



2026 Survey Project

Artist Survey

Conducted by:



April 2026

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Context and Objectives

Context

Edmonton Arts Council programs and services seek to increase the profile and involvement of arts and culture in all aspects of community life, in alignment with strategies defined in the City of Edmonton's ten-year cultural plan (*[Connections & Exchanges](#)*). Guided by the Measurement, Evaluation and Learning Framework (MEL), the survey project represents one of several tools that will help EAC evaluate the effectiveness and impact of implemented programs and services, through surveys with four key stakeholder groups:

- General public (i.e., a representative sample of Edmontonians);
- Artists who applied for at least one EAC program or service (i.e., grants) in the previous year;
- Arts or festival organizations who applied for at least one EAC program or service (i.e., grants) in the previous year; and
- Artists or organizations who have interacted with the EAC Shop & Services team.

This report has the results from **Artists who applied for at least one EAC program or service in 2025.**

Objectives

Collect information from artists on the following topics:

- Experience with the Edmonton Arts Council;
- Perception, Barriers and Expectations;
- Public Art Experience;
- Work, Income, and Professional Development;
- Inter-provincial and International Practice and Experience; and
- Arts, Festival, or Arts Service Organizations.



Methodology

Target Audience	Individual artists who have applied for at least one EAC program or service (i.e., grants) between January 1 and December 31, 2025
Sample source and type	Edmonton Arts Council (email addresses and phone numbers)
Population	1,016
Survey modes	Online (Primary) and Telephone
Language	English
Incentives	Entry into prize draw for chance to win one of thirty (30) \$50 Gift Cards
Sponsor identified	Yes
Field dates	January 15, 2026 to February 23, 2026
Completed surveys	472 (47% Response rate) 470 Online 2 Phone
Average survey length	18.9 minutes (Online) 45 minutes (Phone)

Results are based on a census of all artists who applied for at least one EAC program or service in 2025. This means that any substantial differences between results in each year can be considered a true difference*.

Note, however, that while all artists were invited to complete the survey, only 47% (472 out of 1,016 Artists who applied for at least one EAC program or service in 2025) completed the survey.

Standard statistical testing was used as a basis for determining which differences by year are both statistically different and substantially different enough to warrant highlighting (a difference greater or equal to a 5%). Any statistical differences between years are indicated with a callout/arrow:



indicates a significantly higher proportion, relative to the previous year



indicate a significantly lower proportion, relative to the previous year

Note:

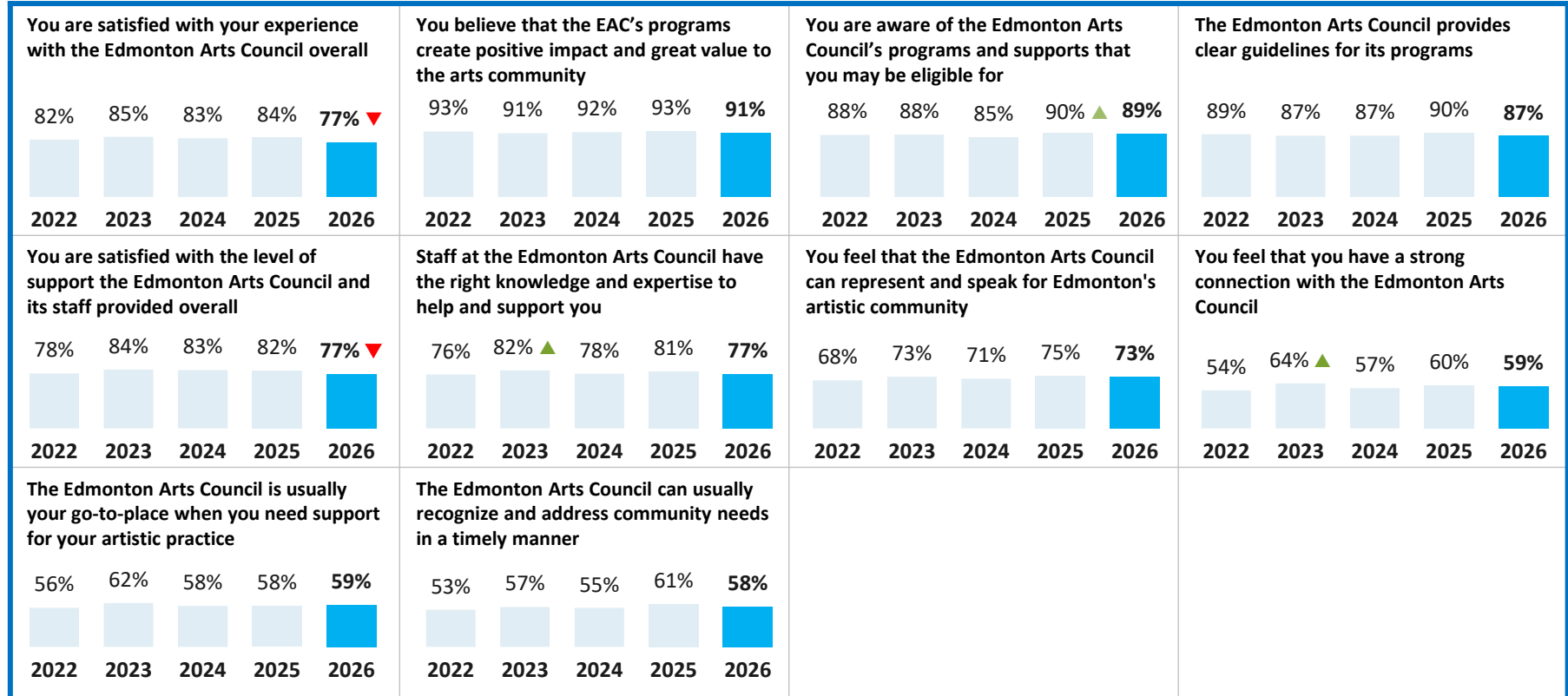
- Percentages less than 3% are not displayed on charts.
- Unless otherwise specified. 'Prefer not to answer' responses have been omitted from results.
- On charts, values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.

* We can assume the differences are true, since we have no reason to believe that those who did not respond to the survey would answer differently than those who did.

Key Metrics and Trends

Experience with Edmonton Arts Council

(% Agree)



Base: Total Answering (2026 n=461 to 472, 2025 n=474; 2024 n=217 to 482; 2023 n=189 to 319; 2022 n=229 to 373).

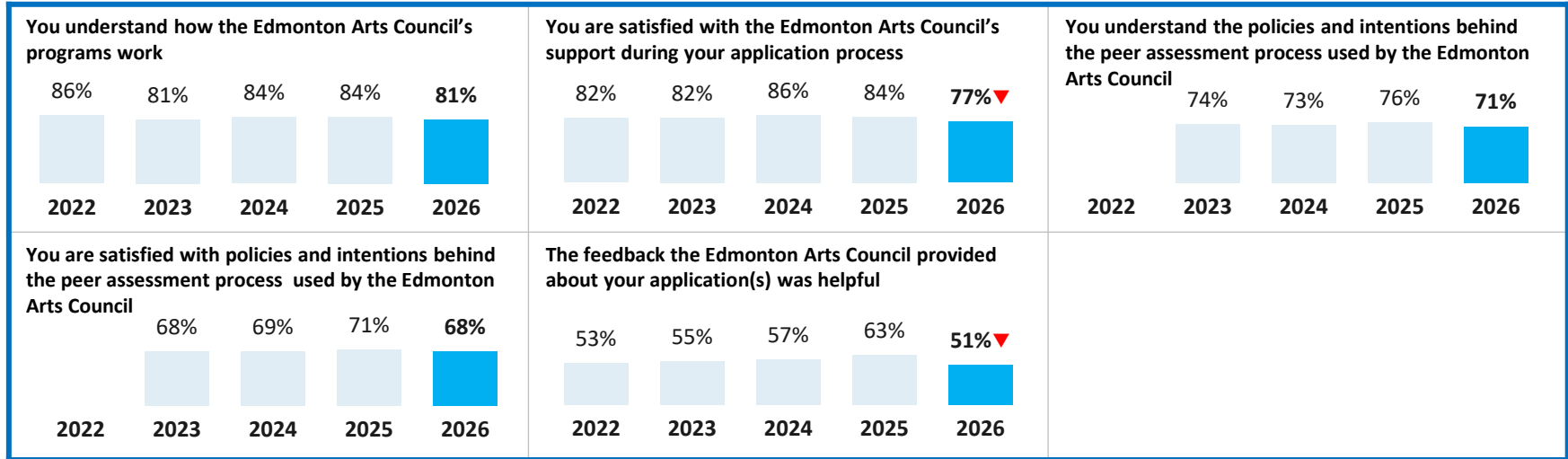
Q1: Please rate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to your experience with the Edmonton Arts Council in the past 12 months.



Higher compared to previous year

Lower compared to previous year

Application and nomination experience (% Agree)



Base: Total Answering (2026 n=463 to 470, 2025 n=475 to 476; 2024 n=478 to 481; 2023 n=313 to 319; 2022 n=371 to 373).

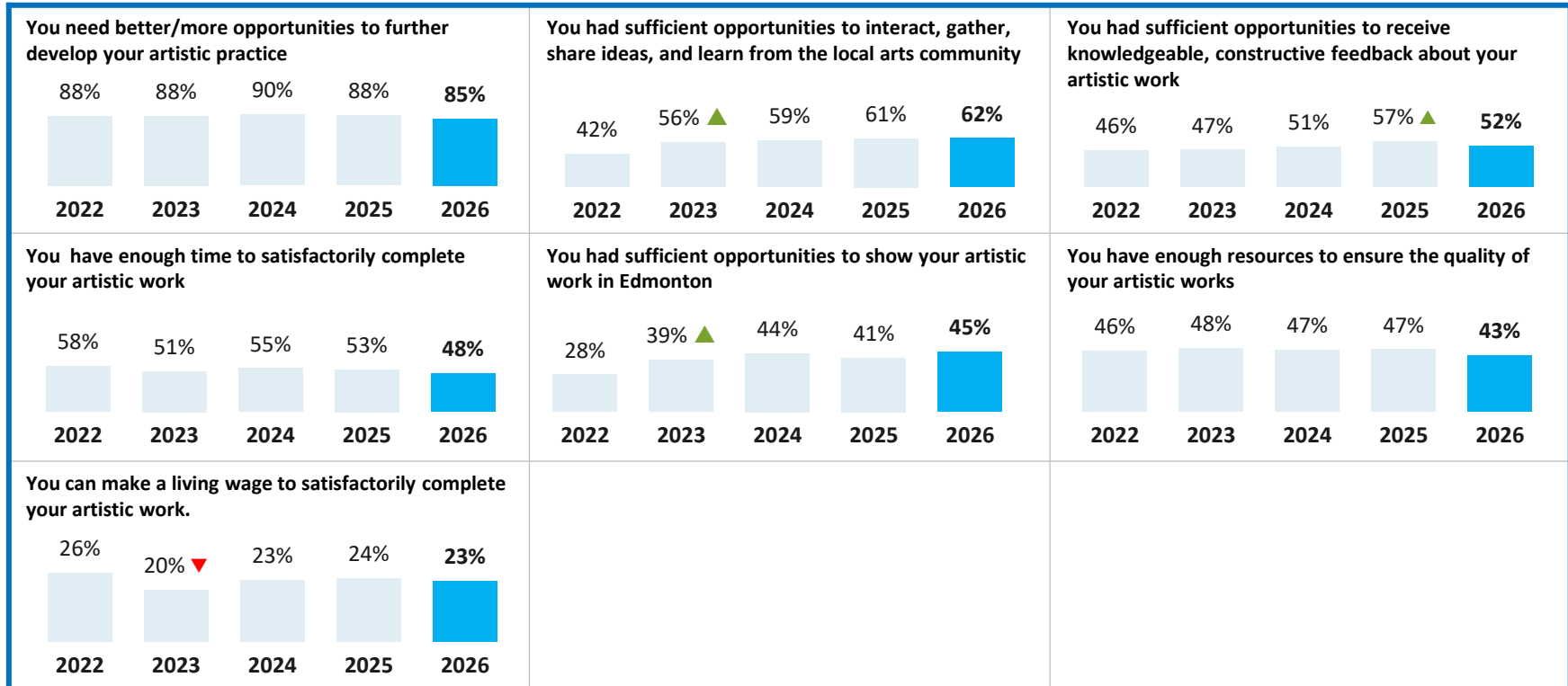
Q1a: Please rate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to your application, nomination, or submission experience with the Edmonton Arts Council in the past 12 months.



Higher compared to previous year

Lower compared to previous year

Artist experience (% Agree)



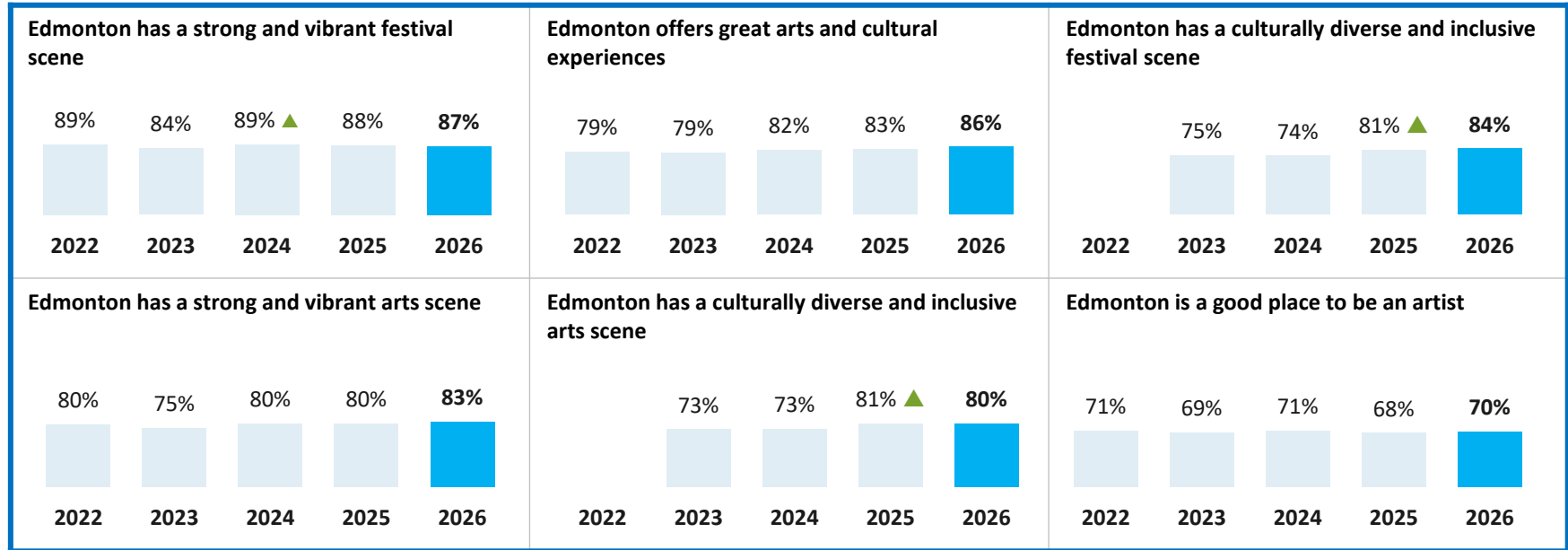
Base: Total Answering (2026 n=458 to 465 , 2025 n=472 to 478; 2024 n=473 to 480; 2023 n=311 to 319; 2022 n=364 to 372).

Q12: Please rate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to your experience as an artist in the past 12 months.

▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

Edmonton's Arts Ecology (1 of 2)

(% Agree)



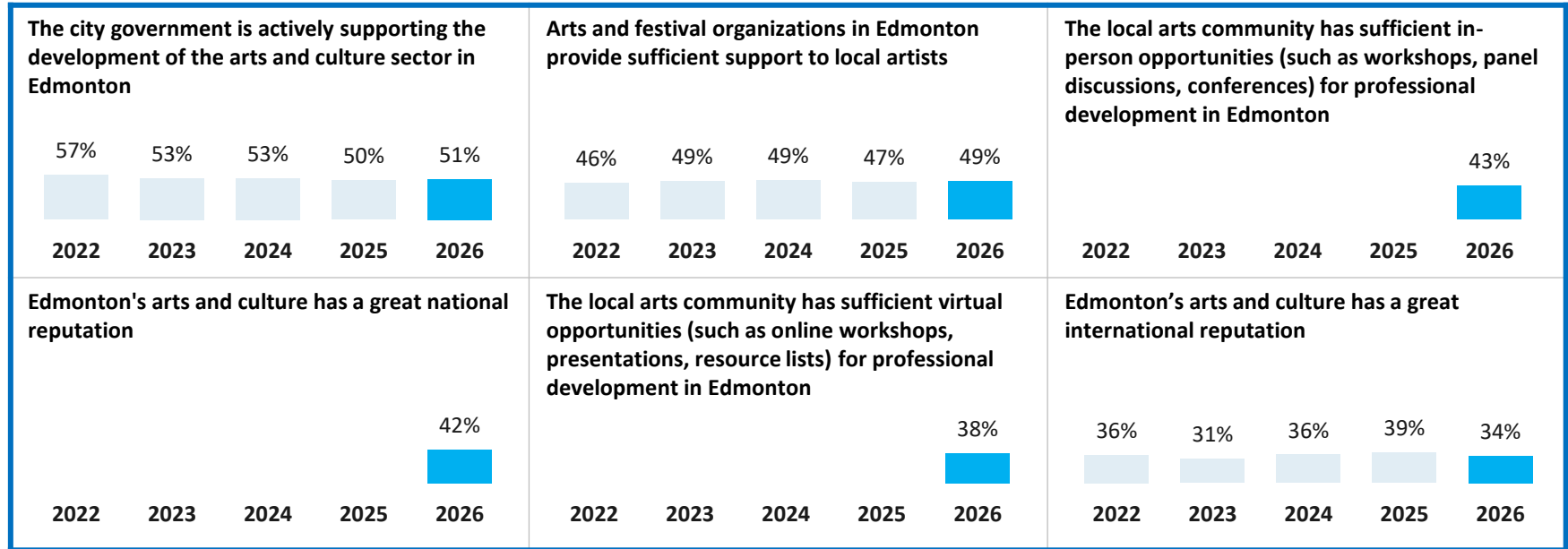
Base: Total Answering (2026 n=460 to 469, 2025 n=470 to 478; 2024 n=470 to 480; 2023 n=312 to 317; 2022 n=362 to 371).

Q13: Please rate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to your perception of Edmonton's overall arts and cultural ecology for the past 12 months.

▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

Edmonton's Arts Ecology (2 of 2)

(% Agree)

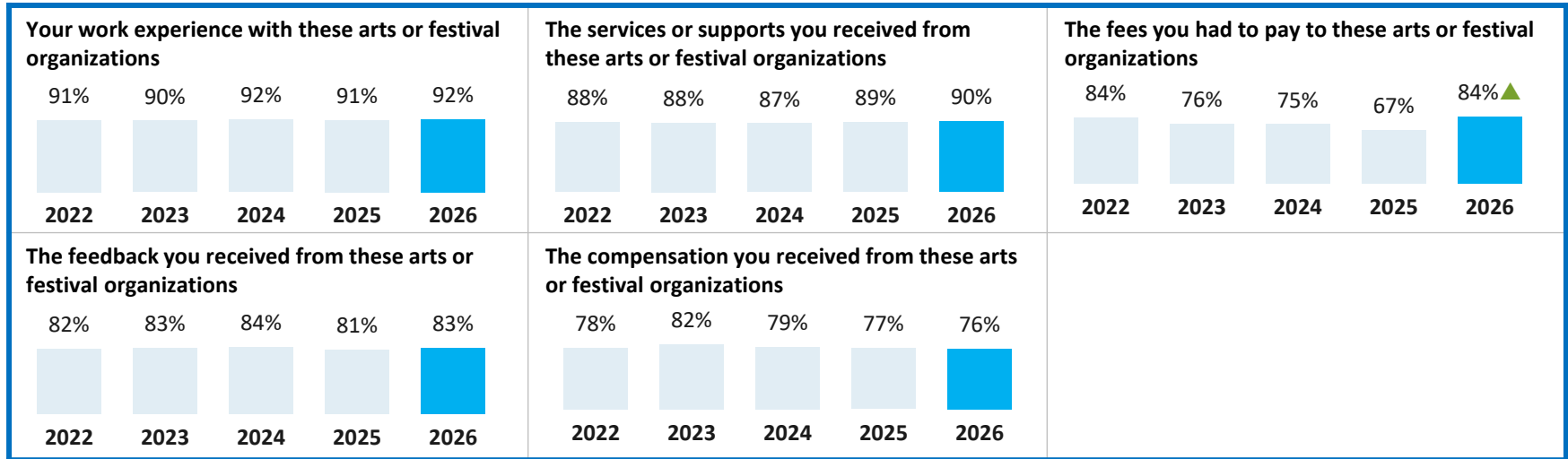


Base: Total Answering (2026 n=460 to 469, 2025 n=470 to 478; 2024 n=470 to 480; 2023 n=312 to 317; 2022 n=362 to 372).

Q13: Please rate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to your perception of Edmonton's overall arts and cultural ecology for the past 12 months.

▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

Satisfaction with arts or festival organization experiences (% Satisfied)



Base: Worked with, or received any support from, arts or festival organizations in Edmonton in past 12 months, Excluding Not Applicable (2026 n=128 to 193, 2025 n=190 to 210; 2024 n=136 to 208; 2023 n=91 to 146; 2022 n=97 to 166).

Q46: Over the past 12 months, how satisfied are you with...?



Higher compared to previous year



Lower compared to previous year



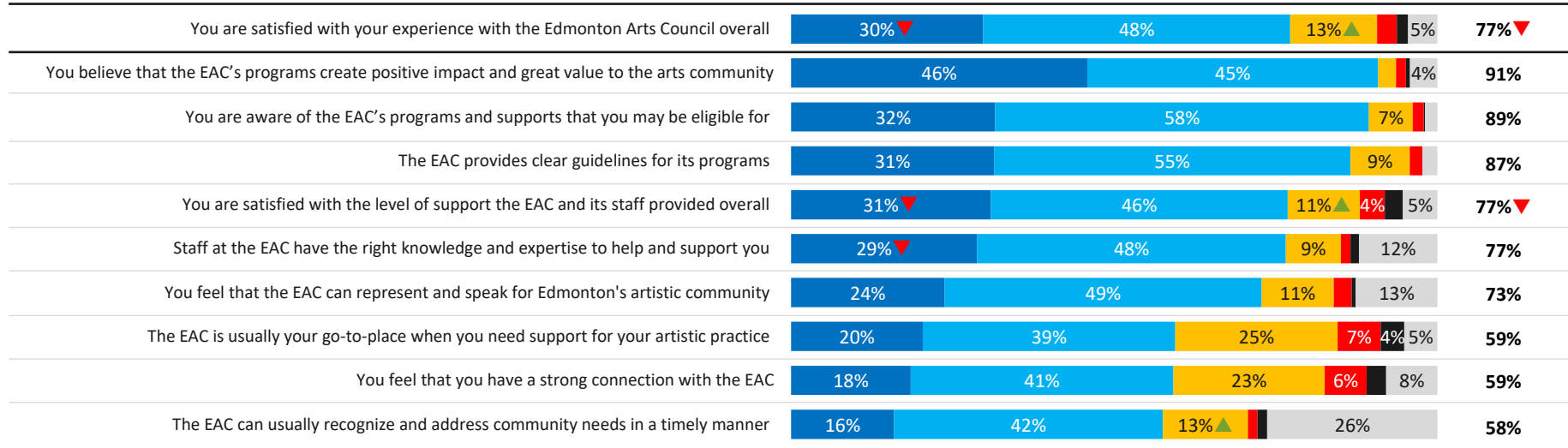
Detailed Results

Experience with Edmonton Arts Council

Compared to the previous year, satisfaction metrics saw a moderate decline in 2026

Overall satisfaction within EAC dropped to 77% (from 84%), while satisfaction with EAC staff support decreased to 77% (from 82%)

NET Agree
(Strongly + Somewhat)



■ Strongly agree
 ■ Agree
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Not applicable
 ■ Don't know

▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

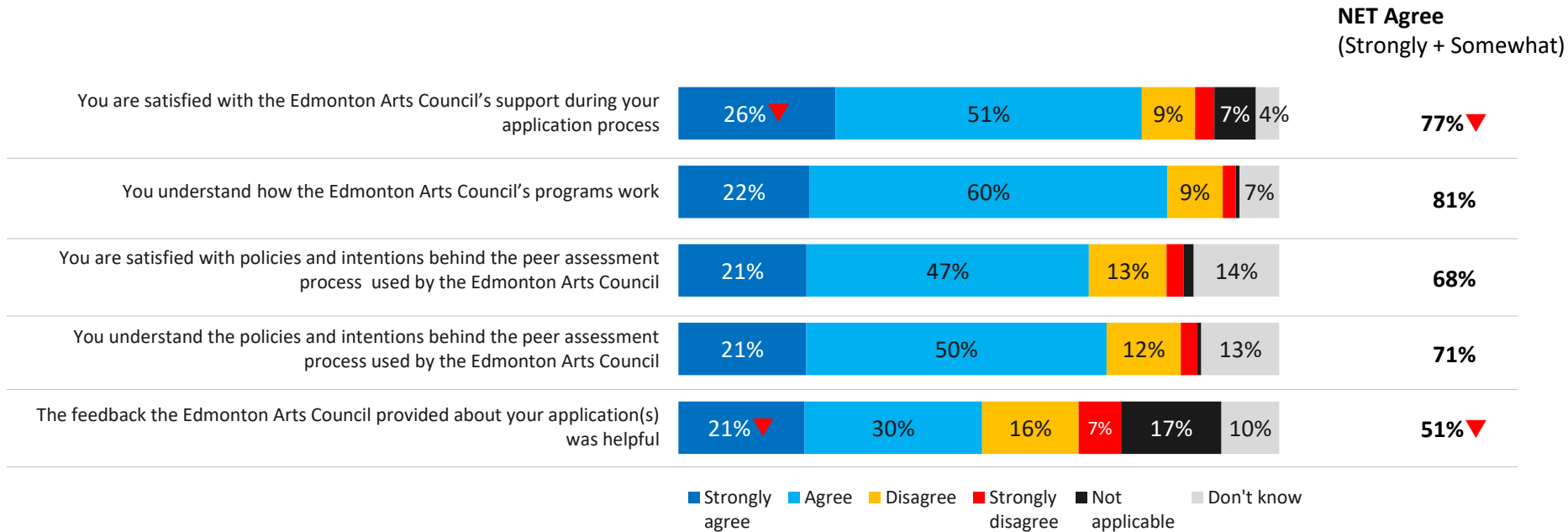
Base: Total Answering (n=461 to 472).

Q1: Please rate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to your experience with the Edmonton Arts Council in the past 12 months.

Data labels for 3% or less are removed for legibility. Values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.

Fewer artists were also satisfied with the Edmonton Arts Council support during their application process

Only half of those surveyed said the feedback EAC provided about their applications was helpful (compared to 63% in 2025).



Base: Total Answering (n=463 to 470).

Q1a: Please rate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to your application, nomination, or submission experience with the Edmonton Arts Council in the past 12 months.

Data labels for 3% or less are removed for legibility. Values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.

▲ Higher compared to previous year

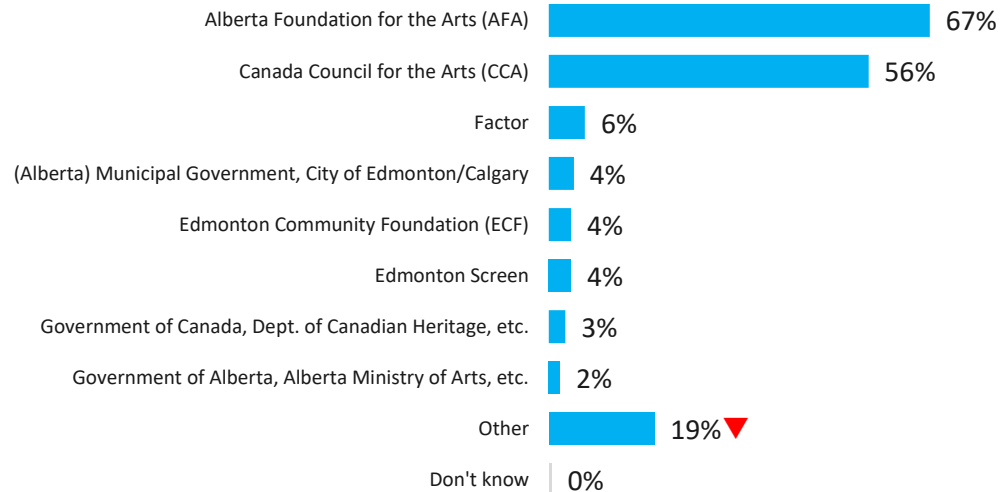
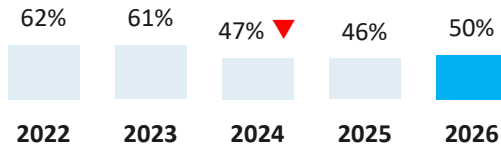
▼ Lower compared to previous year

Half of artists worked with other arts funders in the past year.

Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) and Canada Council for the Arts (CCA) are still the other arts funders EAC applicants are most likely to have interacted with last year.

Which other arts funders did you interact with in the past 12 months? (multi-coded)

Worked with other arts funders in the past year (% Yes)



Data labels for 3% or less are removed for legibility.

Values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.

Q2a: Other than the Edmonton Arts Council, have you worked with any other arts funders in the past 12 months? Base: Total Answering (2026 n=463, 2025 n=474; 2024 n=467; 2023 n=314; 2022 n=350); Q2ayes: Which other arts funders did you interact with in the past 12 months? (multi-coded open) Base: Worked with arts funders other than the EAC in the past 12 months (2026 n=196, 2025 n=205).



Higher compared to previous year

Lower compared to previous year

Artists would like to see more training on specific opportunities and supports for emerging artists.


They would also find topics related to business and funding (financial management, marketing, grant and application writing, and funding) helpful.

(Coded from verbatim responses)

Specific opportunities and supports for emerging artists/other forms of art projects	46	<i>Professional development training, especially for new and emerging artists. Preferably in partnership with professional gallerists, established/successful artists etc.</i>
Financial management (e.g., taxes)	44	<i>Financial intelligence, understanding of taxable credit benefits for OAS</i>
Grant and application writing	39	<i>Writing grant proposals that are clearly understood by artists who don't practice in that medium.</i>
Funding	39	<i>More in depth information on how artists can be successful with their funding applications.</i>
Opportunities (e.g., program lists, residencies)	35	<i>More mentorship opportunities! I was part of one earlier and it was amazing!</i>
Marketing and sales	27	<i>More on the business side of the practice. Social media marketing. Enhancing artist visibility.</i>
Networking and idea sharing – locally, nationally, and internationally	24	<i>Community building and networking events. These are sorely needed in the community to cross pollenate.</i>
Career management	24	<i>Mentorship or career guidance sessions</i>
Feedback on applications	20	<i>I would like to see more training offered for interviews for public art applications.</i>
Writing (e.g., books, screenwriting, playwriting, etc.)	19	<i>Writing and Acting Workshops</i>
Business training tailored to Artists	18	<i>More tax information for musicians, legal information for small business ownership in Edmonton and Alberta</i>
Digital art	16	<i>Digital art, communicating/setting up shows with galleries</i>
Music	13	<i>Would like to see some musical training workshops or something of the sort where I can come to learn how to play instruments or produce music.</i>
Film	11	<i>Photography / Film</i>

Base: Total Answering (n=264), excluding Don't know and Prefer not to answer. **Response categories with less than 3% of mentions overall not shown.**

Q5: For your capacity growth, what areas, subjects, or topics of training, info sessions and workshops do you wish to see offered by the Edmonton Arts Council?

Providing more grants/funding is a common suggestion  to improve EAC's opportunities, programs, services, or operational processes.

Artists also emphasize the importance of receiving support or feedback on applications.

