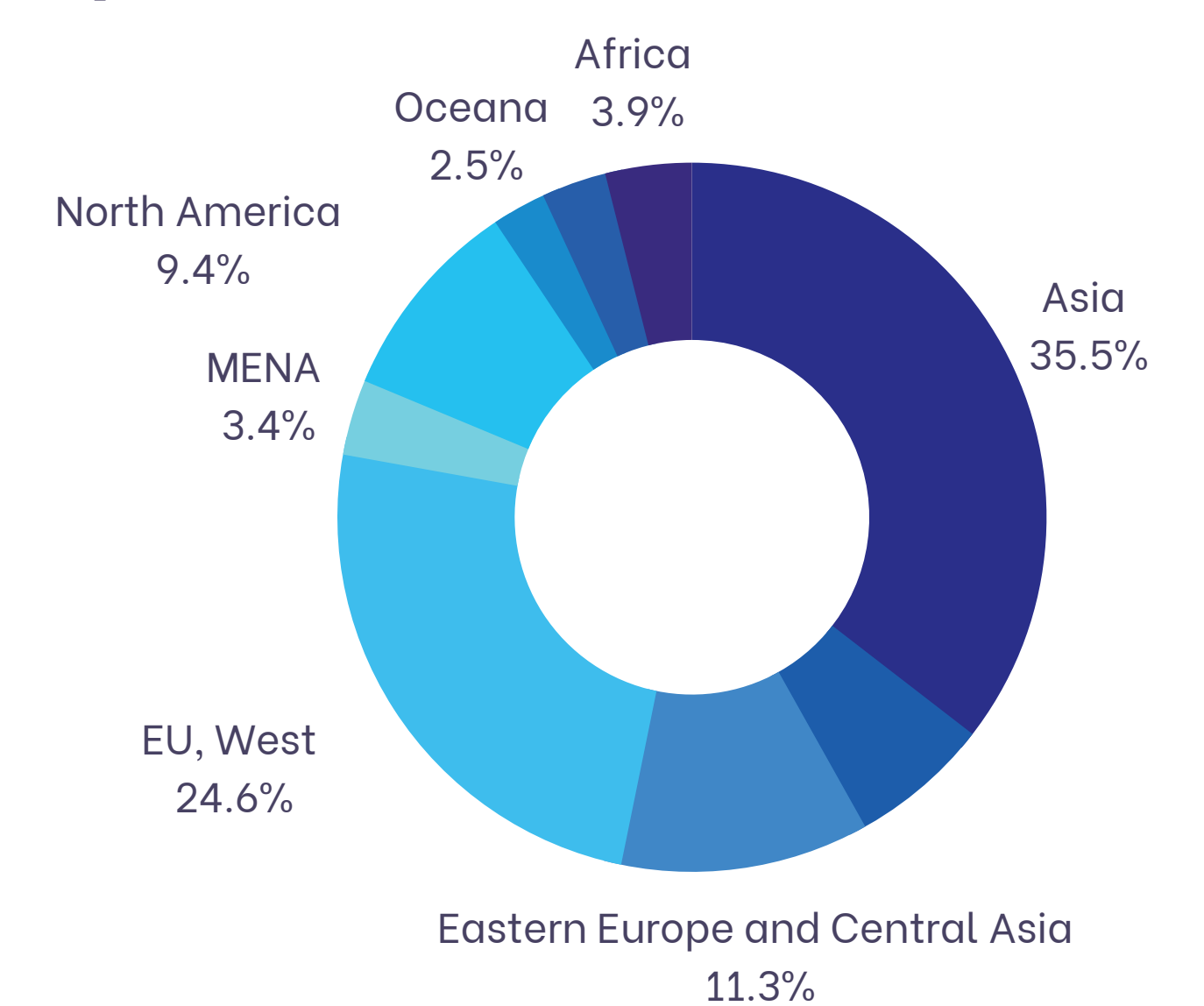


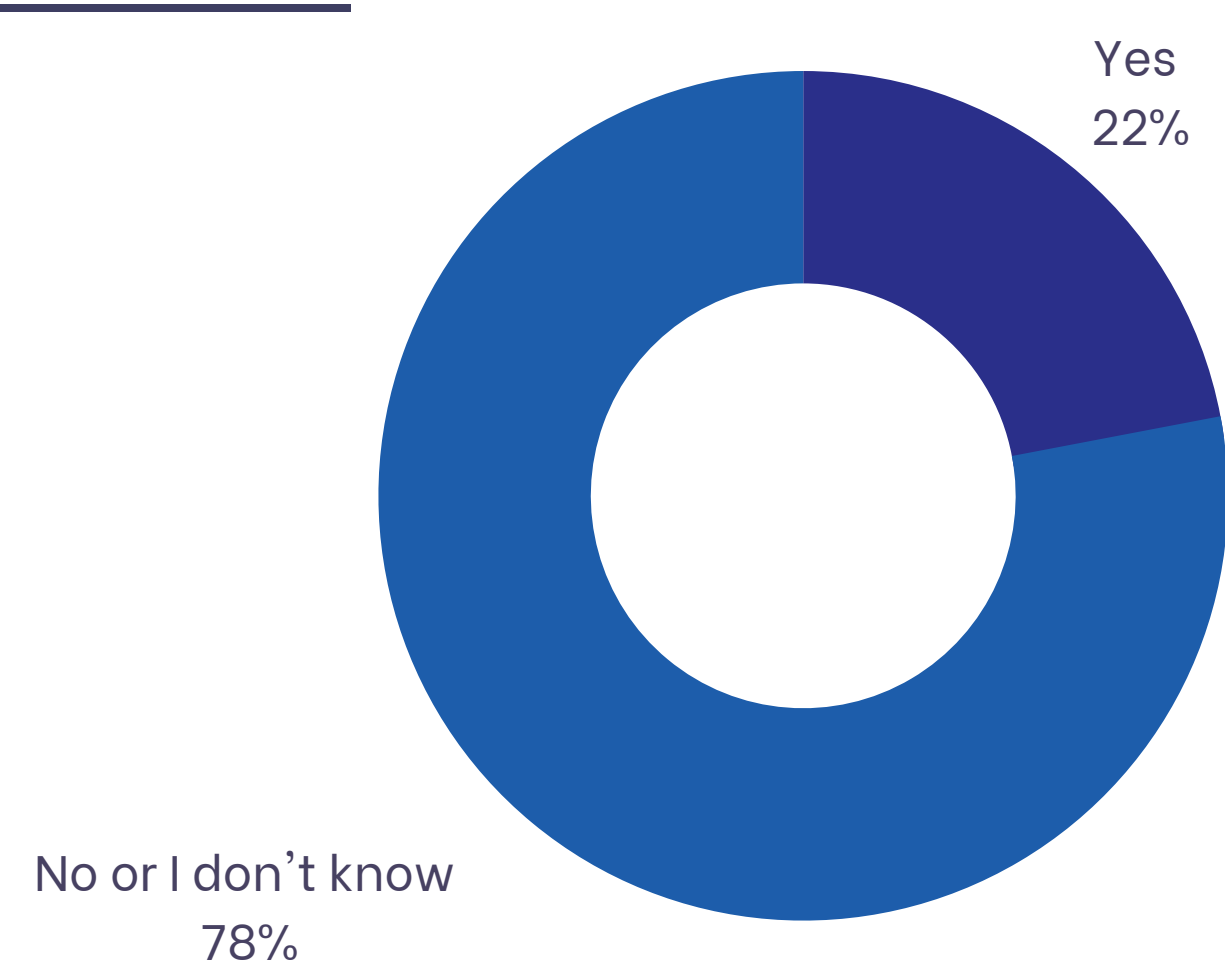
Chemsex Today

To navigate the intricate global chemsex landscape, under acknowledged due to stigma, lack of research and cultural variations, ReShape and global partners initiated a study with the objective of offering a global perspective on chemsex transcending language and cultural barriers. Additionally, a series of consultations, both on and offline, were conducted, engaging diverse stakeholders worldwide to gather valuable insights and perspectives.

