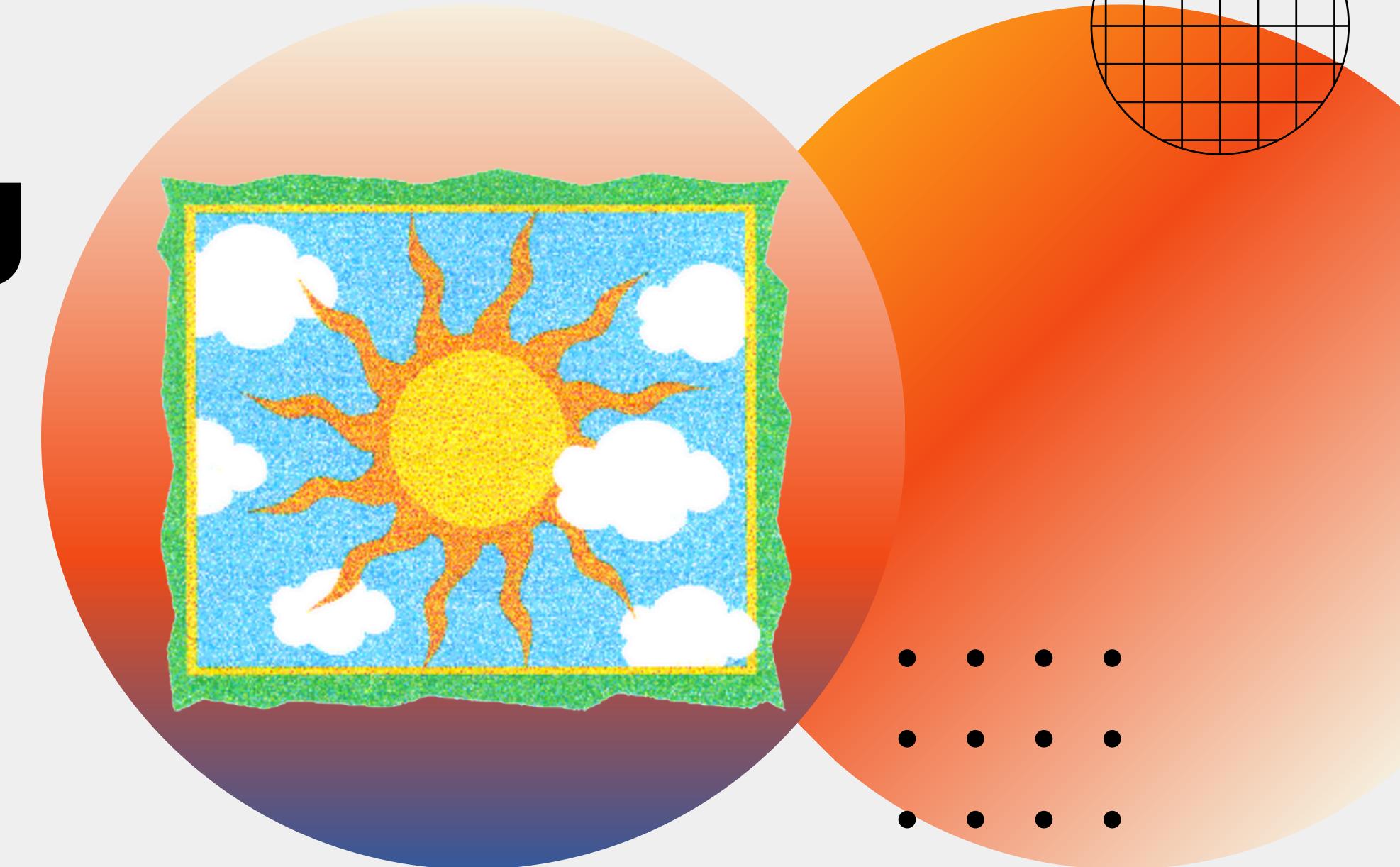


May/June 2024

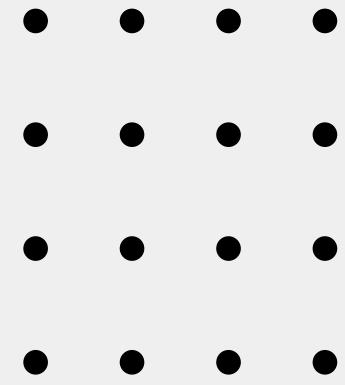
# **LINK Befriending Projects - Demographic Assessment**



# General Overview

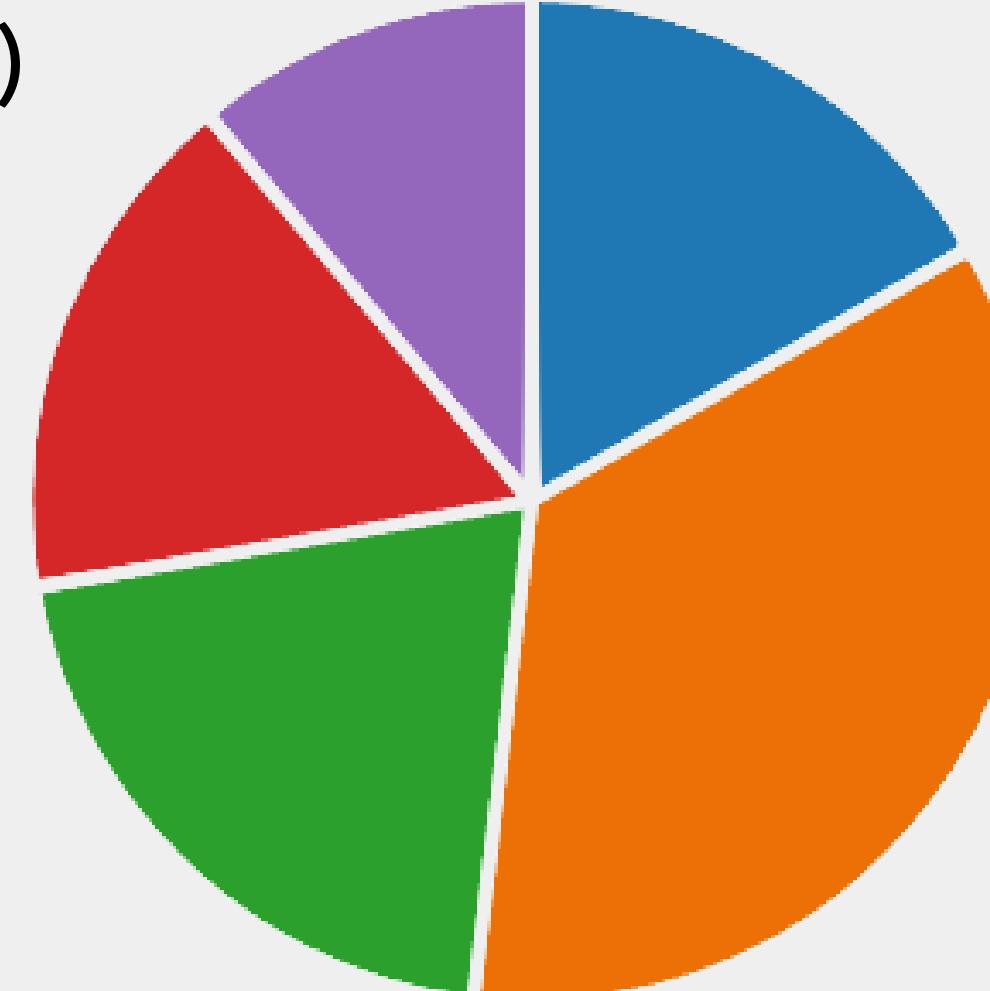
- Of the 109 surveys sent out, 54 members responded (49% response rate)
- Respondents include a combination of volunteers, befriendees, staff and board members
- With a few exceptions, all survey questions were mandatory

