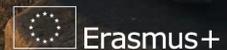


# Survey among international alumni of Czech universities

## 2022

Czech  
Republic  
Alumni



# Information about the survey

The quantitative survey was conducted online. All **universities in the Czech Republic** were asked for cooperation.

**From October to December 2021**, alumni from different countries who studied in the Czech Republic could participate in a questionnaire. 5226 responses were obtained, **4534** of which **were used for analysis**. This was the first survey in the Czech Republic on this topic.

The aim of the survey was **to find out how the alumni evaluate their experience with studying in the Czech Republic**. They were asked about **what their studies brought them**, what their next study or career paths were, **and whether they would recommend** studying in the Czech Republic to others. The conditions under which they would participate in the **national alumni programme** were also identified.



# Sorting criteria

In this research report, we classify the data according to three basic criteria:

Type of study programme:

**Full degree programmes** (N = 3136)

**Short-term study stays** (N = 1266)

Year when they completed the studies:

**2012 or earlier** (N = 903)

**2013 - 2018** (N = 1643)

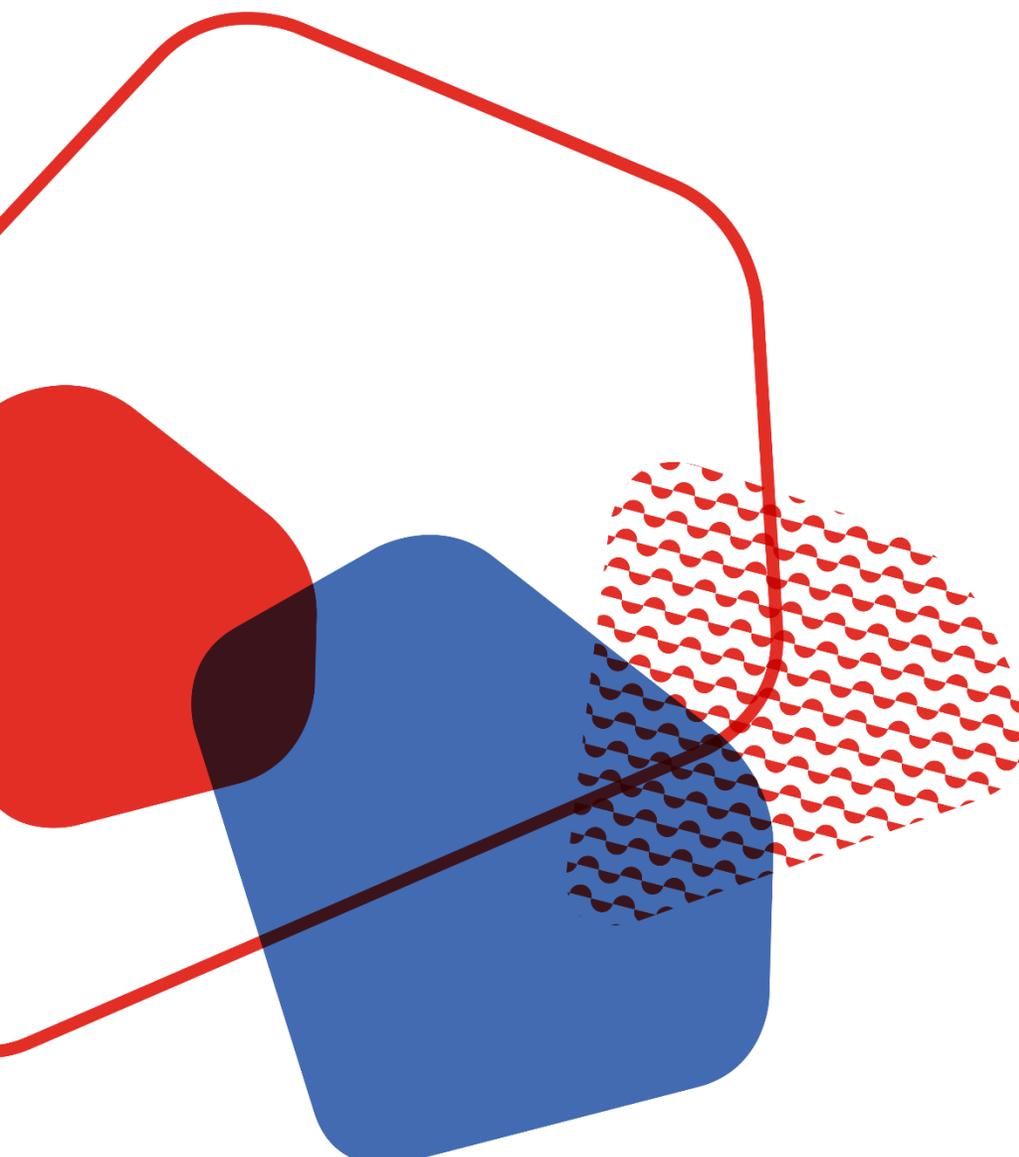
**2019 - 2021** (N = 1988)

Nationality:

**Slovak** (N = 1751)

**Other nationalities** (N = 2783)





# MAIN FINDINGS

**Before their studies, almost all respondents had a positive or neutral attitude towards the Czech Republic.**

**The vast majority of alumni (97%) would recommend studying in the Czech Republic to others.**

**Almost half of the respondents who studied full degree programmes stayed in the Czech Republic for work and a third returned to their home country after graduation.**

**9 out of 10 alumni stated that studying in the Czech Republic has contributed to improving their career. Students of full degree programmes perceive this more strongly than students undertaking short-term study stays.**

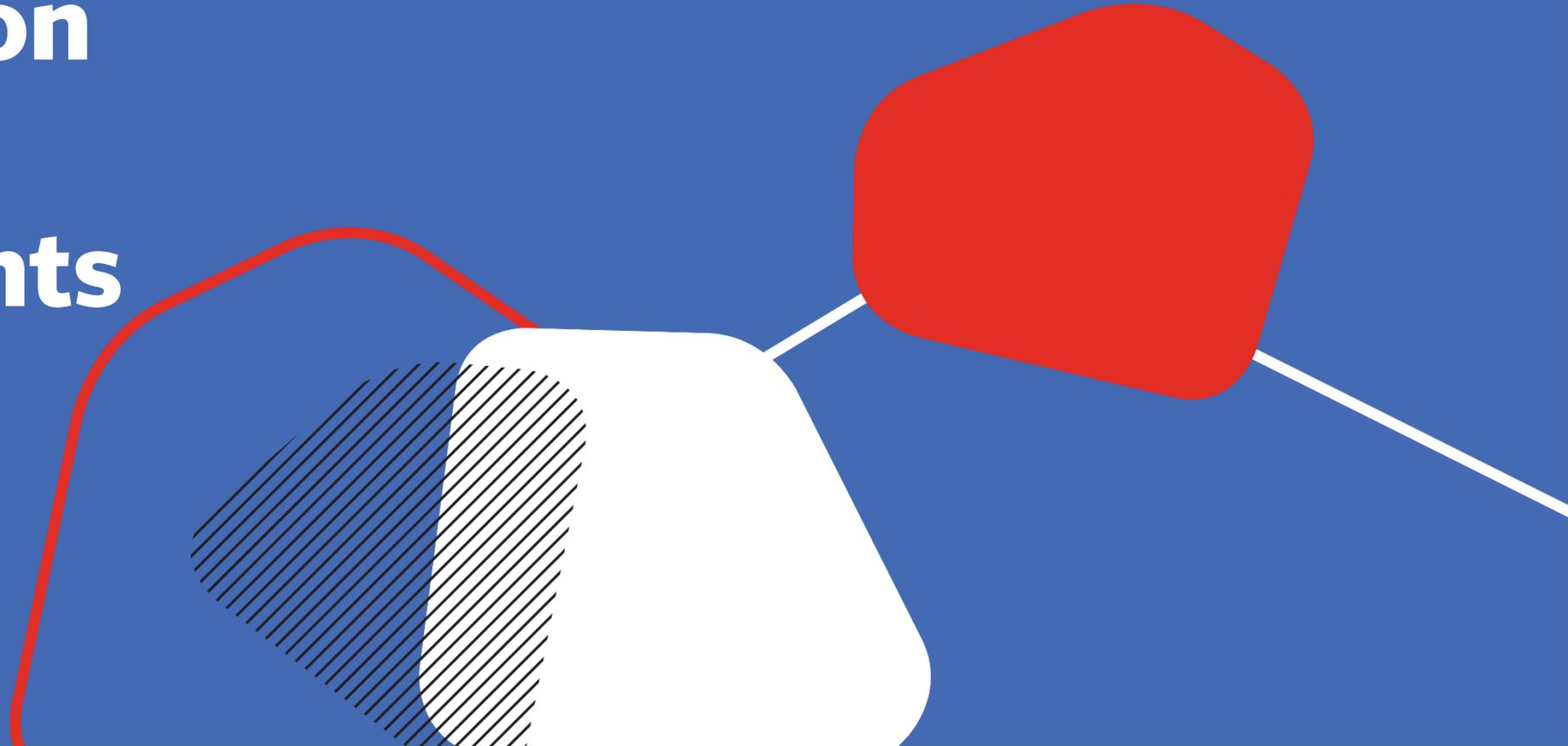
**7 out of 10 full degree alumni have work experience in the Czech Republic. Finding a job in the Czech Republic was easier for Slovak students (88%) than for others (68%).**

**Most alumni of short-term study stays (83%) and full degree programmes (93%) remain in contact with someone from the Czech Republic.**

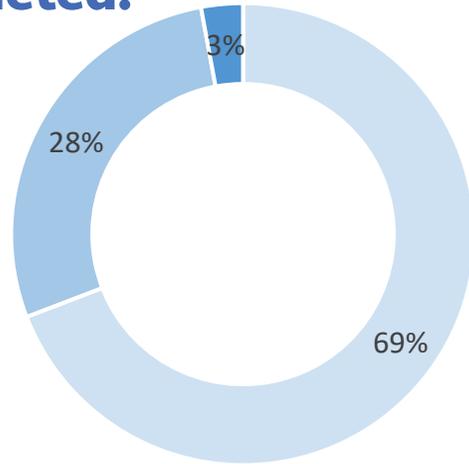
**More than half of the respondents are interested in being involved in the alumni programme to some degree. Recent graduates (from 2019 - 2021) expressed slightly higher interest than the older**

# 01

## Basic information about respondents

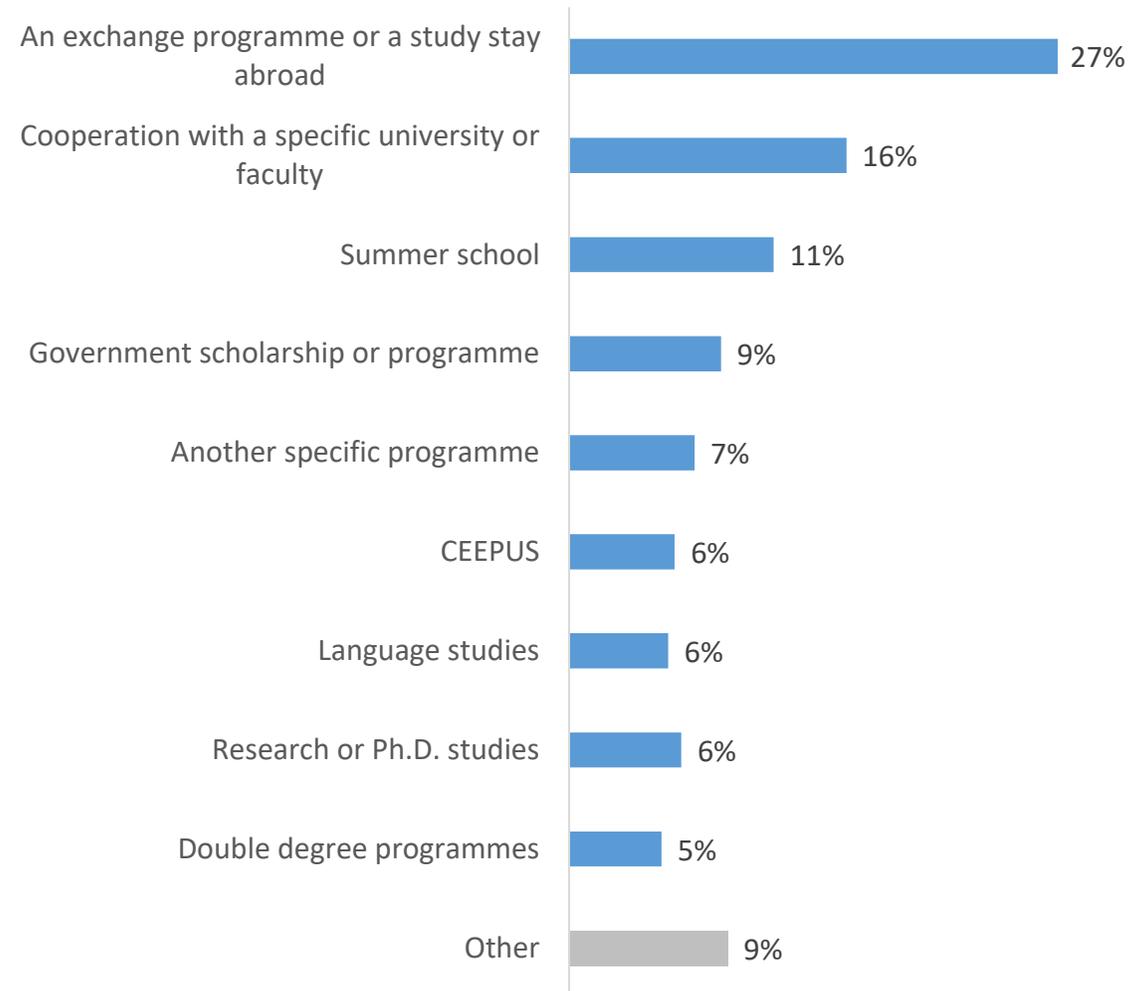


## In the Czech Republic, I completed:

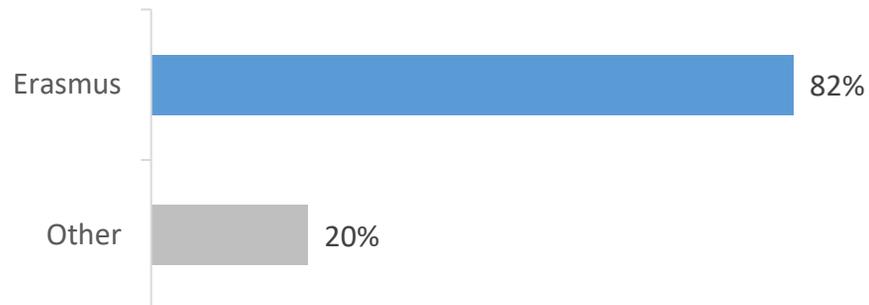


- Full degree programme
- Short-term study stay
- Both types

## Which short-term study stay(s) did you complete? (N = 270)

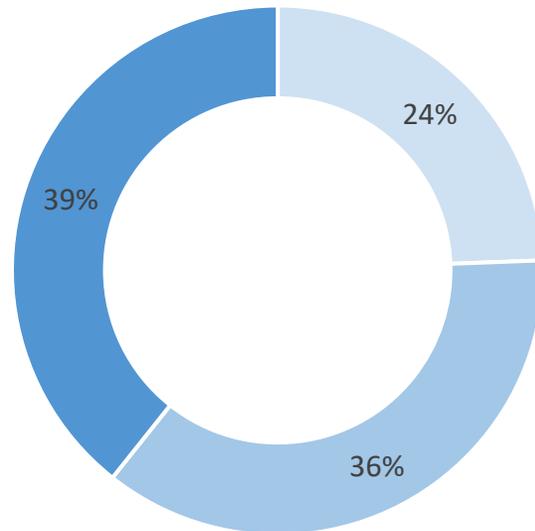


## Which short-term study stay(s) did you complete? (N = 1398)



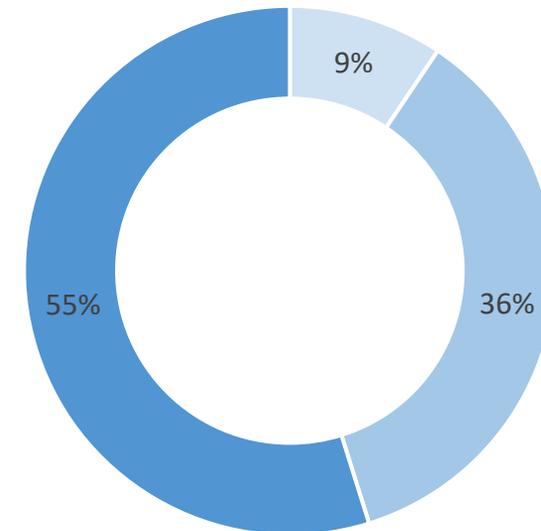
# In what year did you end your studies?

## Full degree programmes



■ 2012 or earlier ■ 2013 - 2018 ■ 2019 - 2021

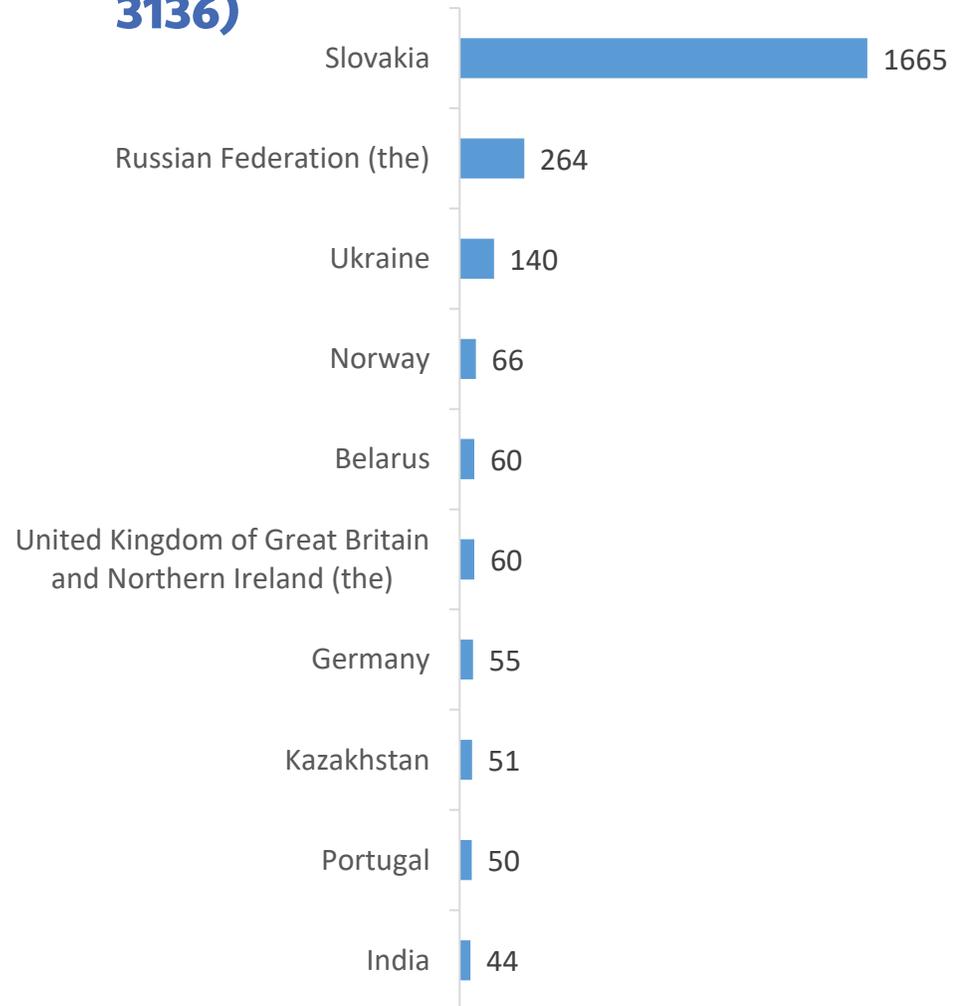
## Short-term study stays



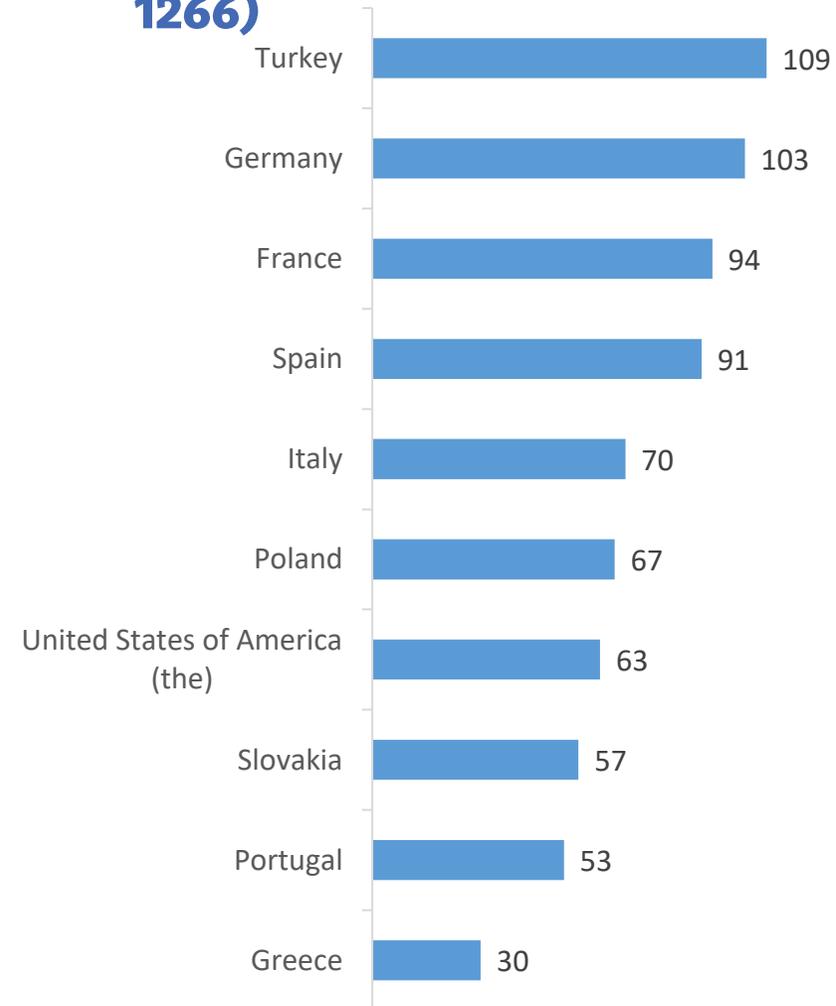
■ 2012 or earlier ■ 2013 - 2018 ■ 2019 - 2021

# What is your country of origin? TOP 10

**Full degree programmes (N = 3136)**

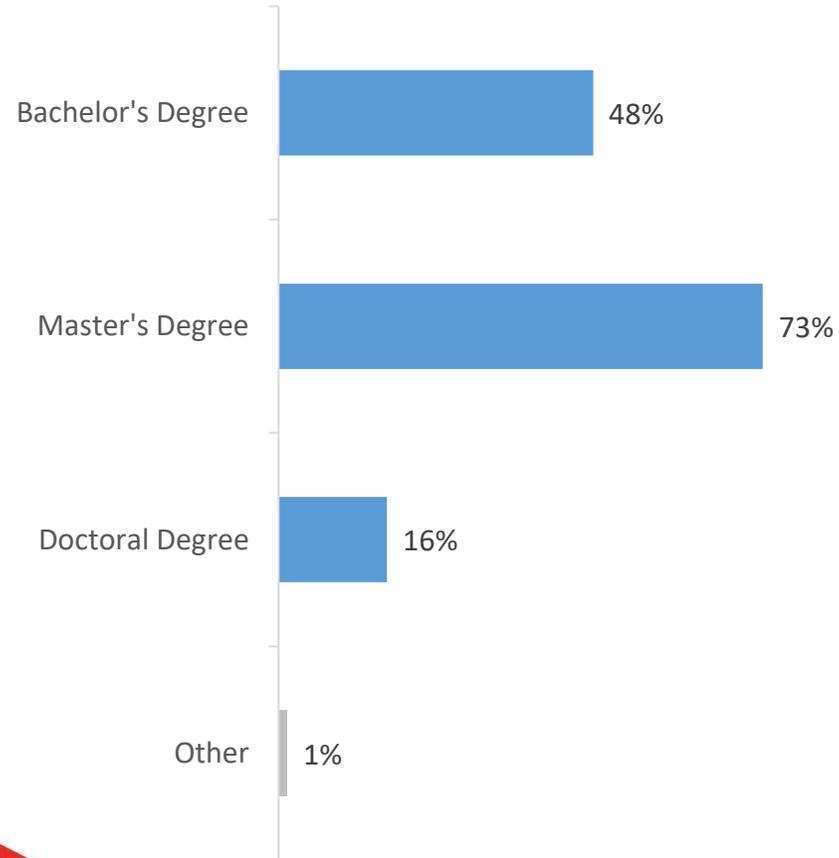


**Short-term study stays (N = 1266)**

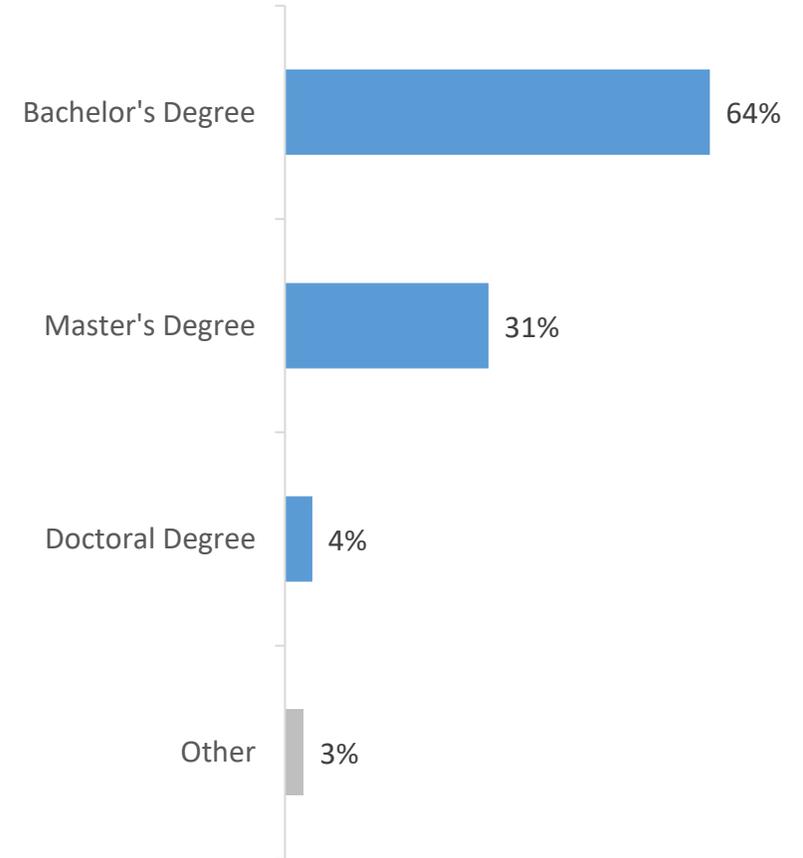


# At what level of study did you stay in the Czech Republic?

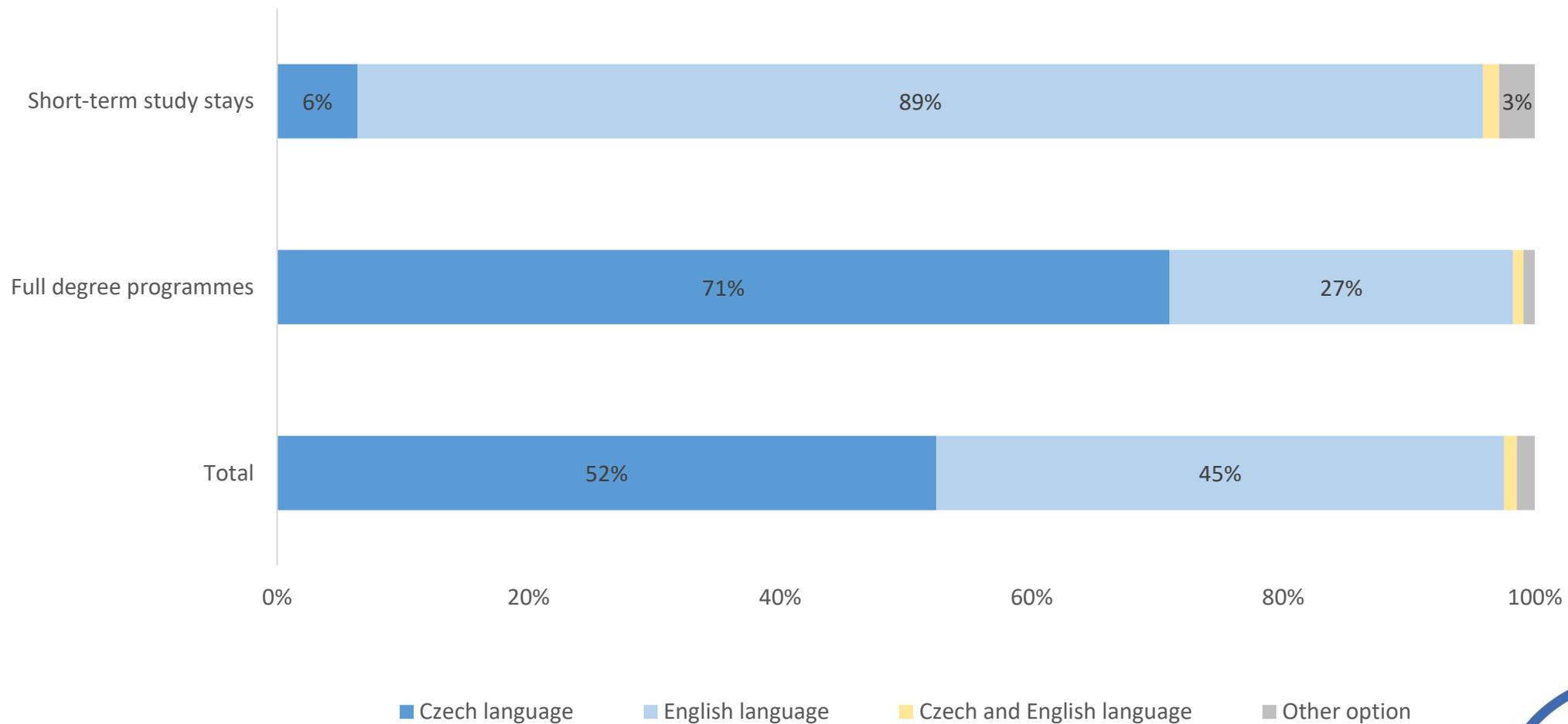
## Full degree programmes



## Short-term study stays



# What language were you studying in?



# Which Czech higher education institution did you study at?

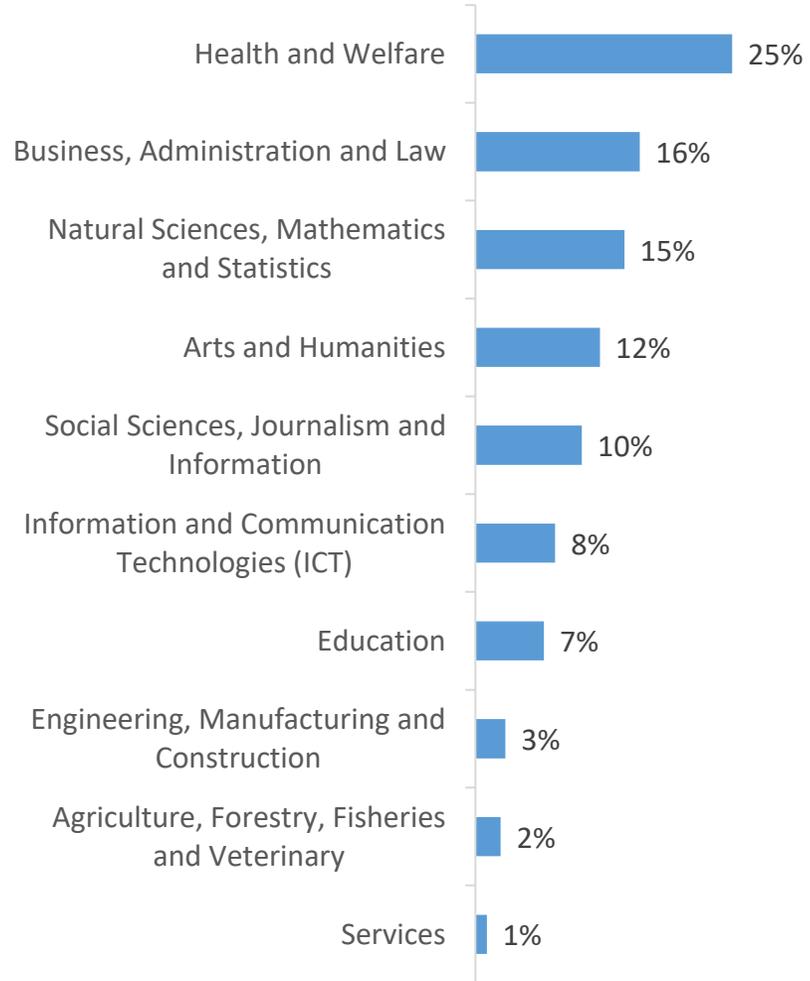
Institution (N = 51) Part I.	N Total	N Whole study programme(s)	N Short-term study stay(s)
Charles University	1832	1642	133
Prague University of Economics and Business (VŠE)	484	246	227
Czech University of Life Sciences Prague	356	177	168
Masaryk University	217	179	34
Jan Amos Komenský University Prague	208	192	15
Tomas Bata University in Zlín	142	113	25
Silesian University in Opava	129	88	37
Metropolitan University Prague	125	82	37
University of Hradec Králové	118	17	97
Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Usti nad Labem	105	14	89
Academy of Performing Arts in Prague	101	68	26
Palacky University Olomouc	99	45	51
University of Ostrava	68	9	58
University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague	67	29	36
Mendel University in Brno	66	38	27
University of Economics and Management	42	14	27
Czech Technical University in Prague	39	21	17
University of West Bohemia	39	2	36
VSB - Technical University of Ostrava	37	21	16
University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice	34	9	25
Technical University of Liberec	33	25	7
Brno University of Technology	26	3	23
University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno	26	19	7
University of Finance and Administration	18	15	1
University of Pardubice	14	5	9
Moravian Business College Olomouc	11	0	11

