



POWERED BY REFEREE

SURVEY DATA REVEAL 2023

2023 SURVEY DATA REVEAL



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2023

35,813
TOTAL RESPONDENTS

9.27%
FEMALE RESPONDENTS

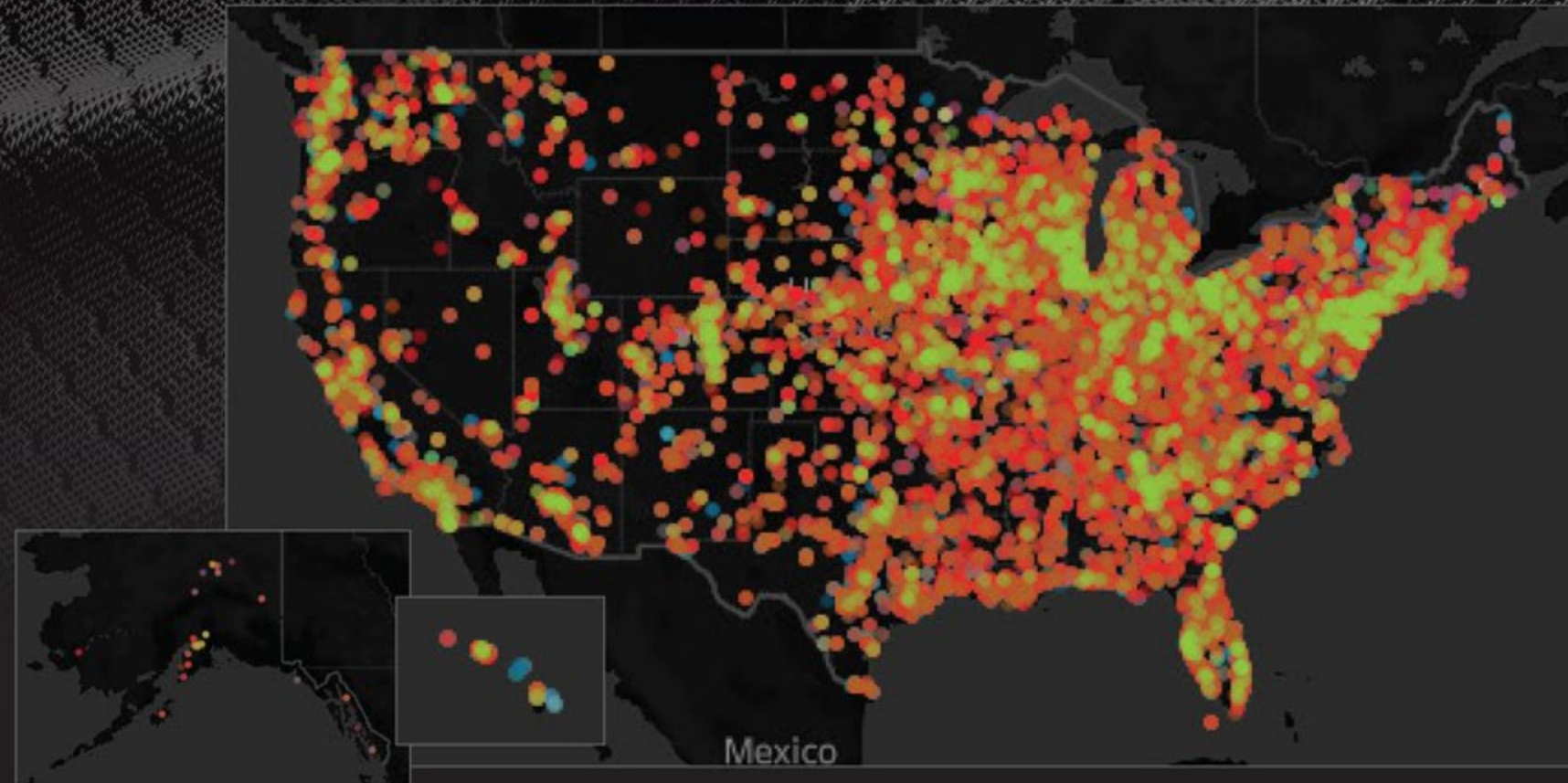
88.08%
WHITE RESPONDENTS

2017

17,487
TOTAL RESPONDENTS

7.68%
FEMALE RESPONDENTS

86.93%
WHITE RESPONDENTS



2023 SURVEY DATA REVEAL

