



Association for the Accreditation
of Human Research Protection Programs, Inc.®

2023 Metrics for AAHRPP-Accredited Human Research Protection Programs

Academic Organizations

May 2024



About the Metrics

AAHRPP is pleased to present the 2023 metrics for Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) performance. You will see some changes to the metrics that were based on feedback from a working group with representatives from accredited organizations. More changes to come next year. AAHRPP provides these data to help research organizations, researchers, sponsors, government agencies, and participants identify and support high-performing practices for HRPPs.

These metrics are collected from Annual Reports, as well as Step 1 and Step 2 applications, submitted by accredited **academic organizations**.

All the quantitative data were derived from the most recent reports submitted by AAHRPP organizations.

Abbreviations Used

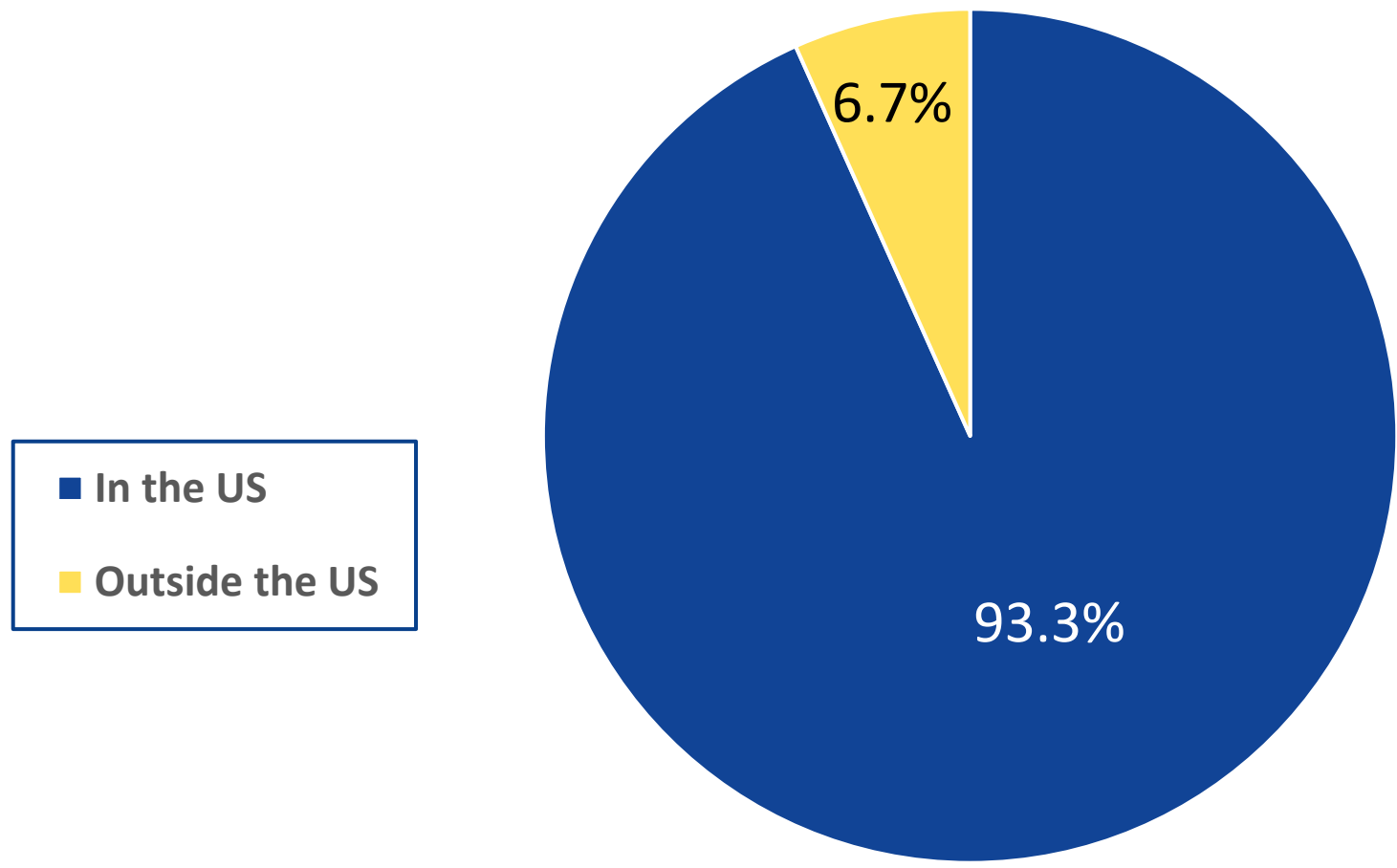
DHHS	US Department of Health & Human Services
DoD	US Department of Defense
ED	US Department of Education
DoE	US Department of Energy
DoJ	US Department of Justice
EPA	US Environmental Protection Agency
FDA	US Food and Drug Administration
VA	US Department of Veterans Affairs



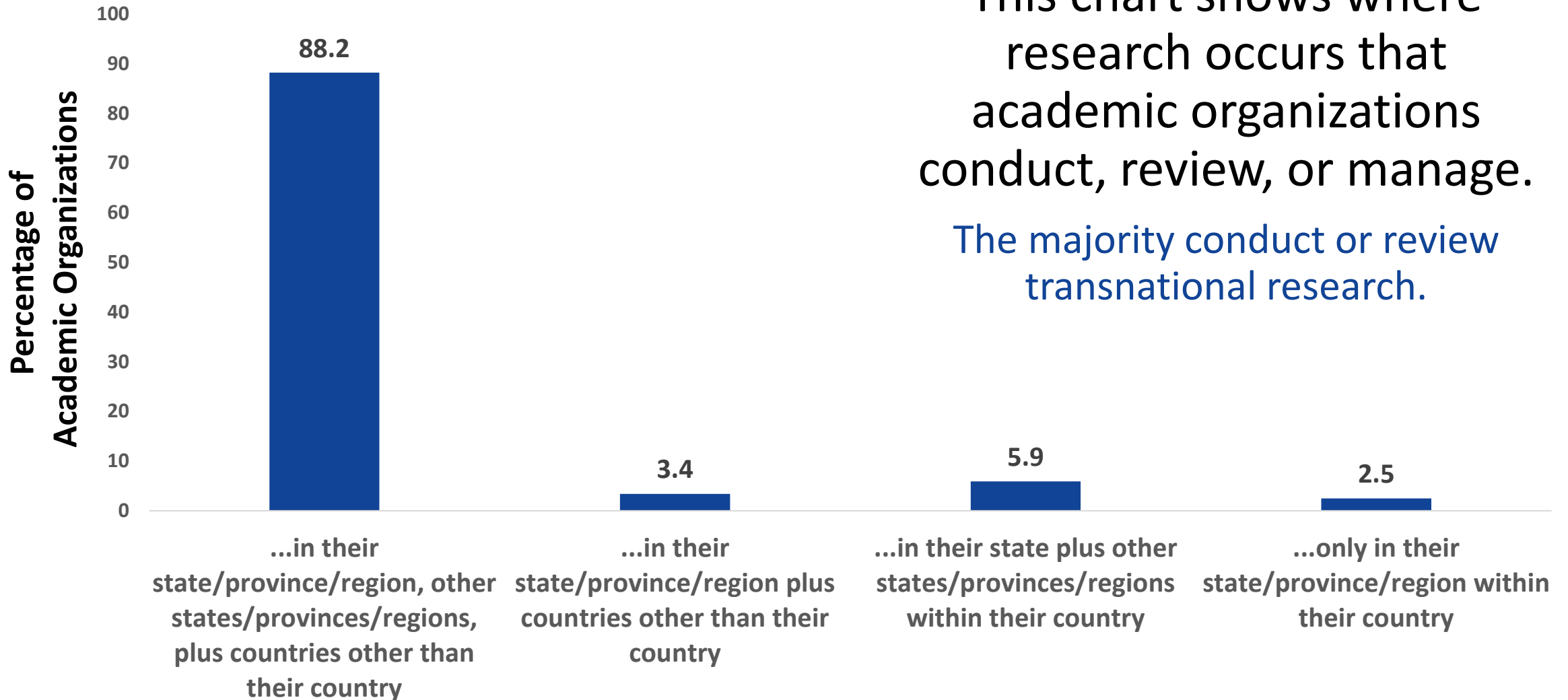
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Where Accredited Academic Organizations are Based



