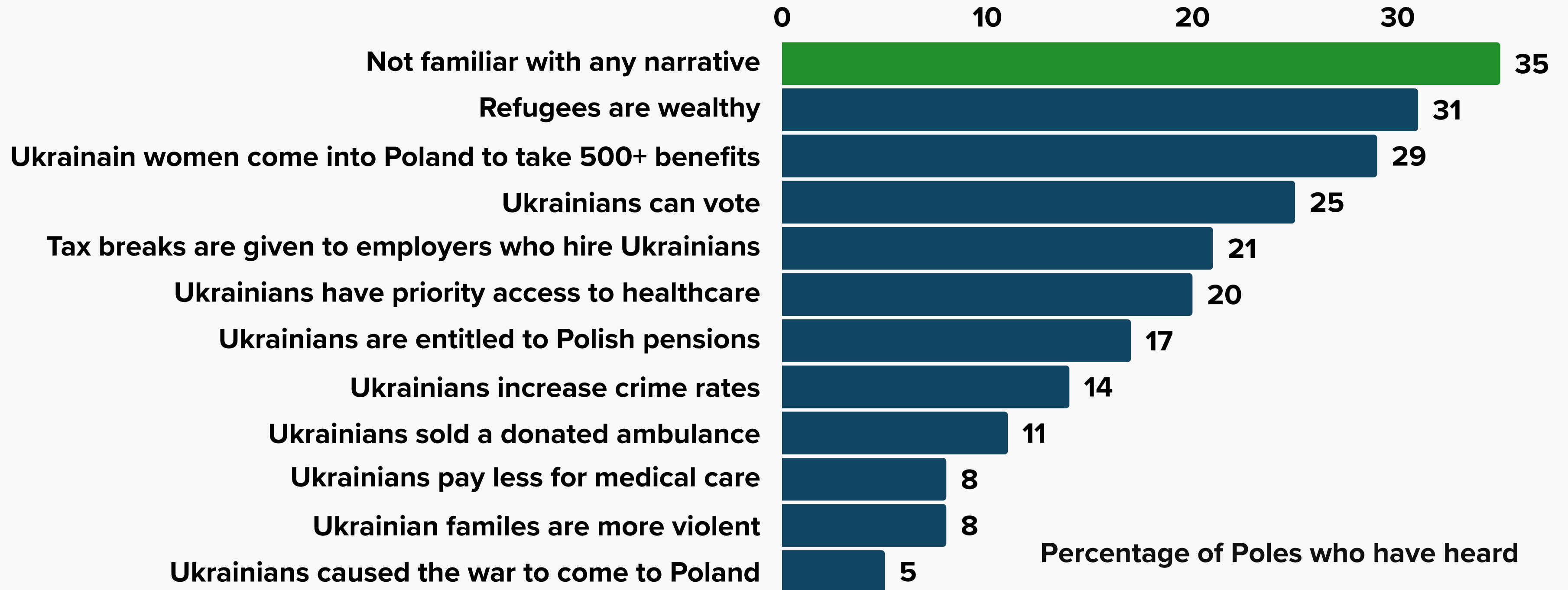
Verbal abuse is most common, and about 2 in 10 reported witnessing discrimination in both housing and pay.

*Have you witnessed discrimination against the refugees from Ukraine? What type of behavior?
Please indicate all appropriate.*



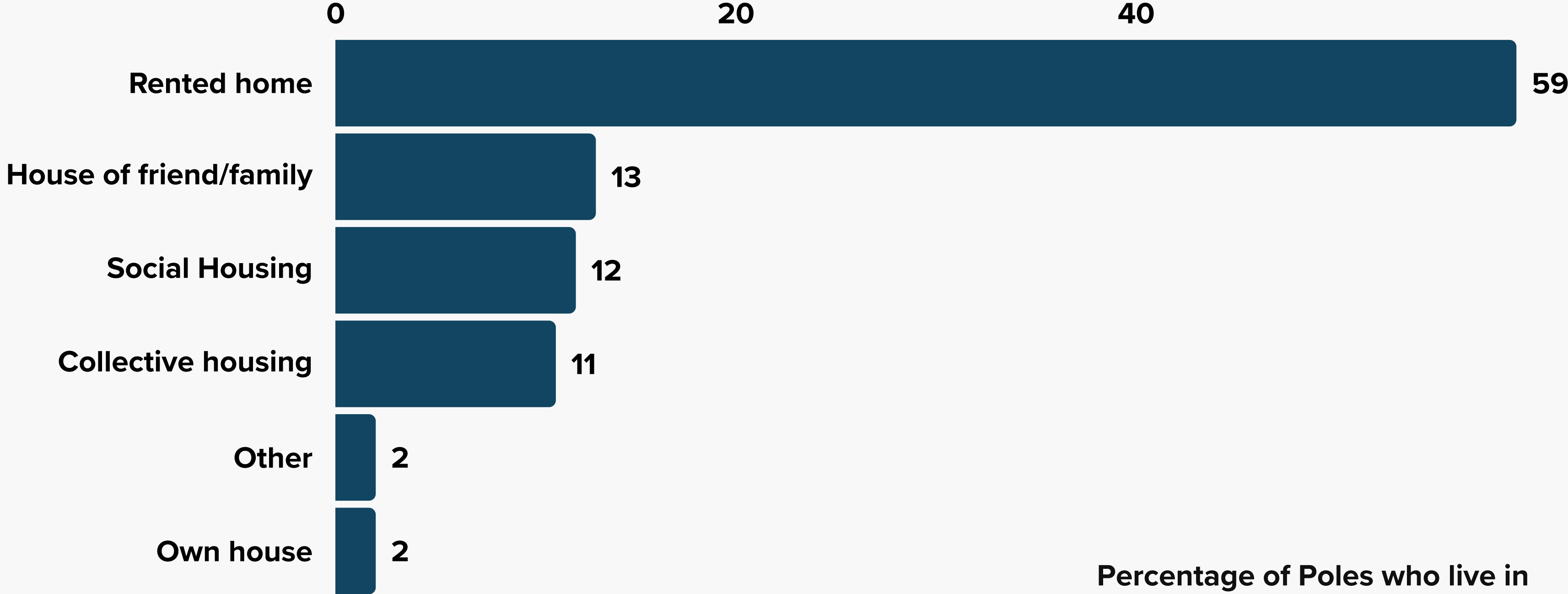
65% have heard common narratives and disinformation about refugees, the most common concerning the economy and social benefits.

There are many narratives about refugees. Which of the following have you come across?



Housing for refugees varies by city, with rentals as the most common.