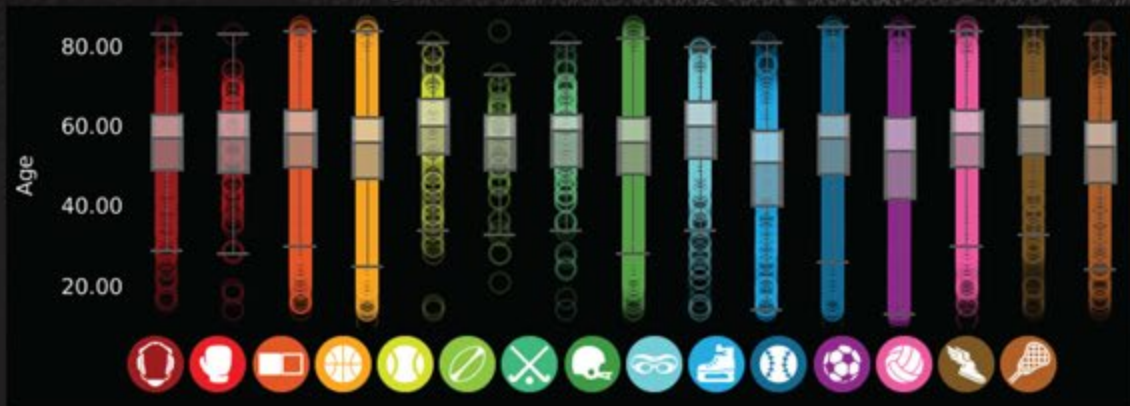


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2017

53.29 AVERAGE AGE

Age Distribution by Sport



2023

56.68 AVERAGE AGE

Age Distribution by Sport



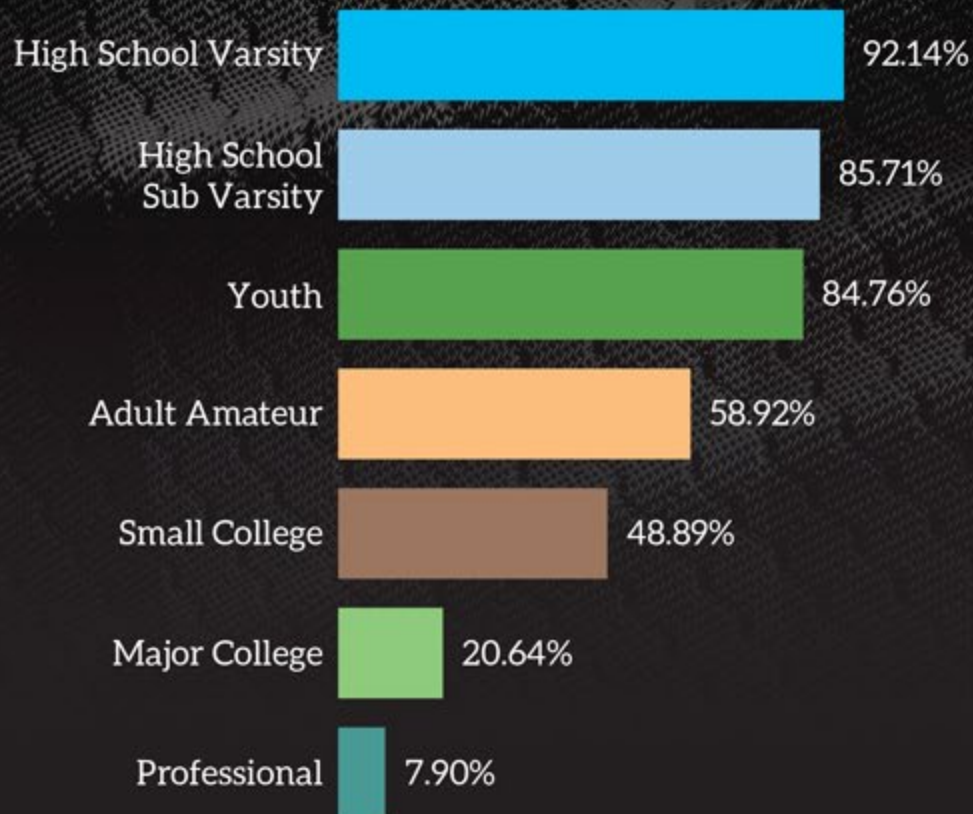
2023 SURVEY DATA REVEAL



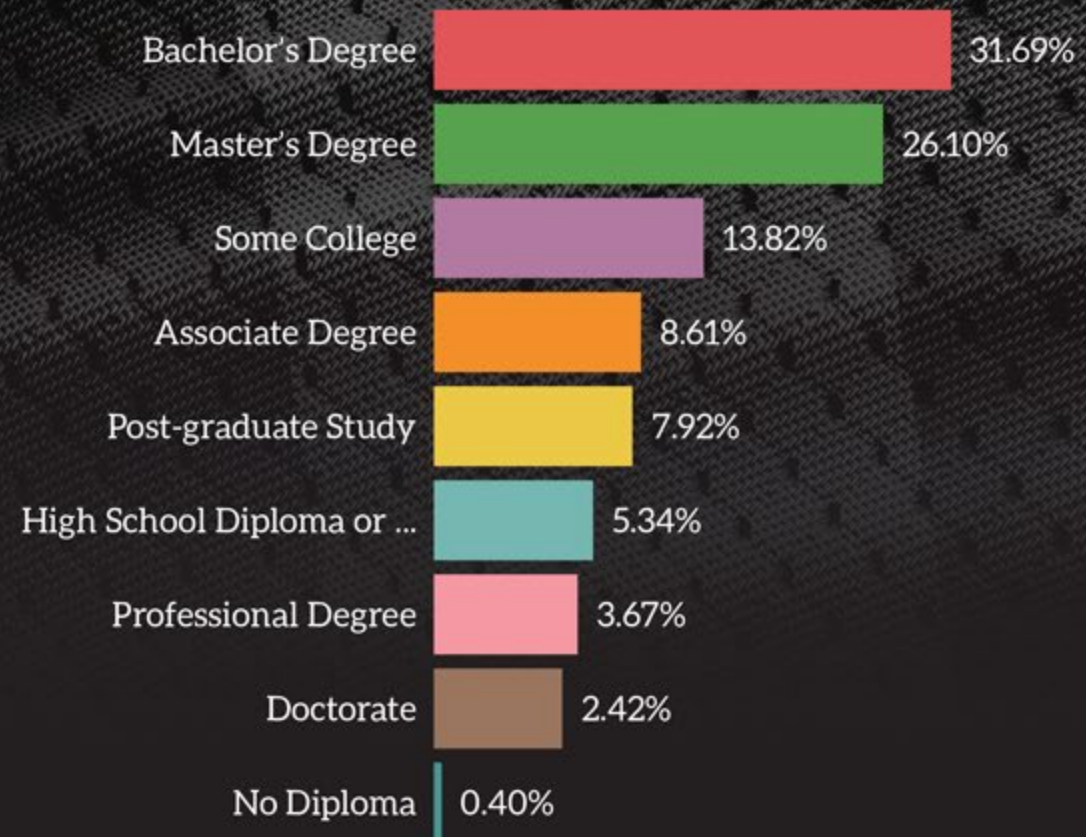
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2023

