

**Hospital Emergency Code  
Standardization Survey**

**SURVEY  
REPORT**

**CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION**

October 2014

# 2014 Hospital Emergency Code Standardization Survey

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# 2014 Hospital Emergency Code Standardization Survey

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## Survey Introduction

Most healthcare facilities use some form of emergency code system to discreetly relay urgent information to hospital personnel during emergency incidents. However, the application of these codes is not always consistent between facilities. Lack of standardization increases the potential for confusion or misinformation during critical times.

Standardizing hospital emergency codes provides benefit to hospital employees, patients, and visitors by reducing confusion and allowing staff to appropriately respond to emergency incidents (such as natural disasters or terrorist events.)

The California Hospital Association (in partnership with the regional hospital associations) conducted Hospital Emergency Code surveys in 2009, 2011 and 2014 to collect data on hospital emergency code usage within California healthcare facilities. The information collected from these surveys has allowed for the assessment of statewide trends in hospital emergency code usage over the past 5 years.

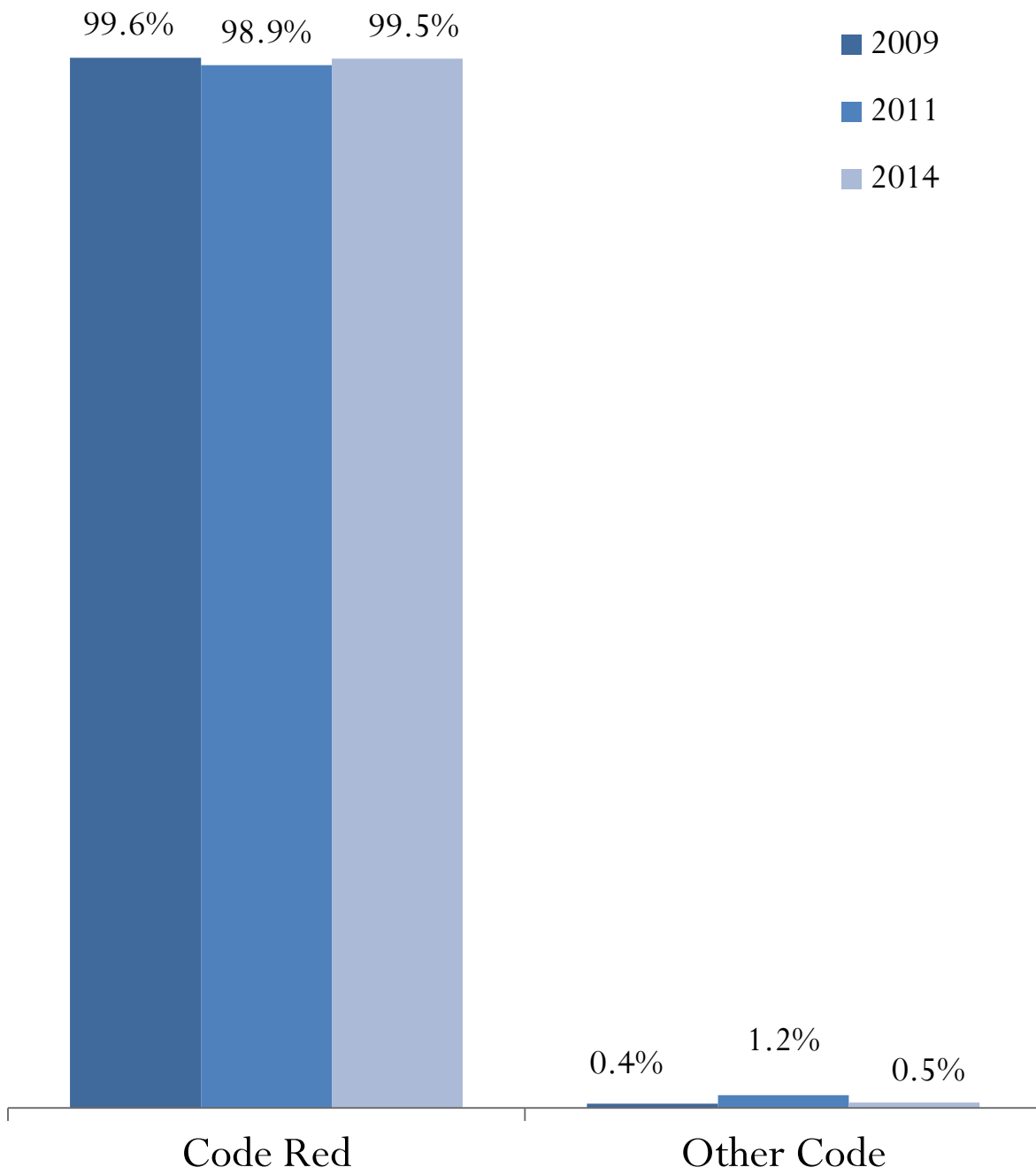
This report provides analysis of the 2014 statistics in comparison to the 2009 and 2011 data. The final results of all three surveys and illustrates ongoing progress in hospital emergency code implementation among California healthcare facilities.

**SECTION 1:**  
**Statewide Cumulative  
Survey Results**

*191 California hospitals responded to the survey*

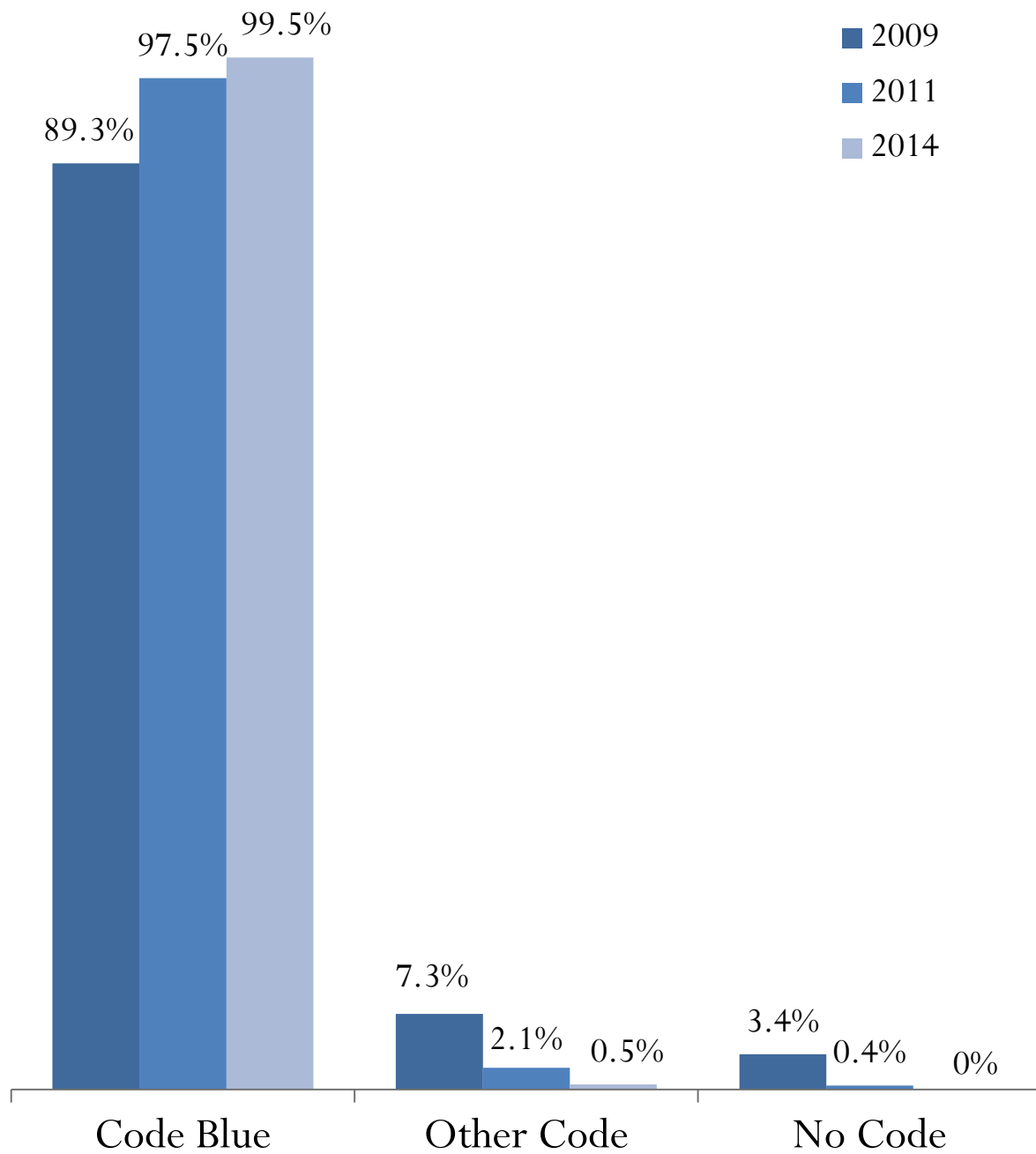
# FIRE

Does your facility use code Red for fire?



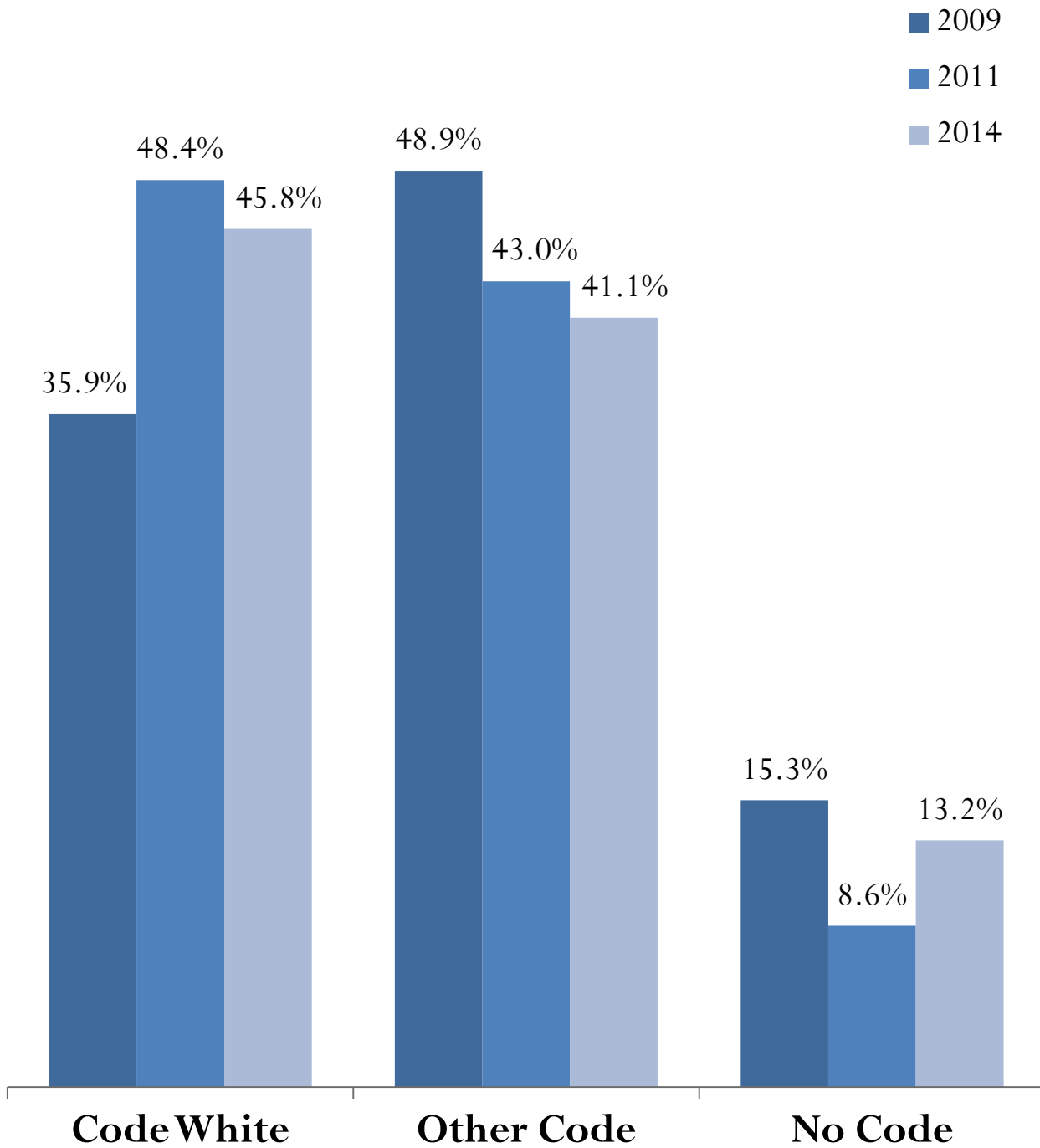
## MEDICAL EMERGENCY – ADULT

Does your facility use Code Blue for medical emergency (adult)?



## MEDICAL EMERGENCY – PEDIATRIC

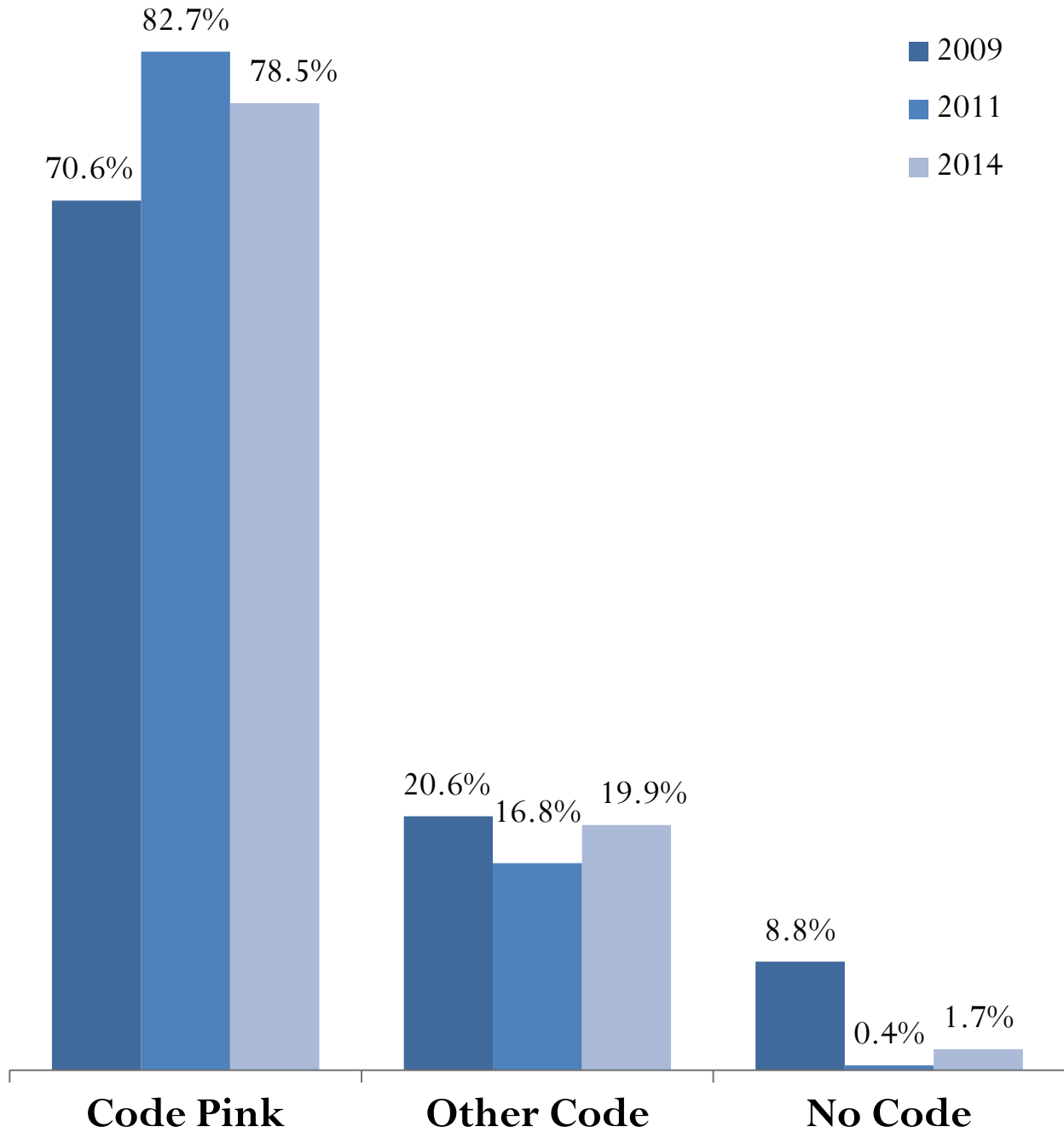
Does your facility use Code White for medical emergency (pediatric)?





# INFANT ABDUCTION

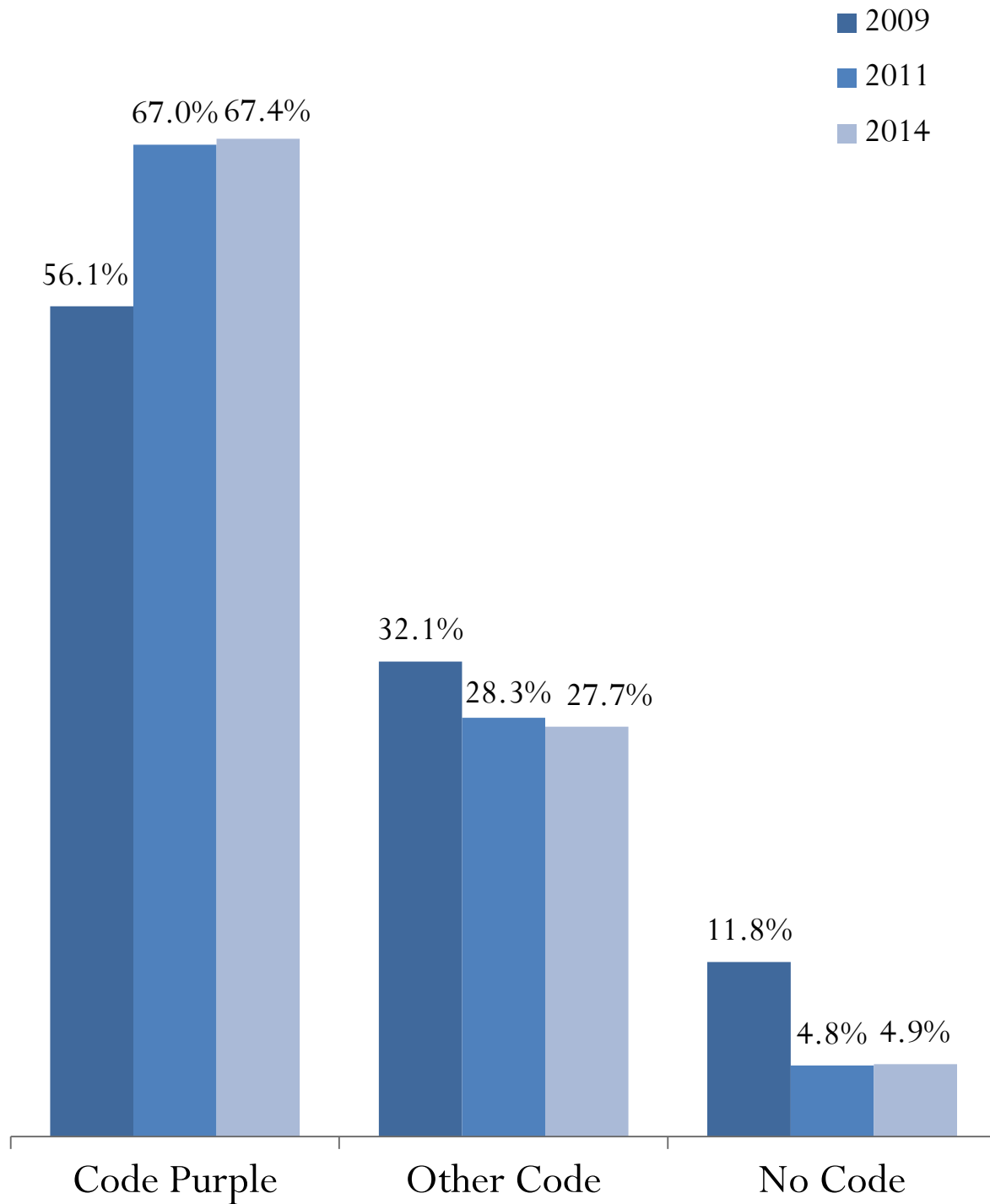
Does your facility use Code Pink for infant abduction?



Non-applicable survey responses have been excluded from this category.

# CHILD ABDUCTION

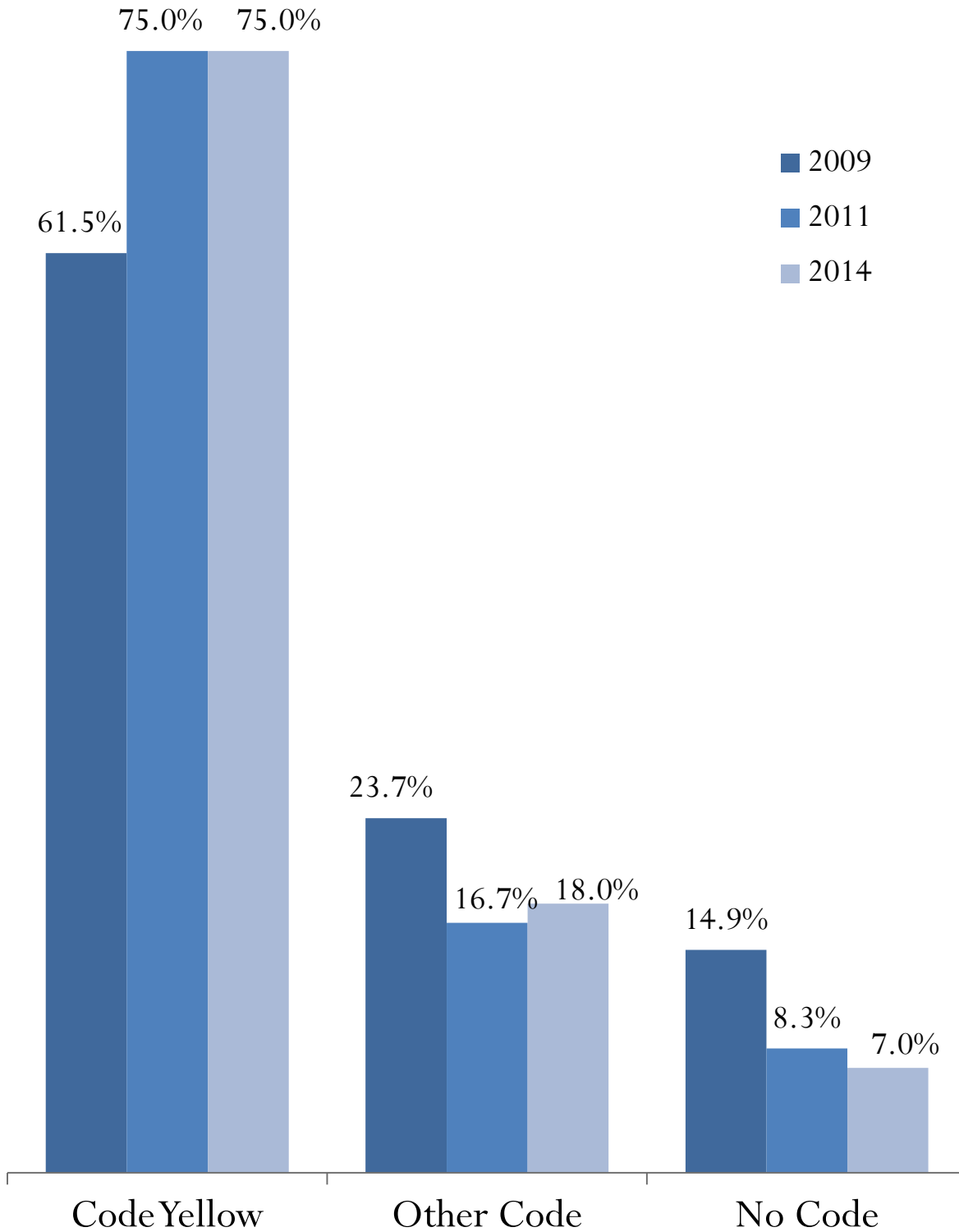
Does your facility use Code Purple for child abduction?



Non-applicable survey responses have been excluded from this category.

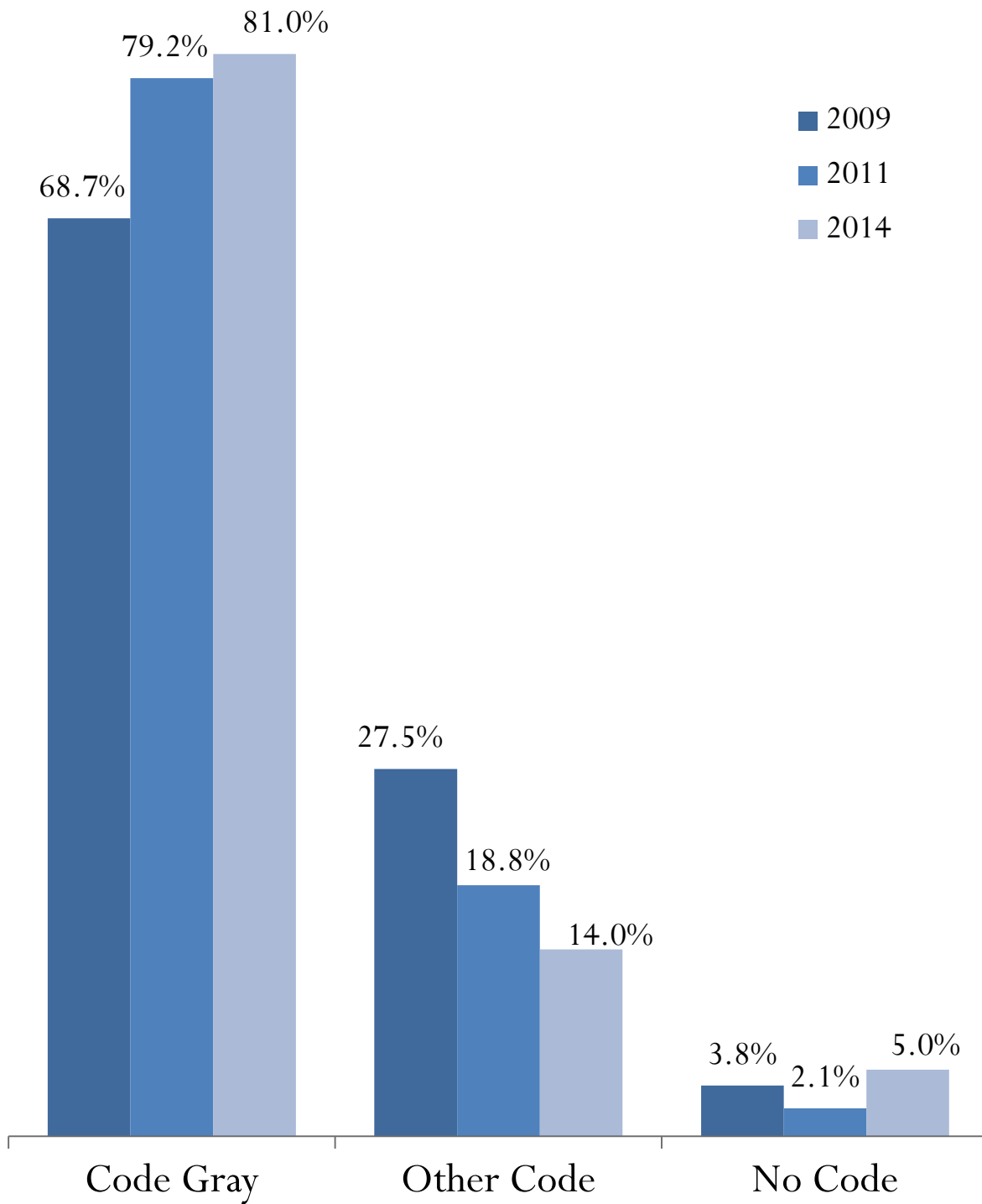
# BOMB THREAT

Does your facility use Code Yellow for bomb threat?



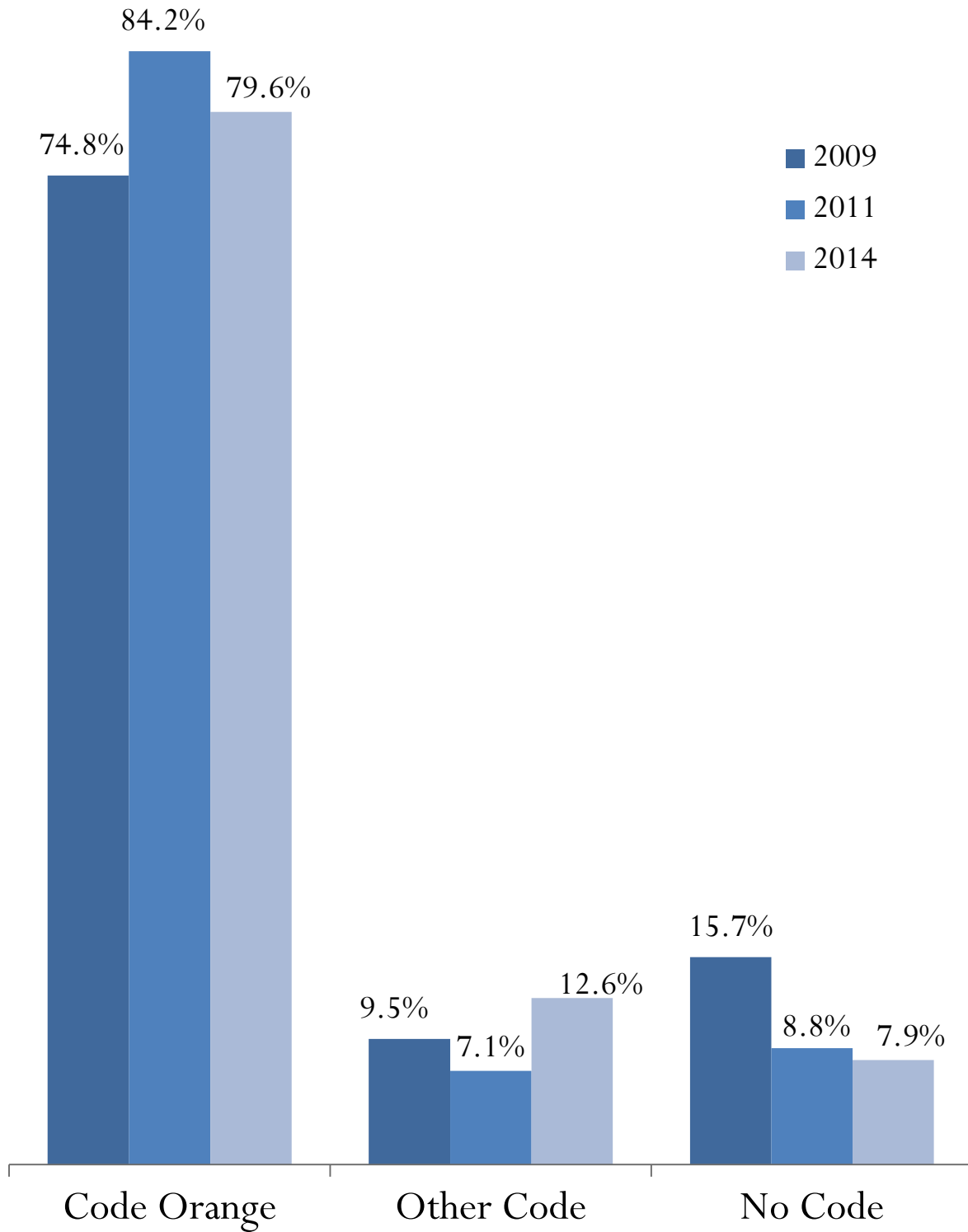
## COMBATIVE PERSON

Does your facility use Code Gray for a combative person?



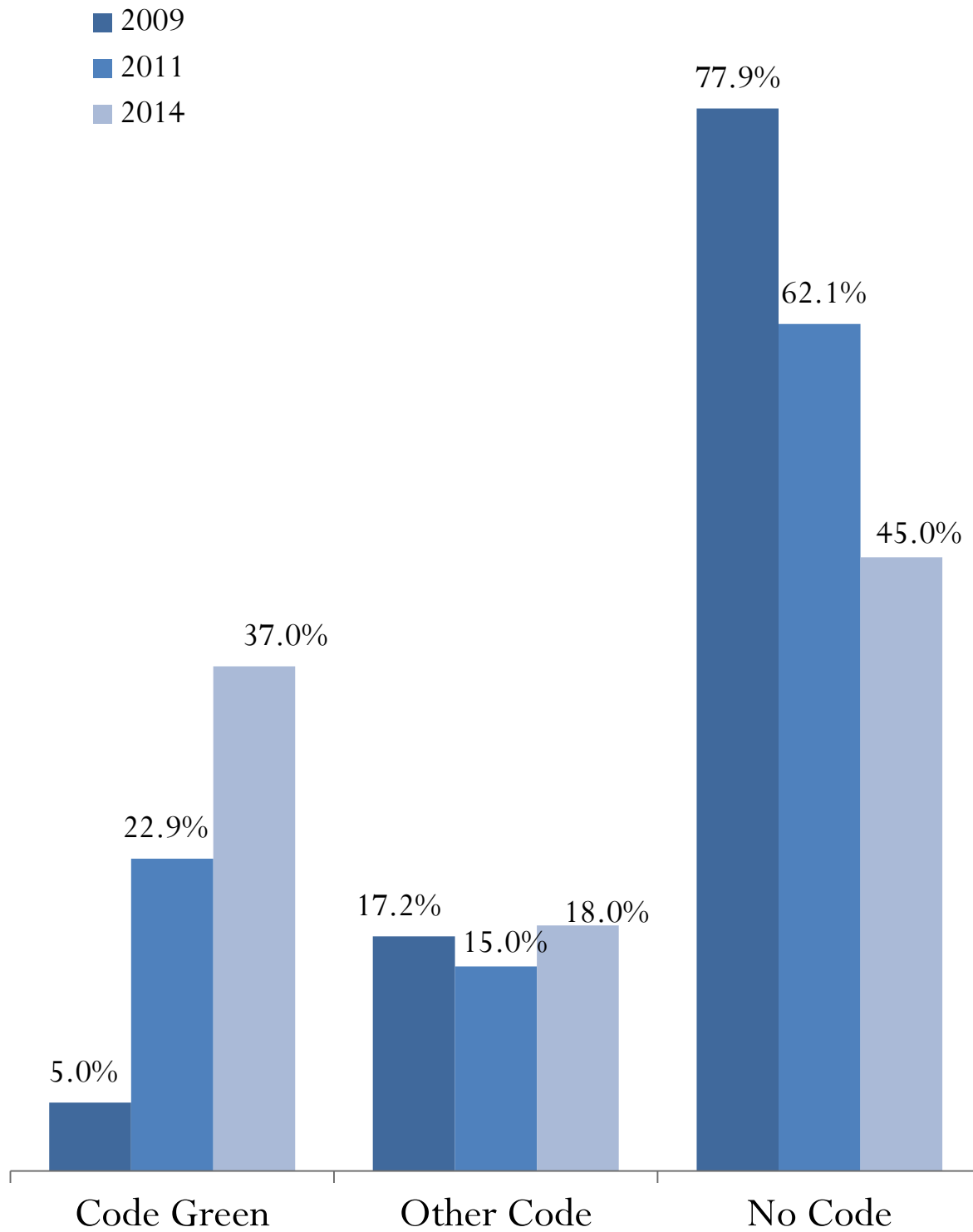
# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SPILL

Does your facility use Code Orange for hazardous materials?



