

The Royal College of Radiologists Membership Survey 2025

December 2025



Research by Design
MEMBERSHIP INTELLIGENCE



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Background, Objectives and Methodology



Research Objectives

Below are the objectives for the 2025 survey. These were agreed following discussion at the scoping workshop with RCR, facilitated by Research by Design on 11th June 2025.



Workplace

Establish challenges and motivations within the workplace



Measure overall perceptions of the College (benchmarked against other Royal Colleges)

Establish challenges and motivations within the workplace



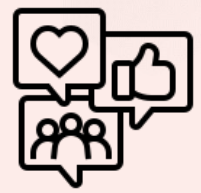
Strategic priorities

Understand perceptions of performance on RCR's strategic priorities (workforce, experts, professional learning, membership value, our College)



Member services

Establish awareness, usage, consideration, relative importance and perceptions



Engagement

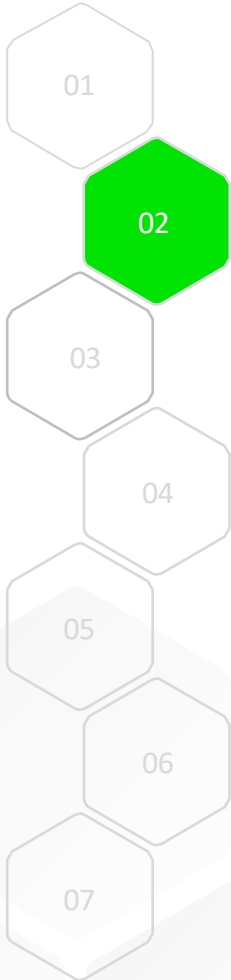
Establish relevance of the College to members, and emotional engagement

Methodology and sample

The RCR 2025 Membership Survey was carried out by Research by Design on behalf of the RCR. It was conducted between **2 September and 13 October 2025** (spanning the renewal period). At that time all participants were current Members, Associates, or Fellows of the RCR. A total of **19,343 RCR members**, both within and outside the UK, were invited to participate. The total response was **2,081**, resulting in a final **response rate of 11%**.

Demographic Variable	Membership Population	Survey Population
Associate	1%	1%
Member	15%	17%
Fellow	56%	57%
Trainee	28%	24%
<hr/>		
Clinical Radiology	84%	82%
Clinical Oncology	16%	18%
<hr/>		
UK	56%	59%
Global (incl. LMIC)	44%	41%

No weighting has been applied to the 2025 survey data as the profile of respondents on key variables is closely aligned to that of the RCR membership.



Member Perceptions of the College



KPIs

Overall rating

58%



-6%pts vs. 2023

Good value for money

48%



-5%pts

Likely to renew

83%



-10%pts

Medical Royal Colleges Norm

61%

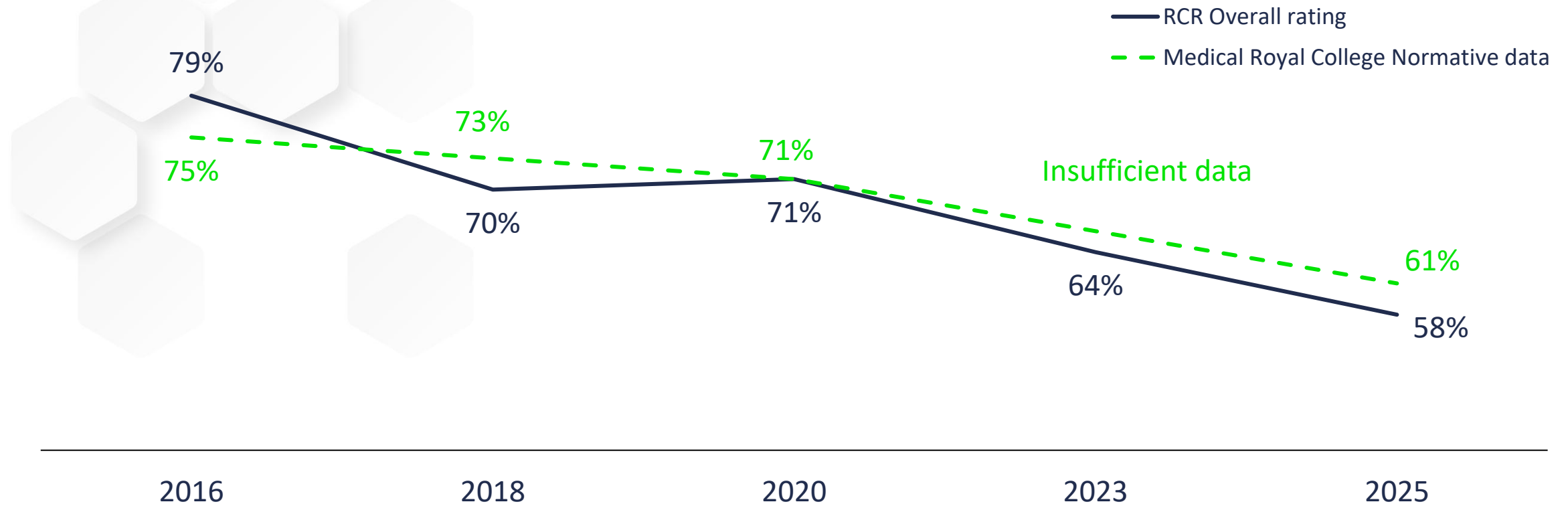
41%

93%

O10a. How do you rate the RCR as a professional membership organisation, using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is excellent? Base: All respondents (2,080); O20. How would you rate your Fellowship / membership with the RCR in terms of value for money? Base: Asked to all except Honorary members/ Fellows (1,924) ; O30a. How likely are you to renew your RCR Fellowship/membership at the next annual renewal? Base: Asked to all except Honorary members/ Fellows (1,924).

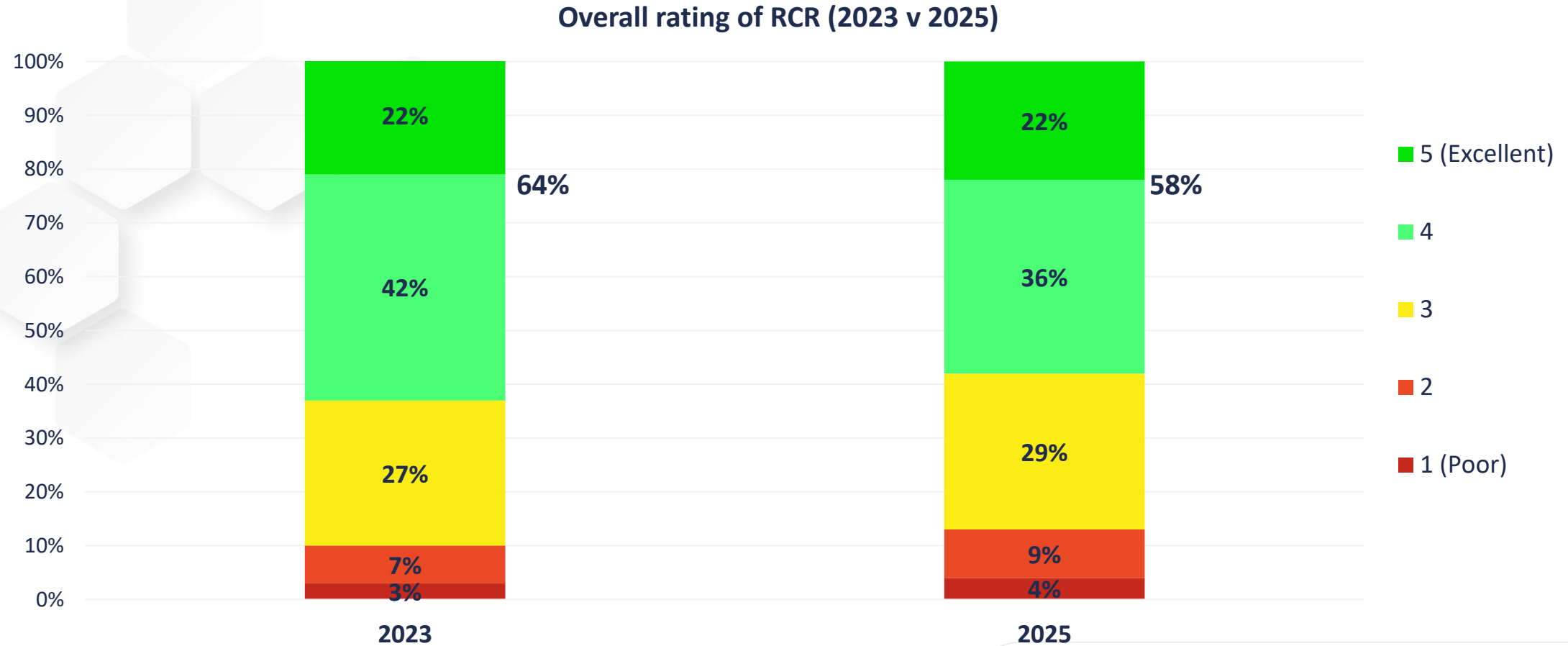
Overall rating

Overall rating (% 4 or 5 out of 5)



Q10a. How do you rate the RCR as a professional membership organisation, using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is excellent?
Base: All respondents (2,080)
RbD normative database base since 2016 (38,850)

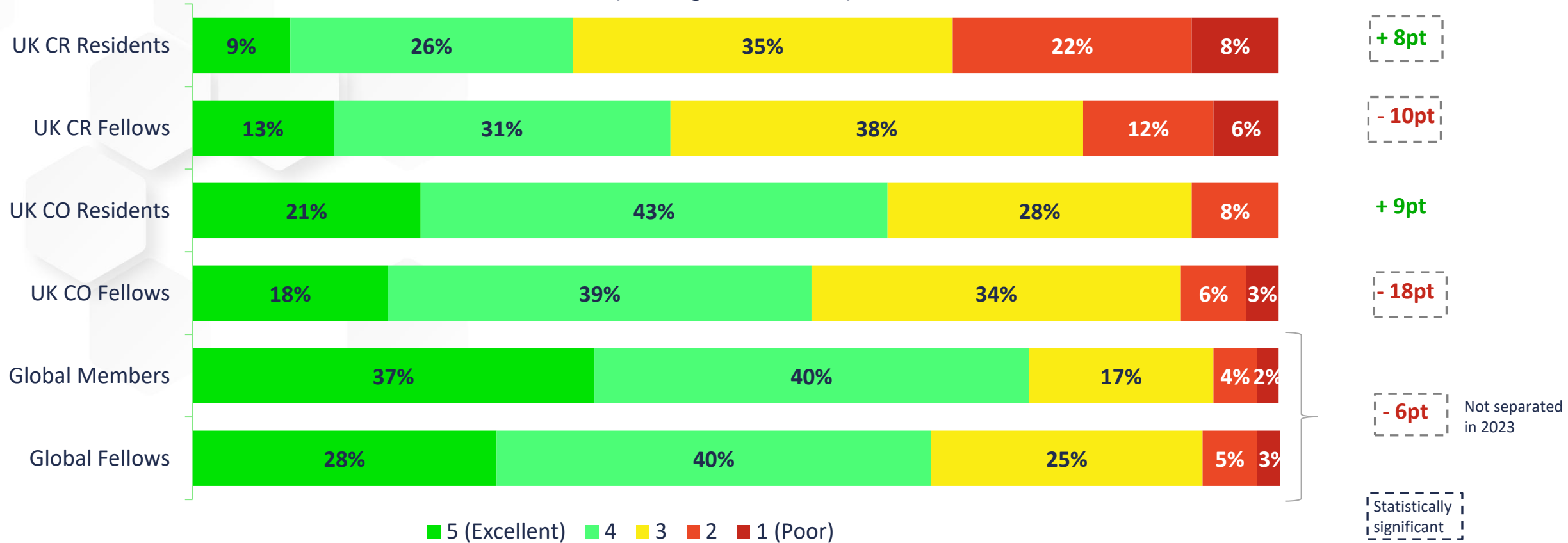
Overall rating: The change since 2023



O10a. How do you rate the RCR as a professional membership organisation, using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is excellent? Base: All respondents (2,080)

