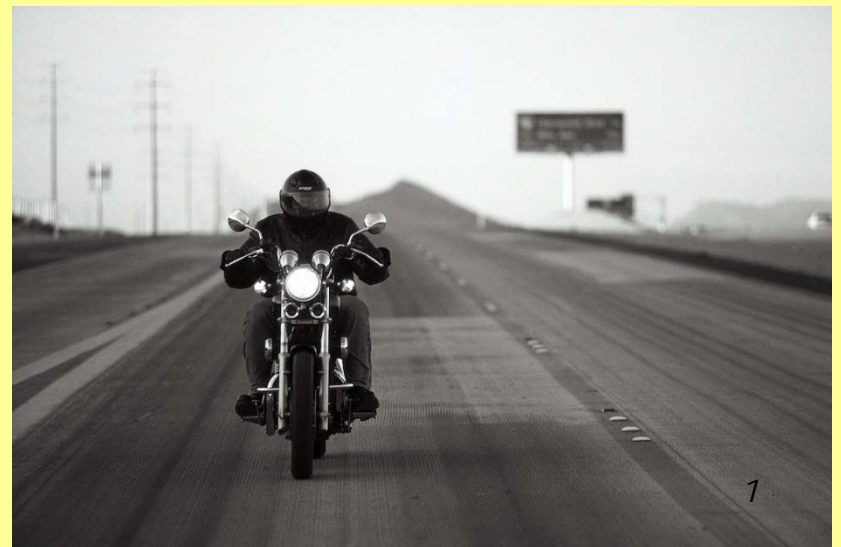


Motorcycle Safety Awareness Survey (Preliminary Results)

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Illinois Department of Transportation
Division of Traffic Safety

Presented at the Motorcycle Safety Winter Conference in
Springfield, IL





Goal

Reduce Motorcycle Related Crashes



What We Know about Motorcycles

- Motorcyclists have high death rates.
- Motorcycle deaths are increasing.
- Motorcycles are becoming more popular.
- 50% of motorcyclist deaths involved in Single vehicle crashes.
- Demographics--average age of riders is going up (37).
- Engine size is increasing—The higher the engine size, the higher the probability of being fatally injured.
- Alcohol use is a problem among motorcyclists.
- Rider safety training and education tend to reduce motorcycle related crashes (based on anecdotal information). It should be noted that the relationship between the rider training and reduction of crashes has not been established yet.




2011 Motorcycle Safety Objectives

- increase access to rider education programs
- Increase the proportion of motorcyclists who are properly licensed;
- reduce the number of motorcyclists riding while impaired;
- increase motorcyclists' visibility;
- increase helmet usage; and
- increase other motorists' awareness of motorcyclist



Highlights of Activities and Accomplishments in 2011

- Coordinated with other highway safety programs during major safety campaigns (CIOT, YD&DYL, and Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.
- Student training has increased from 16,701 in 2009 to 20,216 in 2010, an increase of 21%.
- Educational outreach has increased through educational/promotional events from 3 per year to 13 events in 2011.
- Produced and aired first public informational videos for television in 2010 and 2011. Allocated over \$280,000 for Radio and TV Advertisements.
- Developed and went online with www.STARTSEEINGMOTORCYCLES.org web site.
- Developed and distributed a **new “START SEEING MOTORCYLES”** and **“DON’T DRINK AND RIDE”** poster for distribution at various locations statewide.



Current Status of Motorcycle Related Crashes

Figure 1: Motorcyclist Fatalities

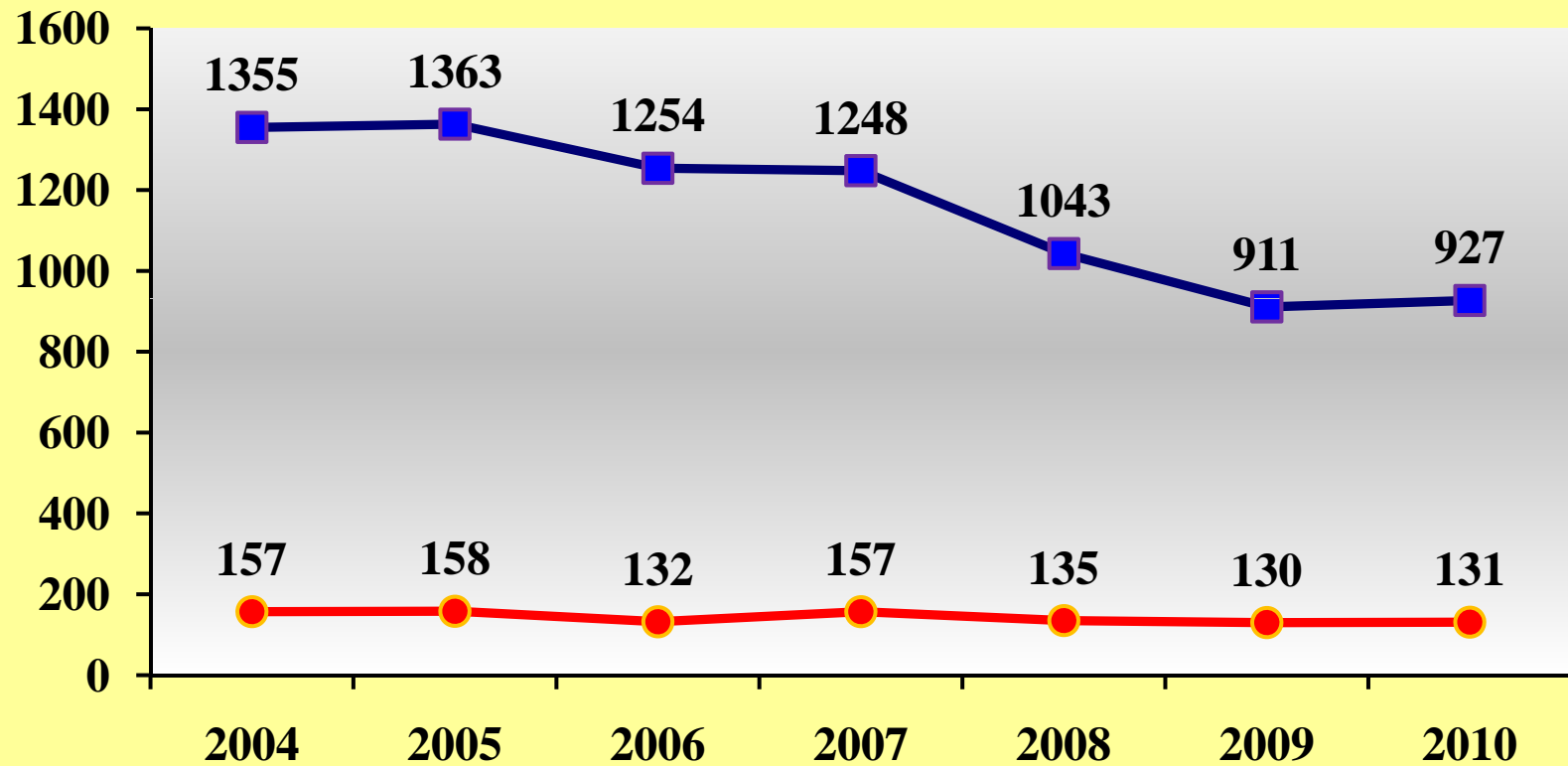


Figure 2: Motorcycle Fatalities, Total Injuries, and A-Injuries by Age Group (2005-2009)

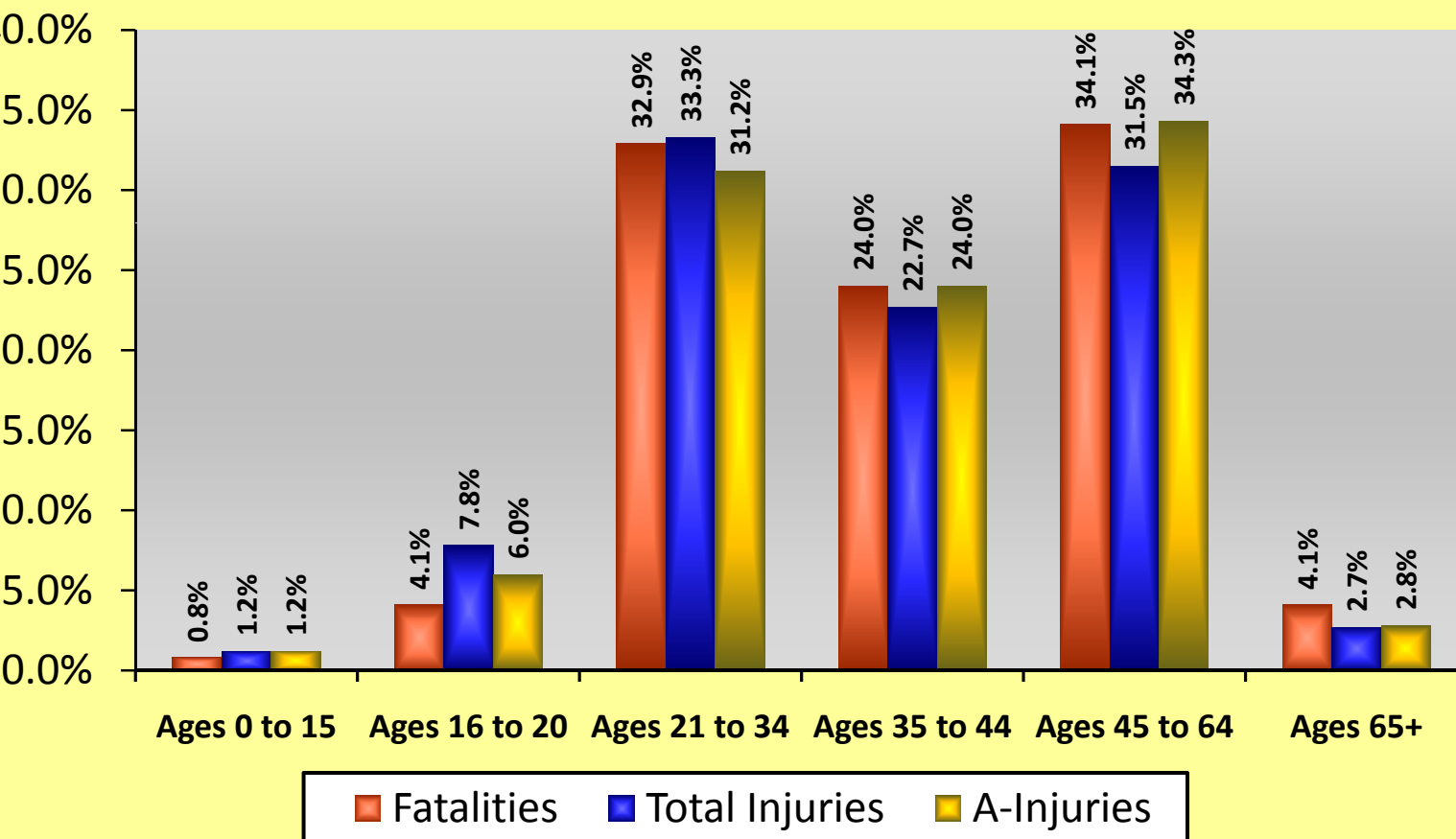


Figure 3: Percent Fatalities by BAC Test Results (2005-2009)

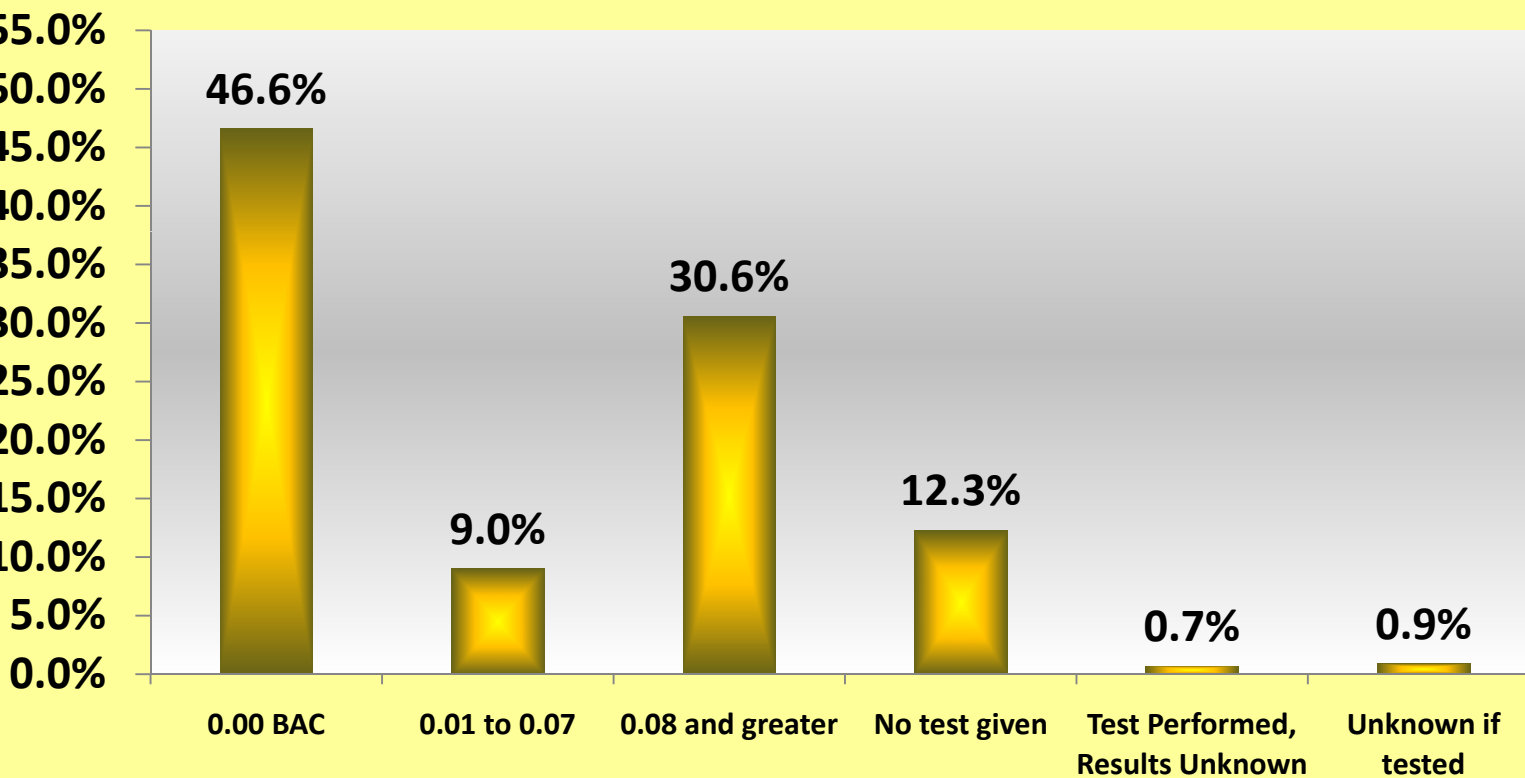


Figure 4: Motorcycle Fatalities, Total Injuries, and A-Injuries by 23 County Model Location (2005-2009)

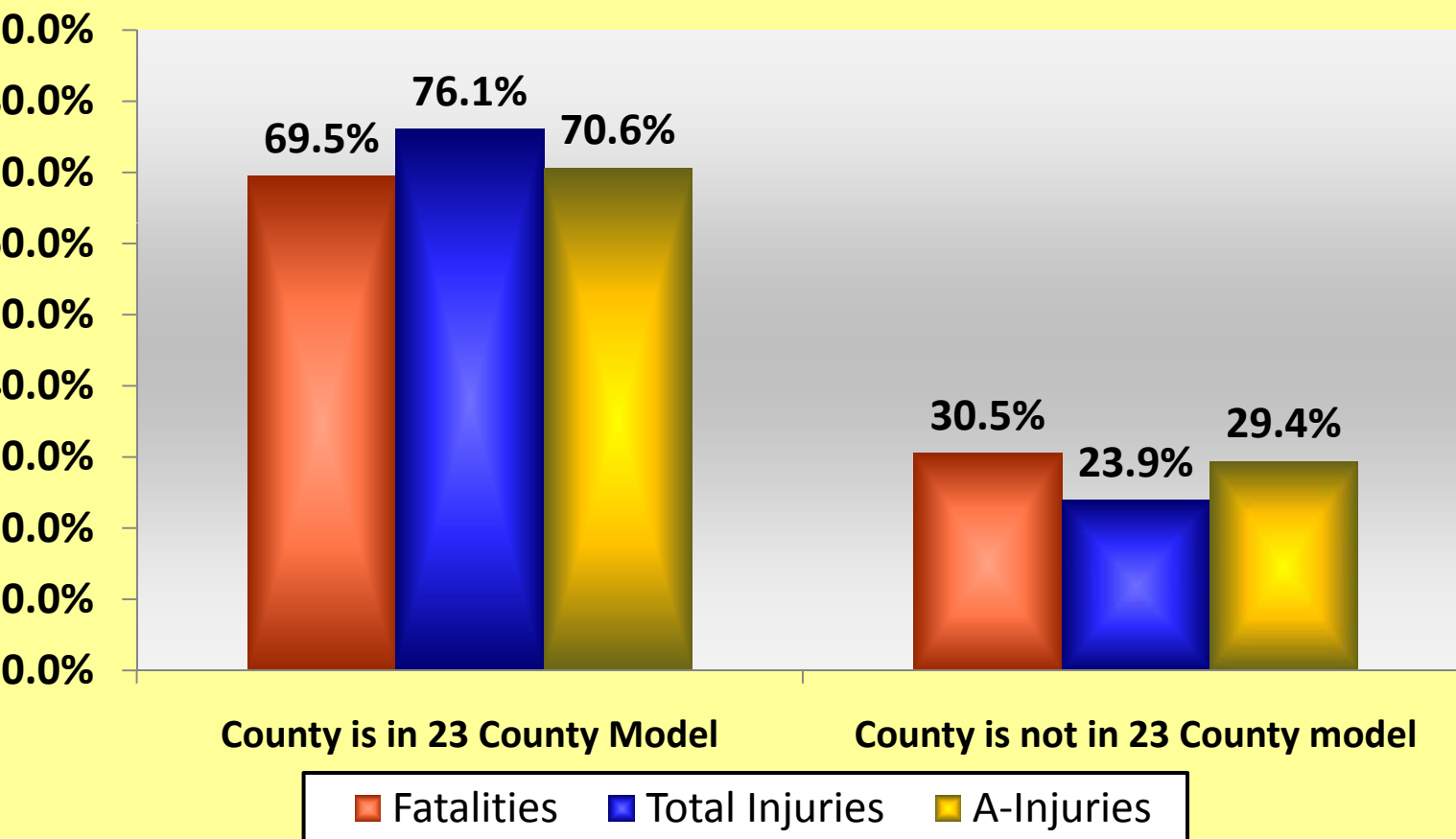


Figure 5: Motorcycle Fatalities, Total Injuries, and A-Injuries by Time of Day (2005-2009)

