

Initial findings from the 2025 secure care census

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Research methodology

- Census of every resident on one day in 2018, 2019 and 2025
- Demographics
- + 41 metrics over two timeframes
- + 15 'open questions'
- = ~ 25k items of data
- Based on knowledge of secure care providers



Secure care in Scotland

- Locked residential children's house (SCH)
- Entry via the Children's Hearing System, or criminal court
- <18 only
- Mixed genders, mixed pathways



Caveats

- Small sample sizes (~200)
- Under representation
- Child is not involved
- Missing information





One slide summary: 2025 data

- Smaller
- Older
- Boy-er
- Scottish-er
- Many risks, need and vulnerabilities higher
- What is to be done?

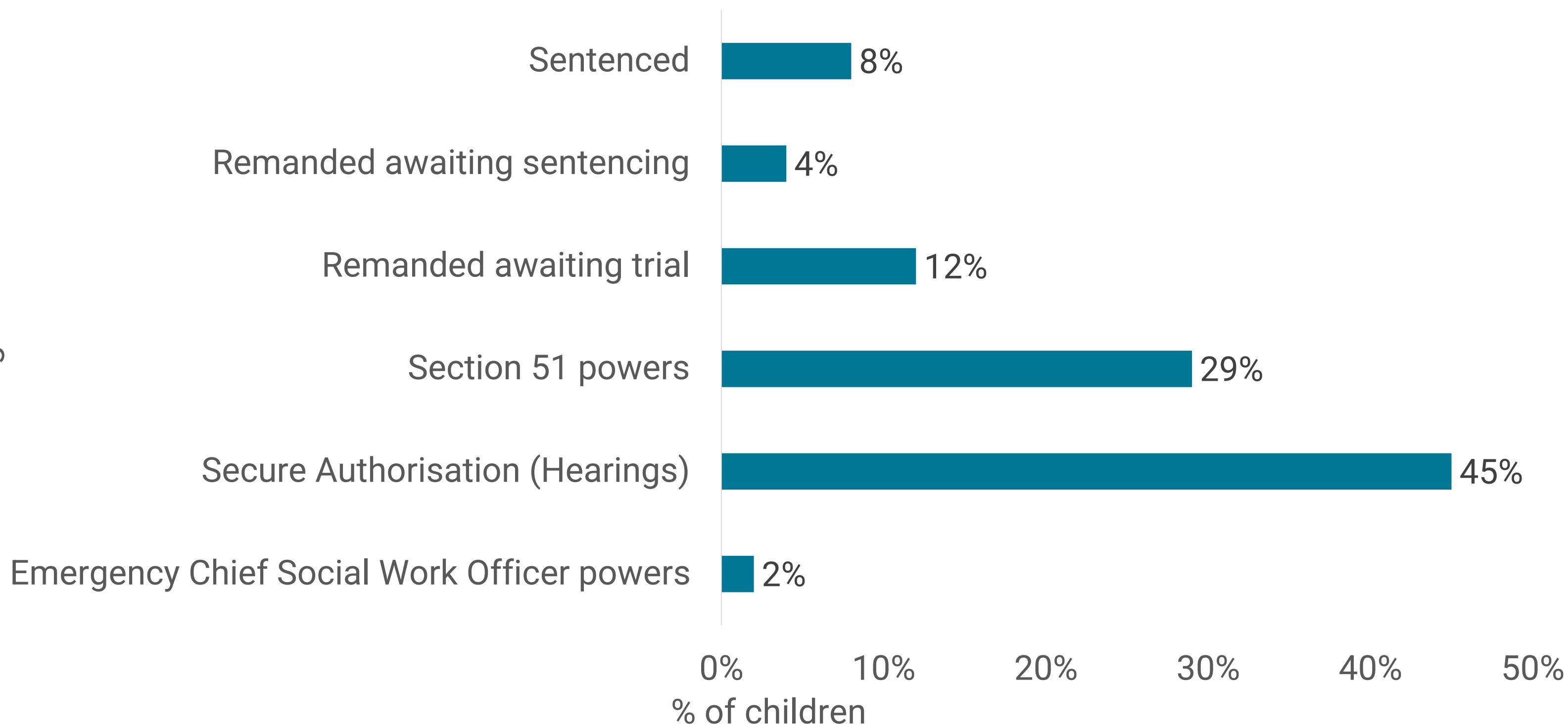


Recent developments in in Scotland

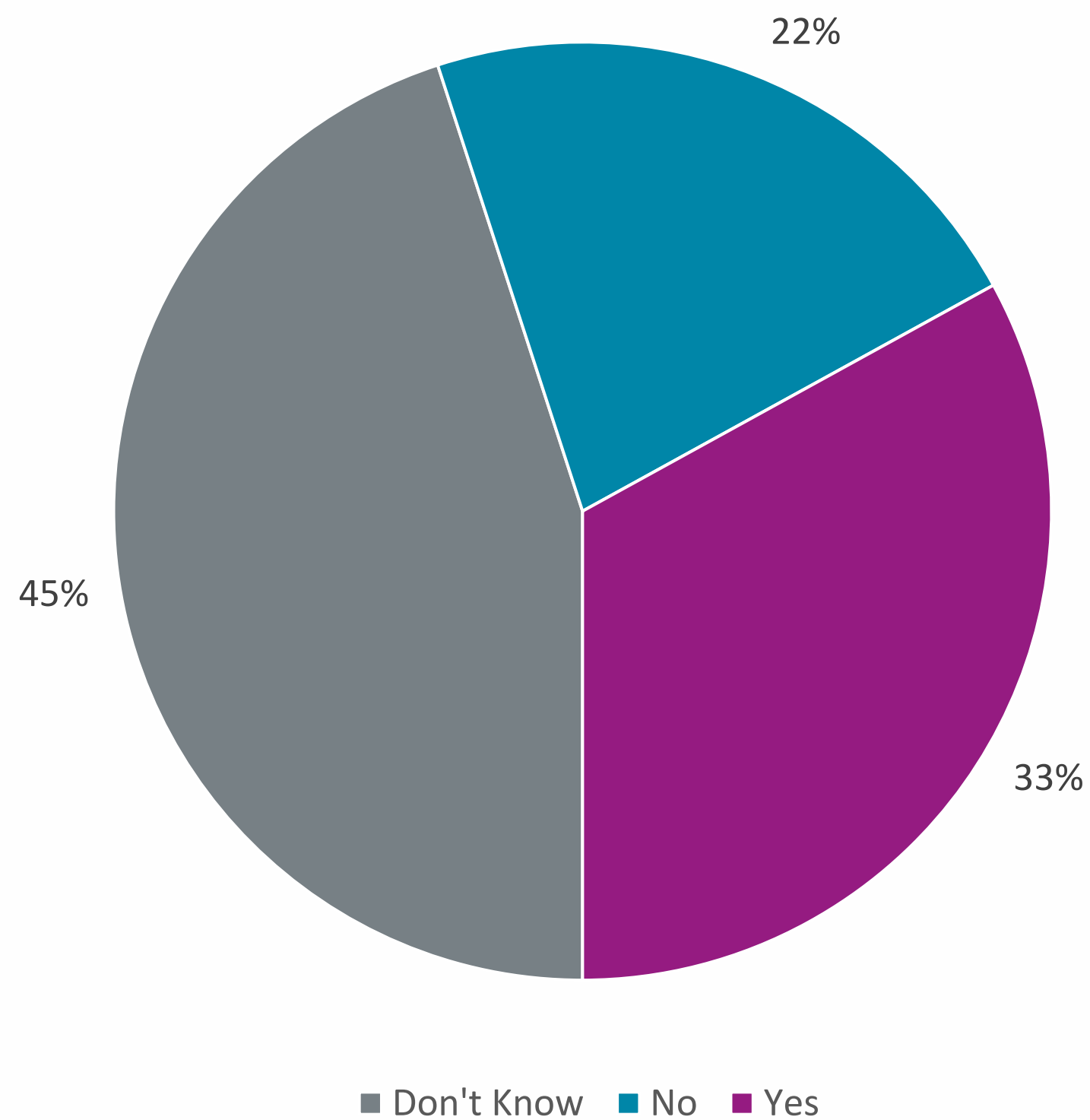
- No longer use YOI / prison
- Pressure in places until mid 2025
- Crossborder placements
- Care and Justice Act
- Brexit / austerity / cost of living



