SACENDU

SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNITY EPIDEMIOLOGY NETWORK ON DRUG USE

Treatment Demand Data • Service Quality Measures (SQM)
• Community-Based Harm Reduction Services

CENTRAL REGION SYMPOSIUM: TREATMENT DEMAND DATA

Ms Nancy Hornsby

Phase 58 | January – June 2025

31 October 2025, Protea Hotel, Bloemfontein

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National overview

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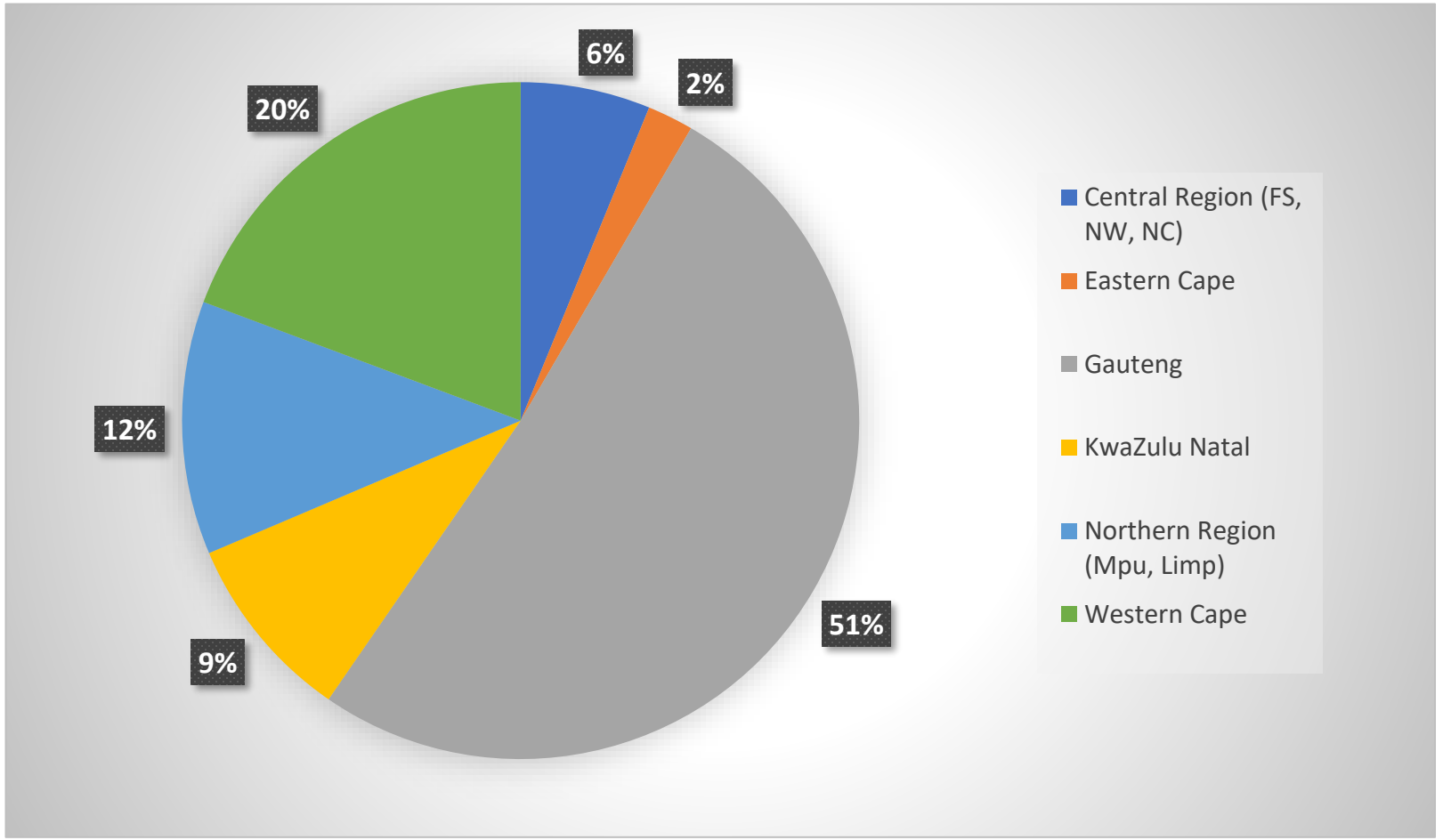

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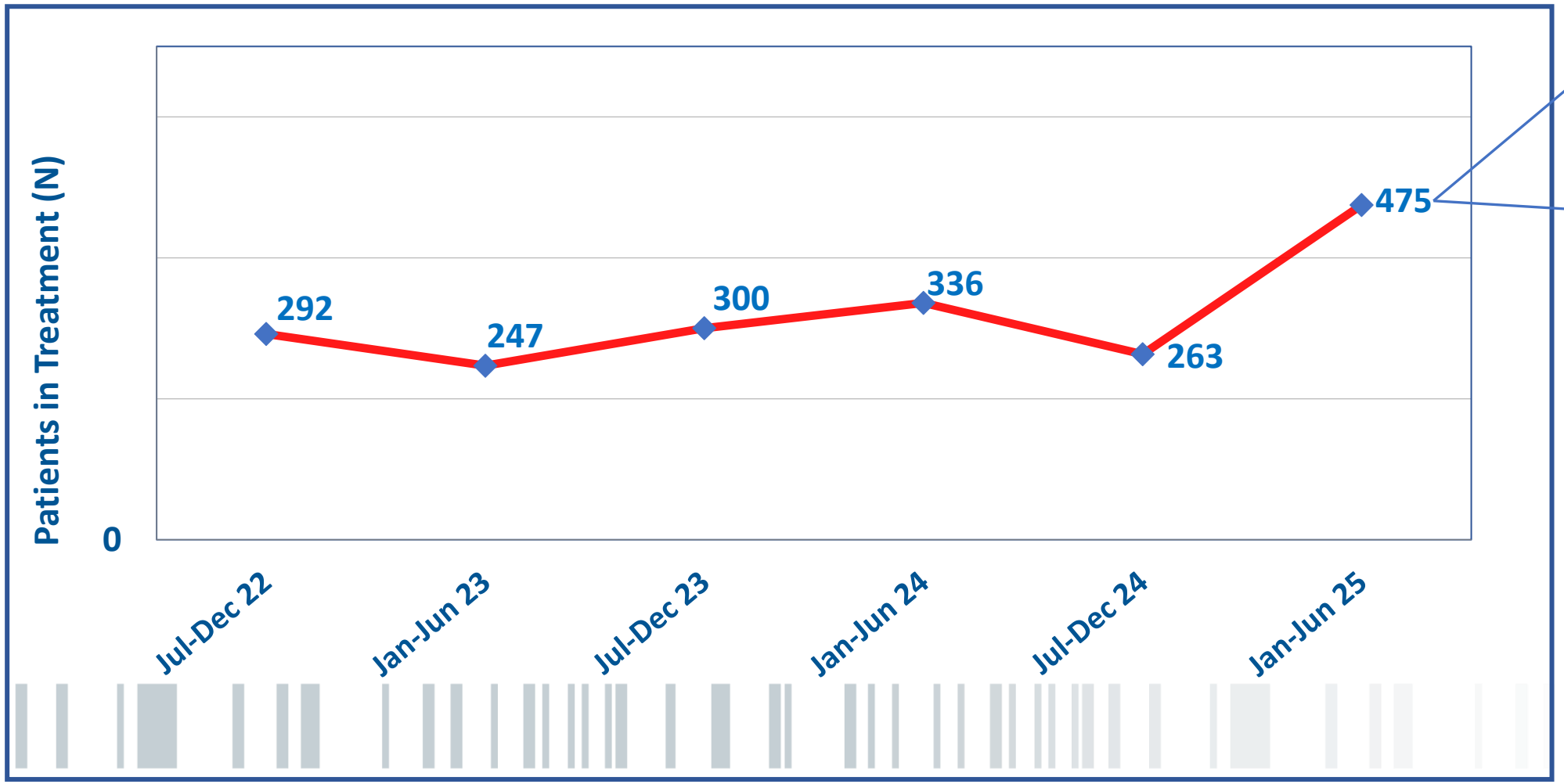
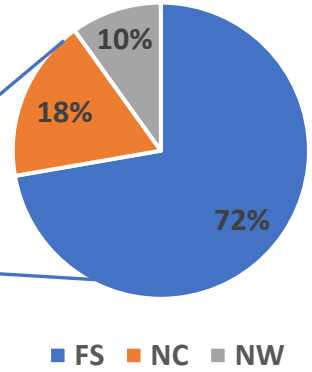
NUMBER OF PATIENTS IN TREATMENT





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TYPE OF TREATMENT RECEIVED

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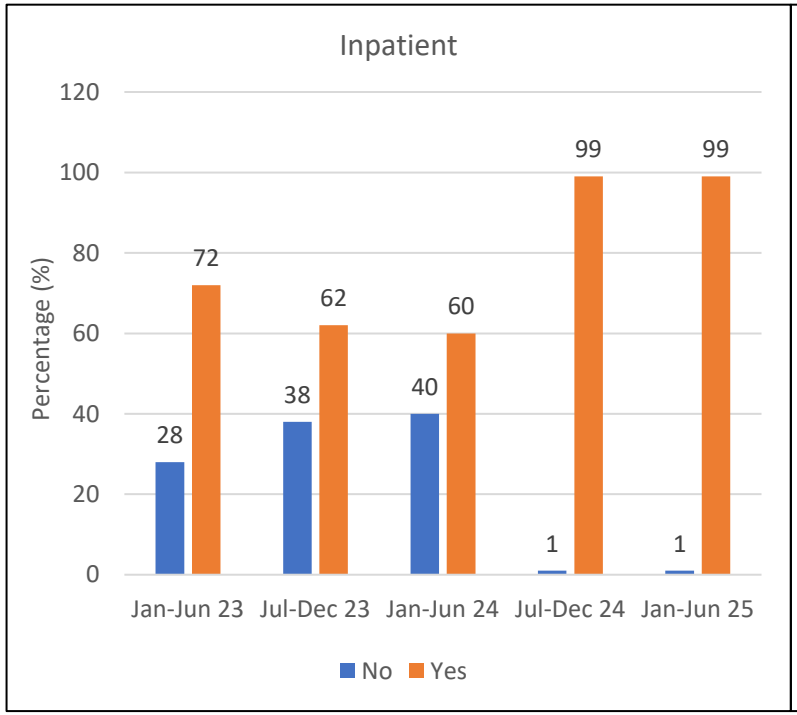

