



*The State Bar of California*

# Discussion on Findings from First-Year Law Students Exam and California Bar Exam Surveys

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Committee of Bar Examiners Meeting, October 2024

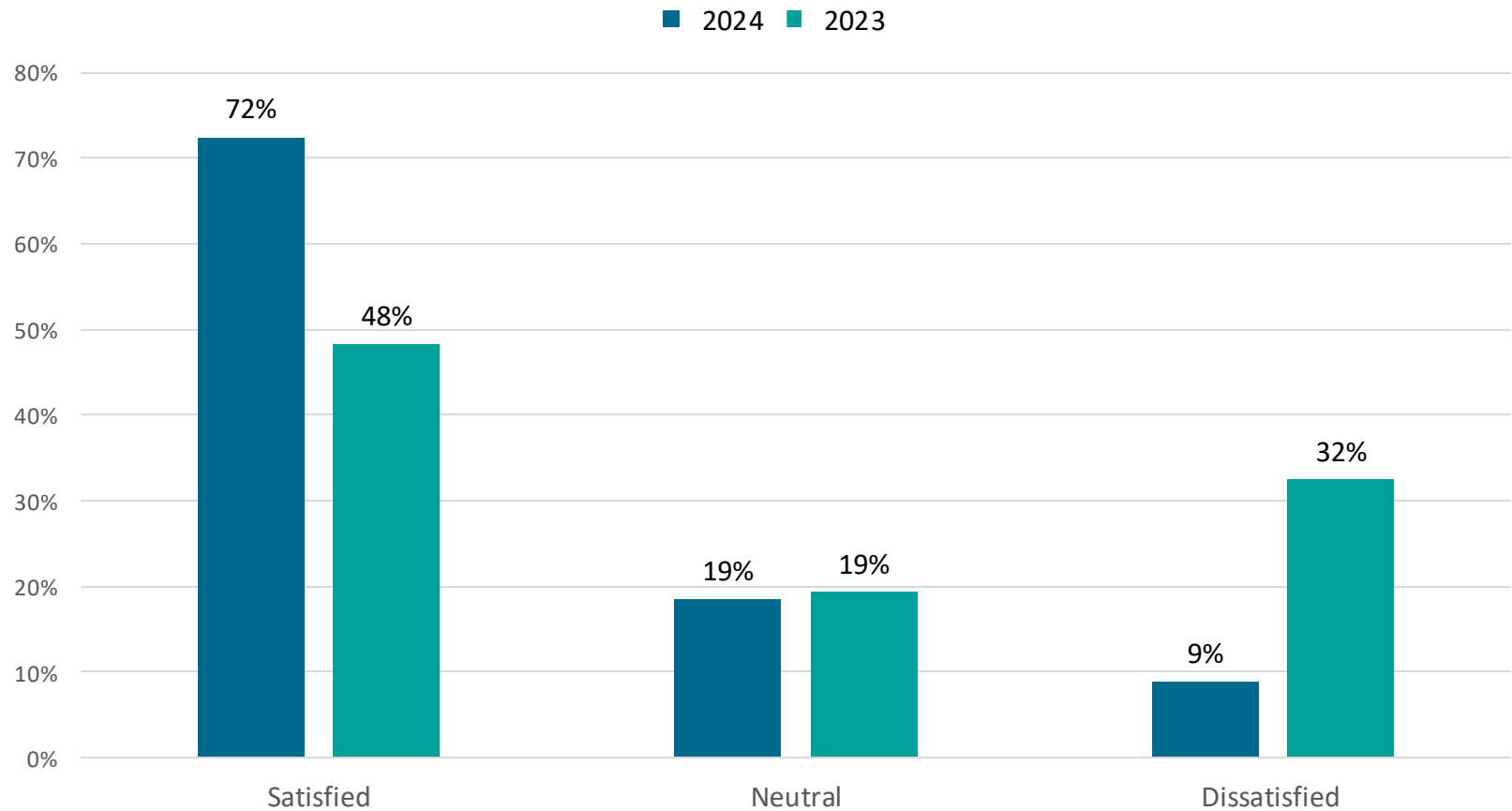
# June 2024 First-Year Law Students' Exam Survey