# Which Czech higher education institution did you study at?

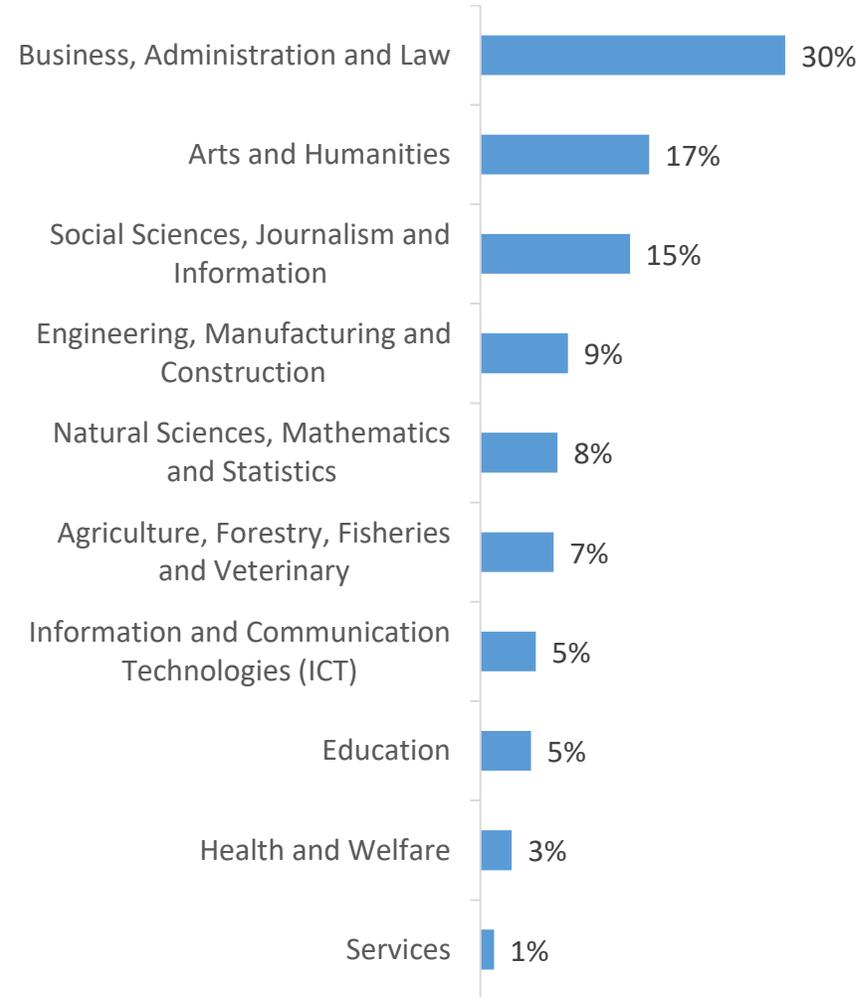
Institution (N = 51) Part II.	N Total	N Whole study programme(s)	N Short-term study stay(s)
University of Defence	11	8	2
College of Polytechnics Jihlava	10	8	2
ŠKODA AUTO University	10	9	0
College of Physical Education and Sport Palestra	7	6	0
Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts Brno	7	2	4
Academy of Fine Arts in Prague	6	2	4
Anglo-American University	6	5	0
Institute of Technology and Business in Ceske Budejovice	5	3	2
College of Business and Hotel Management	4	3	0
Institute of Hospitality Management in Prague	4	3	1
Architectural Institute in Prague	3	2	0
University College of Business in Prague	3	1	2
Academia Rerum Civilium - College of Political and Social Sciences	2	2	0
Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague	2	1	1
AKCENT College	2	1	1
Police Academy of the Czech Republic	2	0	2
Applied Psychology College	1	0	1
ART & DESIGN INSTITUT	1	0	1
CEVRO Institute	1	1	0
College of Entrepreneurship and Law	1	1	0
College of European and Regional Studies	1	1	0
College of Logistics	1	1	0
Prague College of Psychosocial Studies	1	1	0
University of Creative Communication	1	0	1
University of New York in Prague	1	1	0
<b>Total N</b>	<b>4529</b>	<b>3135</b>	<b>1263</b>

# What was the field of your study (according to the CZ-ISCED-F 2013 classification)?

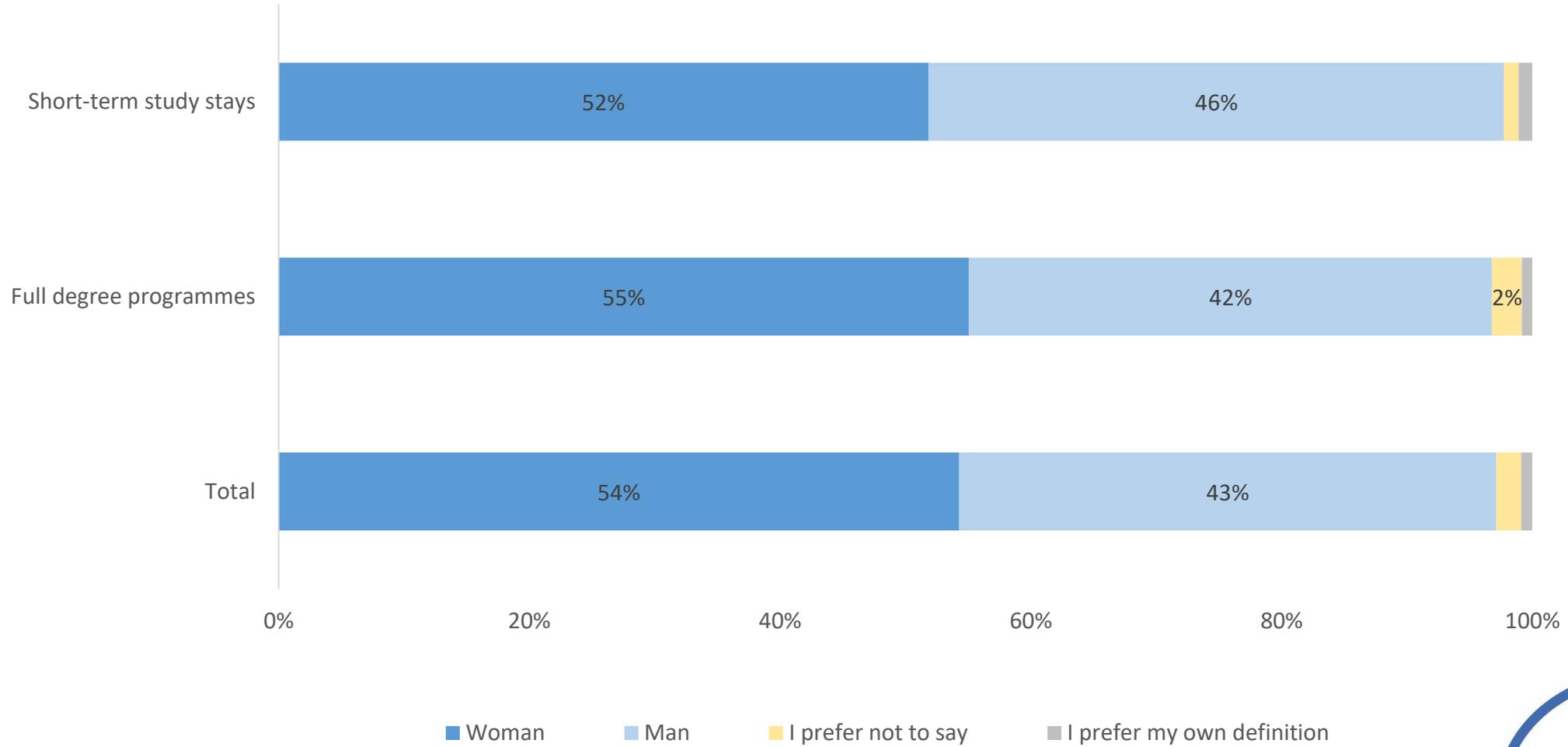
## Full degree programmes



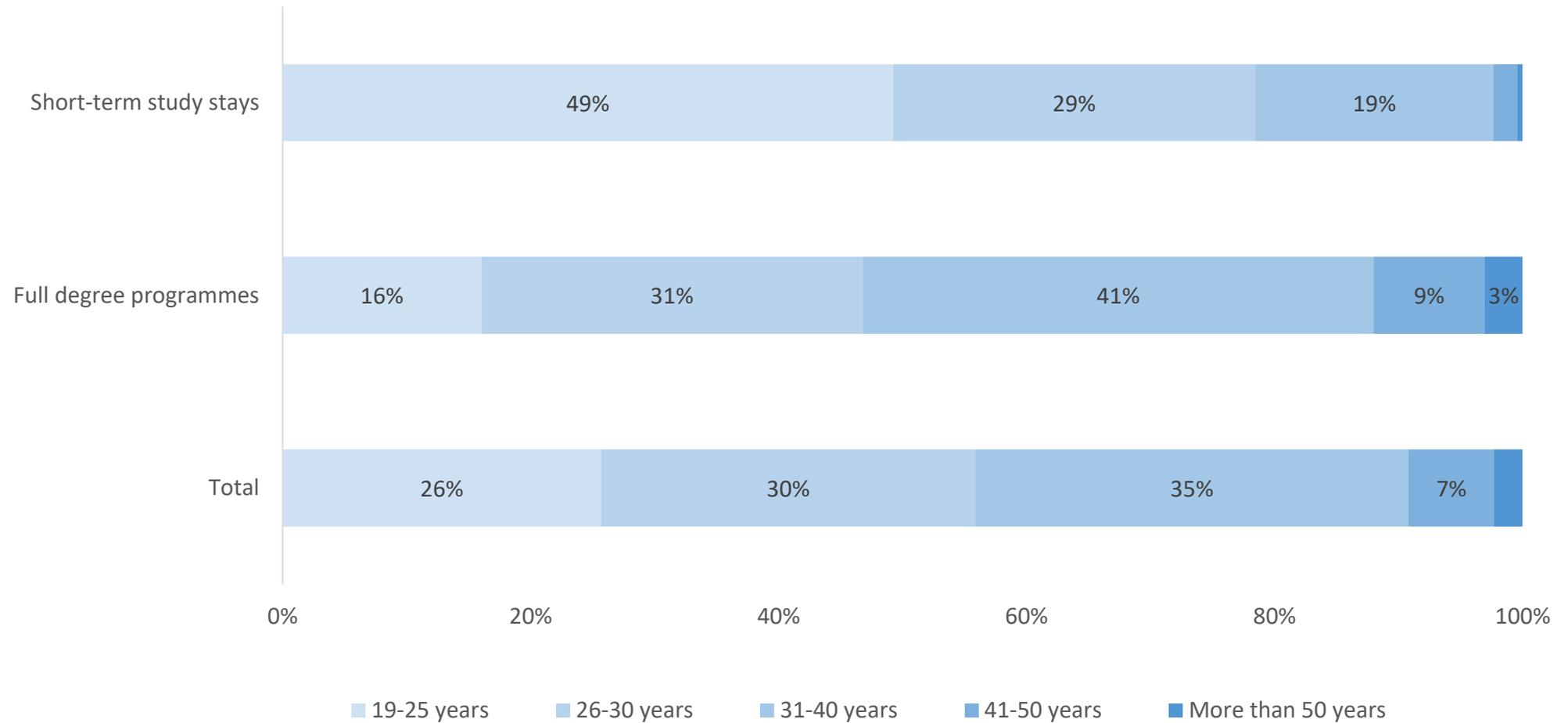
## Short-term study stays



# What gender do you identify as?

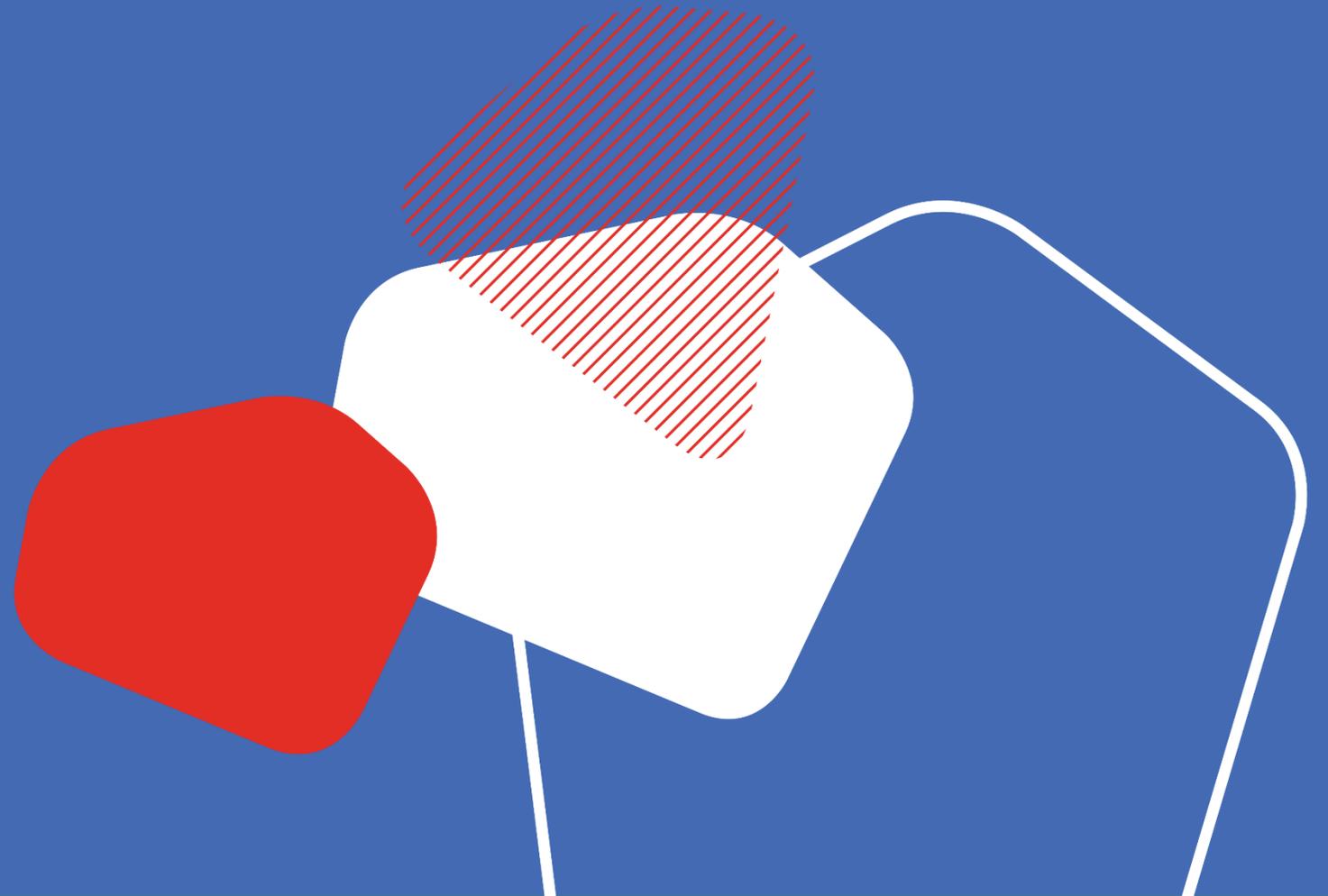


# How old are you?

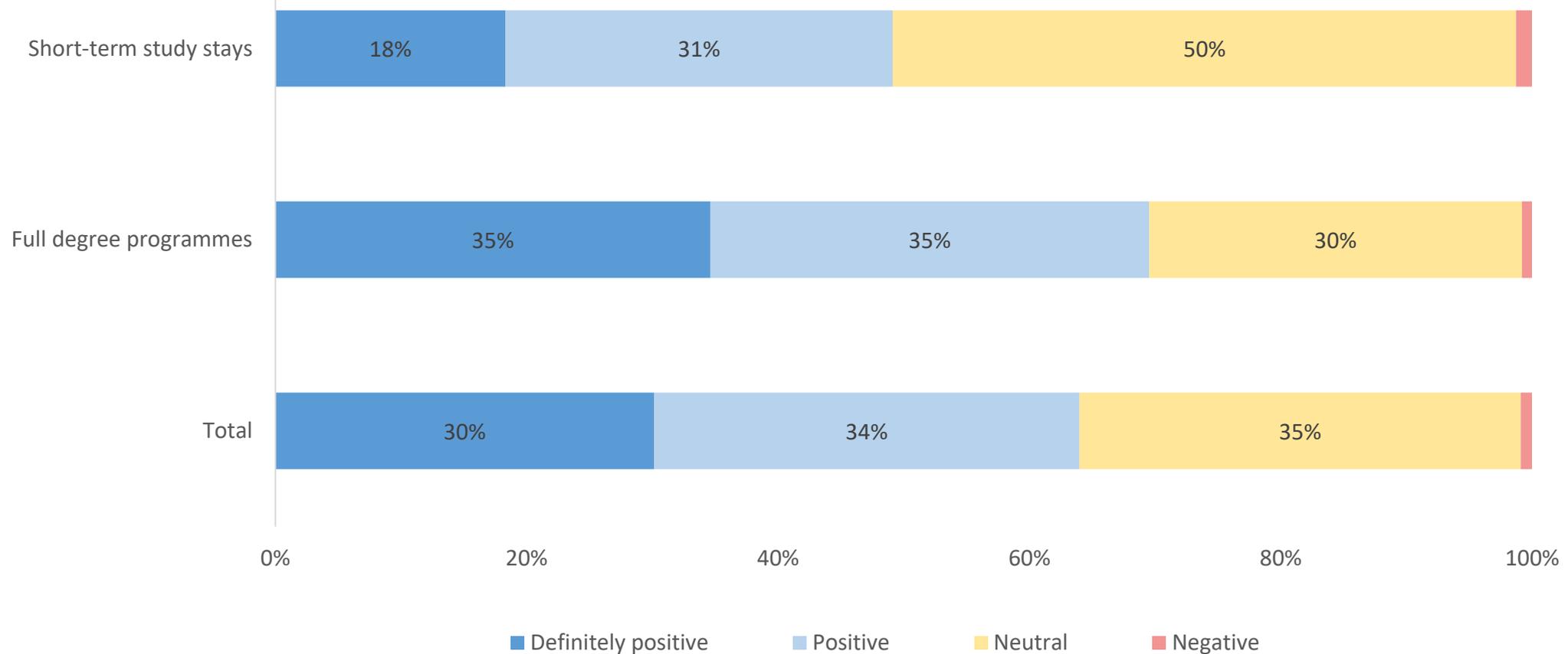


# 02

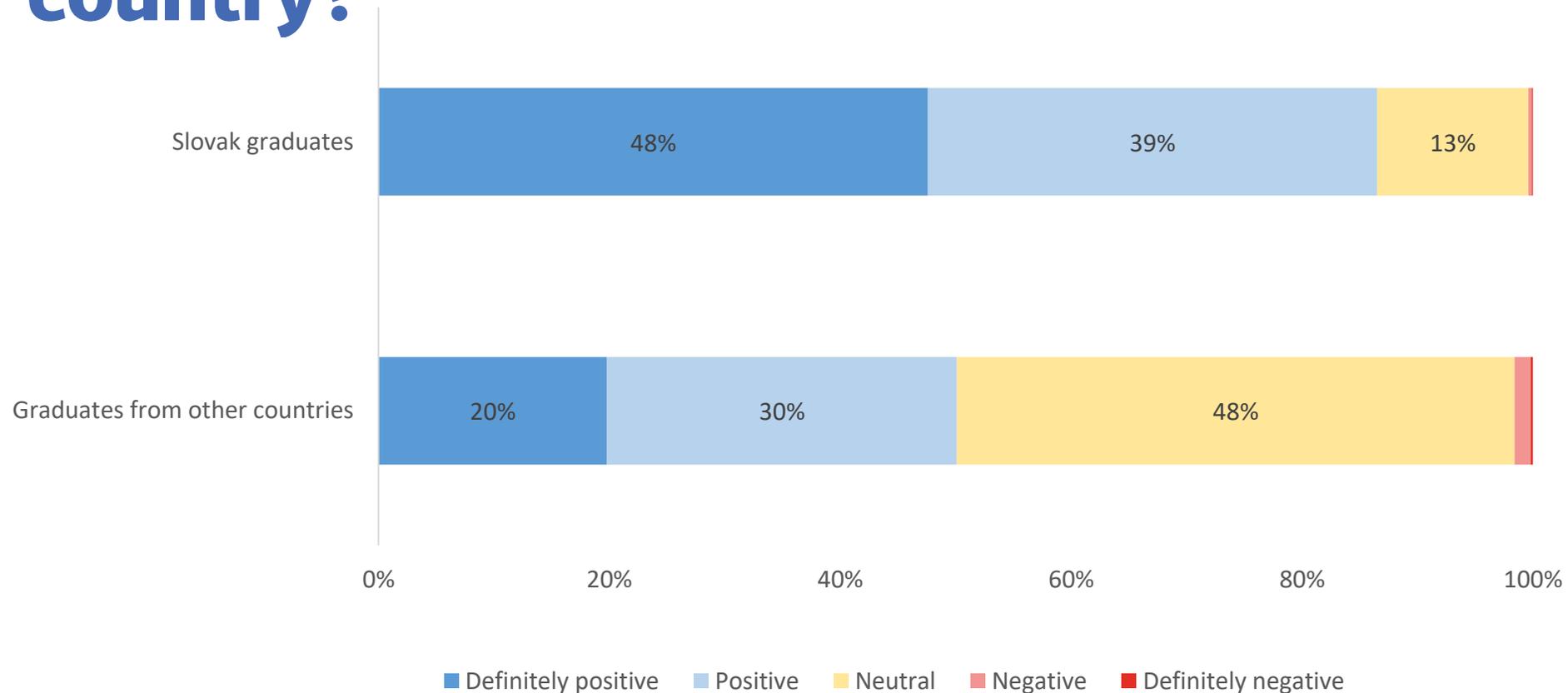
## Relationship to the Czech Republic



# What was your relationship with the Czech Republic before studying in this country?

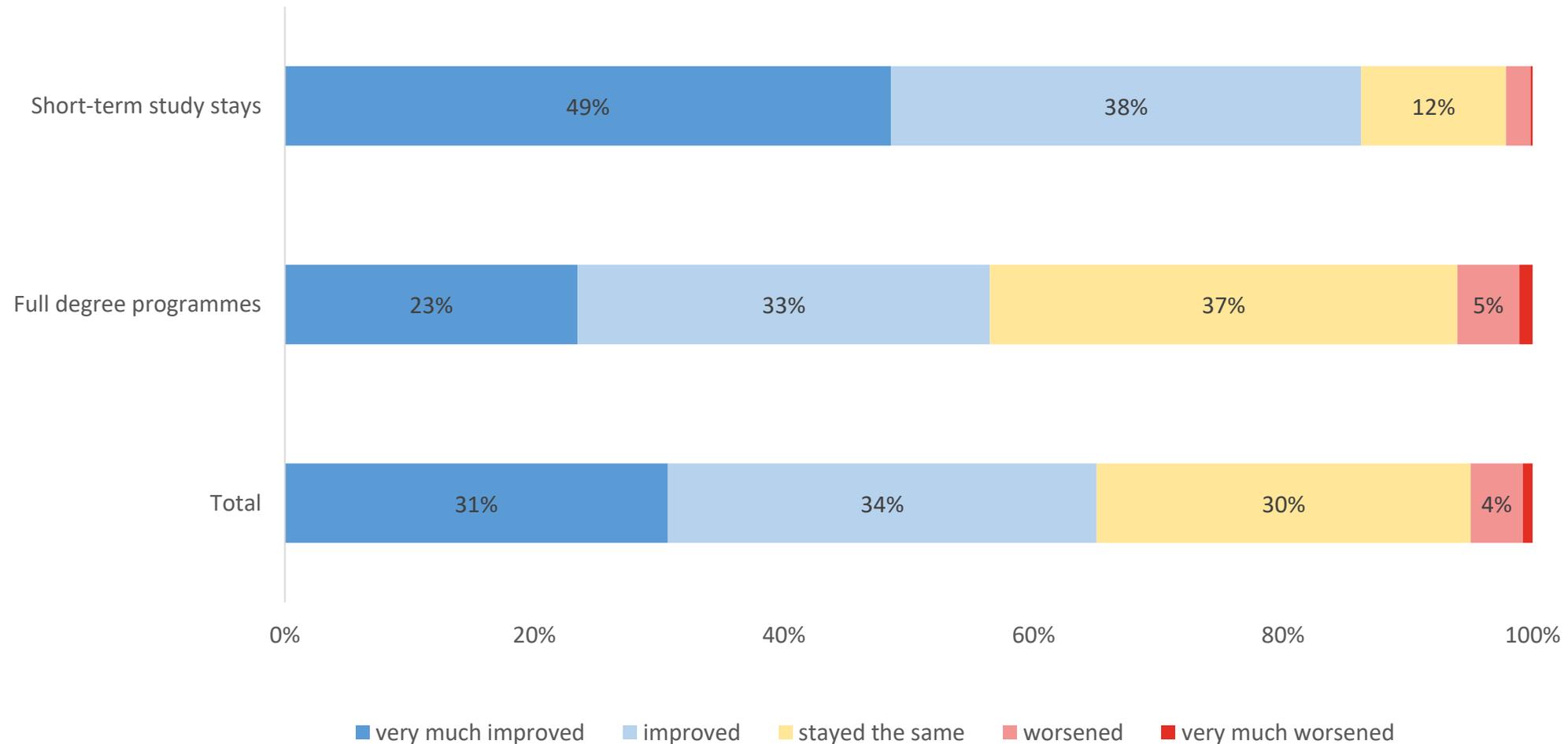


# What was your relationship with the Czech Republic before studying in this country?\*

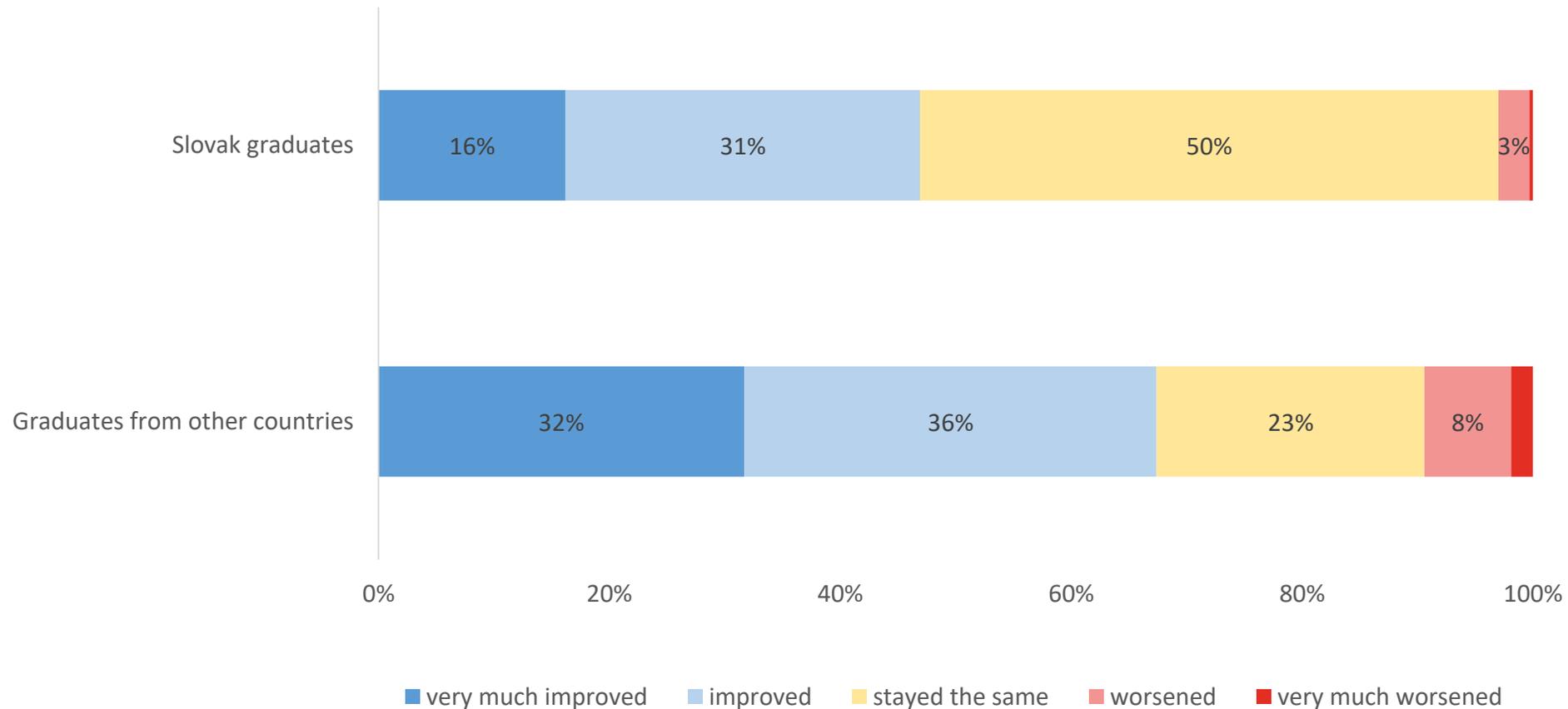


\*only full degree programmes (N = 3136)