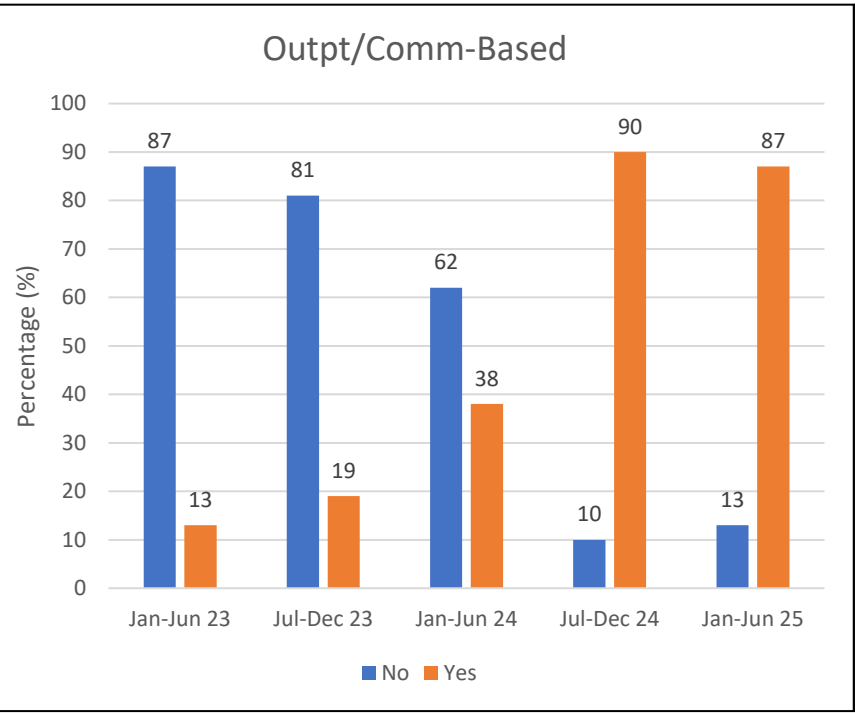

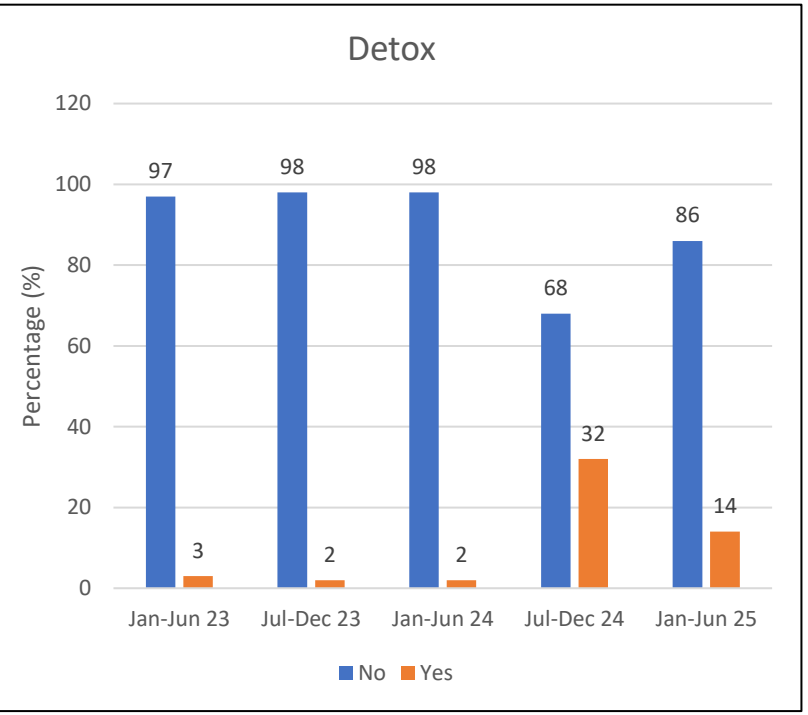

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GENDER

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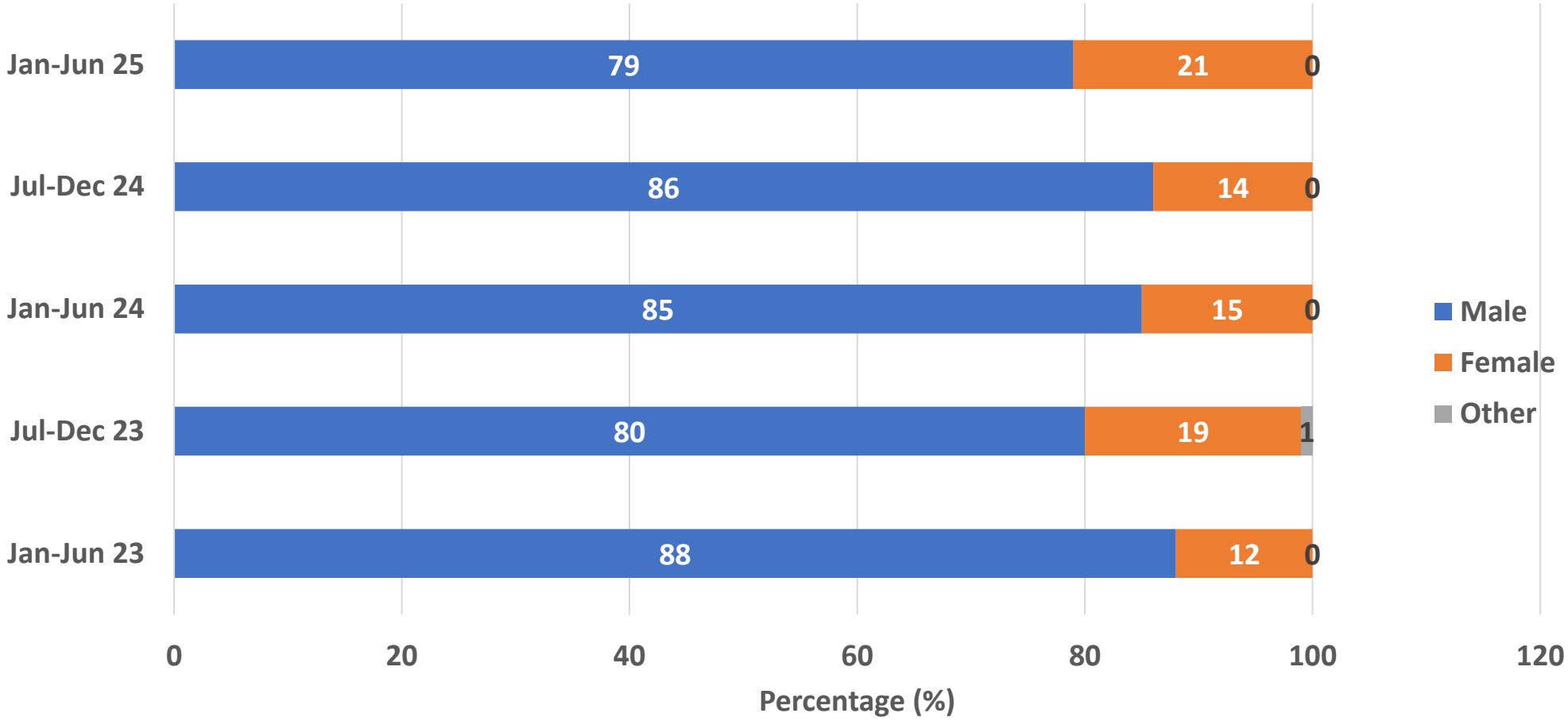

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AGE DISTRIBUTION

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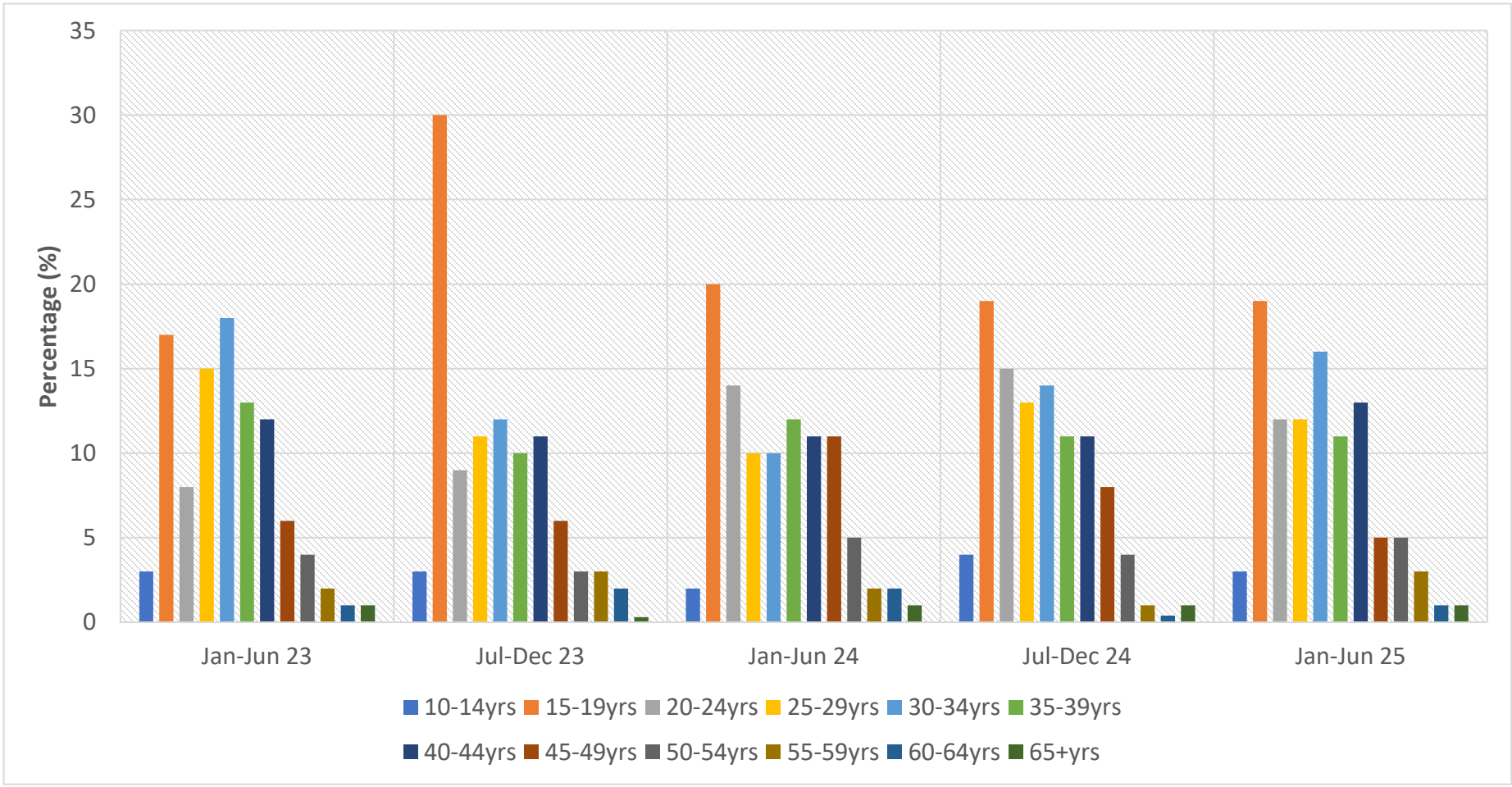

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FIRST TIME ADMISSIONS VS READMISSIONS

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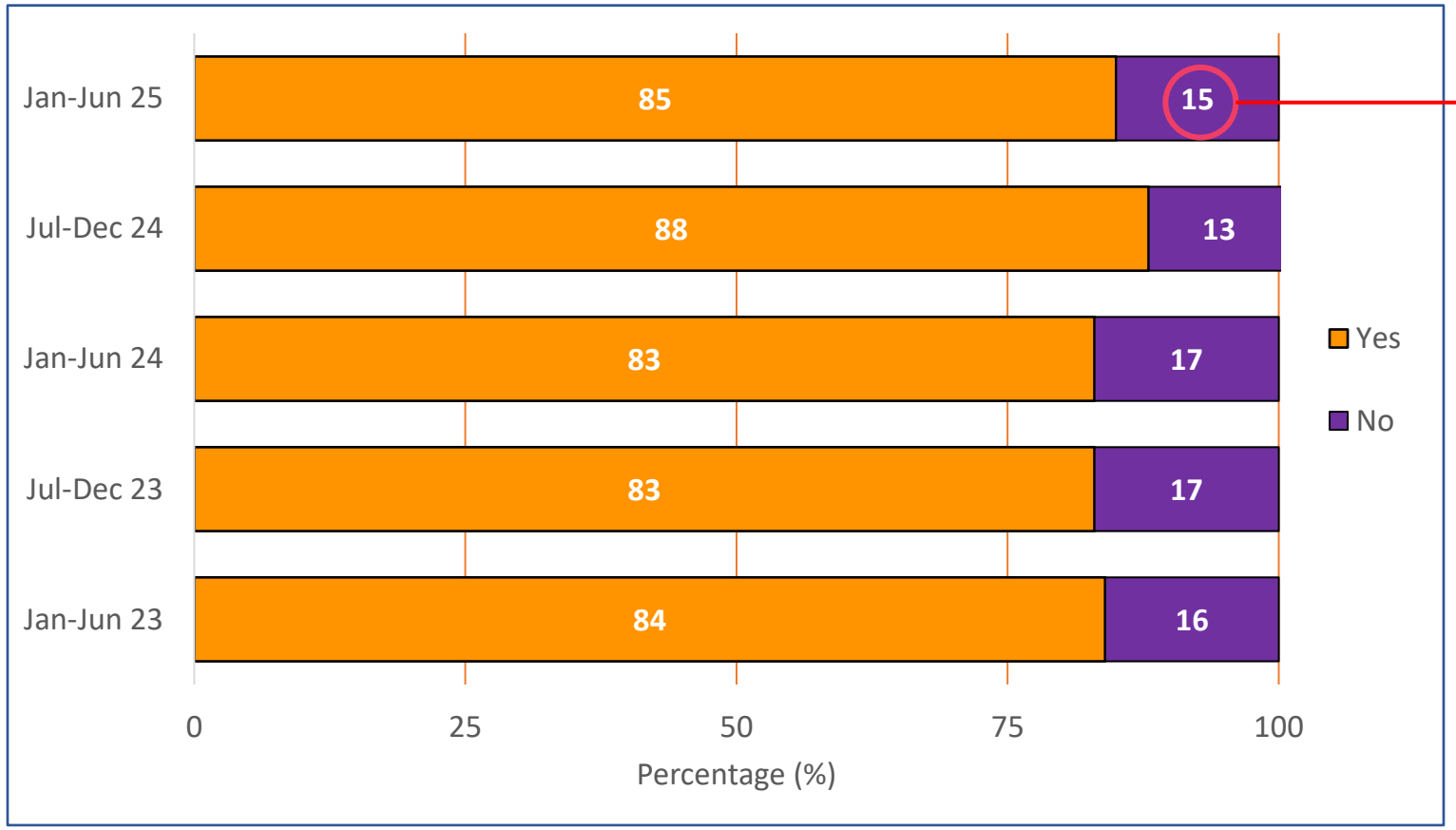

Number of times	n
1 time	28
2 times	6
3 times	1
4 times	1
6 times	1

	In-patient (n)	Outpt/CB (n)	Detox (n)
1 time	51	7	1
2 times	7	2	-
3 times	1	-	1
4 times	1	-	1
6 times	1	-	-
Total	61	9	3

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READMISSION BY GENDER

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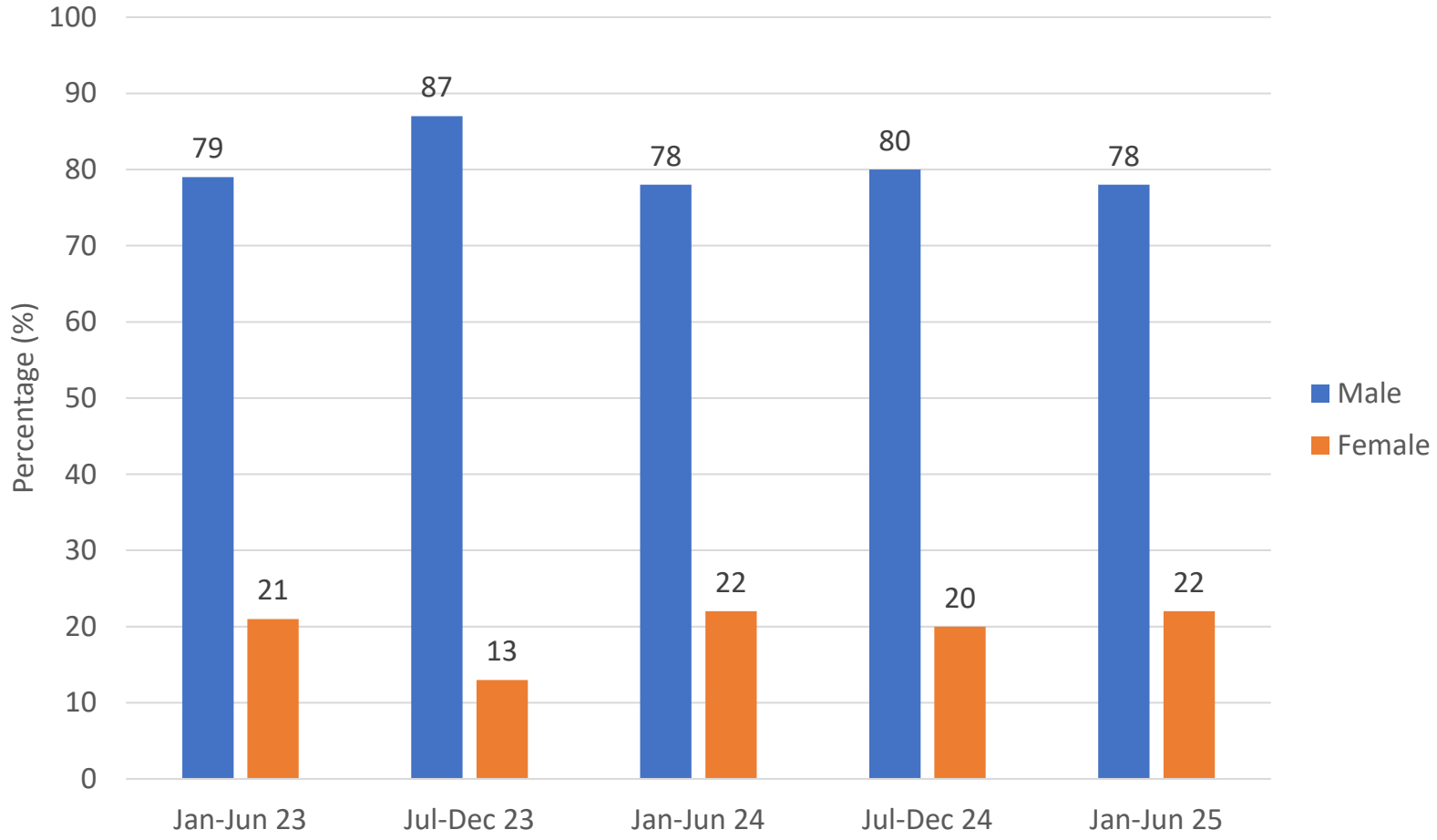