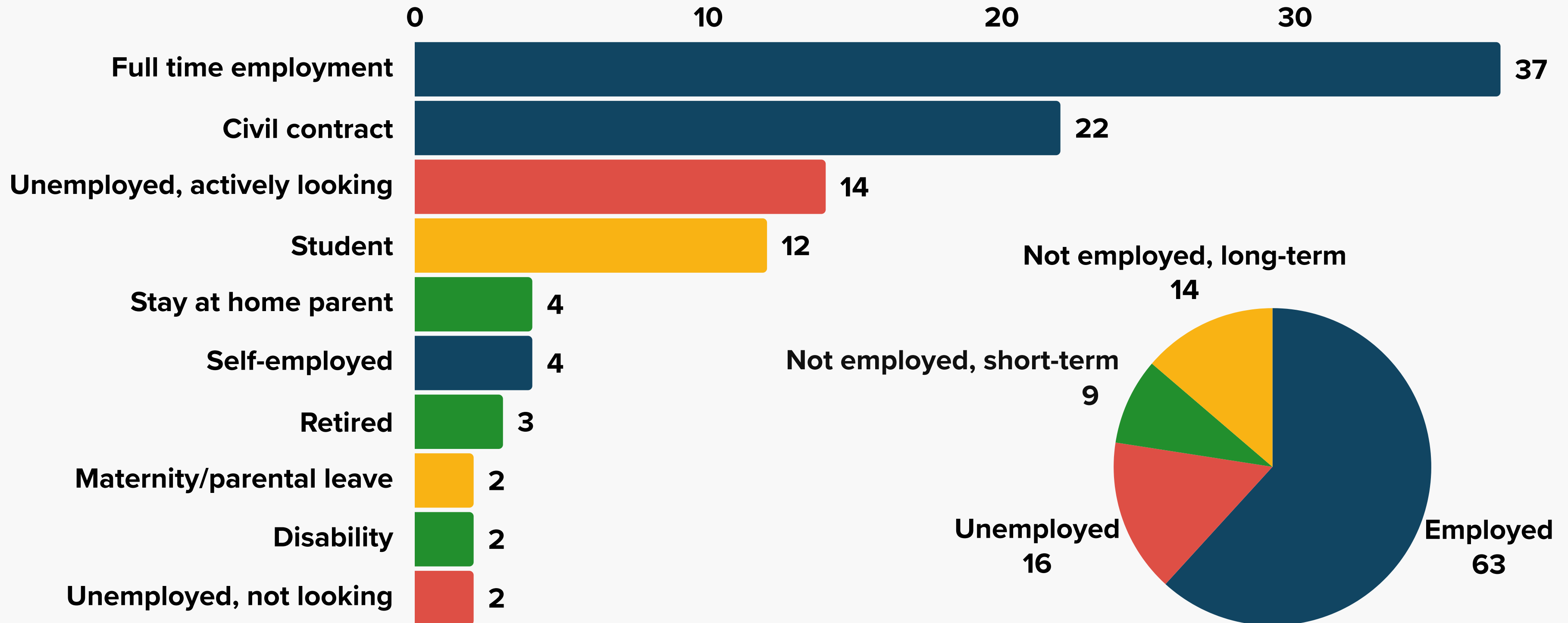
What type of residence do you live in?



Percentage of Poles who live in

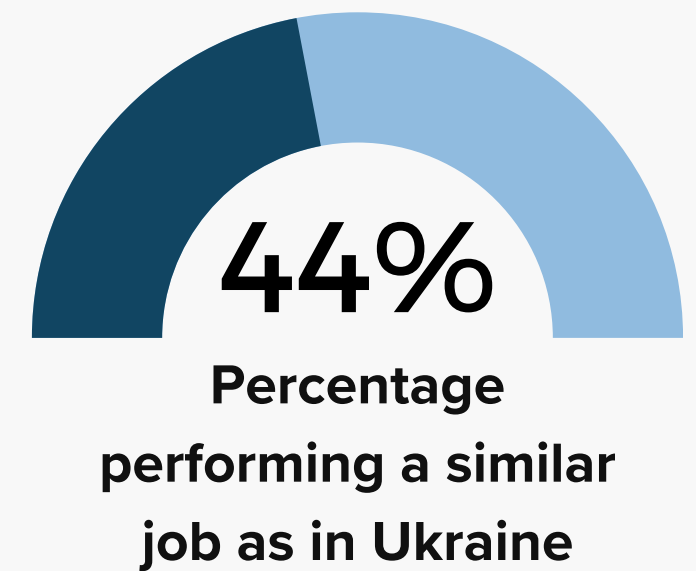
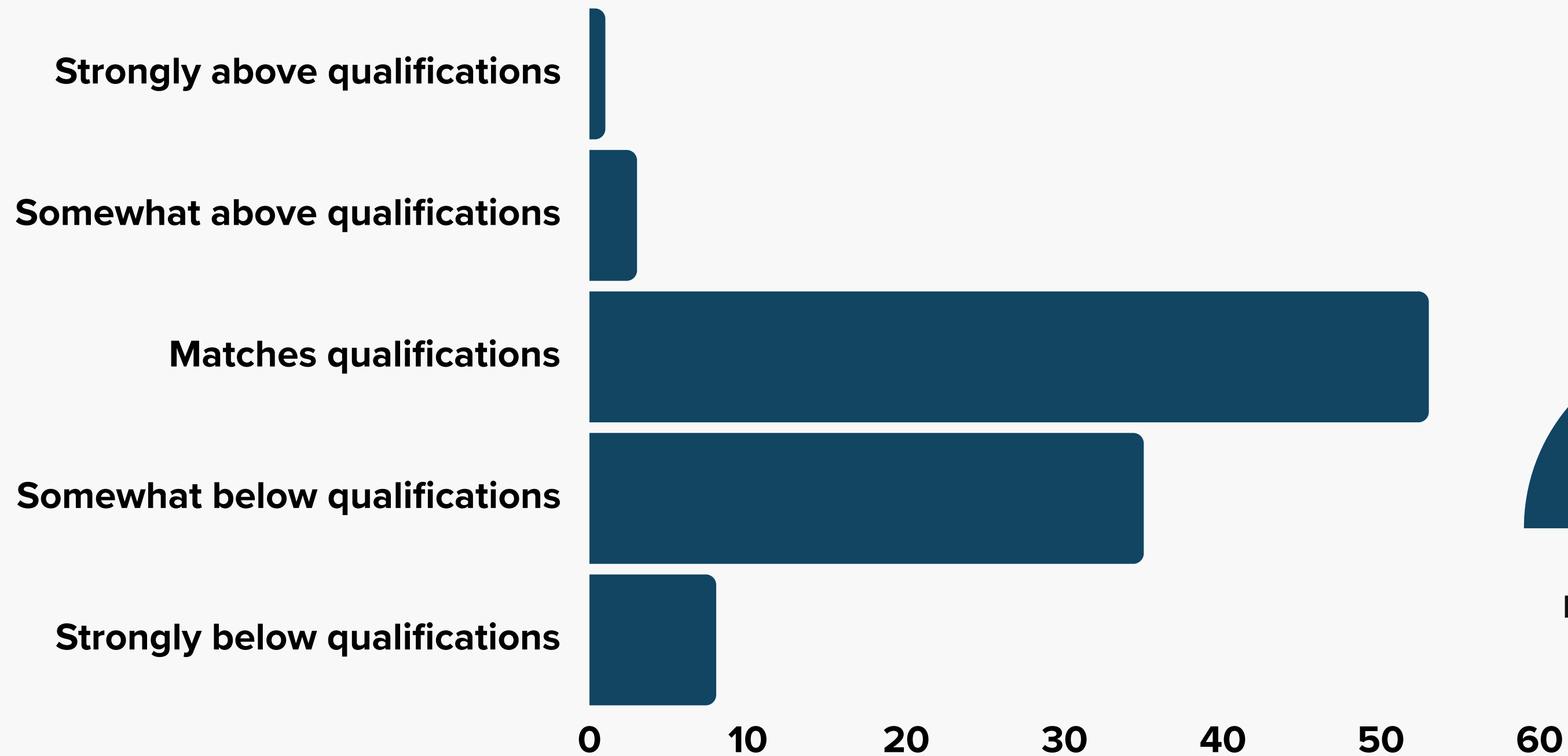
Across the seven Polish cities in this survey, 63% of refugees are employed and work legally.