(Coded from verbatim responses)

Positive experiences	69	<i>The program staff are super helpful. I appreciate they make an effort to reach out if something is missing from an application or have a follow up question.</i>
Provide more grants/funding	47	<i>Would love an in process development small grant/microgrant separate from the major projects stream 3 one.</i>
Provide more feedback on applications	41	<i>Expanded feedback on unsuccessful applications would be appreciated.</i>
More transparency around award decisions	38	<i>Transparent disclosure of the adjudication process and decision making for all individual and organization grants and the artist awards offered by the EAC</i>
Improve application process	34	<i>I would welcome continued efforts toward clear communication around application processes, timelines, and assessment criteria</i>
Engage more with artists	31	<i>Online options for board members to attend meetings to get more engagement with artists that have active practices.</i>
More community outreach	20	<i>Continue their positive community outreach</i>
Panels/juries to be more knowledgeable / have expertise in dedicated areas	18	<i>I do often worry that the interdisciplinary juries may not be familiar enough with contemporary visual artist practice</i>
Increase diversity of staff / selection panels	11	<i>Diversifying the EAC team overall</i>

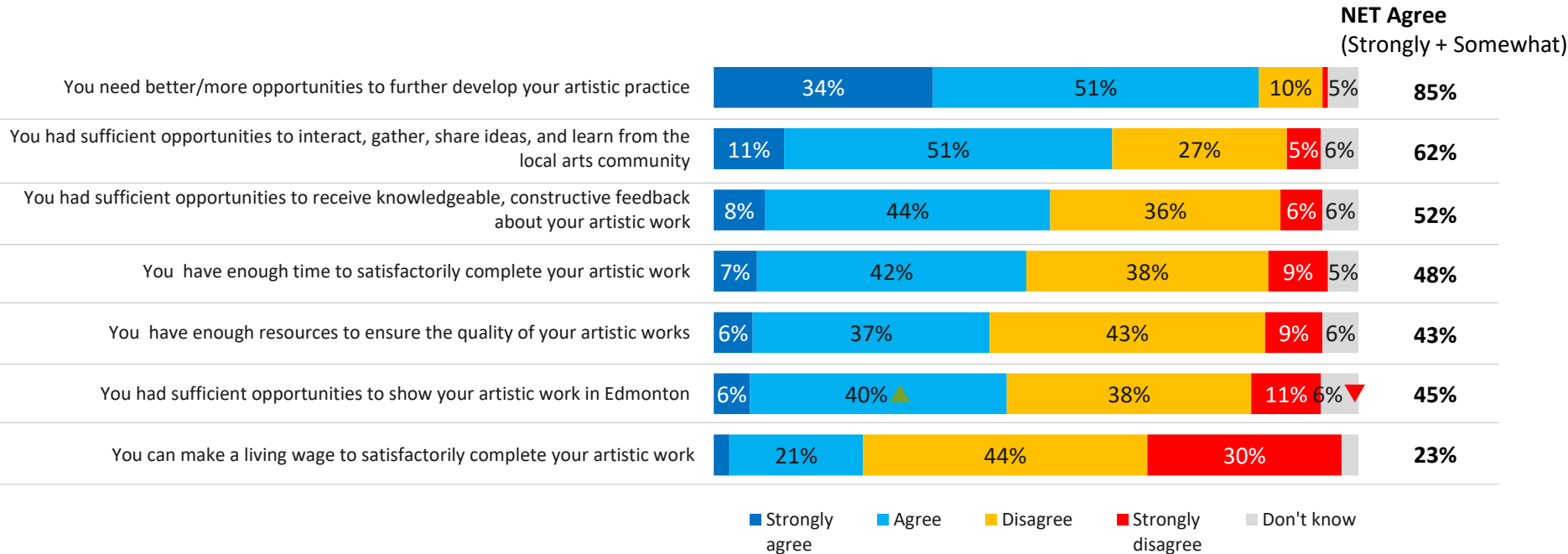
Base: Total Answering (n=259) , excluding Don't know and Prefer not to answer. **Response categories with less than 3% of mentions overall not shown.**

Q6: Overall, what comments, critiques, or expectations would you like to offer about the Edmonton Arts Council's opportunities, programs, services, or operational process?

Perception, Barriers and Expectations

More than 8 in 10 Artists highlight having more (or better) opportunities as key to further developing their practice.

Less than 1 in feels like they can make a living wage to satisfactorily complete artistic work.



Base: Total Answering (n=458 to 465).

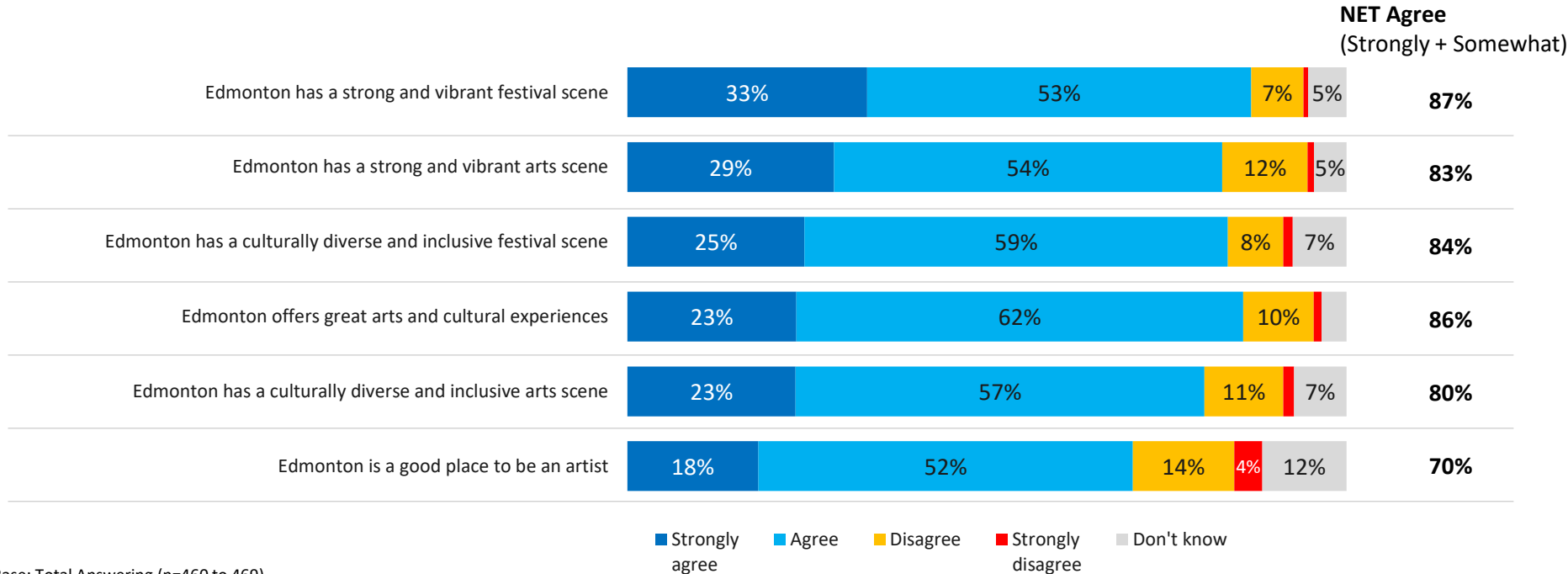
Q12: Please rate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to your experience as an artist in the past 12 months.

Data labels for 3% or less are removed for legibility. Values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.

▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

8 in 10 Artists agree that Edmonton has a strong and vibrant festival and arts scenes.

8 in 10 agree that Edmonton has culturally diverse and inclusive festival and arts scenes. However, less (7 in 10) agree that Edmonton is a good place to be an artist.



Base: Total Answering (n=460 to 469).

Q13: Please rate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to your perception of Edmonton's overall arts and cultural ecology for the past 12 months.

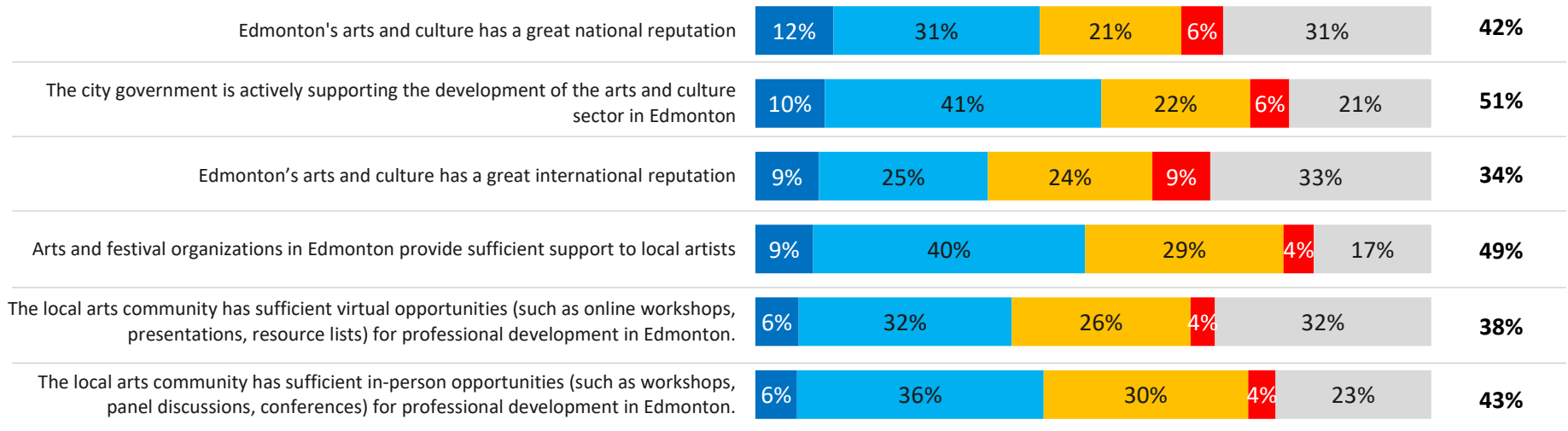
Data labels for 3% or less are removed for legibility. Values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.

Half agree that Edmonton's city government is actively supporting the development of the arts and culture sector in Edmonton.



Less than half agree that Edmonton offers sufficient physical (43%) and virtual (38%) platforms for artistic communication within the local arts community.

NET Agree
(Strongly + Somewhat)



■ Strongly agree
 ■ Agree
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Don't know

Base: Total Answering (n=460 to 469).

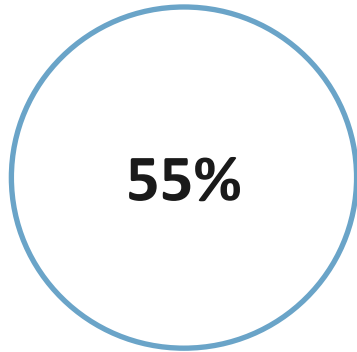
Q13: Please rate your level of agreement with each of the following statements related to your perception of Edmonton's overall arts and cultural ecology for the past 12 months.

Data labels for 3% or less are removed for legibility. Values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.

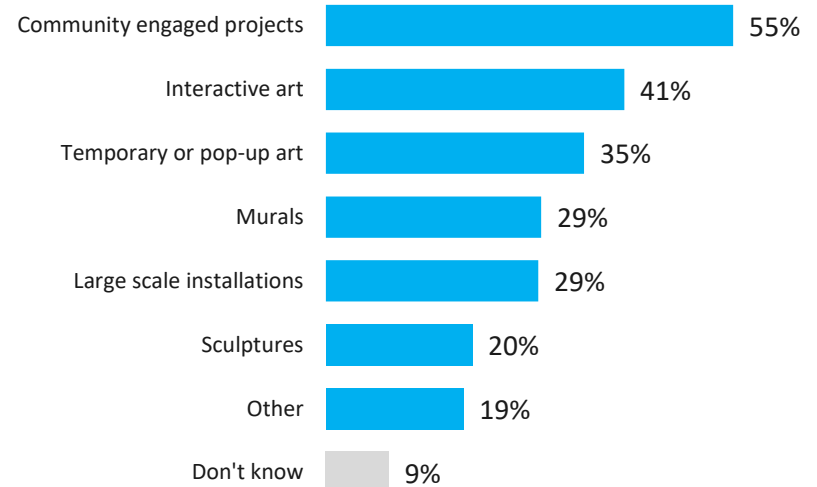
Over half of Edmonton artists are interested in applying for EAC public art opportunities.

Then opportunities most artists are interested in include community engagement projects, interactive art, and temporary pop-up art.

Interested in applying for EAC public art opportunities



Public art opportunities of interest (*select all that apply*)



The most common barriers to applying to EAC public art opportunities are being too busy and opportunities not aligning with artistic practices.

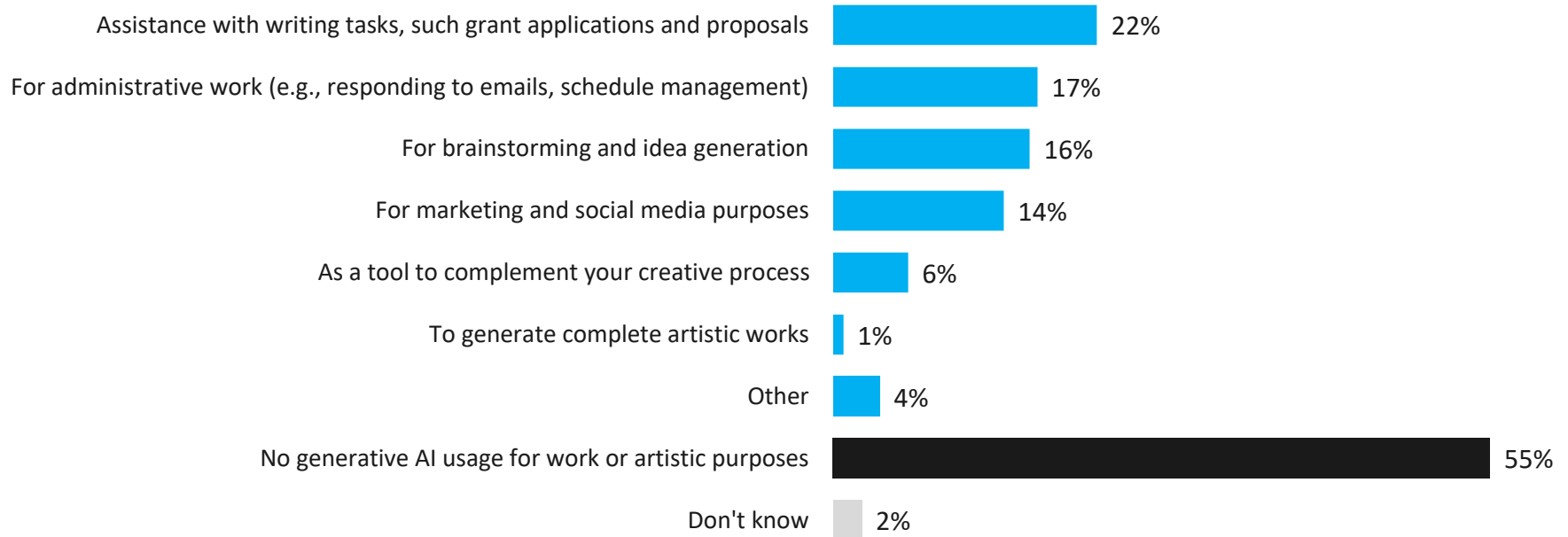
Barriers to applying to public art opportunities advertised by EAC (select all that apply)



More than 4 in 10 artists have used generative AI for work or artistic purposes.

The most common uses are for assistance with writing grant applications/proposals, for administrative work, and brainstorming/idea generation.