Overall rating: Segments

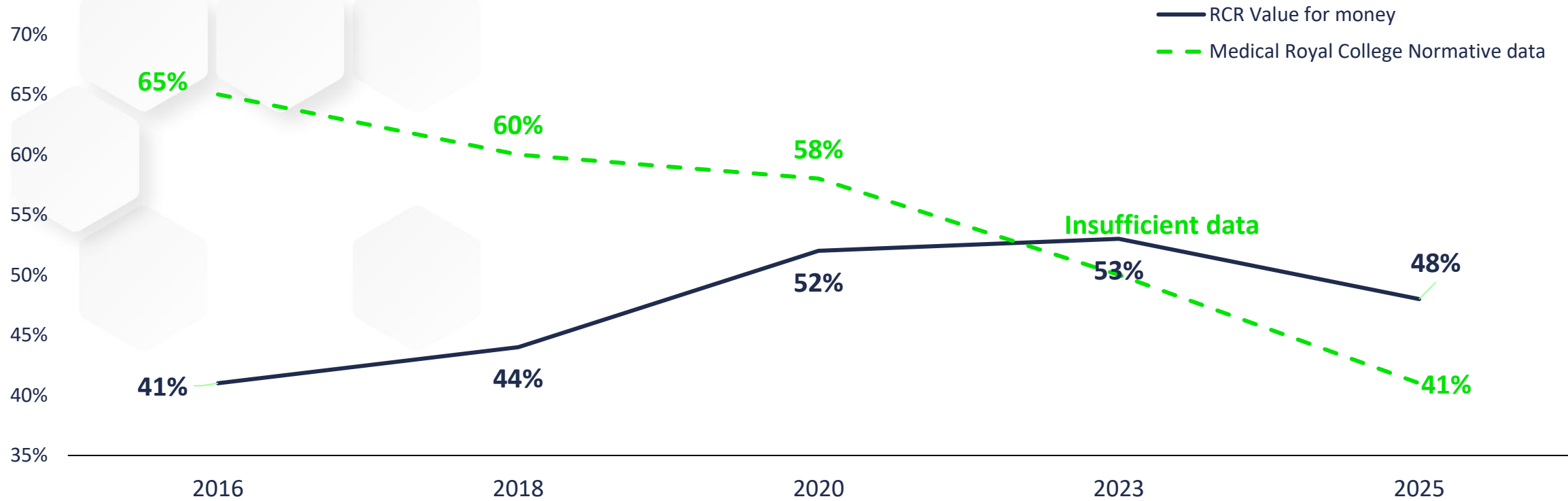
How do you rate the RCR as a professional membership organisation?
(% rating 4 or 5 out of 5)



O10a. How do you rate the RCR as a professional membership organisation, using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is excellent? Base: 666 UK CR Fell / 227 UK CR Res / 201 UK CO Fell / 61 UK CO Res / 301 Glob Fell / 495 Global Mem

Value for Money:

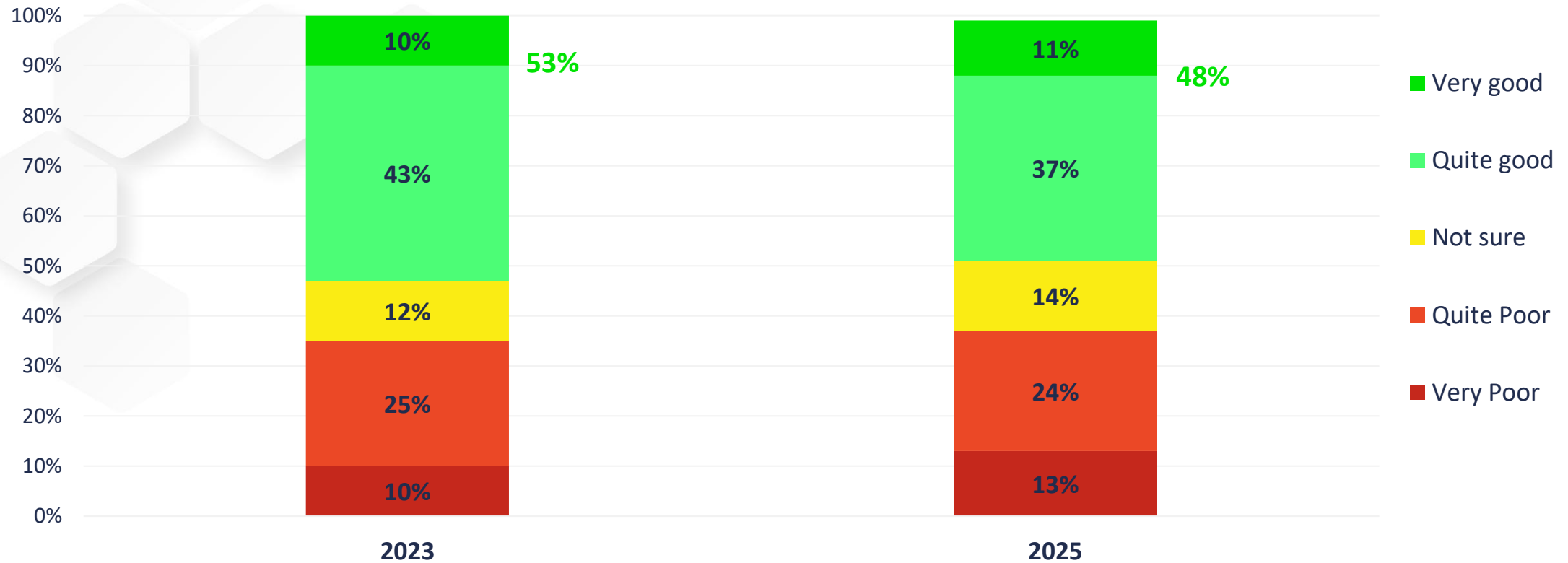
How would you rate your Fellowship/membership with the RCR in terms of value for money?
(% rating 4 or 5 out of 5)



O20. How would you rate your Fellowship / membership with the RCR in terms of value for money? Base: Asked to all except Honorary members/ Fellows (1,924). RbD normative database base since 2016 (38,891)

Value for Money: The change since 2023

How would you rate your Fellowship / membership with the RCR in terms of value for money? (2023 v 2025)

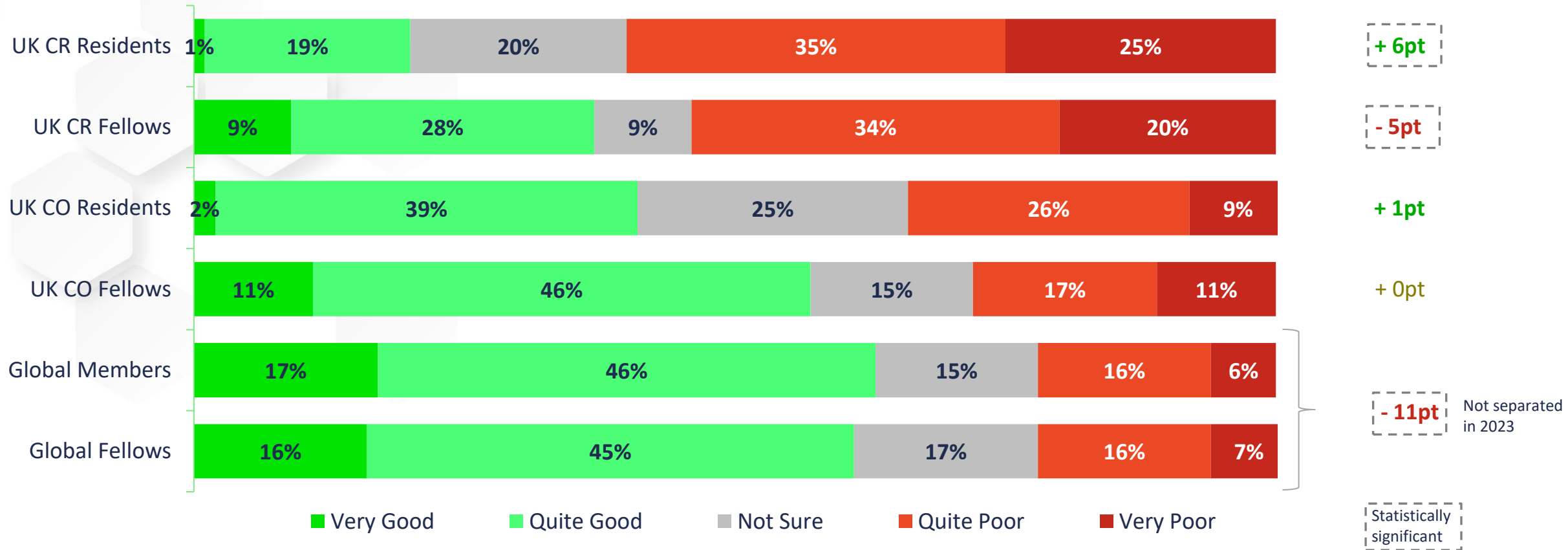


O20. How would you rate your Fellowship / membership with the RCR in terms of value for money? Base: Asked to all except Honorary members/ Fellows (1,924).

Value for Money: Segments

How would you rate your Fellowship / membership with the RCR in terms of value for money?

