

The Sustainability Survey

AY 2024/25





Background

After receiving feedback from our staff and students about previous years surveys, we re-designed this survey to encompass all aspects of sustainability, concentrated on what we needed to know for our reporting and ensured we were more visible in our marketing.

- One QR code for staff and students, rather than separate links
- Pop Up stands with instant incentives for completed surveys
- More chances to win in the prize draw
- Bespoke questions for a more holistic view



Summary

We had a near even split of completed survey responses:

48% staff and 51% student.

Energy

Most respondents know to turn off their monitors, but not so much appliances such as printers and microwaves.

Awareness is apparent in subjects such as consumption creates carbon emissions and that we as a University have a commitment to Net Zero. However, 32% of respondents don't believe they can influence this target.

Most respondents feel thermally 'just right' in buildings like the Learning Hub and Senate, but Development Hub did show people tend to be on the cooler side and Waterside Halls people tend to be too hot.

Travel

In a typical week, most respondents walk or drive (single occupancy vehicles) with 44% using multimodal trips such as car and walk or train and bus. Most respondents find transport links are poor and their place of home to University is too far for active travel. There is an increase in electric vehicle use since last year's survey.



Summary

206 Completed Responses

*106 Staff
100 Student*

+27% increase from AY 23_24

Recycling

Most people stated they recycle on campus, and they check labels to see what can and cannot be recycled. However, label confusion was selected as the reason why others don't recycle. 32% of people stated they use re-useable cups which is positive. Regarding Vegware take away boxes, most people stated they put them in the recycling (orange label) bin rather than general waste which is reflected in our contamination figures. This is something we need to address and will look into designated bins just for Vegware until a new supplier of boxes can be sourced that aligns with our recycling abilities.

Biodiversity

Our greenspaces were very well received, described as being beautiful, well maintained and wildlife friendly. However, most respondents did not know about our accreditations such as being a Hedgehog Friendly Campus. Swans, rats and geese were among the most spotted animals on site.

Engagement

Most respondents would like to find out more from our team via Unify (staff), email and TV screens around Campus. Social media actually had a very small response with only 3% selecting Facebook and 10% selecting Instagram as their preferred means of contact.

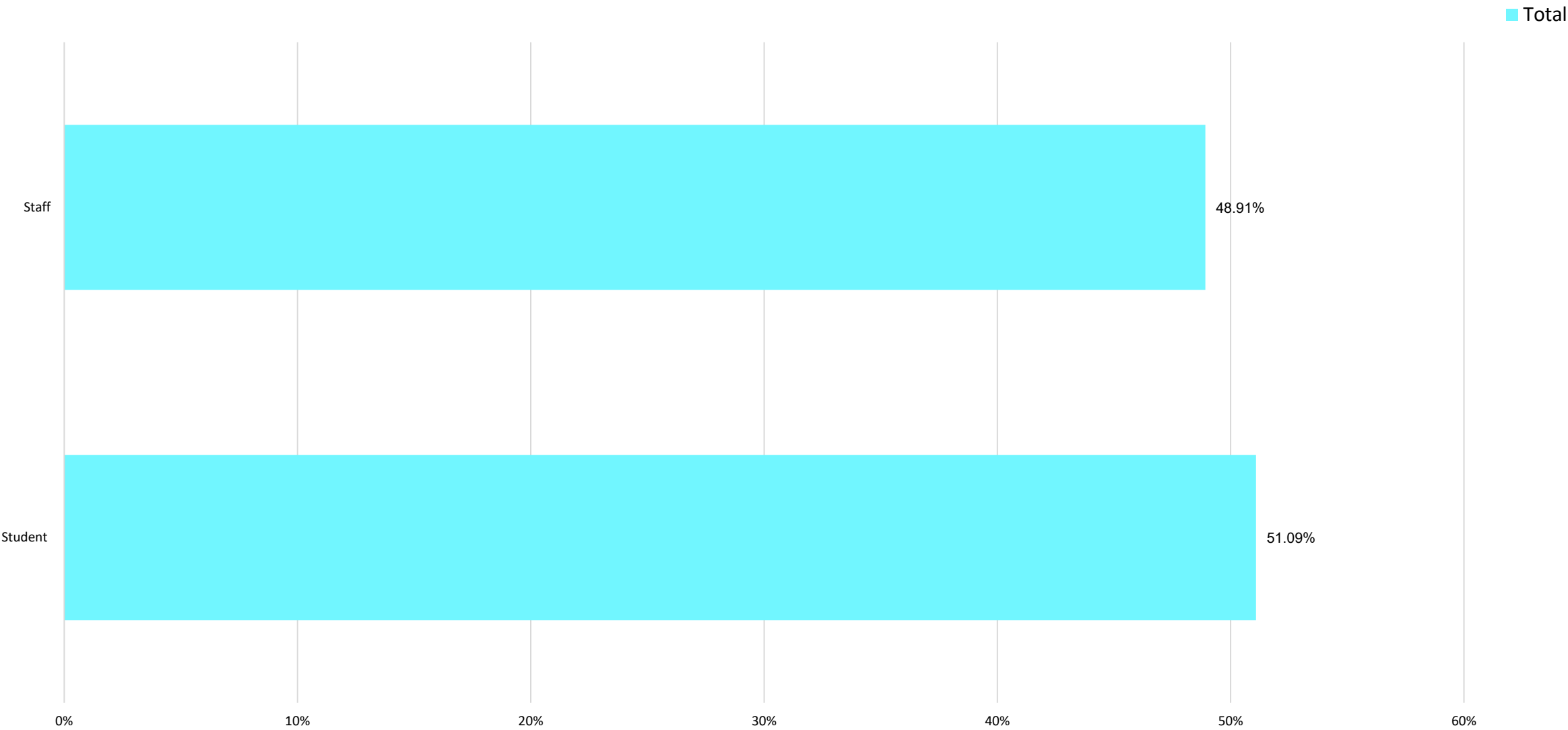


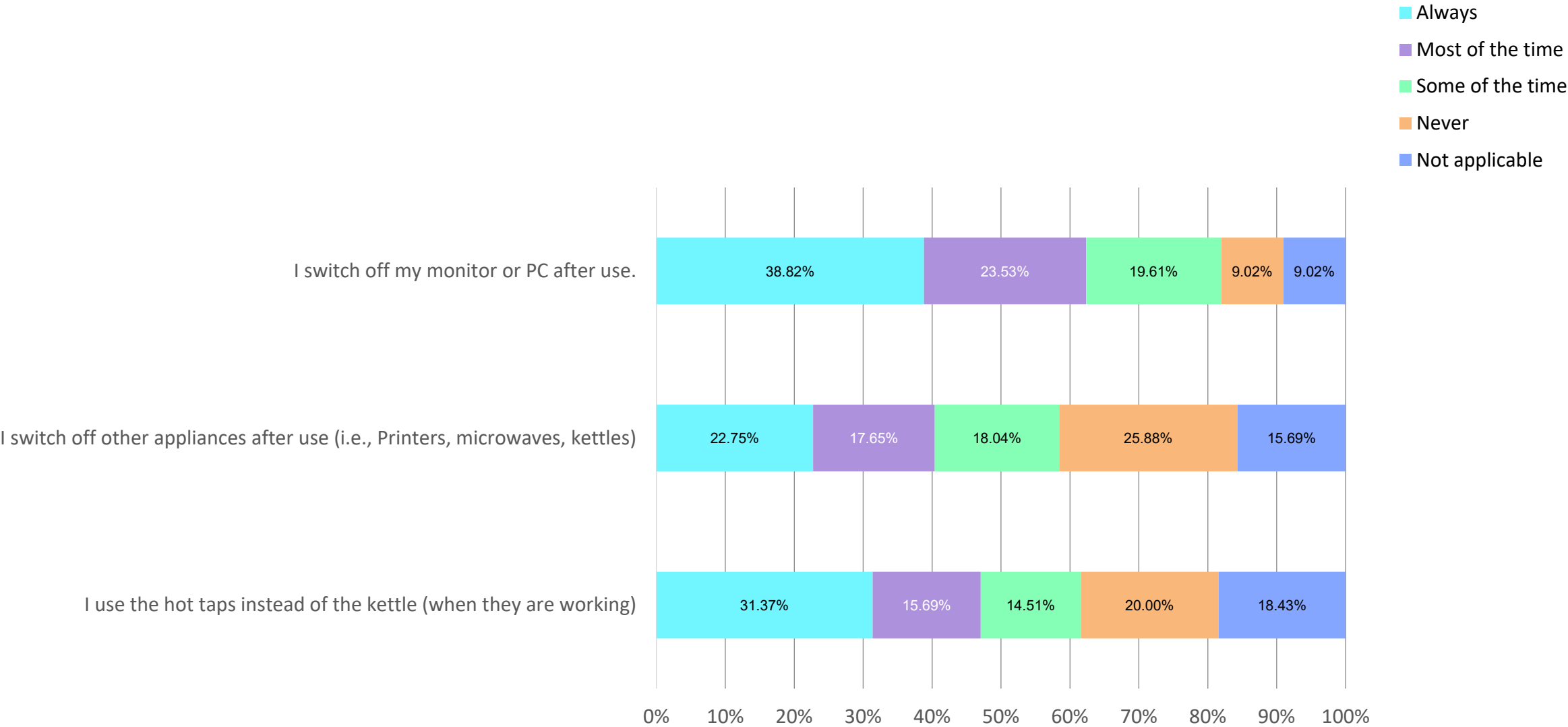
Feedback

We received 68 feedback statements and suggestions which we will use to feed into our action plans over the coming academic year and where we can, initiate a You Said, We Did approach. 58 feedback questions will be addressed and shared with staff and students.

There are many 'quick wins' around more advertisement of what we do here at UON, and some long-term goals such as installing more electric vehicle chargers and upgrading our heating systems.

