



Economic Indicators in Central Minnesota



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LMI, All Day Everyday

1/8/2026

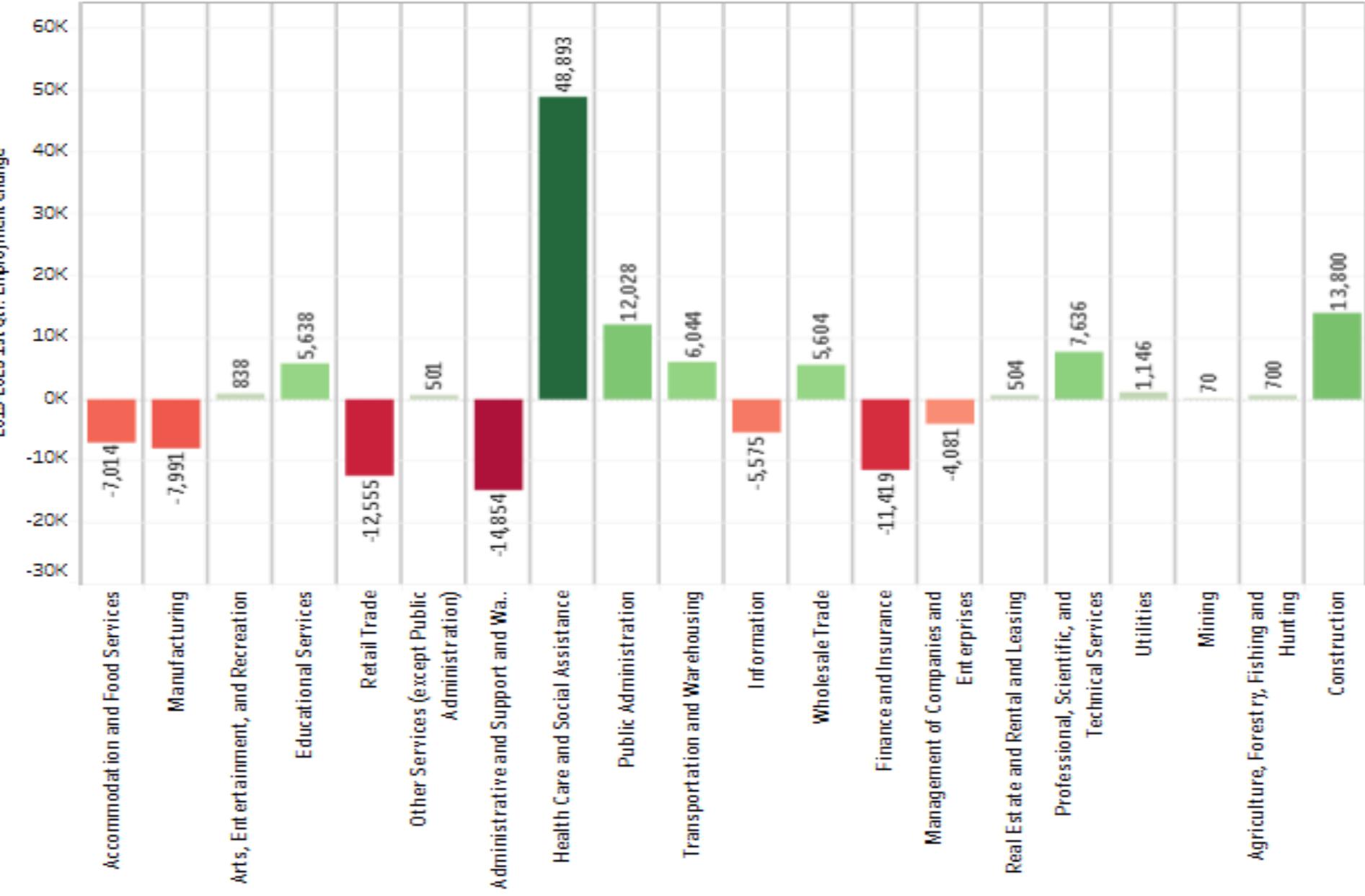
September Minnesota Data (thanks to govt. shutdown)

- Unemployment ticked up to 3.7% from 3.6% in August
 - 3.1% last Sept
 - 2.8% in Sept 2023
- Employment grew by 6,100 jobs in Sept from August (0.2%), (0.1% U.S.)
- OTY employment grew by 1.4%, 0.8% nationally
- Private Sector wages in MN grew by 30% in first 9 months of 2019- to-2025
- CPI over the same period was 25.5%

