



How Does One's Financial Stability Impact their Freedom to "Get By?"

Brandon Noe, Caity Harken, Camille Aguirre, Charlotte Dunn, Kailey Knox

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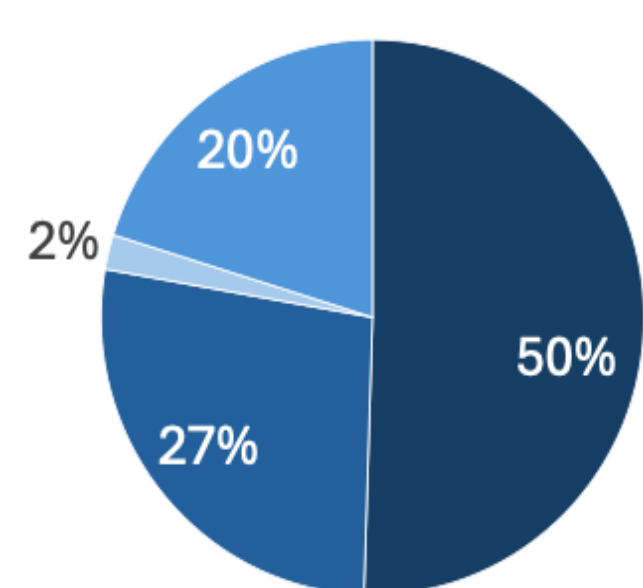
Getting By

77.37% of our sample has either just enough or not enough money to get by

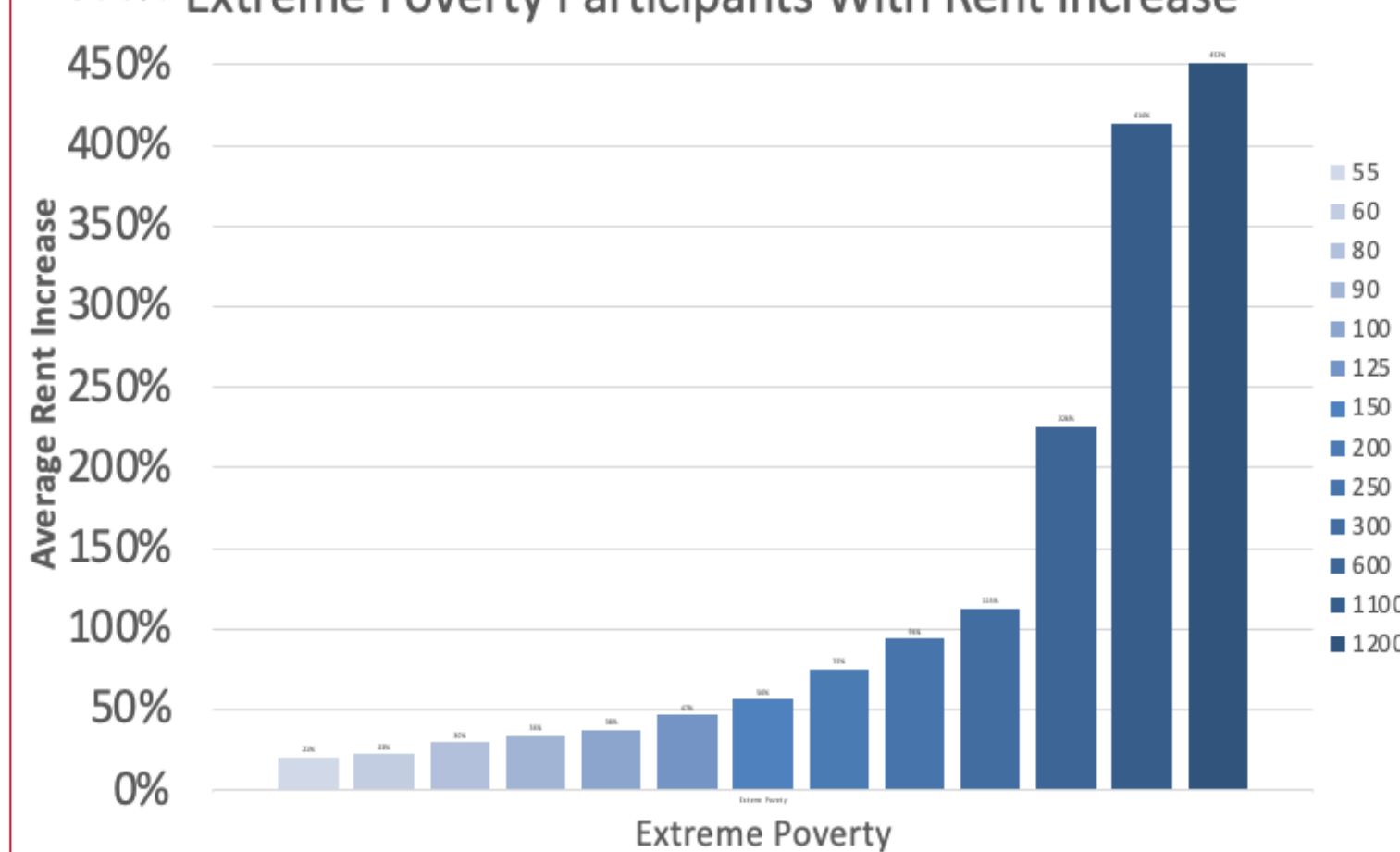
- Inflation has strained finances making it harder for people to meet their needs
- 22.63% of people in our sample are able to get by comfortably
- Inflation has raised debt levels, increasing reliance on credit
- Inflation has made rent more expensive causing our sample in extreme poverty to spend a larger portion of their income on housing

"I just eat, order food and pay my rent and utilities, that's about all I have."

How much money do households have leftover each month?