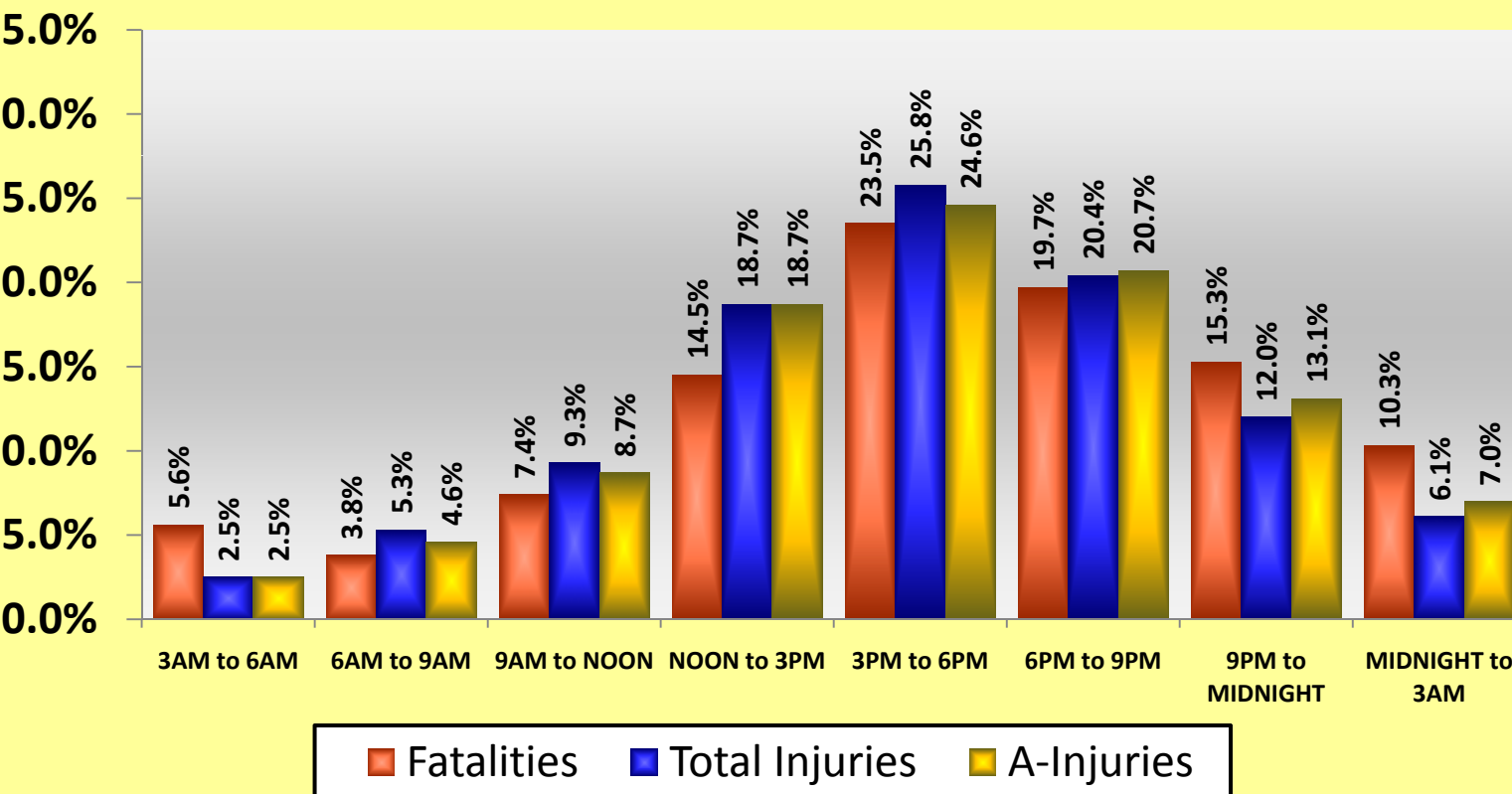
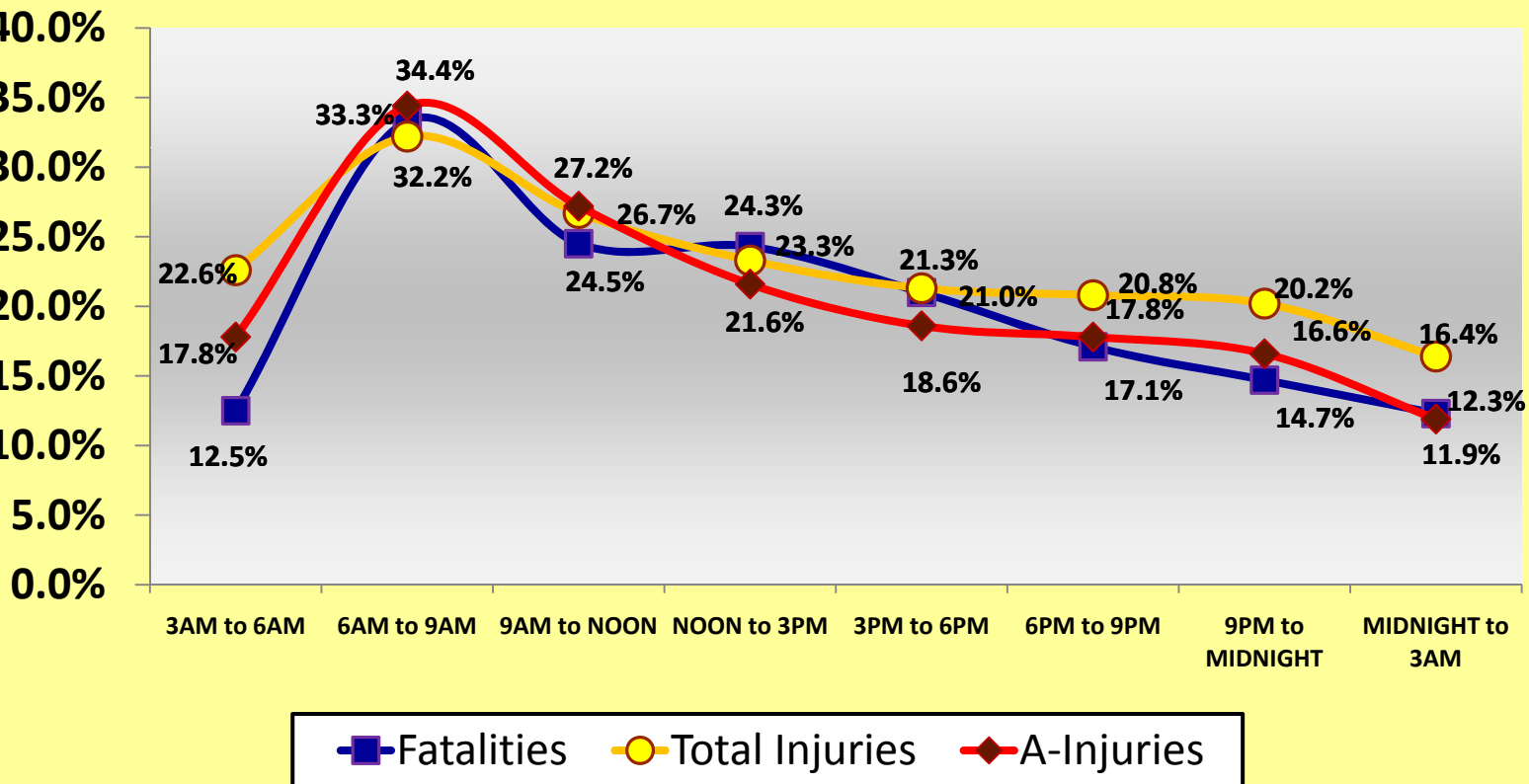
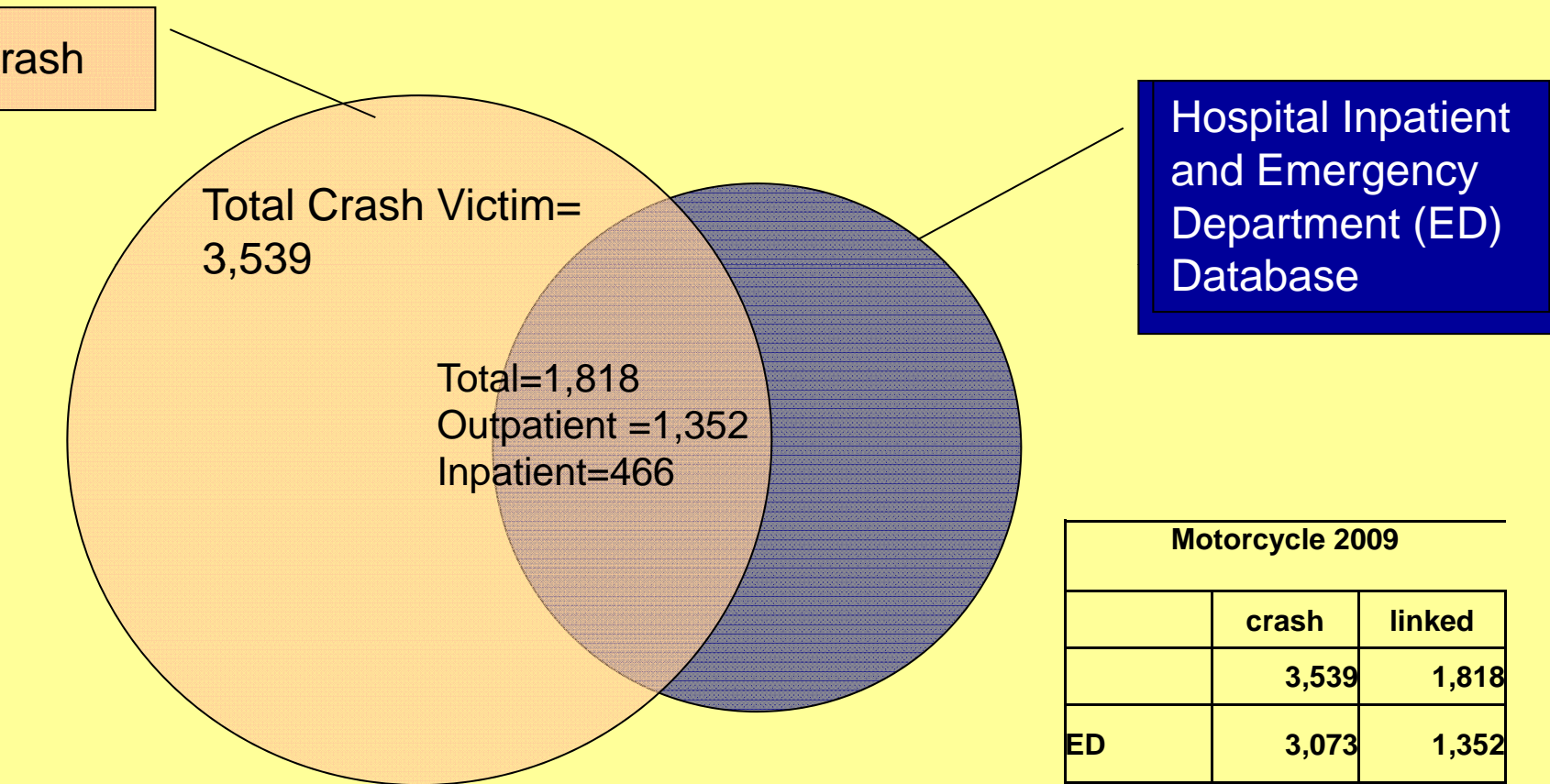


Figure 6: Motorcycle Helmet Use for Fatalities, Total Injuries, and A-Injuries by Time of Day (2005-2009)



Linked Data Process in 2009



Motorcycle 2009		
	crash	linked
	3,539	1,818
ED	3,073	1,352
Inpatient	2187	466

Table 1: Average Hospital Charge Per Discharge by Helmet Status

	Helmeted	Not Helmeted	Percent Difference
Inpatient discharge	\$60,317	\$70,840	17.5%
Outpatient discharge (ED)	\$5,550	\$7,177	29.3%
Total Hospital discharge	\$19,004	\$25,061	31.9%

Motorcycle Awareness Survey

IDOT conducted a web-based survey to gather information about motorcycle rider characteristics, experiences and preferences to develop strategies to improve the existing motorcycle safety program in Illinois. The survey questions included the following issues:

- Demographics
- Vehicle characteristics
- Safety issues
- Helmet use
- Previous crashes
- Purpose of riding (e.g., work or pleasure)
- Training status
- Awareness of other highway safety issues

Survey Questionnaire (September/October 2011)

Prepared a draft Survey Questionnaire.

Revised the survey questionnaire based on comments we received from you.

Tested the Questionnaire.

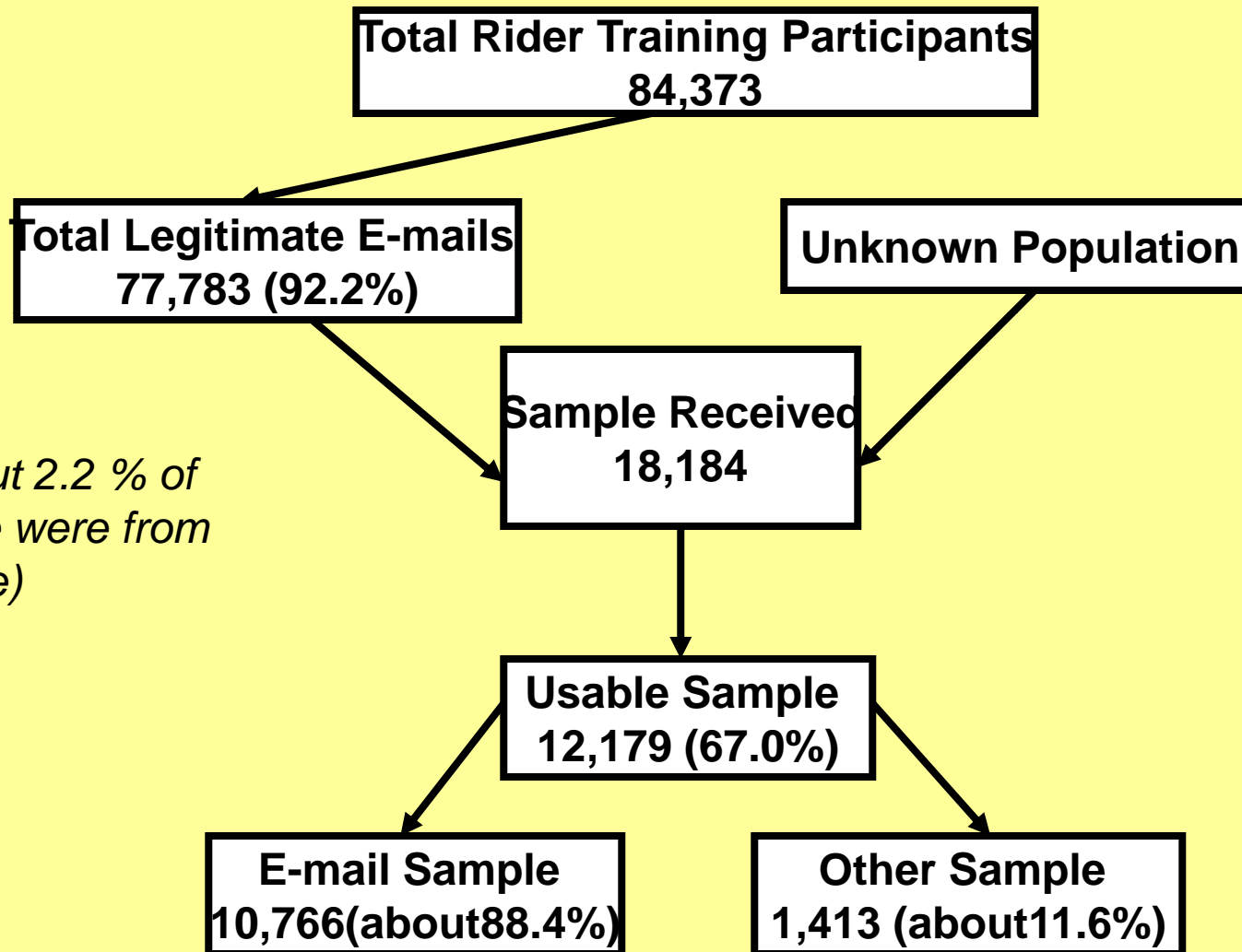
Designed web-based survey through BIP at IDOT.

Received email addresses of all those who took motorcycle riding classes during the last three years.

Sent out an email to all those individuals with legitimate email addresses along with a link to our web-based survey.

Placed the survey link on several websites.

