

Workforce mapping report

October 2022- September 2023



Overview

The workforce mapping survey supports policy and advocacy work at BACP, by building a current picture of members' working practices. This enables BACP to identify gaps in provision and make a stronger case for support with policy makers and commissioners.

Some of the key areas of information being collected are:

- Sectors members work in
- Client groups worked with
- Areas of practice specialism
- Levels of training
- Income and capacity for additional employment
- Demographic characteristics

The findings from the workforce mapping survey have been used, and continue to be used, by BACP's policy team to inform wider policy discussions and strategy relating to the counselling professions. This includes using the information gathered about aspects such as annual income, working hours, additional client hours required, training, professional roles and assessing differences across sectors (for example, third sector, private practice, children young people and families, healthcare, and workplace settings), nations, and by demographic characteristics. This helps identify differences between these groups and where further support may be needed. This report presents an analysis of a portion of the key findings from the workforce mapping survey.

Since its inception, data from this survey has been used by the BACP policy team in direct briefings to ministers across the four nations. This has included briefings related to health inequalities, school counselling, effectiveness of government catchup and mental health recovery, support for migrants and the mental health strategy consultation.

Key Findings

Professional roles

The most common professional role was as a practitioner in private practice or in the third, charitable and voluntary sector. Approximately one quarter (24.57%) of respondents were supervisors

Annual income

Just under three quarters (70.13%) of respondents earn an annual income of £30,000 or less from their counselling work, with 36.4% of those earning £12,500 or less.

38.54% of respondents agree they could earn a living from their counselling work, an decrease of 2% from the previous year (40.33%).

Paid hours

The average number of paid client contact hours a week was around 12.25 across most sectors.

Unpaid and voluntary hours

The average number of unpaid or voluntary client contact hours a week was 1.21, slightly higher than the previous year's findings (1.17,) although 66.8% reported working zero unpaid hours, which is higher than last year. 43.3% of respondents working in the third sector worked zero unpaid hours compared to 72.43% working in private practice. 56.48% of third sector practitioners worked some unpaid hours, which is lower than the previous year's findings (60.59%). A higher proportion of respondents working in the third sector are earning £0 from counselling related work (25.44%) than any other sector.

Additional paid work

29.3% of respondents did not want any additional paid work Of those who did, on average they wanted 3.67 additional paid hours per week In relation to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), the survey found that:

Ethnicity

A higher proportion of those identifying as Black/African/Caribbean/Black British earned £12,500 or under (43.9%) compared with other ethnicities. There was little difference between the other ethnicities in relation to income

Age

A higher proportion of respondents aged 65 and over earned £12,500 or less from counselling related work. There was little difference between other age groups in relation to income.

Disabilities

A higher proportion (46.33%) of respondents who identified as having a disability earned £12,500 or less from counselling related work than those who did not identify as having a disability

Gender

There were few differences relating to income by gender identity. 36.54% of those identifying as 'A man' earned up to £12,500 compared with 37.8% of those identifying as 'A Woman'.

Sexual orientation

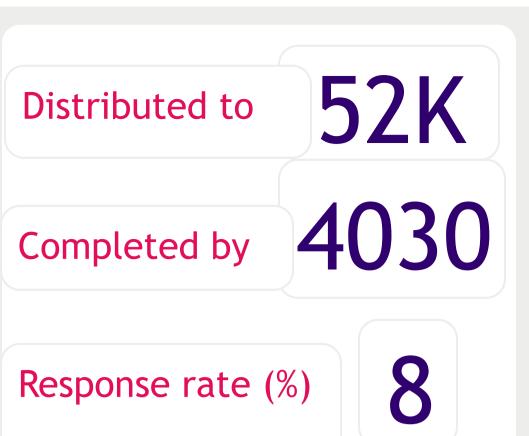
There were some difference in the proportion of respondents in relation to income, however data ought to be interpreted with caution due to the low number of respondents in some categories.

Religion

There were some differences between groups in relation to income earned from counselling related work, however data must be interpreted with caution due to small sample sizes in some groups.

Relationship Status

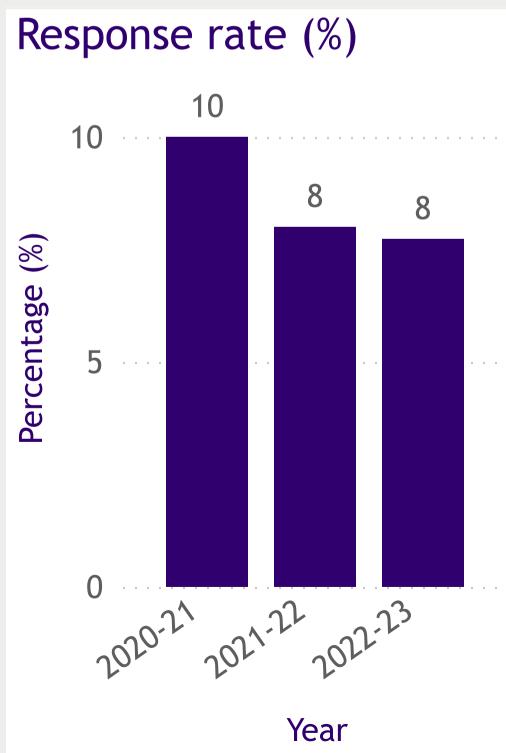
There were no significant differences between groups in relation to income obtained from counselling related work.

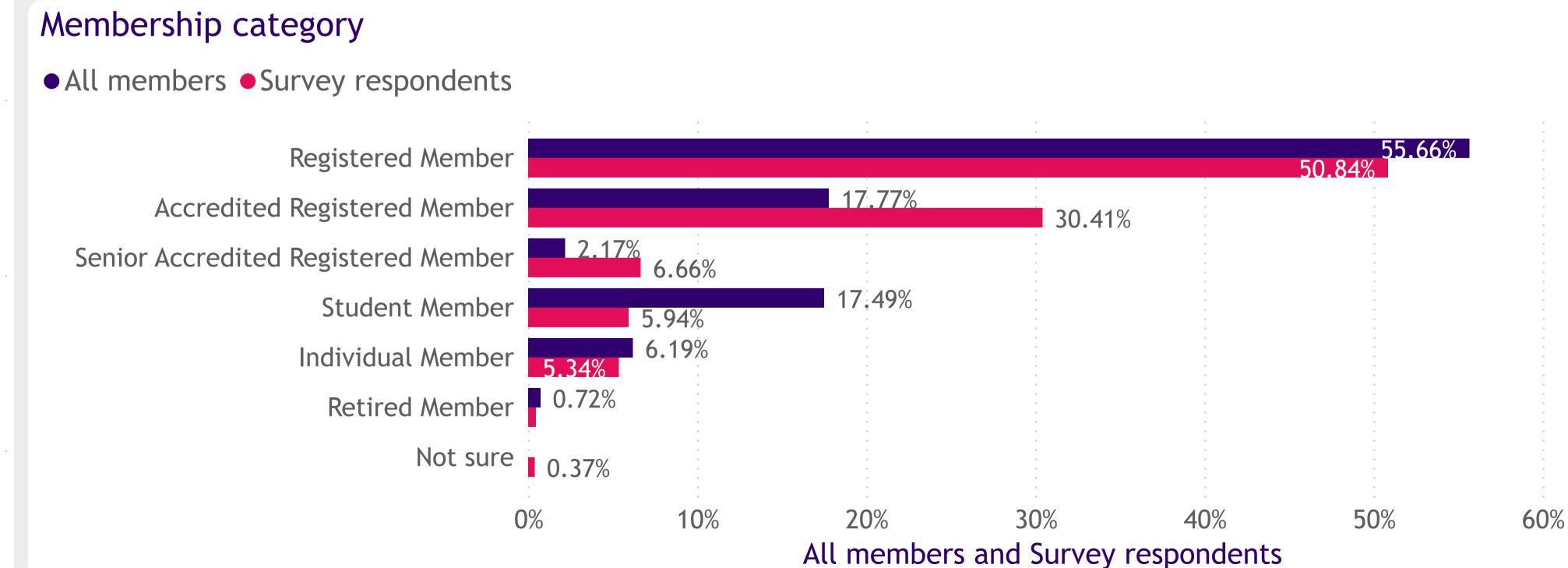


The 3rd year of the workforce mapping survey went live on 6 October 2021 and was distributed to members who had renewed their membership in the previous month. New members, those who renewed late, or reinstated their membership after a break and retired members did not receive the survey. The survey was distributed to fifty-two thousand members and completed by 4030, resulting in a response rate of 8%.

Whilst Registered (MBACP) and Individual Members are fairly represented in the respondents to this survey, there is an under representation from student members who make up nearly 18% of the entire BACP membership but only 5.94% of respondents to this survey.

There is also over representation from BACP Registered Accredited members who make up over 17% of total membership but represented 30,41% of respondents to this survey, and an over representation from BACP Registered Senior Accredited members who make up under 3% of the entire BACP membership but are represented by nearly 7% of respondents in this survey.