Ways of utilizing generative artificial intelligence to support artistic practice (*select all that apply*)



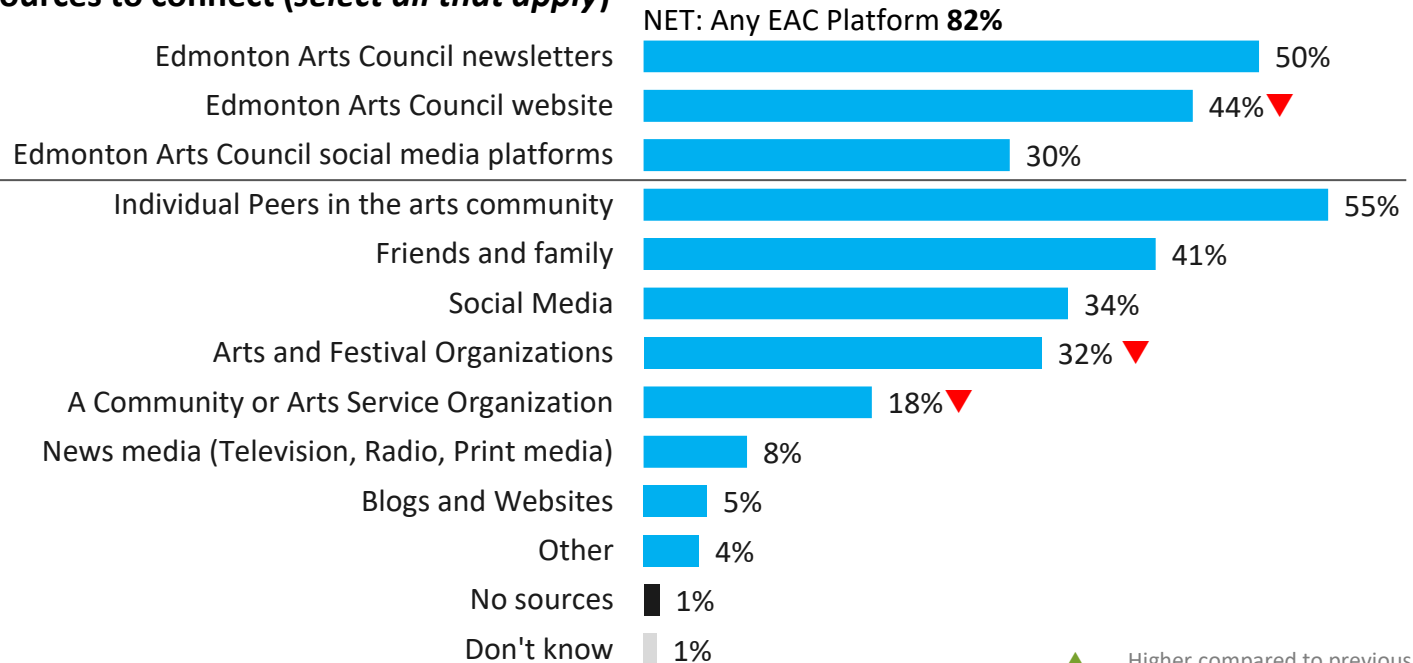
Base: Total Answering (n=466).

Q_AI: In the past 12 months, have you utilized generative artificial intelligence (AI) in any of the following ways to support your artistic practice? (*select all that apply*)

EAC information sources reach over 4 in 5 Artists.

After sharing among peers in the community, EAC 's newsletters and website are the most common sources artists recall learning about relevant platforms, networks, and events that allow artistic communities to connect, create and collaborate.

Information sources to connect (*select all that apply*)

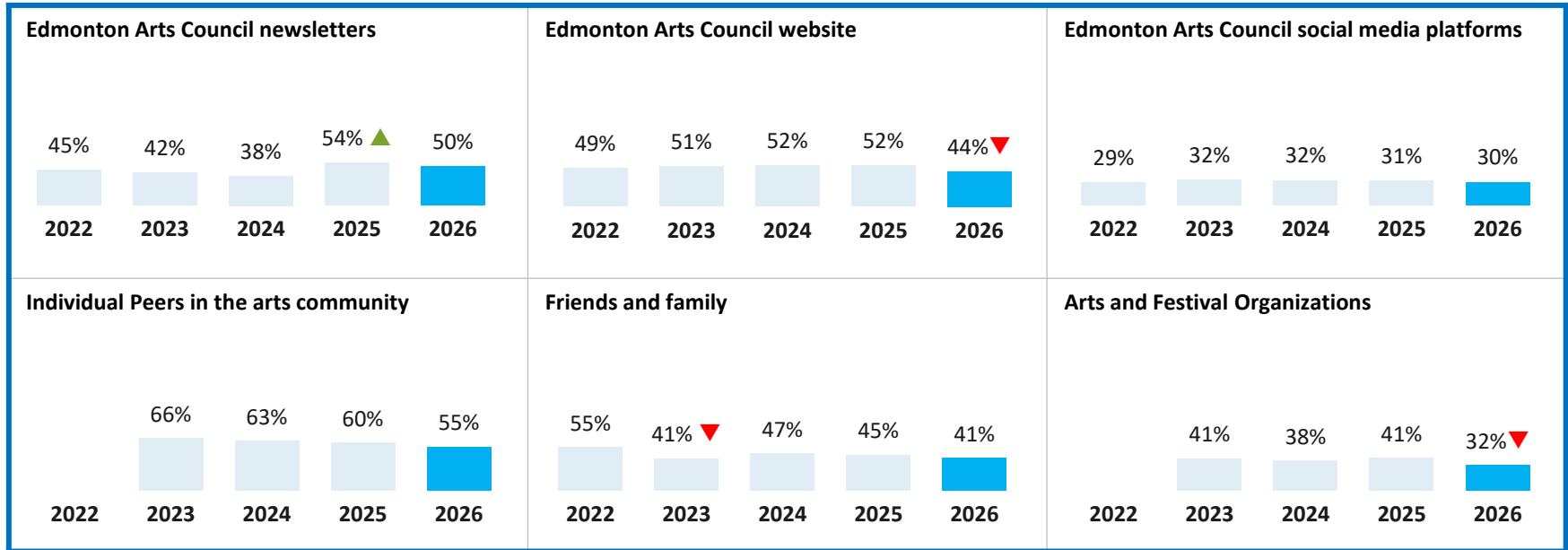


▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

Base: Total Answering (n=467).

Q14: In general, where do you get information about relevant platforms, networks, and events that allow artistic communities to connect, create and collaborate? (select all that apply)

Fewer artists recall receiving information about relevant platforms, networks, and events via the EAC website in the past year.



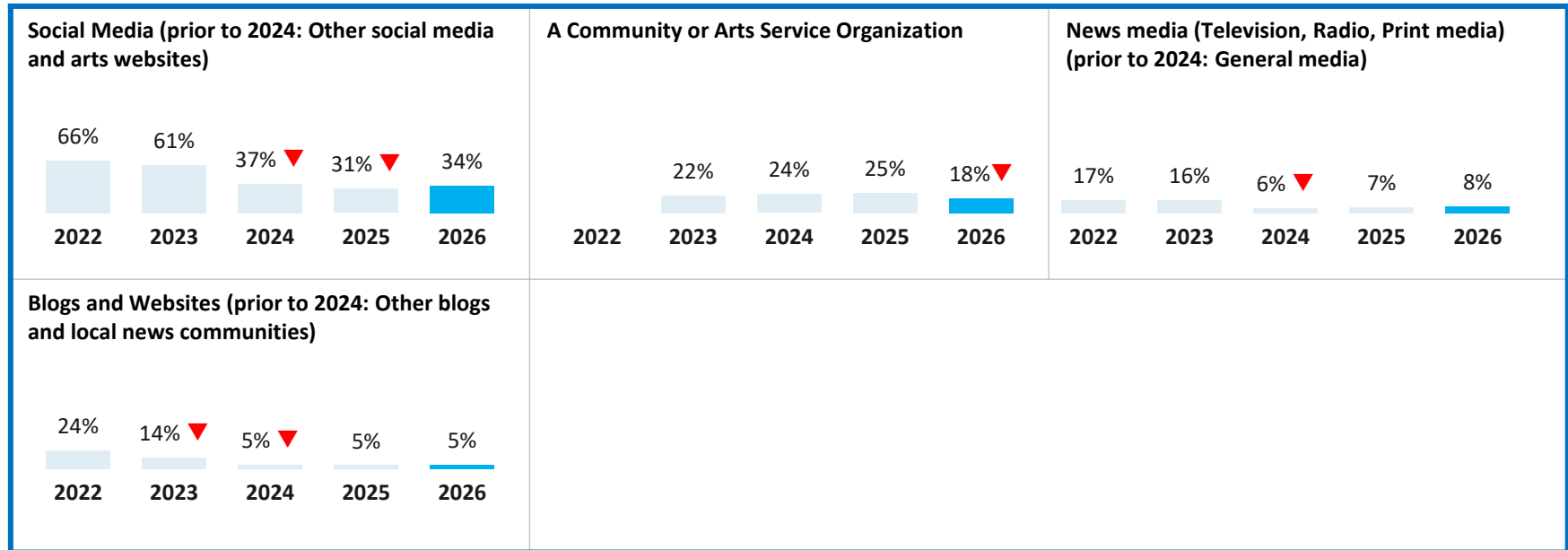
Base: Total Answering (2026 n=467, 2025 n=475; 2024 n=477; 2023 n=317; 2022 n=368).

Q14: In general, where do you get information about relevant platforms, networks, and events that allow artistic communities to connect, create and collaborate?



Higher compared to previous year
Lower compared to previous year

In the past 12 months, fewer artists learned about relevant platforms, networks, and events that allow artists to connect through community or arts service organizations.



Base: Total Answering (2026 n=467, 2025 n=475; 2024 n=477; 2023 n=317; 2022 n=368).

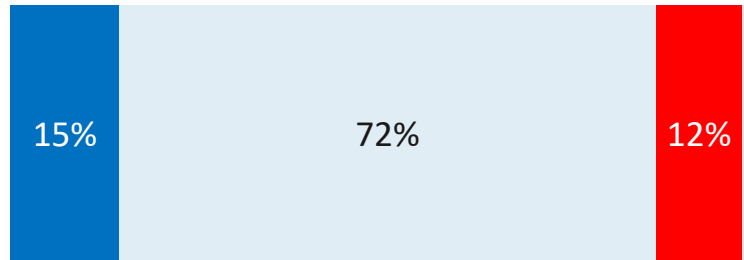
Q14: In general, where do you get information about relevant platforms, networks, and events that allow artistic communities to connect, create and collaborate?

▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

Most artists feel at least somewhat informed about platforms, networks, and events that allow artistic communities to connect, create, and collaborate.

Feel informed about relevant platforms, networks, and events

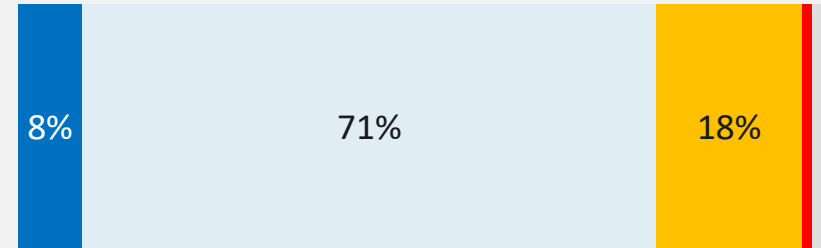
NET: At least somewhat **87%**



■ Very informed
 ■ Somewhat informed
 ■ Not informed
 ■ Don't know

How often organizations will engage when they learn of opportunities

NET: At least sometimes **79%**



■ Always
 ■ Sometimes
 ■ Rarely
 ■ Never
 ■ Don't know

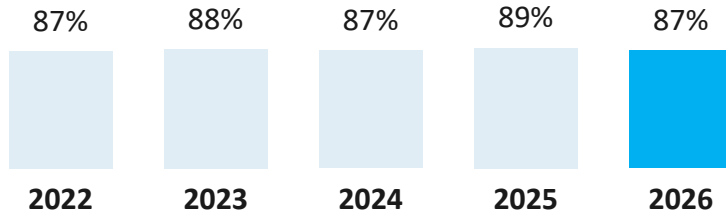
Q15: In general, to what extent do you feel informed about relevant platforms, networks, and events that allow artistic communities to connect, create and collaborate? Base: Total Answering (n=471).

Q16: In general, when you are informed about relevant platforms, networks, and events that allow artistic communities to connect, create and collaborate, how often do you engage? Base: Total Answering (n=465).

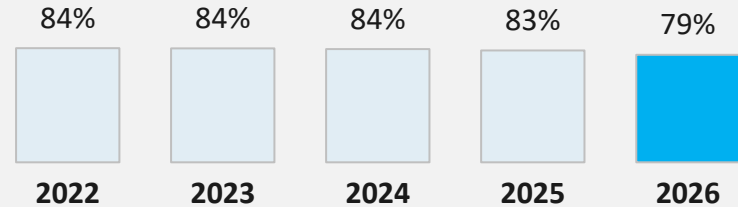
Data labels for 3% or less are removed for legibility. Values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.

The number of artists feeling 'informed' about relevant platforms, networks, and events has not changed significantly over the last 5 years.

% At least somewhat informed



% At least sometimes engage



Q15: In general, to what extent do you feel informed about relevant platforms, networks, and events that allow artistic communities to connect, create and collaborate? Base: Total Answering (2026 n=471, 2025 n=477, 2024 n=481, 2023 n=315, 2022 n=372).

Q16: In general, when you are informed about relevant platforms, networks, and events that allow artistic communities to connect, create and collaborate, how often do you engage? Base: Total Answering (2026 n=465, 2025 n=477, 2024 n=476, 2023 n=315, 2022 n=369).

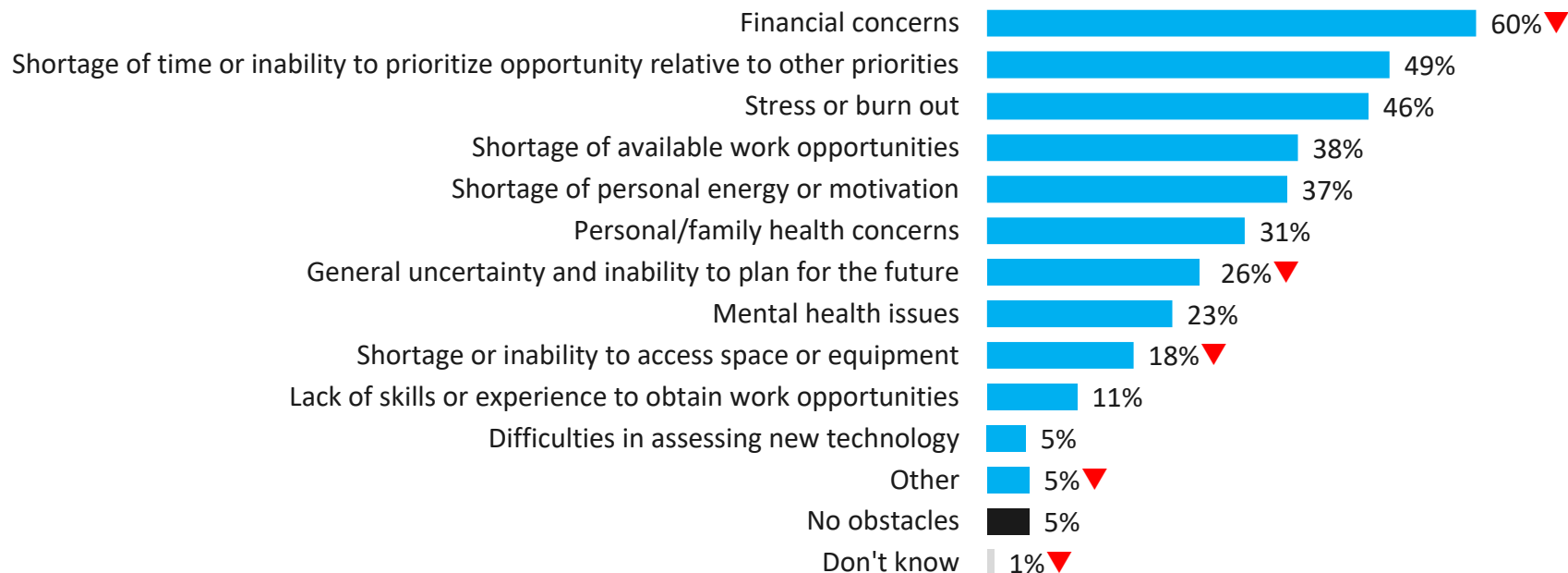


Higher compared to previous year
Lower compared to previous year

Financial concerns are seen as a major obstacle to engaging in opportunities by around 3 in 5 artists.

However, fewer artists see this as an obstacle compared to last year. A shortage of time and stress/burn out are also obstacles for about half of artists.

