

Paying Cash to People Actively Misusing Drugs

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EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH ETHICS

**Enhancing Biomedical and Behavioral Research in HIV/AIDS
and Substance Abuse**

Nashville, TN

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ADVOCATE - ACTIVIST

- Respect for Autonomy
 - Capacity to Consent – Capacity to Decide
 - Would pay tobacco users, binge drinkers, etc
- I am paid in cash for time and effort
 - Terminology (incentive)
- Coupons or 'in-kind' goods
 - Paternalistic
 - Perpetuates Stigma
 - Diminished value

SOCIOLOGIST - COMMUNITARIAN

- Individualistic tendencies
- Contextual
- Beneficence Socially Constructed
 - Agreed upon, provisional, contested
- Fairness or “undue influence”
- Cash as problematic
- Case of Russia
- Ethics Engagement

Evidence?

Evidence

- Cultural Product
- Science as “way of seeing and knowing”
- Legitimate knowledge
- Where does expertise lie?
- How will evidence be used?
- Is powerless reinforced?
- Algorithms and “right answer machines”
- 2 types of evidence...

\$\$\$ and Motivation: IRB's

- In-depth interviews
 - 14 IRB Chairs or members
 - Expertise/interest in substance abuse research
- Representing 9 IRB committees in Connecticut.
- Content analysis
 - Findings will help to inform and refine an online survey to be sent to all Connecticut IRB members.

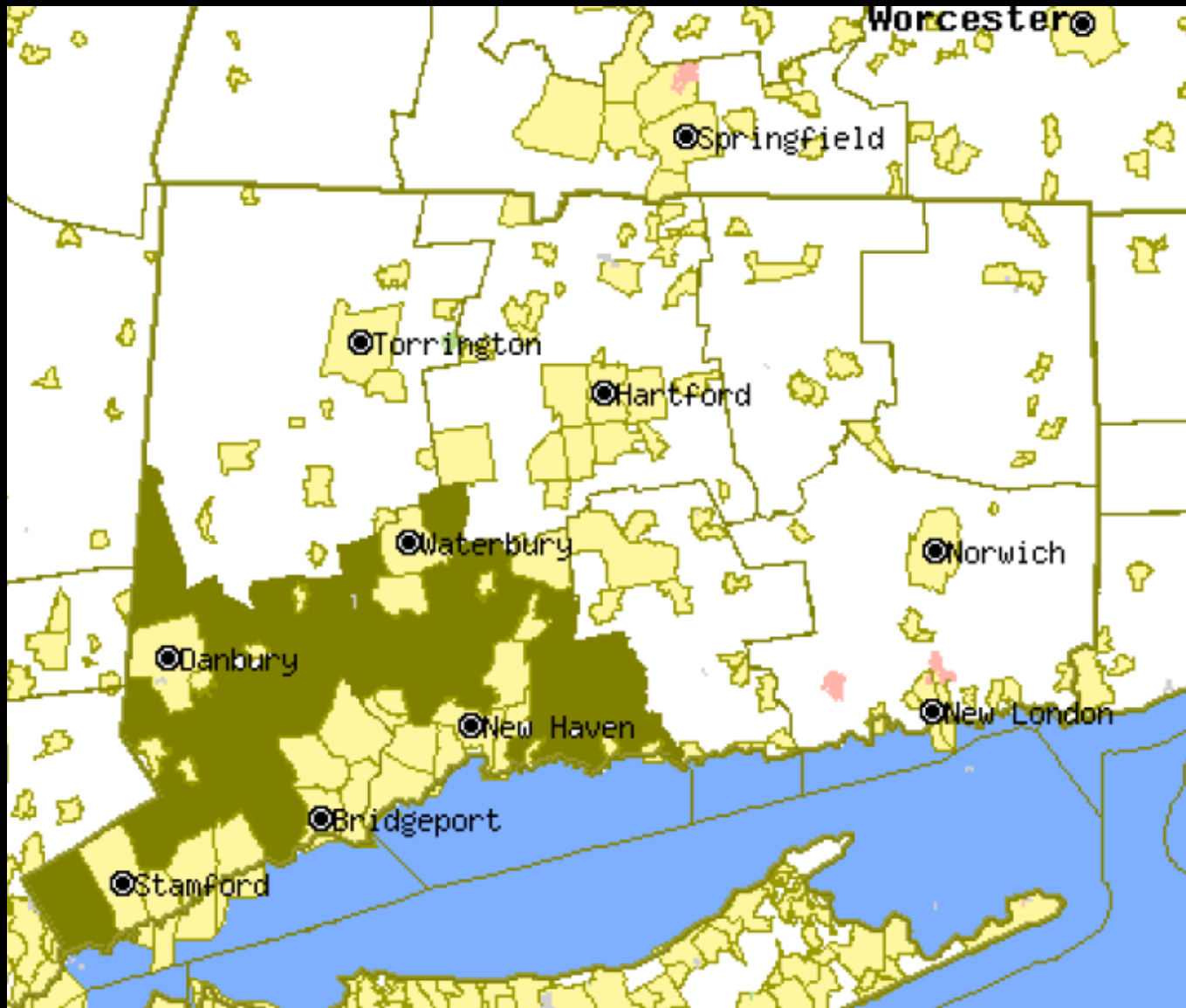
ISSUE OF PAYMENT

- Great Variation:
 - Organizational Structure & Change
 - Degree of Exposure/Experience
 - Training & Support
 - Location of Expertise
 - Legal, psychological, faith-based
 - Drug Users?
 - Faith invested in PI

