

General Election Survey 2019

December 2019

NUS Insight

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Project Overview

Objectives

The key objectives of the survey were to understand what issues are important to students and how this would influence their voting for a specific political party or candidate at the General Election

What we look for

Within this report, a number of questions have been analysed by different demographic groups. Where applicable, and the base size is large enough ($n > 30$), statistically significant differences between answers have been shown. A difference is significant when it is likely to have been caused by something other than random chance.

Methodology

A final weighted* sample of 1901 was achieved.

Chance to win one **cash prize** of £500 with 5 runner up prizes of £100 to encourage response.

The survey was promoted via the TOTUM **student database**.

The survey **took approximately 5 minutes** to complete.

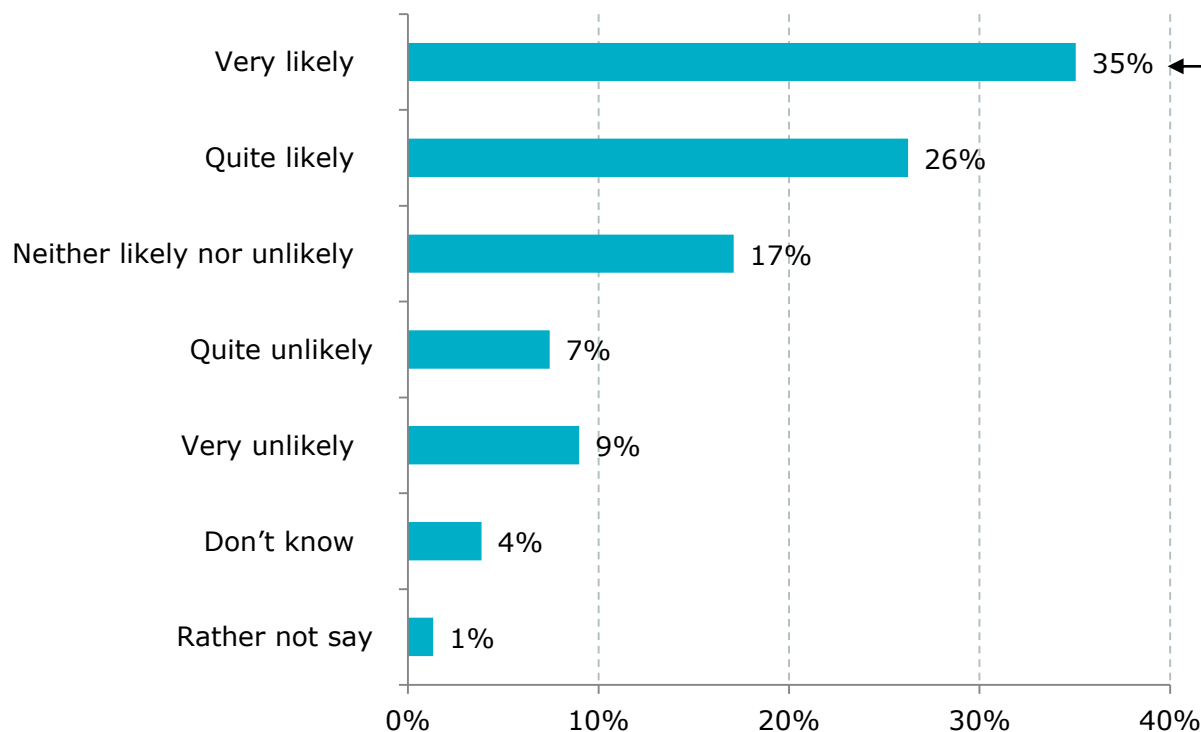
*The data has been weighted so that it represents the HESA demographic profile with males representing 44% and female representing 56% of the base

Results

Section 1: Maintenance grants and the general election

6 in 10 respondents (61%) say they are likely to support a party or candidate who is offering to bring back maintenance grants.