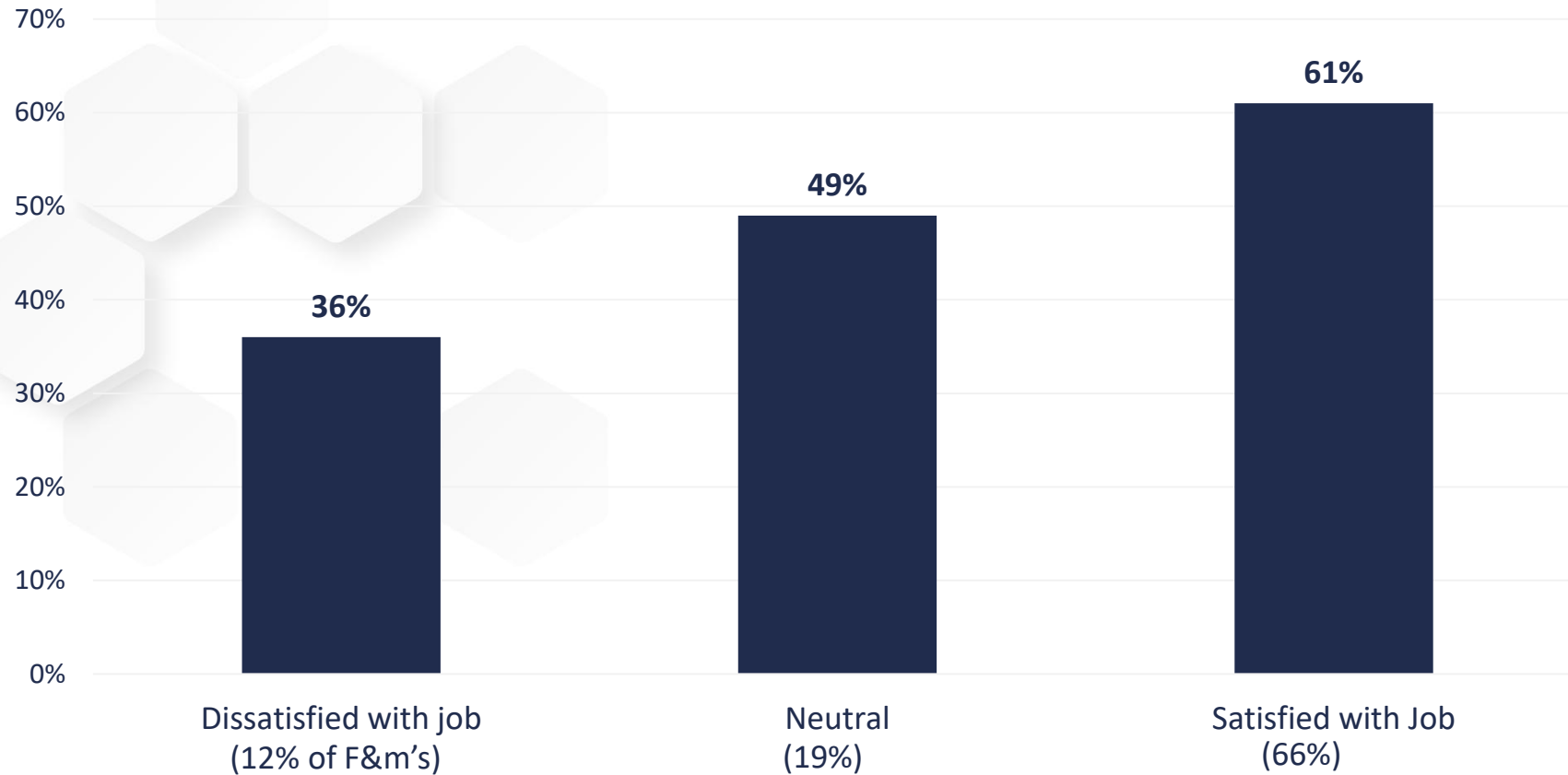
Change since 2023 on Quite/Very good



O O20. How would you rate your Fellowship / membership with the RCR in terms of value for money?
 Base: 666 UK CR Fell / 227 UK CR Res / 201 UK CO Fell / 61 UK CO Res / 301 Glob Fell / 495 Global Mem

Overall rating: Job satisfaction affects opinions of RCR

How do you rate the RCR as a professional membership organisation?
(% 4/5 out of 5)

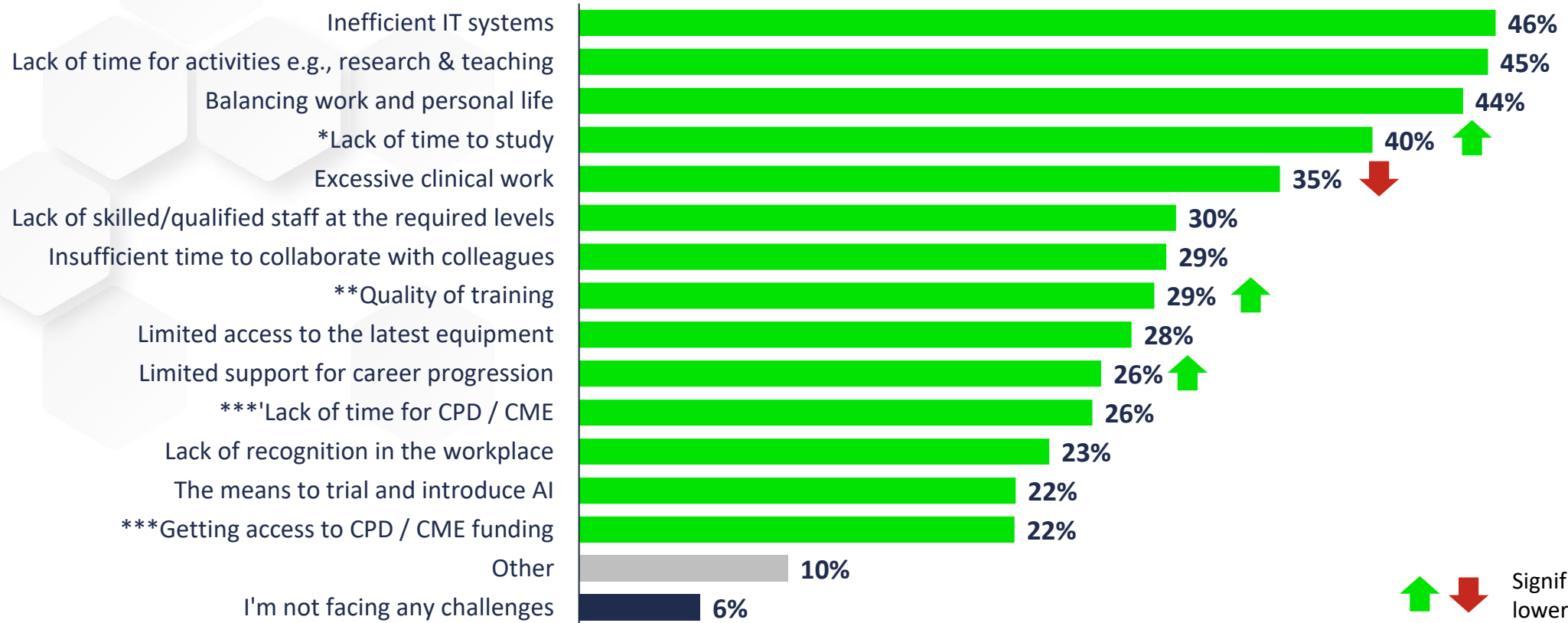


It is likely that job satisfaction has fallen since 2023.
(62% of members said their ability to deliver effective care has **got worse this year**)

O10a. How do you rate the RCR as a professional membership organisation, using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is excellent?
Base: All respondents (2,080). How satisfied do you feel in your current job? Base: Asked to non-retired
RbD normative database base since 2016 (38,850) (1) Insight Panel – Workforce shortages and scanners, Jan 2025

Workplace Challenges

Which, if any, of the following challenges are you facing in your work?



↑ ↓ Significantly higher/ lower than 2023

W20. Which, if any, of the following challenges are you facing in your work? Base: Asked to non-retired and currently working (491-1849). * Asked to Trainees only, ** Asked to Trainees and Fellow (UK Trainees), *** Excludes Trainees. 2023 base: (2,554)

Positive overall ratings – Reasons given

633 mentions



Support and Guidance

The RCR’s professional standards, clinical practice frameworks and educational resources help members feel supported in delivering high-quality patient care.

“Because it plays a vital role in supporting radiologists through guidance, professional standards, educational resources and examinations.”

Fellow, LMIC, Clinical Radiology

194 mentions



Lobbying and Advocacy

The College is seen to have improved its profile and advocating effectively for the profession.

This was a main source of discontent in 2023.

“Much more high profile in the past few years, strongly promoting the central role of diagnostic imaging in most clinical care.”

Fellow, UK, Clinical Radiology

57 mentions



Recognition and status

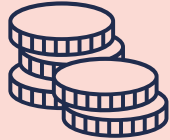
The College’s reputation and prestige enhance members’ sense of credibility, both in the UK and internationally. Holding the FRCR earns them professional respect.

“FRCR is a well recognised standard qualification which will give a distinction among radiologists worldwide.”

Trainee, LMIC, Clinical Radiology

Negative overall ratings – Reasons given

227 mentions



Poor value for money

This is especially prominent for Global members....but they seem to be more accepting

“Poor value for money. Subscription fees have significantly increased, with very little to show for it.”
Fellow, UK, Clinical Radiology

146 mentions



Out of touch with members’ reality

Some feel the RCR should do more to acknowledge and address their challenges. (London too)

“RCR has lost touch with real world NHS working conditions of its members.”
Member, UK, Clinical Oncology

113 mentions



Exam booking

Frustration exists with the exam booking process due to long queues, technical issues, limited availability, and unclear seat allocation.

“After waiting long hours in queue and paying for the exam fee, you get the email after 5 days that you are not able to secure a seat.”
Trainee, LMIC, Clinical Radiology

50 mentions



Recording CPD

Frustration with the updated CPD journal and app removal.

