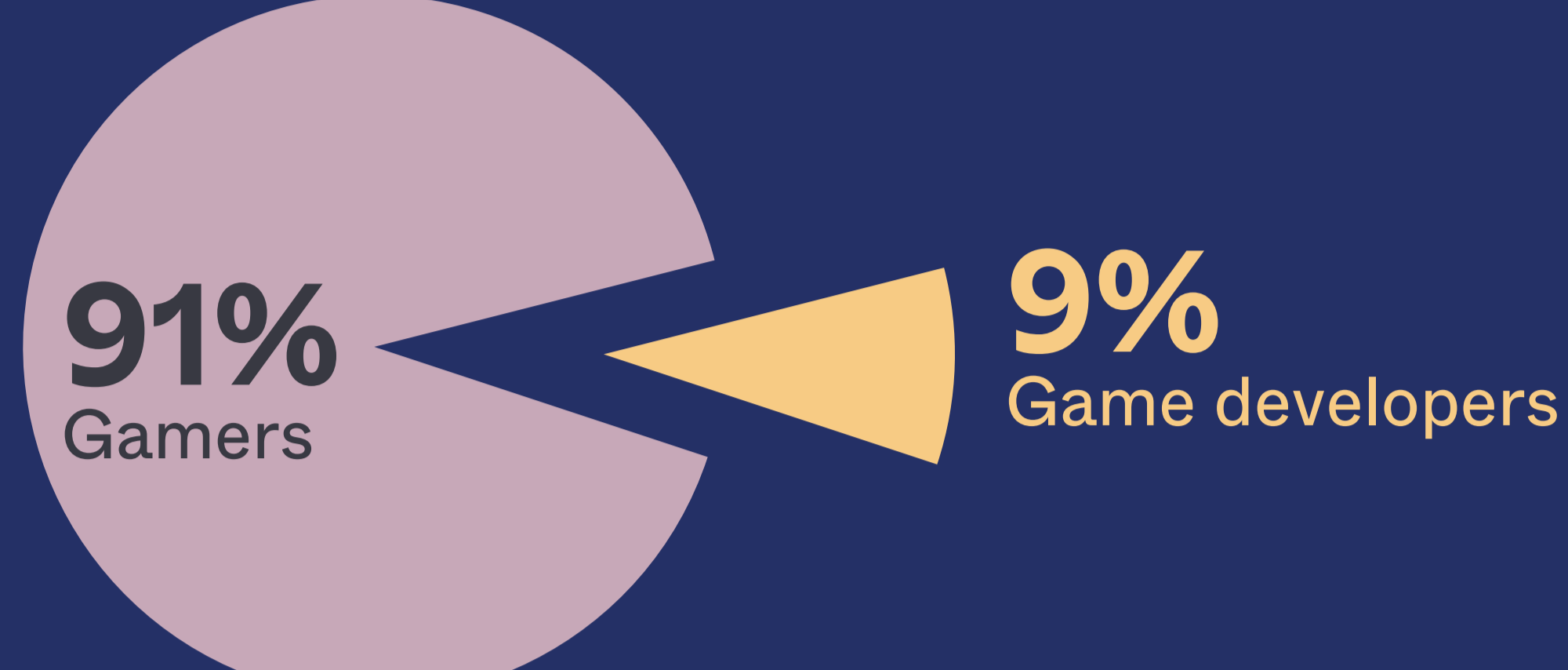


Welcome to the wasteland: The state of cybersecurity in gaming

As the gaming industry expands, so do gaps in the security protections that keep gamer and developer data safe. Who's responsible for protecting gamers and the games they play? And what security standards need to be upheld?