EVIDENCE part II

- Engaging with data - decisions
- Ideal type of “drug user”?
- Suburban Study Preparation
 - 600 IDUs in 2 CT counties
 - Excludes 5 cities
- Pilot Data

MAP



Two Samples of Injection Drug Users in Southern Connecticut

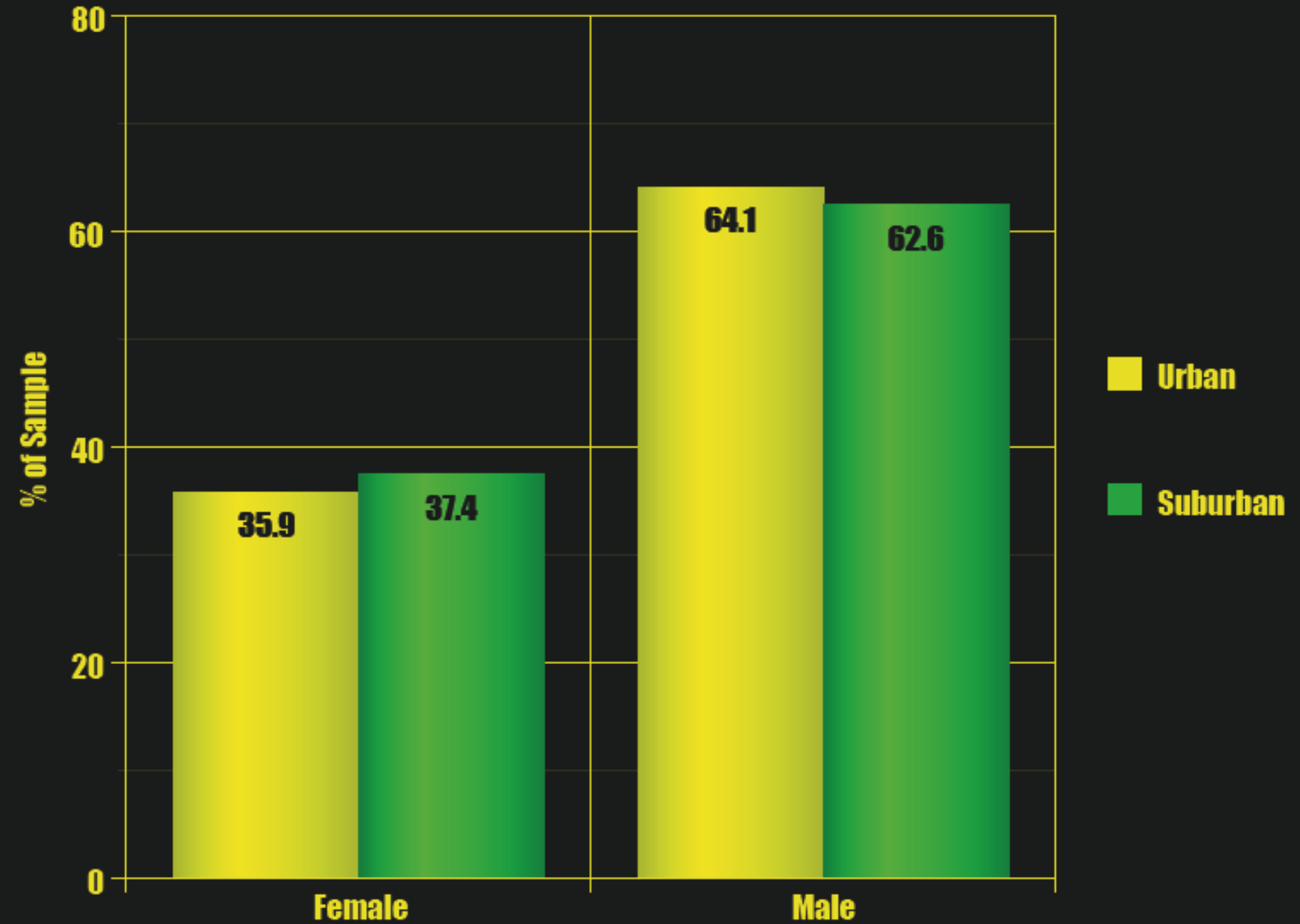
URBAN

- Study Completed
- N=320 IDUs
Recruited in New Haven
- \$25 Payment for 60-90 minute survey