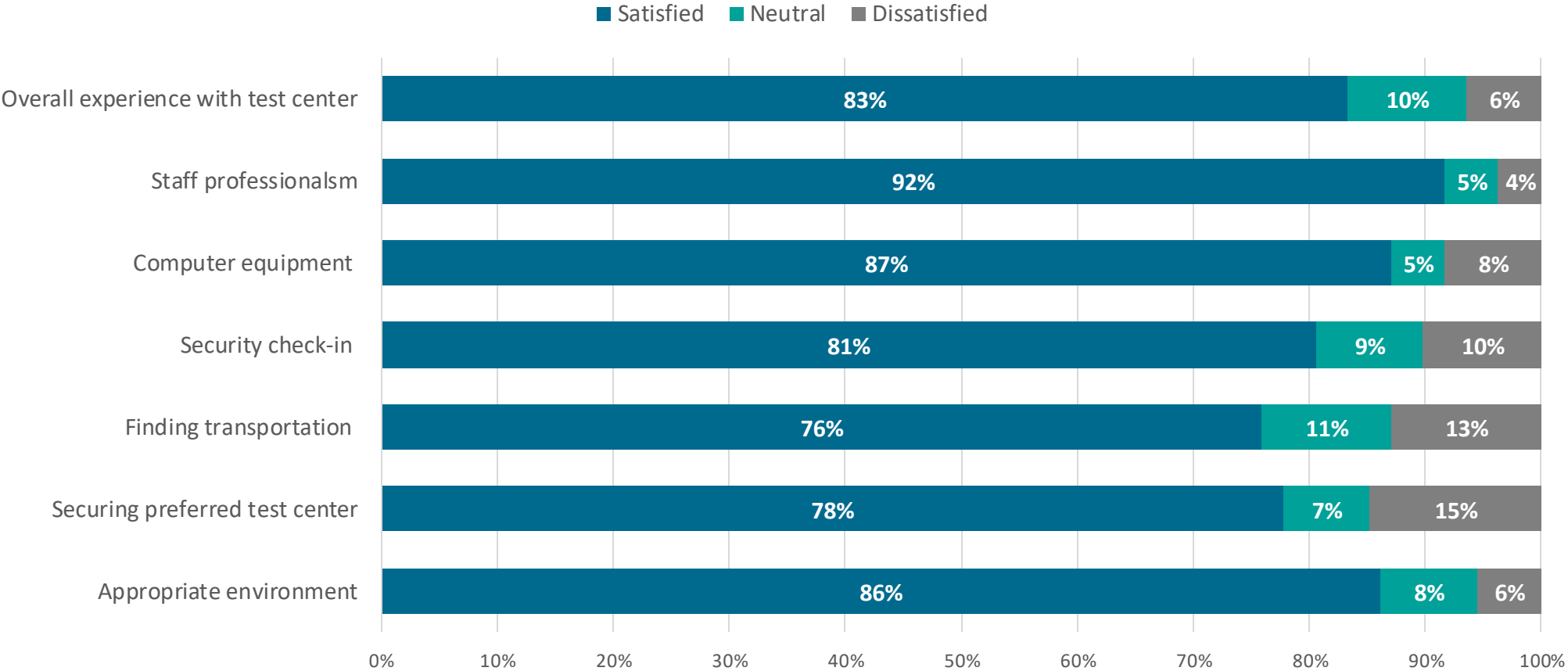
- **Survey addresses recent exam format changes:**
  - Second FYLSX primarily administered in person at vendor owned test centers.
  - First to consist of multiple-choice questions only.
- **Respondent population:**
  - 158 unique responses.
  - 42% are first generation college students, 73% are first generation law students.
  - 29% reported that English was not their first language.
  - Two-thirds work full-time.
  - One-third are caregivers.



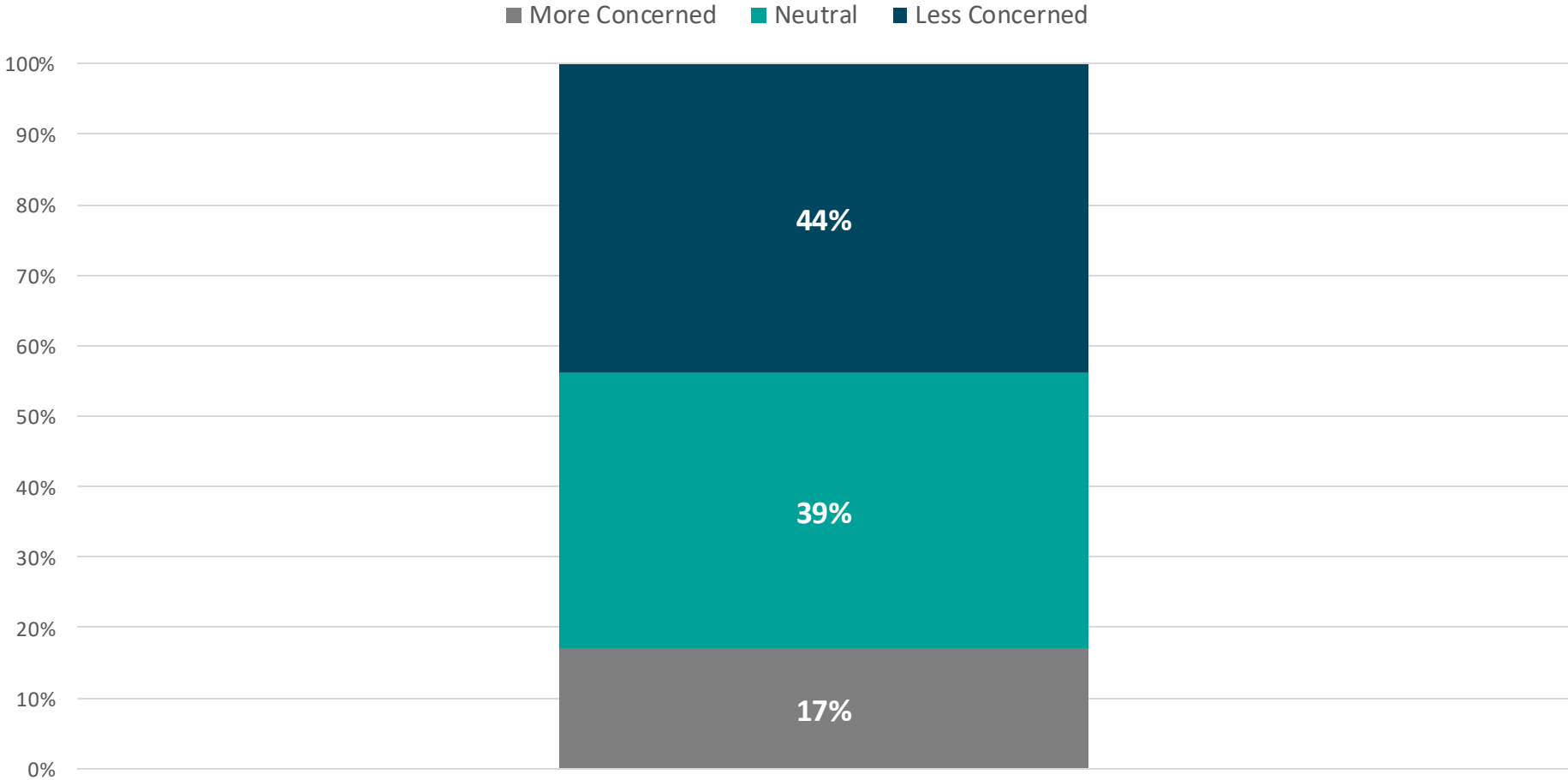
Overall June First-Year Law Students' Exam Experience