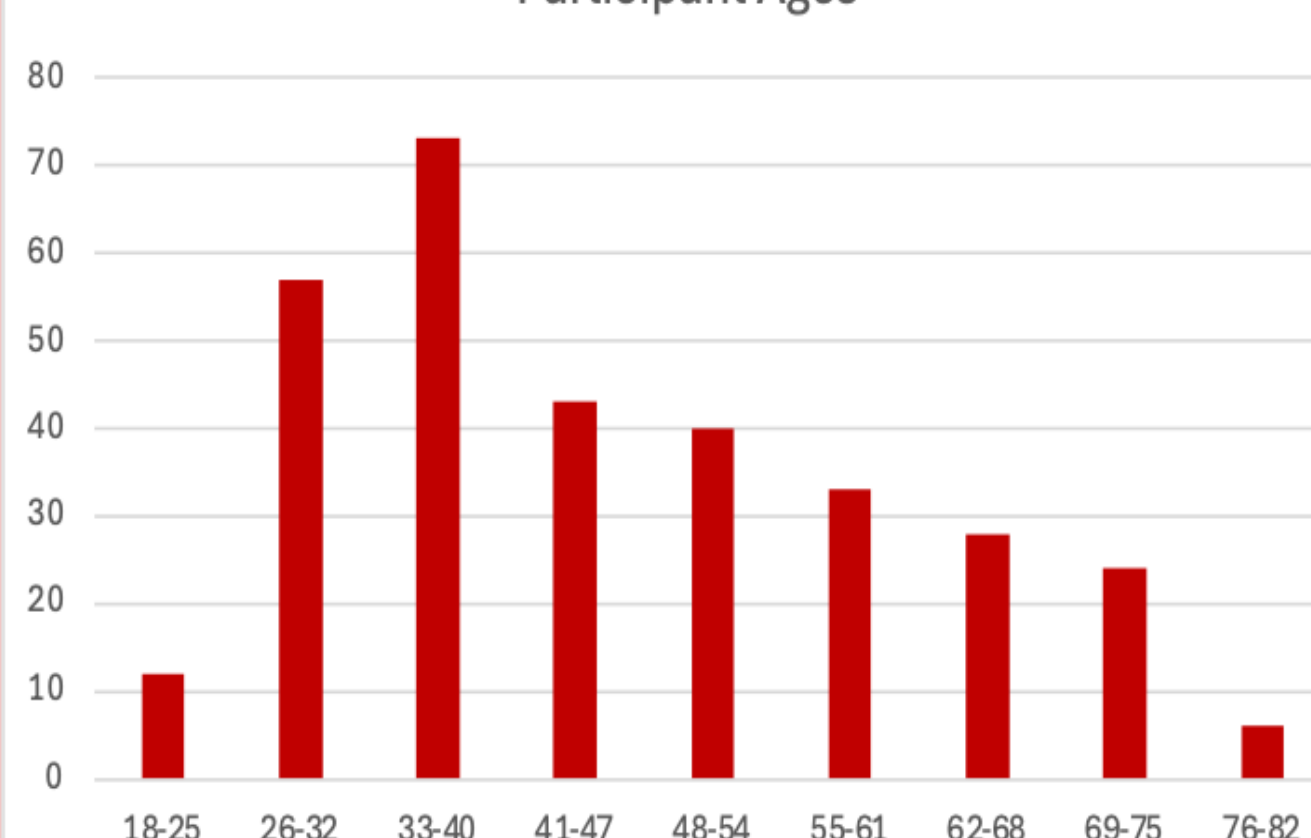


500% Extreme Poverty Participants With Rent Increase

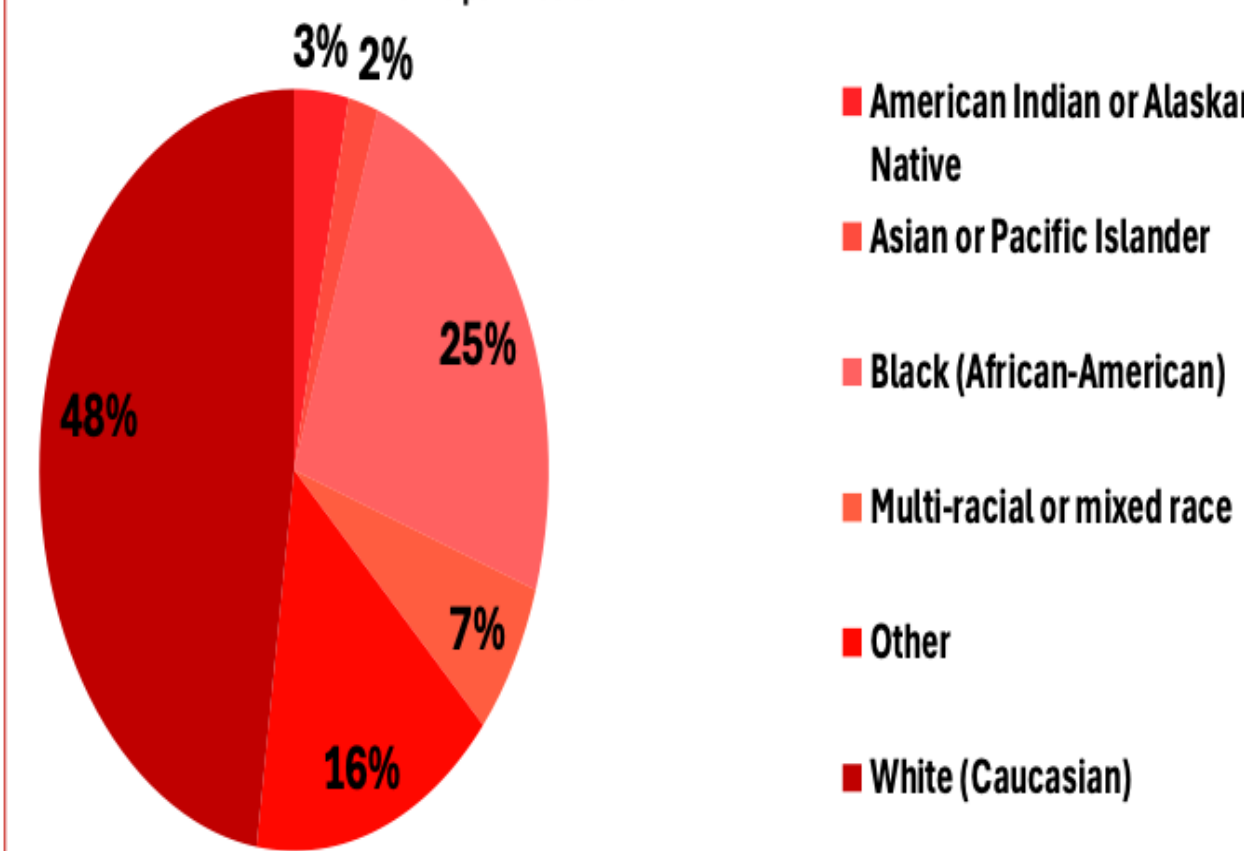


Demographics

Participant Ages



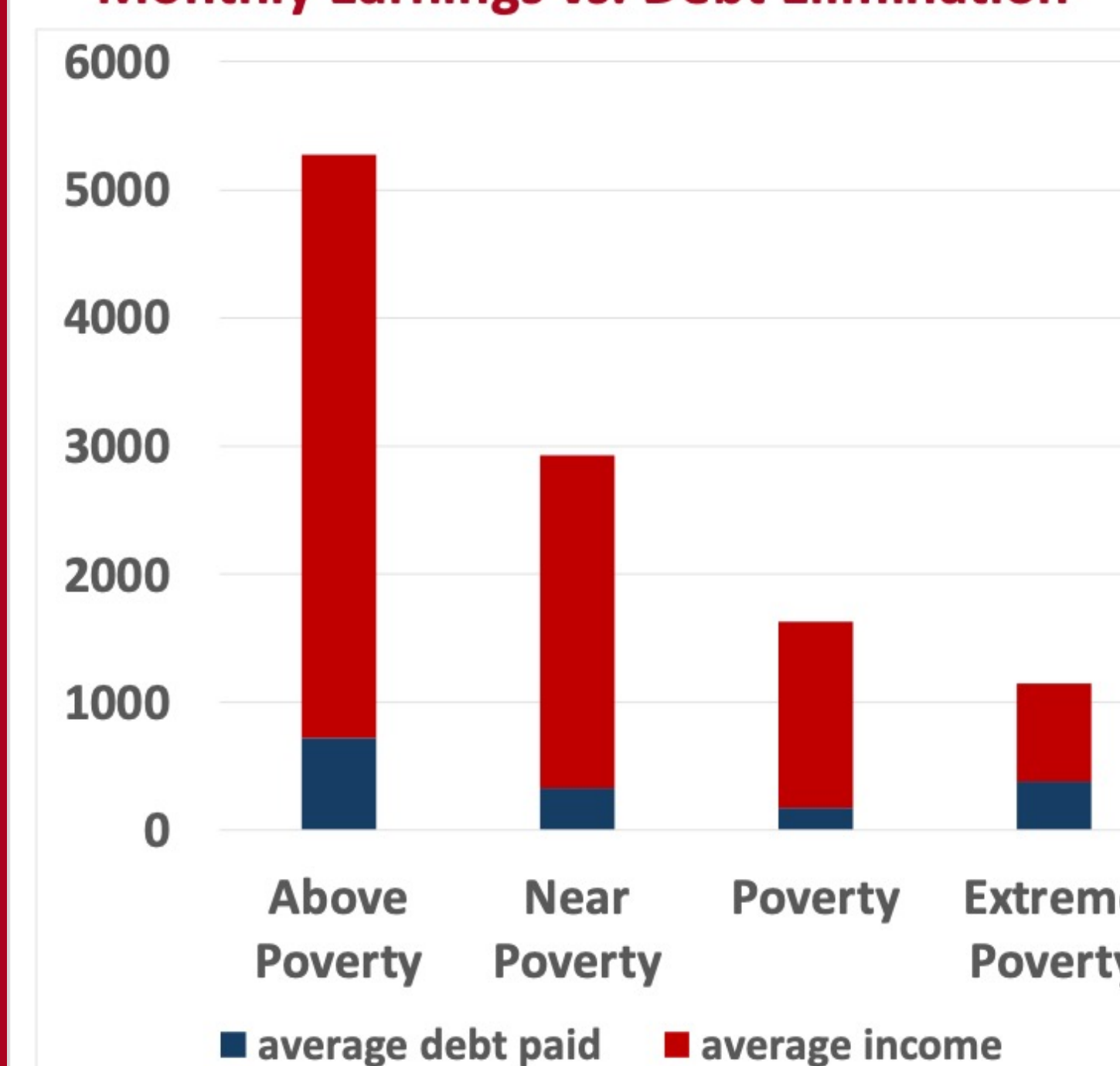
Participant Education



- After carefully reviewing the data, we've discovered participants were predominantly ages 25 to 50 years old
- Adding race shows how discrimination affects financial stability and opportunities for different groups
- We included education to highlight how people can still struggle despite having education

Income and Debt

Monthly Earnings vs. Debt Elimination



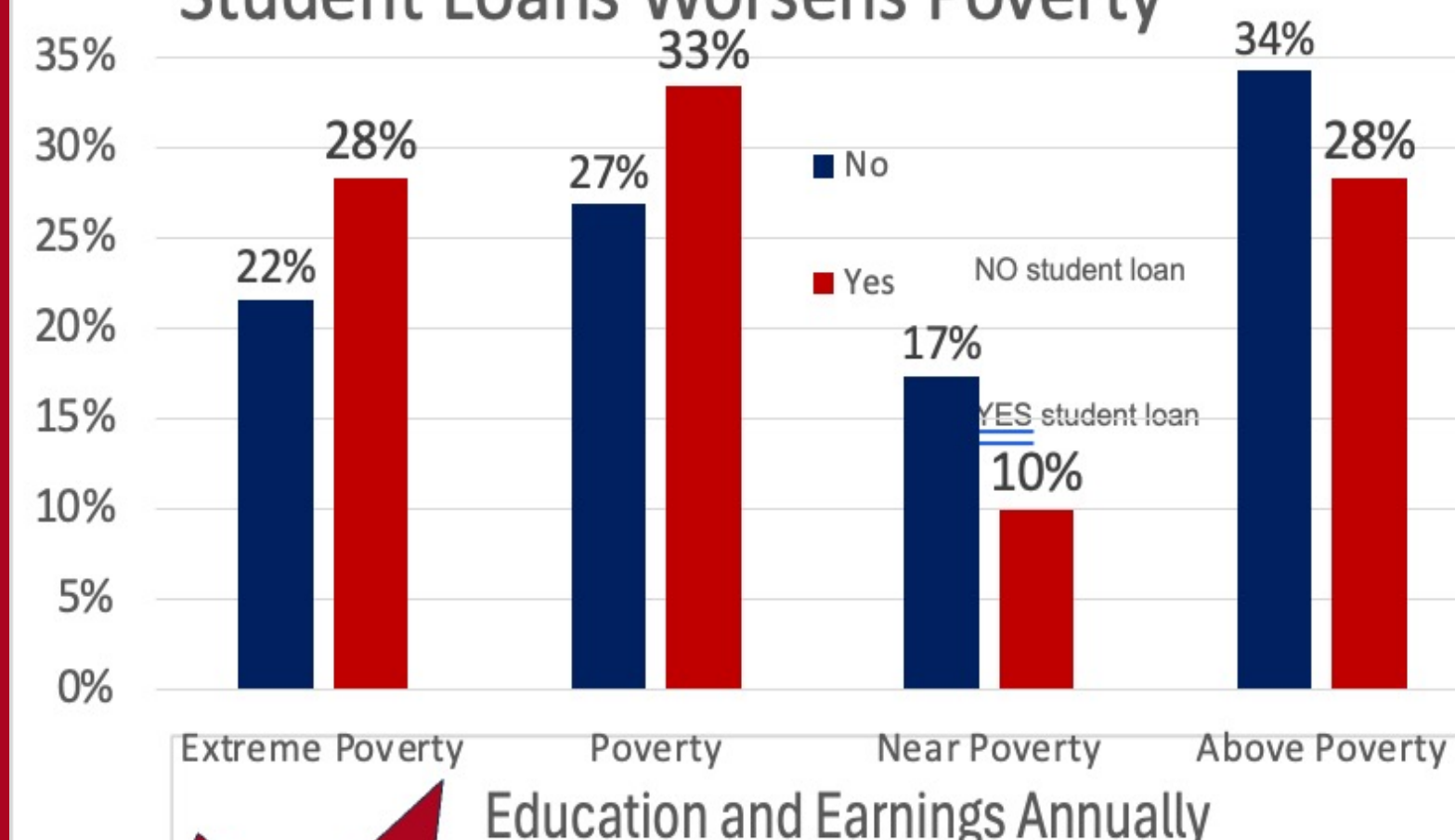
Majority of participants experience a credit card balance due to the increase of inflation and cost of living... But what is being done about this?...