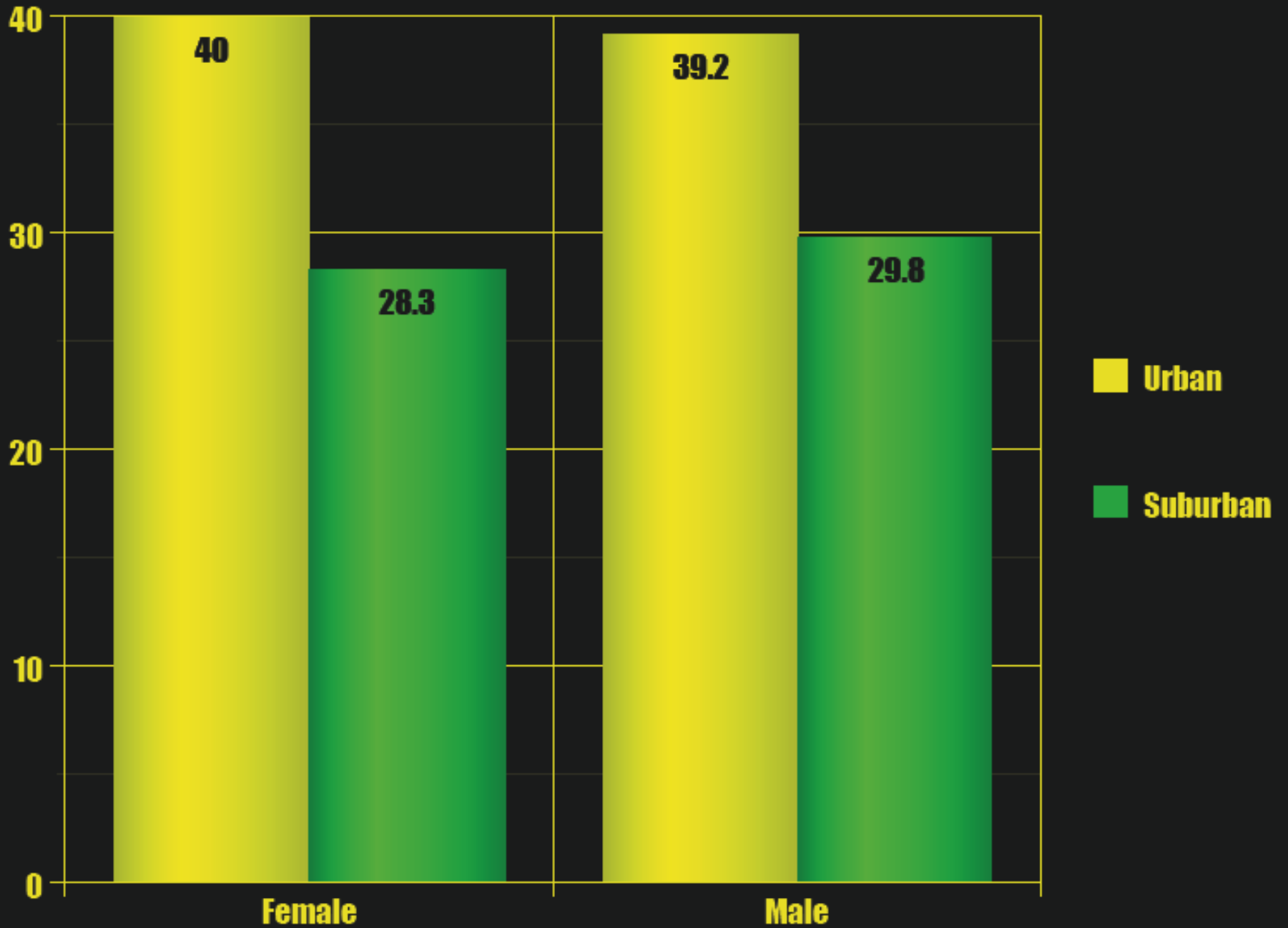
SUBURBAN

- Formative Data
- N=95 IDUs Recruited
in New Haven and
Fairfield Counties
- Excludes those
residing in 5 Cities