What is your employment status?



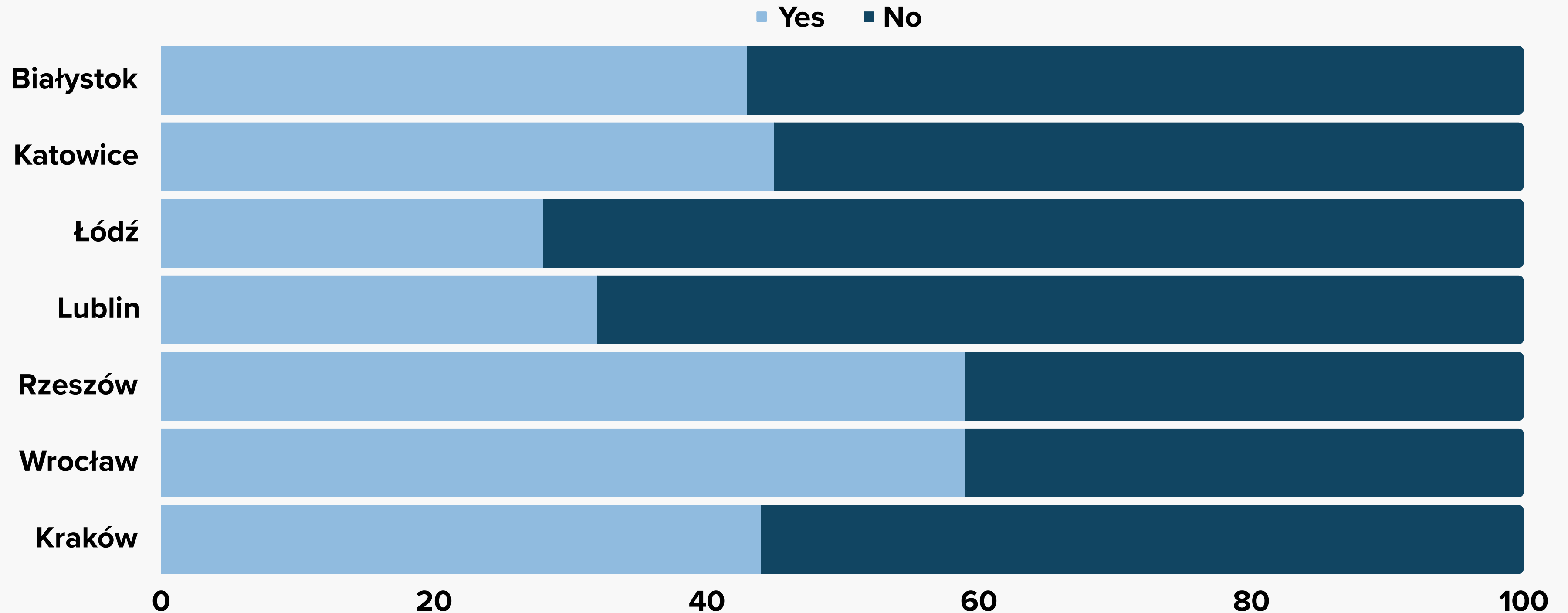
43% of Ukrainians perform jobs below their qualifications.

Do you work in a similar position to your previous position in Ukraine?



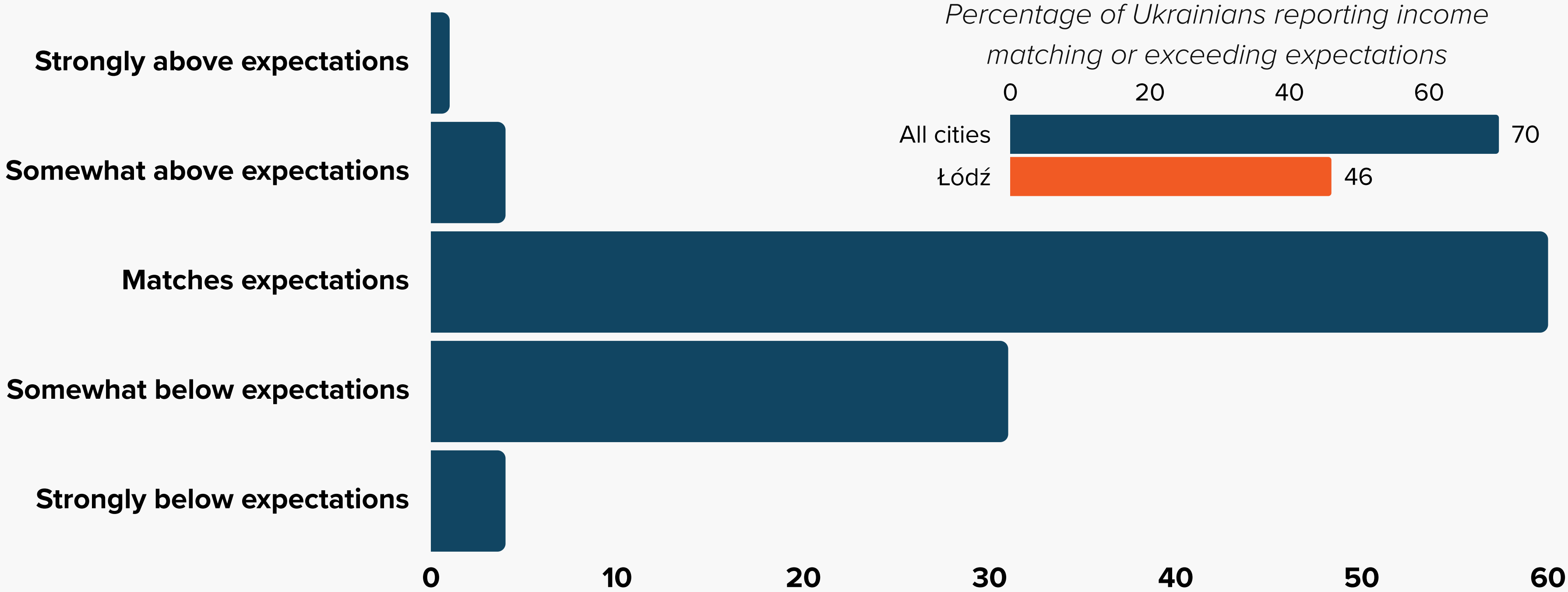
Ukrainians in Rzeszów and Wrocław report the highest rates of doing a similar job as they did in Ukraine, lowest in Łódź.