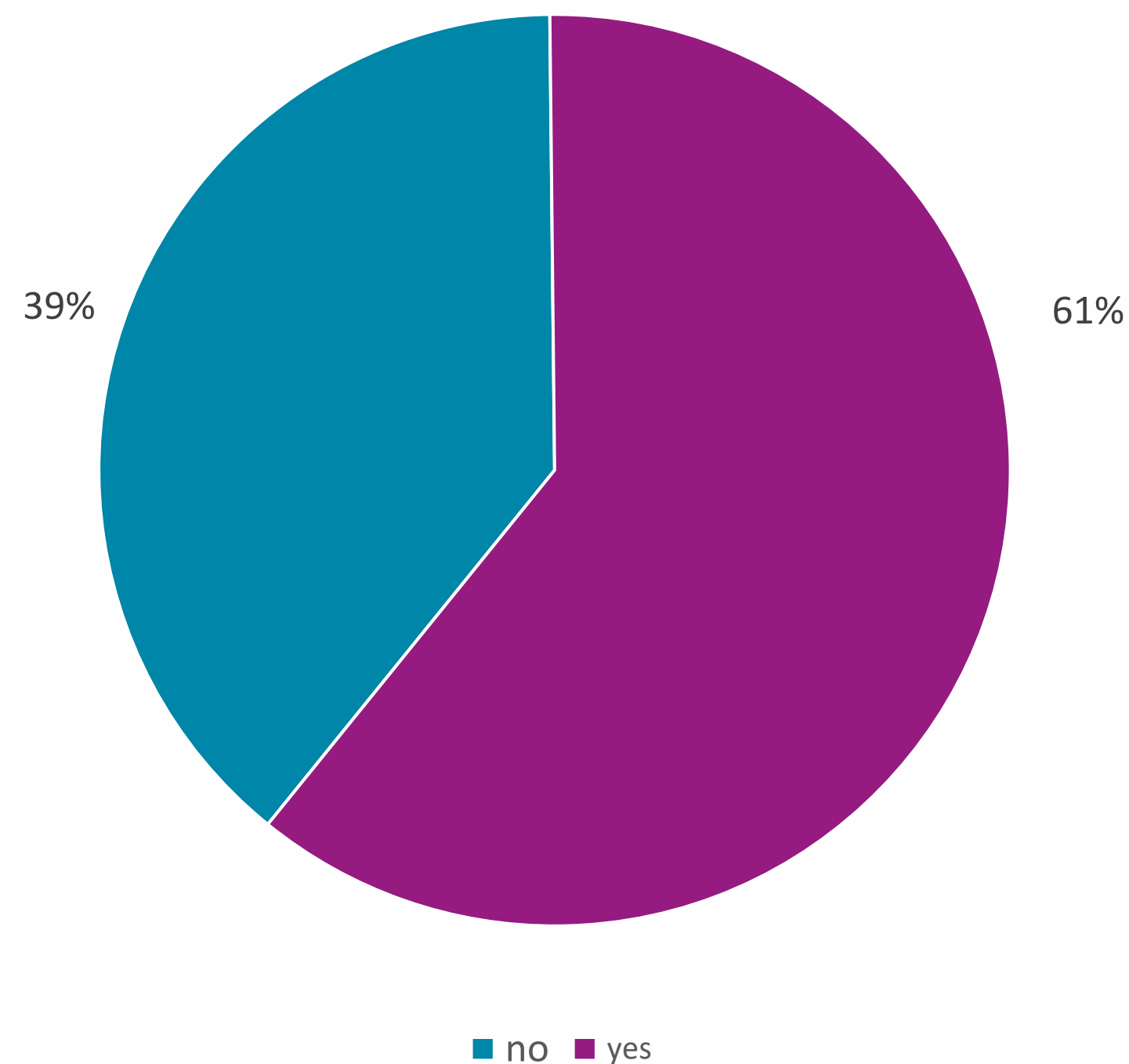
Relevant legislation

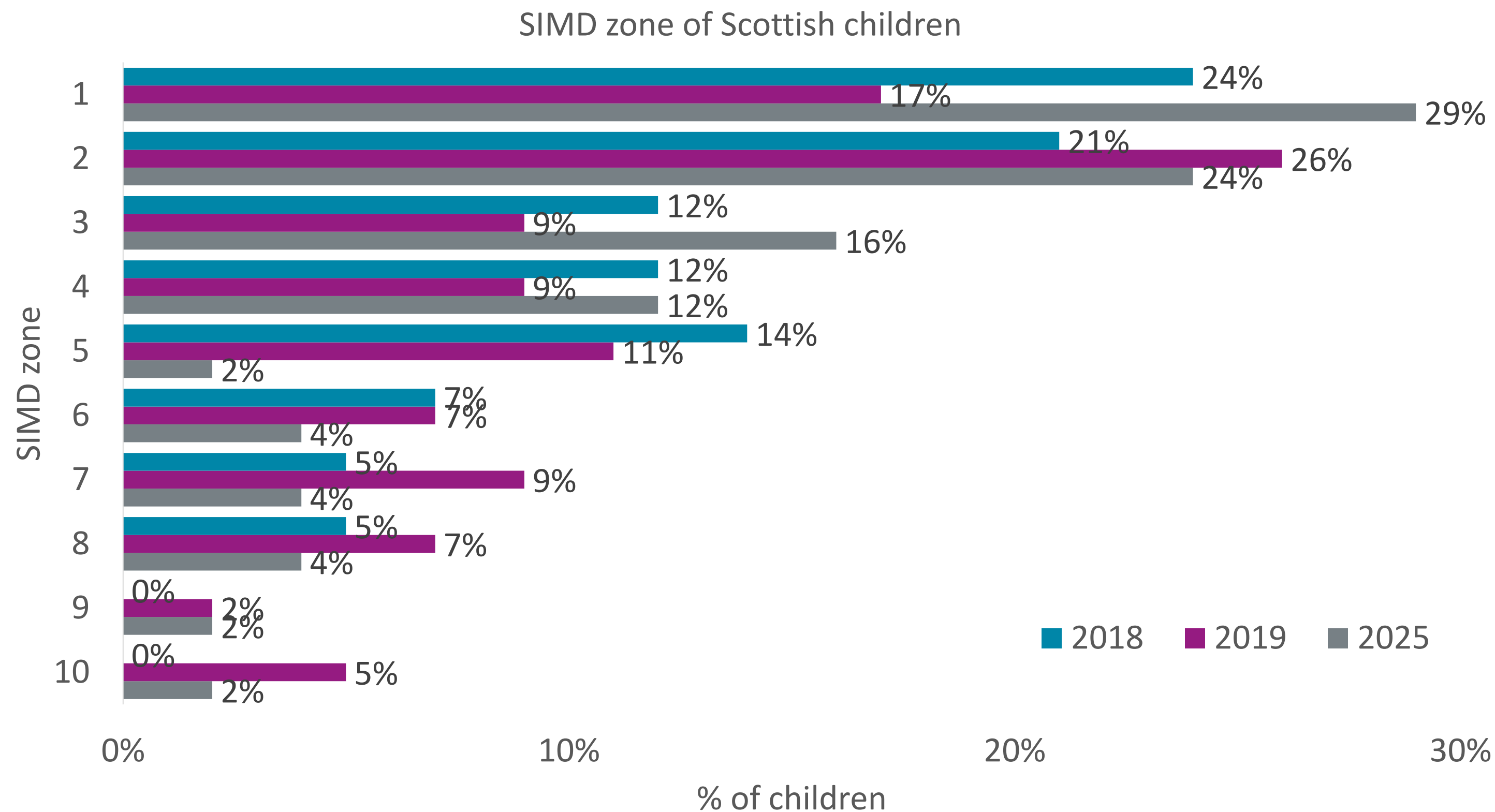


