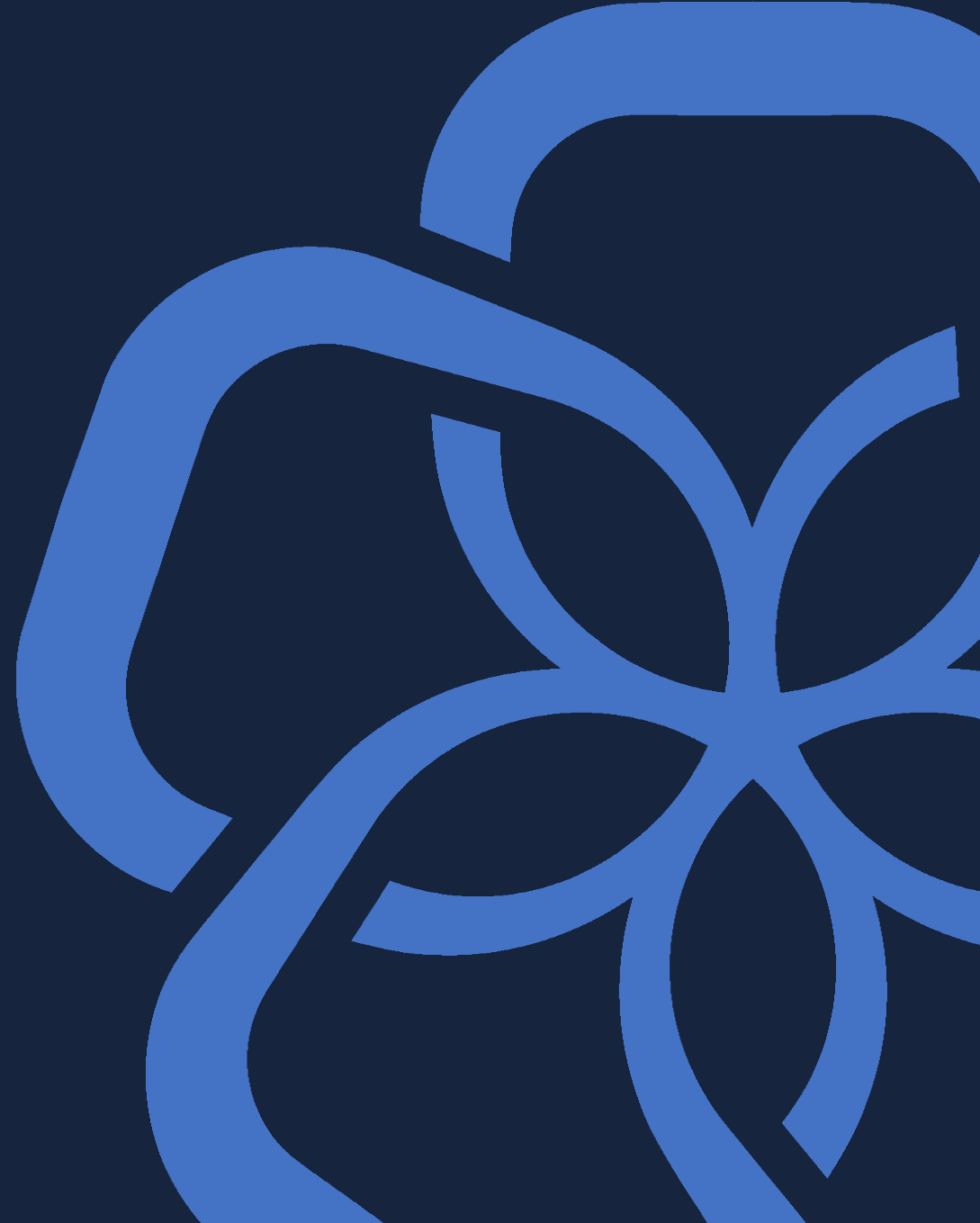




West
Yorkshire
Combined
Authority

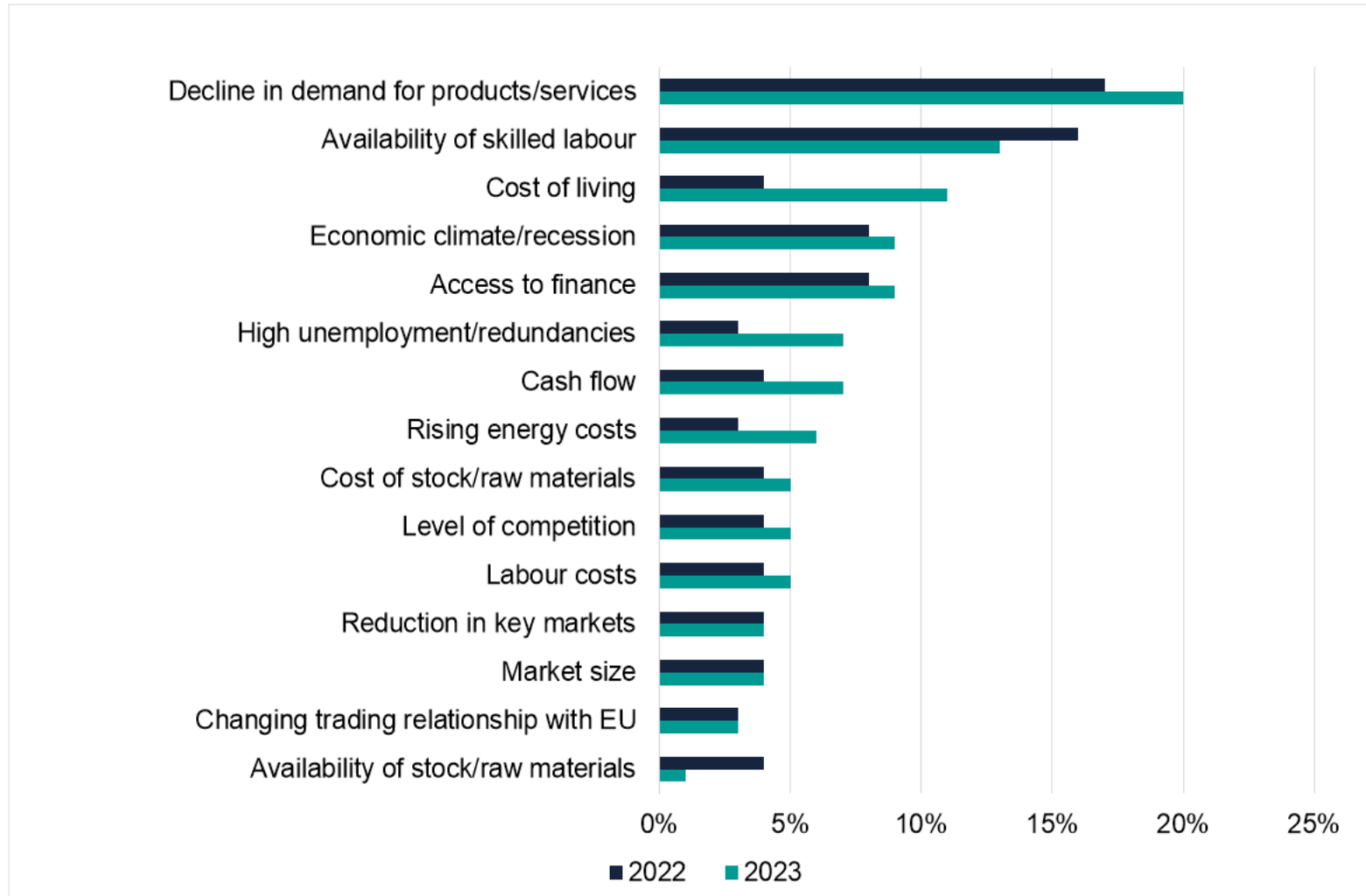
Tracy
Brabin
Mayor of
West Yorkshire

Appendix 1: West Yorkshire Business Survey: Key messages



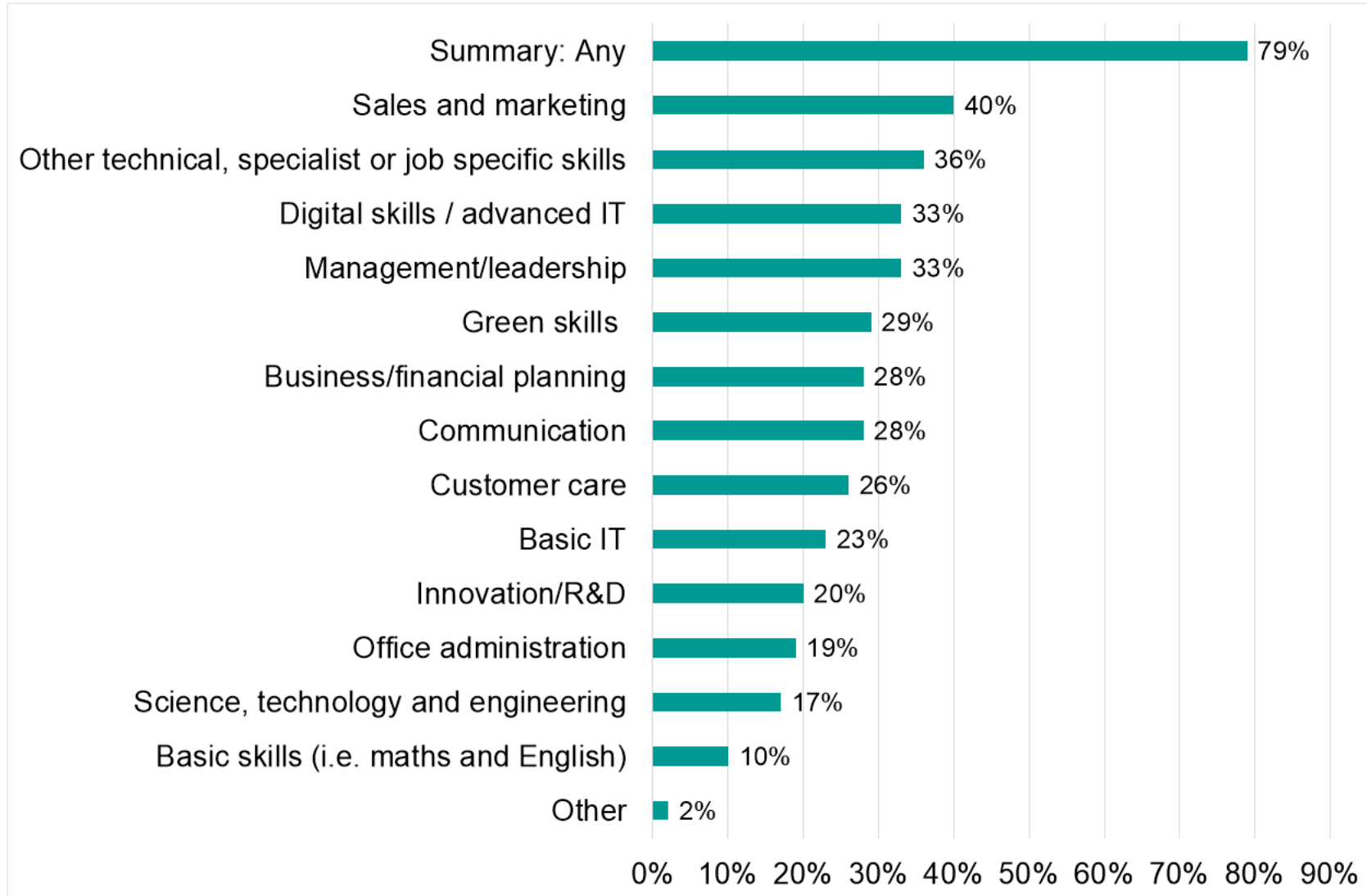
Lack of customer demand, access to skilled labour and cost of living issues are the most common perceived barriers to growth

Figure: What do you consider to be the main barriers to the growth of your business/organisation in the next three years?