SPORT LEVEL

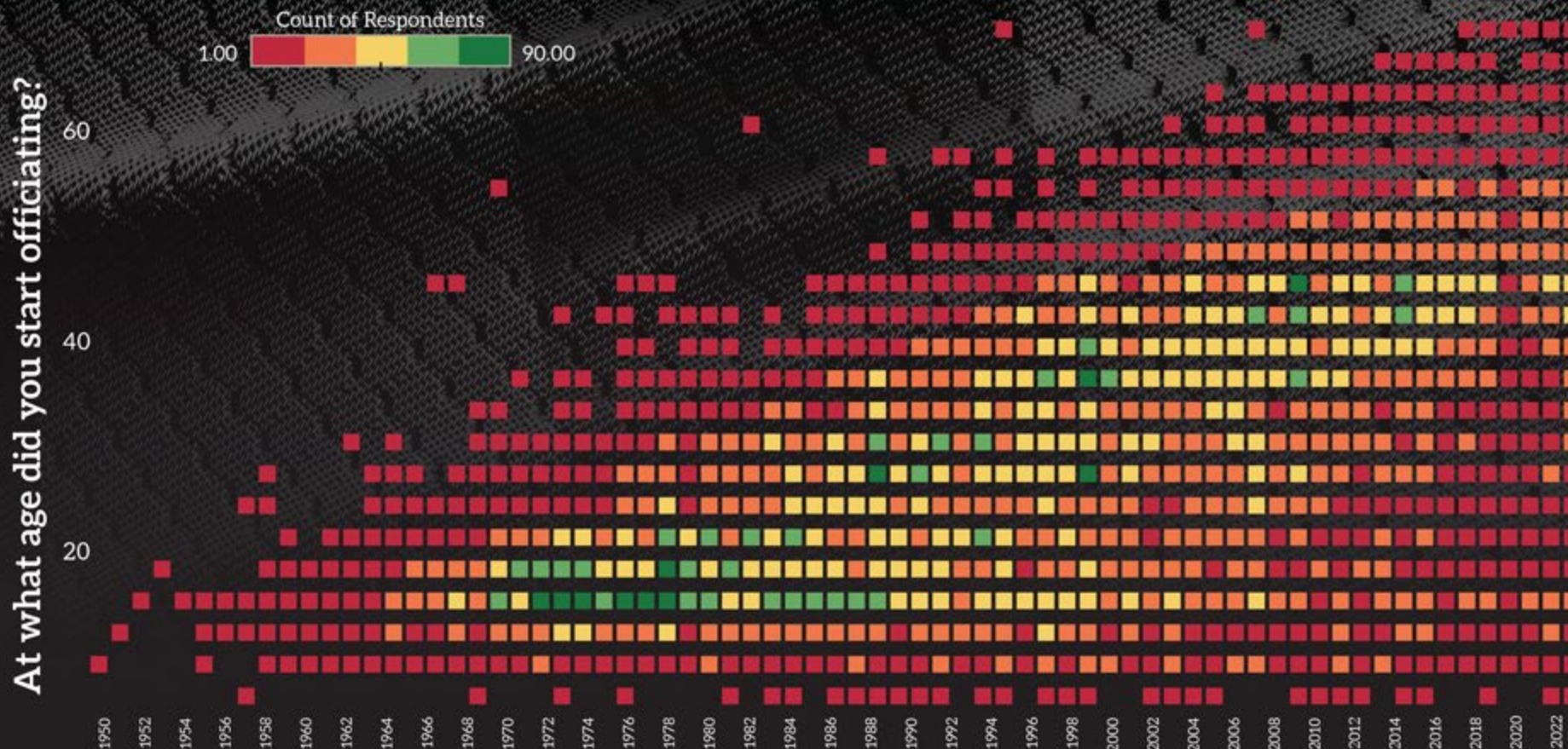


EDUCATIONAL LEVEL



HOW ARE PEOPLE RECRUITED AND RETAINED?

At what age did you start officiating and in what year?



OFFICIATING INITIATIVES AND SAFETY

2017

A 11.33%

OF MALE RESPONDENTS HAVE FELT UNCOMFORTABLE OR THREATENED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIATING COMMUNITY.

B 47.94%

OF MALE RESPONDENTS HAVE FELT UNSAFE OR FEARED FOR THEIR SAFETY BECAUSE OF ADMINISTRATOR, COACH, PLAYER OR SPECTATOR BEHAVIOR.

C 20.58%

OF FEMALE RESPONDENTS HAVE FELT UNCOMFORTABLE OR THREATENED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIATING COMMUNITY.

D 44.74%

OF FEMALE RESPONDENTS HAVE FELT UNSAFE OR FEARED FOR THEIR SAFETY BECAUSE OF ADMINISTRATOR, COACH, PLAYER OR SPECTATOR BEHAVIOR.



12,889
MALES

1,113
FEMALES

2023

A 10.49%

OF MALE RESPONDENTS HAVE FELT UNCOMFORTABLE OR THREATENED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIATING COMMUNITY.

B 50.78%

OF MALE RESPONDENTS HAVE FELT UNSAFE OR FEARED FOR THEIR SAFETY BECAUSE OF ADMINISTRATOR, COACH, PLAYER OR SPECTATOR BEHAVIOR.

C 19.38%

OF FEMALE RESPONDENTS HAVE FELT UNCOMFORTABLE OR THREATENED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIATING COMMUNITY.

D 50.08%

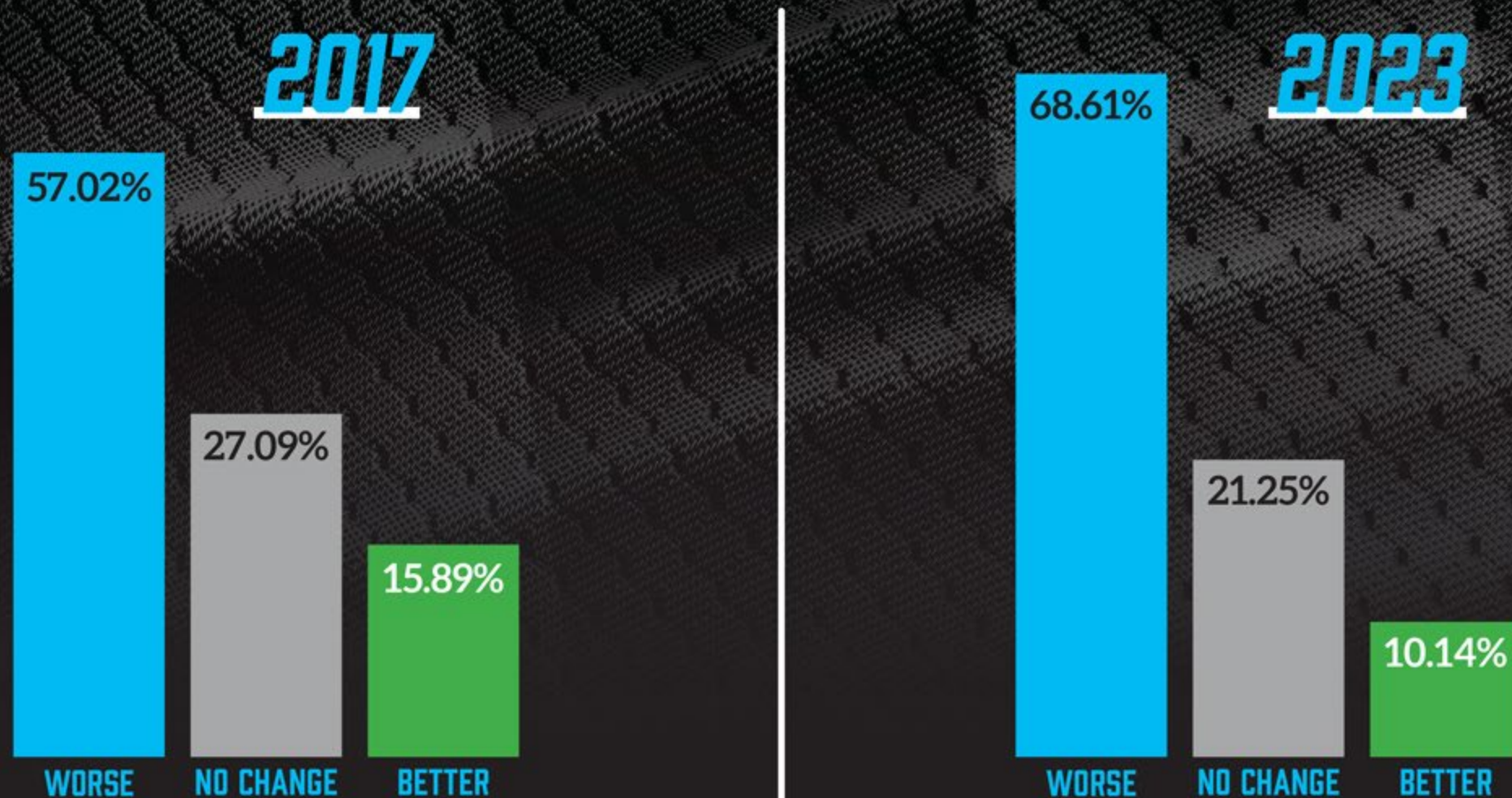
OF FEMALE RESPONDENTS HAVE FELT UNSAFE OR FEARED FOR THEIR SAFETY BECAUSE OF ADMINISTRATOR, COACH, PLAYER OR SPECTATOR BEHAVIOR.