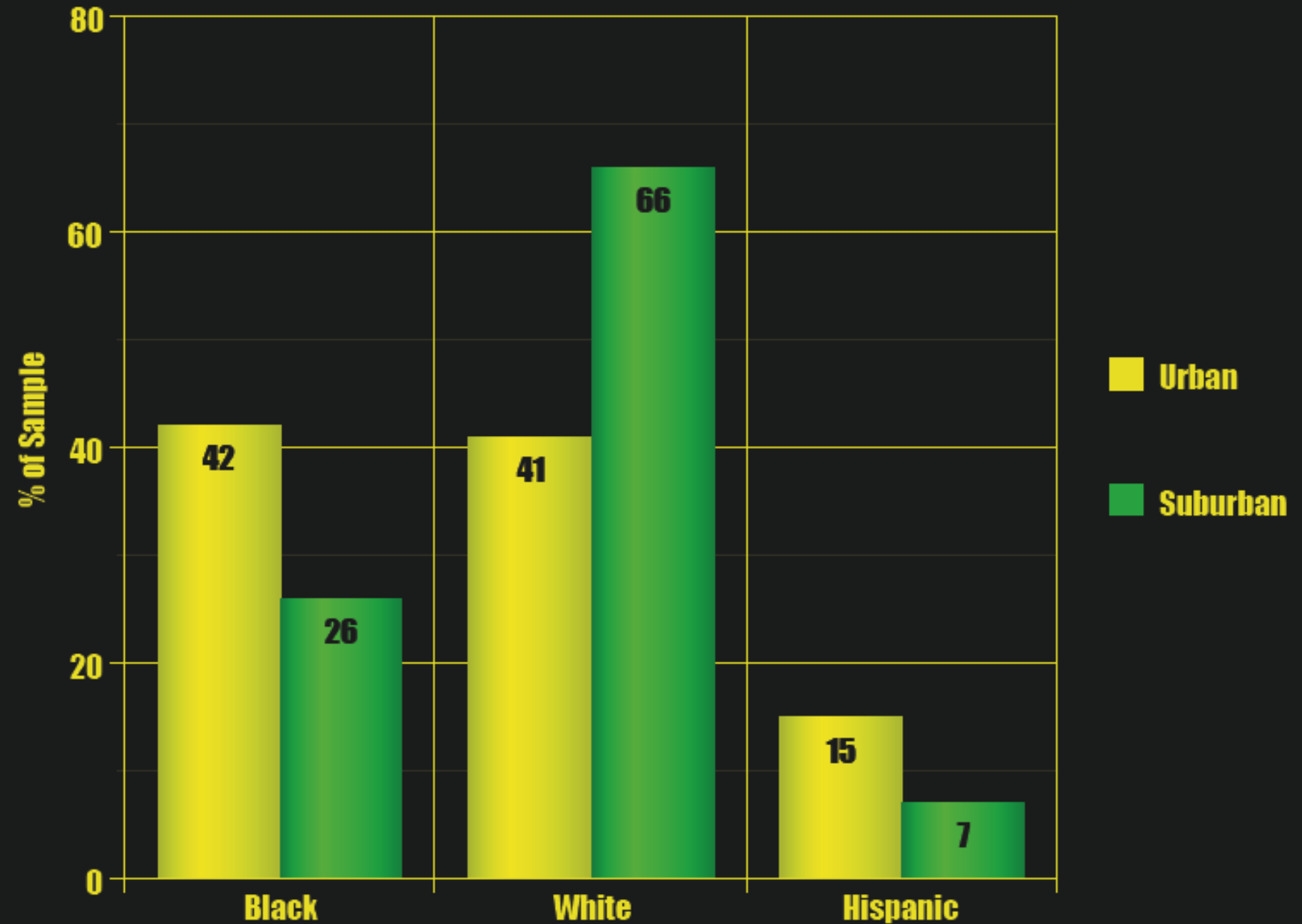
GENDER



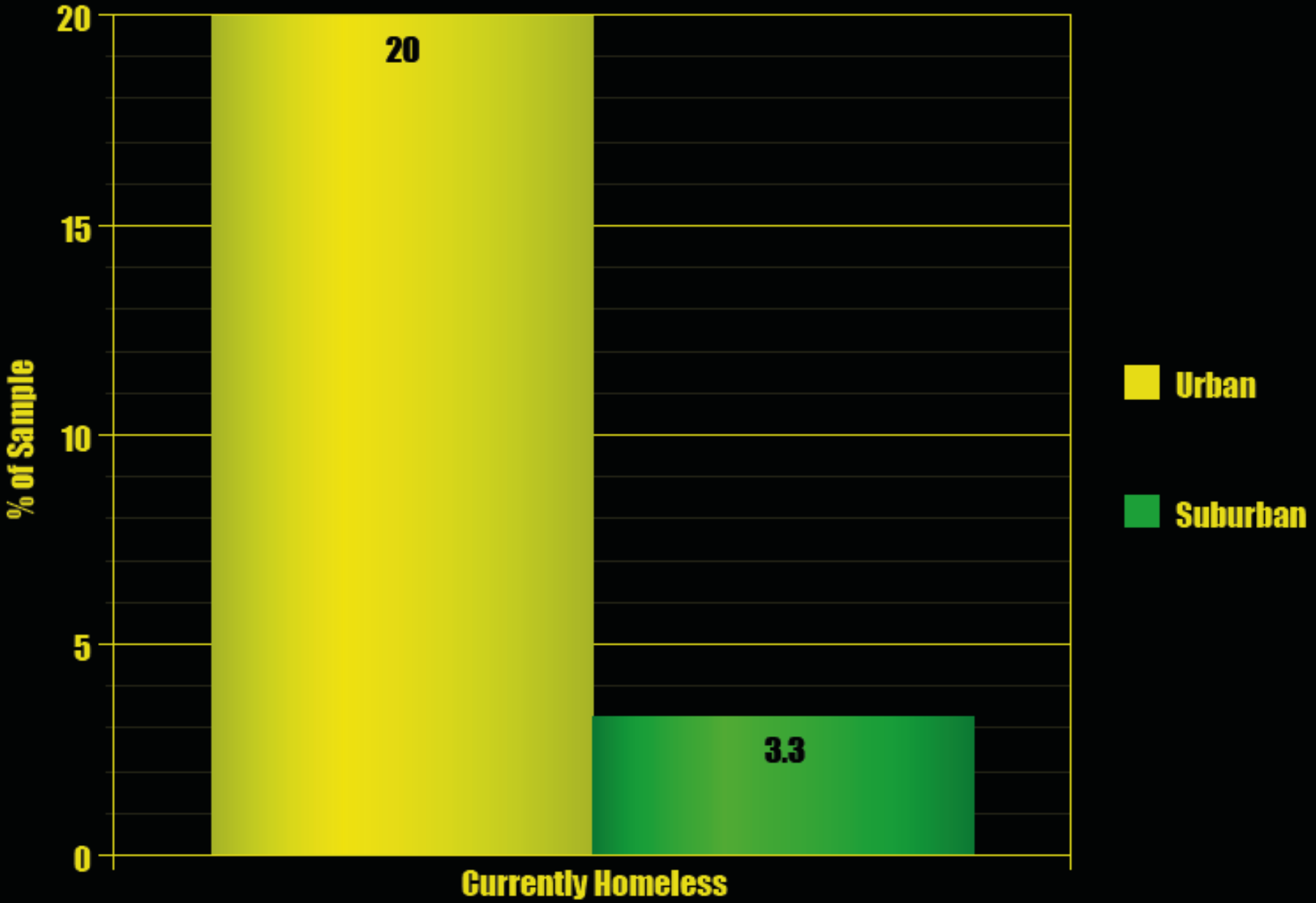