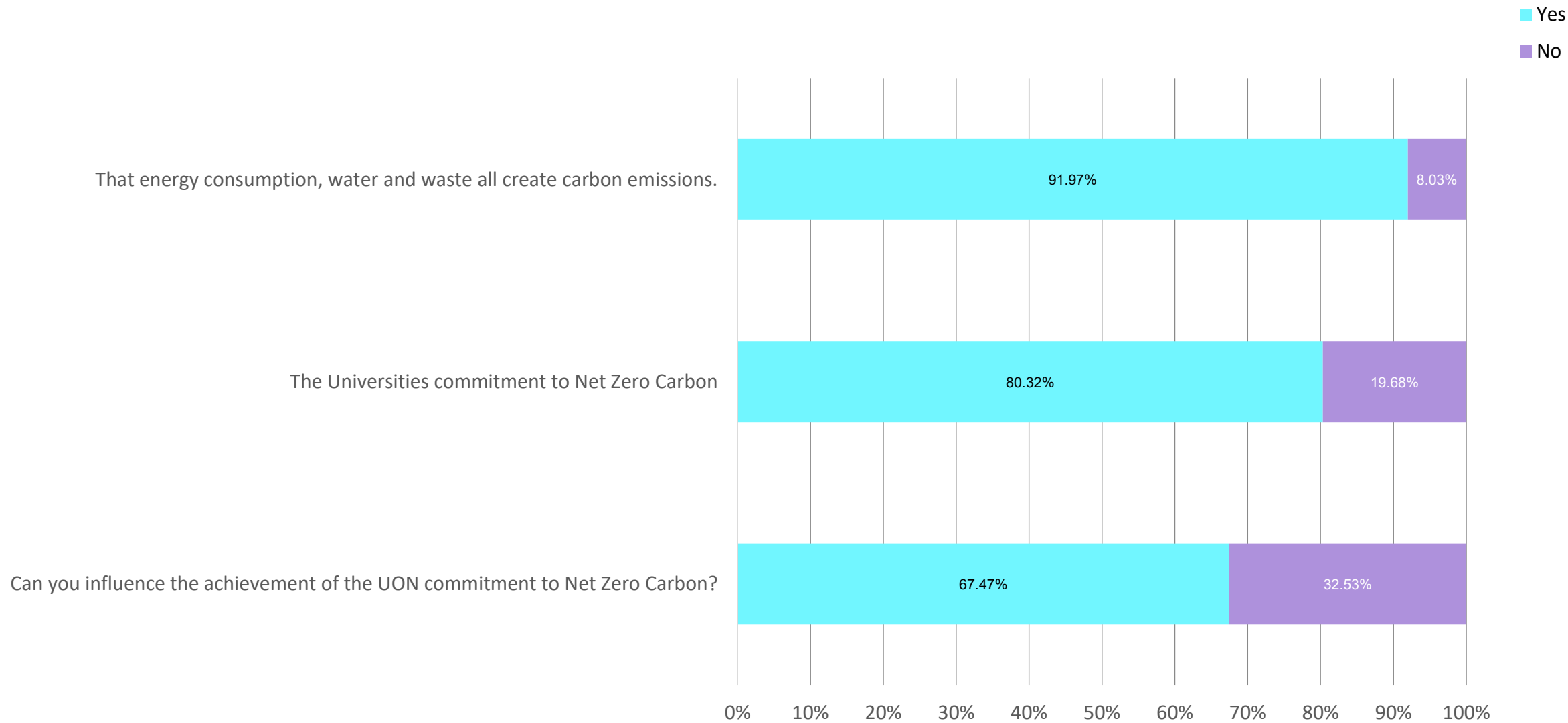
The next slides will now show each question and answer in depth, with percentage comparisons across staff and student responses.





2 | When I am at work (onsite)...

Total respondents: 255 respondents

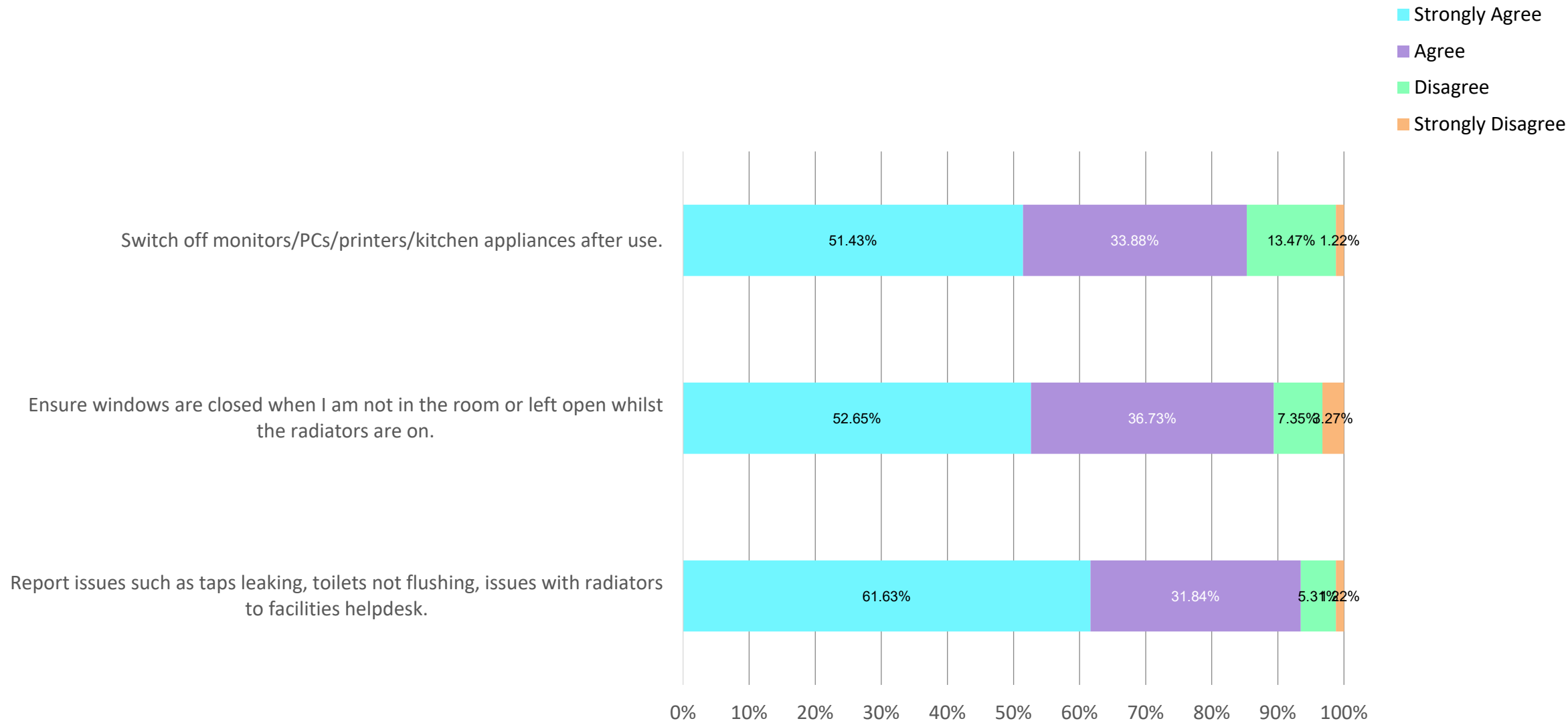


3 Are you aware of the following:

Total respondents: 249 respondents

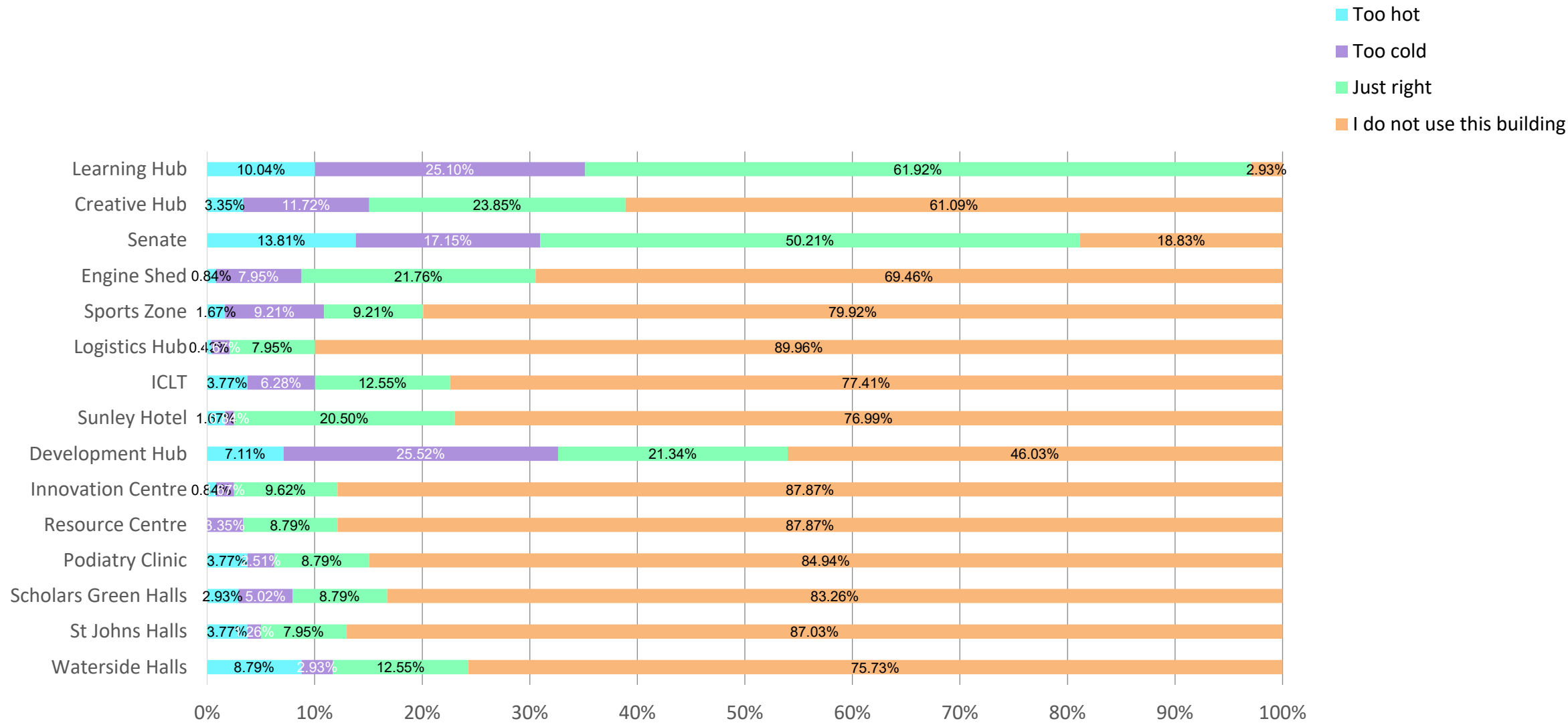


What can help us achieve our target?