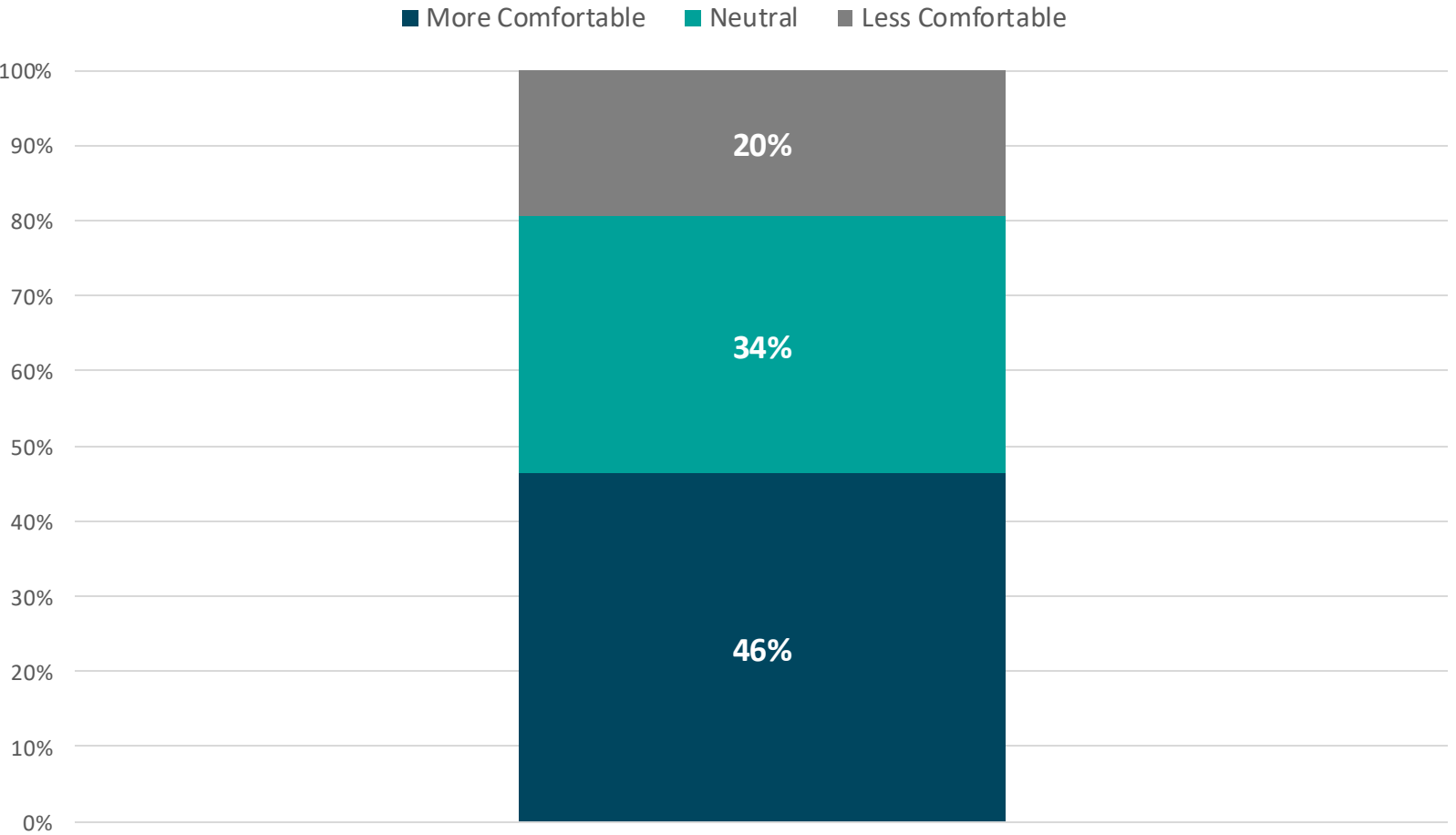
## In Person Test Center Experience



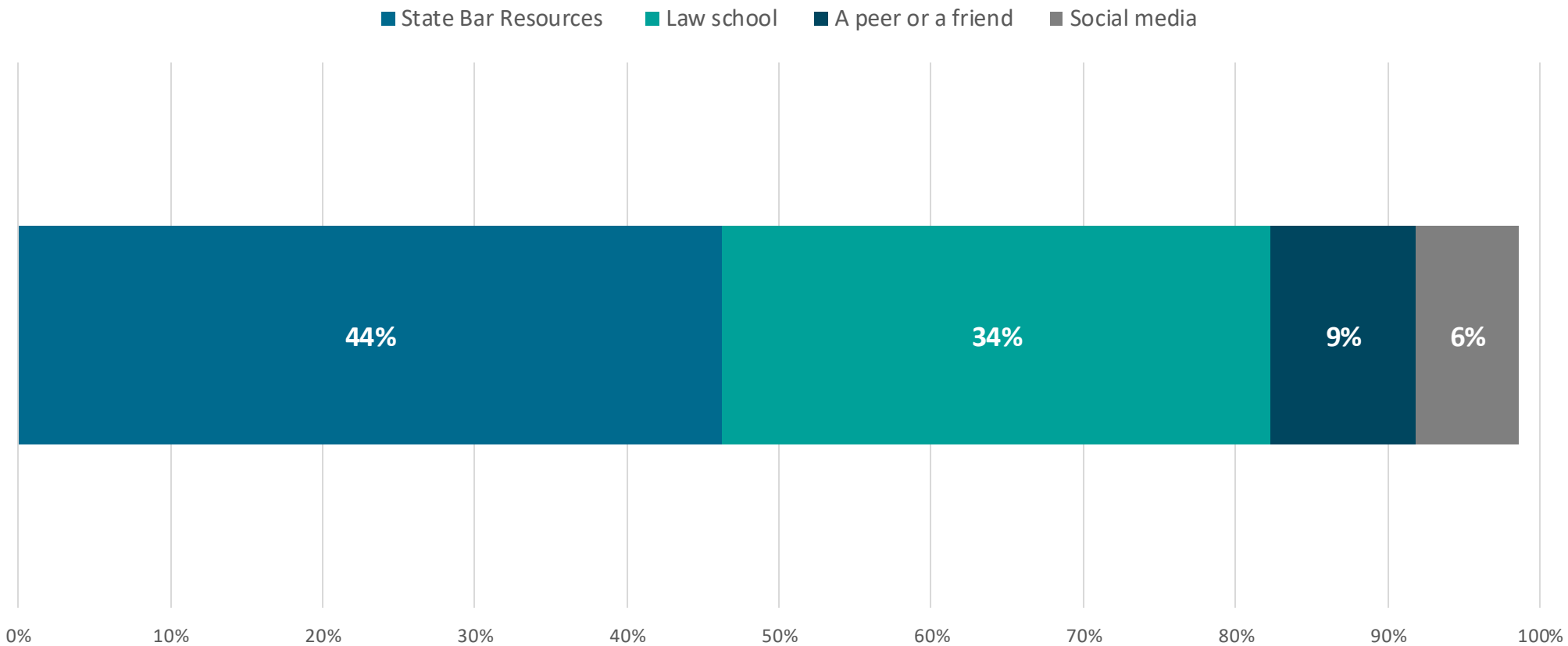
Impact of Live Proctor on Concern Over Remote Exam Technology Issues