Is your job similar to your job in Ukraine?



65% of Ukrainian respondents reported their income to match or be above expectations.

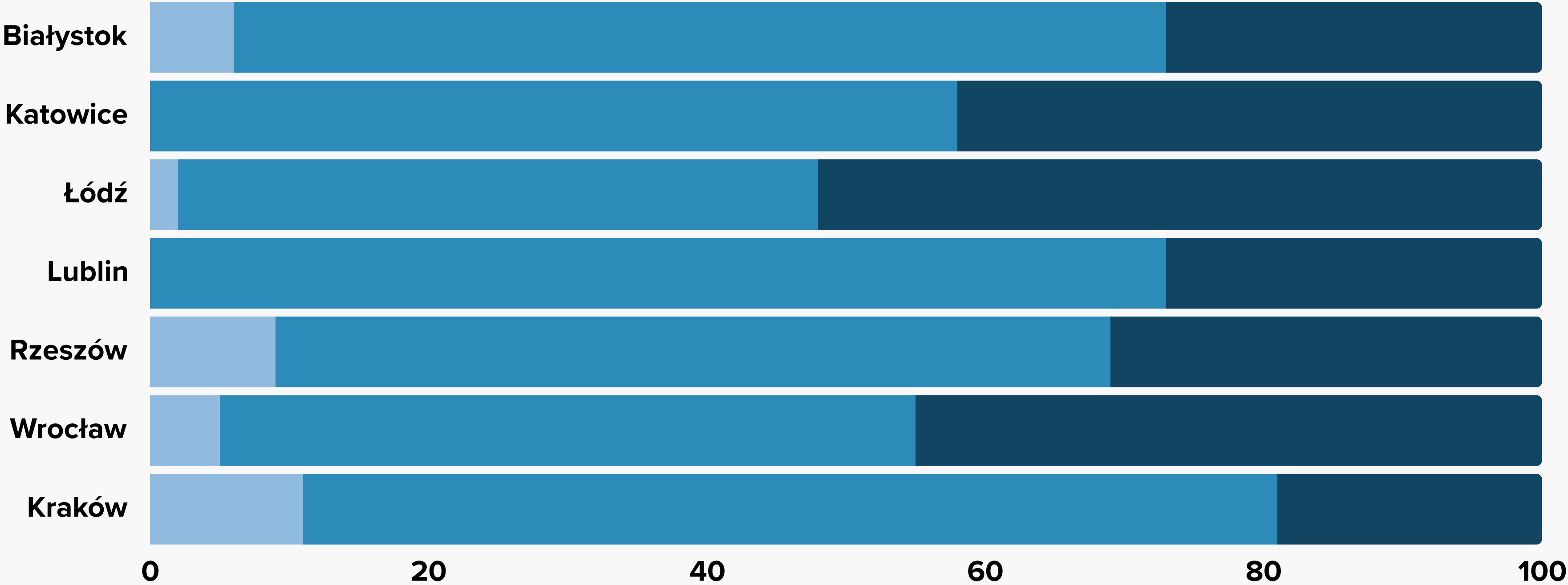
What do you think about your salary?



65% of Ukrainian respondents reported their income to match or be above expectations.