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# Age Frequency

- 18 and under: 9 (17%)
- 19-34: 19 (35%)
- 35-50: 11 (20%)
- 50-64: 9 (17%)
- 65+: 6 (11%)



# Gender Breakdown

Women: 33

**61.1%**

Men: 21

**38.9%**

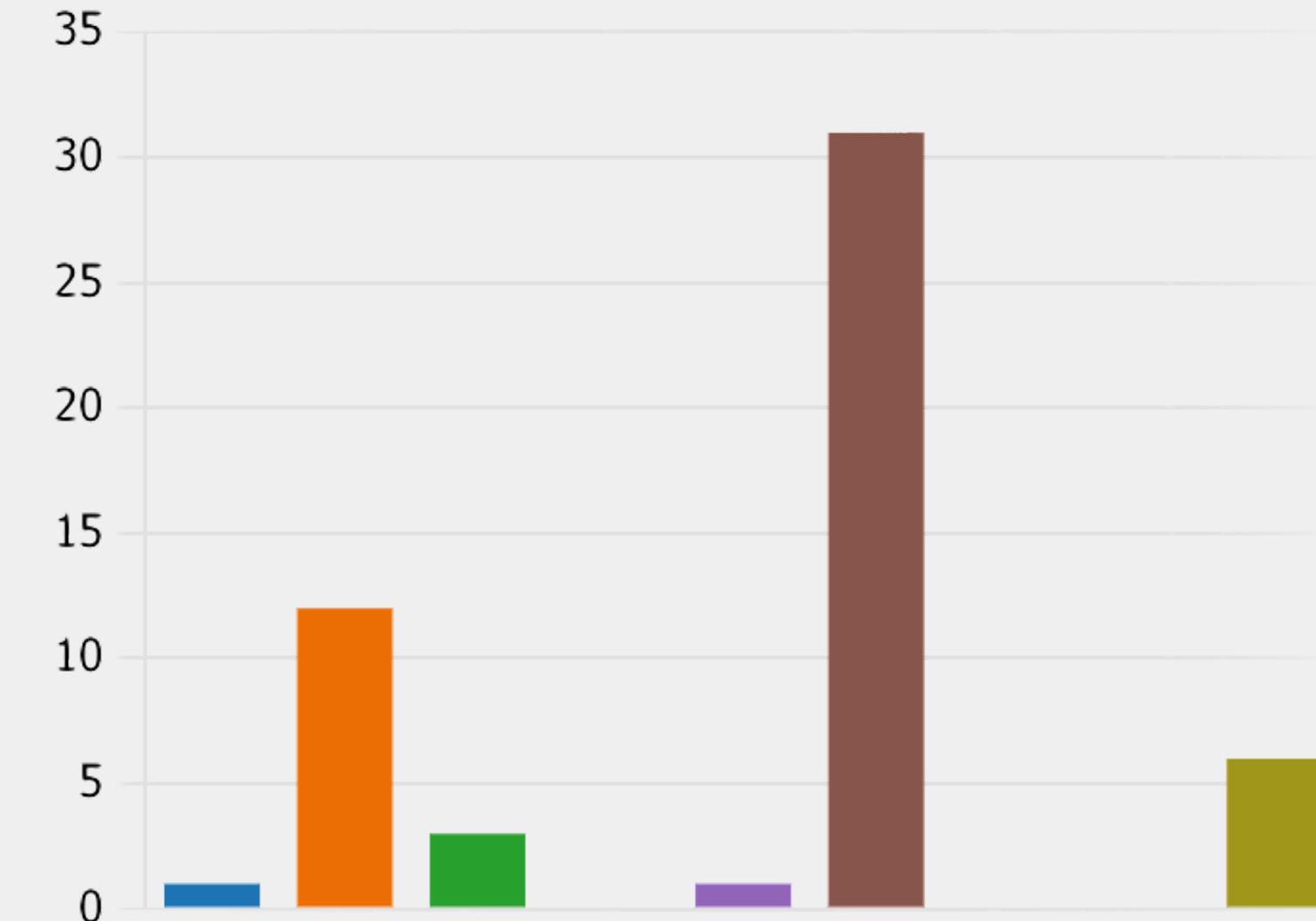
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There were 0 responses for the categories 'non-binary', 'prefer to self describe', and 'prefer not to say'



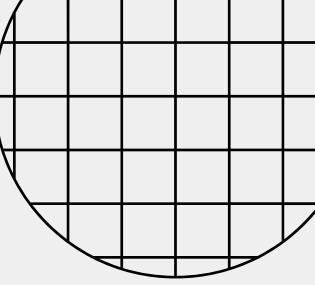
# Sexuality & Sexual Orientation

- Asexual: 1 (1.8%)
- Bisexual: 12 (22.2%)
- Gay man: 3\* (5.5%)
- Gay woman: 0
- Queer: 1 (1.8%)
- Straight/Heterosexual: 31 (55.6%)
- Pansexual: 0
- Identify in another way: 0
- Prefer not to say: 6 (11.1%)



\*All respondents identifying as a gay man also experience barriers/limitations in day-to-day activities. This may be a result of social stigma and marginalisation