Population and Sample



About 2.2 % of sample were from (off-state)

Figure 7: Comparisons of Motorcycle License Holders, Motorcycle Crashes, and Motorcycle Opinion Survey Participants by Age Group in Illinois

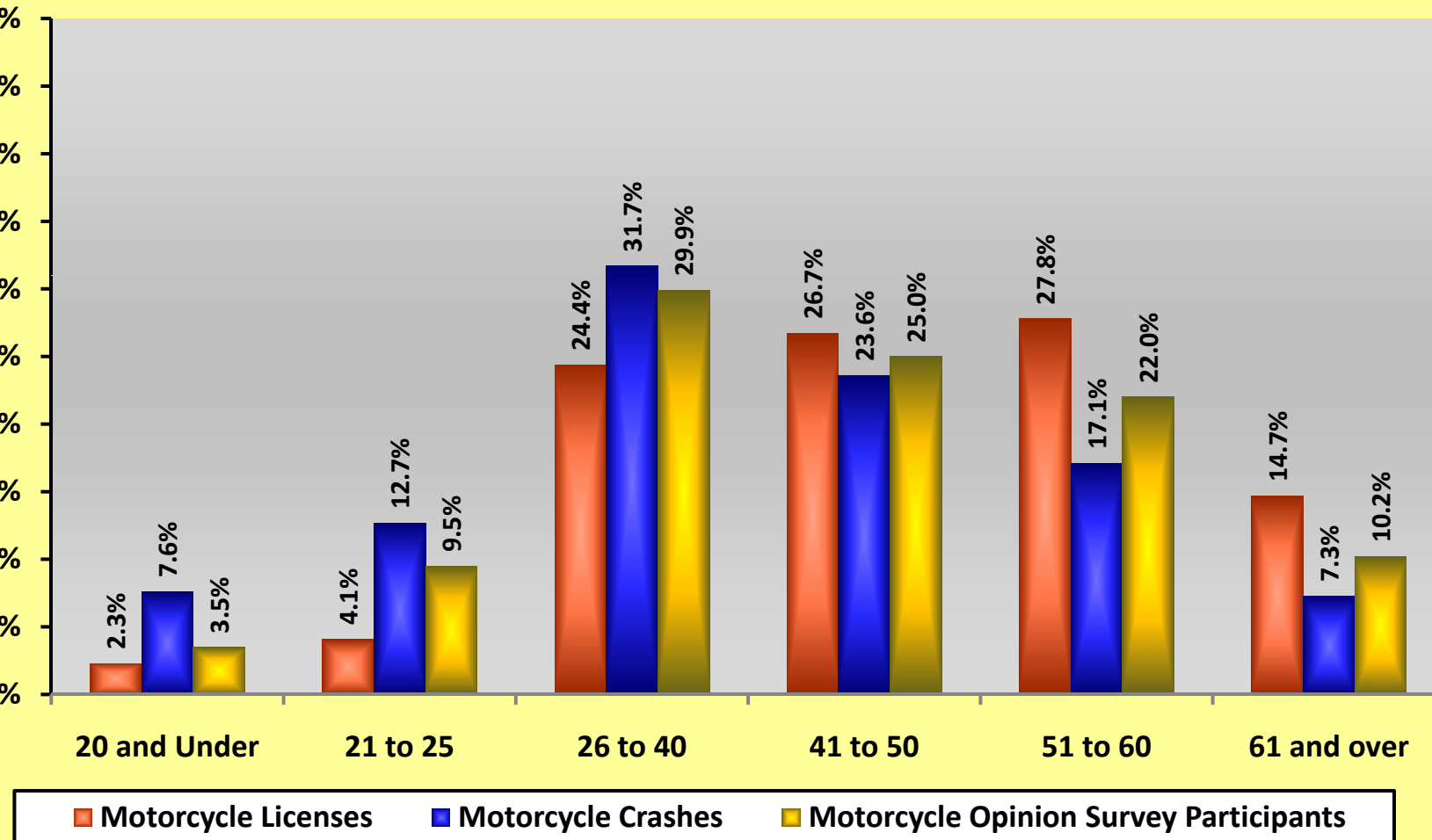
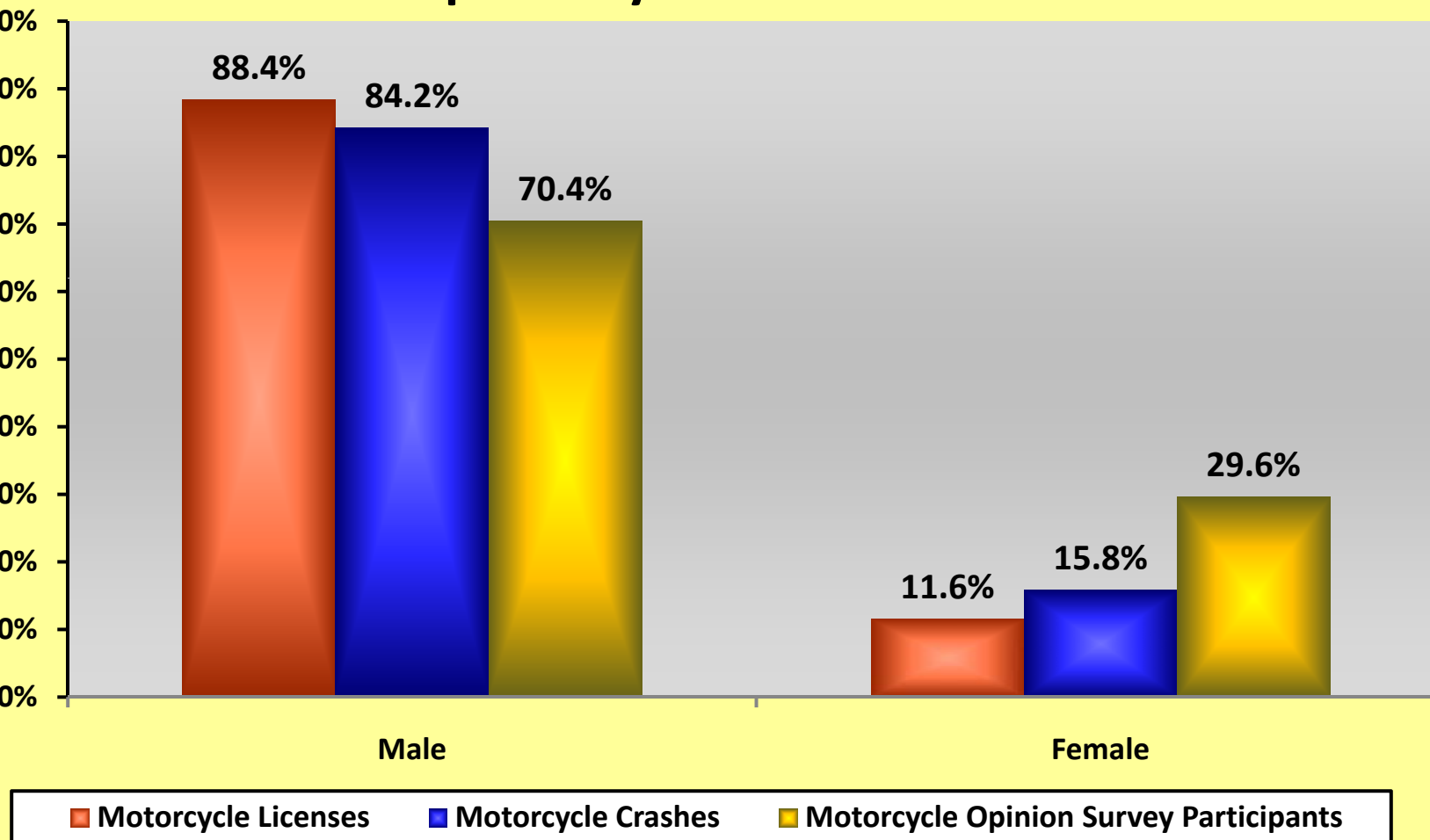


Figure 8: Comparisons of Motorcycle License Holders, Motorcycle Crashes, and Motorcycle Opinion Survey Participants by Gender in Illinois



Survey Results

- **Frequency and percentage distributions of all selected questions by those took the riding classes versus those who didn't.**

Figure 9: "Your Gender:"

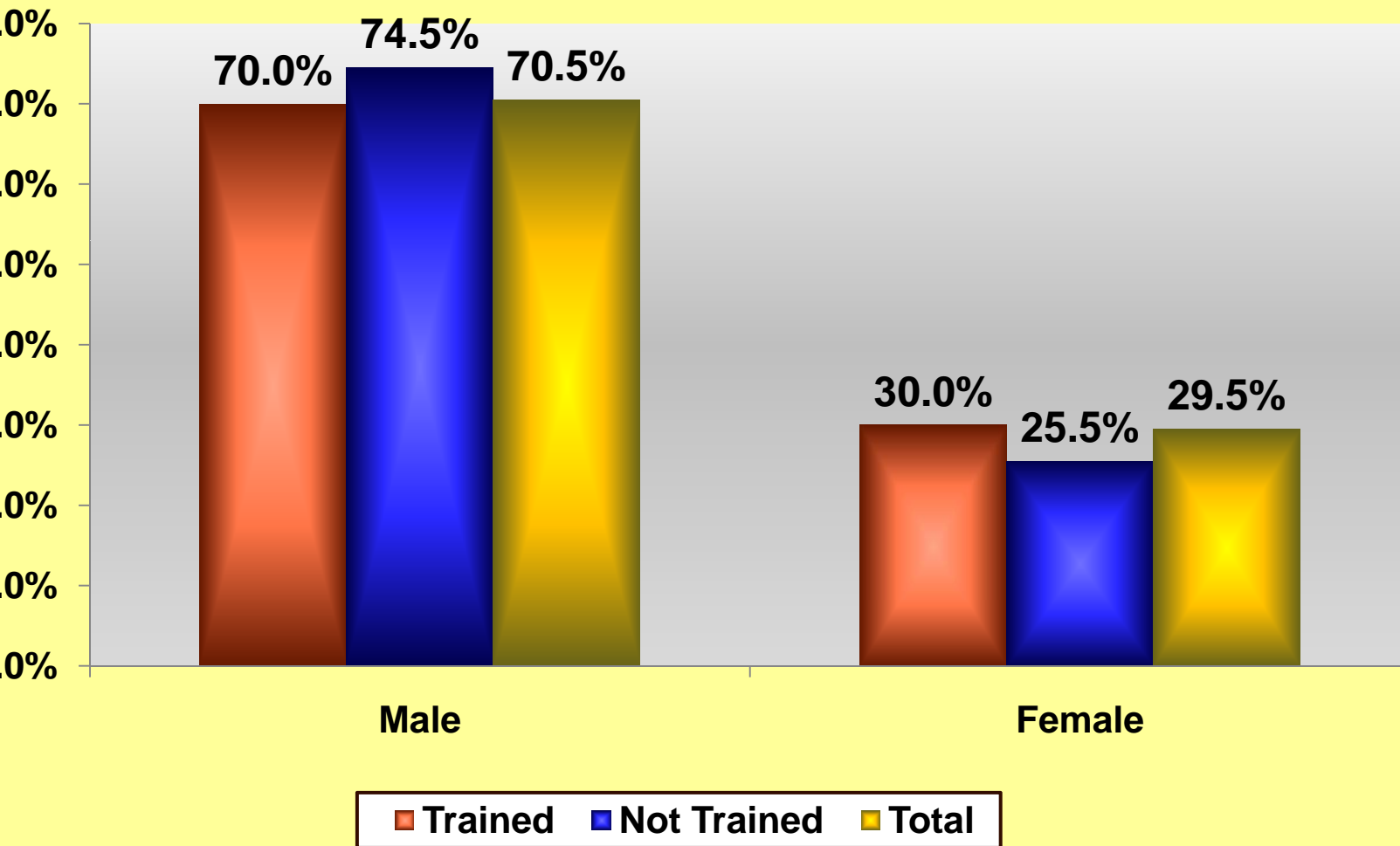


Figure 10: "Your Age:"

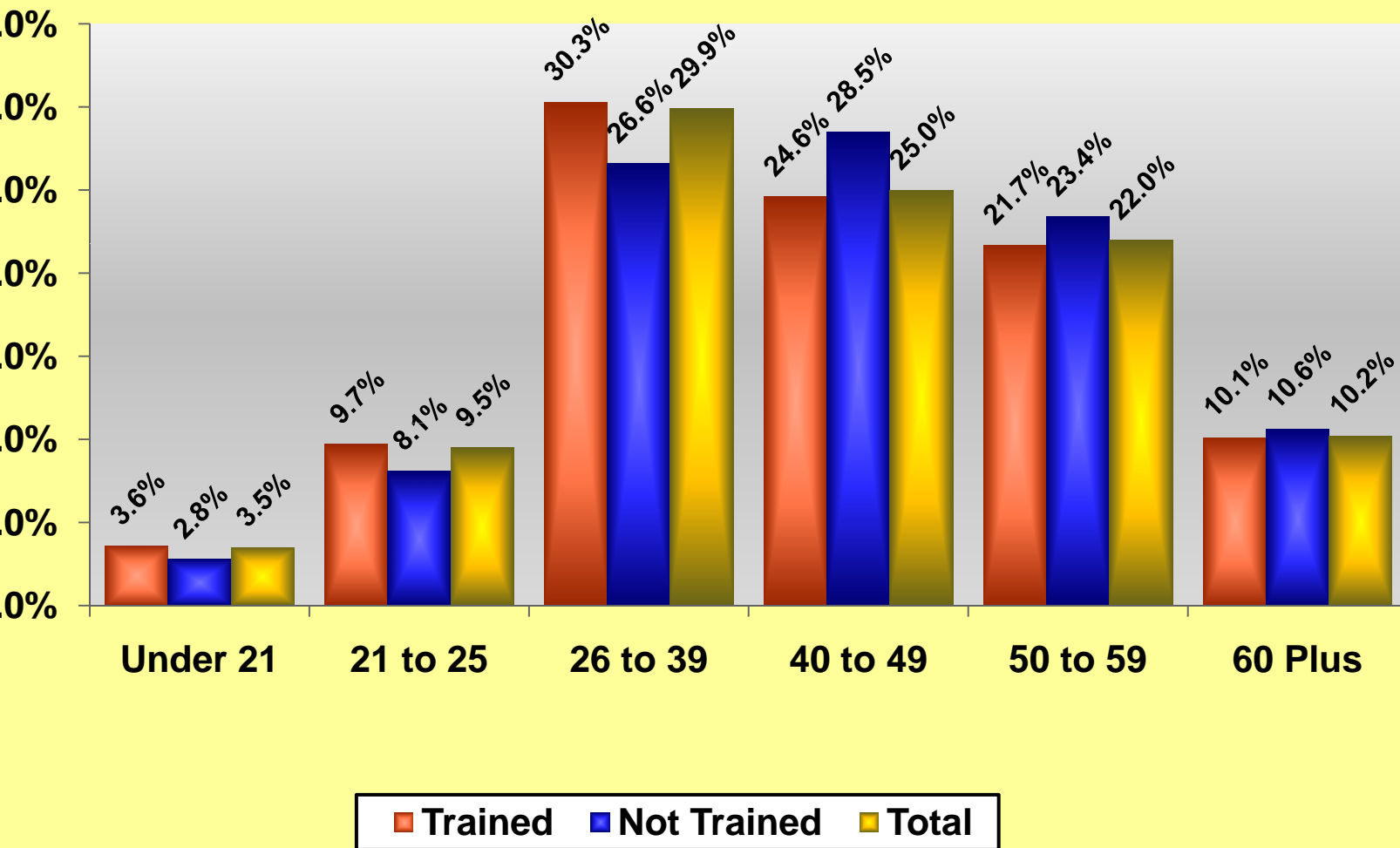


Figure 11: "Your Race:"

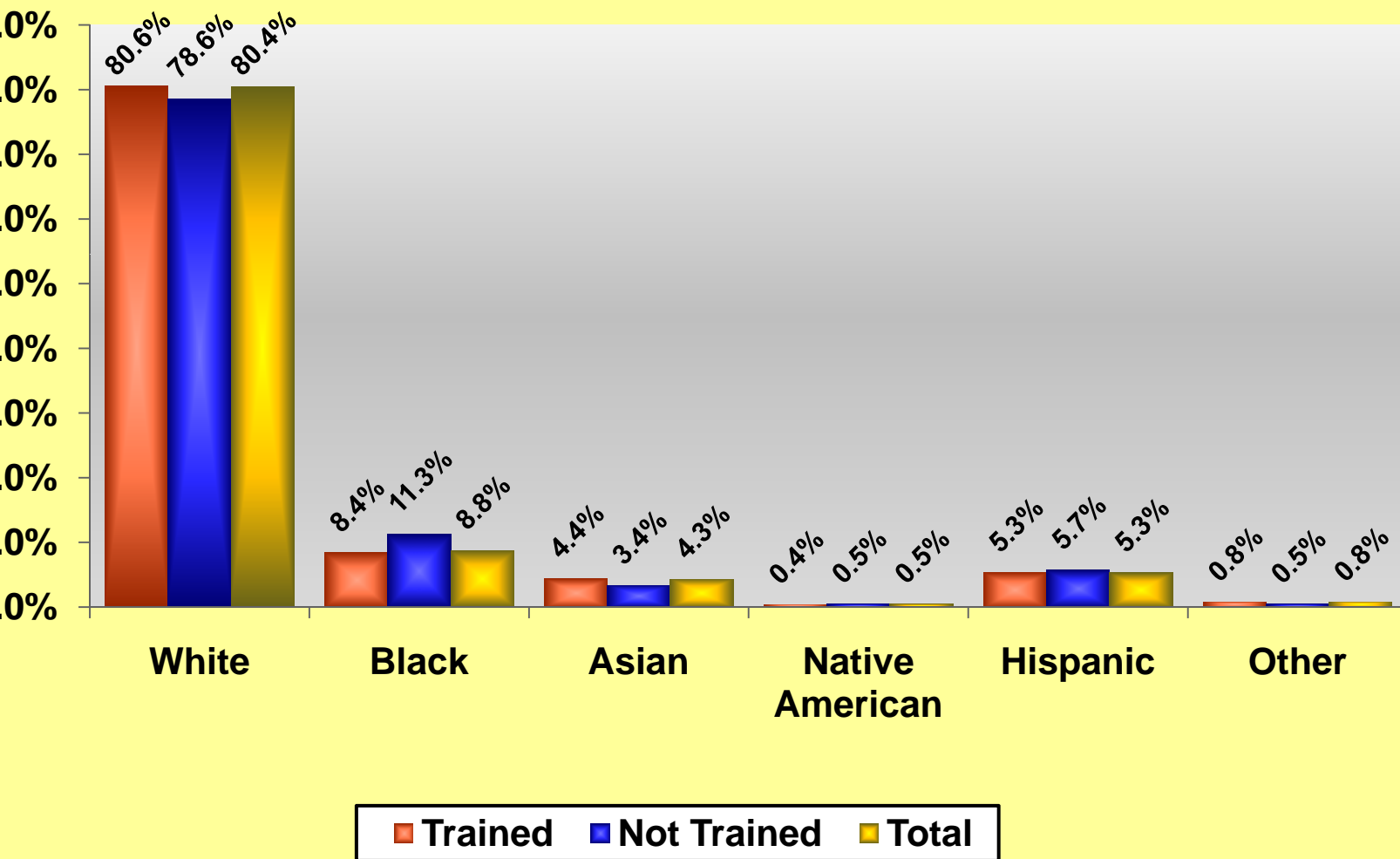


Figure 12: “Do You Own a Motorcycle?”