- Households above, near, or in poverty spend about 13.5% of monthly income on paying debt
- About 49.5% of monthly income is spent on debt payments for those in extreme poverty.

Type of Debt	% of our sample
Credit Card Balance	53%
Car Loans	29%
Student Loans	37%
Pay Day Loans	8%
Car Title Loans	9%

Education

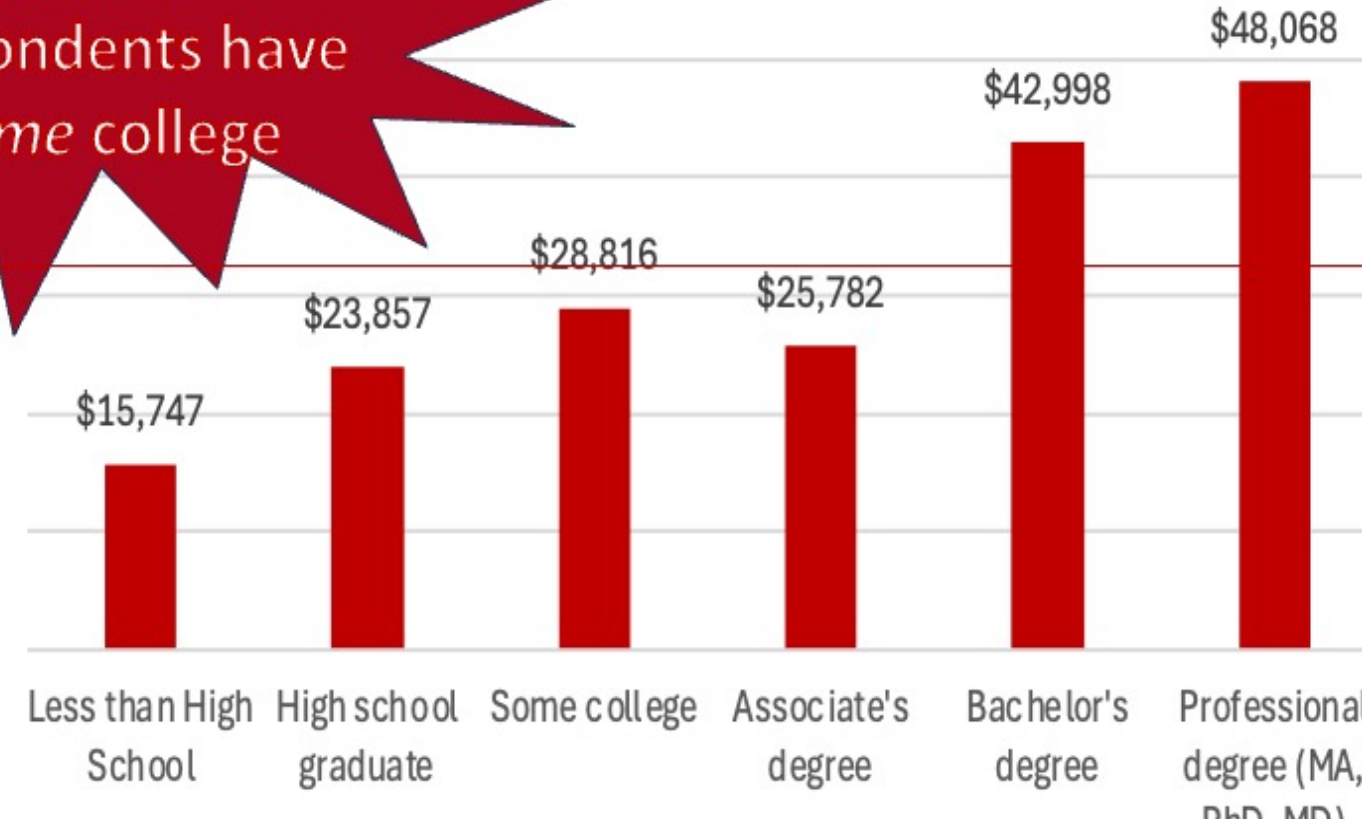
Student Loans Worsens Poverty



- Higher education is seen as a path to financial stability, but loans create financial constraints
- Student debt limits ability to save, meet basic needs and manage unexpected expenses
- Loan repayment delays milestones
- Financial strain disproportionately impacts low-income borrowers

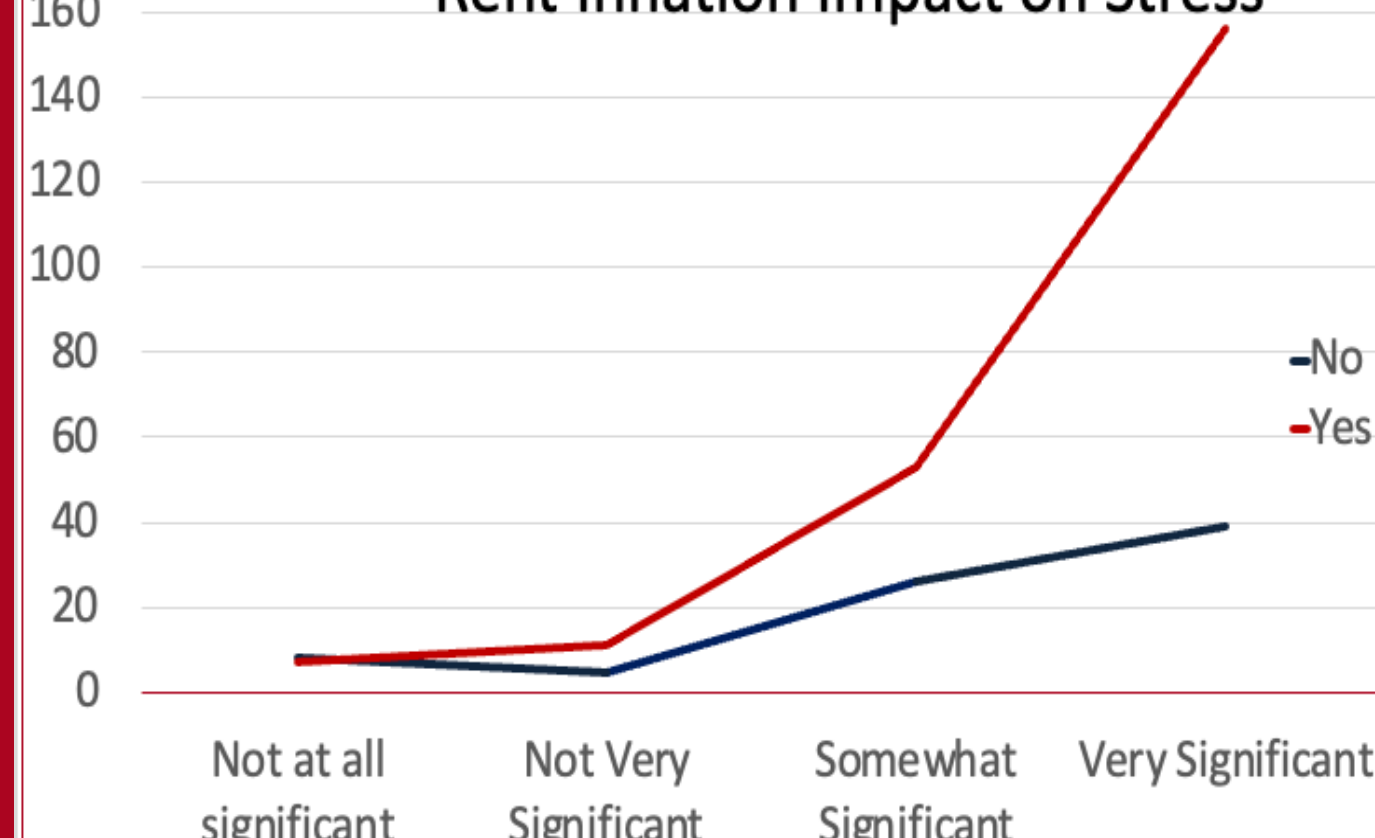
Student loans often hinder financial stability, turning education into a financial burden instead of a bridge to stability

