



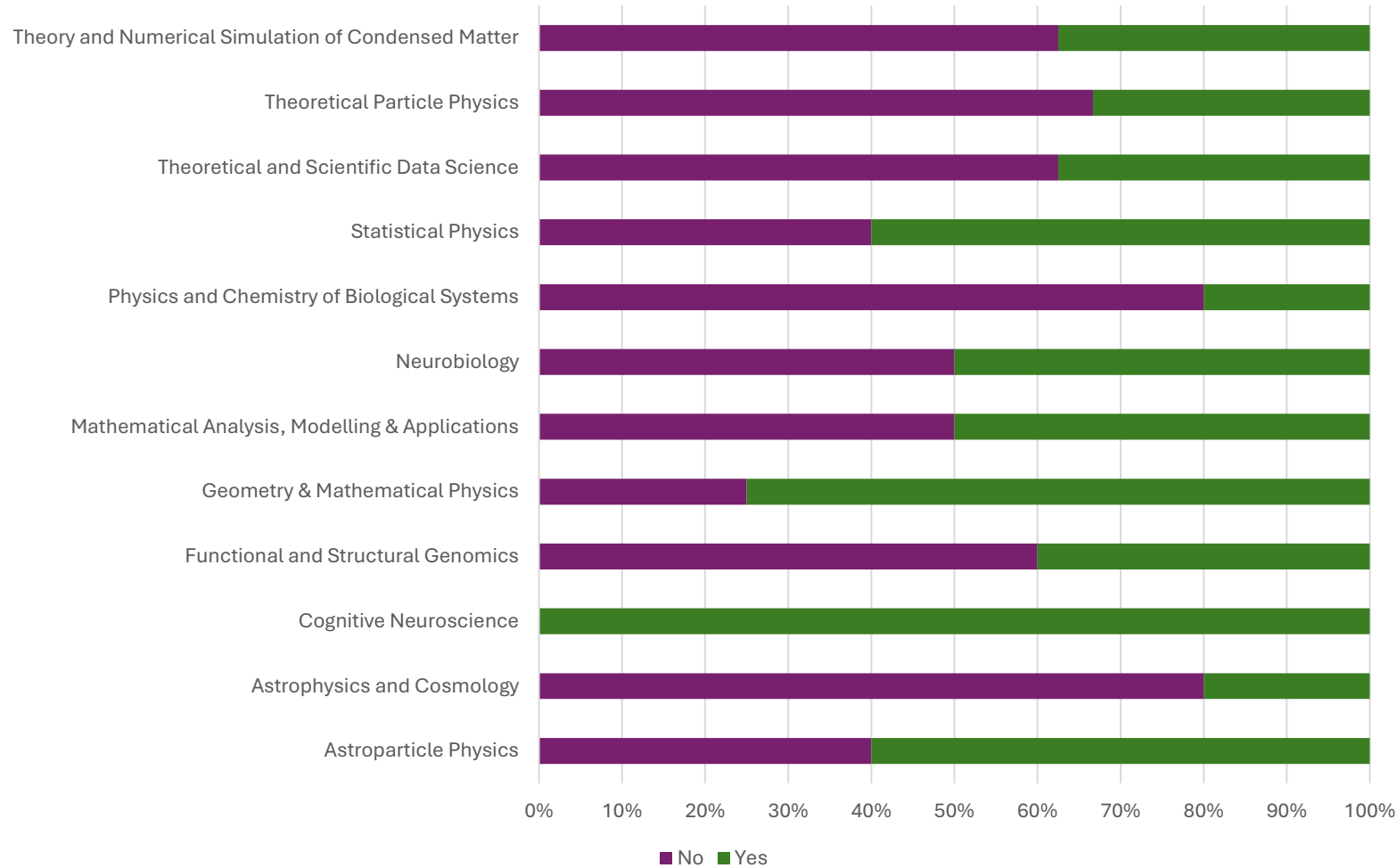
Students' questionnaire





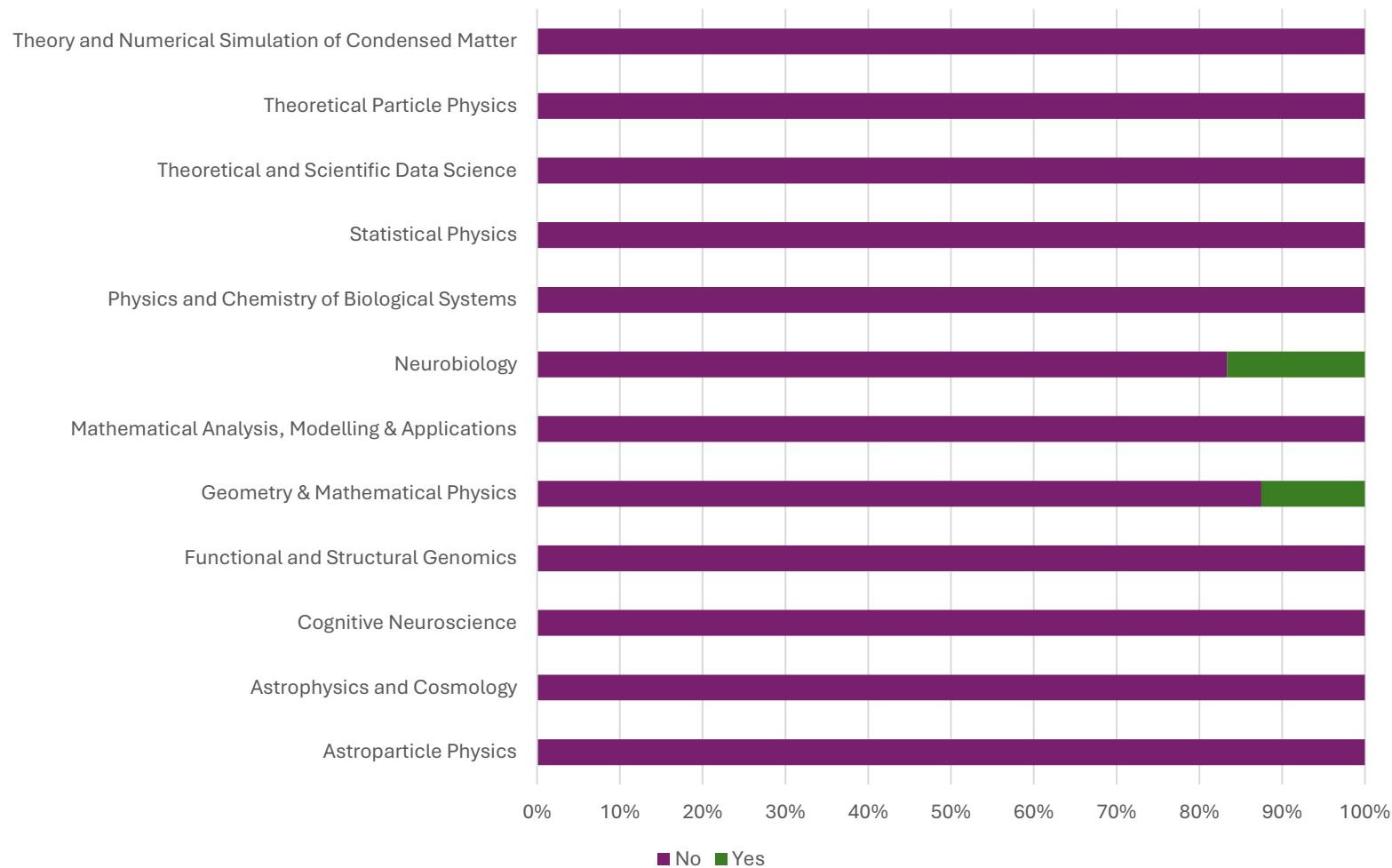
GENERAL QUESTIONS

Finding a permanent accommodation



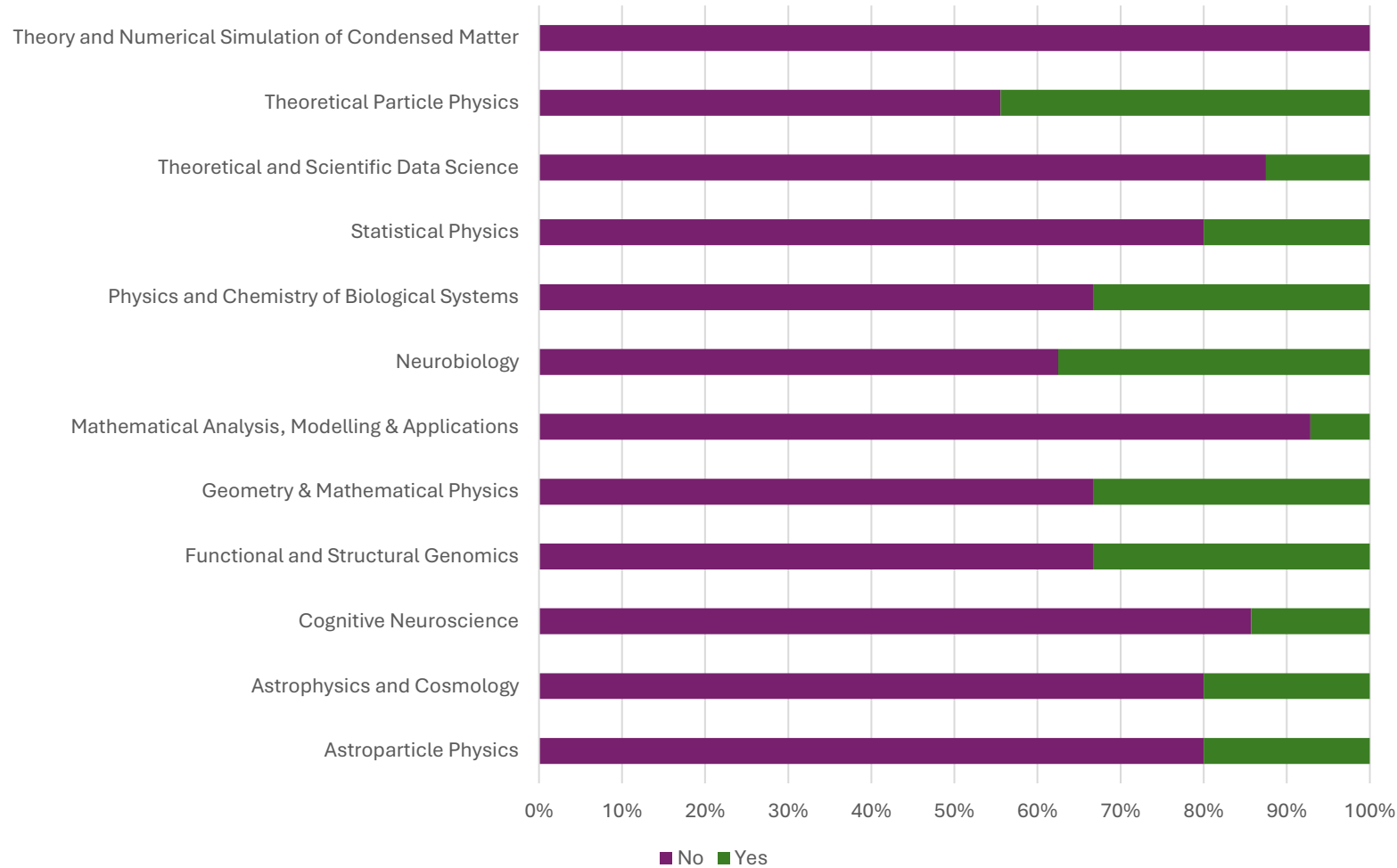
**Major
problems
when you
arrived at
SISSA
-1st year**

Insufficient knowledge of English



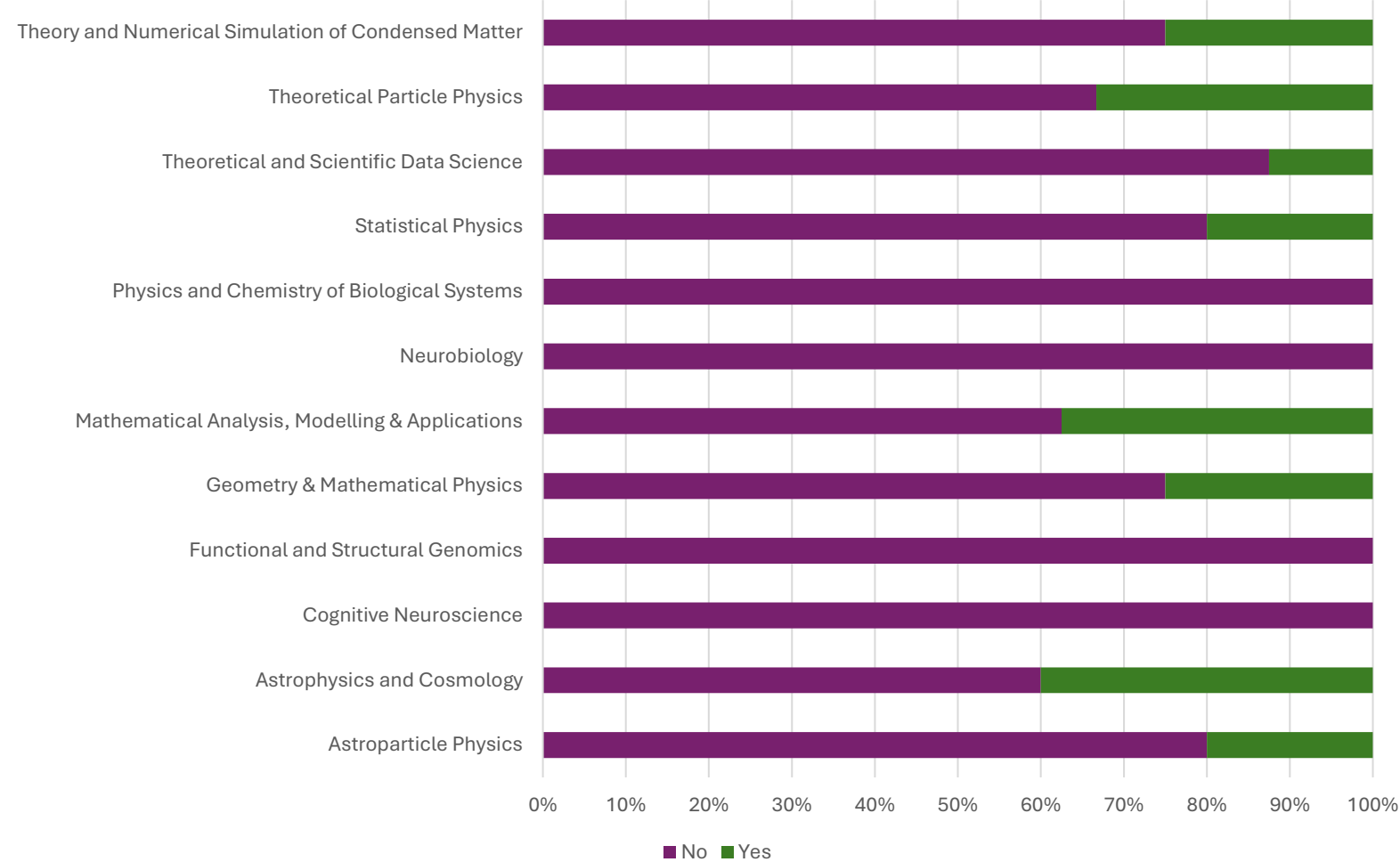
**Major
problems
when you
arrived at
SISSA
-1st year**

Getting permit of stay



**Major
problems
when you
arrived at
SISSA
-1st year**

Difficulties in establishing social contacts and interactions




**Major
problems
when you
arrived at
SISSA
-1st year**

Other problems





 Language


 ISEE

 Structure of PhD itself (Physics and Chemistry Biological system)

 Many courses (Astrophysics and cosmology)

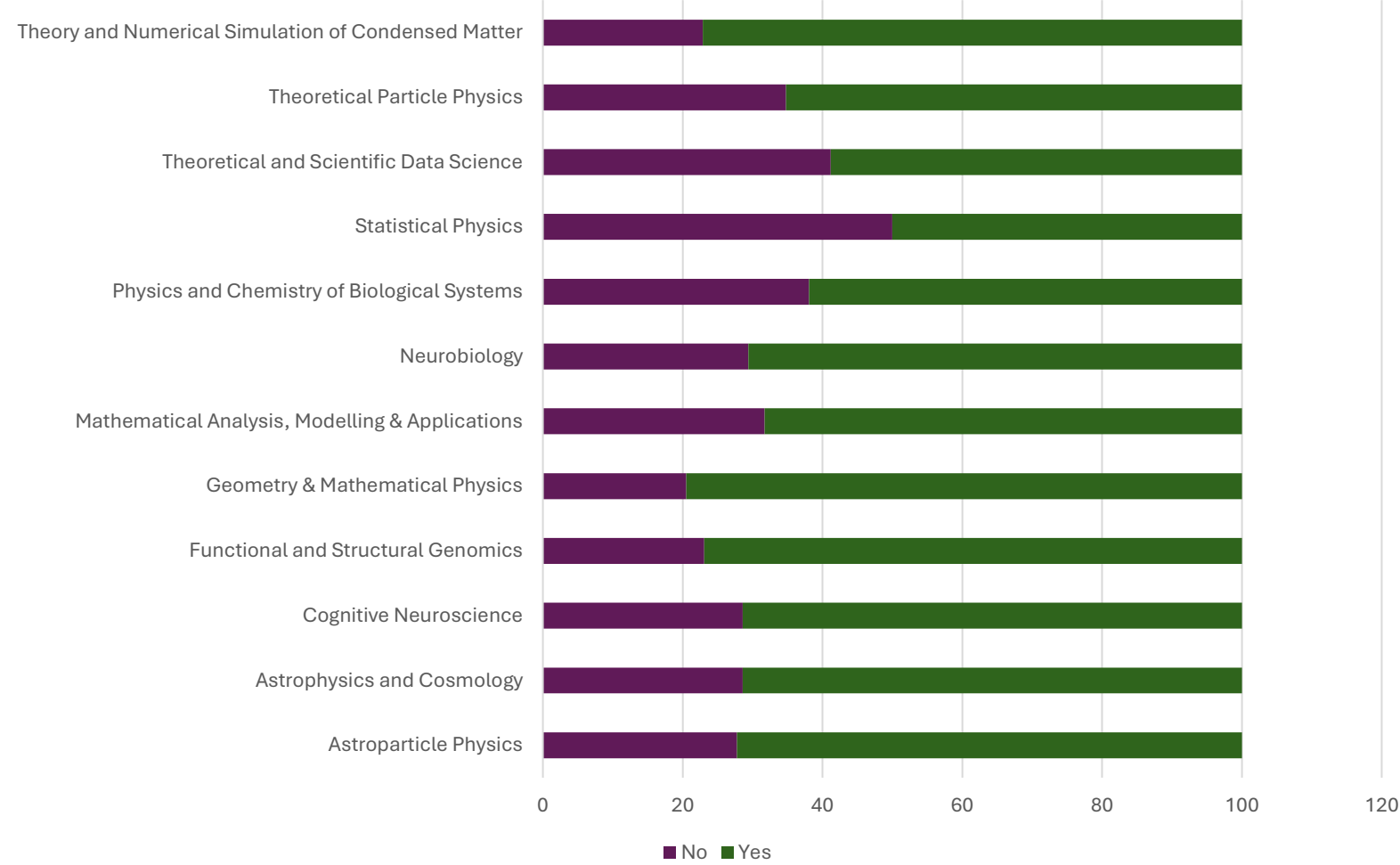
 Medical appointment

 Lack of info during first weeks

 Certificate to work with animals

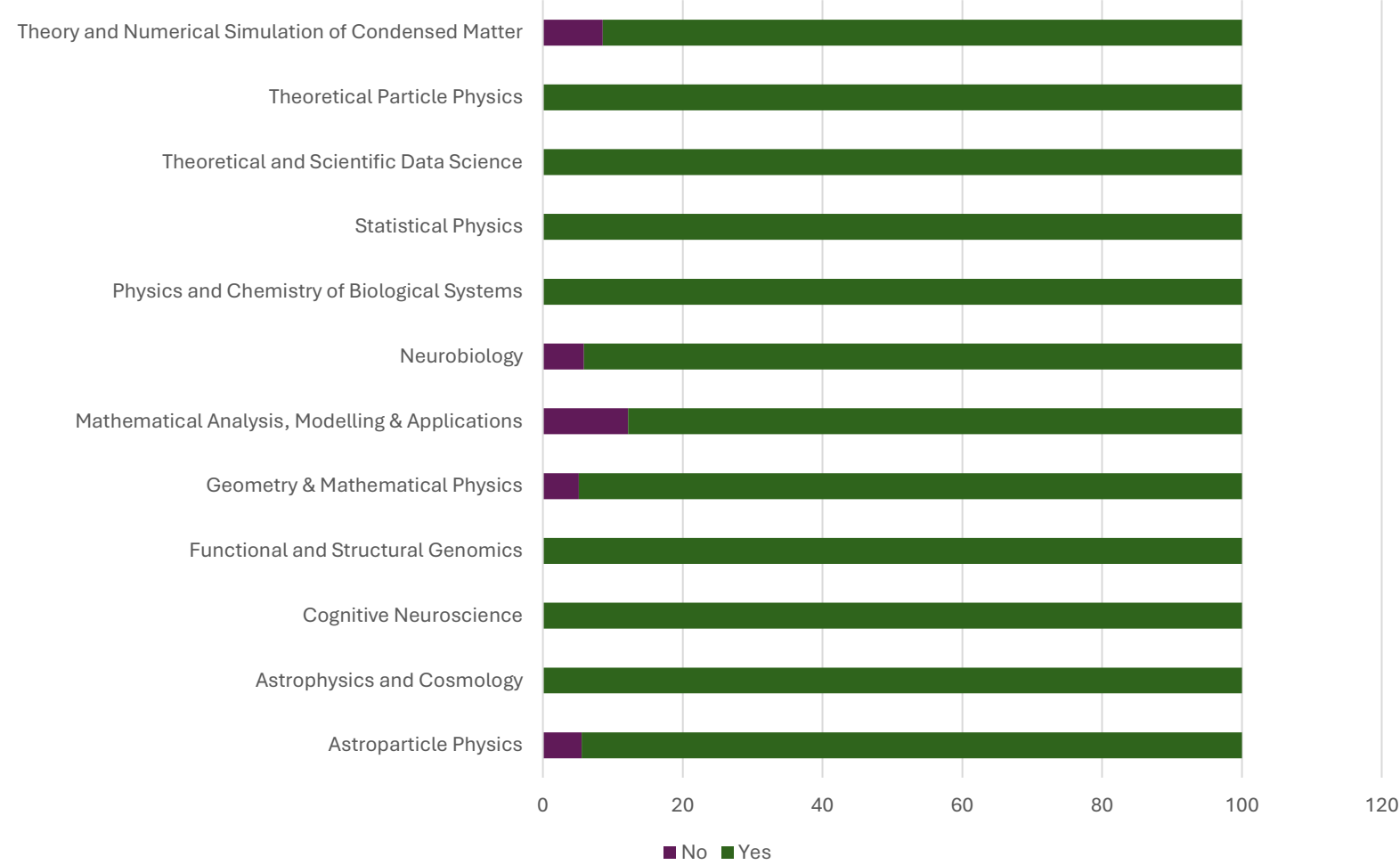
 Gym

SISSA Statute & PhD Rules



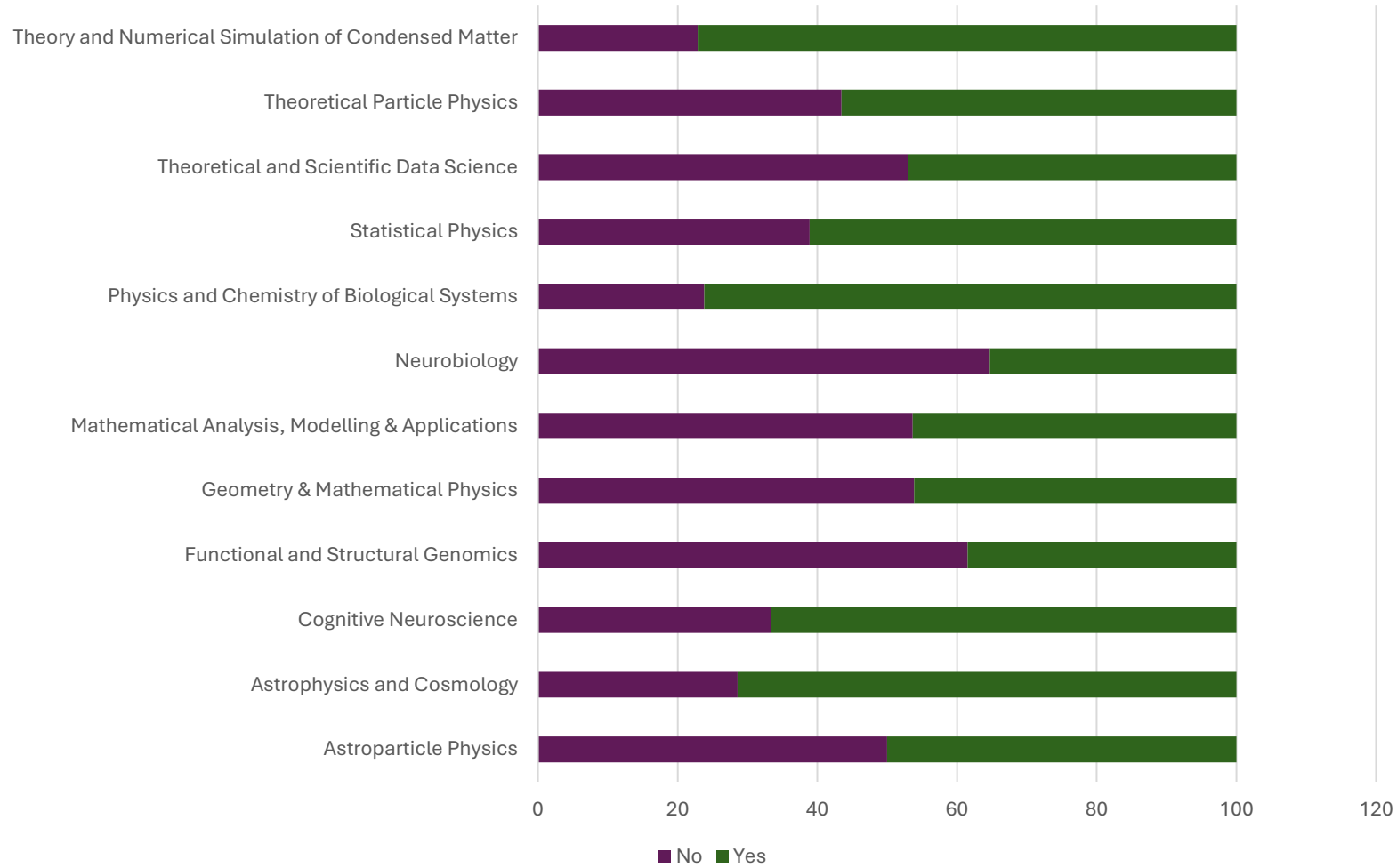
**Informed
about**

SISSA contributions (housing, laptop, etc.)



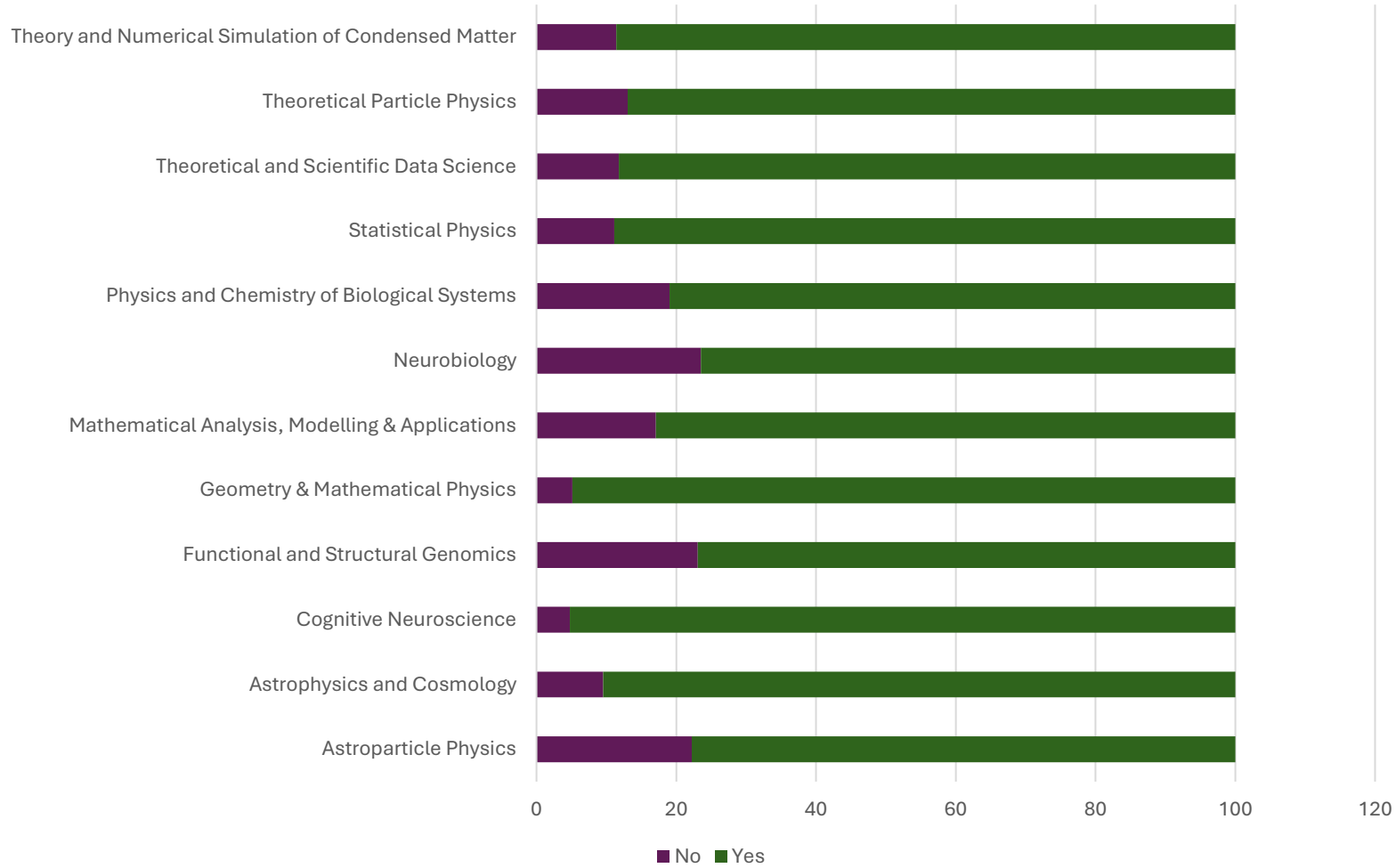
**Informed
about**

Housing Service



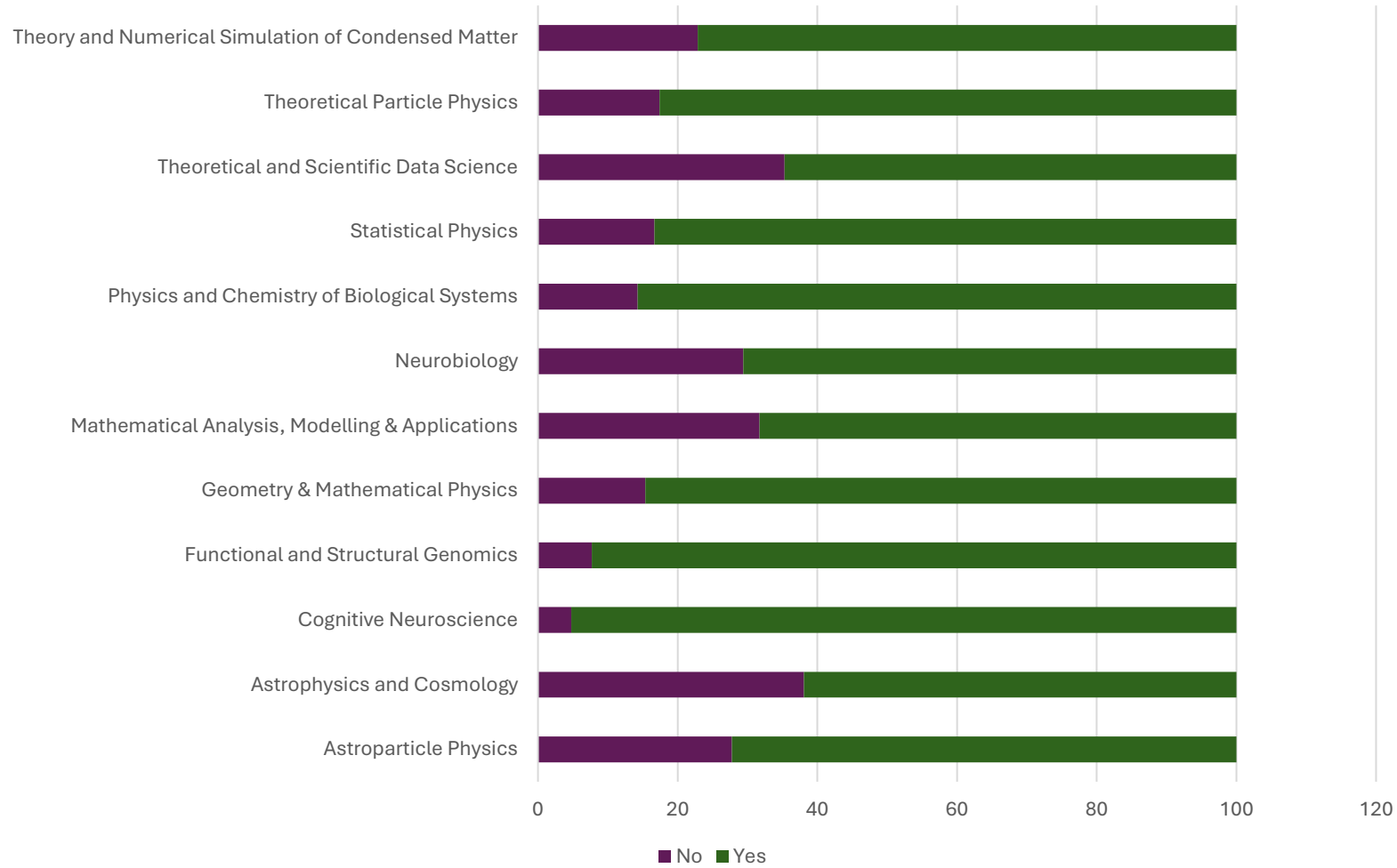
**Informed
about**

ARDISS card to get meal discounts and the process to obtain them (ISEE)