“As a Fellow, the CPD diary is the main benefit. The recent upgrade of this has (to me) completely ruined the usability of this.”
Fellow, UK, Clinical Oncology



Performance on Strategic Priorities



Statistical drivers of positive rating of RCR (and performance)

Top 10 drivers of overall positive rating	RCR relative performance
1. Advocating for our specialties to key decision makers and the government	
2. I am proud to be part of the RCR	
3. Providing support throughout your career	
4. The RCR listens to all of its members and Fellows	
5. Providing connecting/networking opportunities	
6. The College understands the priorities and perspectives of professionals like me	
7. The RCR is a significant part of my professional life	
8. Providing the education and learning opportunities you need to progress/keep up to date	
9. The RCR tries hard to connect with its members and Fellows	
10. My profession is stronger because of the RCR	

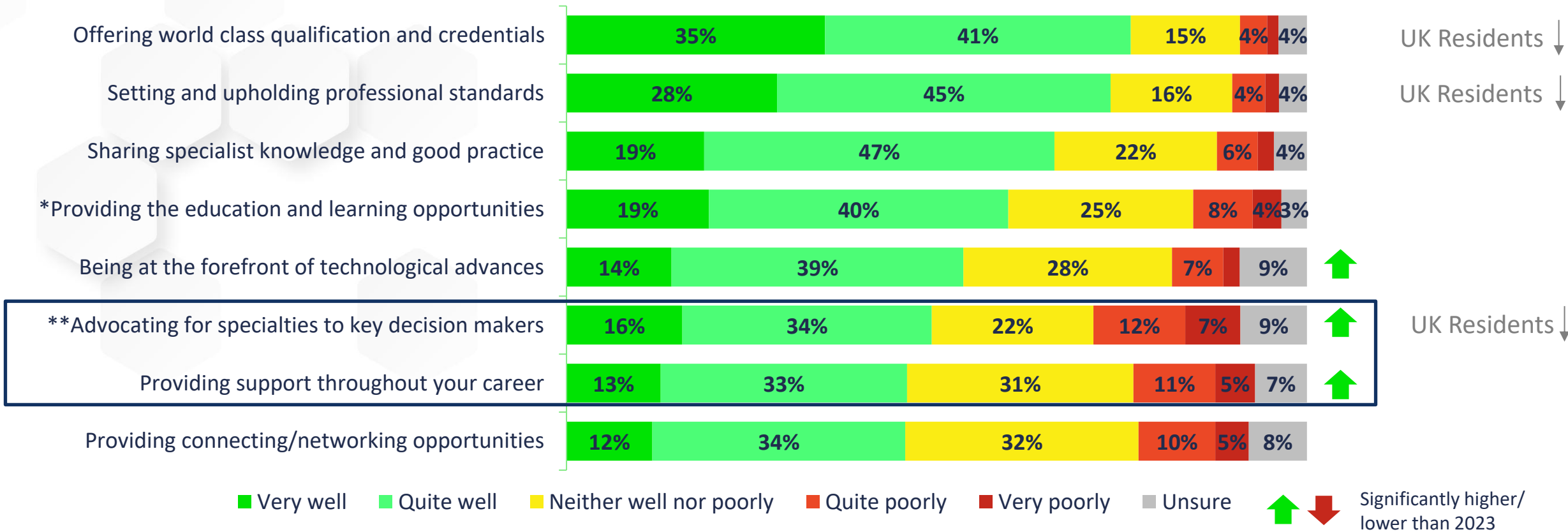
Performance

-  Good (60%+)
-  OK (50-59%)
-  Less good (<50%)

*S10. How do you feel the RCR delivers on the following? Base: All respondents (1,113-1,882) * 2023 wording "Providing the required education / training opportunities". ** 2023 wording "Influence and profile to represent your specialty to key decision-makers, the government and the media". "Advocating for our specialties to key decision makers and the government" only asked to UK respondents. 2023 base (1,580-2,849)*

Strategic Priorities

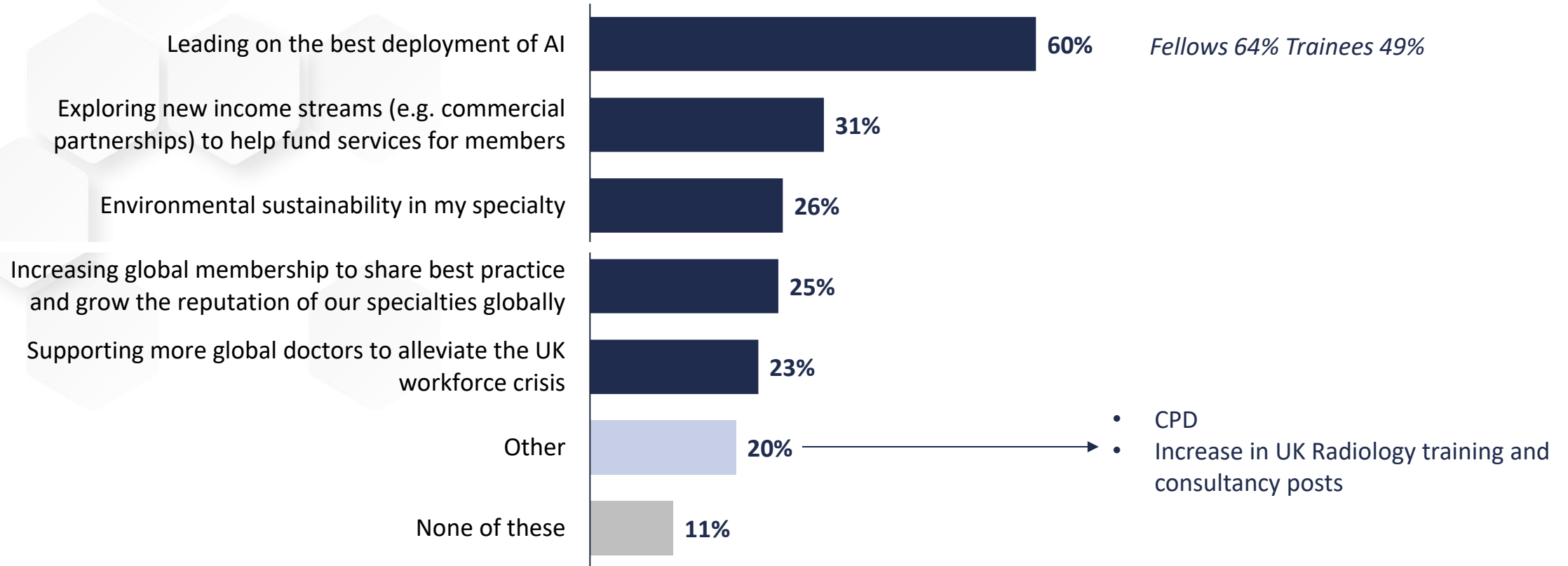
How do you feel the RCR delivers on the following?



S10. How do you feel the RCR delivers on the following? Base: All respondents (1,113-1,882) * 2023 wording "Providing the required education / training opportunities". ** 2023 wording "Influence and profile to represent your specialty to key decision-makers, the government and the media". "Advocating for our specialties to key decision makers and the government" only asked to UK respondents. 2023 base (1,580-2,849)

Potential areas of focus

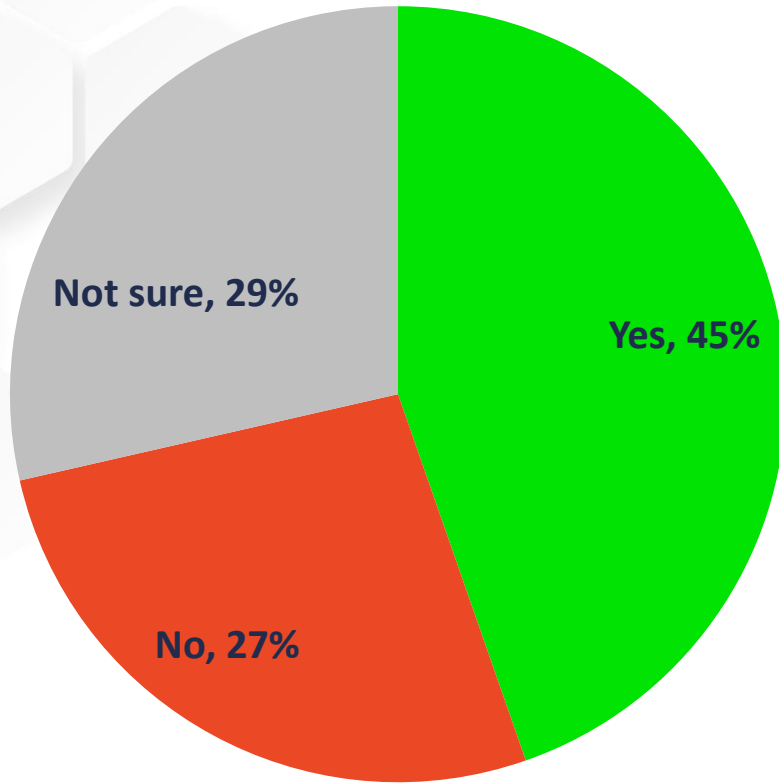
Which of the following areas do you think should be a focus for the RCR?



P10. The following are some areas of focus that have been suggested for the RCR. Which, if any, of the following areas do you think should be a focus for the RCR? Base: Asked to UK respondents (1,000), Members (56), Fellows (699), Trainees (234)

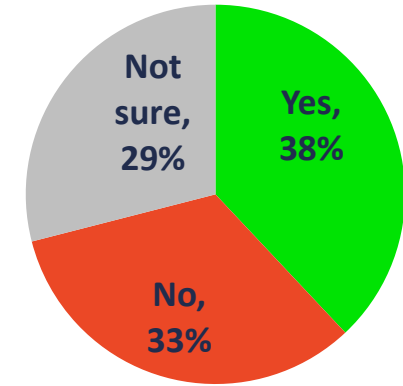
Resident vote

Do you feel that residents should be allowed to vote in College elections?

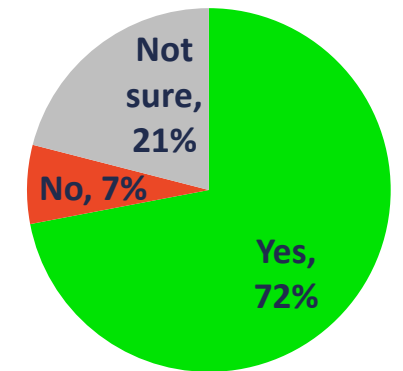


“Not being able to vote for the education and training representatives does not make sense ... Training and education affects us trainees the most and it would be great to have a say in this domain at the very least.”
Trainee, UK, Clinical Radiology

Among Fellows



Among Residents



P20. Currently, residents are unable to vote in College elections. Do you feel that residents should be allowed to vote in College elections? Base: Asked to UK respondents (1,001)

O10b. Why did you rate the RCR (Pipe answer from above) overall? Base: 1,416 responses

P30. Overall, what is the one area in which the RCR could improve? Base: All respondents (1146)