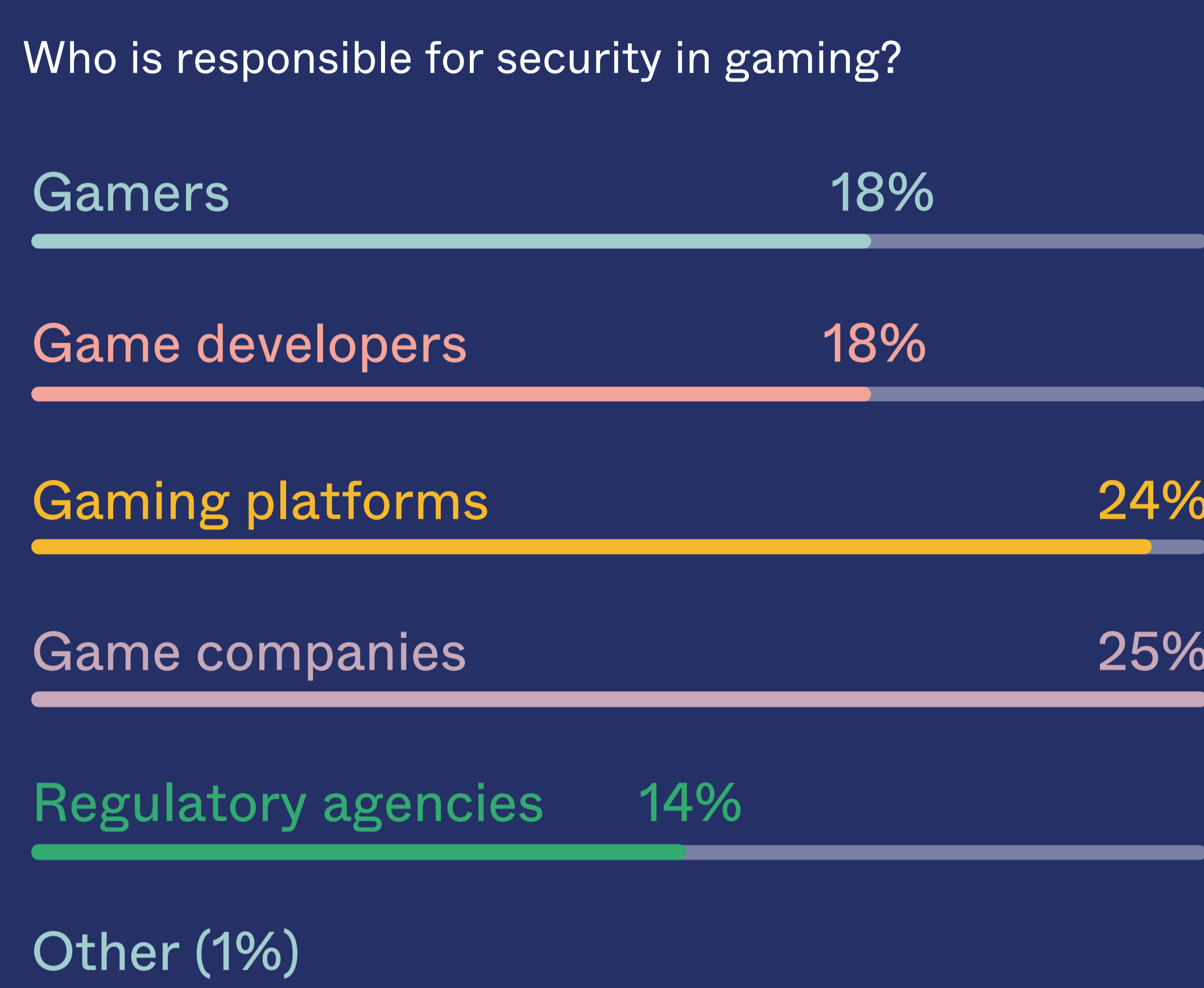
When we attended PAX West 2021, the annual iteration of Penny Arcade's foundational gaming and game culture exposition, we asked how the community felt about the situation. There's no consensus yet—and that's at the heart of the problem—but people are thinking about these questions. Here's what we heard in interviews and read in survey responses about the current state of security in gaming while at the conference.

We surveyed **mostly gamers** (and a few game developers).