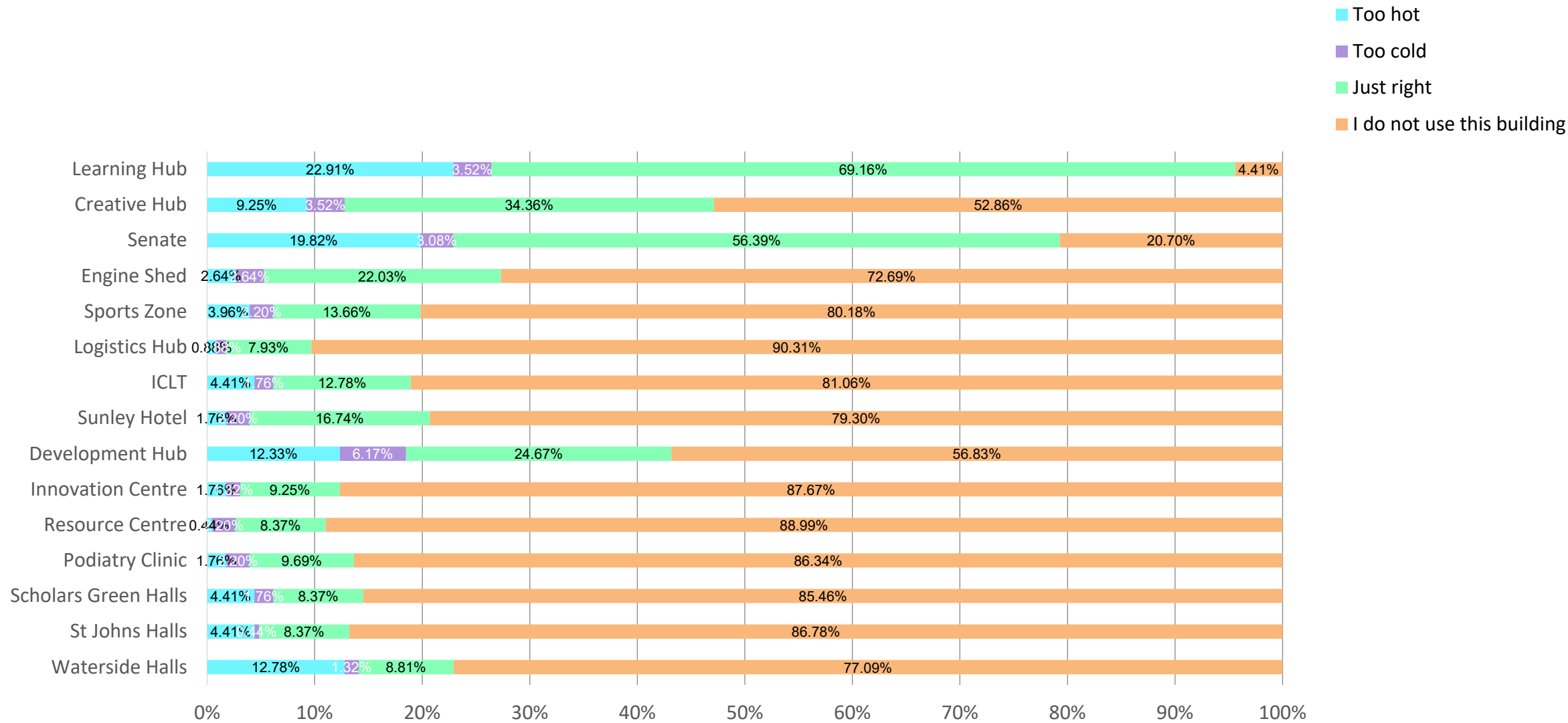
5 | At UON, it is my responsibility to...

Total respondents: 245 respondents



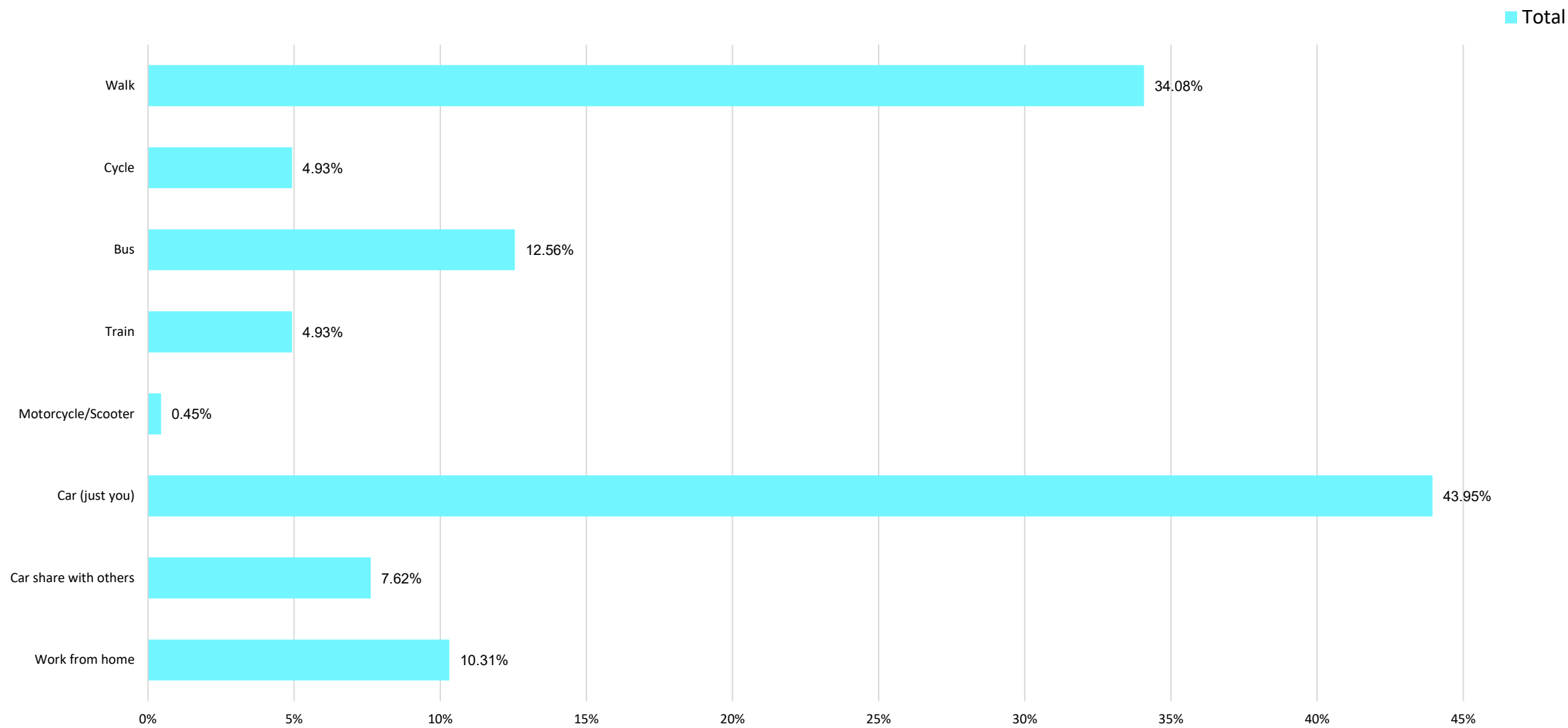
6 | Thinking of your thermal comfort throughout the colder seasons, how do you feel in the following buildings.

Total respondents: 239 respondents

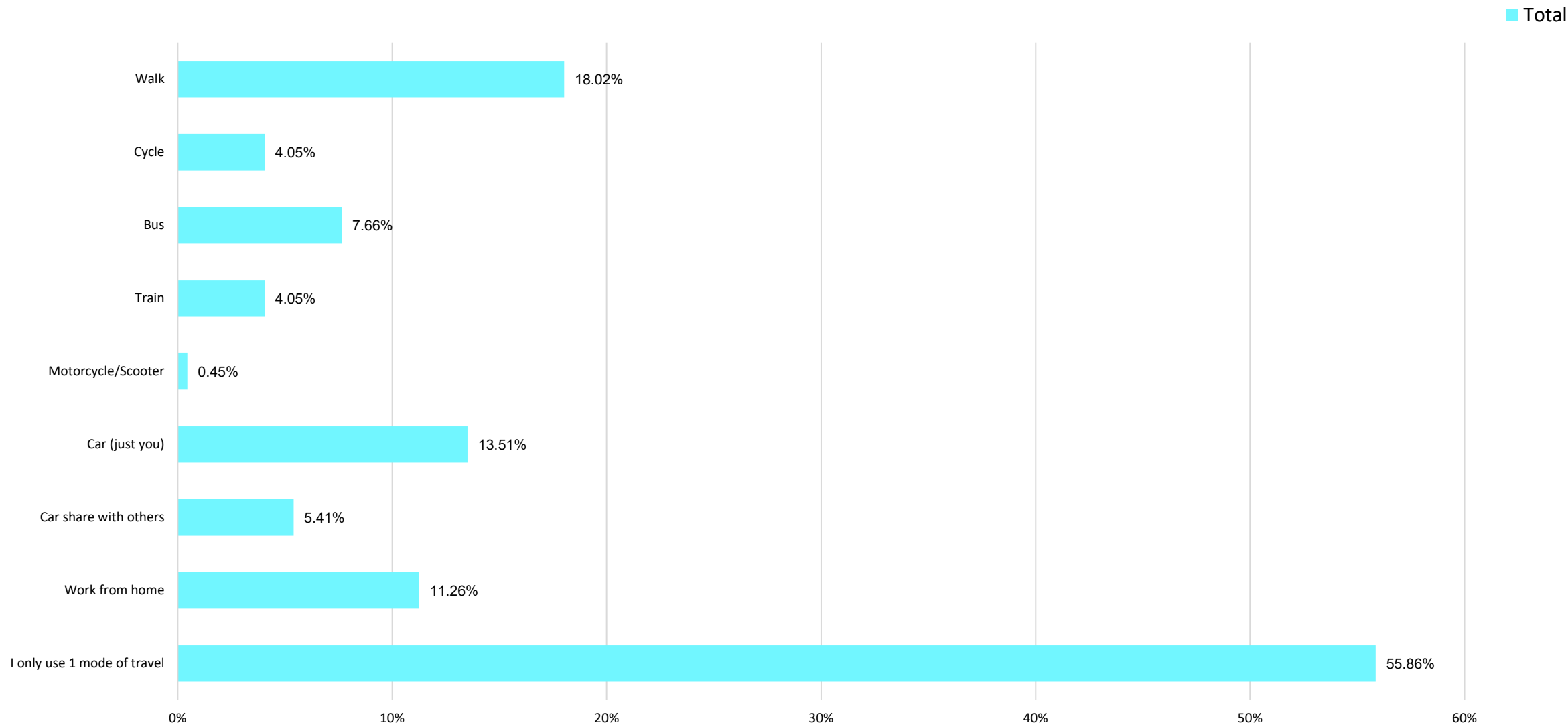


7 | Thinking of your thermal comfort throughout the warmer seasons, how do you feel in the following buildings.

