

Stigma Indicators Monitoring Project

Dr Timothy Broady
Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Social Research in Health
t.broad@unsw.edu.au

Background

- National BBV/STI Strategies
 - “Eliminate the negative impact of stigma, discrimination, and legal and human rights issues on people’s health”
- Stigma Indicators Monitoring Project
 - Funded by Australian Government Department of Health
 - Develop indicator of stigma among priority groups identified by National Strategies
 - Gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men
 - People who inject drugs
 - People living with HIV
 - People living with hepatitis B or hepatitis C
 - People who engage in sex work

Stigma Indicator

In the last 12 months, have you experienced any stigma or discrimination (e.g., avoidance, pity, blame, shame, rejection, verbal abuse, bullying) in relation to your:

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Sexual orientation					
Injecting drug use					
HIV status					
Hepatitis B status					
Hepatitis C status					
Sex work					
Sexually transmissible infection					

Mirrored indicator: Would you behave negatively towards other people because of their...?

Additional item

In the last 12 months, to what extent do you agree that the following occurred in relation to your [HIV / injecting drug use / hepatitis C / sexual orientation / STI / sex work]

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Health workers treated me negatively or different to other people					

Methods

Population	Phase 1 (2016)		Phase 2 (2018)		Phase 3 (2020-22)	
General public	N/A		Australian Survey of Social Attitudes	N=1,001	Stigma Interventions 1	N=2,010
Health care workers	Online survey (via ASHM)	N=353	Online survey	N=551	Stigma Interventions 2	N=907
People living with HIV	Online survey	N=181	<i>HIV Futures 9</i> (ARCSHS, La Trobe)	N=847	<i>HIV Futures 10</i> (ARCSHS, La Trobe)	N=816
Men who have sex with men	<i>Telling</i> survey (Kirby Institute)	N=339	Online survey	N=1,280	Online survey	N=1,114
People who inject drugs	Online survey Australian NSP survey (Kirby Institute)	N=127 N=2,060	Paper survey (via AIVL)	N=603	Paper / Online survey (via AIVL)	N=731
People living with hepatitis C	Online survey	N=123	Online survey	N=68	Paper / Online survey (via AIVL)	N=300
People with STIs	N/A		<i>Debrief</i> survey (CSRH)	N=2,303	<i>Debrief</i> survey (CSRH)	N=2,998
Sex workers	N/A		N/A		Online survey	N=659