**September Over the Year (OTY) Employment Growth by Industry Sector
Not Seasonally Adjusted**

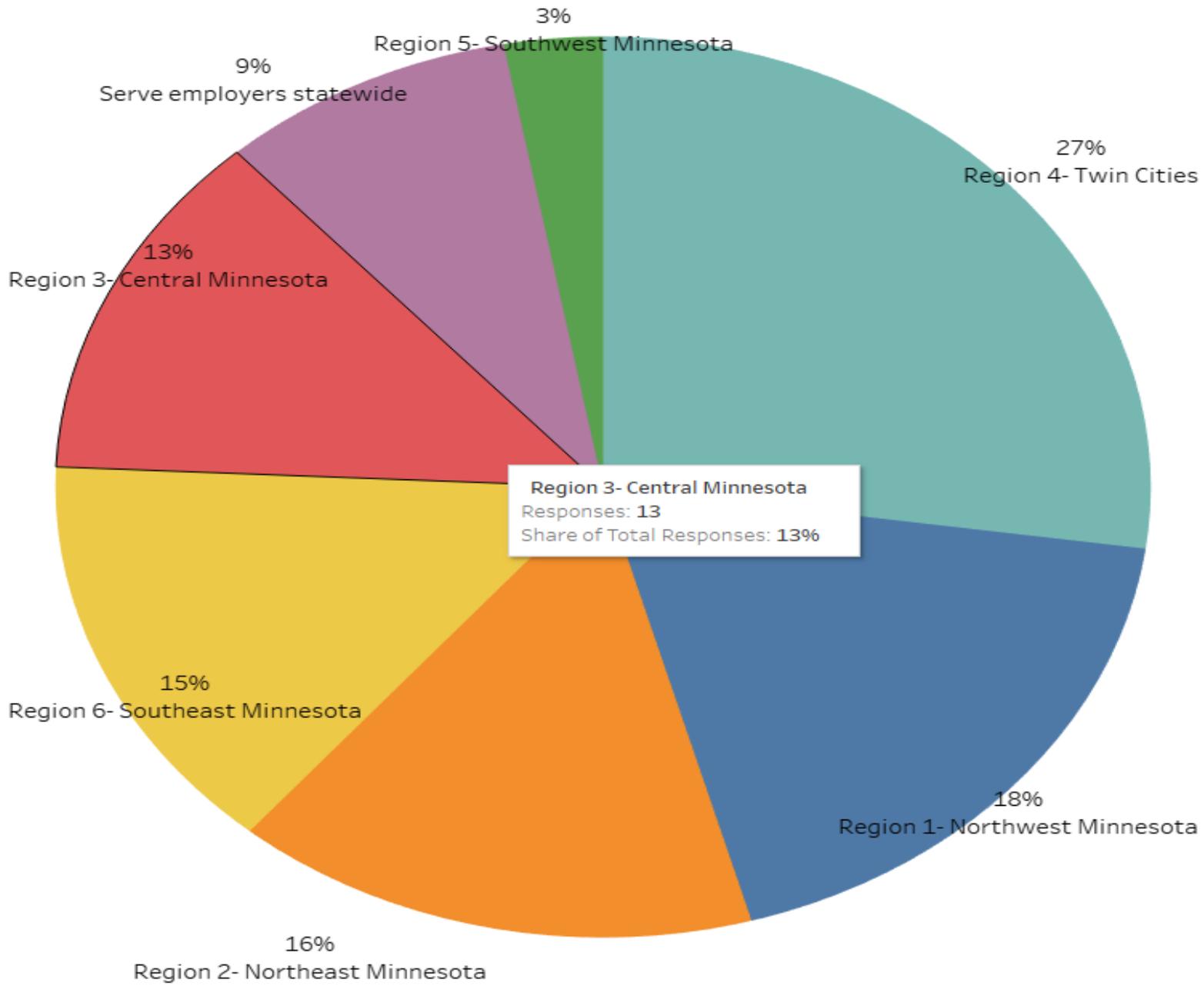
Industry Supersector	MN OTY Job Change	MN OTY Growth Rate (%)	US OTY Growth Rate (%)
Total	41,327	1.4	0.8
Private	39,643	1.5	0.8
Mining & Logging	-52	-0.8	-2.2
Construction	6,572	4.4	0.4
Manufacturing	3,865	1.2	-0.7
Trade, Transport. & Utilities	3,111	0.6	0.3
Information	-1,853	-4.3	-0.2
Financial Activities	-3,178	-1.7	0.6
Prof. & Business Services	1,250	0.3	-0.4
Ed. & Health Services	26,634	4.5	3.0
Leisure & Hospitality	3,499	1.3	1.3
Other Services	-205	-0.2	1.2
Government	1,684	0.4	0.5

Minnesota
1st Quarter Change, 2019- to- 2025



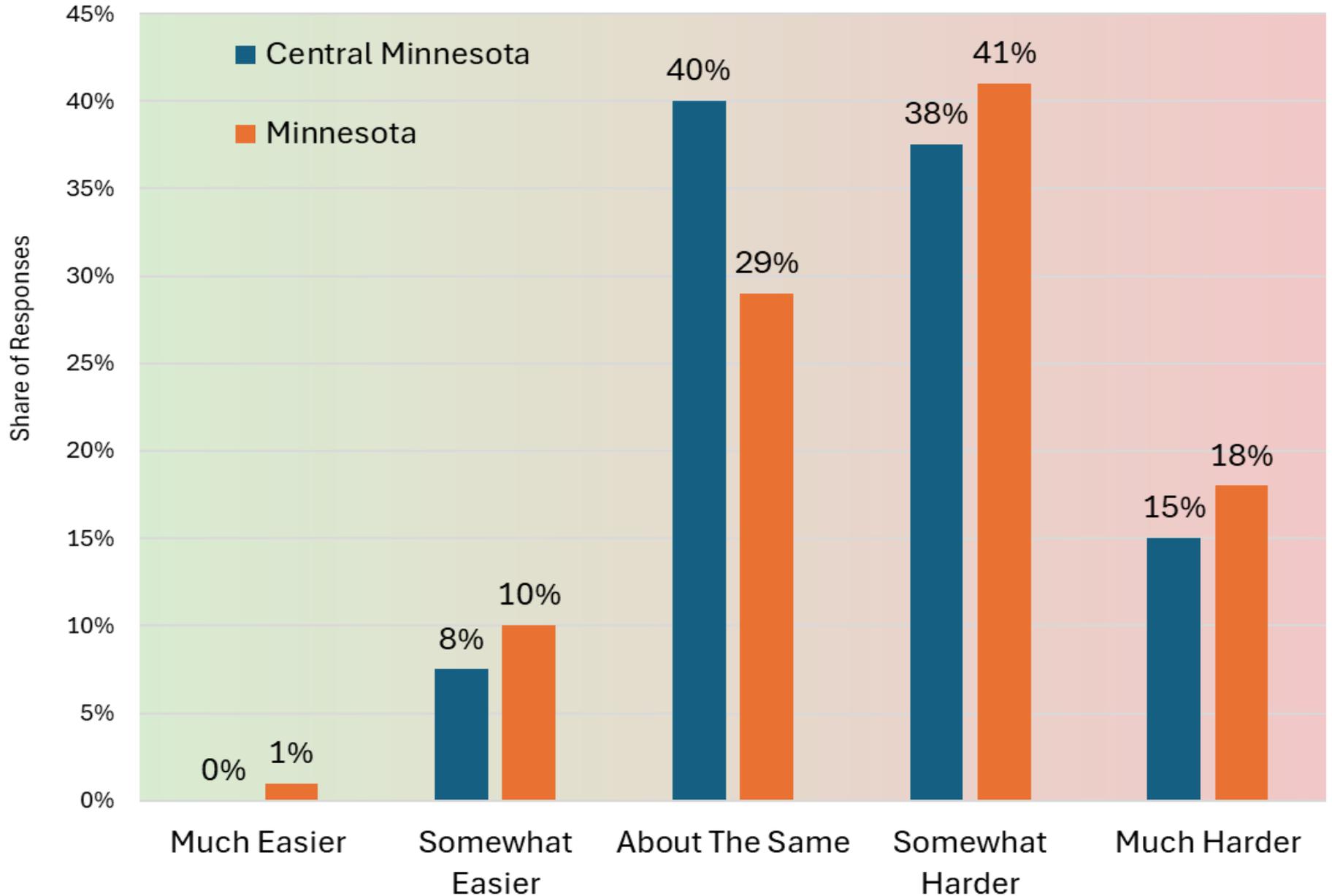


Responses



Region 3- Central Minnesota
Responses: 13
Share of Total Responses: 13%

Figure 1. "On average, compared to 1 year ago, how would you rate the ease with which your job-seeking clients are finding employment?"

