






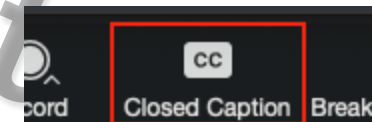
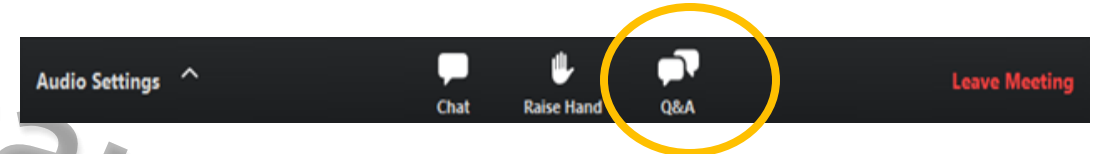
Fueling Health and Learning: Findings from the National SBHC Food Security Survey

August 21, 2025

2:00pm ET

Reminders

-  **All attendees are in listen-only mode.**
-  **To ask a question during the session, use the “Q&A” icon that appears on the bottom your Zoom control panel.**
-  **Chat is disabled for participants during this event.**
-  **To turn on closed captioning, click on the “CC” button**
-  **Please complete evaluation poll questions at the end of the presentation.**



Today's Presenters



Addie Van Zwoll (she/her),
Director, School-Based
Health Alliance



Sarah Mills (she/her),
Senior Manager Health
Systems, Share Our
Strength



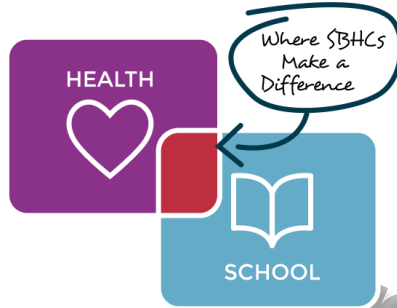
Katherine Cushing (she/her),
Director, School-Based
Health Alliance

OBJECTIVES

Attendees will be able to...

1. Describe trends, challenges, and promising practices identified through the national survey.
2. Identify options to integrate food access initiatives such as screenings, referrals, and partnerships into their care models to support student health and academic performance.

Who We Are



School-Based Health Alliance

The National Voice for School-Based Health Care

Working to improve the health of children and youth by advancing and advocating for school-based health care. When health and education come together, great things happen.

Learn more: www.sbh4all.org

No Kid Hungry

A Campaign by Share our Strength

An organization dedicated to ending hunger and poverty. Through proven, effective campaigns, that connect people who care to ideas that work.

Learn more: www.nokidhungry.org

Our Partnership



We believe that by working together to embrace and build on families' trust in school-based health centers (SBHCs), we can promote federal nutrition programs and nutritious food consumption in support of positive health outcomes and improved food security.

2022-2023:

- Launched a learning network of 16 school-based health centers in 12 states.
- Created and launched a [Toolkit](#) of promising practices and learnings

2023-2025:

- Ohio and Colorado SBHC State Affiliates replicated learning cohort model & expanded promising practices in their states
- Created additional tools and resources
 - [Practical Tips and Resources for Effective Interventions](#)
 - [School-Based Health Center SNAP Outreach Flyer](#)
 - [Food Security Continuum: Strategies for Supporting Students and Families](#)
- Webinar Series
- National Survey of Food security screening and referral practices in SBHCs

Preliminary Data

Survey & Findings

Methods and Sample

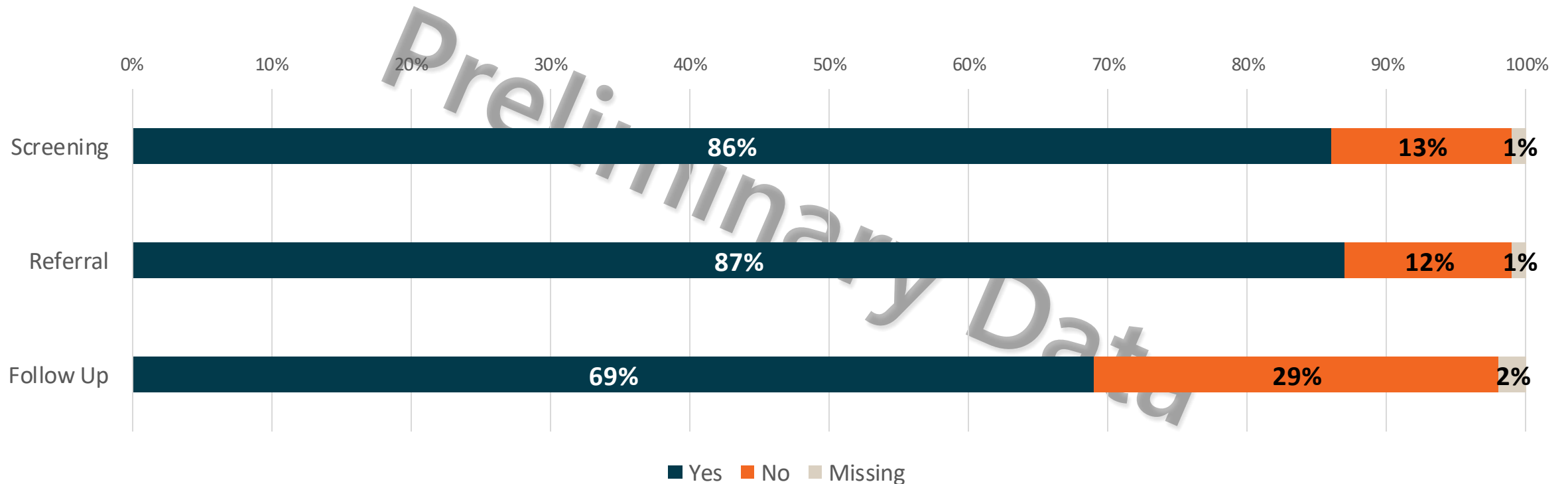
- **Online Survey open from May 15th – June 27th, 2025**
- **All known SBHCs were recruited**
 - SBHA Digest, E-blast, Social Media
- **Incentives**
 - \$50 Amazon Gift Card
- **Sample**
 - 248 SBHCs, 53 Sponsors
 - Regional Distribution: Northeast – 70 across two states, Southeast – 62 SBHCs across five states, Midwest – 28 SBHCs across five states, Southwest – 10 SBHCs across two states, West – 78 SBHCs across five states

Data Collection

Topics

- **Screening, Referral, and Follow-up Practices**
 - Staff responsibilities
 - Frequency
 - Tools
 - Barriers
 - Data Collection & Management
- **Direct Food Support Services Programming**
 - Barriers
 - Youth Development

Screening, Referral, and Enrollment – How Common is it?

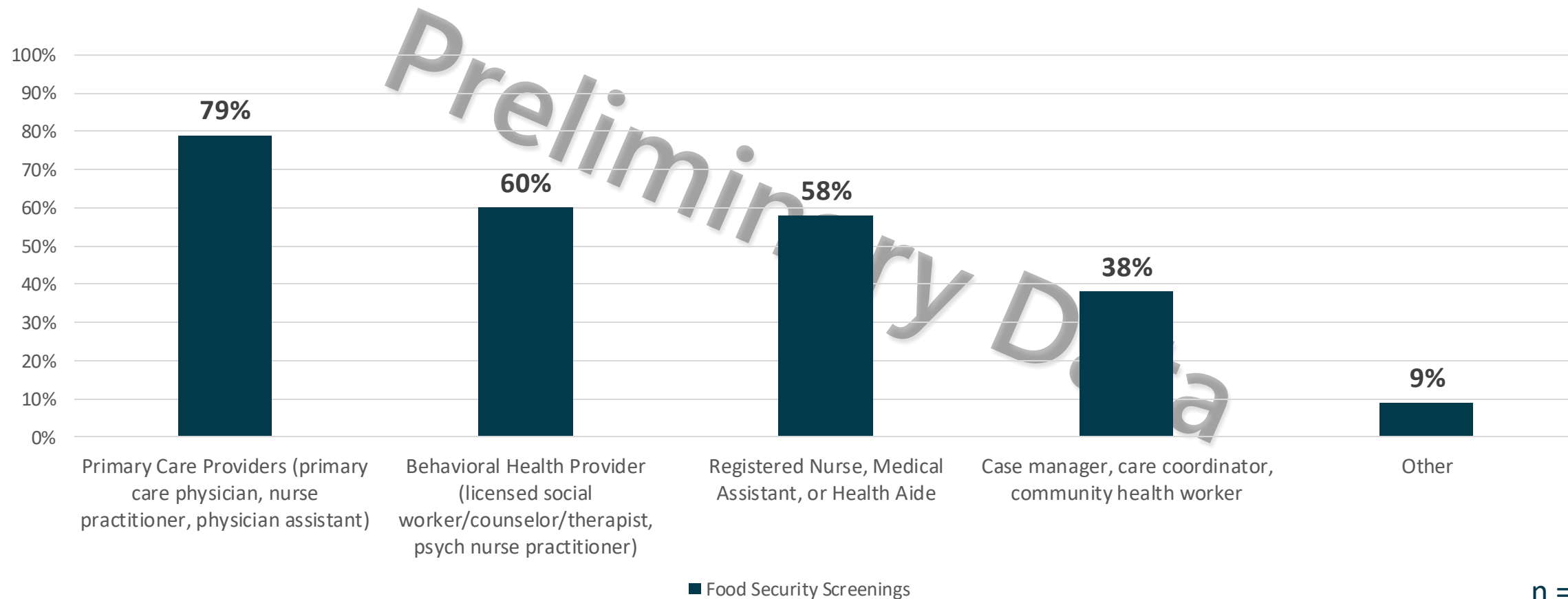


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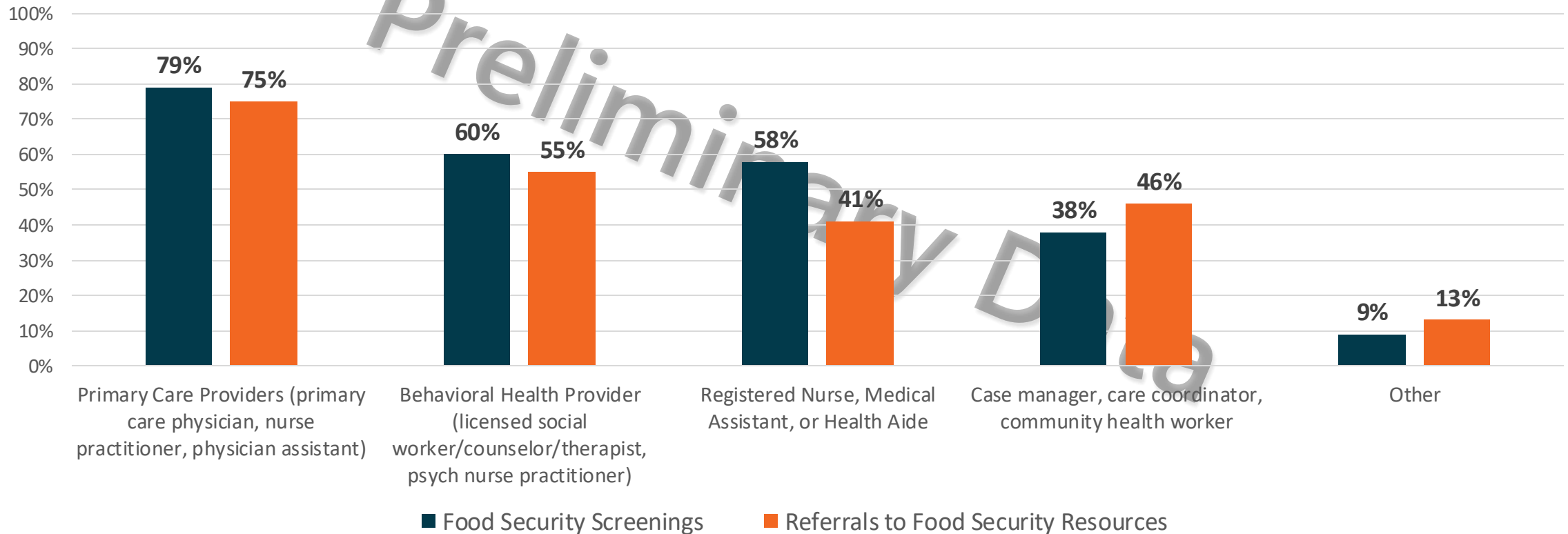
Screening, Referral, and Enrollment – Who does it?

