



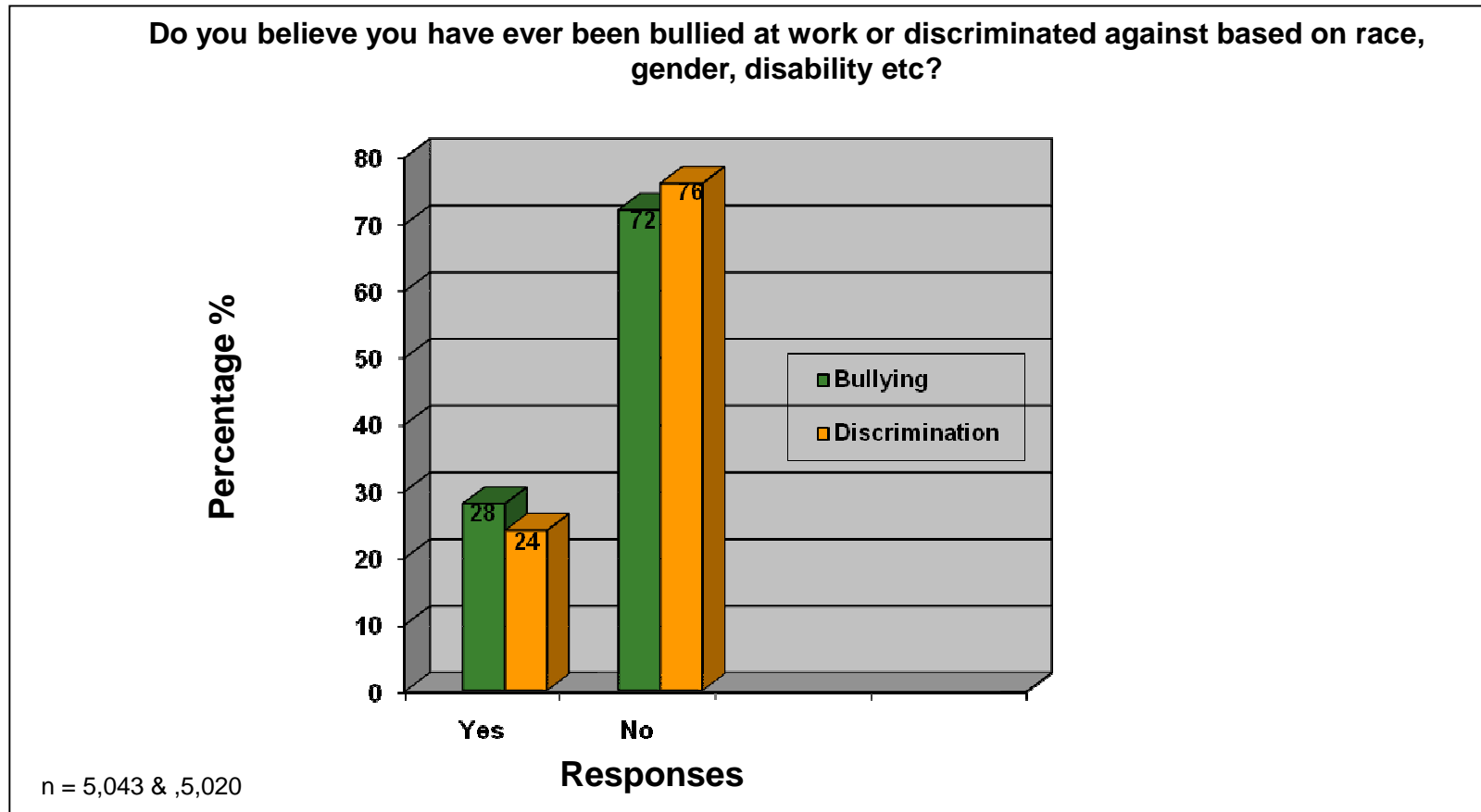
Workplace Pulse Quarterly Survey: Bullying and Equal Employment Opportunity