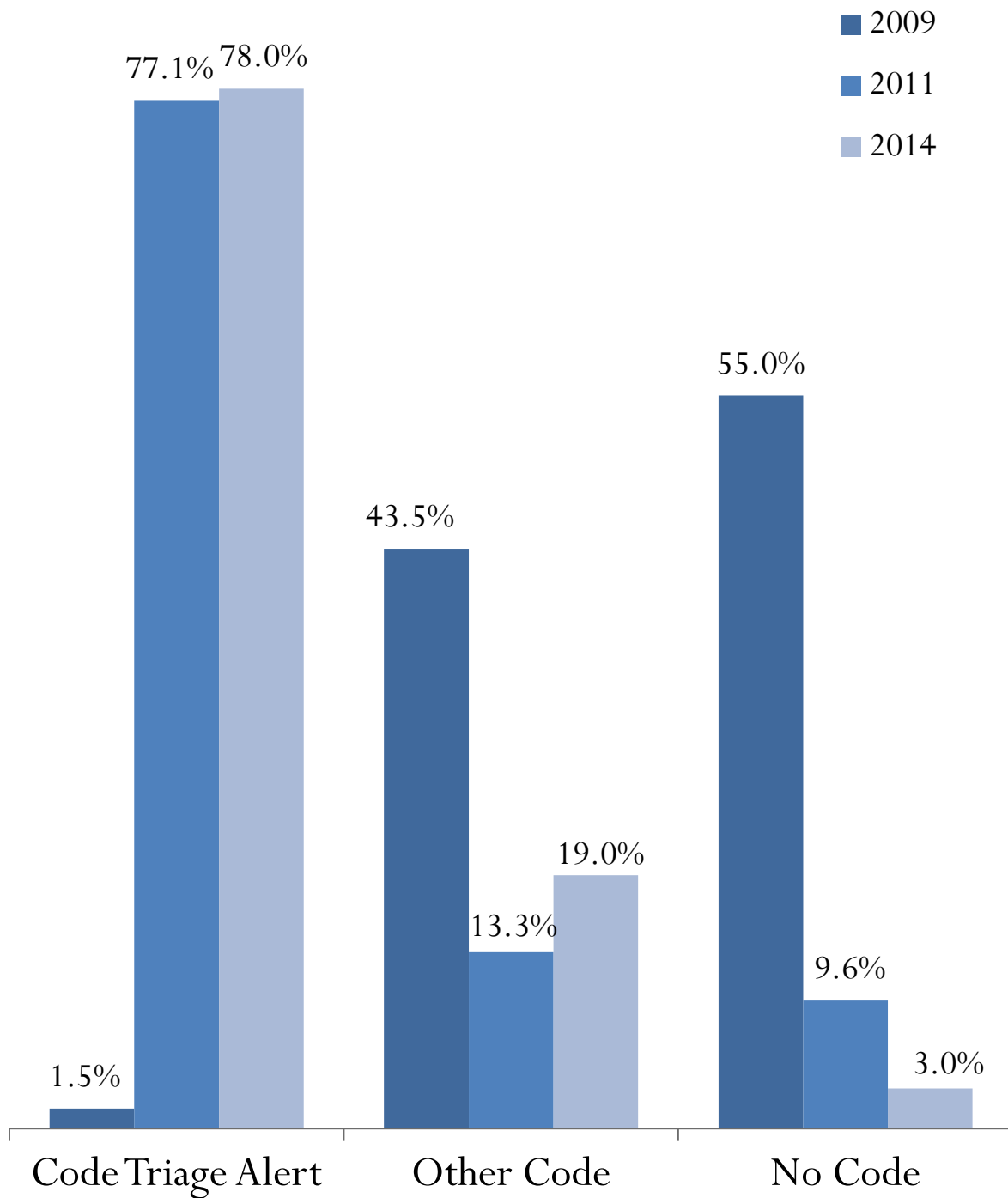
## PATIENT ELOPEMENT

Does your facility use Code Green for patient elopement?



## EMERGENCY ALERT

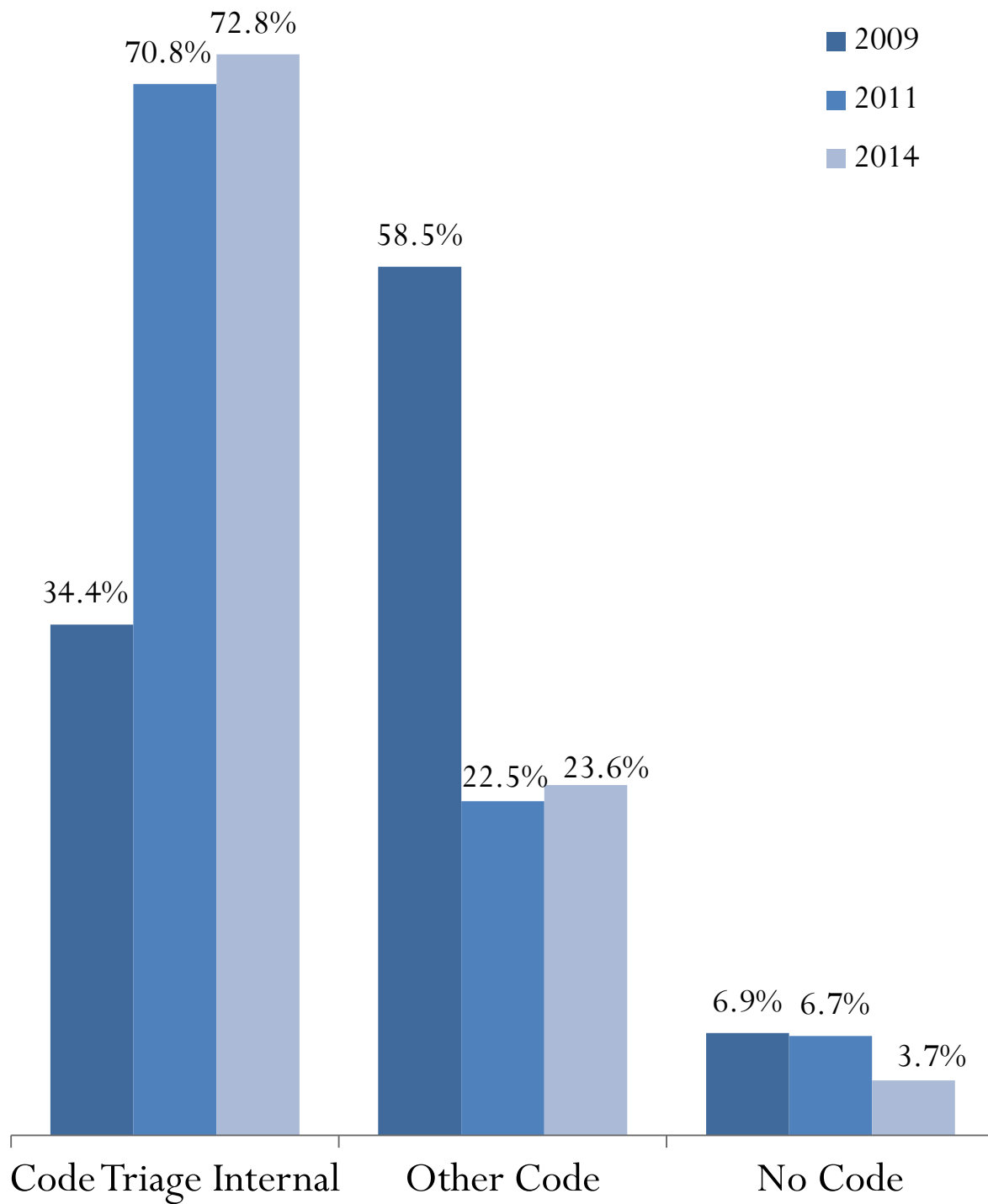
Does your facility use Code Triage Alert for emergency alert?



*Code Triage Alert was added in 2009*

## INTERNAL EMERGENCY

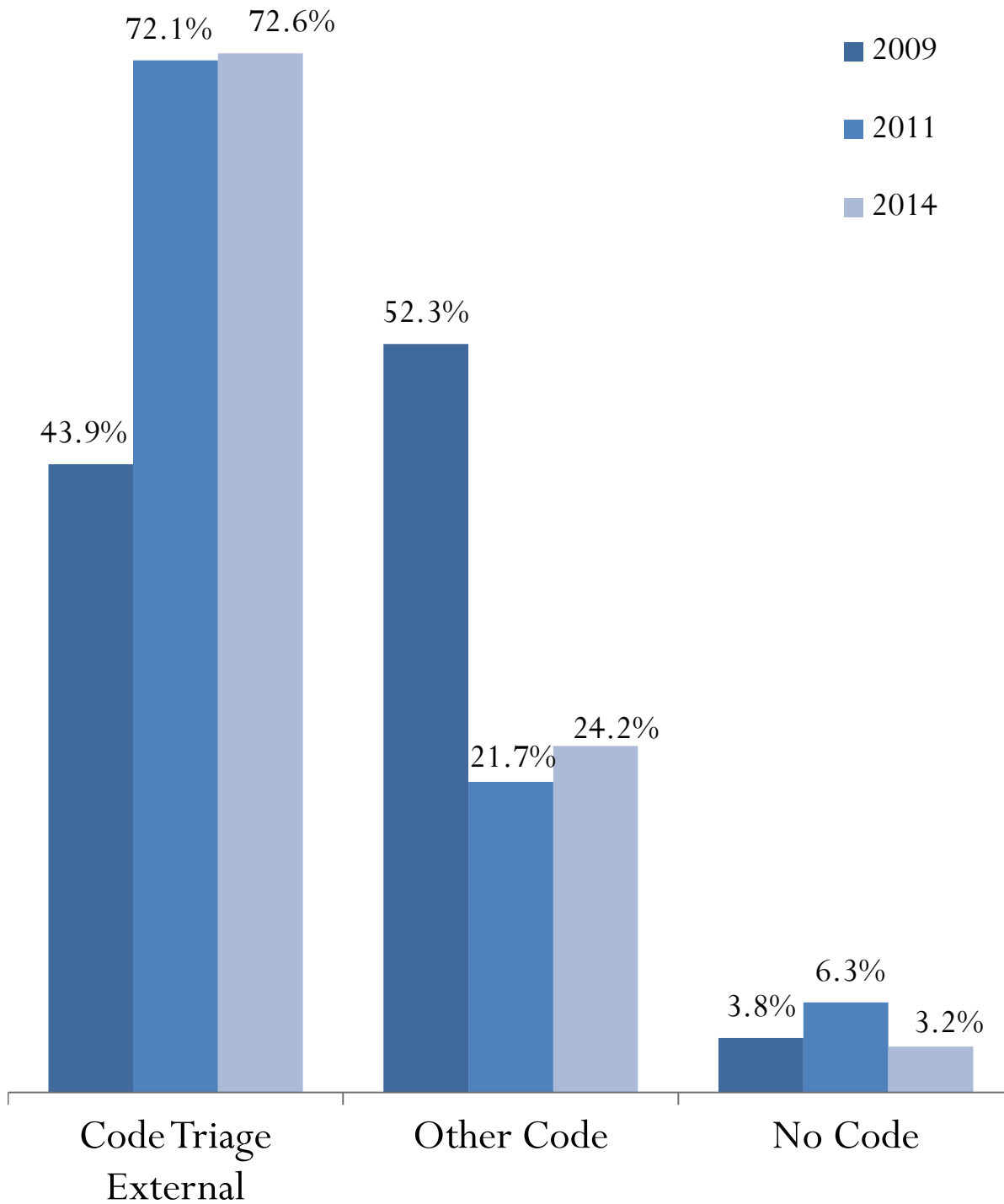
Does your facility use Code Triage Internal for internal emergencies?





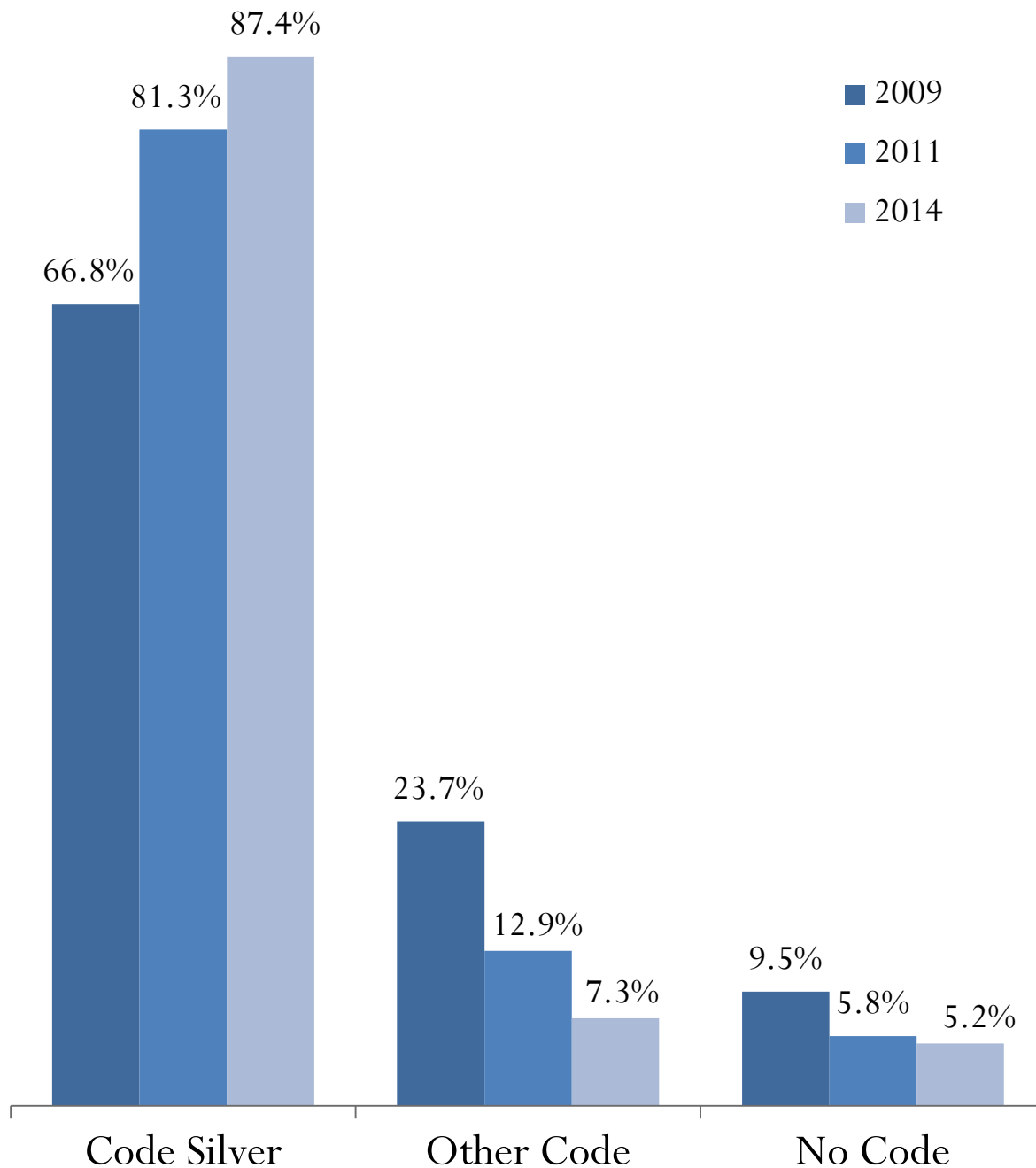
## EXTERNAL EMERGENCY

Does your facility use Code Triage External for external emergencies?



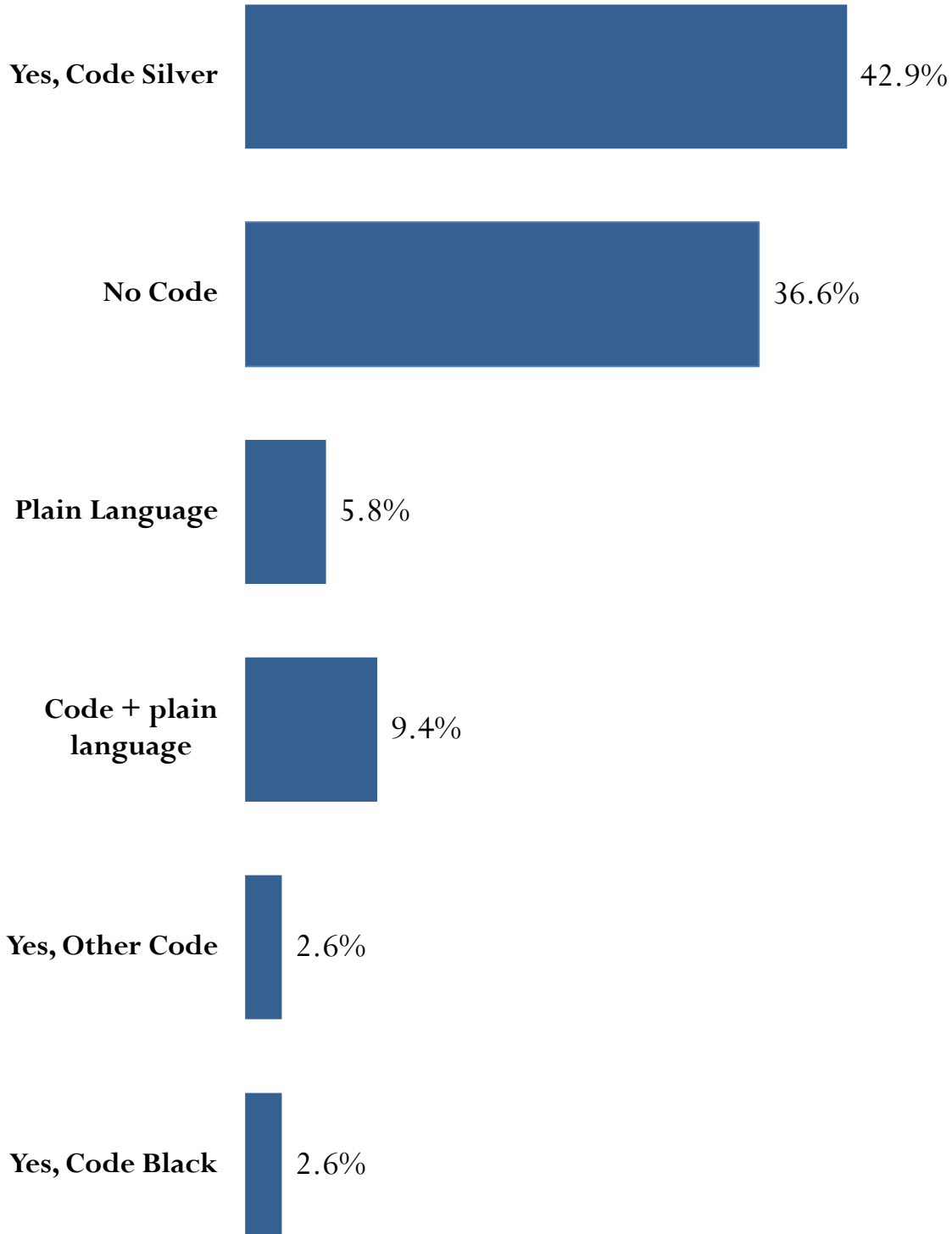
## PERSON WITH A WEAPON and/or ACTIVE SHOOTER and/or HOSTAGE SITUATION

Does your facility use Code Silver for a person with a weapon, an active shooter, and/or hostage situation?



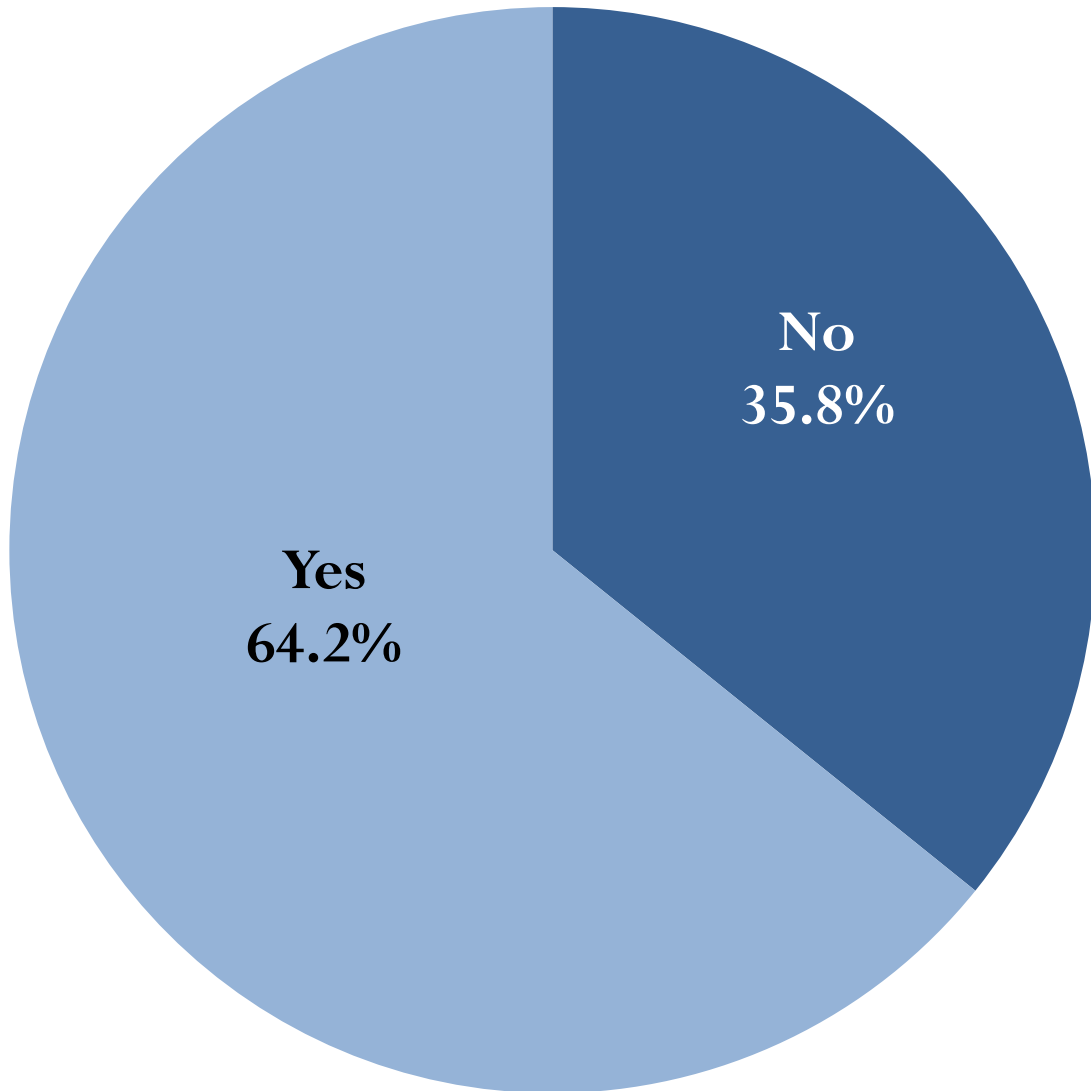
## ACTIVE SHOOTER

Does your facility have an emergency code designated solely for an active shooter event?



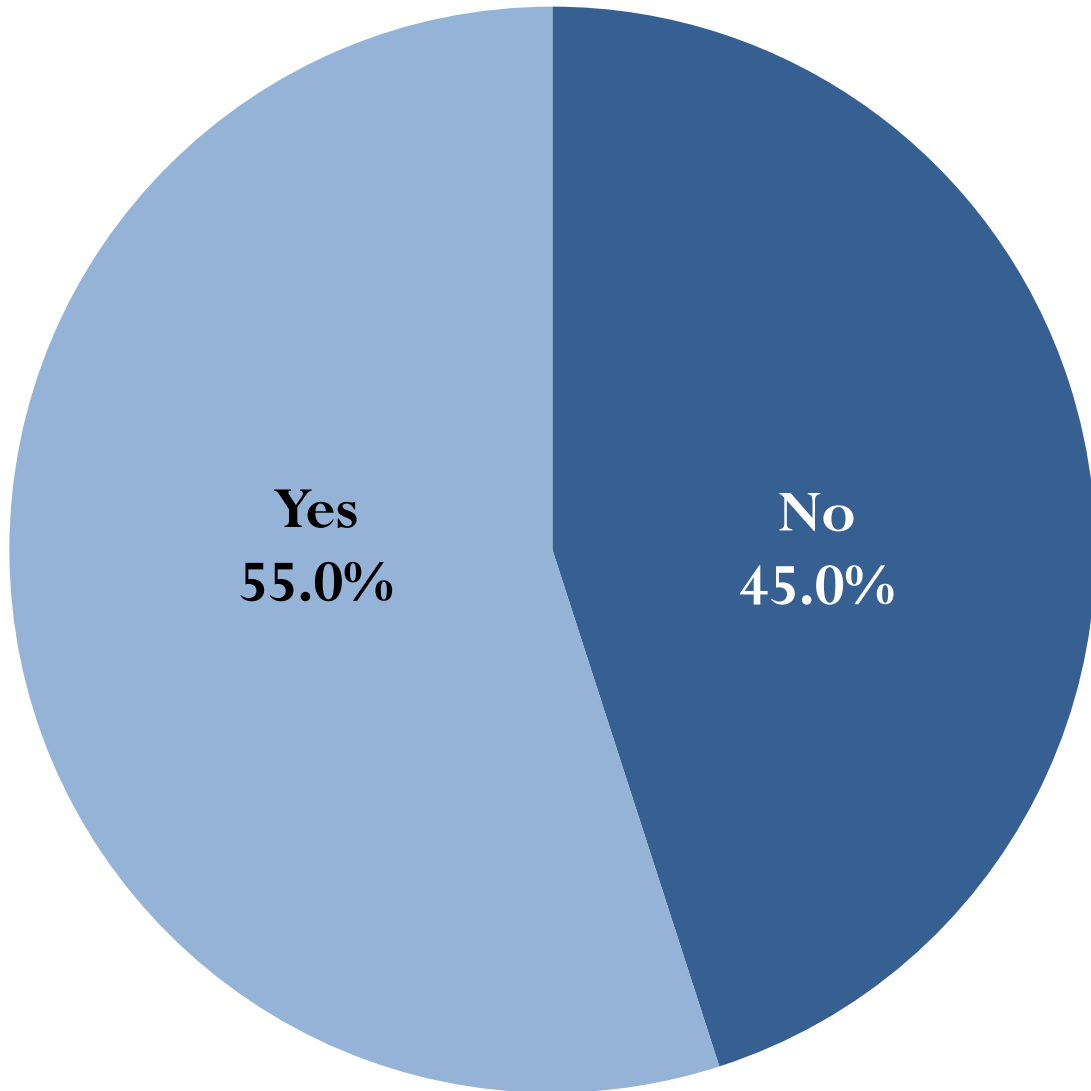
## ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING

Has your facility conducted classroom or online training for active shooter scenarios?



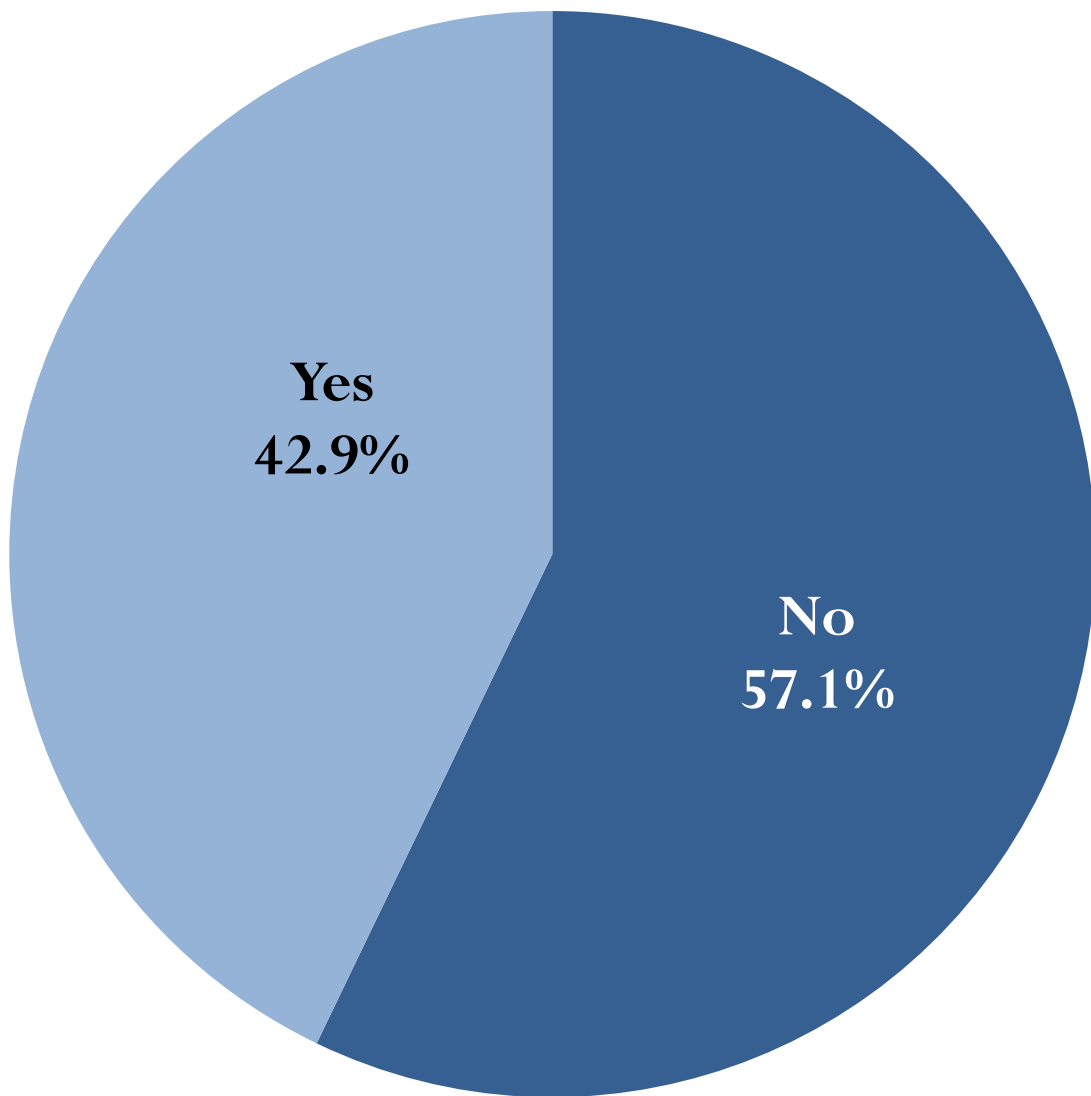
## ACTIVE SHOOTER EXERCISES

Has your facility conducted a tabletop or functional training exercise for active shooter scenarios?



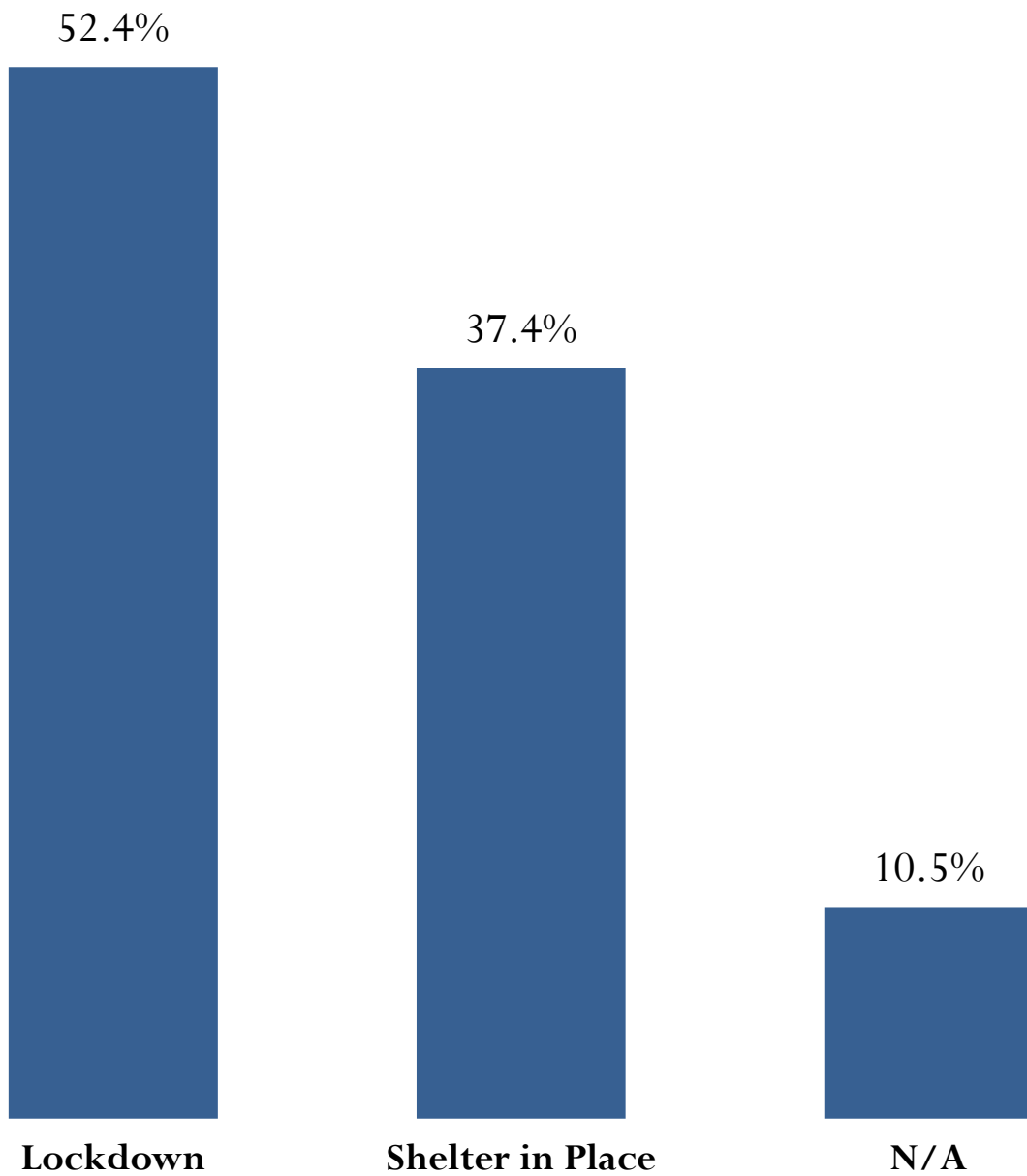
## ACTIVE SHOOTER: HAZARD VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS

Does your facility HVA include the active shooter scenario as one of your listed risks?



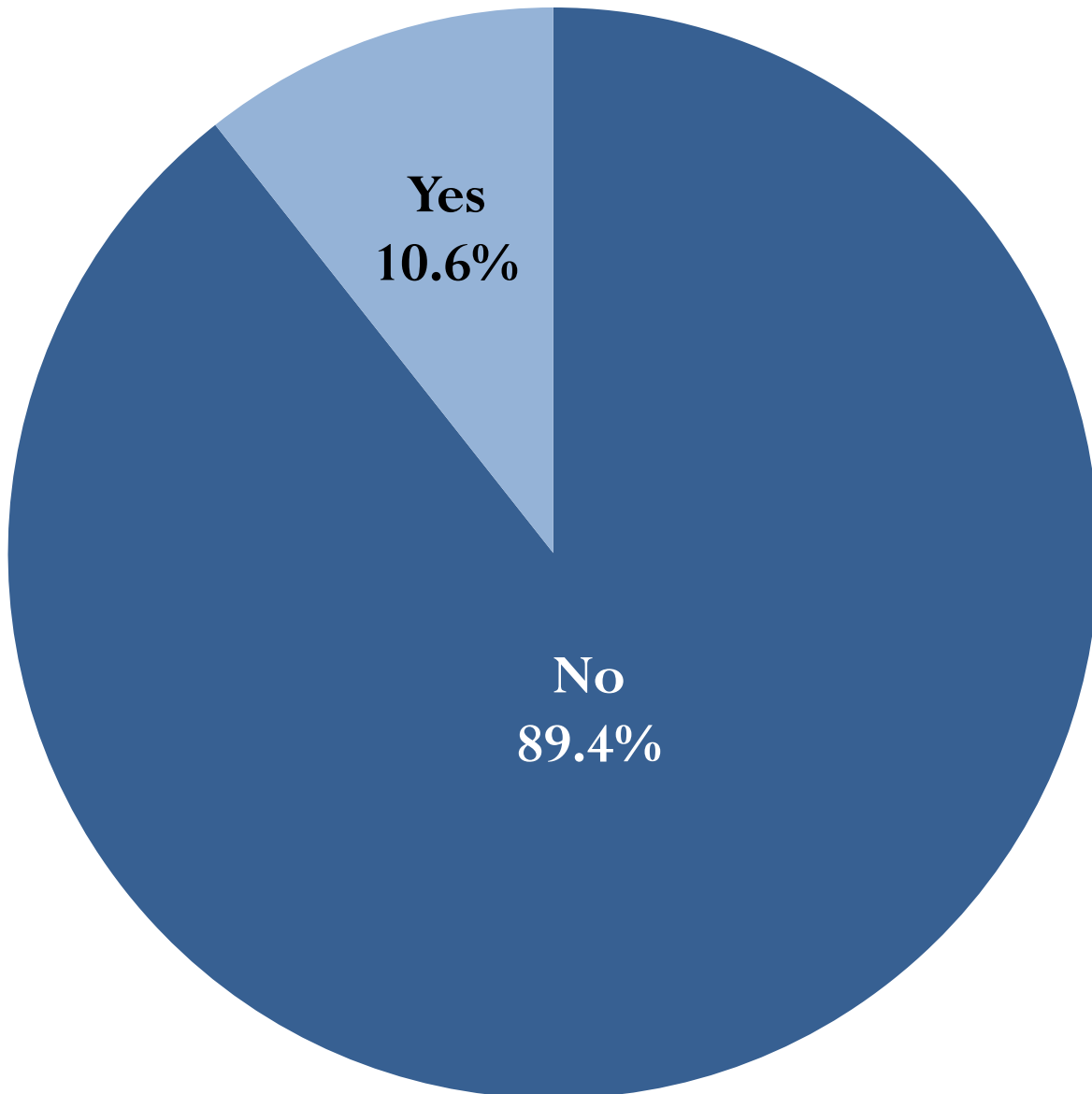
## ACTIVE SHOOTER POLICY

Does your facility active shooter policy call for "lockdown" or "shelter in place"?



## ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS

Has your facility ever had to activate the EOP for an actual active shooter incident?





**SECTION II:**

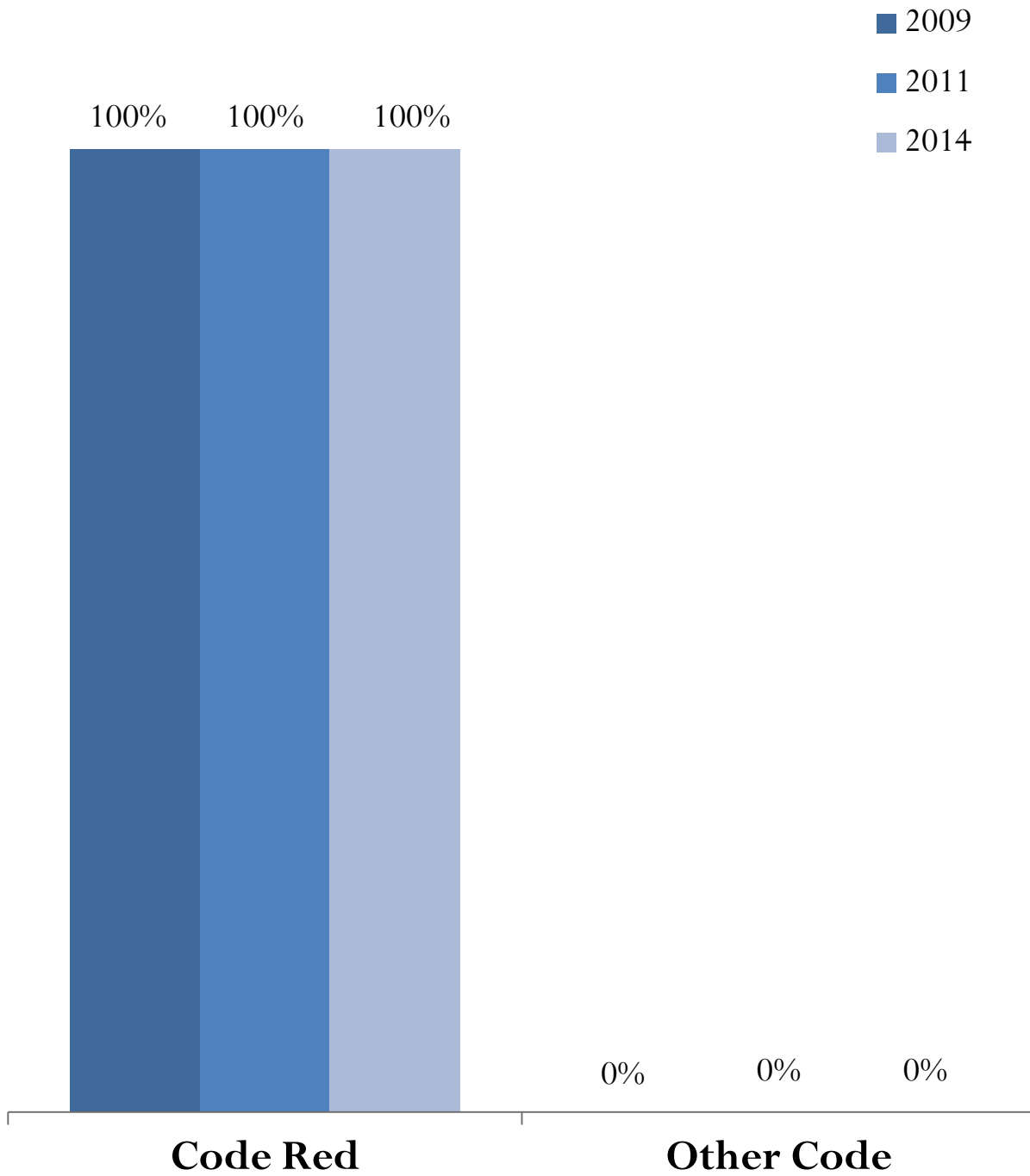
**Hospital Association  
of Southern California**

*88 HASC hospitals responded to the survey*

# Hospital Association of Southern California

## FIRE

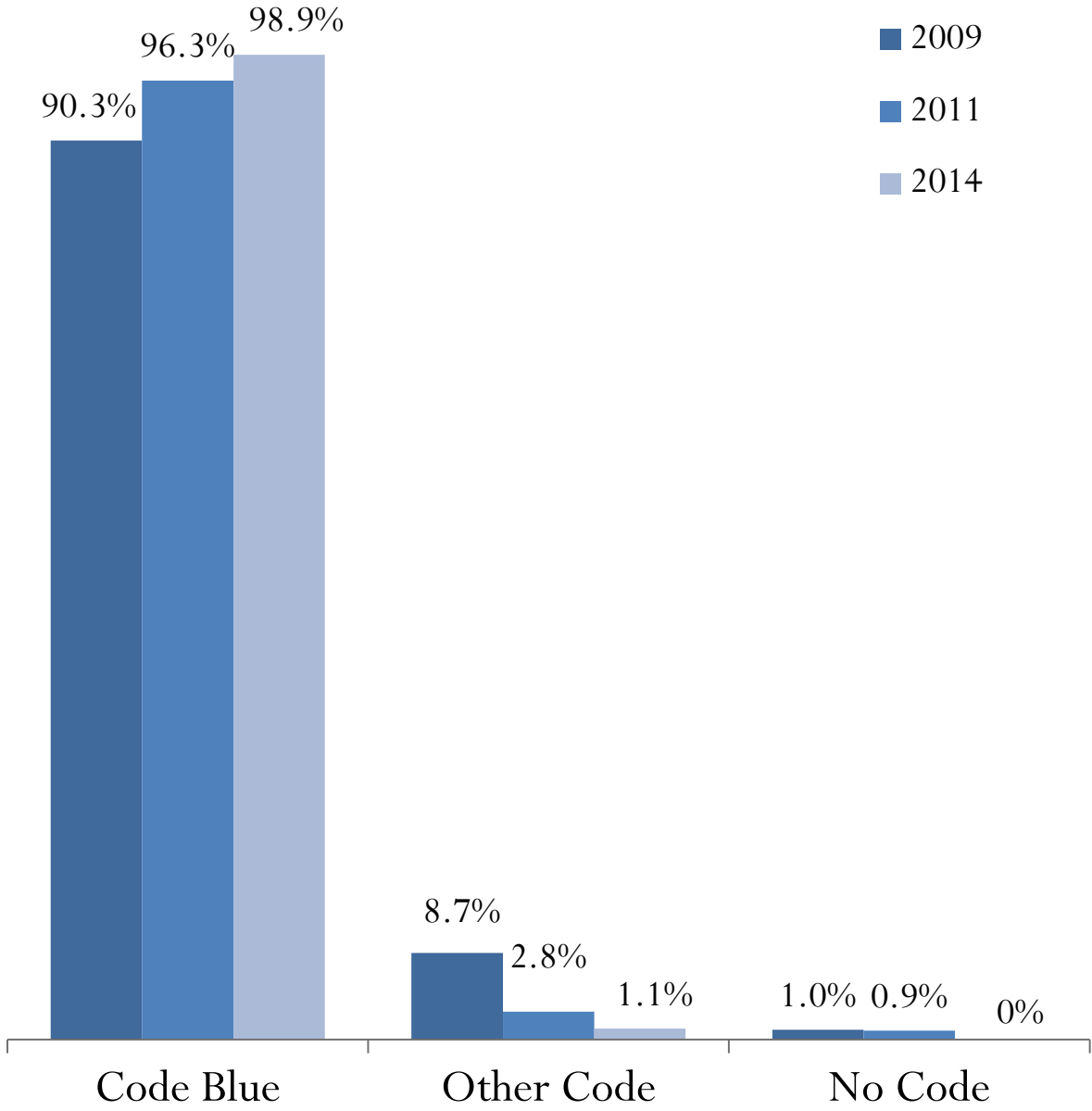
Does your facility use code Red for fire?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY – ADULT

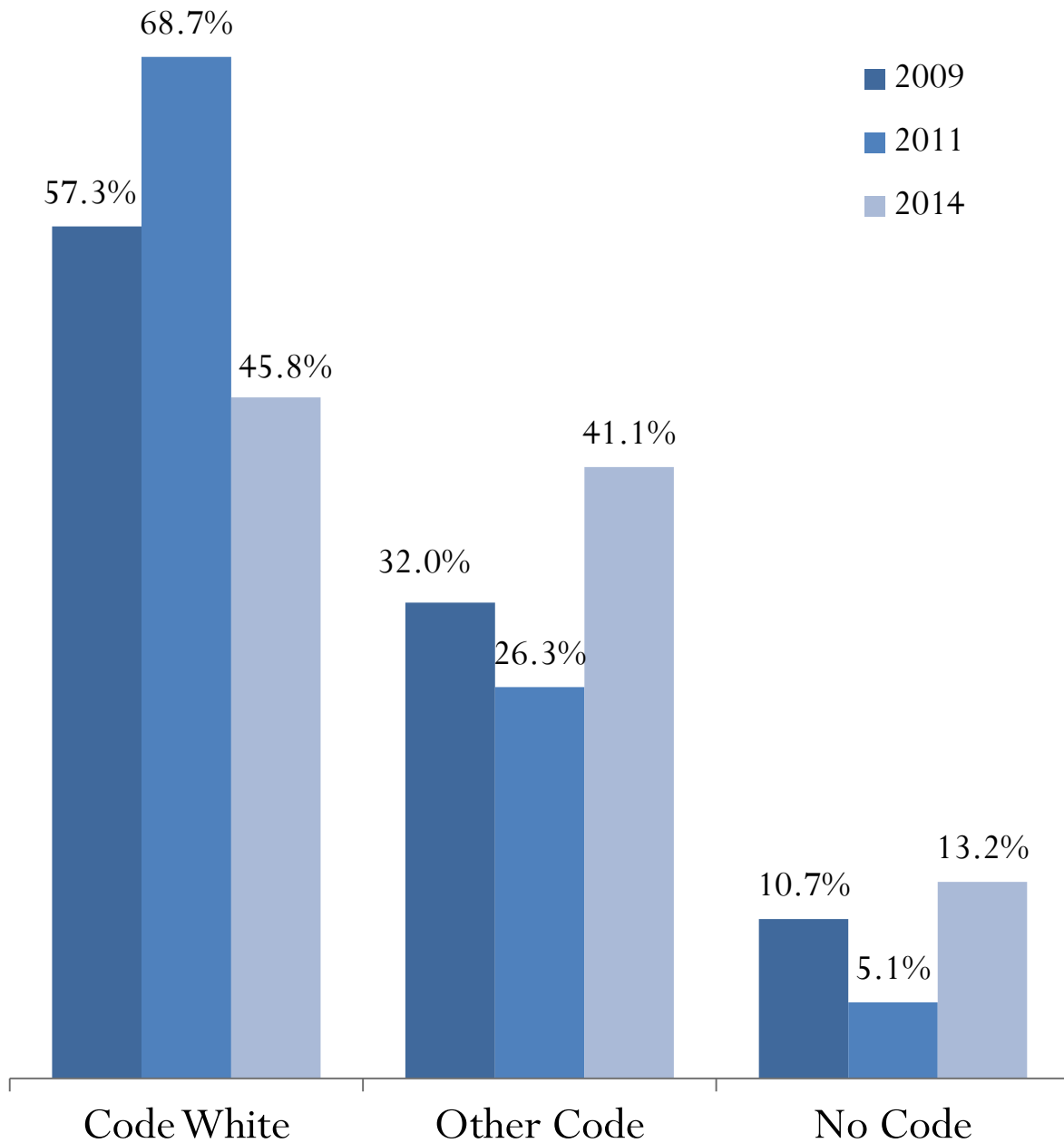
Does your facility use Code Blue for medical emergency (adult)?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY – PEDIATRIC

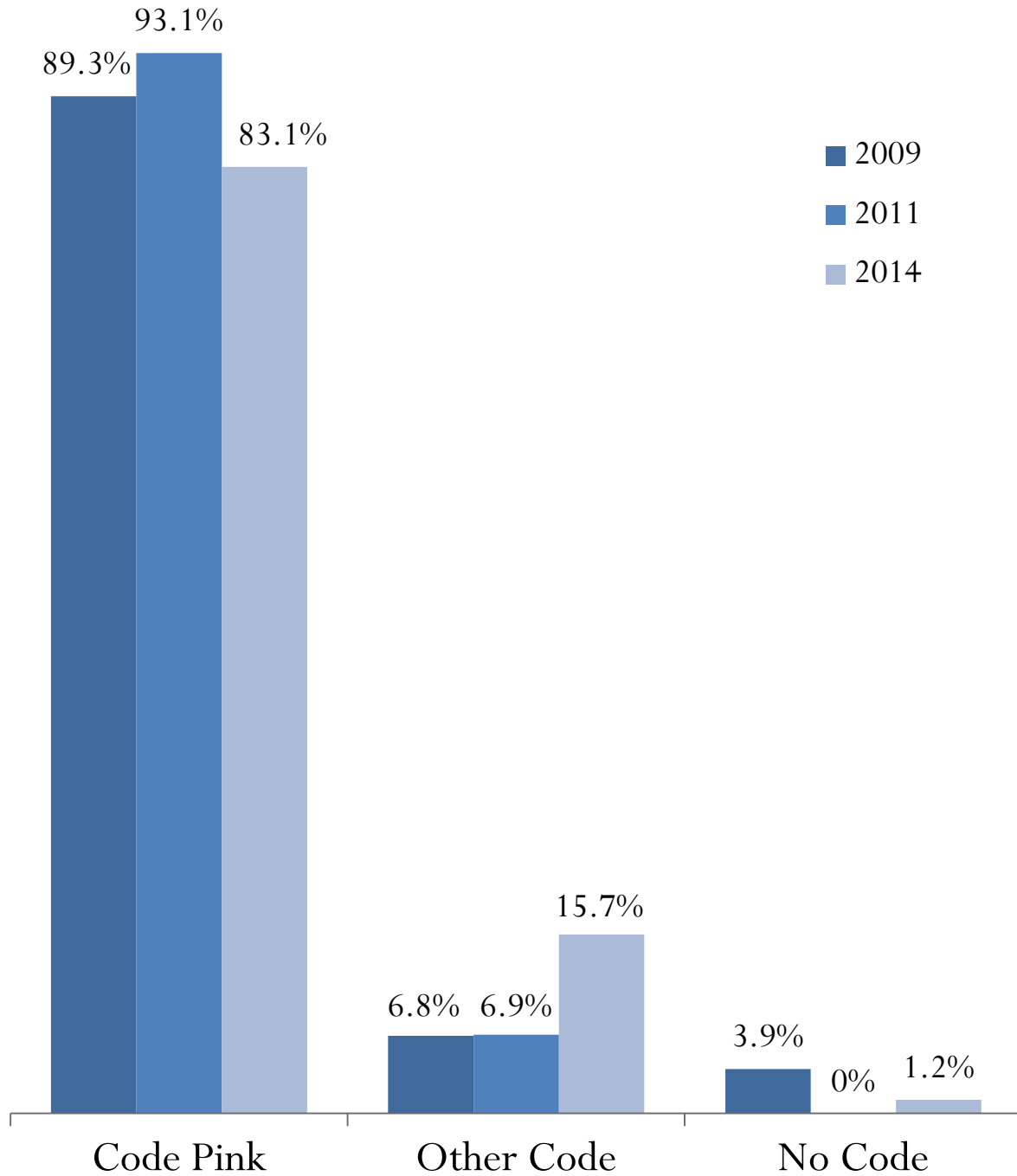
Does your facility use Code White for medical emergency (pediatric)?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## INFANT ABDUCTION

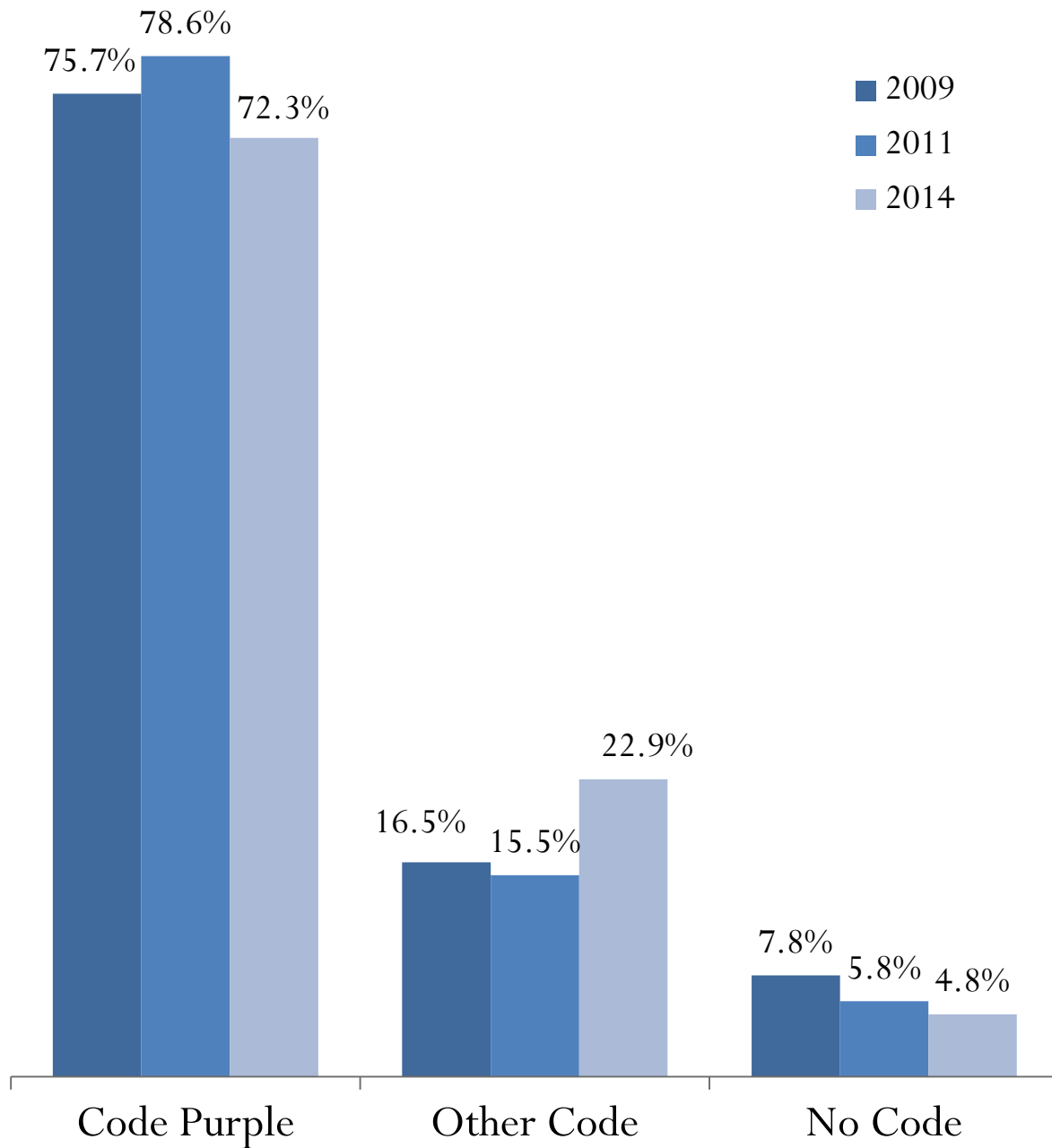
Does your facility use Code Pink for infant abduction?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## CHILD ABDUCTION

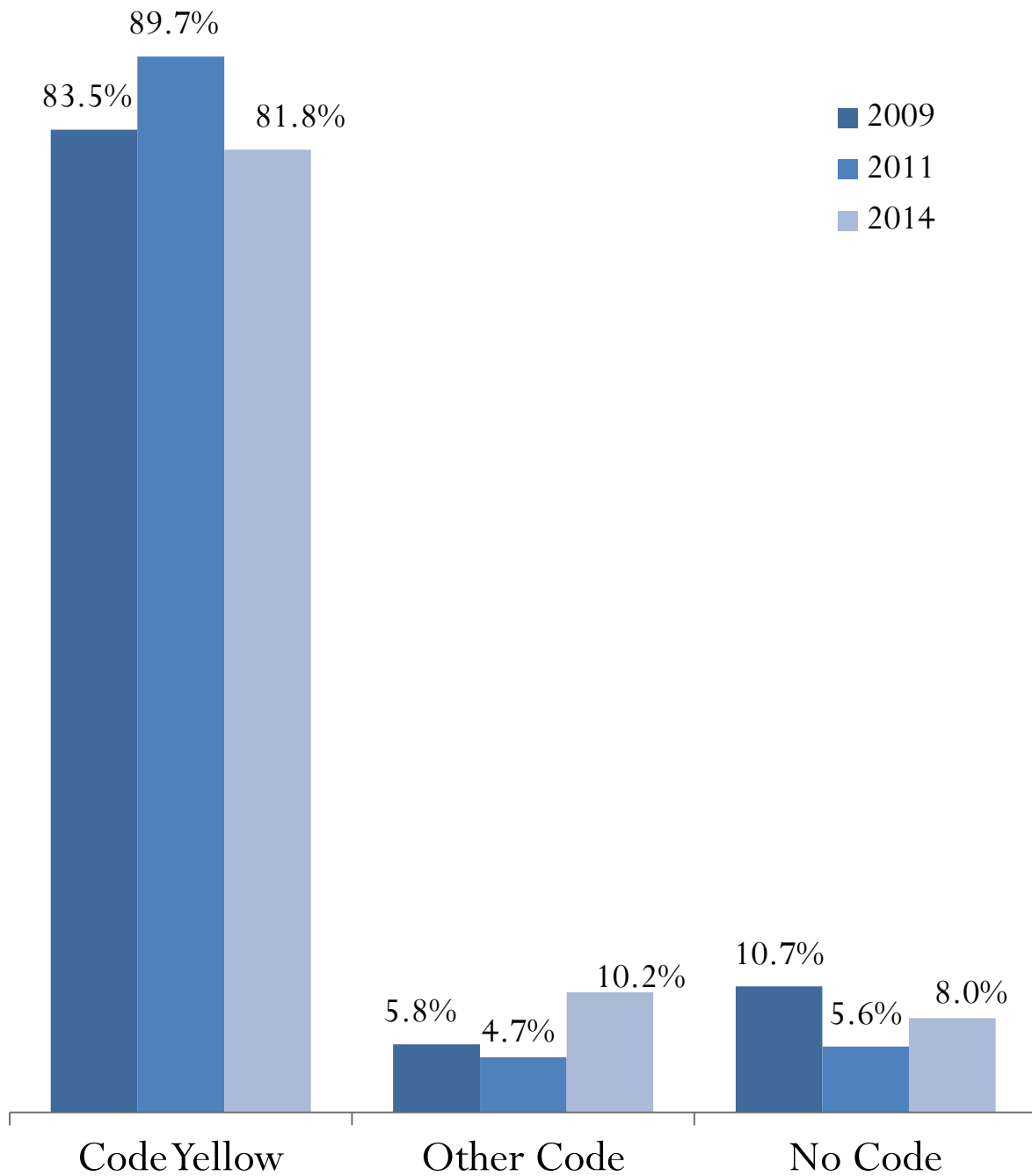
Does your facility use Code Purple for child abduction?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## BOMB THREAT

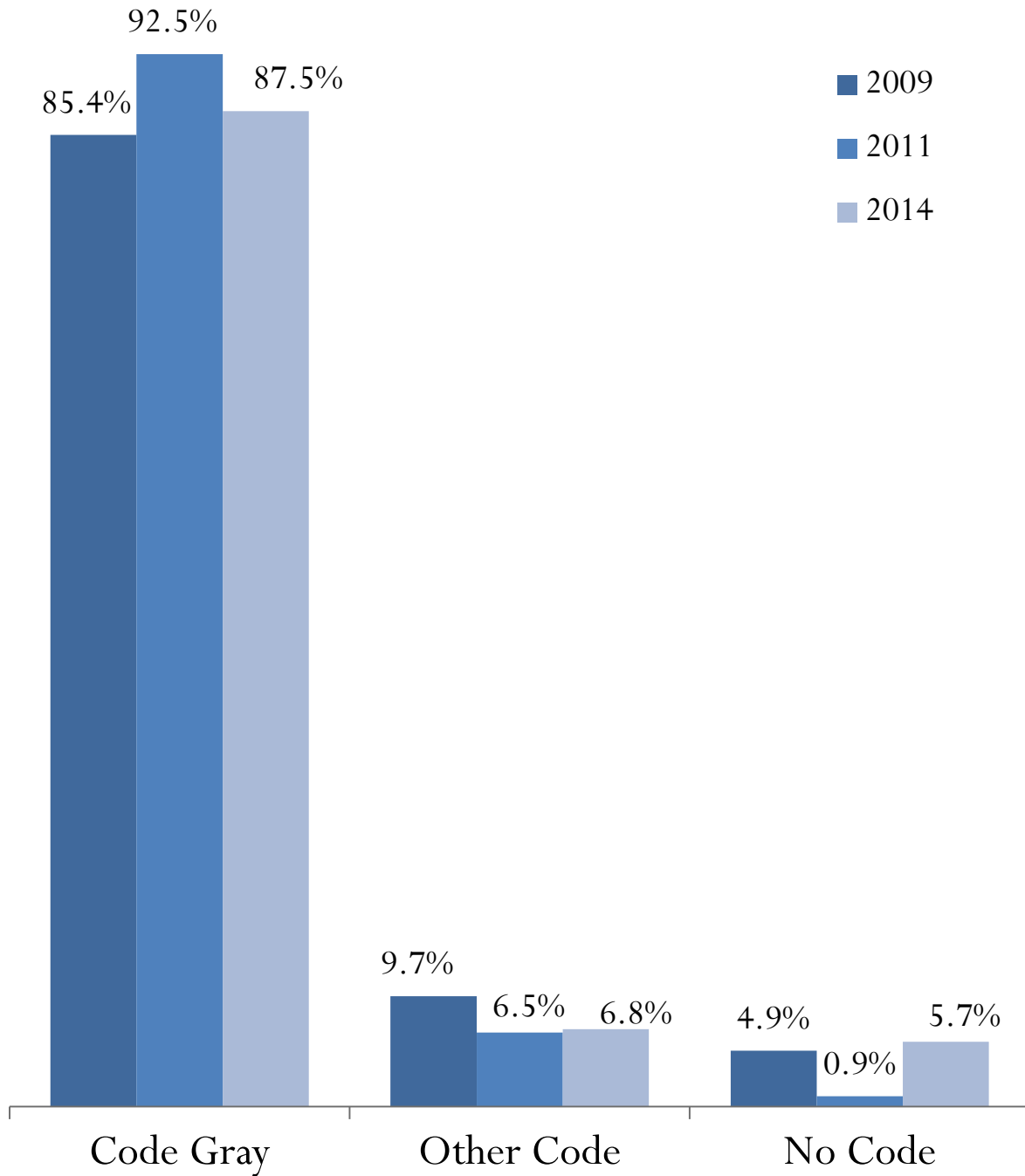
Does your facility use Code Yellow for bomb threat?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## COMBATIVE PERSON

Does your facility use Code Gray for a combative person?

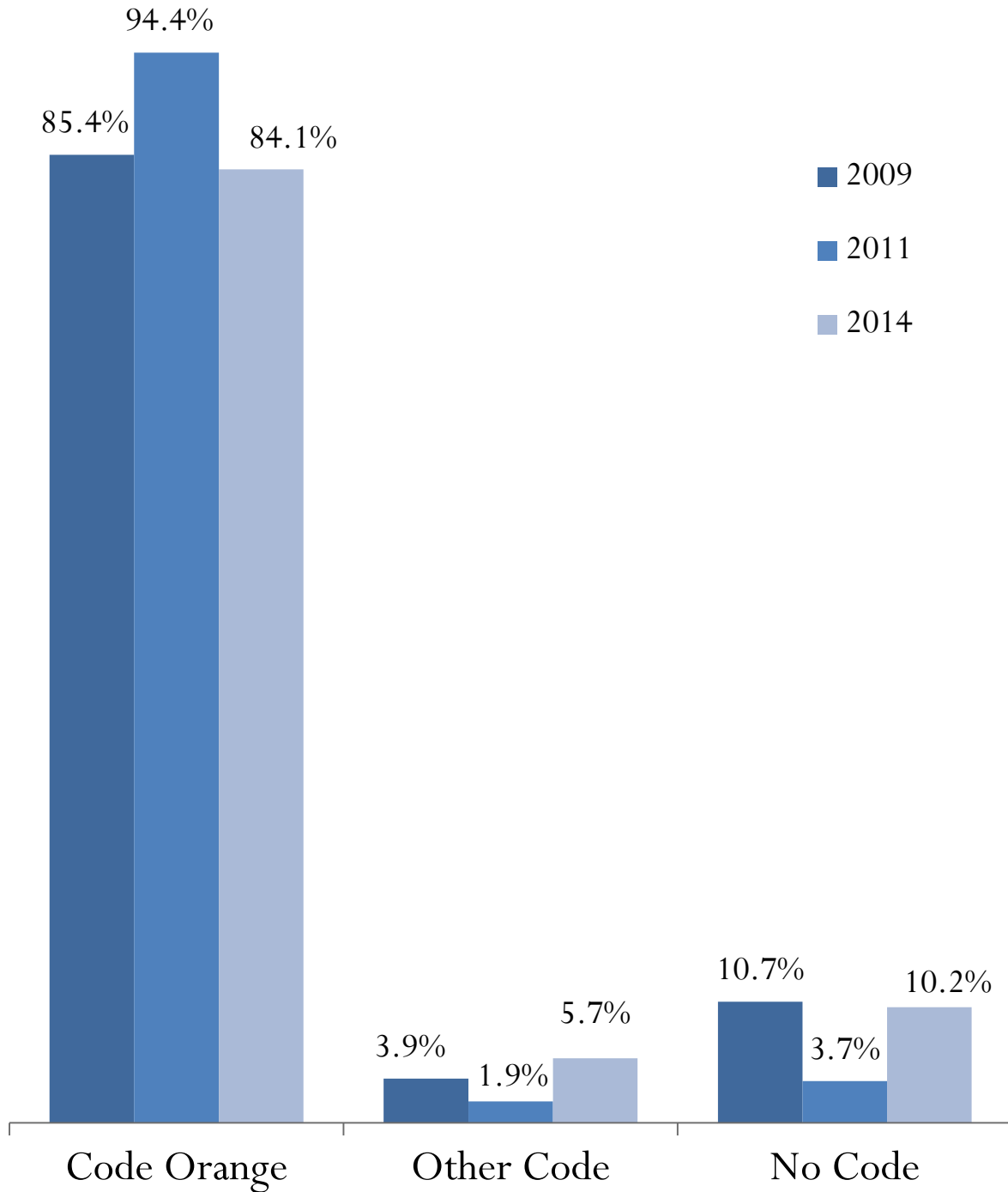




# Hospital Association of Southern California

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

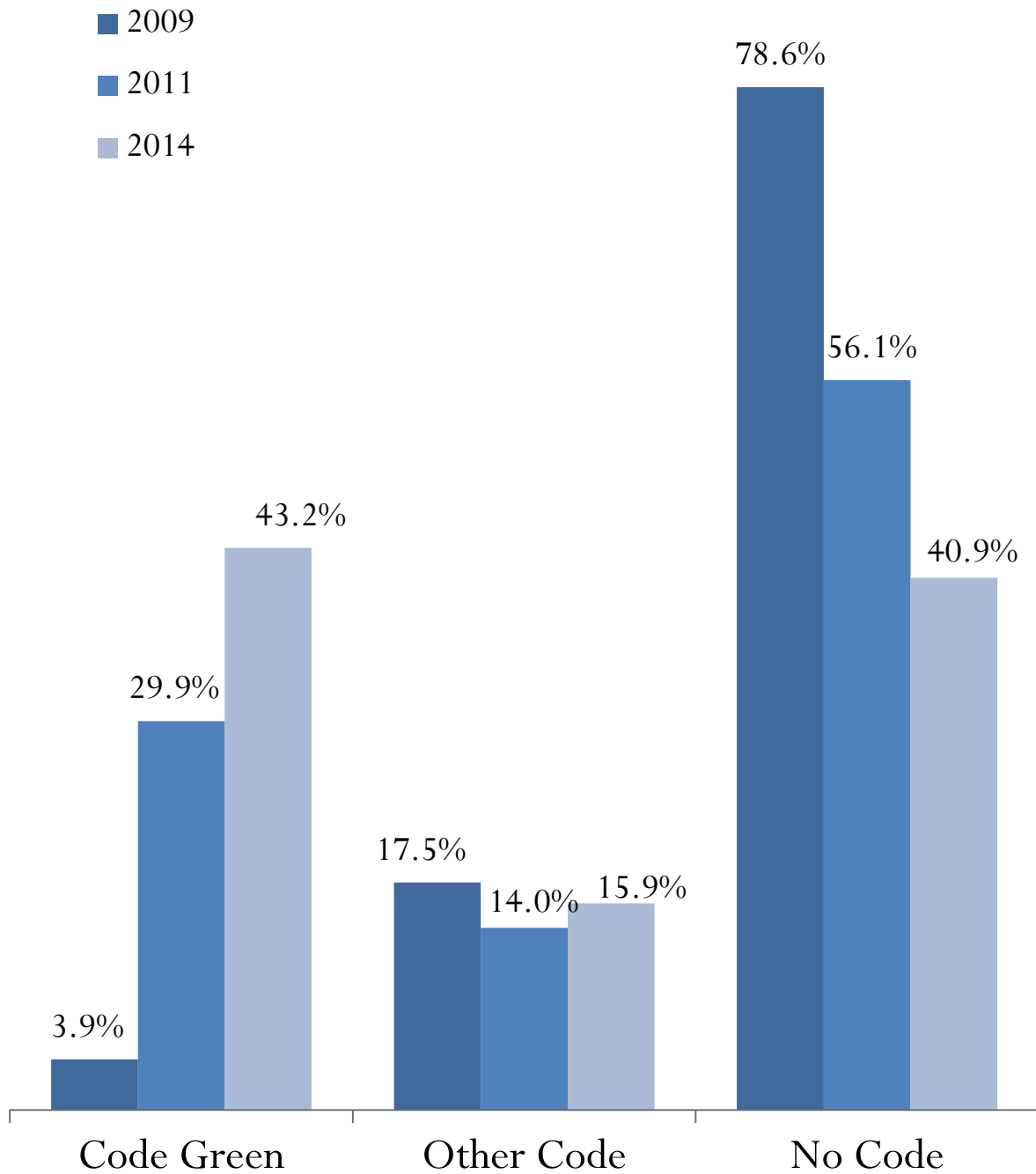
Does your facility use Code Orange for hazardous materials?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## PATIENT ELOPEMENT