Likelihood to support party or candidate offering to bring back maintenance grants



Significantly more likely amongst:

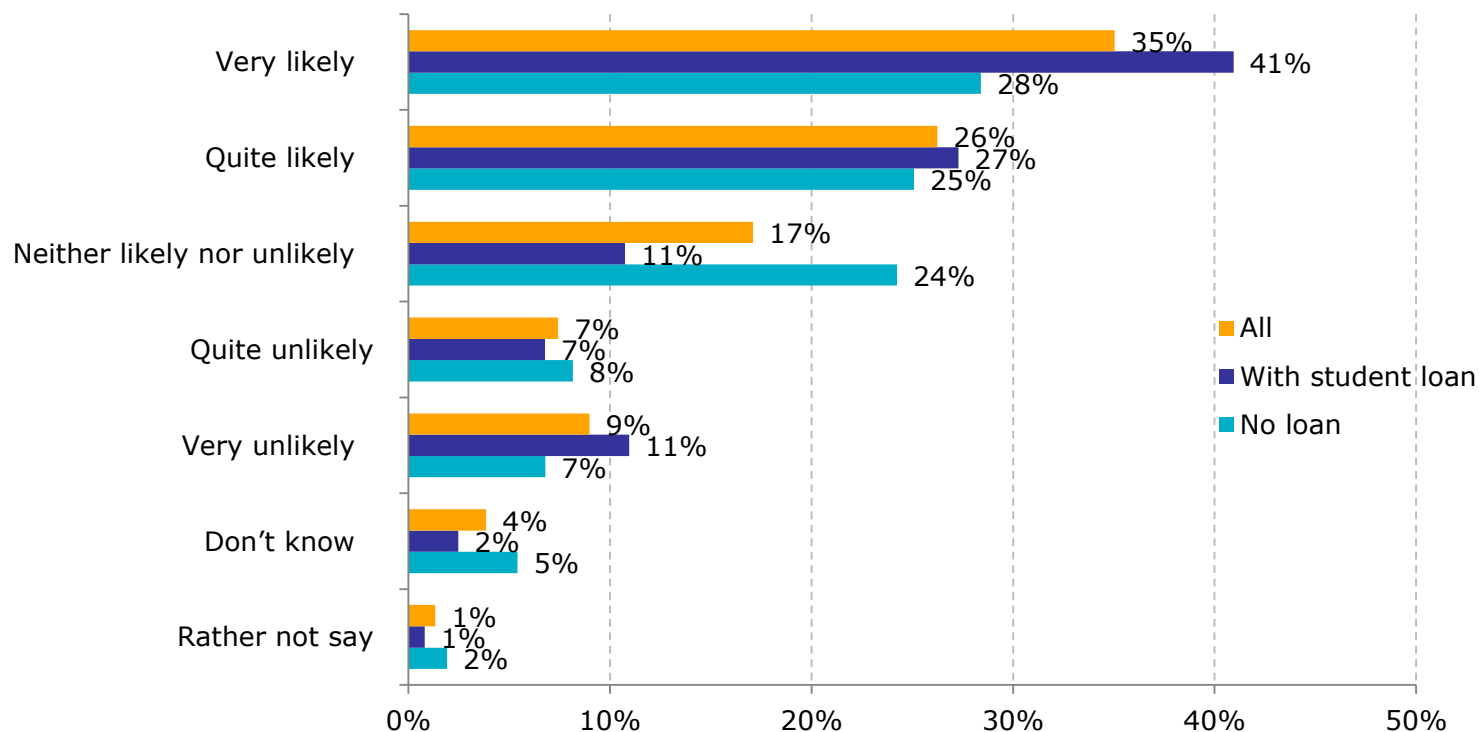
- HE, and Masters students and recent graduates
- Those studying full time
- Students in the North West and Scotland

Weighted Base: 1897 respondents Balance no response

B1. How likely are you to support a party or candidate that offered to bring back maintenance grants? This means that, depending on your income, you would get non-repayable maintenance funding to top up your student loan.