Relative poverty?

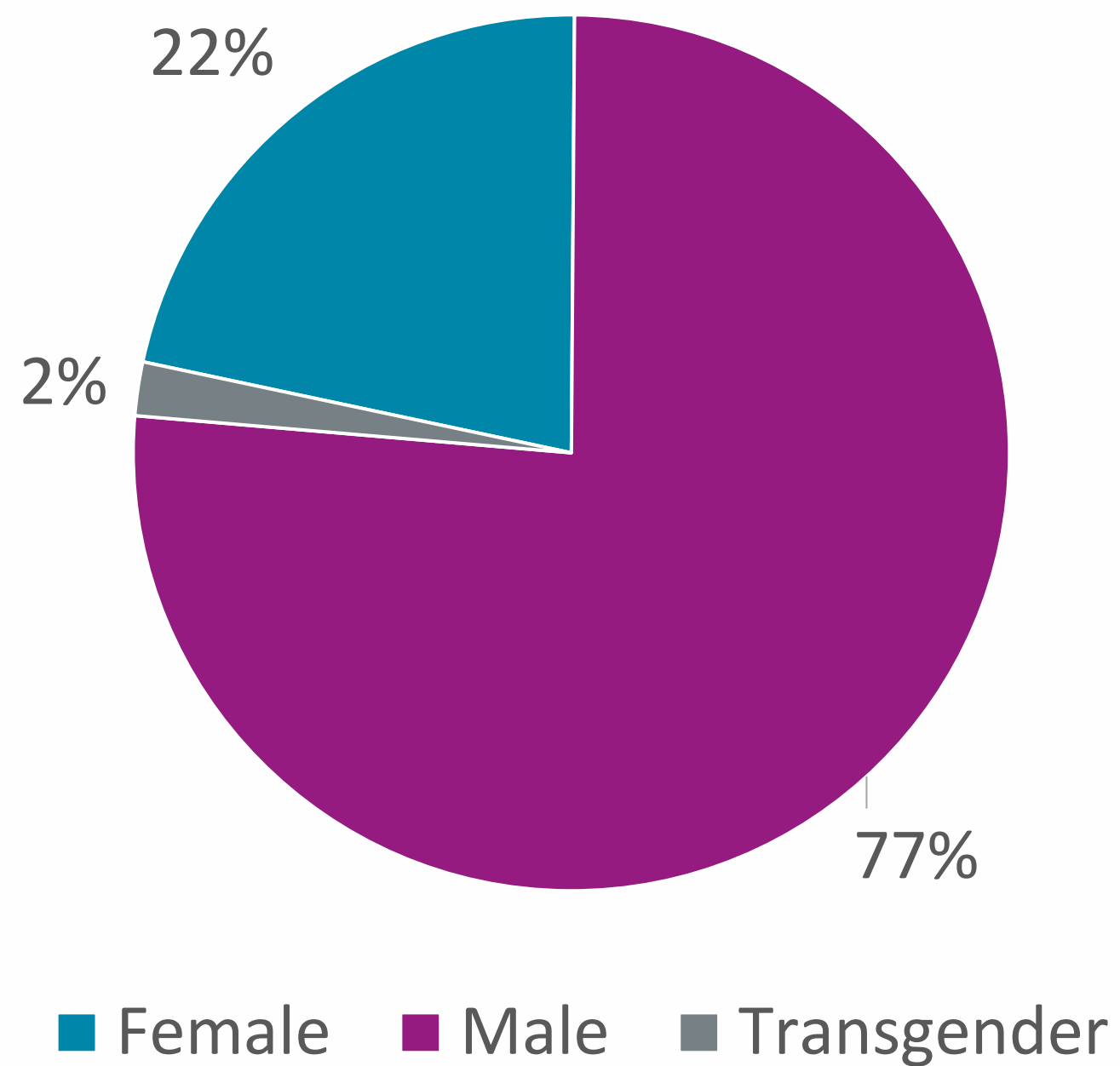


Excluding 'Don't Know'

