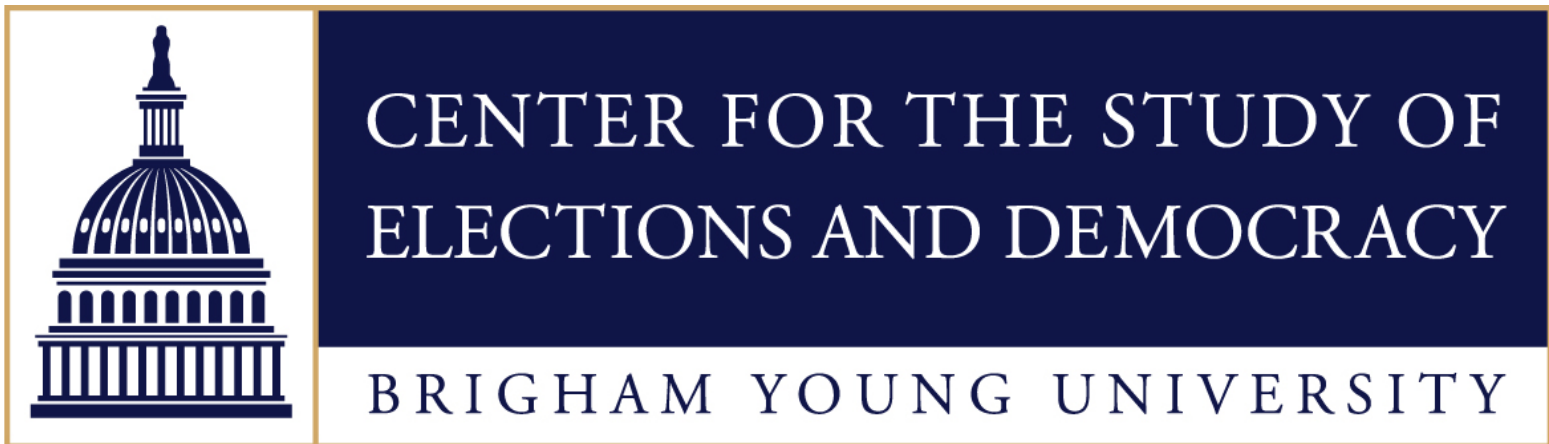




THE AMERICAN FAMILY SURVEY



Deseret News

YouGov[®]

The American Family Survey

- National sample of 3,000 respondents
- Survey conducted online by YouGov, sample matched to the American Community Survey
- Aim to understand the lived experiences of Americans in their relationships and families as well as their attitudes about relationships and families generally

Some Basic Facts about the Sample

Table 1: Relationship Status Among Survey Respondents

	Married	Cohabiting	In Relationship	No Relationship
<i>Overall</i>	50	9	7	34
<i>Very Liberal</i>	38	13	10	39
<i>Liberal</i>	43	9	9	39
<i>Moderate</i>	49	11	7	34
<i>Conservative</i>	60	6	4	30
<i>Very Conservative</i>	59	4	5	32
<i>18-29</i>	19	12	15	53
<i>30-44</i>	57	12	6	25
<i>45-54</i>	54	10	6	29
<i>55-64</i>	62	7	2	28
<i>65+</i>	59	4	3	35

- 63% of the sample had at least one child.
- Average number of children: 1.7

Marriage and Families

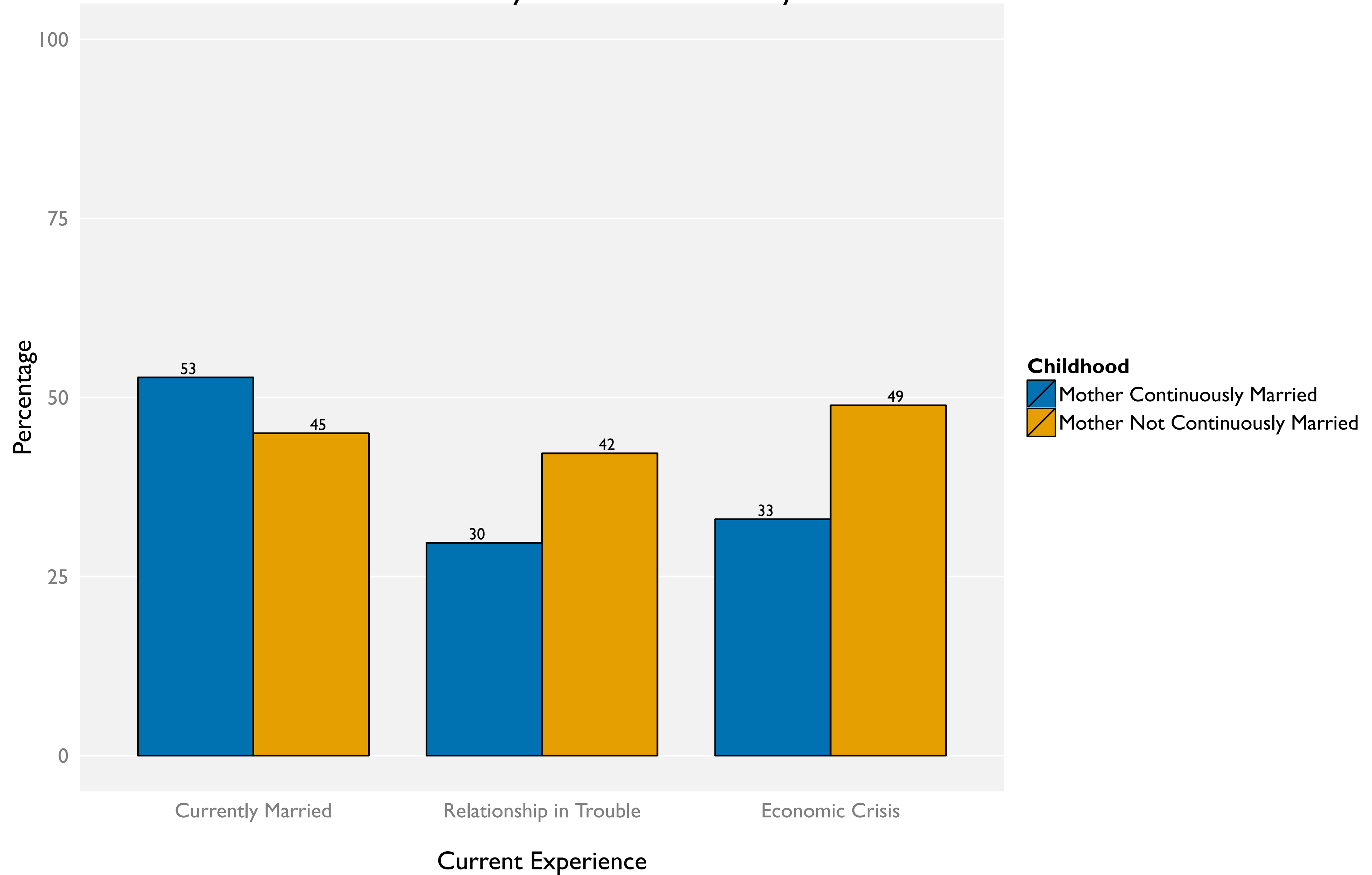
What Has Changed and What Is Stable?