Impact of Live Proctor on Comfort in Asking Remote Exam-Day Process Questions

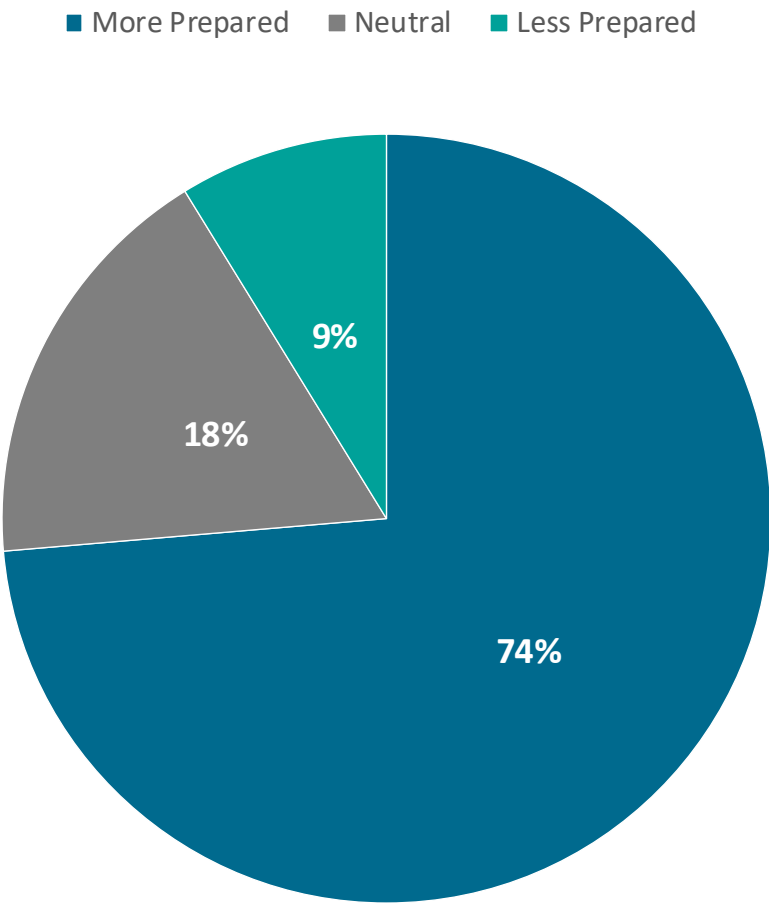


## Initial Discovery of Multiple-Choice Questions Only Exam

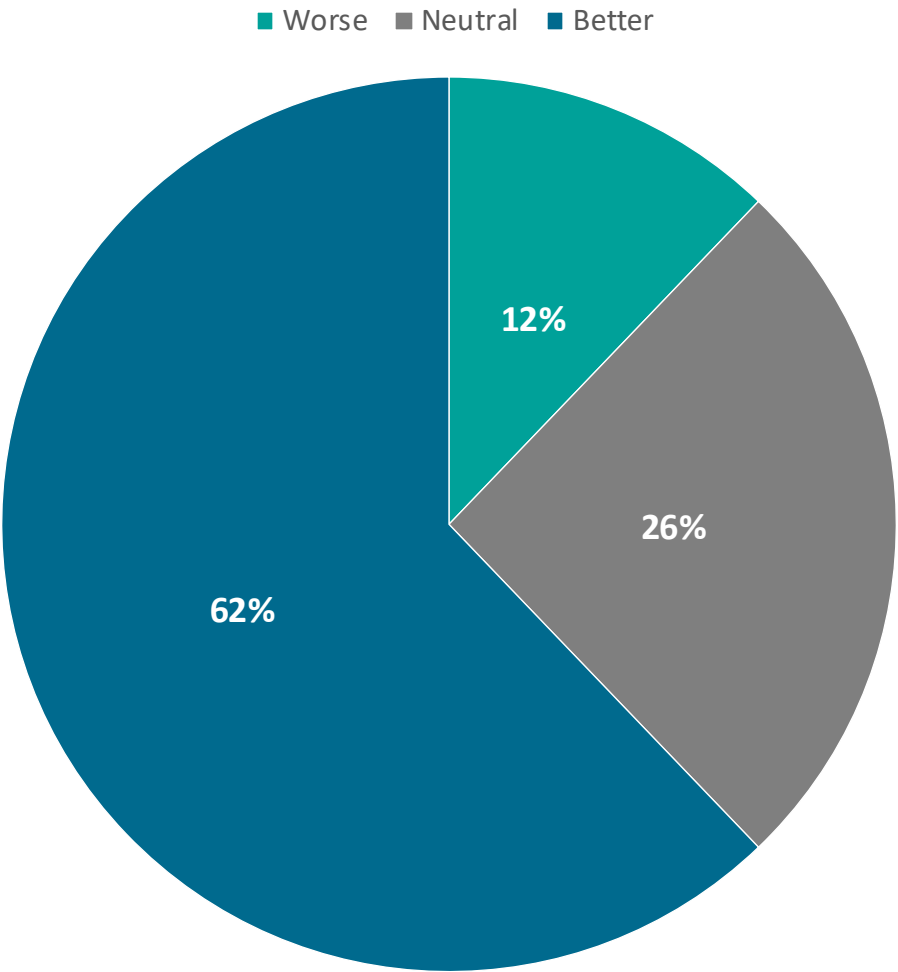




## Impact of June 2024 Exam Format Change on Exam Preparedness



Impact of June 2024 Exam Format Change on Exam Performance