# Has your relationship with the Czech Republic changed after studying in this country? It has:



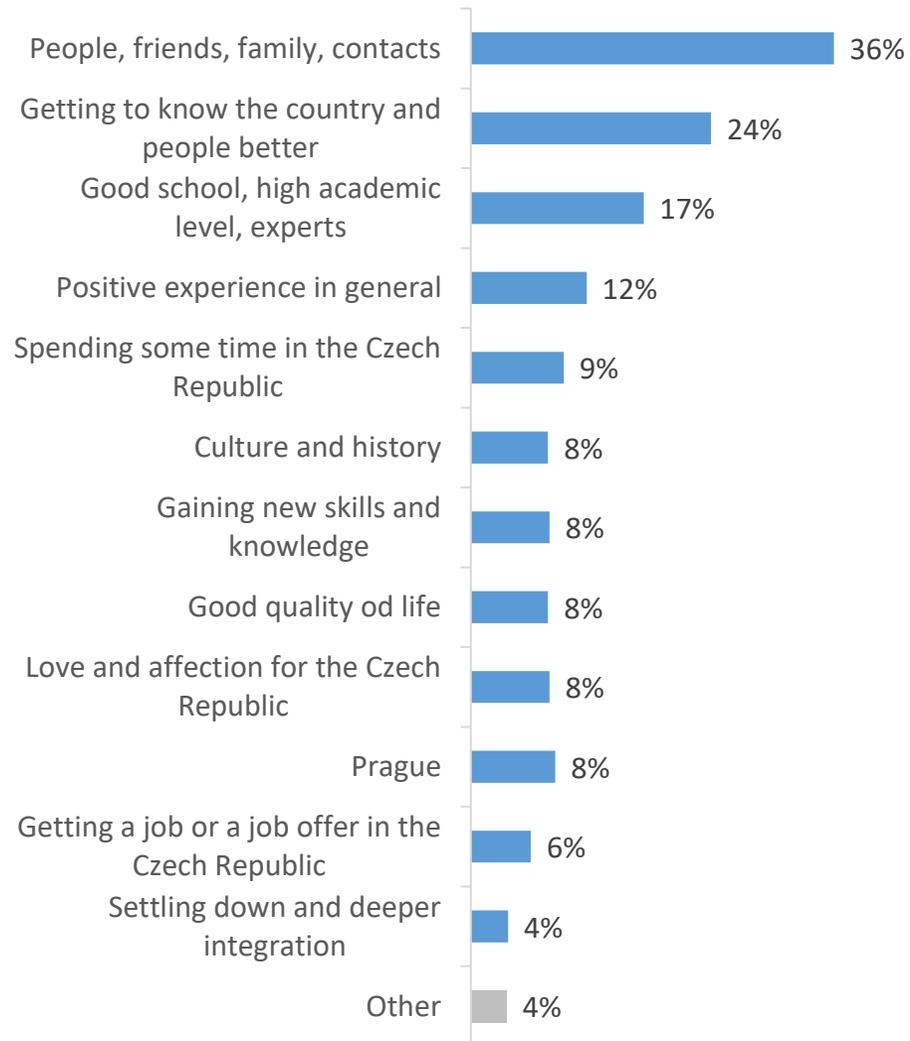
# Has your relationship with the Czech Republic changed after studying in this country? \* It has:



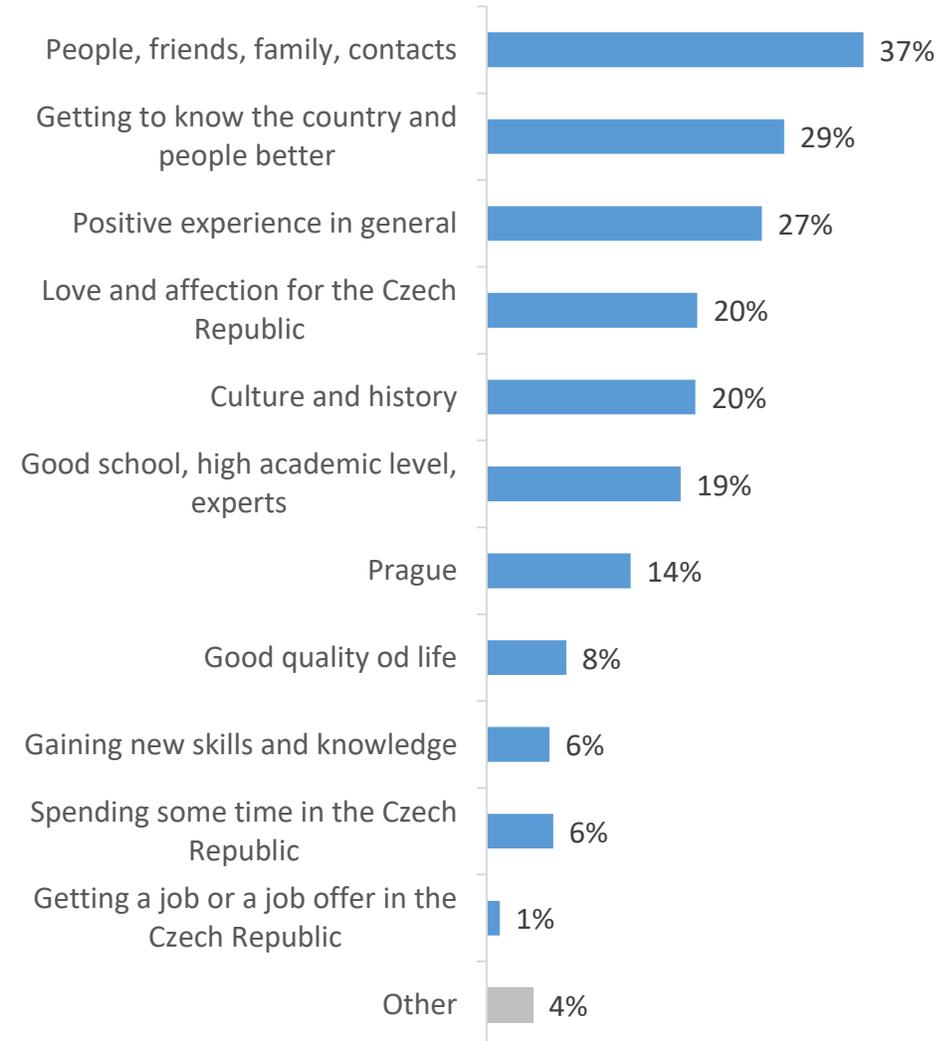
*\*only full degree programmes (N = 3136)*

# Why did your relationship with the Czech Republic improve? (N = 1260)

## Full degree programmes



## Short-term study stays



## Why did your relationship with the Czech Republic improve? (N = 1260)

*„I had the opportunity to explore the Czech republic more, I got a lot of contacts, friendships... I consider the Czech republic to be my second home.“*

*„I explored the culture, history and lifestyle more. I have met a lot of great people. The knowledge that I gained during my studies made me a better person.“*

*„Because now I know much more about the Czech Republic, Slavic culture, Central Europe, the customs and habits, history and culture.“*

*„I travelled the world and I may say that I felt most freedom in Czech Republic. Living in Czech Republic was one of the best decisions I made in my life!“*

*„I fell in love with Prague, this is the most beautiful city I had ever visited.“*

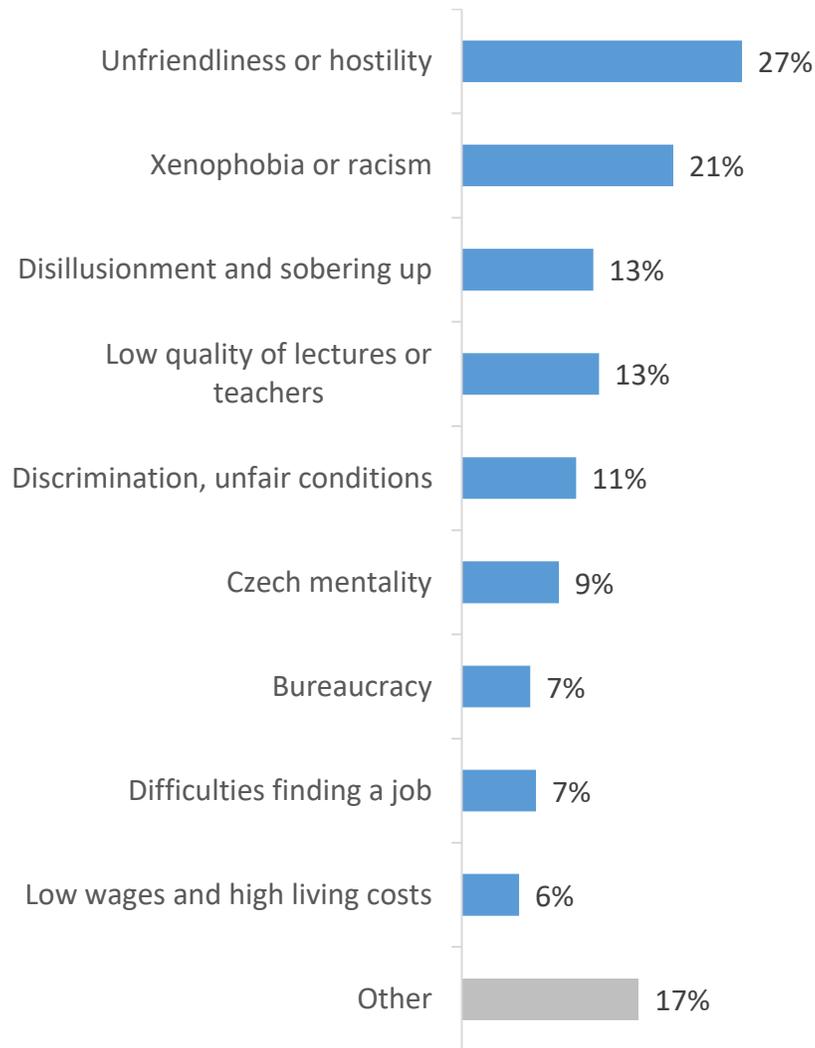
*„An under-rated country to people from the US. Filled with beautiful towns, people and culture that I would certainly visit again.“*

*„This is a great country with a lot of opportunities for personal and professional growth, amazing work and life balance. It's also very safe and the lifestyle is very chill (calm). Lastly, and maybe most importantly, the civil infrastructure is absolutely amazing. I love it here!“*

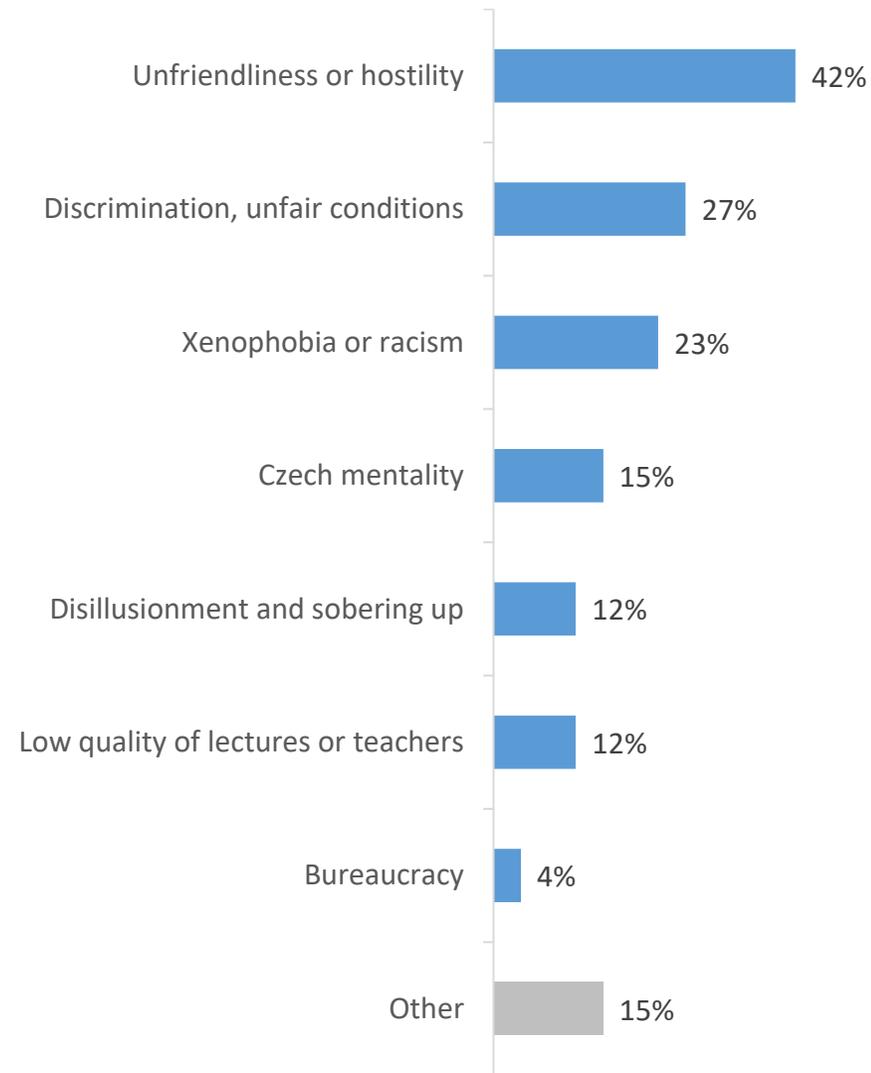
*„Nice nature, interesting history and historical sights, relationships.“*

# Why did your relationship with the Czech Republic worsen? (N = 206 )

## Full degree programmes



## Short-term study stays



# Why did your relationship with the Czech Republic worsen ? (N = 206 )

*„The quality of education was lower than expected.“*

*„Expectation of the education was higher. Negative relationship to foreigners (mostly to Russian and Ukrainian), it wasn't everywhere, but I was feeling it coming from the professors at the university, which is probably the worst.“*

*„My school's international programme is on a much lower level than the CZ programmes. Additionally, it is too expensive and there is no will for cooperation with the institution after going back home.“*

*„The teachers are below-average. No practical benefit. Study is based on learning things mechanically. Marking of tests is random.“*

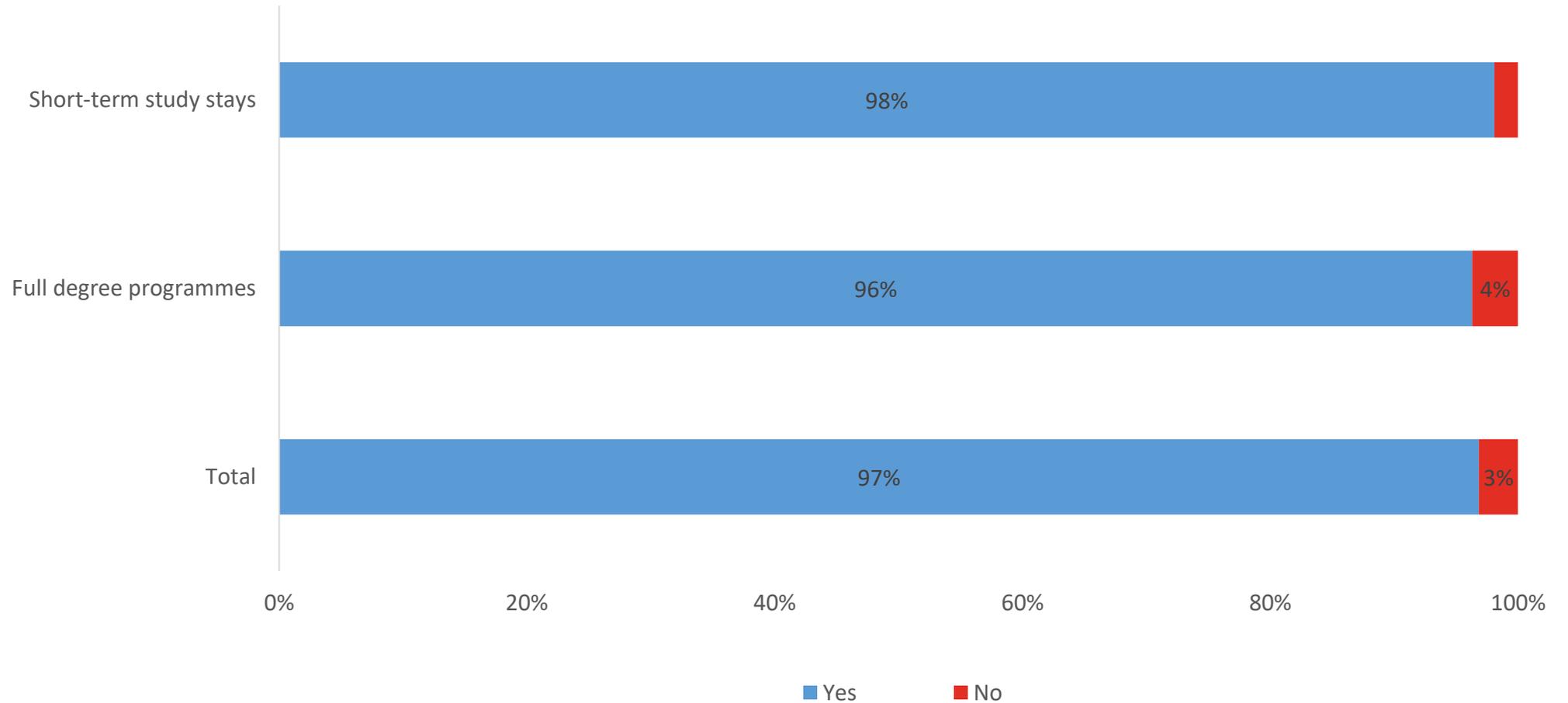
*„Was met with a surprising level of animosity and unfriendliness during my stay in Prague. Lived there for 3 years, but never felt welcome.“*

*„The lack of respect for foreign students. The racism. The rudeness.“*

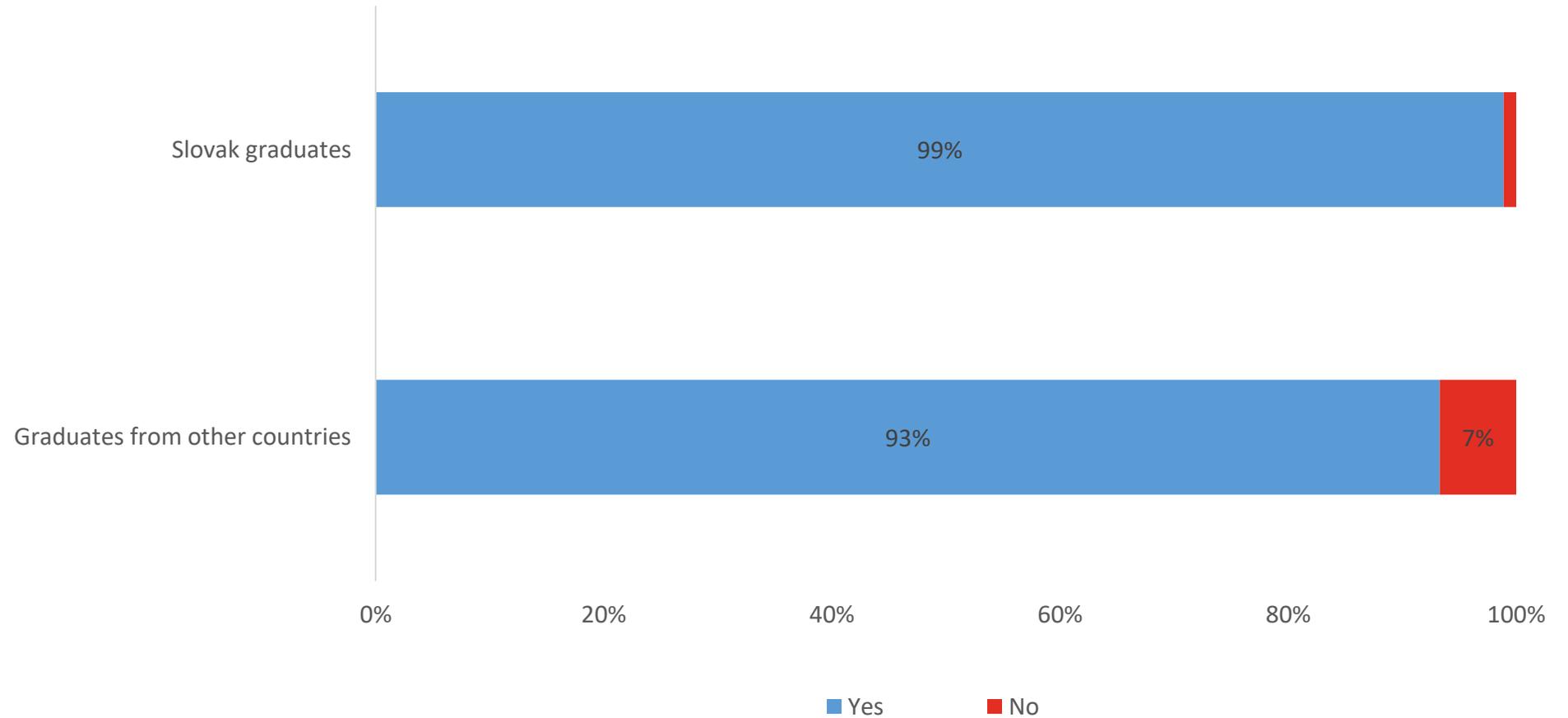
*„Payment rate (relatively lower than in other European countries), dissatisfaction with career opportunities (majority of the multinational companies has their own Business service centers), slow career growth.“*

*„I started to consider myself as a part of Czech society, so I lost the positive prejudice and visions that I had projected into Czech Republic. I no longer consider Czech Republic to be a foreign country, so I don't idealize it. I would say, that from this point of view my relationship to CZ is healthier.“*

# Would you recommend studying in the Czech Republic to others?



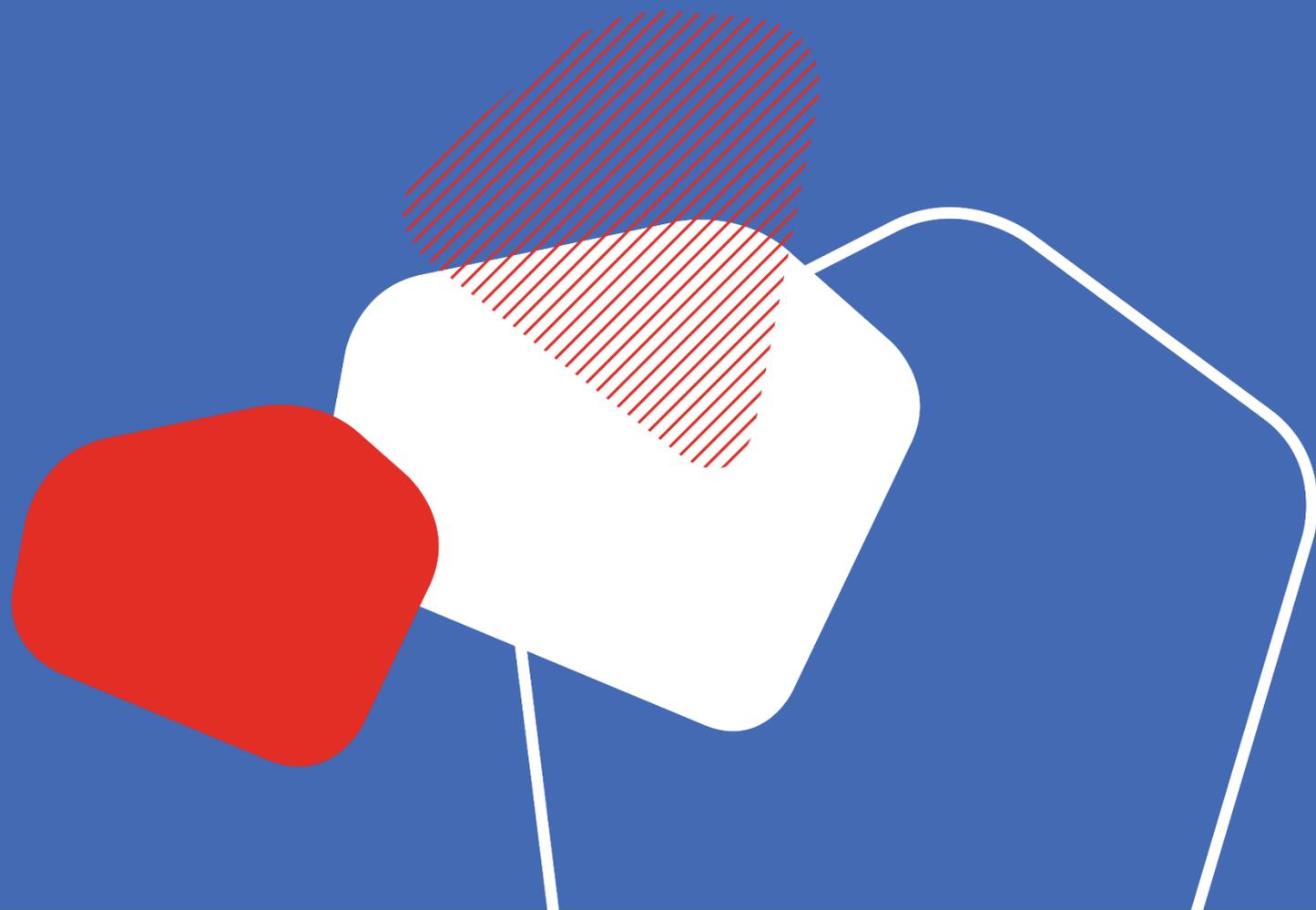
# Would you recommend studying in the Czech Republic to others?\*



\*only full degree programmes (N = 3136)

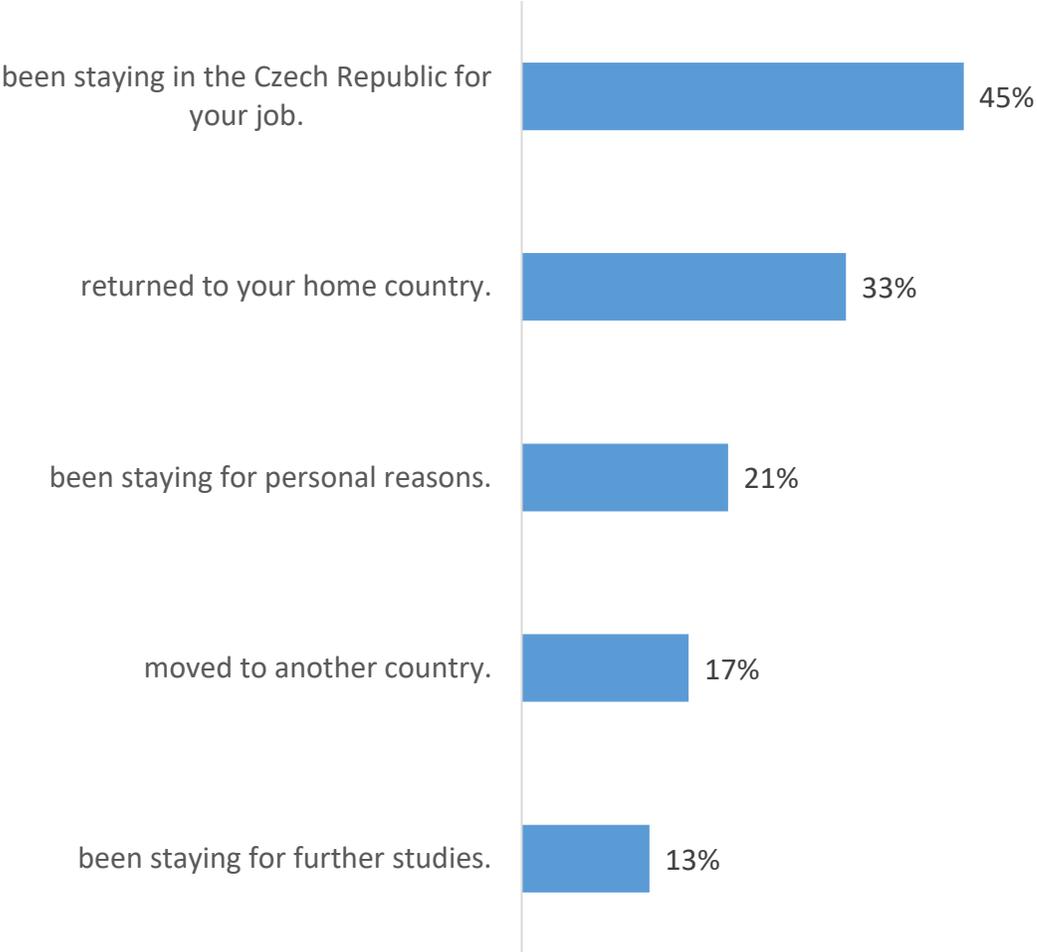
# 03

## Situation after studies

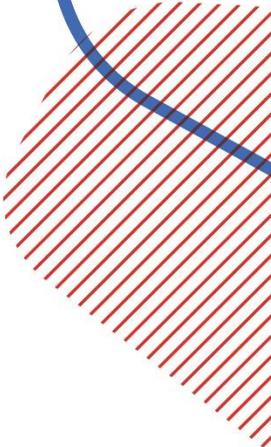
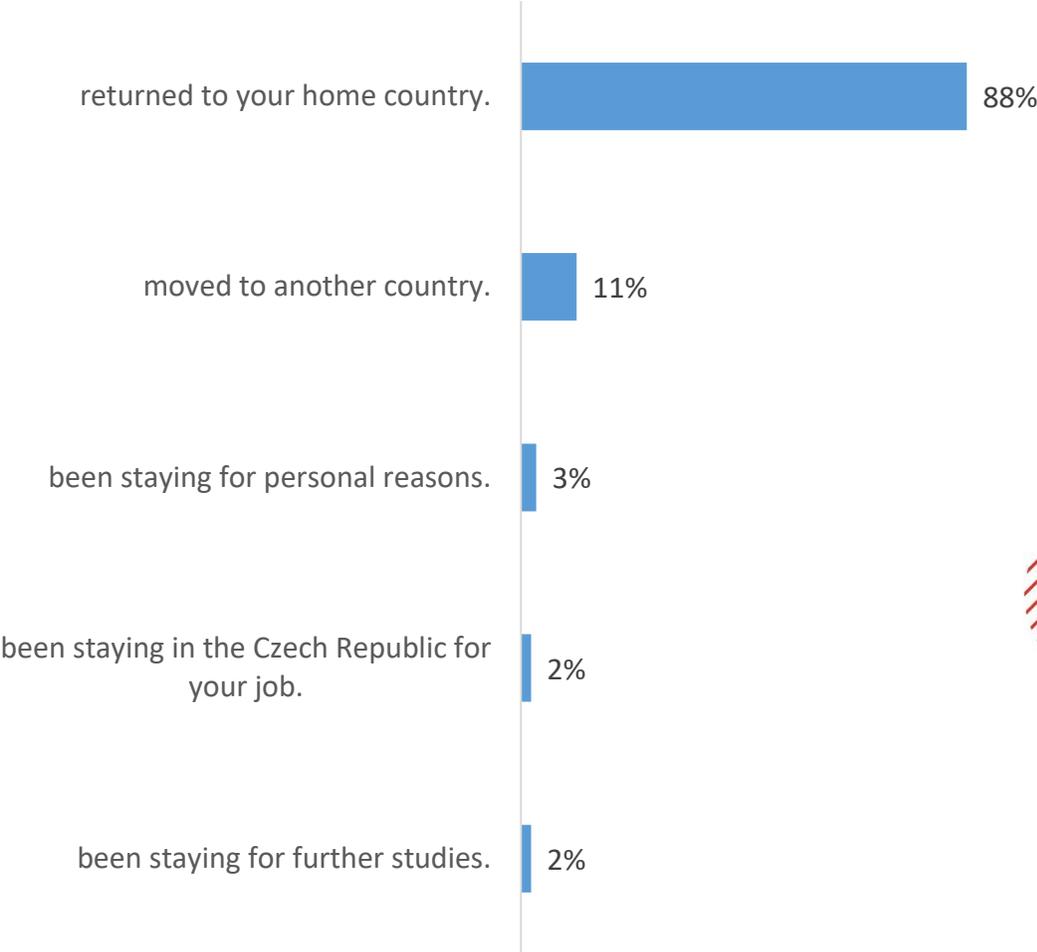