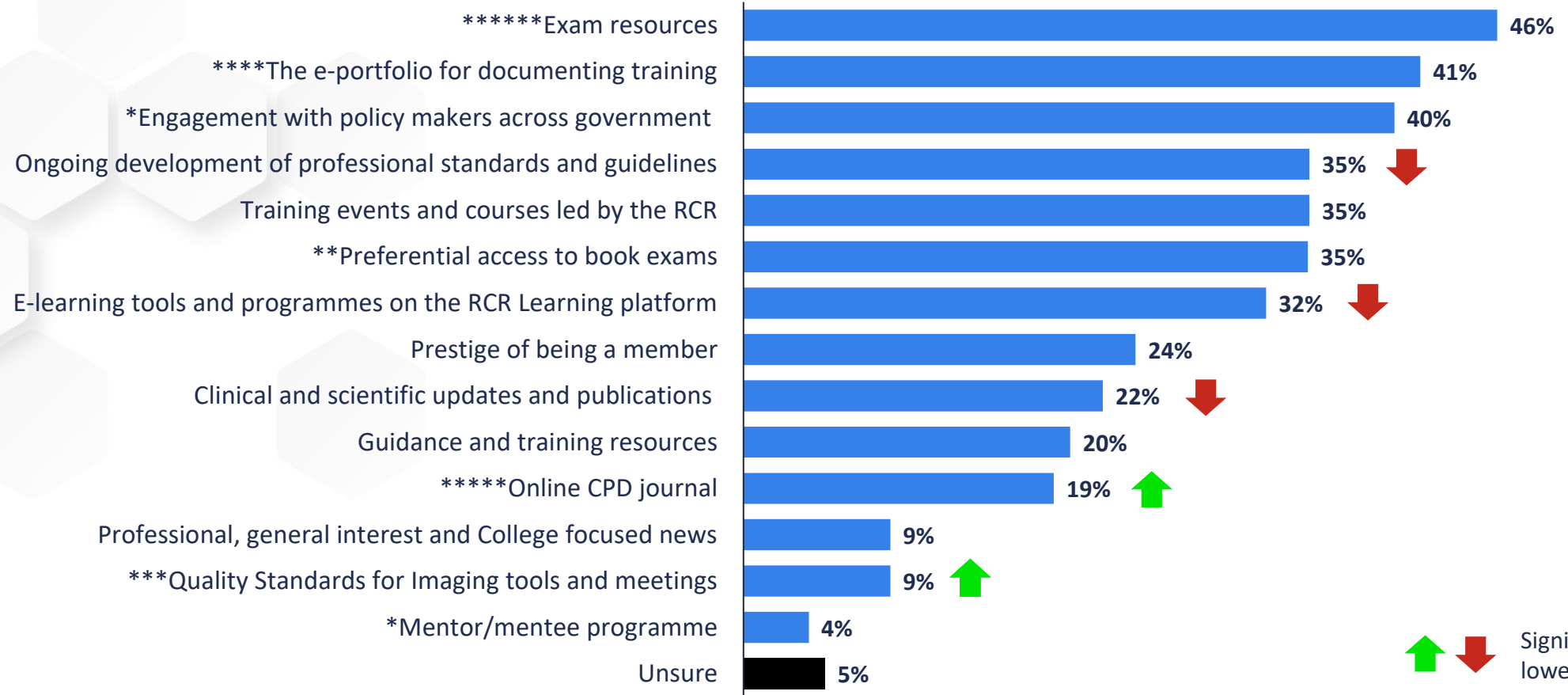




Member Offer



Most valued benefits

Which of the following benefits do you consider most important in the context of your RCR membership?

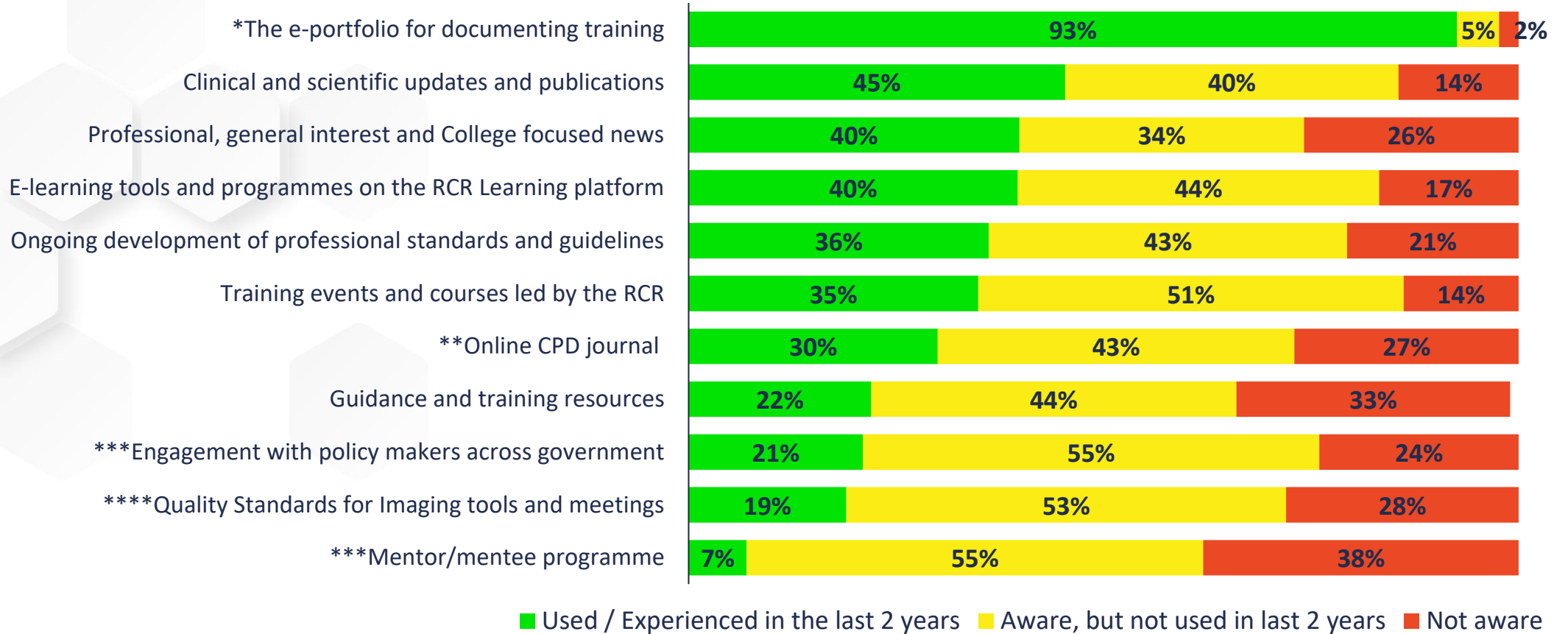




 Significantly higher/ lower than 2023

M30. Which of the following benefits do you consider most important in the context of your RCR membership? Please select up to three options. Base: All respondents (251-1,755) * Asked to UK only, ** Asked to Global, *** Asked to UK and radiology, **** Asked to UK Trainees, ***** Excludes UK Trainee, ***** UK Trainees or anyone preparing for FRCR. 2023 "And which of these are the top 3 most valuable elements of your membership as a [member grade]?" Base: All respondents (3,023) In 2023 "Clinical and scientific updates and publications via our Clinical Radiology, Clinical Oncology and RCR Open Journals" was called "Publications, e.g RCR Newsletter, Clinical Radiology, Clinical Oncology and RCR Open journals"

Awareness & Usage of benefits

To what extent are you aware of these benefits as a part of your membership?



M10. To what extent are you aware of these benefits as a part of your membership? Base: All respondents (257-1,806) * Only shown to UK Trainees, ** Exclude UK trainees, *** Asked to UK, **** Asked to UK and Clinical Radiology.

Usage of benefits:

% used each benefit

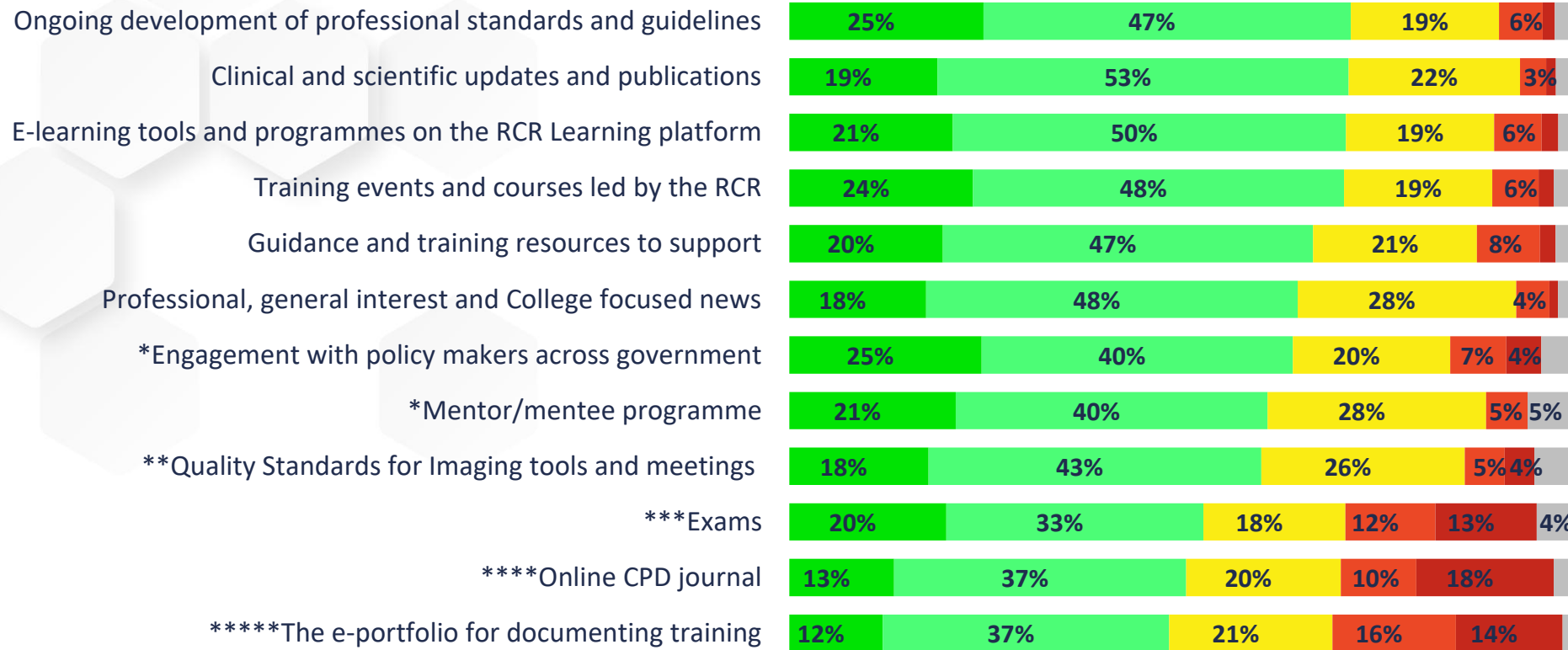
	UK Residents	UK Fellows	Global
*The e-portfolio for documenting training	93%		
Clinical and scientific updates and publications	41%	66%	28%
Professional, general interest and College focused news	31%	59%	24%
E-learning tools and programmes on the RCR Learning platform	47%	50%	29%
Ongoing development of professional standards and guidelines	38%	55%	19%
Training events and courses led by the RCR	42%	51%	20%
**Online CPD journal		51%	13%
Guidance and training resources	35%	26%	17%
***Engagement with policy makers across government	14%	26%	
****Quality Standards for Imaging tools and meetings	13%	21%	
***Mentor/mentee programme	7%	8%	

M10. To what extent are you aware of these benefits as a part of your membership? Base: All respondents (257-1,806)
 * Only shown to UK Trainees
 Base: Members: (839-1806), Fellows (839-1806), Trainees (257-1806)

Satisfaction with the benefits

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with these elements of your RCR membership?