72% of respondents have some college



Stress and Income-Rent Disparities

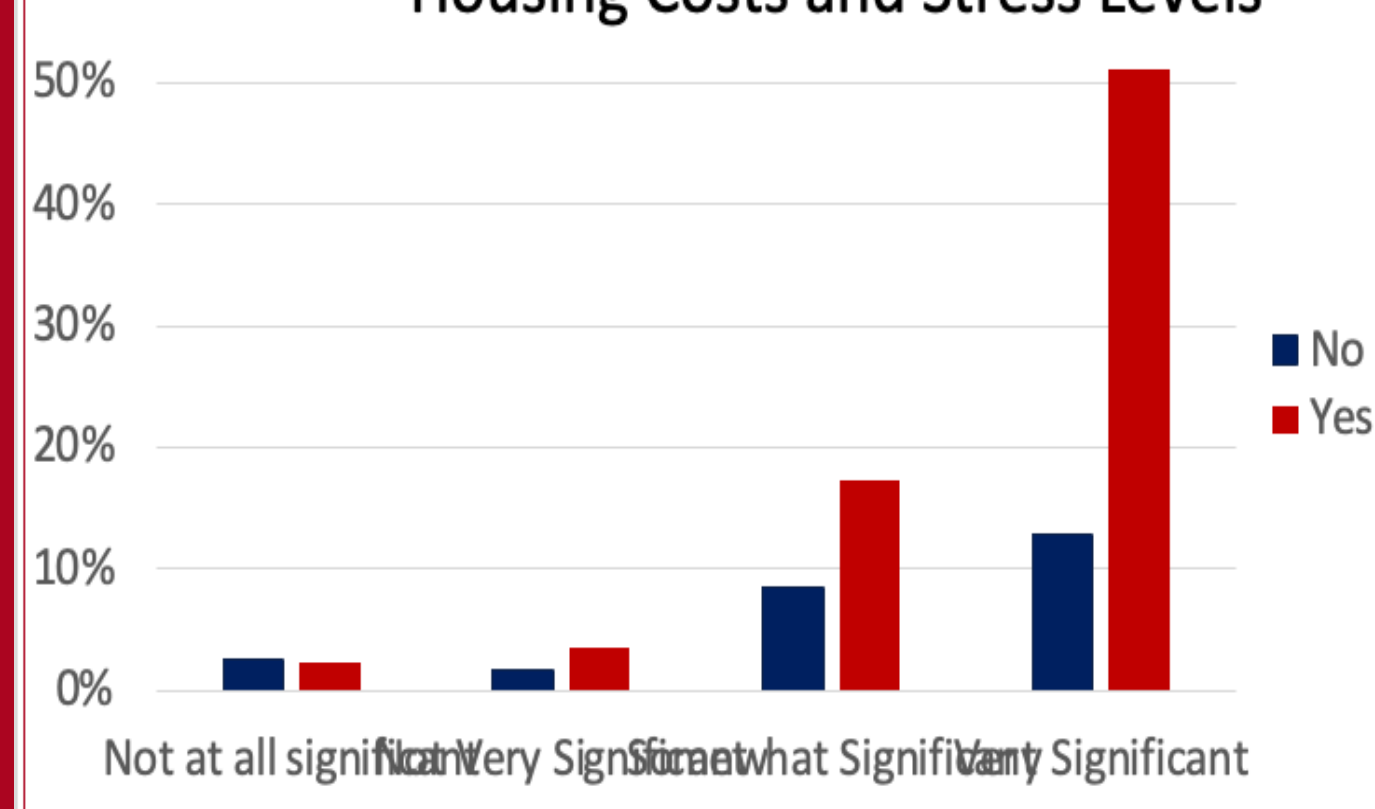
Rent Inflation Impact on Stress



- Rising rents have outpaced income growth, straining budgets
- Tucson's rental households are struggling with cost burdens, spending over 30% of their income on housing
- Due to financial strain, heightened stress levels occur, leading to mental health troubles that present among residents

"I really don't know. I'd like, I mean, you know just like anybody else would do like. I would be okay right now. But you know I love her. I love my kid. They're expensive now, boy, yeah."

Housing Costs and Stress Levels

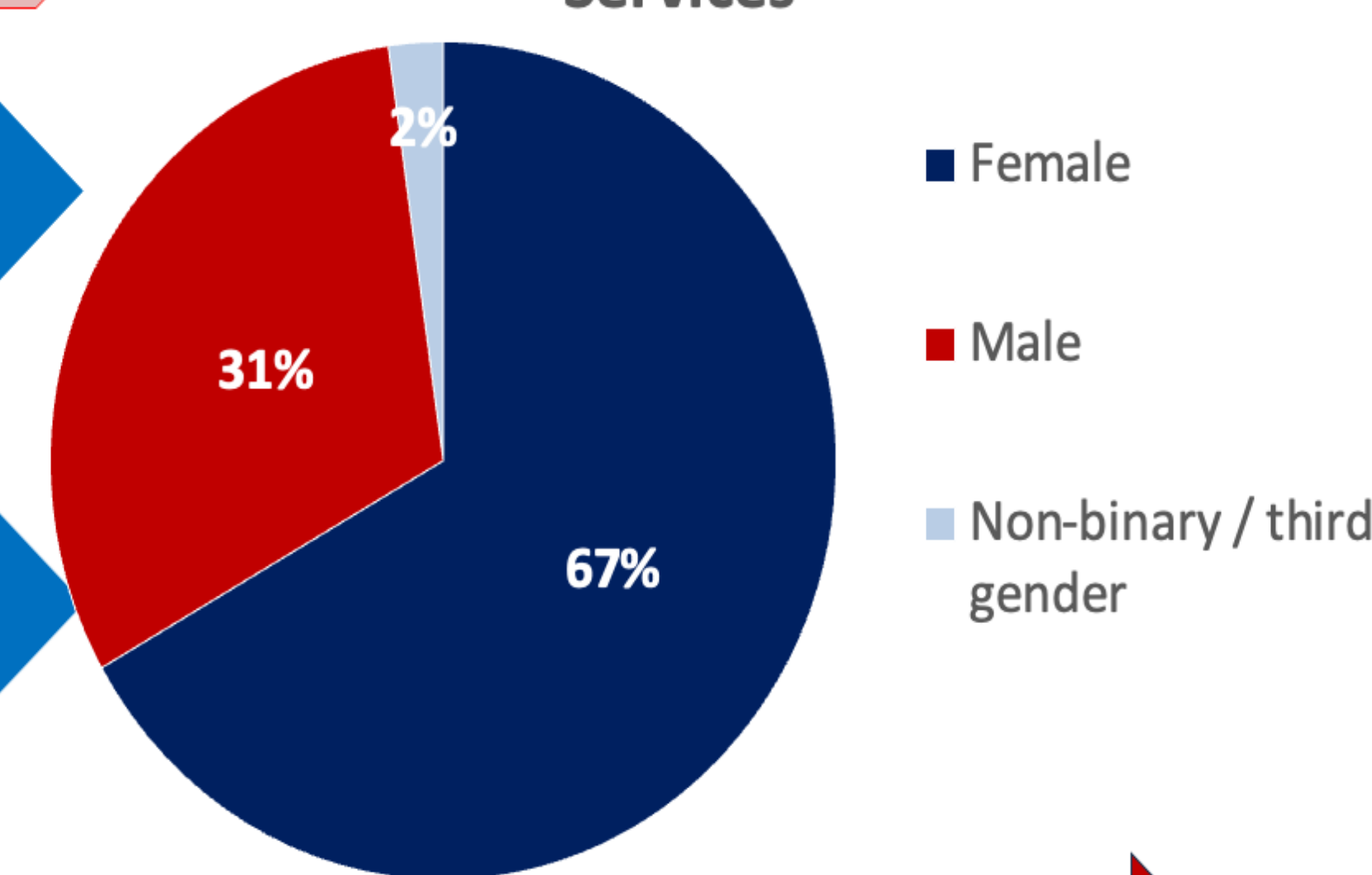


Solutions

Services For Financial Stability

- Increasing the monthly income brackets as people who are still struggling are considered to be making too much money.
- Awareness of current programs with resource guides
- Make a single application including housing, food, childcare, etc. For more households to apply.

Gender Being Challenged in Finding Services



61% of participants claimed to have trouble finding services

"They're not designed to help anybody. They're designed to keep you living in poverty, and they're designed to make it harder. They're really not helpful there's nothing helpful about those services, they literally are designed to just keep you stuck."

