



# Adult learner polling

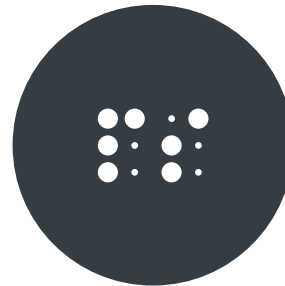
**Carers and parents**

October 2020

# Methodology



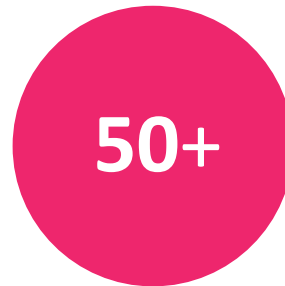
This survey was carried out by YouGov for the GLA between 12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020, with a response of 1,052 London residents aged 18+.



The figures have been weighted to be representative of all London adults.



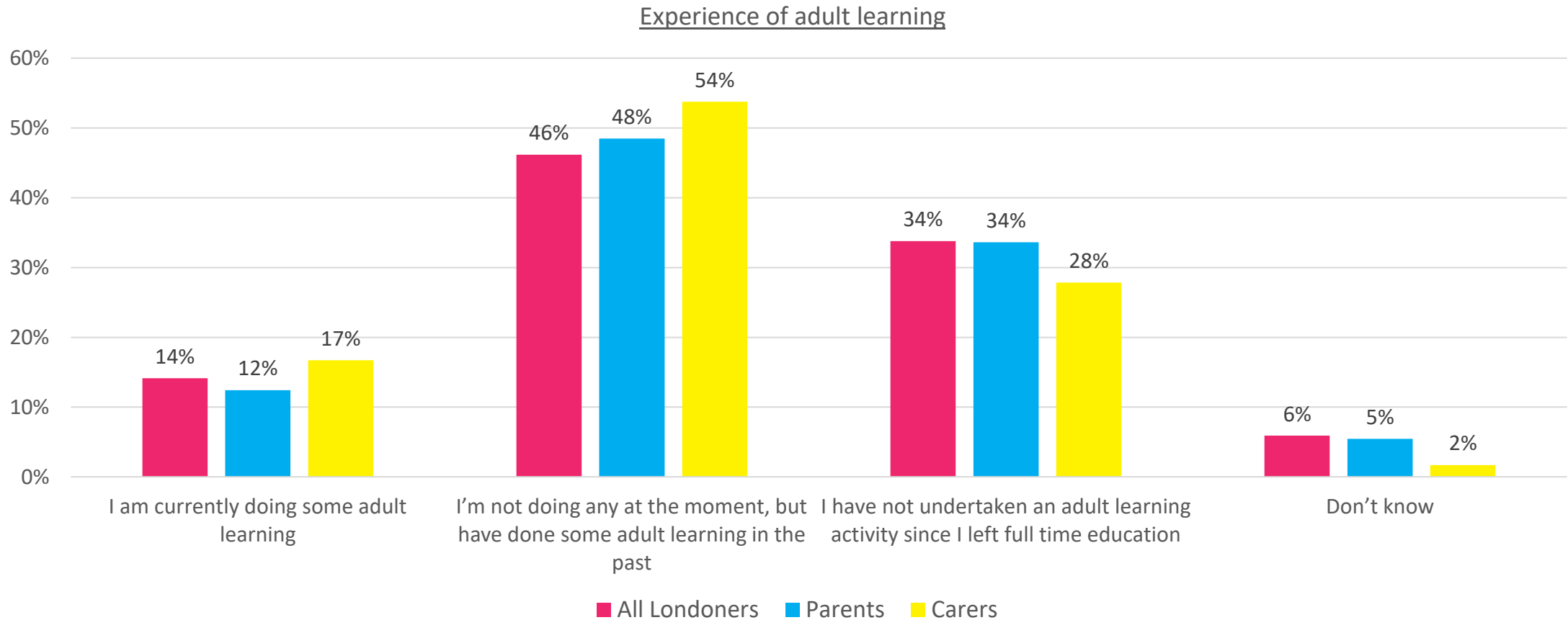
Respondents completed the surveys online from an email link.