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READMISSION BY AGE

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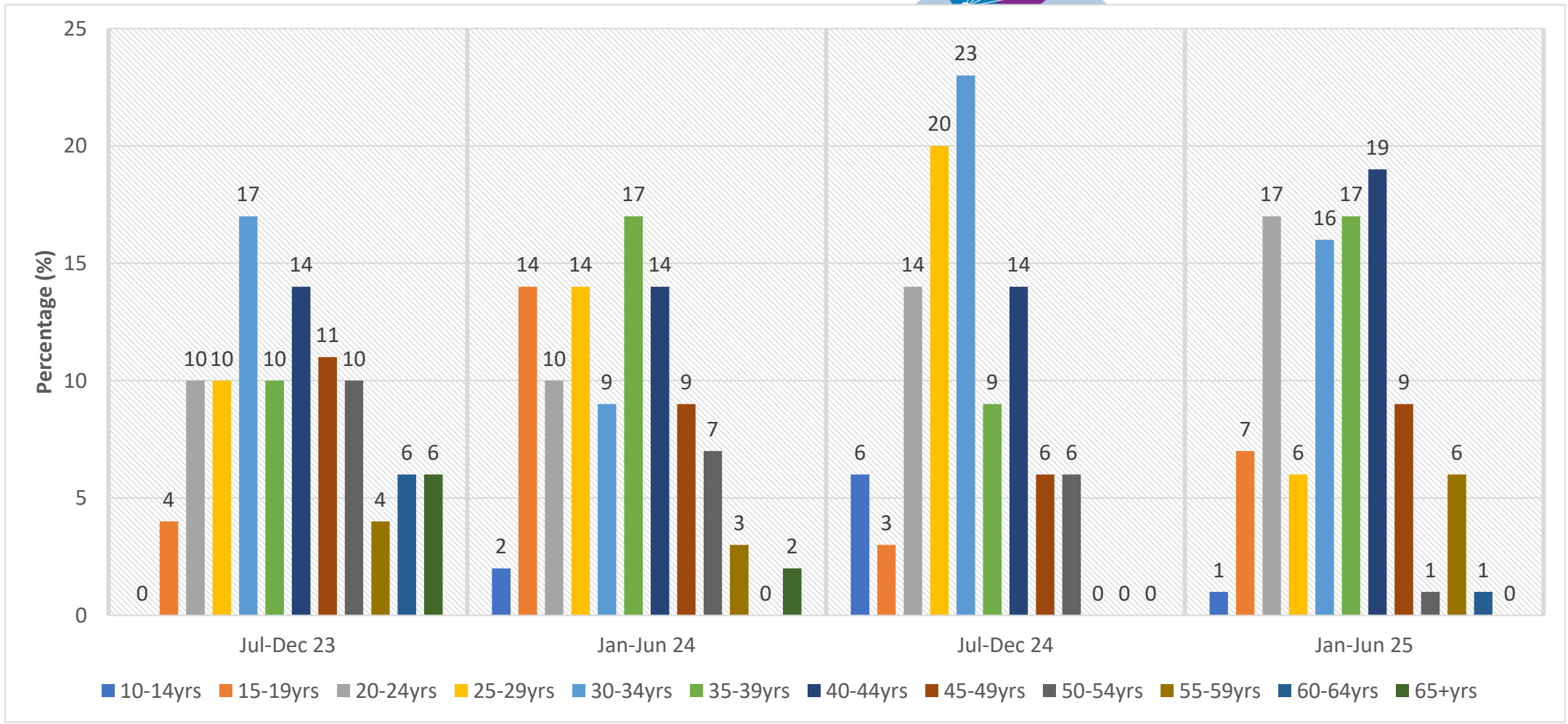

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TYPE OF ADMISSION

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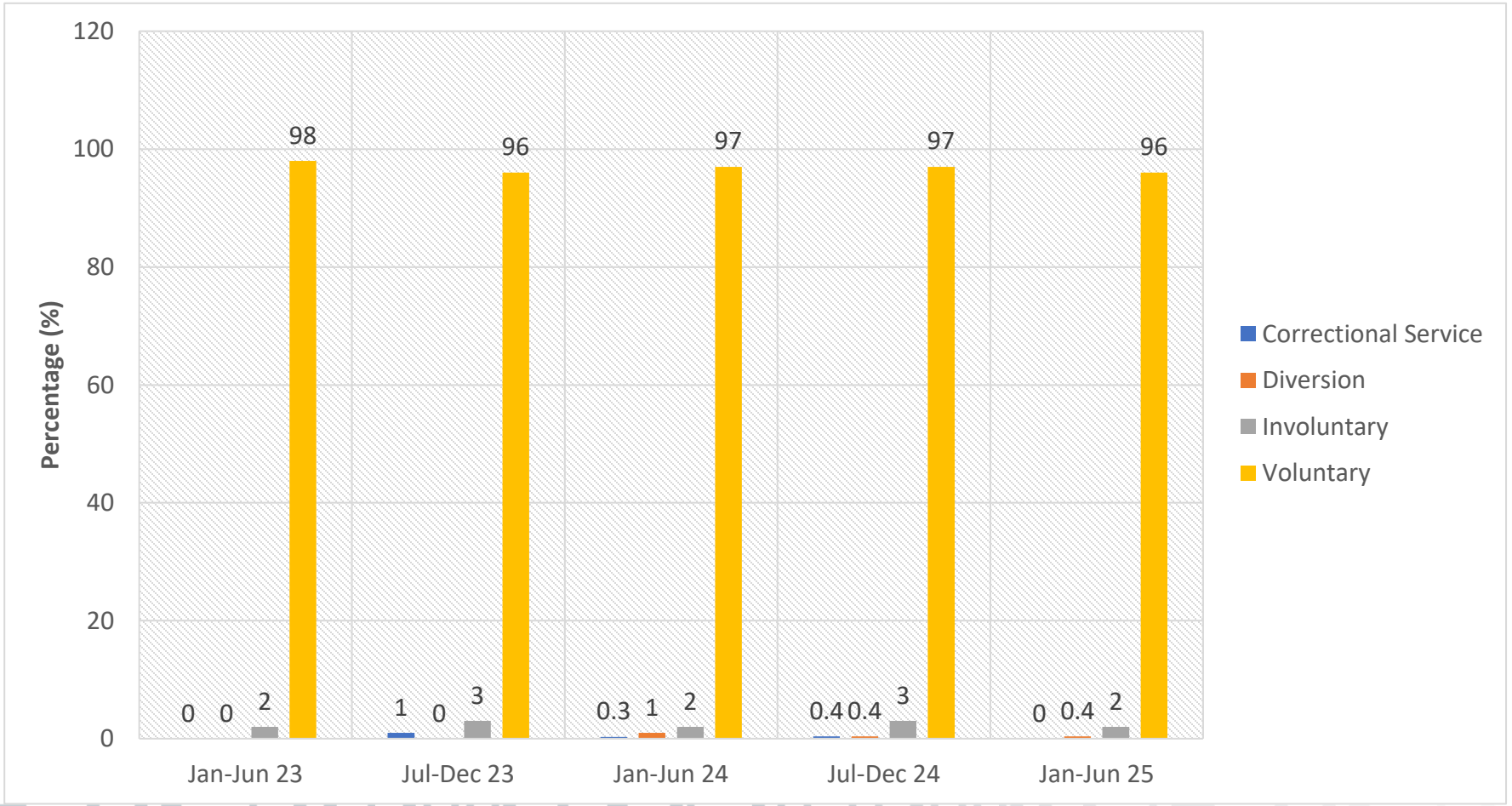

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EDUCATION LEVEL

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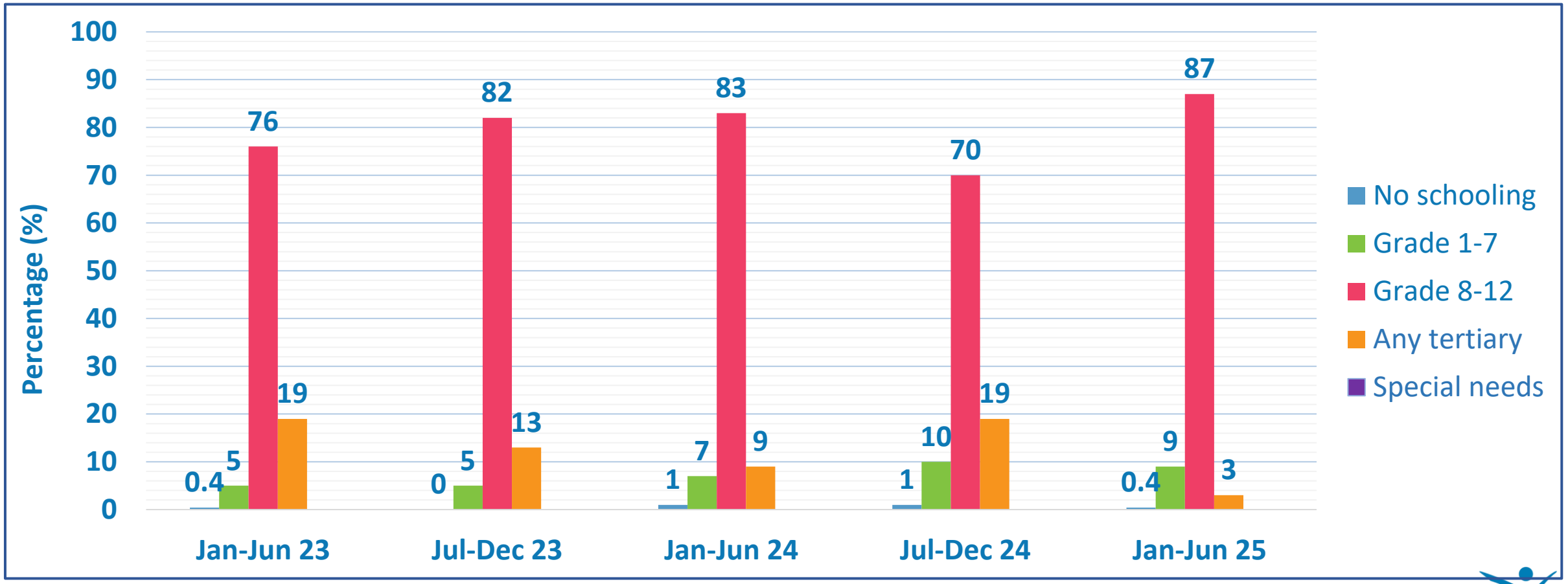

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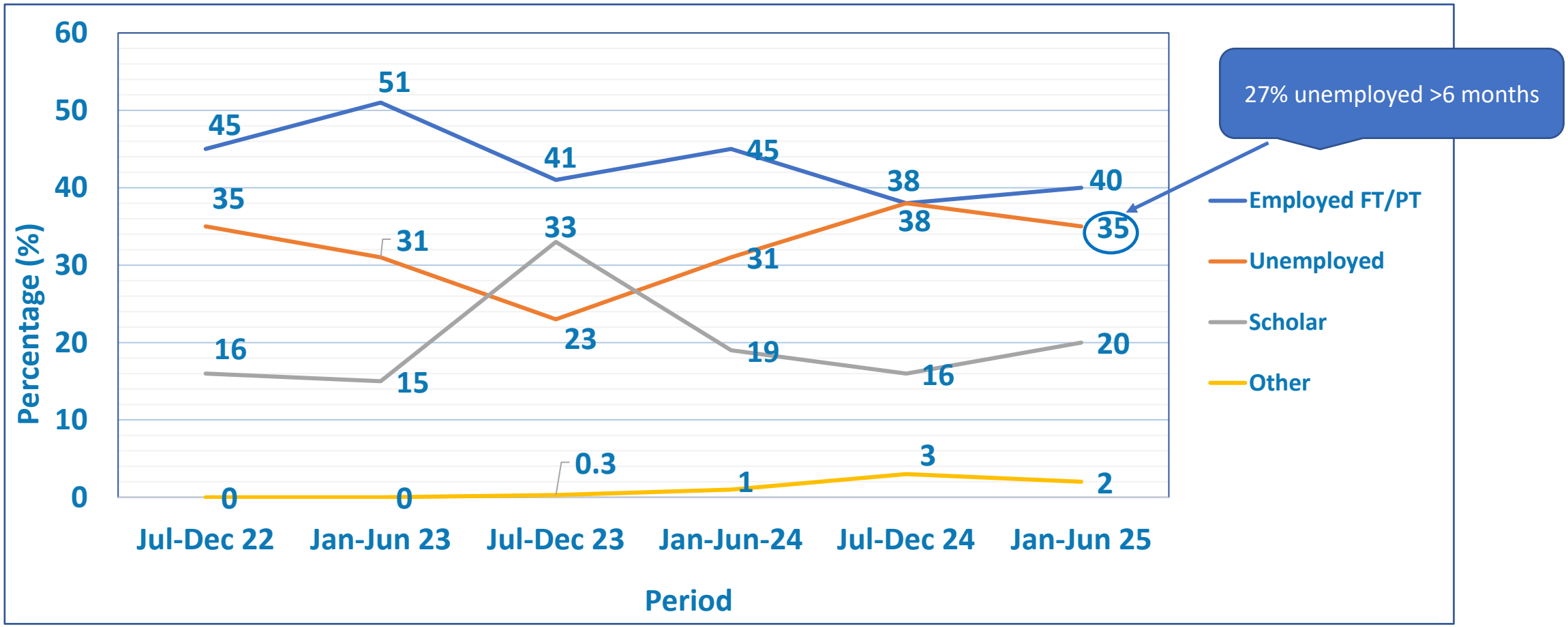
EMPLOYMENT STATUS



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MEAN AGE

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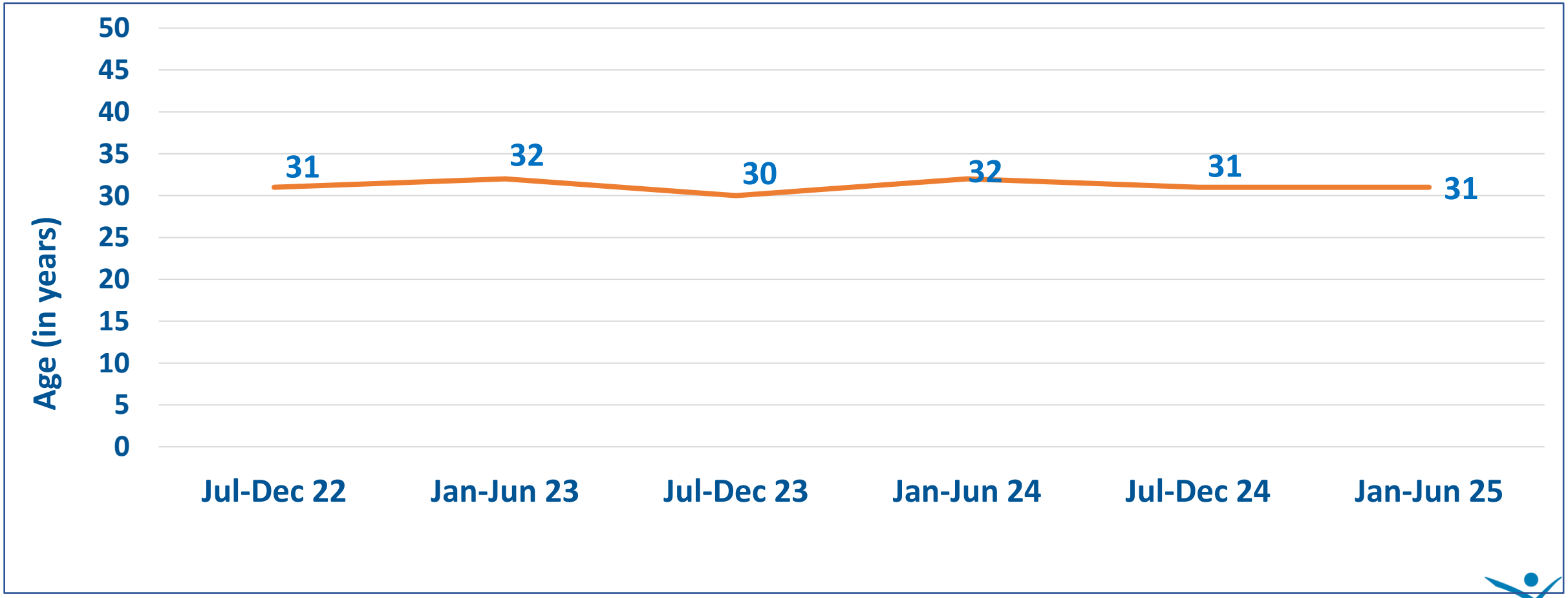