June 2011

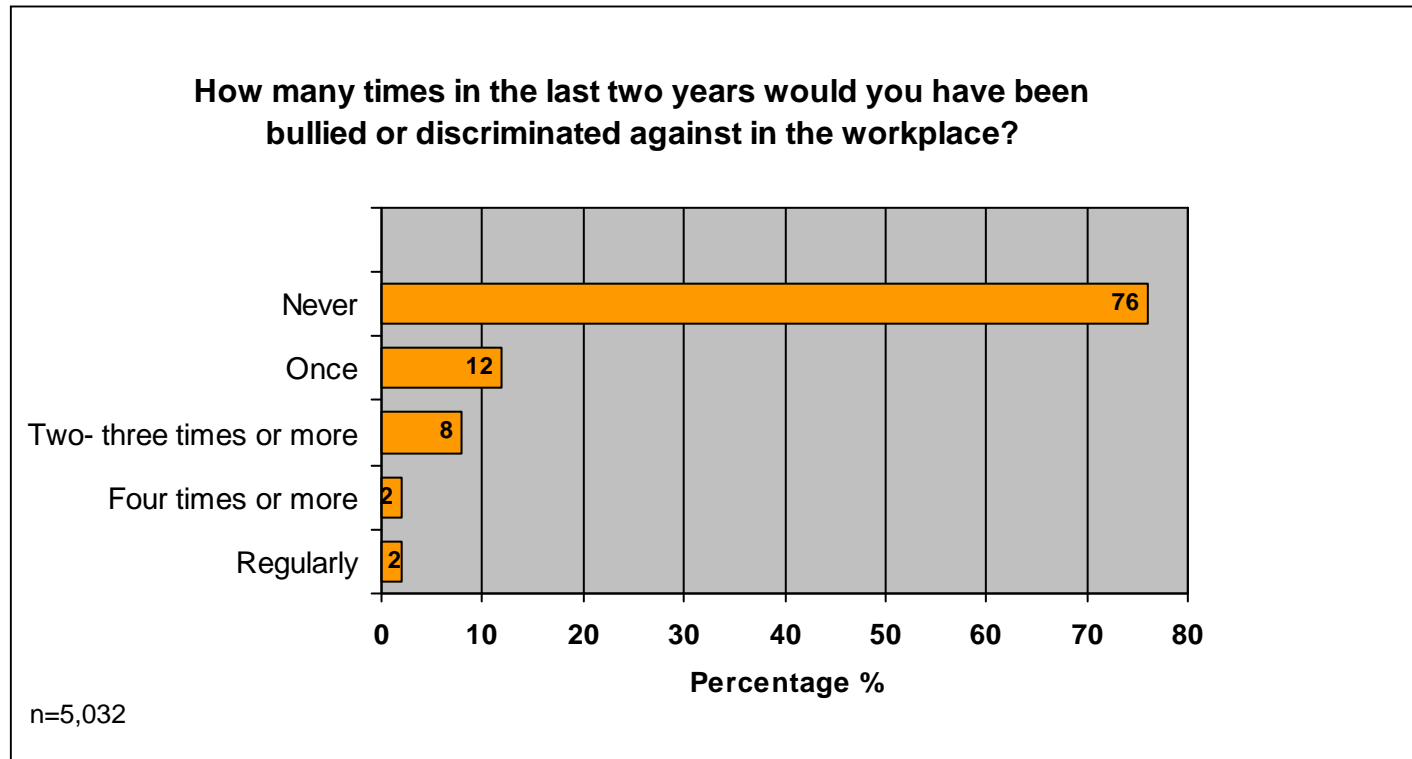
About the survey:

- WorkPro's fifth quarterly Workplace Pulse survey was conducted in May 2011 among a sample of 5,146 employees applying for work through recruitment agencies across Australia.
- The research surveyed employees' understanding, experiences and beliefs about the prevalence of bullying and discrimination among the Australian workforce today.

