



Alaska's Next Generation of Fishermen School Survey Findings

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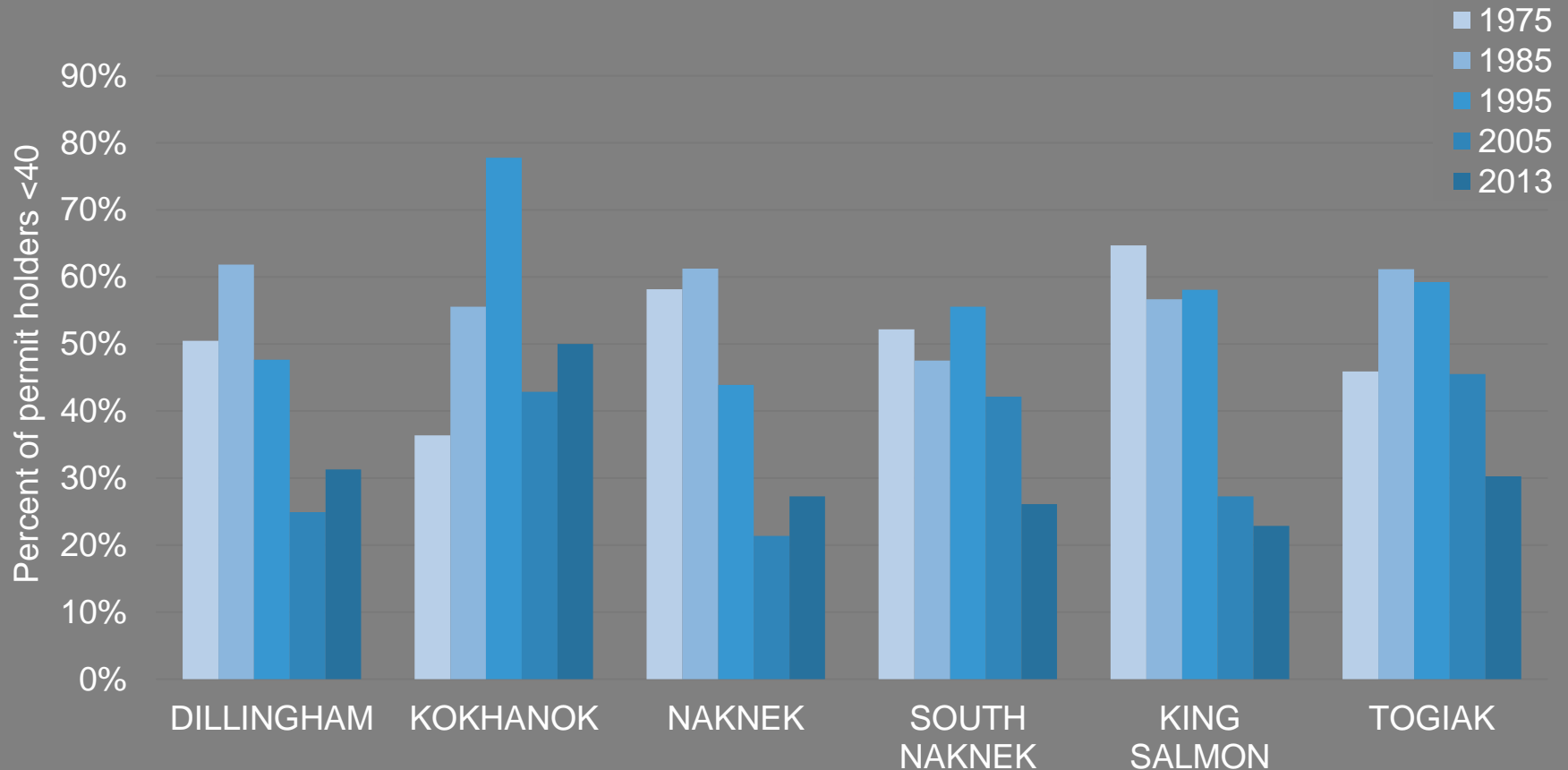
What does “graying of the fleet” mean?

- Commercial fishermen are growing older, retiring but young fishermen aren't taking their places



Permit holders under 40 in Bristol Bay

By community, 1975-2013





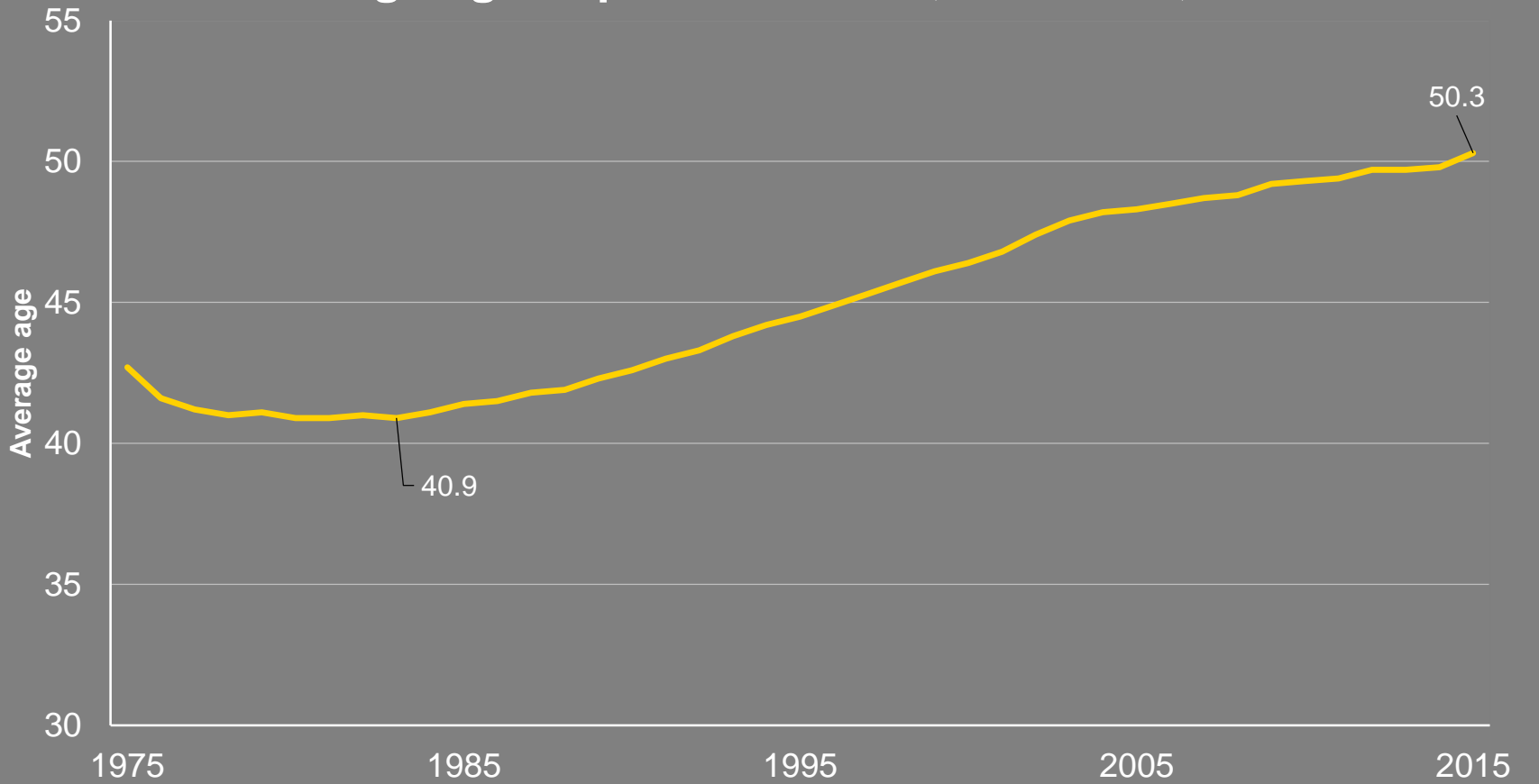
What does “graying of the fleet” mean?