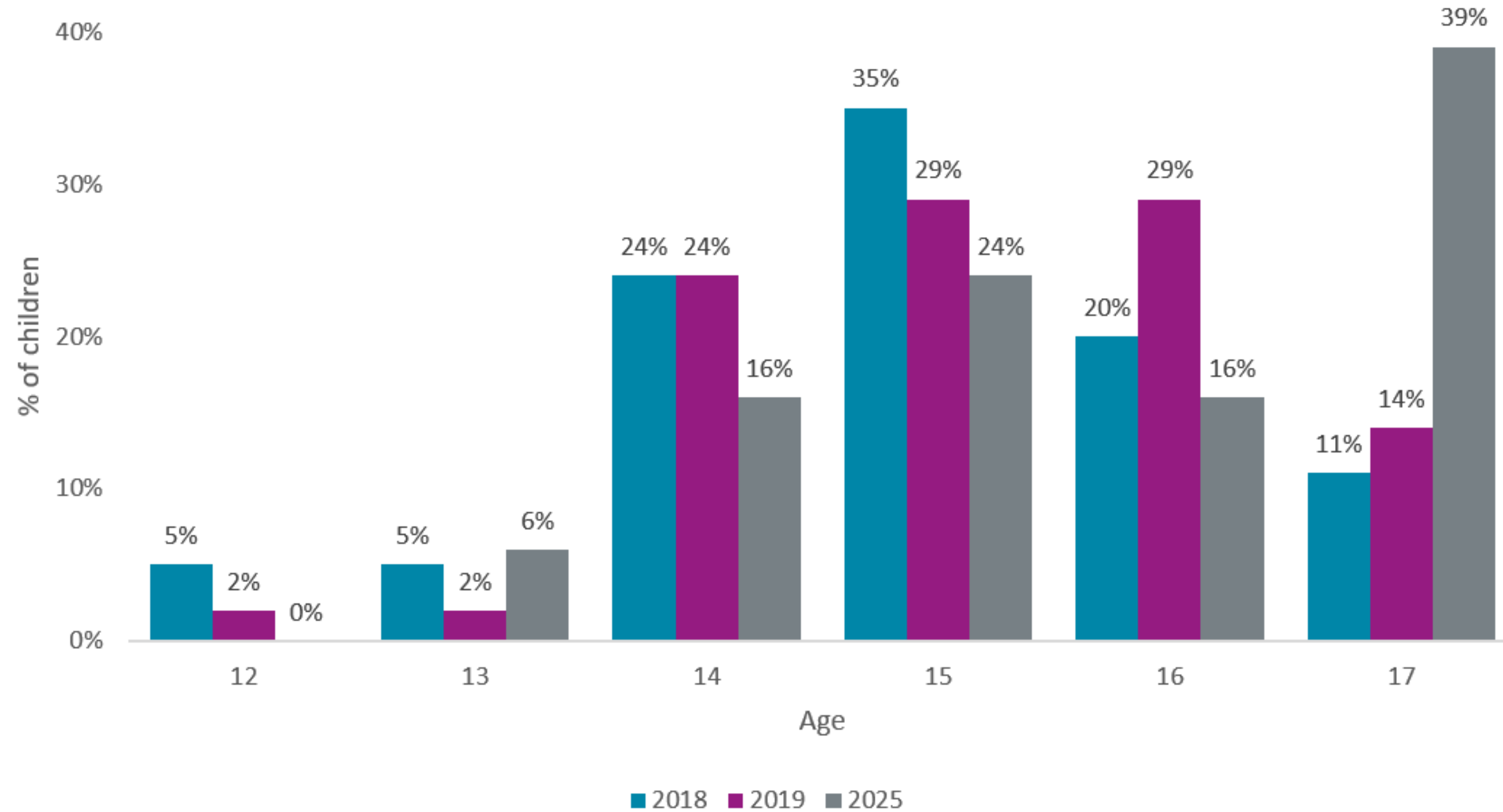


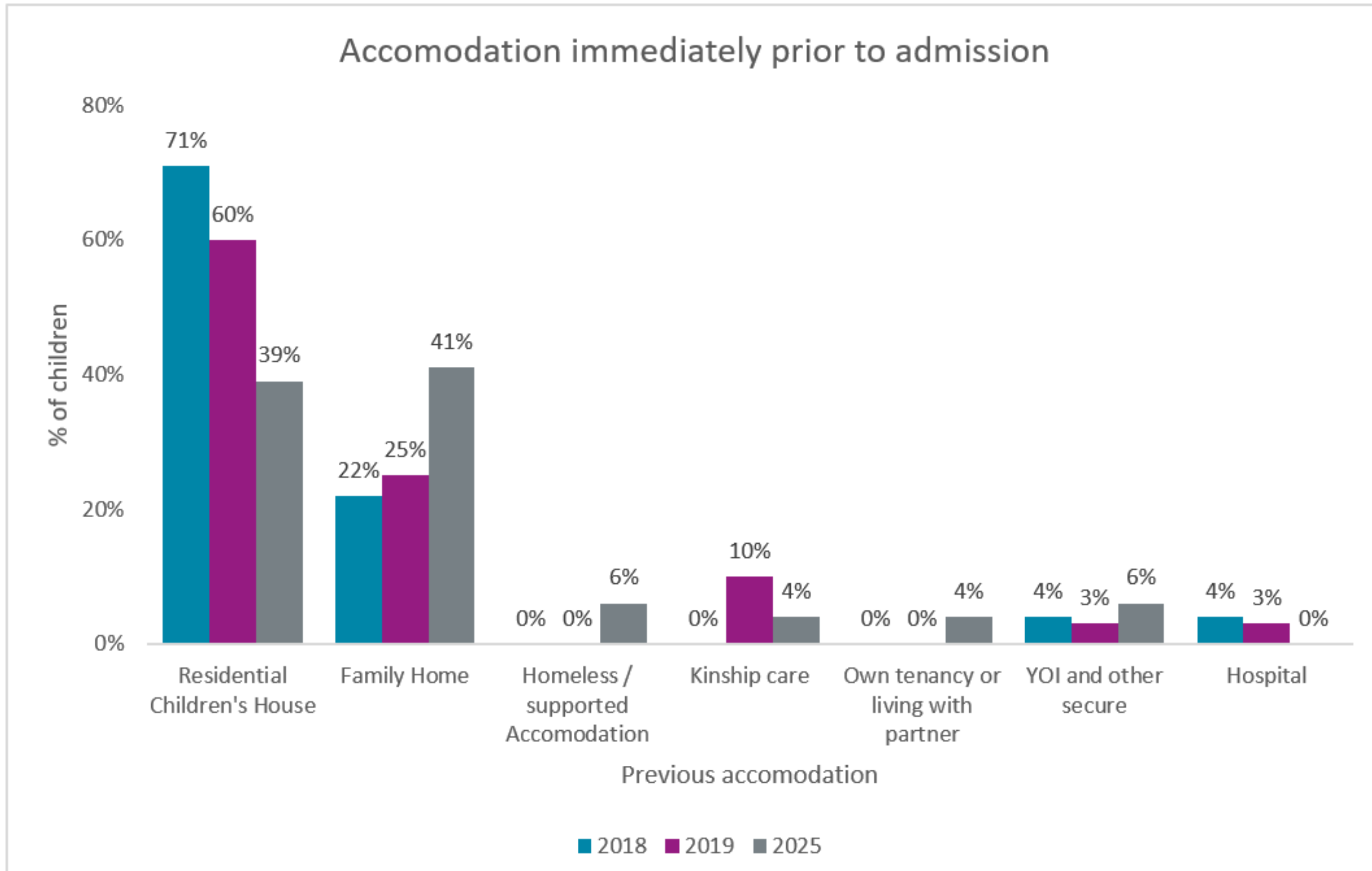


Gender

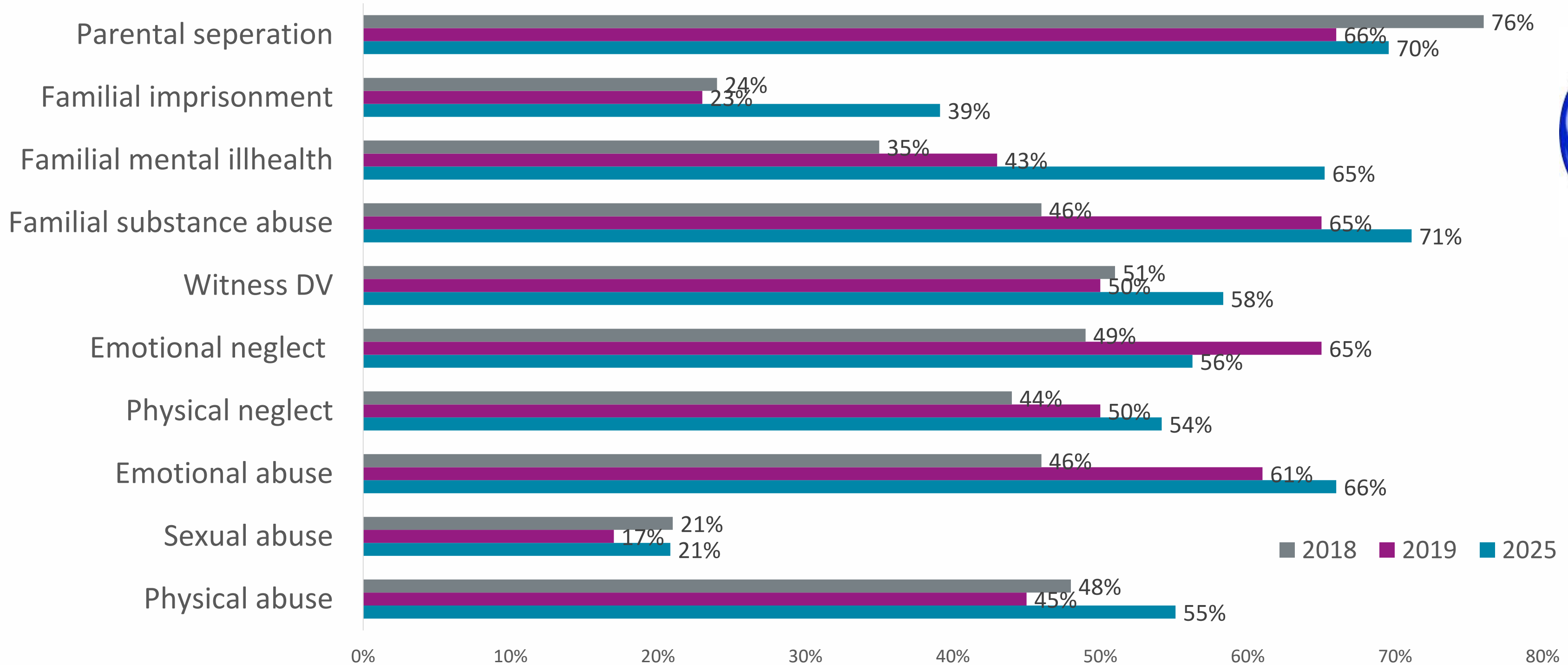