The Changing Relationship between Marriage and Parenting

Table 2: Relationship Status When First Becoming a Parent

	Married	Committed Relationship	No Committed Relationship
<i>Overall</i>	70	22	7
<i>18-29</i>	30	56	14
<i>30-44</i>	54	33	11
<i>45-54</i>	67	25	7
<i>55-64</i>	80	14	5
<i>65+</i>	91	6	2

Childhood Stability and Current Stability

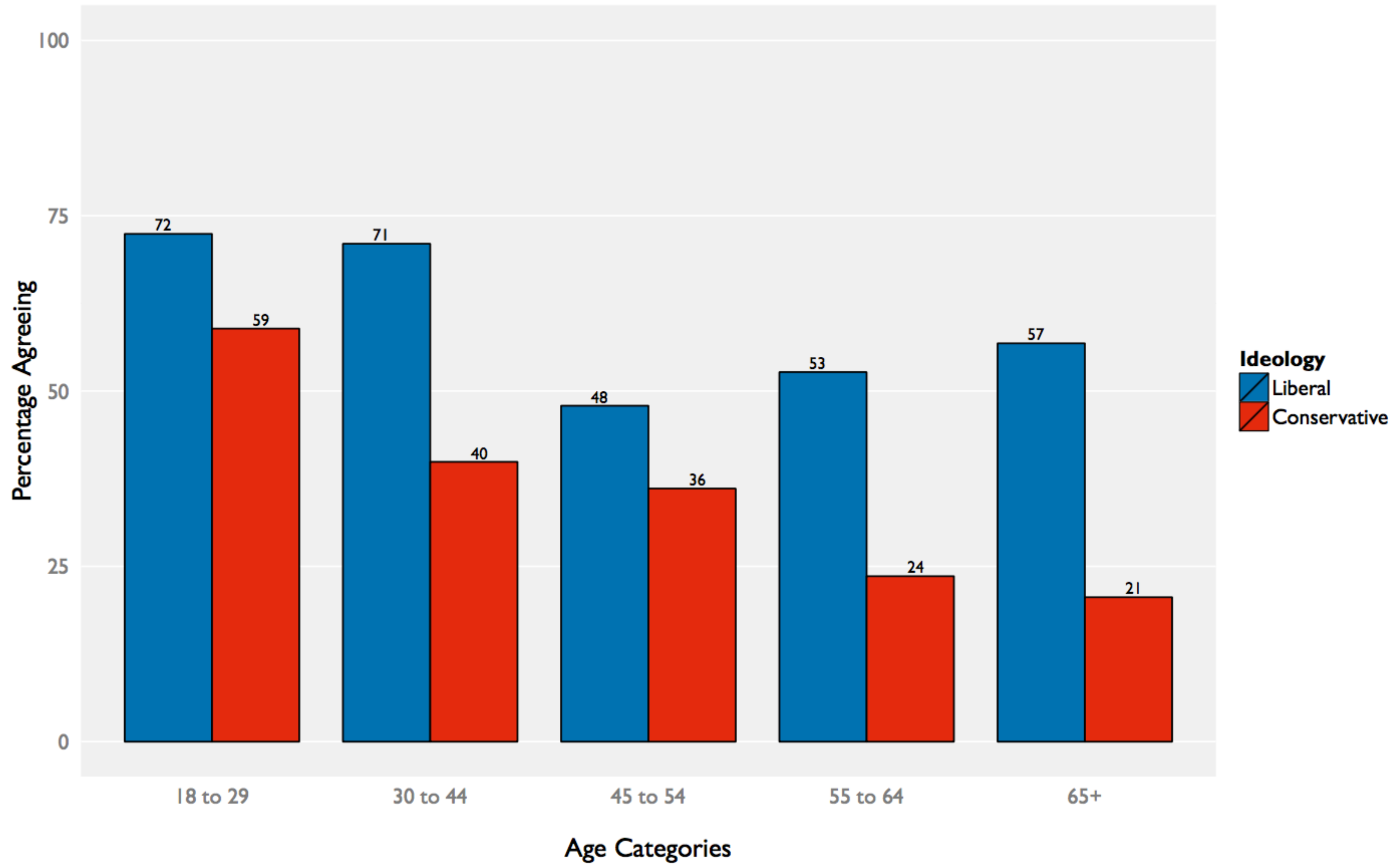


Attitudes about Marriage

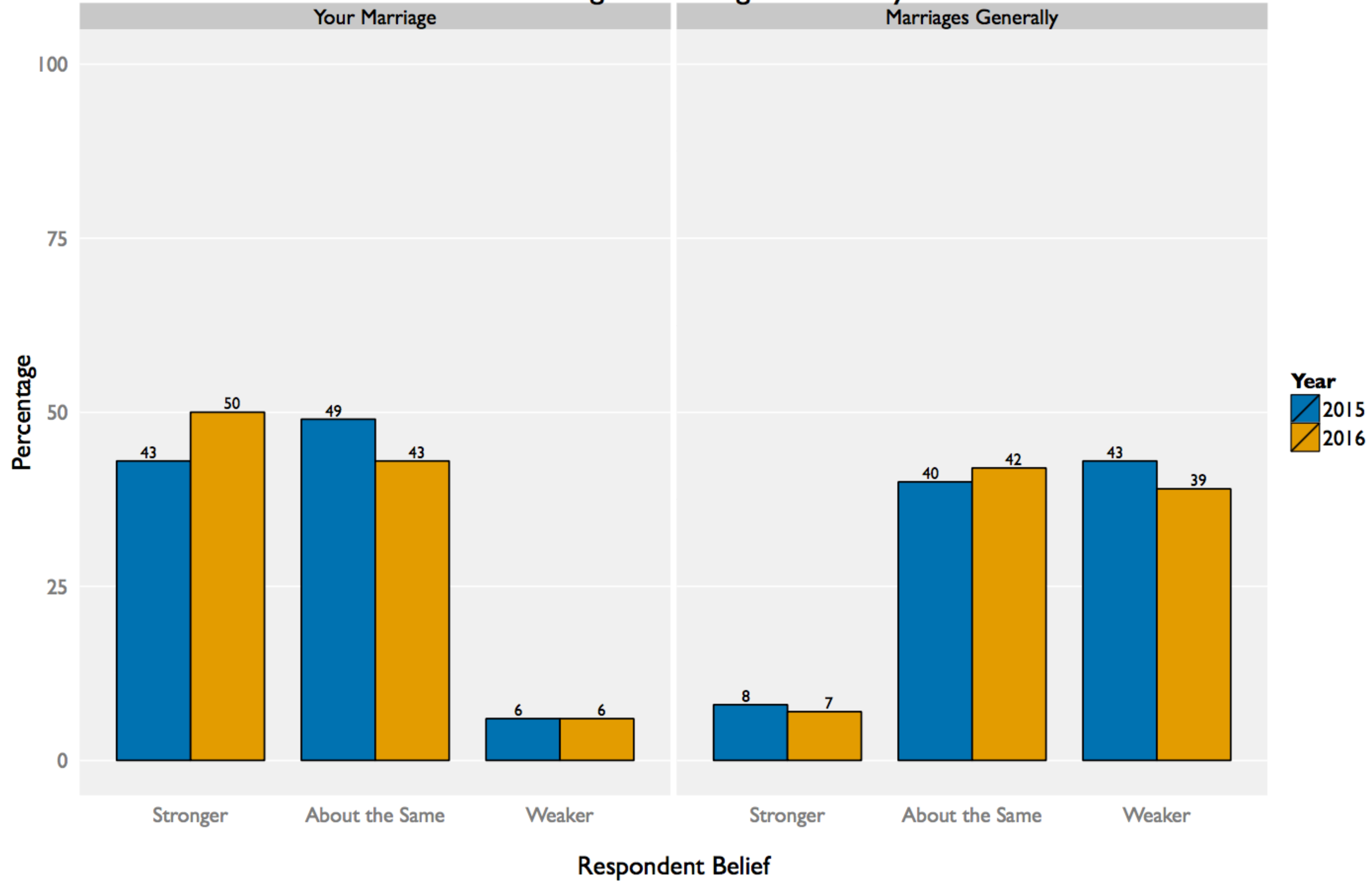
Table 4: Agreement with Statements about Marriage by Ideology

	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<i>Marriage is needed to create strong families</i>	39	55	84
<i>Marriage makes families and kids better off financially</i>	57	56	80
<i>Society is better off when more people are married</i>	35	47	75
<i>Personal commitment to partner more important than marriage</i>	63	43	33
<i>Marriage is more of a burden than a benefit</i>	16	14	11
<i>Marriage is old-fashioned and out-of-date</i>	24	12	7

