

# Hot Mix Pavement Construction in Adverse Conditions – An Industry Survey



## Analysis and Regional Breakdown

Dr. David H. Timm

Dr. Mary Stroup-Gardiner

Will Barrett

Department of Civil Engineering

Auburn University

## **QUESTION 1**

**In the map below, indicate the general region where the majority of your HMA projects are constructed.**

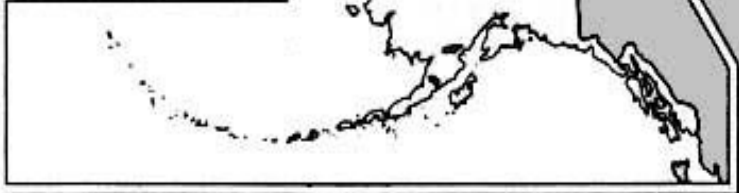


**WEST**

**NORTHCENTRAL**

**NORTHEAST**

**SOUTH**



# STATES NOT REPORTING

WYOMING

NORTH DAKOTA

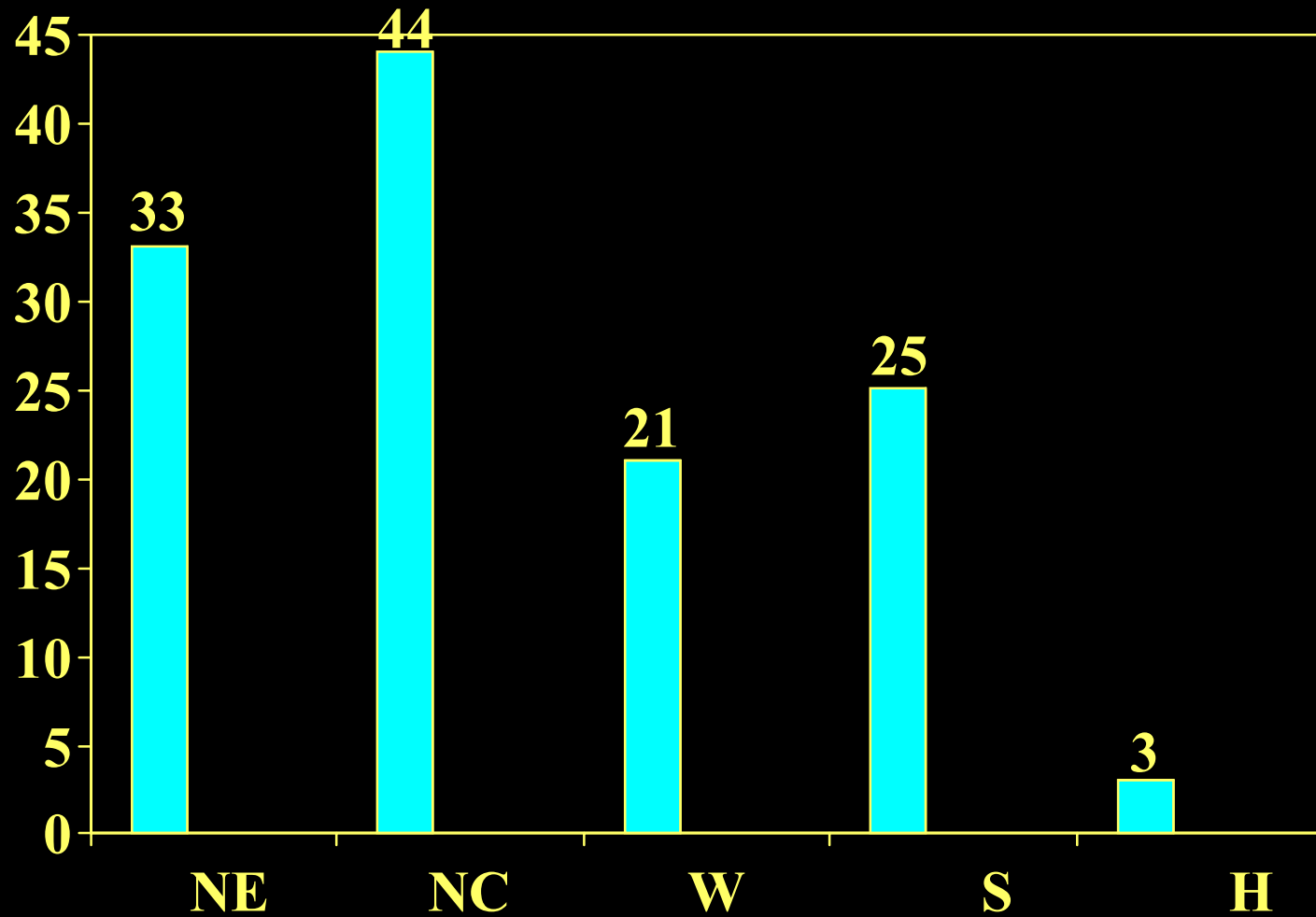
SOUTH DAKOTA

MINNESOTA

NEW MEXICO

ALASKA

# SURVEYS RECEIVED PER REGION



## **QUESTION 2**

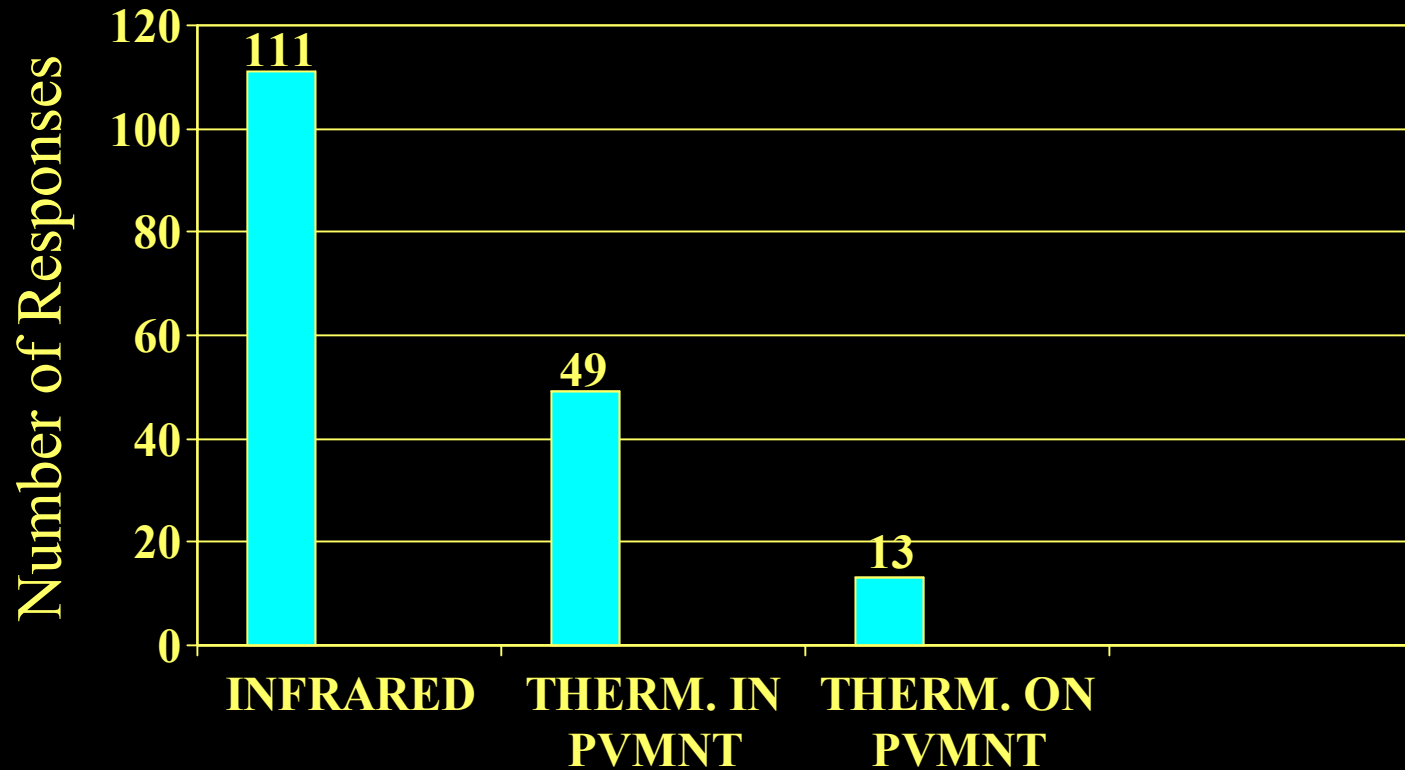
**On your projects, how is the mat temperature currently monitored?**