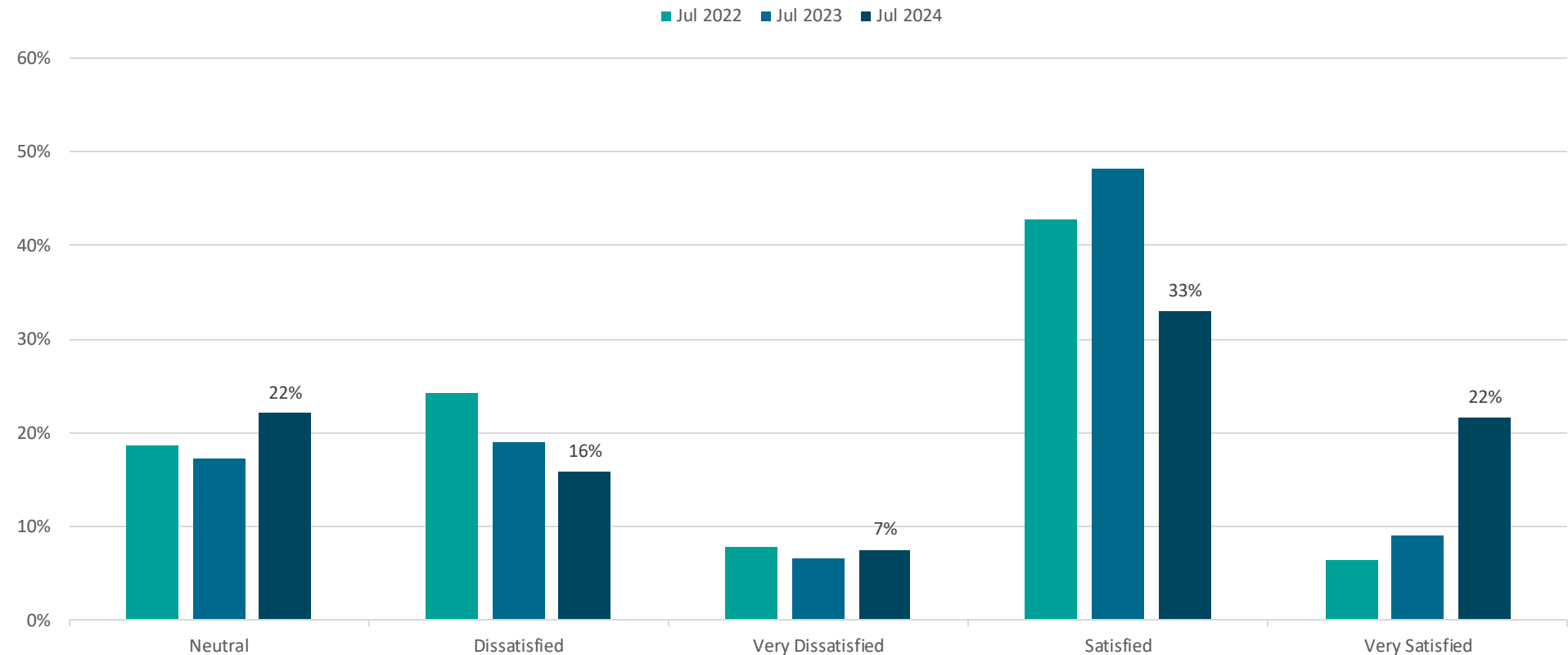
# July 2024 California Bar Examination Survey



- Last survey representing traditional exam administration model.
- **Respondent population:**
  - 2,266 unique responses.
  - 27% are first generation college students, 82% are first generation law students.
  - 38% reported that English was not their first language.