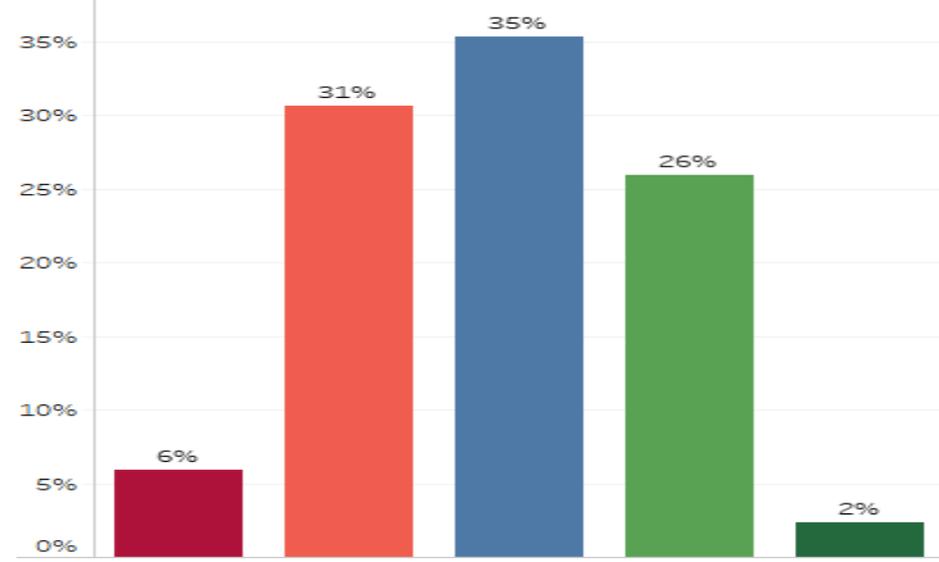
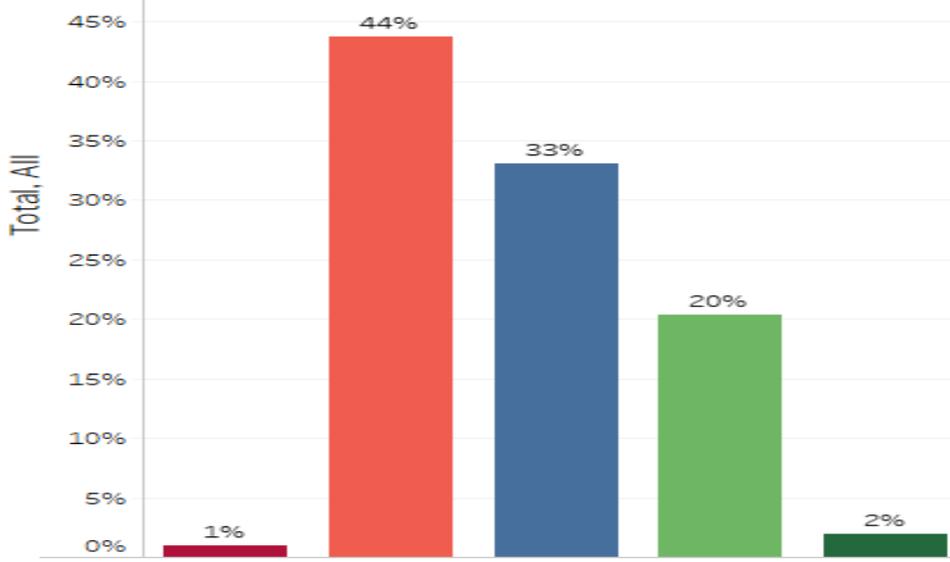
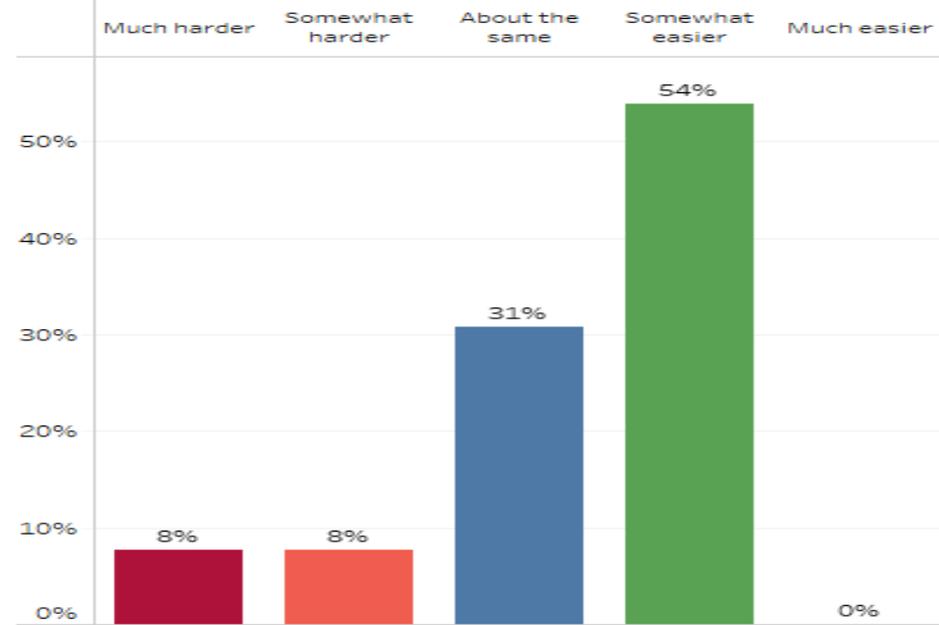
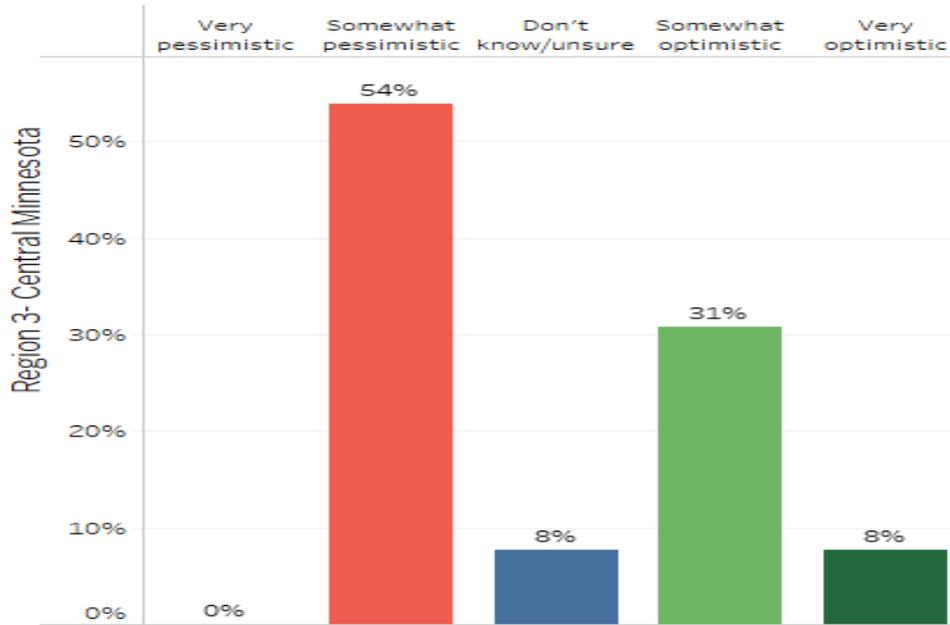