Percentage of Ukrainians reporting income relative to expectations

Above Meets Below

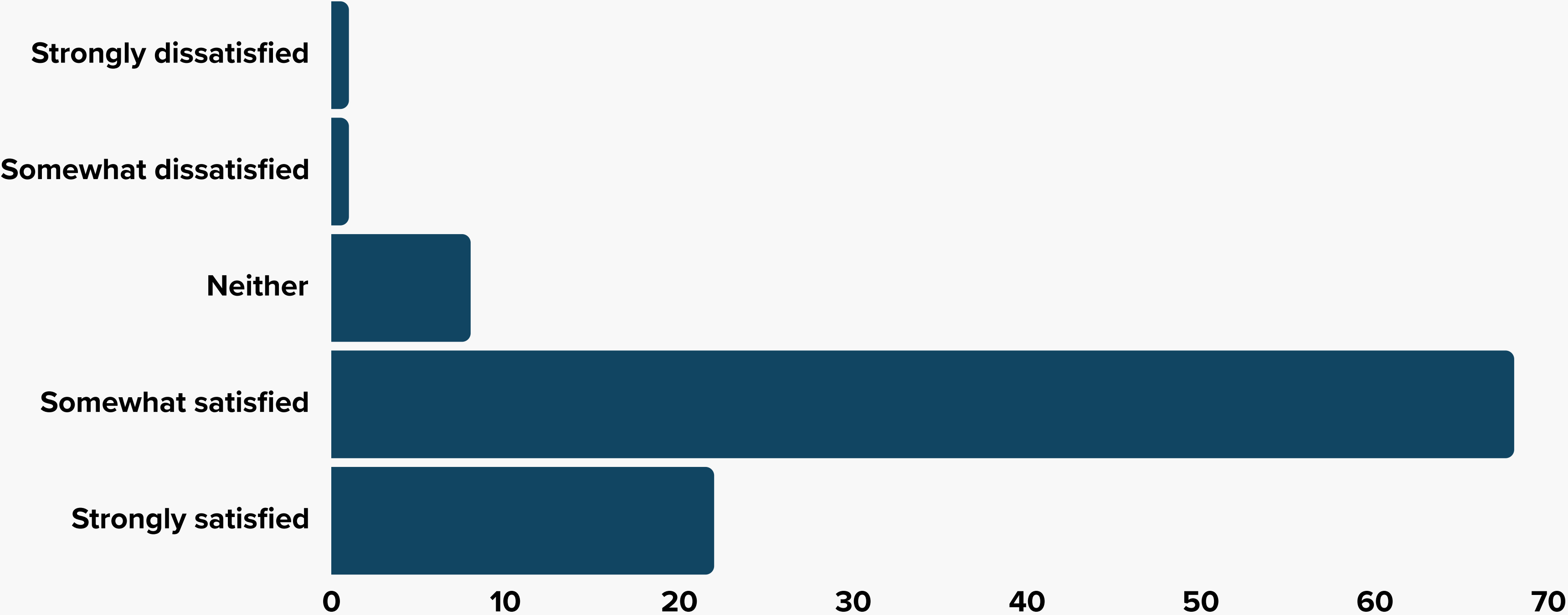




Ukrainian Refugees' Perspectives on the Polish Cities

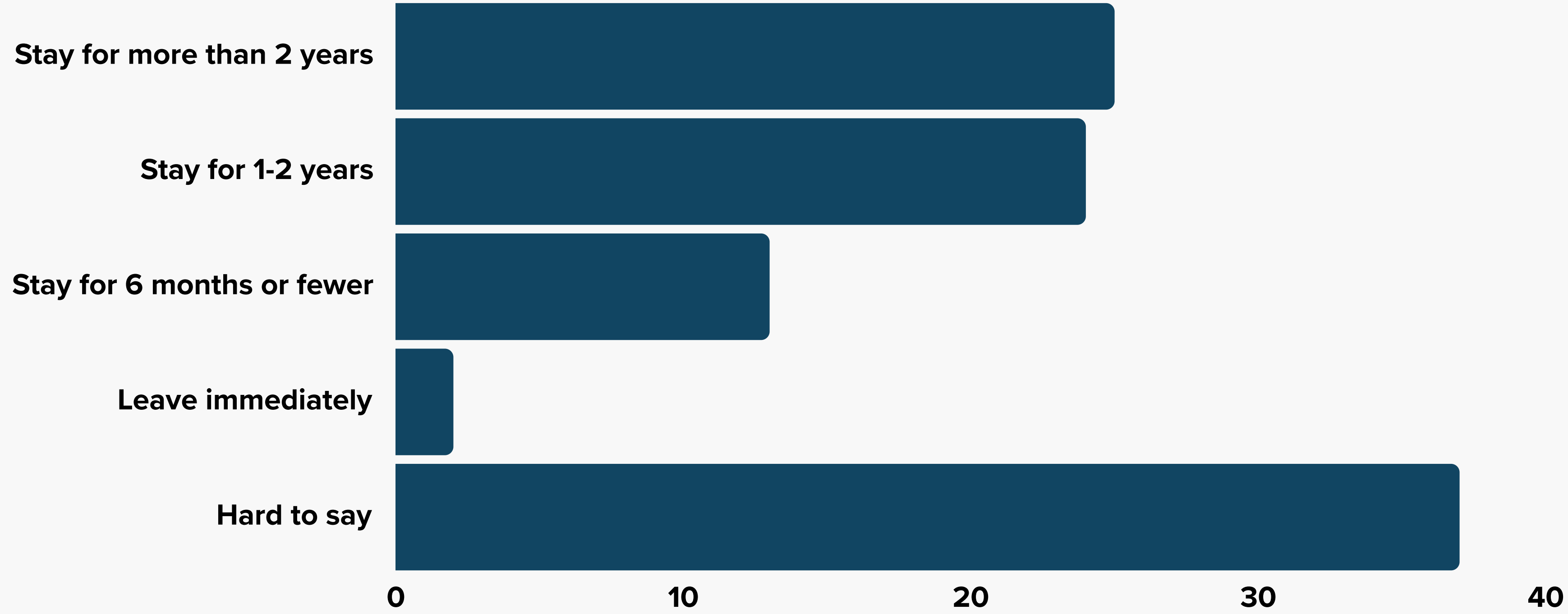
90% of refugees are somewhat or very satisfied with their life in the city, without major differences between cities.

How satisfied are you with life in your city?



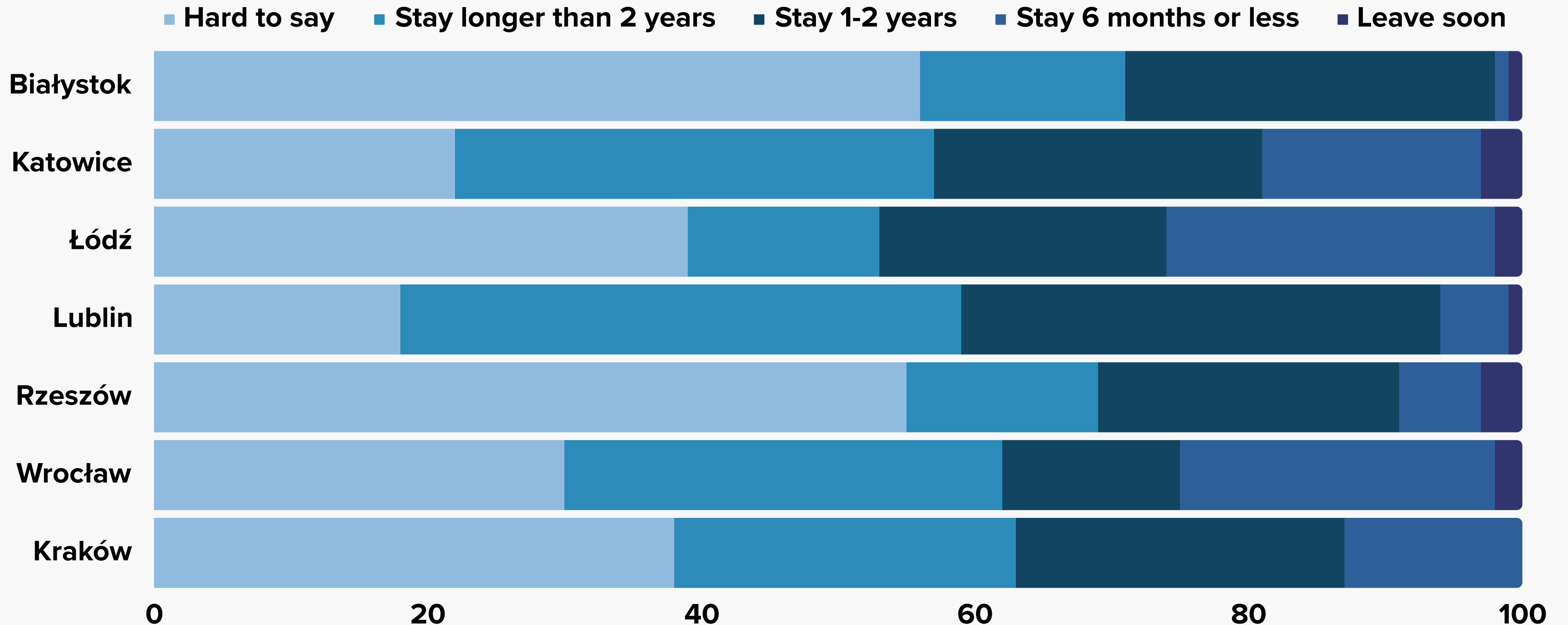
Overall, refugees' desire to stay in their respective cities varies. A quarter have long-term (beyond two years) plans to remain.

Do you have current plans to....?