Where Research Occurs



This chart shows where research occurs that academic organizations conduct, review, or manage.

The majority conduct or review transnational research.

Research Type

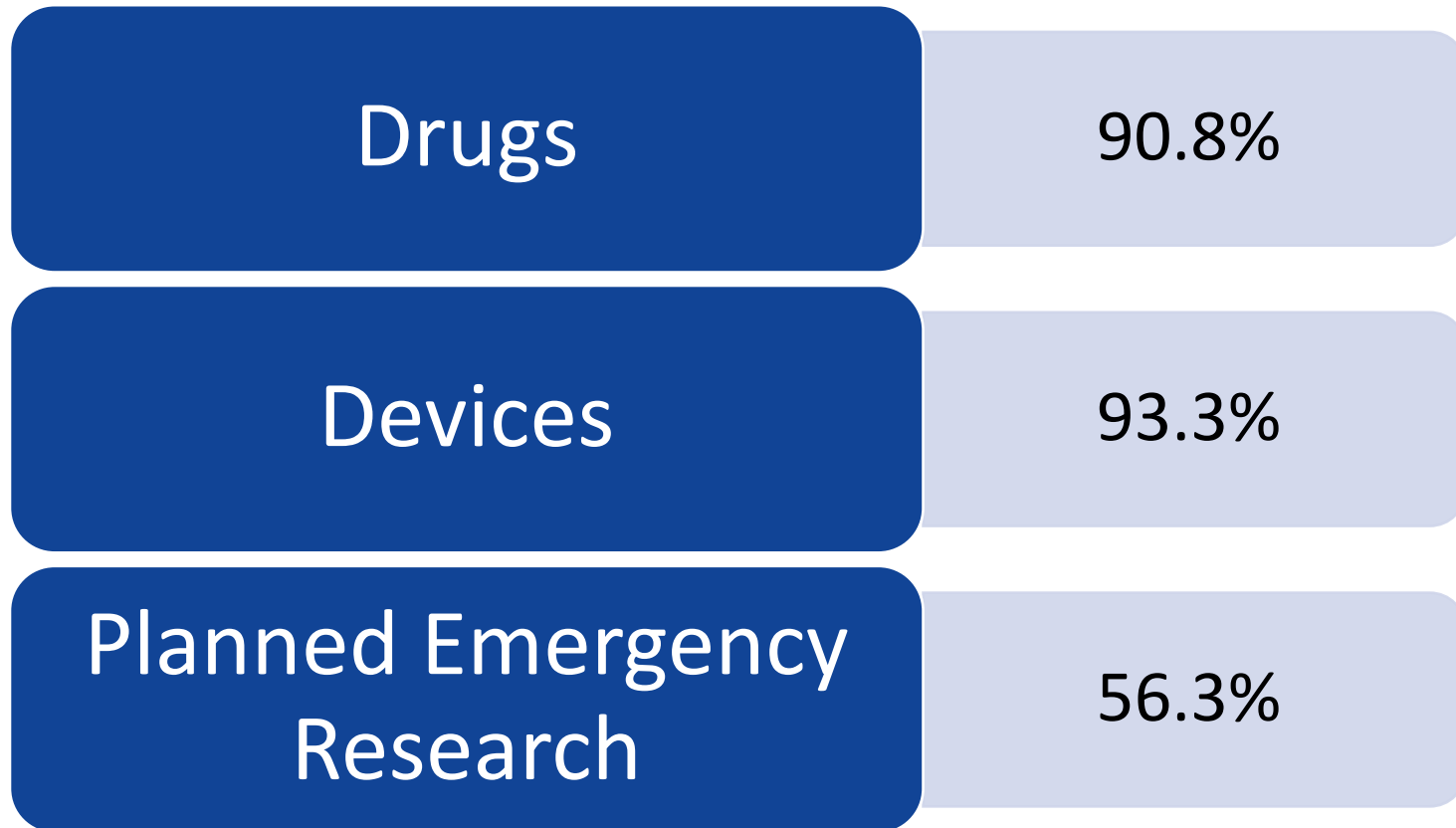
**Most academic organizations
conduct or review
biomedical/clinical research**