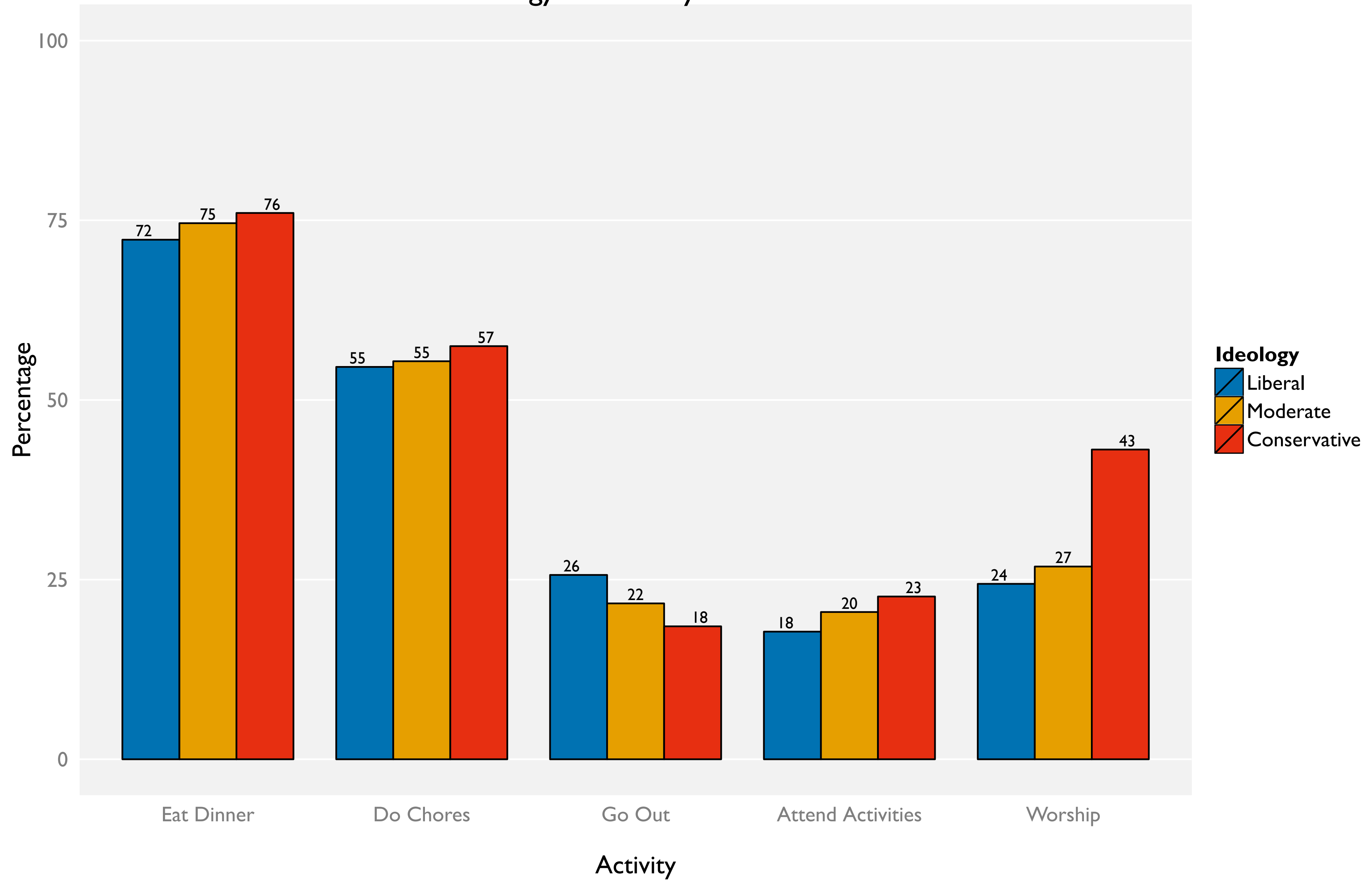
'Personal commitment to partner more important than marriage'



Your Marriage v. Marriages Generally



Ideology and Family Activities

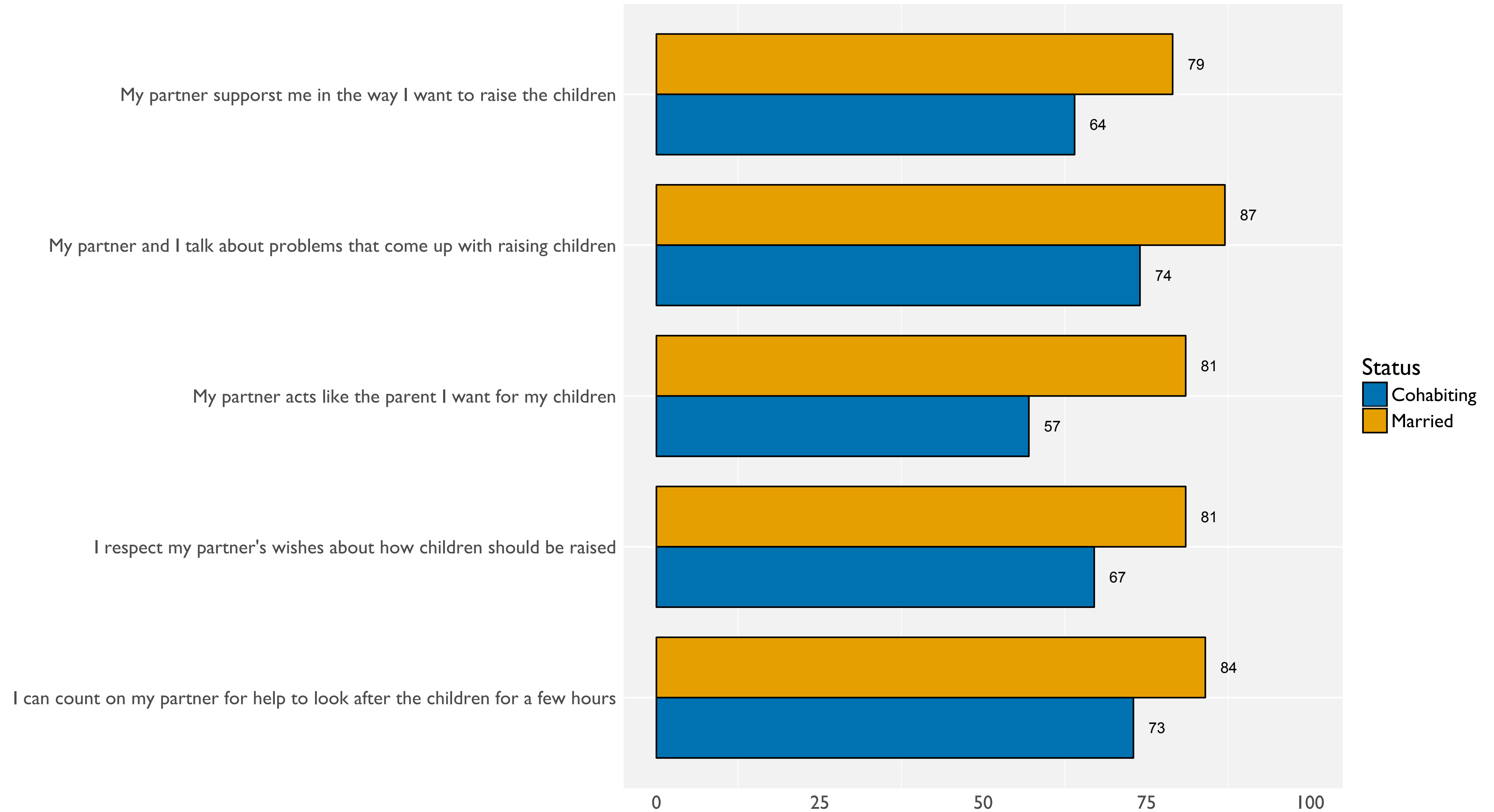


Liberals and conservatives structure family life in similar ways.