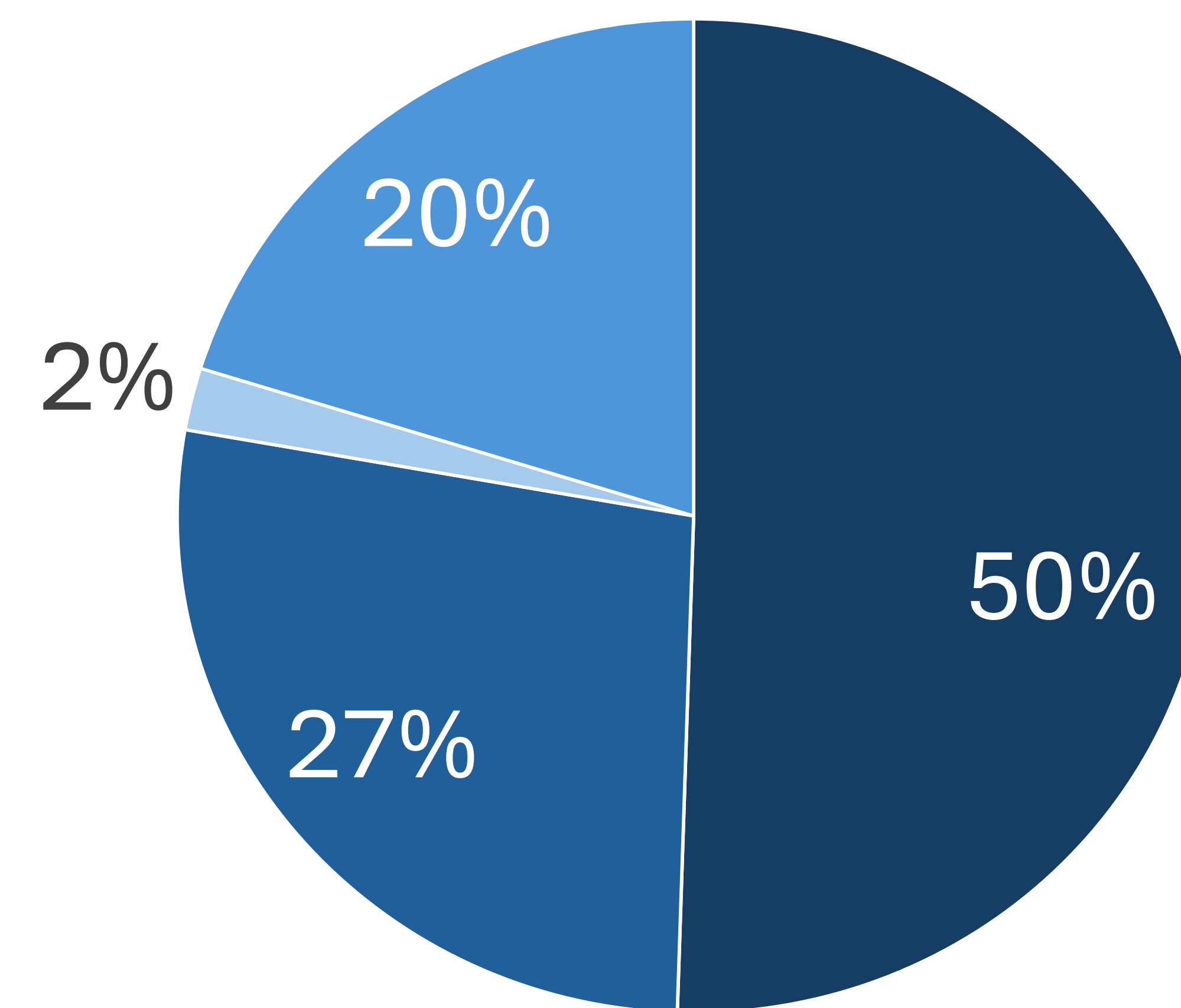
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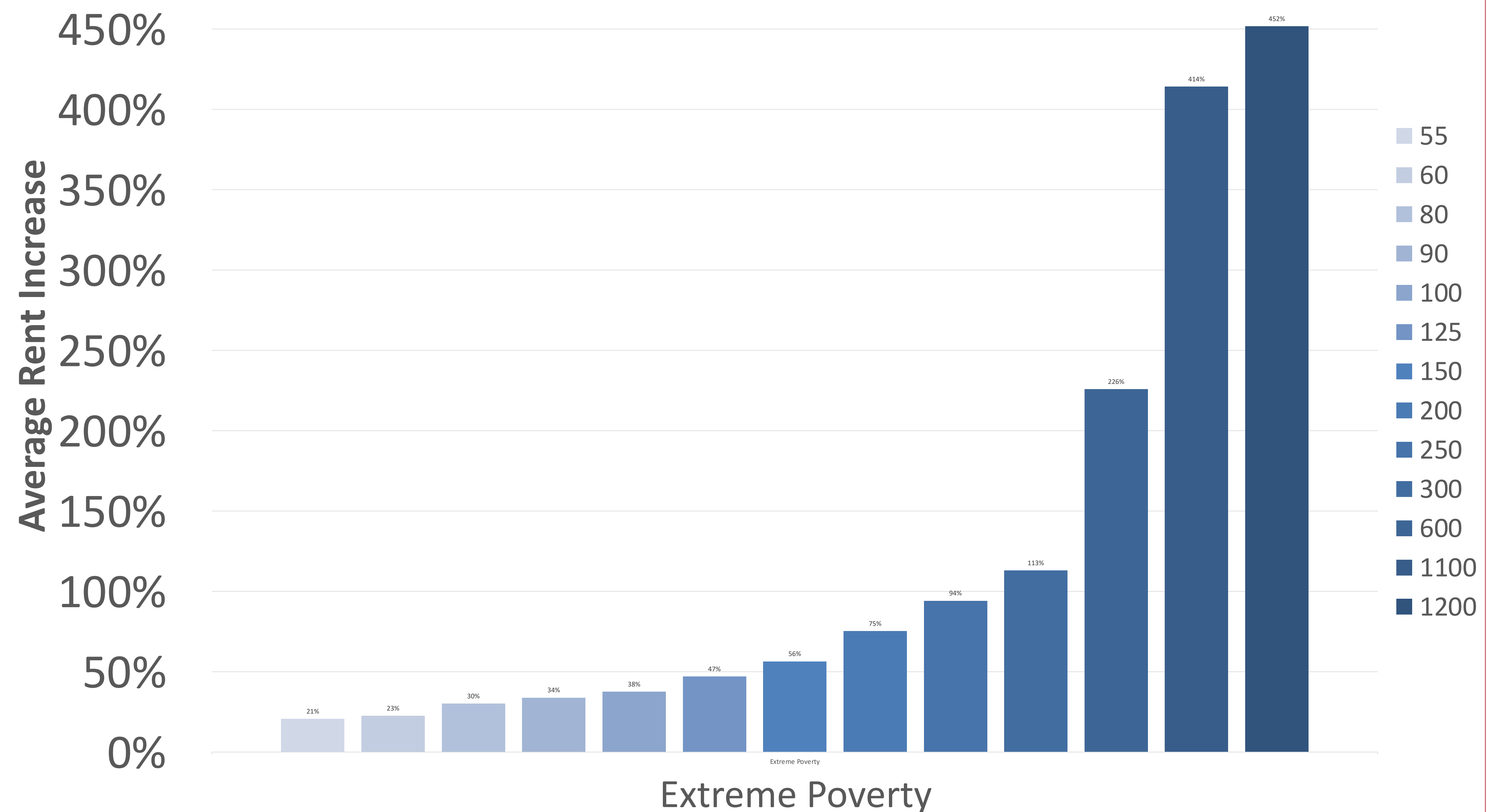
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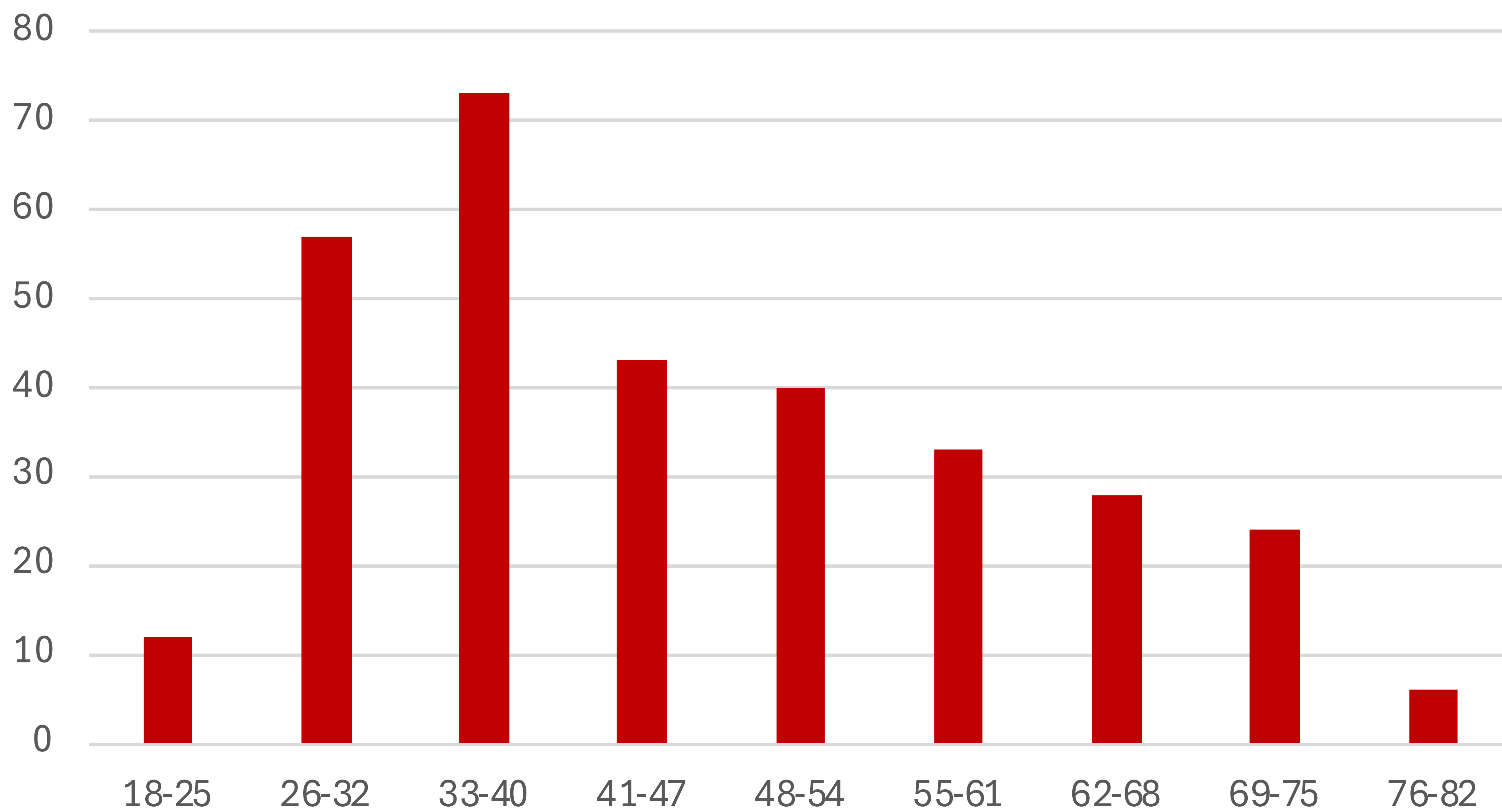
■ Just enough ■ Not enough ■ Plenty of money ■ Some money