Source: DEED, Job Counselor Survey, 2nd Qtr. 2025

Employer Services

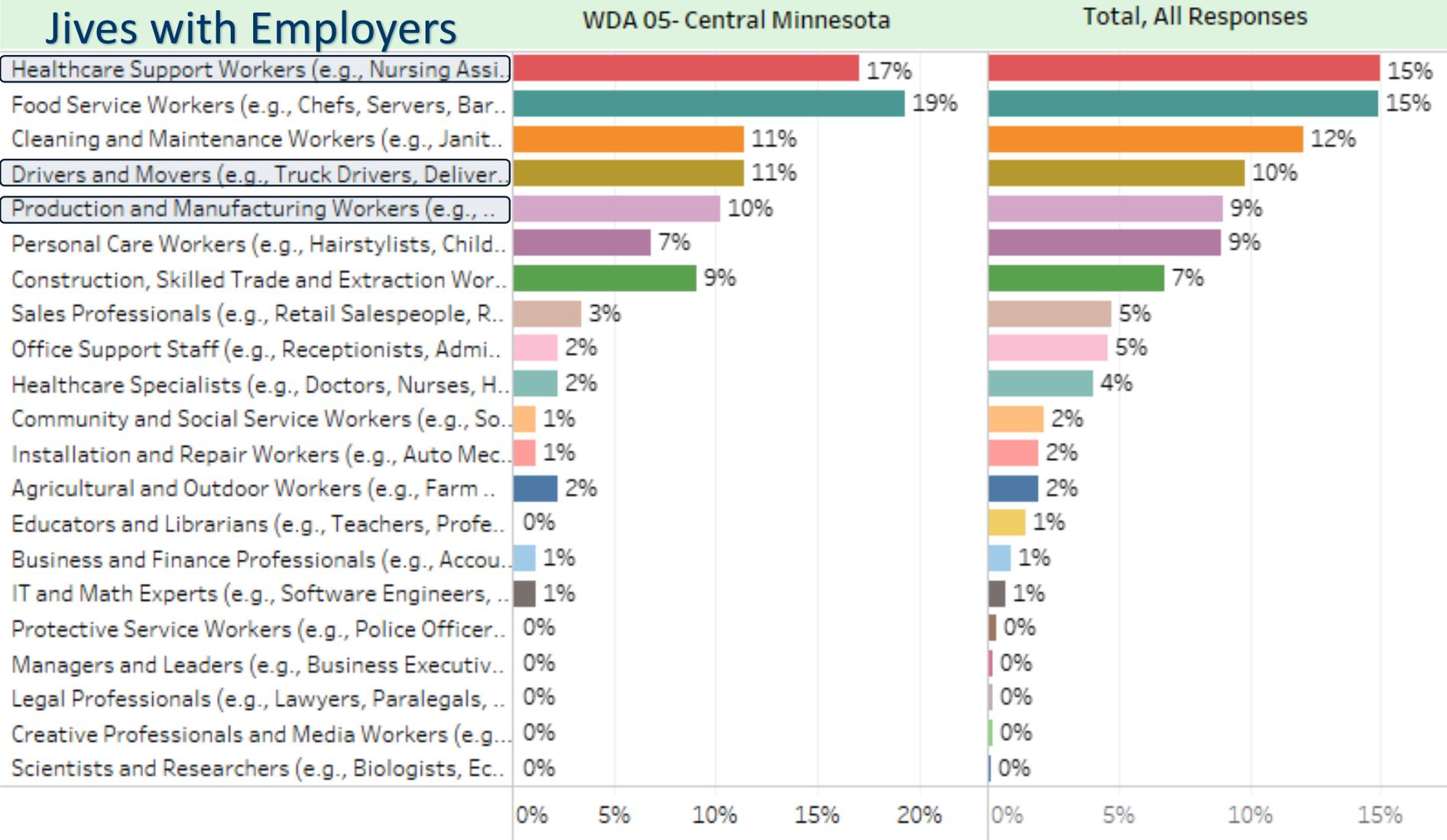
Overall, how would you describe employers' outlook for the next six months?

On average, compared to 1 year ago, how would you rate employers' ease of hiring for the positions they are trying to fill?