Table 12: Rules or Limits for Children

	All	Liberals	Moderates	Conservatives
<i>Bedtime or curfew</i>	64	64	63	65
<i>Daily or Weekly Chores</i>	64	60	60	69
<i>Limits on Screen Time</i>	47	46	42	53
<i>Limits on Phone Use</i>	34	31	31	40
<i>Required Reading Time</i>	33	35	30	35
<i>Required Music Practice</i>	12	12	9	16

Statement Agreement by Marital Status



Family Economic Experiences and Public Policy

What economic challenges do families face, and how do they want to deal with those challenges?

Table 8: The Most Important Issues

	2015	2016	Difference
Economics			
The costs associated with raising a family	26	32	+6
High work demands and stress on parents	21	27	+6
The lack of good jobs	19	22	+3
Lack of government programs to support families	8	10	+2
Culture			
The widespread availability and use of drugs and alcohol	27	22	-5
Sexual permissiveness in our society	25	18	-7
Decline in religious faith and church attendance	23	22	-1
Crime and other threats to personal safety	19	20	+1
Family Structure and Stability			
Parents not teaching or disciplining their children sufficiently	53	52	-1
More children growing up in single-parent homes	25	25	0
Difficulty finding quality time with family in the digital age	21	21	0
Change in the definition of marriage and family	16	15	-1

Note: Cell entries indicate the percentage of the sample selecting that item as one of the three “most important issues facing families today.”

About 4 in 10 Americans have experienced at least one significant economic challenge in the past year.

Table 15: Indicators of Economic Crisis

	Yes	No
<i>Didn't Pay Full Amount of Important Bill</i>	20	80
<i>Received Financial Aid from Friends/Family</i>	19	81
<i>Didn't Go to Doctor because of Cost</i>	14	86
<i>Didn't Eat Because Couldn't Afford Food</i>	13	87
<i>Moved In with Others Due to Financial Stress</i>	6	94
<i>Stayed at Shelter, in Car, etc. Even for One Night</i>	2	98
<i>None of the Above</i>	62	38

Economic distress is more common in some family structures than others.