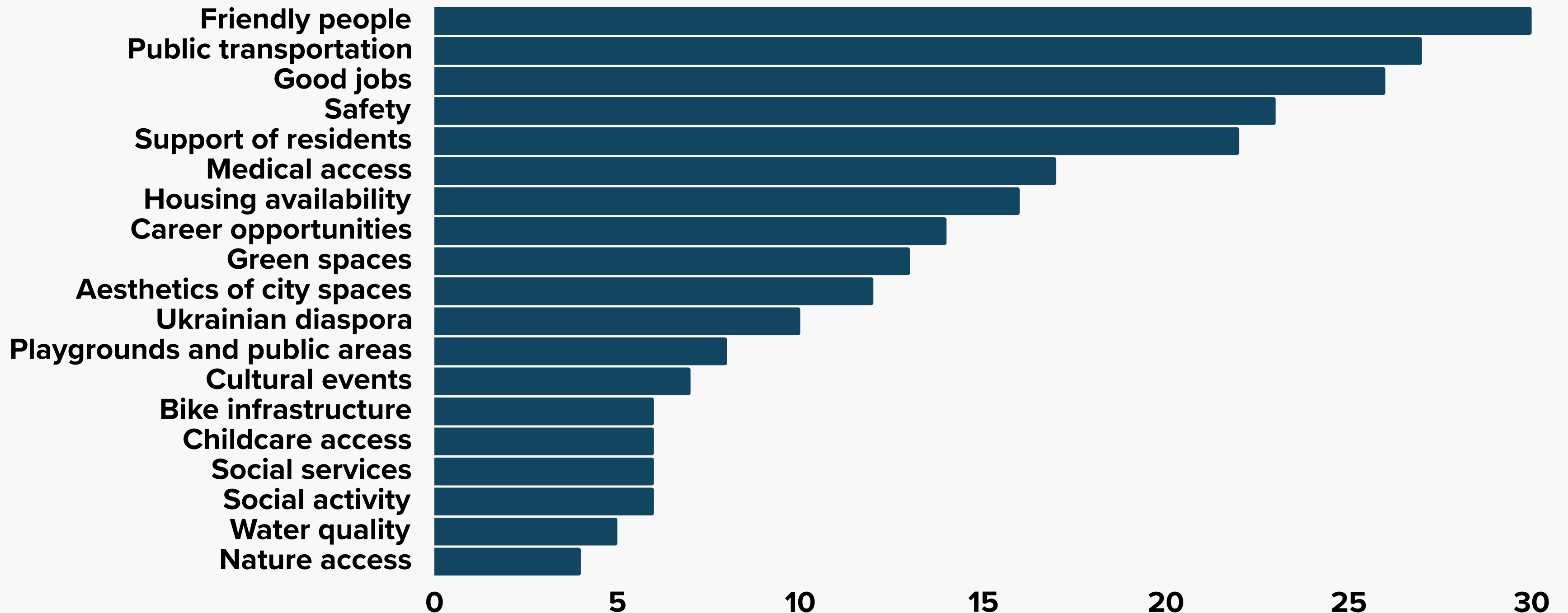
Ukrainian residents of Katowice, Lublin, and Wrocław most likely to stay 2 years.

Do you have current plans to....?



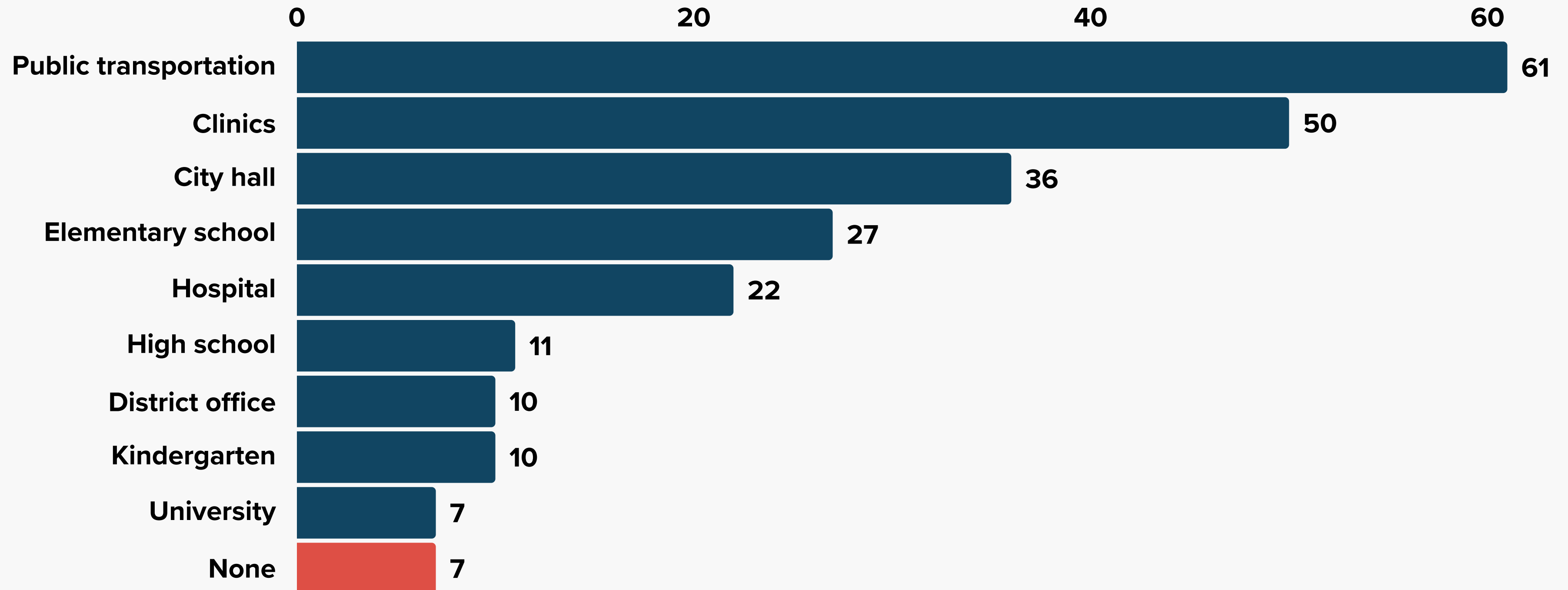
Refugees cite welcoming and helpful residents, local services, employment and security as top reasons for their residence in Polish cities.

Please indicate what makes you feel most comfortable living here.