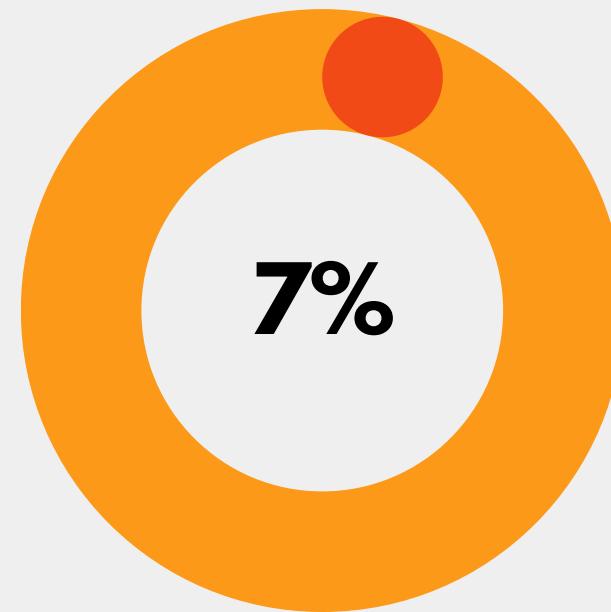
# Ethnic Diversity



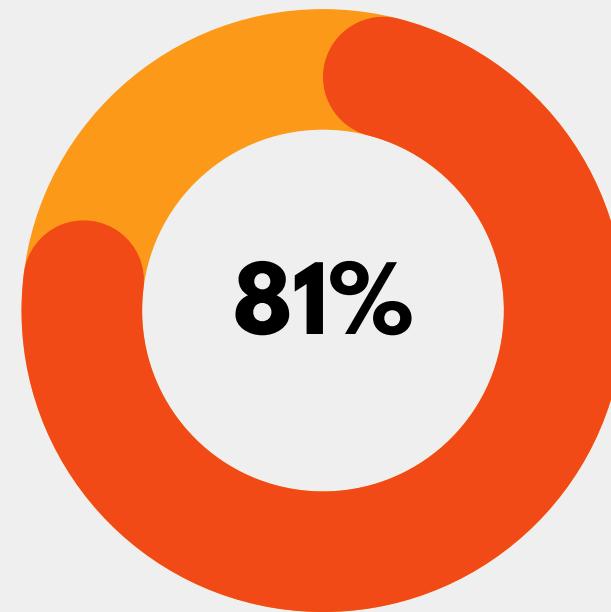
# Asian/Asian British (Indian): 3

## Not Included:

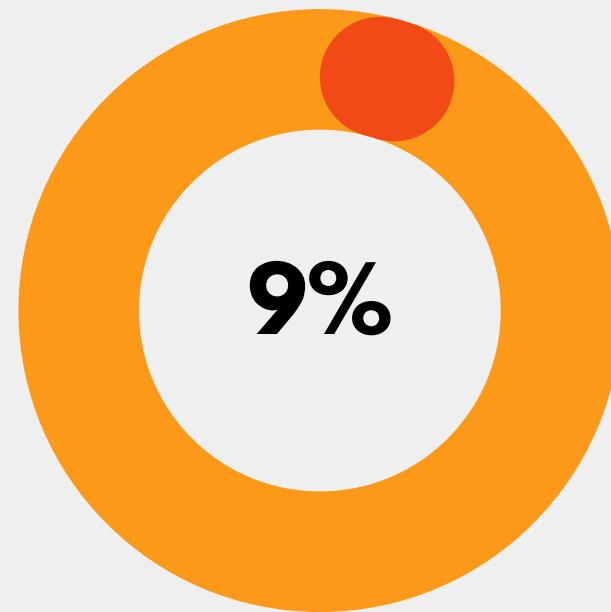
- Asian/Asian British (Bangladesh)**
- Asian/Asian British (Chinese)**
- Asian/Asian British (Pakistani)**
- Asian/Asian British (Any other Asian background)**
- Black/African/Caribbean/Black British (Caribbean)**
- Any other Black/African/Caribbean/Black British background**
- White (Gypsy or Irish Traveller)**



# Black/African/ Caribbean/Black British (African): 4

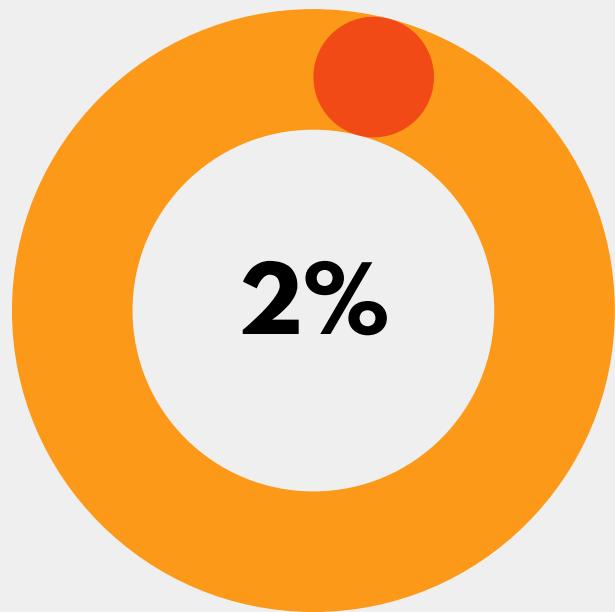


# White (English/Welsh/ Scottish/Northern Irish/British): **44**



# Any other White background: 5

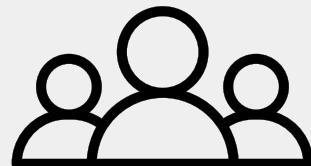
**With a lack of specific ethnicity, there lies the possibility these individuals may not feel represented. Prompts potential further research**