- A. Thermometer placed on the pavement surface**
- B. Thermometer inserted in the pavement**
- C. With an infrared device**
- D. It is not monitored during construction**
- E. Other**

# MAT TEMPERATURE DURING CONSTRUCTION

- Primary Device: Infrared
- Secondary Measure: Thermometer inserted in pavement
- 3 responses did not monitor temperature during construction.

# TEMPERATURE MONITORING METHODS



# QUESTION 3

Do you have a temperature requirement for compaction? NO YES

If yes, how are the requirements specified?

-By air temperature from \_\_\_\_\_°F and rising.

-By surface temperature from \_\_\_\_\_°F and rising.

-By paving date from (month/day)\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_.

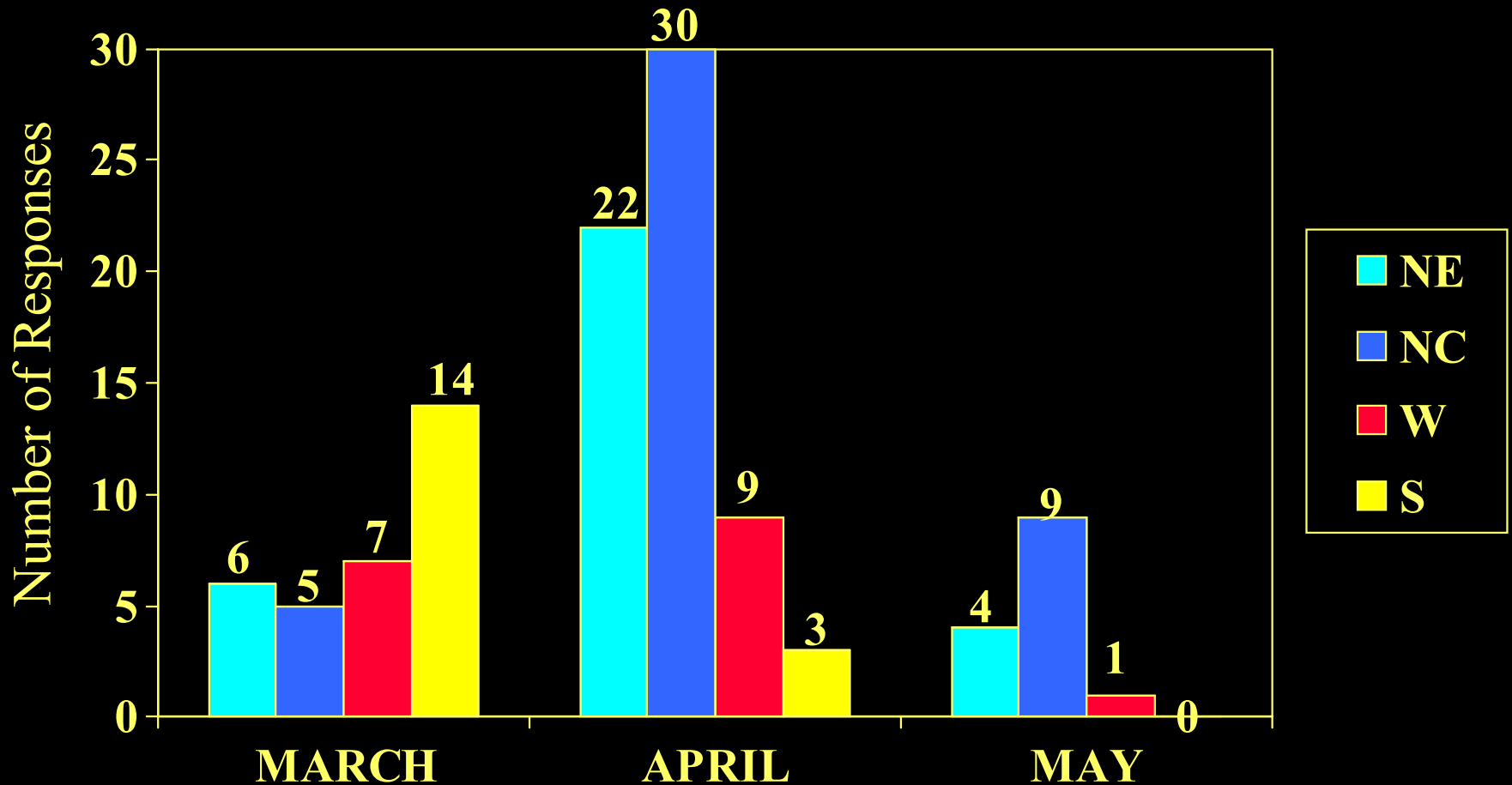
# MAT TEMPERATURE REQUIREMENT FOR COMPACTION

- 75% temperature requirement
- Based on air and surface temperature
- Requirements do not fluctuate with climate
- Typically 40-50°F and rising for air and surface
- Mix temperatures typically at 225°F