This report focusses on carers\* (n=166) and parents (n=183)

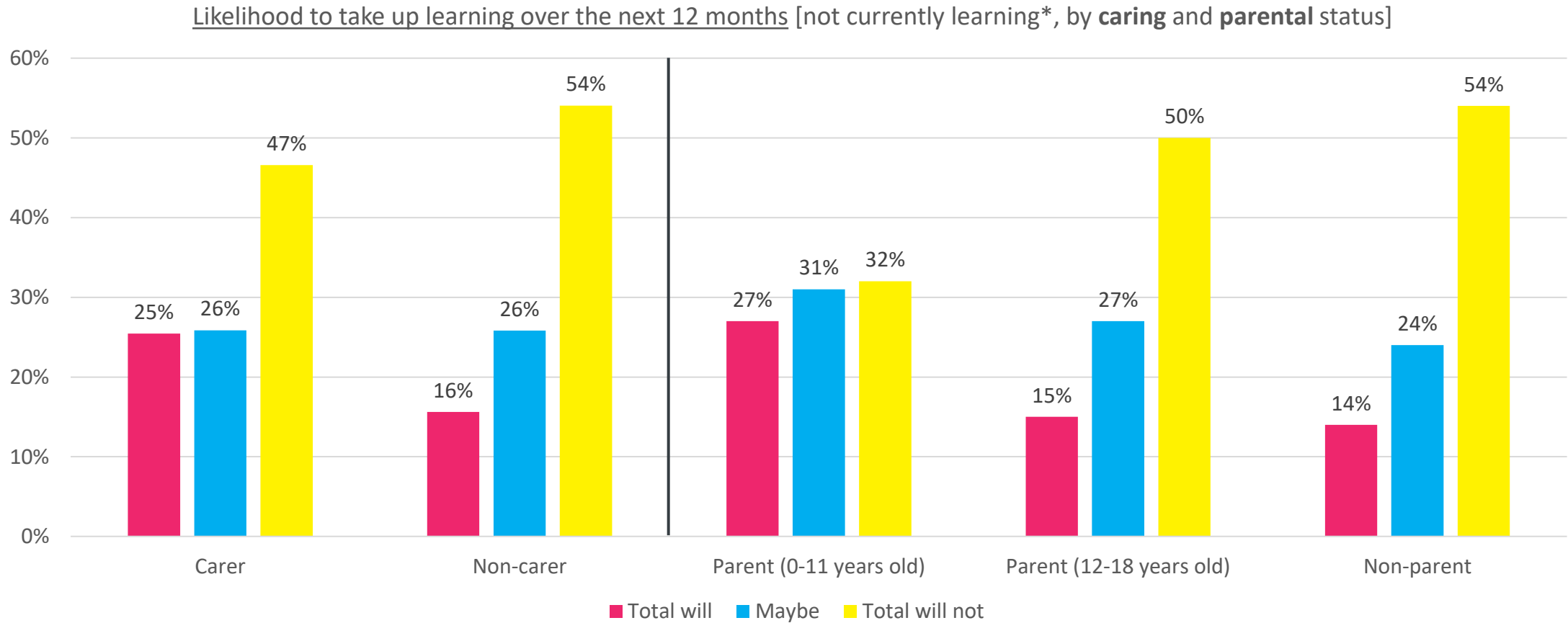
\*Carer is defined as those currently giving unpaid support to someone who is older, seriously ill, or has a disability. Under this definition, 16% of Londoners aged 18+ are carers.

12% of parents and 17% of carers are currently doing some adult learning, compared to 14% of all Londoners.



Q: Which of the following statements best describes your experience of adult learning? By 'adult learning' we mean any formal or informal courses or qualifications you have undertaken since leaving continuous full-time education. This could range from university level qualifications, to an informal evening art class or an online data analysis course.