- Fewer young fishermen in the fleet = older average age of fishermen
- *What is the average age of a permit holder in Alaska’s commercial fisheries?*



Aging Fleet

Average age of permit holders, statewide, 1975-2015



Data from CFEC 2016



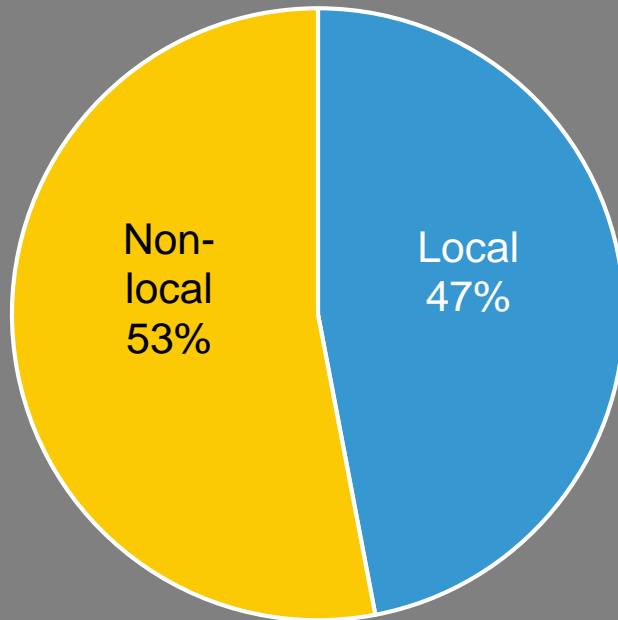
Permit outmigration

- 2 ways permits leave local communities
- Permits are bought by people that live outside Bristol Bay
 - Other places in Alaska
 - Other states
- People that have permits move outside Bristol Bay

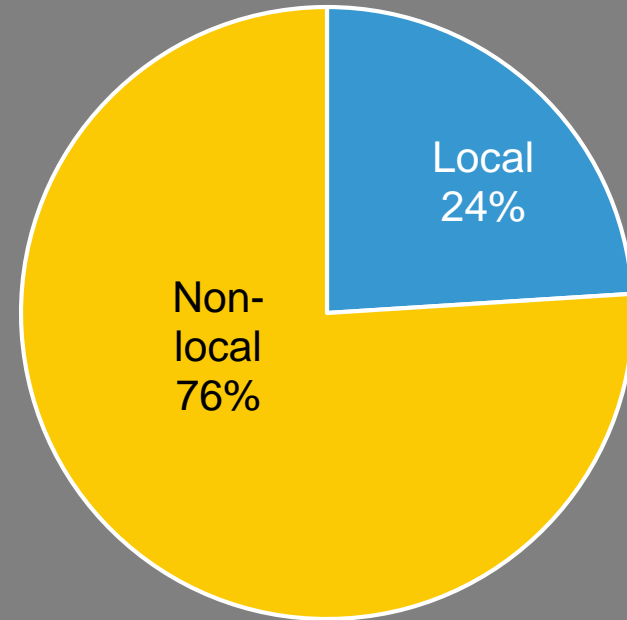


Loss of local permits in Bristol Bay

1975



2015





So why are we here?

- We are trying to understand how young people in Bristol Bay feel about commercial fishing and their communities, and how they are connected to fishing
- We are going to
 - Share survey results
 - Ask you for your ideas/thoughts
- *Do you think it's important for young people in Bristol Bay to have opportunities to fish?*



Who completed this survey?

A vertical poster for a school survey. At the top is the 'ALASKA'S NEXT GENERATION OF FISHERMEN' logo and a small version of the fish/crab/sailboat illustration. Below this is the text 'a school survey for' followed by 'BRISTOL BAY + KODIAK ARCHIPELAGO' in large bold letters. Underneath is 'experiences and opinions about fishing and your community'. The middle section contains a grid of eight small photos: a boat on a pier, a boat in a bay, a coastal town, a blue building, a green landscape, a yellow boat, a boat on water, and a red boat. The bottom section is divided into 'RESEARCH PARTNERS' and 'FUNDERS'. Research partners include the Alaska Marine Conservation Council and UAF Alaska Fisheries Center. Funders include Sea Grant Alaska and a globe icon.

ALASKA'S
NEXT
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a school survey for