# After completing studies in the Czech Republic, you have:

## Full degree programmes

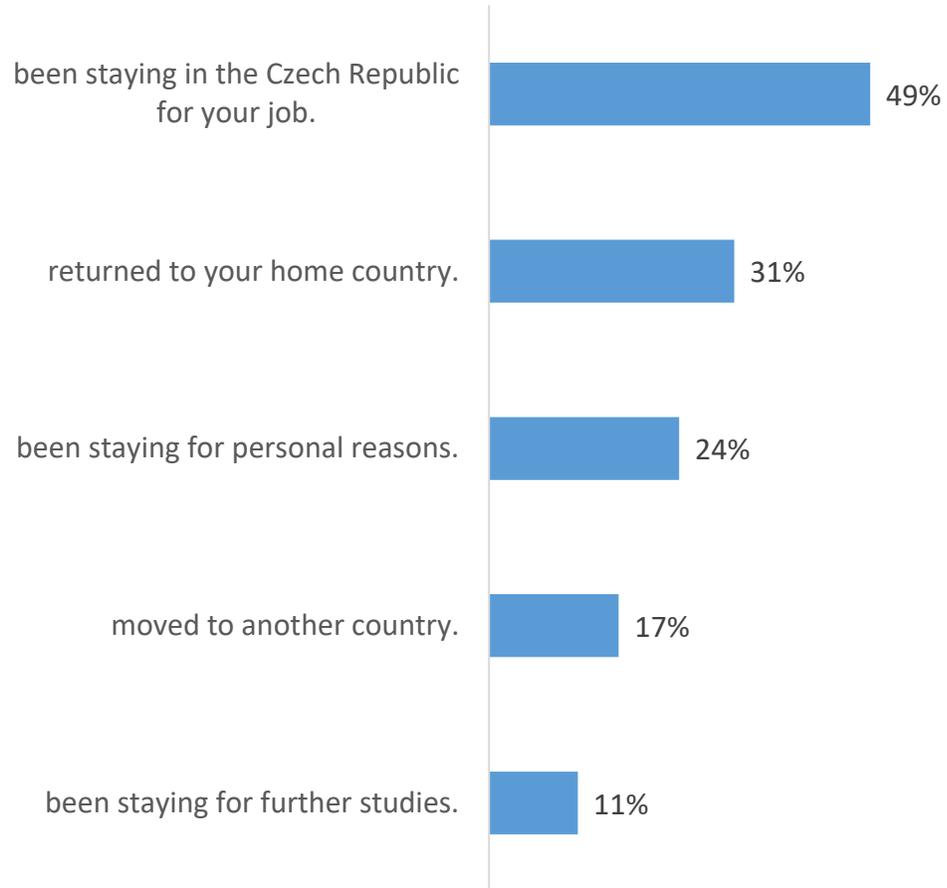


## Short-term study stays

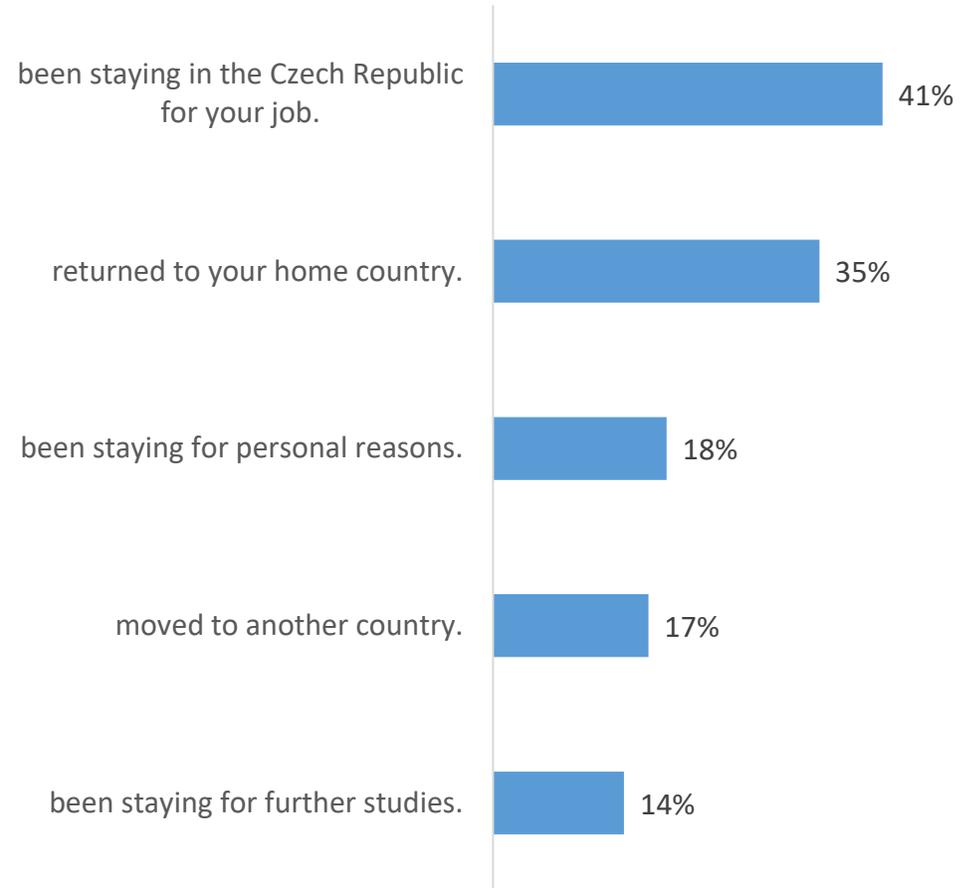


# After completing studies in the Czech Republic, you have:\*

## Slovak graduates

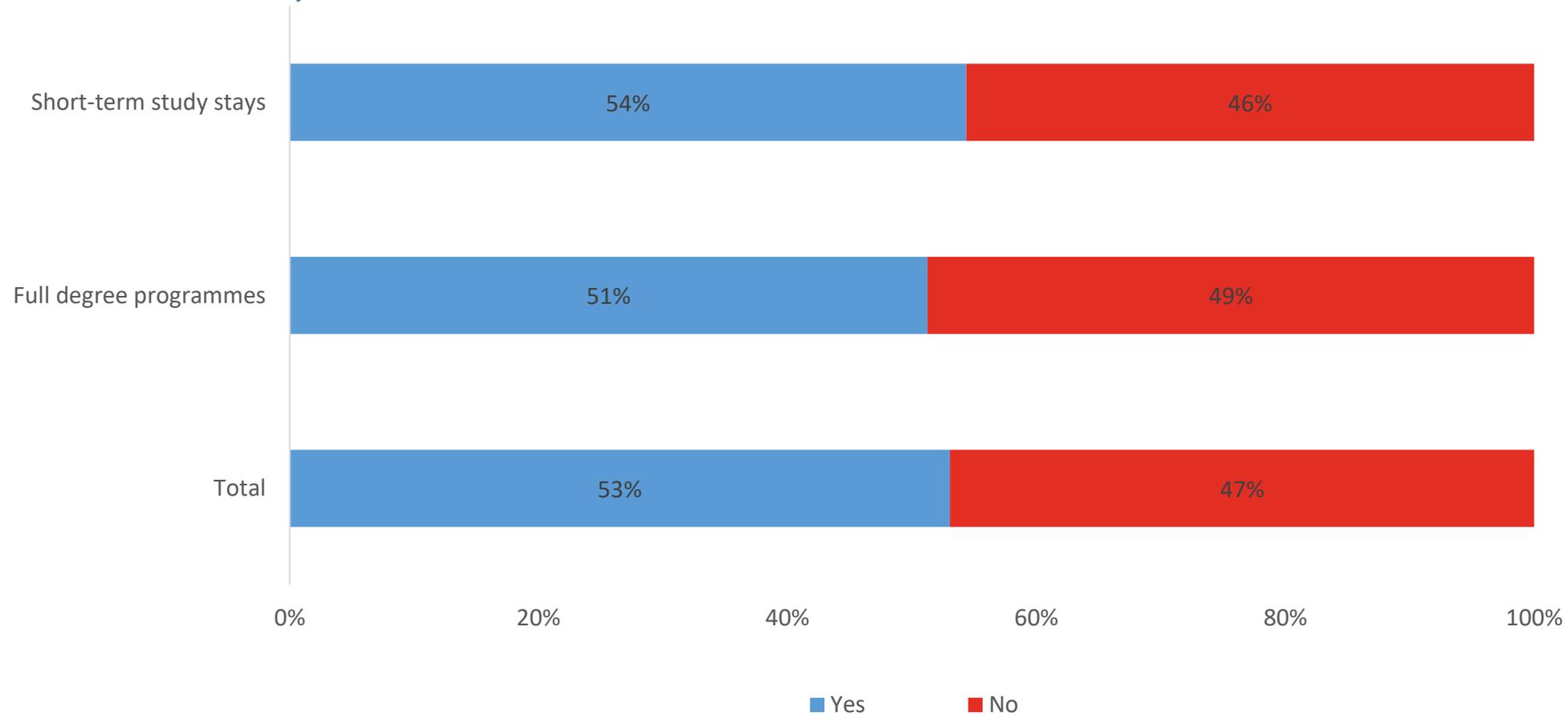


## Graduates from other countries

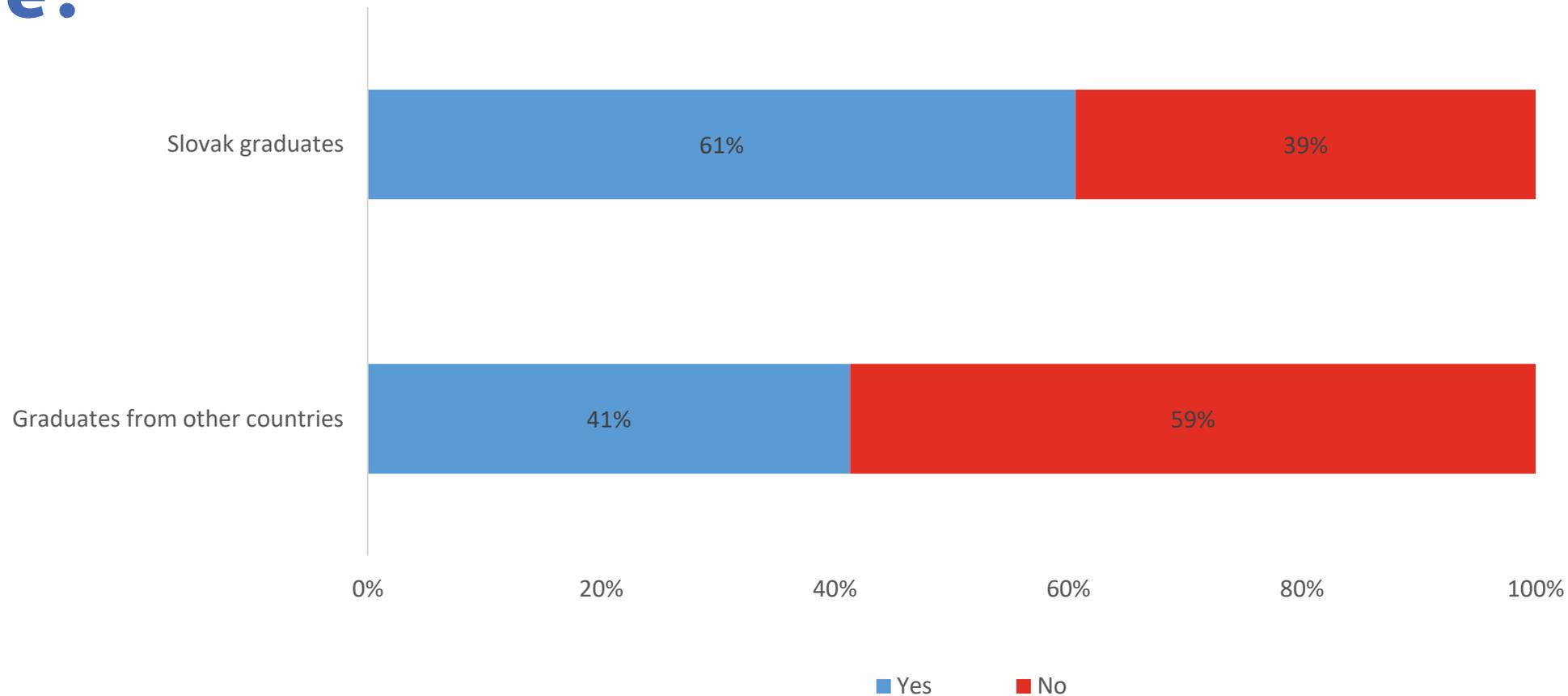


\*only full degree programmes (N = 3136)

# Have you considered staying in the Czech Republic after completing your studies here? (N = 2647)

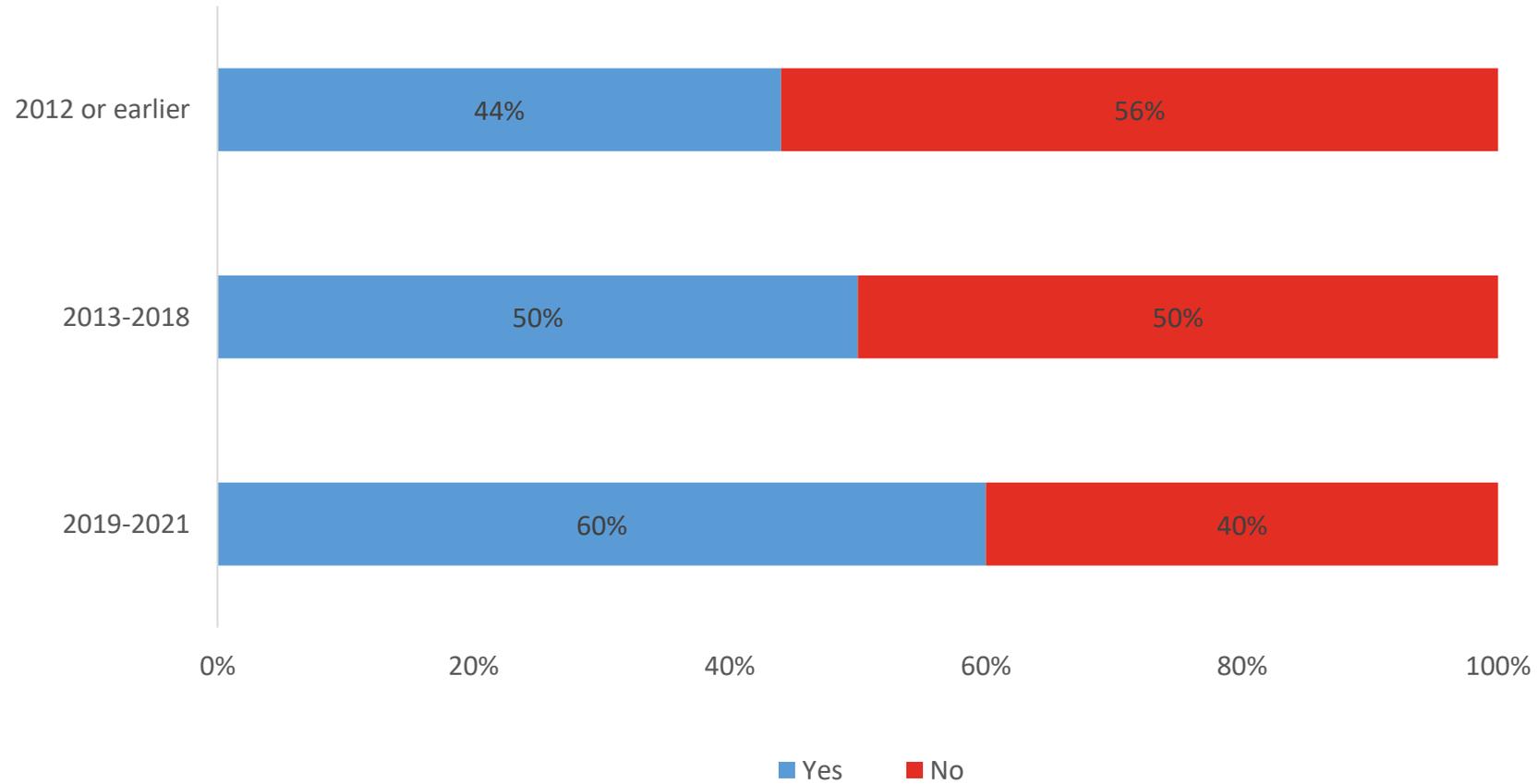


# Have you considered staying in the Czech Republic after completing your studies here?\*



\*only full degree programmes (N = 1409)

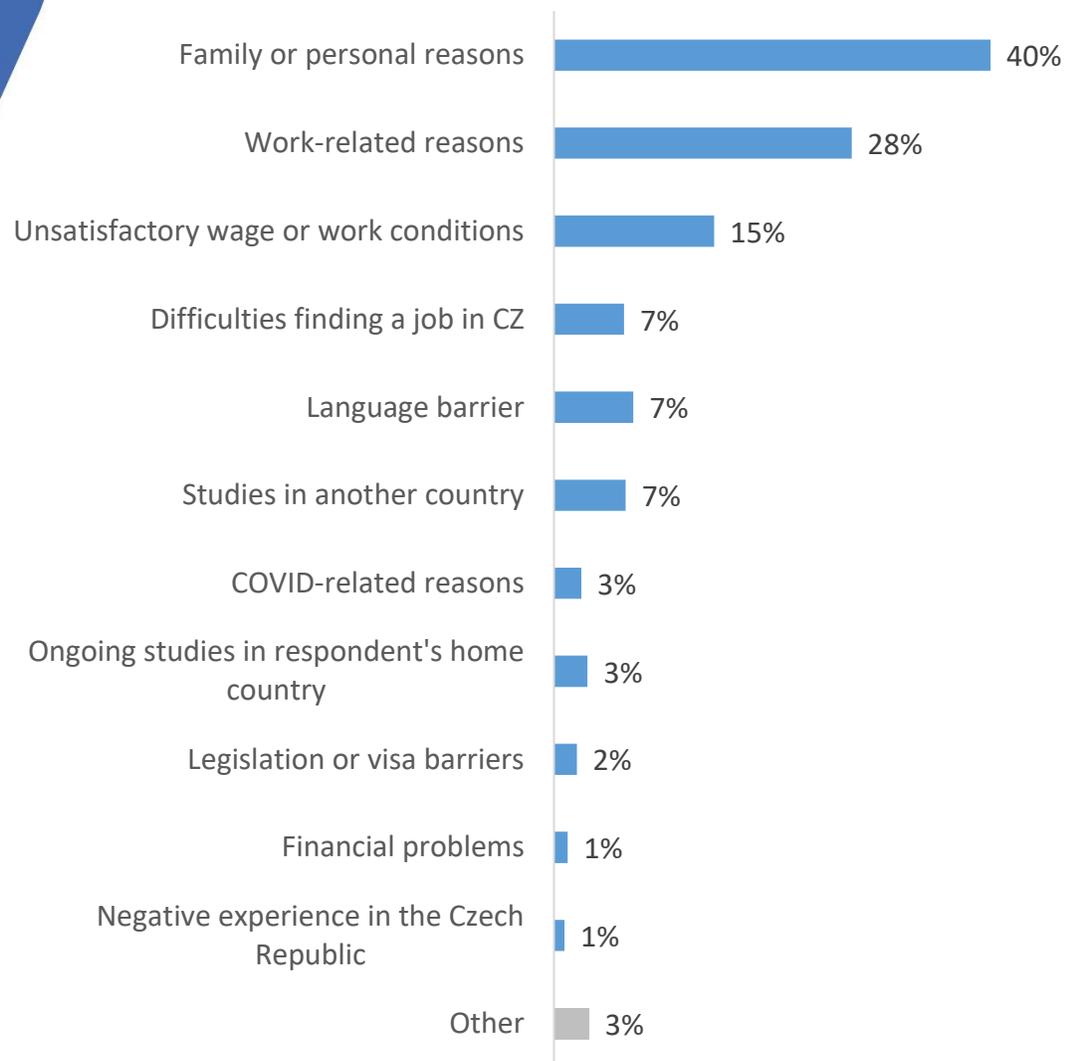
# Have you considered staying in the Czech Republic after completing your studies here?\*



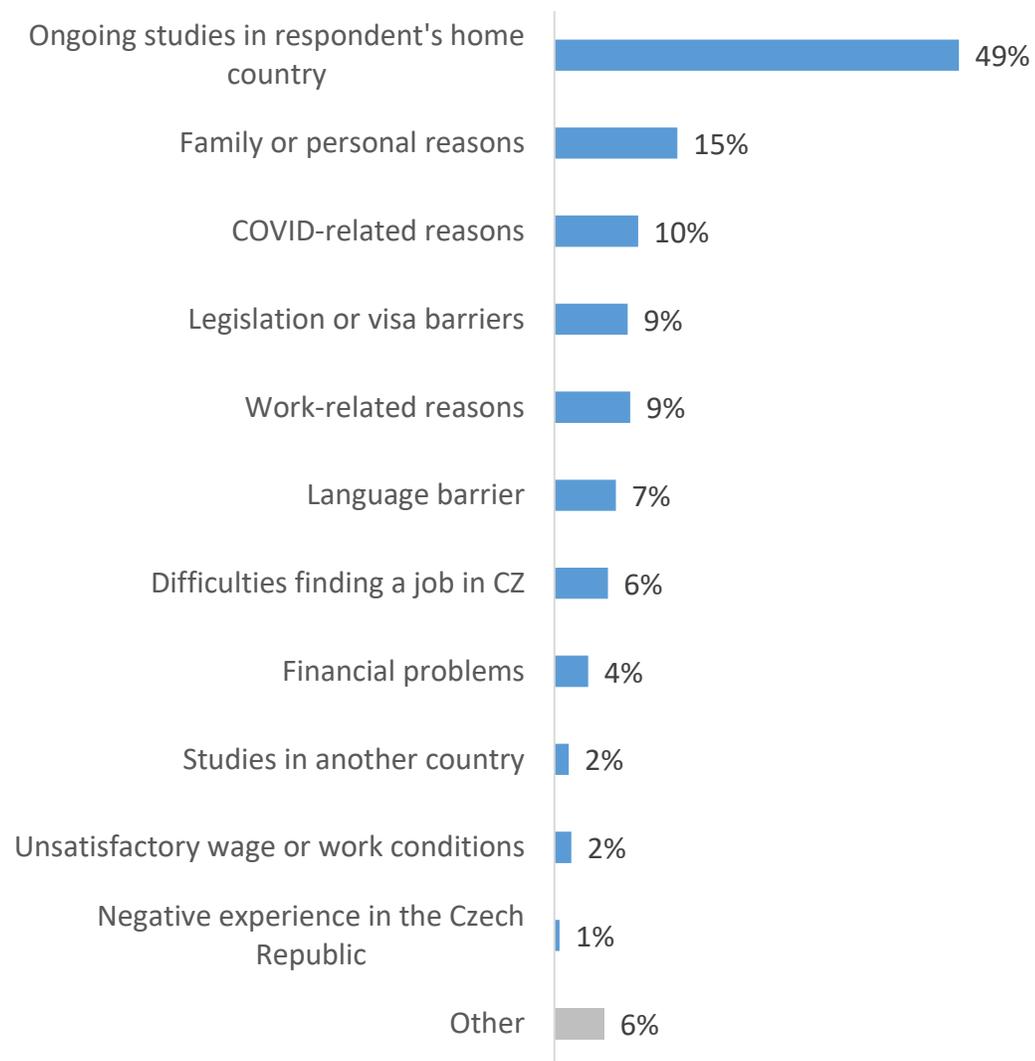
\*only full degree programmes (N = 1409)

# What were your reasons for not staying in the Czech Republic? (N = 1344)

## Full degree programmes



## Short-term study stays



# What were your reasons for not staying in the Czech Republic? (N = 1344)

*„I had to graduate in my home country.“*

*„Financial, personal reasons and my desire to change the field of studies after finishing my bachelor degree. But I was definitely thinking about taking my Master's degree in the Czech Republic.“*

*„Another Erasmus in Vienna.“*

*„There were better work opportunities in my home country. Benefit of EURO.“*

*„I have a family, wife and children left back in Uzbekistan. They do not know the Czech language. Taking them to the Czech Republic would require a lot of bureaucracy. Therefore, I could not stay more in Czech Republic.“*

*„I decided to study my Master's degree in Great Britain, because I could not study my profession in CZ.“*

*„I had many friends and my family at home. I wasn't able to “find myself” in Czechia.“*

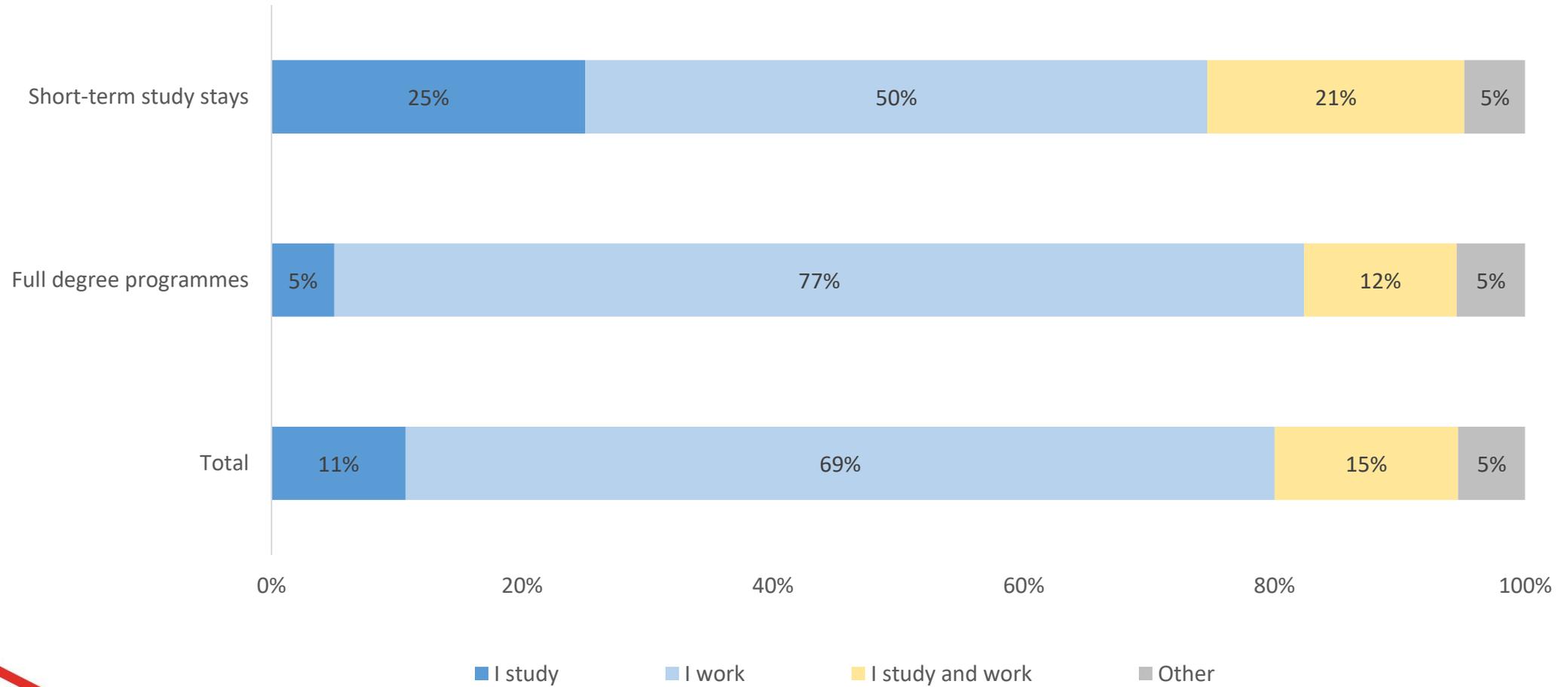
*„I launched my startup and I find opportunities in Lithuania faster than in the Czech Republic.“*

*„An offer to work in foreign country and communication in English was interesting.“*

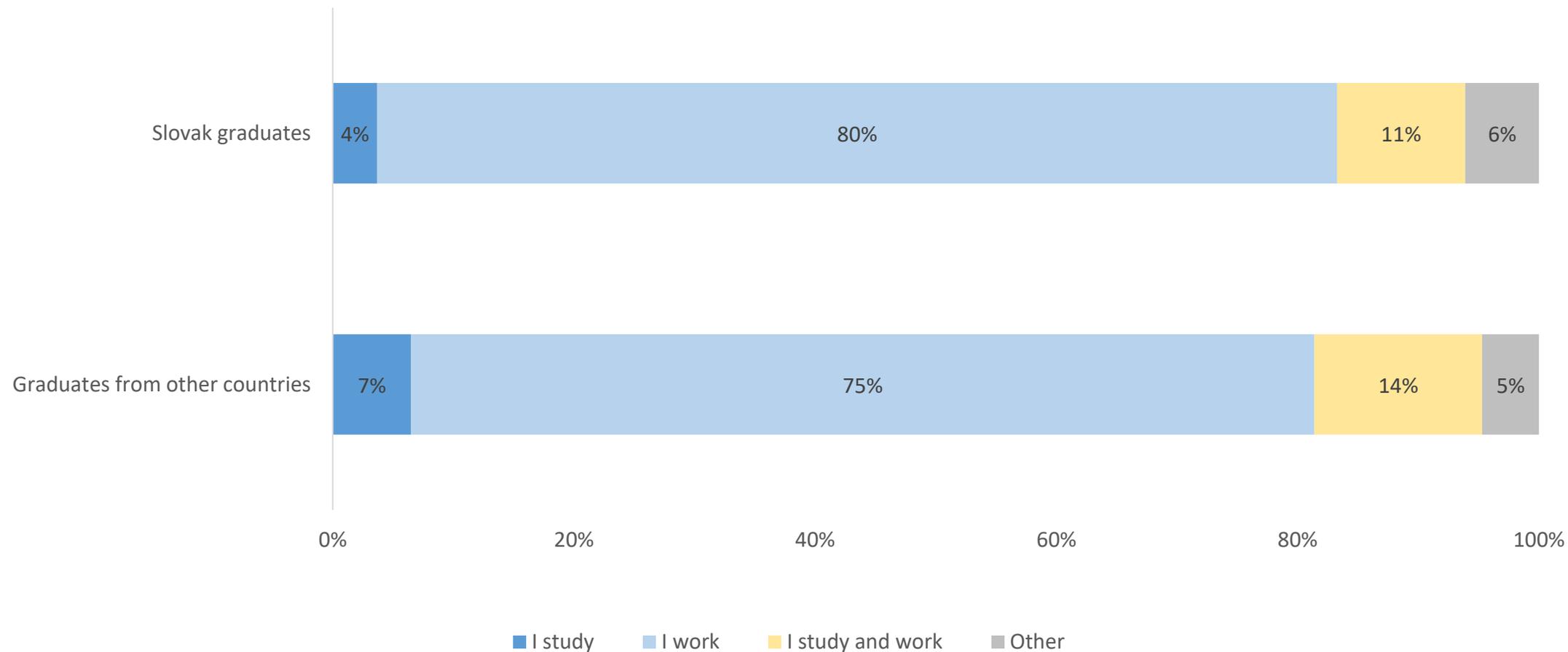
*„I got an opportunity to get a Master's Degree at a very prestigious university in the US.“*