99.2%

**Most academic organizations
conduct or review
social/behavioral/education research**

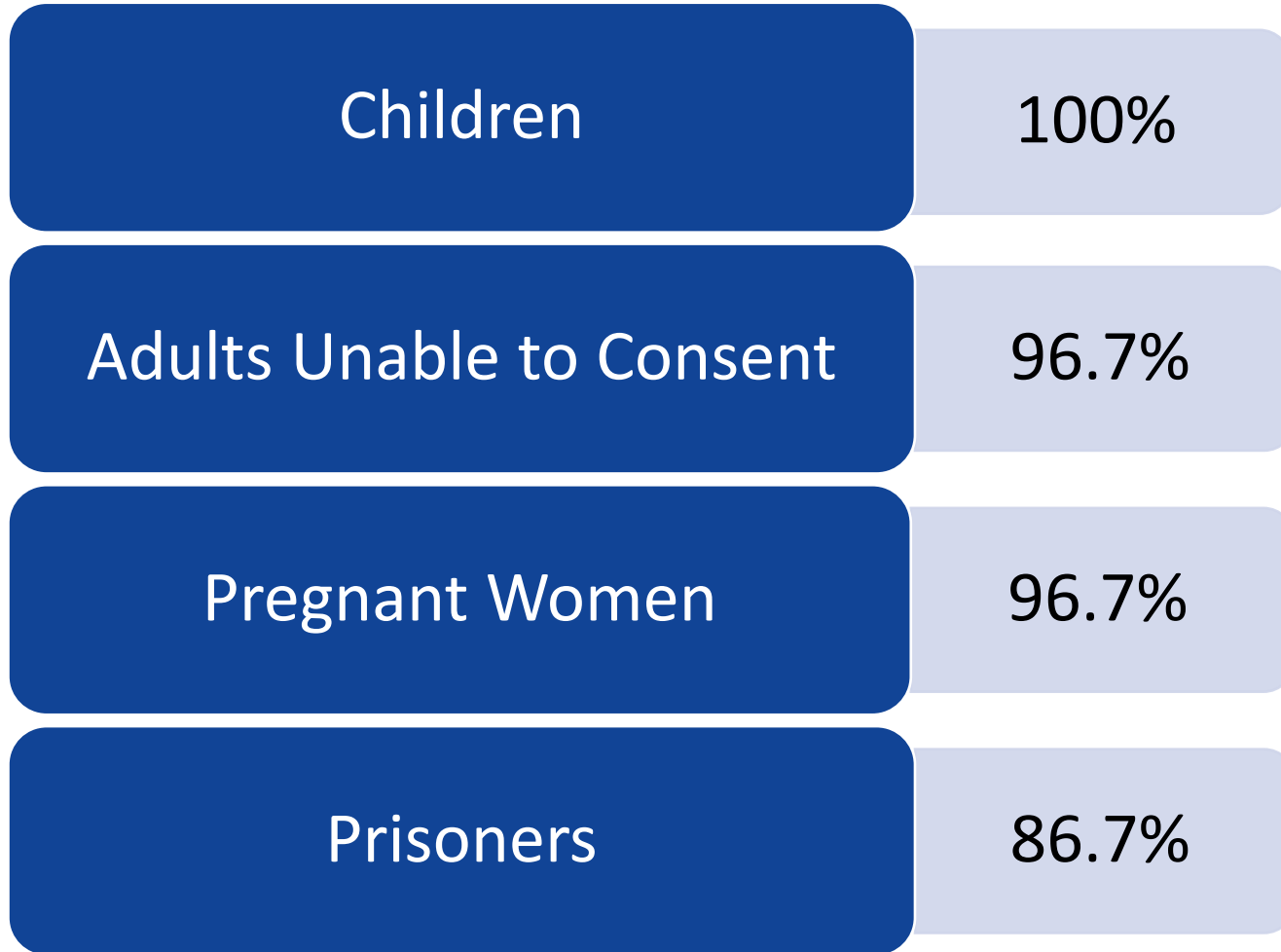
97.5%

Biomedical/Clinical Research by Type



This table shows the type of biomedical/clinical research academic organizations conduct or review.

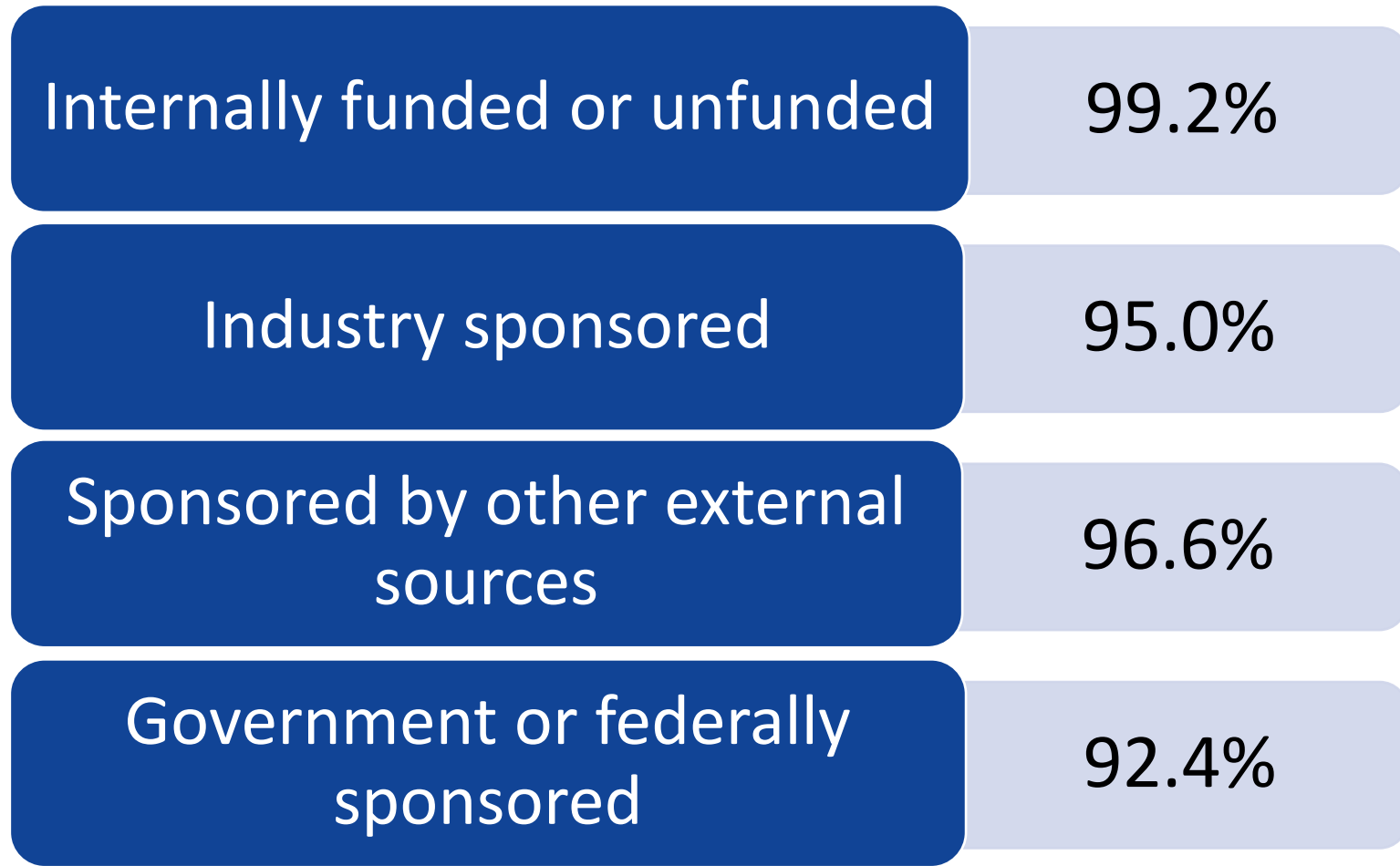
Vulnerable Populations



This table shows the categories of vulnerable populations that participate in research conducted or reviewed by academic organizations.