Total respondents: 227 respondents

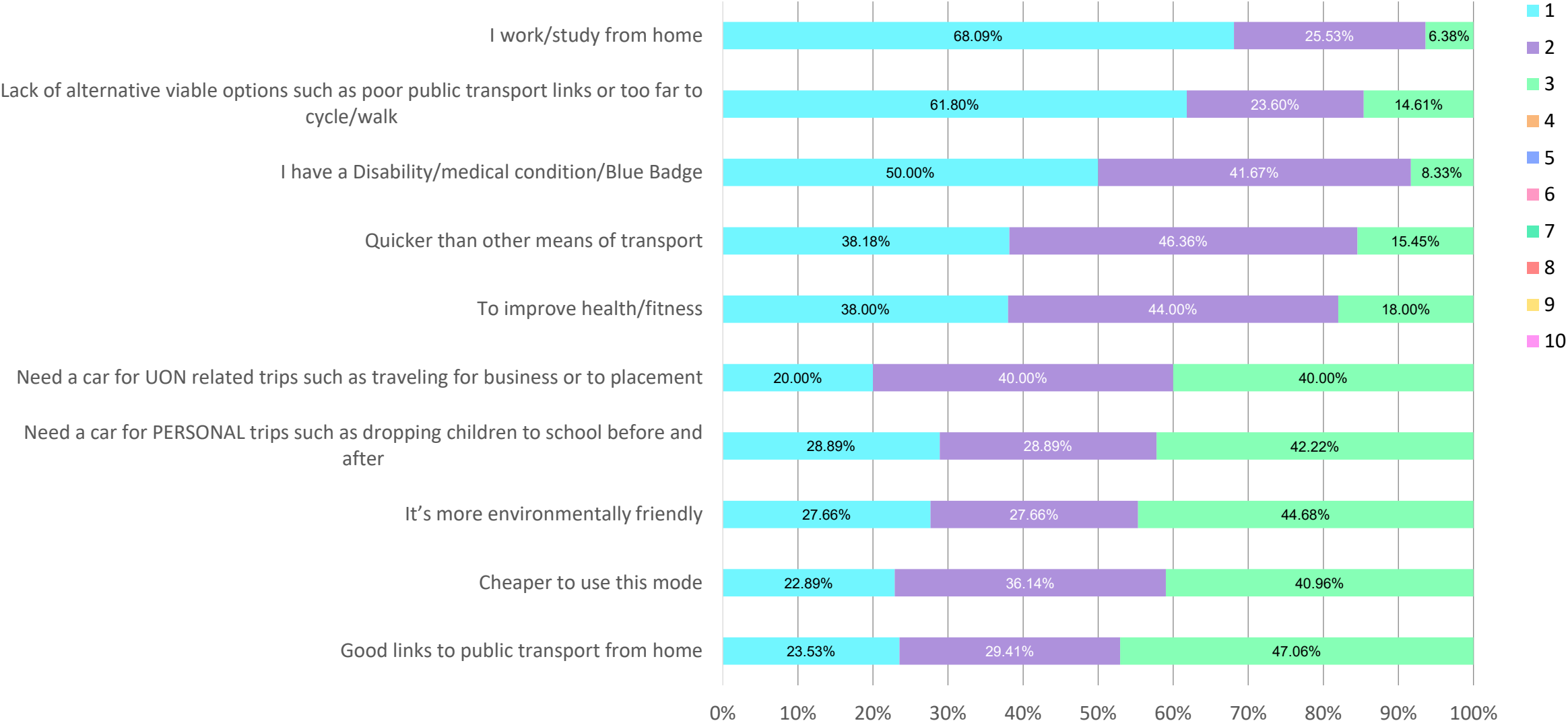


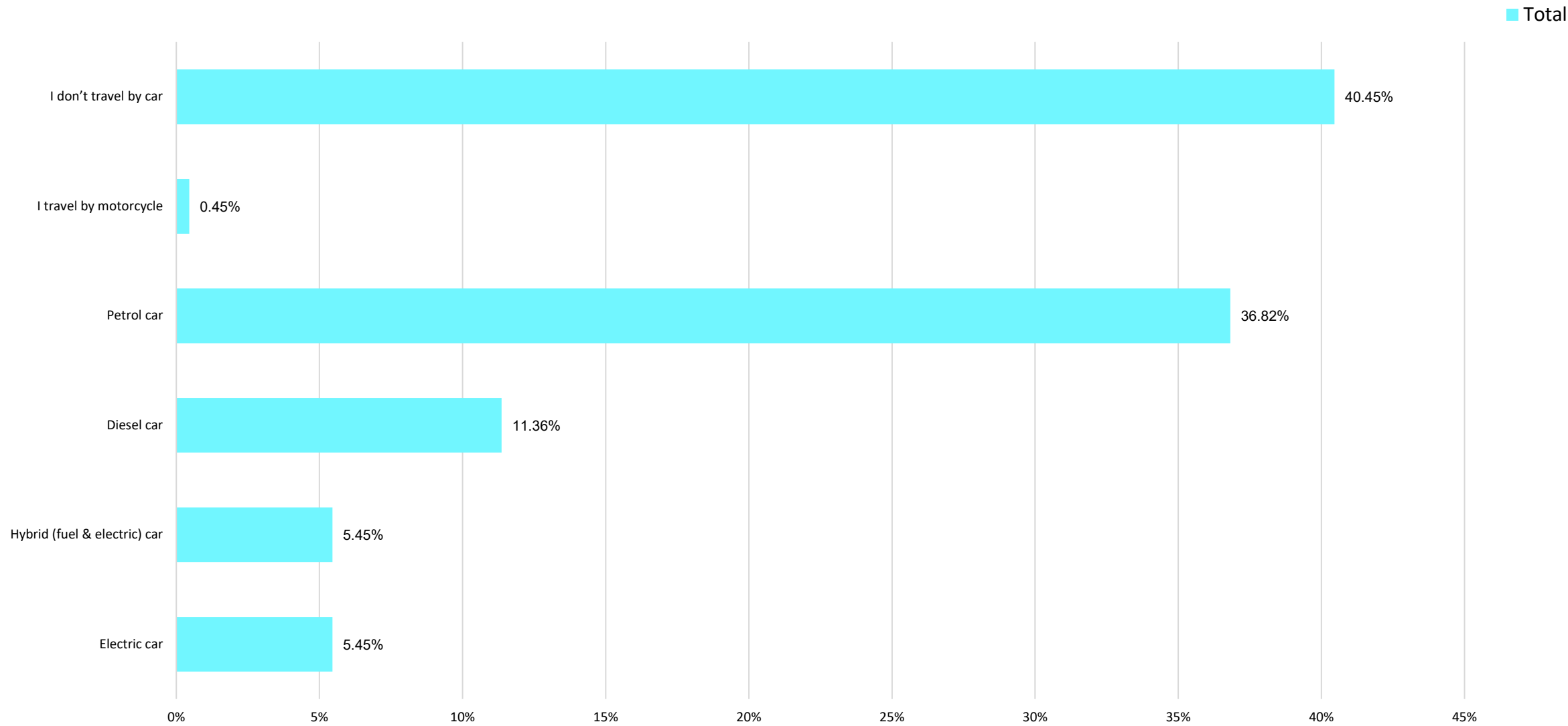
9 | In a typical week, how do you normally travel to the University (if you drive 3 days and cycle 2 days, please select Car) ?

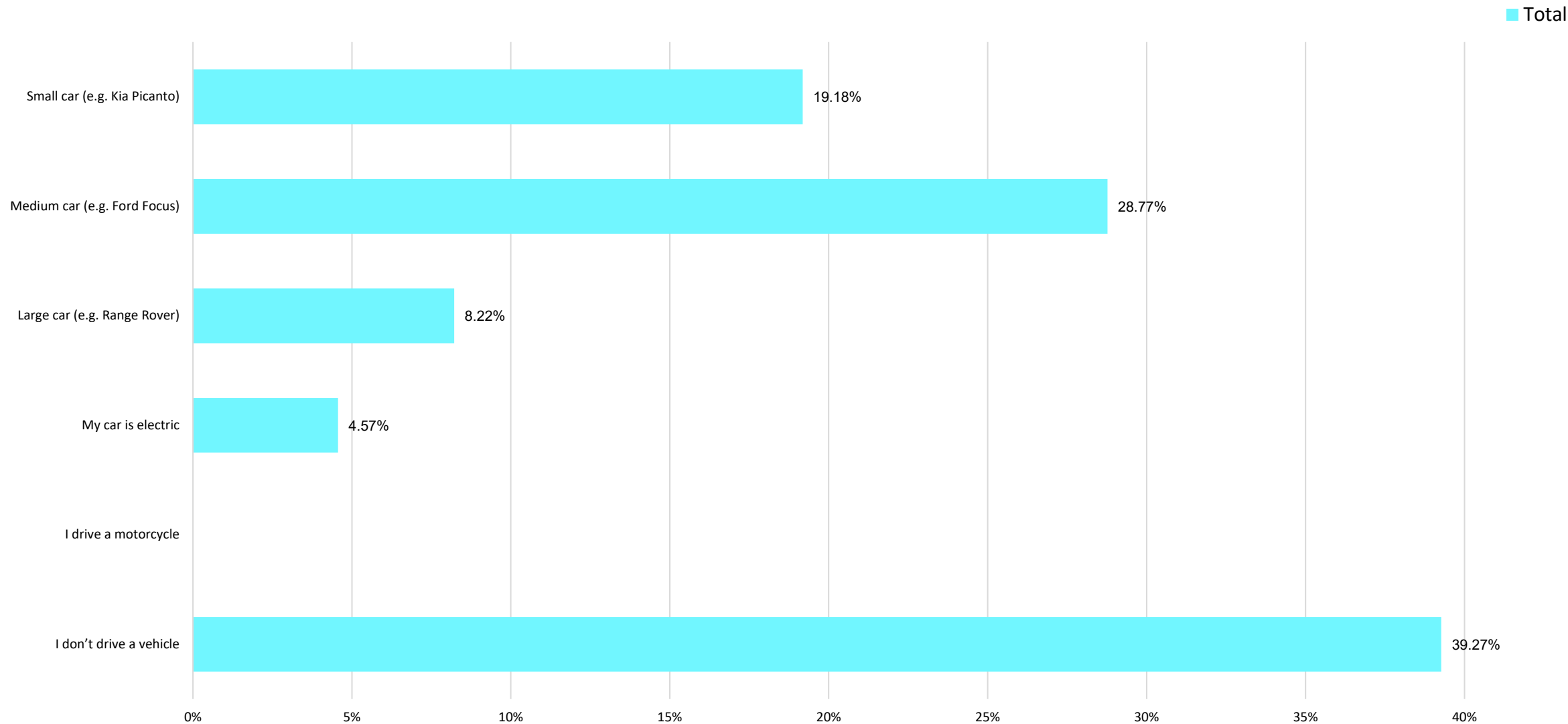


10 | Do you travel some times by another mode (if you drive 3 days and cycle 2 days then please select cycle) ?