MEAN AGE



RACE/ETHNICITY

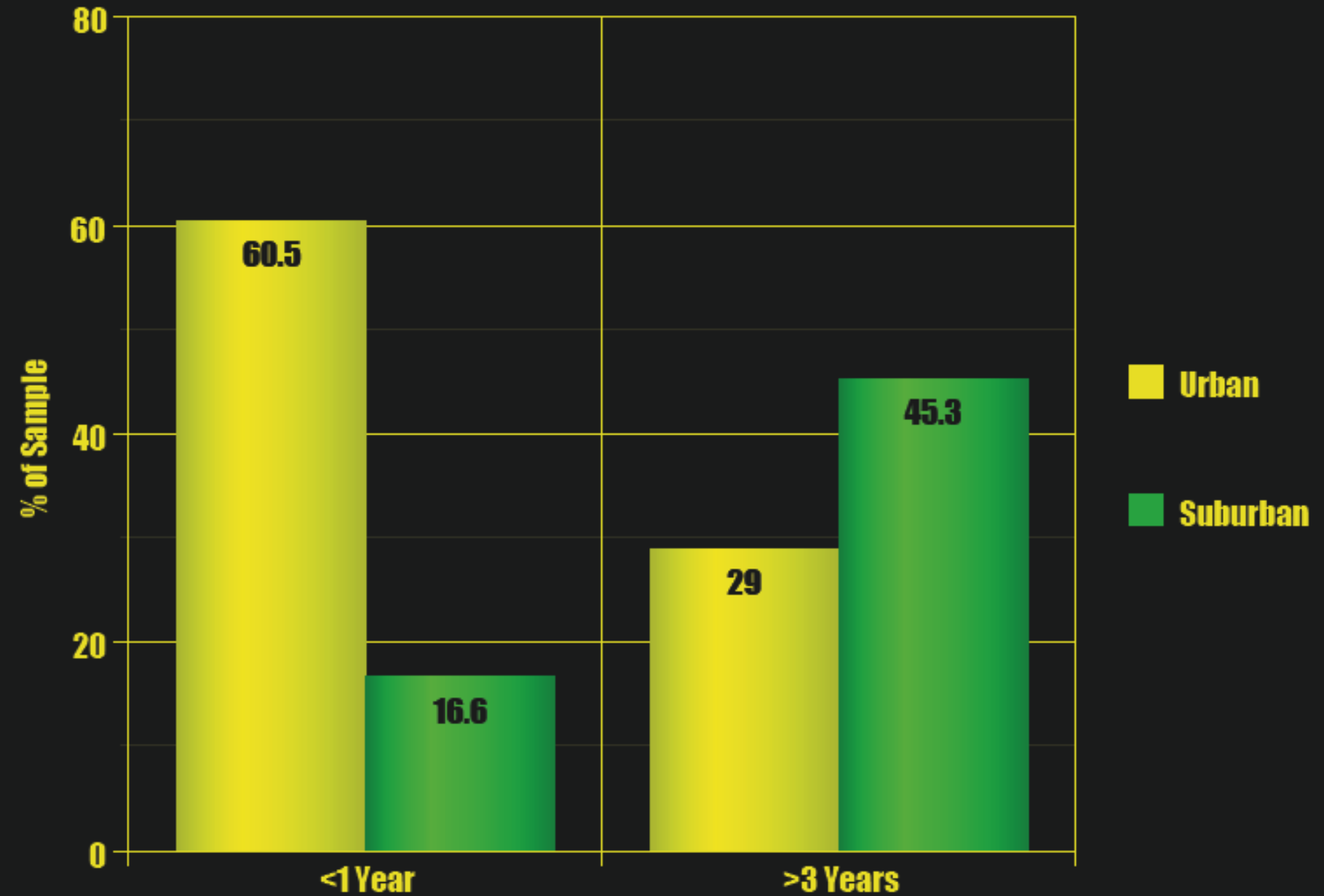


Currently Homeless



