

**5<sup>th</sup> HEPATITIS C**  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY  
GROUP  
**TAG Meeting**

# **KNOWLEDGE AND PERCEIVED RISK OF HCV INFECTION AMONG WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE IN GEORGIA**

Tinatin Abzianidze  
Health Research Union  
HRU



# Goal

- The goal of our study is to evaluate knowledge and perceived risk of HCV infection among women of reproductive age in Georgia

# Survey Tool

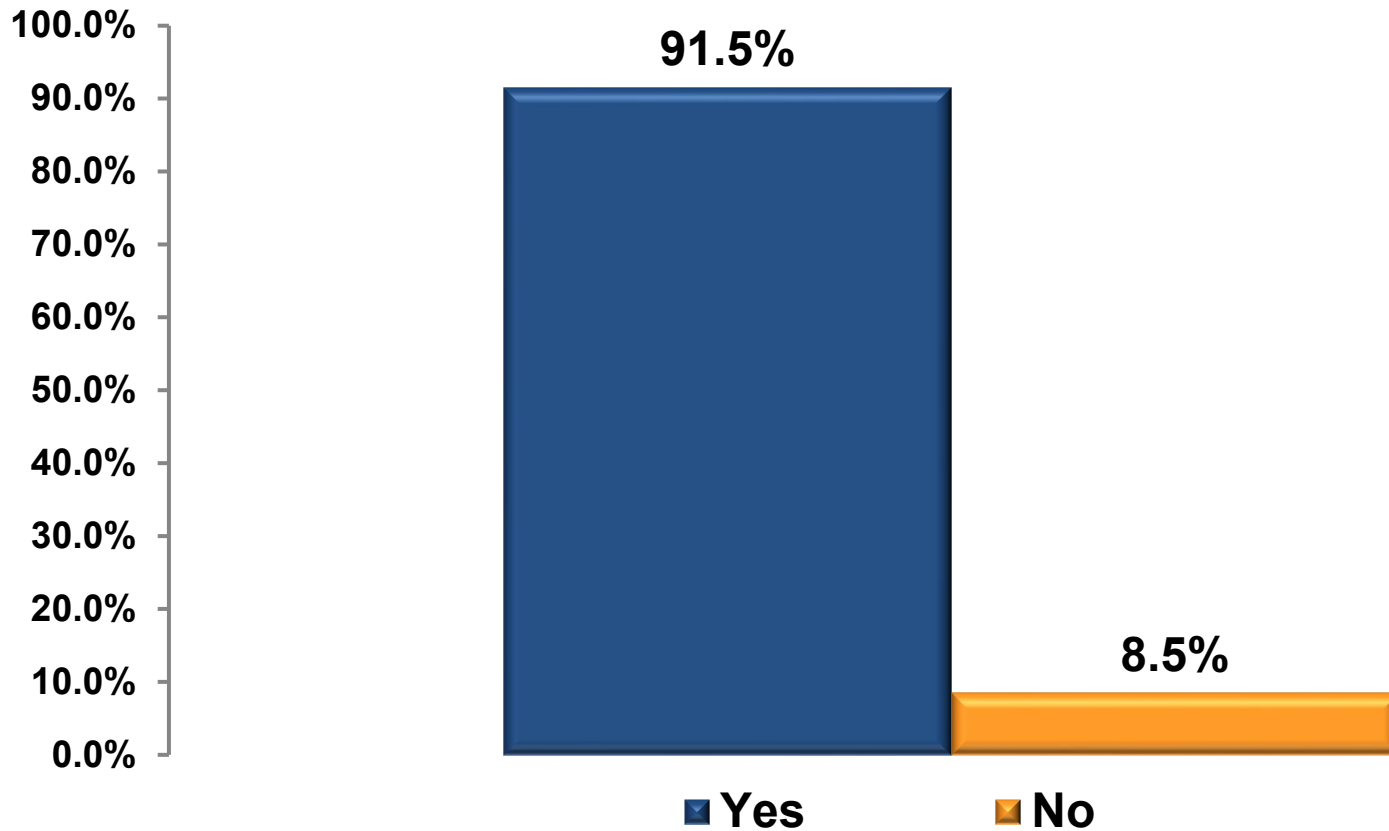
- Questionnaire was developed and piloted prior to study
- The self-administered questionnaire included questions on socio-demographic information, knowledge about HCV infection and trust for elimination program

# Study Sample and Sample Size

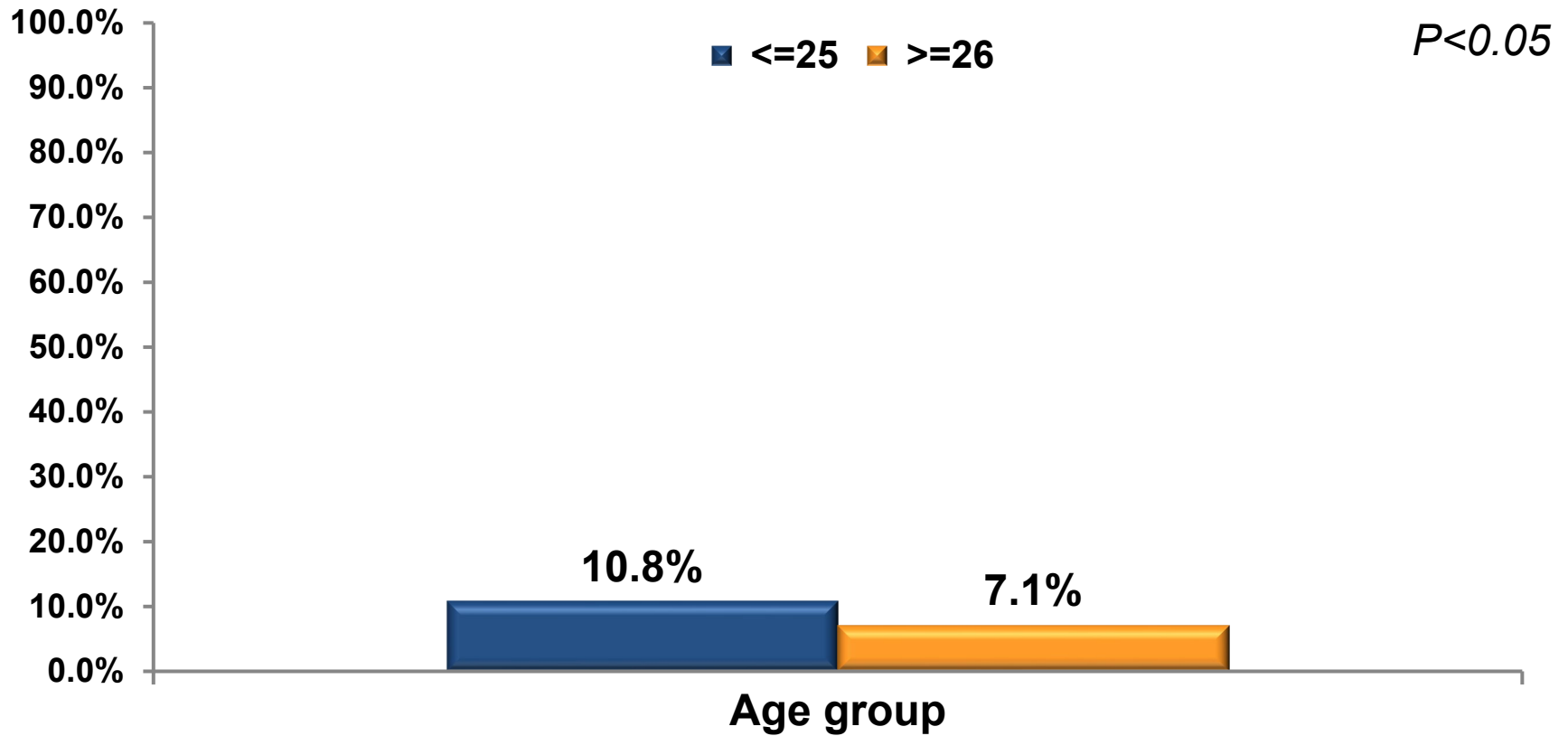
- The survey was conducted in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia
- Reproductive aged women (18-46 y) were randomly selected from five Women's Health Centers
- Overall sample size is 2185 women