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TYPE OF RESIDENCE

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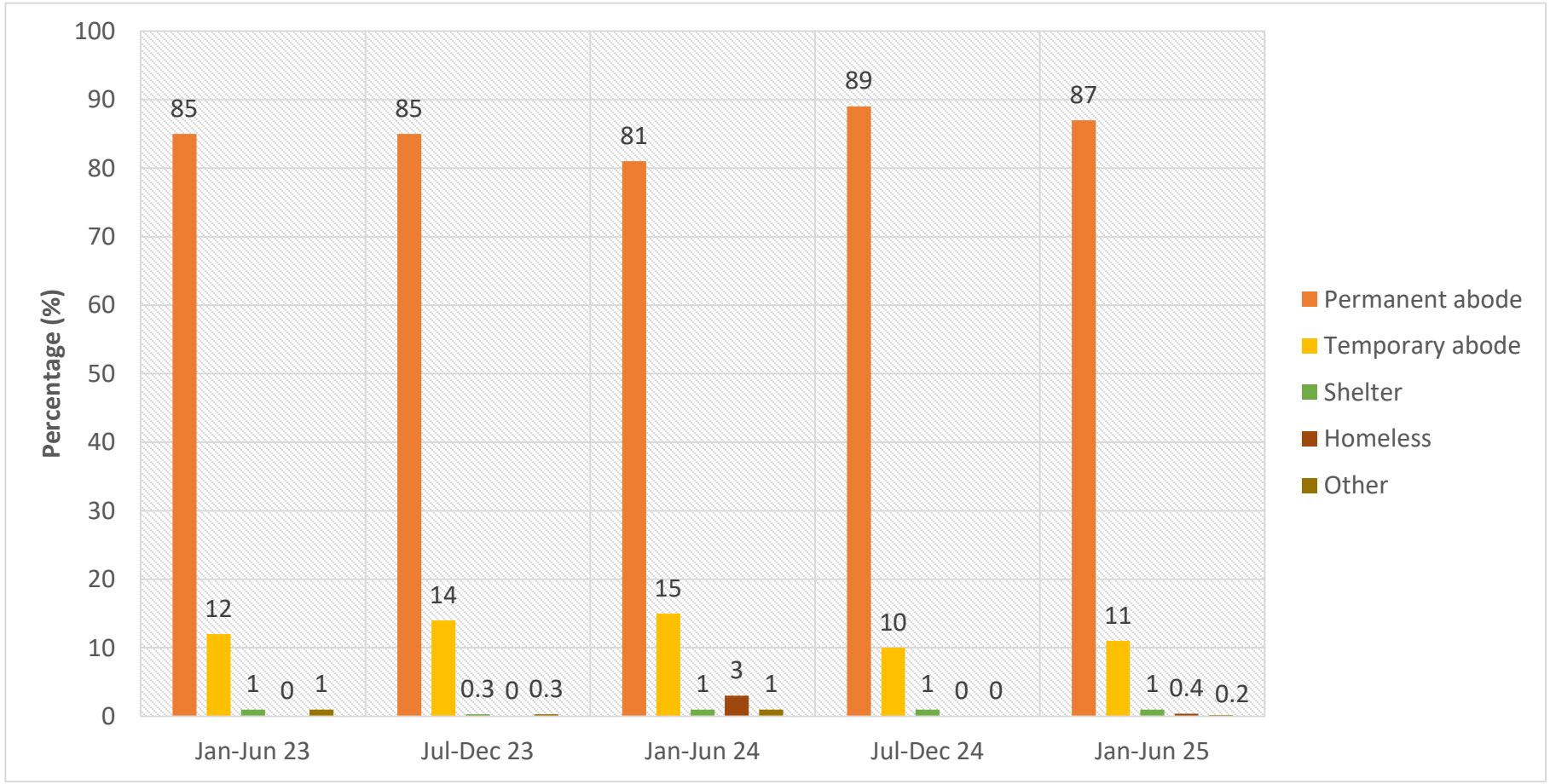

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WHO CLIENT RESIDES WITH

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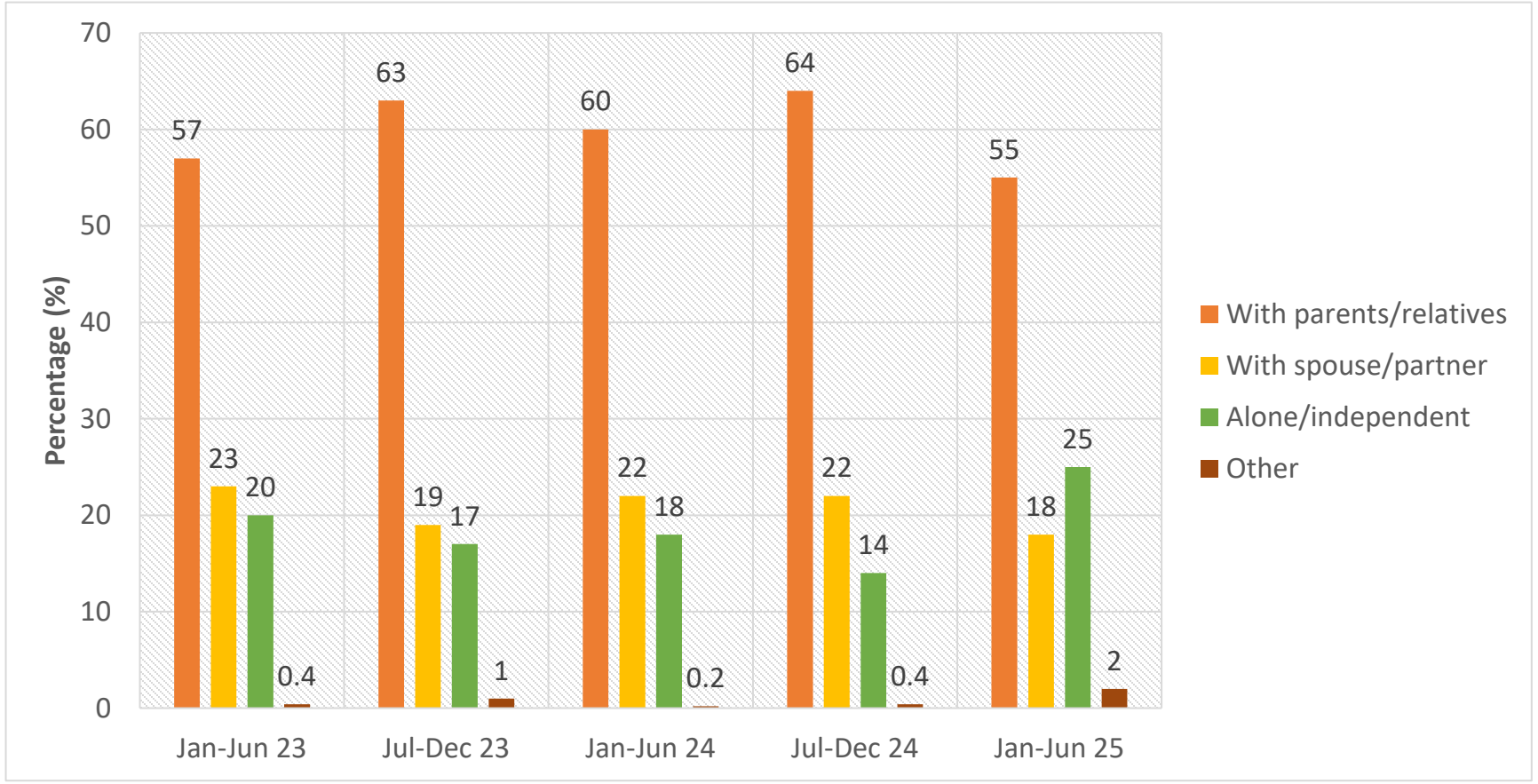

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REFERRAL SOURCE OVER TIME

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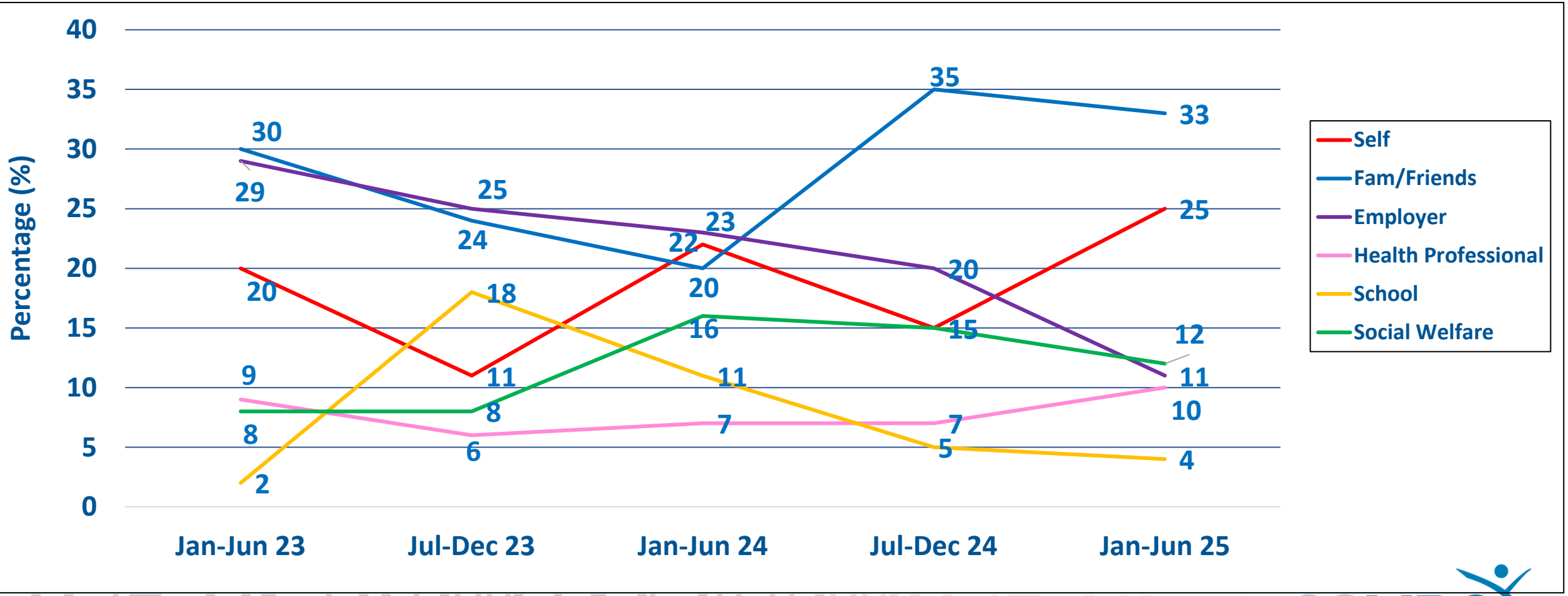
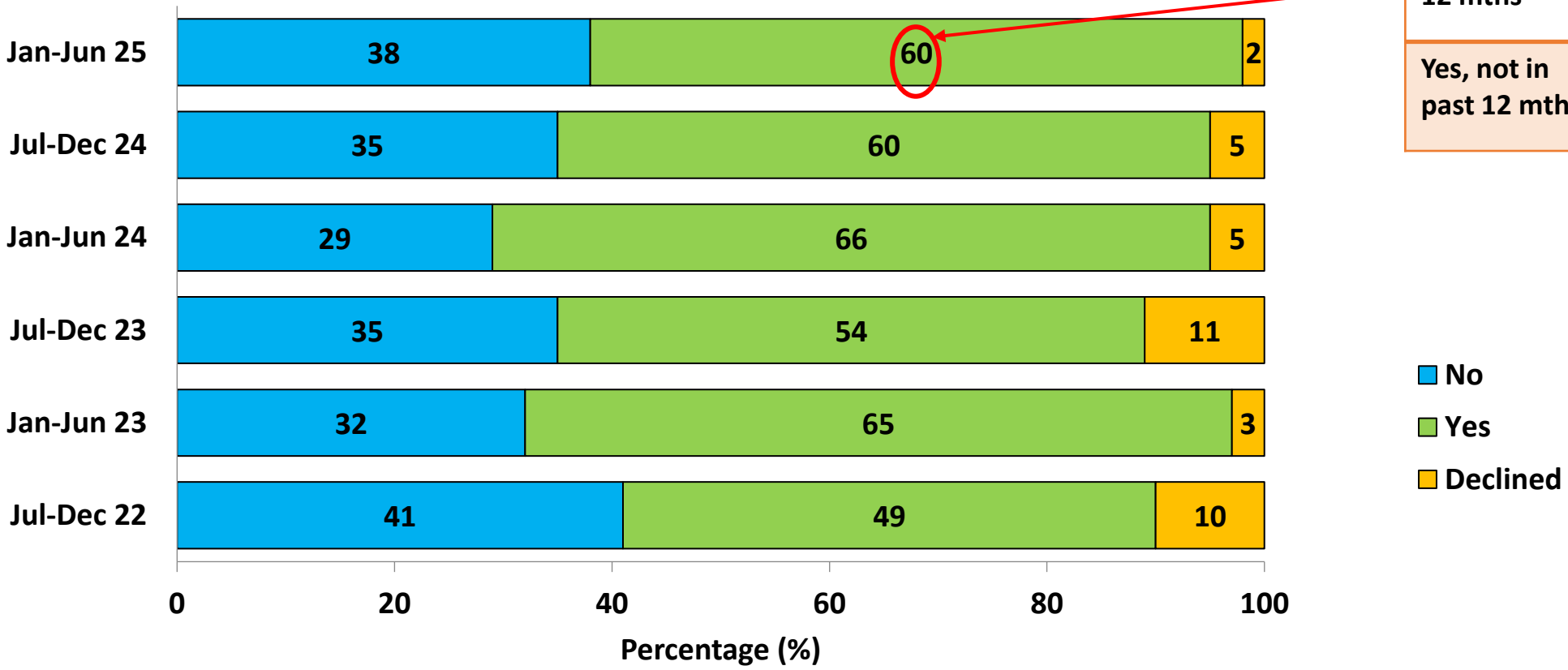