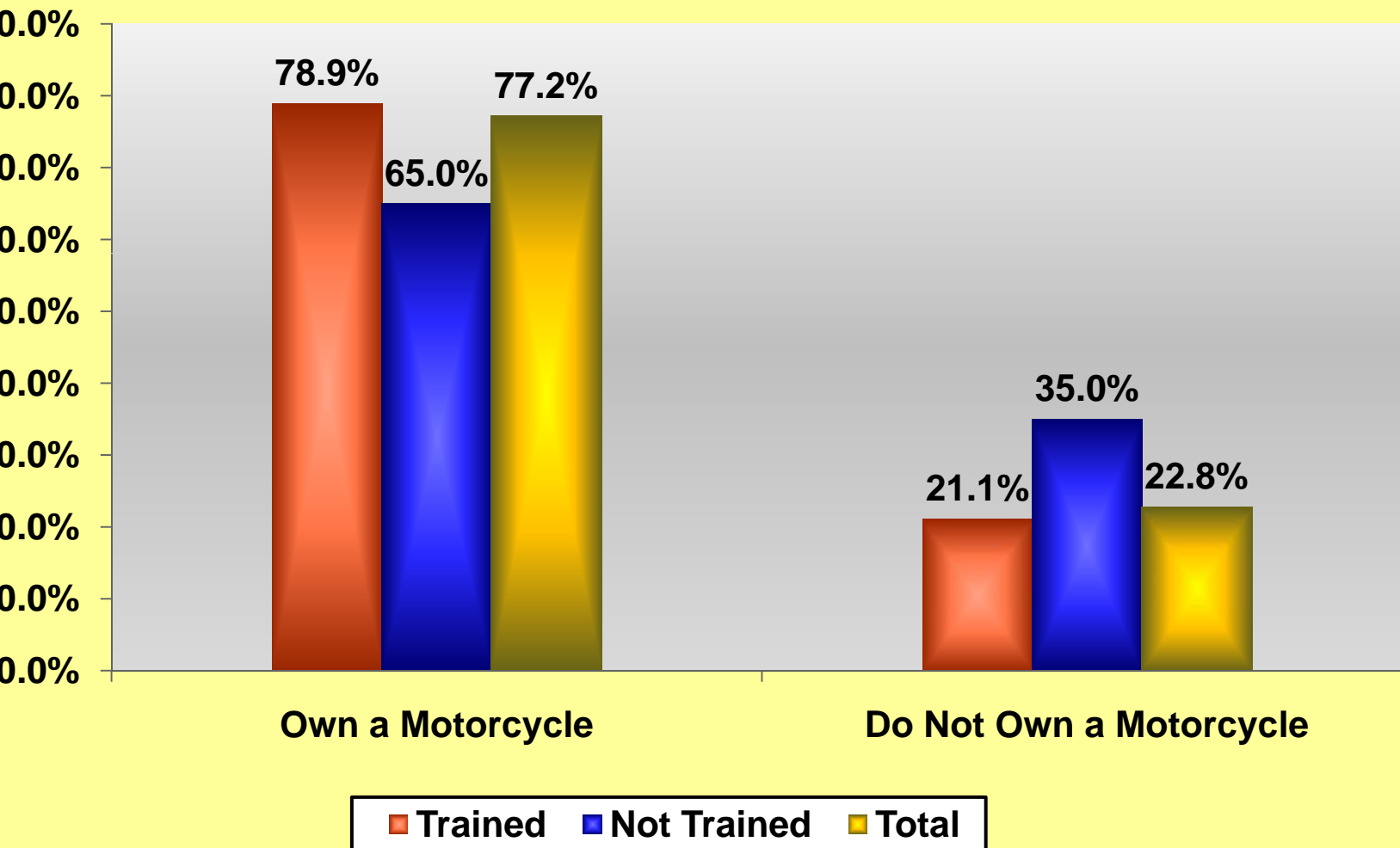


Figure 13: “If yes to question 6, what type of motorcycle do you own?”

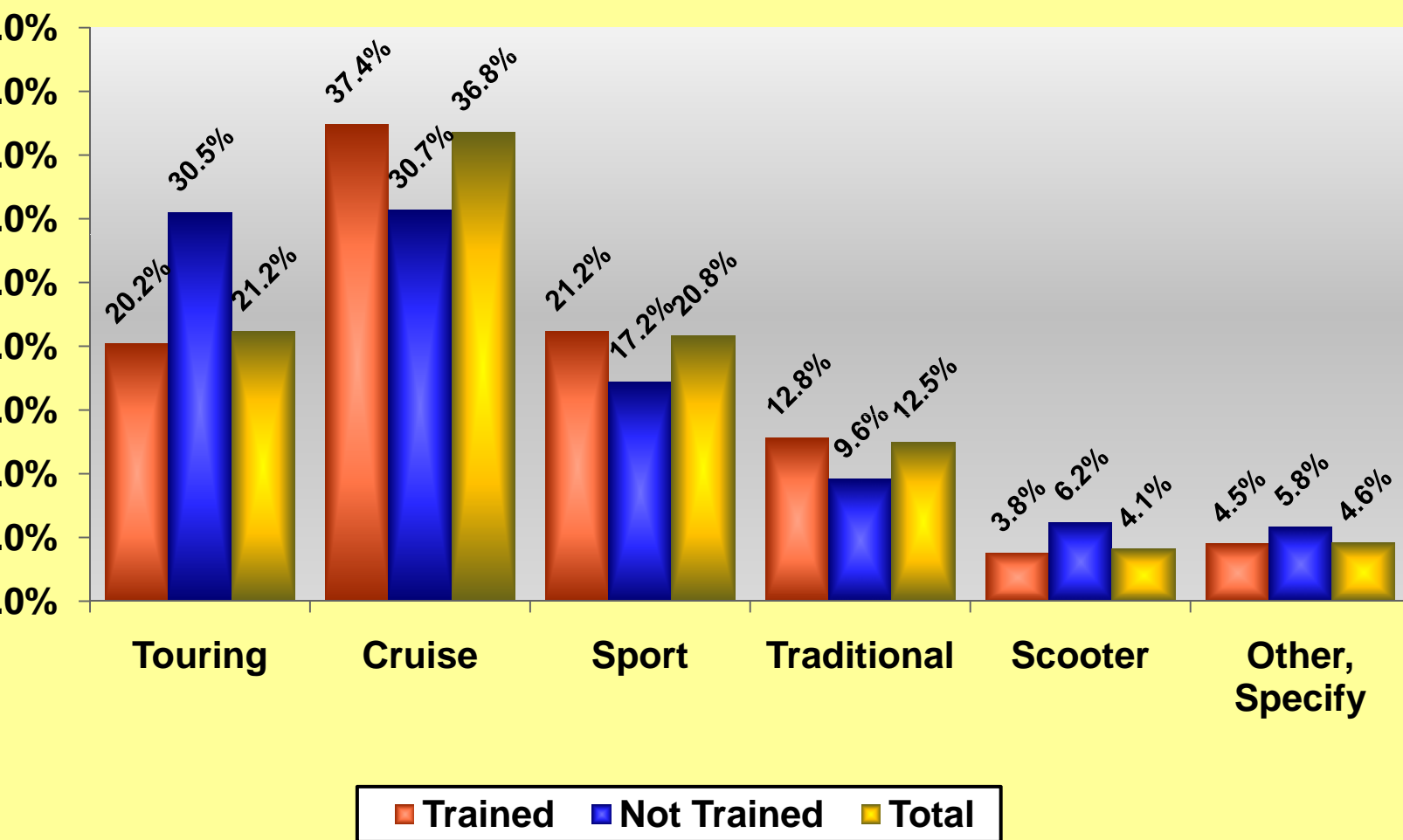


Figure 14: “Do you have a motorcycle license?”

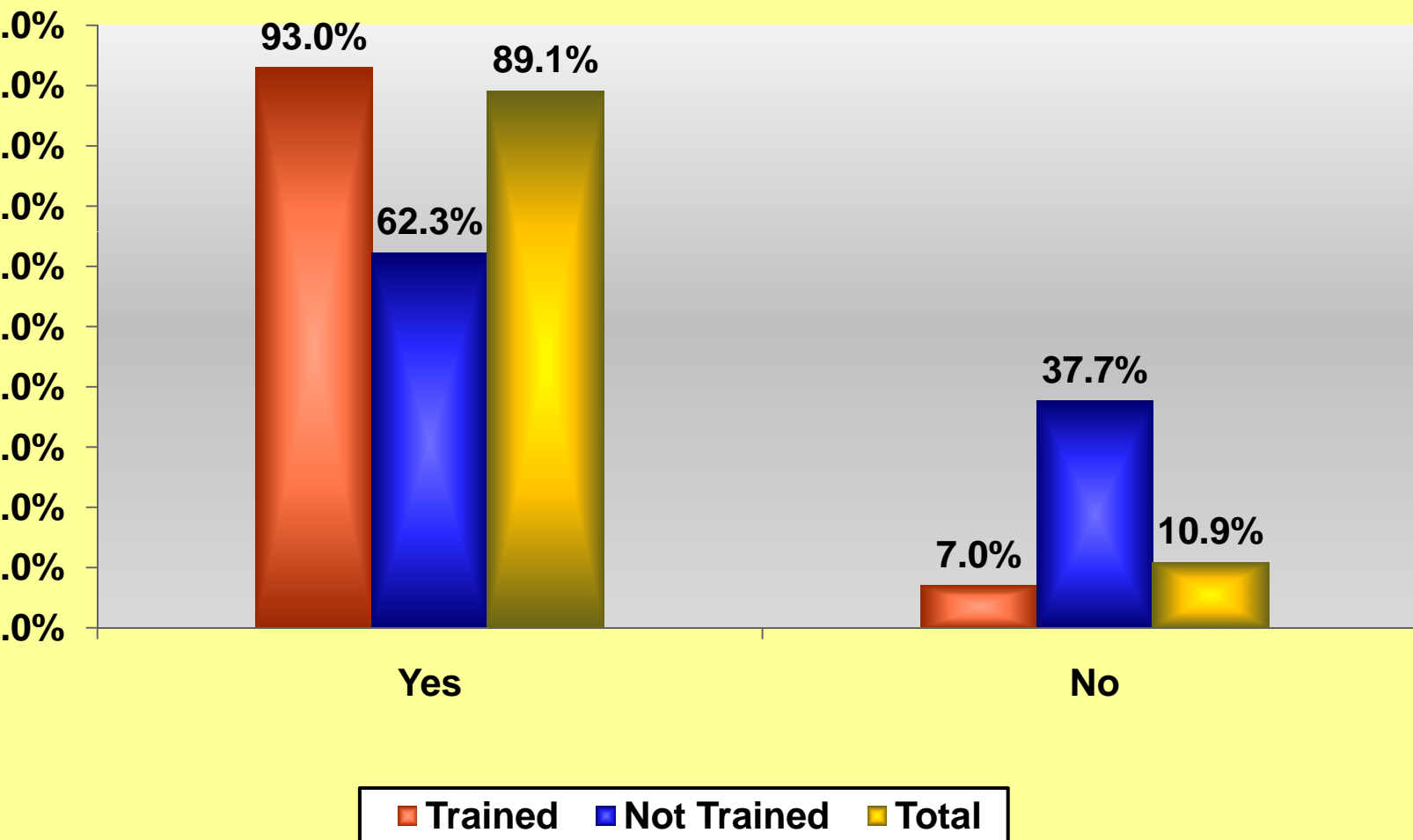


Figure 15: “If yes to question 10, what type of motorcycle license do you own?”

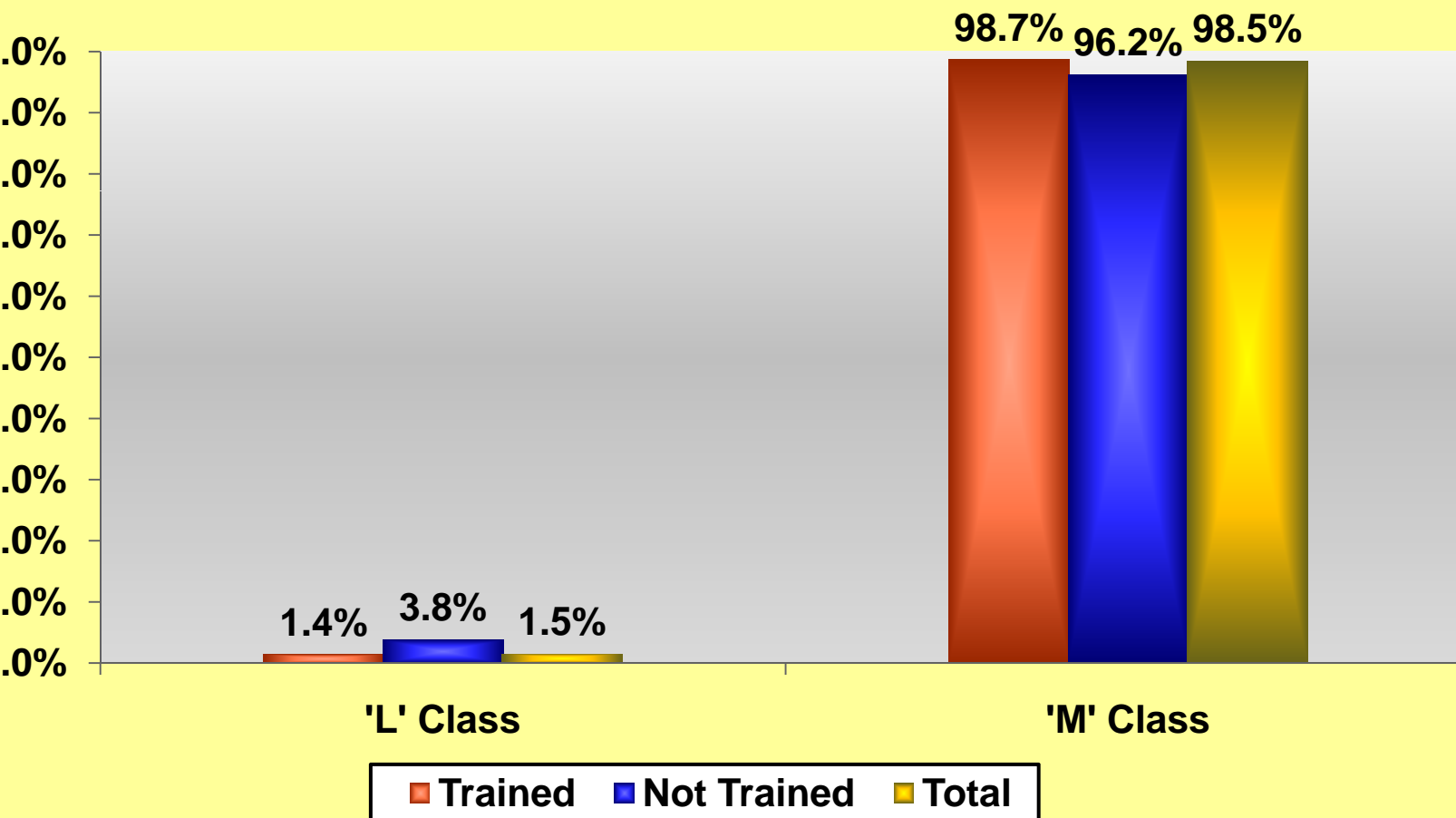


Figure 16: “How did you get your motorcycle license?”

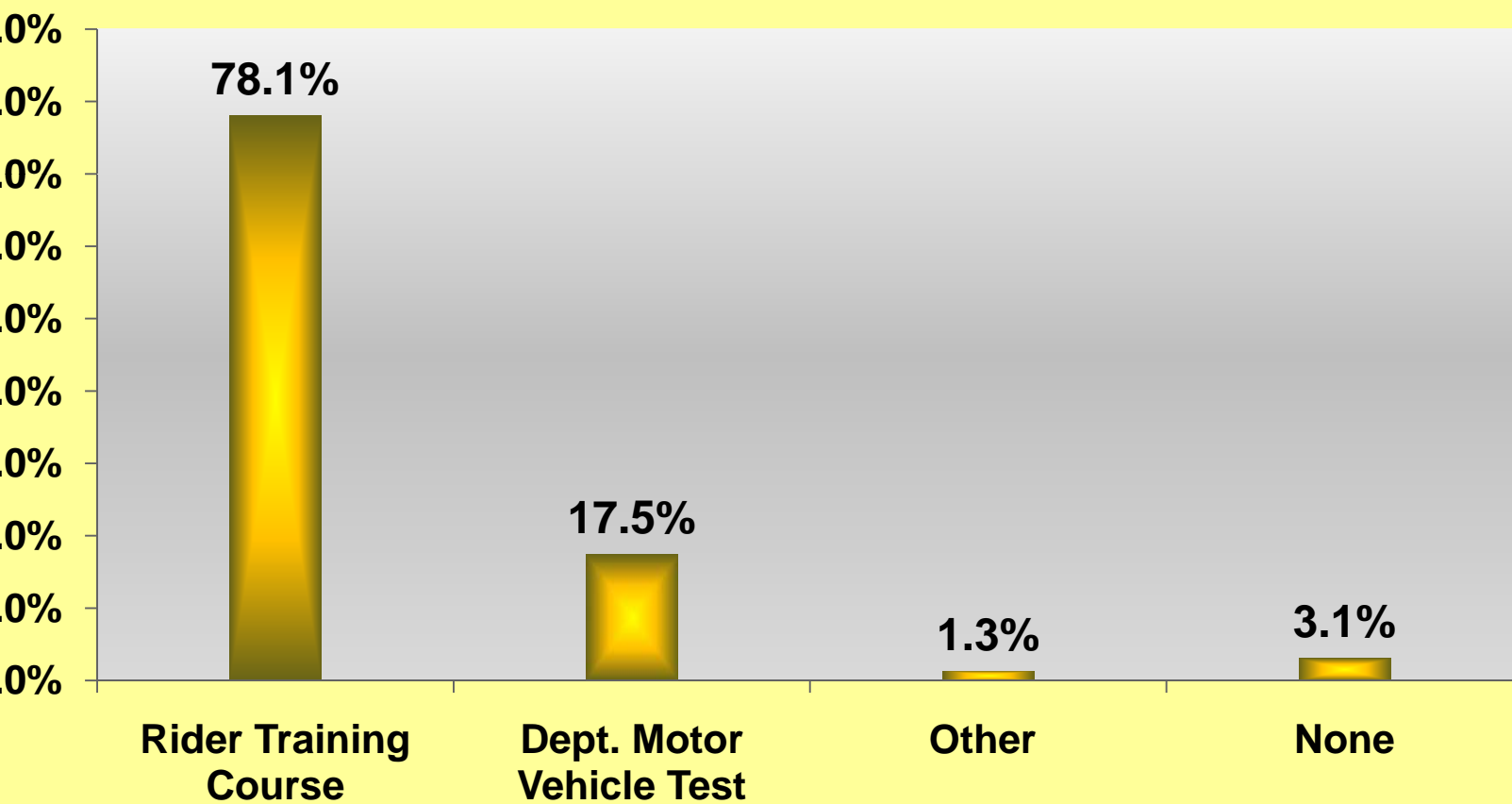


Figure 17: “How long have you held your motorcycle license?”