Age across Scottish cohorts

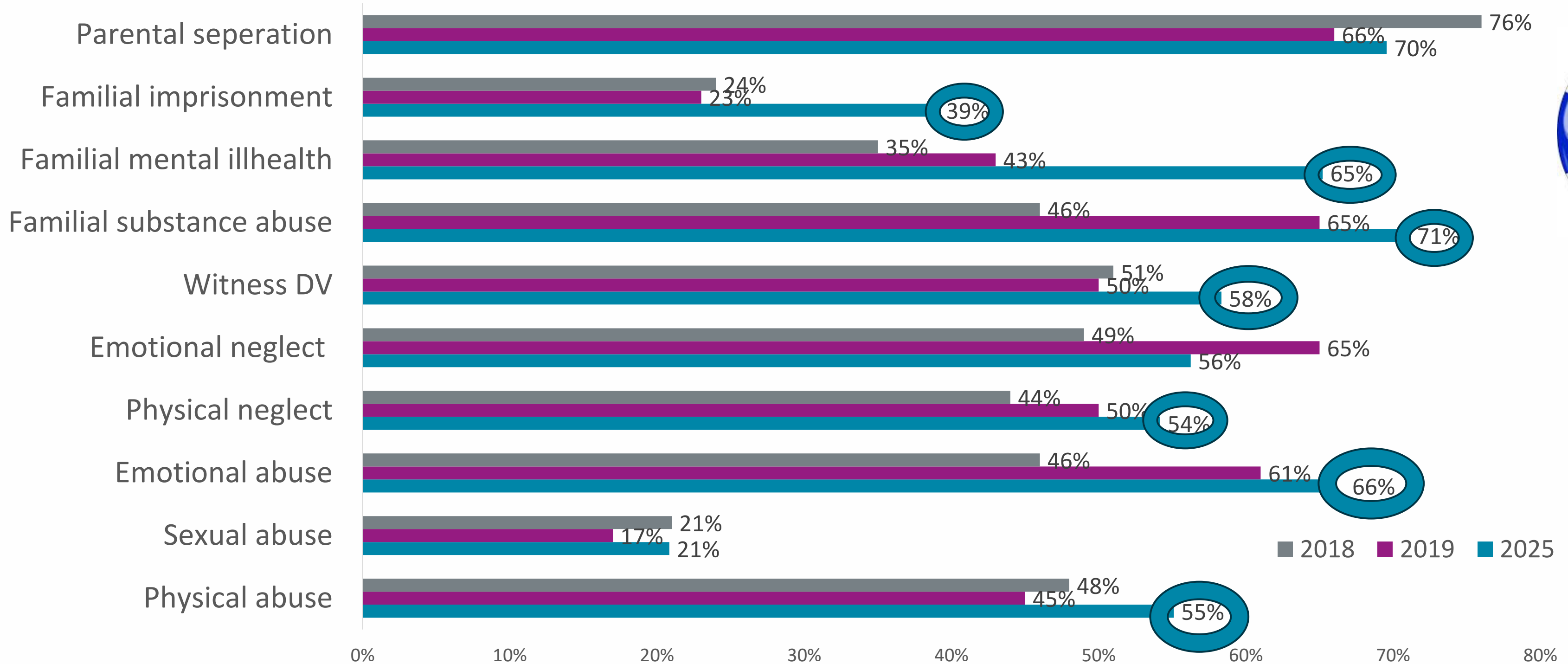




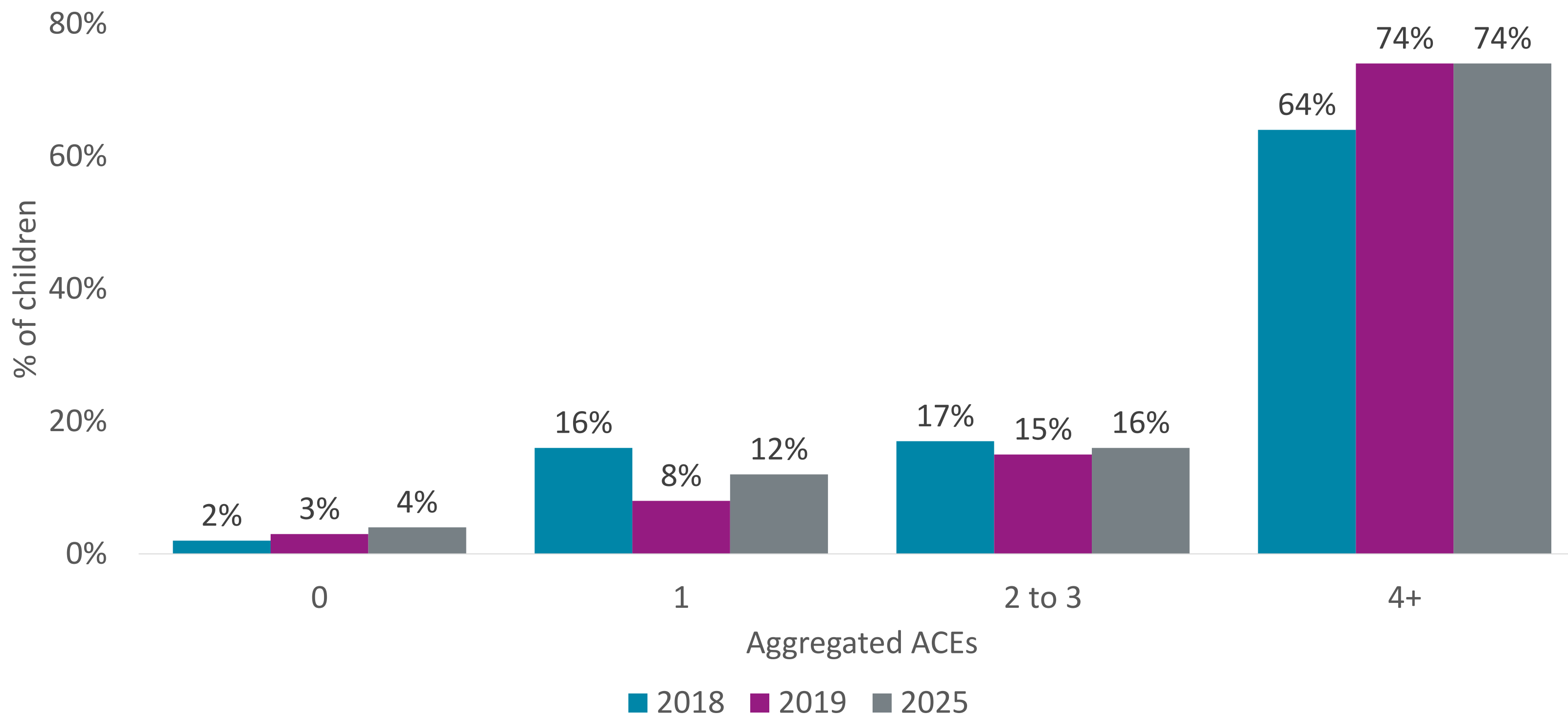