HIV TESTED OVER PTM



Yes, in past 12 mths	51%
Yes, not in past 12 mths	9%

PRIOR HIV TEST BY AGE

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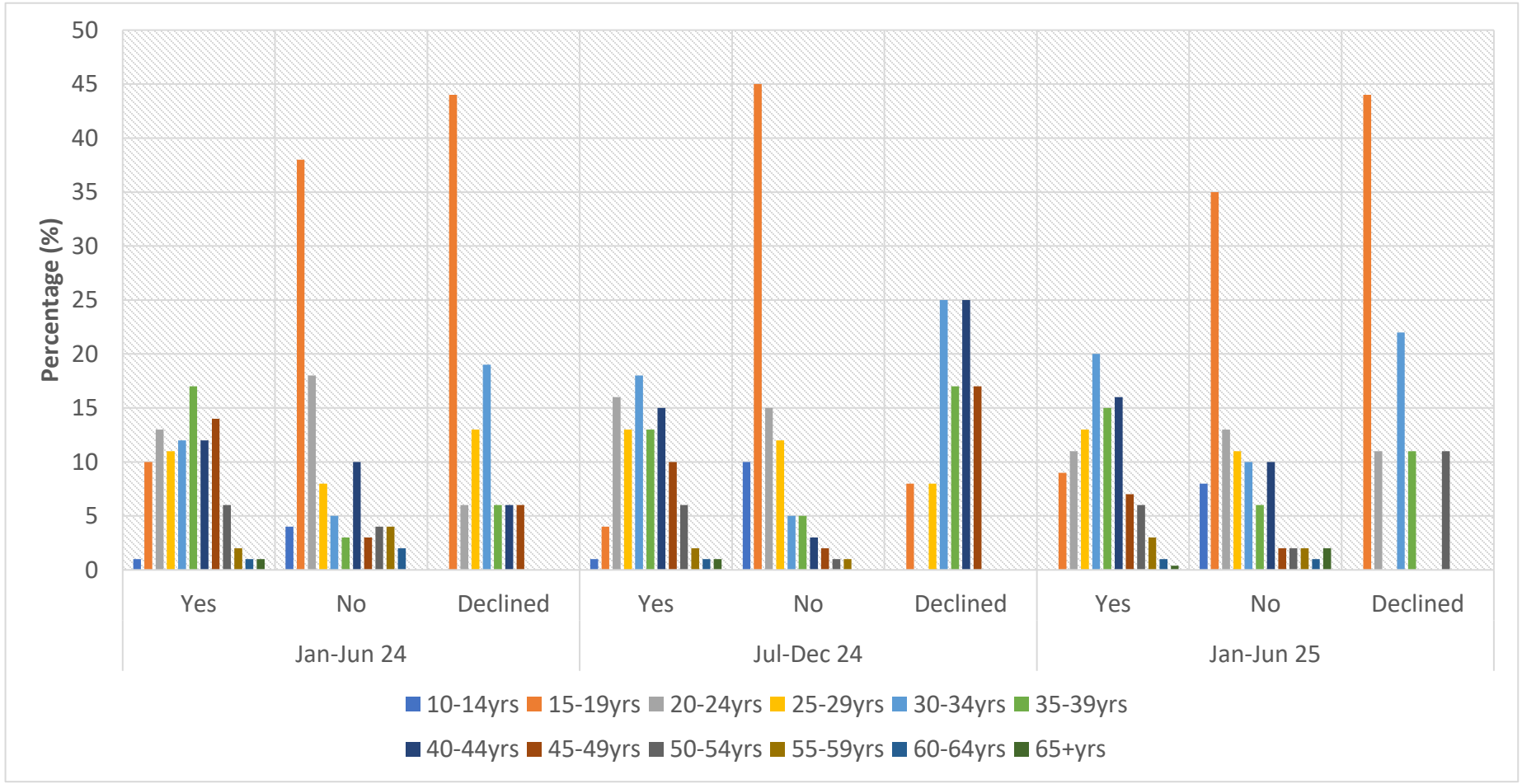

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FUTURE HIV TESTING

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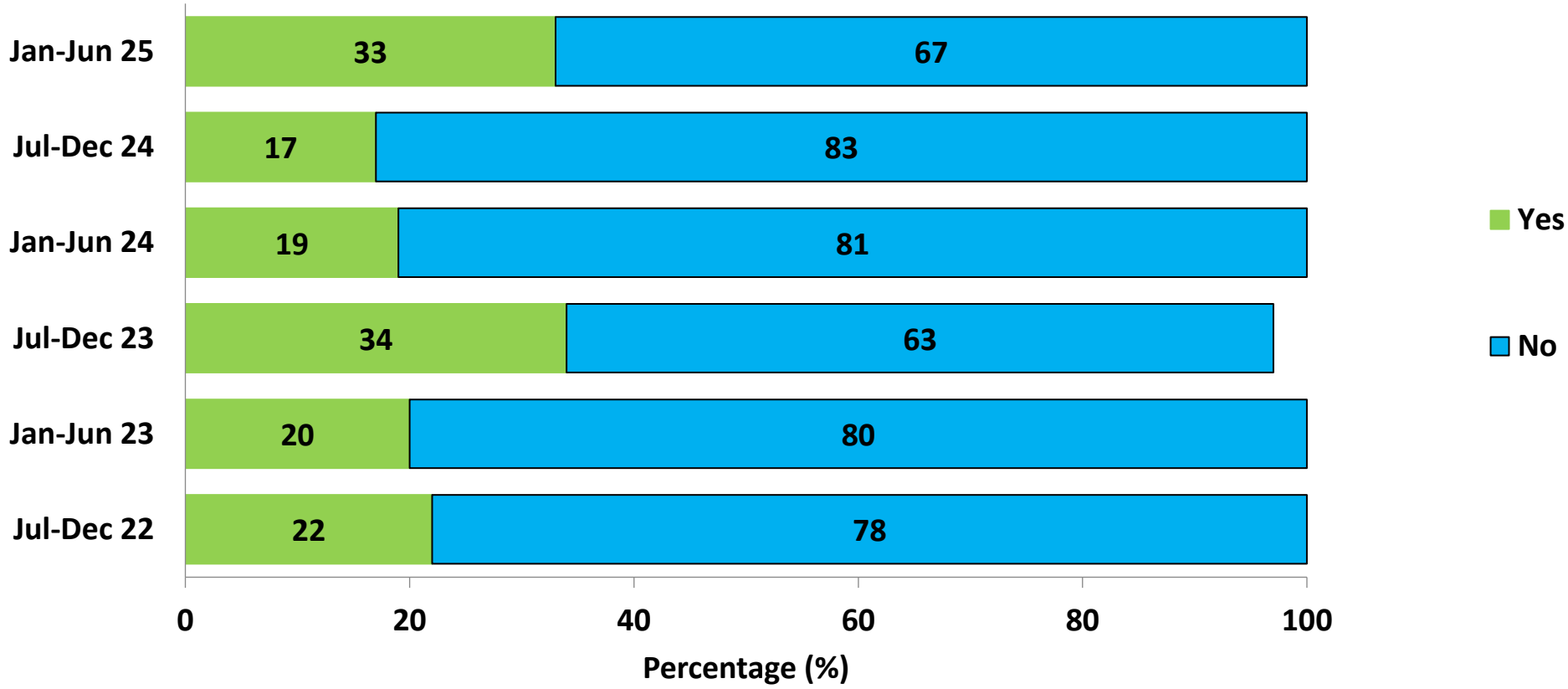

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SUBSTANCE USE DURING PREGNANCY

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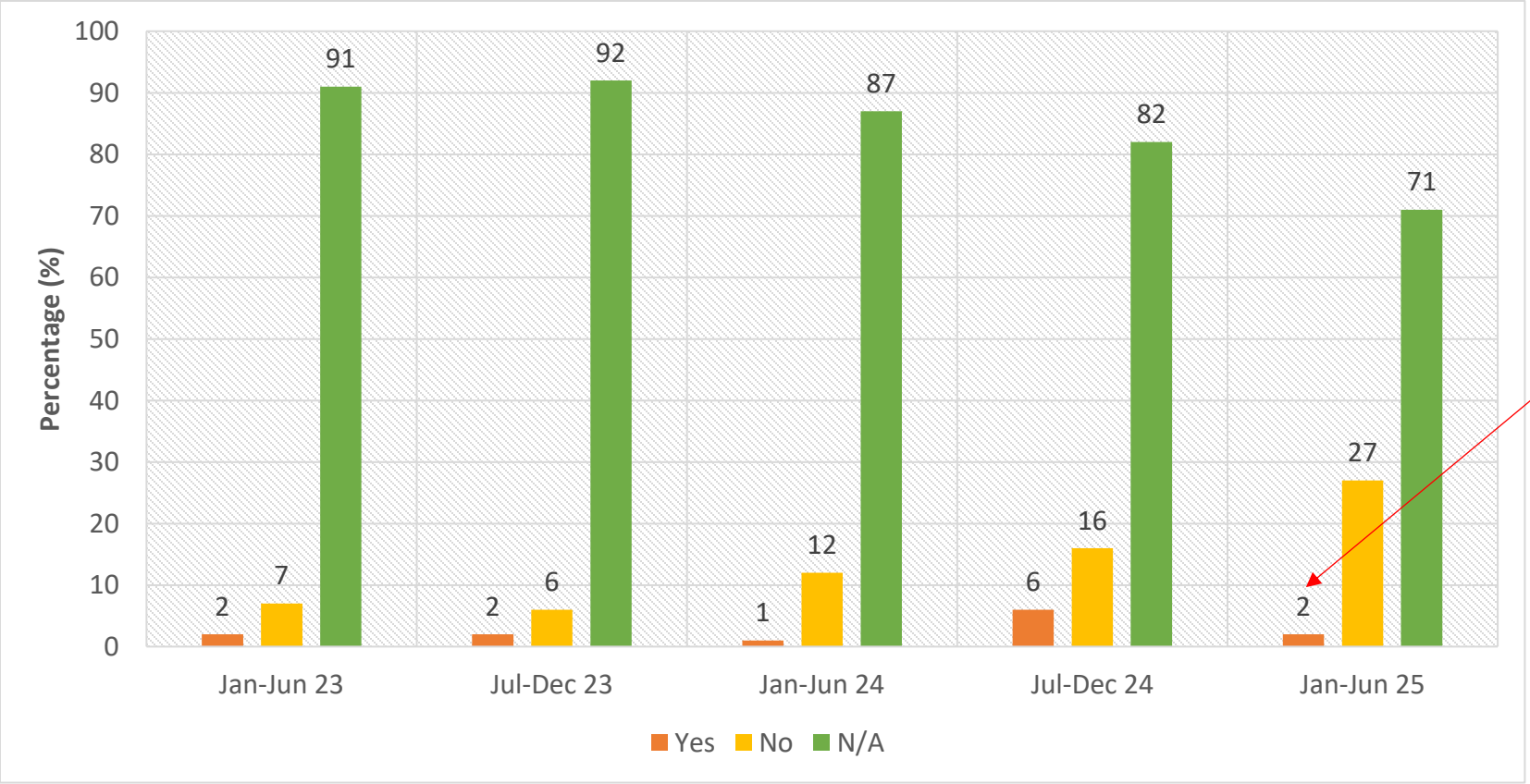

Substances used	n
Alcohol	3
MA	2
Tobacco Prod	2
CAT/KHAT	1
Dagga	1
Other	1

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SUBSTANCES OF USE

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SELECTED PRIMARY SUBSTANCES OF USE

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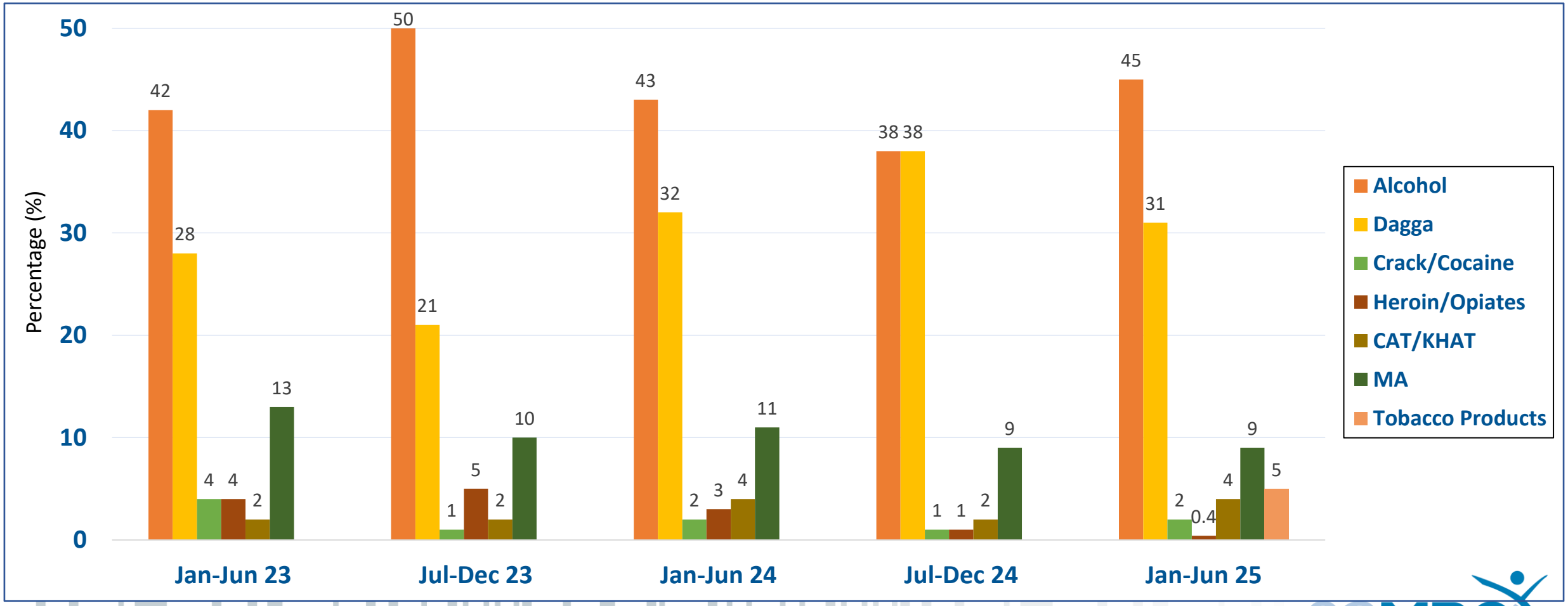

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SELECTED PSOA BY MEAN AGE/MEAN AGE OF INITIATION

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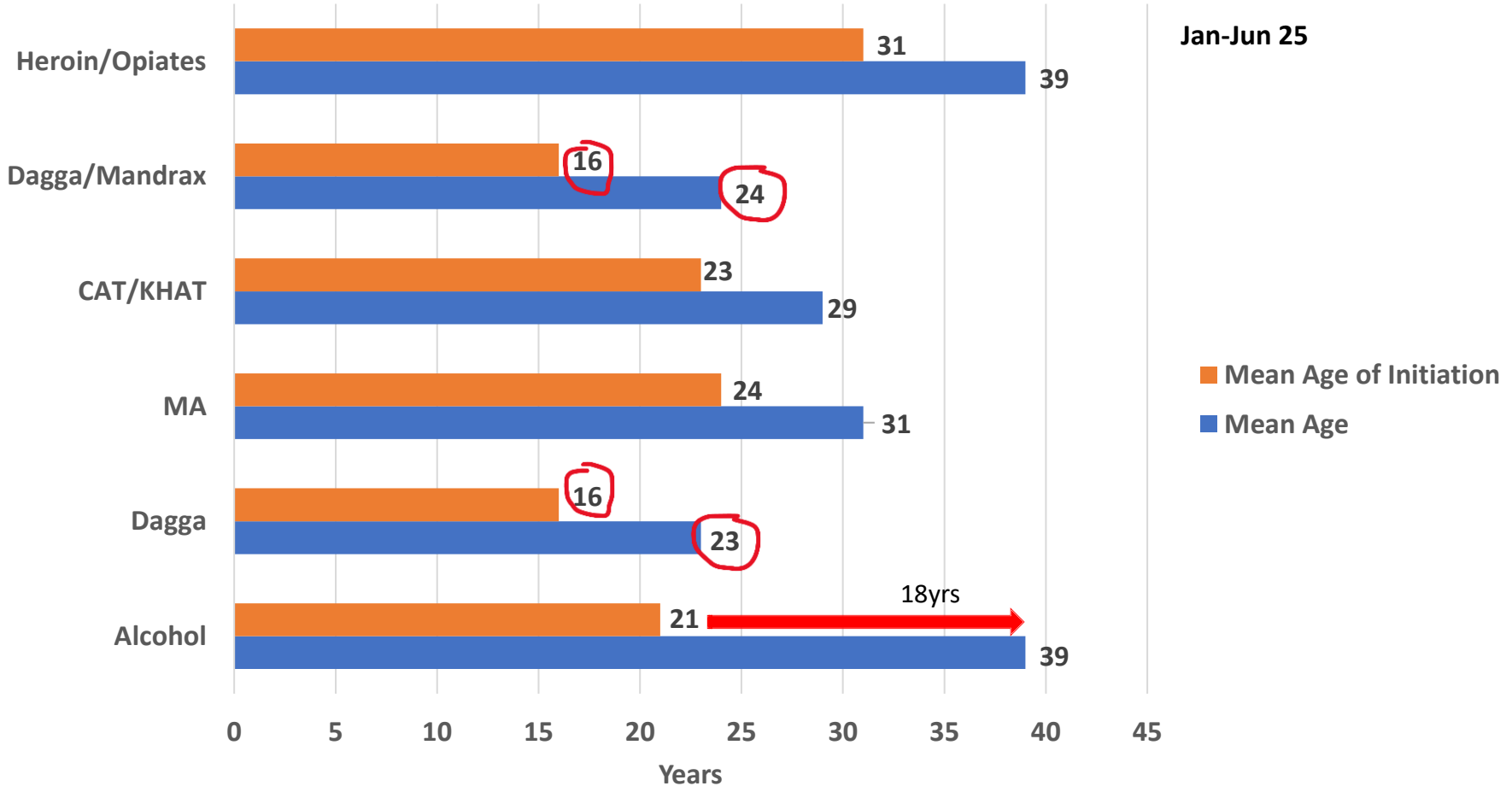