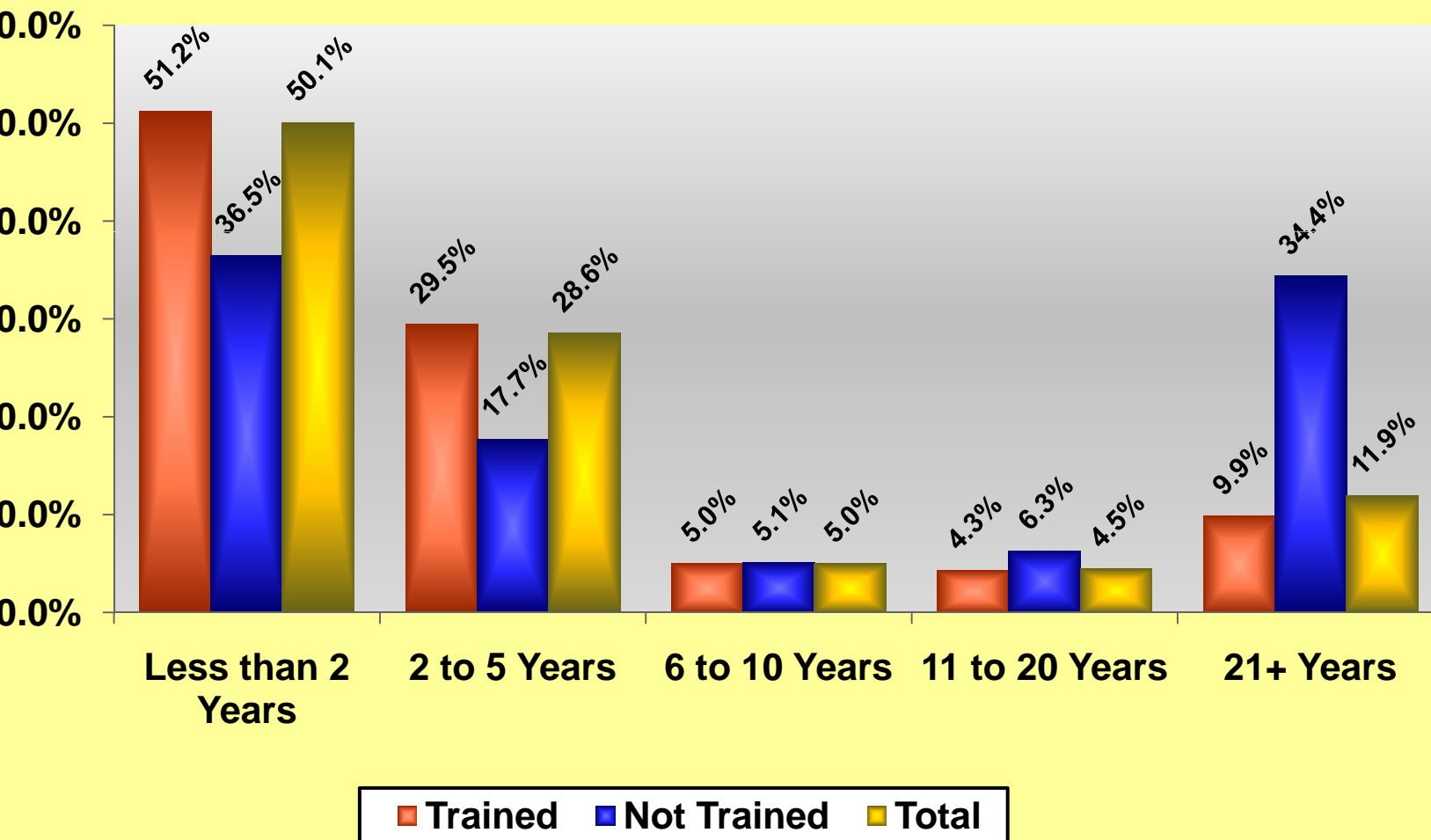


Figure 18: “How many hours do you spend riding your motorcycle each week?”

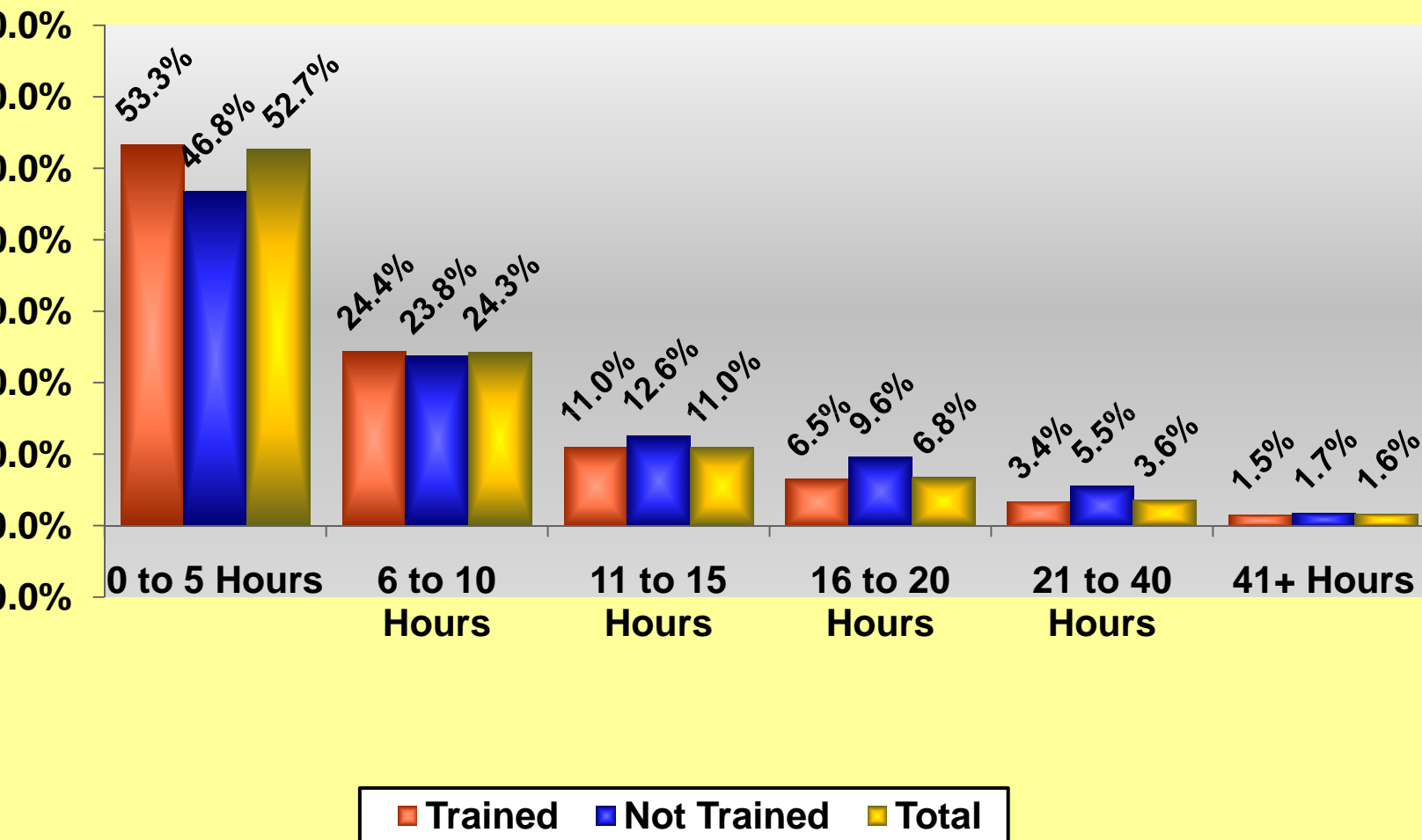
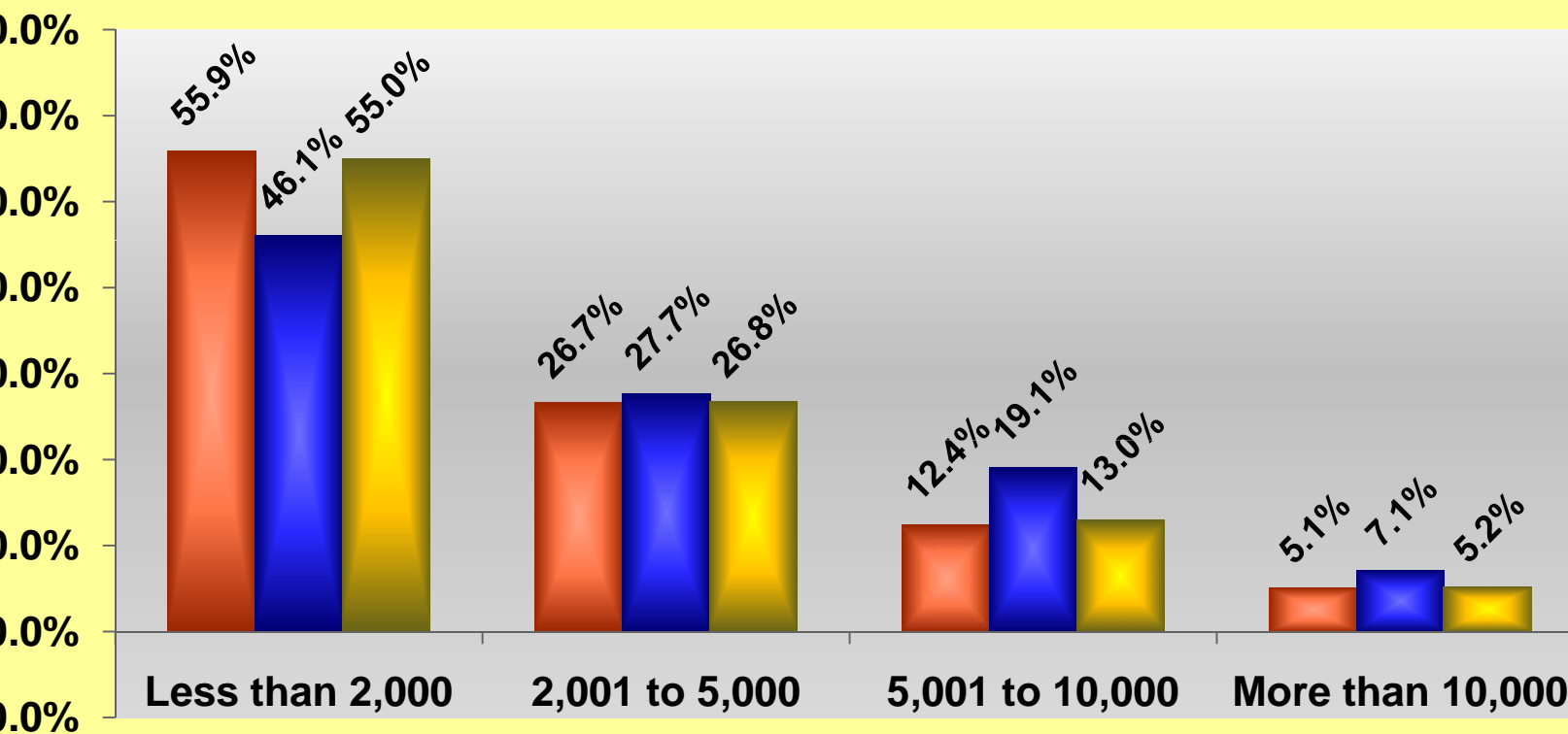


Figure 19: “About how many miles did you ride your motorcycle last year?”



■ Trained ■ Not Trained ■ Total

Figure 20: “Do you ride for business/commuting, or just for pleasure?”

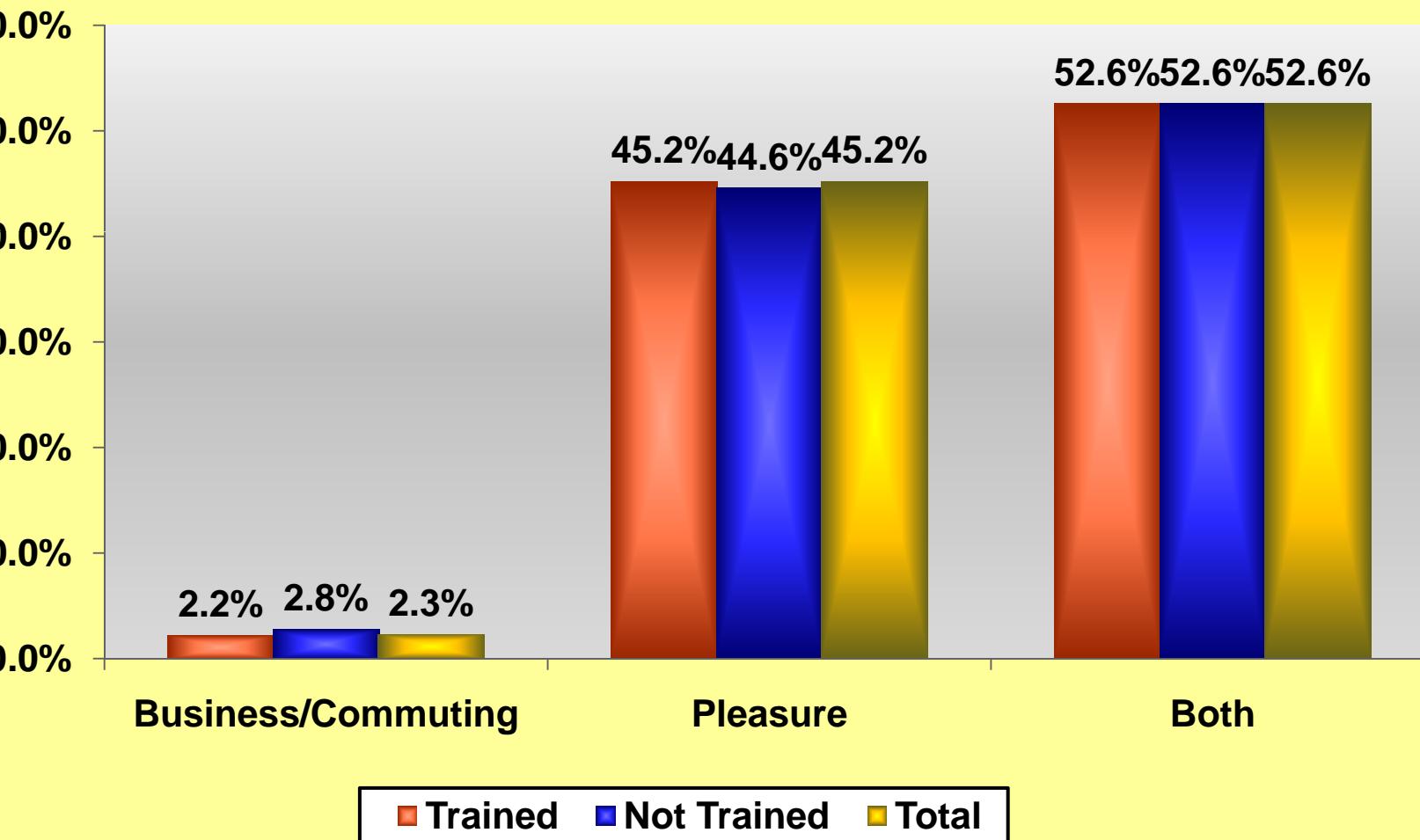


Figure 21: “Have you had more than two years which you have not ridden since you obtained your license?”

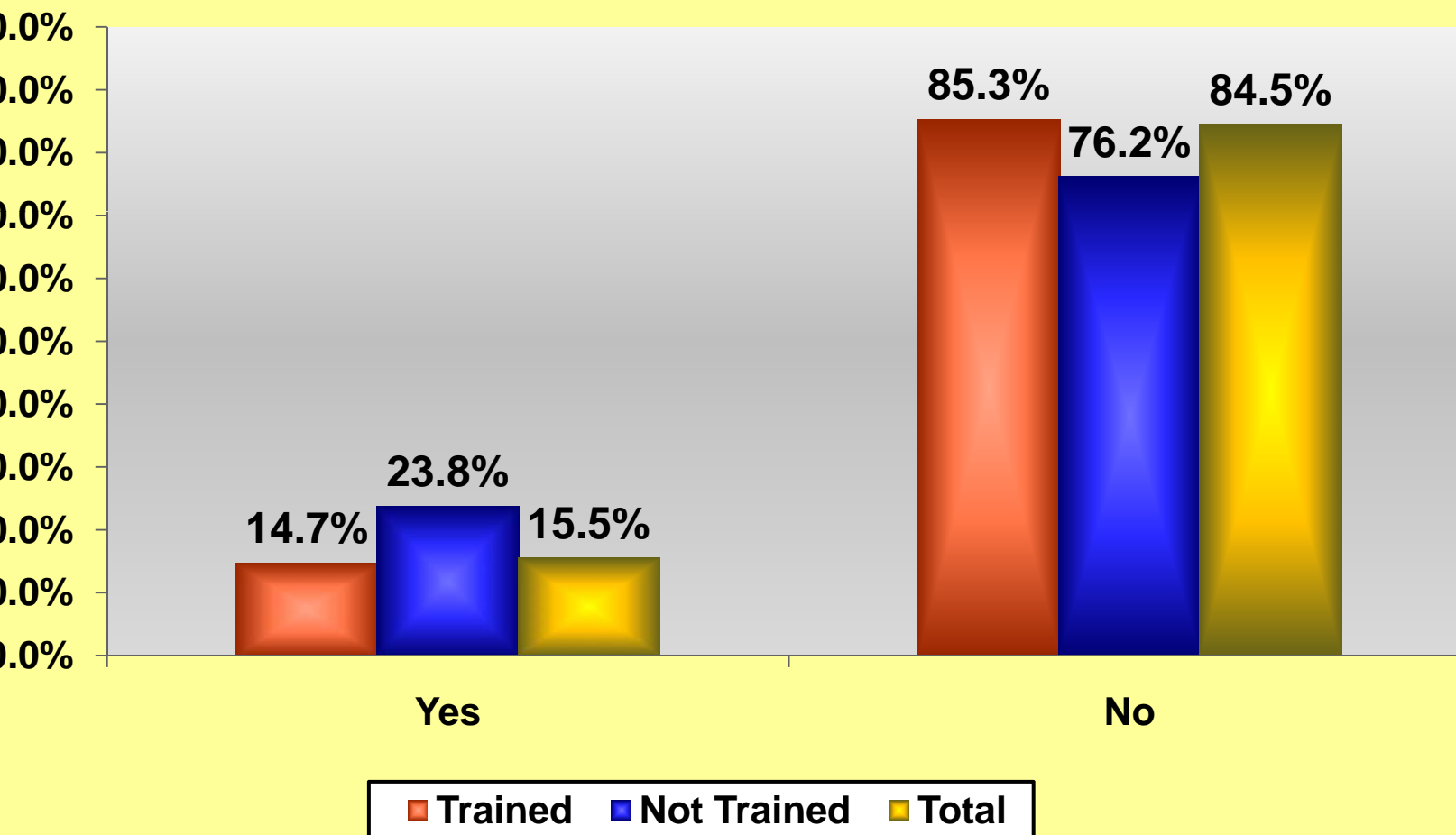


Figure 22: “Do you wear protective clothing when you ride (e.g., jacket, gloves, trousers, and boots)?”