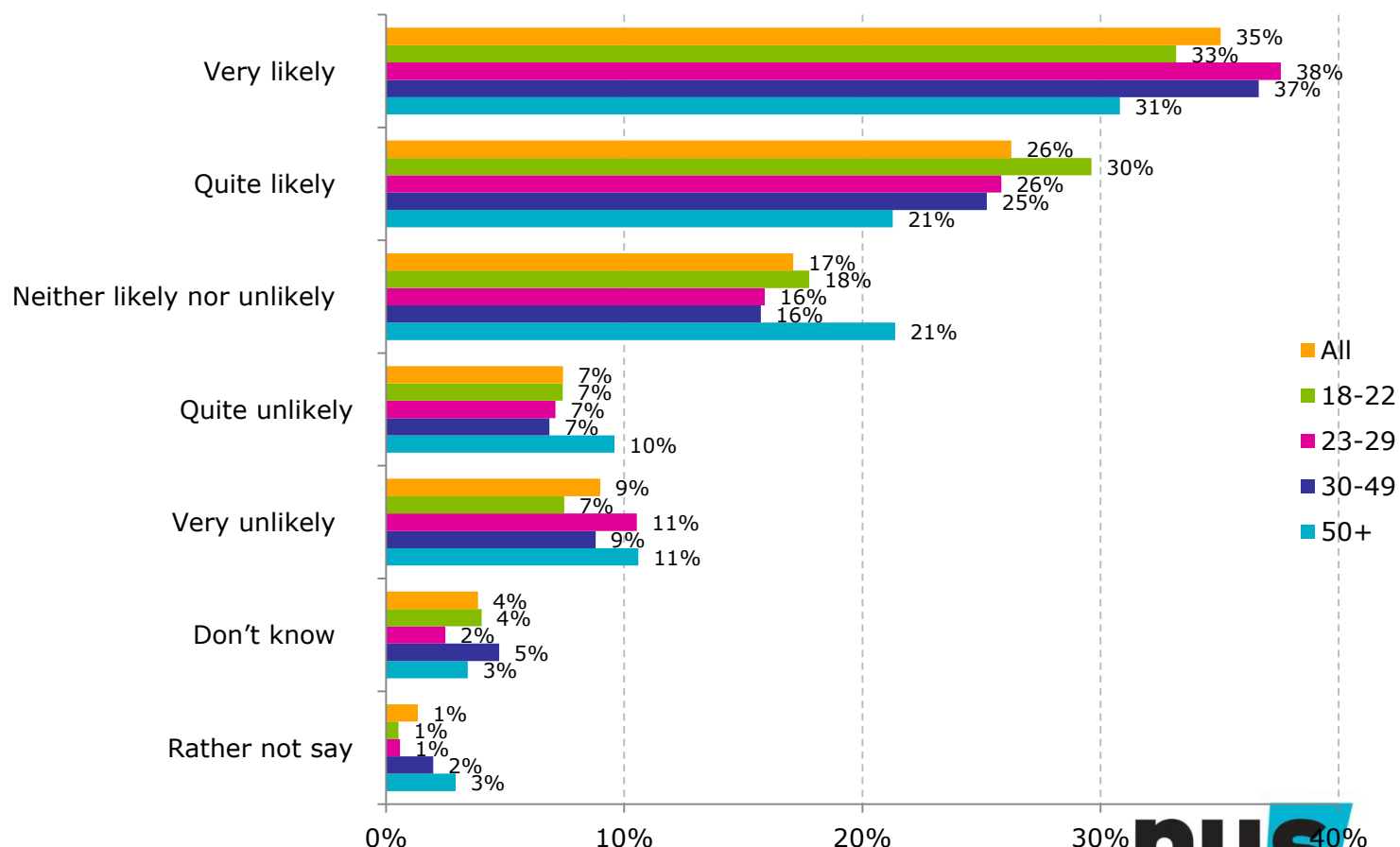
Those with a student loan are significantly more likely than those without to say they would be 'very likely' to support a party or candidate offering to bring back maintenance grants (41% vs 28%).