BRISTOL BAY + KODIAK ARCHIPELAGO

experiences and opinions about fishing and your community

RESEARCH PARTNERS

FUNDERS

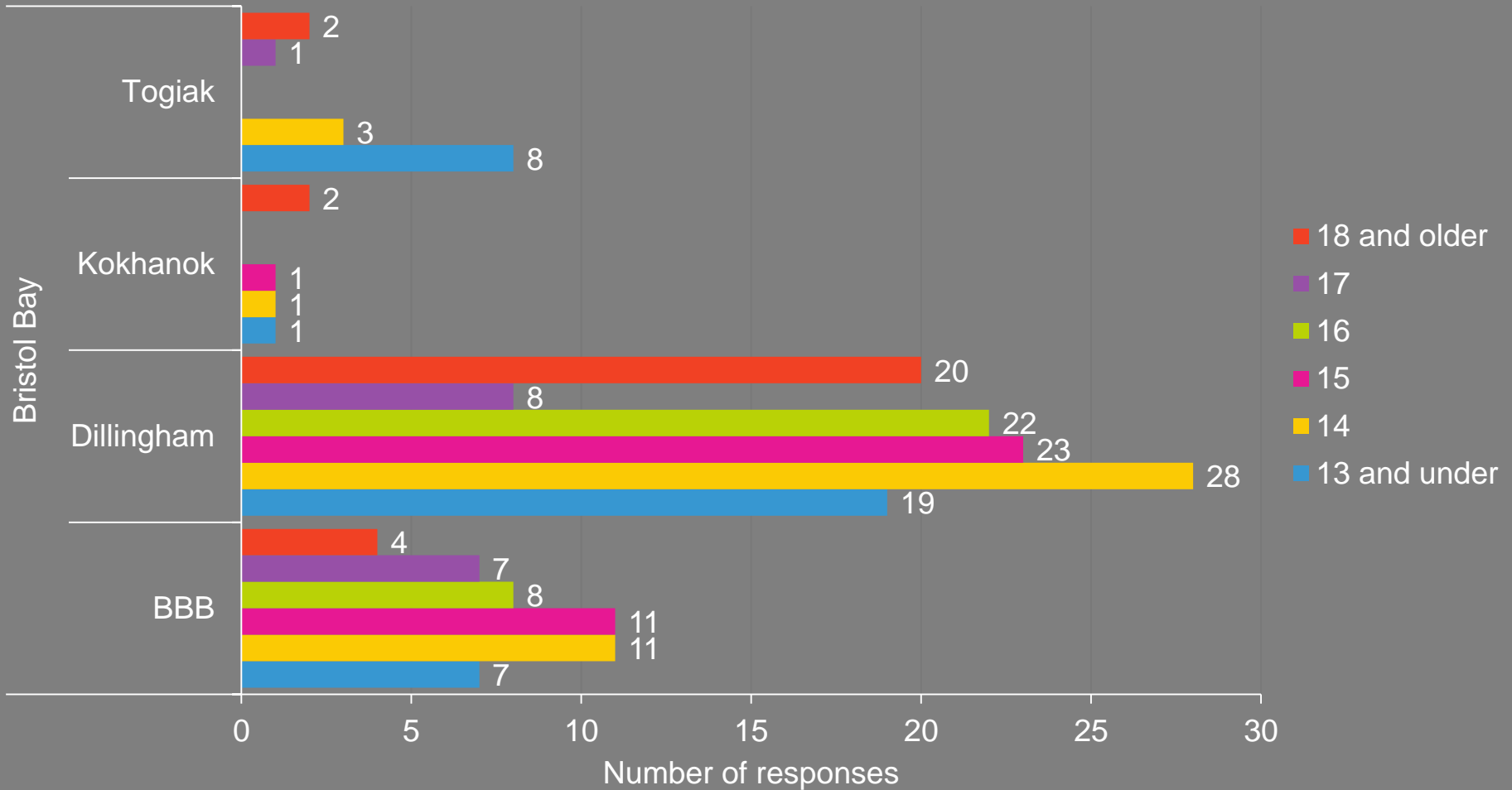


Who completed this survey?





Age of survey respondents: Bristol Bay



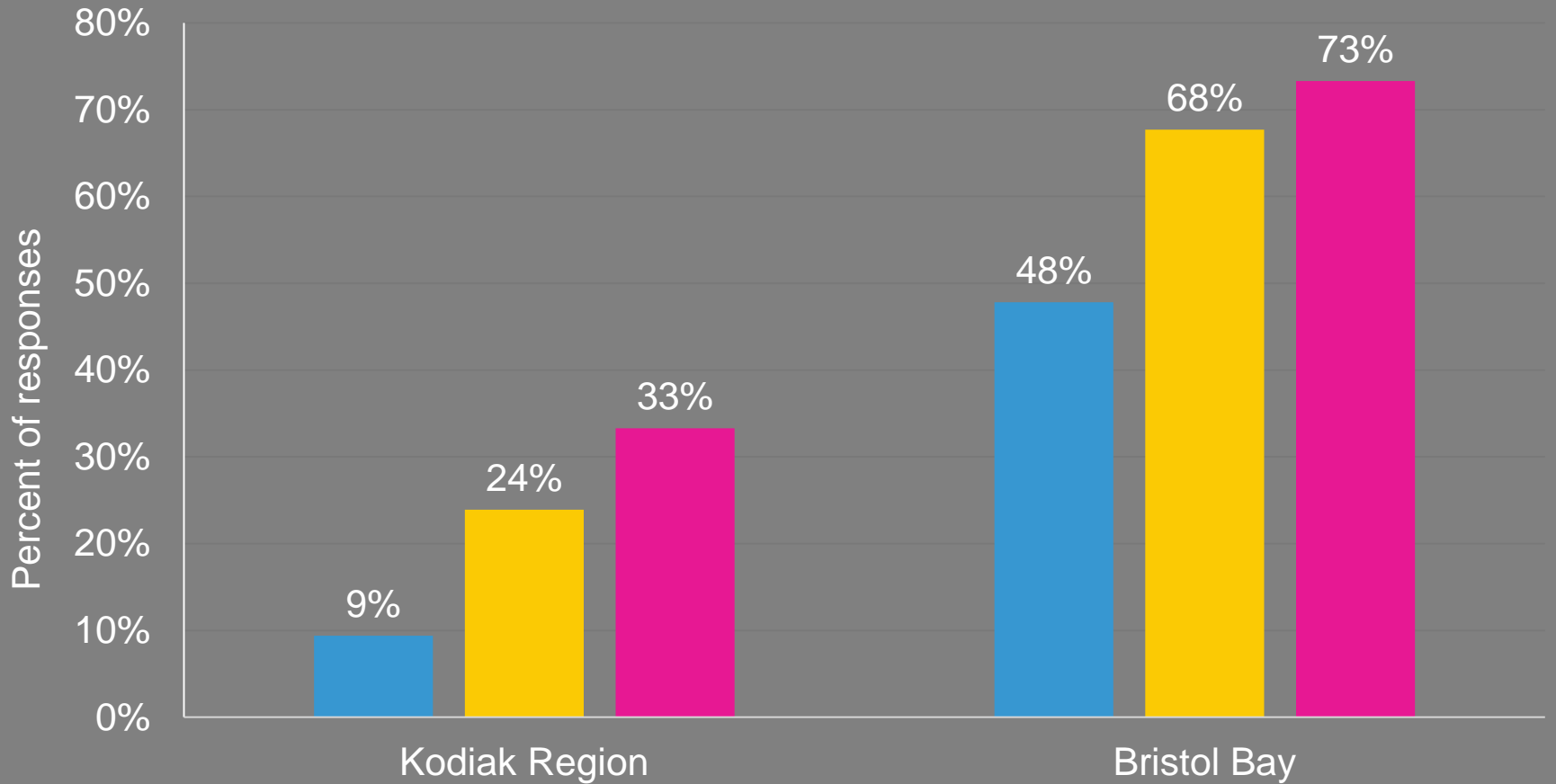


Key questions about fishing and community

- Raise hand if:
 - Anyone in your family used to fish
- Keep it raised if:
 - Anyone in your family fishes now
- Keep it raised if:
 - You have ever fished before or fish now