ACEs across 3 timeframes



ACEs across 3 timeframes



Aggregated exposure to ACEs



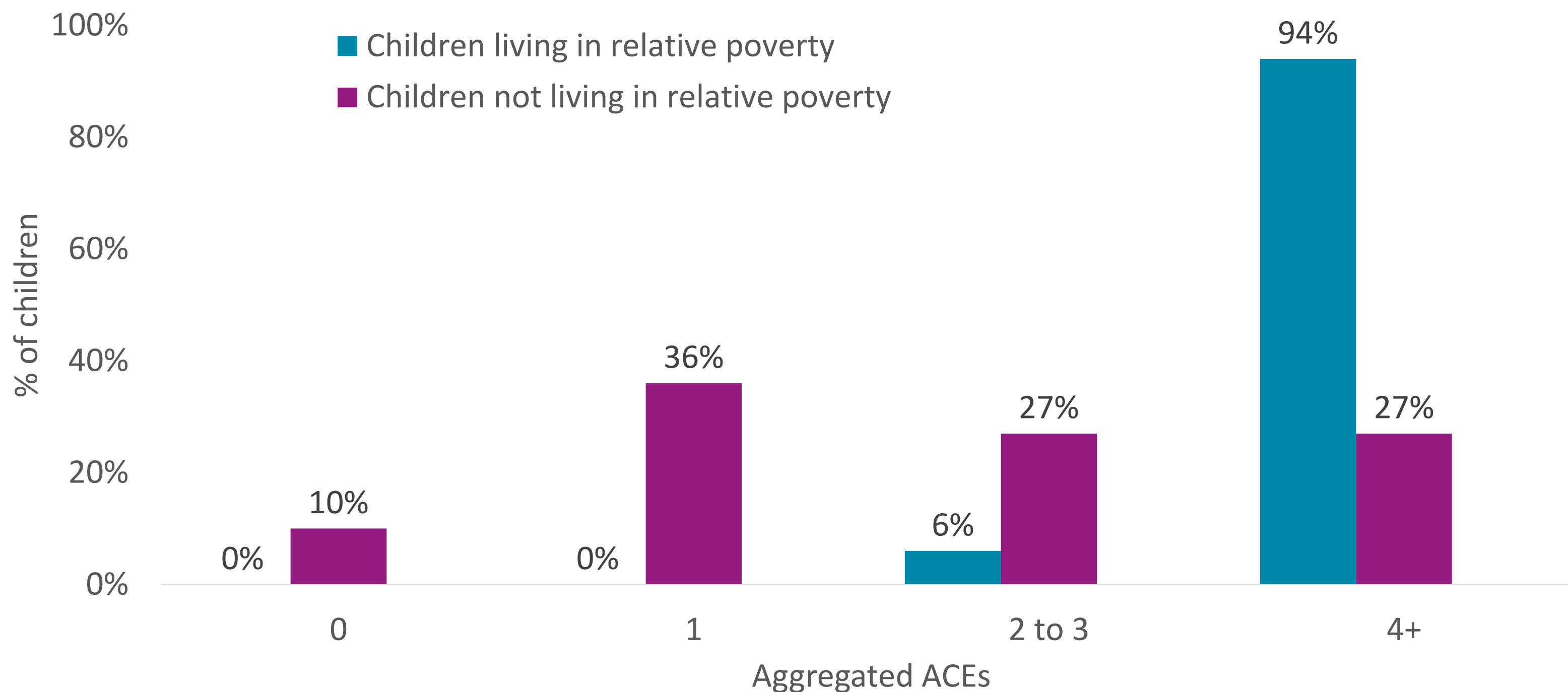
'Toxic trio'