Likelihood to support party or candidate offering to bring back maintenance grants



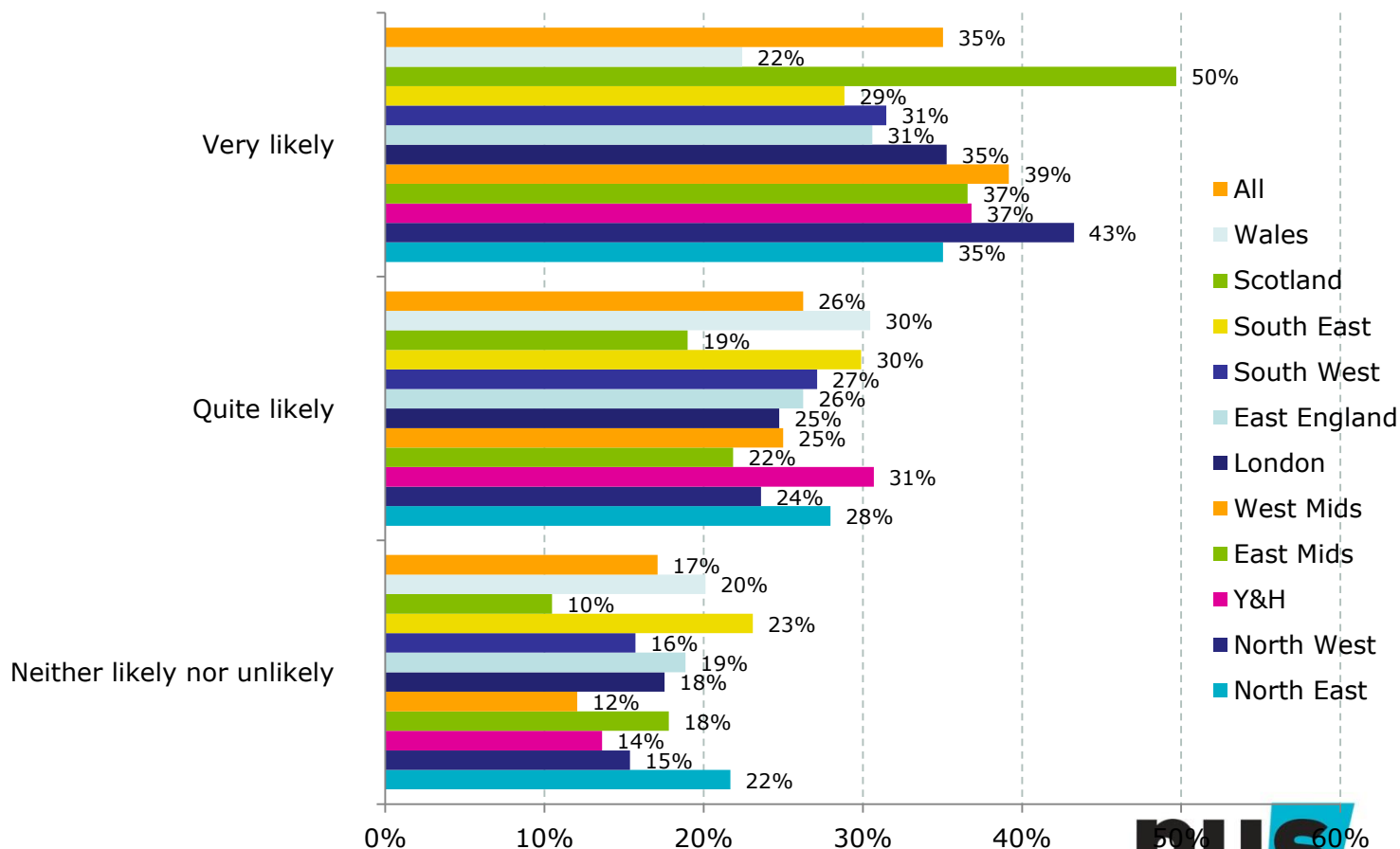
23-29 and 30-49 year olds are most likely to say they would be 'very likely' to support a party or candidate offering to bring back maintenance grants (38% and 37% respectively).