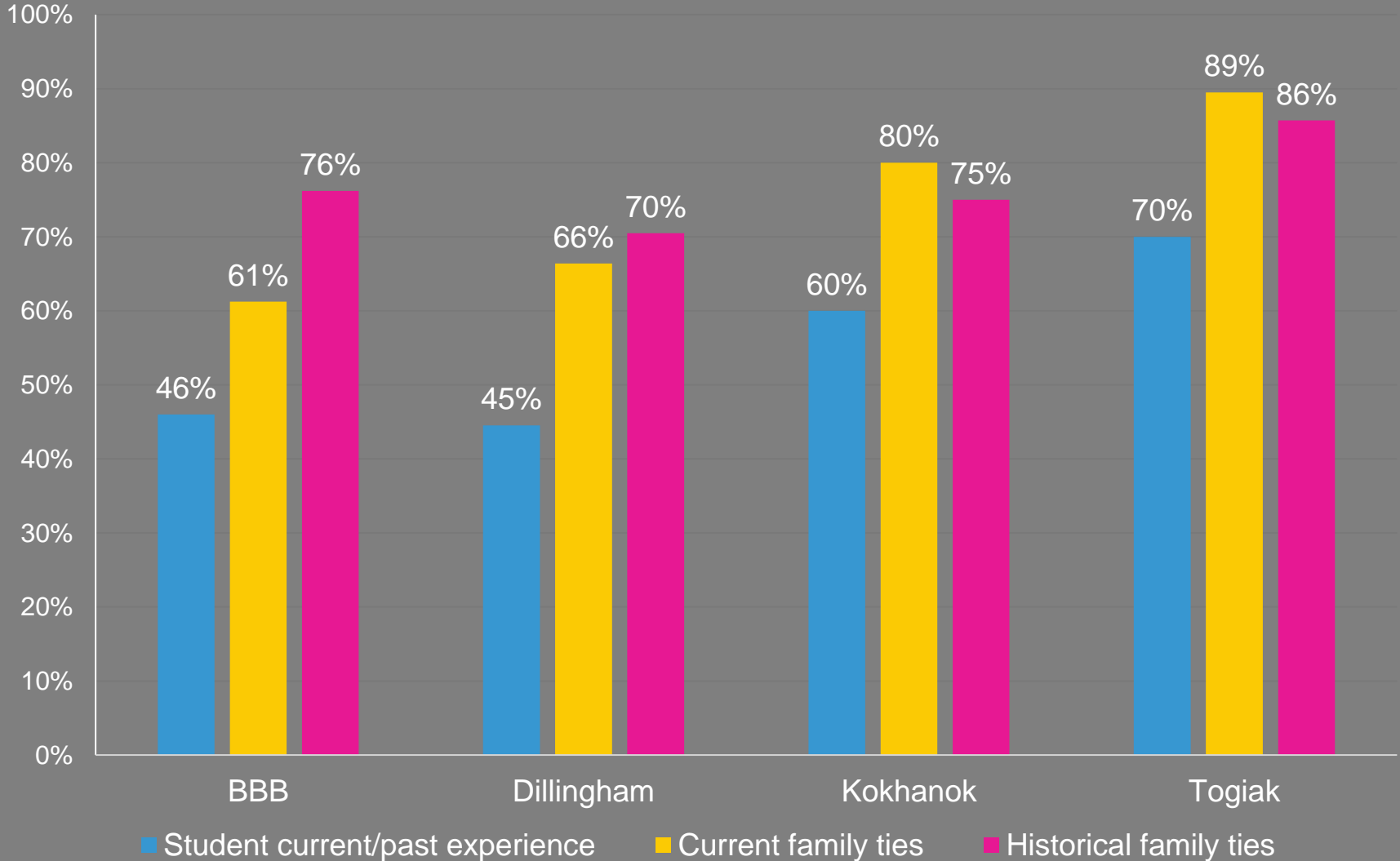
Ties to fishing



■ Youth engaged in fishing ■ Current family ties to fishing ■ Historic family ties to fishing
Student Survey Data: Kodiak n=609; Bristol Bay n=204



Ties to fishing by community: Bristol Bay Region





Your turn to choose!

Top concern about community in Togiak

What percent of Togiak students want to fish in the future?

Agree or disagree: I'm happy living here

What percent of Togiak students have been encouraged to fish?

Agree or disagree: fishing is too hard

Best things about Togiak

Agree or disagree: fishing is fun

Which BB community had the most students with fishing experience?

Reasons why Togiak students don't want to fish commercially

Carry on!

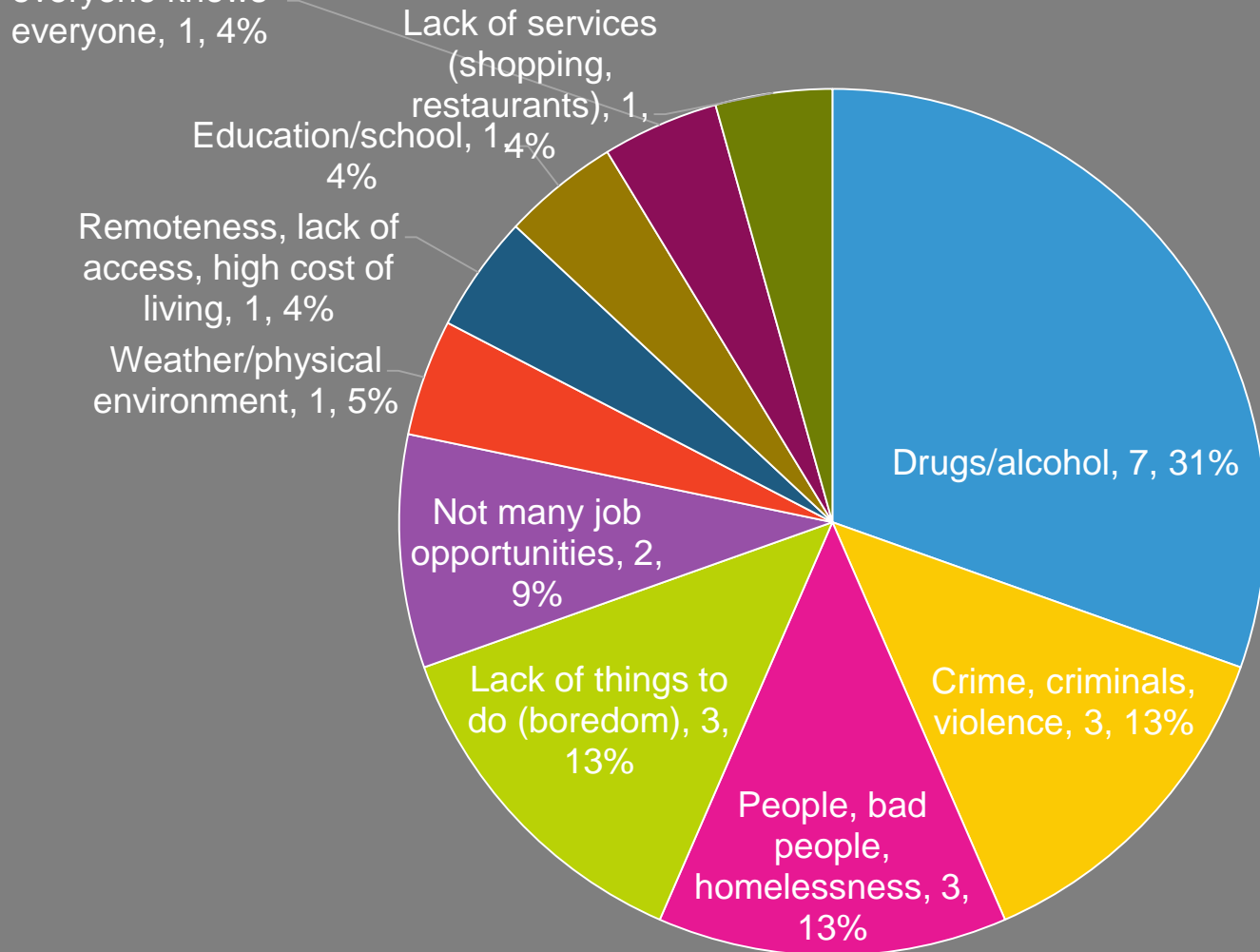


We asked: “what are your biggest concerns about your community?”

What was the number one answer that students gave?