23,737
MALES

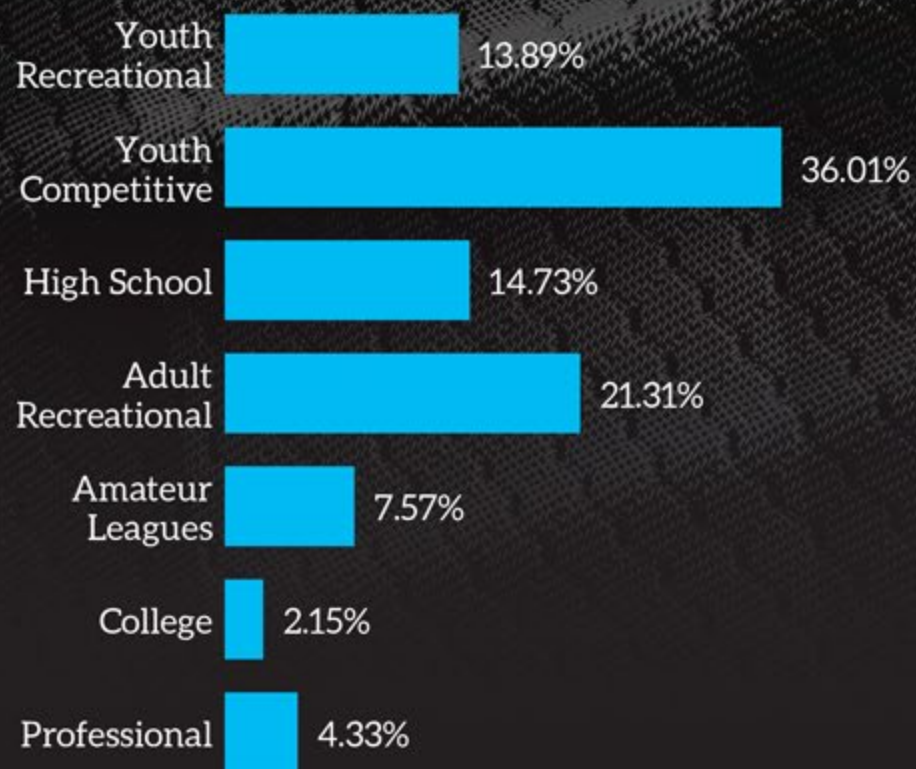
2,430
FEMALES

IS SPORTSMANSHIP GETTING BETTER OR WORSE?

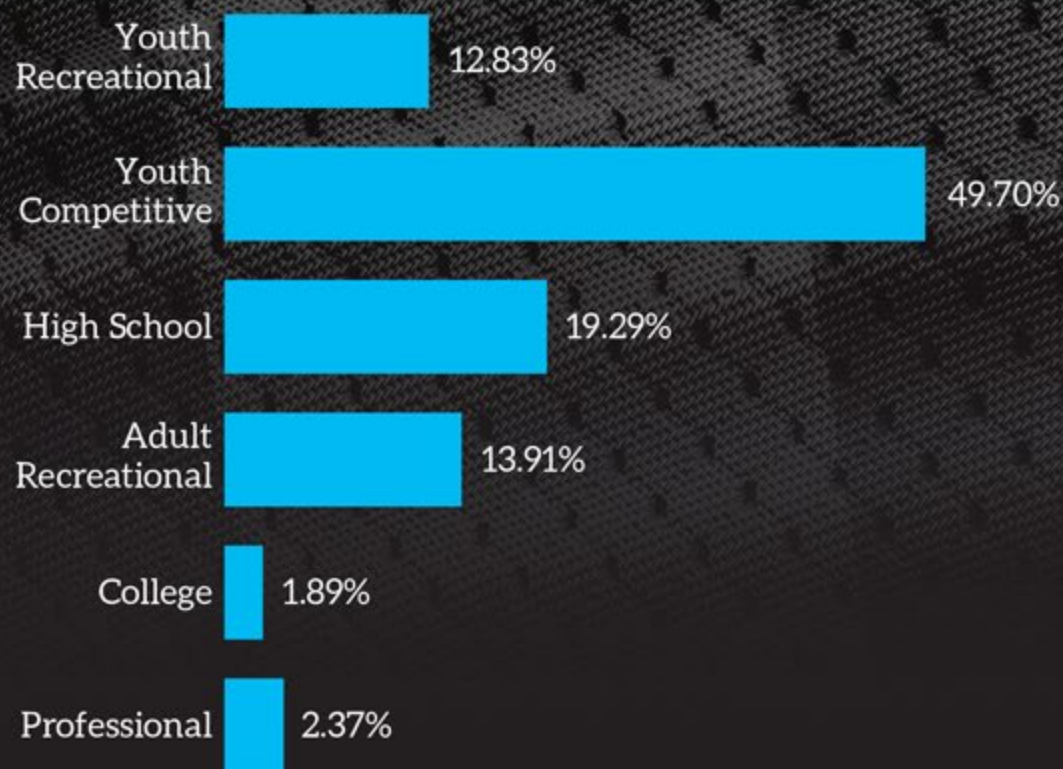


AT WHAT LEVEL IS SPORTSMANSHIP WORST?

