



Asthma Awareness



Qualitative Analysis



healthwatch

Background

Between October 2023 to January 2024, Third Sector Leaders Community Champions, engaged with local communities to understand;

- Asthma awareness
- Barriers to accessing asthma support and services



A total of 1700 individual conversations were held plus Community Champions reached out to various segments of the community via group engagement, with a total of 76 group conversations. A total of 1,776 conversations.

The findings were categorised based on demographics, including deprivation deciles, gender, age, and ethnicity.

Community Engagement & Awareness Efforts:

- 272 individuals said they would contact their GP
- 642 mentioned they would attend their scheduled appointments
- 10 individuals considered they will seek support groups
- 26 individuals were signposted
- 99 people said they will consider getting a flu or COVID jab.
- 243 individuals mentioned that they had improved awareness.



Health inclusion group respondents:

- 100 Asylum Seekers
- 26 Drug and Alcohol Dependents
- 51 experience Mental Health Issues
- 12 Gypsy/Roma/Traveller
- 10 Homeless individuals
- 3 LGBTQ+ individuals
- 131 individuals with Low Literacy Levels
- 19 Victims of Violence
- 1 Victim of Modern Violence
- 13 People in contact with the justice system
- 4 Veterans
- 39 Vulnerable Migrants
- 29 individuals not in education or employment



Do you know what asthma is?

196 people (11%) told Community Champions that they did not know what asthma is or that they were not sure if they knew about asthma.

The demographic groups most likely to say they did not know or were unsure about asthma were:

- aged 18-24 and 80+
- Black British African, Asian British Chinese and White Roma
- Male respondents were twice as likely to say that they were unsure if they knew about asthma when compared to females



Do you know what asthma is?



Respondents who identified that they belonged to a health inclusion group:

- 50% of people with a drug or alcohol dependency said that they were not sure about what asthma is, and 8% that did not know what it is
- 20% of people with a mental health condition said they were not sure of what asthma is.

Respondents were categorised into Primary Care Network areas and deprivation deciles based on their provided postcodes:

- Individuals from deprivation decile 2 were the most likely to not know what asthma is and the most likely to not be sure about the condition.
- Individuals that fall into the Three Centres network were most likely to not be sure about what asthma is.

Knowledge of Asthma

Respondents who knew about asthma had a general awareness of what the condition was. All genders and age groups knew about signs and symptoms and had a fair understanding of triggers, however most were not aware of the genetic component or where to get support.

- Arab and Asian communities were the most likely to say they have a good understanding of signs and symptoms.
- 6% of individuals with physical or mobility impairments knew who can develop asthma and 5% knew about the genetic component of the condition
- Individuals from within the Valleys PCN were the most likely to know about preventions and genetics in relation to asthma



Do you have asthma?

378 people identified to Community Champions that they have asthma

- People aged 50–79 said they had asthma than any other age group
- People who indicated that they were asylum seekers, drug/alcohol users, experience mental health conditions and people who have low literacy levels were the most likely to say they have asthma
- Asian British Indian, White British and Pakistani were the groups more likely to have asthma
- One third of people who said they were concerned about the cost of living identified they had asthma
- The PCN areas with the largest amounts of individuals with asthma are Tolson, Meanwood, Viaduct, Batley and Birstall and Three Centres



Do you have asthma?

78 people suspected they have symptoms of asthma

- People aged 18-24 were the most likely to say they have symptoms of asthma than any other age group
- Individuals who identified they had low literacy levels and those not studying or working were more likely to mention that they suspect they have symptoms of asthma.
- Asian British Pakistani and Indian respondents were more likely than any other group to say that they suspected they have symptoms asthma.
- 15% of individuals under deprivation decile 2 suspected they may have asthma.
- 15% of respondents from Three Centres PCN suspect they have asthma.

Of those individuals that had asthma or suspected they have asthma but did not who to approach or where to get support:

- 48 were told about signs and symptoms to look for
- 36 were advised to contact their GP
- 19 were signposted to other services
- 1154 people said they did not have asthma
- 90 people were unsure if they have asthma



Is your asthma managed?

- 43% of individuals with low literacy levels said their asthma was not well-managed.
- Asylum seekers, people with drug and alcohol dependence and vulnerable migrants were more likely to say that their asthma is not well managed.
- 16% of individuals with long term conditions and physical or mobility impairments mentioned that they do not have a good management of their asthma.
- 54% of individuals from deprivation level 2 said they did not have their condition well-managed.
- 50% of individuals from Three Centres mentioned that they do not consider their asthma is well managed.



If you have asthma and had concerns would you know where to access support?

89% of all respondents told Community Champions that they would know where to go to access support.

- A small percentage of females (12%) said they would not know where to access support for their asthma.
- People from HD1, HD2, WF17 and WF13 postcodes were the most likely to say they did not know where to go for support for their asthma
- 54% of people who said they have a learning disability or difficulties said they would not know where to go for asthma support



Barriers to asthma services and support

Community Champions asked people what barriers they experienced when accessing asthma services, information and support.

Demographic analysis:

- People aged 65–79 years stated that fear of an asthma diagnosis was the most significant barrier in accessing asthma services or support
- Female respondents were the most likely to say that time constraints were a barrier to accessing asthma services and support
- Males (32%) were most likely to note language barriers as their most significant challenge to asthma services and support.
- 31% of female respondents said that they did not understand the importance, they assumed they were low risk, or lacked awareness of asthma services and support
- Black respondents mentioned that fear of a diagnosis was their most considerable barrier to access services and information related to asthma.
- Individuals from Any Other Asian background and White Roma individuals were the most likely to say they had issues accessing services



Barriers to asthma services and support

Deprivation analysis:

- Individuals from all deprivation levels were more likely to say that they were fearful of an asthma diagnosis rather than an asthma appointment and that they had a lack of awareness of asthma services and support.
- People from deprivation decile 2 were the most likely to say language barriers were a factor in accessing asthma services and information.

Health inequalities analysis:

- People who identified that they had a disability said that language barriers were the reason for not accessing asthma services, information or support and that they did not realise the importance of asthma.
- Respondents who identified that they were asylum seekers and people with low literacy mentioned that the most important barriers to access services and information related to asthma were language related.
- People who identified to Community Champions that they were homeless were more likely to say they had barriers accessing services
- 33% of individuals with drug/alcohol dependency considered that they lacked awareness and did not understand the importance of asthma information.
- Respondents not studying or working were more likely to say that they fear an asthma diagnosis. likely to say they had issues accessing services

Cost of living analysis:

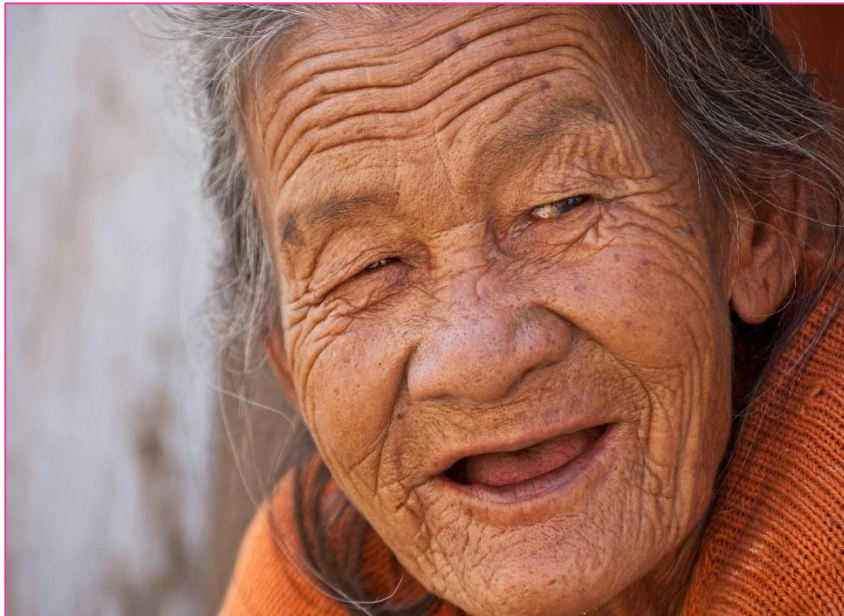
11% of individuals with cost of living concerns mentioned that their second largest barrier was time constraints

33% of people with cost of living concerns said that a barrier to asthma services and support was lack of awareness.

9% of people with cost of living concerns mentioned that they had barriers in relation to accessing services.



Recommendations that Healthwatch Kirklees will be taking forward to the health and care system locally, regionally and nationally.



LOCAL

Conduct Workshops: Encourage NHS and social care partners to host interactive workshops in communities with low asthma awareness, particularly targeting young adults and ethnic minority groups.

Develop Multilingual Resources: Create asthma education materials in multiple languages, focusing on readability for low literacy audiences.

Partner with VCSE: Encourage collaboration between local health and care services with local third sector or community organisations to distribute asthma information and resources.

REGIONAL

Establish Asthma Support Networks: Encourage regional partners to create networks of asthma support groups that facilitate knowledge sharing and provide emotional support among individuals with asthma and their families, leveraging community centres and online platforms.

NATIONAL

Advocate for Inclusive Policies: Work alongside Healthwatch England around policies that ensure asthma care access for marginalised and underserved populations.

Fund Targeted Asthma Research: Contact national asthma charities to share asthma services and support barriers and encourage further research into effective interventions in diverse communities.

Quantitative Analysis



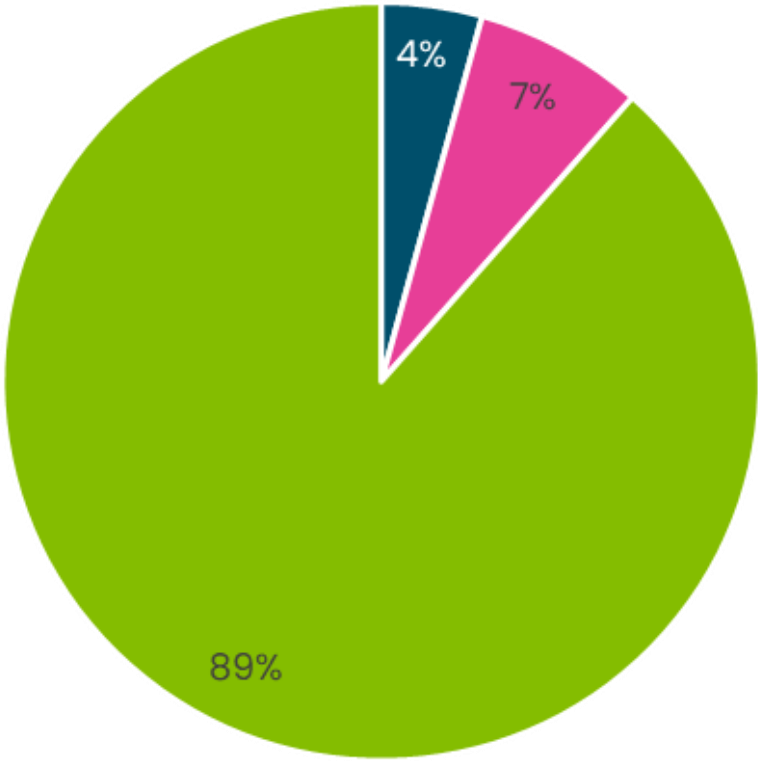
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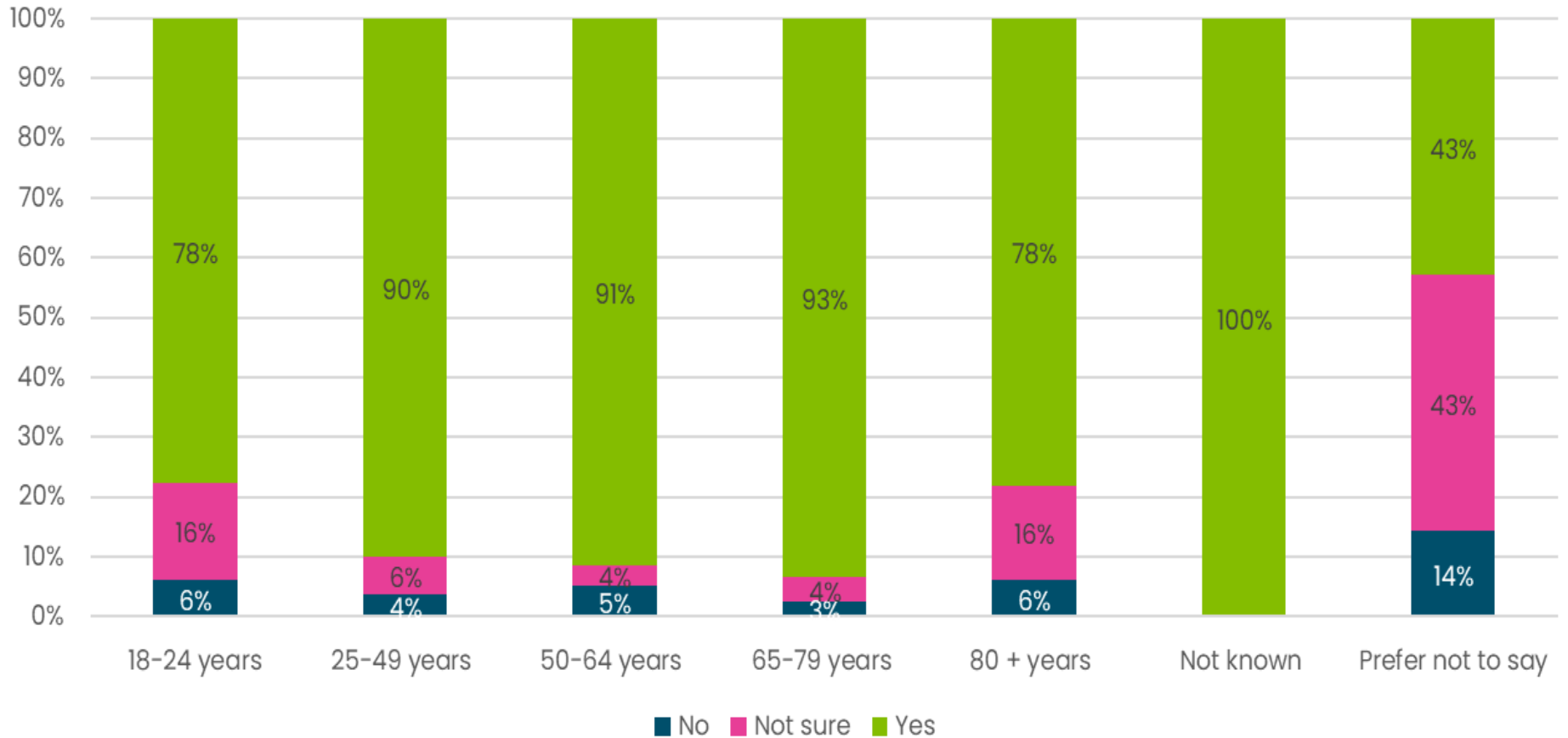
Do you know what asthma is?

Do you know what asthma is?

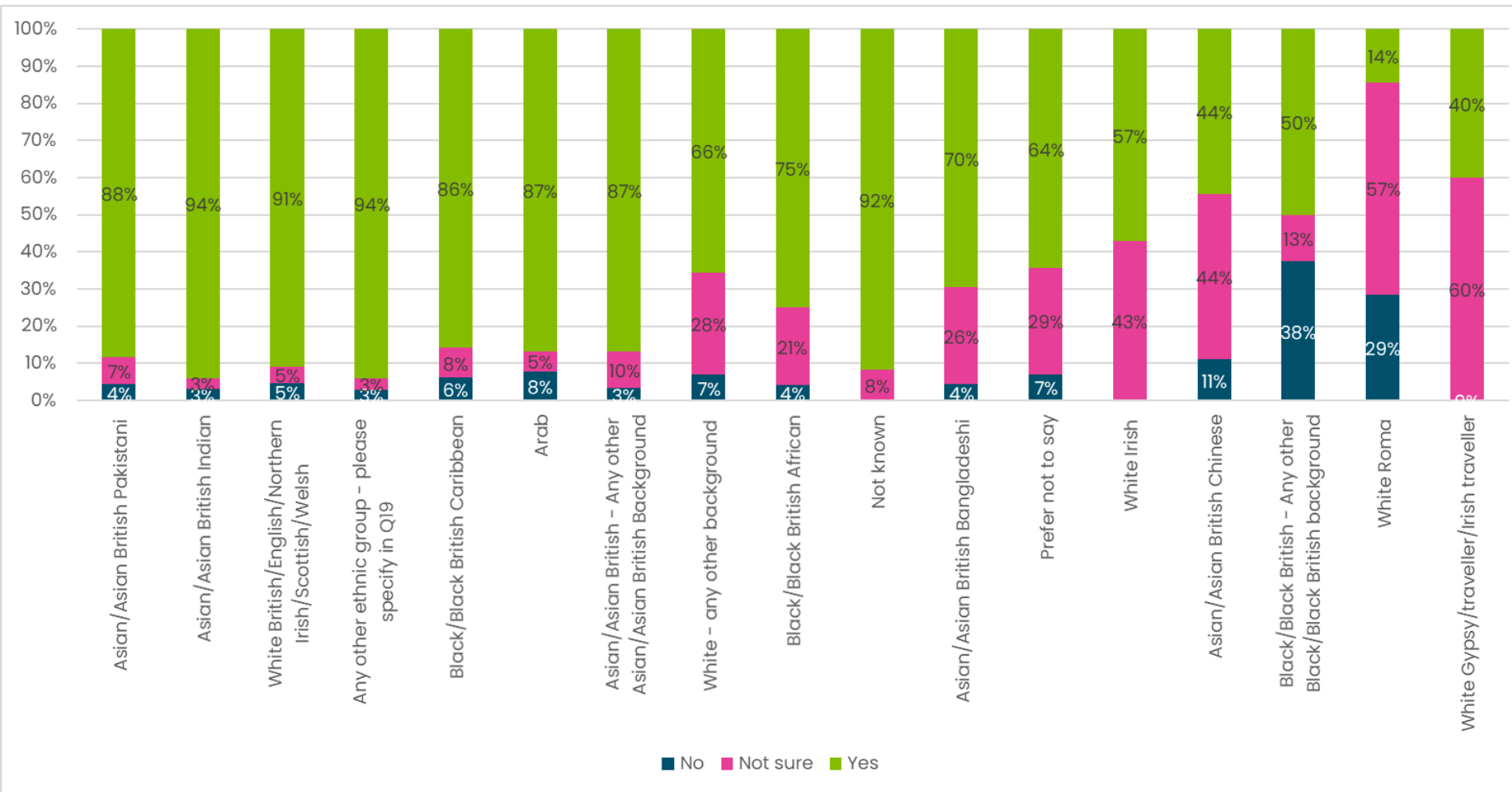


■ No ■ Not sure ■ Yes

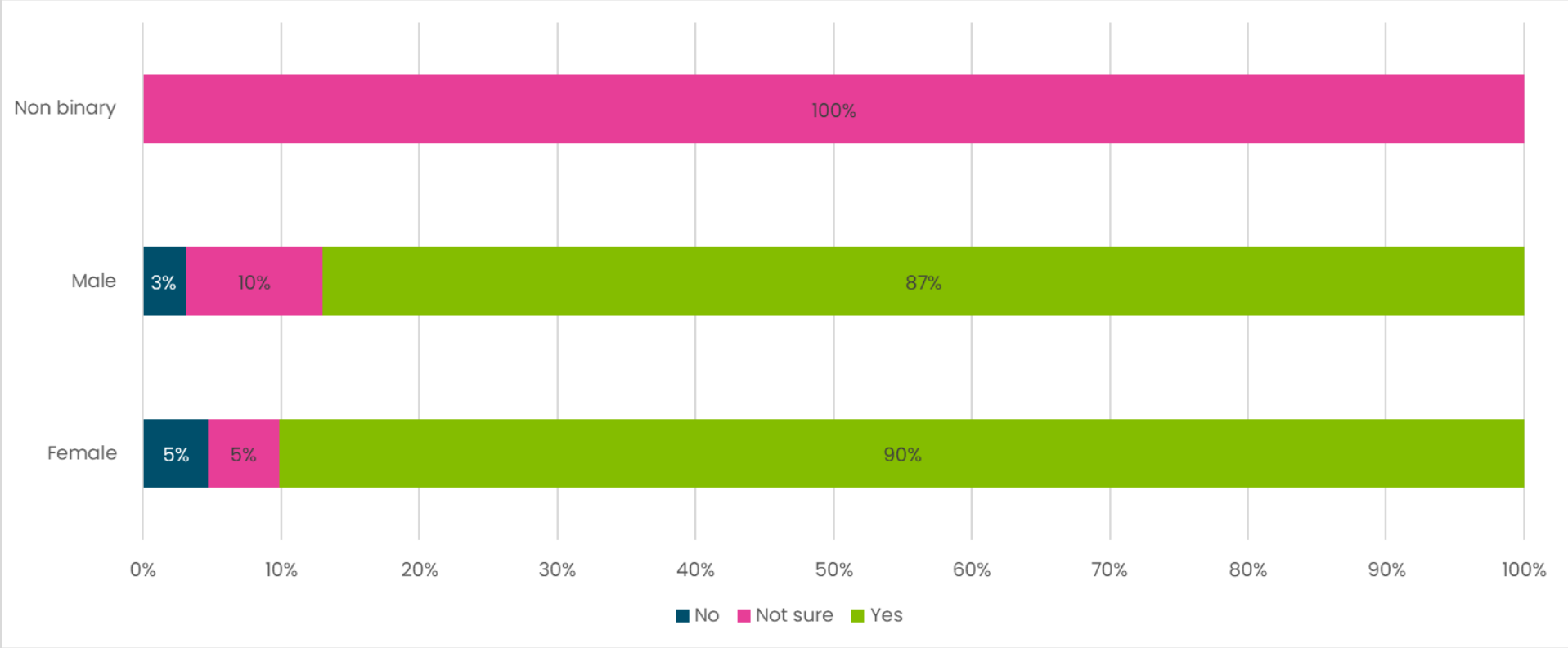
Do you know what asthma is? (Age)



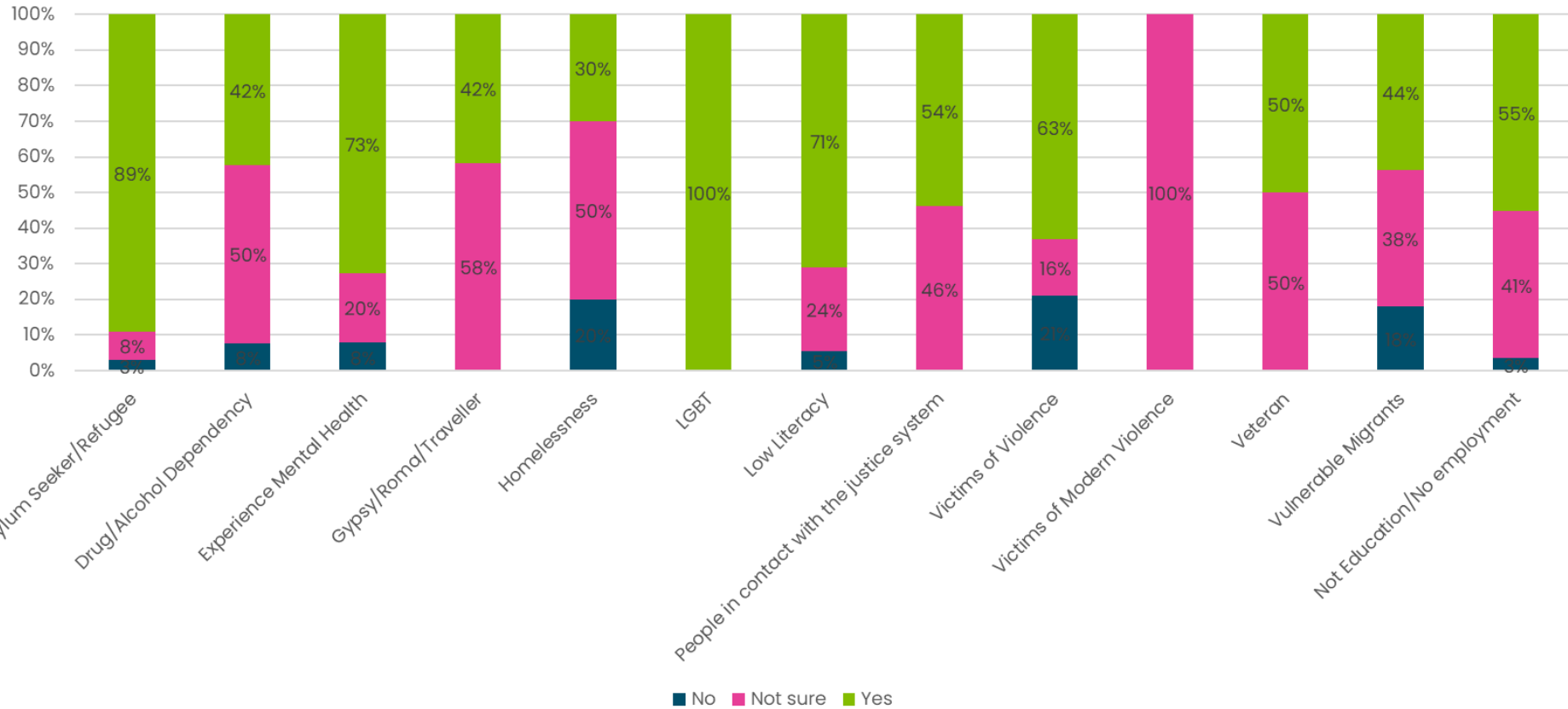
Do you know what asthma is? (Ethnic Group)