*„My partner at the time wanted to live elsewhere.“*

# What is your current situation?

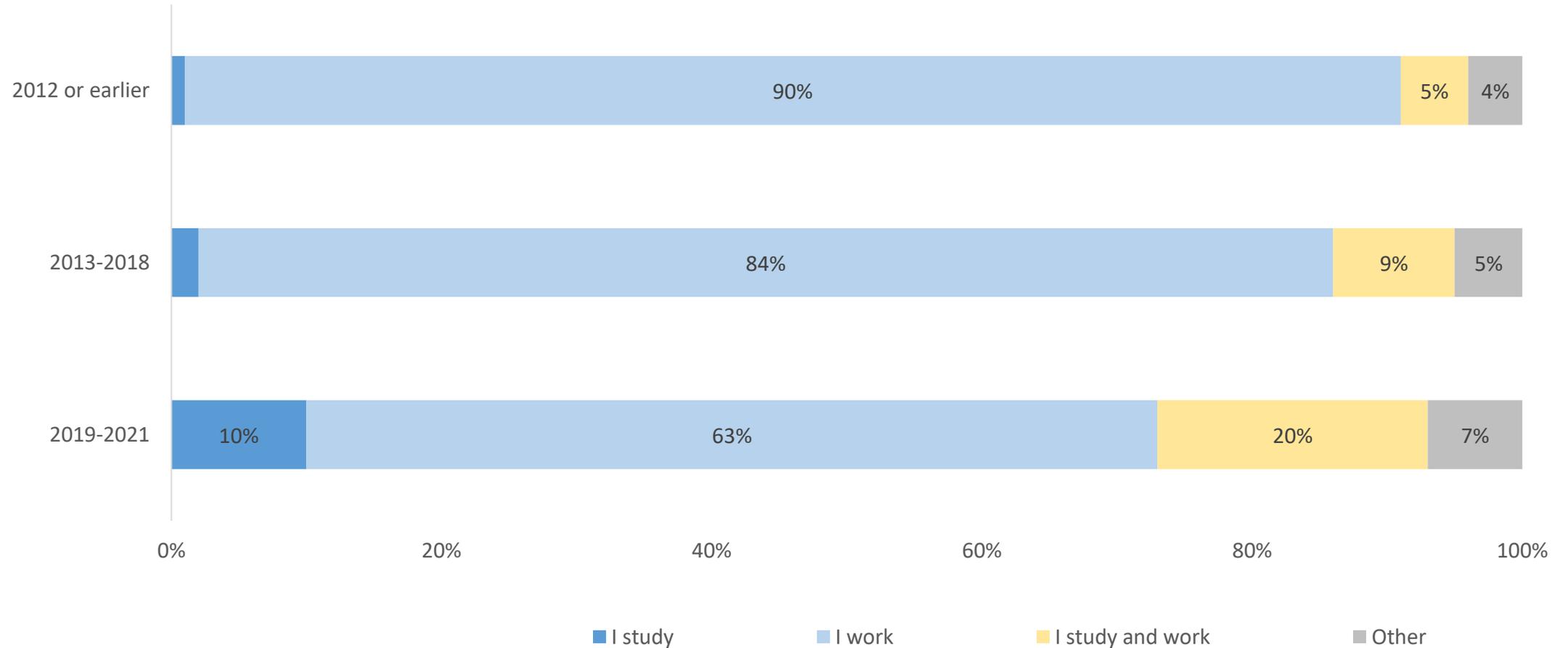


# What is your current situation?\*



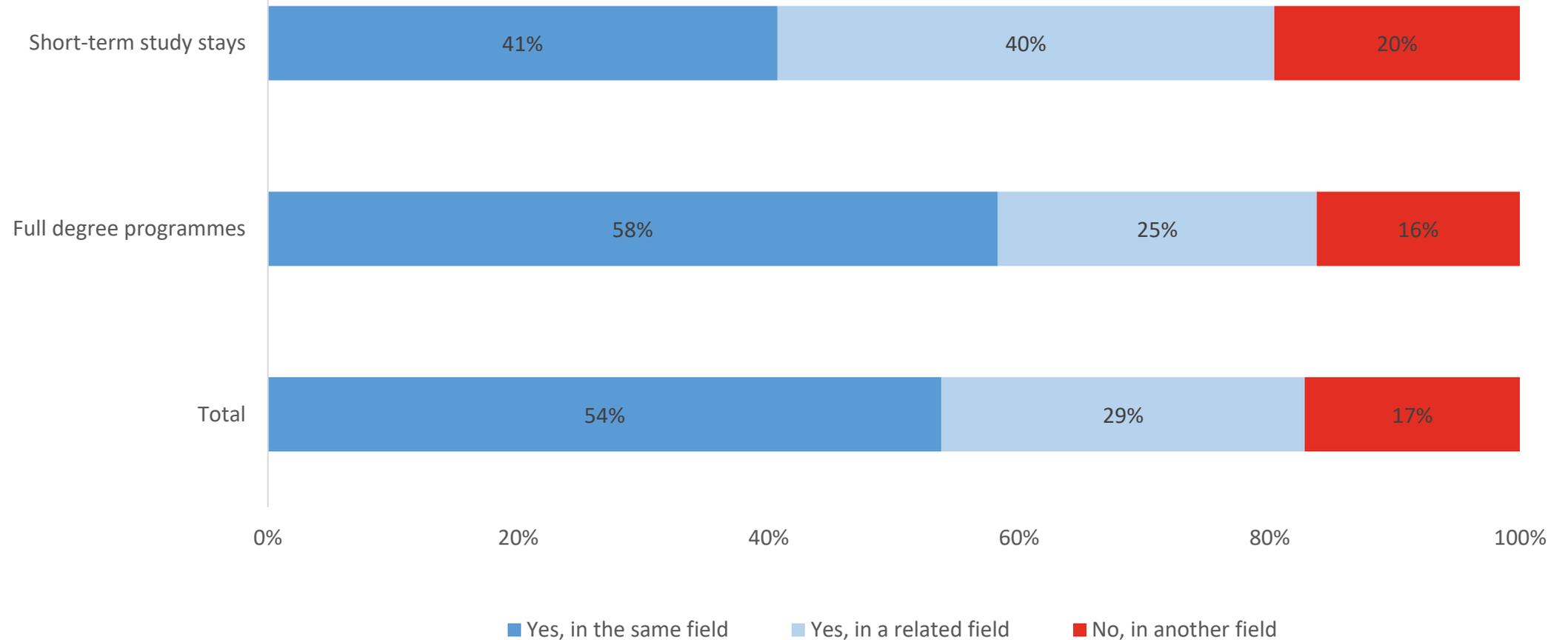
\*only full degree programmes (N = 3125)

# What is your current situation?\*

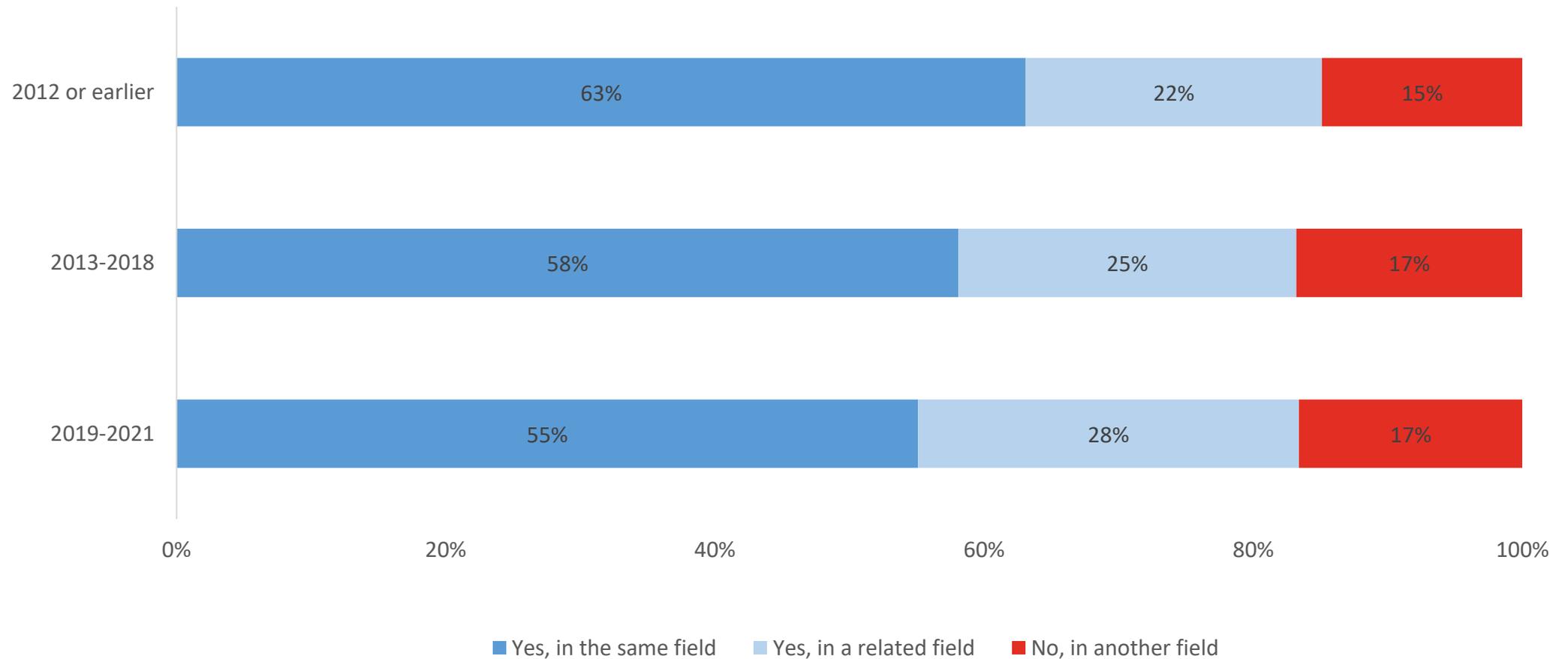


\*only full degree programmes (N = 3125)

# Are you currently working in the field that you studied in the Czech Republic? (N = 3788)

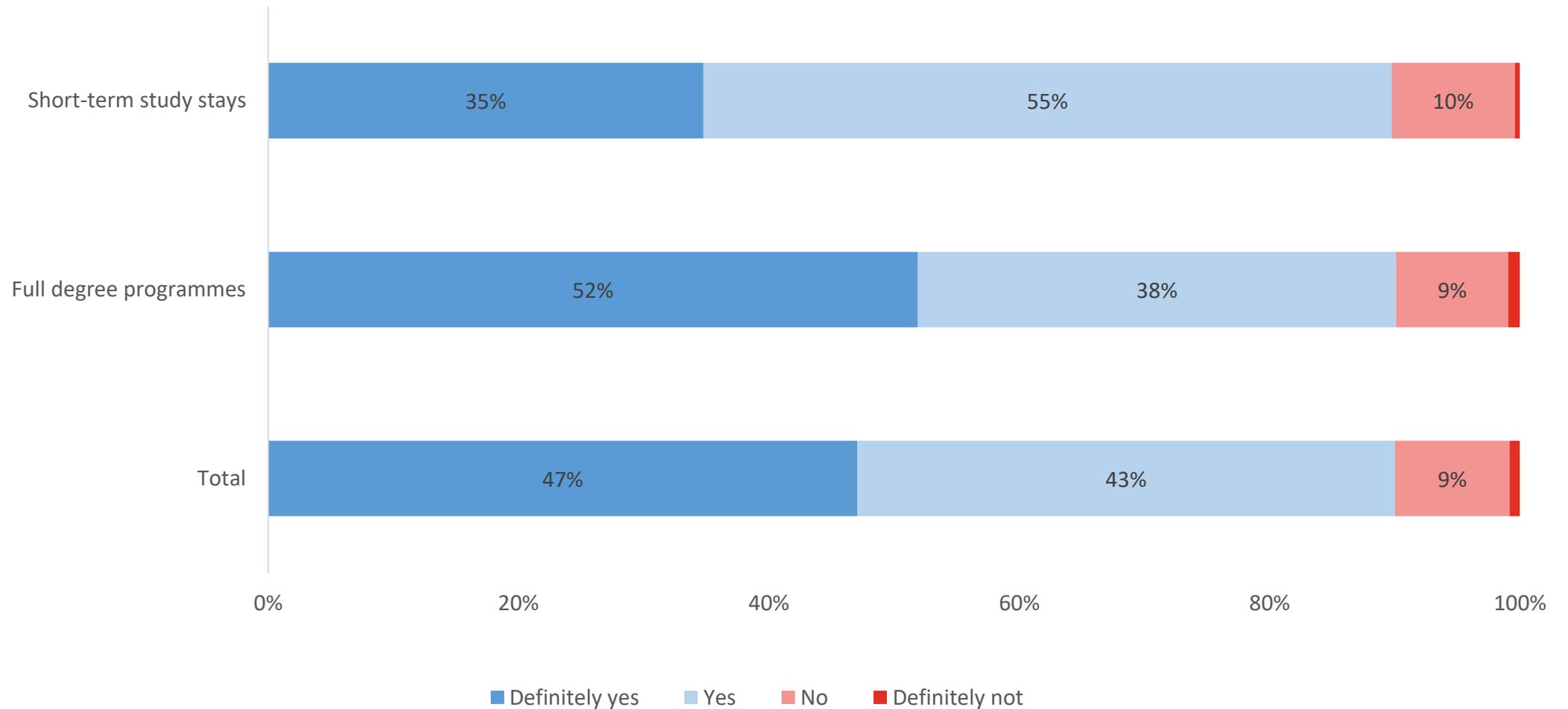


# Are you currently working in the field that you studied in the Czech Republic?\*

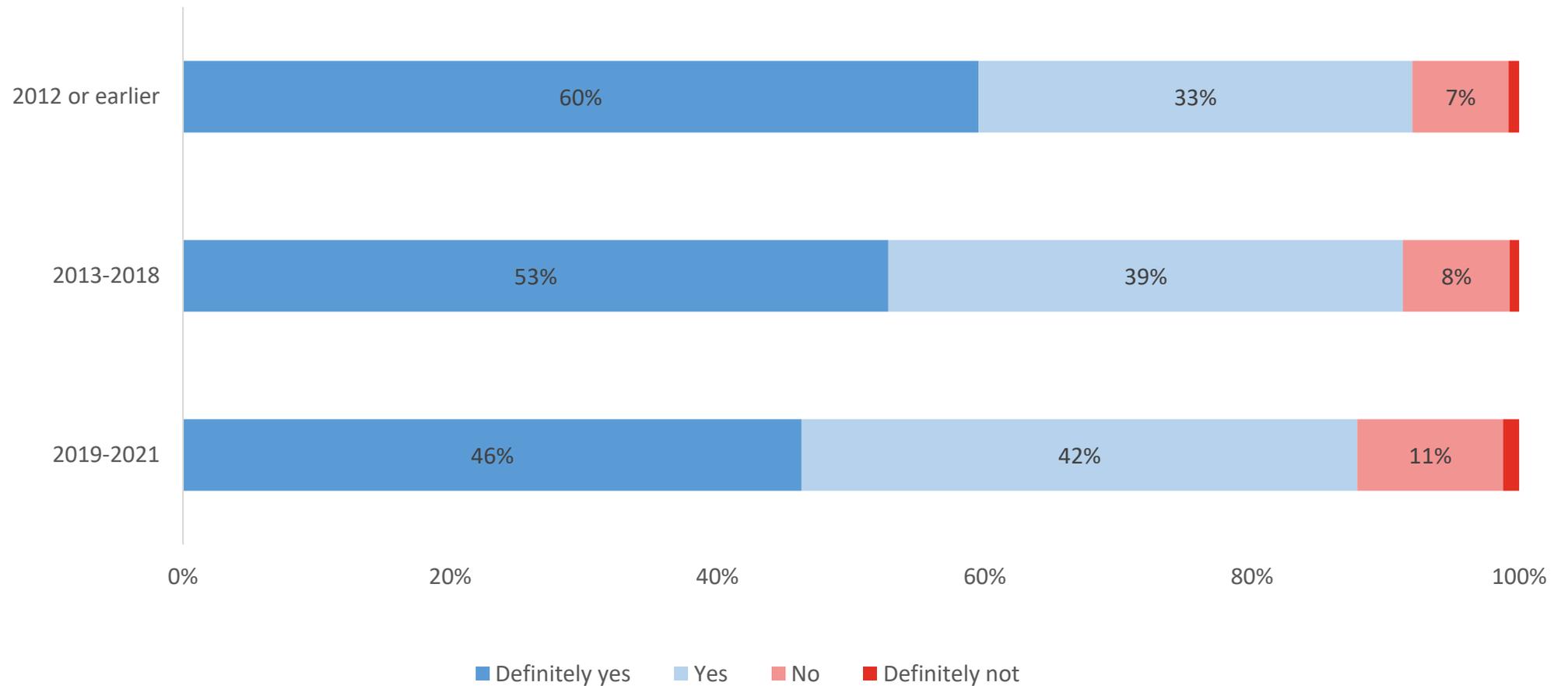


\*only full degree programmes (N = 2796)

# Has studying in the Czech Republic contributed to improving your career?



# Has studying in the Czech Republic contributed to improving your career?\*



\*only full degree programmes (N = 3087)

# What did your studies in the Czech Republic specifically bring you in terms of your career? (N = 2243)

## Full degree programmes



## Short-term study stays



## What did your studies in the Czech Republic specifically bring you in terms of your career? (N = 2243)

*„It brought an experience of big academical research and related tasks; it also elevated my social position (status) and helped in gaining respect in my field. In turn, it improved my self-promotion as a private counselor and pricing changed as well. I didn't expect anything else, so I'm fully satisfied with this.“*

*„I met a lot of people and discovered new things. New adventures, new chapters of my life and I looked at myself so from different angle.“*

*„I studied at FAMU, and the prestige of the name as well as the prestige and good way of teaching film in depth has improved my professional approach.“*

*„Experiences and "touching" my future workspace during my studies have made my decision to stay in the CZ.“*

*„Studying at Charles University in Prague has taught me how to do research and prepared me well for embarking on the PhD studies elsewhere. I learned the latest discoveries from my field of study from the best researchers that also involved me in their research directly. That also gave me a very good thesis and a publication with which I managed to get a PhD position at the University of Amsterdam.“*

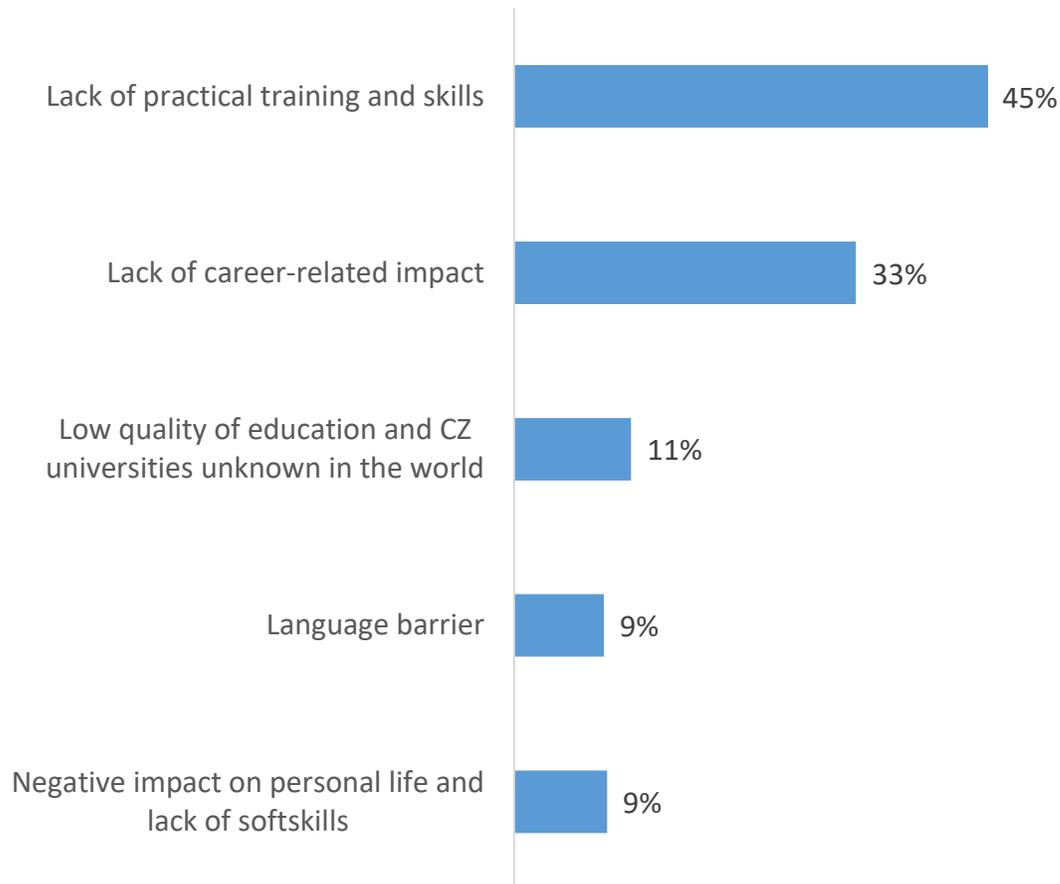
*„It was a great life-experience that led me to improve my communication skills.“*

*„It brought me higher competences, expanded my intellectual horizons and provided me with an opportunity to cooperate and work with peers in the Czech Republic.“*

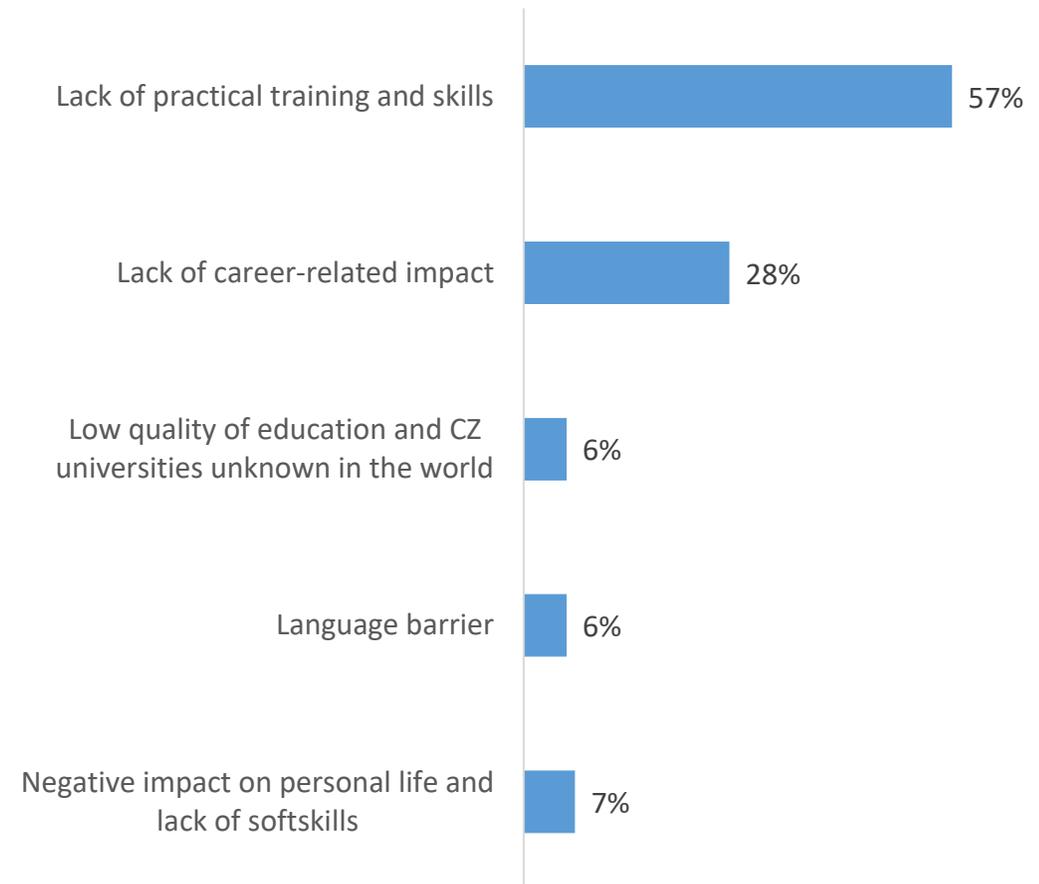
*„It improved my business acumen and ability to work with a multitude of different personalities and backgrounds.“*

# What did your studies in the Czech Republic not bring you in terms of your career? (N = 435)

## Full degree programmes



## Short-term study stays



## What did your studies in the Czech Republic not bring you in terms of your career? (N = 435)

*„It gave me good knowledge and taught me discipline. It did not provide me with enough practical skills in my field.“*

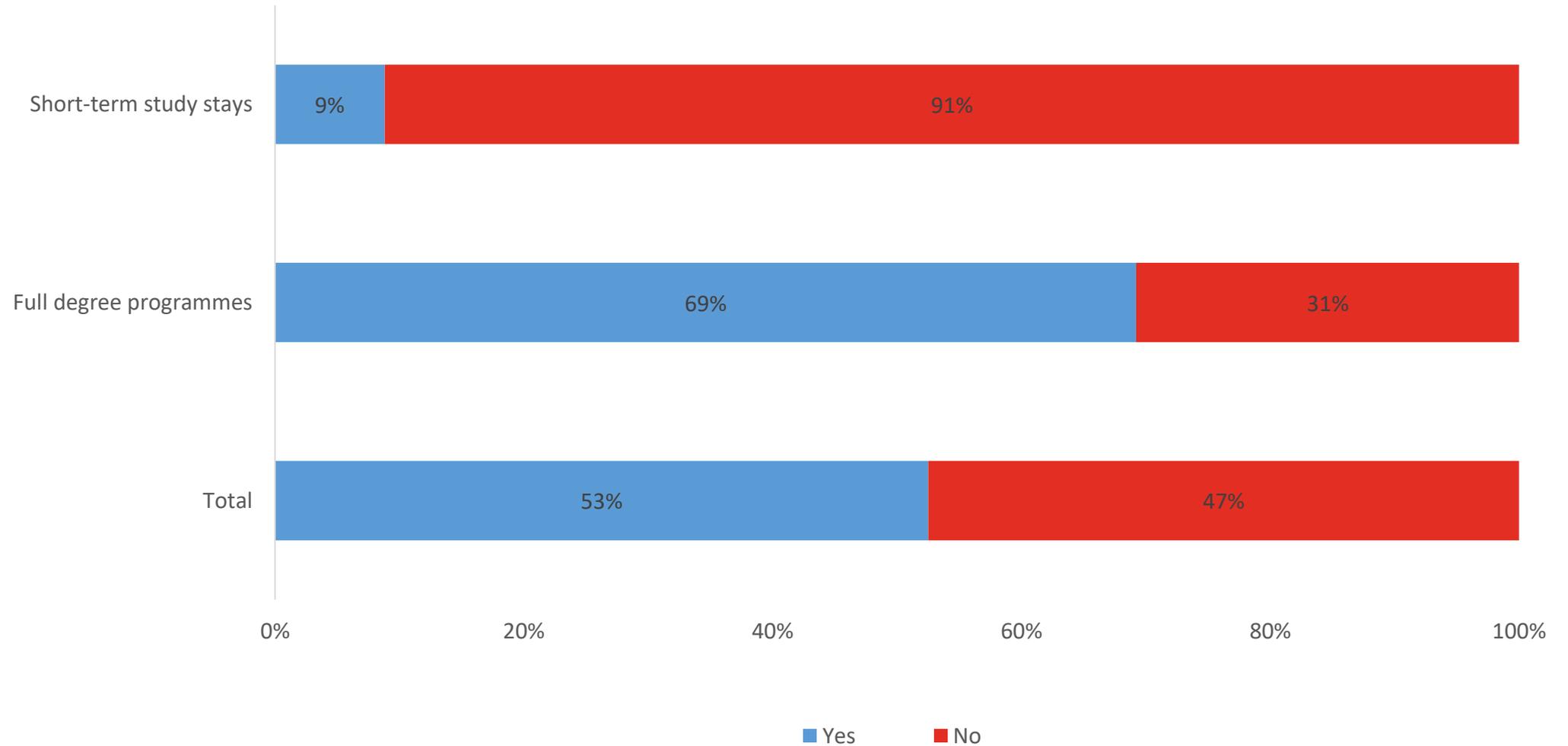
*„Some teachers didn't really consider us internationals as serious students and they didn't provide enough knowledge - they were more laid-back.“*

*„It didn't bring me the pedagogical qualifications that I was supposed to get in that year because the course wasn't available in English.“*