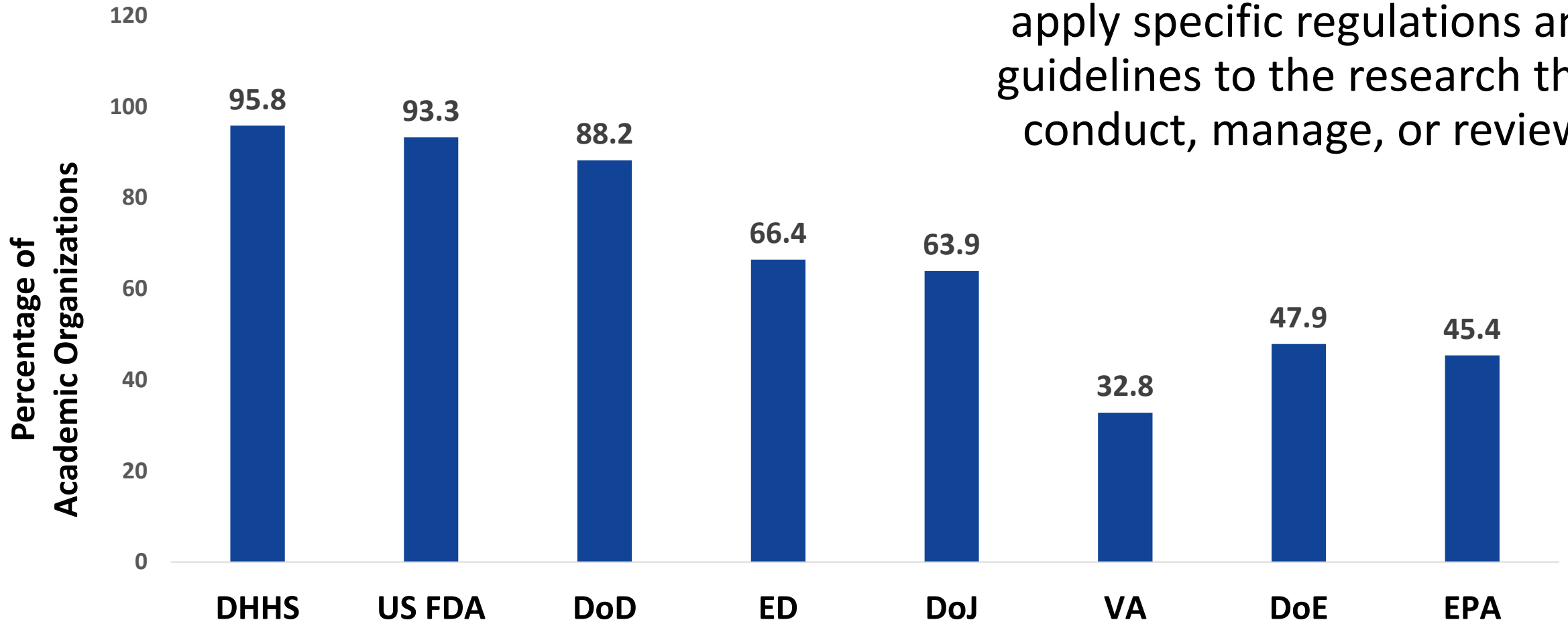
Populations organizations also identified as vulnerable (i.e., “Other”) include Native Americans, neonates of uncertain viability, those who are educationally or economically disadvantaged, military personnel and veterans, non-English speakers, hospitalized persons, individuals who are physically disabled or impaired, participants who are institutionalized, individuals who are engaged in or intending to engage in illegal or stigmatizing behavior, and undocumented or refugee populations.

Funding Type



This table shows the percentage of academic organizations that conduct, review, or manage research by funding type that supports the research.

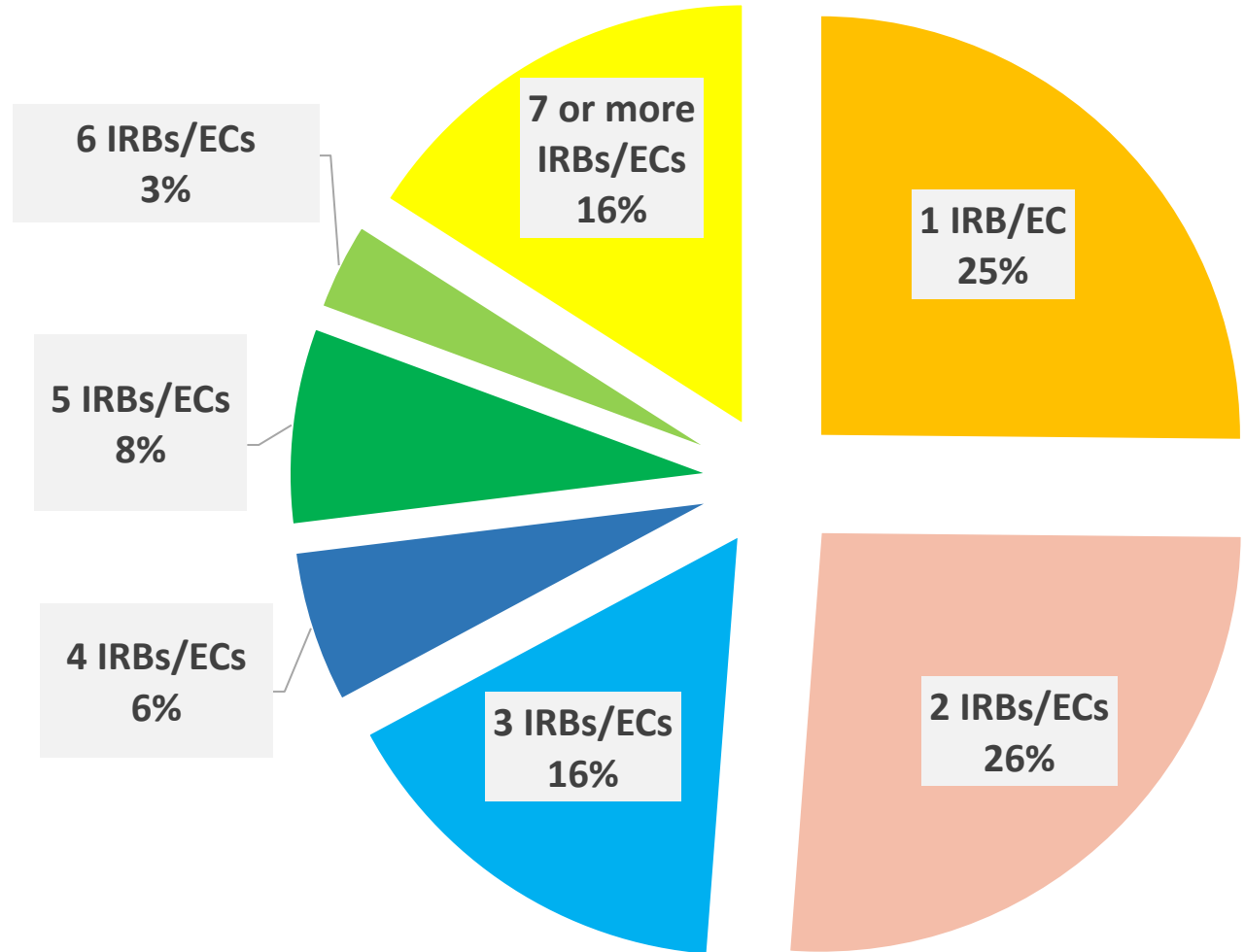
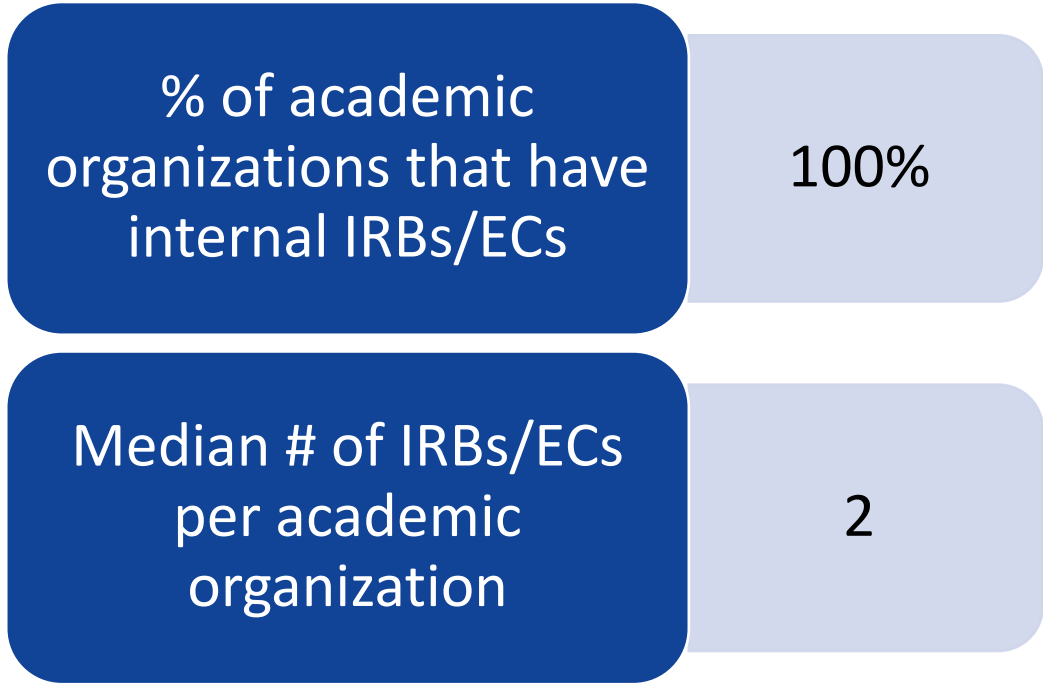
Regulations & Guidelines