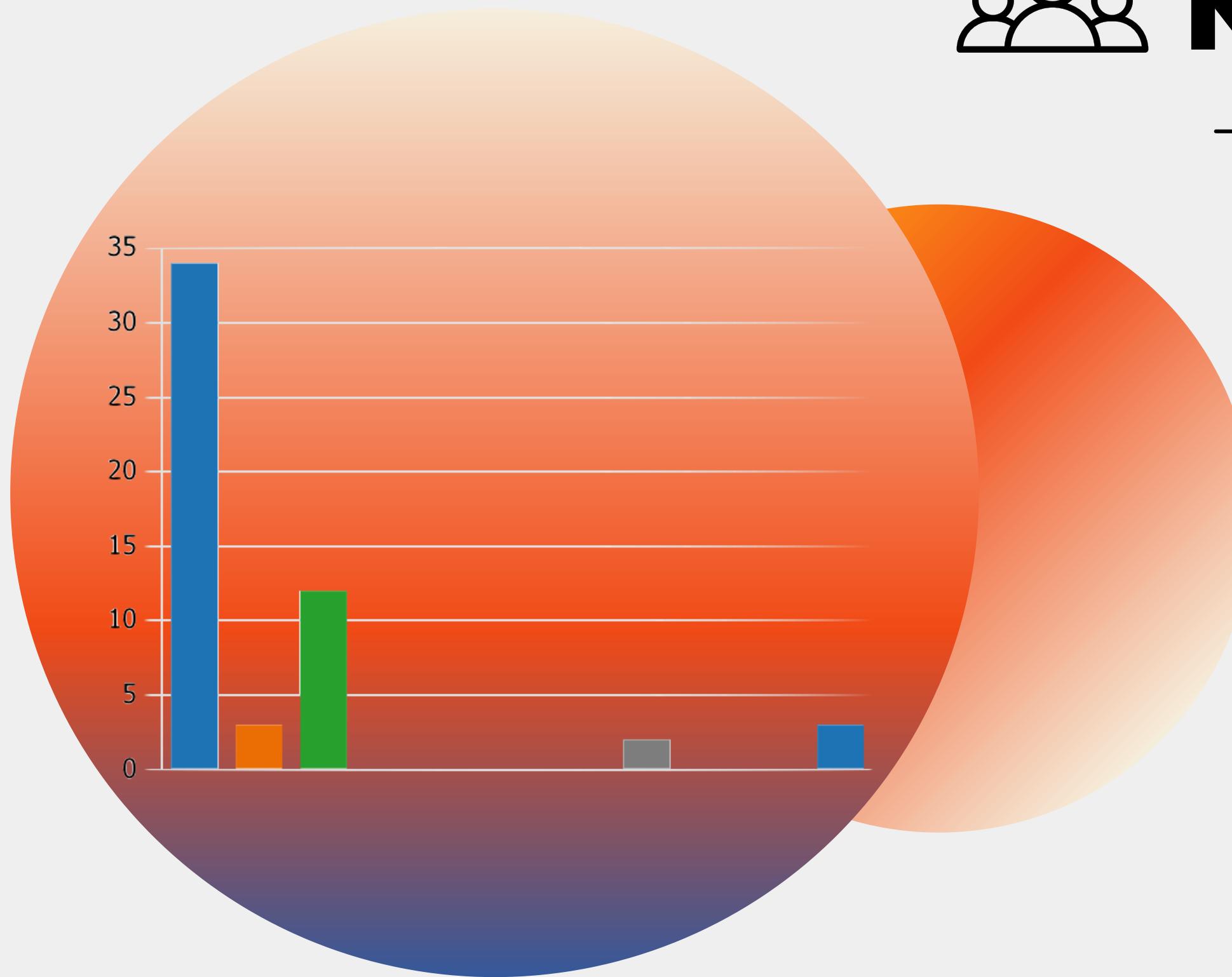
# Prefer to self describe: 1

**Although seemingly imbalanced,  
a higher 96% of Fife's general  
population is white**

- ●   ●   ●   Arab
- ●   ●   ●   Hispanic
- ●   ●   ●   Latina/Latino/Latinx
- ●   ●   ●   Any other ethnic group



# Religious Identity



No religion: 34 (63.0%)

Buddhist: 3 (5.6%)

Christian: 12 (22.2%)

Hindu: 0

Jewish: 0

Muslim: 0

Sikh: 0

Spiritual: 2 (3.7%)

Any other religion or belief: 0

Have a strongly held religion or belief but prefer not to specify what this is: 0

Prefer not to say: 3 (5.6%)

These percentages are fairly in line with that of the general population of Fife (eg. approximately half consider themselves areligious)

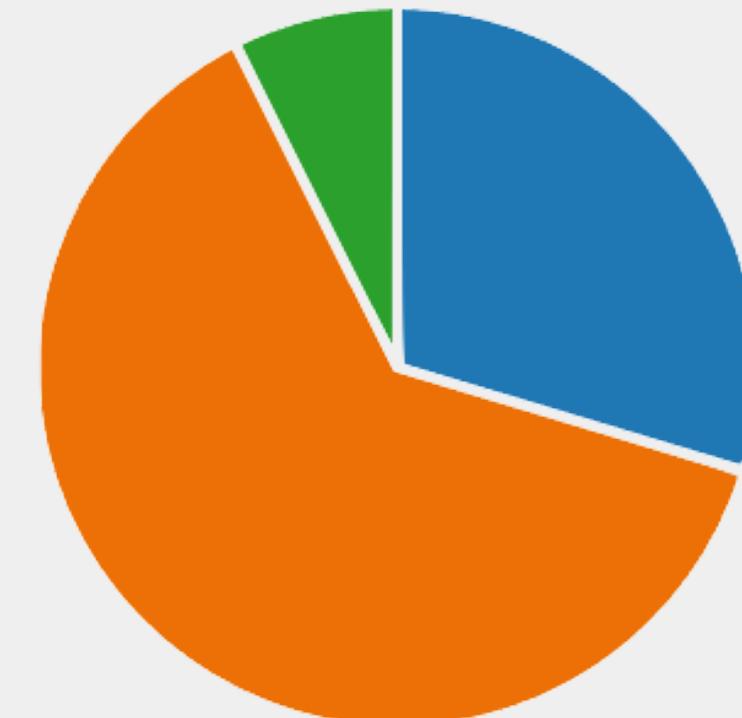
# Disability Prevalence

*"Do you consider yourself to be a disabled person?"*

Yes: 16 (30%)

No: 34 (63%)

Prefer not to say: 4 (7%)



Approximately 25% of the Scottish population is defined as disabled

*"Do you consider yourself to be living with any of the following that has an impact on your health or day-to-day living?"*