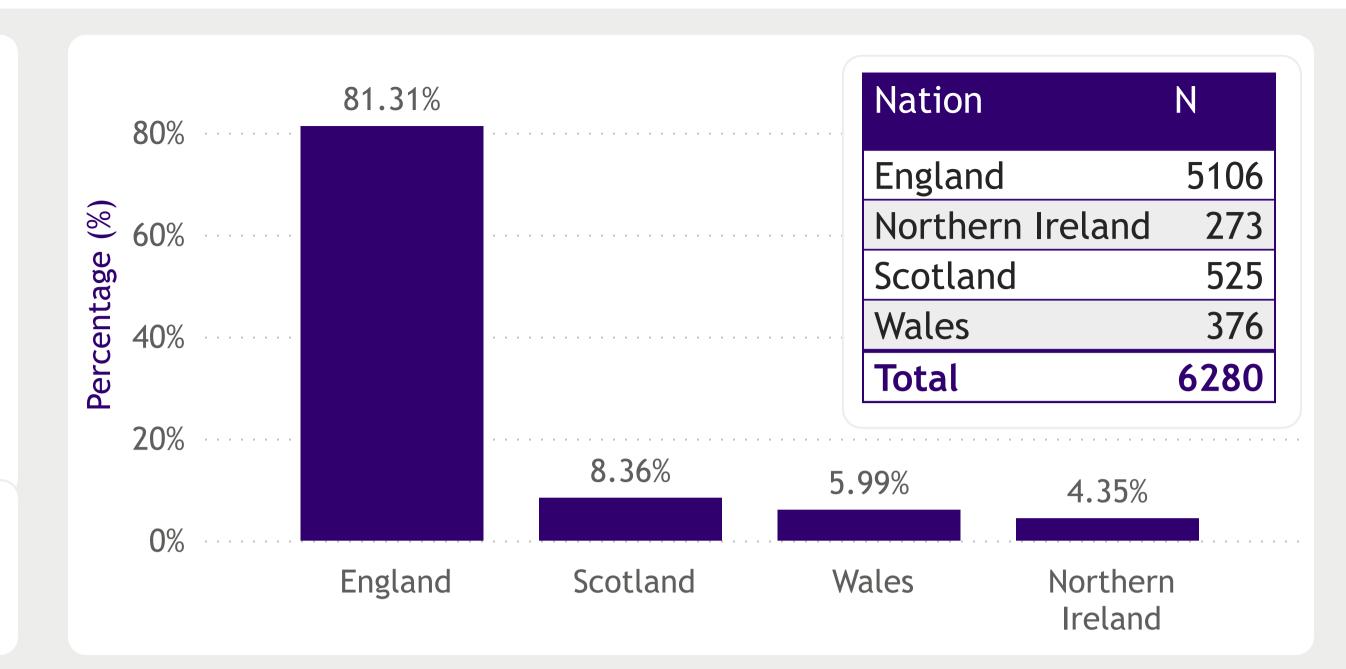


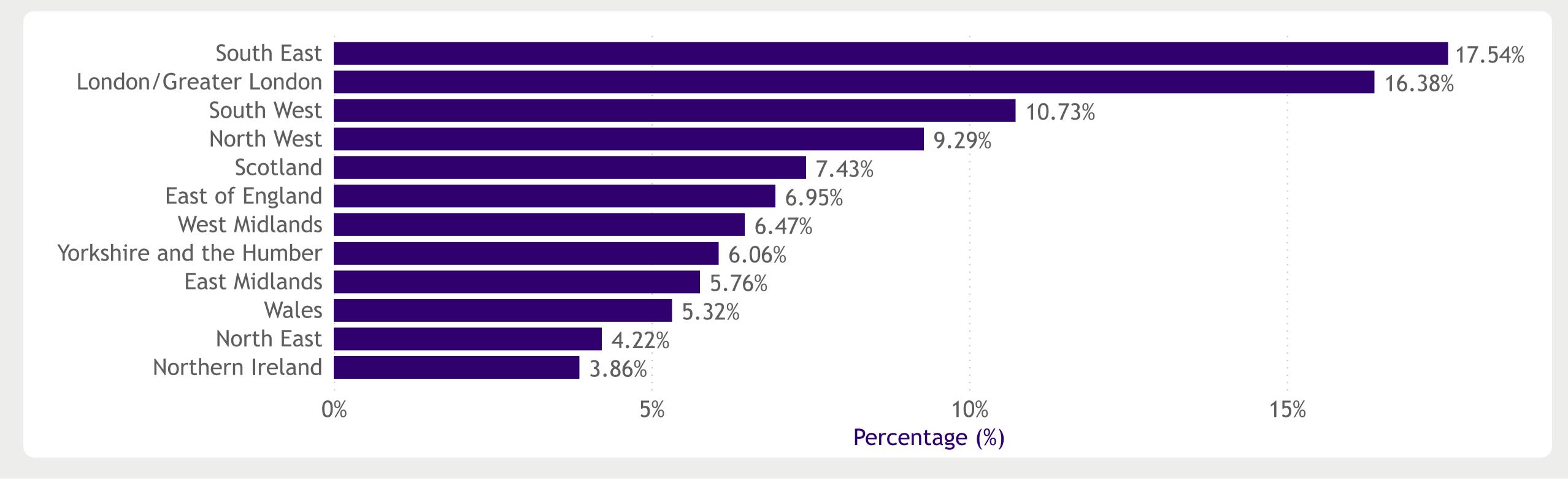


The majority of respondents were located in England (81.31%) however there was representation from each of the four nations (Scotland 8.36%, N = 525; Wales 5.99%, N = 376; Northern Ireland, 4.35%, N = 273).

Within England the highest proportion of respondents were located in the Southeast (17.54%) or London (16.38%) region.

Note: Respondents can select all that apply when asked 'Where do you practice?'





Protected Characteristics

Respondents were invited to complete questions relating to each of the protected characteristics. These questions are asked to help us to better understand our members and monitor changes over time. Responses to these questions help us to understand how representative responses are of our broader membership and to national data from the Office for National Statistics (ONS). We are also able to explore differences in responses to survey questions between demographic groups.

The next few pages present the data relating to each of the protected characteristics alongside comparative data, where available, from the 2021 Census as reported by the Office for National Statistics.

Data have been combined to enable comparisons to be made, the full list of survey items and response options can be made available on request.

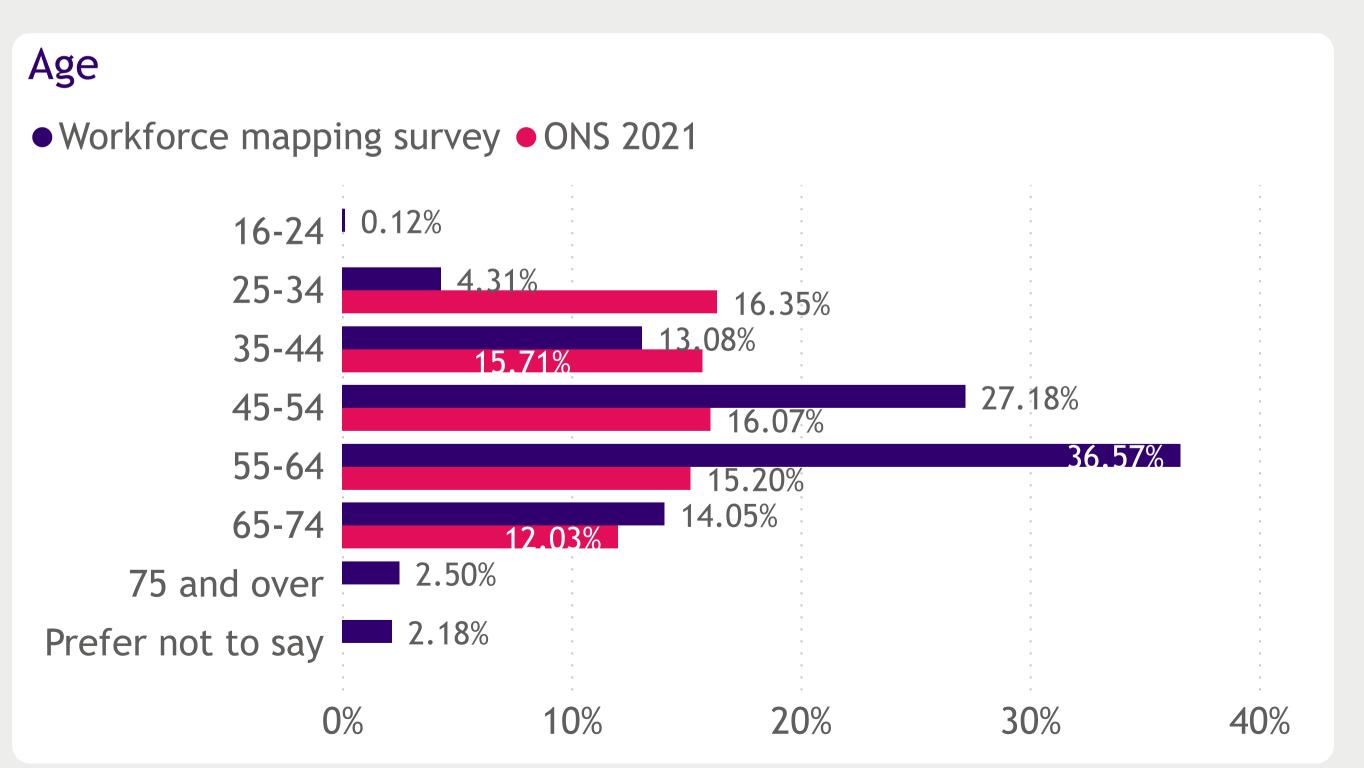
Age and Ethnicity

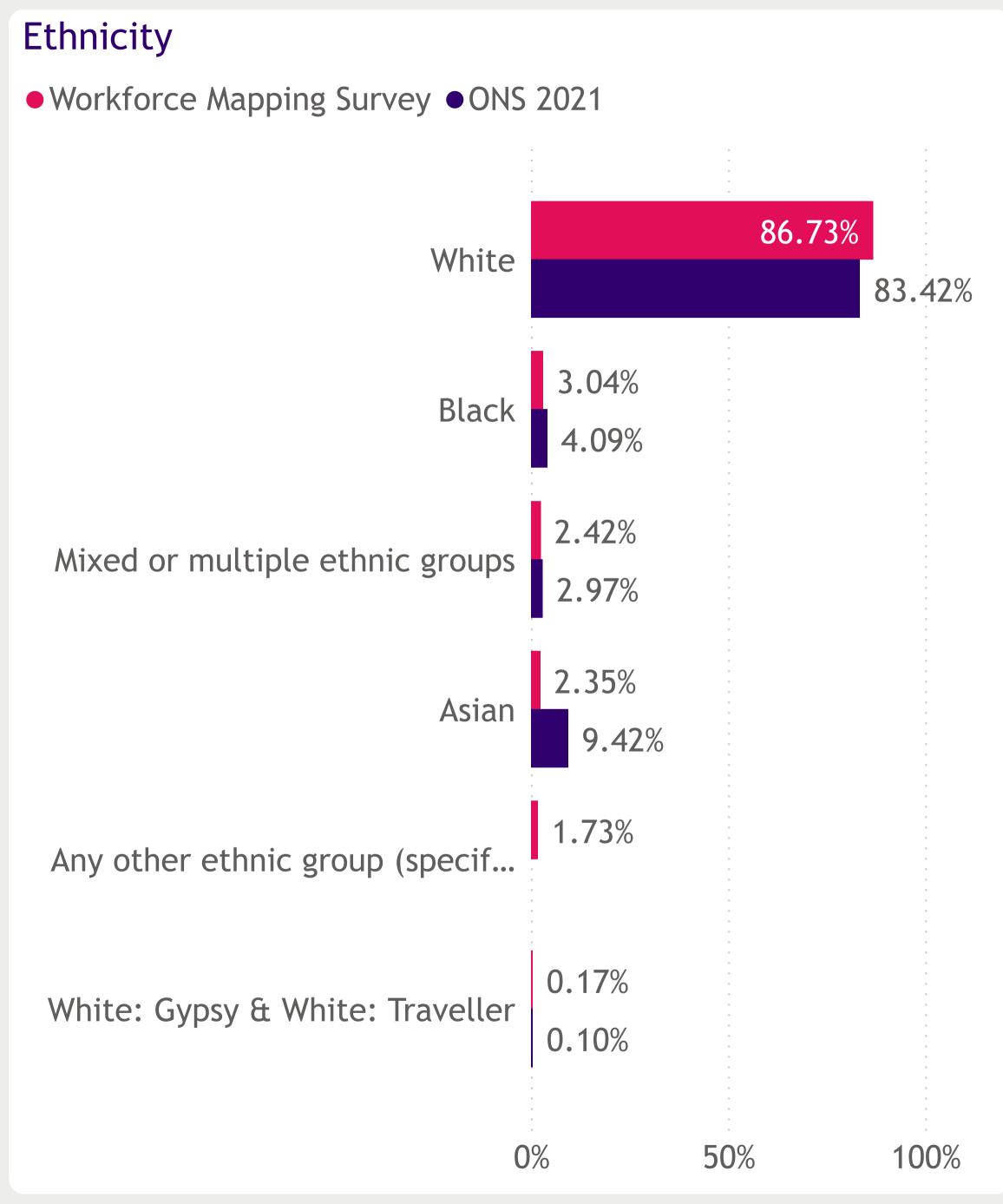
The majority of respondents to this survey identify as white (86.73%) and between the ages of 45 and 65 years (27.18% 45-54; 36.57% 55-64).