Obstacles preventing engagement with the greater arts community (select all that apply)

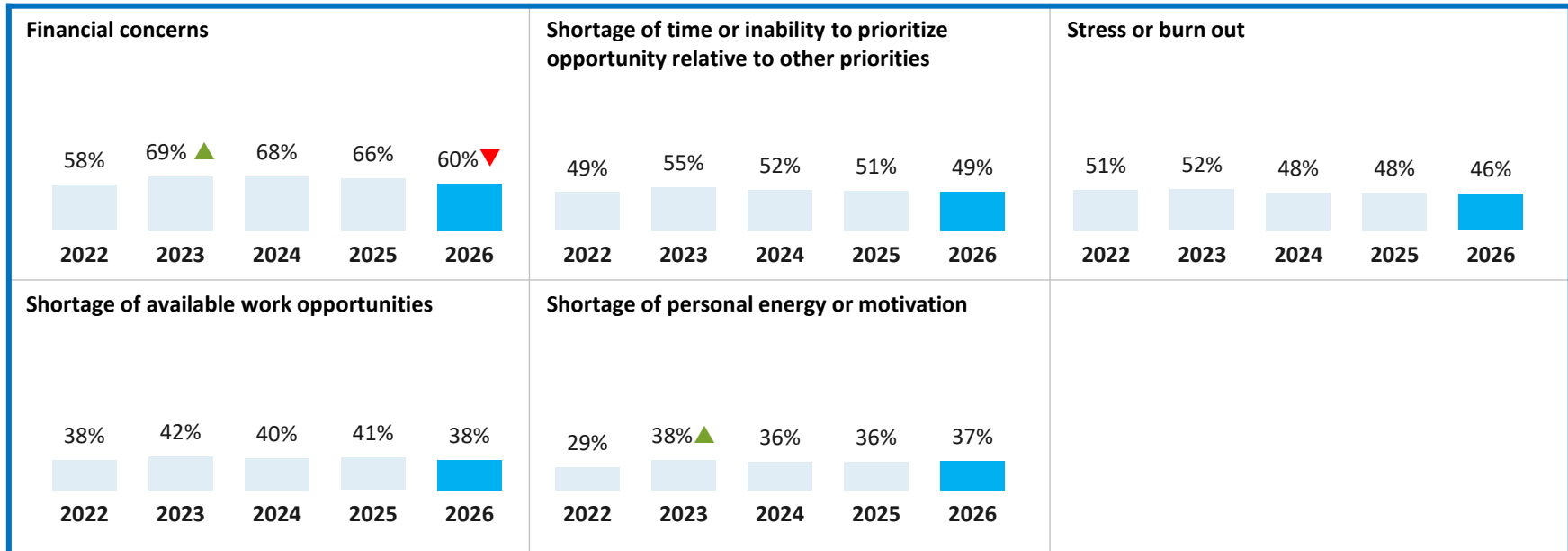


Base: Total Answering (n=465).

Q17: Over the past 12 months, did you face any of the following obstacles when engaging with the greater arts community? (select all that apply)



▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

Financial concerns, a shortage of time, and stress or burn out continue to be the most common obstacles to engagement for artists. However, fewer face financial concerns compared to 2025.

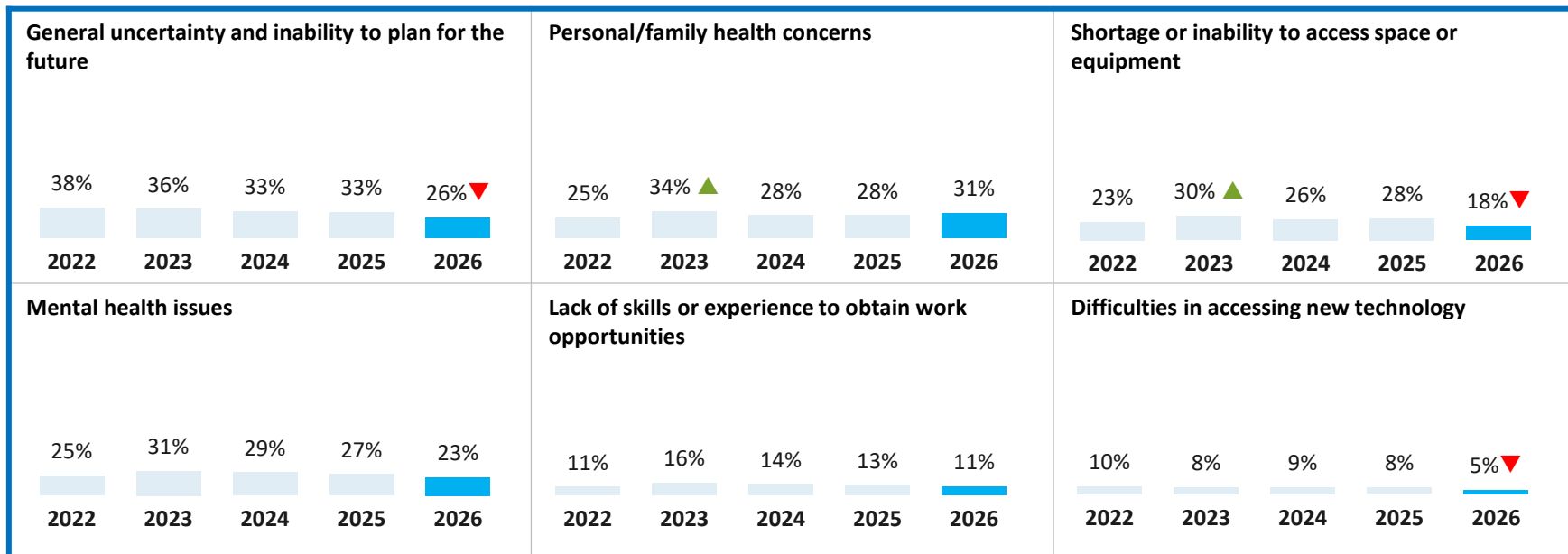


Base: Total Answering (2026 n=465, 2025 n=468; 2024 n=475; 2023, n=313; 2022, n=369).

Q17: Over the past 12 months, did you face any of the following obstacles when engaging with the greater arts community?

 Higher compared to previous year
 Lower compared to previous year

Fewer Artists see general uncertainty, access to space or equipment, and access to new technology as obstacles compared to 2025.



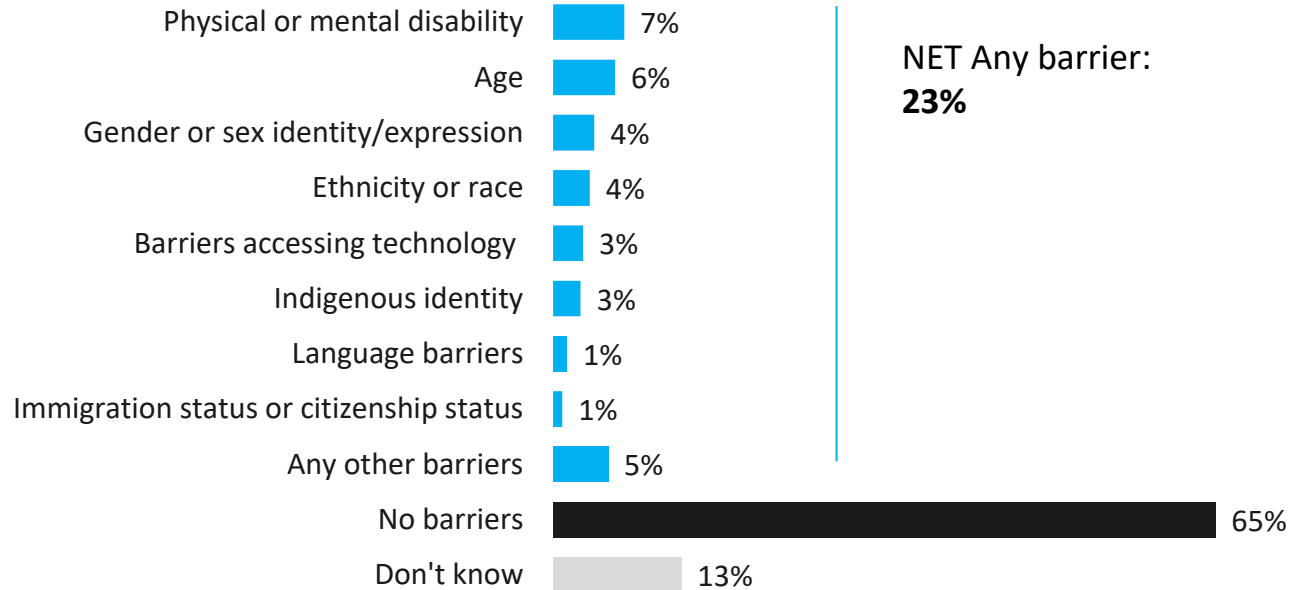
Base: Total Answering (2026 n=465, 2025 n=468; 2024 n=475; 2023, n=313; 2022, n=369).

Q17: Over the past 12 months, did you face any of the following obstacles when engaging with the greater arts community?

▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

More than 1 in 5 artists faced barriers accessing EAC resources and services or applying for EAC's programs and support in the past 12 months.

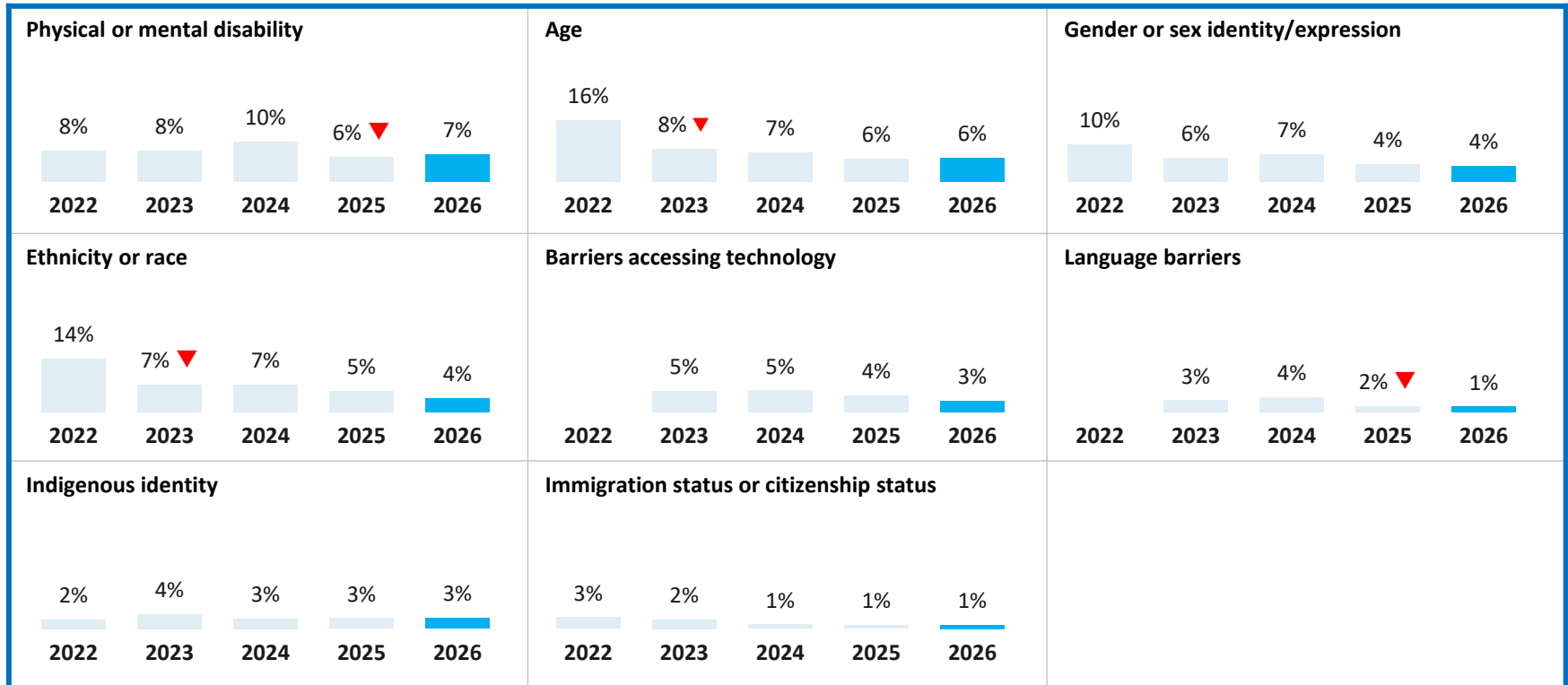
Barriers while accessing the EAC's resources and services (*select all that apply*)



Base: Total Answering (n=446).

Q18: In the past 12 months, did you face any barriers due to the following while accessing the Edmonton Arts Council's resources and services, or applying for the Edmonton Arts Council's programs and support? (select all that apply)

Similar proportions of artists faced barriers to EAC services because of physical or mental disability or age.



Base: Total Answering (2026 n=446, 2025 n=451; 2024 n=456; 2023, n=302; 2022, n=347).

Q18: In the past 12 months, did you face any barriers due to the following while accessing the Edmonton Arts Council’s resources and services, or applying for the Edmonton Arts Council’s programs and support?

▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

The most common barrier artists faced was personal or health barriers

(Coded from verbatim responses)

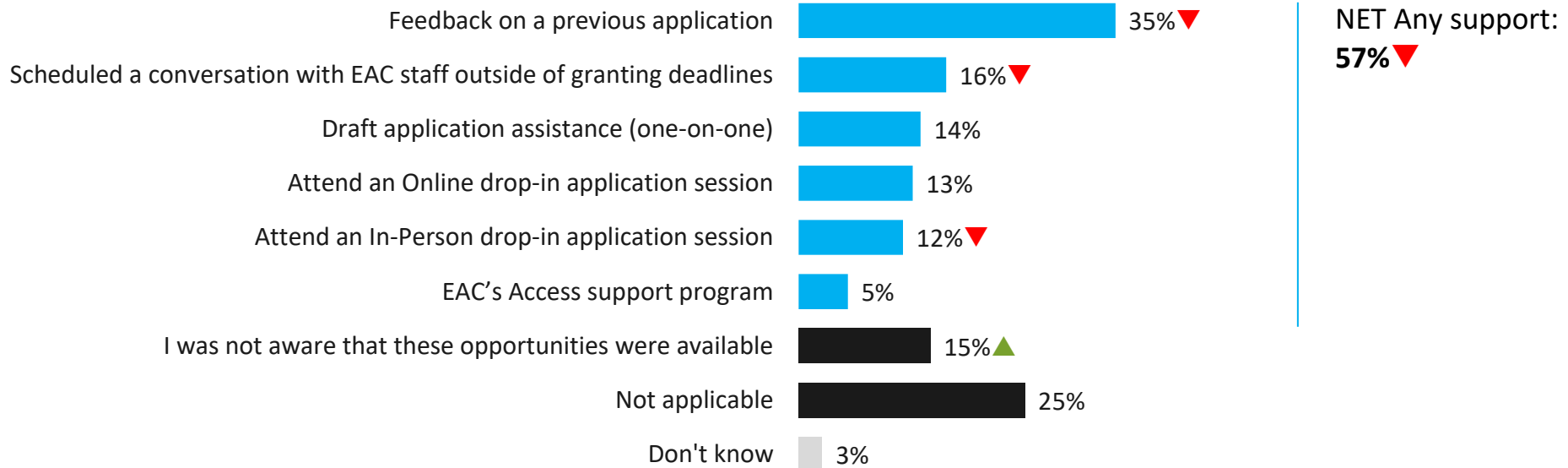
Personal / health barriers	13	<i>Chronic illness /physical disability</i>
I didn't qualify / my art doesn't fit	6	<i>I wish people on student visas could apply for applications.</i>
Too much emphasis on DEI criteria	5	<i>Sometimes there is an impression that priority is given based on age and diversity. I support this but I do not support it being at the expense of art that needs support</i>
Financial barriers	3	<i>It is really difficult to apply for financial aid, when the aid you need the finances for doesn't exist</i>
Difficulties with website	3	<i>The page for inputting budget was extremely difficult to navigate.</i>

More than half of artists accessed supports and information from EAC while applying for programs and support

Requesting feedback on a previous application was the most common support received.

However, a greater proportion of artists indicated that they did not know these opportunities were available compared to last year (15% vs 9% in 2025).

EAC programs and supports accessed (select all that apply)



Base: Total Answering (n=455).