Likelihood to support party or candidate offering to bring back maintenance grants



Students studying in Scotland and the North West are most likely to say they would be 'very likely' to support a party or candidate offering to bring back maintenance grants (50% and 43% respectively).

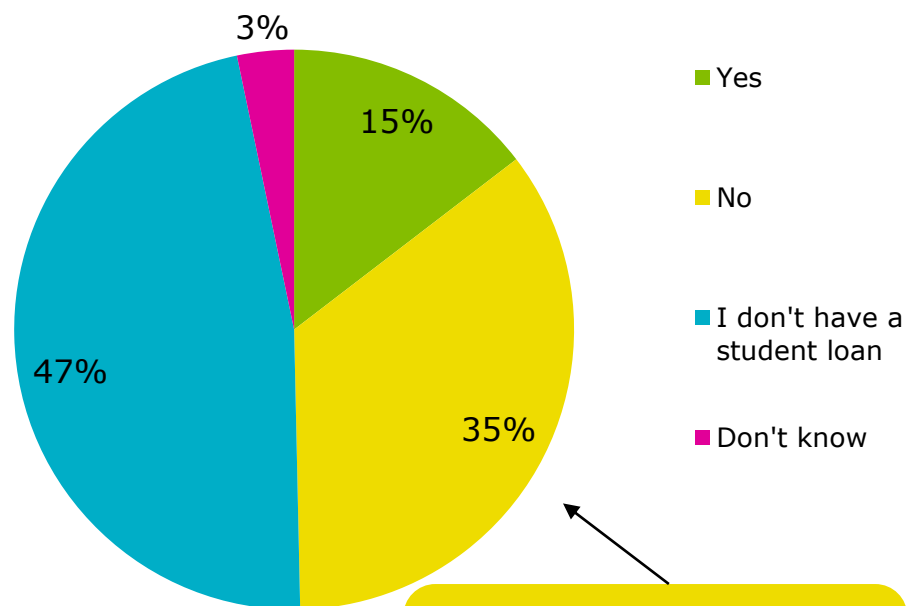
Likelihood to support party or candidate offering to bring back maintenance grants



Section 2: Student Finances

Overall almost half of respondents (47%) said they did not have a student loan. Of those who did have a student loan 2 in 3 said they did not have enough money left to pay for everything else once they had paid their rent.

After paying rent do you have enough student loan left to pay for everything else?