Carers and parents of children aged 11 or under are more likely to take up some type of adult learning over the next 12 months.

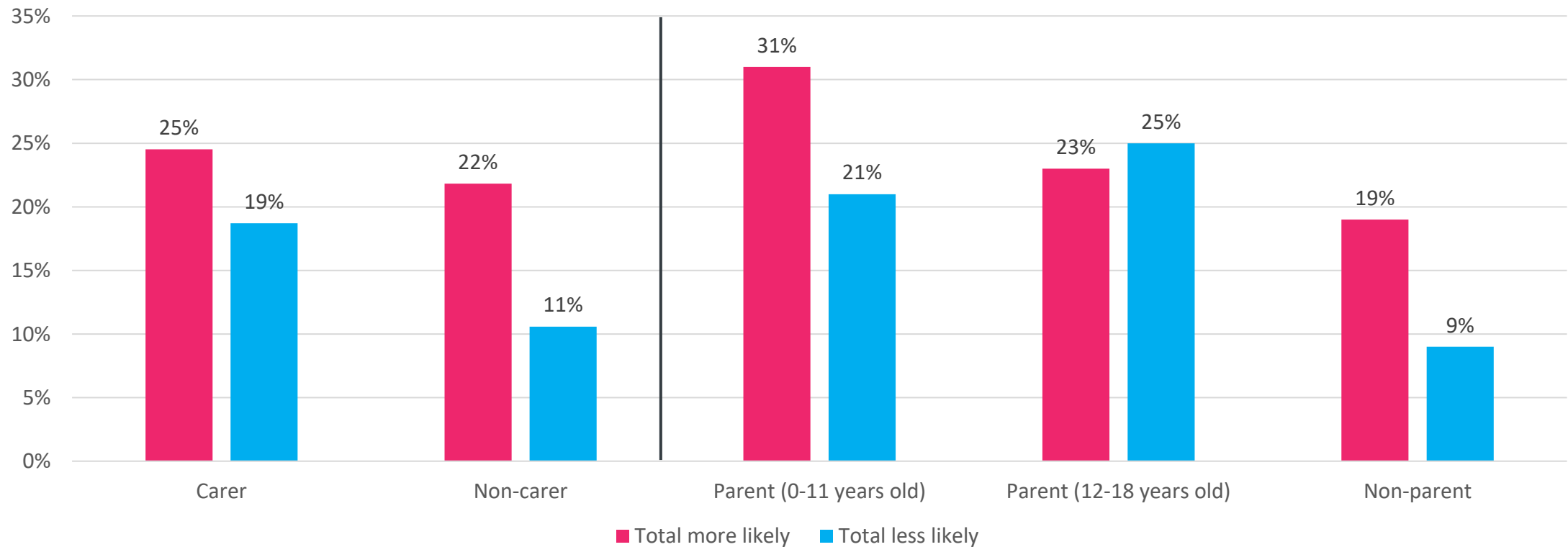


Q: How likely are you to take up some type of adult learning over the next 12 months?

\* [Asked to all those not currently doing some adult learning; n=893]

Almost a third (31%) of parents of children aged 11 or under are more likely to take up some type of adult learning over the next 12 months, with 21% less likely to.

Likelihood to take up learning over the next 12 months compared to before COVID-19 [not currently learning\*, by caring and parental status]