This chart shows the percentage of academic organizations that apply specific regulations and guidelines to the research they conduct, manage, or review.

Internal IRBs/ECs

Number of internal IRBs/ECs of academic organizations support

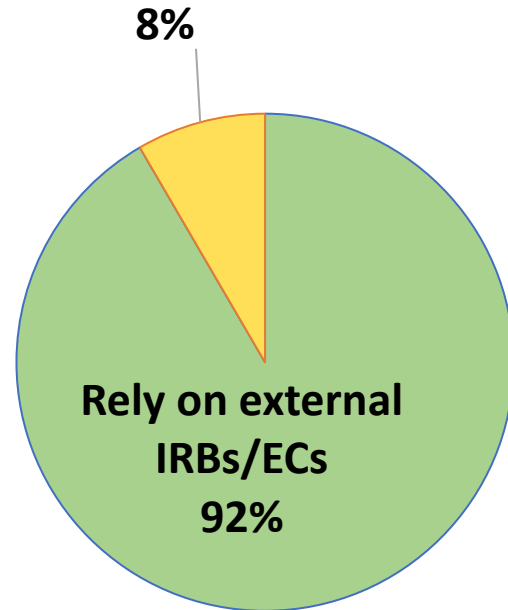


Relying on External IRBs/ECs

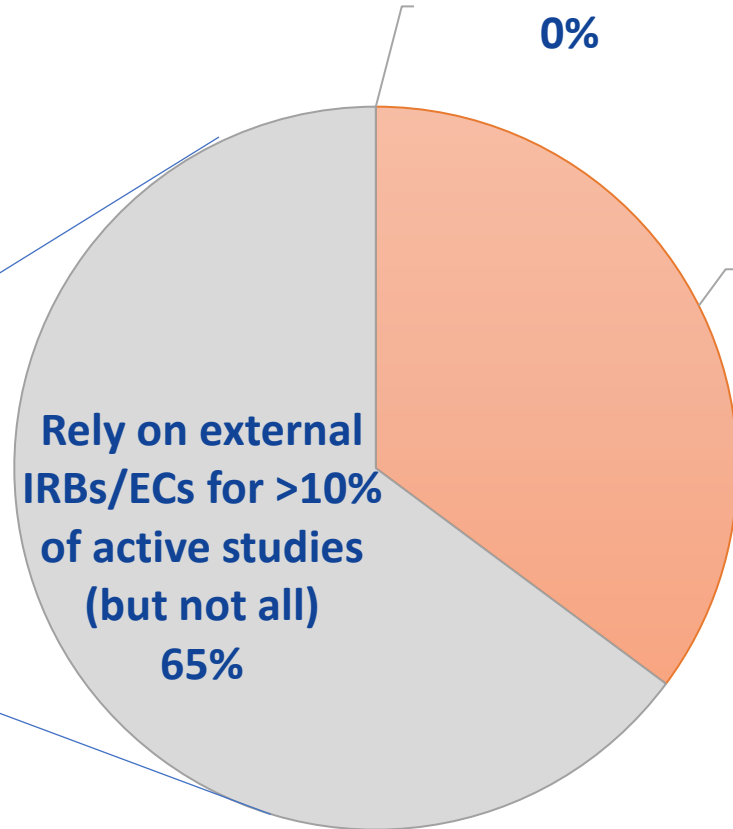
Use of external IRBs/ECs by academic organizations with internal IRBs/ECs

% of academic organizations with internal IRBs/ECs that also use external IRBs/ECs