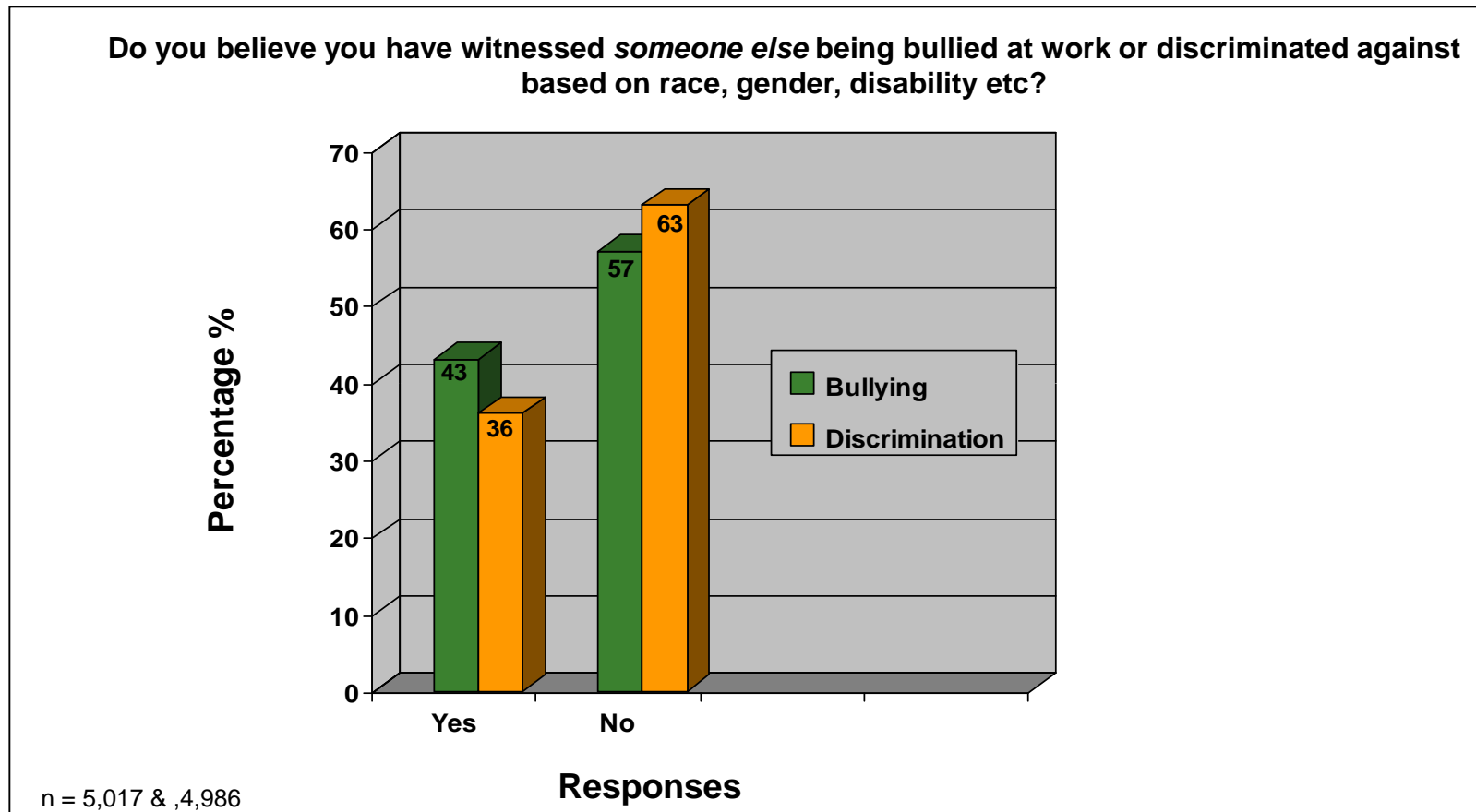
Close to one third (28%) of respondents admit to being bullied in the workplace at some stage of their lives, while almost one quarter (24%) say they have been discriminated against at work, such as on the basis of race, gender or a disability.