Percentage Experiencing an Economic Crisis in the Last Year

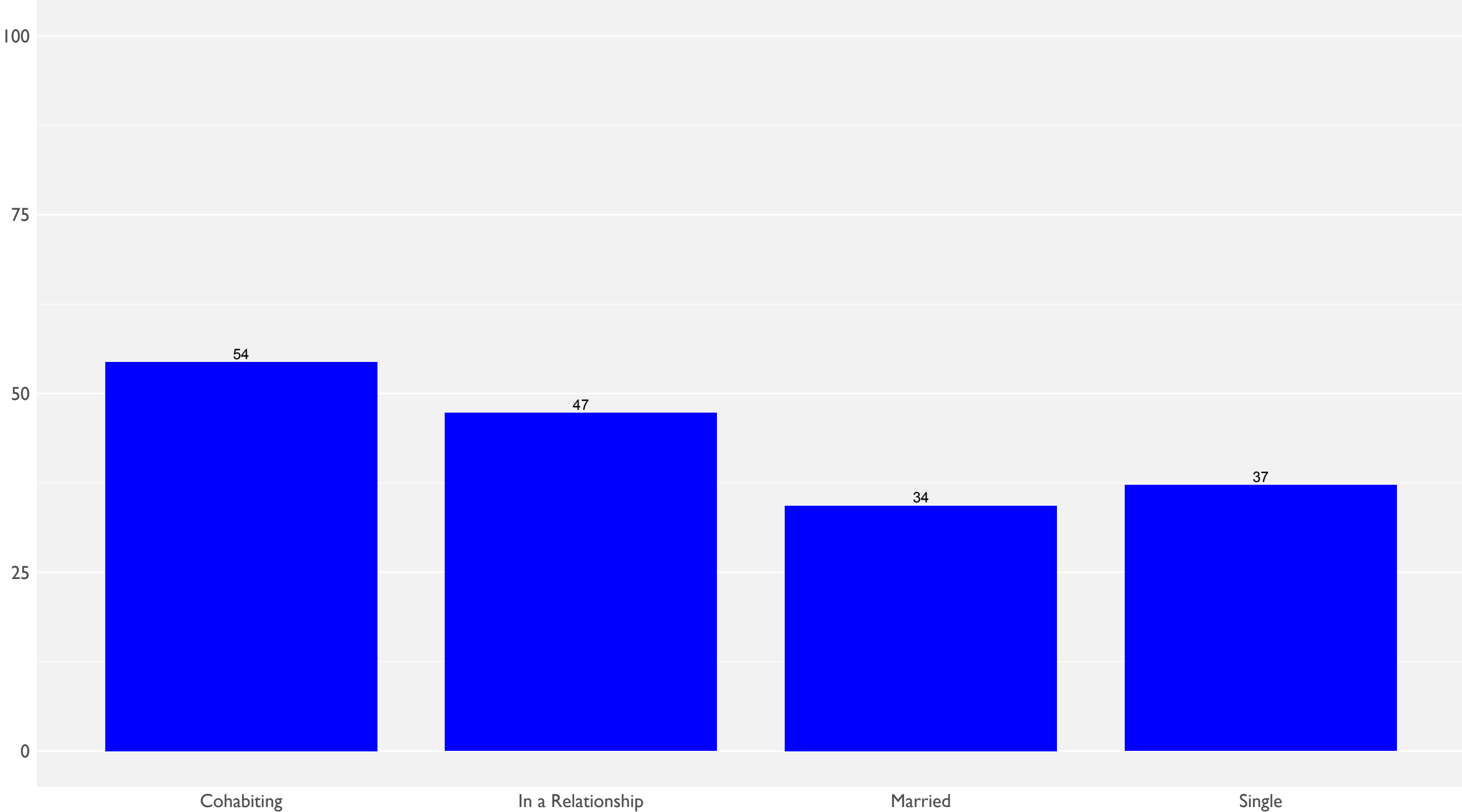
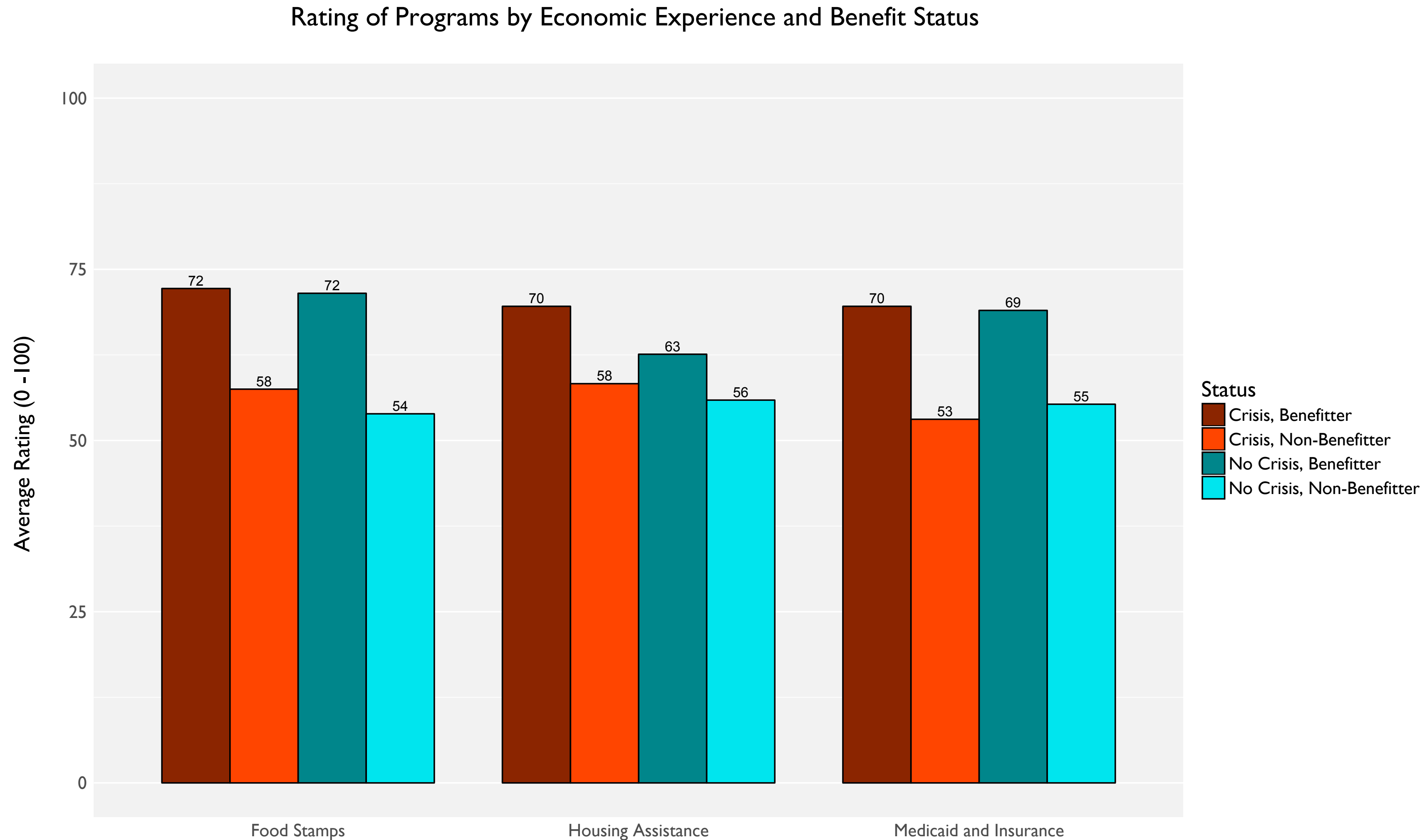