Compared to national averages there is an under-representation of individuals completing this survey from Asian and Black ethnicities:

9.42% of the UK population would identify as Asian, compared with 2.35% of survey respondents

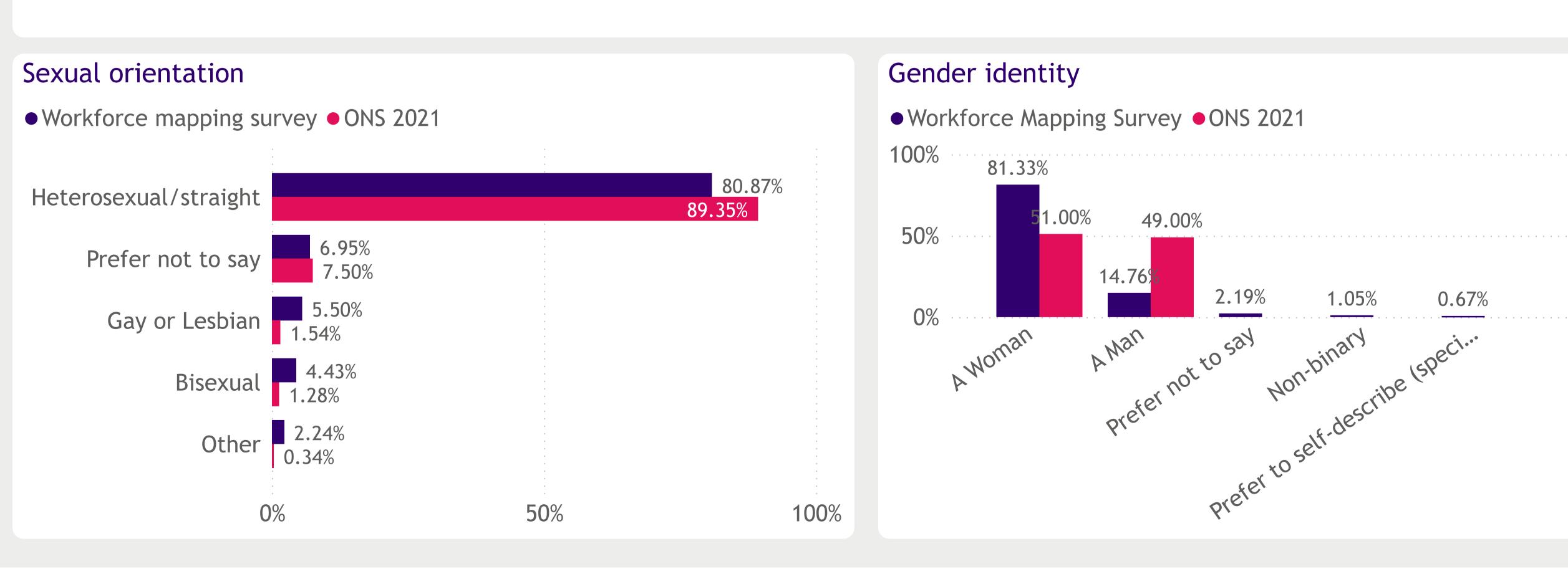
4% of the UK population identify as Black compared with 3.04% of survey respondents.





Gender, Sex and Sexual Orientation

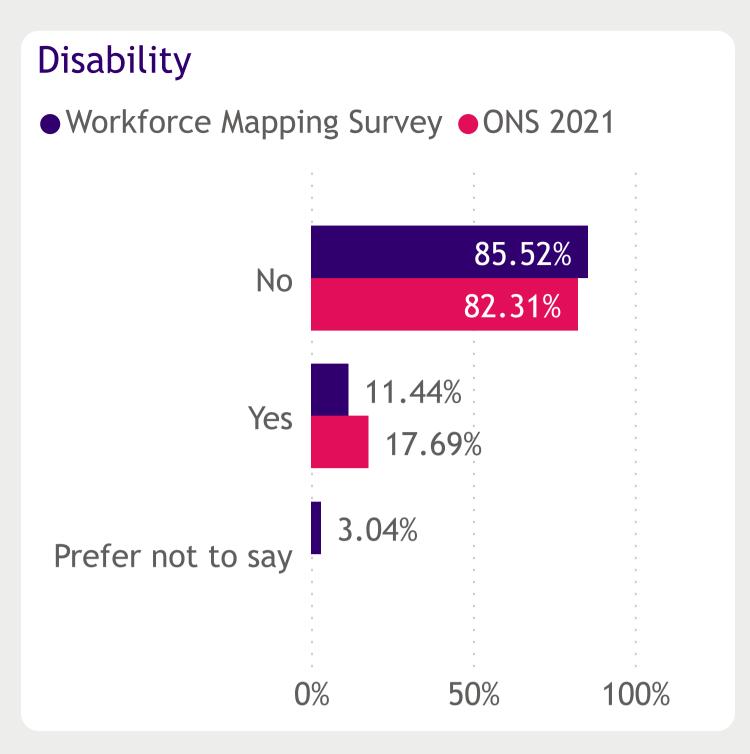
The majority of respondents to this survey identify as heterosexual (80.87%), and as A Woman (81.33%).

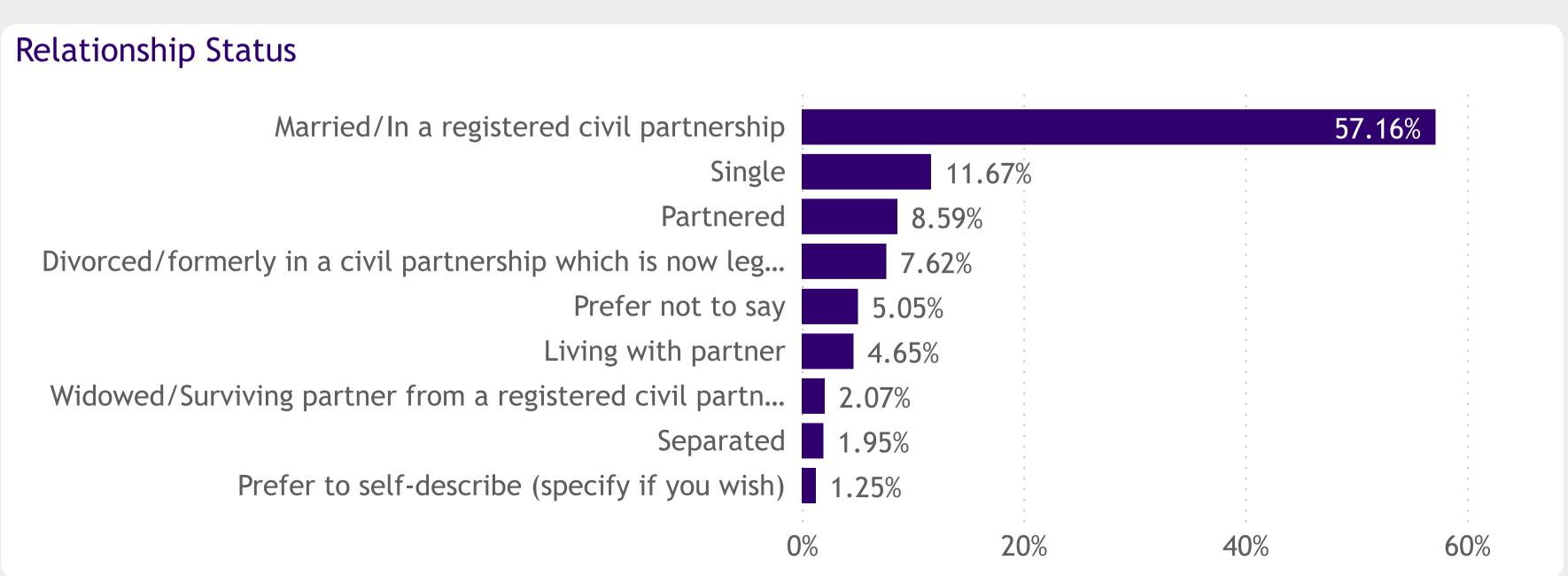


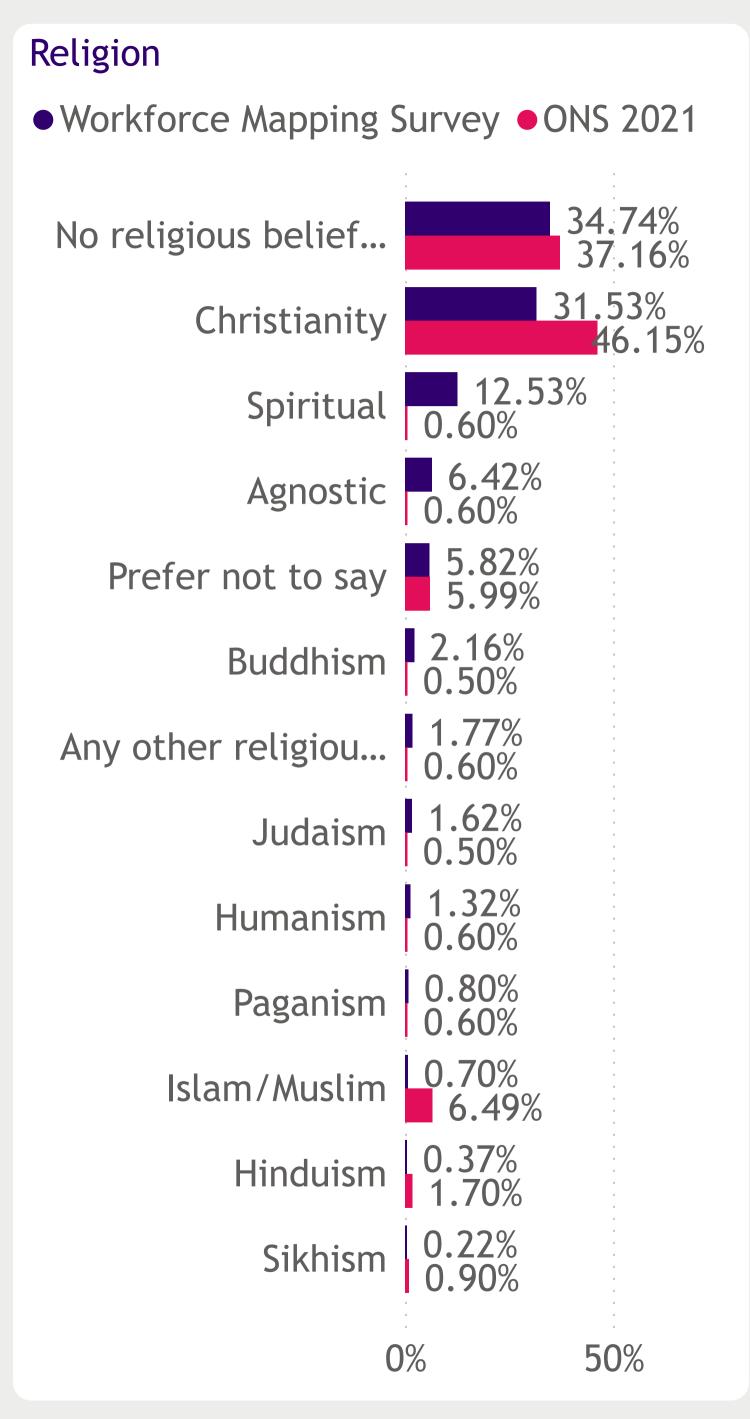
Disability, Religion and Relationship Status

The majority of respondents to this survey do not consider themselves to be disabled (85.52%), have no religious belief (34.74%) or identify as Christian (31.53%) and identify as married or in a registered civil partnership (57.16%).

17.69% of the general population identify as have a disability, compared with 11.44% of respondents to this survey.