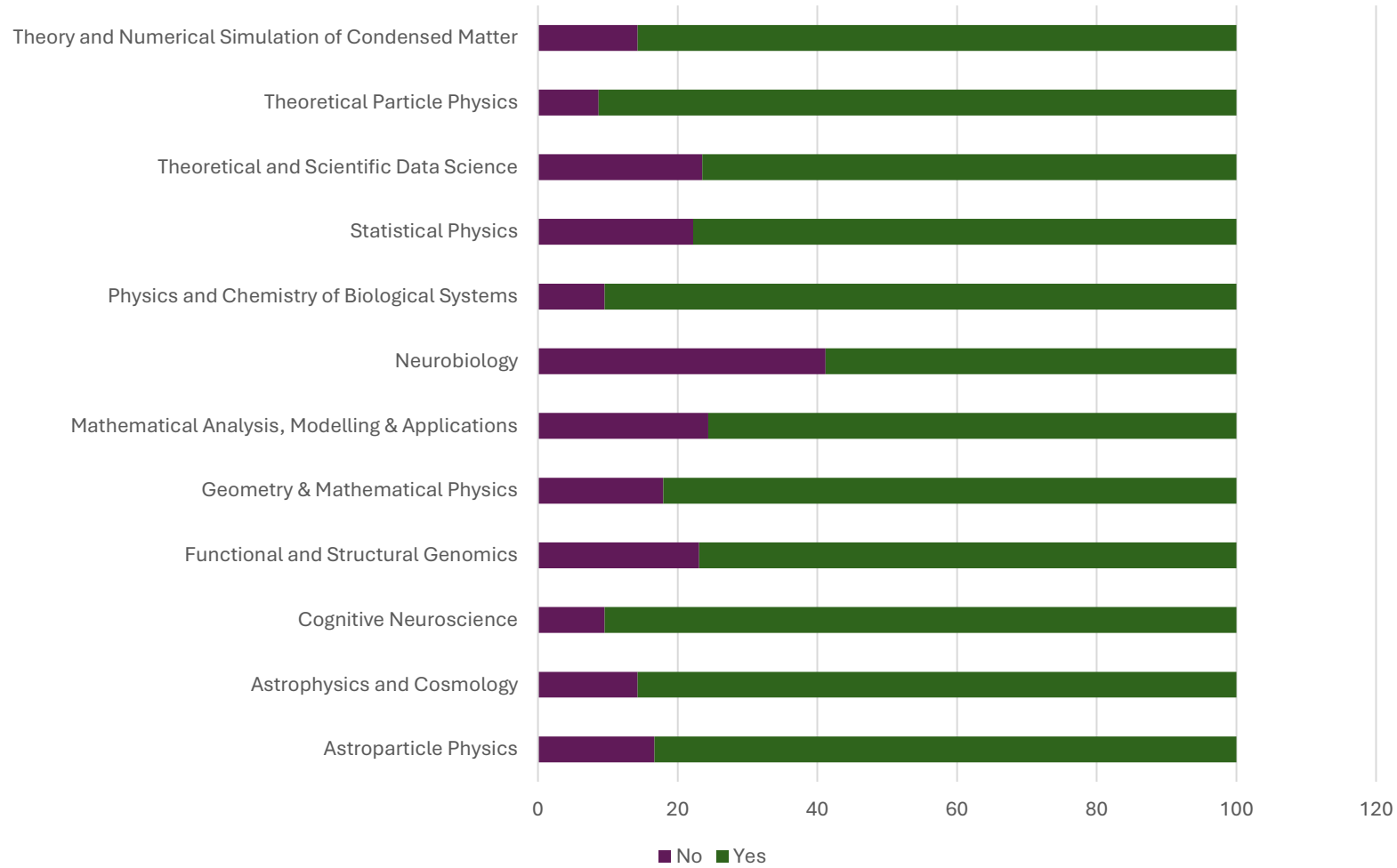
**Informed
about**

Psychological assistance



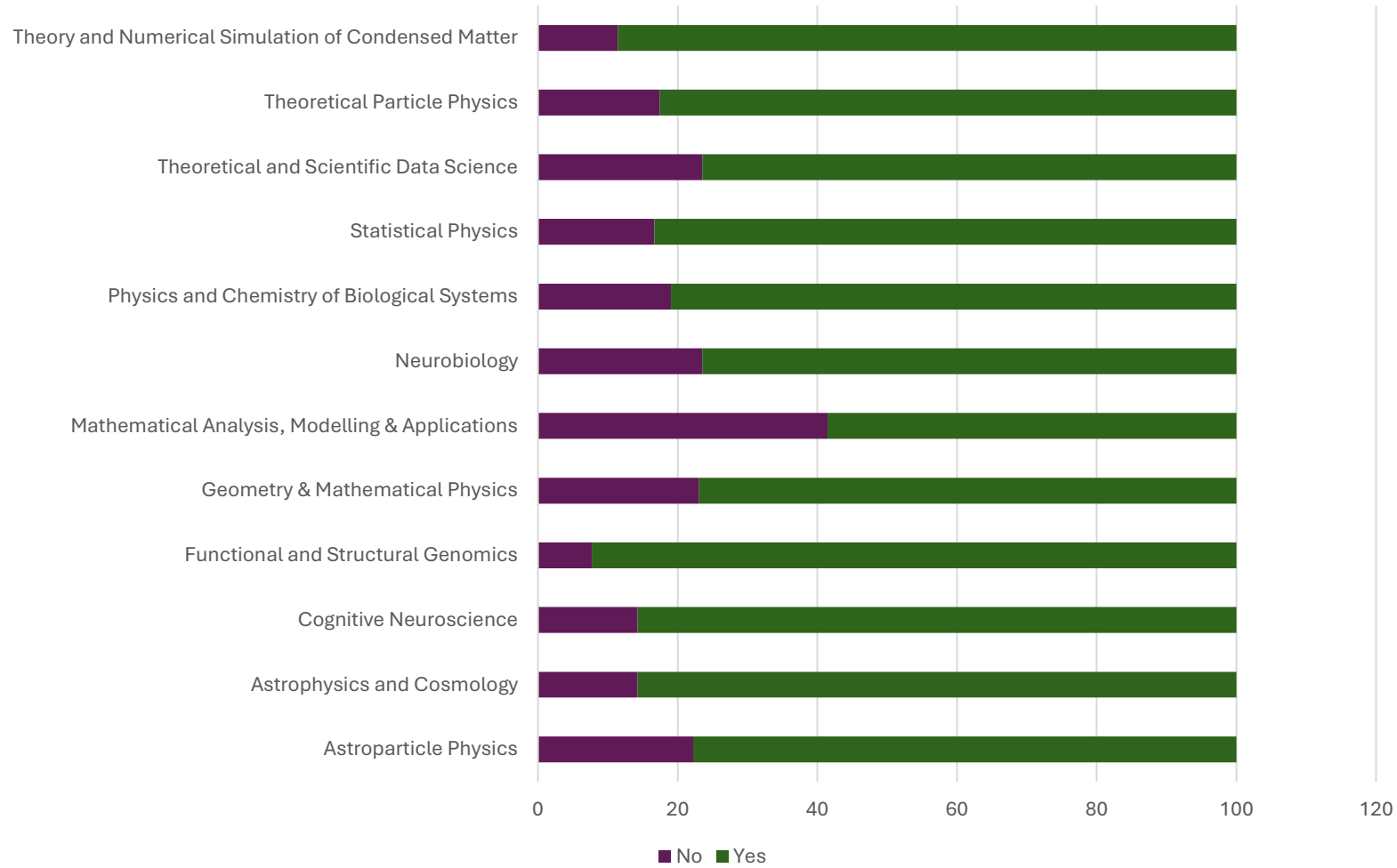
**Informed
about**

Sissa wiki



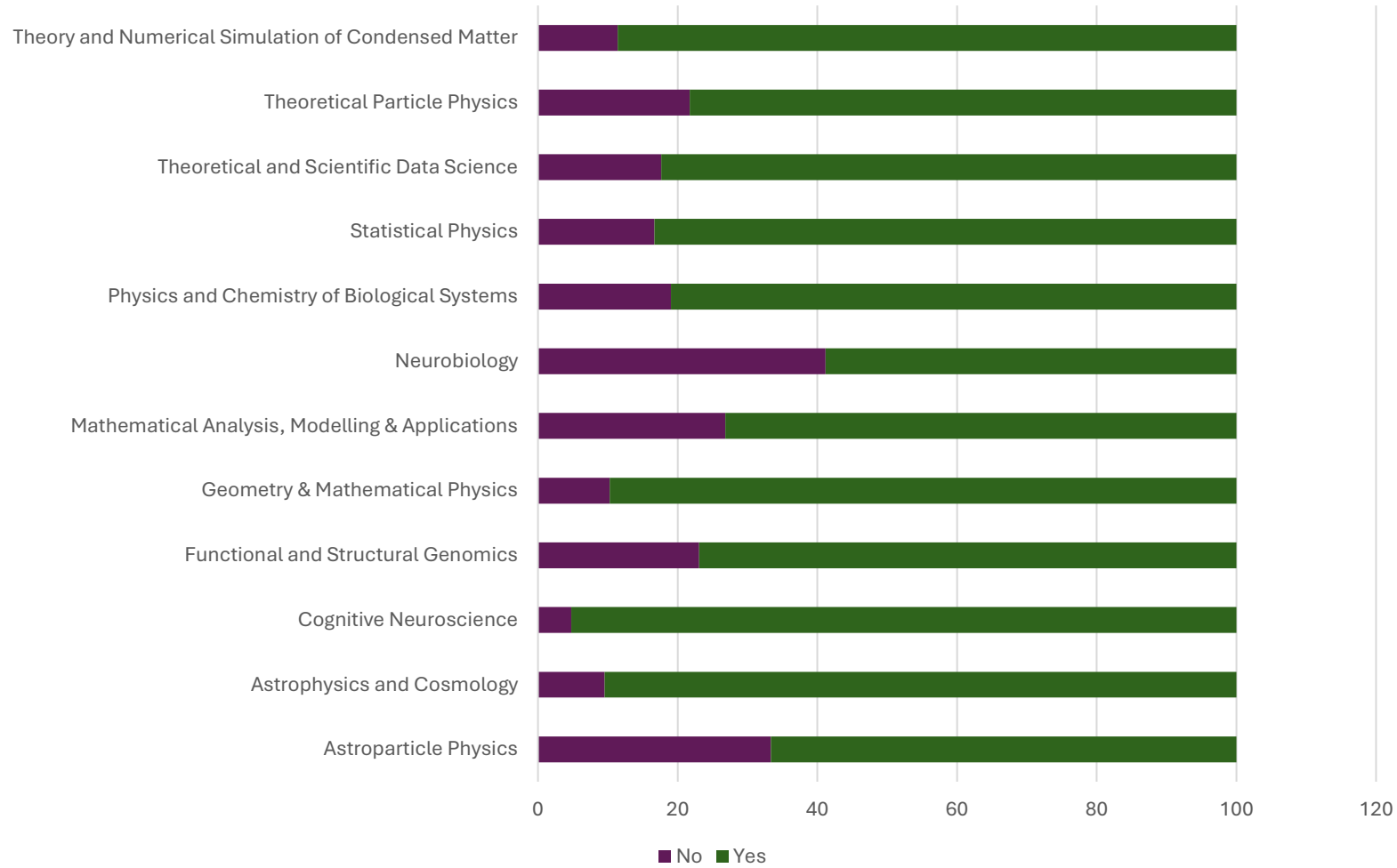
**Informed
about**

Students' representatives



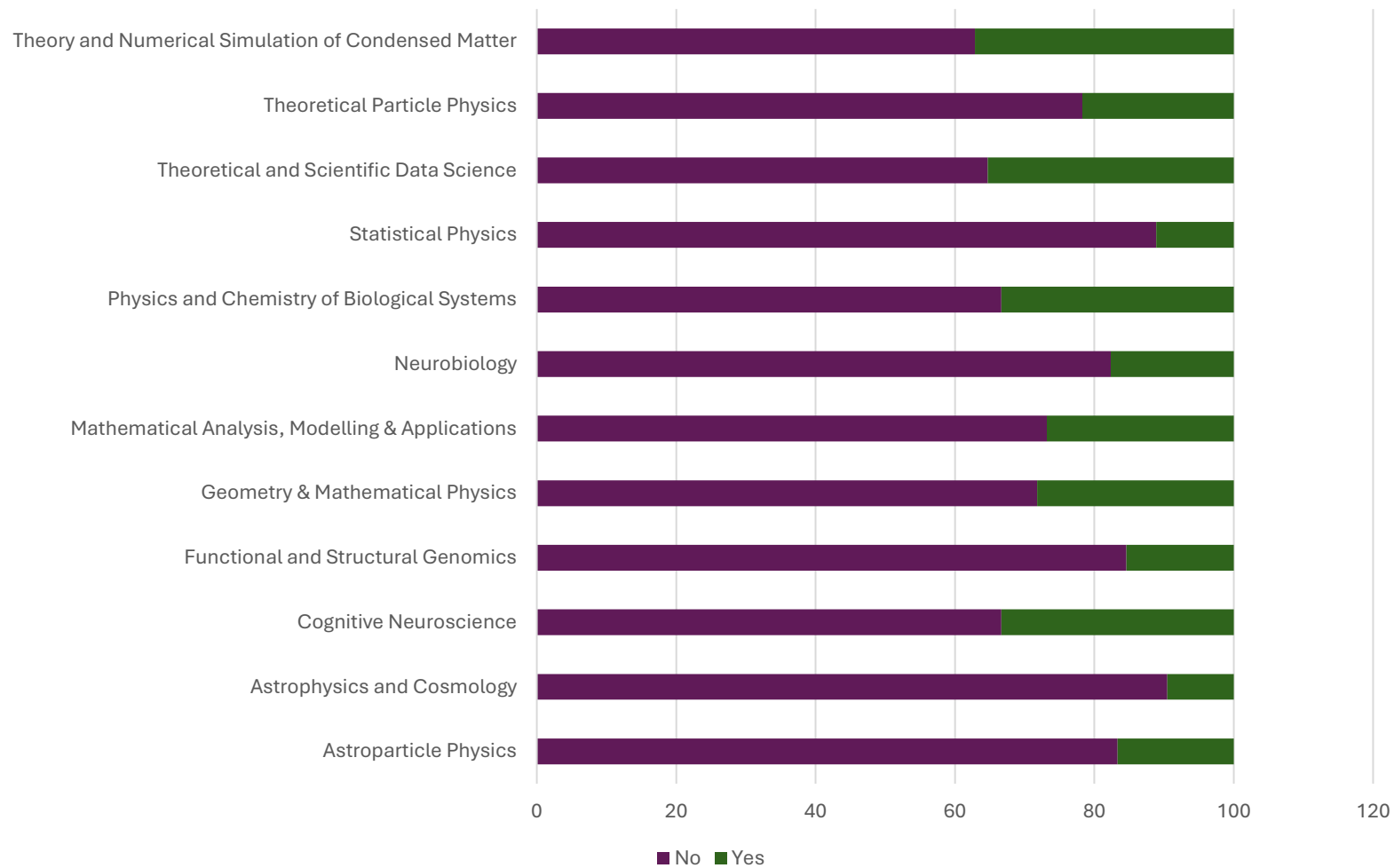
**Informed
about**

SISSA Club Activities



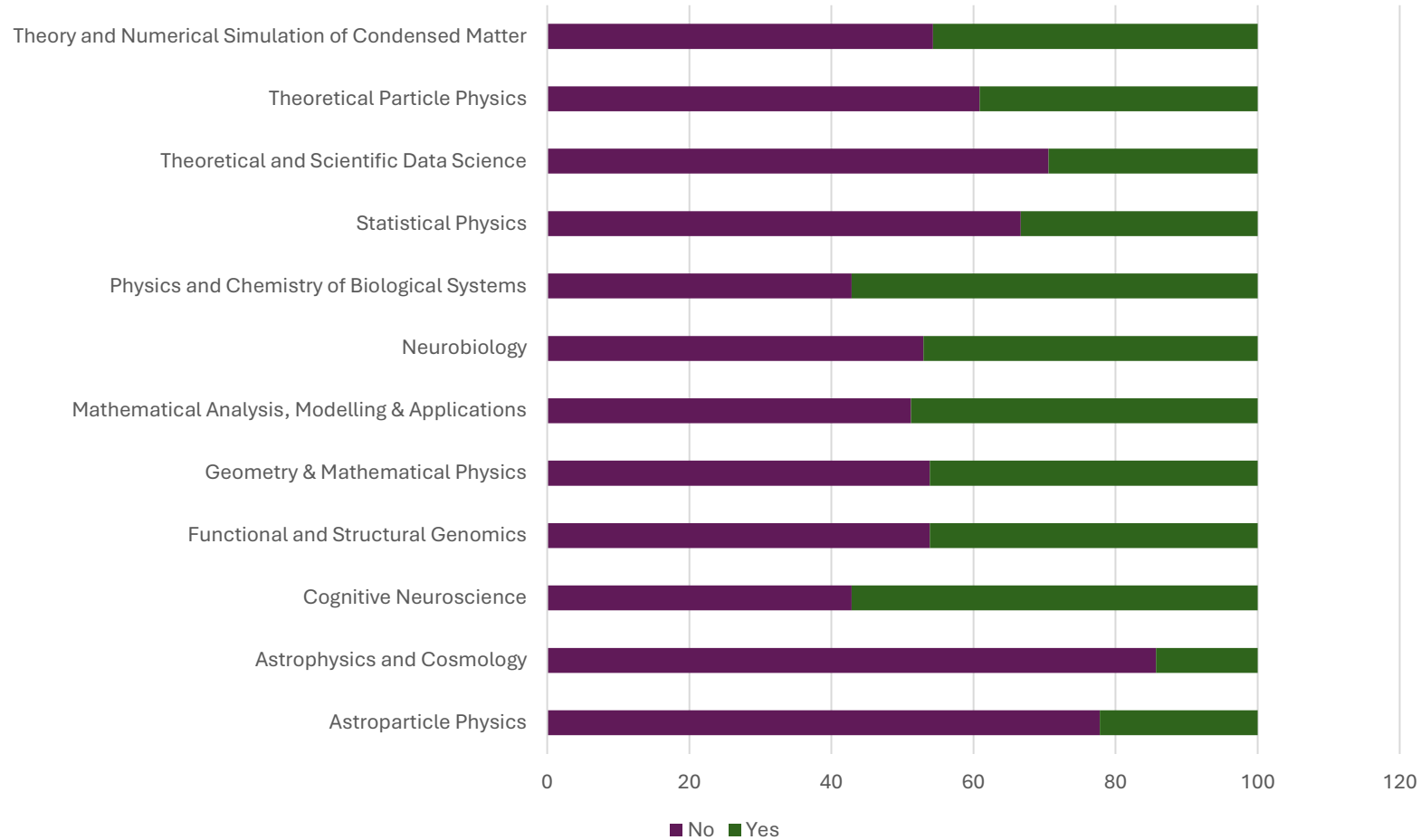
**Informed
about**

CUS



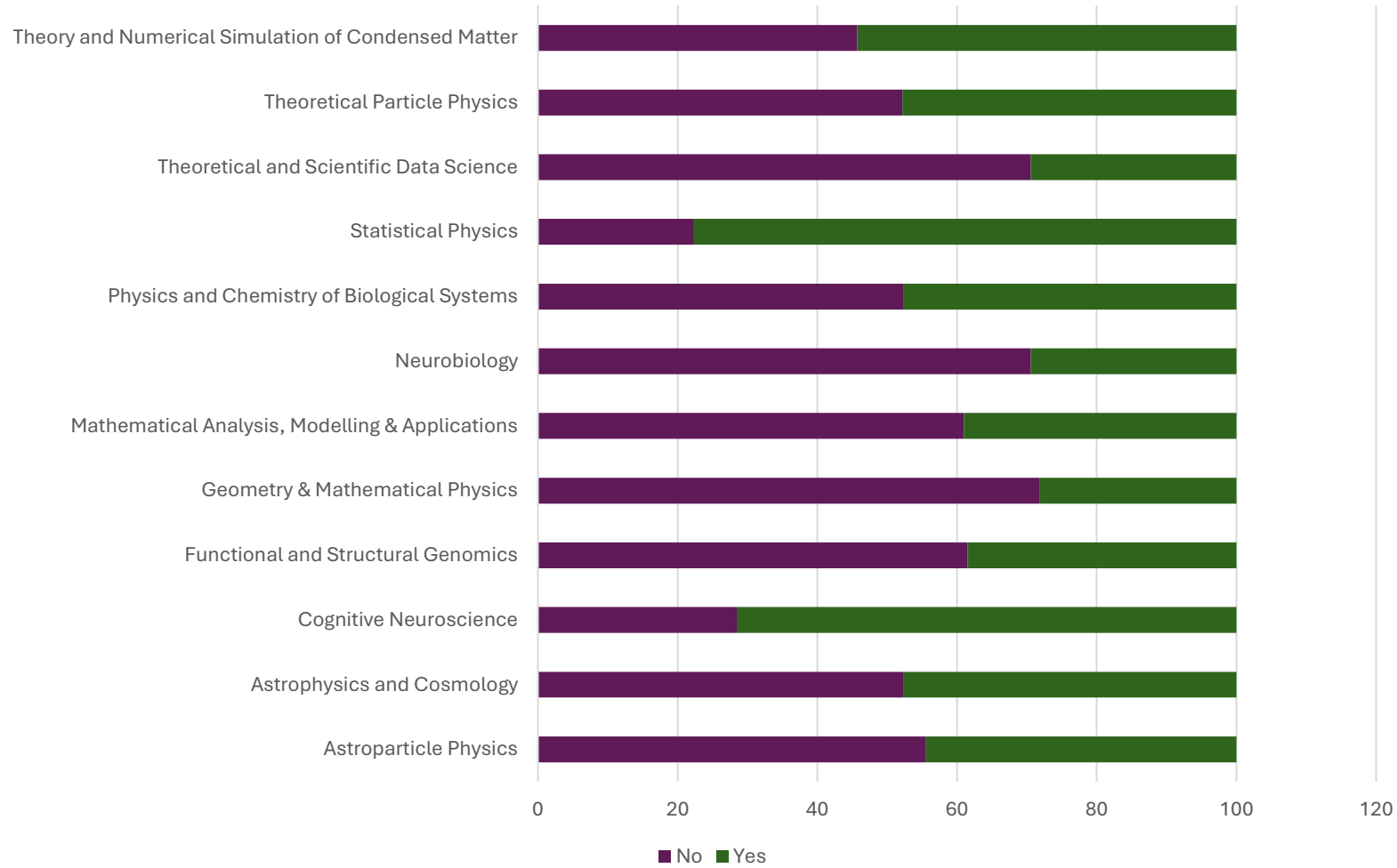
**Informed
about**

Social welfare benefits regulation (health and medical expenses, allowance for new mothers, SISSA Kindergarten)



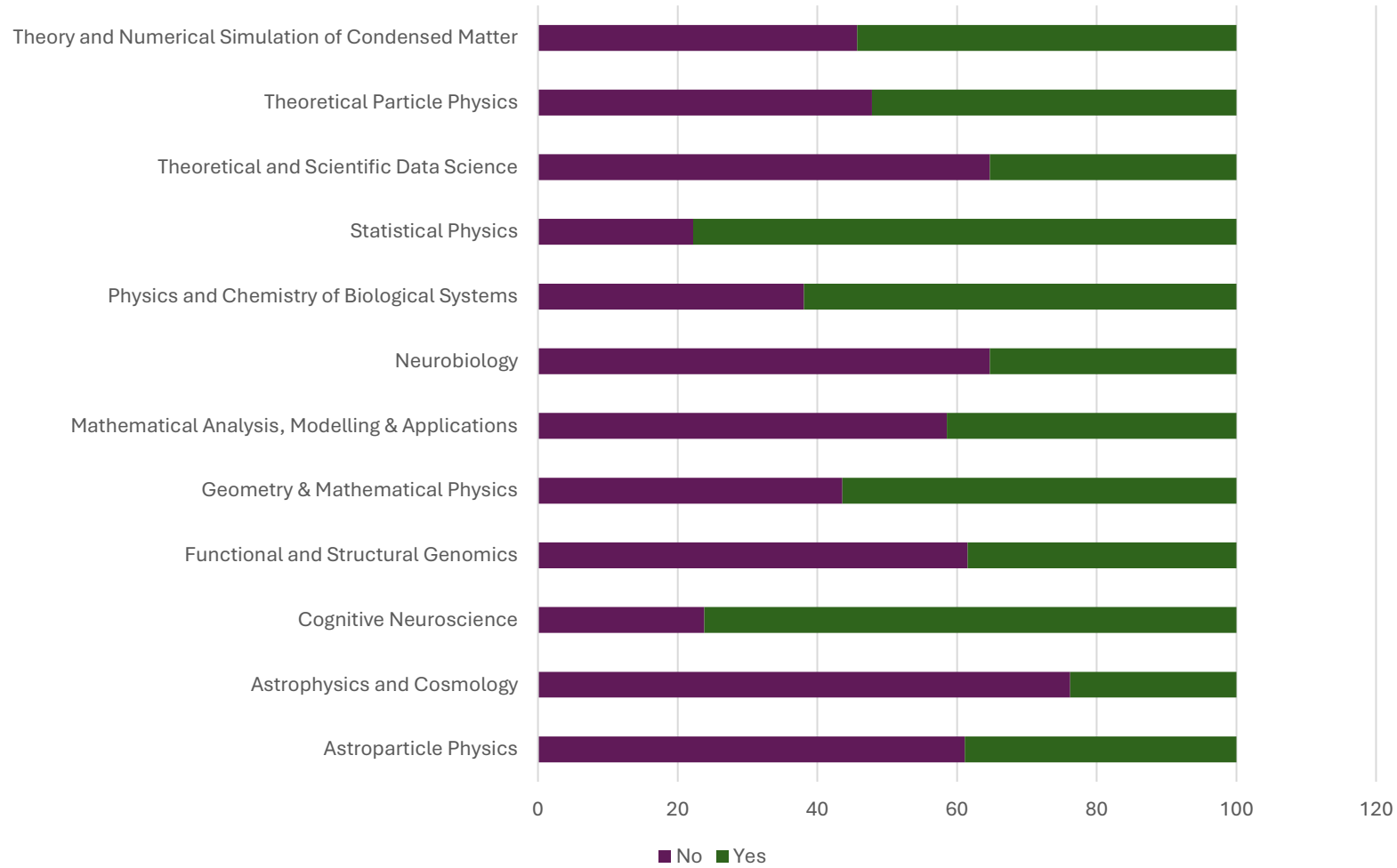
**Informed
about**

CUG



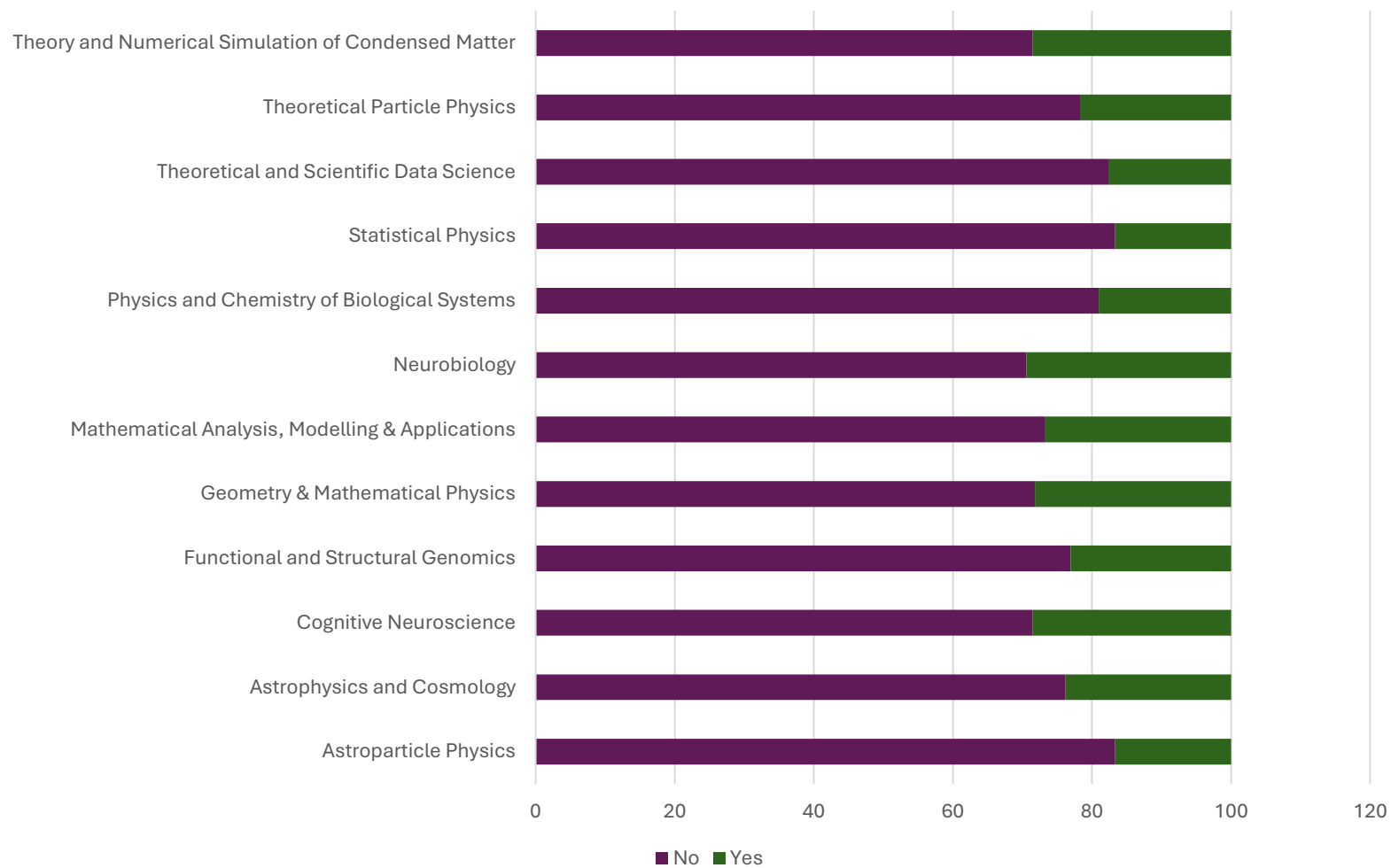
**Informed
about**

Ombudsperson



**Informed
about**

Valorization & Innovation Office

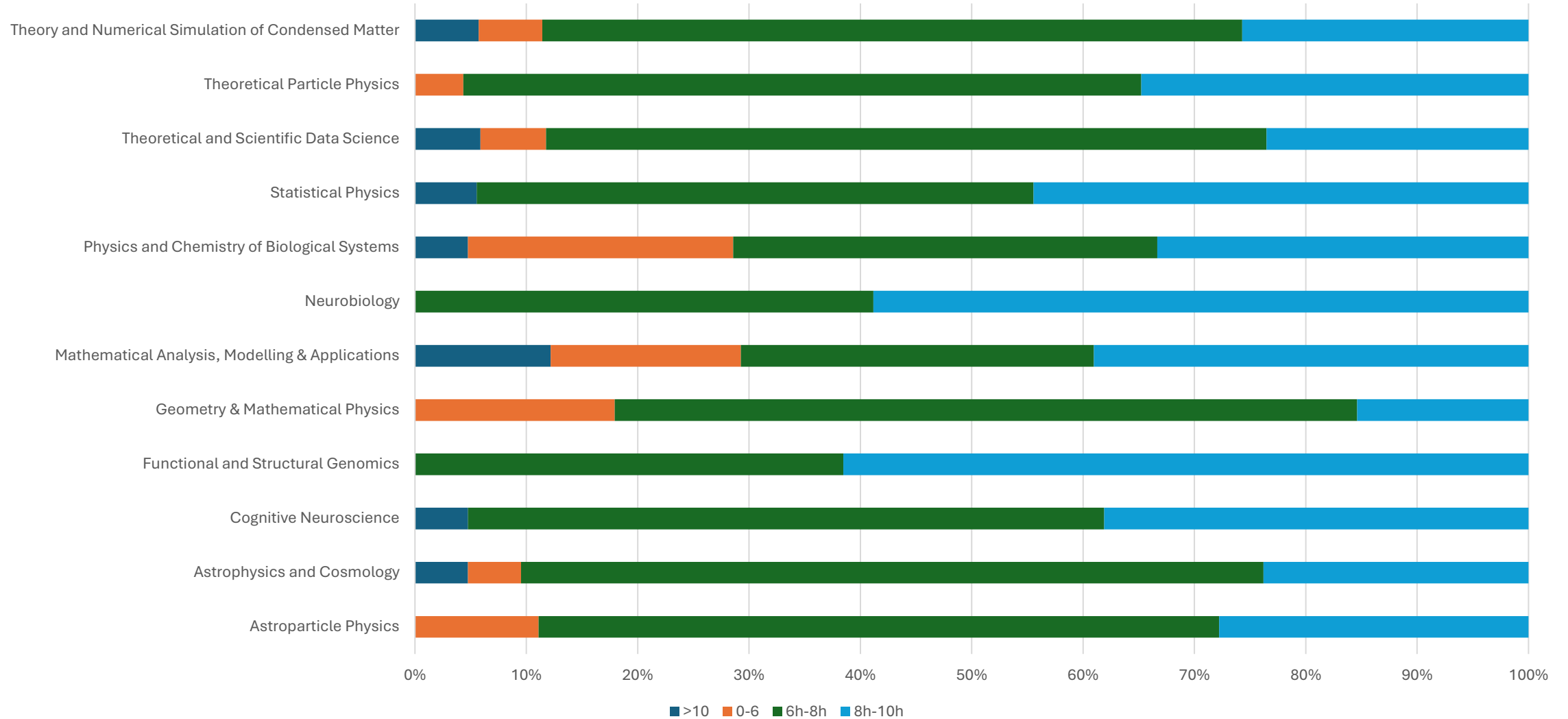


**Informed
about**

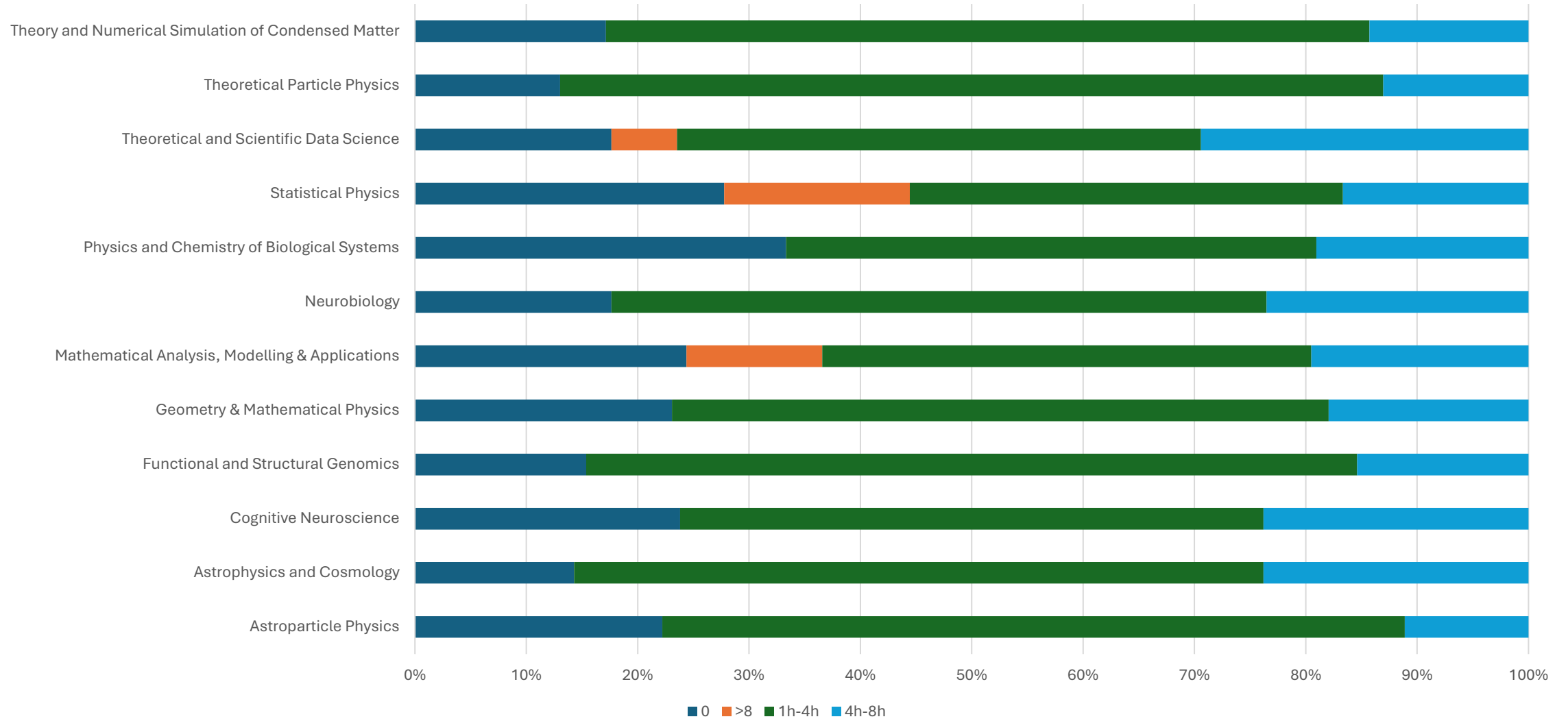


LIFE AT SISSA

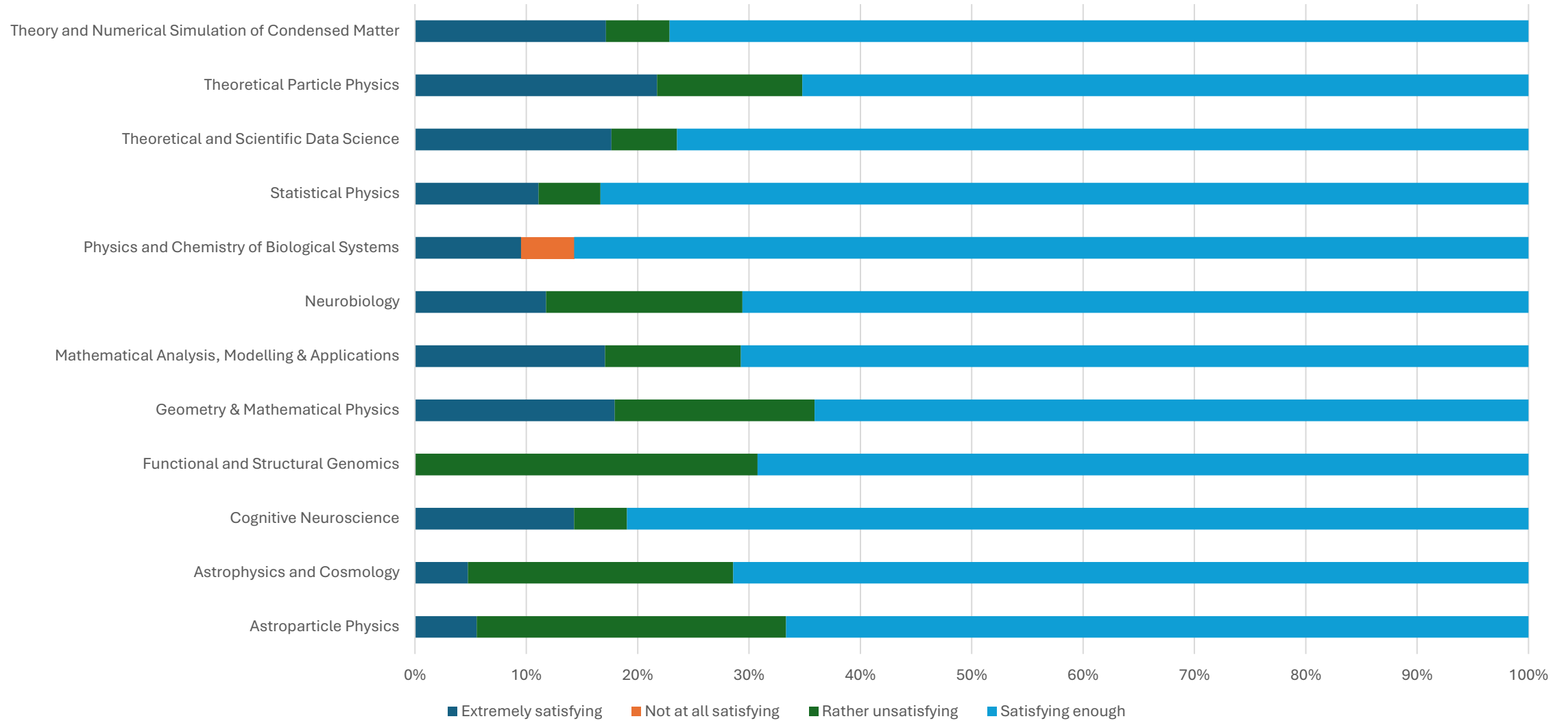
How many hours per day do you work during the week?



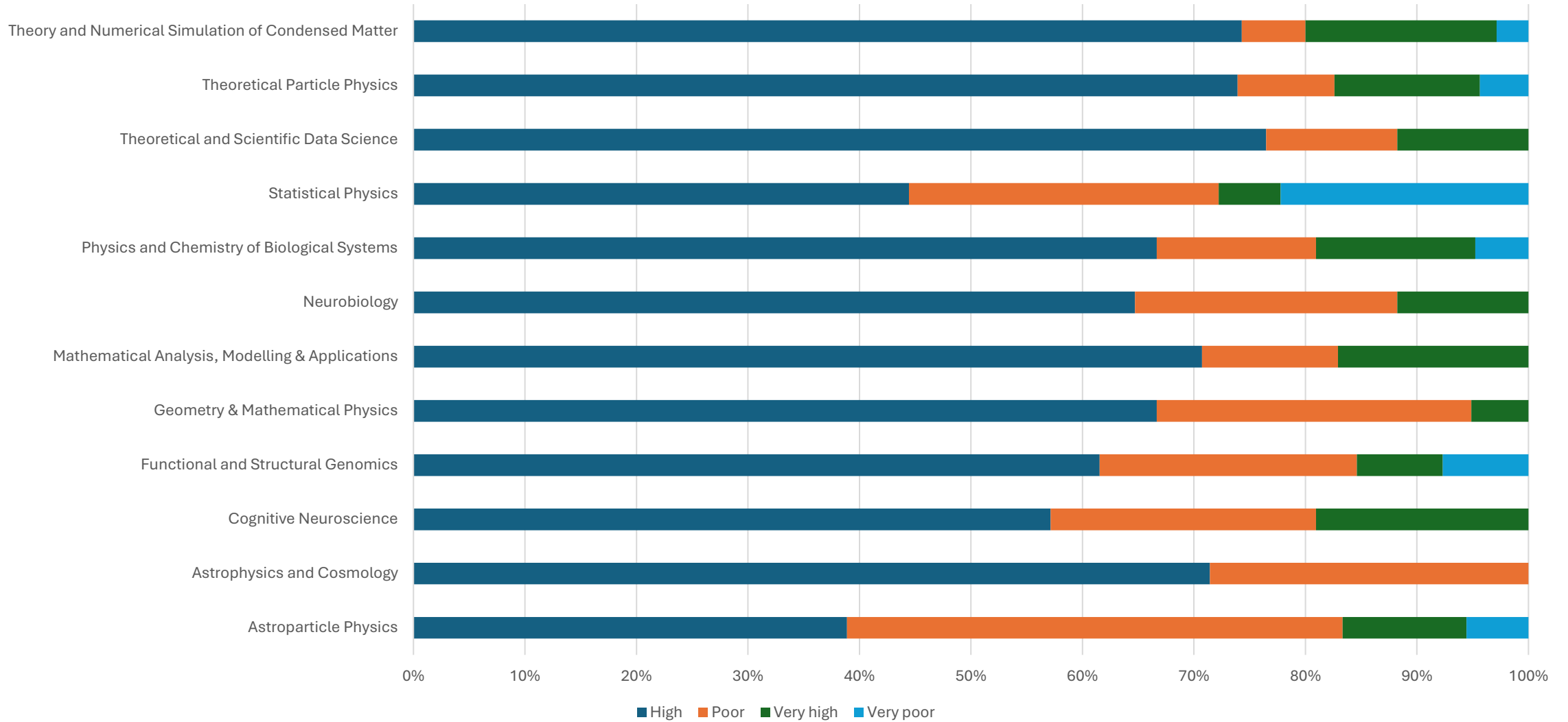
How many hours per day do you work during the weekend?



How would you judge the quality of teaching equipment in lecture rooms (e.g. projectors, etc...)?






How would you rate your wellbeing (being happy, healthy, motivated, comfortable) at SISSA?



Reasons





         Toxic PI and/or environment

   Not inclusive for international students


   Struggling with PhD & academia in general
(various reasons)


  Gender

 Not enough sport activities


 Not enough spare time due to work load

 Lecture & exams

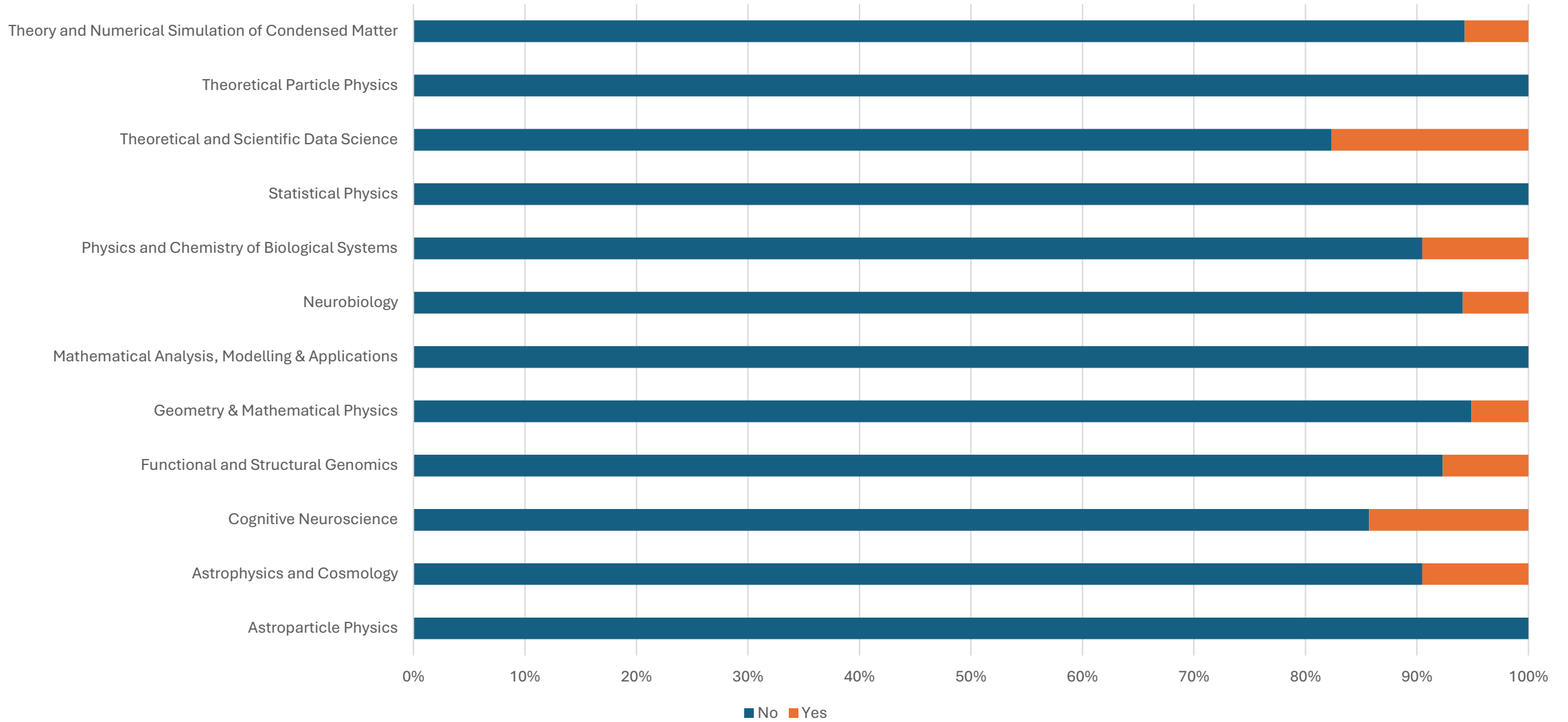
 Lack of transparency of PhD course

 Financial problems

 Politics

 Lack of collaboration and discussion

While at SISSA, have you ever felt discriminated based on your appearance, ethnicity, gender, religion?



If yes, could you provide details?

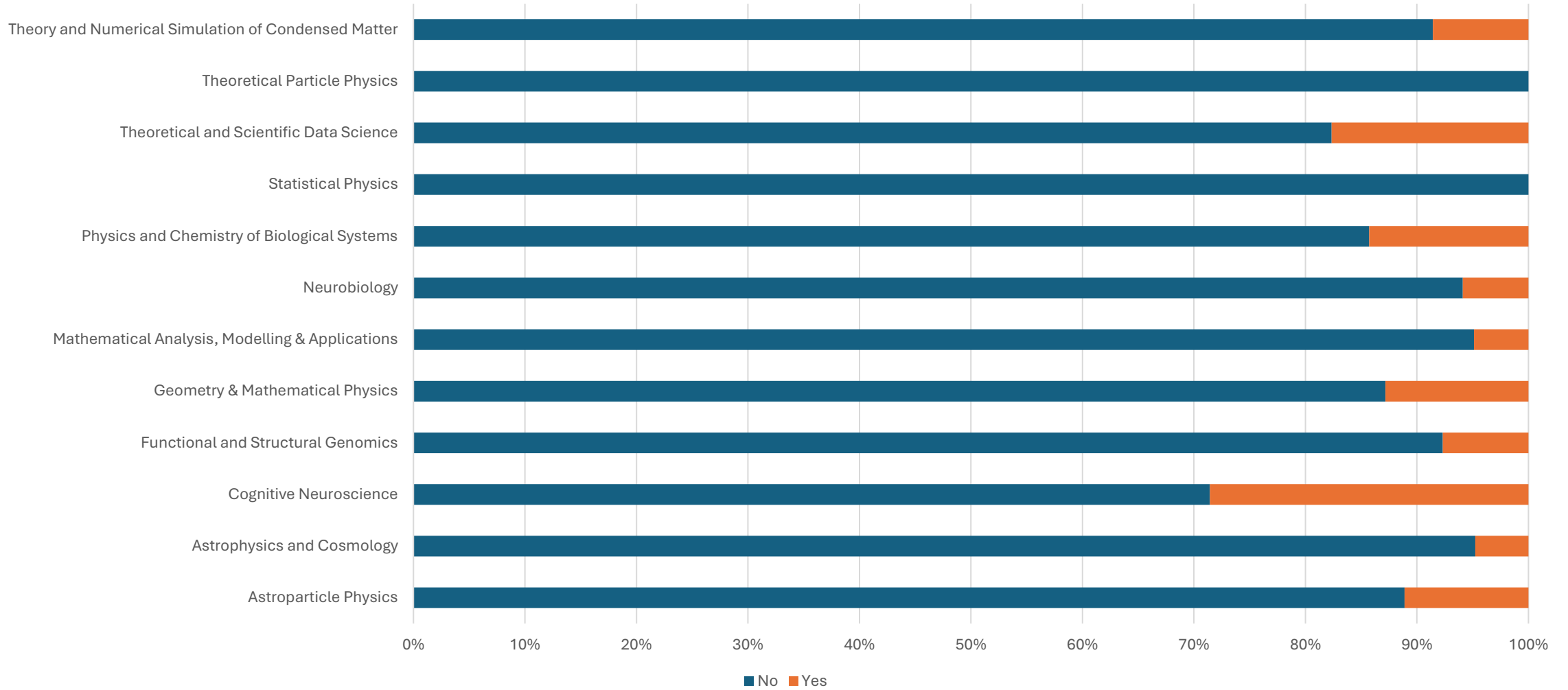


 Gender

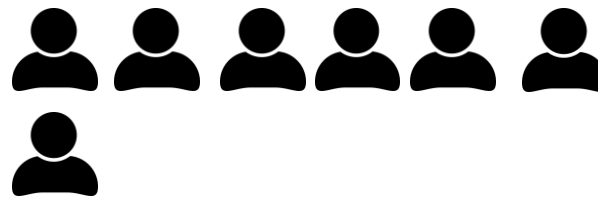
 Nationality

 Language

While at SISSA, in the latest academic year have you witnessed episodes of discrimination based on appearance, ethnicity, gender, religion?