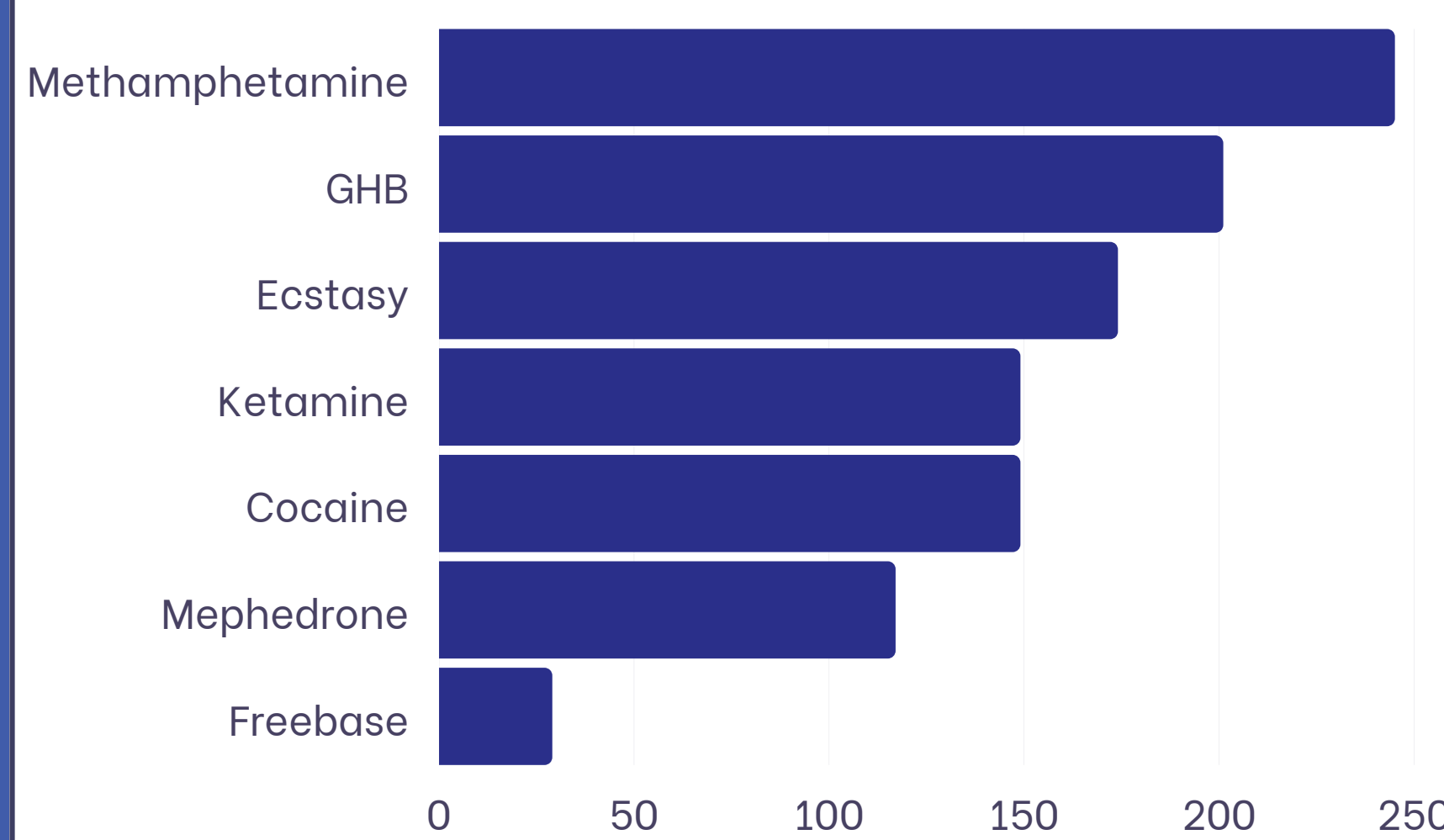
Participants