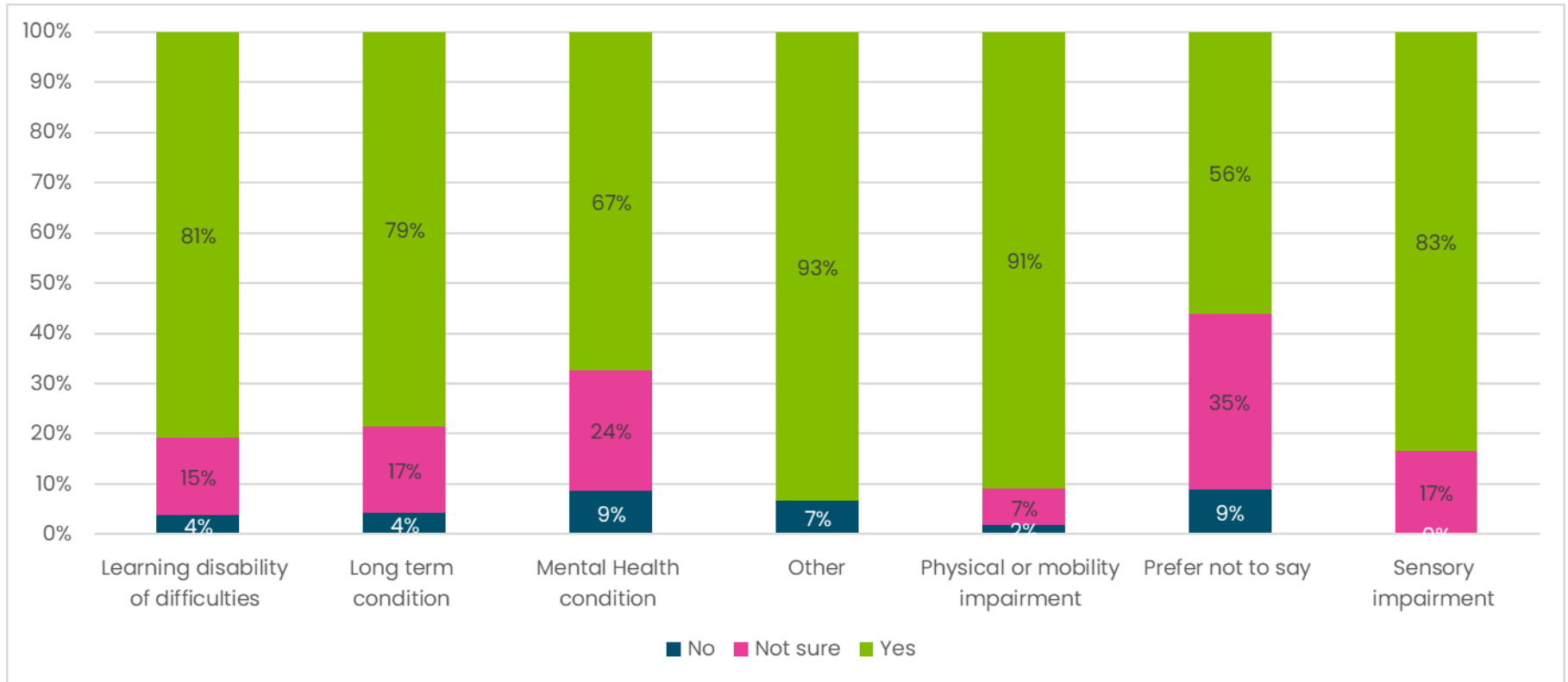
Do you know what asthma is? (Gender)



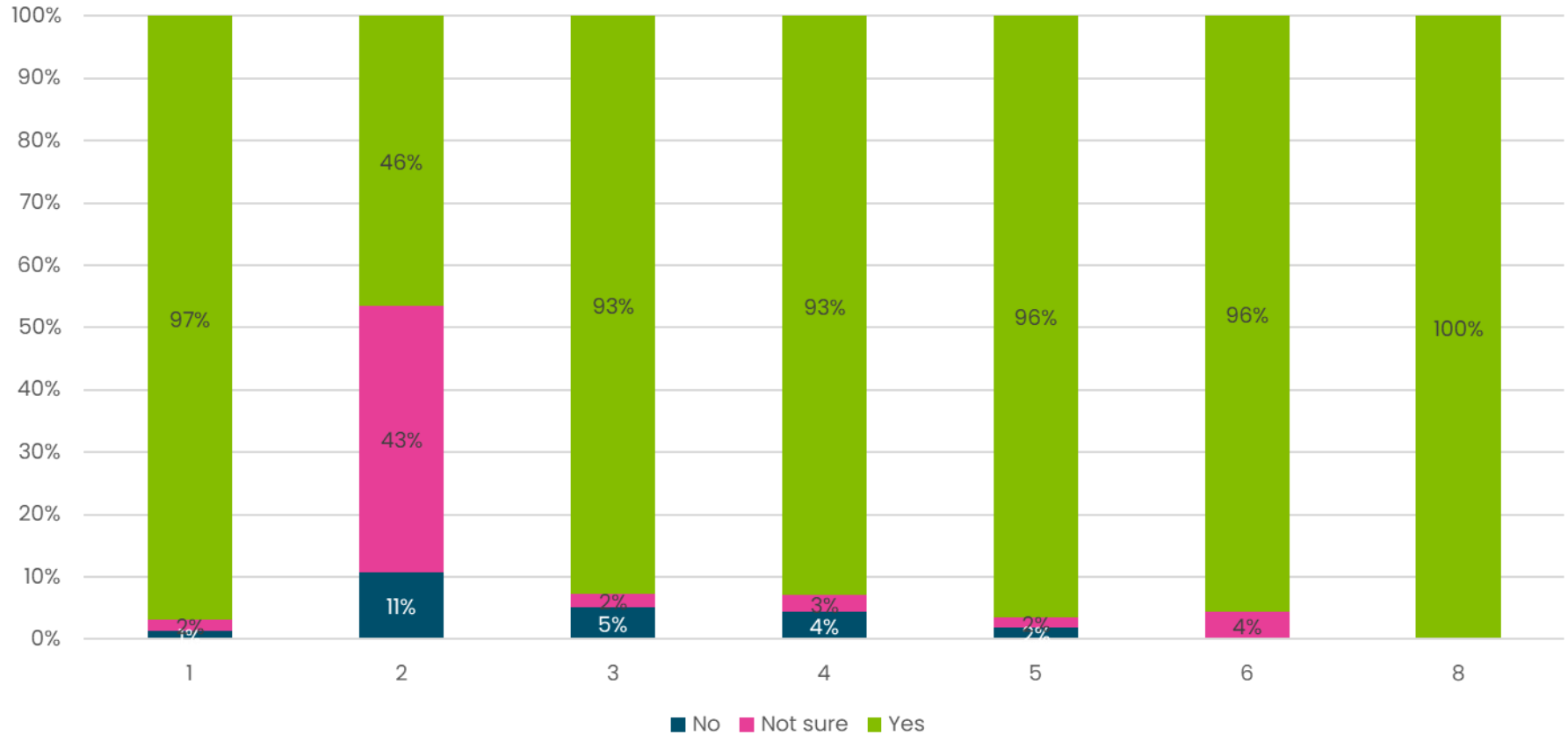
Do you know what asthma is? (PCN)



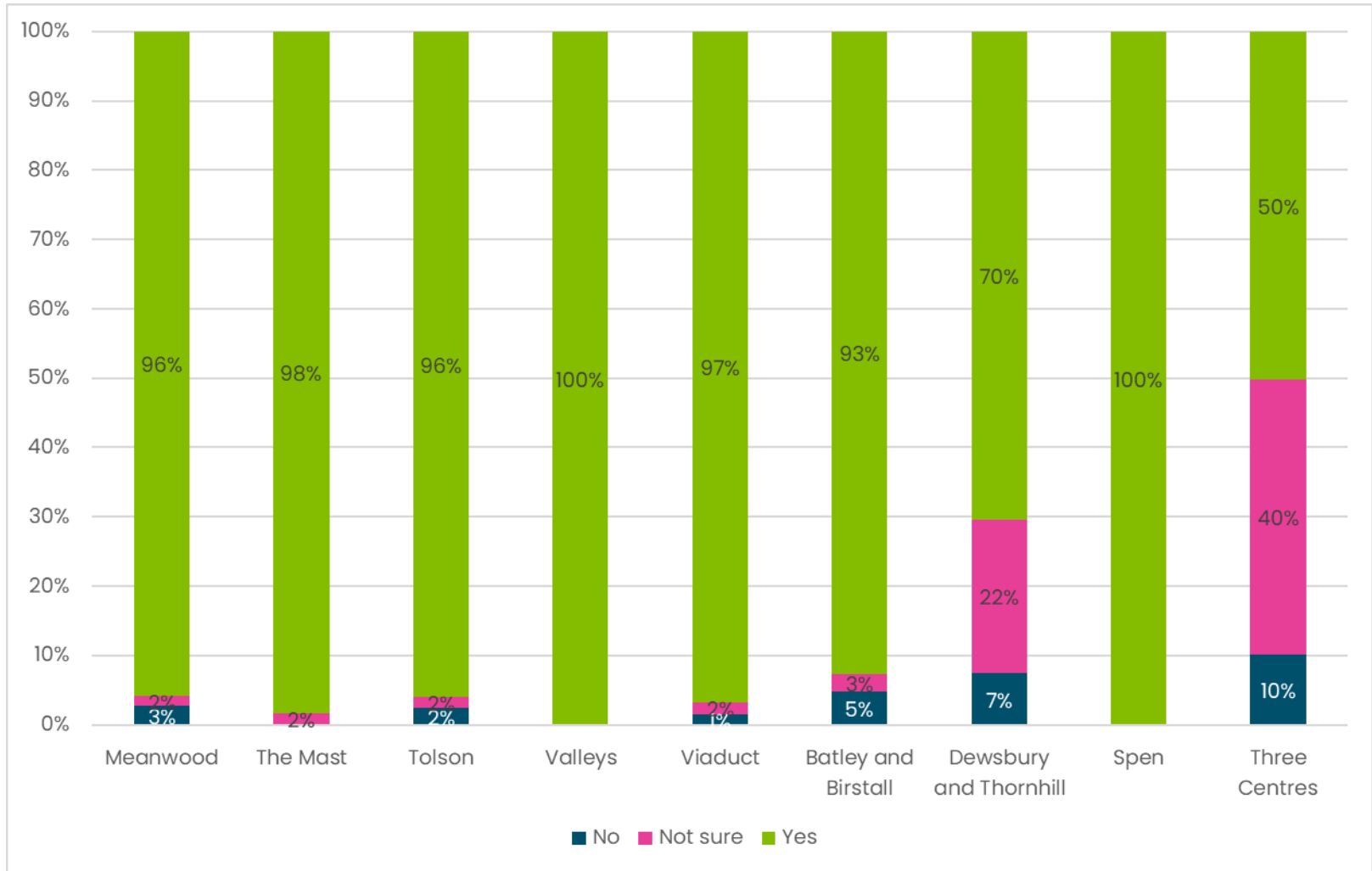
Do you know what asthma is? (Disabilities)



Do you know what asthma is? (Deprivation Level)



Do you know what asthma is? (HIG)

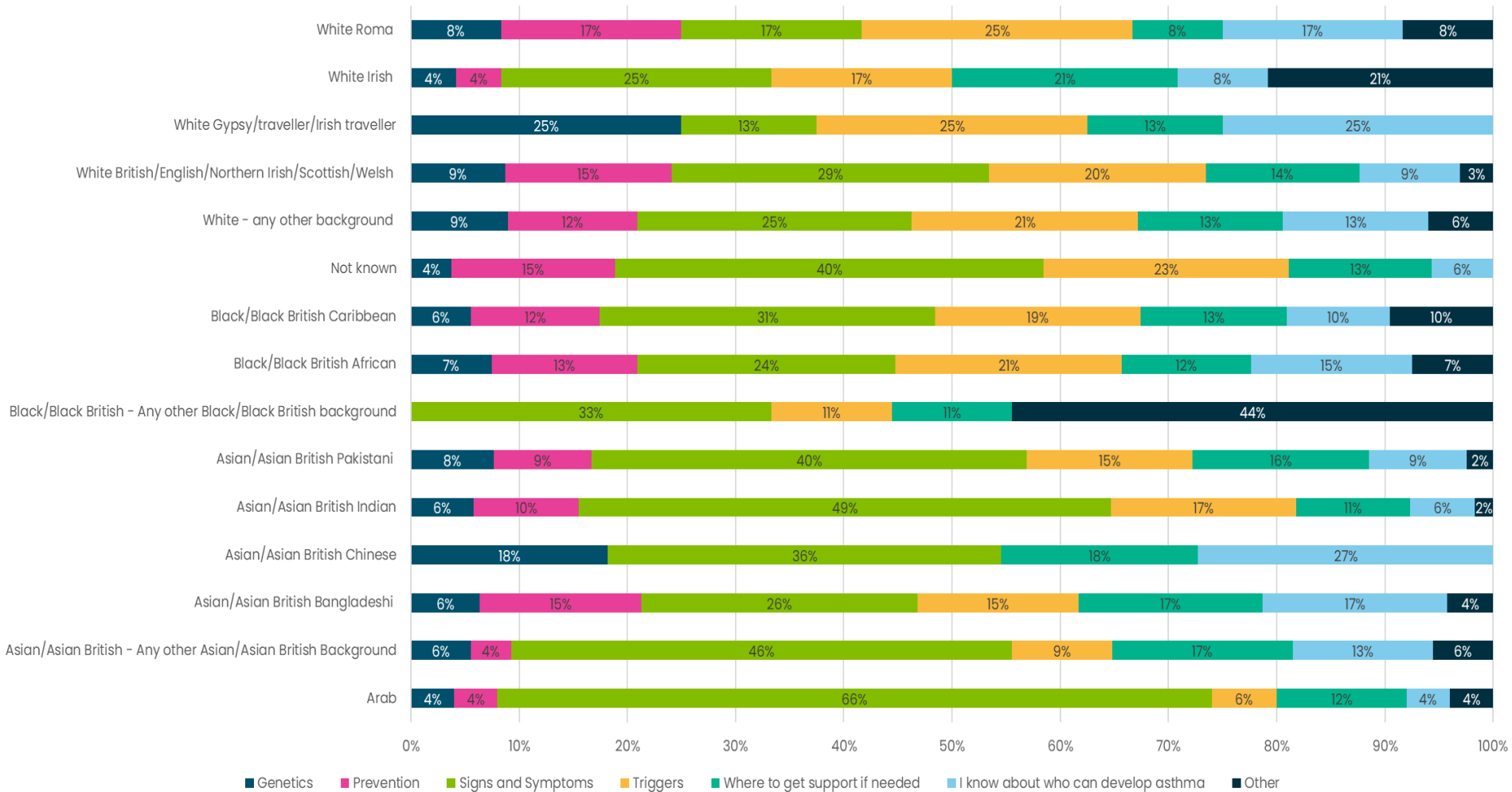




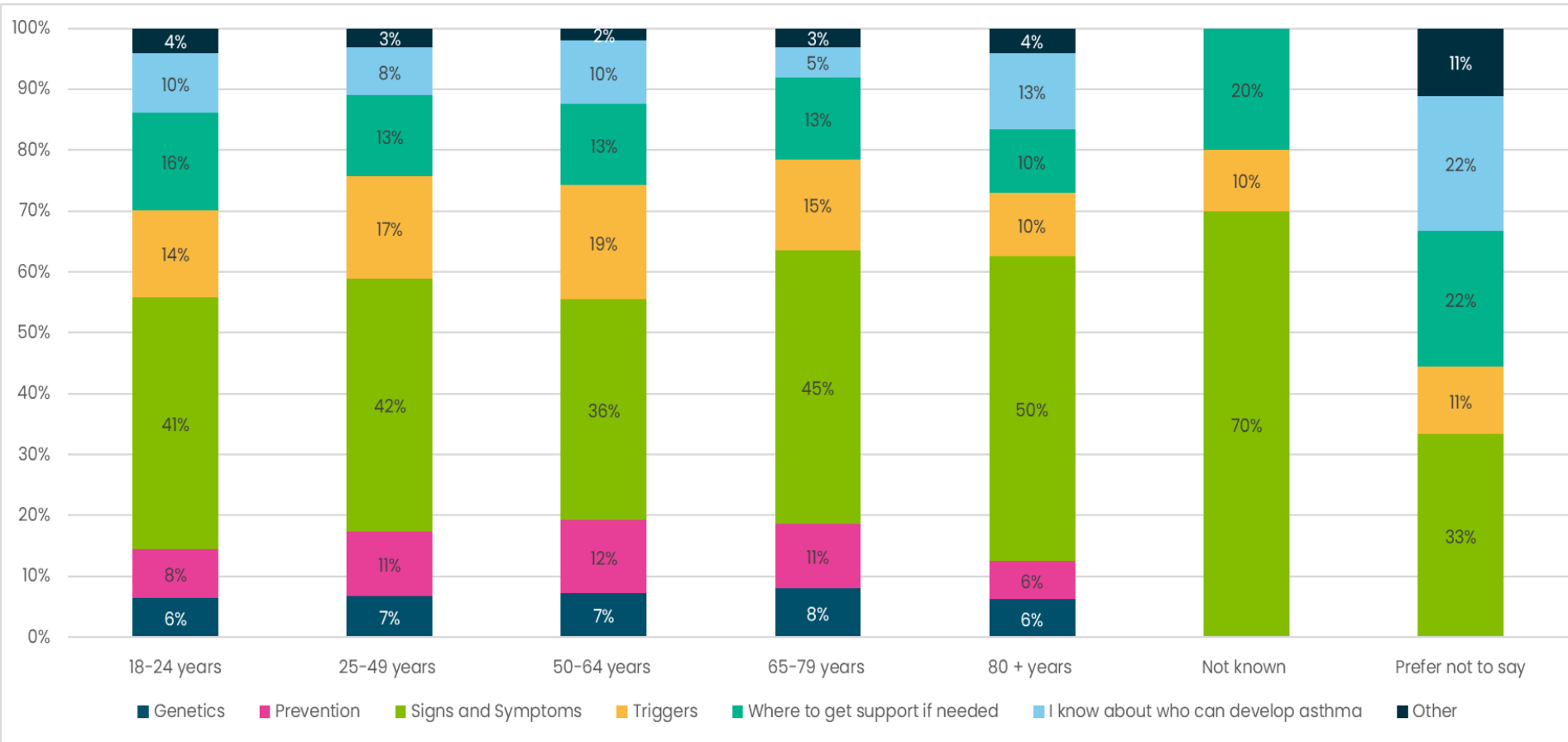
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Knowledge of Asthma

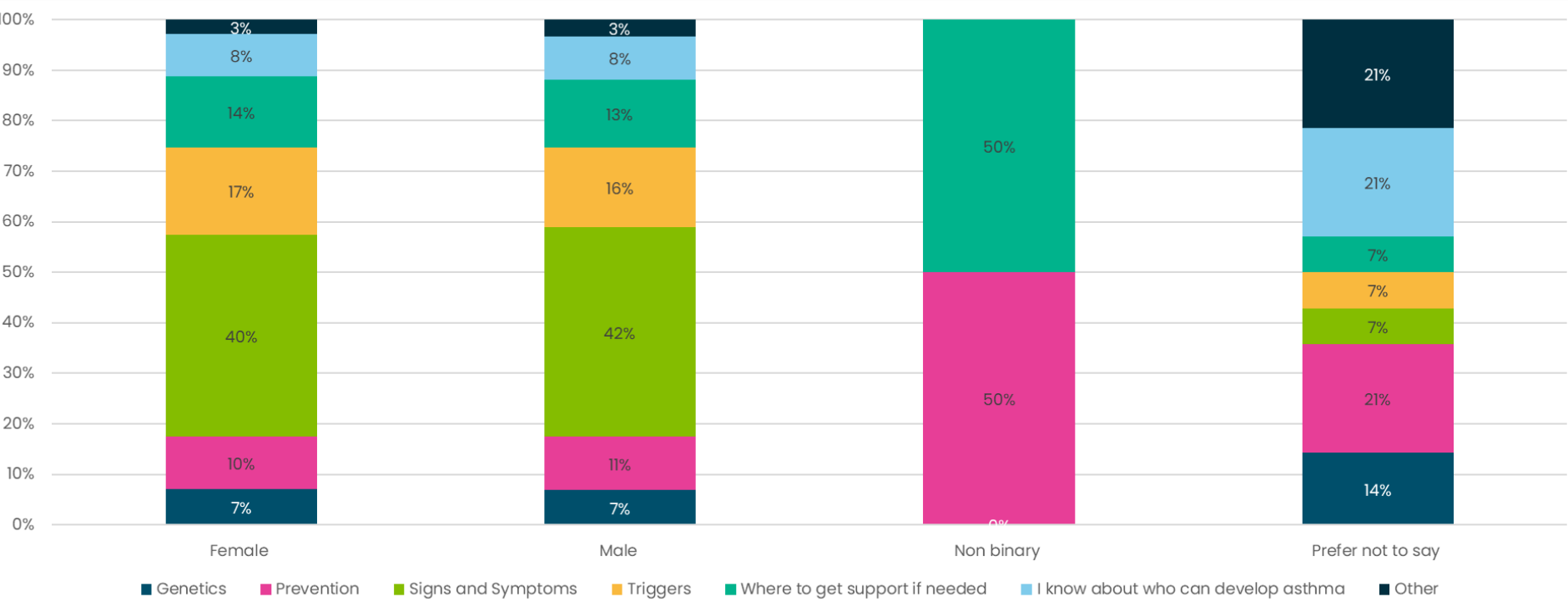
Knowledge of Symptoms (Ethnic Group)



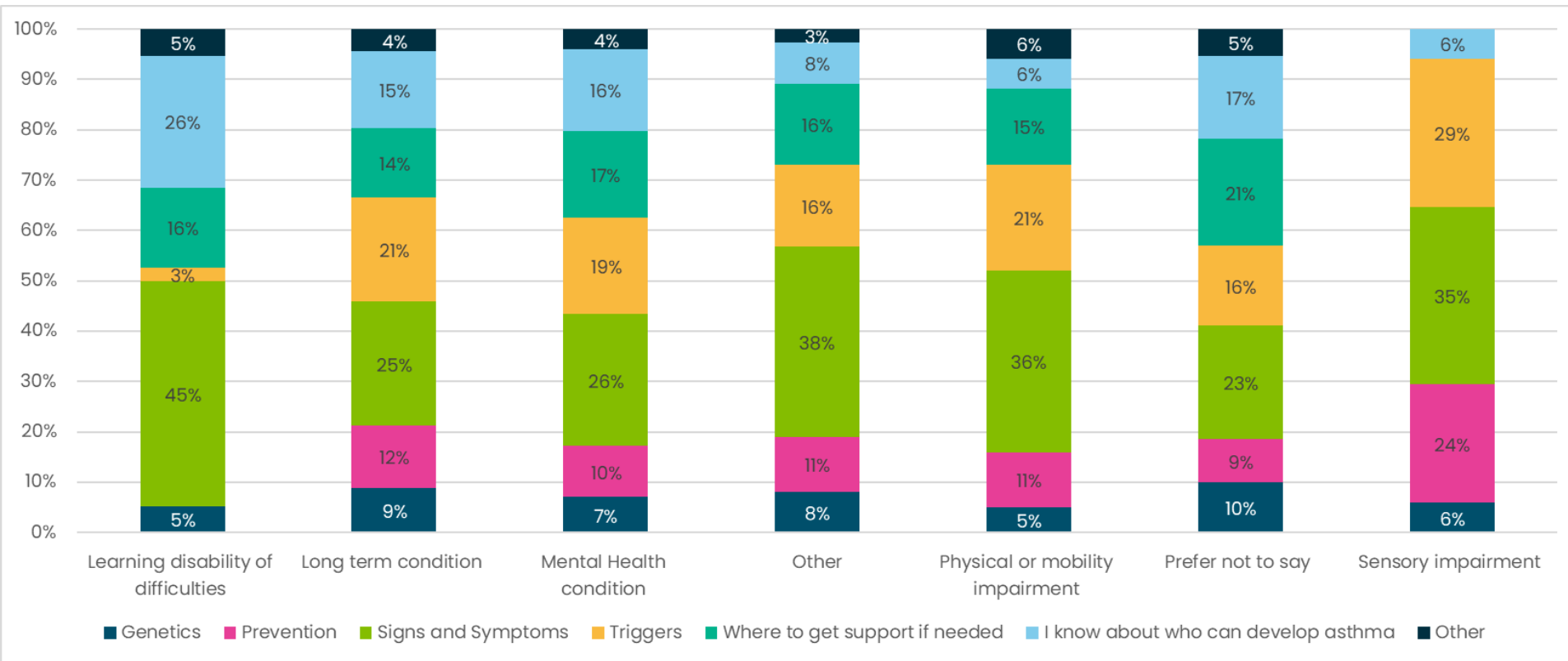
Knowledge of Symptoms (Age)