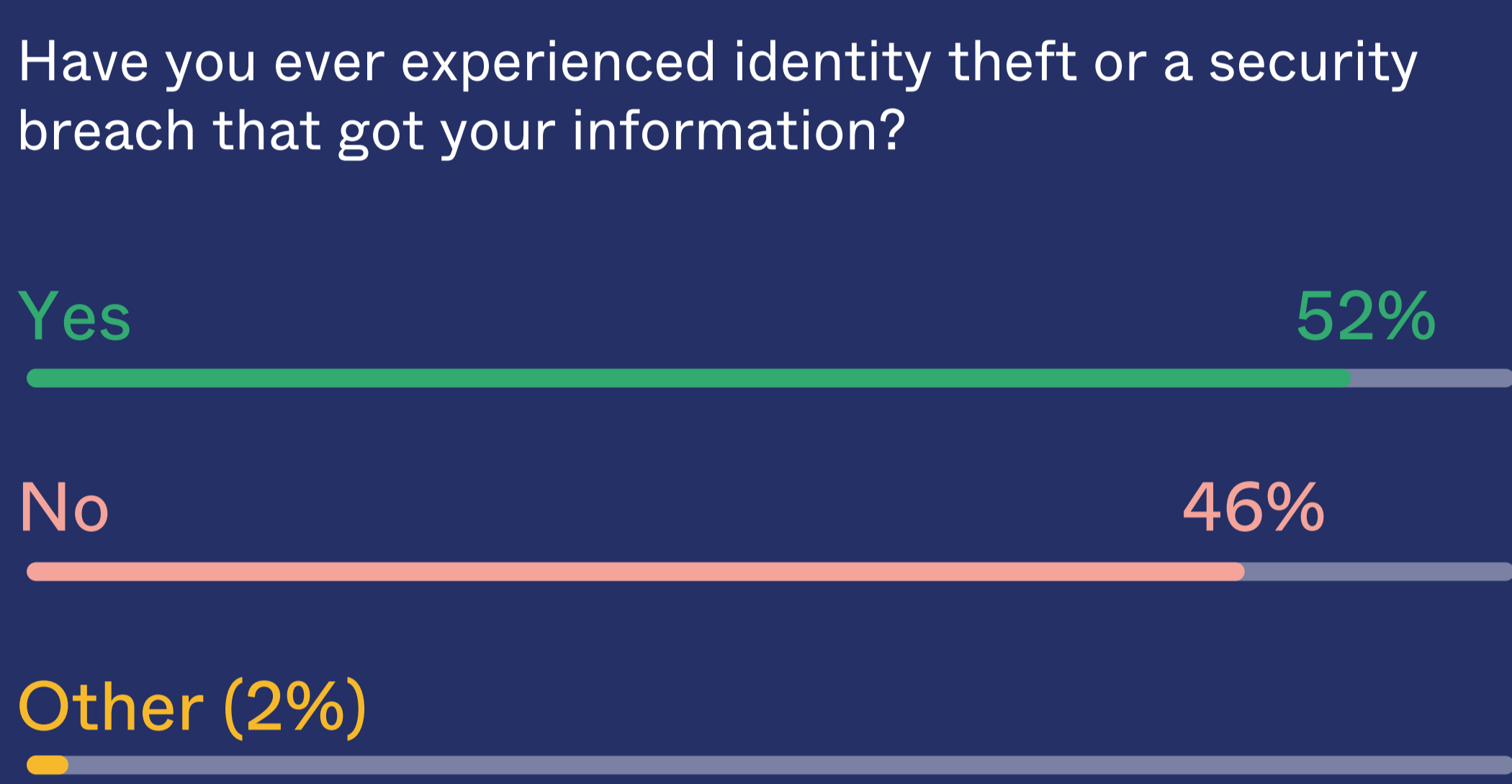


“As a gamer, you have to put a lot of trust into the developers and publishers.”

They think **everyone shares responsibility for security** in gaming—but especially **gaming platforms** and **game companies**, which aren't doing enough.