Primary care providers are most often responsible for screening



Screening, Referral, and Enrollment – Who does it?

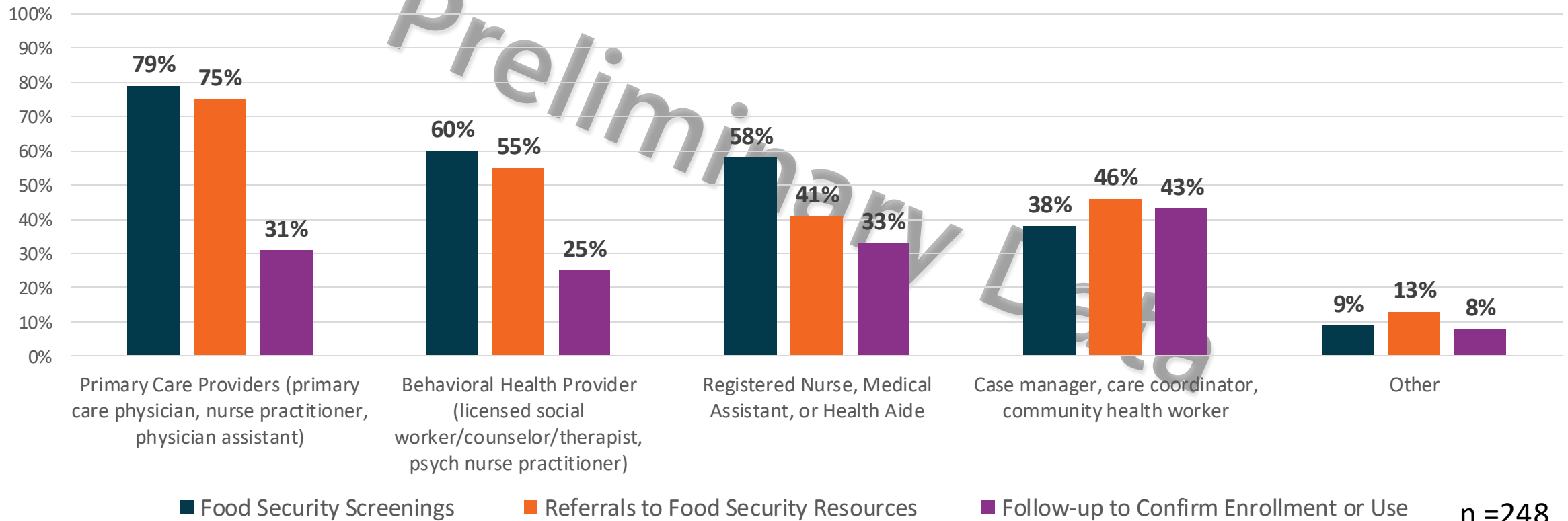
Primary care providers are most often responsible for screening and referrals



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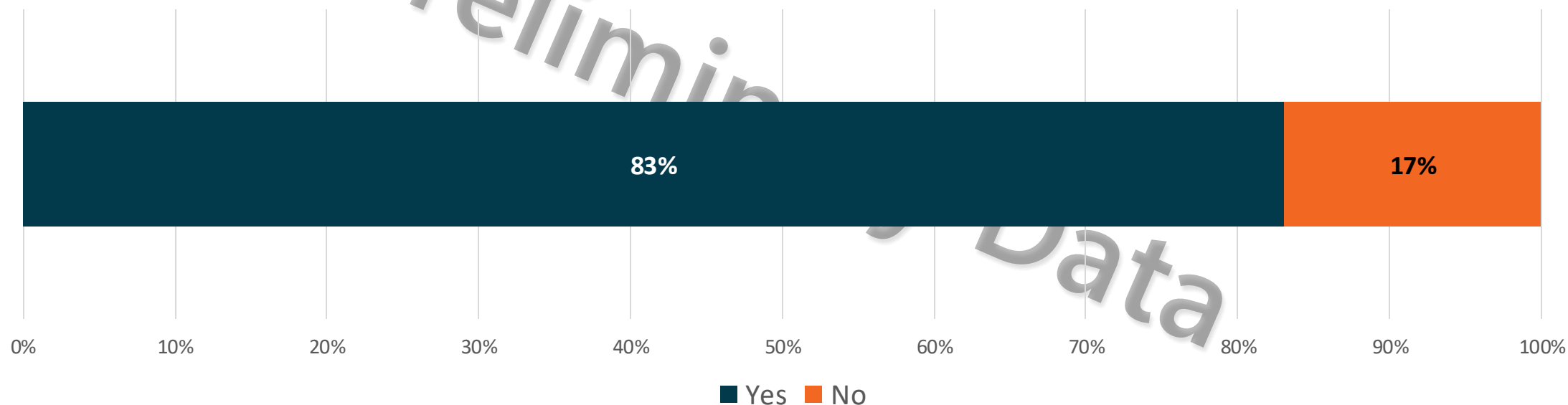
Screening, Referral, and Enrollment – Who does it?

Primary care providers are most often responsible for screening and referrals, and less likely to be responsible for follow-up around confirmed enrollment.



Screening – Is there a formal workflow?

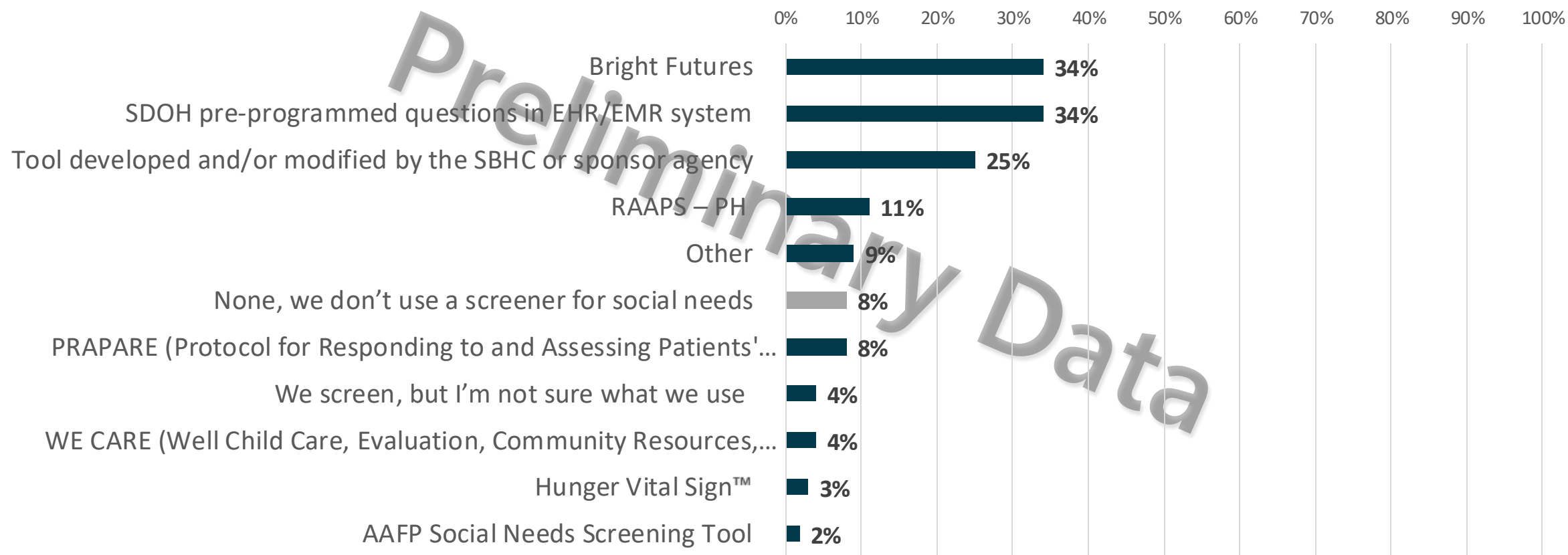
Of the SBHCs that screen, over 80% of SBHCs have a formal workflow for food-security screening.



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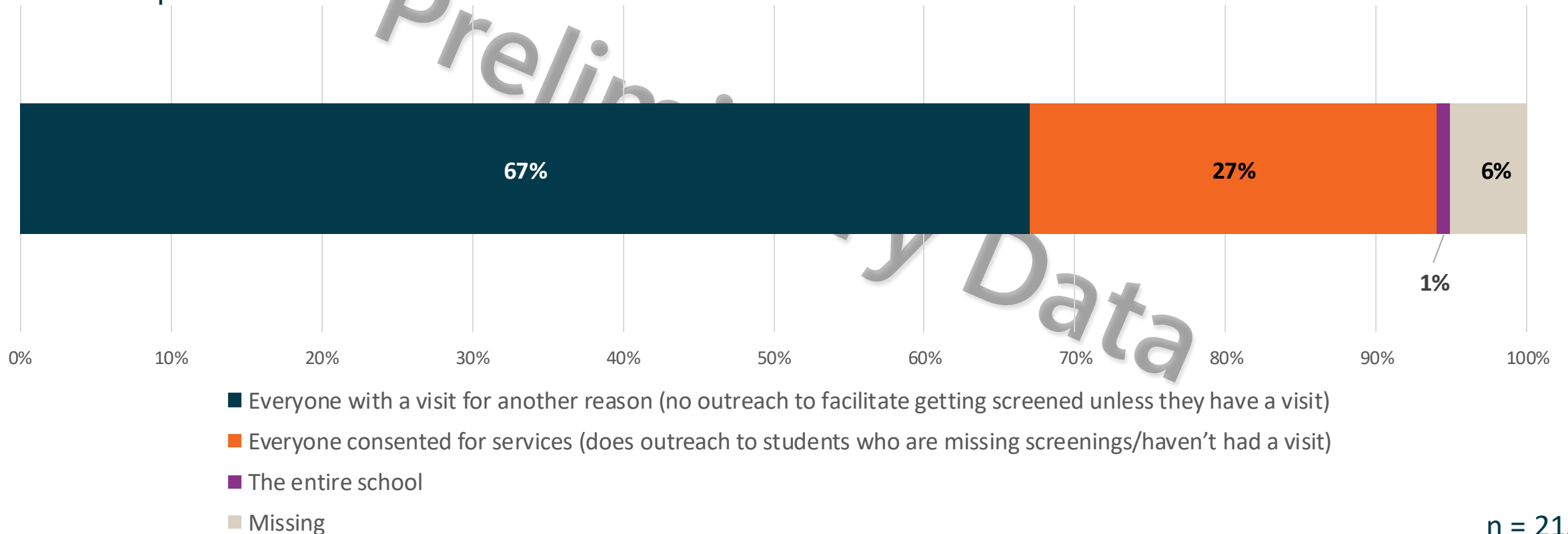
Screening – What tools are used?



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Screening – Who gets screened?