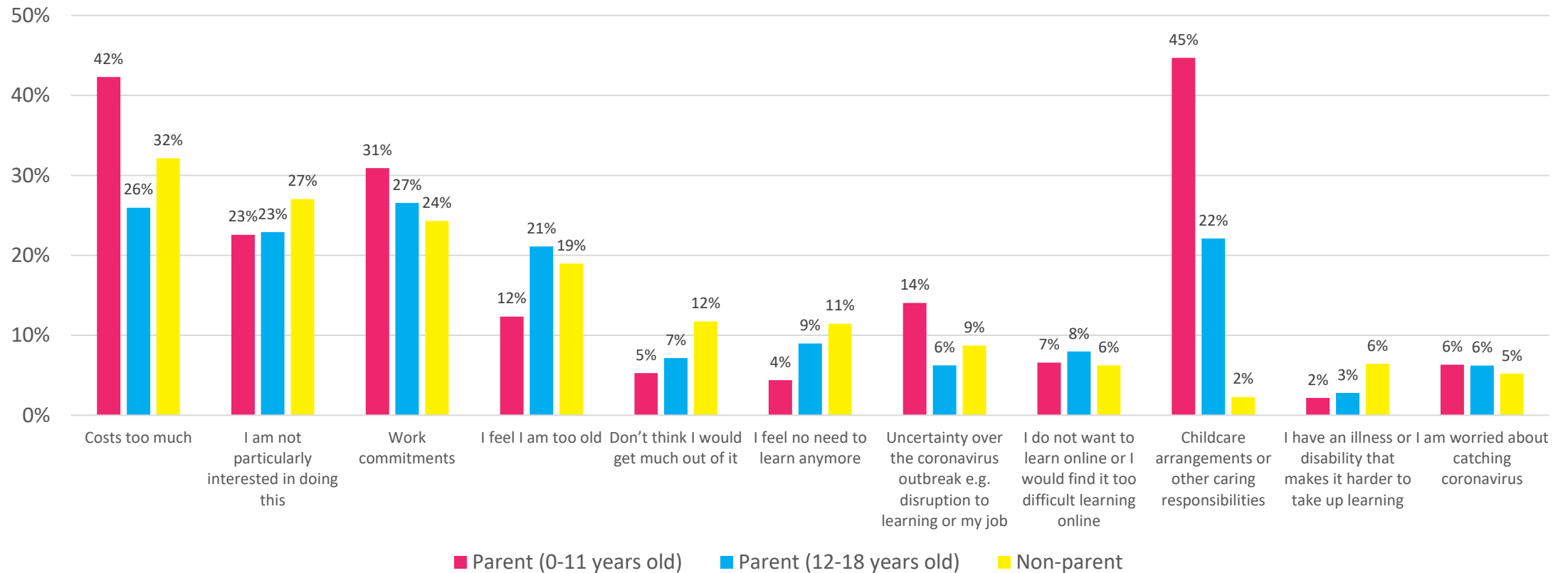


Q: How likely are you to take up [some type of adult learning/ some additional adult learning] over the next 12 months?

\* [Asked to all those not currently doing some adult learning; n=893]

Childcare arrangements or other caring responsibilities is the top barrier among parents of children aged 11 or under, followed by cost.

Reasons for not taking up adult learning\* [by parental status]