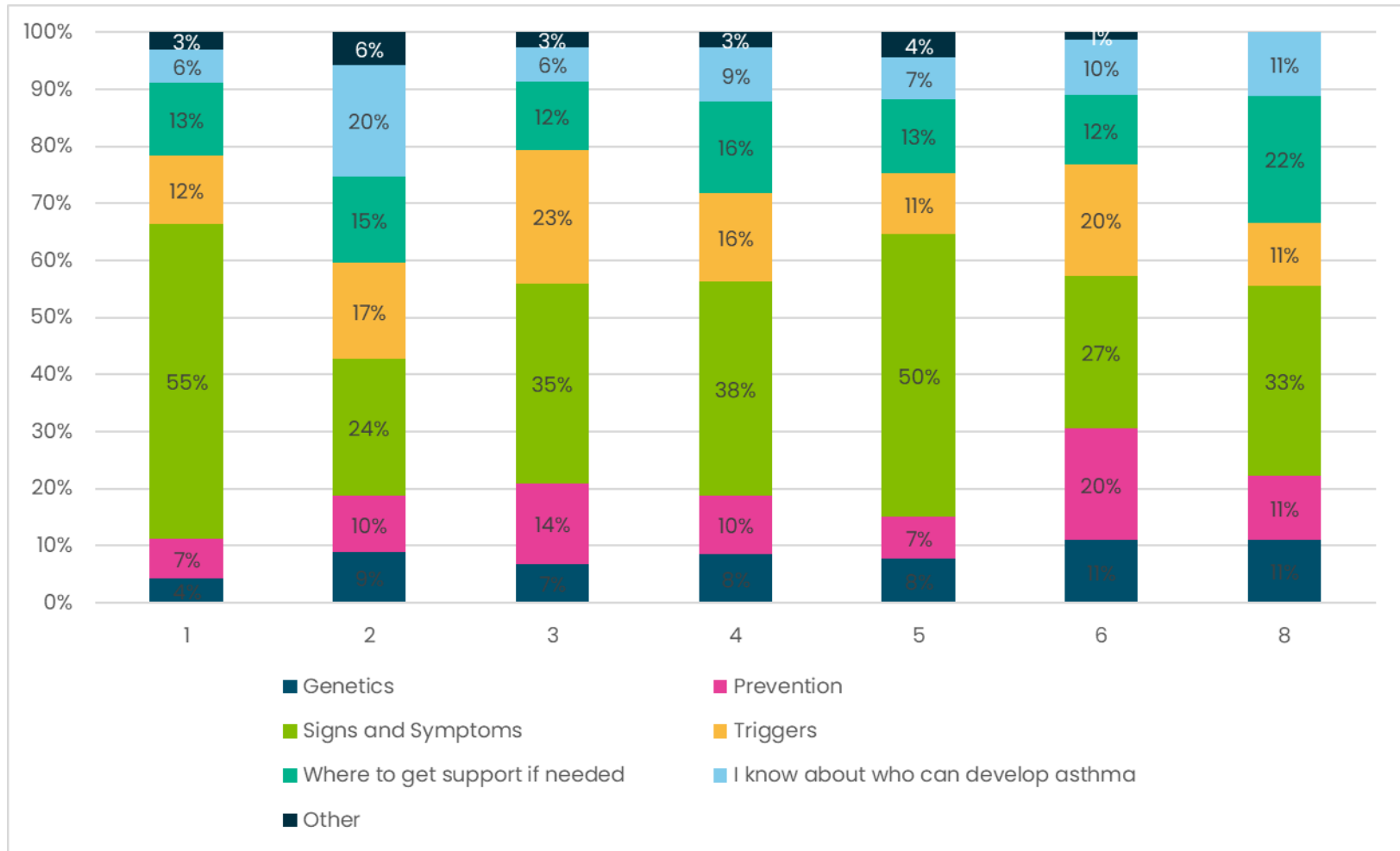
Knowledge of Symptoms (Gender)



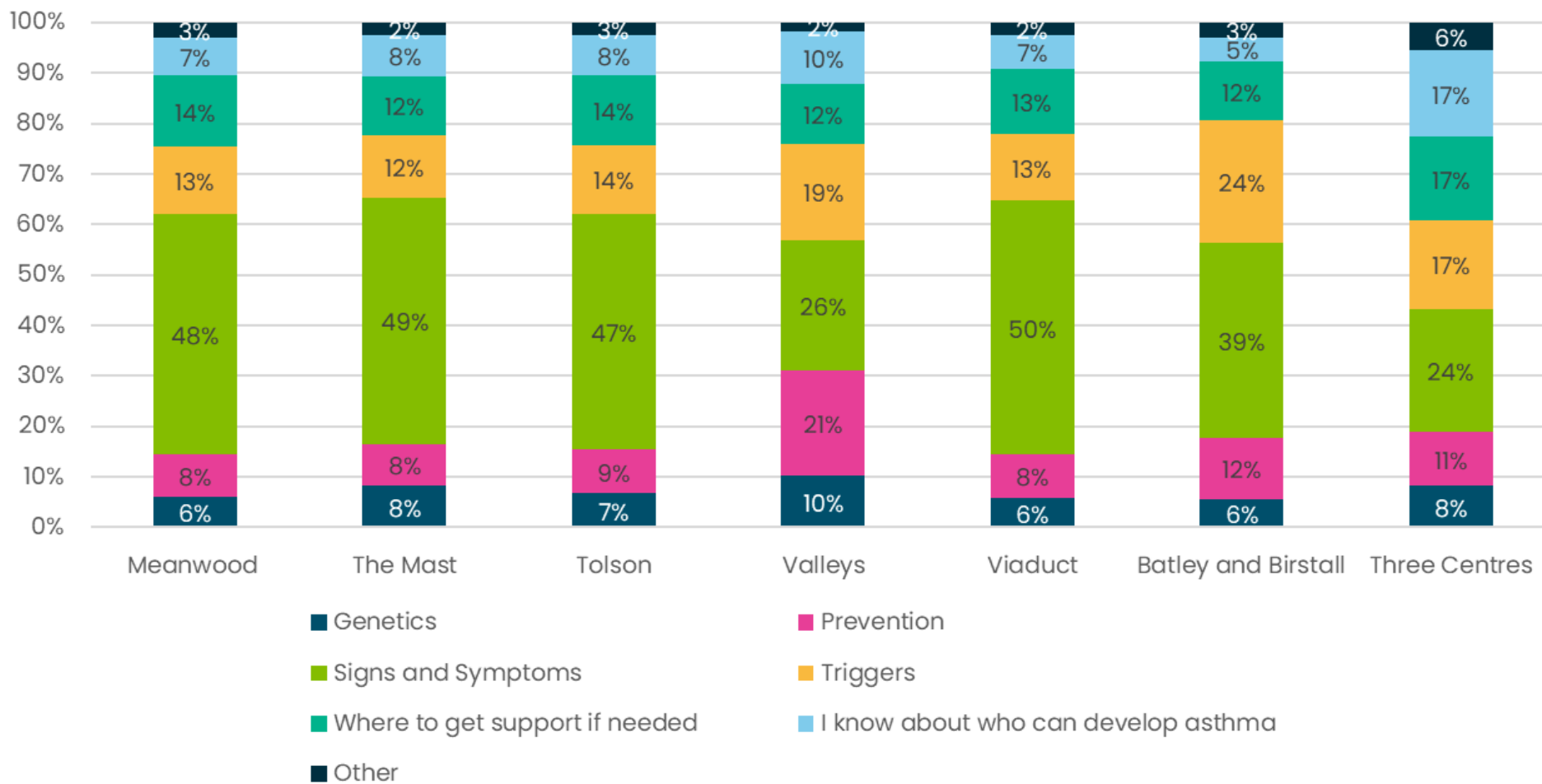
Knowledge of Symptoms (Disabilities)



Knowledge of Symptoms (Deprivation Level)



Knowledge of Symptoms (PCN)

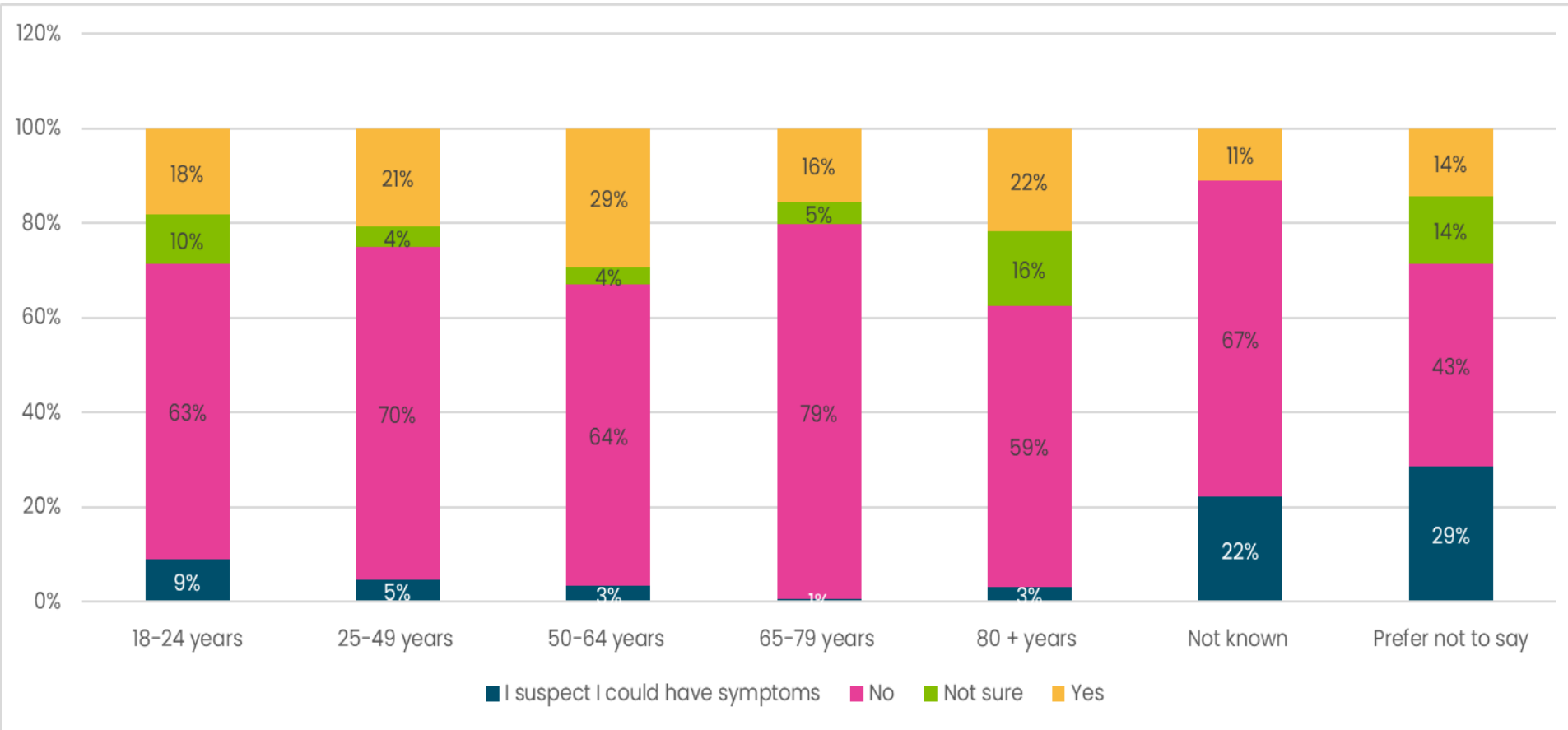




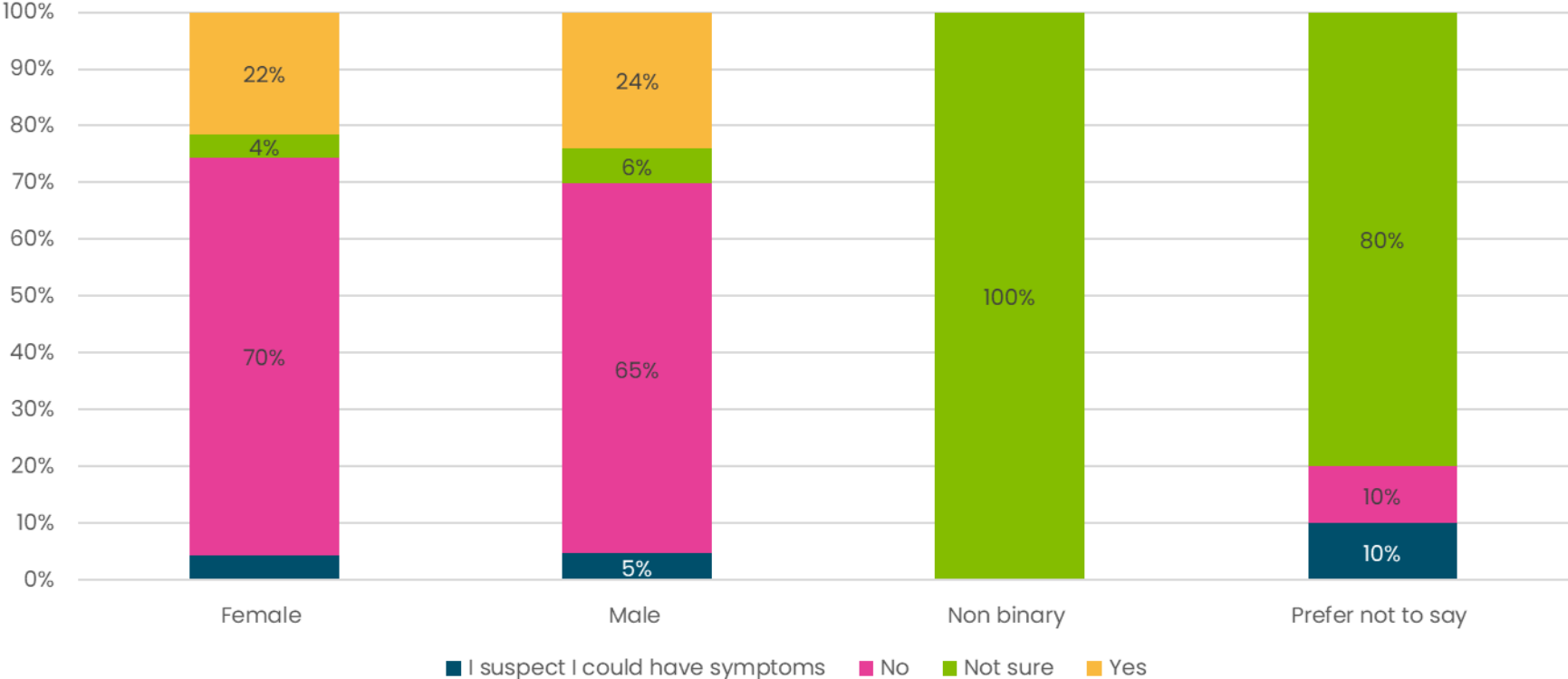
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Do you have asthma?

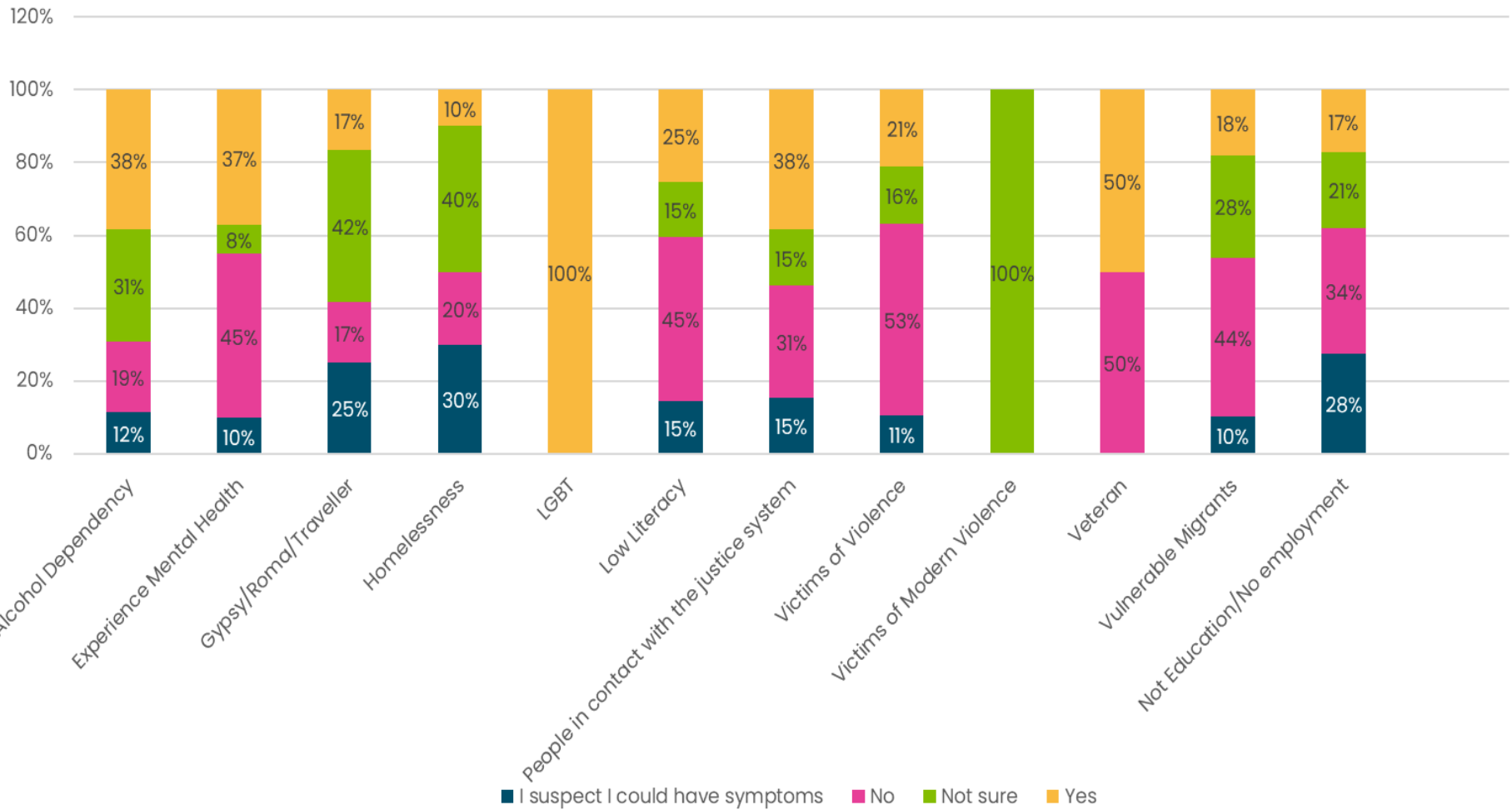
Do you have asthma? (Age)



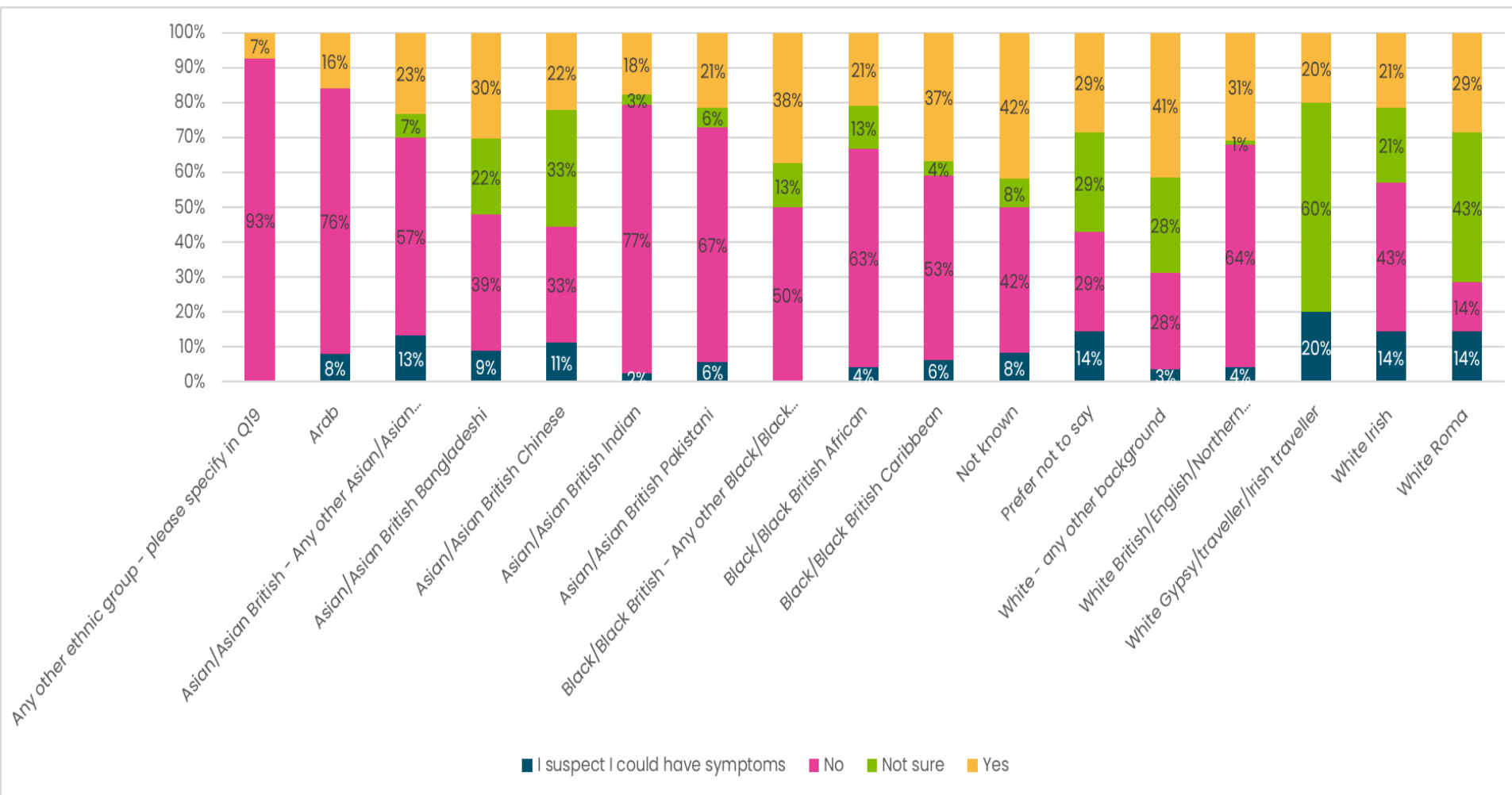
Do you have asthma? (Gender)



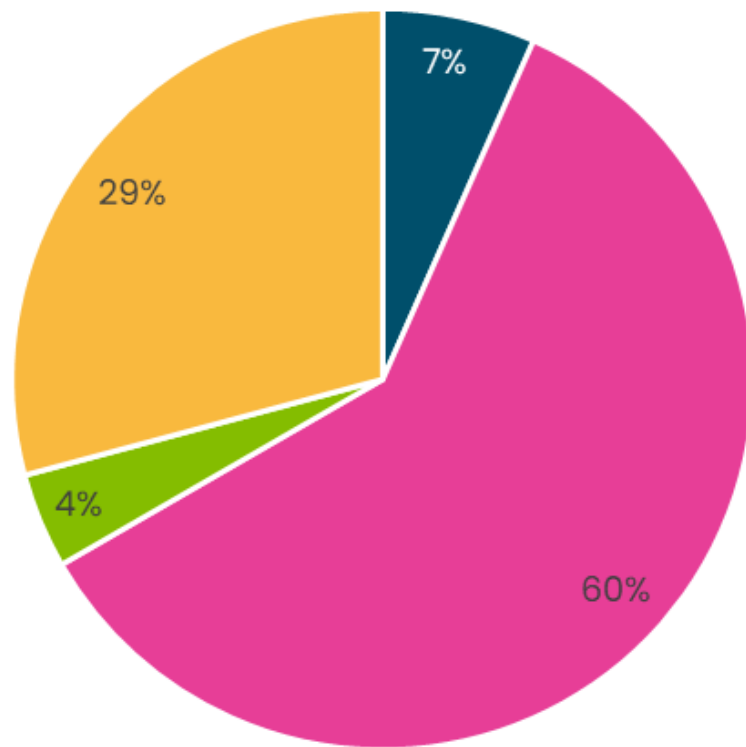
Do you have asthma? (HIG)



Do you have asthma? (Ethnicity)

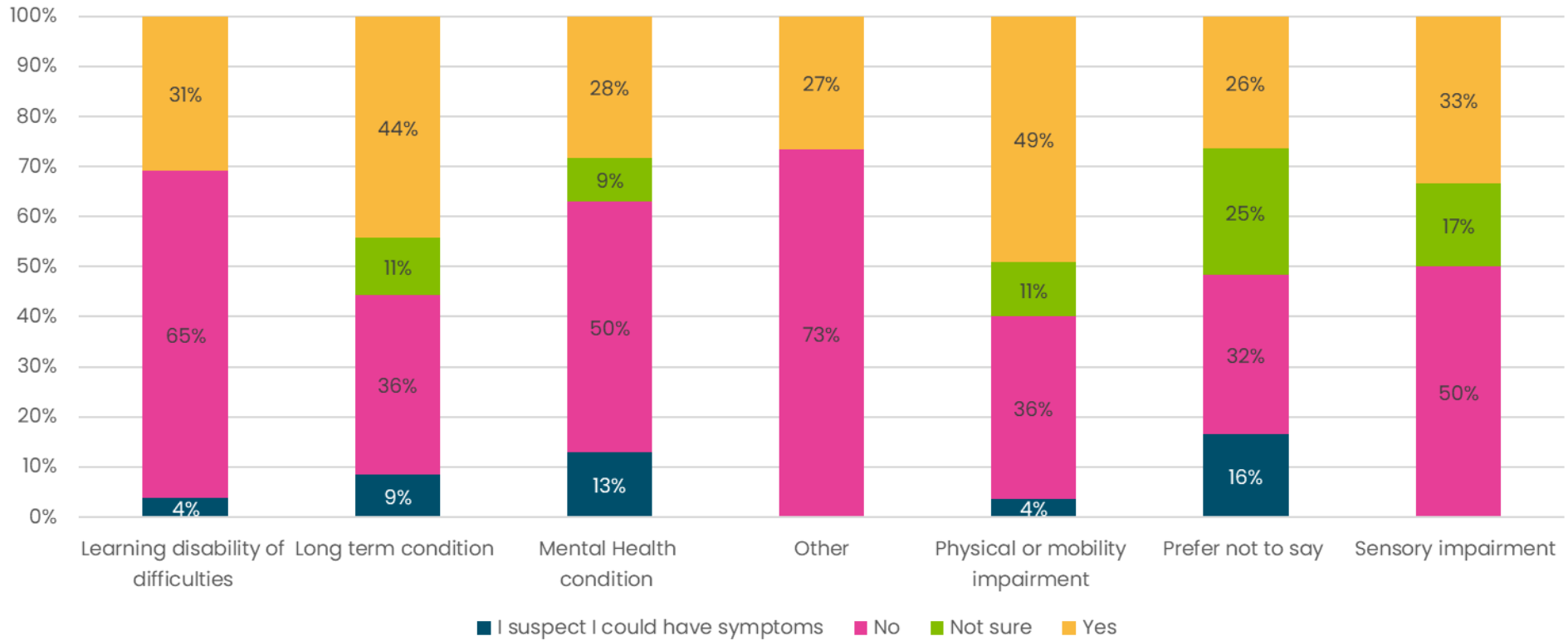


Do you have asthma? (Worries with the Cost of Living)