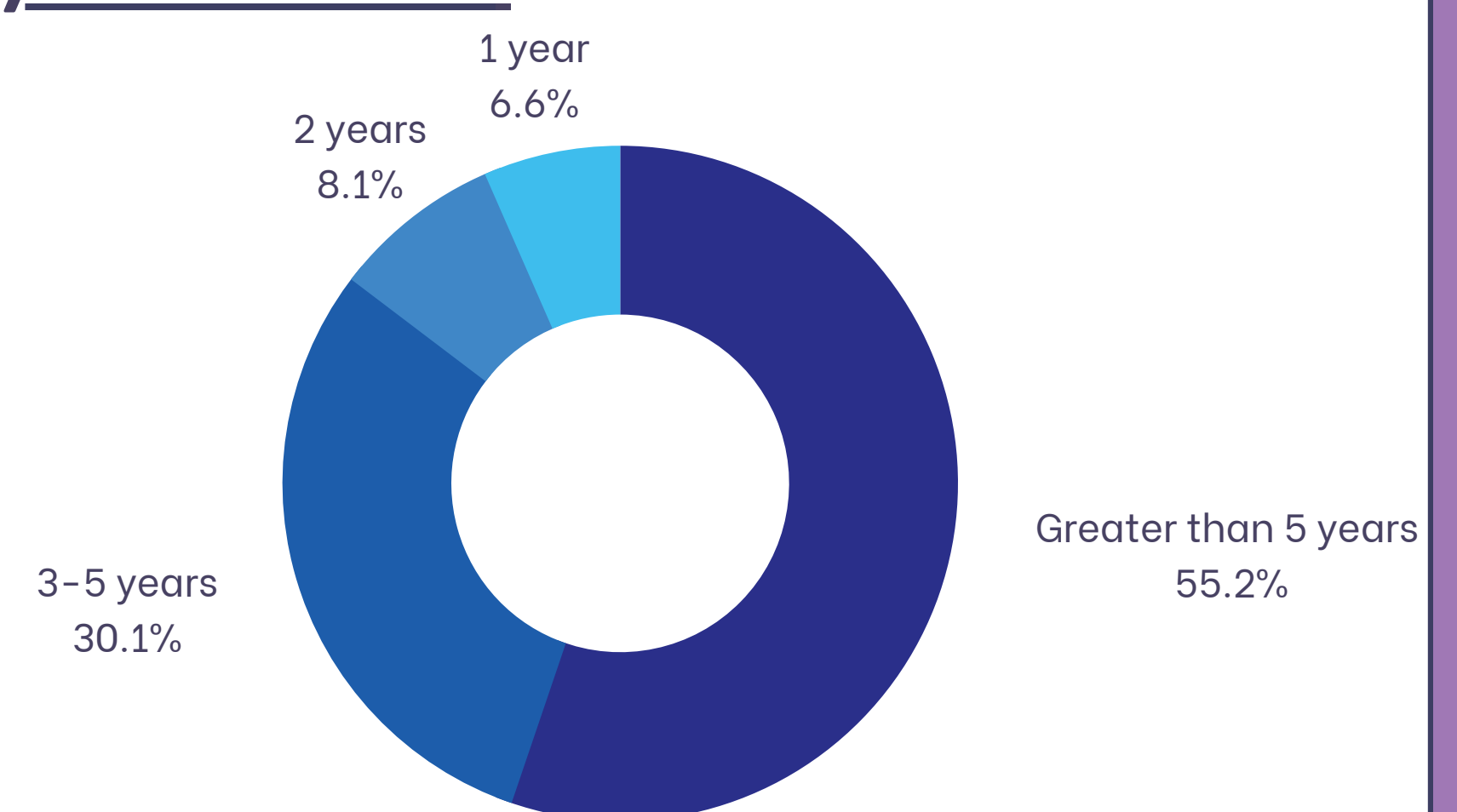
Do cis women use methamphetamine in your location?