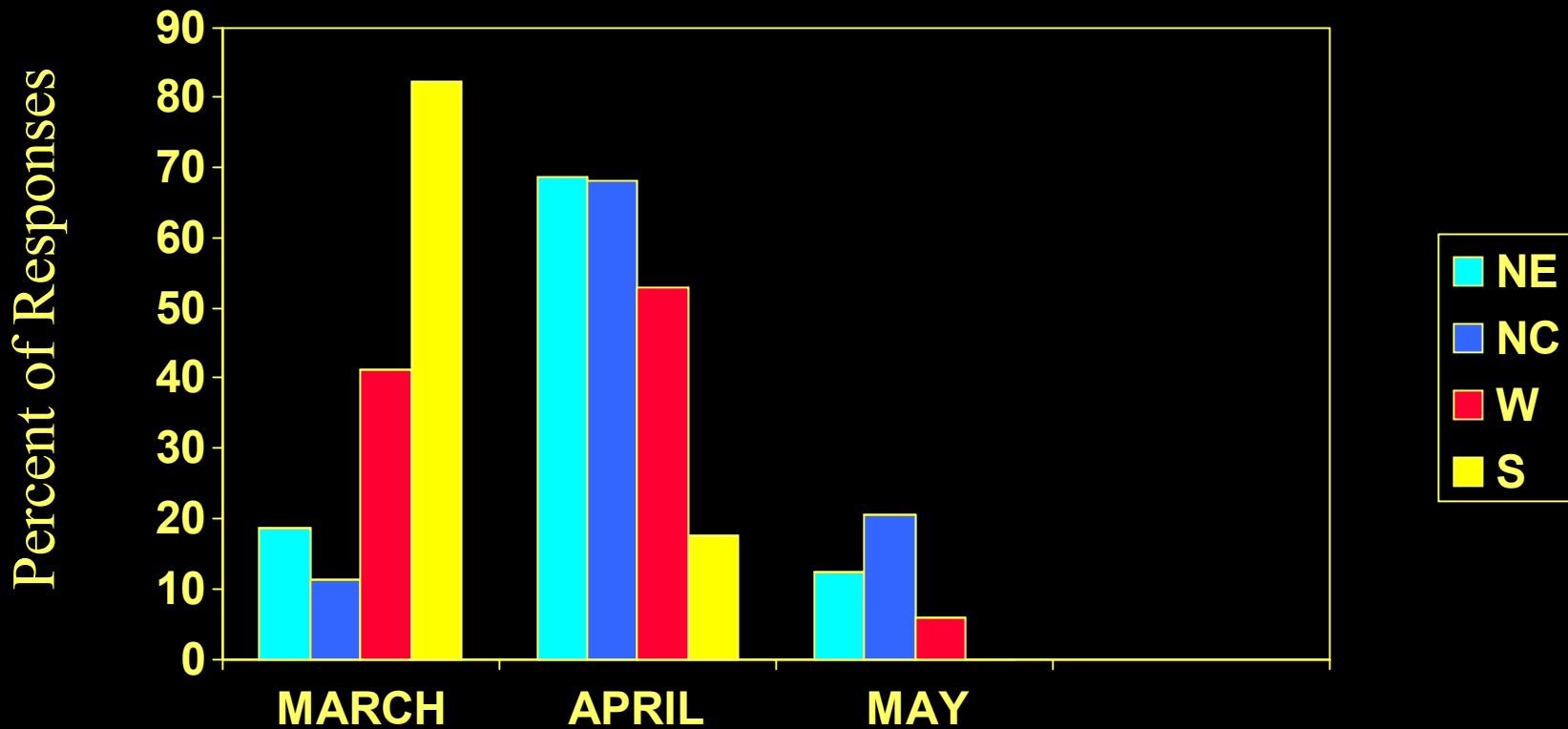
## QUESTION 4

In your region, indicate the months you typically consider as the start and the end of your regular or 'normal' paving season.