If yes, could you provide details?



Discrimination episodes due to language (especially in Cognitive Neuroscience & Geometry and Mathematical Physics)



Episodes of discrimination due to nationality by professors/language



Gender

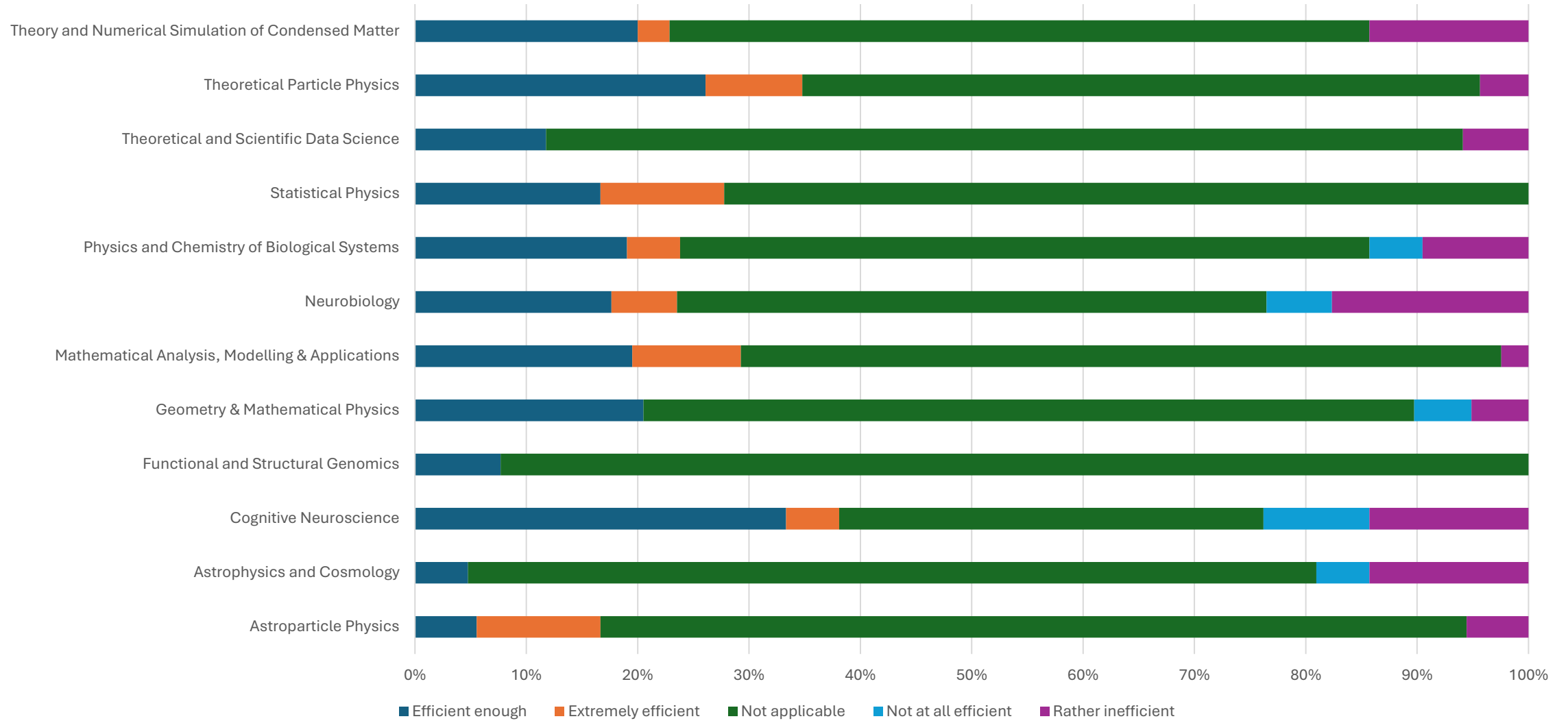


War

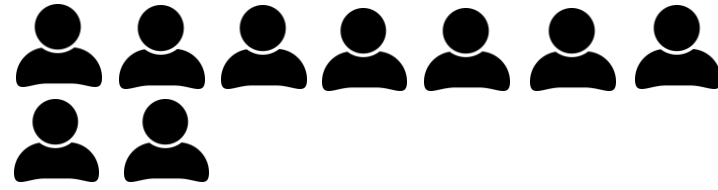


Discrimination based on education background by professors

How would you judge the efficiency of the Psychological Support Service?



Free comments on psychological support



Need of more availabilities



Positive comments

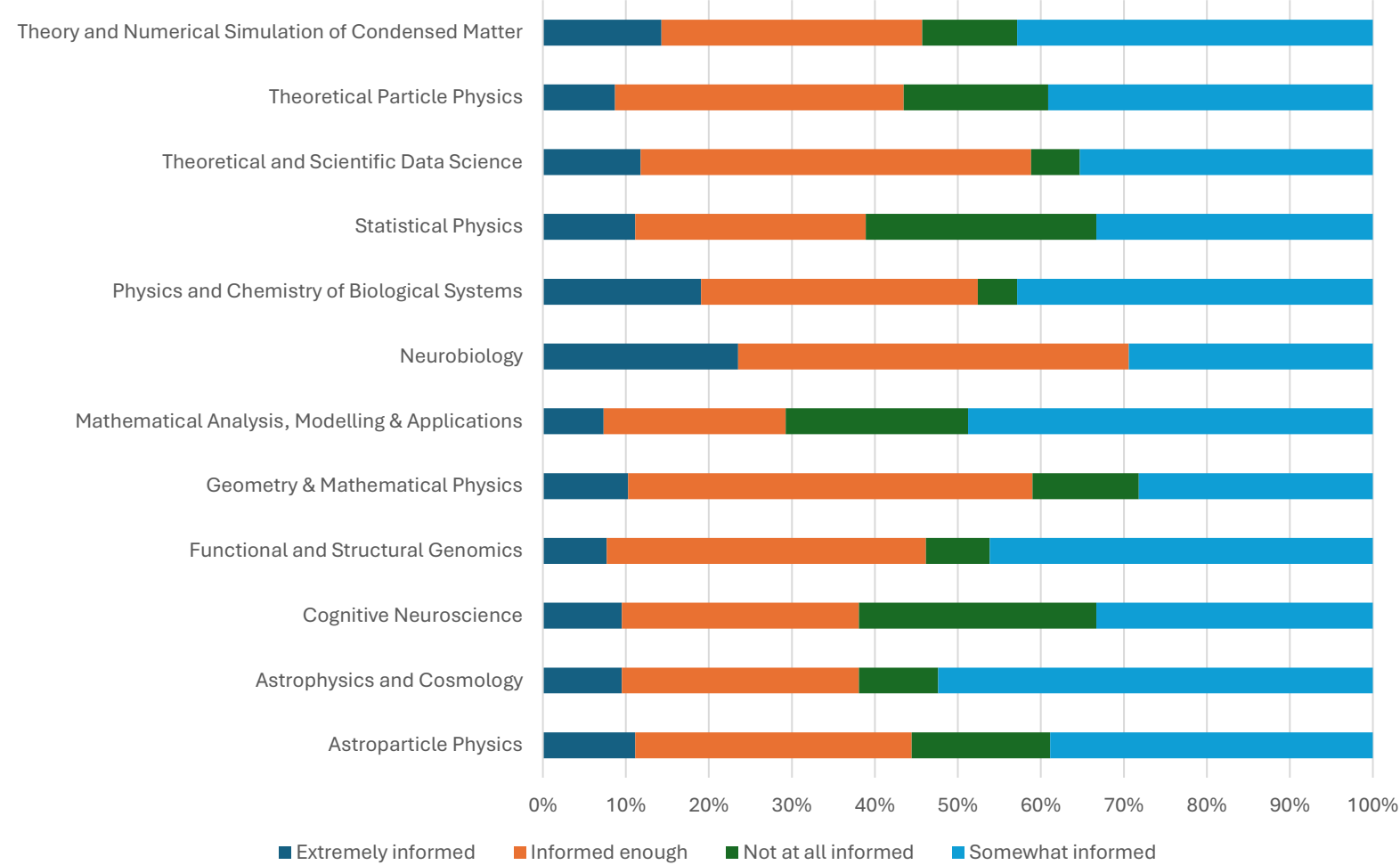


No answer to emails



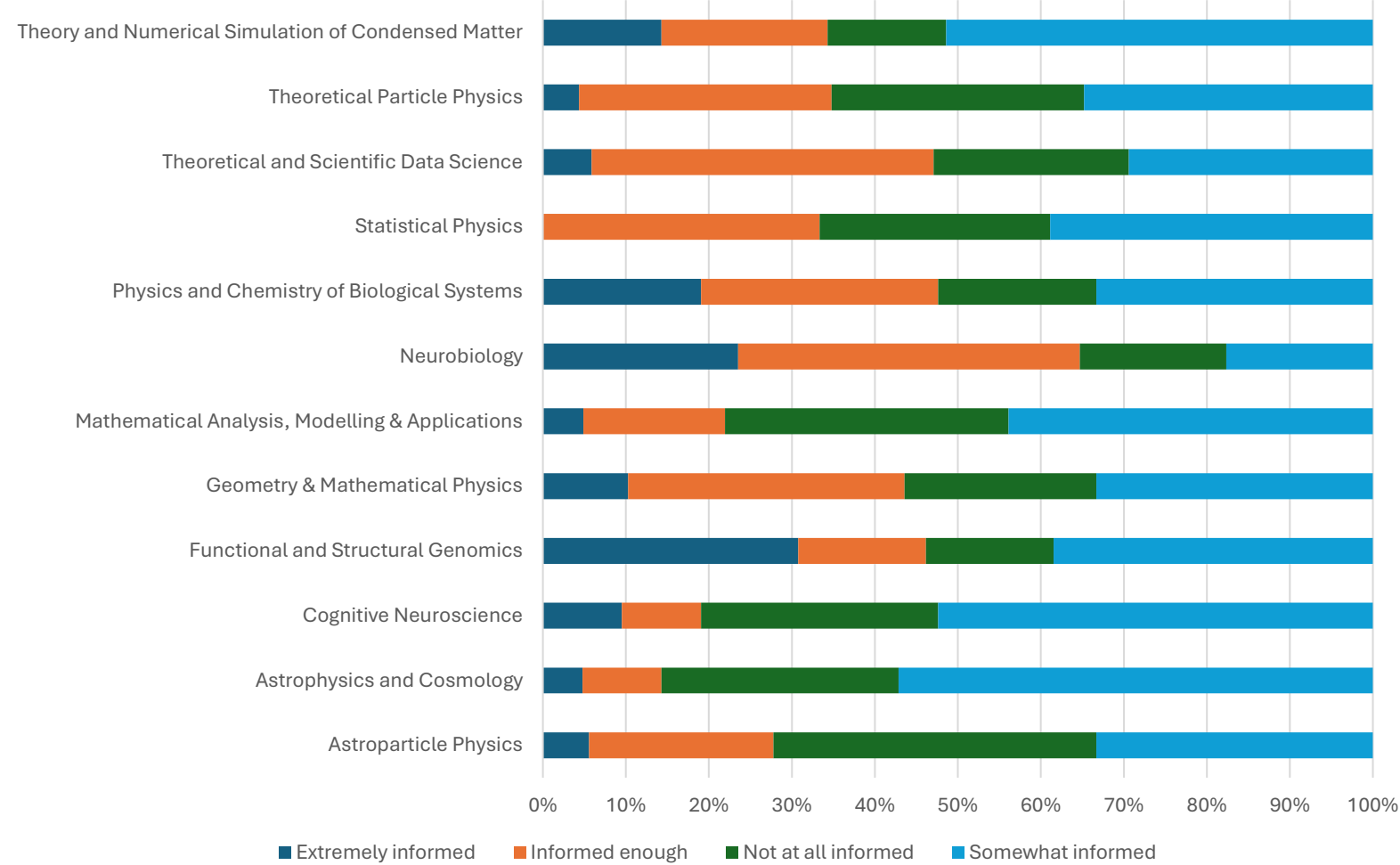
STUDENTS' REPRESENTATIVES

Representation in your Area Council



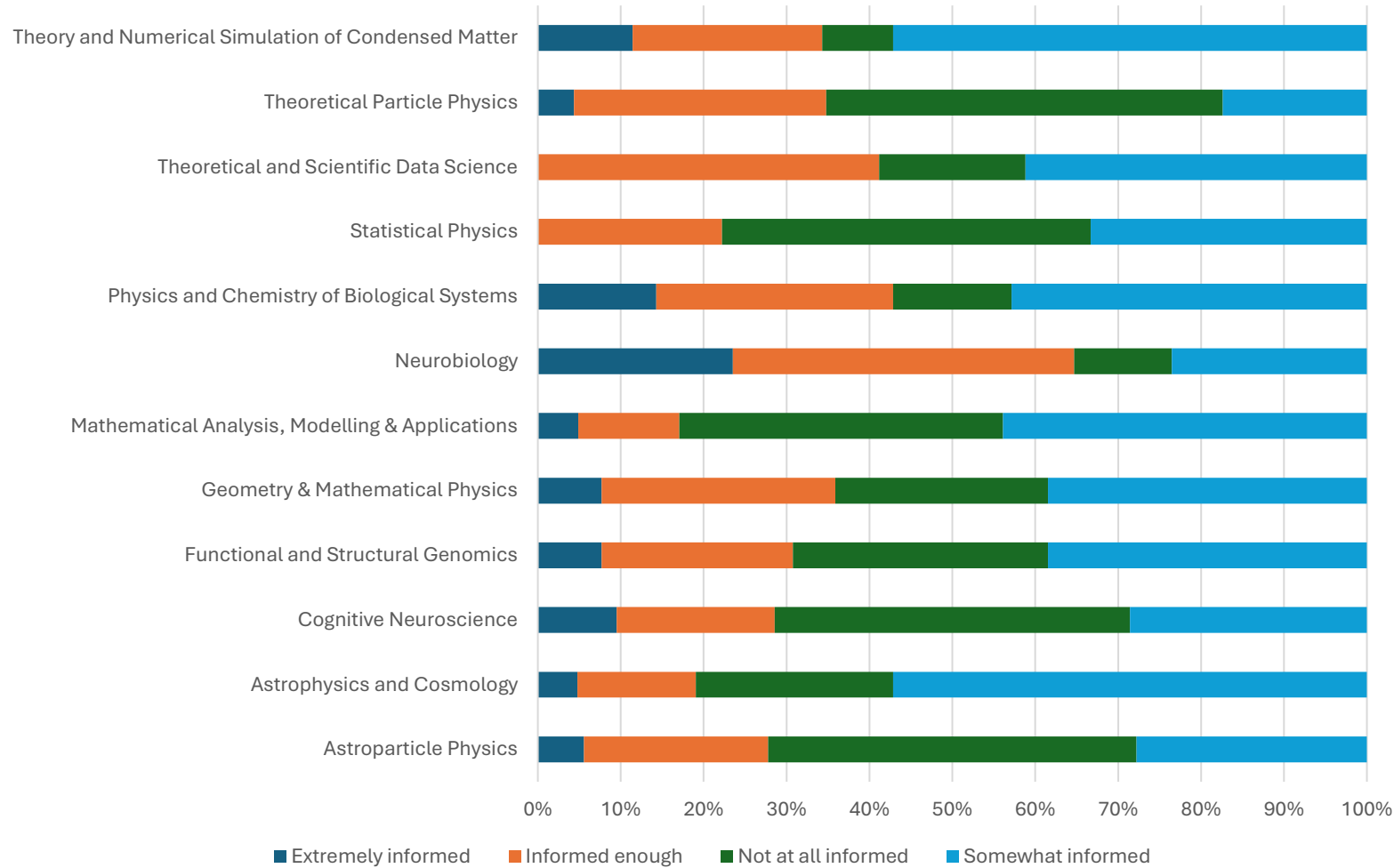
Informed
about

Representation in the academic senate



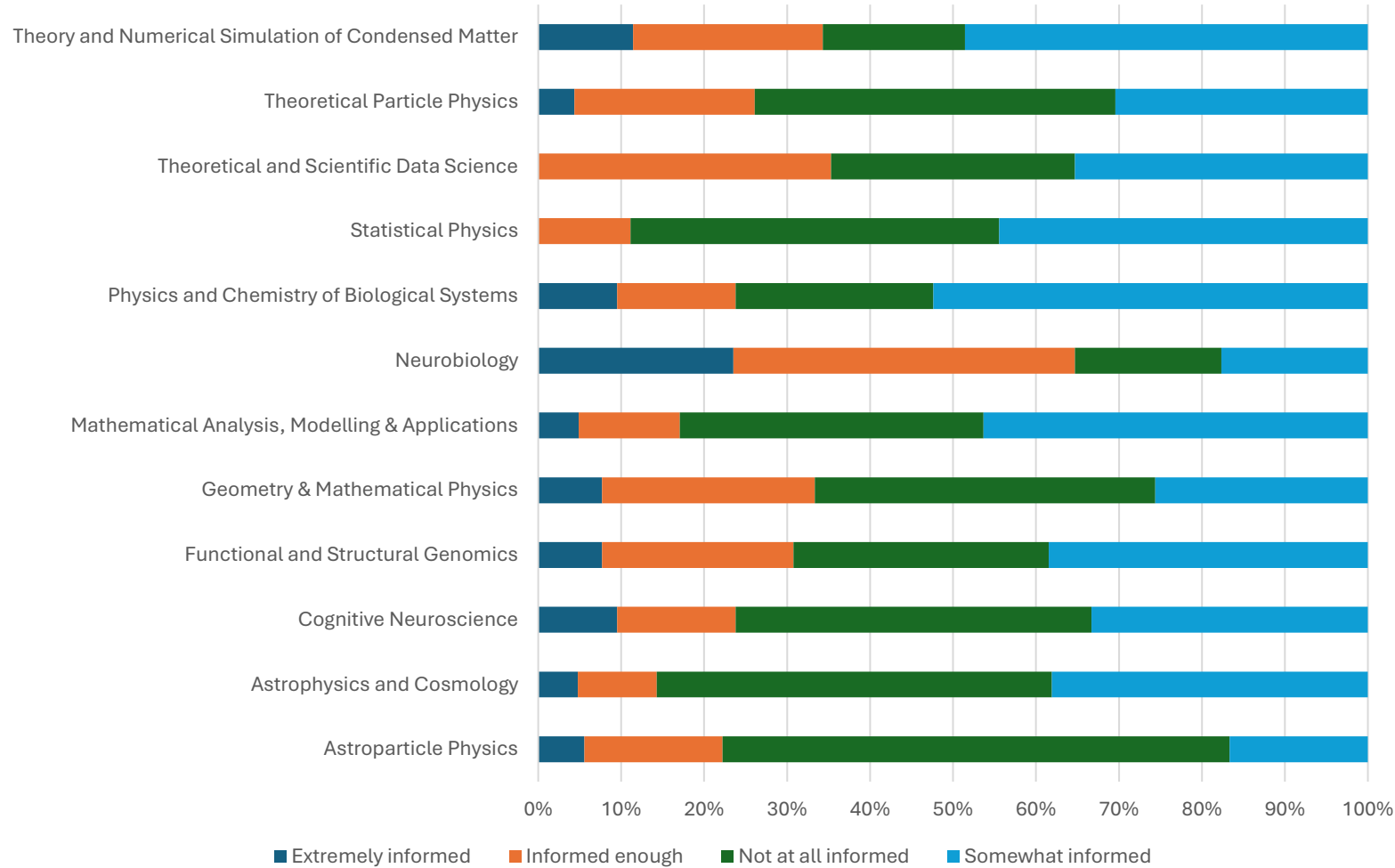
**Informed
about**

Representation in the Administrative Council/Board of Directors



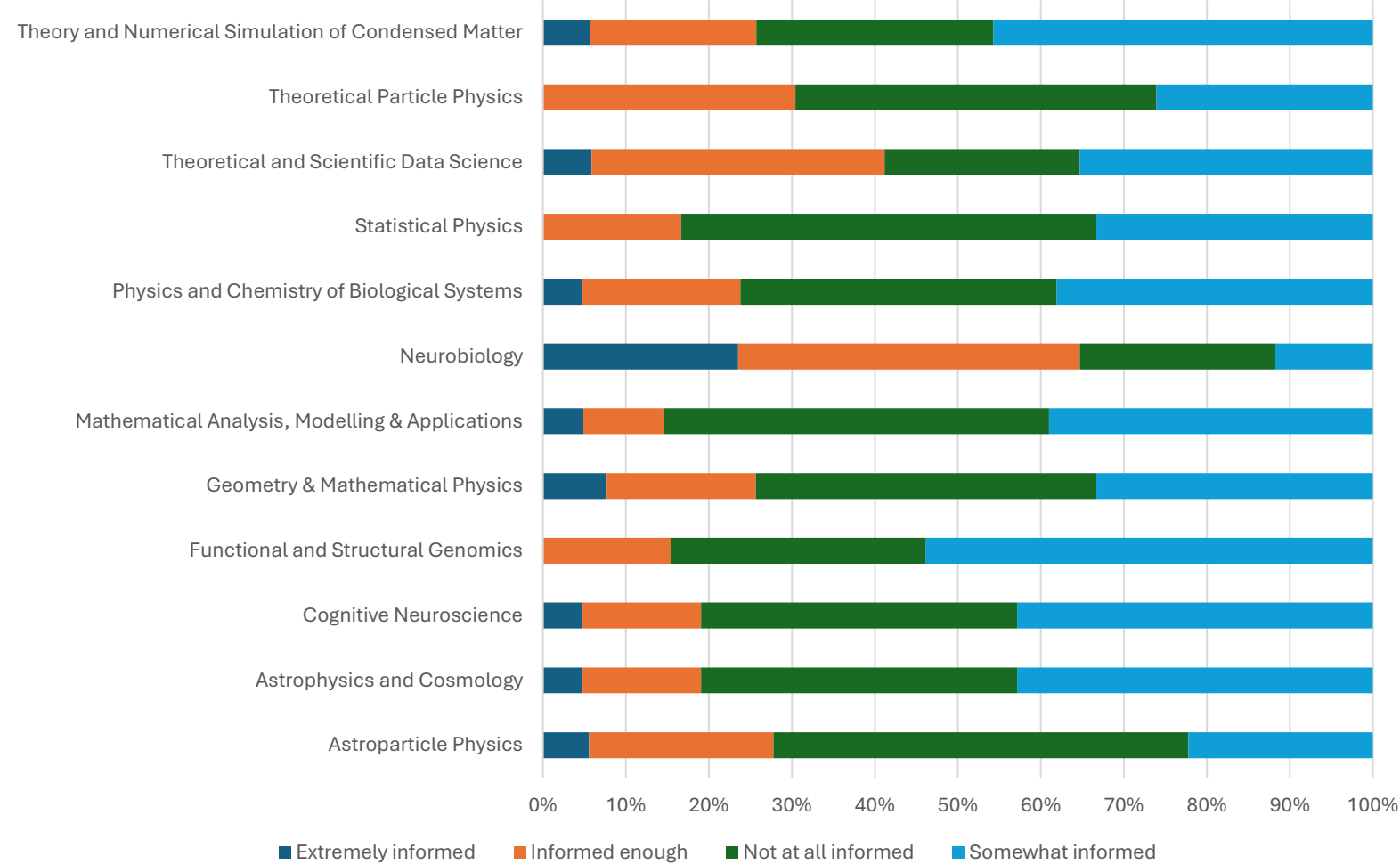
**Informed
about**

Representation in the ARDISS Committee



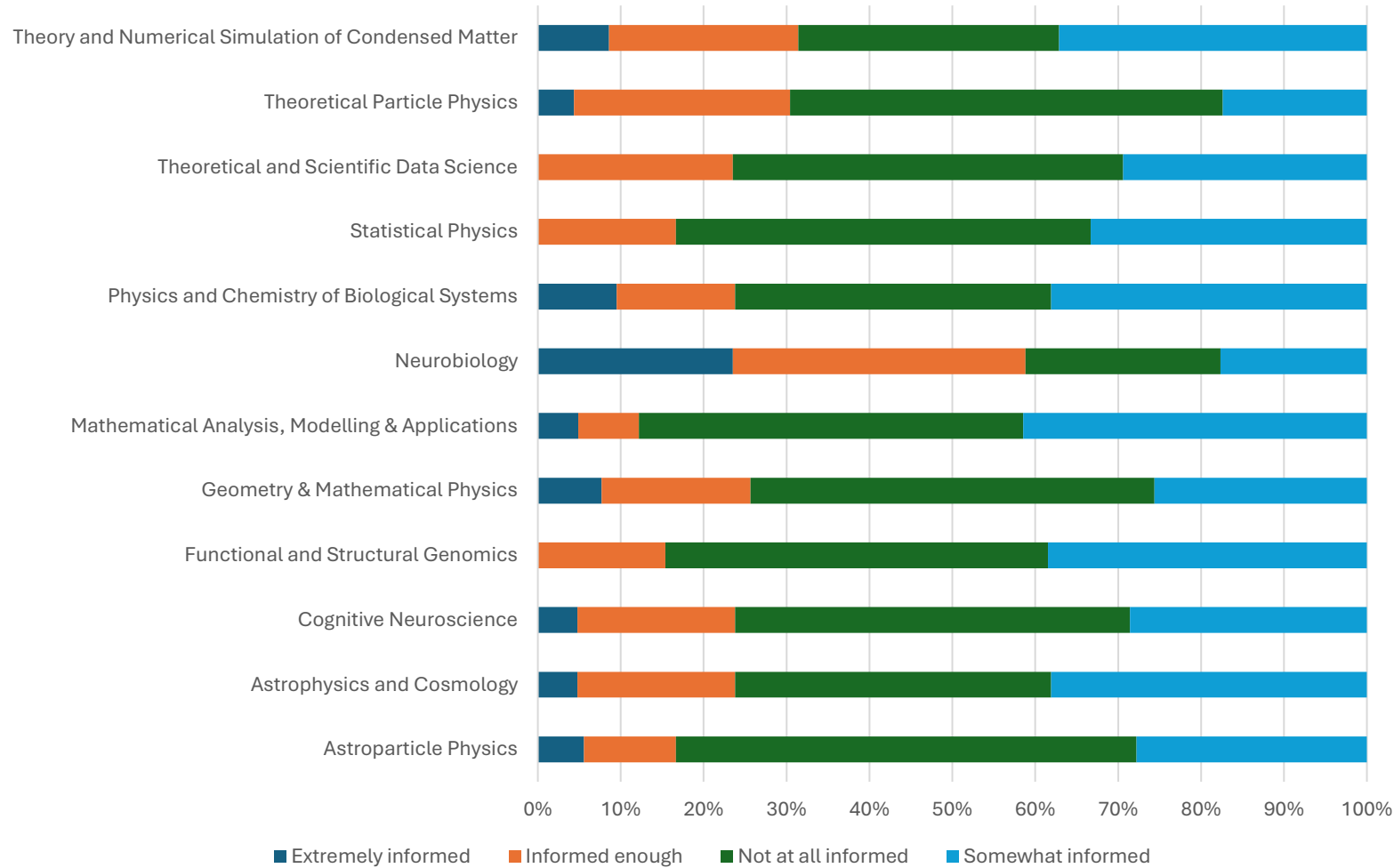
**Informed
about**

Representation in the Student-Professors Joint Committee



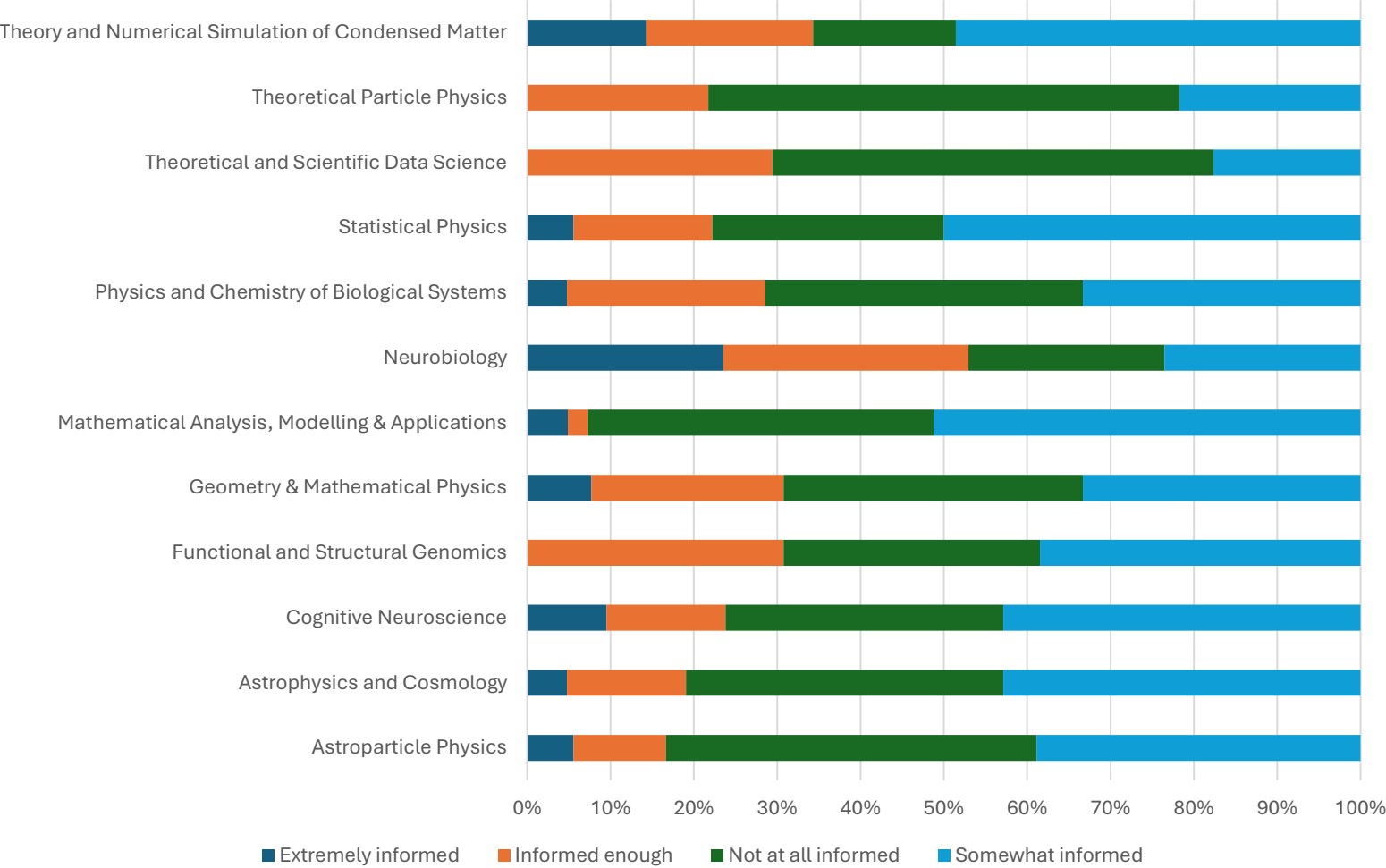
Informed
about

Representation in the Evaluation Unit



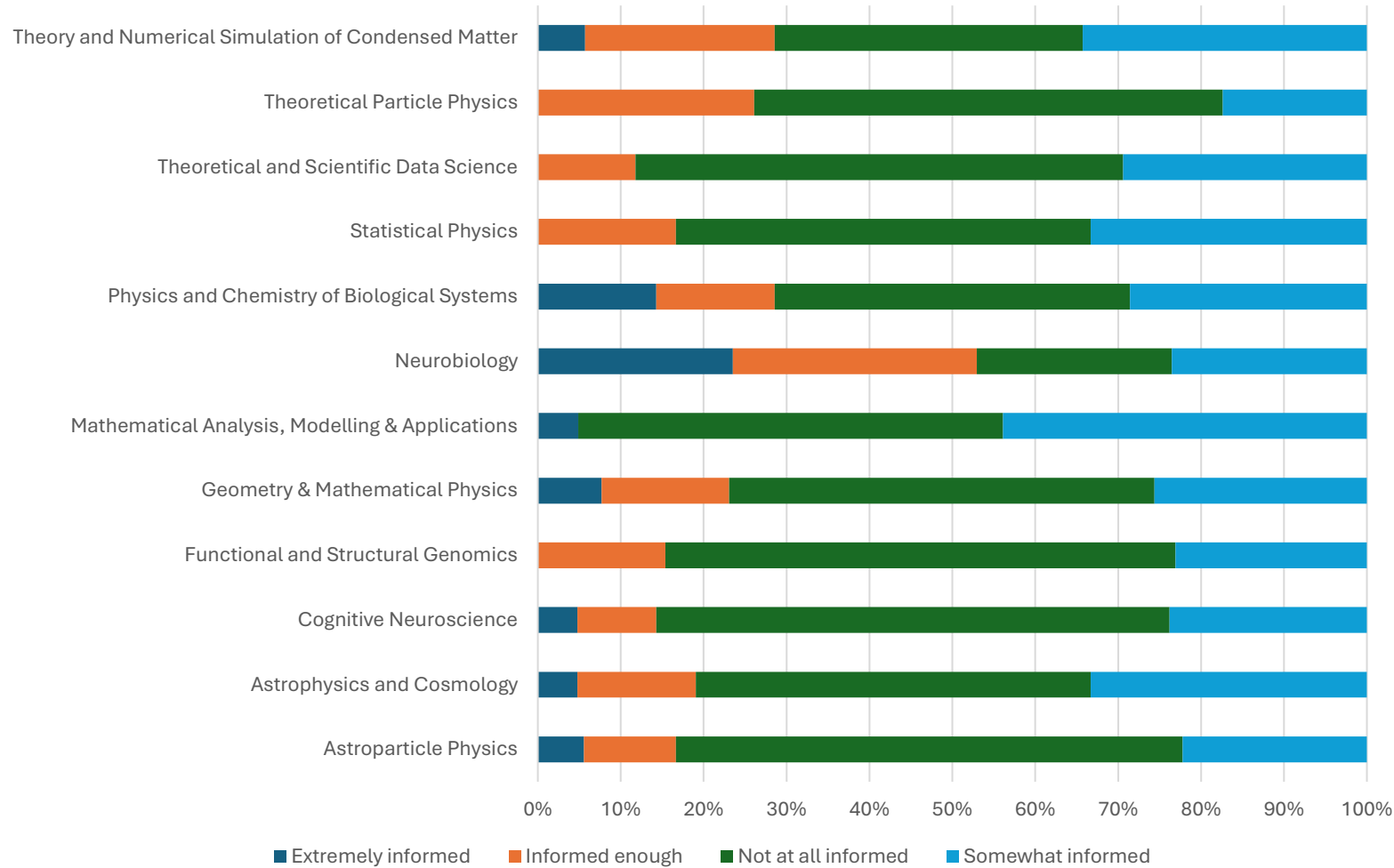
**Informed
about**

Representation in the CUG



**Informed
about**

Representation in the Quality Assurance Unit



**Informed
about**

Free comments on student reps work



They do not keep us informed



Good



Lack of transparency about payment for
Board of Directors



No general assembly or meetings to discuss about
content of area council/senate, goals they want to
achieve

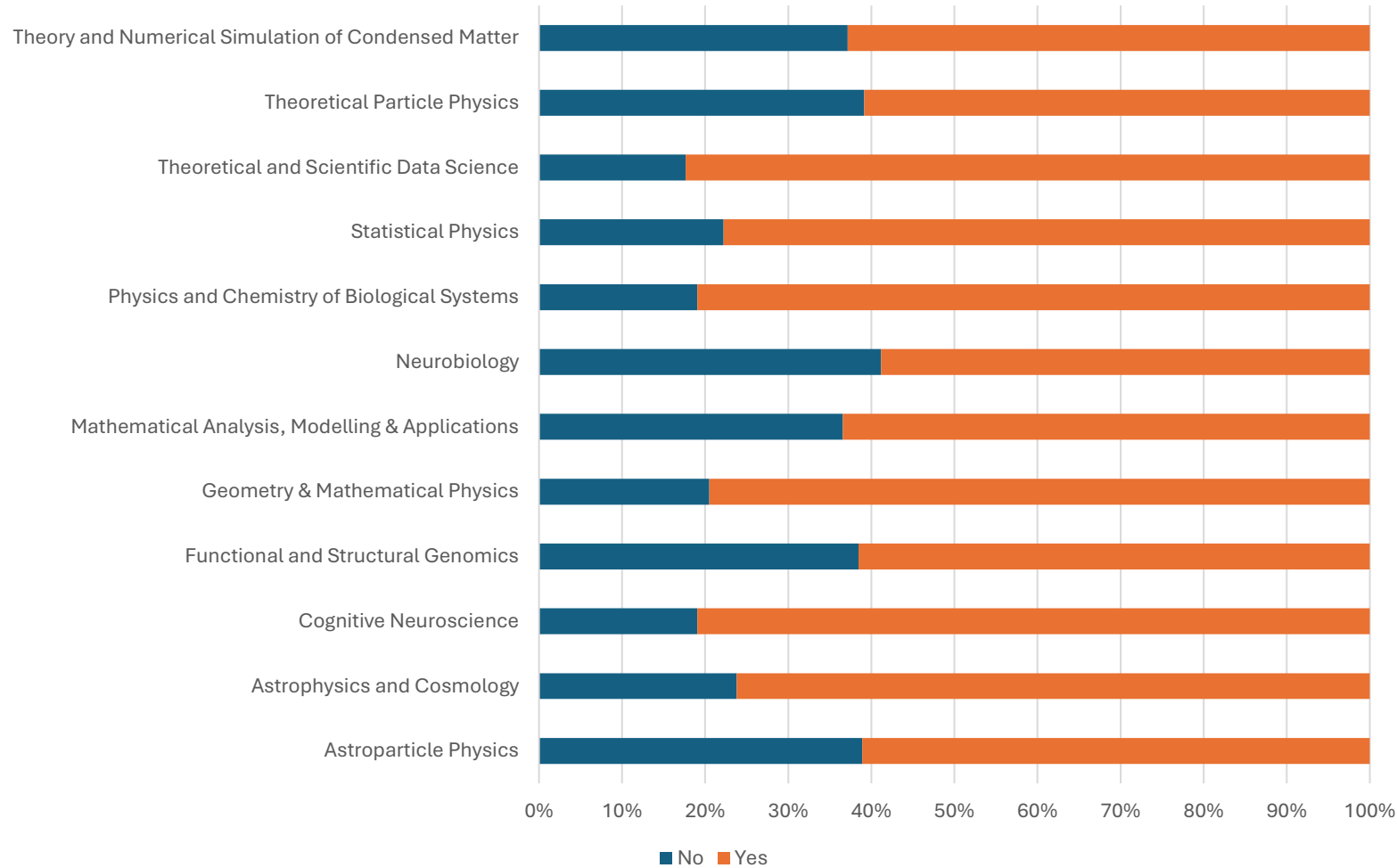


I don't know what they do



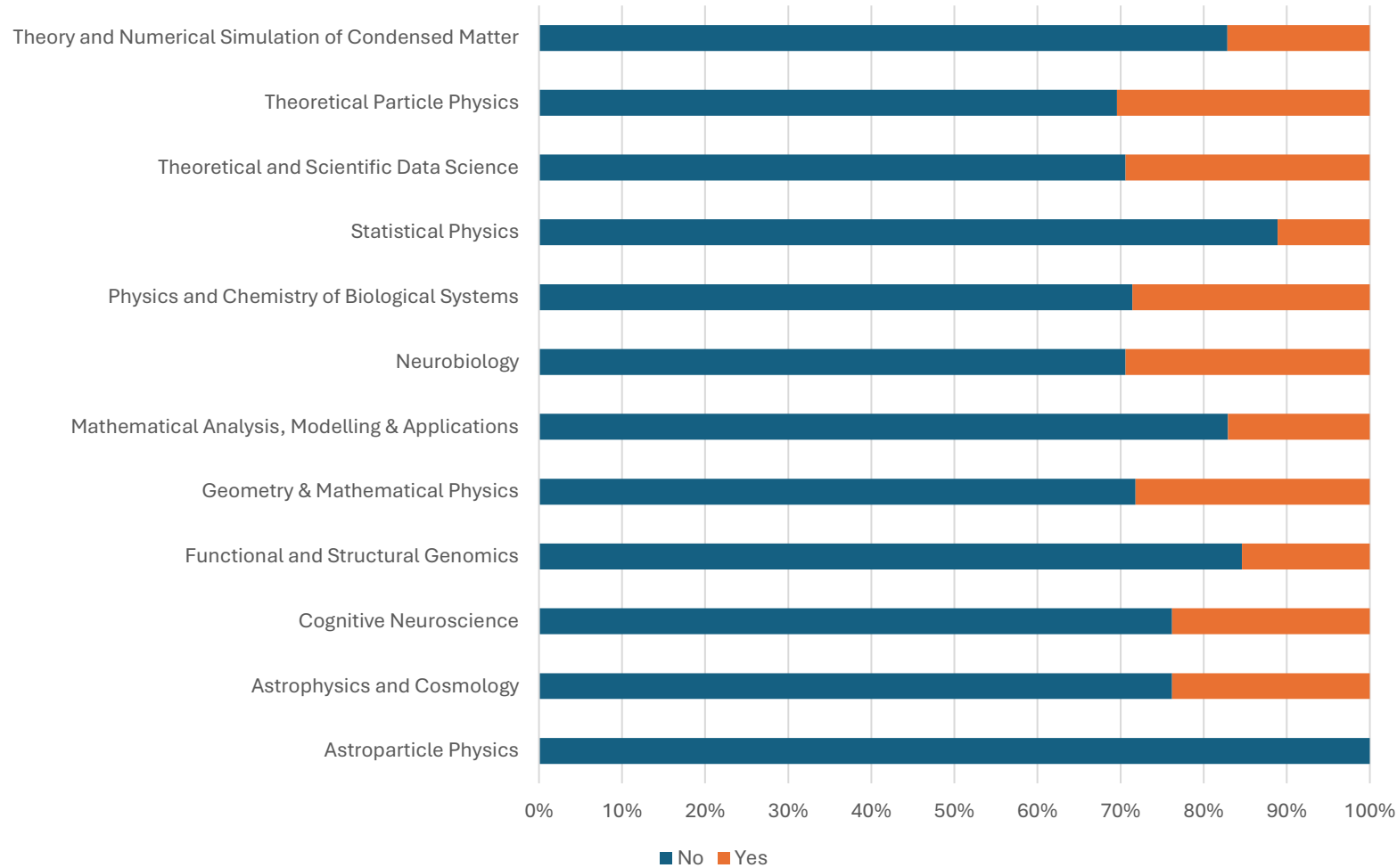
For some of them, just a way to spread their political
ideas