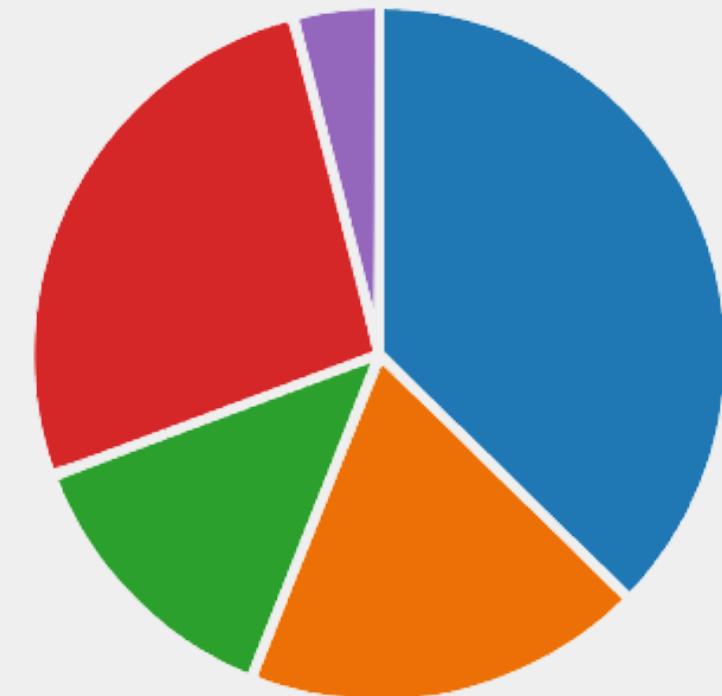
Mental health: 28

Physical health: 14

Sensory/cognitive/ neurodivergent: 10

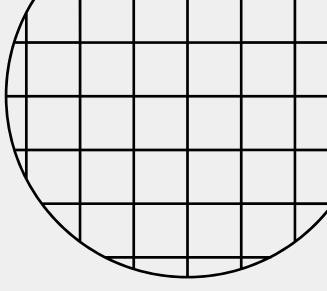
None of the above: 20

Prefer not to say: 3

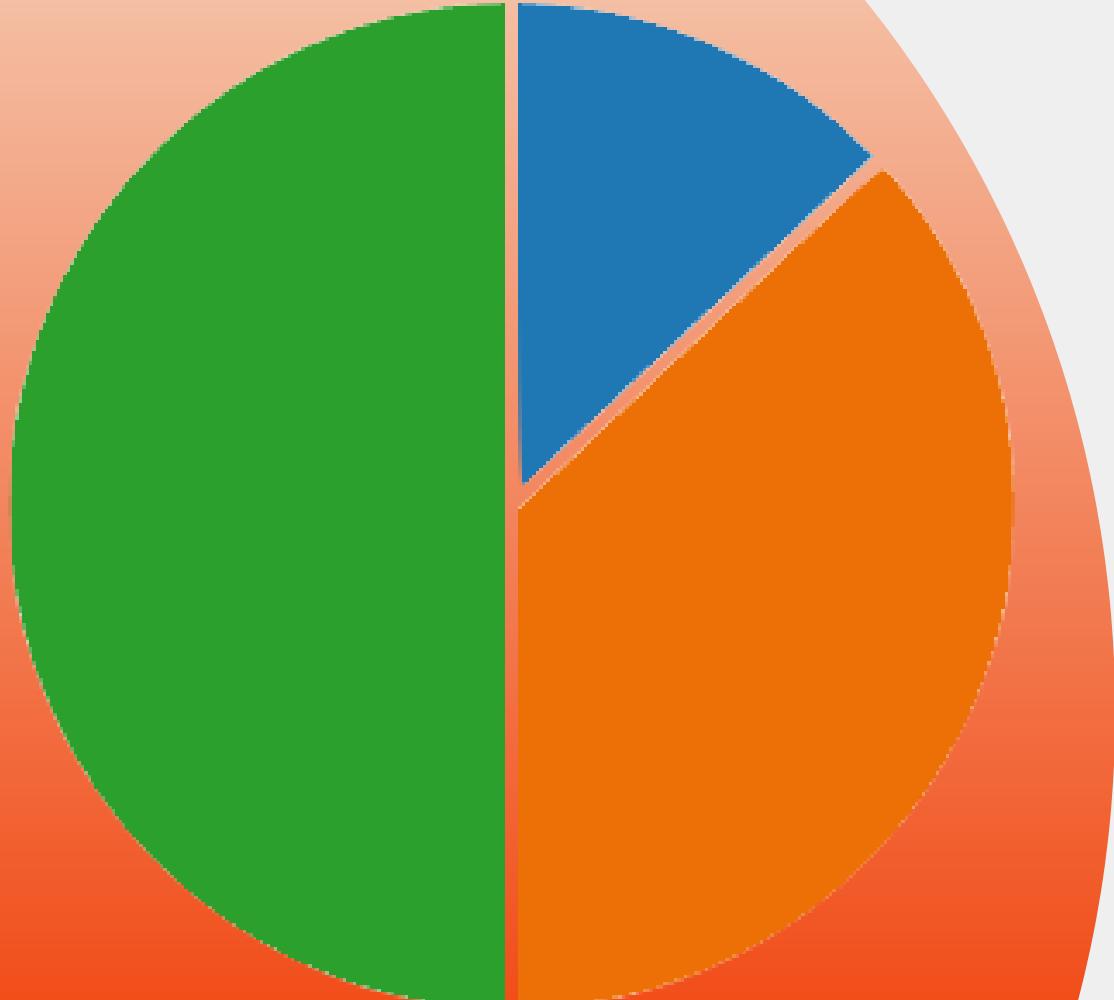


Answers were multiselectable, hence why the aggregate exceeds 54

# **Do you experience barriers or limitations in your day-to-day activities related to any health conditions (including mental health), physical, sensory or cognitive differences?**



- Substantial barriers: 7 (13%)
- Some/small barriers: 20 (37%)
- None: 27 (50%)



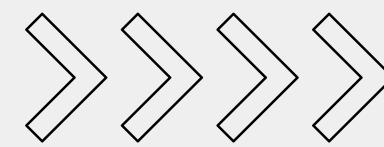
Only 14% of those claiming to experience barriers of some sort identify as being disabled