What are your biggest concerns about your community? Togiak



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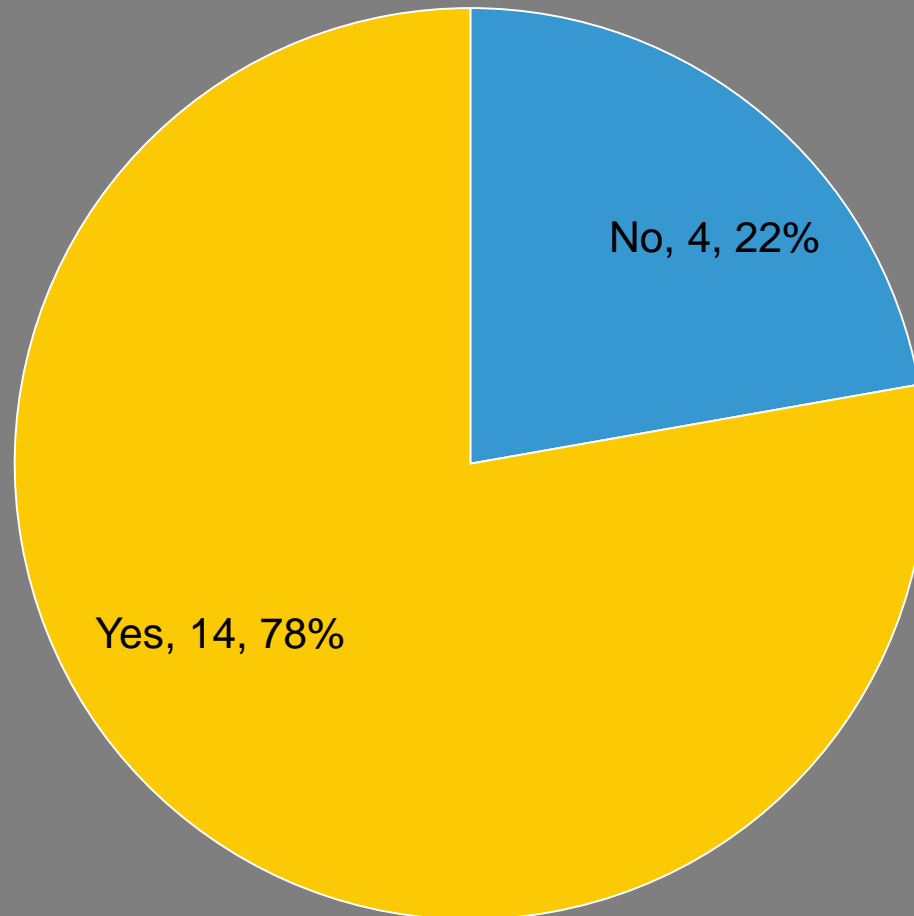


What percent of Togiak students want to fish commercially in the future?

- a) 10%
- b) 50%
- c) 78%



Are you interested in getting more involved in commercial fishing?
Togiak



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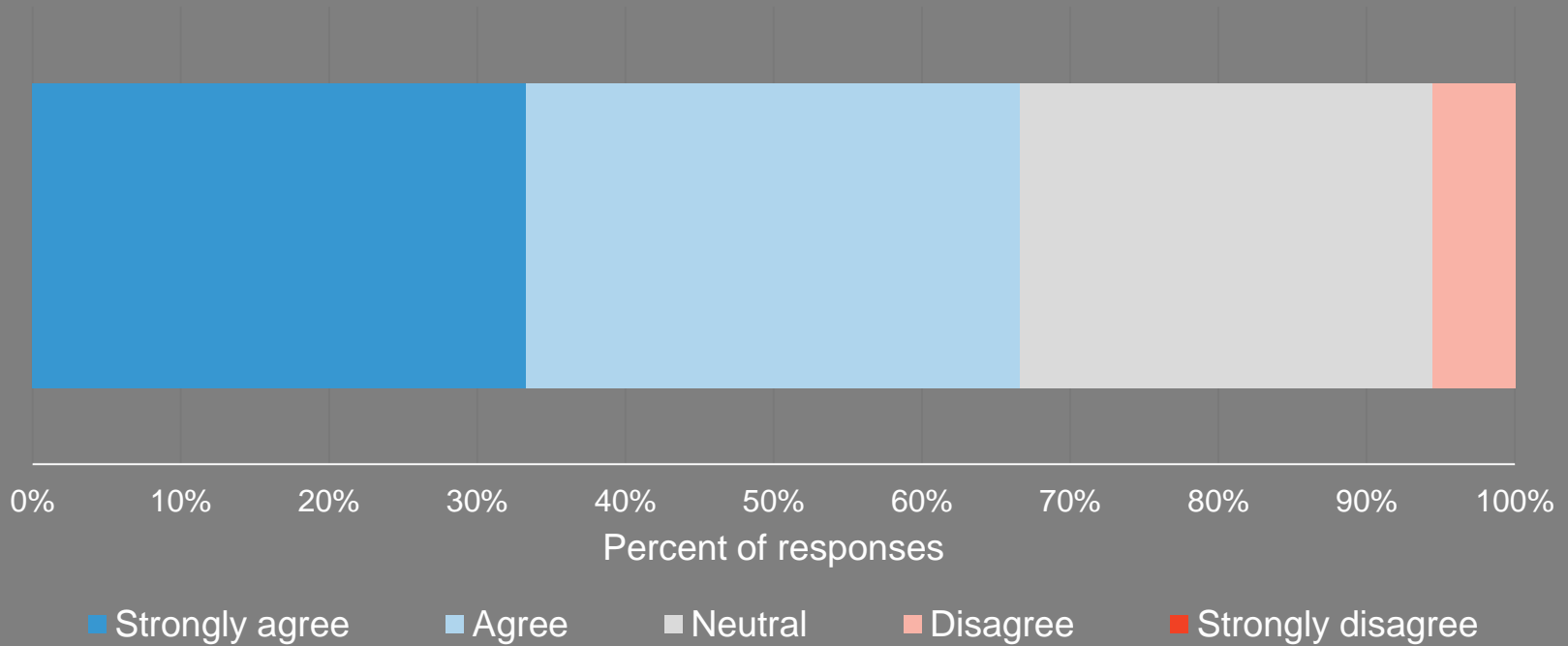


We asked Togiak students if they agreed or disagreed with the statement: “I’m happy living here”

Did more students agree with or disagree with this statement?



I'm happy living here



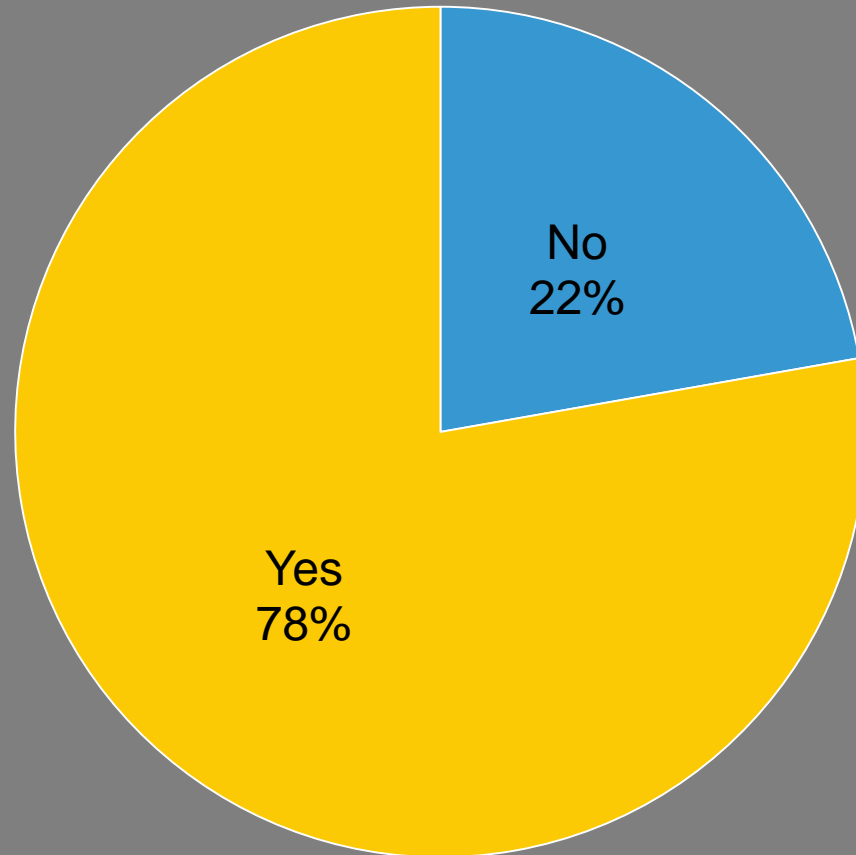
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What percent of Togiak students have been encouraged to enter commercial fishing?