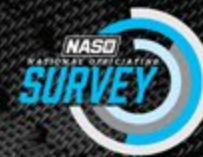
2017



2023



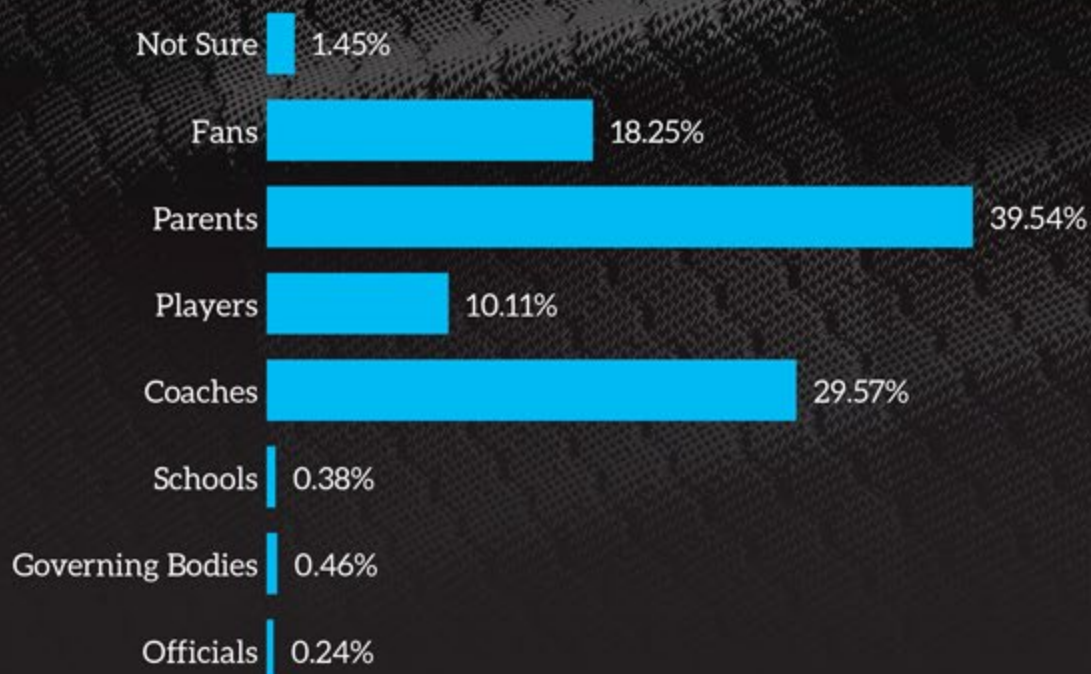
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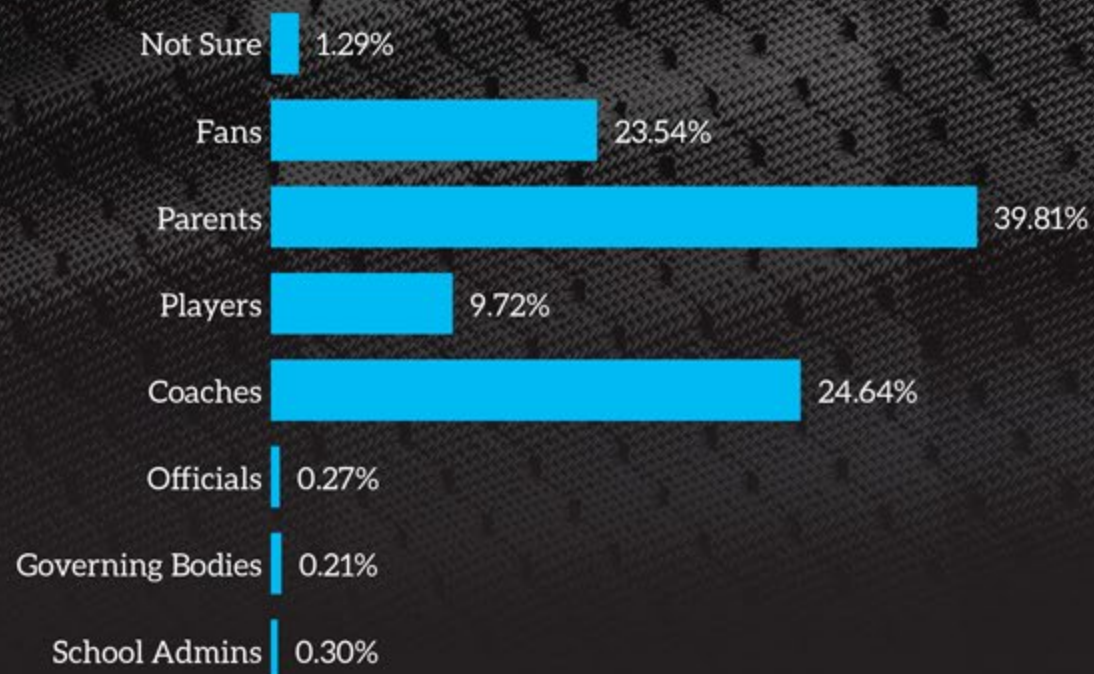
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WHO CAUSES THE MOST PROBLEMS WITH SPORTSMANSHIP?