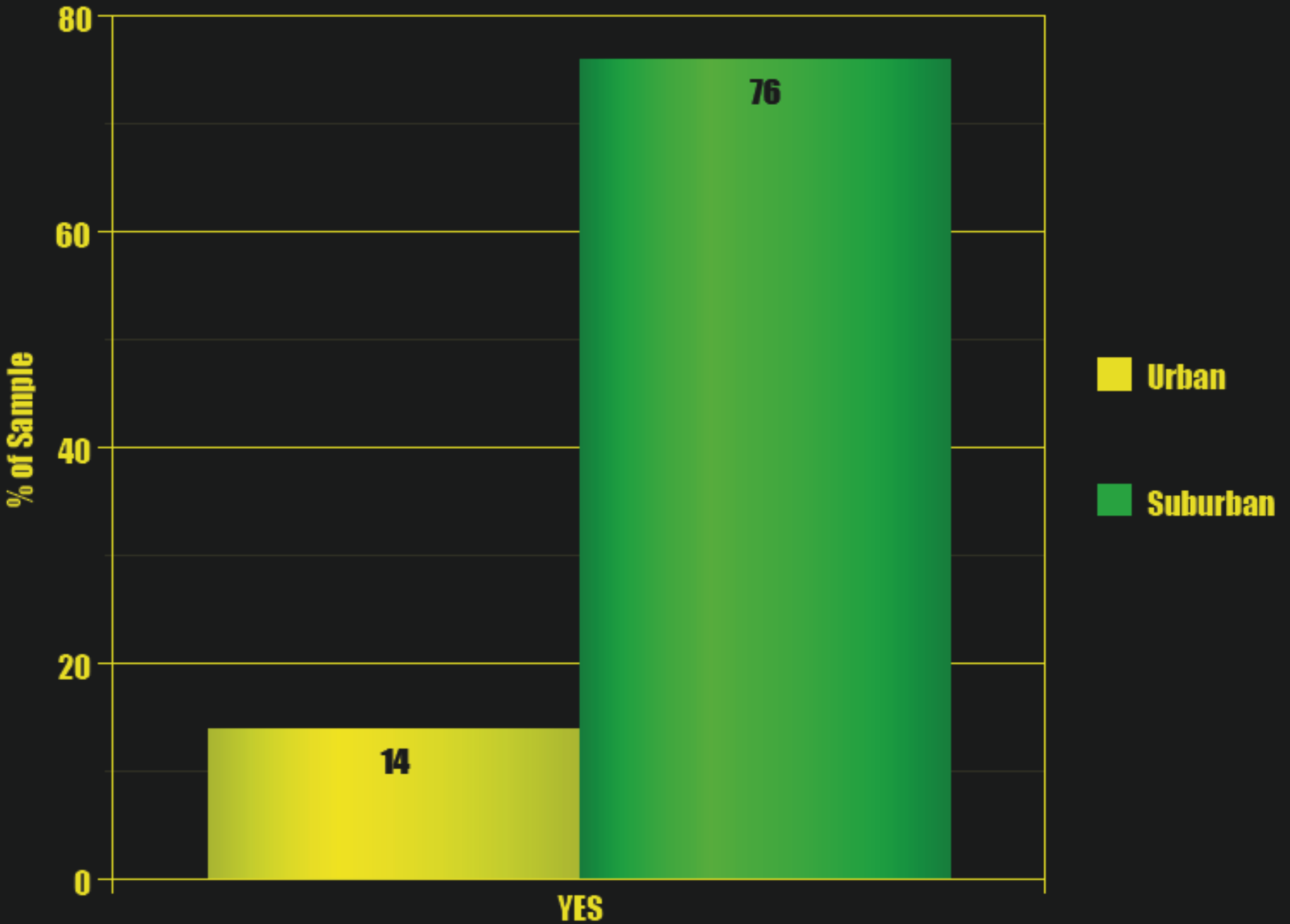
How long have you lived where you currently reside?