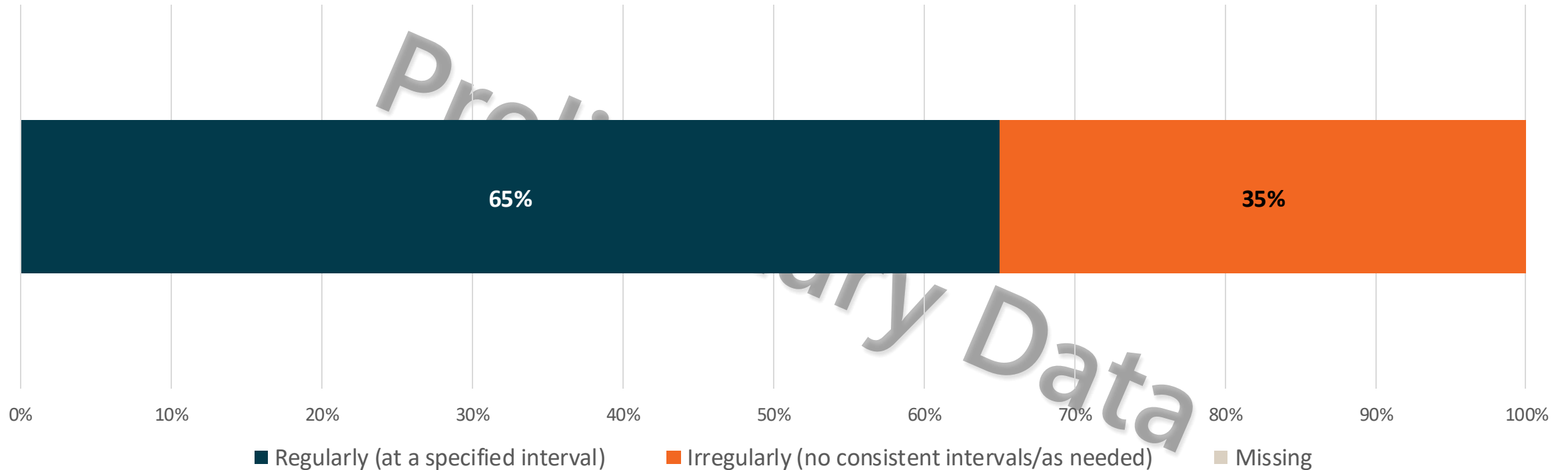
Over a quarter of SBHCs that screen do active outreach to ensure all consented students are reached



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Screening – How regularly does screening happen?

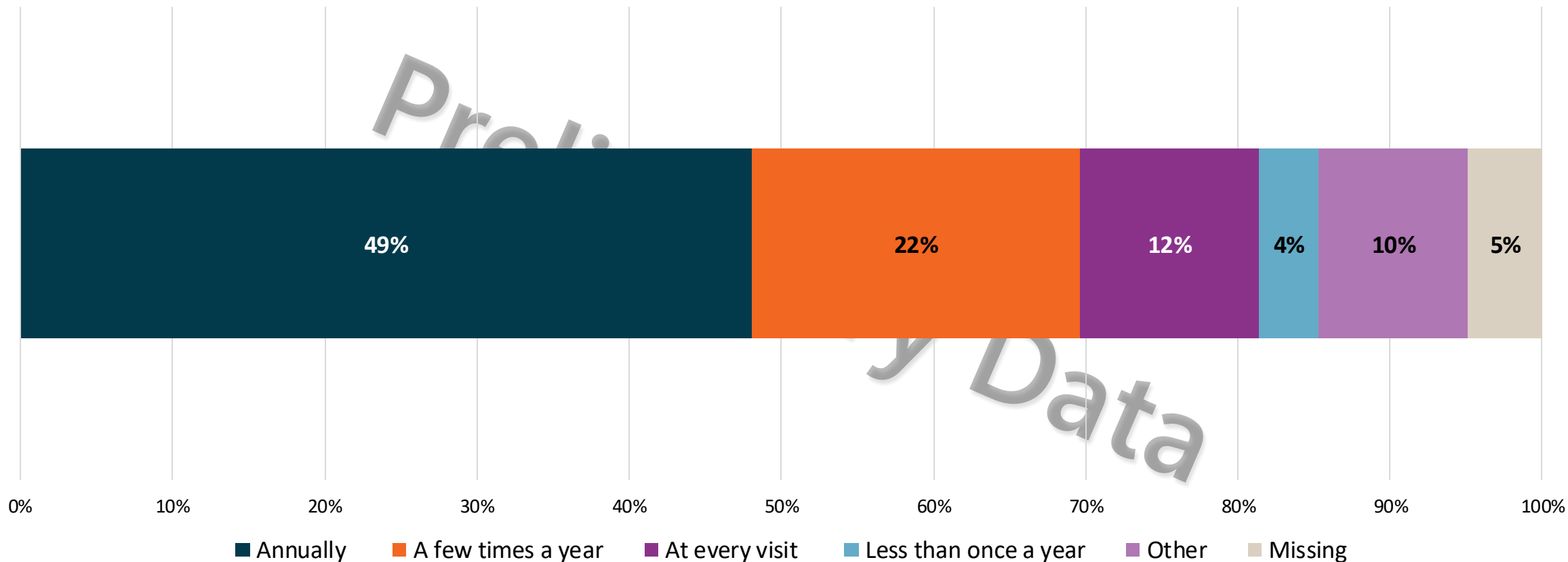


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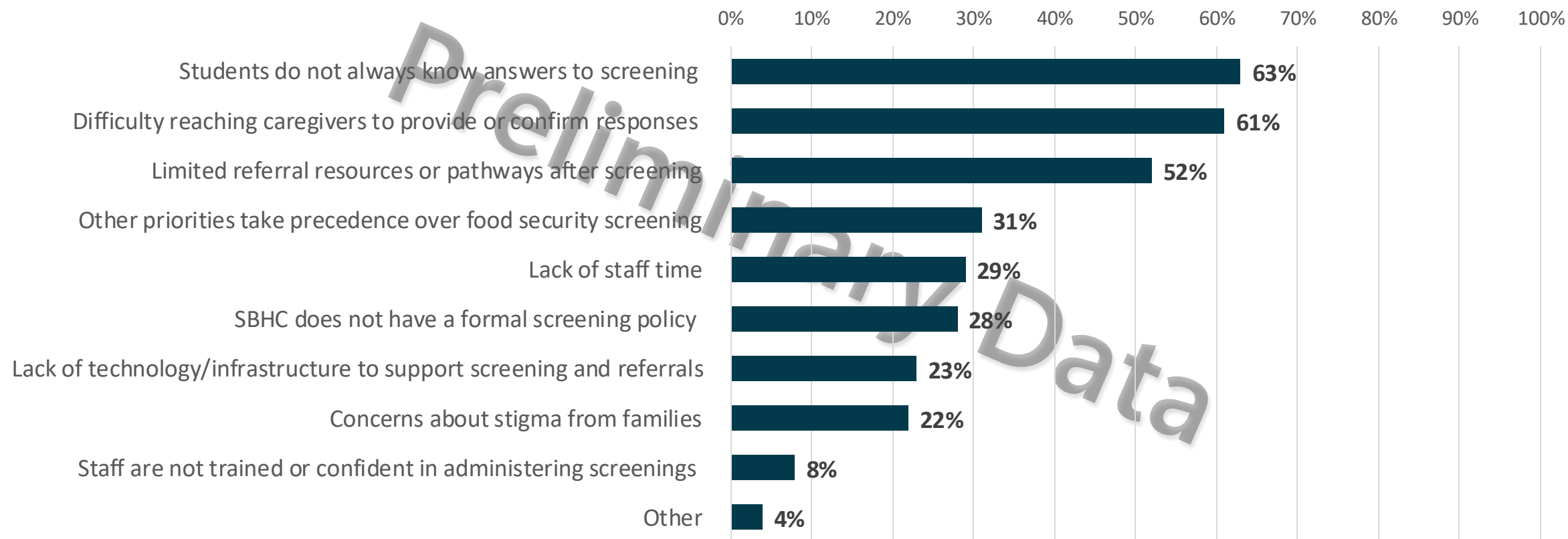
Screening – How often are clients screened?



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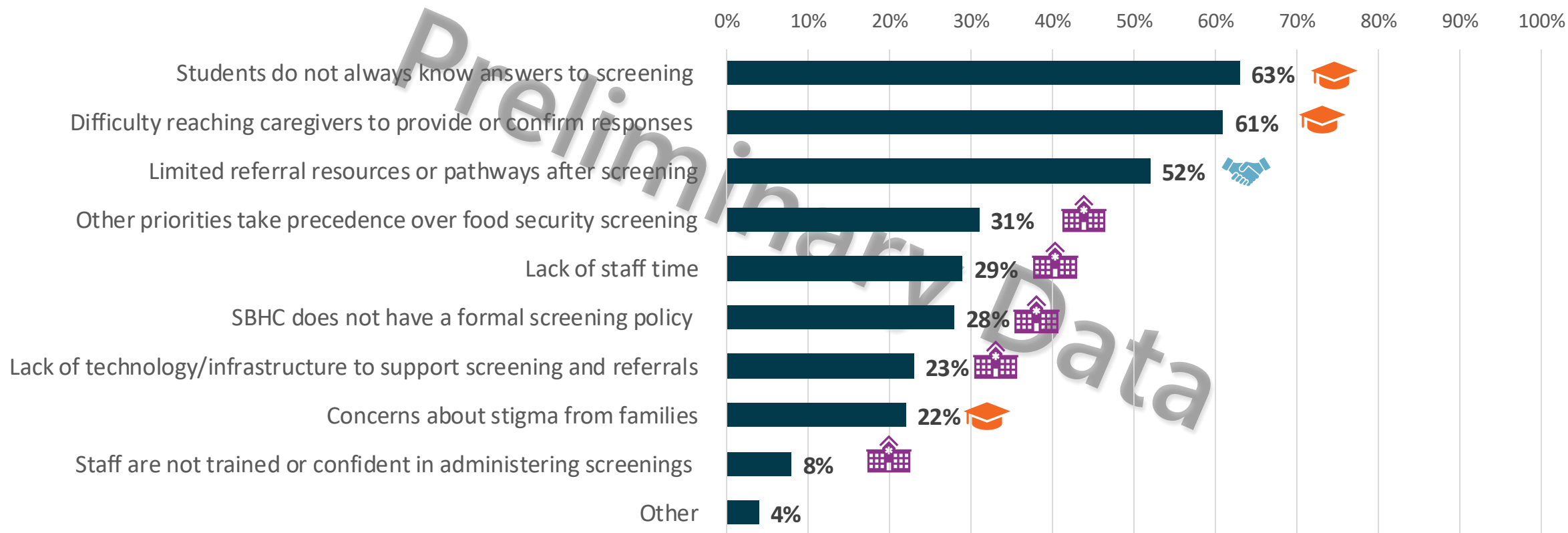
Screening – What Barriers Exist?