Overall Exam Experience by Exam Administration



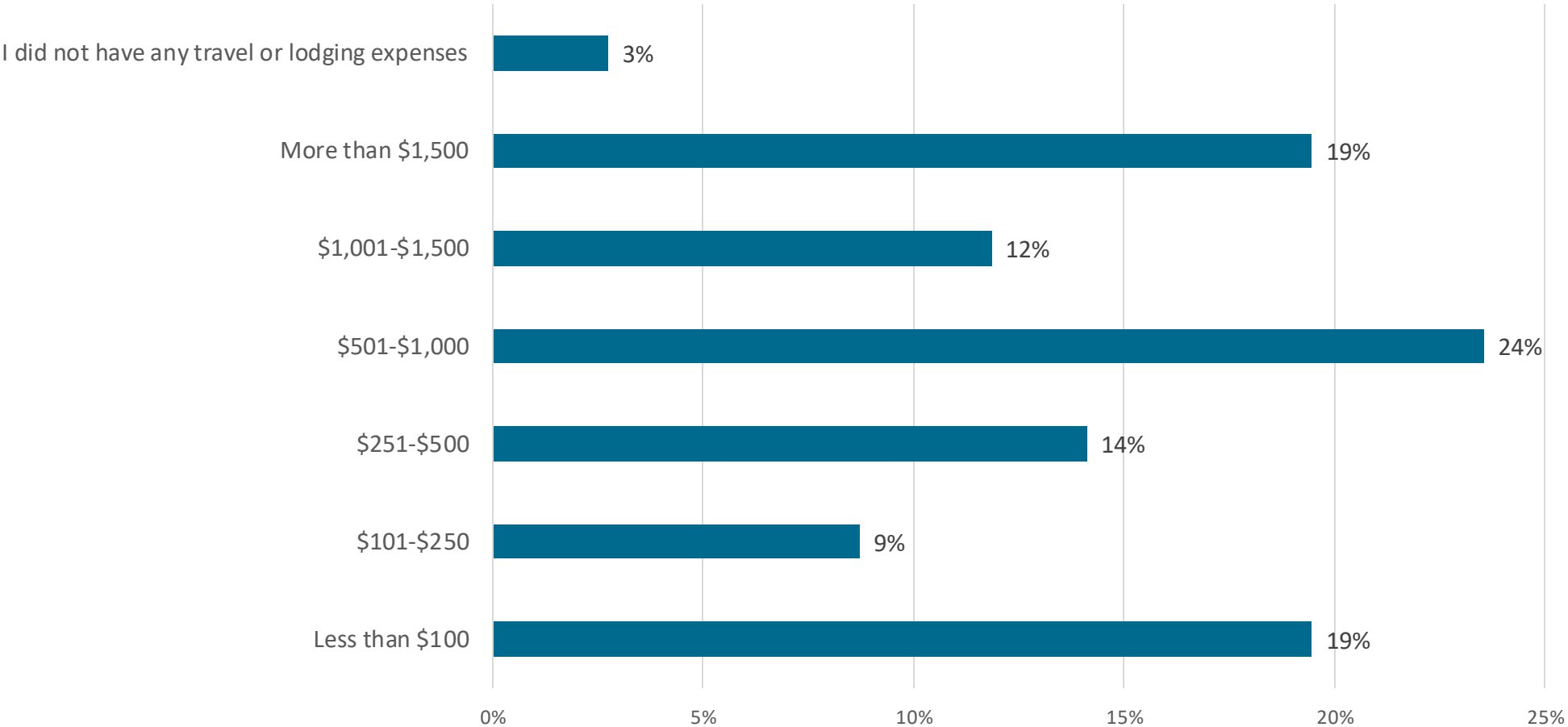


# Commonly Reported Distractions