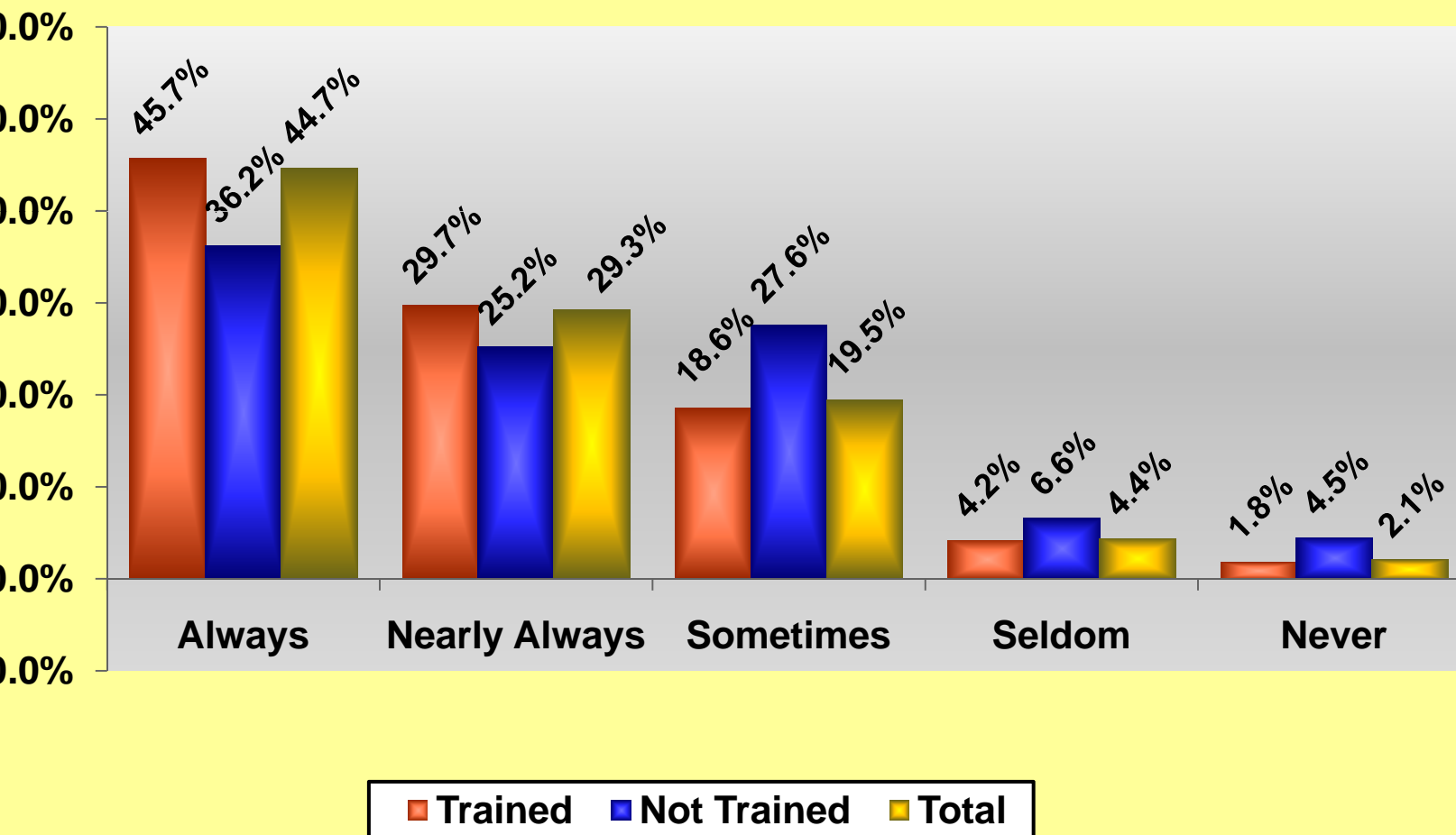
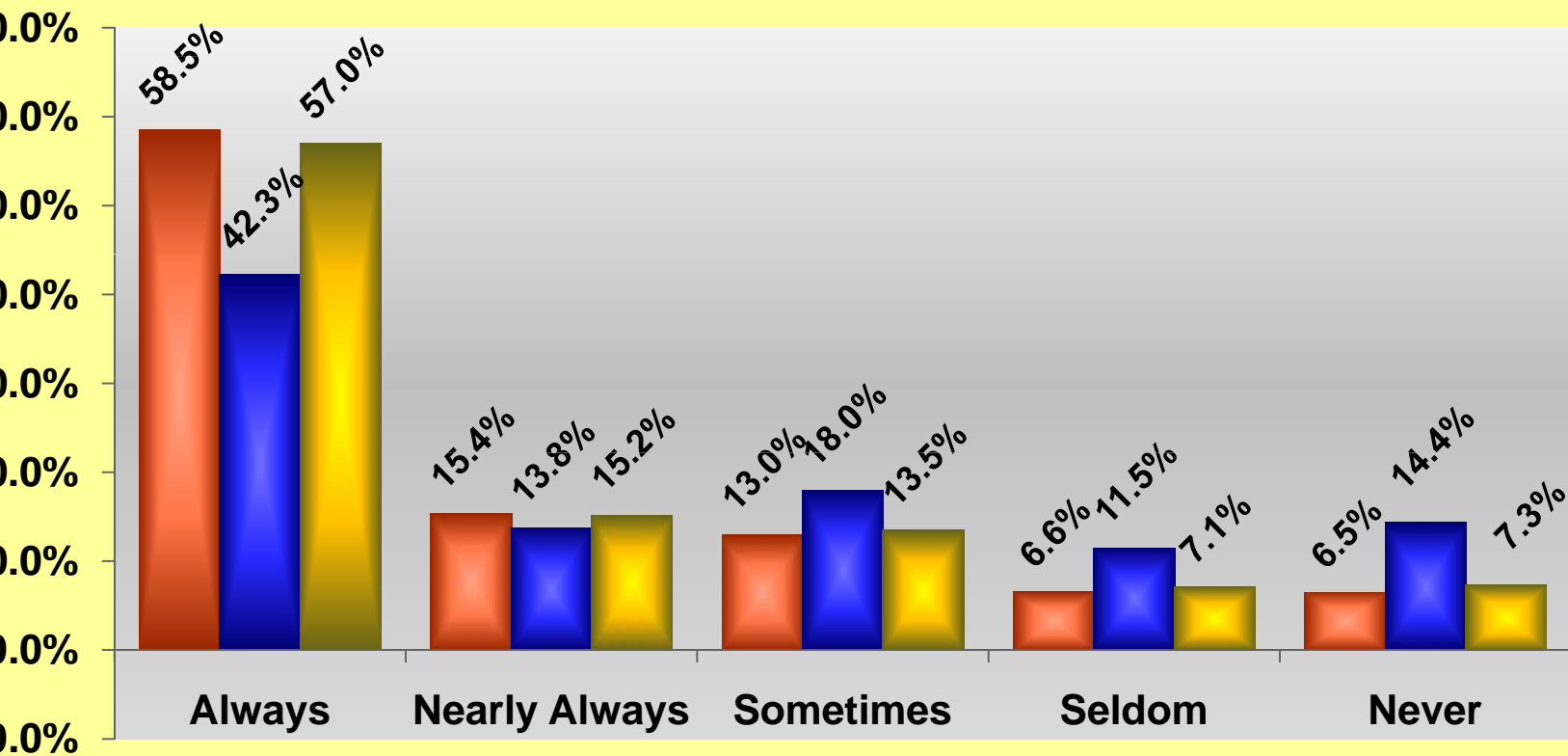


Figure 23: “Do you wear a helmet when you are riding?”



Trained Not Trained Total

Figure 24: “How many motorcycle accidents have you had during the last 3 years?”

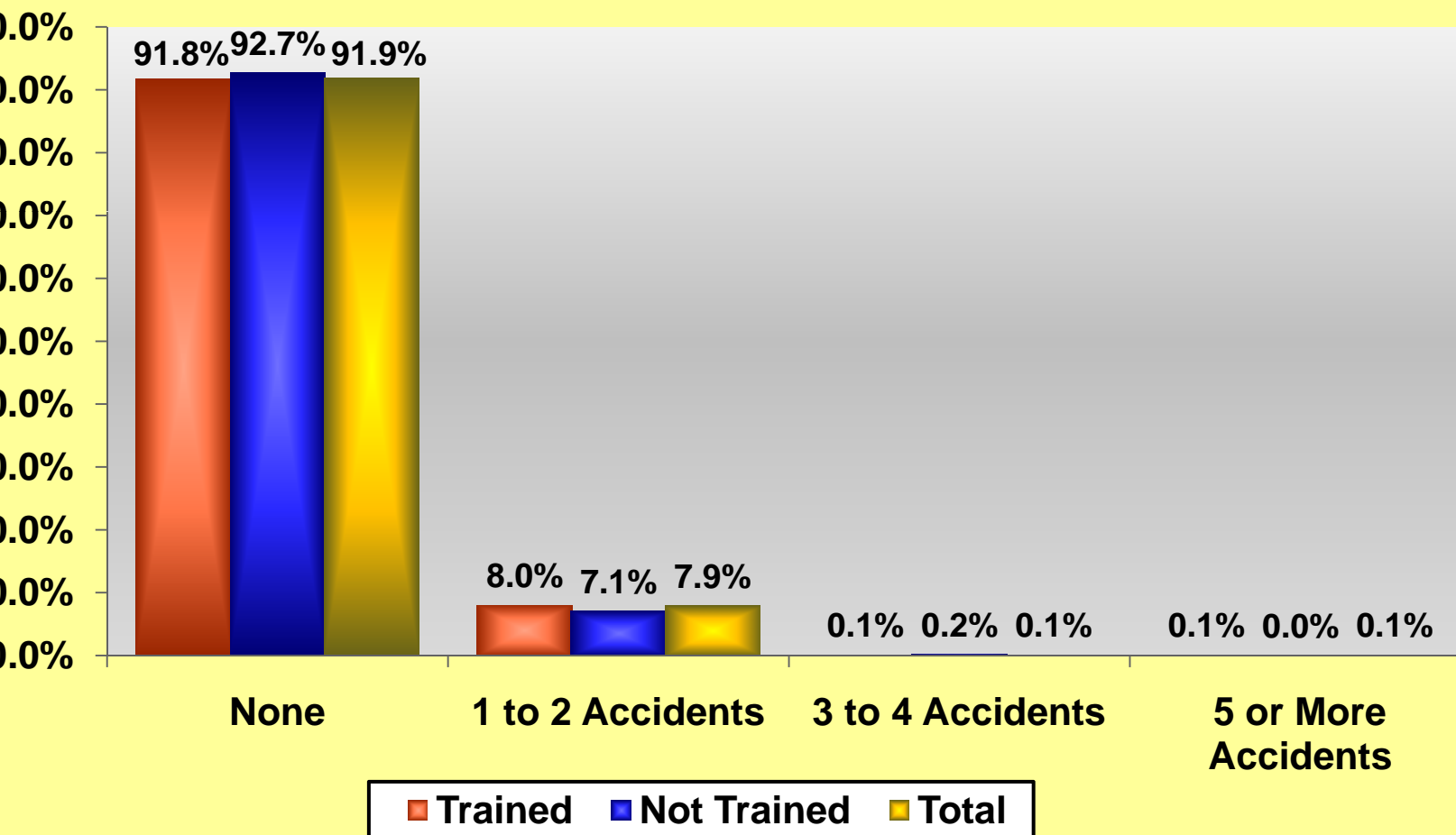


Figure 25: “Do you own a car besides your motorcycle?”

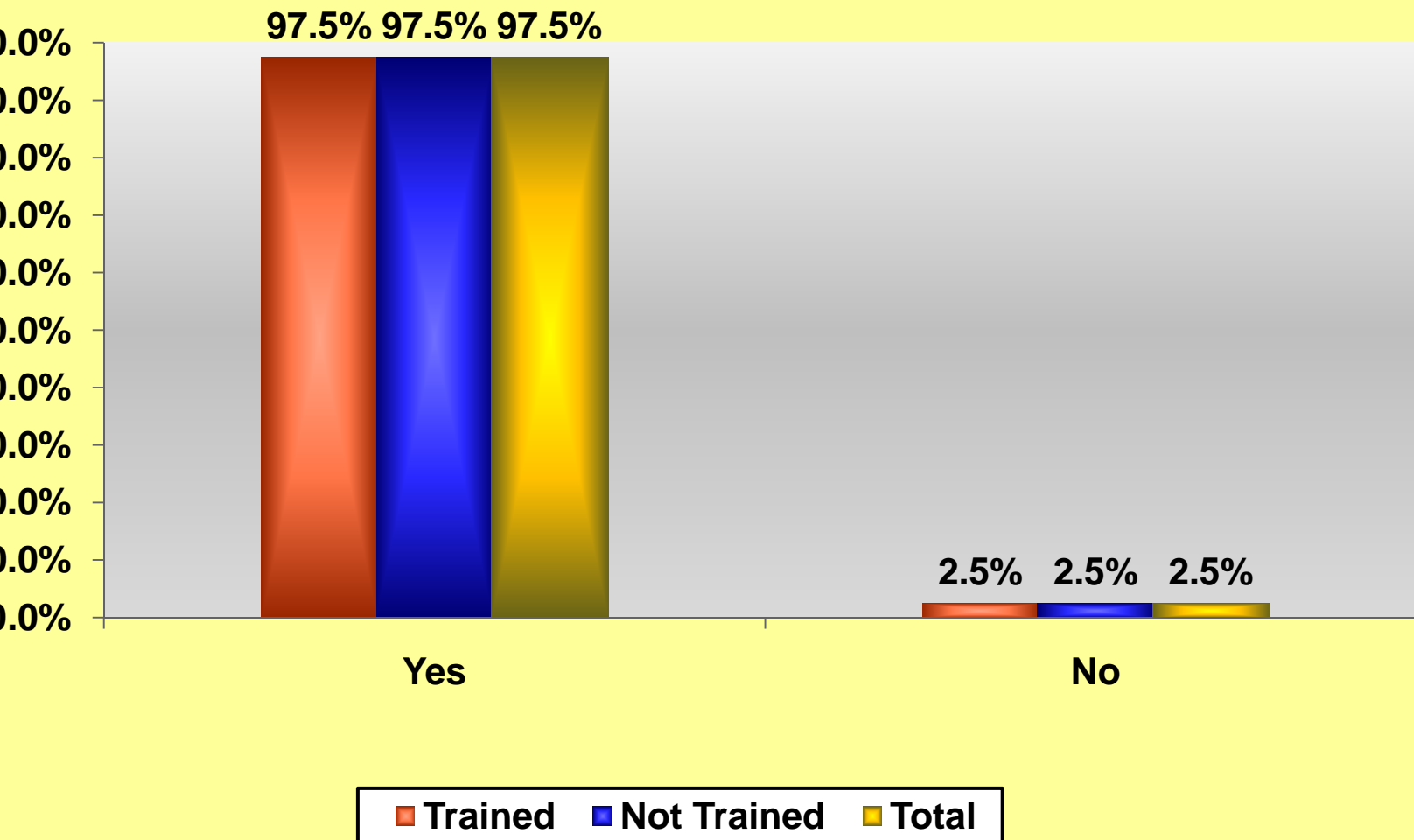


Figure 26: “If yes to question 24, about how many miles did you drive last year?”



Figure 27: “What type of vehicle do you drive most often?”

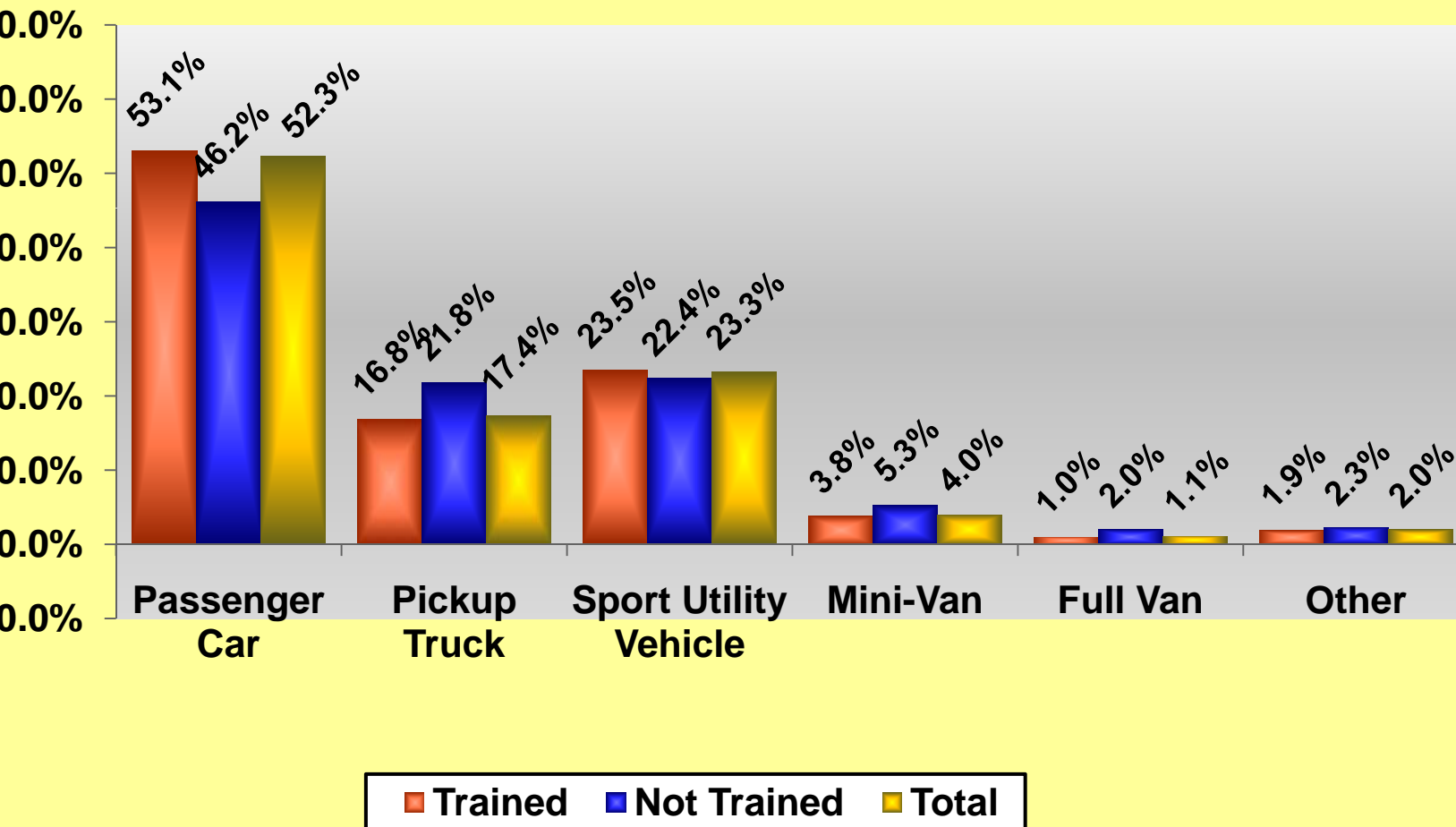


Figure 28: “How often do you use seat belts when you drive or ride in a car, van, sport utility vehicle, or pick up?”