Do not rely on an external IRB/EC



**Rely on external IRBs
for all studies
0%**



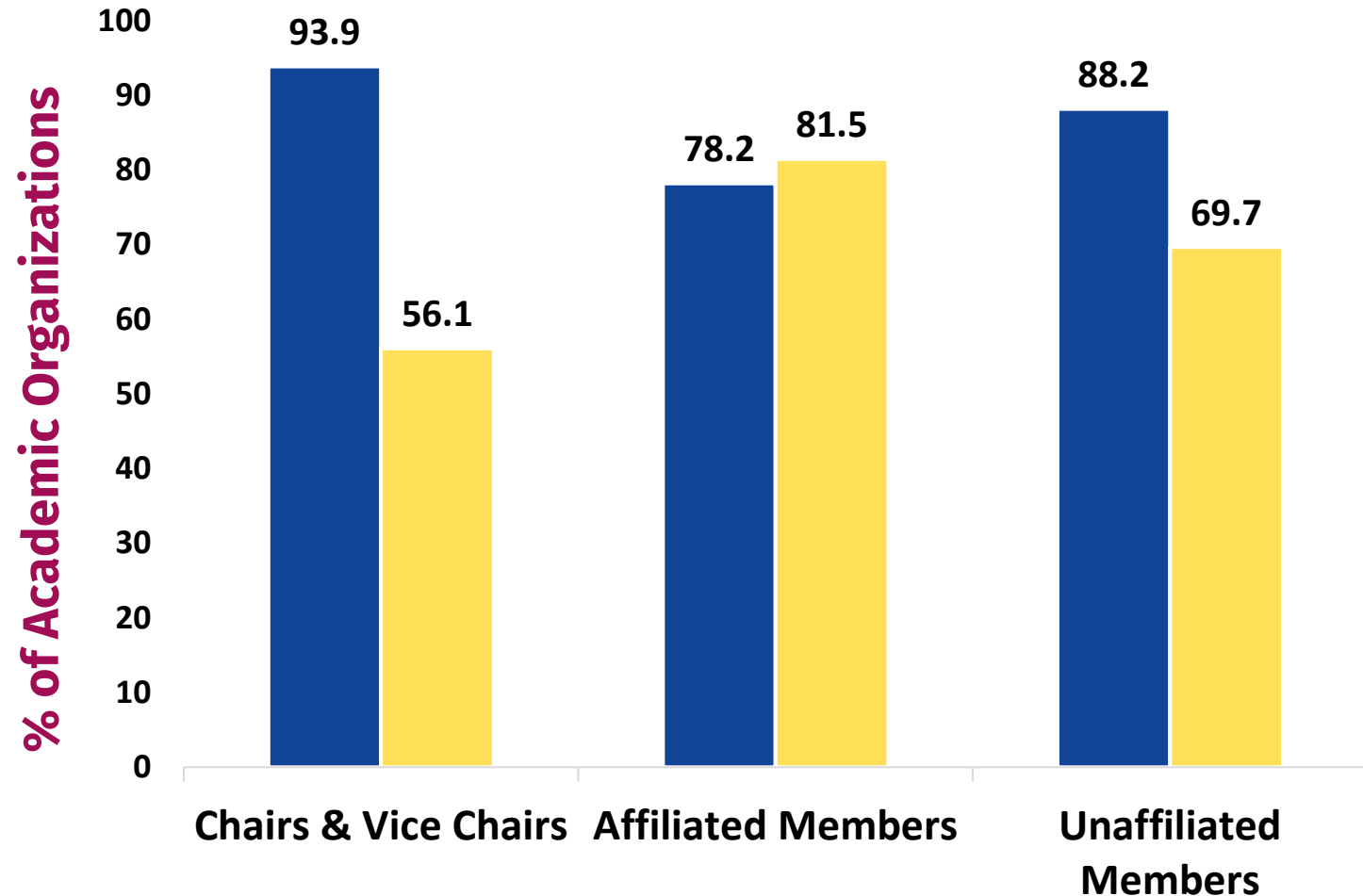
**Rely on external
IRBs/ECs for ≤10% of
active studies
35%**

Compensating IRB/EC Members

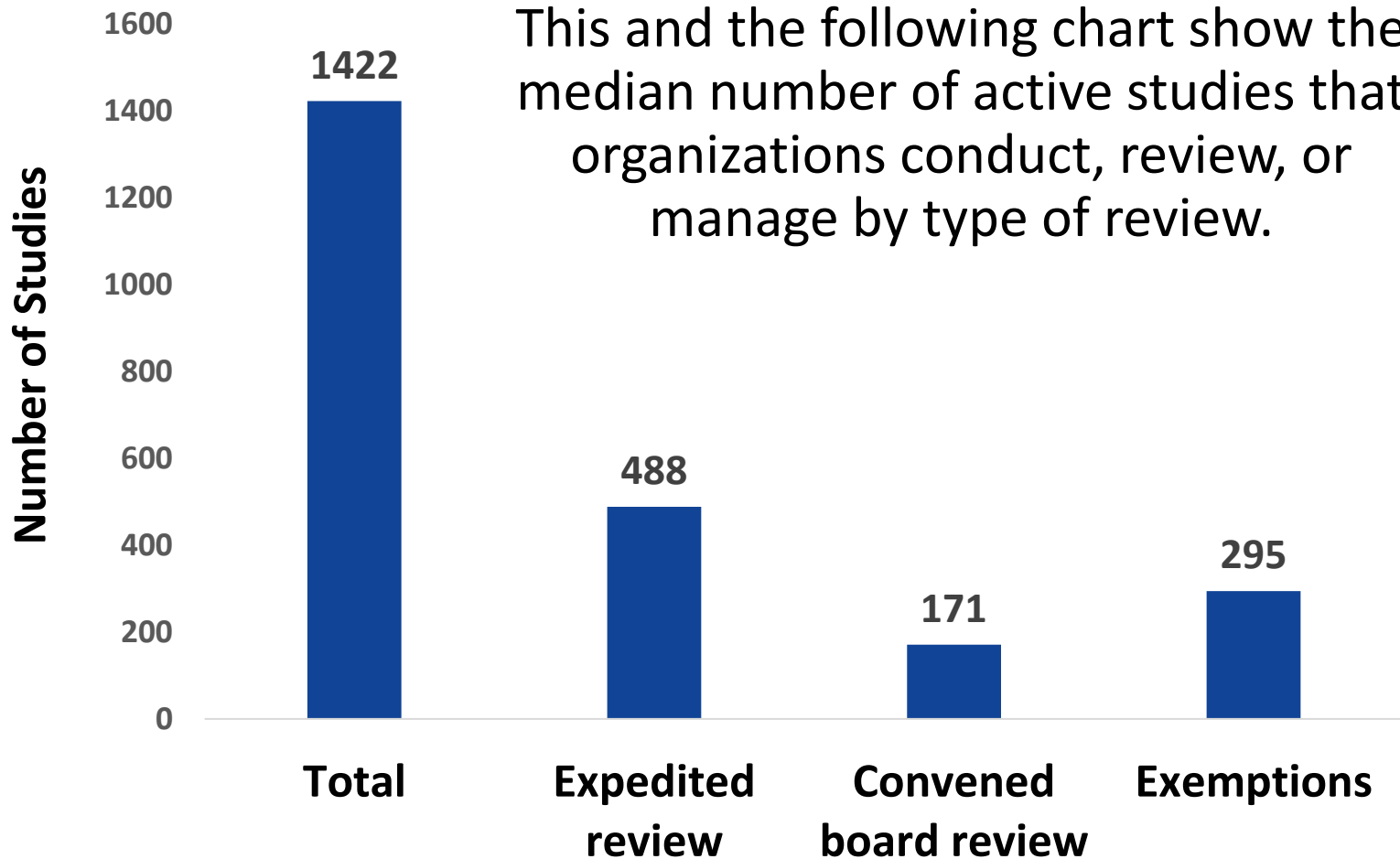
% of academic organizations with internal IRBs/ECs that compensate any IRB/EC members