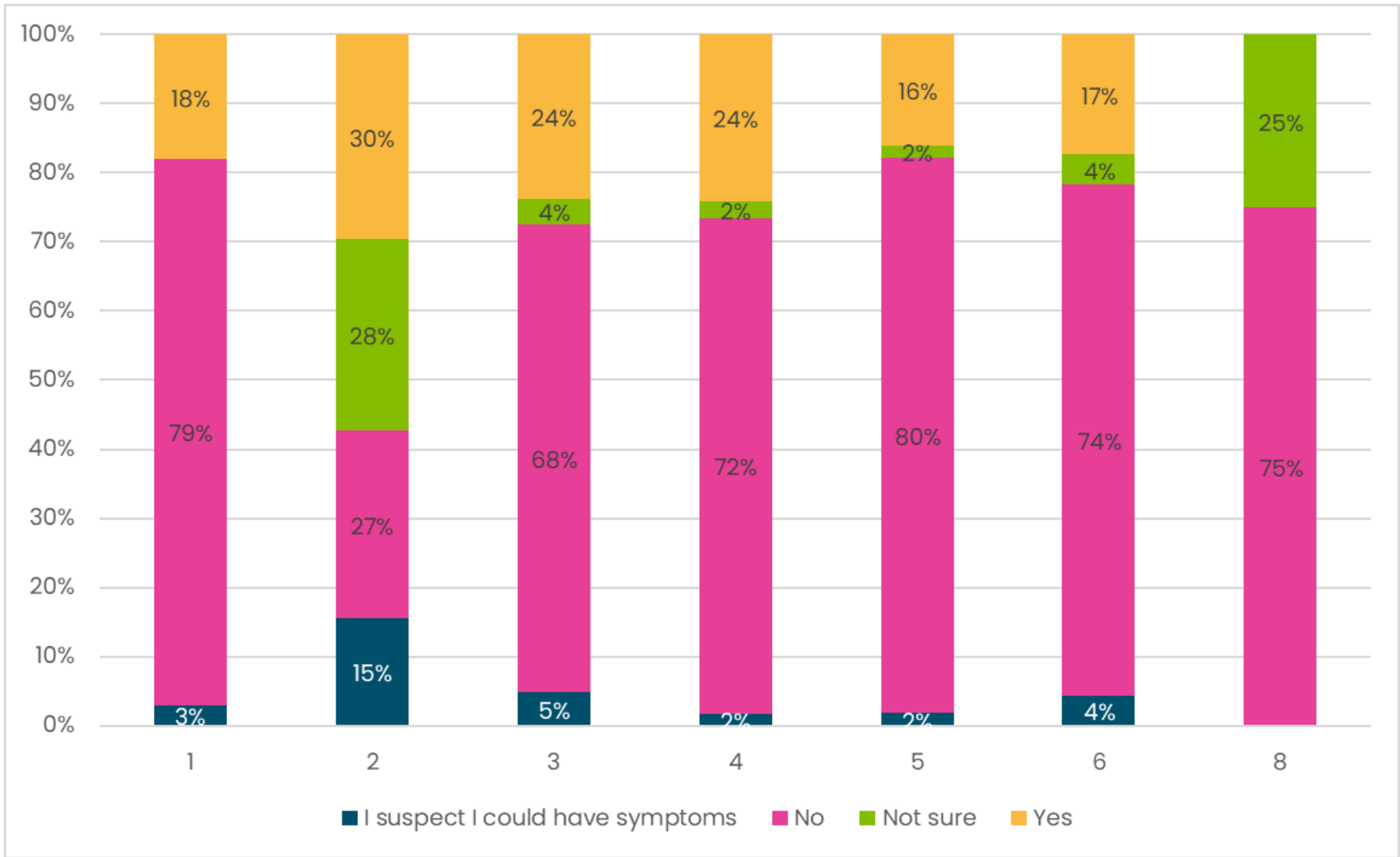


■ I suspect I could have symptoms ■ No ■ Not sure ■ Yes

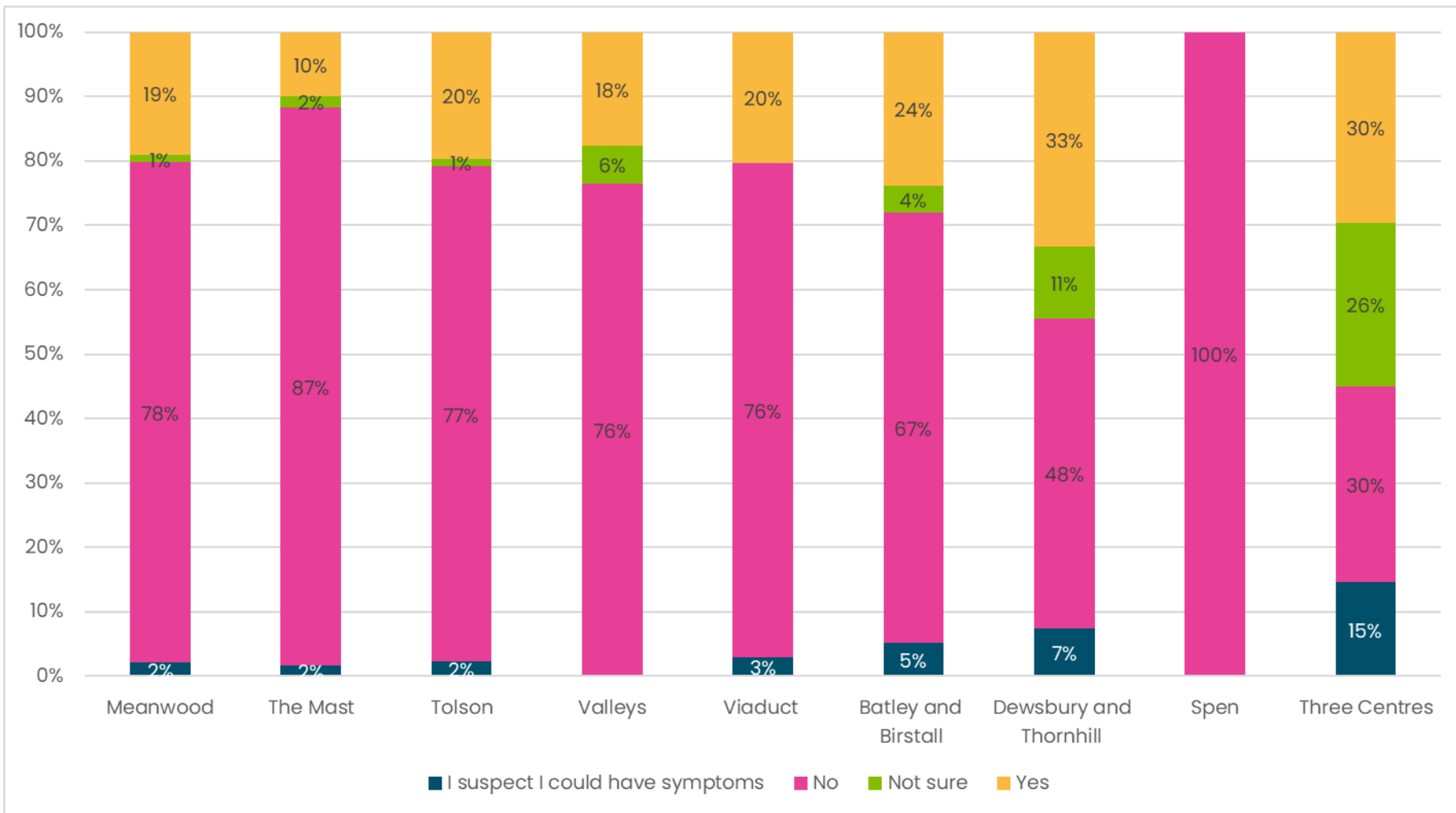
Do you have asthma? (Disability)



Do you have asthma? (Level of Deprivation)



Do you have asthma? (PCN)

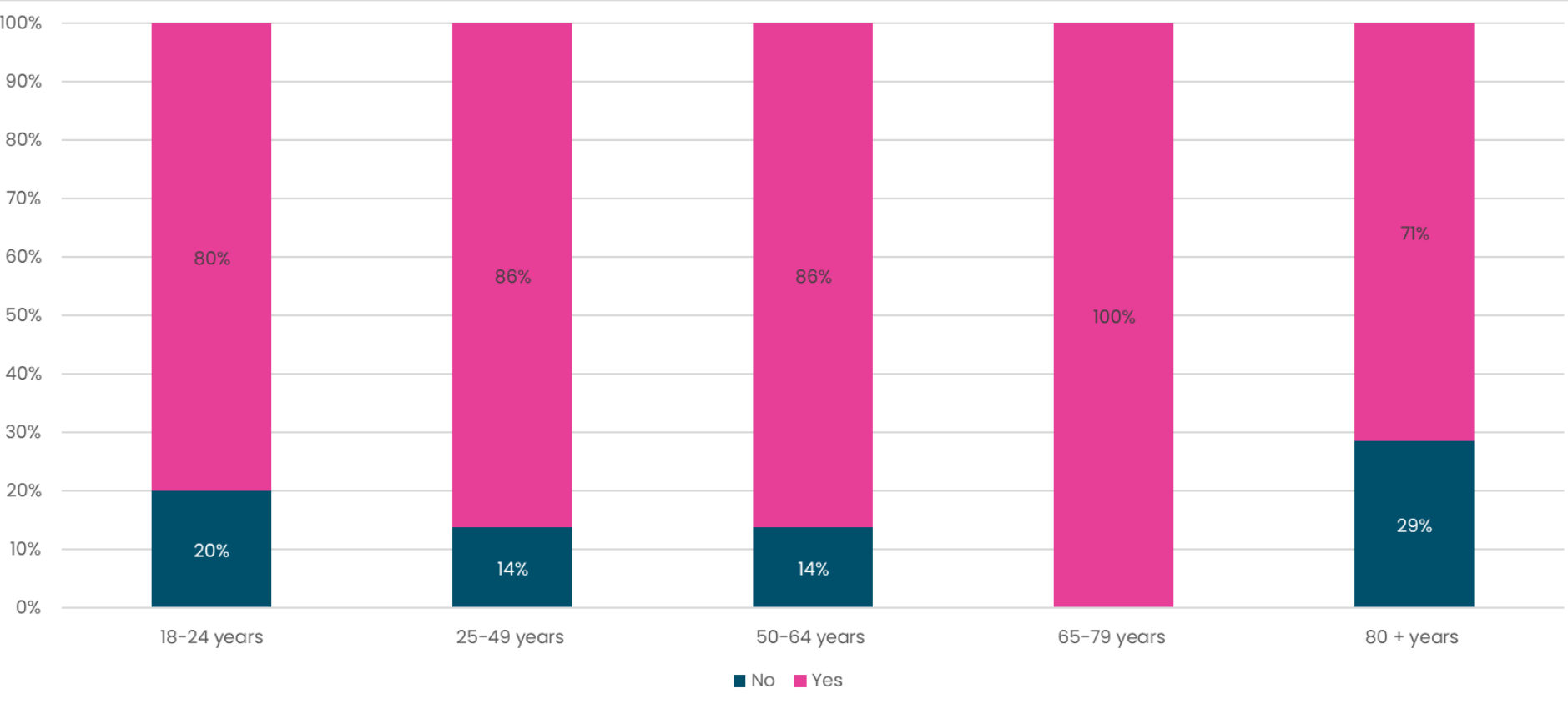




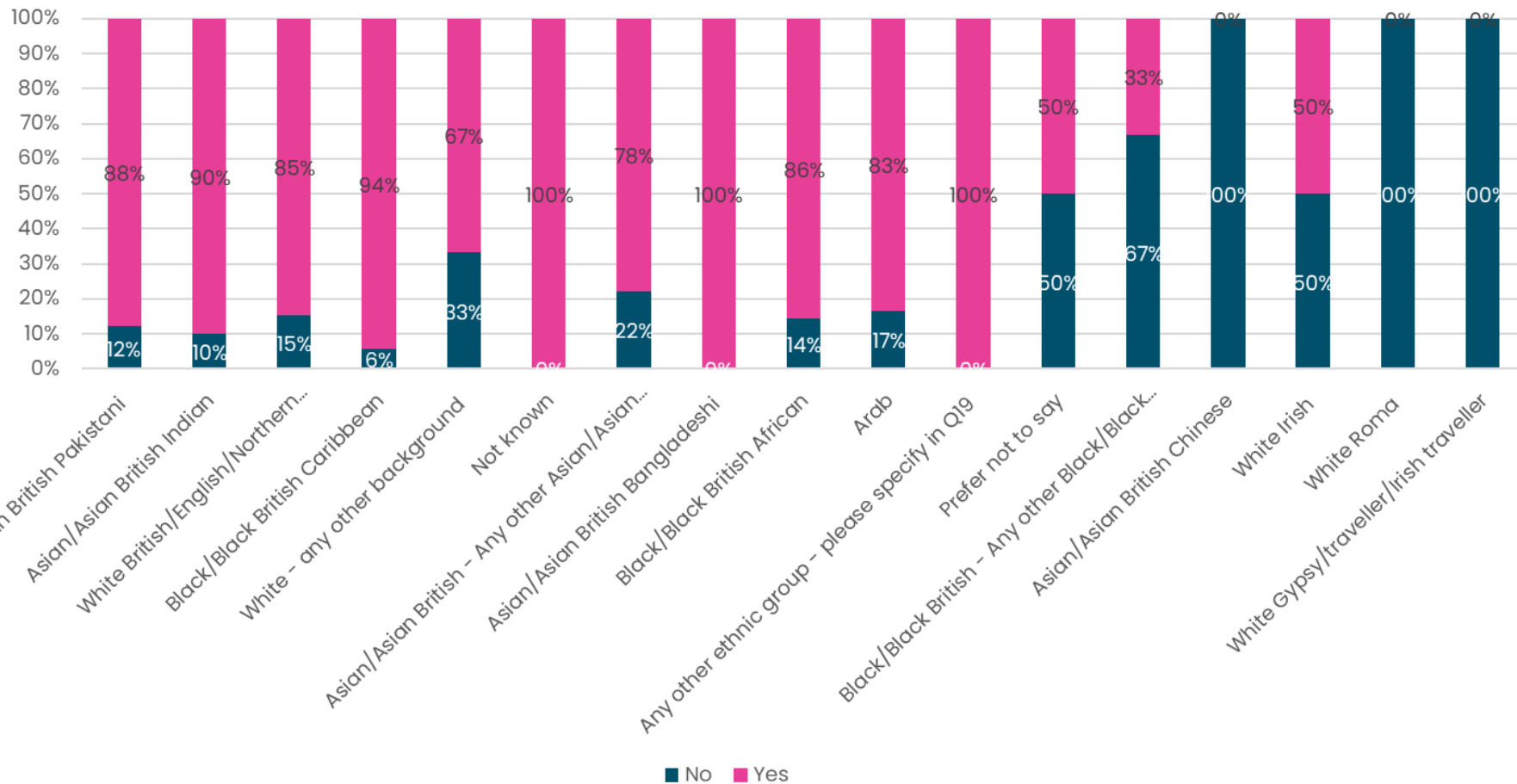
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Is your asthma managed?

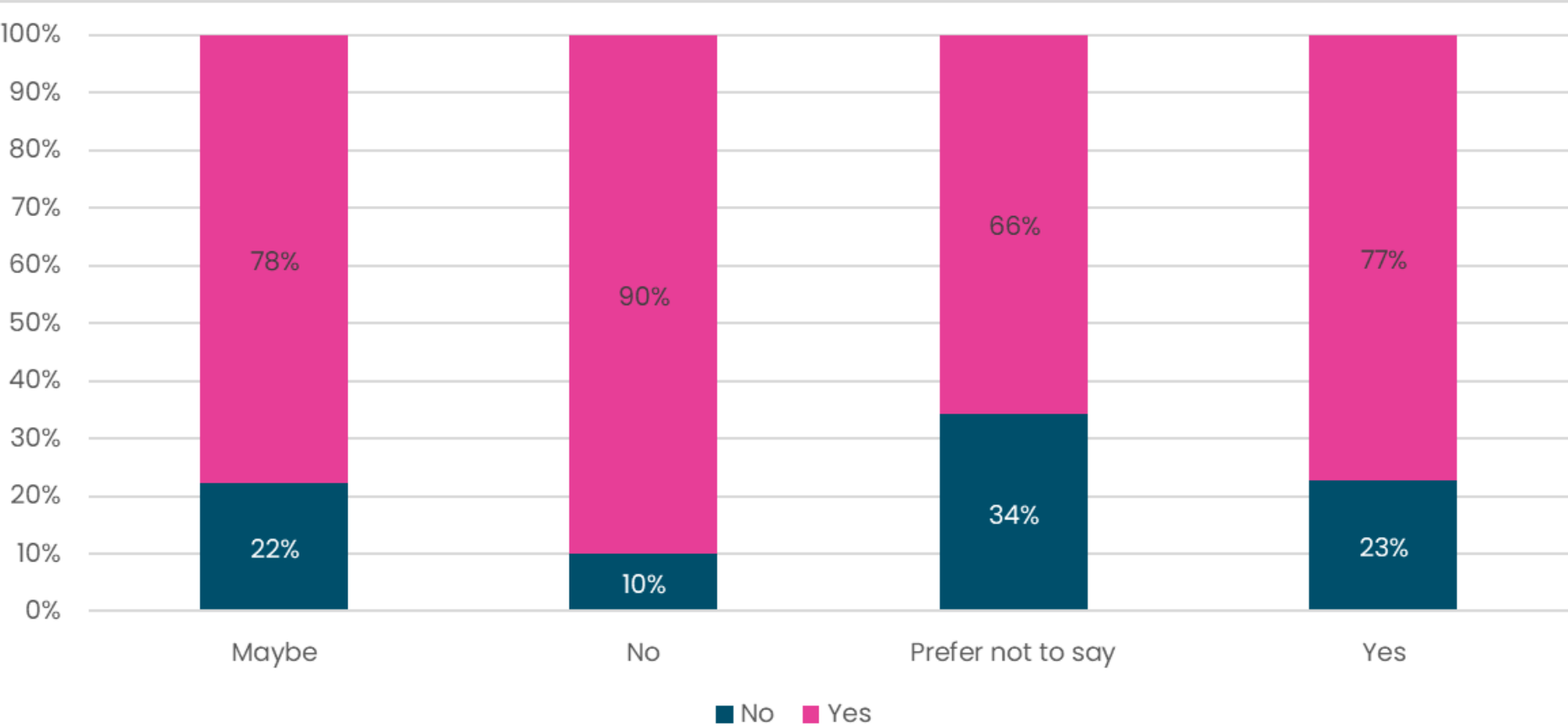
Is your asthma managed? (Age)



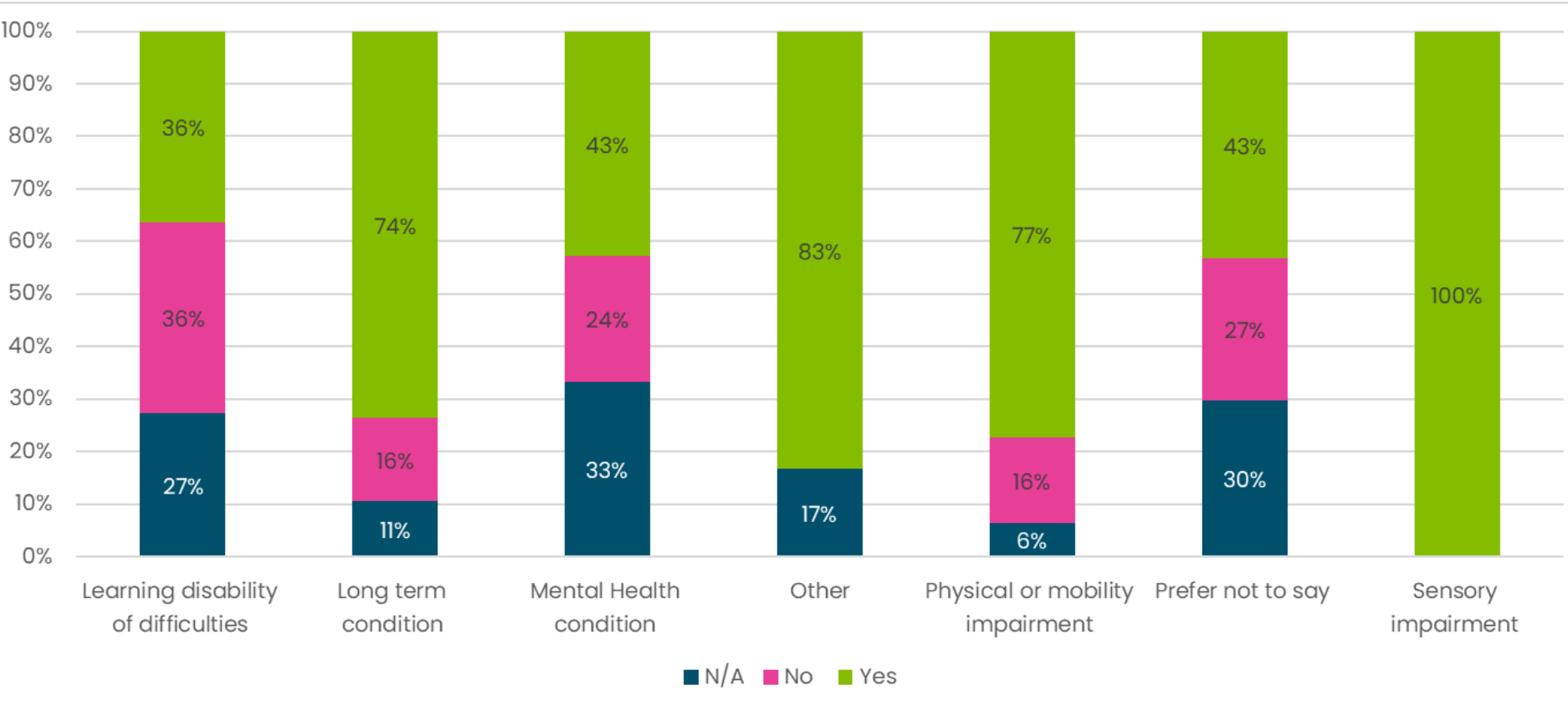
Is your asthma managed? (Ethnicity)



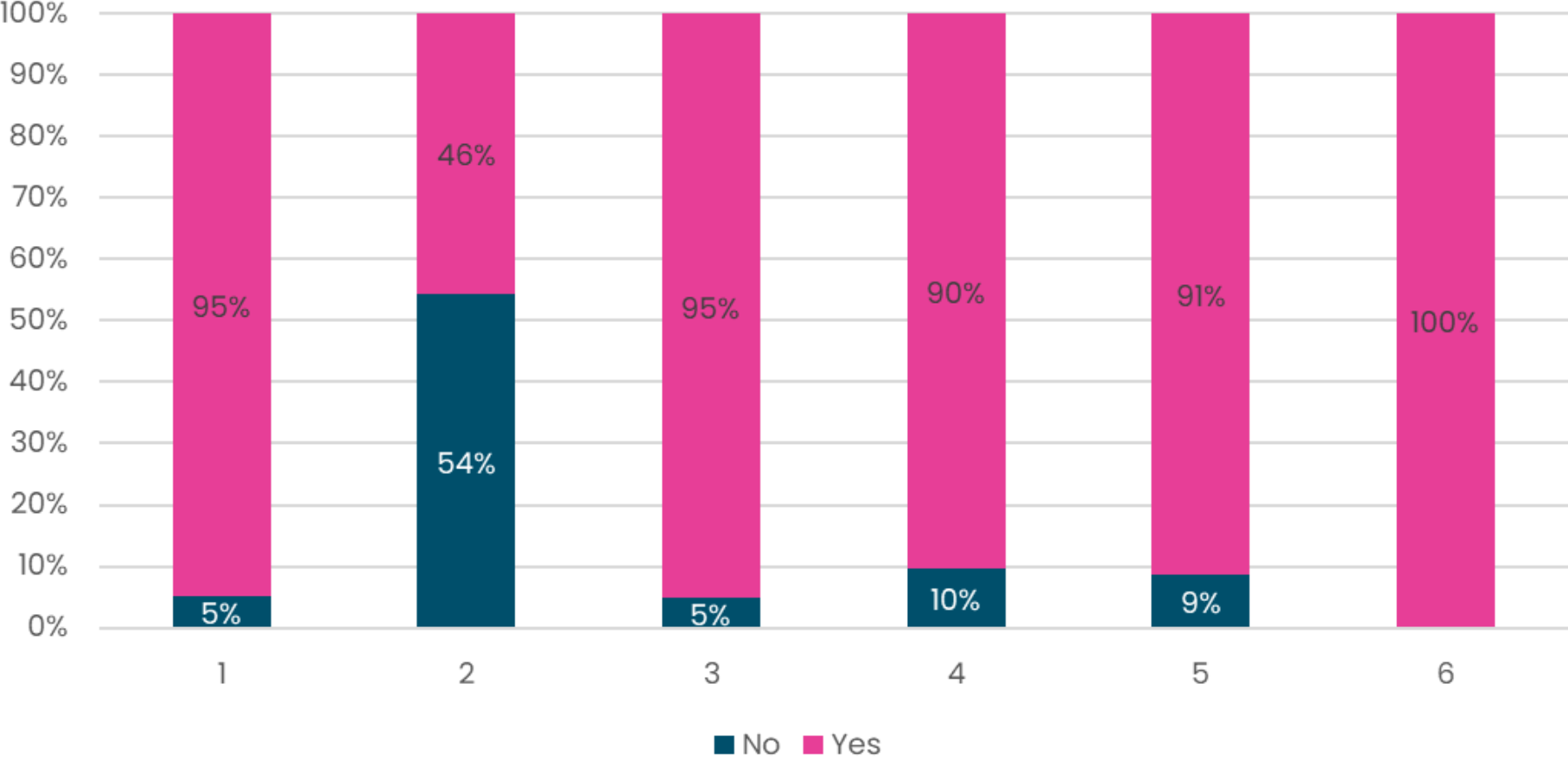
Is your asthma managed? (Cost of Living worries)