Total respondents: 222 respondents

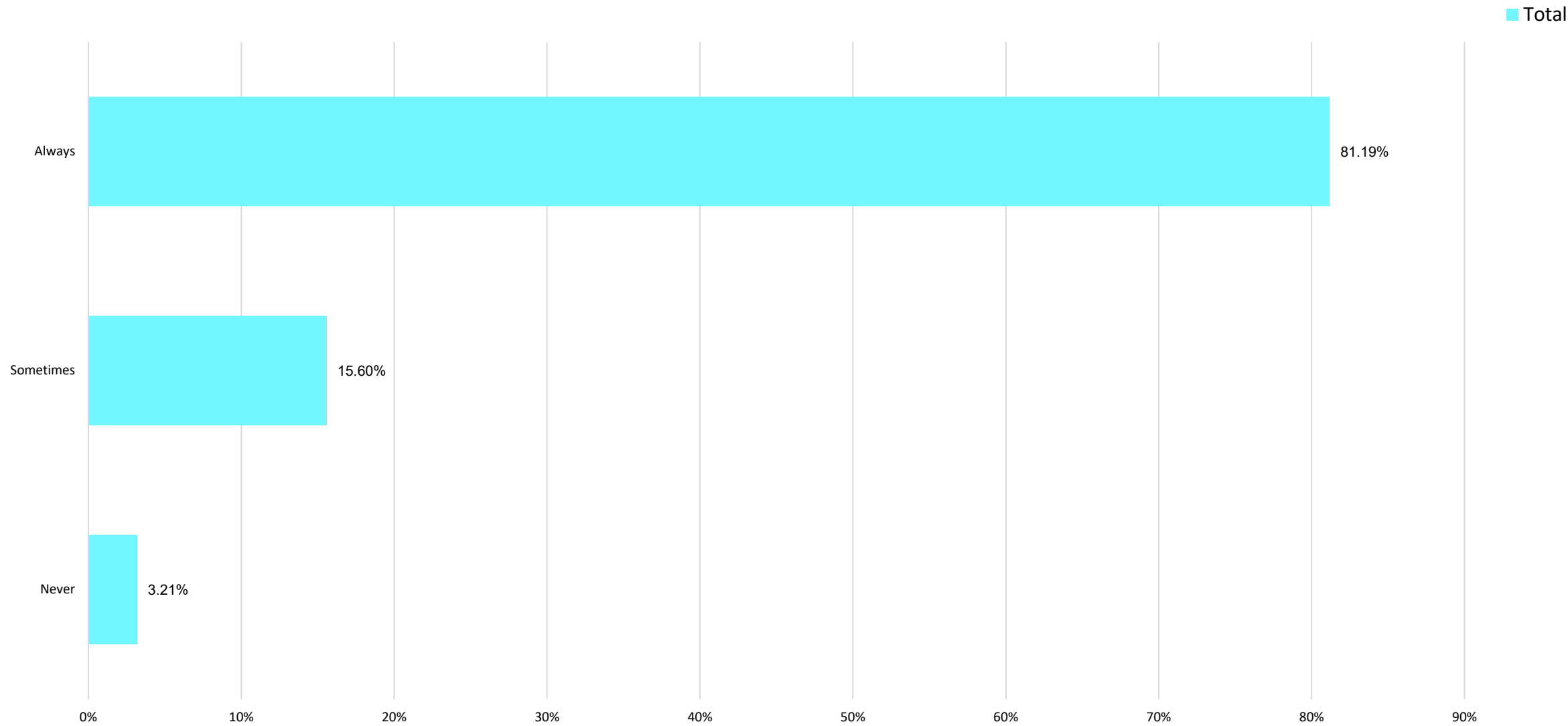






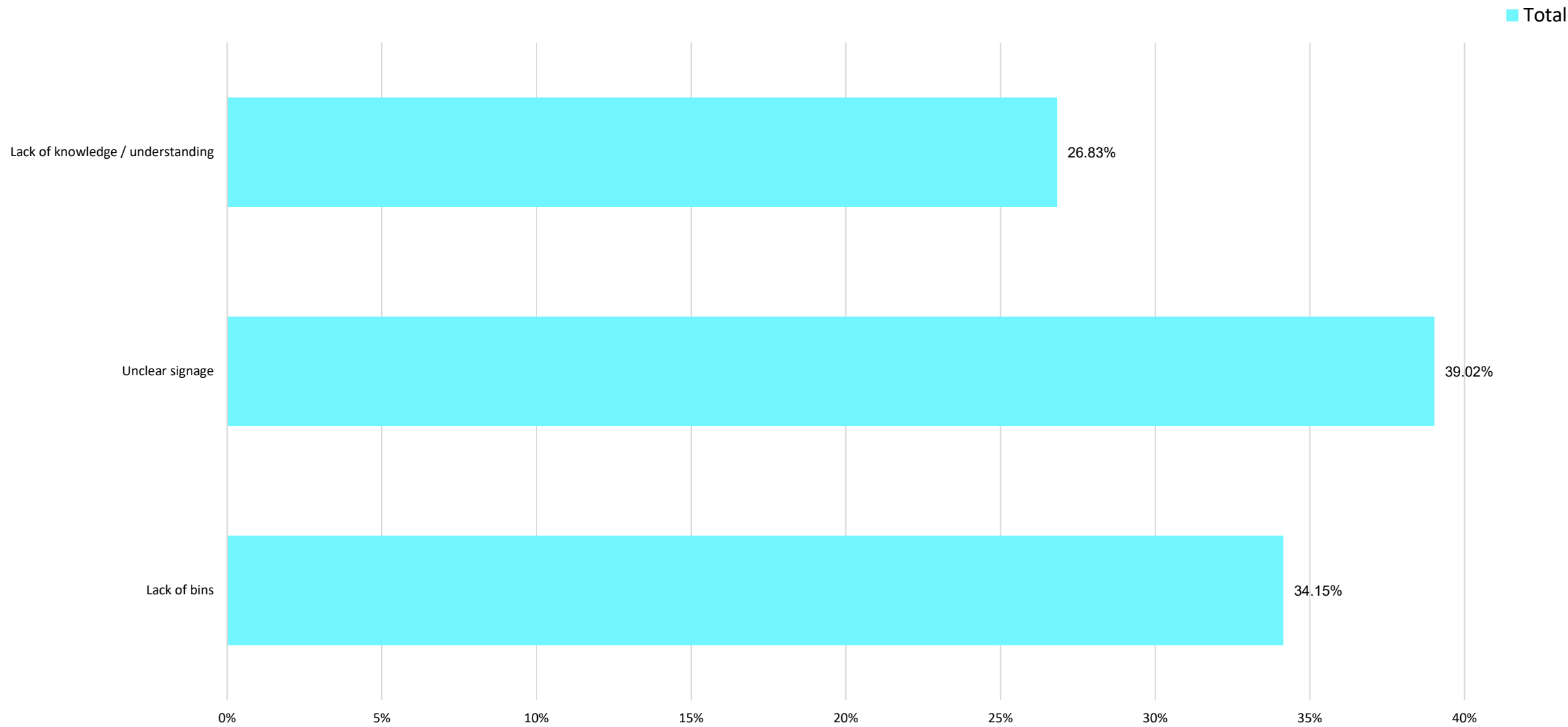
14 | Please indicate the size of your vehicle (indicate predominant use if access to more than one vehicle)

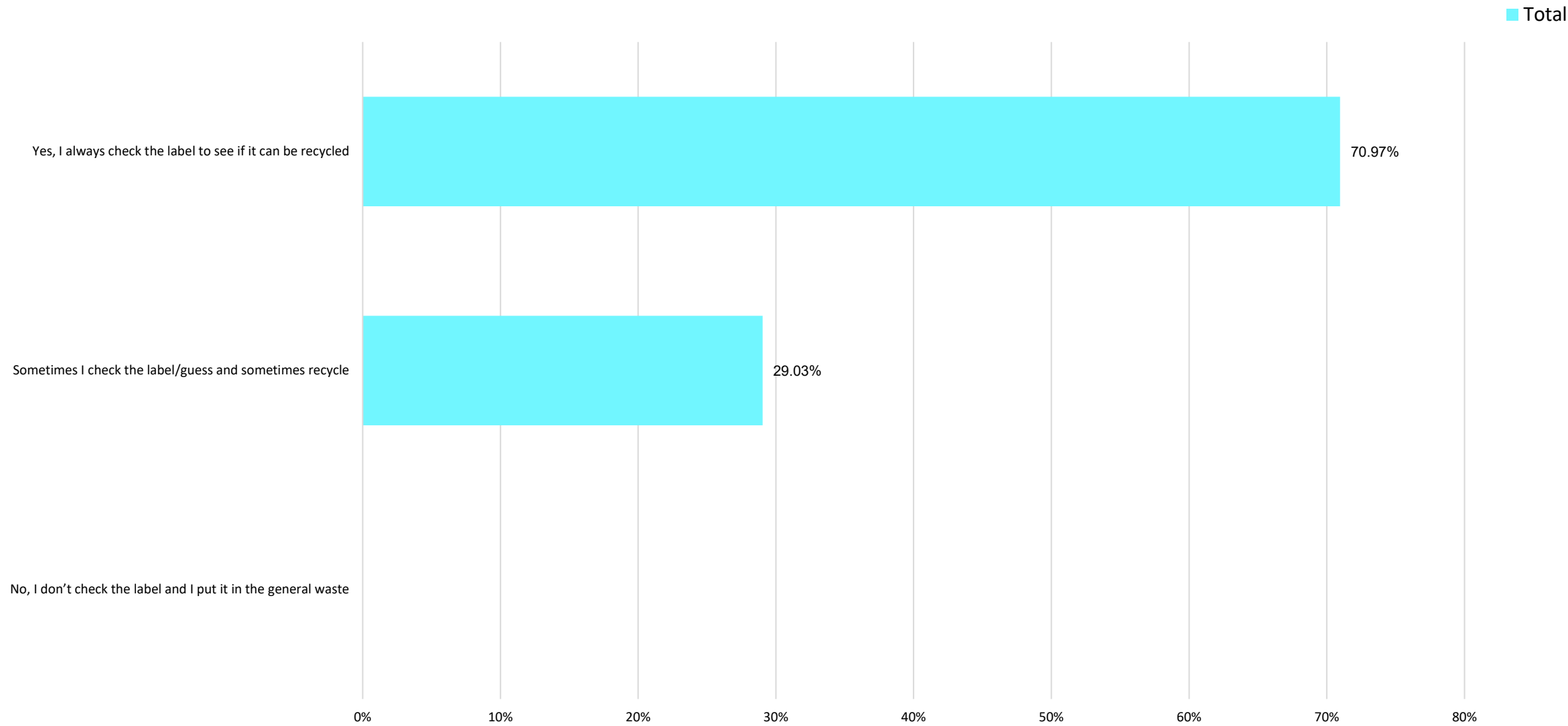
Total respondents: 219 respondents



15 | Do you recycle when attending a university site?