HOME STABILITY

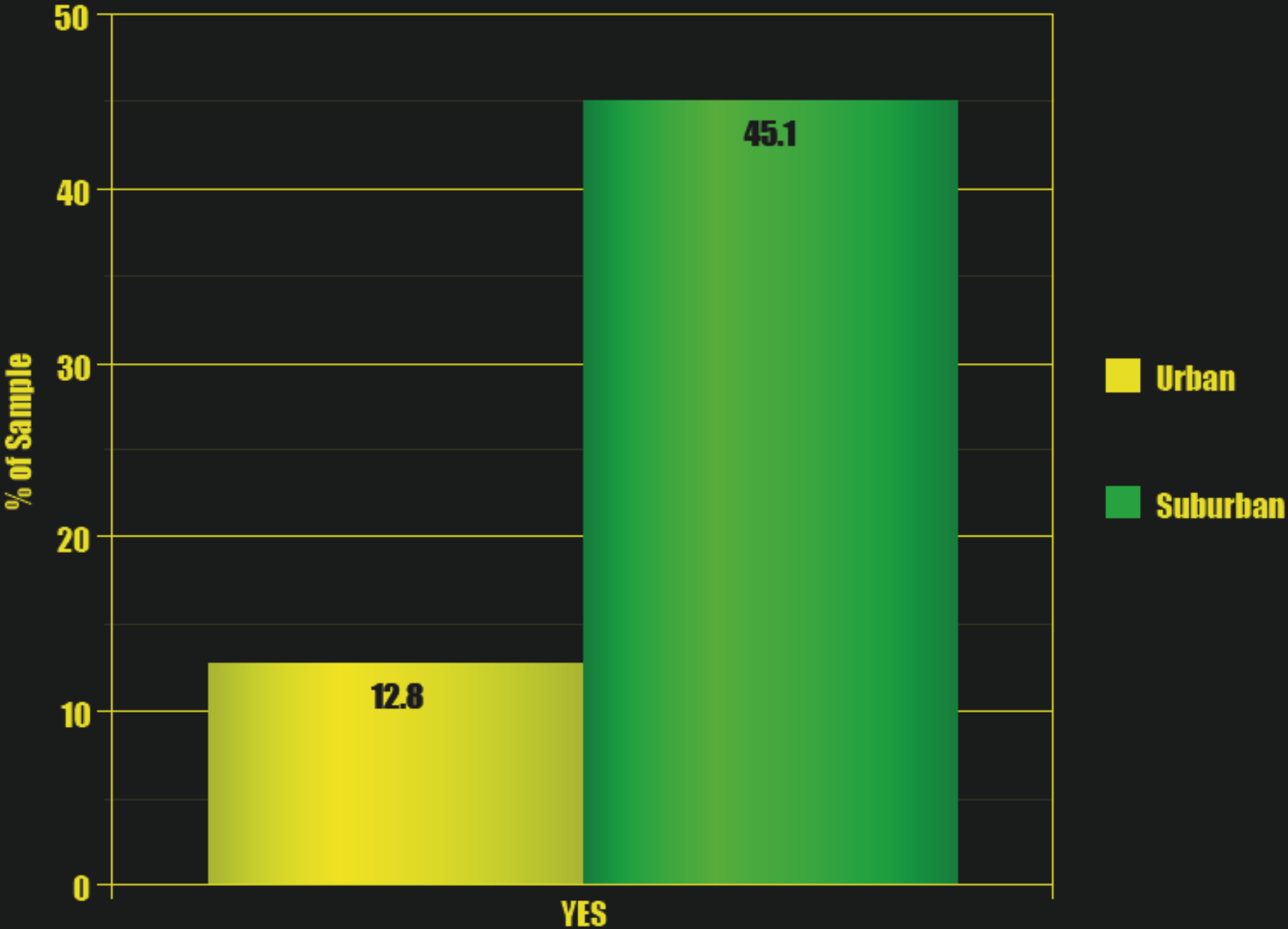


How long have you lived where you currently reside?

REGULAR F/T JOB



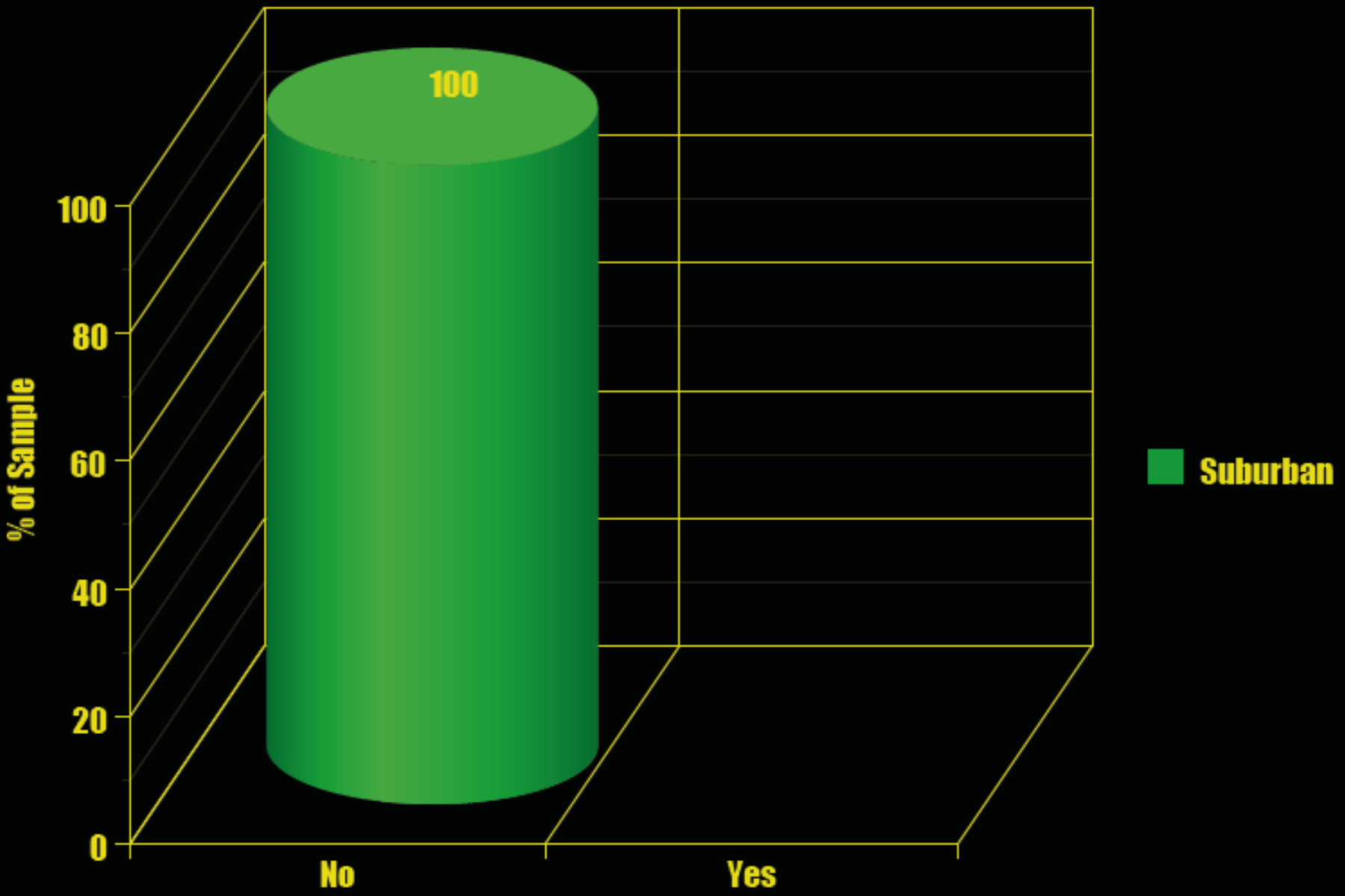
PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE



Suburban Sample

Do you think that \$25 would be a good offer to complete a Survey & Blood draw that would last 60-90 minutes?