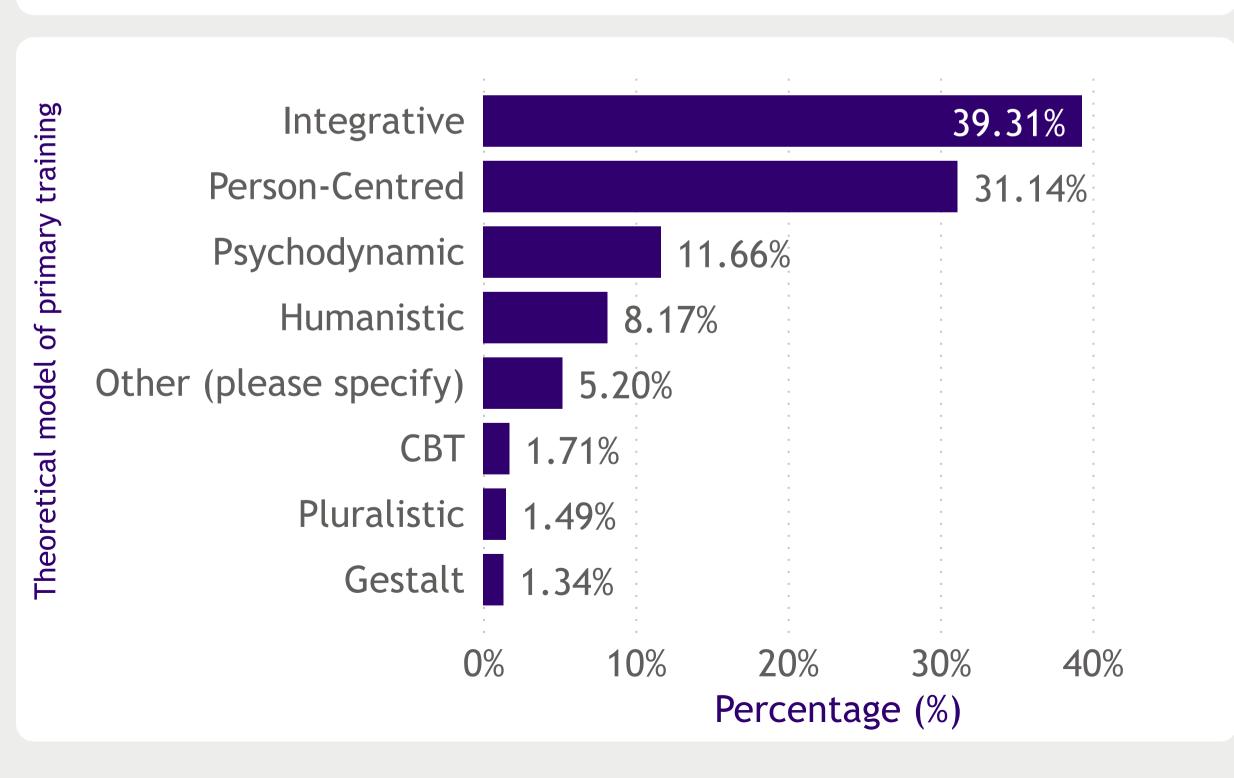


Training

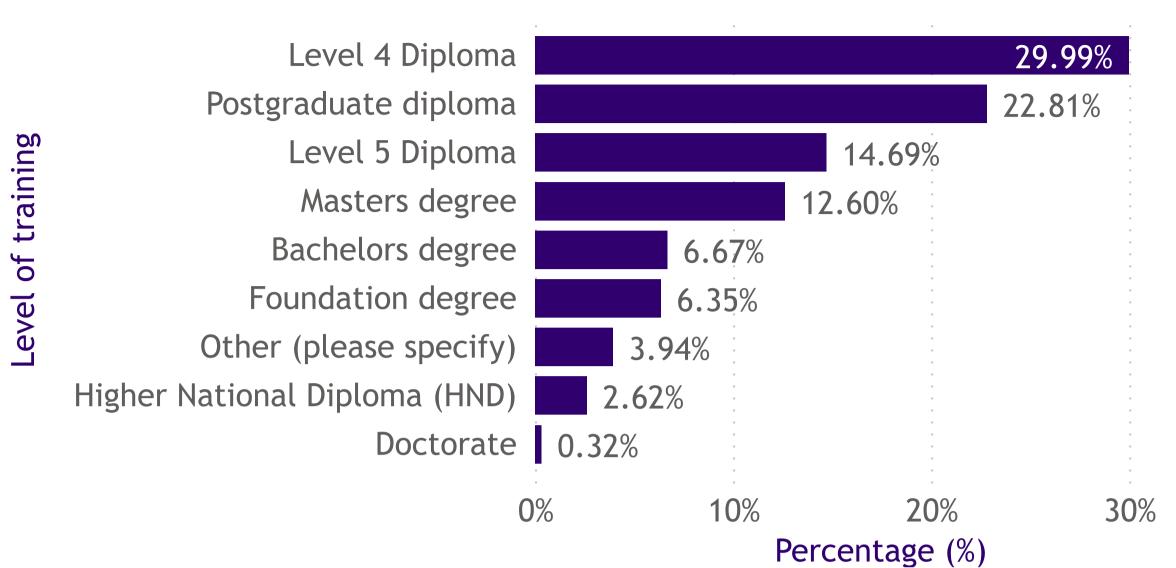
A high proportion of respondents enter the Profession with a Level 4 (29.99%), Postgraduate (22.81%), or Level 5 (14.69%) Diploma.

Whilst 12.6% of respondents entered the profession with a Masters degree, 22.49% indicated this to be their highest level of training.

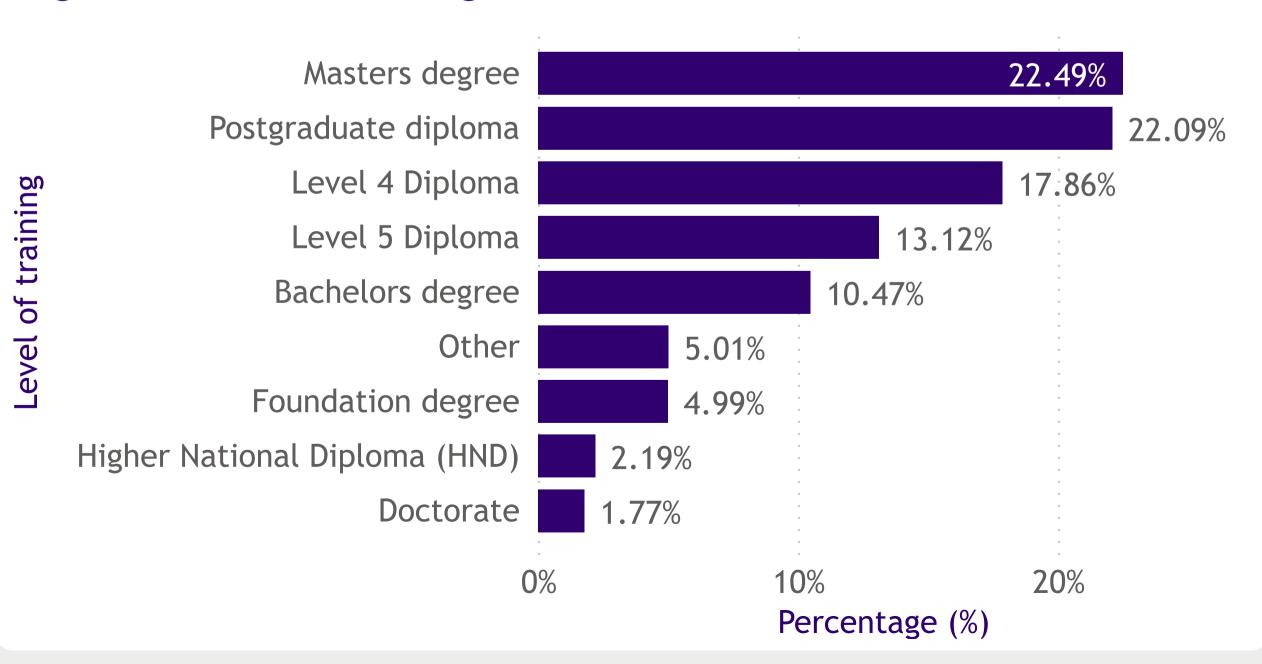
The majority of respondents completed primary training in either integrative (39.31%) or person centred (31.14%) theoretical models.





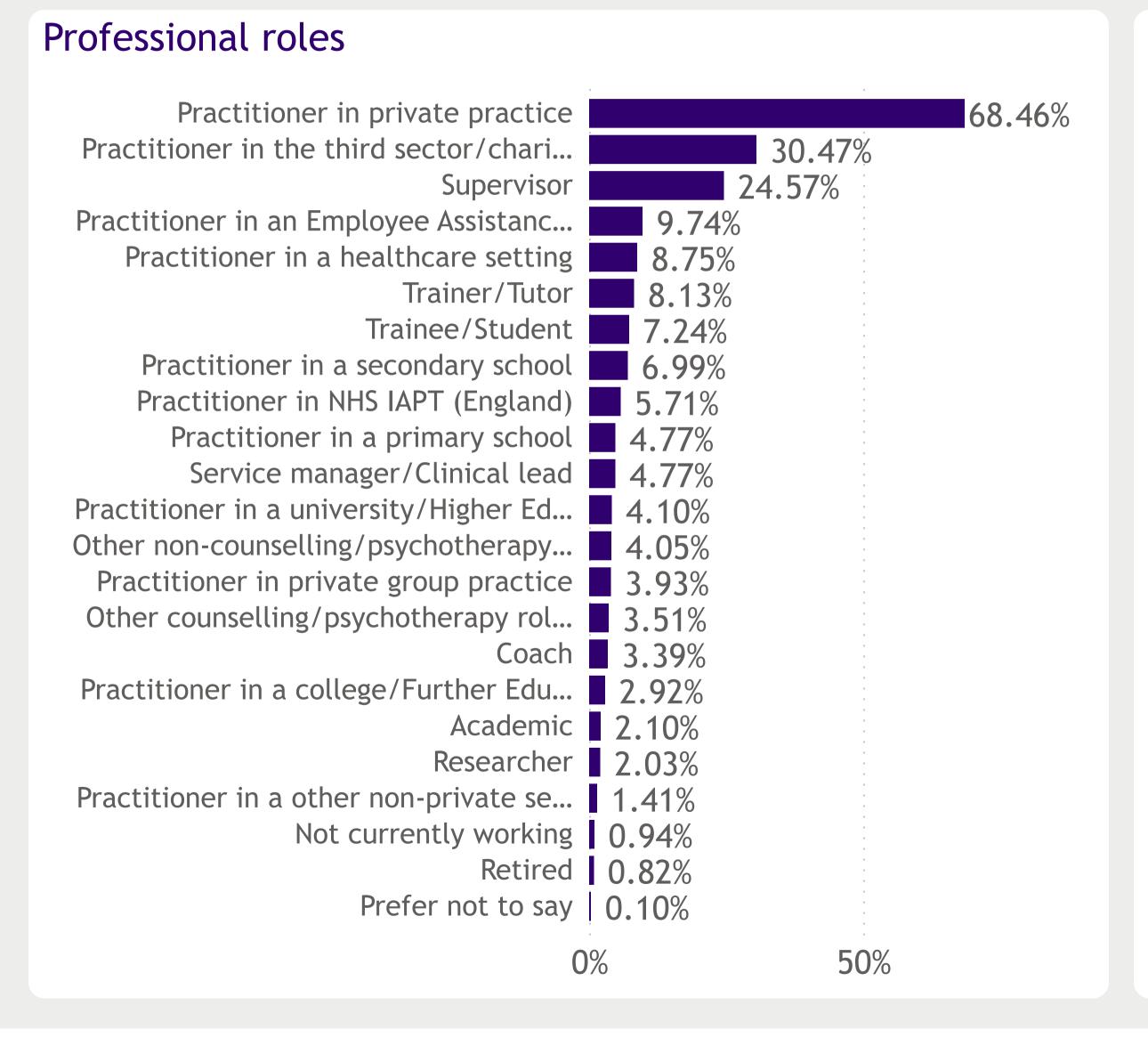


Highest level of training



Professional Roles

68.46% of respondents worked as a practitioner in private practice, with 30.47% working in the third sector and 24.57% working as supervisors. many members work in multiple roles. When asked what their primary professional role was, the most common primary professional roles were as practitioner in private practice (46.01%) or as a practitioner in the third sector/charity sector (14.41%)





Income from counselling

38.54% of respondents agree or strongly agree they can earn a living from their current paid counselling hours. 70.13% of members earn £30,000 or less from counselling related work with over 36.44% of those earning £12,500 or less.