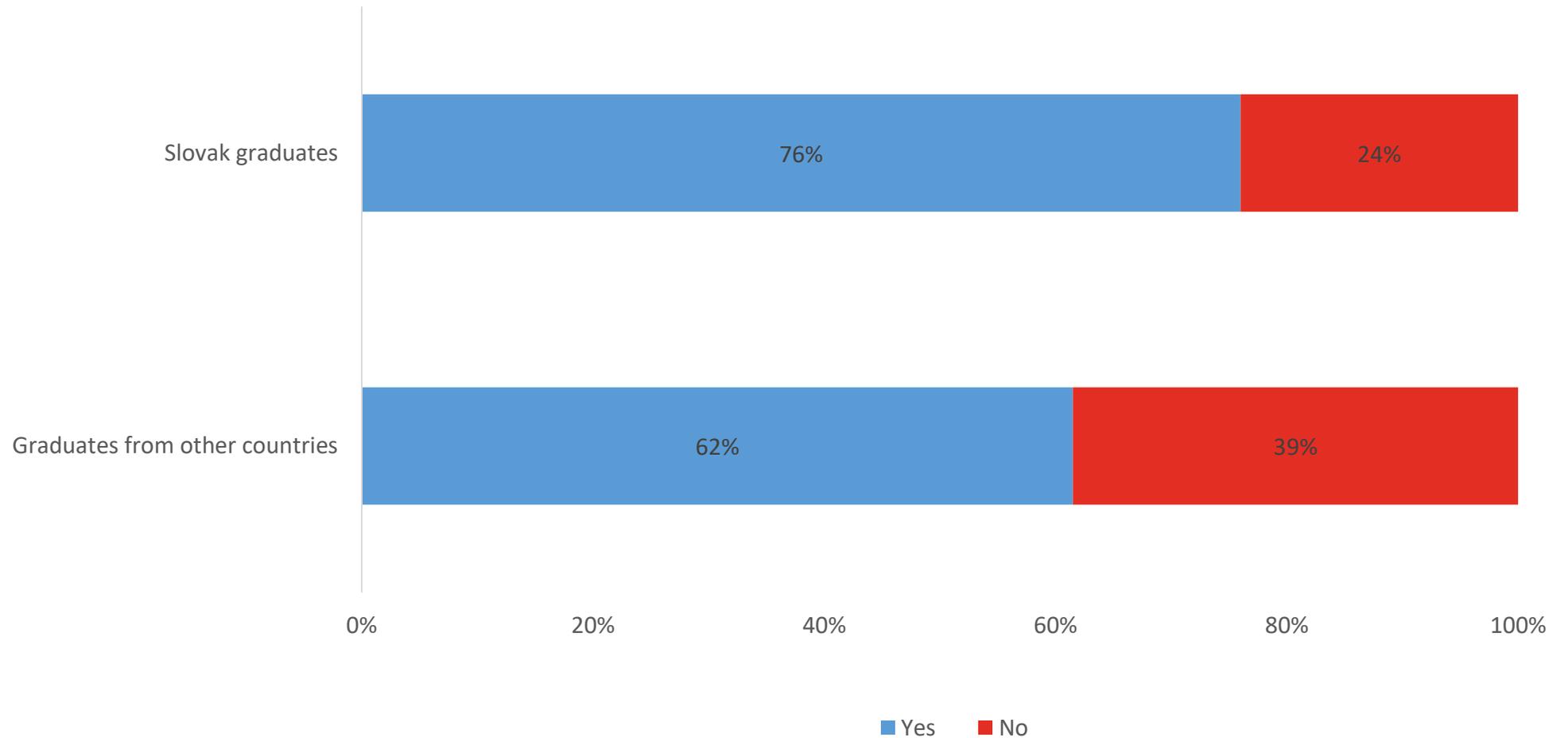
*„I had to study very hard at the university. A lot of self studying. It is useful because I'm more independent. The level of studying was really high and I feel I start my career with a solid base of knowledge. However, I didn't receive practical experience and had to work hard at the beginning in my home country.“*

*„Some lectures are not relevant to the field of study. There are unnecessary subjects given only to complete the European credit system.“*

# Do you have work experience in the Czech Republic?

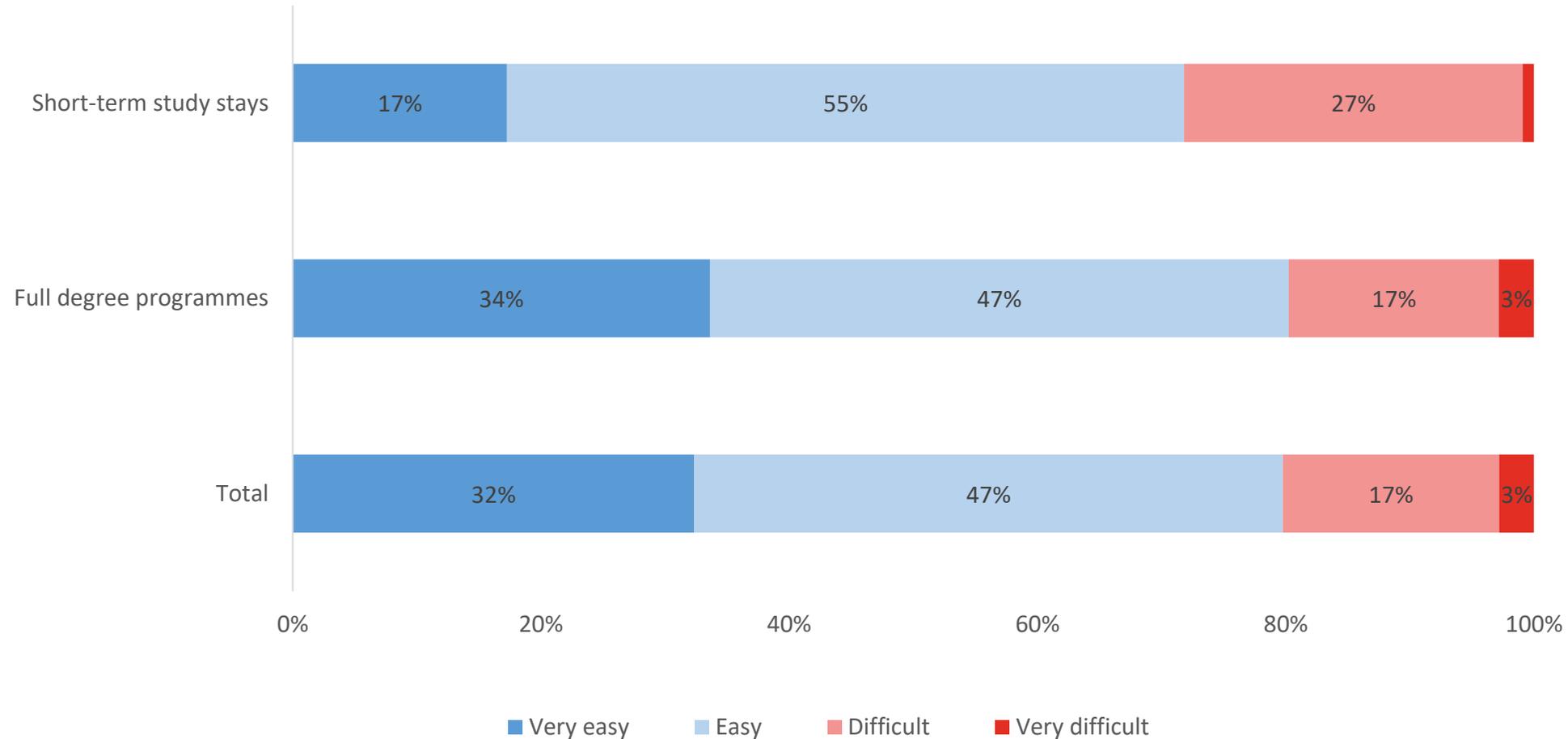


# Do you have work experience in the Czech Republic?\*

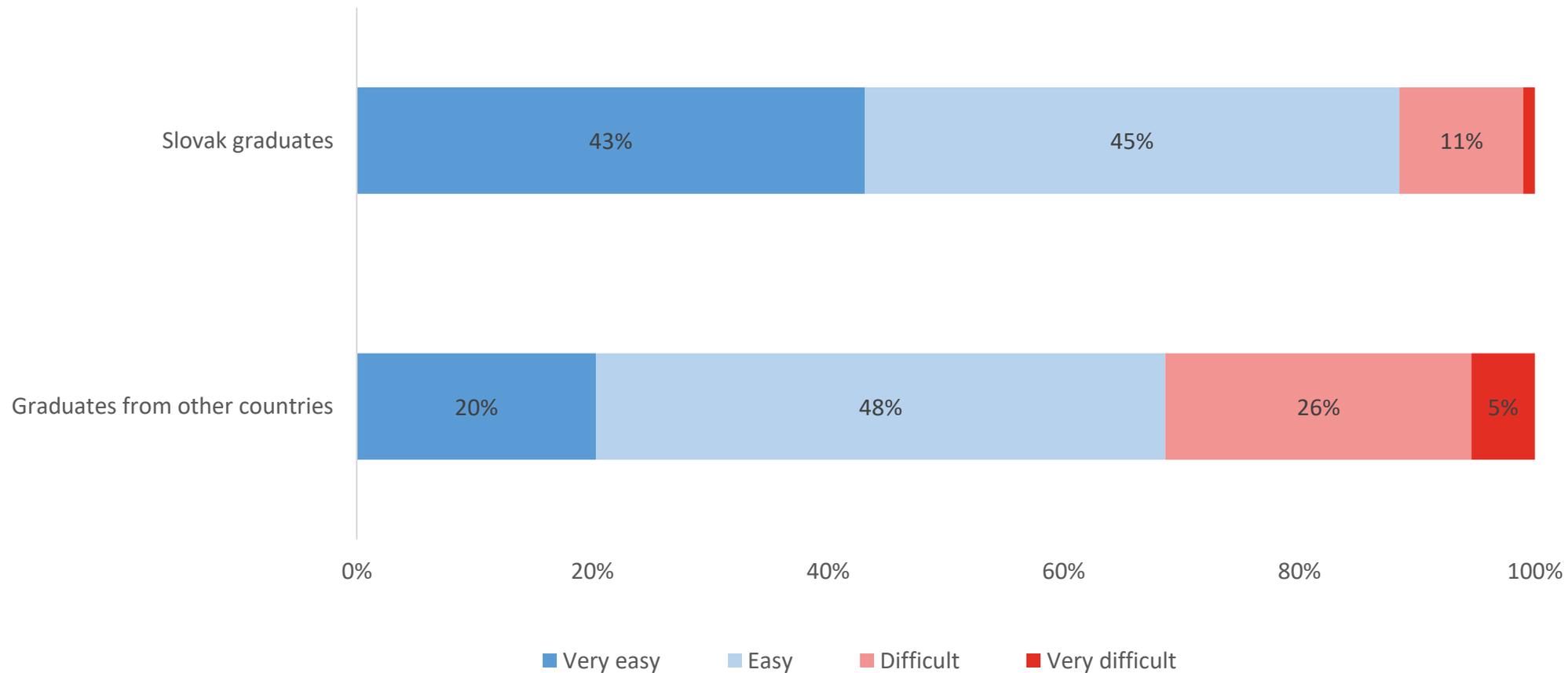


\*only full degree programmes (N = 3087)

# How easy was it for you to find a job or start a business? (N = 2253)

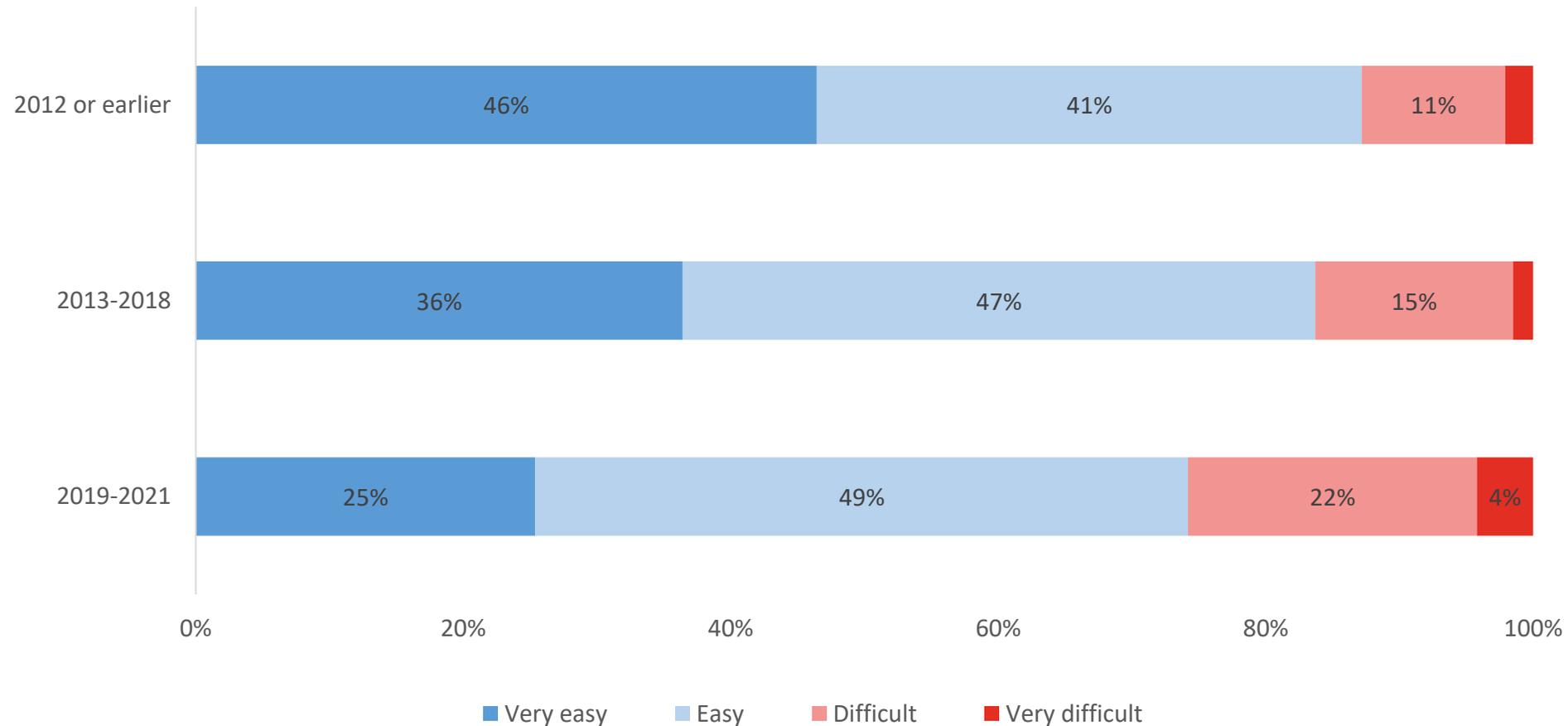


# How easy was it for you to find a job or start a business?\*



\*only full degree programmes (N = 2050)

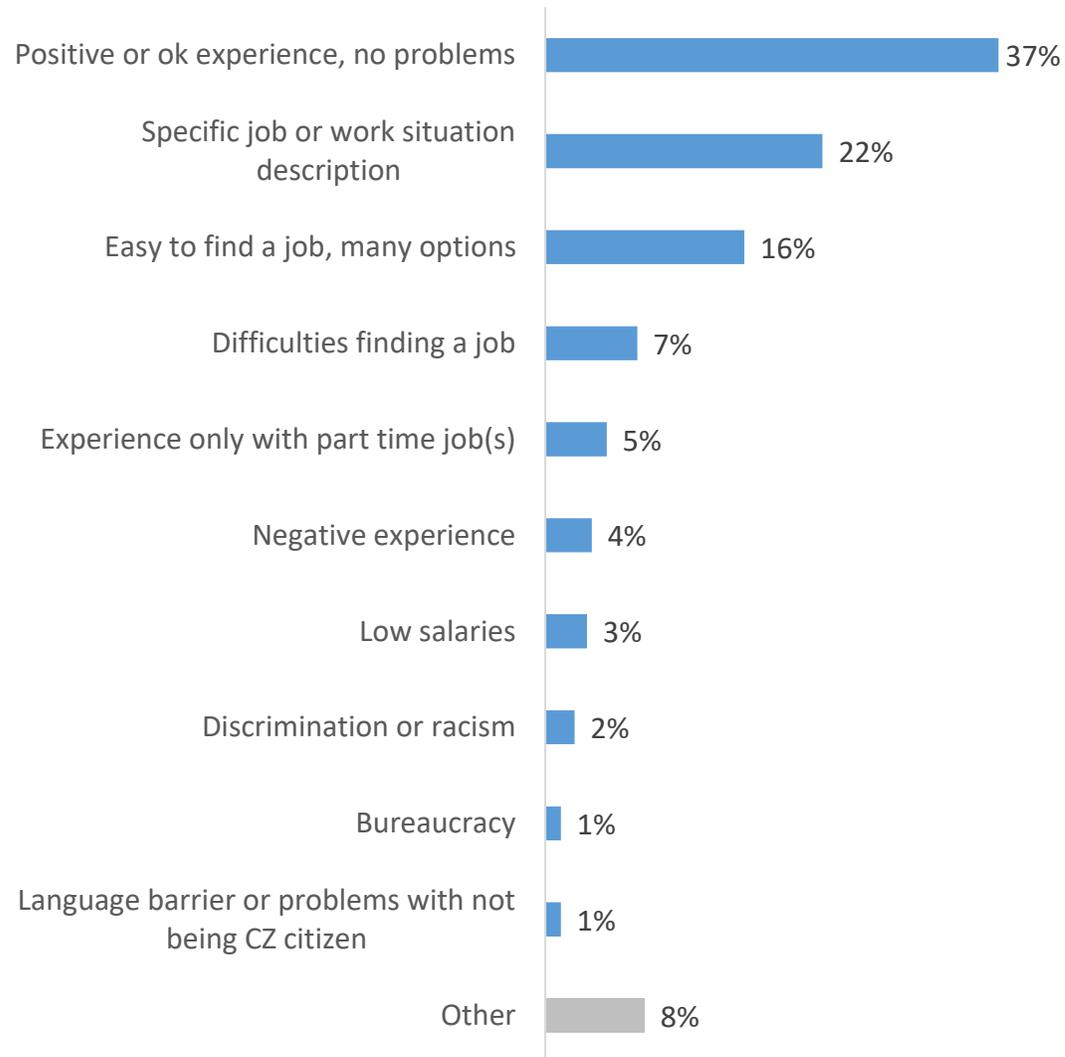
# How easy was it for you to find a job or start a business?\*



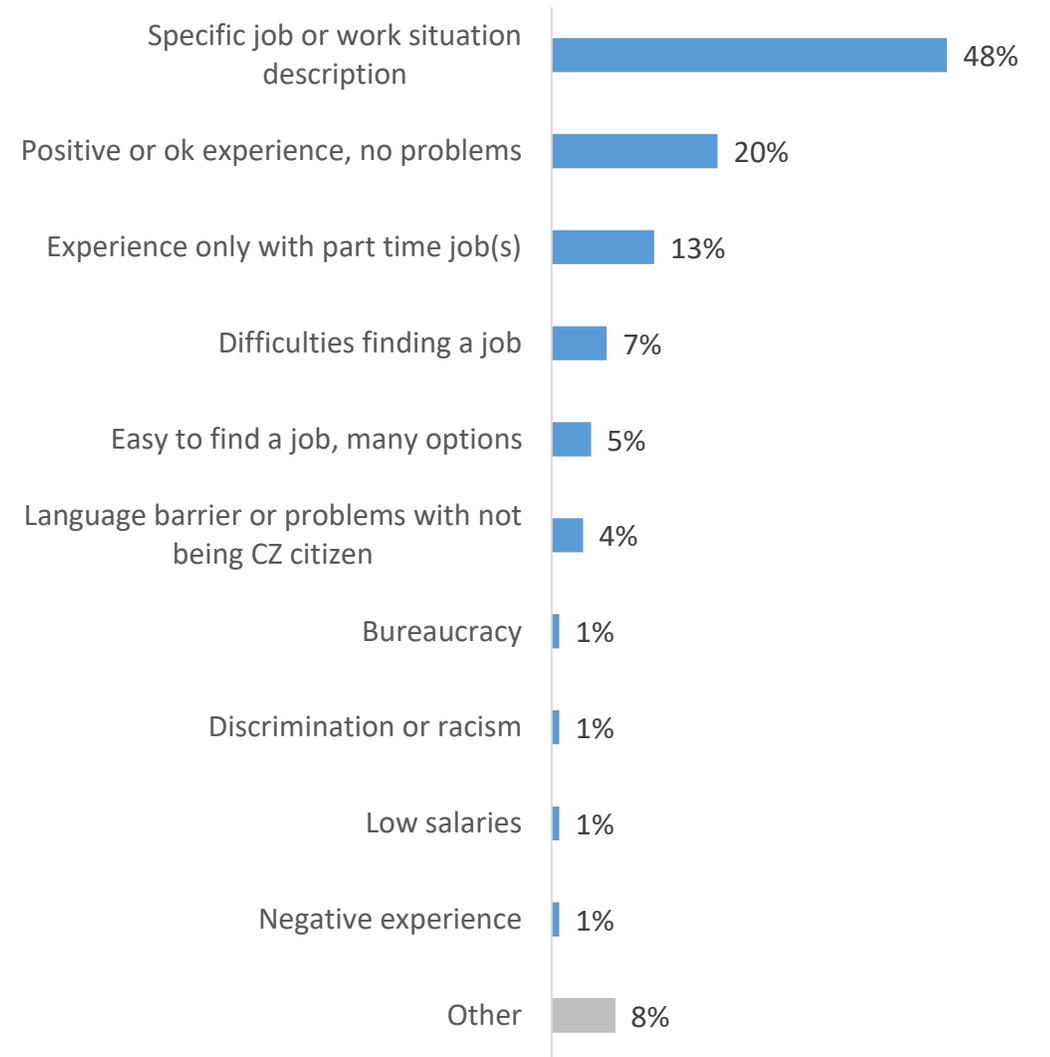
\*only full degree programmes (N = 2050)

# Please, comment on your work experience (as an employee) or doing business in the Czech Republic. (N = 1997)

## Full degree programmes



## Short-term study stays



## Please, comment on your work experience (as an employee) or doing business in the Czech Republic. (N = 1997)

*„I am a freelancer, dancer, choreographer, an independent actress. I'm doing fine, there are more opportunities than in Slovakia. But I'm working in a different field than the one I studied.“*

*„I worked at a laboratory of Czech Academy of Sciences and was very satisfied. Conditions of the research are excellent, equipment is modern, there are various advantages, but the salary could be better.“*

*„It's difficult to find a job in local companies. It's easier to get into multinational company.“*

*„Finding a job as an expat is quite easy. However, the variety of jobs is lacking. I was able to start my own business after a few years of experience and am doing so since 2017.“*

*„It was hard finding a job as a foreigner in a small city, specifically due to the language barrier - even in jobs that did not require Czech fluency. I ended up working part-time as a language teacher in a school also managed by foreigners.“*

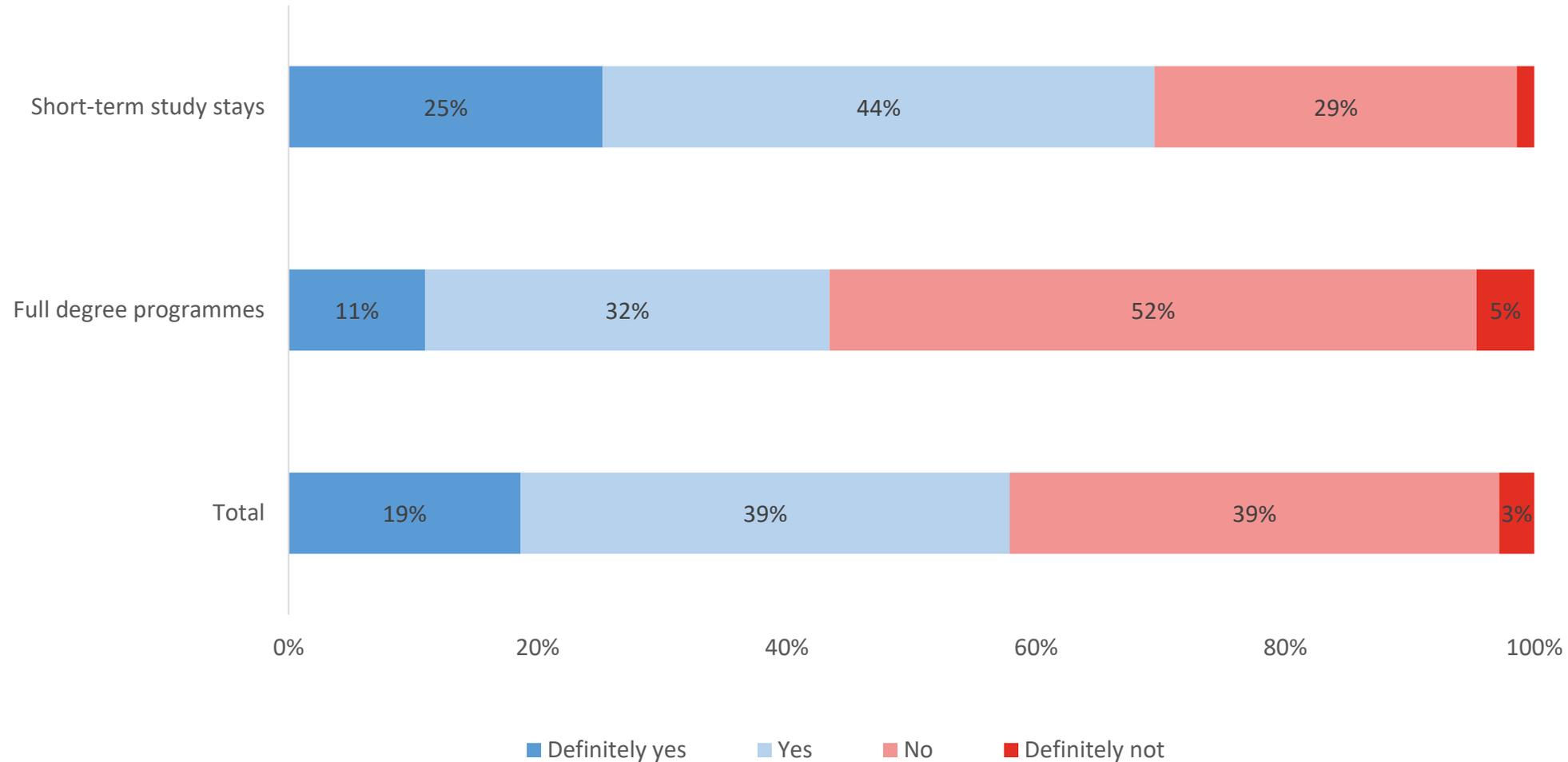
*„I work in an international company in Prague. Working environment is diverse with people of different backgrounds. Overall, business in the Czech Republic is conducted with high levels of ethics and people are committed to their duties.“*

*„There are not enough experts in the Czech Republic and it's no problem to find a good job in the area of interest.“*

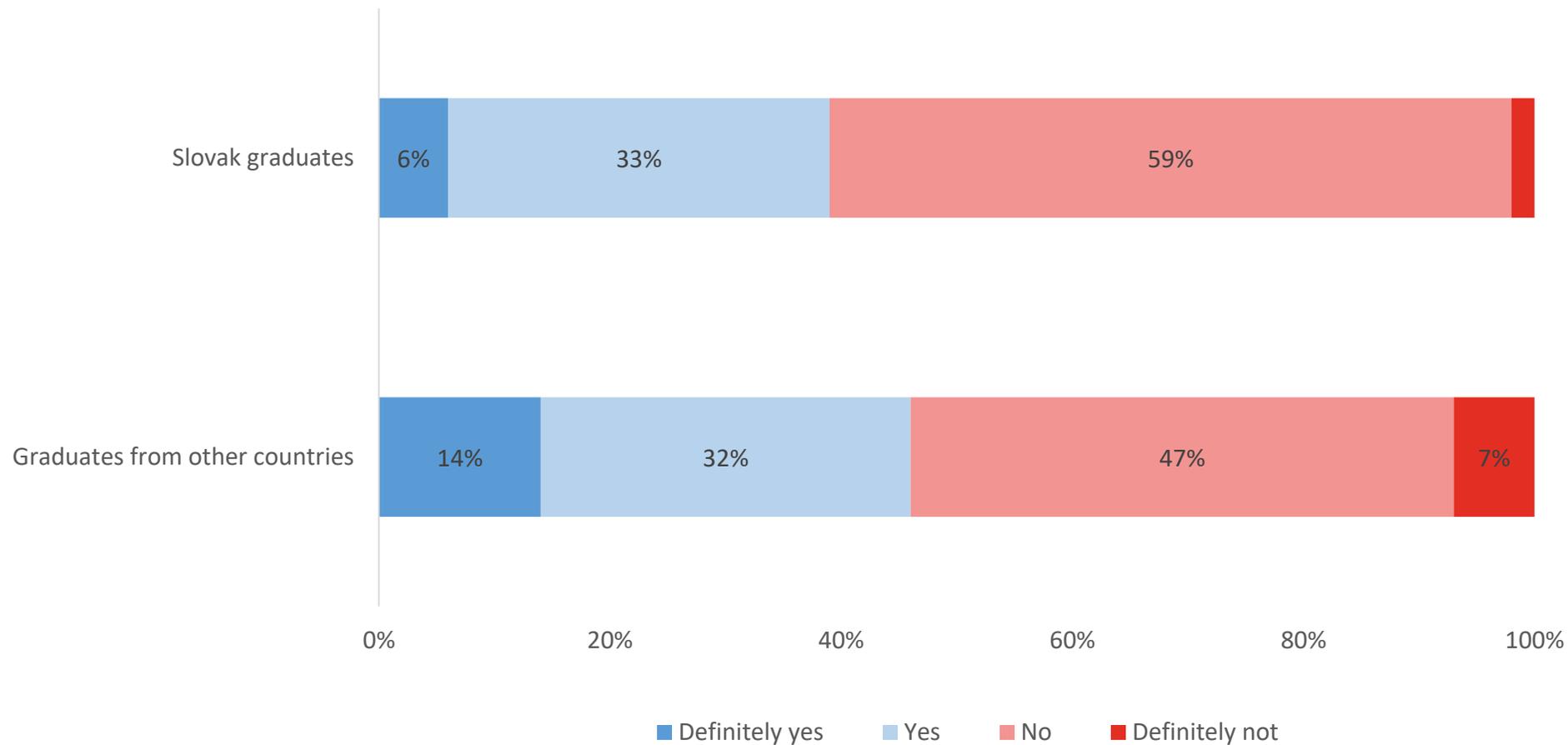
*„IT sector is still undersaturated almost everywhere. However, when attempting to find a more technical position it may become trickier.“*

*„After completing my studies, I stayed in the Czech Republic for 10 years, now I work abroad. In the Czech Republic I was employed and also freelancing. Abroad I work only as a freelancer. Even though there is a bigger competition abroad, the conditions for starting your own business are easier, from the bureaucratic point of view.“*