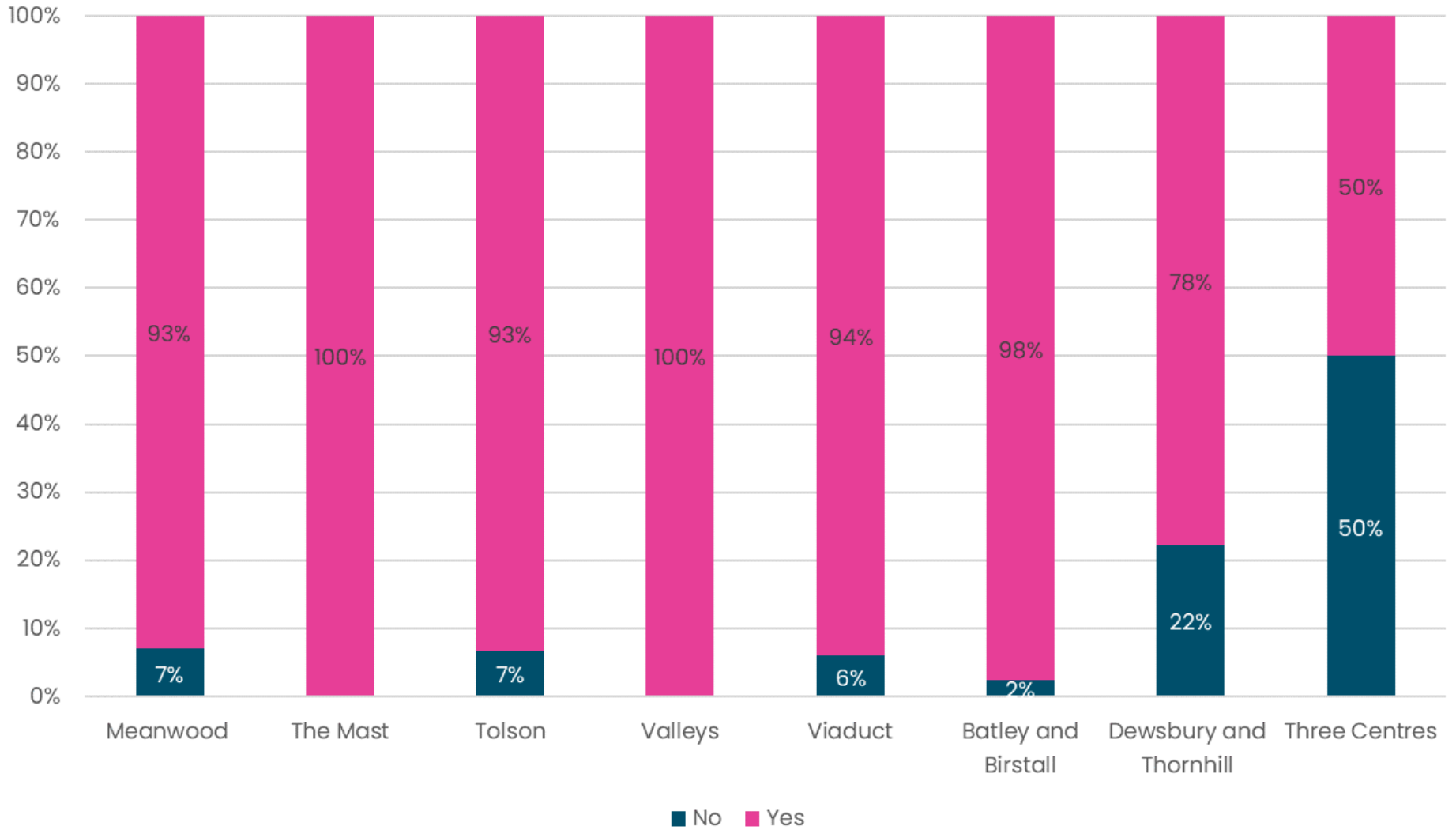
Is your asthma managed? (Disabilities)



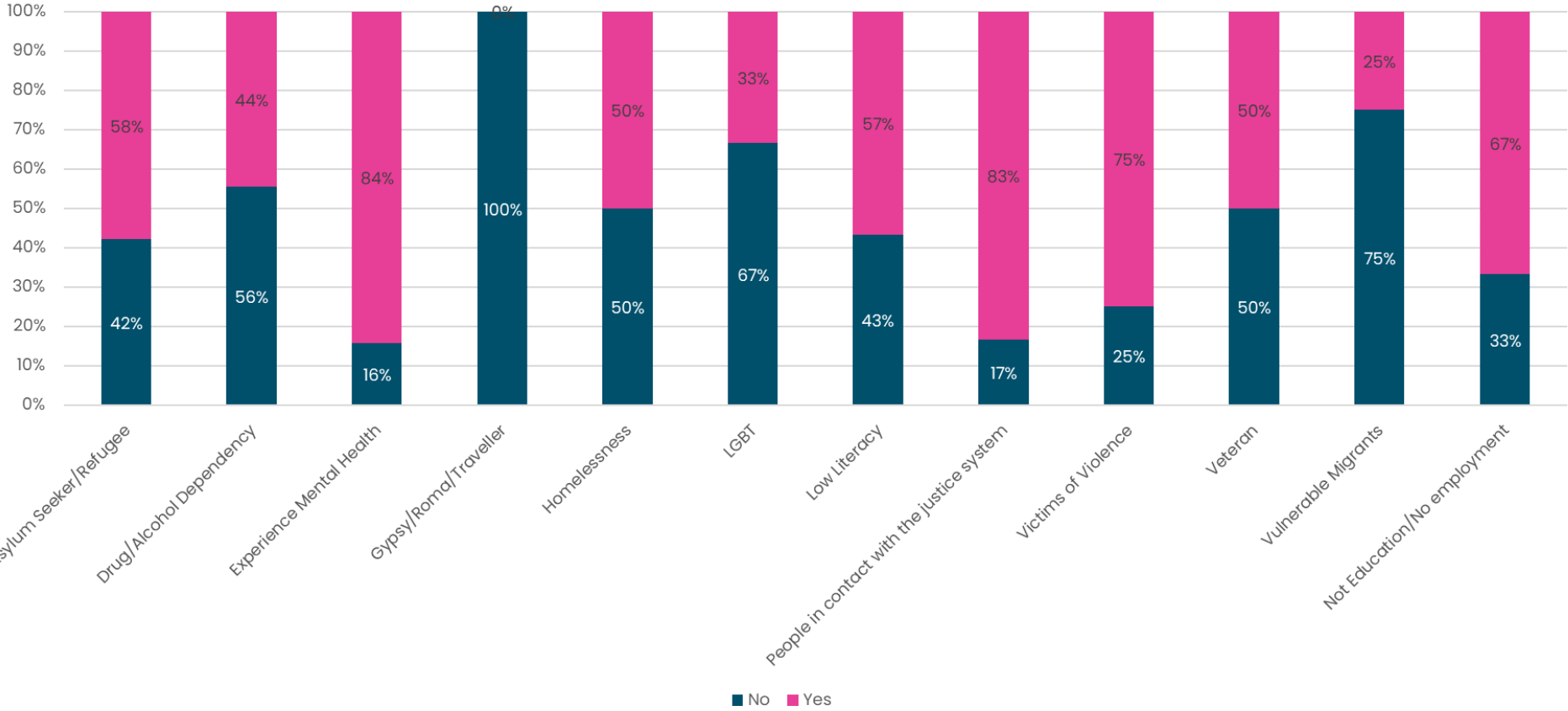
Is your asthma managed? (Level of Deprivation)



Is your asthma managed? (PCN)



Is your asthma managed? (HIG)

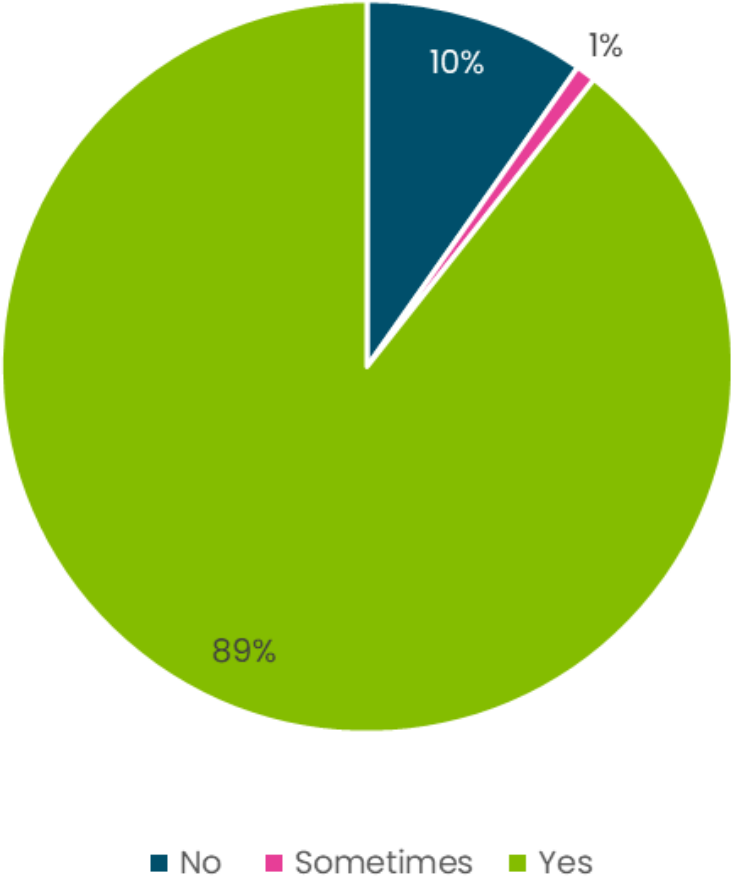




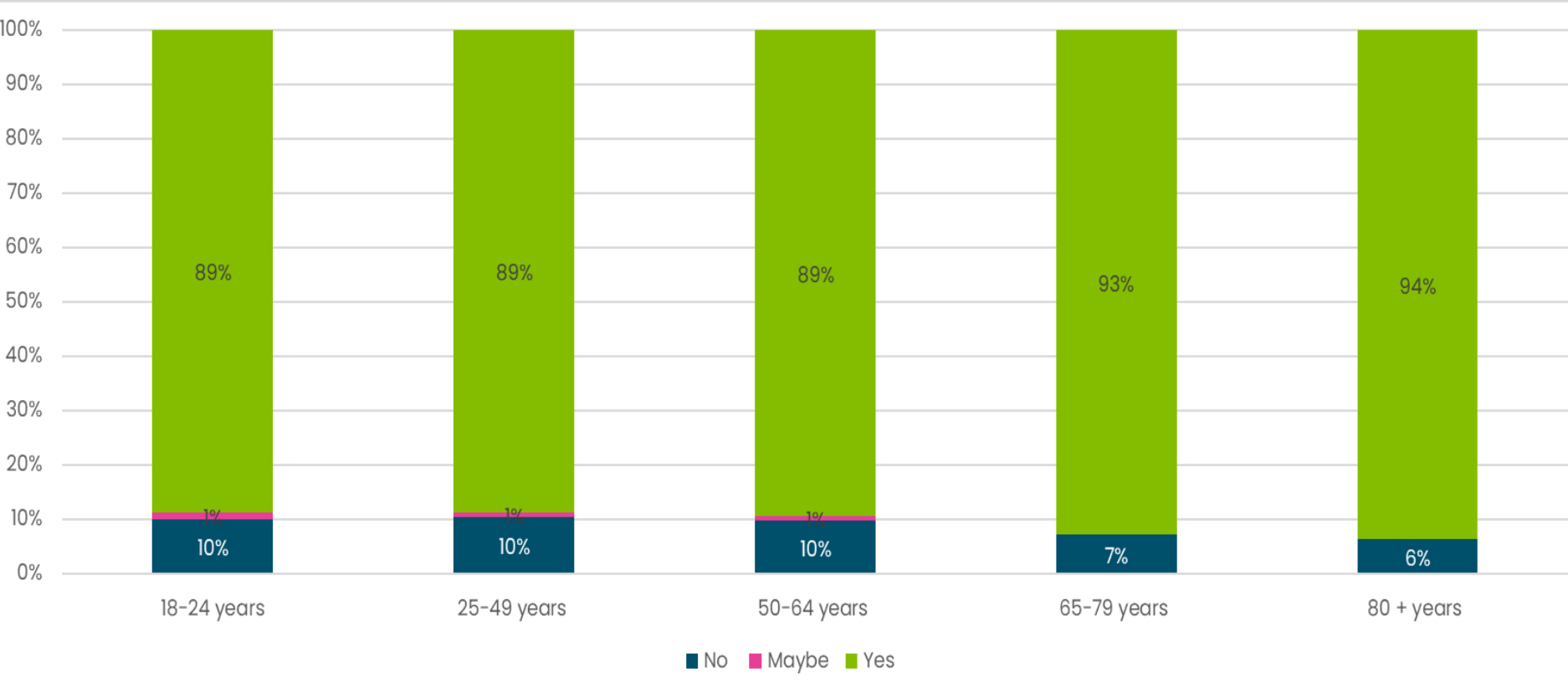
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*If you have asthma and had concerns
would you know where to access support?*

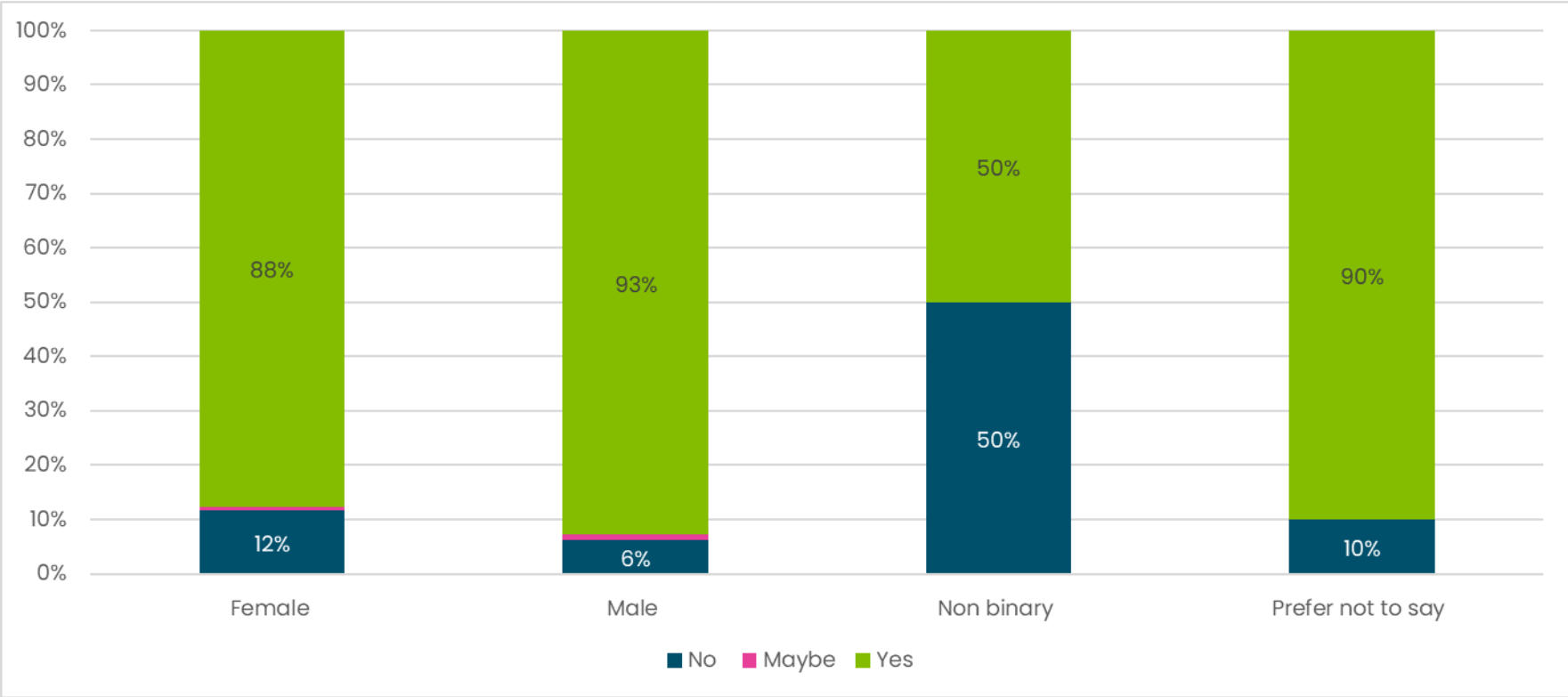
If you have asthma and had concerns would you know where to access support?



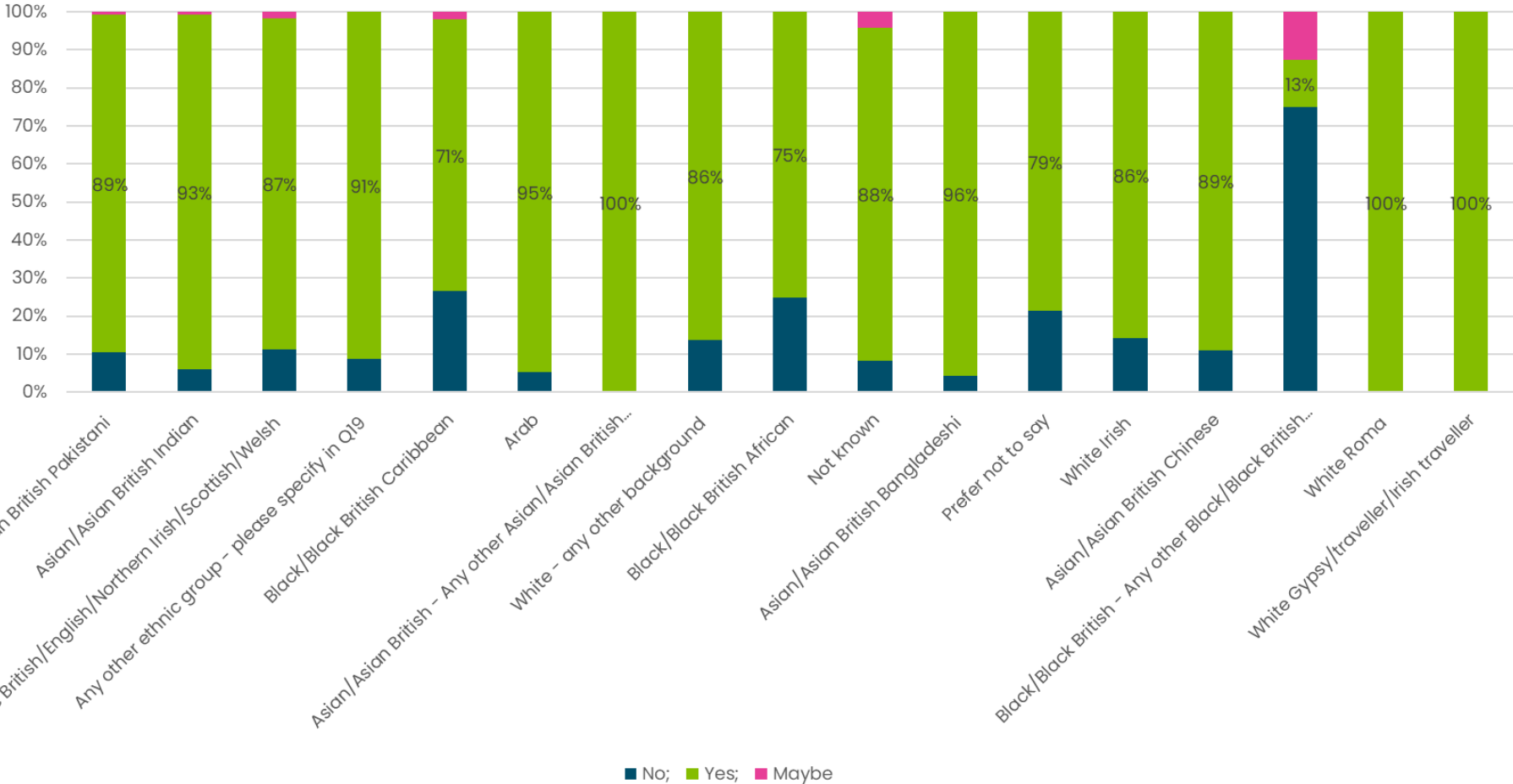
If you have asthma and had concerns would you know where to access support? (age)



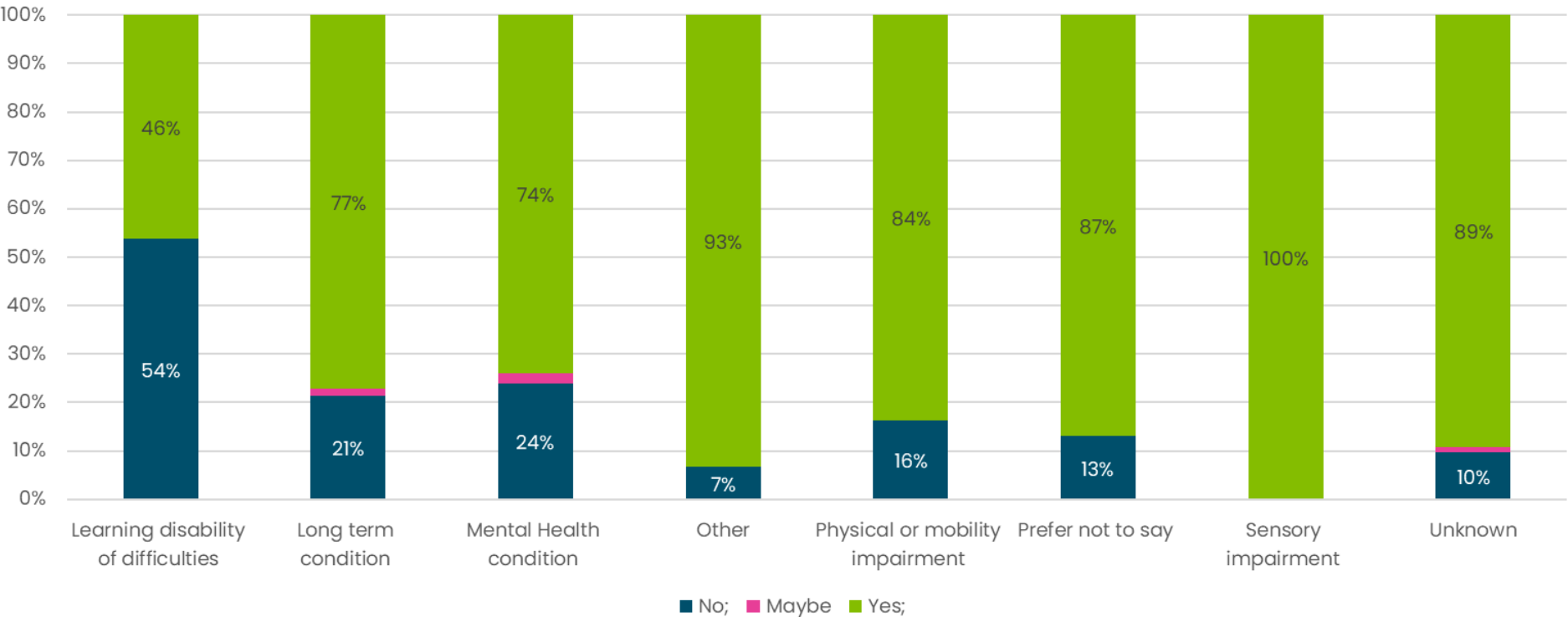
If you have asthma and had concerns would you know where to access support? (Gender)



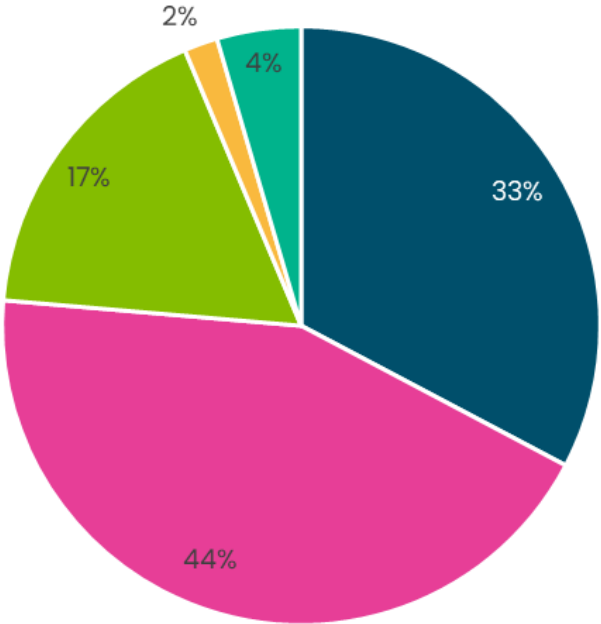
If you have asthma and had concerns would you know where to access support? (Ethnicity)



If you have asthma and had concerns would you know where to access support? (Disability)