On average respondents are working 12.25 paid client contact hours per week and 1.21 unpaid client contact hours per week, this does vary by gross income from counselling related work with those earning higher gross annual incomes typically working more paid client contact hours per week.

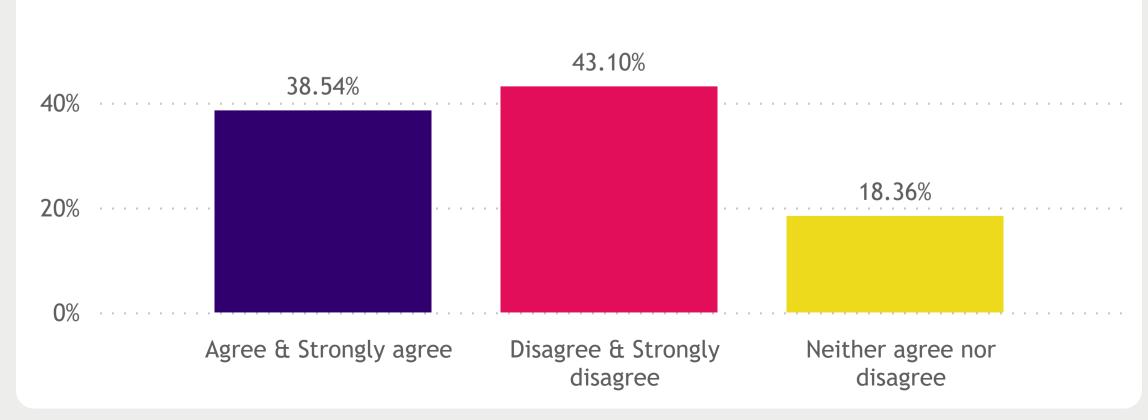
12.25

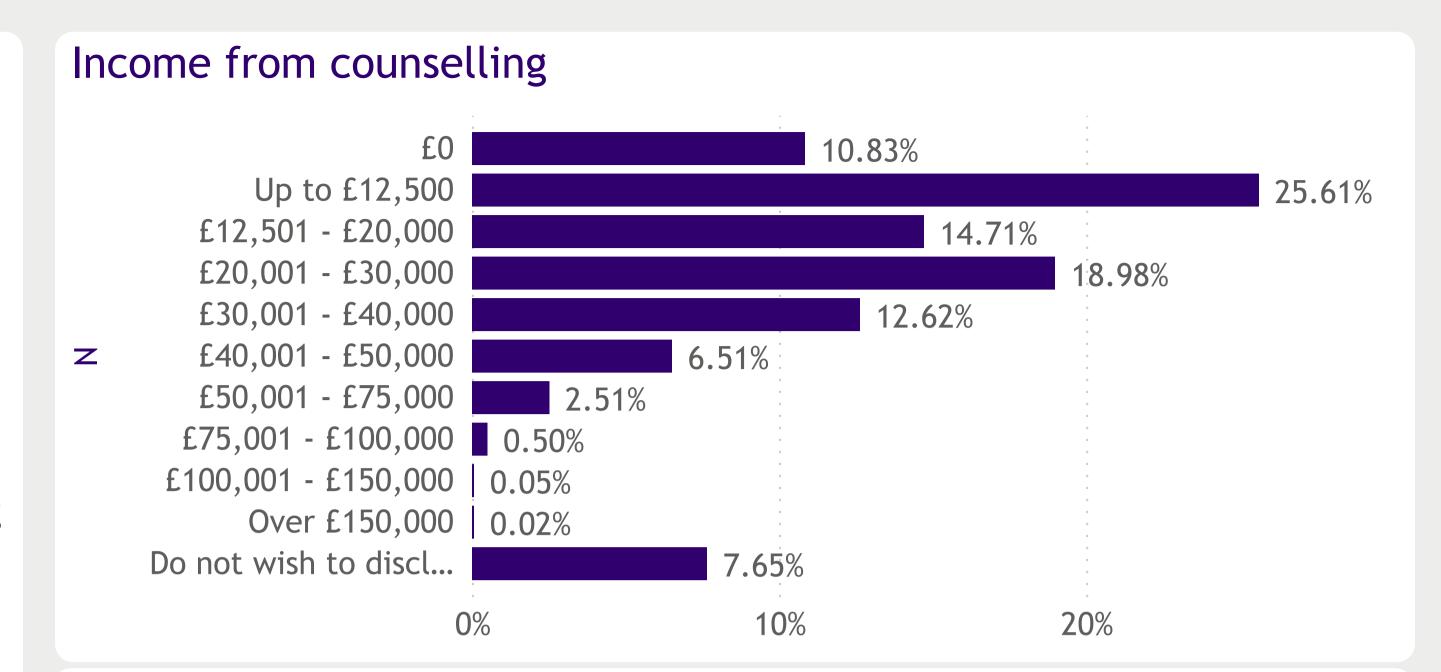
Average paid hours per week

1.21

Average unpaid hours per week

"I can earn a living from my current paid counselling hours"



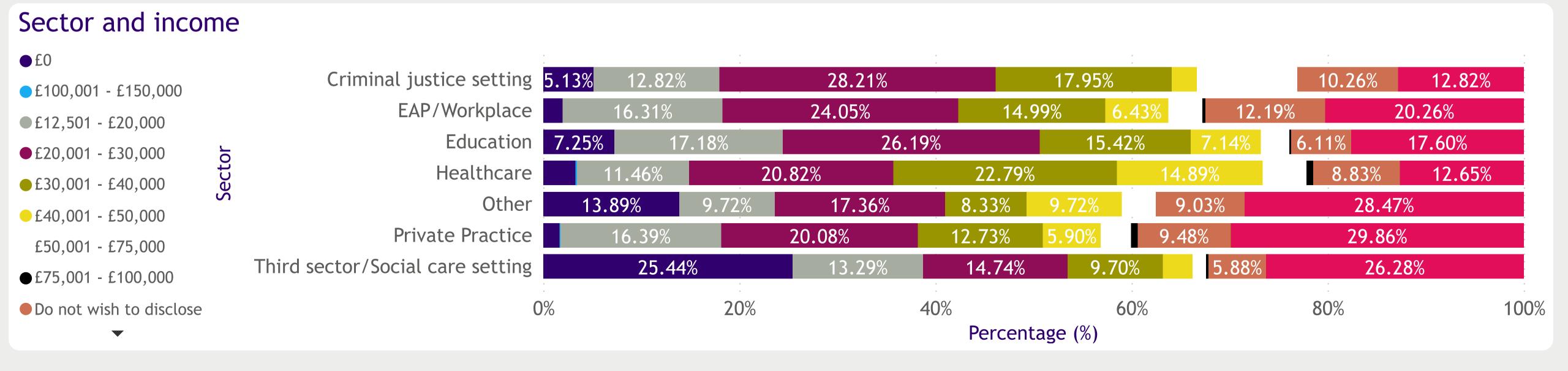


Value	N	Average paid client contact hours per week
£0	436	0.45
Up to £12,500	1031	7.41
£12,501 - £20,000	592	12.45
£20,001 - £30,000	764	15.86
£30,001 - £40,000	508	17.10
£40,001 - £50,000	262	17.75
£50,001 - £75,000	101	18.87
£75,001 - £100,000	20	21.76
£100,001 - £150,000	2	21.00
Over £150,000	1	20.00
Do not wish to disclose	308	13.13
Total	4025	12.25

Income and Sector

A higher proportion of respondents working in the third sector are earning £0 from counselling related work (25.44%) than any other sector.

Income.Value	Criminal justice setting	EAP/Wor kplace	Education	Healthcare	Other	Private Practice	Third sector/Social care setting	Total
£0	2	12	70	25	20	45	333	507
£100,001 - £150,000				1		2		3
£12,501 - £20,000	5	99	166	87	14	439	174	984
£20,001 - £30,000	11	146	253	158	25	538	193	1324
£30,001 - £40,000	7	91	149	173	12	341	127	900
£40,001 - £50,000	1	39	69	113	14	158	40	434
£50,001 - £75,000	4	21	28	34	5	83	18	193
£75,001 - £100,000		2	2	5		18	3	30
Do not wish to disclose	4	74	59	67	13	254	77	548
Over £150,000						1		1
Up to £12,500	5	123	170	96	41	800	344	1579
Total	39	607	966	759	144	2679	1309	6503



Income and Sector

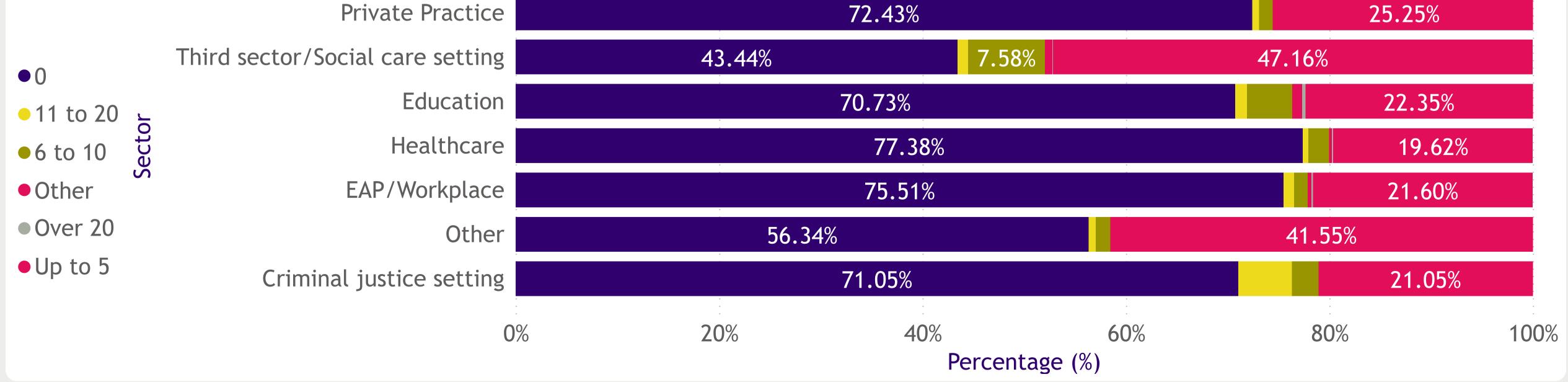
43.44% of respondents working in the third sector worked zero unpaid hours compared to 72.43% working in private practice.