Skills gaps at their highest level since the survey began

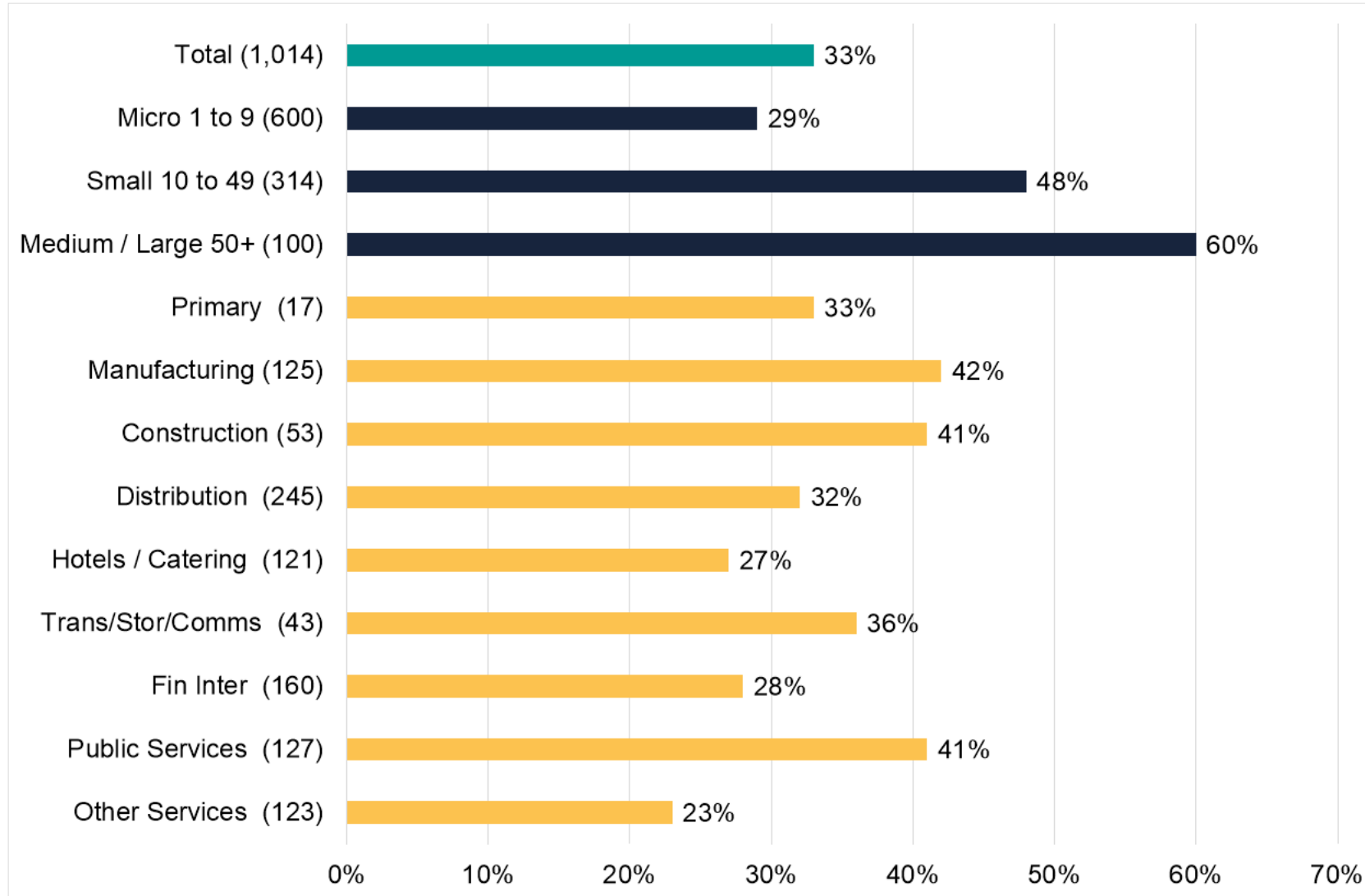
Figure: Which of the following skills need improving during the next 12 months to meet your business/organization's needs?



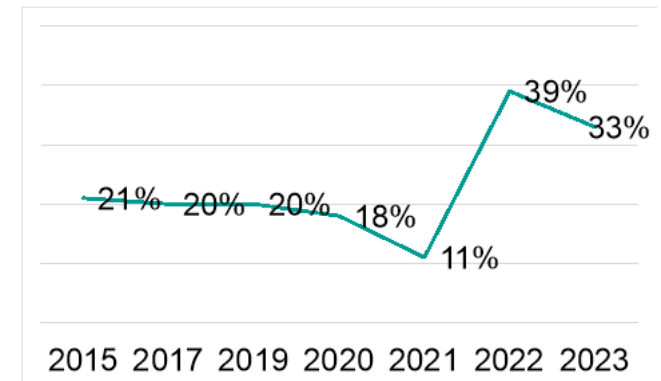
Source: West Yorkshire Business Survey

One third of organisations faced recruitment difficulties

Figure: Did you have any staff vacancies that you found hard to fill, or could not fill, during the last 12 months?