Extreme Poverty Participants With Rent Increase

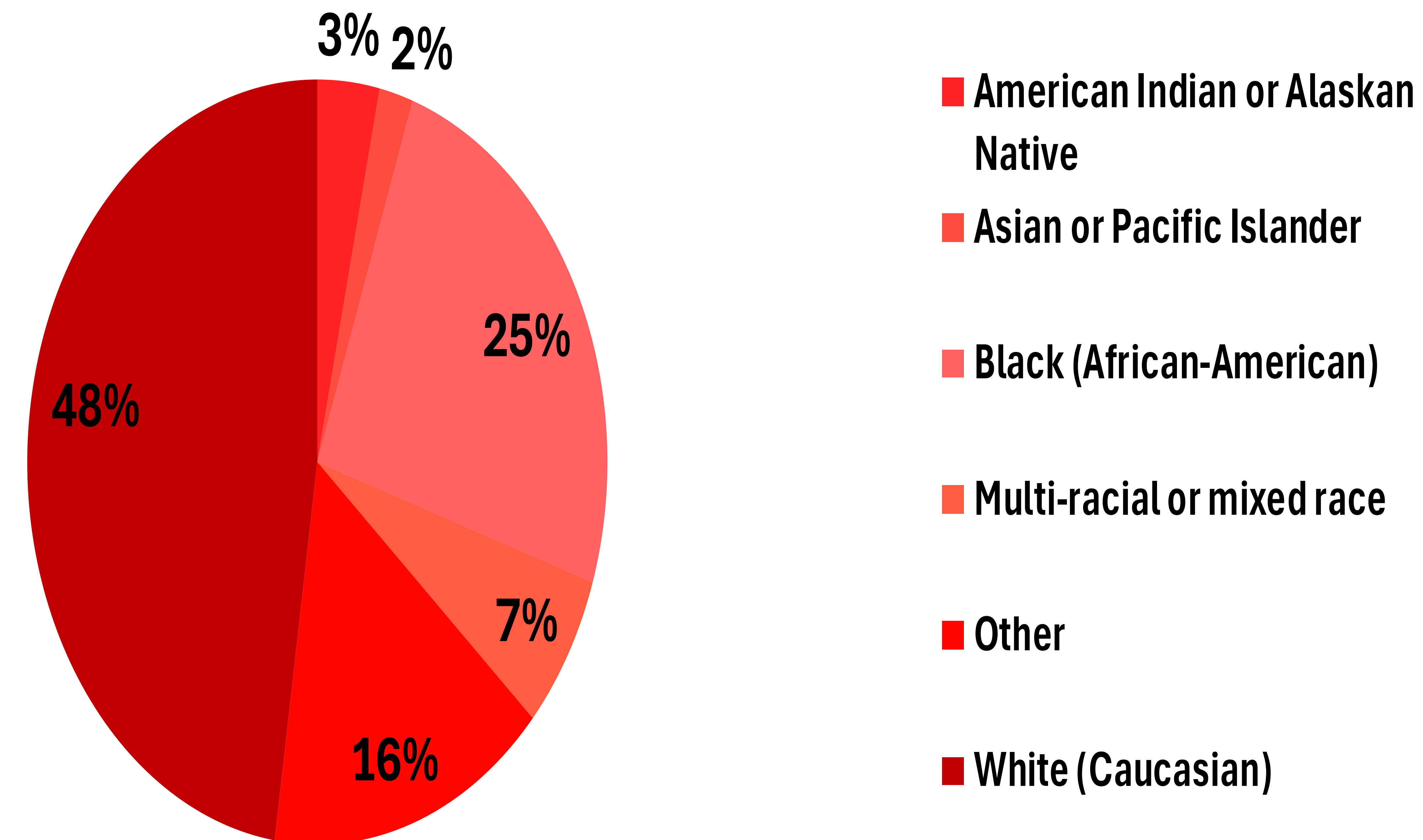


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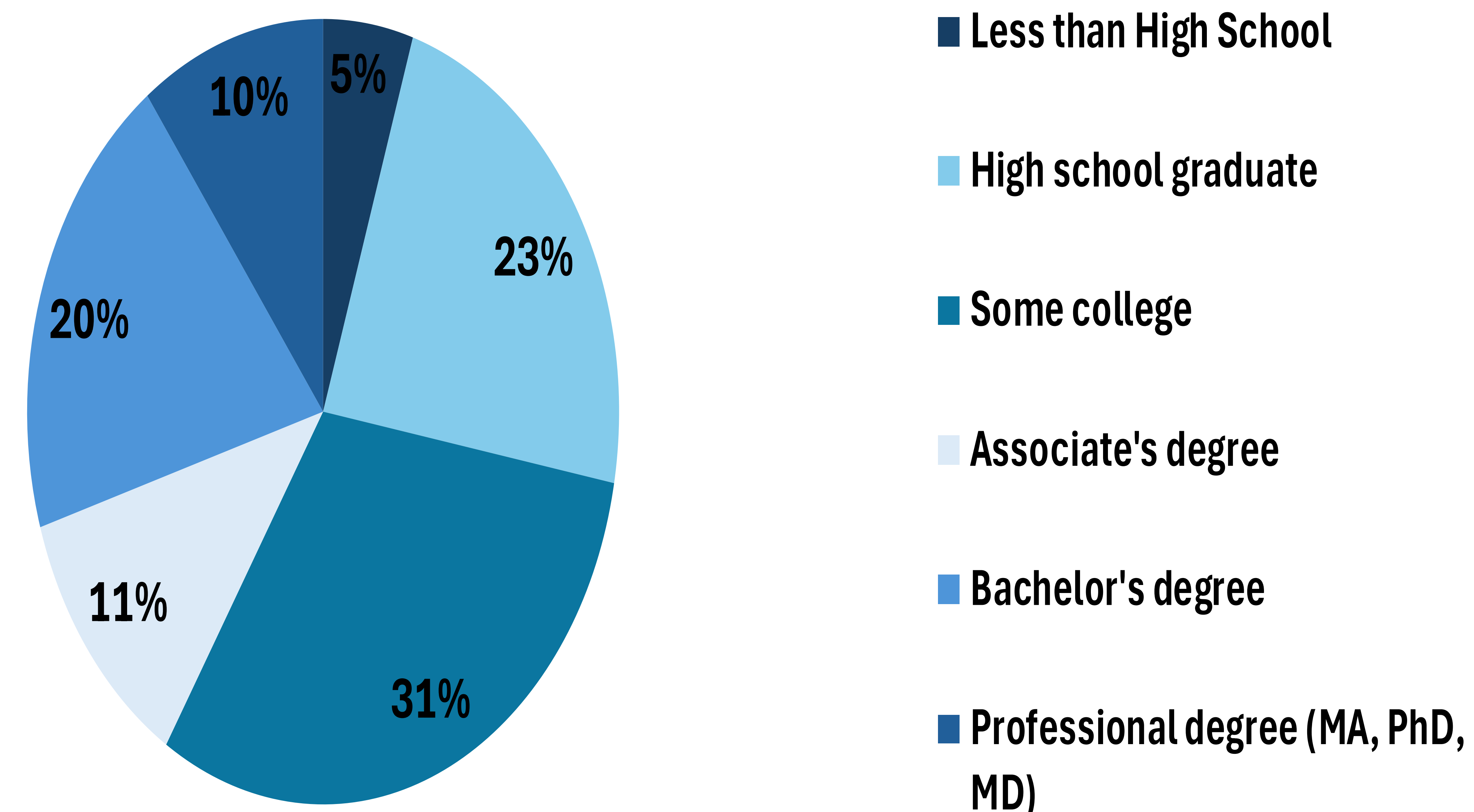
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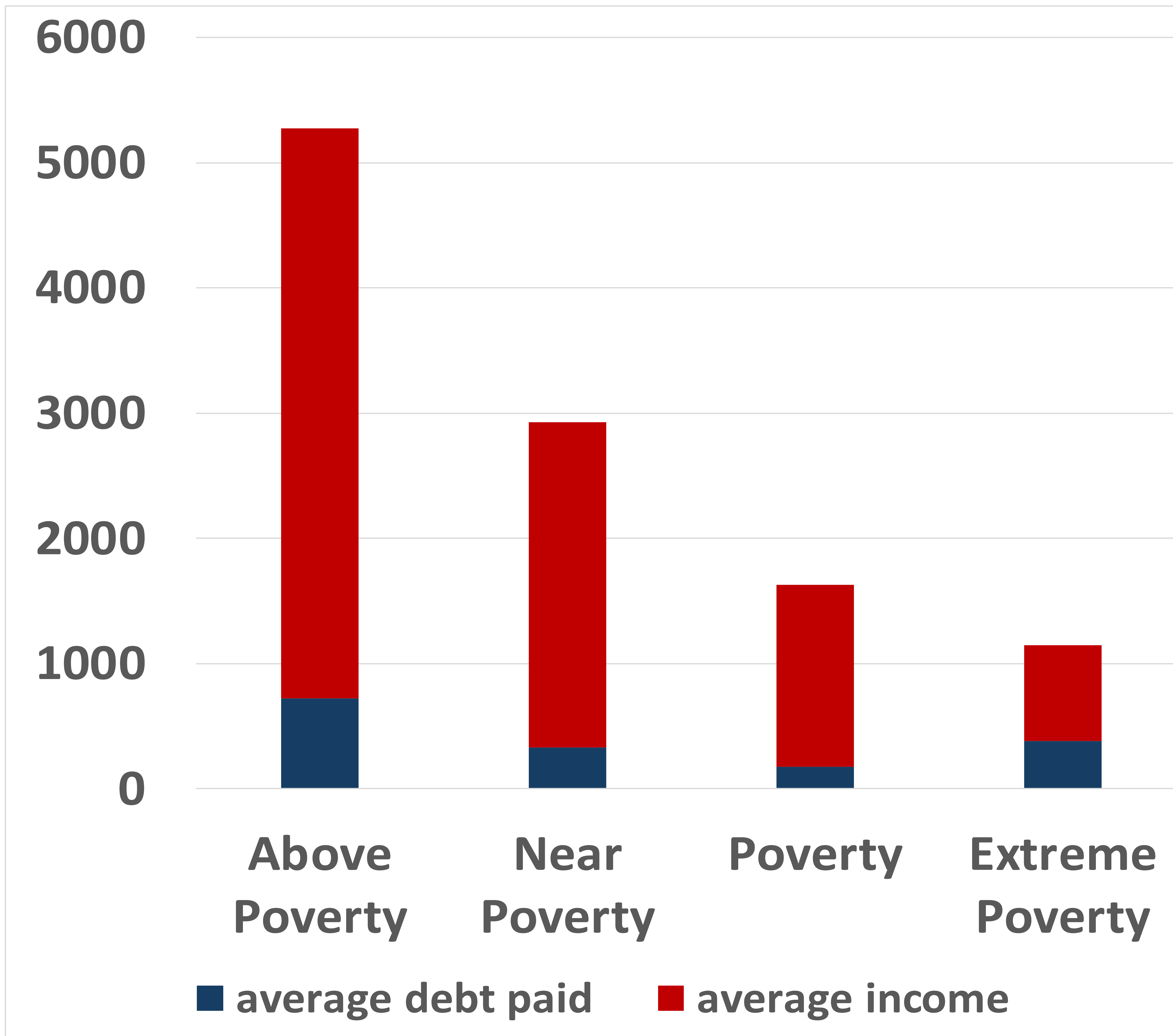