Socio-demographic characteristics	N	%
<b>Age (years)</b>		
≤25	630	28.8
≥26	1379	63.1
<b>Residence</b>		
Urban	1919	87.8
Rural	256	11.7
<b>IDP</b>		
Yes	163	7.5
No	2013	92.1
<b>Education level</b>		
High school	292	13.4
Vocational education	223	10.1
University/Post graduate	1660	76.0
<b>Employment status (currently working)</b>		
Yes	1183	54.1
No	988	45.3
<b>Monthly family income (in GEL)</b>		
≤1000	815	37.3
>1000	1079	49.4
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
Georgian	2077	95.1
Armenian	33	1.5
Azeri	35	1.6
Other	38	1.7

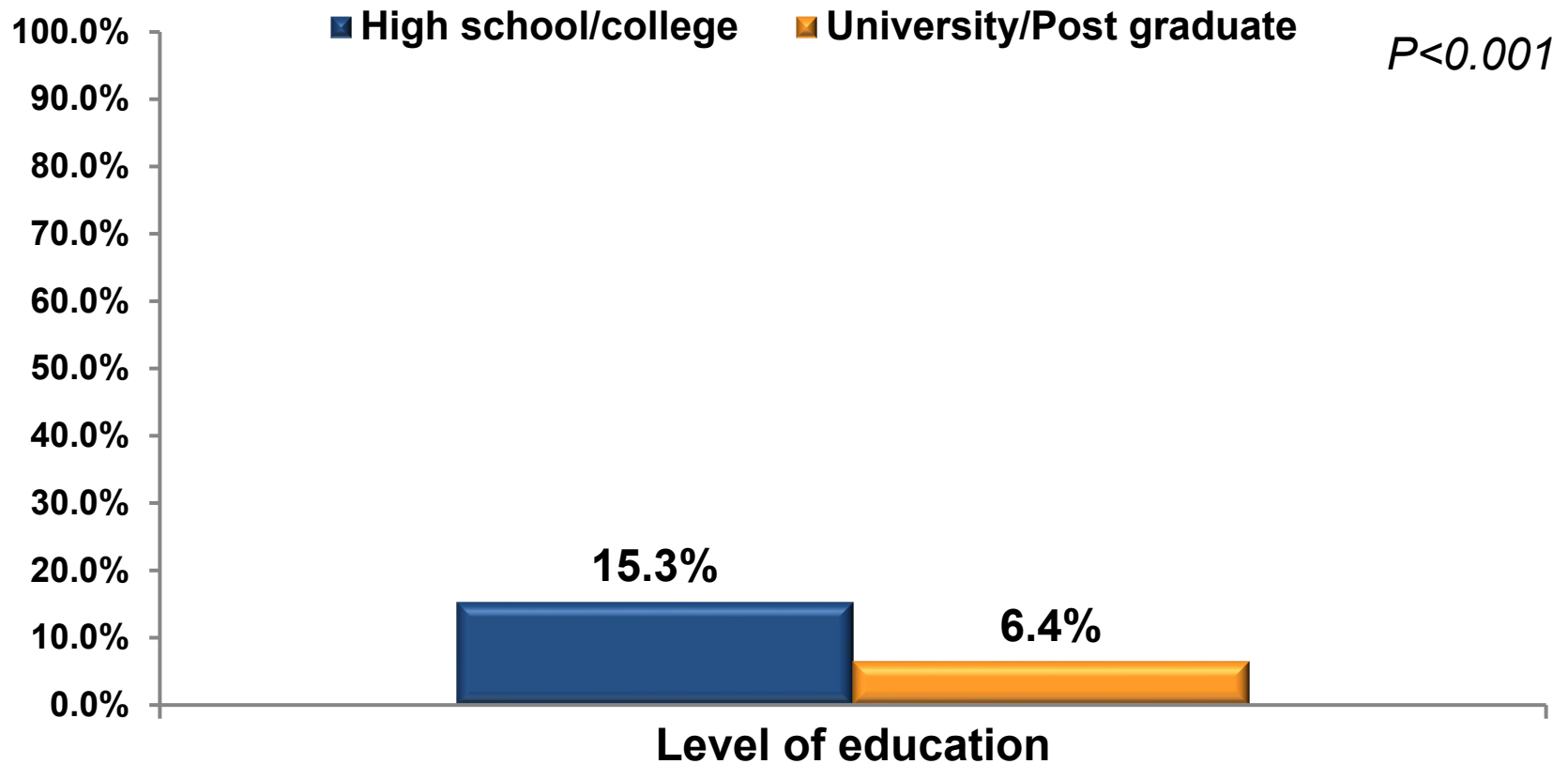
# Ever heard of hepatitis C



# Haven't heard of hepatitis C by age

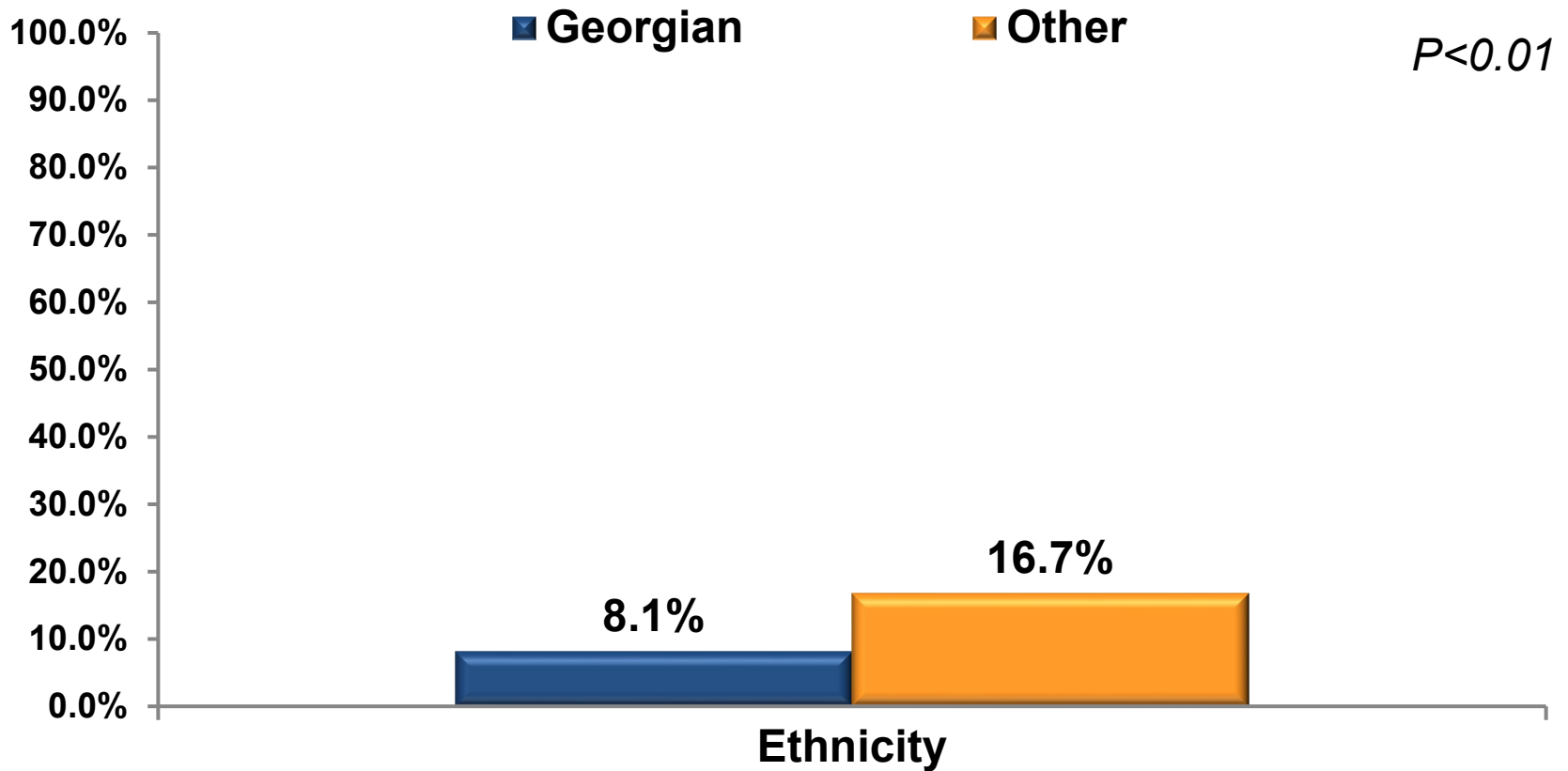


# Haven't heard of hepatitis C by level of education

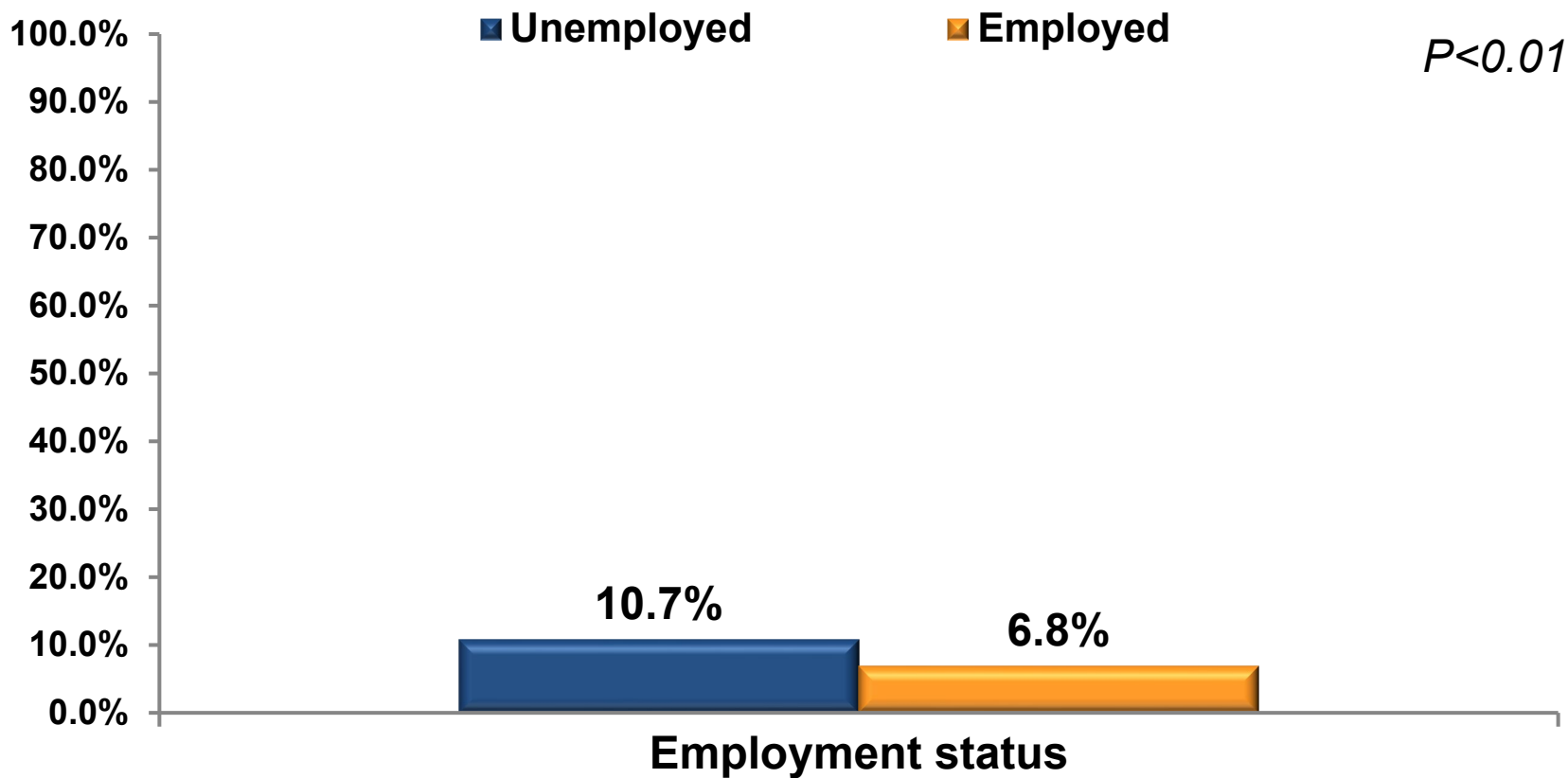




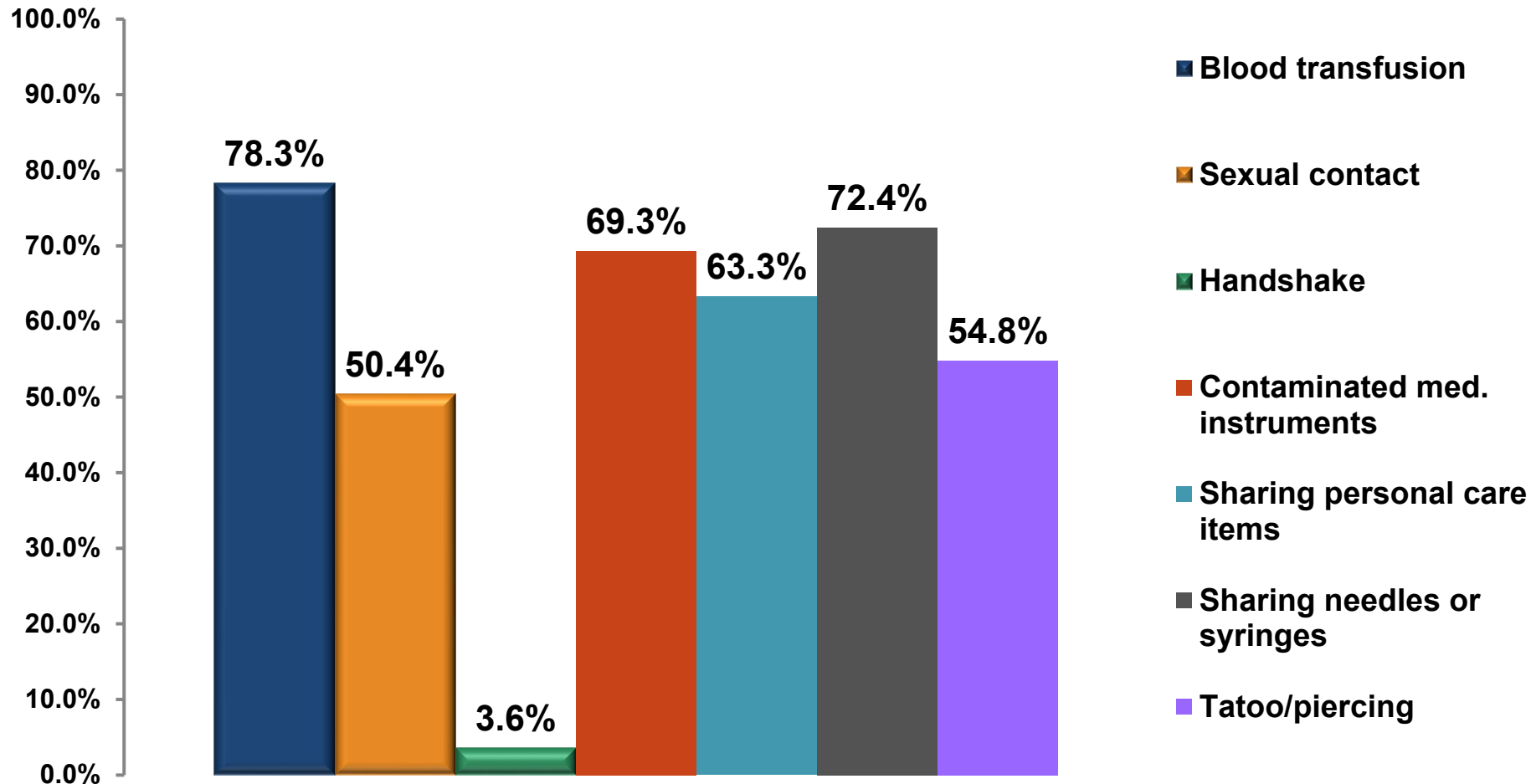
# Haven't heard of hepatitis C by ethnicity