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ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION (ALL SUBSTANCES)

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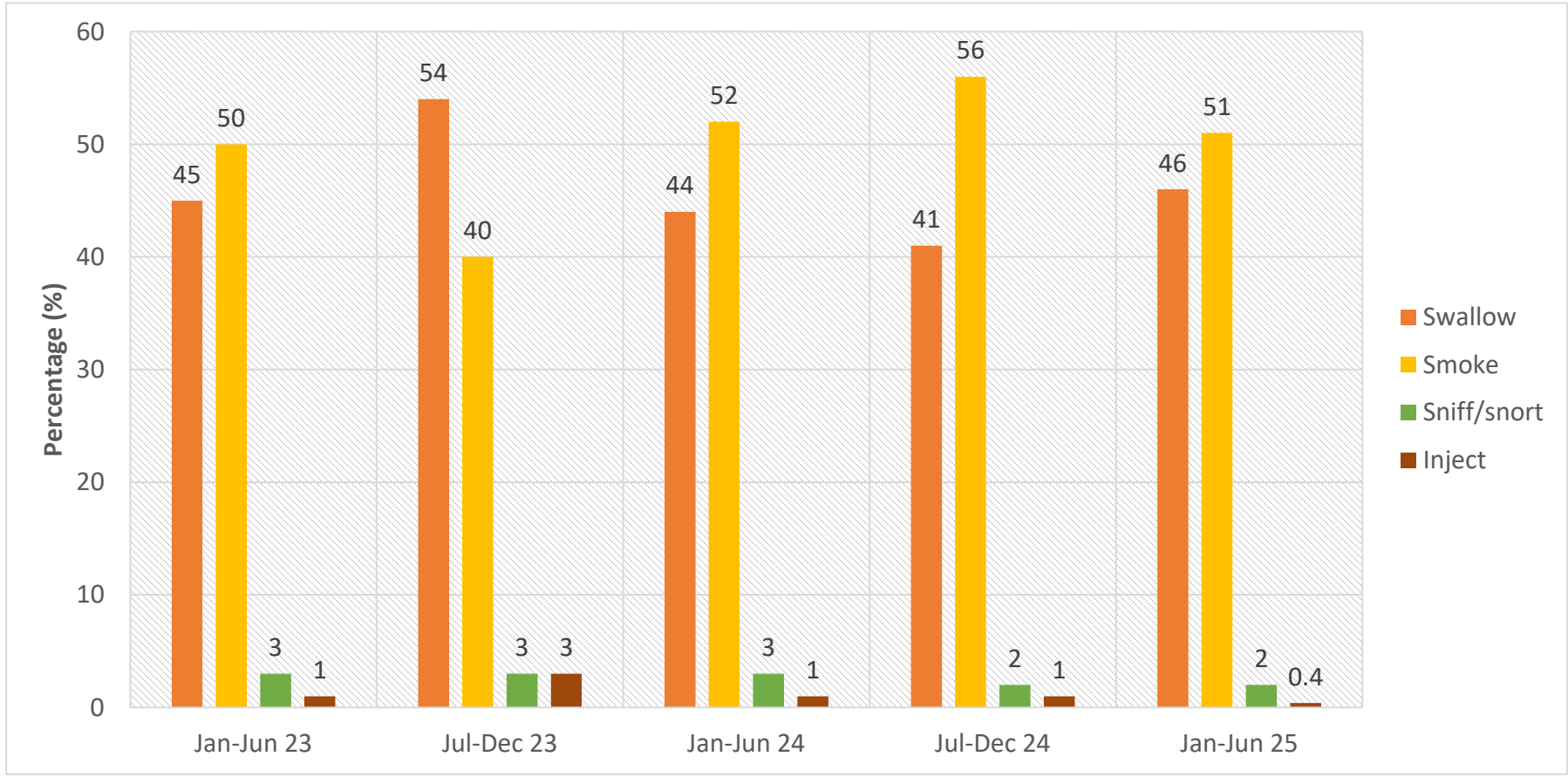

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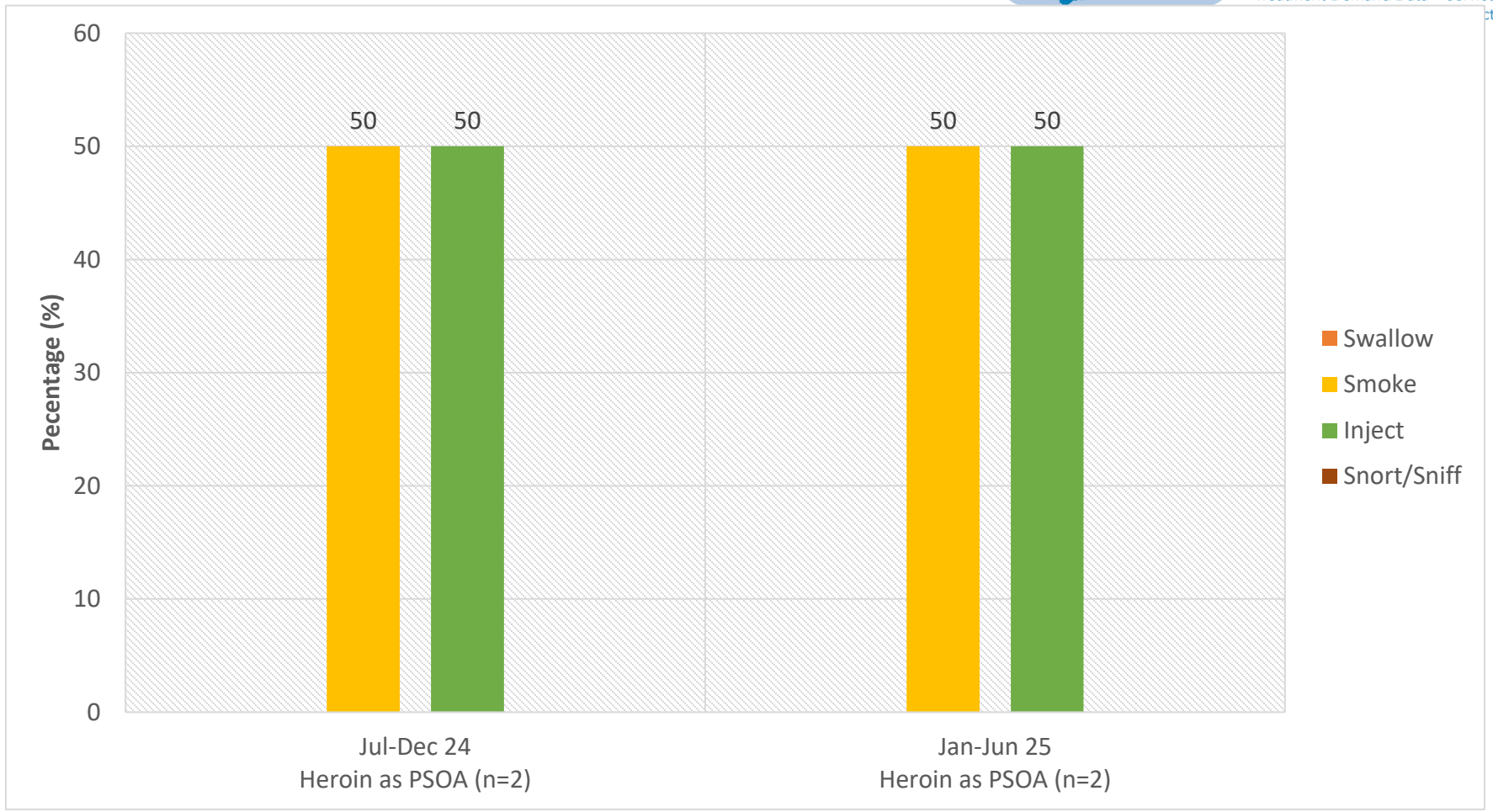
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
Pecentage (%)
50
50
50
50
Swallow
Smoke
Inject
Snort/Sniff
Jul-Dec 24
Heroin as PSOA (n=2)
Jan-Jun 25
Heroin as PSOA (n=2)

READMISSION BY SELECTED PRIMARY SUBSTANCE OF USE

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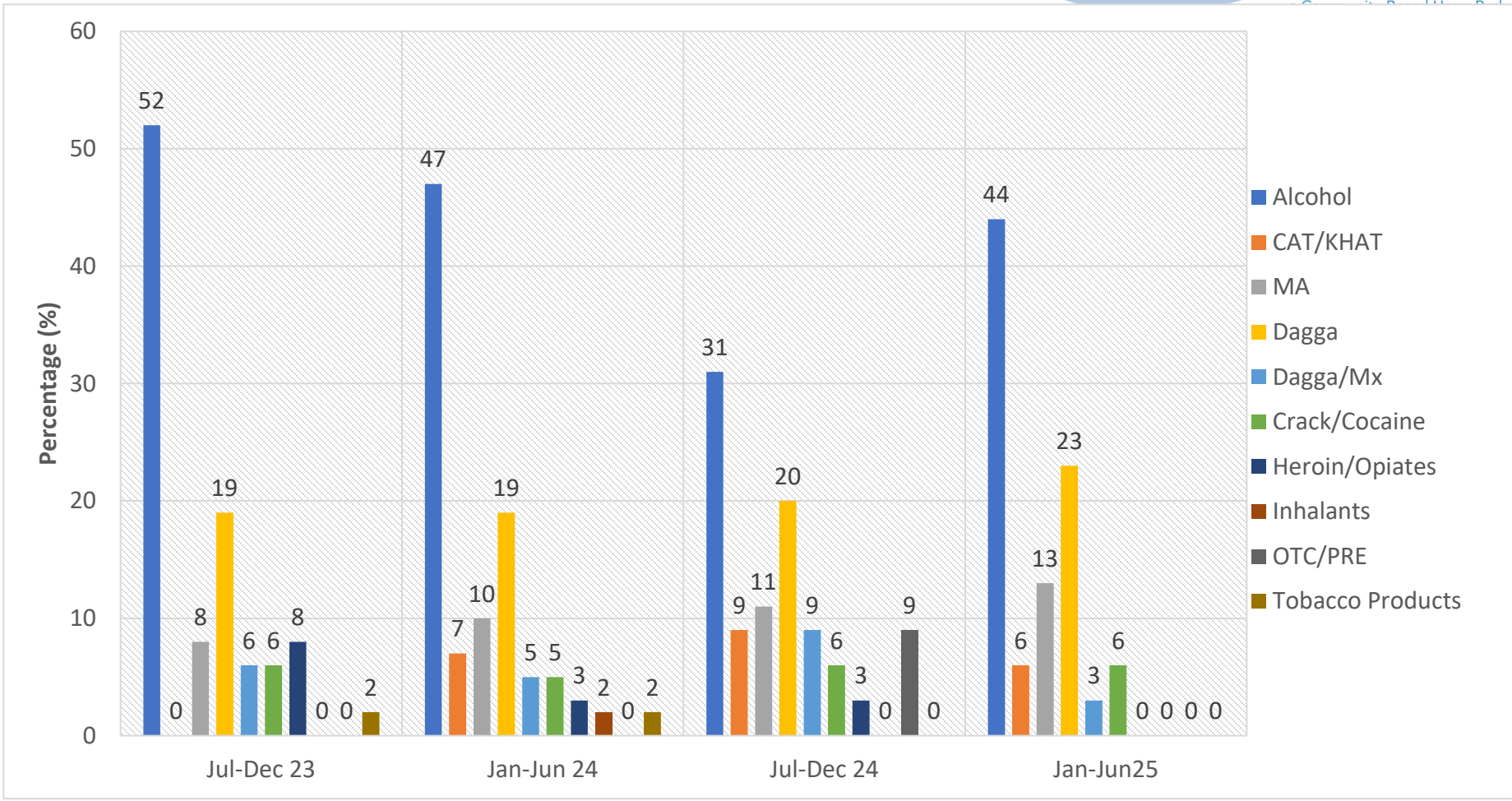

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SELECTED SECONDARY SUBSTANCES OF USE

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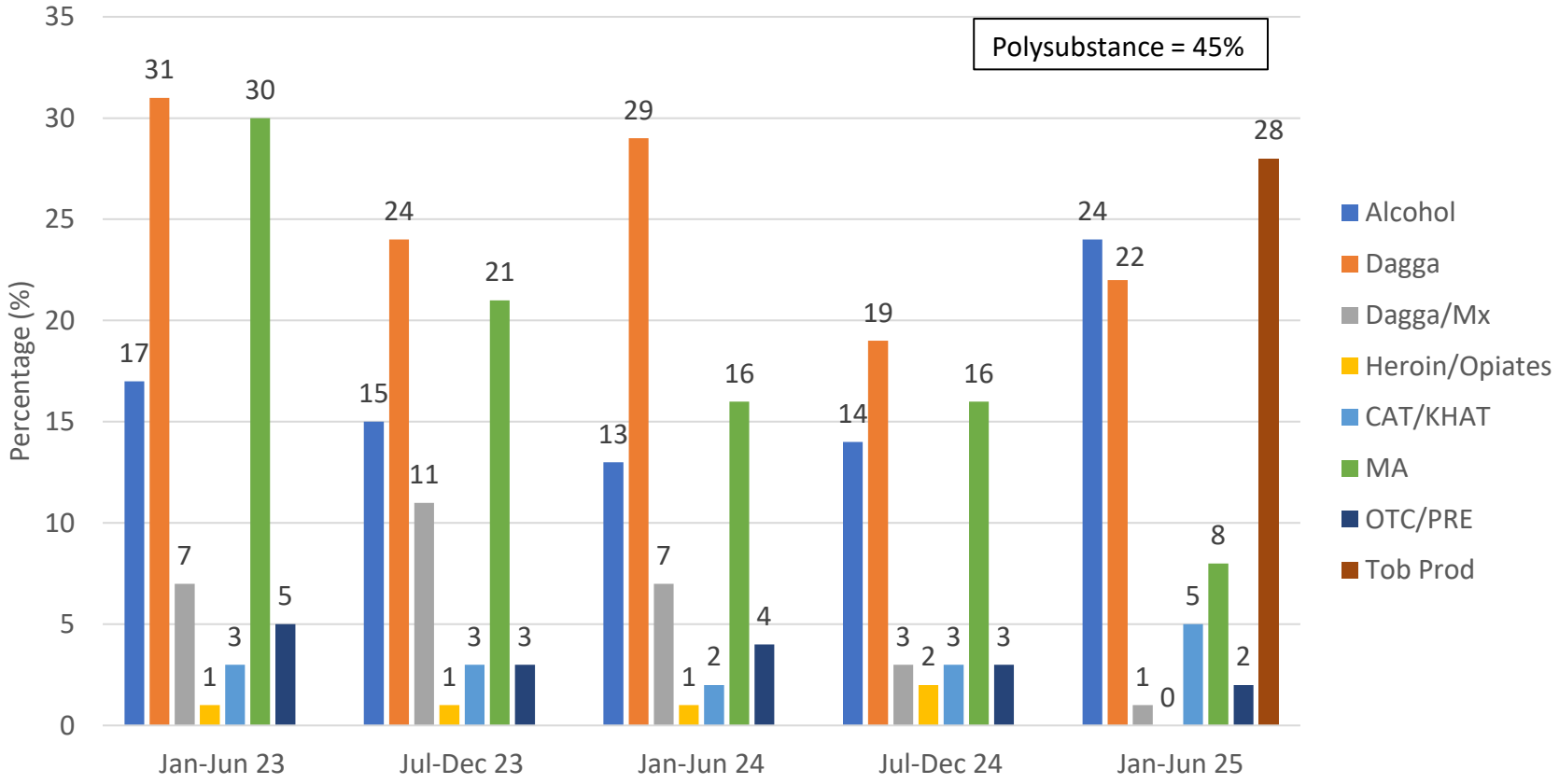