Have you been encouraged to enter commercial fishing?



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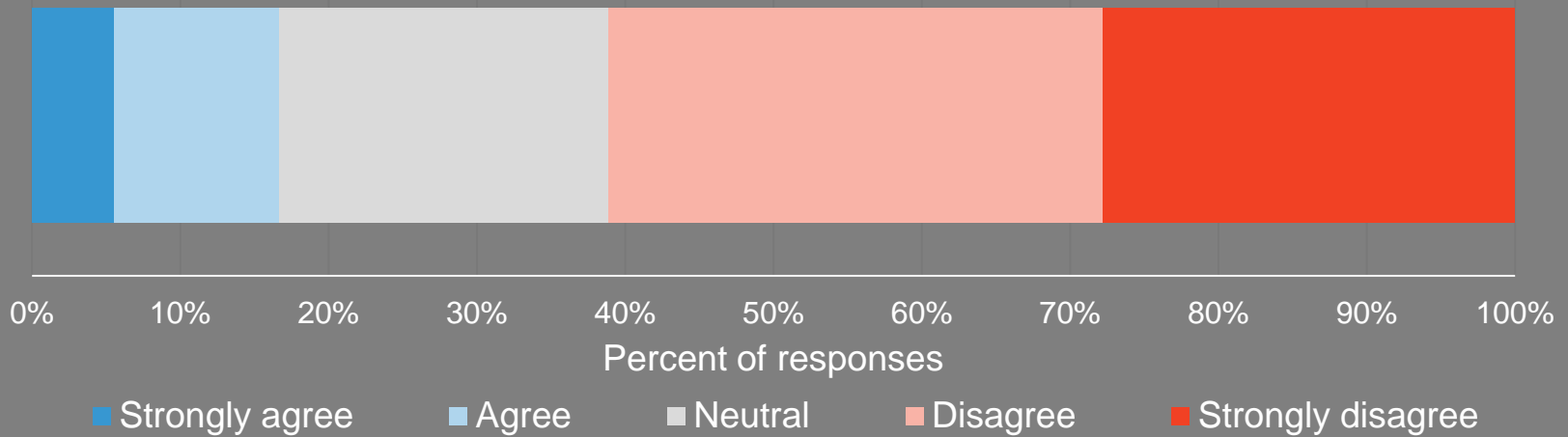


We asked Togiak students if they agreed or disagreed with the statement: “fishing is too hard”

Did more students agree with or disagree with this statement?



Fishing is too hard (tiring, cold, painful, etc.)



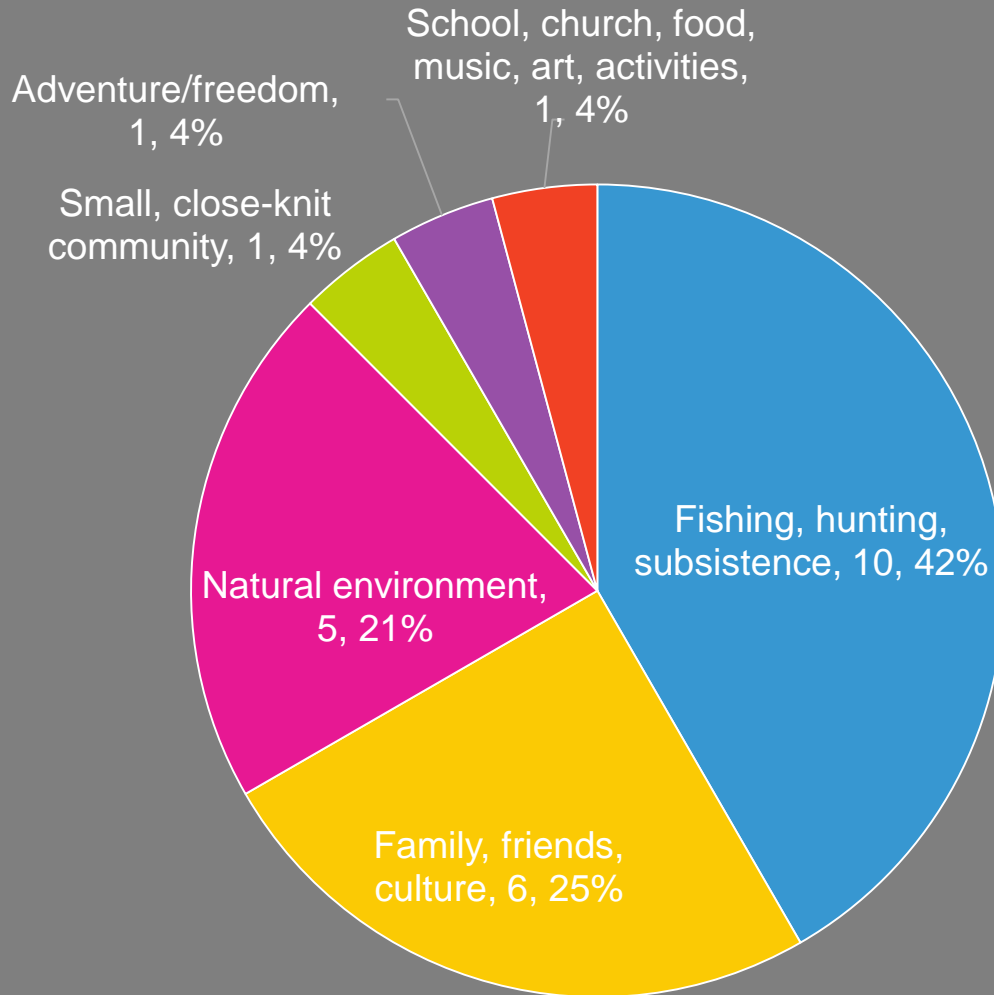


We asked Togiak students: “what are the best things about your community?”

What was the number one answer?