Young people and STIs

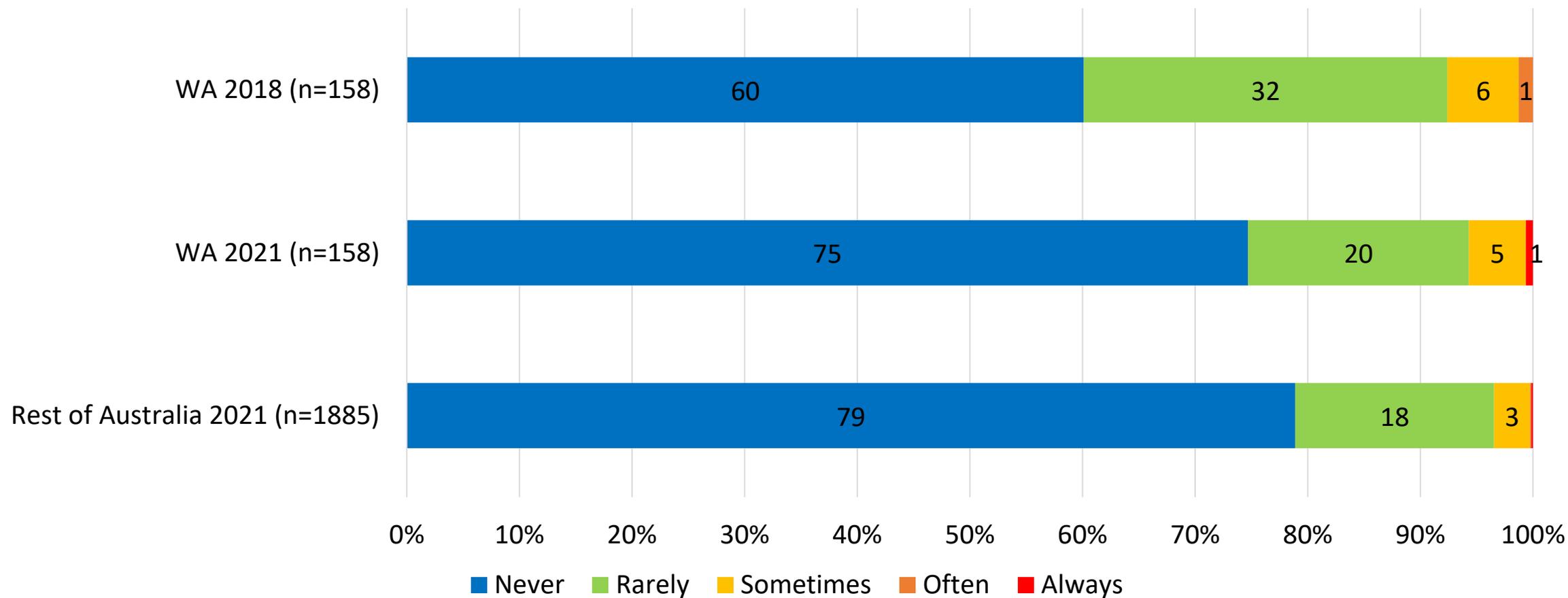
	Western Australia (n=207)	Rest of Australia (n=2,627)
Gender:		
Male	39%	39%
Female	59%	57%
Non-binary	2%	3%
Different term	0%	1%
Age (mean)	23.6 years	23.8 years
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	2.0%	1.4%
Region:*		
Capital city	73%	63%
Major regional centre	14%	20%
Smaller city/town	10%	13%
Rural area	2%	4%

Young people and STIs

	Western Australia (n=207)	Rest of Australia (n=2,627)
Sexuality:		
Heterosexual	54%	54%
Bisexual/Pansexual	24%	25%
Bicurious	12%	12%
Gay	8%	12%
Queer	8%	8%
Asexual*	5%	2%
Lesbian	4%	3%
Unsure	6%	6%
Diagnosed with STI in past year	17%	19%