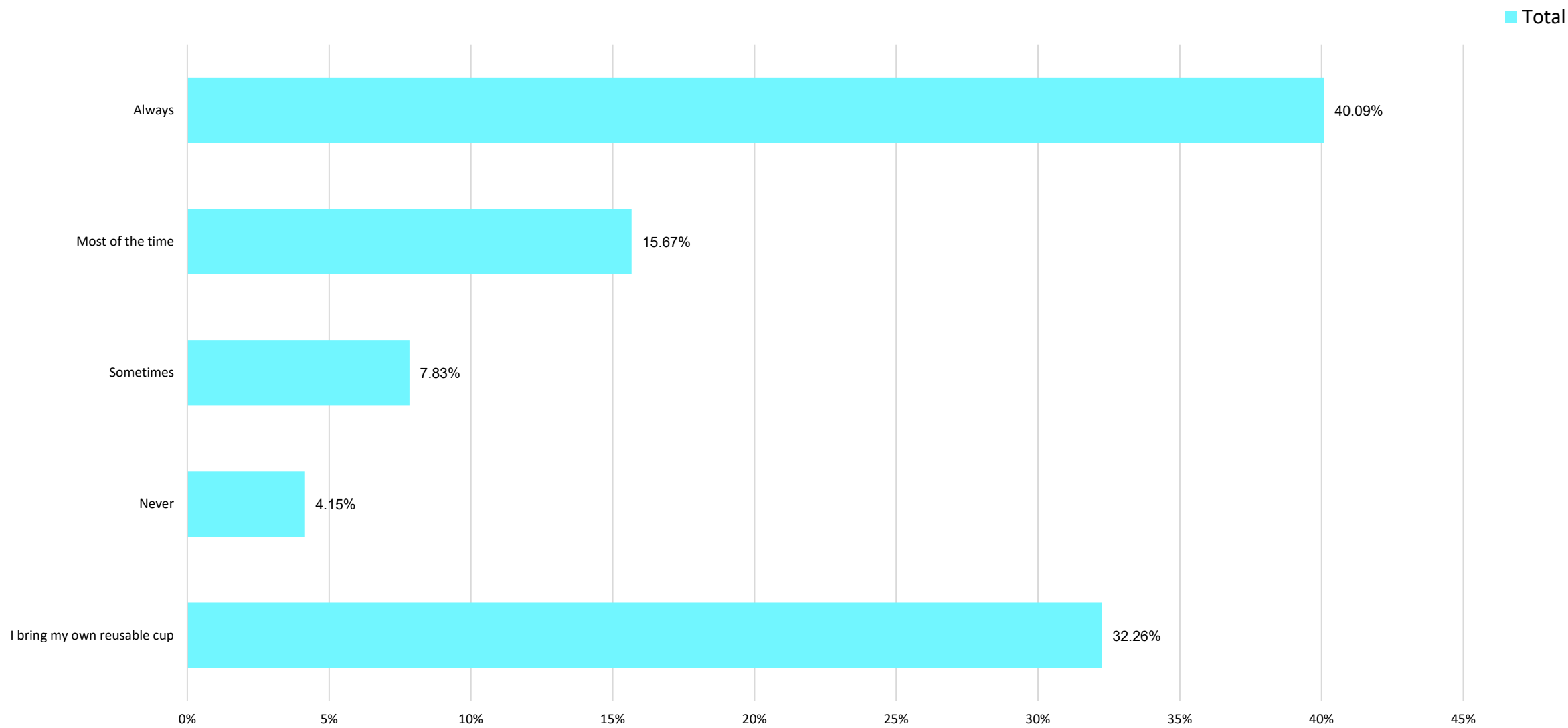
Total respondents: 218 respondents





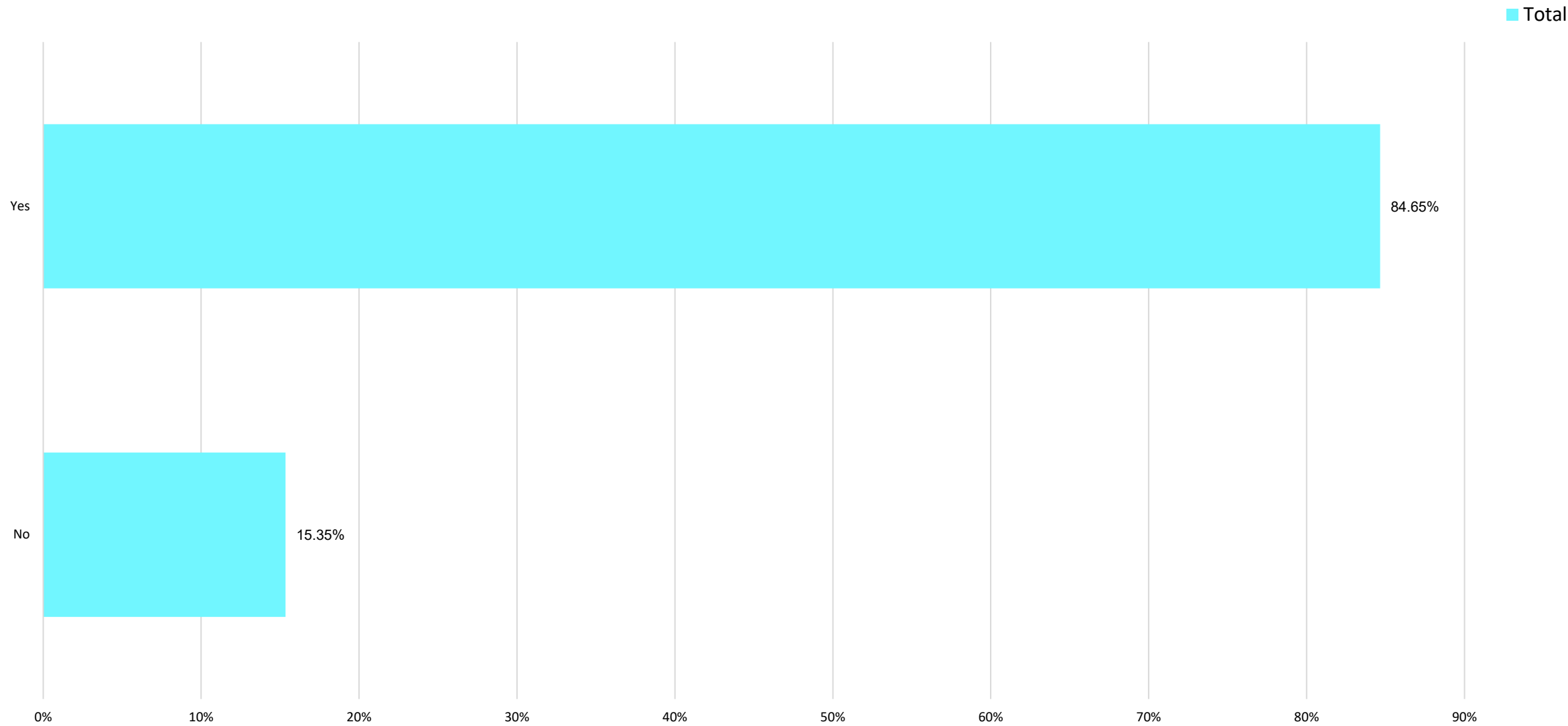
17 | Thinking about products available on campus; do you know what types of packaging can be recycled?

Total respondents: 217 respondents



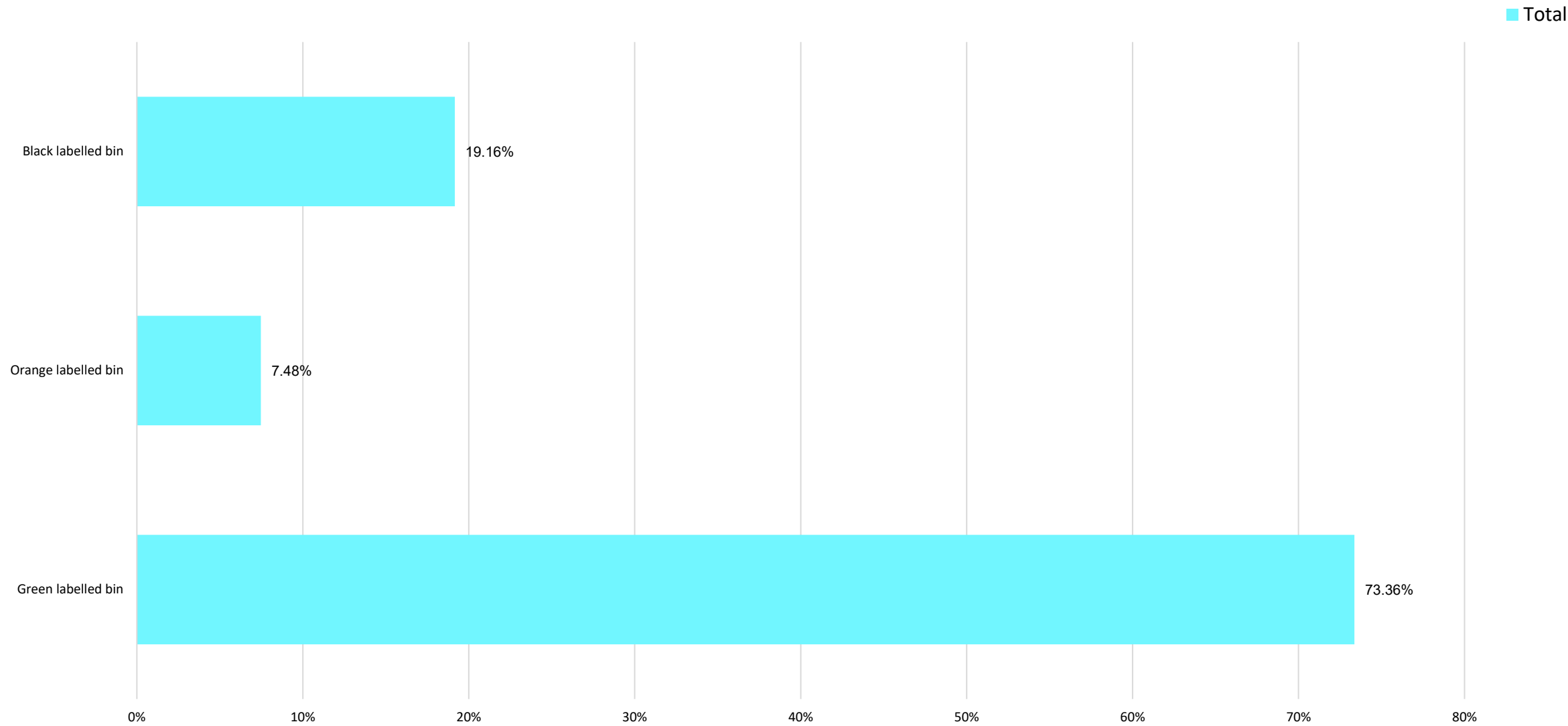


19 | Thinking about your recycling motivations, what would encourage you to recycle more at the University?