■ Very Satisfied
 ■ Satisfied
 ■ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
 ■ Dissatisfied
 ■ Very Dissatisfied
 ■ Unsure

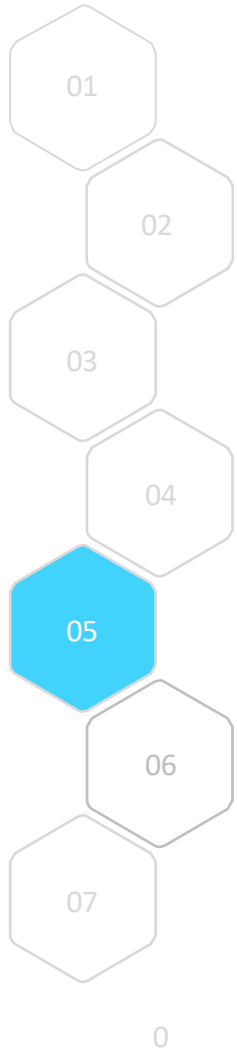


2023: 75%

↑ ↓ Significantly higher/ lower than 2023

M20. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with these elements of your RCR membership? Base: Asked to those who are aware or have used benefits (75-806) *Asked to UK **Asked to UK and Clinical Radiologists, ***Asked if trainees or those working towards their FRCR, ****Excludes UK trainees, *****Asked to UK trainees
 2023 Base: All respondents (3,023) In 2023 "Clinical and scientific updates and publications via our Clinical Radiology, Clinical Oncology and RCR Open Journals" was called "Publications, e.g RCR Newsletter, Clinical Radiology, Clinical Oncology and RCR Open journals"





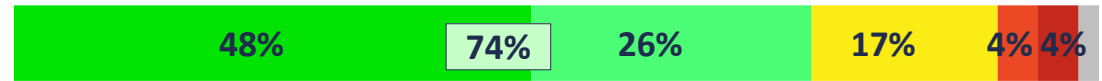
Belonging and Representation



Belonging

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

I am proud to be part of the RCR



Through the RCR I feel part of a professional community/network



The RCR tries hard to connect with its members and Fellows



I would like to be more involved with the RCR



The College does well to meet the needs of its diverse membership



The RCR is a significant part of my professional life



I get what I need from the College though I don't contribute much



■ Strongly Agree
 ■ Agree
 ■ Neither agree nor disagree
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Strongly Disagree
 ■ Unsure

↑ ↓ Significantly higher/lower than 2023

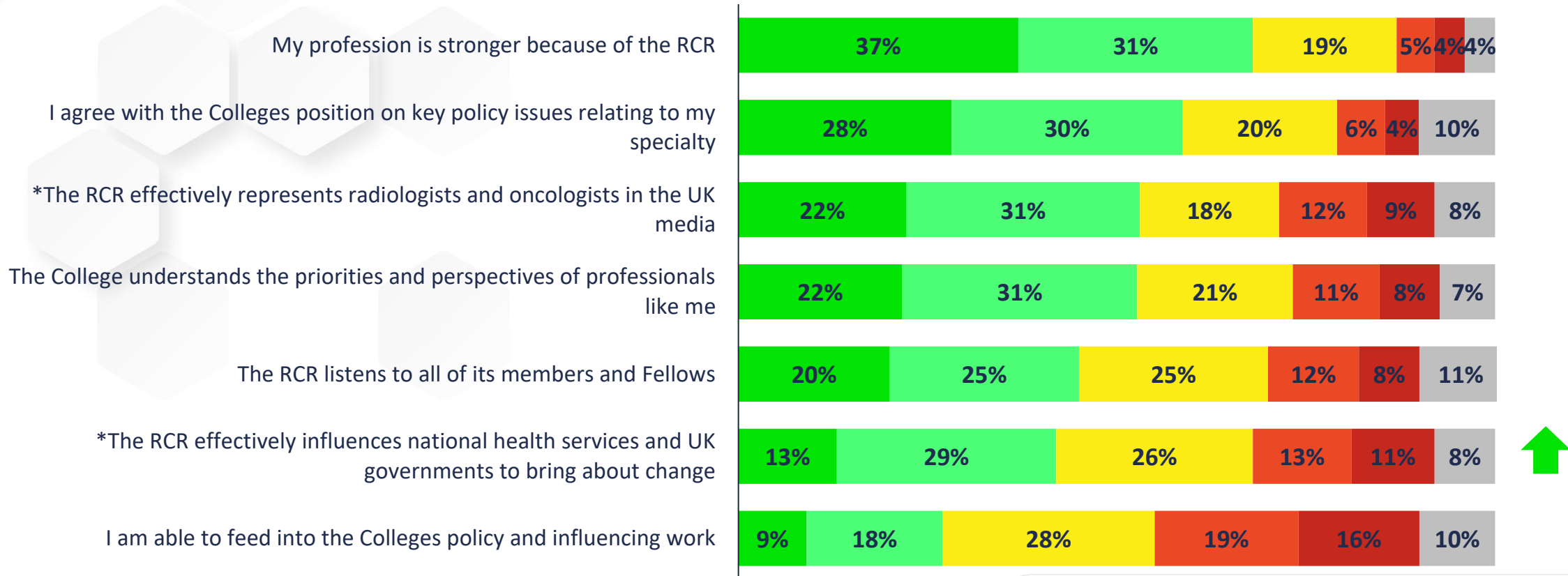
E10. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Base: All respondents (1,683)

Representation

↑
↓
 Significantly higher/lower than 2023

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

■ Strongly agree
 ■ Slightly agree
 ■ Neither agree nor disagree
 ■ Slightly disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Unsure



R10. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Base: All respondents (1,027-1,713), *Asked to those from the UK 2023. A10a. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Base: All Respondents (1,446- 2,699)

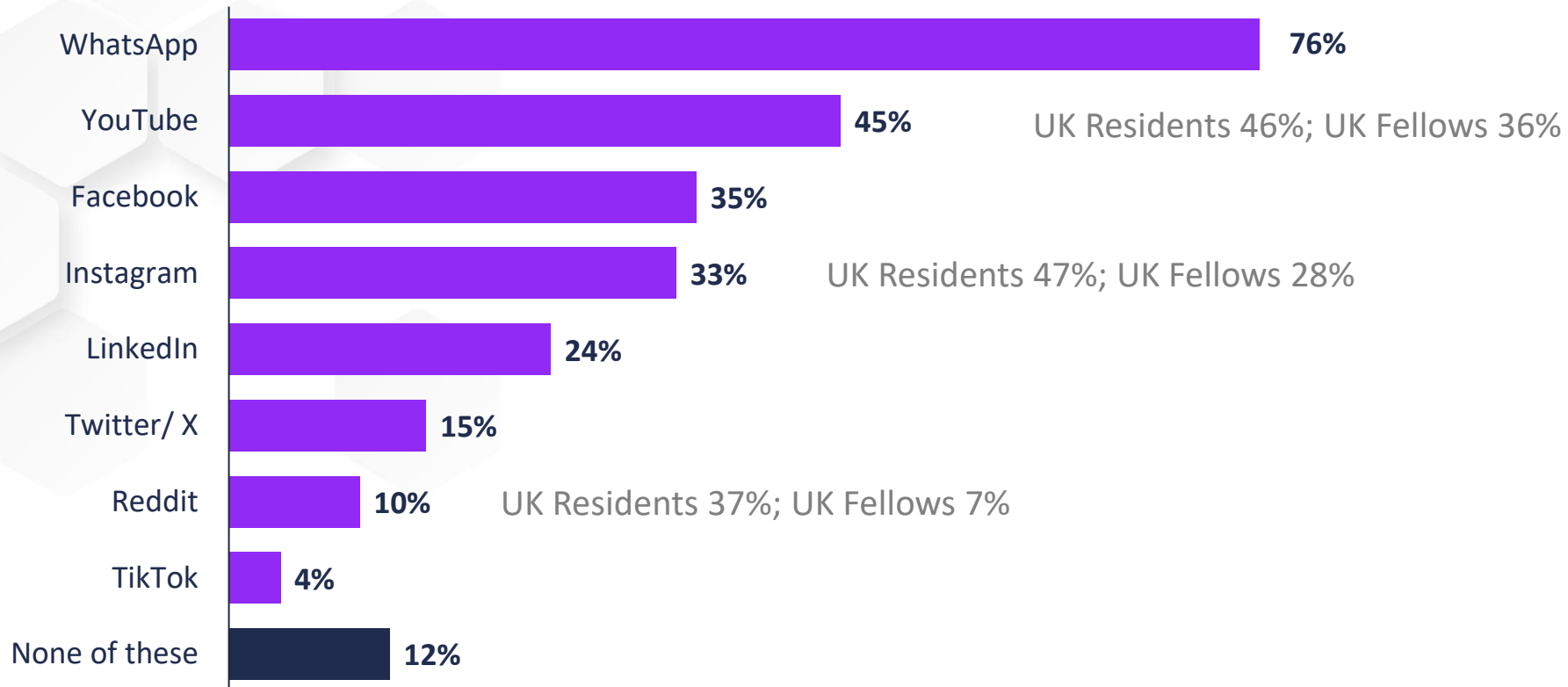


Communication and Website



Channels used:

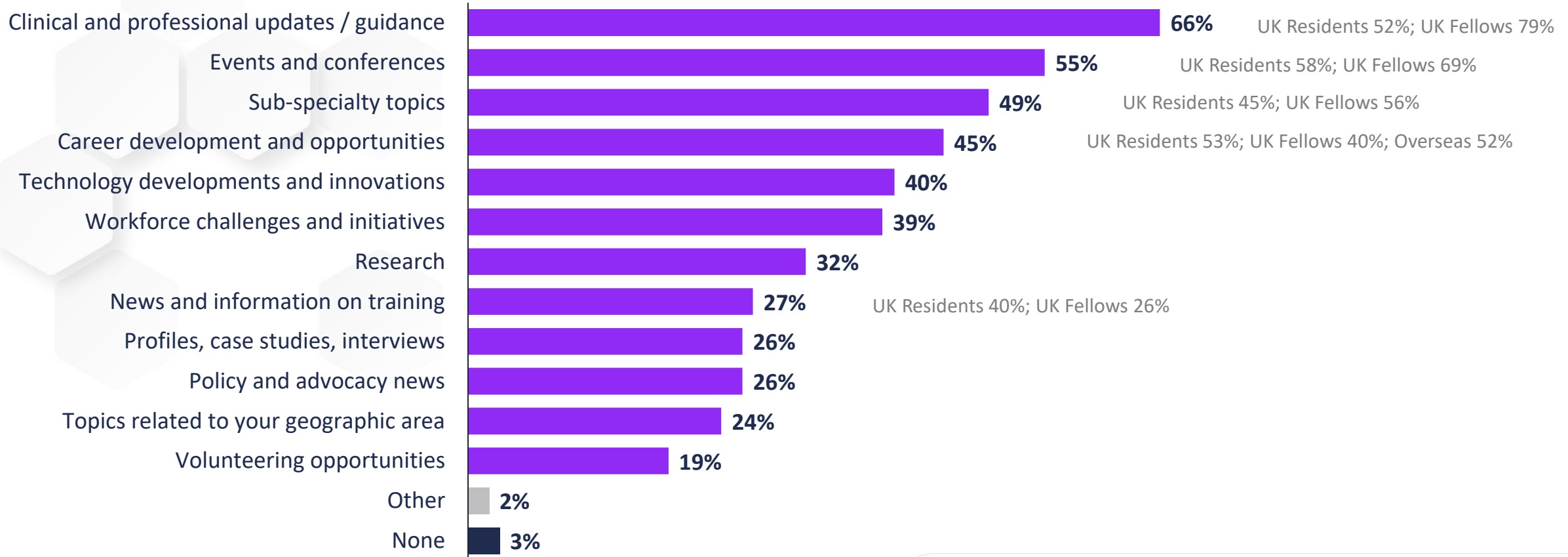
Which of the following social media platforms do you use regularly, whether for personal or professional use?



C10. Which of the following social media platforms do you use regularly, whether for personal or professional use? Base: Asked to all (1,673), Members (283), Fellows (969), Trainees (396)

Preferred content

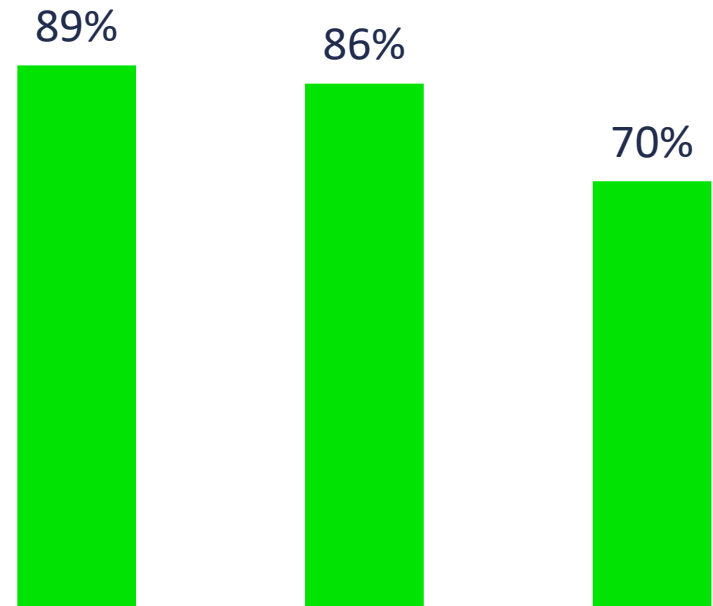
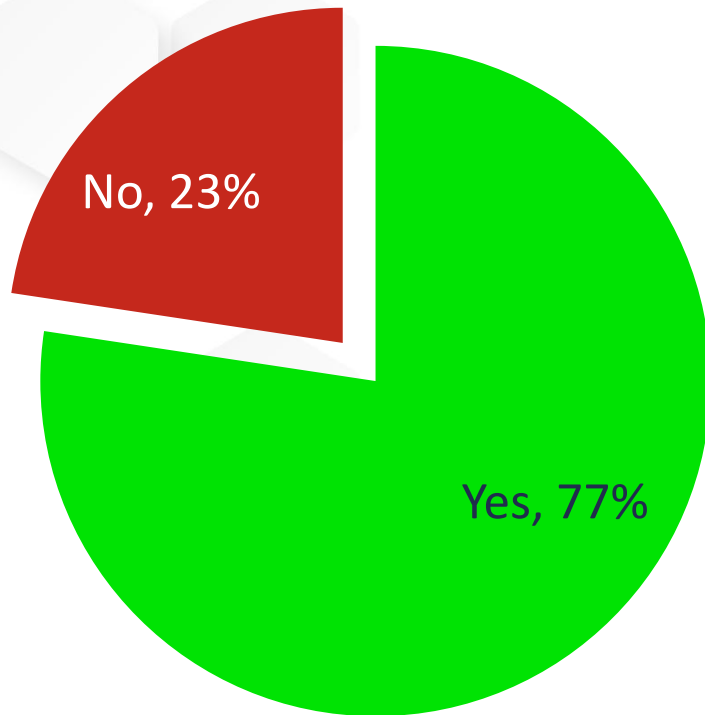
What types of content or topics would you find most valuable in RCR communications?



C20. What types of content or topics would you find most valuable in RCR communications? Base: All respondents (1,658) Members (279), Fellows (964), Trainees (390)

Website usage

Have you visited the RCR website in the last 3 months or so?

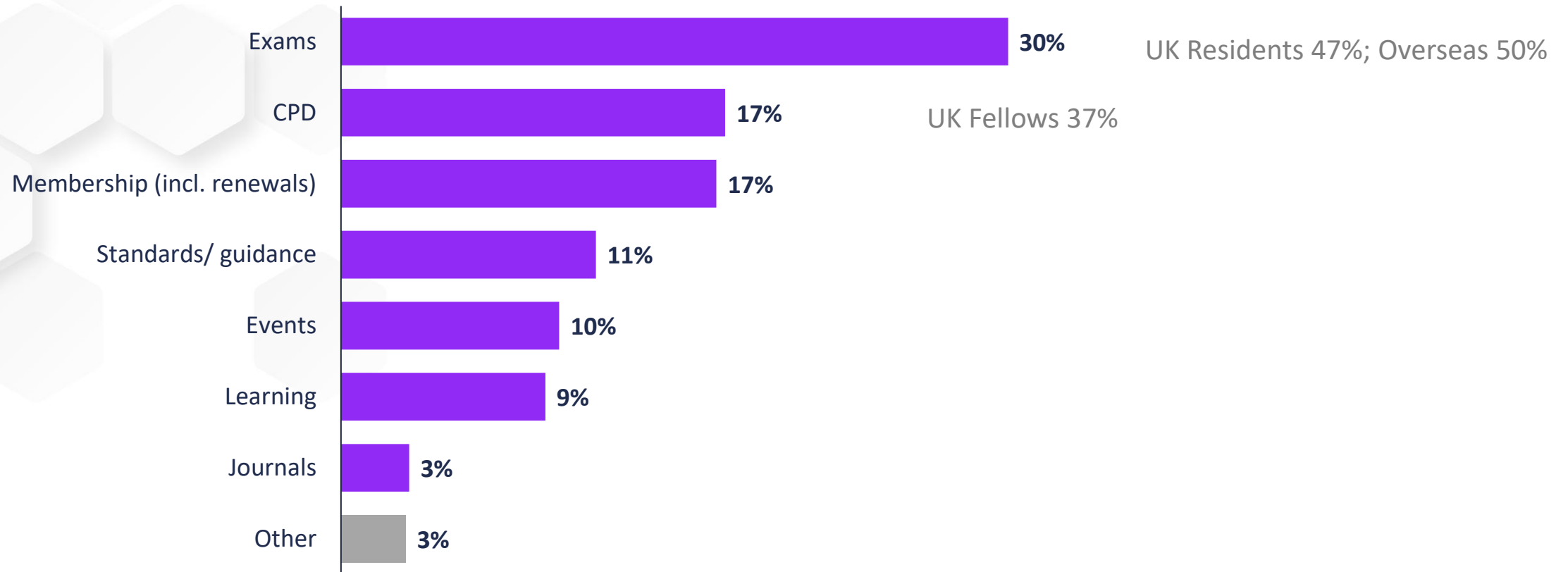


Trainees Members Fellows
Have visited the website in the past 3 months

C30. Have you visited the RCR website in the last 3 months or so? Base: All respondents (1,658)
C40a. What was the main reason for your last visit to the website? Base: Asked to those who have used the RCR website in the last 3 months (1,281), Members (240), Fellows (674), Trainees (345)

Website – reasons for usage

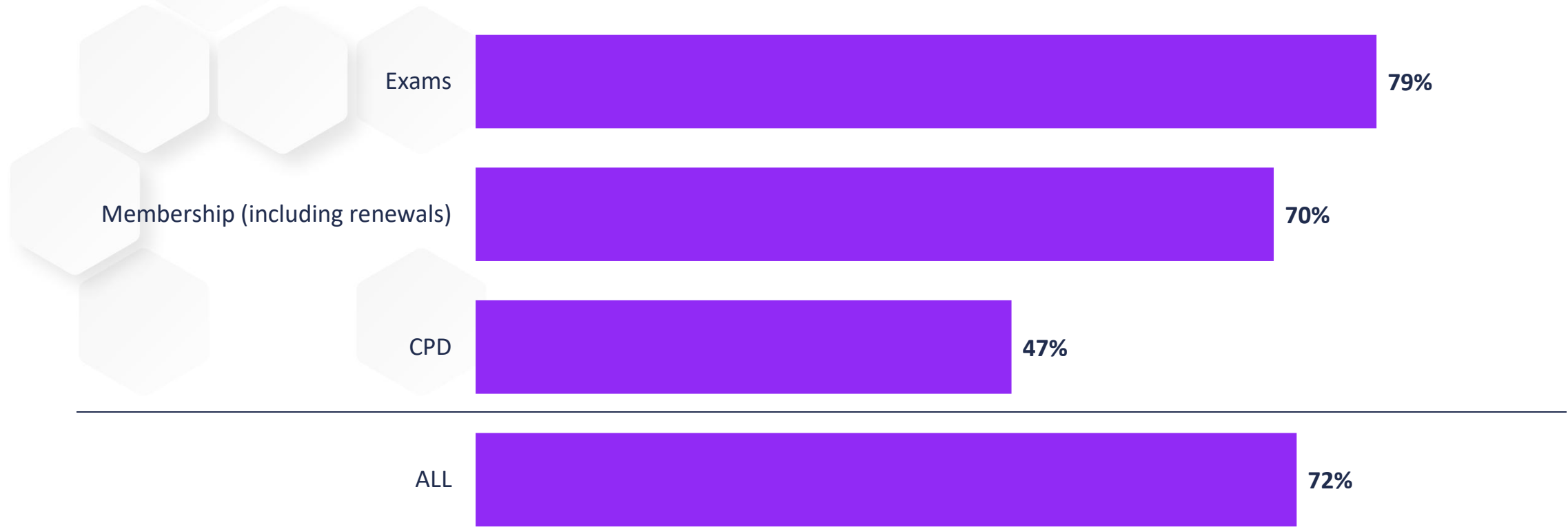
What was the main reason for your last visit to the website?