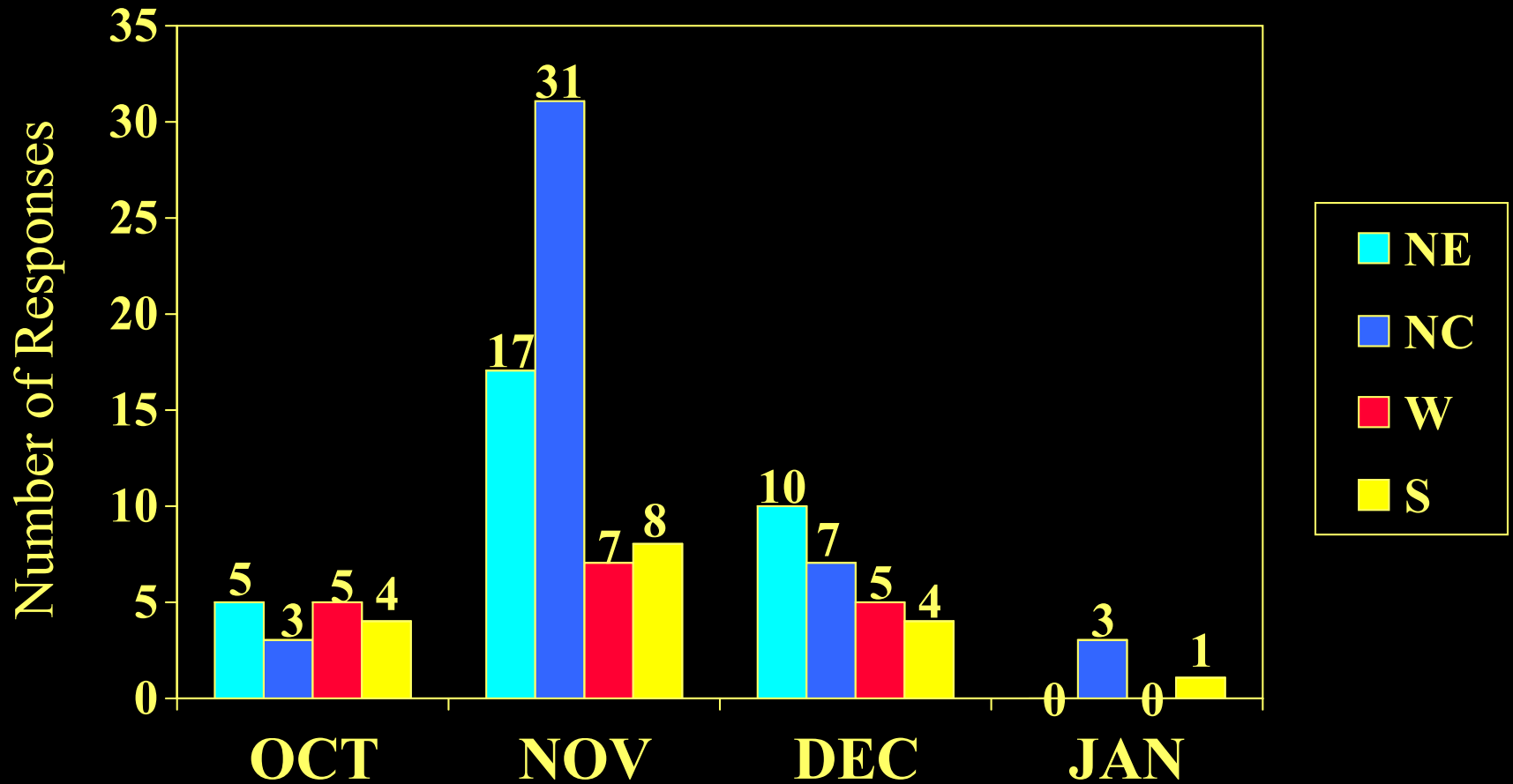
# TYPICAL PAVING SEASON START MONTHS



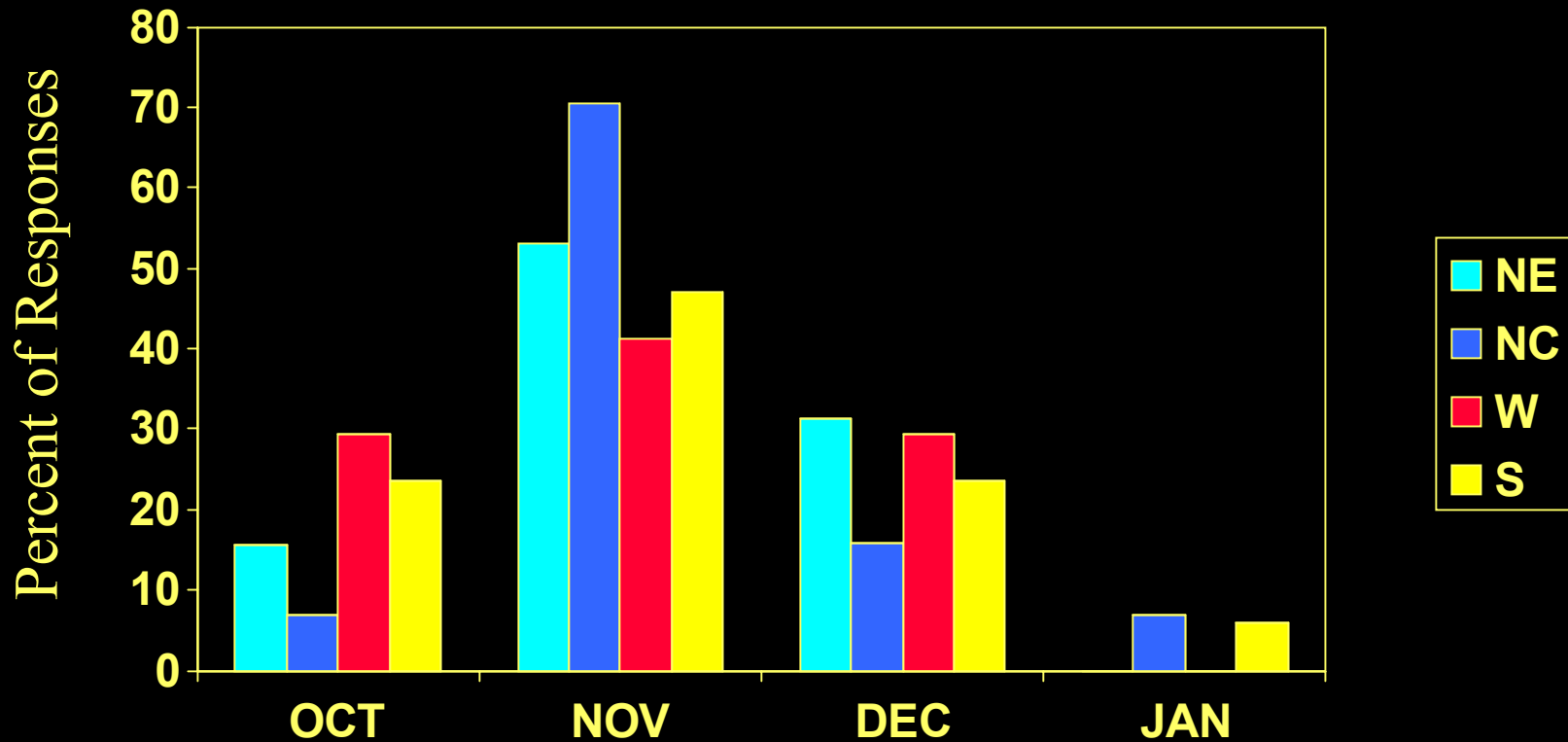
# TYPICAL PAVING SEASON START MONTHS (by percentage)