95%

- Financial compensation
- Non-Financial compensation



Active Studies Overseen: All Academic Organizations



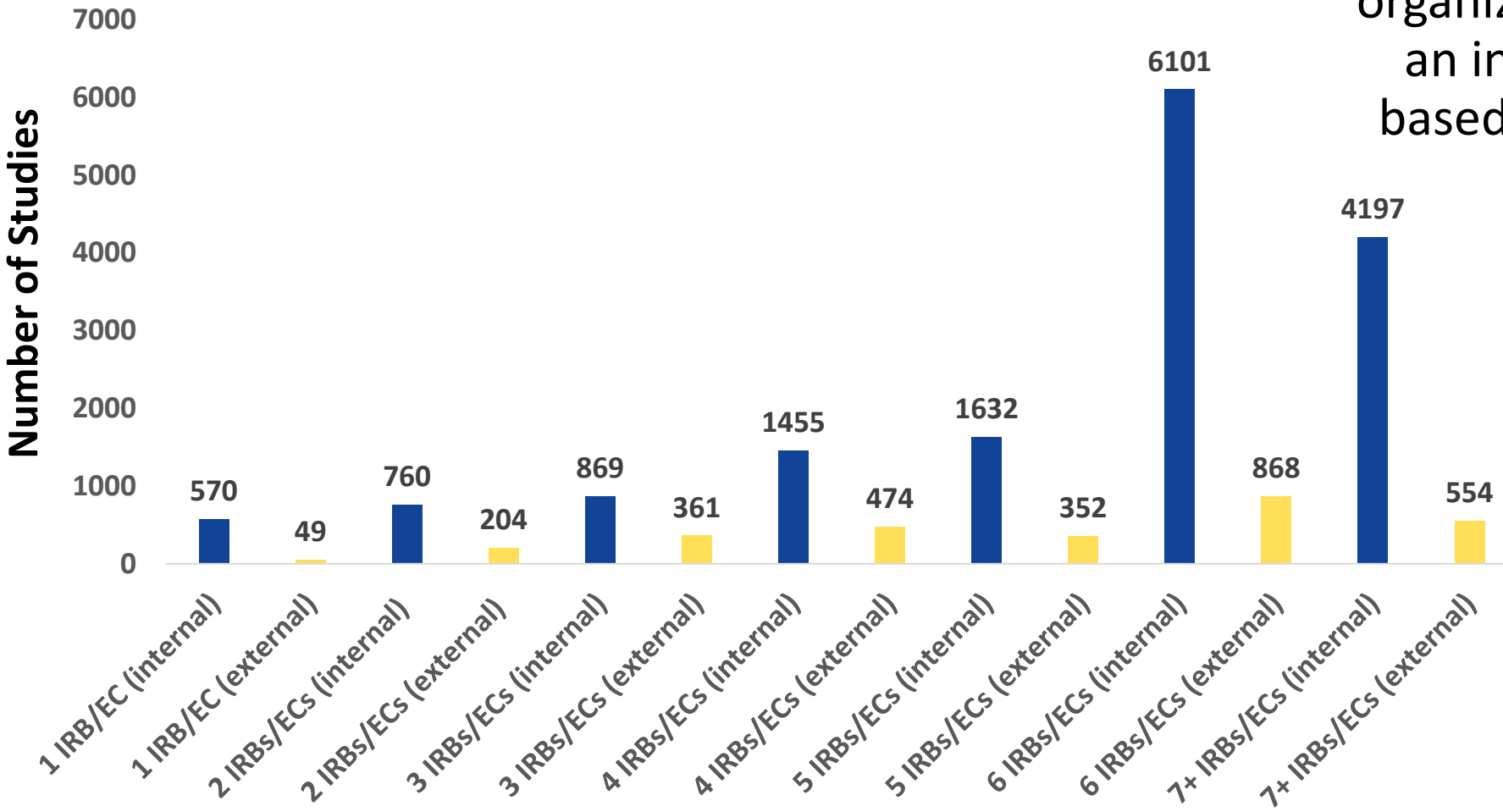
Exemptions are based on the number of determinations made by an organization for a 12-month period (e.g., the year prior to the AAHRPP report).

Expedited review and convened board review only include studies reviewed by an internal IRB/EC for organizations that have an internal IRB/EC and are not independent IRBs/ECs.

Total number of studies includes those reviewed by both internal and external IRBs/ECs in the case of organizations with IRBs/ECs.

Active Studies Per IRB/EC: All Academic Organizations

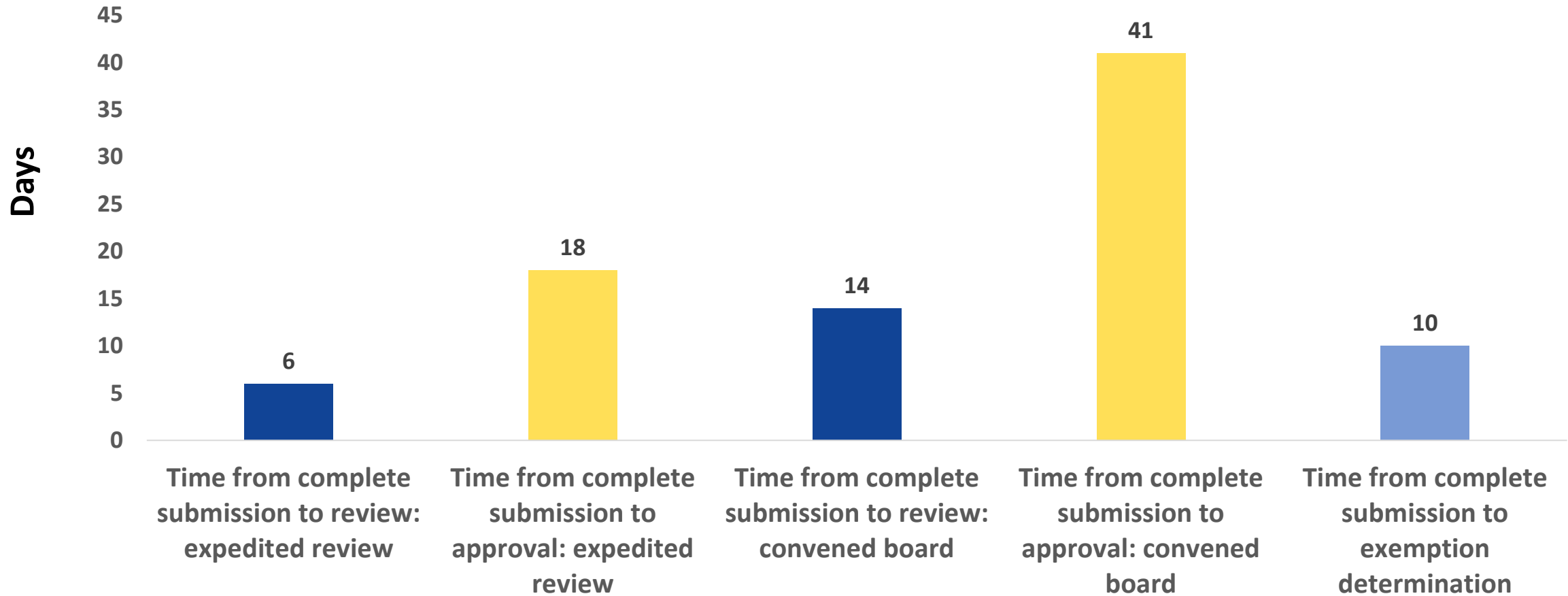
This chart compares the median number of active studies academic organizations oversee reviewed by an internal vs. external IRB/EC based on the number of internal IRBs/ECs they have.