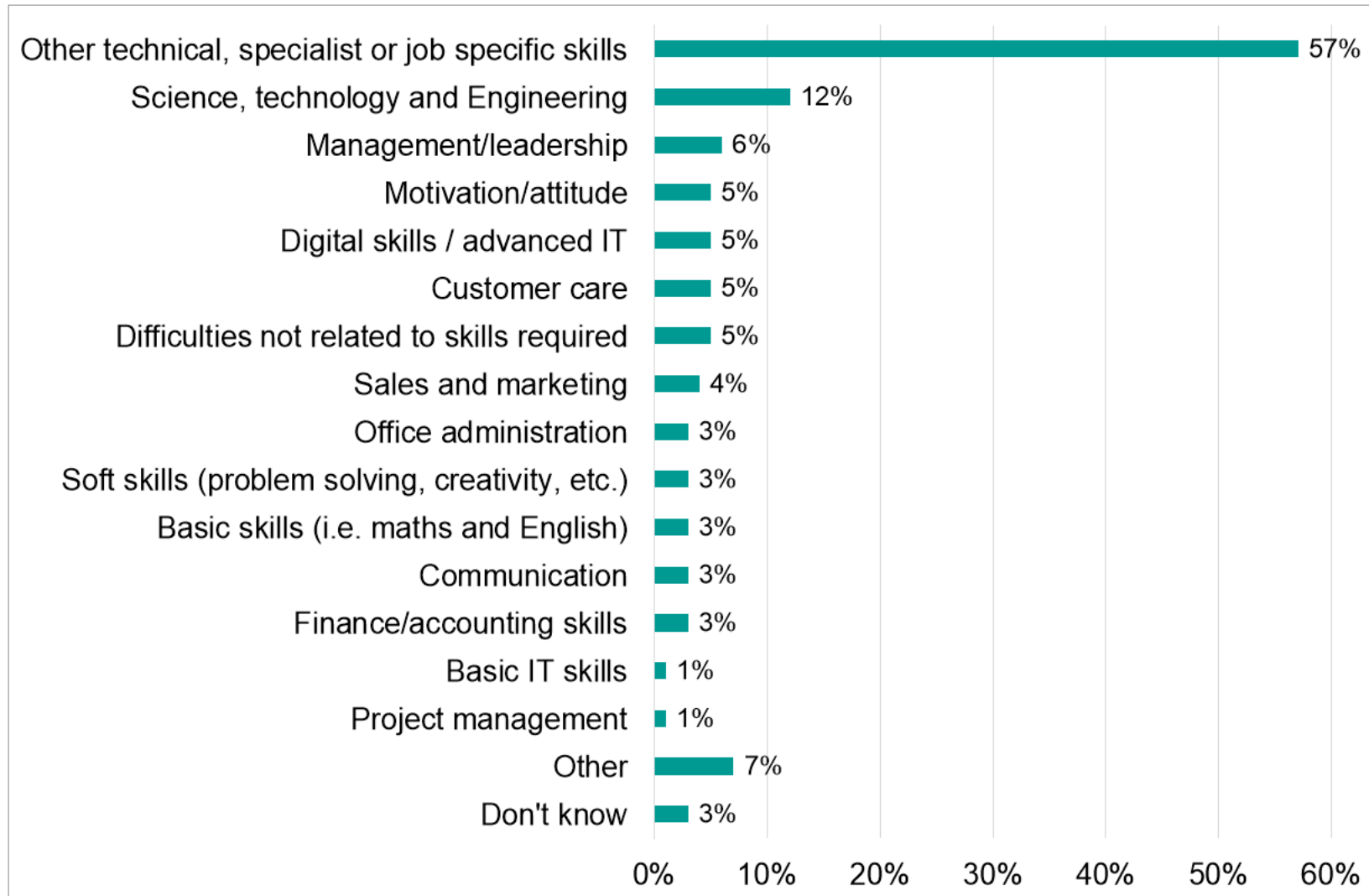
Hard to fill vacancies



Source: West Yorkshire Business Survey

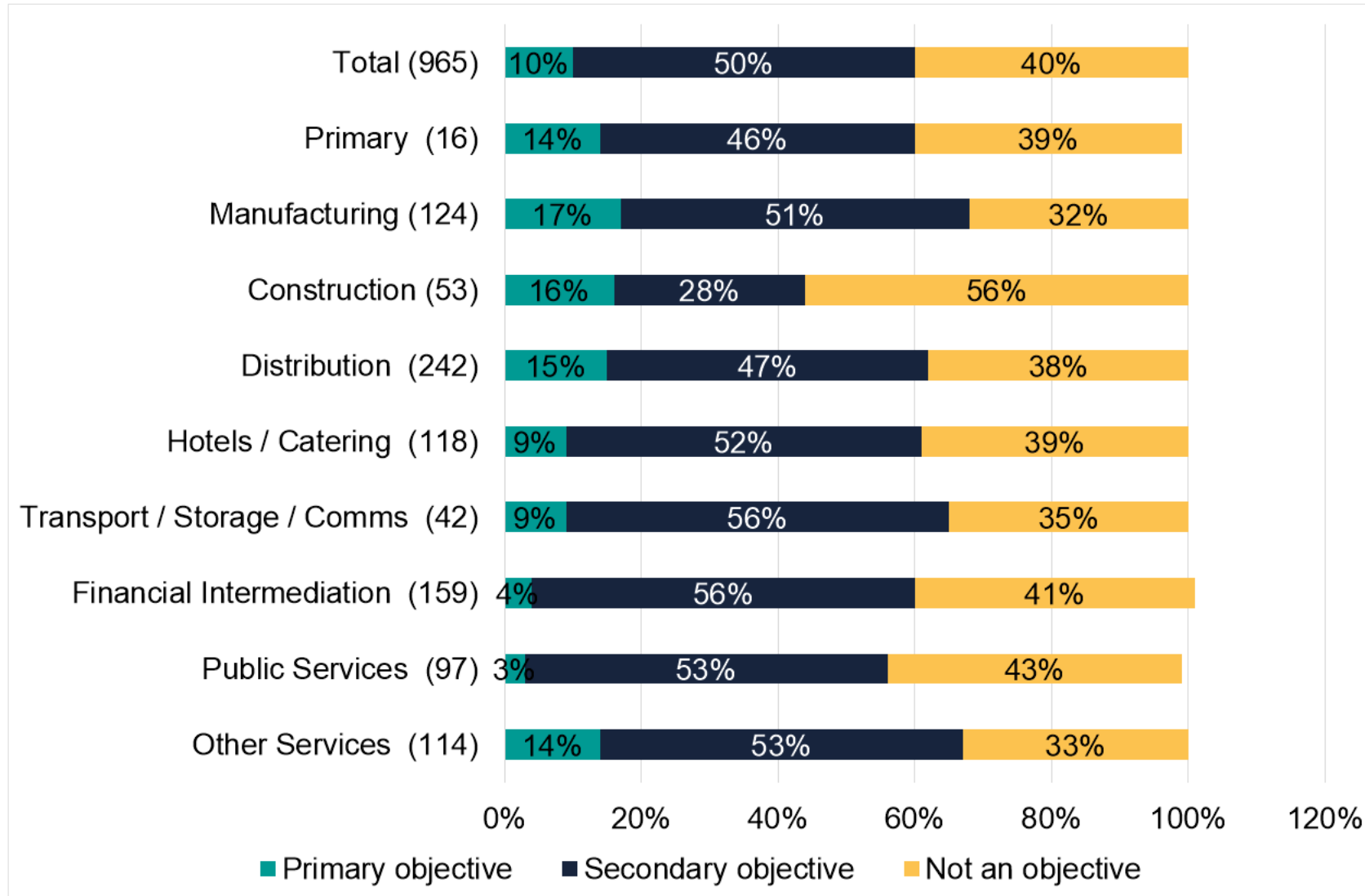
Technical / job specific skills are the most difficult to recruit

Figure: Which skills did you find difficult to recruit? All with hard to fill vacancies



60% of businesses see reducing carbon emissions as a primary / secondary objective