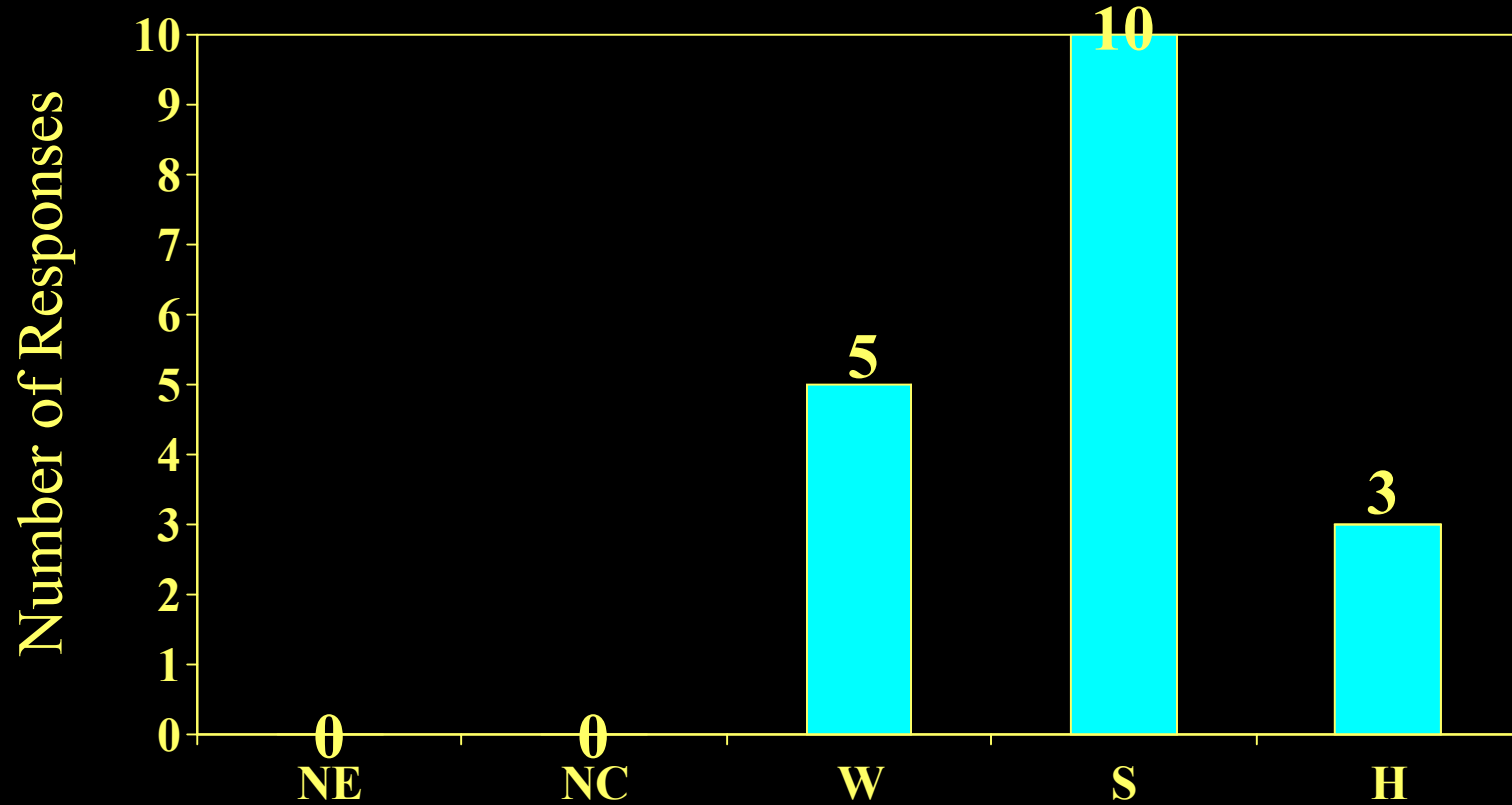
# TYPICAL PAVING SEASON END MONTHS



# TYPICAL PAVING SEASON END MONTHS (by percentage)



# YEAR-ROUND PAVING



# TYPICAL PAVING SEASONS

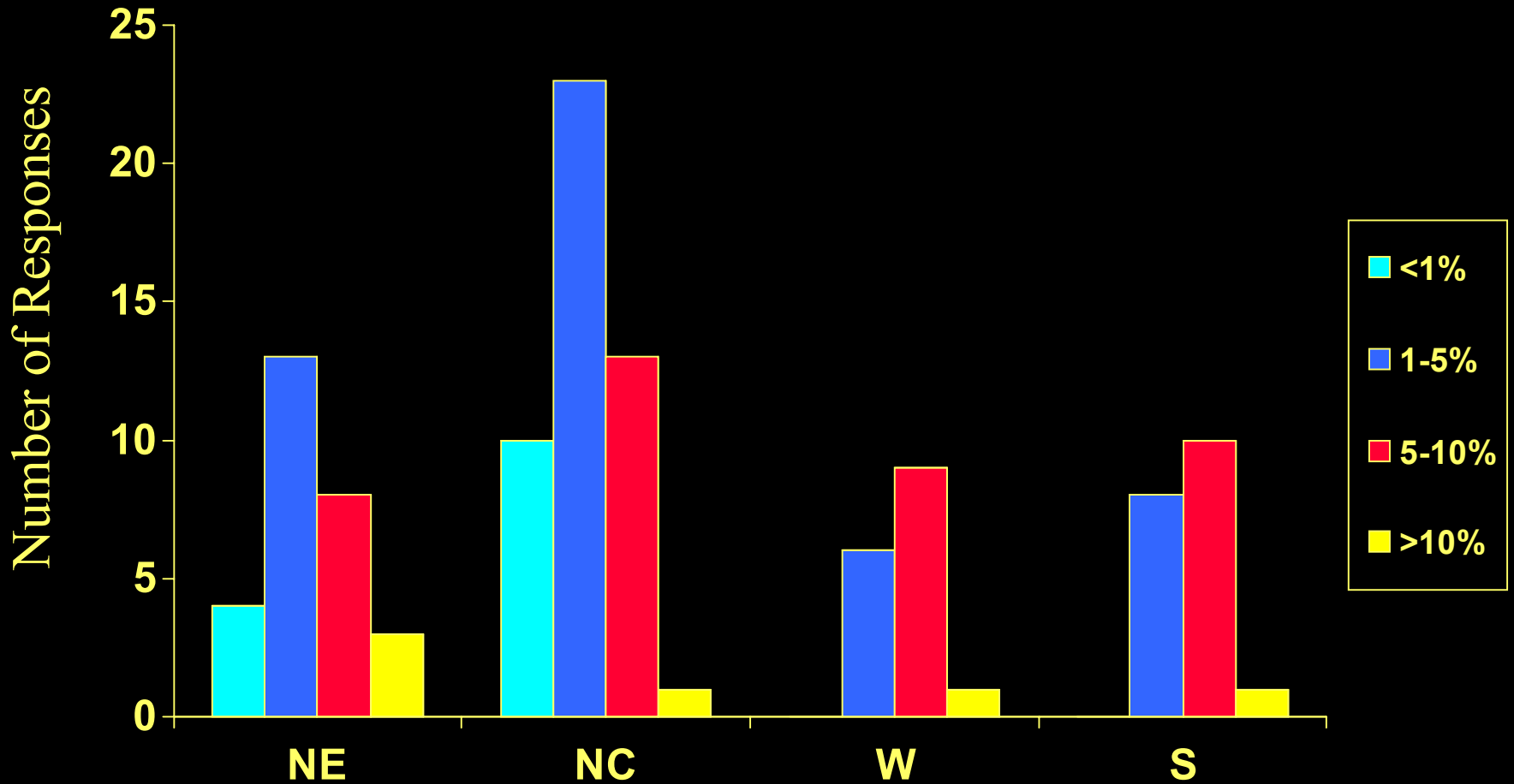
- Northeast region: April to November
- Northcentral region: April to November
- West region: March/April to November
- South Region: March to November
- Hawaii: Year round paving season