Q69: In the past 12 months, did you access any of the following while applying for the Edmonton Arts Council's programs and support? (select all that apply)



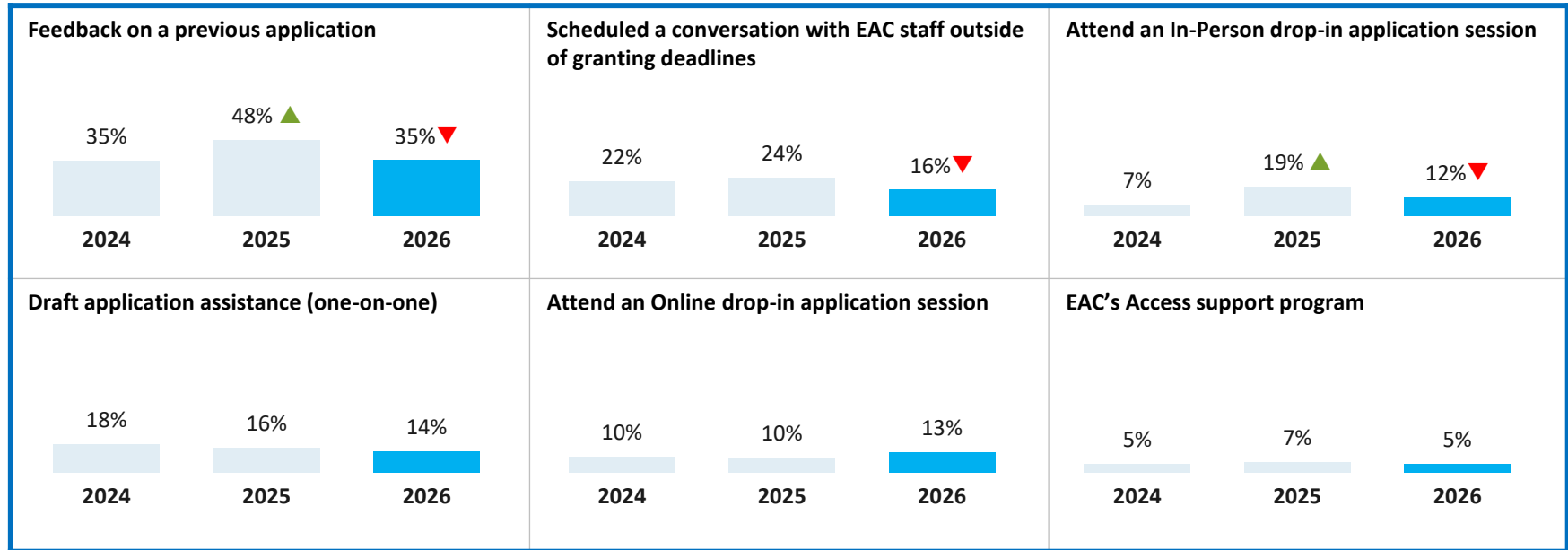
Higher compared to previous year



Lower compared to previous year

Fewer artists report having accessed feedback they received on a previous application than in 2025.

A lower proportion also report attending an in-person drop-in application sessions compared to 2025, but still a higher proportion than in 2024.



▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

Base: Total Answering (2026 n=455, 2025 n=458; 2024 n=462).

Q69: In the past 12 months, did you access any of the following while applying for the Edmonton Arts Council's programs and support? QUESTION ADDED 2024

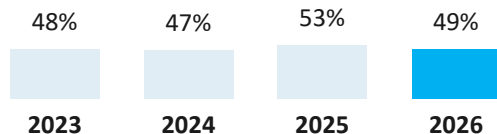
Nearly half of Artists say they are aware of EAC's Access Support.

Less than half of literary artists are aware of EAC's Access Support, a decrease from last year (43% vs. 63% in 2025).

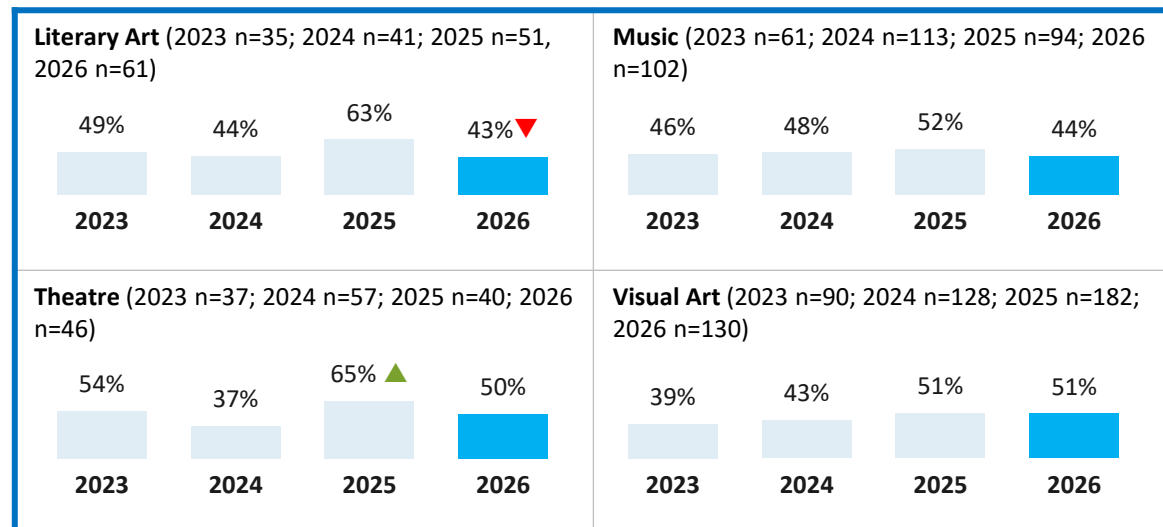
Aware of Edmonton Arts Council's Access Support (% Yes)

All artists

(2023 n=316; 2024 n=479; 2025=477; 2026=469)



Primary discipline (% Aware of EAC's Access support)



Base: Total Answering (Bases shown in chart).

Q63: Are you aware of Edmonton Arts Council's Access Support, which offers funding for specialized assistance for applicants to convey their ideas?

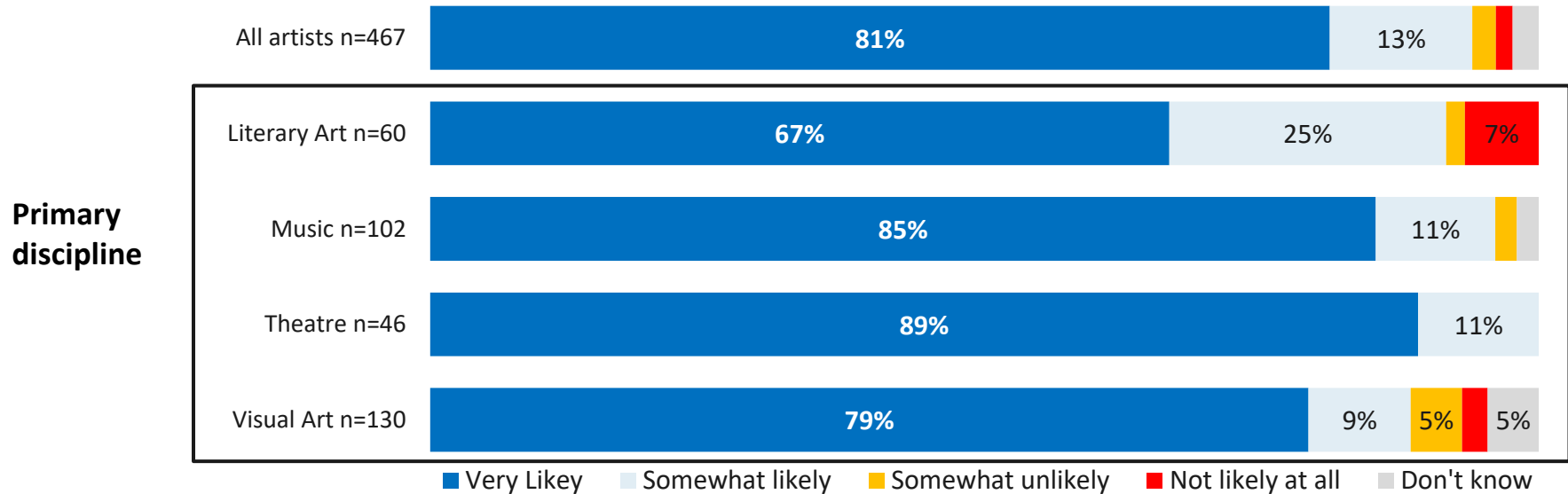


Higher compared to previous year



Lower compared to previous year

Except for literary artists, at least 3 in 4 expect they will continue working in the arts and culture sector next year.



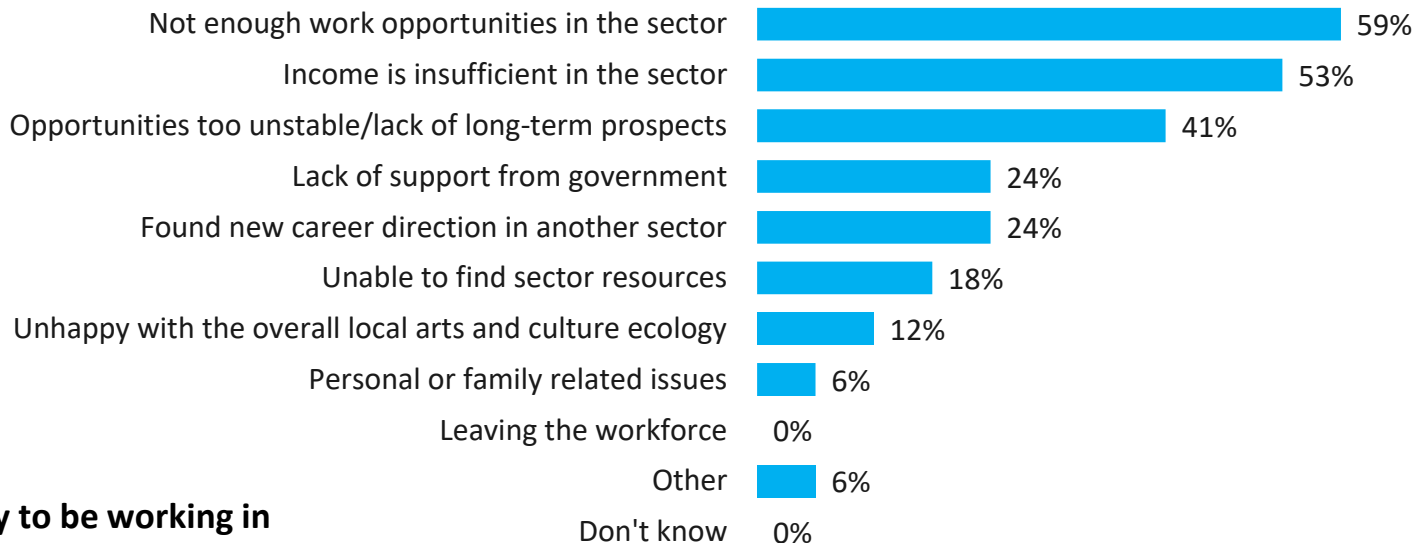
Base: Total Answering (Bases shown in chart).

Q20: How likely are you to be working in the arts and culture sector in the next 12 months?

Data labels for 3% or less are removed for legibility. Values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.

Among artists that are considering leaving the sector, insufficient work opportunities are the most common concern, followed by insufficient income and unstable work opportunities.

Reasons why artists are unlikely to be working in the arts and culture sector (*select all that apply*)



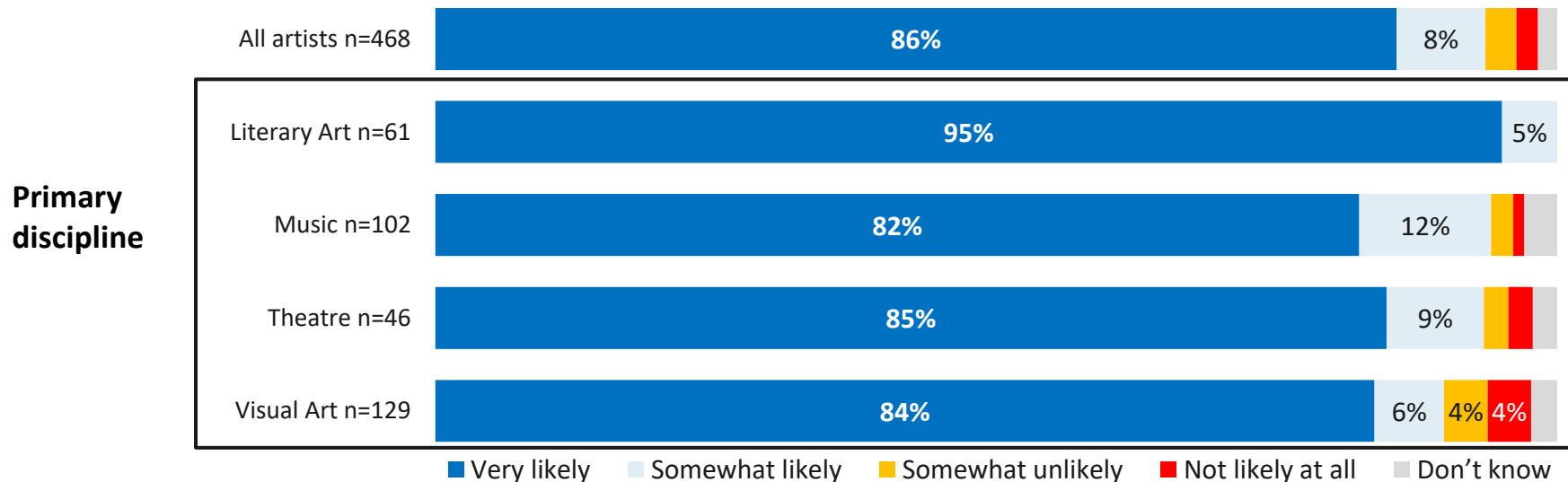
Base: Not likely to be working in arts in next 12 months (n=17*)

*Small base (<30). Interpret results with caution

Q21: Why are you unlikely to be working in the arts and culture sector in the next 12 months? (select all that apply)

Across primary disciplines and all artists, over 8 in 10 expect they will continue living in Edmonton next year.

Literary artists are most likely to be living in Edmonton in the next 12 months.



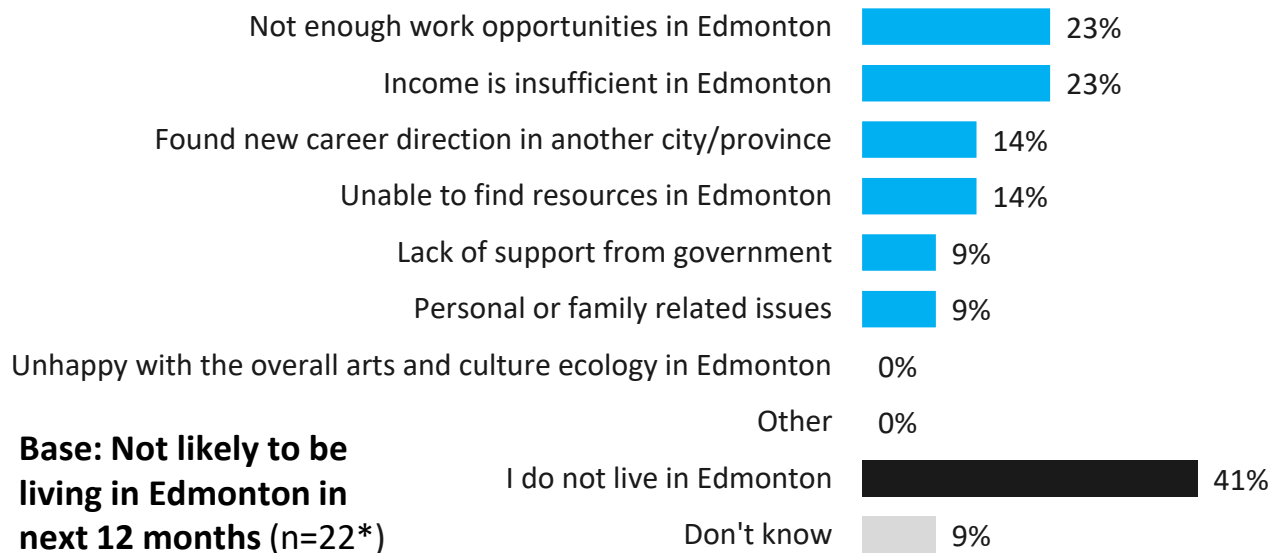
Base: Total Answering (Bases shown in chart).

Q22: How likely are you to be living in Edmonton in the next 12 months?

Data labels for 3% or less are removed for legibility. Values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.

Among artists that are considering leaving Edmonton, lack of work opportunities and insufficient income are the most common factors influencing this decision.

Reasons why artists are unlikely to be working in Edmonton in the next 12 months (*select all that apply*)



Base: Not likely to be living in Edmonton in next 12 months (n=22*)

* Small base (<30). Interpret results with caution

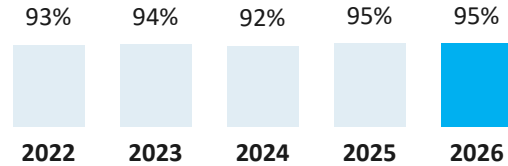
Base: Not likely to be living in Edmonton in next 12 months (Bases shown in chart).

Q23: Why are you unlikely to be living in Edmonton in the next 12 months? (select all that apply)

Work, Income, and Professional Development

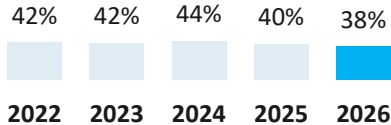
Nearly 2 in 5 artists rely on their practice as their main source of income.