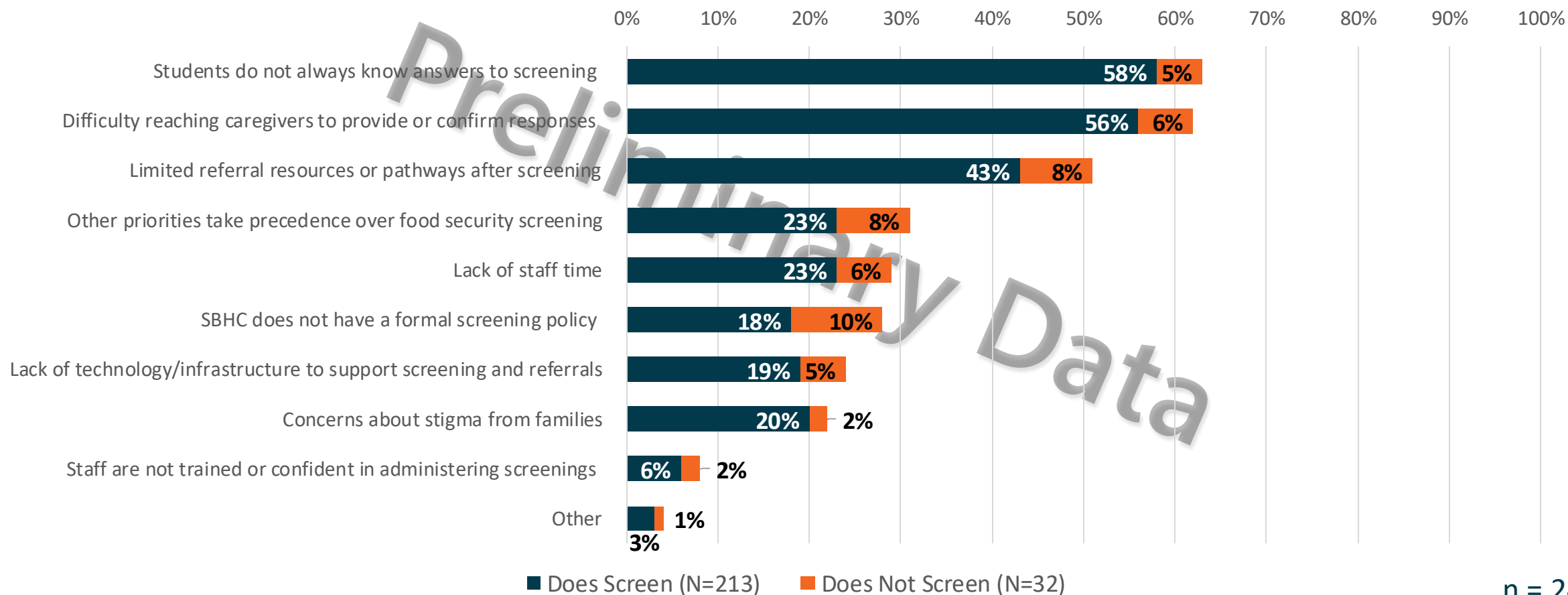
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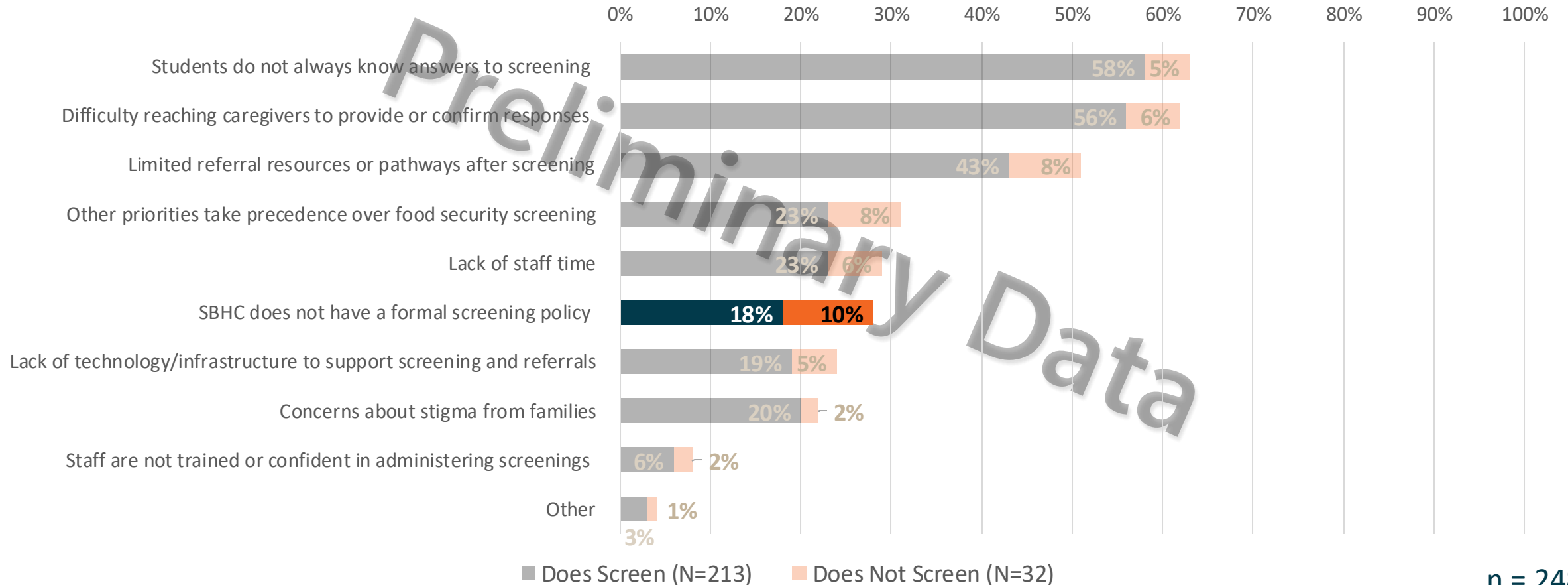
Screening – What Barriers Exist



Screening – What Barriers Exist

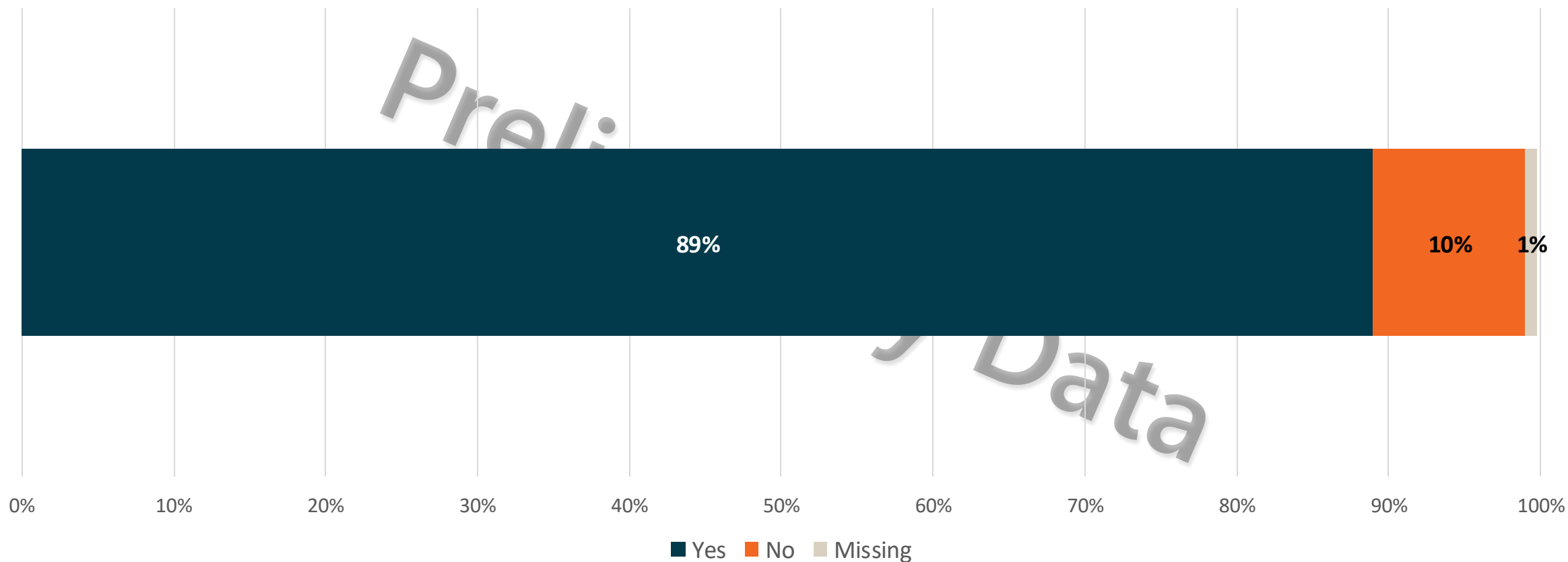


Screening – What Barriers Exist?



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Screening – Who Checks for Other Social Needs?

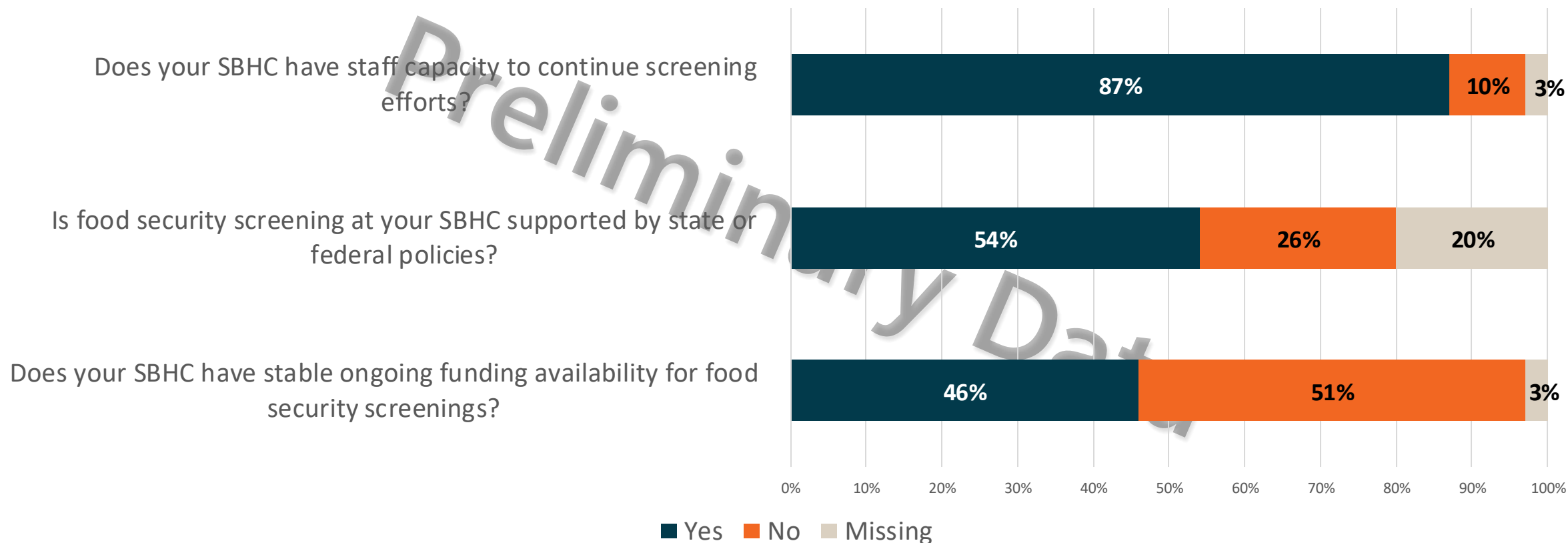


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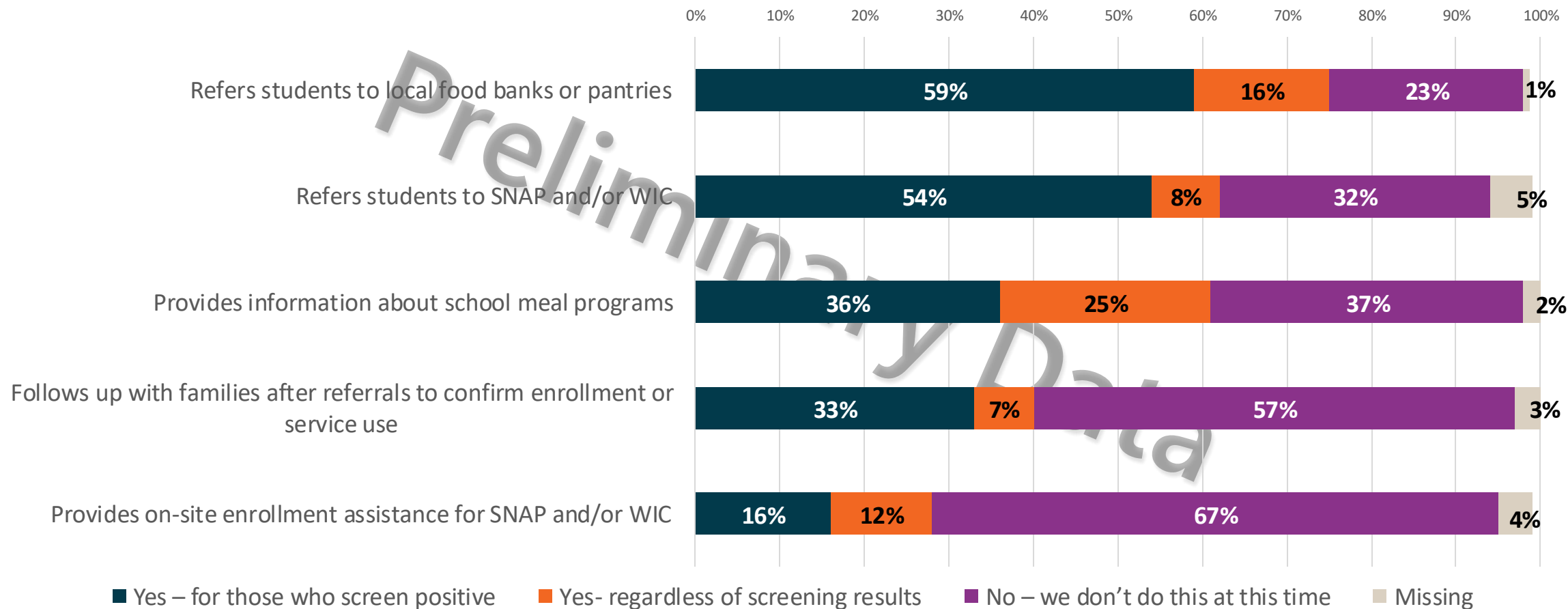
Screening- Is it sustainable?