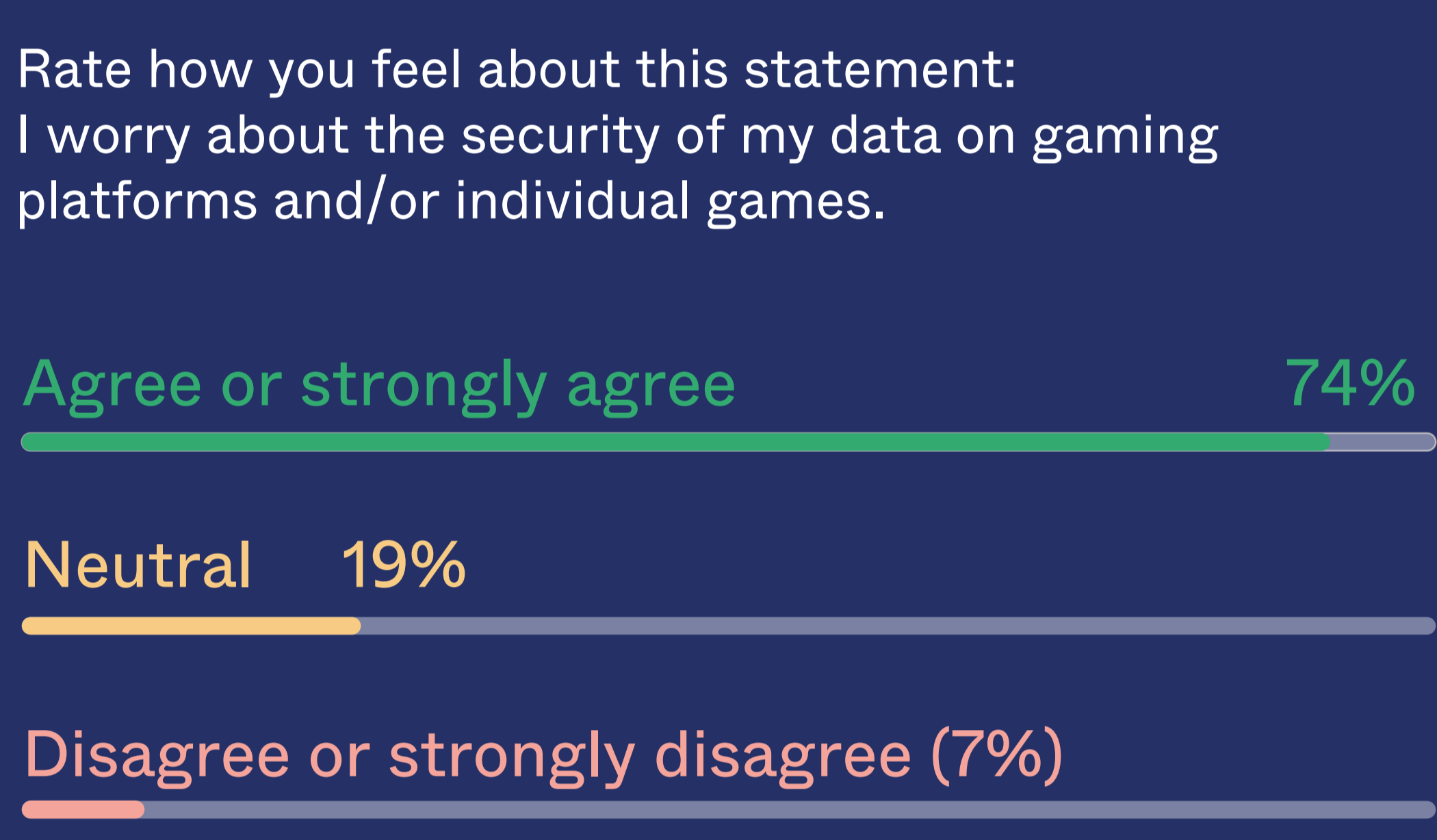


A little over half of respondents have experienced **identity theft** or had their information compromised in a **data breach**.