## QUESTION 5

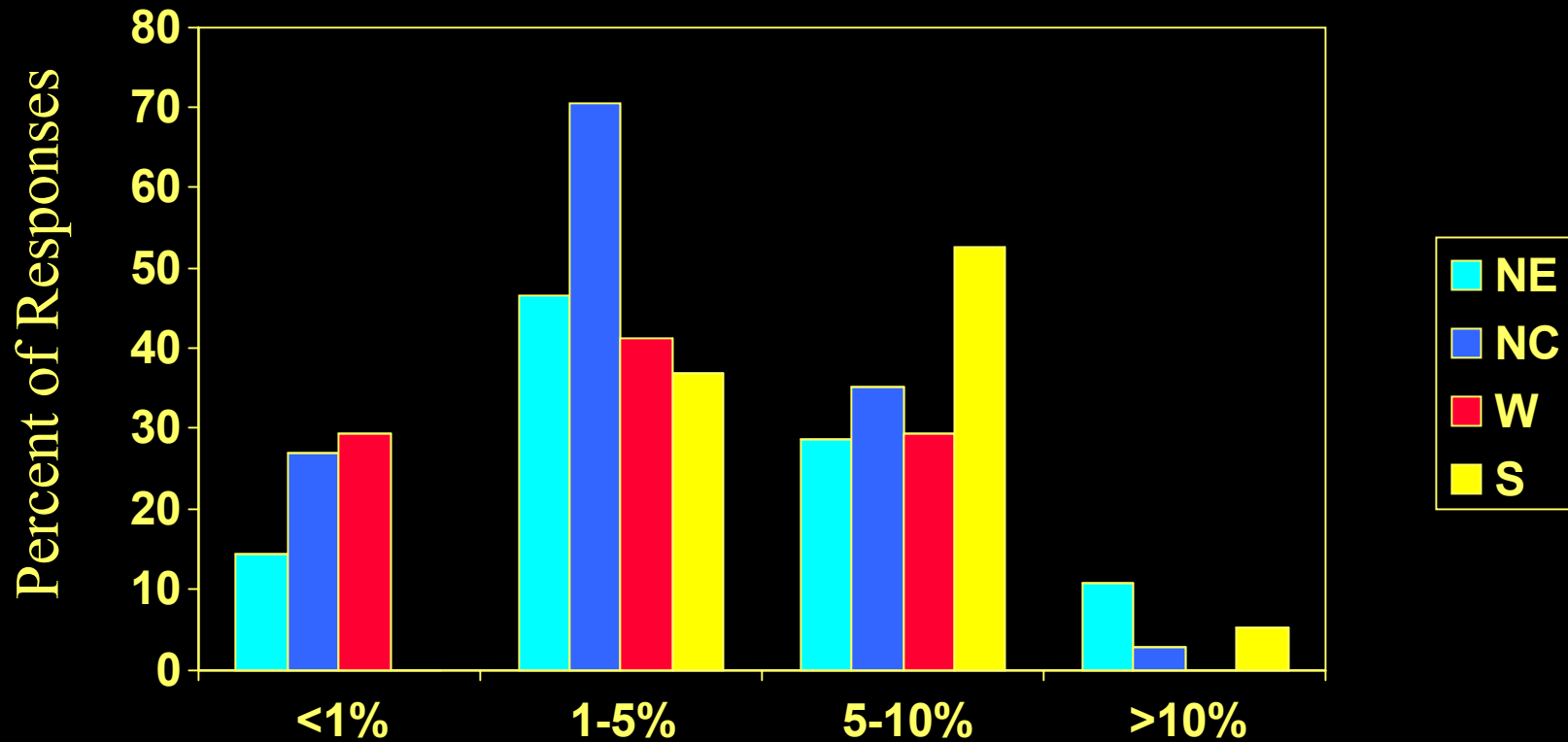
What percent of your HMA projects have been constructed outside of what you would consider the regular paving season?

- A. <1%
- B. 1-5%
- C. 5-10%
- D. >10%

# CONSTRUCTION OUTSIDE REGULAR PAVING SEASON



# CONSTRUCTION OUTSIDE REGULAR PAVING SEASON (by percentage)



# PERCENTAGE OF HMA PROJECTS CONSTRUCTED OUTSIDE OF REGULAR PAVING SEASON

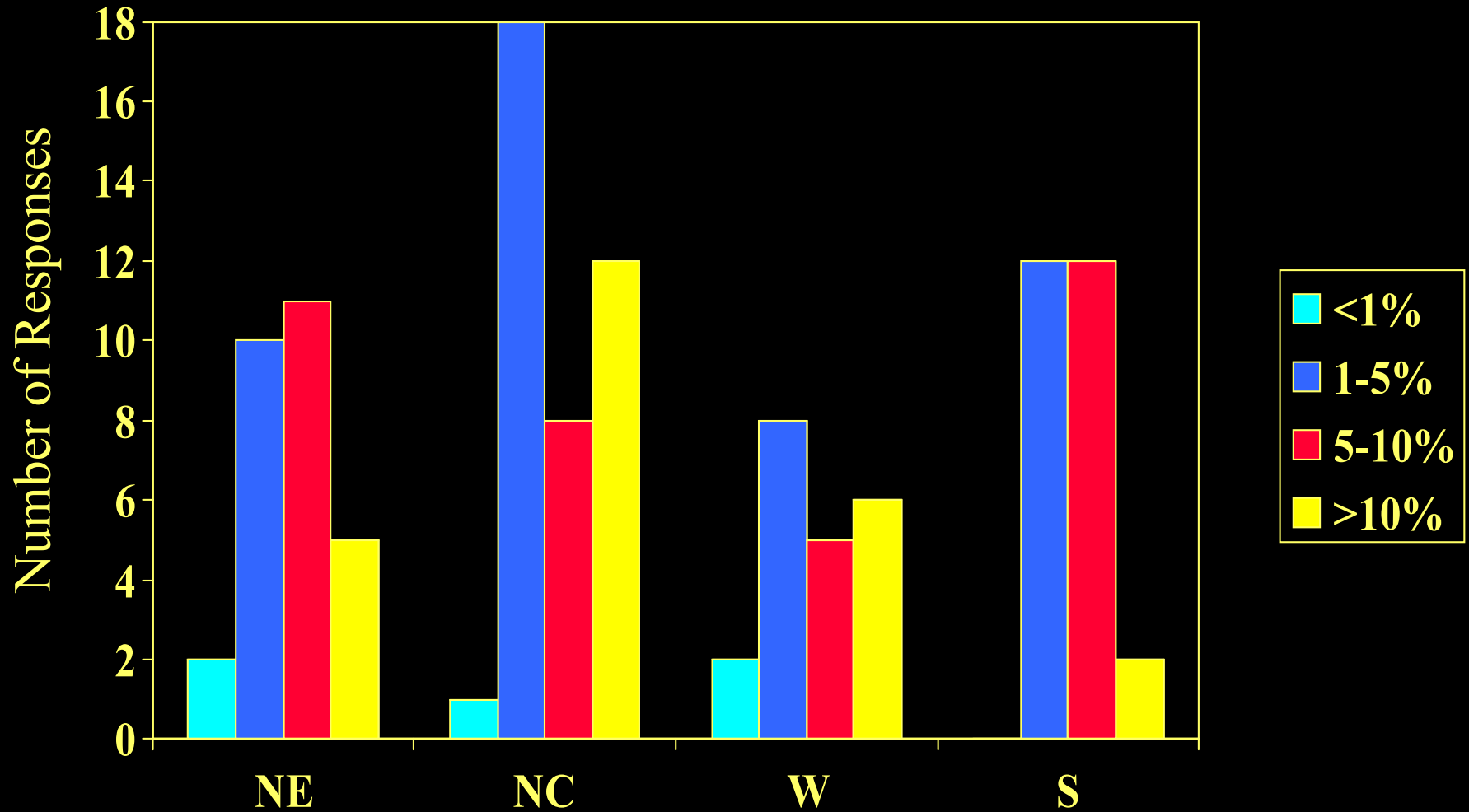
- Northeast region: 1-5%
- Northcentral region: 1-5%
- West region: 5-10%
- South region: 5-10%