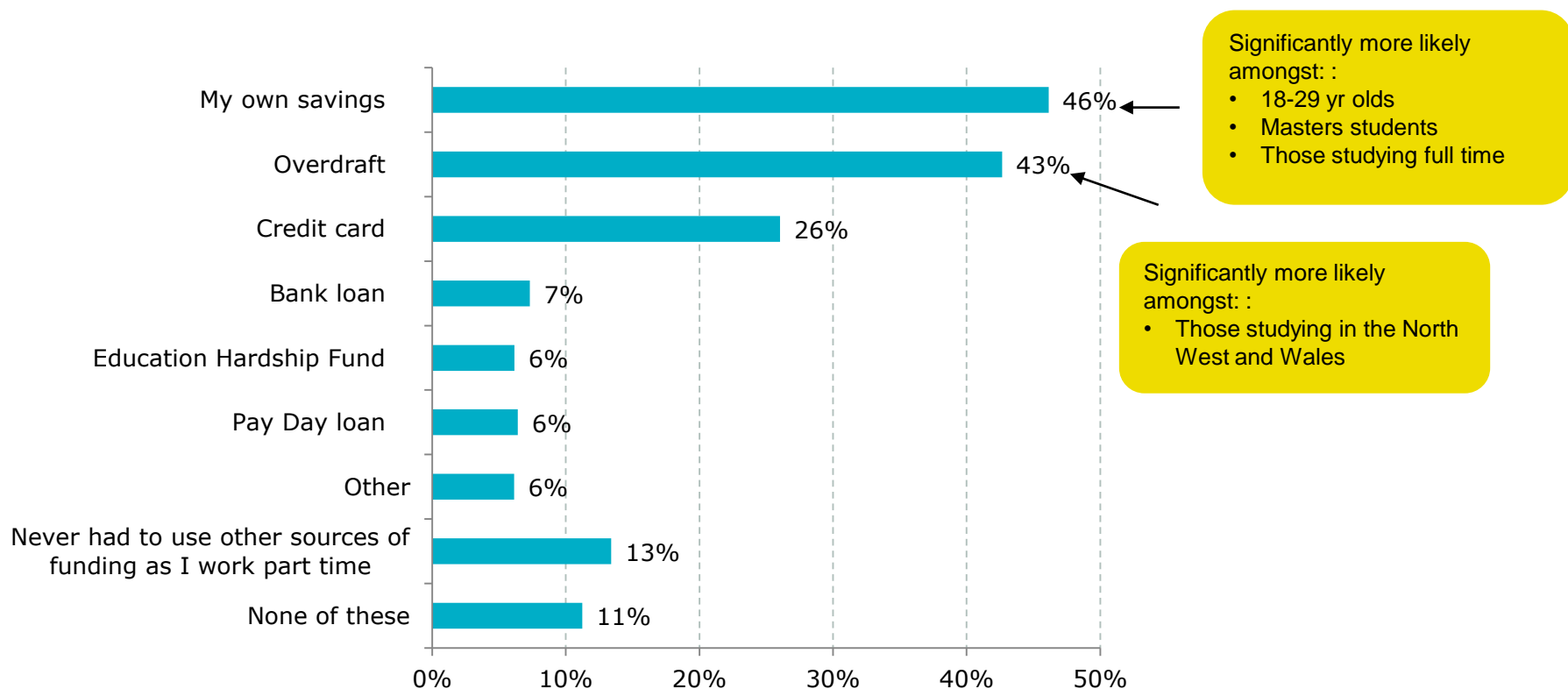


Significantly more likely amongst :

- 18-22 yr olds
- HE students
- those studying full time

Of those who are reliant on a student loan almost half (46%) say they have to use their own savings to support themselves when their loan runs out. A similar proportion (43%) rely on an overdraft facility.

Other sources of income because student loan has run out



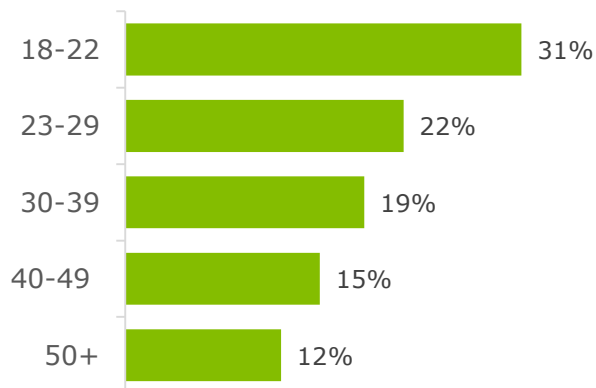
Weighted Base: 1007 respondents. Balance: those who do not have a student loan, no response

C2. Other than having to ask parents, friends or other family members for financial support have you ever had to turn to any of these alternative sources of income because your student loan has run out?