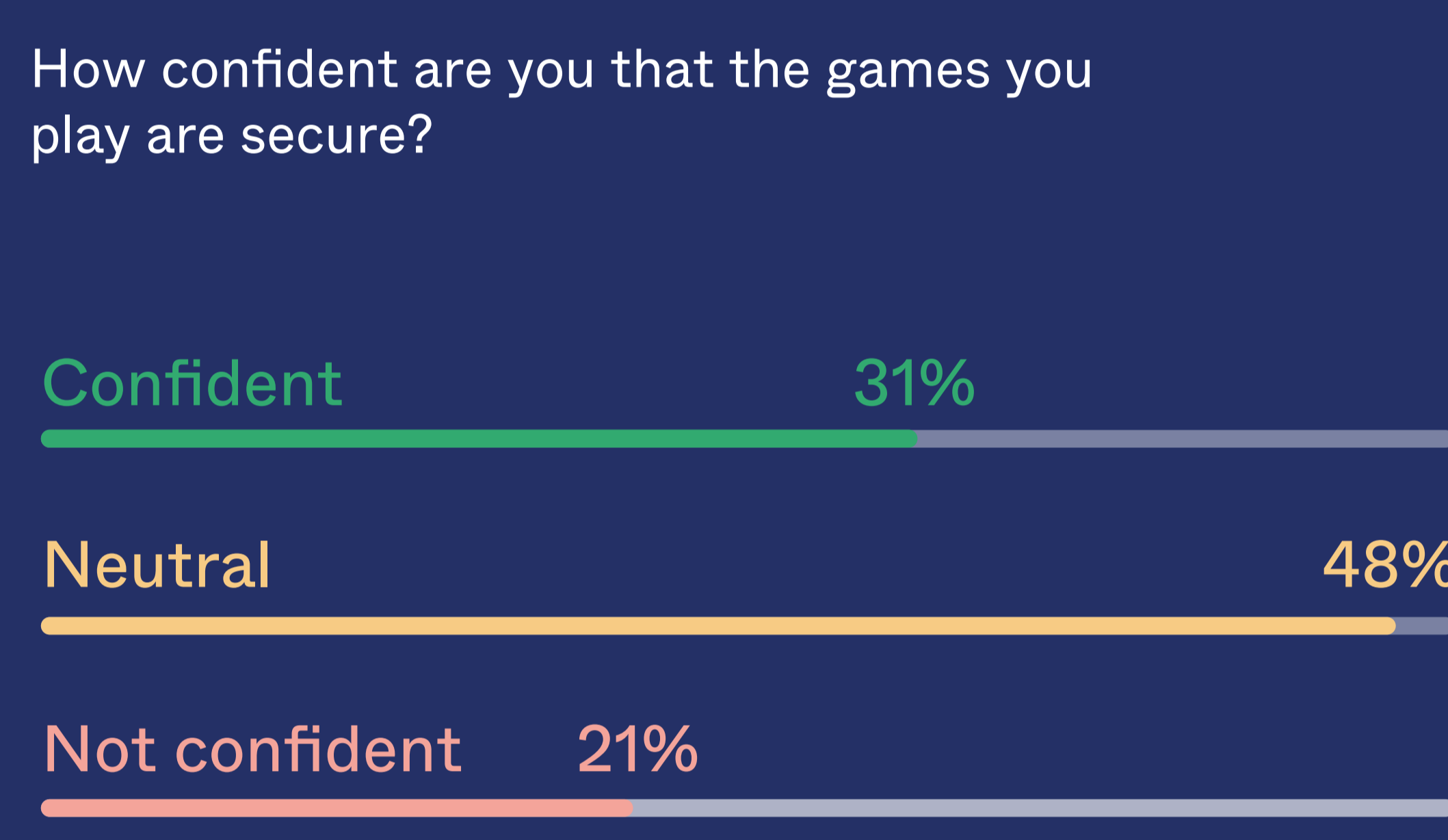


“There is a growing risk of personal information getting to people you don't want.”

Could that be why almost **75% worry about the security of their data on gaming platforms?**



Something is making the **majority feel less than confident** in the security of their games.