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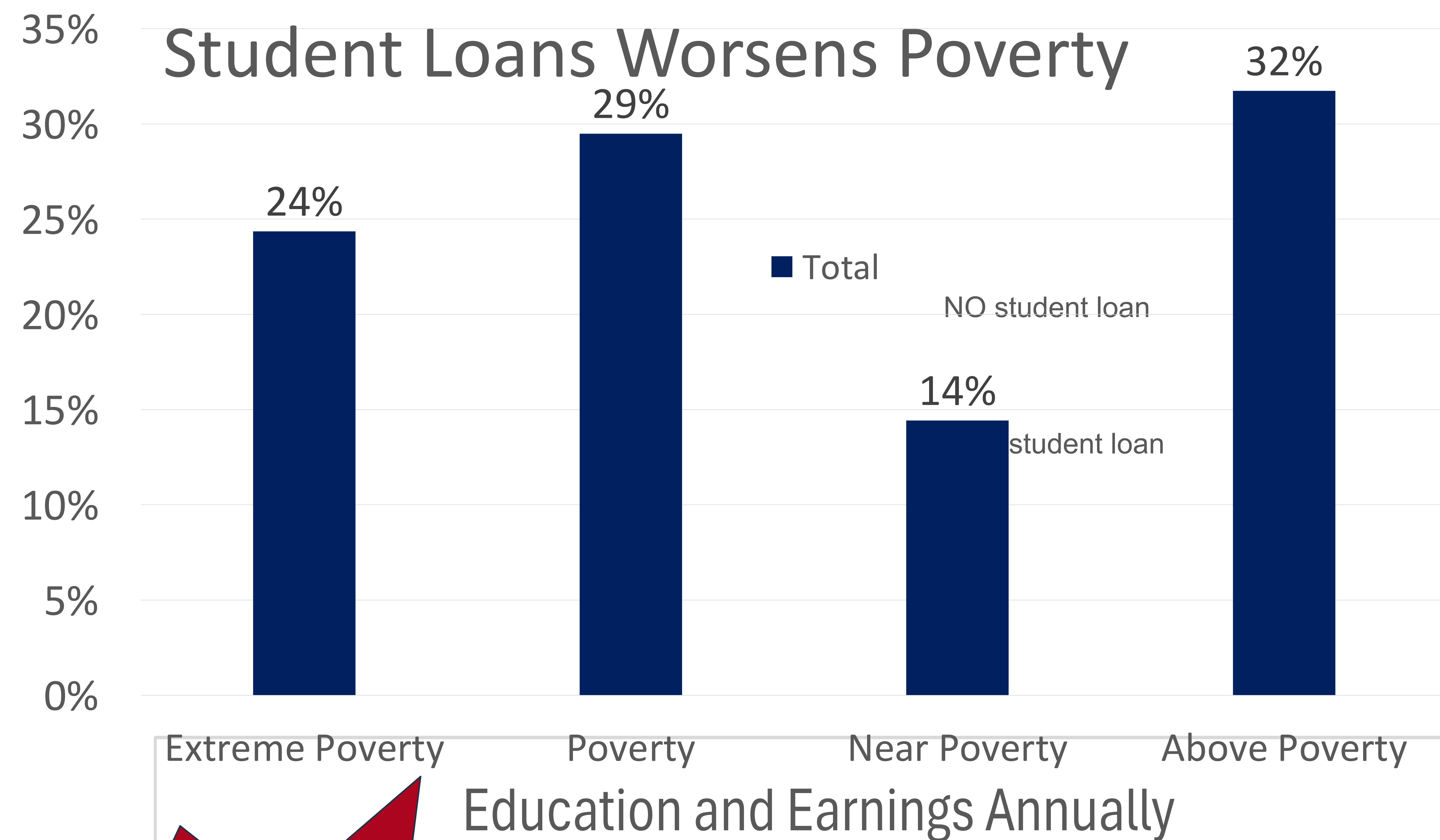
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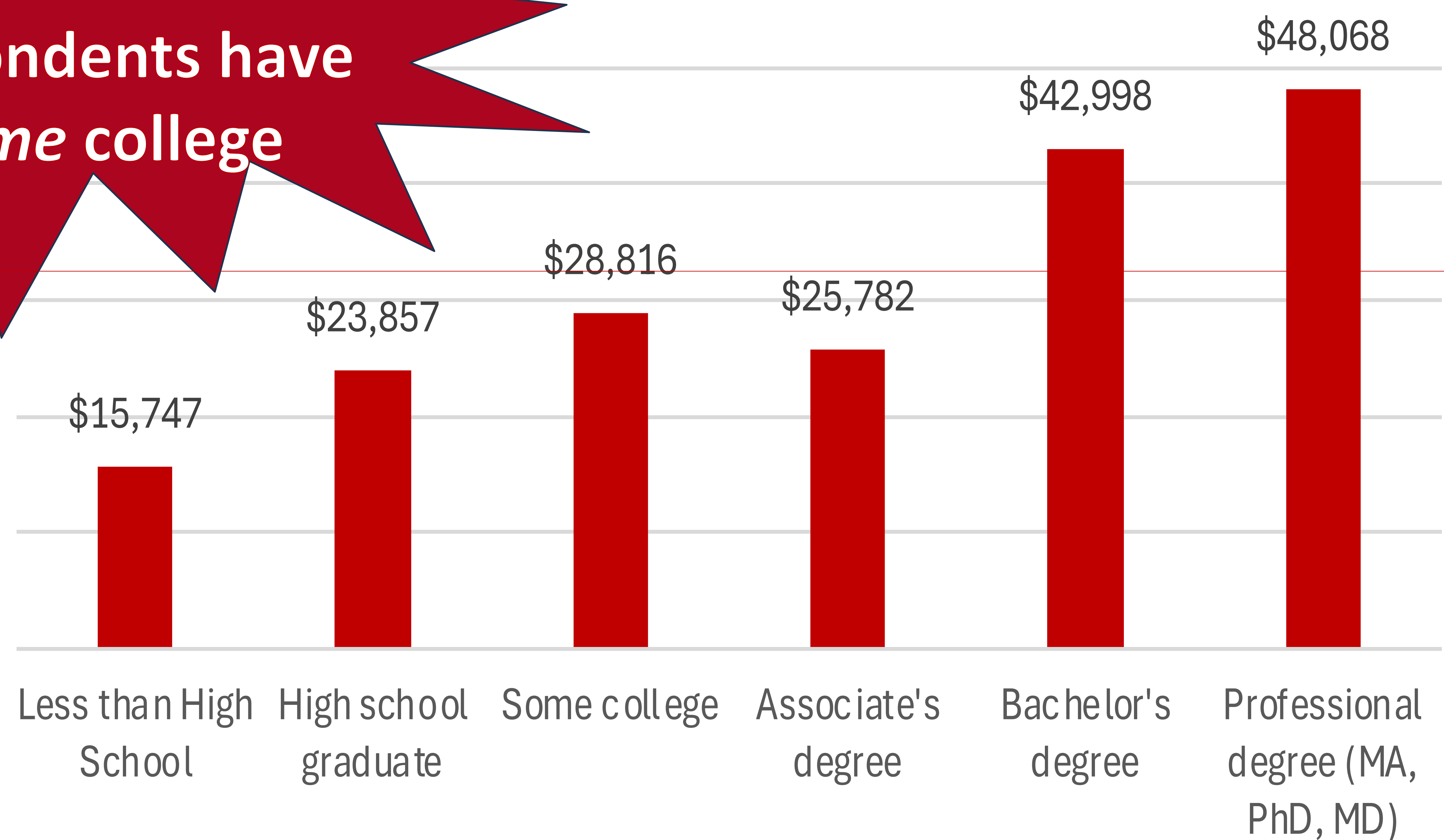
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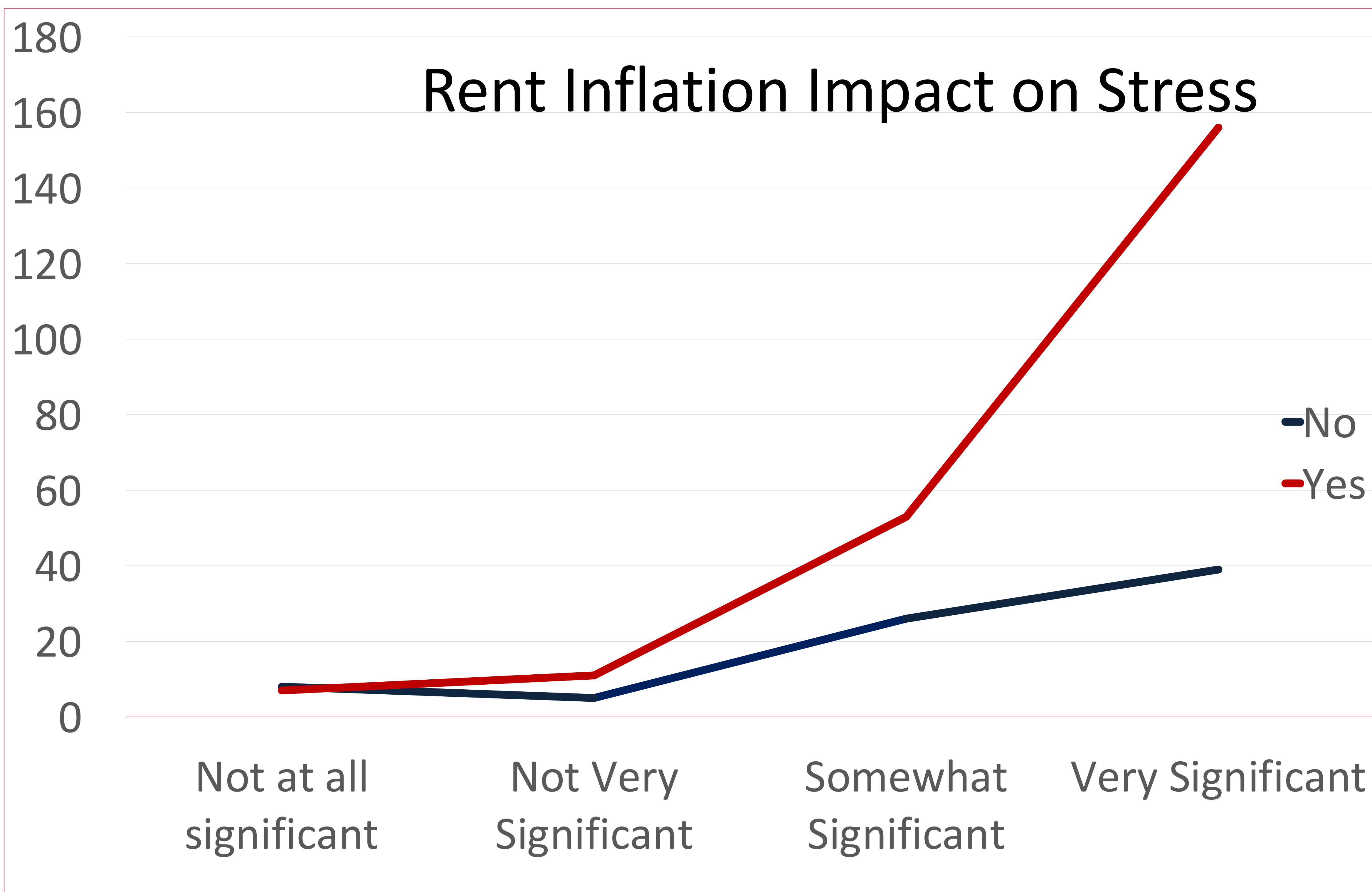
72% of respondents have some college