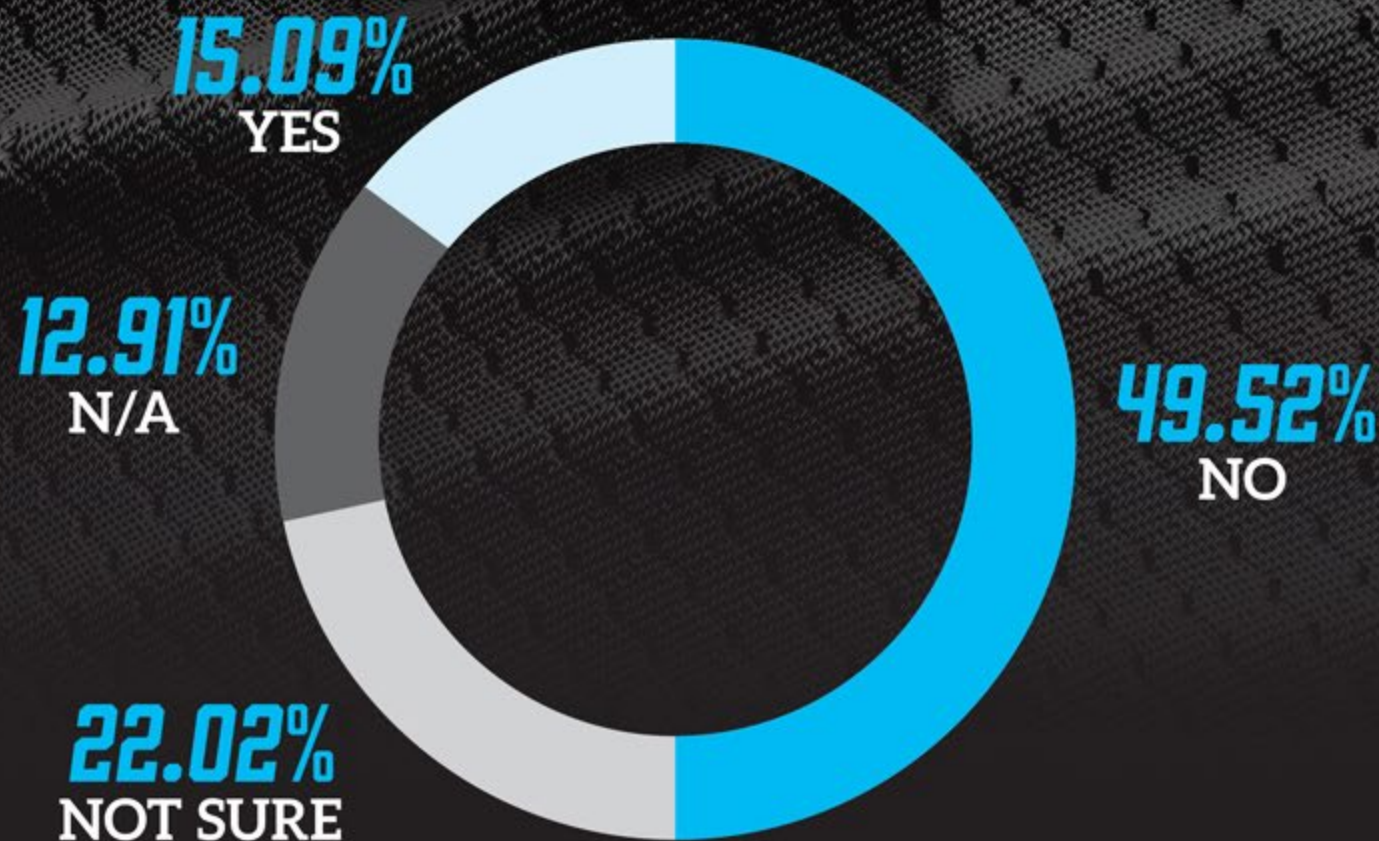
2017



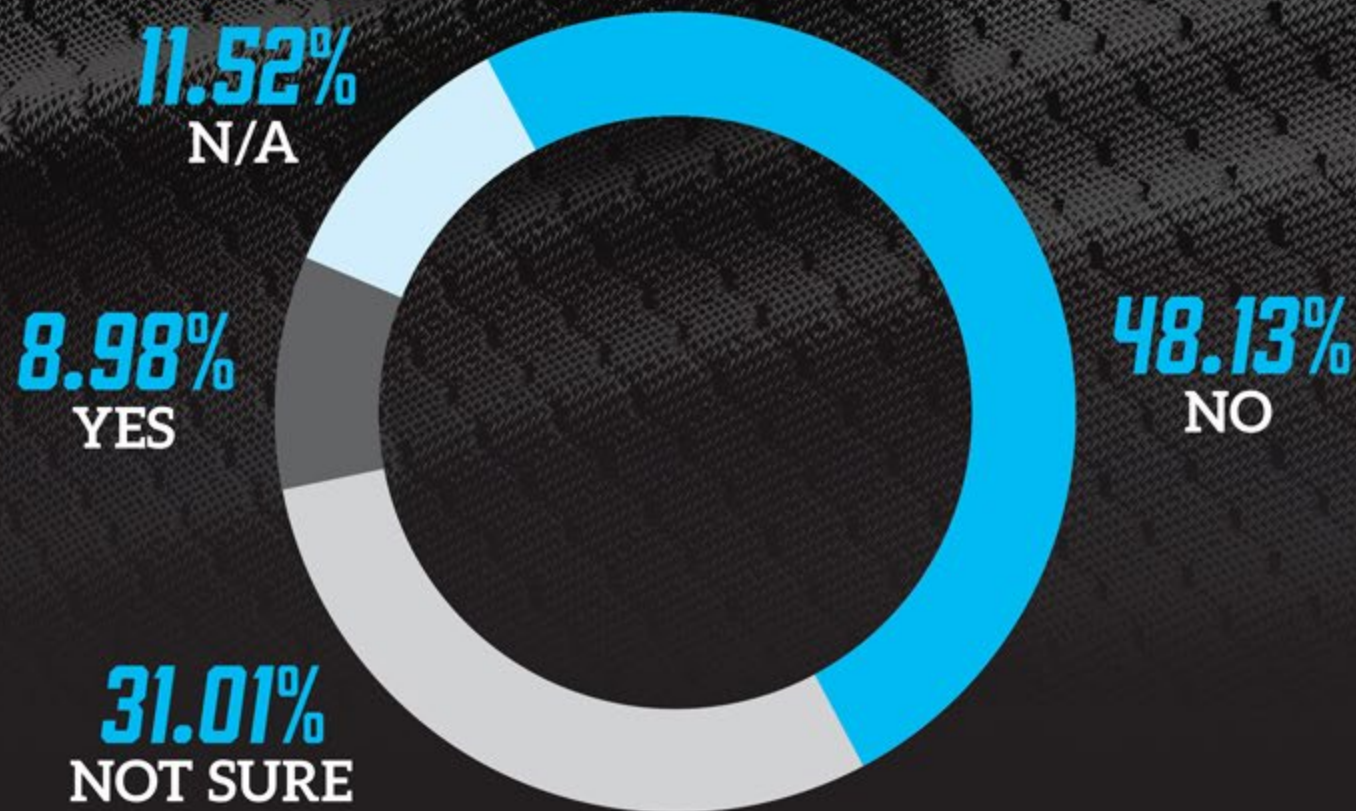
2023



HAS PENALIZING FOR POOR SPORTSMANSHIP EVER NEGATIVELY IMPACTED YOUR FUTURE ASSIGNMENTS?



HAS NOT PENALIZING FOR POOR SPORTSMANSHIP EVER NEGATIVELY IMPACTED YOUR FUTURE ASSIGNMENTS?



HOW ARE OFFICIALS TREATED ON THE JOB?

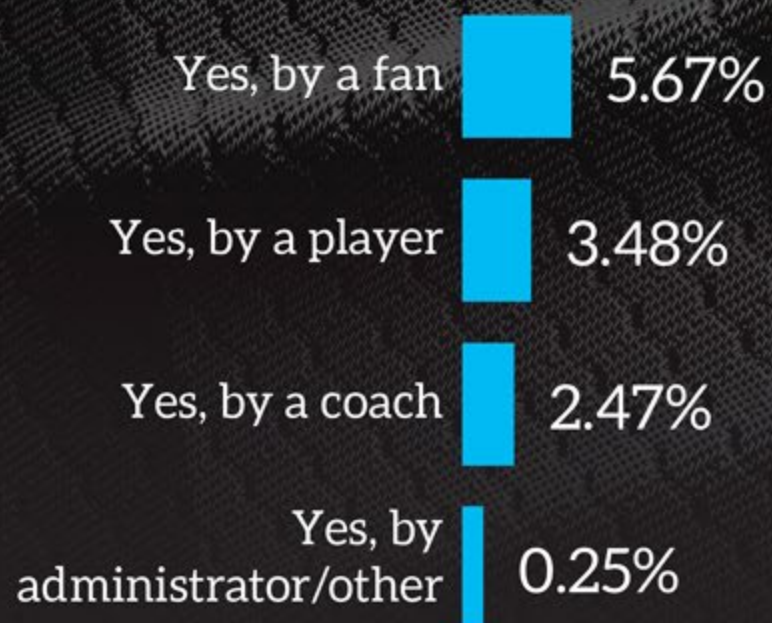
Do you feel officials are treated unfairly by these interest groups?

	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Athletes	53.95%	39.11%	6.94%
Officiating Associations	26.08%	65.00%	8.91%
Coaches	72.63%	21.64%	5.73%
Spectators	87.46%	10.00%	2.53%
Sports Leagues	39.97%	45.47%	14.56%

DO YOU FEEL OR HAVE YOU OBSERVED ABUSE DIRECTED TOWARD OFFICIALS IS WORSE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING TRAITS?

	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Age	45.69%	46.05%	8.26%
Ethnicity	21.44%	67.16%	11.40%
Gender	30.27%	58.87%	10.86%
Other Physical Characteristics	34.34%	48.08%	17.58%

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED DURING OR AFTER A GAME?