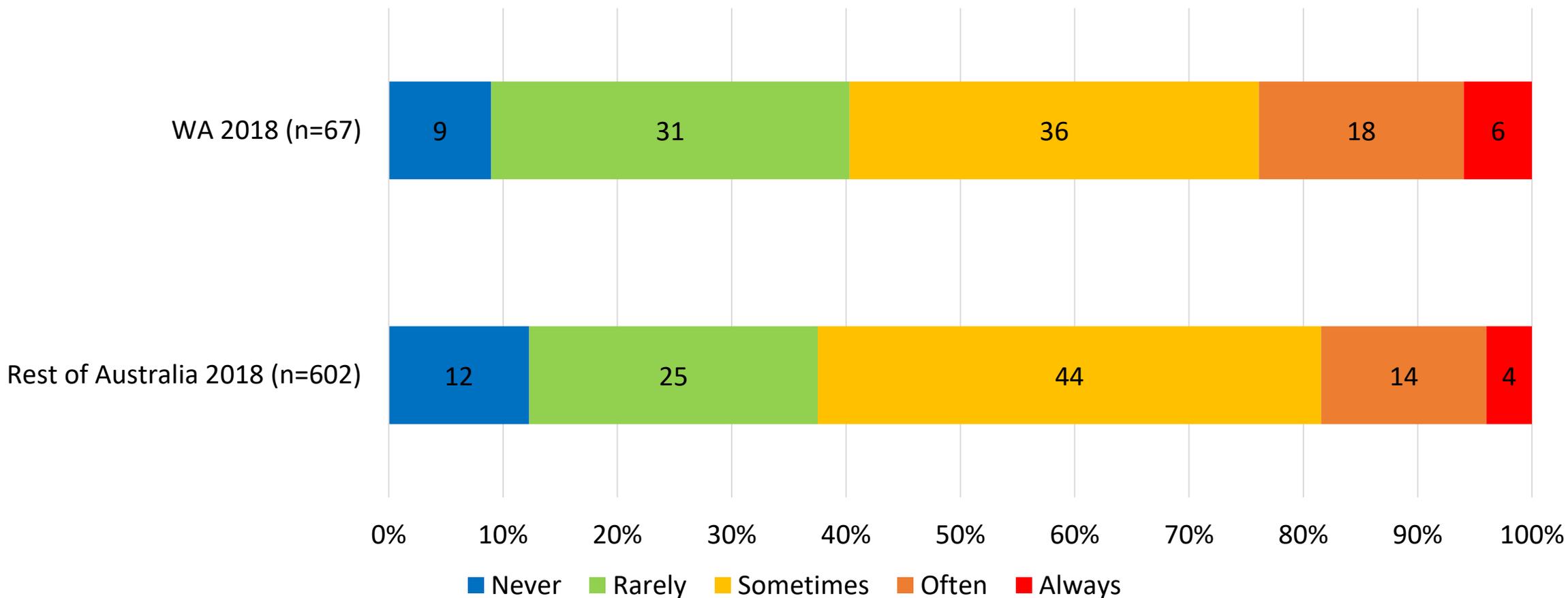
Young people and STIs

Would you behave negatively towards other people because of their STI?



Young people and STIs

If you ever had an STI, do you think you would experience stigma or discrimination?



Sex workers

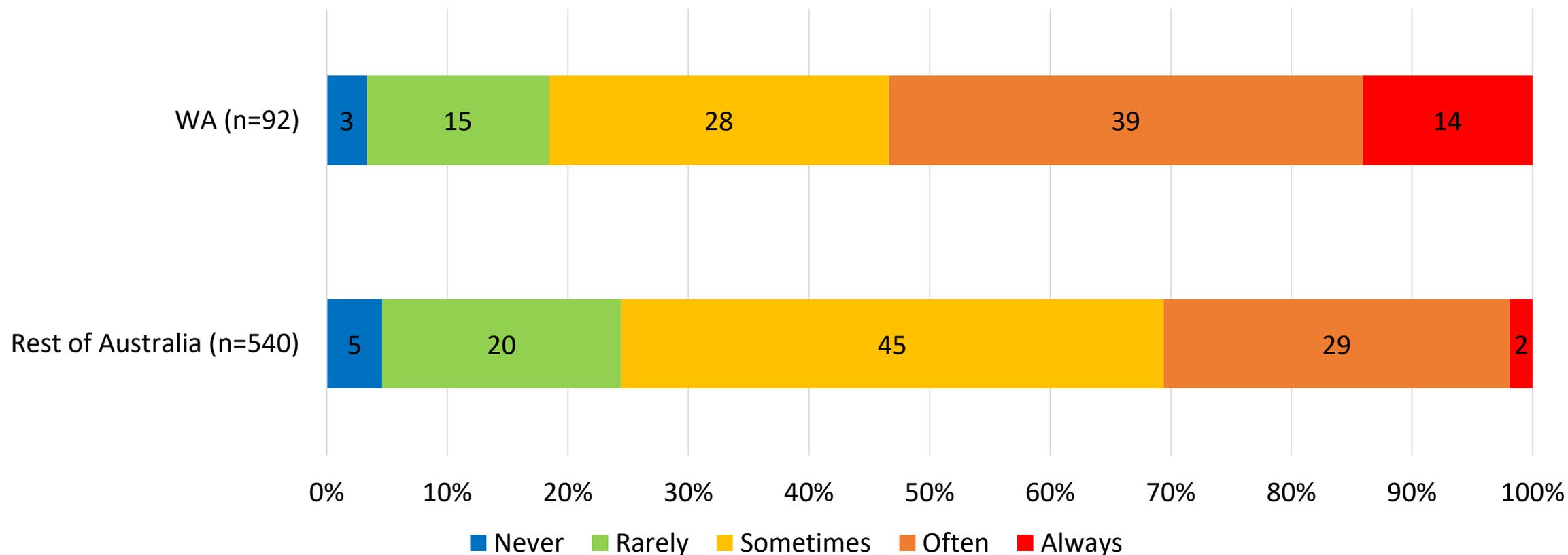
	Western Australia (n=93)	Rest of Australia (n=553)
Gender:		
Female	84%	90%
Male	15%	7%
Nonbinary	1%	3%
Different term	0	1%
Age:*		
18-25 years	15%	21%
26-35 years	52%	61%
36-45 years	32%	15%
46-55 years	1%	2%
Over 55 years	0	1%
Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	51%	56%