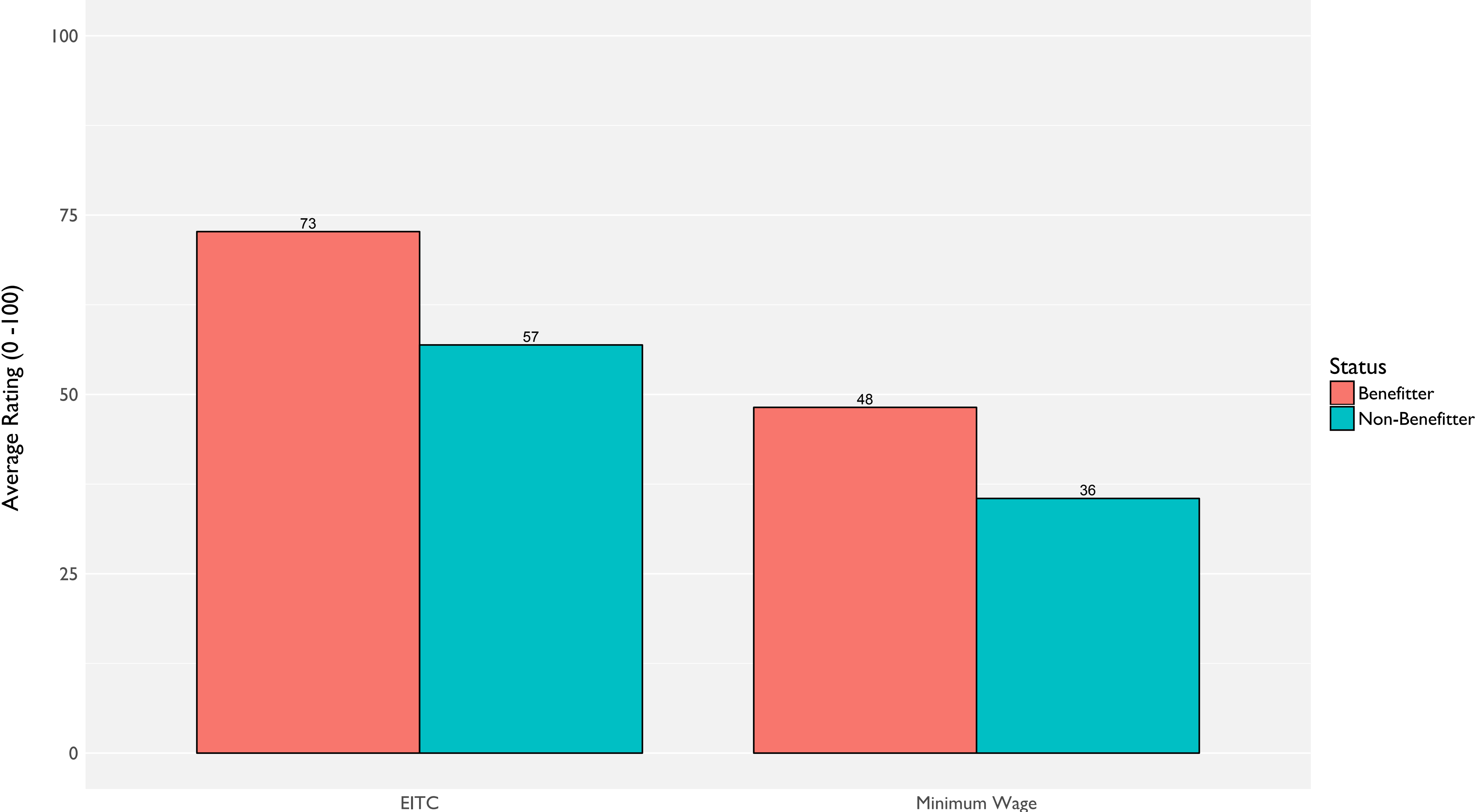
Table 18: Percentage of Single Mothers within Income Categories

Income Category	Percentage Single Mothers
<i>Low</i>	63
<i>Medium</i>	29
<i>High</i>	10

Past experience with the social safety net is an important determinant of support for assistance programs.



Rating of Wage Programs by Benefit Status



Americans with the lowest incomes are most likely to rely on themselves instead of turning to social networks and resources for help with family-related questions and needs.

Table 20: Income and Self-Reliance

Income Category	Percentage Relying Only on Themselves
<i>Low</i>	33
<i>Medium</i>	24
<i>High</i>	21