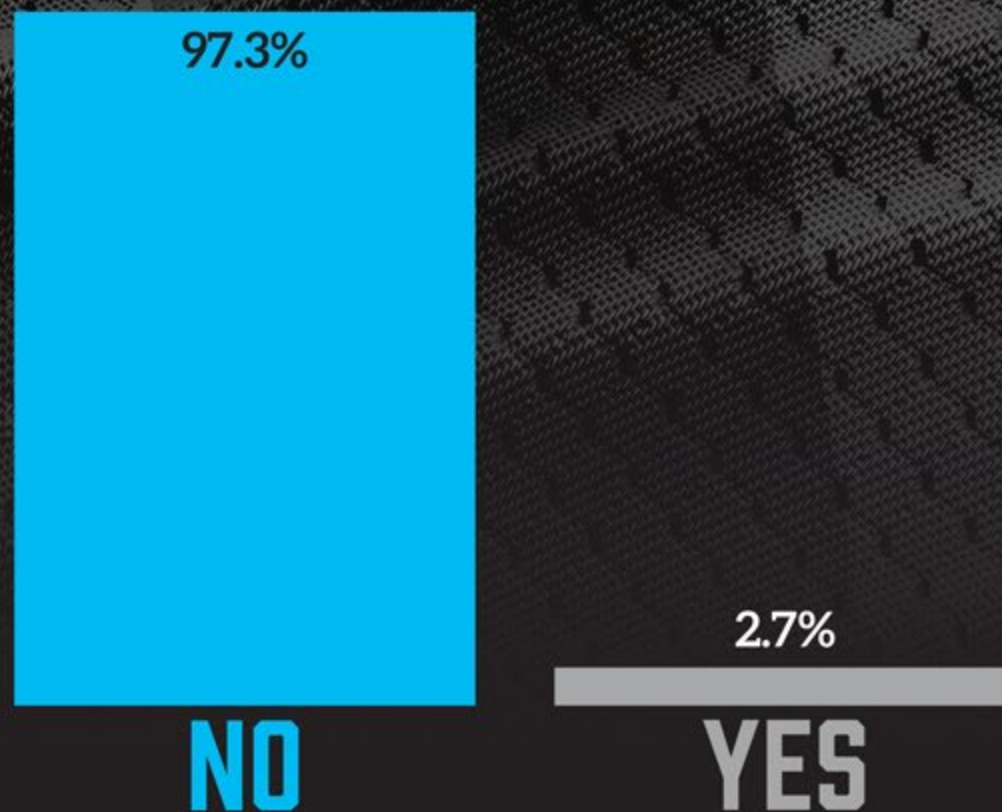


11.87%
OF OFFICIALS

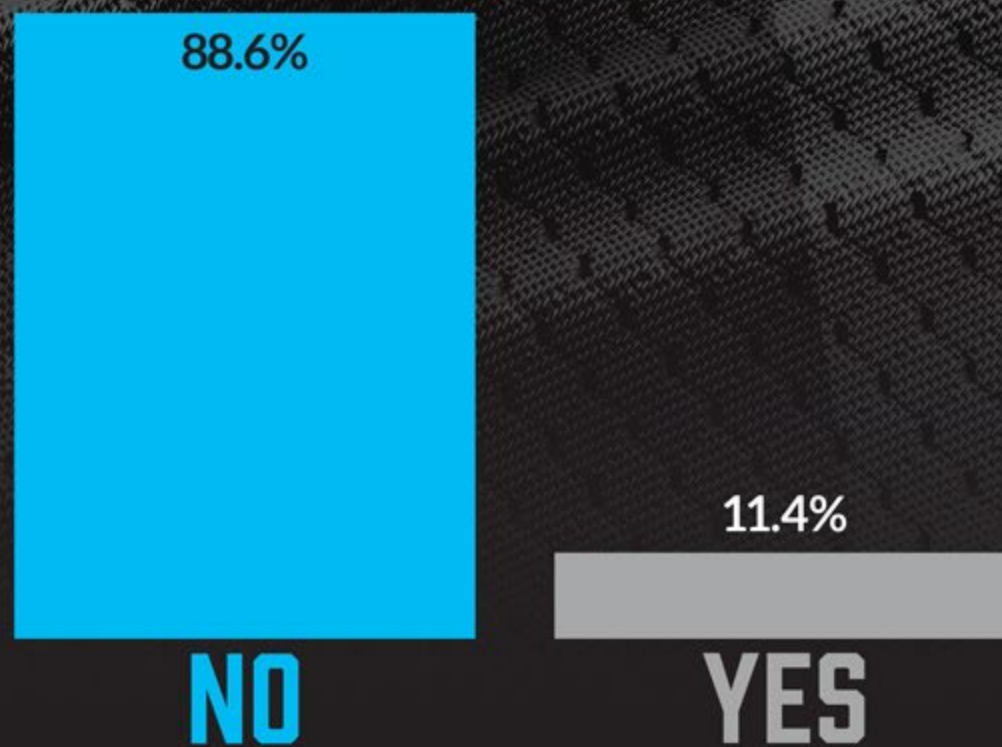
No

88.13%

DID THE PANDEMIC LEAD YOU TO RETIRE EARLIER FROM OFFICIATING THAN YOU HAD ORIGINALLY PLANNED?



DID THE PANDEMIC LEAD ME TO CUT BACK ON THE NUMBER OF SPORTS I OFFICIATE?