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TOBACCO PRODUCTS

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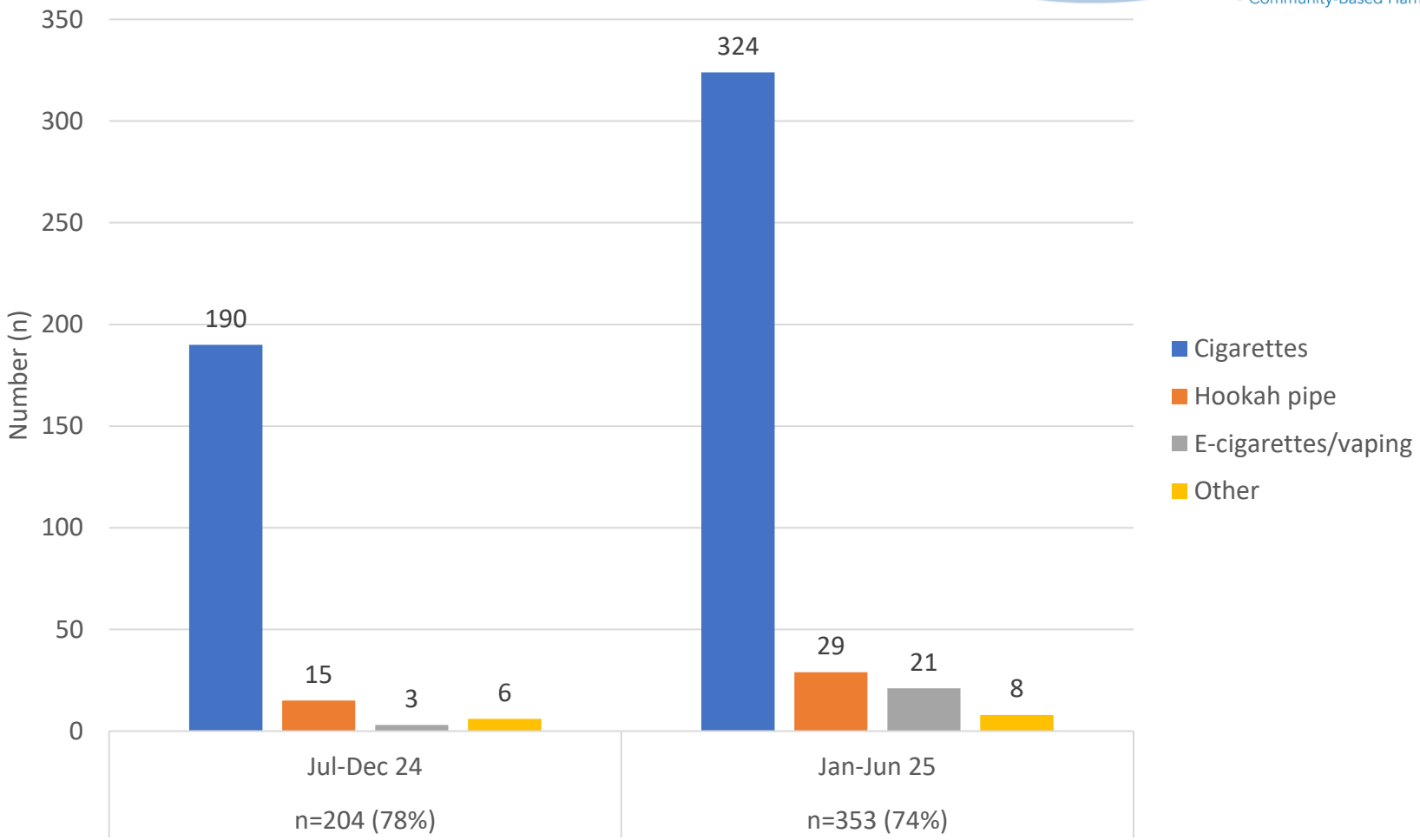

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Number of NCDs

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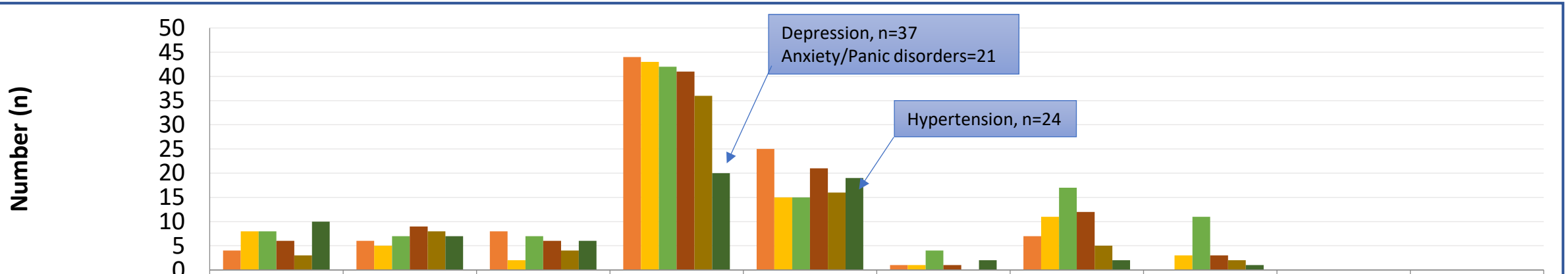

	CVD	Respiratory Disease	Diabetes	Mental Health	Blood Pressure Problems	Liver Disease	GIT Disease	Neurological Disease	Hepatitis	Cancer
Jul-Dec 22	4	6	8	44	25	1	7	0	0	0
Jan-Jun 23	8	5	2	43	15	1	11	3	0	0
Jul-Dec 23	8	7	7	42	15	4	17	11	0	0
Jan-Jun 24	6	9	6	41	21	1	12	3	0	0
Jul-Dec 24 (23%)	3	8	4	36	16	0	5	2	0	0
Jan-Jun 25 (26%)	10	7	6	20	19	2	2	1	0	0

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NCD BY SELECTED PRIMARY SUBSTANCE

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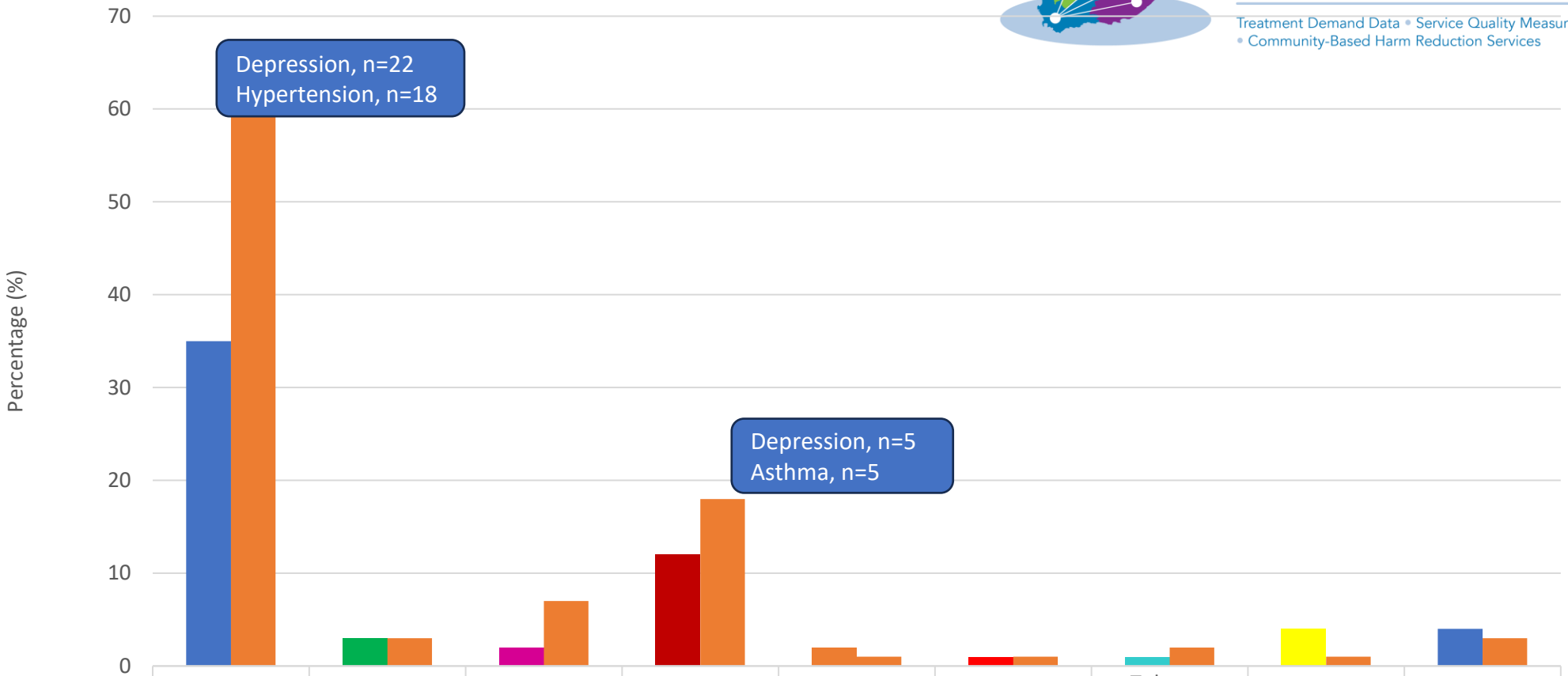

	Alcohol	CAT/KHAT	MA	Dagga	Dagga/Mx	Heroin/Opiates	Tobacco Products	OTC/PRE	Crack/Cocaine
Jul-Dec 24	35	3	2	12	2	1	1	4	4
Jan-Jun 25	60	3	7	18	1	1	2	1	3

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Profile of Individuals who use Codeine (n=17, 4%)	Number (n)
Gender:	
Males: Females	8:9
Ages:	
15-19 years	4
40-44 years	4
Employment status:	
Employed (FT)	9
Codeine product:	
First product: tablets, followed by syrup Second product: tablets, followed by syrup	
Type of codeine-containing medication:	
Adcodol; Stilpane ------→ Tablets	
Lenazine ------→ Syrup	

SOURCE OF PAYMENT

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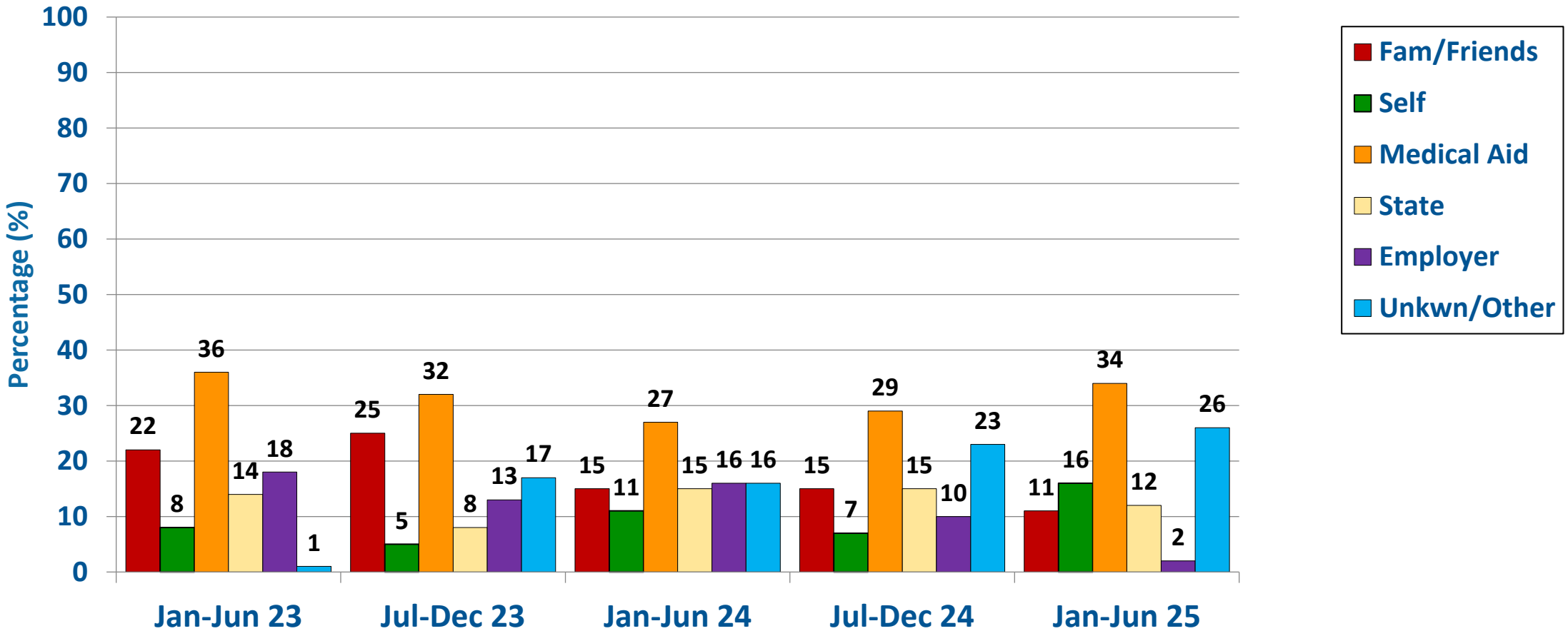

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PATIENTS ≤18 YEARS

NUMBER OF PATIENTS (n=92, 19%)