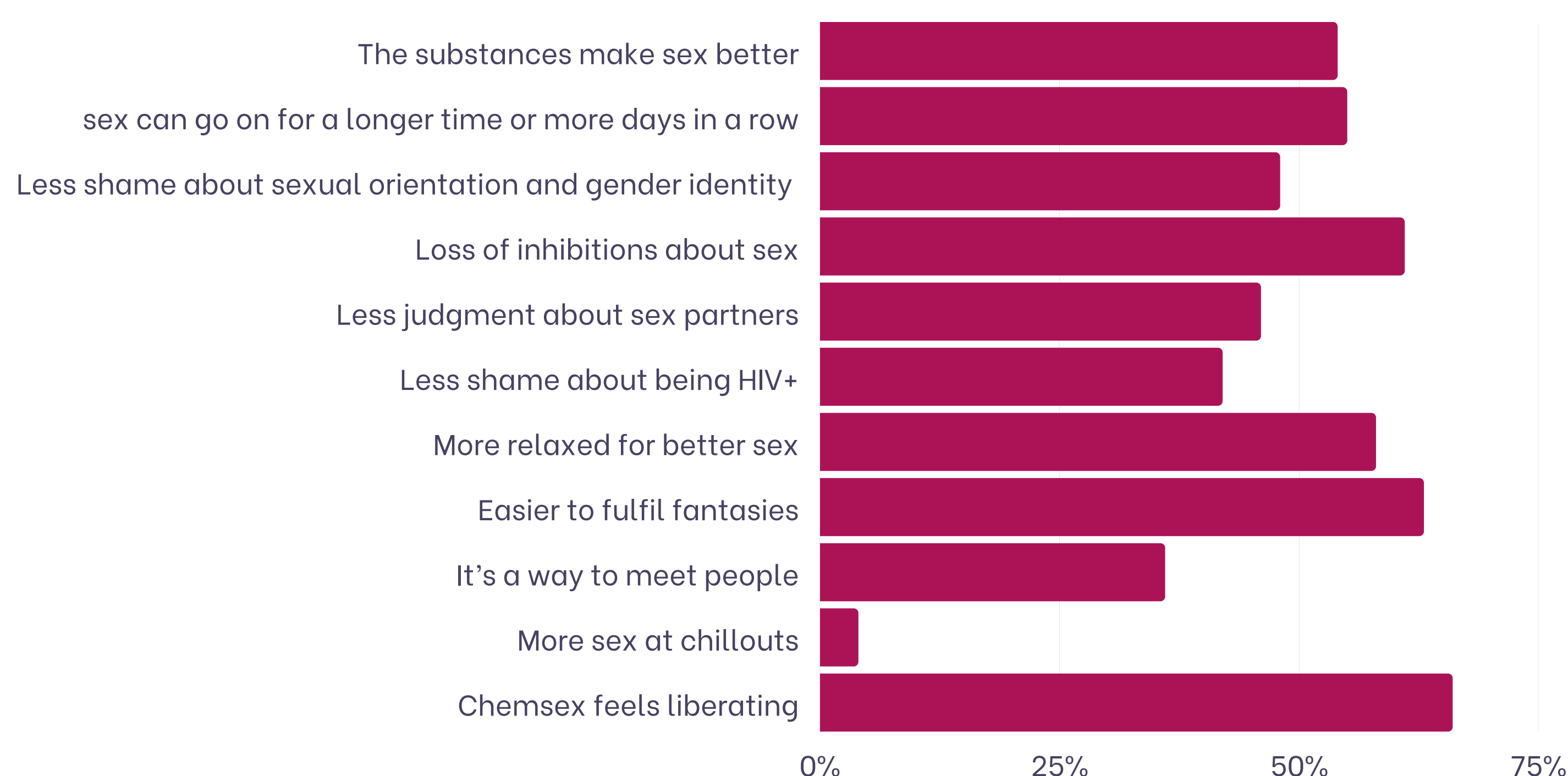
Substances



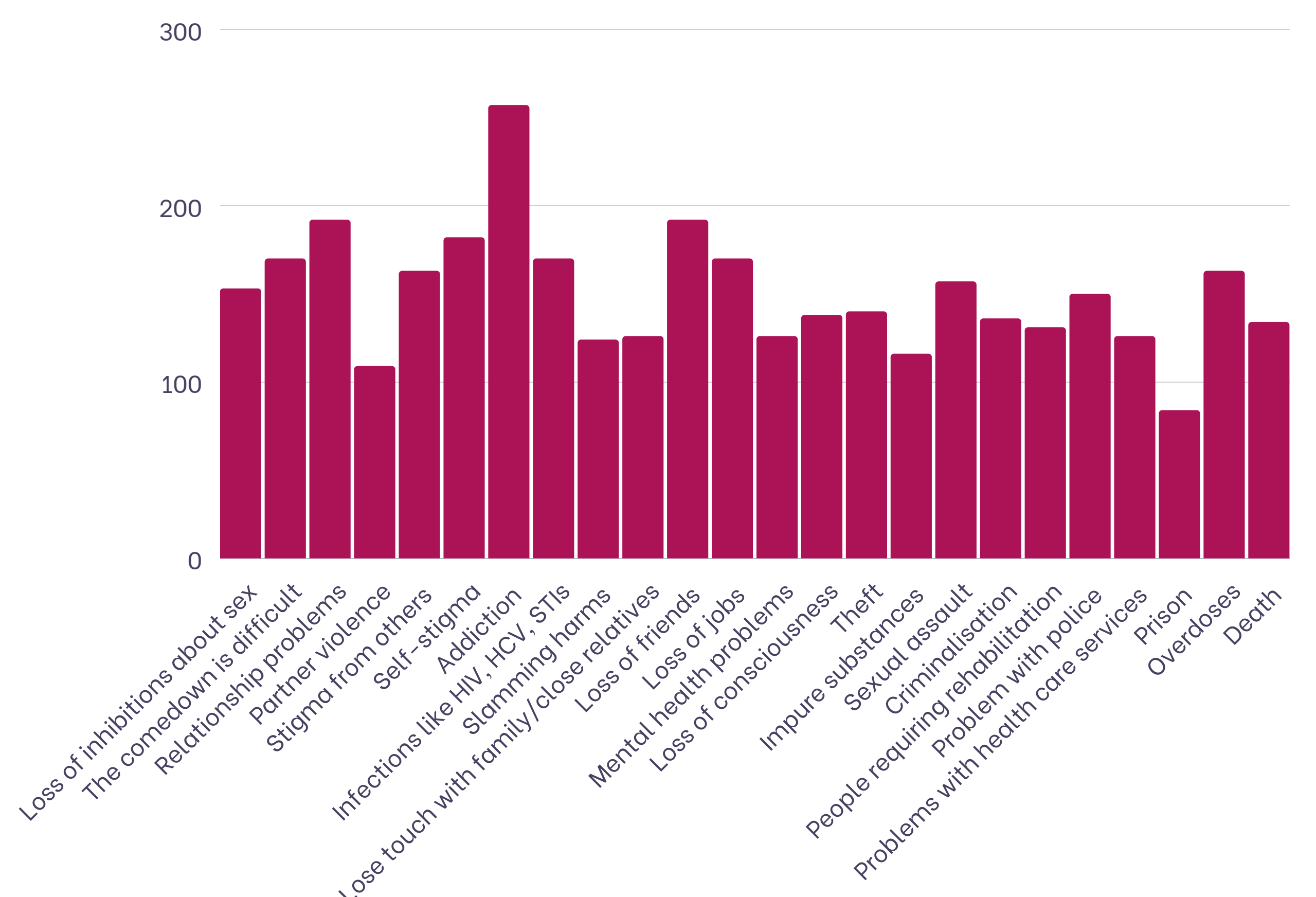
How long has chemsex been in your location?



Perceived benefits of chemsex



Perceived harms of chemsex



Global consultation meeting:

- Chemsex is a growing global crisis with destabilising consequences
- High prevalence of chemsex among gbMSM, trans women and other gender minorities and those already HIV+
- Chemsex's complexity impacts health, housing, work, finances, relationships, and LGBTQI+ communities
- Chemsex contributes to B&STI transmissions, including HIV and HCV
- Chemsex's illegality and cultural/religious taboos pose challenges
- Stigma related to various intersecting factors contributes to chemsex behaviours
- Stigma and shame surrounding chemsex hinders help-seeking



- Social isolation triggers chemsex, particularly in societies lacking LGBTQI+ support
- Need for well-resourced, culturally appropriate, integrated responses
- Creation of person-centred/trauma-focused approaches, including non-judgemental safe spaces
- Address social media's role in chemsex and the need to combat misinformation
- Peer support and solidarity are crucial for effective crisis response.
- Development of training modules for services to provide better understanding and serving chemsex participants
- Ensure inclusive outreach to cis women and people of colour

Conclusions

The practice of chemsex presents inherent risks, encompassing addiction, mental health complications, sexual expression and physical harm. There is urgent need for detailed regional research for focused strategies to address profound global disparities and neutralise stigma and discrimination that complicates access to critical health services for key populations. Addressing chemsex comprehensively necessitates the provision of holistic, integrated, and specialised services capable of surmounting both legal and social obstacles. Regions characterized by elevated levels of homophobia, transphobia, and criminalization confront significant challenges in accessing support services. Creating a supportive environment demands the repeal