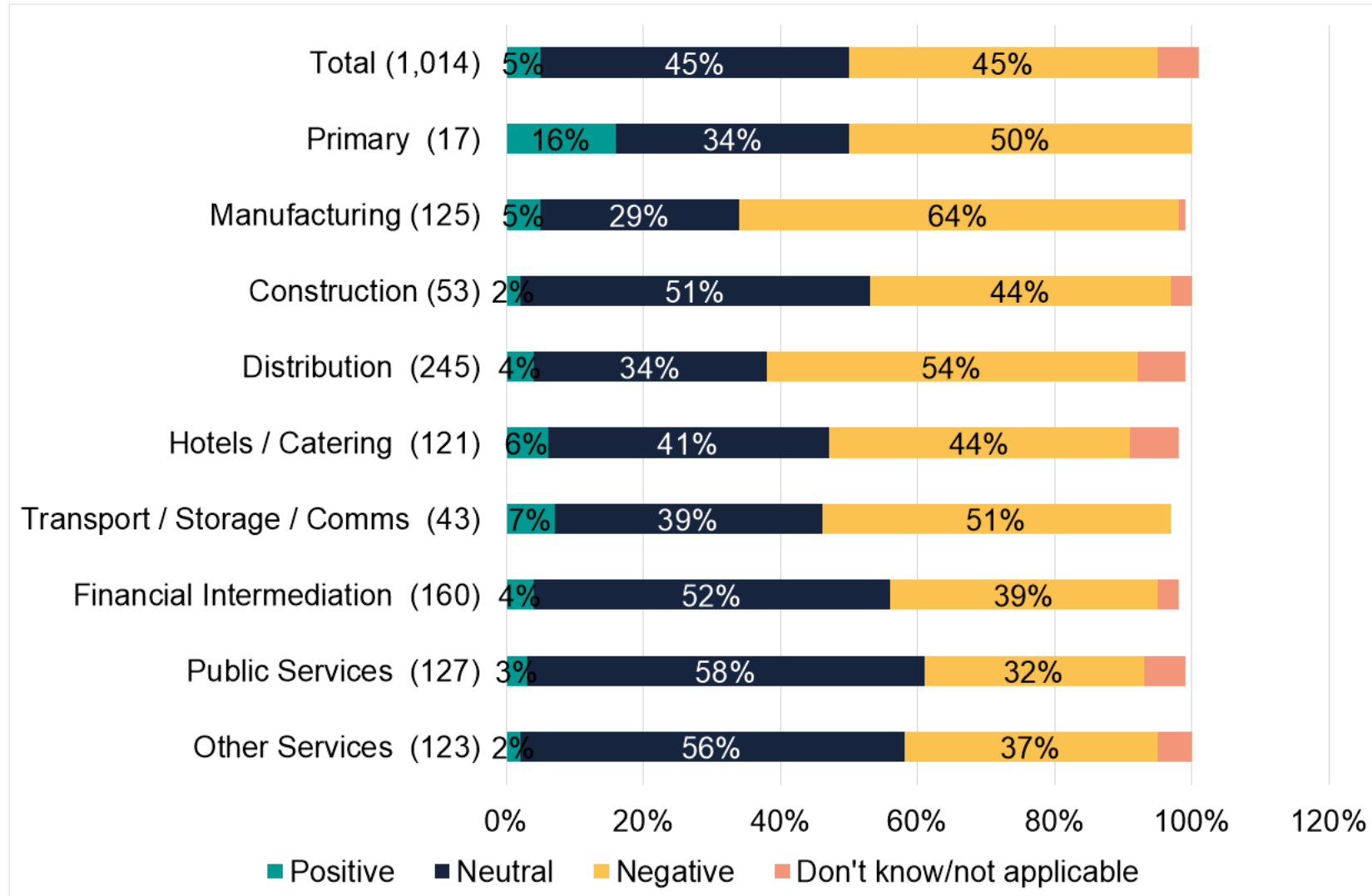
Figure: Is reducing carbon emissions or waste and water consumption a primary / secondary objective of your organisation?



Source: West Yorkshire Business Survey

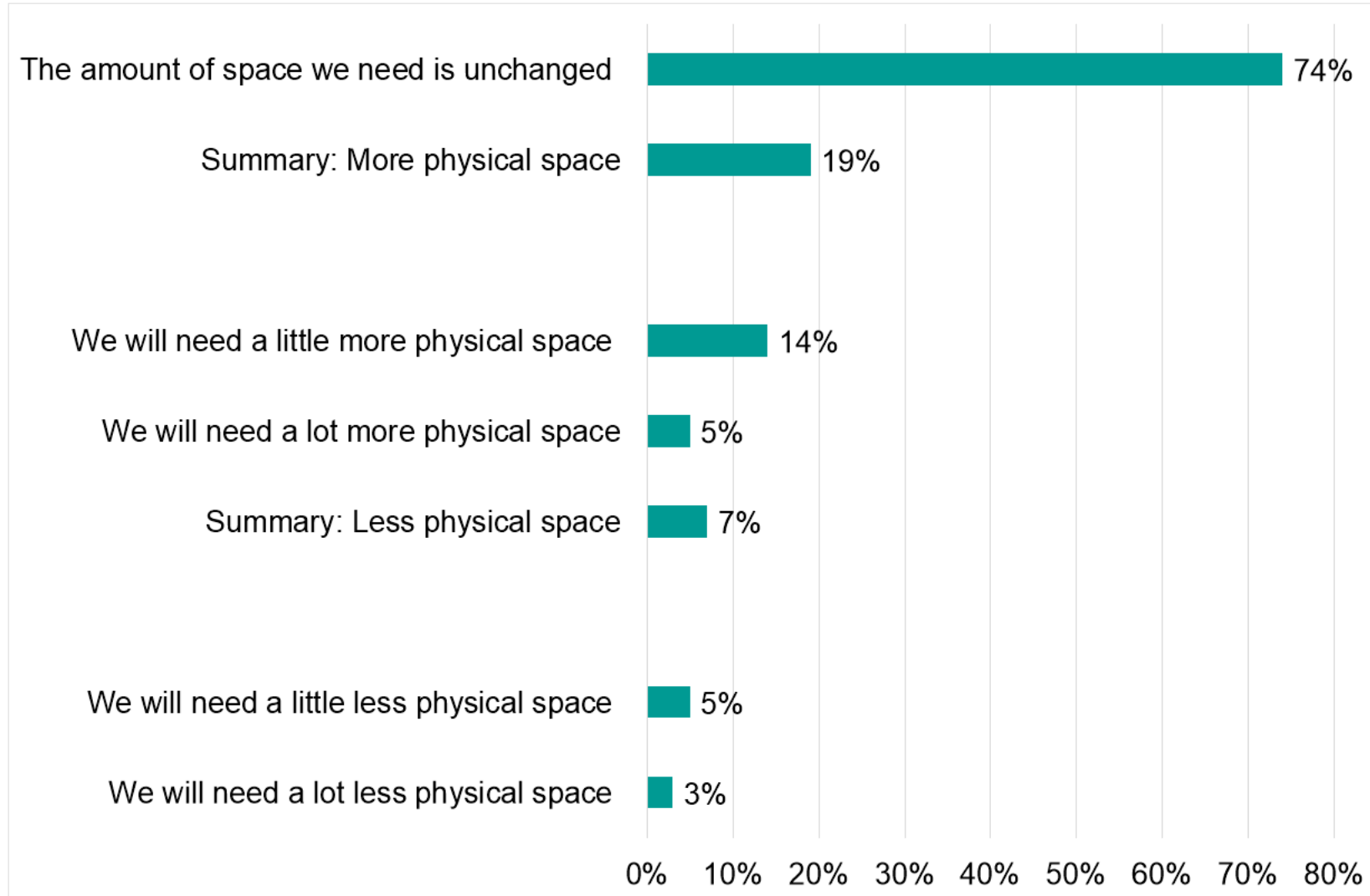
Manufacturing businesses are most likely to say that Brexit has had a negative impact