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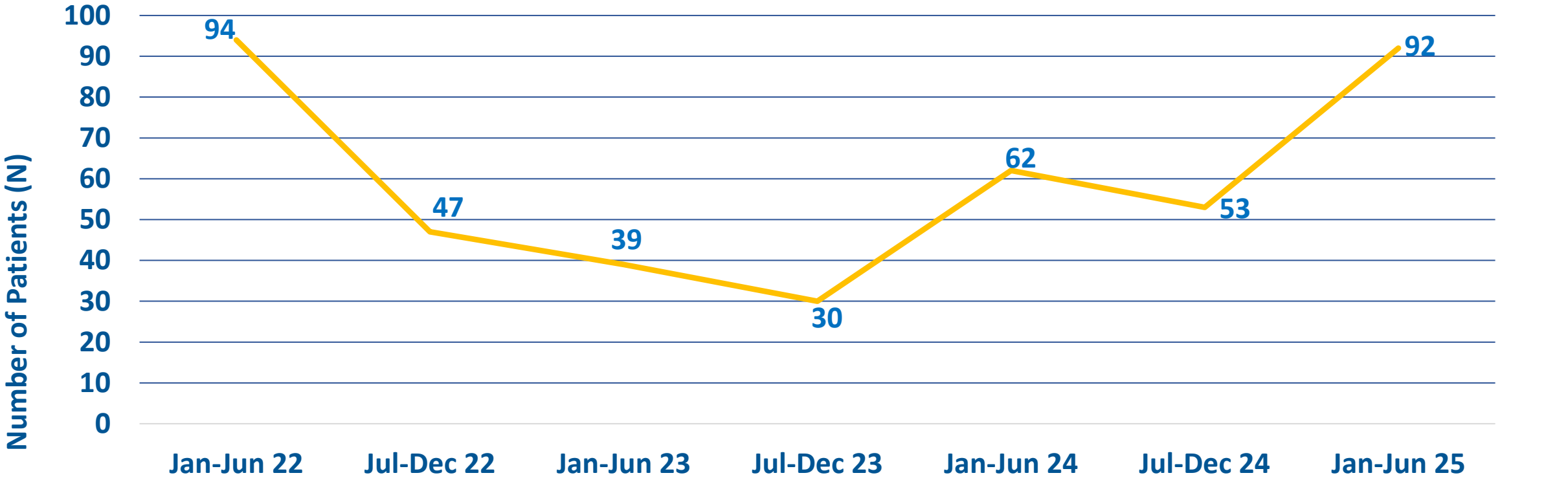

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GENDER

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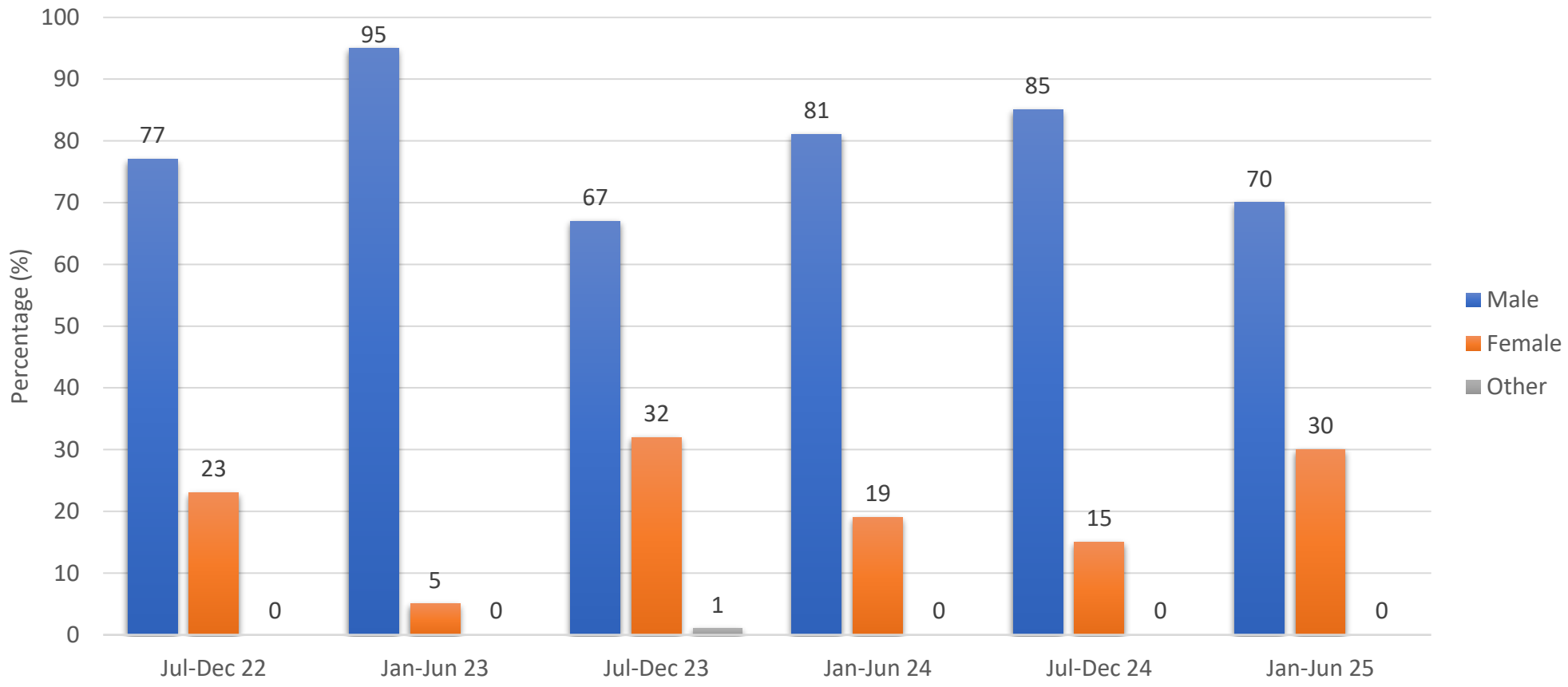

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SELECTED PRIMARY SUBSTANCES OF USE

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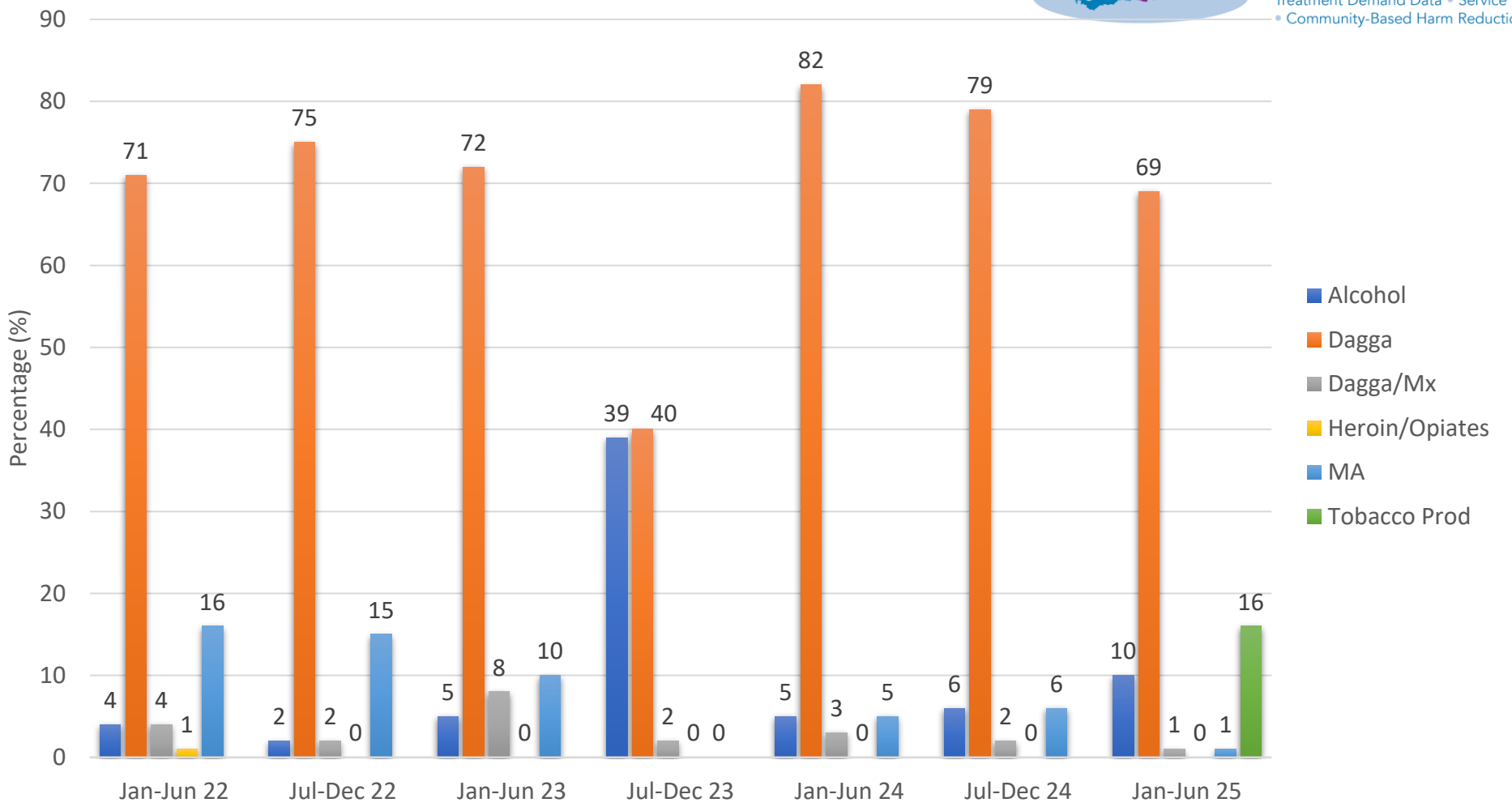

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SELECTED SECONDARY SUBSTANCES OF USE

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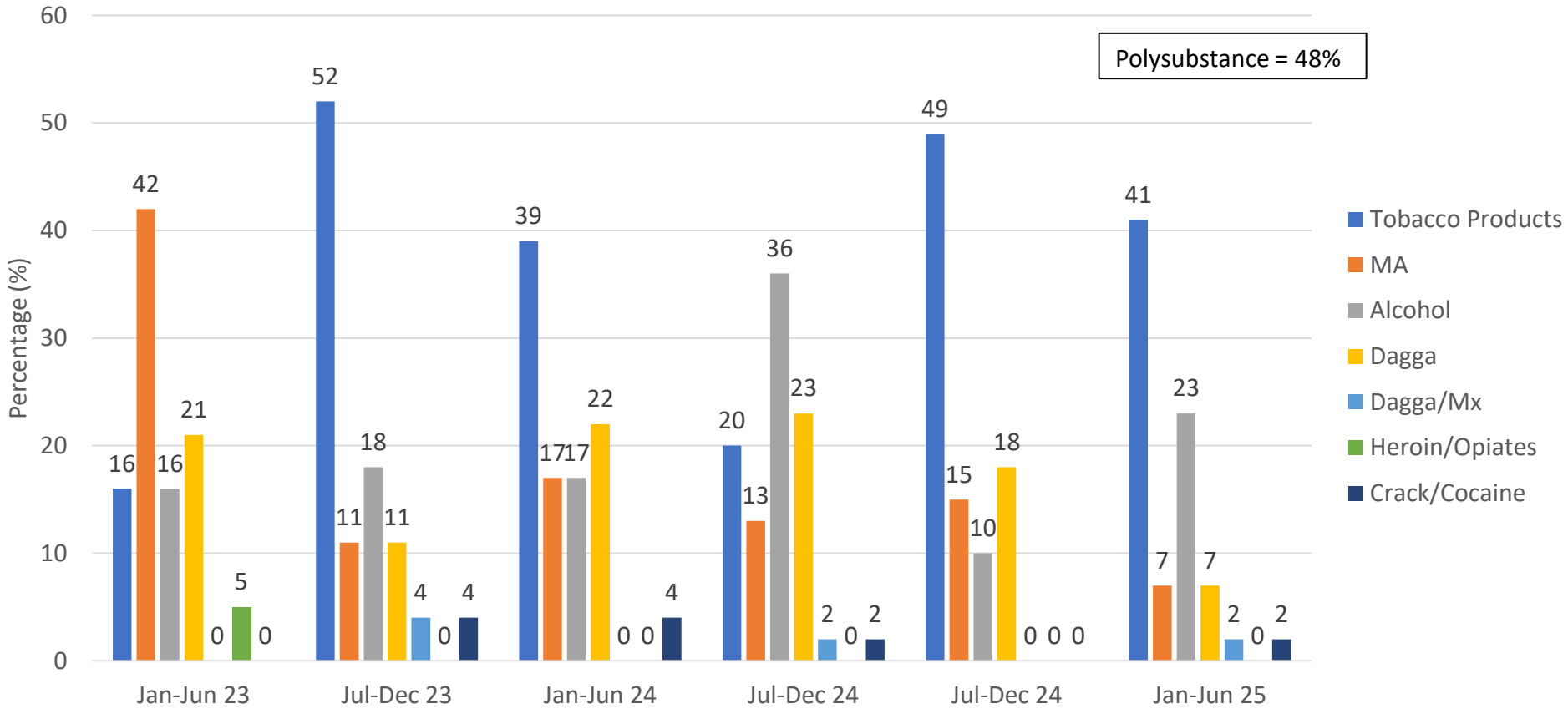

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SUMMARY

- Nationally, CR comprised 6% of admissions this period.
- Number of admissions increased – FS accounted for 72% of admissions in this region.
- Majority were first-time, voluntary admissions.
- Treatment access was mainly to inpatient followed by outpt/cb services. No change in inpatient treatment access.
- Predominantly males aged 15-19 years accessed treatment services – no change for 15–19-year-olds. Decrease for young adults 20-24 years; increase in access for adults aged 30-34 years
- Most persons receiving treatment were employed (ft/pt) and had a high school-level.
- Readmissions were mostly for were males aged 40-44 years. Majority of individuals experienced a readmission once on an inpatient basis.
- Referral to treatment were largely through family/friends, followed by self. Self-referrals increased substantially from 15% to 25%.
- HIV testing rates remained mostly the same since the previous period. Most individuals had been tested for HIV (60%); just over half had been tested in the past 12 months (51%). The majority indicated they did not want future HIV testing but this rate declined appreciably since 24a.
- Rates for substance use during pregnancy remain low though this number is likely under-represented.
- Alcohol and dagga were, again, the two leading primary substances of use this period. Alcohol increased while dagga decreased since the last period.
- Tobacco products, followed by alcohol and dagga were the most frequently reported secondary substances of use. Polysubstance use was indicated by 45% of all persons admitted to treatment.
- Dagga and dagga/mandrax were associated with the youngest age at admission and age of initiation.
- Alcohol had the longest treatment delay (18 years). In contrast to 24b when longer treatment delay was seen for heroin/opiates (11 years), this period delay was shorter at 8 years– individuals typically access treatment for this substance much sooner.

SUMMARY

- **Readmissions were mostly made for alcohol and dagga misuse; substantial increase for alcohol-related readmissions since 24b.**
- **Mental health problems (mainly depression and anxiety/panic disorders) and hypertension were reported as comorbidities at the time of admission.**
- **Comorbidity largely linked to alcohol and dagga.**
  - **Alcohol was mainly associated with depression and hypertension**
  - **Dagga mainly linked to depression and asthma.**
- **'Medical aid' remained the main source of funding for treatment, followed by 'unknown/other'. In other regions, treatment is predominantly state-subsidised.**
- **Adolescents ≤18 years:**
  - **Admissions for adolescents aged ≤18 years increased since the last period. Youth comprised 19% of all admissions.**
  - **Most admissions were made for males. Rates for female admissions doubled over the last two periods.**
  - **Dagga remains the leading primary substance of use, followed by tobacco products.**
  - **Tobacco products and alcohol were most commonly used as secondary substances. Polysubstance use indicated in 48% of all persons in treatment.**

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Thank You

Baie Dankie

Enkosi Kakhulu

Ngiyabonga

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