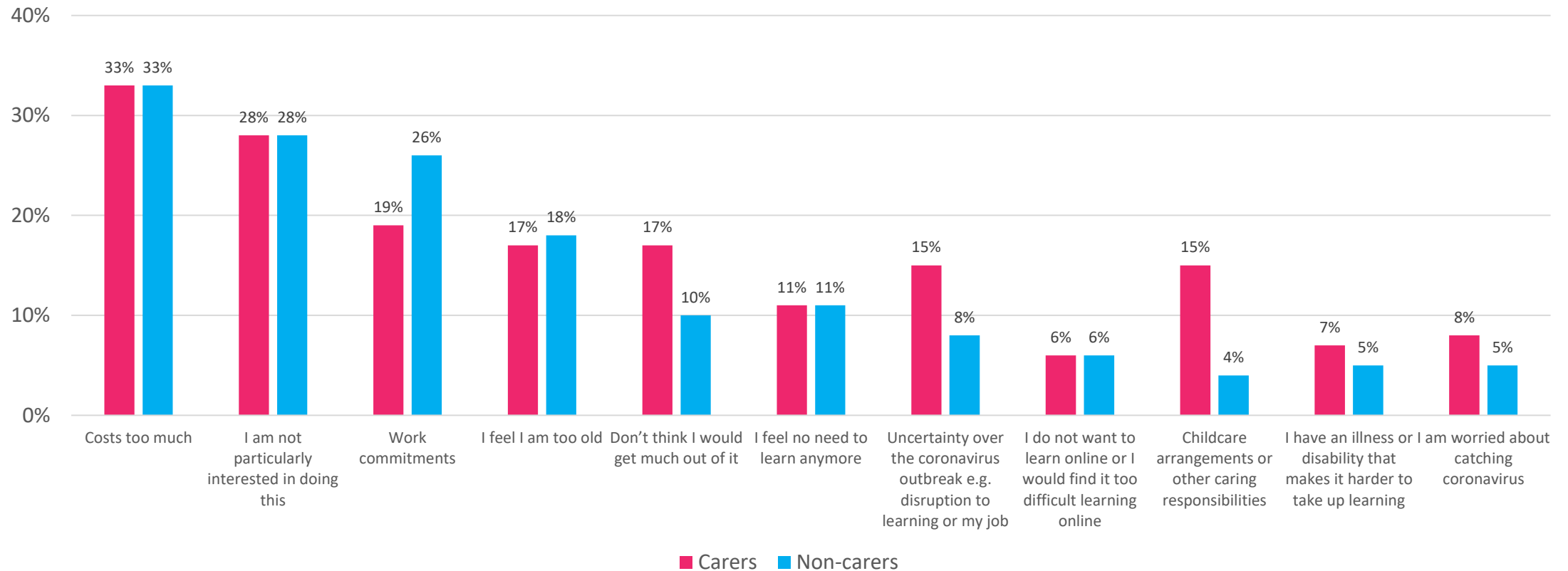


Q: What, if anything, would you say are the main reasons preventing you from taking up some type of adult learning over the next 12 months? Please select up to 3.

\* [Asked to those that said they maybe, probably will not or definitely will not do some adult learning in the next 12 months; n=686]

Childcare arrangements or other caring responsibilities is also a bigger barrier among carers, however this is still only the 6th top barrier. Carers are more likely than non-carers to cite uncertainty over COVID-19 as a barrier, as well as not getting much out of adult learning.

Reasons for not taking up adult learning\* [by caring status]