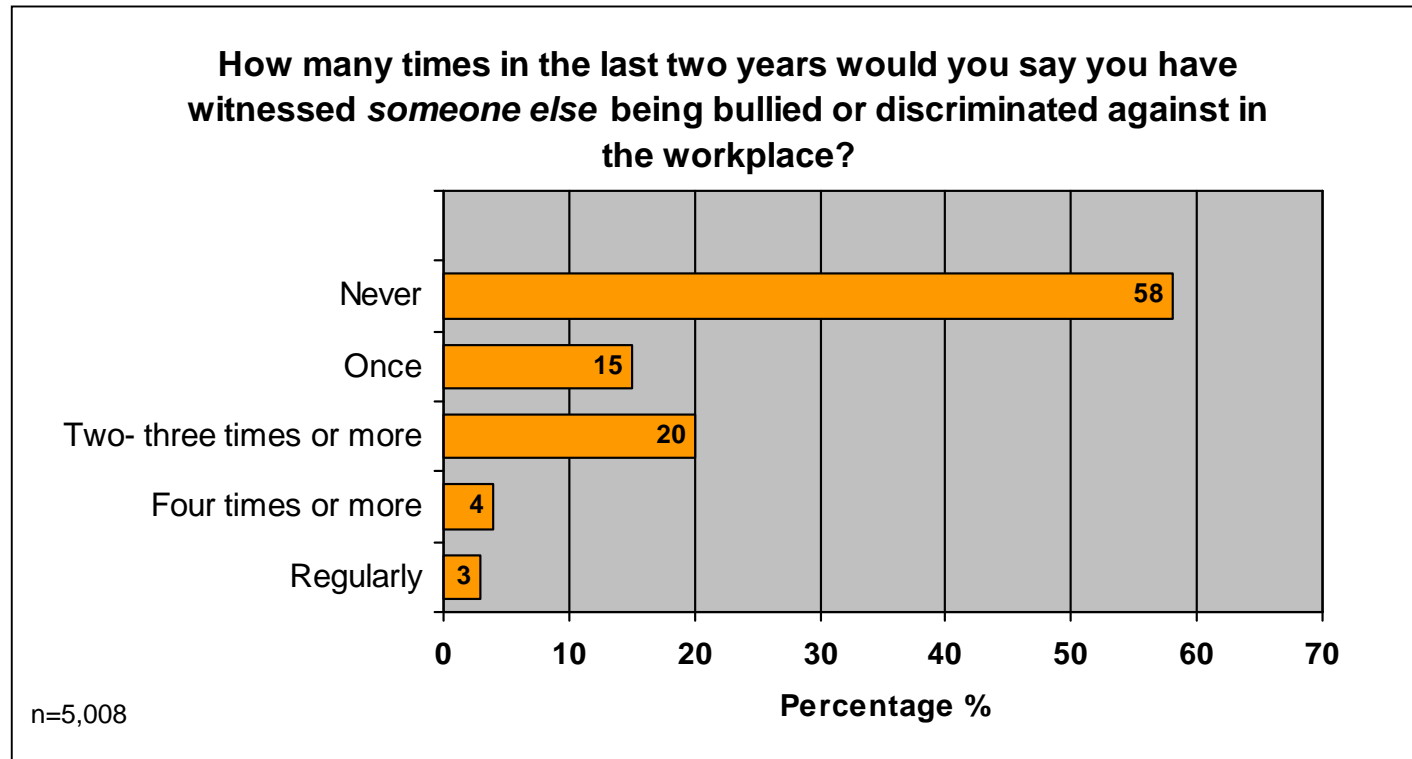
Bullying is still part of the modern day workplace. Over one quarter of respondents (24%) say they have been the victim of workplace bullying or discrimination at least once over the past two years. Of this group, 12% say they have experienced this multiple times.



When asked about their peers, almost half of respondents (43%) say they have witnessed colleagues being bullied at work, similarly 36% say they have seen colleagues being treated in a discriminatory way.