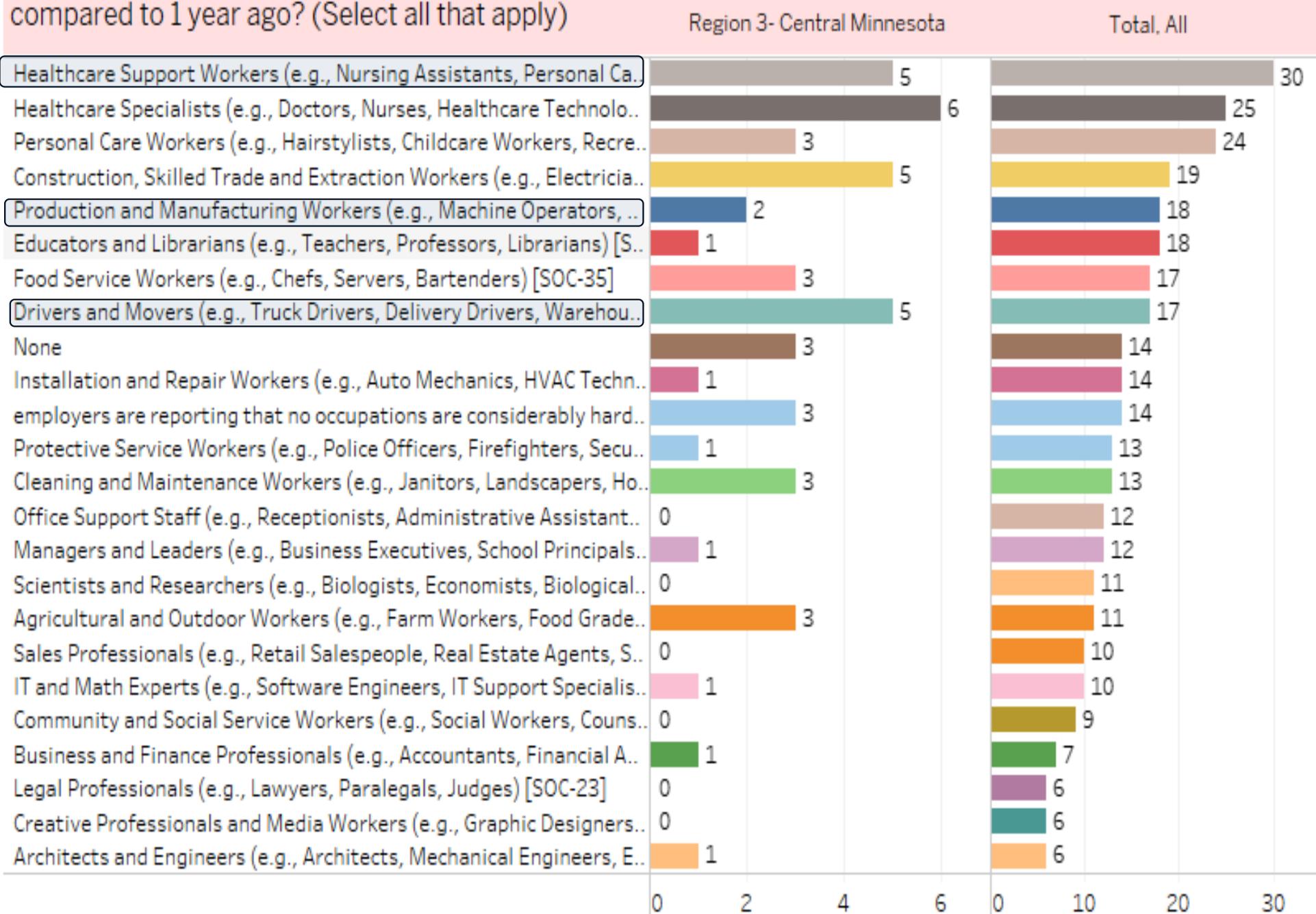


What positions is it **CONSIDERABLY EASIER** for your job-seeking clients to get hired for now compared to 1 year ago?