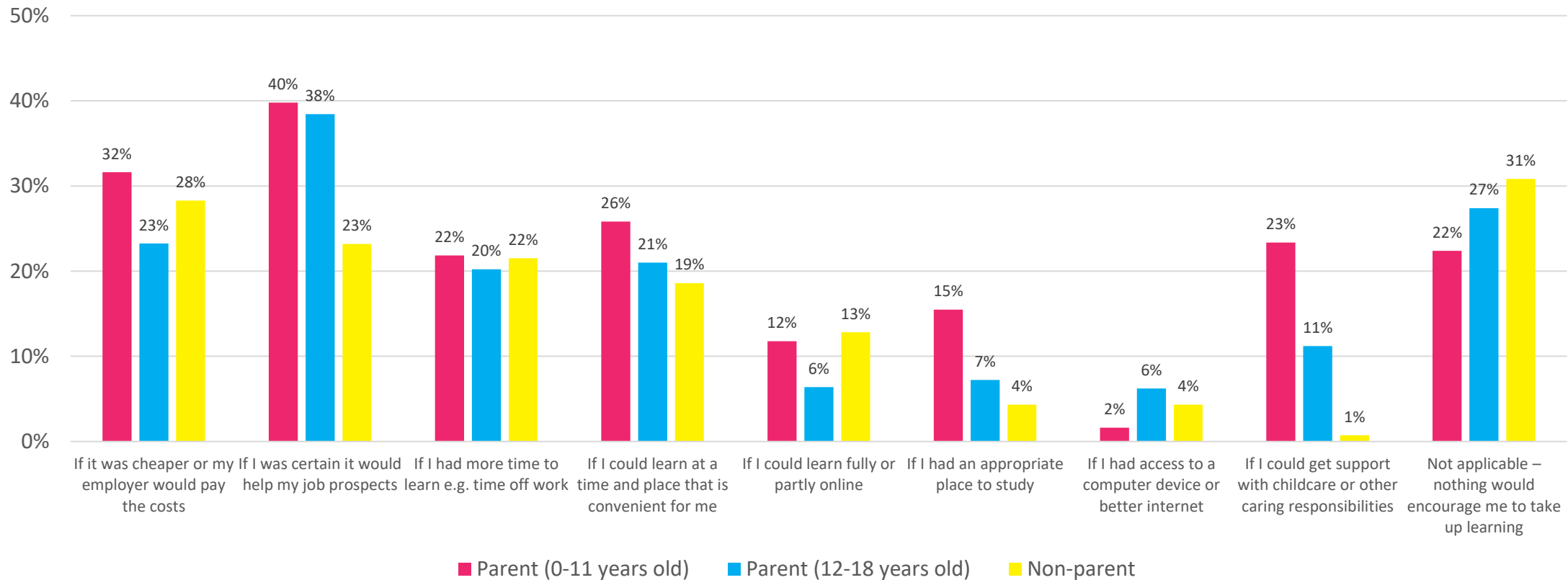


Q: What, if anything, would you say are the main reasons preventing you from taking up some type of adult learning over the next 12 months? Please select up to 3.

\* [Asked to those that said they maybe, probably will not or definitely will not do some adult learning in the next 12 months; n=686]

Certainty that it would help job prospects would most encourage parents to take up adult learning. Support with childcare or other caring responsibilities and having an appropriate place to study are also more important for parents of children aged 11 or under.

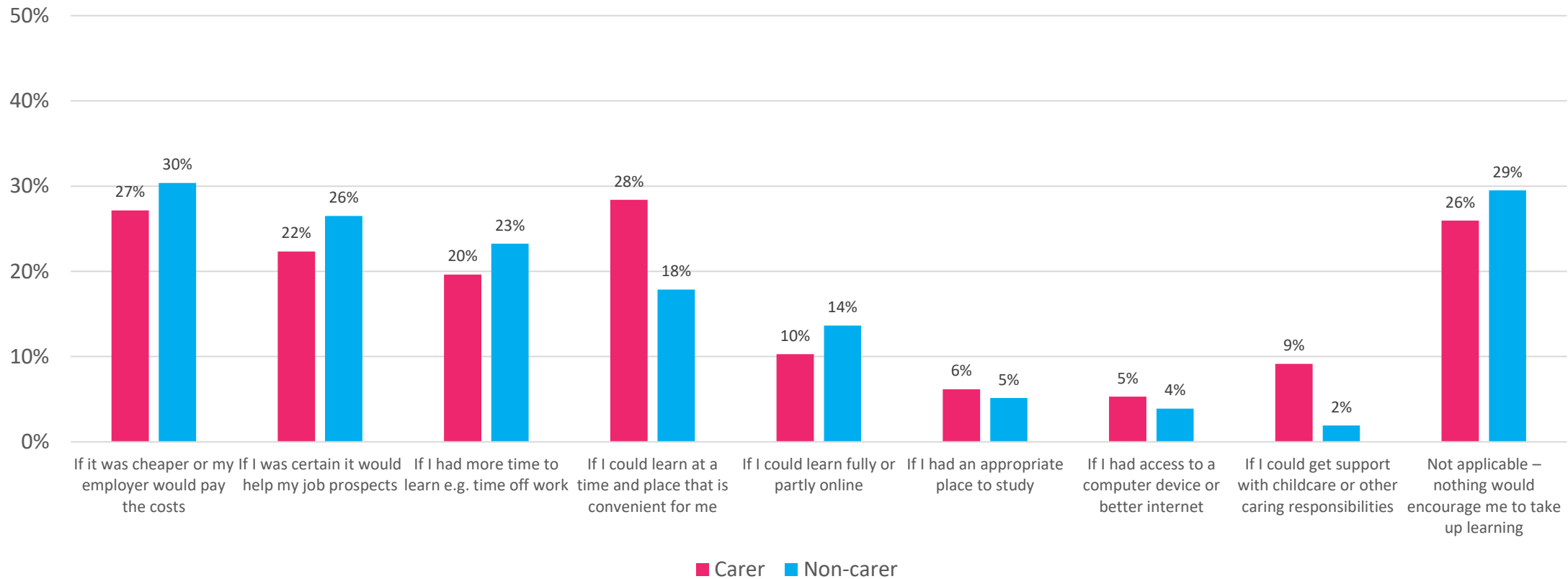
Support to take up adult learning\* [by parental status]