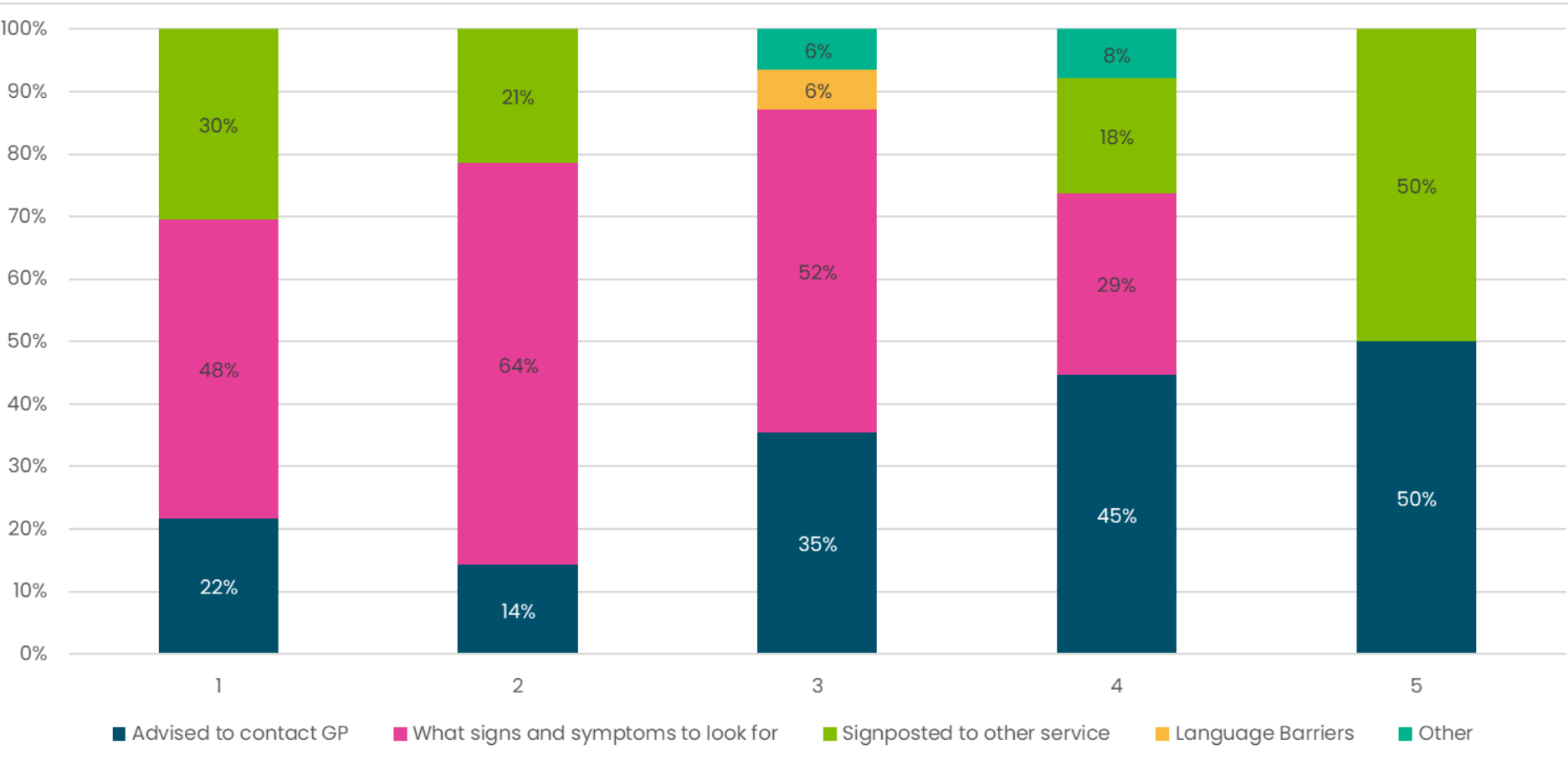


If you have asthma and had concerns would you know where to access support? (NO)

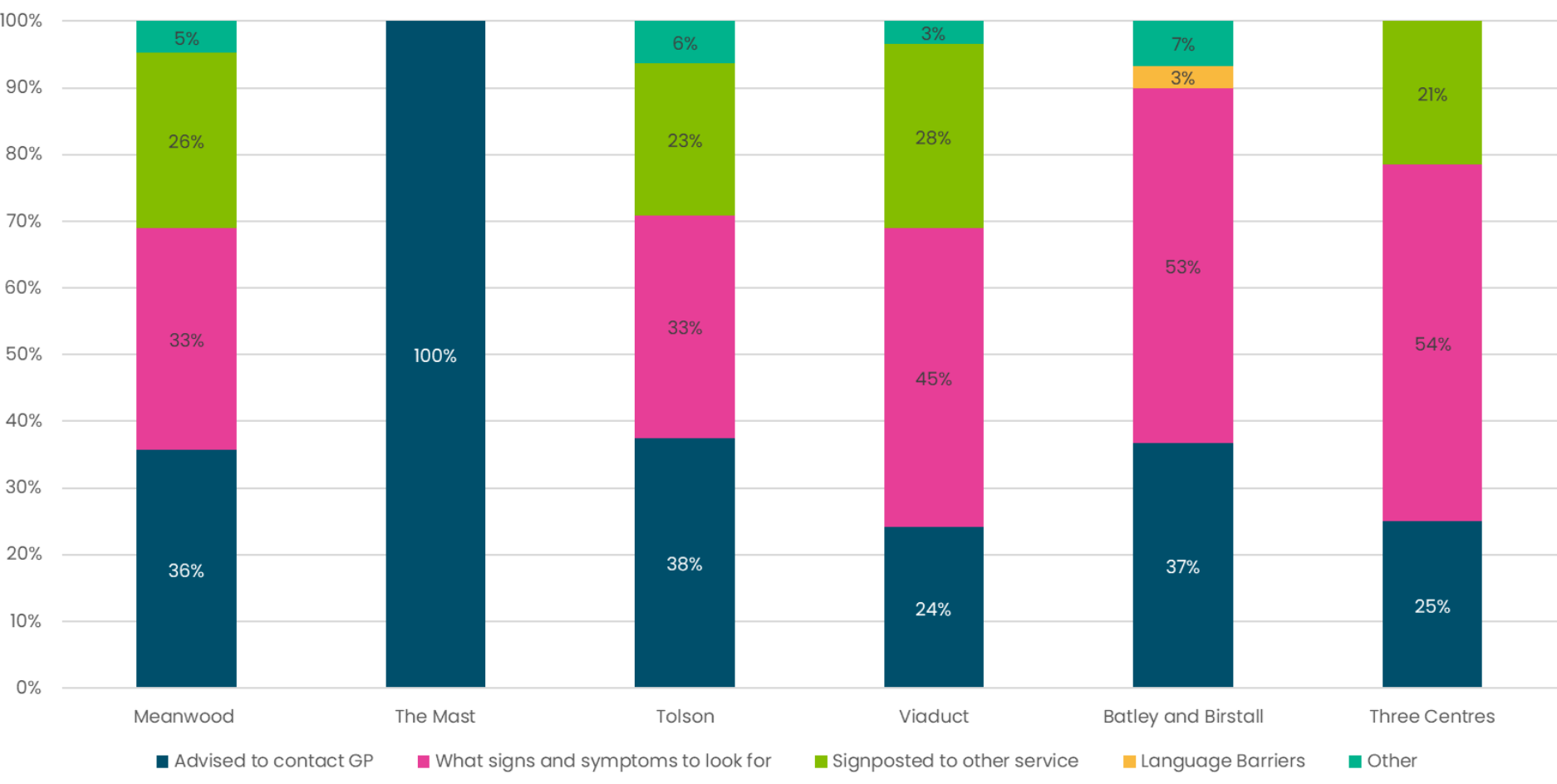


■ Advised to contact GP ■ What signs and symptoms to look for ■ Signposted to other service ■ Language Barriers ■ Other

If you have asthma and had concerns would you know where to access support? (Level of Deprivation - NO)



If you have asthma and had concerns would you know where to access support? (HIG - NO)

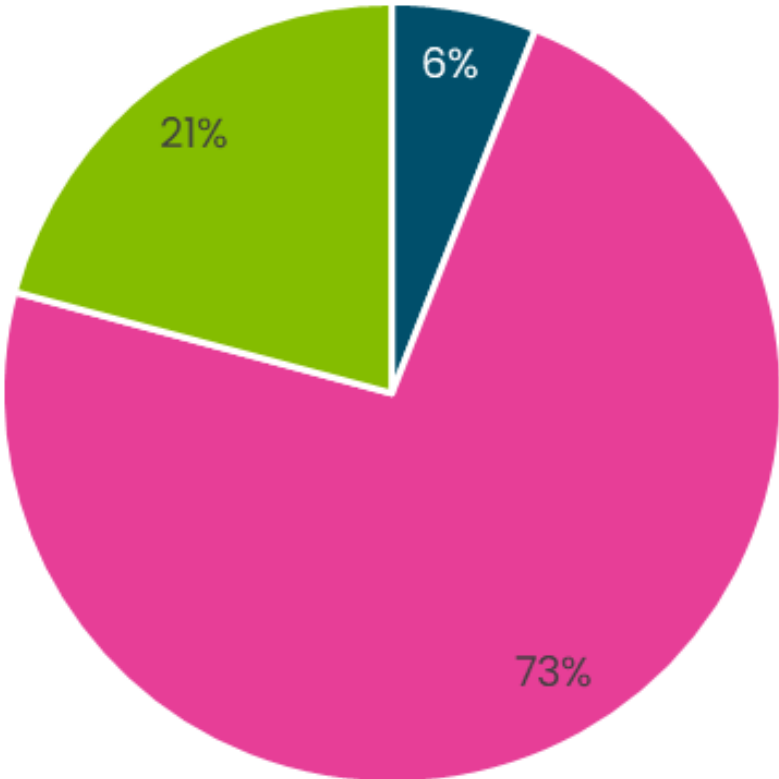




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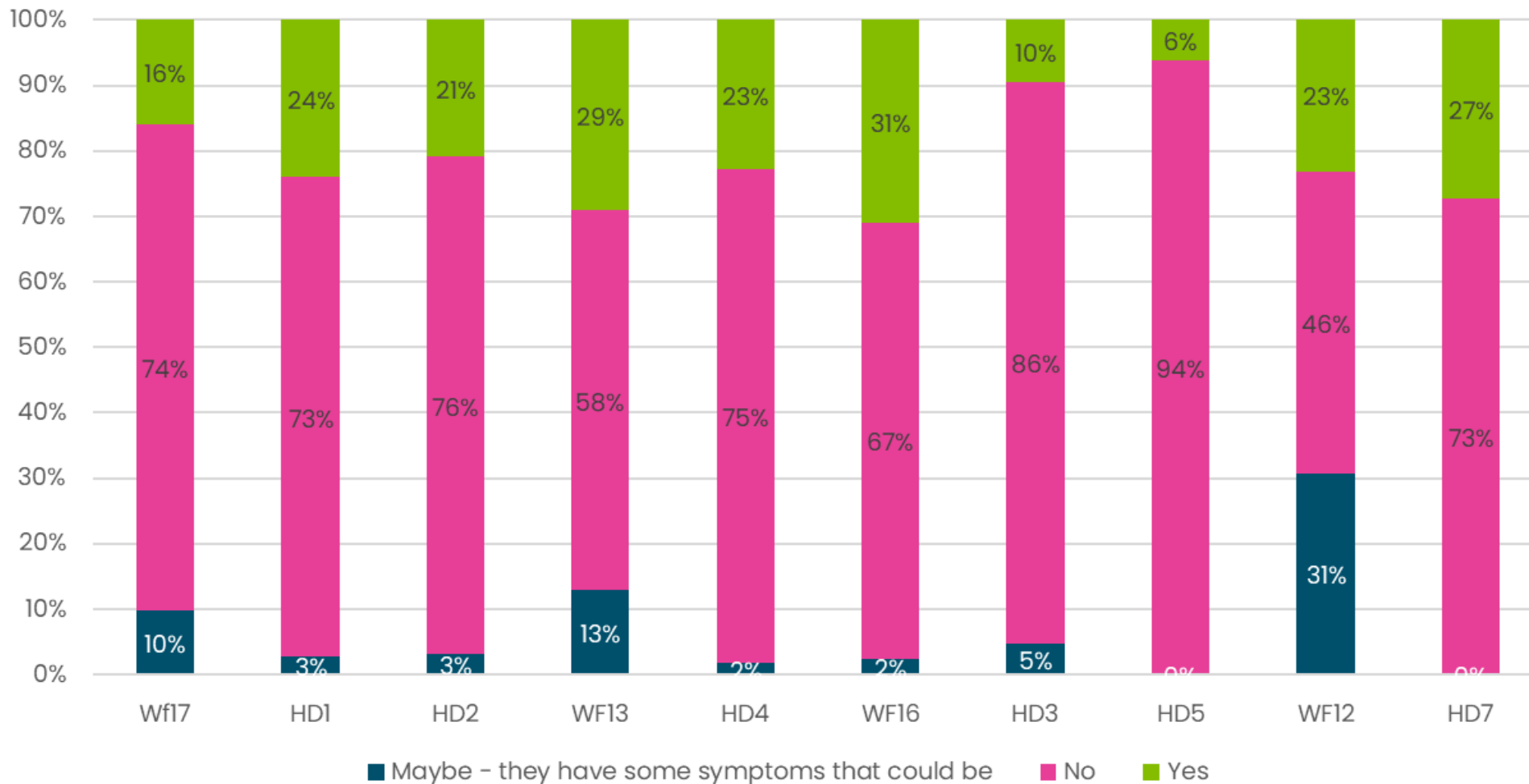
Children Questions

Do any of your children have asthma?

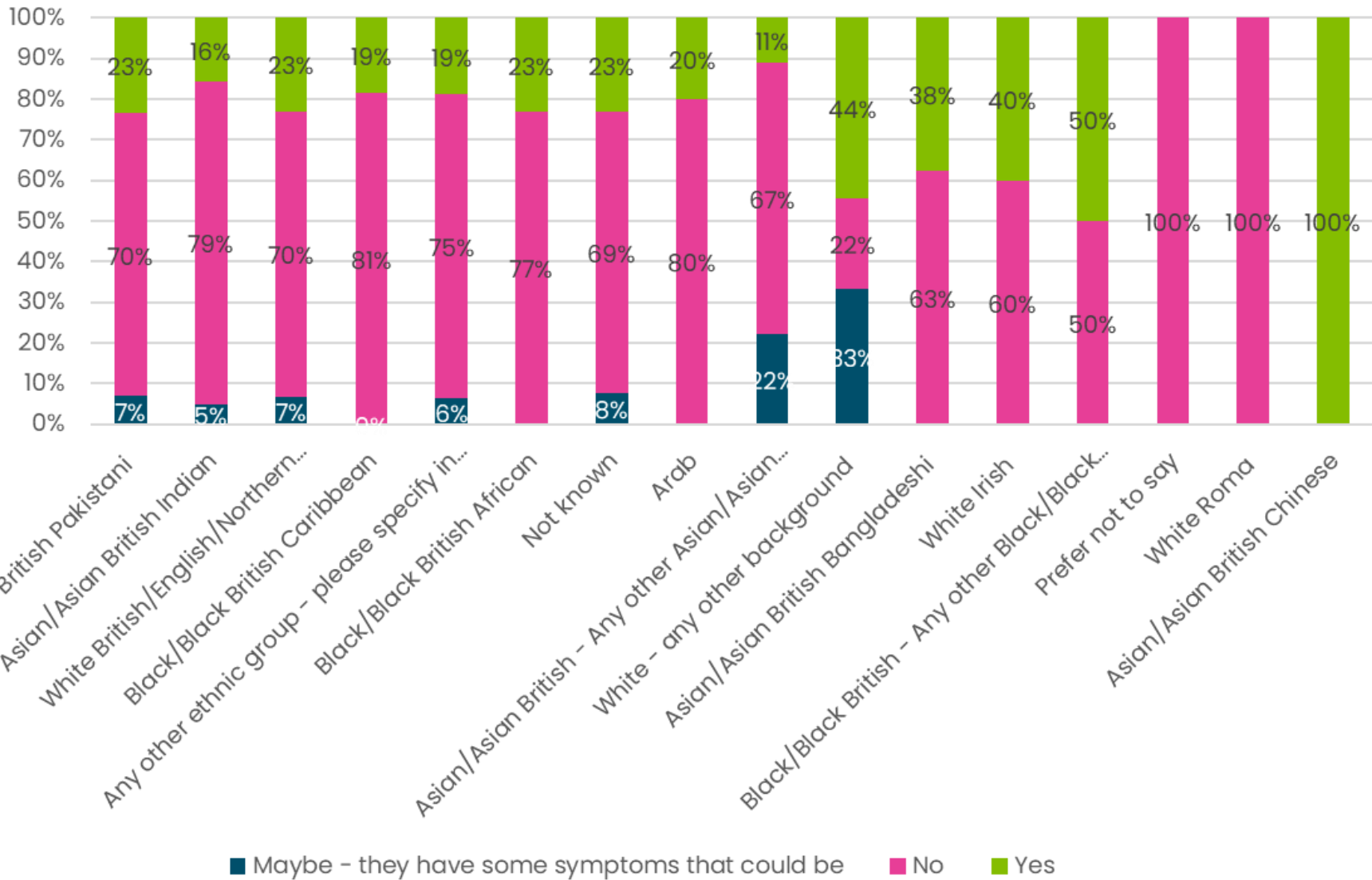


■ Maybe - they have some symptoms that could be ■ No ■ Yes

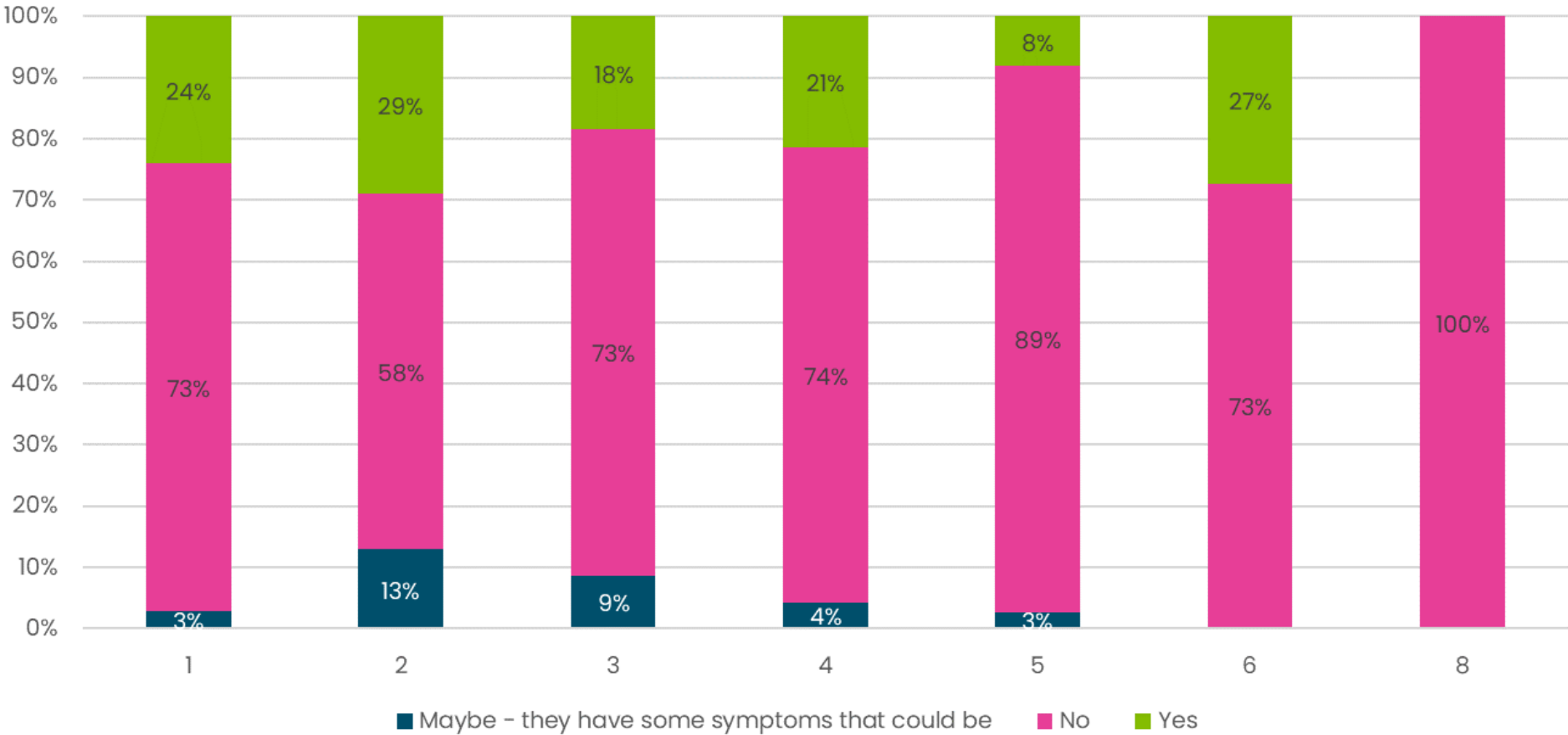
Do any of your children have asthma? (Postcode)



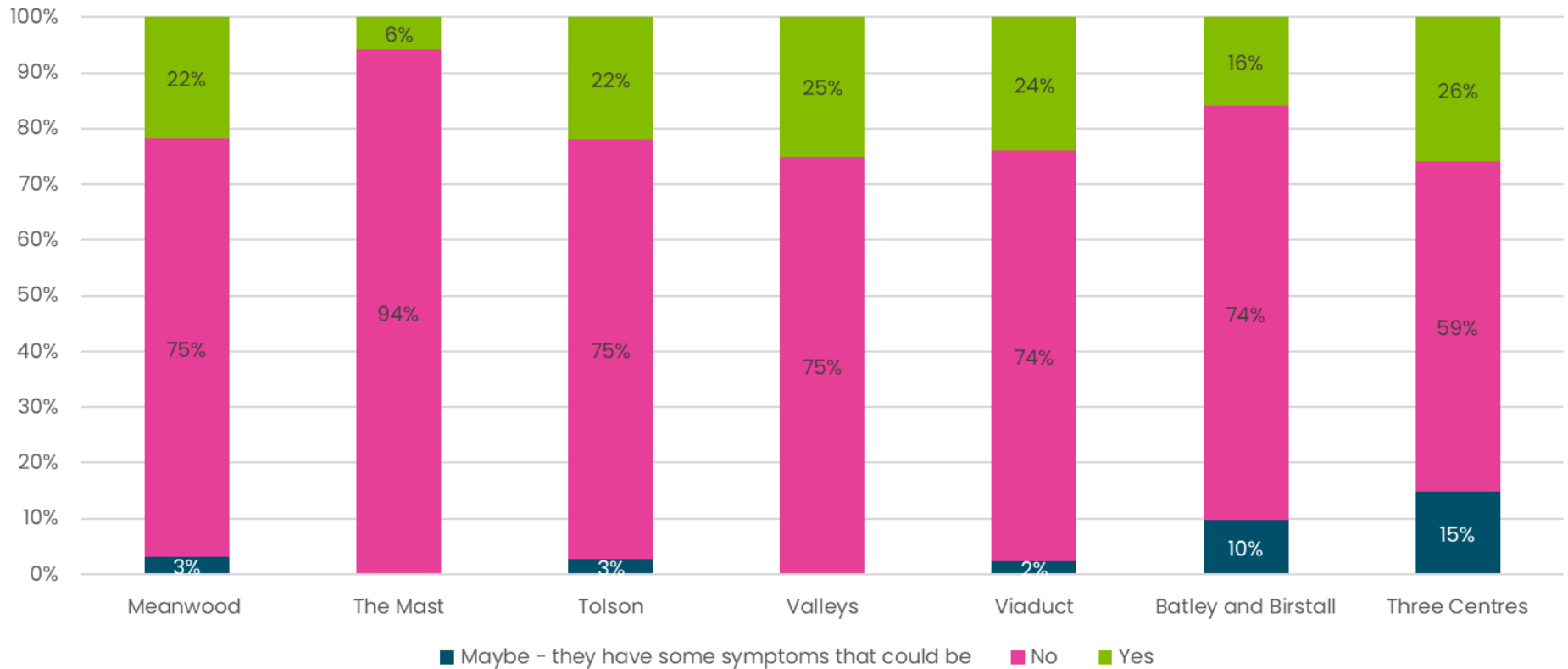
Do any of your children have asthma? (Ethnicity)



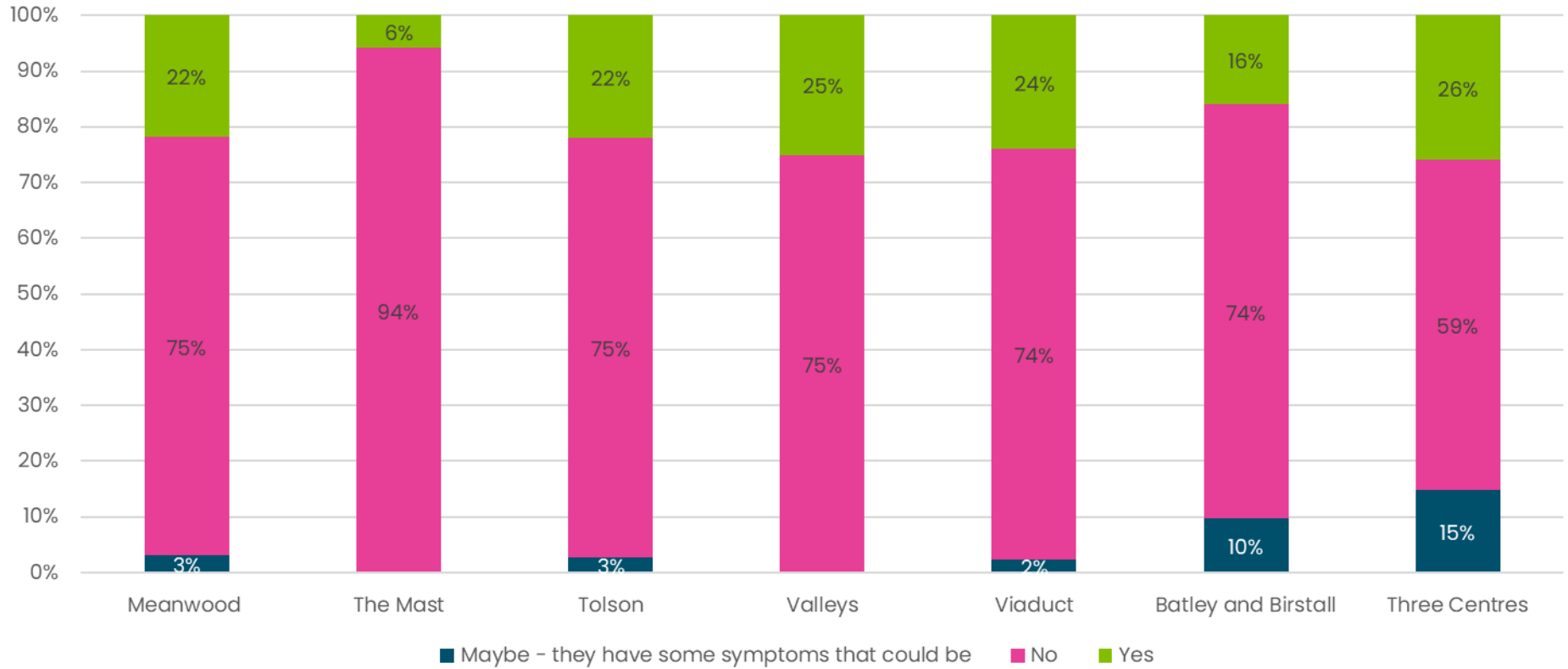
Do any of your children have asthma? (Level of Deprivation)



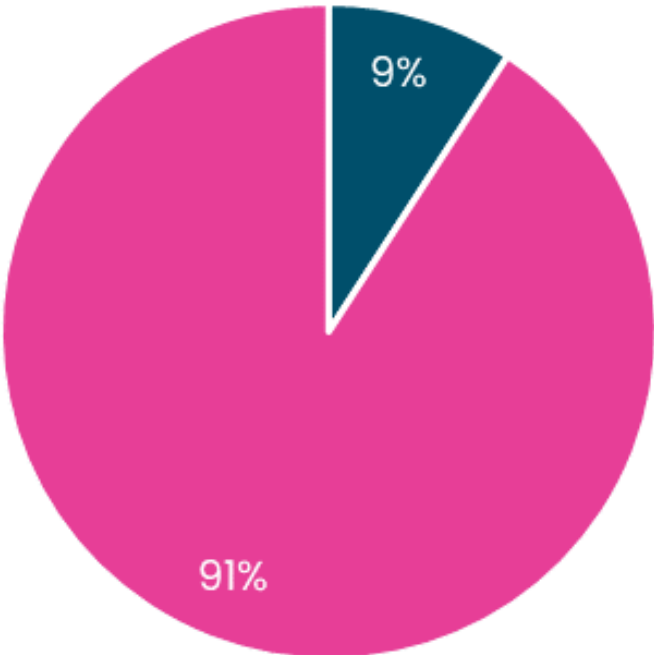
Do any of your children have asthma? (PCN)



Do any of your children have asthma? (PCN)



Are you happy with how your child's asthma is managed?