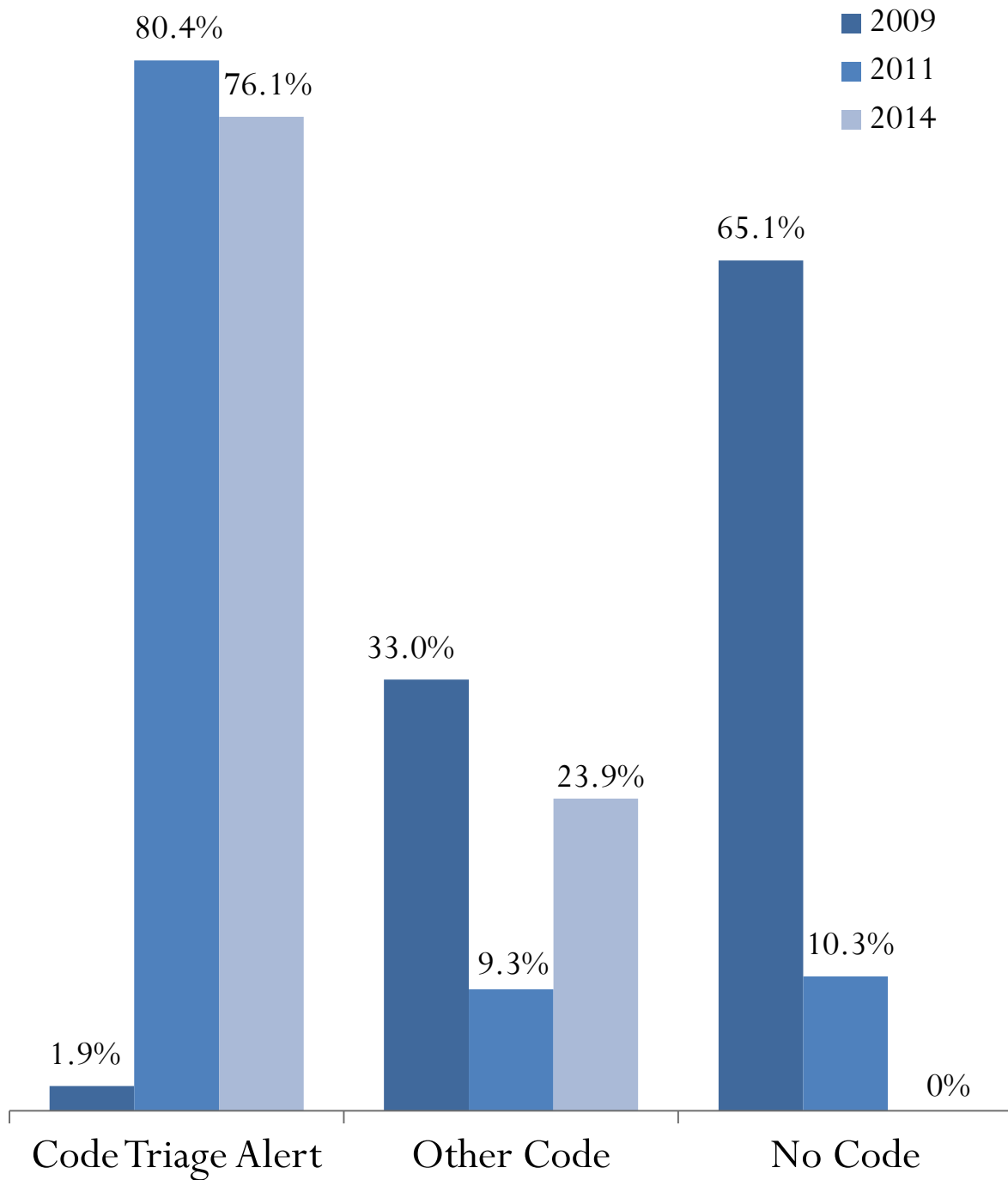
Does your facility use Code Green for patient elopement?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## EMERGENCY ALERT

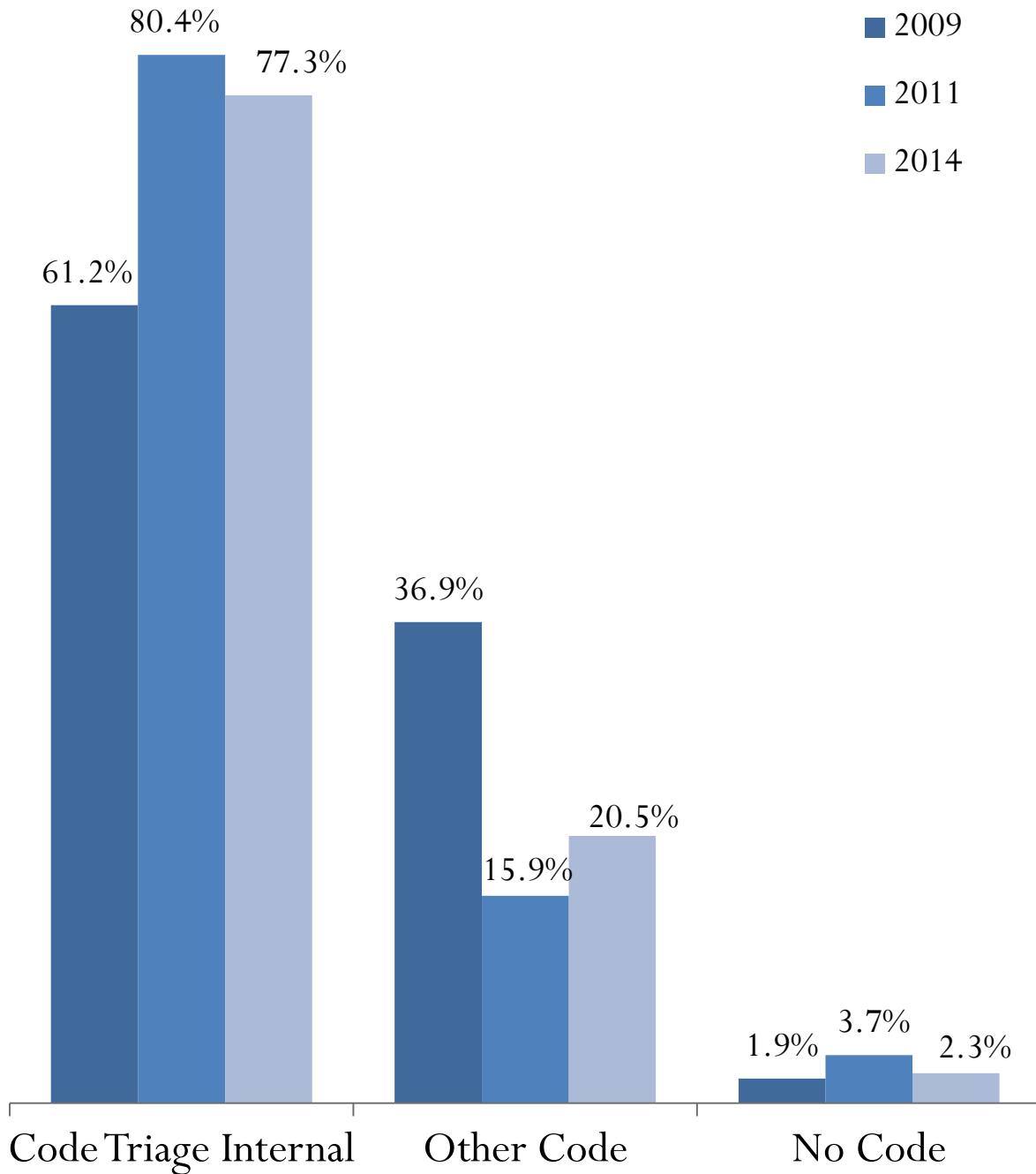
Does your facility use Code Triage Alert for emergency alert?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## INTERNAL EMERGENCY

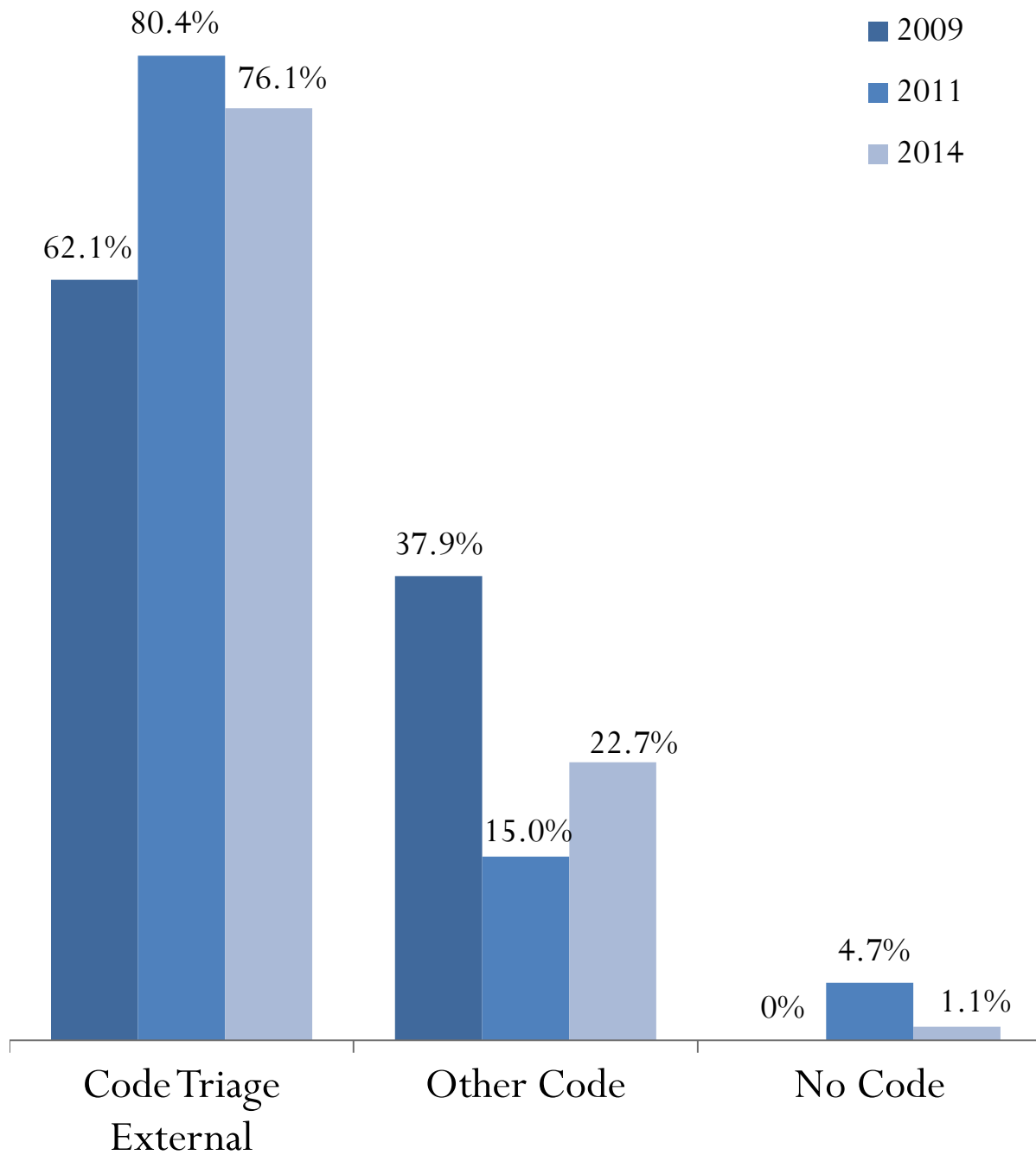
Does your facility use Code Triage Internal for internal emergencies?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## EXTERNAL EMERGENCY

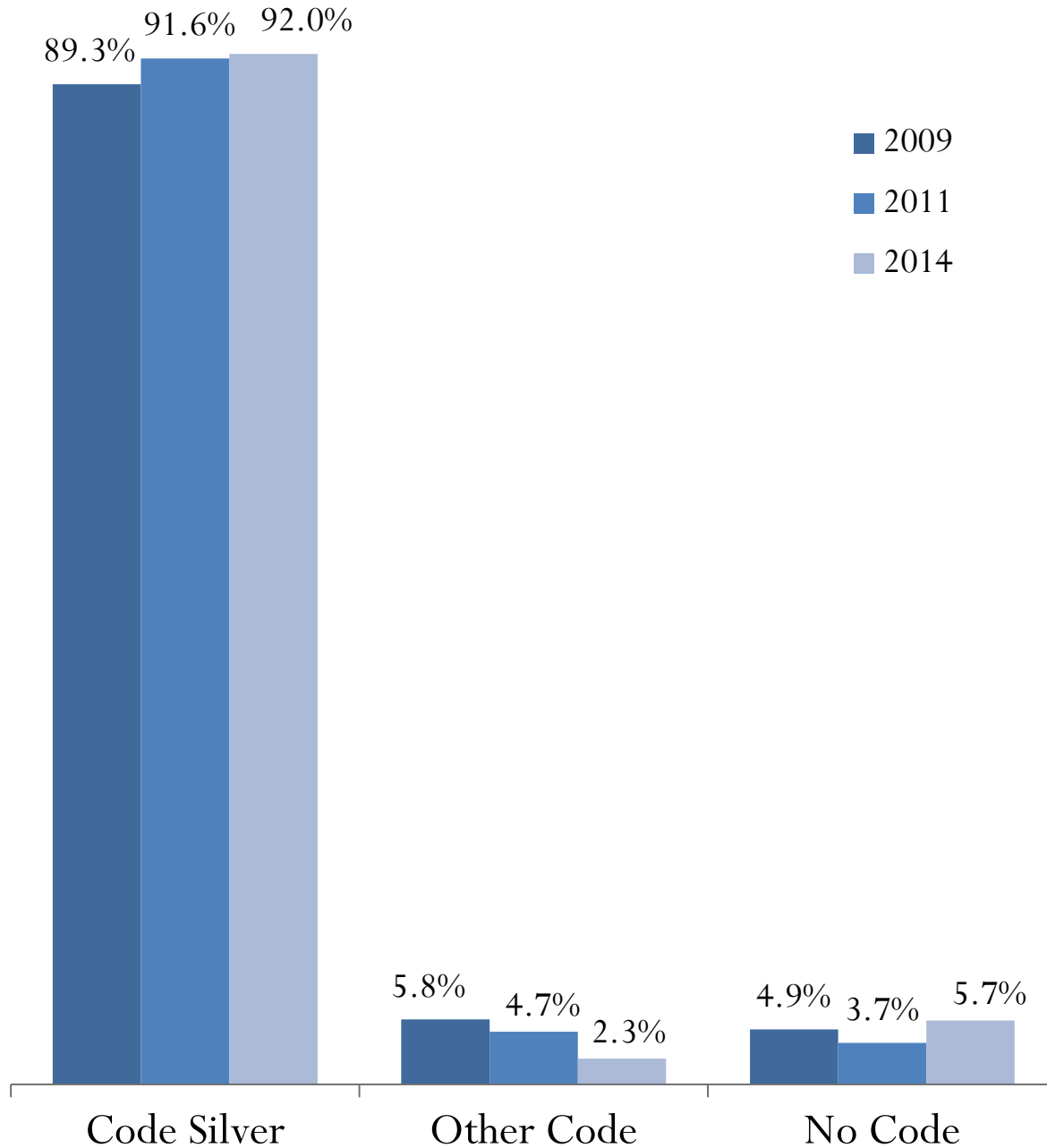
Does your facility use Code Triage External for external emergencies?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## PERSON WITH A WEAPON and/or ACTIVE SHOOTER and/or HOSTAGE SITUATION

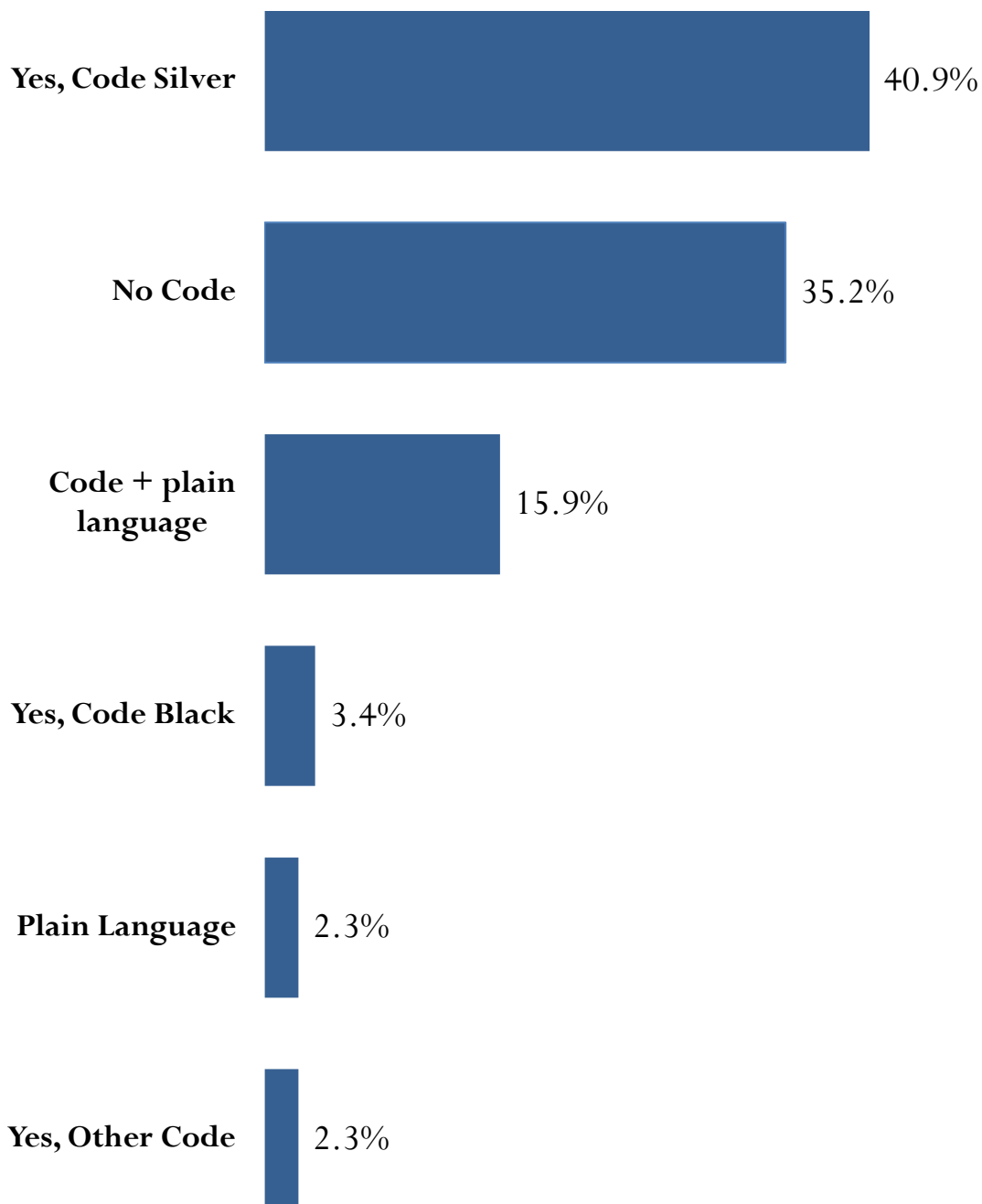
Does your facility use Code Silver for a person with a weapon, an active shooter, and/or hostage situation?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER

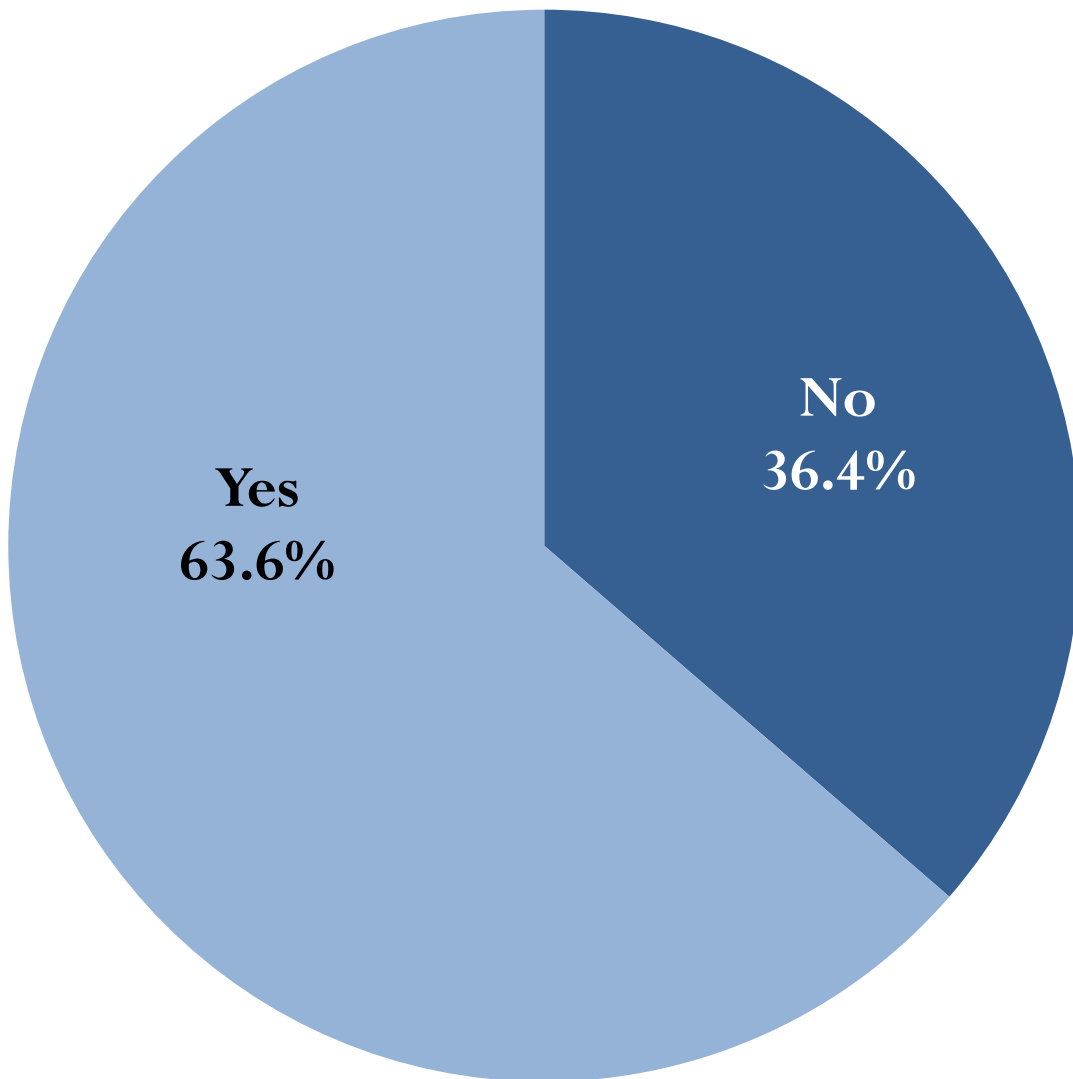
Does your facility have an emergency code designated solely for an active shooter event?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING

Has your facility conducted classroom or online training for active shooter scenarios?

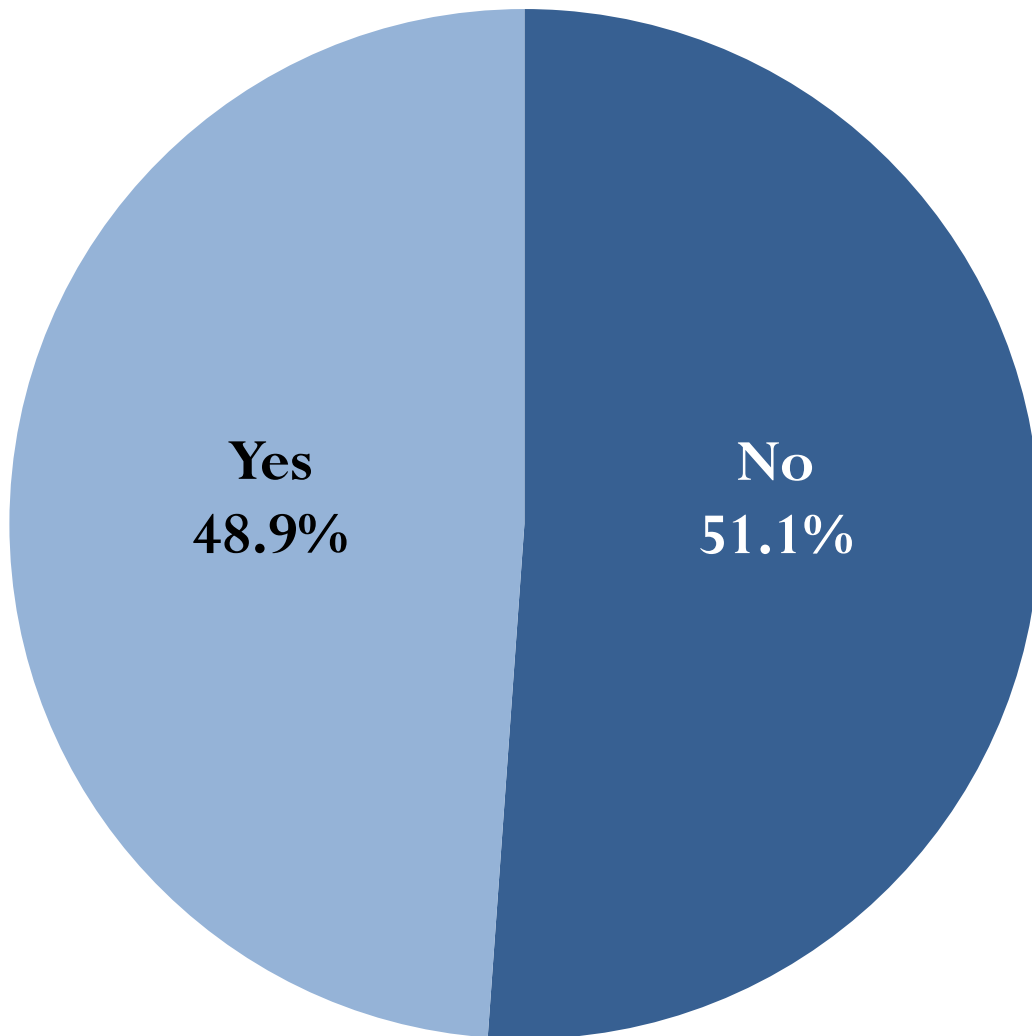




# Hospital Association of Southern California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER EXERCISES

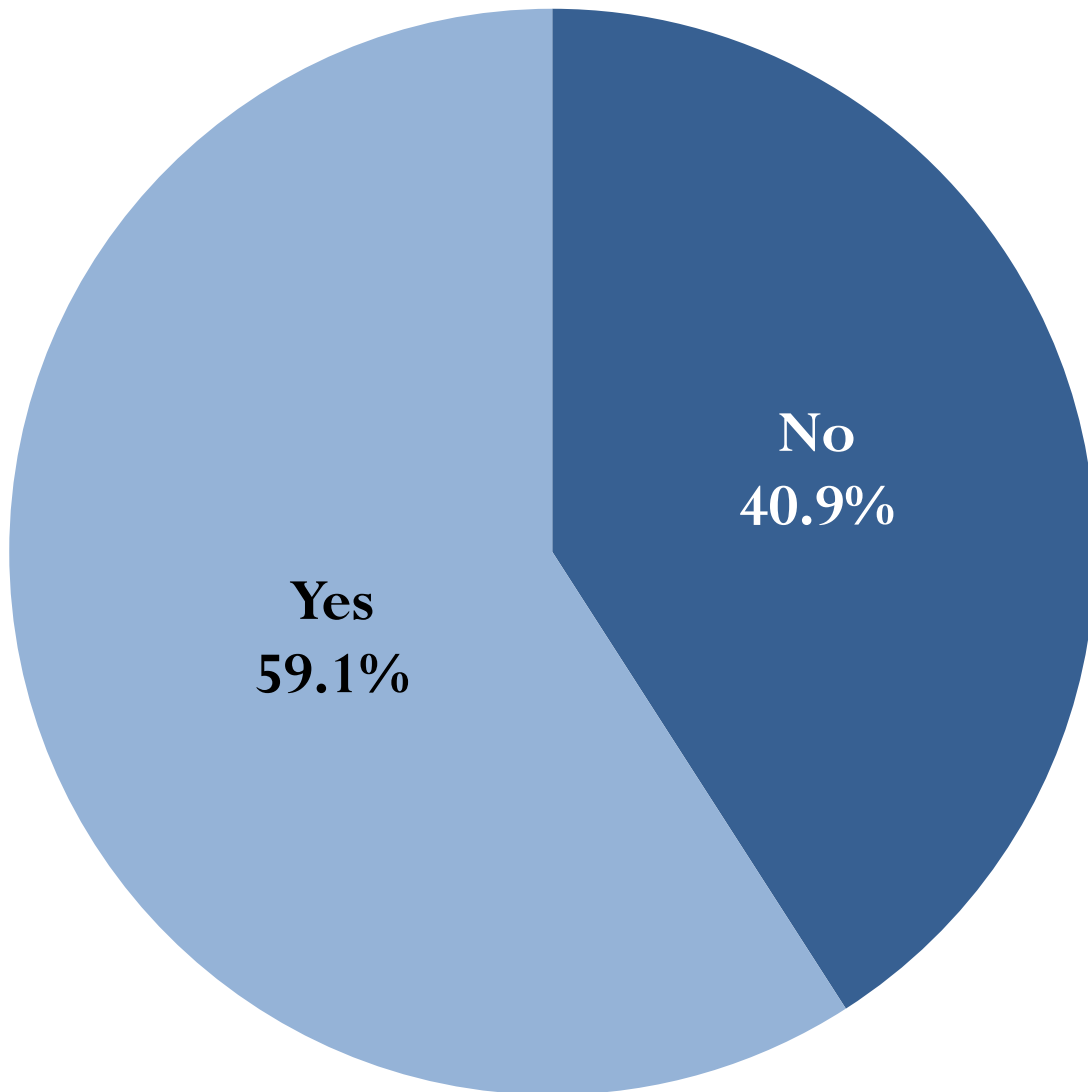
Has your facility conducted a tabletop or functional training exercise for active shooter scenarios?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER: HAZARD VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS

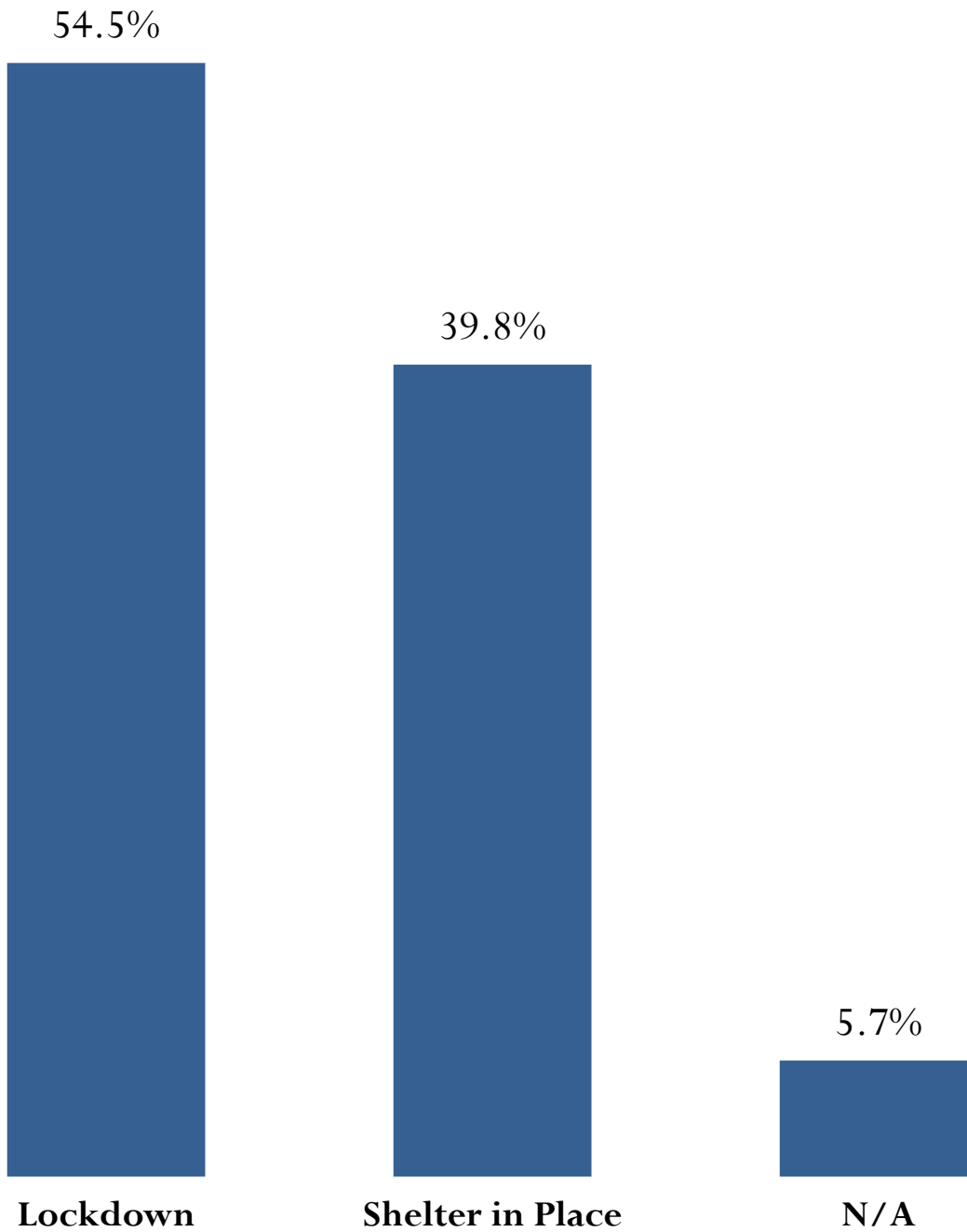
Does your facility HVA include the active shooter scenario as one of your listed risks?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER POLICY

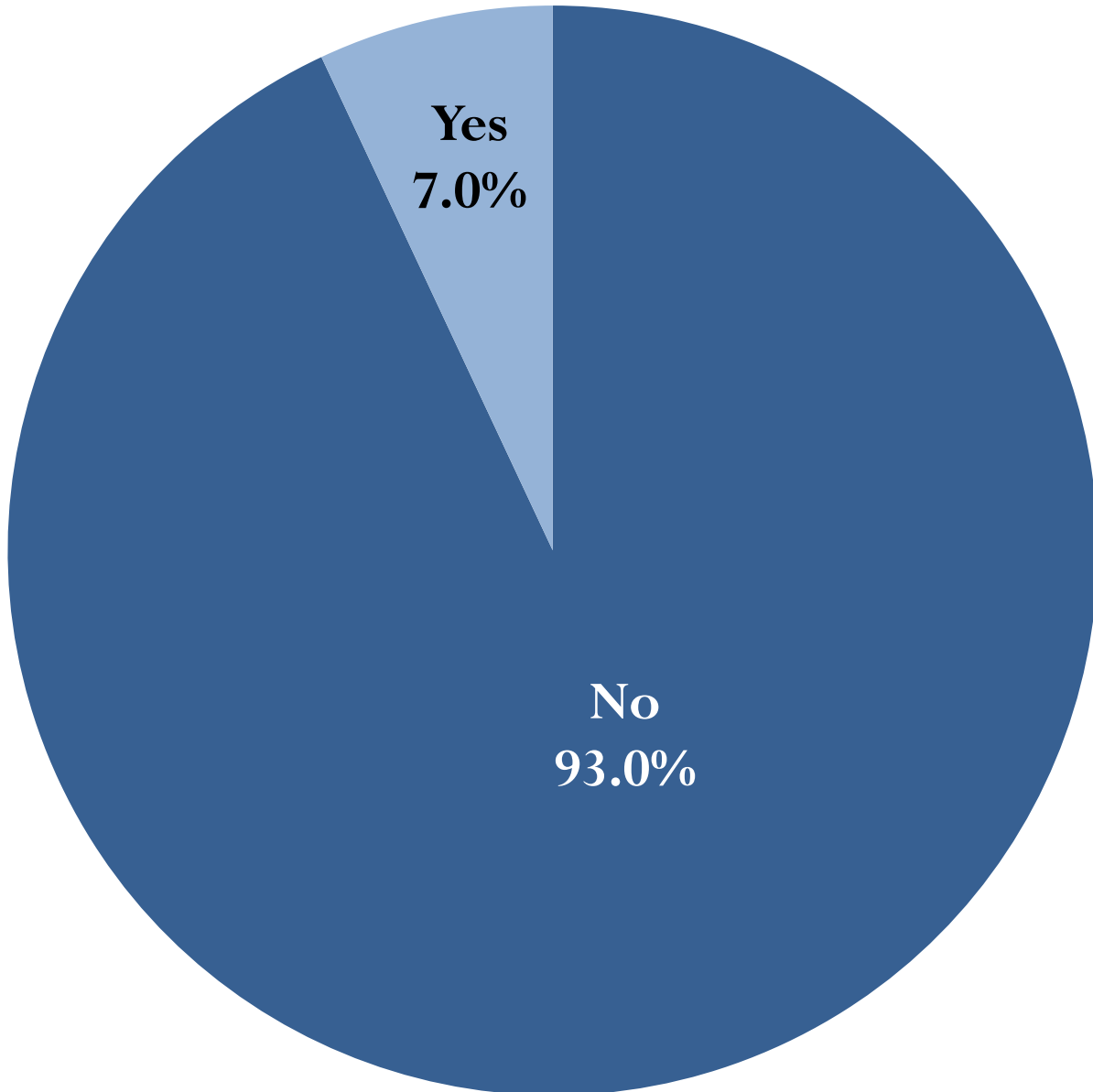
Does your facility active shooter policy call for "lockdown" or "shelter in place"?