## **Comparison with Fife as a Whole**

- Substantial barriers: 9.5%
- Some/small barriers: 11%
- None: 79.5%

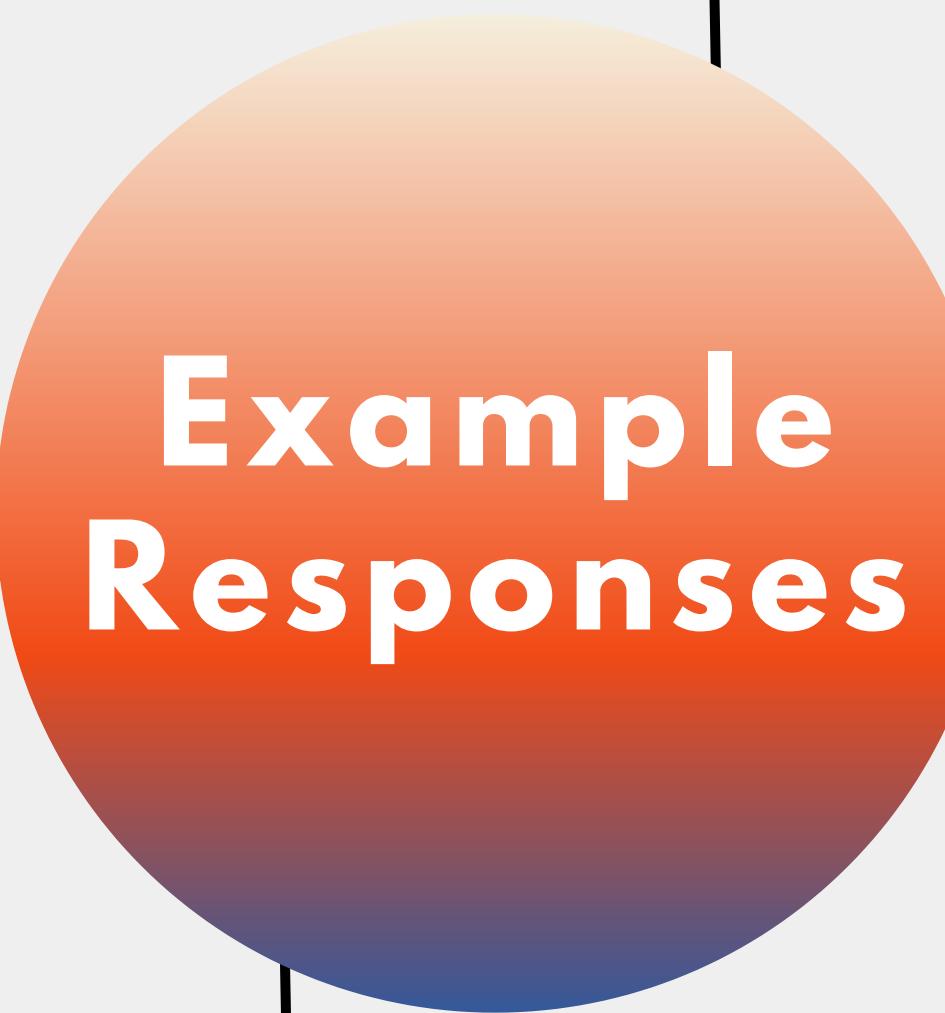


**Scotland's Census**  
Shaping our future  
A' dealbhadh ar n-àm ri teachd



# Types of Barriers and Limitations

**"Mental health issues, absences from work, chronic fatigue syndrome - limits activities, autism - communication difficulties"**



**"Decision making, independent travelling, money management"**

**"Type 1 diabetes and other autoimmune diseases"**

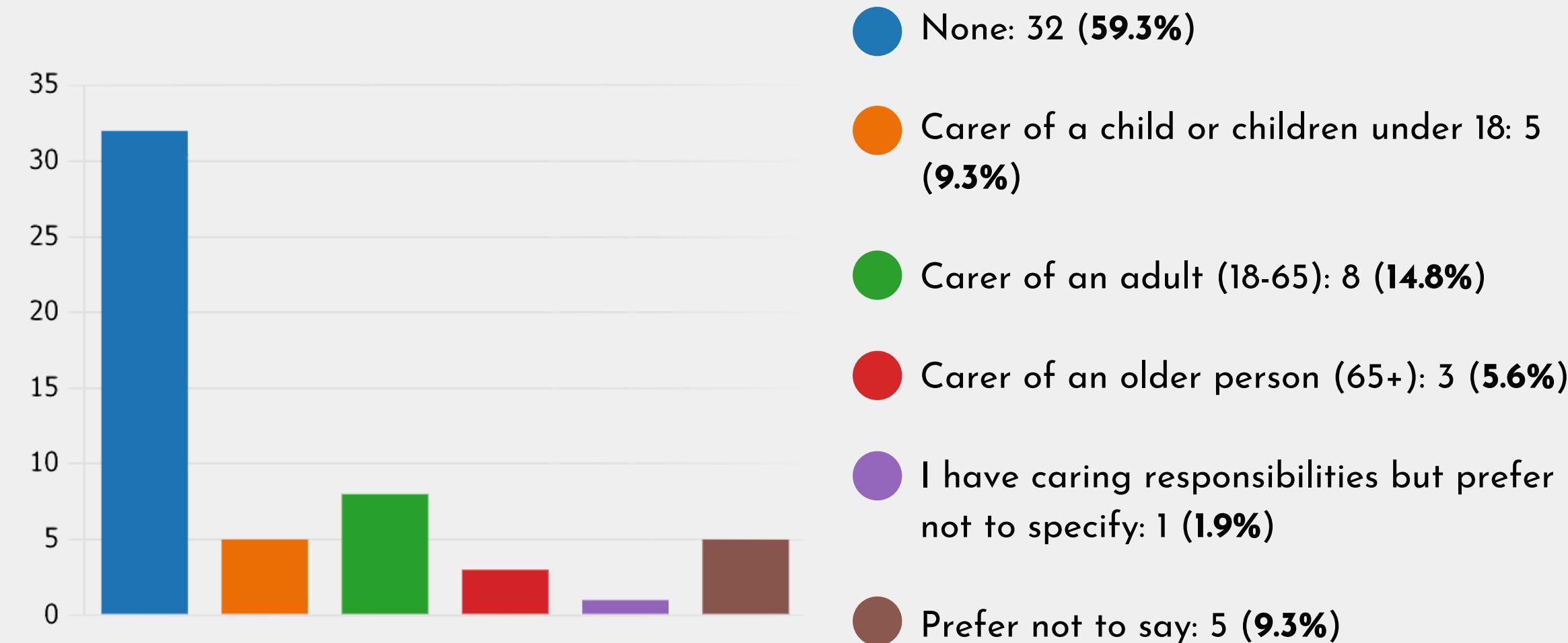
**"Loneliness, blindness, mobility issues"**

It is important to note that many responses don't pertain to a specific category - barriers are interconnected

...  
...  
...  
...  
...