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Referral & Provisions – What happens after screening?



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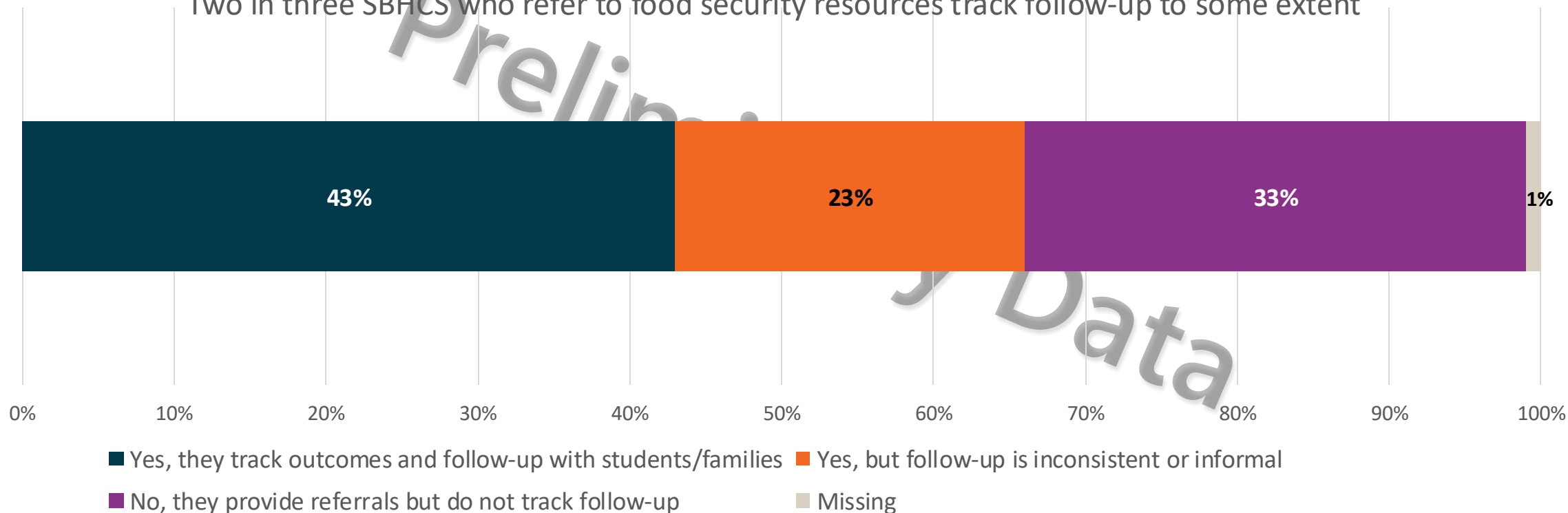
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What's going well!

“Our goal is to assist families to be able to become self-sustained, and we are seeing that happen. Some families have been able to be removed from our pantry list because they have learned how to utilize resources that provide deeper assistance and support that assist them with federal/state programs, including employment skills and application processes.”

Referral & Provisions – Who Tracks Access?

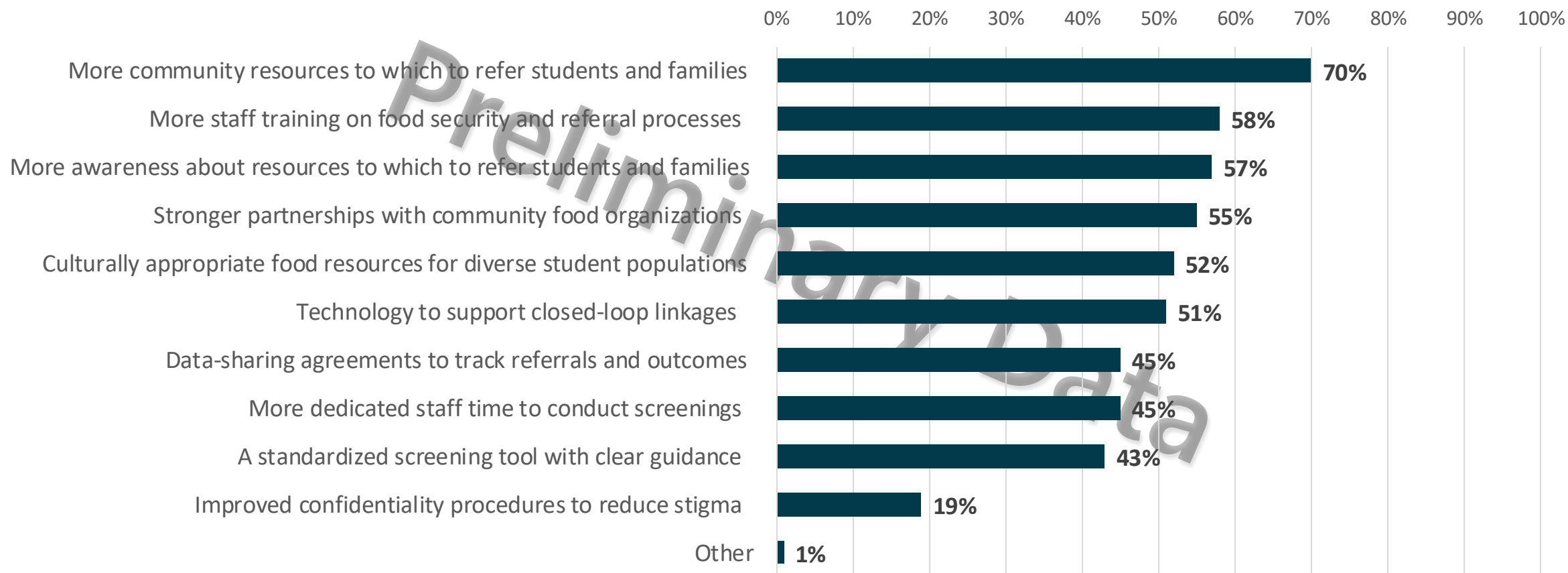
Two in three SBHCS who refer to food security resources track follow-up to some extent



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Screening and Follow-up Improvement – What would help?

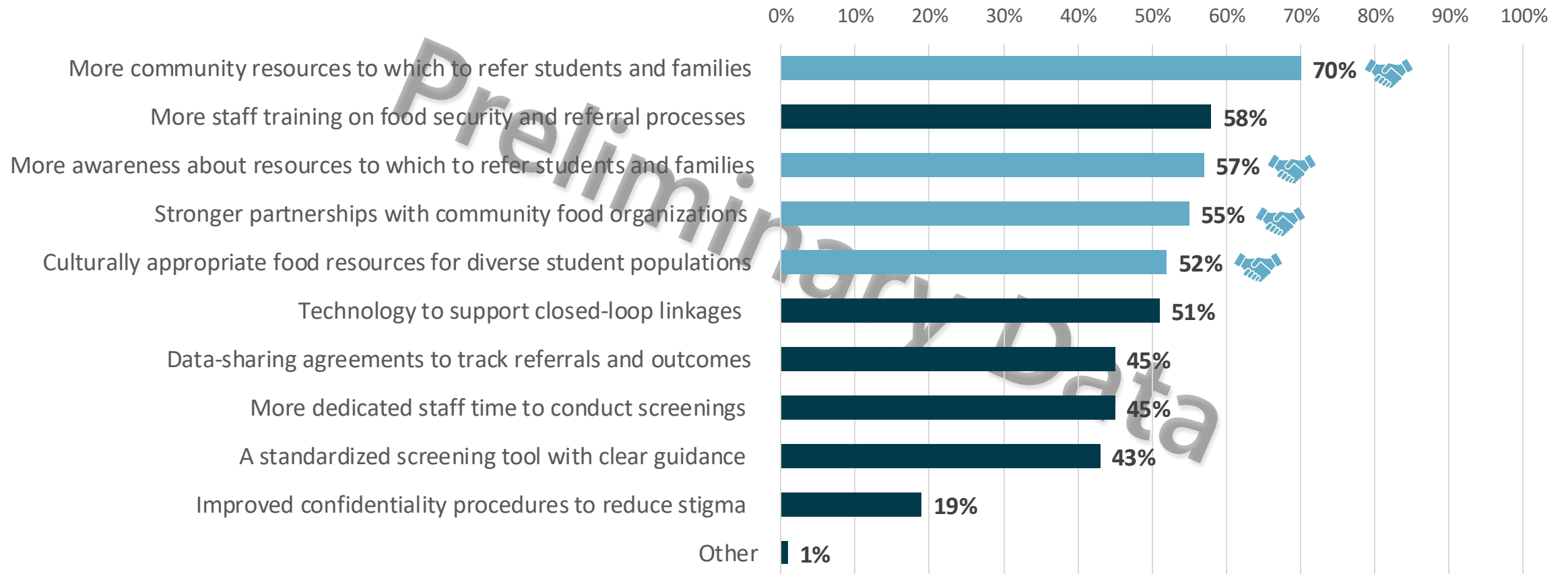


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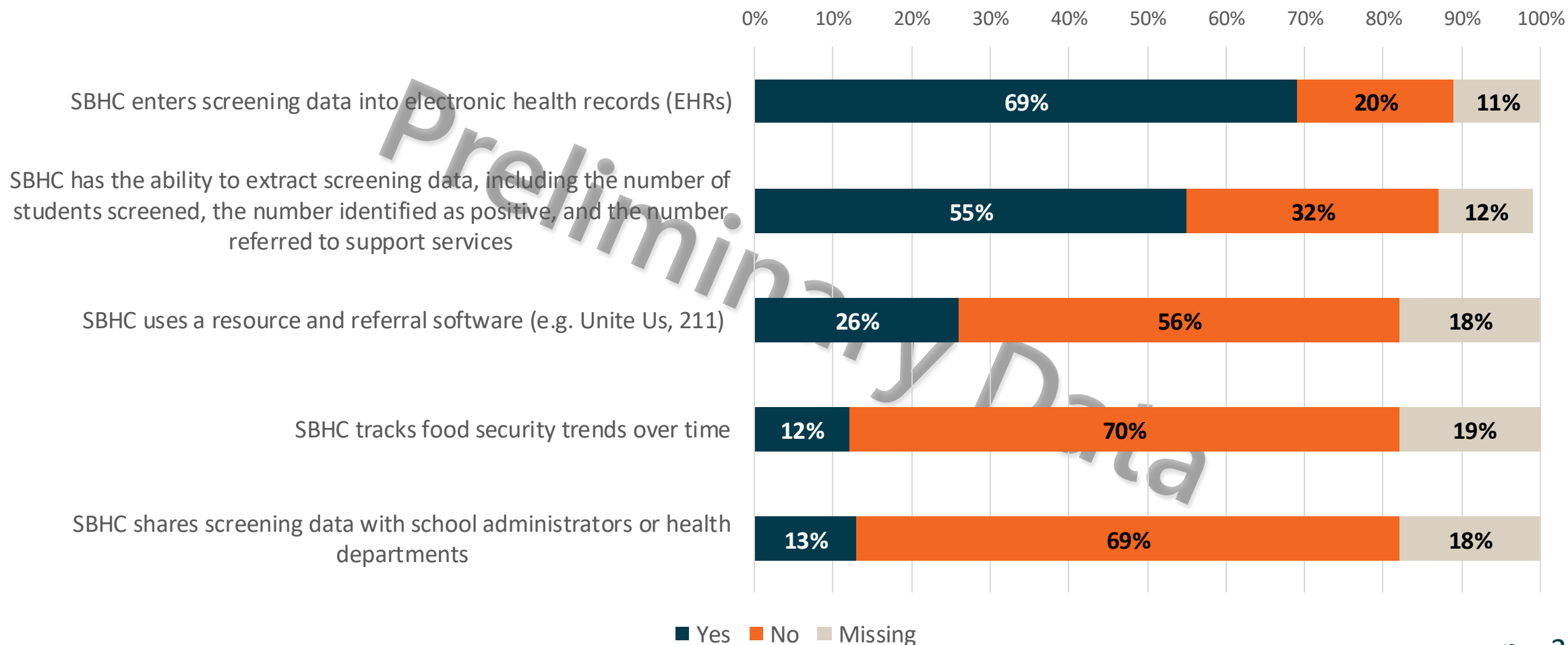
Screening and Follow-up Improvement – What would help?