Not full-time student

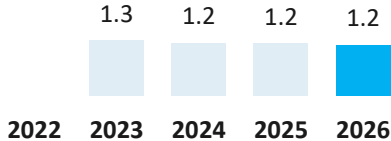


On average, Artists have at least one job in addition to their artistic practice, working an average of 45 hours per week.

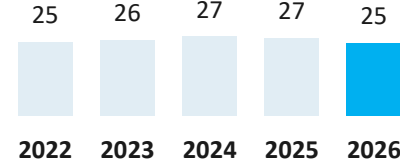
Artistic practice was primary source of income last year (%Yes)



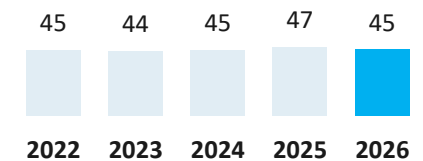
Average number of income generating jobs (Excluding artistic practice)



Average hours worked per week on artistic practice



Average hours worked per week in total (All jobs combined, including artistic practice)



Q27: Are you currently a full-time student? Base: Total Answering (2026 n=468, 2025 n=474; 2024 n=479; 2023 n=316; 2022 n=371).

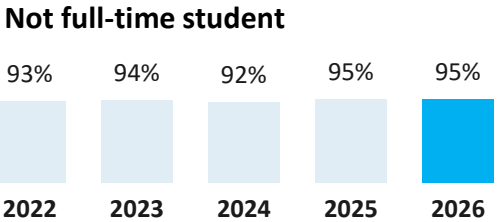
Q29: Was your artistic practice your primary source of income over the past 12 months? Base: Not full-time student (2026 n=444, 2025 n=449; 2024 n=438; 2023 n=296; 2022 n=345).

Q30a: In the past 12 months, excluding your artistic practice, how many jobs do you have in total that generate income? Base: Not full-time student (2026 n=438, 2025 n=440; 2024 n=432; 2023 n=290).

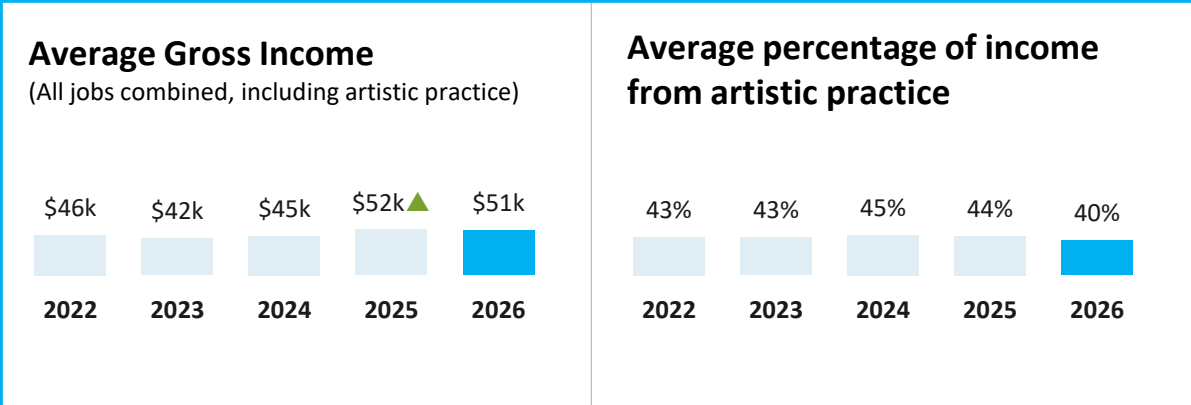
Q28: On average, how many hours per week did you work in your artistic practice in the past 12 months? Base: All respondents excluding DK and PNA (2026 n=411, 2025 n=421; 2024 n=412; 2023 n=264, 2022 n=304).

Q31: Over the past 12 months, how many hours per week did you work on average for all jobs combined? Base: Not full-time student (2026 n=377, 2025 n=378; 2024 n=366; 2023 n=258, 2022 n=285).

Across jobs and artistic practice, artists earn an average of \$51,000 per year (consistent with the previous year).



On average, 40% of this income comes from their artistic practice.

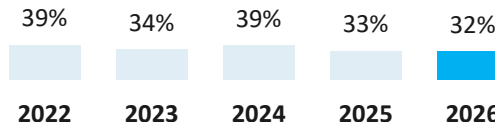


Q32: Which of the following categories best describes your total personal gross income from all sources, before tax and deductions, and during the year ending December 31, 2024?? Base: Not full-time student (2026 n=413, 2025 n=413; 2024 n=405; 2023 n=272; 2022 n=317).

Q33: What percentage of your 2024 income came from your artistic practice? Base: Not full-time student (2026 n=358, 2025 n=344; 2024 n=355; 2023 n=241; 2022 n=277).

One-third of artists who are not full-time students are currently participating in or registered for continuing professional development.

Currently participating or registered in continuing professional development for arts career development



Professional development activities in 2025 (select all that apply)



Q35: Are you currently participating, or have you registered, in continuing professional development for your arts career development?

Base: Not a full-time student (2026 n=439, 2025 n=450; 2024 n=437; 2023 n=292; 2022 n=342);

Q36: Which of the following describes your current or registered continuing professional development activities? (select all that apply)

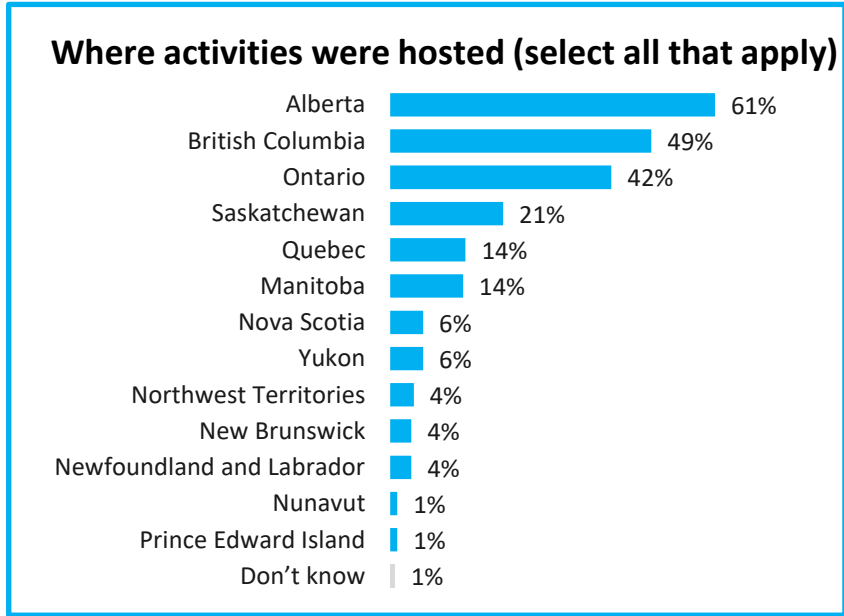
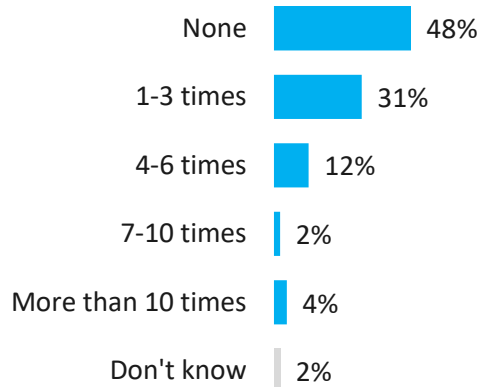
Base: Participating or registered in professional development for arts career development (2026 n=138)

Interprovincial and International Practice and Experience

50% of Artists participated in an interprovincial idea-sharing experience in the past 12 months

Alberta, BC, and Ontario continue to be the most common locations for these experiences.

Number of interprovincial idea-sharing experiences in past 12 months

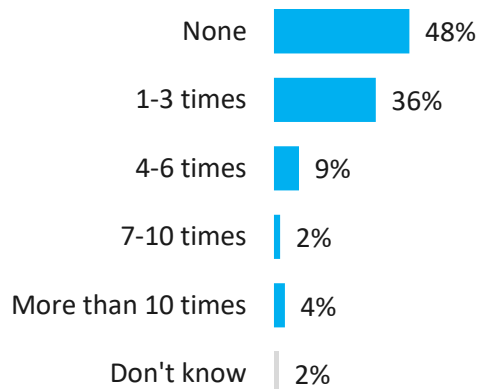


Q37: In the past 12 months, how many times have you engaged in any interprovincial touring, residencies, or any idea-sharing activities outside Edmonton and within Canada (this includes in-person or online experience)? Base: Total Answering (n=467);

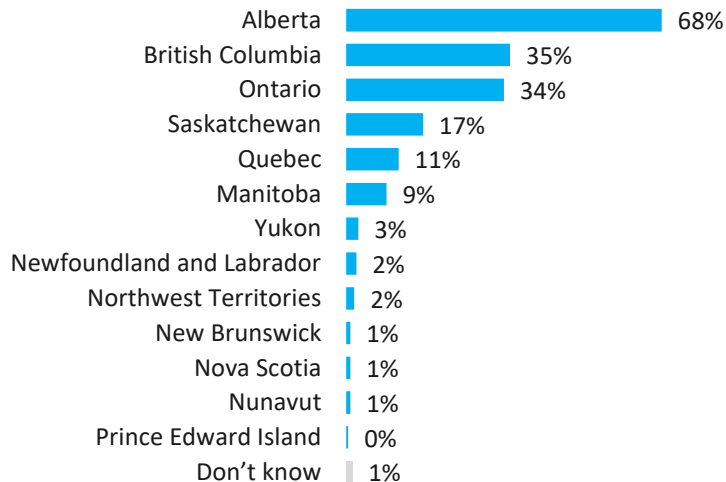
Q37a: Where were these touring, residencies, or idea-sharing activities hosted? (select all that apply) Base: Engaged at least once (n=226);

51% have exhibited or been invited to participate in an art project or show outside of Edmonton but within Canada in the past 12 months (consistent with 50% in 2025).

Number of interprovincial art project or shows in past 12 months



Where activities were hosted (select all that apply)



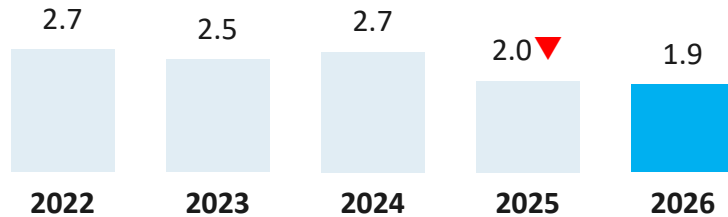
Q38: In the past 12 months, how many times have you exhibited or been invited to participate in an art project or show your artistic work outside Edmonton and within Canada (this includes in-person or online experience)? Base: Total Answering (n=466);

Q38a: Where were these art projects or shows hosted? (select all that apply) Base: Engaged at least once (n=230).

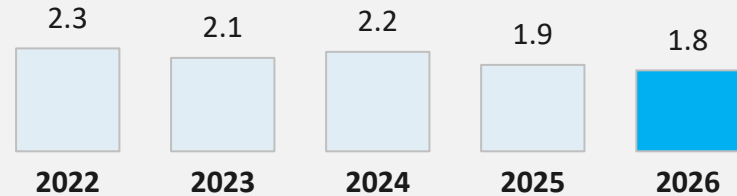
Values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.

On average, artists participated in a similar number of interprovincial idea-sharing experiences compared to last year, but fewer than 2024.

Average number of interprovincial idea-sharing experiences in past 12 months



Average number of interprovincial art project or shows in past 12 months



Q37: In the past 12 months, how many times have you engaged in any interprovincial touring, residencies, or any idea-sharing activities outside Edmonton and within Canada (this includes in-person or online experience)? Base: Total Answering, excluding DK (2026 n=457, 2025 n=456; 2024 n= 472; 2023 n=315; 2022 n= 359);

Q38: In the past 12 months, how many times have you exhibited or been invited to participate in an art project or show your artistic work outside Edmonton and within Canada (this includes in-person or online experience)? Base: Total Answering, excluding DK (2026 n=458, 2025 n=462; 2024 n=468; 2023 n=309; 2022 n=363)



Higher compared to previous year

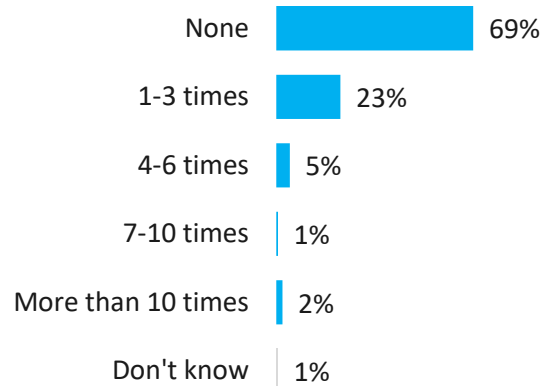


Lower compared to previous year

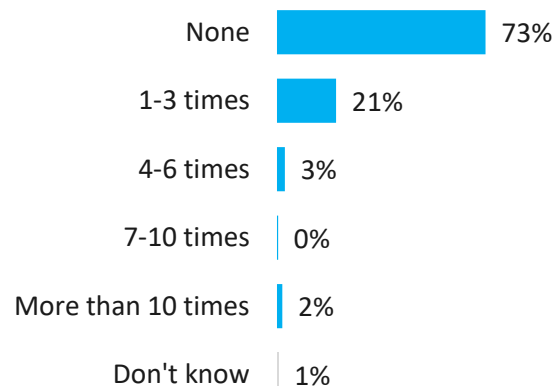
Nearly 1 in 3 Edmonton artists engaged in an idea-sharing experience

Just over a quarter also participated in or were invited to an art project or show outside of Canada. 1 in 7 of these events received direct or indirect financial support from Edmonton Arts Council.

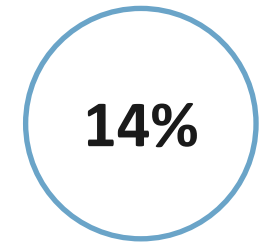
Number of international **idea-sharing** experiences in past 12 months



Number of international **art project or shows** in past 12 months



Among those who had these experiences in 2025...

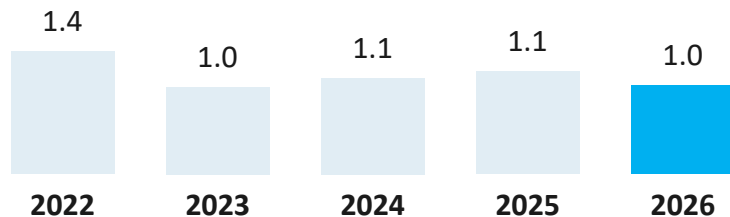


... received direct or indirect financial support from EAC

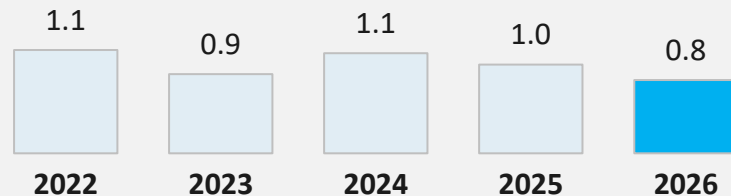
Q41: In the past 12 months, how many times have you engaged in any in-person or online international touring, residencies, or any idea-sharing activities outside Canada (this includes in-person or online experiences)? Base: Total Answering (n=466); Q42: In the past 12 months, how many times have you exhibited, or been invited to participate in, an art project or show your artistic work outside Canada either in-person or online? Base: Total Answering (n=466); Q43: Did the Edmonton Arts Council provide direct or indirect financial support for the work described in the last four questions? Base: Engaged or exhibited in an international idea-sharing activity, art show, or project in the past 12 months (n=171).