29.3% of respondents do not want any additional paid client contact hours.

On average respondents would like an additional 3.67 paid client contact hours per week

Sector	N	Average unpaid client contact hours per week
Criminal justice setting	38	1.63
EAP/Workplace	588	0.84
Education	926	1.47
Healthcare	734	0.83
Other	142	1.35
Private Practice	2590	0.82
Third sector/Social care setting	1266	2.18
Total	6284	1.21





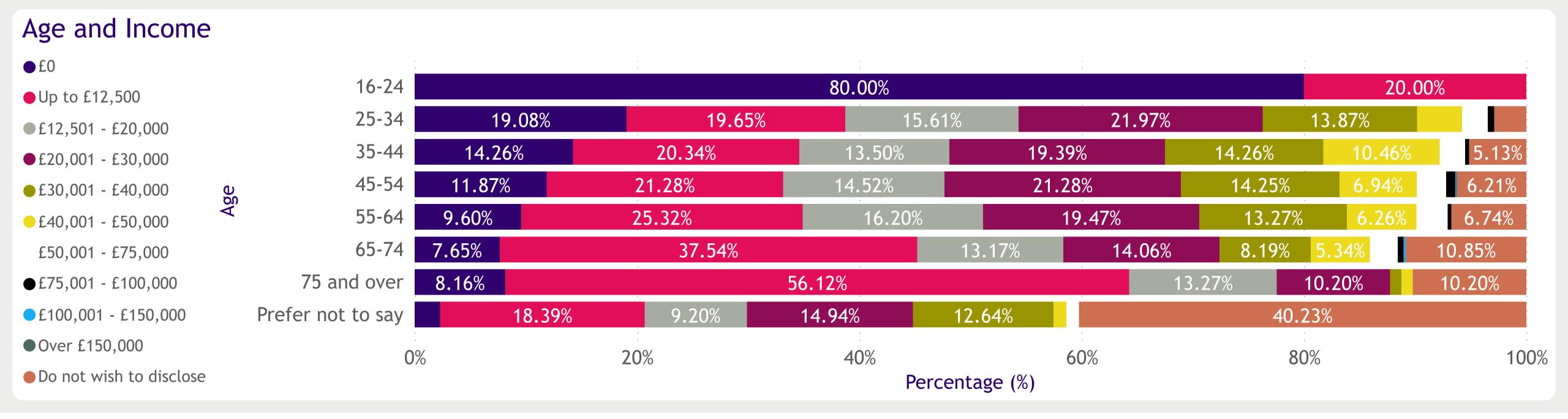
Age and Income

A higher proportion of respondents aged 65 and over earned £12,500 or less from counselling related work.

There was little difference between other age groups in relation to income.

Please note: the 16-24 age group only had five respondents therefore data must be interpreted with caution.

Income	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over	Prefer not to say	Total
£0	4	33	75	130	141	43	8	2	436
Up to £12,500	1	34	107	233	372	211	55	16	1029
£12,501 - £20,000		27	71	159	238	74	13	8	590
£20,001 - £30,000		38	102	233	286	79	10	13	761
£30,001 - £40,000		24	75	156	195	46	1	11	508
£40,001 - £50,000		7	55	76	92	30	1	1	262
£50,001 - £75,000		4	12	29	41	14		1	101
£75,001 - £100,000		1	2	9	5	3			20
£100,001 - £150,000				1		1			2
Over £150,000				1					1
Do not wish to disclose		5	27	68	99	61	10	35	305
Total	5	173	526	1095	1469	562	98	87	4015



Ethnicity and Income

A higher proportion of those identifying as Black/African/Caribbean/Black British or Asian/Asian British earned £12,500 or under (40.49% and 41.05% respectively) compared with other ethnicities. There was little difference between the other ethnicities in relation to income:

Percentage earning £12,500 or under:

Mixed/multiple ethnic groups - 28.87%

Other - 31.72%

White - 36.61%

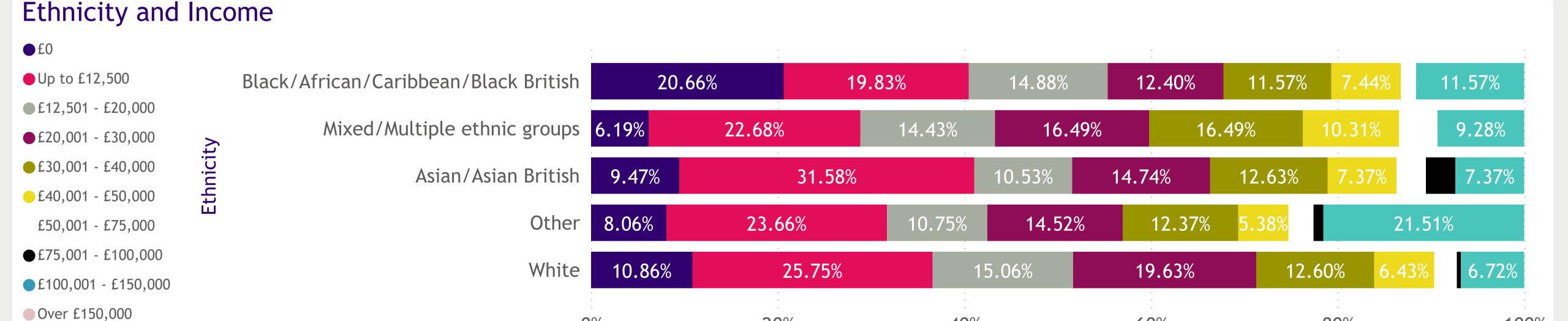
Do not wish to disclose

Income	Black/Afri can/Carib bean/Blac k British	Mixed/Multi ple ethnic groups	Asian/Asian British	Other	White	Total
£0	25	6	9	15	380	435
Up to £12,500	24	22	30	44	901	1021
£12,501 - £20,000	18	14	10	20	527	589
£20,001 - £30,000	15	16	14	27	687	759
£30,001 - £40,000	14	16	12	23	441	506
£40,001 - £50,000	9	10	7	10	225	261
£50,001 - £75,000	2	4	3	5	86	100
£75,001 - £100,000			3	2	15	20
£100,001 - £150,000					1	1
Over £150,000					1	1
Do not wish to disclose	14	9	7	40	235	305
Total	121	97	95	186	3499	3998

60%

80%

100%



20%

40%

Percentage (%)

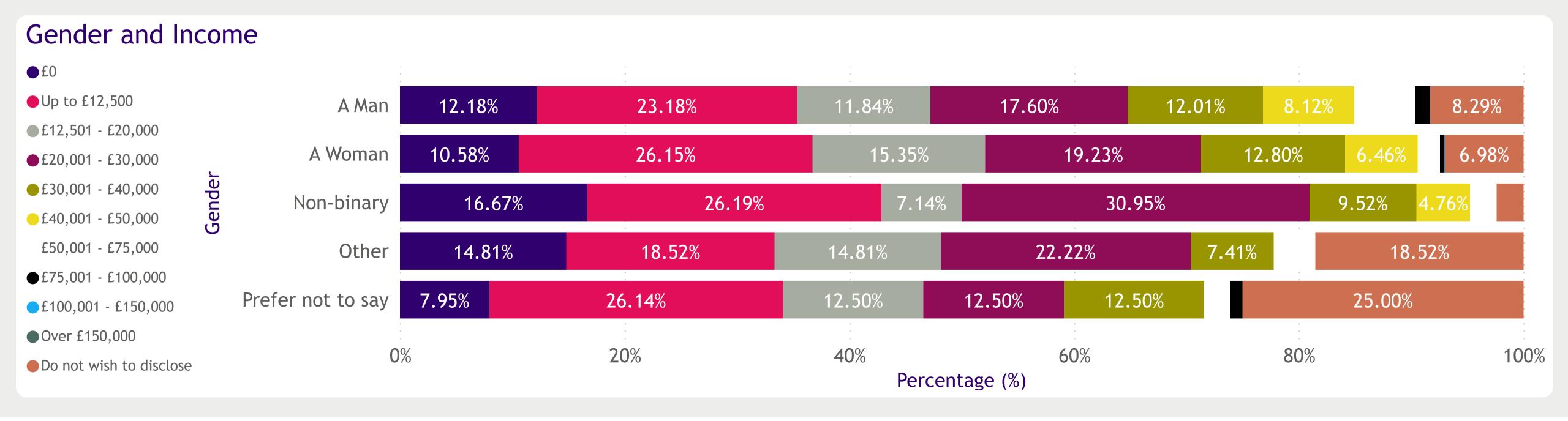
0%

Gender and Income

There were few differences relating to income by gender identity.

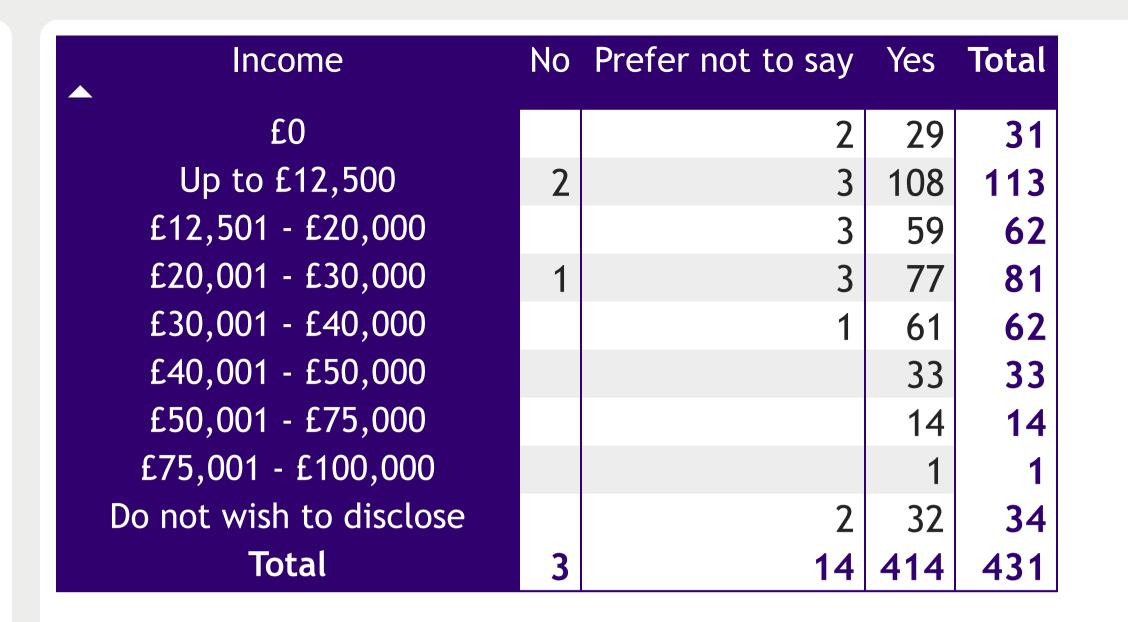
35.36% of those identifying as 'A man' earned up to £12,500 compared with 36.73% of those identifying as 'A Woman'.