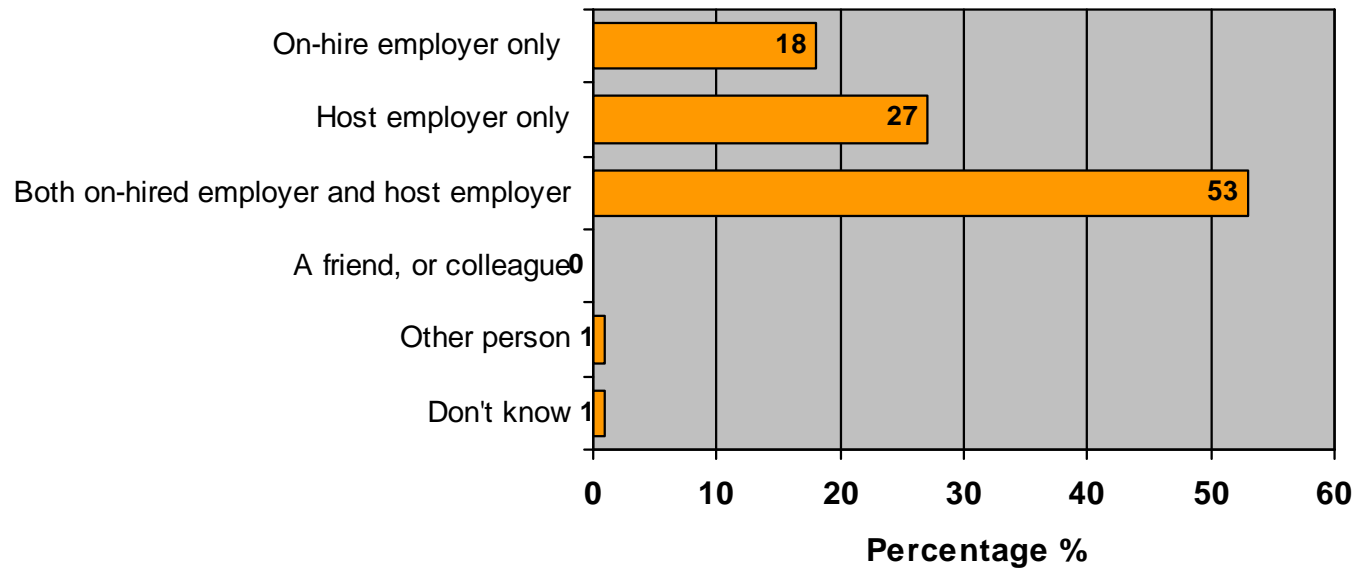


Bullying and unfair treatment is common in Australian workplaces. Almost half (42%) of respondents say they have witnessed a colleague/s being bullied or discriminated against at least once over the past two years, 27% of which say they have witnessed multiple occurrences in this time.