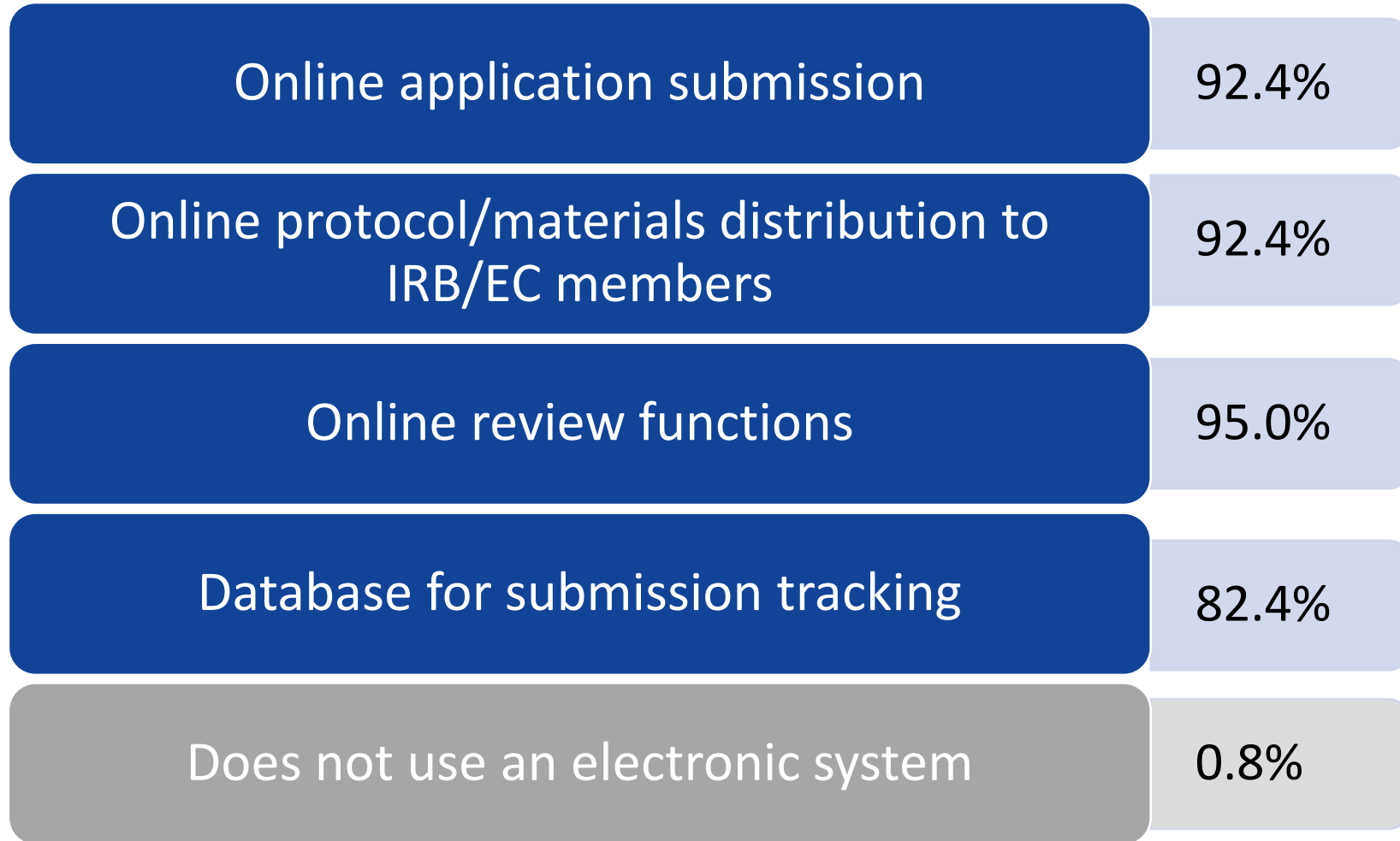
Note: Median number of studies reflect exemption determinations that could be made by internal or external IRBs/ECs.

Review Times

This chart shows the median review times by review process for academic organizations.



IRB/EC Technology



This table shows the technology academic organizations use to support IRB/EC tracking, submission, distribution, and the specific functions used.

IRB/EC Staffing and Budget

Corrected

Number of Active Studies	Median Number of Studies	Median Number of Staff	Median Number of Studies per Staff	Median IRB/EC Budget
All	1437	10.0	143.7	\$925,237
0-500	239	3.0	79.7	\$294,916
501-1000	695	6.0	115.8	\$573,866
1001-2000	1437	10.0	143.7	\$977,337
2001-4000	2678	13.0	206.0	\$1,431,706
4001+	5678	23.8	238.3	\$2,517,398

This table breaks down IRB/EC staffing and budgets by the size of the research portfolio (exempt, expedited, and convened reviews) overseen by academic organizations.

Audits of Researchers

% of academic organizations that reported that audits of researchers occurred

89.9%

Internal: "for cause"

- Median: 2
- Total: 4,325

Internal: random

- Median: 18
- Total: 8,521

Regulatory agency inspections

- Median: 1
- Total: 585

Audits of IRBs/ECs

% of academic organizations that reported that audits of IRB/EC records occurred (by internal or external sources):

78.2%

Internal: "for cause"

- Median: 0
- Total: 340

Internal: random

- Median: 5
- Total: 6,235

Regulatory agency inspections

- Median: 0
- Total: 41

Unresolved Complaints, Noncompliance, & Unanticipated Problems

Number of active studies	Unresolved complaints	Investigations of alleged noncompliance	Serious noncompliance determinations	Continuing noncompliance determinations	Unanticipated problems determinations
All	0	10.5	1	0	1
0-500	0	2	0	0	0
501-1000	0	5	1	0	1
1001-2000	0	33	3	1	1
2001-4000	0	15.5	2	1	3
4001+	0	77	6	1.5	10

This table is based on the 12 months prior to an academic organization's most recent report to AAHRPP and shows the median number of events per category.

Conflicts of Interest

This graphic shows the median number of studies reviewed by an IRB/EC for academic organizations within the last 12 months of their most recent AAHRPP report.

Only includes data from organizations that have internal IRB/ECs or are independent IRBs/ECs

Studies with a financial conflict of interest management plan were reviewed by an IRB/EC (internal or external)



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