Demographics

Key demographics & characteristics

Age



Gender

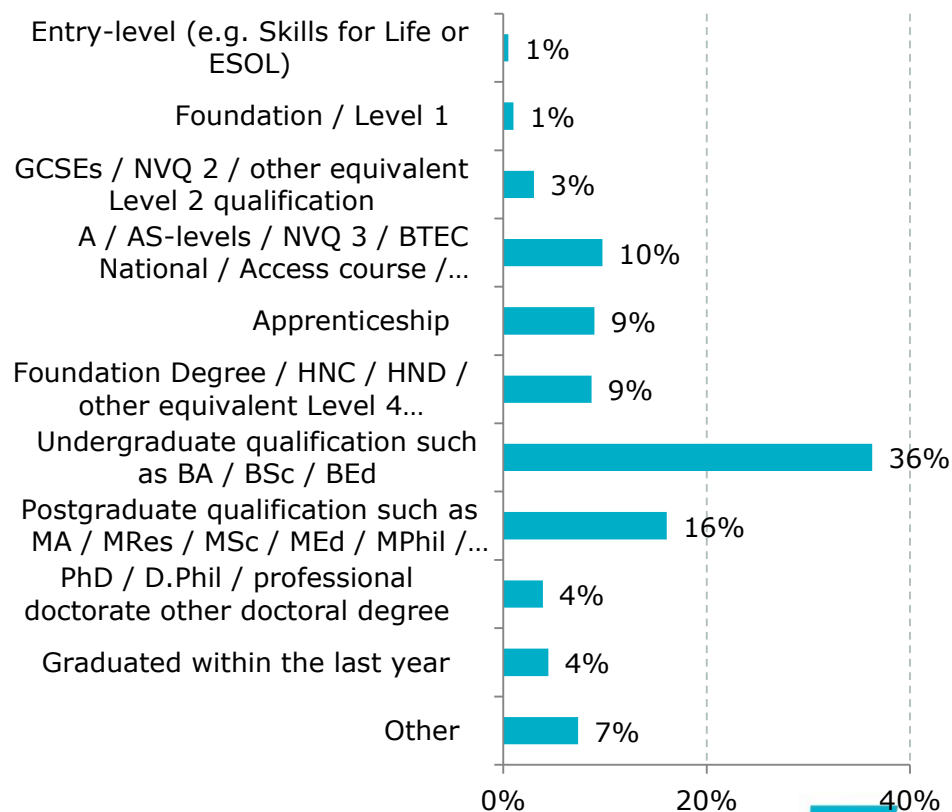
Men 43%



Women 55%



Current level of study



Weighted Base: 1901 respondents

A2. Which of the following best describes your current level of study?