Word-of-mouth



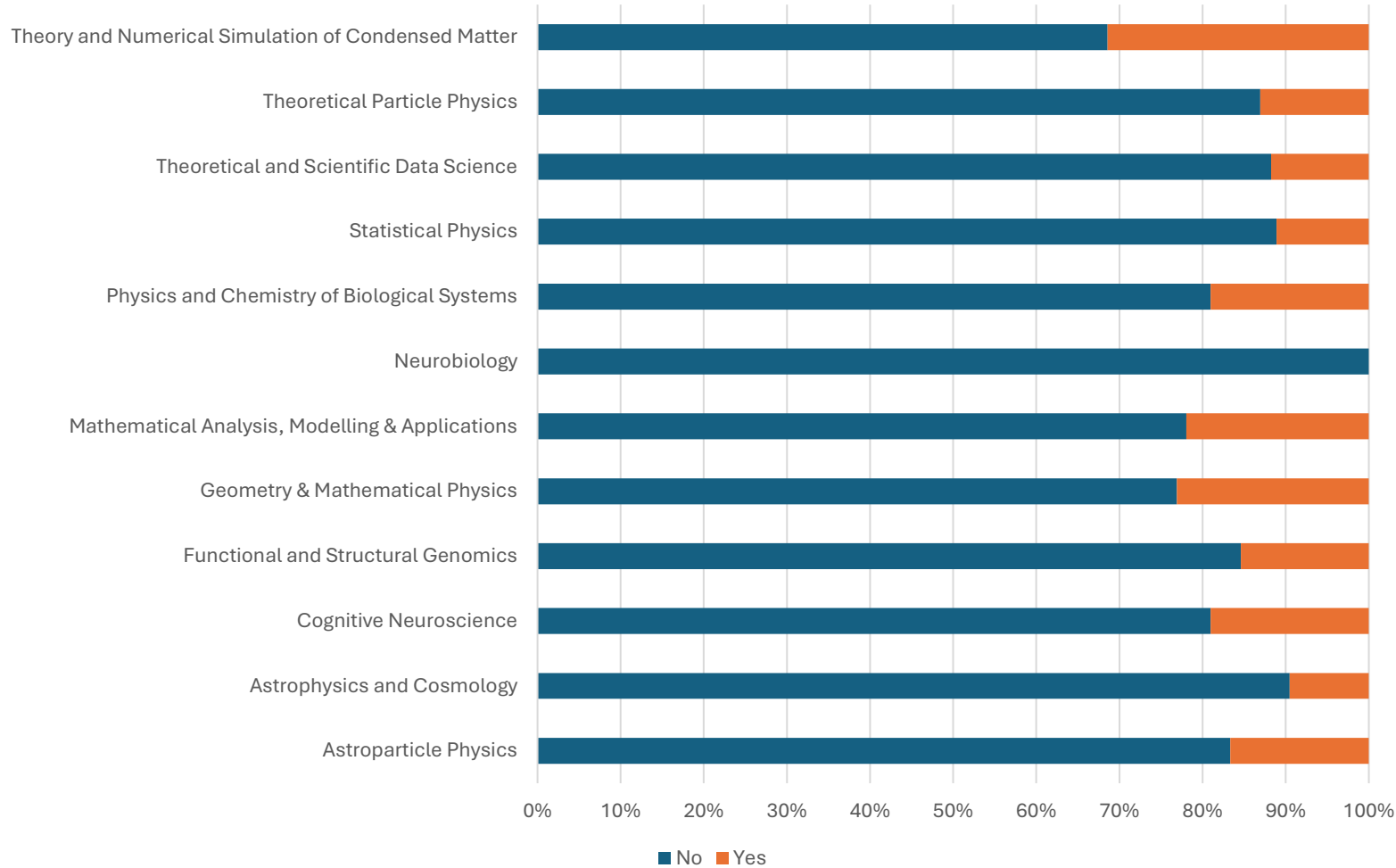
**How do
you get info
on student
reps'
activities**

Posters and flyers



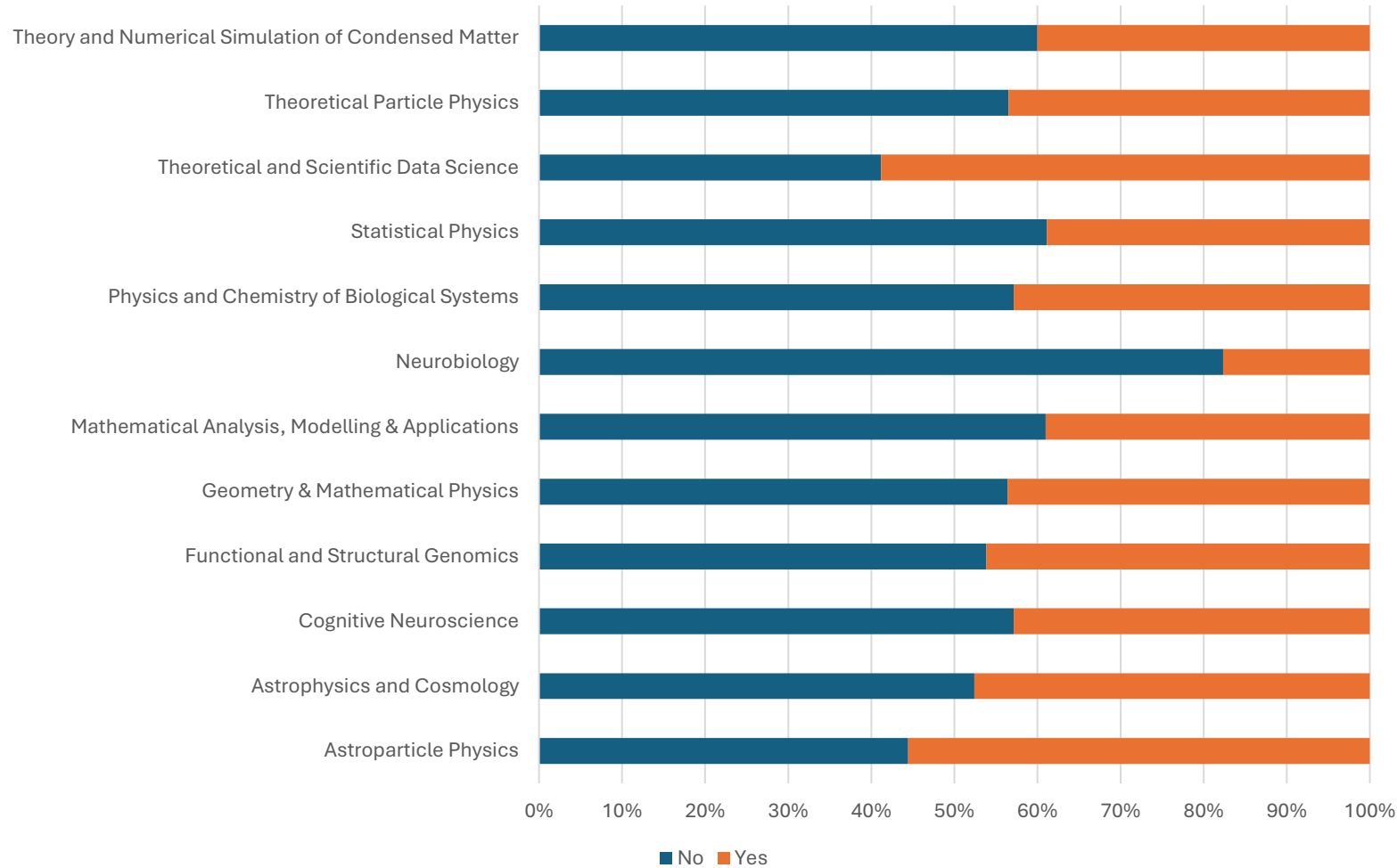
**How do
you get info
on student
reps'
activities**

Social media



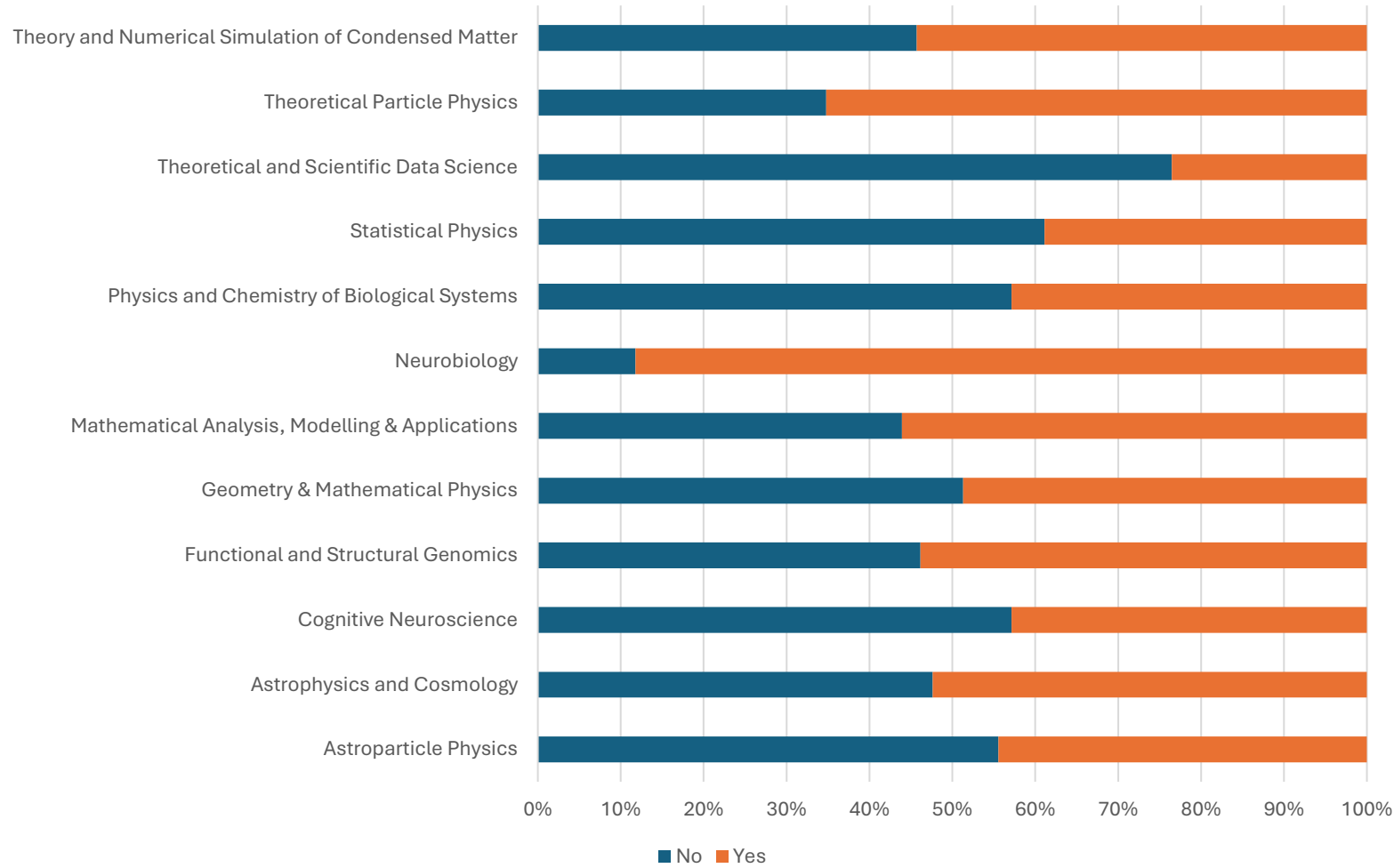
**How do
you get info
on student
reps'
activities**

Direct communication from the student representatives



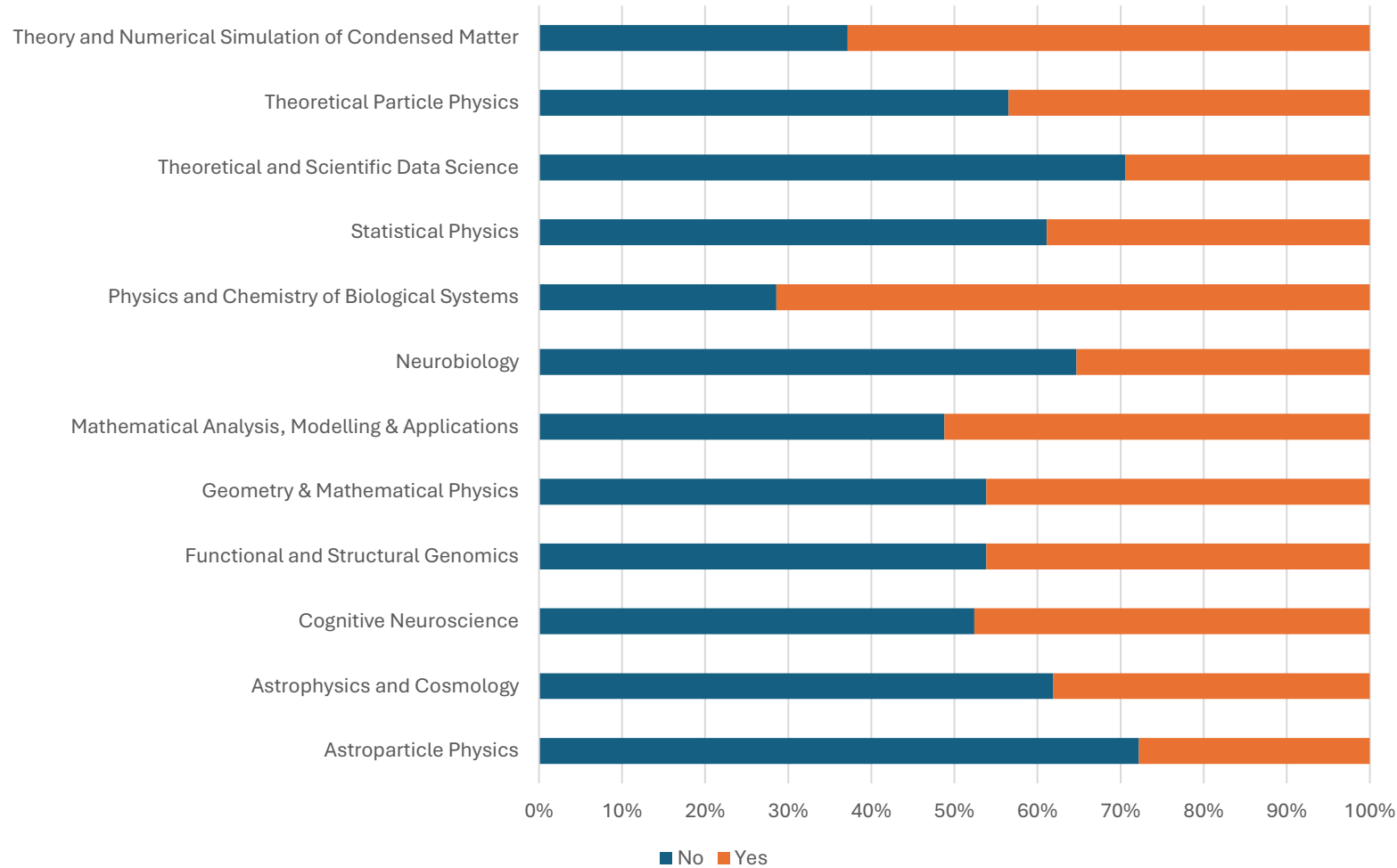
**How do
you get info
on student
reps'
activities**

Email



**How do
you get info
on student
reps'
activities**

Telegram

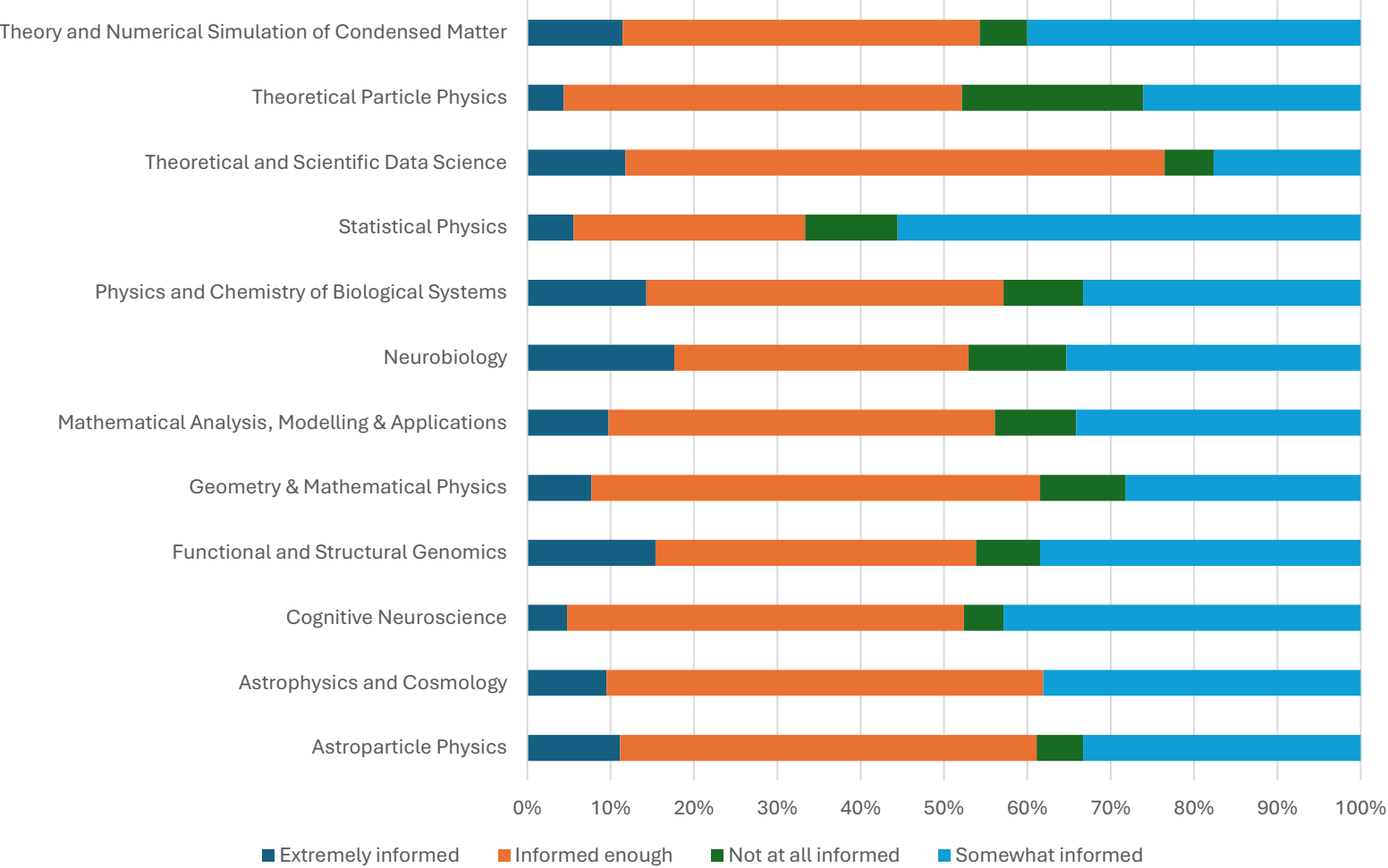


**How do
you get info
on student
reps'
activities**



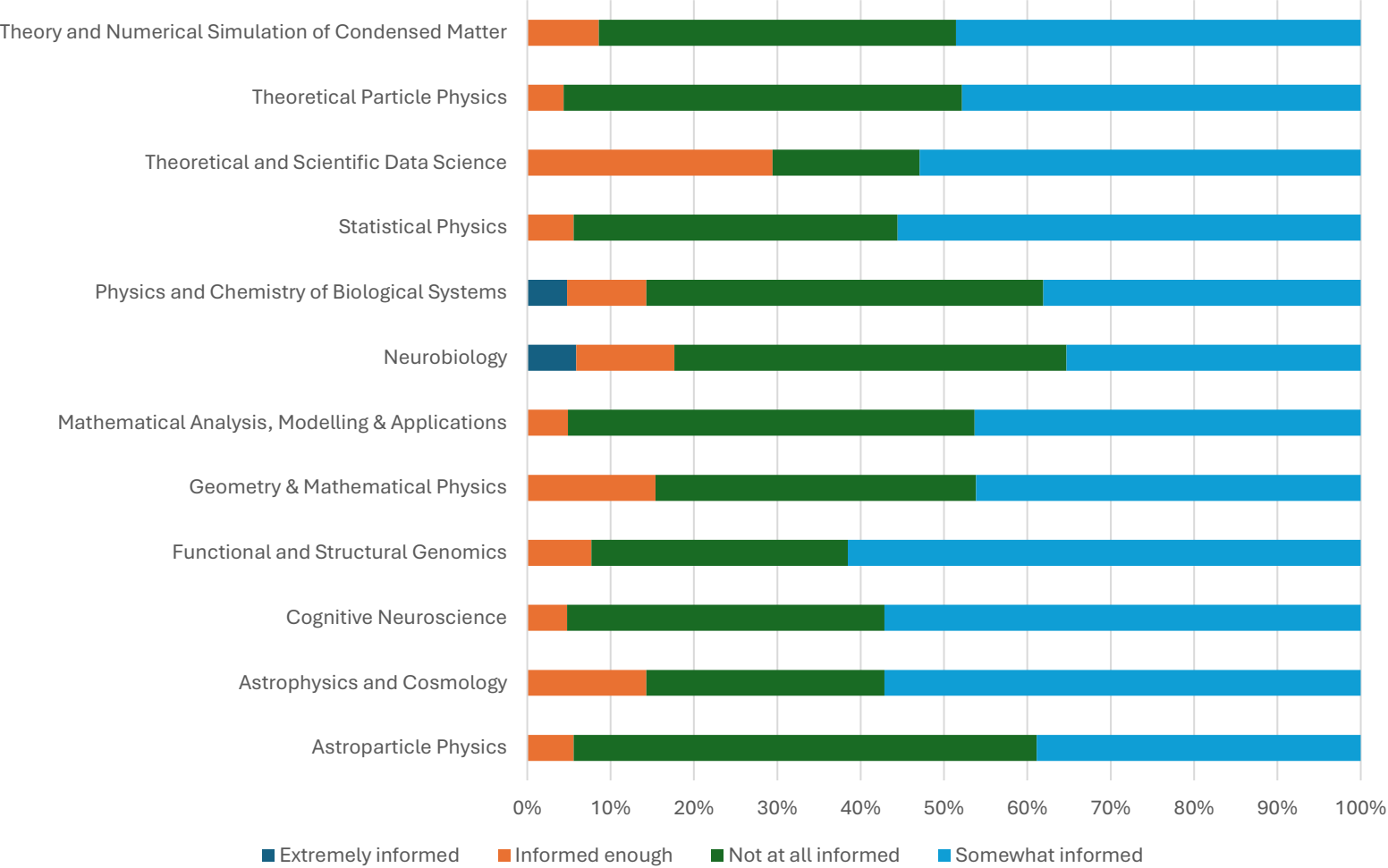
SCIENTIFIC ENVIRONMENT

Other research groups in your Area



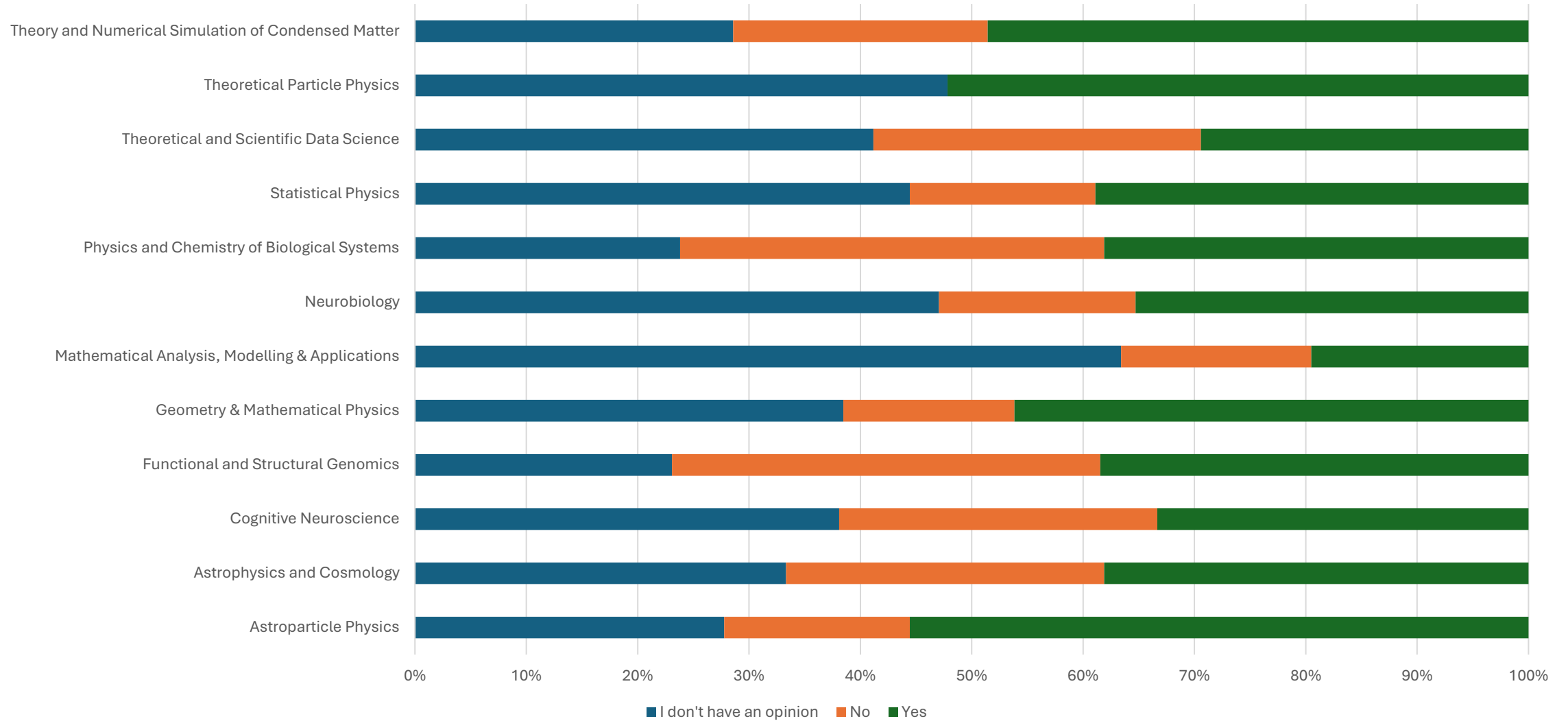
**Informed
about**

Other research groups in other Areas

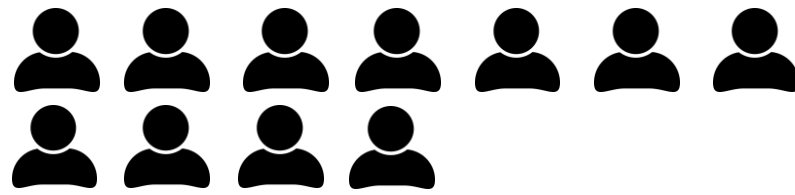


**Informed
about**

Do you think the SISSA colloquia offer adequate cross-disciplinary stimuli?



If the answer is no, why do you think so?



Topics are too specific
and not inclusive for
everyone



Never attend



There should be more



No communication between areas that
organize them

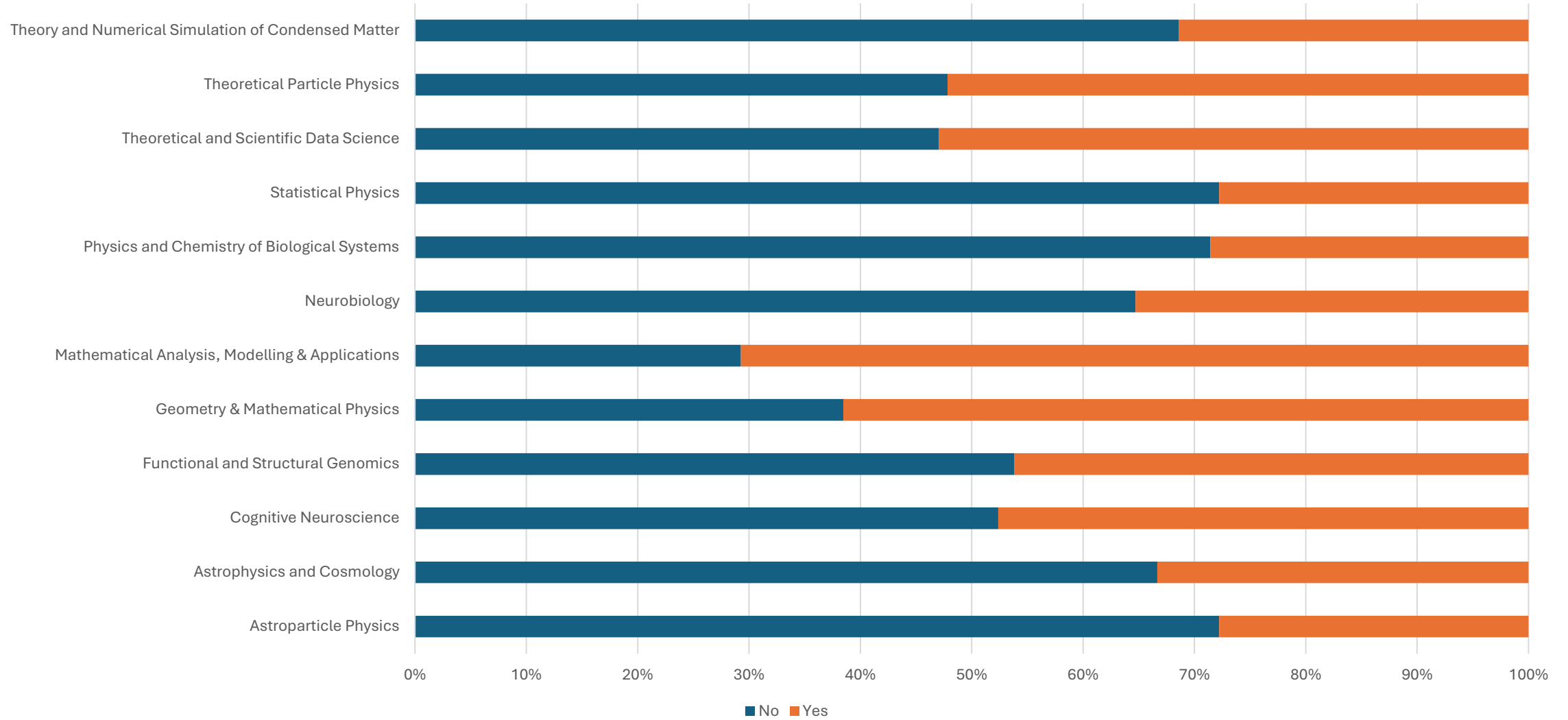


Not inclusive for neuroscience



TEACHING

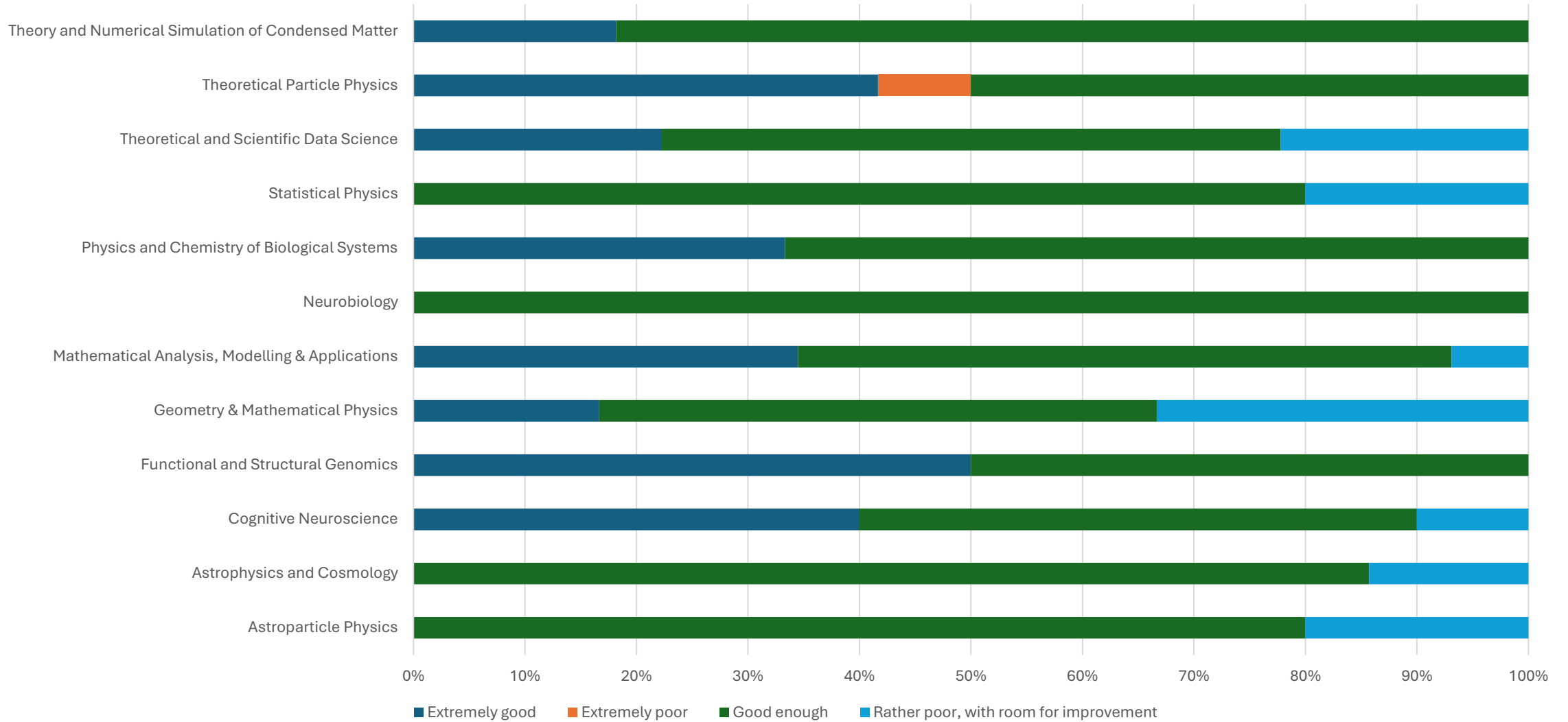
Did you attend any course offered by your PhD program in the 2023/24 academic year?



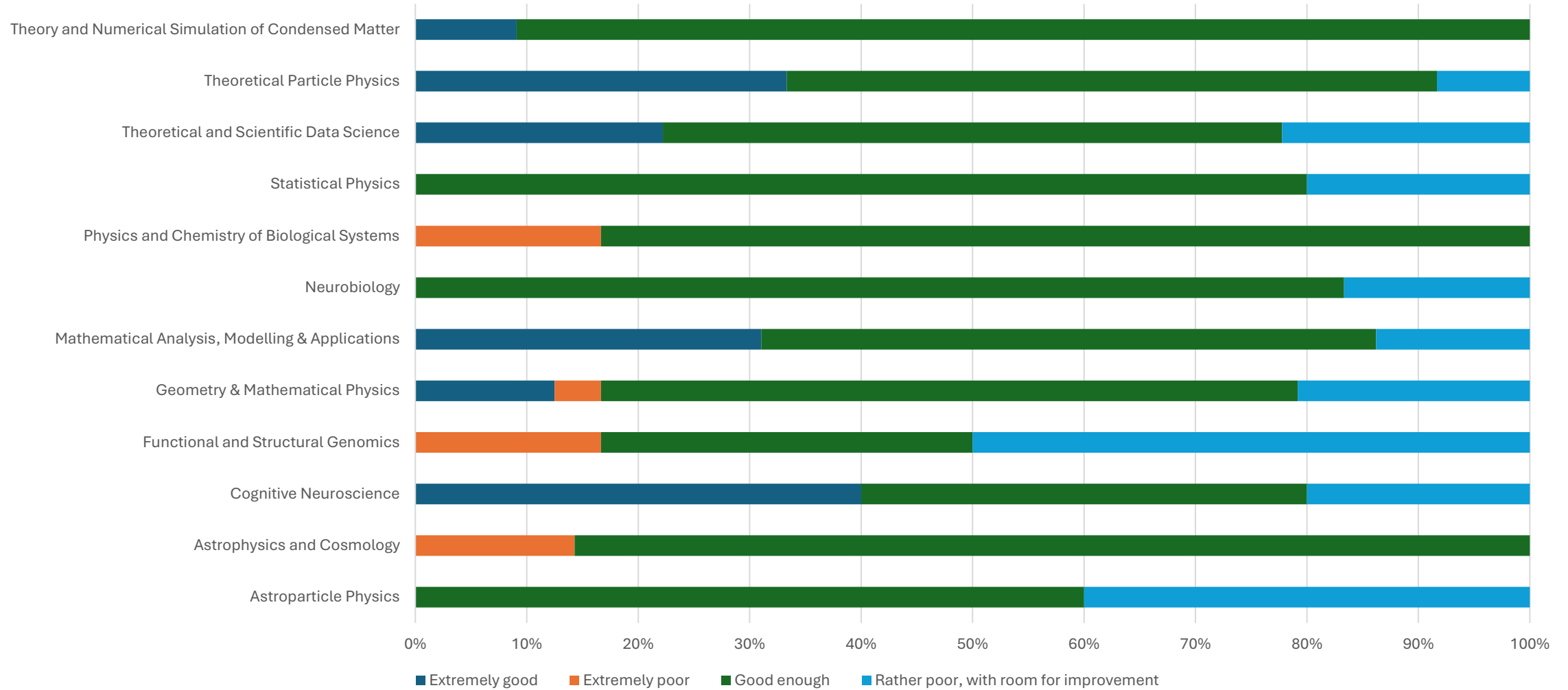


If the answer was
YES...

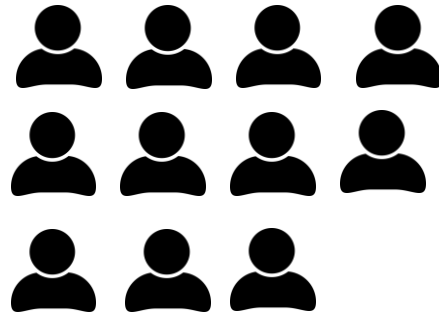
What do you think of the average teaching quality of the courses that were organized for your PhD program?



How would you judge the logistics (e.g. timetable, number of lectures, number of courses, programs, didactic materials) of the courses organized in your PhD program?



Free comments



Logistic and organization/schedule
(especially genomics, maths)



Overlapping of lectures of different
curricula



Lessons not well prepared



Difficult exam

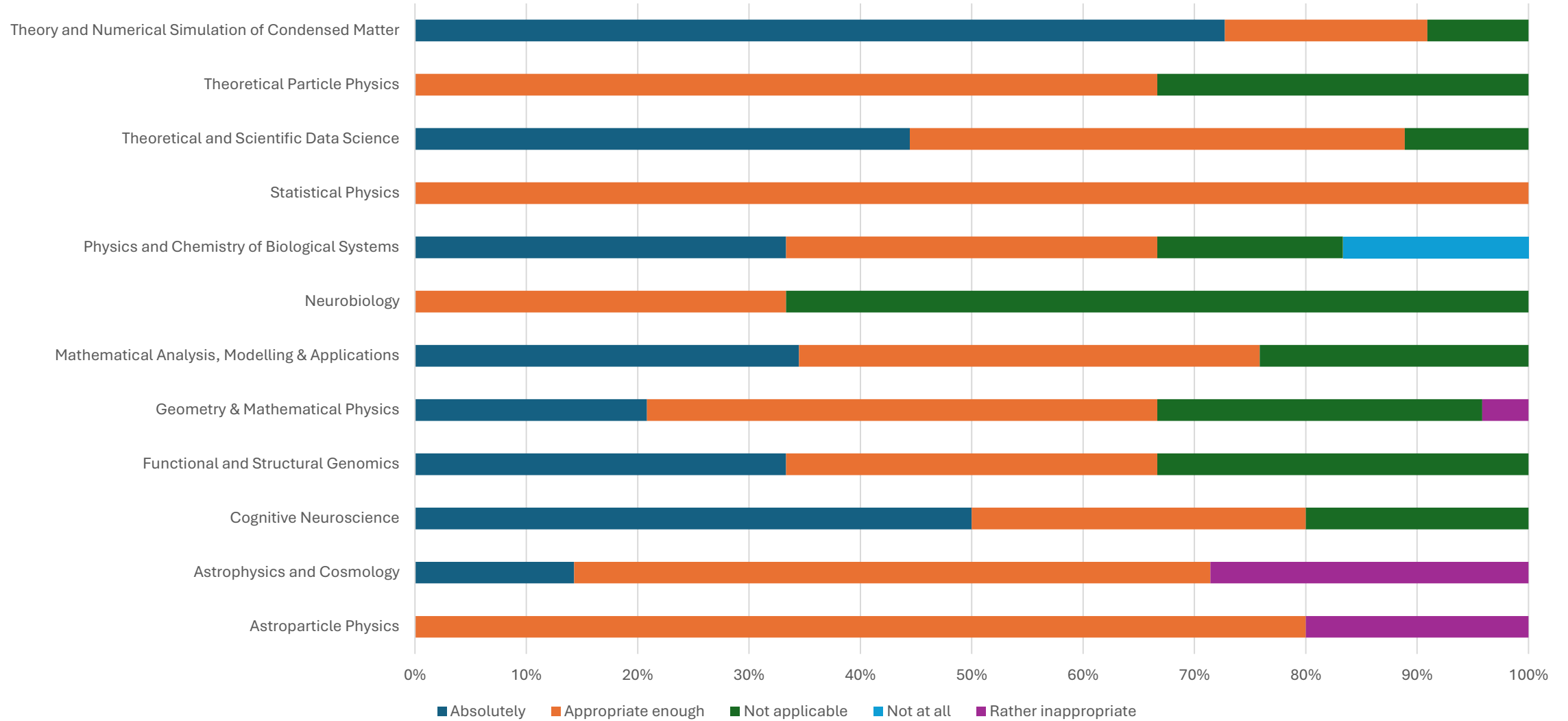


Lessons in italian



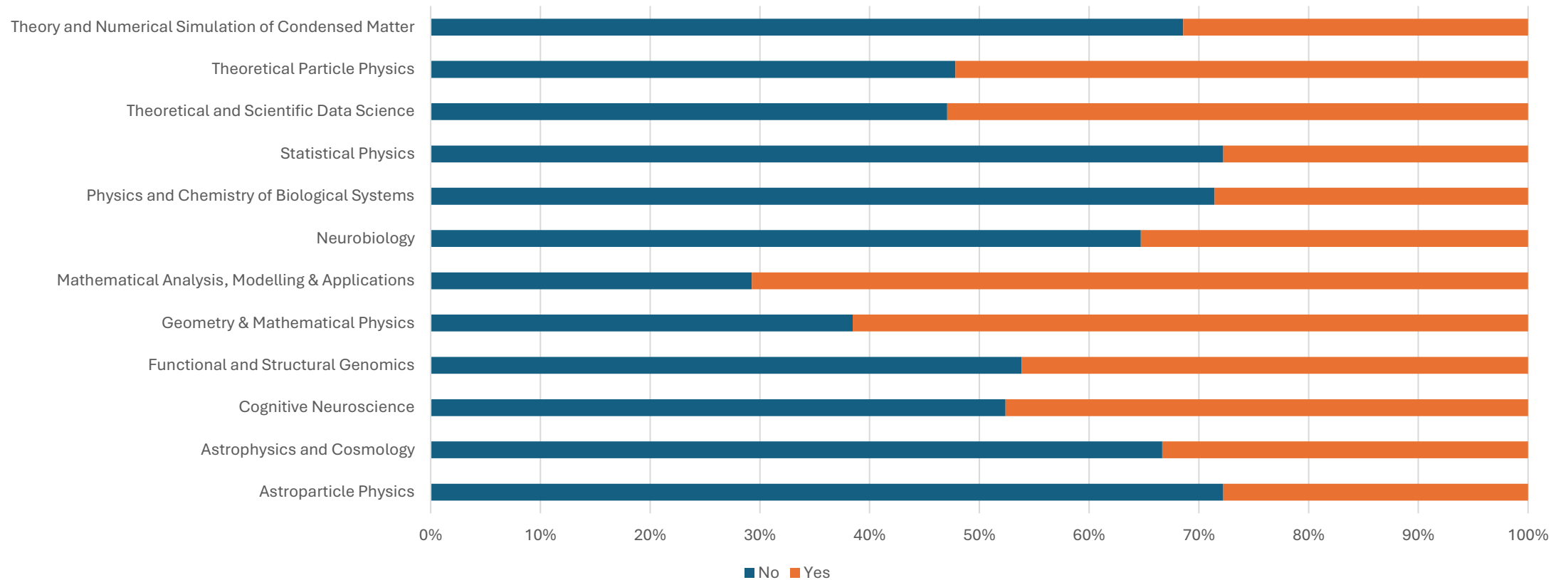
Too many courses

Was the level of the exams appropriated to the level of the corresponding courses?