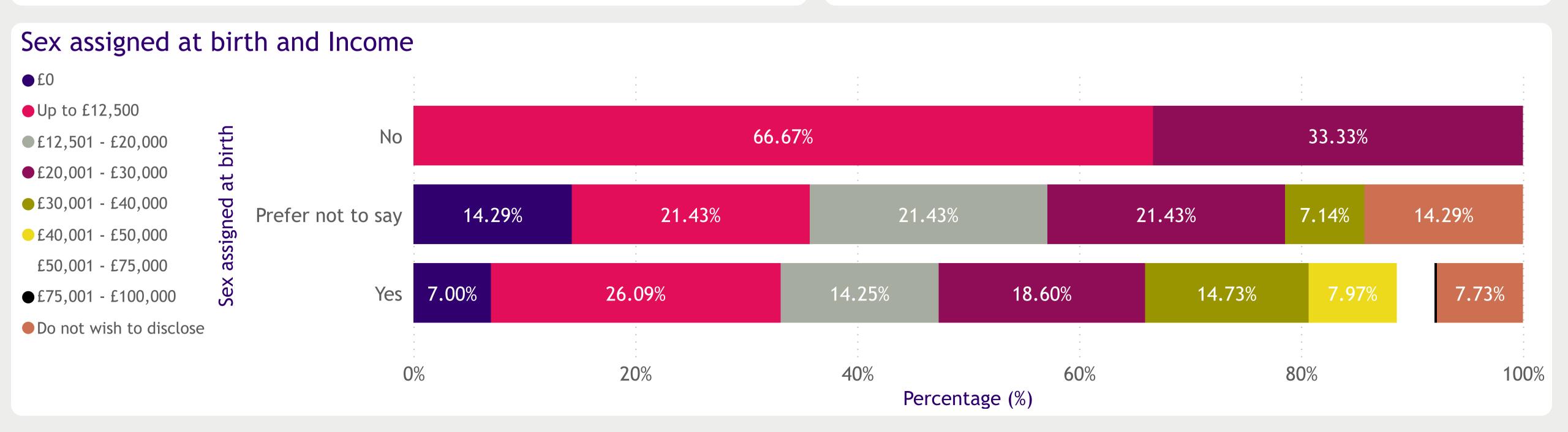
Income	A Man	A Woman	Non-binary	Other	Prefer not to say	Total
£0	72	344	7	4	7	434
Up to £12,500	137	850	11	5	23	1026
£12,501 - £20,000	70	499	3	4	11	587
£20,001 - £30,000	104	625	13	6	11	759
£30,001 - £40,000	71	416	4	2	11	504
£40,001 - £50,000	48	210	2			260
£50,001 - £75,000	32	65	1	1	2	101
£75,001 - £100,000	8	11			1	20
£100,001 - £150,000		2				2
Over £150,000		1				1
Do not wish to disclose	49	227	1	5	22	304
Total	591	3250	42	27	88	3998



Sex assigned at birth and income

Data need to be interpreted with caution due to the high proportion of respondents identifying as Female compared with Male. However, there are no significant differences in the proportion of respondents in relation to the income they obtain from counselling related work.



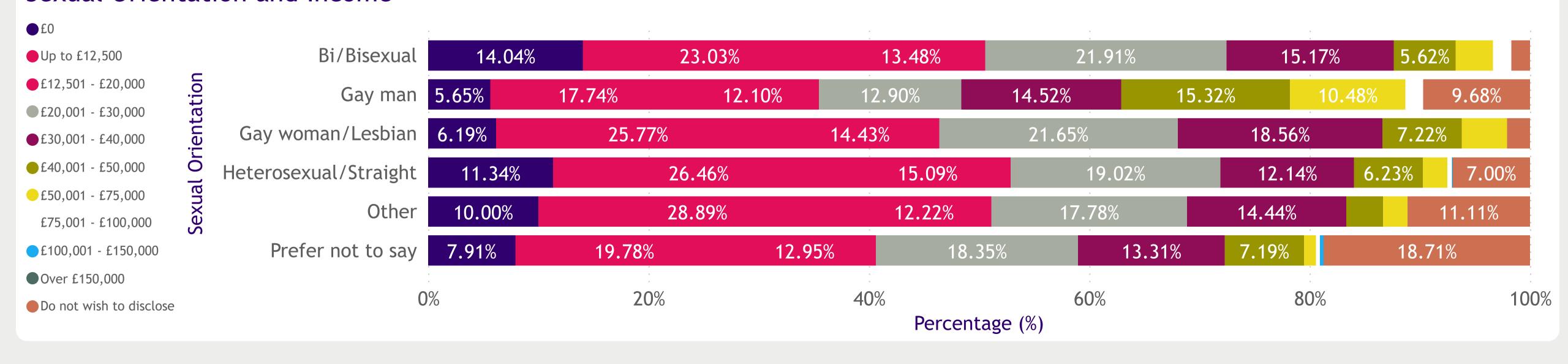


Sexual orientation and income

There are some difference in the proportion of respondents in relation to income, however data ought to be interpreted with caution due to the low number of respondents in some categories.

Income	Bi/Bisexual	Gay man	Gay woman/Le sbian	Heterosexual/St raight	Other	Prefer not to say	Total
£O	25	7	6	366	9	22	435
Up to £12,500	41	22	25	854	26	55	1023
£12,501 - £20,000	24	15	14	487	11	36	587
£20,001 - £30,000	39	16	21	614	16	51	757
£30,001 - £40,000	27	18	18	392	13	37	505
£40,001 - £50,000	10	19	7	201	3	20	260
£50,001 - £75,000	6	13	4	72	2	3	100
£75,001 - £100,000	3	2		14		1	20
£100,001 - £150,000				1		1	2
Over £150,000				1			1
Do not wish to disclose	3	12	2	226	10	52	305
Total	178	124	97	3228	90	278	3995

Sexual Orientation and Income

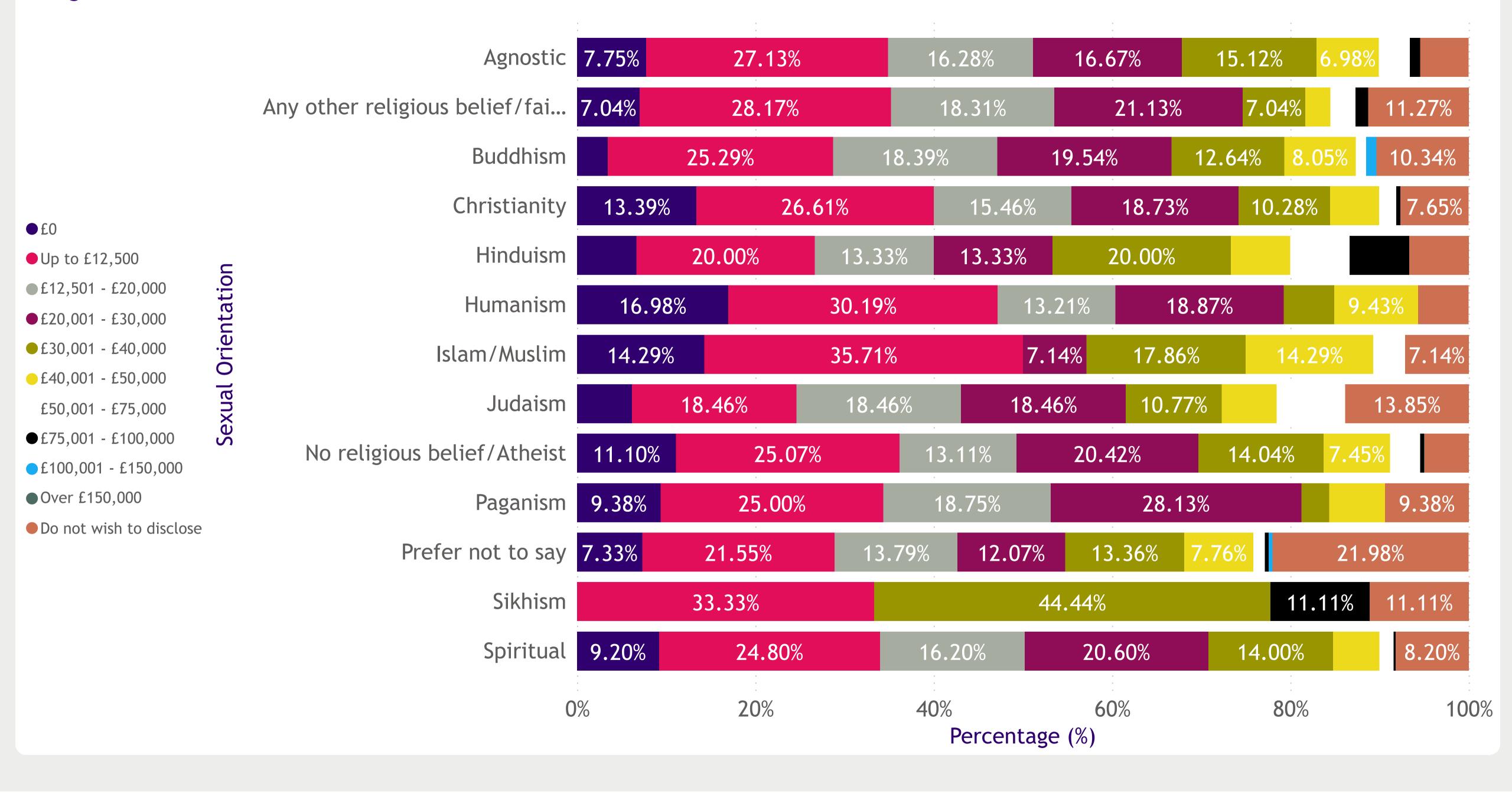


Religion and Income

There are some differences between groups in relation to income earned from counselling related work, however data must be interpreted with caution due to small sample sizes in some groups.

Income	Agnostic	Any other religious belief/faith (please specify)	Buddhism	Christianity	Hinduism	Humanism	Islam/ Muslim	Judaism	No religious belief/Atheist	Paganism	Prefer not to say	Sikhism S
£O	20	5	3	168	1	9	4	4	155	3	17	
Up to £12,500	70	20	22	334	3	16	10	12	350	8	50	3
£12,501 - £20,000	42	13	16	194	2	7		12	183	6	32	
£20,001 - £30,000	43	15	17	235	2	10	2	12	285	9	28	
£30,001 - £40,000	39	5	11	129	3	3	5	7	196	1	31	4
£40,001 - £50,000	18	2	7	69	1	5	4	4	104	2	18	
£50,001 - £75,000	9	2	1	24	1		1	5	47		3	
£75,001 - £100,000	3	1		6	1				6		1	1
£100,001 - £150,000			1								1	
Over £150,000									1			
Total	258	71	87	1255	15	53	28	65	1396	32	232	9