# Would you like to be employed or do business in the Czech Republic? (N = 2120)

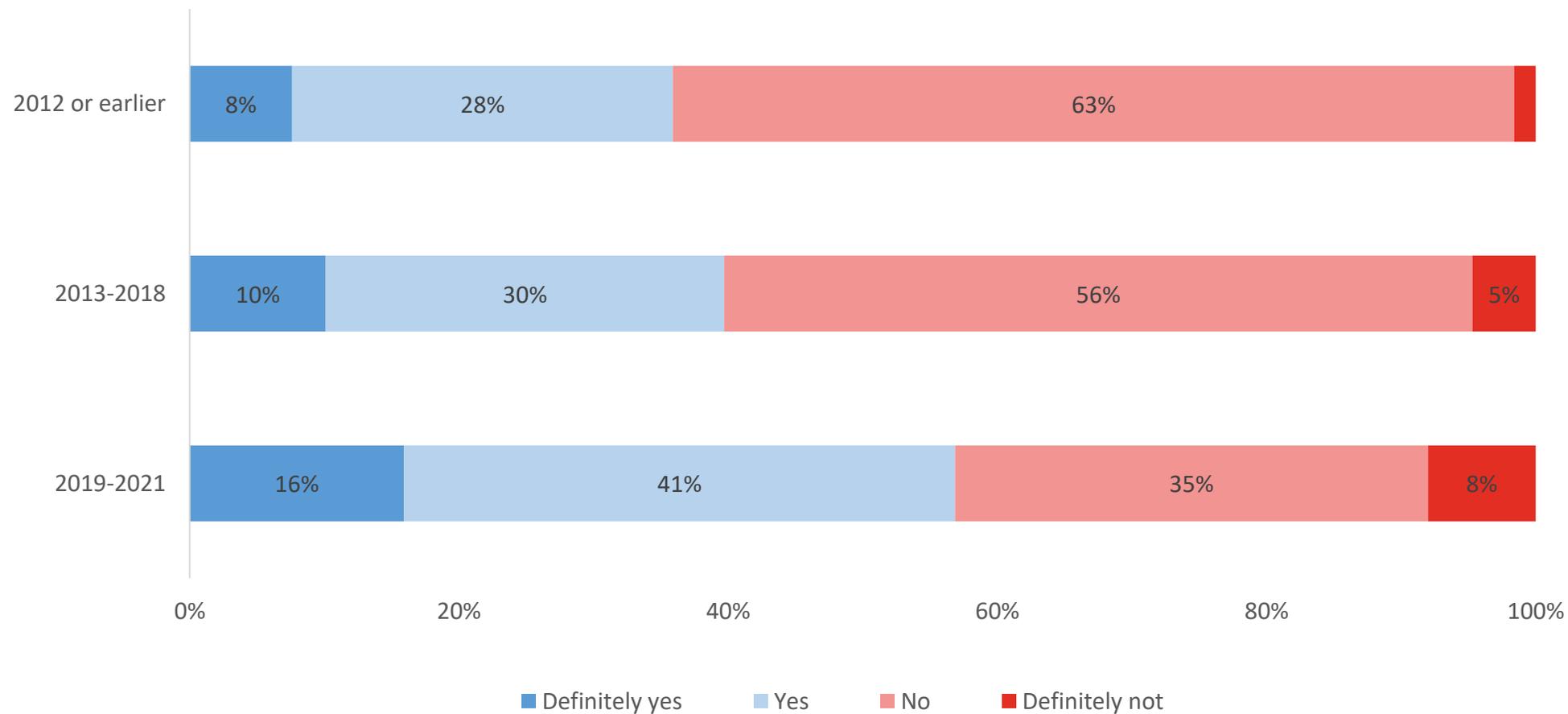


# Would you like to be employed or do business in the Czech Republic?\*



\*only full degree programmes (N = 949)

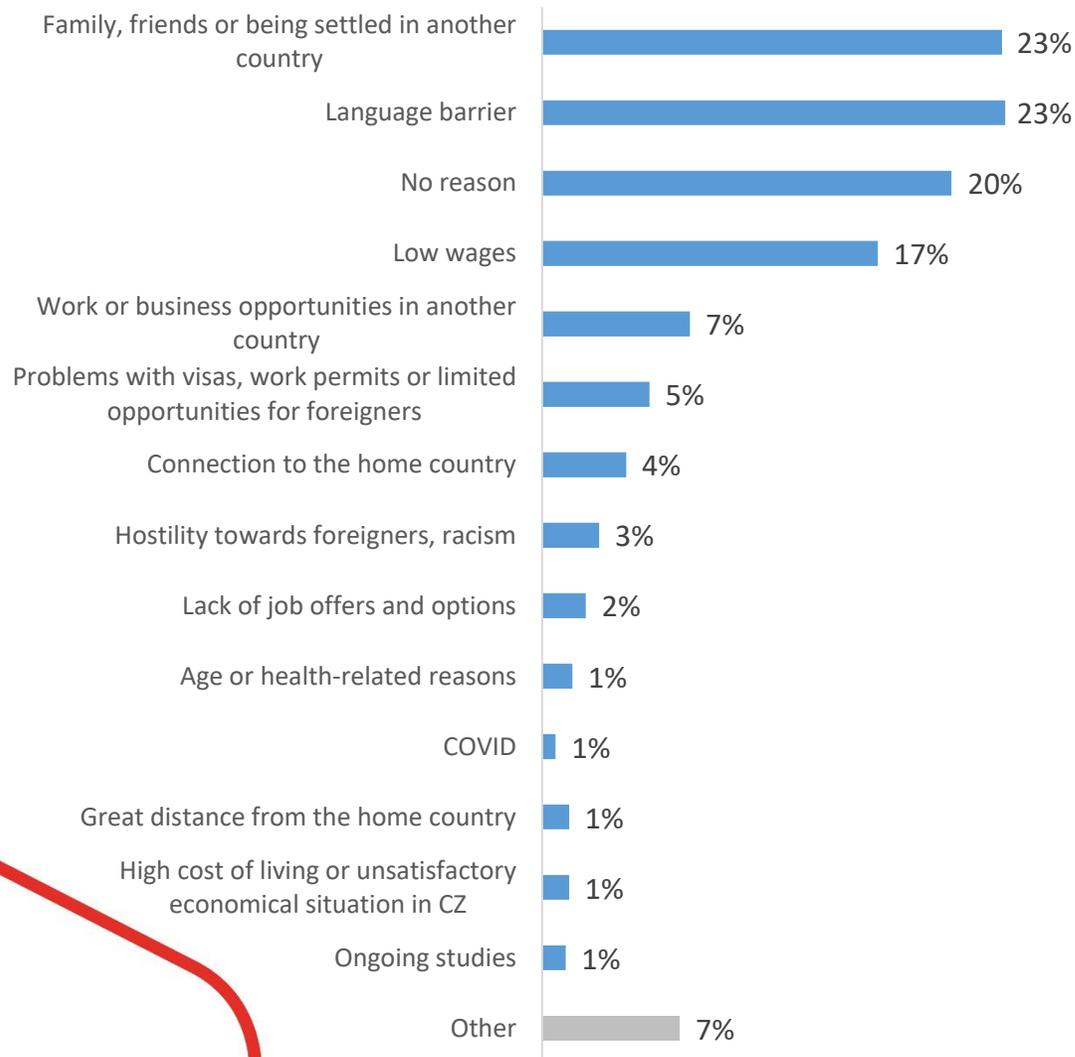
# Would you like to be employed or do business in the Czech Republic?\*



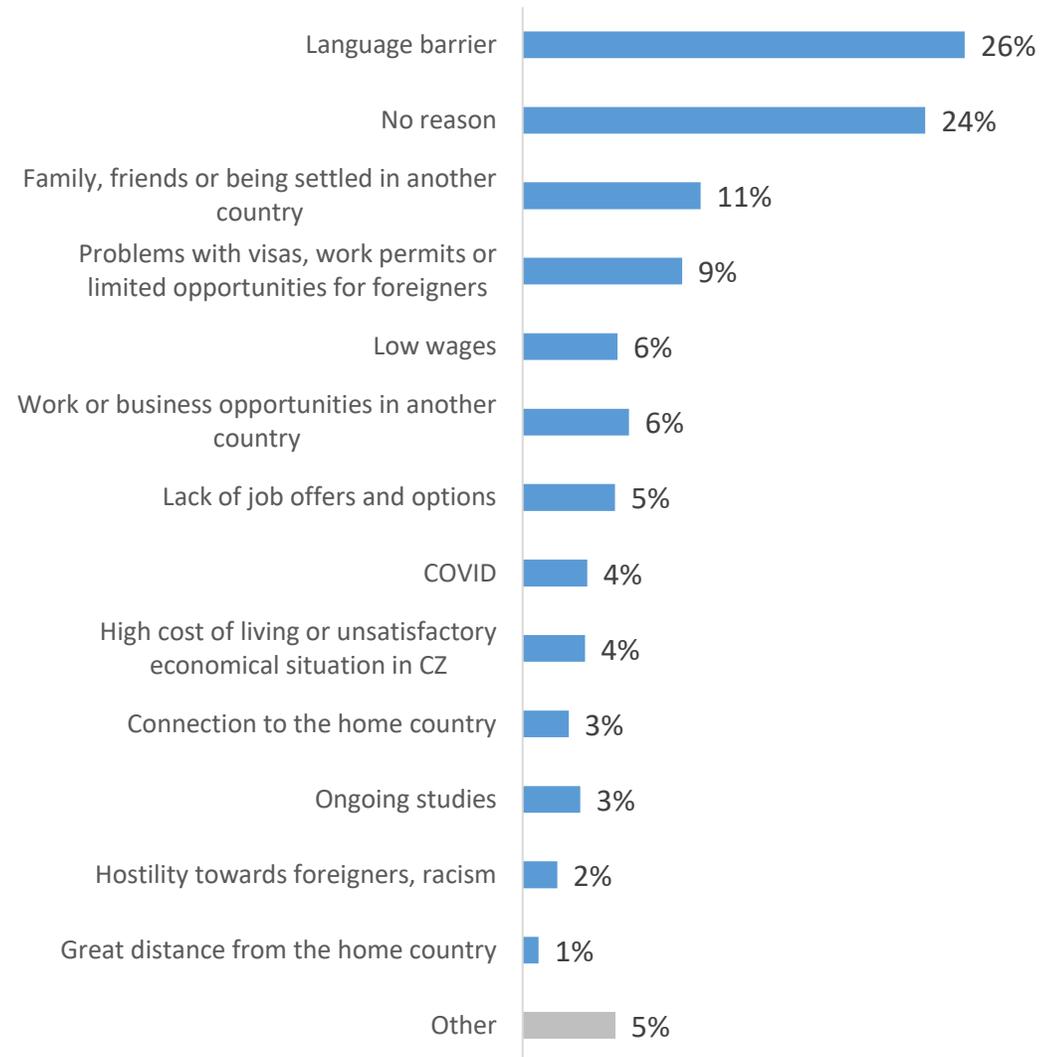
\*only full degree programmes (N = 949)

# Is there anything that prevents you from being employed or doing business in the Czech Republic? (N = 1335)

## Full degree programmes



## Short-term study stays



## Is there anything that prevents you from being employed or doing business in the Czech Republic? (N = 1335)

*„Nothing, I decided to return home and apply obtained knowledge and experience in my everyday life.“*

*„Language barriers. My job requires the highest level of grammar skills in a specific language.“*

*„My family is not in the Czech Republic and the salary in Germany is much higher.“*

*„Visa/residence/work permits are difficult to get.“*

*„Settled down in Austria, but I work 2 minutes away from the border.“*

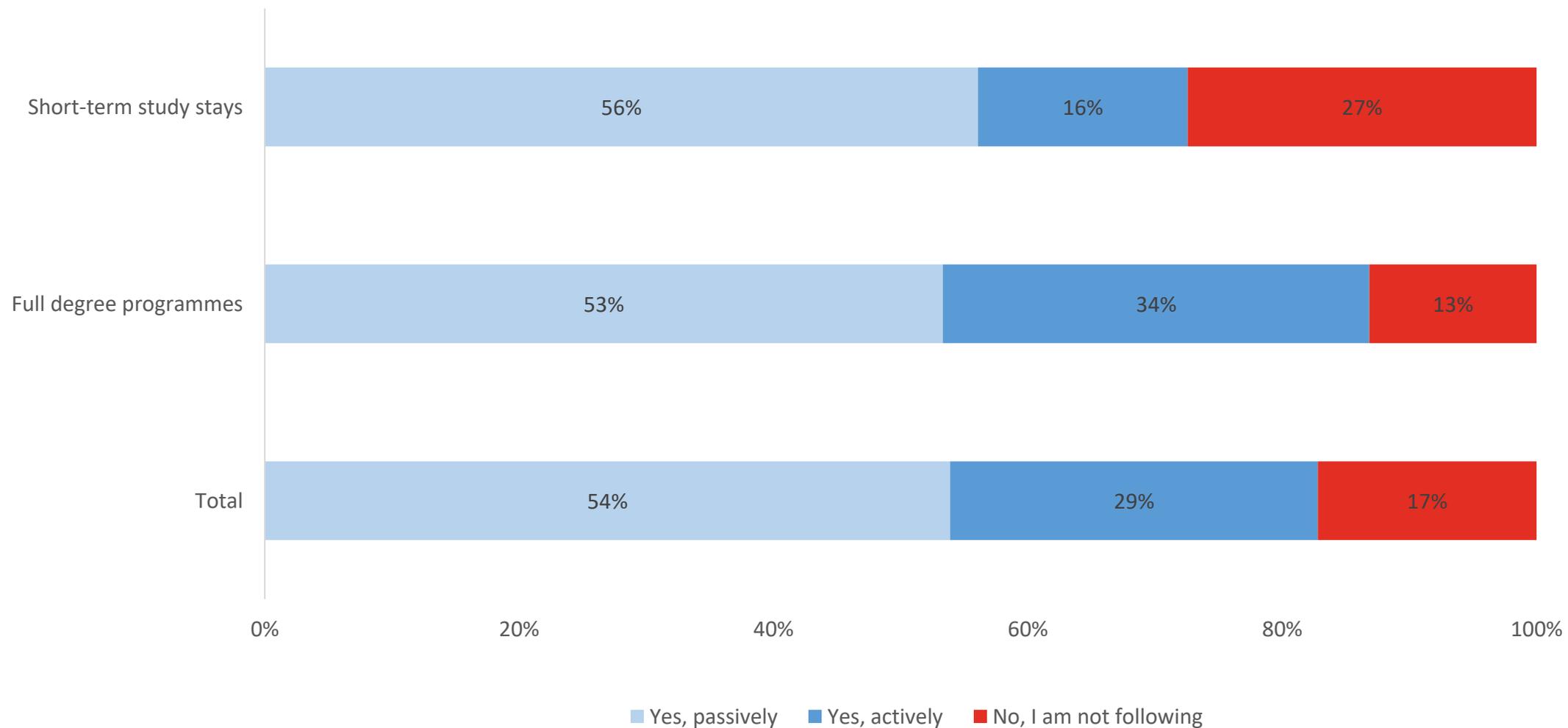
*„I've actually worked with clients from the Czech Republic before, so, nothing is stopping me.“*

*„Salary in CZ does not cover cost of debt (for tuition fee).“*

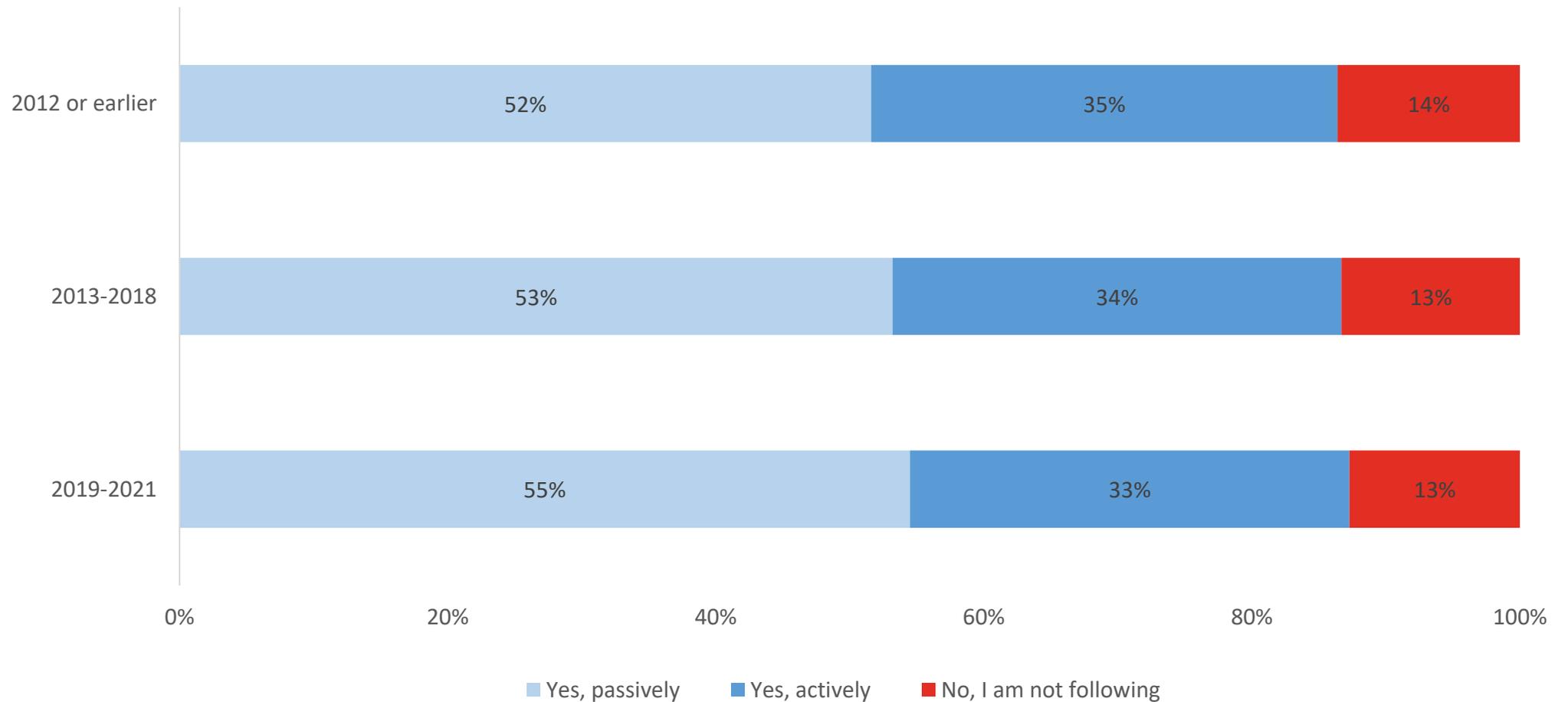
*„The wages are low in comparison, a student scholarship in my home country is higher than the income of a medical resident.“*

*„I have a family and a house in the US.“*

# Do you continue to follow Czech culture and events in the Czech Republic?



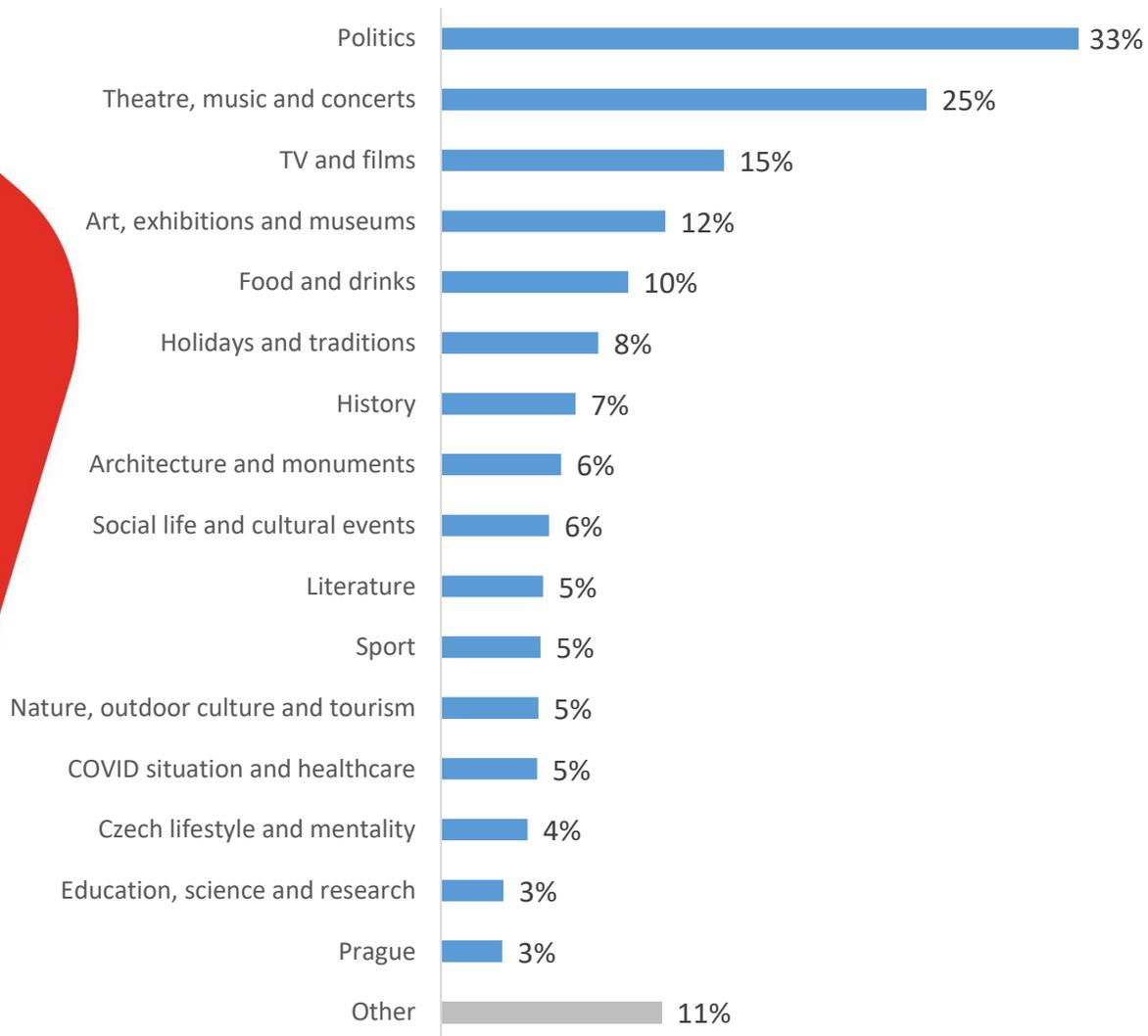
# Do you continue to follow Czech culture and events in the Czech Republic?\*



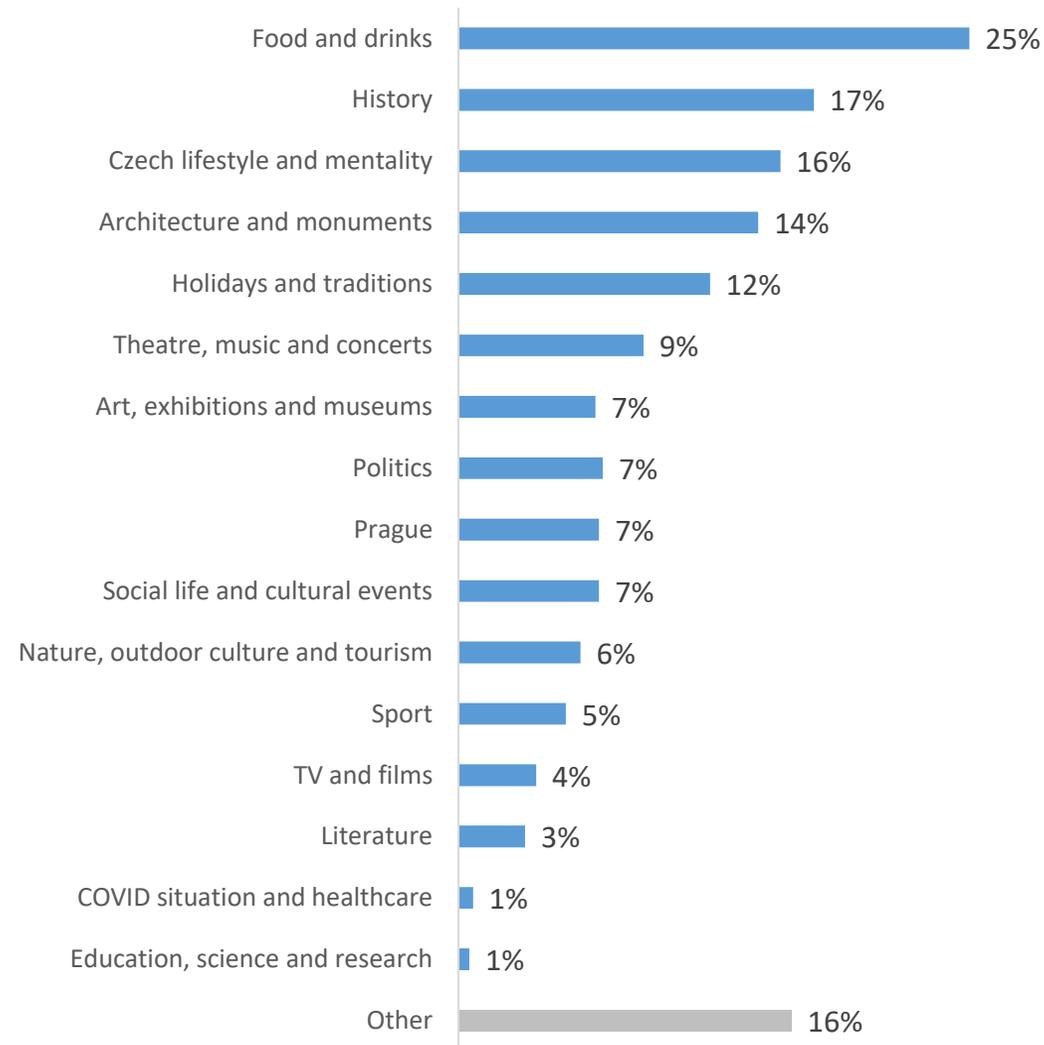
\*only full degree programmes (N = 2992)

# What do you consider to be the most interesting part of Czech culture and related events? (N = 2184)

## Full degree programmes



## Short-term study stays



## What do you consider to be the most interesting part of Czech culture and related events? (N = 2184)

„Czech film (Petr Zelenka) and literature (Karel Čapek, Ota Pavel - I do not mention Hrabal, because it is obvious). I always admired, how dutifully every Czech woman or man threat their own mother language, regardless of their social status or education.“

„You have such a beautiful town, the pearl of Europe and I've considered myself blessed to have studied and lived there. I admire Jan Hus's legacy to the reformation, Dvorak's and Smetana's legacy to music and Kafka's legacy to literature to name a few. Vysehrad used to be my favourite place for a walk and Strahov monastery with its library halls a place to be reminded of how creative and resilient humans are.“

„It's interesting for me to see that Czech people are not apathetic about political and social issues. Also how Czech people are connected with nature and try to teach kids about that.“

„I like Czech sense of humor and the cynical/jaded Czech mentality.“

„There's something for everyone's taste and financial possibilities“

„I don't distinguish between the Czech Republic and Slovakia. I am Czechoslovakian, born in 1980. I just think that people have more opportunities in the Czech Republic.“

„I'm following the culture scene: movies, music, theatre. I'm interested in political affairs - it affects my life.“

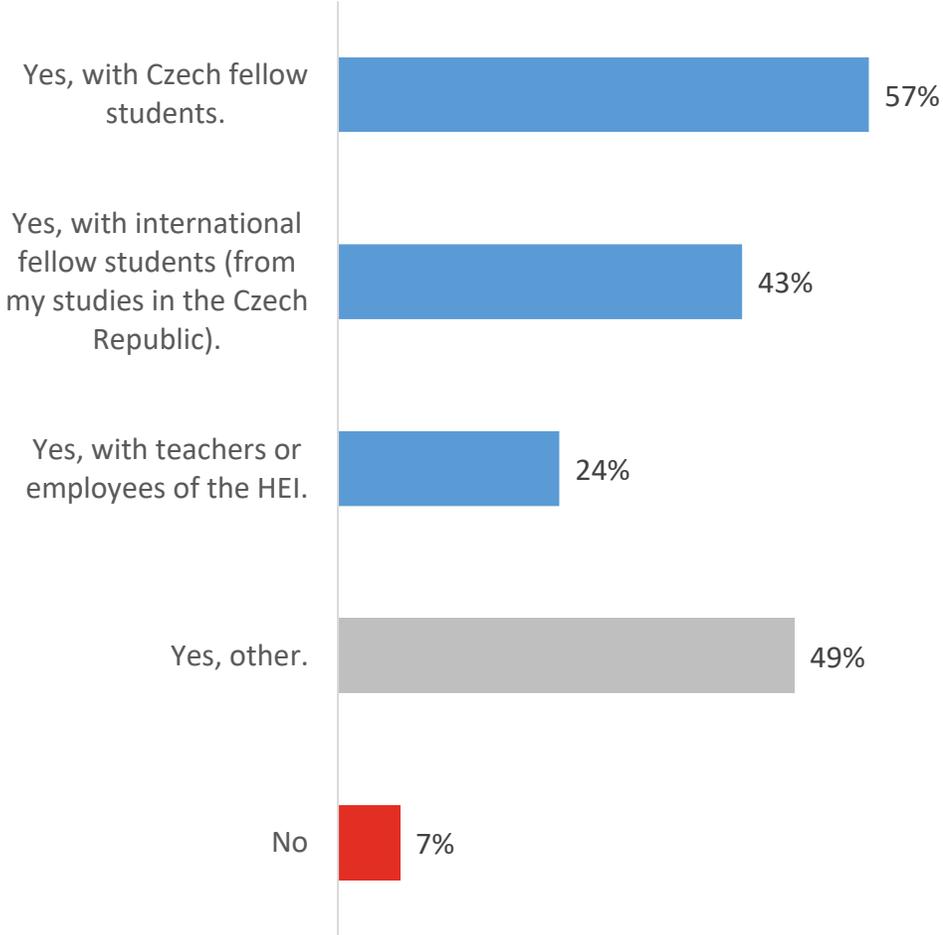
„The castles, nice nature good for long walks, beer fests, food.“

„I miss the food. Last week I prepared bramborák at my home in Zambia. I also love the architecture, Christmas markets and picking mushrooms.“

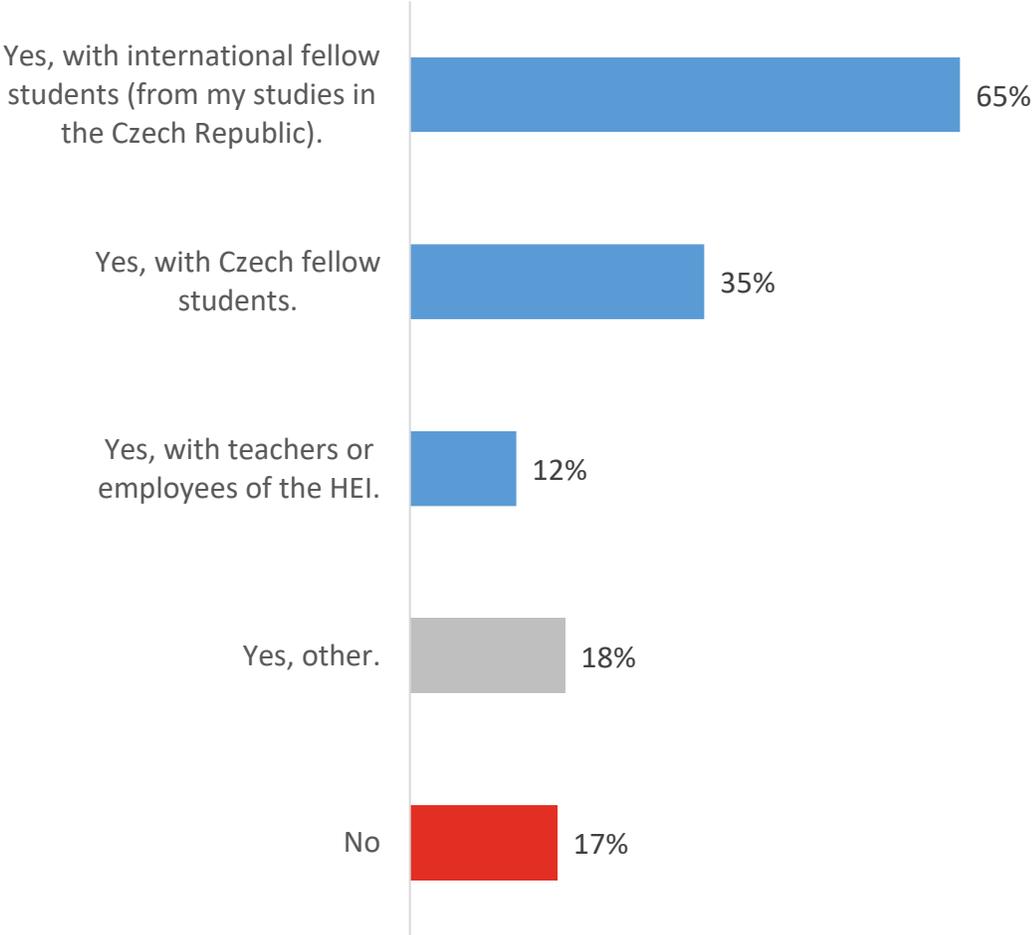
„Connection between the West and East countries. I consider the Czech Republic to have very cultural, intelligent and polite people. They should be proud of their homeland and history, and they should stand up for it.“