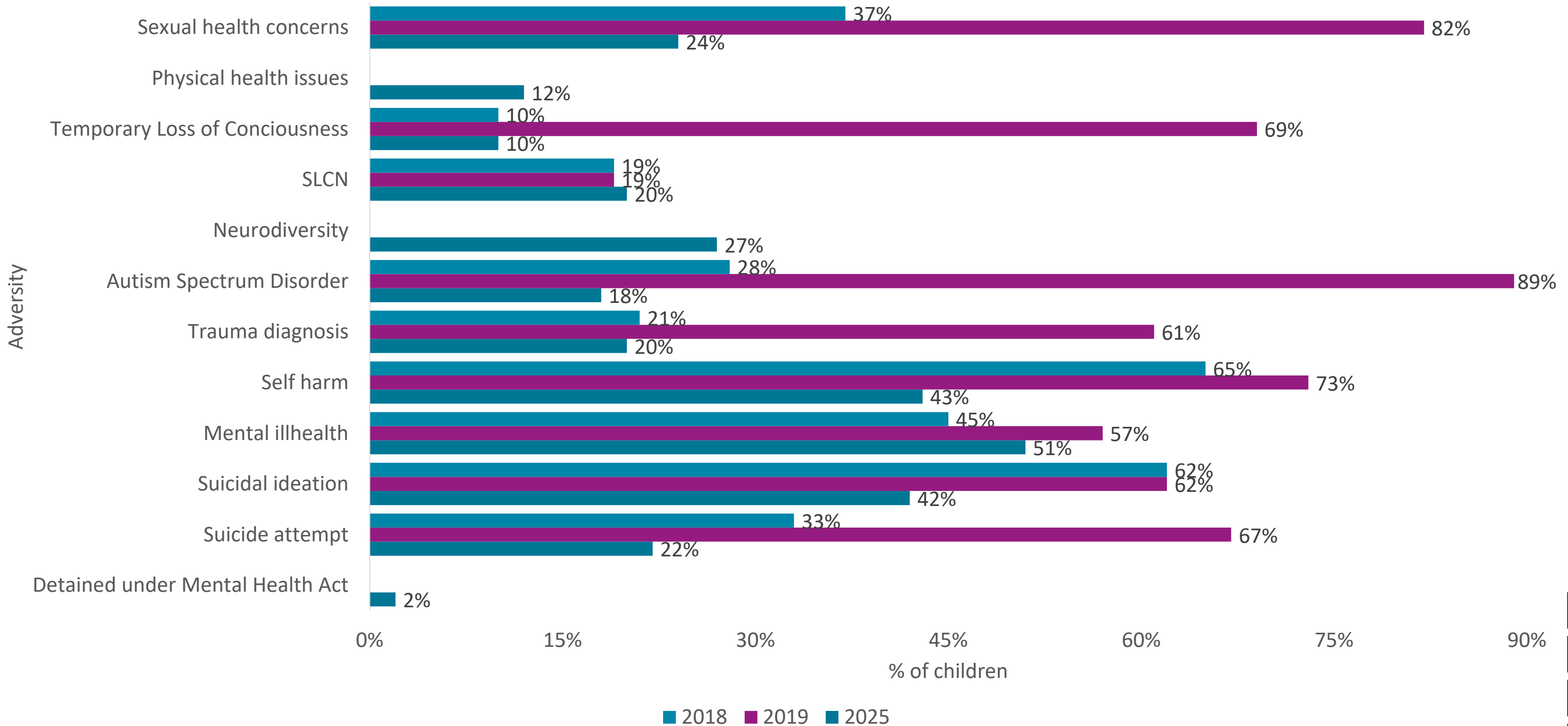
- Present: 76% had experienced 7-10 ACEs
- Not present: 17% had experience 7-10 ACEs



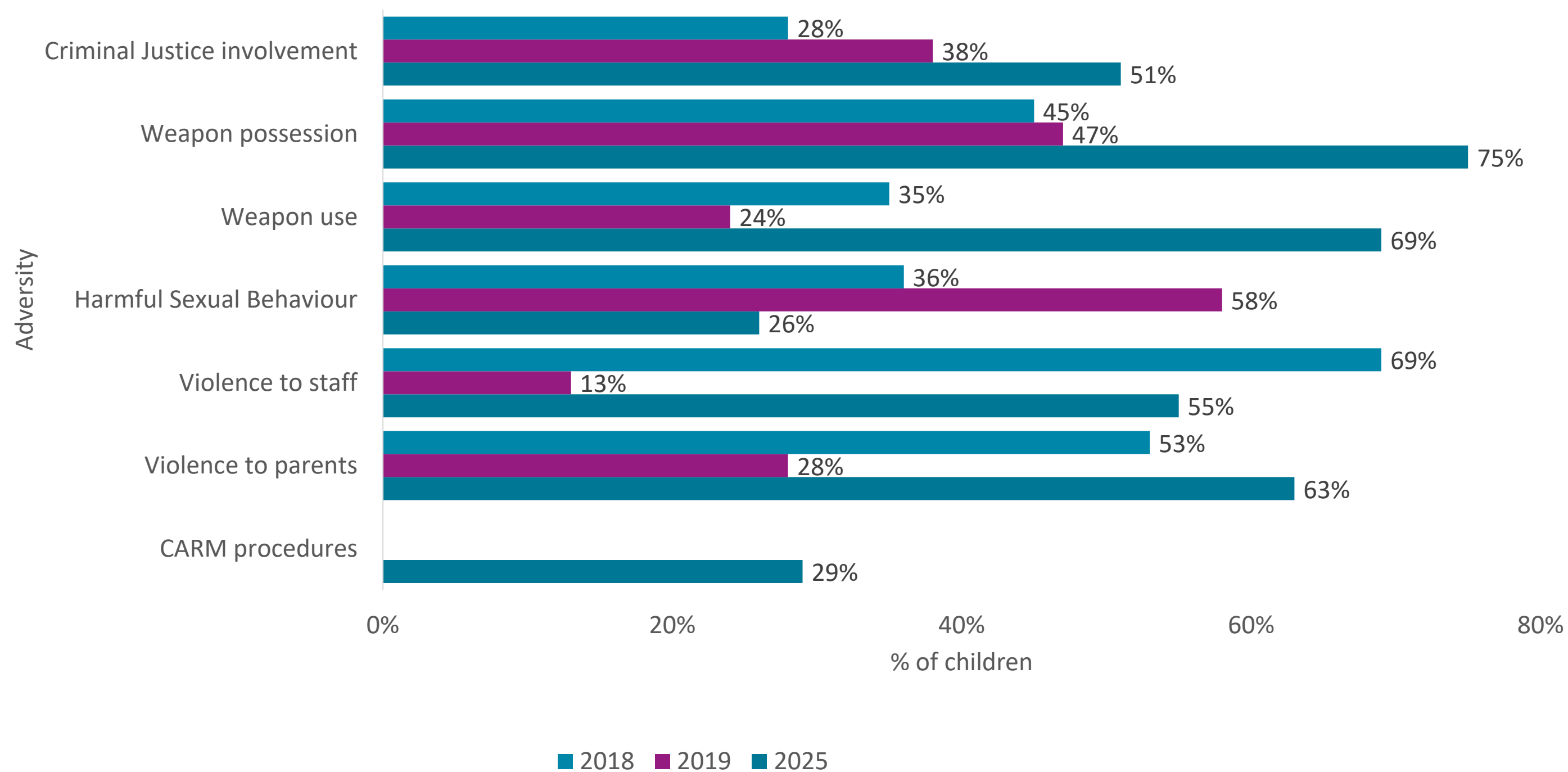
Relative poverty's relationship with ACEs