C40a. What was the main reason for your last visit to the website? Base: Asked to those who have used the RCR website in the last 3 months (1,281), Members (240), Fellows (674), Trainees (345)

Website - satisfaction

% Positive opinion of the website by top three reasons for visit



C40b. What was your overall opinion of the website? Base: Asked to those who have used the RCR website in the last 3 months (1,281), Members (240), Fellows (674), Trainees (345)

Some of the other questions asked...

Question	Answer
What % of members work outside NHS?	52% of UK CR Fellows (although 88% are mainly NHS)
What % are Interventional Radiologists?	23% of CR's undertake IR (although only 3% are solely IR)
Should UK Residents be able to vote?	45% say 'Yes', 27% say 'No' (Among Fellows, it's 38% Yes and 33% No)
What are members' comms preferences??	Insta and Reddit used more by UK Residents.
What % of members are neuro-diverse?	5% (a further 11% are not sure or prefer not to say)

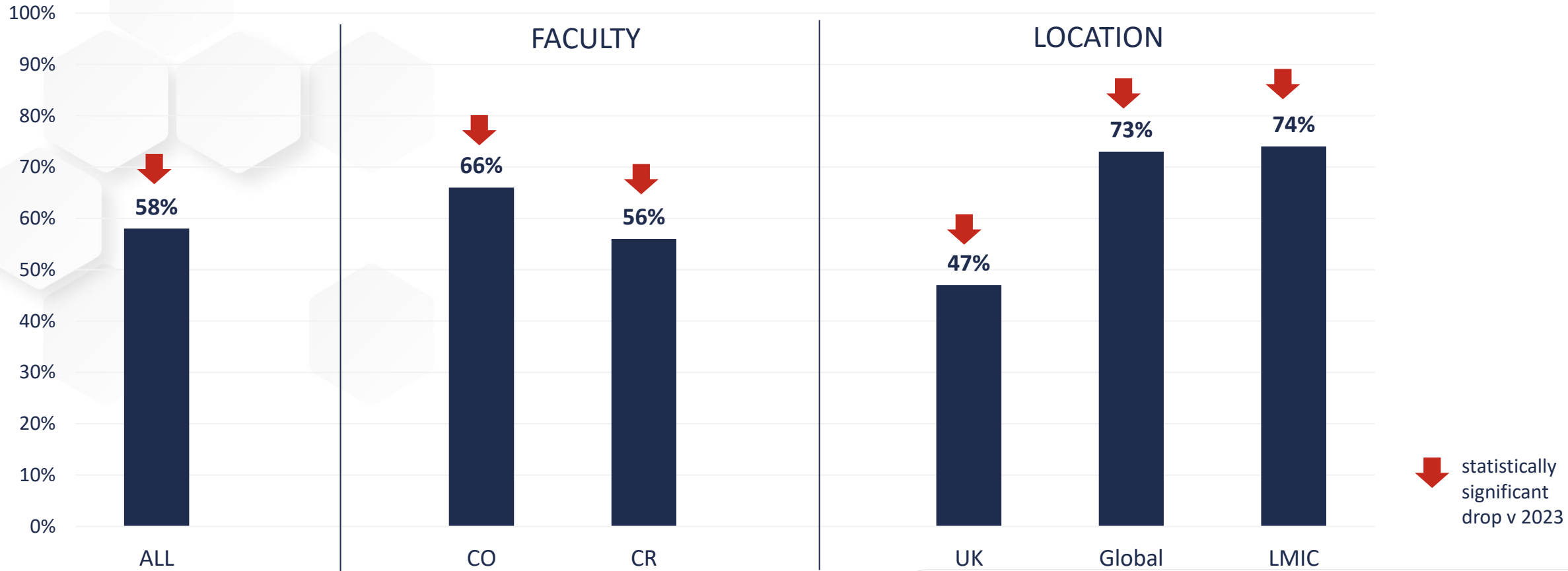


Segments



Overall rating

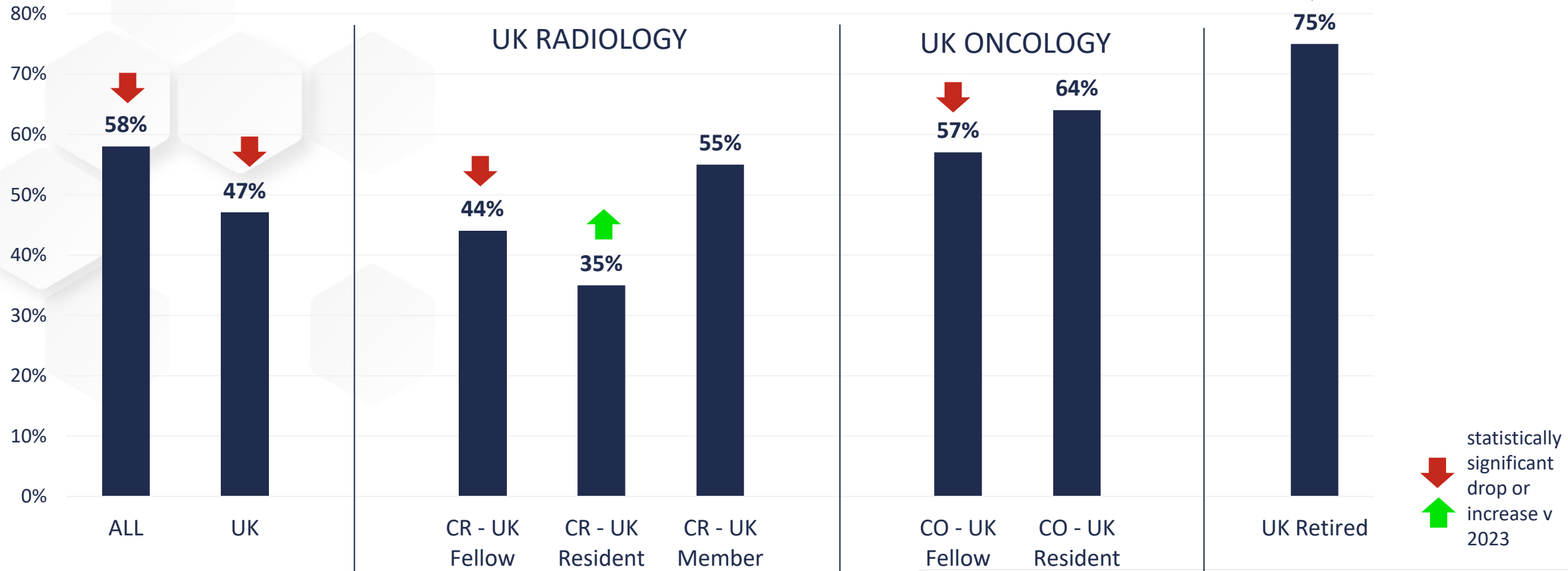
How do you rate the RCR as a professional membership organisation?
(% 4/5 out of 5)



O10a. How do you rate the RCR as a professional membership organisation, using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is excellent? Base: All respondents (2,080)

Overall rating in UK

How do you rate the RCR as a professional membership organisation?
(% 4/5 out of 5)



O10a. How do you rate the RCR as a professional membership organisation, using a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is excellent? Base: All respondents (2,080)

Segment summary: Opinion of RCR and strategic delivery

	UK CR Residents	UK CR Fellows	UK CO Residents	UK CO Fellows	Overseas Members	Overseas Fellows
<u>Workplace satisfaction</u>						
Satisfied with job	71%	68%	70%	63%	62%	70%
<u>Overall opinion of RCR</u>						
RCR Satisfaction	35%	44%	64%	57%	77%	68%
RCR VFM	20%	37%	40%	58%	63%	61%
<u>RCR delivers on strategy (% agree)</u>						
Advocating for specialties	30%	50%	34%	67%	na	na
Support through career	30%	38%	51%	50%	59%	46%
Education and Learning opps	44%	53%	62%	63%	67%	65%
Connecting and Networking opps	34%	39%	49%	51%	57%	43%
<u>Future RCR Focus? (% agree)</u>						
Increasing global membership	33%	13%	35%	36%	na	na
Sustainability	19%	29%	27%	28%	na	na

Segment summary: Belonging and Representation

	UK CR Residents	UK CR Fellows	UK CO Residents	UK CO Fellows	Overseas Members	Overseas Fellows
<u>Belonging (% agree)</u>						
Proud to be part of RCR	50%	62%	73%	76%	88%	89%
Tries hard to connect	38%	50%	55%	66%	75%	75%
Significant part of my life	33%	33%	41%	46%	77%	70%
Want to be more involved	50%	36%	73%	47%	86%	64%
<u>Representation (% agree)</u>						
Profession is stronger	40%	63%	71%	72%	76%	78%
RCR Listens to all members	21%	34%	37%	49%	61%	58%
RCR Understands my priorities	29%	46%	49%	55%	65%	65%
RCR effectively represents specialty	31%	57%	47%	64%	na	na

Segment summary: Most valued benefits (Top 3)

	UK CR Residents	UK CR Fellows	UK CO Residents	UK CO Fellows	Overseas Members	Overseas Fellows
MOST VALUED (TOP 3)						
Exam access					1	
Exam Prep resources	1=		1		2	
The e-portfolio	1=					
Engagement with policy makers		2		2		
Professional standards and guidelines		1		1		3
Training events/courses led by the RCR	3	3	3	3		
Preferential access to book exams						
RCR Learning platform			2			2
Prestige of a Royal College					3	1

Segment summary: Most used benefits (top 3) and satisfaction

	UK CR Residents	UK CR Fellows	UK CO Residents	UK CO Fellows	Overseas Members	Overseas Fellows
MOST USED (TOP 3)						
Clinical and scientific updates (Journals)		1 67%	2 78%	1 81%	2 78%	1 79%
Professional, general or College news ('Wave'), website or email		2 61%		2 63%	3 73%	2 83%
Training events/courses led by the RCR	3 58%					
The e-portfolio	1 49%		1 46%			
Professional standards and guidelines		3= 67%		3 79%		
Training events/courses led by the RCR			3= 70%			
RCR Learning platform	2 51%	3= 65%	3= 65%		1 85%	3 85%

Satisfaction

- Good (70%+)
- OK (56-70%)
- Less good (<55%)