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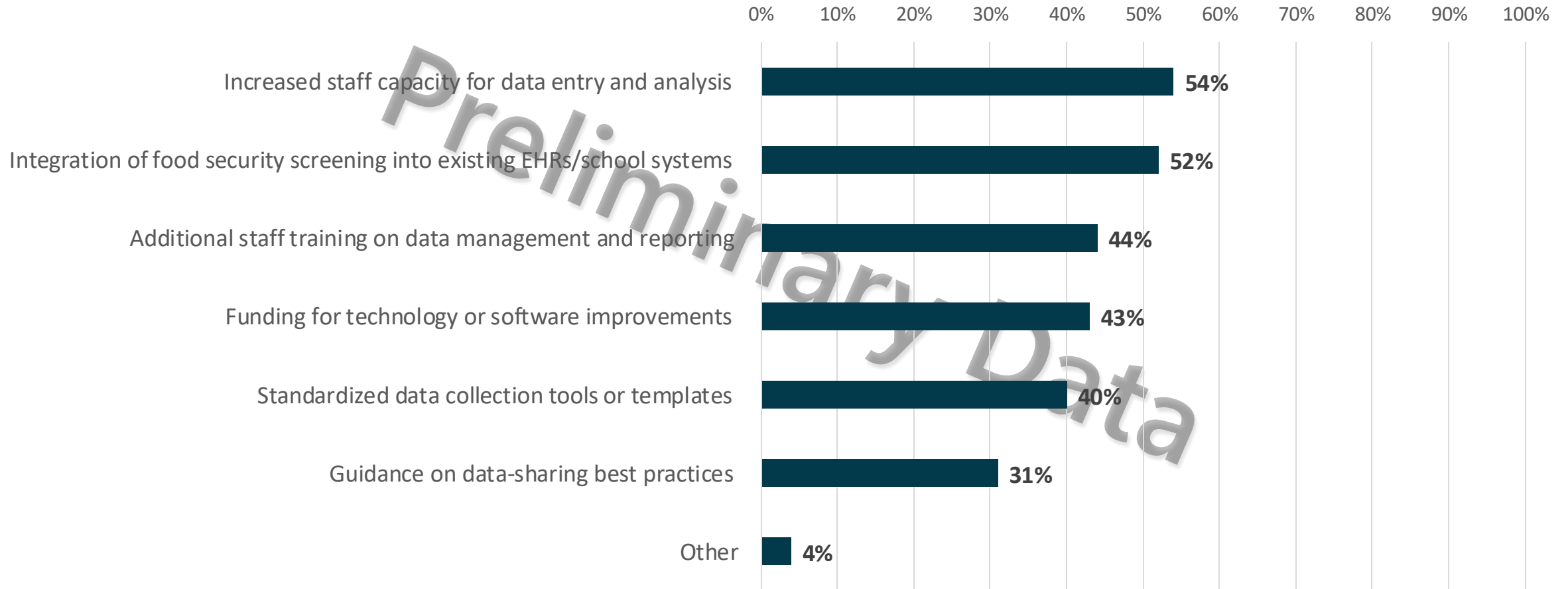
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Data Collection – How is impact tracked and shared?



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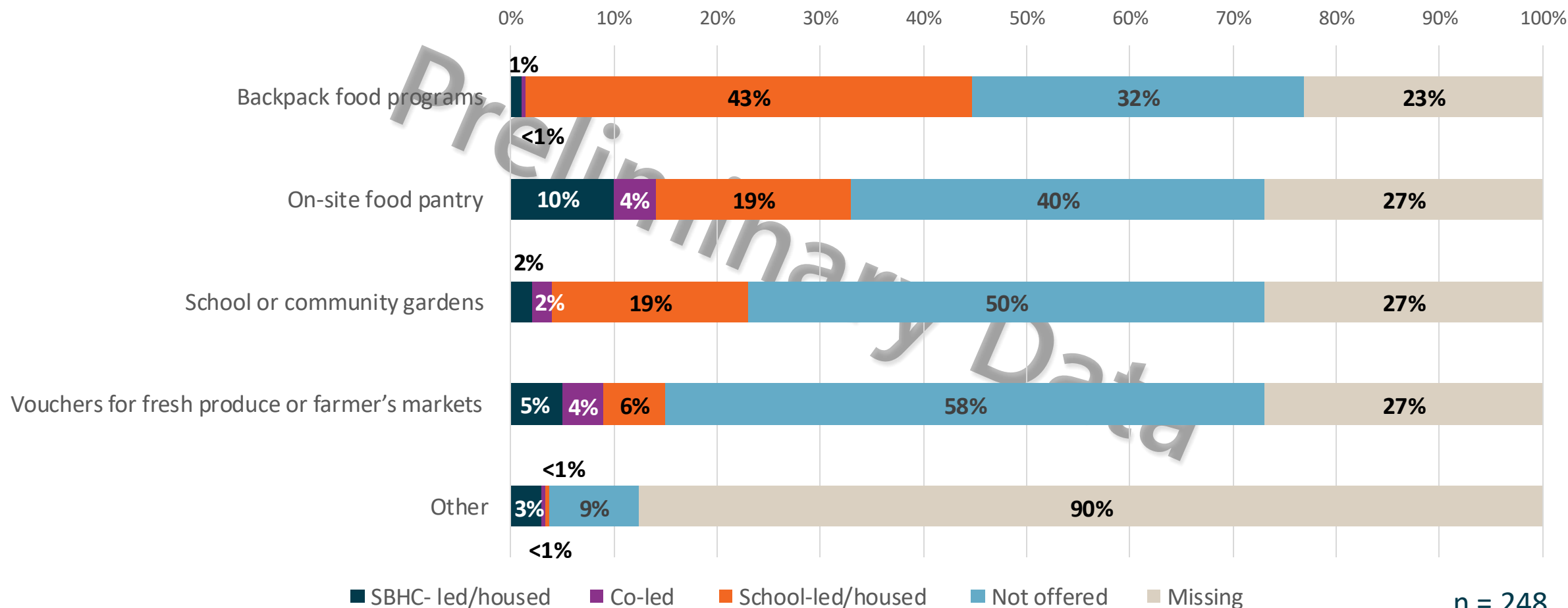
Data Collection – What will help document impact?



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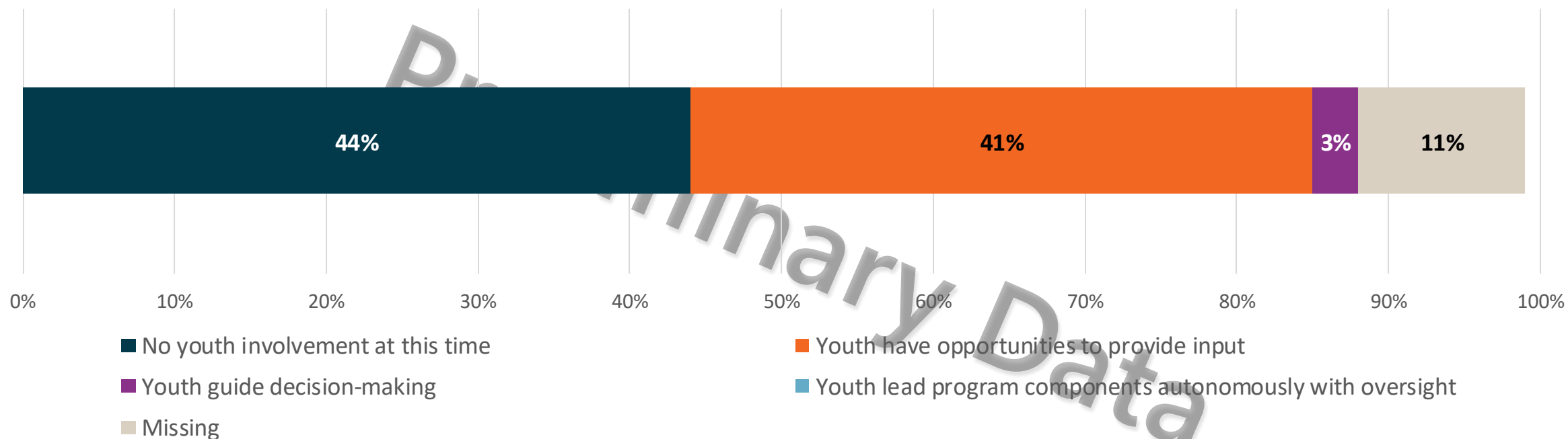
Food Support Programs – What are SBHCs and Schools Doing?



What's going well!

“Our SBHC partnered with local farmers to provide fresh produce boxes biweekly to hundreds of families within the community. We also educated families on how they can best use the produce to make healthy meals. The kids really loved these boxes and share their excitement on how they were able to use them at mealtime.”

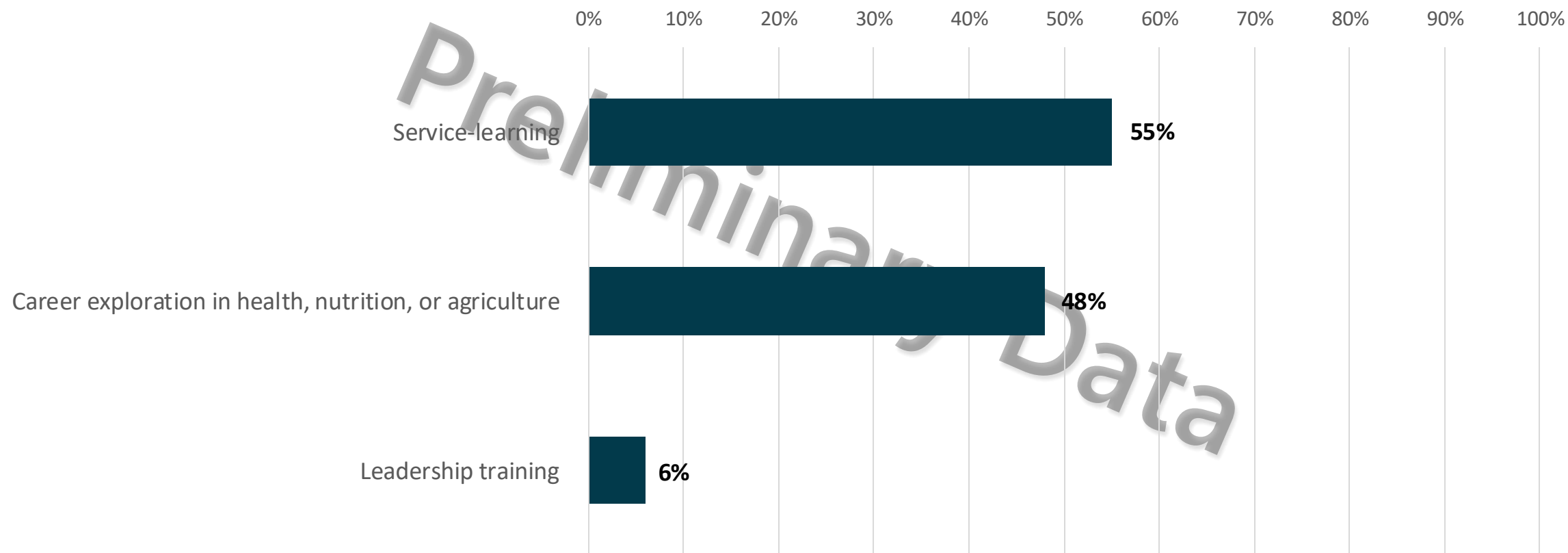
Food Support Programs – How are youth involved?