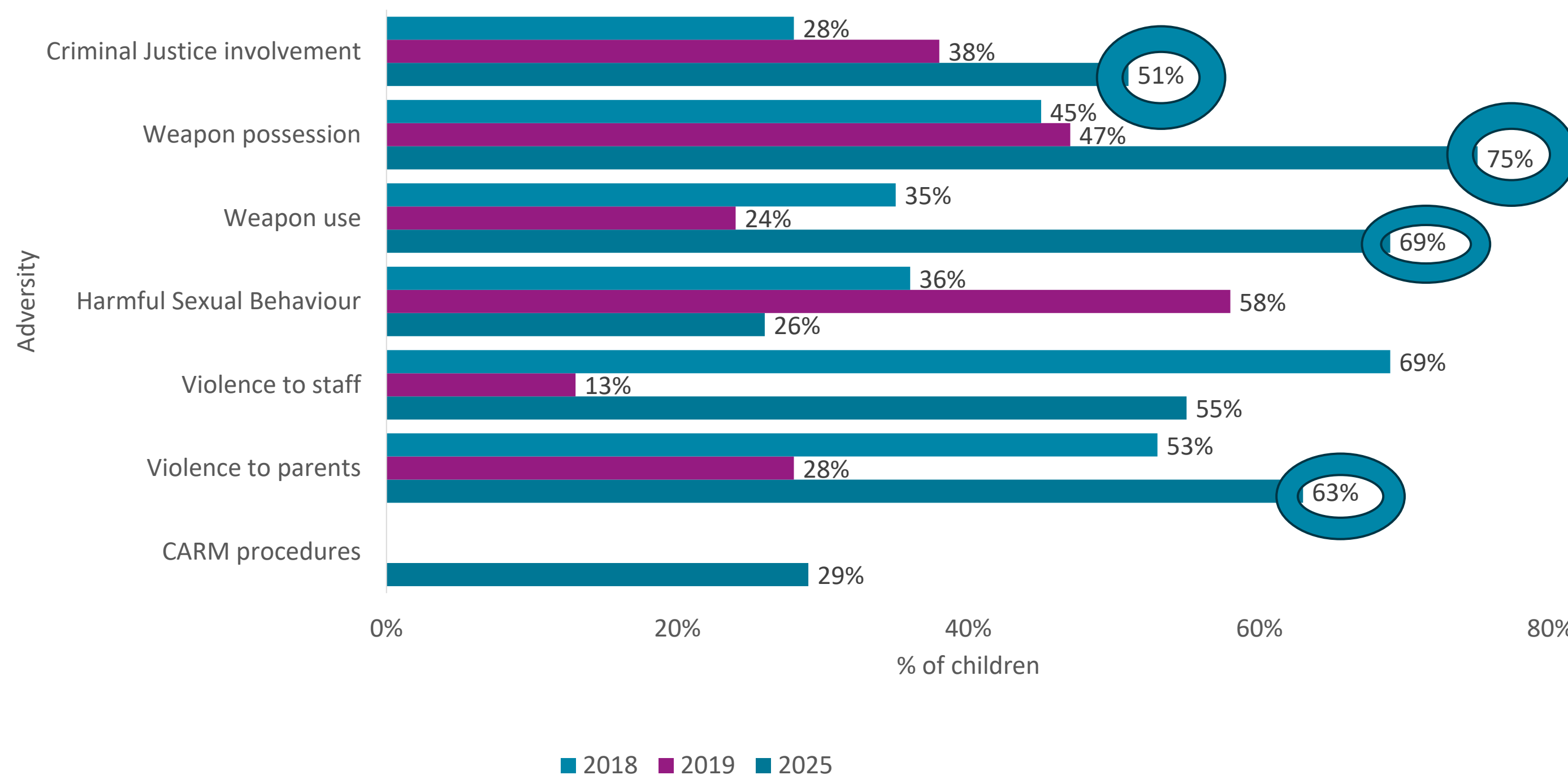
Health and wellbeing

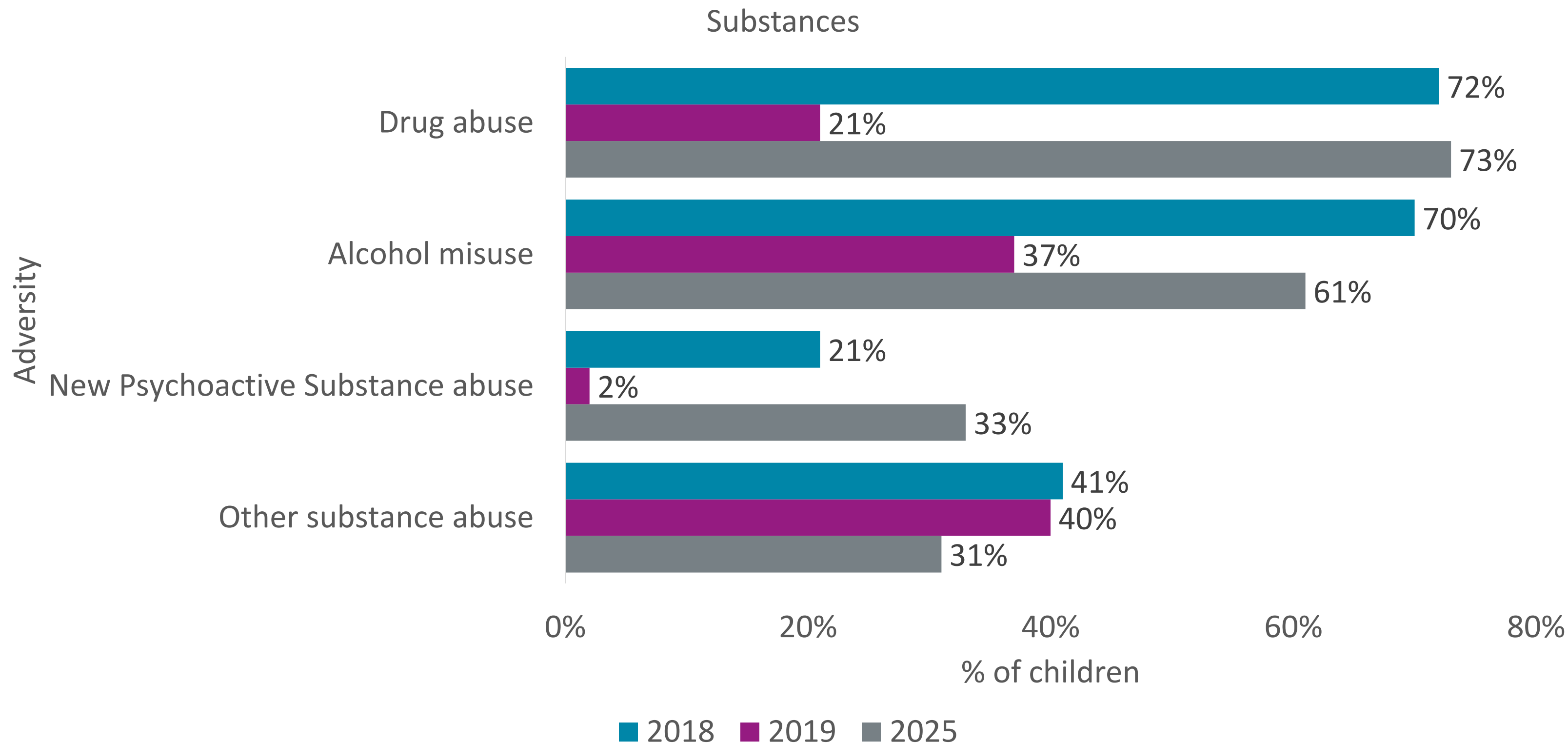


Violence and offending



Violence and offending





So what?

- Community responses
- Homes? Hospitals? Schools?
- Reintegration and transitions
- Reimagining secure / response to high risk(s)
- Staff expertise and skills
- Child's voice
- International comparisons?



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