Figure: To date, has the UK's exit from the EU had a negative or positive impact on your business/organisation?



One fifth of organisations say they will need more space in the coming year

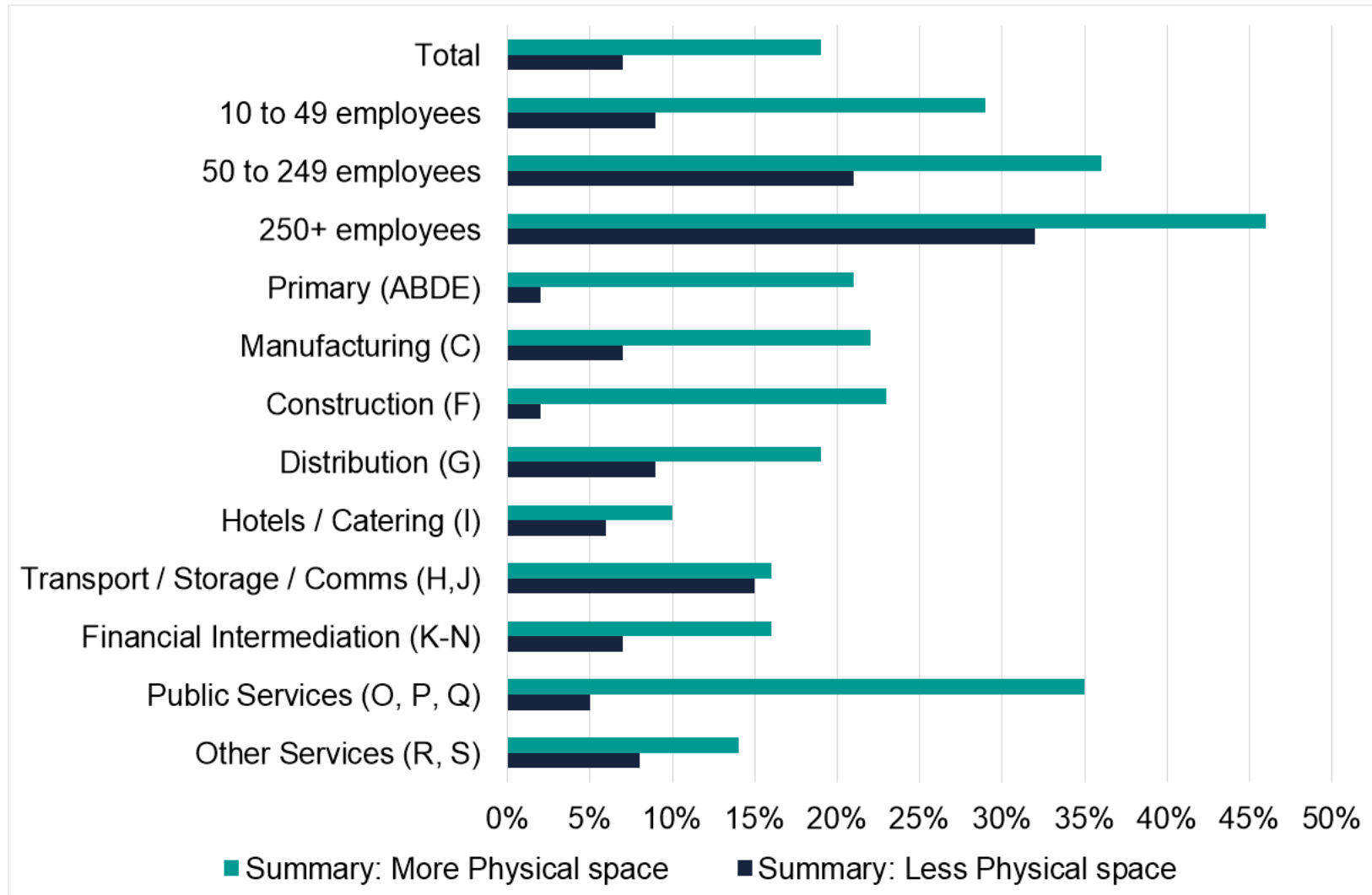
Figure: Over the next year, do you expect the amount of physical space needs to decrease or increase?