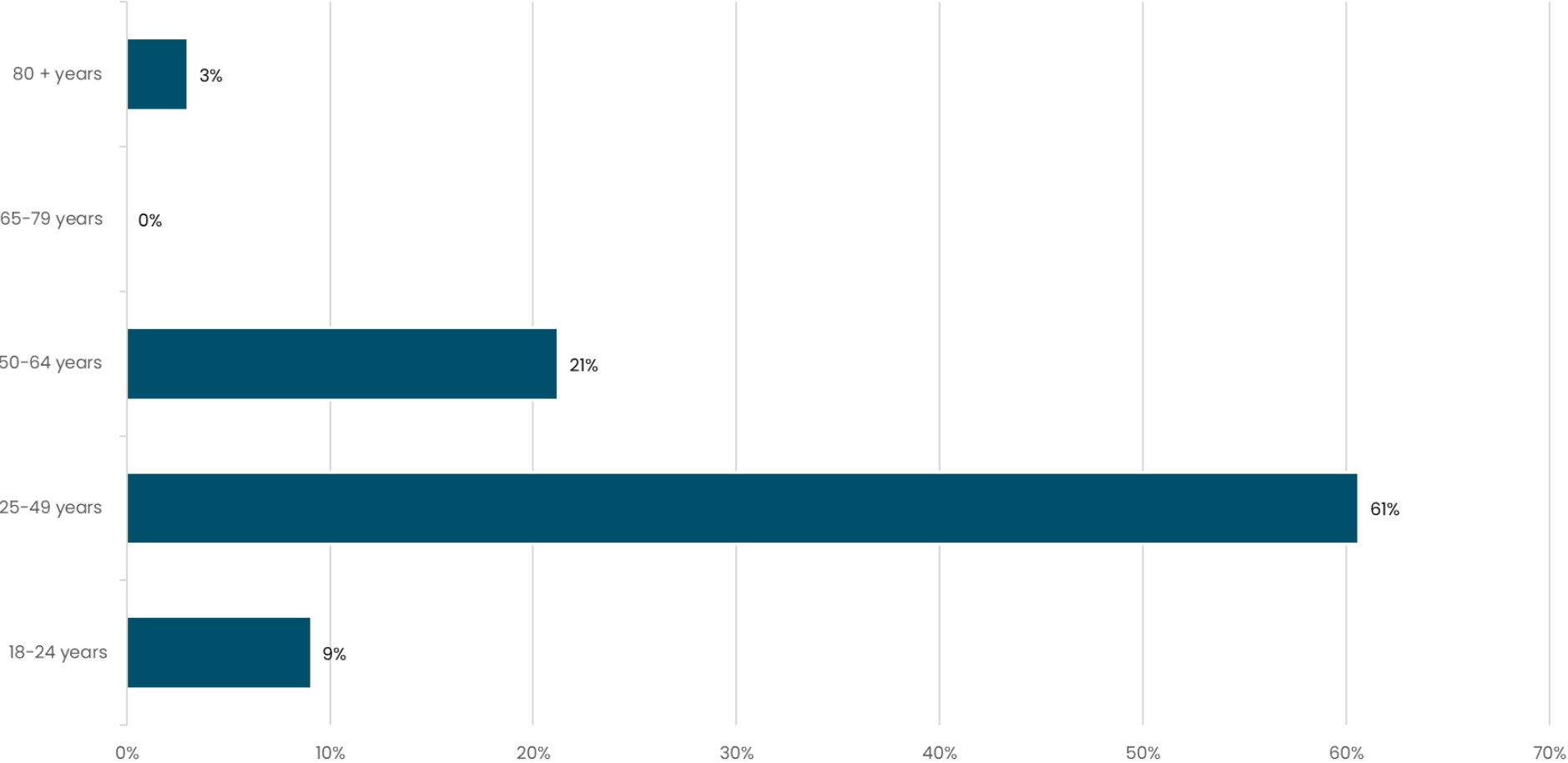


■ No ■ Yes

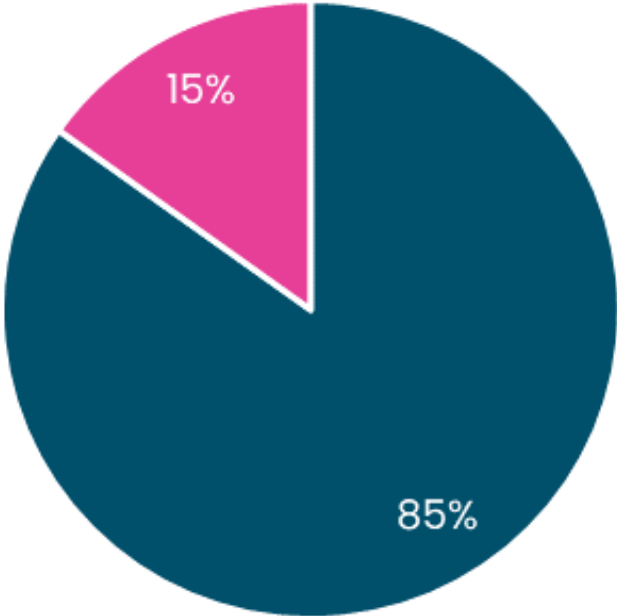
Are you happy with how your child's asthma is managed? (No - Ethnicity)



Are you happy with how your child's asthma is managed? (No – Age)

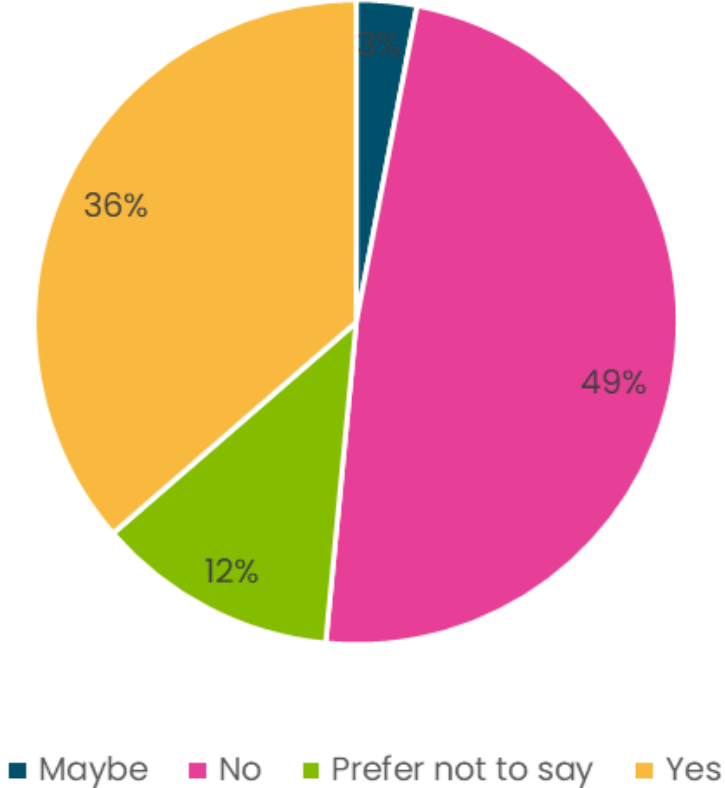


Are you happy with how your child's asthma is managed? (No – Gender)

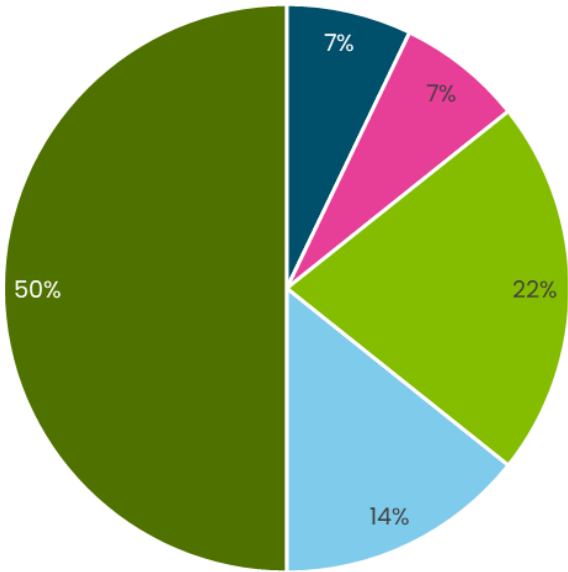


■ Female ■ Male

Are you happy with how your child's asthma is managed? (No – Worried about the cost of living)

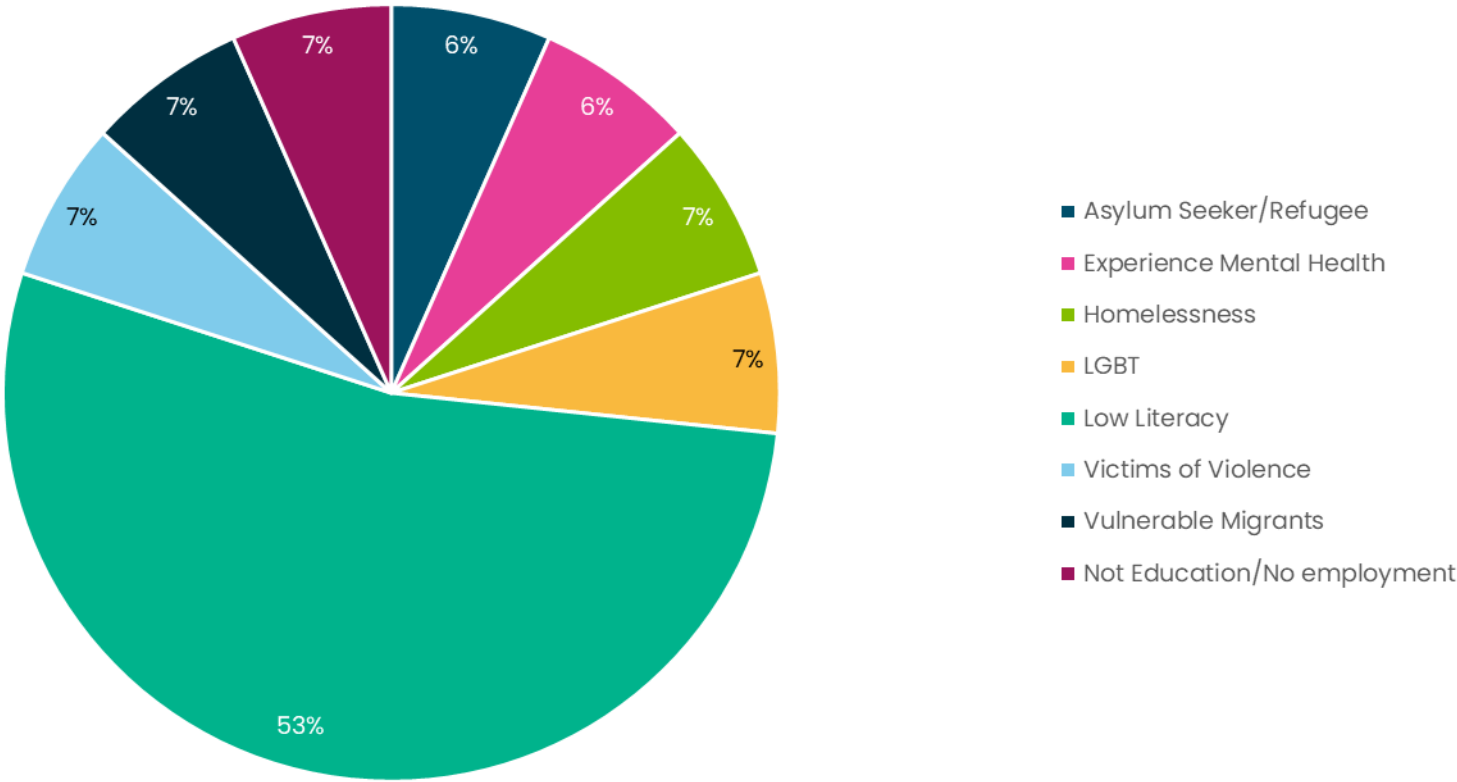


Are you happy with how your child's asthma is managed? (No – disability)

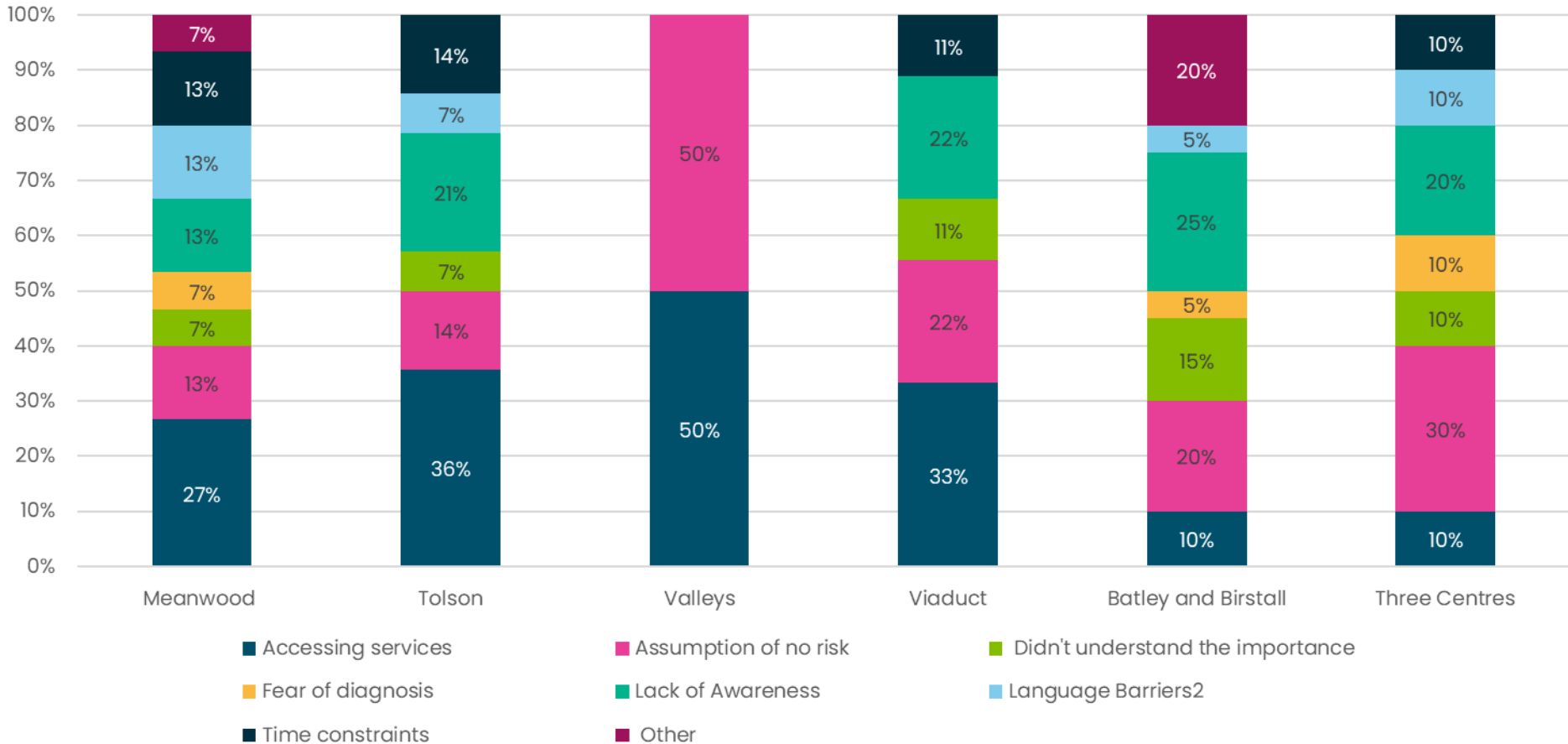


■ Learning disability or difficulties ■ Long term condition ■ Mental Health condition ■ Physical or mobility impairment ■ Unknown

Are you happy with how your child's asthma is managed? (No – HIG)



Are you happy with how your child's asthma is managed? (No – PCN)

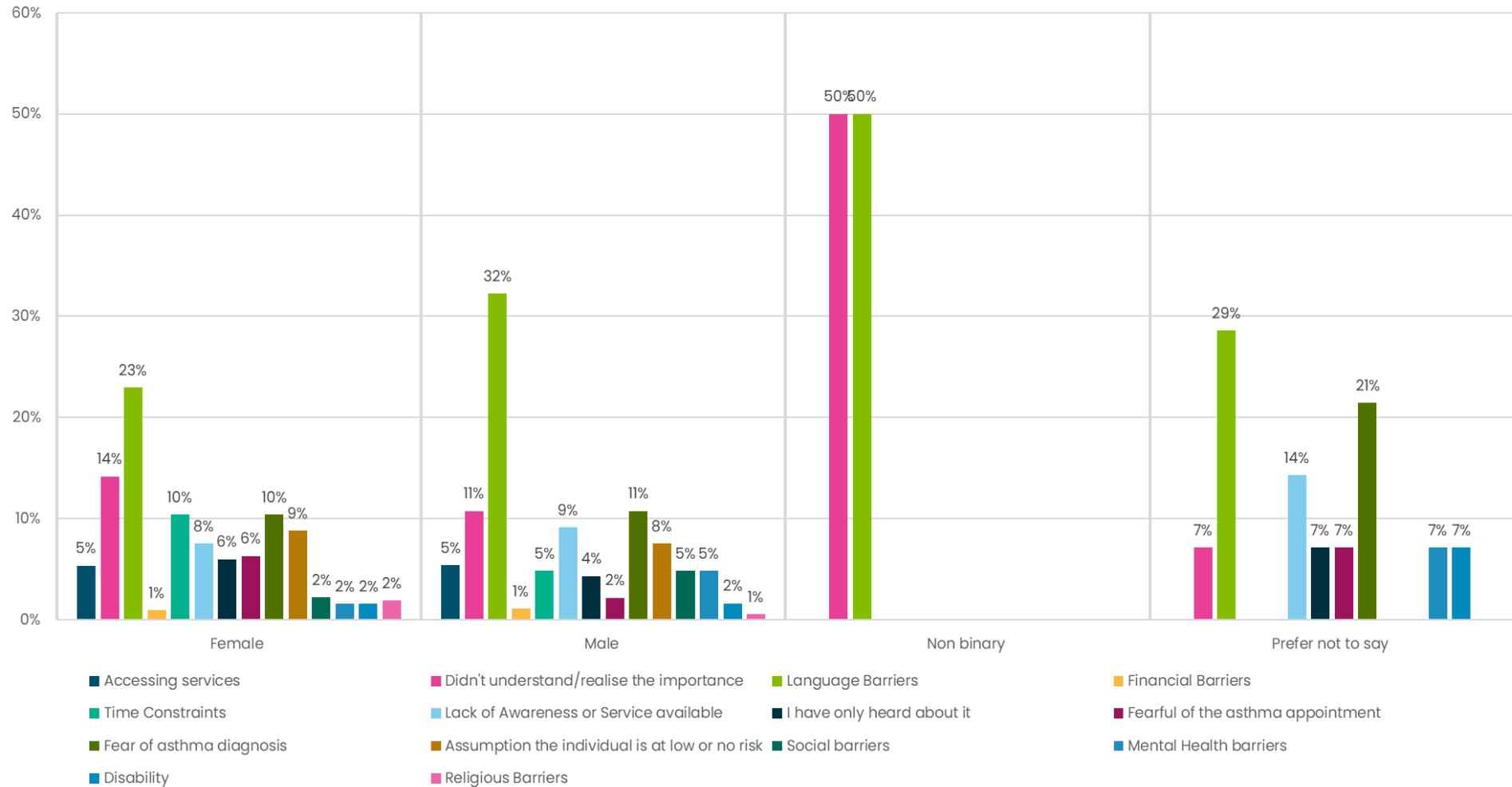




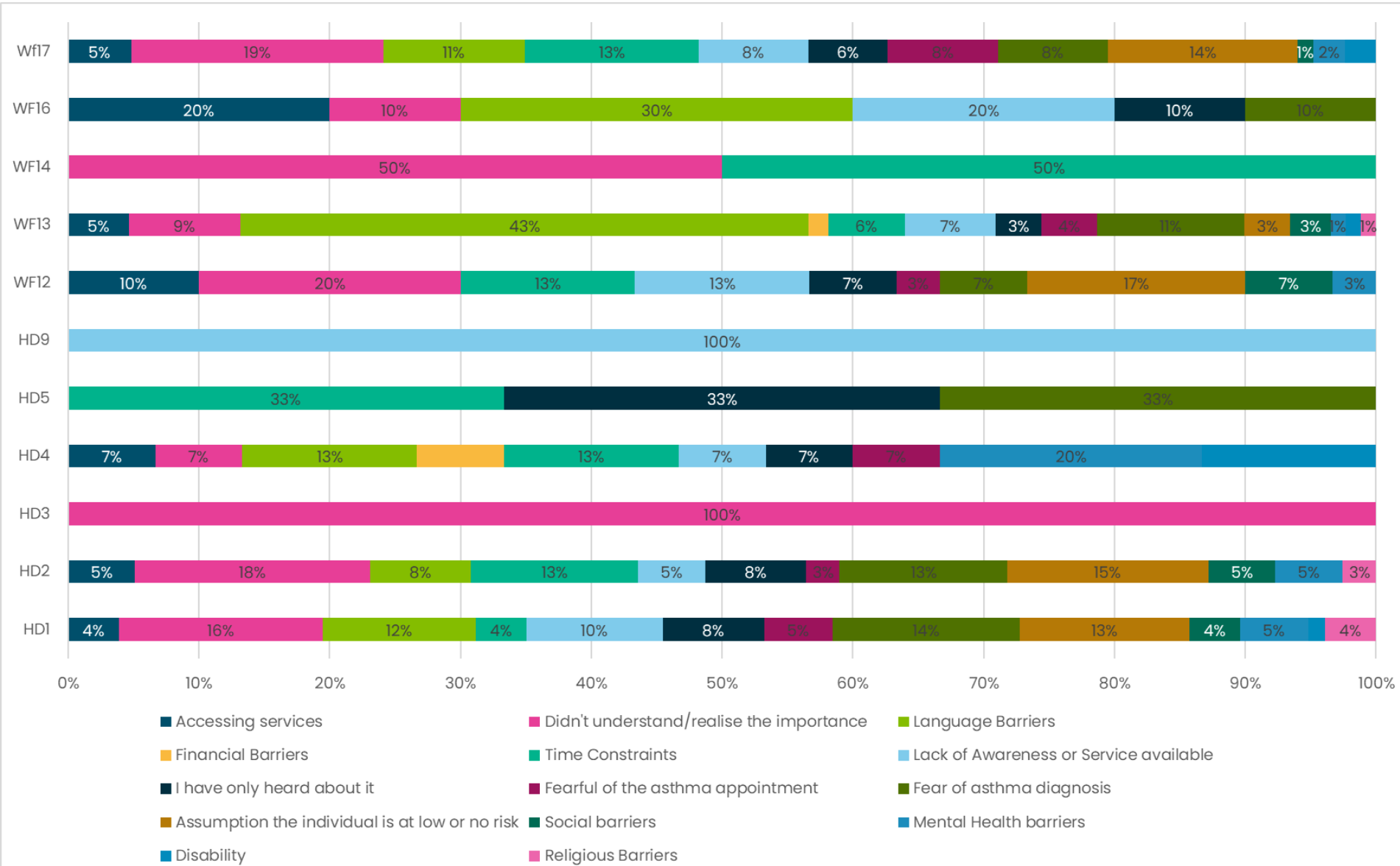
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Barriers