Q: What, if anything, would encourage you to take up some type of adult learning over the next 12 months? Please select up to 3.  
 \* [Asked to those that said they maybe, probably will not or definitely will not do some adult learning in the next 12 months; n=686]

Flexibility to learn at a convenient time and place would most encourage carers to take up adult learning. Support with childcare or other caring responsibilities is more likely to encourage carers compared to non-carers, but is still ranked low.

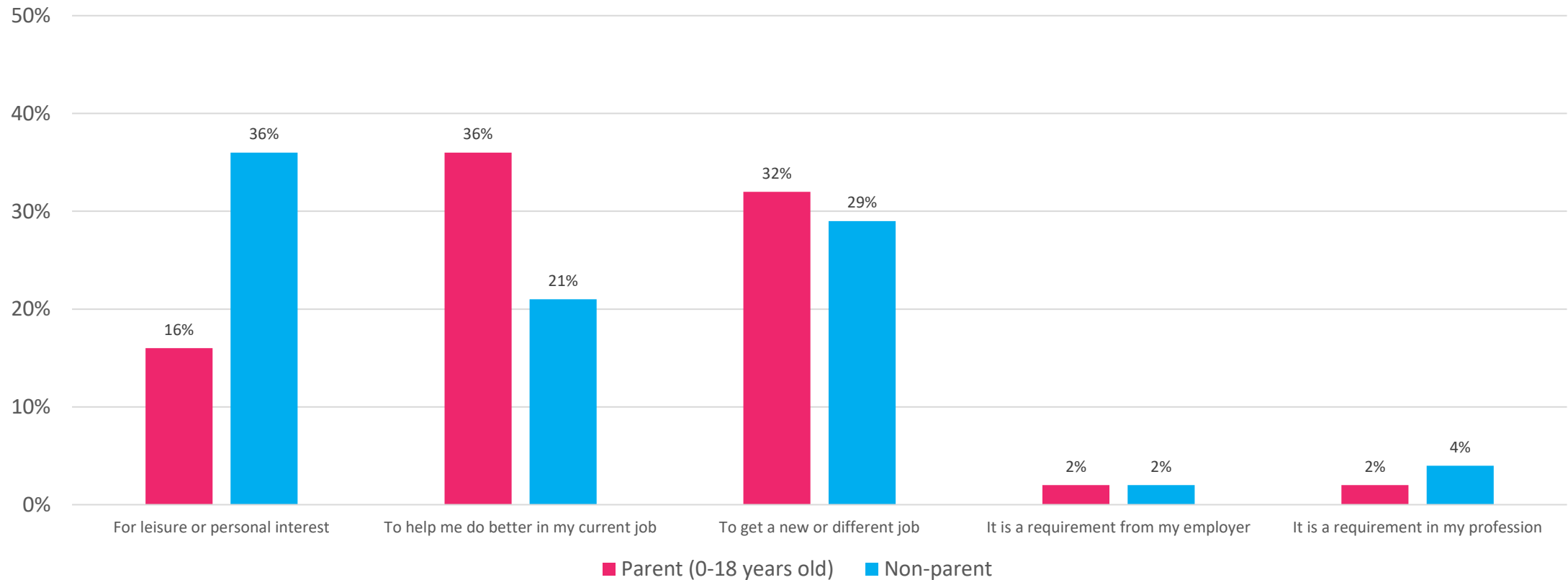
Support to take up adult learning\* [by caring status]



Q: What, if anything, would encourage you to take up some type of adult learning over the next 12 months? Please select up to 3.  
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Parents with children under the age of 18 are more likely to take up adult learning to help them do better in their current job, and less likely to do so for leisure or personal interest.