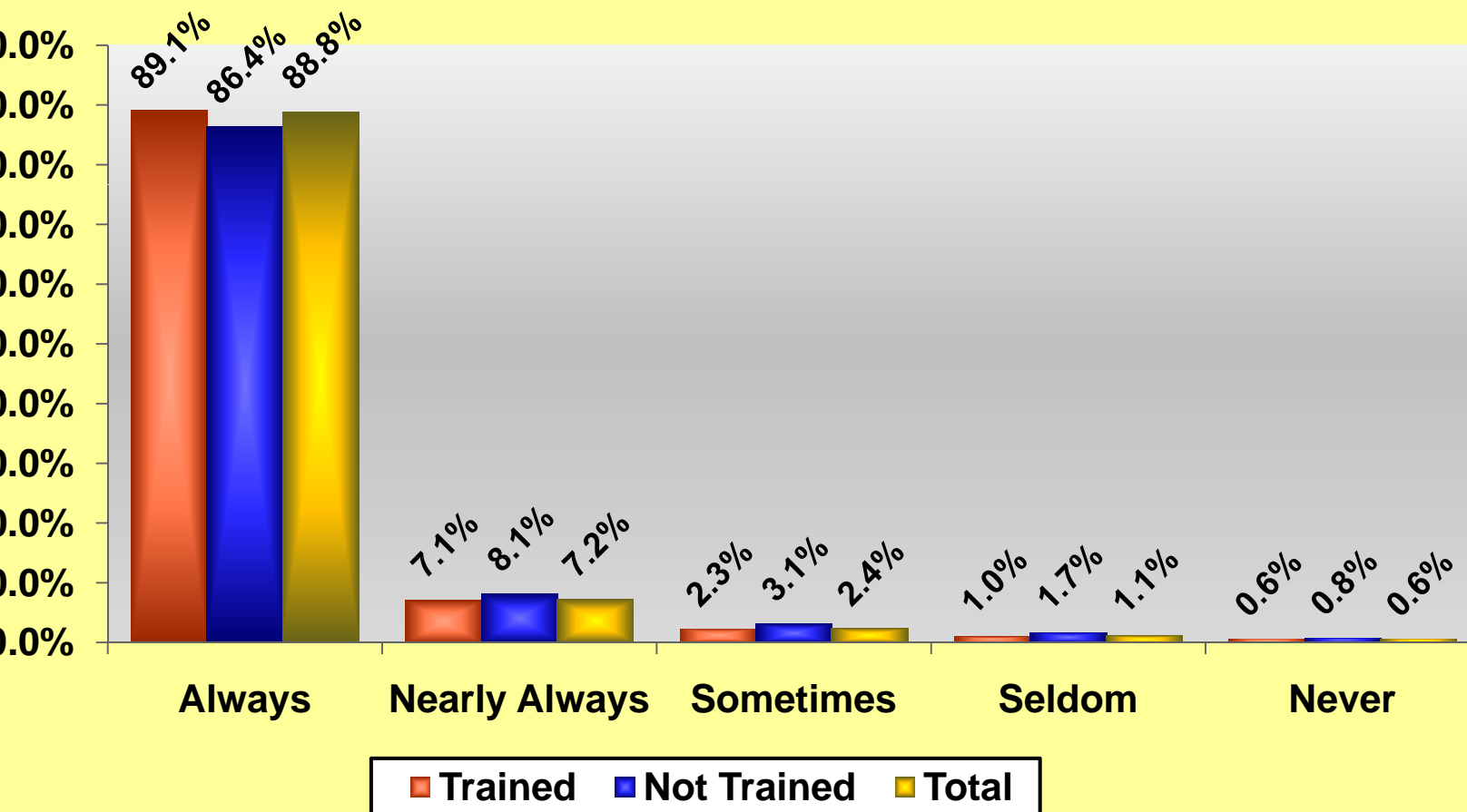


Figure 29: “What do you think the chances are of getting a ticket if you don’t wear your seat belt?”

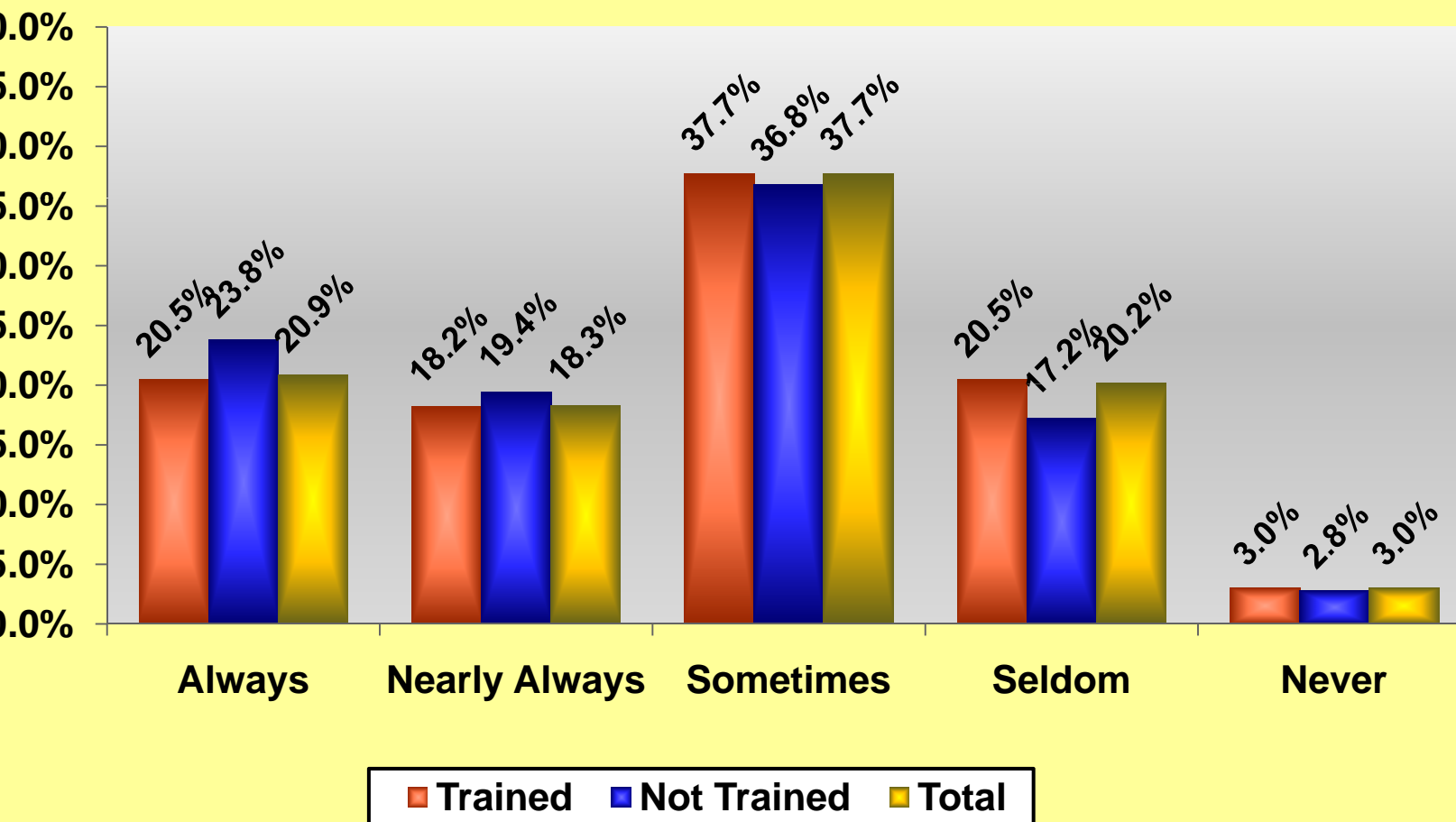
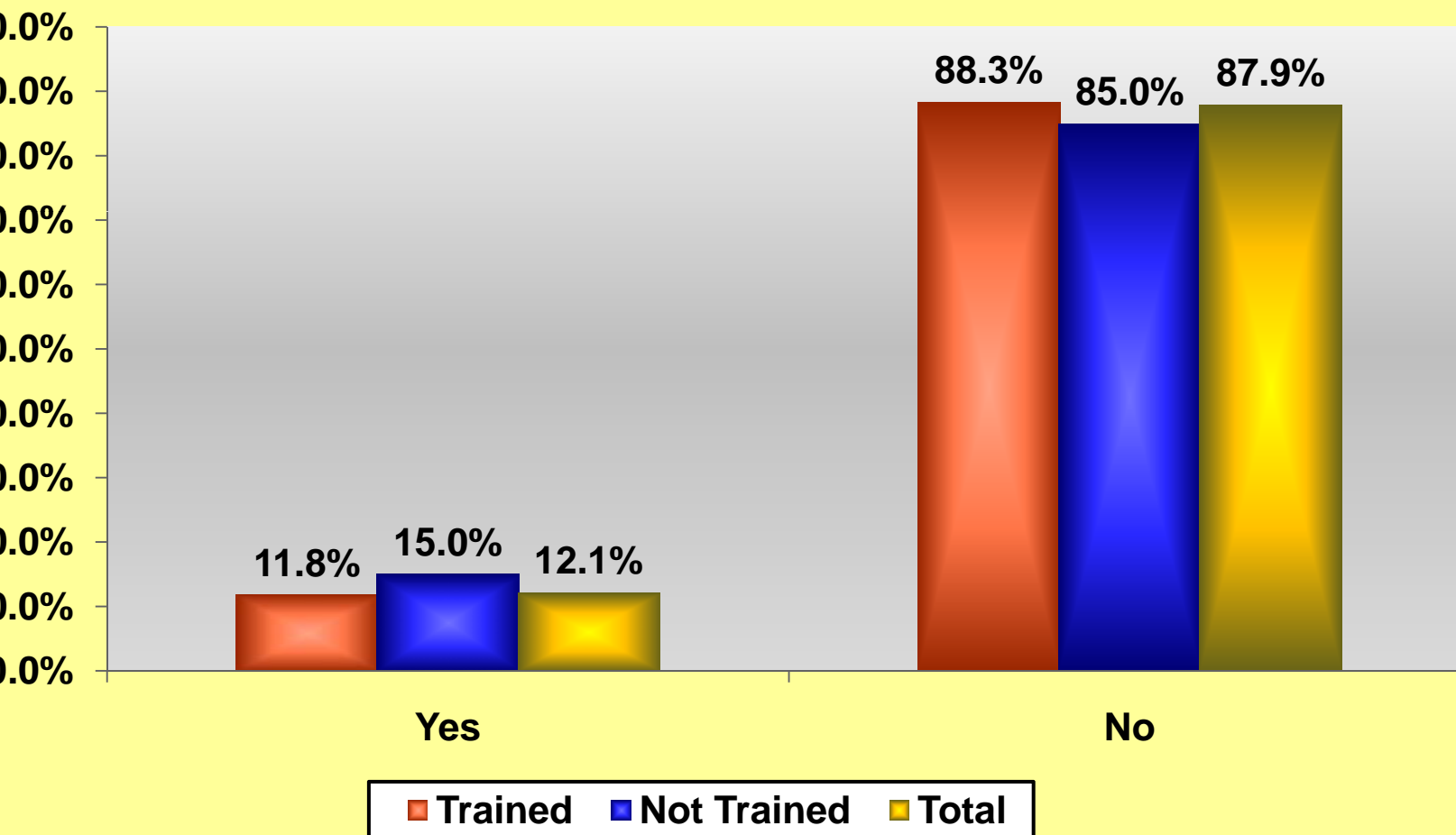
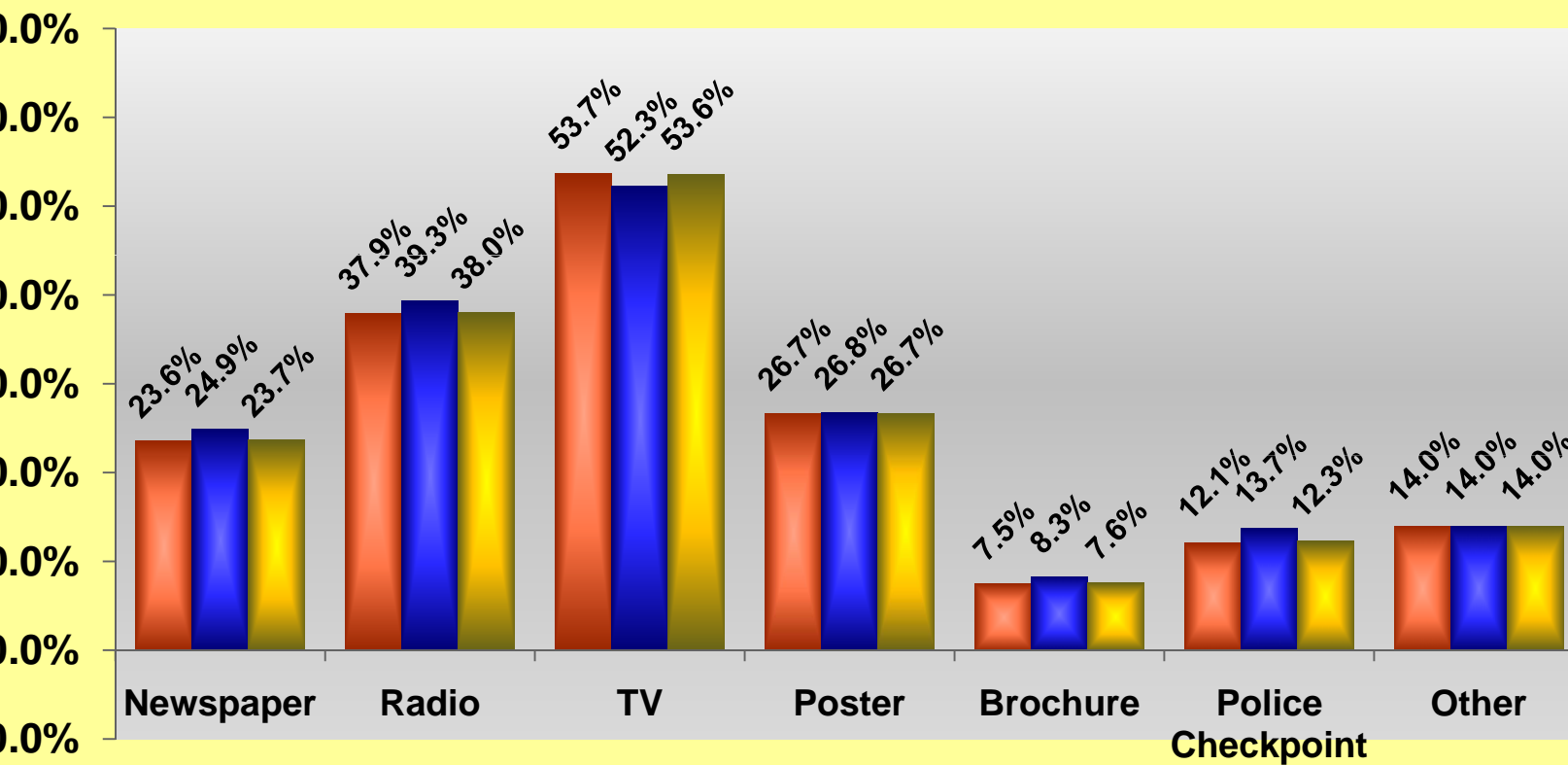


Figure 30: “Have you ever received a ticket for not wearing your seat belt?”



of yes to question 30, where did you see or hear about it? (Check all that apply):”



■ Trained
 ■ Not Trained
 ■ Total

Figure 31: “Have you heard about the following traffic safety enforcement programs in Illinois? (Check all that apply):”

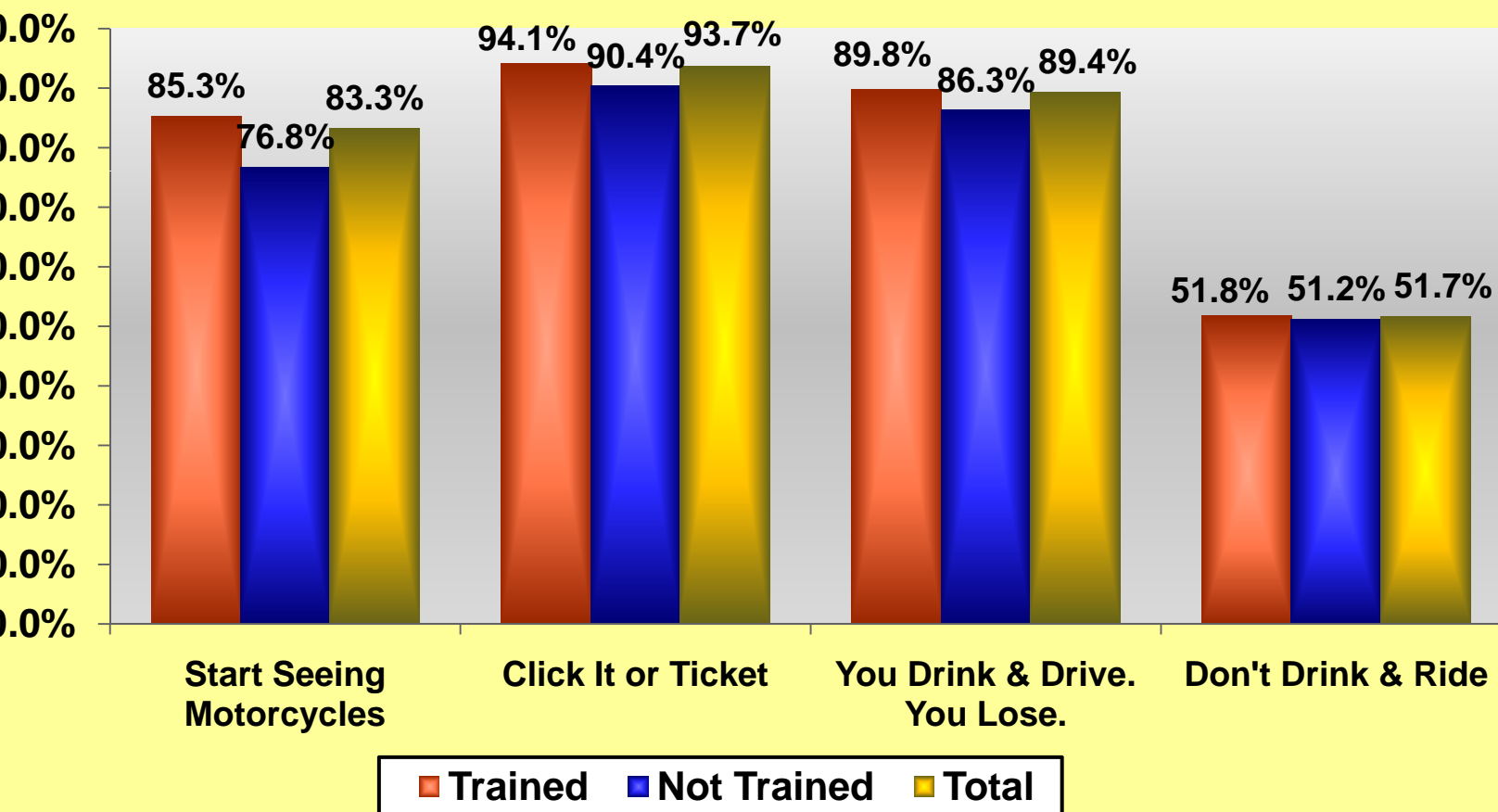


Figure 32: “What do you think the chances are of getting arrested if you drive or ride after drinking?”