# Hospital Association of Southern California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS

Has your facility ever had to activate the EOP for an actual active shooter incident?



**SECTION III:**

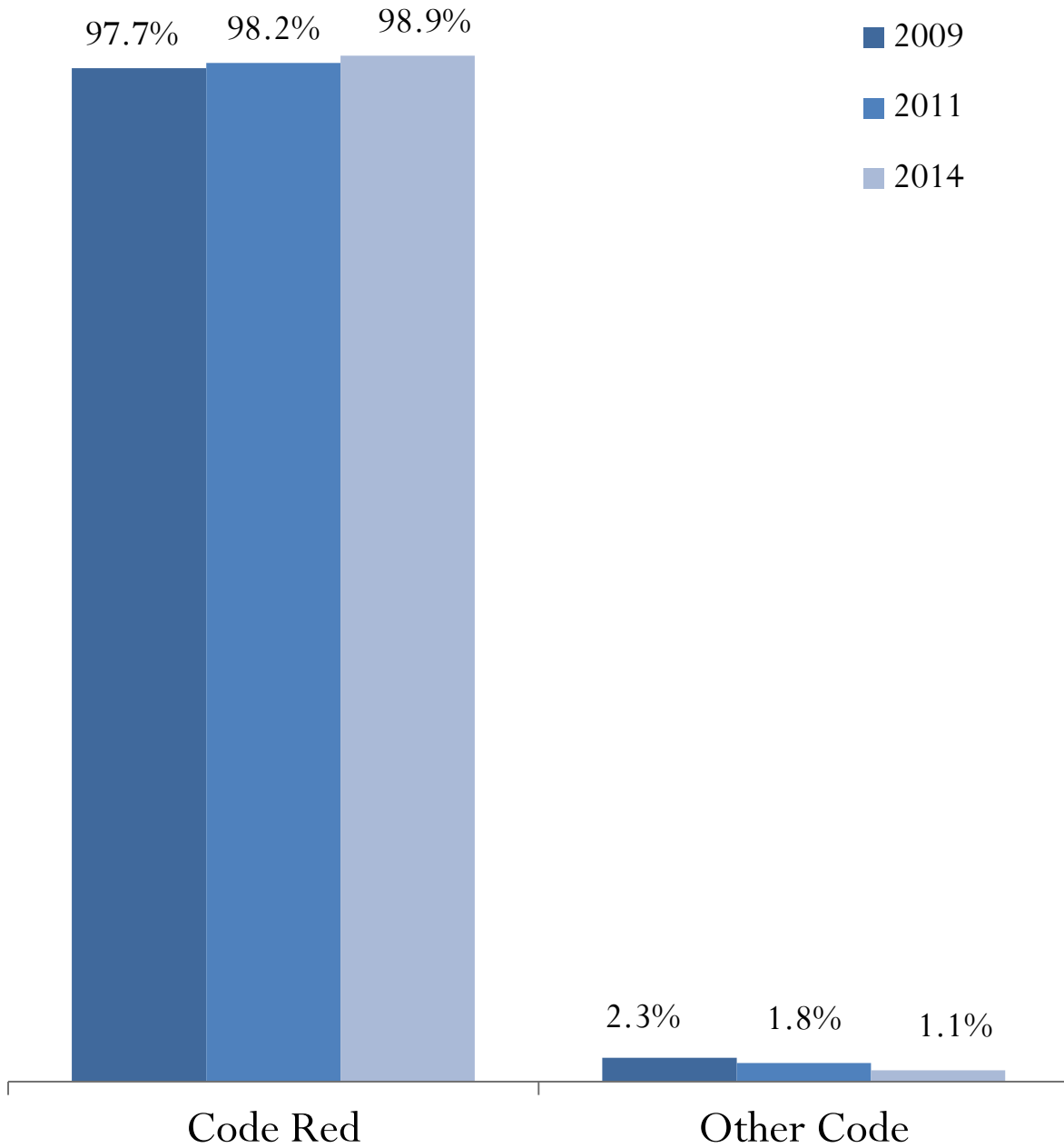
**Hospital Council of  
Northern and Central California**

*89 HCNCC hospitals responded to the survey*

# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## FIRE

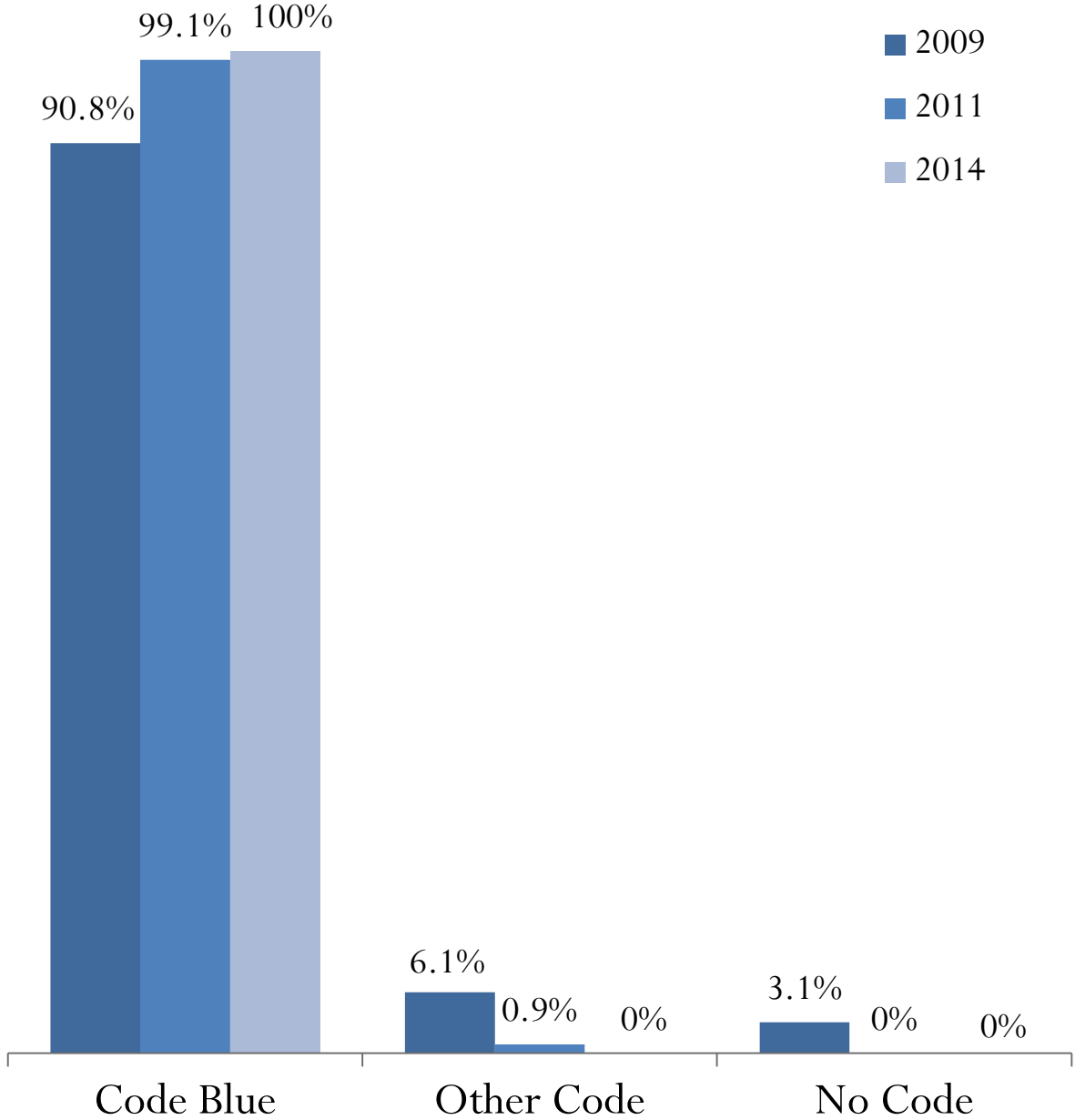
Does your facility use code Red for fire?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY – ADULT

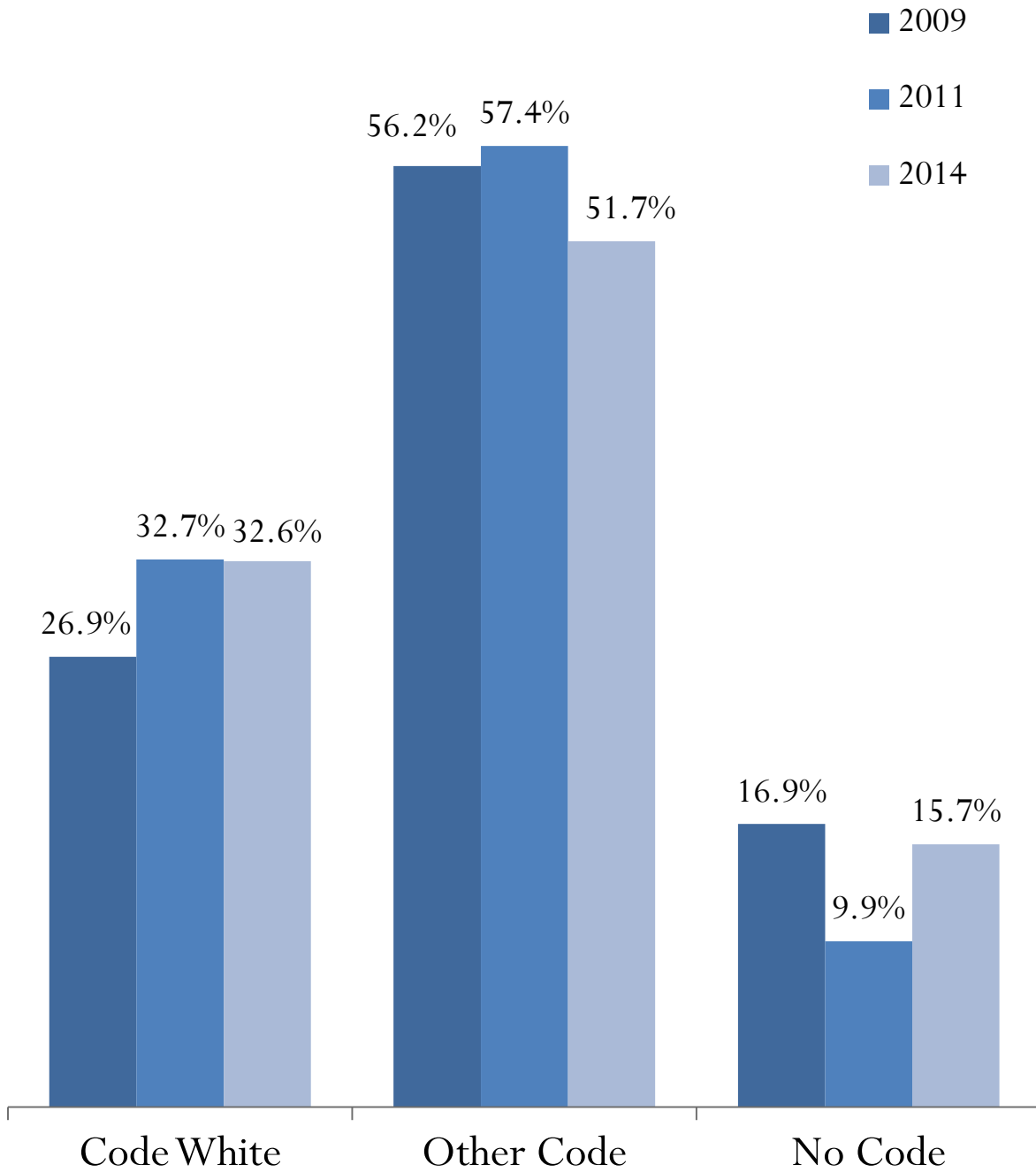
Does your facility use Code Blue for medical emergency (adult)?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY – PEDIATRIC

Does your facility use Code White for medical emergency (pediatric)?

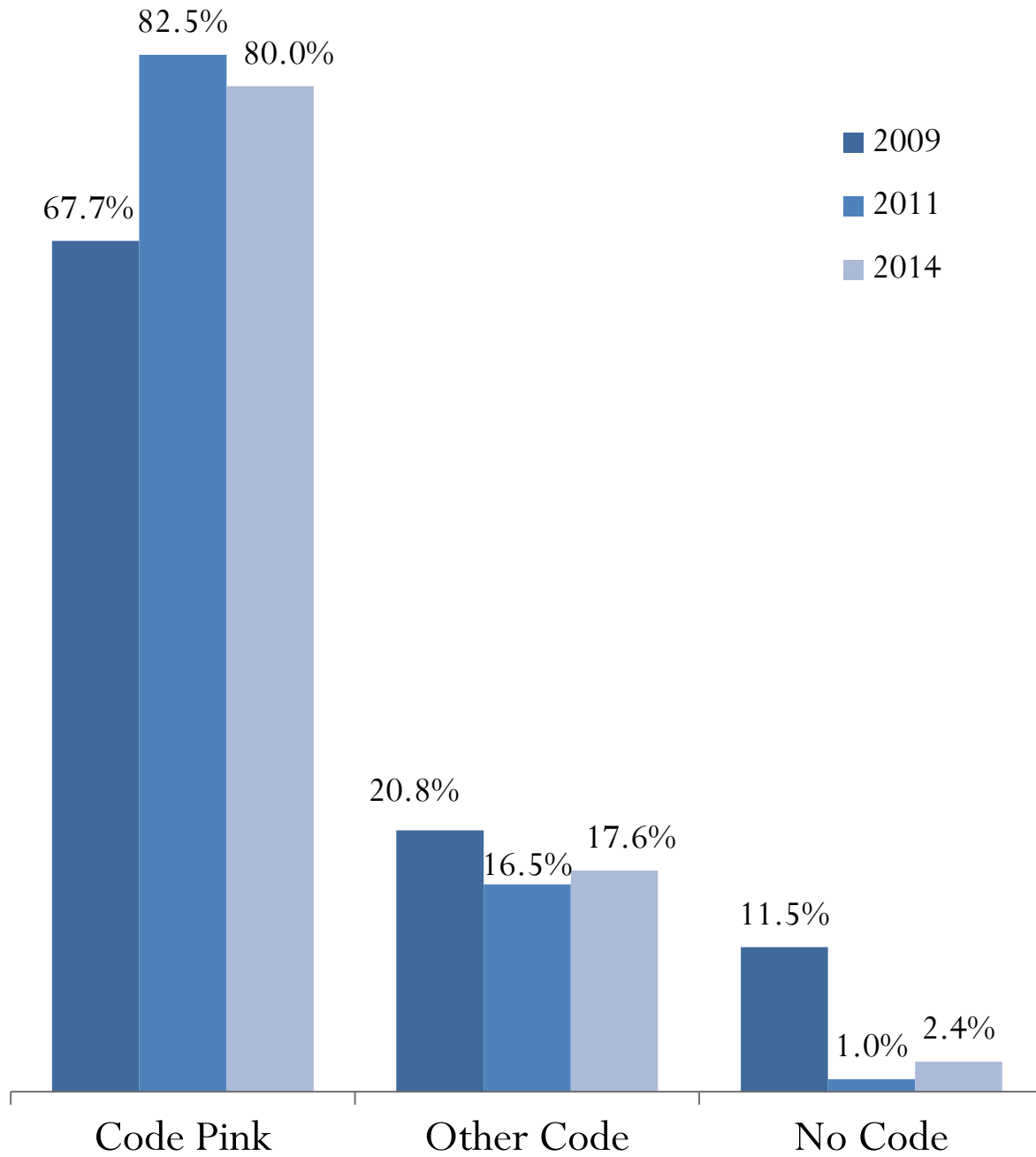




# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## INFANT ABDUCTION

Does your facility use Code Pink for infant abduction?

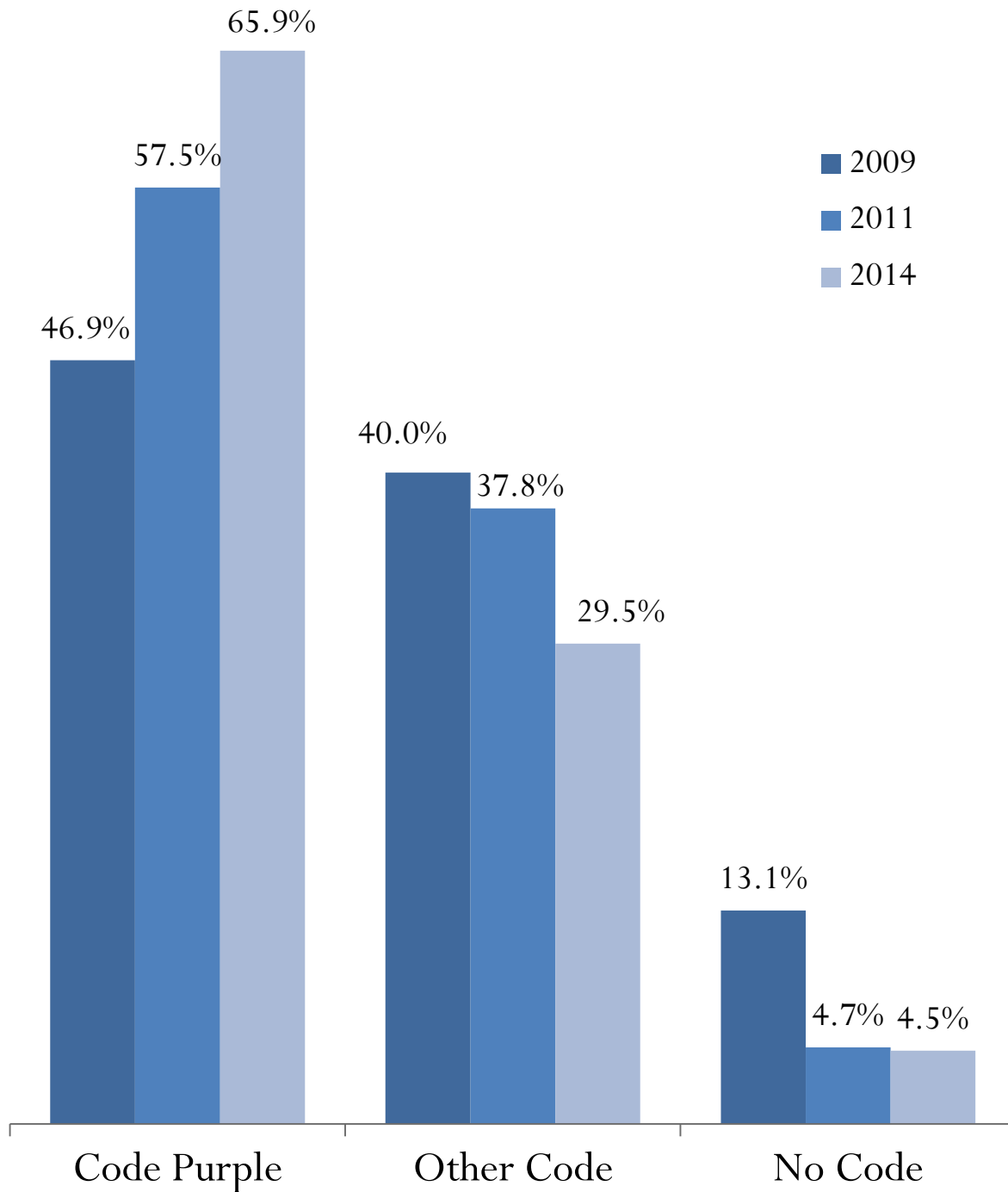


Non-applicable survey responses have been excluded from this category.

# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## CHILD ABDUCTION

Does your facility use Code Purple for child abduction?

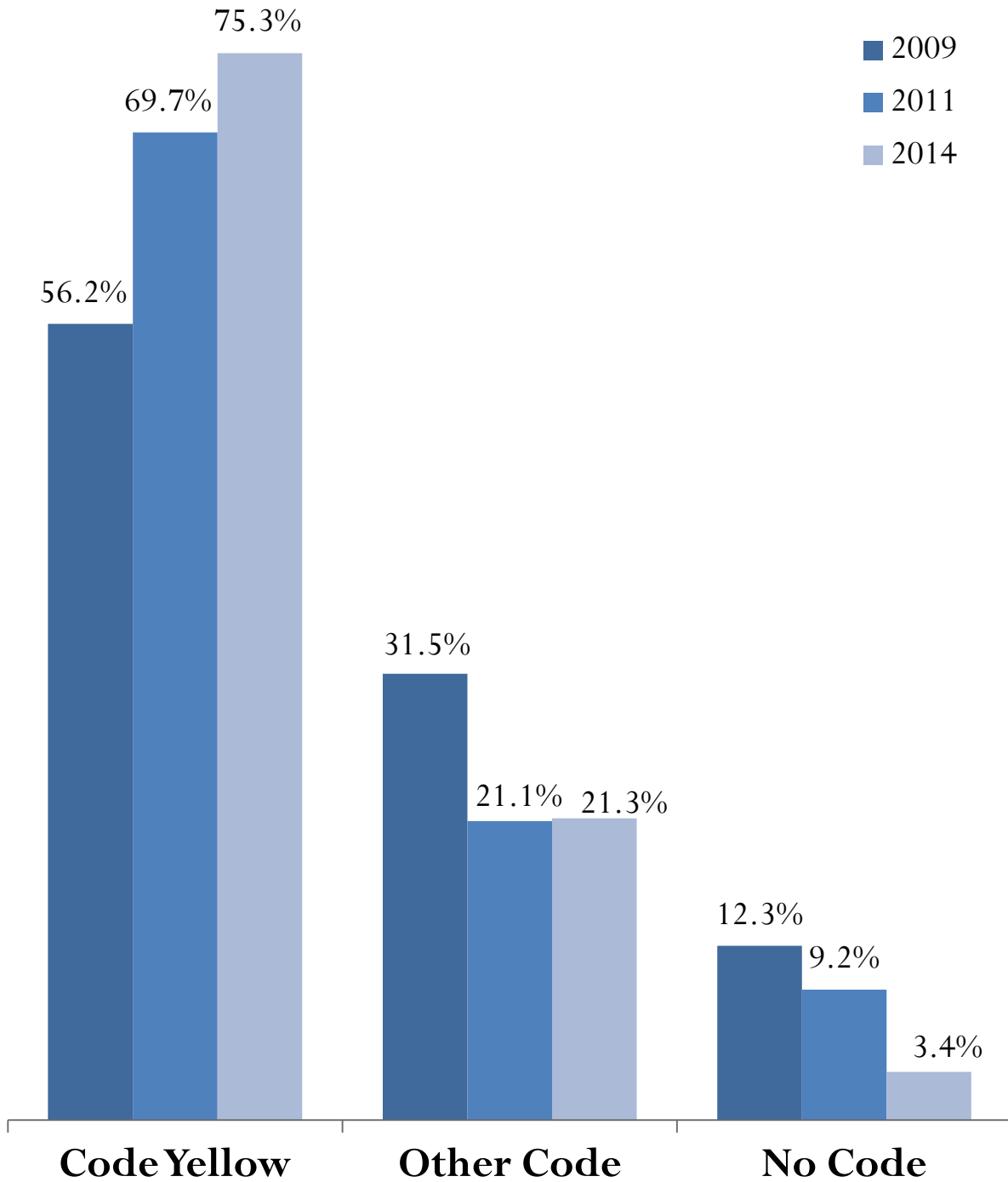


Non-applicable survey responses have been excluded from this category.

# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## BOMB THREAT

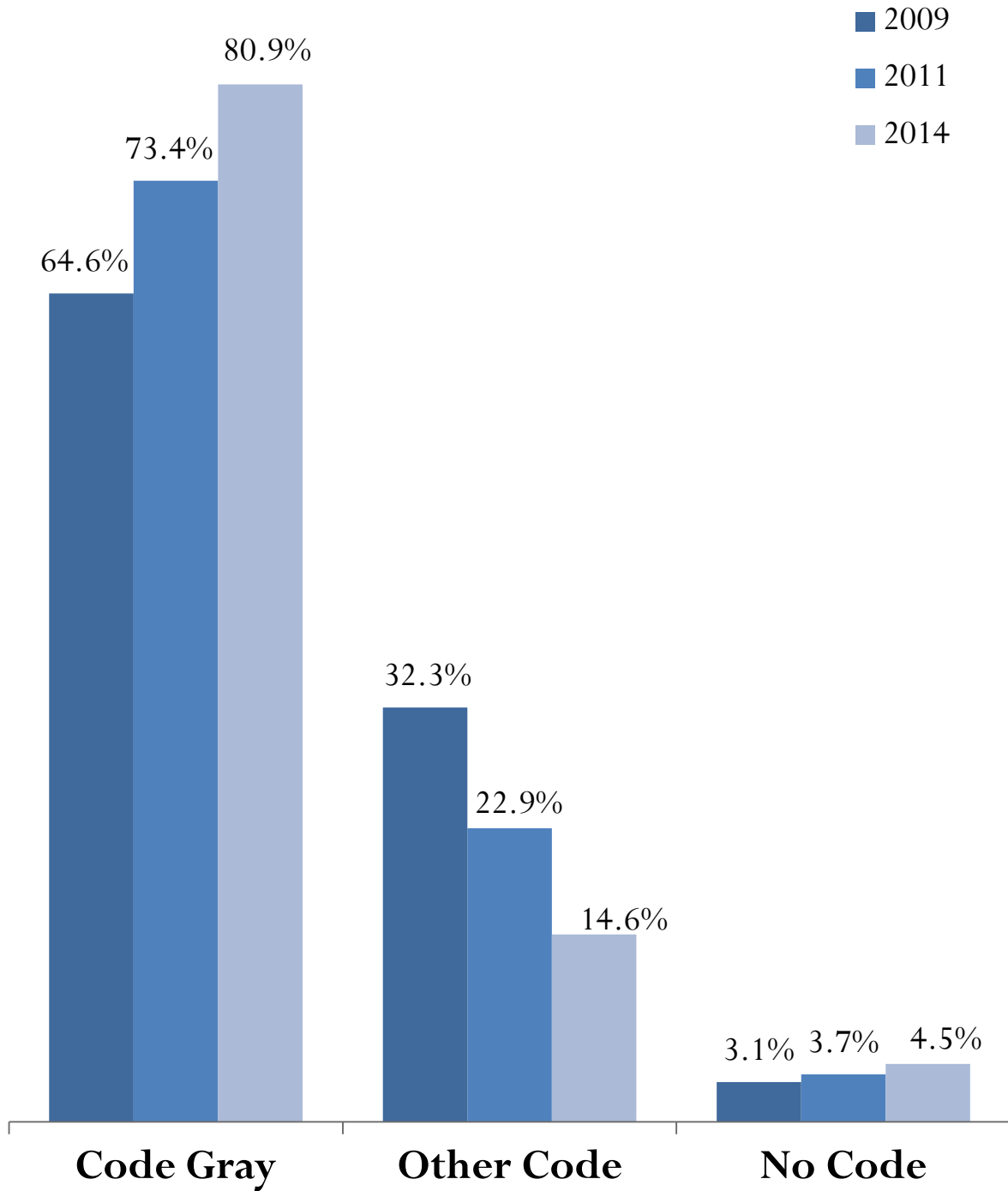
Does your facility use Code Yellow for bomb threat?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## COMBATIVE PERSON

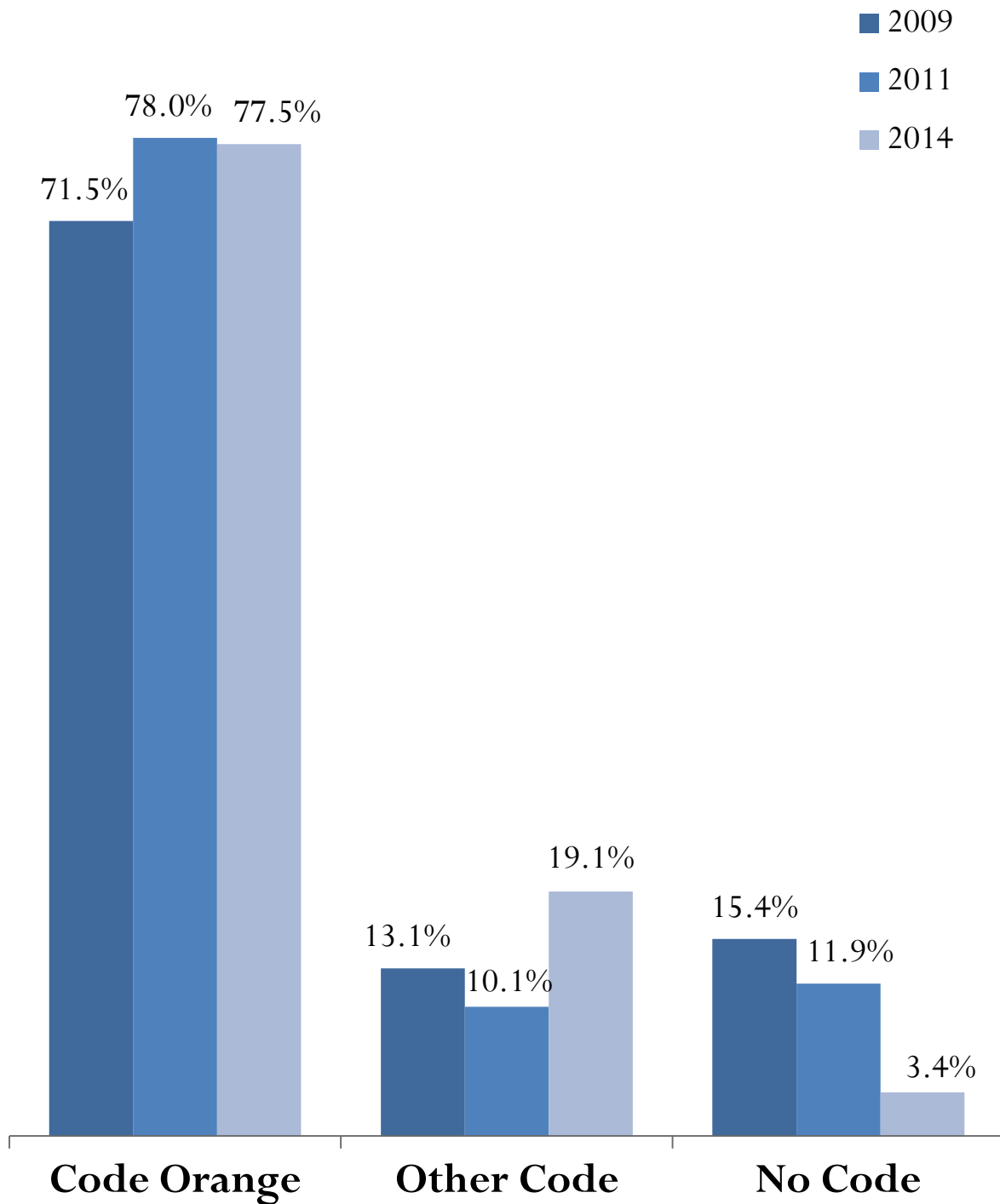
Does your facility use Code Gray for a combative person?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

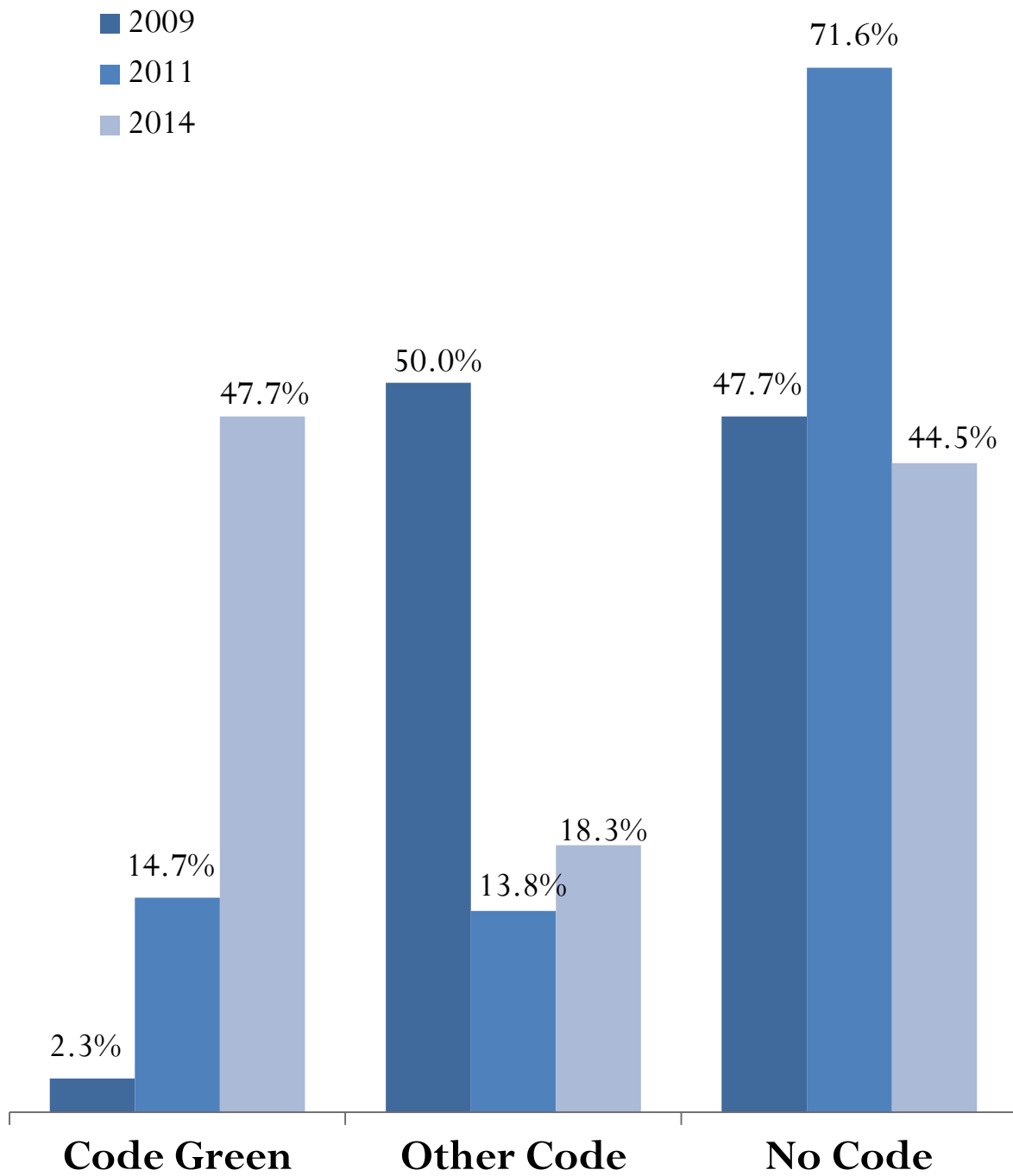
Does your facility use Code Orange for hazardous materials?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## PATIENT ELOPEMENT