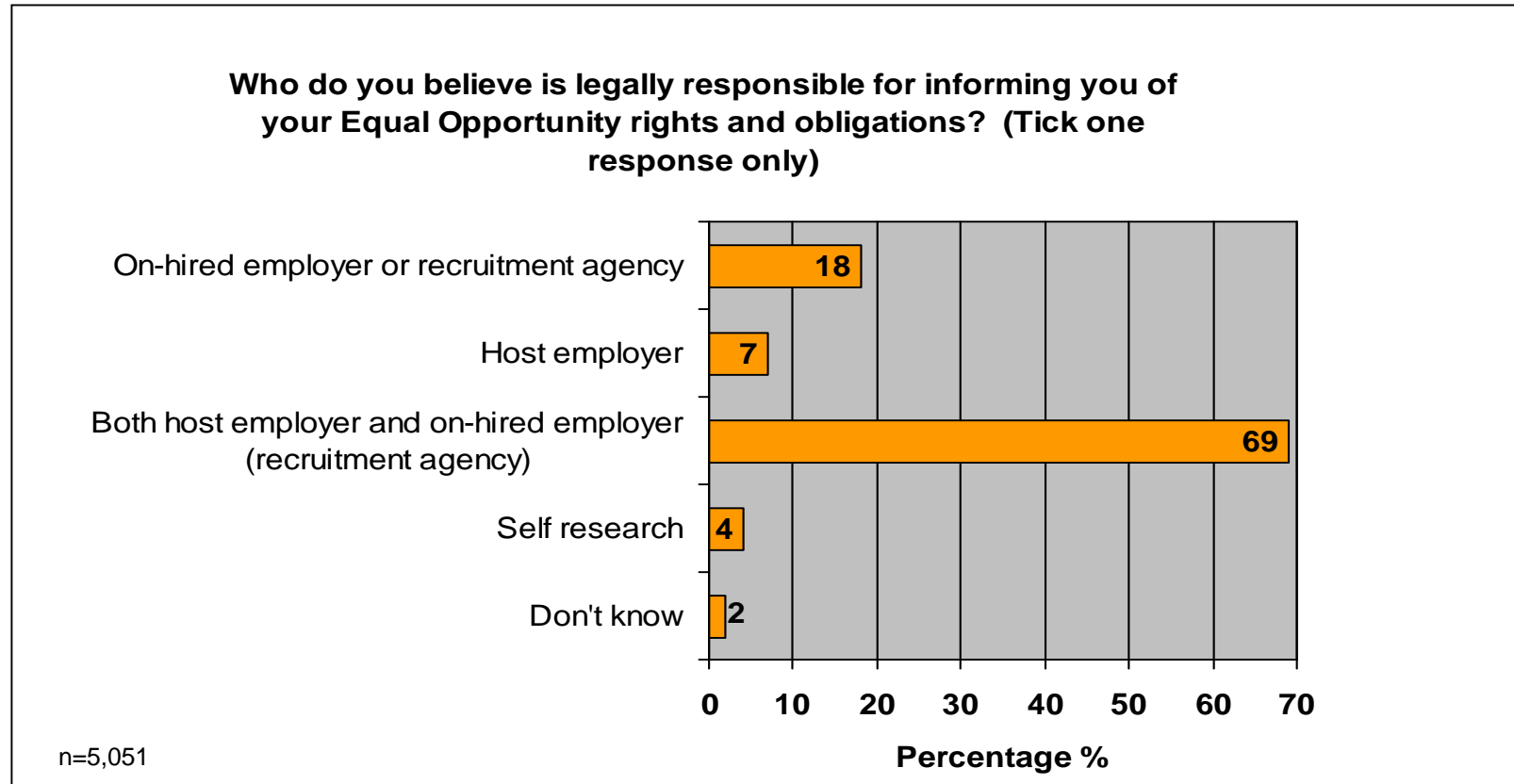
The majority of respondents say they would inform their employer/s of a workplace bullying or discrimination incident; 53% say they would inform both their host (on-site) employer and on-hired employer (ie; recruiter); 18% would only tell their on-hire employer; while 27% say their host employer would be the most appropriate person to inform.

If you were to report an act of workplace bullying or discrimination, who would you feel is the most appropriate person to inform?