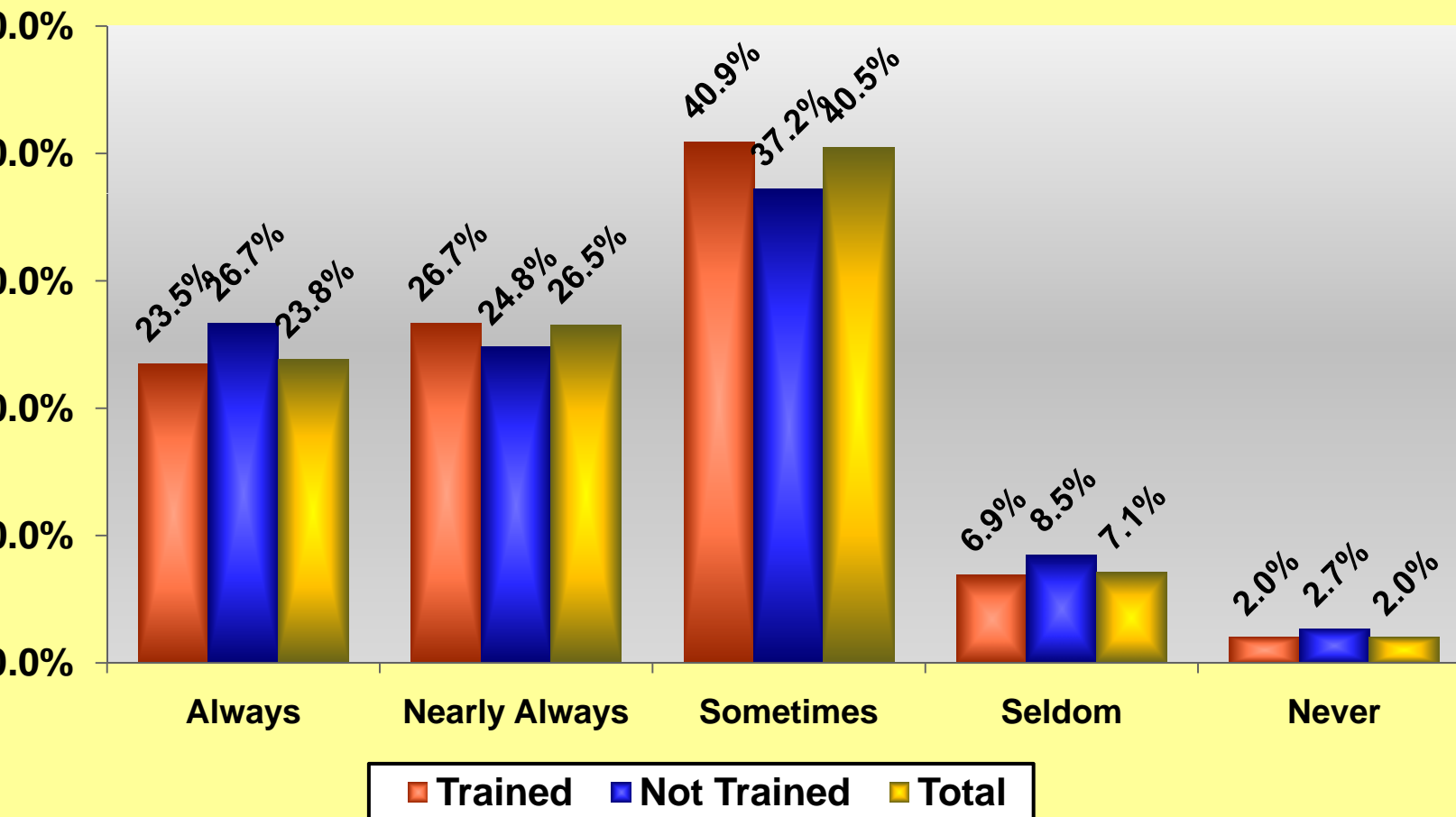
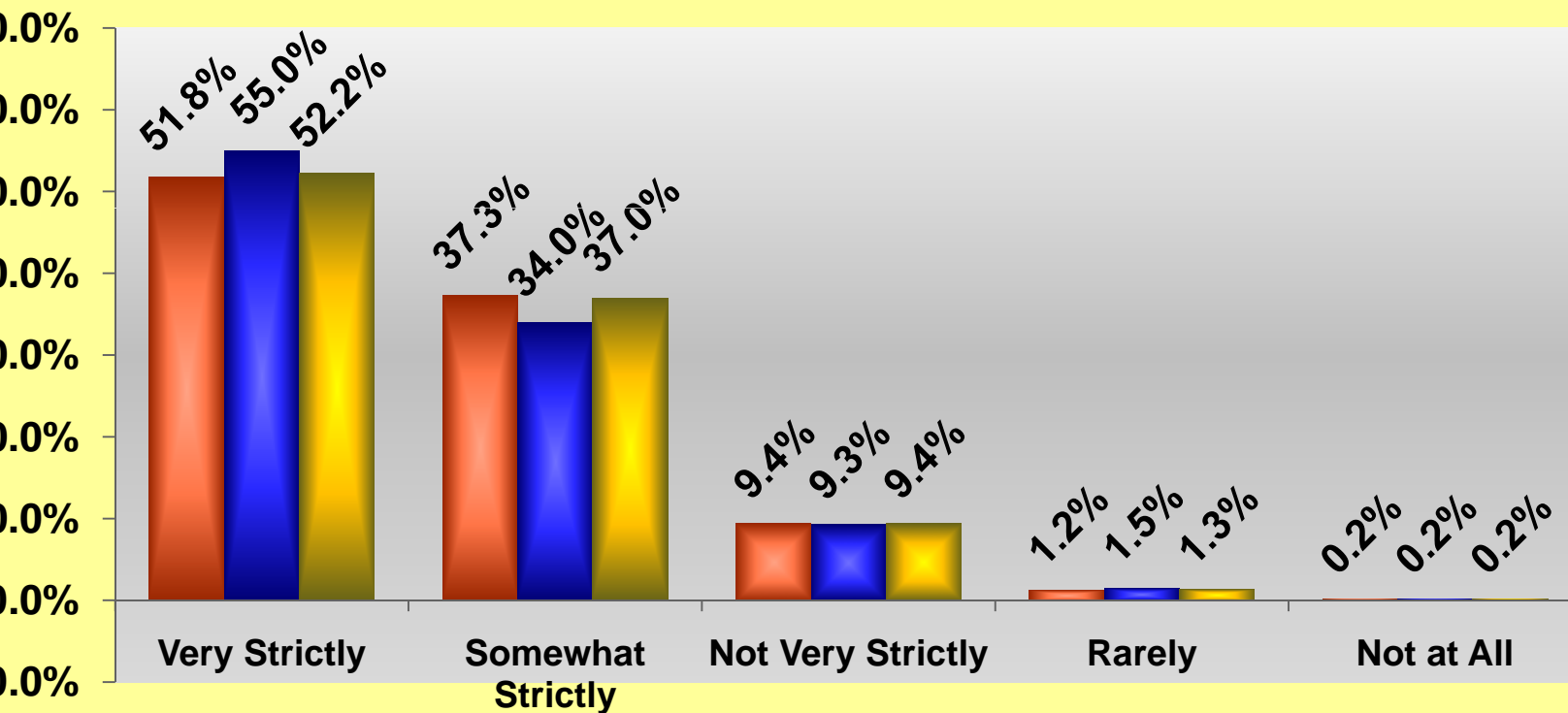


Figure 33: “Do you think the Illinois State/Local police departments enforce drinking and driving/riding laws?”



■ Trained
 ■ Not Trained
 ■ Total

Figure 34: "Do you think penalties for alcohol impaired driving/riding are:"



Figure 35: “Have you ever receive a ticket for drinking and driving or riding?”

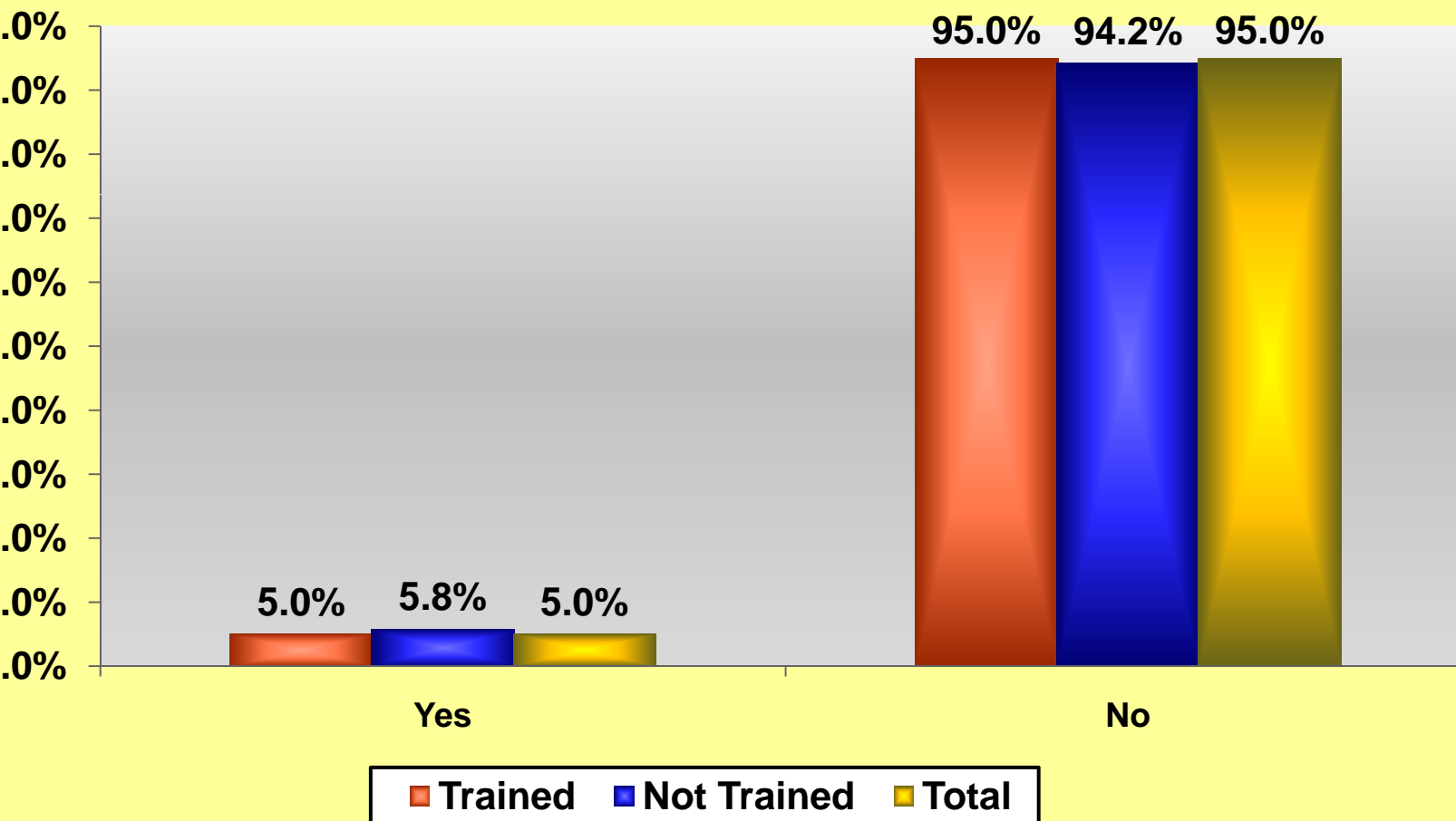


Table 2: Frequency and Percentage Distributions of Comments by Selected Categories (N=1,455)

of Comment Categories	Example of responses-Specific Issues	Freq.	%
<p>Survey Questions</p> <p>Multiple Response Categories, Licensing, and insurance</p>	<p>"I have taken a beginners course when I started; multiple experienced rider courses; MSF courses, and a commercial rider's course on a track aimed at Touring and sport riders. I also own multiple motorcycles." "I think the state needs to incorporate distracted driving as part of the driver's education course, emphasize on motorcycle awareness and distracted driving."</p>	71	4.9%
<p>Motorcycle Message</p> <p>Start Seeing Motorcycle</p> <p>Other Messages/other promotional items "start seeing motorcycles"</p>	<p>I'm very happy to see the "Start Seeing Motorcycles" campaign and would like to see more.</p> <p>I don't think enough attention is paid to encouraging motorcycle riders to wear full protective gear on the road. It would be helpful if there was more training for motorcyclists to WATCH FOR CARS.</p>	136 73	9.3% 5.0%
<p>Law</p> <p>Courts are easy on DUI cases</p> <p>Drinking and driving/riding is a criminal act</p>	<p>I think the courts don't do their part of upholding the laws of drinking and riding/driving.</p> <p>Seems there are too many individuals with multiple DUIs still drinking and driving.</p>	48 129	3.3% 8.9%
<p>Helmet Law</p> <p>For Helmet Law</p> <p>Against Helmet Law</p>	<p>Illinois needs a mandatory helmet law for motorcycles</p> <p>Keep helmets optional for the riders.</p>	112 80	7.7% 5.5%
<p>Motorcycle License</p>	<p>It is easy to get a license. I believe that instating a graduated licensing program would reduce motorcycle related injuries more than any other program.</p>	10	0.7%

Table 2: Frequency and Percentage Distributions of Comments by Selected Categories (N=1,455)

of Comment Categories	Example of responses-Specific Issues	Freq.	%
Enforcement Law			
Don't want strict enforcement	1 st time offender DUI penalties are too strict.	55	3.8%
Weak/not adequate enforcement	I'd like to see stricter legislation prohibiting cell phone use and texting while driving.	129	8.9%
Unlicensed Rider Enforcement	I know several riders who ride without licenses or permits.	21	1.4%
Who is at Fault?			
Motorcyclist	The biggest danger facing motorcycle riders are younger riders on sport bikes	9	0.6%
Other Driver	It is the other driver you need to look out for.	62	4.3%
Problems of other drivers	Most of the people who I had near misses with have been either texting or using their cell phones.	114	7.8%
Speeding/Reckless Behavior	Have seen many motorcyclists drive recklessly, cutting off car drivers, weaving in/out of traffic, even stopping in the middle of intersections to block traffic allowing their group of motorcycles to make it through the red light.	50	3.4%
Enforcement Law			
Don't want strict enforcement	1 st time offender DUI penalties are too strict.	55	3.8%

Table 2: Frequency and Percentage Distributions of Comments by Selected Categories (N=1,455)

Category of Comment Categories	Example of responses-Specific Issues	Freq.	%
General Comments			
Positive Comments	I greatly enjoyed the class and the instructors were very knowledgeable. I would recommend this class to everyone I know and hope the program continues.	192	13.2%
Constructive Comments	Beginners mixed with experienced riders	48	3.3%
Specific Training Comments			
Classes are too crowded/Not enough Classes	The motorcycle classes are a great idea, but too crowded, need more of them.	16	1.1%
Riding motorcycles are small	I would have benefited from riding a larger motorcycle during the class. I had an accident on my first and only ride after the class because of a bigger motorcycle not responding as easily as smaller ones from the class.	32	2.2%
Other Comments			
Riding motorcycles or driving a motorcycle is a privilege not a right	Nothing more fun than riding my motorcycle, why ruin it by drinking? Riding is a privilege, not a right and I will not ruin it for myself.	12	0.8%
Mandatory training for all drivers and the motorcycle awareness courses	Automobile drivers should be required to complete a motorcycle awareness section of the driver's test before obtaining a driver's license. I think the state needs to incorporate distracted driving as part of the driver's education course, emphasize on motorcycle awareness and distracted driving.	18	1.2%
Lane sharing/splitting	Please legalize lane sharing.	38	2.6%

Future Plan

Complete the analysis of the survey results

Produce a report focusing on the policy implications of the findings

Develop strategies on how to promote motorcycle safety program in Illinois

Contact Information

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<http://www.dot.il.gov/trafficsafety/tsevaluation.html>