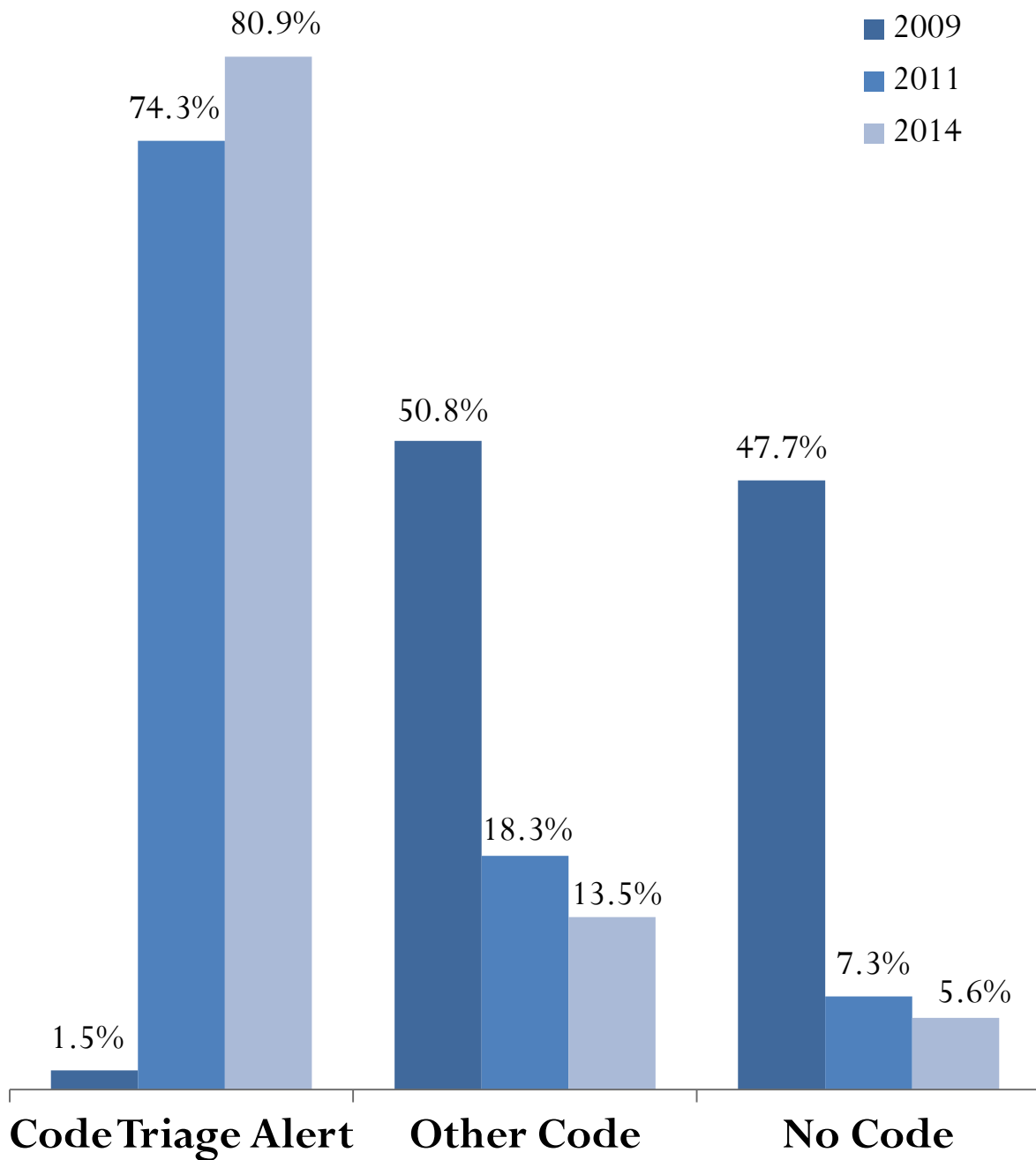
Does your facility use Code Green for patient elopement?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## EMERGENCY ALERT

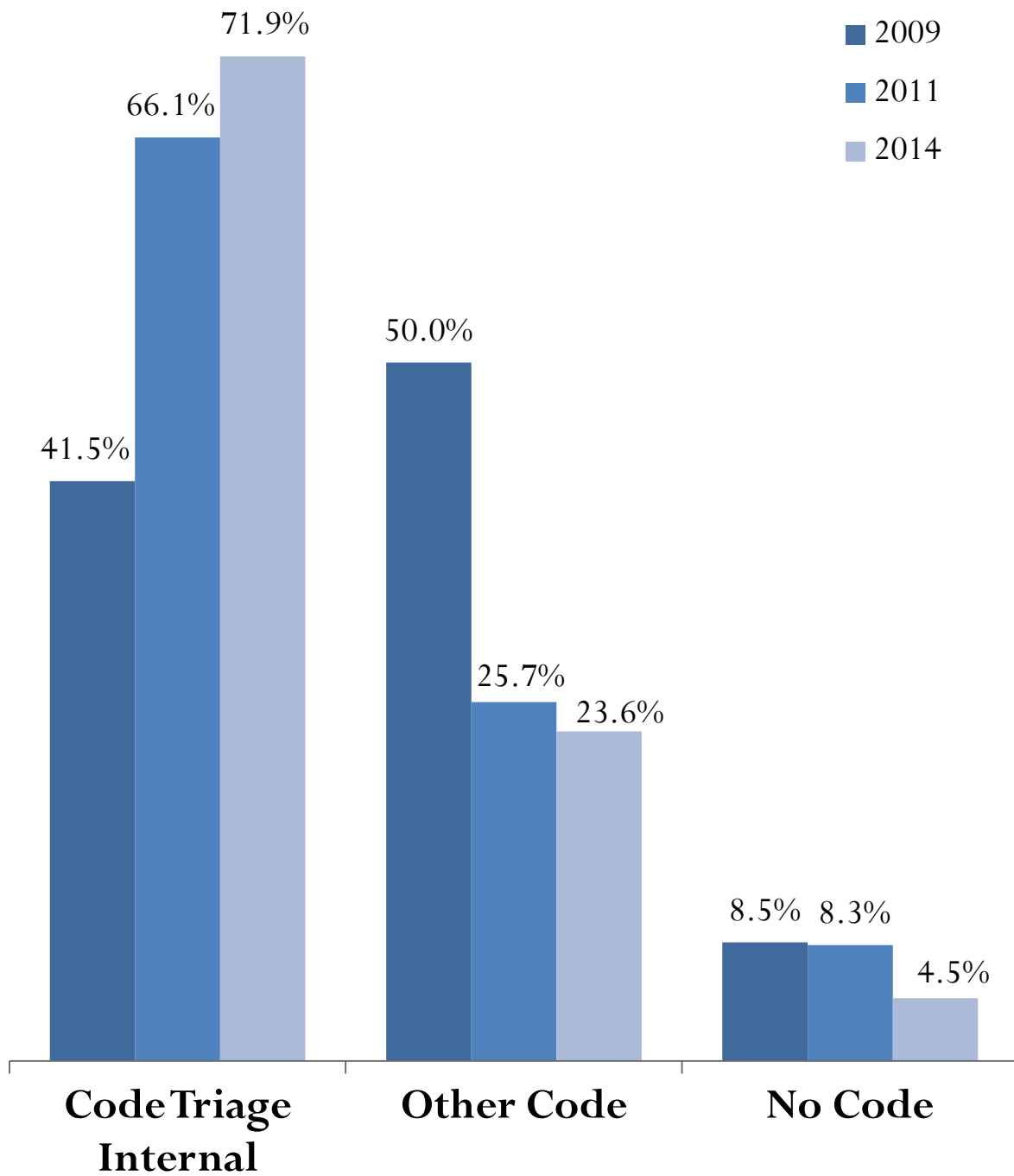
Does your facility use Code Triage Alert for emergency alert?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## INTERNAL EMERGENCY

Does your facility use Code Triage Internal for internal emergencies?

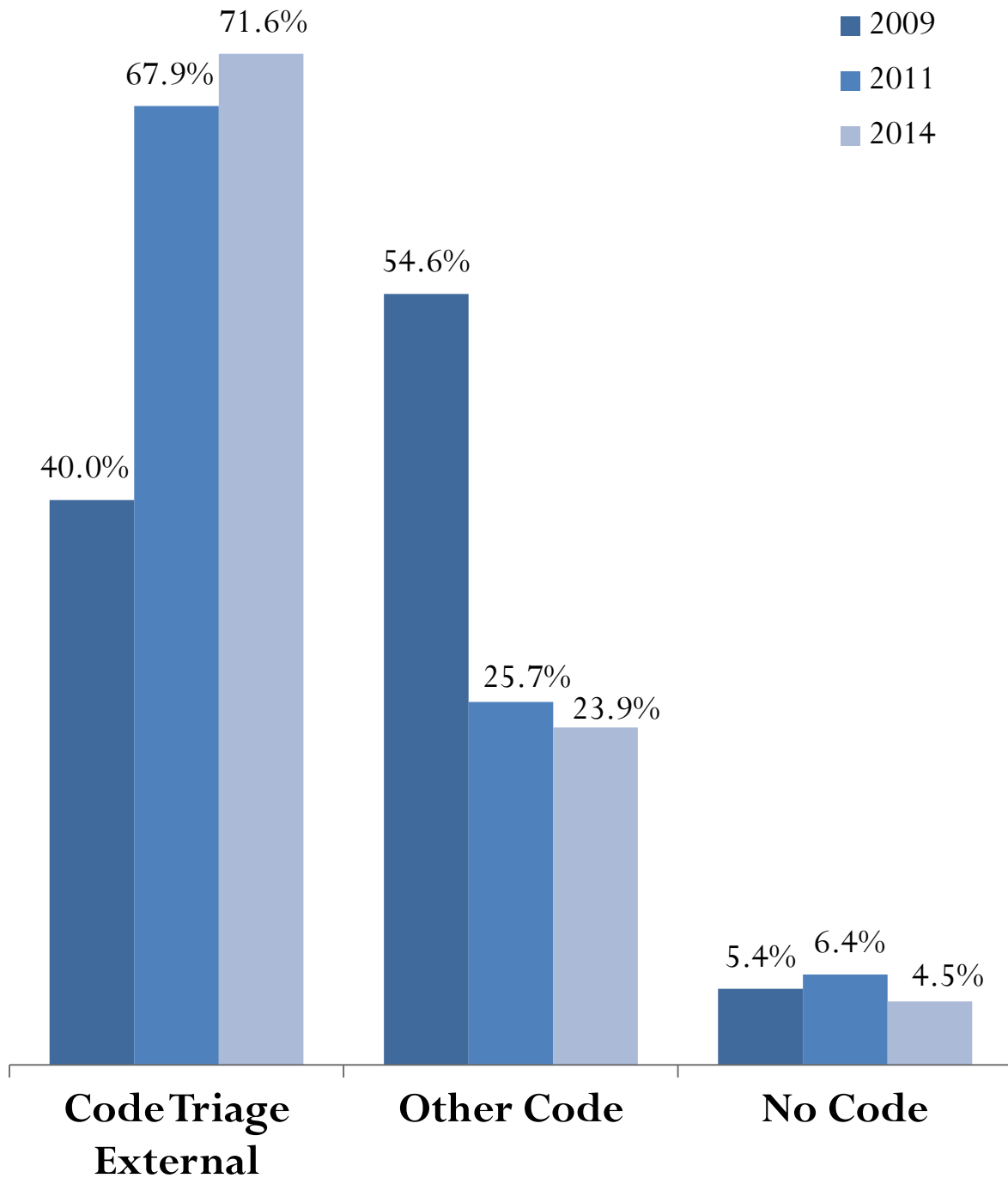




# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## EXTERNAL EMERGENCY

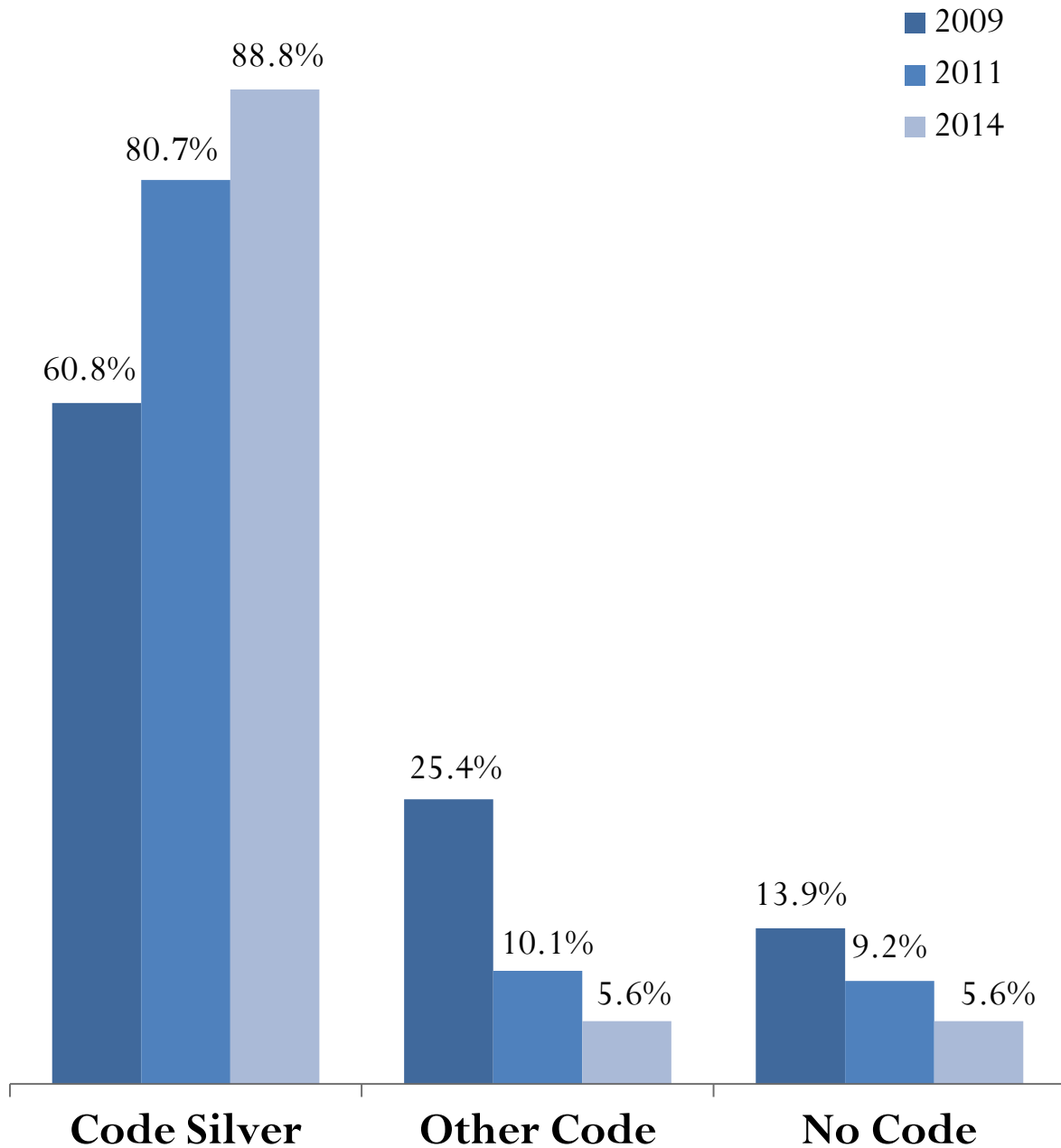
Does your facility use Code Triage External for external emergencies?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## PERSON WITH A WEAPON and/or ACTIVE SHOOTER and/or HOSTAGE SITUATION

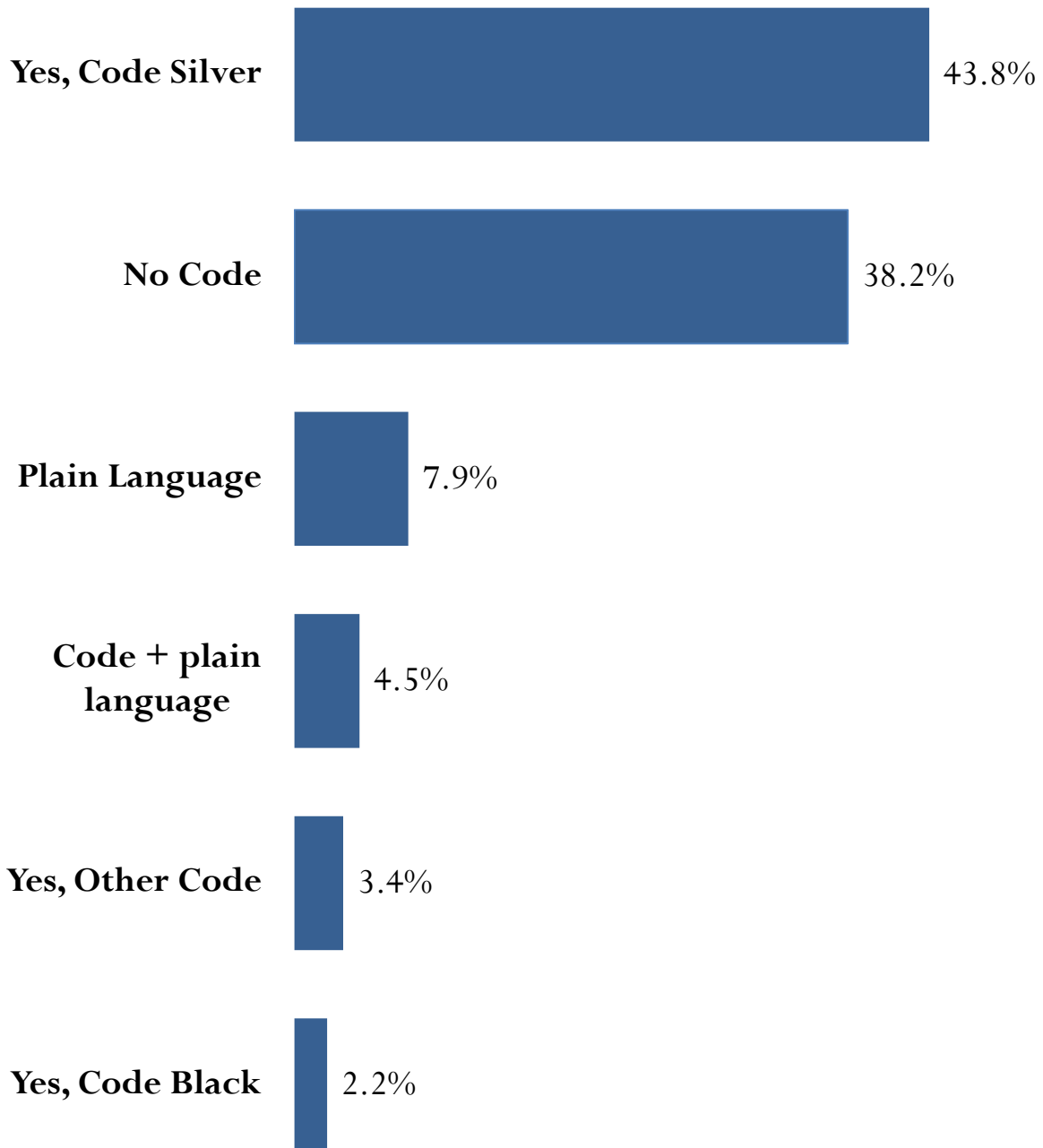
Does your facility use Code Silver for a person with a weapon, an active shooter, and/or hostage situation?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER

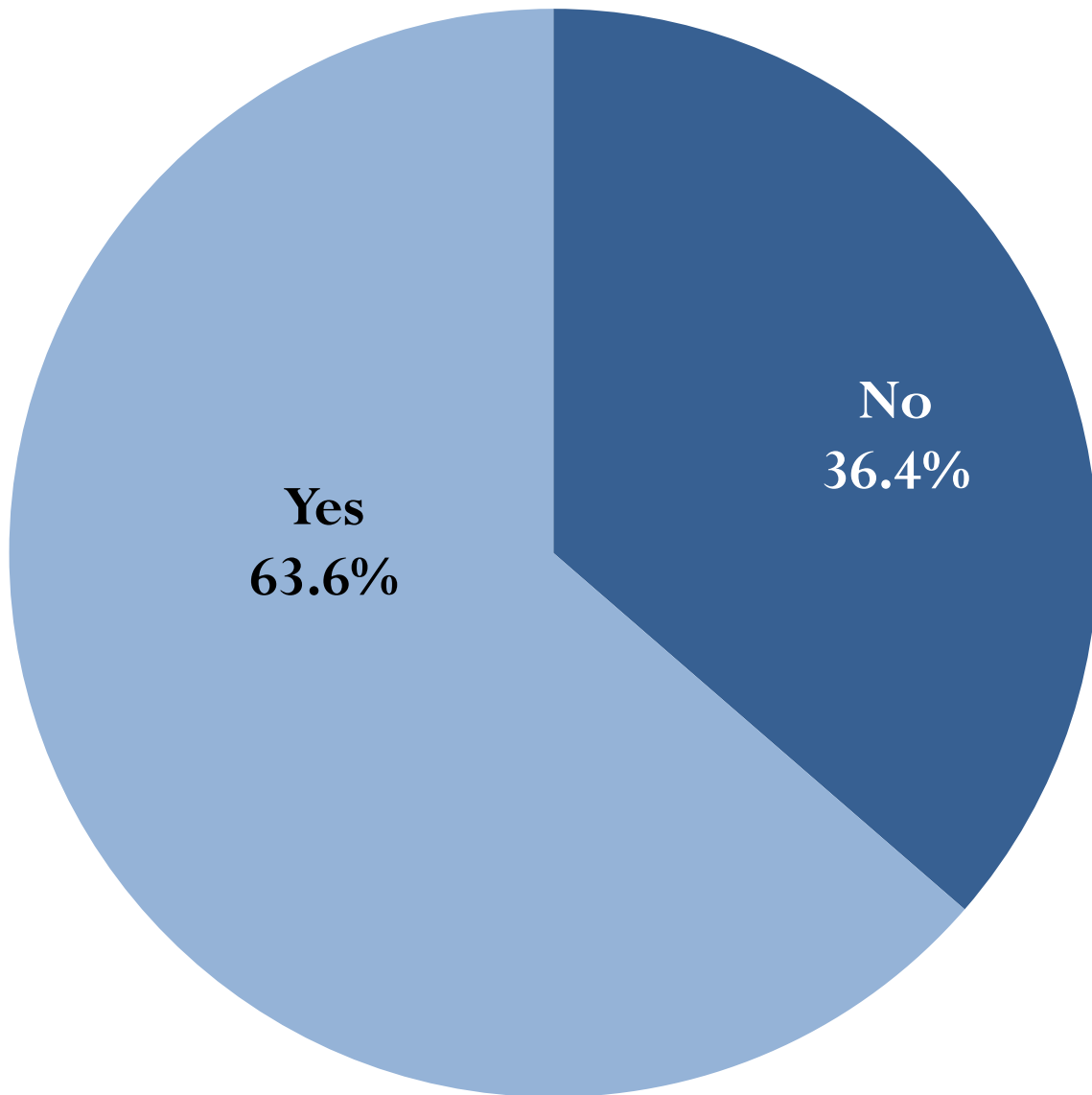
Does your facility have an emergency code designated solely for an active shooter event?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING

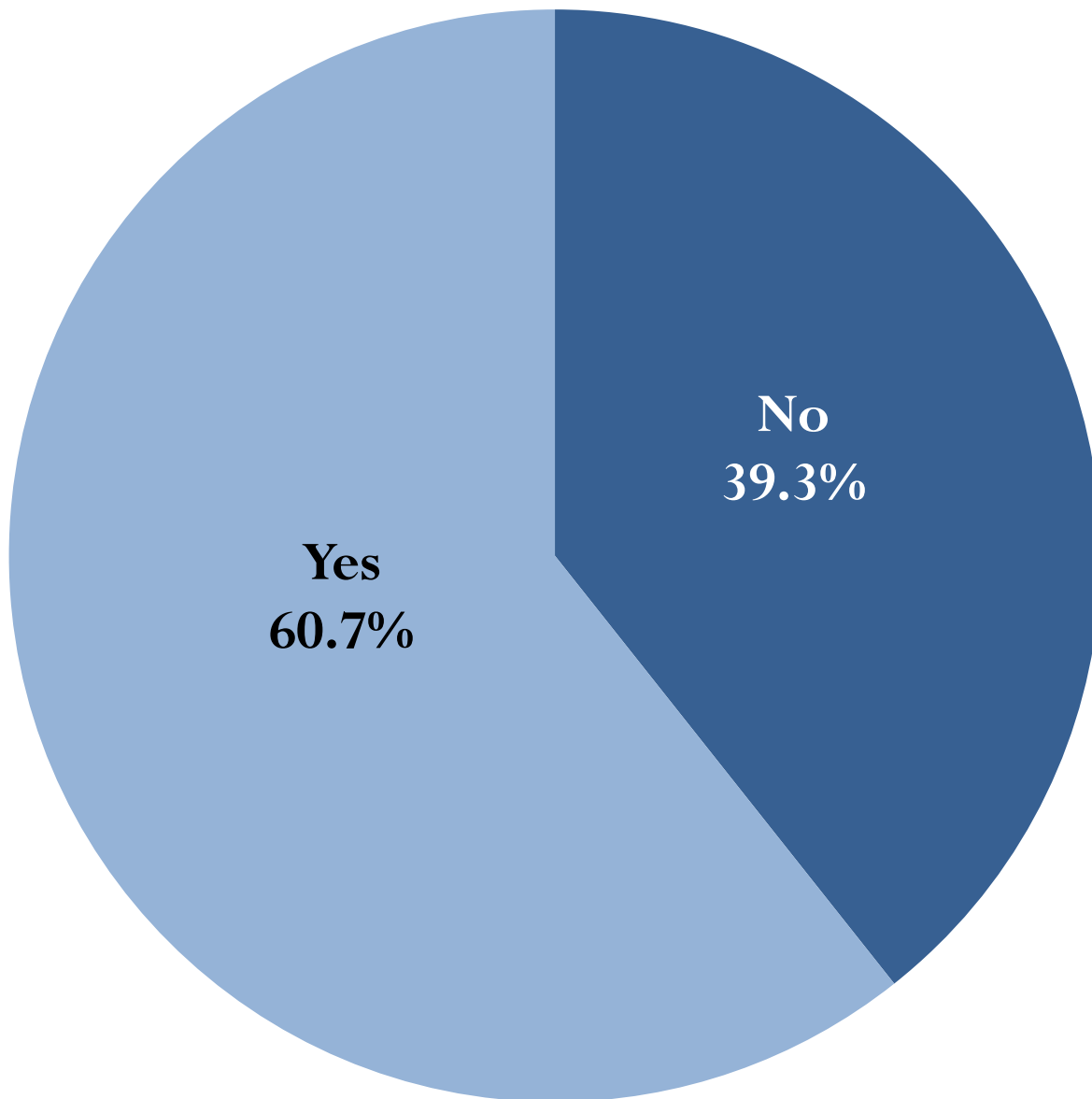
Has your facility conducted classroom or online training for active shooter scenarios?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER EXERCISES

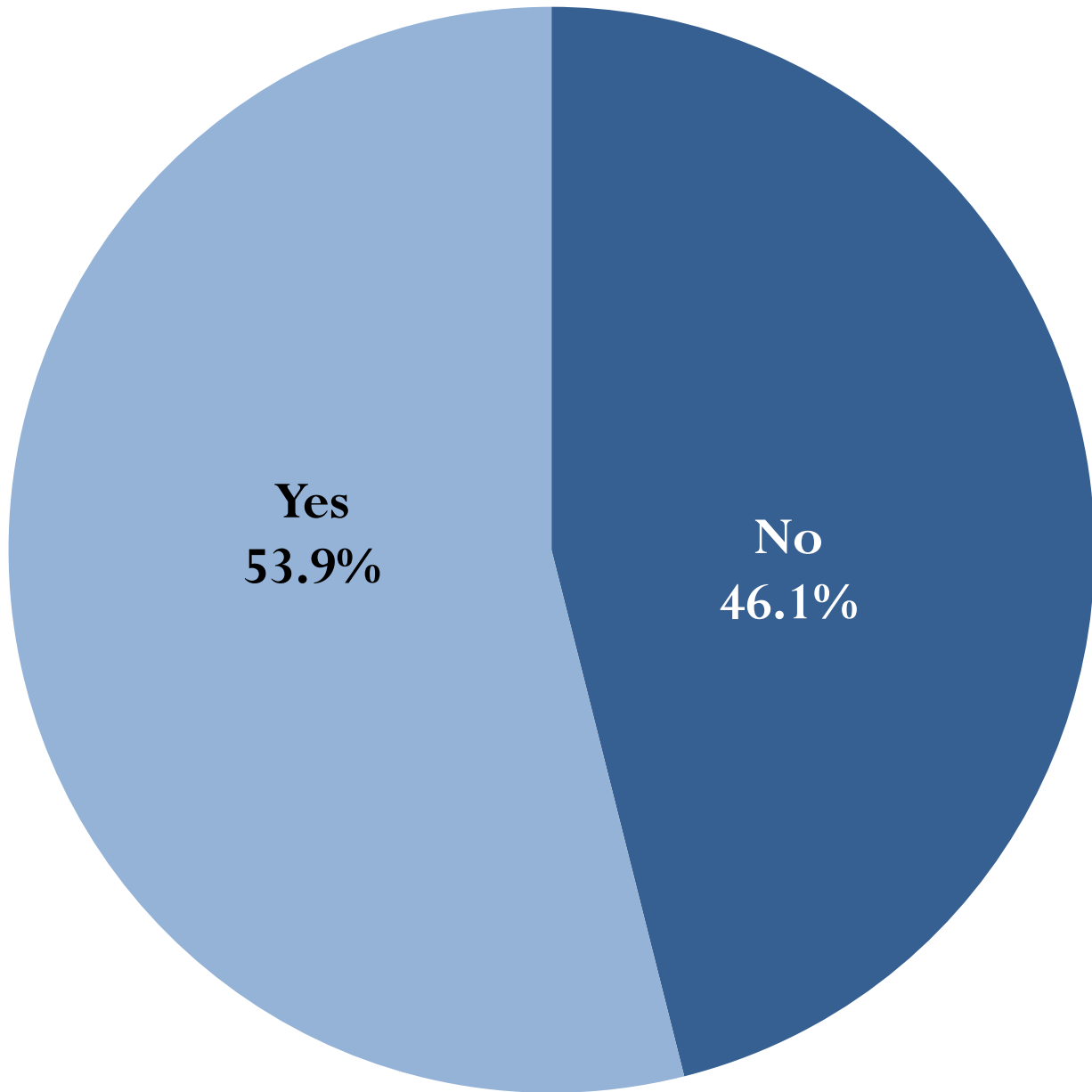
Has your facility conducted a tabletop or functional training exercise for active shooter scenarios?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER: HAZARD VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS

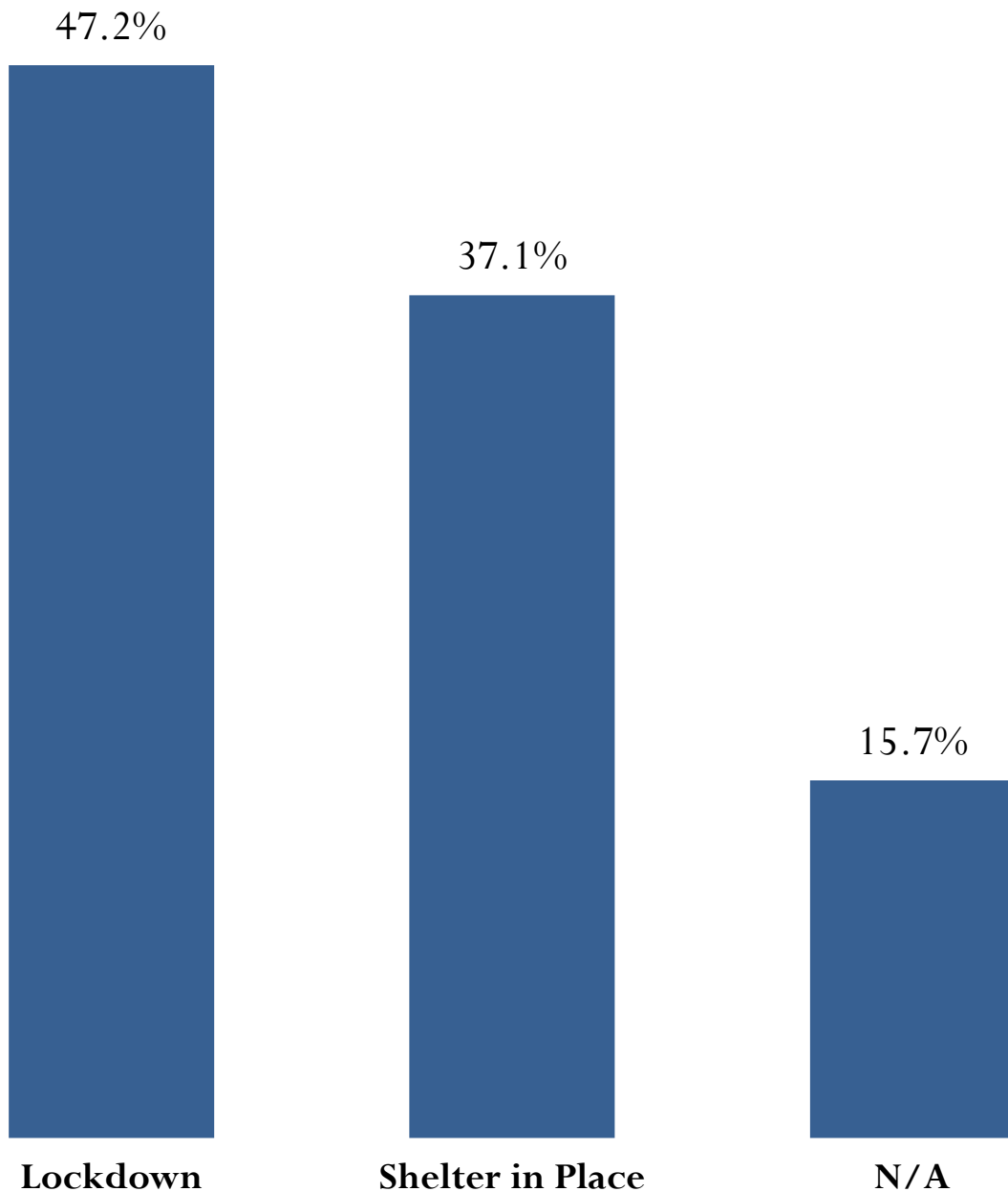
Does your facility HVA include the active shooter scenario as one of your listed risks?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER POLICY

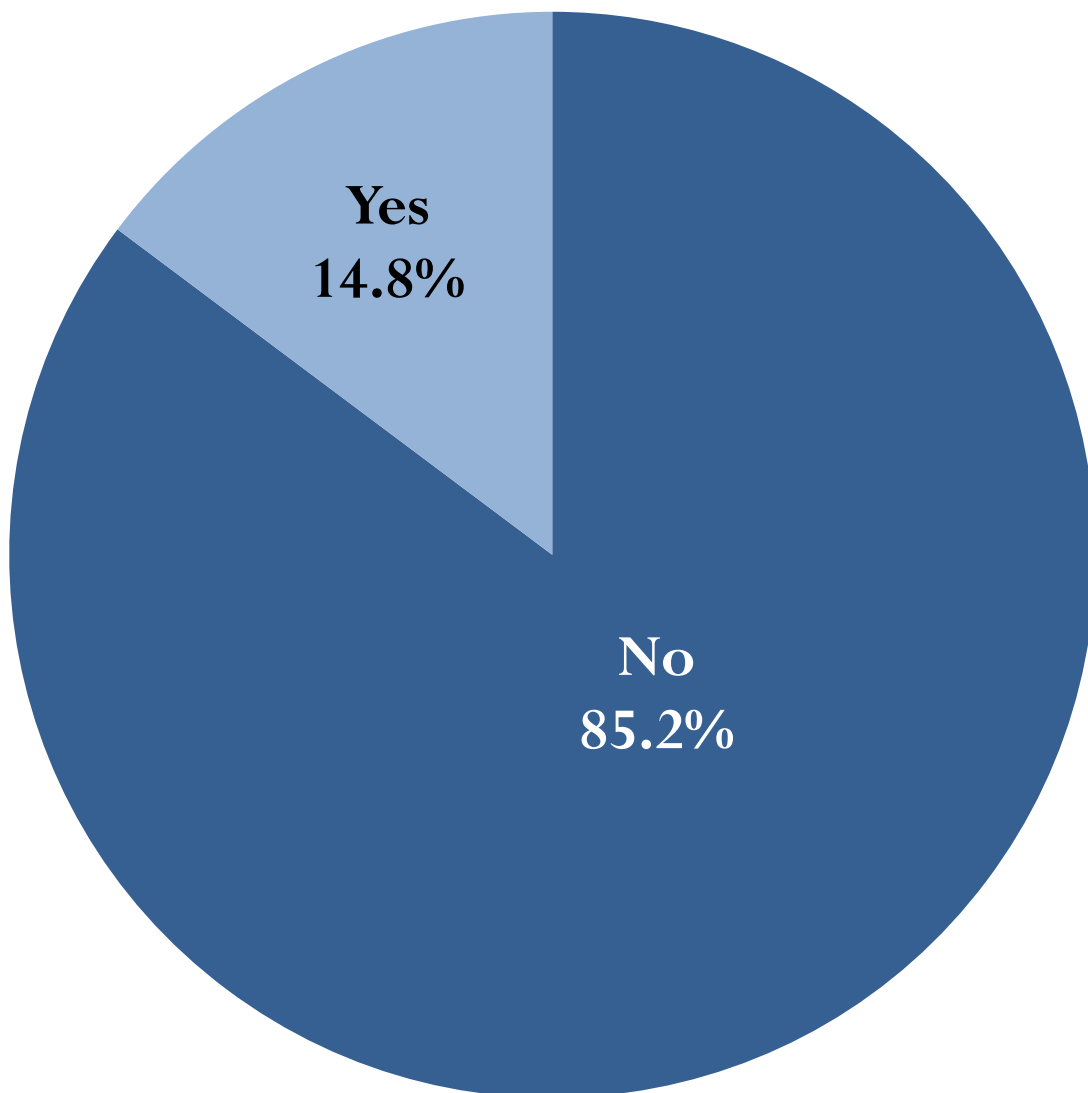
Does your facility active shooter policy call for "lockdown" or "shelter in place"?



# Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

## ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS

Has your facility ever had to activate the EOP for an actual active shooter incident?





**SECTION IV:**

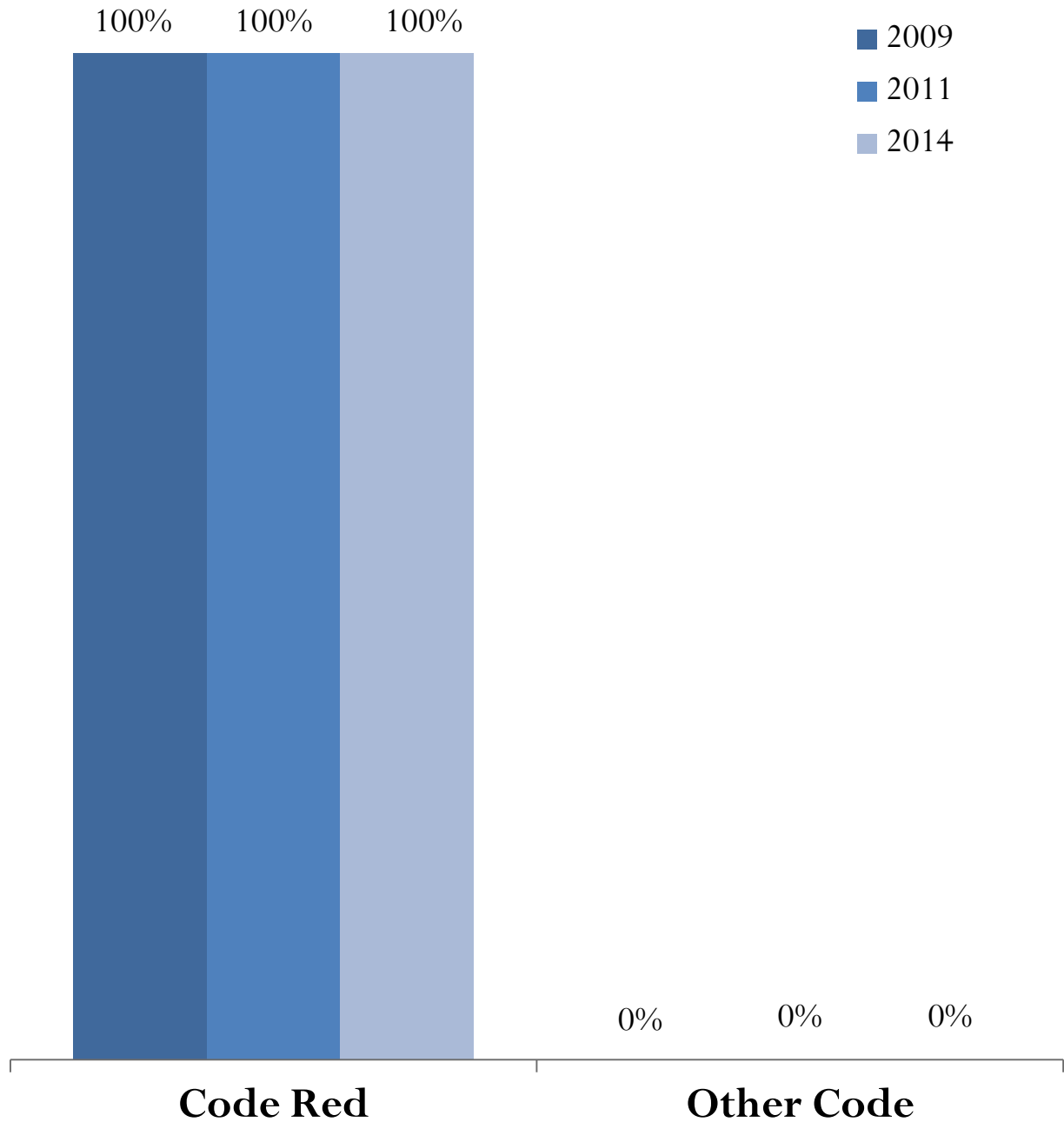
**Hospital Association of  
San Diego and Imperial Counties**

*14 HASDIC hospitals responded to the survey*

# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## FIRE

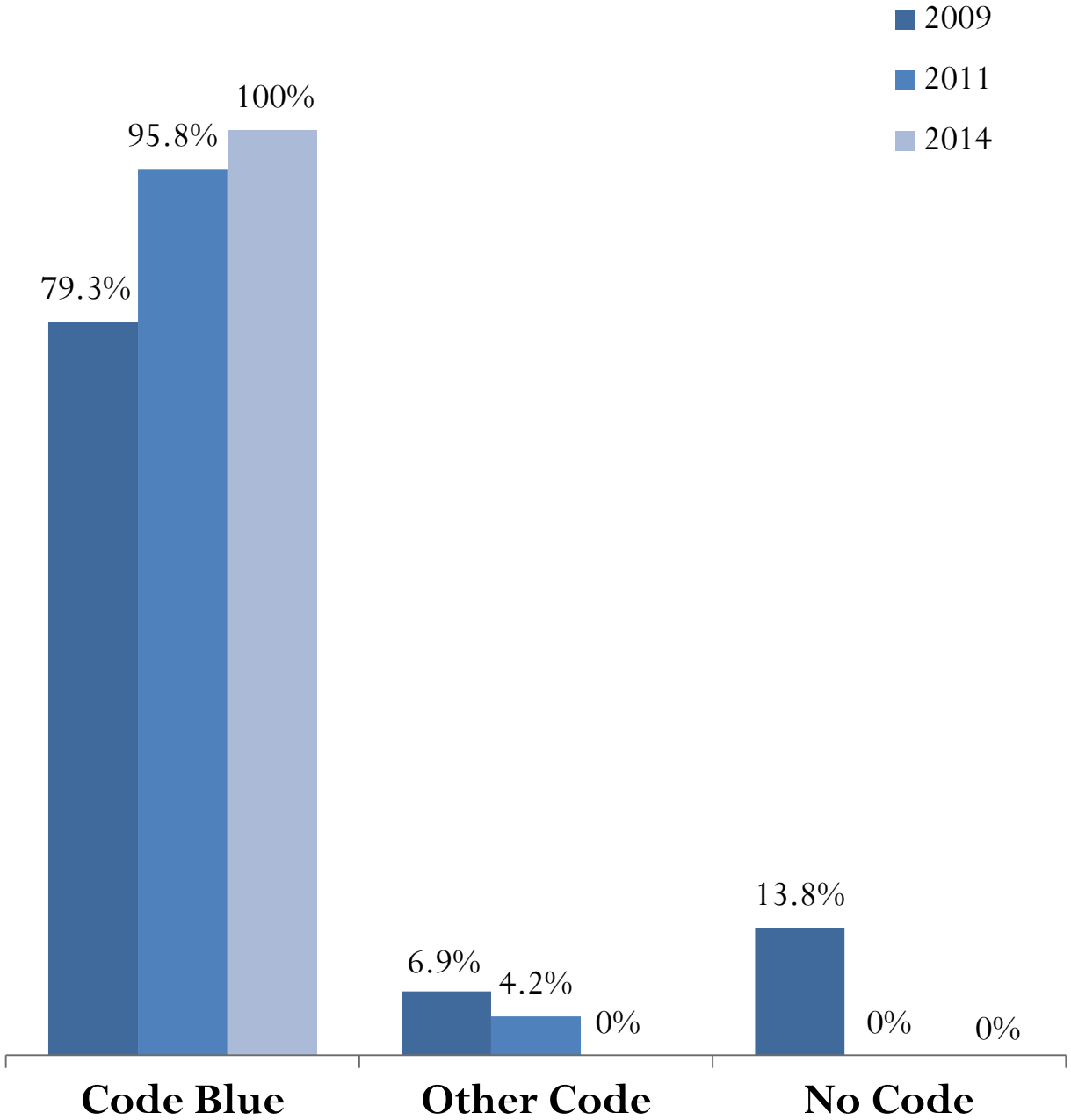
Does your facility use code Red for fire?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY – ADULT

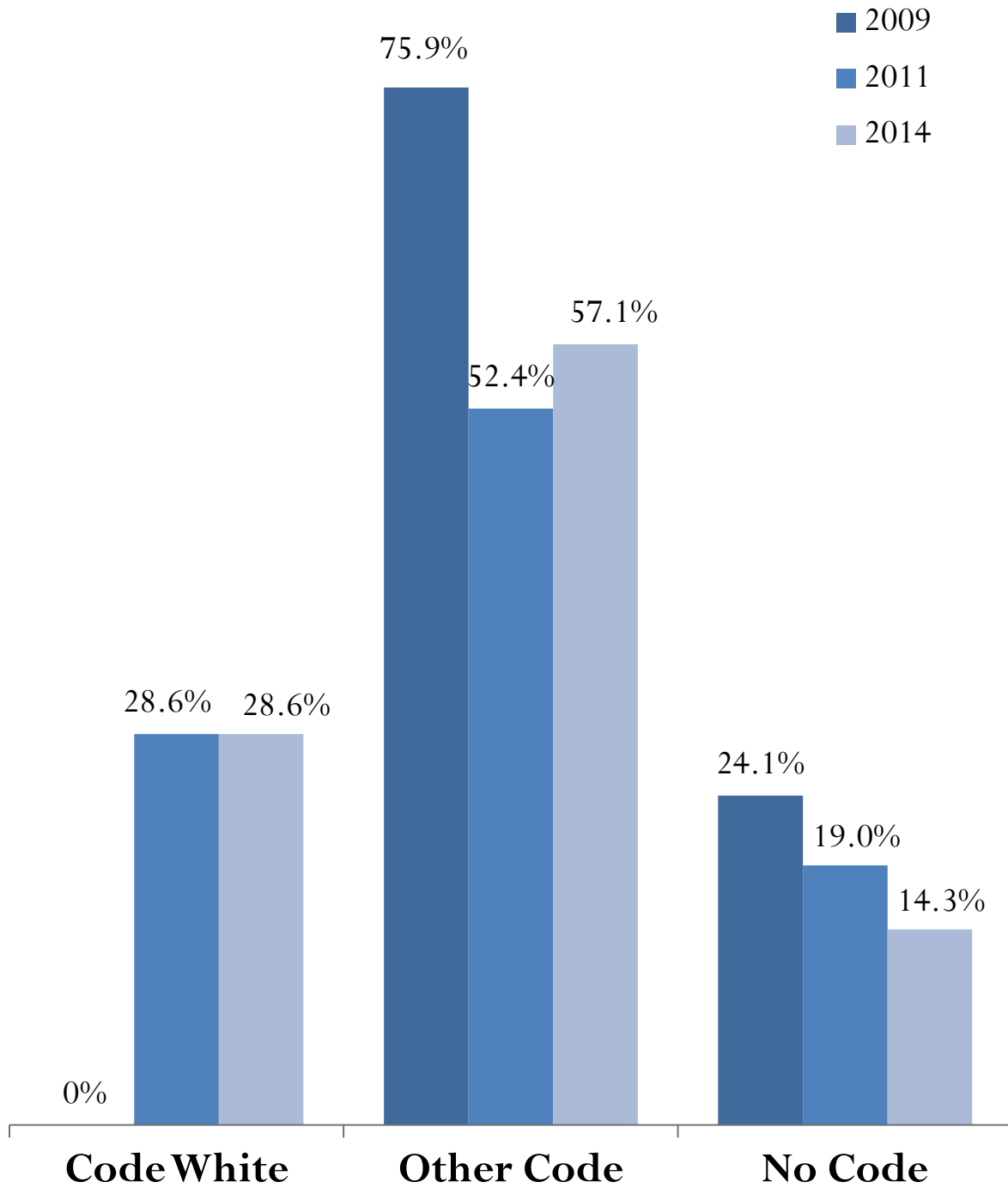
Does your facility use Code Blue for medical emergency (adult)?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY – PEDIATRIC

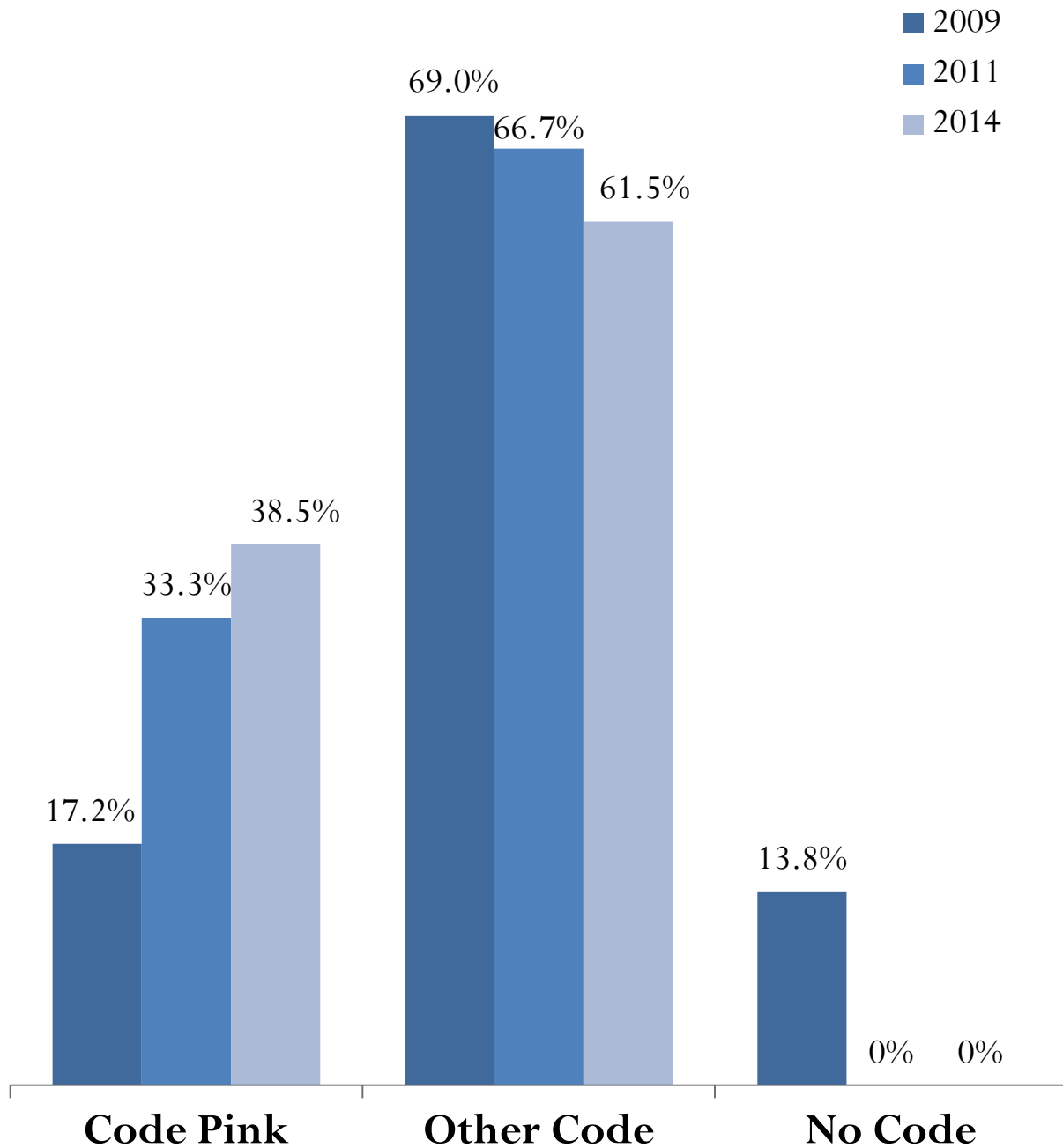
Does your facility use Code White for medical emergency (pediatric)?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## INFANT ABDUCTION

Does your facility use Code Pink for infant abduction?

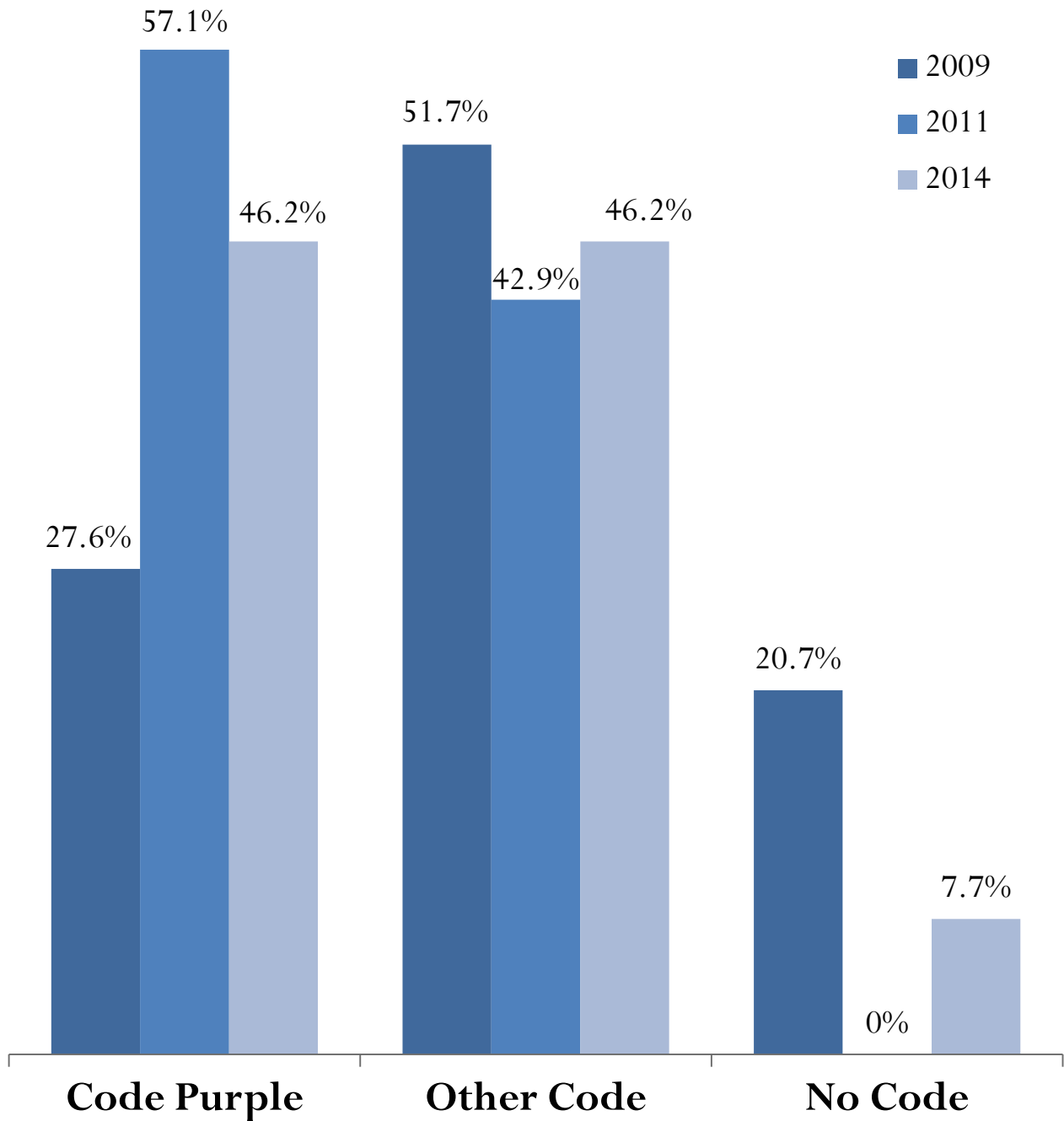


Non-applicable survey responses have been excluded from this category.

# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## CHILD ABDUCTION

Does your facility use Code Purple for child abduction?



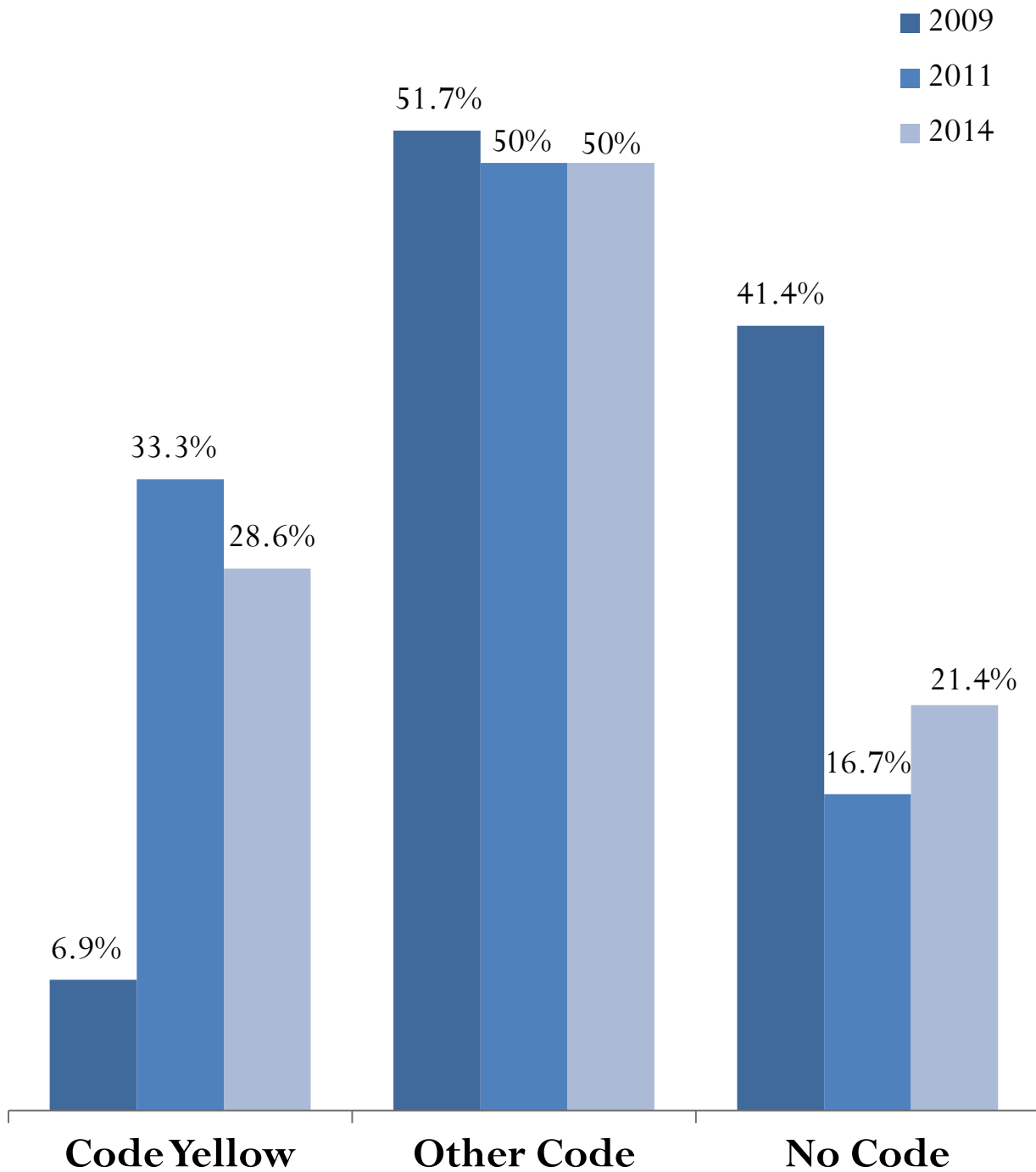
Non-applicable survey responses have been excluded from this category.

2014 Hospital Emergency Code Standardization Survey

# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## BOMB THREAT

Does your facility use Code Yellow for bomb threat?

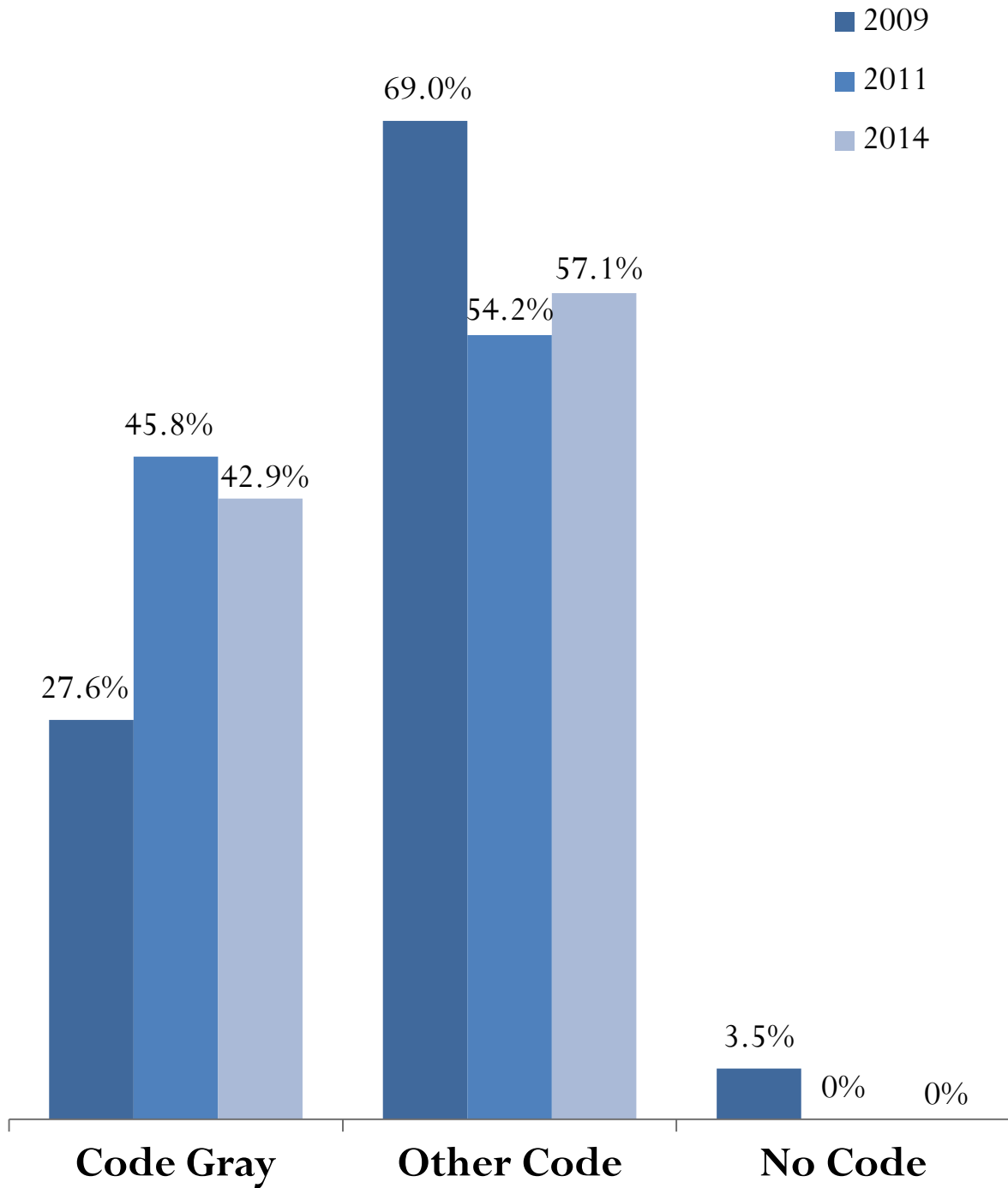


2014 Hospital Emergency Code Standardization Survey

# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## COMBATIVE PERSON

Does your facility use Code Gray for a combative person?

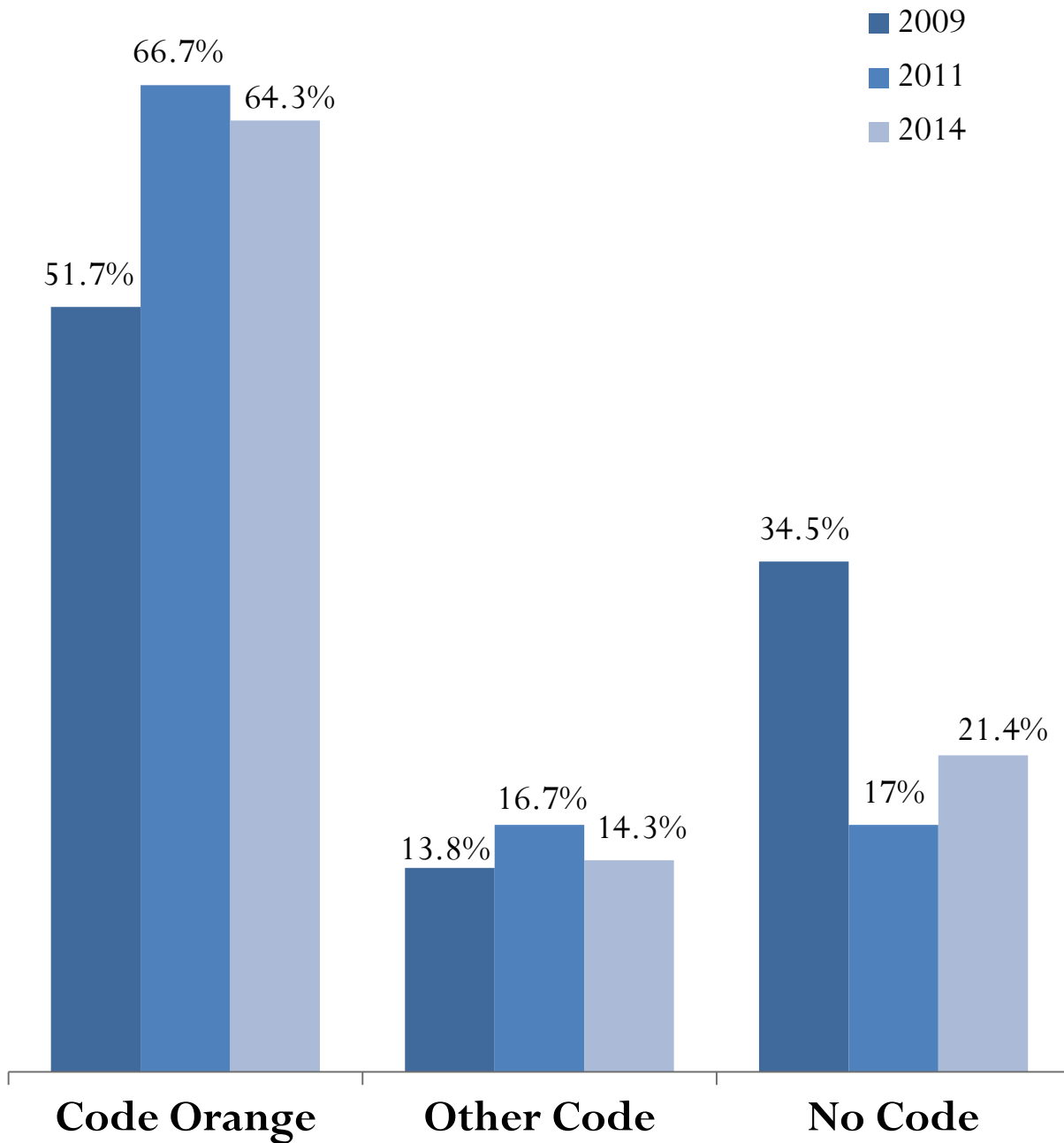




# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

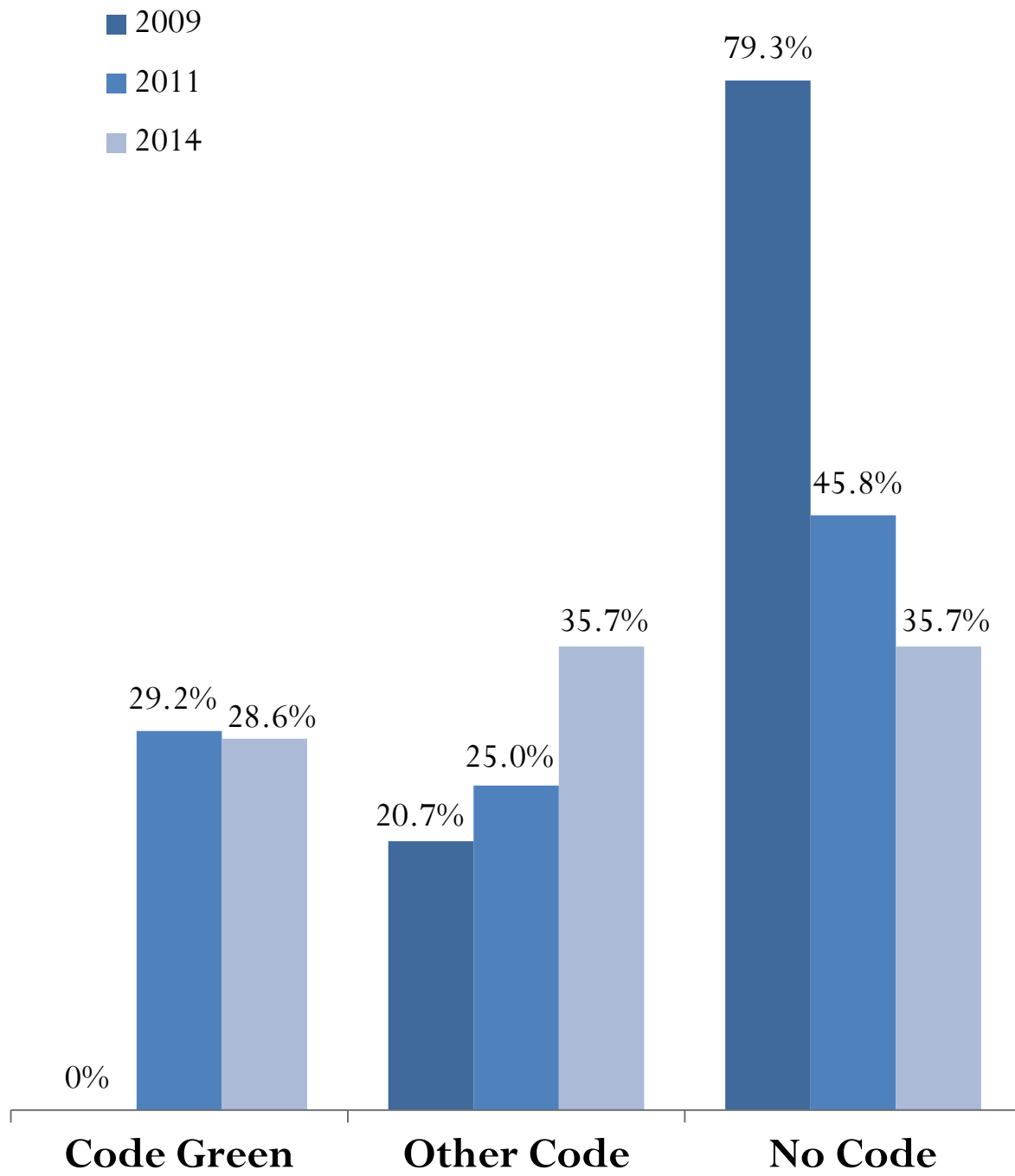
Does your facility use Code Orange for hazardous materials?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## PATIENT ELOPEMENT

Does your facility use Code Green for patient elopement?