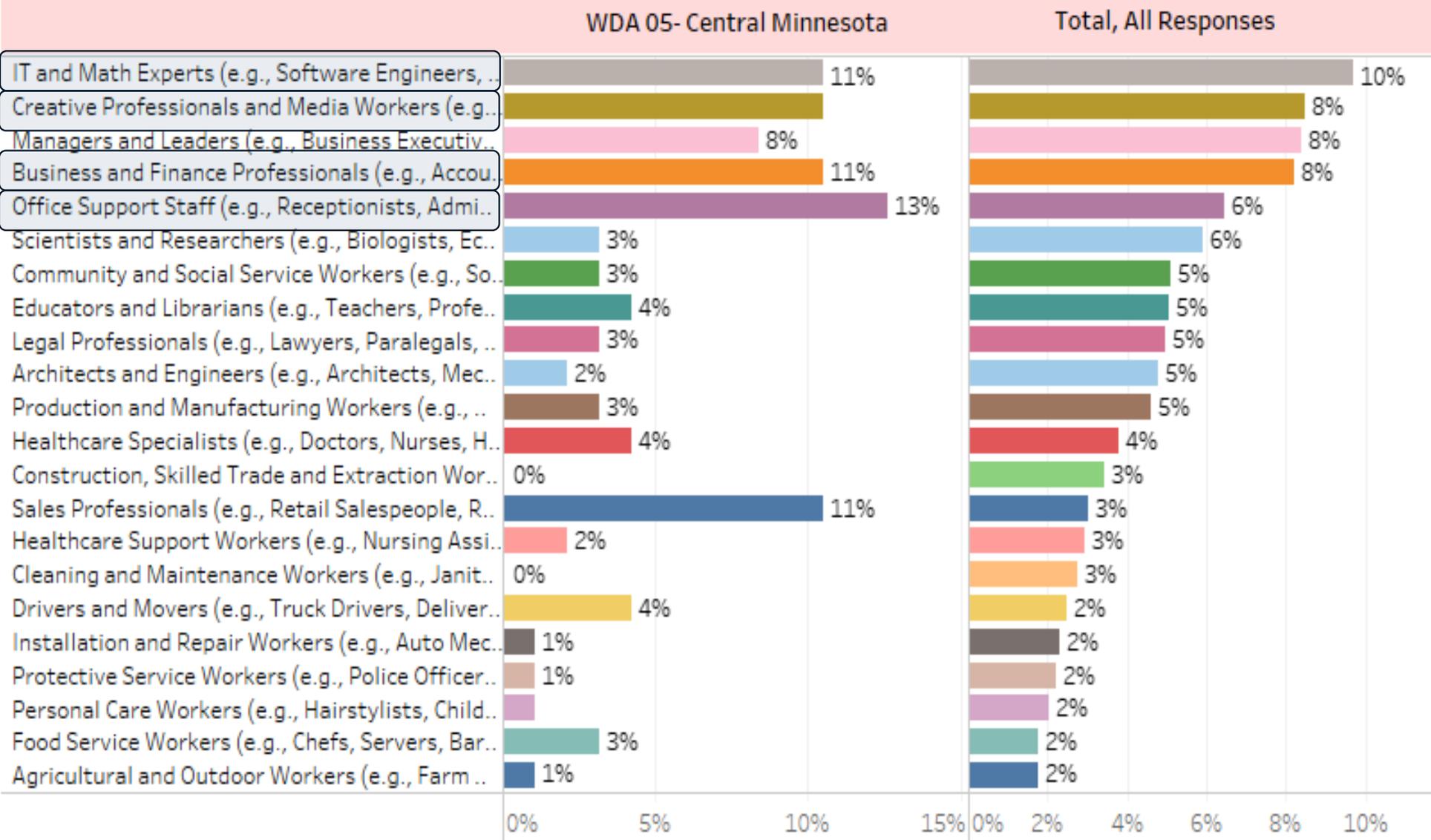
Jives with Employers



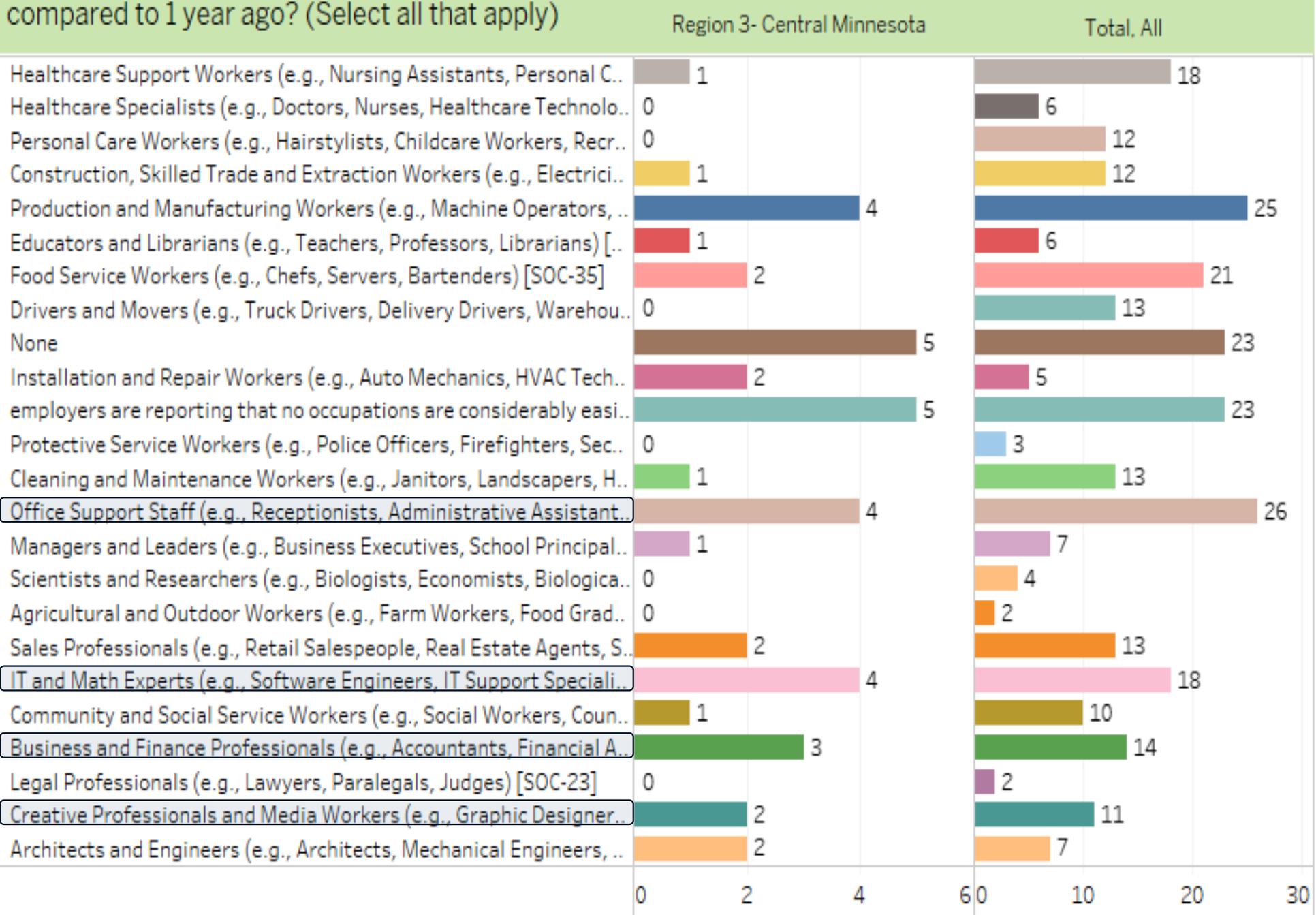
What positions are employers reporting it is CONSIDERABLY HARDER to find qualified candidates for now compared to 1 year ago? (Select all that apply)



What positions is it **CONSIDERABLY HARDER** for your job-seeking clients to get hired for now compared to 1 year ago?