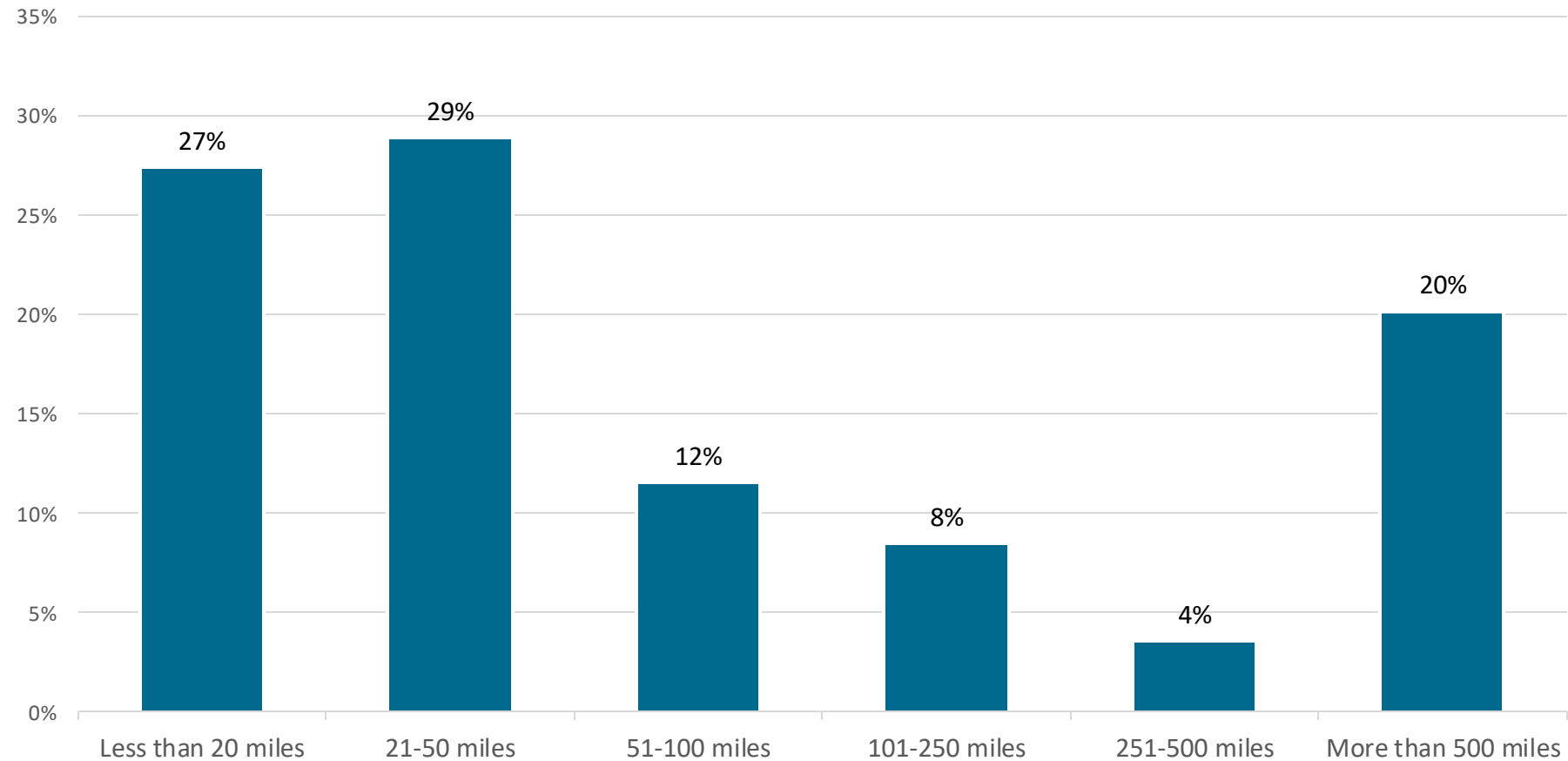
- Temperature Issues
- Noise Distractions
- Lighting Problems
- Proctor Interference