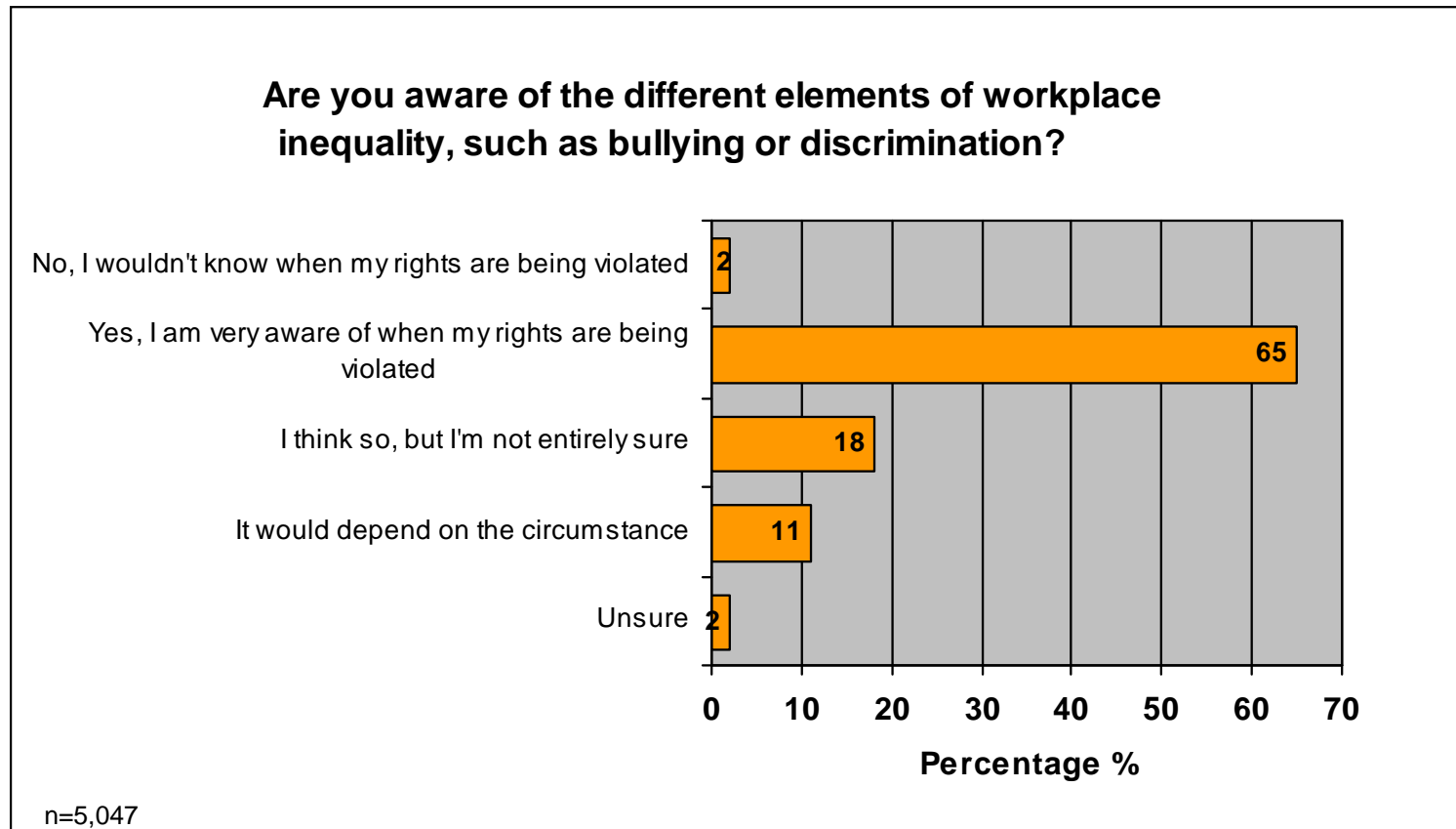


n= 5,146

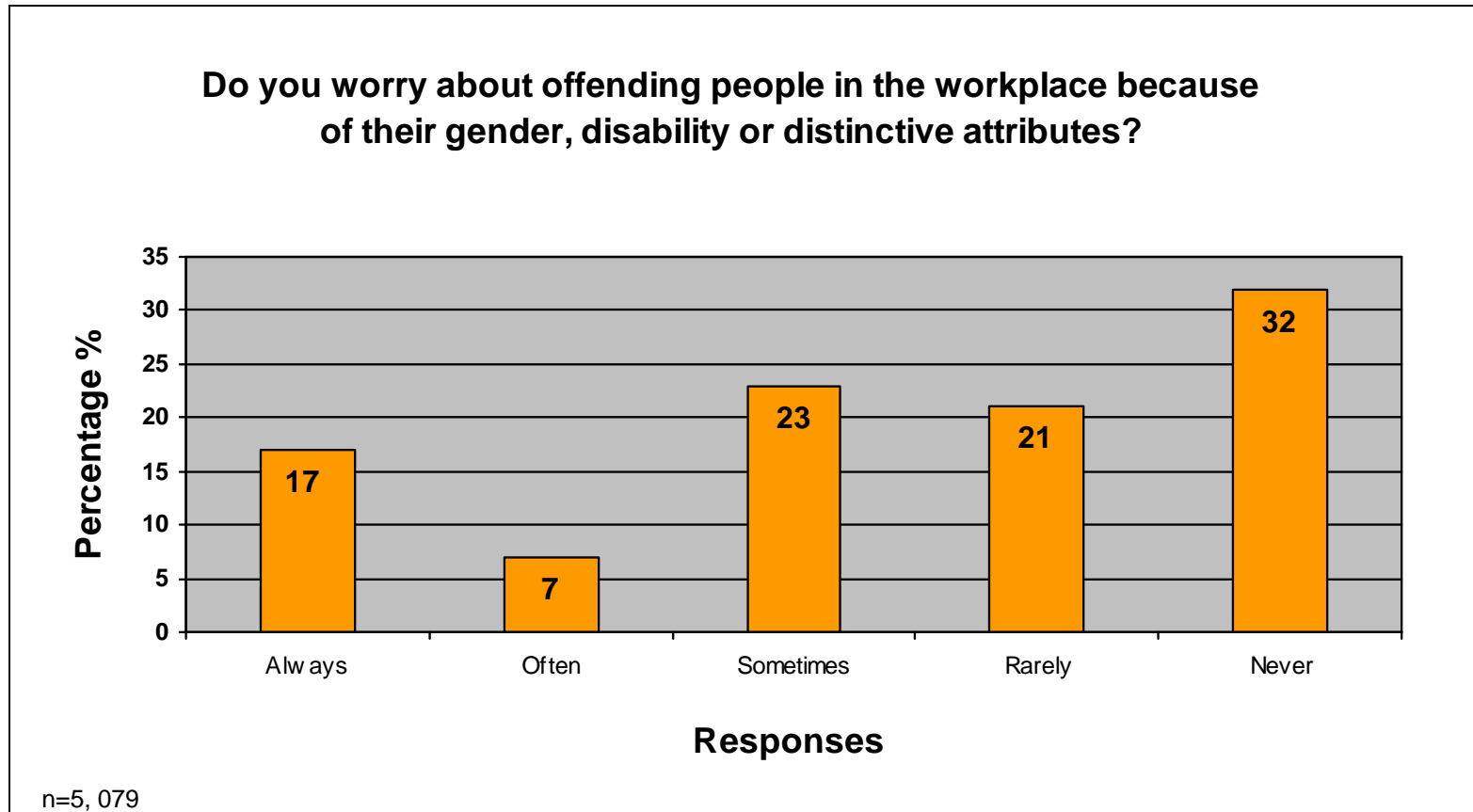
While the majority of employees are aware that both their host employer and on-hire employer would bear legal responsibility to inform them of their workplace rights and obligations (69%), one third (31%) remain under the wrong impression regarding this dual responsibility.



Nearly one quarter (24%) of respondents indicate they are unsure about their rights and obligations at work, while the majority (65%) feel confident to detect when their rights are being violated in the workplace.



Despite 65% of employees who say they understand what it means to be bullied or discriminated against, employees are uncertain when it comes to understanding their own workplace conduct. Almost three quarters (68%) of respondents say they worry about offending colleagues on the basis of gender, disability or other distinctive attributes. This indicates a need for further education around acceptable vs unacceptable behaviour in the workplace.



Australian employees would appreciate more information about their workplace rights and obligations before commencing a new role. The most valuable information identified by respondents includes guidelines on: unacceptable vs acceptable workplace behaviour (17%); their workplace rights (15%); what to do if bullied or discriminated against (12%); who to report an incident to (13%); while 75% say they would value information on all of these issues.