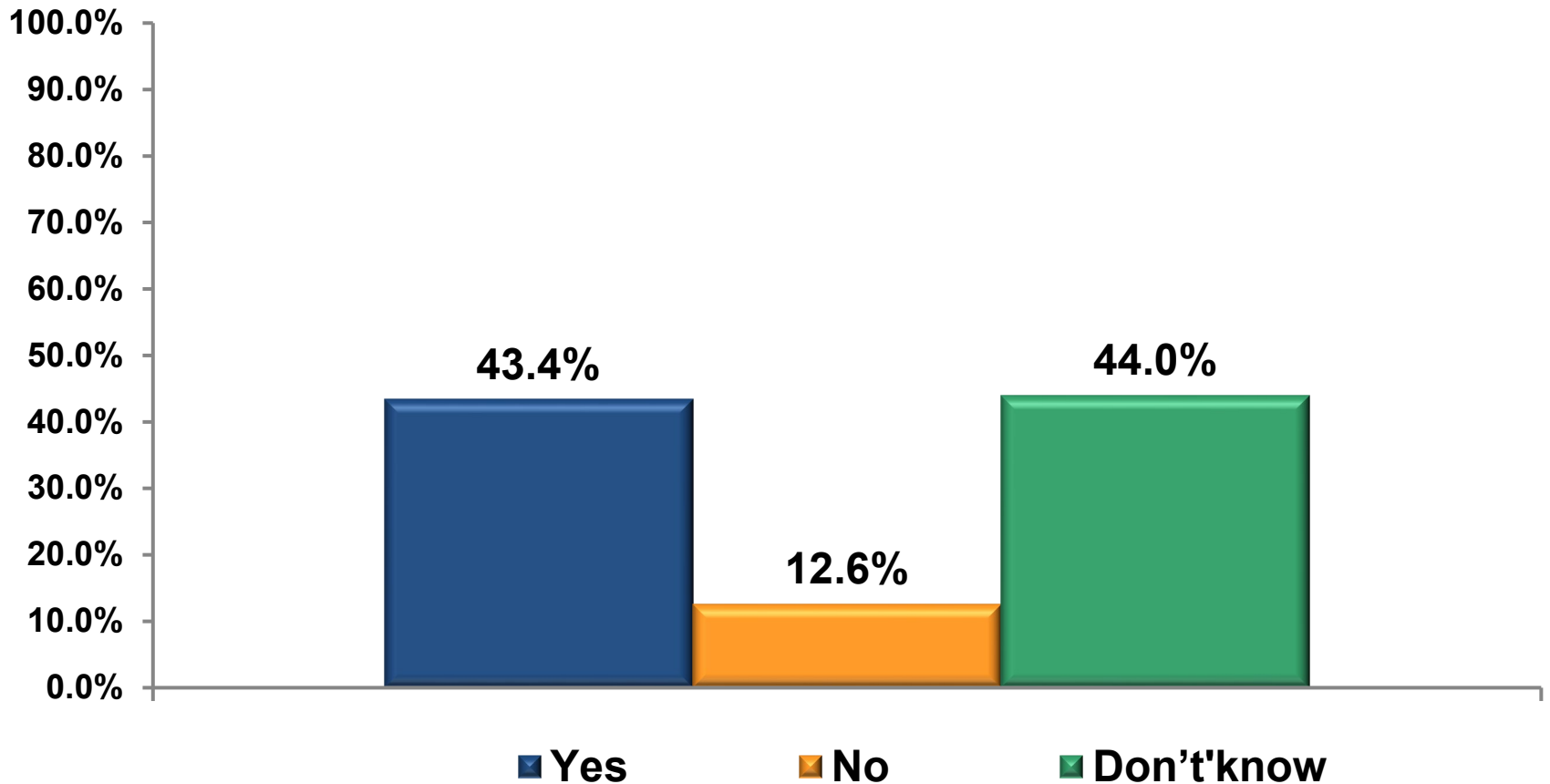
# Haven't heard of hepatitis C by employment status