## Exam Related Travel and Lodging Expenses

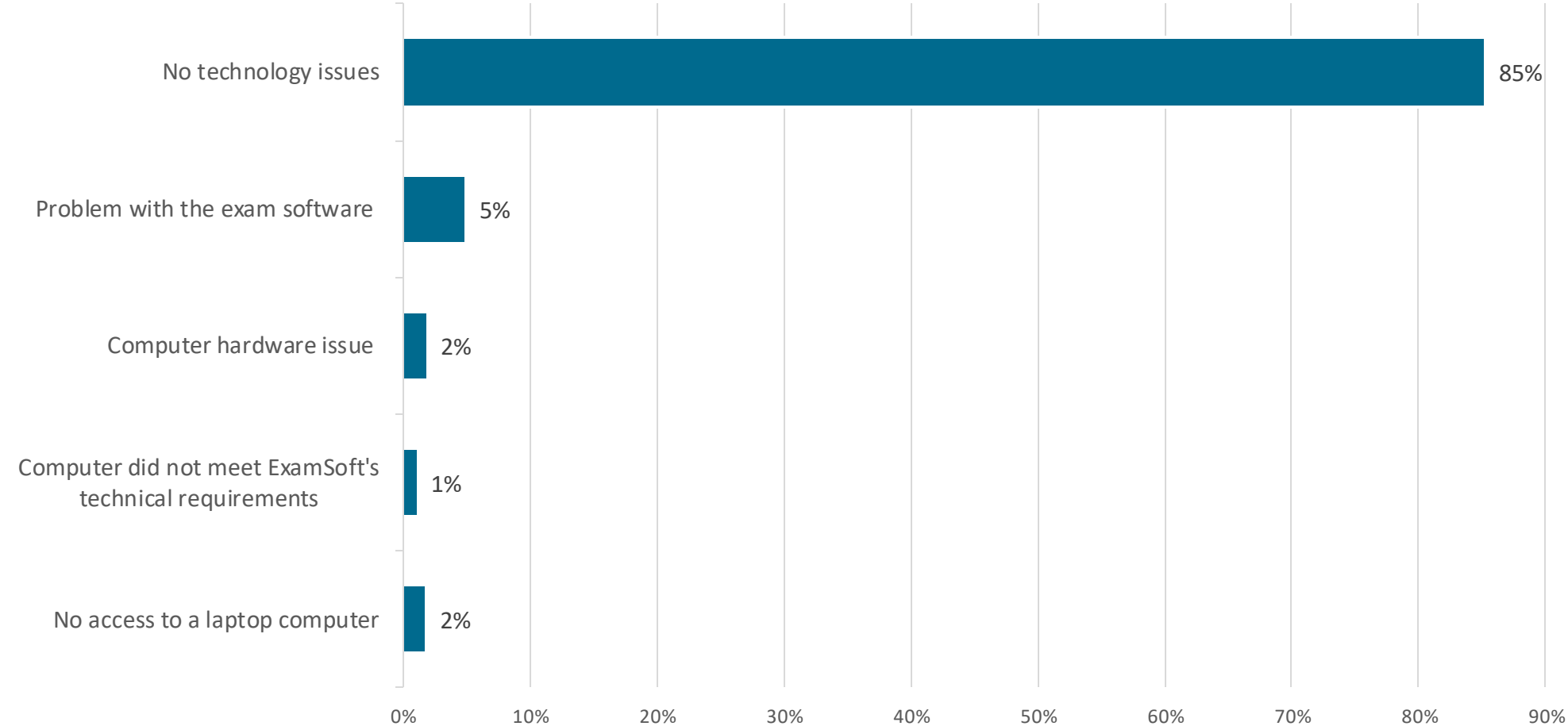


Distance Traveled to Test Center





Technology Issues During the Exam



# Response to Future Remote Exams

- **Majority of applicants would prefer to test 100% remotely on a future bar exam.**
- **Top concerns related to remote exam:**
  - Organizing notes and resources in a digital environment.
  - Finding a distraction free environment.
  - Familiarity with the remote exam platform or process.
  - Stable internet.



# Takeaways



**Increased overall satisfaction compared to previous exams.**



**Committee's recent policy decisions were positively received.**



**Live remote proctoring makes some applicants more comfortable with the process.**



**Traditional in person exams are costly for applicants.**



**Technology issues impact only a small number of applicants.**



# Questions