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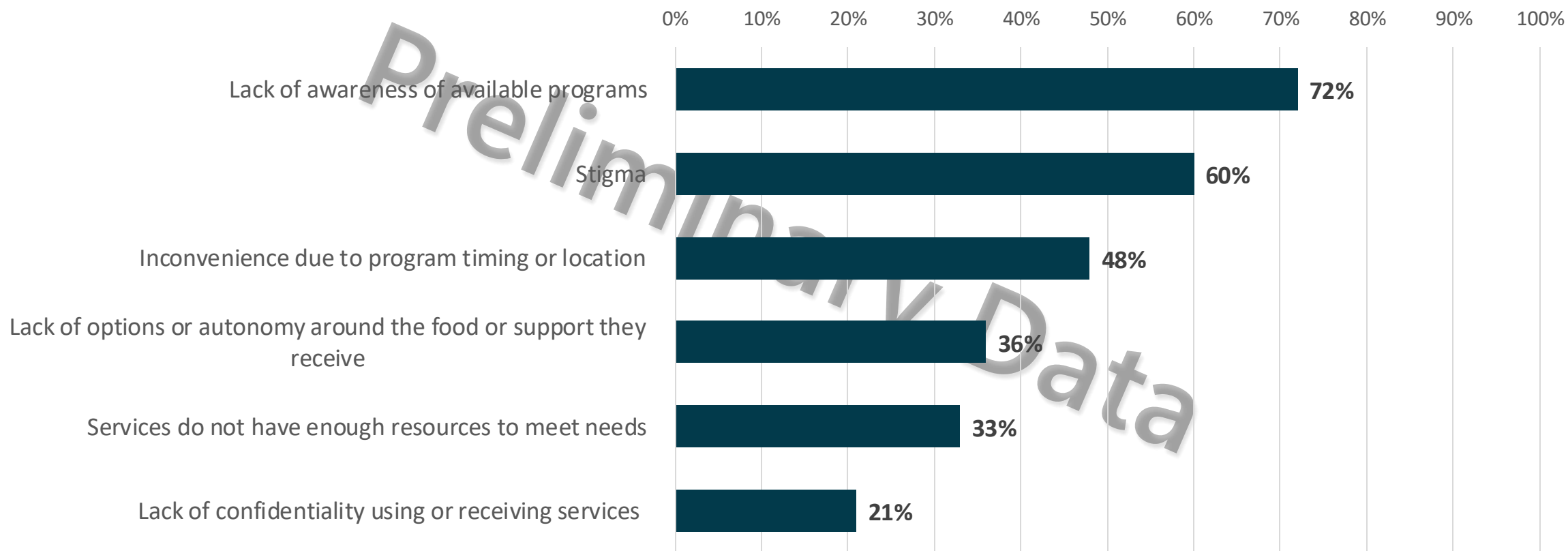
Food Support Programs – How are youth involved?



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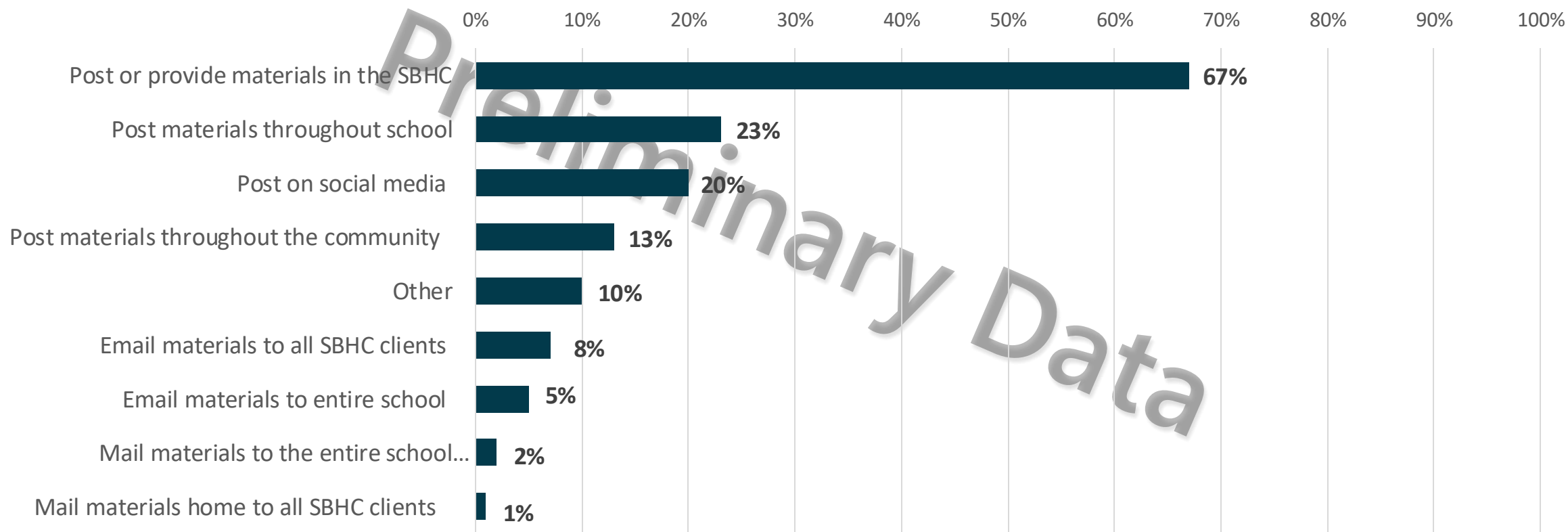
Food Support Programs – What barriers exist?



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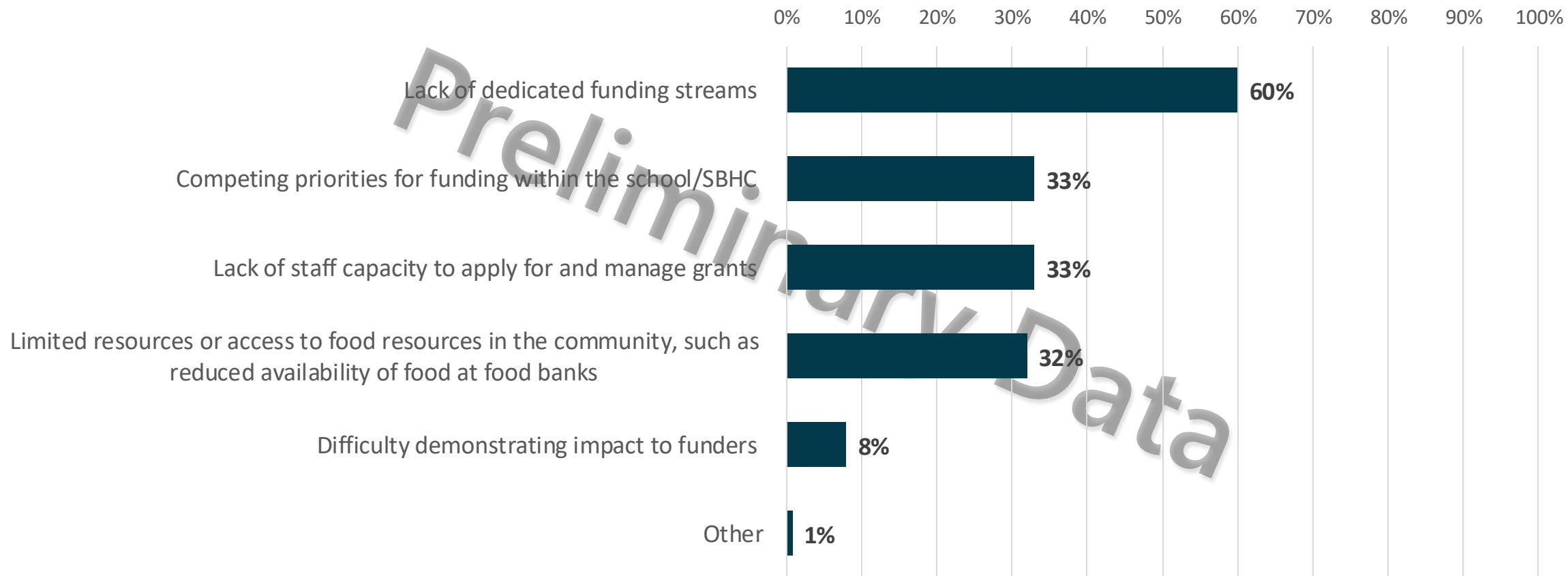
Food Support Programs – How do SBHCs promote resources?



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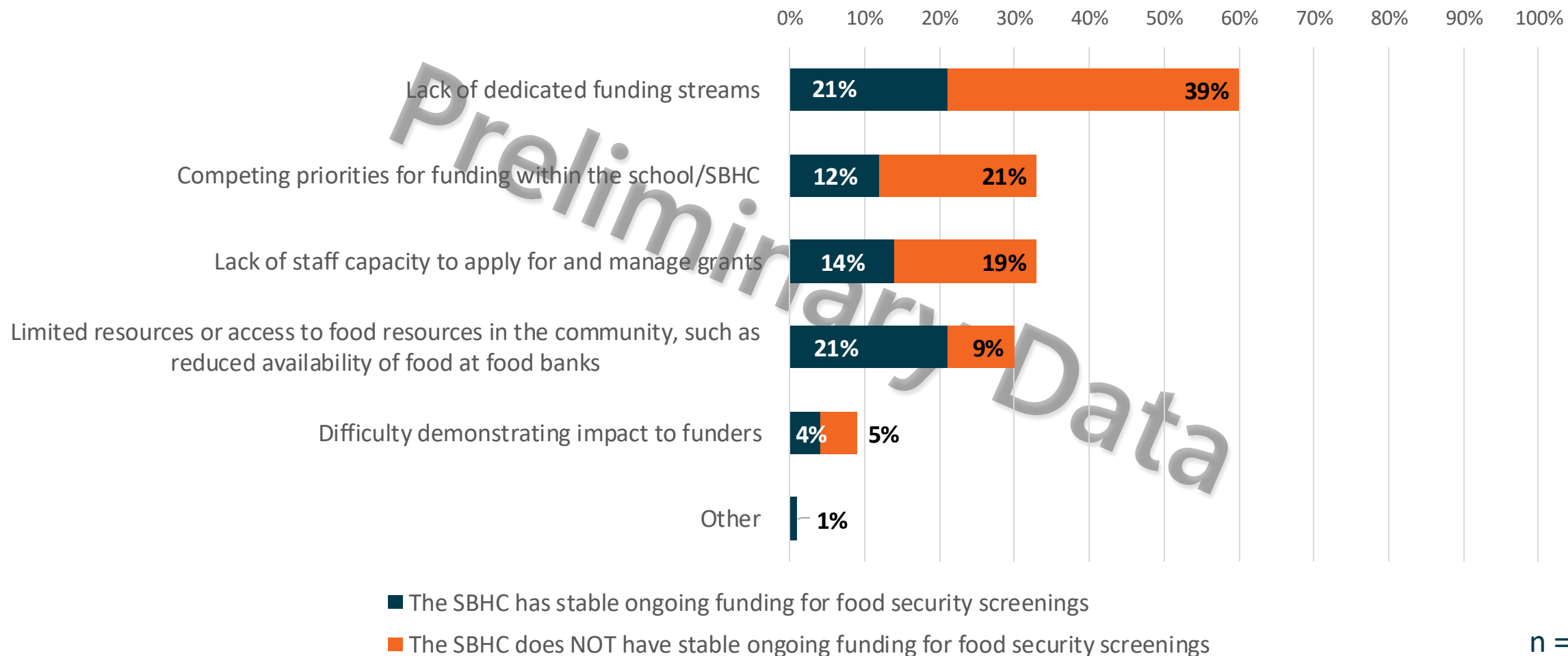
Food Support Programs – What are Barriers to Funding?