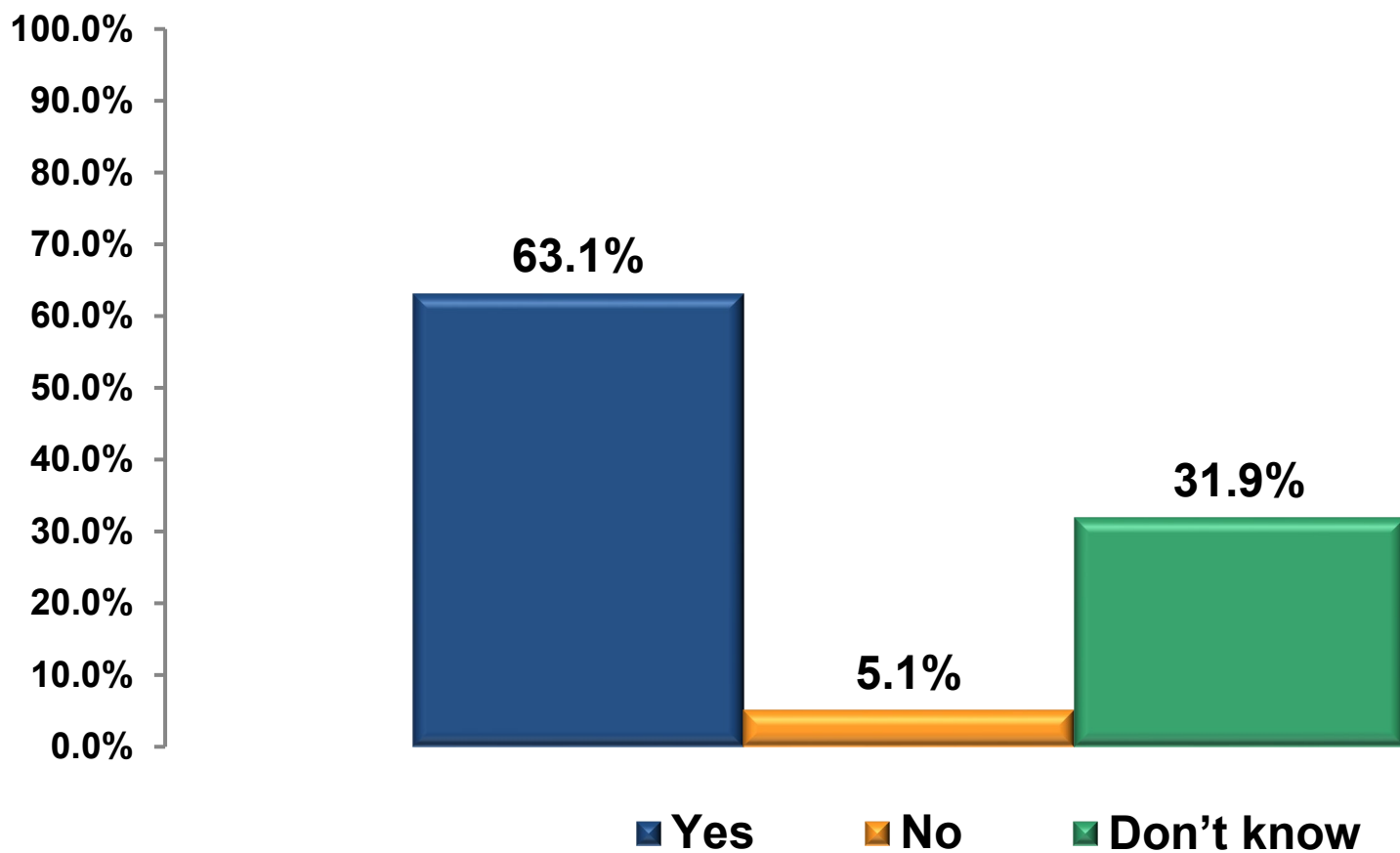
# Hepatitis C virus transmission



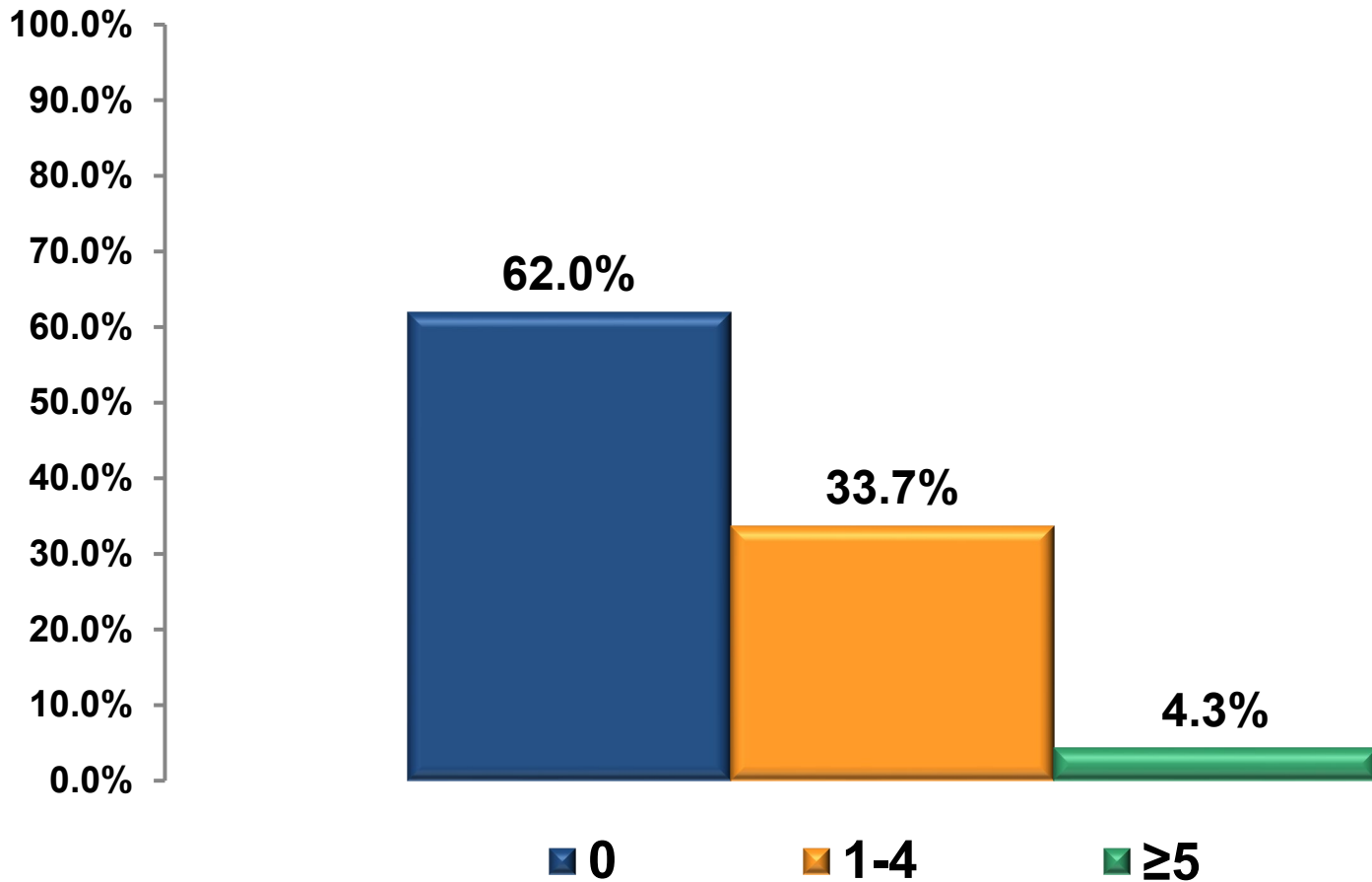
# Hepatitis C may not have any symptoms



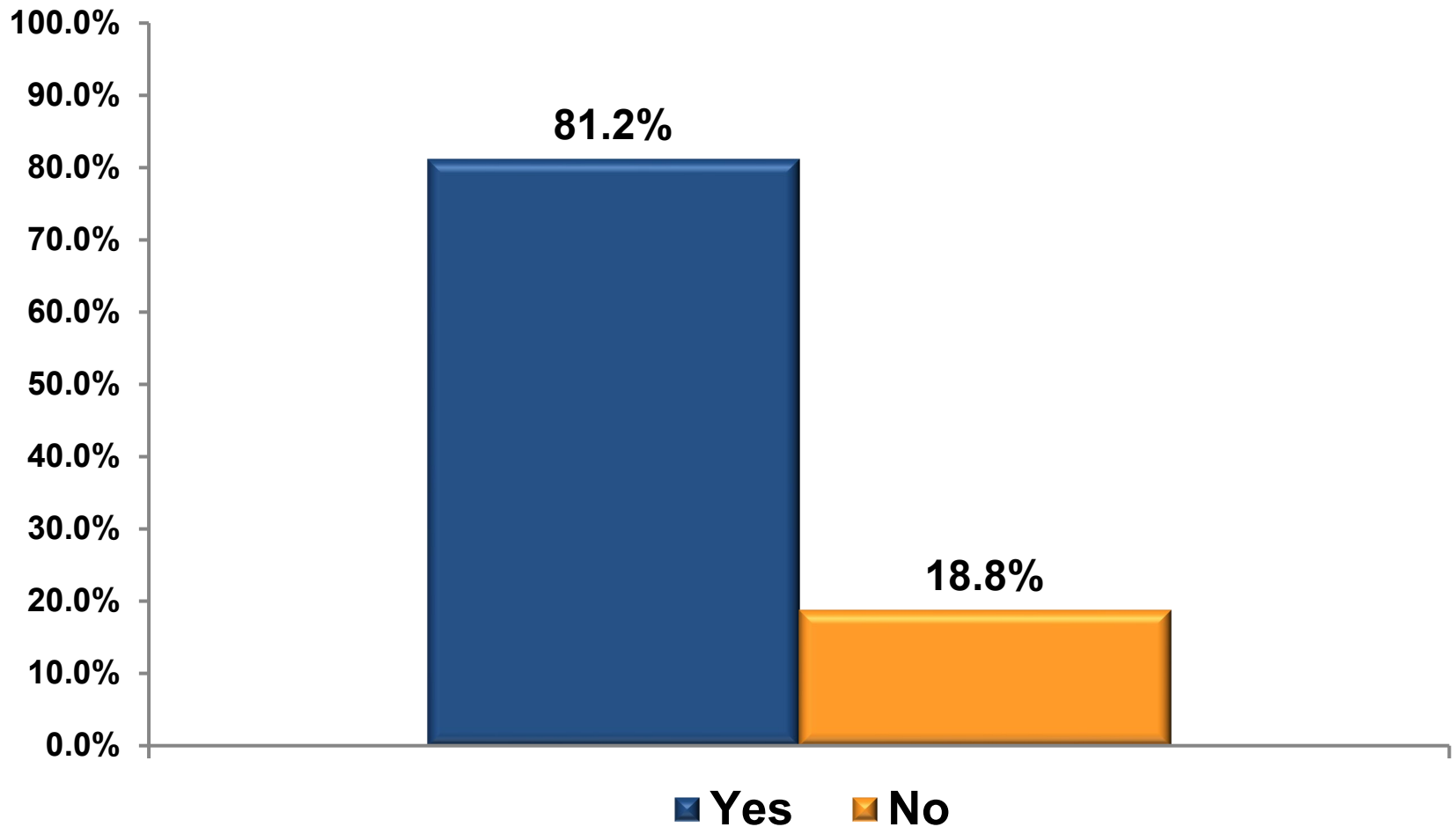