Ideology and Attitudes about Family Leave

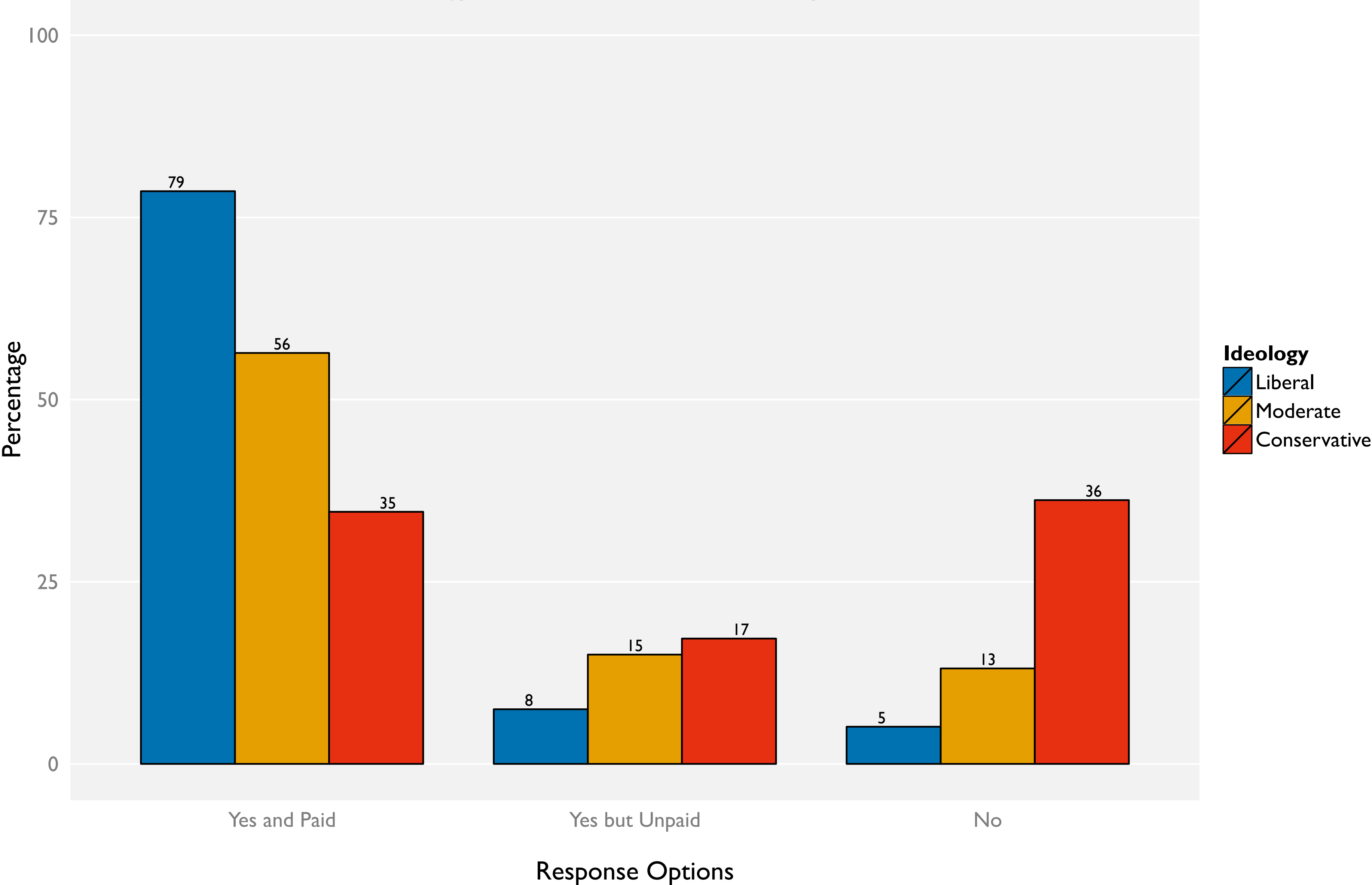
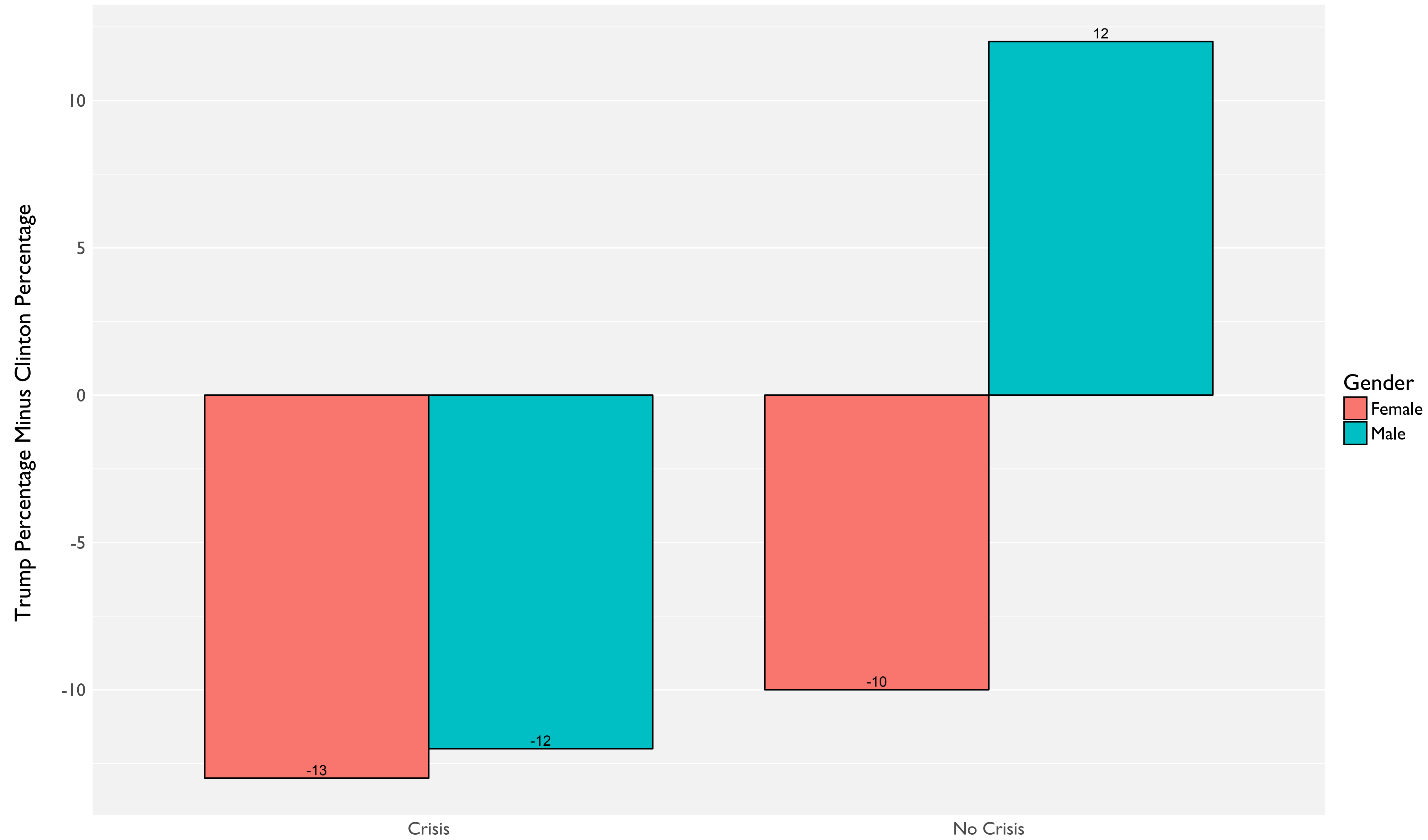


Table 35: Percentage of each demographic that planned to vote for either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump in the November election. When the survey was taken in July, large numbers of respondents did not plan to vote for either (and, of course, many do not vote) and so percentages do not add to one hundred.

	Clinton	Trump
<i>All</i>	36	32
<i>Married</i>	35	37
<i>Living with a Partner</i>	37	27
<i>In a Relationship</i>	40	24
<i>Not in a Relationship</i>	36	27
<i>Has Children</i>	35	36
<i>No Children</i>	37	24
<i>Least Authoritarian (Whites)</i>	52	17
<i>Most Authoritarian (Whites)</i>	13	46
<i>Experienced an Economic Crisis</i>	37	26
<i>Did Not Experience a Crisis</i>	35	36
<i>No Social Connections</i>	34	34
<i>Marriages Stronger (Generally)</i>	47	16
<i>Marriages About the Same (Generally)</i>	41	29
<i>Marriages Weaker (Generally)</i>	29	40

Difference Between Trump & Clinton Vote Intention by Economic Experience



Thanks!