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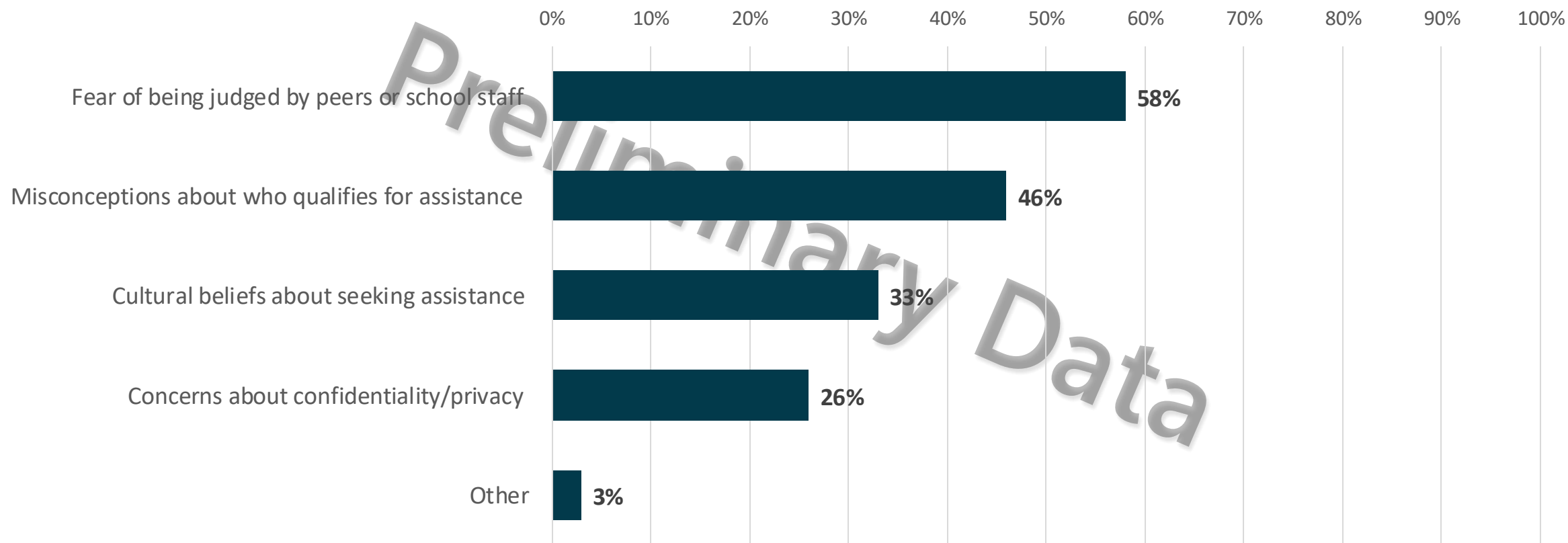
Food Support Programs – What are Barriers to Funding?



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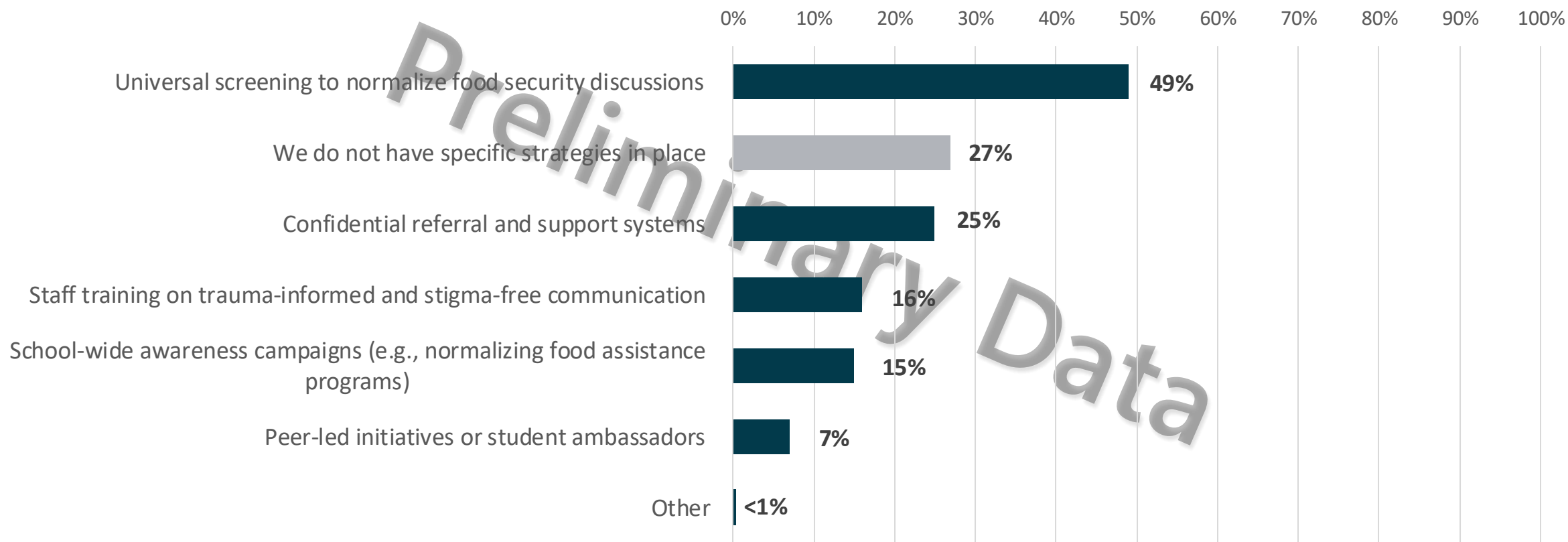
Food Support Programs – What stigma-related barriers exist?



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How are SBHCs addressing stigma?



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What's going well!

“We have been able to build trust with families that supports a reduction in stigma around food insecurity and openness to accessing resources. We, collaboratively with our school contact, have gotten families set up with SNAP and given them resources about community options that they didn't know existed. We work with a lot of newcomers and helping them find safety and clarity in resources they can access has felt meaningful.”

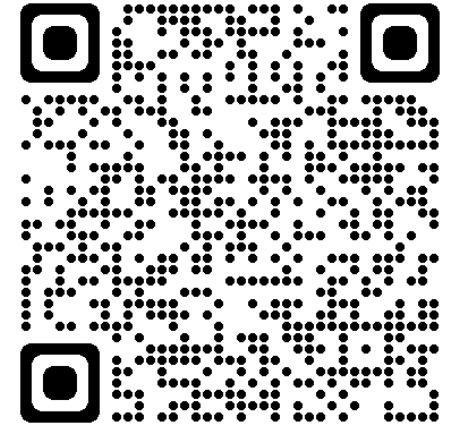
Key Take Aways

- **SBHCs are screening students for food security and providing referrals to resources**
 - Fewer SBHCs are conducting follow-up, which is most often supported by non-provider staff
 - Community partnerships and referral pathways are crucial
 - How can systems or partnerships support closed-loop linkages?
 - What opportunities are there to engage in quality improvement to maximize reach and impact?
- **Some SBHCs lead Food Support Programs to provide resources directly through a pantry or by providing vouchers to other programs**
 - How can youth be engaged in food security work?
- **SBHCs are working beyond direct clinical service to help support the health and well-being of students and families**
 - Identifying opportunities to message impact to key players and the community

QUESTIONS?

Please enter your questions into the “Q&A” box of the Zoom control window.

Toolkit Resource



Emerging Models And Resources To Address Food Insecurity In School-Based Health Centers

No Kid Hungry and School-Based Health Alliance believe that by embracing and building on families' trust in school-based health centers, we can promote federal nutrition programs and nutritious food consumption in support of favorable health outcomes and improved food security for families.

This toolkit highlights promising practices for integrating nutrition and food access into school-based health center (SBHC) services to address social influencers of health, improve food security for families, and support student success and wellness.



Addressing Food Insecurity in School-Based Health Centers: Practical Tips and Resources for Effective Interventions

Understanding & Identifying Food Insecurity in Students

What is Food Insecurity?

According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), food insecurity is the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods or the inability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways.¹



Learn more

- [Household Food Security in the U.S](#)
- [Find your local rates of childhood food insecurity by state and county](#)



Importance of Addressing Food Insecurity in School- Based Health Centers



School-based health centers (SBHCs) can play a crucial role in identifying students who are food insecure, connecting them to resources, and implementing interventions that ensure no student goes hungry. This approach supports the health of individual students and fosters a healthier school environment, leading to better outcomes for all.

Learn more

- [Why SBHCs? Benefits to Addressing Food Insecurity through an SBHC – School-Based Health Alliance \(SBHA\) Toolkits](#)



Impact on Students



Food Insecurity affects millions of households with children each year.² Food insecurity can have a profound impact on children and adolescents. Research has shown that food insecurity has been linked to:^{3,4}

- **Poor Quality Diet** resulting in conditions like iron deficiency anemia and other nutrient deficiencies.
- **Higher Risk of Chronic Disease** including issues like being underweight or overweight, slow growth, asthma, obesity, type 2 diabetes, and dental caries.
- **Poor Mental Health Outcomes** such as depression, anxiety, and stress affecting both parents and children.
- **Worse Educational Outcomes** including absenteeism and poor academic performance.
- **Increased Developmental Risk** such as developmental delay and behavioral and social-emotional problems.

Learn more



- [Food Insecurity and Health: Practices and Policies to Address Food Insecurity among Children - Academic Pediatrics \(academicpediatrics.net\)](#)
- [Food Insecurity and the Social Drivers of Health – SBHA Toolkits](#)

Other Resources

- [SBHA & NKH Project Website](#)
- [Practical Tips and Resources for Effective Interventions](#)
- [School-Based Health Center SNAP Outreach Flyer](#)
- [Food Security Continuum: Strategies for Supporting Students and Families](#)
- [No Kid Hungry Center for Best Practices](#)

**TEAM
NO KID
HUNGRY**

**WE ARE TEAM
NO KID HUNGRY!**



**SCHOOL-BASED
HEALTH ALLIANCE**
The National Voice for School-Based Health Care



**NO KID
HUNGRY**
by SHARE OUR STRENGTH

What's Next

- Continued resource development based on learnings
- Exploring collaborative approaches to connecting families to food resources
- Support SBHCs to share information about food programs and resources

HOLD THE DATE

2025 Back To School Fall Learning Series



SCHOOL-BASED
HEALTH ALLIANCE
The National Voice for School-Based Health Care

Free Registration | Continuing Education Credits for \$35

Schools + Families + School-Based Health Centers = Happy and Healthy Kids



16 Virtual Sessions	Dates:	Sept. 30	Oct.2	Oct.7	Time: 12:00 -1:15 p.m. ET and 2:00-3:15 p.m. ET
		Oct.9	Oct.14	Oct.16	
		Oct.28	Oct.30		

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