Main reason for taking up adult learning\* [by parental status]

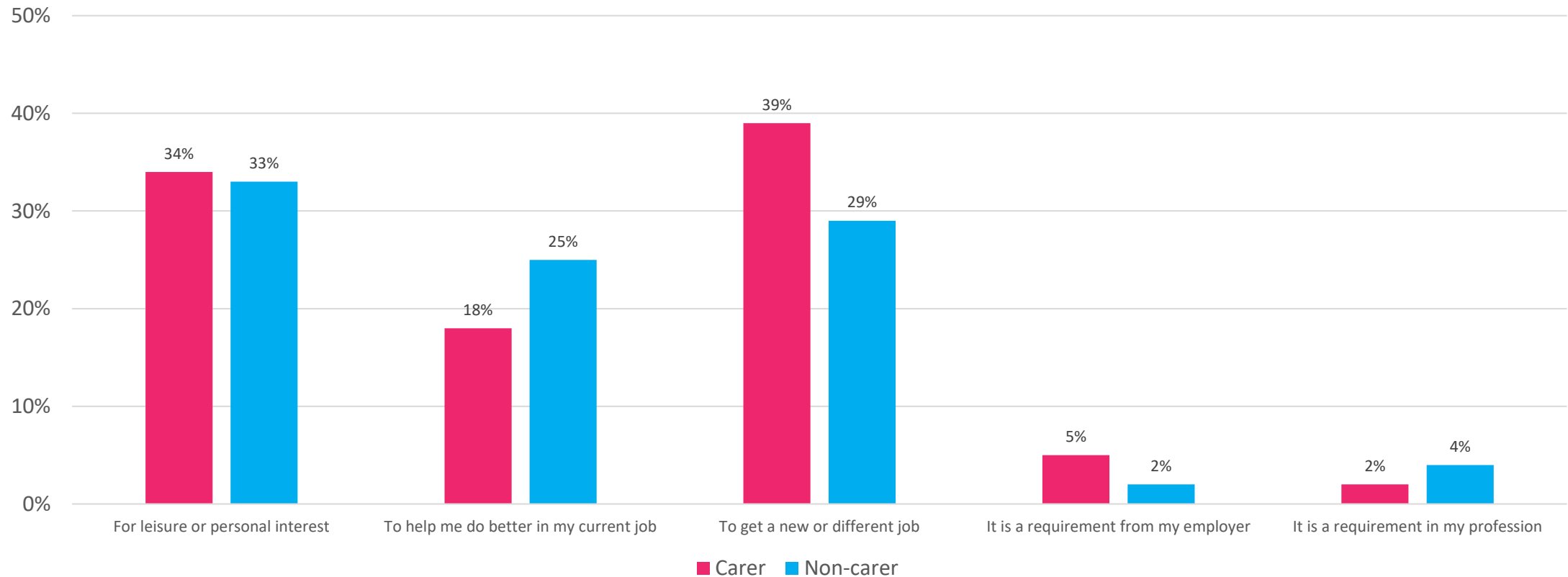


Q: If you were to take up some type of adult learning over the next 12 months, what would be your main reason for doing so?

\* [Asked to those that said they definitely will, probably will or may do some adult learning in the next 12 months; n=375]

Carers are more likely to take up adult learning to get a new or different job, and are slightly less likely to do so to help them do better in their current job.

Main reason for taking up adult learning\* [by caring status]



Q: If you were to take up some type of adult learning over the next 12 months, what would be your main reason for doing so?

\* [Asked to those that said they definitely will, probably will or may do some adult learning in the next 12 months; n=375]



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For more information please contact Myles Wilson, GLA Intelligence  
Greater London Authority, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, More London, London SE1 2AA  
e-mail: [opinionresearch@london.gov.uk](mailto:opinionresearch@london.gov.uk)

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