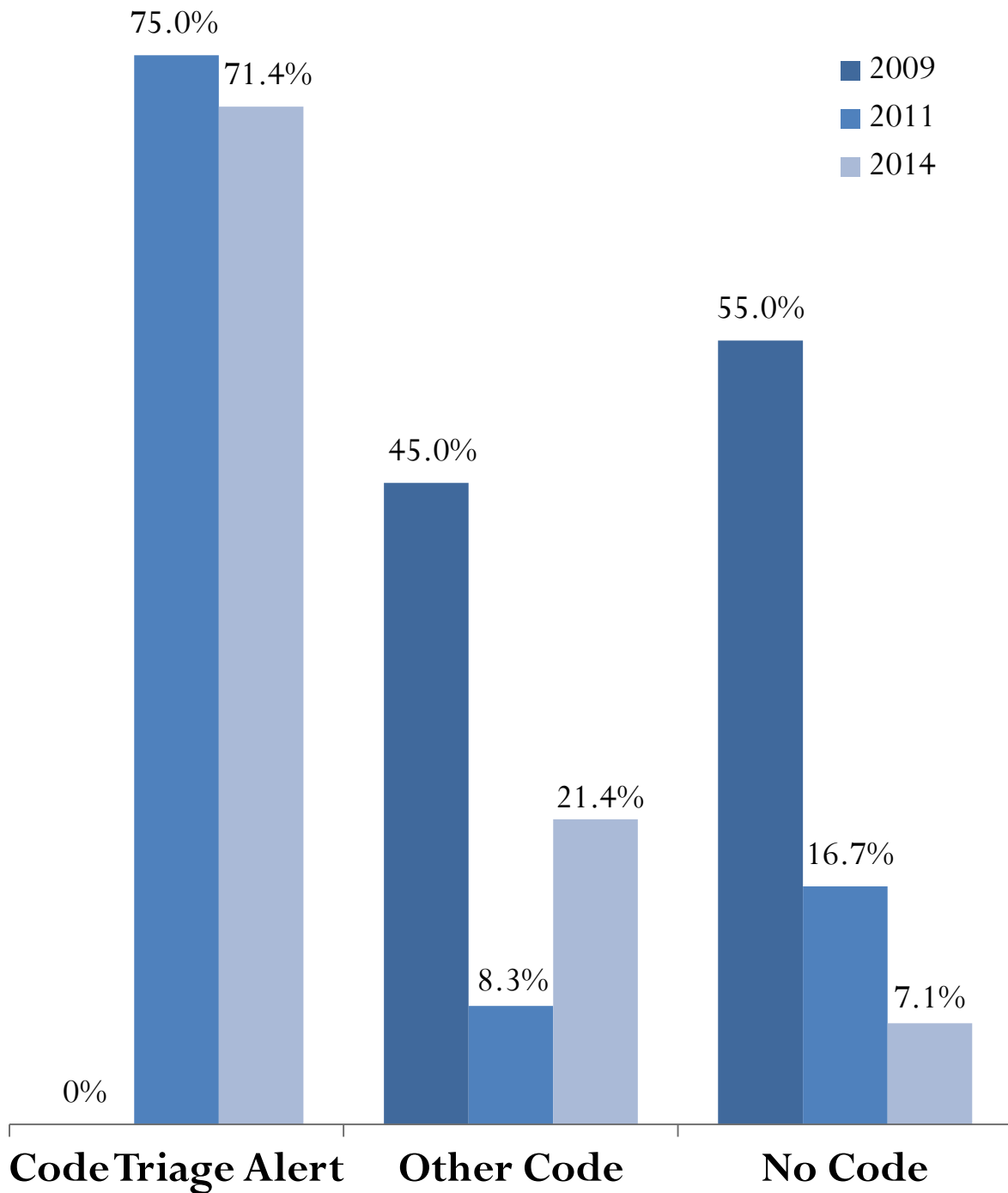


2014 Hospital Emergency Code Standardization Survey

# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## EMERGENCY ALERT

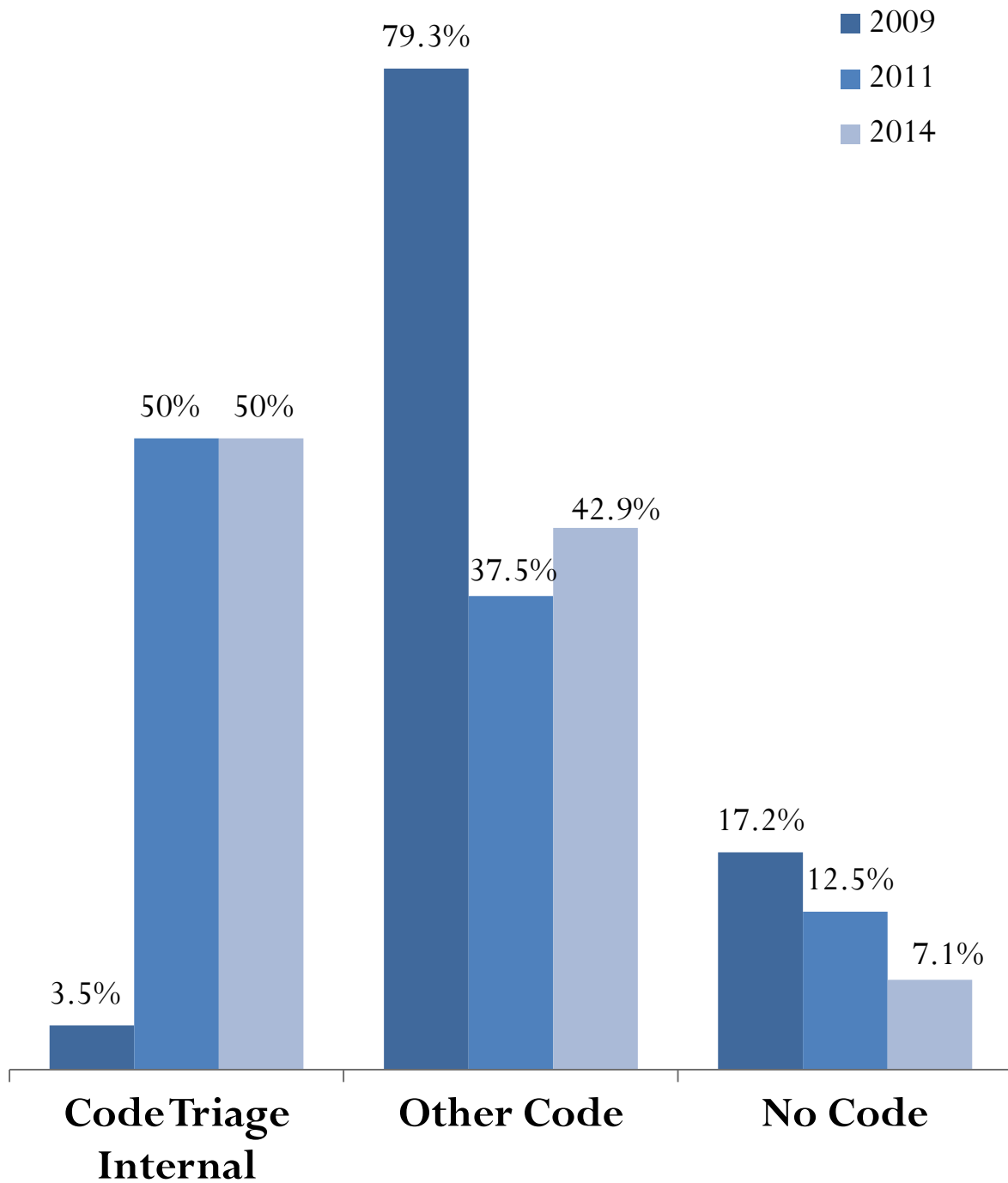
Does your facility use Code Triage Alert for emergency alert?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## INTERNAL EMERGENCY

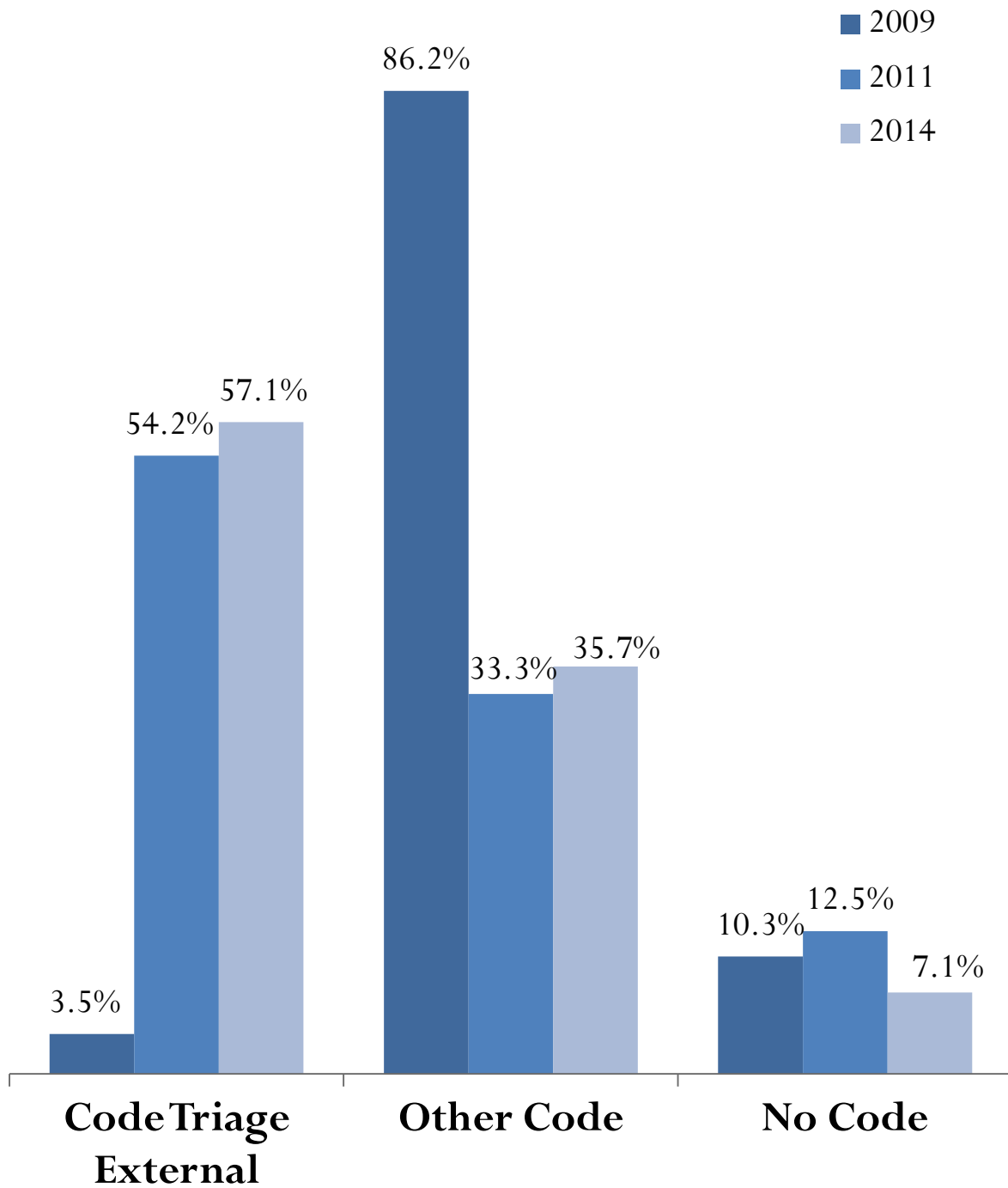
Does your facility use Code Triage Internal for internal emergencies?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## EXTERNAL EMERGENCY

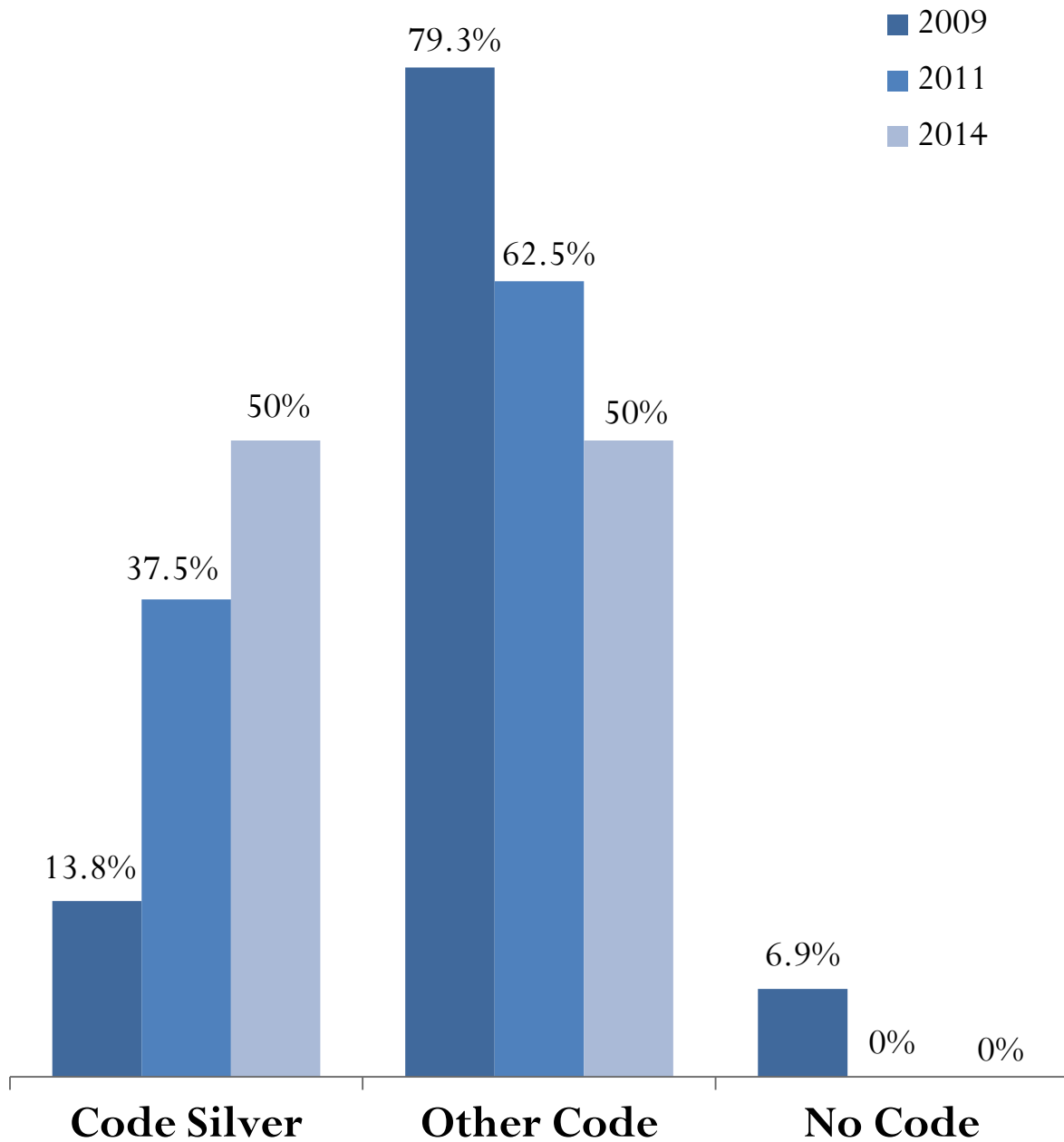
Does your facility use Code Triage External for external emergencies?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## PERSON WITH A WEAPON and/or ACTIVE SHOOTER and/or HOSTAGE SITUATION

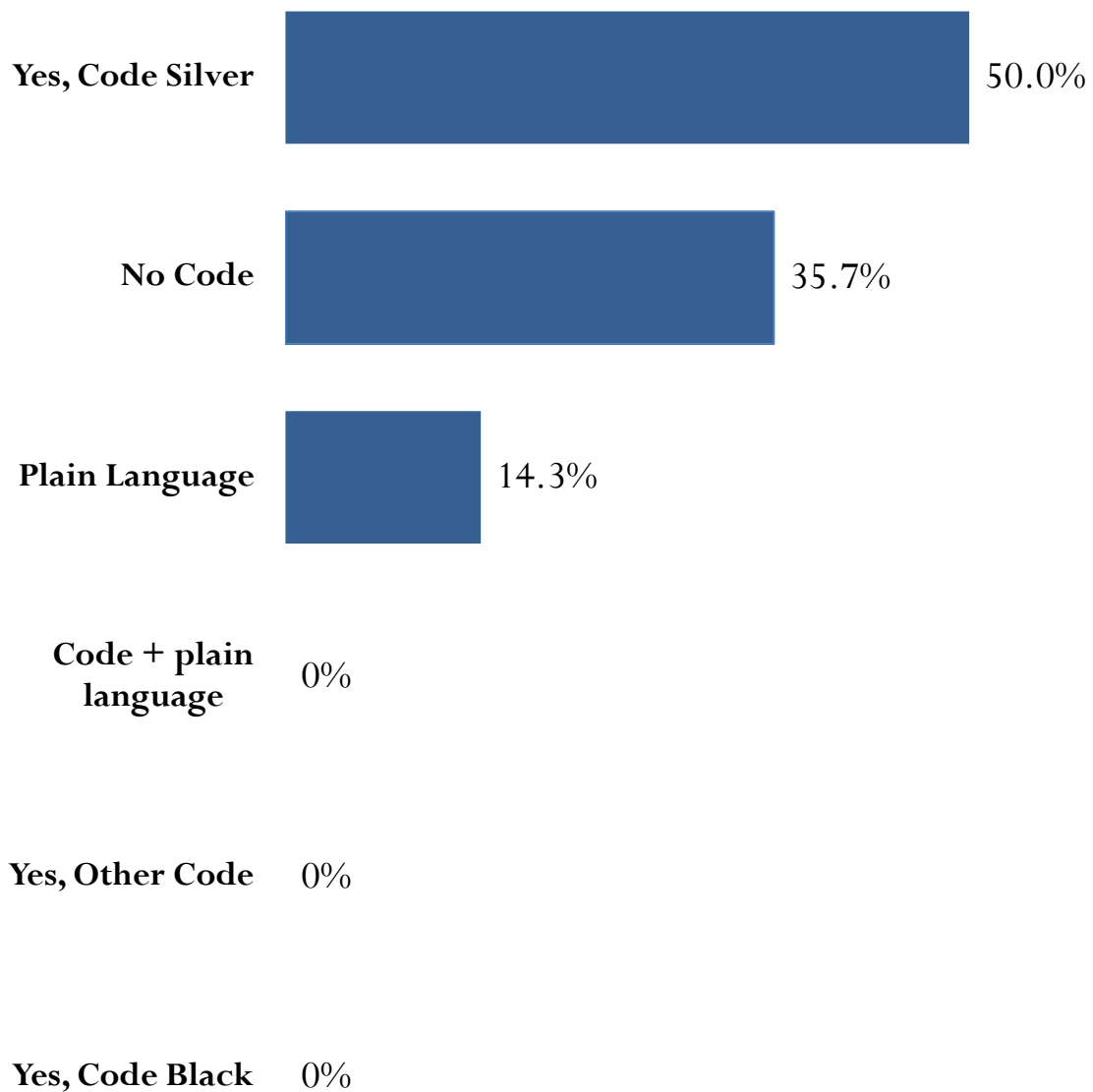
Does your facility use Code Silver for a person with a weapon, an active shooter, and/or hostage situation?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## ACTIVE SHOOTER

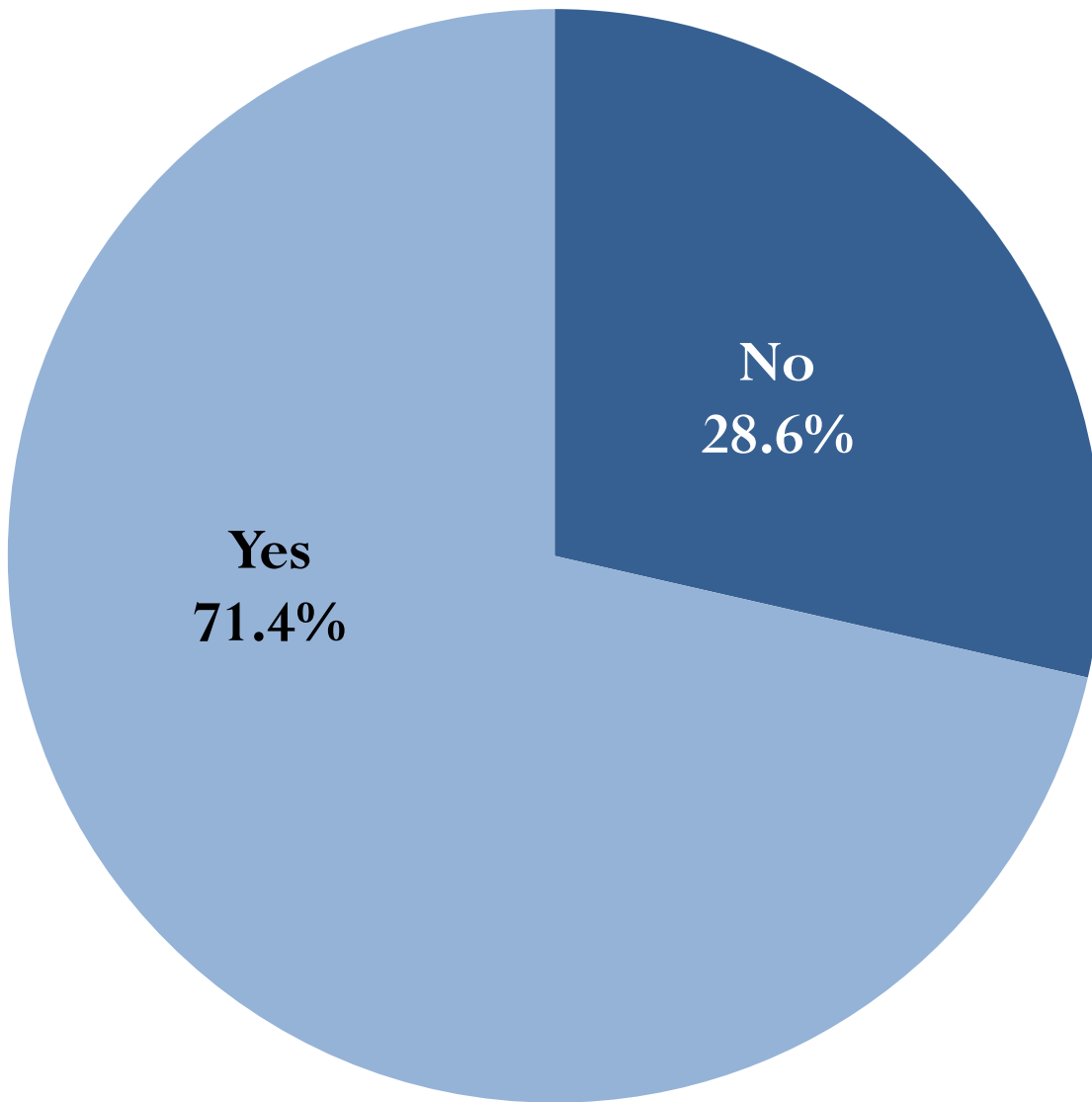
Does your facility have an emergency code designated solely for an active shooter event?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING

Has your facility conducted classroom or online training for active shooter scenarios?

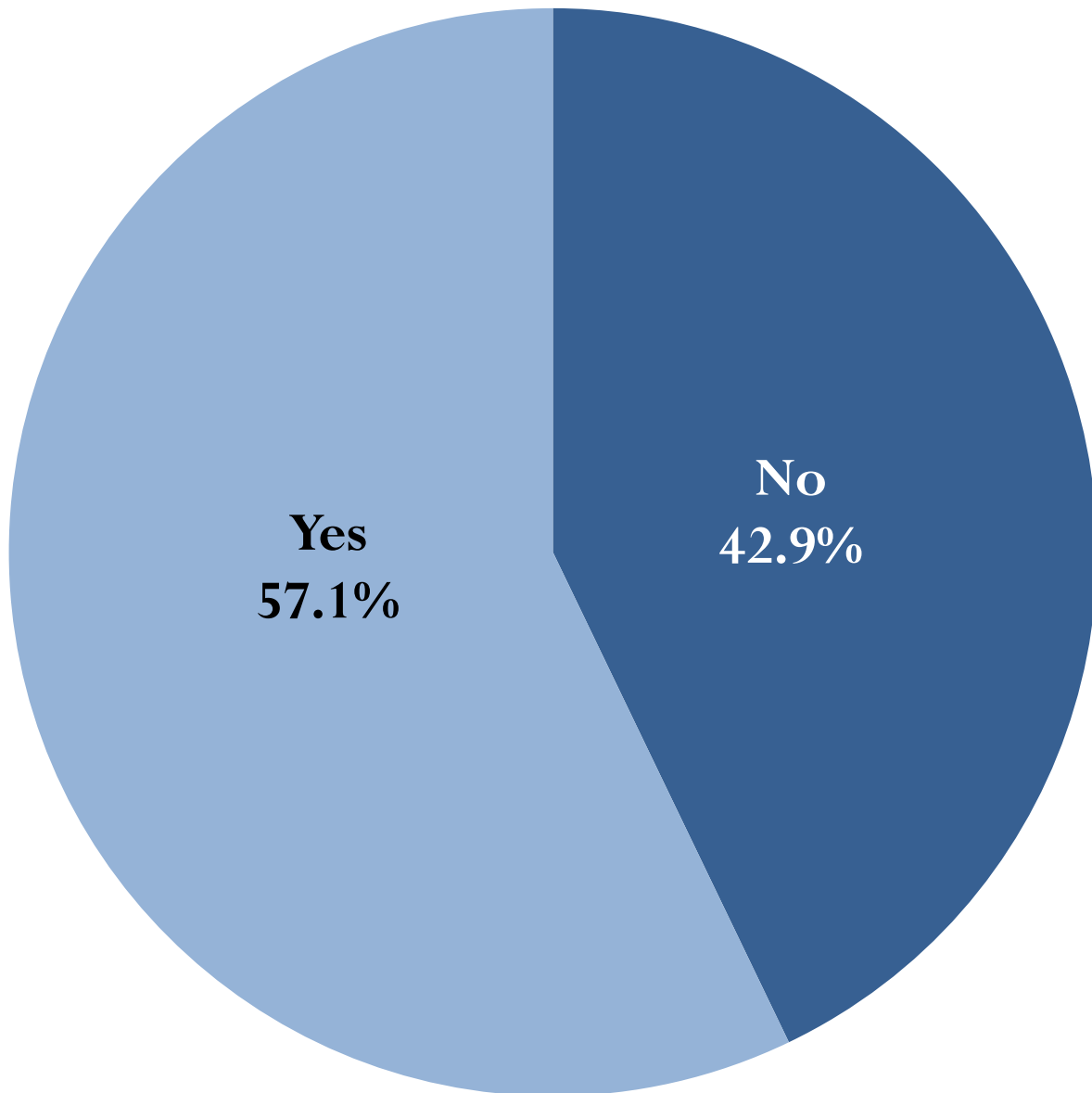




# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## ACTIVE SHOOTER EXERCISES

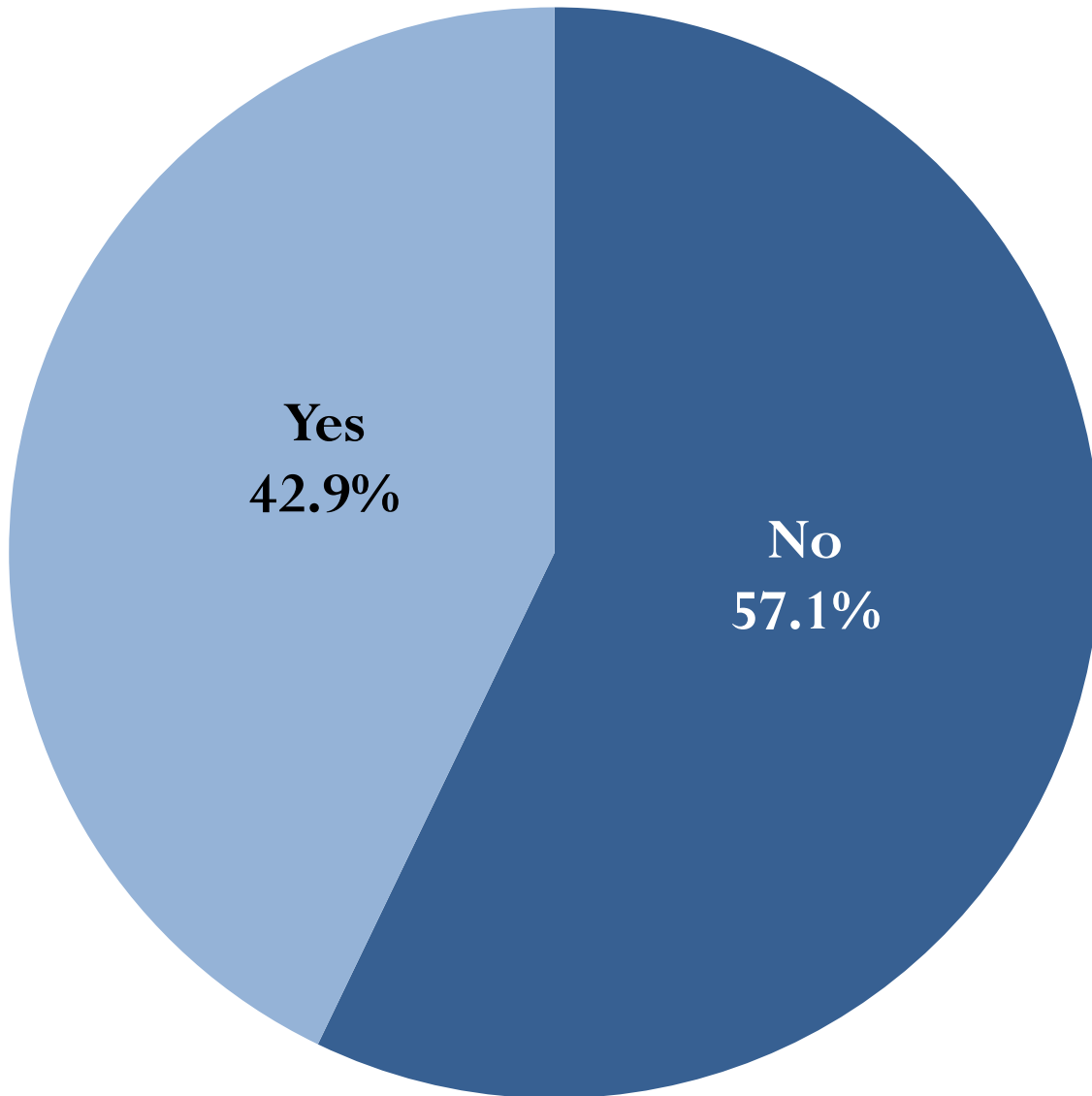
Has your facility conducted a tabletop or functional training exercise for active shooter scenarios?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## ACTIVE SHOOTER: HAZARD VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS

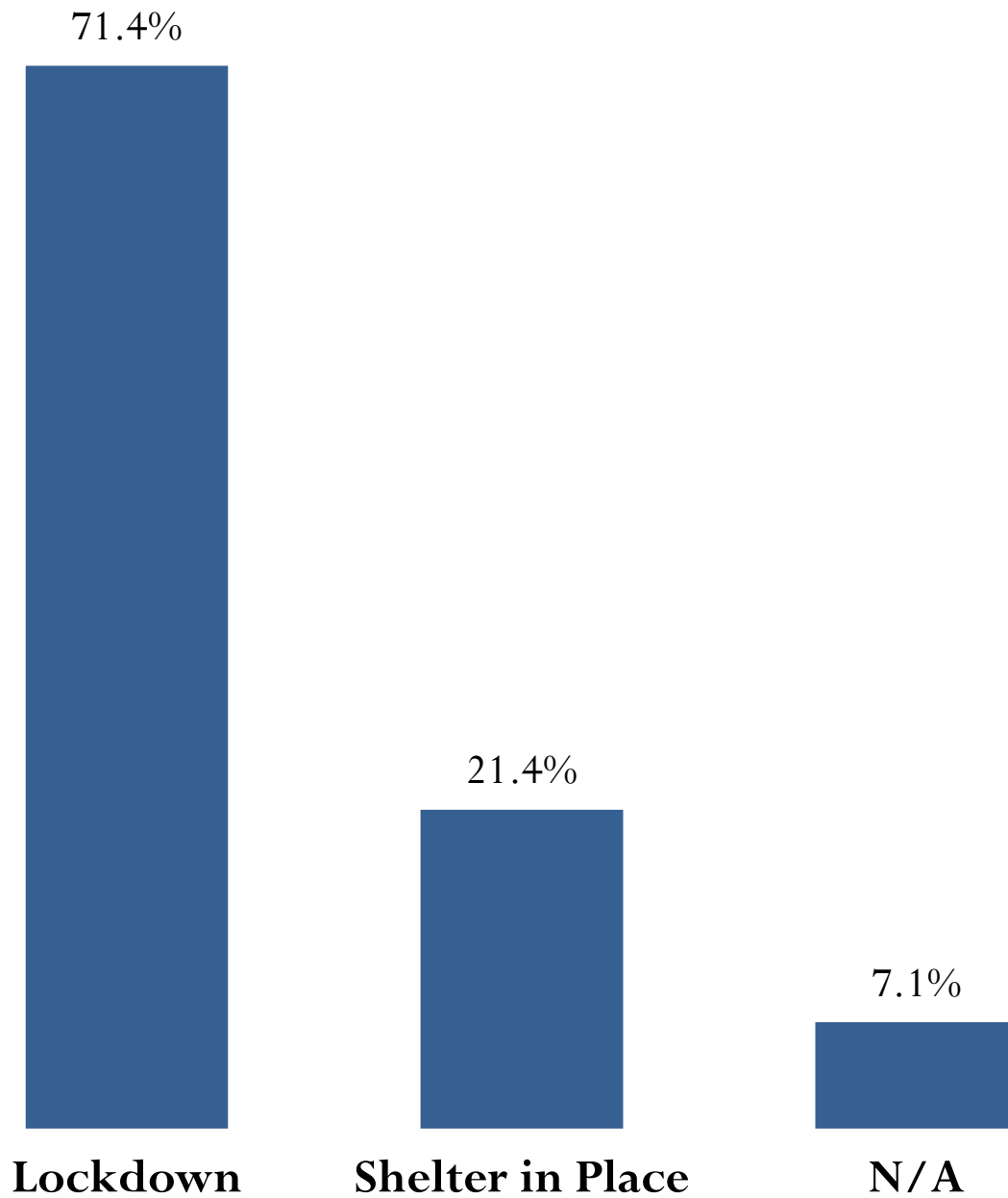
Does your facility HVA include the active shooter scenario as one of your listed risks?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## ACTIVE SHOOTER POLICY

Does your facility active shooter policy call for "lockdown" or "shelter in place"?



# Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties

## ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENTS

Has your facility ever had to activate the EOP for an actual active shooter incident?