## QUESTION 6

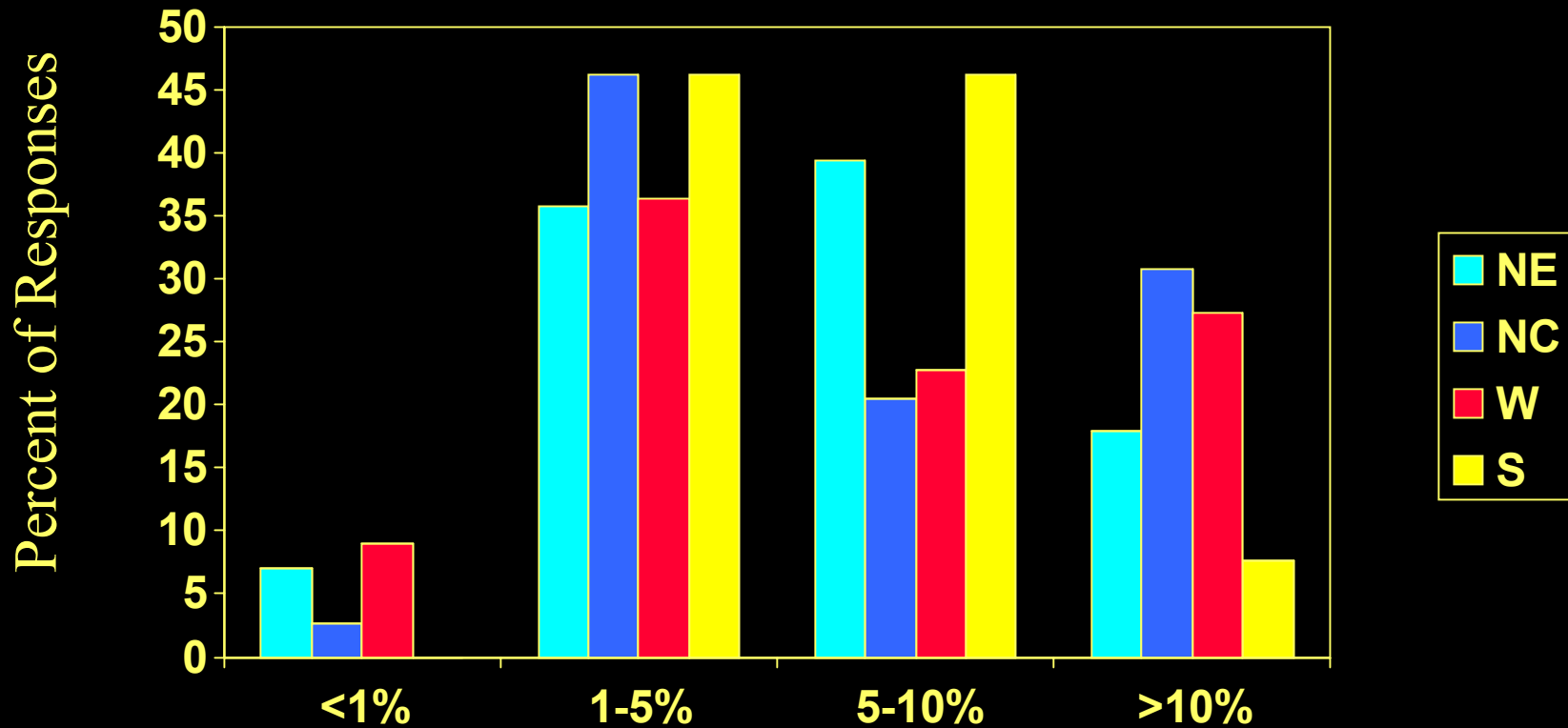
What percent of your HMA projects have been constructed during the regular paving season but in adverse conditions?

- A. <1%
- B. 1-5%
- C. 5-10%
- D. >10%

# CONSTRUCTION IN ADVERSE CONDITIONS



# CONSTRUCTION IN ADVERSE CONDITIONS (by percentage)



# PERCENTAGE OF REGULAR SEASON HMA PROJECTS CONSTRUCTED DURING ADVERSE CONDITIONS

- Northeast region: 5-10%
- Northcentral region: 5-10%
- West region: 1-5%
- South region: 1-5%

## **QUESTION 7**

**What type of jobs are you typically constructing during the regular season but during what you would consider adverse environmental conditions ( e.g. cold snaps, cold night paving, extreme warm temperatures)?**

- A. Parking lots / Driveways**
- B. Municipal Streets**
- C. County Roads / Highways**
- D. State Highways / Interstates**

# CONSTRUCTION IN ADVERSE CONDITIONS

- Wide range of projects
- Parking lots and driveways to state highways and interstates
- Deadlines
- Modifications

## **QUESTION 8**

**When paving outside of the regular or 'normal' construction season or during adverse conditions, how are your mix placement or rolling operations modified?**

# ADVERSE MODIFICATIONS

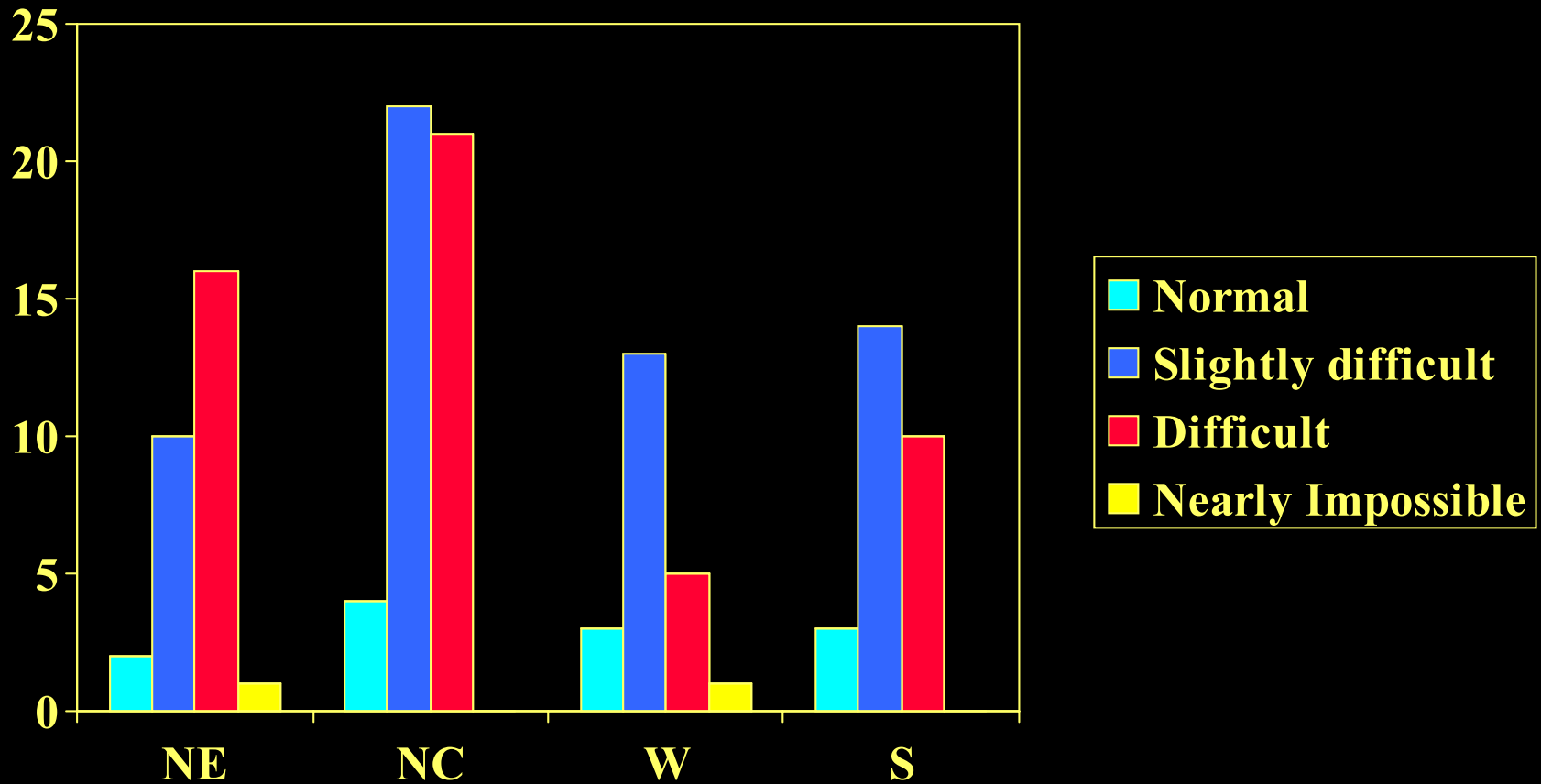
- **Responses are consistent throughout each region.**
  - **Adjust mix temperature (52)**
  - **Adjust roller distance from paver (50)**
  - **Increase/Decrease number of rollers (42)**
  - **Slow paver down (14)**
  - **Use tarps on trucks leaving plant (8)**
  - **PAVECOOL SOFTWARE (2)**
  - **\*10 responses show no modifications made**