# Information about availability of medications to treat hepatitis C



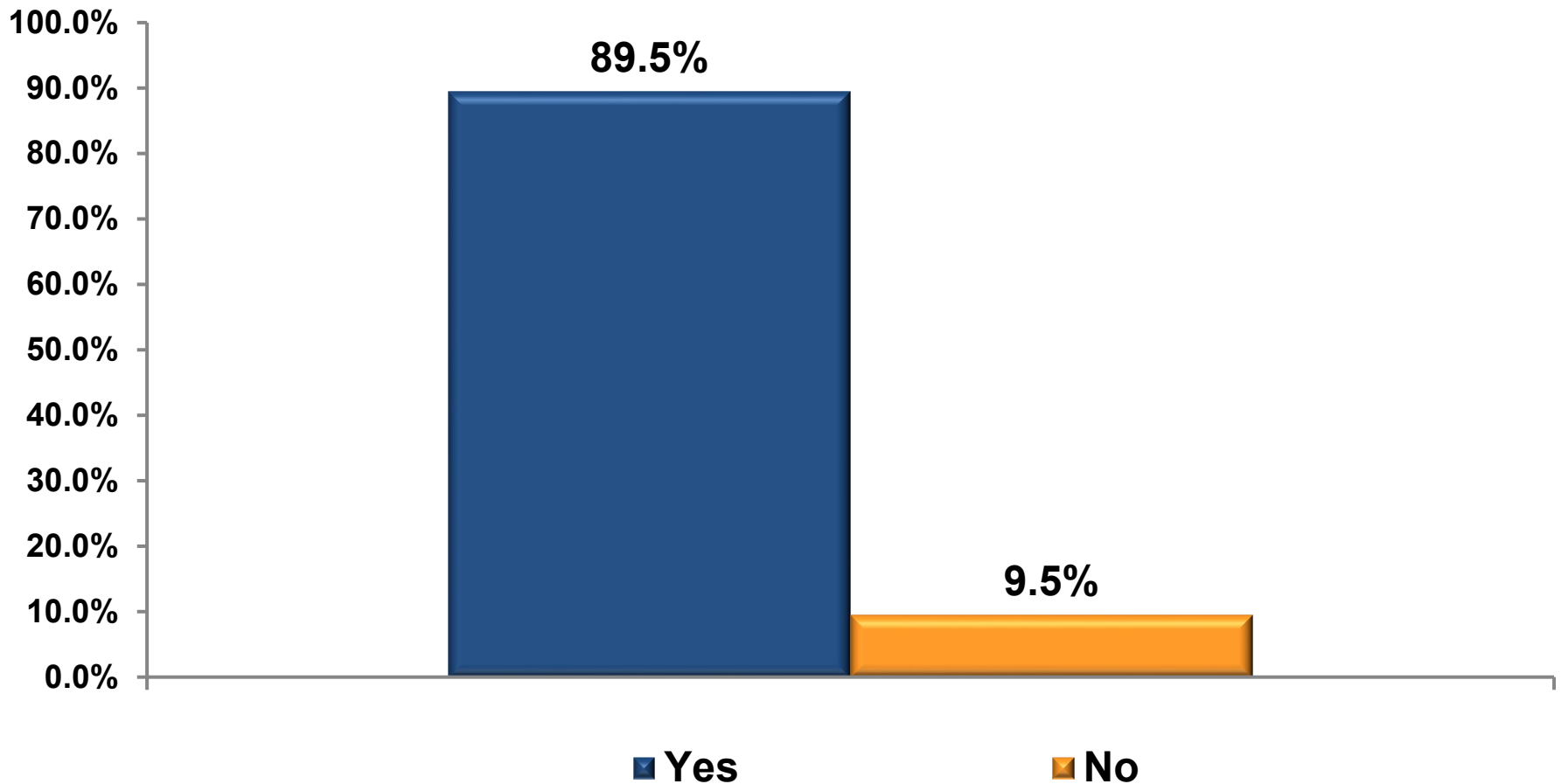
# Approximately how many HCV infected persons do you know personally?