1st year

Do you think the set of courses offered by your PhD course is adequately complete?



If no, why?



Important topics not covered



Too general



Preference of practical over frontal
lecture



Not useful

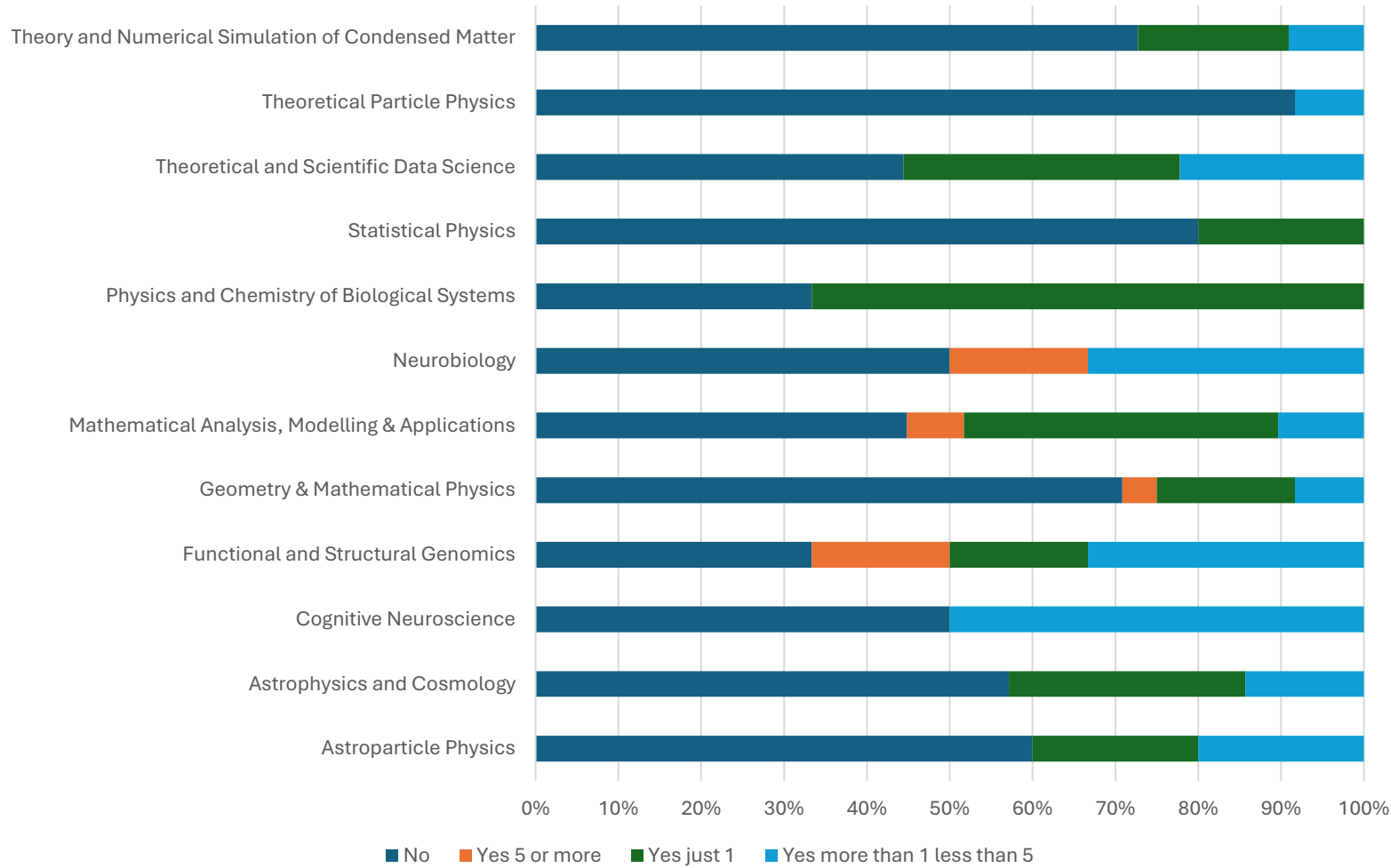


There should be the possibility to
choose between courses between
curricula



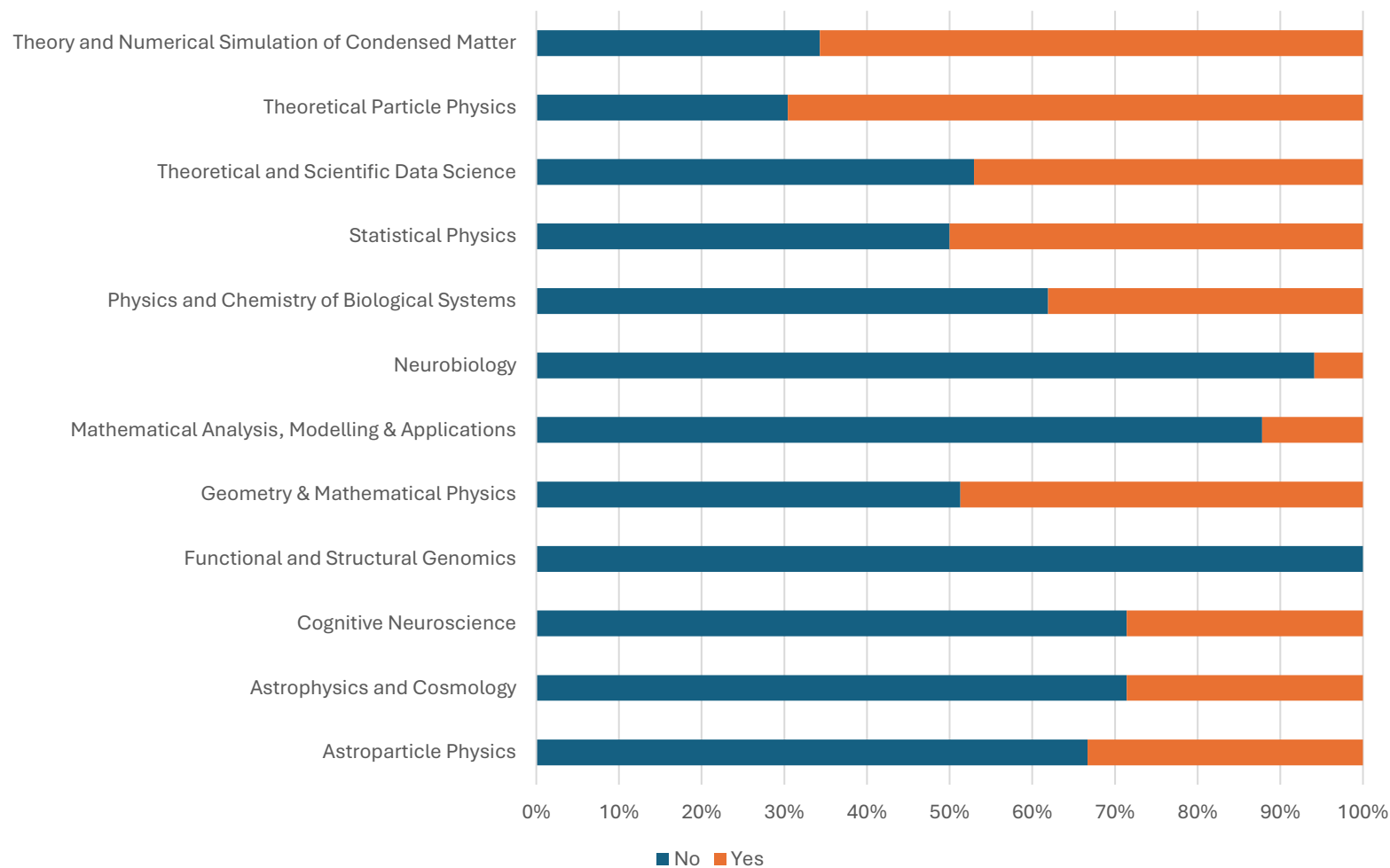
Some courses should be not
mandatory

Other SISSA PhD programs



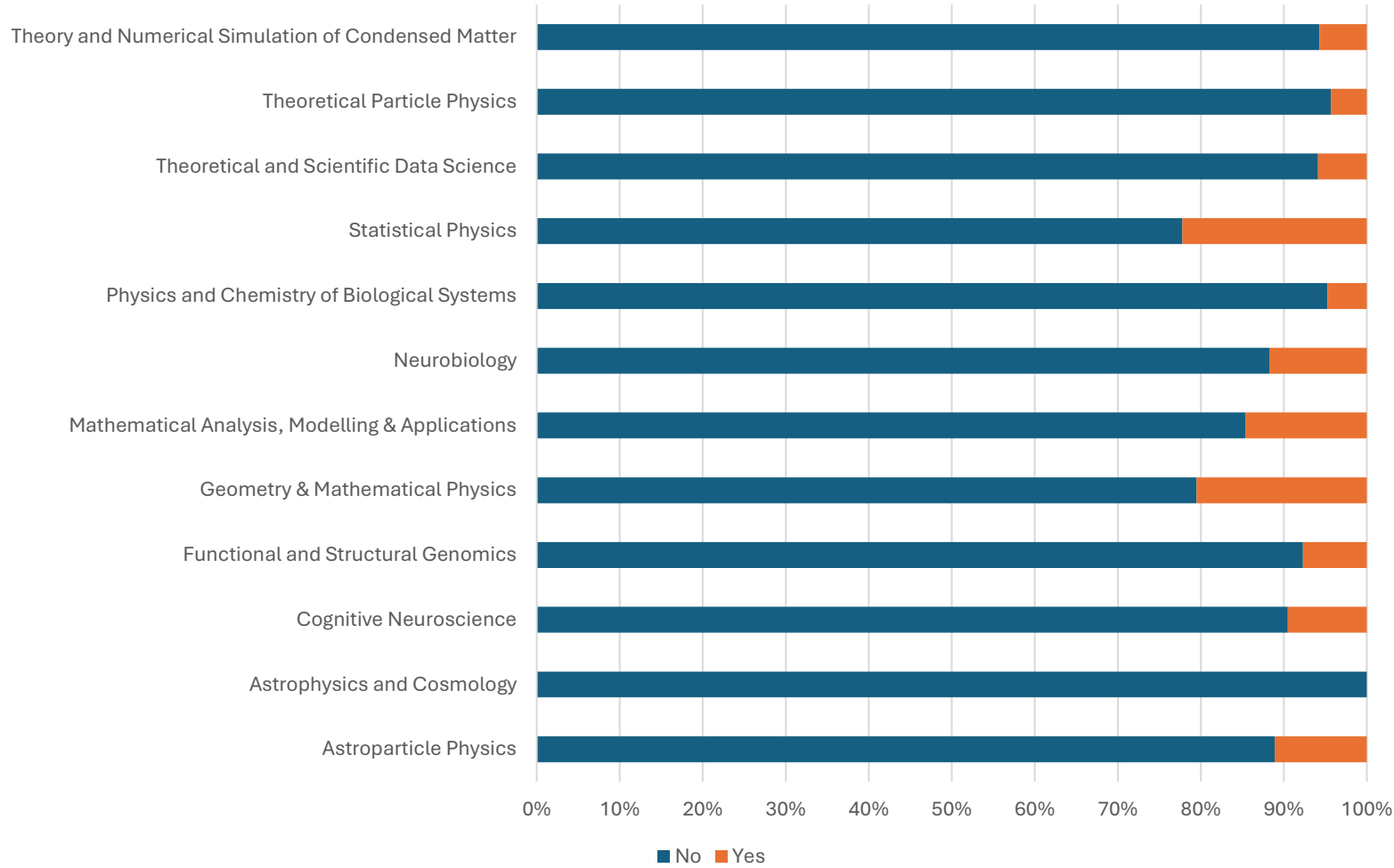
**Attendance
to courses
organized
by**

Another research institute in Trieste (e.g., ICTP, ICGEB)



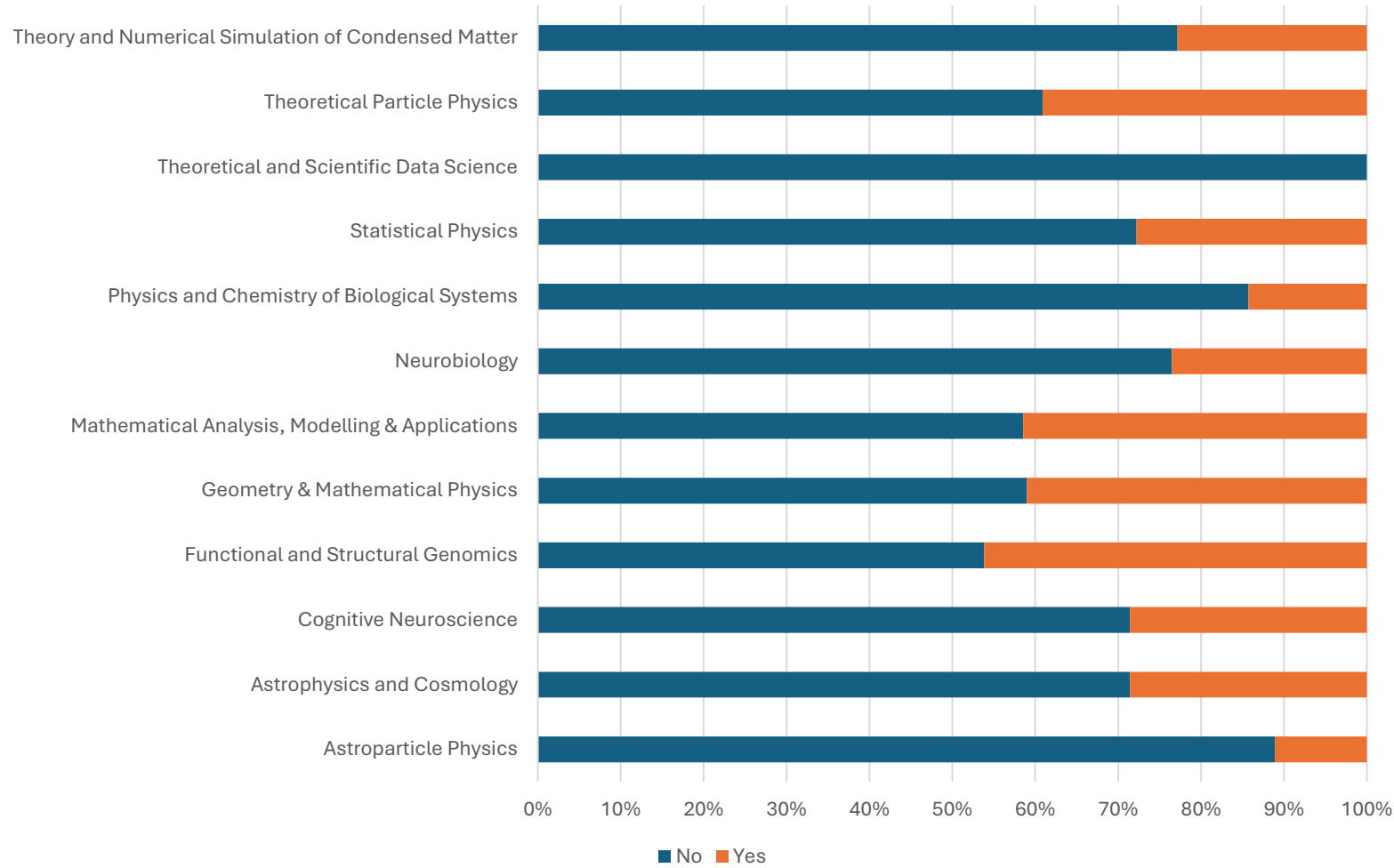
**Attendance
to courses
organized
by**

University of Trieste



**Attendance
to courses
organized
by**

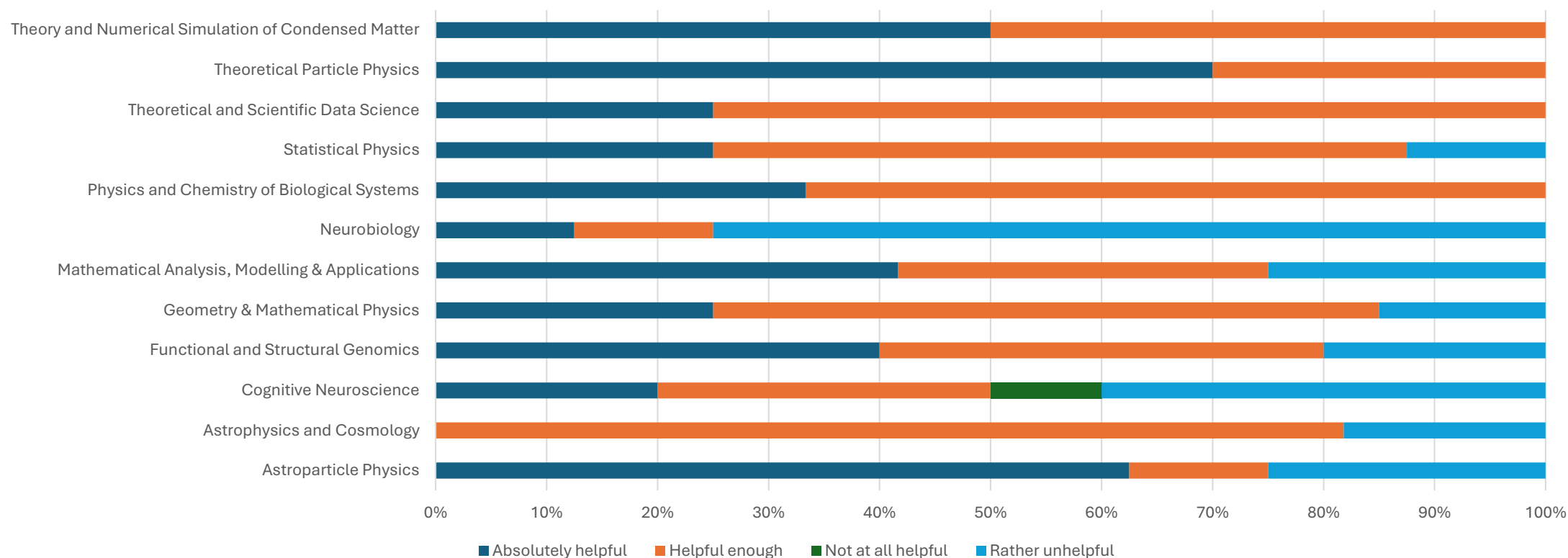
Outside of Trieste



**Attendance
to courses
organized
by**

Year greater than 2

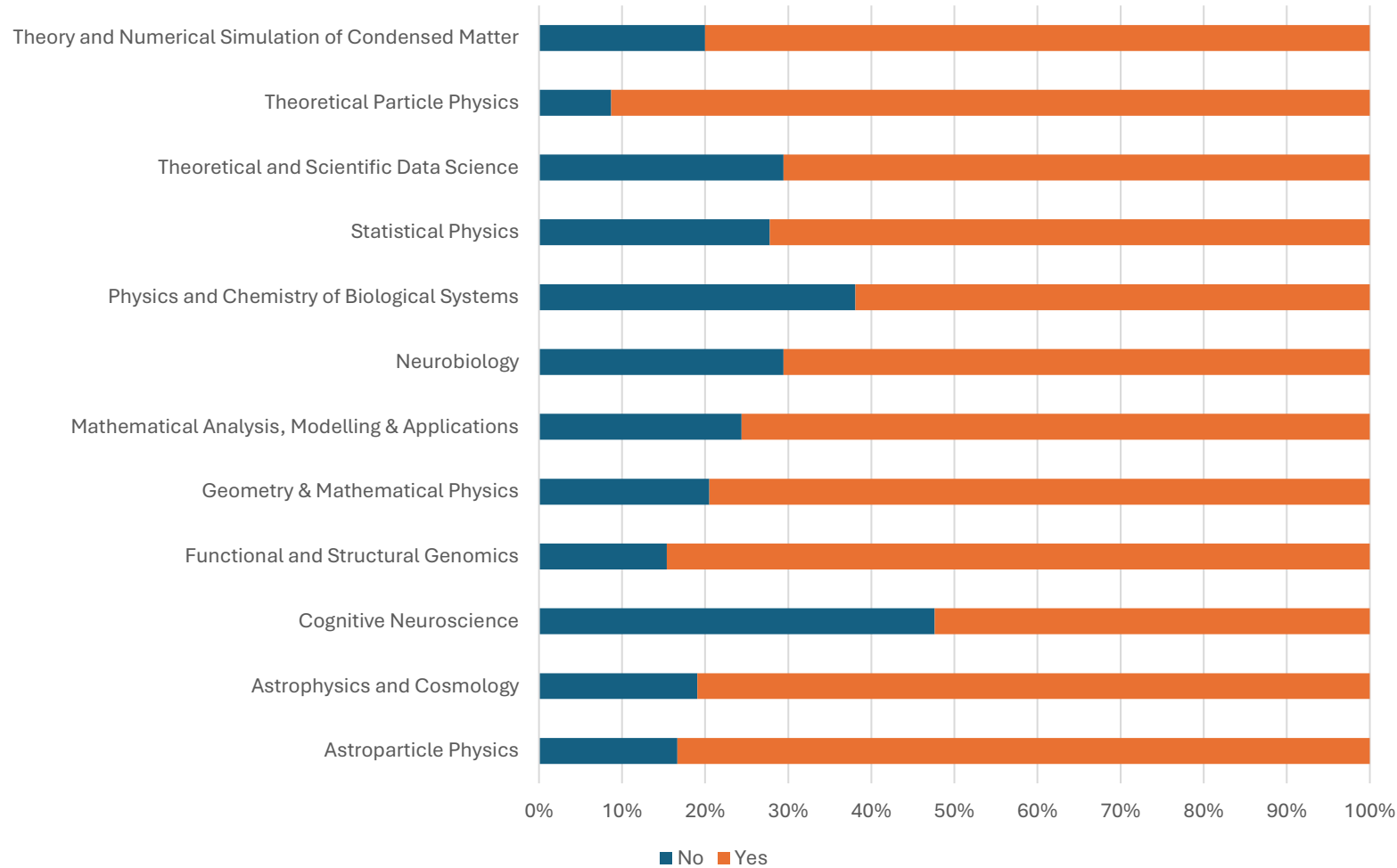
How helpful for strengthening your scientific background would you judge the courses you attended during your PhD career?





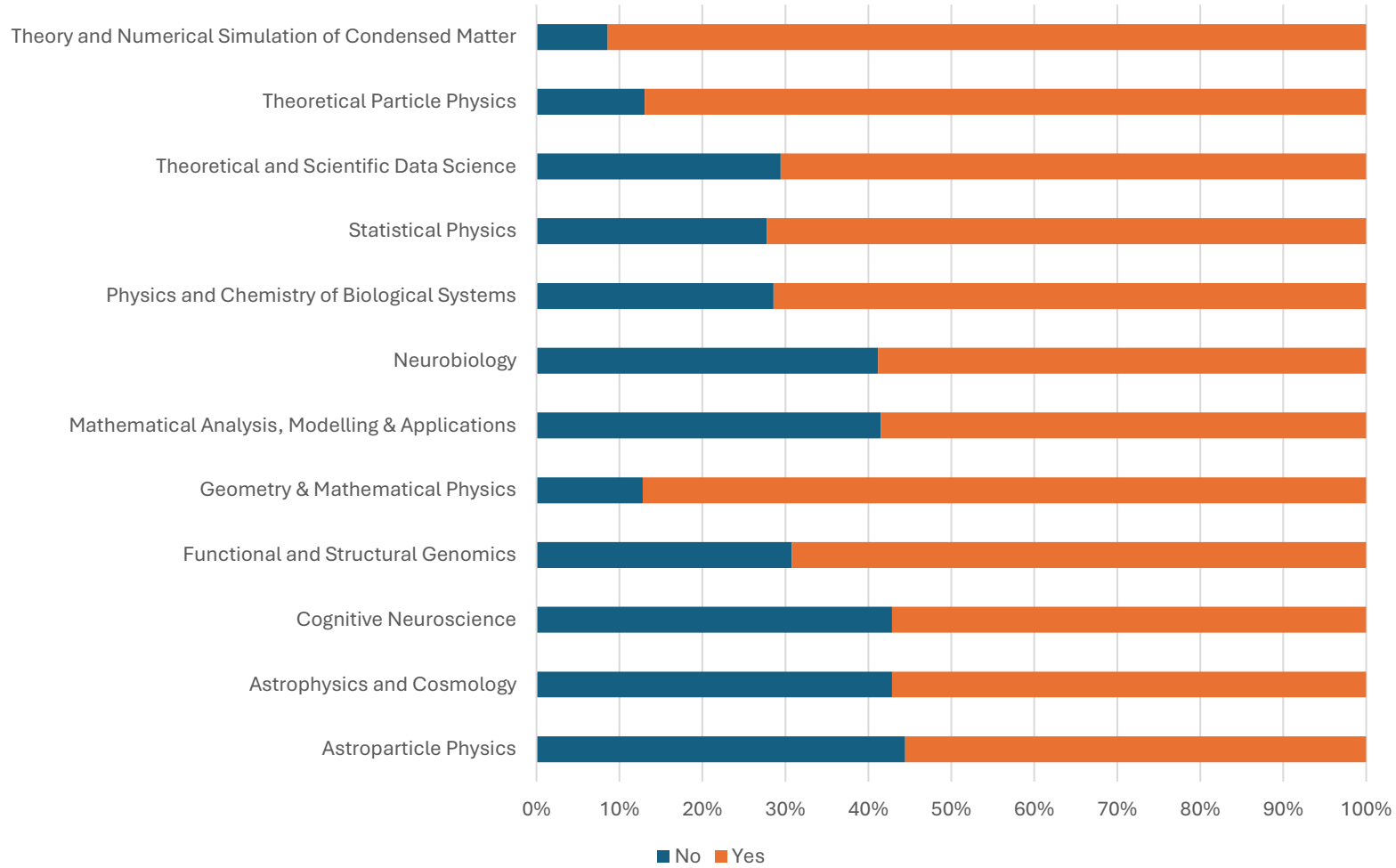
SEMINARS

Seminars



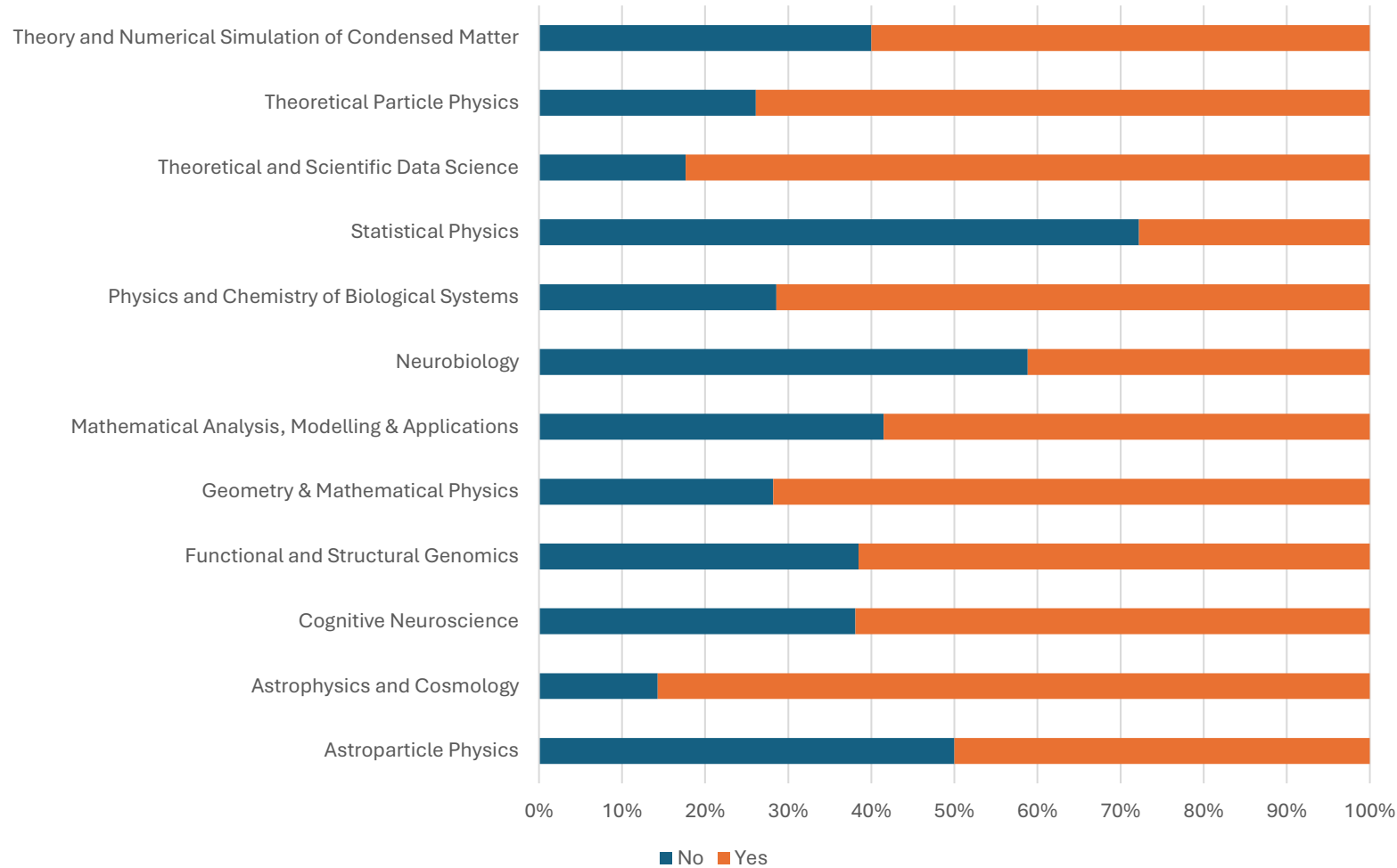
**Activities
useful for
your
research**

Schools



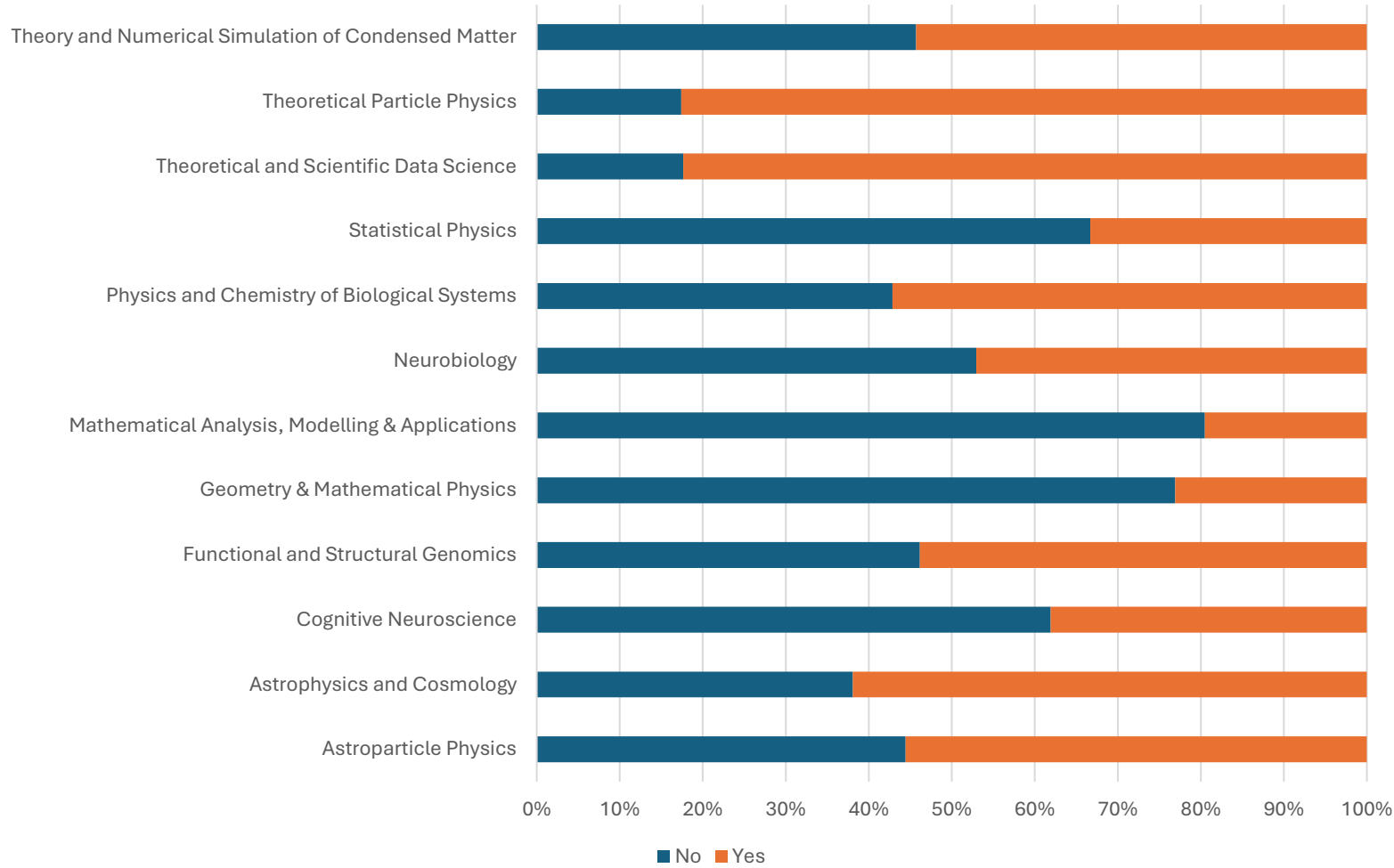
**Activities
useful for
your
research**

Group meetings



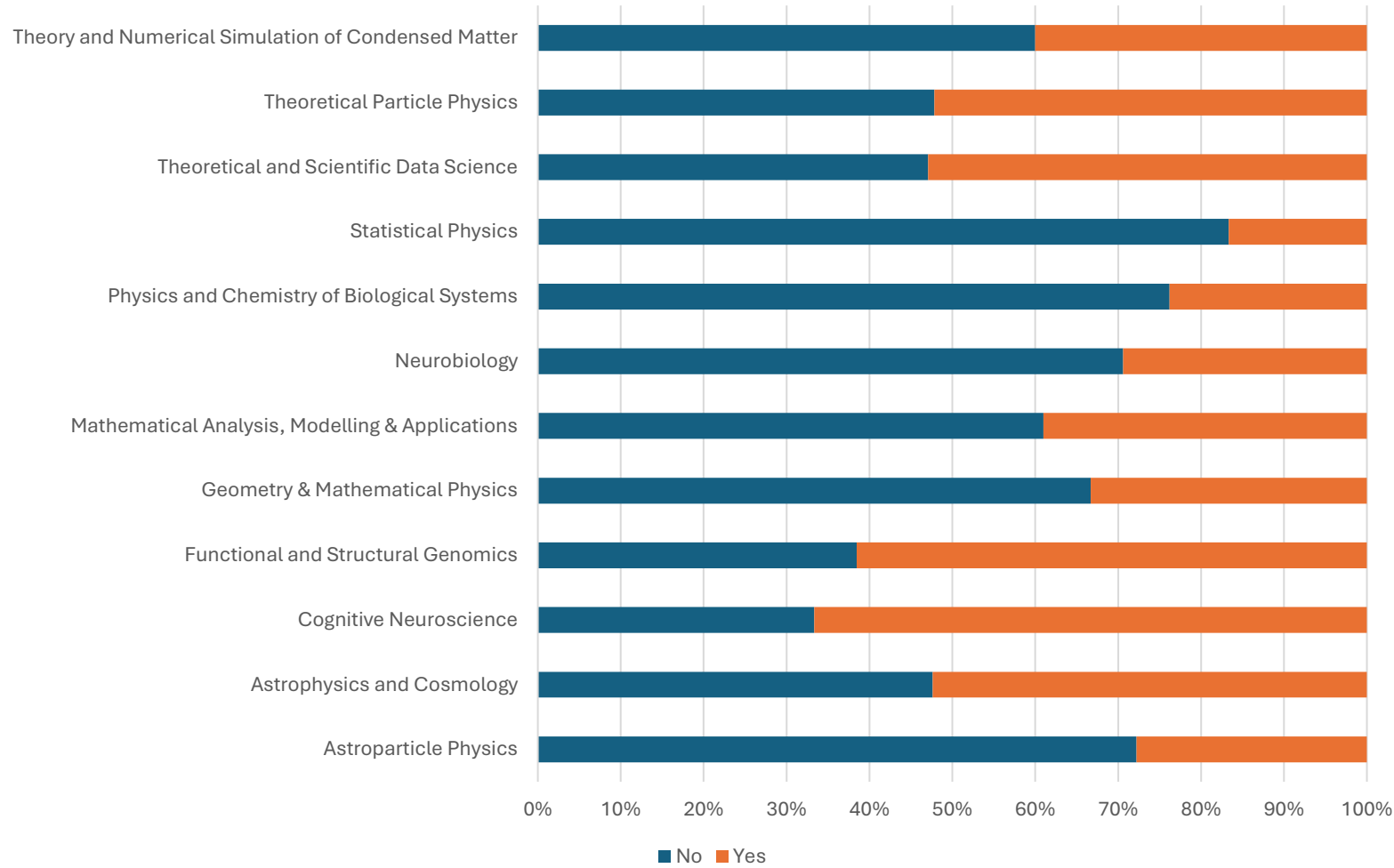
**Activities
useful for
your
research**

Journal Clubs



**Activities
useful for
your
research**







Senior students



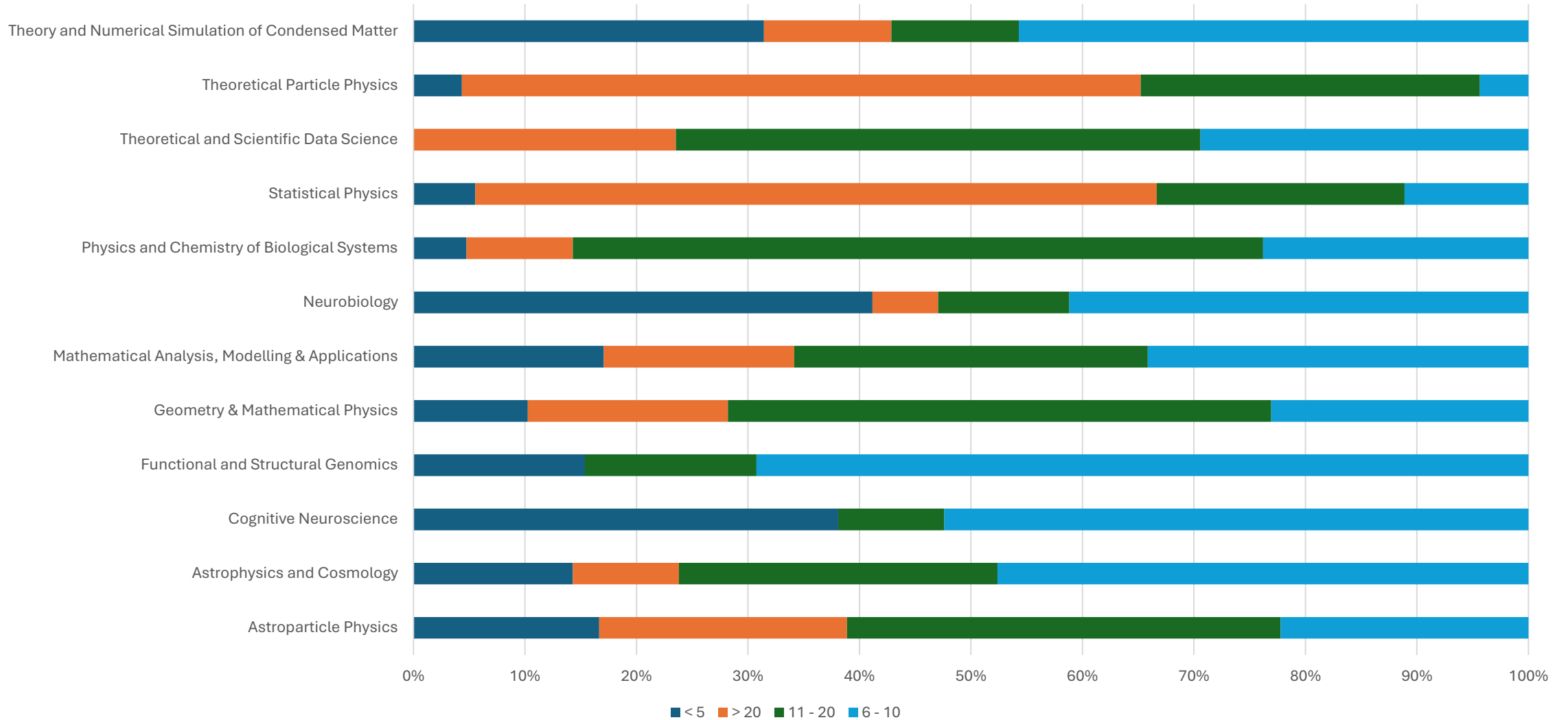
**Activities
useful for
your
research**

What activities do you want more?

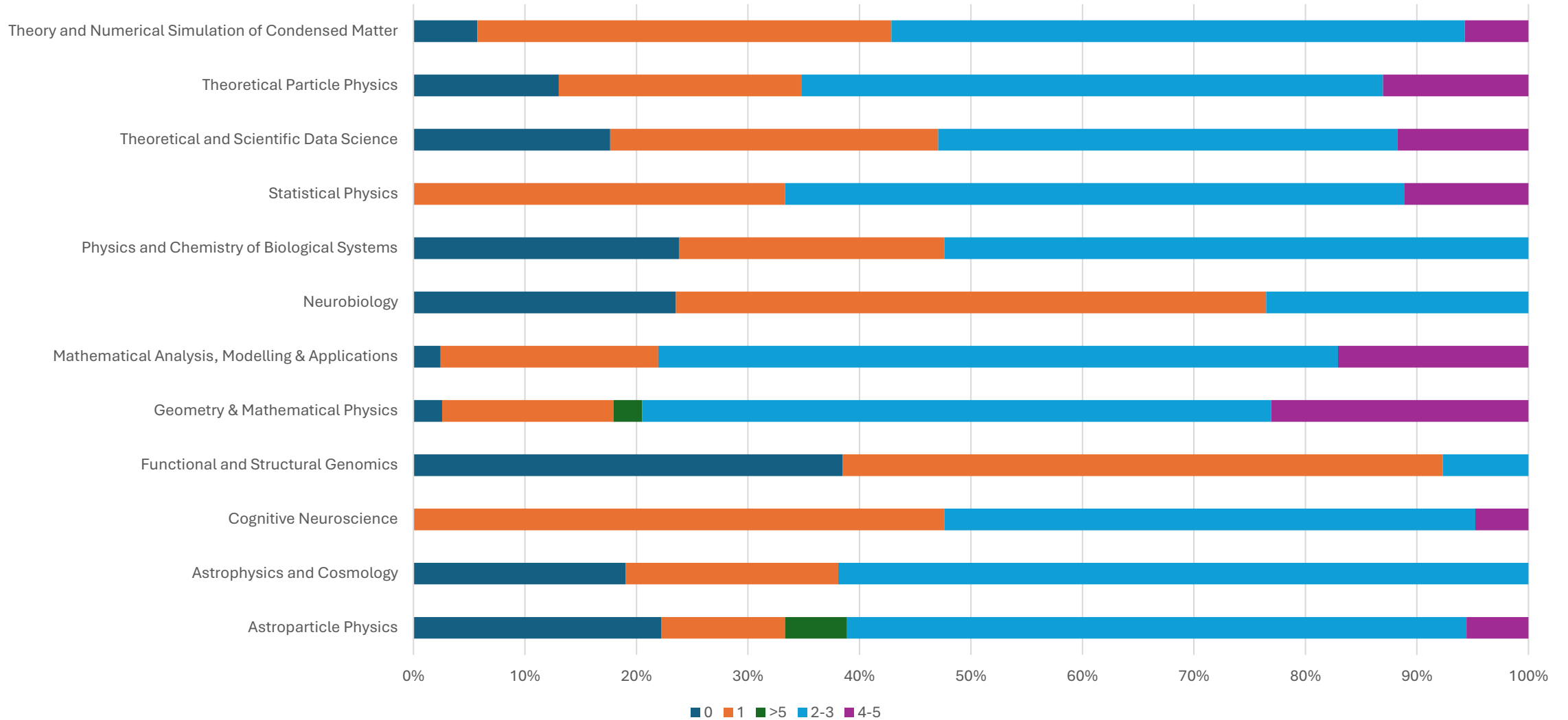


-  1 o 1 meeting with PI
-  Hands on course during first year
-  Supervision by postdocs
-  Reading groups
-  Collaboration abroad
-  Conference
-  Workshop

On average, how many seminars do you attend at SISSA per year?