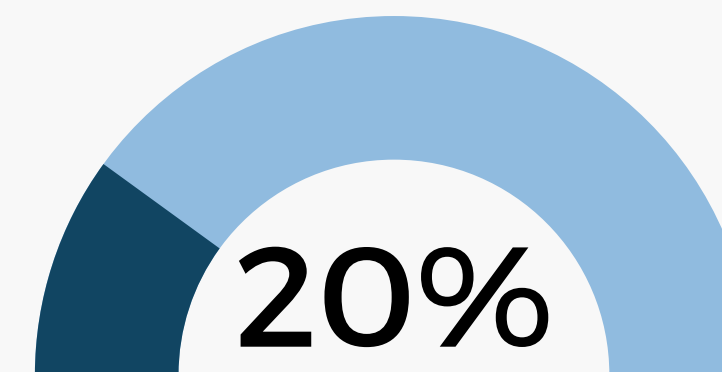
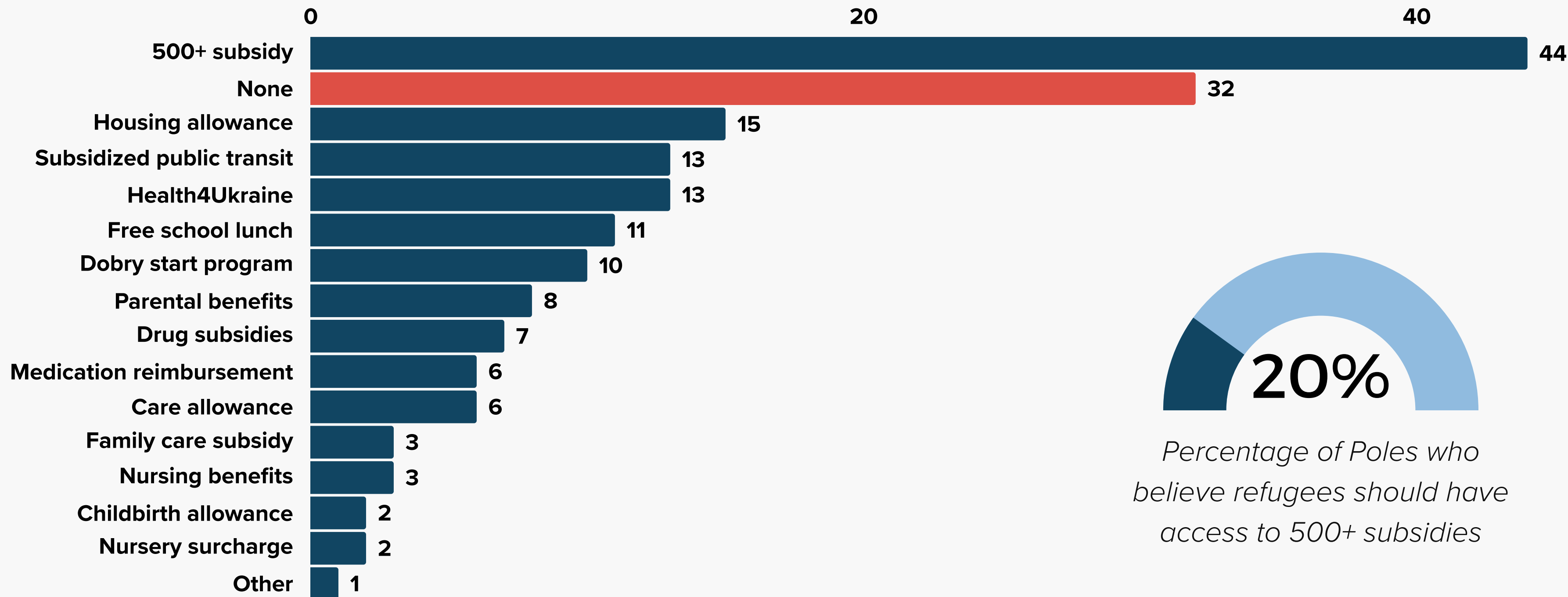
Public transportation and healthcare clinics are the most commonly accessed public services. About 1 in 3 refugees has interacted with the city hall.

Which public services have you or your family used in your city of residence?



The 500+ family subsidy benefit is the most frequently used program among refugees and one of the most controversial.

Have you or your family benefited from any of the following social programs?

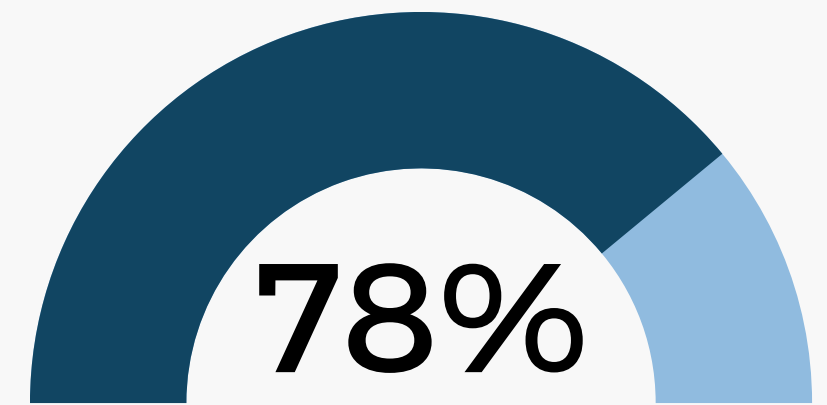
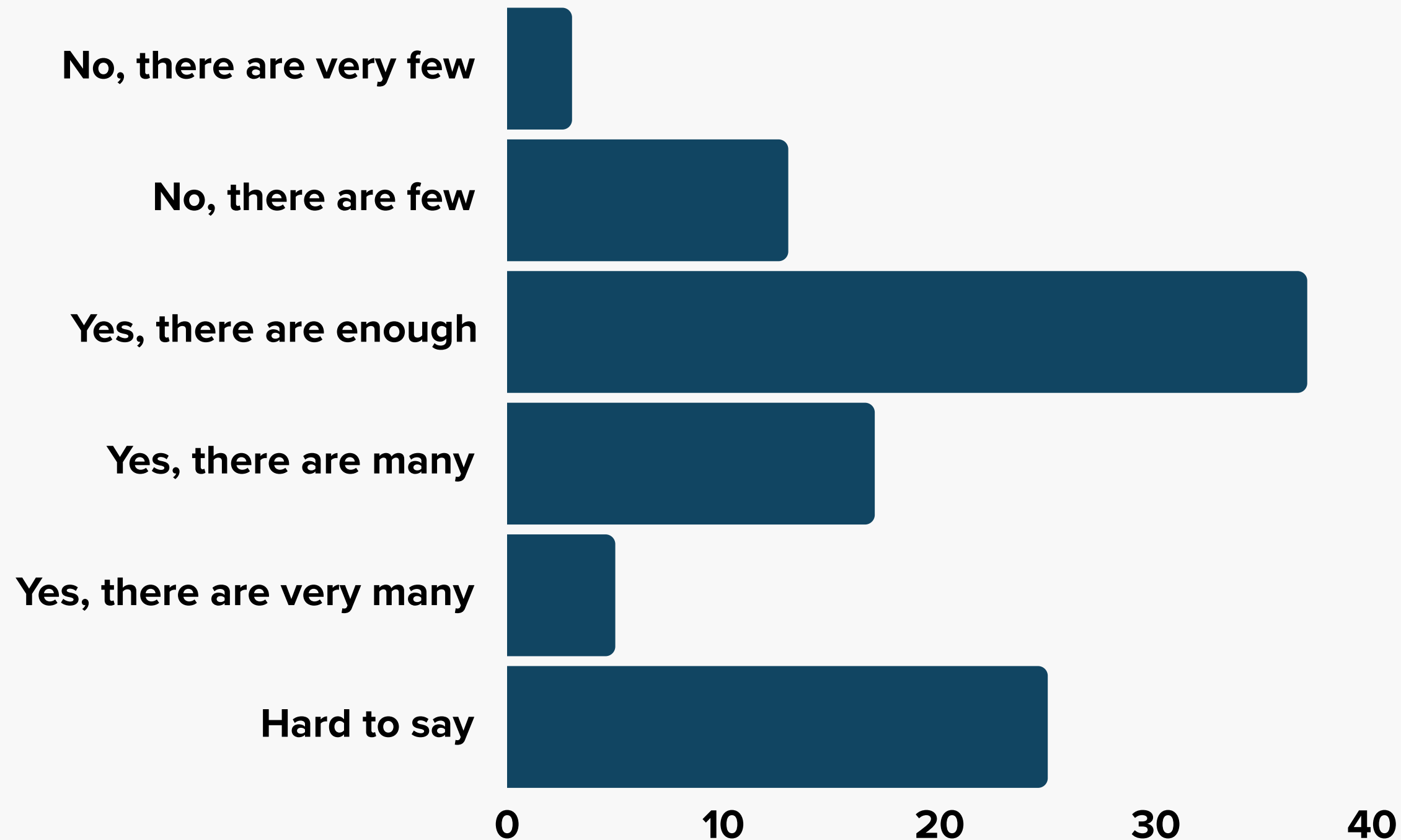


Percentage of Poles who believe refugees should have access to 500+ subsidies

**The 500+ family benefit is a monthly, tax-free subsidy of 500 Polish zlotys (around \$120) which is paid for every child under 18 years, regardless of the family income. Non-citizens who work in Poland are eligible for this program under certain conditions. As of January 1, 2024, the subsidy will be increased to 800 zlotys.*

More than 6-in-10 Ukrainian respondents reported having access to Ukrainian cultural events in their cities, and almost 8-in-10 are learning Polish.