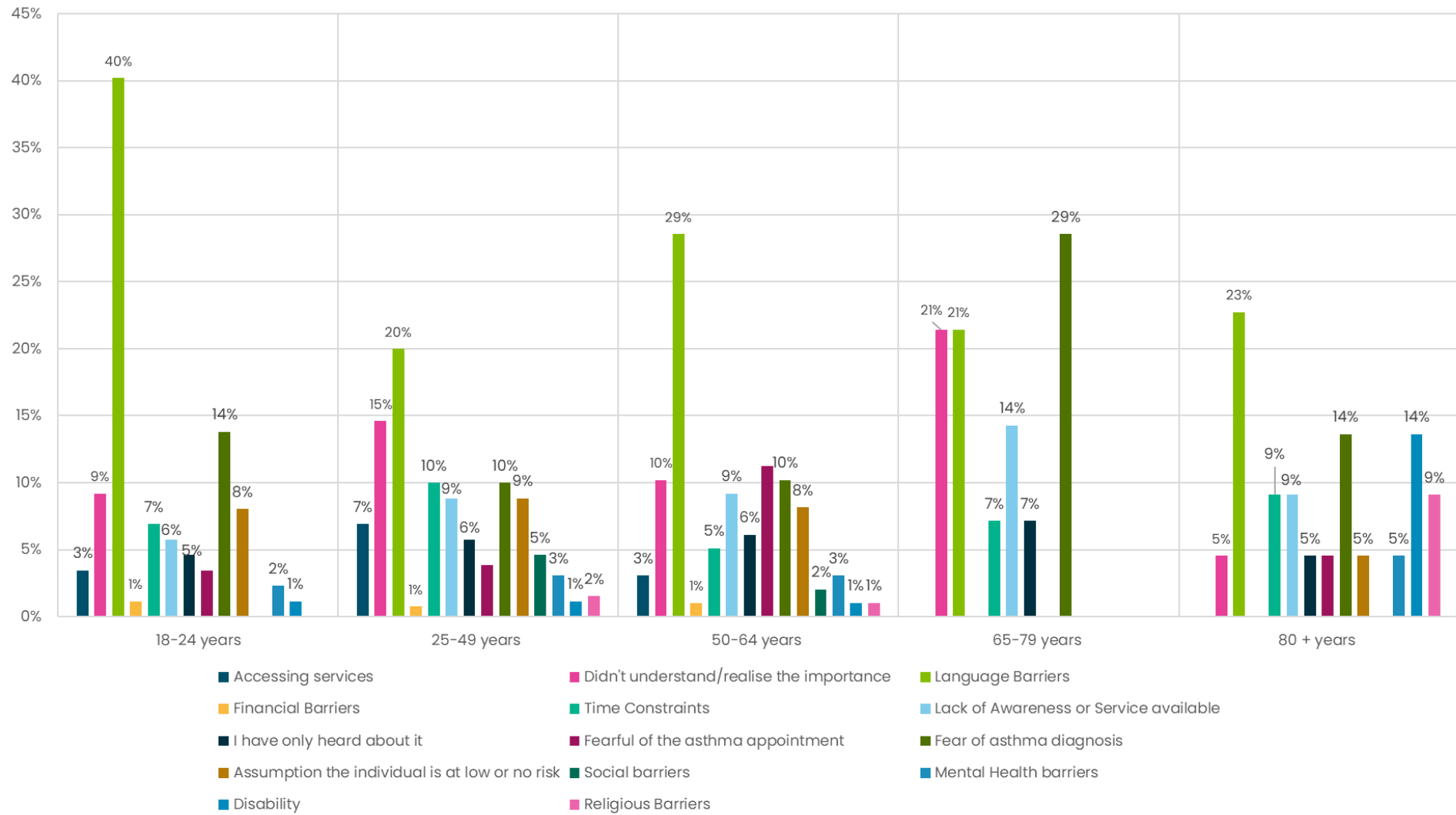
Barriers by Gender



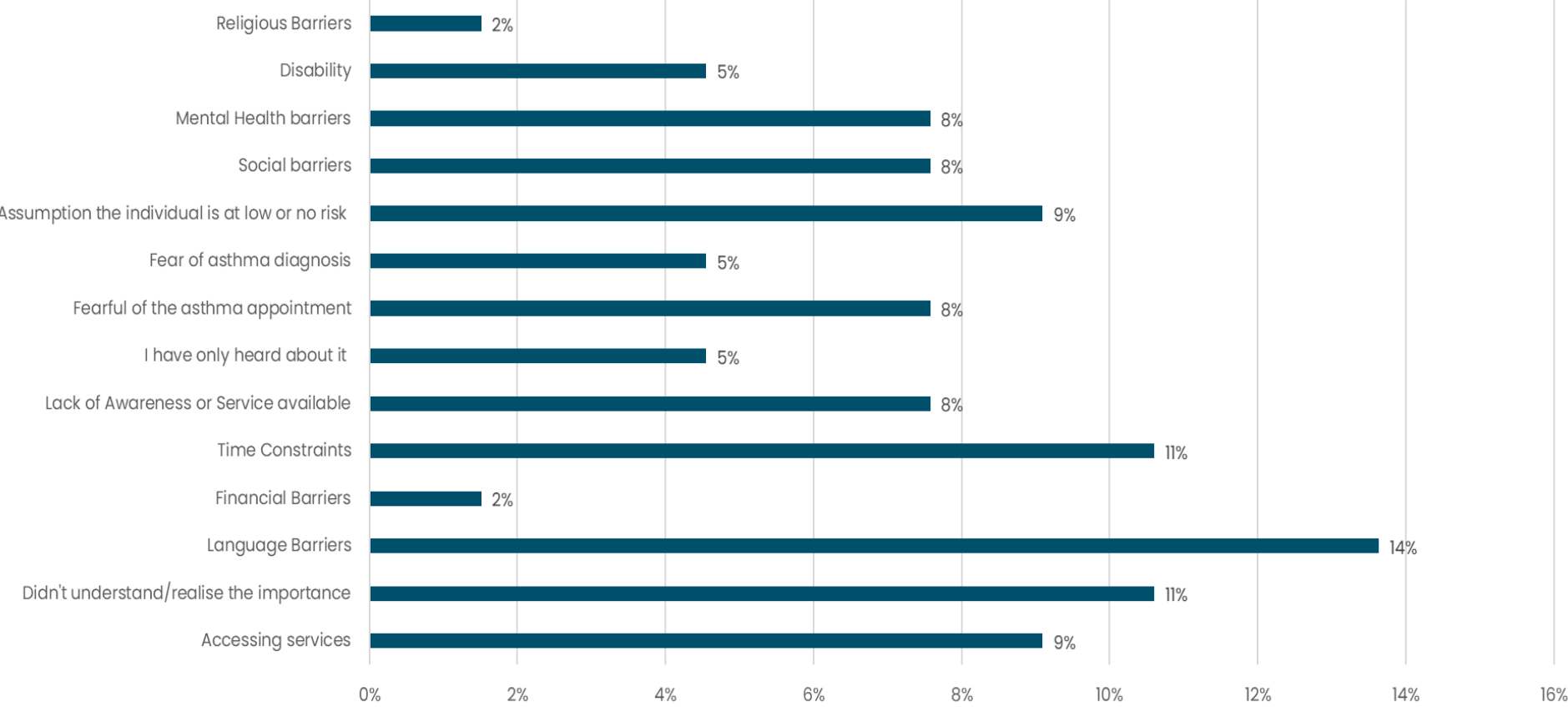
Barriers by Postcode



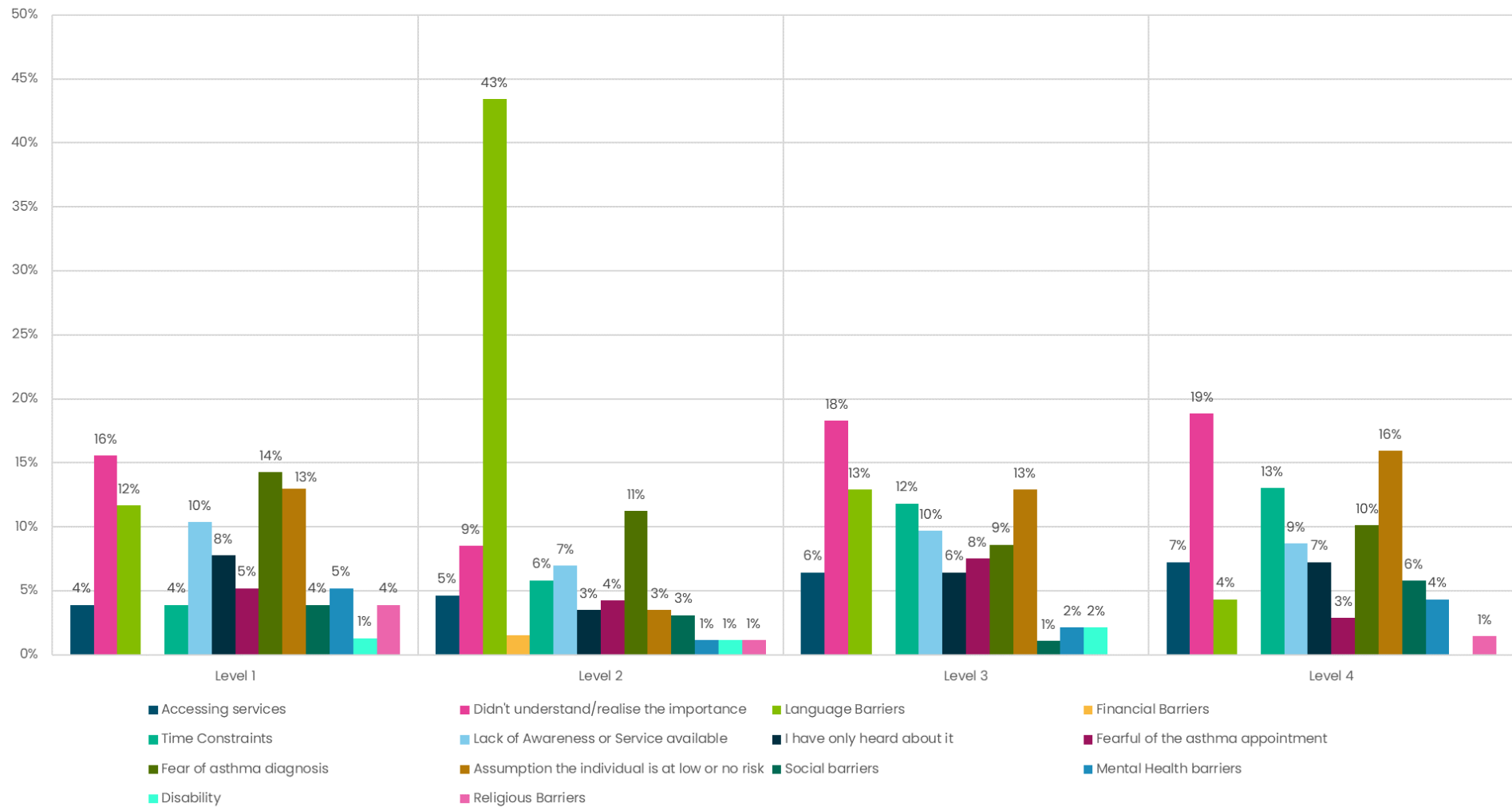
Barriers by Age



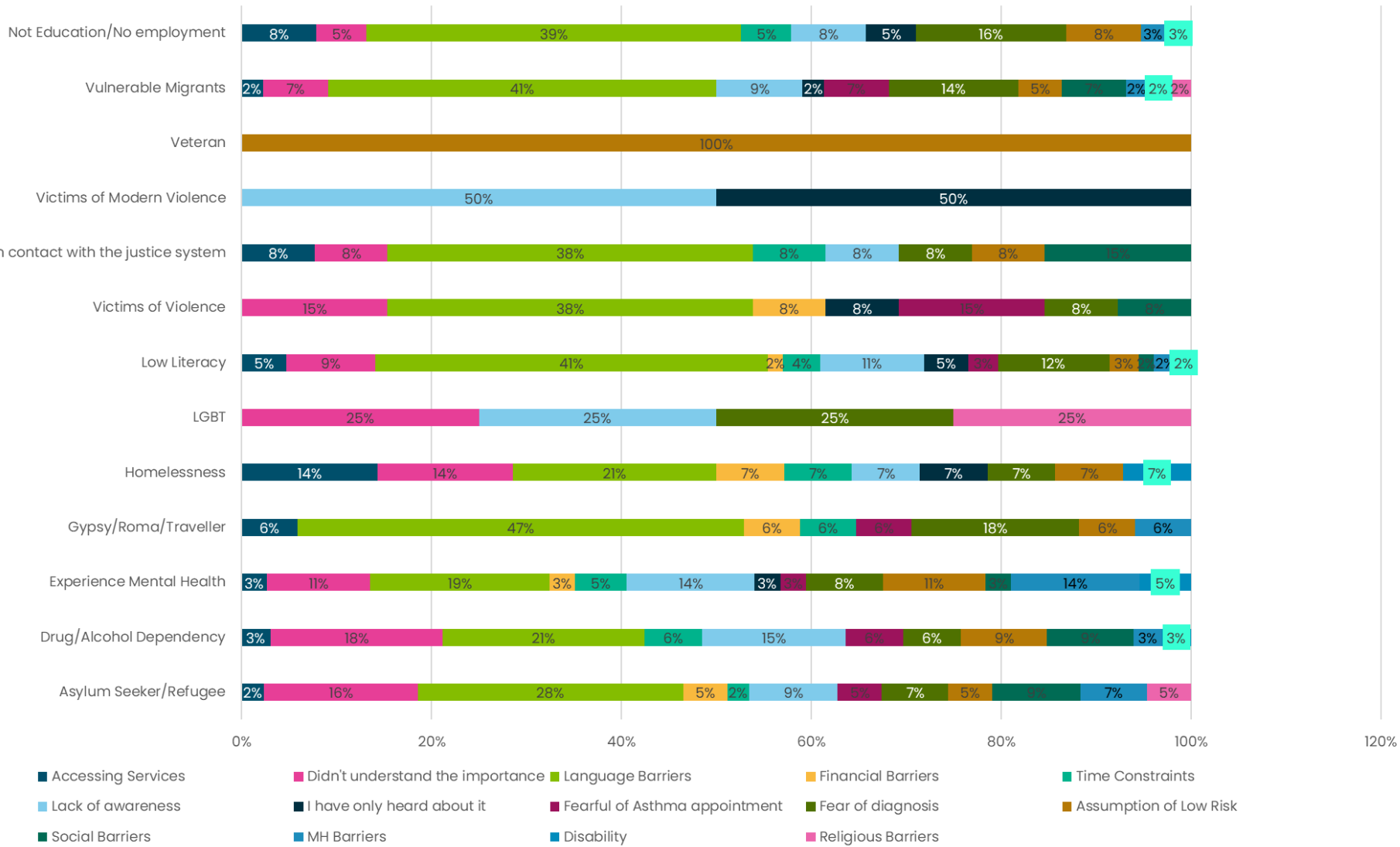
Individuals worried about the cost of living / Barriers



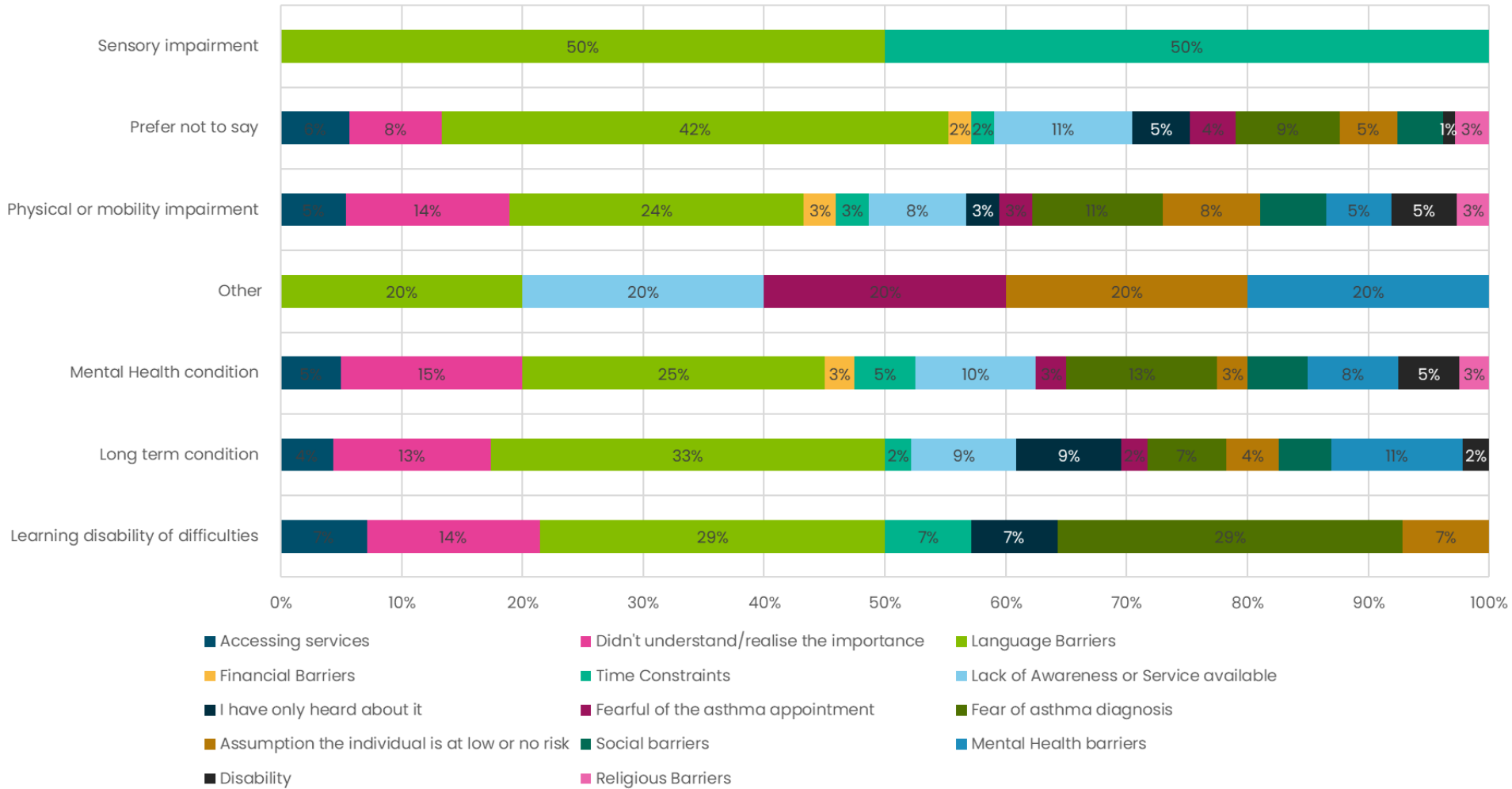
Deprivation Level / Barriers



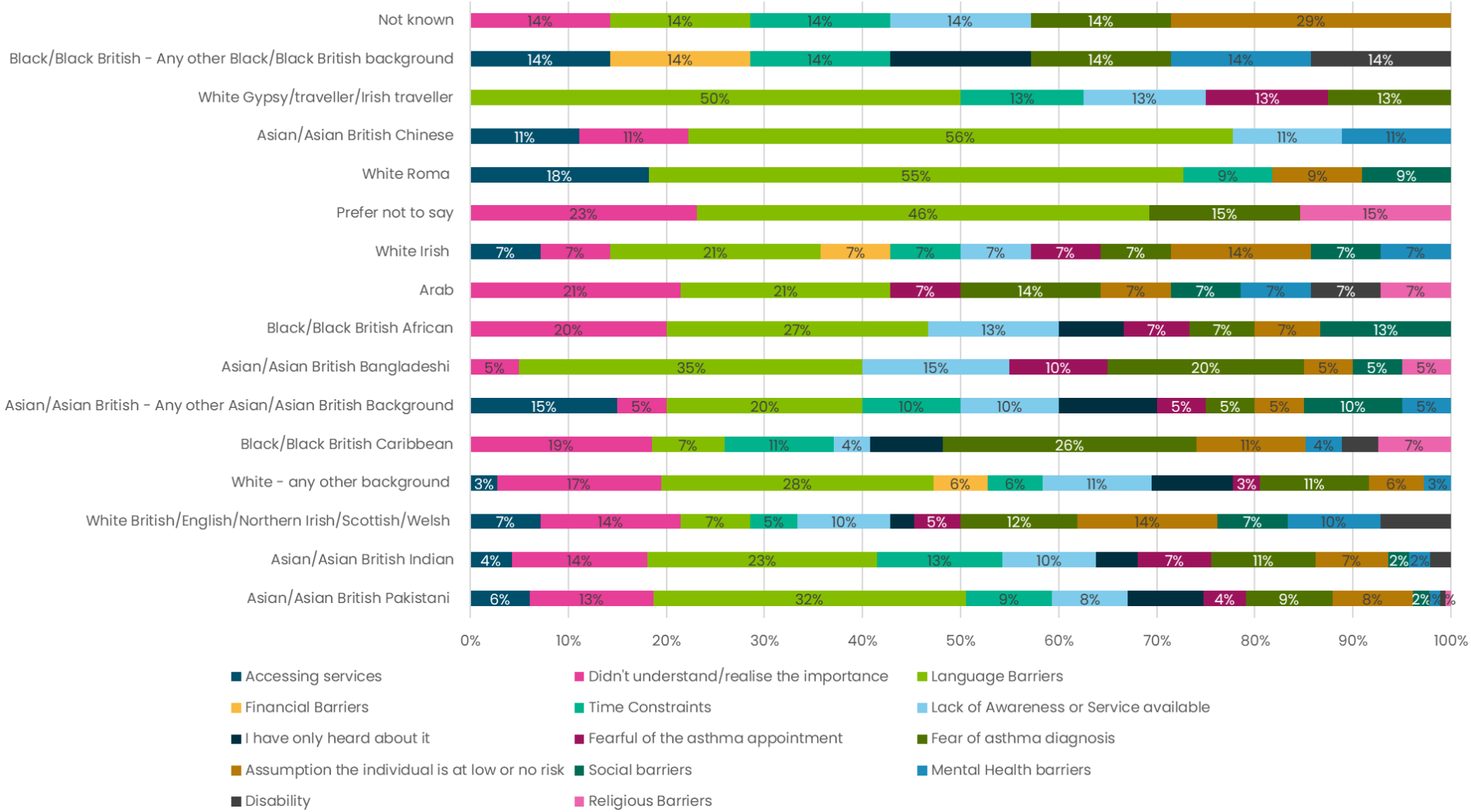
Barriers by HIG



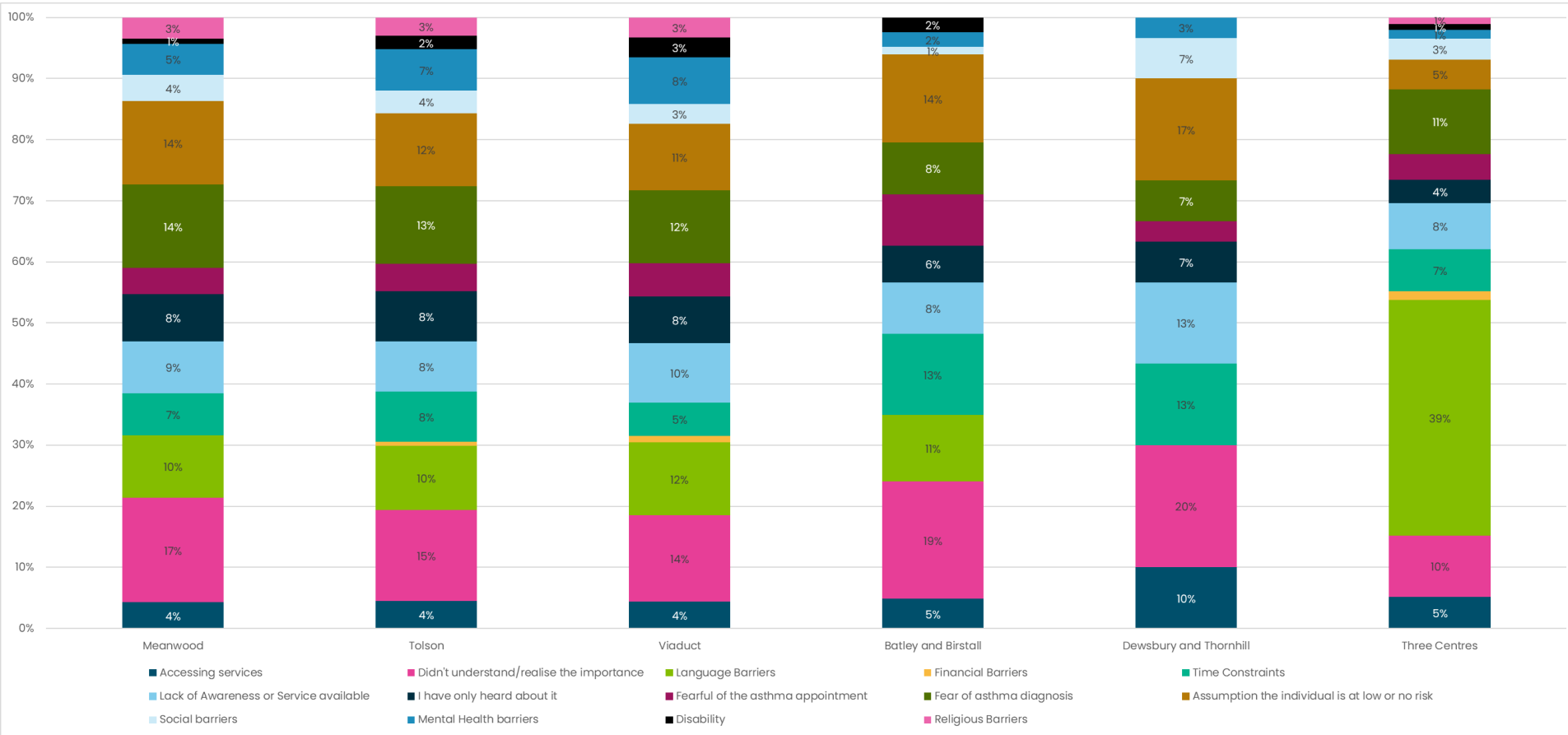
Barriers by Disability



Barriers by Ethnicity



Barriers by PCN





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