Sex workers

	Western Australia (n=93)	Rest of Australia (n=553)
Sexuality:*		
Heterosexual	40%	62%
Bisexual	40%	20%
Queer	9%	5%
Pansexual	4%	3%
Lesbian	3%	7%
Gay	3%	3%
Different term	1%	1%
Time in Australian sex industry:		
Less than 1 year	4%	3%
1-2 years	24%	23%
3-5 years	47%	53%
6-10 years	20%	15%
More than 10 years	4%	6%

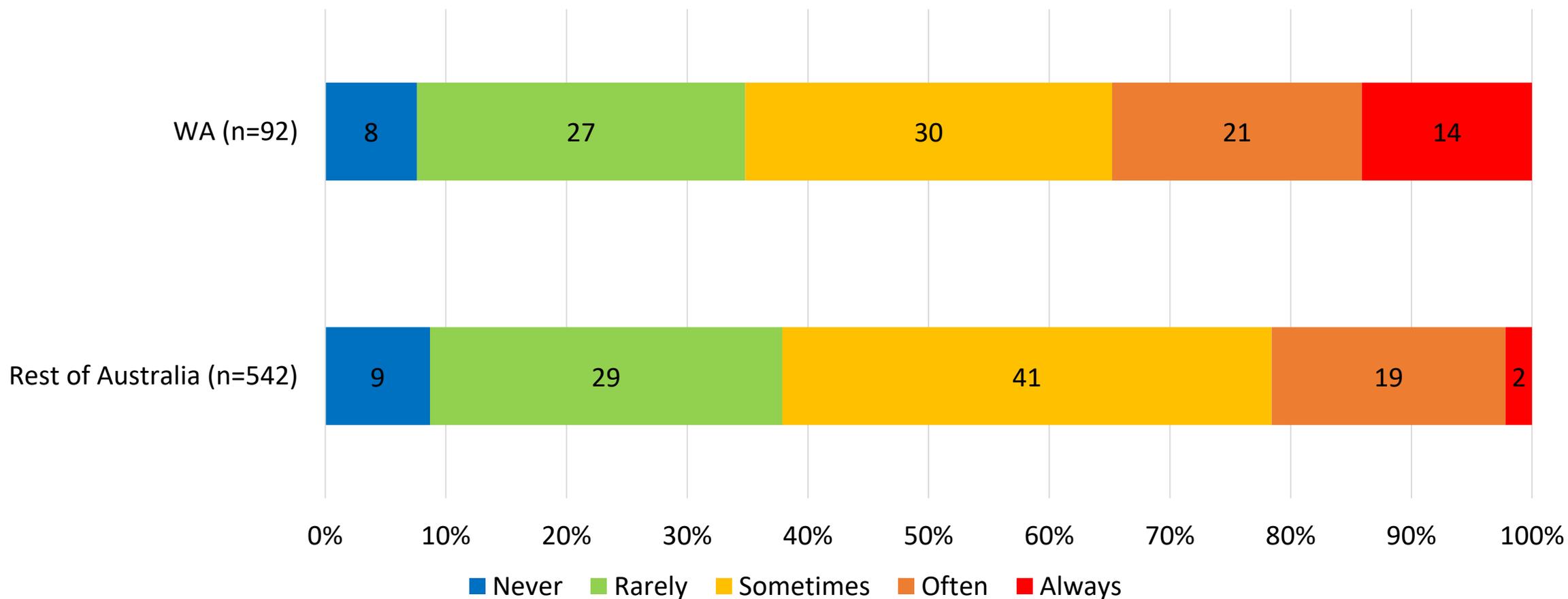
Sex workers

In the last 12 months, have you experienced any stigma or discrimination in relation to your sex work?