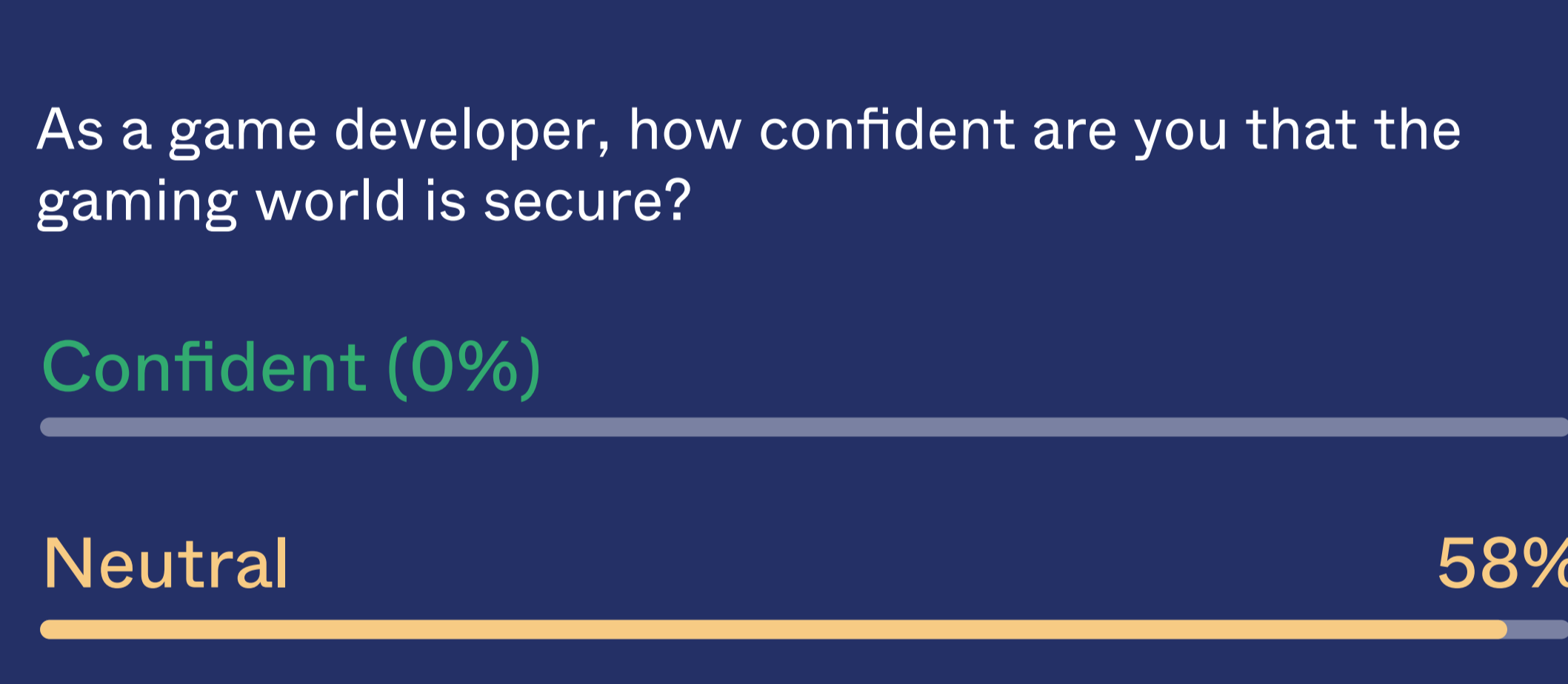
Among the concerns gamers express about the industry, security is a major theme.

- Fear of being hacked
- Risk of losing gaming history
- Growth of hate speech
- Lack of standards
- Risk of passwords being stolen
- Accessing and connecting multiple accounts

So how secure is online gaming, really?

“It's a free-for-all wasteland.”

Developers feel **it isn't secure**.



But they're more positive about authentication in the games they develop themselves.



They understand the importance of authenticating gamers, and **26% would like to do it more securely**.



“Things are changing every day, so if a platform adds something that introduces a loophole into your code it can kill your career.”

What's the number one thing they'd change? Nearly **a third want to use an external Identity Provider for validation**.

- An external Identity Provider strengthens security with elements that also improve the user experience:
- Trusted solutions
 - Minimal passwords
 - Easier access to accounts

That's where Okta comes in.

A more secure gaming future

As cyberattacks increase in volume and sophistication, everyone involved in the gaming industry has to start working together to protect the fun.

One of the best ways for developers to prevent data breaches is to team up on authentication. Learn how you can partner with an Identity Provider like Okta to make signing in simpler—and gaming more secure.

“Security is the new gaming frontier.”

developer.okta.com/signup