## **QUESTION 9**

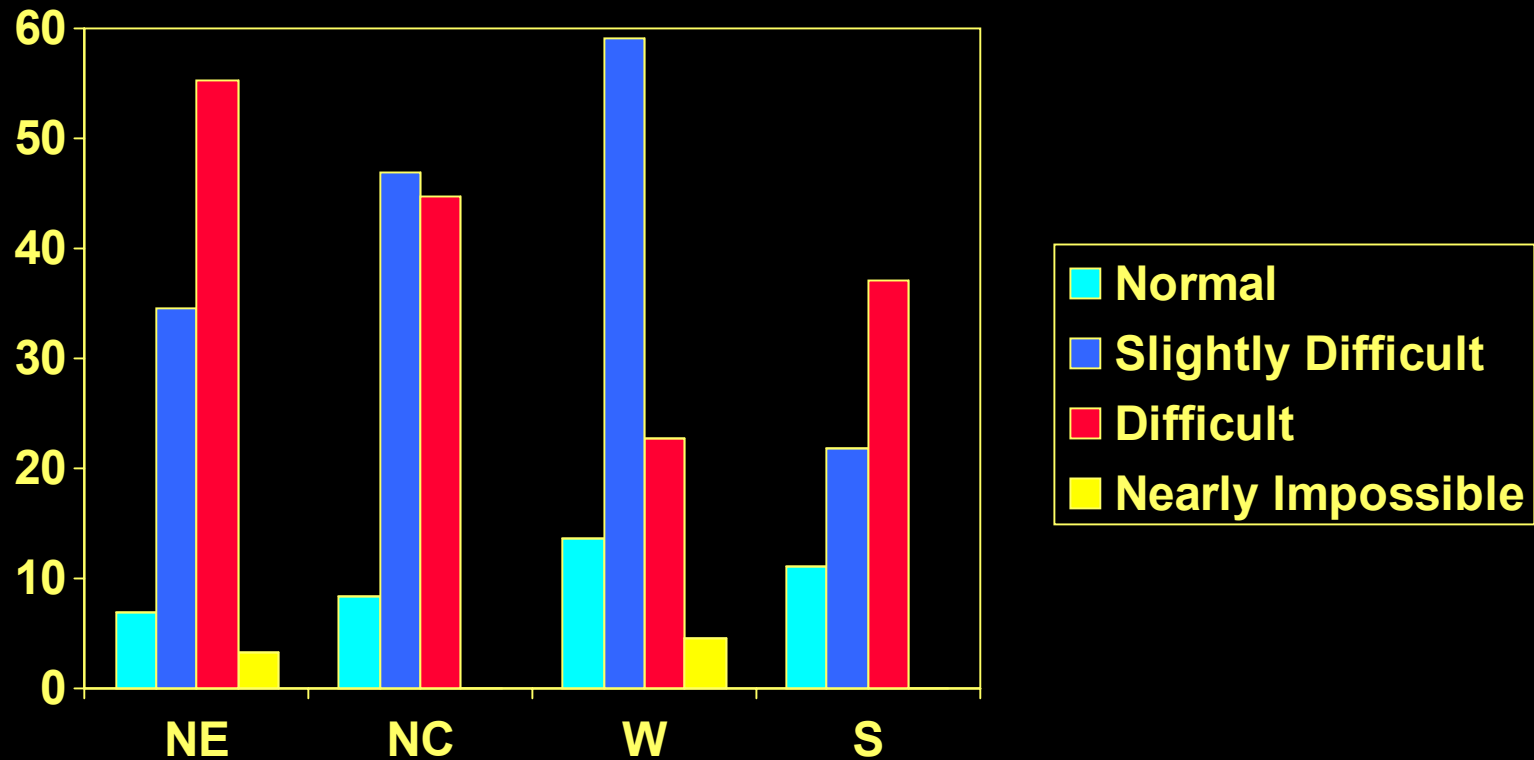
**In your experience, how difficult is it to achieve proper HMA density in late season paving?**

- A. NORMAL**
- B. SLIGHTLY DIFFICULT**
- C. DIFFICULT**
- D. NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE**

# DIFFICULTY IN ACHIEVING PROPER HMA DENSITY IN LATE SEASON PAVING



# DIFFICULTY IN ACHIEVING PROPER HMA DENSITY IN LATE SEASON PAVING (by percentage)



# **DIFFICULTY IN ACHIEVING PROPER HMA DENSITY IN LATE SEASON PAVING**

- Typical response per region:
  - **Northeast: Difficult**
  - **Northcentral: Slightly Difficult to Difficult**
  - **West: Slightly Difficult**
  - **South: Slightly Difficult**

## QUESTION 10

In what percent of your projects have tender mixes been a problem?

- A. <1%
- B. 1-5%
- C. 5-10%
- D. >10%

In your opinion, what is the primary cause of tender mixes?

# TENDER MIXES

- **Generally 1-5% of projects constructed**
- **Reasons:**
  - **Poor gradation (excessive fines) (75)**
    - **Overall mix design**
    - **Excessive natural sands**
  - **Excessive mix temperature (20)**
  - **Moisture content in mix (17)**