# Caring Responsibilities

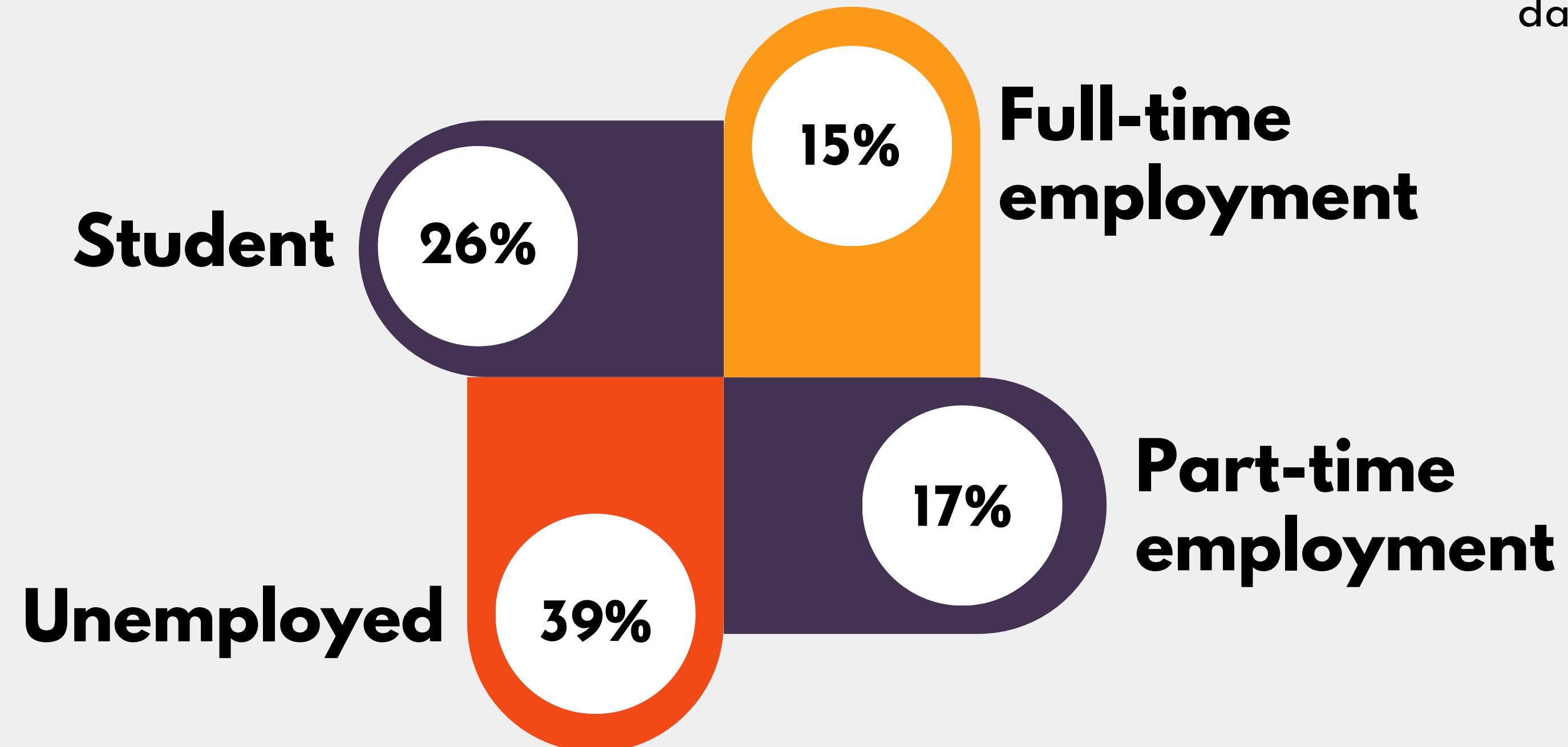
Over **3 in 10** individuals have some form of caring responsibility



Across Fife, approximately 9.5% of the population undertake provision of unpaid care, which is less than a third of the rate for LINK's survey responses



# Employment Status



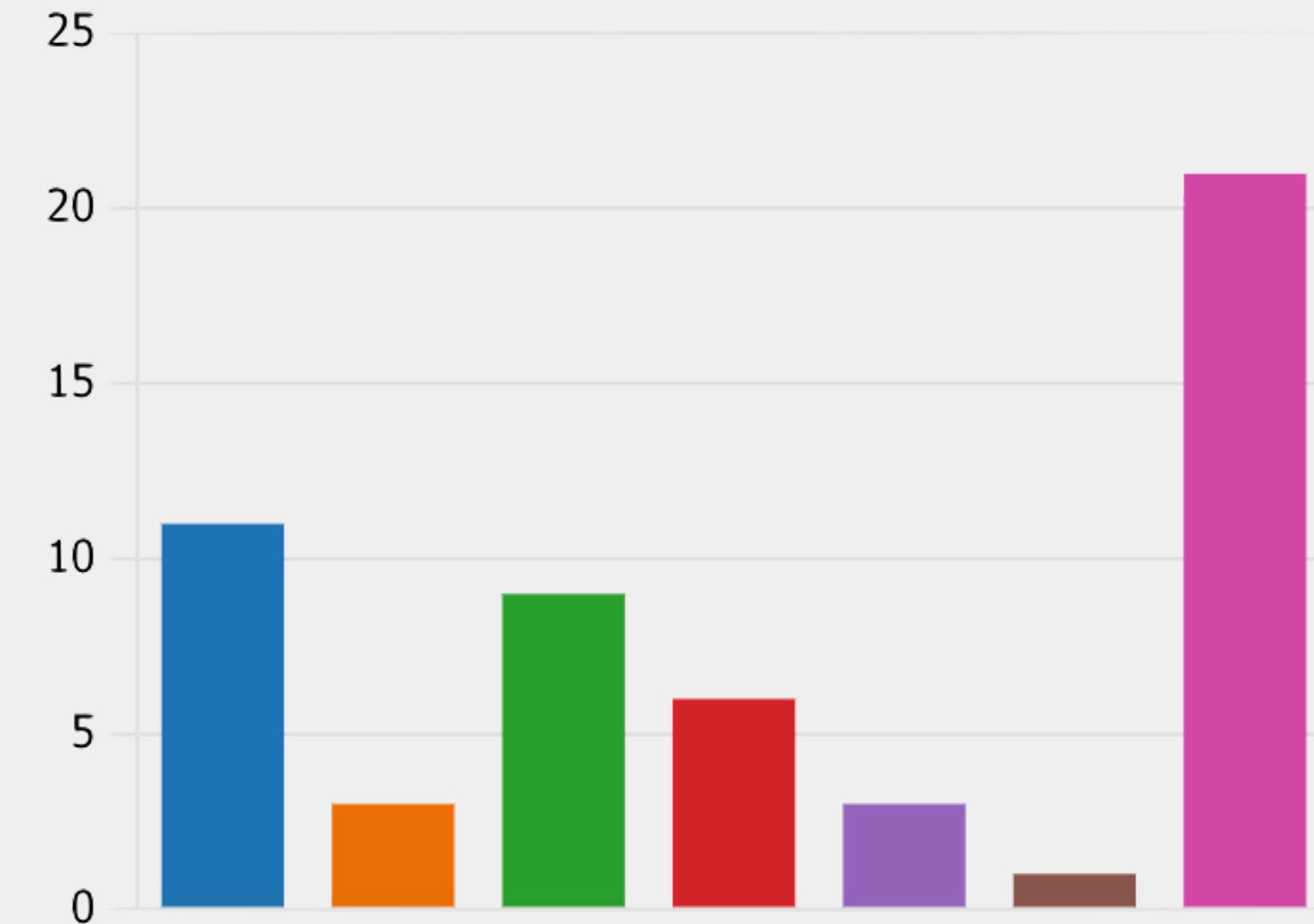
100% of the full-time employed respondents state they don't experience barriers to day-to-day activities