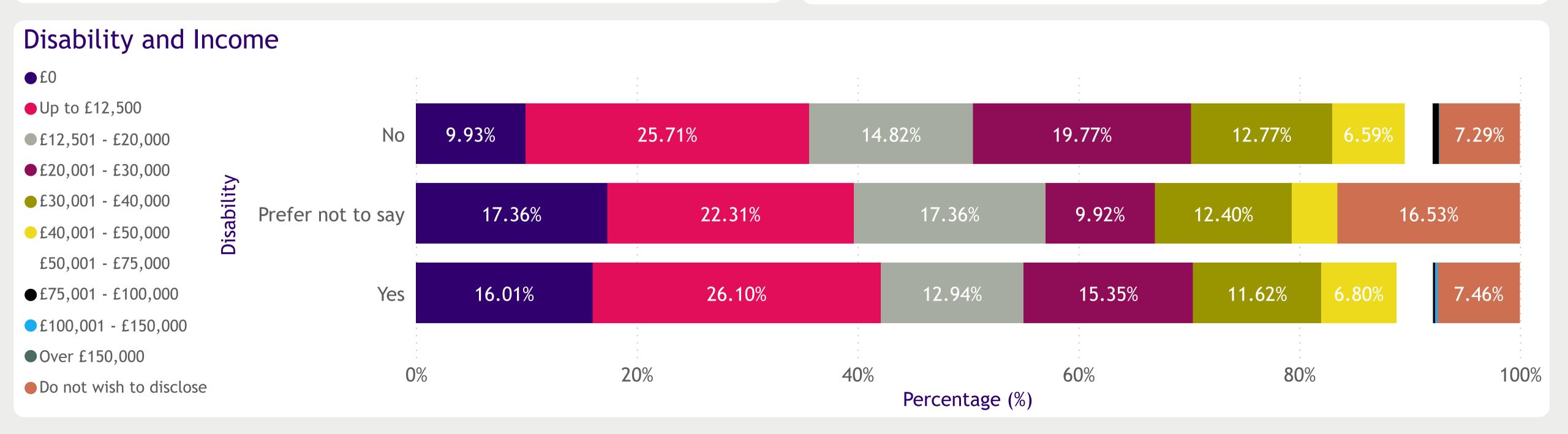
Religion and Income



Disability and Income

A higher proportion (42.11%) of respondents who identified as having a disability earned £12,500 or less from counselling related work than those who did not identify as having a disability

Income	No	Prefer not to say	Yes	Total
£O	339	21	73	433
Up to £12,500	878	27	119	1024
£12,501 - £20,000	506	21	59	586
£20,001 - £30,000	675	12	70	757
£30,001 - £40,000	436	15	53	504
£40,001 - £50,000	225	5	31	261
£50,001 - £75,000	86		15	101
£75,001 - £100,000	19		1	20
£100,001 - £150,000	1		1	2
Over £150,000	1			1
Do not wish to disclose	249	20	34	303
Total	3415	121	456	3992



Relationship status and income

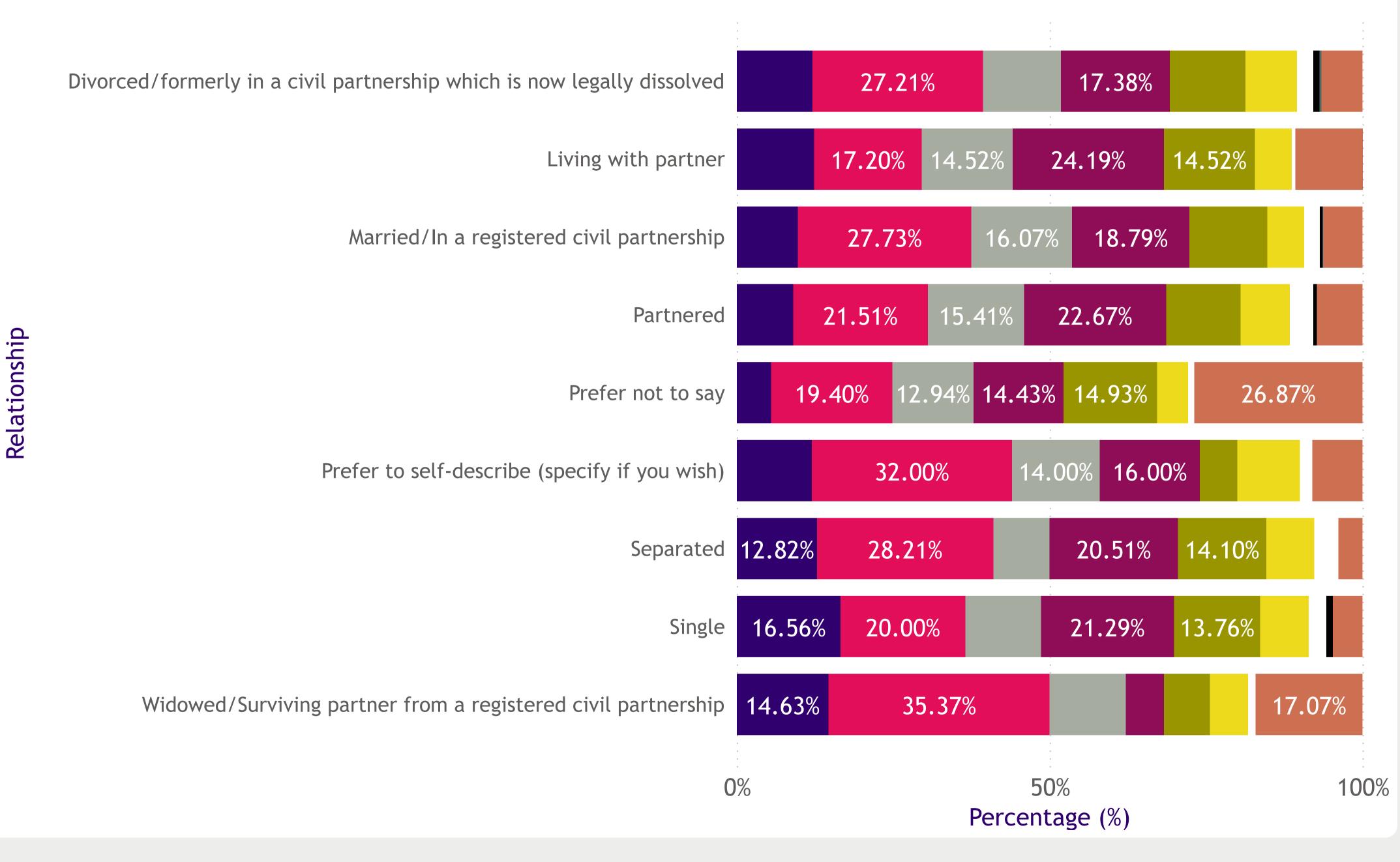
There are no significant differences between groups in relation to income obtained from counselling related work. (see following page for percentage breakdown)

Income	Divorced/form erly in a civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	Living with partner	Married/In a registered civil partnership	Partnered	Prefer not to say	Prefer to self- describe (specify if you wish)	Separated	Single	Widowed/Sur viving partner from a registered civil partnership	Total
£O	37	23	222	31	11	6	10	77	12	429
Up to £12,500	83	32	630	74	39	16	22	93	29	1018
£12,501 - £20,000	38	27	365	53	26	7	7	56	10	589
£20,001 - £30,000	53	45	427	78	29	8	16	99	5	760
£30,001 - £40,000	37	27	282	41	30	3	11	64	6	501
£40,001 - £50,000	25	11	134	27	10	5	6	36	5	259
£50,001 - £75,000	8	1	57	13	2	1	3	13	1	99
£75,001 - £100,000	3		10	2				5		20
£100,001 - £150,000			2							2
Total	305	186	2272	344	201	50	78	465	82	3983

Relationship and Income



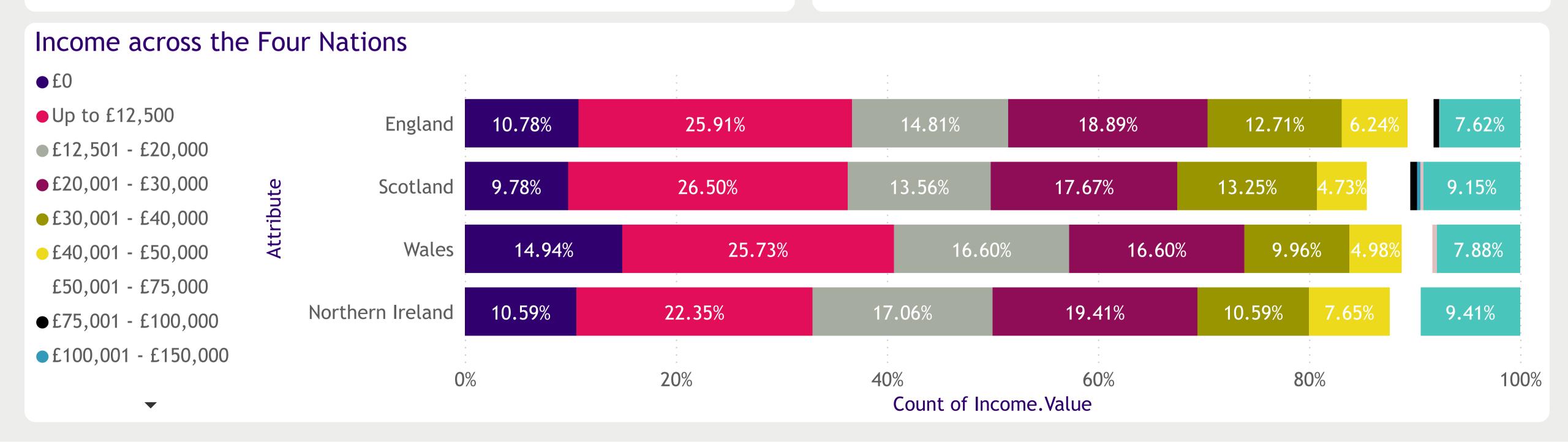
- •£0
- Up to £12,500
- •£12,501 £20,000
- ●£20,001 £30,000
- •£30,001 £40,000
- •£40,001 -£50,000
- £50,001 £75,000
- ●£75,001 £100,000
- •£100,001 £150,000
- Over £150,000
- Do not wish to disclose



Four nations and income

There are some slight differences between nations in relation to income, however data must be interpreted with caution due to very low responses in some nations.

Income.Value	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales
	1628	103	208	135
£0	375	18	31	36
Up to £12,500	901	38	84	62
£12,501 - £20,000	515	29	43	40
£20,001 - £30,000	657	33	56	40
£30,001 - £40,000	442	18	42	24
£40,001 - £50,000	217	13	15	12
£50,001 - £75,000	86	5	13	7
£75,001 - £100,000	18		2	
£100,001 - £150,000	1		1	
Over £150,000	1		1	1
Do not wish to disclose	265	16	29	19



Region and Income

There are some small differences between regions in relation to income. See following page.

Attribute	£0	Up to £12,50	£12,501 - £20,000	£20,001 - £30,000	£30,001 - £40,000	£40,001 - £50,000	£50,001 - £75,000	£75,001 - £100,000	£100,001 - £150,000	Over £150,000	Do not wish to disclose	Tota
East Midlands	27	82	48	52	33	14	11				14	28
East of England	36	67	59	60	39	26	8	1			19	31
London/Greater London	88	180	121	138	102	44	29	4		1	46	75
North East	25	48	23	30	22	13	3	1		1	14	18
North West	47	114	73	79	61	27	8	4	1		39	45
Northern Ireland	18	38	29	33	18	13	5				16	17
Other (please specify)	13	42	12	22	18	5	6				8	12
Other UK location	4	11	6	8	3		1				4	3
Outside of the UK	21	45	28	32	30	9	10	1			15	19
Prefer not to say	2		1	4	1	3					2	1
Scotland	31	84	43	56	42	15	13	2	1	1	29	31
South East	91	216	122	151	104	55	16	5			60	82
South West	49	156	76	99	70	29	12	2		1	45	53
Wales	36	62	40	40	24	12	7			1	19	24
West Midlands	24	80	52	55	44	21	10	2		1	30	31
Yorkshire and the Humber	34	75	48	57	26	15	9				22	28
Total	546	1300	781	916	637	301	148	22	2	6	382	504