Source: West Yorkshire Business Survey

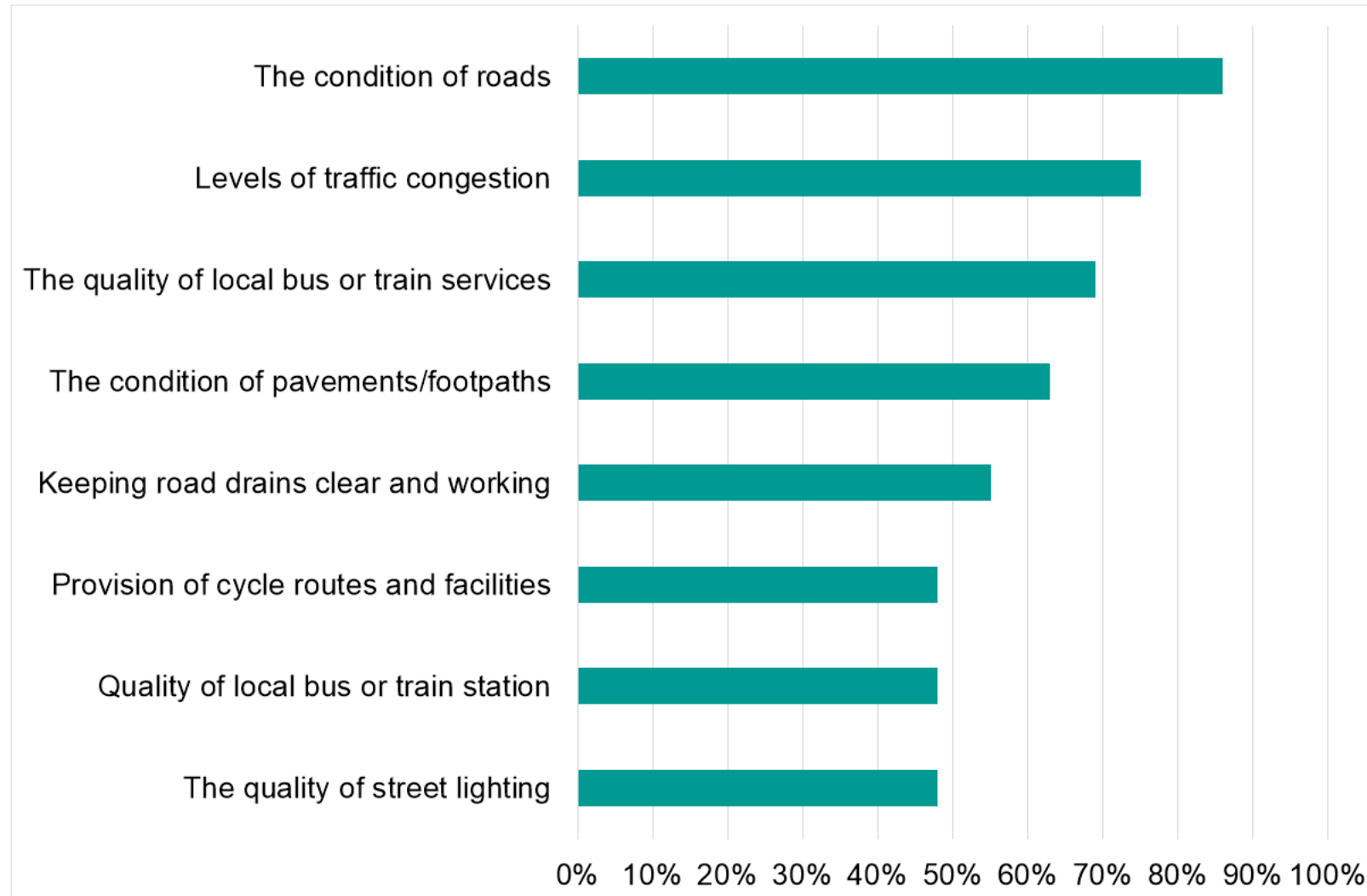
Medium size and larger business plus businesses in Transport/storage/comms sector are most likely to say that they need less physical space

Figure: Over the next year, do you expect the amount of physical space needs to decrease or increase?



Roads, congestion and bus / train services priorities for improvement in terms of infrastructure

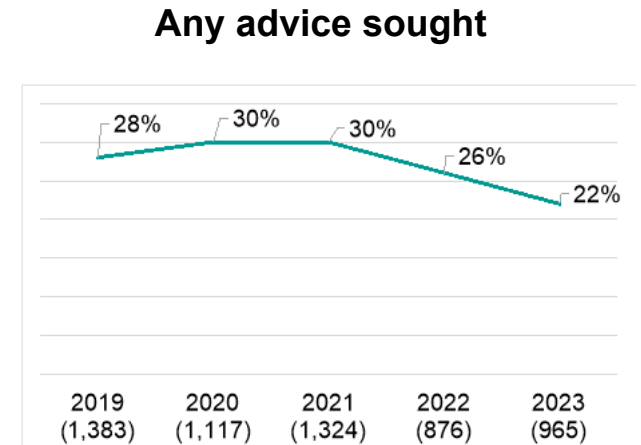
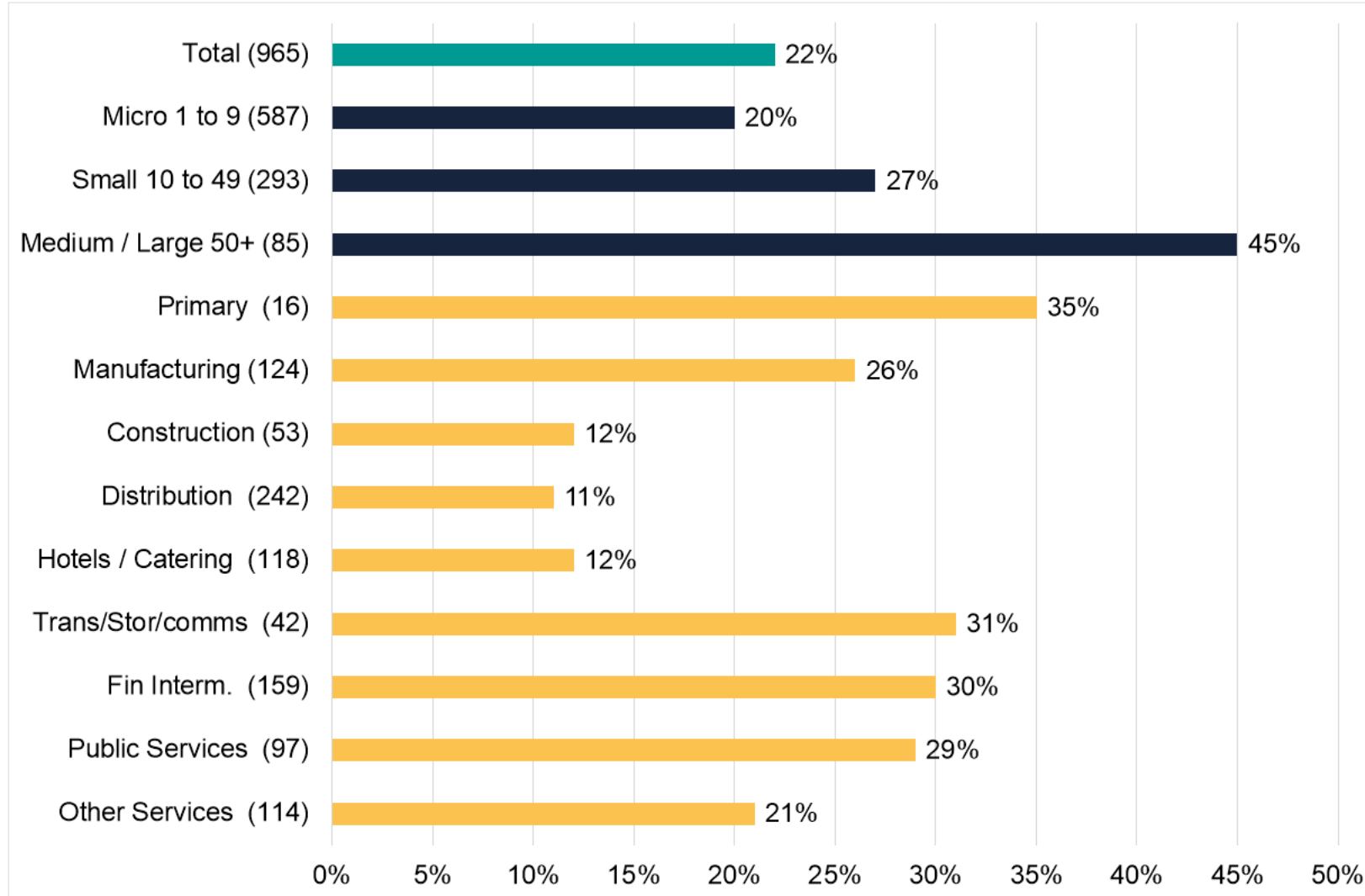
Figure: Thinking about the quality of the local highways and public transport infrastructure immediately surrounding your business premises, which of the following do you think need improvement?