Across Fife, **68%** of the population is considered economically active with **39%** being employed full-time

# Annual Income Breakdown

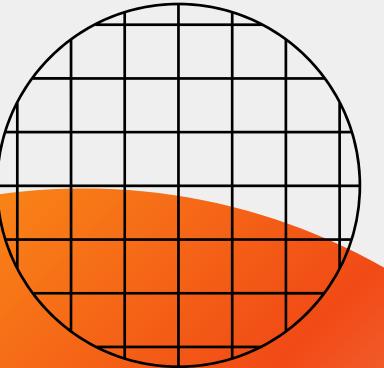
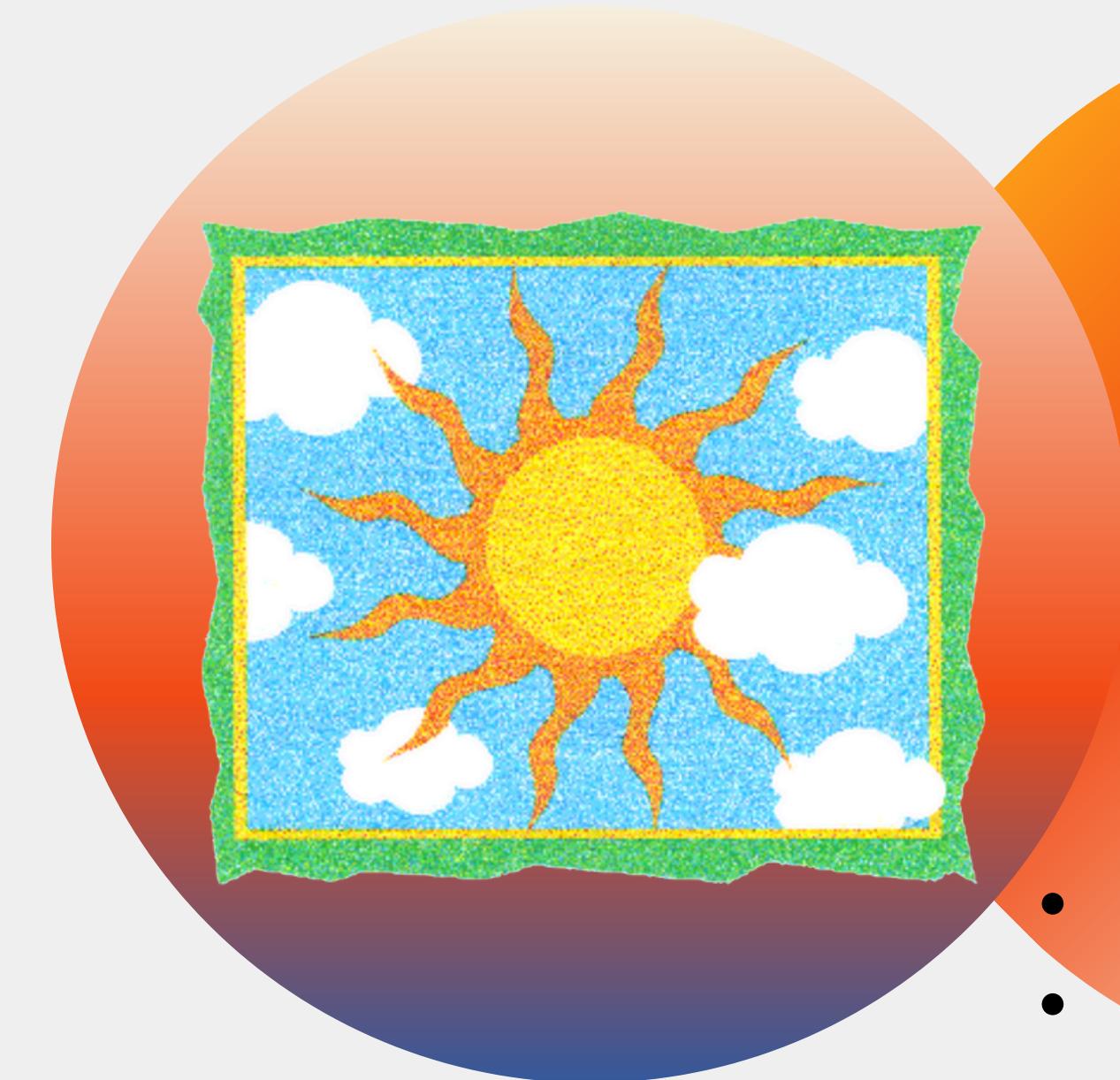
- <£15000: 11 (20.4%)
- £15000 - £20000: 3 (5.6%)
- £20000 - £30000: 9 (16.7%)
- £30000 - £45000: 6 (11.1%)
- £45000 - £60000: 3 (5.6%)
- > £60000: 1 (1.9%)
- Prefer not to say: 21 (38.9%)

Average yearly income in Fife: £25,000  
Average yearly income in Scotland: £28,000  
(These figures fail to account for size of the household and variable number of dependents)



May/June 2024

# Thank you



All data about the Fife population is from Scotland's Census 2022  
<https://www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk/search-the-census#/search-by>