On average, artists participated in 1 international idea-sharing experience and 1 international art project in the past 12 months, consistent with previous years

Average number of international idea-sharing experiences in past 12 months



Average number of international art project or shows in past 12 months



Q41: In the past 12 months, how many times have you engaged in any in-person or online international touring, residencies, or any idea-sharing activities outside Canada (this includes in-person or online experiences)? Base: Total Answering (2026 n=466, 2025 n=470; 2024 n= 473; 2023 n=317; 2022 n=370); Q42: In the past 12 months, how many times have you exhibited, or been invited to participate in, an art project or show your artistic work outside Canada either in-person or online? Base: Total Answering (2026 n=466, 2025 n=472; 2024 n= 477; 2023 n=317; 2022 n=369)



Higher compared to previous year

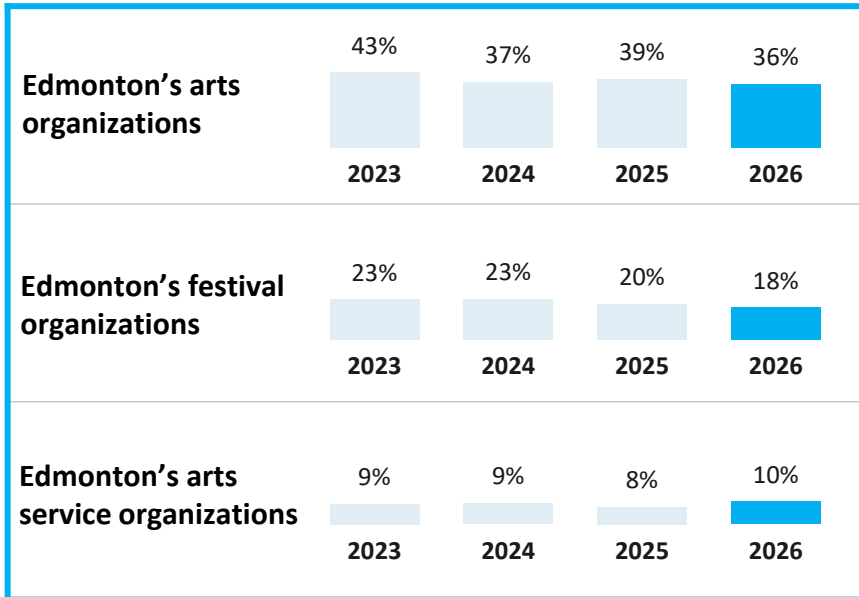


Lower compared to previous year

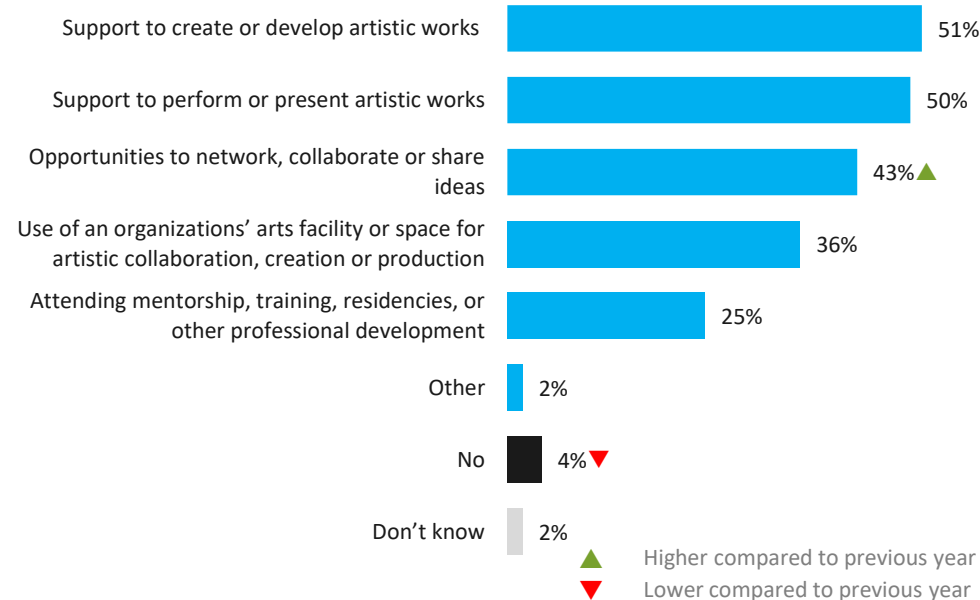
Arts, Festival, or Arts Service
Organizations

Nearly half of artists worked with or received support from Edmonton's arts, festival, or arts service organizations in the past 12 months.

Worked or received support from organizations in past 12 months (%Yes)



Type of works or supports received (select all that apply)

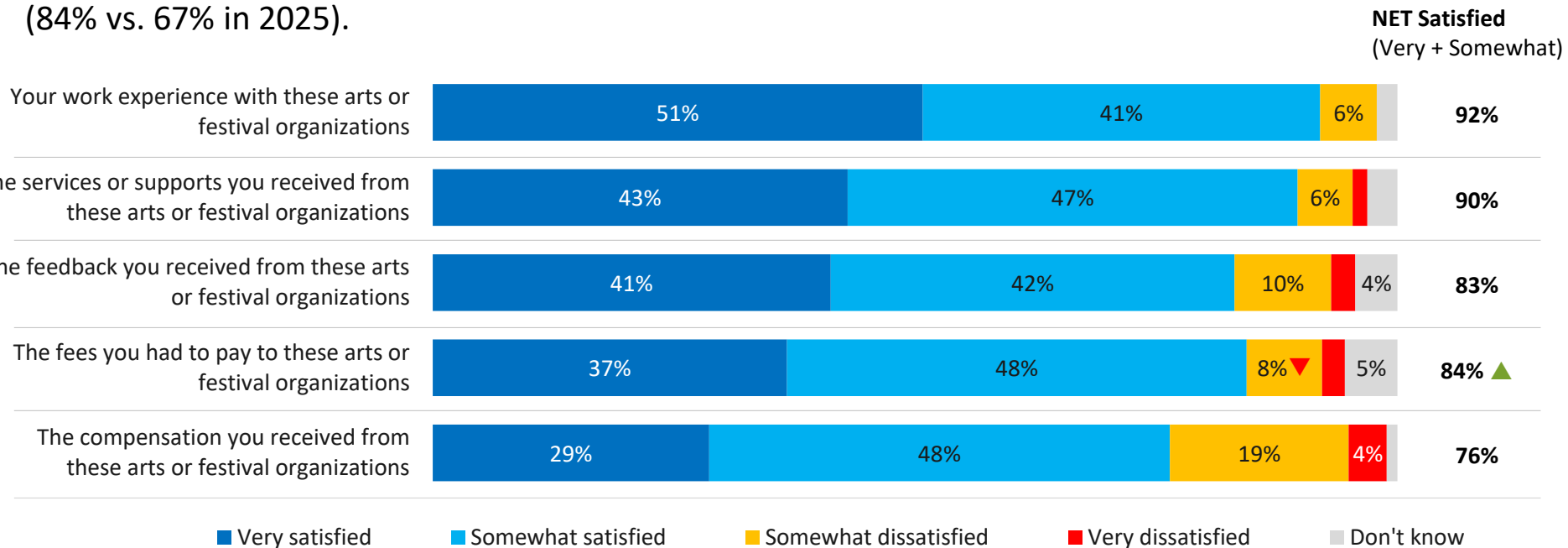


Q66: In the past 12 months, have you worked with or received any support from any of the following organizations? Base: Total Answering (2026 n=463, 2025 n=473; 2024 n=474; 2023 n=312);

Q67: Did your work or supports with these organizations in the past 12 months involve any of the following? (select all that apply) Base: Worked with or received any support from any of the organizations (n=212)

9 in 10 artists are satisfied with their experience working with Edmonton arts and festival organizations and the services/support they provide.

Over 4 in 5 are also satisfied with fees they were required to pay, an increase from the previous year (84% vs. 67% in 2025).



Base: Worked with, or received any support from, arts or festival organizations in Edmonton in past 12 months, Excluding Not Applicable (n=128 to 193)

Q46: Over the past 12 months, how satisfied are you with...?

Data labels for 3% or less are removed for legibility. Values shown may not sum to the shown total, sub-total, or nets due to rounding.



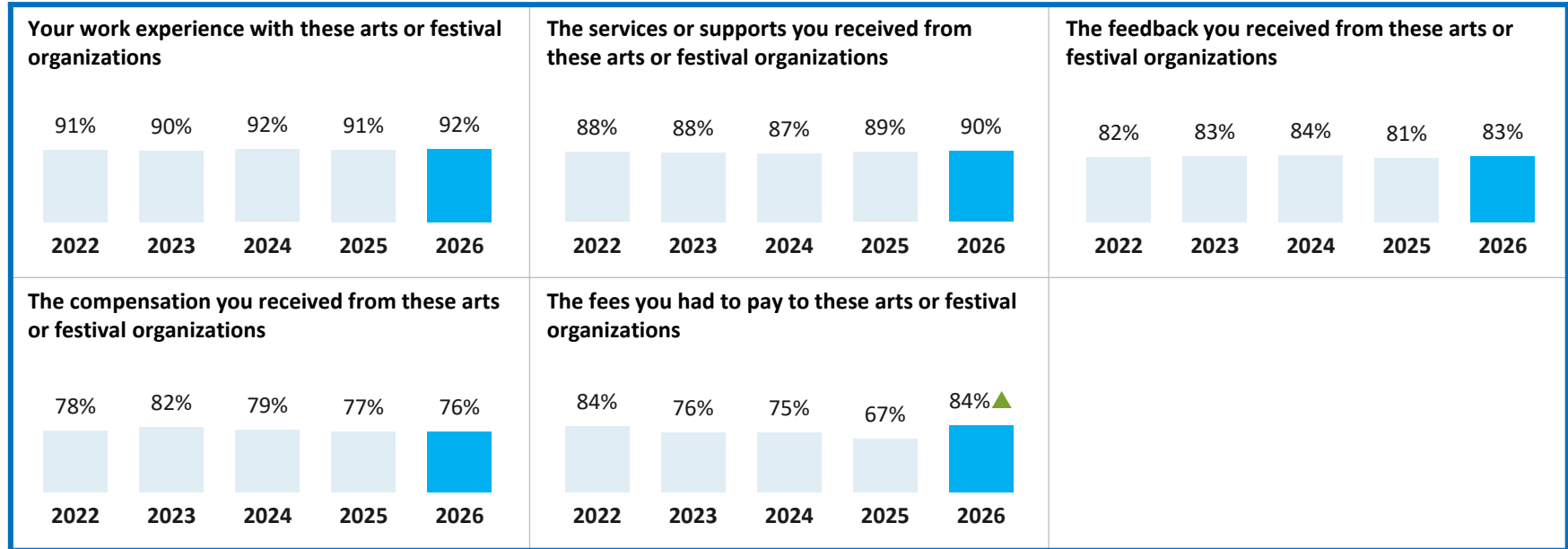
Higher compared to previous year



Lower compared to previous year

Satisfaction has been stable across most areas of interaction with arts or festival organizations over the last five years.

There was an increase in satisfaction with fees paid compared to last year.



Q46: Over the past 12 months, how satisfied are you with...? Base: Total Answering (2026 n=128 to 193, 2025 n=135 to 210; 2024 n=136 to 208; 2023 n=91 to 146; 2022 n=97 to 166)

▲ Higher compared to previous year
▼ Lower compared to previous year

While many artists are happy with the Edmonton Arts Council, common themes that appear within further comments directed at EAC include: creating more supports or opportunities within Edmonton/Alberta; and more funding being needed to lower fees or provide better pay for artists.

(Coded from verbatim responses)

General positive comments	23	<i>It's a great community to be a part of</i>
More supports or opportunities within Edmonton/Alberta	16	<i>Would love to see more support for artist run centers and galleries for exhibitions of visual arts.</i>
More funding needed	14	<i>Same old story... operating funding is frozen, costs are going up, artistic services and fees shrink</i>
More representation / diversity	9	<i>I encourage continued consideration of equitable representation in festival lineups to better reflect Edmonton's cultural diversity.</i>
General negative comments	8	<i>The lack of human resources departments in nonprofits is harming my ability to work as an employee. The community is too small to risk calling out abuse or harm so employees in the arts who are also artists just have to live with it.</i>

Base: Total Answering (n=65); excluding don't know, prefer no to answer, and no comment. **Response categories with less than 3% of mentions overall not shown.**
 Q68: Do you have any further comment on your experience working with Edmonton's arts, festival, or arts service organizations?



Respondent Profile

Respondent Profile

Age	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
18 to 34 years old	37%	38%	39%	32%	29%
35 to 54 years old	43%	44%	44%	50%	53%
55 years old or older	17%	16%	15%	15%	15%
Don't know	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Prefer not to say	3%	2%	3%	3%	3%

Gender identity	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Woman	55%	53%	51%	52%	56%
Man	35%	36%	38%	38%	34%
Other*	7%	9%	11%	9%	11%
Don't know	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Prefer not to say	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%

City Ward (primary artistic space)	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Anirniq	3%	6%	5%	5%	4%
Dene	1%	2%	2%	4%	2%
Ipiihkoohkanipiaohsi	5%	4%	5%	5%	5%
Karhiio	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%
Métis	14%	14%	15%	14%	17%
Nakota Isga	3%	5%	6%	7%	7%
O-day'min	20%	18%	18%	21%	18%
papastew	26%	23%	24%	21%	24%
pihêsiwin	5%	6%	5%	4%	6%
sipiwiyiniwak	5%	5%	5%	3%	3%
Sspomitapi	1%	1%	3%	1%	2%
tastawiyiniwak	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%
Outside of Edmonton	11%	11%	6%	11%	7%

* Including: Trans man, Trans woman, Non-binary, Two-Spirit, and Other

Respondent Profile

<i>Identify as part of the LGBTQ2S+ community</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Yes	24%	28%	31%	27%	31%
No	70%	62%	58%	65%	62%
Don't know	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Prefer not to say	5%	9%	9%	6%	6%

<i>Citizenship status</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Canadian Citizen by birth	76%	76%	78%	75%	72%
Canadian Citizen by naturalization	12%	15%	15%	16%	18%
Permanent Resident of Canada	7%	5%	4%	4%	5%
Open Work Permit holder	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Other	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Don't know	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Prefer not to say	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%

<i>Identity</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
First Nations, Métis, or Inuk (Inuit)	8%	8%	10%	11%	10%
Visible minority	23%	27%	27%	26%	26%
Not FNMI or visible minority	65%	61%	58%	57%	58%
Don't know	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%
Prefer not to say	2%	3%	4%	3%	4%

<i>Deaf or hard of hearing</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Yes	4%	4%	2%	2%	3%
No	94%	95%	95%	95%	94%
Don't know	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%
Prefer not to say	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%

Respondent Profile

<i>Live with an impairment or disability</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Yes	15%	17%	19%	19%	24%
No	83%	76%	72%	79%	72%
Don't know	1%	2%	3%	0%	1%
Prefer not to say	2%	5%	6%	2%	3%

<i>Year you began to identify as a professional</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
1-5 years ago	24%	26%	28%	24%	19%
6-15 years ago	34%	31%	39%	39%	36%
16-30 years ago	25%	27%	31%	23%	29%
30+ years ago	14%	14%	1%	12%	15%
Don't know	2%	1%	0%	1%	0%
Prefer not to say	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%

<i>Primary studio space</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Home	77%	74%	74%	73%	75%
Separate rented space	15%	15%	15%	16%	15%
A studio you own and outside of your residence	0%	3%	3%	4%	2%
A school studio	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Other	4%	5%	5%	6%	7%
Don't know	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Prefer not to say	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%

Respondent Profile

Arts training <i>Select all that apply</i>	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Non-credit courses at post-secondary institutions	13%	12%	11%	10%	9%
Apprenticeship	9%	8%	7%	8%	6%
Post-secondary certificate or diploma programs	30%	28%	22%	24%	26%
Bachelor's programs	42%	39%	30%	38%	34%
Graduate level programs	26%	22%	19%	21%	20%
Residency	20%	17%	16%	15%	21%
Mentorship	39%	38%	34%	34%	37%
Self-taught	59%	65%	65%	62%	60%
One-off professional development workshops, conferences, or courses	-*	46%	42%	42%	47%
Regular (daily/weekly/monthly) lessons, classes or training	-*	23%	25%	25%	31%
Other, please specify	3%	4%	5%	4%	5%
Don't know	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Prefer not to answer	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%

- * Comparable measure not tracked in 2022

Primary discipline	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Dance	4%	6%	5%	4%	6%
Literary Art	12%	11%	9%	11%	13%
Media Art	6%	9%	10%	8%	10%
Music	21%	19%	24%	20%	22%
Theatre	14%	12%	12%	8%	10%
Visual Art	32%	28%	27%	38%	28%
Multi-Disciplinary	5%	8%	7%	4%	6%
Other*	6%	7%	6%	7%	6%

* Including: Indigenous Arts, Deaf and Disability Arts



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