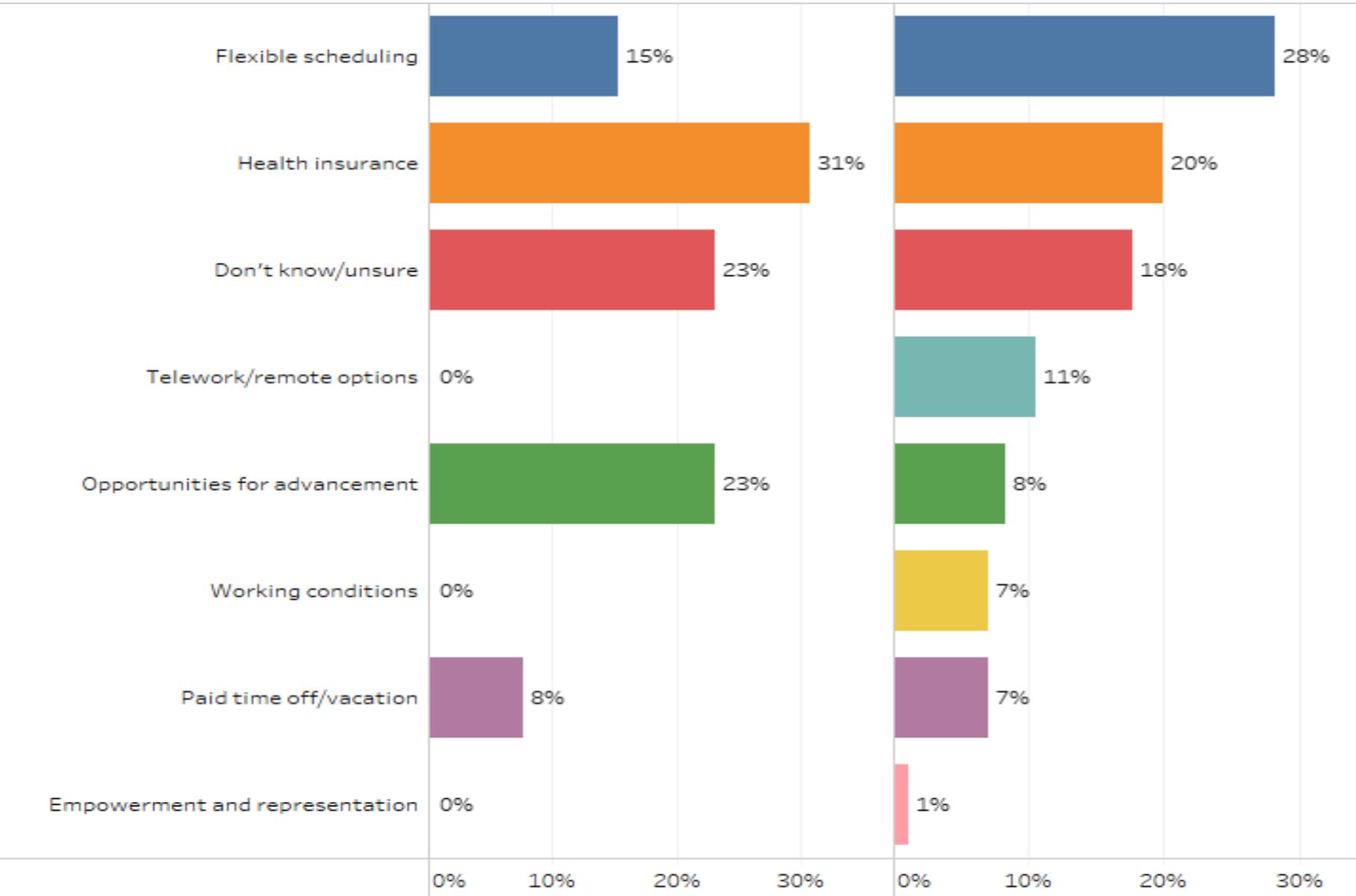
What positions are employers reporting it is CONSIDERABLY EASIER to find qualified candidates for now compared to 1 year ago? (Select all that apply)



I hope you like
our data as much
as I do



What is the MOST common job benefit employers that you work with are offering to attract and/or retain employees, after increased wages?