What are the best things about your community? Togiak



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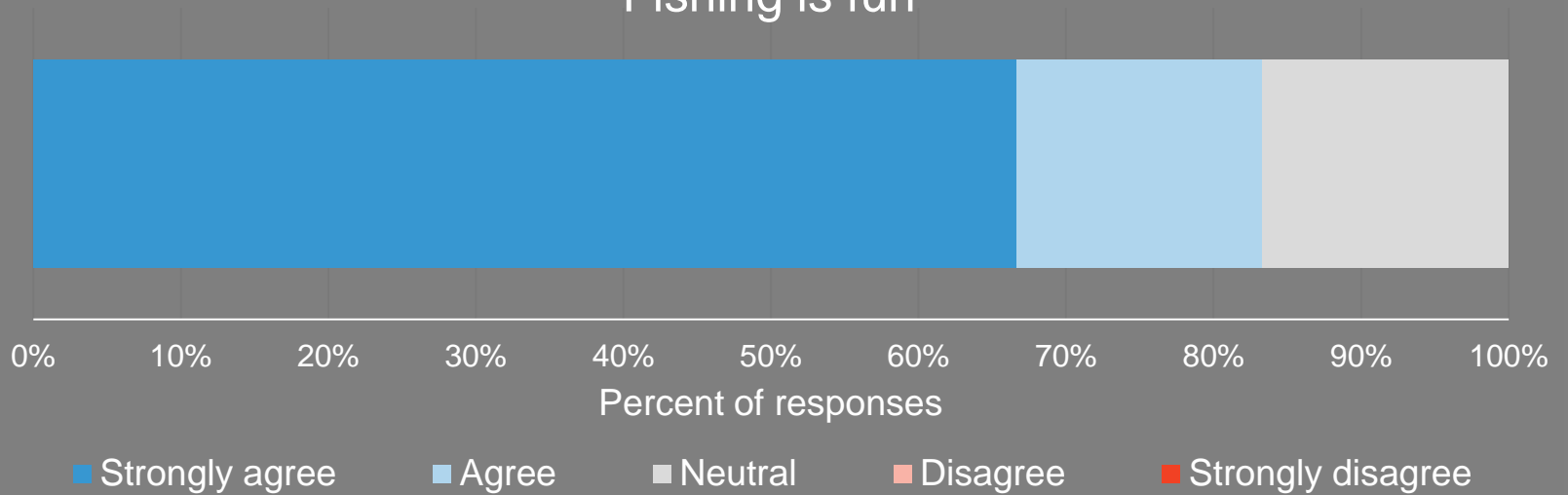


We asked Togiak students if they agreed or disagreed with the statement: “fishing is fun”

Did more students agree with or disagree with this statement?



Fishing is fun



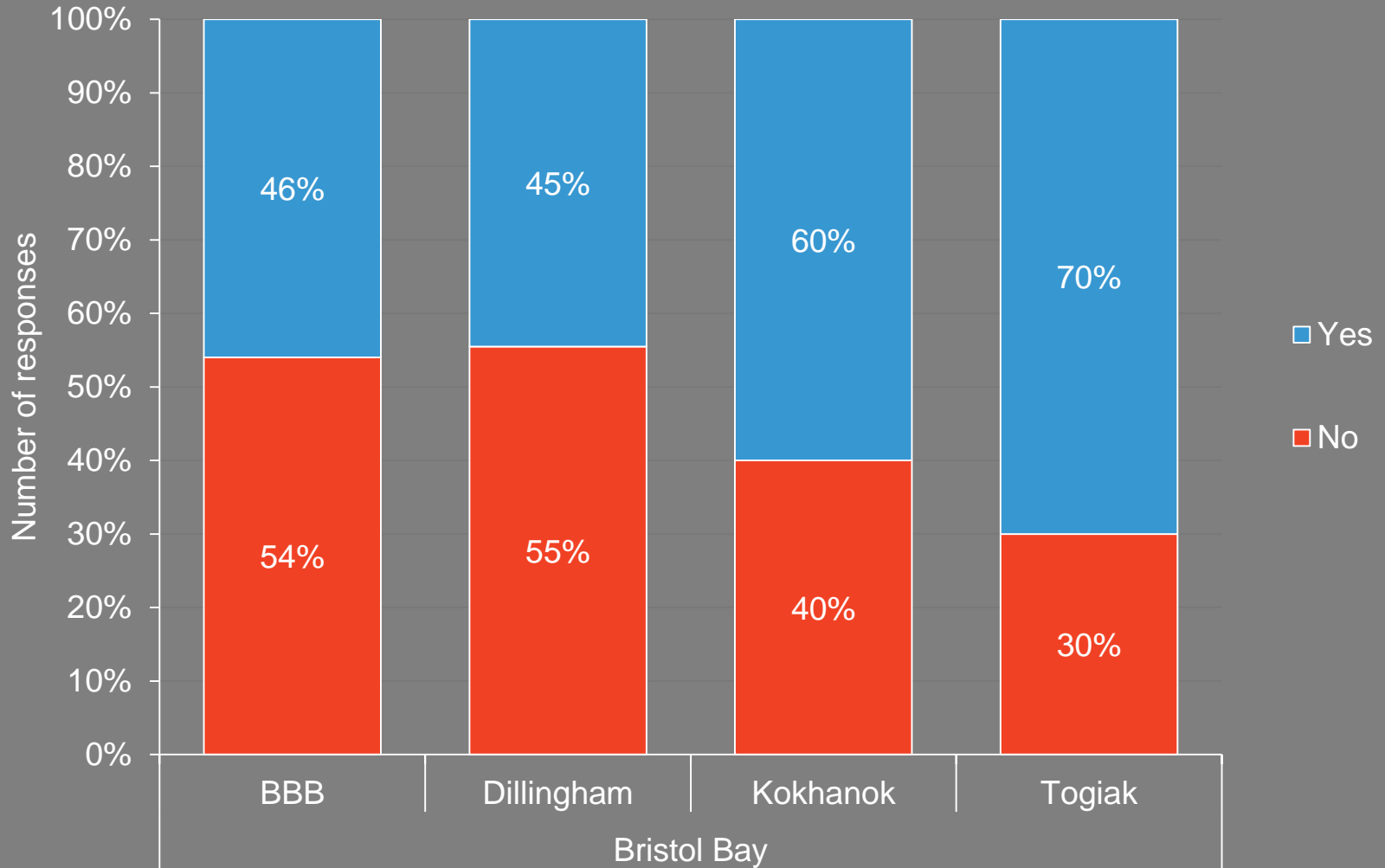


Which Bristol Bay community had the highest percentage of students with fishing experience?

- a) Kokhanok
- b) Togiak
- c) Dillingham
- d) Bristol Bay Borough



Have you ever worked in commercial fishing?