# Are you in touch with someone in the Czech Republic?

## Full degree programmes

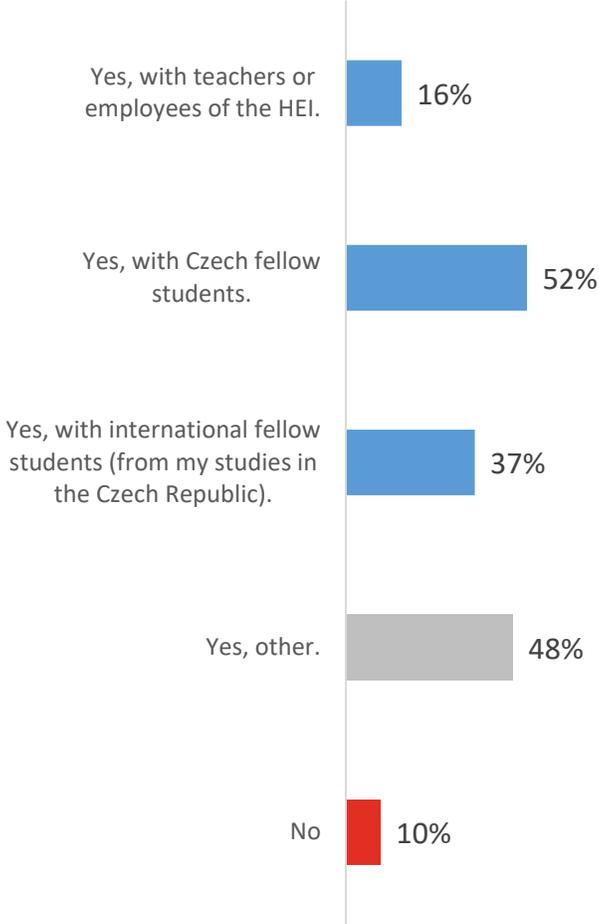


## Short-term study stays

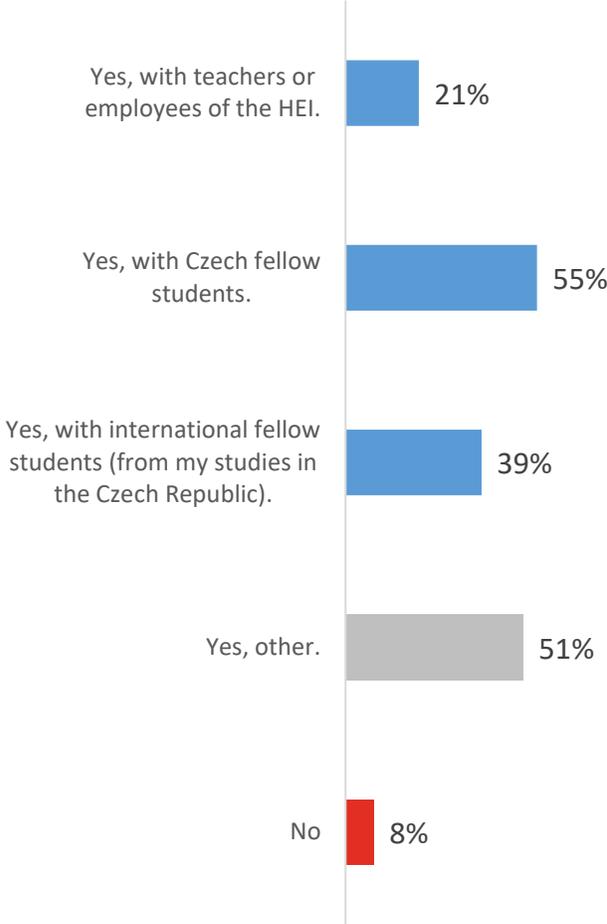


# Are you in touch with someone in the Czech Republic?\*

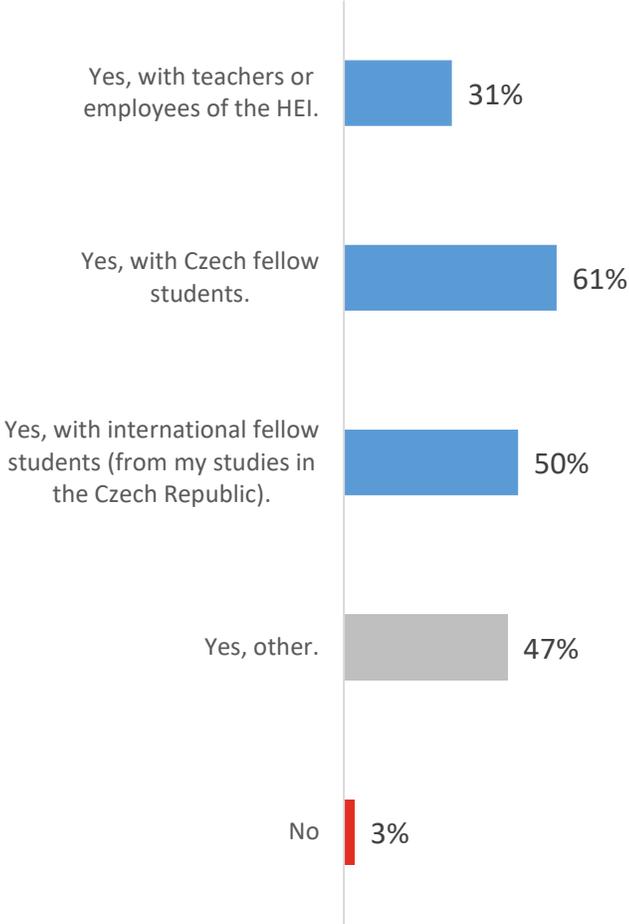
## 2012 or earlier



## 2013-2018



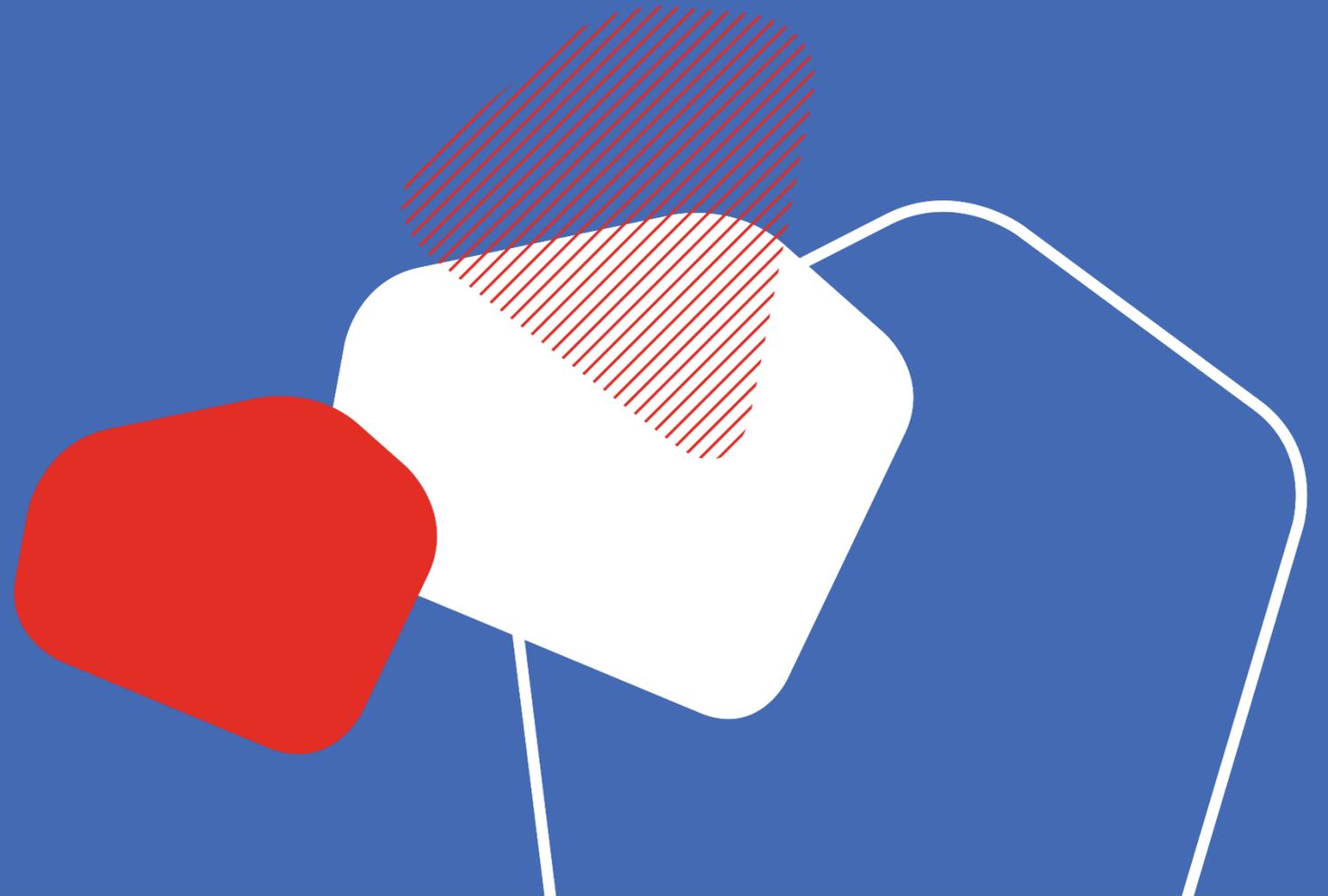
## 2019-2021



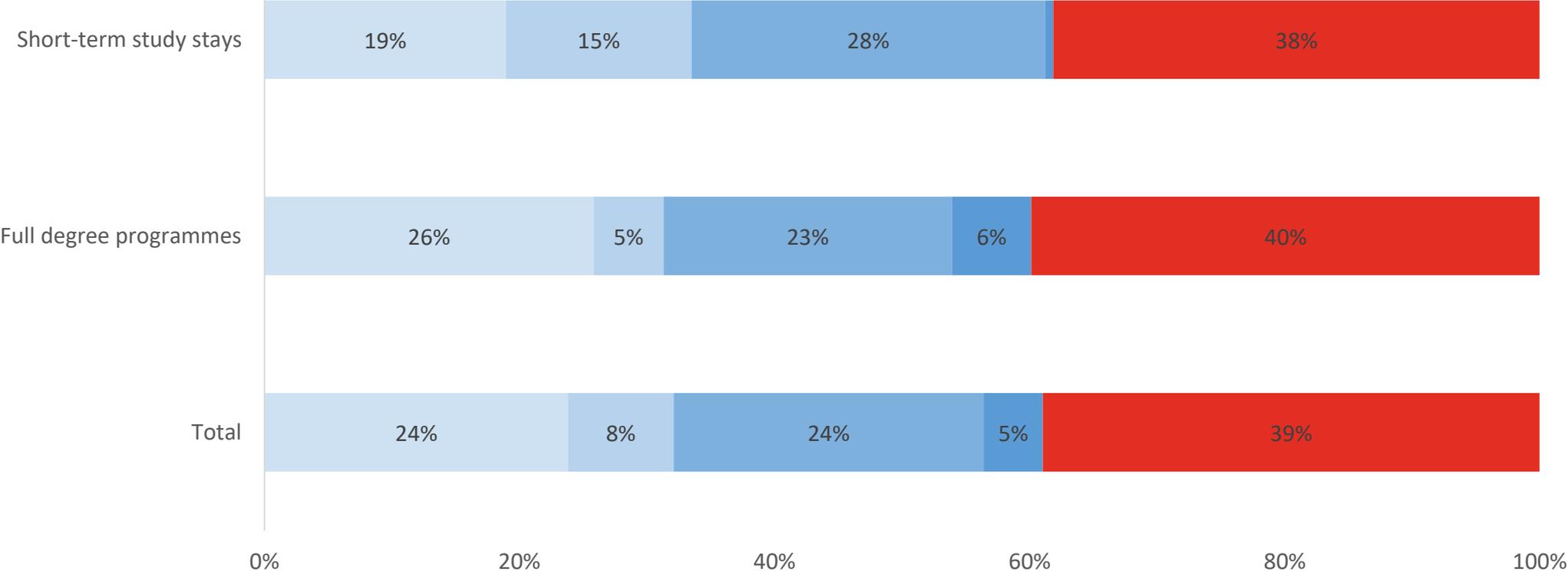
\*only full degree programmes (N = 2973)

# 04

## Alumni programme

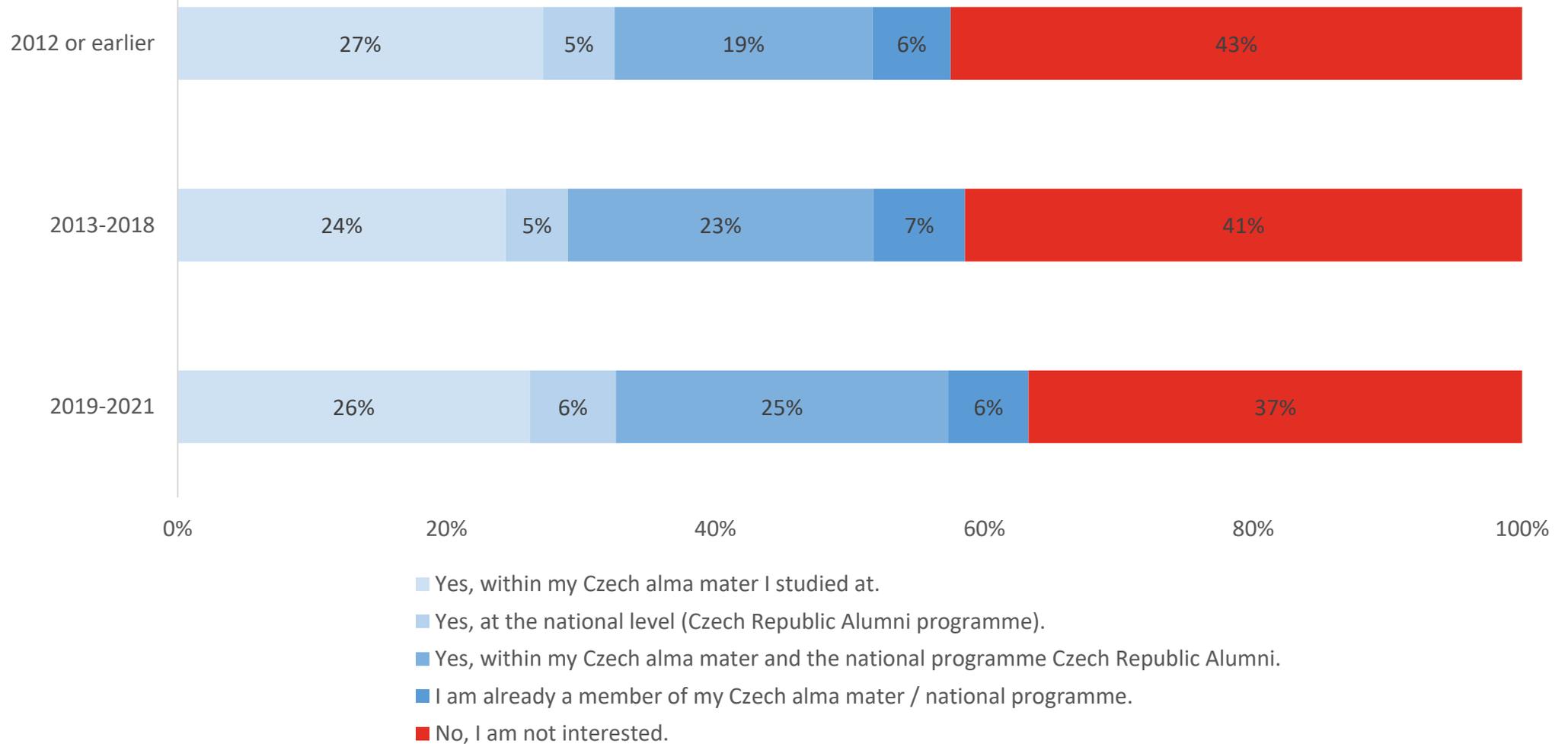


# Are you interested in being involved in an alumni programme?



- Yes, within my Czech alma mater I studied at.
- Yes, at the national level (Czech Republic Alumni programme).
- Yes, within my Czech alma mater and the national programme Czech Republic Alumni.
- I am already a member of my Czech alma mater / national programme.
- No, I am not interested.

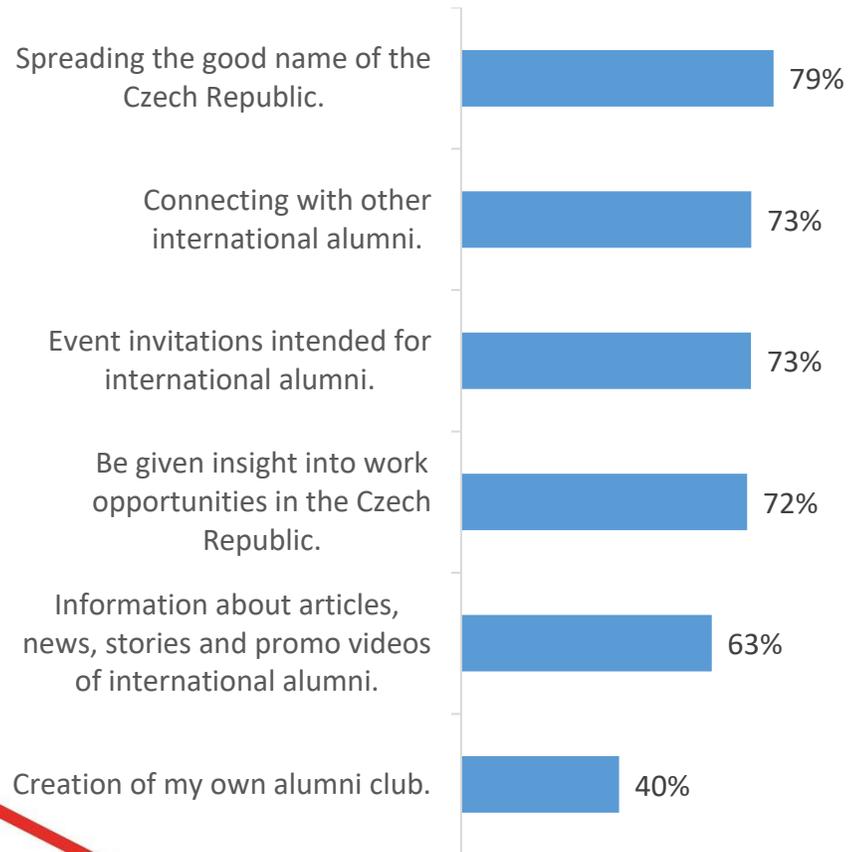
# Are you interested in being involved in an alumni programme?\*



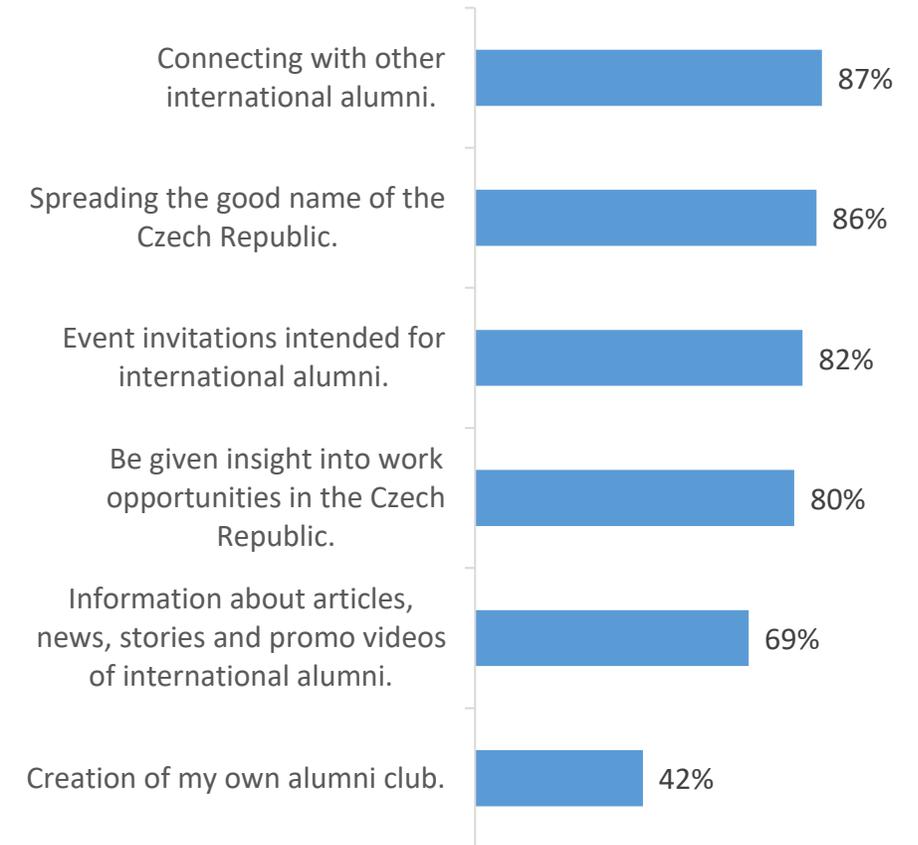
\*only full degree programmes (N = 2875)

# Which of these benefits offered by the national alumni programme do you perceive as relevant?

## Full degree programmes

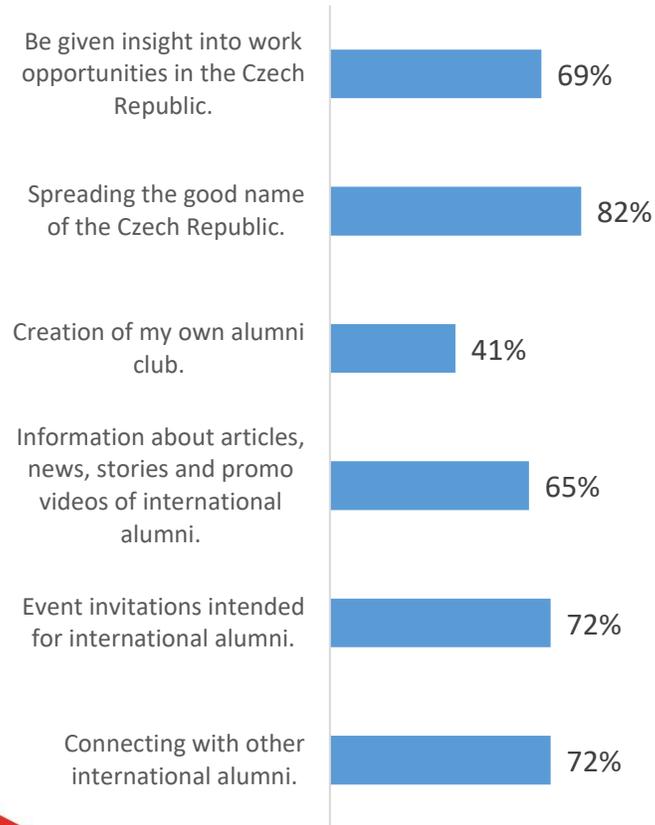


## Short-term study stays

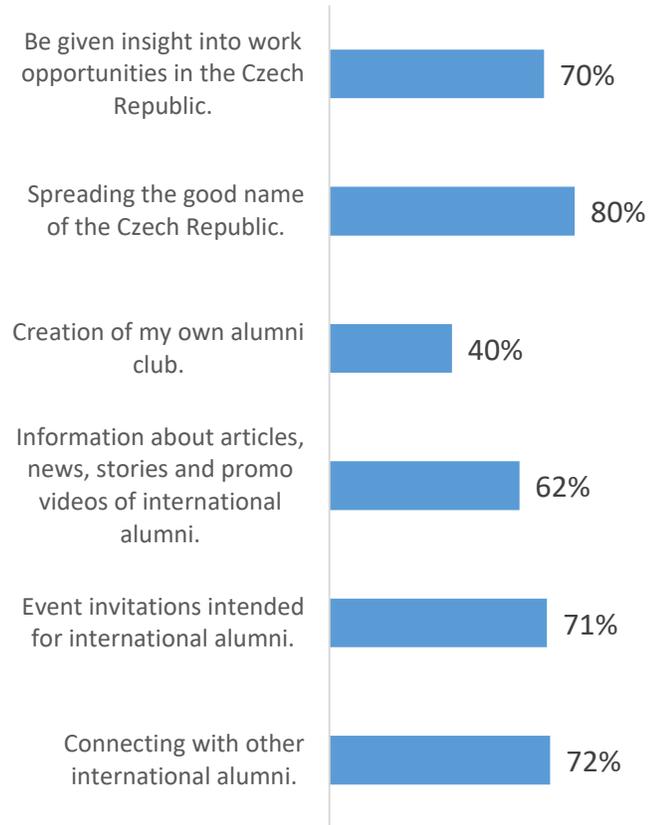


# Which of these benefits offered by the national alumni programme do you perceive as relevant?\*

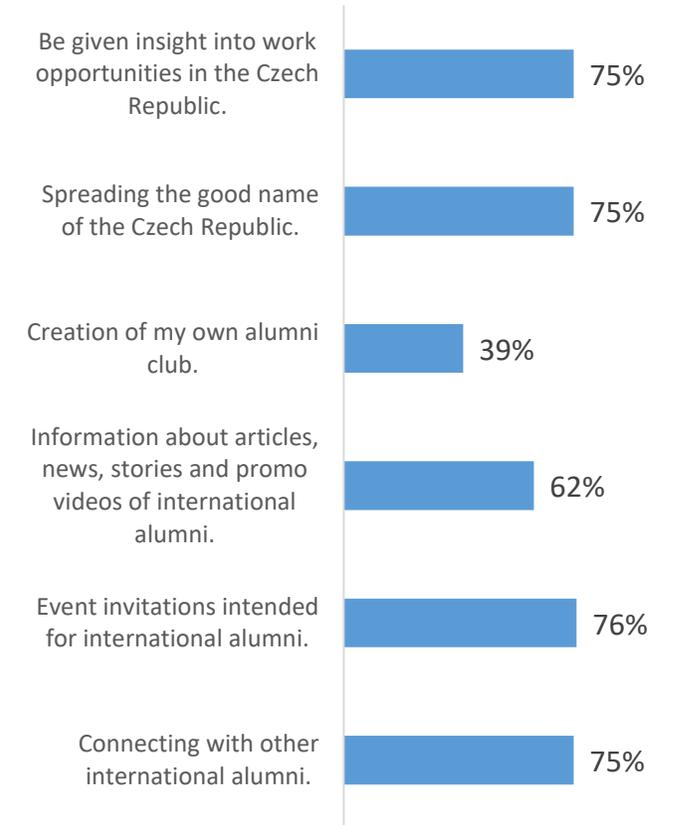
## 2012 or earlier



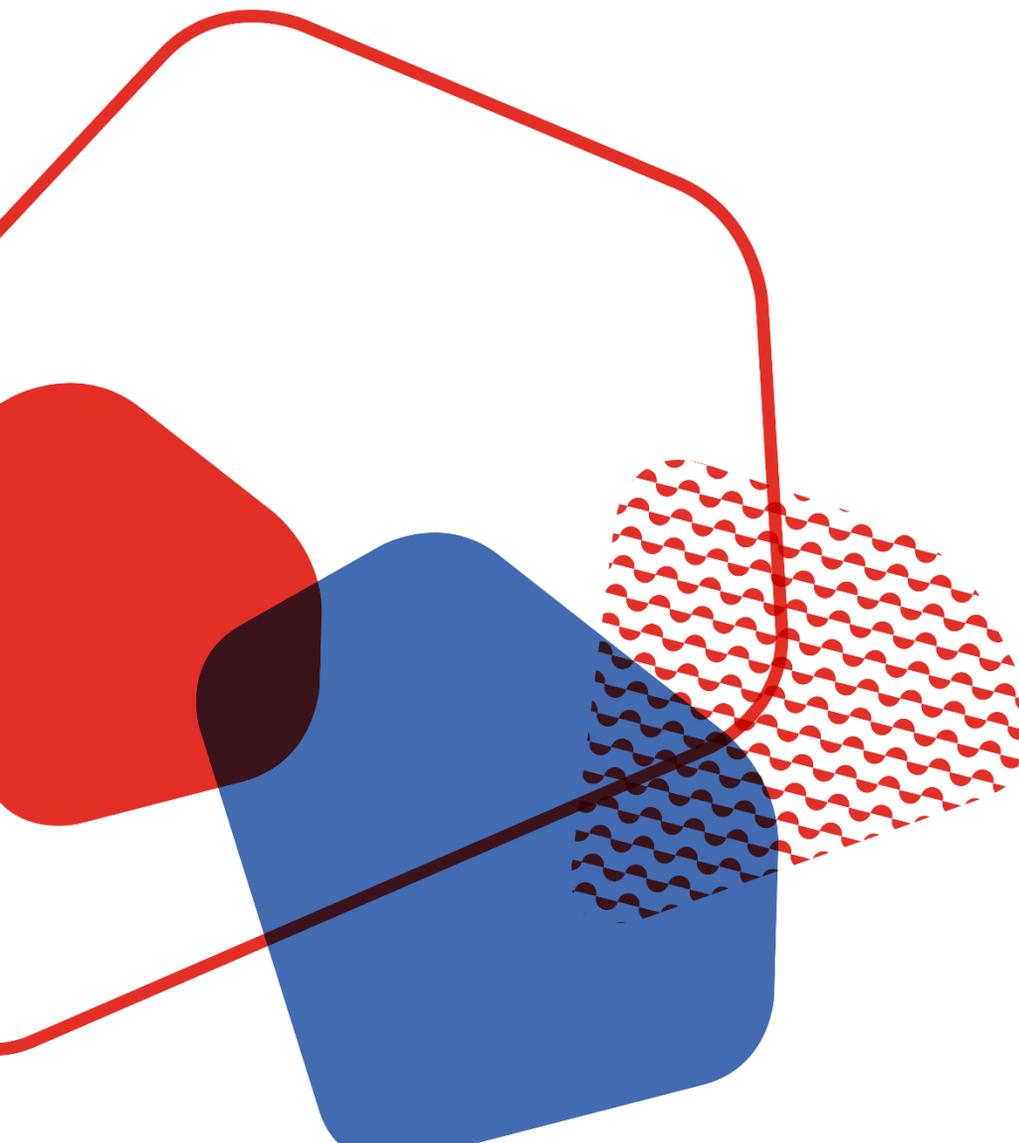
## 2013-2018



## 2019-2021



\*only full degree programmes (N = 2875)



## **CZECH NATIONAL AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (DZS)**

[www.dzs.cz](http://www.dzs.cz)

[info@dzs.cz](mailto:info@dzs.cz)

## **CZECH REPUBLIC ALUMNI**

[www.czechrepublicalumni.cz](http://www.czechrepublicalumni.cz)

[alumni@studyin.cz](mailto:alumni@studyin.cz)