Key demographics & characteristics



Full time: 54%

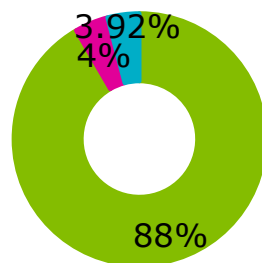
Part time: 28%

Distance learner: 19%

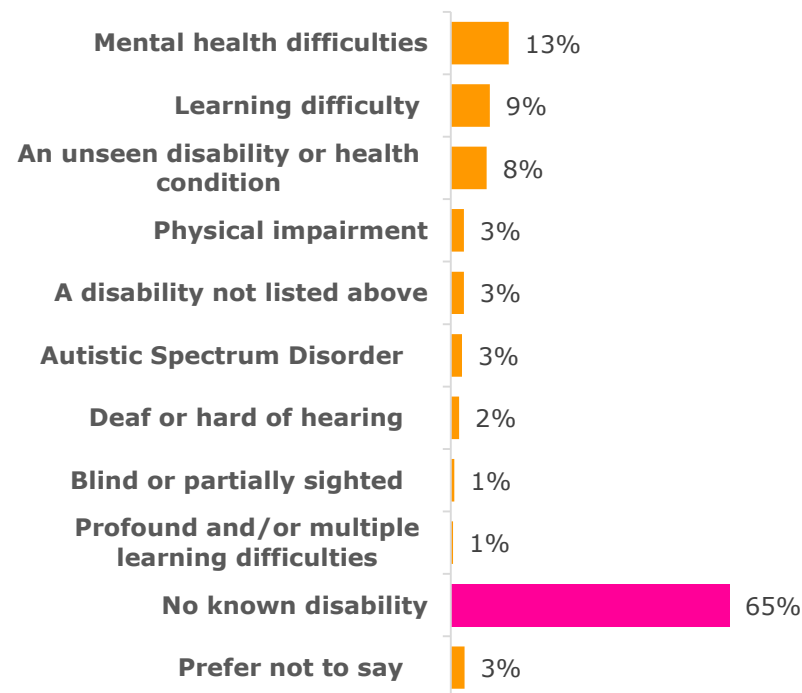
■ UK citizen studying in the UK

■ International student from within the EU studying in the UK

■ International student from outside the EU studying in the UK

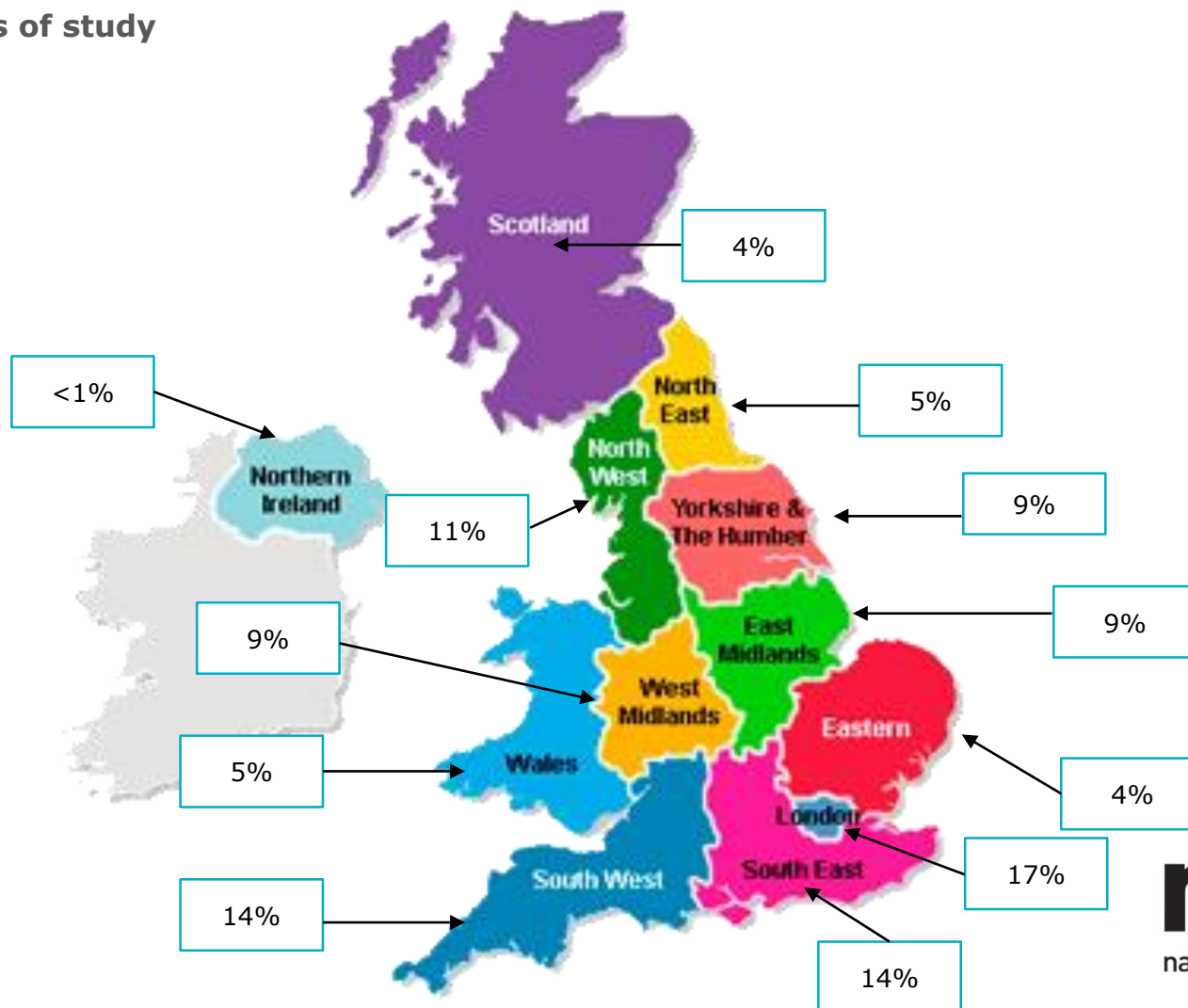


Disability, impairment or long-term health condition



Key demographics & characteristics

Regions of study



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