# Heard about hepatitis C elimination program in Georgia

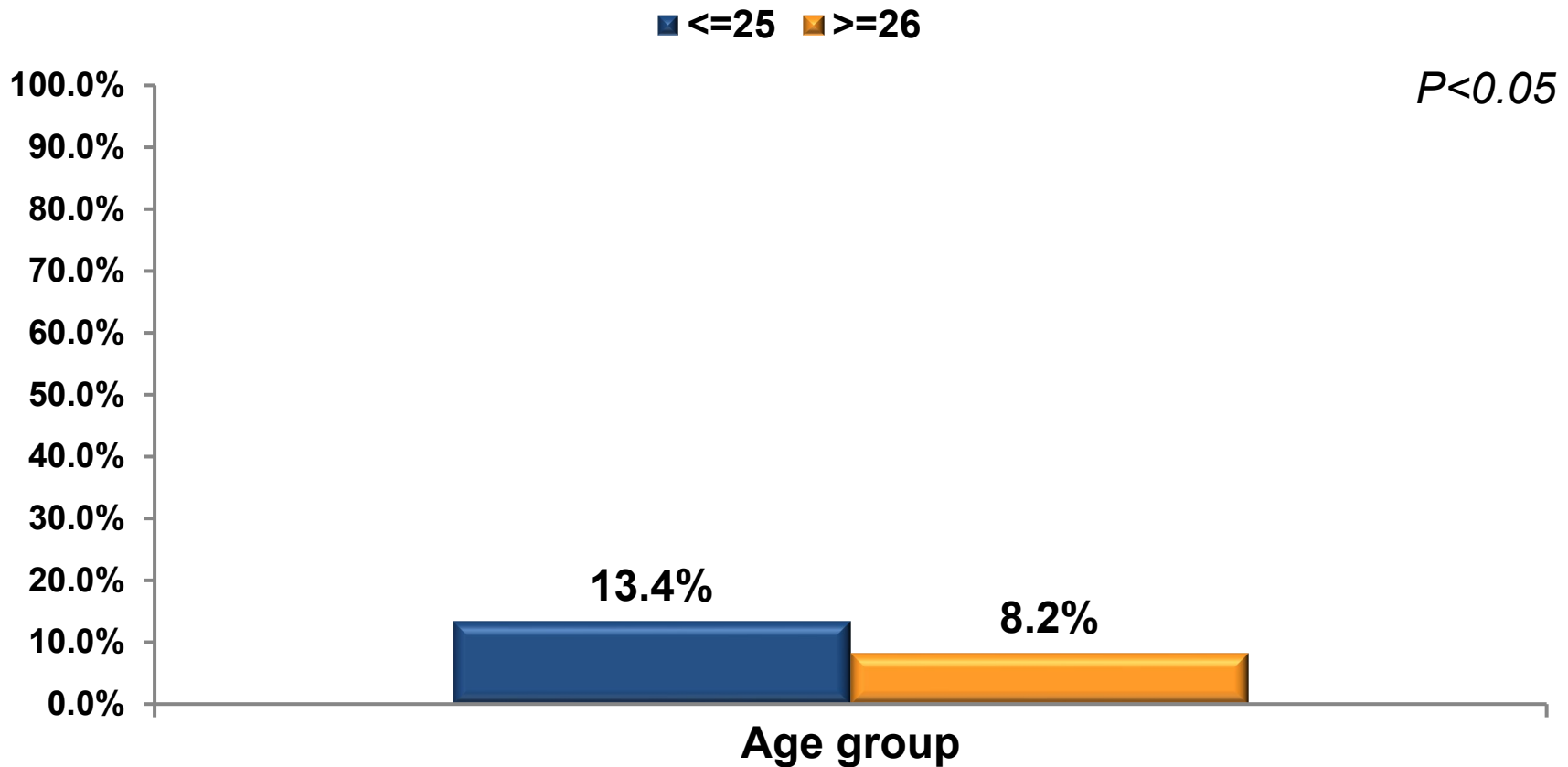


# Trust in National Hepatitis C Elimination Program

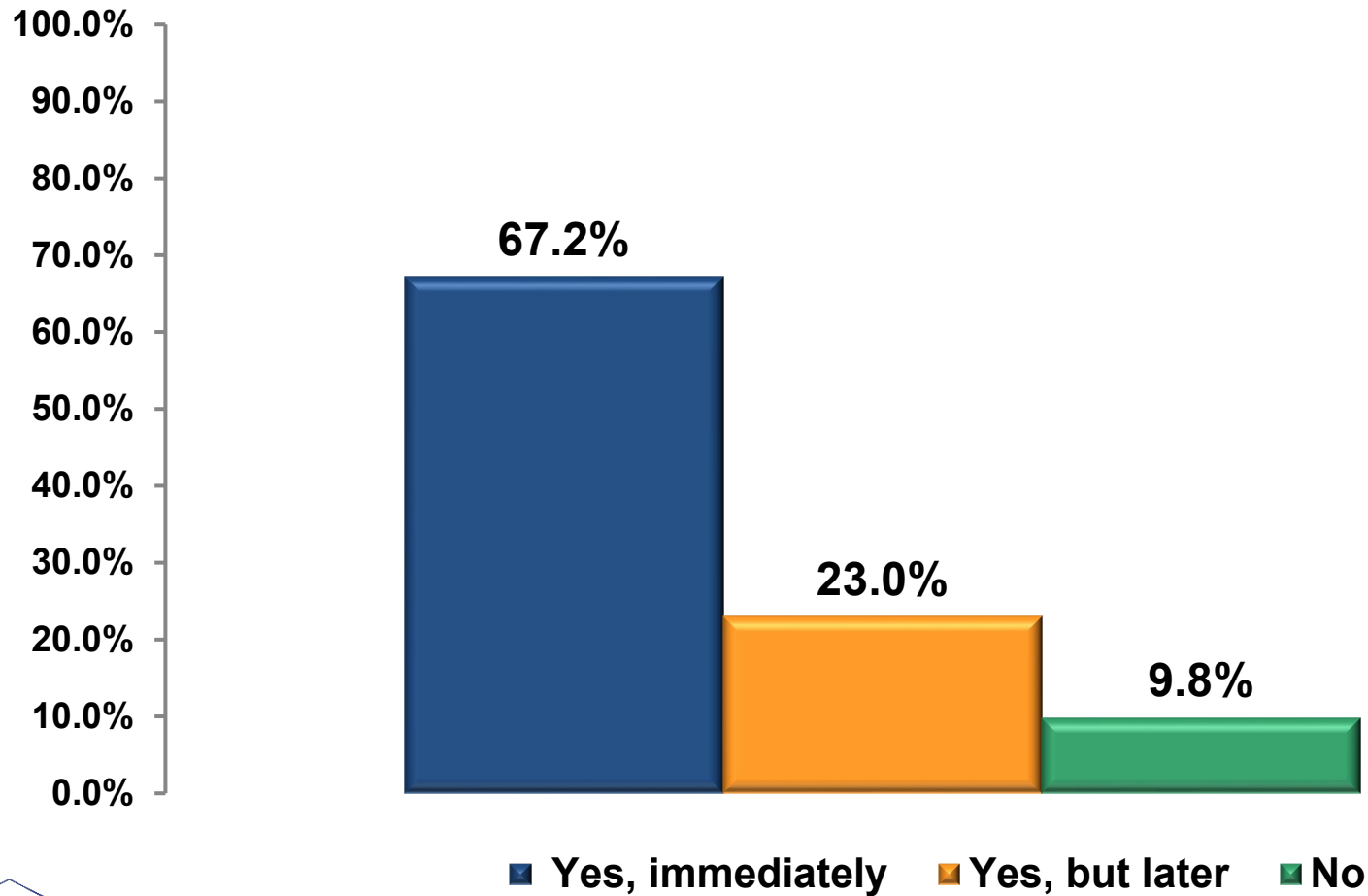




# No trust in National Hepatitis C Elimination Program by age

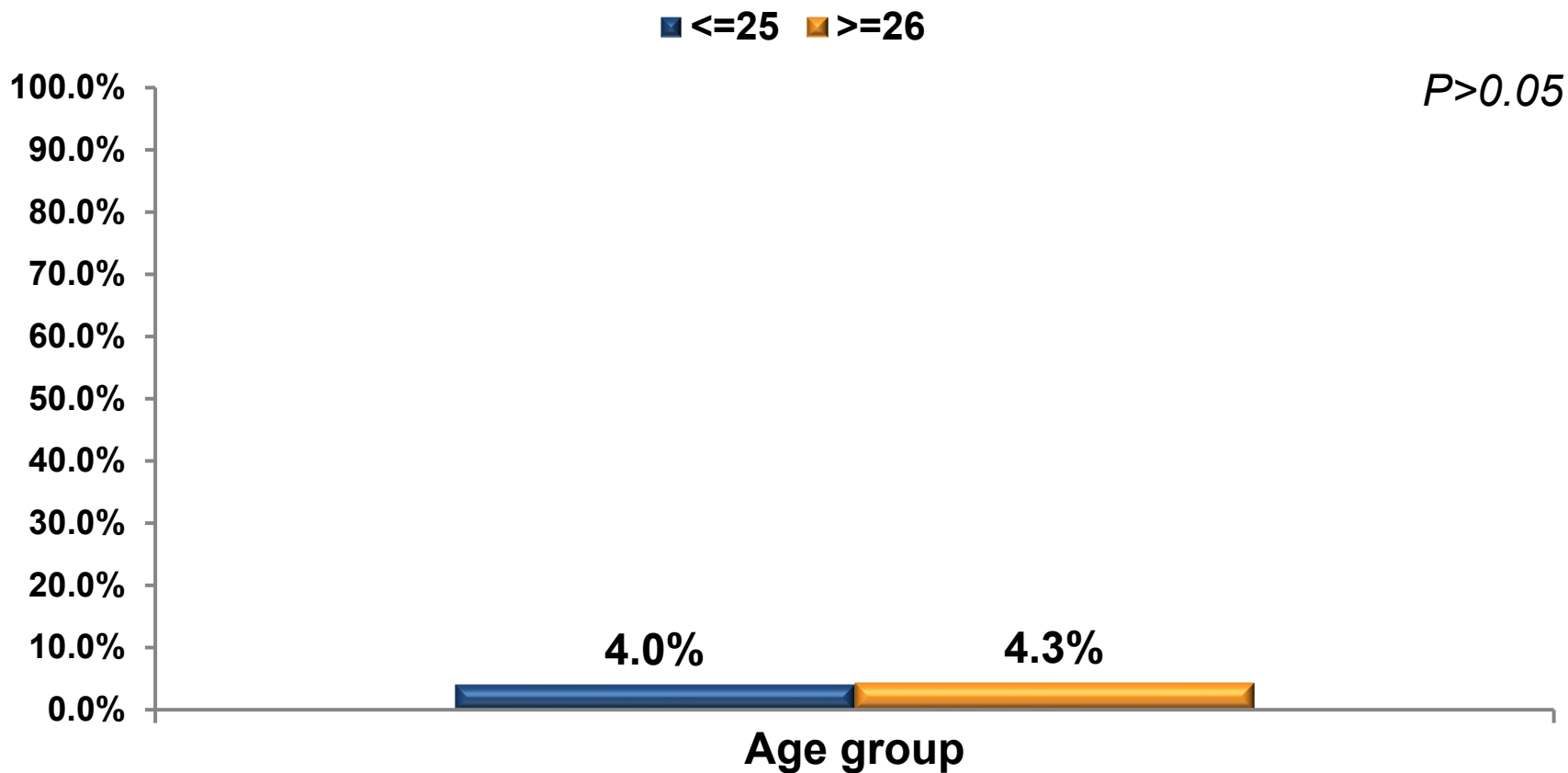


# If you are diagnosed with hepatitis C, would you be enrolled in Hepatitis C Elimination Program?



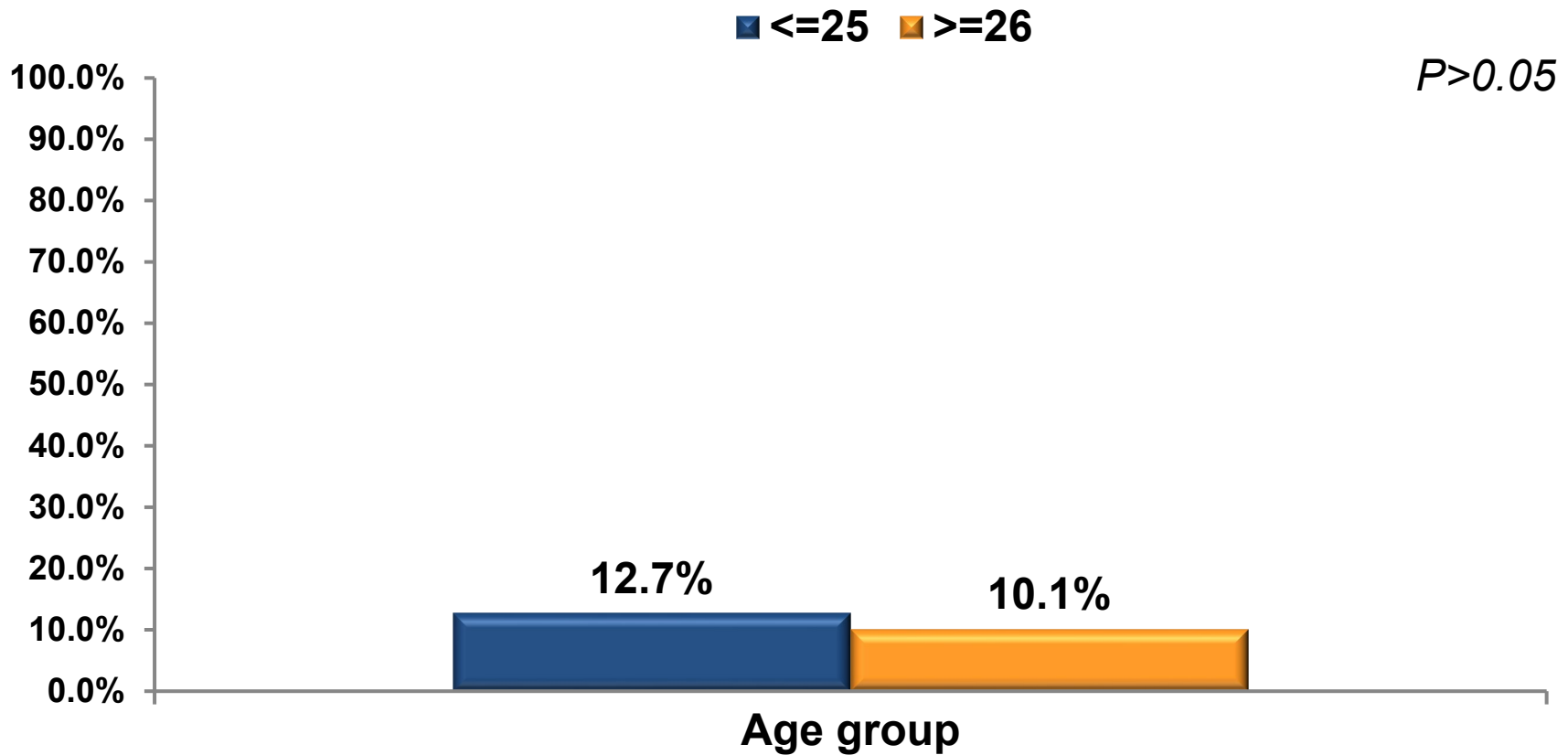
# HCV risk factors

## Ever received blood transfusion in lifetime by age



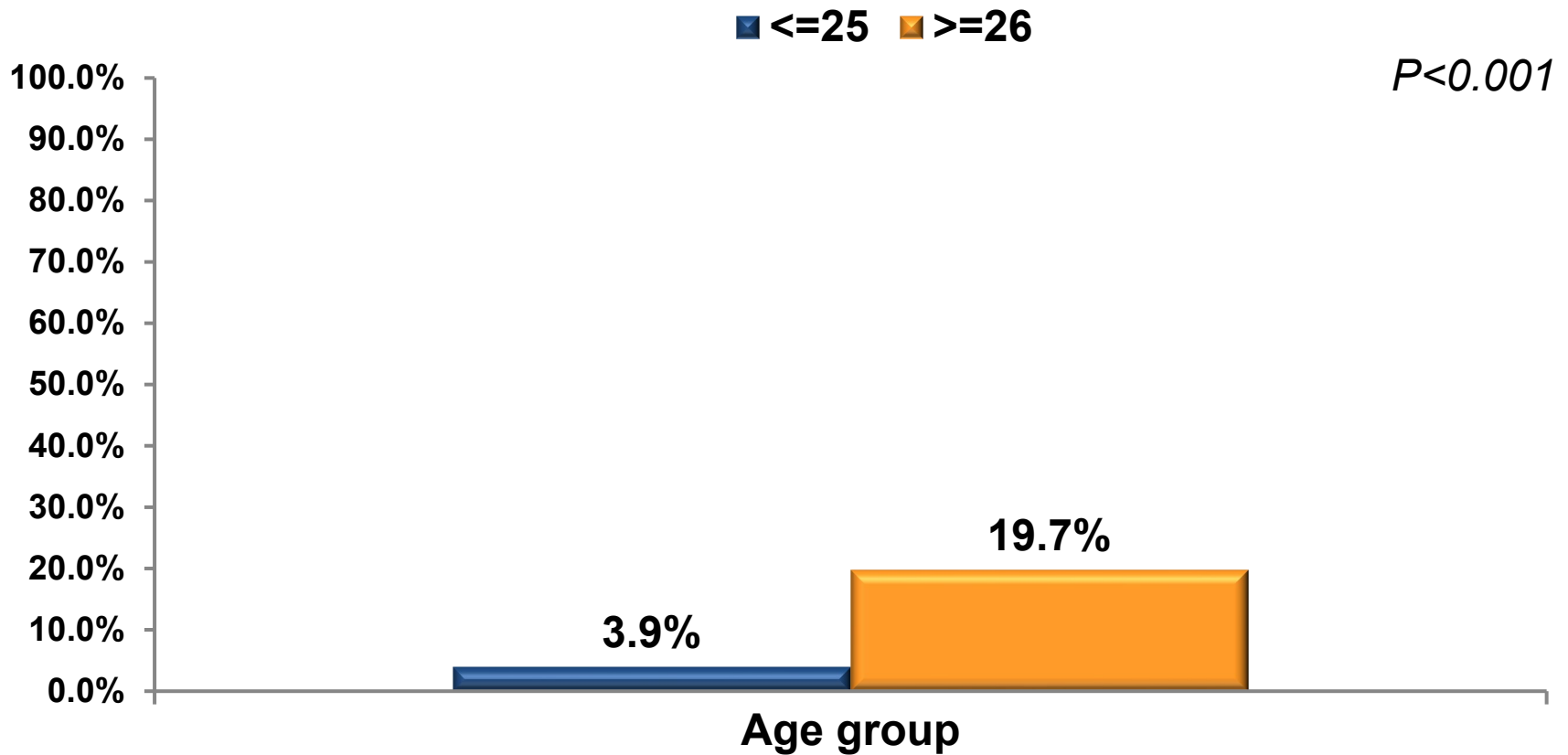