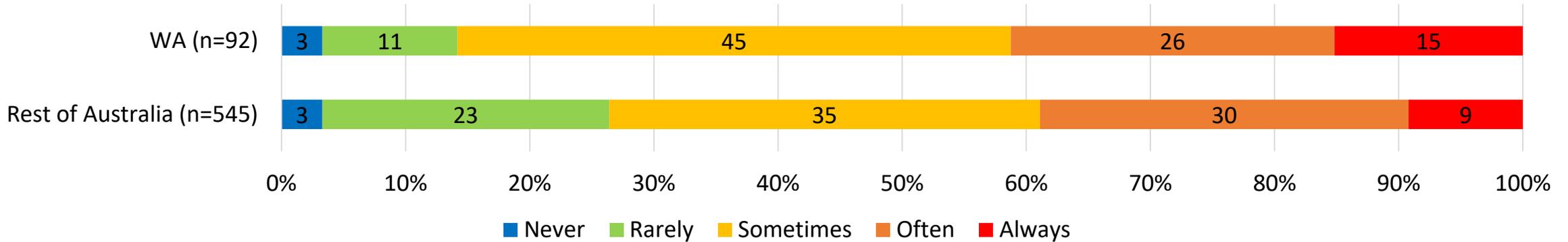
Sex workers

Health workers treated me negatively or differently to other people

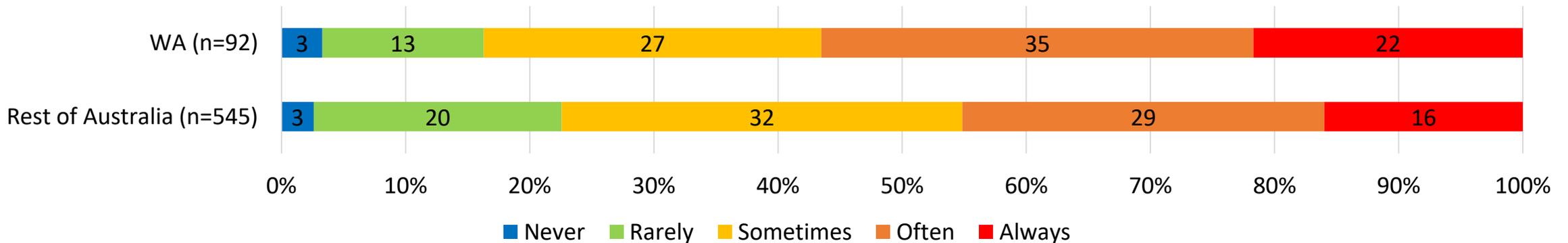


Sex workers

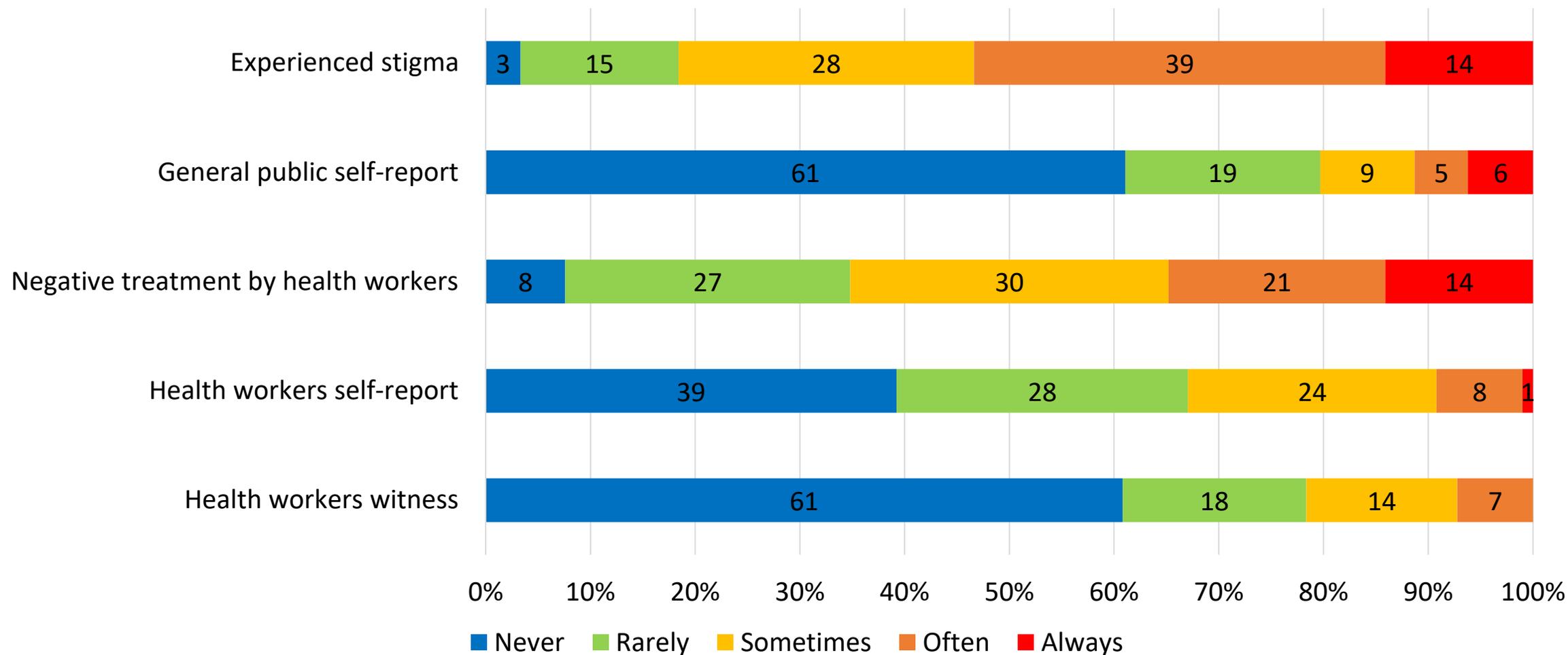
Do you ever feel stigmatised by the way the media portrays sex workers?



Do you ever feel stigmatised by laws relating to sex work?



Sex workers in WA



Next steps

- Stigma Indicators Monitoring Project
 - Next sex worker survey: November 2022
 - Next *Debrief* survey: 2023
- Expanding into stigma interventions
- Stigma Short Course launching September 2022
 - “Understanding and reducing stigma for effective and equitable health care”

Publications

Summary reports: CSRH website (http://bit.ly/stigma_indicators)

Recent journal articles:

- Brener, L., Broady, T., Cama, E., & Treloar, C. (2022). [The impact of sources of stigma on health care avoidance among gay and bisexual men in Australia.](#) *AIDS Care*.
- Treloar, C., Cama, E., Lancaster, K., Brener, L., Broady, T. R., Cogle, A., & O'Donnell, D. (2022). [A universal precautions approach to reducing stigma in health care: getting beyond HIV-specific stigma.](#) *Harm Reduction Journal*, 19(1), 74.
- Brener, L., Caruana, T., Broady, T., Cama, E., Ezard, N., Madden, A., & Treloar, C. (2022). [Addressing injecting related risks among people who inject both opioids and stimulants: Findings from an Australian survey of people who inject drugs.](#) *Addictive Behaviors Reports*, 15, 100398.
- Brener, L., Cama, E., Broady, T., Hopwood, M., & Treloar, C. (2022). [Comparing Australian health worker and student attitudes and concerns about providing care to people living with hepatitis B.](#) *Health Promotion Journal of Australia*, 33(1), 282-288.
- Cama, E., Brener, L., Broady, T., Hopwood, M., & Treloar, C. (2021). [Australian health and medical workers' concerns around providing care to people living with hepatitis B.](#) *Health & Social Care in the Community*, 29(6), e431-e439.
- Broady, T. R., Brener, L., Vuong, T., Cama, E., & Treloar, C. (2021). [Online interventions to reduce stigma towards population groups affected by blood borne viruses in Australia.](#) *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 96, 103292.
- Brener, L., Broady, T., Cama, E., Hopwood, M., Byrne, J., & Treloar, C. (2021). [Positive effects of community attachment on internalised stigma and wellbeing among people who inject drugs.](#) *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 97, 103323.