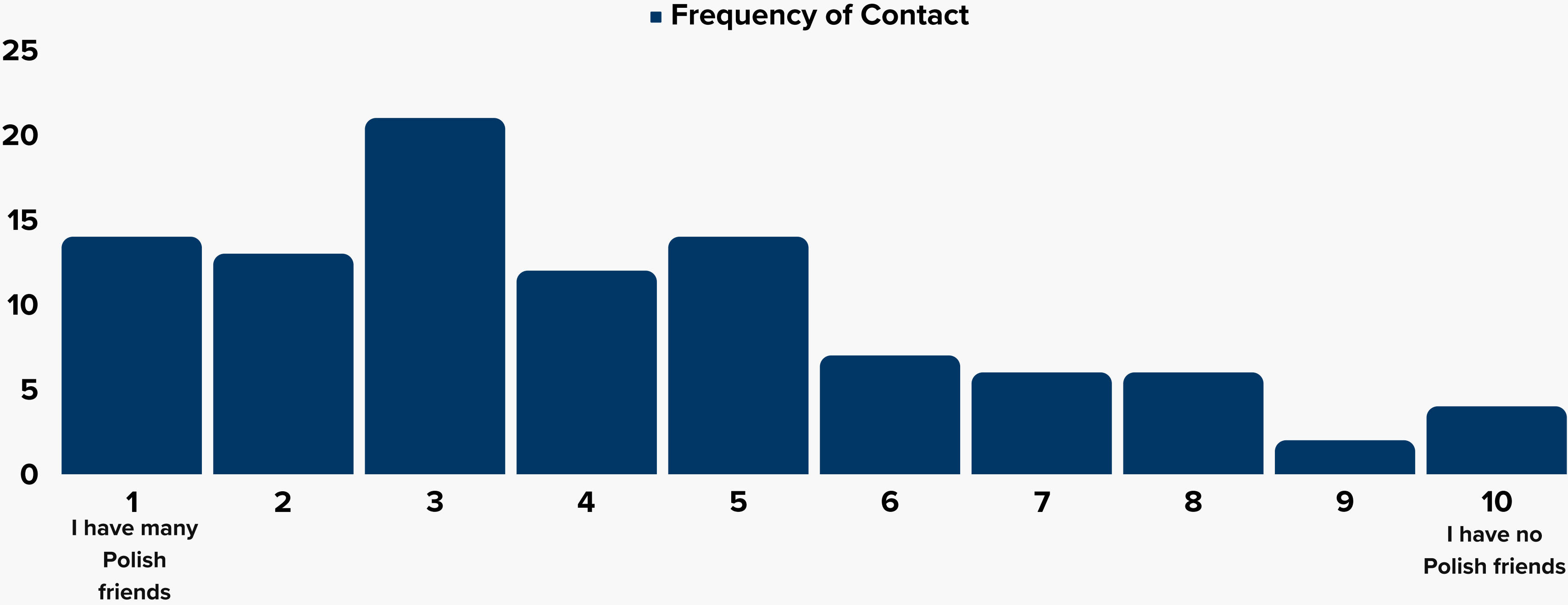
Do you find the offering of cultural events in Ukrainian in your city to be sufficient?



Percentage of Ukrainians learning Polish

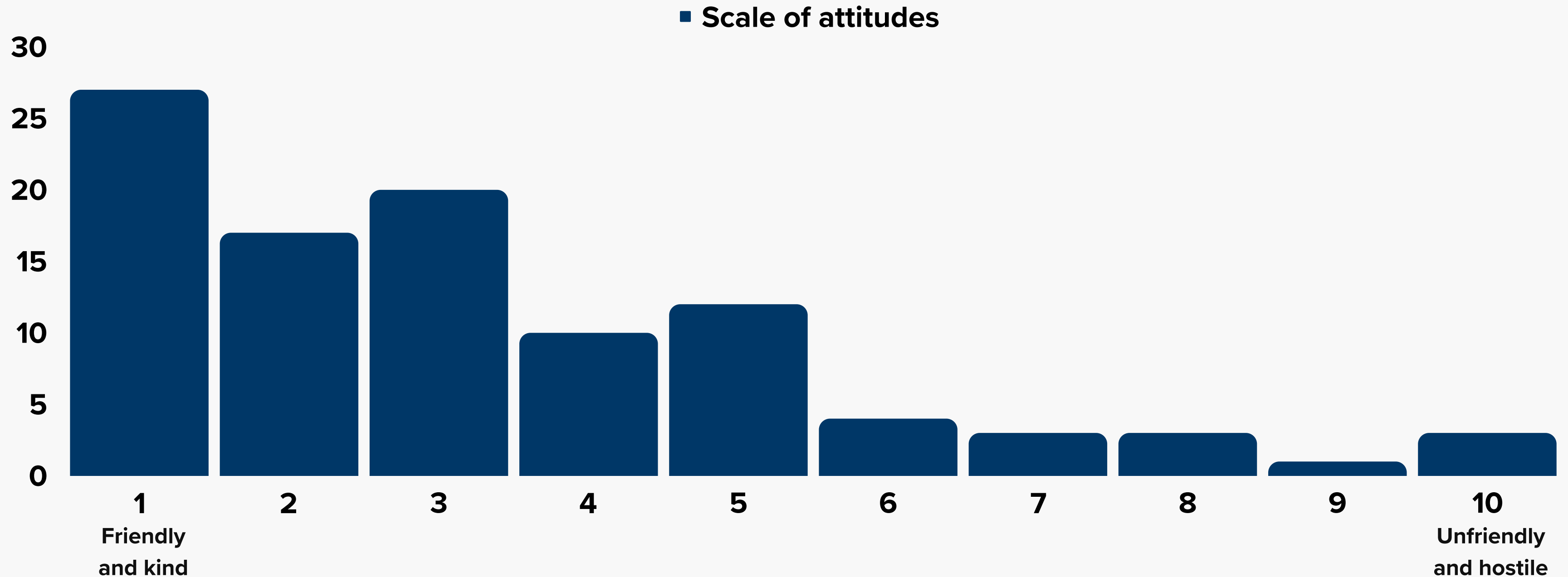
Ukrainian refugees were more likely than not to report frequent contact with Polish residents and friends, indicating some positive degree of integration in their cities.

How would you describe the frequency of your contact with Poles, on a scale of 1 to 10?



A large majority of Ukrainian refugee respondents reported friendly and kind attitudes of Poles.

What is the attitude of Poles towards you, on a scale of 1 to 10?



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The study has been conducted
by Minds & Roses.



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