How many Conferences or Schools (not in Trieste) per year do you attend?



Why few conferences?



First year

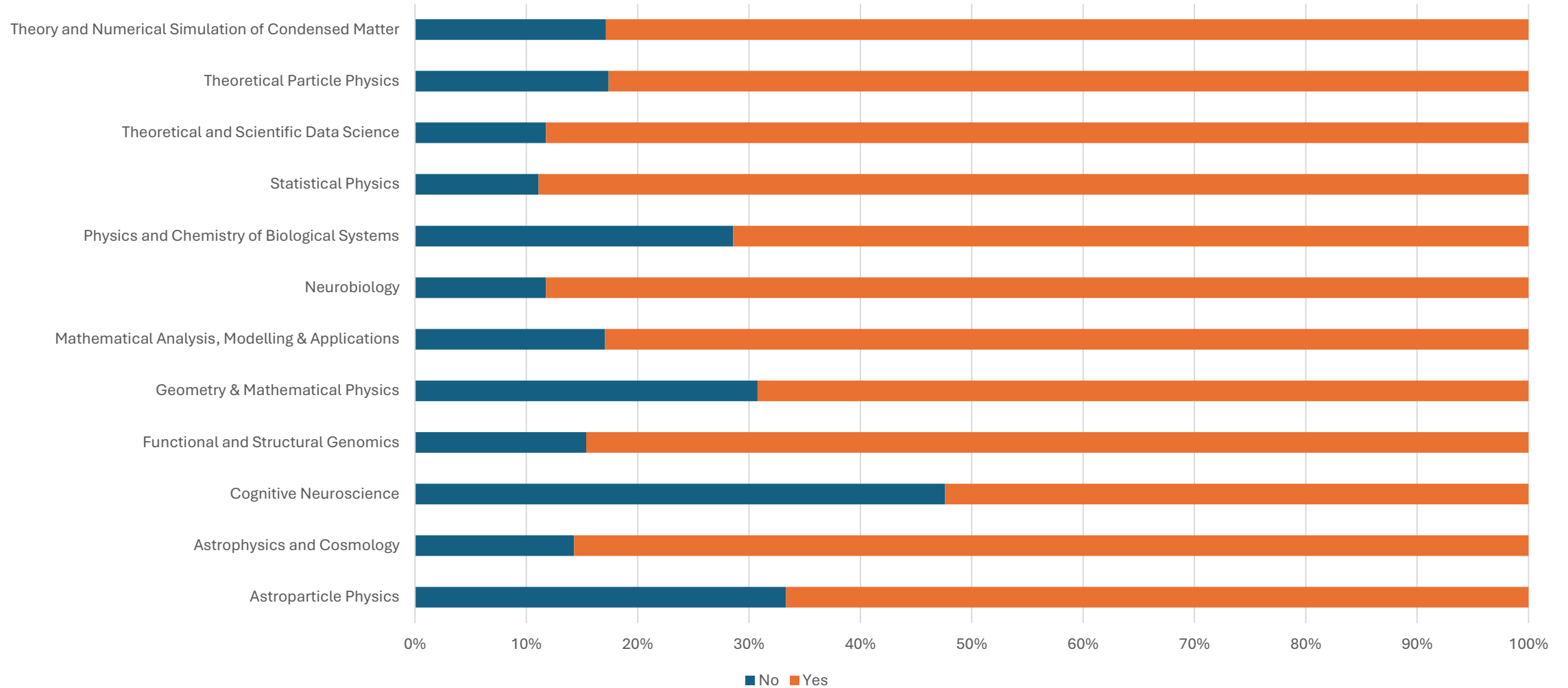
Costs/Lack of funds

No time due to work

Not relevant one for this year

Permit of stay

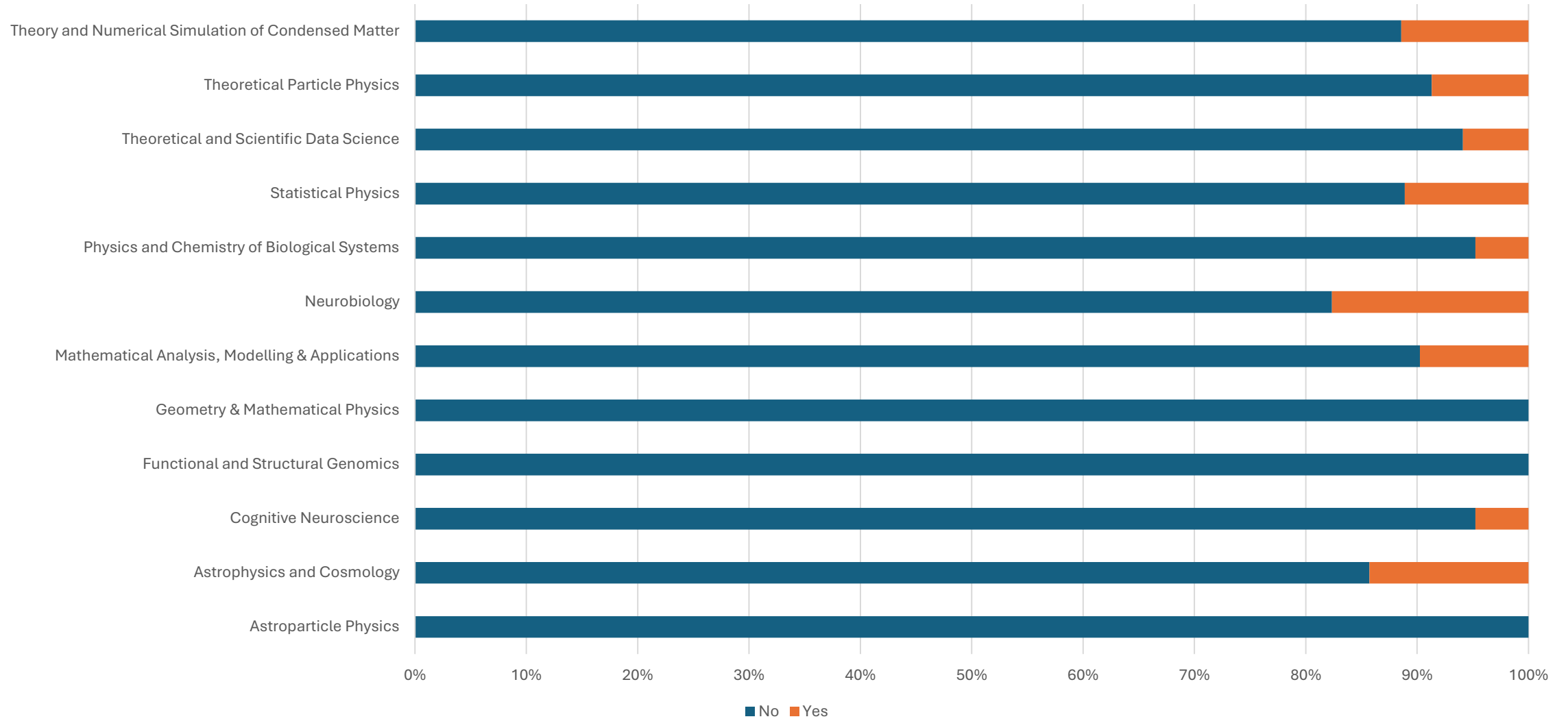
During your PhD, did SISSA student allowance grant you enough funds to attend Conference/School you were interested in outside Trieste?



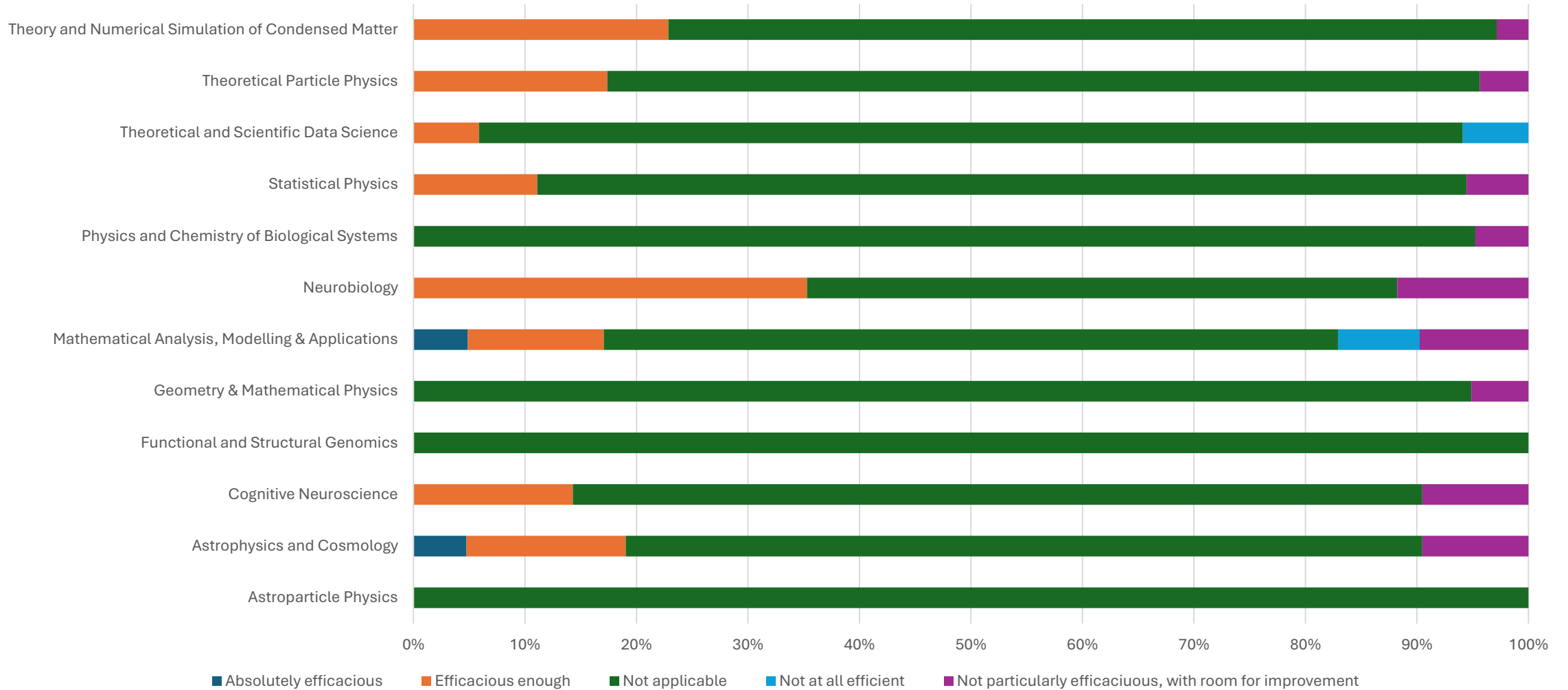


RESEARCH

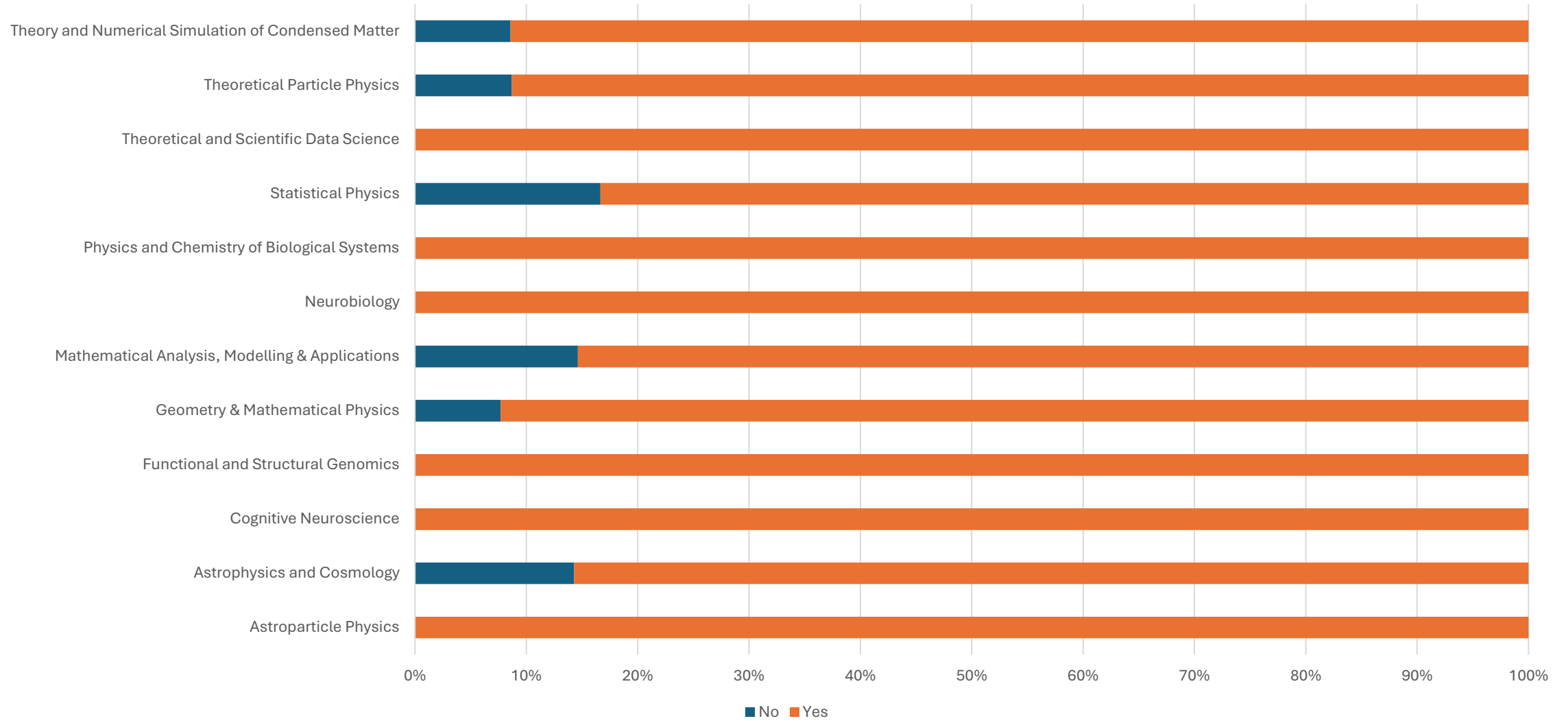
Did you participate in any Talent Valorization activity proposed by the Valorisation & Innovation Office?



How would you judge the efficacy of the activities carried out by the Valorisation & Innovation Office you have attend?



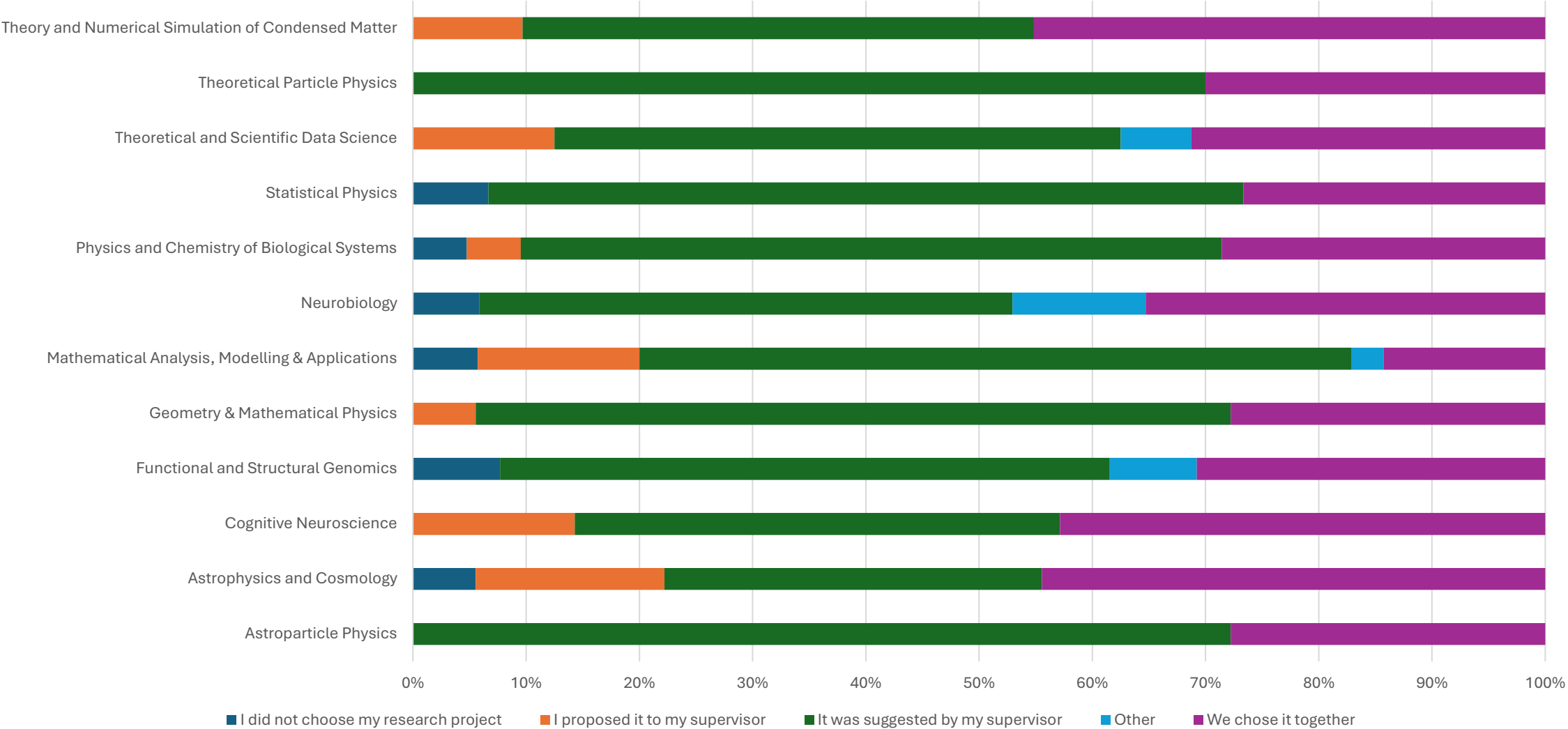
Do you currently have a research project?





If the answer was
YES...

How did you choose your research project?



Others



Marie-Curie project



Already started by another one that dropped



I chose it

If the answer was 'I did
not choose'

Why?



Industrial PhD

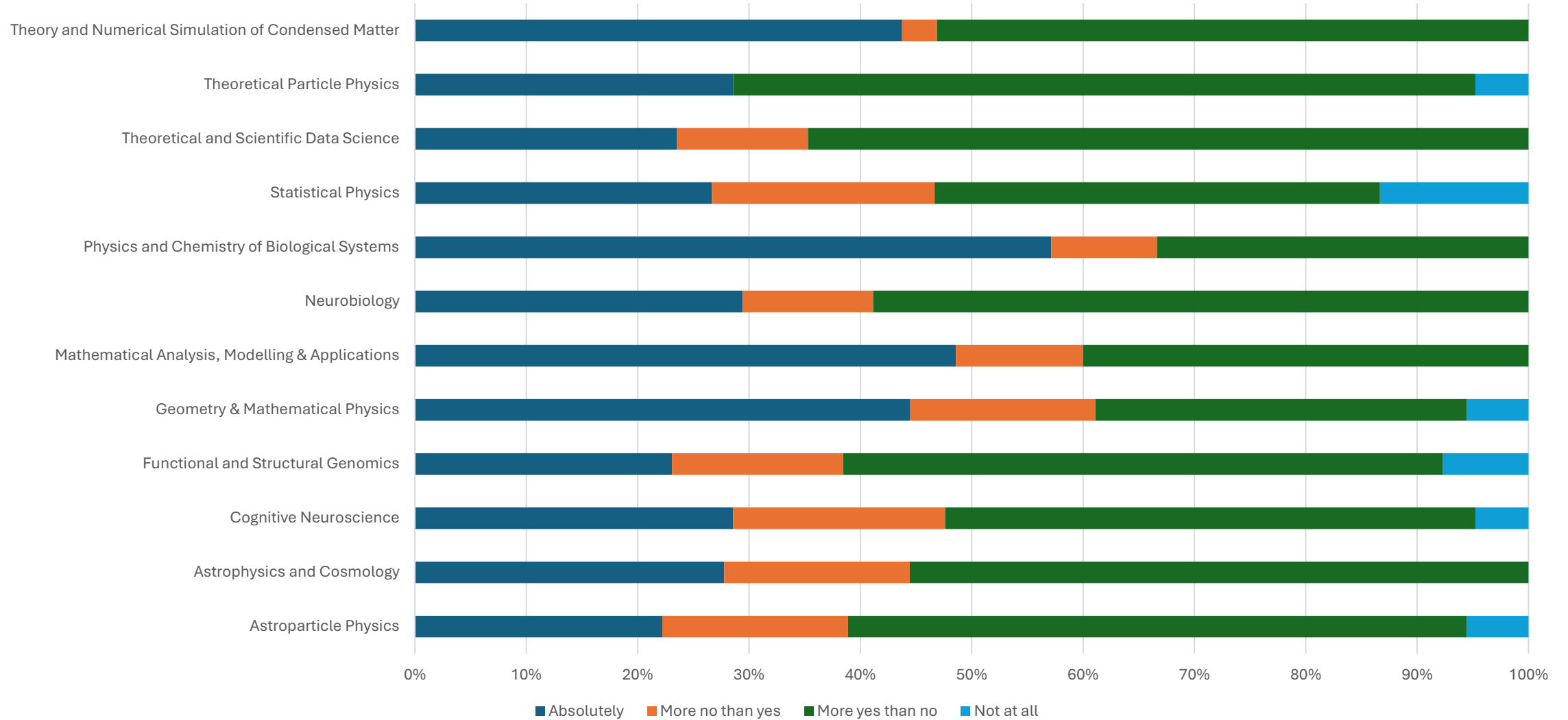


Already decided before starting PhD

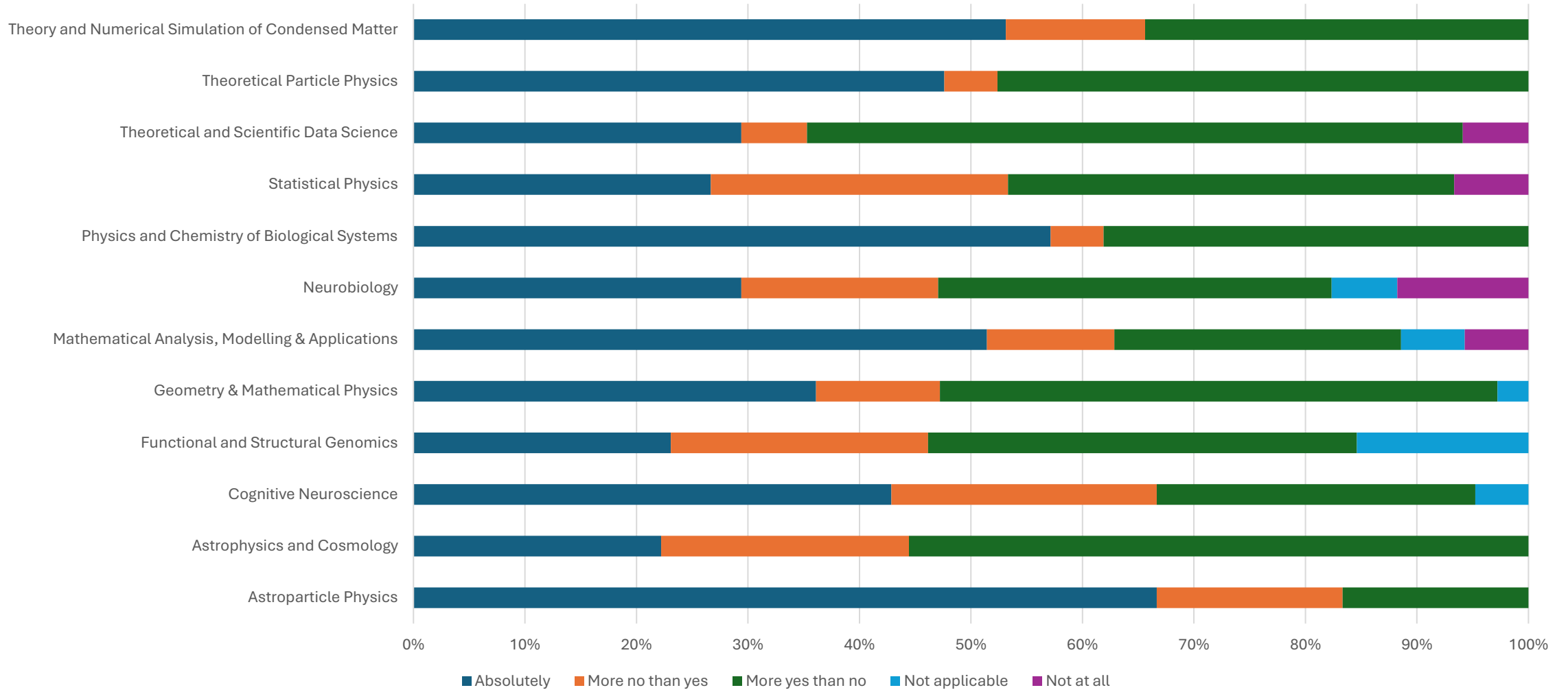


2 choices possible but the final one
was not depending on me

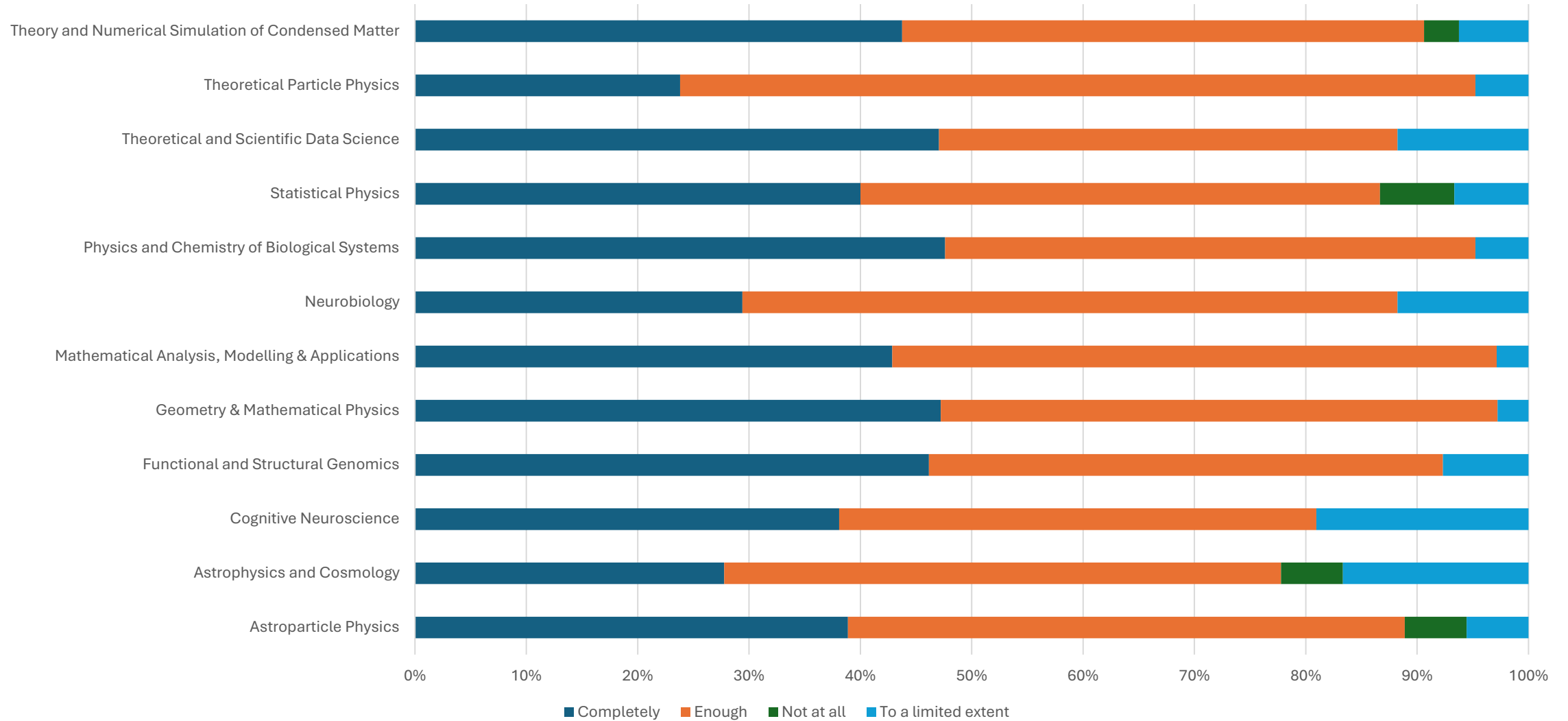
Does the project you are working on reflect the quality expectations that you had when you entered SISSA?



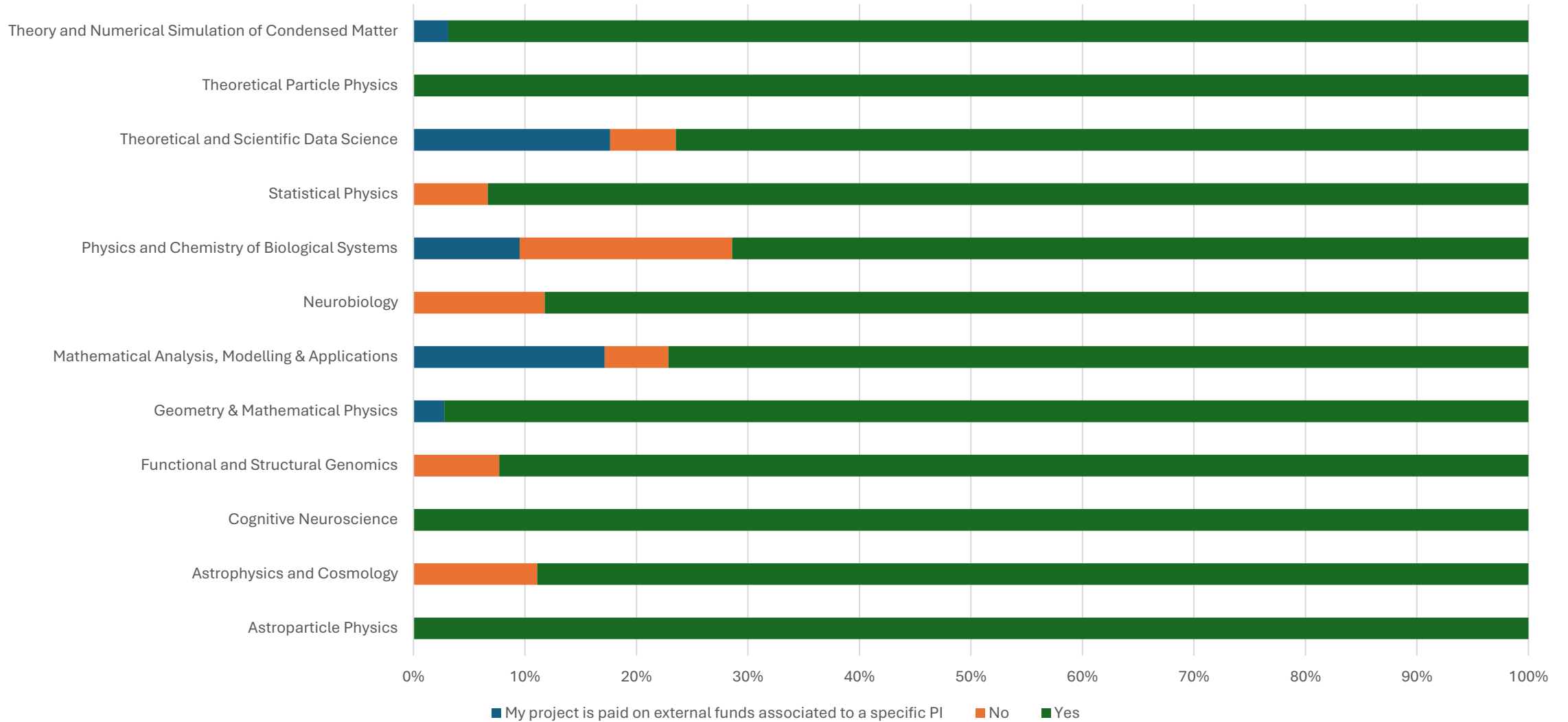
Do you think you had adequate opportunities to become informed of the different research activities in your PhD program before choosing your research project?



To what extent are you allowed to develop your personal ideas while carrying out your project?



Were you free to choose your supervisor?



If the answer was 'NO'

Free comments



Could not choose a supervisor of another group



Supervisor was already decided

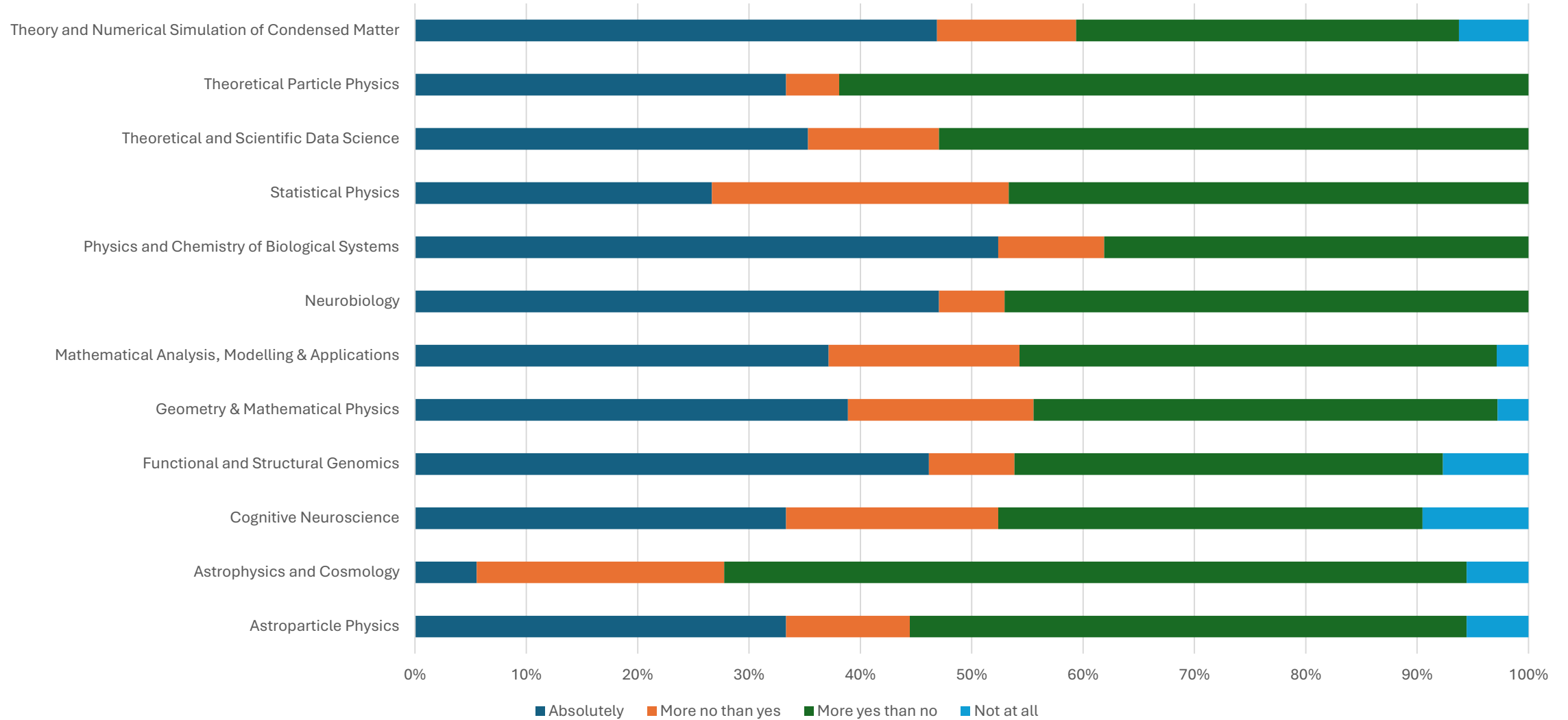


Lack of transparency

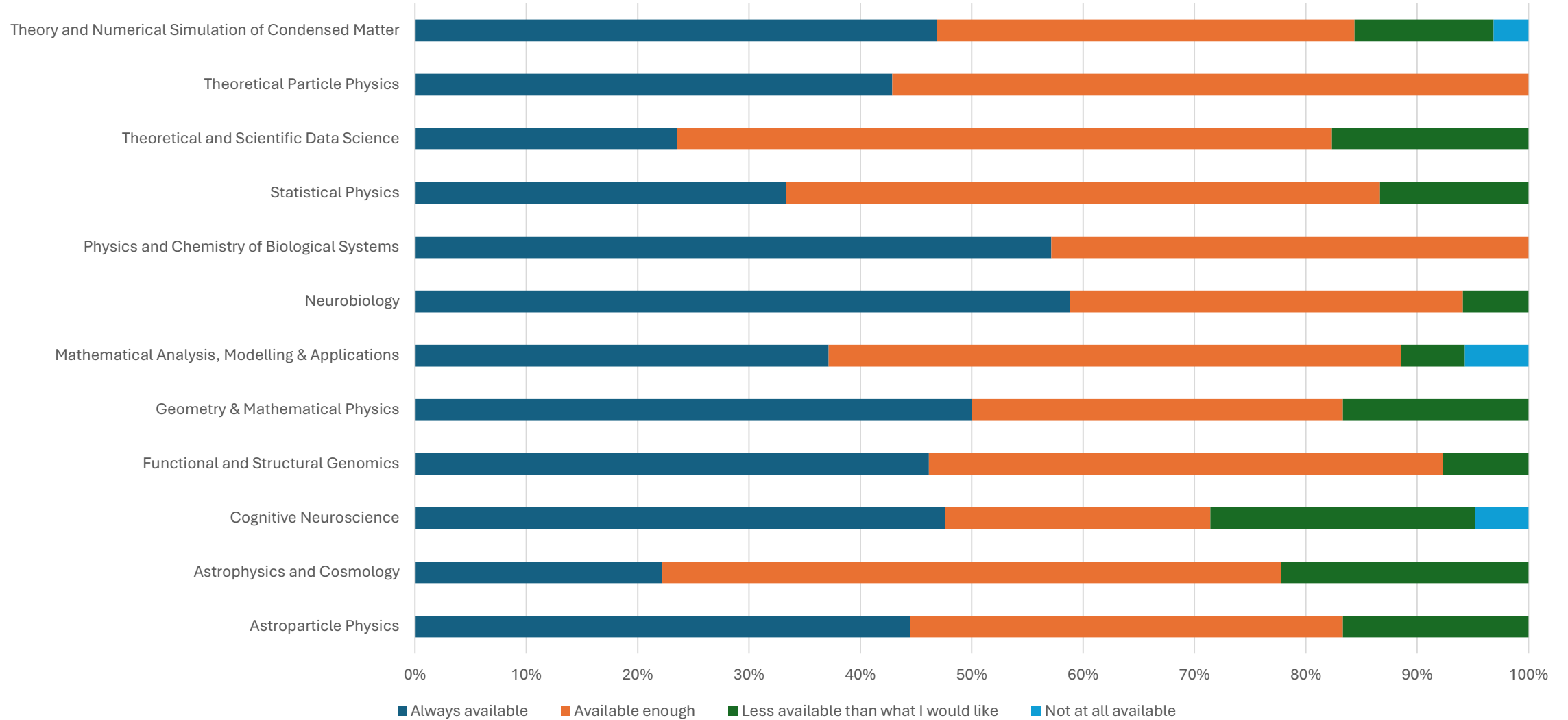


Due to numerosity of some groups

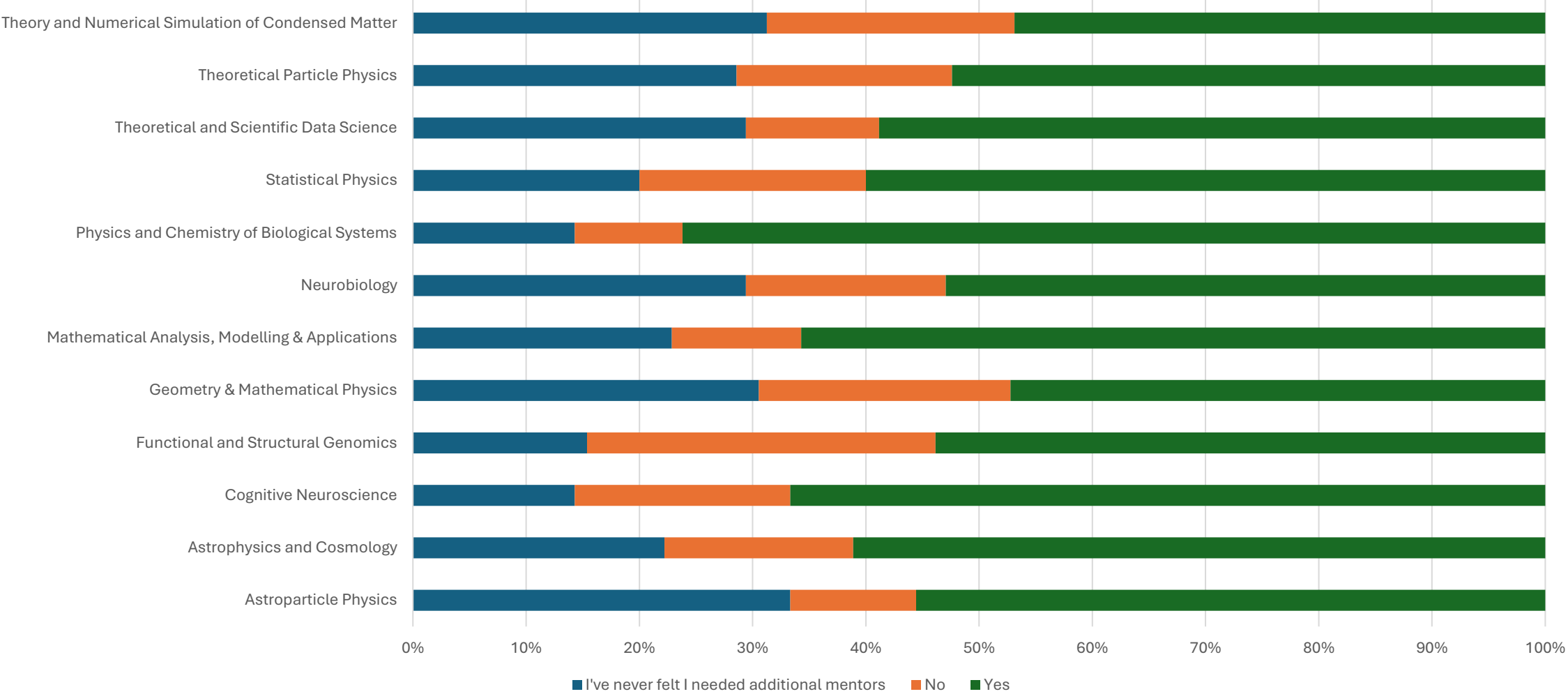
Are you satisfied with the amount of time you spend with your supervisor?