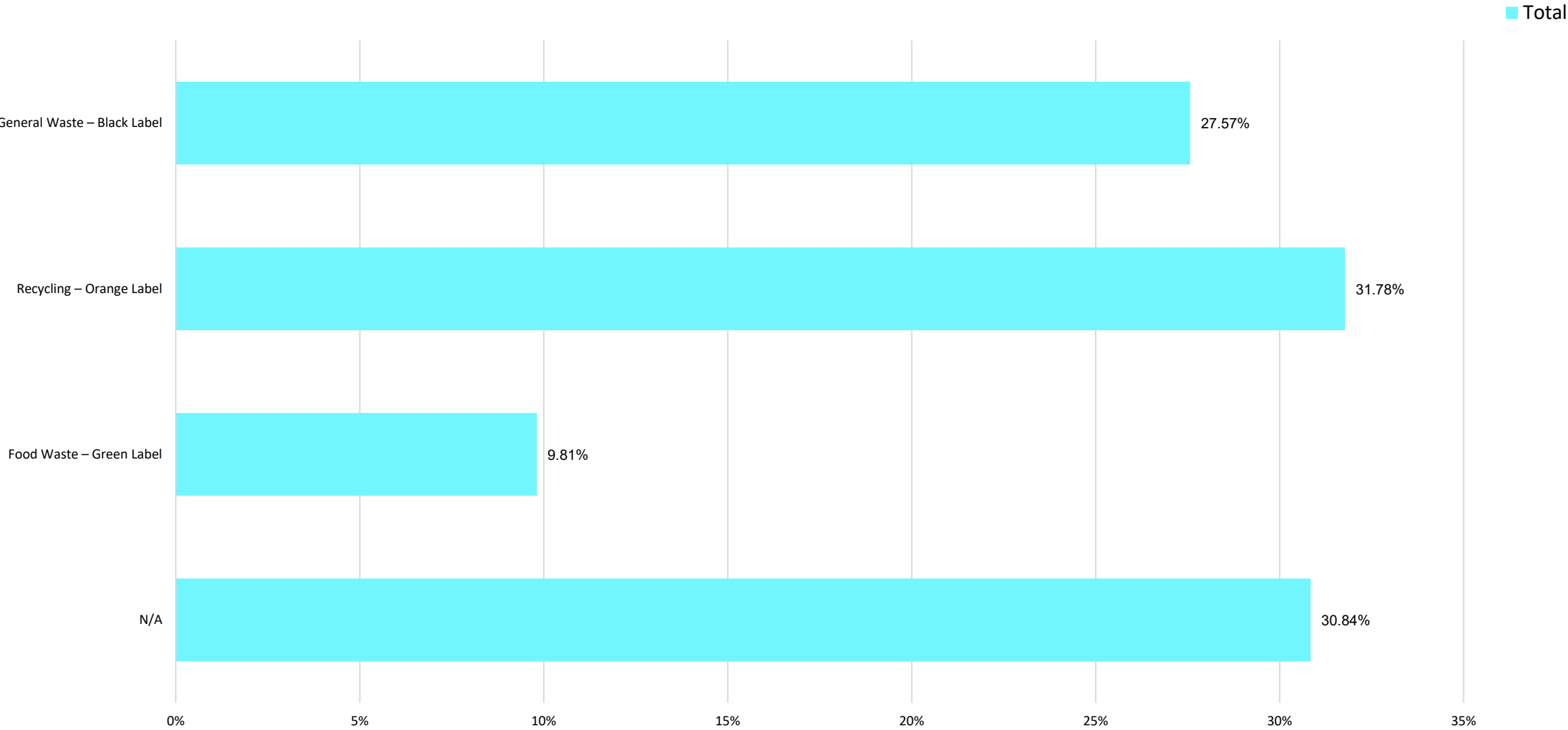
21 | Do you know that reducing your food waste can save you money?

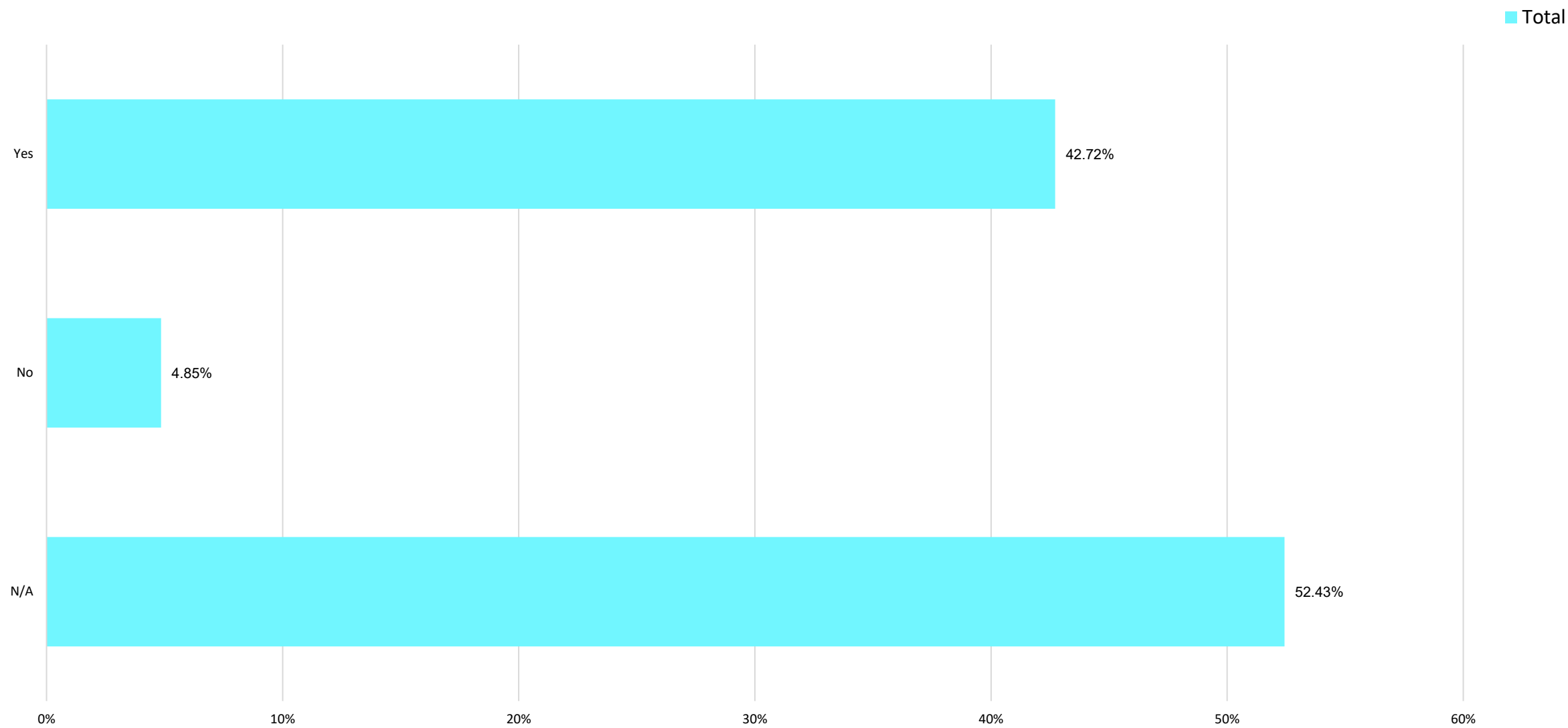
Total respondents: 215 respondents



22 | If you have food waste, which bin do you place it in?