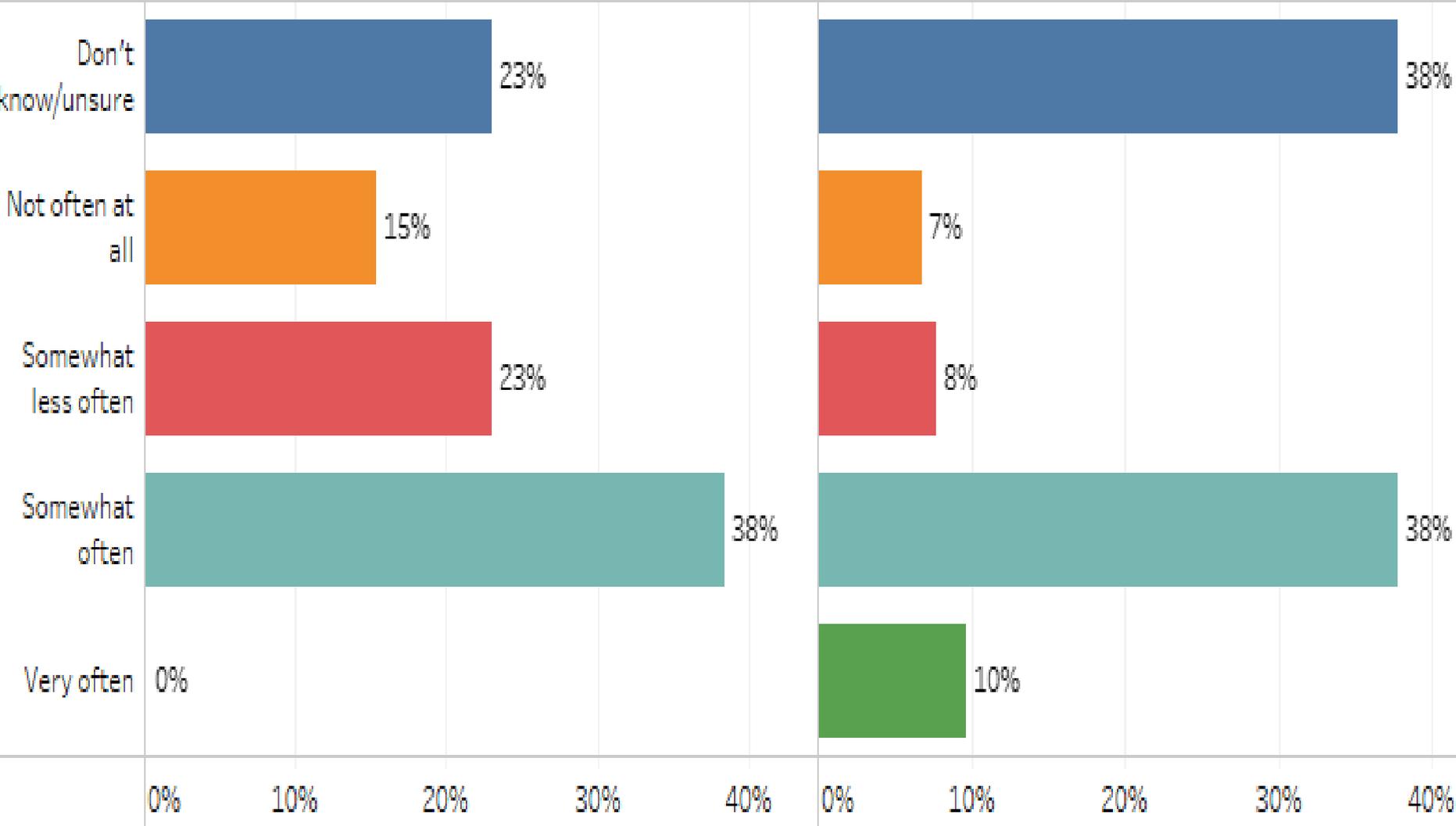
Region 3- Central Minnesota

Total, All

To the best of your knowledge, how often do employers that you work with use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools or systems?

Region 3- Central Minnesota

Total, All



Would you like to share anything interesting employers are using AI for? (All Regions)

A recruiter after reviewing a resume suggested the person use AI to redo their resume

AI hiring tools: screen resumes, identify keywords, and match candidates to open roles.

Chatbots and AI assistants: that answer frequently asked questions from applicants, guide them through the application process, and even schedule interviews. Manufacturing process.

Creating position descriptions, creatively thinking through scheduling of personnel.

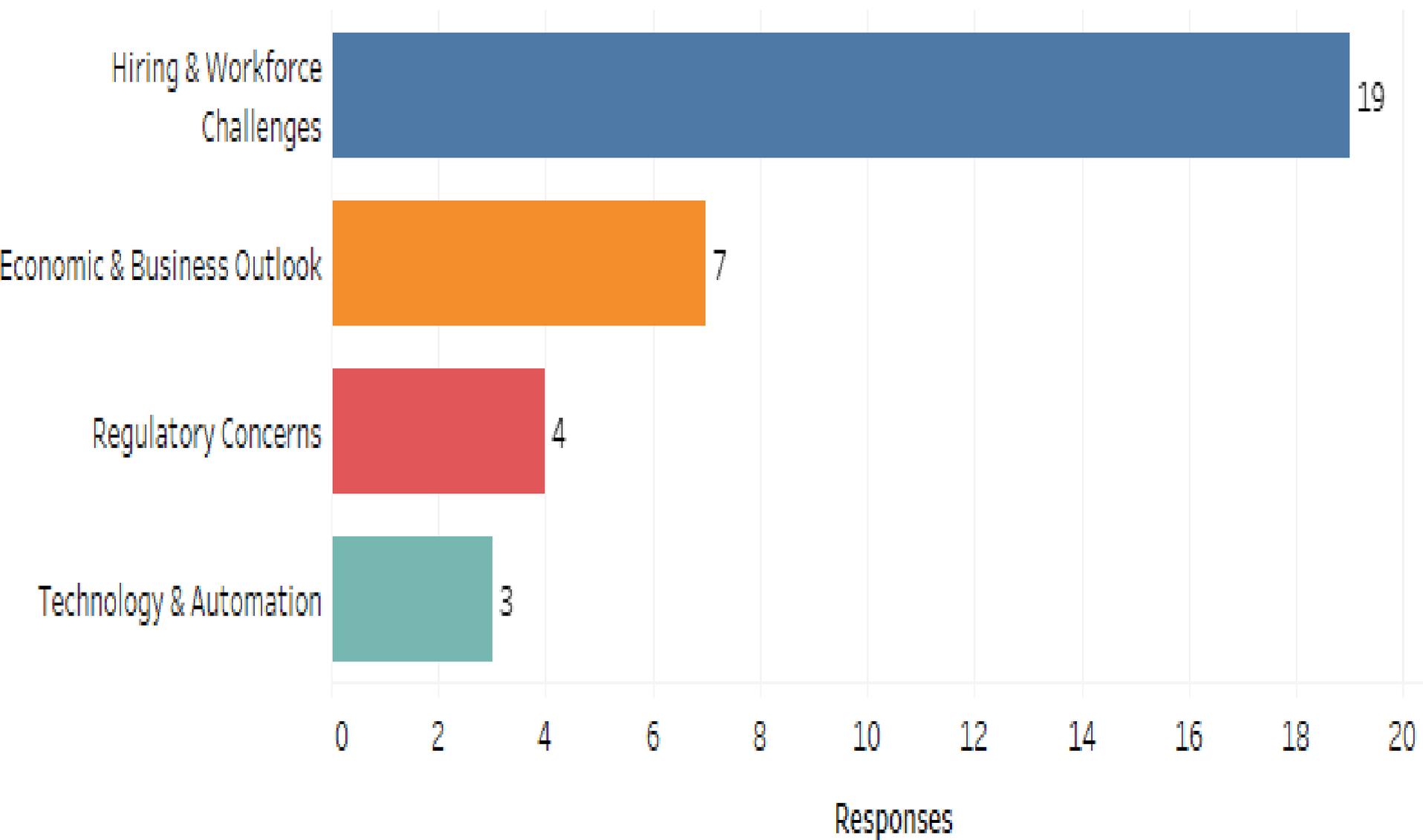
Everything from drafting policies to AI welding systems.

From past experience, I know they use it to find new employees, reporting various tasks and job duties of staff, tracking where company vehicles are located and such.

From what I am hearing, employers and job seekers alike, are the frustrations of AI resume bots. 50 applicants in the first 10 minutes of a position being opened is a deterrent for job seekers to apply as well as it overloads employers indeed application queues. Quality candidates are taking longer to find.

have not seen advertisement on it

Thematic Summary of Open Ended Responses



AI is changing the way applicants are screened.

Automation may reduce demand for some entry-level roles.

Businesses are adapting to new policies and labor requirements.

Candidates lacking essential skill sets is common feedback.

Childcare needs are frequently mentioned as a barrier for employees.

Concerns about regulation changes continue.

Employers and businesses are worried about paid leave and the workforce basically having more paid off time incentives.

Employers are concerned about employees leaving after short tenure.

Do You Have a Curiosity?



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