How would you judge the availability of your supervisor in helping you on your project?



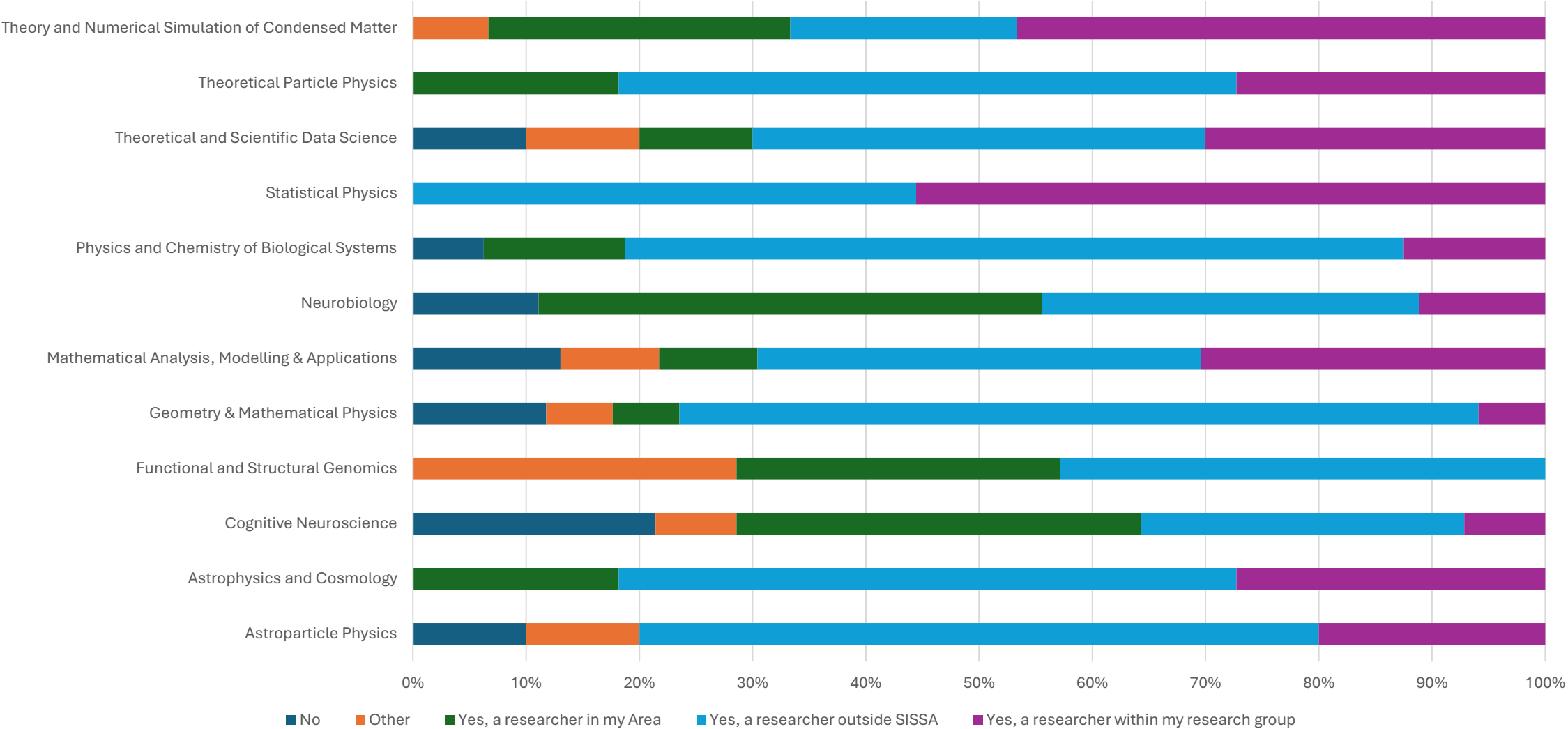
In case it was necessary for your research project, has your supervisor ever encouraged you to seek additional supervision from different mentors or collaborators?



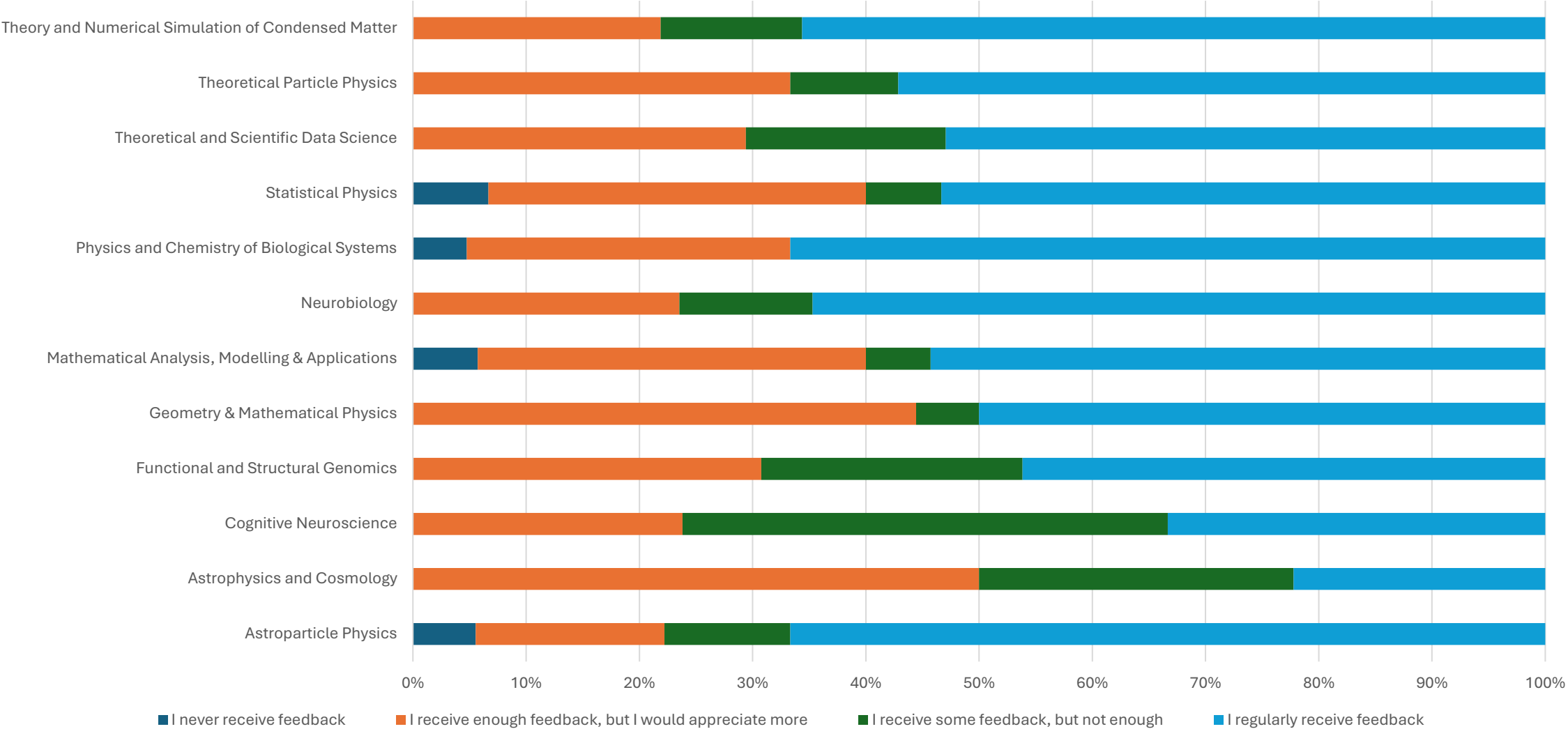


If the answer was
YES...

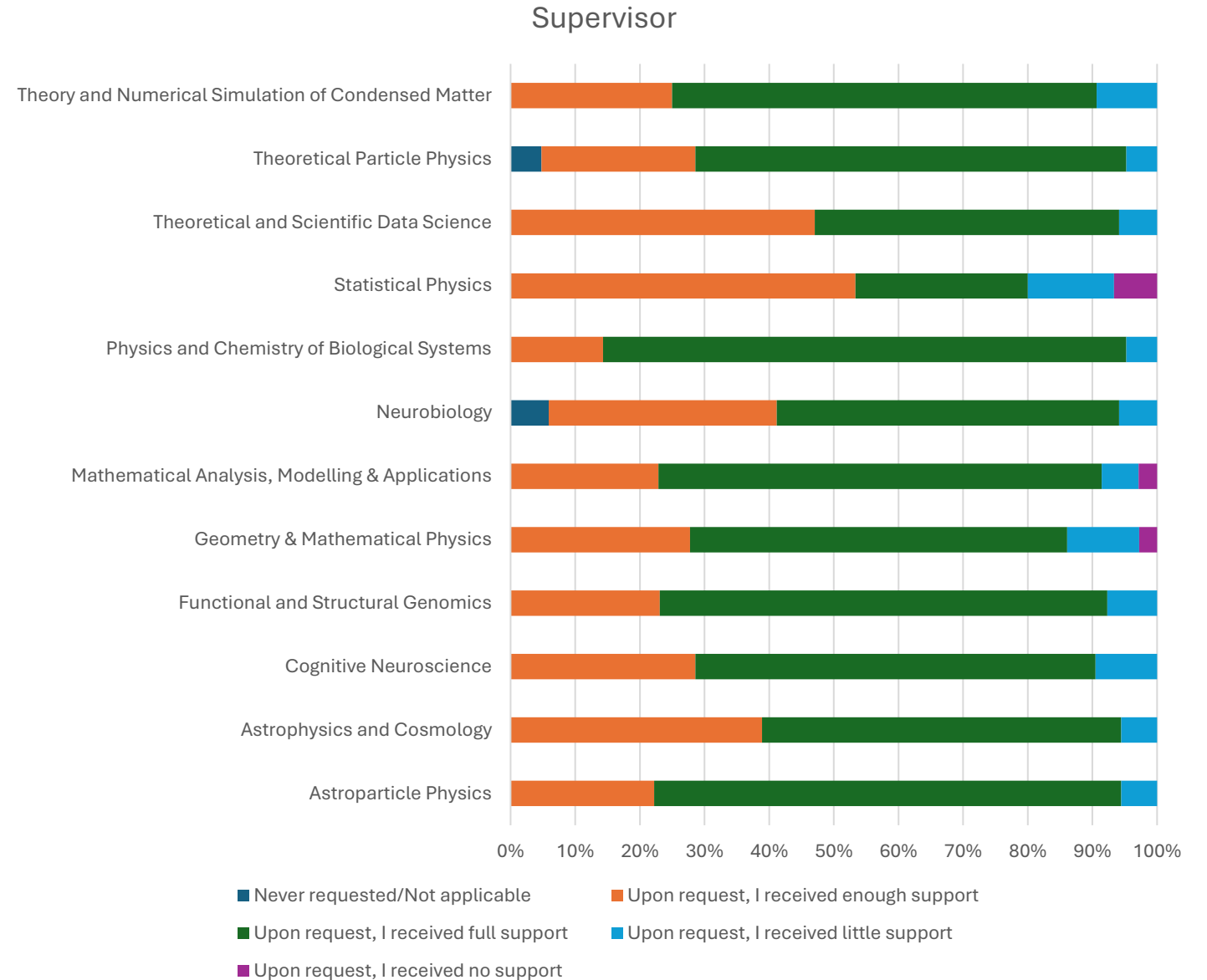
If yes, did they suggest someone?



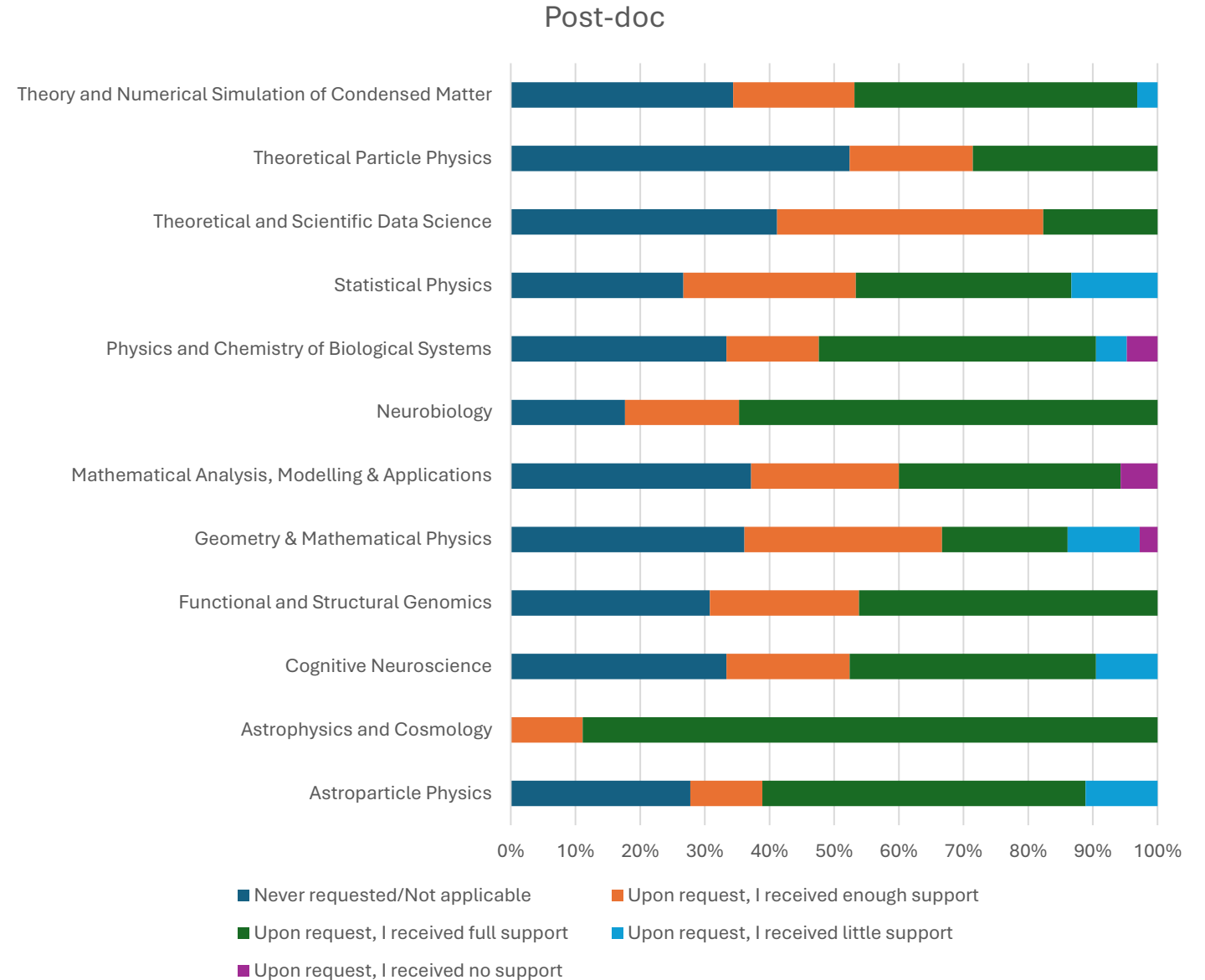
How would you rate the amount and the quality of feedback you receive from your supervisor on your work?



How this
figure
support you

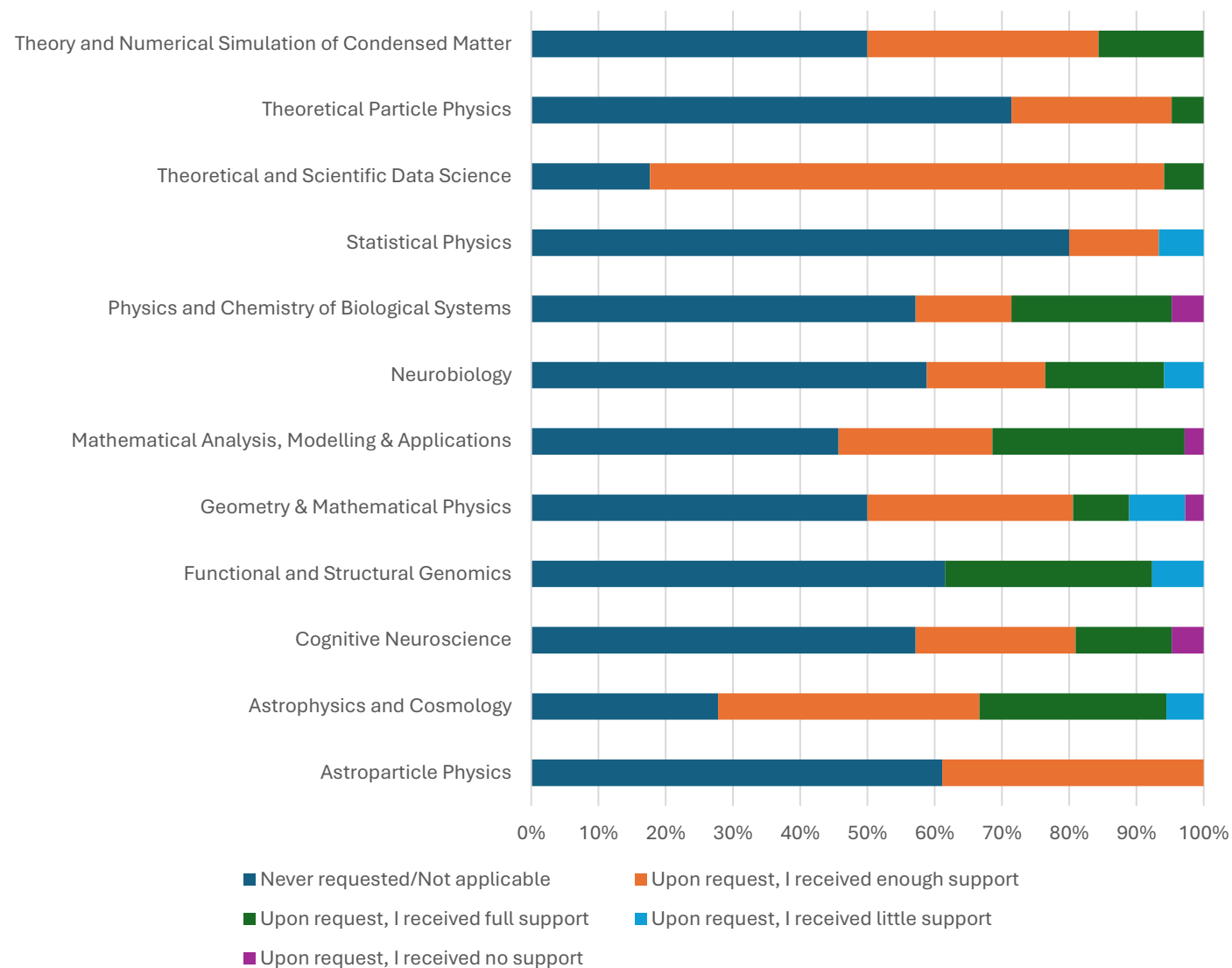


How this
figure
support you



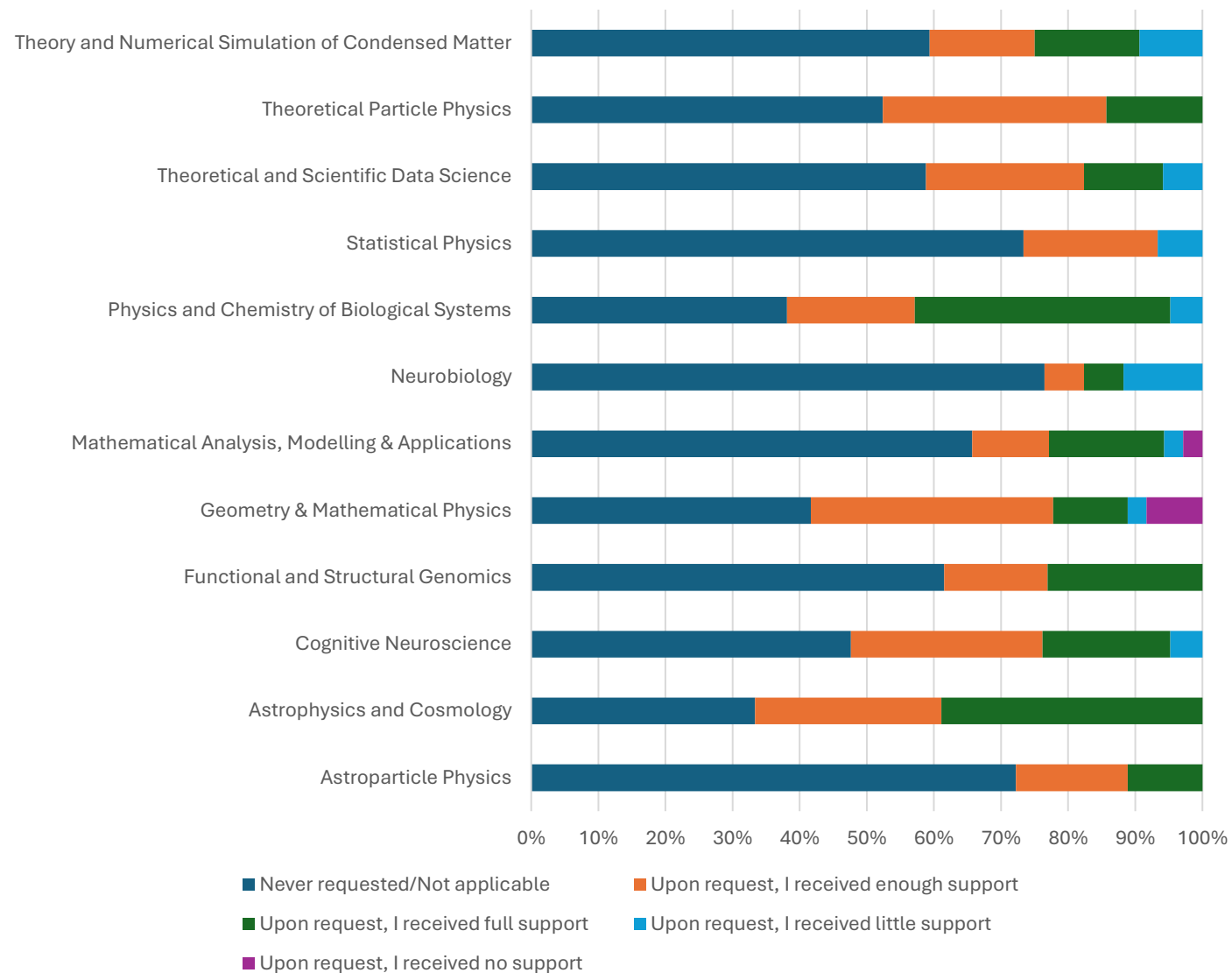
How this
figure
support you

Other professors at SISSA

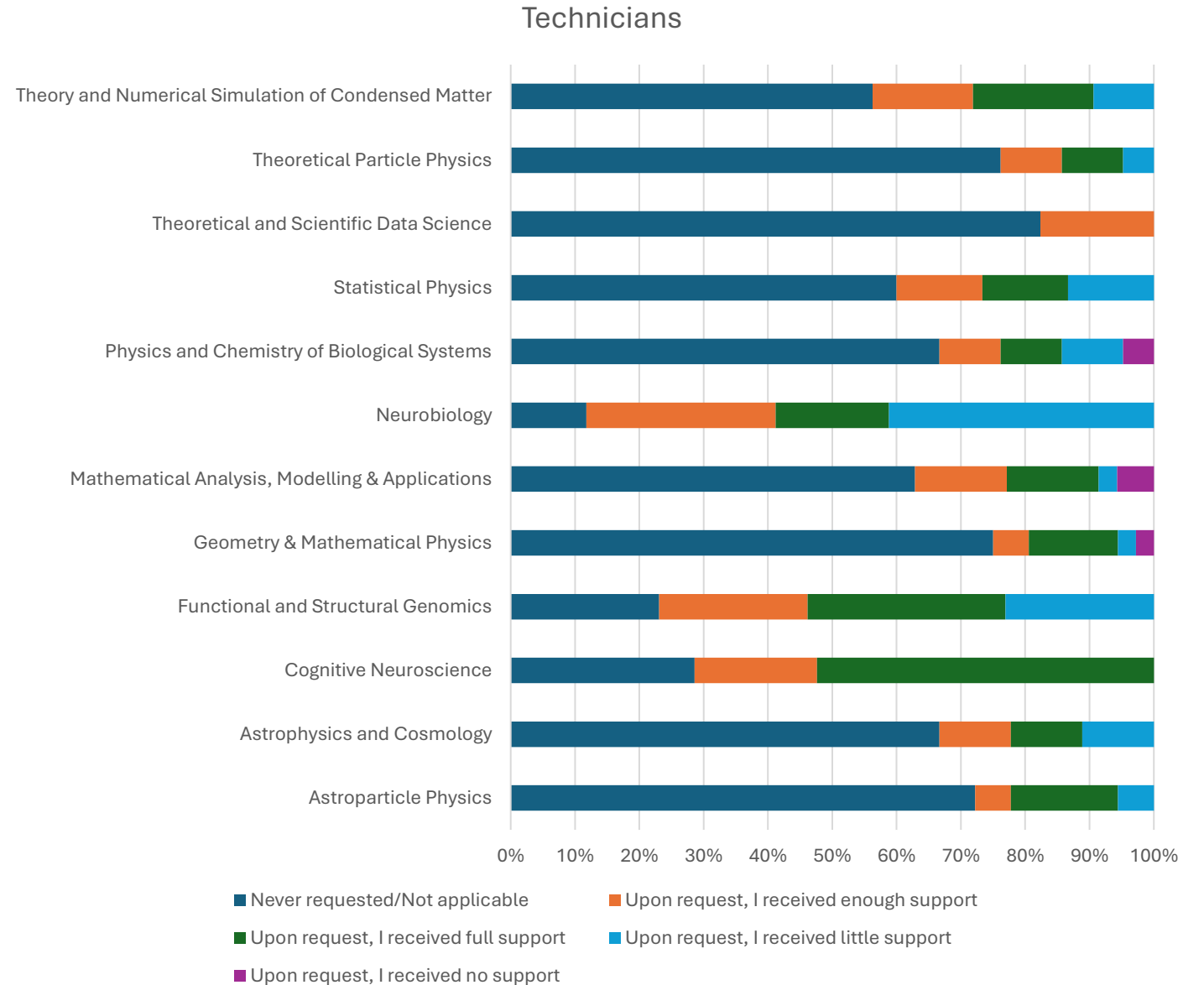


How this
figure
support you

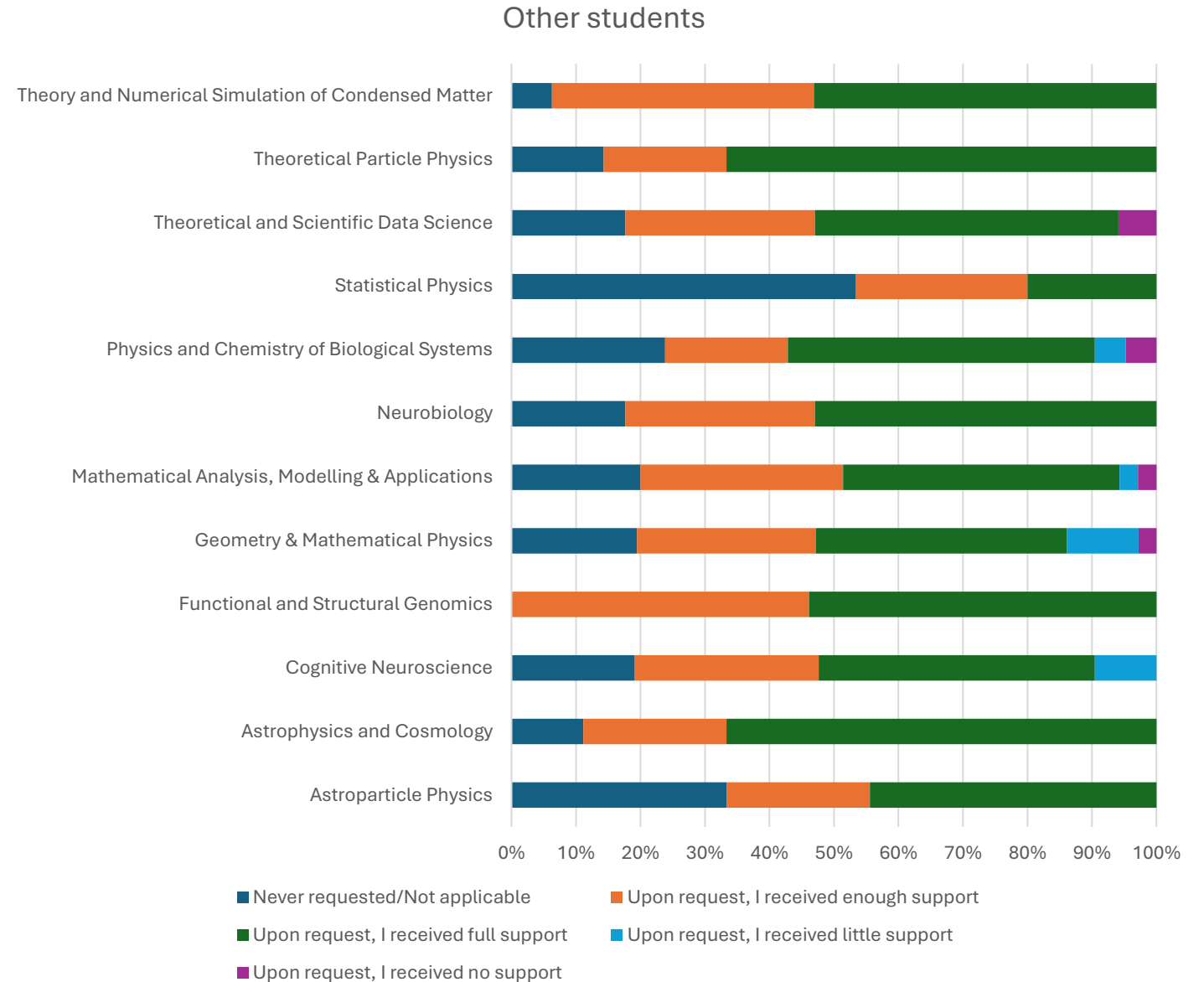
Other professors outside of SISSA



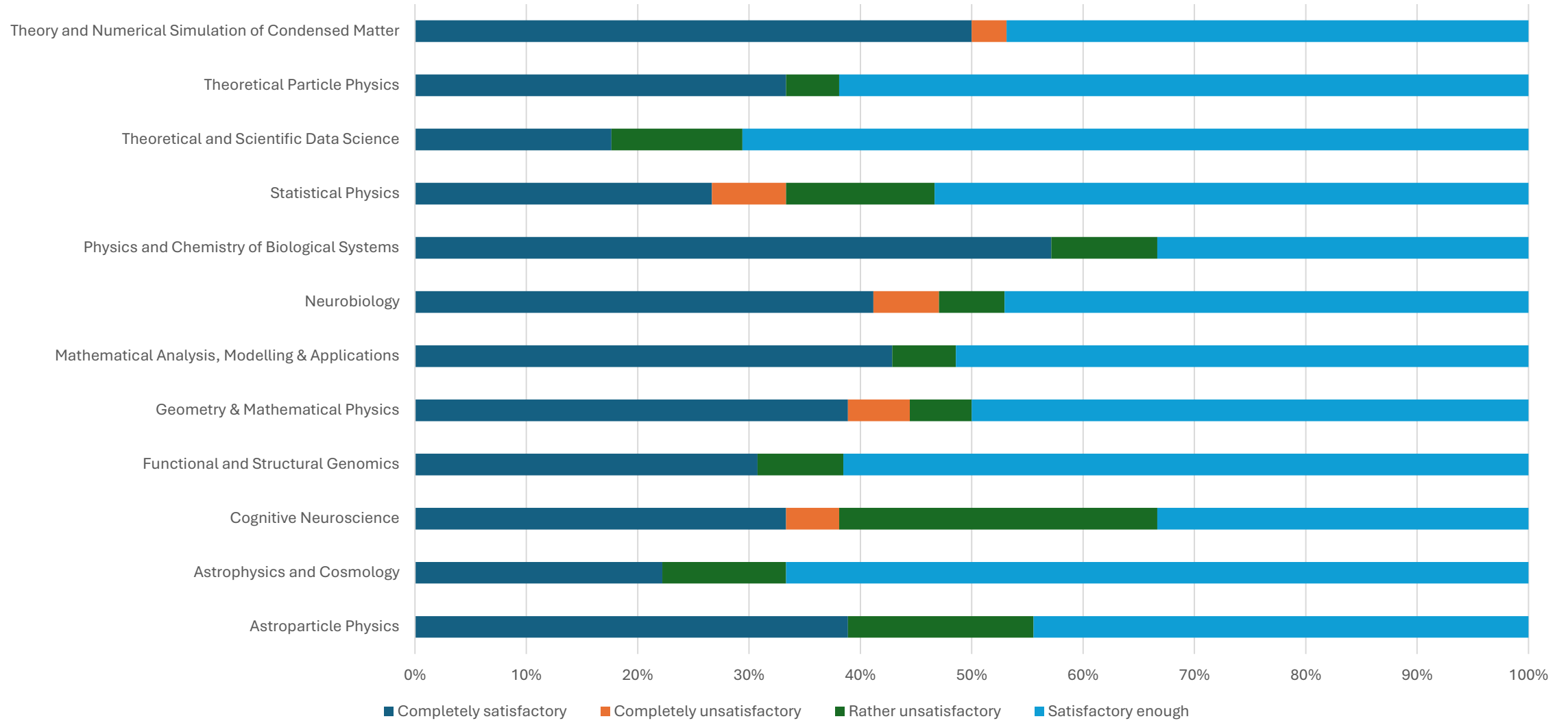
How this
figure
support you



How this
figure
support you





Regardless of who has been your main mentor, how would you rate the supervision on your research project?





Free comments on supervision





      Good

  I would like more feedback/support

 Not included in the discussion on my projects/PI controls time of work

 Left alone by PI/no support

 Professor should be more at SISSA

 I wish to work with more people



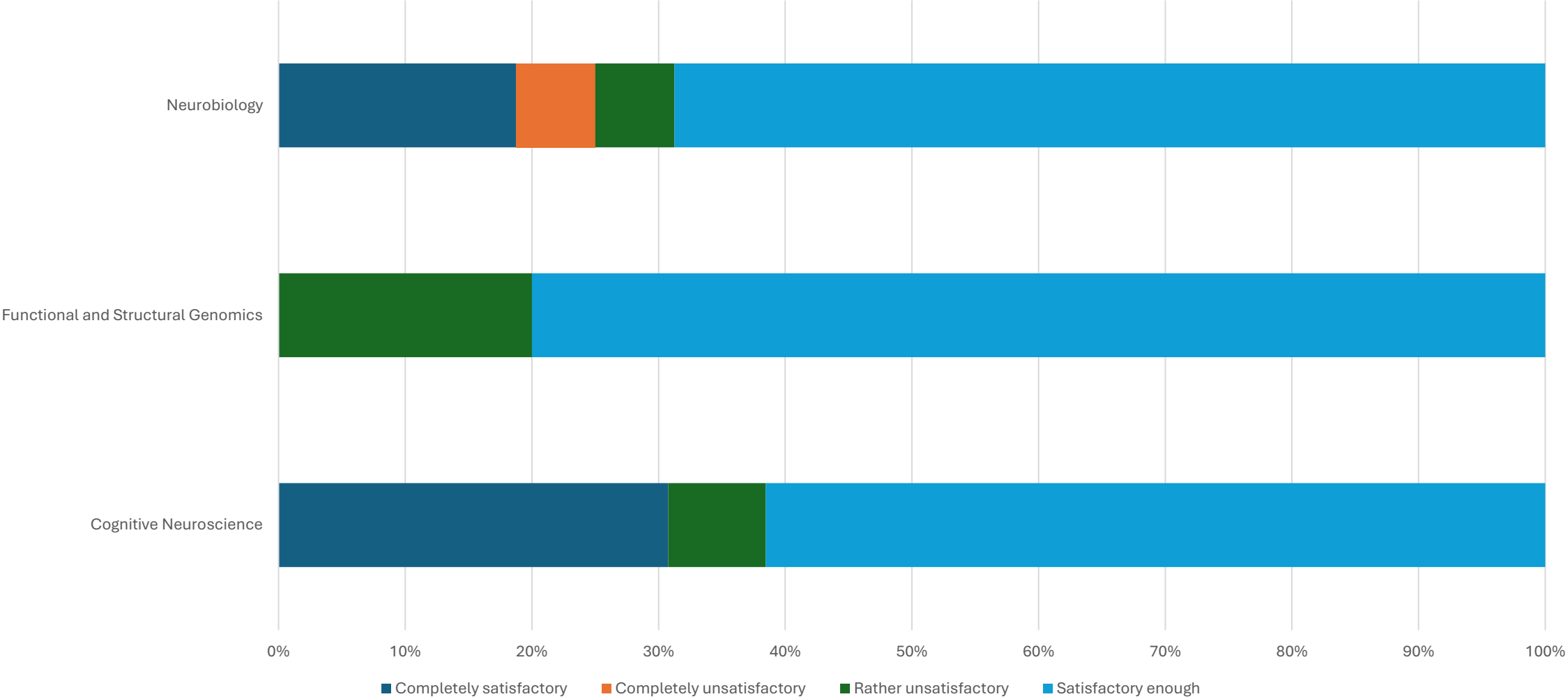
LAB FACILITIES



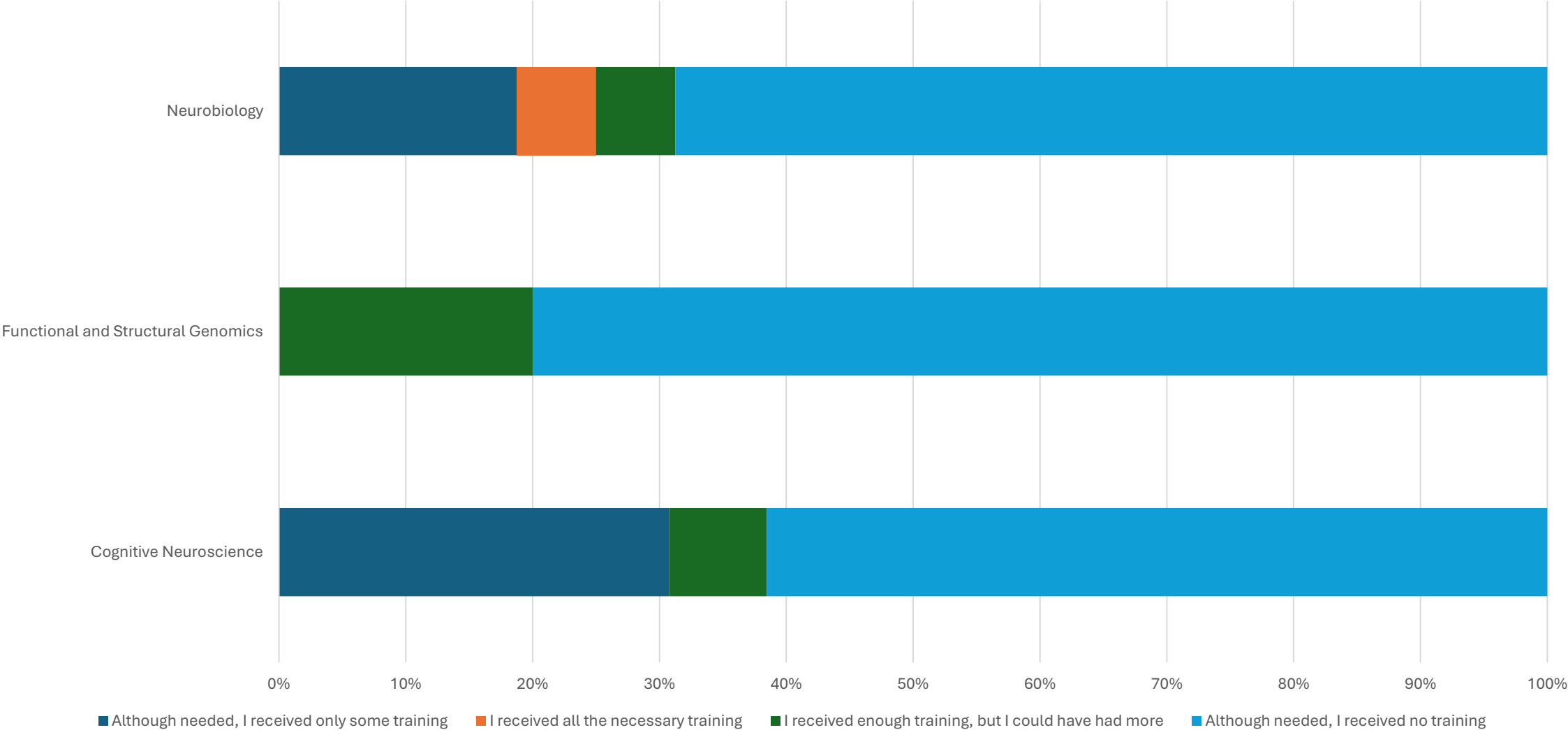
Only PhD course
involved in
experimental
activities



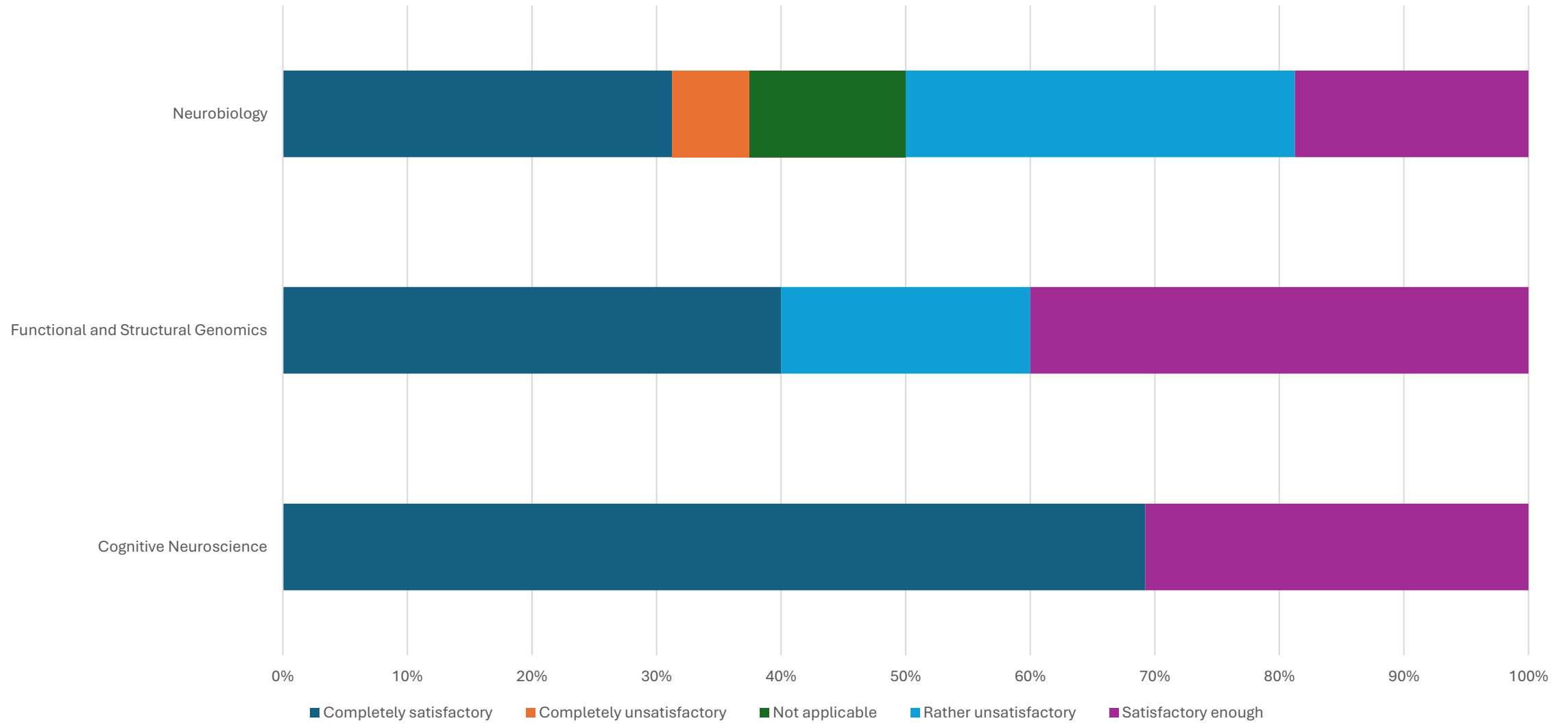
How would you rate the availability of laboratory resources necessary for your project (in terms of facilities, consumables and equipment)?