# HCV risk factors

## Ever had tattoo by age



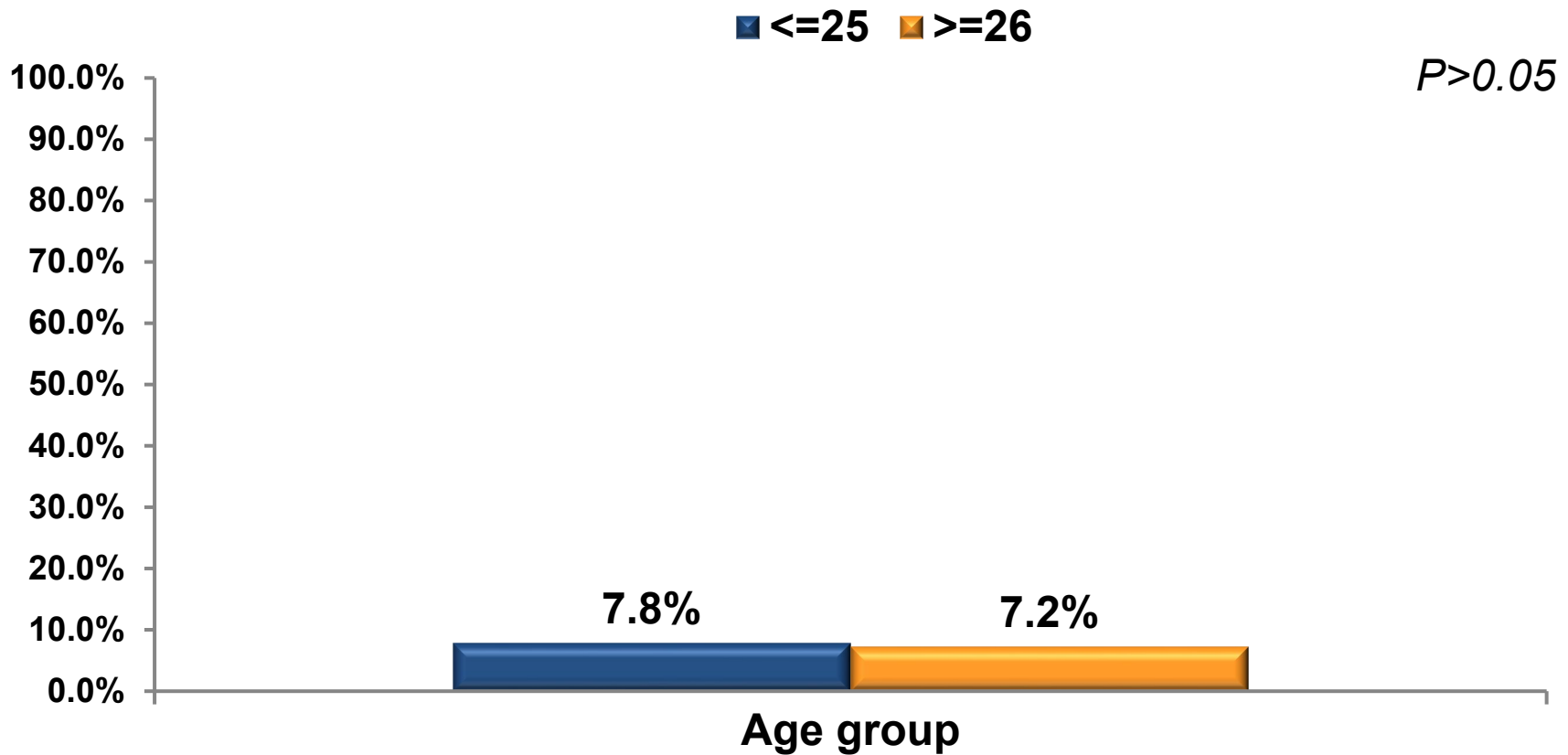
# HCV risk factors

## Ever had abortion by age



# HCV risk factors

## Razor sharing practice by age



# Conclusion

- HCV knowledge is low among women under 25, ethnic minorities and unemployed women
- Sharing household sharp instruments is common
- Targeted educational interventions are needed in these population groups

# Acknowledgements

- Shota Rustaveli national science foundation of Georgia
- Participating Women's Health Centers



# Thank you



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