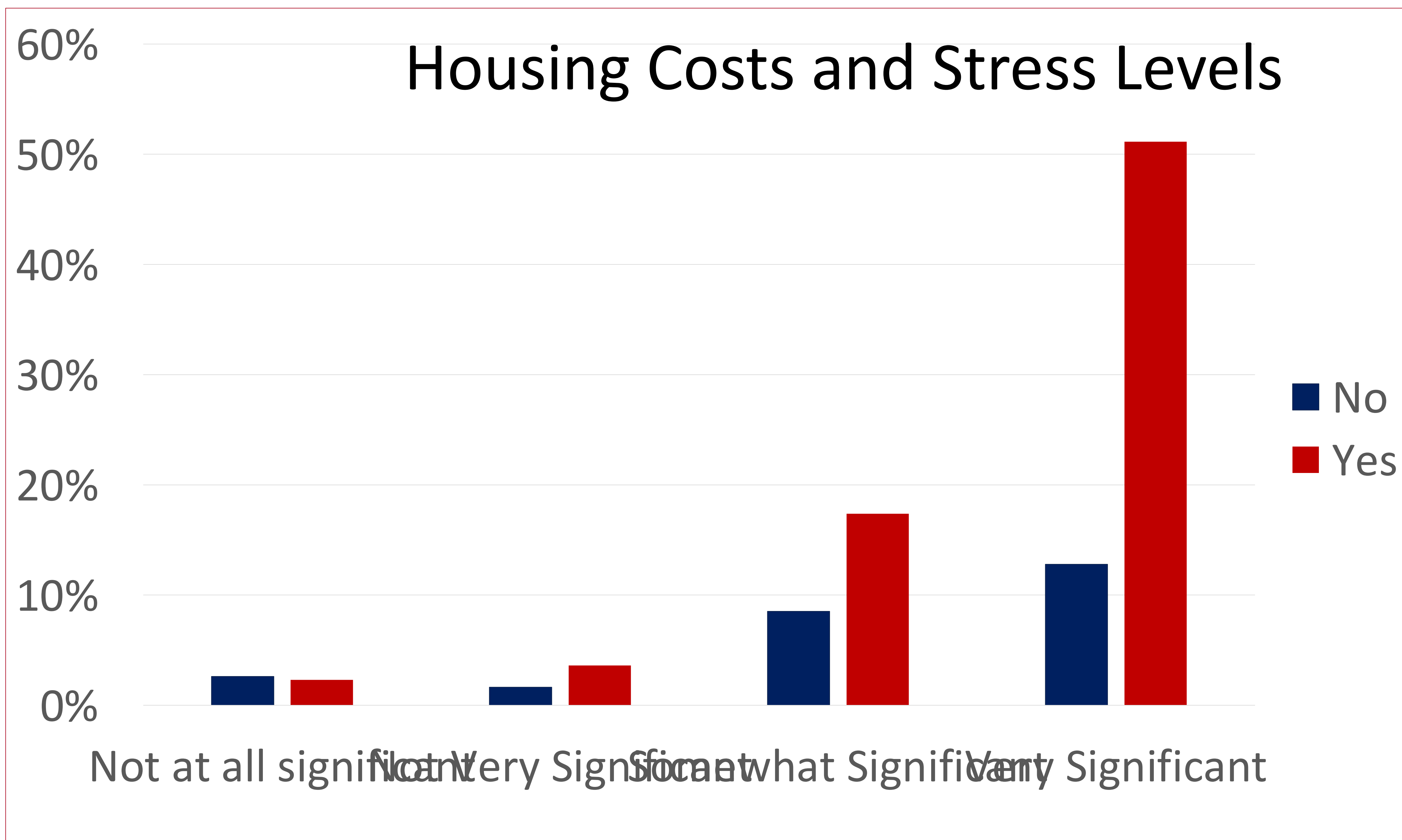
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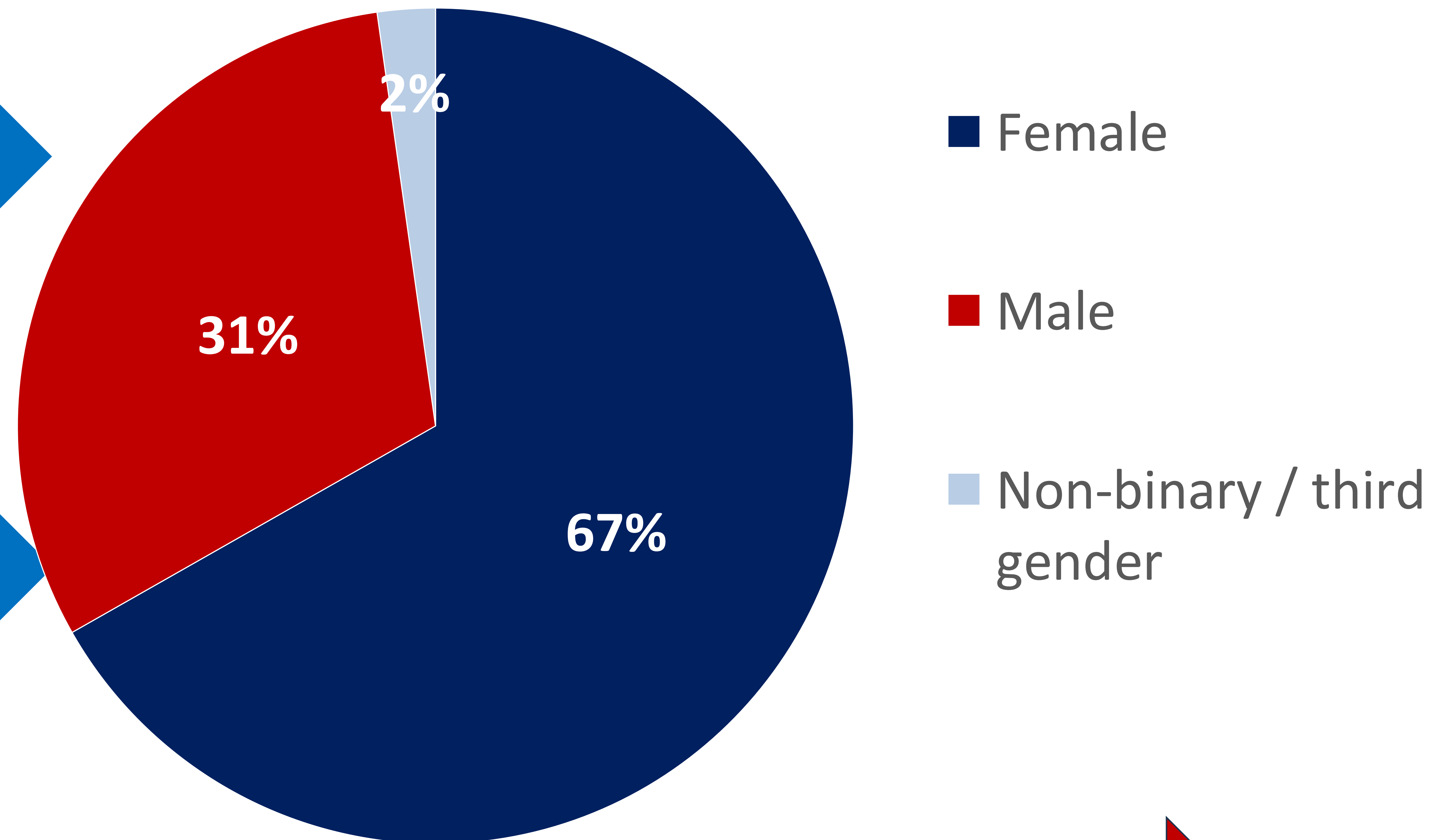
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