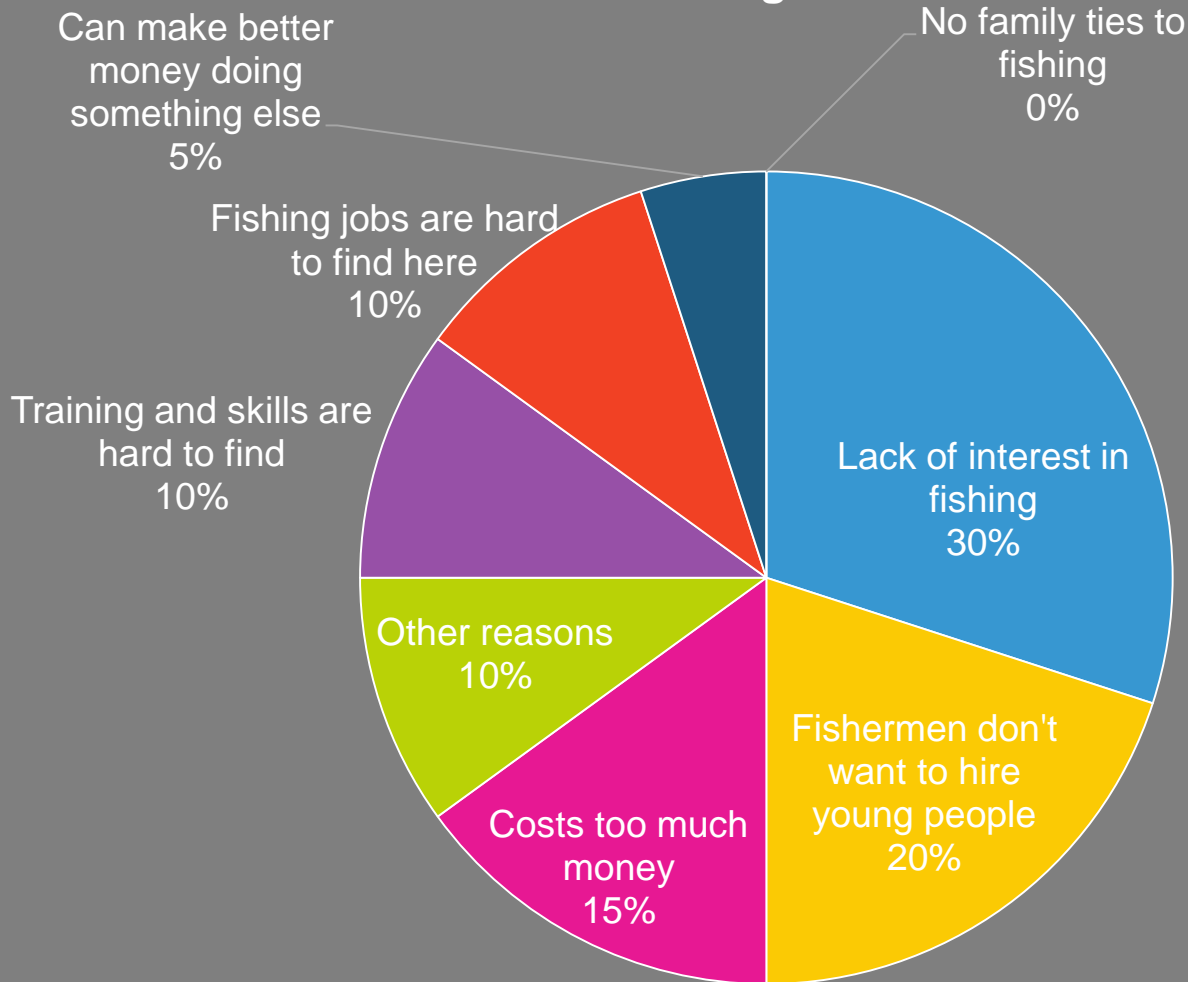
We asked students: “why might you or another young person not want to enter commercial fishing?”

Name a reason that was given.



Why might you or another young person not enter commercial fishing?

Togiak



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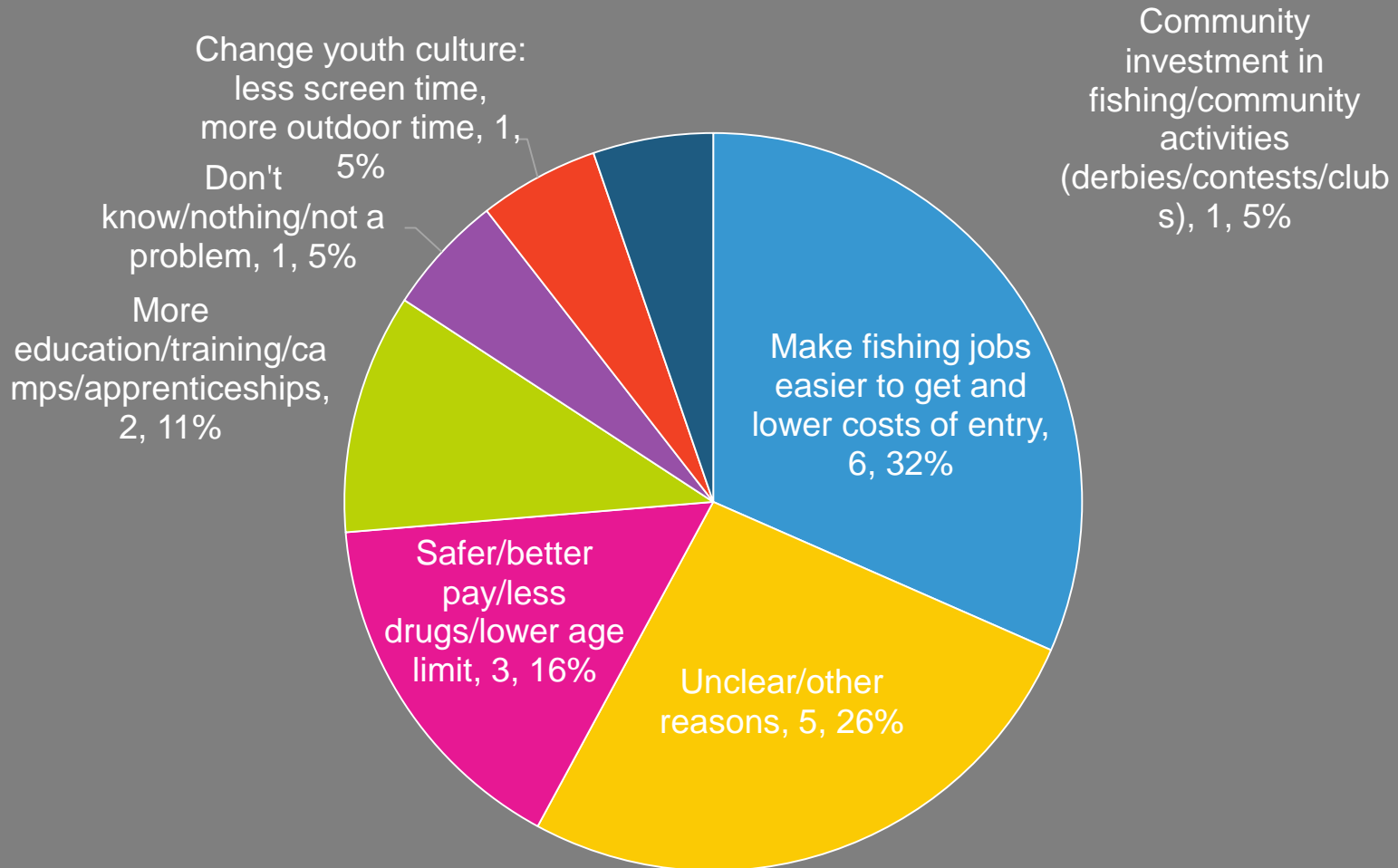


One more thing

- Do you think that the graying of the fleet is a problem?
- If you do, what are some suggestions that might make it better for young people trying to get into commercial fishing?
- What are some changes you would like to see in your community?



What changes could be made in your community or region to help young people get into fishing? Togiak





Thanks! Please keep in touch!

fishermen.alaska.edu/

Facebook #AKNextGenFishermen

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