How well have you been trained for your lab activities?







How would you rate the support of the Neuroscience Area Technical Staff?





Free comments on Neuroscience technical stuff




    I wish more availability

  Mechatronics good

 Human lab technician good

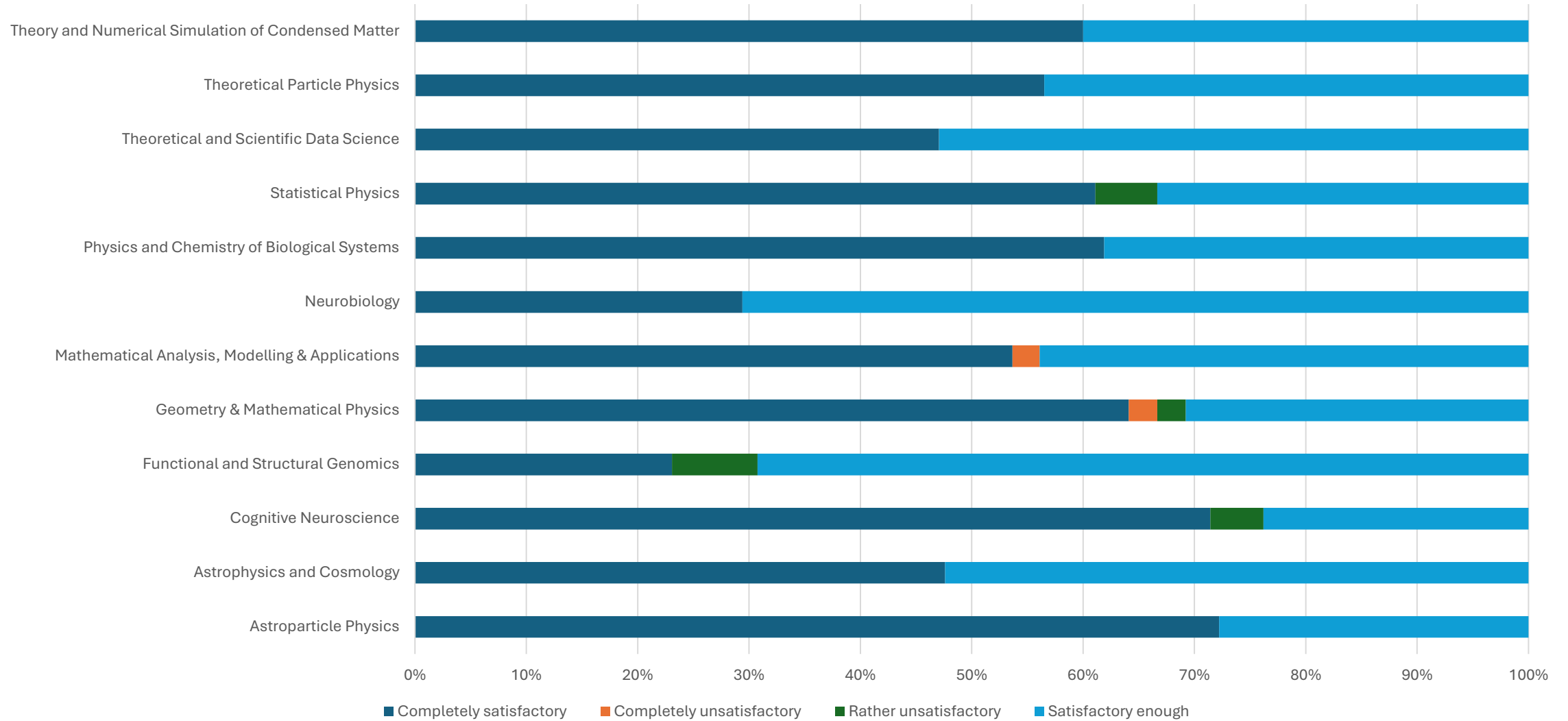
 Should be improved a lot

 More practical training



SAFETY

How would you rate the safety conditions at SISSA in general?



How improve safety conditions in SISSA?



Close fire doors



Improve safety of spiral parking ramp



Offices are too crowded



Safety announcement should be in english

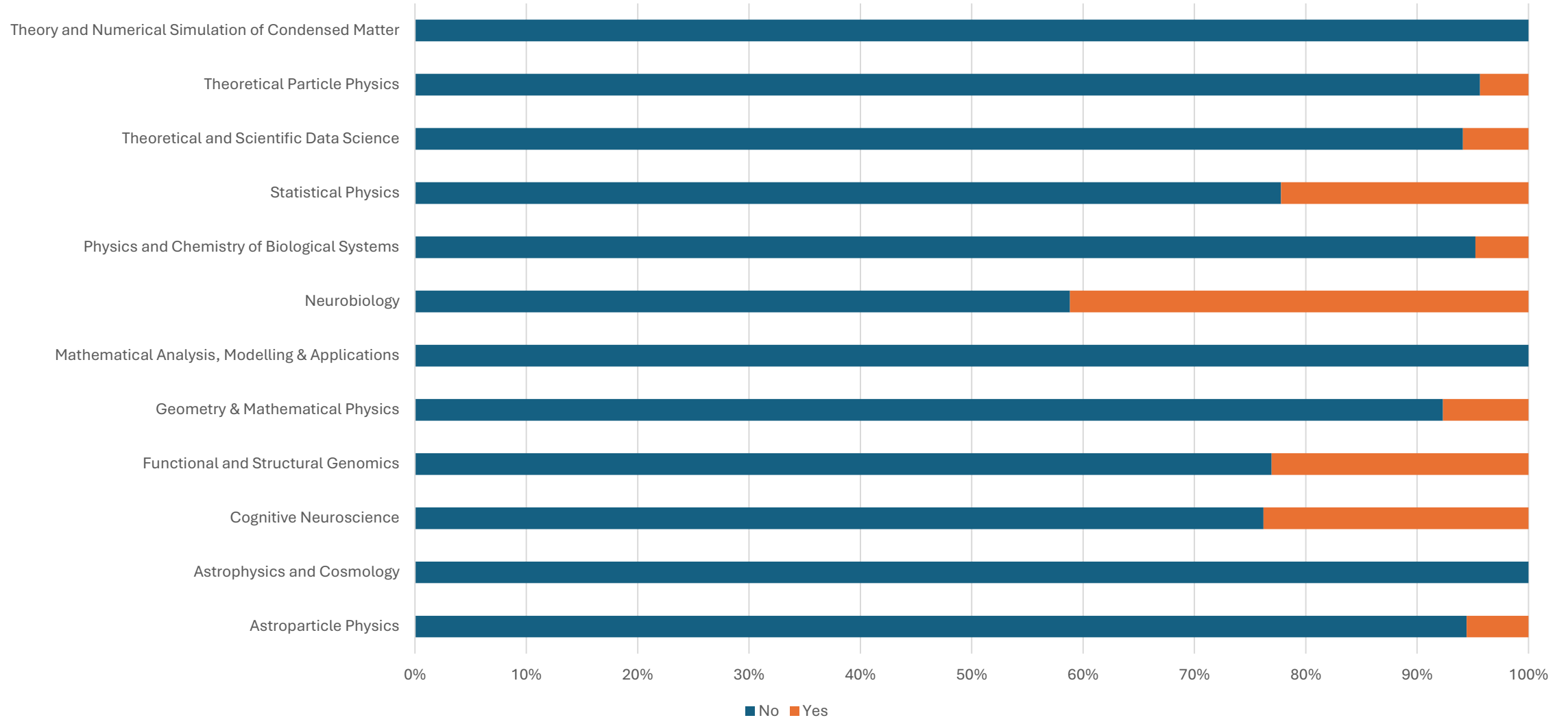


Improve lights in office



No training for evacuation plans

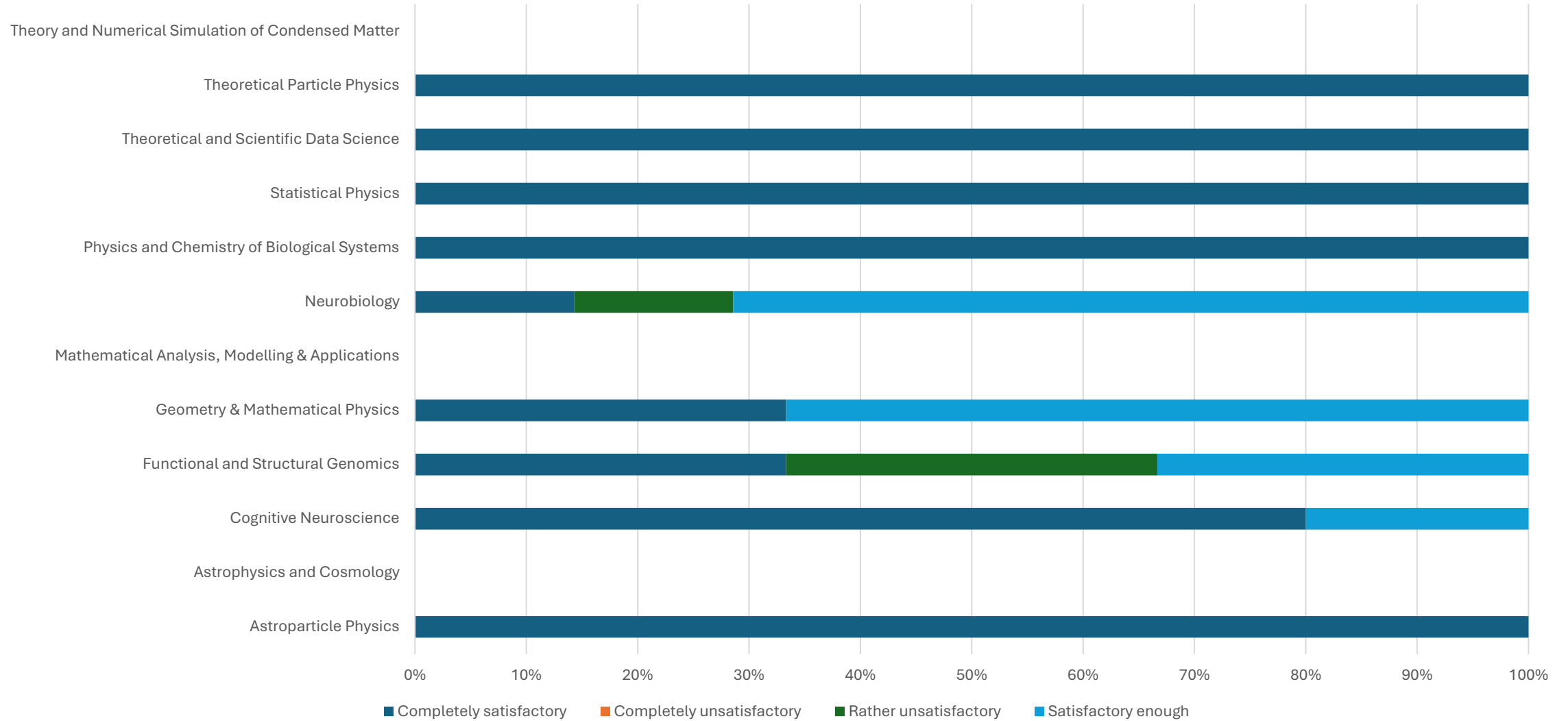
Have you ever needed/asked the support/action of the Health and Safety staff?





If the answer was
YES...

How would you rate the support of Health and Safety Service Staff?



How improve safety conditions in the lab?



I'd like to have special coat for who works with animals



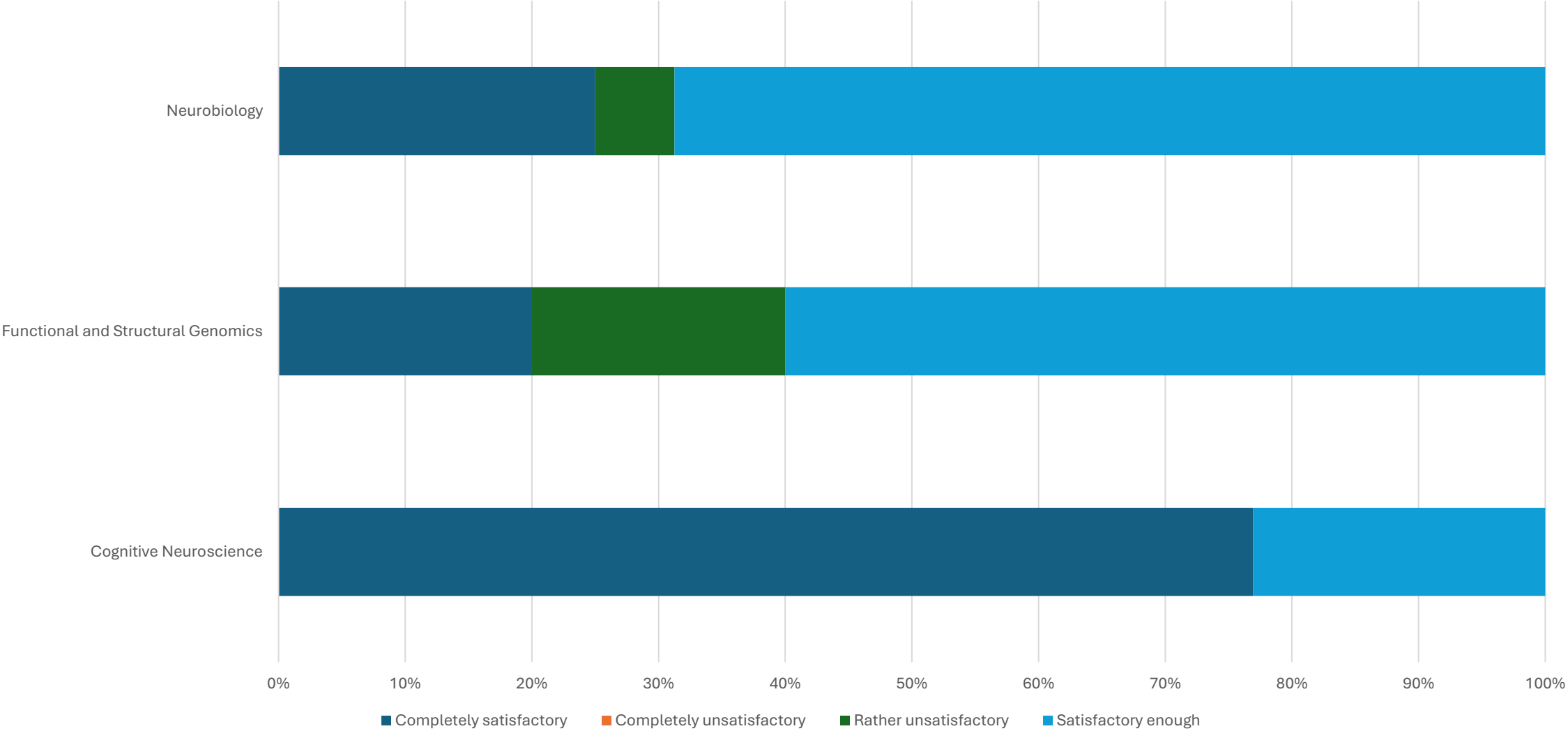
Better condition in the office



Only PhD course
involved in
experimental
activities



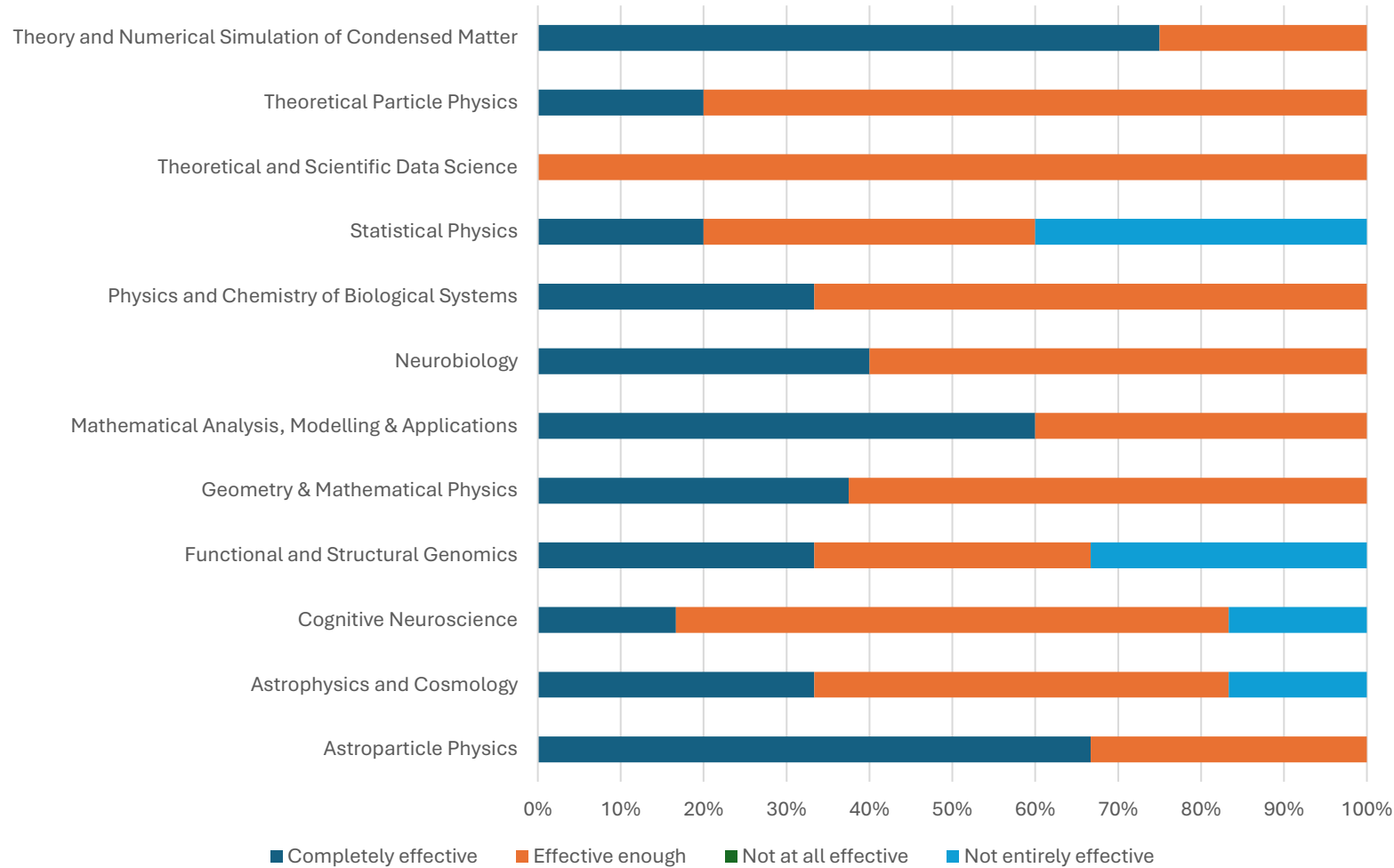
How would you rate the safety level in the lab environment?





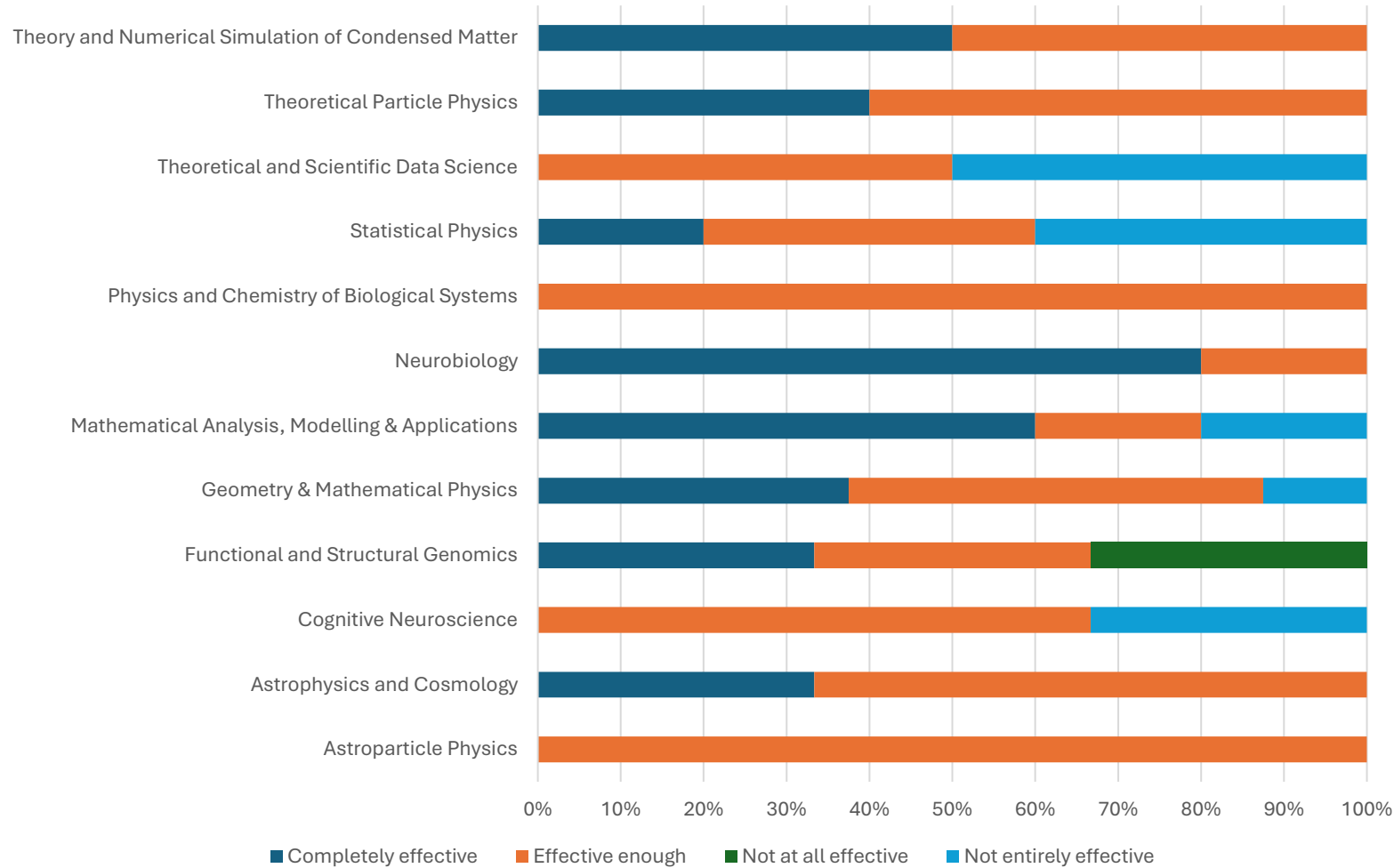
PHD PROGRAMS - OUTCOME

Critical thinking, independence



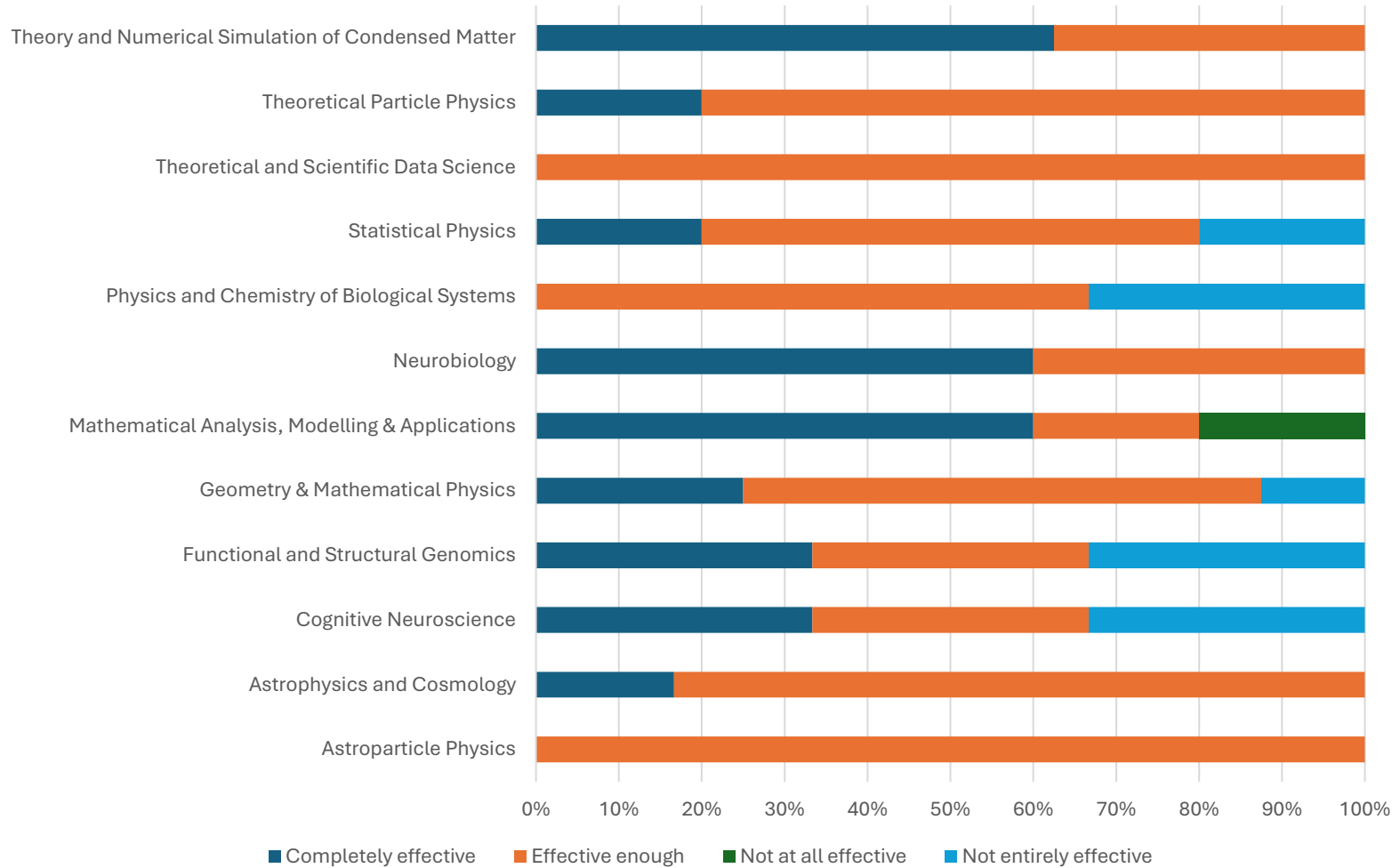
-4th year
Effectiveness
of PhD
program in
helping you
developing...

Technical skills relevant to your field of choice



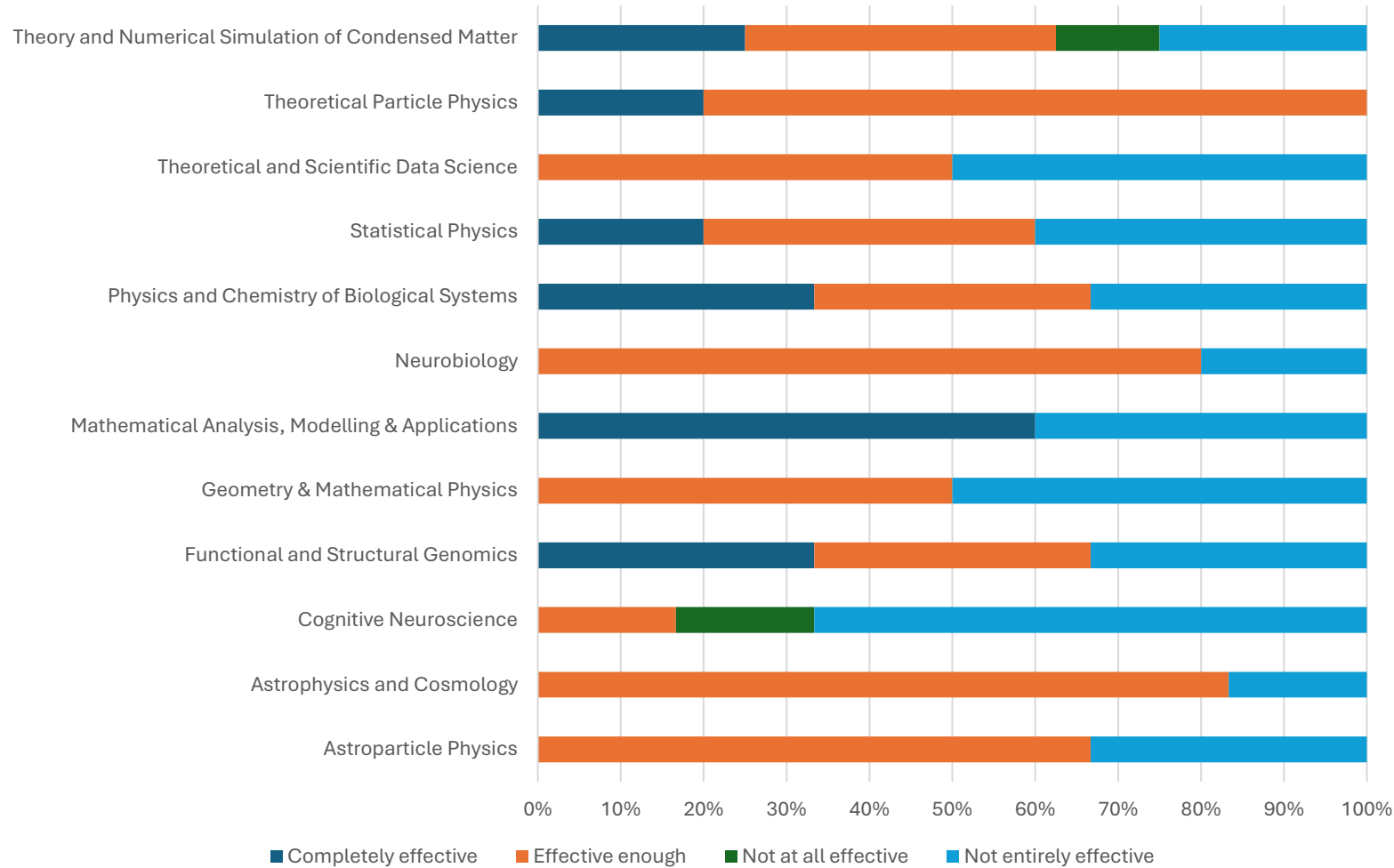
-4th year
Effectiveness
of PhD
program in
helping you
developing...

Knowledge of the relevant literature in your field of choice



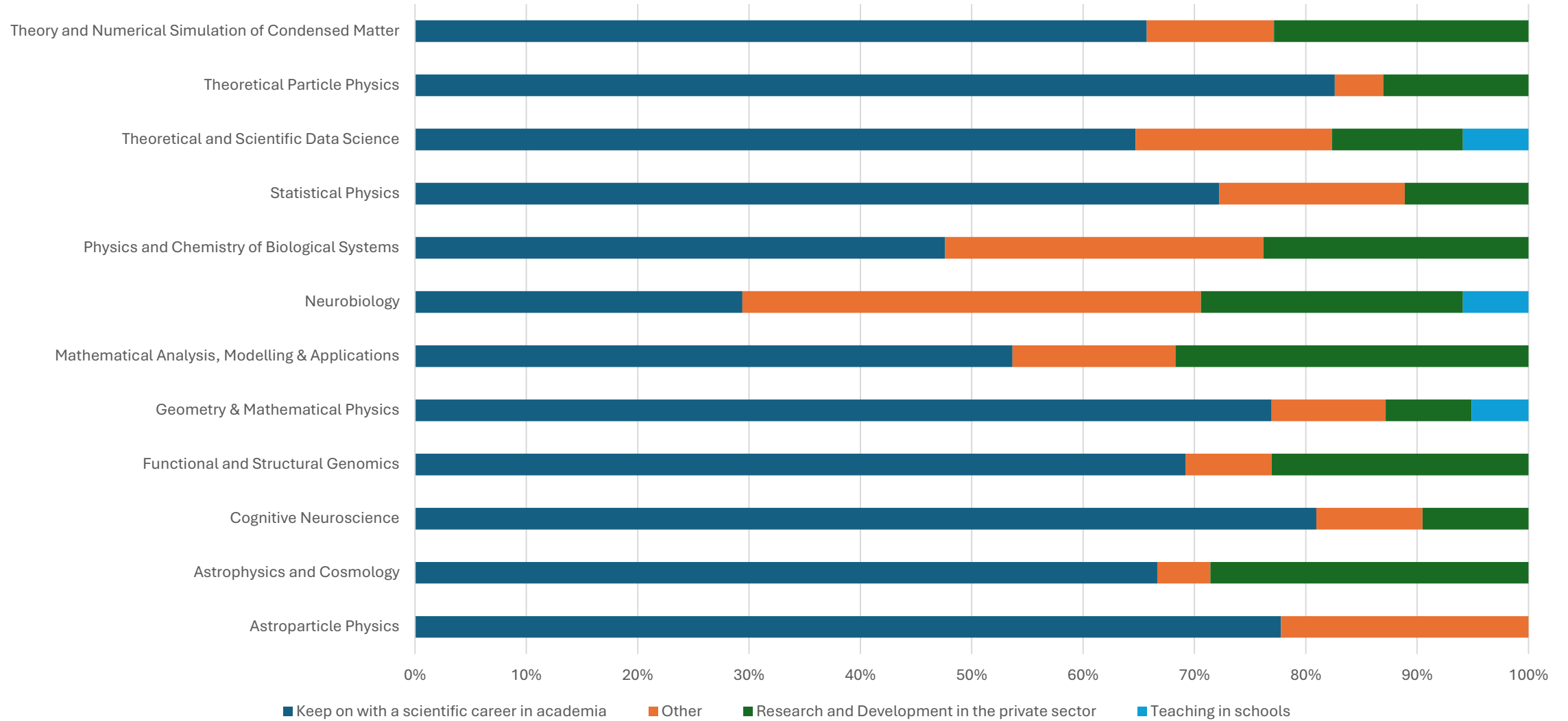
-4th year
Effectiveness
of PhD
program in
helping you
developing...

Developing a network of contacts



-4th year
Effectiveness
of PhD
program in
helping you
developing...

What are your career plans after completing PhD programme?



Why do you want a career path outside academia



Low salary/work life
balance



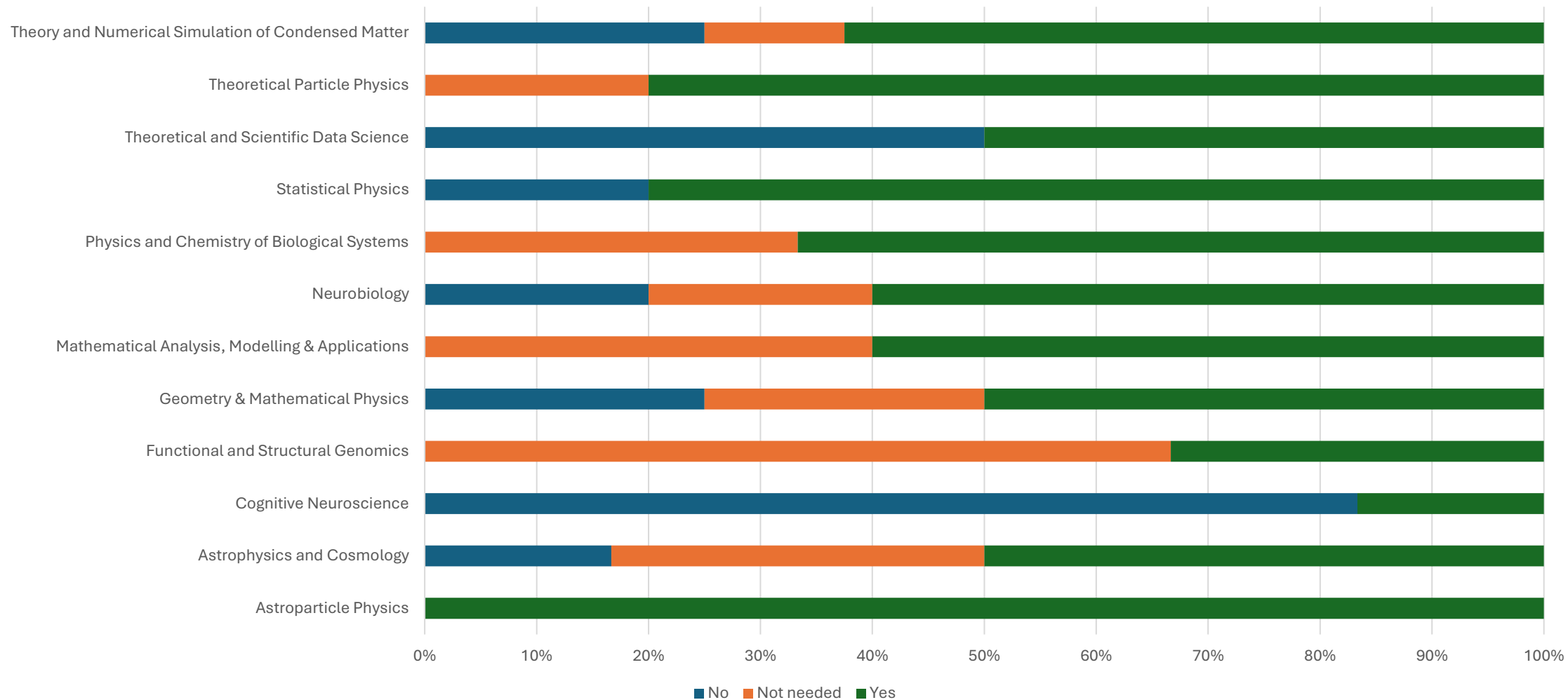
Stability



Toxic environment

4th year

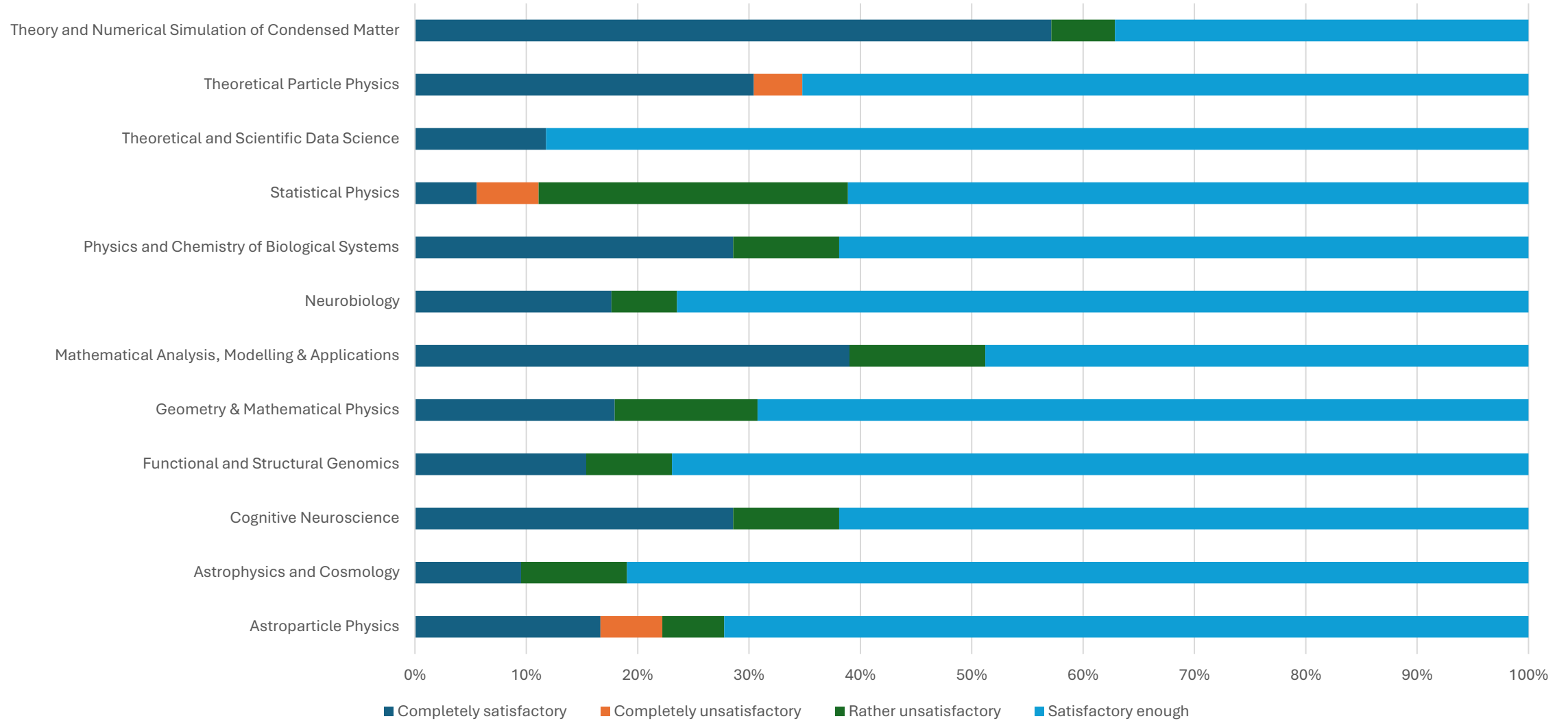
Was your supervisor helpful in guiding your search for a position after SISSA?





FREE COMMENT

Overall, how would you rate your experience in SISSA?



Free comments



SISSA is like home



Temperature is not working properly in the offices/
women bathroom not working for a while



It should be more inclusive for international students,
starting from everyone should speak English



Get doctor appointment before starting the PhD,
it's unfair that who already worked here have it
and so can start work earlier



SISSA should keep an eye on PIs, PIs that are behaving
badly have no consequences



More collaborations needed



Problems in statistical group?



Lack of attention in mental health