\$25 REASONABLE?

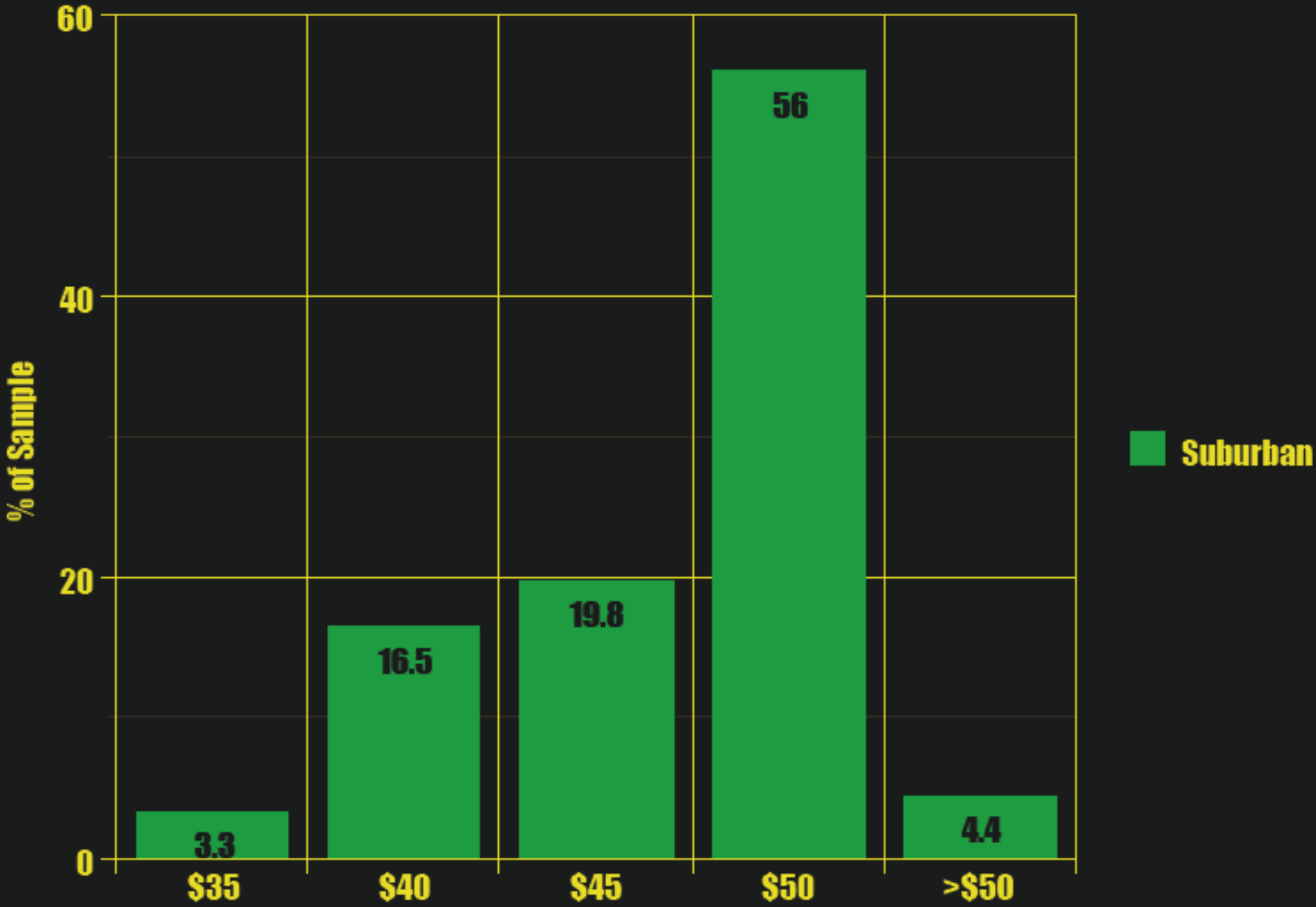


Do you think that \$25 would be a good offer to complete a Survey & V=Blood Draw that would take 60-90 minutes?

If No.....

How much would be a reasonable amount to offer?

HOW MUCH?



How much would be reasonable to offer?

QUESTIONS

- How much should be paid?
- Urban/Suburban
- RDS Sample Tracking
- What if SES profile trends down?
 - Evidence of motivation?
 - Should tactics be changed?

THANKS TO:

IRB STUDY TEAM

- Kaveh Khoshnood
- Traci Green
- Doug Bruce

SUBURBAN TEAM

- Mark Kinzly
- Anthony Givens
- Laretta Grau
- Robert Heimer (PI)

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