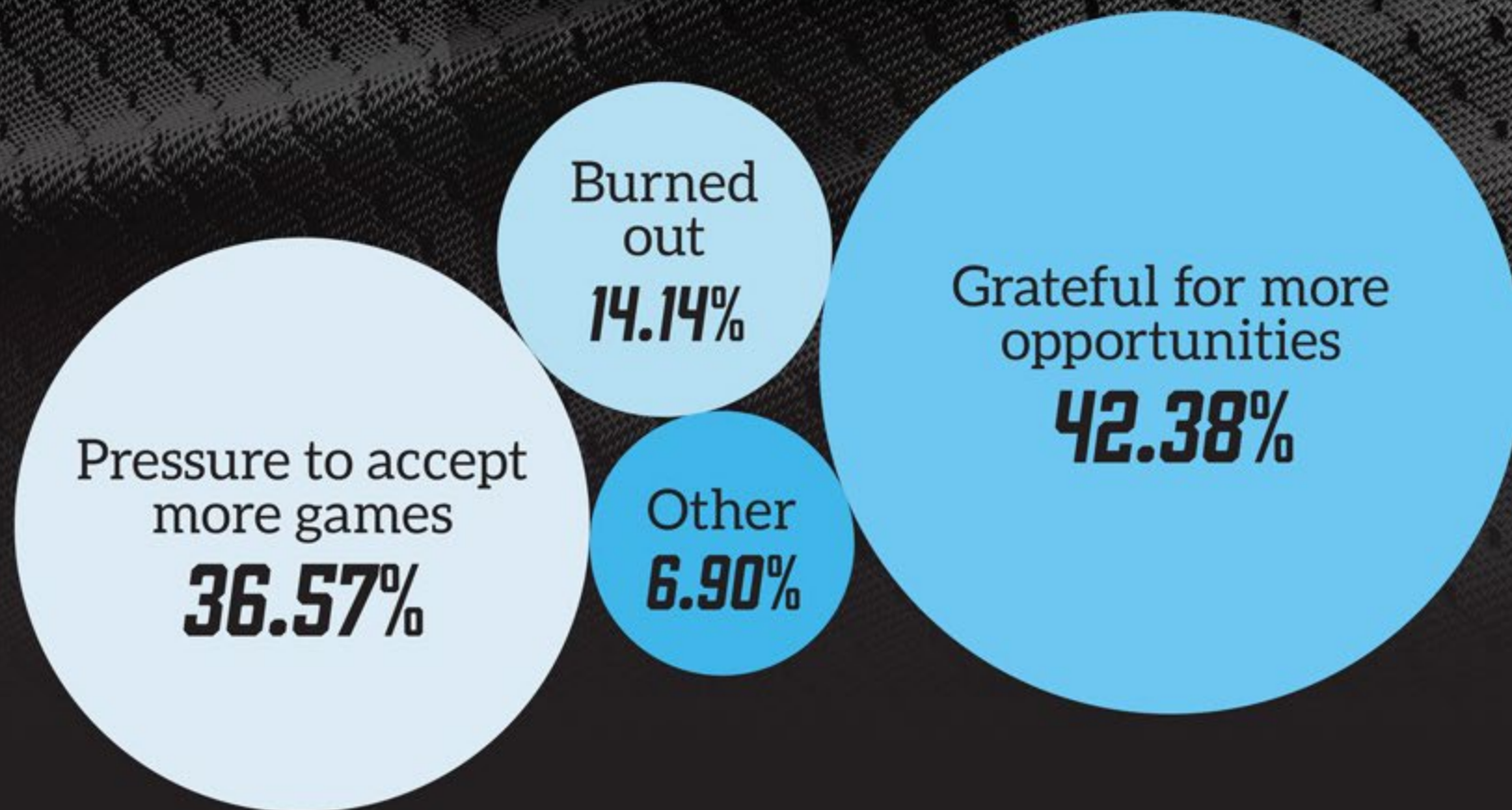
HAS THE PANDEMIC LED YOU TO ADD A SPORT(S)?



HAVE YOU TAKEN MORE OFFICIATING ASSIGNMENTS DUE TO THE SHORTAGE OF OFFICIALS?



BECAUSE I HAVE MORE OFFICIATING ASSIGNMENTS DUE TO THE SHORTAGE OF OFFICIALS I FEEL...



SCHOOL / ADMINISTRATION

Officials experience a wide range of treatment from schools when working games. Host schools have a number of responsibilities to officials, and a little planning and execution can go a long way. Schools should be attentive to detail in regard to officials.

PRIOR TO THE GAME

- 1 MEET ABOUT SAFETY**

Prior to the season, school, league or governing body personnel should meet with officials association representatives to cover safety issues and needs.
- 2 KEEP COMMUNICATION OPEN**

Schools need to make sure that they have all the necessary information from their officials on file: email and physical addresses, phone numbers, social security numbers, etc. Give the officials the appropriate names, numbers and emails of individuals to contact in case of emergency. Prior to the contest (about a week in advance), send a reminder card, email or make a phone call to confirm the officials.
- 3 PROVIDE A SAFE PLACE TO PARK**

If possible, provide officials parking spaces in a well-lit area, but schools should not publically “announce” those designated spots. Signs marked “officials’ parking” brings unnecessary (and potentially dangerous) attention to those cars.

- 4 HAVE A GAME HOST OR ADMINISTRATOR AVAILABLE**
Officials should not have to arrive at a school and feel they are on their own. Have a designated game administrator or host greet the officials when they arrive at the school and escort them to their locker room.
- 5 PROVIDE A PRIVATE, SECURE LOCKER ROOM**
Give the officials access to a separate locker room with access to a toilet and hot shower. If possible, provide a room that is separate from game participants, other school personnel and fans. Make sure the room can be locked or provide a private locker to keep officials' personal belongings safe.
- 6 PROVIDE AND VERIFY A SAFE PLAYING ENVIRONMENT**
Confirm that the field or court is properly marked and safe for competition.

- 7 ESCORT THE OFFICIALS TO AND FROM THE LOCKER ROOM TO THE COURT OR FIELD**
Either walk with the officials or provide transportation if needed. Make sure to escort the officials to and from the locker room during halftime and immediately after the game as well.
- 8 IDENTIFY LOCATION OF CONTEST ADMINISTRATOR DURING GAME**
Make sure the officials know who the game administrator is (especially if that person is different than the game host) and where he or she will be located during the contest. Officials need to know the whereabouts of that designated person.
- 9 DON'T REVEAL TOO MUCH INFORMATION ABOUT OFFICIALS**
For the pregame introductions, it's OK to introduce the officials. Get the proper pronunciation of the officials' names. Do not, however, announce the hometowns of the officials for safety reasons.

DURING THE GAME

- 10 EDUCATE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SPORTSMANSHIP**
Have the expectation that coaches teach their players to respect the decisions of the officials, even when they may disagree with those decisions. To prevent in-game actions, have penalties documented and in place for coaches and participants who cross the line.
- 11 FULLY COOPERATE WITH REQUESTS IN**
regard to problems with spectators
If the officials determine that a spectator needs to be removed, do so promptly.
- 12 MAKE SURE ADMINISTRATORS ARE PREPARED FOR OTHER ISSUES**
Have them ready to handle serious issues, such as calling medical professionals and police, if necessary.

13 MAINTAIN PLAYING SURFACES

Arrange for the playing field or court to be properly maintained during the contest (sweeping basketball courts, dragging infields, etc.)

14 PREPARE AUXILIARY STAFF

Have all auxiliary personnel trained and ready to go and versed in proper, respectful behavior toward officials (trainers, timers, scorers, ball boys, chain crews, etc.)

AFTER THE GAME

- 15 HAVE SECURITY ESCORT OFFICIALS**
Give officials an escort from the court/field to their locker room. Also, have security or an administrator wait for officials to shower and change clothes and then make sure all officials get to their vehicles.
- 16 KEEP ALL UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL**
out of the officials' locker room
Make sure players, coaches and fans do not have access to the locker room.
- 17 UNDERSTAND SAFETY CONCERNS**
Check with the officials if there is anything that occurred during the game that administration needs to be aware of (ejections, unusual situations, etc.)

REFEREE/NASO

NASO



SAYES TO OFFICIATING

There's an urgent need for sports officials in this nation. More people are needed to step up to do the tough job of making sure sports are fairly played, well-managed and safe environments for all participants and spectators.

ARE YOU READY TO BECOME AN OFFICIAL?

START HERE ▶



SAYES



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