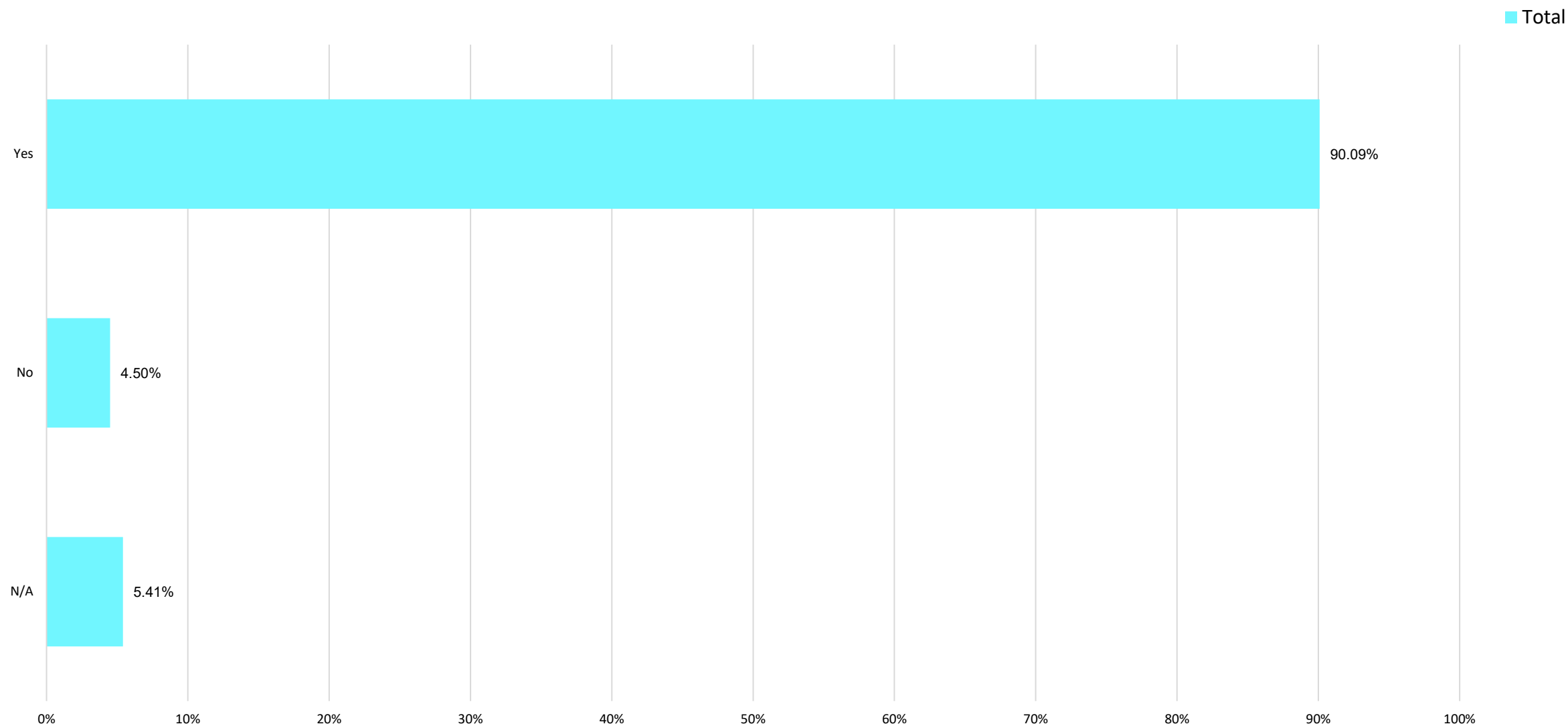
Total respondents: 214 respondents





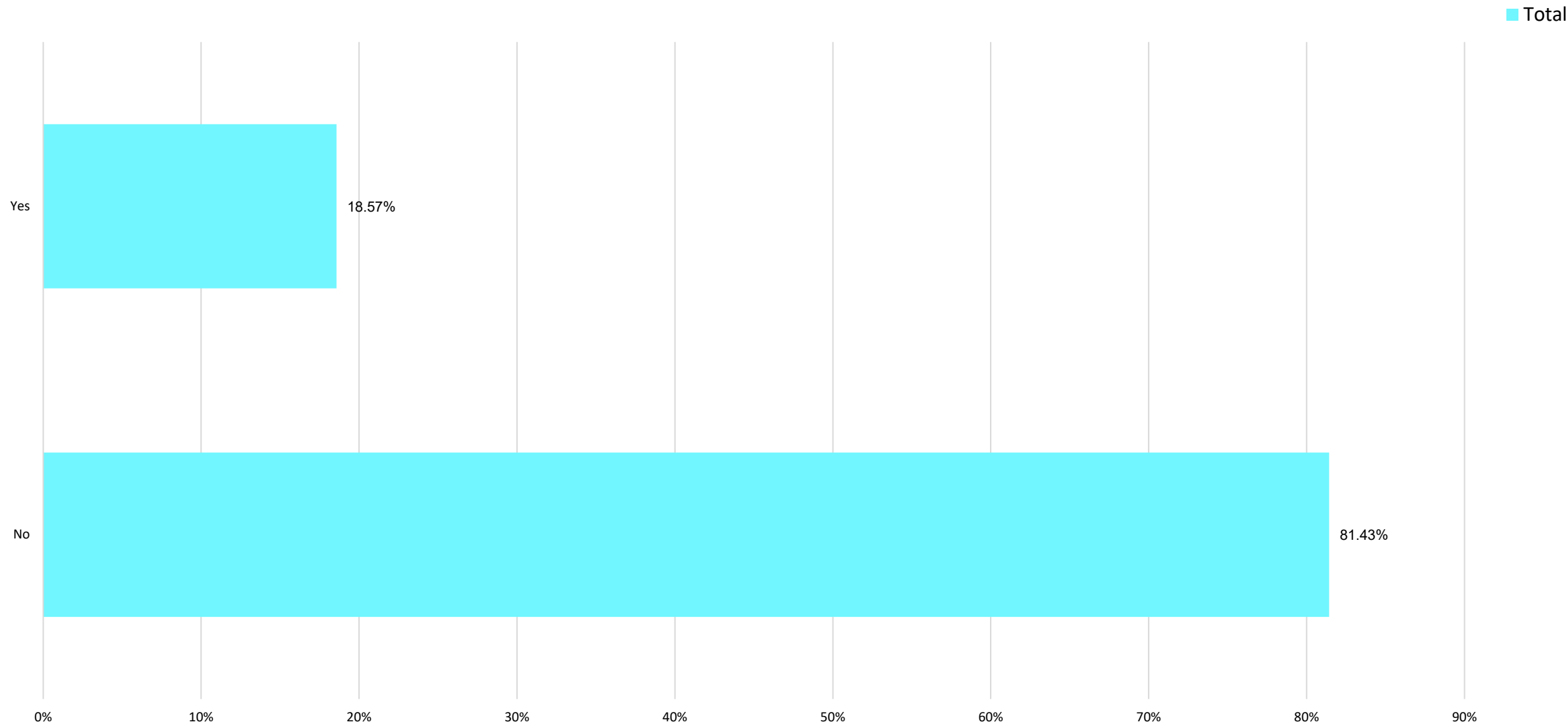
24 | If you are a student living in Halls, are you aware of the need to separate your waste?

Total respondents: 103 respondents



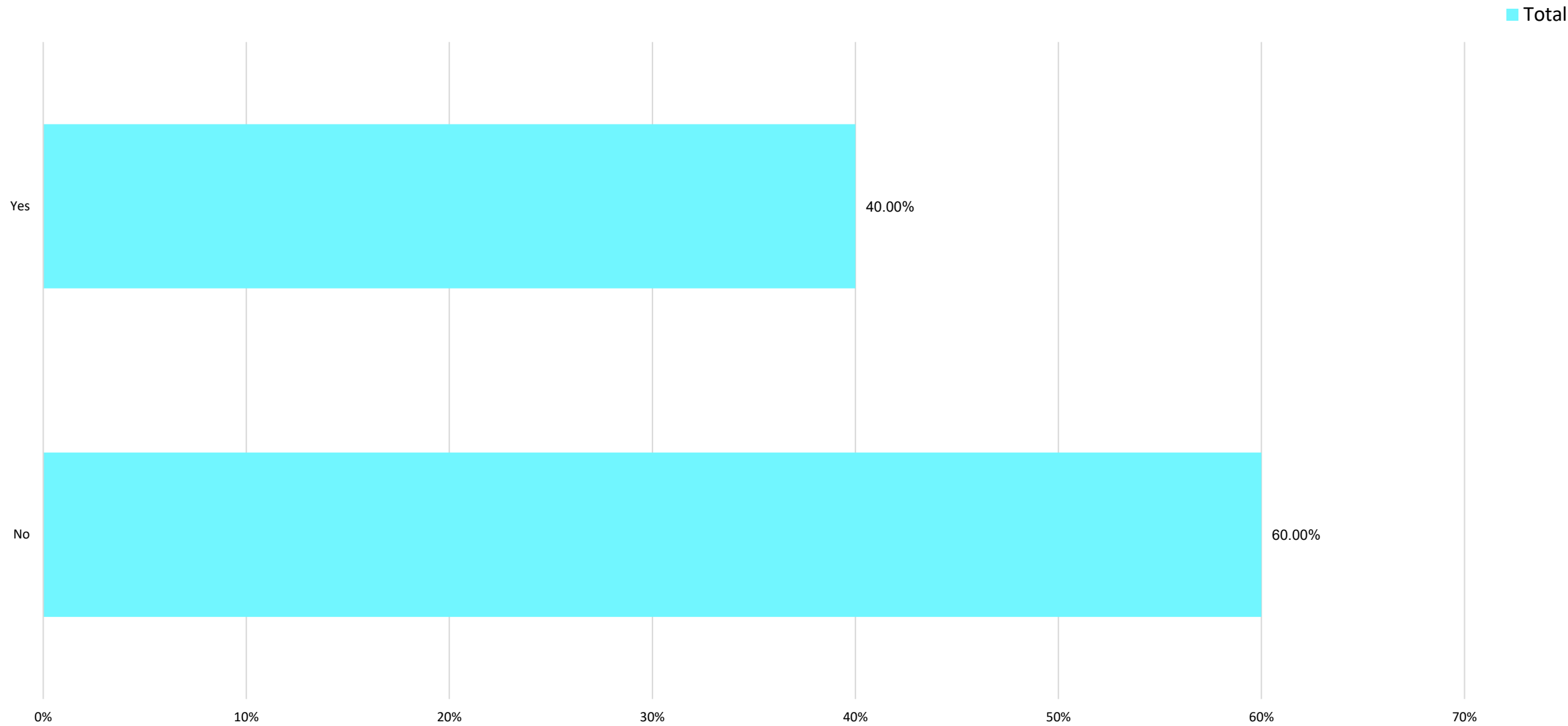






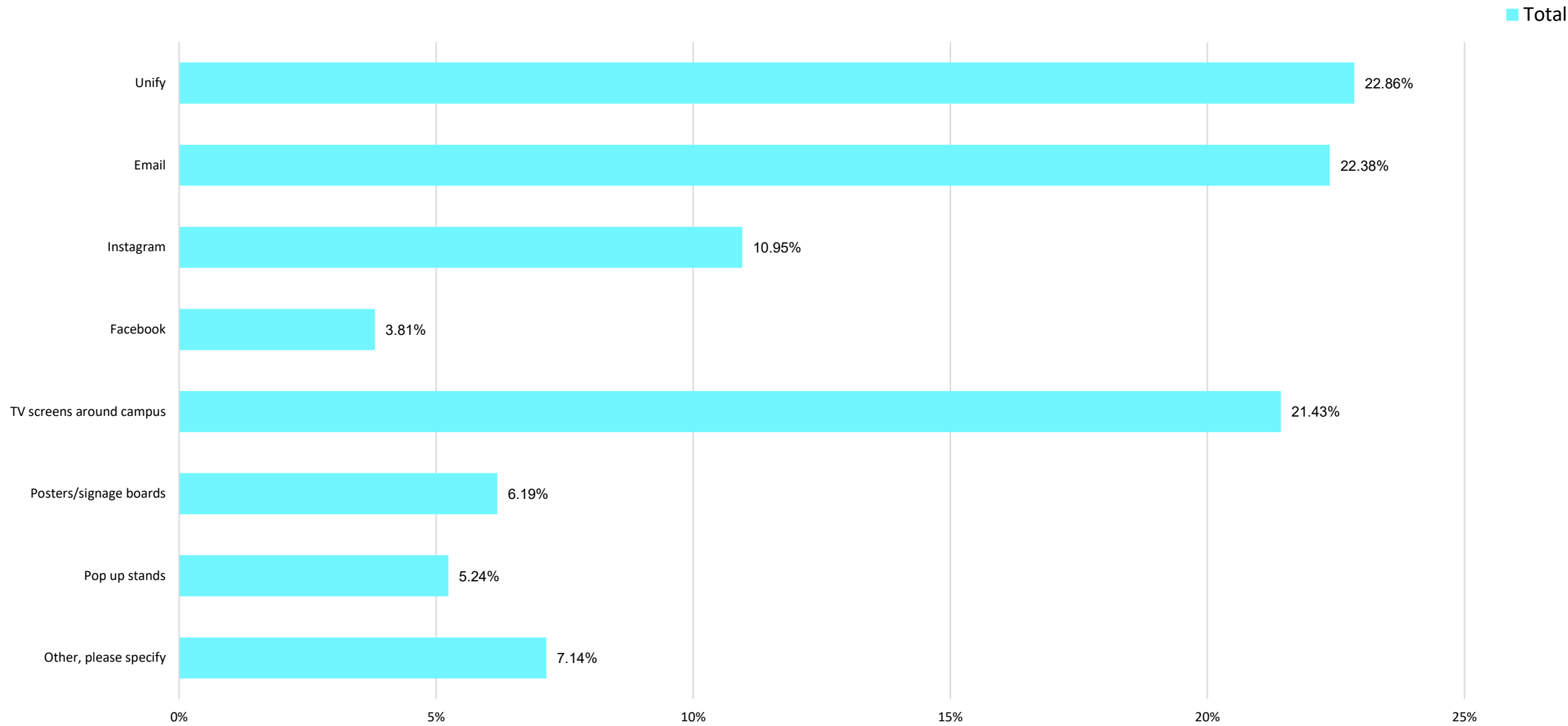
28 | Do you know about our UON Nature app where you can send in photos of the wildlife you see?

Total respondents: 210 respondents



29 | Did you know we have wildlife accreditations such as the Hedgehog Friendly Campus Gold Standard?

Total respondents: 210 respondents



30 | In your opinion... where would be best to find out more information on Environment and Sustainability projects at UON

Outcome & Actions

The increase in responses this academic year is a positive outcome from our more hands-on approach and increase in incentives, which should be replicated and built upon each year.

The feedback has given us actions to carry out such as increase in awareness of the team & events, investigate issues such as heating, and focus on biodiversity initiatives.

Priority Actions

1. Reducing our Vegware usage/purchasing, as well as asking for staff and student input to new bins around campus that would be easier to understand (for example colours and logos) and increase the likelihood of being used.
2. Creating a new starter orientation pack to ensure all of UON know of our commitment to Net Zero, our standards of sustainable practices and what is expected of them whilst on campus from Day One.
3. Working with the local council at a stakeholder level to influence transport plans and improve our connectivity to the town, as well as safe walking and cycling routes.
4. Investigate the re-location of the Electric Vehicle charging points to Waterside from Development Hub when the building is released.