Source: West Yorkshire Business Survey

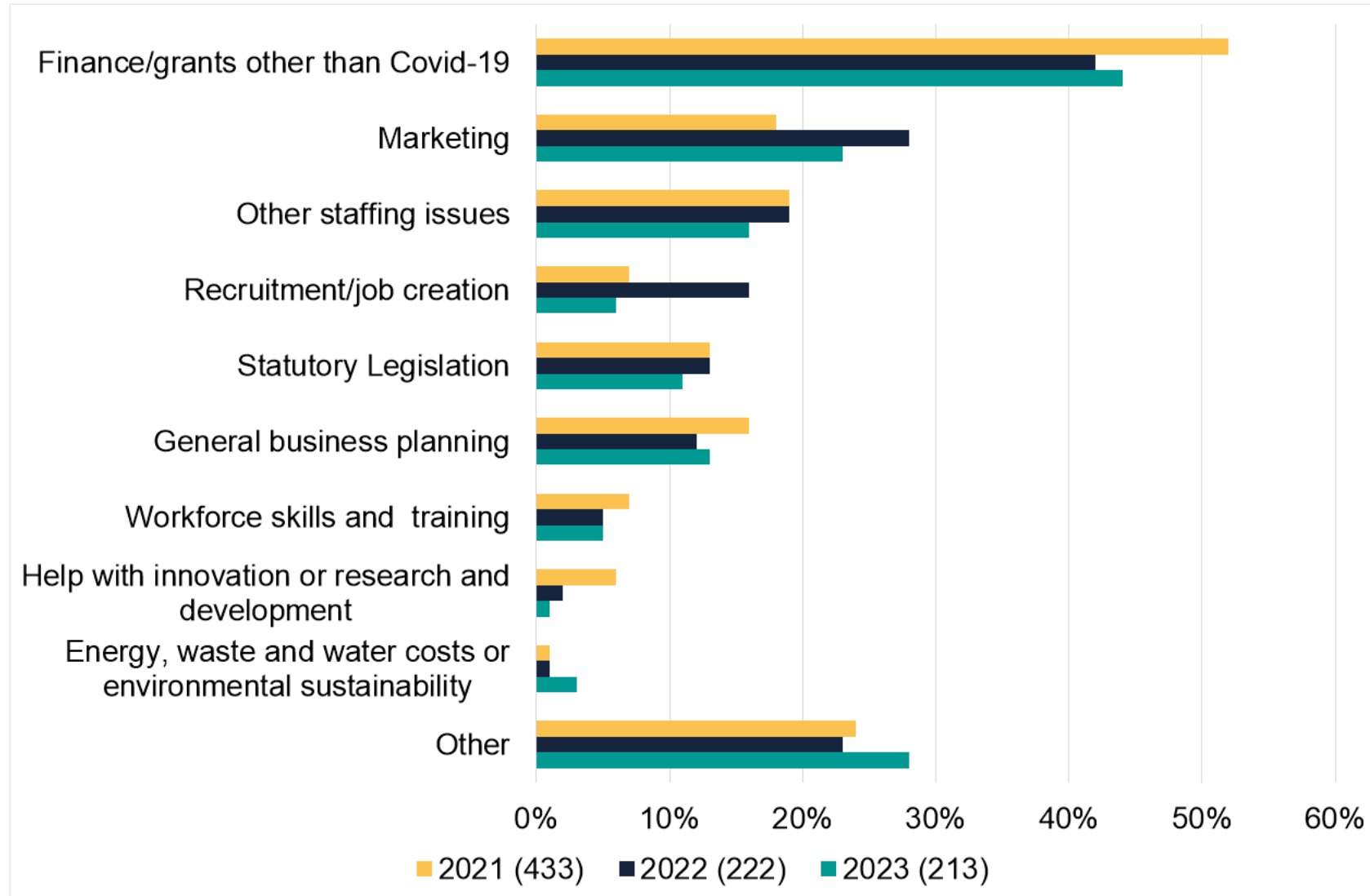
Proportion of businesses who have sought advice has fallen in last 2 years

Figure: Has your business/organisation sought any independent advice, on issues such as finance, marketing, legislation or staffing?



Businesses are most likely to seek advice on finance issues

Figure: For which areas of your business/organisation have you sought independent advice in the last 12 months?



Source: West Yorkshire Business Survey